

A NOTE ON SOLUTIONS FOR AN ITERATIVE FUNCTIONAL EQUATION IN 2-BANACH SPACES

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ABSTRACT. In this work, we explain an iterative equation for convex solutions in 2-Banach spaces. Our aim is to discuss the existence of monotone solutions in the real 2-Banach spaces and obtain the forward condition under which the solutions are convex or concave in order. Using the expansion method, we establish a general construction of the convex solutions for the iterative functional equation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Iterative functional equation given in [2, 9, 22, 27], is one of most important form of functional equations and also referred to as equation of rank one, in which iterates of the unknown function are linked in a linear combination. In energetic systems, many problems like embedding flows and dynamics of a quadratic mapping can be minimized to an iterative equation. The polynomial-like iterative equation

$$\alpha_1\psi(x) + \alpha_2\psi^2(x) + \dots + \alpha_l\psi^l(x) = \Psi(x), \quad x \in T, \quad (1.1)$$

where T is a nonempty subset of a vector space over \mathbb{R} , $\Psi : T \rightarrow T$ is a known function, $\alpha_i (i = 1, \dots, l)$ are real constants, $\psi : T \rightarrow T$ is an unknown function and ψ^i is the i^{th} iterate of ψ , that is, $\psi^i = \psi(\psi^{i-1}(x))$ and $\psi^0(x) = x$ for all $x \in T$. In case of non-linear Ψ , many results had been discovered, for example, [12, 32] for $l = 2$, [25, 28] for any l , [29, 30] for smoothness and [16-19] for analyticity.

The actuality of convex solutions was established by initiating a partial order in Banach spaces in [6]. An extensive iterative equation can be expressed as

$$H(\psi(x), \psi^{k_1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n}(x)) = \Psi(x), \quad x \in T, \quad (1.2)$$

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where $n > 0$ and $k_1, k_2, \dots, k_n \geq 2$.

The existence, uniqueness and stability of continuous solutions for (1.2) were explored on the unit circle in [14, 15, 26]. A more extensive iterative functional equation

$$\mathcal{F}(\psi) \circ \psi = \Psi \quad (1.3)$$

was investigated in [11, 20, 21] in high dimensional spaces, where \mathcal{F} is a self mapping. Actually, equation (1.3) is a generalization of iterative equation (1.2). If $\mathcal{F}(\psi) = H(\psi^0, \psi^{k_1-1}, \dots, \psi^{k_n-1})$, then (1.3) reduces to (1.2). In [11], the existence of Lipschitzian solutions of (1.3) was proved on a compact convex subset of \mathbb{R}^N and by using this result, the existence of Lipschitzian solutions for equation

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k \psi^k(x) = \Psi(x), \quad (1.4)$$

was explored on a compact interval of \mathbb{R} and on a compact convex subset of \mathbb{R}^N , $N > 1$. After that, the results were slightly generalized to an arbitrary closed subset of a Banach space and existence of solutions for iterative functional equations

$$\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} B_k \psi^k(x) = \Psi(x), \quad (1.5)$$

$$B_0 \psi(x) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} B_k \psi^k = \Psi(x) \quad (1.6)$$

was established in [21], where B_k s are bounded linear operators.

The idea of convexity for iterative equations was discovered in 1968 when Kuczma and Smajdor [10] explored the convexity of iterative roots. In [24], convexity of solutions for (1.1) was examined on a compact interval and in [23], non-decreasing convex solutions for (1.1) on an open interval were examined. In [6], convexity of solutions for (1.1) was investigated in Banach spaces.

The concept of 2-normed spaces was initially developed by Gaahler [4] in the mid of 1960's. Since, Gunawan and Mashadi [7], Gaurdal [5] and many others had studied this concept and obtained various results. Let X be a real vector space of dimension d , where $d \geq 2$. A real-valued function $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$ on X^2 satisfying the following conditions:

- (1) $\|x_1, x_2\| = 0$ iff x_1, x_2 are linearly dependent,
- (2) $\|x_1, x_2\|$ is invariant under permutation,
- (3) $\|\alpha x_1, x_2\| = |\alpha| \|x_1, x_2\|$, for any $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$,
- (4) $\|x + x', x_2\| \leq \|x, x_2\| + \|x', x_2\|$

is called a 2-norm on X , and the pair $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ is called a 2-normed space.

A sequence (x_k) in a 2-normed space $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ is said to converge to some $x \in X$ in the 2-norm if

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k - x, u_1\| = 0 \text{ for every } u_1 \in X.$$

A sequence (x_k) in a 2-normed space $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ is said to be Cauchy with respect to the 2-norm if

$$\lim_{k, l \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k - x_l, u_1\| = 0 \text{ for every } u_1 \in X.$$

If every Cauchy sequence in X converges to some $x \in X$, then X is said to be complete with respect to the 2-norm. Any complete 2-normed space is said to be a 2-Banach space.

In this paper, we investigate monotonicity and convexity of solutions for (1.2) and (1.3) in 2-Banach spaces as in [4, 5, 7]. Using Schauder's fixed point theorem, we analyze increasing (decreasing) solutions for (1.3). Moreover, we give conditions under which those solutions are convex or concave.

1.1. Preliminaries. A non-empty subset L of a real vector space X is called a cone if $x \in L$ implies that $ax \in L$ for all $a > 0$.

A non empty and non-trivial subset $L \subset X$ is called an order cone in X if L is a convex cone and satisfies $L \cap (-L) = \{\theta'\}$, where θ' is zero element of L , we can define a partial order $x \leq_L y$ in X , called the L-order as

$$y - x \in L. \tag{1.7}$$

A real vector space X equipped with a L-order is called an ordered vector space and denoted by (X, L) (see also[1, 3, 8, 13]). A real 2-Banach space $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ associated with a L-order is called an ordered real 2-Banach space, denoted by $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$, if L is closed. A mapping $\psi : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow X$ is said to be increasing (decreasing) in the sense of the L-order if $x \leq_L y$ implies $f(x) \leq_L f(y)$ ($f(x) \geq_L f(y)$). A mapping is a convex in the sense of L-order if $\psi(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq_L \alpha\psi(x) + (1 - \alpha)\psi(y)$ and is said to be concave if $\psi(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \geq_L \alpha\psi(x) + (1 - \alpha)\psi(y), \forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$ and for every pair of different comparable points $x, y \in X$ (i.e., either $x \leq_L y$ or $x \geq_L y$).

Let Ω be a compact convex subset of an ordered real 2-Banach space $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ with non-empty interior and let $C(\Omega, X)$ be collection of all continuous functions mapping from Ω into X .

A mapping $\psi : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow X$, $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ is a 2-Banach space equipped with the norm $\|\psi\psi_1\|_{C(\Omega, X)} = \text{Sup}_{x \in \Omega} \|\psi(x)\psi_1(x)\|$.

For $0 \leq e \leq E < +\infty$, define

$$\begin{aligned} F^+(\Omega, e, E) &= \{\psi, \psi_1 \in (\Omega, X) : e(y^2 - x^2) \\ &\leq_L \psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\ &\leq_L E(y^2 - x^2) \text{ if } x \leq_L y, \\ &\quad \|\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x)\| \\ &\leq_L E\|y^2 - x^2\| \text{ if } x \text{ and } y \text{ are not comparable}\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F^-(\Omega, e, E) &= \{\psi, \psi_1 \in (\Omega, X) : e(y^2 - x^2) \\ &\leq_L \psi(x)\psi_1(x) - \psi(y)\psi_1(y) \\ &\leq_L E(y^2 - x^2) \text{ if } x \leq_L y, \\ &\quad \|\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x)\| \\ &\leq_L E\|y^2 - x^2\| \text{ if } x \text{ and } y \text{ are not comparable}\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$F_{cv}^+(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F^+(\Omega, e, E) : \psi, \psi_1 \text{ are convex on } \Omega \text{ in } L\text{-order}\},$$

$$F_{cc}^-(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F^-(\Omega, e, E) : \psi, \psi_1 \text{ are concave on } \Omega \text{ in } L\text{-order}\}$$

$$C^+(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F^+(\Omega, e, E) : \psi(\Omega), \psi_1(\Omega) \subset \Omega\}$$

$$C^-(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F^-(\Omega, e, E) : \psi(\Omega), \psi_1(\Omega) \subset \Omega\}$$

$$C_{cv}^+(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F_{cv}^+(\Omega, e, E) : \psi(\Omega), \psi_1(\Omega) \subset \Omega\}$$

$$C_{cc}^-(\Omega, e, E) = \{\psi, \psi_1 \in F_{cc}^-(\Omega, e, E) : \psi(\Omega), \psi_1(\Omega) \subset \Omega\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I(\psi) &= \inf\{E : \forall x, y \in \Omega, \theta' \leq_L \psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\ &\leq_L E(y^2 - x^2) \text{ if } x \leq_L y, \\ &\quad \|\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x)\| \\ &\leq E\|y^2 - x^2\|, \text{ if } x \text{ and } y \text{ are not comparable}\}. \end{aligned}$$

As in Lemma 2.2 in [6], $C^+(\Omega, e, E)$, $C^-(\Omega, e, E)$, $C_{cv}^+(\Omega, e, E)$ and $C_{cc}^-(\Omega, e, E)$ are compact convex subsets of $C(\Omega, X)$.

2. INCREASING AND DECREASING SOLUTIONS

In this section, we talk about monotonicity and convexity of solutions for iterative functional equation (1.3) in the ordered real 2- Banach space $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ such that L is normal and $N(L) \leq 1$ where L is an order cone in X . Examine (1.3) with the following supposition :

$$(H1) \quad \mathcal{F}(x) = x - \mathcal{P}(\psi)(x)$$

Theorem 2.1. *Let $\mathcal{P} : C^+(\Omega, 0, \infty) \rightarrow F^+(\Omega, 0, \infty)$ such that*

$$\mathcal{P}(f) \in F^+(\Omega, 0, \beta(I(\psi))) \quad (2.1)$$

where $\beta : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is an increasing function and $\Psi(x) + \mathcal{P}(\psi)(y) \in \Omega$ for any $x, y \in \Omega$. Suppose that H1 holds and $\Psi \in F^+(\Omega, 0, q_1)$, where $q_1 \in (0, \infty)$ is a constant. If there exists $q \in (0, \infty)$ such that

$$q_1 \leq q(1 - \beta(q)) \quad (2.2)$$

where $\mathcal{P}|_{C^+(\Omega, 0, q)}$ is continuous, then (1.3) has a solution $\psi \in C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$.

Proof. Define a mapping $\delta : C^+(\Omega, 0, q) \rightarrow C(\Omega, X)$ by

$$\delta\psi(x) = \Psi(x) + \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi(x). \quad (2.3)$$

We show that δ is a self mapping on $C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$, $\mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi$ is well defined and $\Psi + \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi \in C(\Omega, X)$. Further, when $x, y \in \Omega$ are not comparable, $x - y \notin L$ and $y - x \notin L$, by (2.1) and $\Psi \in F^+(\Omega, 0, q_1)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\delta\psi(x)\psi_1(x) - \delta\psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| &= \|\Psi(x)\Psi_1(x) - \Psi(y)\Psi_1(y) \\ &\quad + \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\ &\quad - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| \\ &\leq \|\Psi(x)\Psi_1(x) - \Psi(y)\Psi_1(y)\| \\ &\quad + \|\mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\ &\quad - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| \\ &\leq q_1\|x^2 - y^2\| \\ &\quad + \beta(I(\psi\psi_1))\|\psi(x)\psi_1(x) - \psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| \\ &\leq (q_1 + q\beta(q))\|x^2 - y^2\| \end{aligned}$$

where the monotonicity of the function β is engaged, which implies that

$$\|\delta\psi(x)\psi_1(x) - \delta\psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| \leq q\|x^2 - y^2\| \quad (2.4)$$

as of (2.2). When $x, y \in \Omega$ are comparable, assume that $x \leq_L y$. By the definition of $C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$, $\theta' \leq_L \psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \leq_L q(y^2 - x^2)$, thus $\psi(x)\psi_1(x) \leq_L \psi(y)\psi_1(y)$. Hence by (2.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \theta' &\leq_L \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\ &\leq_L \beta(I(\psi\psi_1))(\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x)). \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

Accordingly, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \theta' &\leq_L \delta\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \delta\psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\
 &= (\Psi(y)\Psi_1(y) - \Psi(x)\Psi_1(x)) + \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \\
 &\quad \circ\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \circ\psi(x)\psi_1(x) \\
 &\leq q_1(y^2 - x^2) + \beta(I(\psi\psi_1))(\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x)) \\
 &\leq (q_1 + q\beta(q))(x^2 - y^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

where the monotonicity of the function β is engaged, which implies that

$$\theta' \leq_L \delta\psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \delta\psi(x)\psi_1(x) \leq_L q(x^2 - y^2) \quad (2.6)$$

as of (2.2). So (2.4) and (2.6) implies that δ is a self mapping on $C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$. The continuity of $\mathcal{P}|_{C^+(\Omega, 0, q)}$ implies that δ is continuous on $C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$. Because $C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$ is a compact convex subset, by Schauder fixed point theorem, we note that δ has a fixed point $\delta \in C^+(\Omega, 0, q)$. Hence, ψ is an increasing solution of (1.3). This complete the proof. \square

Similarly, we can prove the theorem for decreasing solutions.

2.1. Convex and Concave Solutions. In order to prove Theorem 2.3, we use the following lemma.

Lemma 2.2. (see [6, Lemma 3.1]). *Let $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ be an ordered real 2-Banach space. Then composition $\psi \circ \phi$ is convex (concave) if both ψ and ϕ are convex (concave) and increasing. In particular, for increasing convex (concave) operator ψ , the iterate ψ^n is also convex (concave).*

Theorem 2.3. *Let $\mathcal{P} : C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, \infty) \rightarrow F_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, \infty)$ such that*

$$\mathcal{P} \in F_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, \beta(I(\psi))) \quad (2.7)$$

where $\beta : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ is an increasing function and $\Psi(x) + \mathcal{P}(\psi)(y) \in \Omega$ for any $x, y \in \Omega$. Suppose that H1 holds and $\Psi \in F_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q_1)$, where $q_1 \in (0, \infty)$ is a constant. If there exists $q \in (0, \infty)$ such that

$$q_1 \leq q(1 - \beta(q)) \quad (2.8)$$

and $\mathcal{P}|_{C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)}$ is continuous, then (1.3) has a solution $\psi \in C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)$.

Proof. Define a mapping $\delta : C^+(\Omega, 0, q) \rightarrow C(\Omega, X)$ given in theorem (2.1). To prove that δ is a self mapping on $C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)$, it is enough to prove that $\Psi + \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi$ is convex in the sense of L-order on Ω , by (2.7),

we know that $\mathcal{P}(\psi)(x)$ is increasing and convex on Ω . So, by Lemma 2.3 and $\psi \in C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)$, $\mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi$ is convex in the sense of L-order on Ω . Therefore, by $\Psi \in F_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(rx + (1-r)y) &+ \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi(rx + (1-r)y) \\ &\leq r\Psi(x) + (1-r)\Psi(y) + r\mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi + (1-r)\mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi(y) \\ &= r(\Psi(x) + \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi(x)) \\ &+ (1-r)(\Psi(y) + \mathcal{P}(\psi) \circ \psi(y)) \end{aligned}$$

for every pair of distinct comparable points $x, y \in \Omega$ and $r \in [0, 1]$. So δ is a self mapping on $C_{cv}^+(\Omega, 0, q)$. The remaining part of the proof is same as the proof of above theorem. \square

Similarly, we can prove the theorem for concavity of solutions.

3. ITERATIVE EQUATION IN 2-BANACH SPACES

We discuss the monotonicity and convexity of solutions for (1.2) in the ordered real 2-Banach space $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ such that L is normal and $N(L) \leq 1$. Consider (1.2) with the following supposition:

(H2) $H(y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n) = y_0 + h(y_1, \dots, y_n)h_1(y_1, \dots, y_n)$, where $h(y_1, \dots, y_n), h_1(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in C(\Omega^n, X)$. Firstly, we prove the existence of increasing and decreasing solutions of (1.2).

3.1. Increasing and Decreasing Solutions. Firstly, we study increasing solutions. Consider (1.2) with the following supposition:

(H3) $\exists \gamma_i > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &\leq_L h(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n)h_1(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n) - h(y_1, \dots, y_n)h_1(y_1, \dots, y_n) \\ &\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (y_i^2 - \bar{y}_i^2) \text{ if } \bar{y}_i^2 \leq_L y_i^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\|h(y_1, \dots, y_n)h_1(y_1, \dots, y_n) - h(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n)h_1(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n)\| \leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (y_i^2 - \bar{y}_i^2)$ for any $y_i, \bar{y}_i \in \Omega$.

Theorem 3.1. Assume that (H2) and (H3) hold and $\Psi \in F^+(\Omega, \circ, E_1)$, where $E_1 \in (0, \infty)$ is a constant. If $\Psi(x) - h(y_1, \dots, y_n)h_1(y_1, \dots, y_n) \in \Omega$ for any $x_i, y_i \in \Omega$ and

$$E_1 \leq E - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i E^{k_i} \tag{3.1}$$

for any constant $E \in (0, \infty)$, then (1.2) has a solution $\psi \in C^+(\Omega, \circ, E)$. Additionally, if

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \sum_{j=0}^{k_i-1} E^j < 1, \tag{3.2}$$

then the solution ψ is unique in $C^+(\Omega, \circ, E)$ and depends continuously on Ψ .

In order to prove Theorem 3.1, we prove the following lemma.

Lemma 3.2. *Let $(X, L, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ be an ordered real 2-Banach space such that L normal and let $\psi, h \in C^+(\Omega, e, E)$ [respectively $C^-(\Omega, e, E)$, $C_{cv}^+(\Omega, e, E)$, and $C_{cc}^+(\Omega, e, E)$], where $0 \leq e \leq E \leq \infty$. Then*

$$\|(\psi\psi_1)^k - (h h_1)^k\|_{c(\Omega, X)} \leq \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} E_0^j \|(\psi\psi_1) - (h h_1)\|_{c(\Omega, X)} \quad (3.3)$$

for all $n = 1, 2, \dots$

Proof. Define

$$\mathcal{P}(\psi)(x) = -h(\psi^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x))h_1(\psi^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)) \quad (3.4)$$

by (H2), $\mathcal{P}(\psi) \in C(\Omega, X)$. Now we prove that $\mathcal{P}(\psi)$ is an operator from $C^+(\Omega, \circ, \infty)$ to $F^+(\Omega, \circ, \infty)$ such that

$$\mathcal{P}(\psi) \in F^+(\Omega, \circ, \beta(I(\psi))). \quad (3.5)$$

By definition of $C^+(\Omega, \circ, \infty)$, for $\psi\psi_1 \in F^+(\Omega, \circ, \infty)$, we have

$$\theta \leq_L \psi(y)\psi_1(y) - \psi(x)\psi_1(x) \leq_L I(\psi\psi_1)(y^2 - x^2) \quad (3.6)$$

for $x \leq_L y$ and

$$\|\psi(x)\psi_1(x) - \psi(y)\psi_1(y)\| \leq I(\psi\psi_1)\|x^2 - y^2\| \quad (3.7)$$

if $x, y \in \Omega$ are not comparable, i.e. $x - y \notin L$ and $y - x \notin L$. Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &\leq_L \psi^{k_i-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(y) - \psi^{k_i-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(x) \\ &\leq_L I(\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1}(y^2 - x^2), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

if $x \leq_L y$ and

$$\|\psi^{k_i-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(x) - \psi^{k_i-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(y)\| \leq I(\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1}\|x^2 - y^2\| \quad (3.9)$$

if $x, y \in \Omega$ are not comparable, i.e. $x - y \notin L$ and $y - x \notin L$. By (H3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &\leq_L \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1)(y) - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1)(x) \\ &= h(\psi^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(x)) \\ &\quad h_1(\psi^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(x)) \\ &\quad - h(\psi^{k_1-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(y), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(y)) \\ &\quad h_1(\psi^{k_1-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(y), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(y)) \\ &\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (\psi^{k_i-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(y) - \psi^{k_i-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(x)) \\ &\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i ((\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1})(y^2 - x^2), \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

if $x \leq_L y$ and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \| \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1)(y) - \mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1)(x) \| \\
&= \| h(\psi^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
&\quad h_1(\psi^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
&\quad - h(\psi^{k_1-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(y), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(y)) \\
&\quad h_1(\psi^{k_1-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_1-1}(y), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_n-1}(y)) \| \\
&\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \| (\psi^{k_i-1}(y)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(y) - \psi^{k_i-1}(x)\psi_1^{k_i-1}(x)) \| \\
&\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i ((\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1}) \| (y^2 - x^2) \| \tag{3.11}
\end{aligned}$$

if $x, y \in \Omega$ are not comparable, i.e. $x - y \notin L$ and $y - x \notin L$, where $N(L) \leq 1$ is engaged. So,

$$\mathcal{P}(\psi\psi_1) \in F^+(\Omega, \circ, \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (I(\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1})).$$

Let $\beta(I(\psi\psi_1) = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (I(\psi\psi_1)^{k_i-1}))$ therefore, function β is increasing on $(0, \infty)$. So, we have $\psi^{k_i-1}(x) \in \Omega$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ for any $\psi \in C^+(\Omega, \circ, \infty)$. Therefore $\Psi(x) + \mathcal{P}(\psi)(y) \in \Omega$ for all $x, y \in \Omega$. Let $q = E$ and $q_1 = E_1$ by (3.1)

$$q(1 - \beta(q)) = E(1 - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i E^{k_i-1}) = E - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i E^{k_i} \geq E_1. \tag{3.12}$$

Next we prove that $\mathcal{P}(\psi)|_{C^+(\Omega, \circ, E)}$ is continuous using (H3), for any $\psi', \psi'' \in C^+(\Omega, \circ, E)$, by Lemma 3.2, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \| \mathcal{P}(\psi') - \mathcal{P}(\psi'') \|_{C^+(\Omega, X)} \\
&= \sup_{x \in \Omega} \| h(\psi'^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1'^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi'^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1'^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
&\quad h_1(\psi'^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1'^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi'^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1'^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
&\quad - h(\psi''^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1''^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi''^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1''^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
&\quad h_1(\psi''^{k_1-1}(x)\psi_1''^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi''^{k_n-1}(x)\psi_1''^{k_n-1}(x)) \| \\
&\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \| (\psi'^{k_i-1}(x))^2 - (\psi''^{k_i-1}(x))^2 \|_{C^+(\Omega, X)} \\
&\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \sum_{j=0}^{k_i-2} E^j \| \psi'^2 - \psi''^2 \|_{C^+(\Omega, X)}. \tag{3.13}
\end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 1.1, there exists an $\psi \in C^+(\Omega, \circ, X)$ such that

$$\mathcal{F}(\psi) \circ \psi = \Psi. \tag{3.14}$$

By (H2), we get

$$H(\psi, \psi^{k_1}, \dots, \psi^{k_n}) = \Psi \tag{3.15}$$

and

by (3.2), we have

$$\|\Psi' - \Psi''\|_{C(\Omega, X)} \leq \left(\frac{1}{1 - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \sum_{j=1}^{k_i-1} E^j} \right) \|\Psi' - \Psi''\|_{C(\Omega, X)},$$

which implies that the solution of (1.2) depends continuously on Ψ . The proof is completed. \square

Similarly, we can prove the theorem for decreasing solutions. We need the following supposition:

(H4) $\exists \gamma_i > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &\leq_L h(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) h_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \\ &\leq_L \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (y_i^2 - \bar{y}_i^2) \text{ if } \bar{y}_i \leq_L y_i, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\|h(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) h_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) - h(\bar{y}_1, \bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_n) h_1(\bar{y}_1, \bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_n)\| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i (y_i^2 - \bar{y}_i^2) \text{ for any } y_i, \bar{y}_i \in \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

CONVEX AND CONCAVE SOLUTIONS

Now, we study convexity of solutions for (1.2). Consider (1.2) with the following supposition:

(H5) if $y_i \leq_L \bar{y}_i$ or $\bar{y}_i \leq_L y_i$ in Ω , then

$$r h(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + (1-r) h(\bar{y}_1, \bar{y}_2, \dots, \bar{y}_n) \leq_L h(r y_1 + (1-r) \bar{y}_1), \dots, h(r y_n + (1-r) \bar{y}_n)$$

Theorem 3.3. *Suppose that (H2), (H3) and (H5) holds and $\Psi \in F_{cv}^+(\Omega, \circ, E_1)$ where $E_1 \in (0, \infty)$ is a constant. If $\Psi(x) - h(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \in \Omega$ for any $x_i, y_i \in \Omega$ and*

$$E_1 \subseteq E - \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i M^{k_i} \tag{3.16}$$

for a constant $E \in (0, \infty)$, then (1.2) has a solution on $\psi \in C_{cv}^+(\Omega, \circ, E)$. Additionally, if

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_i \sum_{j=1}^{k_i-1} E^j < 1 \tag{3.17}$$

then the solution ψ is unique in $C_{cv}^+(\Omega, \circ, E)$ and depends continuously on Ψ .

Proof. Similar to Theorem 2.1, by applying Theorem 2.3, it is sufficient to prove that $\mathcal{P}(\psi) = -h(\psi^{k_1-1}, \dots, \psi^{k_n-1})$ is convex in the sense of L-order. In fact, each ψ^{k_i-1} , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ is convex in the sense of L-order because ψ is increasing and convex by Lemma 2.2.

Therefore, for every distinct comparable point $x, y \in \Omega$, suppose $x \leq_L y$; by (H3) and (H5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{P}(\psi)(rx + (1-r)y) &= -h(\psi^{k_1-1}(rx + (1-r)y), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(rx + (1-r)y)) \\
 &\leq_L -h(r\psi^{k_1-1}(x)) \\
 &\quad + (1-r)\psi^{k_1-1}(y), \dots, (r\psi^{k_n-1}(x)) + (1-r)\psi^{k_n-1}(y) \\
 &\leq_L -rh(\psi^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
 &\quad - (1-r)h(\psi^{k_1-1}(x), \dots, \psi^{k_n-1}(x)) \\
 &= r\psi x + (1-r)\psi(y).
 \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. \square

In a similar manner, we can obtain the theorem for concavity of solutions. We need the following supposition:

(H6) if $y_i \leq_L \bar{y}_i$ or $\bar{y}_i \leq_L y_i$ in Ω , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 h & (ry_1 + (1-r)\bar{y}_1, \dots, ry_n + (1-r)\bar{y}_n) \\
 &\leq_L rh(y_1, \dots, y_n) + (1-r)h(\bar{y}_1, \dots, \bar{y}_n)
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.18}$$

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