

REGULAR FRACTIONAL DIRAC TYPE SYSTEMS

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Abstract. In this paper, we study one dimensional fractional Dirac type systems which include the right-sided Caputo and the left-sided Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives of the same order $\alpha, \alpha \in (0, 1)$. We investigate the properties of the eigenvalues and the eigenfunctions of this system.

Keywords: Fractional Dirac system, Riemann–Liouville and Caputo derivatives

1. Introduction

It is well known that classical calculus is based on integer order differentiation and integration. Fractional calculus generalizes integrals and derivatives to non-integer orders. The subject has a long history. Since 1695, many mathematicians, among them Liouville, Riemann, Leibniz, Grunwald, Letnikov Riesz and Caputo, have studied this subject. Fractional calculus has important applications to many real-world phenomena studies in engineering, chemistry, mechanics, physics, finance, etc. There is an extensive literature on this subject, see for example [9, 10, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24] and references therein.

Recently, the study of boundary value problems for fractional Sturm-Liouville equations recently has attracted a great deal of attention from many researchers. In

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[4], the authors investigated some basic spectral properties of the fractional Sturm–Liouville problem with Generalized Dirichlet conditions. They proved that this problem has an infinite sequence of real eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenfunctions form a complete orthonormal system in the Hilbert space $L_2[a, b]$. In [11], the authors studied the properties of the eigenfunctions and the eigenvalues of the regular Generalized Fractional Sturm–Liouville Problem. In [6], the authors studied the fractional Sturm–Liouville problem associated with the Weber fractional derivative of order α . In [15], the authors proved existence of strong solutions for the space–time fractional diffusion equations. Using the method of separating variables, they solved several types of fractional diffusion equations. Klimek et al. [13] studied to the regular fractional Sturm–Liouville eigenvalue problem. By applying the methods of fractional variational analysis, they proved the existence of a countable set of orthogonal solutions and corresponding eigenvalues. Klimek and Argawal [12] defined some fractional Sturm–Liouville operators and introduced two classes of fractional Sturm–Liouville problems namely regular and singular fractional Sturm–Liouville problems. They investigated the eigenvalue and eigenfunction properties of this classes. Baş [2] gave the theory of spectral properties for eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of Bessel type of fractional singular Sturm–Liouville problem. Baş and Metin [3] studied a fractional singular Sturm–Liouville operator having Coulomb potential of type. Klimek and Blasik [14] studied a regular fractional Sturm–Liouville problem with left and right Liouville–Caputo derivatives of order in the range $(1/2, 1)$. They proved that it has an infinite countable set of positive eigenvalues and its continuous eigenvectors form a basis in the space of square-integrable functions. Rivero et al. [21] studied some of the basic properties of the fractional version of the Sturm–Liouville problem. Zayernouri and Karniadakis [27] studied new classes of the regular and singular fractional Sturm–Liouville Problems and obtained some explicit forms of the eigenfunctions.

While the theory of fractional Sturm–Liouville equations is well developed, the literature involving fractional Dirac system is scarce. In [7], Ferreira and Vieira derived fundamental solutions for the fractional Dirac operator which factorizes the fractional Laplace operator. In [8], the authors obtained eigenfunctions and fundamental solutions for the three parameter fractional Laplace operator defined via fractional Liouville–Caputo derivatives. They also obtained a family of fundamental solutions of the corresponding fractional Dirac operator. In [5], the author proved Lieb–Thirring type bounds for fractional Schrödinger operators and Dirac operators with complex-valued potentials. In [1], the authors studied a regular q -fractional Dirac type system. In the present paper, we consider the fractional Dirac type system defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & {}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha \\ D_{a^+}^\alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} p(x) & 0 \\ 0 & r(x) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 y_1 \\ \omega_2 y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

where p, r, ω_1 and ω_2 are real-valued continuous functions defined on $[a, b]$ and $\omega_i(x) > 0, \forall x \in [a, b], (i = 1, 2), \lambda$ is a complex spectral parameter. If we take $\alpha \rightarrow 1$ in this system, then we get the one dimensional Dirac type system. This system is one of the basic models of one-dimensional quantum mechanics. For example, a

relativistic electron in the electrostatic field $\Omega(x)$ is described by the system

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{d}{dx} \\ \frac{d}{dx} & 0 \end{pmatrix} f(x) + \begin{pmatrix} \Omega(x) - \frac{mc}{h} & kx^{-1} \\ kx^{-1} & \Omega(x) + \frac{mc}{h} \end{pmatrix} f(x) = \frac{\lambda}{hc} f(x)$$

where $c > 0$ is the velocity of light, $k \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$, $\Omega(x)$ is a spherically symmetric potential, $m > 0$ is the mass of the particle ([26]). Basic properties of the one dimensional Dirac systems have been considered in [18], [26], [25] and the references therein.

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we provide some basic definitions and properties of the fractional calculus theory. These concepts and properties can be found in [20],[16],[22],[10], and references therein.

Definition 2.1. (see [20]) Let $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ and $f \in L_1(a, b)$. The right-sided and left-sided Riemann-Liouville integrals of order α are given by the formulas, respectively

$$(2.1) \quad (I_{b-}^\alpha f)(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_x^b f(s) (s-x)^{\alpha-1} ds, \quad x < b,$$

$$(2.2) \quad (I_{a+}^\alpha f)(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^x f(s) (x-s)^{\alpha-1} ds, \quad x > a,$$

where Γ denotes the gamma function.

Definition 2.2. (see [20]) Let $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ and $f \in L_1(a, b)$. The right-sided and respectively left-sided Riemann-Liouville derivatives of order α are defined, respectively, as follows

$$(2.3) \quad (D_{b-}^\alpha f)(x) = -D(I_{b-}^{1-\alpha} f)(x), \quad x < b,$$

$$(2.4) \quad (D_{a+}^\alpha f)(x) = D(I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} f)(x), \quad x > a.$$

Analogous formulas yield the right-sided and left-sided Liouville-Caputo derivatives of order α , respectively:

$$(2.5) \quad ({}^C D_{b-}^\alpha f)(x) = (I_{b-}^{1-\alpha} (-D) f)(x), \quad x < b,$$

$$(2.6) \quad ({}^C D_{a+}^\alpha f)(x) = (I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} D f)(x), \quad x > a.$$

Property 1: Let $f, g \in C[a, b]$. Then, the fractional differential operators defined in (2.3)-(2.5) satisfy the following identities:

$$(2.7) \quad (i) \int_a^b f(x) D_{b-}^\alpha g(x) dx = \int_a^b g(x) {}^C D_{a+}^\alpha f(x) dx - f(x) I_{b-}^{1-\alpha} g(x) |^b_a,$$

$$(2.8) \quad (ii) \int_a^b f(x) D_{a+}^\alpha g(x) dx = \int_a^b g(x) {}^C D_{b-}^\alpha f(x) dx + f(x) I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} g(x) \Big|_a^b.$$

Property 2 (see [11]): Assume that $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\beta > \alpha$, and $f \in C[a, b]$. Then the relations

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} D_{a+}^\alpha I_{a+}^\alpha f(x) &= f(x), \\ {}^C D_{a+}^\alpha I_{a+}^\alpha f(x) &= f(x), \end{aligned}$$

$$(2.10) \quad D_{a+}^\alpha I_{a+}^\beta f(x) = I_{a+}^{\beta-\alpha} f(x),$$

$$(2.11) \quad D_{b+}^\alpha I_{b-}^\beta f(x) = I_{b-}^{\beta-\alpha} f(x),$$

$$(2.12) \quad \begin{aligned} D_{b-}^\alpha I_{b-}^\alpha f(x) &= f(x), \\ {}^C D_{b-}^\alpha I_{b-}^\alpha f(x) &= f(x), \end{aligned}$$

hold for any $x \in [a, b]$. Furthermore, the integral operators defined in (2.1)-(2.2) satisfy the following semi-group properties:

$$(2.13) \quad I_{a+}^\alpha I_{a+}^\beta = I_{a+}^{\alpha+\beta};$$

$$(2.14) \quad I_{b-}^\alpha I_{b-}^\beta = I_{b-}^{\alpha+\beta}.$$

Now, we introduce convenient Hilbert space $L_\omega^2((a, b); E)$ ($E := \mathbb{C}^2$) of vector-valued functions using the inner product

$$\begin{aligned} (f, g) &:= \int_a^b f_1(x) \overline{g_1(x)} \omega_1(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_a^b f_2(x) \overline{g_2(x)} \omega_2(x) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$f(x) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(x) \\ f_2(x) \end{pmatrix}, \quad g(x) = \begin{pmatrix} g_1(x) \\ g_2(x) \end{pmatrix},$$

f_i, g_i and ω_i are real-valued continuous functions defined on $[a, b]$ and $\omega_i(x) > 0, \forall x \in [a, b], (i = 1, 2)$.

3. Main Results

In the present section, our goal is to study the fractional Dirac type system which includes the right-sided Liouville-Caputo and the left-sided Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives of same order α . Throughout this section, we assume $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} \Upsilon y &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & {}^C D_{b-}^\alpha \\ D_{a+}^\alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} p(x) & 0 \\ 0 & r(x) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} {}^C D_{b-}^\alpha y_2 + p(x) y_1 \\ D_{a+}^\alpha y_1 + r(x) y_2 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

where $y := \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}$. With this notation, we consider the fractional Dirac type system:

$$(3.1) \quad \Upsilon y_\lambda = \lambda \omega y_\lambda, \quad a \leq x \leq b < \infty,$$

where $y_\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} y_{\lambda 1} \\ y_{\lambda 2} \end{pmatrix}$, p, r are real-valued continuous functions defined on $[a, b]$, $\omega(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1(x) & 0 \\ 0 & \omega_2(x) \end{pmatrix}$, ω_i are real-valued continuous functions defined on $[a, b]$ and $\omega_i(x) > 0, \forall x \in [a, b], (i = 1, 2)$, λ is a complex spectral parameter and boundary conditions

$$(3.2) \quad a_{11} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1}(a) + a_{12} y_{\lambda 2}(a) = 0,$$

$$(3.3) \quad a_{21} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1}(b) + a_{22} y_{\lambda 2}(b) = 0,$$

with $a_{11}^2 + a_{12}^2 \neq 0$ and $a_{21}^2 + a_{22}^2 \neq 0$.

Theorem 3.1. *The operator $T := \omega^{-1} \Upsilon$ generated by fractional Dirac type system (FD) defined by (3.1)-(3.3) is formally self-adjoint on $L_\omega^2((a, b); E)$.*

Proof. Let $y(\cdot), z(\cdot) \in L^2((a, b); E)$. Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (Ty, z) - (y, Tz) &= \int_a^b (D_{a^+}^\alpha y_1 + r(x) y_2) \overline{z_2} dx \\ &\quad + \int_a^b ({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha y_2 + p(x) y_1) \overline{z_1} dx \\ &\quad - \int_a^b y_2 \overline{(D_{a^+}^\alpha z_1 + r(x) z_2)} dx \\ &\quad - \int_a^b y_1 \overline{({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha z_2 + p(x) z_1)} dx \\ &= \int_a^b (D_{a^+}^\alpha y_1) \overline{z_2} dx + \int_a^b ({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha y_2) \overline{z_1} dx \\ &\quad - \int_a^b y_2 \overline{(D_{a^+}^\alpha z_1)} dx - \int_a^b y_1 \overline{({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha z_2)} dx \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^a ({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha y_2) \overline{z_1} \omega_1 dx &= \int_a^b y_2 \overline{(D_{a^+}^\alpha z_1)} \omega_1 dx \\ &- \left[y_2(b) \overline{I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} z_1(b)} - y_2(a) \overline{I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} z_1(a)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b y_1 \overline{({}^C D_{b^-}^\alpha z_2)} dx &= \int_a^b (D_{a^+}^\alpha y_1) \overline{z_2} dx \\ &- \left[\overline{z_2(b)} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_1(b) - \overline{z_2(a)} z_2(a) I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_1(a) \right] \end{aligned}$$

we get

$$(3.4) \quad (Ty, z) - (y, Tz) = [y, z]_b - [y, z]_a,$$

where $[y, z]_x := \overline{z_2(x)I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha}y_1(x) - y_2(x)\overline{I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha}z_1(x)}}$. We proceed to show that the equality $(Ty, z) = (y, Tz)$ for any $y(\cdot), z(\cdot) \in L^2((a, b); E)$. From the boundary conditions (3.2) and (3.3), we get $[y, z]_b = 0$ and $[y, z]_a = 0$. Consequently,

$$(3.5) \quad (Ty, z) = (y, Tz).$$

This completes the proof. \square

Lemma 3.1. *All eigenvalues of the FD system defined by (3.1)-(3.3) are real.*

Proof. Let μ be an eigenvalue with an eigenfunction $z(x)$. From the equality (3.5), we get

$$(3.6) \quad (Tz, z) = (z, Tz) = (z, \mu z) = \bar{\mu}(z, z).$$

On the other hand,

$$(3.7) \quad (Tz, z) = (\mu z, z) = \mu(z, z).$$

It follows from (3.6) and (3.7) that

$$\mu(z, z) = \bar{\mu}(z, z), \quad (\mu - \bar{\mu})(z, z) = 0.$$

Since $z(x) \neq 0$, we get $\mu = \bar{\mu}$.

Lemma 3.2. *If μ_1 and μ_2 are two different eigenvalues of the FD system defined by (3.1)-(3.3), then the corresponding eigenfunctions θ and η are orthogonal in the space $L^2_\omega((a, b); E)$.*

\square

Proof. Let μ_1 and μ_2 be two different real eigenvalues with corresponding eigenfunctions θ and η , respectively. From (3.5), we obtain

$$(T\theta, \eta) = (\theta, T\eta), (\mu_1\theta, \eta) = (\theta, \mu_2\eta), (\mu_1 - \mu_2)(\theta, \eta) = 0.$$

Since $\mu_1 \neq \mu_2$, we obtain that $\theta(x)$ and $\eta(x)$ are orthogonal in $L^2_\omega((a, b); E)$. \square

Now let $y(x) = \begin{pmatrix} y_1(x) \\ y_2(x) \end{pmatrix}$, $z(x) = \begin{pmatrix} z_1(x) \\ z_2(x) \end{pmatrix} \in L^2((a, b); E)$. Then, we define the Wronskian of $y(x)$ and $z(x)$ by

$$W(y, z)(x) = I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha}y_1(x)z_2(x) - I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha}z_1(x)y_2(x).$$

Theorem 3.2. *The Wronskian of any solution of Eq. (3.1) is independent of x .*

Proof. Let $y(x)$ and $z(x)$ be two solutions of Eq. (3.1). By Green’s formula (3.4), we have

$$(Ty, z) - (y, Tz) = [y, z]_b - [y, z]_a.$$

Since $Ty = \lambda y$ and $Tz = \lambda z$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\lambda y, z) - (y, \lambda z) &= [y, z]_b - [y, z]_a, \\ (\lambda - \bar{\lambda})(y, z) &= [y, z]_b - [y, z]_a. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $[y, z]_b = [y, z]_a = W(y, \bar{z})(a)$, i.e., the Wronskian is independent of x . \square

Corollary 3.1. *If $y(x)$ and $z(x)$ are both solutions of Equation (3.1), then either $W(y, z)(x) = 0$ or $W(y, z)(x) \neq 0$ for all $x \in [a, b]$.*

Theorem 3.3. *Any two solutions of the equation (3.1) are linearly dependent if and only if their Wronskian is zero.*

Proof. Let $y(x)$ and $z(x)$ be two linearly dependent solutions of Equation (3.1). Then, there exists a constant $c > 0$ such that $y(x) = cz(x)$. Hence

$$W(y, z) = \begin{vmatrix} I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} z_1(x) & z_2(x) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} cI_{a+}^{1-\alpha} z_1(x) & cz_2(x) \\ I_{a+}^{1-\alpha} z_1(x) & z_2(x) \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

Conversely, the Wronskian $W(y, z) = 0$ and therefore, $y(x) = cz(x)$, i.e., $y(x)$ and $z(x)$ are linearly dependent. \square

Before proceeding further, we need the following auxiliary functions.

We introduce the function $\phi(x) := \begin{pmatrix} (I_{a+}^\alpha 1)(x) \\ (I_{b-}^\alpha 1)(x) \end{pmatrix}$. Further, the general solution of the equation $\Upsilon\psi = 0$, i.e.,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & {}^C D_{b-}^\alpha \\ D_{a+}^\alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \psi_1 \\ \psi_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

is given by

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$(3.8) \quad \Phi(\alpha, a, x) = \frac{(x - a)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)}.$$

Lemma 3.3. *Let*

$$\Delta := a_{11}a_{12} - a_{11}a_{21}$$

and

$$(3.9) \quad Y_\lambda(y) := \{V - \lambda\omega\} y_\lambda,$$

where $V(x) := \begin{pmatrix} p(x) & 0 \\ 0 & r(x) \end{pmatrix}$. Assume $\Delta \neq 0$. Then on the space $C[a, b]$, the FD system defined by (3.1)-(3.3) is equivalent to the integral equation

$$y_\lambda(x) = -MY_\lambda(y) + A(x)T + B(x)Z,$$

where the coefficients M, A, T, B and Z are

$$\begin{aligned} M &:= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_{a^+}^\alpha \\ I_{b^-}^\alpha & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ A(x) &:= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a_{12}a_{22}}{\Delta} \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ -\frac{a_{21}a_{12}}{\Delta} \end{pmatrix}, \\ T &:= -I_{b^-}^\alpha Y_{\lambda 1}(y) |_{x=a}, \\ B(x) &:= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{a_{12}a_{21}}{\Delta} \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ \frac{a_{21}a_{11}}{\Delta} \end{pmatrix}, \\ Z &:= -I_{a^+}^1 Y_{\lambda 2}(y) |_{x=b}, \end{aligned}$$

and the function $\Phi(\alpha, a, x)$ is defined in (3.8).

Proof. Using fractional composition rules and (3.9), we can rewrite the equation (3.1) as follows:

$$\Upsilon[y_\lambda(x) + MY_\lambda(y)] = 0.$$

Thus, we get

$$y_\lambda(x) + MY_\lambda(y) = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

i.e.,

$$(3.10) \quad y_\lambda(x) = -MY_\lambda(y) + \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now, we shall connect the coefficients ξ_i ($i = 1, 2$) to the values a_{ij} ($i, j = 1, 2$) in the boundary conditions (3.2)-(3.3). From the equation (3.10), we obtain

$$Ky_\lambda(x) = -KMY_\lambda(y) + K \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \Phi(\alpha, a, x) \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where $K := \begin{pmatrix} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1} \\ y_{\lambda 2} \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I_{a^+}^1 \\ I_{b^-}^\alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix} Y_\lambda(y) + \begin{pmatrix} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} [\xi_1 \Phi(\alpha, a, x)] \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1} \\ y_{\lambda 2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -I_{a^+}^1 Y_{\lambda 2}(y) \\ -I_{b^-}^\alpha Y_{\lambda 1}(y) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \xi_1 \\ \xi_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By virtue of (3.2) and (3.3), we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1}(a) &= \xi_1, \\ I_{a^+}^{1-\alpha} y_{\lambda 1}(b) &= -I_{a^+}^1 Y_{\lambda 2}(y)|_{x=b} + \xi_1, \\ y_{\lambda 2}(a) &= -I_{b^-}^\alpha Y_{\lambda 1}(y)|_{x=a} + \xi_2, \\ y_{\lambda 2}(b) &= \xi_2. \end{aligned}$$

This leads to the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}\xi_1 + a_{12}\xi_2 &= a_{12}T \\ a_{21}\xi_1 + a_{22}\xi_2 &= a_{12}Z. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\Delta \neq 0$, the solution for coefficients $\xi_j, j = 1, 2$ is unique:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1 &= \frac{a_{11}(a_{22}T - a_{21}Z)}{\Delta}, \\ \xi_2 &= \frac{a_{21}(a_{11}Z - a_{12}T)}{\Delta}. \end{aligned}$$

We have finished the proof of the lemma. \square

Now, we prove the existence and uniqueness of eigenfunction of the regular FD system defined by (3.1)-(3.3). In the next result, we use the following notation:

$$A := \|A(x)\|_C, \quad B := \|B(x)\|_C, \quad S_\phi := \|\phi(x)\|_C,$$

where $\|\cdot\|_C$ denotes the supremum norm on the space $C([a, b], E)$.

Theorem 3.4. *Let $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and assume $\Delta \neq 0$. Then unique continuous function y_λ for the regular FD system defined by (3.1)-(3.3) corresponding to each eigenvalue obeying*

$$(3.11) \quad \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C \leq \frac{1}{S_\phi + A \|\phi(a)\|_C + B(b-a)}$$

exists and such eigenvalue is simple.

Proof. Let us define the mapping $L : C([a, b], E) \rightarrow C([a, b], E)$ by

$$Lf := -MY_\lambda(f) + A(x)T + B(x)Z,$$

Now, we show that the equation (3.1) can be interpreted as a fixed point condition on the space $C([a, b], E)$. Using the following estimate

$$\|Y_\lambda(g) - Y_\lambda(h)\|_C \leq \|g - h\|_C \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C,$$

we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \|Lg - Lh\|_C &\leq \|g - h\|_C \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C S_\phi + A \|g - h\|_C \|\phi(a)\|_C \\ &\quad + B(b - a) \|g - h\|_C \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C \\ &= \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C \|g - h\|_C (S_\phi + A \|\phi(a)\|_C + B(b - a)) \\ &= \Pi \|g - h\|_C, \end{aligned}$$

where $\Pi = \|V - \lambda\omega\|_C (S_\phi + A \|\phi(a)\|_C + B(b - a))$. By the condition (3.11), the mapping L is a contraction on the space $C([a, b], E)$ so it has a unique fixed point. Therefore, such eigenvalue is simple. \square

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