# AN ANTI-PERIODIC CAPUTO q-FRACTIONAL BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM WITH A p-LAPLACIAN OPERATOR

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ABSTRACT. This paper studies the existence of solutions for an anti-periodic boundary value problem for the q-fractional p-Laplacian equation. The existence result depends on Leray-Schaefer's Fixed Point Theorem.

#### 1. Introduction

To study the Turbulent flow in a porous medium, which is a fundamental mechanics problem, Leibenson introduced the p-Laplacian equation as follows:

$$(\phi_p(x'(t)))' = f(t, x(t), x'(t)), \tag{1.1}$$

where  $\phi_p(s) = |s|^{p-2}s$ ,: p > 1. Obviously,  $\phi_p$  is invertible and its inverse operator is  $\phi_r$ ,: r > 1,:  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{r} = 1$ . Then, many certain boundary value conditions have been associated to equation (1.1) during the past few decades. Chen and Liu in [1] considered the following BVP.

$${}^{C}D_{0^{+}}^{\beta}\phi_{p}({}^{C}D_{0^{+}}^{\alpha}x(t))=f(t,x(t)),:t\in[0,1], \tag{1.2}$$

with boundary conditions

$$x(0) = -x(1), \quad {}^{C}D_{0+}^{\alpha}x(0) = -{}^{C}D_{0+}^{\alpha}x(1),$$

where  $0 < \alpha, \beta \le 1$ ,  $1 < \alpha + \beta \le 2$  and  $f: [0,1] \times R \to R$  is continuous. When p=2 we get the composition linear operator  ${}^CD_{0+}^{\beta}{}^CD_{0+}^{\alpha}$ . Depending on Schaefer's fixed point, the authors proved under certain nonlinear growth conditions of the nonlinearity, the following existence theorem:

**Theorem 1.1.** [1] Let  $f:[0,1]\times\mathbb{R}\to\mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Assume that there exist nonnegative functions  $a,b\in C[0,1]$  such that

$$|f(t,u)| \le a(t) + b(t)|u|^{p-1}, \ \forall t \in [0,1], \ u \in \mathbb{R}.$$
 (1.3)

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Then the Anti BVP (1.2) has at least one solution, provided that

$$\frac{3^r\|b\|_{\infty}^{r-1}}{2^r\Gamma(\alpha+1)\Gamma(\beta+1)^{r-1}} < 1. \tag{1.4}$$

The q-fractional calculus basics were initiated about the middle of the previous century [24, 14, 16, 19, 17, 18, 15, 4, 6, 7, 2, 3, 12]. In the last two decades this calculus started to attract many authors, when fractional calculus [20, 21, 22, 23, 37 applications started to appear in different branches of science and engineering and the discrete fractional calculus into nabla and delta started to be developed extensively [5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 13]. In this article we investigate the result stated in Theorem 1.1 in the sense of q-fractional

For 0 < q < 1, let  $T_q$  be the time scale

$$T_q = \{q^n : n = 0, 1, ...\} \cup \{0\}$$

More generally, if  $\alpha$  is a nonnegative real number then we define the time scale

$$T^{\alpha}_q = \{q^{n+\alpha}: n=0,1,\ldots\} \cup \{0\}$$

We write  $T_q^0 = T_q$ . For a function  $f: T_q \to R$ , the nabla q-derivative of f is given by

$$\nabla_q f(t) = \frac{f(t) - f(qt)}{(1 - q)t}, \ t \in T_q - \{0\}$$
 (1.5)

The nabla q-integral of f is given by

$$\int_{0}^{t} f(s) \nabla_{q} s = (1 - q) t \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} q^{i} f(tq^{i})$$
(1.6)

and for  $0 \le a \in T_q$ 

$$\int_a^t f(s) \nabla_q s = \int_0^t f(s) \nabla_q s - \int_0^a f(s) \nabla_q s$$

By the fundamental theorem in q-calculus we have

$$\nabla_q \int_0^t f(s) \nabla_q s = f(t) \tag{1.7}$$

and if f is continuous at 0, then

$$\int_0^t \nabla_q f(s) \nabla_q s = f(t) - f(0) \tag{1.8}$$

Also the following identity will be helpful

$$\nabla_q \int_s^t f(t,s) \nabla_q s = \int_s^t \nabla_q f(t,s) \nabla_q s + f(qt,t)$$
 (1.9)

From the theory of q-calculus and the theory of time scale more generally, the following product rule is valid

$$\nabla_q(f(t)g(t)) = f(qt)\nabla_q g(t) + (\nabla_q f(t))g(t)$$
(1.10)

The q-binomial function for  $n \in N$  is defined by

$$(t-s)_q^n = \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} (t-q^i s)$$
(1.11)

When  $\alpha$  is a non positive integer, the q-binomial fractional function is defined by

$$(t-s)_q^{\alpha} = t^{\alpha} \prod_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1 - \frac{s}{t} q^i}{1 - \frac{s}{t} q^{i+\alpha}}$$
 (1.12)

It has the following properties

- $(t-s)_q^{\beta+\gamma}=(t-s)_q^{\beta}(t-q^{\beta}s)_q^{\gamma}$   $(at-as)_q^{\beta}=a^{\beta}(t-s)_q^{\beta}$  The nabla q-derivative of the q-binomial function with respect to t is

$$\nabla_q (t-s)_q^{\alpha} = \frac{1-q^{\alpha}}{1-q} (t-s)_q^{\alpha-1}$$

• The nabla q-derivative of the q-binomial function with respect to s is

$$\nabla_q (t-s)_q^{\alpha} = -\frac{1-q^{\alpha}}{1-q} (t-qs)_q^{\alpha-1}$$

where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in R$ .

Moreover, the q-fractional integral of order  $\alpha \neq 0, -1, -2, ...$  is defined by

$${}_{q}I_{0}^{\alpha}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma_{q}(\alpha)} \int_{0}^{t} (t - qs)_{q}^{\alpha - 1} f(s) \nabla_{q} s. \tag{1.13}$$

Let  $\alpha > 0$ . If  $\alpha \notin N$ , then the  $\alpha$ -order Caputo (left) q-fractional derivative of a function f is defined by

$${}_{q}C_{a}^{\alpha}f(t) \triangleq :_{q} I_{a}^{(n-\alpha)}\nabla_{q}^{n}f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_{a}^{t} (t-qs)_{q}^{n-\alpha-1}\nabla_{q}^{n}f(s)\nabla_{q}s \qquad (1.14)$$

where  $n = [\alpha] + 1$  and  $[\alpha]$  denotes the greatest integer less than or equal to  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha \in N$ , then  ${}_{q}C_{a}^{\alpha}f(t) \triangleq \nabla_{q}^{n}f(t)$ .

The following identity is useful to transform Caputo q-fractional difference equation into

q-fractional integrals.

Assume  $\alpha > 0$  and f is defined in suitable domains. Then

$$_{q}I_{a}^{\alpha}{}_{q}C_{a}^{\alpha}f(t) = f(t) - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{(t-a)_{q}^{k}}{\Gamma_{q}(k+1)} \nabla_{q}^{k}f(a)$$
 (1.15)

and if  $0 < \alpha \le 1$  then

$$_{q}I_{a}^{\alpha}:_{q}C_{a}^{\alpha}f(t)=f(t)-f(a)$$
 (1.16)

The following identity is essential to solve linear q-fractional equations

$${}_{q}I_{a}^{\alpha}(x-a)_{q}^{\mu} = \frac{\Gamma_{q}(\mu+1)}{\Gamma_{q}(\alpha+\mu+1)}(x-a)_{q}^{\mu+\alpha} \quad (0 \le a < x < b)$$
 (1.17)

where  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+$  and  $\mu \in (-1, \infty)$ .

For more about q-Gamma functions and other q-calculus concepts we refer, for example. to [14] The following theorem is of importance to be stated in the article.

### Theorem 1.2. Leray-Schaefer's Fixed Point Theorem:

let T be a continuous and compact mapping of a Banach space X into itself, such that the set

$$\Lambda = \{x \in X : x = \lambda Tx, for \ some \ 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1\}$$

is bounded. Then T has a fixed point. For more general versions of Theorem 1.2 see [38].

## 2. An anti-Caputo q-fractional BVP

$$_{q}C_{0}^{\beta}\phi_{p}\left(_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(t)\right) = f(t,x(t)), : t \in T_{q}$$
 (2.1)

with anti-boundary conditions

$$x(0) = -x(1), \quad {}_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(0) = -{}_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(1),$$
 (2.2)

where,  $0 < \alpha, \beta \le 1, 1 < \alpha + \beta \le 2$  and  $f: T_q \times R \to R$  is continuous.

 $C_q[0,1]$  will denote the Banach space of all continuous real-valued functions defined on the time scale  $T_q$  with the supremum norm.

**Lemma 2.1.** Given h(t) = f(t, x(t)) is continuous on  $T_q$ , then the solution of (2.1) and (2.2) is

$$x(t) = {}_qI_0^\alpha\phi_r({}_qI_0^\beta h(t) + Ah(t)) + Bh(t)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t - qs)_q^{\alpha - 1}\phi_r \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^s (s - q\tau)_q^{\beta - 1}h(\tau)\nabla_q\tau + Ah(s)\right)\nabla_qs + Bh(s),$$

$$where \quad Ah(t) = \frac{-1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\beta - 1}h(s)\nabla_qs \text{ and}$$

$$Bh(t) \quad = \frac{-1}{2\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\alpha - 1}\phi_r \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^s (s - q\tau)_q^{\beta - 1}h(\tau)\nabla_a\tau + Ah(s)\right)\nabla_qs$$

$$\forall t \in [0, 1]$$

*Proof.* Assume that x(t) satisfies (2.1), then

$$_{q}I_{0}^{\beta} \,_{q}C_{0}^{\beta}\phi_{p}(_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(t)) = _{q}I_{0}^{\beta}h(t)$$

Now using (1.16) we get

$$\phi_p({}_qC_0^\alpha x(t)) = {}_qI_0^\beta h(t) + \phi_p({}_qC_0^\alpha x(0))$$

Now using  ${}_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(0) = -{}_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(1)$ , we get

$$\phi_p({}_qC_0^{\alpha}x(0)) = -\frac{1}{2}{}_qI_0^{\beta}h(t)|_{t=1} = Ah(t)$$

Now we have

$$\phi_p({}_qC_0^{\alpha}x(t)) = {}_qI_0^{\beta}h(t) + Ah(t)$$

which is equivalent to  ${}_{q}C_{0}^{\alpha}x(t) = \phi_{r}({}_{q}I_{0}^{\beta}h(t) + Ah(t))$ . Using (2.1), we get

$$x(t) = x(0) + {}_{q}I_{0}^{\alpha}\phi_{r}({}_{q}I_{0}^{\beta}h(t) + Ah(t))$$

Using x(0) = -x(1), we obtain

$$x(0) = -\frac{1}{2} :_{q} I_{0}^{\alpha} \phi_{r}({}_{q} I_{0}^{\beta} h(t) + Ah(t))|_{t=1} = Bh(t). : \Box$$

Now, define the operator  $F: C_q[0,1] \to C_q[0,1]$  by

$$\begin{split} Fx(t) &= qI_{0+}^{\alpha}: \phi_r(_qI_{0+}^{\beta}Nx(t) + ANx(t)) + BNx(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t-qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \phi_r \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^s (s-q\tau)_q^{\beta-1} f(\tau,x(\tau)) \nabla_q \tau \right. \\ &- \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^1 (1-q\tau)_q^{\beta-1} f(\tau,x(\tau)) \nabla_q \tau \right) \nabla_q s \\ &- \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^1 (1-qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \phi_r \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^s (s-q\tau)_q^{\beta-1} f(\tau,x(\tau)) \nabla_q \tau \right. \\ &- \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^1 (1-q\tau)_q^{\beta-1} f(\tau,x(\tau)) \nabla_q \tau \right) \nabla_q s, \end{split}$$

 $\forall t \in [0,1]$  where  $N: C_q[0,1] \to C_q[0,1]$  is the Nemytskii operator defined by  $Nx(t) = f(t,x(t)), \forall t \in [0,1]$ . Then the fixed points of the operator F are solutions of (2.1) and (2.2). The next theorem is based on Schaefer's fixed point theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** let  $f: T_q \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  be continuous. Assume that there exist two functions  $a, b \in C(T_q, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$|f(t,u)| \leq a(t) + b(t)|u|^{p-1}, \ \forall t \in T_q, \ u \in \mathbb{R}. \tag{2.3} \label{eq:2.3}$$

Then the q-anti BVP (1-2) has at least one solution, provided that

$$\frac{3^r\|b\|_{\infty}^{r-1}}{2^r\Gamma_q(\alpha+1)\Gamma_q(\beta+1)^{r-1}} < 1. \tag{2.4}$$

*Proof.* Let us prove first that  $F: C_q[0,1] \to C_q[0,1]$  is completely continuous. Let  $\Omega \subset C_q[0,1]$  be an open bounded subset. By the continuity of f, we can get that F is continuous and  $F(\overline{\Omega})$  is bounded. Moreover, there exists a constant T>0 such that  $|_q I_{0+}^{\beta} Nx + ANx| \leq T, \ \forall x \in \overline{\Omega}, \ t \in [0,1]$ . Thus, in view of the Arzelá-Ascoli theorem, we need only to prove that  $F(\overline{\Omega}) \subset C_q[0,1]$  is equicontinuous.

For  $0 \le t_1 < t_2 \le 1$ ,  $x \in \overline{\Omega}$ , we have

$$\begin{split} &|Fx(t_2) - Fx(t_1)| \\ &= \left| {}_qI_{0+}^\alpha \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(t) + ANx(t))|_{t=t_2} - {}_qI_{0+}^\alpha \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(t) + ANx(t))|_{t=t_1}} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \left| \int_0^{t_2} (t_2 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(s) + ANx(s)) \nabla_q s \right| \\ &- \left| \int_0^{t_1} (t_1 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(s) + ANx(s)) \nabla_q s \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \left| \int_0^{t_1} \left[ (t_2 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} - (t_1 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \right] \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(s) + ANx(s)) \nabla_q s \right| \\ &+ \left| \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (t_2 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \phi_r({}_qI_{0+}^\beta Nx(s) + ANx(s)) \nabla_q s \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{T^{r-1}}{\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_0^{t_1} \left[ (t_1 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} - (t_2 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \right] \nabla_q s + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (t_2 - qs)_q^{\alpha-1} \nabla_q s \right\} \\ &= \frac{T^{r-1}}{\Gamma_q(\alpha+1)} \left[ t_1^\alpha - t_2^\alpha + 2(t_1 - t_2)_q^\alpha \right]. \end{split}$$

Since  $t_q^{\alpha}$  is uniformly continuous on [0,1], we can obtain that  $F(\overline{\Omega}) \subset C_q[0,1]$  is equicontinuous.

Now we need to prove that the set  $\Omega = \{x \in C_q[0,1] | x = \lambda^{r-1} Fx, \lambda \in (0,1) \}$  is bounded.

By (2.3), we have

$$\begin{split} |ANx(t)| & \leq & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\beta - 1} |f(s, x(s))| \nabla_q s \\ & \leq & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\beta - 1} (a(s) + b(s)|x(s)|^{p - 1}) \nabla_q s \\ & \leq & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta)} (\|a\|_{\infty} + \|b\|_{\infty} \|x\|_{\infty}^{p - 1}) \cdot \frac{1}{\beta} \\ & = & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta + 1)} (\|a\|_{\infty} + \|b\|_{\infty} \|x\|_{\infty}^{p - 1}), : \forall t \in [0, 1], \end{split}$$

which together with the monotonicity of  $s^{q-1}$ , implies that

$$\begin{split} |BNx(t)| & \leq & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\alpha - 1}|_q I_{0+}^\beta Nx(s) + ANx(s)|^{r - 1} \nabla_q s \\ & \leq & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\alpha - 1} \left( \frac{t^\beta}{\Gamma_q(\beta + 1)} (\|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty \|x\|_\infty^{p - 1}) \right) \\ & + & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\beta + 1)} (\|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty \|x\|_\infty^{p - 1}) \int_0^{r - 1} \nabla_q s \\ & = & \frac{1}{2\Gamma_q(\alpha)} \frac{(\|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty \|x\|_\infty^{p - 1})^{r - 1}}{2^{r - 1} (\Gamma_q(\beta + 1))^{r - 1}} (2t^\beta + 1)^{r - 1} \int_0^1 (1 - qs)_q^{\alpha - 1} \nabla_q s \end{split}$$

Hence, we get

$$|BNx(t)| \le \frac{3^{r-1}}{2^r \Gamma_q(\alpha+1)(\Gamma_q(\beta+1))^{r-1}} (\|a\|_{\infty} + \|b\|_{\infty} \|x\|_{\infty}^{p-1})^{r-1}$$
 (2.5)

 $\forall t \in [0,1]$  Similarly, we find that,

$$|{}_{q}I_{0+}^{\alpha}\phi_{r}({}_{q}I_{0+}^{\beta}Nx(t) + ANx(t))| \le \frac{3^{r-1}(\|a\|_{\infty} + \|b\|_{\infty}\|x\|_{\infty}^{p-1})^{r-1}}{2^{r-1}\Gamma_{q}(\alpha+1)(\Gamma_{q}(\beta+1))^{r-1}}$$
(2.6)

For  $x \in \Omega$ , we get  $x(t) = \lambda^{r-1} Fx(t)$ . Thus, using (2.5) and (2.6), we obtain

$$|x(t)| \leq |_{q}I_{0+}^{\alpha}\phi_{r}(_{q}I_{0+}^{\beta}Nx(t) + ANx(t))| + |BNx(t)|$$
  
$$\leq \frac{3^{r}(||a||_{\infty} + ||b||_{\infty}||x||_{\infty}^{p-1})^{r-1}}{2^{r}\Gamma_{q}(\alpha + 1)(\Gamma_{q}(\beta + 1))^{r-1}} \,\forall t \in [0, 1].$$

There exist a constant M > 0 such that  $||x||_{\infty} \leq M$ .

As a consequence of Schaefer's fixed point theorem, we deduce that F has a fixed point which is the solution of ABVP (2.1) and (2.2).

#### 3. An example

Here is an example that illustrates the main result.

Consider the time scale  $T_q$  , and consider the following ABVP for the q-fractional p-Laplacian equation

$$_{q}C_{0}^{\frac{1}{2}}\phi_{3}\left(_{q}C_{0}^{\frac{3}{4}}x(t)\right) = \frac{1}{10}x^{2}(t) + \sin t, \ t \in T_{q}$$

with boundary conditions

$$x(0) = -x(1), \quad {}_{q}C_{0}^{\frac{3}{4}}x(0) = -{}_{q}C_{0}^{\frac{3}{4}}x(1).$$

Corresponding to ABVP (2.1) and (2.2), we have:  $p=3, r=\frac{3}{2}, \alpha=\frac{3}{4}, \beta=\frac{1}{2}$  and  $f(t,x(t))=\frac{1}{10}x^2(t)+\sin t$ .

Choose  $a(t)=1, b(t)=\frac{1}{10}$ , then after a straightforward calculations, we obtain that  $||b||_{\infty}=\frac{1}{10}$  and

$$\frac{3^{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{1}{10})^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2^{\frac{3}{2}}\Gamma_q(\frac{3}{4}+1)(\Gamma_q(\frac{1}{2}+1))^{\frac{1}{2}}}<1.$$

The ABVP in this example satisfies all assumptions of the Theorem 2.2, hence it has at least one solution.

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