

Research Article

A *k*-Dimensional System of Fractional Neutral Functional Differential Equations with Bounded Delay

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In 2010, Agarwal et al. studied the existence of a one-dimensional fractional neutral functional differential equation. In this paper, we study an initial value problem for a class of k-dimensional systems of fractional neutral functional differential equations by using Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem. In fact, our main result generalizes their main result in a sense.

1. Introduction

As you know, many researchers are interested in developing the theoretical analysis and numerical methods of fractional equations, because different applications of this area have been founded in various fields of sciences and engineering (see, e.g., [1-37]). In this paper, we investigate the initial value problem of a *k*-dimensional system of fractional neutral functional differential equations with bounded delay:

$${}^{c}D^{\alpha_{1}}(x_{1}(t) - g_{1}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}})) = f_{1}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}}),$$

$${}^{c}D^{\alpha_{2}}(x_{2}(t) - g_{2}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}})) = f_{2}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}}),$$

$$\vdots \qquad (1)$$

$${}^{c}D^{\alpha_{k}}(x_{k}(t) - g_{k}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}})) = f_{k}(t, \mathbf{x_{t}}),$$

$$x_{1_{t_{0}}} = \phi_{1}, \qquad x_{2_{t_{0}}} = \phi_{2}, \dots, x_{k_{t_{0}}} = \phi_{k},$$

where $t_0 \ge 0$, a > 0, and r > 0 are constants, $t \in (t_0, \infty)$, $0 < \alpha_i < 1$, for i = 1, 2, ..., k, ^cD is the standard Caputo's fractional derivative, $f_i, g_i : [t_0, \infty) \times C([-r, 0], \mathbb{R}^n) \times C([-r, 0], \mathbb{R}^n) \to \mathbb{R}^n$ are given functions

(i = 1, 2, ..., k) satisfying some assumptions that will be specified later, $\mathbf{x}_t = (x_{1_t}, x_{2_t}, ..., x_{k_t})$, and $\phi_i \in C([-r, 0], \mathbb{R}^n)$ for i = 1, 2, ..., k. If $x \in C([t_0 - r, t_0 + a], \mathbb{R}^n)$, then for each $t \in [t_0, t_0 + a]$ define x_t by $x_t(\theta) = x(t + \theta)$ for all $\theta \in [-r, 0]$. One-dimensional version of the problem has been studied by Agarwal et al. (see [4]). We show that the problem (1) is equivalent to an integral equation and by using Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem, we conclude that the equivalent operator has (at least) a fixed point. This implies that the problem (1) has at least one solution. One can find the following lemma in [38].

Lemma 1 (Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem). Let X be a Banach space and E a closed convex subset of X. Suppose that S and U are two maps of E into X such that $Sx + Uy \in E$ for all $x, y \in E$. If S is a contraction and U is completely continuous, then the equation Sx + Ux = x has a solution on E.

Let *I* be an interval in \mathbb{R} and $X = C(I, \mathbb{R}^n)$ with the norm $||x|| = \sup_{t \in I} |x(t)|$, where $|\cdot|$ denotes a suitable complete norm on \mathbb{R}^n . Consider the product Banach space $(X^k = \underbrace{X \times X \times \cdots \times X}_k, ||\cdot||_*)$ with the norm $||(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)||_* = \max\{||x_1||, ||x_2||, \dots, ||x_k||\}$. The fractional integral of order q

with the lower limit t_0 for a function f is defined by $I^q f(t) = (1/\Gamma(q)) \int_{t_0}^t (f(s)/(t-s)^{1-q}) ds$ for $t > t_0$ and q > 0, provided the right-hand side is pointwise defined on $[t_0, \infty)$. Here, Γ is the gamma function. Also, Caputo's derivative of order q with the lower limit t_0 for a function $f : [t_0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$ is defined by

$${}^{c}D^{q} f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-q)} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \frac{f^{(n)}(s)}{(t-s)^{q+1-n}} ds = I^{n-q} f^{(n)}(t) \quad (2)$$

for $t > t_{0}$ and $n-1 < q < n$ ([34]).

2. Main Results

Consider the problem (1). Let δ and γ be positive constants, $I_0 = [t_0, t_0 + \delta]$, and

$$A(\delta, \gamma) = \left\{ (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) : x_{i_{t_0}} = \phi_i, \\ \sup_{t_0 \le t \le t_0 + \delta} |x_i(t) - \phi_i(0)| \le \gamma, \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, k \right\},$$
(3)

where $x_i \in C([t_0 - r, t_0 + \delta], \mathbb{R}^n)$. For obtaining our results, we need the following conditions:

- (H₁) $f_i(t, \varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_k)$ is measurable with respect to *t* on I_0 for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$,
- (H₂) $f_i(t, \varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_k)$ is continuous with respect to φ_j on $C([-r, 0], \mathbb{R}^n)$ for all $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$,
- (H₃) there exist $\alpha_{i1} \in (0, \alpha_i)$ and a real-valued function $m_i(t) \in L^{1/\alpha_{i1}}(I_0)$ such that

$$\left|f_{i}\left(t,\mathbf{x}_{t}\right)\right| \leq m_{i}\left(t\right) \tag{4}$$

for all $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma)$, $t \in I_0$, and $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$,

- $(\mathsf{H}_4) \ g_i(t, \mathbf{x_t}) = g_{i1}(t, \mathbf{x_t}) + g_{i2}(t, \mathbf{x_t}) \text{ for all } (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma),$
- (H₅) g_{i1} is continuous and

$$\left|g_{i1}\left(t,\mathbf{x}_{t}\right)-g_{i1}\left(t,\mathbf{y}_{t}\right)\right|\leq l_{i}\left\|x-y\right\|_{*}$$
(5)

for all $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k), y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma)$, and $t \in I_0$, where $l_i \in (0, 1)$ is a constant, for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$,

(H₆) g_{i2} is completely continuous and the family { $t \vdash g_{i2}(t, \mathbf{x}_t) : (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k) \in \Lambda$ } is equicontinuous on $C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n) \times C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n) \times \cdots \times C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n)$ for all bounded set Λ in $A(\delta, \lambda)$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k.

Lemma 2. Suppose that there exist $\delta \in (0, a)$ and $\gamma \in (0, \infty)$ such that $(H_1)-(H_3)$ hold. Then the problem (1) for $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta]$ is equivalent to the equation

$$\begin{aligned} x_i(t) &= \phi_i(0) - g_i(t_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k) + g_i(t, \mathbf{x_t}) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_i)} \int_{t_0}^t (t-s)^{\alpha_i - 1} f_i(s, \mathbf{x_s}) \, ds \end{aligned} \tag{(*)}$$

with conditions $x_{i_{t_0}} = \phi_i$ for i = 1, 2, ..., k and $t \in I_0$.

Proof. It is easy to see that $f_i(t, \mathbf{x}_t)$ is Lebesgue measurable on I_0 by using conditions (H_1) and (H_2) for all i = $1, 2, \ldots, k$. Also, a direct calculation shows that $(t - s)^{\alpha_i - 1} \in L^{1/(1-\alpha_{i1})}([t_0, t])$ for $t \in I_0$. By using Holder's inequality and condition (H_3) , we get that $(t - s)^{\alpha_i - 1} f_i(s, \mathbf{x}_s)$ is Lebesgue integrable with respect to $s \in [t_0, t]$ for all $t \in I_0$, i = $1, 2, \ldots, k$, and $(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma)$, and

$$\int_{t_0}^{t} \left| (t-s)^{\alpha_i - 1} f_i(s, \mathbf{x}_s) \right| ds$$

$$\leq \left\| (t-s)^{\alpha_i - 1} \right\|_{L^{1/(1-\alpha_{i1})}([t_0, t])} \left\| m_i \right\|_{L^{1/\alpha_{i1}}(I_0)}.$$
(6)

It is easy to see that if $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k)$ is a solution of the problem (1), then x is a solution of (*). Now, suppose that $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k)$ is a solution of the equation (*) and $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta]$. Then $x_{i_{t_0}} = \phi_i$ and ${}^cD^{\alpha_i}(x_i(t) - g_i(t, \mathbf{x_t})) =$ $f_i(t, \mathbf{x_t})$ for all $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. Thus, $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k)$ is a solution of the problem (1). This completes the proof.

Theorem 3. Suppose that there exist $\delta \in (0, a)$ and $\gamma \in (0, \infty)$ such that $(H_1)-(H_6)$ hold. Then the problem (1) has at least one solution on $[t_0, t_0 + \eta]$ for some positive number η .

Proof. Since condition (H_4) holds, the equation (*) is equivalent to the equation

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i}(t) &= \phi_{i}(0) - g_{i1}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) \\ &- g_{i2}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) + g_{i1}\left(t, \mathbf{x}_{t}\right) + g_{i2}\left(t, \mathbf{x}_{t}\right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma\left(\alpha_{i}\right)} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \left(t - s\right)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} f_{i}\left(s, \mathbf{x}_{s}\right) ds \end{aligned}$$
(7)

and $x_{i_{t_0}} = \phi_i$ for all $t \in I_0$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. Let $(\tilde{\phi}_1, \tilde{\phi}_2, ..., \tilde{\phi}_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma)$ be defined by $\tilde{\phi}_{i_0} = \phi_i$ and $\tilde{\phi}_i(t_0 + t) = \phi_i(0)$ for all $t \in [0, \delta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. If $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k)$ is a solution of problem (1) and $x_i(t_0 + t) = \tilde{\phi}_i(t_0 + t) + y_i(t)$ for $t \in [-r, \delta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k, then $x_{i_{t_0+t}} = \tilde{\phi}_{i_{t_0+t}} + y_{i_t}$ for $t \in [0, \delta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. Thus,

$$\begin{split} y_{i}(t) &= -g_{i1}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) - g_{i2}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) \\ &+ g_{i1}\left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}}\right) \\ &+ g_{i2}\left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}}\right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{0}^{t} (t-s)^{\alpha_{i}-1} f_{i}\left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+s}}, y_{2_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+s}}\right) ds \\ &+ \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+s}}\right) ds \\ &(**) \end{split}$$

for $t \in [0, \delta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. Since g_{i1}, g_{i2} are continuous and x_{i_t} is continuous in t for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, there exists $\delta' > 0$ such that $|g_{i1}(t_0 + t, y_{1_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0+t}}, y_{2_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0+t}}, ..., y_{k_t} +$
$$\begin{split} \widetilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0+t}}) &- g_{i1}(t_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k)| < \gamma/3 \text{ and } |g_{i2}(t_0 + t, y_{1_t} + \widetilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0+t}}, y_{2_t} + \widetilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0+t}}, \dots, y_{k_t} + \widetilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0+t}}) - g_{i2}(t_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k)| < \gamma/3 \text{ for } 0 < t < \delta' \text{ and } i = 1, 2, \dots, k. \text{ Put } \eta = \min_{1 \le i \le k} \{\delta, \delta', (\gamma \Gamma(\alpha_i)(1 + \beta_i)^{1-\alpha_{i_1}}/3M_i)^{1/(1+\beta_i)(1-\alpha_{i_1})}\}, \text{ where } \beta_i = (\alpha_i - 1)/(1 - \alpha_{i_1}) \in (-1, 0) \text{ and } M_i = ||m_i||_{L^{1/\alpha_{i_1}}(I_0)} \text{ for all } i = 1, 2, \dots, k. \text{ Define} \end{split}$$

$$E(\eta, \gamma) = \{ (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) : y_i \in C([-r, \eta], \mathbb{R}^n), y_i(s) = 0, \\ \|y_i\| \le \gamma \text{ for } s \in [-r, 0], i = 1, 2, \dots, k \}.$$
(8)

In fact, $E(\eta, \gamma)$ is a closed, bounded, and convex subset of $C([-r, \eta], \mathbb{R}^n) \times C([-r, \eta], \mathbb{R}^n) \times \cdots \times C([-r, \eta], \mathbb{R}^n)$. Define the operators *S* and *U* on $E(\eta, \gamma)$ by

$$S(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) = \begin{pmatrix} S_{1}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \\ S_{2}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \\ \vdots \\ S_{k}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$U(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \\ U_{2}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \\ \vdots \\ U_{k}(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k})(t) \end{pmatrix},$$
(9)

where

 $S_i(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k)(t)$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & t \in [-r, 0], \\ -g_{i1}(t_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k) & \\ +g_{i1}(t_0 + t, y_{1_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0+t}}, y_{2_t} & \\ & + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0+t}}, \dots, y_{k_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0+t}} \end{pmatrix} & t \in [0, \eta], \end{cases}$$

$$U_i(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k)(t)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & t \in [-r, 0], \\ -g_{i2}(t_0, \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k) & \\ +g_{i2}(t_0 + t, y_{1_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0+t}}, y_{2_t} & \\ +\tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0+t}}, \dots, y_{k_t} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0+t}}) & \\ +\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_i)} \int_0^t (t - s)^{\alpha_i - 1} & \\ \times f_i(t_0 + s, y_{1_s} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0+s}}, y_{2_s} & \\ & + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0+s}}, \dots, y_{k_s} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0+s}}) ds & t \in [0, \eta], \end{cases}$$
(10)

for i = 1, 2, ..., k. It is easy to check that the operator equation y = Sy + Uy has a solution $y = (y_1, y_2, ..., y_k)$ if and only if y_i is a solution for (******) for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. In this case, $x_i(t_0+t) = y_i(t) + \tilde{\phi}_i(t_0+t)$ will be a solution of the problem (1) on $[0, \eta]$. Thus, the existence of a solution of the problem (1) is equivalent to the existence of a fixed point for the operator

S+*U* on *E*(η , γ). Hence, it is sufficient that we show that *S*+*U* has a fixed point in *E*(η , γ). We prove it in three steps.

Step I. $Sz + Uy \in E(\eta, \gamma)$ for all $z = (z_1, z_2, ..., z_k), y = (y_1, y_2, ..., y_k) \in E(\eta, \gamma).$

Let $z, y \in E(\eta, \gamma)$ be given. Then, $S_i z + U_i y \in C([-r, \eta], \mathbb{R}^n)$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. It is easy to check that (Sz + Uy)(t) = 0 for all $t \in [-r, 0]$. Also, we have

$$\begin{split} \left| S_{i}z(t) + U_{i}y(t) \right| \\ \leq \left| -g_{i1}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) \right. \\ \left. +g_{i1}\left(t_{0} + t, z_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, z_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, z_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}}\right) \right| \\ \left. + \left| -g_{i2}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) \right. \\ \left. +g_{i2}\left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}}\right) \right| \\ \left. + \frac{1}{\Gamma\left(\alpha_{i}\right)} \int_{0}^{t} \left| (t - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} f_{i}\left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right) \right| ds \\ \\ \leq \frac{2\gamma}{3} + \frac{1}{\Gamma\left(\alpha_{i}\right)} \left(\int_{0}^{t} (t - s)^{(\alpha_{i} - 1)/(1 - \alpha_{i_{1}})} ds \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i_{1}}} \\ \times \left(\int_{t_{0}}^{t_{0} + t} (m_{i}\left(s\right))^{1/\alpha_{i_{1}}} ds \right)^{\alpha_{i_{1}}} \\ \leq \frac{2\gamma}{3} + \frac{M_{i} \eta^{(1 + \beta_{i})(1 - \alpha_{i_{1}})}}{\Gamma\left(\alpha_{i}\right)\left(1 + \beta_{i}\right)^{1 - \alpha_{i_{1}}}} \leq \gamma \end{split}$$
(11)

for all $t \in [0,\eta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. Thus, $||S_i z + U_i y|| = \sup_{t \in [0,\eta]} |(S_i z)(t) - (U_i y)(t)| \le \gamma$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. Hence, $Sz + Uy \in E(\eta, \gamma)$ for all $z, y \in E(\eta, \gamma)$.

Step II. S is a contraction on
$$E(\eta, \gamma)$$
.
Let $y' = (y'_1, y'_2, ..., y'_k), y'' = (y''_1, y''_2, ..., y''_k) \in E(\eta, \gamma)$.
Then,

$$\begin{pmatrix} y'_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y'_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y'_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} y''_{1_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y''_{2_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y''_{k_{t}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}} \end{pmatrix} \in A(\delta, \gamma)$$

$$(12)$$

and so

$$\begin{split} \left| S_{i} y'(t) - S_{i} y''(t) \right| \\ &= \left| g_{i1} \left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}}' + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}}' + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}}' + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}} \right) \right. \\ &- g_{i1} \left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}}'' + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}}'' \right. \\ &+ \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}}'' + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}} \right) \right| \\ &\leq l_{i} \left\| y' - y'' \right\|_{*} \end{split}$$
(13)

for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. This implies that $||Sy' - Sy''||_* \le l||y' - y''||_*$, where $l = \max\{l_1, l_2, ..., l_k\}$. Since 0 < l < 1, *S* is a contraction on $E(\eta, \gamma)$.

Step III. U is a completely continuous operator. Suppose that

$$\begin{split} U_{i1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \dots, y_{k}\right)(t) \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & t \in [-r.0], \\ -g_{i2}\left(t_{0}, \phi_{1}, \phi_{2}, \dots, \phi_{k}\right) \\ &+ g_{i2}\left(t_{0} + t, y_{1_{t}} + \widetilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+t}}, y_{2_{t}} \\ &+ \widetilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+t}}, \dots, y_{k_{t}} + \widetilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+t}}\right) & t \in [0, \eta], \end{split}$$

 $U_{i2}\left(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k\right)(t)$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & t \in [-r.0], \\ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_i)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{\alpha_i - 1} & \\ \times f_i \left(t_0 + s, y_{1_s} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_0 + s}}, y_{2_s} \\ + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_0 + s}}, \dots, y_{k_s} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_0 + s}} \right) ds & t \in [0, \eta], \end{cases}$$
(14)

for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$. It is clear that

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} + U_{12} \\ U_{21} + U_{22} \\ \vdots \\ U_{k1} + U_{k2} \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (15)

Since g_{i2} is completely continuous for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, U_{i1} is continuous and also $\{U_{i1}(y) : y \in E(\eta, \gamma)\}$ is uniformly bounded. By using condition (H₆), it is easy to check that $\{U_{i1}(y) : y \in E(\eta, \gamma)\}$ is equicontinuous. On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| U_{i2} y(t) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{0}^{t} (t-s)^{\alpha_{i}-1} \left| f_{i} \left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0}+s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right. \\ &\left. + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0}+s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0}+s}} \right) \right| ds \end{aligned}$$
(16)
$$&\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \left(\int_{0}^{t} (t-s)^{(\alpha_{i}-1)/(1-\alpha_{i1})} ds \right)^{1-\alpha_{i1}} \\ &\times \left(\int_{t_{0}}^{t_{0}+t} (m_{i}(s))^{1/\alpha_{i1}} ds \right)^{\alpha_{i1}} \leq \frac{M_{i} \eta^{(1+\beta_{i})(1-\alpha_{i1})}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i}) (1+\beta_{i})^{1-\alpha_{i1}}} \end{aligned}$$

for all $t \in [0, \eta]$ and i = 1, 2, ..., k. This implies that $\{U_{i2}y : y \in E(\eta, \gamma)\}$ is uniformly bounded. Now, we prove that $\{U_{i2}y : y \in E(\eta, \gamma)\}$

 $y \in E(\eta, \gamma)$ } is equicontinuous. Let $0 \le t_1 < t_2 \le \eta$ and $y \in E(\eta, \gamma)$ be given. Then, we have

$$\begin{split} U_{i2}y(t_{2}) - U_{i2}y(t_{1}) \Big| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{0}^{t_{1}} \left[(t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} - (t_{1} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} \right] \\ &\times f_{i} \left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0} + s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right. \\ &\quad + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0} + s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0} + s}} \right) ds \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{t_{1}}^{t_{2}} (t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} f_{i} \left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0} + s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right. \\ &\quad + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0} + s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0} + s}} \right) ds \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{0}^{t_{1}} \left[(t_{1} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} - (t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left| f_{i} \left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0} + s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right. \\ &\quad + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0} + s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0} + s}} \right) \right| ds \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \int_{t_{1}}^{t_{2}} (t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} \left| f_{i} \left(t_{0} + s, y_{1_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{1_{t_{0} + s}}, y_{2_{s}} \right. \\ &\quad + \tilde{\phi}_{2_{t_{0} + s}}, \dots, y_{k_{s}} + \tilde{\phi}_{k_{t_{0} + s}} \right) \right| ds \\ &\leq \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \left(\int_{0}^{t_{1}} \left[(t_{1} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} - (t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} \right]^{1/(1 - \alpha_{i1})} ds \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i1}} \end{split}$$

$$+ \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \left(\int_{t_{1}}^{t_{2}} \left[(t_{2} - s)^{\alpha_{i} - 1} \right]^{1/(1 - \alpha_{i1})} ds \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i1}} \\ \leq \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \left(\int_{0}^{t_{1}} \left[(t_{1} - s)^{\beta_{i}} - (t_{2} - s)^{\beta_{i}} \right] ds \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i1}} \\ + \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i})} \left(\int_{t_{1}}^{t_{2}} (t_{2} - s)^{\beta_{i}} ds \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i1}} \\ \leq \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i}) (1 + \beta_{i})^{1 - \alpha_{i1}}} \left(t_{1}^{1 + \beta_{i}} - t_{2}^{1 + \beta_{i}} + (t_{2} - t_{1})^{1 + \beta_{i}} \right)^{1 - \alpha_{i1}} \\ + \frac{M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i}) (1 + \beta_{i})^{1 - \alpha_{i1}}} (t_{2} - t_{1})^{(1 + \beta_{i})(1 - \alpha_{i1})} \\ \leq \frac{2M_{i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_{i}) (1 + \beta_{i})^{1 - \alpha_{i1}}} (t_{2} - t_{1})^{(1 + \beta_{i})(1 - \alpha_{i1})}$$

$$(17)$$

for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. Thus, $\{U_{i2}y : y \in E(\eta, \gamma)\}$ is equicontinuous. Moreover, it is clear that U_{i2} is continuous for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. This implies that U is a completely continuous operator. Now, by using Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem we get that S + U has a fixed point on $E(\eta, \gamma)$ and so the problem (1) has a solution $x = (x_1, ..., x_k)$, where $x_i(t) = \phi_i(0) + y_i(t - t_0)$ for all $t \in [t_0, t_0 + \eta]$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

If we put $g_{i1} = 0$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, then we obtain next result.

Corollary 4. Suppose that there exist $\delta \in (0, a)$ and $\gamma \in (0, \infty)$ such that conditions $(H_1)-(H_3)$ hold, g_i is continuous for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, and $|g_i(t, \mathbf{x_t}) - g_i(t, \mathbf{y_t})| \le l_i ||x - y||_*$ for all $x = (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k)$, $y = (y_1, y_2, ..., y_k) \in A(\delta, \gamma)$, and $t \in I_0$, where $l_i \in (0, 1)$ is a constant for all i = 1, 2, ..., k. Then the problem (1) has at least one solution on $[t_0, t_0 + \eta]$ for some positive number η .

If we put $g_{i2} = 0$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, then we obtain next result.

Corollary 5. Suppose that there exist $\delta \in (0, a)$ and $\gamma \in (0, \infty)$ such that conditions $(H_1)-(H_3)$ hold, g_i is completely continuous for all i = 1, 2, ..., k, and the family $\{t \vdash g_i(t, \mathbf{x}_t) : (x_1, x_2, ..., x_k) \in \Lambda\}$ is equicontinuous on $C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n) \times C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n) \times \cdots \times C(I_0, \mathbb{R}^n)$ for all bounded set Λ in $A(\delta, \lambda)$. Then the problem (1) has at least one solution on $[t_0, t_0 + \eta]$ for some positive number η .

3. Conclusions

In this work, we study an initial value problem for a class of k-dimensional systems of fractional neutral functional differential equations by using Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem. Our result generalizes some old related results in a sense.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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