

RESEARCH

Open Access



A class of singular n -dimensional impulsive Neumann systems

Ping Li, Meiqiang Feng* and Minmin Wang

*Correspondence: meiqiangfeng@sina.com
School of Applied Science, Beijing Information Science & Technology University, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Abstract

This paper investigates the existence of infinitely many positive solutions for the second-order n -dimensional impulsive singular Neumann system

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbf{x}''(t) + M\mathbf{x}(t) &= \lambda \mathbf{g}(t)\mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)), \quad t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta \mathbf{x}'|_{t=t_k} &= \mu \mathbf{I}_k(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \\ \mathbf{x}'(0) &= \mathbf{x}'(1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The vector-valued function \mathbf{x} is defined by

$$\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^T, \quad \mathbf{g}(t) = \text{diag}[g_1(t), \dots, g_i(t), \dots, g_n(t)],$$

where $g_i \in L^p[0, 1]$ for some $p \geq 1$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and it has infinitely many singularities in $[0, \frac{1}{2})$. Our methods employ the fixed point index theory and the inequality technique.

Keywords: Multi-parameter; n -dimensional impulsive Neumann system; Infinitely many singularities; Matrix theory; Fixed point index theory and inequality technique

1 Introduction

Impulsive differential equations have gained considerable importance due to their varied applications in many problems of physics, chemistry, biology, applied sciences and engineering. For details and explanations, we refer the reader to Refs. [1–9]. In particular, great interest has been shown by many authors in the subject of impulsive boundary value problems (IBVPs), and a variety of results for IBVPs equipped with different kinds of boundary conditions have been obtained, for instance, see [10–28] and the references cited therein.

However, there is almost no paper on second-order n -dimensional impulsive systems, especially for multi-parameter second-order n -dimensional impulsive singular Neumann systems. In this paper, we will introduce this new problem and discuss the existence of infinitely many positive solutions.

Consider the n -dimensional nonlinear second-order impulsive Neumann system

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathbf{x}''(t) + M\mathbf{x}(t) &= \lambda \mathbf{g}(t)\mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}(t)), \quad t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta \mathbf{x}'|_{t=t_k} &= \mu \mathbf{I}_k(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

with the following boundary conditions:

$$\mathbf{x}'(0) = \mathbf{x}'(1) = 0, \tag{1.2}$$

where λ and μ are positive parameters and M is a positive constant, $J = [0, 1]$, $t_k \in \mathbb{R}$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ satisfy $0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_k < \dots < t_n < 1$. In addition,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^\top, \\ \mathbf{g}(t) &= \text{diag}[g_1(t), g_2(t), \dots, g_n(t)], \\ \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{x}) &= [f_1(t, \mathbf{x}), \dots, f_i(t, \mathbf{x}), \dots, f_n(t, \mathbf{x})]^\top, \\ \mathbf{I}_k(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) &= [I_k^1(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)), \dots, I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)), \dots, I_k^n(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k))]^\top, \\ -\Delta \mathbf{x}'|_{t=t_k} &= [-\Delta x'_1|_{t=t_k}, -\Delta x'_2|_{t=t_k}, \dots, -\Delta x'_n|_{t=t_k}]^\top, \end{aligned}$$

here

$$f_i(t, \mathbf{x}) = f_i(t, x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n), \quad I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}) = I_k^i(t_k, x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n).$$

Therefore, system (1.1) means that

$$\begin{cases} -x''_1(t) + Mx_1(t) = \lambda g_1(t)f_1(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)), & t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta x'_1|_{t=t_k} = \mu I_k^1(t_k, x_1(t_k), x_2(t_k), \dots, x_n(t_k)), & k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \\ -x''_2(t) + Mx_2(t) = \lambda g_2(t)f_2(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)), & t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta x'_2|_{t=t_k} = \mu I_k^2(t_k, x_1(t_k), x_2(t_k), \dots, x_n(t_k)), & k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \\ \dots, \\ -x''_n(t) + Mx_n(t) = \lambda g_n(t)f_n(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)), & t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta x'_n|_{t=t_k} = \mu I_k^n(t_k, x_1(t_k), x_2(t_k), \dots, x_n(t_k)), & k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \end{cases} \tag{1.3}$$

where $-\Delta x'_i|_{t=t_k} = x'_i((t_k)^+) - x'_i((t_k)^-)$ and in which $x'_i((t_k)^+)$ and $x'_i((t_k)^-)$ denote the right-hand limit and left-hand limit of $x'_i(t)$ at $t = t_k$, respectively.

Similarly, (1.2) means that

$$\begin{cases} x'_1(0) = x'_1(1) = 0, \\ x'_2(0) = x'_2(1) = 0, \\ \dots, \\ x'_n(0) = x'_n(1) = 0. \end{cases} \tag{1.4}$$

By a solution \mathbf{x} to system (1.1)–(1.2), we understand a vector-valued function $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^\top \in C^2(J, \mathbb{R}^n)$, which satisfies (1.1) and (1.2) for $t \in J$. In addition, for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$, $x_i(t_k^+)$ and $x_i(t_k^-)$ exist and $x_i(t)$ is absolutely continuous on each interval $(0, t_1]$ and $(t_k, t_{k+1}]$. A solution is positive if, for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $x_i(t) > 0$ for all $t \in J$ and there is at least one nontrivial component of \mathbf{x} is positive on J .

For the case of $n = 1$, $\lambda = 1$ and $\mathbf{I}_k \equiv 0$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$, system (1.1)–(1.2) reduces to the problem studied by Sun, Cho and O'Regan in [29]. By using a cone fixed point theorem,

the authors obtained some sufficient conditions for the existence of positive solutions in Banach spaces. Very recently, in the case $n = 1, M = 0, \lambda = 1$ and $\mathbf{I}_k \equiv 0, k = 1, 2, \dots, m$, Sovrano and Zanolin [30] presented a multiplicity result of positive solutions for system (1.1)–(1.2) by applying shooting method. For other excellent results on Neumann boundary value problems, we refer the reader to the references [31–42].

Here we emphasize that our problem is new in the sense of multi-parameter second-order n -dimensional impulsive singular Neumann systems introduced here. To the best of our knowledge, the existence of single or multiple positive solutions for multi-parameter second-order n -dimensional impulsive singular Neumann systems (1.1)–(1.2) has not yet to be studied, especially for the existence of infinitely many positive solutions for system (1.1)–(1.2). In consequence, our main results of the present work will be a useful contribution to the existing literature on the topic of second-order n -dimensional impulsive singular Neumann systems. The existence of infinitely many positive solutions for the given problem are new, though they are proved by applying the well-known method based on the fixed index theory in cones and the inequality technique.

Throughout this paper, we use $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, unless otherwise stated.

Let the components of \mathbf{g}, \mathbf{f} and \mathbf{I}_k satisfy the following conditions:

- (H₁) $g_i(t) \in L^p[0, 1]$ for some $p \in [1, +\infty)$, and there exists $N_i > 0$ such that $g_i(t) \geq N_i$ a.e. on J ;
- (H₂) for every $g_i(t), i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, there exists a sequence $\{t'_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ such that $t'_1 < \delta$, where $\delta = \min\{t_1, \frac{1}{2}\}$, $t'_j \downarrow t'_0 > 0$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow t'_j} g_i(t) = +\infty$ for all $j = 1, 2, \dots$;
- (H₃) $f_i(t, \mathbf{x}) \in C(J \times R_+^n, R_+), I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \in C(J \times R_+^n, R_+)$, where $R^+ = [0, +\infty)$ and $R_+^n = \prod_{i=1}^n R_+$.

Remark 1.1 It is not difficult to see that the condition (H₂) plays an important role in the proof of Theorem 3.1, and there are many functions satisfying (H₂), for detail to see Example 3.1.

Remark 1.2 From the proof of the main results reported by Sovrano and Zanolin [30], it is not difficult to see that $f(t, u) > 0$ for $u > 0$ is an important condition, although we consider the multiplicity of positive solution on the parameter λ and μ without using it, for detail, to see Theorem 3.1.

Our plan of this article is as follows. In Sect. 2, we collect some well-known results to be used in the subsequent sections and present several new properties of Green’s function, which plays a pivotal role in obtaining the main results given in Sect. 3. In the final section, we also give an example of a family of diagonal matrix functions $\mathbf{g}(t)$ such that (H₂) holds.

2 Preliminaries

Let $J' = J \setminus \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m\}$ and $E = C[0, 1]$. We define $PC_1[0, 1]$ in E by

$$PC_1[0, 1] = \{x \in E : x'(t) \in C(t_k, t_{k+1}), \exists x'(t_k^-), x'(t_k^+), k = 1, 2, \dots, m\}. \tag{2.1}$$

Then $PC_1[0, 1]$ is a real Banach space with the norm

$$\|x\|_{PC_1} = \max\{\|x\|_\infty, \|x'\|_\infty\},$$

where $\|x\|_\infty = \sup_{t \in J} |x(t)|, \|x'\|_\infty = \sup_{t \in J} |x'(t)|$.

Let $PC_1^n[0, 1] = \underbrace{PC_1[0, 1] \times \dots \times PC_1[0, 1]}_n$, and, for any $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^T \in PC_1^n[0, 1]$,

$$\|\mathbf{x}\| = \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|_{PC_1}. \tag{2.2}$$

Then $(PC_1^n[0, 1], \|\cdot\|)$ is a real Banach space.

Suppose that $G(t, s)$ is the Green’s function of the boundary value problem

$$-x_i''(t) + Mx_i(t) = 0, \quad x_i'(0) = x_i'(1) = 0,$$

then

$$G(t, s) = \frac{1}{\gamma \sinh \gamma} \begin{cases} \cosh \gamma(1 - t) \cosh \gamma s, & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1, \\ \cosh \gamma(1 - s) \cosh \gamma t, & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1, \end{cases} \tag{2.3}$$

where $\cosh t = \frac{e^t + e^{-t}}{2}, \sinh t = \frac{e^t - e^{-t}}{2}, \gamma = \sqrt{M}$.

It is obvious that

$$A = \frac{1}{\gamma \sinh \gamma} \leq G(t, s) \leq \frac{\cosh \gamma}{\gamma \sinh \gamma} = B, \quad \forall t, s \in J, \tag{2.4}$$

and then we have

$$A \leq G(s, s) \leq B, \quad \forall s \in J.$$

Lemma 2.1 *For any $\theta \in (t'_0, \delta)$, there is*

$$\frac{\cosh \gamma \theta}{\gamma \sinh \gamma} \leq G(t, s) \leq \frac{\cosh \gamma \theta \cosh \gamma(1 - \theta)}{\gamma \sinh \gamma}, \quad \forall t \in [\theta, 1], s \in J. \tag{2.5}$$

Proof We get Eq. (2.5) easily by the definition of $G(t, s)$, we omit it here. □

To establish the existence of positive solutions to system (1.1)–(1.2), for a fixed $\theta \in (t'_0, \delta)$, we construct the cone \mathbf{K}_θ in $PC_1^n[0, 1]$ by

$$\mathbf{K}_\theta = \left\{ \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in PC_1^n[0, 1] : \begin{aligned} &x_i(t) \geq 0, \\ &i = 1, 2, \dots, n, t \in J, \min_{t \in [\theta, 1]} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i(t) \geq \sigma \|\mathbf{x}\| \end{aligned} \right\}, \tag{2.6}$$

where

$$\sigma = \frac{\cosh \gamma \theta}{\rho \gamma \sinh \gamma}, \tag{2.7}$$

here ρ is defined by

$$\rho = \max\{B, \sinh \gamma\}, \tag{2.8}$$

and it is easy to see \mathbf{K}_θ is a closed convex cone of $PC_1^n[0, 1]$.

Let $\{\theta_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be such that $t'_{j+1} < \theta_j < t'_j, j = 1, 2, \dots$. Then we get $0 < \dots < t'_{j+1} < \theta_j < t'_j < \dots < t'_3 < \theta_2 < t'_2 < \theta_1 < t'_1 < \delta \leq t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_m < 1$, and then, for any $j \in \mathbb{N}$, we can define the cone \mathbf{K}_{θ_j} by

$$\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in PC_1^n[0, 1] : x_i(t) \geq 0, t \in J, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i(t) \geq \sigma_j \|\mathbf{x}\| \right\}, \tag{2.9}$$

where

$$\sigma_j = \frac{\cosh \gamma \theta_j}{\rho \gamma \sinh \gamma}, \tag{2.10}$$

here ρ is defined by (2.8), and

$$\theta_j \in [t'_{j+1}, t'_j], \quad j = 1, 2, \dots \tag{2.11}$$

It is easy to see \mathbf{K}_{θ_j} is also a closed convex cone of $PC_1^n[0, 1]$.

Also, for a positive number τ , define $\mathbf{K}_{\tau\theta_j}$ by

$$\mathbf{K}_{\tau\theta_j} = \{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} : \|\mathbf{x}\| < \tau \}.$$

Remark 2.1 It is obvious that $0 < \sigma, \sigma_j < 1$ by the definition of σ and σ_j .

Lemma 2.2 *If (H_1) – (H_3) hold, then system (1.1)–(1.2) has a unique solution $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^\top \in R_+^n$ in which $x_i(t)$ given by*

$$x_i(t) = \lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s)g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k)I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)). \tag{2.12}$$

Proof We use the fact that system (1.1)–(1.2) is equivalent to system (1.3)–(1.4). Therefore system (1.1)–(1.2) has a unique solution \mathbf{x} , which is equivalent to the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} -x_i''(t) + Mx_i(t) = \lambda g_i(t)f(t, x_1(t), x_2(t), \dots, x_n(t)), & t \in J, t \neq t_k, \\ -\Delta x_i|_{t=t_k} = I_k(t_k, x_1(t_1), x_2(t_2), \dots, x_n(t_n)), & k = 1, 2, \dots, m, \\ x_i'(0) = x_i'(1) = 0, \end{cases} \tag{2.13}$$

has a unique solution x_i , which is given by (2.12).

Next, by a proof which is similar to that of Lemma 2.4 in [40], we can show that (2.12) holds. This finishes the proof of Lemma 2.2. □

Let $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu} : \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} \rightarrow PC_1^n[0, 1]$ be a map with components $(T_{\lambda\mu}^1, \dots, T_{\lambda\mu}^i, \dots, T_{\lambda\mu}^n)$. We understand that $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu} \mathbf{x} = (T_{\lambda\mu}^1 \mathbf{x}, \dots, T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x}, \dots, T_{\lambda\mu}^n \mathbf{x})^\top$, where

$$\begin{aligned} (T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x})(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s)g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds \\ &\quad + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k)I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{aligned} \tag{2.14}$$

Remark 2.2 It follows from Lemma 2.2 and the definition of $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu}$ that

$$\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^\top \in PC_1^n[0, 1]$$

is a solution of the system (1.1)–(1.2) if and only if $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n]^\top$ is a fixed point of operator $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu}$.

Lemma 2.3 *Assume that (H₁)–(H₃) hold. Then $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu}(\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \subset \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ and $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu} : \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ is a completely continuous.*

Proof By the theory of matrix analysis, if we want to prove that $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu}(\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \subset \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ and $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu} : \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ is a completely continuous, then, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we only prove that $T_{\lambda\mu}^i(\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \subset \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ and $T_{\lambda\mu}^i : \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ is a completely continuous.

Firstly, we prove that $T_{\lambda\mu}^i(\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \subset \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$. For $t \in [\theta_j, 1]$, it follows from (2.5) and (2.14) that

$$\begin{aligned} (T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x})(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s)g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k)I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \\ &\leq B \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.15}$$

It is obvious that

$$G'_t(t, s) = \frac{1}{\sinh \gamma} \begin{cases} -\sinh \gamma(1-t) \cosh \gamma s, & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1, \\ \sinh \gamma(1-s) \cosh \gamma t, & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1, \end{cases} \tag{2.16}$$

and

$$\max_{t, s \in J, t \neq s} |G'_t(t, s)| \leq \sinh \gamma. \tag{2.17}$$

By (2.14) and (2.17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} |(T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x})'(t)| &= \left| \lambda \int_0^1 G'_t(t, s)g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G'_t(t, t_k)I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right| \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 |G'_t(t, s)|g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m |G'_t(t, t_k)|I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \\ &\leq \sinh \gamma \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s)f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.18}$$

For any $t \in J$, combined with (2.15) and (2.18), we have

$$\|T_{\lambda,\mu}^i \mathbf{x}\|_{PC_1} \leq \rho \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right]. \tag{2.19}$$

Then, by (2.5), (2.6) and (2.19)

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} (T_{\lambda,\mu}^i \mathbf{x})(t) &= \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \left[\lambda \int_0^1 G(t,s) g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k) I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\ &\geq \frac{\cosh \gamma \theta_j}{\gamma \sinh \gamma} \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\ &\geq \frac{\cosh \gamma \theta_j}{\rho \gamma \sinh \gamma} \rho \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\ &\geq \sigma_j \|T_{\lambda,\mu}^i \mathbf{x}\|_{PC_1}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.20}$$

This shows that $T_{\lambda,\mu}^i(\mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \subset \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$.

Next, by using similar arguments of Lemmas 5 and 6 [16] one can prove that the operator $T_{\lambda,\mu}^i : \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ is completely continuous. So the proof of Lemma 2.3 is complete. \square

To obtain some of the norm inequalities in our main results, we employ the famous Hölder inequality.

Lemma 2.4 (Hölder) *Let $e \in L^p[a, b]$ with $p > 1$, $h \in L^q[a, b]$ with $q > 1$ and $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$. Then $eh \in L^1[a, b]$ and*

$$\|eh\|_1 \leq \|e\|_p \|h\|_q.$$

Let $e \in L^1[a, b]$, $h \in L^\infty[a, b]$. Then $eh \in L^1[a, b]$ and

$$\|eh\|_1 \leq \|e\|_1 \|h\|_\infty.$$

Finally, we state the well-known fixed point index theorem in [43].

Lemma 2.5 *Let E be a real Banach space and let K be a cone in E . For $r > 0$, we define $K_r = \{x \in K : \|x\| < r\}$. Assume that $T : \bar{K}_r \rightarrow K$ is completely continuous such that $Tx \neq x$ for $x \in \partial K_r = \{x \in K : \|x\| = r\}$.*

- (i) *If $\|Tx\| \geq \|x\|$ for $x \in \partial K_r$, then $i(T, K_r, K) = 0$.*
- (ii) *If $\|Tx\| \leq \|x\|$ for $x \in \partial K_r$, then $i(T, K_r, K) = 1$.*

3 Main result

In this section, we establish the solvable intervals of the positive parameters λ and μ for the existence of the infinitely many positive solutions for system (1.1)–(1.2) by using Lemma 2.4 and Lemma 2.5.

For ease of expression, we introduce the following notation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (f_0^\tau)^i &= \max \left\{ \max_{t \in J} \frac{f_i(t, \mathbf{x})}{\tau}, 0 \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \tau \right\}, & F_0^\tau &= \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} (f_0^\tau)^i; \\
 (f_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau)^i &= \min \left\{ \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \frac{f_i(t, \mathbf{x})}{\tau}, \sigma_j \tau \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \tau \right\}, & F_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau &= \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} (f_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau)^i; \\
 I_0^\tau(k)^i &= \max \left\{ \max_{t \in J} \frac{I_k^i(t, \mathbf{x})}{\tau}, 0 \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \tau \right\}, & \mathbf{I}_0^\tau(k) &= \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} (I_0^\tau(k))^i; \\
 (I_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau(k))^i &= \min \left\{ \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \frac{I_k^i(t, \mathbf{x})}{\tau}, \sigma_j \tau \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \tau \right\}, & \mathbf{I}_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau(k) &= \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} (I_{\sigma_j \tau}^\tau(k))^i,
 \end{aligned}$$

where $i = 1, 2, \dots, n, j = 1, 2, \dots$, and

$$D = \max \{ \|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p, \|G\|_1 \|g_i\|_\infty, B \|g_i\|_1 \}, \quad \rho_0 = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{A}{\cosh \gamma} \right\}.$$

We consider the following three cases for $\omega_i(t) \in L^p[0, 1] : p > 1, p = 1$ and $p = \infty$. Case $p > 1$ is treated in the following theorem. It is our main result.

Theorem 3.1 *Assume that (H₁)–(H₃) hold. Let $\{r_j\}_{j=1}^\infty, \{\eta_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be such that*

$$R_{j+1} < \sigma_j r_j < r_j < \sigma_j \eta_j < \eta_j < R_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots \tag{3.1}$$

For each natural number j , we assume that \mathbf{f} and \mathbf{I}_k satisfy

(H₄) $F_0^{r_j} \leq L, F_0^{R_j} \leq L$ and for any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}, \mathbf{I}_0^{r_j}(k) \leq L, \mathbf{I}_0^{R_j}(k) \leq L$, where

$$L < \min \left\{ \frac{1}{n\lambda\rho_0 D}, \frac{1}{n\mu mA} \right\}; \tag{3.2}$$

(H₅) $F_{\sigma_j \eta_j}^{\eta_j} \geq l$ and for any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}, \mathbf{I}_{\sigma_j \eta_j}^{\eta_j} \geq l$, where $l > 0$.

Then there exist $\lambda_0 > 0, \mu_0 > 0$ such that, for $\lambda > \lambda_0, \mu > \mu_0$, system (1.1)–(1.2) has two infinite families of positive solutions $\{\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)}\}_{j=1}^\infty, \{\mathbf{x}_j^{(2)}\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\|\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)}\| > \sigma_j \eta_j$.

Proof Letting $\lambda_0 = \sup\{\lambda_j\}, \lambda_j = \frac{1}{2AN_i(1-\theta_j)l}$, and $\mu_0 = \sup\{\mu_j\}, \mu_j = \frac{1}{2A_j ml}, j = 1, 2, \dots$. Then, for any $\lambda > \lambda_0, \mu > \mu_0$, (2.14) and Lemma 2.3 imply that $\mathbf{T}_{\lambda, \mu}$ and $T_{\lambda, \mu}^i (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$ are all completely continuous.

Let $t \in J, \mathbf{x} \in \partial \mathbf{K}_{r_j \theta_j}$. Then $\|\mathbf{x}\| = r_j$.

Therefore, for any $\mathbf{x} \in \partial \mathbf{K}_{r_j \theta_j}$, it follows from (H₄) that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (T_{\lambda, \mu}^i \mathbf{x})(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s) g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k) I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \\
 &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 G(s, s) g_i(s) L r_j ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k) L r_j \\
 &\leq \lambda L \|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p r_j + \mu L m B r_j \\
 &< \frac{r_j}{n} + \frac{r_j}{n} = \frac{r_j}{n} = \frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|}{n}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Moreover, by (2.4), (2.5), (2.14), (2.16) and (H_4) ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |(T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x})'(t)| &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 |G'_i(t,s)| g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) \, ds \\
 &\quad + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m |G'_i(t, t_k)| I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \\
 &\leq \sinh \gamma \left[\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) \, ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\
 &\leq \frac{\sinh \gamma}{A} \left[\lambda \int_0^1 G(t,s) g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) \, ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m A I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\
 &\leq \frac{\sinh \gamma}{A} \left[\lambda \int_0^1 \|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) \, ds + \mu A \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\
 &\leq \frac{\sinh \gamma}{A} (\lambda L r_j \|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p + \mu A m L r_j) \\
 &< \frac{r_j}{n} + \frac{r_j}{n} \\
 &= \frac{r_j}{n} = \frac{\|\mathbf{x}\|}{n}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

Consequently, from (3.3) and (3.4), we have

$$\|T_{\lambda\mu}\| = \sum_{i=1}^n \|T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x}\|_{PC^1} \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in \partial \mathbf{K}_{r_j \theta_j}. \tag{3.5}$$

And then, by Lemma 2.5, we get

$$\mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \mathbf{K}_{r_j \theta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) = 1. \tag{3.6}$$

Similarly, for $\mathbf{x} \in \partial \mathbf{K}_{R_j \theta_j}$, we have $\|T_{\lambda\mu} \mathbf{x}\| \leq \|\mathbf{x}\|$, and it follows from Lemma 2.5 that

$$\mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \mathbf{K}_{R_j \theta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) = 1. \tag{3.7}$$

On the other hand, letting

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}_{\sigma_j \eta_j}^{\eta_j} = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j} : \|\mathbf{x}\| < \eta_j, \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i(t) > \sigma_j \eta_j \right\},$$

then $\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \eta_j$. And hence, it is similar to the proof of (3.5), we have

$$\|T_{\lambda\mu} \mathbf{x}\| \leq \eta_j. \tag{3.8}$$

Furthermore, for $\mathbf{x} \in \tilde{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j \eta_j}^{\eta_j}$, we have $\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq \eta_j, \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i(t) \geq \sigma_j \eta_j$, and then it

follows from (H_5) that

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} (T_{\lambda\mu}^i \mathbf{x})(t) &= \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \left[\lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s) g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + \mu \sum_{k=1}^m G(t, t_k) I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \right] \\ &\geq A\lambda \int_0^1 g_i(s) f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + A\mu \sum_{k=1}^m I_k^i(t_k, \mathbf{x}(t_k)) \\ &\geq AN_i\lambda \int_{\theta_j}^1 f_i(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds + A\mu ml\eta_j \\ &\geq AN_i\lambda(1 - \theta_j)l\eta_j + A\mu ml\eta_j \\ &> AN_i\lambda_0(1 - \theta_j)l\eta_j + A\mu_0 ml\eta_j \\ &\geq AN_i\lambda_i(1 - \theta_j)l\eta_j + A\mu_j ml\eta_j \\ &> \frac{\eta_j}{2} + \frac{\eta_j}{2} \\ &= \eta_j = \|\mathbf{x}\|, \end{aligned}$$

which shows that

$$\min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} \sum_{i=1}^n (T_{\lambda\mu}^i x_i(t)) \geq \min_{t \in [\theta_j, 1]} (T_{\lambda\mu}^i x_i(t)) > \|\mathbf{x}\|. \tag{3.9}$$

Letting $\mathbf{x}_0 = (x_0^1, \dots, x_0^i, \dots, x_0^n)$ and $\mathbf{F}(t, \mathbf{x}) = (1 - t)\mathbf{T}_{\lambda\mu}\mathbf{x} + t\mathbf{x}_0$, where $x_0^i \equiv \frac{\sigma_j\eta_j + \eta_j}{2}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, then $\mathbf{F} : J \times \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j} \rightarrow \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}$ is completely continuous, and from the analysis above, we obtain for $(t, \mathbf{x}) \in J \times \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}$,

$$\mathbf{F}(t, \mathbf{x}) \in \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}. \tag{3.10}$$

Therefore, for $t \in J, \mathbf{x} \in \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}$, we have $\mathbf{F}(t, \mathbf{x}) \neq \mathbf{x}$. Hence, by the normality property and the homotopy invariance property of the fixed point index, we obtain

$$\mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \mathbf{K}_{\sigma_i\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) = \mathbf{i}(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{K}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) = 1. \tag{3.11}$$

Consequently, by the solution property of the fixed point index, $T_{\lambda\mu}$ has a fixed point $\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)}$ and $\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)} \in \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}$. By Lemma 2.2 and (2.14), it follows that $\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)}$ is a solution to system (1.1)–(1.2), and

$$\|\mathbf{x}_j^{(1)}\| > \sigma_j\eta_j.$$

On the other hand, from (3.6), (3.7) and (3.11) together with the additivity of the fixed point index, we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \mathbf{K}_{R_j\theta_j} / (\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{f_j\theta_j} \cup \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}), \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) \\ &= \mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \mathbf{K}_{R_j\theta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) - \mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) - \mathbf{i}(T_{\lambda\mu}, \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{f_j\theta_j}, \mathbf{K}_{\theta_j}) = 1 - 1 - 1 = -1. \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

Hence, by the solution property of the fixed point index, $T_{\lambda\mu}$ has a fixed point $x_j^{(2)}$ and $x_j^{(2)} \in K_{R_j}/(\bar{K}_{r_j} \cup \bar{K}_{\sigma_j\eta_j\theta_j}^{\eta_j})$. Since $j \in \mathbb{N}$ was arbitrary, the proof is complete. \square

The following corollary deals with the case $p = \infty$.

Corollary 3.1 *Assume that for each natural number j , (H_1) – (H_5) hold. Let $\{r_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$, $\{\eta_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be such that*

$$R_{j+1} < \sigma_j r_j < r_j < \sigma_j \eta_j < \eta_j < R_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then there exists $\lambda_0 > 0$, $\mu_0 > 0$ such that, for $\lambda > \lambda_0$, $\mu > \mu_0$, system (1.1)–(1.2) has two infinite families of positive solutions $\{x_j^{(1)}\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{x_j^{(2)}\}_{j=1}^\infty$.

Proof Let $\|G\|_1 \|g_i\|_\infty$ replace $\|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p$ and repeat the argument above. \square

Finally, we consider the case of $p = 1$.

Corollary 3.2 *Assume that for each natural number j , (H_1) – (H_5) hold. Let $\{r_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$, $\{\eta_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be such that*

$$R_{j+1} < \sigma_j r_j < r_j < \sigma_j \eta_j < \eta_j < R_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then there exists $\lambda_0 > 0$, $\mu_0 > 0$ such that, for $\lambda > \lambda_0$, $\mu > \mu_0$, system (1.1)–(1.2) has two infinite families of positive solutions $\{x_j^{(1)}\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{x_j^{(2)}\}_{j=1}^\infty$.

Proof Let $B\|g_i\|_1$ replace $\|G\|_q \|g_i\|_p$ and repeat the previous argument. Similar to the proof of Theorem 3.1, we can get Corollary 3.2. \square

Corollary 3.3 *Assume that for each natural number j , (H_1) – (H_3) and (H_5) hold. Let $\{r_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$, $\{\eta_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ and $\{R_j\}_{j=1}^\infty$ be such that*

$$R_{j+1} < \sigma_j r_j < r_j < \sigma_j \eta_j < \eta_j < R_j, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

Then there exists $\lambda_0 > 0$, $\mu_0 > 0$ such that, for $\lambda > \lambda_0$, $\mu > \mu_0$, system (1.1)–(1.2) has one infinite families of positive solutions.

Remark 3.1 Some ideas of the n -dimensional system are from [44].

Remark 3.2 Some ideas of the existence of denumerably many positive solutions are from [45].

Remark 3.3 From the proof of Theorem 3.1, it is not difficult to see that (H_2) plays an important role in the proof that system (1.1)–(1.2) has two infinite families of positive solutions. As an example, we consider a family of diagonal matrix functions $g(t)$ as follows.

Example 3.1 We will check that there exists a family of diagonal matrix functions $g(t)$ satisfying condition (H_2) .

For ease of the discussion, an example of the case $n = 2$ is given as follows. Define $\mathbf{g}(t)$ by

$$\mathbf{g}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} g_1(t) & 0 \\ 0 & g_2(t) \end{pmatrix},$$

where $g_1(t)$ and $g_2(t)$ singular at $t'_j, j = 1, 2, \dots$, where

$$t'_j = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{10} \sum_{i=1}^j \frac{1}{(2i-1)^4}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots \tag{3.13}$$

It follows from (3.13) that

$$t'_1 = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{3}{10},$$

$$t'_j - t'_{j+1} = \frac{1}{10(2j+1)^4}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots,$$

and from $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2j-1)^4} = \frac{\pi^4}{96}$, we have

$$t'_0 = \lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} t'_j = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{10} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2j-1)^4} = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{\pi^4}{96} = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{\pi^4}{960} > \frac{1}{10}.$$

Let

$$\tau_1 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 1 \right), \quad \tau_2 = -\sqrt{2} e \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 1 \right).$$

Consider the functions

$$g_1(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} g_j^{(1)}(t), \quad t \in J,$$

$$g_2(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} g_j^{(2)}(t), \quad t \in J,$$

where

$$g_j^{(1)}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!(t'_j+t'_{j+1})}, & t \in [0, \frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}), \\ \frac{1}{\tau_1 \sqrt{t'_j-t}}, & t \in [\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}, t'_j), \\ \frac{1}{\tau_1 \sqrt{t-t'_j}}, & t \in [t'_j, \frac{t'_j+t'_{j-1}}{2}], \\ \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!(2-t'_j-t'_{j-1})}, & t \in (\frac{t'_j+t'_{j-1}}{2}, 1], \end{cases}$$

and

$$g_j^{(2)}(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{(2j-2)!(t'_j+t'_{j+1})}, & t \in [0, \frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}), \\ \frac{1}{\tau_2\sqrt{t'_j-t}}, & t \in [\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}, t'_j), \\ \frac{1}{\tau_2\sqrt{t-t'_j}}, & t \in [t'_j, \frac{t'_j+t'_{j-1}}{2}], \\ \frac{2}{(2j-2)!(2-t'_j-t'_{j-1})}, & t \in (\frac{t'_j+t'_{j-1}}{2}, 1]. \end{cases}$$

From $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!} = 2e - 3$, $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(2j-2)!} = e + e^{-1}$ and $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2j-1)^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_0^1 g_j^{(1)}(t) dt &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_0^{\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}} \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!(t'_j+t'_{j+1})} dt + \int_{\frac{t'_{j-1}+t'_j}{2}}^1 \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!(2-t'_j-t'_{j-1})} dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}}^{t'_j} \frac{1}{\tau_1\sqrt{t'_j-t}} dt + \int_{t'_j}^{\frac{t'_{j-1}+t'_j}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau_1\sqrt{t-t'_j}} dt \right\} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{j+2}{(j+1)!} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (\sqrt{(t'_j-t'_{j+1})} + \sqrt{(t'_{j-1}-t'_j)}) \\ &= 2e - 3 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{(2j+1)^2} + \frac{1}{(2j-1)^2} \right) \\ &= 2e - 3 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_1} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{8} - 1 + \frac{\pi^2}{8} \right) \\ &= 2e - 3 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_1} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 1 \right) \\ &= 2e - 3 + 3 = 2e, \end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_0^1 g_j^{(2)}(t) dt &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_0^{\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}} \frac{2}{(2j-2)!(t'_j+t'_{j+1})} dt + \int_{\frac{t'_{j-1}+t'_j}{2}}^1 \frac{2}{(2j-2)!(2-t'_j-t'_{j-1})} dt \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\frac{t'_j+t'_{j+1}}{2}}^{t'_j} \frac{1}{\tau_2\sqrt{t'_j-t}} dt + \int_{t'_j}^{\frac{t'_{j-1}+t'_j}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau_2\sqrt{t-t'_j}} dt \right\} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{(2j-2)!} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (\sqrt{(t'_j-t'_{j+1})} + \sqrt{(t'_{j-1}-t'_j)}) \\ &= e + e^{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{(2j+1)^2} + \frac{1}{(2j-1)^2} \right) \\ &= e + e^{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_2} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{8} - 1 + \frac{\pi^2}{8} \right) \\ &= e + e^{-1} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\tau_2} \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4} - 1 \right) \\ &= e + e^{-1} - e^{-1} = e. \end{aligned} \tag{3.15}$$

Thus, from (3.14) and (3.15), it is easy to see that

$$\int_0^1 \mathbf{g}(t) dt = \int_0^1 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} g_j^{(1)}(t) dt = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_0^1 \omega_j^{(1)}(t) dt = 2e < \infty,$$

$$\int_0^1 \mathbf{g}(t) dt = \int_0^1 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} g_j^{(2)}(t) dt = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_0^1 \omega_j^{(2)}(t) dt = e < \infty.$$

Therefore $\omega_1(t), \omega_2(t) \in L^1[0, 1]$, which shows that condition (H_2) holds.

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful to anonymous referees for their constructive comments and suggestions, which has greatly improved this paper.

Funding

This work is sponsored by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (11401031), the Beijing Natural Science Foundation (1163007) and the Scientific Research Project of Construction for Scientific and Technological Innovation Service Capacity (KM201611232017, KM201611232019).

Competing interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this manuscript. The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors' contributions

The authors contributed equally in this article. They have all read and approved the final manuscript.

Publisher's Note

Springer Nature remains neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

Received: 15 January 2018 Accepted: 13 March 2018 Published online: 22 March 2018

References

- Onose, H.: Oscillatory properties of the first order nonlinear advance and delayed differential inequalities. *Nonlinear Anal.* **8**, 171–180 (1984)
- Erbe, L.H., Freedman, H.I., Liu, X.Z., Wu, J.H.: Comparison principles for impulsive parabolic equations with applications to models of single species growth. *J. Aust. Math. Soc. Ser. B, Appl. Math.* **32**, 382–400 (1991)
- Bainov, D., Minchev, E.: Estimates of solutions of impulsive parabolic equations and applications to the population dynamics. *Publ. Math.* **40**, 85–94 (1996)
- Liu, X., Willms, A.: Impulsive controllability of linear dynamical systems with applications to maneuvers of spacecraft. *Math. Probl. Eng.* **4**, 277–299 (1996)
- Lu, Z., Chi, X., Chen, L.: The effect of constant and pulse vaccination on SIR epidemic model with horizontal and vertical transmission. *Math. Comput. Model.* **36**, 1039–1057 (2002)
- Zhang, H., Chen, L., Nieto, J.J.: A delayed epidemic model with stage-structure and pulses for pest management strategy. *Nonlinear Anal., Real World Appl.* **9**, 1714–1726 (2008)
- D'Onofrio, A.: On pulse vaccination strategy in the SIR epidemic model with vertical transmission. *Appl. Math. Lett.* **18**, 729–732 (2005)
- Pasquero, S.: Ideality criterion for unilateral constraints in time-dependent impulsive mechanics. *J. Math. Phys.* **46**, 112904 (2005)
- Guo, Y.: Globally robust stability analysis for stochastic Cohen–Grossberg neural networks with impulse control and time-varying delays. *Ukr. Math. J.* **69**, 1049–1060 (2017)
- Liu, Y., O'Regan, D.: Multiplicity results using bifurcation techniques for a class of boundary value problems of impulsive differential equations. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **16**, 1769–1775 (2011)
- Ma, R., Yang, B., Wang, Z.: Positive periodic solutions of first-order delay differential equations with impulses. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **219**, 6074–6083 (2013)
- Zhang, H., Liu, L., Wu, Y.: Positive solutions for n th-order nonlinear impulsive singular integro-differential equations on infinite intervals in Banach spaces. *Nonlinear Anal.* **70**, 772–787 (2009)
- Hao, X., Liu, L., Wu, Y.: Positive solutions for second order impulsive differential equations with integral boundary conditions. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **16**, 101–111 (2011)
- Jiang, J., Liu, L., Wu, Y.: Positive solutions for second order impulsive differential equations with Stieltjes integral boundary conditions. *Adv. Differ. Equ.* **2012**, 1 (2012)
- Zhang, X., Feng, M., Ge, W.: Existence of solutions of boundary value problems with integral boundary conditions for second-order impulsive integro-differential equations in Banach spaces. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **233**, 1915–1926 (2010)
- Yan, J.: Existence of positive periodic solutions of impulsive functional differential equations with two parameters. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **327**, 854–868 (2007)

17. Chen, X., Du, Z.: Existence of positive periodic solutions for a neutral delay predator-prey model with Hassell–Varley type functional response and impulse. *Qual. Theory Dyn. Syst.* **17**(1), 67–80 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12346-017-0223-6>
18. Liu, J., Zhao, Z.: Variational approach to second-order damped Hamiltonian systems with impulsive effects. *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.* **9**, 3459–3472 (2016)
19. Zhou, J., Li, Y.: Existence and multiplicity of solutions for some Dirichlet problems with impulsive effects. *Nonlinear Anal., Theory Methods Appl.* **71**, 2856–2865 (2009)
20. Hao, X., Liu, L., Wu, Y.: Iterative solution for nonlinear impulsive advection-reaction-diffusion equations. *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.* **9**, 4070–4077 (2016)
21. Hao, X., Liu, L.: Mild solution of semilinear impulsive integro-differential evolution equation in Banach spaces. *Math. Methods Appl. Sci.* **40**, 4832–4841 (2017)
22. Bai, Z., Dong, X., Yin, C.: Existence results for impulsive nonlinear fractional differential equation with mixed boundary conditions. *Bound. Value Probl.* **2016**(1), 63 (2016)
23. Zhang, X., Yang, X., Ge, W.: Positive solutions of n th-order impulsive boundary value problems with integral boundary conditions in Banach spaces. *Nonlinear Anal., Theory Methods Appl.* **71**, 5930–5945 (2009)
24. Bai, L., Nieto, J.J., Wang, X.: Variational approach to non-instantaneous impulsive nonlinear differential equations. *J. Nonlinear Sci. Appl.* **10**, 2440–2448 (2017)
25. Tian, Y., Bai, Z.: Existence results for the three-point impulsive boundary value problem involving fractional differential equations. *Comput. Math. Appl.* **59**, 2601–2609 (2010)
26. Zhang, X., Feng, M.: Transformation techniques and fixed point theories to establish the positive solutions of second order impulsive differential equations. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **271**, 117–129 (2014)
27. Zuo, M., Hao, X., Liu, L., Cui, Y.: Existence results for impulsive fractional integro-differential equation of mixed type with constant coefficient and antiperiodic boundary conditions. *Bound. Value Probl.* **2017**, 1 (2017)
28. Liu, J., Zhao, Z.: Multiple solutions for impulsive problems with non-autonomous perturbations. *Appl. Math. Lett.* **64**, 143–149 (2017)
29. Sun, Y., Cho, Y., O'Regan, D.: Positive solutions for singular second order Neumann boundary value problems via a cone fixed point theorem. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **210**, 80–86 (2009)
30. Sovrano, E., Zanolin, F.: Indefinite weight nonlinear problems with Neumann boundary conditions. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **452**, 126–147 (2017)
31. Gao, S., Chen, L., Nieto, J.J., Torres, A.: Analysis of a delayed epidemic model with pulse vaccination and saturation incidence. *Vaccine* **24**, 6037–6045 (2006)
32. Chu, J., Sun, Y., Chen, H.: Positive solutions of Neumann problems with singularities. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **337**, 1267–1272 (2008)
33. Dang, H., Oppenheimer, S.F.: Existence and uniqueness results for some nonlinear boundary value problems. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **198**, 35–48 (1996)
34. Dong, Y.: A Neumann problem at resonance with the nonlinearity restricted in one direction. *Nonlinear Anal.* **51**, 739–747 (2002)
35. Erbe, L.H., Wang, H.: On the existence of positive solutions of ordinary differential equations. *Proc. Am. Math. Soc.* **120**, 743–748 (1994)
36. Ma, R.: Existence of positive radial solutions for elliptic systems. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **201**, 375–386 (1996)
37. Yazidi, N.: Monotone method for singular Neumann problem. *Nonlinear Anal.* **49**, 589–602 (2002)
38. Sun, J., Li, W.: Multiple positive solutions to second order Neumann boundary value problems. *Appl. Math. Comput.* **146**, 187–194 (2003)
39. Jiang, D., Liu, H.: Existence of positive solutions to second order Neumann boundary value problem. *J. Math. Res. Exposition* **20**, 360–364 (2000)
40. Liu, X., Li, Y.: Positive solutions for Neumann boundary value problems of second-order impulsive differential equations in Banach spaces. *Abstr. Appl. Anal.* **2012**, Article ID 401923 (2012). <https://doi.org/10.1155/2012/401923>
41. Zhang, X.: Parameter dependence of positive solutions for second-order singular Neumann boundary value problems with impulsive effects. *Abstr. Appl. Anal.* **2014**, Article ID 968792 (2014). <https://doi.org/10.1155/2014/968792>
42. Sun, F., Liu, L., Wu, Y.: Infinitely many sign-changing solutions for a class of biharmonic equation with p -Laplacian and Neumann boundary condition. *Appl. Math. Lett.* **73**, 128–135 (2017)
43. Guo, D., Lakshmikantham, V.: *Nonlinear Problems in Abstract Cones*. Academic Press, Inc., New York (1988)
44. Wang, H.: On the number of positive solutions of nonlinear systems. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **281**, 287–306 (2003)
45. Kaufmann, E.R., Kosmatov, N.: A multiplicity result for a boundary value problem with infinitely many singularities. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* **269**, 444–453 (2002)