

Existence of positive solution for fourth order superlinear singular semipositone differential system

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Abstract: By transforming the boundary value problem into the corresponding fixed-point problem of a completely continuous operator, the existence is obtained in the paper for two-point boundary value problem of fourth order superlinear singular semipositone differential system via the fixed point theorem concerning cone compression and expansion in norm type.

Keywords: Superlinear Singular Semipositone Differential System, Positive Solution, Fixed Point Theorem, Cone

1. Introduction

In this paper, we study the following superlinear fourth order singular semipositone differential system

$$\begin{cases} x^{(4)}(t) = \lambda f(t, x(t), y(t)) + p(t), \\ y^{(4)}(t) = \lambda g(t, x(t), y(t)) + q(t), \quad t \in (0, 1), \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

subject to the boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x(1) = x''(0) = x''(1) = 0, \\ y(0) = y(1) = y''(0) = y''(1) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

where

$1 \leq \lambda < 2$, f and $g : (0, 1) \times [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ are continuous and may be singular at $t = 0, 1$. p and $q : (0, 1) \rightarrow (-\infty, +\infty)$ are Lebesgue integrable.

The method is fixed point theorem concerning cone compression and expansion. For the concepts and property of fixed point index theory we refer to [1].

Recently, the existence of positive solutions for nonlinear singular semipositone boundary value problems has been studied extensively, see [2-6]. However, the results are seldom for fourth order superlinear singular semipositone differential system boundary value problem. In the previous literature, a great deal of work was devoted to the case that f and g are nonnegative and have no singularities or $p(t) \equiv 0, q(t) \equiv 0$, see [7,8]. When f and g are allowed to

change sign, singular and $p(t) \equiv 0, q(t) \equiv 0$, [9] obtained the existence of positive solutions for nonlinear three-point boundary value problems. Under the given conditions that f and g are nonnegative, singular and $p(t), q(t)$ change sign, [10] obtained the existence of positive solutions for two-point boundary value problems. Motivated by [6,10], we study the existence of positive solutions for the two-point boundary value problem of fourth order superlinear singular semipositone differential system by using the fixed point theorem concerning cone compression and expansion in norm type in the paper.

2. Preliminaries

Let $X = C([0,1]; R) \times C([0,1]; R)$ be a real Banach space equipped with for any $(u, v) \in X$,

$$\|(u, v)\| = \|u\| + \|v\|, \quad \|u\| = \max_{t \in [0,1]} |u(t)|, \quad \|v\| = \max_{t \in [0,1]} |v(t)|,$$

where R is a real number set.

Let us define a cone P of X by

$$P = \{(x, y) \in X \mid x(t) \geq t(1-t)\|x\|, y(t) \geq t(1-t)\|y\|, \forall t \in [0, 1]\}$$

Next we introduce Green's function to $u''(0) = 0$ subject to boundary condition $u(0) = u(1) = 0$,

$$G(t, s) = \begin{cases} s(1-t), & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1, \\ t(1-s), & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

For any $y \in C[0, 1]$, let us define a function by

$$[y(t)]^* = \begin{cases} y(t), & y(t) \geq 0, \\ 0, & y(t) < 0. \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

For the convenience, in this paper we make the following assumptions:

(H_1) There exist constant $\lambda_i > \mu_i > 1, (i = 1, 2, 3, 4)$ such that, $\forall (t, x, y) \in (0, 1) \times [0, +\infty) \times [0, +\infty)$, and $c \in (0, 1)$,

$$c^{\lambda_1} f(t, x, y) \leq f(t, cx, y) \leq c^{\mu_1} f(t, x, y),$$

$$c^{\lambda_2} f(t, x, y) \leq f(t, x, cy) \leq c^{\mu_2} f(t, x, y),$$

$$c^{\lambda_3} g(t, x, y) \leq g(t, cx, y) \leq c^{\mu_3} g(t, x, y),$$

$$c^{\lambda_4} g(t, x, y) \leq g(t, x, cy) \leq c^{\mu_4} g(t, x, y).$$

(H_2)

$$\int_0^1 p_-(s) ds = r_1 > 0, \quad \int_0^1 q_-(s) ds = r_3 > 0,$$

$$\int_0^1 G(s, s)[f(s, 1, 1) + p_+(s)] ds = r_2 < \frac{1}{\lambda},$$

$$\int_0^1 G(s, s)[g(s, 1, 1) + q_+(s)] ds = r_4 < \frac{1}{\lambda},$$

$$f(t, 0, 1) > 0, \quad f(t, 1, 0) > 0, \quad g(t, 0, 1) > 0,$$

$$g(t, 1, 0) > 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, 1).$$

$$\int_0^1 G(s, s)f(s, 1, 1) ds \text{ and } \int_0^1 G(s, s)g(s, 1, 1) ds \text{ are convergent.}$$

$$\max\{r_1, r_3\} < m^{-1}\sqrt{\frac{1}{\lambda n}}, m > 1, \text{ where}$$

$$n = \max\{r_2, r_4\}, \quad m = \max\{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2, \lambda_3 + \lambda_4\},$$

$$p_+(s) = \max\{p(s), 0\}, \quad p_-(s) = \max\{-p(s), 0\},$$

$$q_+(s) = \max\{q(s), 0\}, \quad q_-(s) = \max\{-q(s), 0\}.$$

If $(x, y) \in (C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1)) \times (C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1))$ satisfies (1.1), (1.2) and $x(t) > 0, y(t) > 0, \forall t \in (0, 1)$, then we call that (x, y) is a positive solution of BVP (1.1), (1.2).

Let

$$w_1(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) p_-(s) ds,$$

$$w_2(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) q_-(s) ds,$$

By (H_2) we have

$$w_1(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) p_-(s) ds < +\infty,$$

$$w_2(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) q_-(s) ds < +\infty.$$

By direct computation, we know that $w_1(t)$ and $w_2(t)$ are positive solutions of the following BVP:

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) = p_-(t), & 0 < t < 1, \\ u(0) = u(1) = u''(0) = u''(1) = 0, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} -v^{(4)}(t) = q_-(t), & 0 < t < 1, \\ v(0) = v(1) = v''(0) = v''(1) = 0, \end{cases}$$

respectively.

We consider the following ordinary differential system

$$\begin{cases} x^{(4)}(t) = \lambda f(t, [x(t) - w_1(t)]^*, \\ \quad [y(t) - w_2(t)]^*) + p_+(t), \\ y^{(4)}(t) = \lambda g(t, [x(t) - w_1(t)]^*, \\ \quad [y(t) - w_2(t)]^*) + q_+(t), \\ x(0) = x(1) = x''(0) = x''(1) = y(0) \\ \quad = y(1) = y''(0) = y''(1) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

It is known that $(x, y) \in (C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1)) \times (C^2[0, 1]$

$\cap C^4(0, 1))$ is a solution of system (2.3) if and only if $(x, y) \in C[0, 1] \times C[0, 1]$ is a solution of the following nonlinear integral equations system

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda f(s, [x(s) - \\ \quad w_1(s)]^*, [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) + p_+(s)] ds, \\ y(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda g(s, [x(s) - \\ \quad w_1(s)]^*, [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) + q_+(s)] ds, \end{cases} \quad (2.4)$$

Let

$$A(x, y)(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda f(s, [x(s) - w_1(s)]^*, [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) + p_+(s)] ds,$$

$$B(x, y)(t) = \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda g(s, [x(s) - w_1(s)]^*, [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) + q_+(s)] ds,$$

Define a nonlinear integral operator $F: X \rightarrow X$, by $F(x, y) = (A(x, y), B(x, y))$. Thus, system (2.4) is equivalent to the fixed point equation $F(x, y) = (x, y)$ in the Banach space $X = C([0, 1]; R) \times C([0, 1]; R)$.

The proof of main results will be based on the following lemmas.

Lemma 2.1. Let Ω_1 and Ω_2 be two bounded open sets in Banach space E such that $\theta \in \Omega_1, \overline{\Omega_1} \subset \Omega_2$. $A: P \cap (\overline{\Omega_2} \setminus \Omega_1) \rightarrow P$ is a completely continuous operator. Suppose that one of the two conditions holds

- i. $\|Au\| \leq \|u\|, \forall u \in P \cap \partial\Omega_1; \|Au\| \geq \|u\|, \forall u \in P \cap \partial\Omega_2.$
 ii. $\|Au\| \geq \|u\|, \forall u \in P \cap \partial\Omega_1; \|Au\| \leq \|u\|, \forall u \in P \cap \partial\Omega_2.$

Then A have a fixed point in $P \cap (\overline{\Omega_2} \setminus \Omega_1).$

Lemma 2.2. If $f(t, x, y)$ and $g(t, x, y)$ satisfy $(H_1), (H_2)$, then f and g are nondecreasing in both $x, y \in [0, +\infty)$ for any fixed $t \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow +\infty \\ y \geq 0}} \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty, \quad \lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow +\infty \\ x \geq 0}} \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty,$$

$$\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow +\infty \\ y \geq 0}} \frac{g(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty, \quad \lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow +\infty \\ x \geq 0}} \frac{g(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty,$$

where $|(x, y)| = |x| + |y|.$

Proof. For any fixed $t \in (0, 1), 0 < x_1 < x_2$, it follows from (H_1) that

$$f(t, x_1, y) = f(t, \frac{x_1}{x_2} x_2, y) \\ \leq (\frac{x_1}{x_2})^{\mu_1} f(t, x_2, y) \leq f(t, x_2, y),$$

Thus, $f(t, x, y)$ is nondecreasing in $x \in [0, +\infty).$

In the same way, we know $f(t, x, y)$ is nondecreasing in $y \in [0, +\infty).$ $g(t, x, y)$ are nondecreasing in $x, y \in [0, +\infty)$ for any fixed $t \in (0, 1).$

On the other hand, for any $x > 1, y \geq 0$, it follows from (H_2) , when $x \geq y$, we have

$$\frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|x| + |y|} \\ \geq \frac{x^{\mu_1} f(t, 1, y)}{2x} \geq \frac{1}{2} x^{\mu_1 - 1} f(t, 1, 0) > 0,$$

when $x < y$, we have $y > 1$ and

$$\frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|x| + |y|} \\ \geq \frac{y^{\mu_2} f(t, x, 1)}{2y} \geq \frac{1}{2} y^{\mu_2 - 1} f(t, 0, 1) > 0,$$

Therefore, we obtain $\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow +\infty \\ y \geq 0}} \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty.$

In the same way, we have

$$\lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow +\infty \\ x \geq 0}} \frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty, \quad \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow +\infty \\ y \geq 0}} \frac{g(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty,$$

$$\lim_{\substack{y \rightarrow +\infty \\ x \geq 0}} \frac{g(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} = +\infty.$$

Lemma 2.3.^[10] If (u, v) with $u(t) > w_1(t), v(t) > w_2(t)$ for any $t \in (0, 1)$ is a positive solution of system (2.4), then $(u - w_1, v - w_2)$ is a positive solution of the semipositone singular differential system (1.1), (1.2).

Lemma 2.4. Suppose that $(H_1), (H_2)$ hold, Then $F : P \rightarrow P$ is a completely continuous operator.

Proof. For any fixed $(x, y) \in P$, choose $0 < a, b < 1$, such that $a\|x\| < 1, b\|y\| < 1$, then

$$a[x(t) - w_1(t)]^* \leq ax(t) \leq a\|x\| < 1,$$

$$b[y(t) - w_2(t)]^* \leq by(t) \leq b\|y\| < 1.$$

Hence, by (H_1) we have

$$f(t, [x(t) - w_1(t)]^*, [y(t) - w_2(t)]^*) \\ \leq a^{\mu_1 - \lambda_1} b^{\mu_2 - \lambda_2} \|x\|^{\mu_1} \|y\|^{\mu_2} f(t, 1, 1).$$

Consequently, for any $t \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$A(x, y)(t) \leq \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 G(s, s) [\lambda f(s, [x(s) - w_1(s)]^*, \\ [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) + p_+(s)] ds \\ \leq \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 G(s, s) [\lambda a^{\mu_1 - \lambda_1} b^{\mu_2 - \lambda_2} \|x\|^{\mu_1} \|y\|^{\mu_2} \cdot \\ f(s, 1, 1) + p_+(s)] ds \\ \leq \frac{1}{4} (\lambda a^{\mu_1 - \lambda_1} b^{\mu_2 - \lambda_2} \|x\|^{\mu_1} \|y\|^{\mu_2} + 1) \cdot \\ \int_0^1 G(s, s) [f(s, 1, 1) + p_+(s)] ds < +\infty.$$

In the same way, we also have $B(x, y)(t) < +\infty.$ Thus $F : P \rightarrow X$ is well defined.

There exists a $t_1 \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$A(x, y)(t_1) = \|A(x, y)\|.$$

Since $G(t, s) \geq t(1-t)G(t_1, s), \forall t, s \in [0, 1]$, then, we have

$$A(x, y)(t) \geq t(1-t) \int_0^1 G(t_1, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) \cdot \\ [\lambda f(s, [x(s) - w_1(s)]^*, [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*) \\ + p_+(s)] ds \\ \geq A(x, y)(t_1) t(1-t) = t(1-t) \|A(x, y)\|.$$

In the same way, there exists a $t_2 \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$B(x, y)(t_2) = \|B(x, y)\|.$$

Using the same way as the above proof, we also have

$$B(x, y)(t) \geq t(1-t) \|B(x, y)\|.$$

Then, $F(P) \subset P.$

By proceeding as for the proof of Lemma 2.4 in [10], $F : P \rightarrow P$ is a completely continuous operator.

3. Main Result

Theorem 3.1. Suppose that $(H_1), (H_2)$ are satisfied, then two-point boundary value problem (1.1), (1.2) has at least a $(C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1)) \times (C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1))$ positive solution.

Proof. Choose R_1 such that

$$\max\{r_1, r_3, 1\} < R_1 < m^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\lambda n}}.$$

Let

$$\Omega_{R_1} = \{(x, y) \in P \mid \|x\| < R_1, \|y\| < R_1\}$$

$\|z\| = \max\{\|x\|, \|y\|\}$, then $\forall (x, y) \in P \cap \partial\Omega_{R_1}$, we can obtain $\|z\| > 1$ and

$$\begin{aligned} |F(x, y)(t)| &= |A(x, y)(t)| + |B(x, y)(t)| \\ &\leq \left| \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda f(s, x(s), y(s)) + p_+(s)] ds \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda g(s, x(s), y(s)) + q_+(s)] ds \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \left| \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda \|z\|^{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} f(s, 1, 1) + p_+(s)] ds \right| \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4} \left| \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) [\lambda \|z\|^{\lambda_3 + \lambda_4} g(s, 1, 1) + q_+(s)] ds \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (\lambda \|z\|^{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} + 1) \int_0^1 G(s, s) [f(s, 1, 1) + p_+(s)] ds \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4} (\lambda \|z\|^{\lambda_3 + \lambda_4} + 1) \int_0^1 G(s, s) [g(s, 1, 1) + q_+(s)] ds \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (\lambda \|z\|^m + 1) r_2 + \frac{1}{4} (\lambda \|z\|^m + 1) r_4 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (\lambda r_2 R_1^{m-1} R_1 + R_1) + \frac{1}{4} (\lambda r_4 R_1^{m-1} R_1 + R_1) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (\lambda r_2 \frac{1}{\lambda n} R_1 + R_1) + \frac{1}{4} (\lambda r_4 \frac{1}{\lambda n} R_1 + R_1) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} (2R_1) + \frac{1}{4} (2R_1) = R_1, \end{aligned}$$

As a consequence,

$$\|F(x, y)\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\| = \|(x, y)\|, \quad \forall (x, y) \in P \cap \partial\Omega_{R_1}.$$

We choose constant L, M such that

$$M > \frac{4}{3} [\lambda \alpha^2 (1 - \beta)^2 (\beta - \alpha) (\min_{t \in [\alpha, \beta]} \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi)]^{-1},$$

$$L > R_1.$$

From Lemma 2.2, when $x \geq L, y \geq 0$, we have

$$\frac{f(t, x, y)}{|(x, y)|} \geq M,$$

that is, $f(t, x, y) \geq M|(x, y)|$.

In the same way, when $x \geq L, y \geq 0$, we have $g(t, x, y) \geq M|(x, y)|$, (where $[\alpha, \beta] \in (0, 1)$).

Choose $R_2 > \frac{4L}{3\alpha(1-\beta)}$, then $R_2 > L > R_1$, thus $\frac{R_1}{R_2} < 1$.

Let

$$\Omega_{R_2} = \{(x, y) \in P \mid \|x\| < R_2, \|y\| < R_2\}$$

Then $\forall (x, y) \in P \cap \partial\Omega_{R_2}$, $\|x\|$ and $\|y\|$ have at least a R_2 .

Noticing that

$$\begin{aligned} w_1(t) &= \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) p_-(s) ds \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} t(1-t) \int_0^1 p_-(s) ds \leq \frac{1}{4} t(1-t) r_1. \end{aligned}$$

In the same way, $w_2(t) \leq \frac{1}{4} t(1-t) r_3$.

1. Both $\|x\|$ and $\|y\|$ are R_2 ,

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) - w_1(t) &\geq x(t) - \frac{1}{4} t(1-t) r_1 \\ &\geq x(t) - \frac{1}{4} t(1-t) R_1 \geq x(t) - \frac{x(t)}{4\|x\|} R_1 \\ &\geq x(t) - \frac{R_1}{4R_2} x(t) \geq \frac{3}{4} t(1-t) \|x\| \\ &\geq \frac{3}{4} \alpha(1-\beta) R_2 \geq L. \end{aligned}$$

In the same way, $y(t) - w_2(t) \geq L$.

2. One of $\|x\|$ and $\|y\|$ is R_2 , without loss of the generality,

let $\|x\| = R_2$, we have $x(t) - w_1(t) \geq L$, and $[y(t) - w_2(t)]^* \geq 0$.

This together with Lemma 2.2 yields

$$\begin{aligned} |F(x, y)(t)| &= |A(x, y)(t)| + |B(x, y)(t)| \\ &\geq \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_\alpha^\beta G(\xi, s) \lambda M \cdot \\ &\quad |(x(s) - w_1(s), [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*)| ds \\ &\quad + \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_\alpha^\beta G(\xi, s) \lambda M \cdot \\ &\quad |(x(s) - w_1(s), [y(s) - w_2(s)]^*)| ds \\ &\geq \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_\alpha^\beta G(\xi, s) \lambda M |x(s) - w_1(s)| ds \\ &\quad + \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_\alpha^\beta G(\xi, s) \lambda M |x(s) - w_1(s)| ds \\ &\geq \frac{3}{4} \lambda M \alpha^2 (1 - \beta)^2 R_2 (\beta - \alpha) \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \\ &\quad + \frac{3}{4} \lambda M \alpha^2 (1 - \beta)^2 R_2 (\beta - \alpha) \int_\alpha^\beta G(t, \xi) d\xi \\ &\geq R_2 + R_2, \quad \forall t \in [\alpha, \beta], \quad \forall (x, y) \in P \cap \partial\Omega_{R_2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\|F(x, y)\| \geq \|x\| + \|y\| = \|(x, y)\|, \quad \forall (x, y) \in P \cap \partial\Omega_{R_2}.$$

As a consequence, by lemma 2.1 F has at least one fixed point $(x_0, y_0) \in P \cap (\overline{\Omega_{R_2}} \setminus \Omega_{R_1})$ with $R_1 \leq \|x_0\| \leq R_2$, and $R_1 \leq \|y_0\| \leq R_2$.

Hence, for any $t \in (0, 1)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & x_0(t) - w_1(t) \\ & \geq \|x_0\|t(1-t) - \int_0^1 G(t, \xi) d\xi \int_0^1 G(\xi, s) p_-(s) ds \\ & \geq \|x_0\|t(1-t) - \frac{1}{4}t(1-t)r_1 > 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

In the same way, we have

$$y_0(t) - w_2(t) > 0, \quad \forall t \in (0, 1).$$

It follows from lemma 2.3 that $(x_0 - w_1, y_0 - w_2)$ is one positive solution of the boundary value problem (1.1), (1.2) in $(C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1)) \times (C^2[0, 1] \cap C^4(0, 1))$.

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