

SOME GENERALIZATION OF GRONWALL-BIHARI INTEGRAL INEQUALITIES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

KONG QINGKAI (孔庆凯)* ZHANG BINGGEN (张炳根)*

Abstract

The interest of this paper lies in the estimates of solutions of the three kinds of Gronwall-Bihari integral inequalities:

$$(I) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds,$$

$$(II) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds \right)$$

$$(III) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds + g_{n+1}(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s) w(y(s)) ds \right).$$

The results include some modifications and generalizations of the results of D. Willett, U. D. Dhongade and Zhang Binggen. Furthermore, applying the conclusion on the above inequalities to a Volterra integral equation and a differential equation, the authors obtain some new better results.

§ 0. Introduction

This paper is to obtain estimates of upper bounds of solutions of the following three types of generalized Gronwall-Bihari integral inequalities:

$$(I) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds,$$

$$(II) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds \right),$$

$$(III) \quad y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds + g_{n+1}(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s) w(y(s)) ds \right).$$

For Gronwall inequality like (I), [1] and [2] have given some estimates of upper bounds of its solutions; but to obtain the results, not only do they have to impose several restrictions on its functions such that the useful scopes are reduced, but the estimates are not sharp. [8] gives an estimate under a general condition, but result is incorrect because of a mistake in induction. Now, we obtain a new result which is better than the above.

Manuscript received October 31, 1986. Revised April 9, 1987.

* Department of Applied Mathematics, Ocean University of Qingdao, Qingdao, China.

To discuss the inequalities like (II), (III), [2, 3] are under the hypothesis that $w \in \mathcal{F}$ satisfying:

- 1) $w(u) \geq 0$ is nondecreasing for $u \geq 0$, $w \in c_0$,
- 2) $\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$ for $u \geq 0$, $v > 0$.

It actually, just as proved in [6], the function $w(u)$ satisfying 2) must be a linear function, so all results on nonlinear inequalities of those papers are not of any meaning.

In [4], condition 2) is changed to

$$\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w_1\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$$

$u \geq 0$, $v \geq 1$, where $w_1 > 0$ is nondecreasing function. However, just as indicated in [4], its proof is wrong because $f(x)g(x) \geq 1$ does not hold.

In [7], condition 2) is modified as to

$$\frac{1}{v} \Omega(u) \leq \mu(v) w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$$

$u \geq 0$, $v > 0$, where $w > 0$ is nondecreasing, $\mu \geq 0$, and under that condition the quality

$$u(t) \leq \alpha(t) + \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^t f_i(t, s) \Omega(u(s)) ds$$

discussed. But except for power functions, verification of the above condition and action of $\mu(v)$ are rather difficult. In fact, Corollary 2 in [7] is untrue because $\mu(v)$ is unsuitable. Furthermore, with an example, we will see, the exactness of its estimate is also not satisfactory.

In [5], results of the inequality (II) and its inverse inequality are obtained. But the requirement that $w(u)$ should be subadditive and submultiplicative is so strict that even the function $w(u) = k + u^\alpha$ ($0 < k < 1$, $\alpha \in R$) is not applicable.

In this paper we assume that $w(u)$ satisfies some conditions which are relatively simple and can be tested easily, and give some true results on inequalities (II) and (I).

§1. Generalization of Linear Integral Inequality

In the sequel, we let $R_+ = [0, +\infty)$. The result of this part is based on the following well-known lemma.

Lemma 1. Suppose $f(x)$, $g(x)$ and $h(x)$ are nonnegative and continuous on R_+ .

If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) y(s) ds, \quad x \in R_+,$$

then

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) f(s) \exp \left(\int_s^x h(t) g(t) dt \right) ds, \quad x \in R_+. \quad (1)$$

Theorem 1. Suppose $f(x)$, $g_i(x)$ and $h_i(x)$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) are nonnegative and continuous on R_+ . If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds, \quad x \in R_+,$$

then

$$y(x) \leq A_n(f),$$

where the function $A_n(f)$ is defined by

$$A_0(u) = u,$$

$$A_{k+1}(u) = A_k(u) + A_k(g_{k+1}) \int_0^x h_{k+1} A_k(u) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) dt \right) ds.$$

To prove Theorem 1 we need the following lemma.

Lemma 2. Functions $A_k(u)$ ($k=1, 2, \dots, n$) defined by (3) satisfy the following conditions: for $u(x) \geq 0$, $v(x) \geq 0$,

$$1) \quad A_k(u+v) = A_k(u) + A_k(v),$$

$$2) \quad A_k(uv)(x) \leq (A_k(u)v)(x) \text{ if } v(x) \text{ is nondecreasing.}$$

Proof It is obvious that (4) is true for $k=0$. Let (4) be true for $k=i$ ($i=0, n-1$), i. e.,

$$A_i(u+v) = A_i(u) + A_i(v), \quad A_i(uv) < A_i(u)v,$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i+1}(u+v) &= A_i(u+v) + A_i(g_{i+1}) \int_0^x h_{i+1} A_i(u+v) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{i+1} A_i(g_{i+1}) dt \right) ds \\ &= A_i(u) + A_i(g_{i+1}) \left(\int_0^x h_{i+1} A_i(u) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{i+1} A_i(g_{i+1}) dt \right) ds \right. \\ &\quad \left. + A_i(v) + A_i(g_{i+1}) \int_0^x h_{i+1} A_i(v) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{i+1} A_i(g_{i+1}) dt \right) ds \right) \\ &= A_{i+1}(u) + A_{i+1}(v), \\ A_{i+1}(uv) &= A_i(uv) + A_i(g_{i+1}) \int_0^x h_{i+1} A_i(uv) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{i+1} A_i(g_{i+1}) dt \right) ds \\ &\leq \left[A_i(u) + A_i(g_{i+1}) \int_0^x h_{i+1} A_i(u) \exp \left(\int_s^x h_{i+1} A_i(g_{i+1}) dt \right) ds \right] v \\ &= A_{i+1}(u)v. \end{aligned}$$

This proves that (4) is true for $k=i+1$.

Proof of Theorem 1 The proof is by induction. For $n=1$, (2) becomes (1) hence is true by Lemma 1. Suppose (2) is true for $n=k$ ($1 \leq k \leq n-1$). Then for

$$y \leq \left(f + g_{k+1} \int_0^x h_{k+1} y ds \right) + \sum_{i=1}^k g_i \int_0^x h_i y ds,$$

in view of the assumption, we have

$$y \leq A_k \left(f + g_{k+1} \int_0^s h_{k+1} y \, ds \right).$$

cause

$$\int_0^s h_{k+1} y \, ds$$

nondecreasing in x , from (4)

$$y \leq A_k(f) + A_k(g_{k+1}) \int_0^s h_{k+1} y \, ds.$$

According to Lemma 1 we obtain

$$y \leq A_k(f) + A_k(g_{k+1}) \int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(f) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, dt \right) ds = A_{k+1}(f).$$

The proof is complete.

Remark 1. It is easy to show that the estimate here is better than that of Theorem 1 in [1]. Now we prove that under the condition of Theorem 1 in [3], our result is better too.

According to our result, $y(x) \leq A_n(f)$; and according to Theorem 1 in [3],

$$y(x) \leq E^n(f).$$

We will show that $A_n(f) \leq E^n(f)$.

Clearly, $A_0(f) = E^0(f)$. Suppose $A_k(f) \leq E^k(f)$ for $0 \leq k \leq n-1$. Because $g_i(x) \geq 1$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $f(x)$ and $A_k(u)$ are nondecreasing,

$$A_k(f) \leq f A_k(1) \leq f A_k(g_{k+1}) \leq f E^k(g_{k+1}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{k+1}(f) &= A_k(f) + A_k(g_{k+1}) \int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(f) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, dt \right) ds \\ &= A_k(f) - A_k(g_{k+1}) \int_0^s \frac{A_k(f)}{A_k(g_{k+1})} \, ds \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, dt \right) \\ &= A_k(f) - A_k(g_{k+1}) \left[\frac{A_k(f)}{A_k(g_{k+1})} \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, dt \right) \right]_0^s \\ &\quad - \int_0^s \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, dt \right) d \left(\frac{A_k(f)}{A_k(g_{k+1})} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{A_k(f)}{A_k(g_{k+1})} \Big|_{s=0} A_k(g_{k+1}) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, ds \right) \\ &\quad + A_k(g_{k+1}) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, ds \right) \int_0^s d \left(\frac{A_k(f)}{A_k(g_{k+1})} \right) \\ &= A_k(f) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} A_k(g_{k+1}) \, ds \right) \\ &\leq f E^k(g_{k+1}) \exp \left(\int_0^s h_{k+1} E^k(g_{k+1}) \, ds \right) = E^{k+1}(f). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $A_n(f) \leq E^n(f)$.

To see the differences among the three results we give an example.

Example 1. Let

$$y(x) \leq (1+x) + 2 \int_0^x \frac{1}{1+s} y(s) ds + (1+x) \int_0^x \frac{3+4s}{(1+3s+2s^2)^2} y(s) ds.$$

We have

$$f(x) = g_2(x) = 1+x, \quad g_1(x) = 2, \quad h_1(x) = \frac{1}{1+x}, \quad h_2(x) = \frac{3+4x}{(1+3x+2x^2)^2}.$$

Then

$$A_1(f) = A_1(g_2) = (1+x) + 2 \int_0^x \exp\left(2 \int_s^x \frac{dt}{1+t}\right) ds = 1+3x+2x^2.$$

According to (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) &\leq (1+3x+2x^2) + (1+3x+2x^2) \int_0^x \frac{3+4s}{(1+3s+2s^2)^2} \exp\left(\int_s^x \frac{3+4t}{1+3t+2t^2} dt\right) ds \\ &= (1+3x+2x^2) \left[1 + (1+3x+2x^2) \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+3x+2x^2}\right)\right] \\ &= (1+3x+2x^2)^2. \end{aligned}$$

According to Theorem 1 in [1],

$$\begin{aligned} D_1 W_0 &= (1+x) + 2 \left[\exp\left(2 \int_0^x \frac{ds}{1+s}\right) \right] \int_0^x ds = 1+3x+4x^2+2x^3, \\ y(x) &\leq E_2 W_0 = D_2(D_1 W_0) \\ &= (1+3x+4x^2+2x^3) \left[1 + \exp\left(\int_0^x \frac{3+4s}{(1+3s+2s^2)^2} (1+3s+4s^2+2s^3) ds\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_0^x \frac{3+4s}{(1+3s+2s^2)^2} (1+3s+4s^2+2s^3) ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} E_2 W_0 &> (1+3x+4x^2+2x^3) \left[1 + \int_0^x \frac{3+4s}{1+3s+2s^2} \exp\left(\int_s^x \frac{3+4t}{1+3t+2t^2} dt\right) ds\right] \\ &= (1+3x+4x^2+2x^3) (1+3x+2x^2). \end{aligned}$$

According to Theorem 1 in [2],

$$\begin{aligned} E^1(f) &= E^1(g_2) = 2(1+x) \exp\left(2 \int_0^x \frac{ds}{1+s}\right) = 2(1+x)^3, \\ y(x) &\leq E^2(f) = 2(1+x)^4 \exp\left(2 \int_0^x \frac{(3+4s)(1+s)^3}{(1+3s+2s^2)^2} ds\right). \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that

$$E^2(f) \geq 2(1+x)^4 e^{2x} \geq (1+3x+2x^2)^3 + 2(1+x)^4 (e^x - x - 1).$$

The differences among the estimates are quite large.

§ 2. Generalizations of Nonlinear Integral Inequalities

1. The case $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$

Here we quote a definition of a function class $\mathcal{F}$ given by [6].

Definition. A function $w: R_+ \rightarrow R_+$ is said to belong to a function class $\mathcal{F}$ if it

satisfies the following conditions:

- a) $w(u) \geq 0$ is nondecreasing and continuous on R_+ ,
 b) $\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right)$ for $u \geq 0, v \geq 1$. (5)

To see a property of $\mathcal{F}$ and its width, we give the following lemma.

Lemma 3. 1) If $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$, then $w(u)$ is subadditive;

2) If $w(u)$ satisfies a) and is convex on R_+ , then $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$.

Proof 1) For any $u, v \in R_+$, without loss of generality, we assume $v \leq u$. Then $= \lambda u, 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$. Because $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$, $w(u)$ satisfies (5). Hence

$$\frac{1}{1+\lambda} w[(1+\lambda)u] \leq w(u),$$

e.,

$$w(u+\lambda u) \leq w(u) + \lambda w(u).$$

Using (5) again we obtain

$$w(u+v) \leq w(u) + w(v). \quad (6)$$

$w(u)$ is subadditive.

2) Let $w(u)$ is convex on R_+ , i. e.,

$$w(\alpha u_1 + \beta u_2) \geq \alpha w(u_1) + \beta w(u_2) \text{ for } \alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0, \alpha + \beta = 1. \quad (7)$$

Let $u_1 = u, u_2 = 0$ in (7). Considering $w(0) \geq 0$, we get

$$\alpha w(u) \leq w(\alpha u) \text{ for } 0 \leq \alpha \leq 1.$$

For fixed $v \geq 1$, let

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{v}.$$

Since

$$\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right).$$

Therefore $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$.

Lemma 3 explains that all nonnegative, nondecreasing and convex functions belong to $\mathcal{F}$. In fact, besides those functions, there are many functions in $\mathcal{F}$. For instance

$$w(u) = u \left(1 + \sin \frac{\pi}{2(u+1)} \right)$$

is not a convex function, but we can prove that it is in $\mathcal{F}$.

Lemma 4. Suppose $f(x) \geq 0, g(x) > 0, h(x) \geq 0$ and $y(x)$ are continuous on R_+ , $y(x) \in \mathcal{F}$. If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds, \quad x \in R_+, \quad (8)$$

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \right], \quad x \in R_+,$$

where

$$G(u) = \int_u^{\infty} \frac{ds}{w(s)}, \quad u_0 > 0, u \geq 0,$$

$$\bar{g}(x) = \max \{g(x), 1\}.$$

Proof Assume $y(x)$ is a solution of (8), denote $z(x) = \max\{y(x), 0\}$, $x \in R_+$, then $z(x)$ is also a solution of (8), i. e.,

$$z(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) w(z(s)) ds. \quad (9)$$

At first, consider the case for $g(x) \equiv 1$. Define

$$R(x) = \int_0^x h(s) w(z(s)) ds, \quad x \in R_+.$$

Then

$$R'(x) = h(x) w(z(x)).$$

From $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$, we know that

$$R'(x) \leq h(x) [w(f(x)) + w(R(x))].$$

Integrating both sides from 0 to x , we get

$$R(x) \leq \int_0^x h(s) w(f(s)) ds + \int_0^x h(s) w(R(s)) ds.$$

For any $X \geq 0$, when $x \leq X$,

$$R(x) \leq \int_0^x h(s) w(f(s)) ds + \int_0^x h(s) w(R(s)) ds.$$

Using Bihari's inequality, we have

$$R(x) \leq G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(f(s)) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) ds \right].$$

Letting $x = X$ and replacing X by x , we see that

$$R(x) \leq G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(f(s)) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) ds \right].$$

Therefore

$$z(x) \leq f(x) + G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(f(s)) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) ds \right].$$

When $g(x) \neq 1$, from (9) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z(x)}{g(x)} &\leq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w\left(\frac{z(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds \\ &\leq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w\left(\frac{z(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting

$$\frac{z(x)}{g(x)}, \quad \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, \quad h(x) \bar{g}(x)$$

for $z(x)$, $f(x)$, $h(x)$ in (10) respectively, we have

$$\frac{z(x)}{g(x)} \leq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \right]$$

i. e.,

$$z(x) \leq f(x) + g(x)G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w \left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)} \right) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \right].$$

Noting that $y(x) \leq z(x)$, the result inequality becomes true. $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$ implies that

$$\int_{u_0}^u \frac{ds}{w(s)} = \infty.$$

In fact,

$$\frac{w(u)}{u} \leq w(1)$$

or $u \geq 1$, i. e., $w(u) \leq w(1)u$, which follows

$$\int_1^\infty \frac{ds}{w(s)} \geq \int_1^\infty \frac{ds}{w(1)s} = \infty.$$

$$G \left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w \left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)} \right) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \in \text{Dom}(G^{-1})$$

for any $x \in R_+$. The proof is complete.

Example 2. Let

$$y(x) \leq 4x^2 e^x + e^x \int_0^x e^{-s} y^{1/2}(s) ds.$$

Then

$$w(u) = \sqrt{u}, \quad G(u) = \int_0^u \frac{ds}{\sqrt{s}} = 2\sqrt{u}, \quad G^{-1}(u) = (u/2)^2.$$

According to Lemma 4

$$y(x) \leq 4x^2 e^x + e^x G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x 2s ds \right) + \int_0^x ds \right]$$

$$= 4x^2 e^x + e^x G^{-1}[3x] = \frac{25}{4} x^2 e^x.$$

It according to Lemma 1 in [7], let

$$w(u) = \sqrt{u}, \quad \mu(v) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{v}},$$

$$y(x) \leq 4x^2 e^x w^{-1} \left\{ w(1) + \frac{e^x}{2x e^{x/2}} \int_0^x e^{-s} ds \right\}$$

$$= 4x^2 e^x \left[1 + \frac{1}{4x} (e^{x/2} - e^{-x/2}) \right]^2.$$

Since $e^{x/2} - e^{-x/2} > x (x > 0)$, the former is much more accurate than the latter.

Theorem 2. Suppose $f(x)$, $g(x)$, $\bar{g}(x)$, $h(x)$, $y(x)$ and $w(u)$ are defined as in Lemma 4, $\psi(u) \geq 0$ is nondecreasing, continuous on R_+ . If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds \right),$$

then

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left\{ F^{-1} \left[F \left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w \left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)} \right) ds \right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \right] \right\}, \quad x \in [0, b),$$

where

$$F(u) = \int_{u_0}^u \frac{ds}{w(\psi(s))}, \quad u_0 > 0, \quad u \geq 0,$$

$$b = \sup_{x \in R_+} \left\{ x: F\left(\int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds\right) + \int_0^x h(s) \bar{g}(s) ds \in \text{Dom}(F^{-1}) \right\}.$$

The proof is similar to that of Lemma 4, we omit it here.

Theorem 3. Suppose $f(x)$, $g_i(x)$ and $h_i(x)$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) are defined as in Theorem 1, $w(u)$, $\psi(u)$ as in Theorem 2, $g_{n+1}(x) > 0$, $h_{n+1}(x) \geq 0$ are continuous on R . If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds \\ + g_{n+1}(x) \psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s) w(y(s)) ds\right),$$

then

$$y \leq A_n(f) + A_n(g_{n+1}) \psi\left\{F^{-1}\left[F\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1} \bar{A}_n(g_{n+1}) w\left(\frac{A_n(f)}{A_n(g_{n+1})}\right) ds\right) + \int_0^x h_{n+1} \bar{A}_n(g_{n+1}) ds\right]\right\}, \quad x \in [0, b)$$

where

$$F(s) = \int_{u_0}^s \frac{ds}{w(\psi(s))}, \quad u_0 > 0, \quad u \geq 0,$$

$A_{n+1}(u)$ is defined as in Theorem 1,

$$\bar{A}_n(g_{n+1}) = \max\{A_n(g_{n+1}), 1\}, \quad x \in R_+,$$

the determination of b must make F^{-1} have definition.

Proof. To simplify the notation, let

$$\psi(\cdot) = \psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1} w(y) ds\right).$$

Therefore

$$y \leq (f + g_{n+1} \psi(\cdot)) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i \int_0^x h_i y ds.$$

According to Theorem 1

$$y \leq A_n(f + g_{n+1} \psi(\cdot)).$$

Noting that

$$\psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1} w(y) ds\right)$$

is nondecreasing in x , from (4) we get

$$y \leq A_n(f) + A_n(g_{n+1}) \psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1} w(y) ds\right).$$

According to Theorem 2, the conclusion holds.

2. The case that $w(u)$ is a concave function

Lemma 5. Suppose $w(u)$ is nonnegative and concave on R_+ , $w(0) = 0$. Then

$$\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right) \text{ for } u \geq 0, \quad 0 < v \leq 1.$$

Proof By definition, $w(u)$ is concave, which implies that

$$w(\alpha u_1 + \beta u_2) \leq \alpha w(u_1) + \beta w(u_2) \text{ for } \alpha \geq 0, \beta \geq 0, \alpha + \beta = 1.$$

Letting

$$\alpha = v, u_1 = \frac{u}{v}, u_2 = 0,$$

and considering $w(0) = 0$, we have

$$w(u) \leq vw\left(\frac{u}{v}\right),$$

i. e.,

$$\frac{1}{v} w(u) \leq w\left(\frac{u}{v}\right).$$

Lemma 6. Suppose $f(x) \geq 0$, $h(x) \geq 0$, $0 < g(x) \leq 1$, and $y(x)$ are continuous on R_+ , $w(0) = 0$, w is nonnegative and concave on R_+ . If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds, \quad x \in R_+, \quad (12)$$

then

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) H^{-1} \left[H \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) g(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha g(s)}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) g(s) ds \right], \quad x \in [0, b]$$

for $\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 0$, $\alpha + \beta = 1$, where

$$H(u) = \int_u^\infty \frac{ds}{w(s/\beta)}, \quad u_0 > 0, u \geq 0,$$

and the determination of b must make H^{-1} have definition.

Proof Assume that $y(x)$ is a solution of (12). Denote $z(x) = \max\{y(x), 0\}$. Then $z(x)$ is also a solution of (12), i. e.,

$$z(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \int_0^x h(s) w(z(s)) ds. \quad (13)$$

At first, consider the case for $g(x) \equiv 1$. Define

$$R(x) = \int_0^x h(s) w(z(s)) ds.$$

Then

$$R'(x) = h(x) w(z(x)) \leq h(x) w[f(x) + R(x)].$$

Since $w(u)$ is concave, we have

$$R'(x) = h(x) w \left[\alpha \left(\frac{f(x)}{\alpha} \right) + \beta \left(\frac{R(x)}{\beta} \right) \right] \leq \alpha h(x) w \left(\frac{f(x)}{\alpha} \right) + \beta h(x) w \left(\frac{R(x)}{\beta} \right)$$

for $\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 0$, $\alpha + \beta = 1$. Integrating both sides from 0 to x , we have

$$R(x) \leq \alpha \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha}\right) ds + \beta \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{R(s)}{\beta}\right) ds.$$

For any $X > 0$, when $x \leq X$,

$$R(x) \leq \alpha \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha}\right) ds + \beta \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{R(s)}{\beta}\right) ds.$$

Using Bihari's inequality, we have

$$R(x) \leq H^{-1} \left[H \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) ds \right].$$

Letting $x = X$ and replacing X by x , we see that

$$R(x) \leq H^{-1} \left[H \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) ds \right].$$

Hence

$$z(x) \leq f(x) + H^{-1} \left[H \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) ds \right]. \quad (14)$$

When $g(x) \equiv 1$, since $0 < g(x) \leq 1$, from (11) and (13) we have

$$\frac{z(x)}{g(x)} \geq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + \int_0^x h(s) g(s) w\left(\frac{z(s)}{g(s)}\right) ds.$$

Substituting

$$\frac{z(x)}{g(x)}, \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}, h(x)g(x)$$

for $z(x)$, $f(x)$, $h(x)$ in (14) respectively, we get

$$\frac{z(x)}{g(x)} \leq \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + H^{-1} \left[H \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) g(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha g(s)}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) g(s) ds \right].$$

Noting that $y(x) \leq z(x)$, we obtain the result.

Theorem 4. Suppose $f(x)$, $g(x)$, $h(x)$, $y(x)$ and $w(u)$ are defined as in Lemma 6, $\psi(u) \geq 0$ is nondecreasing and continuous on R_+ . If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h(s) w(y(s)) ds \right),$$

then

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + g(x) \psi \left\{ I^{-1} \left[I \left(\alpha \int_0^x h(s) g(s) w\left(\frac{f(s)}{\alpha g(s)}\right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^x h(s) g(s) ds \right] \right\}, x \in [0, b)$$

for $\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 0$, $\alpha + \beta = 1$, where

$$I(u) = \int_{u_0}^u \frac{ds}{w(\psi(s)/\beta)}, u_0 > 0, u \geq 0,$$

and the determination of b must make I^{-1} have definition.

The proof is similar to that of Lemma 6.

Theorem 5. Suppose $f(x)$, $g_i(x)$, $h_i(x)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) and $A_{n+1}(u)$ are defined as in Theorem 1, $w(u)$, $\psi(u)$ as in Theorem 4, $h_{n+1}(x) \geq 0$, $g_{n+1}(x) > 0$ are continuous on R_+ , and $A_n(g_{n+1}(x)) \leq 1$. If

$$y(x) \leq f(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) y(s) ds + g_{n+1}(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s) w(y(s)) ds \right),$$

then

$$y \leq A_n(f) + A_n(g_{n+1}) \psi \left\{ I^{-1} \left[I \left(\alpha \int_0^a h_{n+1} A_n(g_{n+1}) w \left(\frac{A_n(f)}{\alpha A_n(g_{n+1})} \right) ds \right) + \beta \int_0^a h_{n+1} A_n(g_{n+1}) ds \right] \right\}, \quad x \in [0, b]$$

for $\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 0$, $\alpha + \beta = 1$, where $I(u)$ and b are the same as in Theorem 4.

The proof is similar to that of Theorem 3.

Remark 2. The results of Lemma 6, Theorems 4 and 5 can be easily generalized to the case that $g(x)$ or $A_n(g_{n+1}(x))$ is nonnegative and bounded on R_+ , we omit them here.

§ 3. Applications of the Above Inequalities

In the following, by way of example of the case $w \in \mathcal{F}$, we explain the applications of the above inequalities to Volterra integral equations and differential equations. For the case that $w(u)$ is a concave function we have similar discussion.

1. An estimate of solutions of Volterra integral equation

Theorem 6. Consider equation

$$y(x) = f(x) + \int_0^x k(x, s) y(s) ds, \quad x \in R_+ \quad (15)$$

Suppose 1) $k(x, s)$ ($x \geq s$) are nonnegative and continuous on $R_+ \times R_+$, and

$$\frac{\partial k(x, s)}{\partial x} \leq \sum_{i=1}^n q_i(x) h_i(s),$$

$$k(x, x) \leq m(x);$$

2) $f(x)$, $q_i(x)$, $h_i(x)$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) are defined as in Theorem 1;

3) $m(x) \geq 0$ is continuous on R_+ .

Then

$$|y(x)| \leq A_n(p), \quad x \in R_+,$$

where

$$p(x) = f(x) + \int_0^x f(s) m(s) \exp \left(\int_s^x m(t) dt \right) ds,$$

$$g_i(x) = \int_0^x q_i(x) \exp \left(\int_s^x m(t) dt \right) ds, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n,$$

$A_n(u)$ is defined as in Theorem 1.

Proof From (15) we have

$$|y(x)| \leq f(x) + \int_0^x k(x, s) |y(s)| ds.$$

By a deduction similar to [2, 619], we obtain

$$|y(x)| \leq p(x) + \sum_{i=1}^n g_i(x) \int_0^x h_i(s) |y(s)| ds.$$

The conclusion is true from Theorem 1.

Theorem 7. Consider equation

$$y(x) = f(x) + \int_0^x k(x, s)y(s)ds + \psi\left(\int_0^x k^*(x, s)w(y(s))ds\right), \quad x \in R_+.$$

Suppose 1) $f(x) \geq 0$ is continuous on R_+ , $w(u) \in \mathcal{F}$, $\psi(u) \geq 0$ is nondecreasing, submultiplicative and continuous on R_+ ;

2) $k(x, s)$ is defined as in Theorem 6;

3) $k^*(x, s)$ ($x \geq s$) is nonnegative and continuous on $R_+ \times R_+$, and

$$k^*(x, x) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial k^*(x, s)}{\partial x} \leq q_{n+1}(x)h_{n+1}(s),$$

where $q_{n+1}(x)$ and $h_{n+1}(x)$ are continuous on R_+ .

Then

$$|y(x)| \leq A_n(p) + A_n(g_{n+1})\psi\left\{F^{-1}\left[F\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}\bar{A}_n(g_{n+1})w\left(\frac{A_n(p)}{A_n(g_{n+1})}\right)ds\right.\right.\right. \\ \left.\left.\left. + \int_0^x h_{n+1}\bar{A}(g_{n+1})ds\right)\right]\right\}, \quad x \in [0, b),$$

where $p(x)$, $g_i(x)$ ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$), $A_n(u)$ and b are the same as in Theorem 6, and

$$g_{n+1}(x) = r(x) + \int_0^x r(s)m(s)\exp\left(\int_s^x m(t)dt\right)ds,$$

$$r(x) = \psi\left(\int_0^x q_{n+1}(s)ds\right),$$

$$\bar{A}_{n+1}(g_{n+1}) = \max\{A_{n+1}(g_{n+1}), 1\}, \quad x \in R_+.$$

Proof Denote

$$R(x) = \int_0^x k^*(x, s)w(y(s))ds.$$

According to [2, p. 626],

$$R(x) \leq \int_0^x q_{n+1}(s)ds \int_0^x h_{n+1}(s)w(|y(s)|)ds,$$

$$\psi(R(s)) \leq r(x)\psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s)w(|y(s)|)ds\right).$$

Let $T(x) = f(x) + \psi(R(x))$, then

$$T(x) \leq f(x) + r(x)\psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s)w(|y(s)|)ds\right),$$

and

$$|y(x)| \leq T(x) + \int_0^x k(x, s)|y(s)|ds.$$

According to Theorem 6,

$$|y(x)| \leq A_n(\bar{p}),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{p}(x) &= T(x) + \int_0^x T(s)m(s)\exp\left(\int_s^x m(t)dt\right)ds \\ &\leq \left[f + \int_0^x f m \exp\left(\int_s^x m dt\right)ds\right] \\ &\quad + \left[r + \int_0^x r m \exp\left(\int_s^x m dt\right)ds\right]\psi\left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}w(|y|)ds\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= p(x) + g_{n+1}(x) \psi \left(\int_0^x h_{n+1}(s) w(|y(s)|) ds \right).$$

Hence from (4)

$$|y(x)| \leq A_n(p) + A_n(g_{n+1}) \psi \left(\int_0^x h_{n+1} w(|y|) ds \right).$$

Using Theorem 2, we come to the conclusion.

2. An estimate of solutions of a kind of differential equations

Consider equation

$$y'(x) + \alpha(x)y(x) = F(x, y(x)), \quad (16)$$

where y and F are n -dimensional vectors, $\alpha(x)$ is nonnegative and continuous on R_+ , F is continuous on $R_+ \times R_+$.

Theorem 3. Suppose F in (16) satisfies

$$\|F(x, y(x))\| \leq \beta(x) \|y(x)\| + \gamma(x) w(\|y(x)\|), \quad (17)$$

where $\|\cdot\|$ denotes a vector norm, $\beta(x)$ and $\gamma(x)$ are nonnegative and continuous on R_+ . Then all solutions satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \|y(x)\| \leq & \exp \left\{ \int_0^x (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)) ds \right\} \left\{ k + G^{-1} \left[G \left(w(k) \int_0^x \gamma(s) \exp \left(\int_0^s \tau(t) dt \right) ds \right) \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + \int_0^x \gamma(s) \exp \left(\int_0^s \tau(t) ds \right) ds \right] \right\}, \quad x \in [0, b), \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where

$$k = \|y(0)\|, \quad \tau(x) = \max\{\alpha(x), \beta(x)\}.$$

Proof From (16) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\exp \left(\int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) y(x) \right]' &= \exp \left(\int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) F(x, y(x)), \\ y(x) &= \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) \left[y(0) + \int_0^x \exp \left(\int_0^s \alpha(t) dt \right) F(s, y(s)) ds \right], \\ \|y(x)\| &\leq \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) \left[k + \int_0^x \exp \left(\int_0^s \alpha(t) dt \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot (\beta(s) \|y(s)\| + \gamma(s) w(\|y(s)\|)) ds \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= k \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right), \\ g_1(x) &= g_2(x) = \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right), \\ h_1(x) &= \beta(x) \exp \left(\int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right), \\ h_2(x) &= \gamma(x) \exp \left(\int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} A_1(f) &= k \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) \\ &\quad + \exp \left(- \int_0^x \alpha(s) ds \right) \int_0^x k \beta(s) \exp \left(\int_0^s \beta(t) dt \right) ds \\ &= k \exp \left(\int_0^x (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)) ds \right), \end{aligned}$$

$$A_1(g_2) = \exp \left(\int_0^x (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)) ds \right),$$

$$h_2 \bar{A}_1(g_2) = \gamma(x) \exp \left(\int_0^x \tau(s) ds \right),$$

where $\tau(x) = \max\{\alpha(x), \beta(x)\}$. According to Theorem 3,

$$\|y(x)\| = k \exp \left(\int_0^x (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)) ds \right) + \exp \left(\int_0^x (\beta(s) - \alpha(s)) ds \right) G^{-1} \left[G \left(\int_0^x \gamma(s) \exp \left(\int_0^s \tau(t) dt \right) w(k) ds \right) + \int_0^x \gamma(s) \exp \left(\int_0^s \tau(t) dt \right) ds \right].$$

From Theorem 8, we can easily obtain

Corollary 1. In addition to the conditions in Theorem 8, let

$$1) \int_0^\infty \tau(x) dx < +\infty,$$

$$2) \int_0^\infty \gamma(x) dx < +\infty.$$

Then every solution of (15) is bounded.

Corollary 2. In addition to the conditions in Theorem 8 and Corollary 1, let $w(0) = 0$ and

$$\int_0^\delta \frac{ds}{w(s)} = +\infty \quad (\delta > 0). \quad (19)$$

Then the zero solution of (16) is stable.

In fact, from (16), (17), we see that equation (16) has zero solution. Condition (10) implies $G(u) \rightarrow -\infty$, as $u \rightarrow 0$, i. e., $G^{-1}(u) \rightarrow 0$, as $u \rightarrow -\infty$. Let k be sufficiently small in (18). Considering (19), we can conclude $\|y(x)\|$ must be sufficiently small

References

- [1] Willett, D., A linear generalization of Gronwall's inequality, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **16** (1965), 774—778.
- [2] Dhongade, U. D. & Deo, S. G., Pointwise estimates of solutions of some Volterra integral equations, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, **45** (1974), 615—628.
- [3] Dhongade, U. D. & Deo, S. G., Some generalization of Bellman-Bihari integral inequalities, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, **44** (1973), 218—226.
- [4] Dhongade, U. D. & Deo, S. G., Nonlinear generalization of Bihari's inequality, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **54** (1976), 211—216.
- [5] Beesack, P. R., On integral inequalities of Bihari type, *Acta Math. Acad. Sci. Hungar.*, **28** (1976), 81—88.
- [6] Beesacks P. R., On Lakshmikantham's comparison method for Gronwall inequalities, *Ann. Polon. Math.*, **35** (1977), 187—222.
- [7] Yang Enhao, A generalization of Bihari's inequality and its applications to nonlinear Volterra integral equations, *Chinese Annals of Mathematics*, **3**: 2 (1982), 209—216.
- [8] Zhang Binggen & Shen Yuyi, A generalization of Bellman-Gronwall integral inequality, *J. Math. Research and Exposition*, **2** (1985), 83—88.