

Research Article

A Class of Iterative Nonlinear Difference Inequality with Weakly Singularity

Chunmiao Huang,¹ Wu-Sheng Wang,¹ and Xiaoliang Zhou²

¹ School of Mathematics and Statistics, Hechi University, Yizhou, Guangxi 546300, China

² Department of Mathematics, Zhanjiang Normal University, Zhanjiang, Guangdong 524088, China

Correspondence should be addressed to Wu-Sheng Wang; wang4896@126.com

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We discuss a class of new nonlinear weakly singular difference inequality, which is solved by change of variable, discrete Hölder inequality, discrete Jensen inequality, the mean-value theorem for integrals and amplification method, and Gamma function. Explicit bound for the unknown function is given clearly. Moreover, an example is presented to show the usefulness of our results.

1. Introduction

Being an important tool in the study of qualitative properties of solutions of differential equations and integral equations, various generalizations of Gronwall inequalities and their applications have attracted great interests of many mathematicians (such as [1–21]). Gronwall-Bellman inequality [22, 23] can be stated as follows: if u and f are nonnegative and continuous functions on an interval $[a, b]$ satisfying

$$u(t) \leq c + \int_a^t f(s)u(s) ds, \quad t \in [a, b], \quad (1)$$

for some constant $c \geq 0$, then

$$u(t) \leq c \exp\left(\int_a^t f(s) ds\right), \quad t \in [a, b]. \quad (2)$$

In 1981, Henry [2] discussed the following linear singular integral inequality:

$$u(t) \leq a + b \int_0^t (t-s)^{\beta-1} u(s) ds. \quad (3)$$

In 2007, Ye et al. [20] discussed linear singular integral inequality:

$$u(t) \leq a(t) + b(t) \int_0^t (t-s)^{\beta-1} u(s) ds. \quad (4)$$

In 2011, Abdeldaim and Yakout [21] studied a new integral inequality of Gronwall-Bellman-Pachpatte type

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) \leq & u_0 + \int_{t_0}^t f(s)u(s) \\ & \times \left[u(s) + \int_{t_0}^s h(\tau) \right. \\ & \left. \times \left[u(\tau) + \int_{t_0}^{\tau} g(\xi)u(\xi) d\xi \right] d\tau \right] ds. \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

On the other hand, many physical problems arising in a wide variety of applications are governed by finite difference equations. The theory of difference equations has been developed as a natural discrete analogue of corresponding theory of differential equations. Difference inequalities which give explicit bounds on unknown functions provide a very useful and important tool in the study of many qualitative as well as quantitative properties of solutions of nonlinear difference equations (such as [24–32]). Sugiyama [26] established the most precise and complete discrete analogue of the Gronwall inequality in the following form:

$$u(n) \leq u_0 + \sum_{s=n_0}^{n-1} f(s)u(s). \quad (6)$$

For instance, Pachpatte [27] considered the following discrete inequality:

$$u(n) \leq u_0 + \sum_{s=n_0}^{n-1} f(s) [u(s) + h(s)] + \sum_{s=n_0}^{n-1} f(s) \left(\sum_{\tau=n_0}^{s-1} g(\tau) u(\tau) \right), \quad \forall n \in N_0. \tag{7}$$

In 2006, Cheung and Ren [29] studied

$$u^p(m, n) \leq c + \sum_{s=m_0}^{m-1} \sum_{t=n_0}^{n-1} a(s, t) u^q(s, t) + \sum_{s=m_0}^{m-1} \sum_{t=n_0}^{n-1} b(s, t) u^q(s, t) w(u(s, t)). \tag{8}$$

Later, Zheng et al. [31] discussed the following discrete inequality:

$$u(n) \leq a(n) + \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f_i(n, s) w_i(u(s)). \tag{9}$$

Motivated by the results given in [2, 20, 21, 32], in this paper, we discuss a new linear singular integral inequality

$$u(n) \leq a(n) + b(n) + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{\beta-1} \tau_s w_1(u(s)) + \left[u(s) + h(s) + \sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\tau)^{\beta-1} \tau_\tau w_2(u(\tau)) \right], \tag{10}$$

where $t_0 = 0$, $\tau_s = t_{s+1} - t_s > 0$, $\sup_{s \in \mathbf{N}, 0 \leq s \leq n-1} \{\tau_s, s \in \mathbf{N}\} = \tau$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$.

For the reader's convenience, we present some necessary lemmas.

Lemma 1 (discrete Jensen inequality [28]). *Let A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n be nonnegative real numbers, $r > 1$ is a real number, and n is a natural number. Then*

$$(A_1 + A_2 + \dots + A_n)^r \leq n^{r-1} (A_1^r + A_2^r + \dots + A_n^r). \tag{11}$$

Lemma 2 (discrete Hölder inequality [30]). *Let a_i, b_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) be nonnegative real numbers, and let p, q be positive numbers such that $(1/q) + (1/p) = 1$; then*

$$\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} a_i b_i \leq \left(\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} a_i^p \right)^{1/p} \left(\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} b_i^q \right)^{1/q}. \tag{12}$$

Lemma 3. *Let $t_0 = 0$, $\tau_s = t_{s+1} - t_s > 0$, $\sup_{s \in \mathbf{N}, 0 \leq s \leq n-1} \{\tau_s, s \in \mathbf{N}\} = \tau$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$. If $\beta \in [0, 1/2]$, $0 < p < 1/(1-\beta)$, then*

$$\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{p(\beta-1)} e^{pt_s} \tau_s \leq \frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1 + p(\beta - 1)), \tag{13}$$

where $1 + p(\beta - 1) > 0$, $\Gamma(\beta) := \int_0^\infty \tau^{\beta-1} e^{-\tau} d\tau$ is the well-known Γ -function.

Proof. By the definition of integration and the conditions in Lemma 3, we have

$$\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{p\beta-p} e^{pt_s} \tau_s \leq \int_0^{t_n} (t_n - s)^{p\beta-p} e^{ps} ds. \tag{14}$$

Using a change of variables $\tau = t_n - s$ and $\xi = p\tau$, we have the estimation

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{t_n} (t_n - s)^{p(\beta-1)} e^{ps} ds &= - \int_{t_n}^0 \tau^{p(\beta-1)} e^{pt_n - p\tau} d\tau \\ &= e^{pt_n} \int_0^{t_n} \tau^{p(\beta-1)} e^{-p\tau} d\tau \\ &= \frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \int_0^{pt_n} \xi^{p(\beta-1)} e^{-\xi} d\xi \\ &\leq \frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1 + p(\beta - 1)). \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Since $0 < \beta \leq 1/2$, $p < 1/(1 - \beta)$, $1 + p(\beta - 1) > 0$, and $\Gamma(1 + p(\beta - 1)) \in R^+$, from (14) and (15), we have the relation (13). \square

2. Main Result

In this section, we give the estimation of unknown function in (10). Let $\mathbf{N} := \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$. For function $z(n)$, its difference is defined by $\Delta z = z(n + 1) - z(n)$. Obviously, the linear difference equation $\Delta z(n) = b(n)$ with the initial condition $z(n_0) = 0$ has the solution $z(n) = \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} b(s)$. For convenience, in the sequel we complementarily define that $\sum_{s=0}^{-1} b(s) = 0$.

Theorem 4. *Suppose that $0 < \beta \leq 1/2$ is a constant, $a(n), b(n)$ are nonnegative and nondecreasing functions defined on \mathbf{N} , $w_1(u), w_2(u)/w_1(u), w_2^q(u^{1/q})/(u w_1^q(u^{1/q}))$ are nonnegative, nondecreasing, and continuous functions defined on \mathbf{R}_+ , $t_0 = 0$, $\tau_s = t_{s+1} - t_s > 0$, $\sup_{s \in \mathbf{N}, 0 \leq s \leq n-1} \{\tau_s, s \in \mathbf{N}\} = \tau$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$. If $u(t)$ satisfies (10), then*

$$u(n) \leq \left\{ H_1^{-1} \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} (U(n)) \right] \right\} \right\}^{1/q}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}_1, \tag{16}$$

where

$$U(n) := H_3 \left(H_2 \left(H_1 \left(2^{q-1} a(n) \right) + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \right) + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} \right) + g(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s}, \tag{17}$$

$$H_1(u) := \int_{c_1}^u \frac{ds}{w_1^q(s^{1/q})}, \quad u > 0, \quad c_1 > 0, \tag{18}$$

$$H_2(u) := \int_{c_2}^u \frac{ds}{H_1^{-1}(s)}, \quad u > 0, \quad c_2 > 0, \tag{19}$$

$$H_3(u) := \int_{c_3}^u \frac{H_2^{-1}(H_1^{-1}(s)) w_1^q \left((H_2^{-1}(H_1^{-1}(s)))^{1/q} \right)}{w_2^q \left((H_2^{-1}(H_1^{-1}(s)))^{1/q} \right)}, \quad u > 0, \quad c_3 > 0, \tag{20}$$

$$f(n) := 6^{q-1} (b(n))^q \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \times \left[\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right]^{q/p}, \tag{21}$$

$$g(n) := \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \left(\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right)^{q/p}, \tag{22}$$

and $p = 1 + \beta$, $q = 1 + 1/\beta$, $\mathbf{N}_1 := \{0, 1, 2, \dots, K_1\}$, K_1 is the largest integer number such that

$$U(K_1) \in \text{Dom}(H_3^{-1}), \quad H_3^{-1}(U(K_1)) \in \text{Dom}(H_2^{-1}), \quad H_2^{-1}(H_3^{-1}(U(K_1))) \in \text{Dom}(H_1^{-1}). \tag{23}$$

Proof. From (10), we have

$$u(n) \leq a(n) + b(n) \times \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{\beta-1} e^{t_s} e^{-t_s} \tau_s w_1(u(s)) \times \left[u(s) + h(s) + \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right], \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}. \tag{24}$$

Applying Lemma 2 with $p = 1 + \beta$, $q = 1 + 1/\beta$ to (24), we obtain that

$$u(n) \leq a(n) + b(n) \tau^{(p-1)/p} \left[\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{p\beta-p} e^{pt_s} \tau_s \right]^{1/p} \times \left[\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \times \left[u(s) + h(s) + \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right]^q \right]^{1/q}, \tag{25}$$

where $\tau_s < \tau$ is used. Applying Lemma 3, we have

$$u(n) \leq a(n) + b(n) \tau^{(p-1)/p} \left[\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right]^{1/p} \times \left[\sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \times \left[u(s) + h(s) + \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right]^q \right]^{1/q}. \tag{26}$$

By discrete Jensen inequality (11) with $n = 2$, $r = q$, from (26) we obtain that

$$u^q(n) \leq 2^{q-1} (a(n))^q + 2^{q-1} (b(n))^q \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \times \left[\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right]^{q/p} \times \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \times \left[u(s) + h(s) + \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right]^q. \tag{27}$$

Again using discrete Jensen inequality (11) with $n = 3, r = q$, from (27) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u^q(n) &\leq 2^{q-1}(a(n))^q + 2^{q-1}(b(n))^q \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \\
 &\quad \times \left[\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right]^{q/p} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[3^{q-1} u^q(s) + 3^{q-1} h^q(s) + 3^{q-1} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \left[\sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right]^q \right], \\
 &\quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

For $[\sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma))]^q$ in (28), applying Lemma 2 with $p = 1 + \beta, q = 1 + 1/\beta$, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left[\sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{\beta-1} \tau_\sigma w_2(u(\sigma)) \right]^q \\
 &\leq \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \left(\sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\sigma)^{p\beta-p} e^{pt_\sigma} \tau_\sigma \right)^{q/p} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(u(\sigma)) \\
 &\leq \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \left(\frac{e^{pt_s}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right)^{q/p} \\
 &\quad \times \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(u(\sigma));
 \end{aligned} \tag{29}$$

here Lemma 3 is used. Substituting (29) into (28), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 u^q(n) &\leq 2^{q-1}(a(n))^q + 2^{q-1}(b(n))^q \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \\
 &\quad \times \left[\frac{e^{pt_n}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right]^{q/p} \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[3^{q-1} u^q(s) + 3^{q-1} h^q(s) + 3^{q-1} \tau^{q(p-1)/p} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \left(\frac{e^{pt_s}}{p^{1+p(\beta-1)}} \Gamma(1+p(\beta-1)) \right)^{q/p} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(u(\sigma)) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2^{q-1}(a(n))^q + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[u^q(s) + h^q(s) + g(s) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(u(\sigma)) \right] \\
 &= 2^{q-1}(a(n))^q + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \\
 &\quad + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(u(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[u^q(s) + g(s) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(u(\sigma)) \right], \\
 &\quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N},
 \end{aligned} \tag{30}$$

where $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ are defined by (21) and (22), respectively. Let $v(n) := u^q(n)$; from (30) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v(n) &\leq 2^{q-1}(a(n))^q + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(s)) \\
 &\quad + f(n) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[v(s) + g(s) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(v^{1/q}(\sigma)) \right], \\
 &\quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

Since $f(n), g(n)$ are nondecreasing functions, from (31) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 v(n) &\leq 2^{q-1}(a(K))^q + f(K) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(s)) \\
 &\quad + f(K) \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(s)) \\
 &\quad \times \left[v(s) + g(K) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{s-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(v^{1/q}(\sigma)) \right], \\
 &\quad \forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N},
 \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

where $K \in \mathbf{N}, K \leq K_1$ is chosen arbitrarily.

Let $z_1(t)$ denote the function on the right-hand side of (32), which is a positive and nondecreasing function on $[0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}$. From (32), we have

$$z_1(0) = 2^{q-1}(a(K))^q, \quad v(n) \leq z_1(n), \quad \forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}. \tag{33}$$

Using $\Delta z_1(n) = z_1(n+1) - z_1(n)$ and (33), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta z_1(n) &= f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad + f(K) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(v^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad \times \left[v(n) + g(K) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(v^{1/q}(\sigma)) \right] \\ &\leq f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad + f(K) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad \times \left[z_1(n) + g(K) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(z_1^{1/q}(\sigma)) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{34}$$

for all $n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}$.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} y(n) &= z_1(n) + g(K) \sum_{\sigma=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_\sigma} w_2^q(z_1^{1/q}(\sigma)), \\ \forall n &\in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

Then

$$y(0) = z_1(0), \quad z_1(n) \leq y(n), \quad \forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}. \tag{36}$$

From (35), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta y(n) &= \Delta z_1(n) + g(K) e^{-qt_n} w_2^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\leq f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad + f(K) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) y(n) \\ &\quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} w_2^q(z_1^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\leq f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n)) \\ &\quad + f(K) e^{-qt_n} w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n)) y(n) \\ &\quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} w_2^q(y^{1/q}(n)). \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

It implies that, for all $n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Delta y(n)}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n))} &\leq f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} + f(K) e^{-qt_n} y(n) \\ &\quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \frac{w_2^q(y^{1/q}(n))}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n))}. \end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

On the other hand, by the mean-value theorem for integrals, for arbitrarily given integers $n, n+1 \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}$, there exists ξ in the open interval $(y(n), y(n+1))$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(y(n+1)) - H_1(y(n)) &= \int_{y(n)}^{y(n+1)} \frac{ds}{w_1^q(s^{1/q})} \\ &= \frac{\Delta y(n)}{w_1^q(\xi^{1/q})} \leq \frac{\Delta y(n)}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n))}, \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

for all $n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}$, where H_1 is defined by (18). From (38) and (39), we have

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(y(n+1)) - H_1(y(n)) &\leq f(K) h^q(n) e^{-qt_n} \\ &\quad + f(K) e^{-qt_n} y(n) \\ &\quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \frac{w_2^q(y^{1/q}(n))}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n))}. \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

Taking $n = s$ in (40) and summing up over s from 0 to $n-1$, from (40) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(y(n)) &\leq H_1(y(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(K) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \\ &\quad + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} y(s) \\ &\quad + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \frac{w_2^q(y^{1/q}(s))}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(s))} \\ &\leq H_1(y(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \end{aligned} \tag{41}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} y(s) \\ &+ \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \frac{w_2^q(y^{1/q}(s))}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(s))}, \\ &\forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $z_2(t)$ denote the function on the right-hand side of (41), which is a positive and nondecreasing function on $[0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}$. From (41), we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_2(0) &= H_1(y(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s}, \\ y(n) &\leq H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)), \\ \forall n &\in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \tag{42}$$

Using $\Delta z_2(n) = z_2(n+1) - z_2(n)$ and (42), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta z_2(n) &= f(K) e^{-qt_n} y(n) + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \frac{w_2^q(y^{1/q}(n))}{w_1^q(y^{1/q}(n))} \\ &\leq f(K) e^{-qt_n} H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)) \\ &\quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \frac{w_2^q\left(\left(H_1^{-1}(z_2(n))\right)^{1/q}\right)}{w_1^q\left(\left(H_1^{-1}(z_2(n))\right)^{1/q}\right)}, \\ \forall n &\in [0, K] \cap \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

From (43), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\Delta z_2(n)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(n))} \\ & \leq f(K) e^{-qt_n} \\ & \quad + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \frac{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}, \end{aligned} \tag{44}$$

for all $n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}$. Again by the mean-value theorem for integrals, for arbitrarily given integers $n, n + 1 \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}$, there exists ξ in the open interval $(z_2(n), z_2(n + 1))$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} H_2(z_2(n + 1)) - H_2(z_2(n)) &= \int_{z_2(n)}^{z_2(n+1)} \frac{ds}{H_1^{-1}(s)} \\ &= \frac{\Delta z_2(n)}{H_1^{-1}(\xi)} \leq \frac{\Delta z_2(n)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(n))}, \end{aligned} \tag{45}$$

where H_2 is defined by (19). From (44) and (45), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & H_2(z_2(n + 1)) - H_2(z_2(n)) \\ & \leq f(K) e^{-qt_n} + g(K) e^{-qt_n} \\ & \quad \times \frac{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}. \end{aligned} \tag{46}$$

Taking $n = s$ in (46) and summing up over s from 0 to $n - 1$, from (46) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & H_2(z_2(n)) \\ & \leq H_2(z_2(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \\ & \quad + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \frac{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)))^{1/q} \right)} \\ & \leq H_2(z_2(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \\ & \quad + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \frac{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)))^{1/q} \right)}, \end{aligned} \tag{47}$$

for all $n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} z_3(n) &= H_2(z_2(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \\ & \quad + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \frac{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)))^{1/q} \right)}{H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(z_2(s)))^{1/q} \right)}. \end{aligned} \tag{48}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} z_3(0) &= H_2(z_2(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s}, \\ z_2(n) &\leq H_2^{-1}(z_3(n)). \end{aligned} \tag{49}$$

From (48) and (49), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{H_1^{-1}(H_2^{-1}(z_3(s))) w_1^q \left((H_1^{-1}(H_2^{-1}(z_3(s))))^{1/q} \right) \Delta z_3(n)}{w_2^q \left((H_1^{-1}(H_2^{-1}(z_3(n))))^{1/q} \right)} \\ & \leq g(K) e^{-qt_n}. \end{aligned} \tag{50}$$

Using the mean-value theorem for integrals, from (50) we have

$$H_3(z_3(n)) \leq H_3(z_3(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s}, \tag{51}$$

where H_3 is defined by (20). From (36), (42), (49), and (51), we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_1(n) &\leq y(n) \leq H_1^{-1}(z_2(n)) \leq H_1^{-1}(H_2^{-1}(z_3(n))) \\ &\leq H_1^{-1} \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} \left(H_3(z_3(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right] \right\} \\ &= H_1^{-1} \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} \left(H_3 \left(H_2(z_2(0)) + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right. \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= H_1^{-1} \\
 &\times \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} \left(H_3 \left(H_2 \left(H_1(z_1(0)) \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right\}, \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

Using $v(n) := u^q(n)$ and (33), from (52) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &u(n) \\
 &= v^{1/q}(n) \leq z_1^{1/q}(n) \\
 &\leq \left\{ H_1^{-1} \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} \left(H_3 \left(H_2 \left(H_1(z_1(0)) \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{K-1} f(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right\}^{1/q}, \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(K) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right\}^{1/q}, \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \forall n \in [0, K] \cap \mathbf{N}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{53}$$

Since K is chosen arbitrarily, from (53) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &u(n) \\
 &\leq \left\{ H_1^{-1} \left\{ H_2^{-1} \left[H_3^{-1} \left(H_3 \left(H_2 \left(H_1(z_1(0)) \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(n) h^q(s) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right) \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} f(n) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right\}^{1/q}, \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. \left. \left. \left. + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} g(n) e^{-qt_s} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right\}^{1/q}, \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \forall n \in \mathbf{N}_1.
 \end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

This is our required estimation (16) of unknown function in (10). \square

3. Application

In this section, we apply our results to discuss the boundedness of solutions of an iterative difference equation with a weakly singular kernel.

Example 5. Suppose that $u(n)$ satisfies the difference equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(n) &= 1 + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{-2/3} \tau_s \\
 &\times \left[x(s) + \sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\tau)^{-2/3} \tau_\tau x(\tau) (\ln |x(\tau)|^4)^{1/4} \right], \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \forall n \in \mathbf{N},
 \end{aligned} \tag{55}$$

where $t_0 = 0$, $\tau_s = t_{s+1} - t_s > 0$, $\sup_{s \in \mathbf{N}, 0 \leq s \leq n-1} \{\tau_s, s \in \mathbf{N}\} = \tau$, and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} t_n = \infty$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 |x(n)| &\leq 1 + \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} (t_n - t_s)^{-2/3} \tau_s \\
 &\times \left[|x(s)| + \sum_{\tau=0}^{s-1} (t_s - t_\tau)^{-2/3} \right. \\
 &\qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \times \tau_\tau |x(\tau)| (\ln |x(\tau)|^4)^{1/4} \right],
 \end{aligned} \tag{56}$$

for all $n \in \mathbf{N}$. Let $a(n) \equiv b(n) \equiv 1$, $h(n) \equiv 0$, $\beta = 1/3$, $p = 4/3$, $q = 4$, $w_1(u) \equiv 1$, $w_2(u) = u(\ln u^4)^{1/4}$. From (18) to (20) we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_1(u) &:= \int_0^u ds = u, \quad u > 0, \quad H_1(\infty) = \infty, \\
 H_1^{-1}(u) &= u, \\
 H_2(u) &:= \int_1^u \frac{ds}{s} = \ln u, \quad u > 0, \quad H_2(\infty) = \infty, \\
 H_2^{-1}(u) &= e^u, \\
 H_3(u) &:= \int_1^u \frac{ds}{s} = \ln u, \quad u > 0, \quad H_3(\infty) = \infty, \\
 H_3^{-1}(u) &= e^u, \\
 f(n) &:= 6^3 \tau \left[\frac{e^{4t_n/3}}{(4/3)^{1/9}} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) \right]^3, \\
 g(n) &:= \tau \left(\frac{e^{4t_n/3}}{(4/3)^{1/9}} \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) \right)^3.
 \end{aligned} \tag{57}$$

Using Theorem 4, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(n) &\leq \left\{ \exp \left[\exp \left(\ln \left(\ln 8 + 6^3 \tau \left[\frac{e^{4t_n/3}}{(4/3)^{1/9}} \Gamma \left(\frac{1}{9} \right) \right]^3 \right. \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. \left. \times \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} \right) \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. \left. + \tau \left(\frac{e^{4t_n/3}}{(4/3)^{1/9}} \Gamma \left(\frac{1}{9} \right) \right)^3 \right. \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. \left. \times \sum_{s=0}^{n-1} e^{-qt_s} \right) \right] \right\}^{1/q}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbf{N},
 \end{aligned} \tag{58}$$

which is an upper bound of $|x(n)|$ in (55).

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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