



# Existence of Coupled Quasi-solutions of Nonlinear Integro-Differential Equations of Volterra Type in Banach Spaces

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## Abstract

We study an initial value problem for a class of integro-differential equations of Volterra type in a real Banach space. Using method of upper and lower solutions and Mönch and Von Harten theorem, we obtain an existence theorem of coupled quasi-solutions, which is an extension of those established by Y. Chen and W. Zhuang in [1].

*Keywords:* Banach space; measure of noncompactness; lower and upper solutions; normal cone; Quasi-solution.

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## 1 Introduction and Preliminaries

Let  $E$  be a real Banach space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ , and let  $E^*$  denote the dual of  $E$ . Let  $K \subset E$  be a cone. By means of  $K$  a partial order  $\leq$  is defined as  $v \leq u$  iff  $u - v \in K$ . We let  $K^* = \{\varphi \in E^* : \varphi(u) \geq 0 \text{ for all } u \in K\}$ .

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A cone  $K$  is said to be normal if there exists a real number  $\delta > 0$  such that  $0 \leq v \leq u$  implies  $\|v\| \leq \delta\|u\|$ , where  $\delta$  is independent of  $u, v$ . We shall always assume in this paper that  $K$  is a normal cone.

Let  $\beta$  denote the measure of noncompactness of Hausdorff respectively. If  $F$  is a subspace of  $E$  and  $M \subset F$  is bounded then we define

$$\beta_F(M) = \inf\{\varepsilon > 0 : M \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{n(\varepsilon)} S(z_i^\varepsilon, \varepsilon) \text{ for some } z_i^\varepsilon \in F\}.$$

We have

$$\beta(B) \leq \beta_F(B) \leq 2 \cdot \beta(B) \text{ for } B \subset F \text{ bounded.}$$

For these and further properties we refer to Deimling [2] and Sadovskii [3].

For any  $v, w \in C[I, E]$  such that  $v(t) \leq w(t)$  on  $I$ , where  $I = [0, T], T > 0$ , we define the conical segment

$$[v, w] = \{u \in C[I, E] : v \leq u \leq w\}.$$

From the definition of  $[v, w]$  and the normality of the cone  $K$ , we know that  $[v, w]$  is a bounded closed convex subset of  $C[I, E]$ .

In this paper, we consider the following initial value problem for nonlinear integro-differential equation (IVP) in a real Banach space, namely

$$u'(t) = H(t, u(t), (Su)(t)), \quad u(0) = u_0 \tag{1.1}$$

where  $(Su)(t) = \int_0^t s(t, \tau)u(\tau)d\tau$ ,  $s \in C[I \times I, R^+]$  and  $s(t, s) \leq s_0$  on  $I \times I$ ,  $s_0 > 0$ ,  $H \in C[I \times E \times E, E]$ . We obtain an existence theorem of coupled quasi-solutions via the method of upper and lower solutions and Mönch and Von Harten theorem. The results of this paper are extensions of those established in [1].

In the proof of our main results the following lemmas are necessary. See [4],[5],[6] for details.

**Lemma 1.1**<sup>[5]</sup> (**Mönch and Von Harten theorem**) Let  $E$  be a Banach space and  $\beta$  the Hausdorff measure of noncompactness on  $E$ . Let  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of continuously differentiable functions from  $J = [a, b]$  to  $E$  such that there is some  $\mu \in L^1(a, b)$  with  $\|x_n(t)\| \leq \mu(t)$  and  $\|x'_n(t)\| \leq \mu(t)$  on  $J$ . Let  $\psi(t) = \beta(\{x_n(t)\}_{n \geq 1})$ . Then  $\psi(t)$  is absolutely continuous on  $J$  and

$$\psi'(t) \leq 2\beta(\{x'_n(t)\}_{n \geq 1}) \quad a.e. \text{ on } J.$$

**Lemma 1.2**<sup>[5]</sup> Let  $E$  be a separable Banach space and  $\beta$  the Hausdorff measure of noncompactness on  $E$ . Let  $\{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  be a sequence of continuous functions from  $J = [a, b]$  to  $E$  such that there is some  $\mu \in L^1(a, b)$  with  $\|x_n(t)\| \leq \mu(t)$  on  $J$ . Let  $\psi(t) = \beta(\{x_n(t)\}_{n \geq 1})$ . Then  $\psi(t)$  is integrable on  $J$  and

$$\beta(\{\int_a^b x_n(s)ds\}_{n \geq 1}) \leq \int_a^b \psi(s)ds.$$

**Lemma 1.3**<sup>[6]</sup> Let  $y(t) \in C[I, R]$ ,  $y(0) \leq 0$ , and satisfy

$$y'(t) \leq -My(t) - N \int_0^t s(t, \tau)y(\tau)d\tau$$

where  $M > 0, N \geq 0, s \in C[I \times I, R^+], s(t, \tau) \leq s_0$  for  $(t, \tau) \in I \times I$ . Suppose further that  $Ns_0T(\exp(MT) - 1) \leq M$ . Then  $y(t) \leq 0$  for all  $t \in I$ .

To define appropriate classes of upper and lower solutions of (1.1) , we shall suppose that  $H$  admits a decomposition of the form

$$H(t, u, Su) = H_0(t, u, Su) + H_1(t, u, Su) + H_2(t, u, Su),$$

where  $H_0, H_1, H_2 \in C[I \times E \times E, E]$ .

**Definition 1.1** Let  $v_0, w_0 \in C^1[I, E]$ . Then  $v_0, w_0$  are said to be coupled lower and upper quasi-solutions of (1.1) if

$$\begin{cases} v_0' - H_0(t, v_0, Sv_0) - H_1(t, v_0, Sv_0) - H_2(t, w_0, Sw_0) \leq 0, & v_0(0) \leq u_0, \\ w_0' - H_0(t, w_0, Sw_0) - H_1(t, w_0, Sw_0) - H_2(t, v_0, Sv_0) \geq 0, & w_0(0) \geq u_0. \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

If in (1.2), equalities hold, then  $v_0, w_0$  are said to be coupled quasi-solutions of (1.1). Clearly one can define, based on definition 1.1, coupled maximal and minimal quasi-solutions of (1.1). We also need a stronger form of coupled upper and lower quasi-solutions of (1.1).

**Definition 1.2** Let  $v_0, w_0 \in C^1[I, E]$  be such that  $v_0(t) \leq w_0(t)$  on  $I$ . Then  $v_0, w_0$  are said to be strongly coupled lower and upper quasi-solutions of (1.1) if there exist constants  $M > 0, N \geq 0$  such that

$$\begin{cases} v_0' \leq H_0(t, \sigma, S\sigma) + H_1(t, v_0, Sv_0) + H_2(t, w_0, Sw_0) - M(v_0 - \sigma) - N(Sv_0 - S\sigma) \\ w_0 \geq H_0(t, \sigma, S\sigma) + H_1(t, w_0, Sw_0) + H_2(t, v_0, Sv_0) - M(w_0 - \sigma) - N(Sw_0 - S\sigma) \end{cases} \quad (1.3)$$

for all  $\sigma \in [v_0, w_0]$ .

We list for convenience the following assumptions and suppose that  $v_0, w_0 \in C^1[I, E]$  such that  $v_0(t) \leq w_0(t)$  on  $I$  and  $Ns_0T(\exp(MT) - 1) \leq M$ .

(A<sub>1</sub>) For any bounded set  $B \subset [v_0, w_0]$ ,

$$\beta(\{H_0(t, x, Sx) + H_1(t, x, Sx) : x \in B\}) \leq L\beta(B(t)),$$

$$\beta(\{H_2(t, x, Sx) : x \in B\}) \leq L\beta(B(t)),$$

where  $L > 0, B(t) = \{x(t) : x \in B\}$ .

(A'<sub>1</sub>) For any  $u, v \in [v_0, w_0]$ ,

$$\|(H_0 + H_1)(t, u, Su) - (H_0 + H_1)(t, v, Sv)\| \leq L\|u(t) - v(t)\|,$$

$$\|H_2(t, u, Su) - H_2(t, v, Sv)\| \leq L\|u(t) - v(t)\|,$$

where  $L > 0$ .

(A<sub>2</sub>)  $H_1(t, x, Sx)$  is nondecreasing in  $x$  and  $H_2(t, x, Sx)$  is nonincreasing in  $x$  relatively to the normal cone  $K$ .

**Note** Clearly, (A'<sub>1</sub>) implies (A<sub>1</sub>).

## 2 Main Results

Our main aim in this paper is to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** Assume that the cone  $K$  is normal and assumptions (A'<sub>1</sub>), (A<sub>2</sub>) and (1.3) are satisfied. Then there exists a unique solution  $u(t)$  of (1.1) on  $I$  such that  $u \in [v_0, w_0]$ , provided  $v_0(0) \leq u_0 \leq w_0(0)$ .

In our paper,  $H = H_0 + H_1 + H_2$ , where  $H_0, H_1, H_2$  satisfy different conditions respectively. The papers in [7-12] were concerned with single  $H$ , their conditions of measure of noncompactness were relatively strong.

The proof of the above theorem will be completed by a series lemmas.

First of all, we consider the following linear initial value problem (LIVP):

$$u' = \bar{H}(t, u, Su), \quad u(0) = u_0 \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\bar{H}(t, u, Su) = -Mu - N(Su) + H_0(t, \eta_1, S\eta_1) + H_1(t, \eta_1, S\eta_1) + H_2(t, \eta_2, S\eta_2) + M\eta_1 + N(S\eta_1)$ , and  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in [v_0, w_0]$ . Then we have

**Lemma 2.1** For any  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in [v_0, w_0]$ , there exists a unique solution  $u(t)$  on  $I$  of (2.1).

The proof of this lemma is similar to a corresponding result given in [6] with minor modifications.

For any  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in [v_0, w_0]$ , we define the mapping  $A$  by  $A[\eta_1, \eta_2] = u$ , where  $u = u(t)$  is the unique solution of (2.1) on  $I$  corresponding to  $\eta_1, \eta_2$ . Then we have the following

**Lemma 2.2** Suppose that assumptions  $(A_2)$  and (1.3) hold. Then  $A$  maps  $[v_0, w_0] \times [v_0, w_0]$  into  $[v_0, w_0]$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in [v_0, w_0]$  and let  $u = A[\eta_1, \eta_2]$ . For any  $\phi \in K^*$ , set  $p(t) = \phi(v_0(t) - u(t))$  and note that  $p(0) = \phi(v_0(0) - u_0) \leq 0$ . Then for all  $\sigma \in [v_0, w_0]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p'(t) &= \phi(v_0'(t) - u'(t)) \\ &\leq \phi(H_0(t, \sigma, S\sigma) + H_1(t, v_0, Sv_0) + H_2(t, w_0, Sw_0) - M(v_0 - \sigma) - N(Sv_0 - S\sigma) \\ &\quad - H_0(t, \eta_1, S\eta_1) - H_1(t, \eta_1, S\eta_1) - H_2(t, \eta_2, S\eta_2) + M(u - \eta_1) + N(Su - S\eta_1)). \end{aligned}$$

Choosing  $\sigma = \eta_1$ , then we get

$$\begin{aligned} p'(t) &\leq \phi((H_1(t, v_0, Sv_0) - H_1(t, \eta_1, S\eta_1)) + (H_2(t, w_0, Sw_0) - H_2(t, \eta_2, S\eta_2))) \\ &\quad - \phi(M(v_0 - u) - N(Sv_0 - Su)) \\ &\leq -Mp(t) - N \int_0^t s(t, \tau)p(\tau)d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

which implies  $p(t) \leq 0$  by Lemma 1.3. This proves  $v_0(t) \leq u(t)$  on  $I$  since  $\phi \in K^*$  is arbitrary.

A similar argument yields that  $u(t) \leq w_0(t)$  on  $I$ . Since  $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in [v_0, w_0]$  are arbitrary, the proof is complete.  $\square$

In view of Lemma 2.2, we can define the sequences  $\{v_n\}, \{w_n\}$  as follows:

$$v_{n+1} = A[v_n, w_n], w_{n+1} = A[w_n, v_n] \text{ and } v_n, w_n \in [v_0, w_0], n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

We now prove the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3** Suppose that assumptions  $(A_1), (A_2)$  and (1.3) hold. Then the sequences  $\{v_n\}, \{w_n\}$  are uniformly bounded, equicontinuous and relatively compact on  $I$ .

**Proof.** Since the cone  $K$  is normal and  $v_n, w_n \in [v_0, w_0]$  for all  $t \in I$ , it follows that  $\{v_n\}, \{w_n\}$  are uniformly bounded on  $I$ .

By assumption  $(A_1)$ ,  $H_0 + H_1$  and  $H_2$  map a bounded set into a bounded set. Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} v_n'(t) &= -Mv_n - N(Sv_n) + H_0(t, v_{n-1}, Sv_{n-1}) + H_1(t, v_{n-1}, Sv_{n-1}) \\ &\quad + H_2(t, w_{n-1}, Sw_{n-1}) + Mv_{n-1} + N(Sv_{n-1}), \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

so there exists a constant  $M_0 > 0$  such that

$$\|v_n'(t)\| \leq M_0, \quad t \in I, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Therefore, by the mean value theorem (see theorem 1.3.2 in [13]), we have

$$\|v_n(t_1) - v_n(t_2)\| \leq M_0|t_1 - t_2|, \quad t_1, t_2 \in I.$$

This implies that  $\{v_n(t)\}$  is equicontinuous on  $I$ . A similar argument shows that  $\{w_n(t)\}$  is equicontinuous on  $I$ .

Let  $\varphi(t) = \beta(\{v_n(t) : n \geq 0\})$ ,  $\psi(t) = \beta(\{w_n(t) : n \geq 0\})$ . Clearly  $\{v_n(t)\}, \{w_n(t)\}$  satisfy the conditions of Lemma 1.2. Therefore

$$\varphi'(t) \leq 2\beta(\{v_n'(t) : n \geq 0\}), \quad \psi'(t) \leq 2\beta(\{w_n'(t) : n \geq 0\}) \quad \text{a.e. on } I. \tag{2.3}$$

Let  $E_1 = \overline{\text{span}}\{v_n(t), w_n(t) : n \geq 0, t \in I \cap Q\}$ , where  $Q$  is the set of rational numbers. By assumption  $(A_1)$ , we have

$$\beta(\{H_0(t, v_{n-1}, Sv_{n-1}) + H_1(t, v_{n-1}, Sv_{n-1}) : n \geq 1\}) \leq L\beta(\{v_{n-1}(t) : n \geq 1\}) = L\varphi(t), \tag{2.4}$$

$$\beta(\{H_2(t, w_{n-1}, Sw_{n-1}) : n \geq 1\}) \leq L\beta(\{w_{n-1}(t) : n \geq 1\}) = L\psi(t). \tag{2.5}$$

By the properties of Hausdorff's measure of noncompactness and Lemma 1.2, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\{(Sv_{n-1})(t) : n \geq 1\}) &\leq \beta_{E_1}(\{(Sv_{n-1}) : n \geq 1\}) = \beta_{E_1}(\{\int_0^t s(t, \tau)v_{n-1}(\tau)d\tau : n \geq 1\}) \\ &\leq \int_0^t \beta_{E_1}(\{s(t, \tau)v_{n-1}(\tau) : n \geq 1\})d\tau = \int_0^t s(t, \tau)\beta_{E_1}(\{v_{n-1}(\tau) : n \geq 1\})d\tau \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t s(t, \tau)\beta(\{v_{n-1}(\tau) : n \geq 1\})d\tau \leq 2 \int_0^t s_0\varphi(\tau)d\tau. \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

By (2.2)-(2.6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi'(t) &\leq 2(2M\varphi(t) + 2N \cdot 2s_0 \int_0^t \varphi(\tau)d\tau + L\varphi(t) + L\psi(t)) \\ &= 2(2M + L)\varphi(t) + 2L\psi(t) + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t \varphi(\tau)d\tau \quad \text{a.e. on } I. \end{aligned}$$

A similar argument yields that

$$\psi'(t) \leq 2(2M + L)\psi(t) + 2L\varphi(t) + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t \psi(\tau)d\tau \quad \text{a.e. on } I.$$

Set  $m(t) = \varphi(t) + \psi(t)$ , then

$$m'(t) \leq 2(2M + L)m(t) + 2Lm(t) + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau, \quad \text{a.e. on } I,$$

that is,

$$m'(t) \leq 4(M + L)m(t) + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau \quad \text{a.e. on } I.$$

Noting that  $m(0) = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} m(t) &\leq 4(M + L) \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t \int_0^\tau m(\xi)d\xi d\tau \\ &\leq 4(M + L) \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau + 8Ns_0 \int_0^t \int_0^\tau m(\xi)d\xi d\tau \\ &\leq 4(M + L) \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau + 8Ns_0 T \int_0^t m(\xi)d\xi \\ &= 4(M + L + 2Ns_0 T) \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,  $m(t) \leq m(0)\exp(4(M + L + 2Ns_0 T)) = 0$ , we thus obtain  $\varphi(t) = \psi(t) = 0, t \in I$ . Hence, by Ascoli-Arzela theorem, the sequences  $\{v_n\}, \{w_n\}$  are relatively compact in  $C[I, E]$ . The proof of Lemma 2.3 is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4** Suppose that assumptions  $(A'_1)$ ,  $(A_2)$  and (1.3) hold. Then we have  $p(t) \equiv 0$  on  $I$  for either

$$p(t) = \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|v_n(t) - v_{n-1}(t)\|$$

or

$$p(t) = \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|w_n(t) - w_{n-1}(t)\|.$$

**Proof.** Let  $m_1(t) = \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|v_n(t) - v_{n-1}(t)\|$ ,  $m_2(t) = \overline{\lim}_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|w_n(t) - w_{n-1}(t)\|$ ,  $m(t) = m_1(t) + m_2(t)$ . In the following we will prove that  $m(t) \equiv 0$  on  $I$ .

By the proof of Lemma 2.3, there exists a constant  $M_0 > 0$  such that

$$\|v'_n(t)\| \leq M_0, \quad \|w'_n(t)\| \leq M_0, \quad \forall t \in I.$$

Therefore, for all  $t_1, t_2 \in I$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \|v_n(t_1) - v_{n-1}(t_1)\| - \|v_n(t_2) - v_{n-1}(t_2)\| \right| \\ & \leq \|v_n(t_1) - v_n(t_2)\| + \|v_{n-1}(t_1) - v_{n-1}(t_2)\| \\ & \leq 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|v_n(t_1) - v_{n-1}(t_1)\| & \leq \|v_n(t_2) - v_{n-1}(t_2)\| + 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|, \\ \|v_n(t_2) - v_{n-1}(t_2)\| & \leq \|v_n(t_1) - v_{n-1}(t_1)\| + 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the limit, we obtain

$$m_1(t_1) \leq m_1(t_2) + 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|, \quad m_1(t_2) \leq m_1(t_1) + 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|$$

and so

$$|m_1(t_1) - m_1(t_2)| \leq 2M_0|t_1 - t_2|,$$

which proves that  $m_1(t)$  is continuous on  $I$ . A similar argument yields that  $m_2(t)$  is also continuous on  $I$ .

Now  $(A'_1)$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \|v_{n+1}(t) - v_n(t)\| & \leq \int_0^t [\|H_0(\tau, v_n(\tau), (Sv_n)(\tau)) + H_1(\tau, v_n(\tau), (Sv_n)(\tau)) \\ & \quad - H_0(\tau, v_{n-1}(\tau), (Sv_{n-1})(\tau)) - H_1(\tau, v_{n-1}(\tau), (Sv_{n-1})(\tau))\| \\ & \quad + \|H_2(\tau, w_n(\tau), (Sw_n)(\tau)) - H_2(\tau, w_{n-1}(\tau), (Sw_{n-1})(\tau))\| + M\|v_{n+1} - v_n\| \\ & \quad + N\|Sv_{n+1} - Sv_n\| + M\|v_n - v_{n-1}\| + N\|Sv_n - Sv_{n-1}\|]d\tau \\ & \leq \int_0^t [(L + M)\|v_n - v_{n-1}\| + L\|w_n - w_{n-1}\| + M\|v_{n+1} - v_n\| \\ & \quad + N\|Sv_{n+1} - Sv_n\| + N\|Sv_n - Sv_{n-1}\|]d\tau \\ & \leq \int_0^t [(L + M)\|v_n - v_{n-1}\| + L\|w_n - w_{n-1}\| \\ & \quad + (M + Ns_0T)\|v_{n+1} - v_n\| + Ns_0T\|v_n - v_{n-1}\|]d\tau \\ & = \int_0^t [(L + M + Ns_0T)\|v_n - v_{n-1}\| + L\|w_n - w_{n-1}\| \\ & \quad + (M + Ns_0T)\|v_{n+1} - v_n\|]d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

By Fatou lemma, taking limit, we have

$$\begin{aligned} m_1(t) & \leq \int_0^t [(L + M + Ns_0T)m_1(\tau) + Lm_2(\tau) + (M + Ns_0T)m_1(\tau)]d\tau \\ & = \int_0^t [(L + 2M + 2Ns_0T)m_1(\tau) + Lm_2(\tau)]d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can obtain

$$m_2(t) \leq \int_0^t [(L + 2M + 2Ns_0T)m_2(\tau) + Lm_1(\tau)]d\tau.$$

Therefore,

$$m(t) = m_1(t) + m_2(t) \leq 2 \int_0^t (L + M + Ns_0T)m(\tau)d\tau.$$

Notice that  $m(0) = 0$ , so  $m(t) \equiv 0$  on  $I$ . The proof of Lemma 2.4 is complete. □

**Proof of theorem 2.1**

By Lemma 2.3, the sequences  $\{v_n\}, \{w_n\}$  have uniformly convergent subsequences  $\{v_{n_k}\}, \{w_{n_k}\}$ .

We let  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v_{n_k} = v, \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} w_{n_k} = w$  and notice that

$$\begin{aligned} v_{n_k}(t) & = u_0 + \int_0^t [-Mv_{n_k}(\tau) - N(Sv_{n_k})(\tau) + H_0(\tau, v_{n_k-1}(\tau), (Sv_{n_k-1})(\tau)) \\ & \quad + H_1(\tau, v_{n_k-1}(\tau), (Sv_{n_k-1})(\tau)) + H_2(\tau, w_{n_k-1}(\tau), (Sw_{n_k-1})(\tau)) + Mv_{n_k-1}(\tau) + N(Sv_{n_k-1})(\tau)]d\tau, \end{aligned}$$

and Lemma 2.4 implies

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v_{n_{k-1}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} v_{n_k} = v, \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} w_{n_{k-1}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} w_{n_k} = w \text{ uniformly on } I.$$

Therefore, letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$v(t) = u_0 + \int_0^t [H_0(\tau, v(\tau), (Sv)(\tau)) + H_1(\tau, v(\tau), (Sv)(\tau)) + H_2(\tau, w(\tau), (Sw)(\tau))] d\tau.$$

Similarly, we have

$$w(t) = u_0 + \int_0^t [H_0(\tau, w(\tau), (Sw)(\tau)) + H_1(\tau, w(\tau), (Sw)(\tau)) + H_2(\tau, v(\tau), (Sv)(\tau))] d\tau.$$

Thus  $v, w$  are the coupled quasi-solutions of (1.1). By  $(A'_1)$ , we obtain

$$\|v(t) - w(t)\| \leq 2L \int_0^t \|v(\tau) - w(\tau)\| d\tau.$$

It then follows that  $\|v(t) - w(t)\| \equiv 0$  on  $I$  since  $\|v(0) - w(0)\| = 0$ . That is,  $v = w$  is a solution of (1.1). It is easy to prove that the solution of (1.1) is unique by  $(A'_1)$ . The proof of theorem 2.1 is therefore complete.  $\square$

**Remark** When  $H_1 = H_2 = 0$ , theorem 2.1 in this paper is just theorem 2.1 in [1].

### 3 Conclusions

In this paper, we obtain an existence theorem of coupled quasi-solutions for a class of integro-differential equations of Volterra type in a real Banach space by using method of upper and lower solutions and Mönch and Von Harten theorem.

### Competing Interests

The author declares that no competing interests exist.

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