

# Correction on the paper Triple positive solutions of $n$ -th order impulsive integro-differential equations

by Zeyong Qiu and Shihuang Hong

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## Abstract

This addendum concerns the paper of the above title found in EJQTDE No. 57 (2011). The example in Section 4 was not correct. The following example is a correction given by the authors. We regret any inconvenience which this may have caused any reader.

## 1 Correction

The example in Section 4 of the original text, i.e. problem (13), is not written correctly. The following example is a correction given by the authors.

Consider the second order impulsive integro-differential equation

$$\begin{cases} u''(t) = f(t, u(t), u'(t), (Tu)(t), (Su)(t)), \quad \forall t \in J, t \neq 2^k (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots); \\ \Delta u|_{t=2^k} = 2^{-k}[u(2^k)]^2(15 + [u(2^k) + u'(2^k)]^2)^{-1}, \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots), \\ \Delta u'|_{t=2^k} = 4^{-k}[u'(2^k)]^{3/2}(5 + (u(2^k) + u'(2^k))^{3/2})^{-1}, \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots), \\ u(0) = 0, \quad u'(\infty) = 2u'(0). \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Here  $Tu$  and  $Su$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} (Tu)(t) &= \int_0^t e^{-(t+1)s} u(s) ds = \int_0^t K(t, s) u(s) ds; \\ (Su)(t) &= \int_0^\infty e^{-2s} \sin^2(t-s) u(s) ds = \int_0^t H(t, s) u(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

with  $K(t, s) = e^{-(t+1)s}$ ,  $H(t, s) = e^{-2s} \sin^2(t-s)$ , and, with  $U = (u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3)$ ,  $f$  is the function

$$f(t, U) = \begin{cases} 18e^{-2t} e^{-2(10-u_0)(10-u_1)} g(U), & U \in [0, 10) \times [0, 10) \times [0, \infty) \times [0, \infty), \\ 18e^{-2t} g(U), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

with  $g(U) = g(u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3) := \left(\frac{1+3u_0+4u_1+5u_2+6u_3}{2+u_0+u_1+u_2+u_3}\right)^2, \forall t \in J = [0, \infty), u_i \geq 0$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ). It is clear that  $g$  is a continuous positive function and

$$g(t, u(t), u'(t), (Tu)(t), (Su)(t)) = \left(\frac{1 + 3u(t) + 4u'(t) + 5(Tu)(t) + 6(Su)(t)}{2 + u(t) + u'(t) + (Tu)(t) + (Su)(t)}\right)^2.$$

**Conclusion.** The problem (1) has at least three positive solutions  $x_1(t), x_2(t), x_3(t)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|x_j\|_D \leq 2160 \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, 3; \\ & 10 < \min \left\{ \min_{t \in [\frac{1}{2}, \infty)} x_1^{(i)}(t) : i = 0, 1 \right\}; \\ & 8 < \max \left\{ \sup_{t \in [0, 1]} x_2^{(i)}(t) : i = 0, 1 \right\} \text{ with } \min \left\{ \min_{t \in [\frac{1}{2}, \infty)} x_2^{(i)}(t) : i = 0, 1 \right\} < 10; \\ & \max \left\{ \sup_{t \in [0, 1]} x_3^{(i)}(t) : i = 0, 1 \right\} < 8. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let  $E = DPC^{n-1}[J, \mathbb{R}], P = DPC^{n-1}[J, \mathbb{R}_+]$ . Thus, (1) can be regarded as BVP of the form (1) of the original text in  $E$ . In this case,  $t_{k+1} = 2^k$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ),  $\rho = 2$ , in which

$$\begin{aligned} I_{0k}(u_0, u_1) &= 2^{-k} u_0^2 (15 + (u_0 + u_1)^2)^{-1}, \\ I_{1k}(u_0, u_1) &= 4^{-k} u_1^{3/2} (5 + (u_0 + u_1)^{3/2})^{-1}, \quad \forall u_0 \geq 0, u_1 \geq 0, (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots). \end{aligned}$$

Obviously,  $I_{0k}, I_{1k} \in C[J, \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+]$   $f \in C[J \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+]$ . Moreover,

$$\int_0^t e^{-(t+1)s} ds = -\frac{e^{-(t+1)t}}{t+1} + \frac{1}{t+1} < 1, \quad \int_0^\infty e^{-2s} \sin^2(t-s) ds \leq \frac{1}{2}.$$

Since  $e^{-t} \int_0^t e^{-(t+1)s} e^s ds \leq t e^{-t}, e^{-t} \int_0^t e^{-2s} \sin^2(t-s) e^s ds \leq e^{-t}, \forall t \in J$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} k^* &= \sup_{t \in J} \left( e^{-t} \int_0^t e^{-(t+1)s} e^s ds \right) \leq \sup_{t \in J} (t e^{-t}) = \frac{e^{-1}}{2}, \\ h^* &= \left( e^{-t} \int_0^\infty e^{-2s} \sin^2(t-s) e^s ds \right) \leq \sup_{t \in J} (e^{-t}) = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, condition (H1) is satisfied. From the definitions of  $f, I_{0k}$  and  $I_{1k}$  we have

$$0 \leq f(t, u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3) \leq 648 e^{-2t} \left(\frac{1 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3}{2 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3}\right)^2 < 648 e^{-2t}$$

for any  $t \in J$ ,  $u_i \geq 0$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ).

$$0 \leq I_{0k}(u_0, u_1) \leq 2^{-k} \frac{(u_0 + u_1)^2}{15 + (u_0 + u_1)^2} \leq 2^{-k},$$

$$0 \leq I_{1k}(u_0, u_1) \leq 4^{-k} \frac{(u_0 + u_1)^{3/2}}{5 + (u_0 + u_1)^{3/2}} \leq 4^{-k}$$

for any  $u_0 \geq 0, u_1 \geq 0$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

We now take  $\rho = 2, \lambda(t) = c(t) = e^{-2t}, \eta_{0k} = \mu_{0k} = 2^{-k}, \eta_{1k} = \mu_{1k} = 4^{-k}$ , then  $\lambda^* = c^* = \frac{1}{2}, \eta_0^* = \mu_0^* = 1, \eta_1^* = \mu_1^* = \frac{1}{3}, L = \frac{10}{3}$ . Take  $a = 8, b = 10, d = 648$ , then the condition (H2) holds.

Take  $l = \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $k_1 = 1, k_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ . Take  $m = 3$ . Since  $t_1 = 1, \lambda_0 = e^{-2}$ . For  $0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $u_0 \geq 10, u_1 \geq 10, u_2 \geq 0, u_3 \geq 0$ , since the function  $\alpha(t) = \frac{3^{-1+t}}{2+t}$  for  $t \geq 0$  is increasing, we have

$$f(t, u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3) \geq 18e^{-2t} \times 9 \left( \frac{3^{-1} + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3}{2 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3} \right)^2$$

$$\geq 162e^{-1} \left( \frac{20 + 3^{-1}}{22} \right)^2 > 20 = \frac{k_1 b}{l}.$$

This implies that the condition (H3) is true.

Take  $q_0 = 1$ , then  $\delta = \frac{3}{10e}$ . if  $0 \leq u_0 \leq 8, 0 \leq u_1 \leq 8$ , then  $0 \leq u_2 \leq 8, 0 \leq u_3 \leq 4$ . From this and the fact that the function  $\frac{t}{t+1}$  is increasing it follows that

$$\frac{1 + 3u_0 + 4u_1 + 5u_2 + 6u_3}{2 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3} \leq \frac{6(1 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3)}{2 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3} \leq \frac{29}{5} = 5.8.$$

Thus, we get

$$f(t, u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3) = 18e^{-2t} e^{-2(10-u_0)(10-u_1)} \left( \frac{1 + 3u_0 + 4u_1 + 5u_2 + 6u_3}{2 + u_0 + u_1 + u_2 + u_3} \right)^2$$

$$\leq 18e^{-2t-8} (5.8)^2 < \frac{24}{10e} e^{-2t} = a\delta c(t).$$

$$I_{0k}(u_0, u_1) = 2^{-k} \frac{u_0^2}{15 + (u_0 + u_1)^2} \leq \frac{64}{79} \times 2^{-k} < a\delta\mu_{0k},$$

$$I_{1k}(u_0, u_1) = 4^{-k} \frac{u_1^{3/2}}{5 + (u_0 + u_1)^{3/2}} \leq \frac{8^{3/2}}{5 + 8^{3/2}} \times 4^{-k} < a\delta\mu_{1k}.$$

So, condition (H4) is satisfied. Consequently, our conclusion follows from Theorem 1 since  $f$  is a positive function so  $x_3$  is not the zero solution.

## 2 Acknowledgment

We thank Prof. J. Webb for pointing out gaps in our original example and for his help with the correction.

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