Research Article

On a Generalized Retarded Integral Inequality with Two Variables

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This paper improves Pachpatte's results on linear integral inequalities with two variables, and gives an estimation for a general form of nonlinear integral inequality with two variables. This paper does not require monotonicity of known functions. The result of this paper can be applied to discuss on boundedness and uniqueness for a integrodifferential equation.

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1. Introduction

Gronwall-Bellman inequality [1, 2] is an important tool in the study of existence, uniqueness, boundedness, stability, and other qualitative properties of solutions of differential equations and integral equations. There can be found a lot of its generalizations in various cases from literature (see, e.g., [1–12]). In [11], Pachpatte obtained an estimation for the integral inequality

$$u(x,y) \le a(x,y) + \int_0^x \int_0^y f(s,t) \left[u(s,t) + \int_0^s \int_0^t g(s,t,\sigma,\tau) u(\sigma,\tau) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds.$$
(1.1)

His results were applied to a partial integrodifferential equation:

$$u_{xy}(x,y) = F\left(x, y, u(x,y), \int_{0}^{x} \int_{0}^{y} h(x, y, \tau, \sigma, u(x,y)) d\tau d\sigma\right),$$

$$u(x, y_{0}) = \alpha(x), \qquad u(x_{0}, y) = \beta(y),$$
(1.2)

for boundedness and uniqueness of solutions.

In this paper, we discuss a more general form of integral inequality:

$$\psi(u(x,y)) \leq a(x,y) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} f(x,y,s,t) \left[\varphi_1(u(s,t)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\sigma,\tau) \varphi_2(u(\sigma,\tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds$$
(1.3)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, x_1) \times [y_0, y_1)$. Obviously, *u* appears linearly in (1.1), but in our (1.3) it is generalized to nonlinear terms: $\varphi_1(u(s, t))$ and $\varphi_2(u(s, t))$. Our strategy is to monotonize functions φ_i s with other two nondecreasing ones such that one has stronger monotonicity than the other. We apply our estimation to an integrodifferential equation, which looks similar to (1.2) but includes delays, and give boundedness and uniqueness of solutions.

2. Main result

Throughout this paper, $x_0, x_1, y_0, y_1 \in \mathbf{R}$ are given numbers. Let $\mathbf{R}_+ := [0, \infty), I := [x_0, x_1), J := [y_0, y_1)$, and $\Lambda := I \times J \subset \mathbf{R}^2$. Consider inequality (1.3), where we suppose that $\psi \in C^0(\mathbf{R}_+, \mathbf{R}_+)$ is strictly increasing such that $\psi(\infty) = \infty, b \in C^1(I, I)$, and $c \in C^1(J, J)$ are nondecreasing, such that $b(x) \leq x$ and $c(y) \leq y$, $a \in C^1(\Lambda, \mathbf{R}_+), f \in C^0(\Lambda^2, \mathbf{R}_+)$, and $g(x, y, s, t) \in C^0(\Lambda^2, \mathbf{R}_+)$ are given, and $\varphi_i \in C^0(\mathbf{R}_+, \mathbf{R}_+)$ (i = 1, 2) are functions satisfying $\varphi_i(0) = 0$ and $\varphi_i(u) > 0$ for all u > 0.

Define functions

$$w_{1}(s) := \max_{\tau \in [0,s]} \{\varphi_{1}(\tau)\},\$$

$$w_{2}(s) := \max_{\tau \in [0,s]} \{\varphi_{2}(\tau)/w_{1}(\tau)\}w_{1}(s),\$$

$$\phi(s) := w_{2}(s)/w_{1}(s).$$
(2.1)

Obviously, w_1 , w_2 , and ϕ in (2.1) are all nondecreasing and nonnegative functions and satisfy $w_i(s) \ge \varphi_i(s)$, i = 1, 2. Let

$$W_1(u) = \int_1^u \frac{ds}{w_1(\psi^{-1}(s))},$$
(2.2)

$$W_2(u) = \int_1^u \frac{ds}{w_2(\psi^{-1}(s))},$$
(2.3)

$$\Phi(u) = \int_{W_1(1)}^{u} \frac{ds}{\phi(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(s)))}.$$
(2.4)

Obviously, W_1 , W_2 , and Φ are strictly increasing in u > 0, and therefore the inverses W_1^{-1} , W_2^{-1} , and Φ^{-1} are well defined, continuous, and increasing. We note that

$$\Phi(u) = \int_{W_1(1)}^{u} \frac{dx}{\phi(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(x)))}$$

= $\int_{W_1(1)}^{u} \frac{w_1(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(x)))dx}{w_2(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(x)))}$
= $\int_{1}^{W_1^{-1}(u)} \frac{dx}{w_2(\psi^{-1}(x))} = W_2(W_1^{-1}(u)).$ (2.5)

Furthermore, let $\tilde{f}(x, y, s, t) := \max_{\tau \in [x_0, x]} f(\tau, y, s, t)$, which is also nondecreasing in x for each fixed y, s, and t and satisfies $\tilde{f}(x, y, s, t) \ge f(x, y, s, t) \ge 0$.

Theorem 2.1. If inequality (1.3) holds for the nonnegative function u(x, y), then

$$u(x,y) \le \psi^{-1} \{ W_2^{-1} [\Xi(x,y)] \}$$
(2.6)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X_1) \times [y_0, Y_1)$ *, where*

$$\begin{split} \Xi(x,y) &:= W_2 \big[W_1^{-1} \big(r_2(x,y) \big) \big] + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}(x,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds, \\ r_2(x,y) &:= W_1 \big(r_1(x,y) \big) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}(x,y,s,t) dt ds, \\ r_1(x,y) &:= a(x_0,y) + \int_{x_0}^{x} \big| a_x(s,y) \big| ds, \end{split}$$

$$(2.7)$$

and $(X_1, Y_1) \in \Lambda$ is arbitrarily given on the boundary of the planar region

$$\mathcal{R} := \{ (x, y) \in \Lambda : \Xi(x, y) \in \text{Dom}(W_2^{-1}), \ r_2(x, y) \in \text{Dom}(W_1^{-1}) \}.$$
(2.8)

Here Dom denotes the domain of a function.

Proof. By the definition of functions w_i and \tilde{f}_i , from (1.3) we get

for all $(x, y) \in \Lambda$.

Firstly, we discuss the case that a(x, y) > 0 for all $(x, y) \in \Lambda$. It means that $r_1(x, y) > 0$ for all $(x, y) \in \Lambda$. In such a circumstance, $r_1(x, y)$ is positive and nondecreasing on Λ and

$$r_1(x,y) \ge a(x_0,y) + \int_{x_0}^x a_x(t,y)dt.$$
 (2.10)

Regarding (1.3), we consider the auxiliary inequality

$$\psi(u(x,y)) \leq r_1(x,y) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}(X,y,s,t) \left[w_1(u(s,t)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\sigma,\tau) w_2(u(\sigma,\tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds$$
(2.11)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times J$, where $x_0 \le X \le X_1$ is chosen arbitrarily. We claim that

$$u(x,y) \leq \psi^{-1} \left\{ W_2^{-1} \left[W_2 \left(W_1^{-1} \left(W_1(r_1(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}(X,y,s,t) dt ds \right) \right) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \right] \right\}$$

$$(2.12)$$

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times [y_0, Y_1)$, where Y_1 is defined by (2.8).

Let $\eta(x, y)$ denote the right-hand side of (2.11), which is a nonnegative and nondecreasing function on $[x_0, X) \times J$. Then, (2.11) is equivalent to

$$u(x,y) \le \psi^{-1}(\eta(x,y)) \quad \forall (x,y) \in [x_0,Y) \times J.$$
(2.13)

By the fact that $b(x) \le x$ for $x \in [x_0, X)$ and the monotonicity of w_i , ψ , η , and b(x), we have

$$\frac{(\partial/\partial x)\eta(x,y)}{w_{1}(\psi^{-1}(\eta(x,y)))} \leq \frac{(\partial/\partial x)r_{1}(x,y)}{w_{1}(\psi^{-1}(r_{1}(x,y)))} + \frac{b'(x)}{w_{1}(\psi^{-1}(\eta(x,y)))} \\
\times \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,b(x),t) \left[w_{1}(u(b(x),t)) + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(b(x),t,\tau,\sigma)w_{2}(u(\tau,\sigma))d\tau d\sigma \right] dt \\
\leq \frac{(\partial/\partial x)r_{1}(x,y)}{w_{1}(\psi^{-1}(r_{1}(x,y)))} + b'(x) \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,b(x),t) dt \\
+ b'(x) \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,b(x),t) \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(b(x),t,\tau,\sigma)\phi(u(\tau,\sigma))d\tau d\sigma \right] dt$$
(2.14)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times J$. Integrating the above from x_0 to x, we get

$$W_{1}(\eta(x,y)) \leq W_{1}(r_{1}(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,s,t) dt ds + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{s} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) \phi(u(\tau,\sigma)) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds$$

$$(2.15)$$

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times J$. Let

$$\psi(\xi(x,y)) := W_1(\eta(x,y)),$$

$$\widetilde{r}_2(x,y) := W_1(r_1(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \widetilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) dt ds.$$
(2.16)

From (2.15), (2.16), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(\xi(x,y)) \\ & \leq \widetilde{r}_2(x,y) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \widetilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^s \int_{c(y_0)}^t g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) \phi(u(\tau,\sigma)) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \end{aligned} \tag{2.17}$$

for all $x_0 \le x < X$, $y_0 \le y < y_1$. Let $\beta(x, y)$ denote the right-hand side of (2.17), which is a nonnegative and nondecreasing function on $[x_0, Y) \times J$. Then, (2.17) is equivalent to

$$\psi(\xi(x,y)) \le \beta(x,y) \quad \forall (x,y) \in [x_0,Y) \times J.$$
(2.18)

From (2.13), (2.16), and (2.18), we have

$$u(x,y) \le \psi^{-1}(\eta(x,y)) = \psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(\psi(\xi(x,y))) \le \psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(\beta(x,y)))$$
(2.19)

for all $x_0 \le x < X$, $y_0 \le y < Y_1$, where Y_1 is defined by (2.8). By the definitions of ϕ , ψ , and W_1 , $\phi(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(s)))$ is continuous and nondecreasing on $[0, \infty)$ and satisfies $\phi(\psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(s))) > 0$ for s > 0. Let $h(s) = \psi^{-1}(W_1^{-1}(s))$. Since $b'(x) \ge 0$ and $b(x) \le x$ for $x \in [x_0, X)$, from (2.19) we have

$$\frac{(\partial/\partial x)\beta(x,y)}{\phi(h(\beta(x,y)))} \leq \frac{(\partial/\partial x)\tilde{r}_{2}(x,y)}{\phi(h(\tilde{r}_{2}(x,y)))} + \frac{b'(x)}{\phi(h(\beta(x,y)))} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,b(x),t) \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(b(x),t,\tau,\sigma)\phi(u(\tau,\sigma))d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \\
\leq \frac{(\partial/\partial x)\tilde{r}_{2}(x,y)}{\phi(h(\tilde{r}_{2}(x,y)))} + b'(x) \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,b(x),t) \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(b(x),t,\tau,\sigma)d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \tag{2.20}$$

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times [y_0, Y_1)$. Integrating the above from x_0 to x, by (2.4) we get

$$\Phi(\beta(x,y)) \le \Phi(\tilde{r}_{2}(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_{1}(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{s} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds$$
(2.21)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times [y_0, y_1)$. By (2.19) and the above inequality, we obtain

$$u(x,y) \leq \psi^{-1} \left\{ W_1^{-1} \left[\Phi^{-1} \left(\Phi(\tilde{r}_2(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^s \int_{c(y_0)}^t g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \right) \right] \right\}$$
(2.22)

for all $(x, y) \in [x_0, X) \times [y_0, Y_1)$, where Y_1 is defined by (2.8). It follows from (2.5) that

$$u(x,y) \leq \varphi^{-1} \left\{ W_2^{-1} \left[W_2 \left(W_1^{-1} \left(W_1(r_1(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) dt ds \right) \right) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \right] \right\},$$

$$(2.23)$$

which proves the claimed (2.12).

We start from the original inequality (1.3) and see that

$$\psi(u(X,y)) \leq r_{1}(X,y) + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(X)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \widetilde{f}(X,y,s,t) \left[\varphi_{1}(u(s,t)) + \int_{b(x_{0})}^{s} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(s,t,\sigma,\tau) \varphi_{2}(u(\sigma,\tau)) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds$$
(2.24)

for all $y \in [y_0, Y_1)$; namely, the auxiliary inequality (2.11) holds for x = X, $y \in [y_0, Y_1)$. By (2.12), we get

$$u(X,y) \leq \varphi^{-1} \left\{ W_2^{-1} \left[W_2 \left(W_1^{-1} \left(W_1(r_1(X,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(X)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) dt ds \right) \right) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(X)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(X,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \right] \right\}$$

$$(2.25)$$

for all $x_0 \le X \le X_1$, $y_0 \le y \le Y_1$. This proves (2.6).

The remainder case is that a(x, y) = 0 for some $(x, y) \in \Lambda$. Let

$$r_{1,\varepsilon}(x,y) \coloneqq r_1(x,y) + \varepsilon, \qquad (2.26)$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ is an arbitrary small number. Obviously, $r_{1,\varepsilon}(x, y) > 0$ for all $(x, y) \in \Lambda$. Using the same arguments as above, where $r_1(x, y)$ is replaced with $r_{1,\varepsilon}(x, y)$, we get

$$u(x,y) \leq \varphi^{-1} \left\{ W_2^{-1} \left[W_2 \left(W_1^{-1} \left(W_1(r_{1,\varepsilon}(x,y)) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(x,y,s,t) dt ds \right) \right) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \tilde{f}_1(x,y,s,t) \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s,t,\tau,\sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds \right] \right\}$$

$$(2.27)$$

for all $x_0 \le X \le X_1$, $y_0 \le y \le Y_1$. Letting $\varepsilon \to 0_+$, we obtain (2.6) because of continuity of $r_{1,\varepsilon}$ in ε and continuity of $\psi^{-1}, W_1^{-1}, W, W_2^{-1}$, and W_2 . This completes the proof.

3. Applications

In [11], the partial integrodifferential equation (1.2) was discussed for boundedness and uniqueness of the solutions under the assumptions that

$$|F(x, y, u, v)| \leq f(x, y) [|u| + |v|],$$

$$|h(x, y, s, t, u(s, t))| \leq g(x, y, s, t) |u(s, t)|,$$

$$|F(x, y, u_1, v_1) - F(x, y, u_2, v_2)| \leq f(x, y) [|u_1 - u_2| + |v_1 - v_2|],$$

$$|h(x, y, s, t, u_1) - h(x, y, s, t, u_2)| \leq g(x, y, s, t) |u_1 - u_2|,$$

(3.1)

respectively. In this section, we further consider the nonlinear delay partial integrodifferential equation

$$u_{xy}(x,y) = F\left(x, y, u(b(x), c(y)), \int_{b(b(x_0))}^{b(x)} \int_{c(c(y_0))}^{c(y)} h(b(x), c(y), \tau, \sigma, u(\tau, \sigma)) d\tau d\sigma\right),$$

$$u(x, y_0) = \alpha(x), \qquad u(x_0, y) = \beta(y)$$
(3.2)

for all $(x, y) \in \Lambda$, where b, c, and u are supposed to be as in Theorem 2.1; $h : \Lambda^2 \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$, $F : \Lambda \times \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$, $\alpha : I \to \mathbb{R}$, and $\beta : J \to \mathbb{R}$ are all continuous functions such that $\alpha(0) = \beta(0) = 0$. Obviously, the estimation obtained in [11] cannot be applied to (3.2).

We first give an estimation for solutions of (3.2) under the condition

$$|F(x, y, u, v)| \le f(x, y) [\varphi_1(|u|) + |v|], |h(x, y, s, t, u(s, t))| \le g(x, y, s, t) |\varphi_2(u(s, t))|.$$
(3.3)

Corollary 3.1. *If* $|\alpha(x) + \beta(y)|$ *is nondecreasing in x and y and* (3.3) *holds, then every solution* u(m, n) *of* (3.2) *satisfies*

$$u(x,y) \le W_2^{-1} \big[\Xi(x,y) \big] \quad \forall (x,y) \in \big[x_0, X_1 \big) \times \big[y_0, Y_1 \big), \tag{3.4}$$

where

$$\Xi(x,y) := W_2 \left\{ W_1^{-1} \left[W_1(|\alpha(x) + \beta(y)|) + \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} dt ds \right] \right\}$$

$$+ \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s, t, \tau, \sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds,$$
(3.5)

and $W_1, W_1^{-1}, W_2, W_2^{-1}$, and X_1, Y_1 are defined as in Theorem 2.1 .

Corollary 3.1 actually gives a condition of boundedness for solutions. Concretely, if there is a positive constant *M* such that

$$\left| \alpha(x) + \beta(y) \right| < M, \qquad \int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} dt ds < M,$$

$$\int_{b(x_0)}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_0)}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} \left[\int_{b(x_0)}^{s} \int_{c(y_0)}^{t} g(s, t, \tau, \sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds < M$$

$$(3.6)$$

on $[x_0, X_1) \times [y_0, Y_1)$, then every solution u(x, y) of (3.2) is bounded on $[x_0, X_1) \times [y_0, Y_1)$. Next, we give the condition of the uniqueness of solutions for (3.2).

Corollary 3.2. *Suppose*

$$|F(x, y, u_1, v_1) - F(x, y, u_2, v_2)| \le f(x, y) [\varphi_1(|u_1 - u_2|) + |v_1 - v_2|], |h(x, y, s, t, u_1) - h(x, y, s, t, u_2)| \le g(x, y, s, t)\varphi_2(|u_1 - u_2|),$$
(3.7)

where f, g, φ_1 , φ_2 are defined as in Theorem 2.1. There is a positive number M such that

$$\int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} dt ds < M,$$

$$\int_{b(x_{0})}^{b(x)} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{c(y)} \frac{f(b^{-1}(s), c^{-1}(t))}{b'(b^{-1}(s))c'(c^{-1}(t))} \left[\int_{b(x_{0})}^{s} \int_{c(y_{0})}^{t} g(s, t, \tau, \sigma) d\tau d\sigma \right] dt ds < M$$
(3.8)

on $[x_0, X_1) \times [y_0, Y_1)$. Then, (3.2) has at most one solution on $[x_0, X_1) \times [y_0, Y_1)$, where X_1, Y_1 are defined as in Theorem 2.1.

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