EXPLICIT BOUNDS ON SOME NONLINEAR RETARDED INTEGRAL INEQUALITIES

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Received: 21 November, 2007

Accepted: 10 July, 2008

Communicated by: S.S. Dragomir

2000 AMS Sub. Class.: 26D10, 26D15.

Key words: Integral inequality; retarded; nonlinear; explicit bound.

Abstract: In this paper some new retarded integral inequalities are established and explicit bounds on the unknown functions are derived. The present results extend some existing ones proved by Lipovan in [A retarded integral inequality and its applications, J. Math. Anal. Appl. 285 (2003) 436-443].

Acknowledgement: The research was jointly supported by grants from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 50578064) and the Natural Science Foundation of Guangdong Province, China (No.06025219).

journal of inequalities in pure and applied mathematics
issn: 1443-5756

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journal of inequalities in pure and applied mathematics

issn: 1443-5756

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1. Introduction

During the past decades, studies on integral inequalities have been greatly enriched by the recognition of their potential applications in various applied sciences [1] – [6]. Recently, integral inequalities with delays have received much attention from researchers [7] – [12]. In this paper, we establish some new retarded integral inequalities and derive explicit bounds on unknown functions, the results of which improve some known ones in [9].

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issn: 1443-5756

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2. Main Results

Throughout the paper, $\mathbb{R}$ denotes the set of real numbers and $\mathbb{R}_+ = [0, +\infty)$. $C(M, S)$ denotes the class of all continuous functions from M to S. $C^1(M, S)$ denotes the class of functions with continuous first derivative.

Theorem 2.1. *Suppose that $p > q \geq 0$ and $c \geq 0$ are constants, and $u, f, g, h \in C(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$. Let $w \in (\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $w(u) > 0$ on $(0, \infty)$, and $\alpha \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $\alpha(t) \leq t$ on $\mathbb{R}_+$. Then the following integral inequality*

$$u^p(t) \leq c^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s)u^q(s) \left(\int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau \right) + h(s)u^q(s) \right] ds, \qquad t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \tag{2.1}$$

implies for $0 \leq t \leq T$,

$$u(t) \leq \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G(\xi(t)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}} \tag{2.2}$$

holds, where

$$\xi(t) = c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}} + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds, \tag{2.3}$$

$$G(r) = \int_{r_0}^r \frac{1}{w\left(s^{\frac{1}{p-q}}\right)} ds, \quad r \geq r_0 > 0, \tag{2.4}$$

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issn: 1443-5756

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G^{-1} denotes the inverse function of G, and $T \in \mathbb{R}_+$ is chosen so that

$$G(\xi(t)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau ds \in \mathrm{Dom}\left(G^{-1}\right), \quad \text{for all } 0 \le t \le T.$$

Proof. The conditions $\alpha \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ and $\alpha(t) \le t$ imply that $\alpha(0) = 0$. Firstly we assume that $c > 0$. Define the nondeceasing positive function $z(t)$ by

$$z(t) := c^2 + 2 \int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s) u^q(s) \left(\int_0^s g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(s) u^q(s) \right] ds.$$

Then $z(0) = c^2$ and by (2.1) we have

$$u(t) \le [z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}, \tag{2.5}$$

and consequently $u(\alpha(t)) \le [z(\alpha(t))]^{\frac{1}{p}} \le [z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}$. By differentiation we get

$$\begin{aligned} z'(t) &= 2u^q(\alpha(t)) \left[f(\alpha(t)) \left(\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(\alpha(t)) \right] \alpha'(t) \\ &\le 2 [z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}} \left[f(\alpha(t)) \left(\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(\alpha(t)) \right] \alpha'(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{z'(t)}{[z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}}} \le 2 f(\alpha(t)) \alpha'(t) \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau + 2 h(\alpha(t)) \alpha'(t).$$

Integrating both sides of last relation on $[0, t]$ yields

$$\frac{p}{p-q} [z(t)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \le \frac{p}{p-q} [z(0)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} + 2 \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s) ds + 2 \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau ds,$$

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which can be rewritten as

$$[z(t)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \le c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}} + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau ds. \tag{2.6}$$

Let $T_1(\le T)$ be an arbitrary number. For $0 \le t \le T_1$, from (2.3) and (2.6) we have

$$[z(t)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \le \xi(T_1) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau ds. \tag{2.7}$$

Denoting the right-hand side of (2.7) by $m(t)$, we know $u(t) \le [z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}} \le [m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}}$. Since w is nondecreasing, we obtain

$$w[u(\tau)] \le w\left[(z(\tau))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \le w\left[(z(\alpha(t)))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \le w\left[(z(t))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right], \quad \text{for} \quad \tau \in [0, \alpha(t)].$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} m'(t) &= \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t)\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau \\ &\le \frac{2(p-q)}{p} w\left[(z(t))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] f(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t)\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)d\tau \\ &\le \frac{2(p-q)}{p} w\left[(m(t))^{\frac{1}{p-q}}\right] f(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t)\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)d\tau. \end{aligned}$$

That is

$$\frac{m'(t)}{w[(m(t))^{\frac{1}{p-q}}]} \le \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t)\int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)d\tau. \tag{2.8}$$

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Integrating both sides of the last inequality on $[0,t]$ and using the definition (2.4), we get

$$G(m(t)) - G(m(0)) \leq \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau ds. \tag{2.9}$$

Taking $t = T_1$ in inequality (2.9) and using $u(t) \leq [m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}}$, we have

$$u(T_1) \leq \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G\left[\xi(T_1)\right] + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(T_1)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}}.$$

Since $T_1 (\leq T)$ is arbitrary, we have proved the desired inequality (2.2).

The case $c = 0$ can be handled by repeating the above procedure with $\varepsilon > 0$ instead of c and subsequently letting $\varepsilon \to 0$. This completes the proof. □

Remark 1. If $c = 0$ and $h(t) \equiv 0$ hold, $G(\xi(t)) = G(0)$ in (2.4) is not defined. In such a case, the upper bound on solutions of the integral inequality (2.1) can be calculated as

$$u(t) \leq \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0+} \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G(\varepsilon) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}}.$$

From Theorem 2.1, we can easily derive the following corollaries.

Corollary 2.2. *Suppose that $u, h \in C(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ and $c \geq 0$ is a constant. Let $\alpha \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $\alpha(t) \leq t$ on $\mathbb{R}_+$. Then the following inequality*

$$u^2(t) \leq c^2 + 2 \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s) u(s) ds,$$

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implies

$$u(t) \leq c + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds.$$

Remark 2. If $\alpha(t) \equiv t$, from Corollary 2.2 we get the Ou-Iang inequality.

Corollary 2.3. *Suppose that $u, f, g, h \in C(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$, and $c \geq 0$ is a constant. Let $w \in (\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $w(u) > 0$ on $(0, \infty)$, and $\alpha \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $\alpha(t) \leq t$ on $\mathbb{R}_+$. Then the following inequality*

$$u^2(t) \leq c^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s)u(s) \left(\int_0^s g(\tau)u(\tau)d\tau \right) + h(s)u(s) \right] ds$$

implies

$$u(t) \leq \xi(t) \exp\left(\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(\int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau \right) ds \right)$$

where $\xi(t) = c + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds$.

Theorem 2.4. *Suppose that $p > q \geq 0$ and $c \geq 0$ are constants, and $u, f, g, h \in C(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$. Let $w \in (\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $w(u) > 0$ on $(0, \infty)$, and $\alpha \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $\alpha(t) \leq t$ on $\mathbb{R}_+$. Then the following integral inequality*

$$u^p(t) \leq c^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s)u^q(s) \left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau \right) + h(s)u^q(s) \right] ds, \qquad t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \tag{2.10}$$

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implies for $0 \le t \le T$

$$u(t) \le \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G(\xi(t)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau \right) ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}}, \tag{2.11}$$

where $\xi(t)$ *and* $G(r)$ *are defined by (2.3) and (2.4), respectively, and* $T \in \mathbb{R}_+$ *is chosen so that*

$$G(\xi(t)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau \right) ds \in \text{Dom}\left(G^{-1}\right), \text{ for all } 0 \le t \le T.$$

Proof. Firstly we assume that $c > 0$. Define the nondeceasing positive function by

$$z(t) := c^2 + 2 \int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s) u^q(s) \left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(s) u^q(s) \right] ds,$$

then $z(0) = c^2$ and by (2.10) we have

$$u(t) \le [z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}, \tag{2.12}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} z'(t) &= 2u^q(\alpha(t)) \left[f(\alpha(t)) \left(w(u(\alpha(t))) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(\alpha(t)) \right] \alpha'(t) \\ &\le 2 [z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}} \left[f(\alpha(t)) \left(w(u(\alpha(t))) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) + h(\alpha(t)) \right] \alpha'(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{z'(t)}{[z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}}} \le 2h(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t) + 2f(\alpha(t))\alpha'(t) \left(w(u(\alpha(t)) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right).$$

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Integrating both sides of the last inequality on $[0,t]$, we get

$$\frac{p}{p-q}\left[z(t)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq \frac{p}{p-q}\left[z(0)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds.$$

Using (2.3), we get

$$\left[z(t)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq \xi(t) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds.$$

Let $T_1(\leq T)$ be an arbitrary number. From last inequality we know the following relation holds for $t \in [0,T_1]$,

$$\left[z(t)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq \xi(T_1) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds.$$

Letting

$$m(t) = \xi(T_1) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds, \tag{2.13}$$

we get $\left[z(t)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq m(t)$. Since w is nondecreasing, we have

$$w[u(\alpha(t))] \leq w\left[(z(\alpha(t)))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \leq w\left[(z(t))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \leq w\left[(m(t))^{\frac{1}{p-q}}\right]$$

and

$$w[u(\tau)] \leq w\left[(z(\tau))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \leq w\left[(z(\alpha(t)))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right] \leq w\left[(z(t))^{\frac{1}{p}}\right], \quad \text{for} \quad \tau \in [0,\alpha(t)].$$

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From (2.13), by differentiation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} m'(t) &= \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t)) \left(w(u(\alpha(t))) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w(u(\tau)) d\tau \right) \alpha'(t) \\ &\leq \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t)) \left\{ w\left([m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}} \right) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) w\left([m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}} \right) d\tau \right\} \alpha'(t) \\ &= w\left([m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}} \right) \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t)) \left(1 + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) d\tau \right) \alpha'(t). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{m'(t)}{w\left([m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}} \right)} \leq \frac{2(p-q)}{p} f(\alpha(t)) \left(1 + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau) d\tau \right) \alpha'(t).$$

Integrating both sides of the last inequality on $[0, t]$, from (2.4) we get

$$G(m(t)) \leq G(m(0)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau \right) ds.$$

Hence

$$m(t) \leq G^{-1} \left[G(\xi(T_1)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau \right) ds \right]. \tag{2.14}$$

Taking $t = T_1$ in inequality (2.14) and using $u(t) \leq [m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}}$, we have

$$u(T_1) \leq \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G(\xi(T_1)) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(T_1)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau) d\tau \right) ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}}.$$

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Since $T_1(\leq T)$ is arbitrary we have proved the desired inequality (2.11).

If $c = 0$, the result can be proved by repeating the above procedure with $\varepsilon > 0$ instead of c and subsequently letting $\varepsilon \to 0$. This completes the proof. □

Remark 3. Theorem 2.1 of Lipovan in [9] is special case of above Theorem 2.4, under the assumptions that $p = 2$, $q = 1$ and $g(t) \equiv 0$.

Theorem 2.5. *Suppose that $p > q \geq 0$ and $c \geq 0$ are constants, and $u, f, g, h \in C(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$. Let $w \in (\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $w(u) > 0$ on $(0, \infty)$, and $\alpha, \beta \in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+)$ be nondecreasing with $\alpha(t) \leq t$, $\beta(t) \leq t$ on $\mathbb{R}_+$. Then the following integral inequality*

$$u^p(t) \leq c^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[f(s)u^q(s) \left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau \right) \right] ds + 2\int_0^{\beta(t)} h(s)u^q(s)\, w(u(s))\, ds, \quad t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \tag{2.15}$$

implies for $0 \leq t \leq T$

$$u(t) \leq \left\{ G^{-1} \left[G(c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}}) + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau \right) ds + \frac{2(p-q)}{p} \int_0^{\beta(t)} h(s)ds \right] \right\}^{\frac{1}{p-q}}, \tag{2.16}$$

where $G(r)$ is defined by (2.4) and $T \in \mathbb{R}_+$ is chosen so that

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$$G\left(c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}}\right)+\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)}f(s)\left(1+\int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau\right)ds$$
$$+\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\beta(t)}h(s)ds\in \mathit{Dom}\left(G^{-1}\right),\quad \textit{for all}\quad 0\le t\le T.$$

Proof. The conditions that $\alpha,\beta\in C^1(\mathbb{R}_+,\mathbb{R}_+)$ are nondecreasing with $\alpha(t)\le t$, $\beta(t)\le t$ imply that $\alpha(0)=0$ and $\beta(0)=0$.

Let us first assume that $c>0$. Denoting the right-hand side of (2.15) by $z(t)$, we know $z(t)$ is nondecreasing, $z(0)=c^2$ and $u(t)\le[z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}$. Consequently we have

$$u(\alpha(t))\le[z(\alpha(t))]^{\frac{1}{p}}\le[z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}\quad\text{and}\quad u(\beta(t))\le[z(\beta(t))]^{\frac{1}{p}}\le[z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

Since w is nondecreasing, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}z'(t)&=2f(\alpha(t))u^q(\alpha(t))\left(w(u(\alpha(t)))+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)\\&\quad+2h(\beta(t))u^q(\beta(t))w(u(\beta(t)))\beta'(t)\\&\le 2[z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}}\left[f(\alpha(t))\left(w(u(\alpha(t)))+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)\right.\\&\quad\left.+h(\beta(t))w(u(\beta(t)))\beta'(t)\right].\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{z'(t)}{[z(t)]^{\frac{q}{p}}}\le 2f(\alpha(t))\left(w(u(\alpha(t)))+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)$$
$$+2h(\beta(t))w(u(\beta(t)))\beta'(t).$$

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Integrating both sides on $[0,t]$, we get

$$\frac{p}{p-q}\left[z(t)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq \frac{p}{p-q}\left[z(0)\right]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds + 2\int_0^{\beta(t)} h(s)w(u(s))\,ds,$$

which can be rewritten as

$$[z(t)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}} + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(w(u(s)) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)ds + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}\int_0^{\beta(t)} h(s)w(u(s))\,ds. \tag{2.17}$$

Denoting the right-hand side of (2.17) by $m(t)$, we know $[z(t)]^{\frac{p-q}{p}} \leq m(t)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} m'(t) &= \frac{2(p-q)}{p}f(\alpha(t))\left(w(u(\alpha(t))) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)w(u(\tau))d\tau\right)\alpha'(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}h(\beta(t))\,w(u(\beta(t)))\,\beta'(t) \\ &\leq \frac{2(p-q)}{p}f(\alpha(t))\left(w\left(z^{\frac{1}{p}}(\alpha(t))\right) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} g(\tau)w\left(z^{\frac{1}{p}}(\tau)\right)d\tau\right)\alpha'(t) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(p-q)}{p}h(\beta(t))\,w\left(z^{\frac{1}{p}}(\beta(t))\right)\beta'(t) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\leq w\left(z^{\frac{1}{p}}(t)\right)\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\left[f(\alpha(t))\left(1+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)+h(\beta(t))\beta'(t)\right]$$

$$\leq w\left(m^{\frac{1}{p-q}}(t)\right)\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\left[f(\alpha(t))\left(1+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)+h(\beta(t))\beta'(t)\right].$$

The above relation gives

$$\frac{m'(t)}{w\left(m^{\frac{1}{p-q}}(t)\right)}\leq\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\left[f(\alpha(t))\left(1+\int_0^{\alpha(t)}g(\tau)d\tau\right)\alpha'(t)+h(\beta(t))\beta'(t)\right].$$

Integrating both sides on $[0,t]$ and using definition (2.4) we get

$$\begin{aligned}&G(m(t))\\&\leq G(m(0))+\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\left[\int_0^{\alpha(t)}f(s)\left(1+\int_0^{s}g(\tau)d\tau\right)ds+\int_0^{\beta(t)}h(s)ds\right]\\&\leq G\left(c^{\frac{2(p-q)}{p}}\right)+\frac{2(p-q)}{p}\left[\int_0^{\alpha(t)}f(s)\left(1+\int_0^{s}g(\tau)d\tau\right)ds+\int_0^{\beta(t)}h(s)ds\right].\end{aligned}$$

Using the relation $u(t)\leq[z(t)]^{\frac{1}{p}}\leq[m(t)]^{\frac{1}{p-q}}$, we get the desired inequality (2.16).

If $c=0$, the result can be proved by repeating the above procedure with $\varepsilon>0$ instead of c and subsequently letting $\varepsilon\to 0$. This completes the proof. □

Remark 4. Theorem 2 of Lipovan in [9] is a special case of Theorem 2.5 above, under the assumptions that $p=2$, $q=1$, $g(t)\equiv 0$ and $\beta(t)\equiv t$.

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3. Application

Example 3.1. Consider the delay integral equation

$$x^5(t) = x_0^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[x^3(s) M\left(s, x(s), \int_0^s N(s,\tau, w(|x(\tau)|))d\tau\right) + h(s)x^3(s)\right] ds. \tag{3.1}$$

Assume that

$$|M(s,t,v)| \le f(s)\,|v|\,, \quad |N(s,t,v)| \le g(t)\,|v|\,, \tag{3.2}$$

where f, g, h, α and w are as defined in Theorem 2.1. From (3.1) and (3.2) we obtain

$$|x(t)|^5 \le x_0^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)} \left[|x(s)|^3 f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau) w(|x(\tau)|)d\tau + h(s)\,|x(s)|^3\right] ds.$$

Applying Theorem 2.1 to the last relation, we get an explicit bound on an unknown function

$$|x(t)| \le \left\{ G^{-1}\left[G(\xi(t)) + \frac{4}{5}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau ds\right]\right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}, \tag{3.3}$$

where

$$\xi(t) = \left|\sqrt[5]{x_0^4}\right| + \frac{4}{5}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds.$$

In particular, if $\omega(t) \equiv t$ holds in (3.1), from (2.4) we derive

$$G(t) = \int_0^t \frac{1}{\omega\left(s^{\frac{1}{p-q}}\right)} ds = \int_0^t \frac{1}{s^{\frac{1}{p-q}}} ds = \int_0^t s^{-\frac{1}{2}} ds = 2\sqrt{t} \tag{3.4}$$

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issn: 1443-5756

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and

$$G^{-1}(t) = \frac{1}{4}t^2. \tag{3.5}$$

Substituting (3.4) and (3.5) into inequality (3.3), we get

$$|x(t)| \leq \sqrt{\xi(t)} + \frac{2}{5}\int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau.$$

Example 3.2. Consider the following equation

$$x^8(t) = x_0^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)}\left[x^4(s)\left(M(s,x(s),w(|x(s)|)) + \int_0^s N(s,\tau,w(|x(\tau)|))d\tau\right)\right]ds + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)}\left[h(s)x^4(s)\right]ds. \tag{3.6}$$

Assume that

$$|M(s,t,v)| \leq f(s)|v|, \quad |N(s,t,v)| \leq f(s)g(t)|v|, \tag{3.7}$$

where f, g, h, α and w are as defined in Theorem 2.4. From (3.6) and (3.7) we obtain

$$|x(t)|^8 \leq x_0^2 + 2\int_0^{\alpha(t)}\left[|x(s)|^4 f(s)\left(w(|x(s)|) + \int_0^s g(\tau)w(|x(\tau)|)d\tau\right) + h(s)|x(s)|^4\right]ds.$$

By Theorem 2.4 we get an explicit bound on an unknown function

$$|x(t)| \leq \left\{G^{-1}\left[G(\xi(t)) + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s)\left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau)d\tau\right)ds\right]\right\}^{\frac{1}{4}}, \tag{3.8}$$

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where

$$\xi(t) = |x_0| + \int_0^{\alpha(t)} h(s)ds.$$

In particular, if $\omega(t) \equiv t^3$ holds in (3.6), from (2.4) we obtain

$$G(t) = \int_0^t \frac{1}{\omega\left(s^{\frac{1}{p-q}}\right)} ds = \int_0^t \frac{1}{s^{\frac{3}{p-q}}} ds = \int_0^t s^{-\frac{3}{4}} ds = 4t^{\frac{1}{4}} \tag{3.9}$$

and

$$G^{-1}(t) = \frac{1}{256} t^4. \tag{3.10}$$

Substituting (3.9) and (3.10) into (3.8) we get

$$|x(t)| \leq [\xi(t)]^{\frac{1}{4}} + \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\alpha(t)} f(s) \left(1 + \int_0^s g(\tau)\, d\tau\right) ds.$$

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