# EIGENVALUES FOR ITERATIVE SYSTEMS OF DYNAMIC EQUATIONS WITH INTEGRAL BOUNDARY CONDITIONS 

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#### Abstract

In this paper, we establish criterion which determine the eigenvalues $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \ldots, \lambda_{n}$, for the existence of at least one positive solution for the iterative systems of dynamic equations with integral boundary conditions. By this purpose, we use a fixed point theorem in a cone. Examples are also given to show applicability of our main result.


## 1. Introduction

The theory of dynamic equations on time scales was introduced by Stefan Hilger in his PhD thesis in 1988 [7]. The time scales approach, not only unifies differential and difference equations, but also provides accurate information of phenomena that manifest themselves partly in continuous time and partly in discrete time. We refer the books [5, 6] which include basic definitions and theorems on time scales.

There has been much interest shown in obtaining optimal eigenvalue intervals for the existence of positive solutions of the boundary value problems on time scales, often using Guo-Krasnosel'skii fixed point theorem. To mention a few papers along these lines, see $[1,2,3]$. On the other hand, there is not much work concerning the eigenvalues for iterative system of nonlinear boundary value problems on time scales, see $[4,8]$.

In [4], Benchohra et al. studied the eigenvalues for iterative system of nonlinear boundary value problems on time scales,

$$
\begin{gathered}
u_{i}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)+\lambda_{i} a_{i}(t) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(\sigma(t))=0,1 \leq i \leq n, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}},\right. \\
u_{n+1}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}},
\end{gathered}
$$

satisfying the boundary conditions,

$$
u_{i}(0)=0=u_{i}\left(\sigma^{2}(1)\right), 1 \leq i \leq n .
$$

The method involves application of Guo-Krasnosel'skii fixed point theorem for operators on a cone in a Banach space.

[^0]In [8], Prasad et al. investigated the eigenvalues for the iterative system of nonlinear boundary value problems on time scales,

$$
\begin{gathered}
y_{i}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)+\lambda_{i} p_{i}(t) f_{i}\left(y_{i+1}(t)\right)=0,1 \leq i \leq n, t \in\left[t_{1}, t_{m}\right]_{\mathbb{T}} \\
y_{n+1}(t)=y_{1}(t), t \in\left[t_{1}, t_{m}\right]_{\mathbb{T}}
\end{gathered}
$$

satisfying the $m$-point boundary conditions,

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_{i}\left(t_{1}\right) & =0, \\
\alpha y_{i}\left(\sigma\left(t_{m}\right)\right)+\beta y_{i}^{\Delta}\left(\sigma\left(t_{m}\right)\right) & =\sum_{k=2}^{m-1} y_{i}^{\Delta}\left(t_{k}\right), 1 \leq i \leq n .
\end{aligned}
$$

They used the Guo-Krasnosel'skii fixed point theorem.
In [9], Karaca and Tokmak studied the eigenvalues for the iterative system of nonlinear $m$-point boundary value problems on time scales,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)+\lambda_{i} q_{i}(t) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(t)\right)=0, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, 1 \leq i \leq n \\
u_{n+1}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}
\end{array}\right.
$$

satisfying the $m$-point boundary conditions,

$$
\left\{\begin{aligned}
a u_{i}(0)-b u_{i}^{\Delta}(0) & =\sum_{j=1}^{m-2} \alpha_{j} u_{i}\left(\xi_{j}\right), \\
c u_{i}(1)+d u_{i}^{\Delta}(1) & =\sum_{j=1}^{m-2} \beta_{j} u_{i}\left(\xi_{j}\right), 1 \leq i \leq n
\end{aligned}\right.
$$

They used the Guo-Krasnosel'skii fixed point theorem.
Motivated by the above results, in this study, we are concerned with determining the eigenvalue intervals of $\lambda_{i}, 1 \leq i \leq n$, for which there exist positive solutions for the iterative system of nonlinear boundary value problems with integral boundary conditions on time scales,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)+\lambda_{i} q_{i}(t) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(t)\right)=0, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, 1 \leq i \leq n  \tag{1.1}\\
u_{n+1}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}
\end{array}\right.
$$

satisfying the integral boundary conditions,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
a u_{i}(0)-b u_{i}^{\Delta}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t) u_{i}(t) \Delta t  \tag{1.2}\\
c u_{i}(1)+d u_{i}^{\Delta}(1)=\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t) u_{i}(t) \Delta t, 1 \leq i \leq n
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $\mathbb{T}$ is a time scale, $0,1 \in \mathbb{T},[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}=[0,1] \cap \mathbb{T}$.
Throughout this study we assume that following conditions hold:
$(C 1): a, b, c, d \in[0, \infty)$ with $a c+a d+b c>0, g_{1}, g_{2} \in \mathcal{C}\left([0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, \mathbb{R}^{+}\right)$,
(C2): $f_{i}: \mathbb{R}^{+} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{+}$is continuous, for $1 \leq i \leq n$,
$(C 3): q_{i} \in \mathcal{C}\left([0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, \mathbb{R}^{+}\right)$and $q_{i}$ does not vanish identically on any closed subinterval of $[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}$, for $1 \leq i \leq n$,
$(C 4):$ Each of $\lim _{x \rightarrow 0^{+}} \frac{f_{i}(x)}{x}=0$, for $1 \leq i \leq n$.
This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we provide preliminary lemmas which are key tools for our main result. In Section 3, we determine the eigenvalue intervals for which there exist positive solutions of the boundary value problem (1.1) - (1.2) by using a fixed point theorem for operators on a cone in a Banach space. Finally, in Section 4, we give two examples to demonstrate our main result.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we present auxiliary lemmas which will be used later.
We define $\mathbb{B}=\mathcal{C}[0,1]$, which is a Banach space with the norm

$$
\|u\|=\sup _{t \in[0,1]_{\mathrm{T}}}|u(t)| .
$$

Let $h \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]$, then we consider the following boundary value problem

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
-u_{1}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)=h(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}  \tag{2.1}\\
a u_{1}(0)-b u_{1}^{\Delta}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t) u_{1}(t) \Delta t \\
c u_{1}(1)+d u_{1}^{\Delta}(1)=\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t) u_{1}(t) \Delta t
\end{array}\right.
$$

Denote by $\theta$ and $\varphi$, the solutions of the corresponding homogeneous equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
-u_{1}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)=0, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

under the initial conditions

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{cc}
\theta(0)=b, & \theta^{\Delta}(0)=a,  \tag{2.3}\\
\varphi(1)=d, & \varphi^{\Delta}(1)=-c .
\end{array}\right.
$$

Using the initial conditions (2.3), we can deduce from equation (2.2) for $\theta$ and $\varphi$ the following equations:

$$
\theta(t)=b+a t, \quad \varphi(t)=d+c(1-t)
$$

Set

$$
\mathcal{D}:=\left|\begin{array}{cc}
-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t \\
\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & -\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|,
$$

and

$$
\rho:=a d+a c+b c .
$$

Lemma 2.1. Let (C1) hold. Assume that
$(C 5): \mathcal{D} \neq 0$.

If $u_{1} \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]$ is a solution of the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{1}(t)=\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) h(s) \Delta s+A(h)(b+a t)+B(h)(d+c(1-t)) \tag{2.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
G(t, s)=\frac{1}{\rho} \begin{cases}(b+a \sigma(s))(d+c(1-t)), & \sigma(s) \leq t \\
(b+a t)(d+c(1-\sigma(s))), & t \leq s,\end{cases}  \tag{2.5}\\
A(h):=\frac{1}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{ll}
\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) h(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t & \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t \\
\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) h(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t & -\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|, \tag{2.6}
\end{gather*}
$$

and

$$
B(h):=\frac{1}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{cc}
-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & \int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) h(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t  \tag{2.7}\\
\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & \int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) h(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|
$$

then $u_{1}$ is a solution of the boundary value problem (2.1).
Proof. Let $u_{1}$ satisfy the integral equation (2.4), then we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
u_{1}(t)= & \int_{0}^{t} \frac{1}{\rho}\left(b+a(\sigma(s))(d+c(1-t)) h(s) \Delta s+\int_{t}^{1} \frac{1}{\rho}(b+a t)(d+c(1-\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s\right. \\
& +A(h)(b+a t)+B(h)(d+c(1-t)), \\
u_{1}^{\Delta}(t)=- & \int_{0}^{t} \frac{c}{\rho}(b+a(\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s+\int_{t}^{1} \frac{a}{\rho}(d+c(1-\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s+A(h) a-B(h) c .
\end{aligned}
$$

So that

$$
\begin{aligned}
u_{1}^{\Delta \Delta}(t) & =\frac{1}{\rho}(-c(b+a(\sigma(t)))-a(d+c(1-\sigma(t)))) h(t) \\
& =\frac{1}{\rho}(-(a d+a c+b c)) h(t)=-h(t), \\
-u_{1}^{\Delta \Delta}(t) & =h(t) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Since

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u_{1}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{b}{\rho}(d+c(1-\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s+A(h) b+B(h)(d+c), \\
& u_{1}^{\Delta}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{a}{\rho}(d+c(1-\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s+A(h) a-B(h) c
\end{aligned}
$$

we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
a u_{1}(0)-b u_{1}^{\Delta}(0) & =B(h)(a d+a c+b c) \\
& =\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)\left[\int_{0}^{1} G(s, r) q(r) f(r, u(r)) \Delta r\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{equation*}
+A(h)(b+a s)+B(h)(d+c(1-s))] \Delta s \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u_{1}(1)=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{d}{\rho}(b+a(\sigma(s)) h(s) \Delta s+A(h)(b+a)+B(h) d, \\
& u_{1}^{\Delta}(1)=-\int_{0}^{1} \frac{c}{\rho}(b+a(\sigma(s))) h(s) \Delta s+A(h) a-B(h) c,
\end{aligned}
$$

we have

$$
\begin{align*}
c u_{1}(1)+d u_{1}^{\Delta}(1)= & A(f)(a d+a c+b c) \\
= & \int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)\left[\int_{0}^{1} G(s, r) q(r) f(r, u(r)) \Delta r\right. \\
& +A(h)(b+a s)+B(h)(d+c(1-s))] \Delta s . \tag{2.9}
\end{align*}
$$

From (2.8) and (2.9), we get that

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
{\left[-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)(b+a s) \Delta s\right] A(h)+\left[\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)(d+c(1-s)) \Delta s\right] B(h)} \\
=\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)\left[\int_{0}^{1} G(s, r) q_{1}(r) f\left(r, u_{1}(r)\right) \Delta r\right] \Delta s \\
{\left[\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)(b+a s) \Delta s\right] A(h)+\left[-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)(d+c(1-s)) \Delta s\right] B(h)} \\
=\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)\left[\int_{0}^{1} G(s, r) q_{1}(r) f\left(r, u_{1}(r)\right) \Delta r\right] \Delta s
\end{array}\right.
$$

which implies that $A(h)$ and $B(h)$ satisfy (2.6) and (2.7), respectively. So, it is proved that if $u_{1}$ satisfies the integral equation (2.4), then $u_{1}$ is a solution of the problem (2.1).

Lemma 2.2. Let (C1) hold. Assume
$(C 6): \mathcal{D}<0, \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t>0, \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t>0$.
Then for $u_{1} \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]$ with $h \geq 0$, the solution $u_{1}$ of the problem (2.1) satisfies

$$
u_{1}(t) \geq 0 \text { for } t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}} .
$$

Proof. The proof directly follows the facts $G \geq 0$ on $[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}} \times[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}$ and $A(h) \geq 0, B(h) \geq$ 0 .

We note that an $n$-tuple $\left(u_{1}(t), u_{2}(t), \ldots, u_{n}(t)\right)$ is a solution of the boundary value problem (1.1)-(1.2) if and only if

$$
\begin{aligned}
u_{1}(t)= & \lambda_{1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(t, s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) f_{1}\left(\lambda_{2} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{1}, s_{2}\right) q_{2}\left(s_{2}\right) \cdots\right. \\
& \left.f_{n-1}\left(\lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{n-1}, s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n}\right) \cdots \Delta s_{2}\right) \Delta s_{1} \\
& +A\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(\cdot) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(\cdot)\right)\right)(b+a t) \\
& +B\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(\cdot) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(\cdot)\right)\right)(d+c(1-t)), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}} \\
u_{i}(t)= & \lambda_{i} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{i}(s) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(s)\right) \Delta s+A\left(\lambda_{i} q_{i}(\cdot) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(\cdot)\right)\right)(b+a t) \\
& +B\left(\lambda_{i} q_{i}(\cdot) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(\cdot)\right)\right)(d+c(1-t)), 2 \leq i \leq n, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
u_{n+1}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}},
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A\left(\lambda_{i} q_{i}(\cdot) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(\cdot)\right):=\right. \\
& \quad \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{ll}
\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\lambda_{i} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{i}(s) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(s)\right) \Delta s\right) \Delta t & \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t \\
\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\lambda_{i} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{i}(s) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(s)\right) \Delta s\right) \Delta t & -\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(d+c(1-t)) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|, \\
& B\left(\lambda_{i} q_{i}(\cdot) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(\cdot)\right)\right):= \\
& \quad \frac{1}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{ll}
-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & \int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\lambda_{i} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{i}(s) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(s)\right) \Delta s\right) \Delta t \\
\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)(b+a t) \Delta t & \int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\lambda_{i} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{i}(s) f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(s)\right) \Delta s\right) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|
\end{aligned}
$$

We need the following known result to prove the existence of solutions for (1.1) (1.2).

Theorem 2.1. [10] Let $E$ be a Banach space. Assume that $\Omega$ is an open bounded subset of $E$ with $\theta \in \Omega$ and let $T: \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow E$ be a completely continuous operator such that

$$
\|T u\| \leq\|u\|, \quad \forall u \in \partial \Omega
$$

Then $T$ has a fixed point in $\bar{\Omega}$.

## 3. Main Result

In this section, we establish criterion to determine the eigenvalue intervals for which the boundary value problem (1.1)-(1.2) has at least one positive solution in a cone.

Now, we define an integral operator $T: \mathcal{C}[0,1] \rightarrow \mathcal{C}[0,1]$, for $u_{1} \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]$, by

$$
\begin{aligned}
T u_{1}(t)= & \lambda_{1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(t, s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) f_{1}\left(\lambda_{2} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{1}, s_{2}\right) q_{2}\left(s_{2}\right) \cdots\right. \\
& \left.f_{n-1}\left(\lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{n-1}, s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n}\right) \cdots \Delta s_{2}\right) \Delta s_{1} \\
& +A\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(\cdot) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(\cdot)\right)\right)(b+a t)+B\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(\cdot) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(\cdot)\right)\right)(d+c(1-t))
\end{aligned}
$$

The operator $T$ is completely continuous by an application of the Arzela-Ascoli Theorem.

Let
$M=\min _{1 \leq i \leq n}\left\{\left[\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(\sigma(s), s) q_{i}(s) \Delta s+A\left(q_{i}(\cdot)\right)(b+a)+B\left(q_{i}(\cdot)\right)(d+c)\right)\right]^{-1}\right\}$.

Theorem 3.1. Suppose conditions (C1) - (C6) are satisfied. Then, for each $\lambda_{1}, \lambda_{2}, \ldots, \lambda_{n}$ satisfying

$$
\lambda_{i} \leq M, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n
$$

there exist an $n$-tuple $\left(u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{n}\right)$ satisfying (1.1)-(1.2) such that $u_{i}(t)>0,1 \leq$ $i \leq n$, on $[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}$.
Proof. From $(C 4)$, we have $\lim _{u \rightarrow 0^{+}} \frac{f_{i}(u)}{u}=0$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. Therefore there exists a constant $r>0$ such that, for each $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$
\left|f_{i}(u)\right| \leq \delta|u|
$$

for $0<|u|<r$, where $0<\delta<1$. Let us set $\Omega=\{u \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]:\|u\|<r\}$ and take $u_{1} \in \mathcal{C}[0,1]$ such that $\left\|u_{1}\right\|=r$, that is, $u_{1} \in \partial \Omega$. We have from (2.5) for $0 \leq s_{n-1} \leq 1$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{n-1}, s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n} \\
\leq & \lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{n}\right), s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n} \\
\leq & \delta \lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{n}\right), s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right) \Delta s_{n} \\
\leq & \delta \lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{n}\right), s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) \Delta s_{n}\left\|u_{1}\right\| \\
< & \left\|u_{1}\right\|=r .
\end{aligned}
$$

It follows in a similar manner, for $0 \leq s_{n-2} \leq 1$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lambda_{n-1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{n-2}, s_{n-1}\right) q_{n-1}\left(s_{n-1}\right) f_{n-1} \\
& \times\left(\lambda_{n} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{n-1}, s_{n}\right) q_{n}\left(s_{n}\right) f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n}\right) \Delta s_{n-1} \\
\leq & \delta \lambda_{n-1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{n-1}\right), s_{n-1}\right) q_{n-1}\left(s_{n-1}\right) \Delta s_{n-1}\left\|u_{1}\right\| \\
< & \left\|u_{1}\right\|=r
\end{aligned}
$$

Continuing with this bootstrapping argument, we have for $0 \leq t \leq 1$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lambda_{1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(t, s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) f_{1}\left(\lambda_{2} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(s_{1}, s_{2}\right) q_{2}\left(s_{2}\right) \cdots f_{n}\left(u_{1}\left(s_{n}\right)\right) \Delta s_{n} \cdots \Delta s_{2}\right) \Delta s_{1} \\
& \leq \delta r \lambda_{1} \int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{1}\right), s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) \Delta s_{1}, \\
& A\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(.) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(.)\right)\right) \\
& \leq \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{lll}
\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{1}(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t, & \rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)(d+c(1-s)) \Delta s \\
\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{1}(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t & -\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)(d+c(1-s)) \Delta s
\end{array}\right|\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\| \\
& \leq \lambda_{1} A\left(q_{1}(.)\right)\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\|, \\
& B\left(\lambda_{1} q_{1}(.) f_{1}\left(u_{2}(.)\right)\right) \\
& \begin{array}{l}
\leq \frac{\lambda_{1}}{\mathcal{D}}\left|\begin{array}{cc}
-\int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(s)(b+a s) \Delta s & \int_{0}^{1} g_{1}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{1}(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t \\
\rho-\int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(s)(b+a s) \Delta s & \int_{0}^{1} g_{2}(t)\left(\int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{1}(s) \Delta s\right) \Delta t
\end{array}\right|\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\| \\
\leq \lambda_{1} B\left(q_{1}(.)\right)\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\|,
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

so that

$$
\begin{aligned}
T u_{1}(t) \leq & \lambda_{1}\left(\int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{1}\right), s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) \Delta s_{1}+A\left(q_{1}(.)\right)\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\|(b+a)\right. \\
& \left.+B\left(q_{1}(.)\right)\left\|f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right)\right\|(d+c)\right) \\
\leq & \delta r \lambda_{1}\left(\int_{0}^{1} G\left(\sigma\left(s_{1}\right), s_{1}\right) q_{1}\left(s_{1}\right) \Delta s_{1}+A\left(q_{1}(.)\right)(b+a)+B\left(q_{1}(.)\right)(d+c)\right) \\
< & r=\left\|u_{1}\right\|
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus, it follows that $\left\|T u_{1}\right\|<\left\|u_{1}\right\|, u_{1} \in \partial \Omega$. Therefore, by Theorem 2.1, the operator $T$ has at least one fixed point, which in turn implies that the problem
(2.1) has at least one positive solution $u_{1} \in \bar{\Omega}$. Therefore, setting $u_{n+1}=u_{1}$, we obtain a positive solution $\left(u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{n}\right)$ of (1.1) - (1.2) given iteratively by

$$
\begin{aligned}
u_{k}(t)= & \lambda_{k} \int_{0}^{1} G(t, s) q_{k}(s) f_{k}\left(u_{k+1}(s)\right) \Delta s+A\left(\lambda_{k} q_{k}(.) f_{k}\left(u_{k+1}(.)\right)\right)(b+a t) \\
& +B\left(\lambda_{k} q_{k}(.) f_{k}\left(u_{k+1}(.)\right)\right)(d+c(1-t)), k=n, n-1, \ldots, 1
\end{aligned}
$$

The proof is completed.

## 4. ExAmples

Example 4.1 In BVP (1.1) - (1.2), suppose that $\mathbb{T}=[0,1], n=3, q_{1}(t)=q_{2}(t)=$ $q_{3}(t)=1, a=1, b=2, c=d=\frac{1}{4}, g_{1}(t)=t, g_{2}(t)=t^{3}$ i.e.,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i}^{\prime \prime}(t)+\lambda_{i} f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(t)\right)=0, t \in[0,1], 1 \leq i \leq 3  \tag{4.1}\\
u_{4}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]
\end{array}\right.
$$

satisfying the following boundary conditions,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i}(0)-2 u_{i}^{\prime}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} t u_{i}(t) d t  \tag{4.2}\\
\frac{1}{4} u_{i}(1)+\frac{1}{4} u_{i}^{\prime}(1)=\int_{0}^{1} t^{3} u_{i}(t) d t, 1 \leq i \leq 3
\end{array}\right.
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right) & =\sin ^{2} u_{2} \\
f_{2}\left(u_{3}\right) & =u_{3}^{2} e^{u_{3}} \\
f_{3}\left(u_{1}\right) & =1-\cos u_{1}
\end{aligned}
$$

It is easy to see that $(C 1)-(C 6)$ are satisfied. By simple calculation, we get $\rho=1, \theta(t)=2+t, \varphi(t)=\frac{1}{4}(2-t), \mathcal{D}=-\frac{3}{20}, A(1)=\frac{235}{432}, B(1)=\frac{121}{108}$,

$$
G(t, s)=\frac{1}{4}\left\{\begin{array}{l}
(2+s)(2-t), \quad s \leq t, \quad(2+t)(2-s), \quad t \leq s \\
(2+t)(2-s), \quad t \leq s
\end{array}\right.
$$

We can obtain $M=\frac{432}{1343}$. Applying Theorem 3.1, we get the optimal eigenvalue interval $\lambda_{i} \leq \frac{432}{1343}, i=1,2,3$, for which the boundary value problem (4.1) - (4.2) has a positive solution.

Example 4.2 In BVP (1.1) - (1.2), suppose that $\mathbb{T}=\left[0, \frac{1}{3}\right] \cup\left\{\frac{1}{2}\right\} \cup\left[\frac{2}{3}, 1\right], n=$ $3, q_{1}(t)=q_{2}(t)=q_{3}(t)=1, a=2, b=1, c=4, d=3, g_{1}(t)=2, g_{2}(t)=3$, i.e.,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
u_{i}^{\Delta \Delta}(t)+\lambda_{i} f_{i}\left(u_{i+1}(t)\right)=0, t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}, 1 \leq i \leq 3  \tag{4.3}\\
u_{4}(t)=u_{1}(t), t \in[0,1]_{\mathbb{T}}
\end{array}\right.
$$

satisfying the following boundary conditions,

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
2 u_{i}(0)-u_{i}^{\Delta}(0)=\int_{0}^{1} 2 u_{i}(t) \Delta t  \tag{4.4}\\
4 u_{i}(1)+3 u_{i}^{\Delta}(1)=\int_{0}^{1} 3 u_{i}(t) \Delta t, 1 \leq i \leq 3
\end{array}\right.
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{1}\left(u_{2}\right) & =\left(1-\cos u_{2}\right) e^{u_{2}} \\
f_{2}\left(u_{3}\right) & =\left(\sin u_{3}\right)^{2}-u_{3}^{2} e^{u_{3}} \\
f_{3}\left(u_{1}\right) & =\cos \left(2 u_{1}^{2}\right)-e^{u_{1}^{2}}
\end{aligned}
$$

It is easy to see that $(C 1)-(C 6)$ are satisfied. By simple calculation, we get $\rho=18$,

$$
G(t, s)=\frac{1}{18}\left\{\begin{array}{lc}
(1+2 \sigma(s))(7-4 t), & \sigma(s) \leq t \\
(1+2 t)(7-4 \sigma(s)), & t \leq s
\end{array}\right.
$$

$\mathcal{D}=-35, A(1)=\frac{563}{945}, B(1)=\frac{1126}{2835}$ and $M=\frac{102060}{519329}$. Applying Theorem 3.1, we get the optimal eigenvalue interval $\lambda_{i} \leq \frac{102060}{519329}, i=1,2,3$, for which the boundary value problem (4.3) - (4.4) has a positive solution.

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