

## ON CERTAIN NONLINEAR INTEGRAL INEQUALITIES INVOLVING ITERATED INTEGRALS

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**Abstract.** In this paper explicit bounds on some nonlinear integral inequalities involving iterated integrals are established. Applications are also given to illustrate the usefulness of one of our results.

### 1. Introduction

Integral inequalities with iterated integrals play a very important role in the study of various classes of integrodifferential and integral equations. In [3] Bykov and Salpagarov (see also [1, 4-6]) have given the explicit bounds on the following integral inequalities

$$u(t) \leq c + \int_{\alpha}^t b(s)u(s)ds + \int_{\alpha}^t \left( \int_{\alpha}^s k(s, \tau)u(\tau)d\tau \right) ds \\ + \int_{\alpha}^t \left( \int_{\alpha}^s \left( \int_{\alpha}^{\tau} h(s, \tau, \sigma)u(\sigma)d\sigma \right) d\tau \right) ds, \quad (1.1)$$

$$u(t) \leq c + \int_{\alpha}^t k(t, s)u(s)ds + \int_{\alpha}^t \left( \int_{\alpha}^s h(t, s, \sigma)u(\sigma)d\sigma \right) ds \quad (1.2)$$

under some suitable conditions on the functions involved in (1.1) and (1.2). For a detailed account on such inequalities and their applications, see [1-7]. Motivated by the results given in [3], in this paper we offer some useful nonlinear generalizations of the inequalities in [3] which will be equally important to achieve a diversity of desired goals in certain applications. The two independent variable generalizations of the main results and some applications of one of our results are also given.

### 2. Statement of Results

Let  $R$  denotes the set of real numbers;  $R_+ = [0, \infty)$ ,  $I = [0, T)$ ,  $I_1 = [0, X)$ ,  $I_2 = [0, Y)$  are the given subsets of  $R$ ,  $\Delta = I_1 \times I_2$  and  $'$  denotes the derivative. The partial

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derivatives of a function  $z(x, y)$  for  $x, y \in R$  with respect to  $x, y$  and  $xy$  are denoted by  $D_1z(x, y)$ ,  $D_2z(x, y)$  and  $D_1D_2z(x, y) = D_2D_1z(x, y)$  (or  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}z(x, y)$ ,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}z(x, y)$  and  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x\partial y}z(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y\partial x}z(x, y)$ ) respectively. We denote by  $E_1 = \{(t, s) \in I^2 : 0 \leq s \leq t < T\}$ ,  $E_2 = \{(t, s, \sigma) \in I^3 : 0 \leq \sigma \leq s \leq t < T\}$ ,  $H_1 = \{(x, y, s, t) \in \Delta^2 : 0 \leq s \leq x < X, 0 \leq t \leq y < Y\}$ ,  $H_2 = \{(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau) \in \Delta^3 : 0 \leq \sigma \leq s \leq x < X, 0 \leq \tau \leq t \leq y < Y\}$ . Throughout, we assume that all the integrals involved in the discussion exist on the respective domains of their definitions and are finite.

Our main results are given in the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $u(t) \in C(I, R_+)$ ,  $k(t, s) \in C(E_1, R_+)$ ,  $h(t, s, \sigma) \in C(E_2, R_+)$  and  $a(t), a'(t) \in C(I, R_+)$ . Let  $g(u) \in C(R_+, R_+)$  be a nondecreasing function,  $g(u) > 0$  on  $(0, \infty)$ .*

(c<sub>1</sub>) *Let  $b(t) \in C(I, R_+)$ . If*

$$u(t) \leq a(t) + \int_0^t b(s)g(u(s))ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s k(s, \tau)g(u(\tau))d\tau \right) ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \left( \int_0^\tau h(s, \tau, \sigma)g(u(\sigma))d\sigma \right) d\tau \right) ds, \quad (2.1)$$

for  $t \in I$ , then for  $0 \leq t \leq t_1$ ;  $t, t_1 \in I$ .

$$u(t) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(t)) + \int_0^t M(s)ds \right], \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$G(r) = \int_{r_0}^r \frac{ds}{g(s)}, \quad r > 0, \quad (2.3)$$

$r_0 > 0$  is arbitrary,  $G^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $G$ ,

$$M(t) = b(t) + \int_0^t k(t, \tau)d\tau + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\tau h(t, \tau, \sigma)d\sigma \right) d\tau, \quad (2.4)$$

for  $t \in I$  and  $t_1 \in I$  is chosen so that

$$G(a(t)) + \int_0^t M(s)ds \in \text{Dom}(G^{-1}),$$

for all  $t \in I$  lying in the interval  $0 \leq t \leq t_1$ .

(c<sub>2</sub>) *Let  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}k(t, x) \in C(E_1, R_+)$ ,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}h(t, s, \sigma) \in C(E_2, R_+)$ . If*

$$u(t) \leq a(t) + \int_0^t k(t, s)g(u(s))ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s h(t, s, \sigma)g(u(\sigma))d\sigma \right) ds, \quad (2.5)$$

for  $t \in I$ , then for  $0 \leq t \leq t_2; t, t_2 \in I$ ,

$$u(t) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(t)) + \int_0^t [R(s) + Q(s)] ds \right], \tag{2.6}$$

where  $G, G^{-1}$  are as defined in part (c<sub>1</sub>),

$$R(t) = k(t, t) + \int_0^t h(t, t, \sigma) d\sigma, \tag{2.7}$$

$$Q(t) = \int_0^t \frac{\partial}{\partial t} k(t, \sigma) d\sigma + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h(t, s, \sigma) d\sigma \right) ds, \tag{2.8}$$

for  $t \in I$  and  $t_2 \in I$  is chosen so that

$$G(a(t)) + \int_0^t [R(s) + Q(s)] ds \in \text{Dom}(G^{-1}),$$

for all  $t \in I$  lying in the interval  $0 \leq t \leq t_2$ .

**Remark 1.** If we take  $g(u) = u$ , then  $G(r) = \log \frac{r}{r_0}$ ,  $G^{-1}(r) = r_0 \exp(r)$  and the bounds obtained in (2.2) and (2.6) reduces respectively to

$$u(t) \leq a(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t M(s) ds \right), \tag{2.9}$$

and

$$u(t) \leq a(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t [R(s) + Q(s)] ds \right), \tag{2.10}$$

for  $t \in I$ . Furthermore, if we take  $a(t) = c$ , a nonnegative constant, then we get the inequalities established by Bykov and Salpagarov in [3] (see also [1, 4-6]).

The following theorem deals with the two independent variable versions of the inequalities established in Theorem 1 which can be used in certain applications.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $u(x, y) \in C(\Delta, R_+)$ ,  $k(x, y, s, t) \in C(H_1, R_+)$ ,  $h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau) \in C(H_2, R_+)$  and  $a(x, y), D_1 a(x, y), D_2 a(x, y), D_1 D_2 a(x, y) \in C(\Delta, R_+)$ . Let  $g(u)$  be a continuously differentiable function defined for  $u \geq 0$ ,  $g(u) > 0$  for  $u > 0$  and  $g'(u) \geq 0$  for  $u \geq 0$ .

(d<sub>1</sub>) Let  $b(x, y) \in C(\Delta, R_+)$ . If

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, y) \leq & a(x, y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y b(s, t) g(u(s, t)) dt ds \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t k(s, t, \sigma, \tau) g(u(\sigma, \tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(s, t, \sigma, \tau, m, n) g(u(m, n)) dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds, \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

for  $(x, y) \in \Delta$ , then for  $0 \leq x \leq x_1$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq y_1$ ;  $x, x_1 \in I_1$ ,  $y, y_1 \in I_2$ ,

$$u(x, y) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y N(s, t) dt ds \right], \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N(x, y) = & b(x, y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y k(x, y, \sigma, \tau) d\tau d\sigma \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(x, y, \sigma, \tau, m, n) dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma, \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

$G, G^{-1}$  are as in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>1</sub>) and  $x_1 \in I_1$ ,  $y_1 \in I_2$  are chosen so that

$$G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y N(s, t) dt ds \in \text{Dom}(G^{-1}),$$

for all  $(x, y) \in \Delta$  such that  $0 \leq x \leq x_1$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq y_1$ .

(d<sub>2</sub>) Let  $D_1k(x, y, s, t)$ ,  $D_2k(x, y, s, t)$ ,  $D_2D_1k(x, y, s, t) \in C(H_1, R_+)$ ;  $D_1h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau)$ ,  $D_2h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau)$ ,  $D_2D_1h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau) \in C(H_2, R_+)$ . If

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, y) \leq & a(x, y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y k(x, y, s, t) g(u(s, t)) dt ds \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau) g(u(\sigma, \tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds, \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

for  $(x, y) \in \Delta$ , then for  $0 \leq x \leq x_2$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq y_2$ ;  $x, x_2 \in I_1$ ,  $y, y_2 \in I_2$ ,

$$u(x, y) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y [A(m, n) + B(m, n)] dndm \right], \quad (2.15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} A(x, y) = & k(x, y, x, y) + \int_0^x D_1k(x, y, \xi, y) d\xi + \int_0^y D_2k(x, y, x, \eta) d\eta \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y D_2D_1k(x, y, \xi, \eta) d\eta d\xi, \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

$$\begin{aligned} B(x, y) = & \int_0^x \int_0^y h(x, y, x, y, \sigma, \tau) d\tau d\sigma + \int_0^x \left( \int_0^s \int_0^y D_1h(x, y, s, y, \sigma, \tau) d\tau d\sigma \right) ds \\ & + \int_0^y \left( \int_0^x \int_0^t D_2h(x, y, x, t, \sigma, \tau) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt \\ & + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t D_2D_1h(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds, \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

$G, G^{-1}$  are as in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>1</sub>) and  $x_2 \in I_1$ ,  $y_2 \in I_2$  are chosen so that

$$G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y [A(m, n) + B(m, n)] dndm \in \text{Dom}(G^{-1}),$$

for all  $(x, y) \in \Delta$  such that  $0 \leq x \leq x_2$ ,  $0 \leq y \leq y_2$ .

**Remark 2.** By taking  $g(u) = u$  in Theorem 2, it is easy to observe that the bounds in (2.12) and (2.15) reduces respectively to

$$u(x, y) \leq a(x, y) \exp \left( \int_0^x \int_0^y N(s, t) dt ds \right), \tag{2.18}$$

and

$$u(x, y) \leq a(x, y) \exp \left( \int_0^x \int_0^y [A(m, n) + B(m, n)] dndm \right), \tag{2.19}$$

for  $(x, y) \in \Delta$ . In this case, the inequalities obtained in (2.18) and (2.19) can be considered as generalizations of the Wendroff's inequality given in [2, p.154]. For a large number of such inequalities and their applications, we refer the interested readers to [1, 7].

**3. Proof of Theorem 1**

First we note that, since  $a'(t) \geq 0$ , the function  $a(t)$  is monotonically increasing (see [8, p.81]).

(c<sub>1</sub>) Let  $a(t) > 0$  for  $t \in I$  and define a function  $z(t)$  by the right hand side of (2.1). Then  $z(t) > 0$ ,  $z(0) = a(0)$ ,  $u(t) \leq z(t)$  and by hypotheses, it is nondecreasing and

$$\begin{aligned} z'(t) &= a'(t) + b(t)g(u(t)) + \int_0^t k(t, \tau)g(u(\tau))d\tau + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\tau h(t, \tau, \sigma)g(u(\sigma))d\sigma \right) d\tau \\ &\leq a'(t) + b(t)g(z(t)) + \int_0^t k(t, \tau)g(z(\tau))d\tau + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\tau h(t, \tau, \sigma)g(z(\sigma))d\sigma \right) d\tau \\ &\leq a'(t) + M(t)g(z(t)). \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

From (2.3), (3.1), the fact that  $a(t) \leq z(t)$  and the nondecreasing character of  $g$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}G(z(t)) &= \frac{z'(t)}{g(z(t))} \\ &\leq \frac{a'(t) + M(t)g(z(t))}{g(z(t))} \\ &\leq \frac{a'(t)}{g(a(t))} + M(t) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt}G(a(t)) + M(t). \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

By setting  $t = s$  in (3.2) and integrating it from 0 to  $t$ ,  $t \in I$  we have

$$G(z(t)) \leq G(a(t)) + \int_0^t M(s)ds. \tag{3.3}$$

From (3.3) and the hypotheses on  $G$  we have

$$z(t) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(t)) + \int_0^t M(s) ds \right]. \quad (3.4)$$

Using (3.4) in  $u(t) \leq z(t)$  we get the required inequality in (2.2). If  $a(t)$  is nonnegative, we carry out the above procedure with  $a(t) + \varepsilon$  instead of  $a(t)$ , where  $\varepsilon > 0$  is an arbitrary small constant, and subsequently pass to the limit  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  to obtain (2.2). The subinterval  $0 \leq t \leq t_1$  is obvious.

(c<sub>2</sub>) Let  $a(t) > 0$  for  $t \in I$  and define a function  $z(t)$  by the right hand side of (2.5). Then  $z(t) > 0$ ,  $z(0) = a(0)$ ,  $u(t) \leq z(t)$ ,  $a(t) \leq z(t)$ . In view of hypotheses, it is easy to observe that  $z(t)$  is nondecreasing and

$$\begin{aligned} z'(t) &= a'(t) + k(t, t)g(u(t)) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial}{\partial t} k(t, s)g(u(s)) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t h(t, t, \sigma)g(u(\sigma)) d\sigma + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h(t, s, \sigma)g(u(\sigma)) d\sigma \right) ds \\ &\leq a'(t) + k(t, t)g(z(t)) + \int_0^t \frac{\partial}{\partial t} k(t, s)g(z(s)) ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t h(t, t, \sigma)g(z(\sigma)) d\sigma + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} h(t, s, \sigma)g(z(\sigma)) d\sigma \right) ds \\ &\leq a'(t) + [R(t) + Q(t)]g(z(t)). \end{aligned}$$

The remaining proof can be completed by following the proof of part (c<sub>1</sub>) given above.

#### 4. Proof of Theorem 2

From the hypotheses, it is easy to observe that the function  $a(x, y)$  is monotonically increasing in both the variables  $x$  and  $y$ . Furthermore, since  $g'(u) \geq 0$  on  $R_+$ , the function  $g(u)$  is monotonically increasing on  $(0, \infty)$  (see [8, p.81]).

(d<sub>1</sub>) Let  $a(x, y) > 0$  for  $(x, y) \in \Delta$  and define a function  $z(x, y)$  by the right hand side of (2.11). Then  $z(x, y) > 0$  and by hypotheses, it is nondecreasing in  $(x, y) \in \Delta$ ,  $z(x, 0) = a(x, 0)$ ,  $z(0, y) = a(0, y)$ ,  $u(x, y) \leq z(x, y)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 z(x, y) &= D_1 a(x, y) + \int_0^y b(x, t)g(u(x, t)) dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^y \left( \int_0^x \int_0^t k(x, t, \sigma, \tau)g(u(\sigma, \tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^y \left( \int_0^x \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(x, t, \sigma, \tau, m, n)g(u(m, n)) dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_2z(x, y) &= D_2a(x, y) + \int_0^x b(s, y)g(u(s, y))ds \\
 &\quad + \int_0^x \left( \int_0^s \int_0^y k(s, y, \sigma, \tau)g(u(\sigma, \tau))d\tau d\sigma \right) ds \\
 &\quad + \int_0^x \left( \int_0^s \int_0^y \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(s, y, \sigma, \tau, m, n)g(u(m, n))dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma \right) ds, \\
 D_2D_1z(x, y) &= D_2D_1a(x, y) + b(x, y)g(u(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y k(x, y, \sigma, \tau)g(u(\sigma, \tau))d\tau d\sigma \\
 &\quad + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(x, y, \sigma, \tau, m, n)g(u(m, n))dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma \\
 &\leq D_2D_1a(x, y) + b(x, y)g(z(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y k(x, y, \sigma, \tau)g(z(\sigma, \tau))d\tau d\sigma \\
 &\quad + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau h(x, y, \sigma, \tau, m, n)g(z(m, n))dndm \right) d\tau d\sigma \\
 &\leq D_2D_1a(x, y) + N(x, y)g(z(x, y)), \tag{4.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $N(x, y)$  is given by (2.13). It is easy to observe that

$$D_2D_1G(z(x, y)) = G''(z(x, y))D_1z(x, y)D_2z(x, y) + G'(z(x, y))D_2D_1z(x, y) \tag{4.2}$$

Since  $a(x, y) \leq z(x, y)$ ,  $D_1z(x, y) \geq 0$ ,  $D_2z(x, y) \geq 0$ ,  $G'(z(x, y)) = \frac{1}{g(z(x, y))}$  and  $G''(z(x, y)) \leq 0$ , we obtain from (4.1) and (4.2)

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_2D_1G(z(x, y)) &\leq G'(z(x, y))D_2D_1z(x, y) \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{g(z(x, y))} [D_2D_1a(x, y) + N(x, y)g(z(x, y))] \\
 &\leq \frac{D_2D_1a(x, y)}{g(a(x, y))} + N(x, y). \tag{4.3}
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_2D_1G(a(x, y)) &= D_2 \left( D_1 \left( \int_{r_0}^{a(x, y)} \frac{ds}{g(s)} \right) \right) \\
 &= D_2 \left( \frac{D_1a(x, y)}{g(a(x, y))} \right) \\
 &= \frac{g(a(x, y))D_2D_1a(x, y) - D_1a(x, y)g'(a(x, y))D_2a(x, y)}{\{g(a(x, y))\}^2} \\
 &= \frac{D_2D_1a(x, y)}{g(a(x, y))} - \frac{D_1a(x, y)g'(a(x, y))D_2a(x, y)}{\{g(a(x, y))\}^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$D_2D_1G(a(x, y)) \geq \frac{D_2D_1a(x, y)}{g(a(x, y))}. \tag{4.4}$$

From (4.3) and (4.4) we have

$$D_2D_1G(z(x, y)) \leq D_2D_1G(a(x, y)) + N(x, y),$$

and this yields

$$G(z(x, y)) \leq G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y N(s, t) dt ds,$$

which in view of the fact  $u(x, y) \leq z(x, y)$  implies

$$u(x, y) \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(x, y)) + \int_0^x \int_0^y N(s, t) dt ds \right].$$

The case when  $a(x, y) \geq 0$  follows as noted in the proof of Theorem 1 part (c<sub>1</sub>). The subdomain  $0 \leq x \leq x_1, 0 \leq y \leq y_1$  is obvious.

- (d<sub>2</sub>) Let  $a(x, y) > 0$  for  $(x, y) \in \Delta$  and define a function  $z(x, y)$  by the right hand side of (2.14). Then  $z(x, y) > 0$  and by hypotheses, it is nondecreasing in  $(x, y) \in \Delta$ ,  $z(x, 0) = a(x, 0)$ ,  $z(0, y) = a(0, y)$  and  $u(x, y) \leq z(x, y)$ . As in the proof of part (d<sub>1</sub>), it is easy to observe that  $D_1z(x, y) \geq 0$ ,  $D_2z(x, y) \geq 0$  and

$$D_2D_1z(x, y) \leq D_2D_1a(x, y) + [A(x, y) + B(x, y)]g(z(x, y)), \quad (4.5)$$

where  $A(x, y)$ ,  $B(x, y)$  are given by (2.16), (2.17). The rest of the proof can be completed by closely looking at the proof of part (d<sub>1</sub>) given above. We omit the details.

## 5. Applications

In this section, we present applications of the inequality in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>) which provide estimates for the solutions of iterated Volterra integral equation of the form

$$z(t) = f(t) + \int_0^t K(t, s, z(s)) ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s H(t, s, \sigma, z(\sigma)) d\sigma \right) ds, \quad (5.1)$$

where  $f \in C(I, R)$ ,  $K \in C(E_1 \times R, R)$ ,  $H \in C(E_2 \times R, R)$ . Here, we note that the existence proofs for the solutions of equation (5.1) show either that the operator  $T$  defined by the right hand side of equation (5.1) is a contraction (in which case one also has uniqueness) or  $T$  is compact and continuous on a suitable subspace of the space of continuous functions.

**Theorem 3.** *Suppose that the functions  $f$ ,  $K$  and  $H$  in equation (5.1) satisfy*

$$|f(t)| \leq a(t), \quad (5.2)$$

$$|K(t, s, z)| \leq k(t, s)g(|z|), \quad (5.3)$$

$$|H(t, s, \sigma, z)| \leq h(t, s, \sigma)g(|z|), \quad (5.4)$$



where  $a, k, h, g$  are as in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>). If  $z(t), t \in I$  is any solution of equation (5.1), then

$$|z(t)| \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(t)) + \int_0^t [R(s) + Q(s)] ds \right], \tag{5.5}$$

for  $t \in I$ , where  $G, G^{-1}, R(t), Q(t)$  are as given in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>).

**Proof.** Let  $z(t)$  be a solution of equation (5.1). Using the fact that  $z(t)$  is a solution of equation (5.1) and (5.2)-(5.4) we have

$$|z(t)| \leq a(t) + \int_0^t k(t, s)g(|z(s)|)ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s h(t, s, \sigma)g(|z(\sigma)|)d\sigma \right) ds. \tag{5.6}$$

Now an application of the inequality in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>) to (5.6) yields (5.5).

**Theorem 4.** Suppose that the functions  $K, H$  and  $f$  in equation (5.1) satisfy

$$|K(t, s, z) - K(t, s, \bar{z})| \leq k(t, x)g(|z - \bar{z}|), \tag{5.7}$$

$$|H(t, s, \sigma, z) - H(t, s, \sigma, \bar{z})| \leq h(t, s, \sigma)g(|z - \bar{z}|), \tag{5.8}$$

$$\int_0^t |K(t, s, f(s))|ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s |H(t, s, \sigma, f(\sigma))|d\sigma \right) ds \leq a(t), \tag{5.9}$$

where  $k, h, g, a$  are as in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>). If  $z(t), t \in I$  is any solution of equation (5.1), then

$$|z(t) - f(t)| \leq G^{-1} \left[ G(a(t)) + \int_0^t [R(s) + Q(s)] ds \right], \tag{5.10}$$

for  $t \in I$ , where  $G, G^{-1}, R(s), Q(s)$  are as given in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>).

**Proof.** Let  $z(t), t \in I$  be a solution of equation (5.1). Using the fact that  $z(t)$  is a solution of equation (5.1) and (5.7)-(5.9) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |z(t) - f(t)| &= \left| \int_0^t \{K(t, s, z(s)) - K(t, s, f(s)) + K(t, s, f(s))\} ds \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \{H(t, s, \sigma, z(\sigma)) - H(t, s, \sigma, f(\sigma)) + H(t, s, \sigma, f(\sigma))\} d\sigma \right) ds \right| \\ &\leq a(t) + \int_0^t k(t, s)g(|z(s) - f(s)|)ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s h(t, s, \sigma)g(|z(\sigma) - f(\sigma)|)d\sigma \right) ds. \end{aligned} \tag{5.11}$$

Now a suitable application of the inequality in Theorem 1 part (c<sub>2</sub>) to (5.11) yields (5.10).

**Remark 3.** We note that the inequality in Theorem 2 part ( $d_2$ ) can be used to study similar properties as in Theorems 3 and 4 for the Volterra integral equation of the form

$$z(x, y) = f(x, y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y F(x, y, s, t, z(s, t)) dt ds + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t H(x, y, s, t, \sigma, \tau, z(\sigma, \tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds, \quad (5.12)$$

under some suitable conditions on the functions involved in equation (5.12).

In conclusion, we note that the inequalities given in Theorem 1 part ( $c_1$ ) and Theorem 2 part ( $d_1$ ) can be used respectively to study similar properties as in Theorems 3 and 4 of the equations

$$z(t) = f(t) + \int_0^t e(s, z(s)) ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s K(s, \tau, z(\tau)) d\tau \right) ds + \int_0^t \left( \int_0^s \left( \int_0^\tau H(s, \tau, \sigma, z(\sigma)) d\sigma \right) d\tau \right) ds \quad (5.13)$$

and

$$z(x, y) = f(x, y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y e(s, t, z(s, t)) dt ds + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t K(s, t, \sigma, \tau, z(\sigma, \tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds + \int_0^x \int_0^y \left( \int_0^s \int_0^t \left( \int_0^\sigma \int_0^\tau H(s, t, \sigma, \tau, m, n, z(m, n)) dn dm \right) d\tau d\sigma \right) dt ds, \quad (5.14)$$

under some suitable conditions on the functions involved in equations (5.13) and (5.14).

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