Existence and Continuous Dependence on Initial Data of Solution for Initial Value Problem of Fuzzy Multiterm Fractional Differential Equation

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In this paper, the fuzzy multiterm fractional differential equation involving Caputo-type fuzzy fractional derivative of order $0 < \alpha < 1$ is considered. The uniqueness of solution is established by using the contraction mapping principle and the existence of solution is obtained by Schauder fixed point theorem.

1. Introduction

Nowadays the fractional differential equations (FDEs) are powerful tools representing many problems in various areas such as control engineering, diffusion processes, signal processing, and electromagnetism.

Recently the fuzzy fractional differential equations (FFDEs) have been studied by many researchers in order to analyze some systems with fuzzy initial conditions. But, it is too difficult to find the exact solutions of most FFDEs representing real-world phenomena. Therefore, research about FFDEs can be classified into two classes, namely, existence of solution and numerical methods. Many theoretical researches have been advanced on the existence, uniqueness, and stability of solution of FFDEs [1–12].

Also the analytical method and the numerical method are typical methods for solving FFDEs. The analytical method includes the Laplace transform method, monotone iterative method, variation of constant formula, and so on [13–15]. Typical numerical methods are the operational matrix method, fractional Euler method, predictor-corrector method, and so on [16–21].

In [22], the existence and uniqueness of the solutions of fuzzy initial value problems of fractional differential equations with the Caputo-type fuzzy fractional derivative have been proved. Under the conditions which the right sides of equations satisfy Hölder continuity or Lipschitz continuity in its all variables, the existence of a solution to the Cauchy problem for fuzzy fractional differential equations was discussed in [23]. In [24], by employing the contraction mapping principle on the complete metric space, the existence and uniqueness result for fuzzy fractional functional integral equation has been proved. The existence results of solutions for fuzzy fractional initial value problem under generalized differentiability conditions are obtained by Banach fixed point theorem in [25]. In [26], researchers discussed the uniqueness and existence of the solutions for FFDEs with Riemann-Liouville H-differentiability of arbitrary order by using Krasnoselskii-Krein type conditions, Kooi type conditions, and Rogers conditions. But, the considerations of researchers in [22–26] were restricted to the case of FFDEs with single derivative term. Ngo et al. [27] presented that the existence and uniqueness results of the solution for fuzzy Caputo-Katugampola (CK) fractional differential equations with initial value and in [28] proved that the fractional
fuzzy differential equation is not equal to the fractional fuzzy integral equation in general.

Based on the above facts, in this paper, we study the existence and uniqueness of solutions for fuzzy multiterm fractional differential equations of order $0 < \alpha < 1$ with fuzzy initial value under Caputo-type H-differentiability.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we introduced some definitions and properties of fuzzy fractional calculus. The existence result of solution for proposed problem is described in Section 3. Section 4 presented the continuous dependence on initial data of solution. Finally, the conclusion is summarized in Section 5.

2. Preliminaries and Basic Results

We introduce some definitions and notations which will be used throughout our paper.

**Definition 1** (see [29]). Let us denote by $\mathcal{R}_f$ the class of fuzzy subsets $u: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ satisfying the following properties:

(i) $u$ is normal, i.e., $\exists x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ for which $u(x_0) = 1$,

(ii) $u$ is fuzzy convex, i.e., $u(\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y) \geq \min\{u(x), u(y)\}$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$, $\forall \lambda \in [0, 1]$,

(iii) $u$ is upper semicontinuous on $\mathbb{R}$,

(iv) $\text{supp} u = \{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid u(x) > 0\}$ is the support of the $u$, and its closure $\overline{\text{supp} u}$ is compact.

Then $\mathcal{R}_f$ is called the space of fuzzy number and any $u \in \mathcal{R}_f$ is called fuzzy number.

We denote the $r$-cut form of fuzzy number $u \in \mathcal{R}_f$, $0 \leq r \leq 1$, by $[u]^r := [u_1(r), u_2(r)]$.

Also let us $u, v \in \mathcal{R}_f$. The metric $d: \mathcal{R}_f \times \mathcal{R}_f \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ on $\mathcal{R}_f$ is defined as follows:

$$d(u, v) := \sup_{r \in [0, 1]} \text{max} \{|u_1(r) - v_1(r)|, |u_2(r) - v_2(r)|\}.$$  

**Definition 2** (see [19]). Let $u, v \in \mathcal{R}_f$. If there exists $w \in \mathcal{R}_f$ such that $u = v \oplus w$, then $w$ is called the $H$-difference of $u$ and $v$, and it is denoted by $w = u \ominus_H v$. Note that $u \ominus_H v \neq u + (-1)v$.

**Definition 3** (see [19]). Let $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_f$ and $x_0 \in (a, b)$. We say that $f$ is $H$-differentiable at $x_0$, if for $h > 0$ sufficiently near to 0, there exist the $H$-differences $f(x_0 + h) \ominus_H f(x_0)$, $f(x_0) \ominus_H f(x_0 - h)$, and the limits

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(x_0 + h) \ominus_H f(x_0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(x_0) \ominus_H f(x_0 - h)}{h}.$$  

Then the limit is denoted by $D^{(r)}f(x_0)$.

**Theorem 4** (see [14]). Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_f$ be $H$-differentiable and $[f(x)]^r = [f_1(x, r), f_2(x, r)]$. Then $f_1(x, r), f_2(x, r)$ are all differentiable and

$$[D^{(r)}f(x)]^r = [D^{(r)}f_1(x, r), D^{(r)}f_2(x, r)].$$  

**Definition 5** (see [14]). A function $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_f$ is said to be Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$, if $\exists R \in \mathcal{R}_f, \forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$, for any division of $[a, b]$, $\Delta: a = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_n = b$ with norm $(\Delta) < \delta$, and for any points $\xi_i \in [t_i, t_{i+1}], i = 0, 1, \ldots, n - 1$,

$$d\left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(\xi_i) \cdot (t_{i+1} - t_i), I_R\right) < \varepsilon.$$  

We denote the fuzzy Riemann integral of $f$ from $a$ to $b$ by $I_R = \int_{a}^{b} f(t) dt$.

**Lemma 6** (see [14]). Suppose that $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_f$ are continuous, then

(i) $f$ is the fuzzy Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and $F(t) = \int_{a}^{t} f(s) ds$ is differentiable as in Definition 3, namely, $D^{(r)}F(t) = f(t)$,

(ii) $d(I_{a}^{b} f(s) ds, I_{a}^{b} g(s) ds) \leq b d(f(s), g(s))ds$.

We introduce the following notations:

$C^F(I)$ is the set of all continuous fuzzy-valued functions on $I$.

$AC^F(I)$ is the set of all absolutely continuous fuzzy-valued functions on $I$.

$L^F(I)$ is the space of all Lebesque integrable fuzzy-valued functions on $I$, where $I = [0, L]$ and without losing generality, we promise that $L = 1$.

**Definition 7** (see [19]). Let $f \in C^F(I) \cap L^F(I)$. The fuzzy Riemann-Liouville fractional integral of the fuzzy-valued function $f$ is defined as follows:

$$I_0^\beta f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \int_{0}^{x} (x - s)^{\beta-1} f(s) ds, \quad x > 0.$$  

where $I_0^\beta$ is the Riemann-Liouville integral operator of $\beta$ and $\Gamma(\beta)$ is the Gamma function.

**Lemma 8** (see [19]). Let $f \in C^F(I) \cap L^F(I)$. Then Riemann-Liouville integral of the fuzzy-valued function $f$, based on its $r$-cut form, can be expressed as follows:

$$[I_0^\beta f(x)]^r = [I_0^\beta f_1(x, r), I_0^\beta f_2(x, r)], \quad 0 \leq r \leq 1,$$

where

$$I_0^\beta f_i(x, r) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \int_{0}^{x} f_i(s, r) \frac{1}{(x - s)^{1-\beta}} ds, \quad i = 1, 2.$$  

**Lemma 9.** Let $f \in C^F(I), \alpha, \beta > 0$. Then the following relations are satisfied:

$$I_0^\alpha I_0^\beta f(x) = I_0^{\alpha+\beta} f(x) = I_0^{\alpha} I_0^\beta f(x).$$
Proof. Let us denote the $r$-cut form of $f$ by $[f(x)]^r = [f_1(x, r), f_2(x, r)]$. Then we have

$$
I_{0+}^\alpha I_{0+}^\beta f(x) = \left[ I_{0+}^\alpha f_1(x, r), I_{0+}^\alpha f_2(x, r) \right] = \left[ I_{0+}^\beta f_1(x, r), I_{0+}^\beta f_2(x, r) \right] \tag{9}
$$

Moreover, since $f \in C^F(I)$, we get

$$
\left[ I_{0+}^\alpha f(x) \right]^r = \left[ I_{0+}^{\alpha\beta} f_1(x, r), I_{0+}^{\alpha\beta} f_2(x, r) \right] \tag{10}
$$

Definition 10 (see [19]). Let $0 < \beta < 1$. We say that $f$ is fuzzy Riemann-Liouville H-differentiable of order $\beta$ if

$$
I_{0+}^{1-\beta} f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\beta)} \int_0^x f(s) (x-s)^{\beta-1} ds, \ x > 0 \tag{11}
$$

is H-differentiable. Then fuzzy Riemann-Liouville H-derivative of order $\beta$ of function $f$ is denoted by $RLD_{0+}^\beta f(x) = D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{1-\beta} f(x)$.

Definition 11 (see [19]). Let $0 < \beta < 1$. We say that $f$ is a fuzzy Caputo-type differentiable function if H-difference $f(x) \otimes_{H} f(0)$ and $I_{0+}^{1-\beta} (f(x) \otimes_{H} f(0)) \in AC^F(I)$ satisfies. Then fuzzy Caputo-type derivative of order $\beta$ of function $f$ is denoted by

$$
(c D_{0+}^\beta f)(x) = RL D_{0+}^\beta (f(x) \otimes_{H} f(0)), \ x > 0 \tag{12}
$$

Lemma 12 (see [19]). Let $f \in C^F(I) \cap L^F(I)$ and $[f(x)]^r = [f_1(x, r), f_2(x, r)]$ for all $r \in [0, 1]$. If $f$ is a fuzzy Caputo-type fractional differentiable function, then

$$
\left[ (c D_{0+}^\beta f) (x) \right]^r = \left[ I_{0+}^{1-\beta} D f(x) \right]^r \tag{13}
$$

Lemma 13. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be H-differentiable. Then the following relations hold:

(i) $f \in C^F(0, 1) \implies c D_{0+}^\beta f(x) = f(x)$.

(ii) $f \in C^F(0, 1) \implies RL D_{0+}^\beta f(x) = f(x)$.

(iii) $0 < \lambda < \beta, f \in C^F(0, 1) \implies c D_{0+}^\beta f(x) = I_{0+}^{\lambda-\beta} f(x)$.

Proof. First we prove (i). From the assumption of Lemma 13, we have

$$
c D_{0+}^\beta I_{0+}^\beta f(x) = RL D_{0+}^\beta (I_{0+}^\beta f(x) \otimes_{H} I_{0+}^\beta f(0)) \tag{14}
$$

By Lemma 6 (i), we get

$$
D^{(1)} I_{0+}^1 f(x) = f(x). \tag{15}
$$

From the result (i) of lemma, it is obvious that (ii) holds. Next we prove (iii).

$$
c D_{0+}^\beta I_{0+}^\beta f(x) = RL D_{0+}^\beta (I_{0+}^\beta f(x) \otimes_{H} I_{0+}^\beta f(0)) \tag{16}
$$

By Lemma 6 (i), we obtain

$$
D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{1-\beta} f(x) = I_{0+}^{1-\beta} f(x). \tag{17}
$$

Lemma 14. The following facts are true:

(i) Let $z \in C^F(I)$. For any positive number $\sigma$, the fractional integral $I_{0+}^\sigma z(x)$ is continuous in $x$.

(ii) For any positive numbers $\sigma$ and $k$, it holds that $I_{0+}^\sigma e^{kx} \leq e^{kx} I_{0+}^\sigma$.

(iii) Let $u, v \in C^F(I)$. For any positive number $\sigma$, it holds that

$$
d (I_{0+}^\sigma u(x), I_{0+}^\sigma v(x)) \leq I_{0+}^\sigma d(u(x), v(x)). \tag{18}
$$

Proof. Let us consider the assertion (i). For any $x_0 \in (0, 1]$, it is enough to prove that

$$
\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} d (I_{0+}^\sigma z(x), I_{0+}^\sigma z(x_0)) = 0. \tag{19}
$$

We use the notation $[z(x)]^r = [z_1(x, r), z_2(x, r)]$ for $r$-cut representation of $z(x)$.

Since $z \in C^F(I)$, $z_1(r, x)$, and $z_2(r, x)$ are continuous in $x$. And by Lemma 8, the following expression holds:

$$
d (I_{0+}^\sigma z(x), I_{0+}^\sigma z(x_0)) = \sup_{r \in [0, 1]} \max \left[ |I_{0+}^\sigma z_1(x, r) - I_{0+}^\sigma z_1(x_0, r)|, \right. \tag{20}
$$

Now we prove (ii).
From the definition of fractional integral, the following is true:

\[
I_0^\alpha e^{kt} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t - s)^{\alpha-1} e^{ks} \, ds
\]

Therefore, the following evaluations are true:

\[
\frac{\epsilon^{kt}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t \left( \frac{s}{k} \right)^{\alpha-1} e^{-s/k} \, ds
\]

By the definition of Gamma function, we have

\[
\frac{\epsilon^{kt}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \cdot k^\alpha \cdot \int_0^\infty s^{\alpha-1} e^{-s} \, ds = \frac{\epsilon^{kt}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \cdot k^\alpha = \frac{\epsilon^{kt}}{k^\alpha}. \tag{22}
\]

Let us consider assertion (iii).

We use the notations \([u(\alpha)]^r = [u_1(x, r), u_2(x, r)], [y(\alpha)]^r = [v_1(x, r), v_2(x, r)]\) for r-cut representations of \(u(x), v(x)\), respectively.

Since \(u, v \in C^F(I), u_1(x, r), u_2(x, r), v_1(x, r), v_2(x, r)\) are continuous in \(x\). Therefore the following evaluations are true:

\[
d \left( I_0^\alpha u(x), I_0^\beta v(x) \right)
\]

where \(f : I \times R_F \times R_F \rightarrow R_F, y_0 \in R_F\), and \(D_0^\alpha\) is fuzzy Caputo-type derivative.

**Definition 15.** Let \(y : I \rightarrow R_F\). We say that \(y\) is the solution of initial value problem (24) if \(D_0^\alpha y(x) \in C^F(I)\) holds and \(y\) satisfies (24).

Now let us consider the following:

\[
D_0^\alpha y(x) = z(x), \quad x \in (0, 1],
\]

\[
y(0) = y_0, \quad y_0 \in R_F.
\]

**Lemma 16.** The solution of initial value problem of fuzzy fractional differential equation (25) is represented as

\[
y(x) = y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z(s)}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} \, ds. \tag{26}
\]

**Proof.** Let \(y\) be the solution of initial value problem (25). Then we have

\[
D_0^\alpha y(x) \equiv z(x), \quad x \in I.
\]

Also since \(z\) is the fuzzy continuous, it is the fuzzy integrable and \(I_0^\alpha z(x)\) exists for \(x \in I\).

Therefore the following relations hold:

\[
I_0^\alpha \int_0^x z(s) \, ds = \int_0^x y(s) \, ds, \quad x \in I,
\]

\[
I_0^\alpha \int_0^x y(s) \, ds = \int_0^x y(s) \, ds, \quad x \in I.
\]

From the Caputo-type differentiability of fuzzy-valued function \(y\), we get

\[
I_0^{1-\alpha} (y(x) \circ_H y_0) \in AC^F(I)
\]

and since the space of the absolutely continuous functions coincides with the space of primitive functions of Lebesque integrable functions, the following relation is satisfied:

\[
\exists \varphi \in L^F(I); \quad \int_0^x (y(x) \circ_H y_0) = I_0^\alpha \varphi(x).
\]

Therefore we obtain

\[
y(x) \circ_H y_0 = I_0^\alpha \varphi(x). \tag{31}
\]

By (30) and Lemma 6 (i), the left side of (28) exchanges as

\[
I_0^\alpha \int_0^x y(s) \, ds = \int_0^x y(s) \, ds, \quad x \in I.
\]

From (28) and (31), \(y(x) \circ_H y_0 = I_0^\alpha z(x)\) is satisfied.

Namely, we have

\[
y(x) = y_0 + I_0^\alpha z(x). \tag{33}
\]
Conversely, we prove that \( y \) denoted by (26) is the solution of fuzzy initial value problem (25). Since

\[
y(x) = y_0 \oplus \frac{1}{\Gamma (\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z(s)}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} \, ds = y_0 \oplus I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x),
\]

(34)
y(\theta) \otimes_H y_0 = I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x) \text{ holds. Also as } z \in C^F(I), \text{ we get}

\[
I_{0+}^{\alpha} (y(\theta) \otimes_H y_0) = I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x).
\]

(35)

On the other hand, when \([z(\theta)]' = [z_1(\theta, r), z_2(\theta, r)]\), by Lemma 8

\[
[ I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(\theta)]' = \left[ \int_0^x z_1(\theta, r) \, ds \int_0^x z_2(\theta, r) \, ds \right]
\]

(36)
holds \( \forall r \in [0, 1] \). Therefore

\[
I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x + h) = \left[ \int_0^x z_1(\theta, r) \, ds \int_0^x z_2(\theta, r) \, ds \right]
\]

\[
= \left[ \int_0^x z_1(\theta, r) \, ds + \int_0^x z_2(\theta, r) \, ds \right].
\]

(37)

Since the interval family \([\{ \int_0^x z_1(\theta, r) \, ds, \int_0^x z_2(\theta, r) \, ds \}]\), generates obviously a fuzzy number, we can see that there exist the H-differences as

\[
I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x + h) \otimes_H I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x),
\]

(38)

Consequently the H-differentiability of \( y \) is leaded. From (35), we obtain

\[
D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{\alpha} (y(\theta) \otimes_H y_0) = D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x) = z(x).
\]

(39)

Also it is obvious that \( y \) satisfies the initial condition. \( \square \)

**Theorem 17.** Let \( f \) of (24) be a fuzzy continuous with respect to every variable. If \( y(x) \) is the solution of initial value problem (24), the fuzzy-valued function \( z(x) \) which is constructed by \( z(x) = D^a_0 y(x) \) is the solution in \( C^F(I) \) of fuzzy integral equation as

\[
z(x) = f(x, y_0 \oplus \frac{1}{\Gamma (\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z(s)}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} \, ds, I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x)),
\]

(40)

\( x \in [0, 1] \).

Conversely if \( z(x) \) is the solution in \( C^F(I) \) of fuzzy integral equation (40), \( y(x) \) which is constructed by (26) is the solution of initial value problem (24).

**Proof.** Let \( y(x) \) be the solution of initial value problem (24). Namely, let assume that \( y(x) \) satisfies

\[
D^a_0 y(x) = f(x, y(x), y'(x)) \text{, } x \in (0, 1],
\]

(41)
y(0) = y_0,
y_0 \in \mathbb{R}.

Then if \( z(x) \) is denoted by \( z(x) = D^a_0 y(x) \), by Lemma 16, the following relation is leaded:

\[
y(x) = y_0 \oplus \frac{1}{\Gamma (\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z(s)}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} \, ds = y_0 \oplus I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x).
\]

(42)

Applying the operator \( D^a_0 \) to the both side of above equation, by Lemma 13 (iii), we get

\[
D^a_0 y(x) = I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x).
\]

(43)

Therefore substituting the above results to \( D^a_0 y(x) \), \( D^a_0 y(0) \), \( y(0) \) of (41), we obtain (40).

Next let \( z(x) \) be the solution of fuzzy integral equation (40). Then it is obvious that

\[
y(x) = y_0 \oplus I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x)
\]

(44)
satisfies the initial condition of problem (24) from the continuousness of \( z(x) \).

Namely

\[
y_0 = y(0).
\]

(45)
Consequently from (44)

\[
y(x) \otimes_H y_0 = y(x) \otimes_H y_0 = I_{0+}^{\alpha} z(x)
\]

(46)
is leaded and regarding the above equation, we get

\[
I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} y(x) \otimes_H y(0) = I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x) = I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x),
\]

\[
D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} y(x) \otimes_H y(0) = D^{(1)} I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x) = z(x),
\]

(47)

\[
D^a_0 y(x) = z(x) = f(x, y(s), I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x)).
\]

Moreover since

\[
D^a_0 y(x) = D^a_0 (I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x) \otimes y(0)) = D^a_0 I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x) = I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x),
\]

(48)
we obtain

\[
D^a_0 y(x) = f(x, y(s), D^a_0 I_{0+}^{\alpha-a} z(x)).
\]

(49)

Now we employ the following metric structure in \( C^F(I) \):

\[
\forall u, v \in C^F(I), \quad d^*(u, v) = \max_{t \in I} d(u(t), v(t)).
\]

(50)
Obviously we can see that \((C^F(I), d^*)\) is a complete metric space (see [24]).

For any positive number \(k\), we can consider the metric structure as

\[
\forall u, v \in C^F(I), \quad d_k^*(u, v) = \max_{t \in I} e^{-tk}d(u(t), v(t)).
\]  (51)

Then the metric \(d_k^*\) is equivalent to the metric \(d^*\). Namely,

\[
\exists M, m > 0; \quad \forall u, v \in C^F(I), \quad md_k^*(u, v) \leq d^*(u, v) \leq Md_k^*(u, v).
\]  (52)

**Theorem 18.** Assume that the function \(f\) in (40) is continuous in its all variables and especially, for any \(y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}_p\), \(f\) satisfies the following condition:

\[
d(f(x, y_1, z_1), f(x, y_2, z_2)) \leq L_1 \cdot d(y_1, y_2) + L_2 \cdot d(z_1, z_2).
\]  (53)

Then the fuzzy integral equation (40) has a unique solution.

**Proof.** Since \(\alpha, \alpha - \beta > 0\), there exists \(k_* > 0\) that inequality \(L_1(1/k_*^\alpha) + L_2(1/k_*^{\alpha-\beta}) < 1\) is true.

Therefore for any \(k_*\) satisfying this inequality, we put as follows:

\[
q = L_1 \frac{1}{k_*^\alpha} + L_2 \frac{1}{k_*^{\alpha-\beta}}.
\]  (54)

We also define the operator \(T\) by

\[
(Tz)(x) = f(x, y_0) \odot \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z(s)}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}}ds \cdot I_0^{\alpha-\beta}z(x).
\]  (55)

For any \(z \in C^F(I)\), by (i) of Lemma 14, \(I^\alpha_{0+}z(x), I^{\alpha-\beta}_{0+}z(x)\) are continuous and \(f\) is continuous by assumptions of theorem. Thus the operator \(T\) is a map from \(C^F(I)\) to \(C^F(I)\).

Thus the fuzzy integral equation (40) is represented as

\[
z = Tz, \quad z \in C^F(I).
\]  (56)

The existence of solution for the fuzzy integral equation (40) is equivalent to the existence of the fixed point of the operator \(T\) in \(C^F(I)\).
and
\[ d_{k_n}^*(Tz_1, Tz_2) \leq \left( \frac{L_1}{k_n^\gamma} + \frac{L_2}{k_n^{\alpha-\beta}} \right) \cdot d_{k_n}^*(z_1, z_2) = q \cdot d_{k_n}^*(z_1, z_2). \] (62)

Thus the operator \( T \) is contractive on \( C^F(I) \) with respect to the distance \( d_{k_n}^* \), and we obtain the unique fixed point \( C^F(I) \) of the operator \( T \) by contraction mapping principle. By the way, since the distance \( d_{k_n}^* \) is equivalent to \( d^* \) in \( C^F(I) \), \( z^* \) is also the unique fixed point in the distance \( d^* \). This completes the proof of theorem. \( \square \)

Next let us consider the existence of solution in case which have not satisfied the Lipschitz condition.

**Lemma 19** (Schauder fixed point theorem). Assume that \( (E, d) \) is the complete metric space, \( U \) is a nonempty convex closed subset of \( E \), and \( A \) is a continuous mapping of \( U \) into itself such that \( A(U) \) is contained in a compact subset of \( U \), then \( A \) has a fixed point in \( U \).

**Theorem 20.** Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

(i) \( \exists r > d^*(f(\cdot, y_0 \hat{0}), y_0), L_1, L_2, L_3 > 0, \forall x_1, x_2 \in (0, 1], \forall y_1, y_2 \in U_r(y_0), \forall z_1, z_2 \in U_r(\hat{0}), \)

\[
d(f(x_1, y_1, z_1), f(x_2, y_2, z_2)) \leq L_1 \cdot d(y_1, y_2) + L_2 \cdot d(z_1, z_2) + L_3 \cdot |x_1 - x_2|,
\] (63)

where \( U_r(y_0) = \{ u \mid d^*(u, y_0) \leq r, u \in C^F(I) \} \) and \( \hat{0} \) is zero fuzzy number.

(ii) \( q^* = L_1(1/\Gamma(\alpha + 1)) + L_2 \cdot 1/\Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1) < 1 \).

Let \( x_* = \max \{ \frac{x \cdot L_1 \cdot x^\alpha + L_2 \cdot x^\alpha}{r} \leq \frac{\min \{ \Gamma(\alpha + 1), \Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1) \} (r - d^*(f(x, y_0 \hat{0}), y_0))}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \leq 1, \frac{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \leq 1} \} \).

and

\[
U_r(y_0) = \{ u \mid d^*(u, y_0) \leq r, u \in C^F [0, x_*] \},
\]

\[
U_r(\hat{0}) = \{ u \mid d^*(u, \hat{0}) \leq r, u \in C^F [0, x_*] \}.
\] (65)

Then the following results hold:

(i) \( T : U_r(\hat{0}) \rightarrow U_r(\hat{0}) \),

(ii) \( \{ Tu \mid u \in U_r(\hat{0}) \} \) is relatively compact.

**Proof.** Firstly, let us prove that \( T : U_r(\hat{0}) \rightarrow U_r(\hat{0}) \).

We have that, for any \( u \in U_r(\hat{0}) \),

\[
d\left( y_0 \oplus \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s) (x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, y_0 \right)
\]

\[
\leq d\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s) (x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, \hat{0} \right)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x d\left( u(s), \hat{0} \right) \leq \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} r.
\] (66)

Thus we can get that \( y_0 \oplus (1/\Gamma(\alpha)) \int_0^x u(s)/(x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds \in U_r(\hat{0}) \).

Also by (iii) of Lemma 14, we have that, for any \( u \in U_r(\hat{0}) \),

\[
d(Tu, y_0) = d\left( f(x, y_0), y_0 \right)
\]

\[
\leq d\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s)/(x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, \hat{0} \right)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} r.
\] (67)

Thus we can see that \( U_r(\hat{0}) \in U_r(\hat{0}) \).

Therefore we can get that for any \( u \in U_r(\hat{0}) \),

\[
d(Tu(x), y_0) = d\left( f(x, y_0), y_0 \right)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s)/(x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, \hat{0}
\]

\[
+ d\left( f(x, y_0, \hat{0}), y_0 \right) \leq L_1 \cdot d\left( y_0 \oplus \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s)/(x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, y_0 \right)
\]

\[
+ d\left( f(x, y_0, \hat{0}), y_0 \right) \leq L_1 \cdot d\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x u(s)/(x-s)^{1-\alpha}ds, \hat{0} \right)
\]

\[
+ d\left( f(x, y_0, \hat{0}), y_0 \right)
\] (68)
By (iii) of Lemma 14, we have

\[ \begin{align*}
L_1 \Gamma(\alpha) & \left( \int_0^x d\left(u(s) \cdot \bar{0}\right) - d\left(u(x) \cdot \bar{0}\right) \right) + d\left(f(x, y_0 \cdot \bar{0})\right) \\
& \leq L_1 \Gamma(\alpha) \left( \int_0^x d\left(u(s) \cdot \bar{0}\right) - d\left(u(x) \cdot \bar{0}\right) \right) + d\left(f(x, y_0 \cdot \bar{0})\right) \\
& \leq \frac{L_1 \cdot x^\alpha \cdot r}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} + \frac{L_2 \cdot x^{\alpha - \beta} \cdot r}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1)} + d\left(f(x, y_0 \cdot \bar{0})\right), y_0
\end{align*} \]  

(69)

Therefore the operator \( T \) is a continuous mapping from convex closed subset \( \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0}) \) into itself; namely,

\[ T : \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0}) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0}). \]  

(70)

Next let us prove (ii). The uniformly boundedness of \( \{Tu \mid u \in \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0})\} \) is obvious from (70).

Let us consider the equicontinuity of \( \{Tu \mid u \in \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0})\} \). For any \( y \in \{Tu \mid u \in \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0})\} \), there exists \( z \in \mathcal{U}_r(\bar{0}) \) which satisfies \( y = Tz \).

For \( x_1, x_2 \in (0, x_1] \), we estimate \( d(y(x_1), y(x_2)) = d(Tz(x_1), Tz(x_2)) \).

Without losing generality, let \( x_1 < x_2 \leq x^*_r \).

Then we have

\[ \begin{align*}
& d(Tz(x_1), Tz(x_2)) = d\left(f(x_1, y_0 \cdot \bar{0}) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_1} z(s) \left( \int_{x_1}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) \right) \\
& \quad \cdot \int_0^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1 - \alpha}} ds, y_0 \cdot \bar{0} + \int_0^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1 - \alpha}} ds, y_0 \cdot \bar{0}
\end{align*} \]  

(71)

\[ \begin{align*}
& = d\left(f(x_1, y_0 \cdot \bar{0}) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_1} z(s) \left( \int_{x_1}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) \right) \\
& \quad \cdot \int_0^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1 - \alpha}} ds, y_0 \cdot \bar{0} + \int_0^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1 - \alpha}} ds, y_0 \cdot \bar{0}
\end{align*} \]  

(72)

Now we estimate the second term of the above expression.

\[ \begin{align*}
& d\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_1} z(s) \left( \int_{x_1}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_2} z(s) \left( \int_{x_2}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) \right) \\
& = d\left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_1} z(s) \left( \int_{x_1}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_2} z(s) \left( \int_{x_2}^s \frac{d(z(s))}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} ds \right) \right)
\end{align*} \]
\[
\int_0^{x_1} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1-\alpha}} ds + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1-\alpha}} ds
\]
\[\leq d \left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{x_1} \frac{z(s)}{(x_1 - s)^{1-\alpha}} ds, \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \right)
\]
\[+ \int_0^{x_1} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1-\alpha}} ds + d \left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{z(s)}{(x_2 - s)^{1-\alpha}} ds, 0 \right)
\]
\[\leq \frac{r}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left| \int_0^{x_1} \left( \frac{1}{(x_1 - s)^{1-\alpha}} - \frac{1}{(x_2 - s)^{1-\alpha}} \right) ds \right|
\]
\[\leq \frac{r}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \left( x_2 - x_1 \right)^\alpha
\]
\[\leq \frac{r}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta)} \left( x_2 - x_1 \right)^\alpha - x_1^{\alpha-\beta} + \frac{r}{\Gamma(1+\alpha-\beta)} \left( x_2^{\alpha-\beta} - x_1^{\alpha-\beta} \right).
\]

Estimating the third term of above equation similarly to above, we have
\[d \left( Tz(x_1), Tz(x_2) \right)
\leq L_3 \left| x_1 - x_2 \right| + \frac{2rL_1}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \left( x_2 - x_1 \right)^\alpha
\]
\[+ \frac{rL_1}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \left( x_2^\alpha - x_1^\alpha \right)
\]
\[+ \frac{2rL_2}{\Gamma(1+\alpha-\beta)} \left( x_2 - x_1 \right)^{\alpha-\beta}
\]
\[+ \frac{rL_2}{\Gamma(1+\alpha-\beta)} \left( x_2^{\alpha-\beta} - x_1^{\alpha-\beta} \right).
\]

From right side of the above expression, we can see that \( \{ Tu \mid u \in U(\hat{0}) \} \) is equiuniform.

By Arzelà-Ascoli theorem, \( \{ Tu \mid u \in U(\hat{0}) \} \) is relatively compact.

By Theorem 20 and Schauder fixed point theorem, we can see the operator \( T \) has a fixed point in \( U(\hat{0}) \).

4. Continuous Dependence on Initial Condition of Solution

We consider the continuous dependence on initial condition of solution for proposed problem (24). Let \( y_1(t, y_{1,0}), y_2(t, y_{2,0}) \) are solutions with initial values \( y_{1,0}, y_{2,0} \in \mathbb{R} \) and \( z_1(t, y_{1,0}), z_2(t, y_{2,0}) \) are solutions of corresponding integral equation.

The following theorem shows the continuous dependence on initial condition of solution.

**Theorem 21.** Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

(i) \( \exists L_1, L_2 > 0; \forall x \in [0,1], \forall y_1, y_2, z_1, z_2 \in C^F(I), \)
\[d \left( f(x, y_1, z_1), f(x, y_2, z_2) \right) \leq L_1 \cdot d(y_1, y_2) + L_2 \cdot d(z_1, z_2). \]

(ii) \( q^* = L_1(1/\Gamma(\alpha + 1)) + L_2 \cdot 1/\Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1) < 1. \)

Then following relation holds:
\[d \left( y_1(t, y_{1,0}), y_2(t, y_{2,0}) \right) \leq \left( 1 + \frac{L_1}{(1-q^*) \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \right) d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}). \]

**Proof.** Since \( z_1(t, y_{1,0}), z_2(t, y_{2,0}) \) are solutions of the integral equation (40), we have
\[z_1(x, y_{1,0}) \equiv f \left( x, y_{1,0} \oplus I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}) \right),
\]
\[z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \equiv f \left( x, y_{2,0} \oplus I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right).
\]

Now we estimate \( d(z_1(x, y_{1,0}), z_2(x, y_{2,0})) \):
\[d \left( z_1(x, y_{1,0}), z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right) \leq L_1 d \left( y_{1,0}, y_{2,0} \right) + L_2 d \left( I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right) \]
\[+ d \left( I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right) \]
\[+ L_2 d \left( I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right) \]
\[+ L_2 d \left( I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_1(x, y_{1,0}), I_{0^+}^{\alpha-\beta} z_2(x, y_{2,0}) \right) \]
\[+ \frac{L_1}{(1-q^*) \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}). \]
By (iii) of Lemma 14, we have

\[ \begin{align*}
&\leq L_1 \left( d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + L_0^\alpha d(z_1(x, y_{1,0}), z_2(x, y_{2,0})) \right) \\
&\quad + L_2 L_0^{-\beta} d(z_1(x, y_{1,0}), z_2(x, y_{2,0})) \\
&\leq L_1 d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + \frac{L_1}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} d^*(z_1, z_2) \\
&\quad + \frac{L_2}{\Gamma(\alpha - \beta + 1)} d^*(z_1, z_2) \\
&= L_1 d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + q^* d^*(z_1, z_2).
\end{align*} \]

Consequently, we get

\[ \max_{x \in (0,1]} d(z_1(x, y_{1,0}), z_2(x, y_{2,0})) = d^*(z_1, z_2) \]

\[ \leq L_1 d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + q^* d^*(z_1, z_2), \]

\[ d^*(z_1, z_2) \leq \frac{L_1}{1 - q^*} d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}). \]

Next we estimate \( d(y_1(t, y_{1,0}), y_2(t, y_{2,0})). \)

\[ \begin{align*}
&d(y_1(t, y_{1,0}), y_2(t, y_{2,0})) = d \left( y_{1,0} \odot \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \right) \\
&\quad \cdot \int_0^x \frac{z_1(s, y_{1,0})}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds, y_{2,0} \odot \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z_2(s, y_{1,0})}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds \\
&\leq d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + d \left( \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{z_1(s, y_{1,0})}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds, 1 \right) \\
&\quad \cdot \int_0^x \frac{z_2(s, y_{1,0})}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds.
\end{align*} \]

By (iii) of Lemma 14, we have

\[ \begin{align*}
&\leq d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x \frac{d(z_1(s, y_{1,0}), z_2(s, y_{1,0}))}{(x-s)^{1-\alpha}} ds \\
&\leq d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} d^*(z_1, z_2).
\end{align*} \]

By (81), we obtain

\[ \begin{align*}
&d(y_1(t, y_{1,0}), y_2(t, y_{2,0})) \\
&\leq \left( 1 + \frac{L_1}{(1 - q^*) \Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \right) d(y_{1,0}, y_{2,0}).
\end{align*} \]

\[ \square \]

5. Conclusions

We obtained the uniqueness results by employing contraction mapping principle and the existence results by using Schauder fixed point theorem for the solution of the fuzzy multiterm fractional differential equation involving Caputo-type fuzzy fractional derivative of order \( 0 < \alpha < 1 \) on complete metric space of continuous fuzzy number value functions. We also established the continuous dependence of solution on its initial condition. Our results can be expanded to the case in which the right side of equation involves more than two derivative terms.

Data Availability

No data were used to support this study.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

References


