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The Existence, Uniqueness, and Stability Analysis of the Discrete Fractional Three-Point Boundary Value Problem for the Elastic Beam Equation

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Abstract: An elastic beam equation (EBEq) described by a fourth-order fractional difference equation is proposed in this work with three-point boundary conditions involving the Riemann–Liouville fractional difference operator. New sufficient conditions ensuring the solutions' existence and uniqueness of the proposed problem are established. The findings are obtained by employing properties of discrete fractional equations, Banach contraction, and Brouwer fixed-point theorems. Further, we discuss our problem's results concerning Hyers–Ulam (HU), generalized Hyers–Ulam (GHU), Hyers–Ulam–Rassias (HUR), and generalized Hyers–Ulam–Rassias (GHUR) stability. Specific examples with graphs and numerical experiment are presented to demonstrate the effectiveness of our results.

Keywords: Riemann–Liouville fractional difference operator; boundary value problem; discrete fractional calculus; existence and uniqueness; Ulam stability; elastic beam problem

MSC: 34A12; 34B10; 34B15; 39A12; 47H10; 74B20

1. Introduction

Elastic beam (EB) deflections are commonly known phenomena in science and engineering. Based on the significance of their applications such as for aircraft design, chemical sensors, micro-electromechanical systems, material mechanics, medical diagnostics, and physics, two-point boundary value problems (BVPs) for EBEqs have received considerable attention. Recently, many researchers have investigated EBEqs with various boundary conditions (BCs) (refer to [1–6]). Gupta in [6] studied a fourth-order EBEq with two-point BCs:

$$\begin{cases} w^{(4)}(\kappa) = G(\kappa, w(\kappa)), & \kappa \in (0, 1), \\ w(0) = 0, w''(0) = 0, w'(1) = 0, w'''(1) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Equation (1) describes an elastic beam model of length 1, which is clamped with a displacement and a bending moment that are equal to zero at the left end, and this model is free to travel with disappearing angular attitude and shear force at the right end.

In addition, Cianciaruso et al. [1] studied the model of the cantilever beam equation with three-point BCs:

$$\begin{cases} w^{(4)}(\kappa) = G(\kappa, w(\kappa)), \kappa \in (0, 1), \\ w(0) = w'(0) = w''(1) = 0, w'''(1) = h(w(\zeta)), \end{cases}$$

where $\zeta \in (0, 1)$ is a real constant. The above is a feedback mechanism model where the shearing force at the beam's right end responds to the displacement experienced at a point ζ .

Fractional calculus (FC) is a generalized form of classical integer-order calculus. Fractional calculus examines the properties of fractional-order derivatives and integrals. Due to its numerous applications in various scientific fields, this research area has gained considerable attention over the past few years. FC can be applicable in several fields of science and engineering, along with aerodynamics, electrical circuits, fluid dynamics, heat conduction, and physics. We refer to the comprehensive works in [7–10] for a detailed analysis of its applications, and we refer to [11–15] for the latest trends in the area of FC.

Researchers have explored various aspects of fractional difference equations (FDEs). Obviously, the solutions' existence, uniqueness, and stability analysis are some important features of FDEs. Various analytical approaches and fixed-point theory have been used to examine the solutions' existence and stability for FDEs. Several researchers have contributed a number of books and papers in this regard [16]. However, finding the exact solution of nonlinear FDEs is often too difficult; therefore, the stability analysis of solutions plays a crucial role in such investigations. Various kinds of stabilities described in the past are discussed in the literature, such as Lyapunov stability [17], Mittag-Leffler stability [18], and exponential stability [19]. Presumably, the most dependable stabilities are called \mathcal{HU} stability. The discussed stability was modified to \mathcal{GHU} stability (refer to [20–22]). In 1970, Rassias further generalized the aforesaid stability. For FDEs with different BCs concerning Riemann–Liouville and Caputo operators, the addressed fields of existence and stability analysis are well-equipped (see [23–28]).

A new interesting research field, named discrete fractional calculus (DFC), is attracting the interest of mathematicians and researchers. With discrete fractional operators, several real-world problems are being investigated [29–32]. The fractional difference equations have recently become an interesting field for scientists because of their applications in biology, ecology, and applied sciences [33]. However, a few research studies that have been conducted on discrete fractional-order BVPs can be found in [34–47].

The above findings inspired us in this study concerning the solutions' existence and uniqueness with various types of Ulam stability results for the proposed discrete fractional elastic beam equation (FEBE) that is subject to the three-point BCs as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} w(\kappa) = G(\kappa + \beta - 1, w(\kappa + \beta - 1)), \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}, \\ w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta w(\beta + n) = 0, \Delta^3 w(\beta + n) + w(\zeta) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where $\beta \in (3, 4]$ is a fractional order and $\zeta \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-1}^{\beta+n+2}$ is constant. Here, we have that $G : \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous, $w : \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta}$ is the Riemann–Liouville discrete fractional operator, and $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$.

The rest of this research work is structured as follows. Basic background knowledge on DFC is stated in Section 2. The result for a linear version of the BVP Equation (2) is discussed in Section 3. Further, by using this solution, the existence and uniqueness conditions for the proposed discrete FEBE with three-point BCs (Equation (2)) are derived with the help of contraction mapping and the Brouwer fixed-point theorems. Different types of stability results are extensively obtained in Section 4 via the findings of nonlinear analysis. Some illustrative examples with graphs and numerical experiment are presented in Section 5 as applications to provide a better understanding of our findings. Finally, Section 6 concludes our research work.

2. Essential Preliminaries

Some important notions and preliminary lemmas are stated in this section, which are needed for discussion of our results.

Definition 1 ([30]). For $\beta > 0$, the β th order fractional sum of G can be defined as

$$\Delta^{-\beta} G(\kappa) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=a}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} G(i),$$

for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{a+\beta}$ and $\sigma(i) = i + 1$. Define the β th fractional difference for $\beta > 0$ by $\Delta^\beta G(\kappa) := \Delta^M \Delta^{\beta-M} G(\kappa)$, for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{a+M-\beta}$, $M \in \mathbb{N}$ satisfies $0 \leq M - 1 < \beta \leq M$, and $\kappa^{(\beta)} := \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 1)}{\Gamma(\kappa + 1 - \beta)}$.

Lemma 1 ([30]). Assume that κ and β are any numbers such that $\kappa^{(\beta)}$ and $\kappa^{(\beta-1)}$ are defined. Then we have $\Delta \kappa^{(\beta)} = \beta \kappa^{(\beta-1)}$.

Lemma 2 (see [34,44]). Let $0 \leq M - 1 < \beta \leq M$. Then,

$$\Delta^{-\beta} \Delta^\beta G(\kappa) = G(\kappa) + C_1 \kappa^{(\beta-1)} + C_2 \kappa^{(\beta-2)} + \dots + C_M \kappa^{(\beta-M)},$$

for some $C_j \in \mathbb{R}$, $1 \leq j \leq M$.

Lemma 3 (see [42]). For κ and i , for which both $(\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta)}$ and $(\kappa - 1 - \sigma(i))^{(\beta)}$ are defined, we obtain that $\Delta_i \left[(\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta)} \right] = -\beta (\kappa - 1 - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)}$.

Lemma 4 (see [43,46]). Let $\beta, \nu > 0$. Then,

$$\Delta^{-\beta} \kappa^{(\nu)} = \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1)}{\Gamma(\nu + \beta + 1)} \kappa^{(\nu+\beta)} \text{ and } \Delta^\beta \kappa^{(\nu)} = \frac{\Gamma(\nu + 1)}{\Gamma(\nu - \beta + 1)} \kappa^{(\nu-\beta)}.$$

3. EB Existence and Uniqueness

The existence and uniqueness of EB is established in this section to the three-point BCs for the proposed discrete FEBE Equation (2). We now introduce the following theorem that deals with a linear variant solution of our proposed BVP Equation (2).

Theorem 1. Let $H : \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be given. Then, the linear discrete FEBE with three-point BCs:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{\beta-4}^\beta w(\kappa) = H(\kappa + \beta - 1), \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}, \\ w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta w(\beta + n) = 0, \Delta^3 w(\beta + n) + w(\zeta) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

has the unique solution, for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$,

$$\begin{aligned} w(\kappa) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i + \beta - 1) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] H(i + \beta - 1) \quad (4) \\ & + \frac{\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) = \frac{\left[\frac{\kappa^{(\beta-1)}}{e_1} h_1 + \kappa^{(\beta-2)} f_1 f_4 - \kappa^{(\beta-3)} f_1 \right]}{K}, \quad \mathbb{E}_2(\kappa) = \frac{\left[\kappa^{(\beta-1)} h_2 - \kappa^{(\beta-2)} e_1 f_4 + \kappa^{(\beta-3)} e_1 \right]}{K} \quad (5)$$

such that $h_1 = f_1(e_3 - e_2 f_4) - K$, $h_2 = e_2 f_4 - e_3$, $K = [e_3 f_1 - e_1 f_3] - f_4[e_2 f_1 - e_1 f_2]$,
 $e_1 = (\beta - 1)^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-4)} + \zeta^{(\beta-1)}$, $e_2 = (\beta - 2)^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-5)} + \zeta^{(\beta-2)}$,
 $e_3 = (\beta - 3)^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-6)} + \zeta^{(\beta-3)}$, $f_1 = (\beta - 1)(\beta + n)^{(\beta-2)}$,
 $f_2 = (\beta - 2)(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}$, $f_3 = (\beta - 3)(\beta + n)^{(\beta-4)}$ and $f_4 = \frac{(\beta - 4)}{(\beta - 2)}$.

Proof. By applying the fractional sum $\Delta^{-\beta}$ of order $\beta \in (3, 4]$ along with Lemma 2 to Equation (3), we have

$$w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1 \kappa^{(\beta-1)} + C_2 \kappa^{(\beta-2)} + C_3 \kappa^{(\beta-3)} + C_4 \kappa^{(\beta-4)}, \quad (6)$$

for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$ and some constants $C_j \in \mathbb{R}$, where $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$. By applying the first BC $w(\beta - 4) = 0$ in Equation (6), we obtain

$$w(\beta - 4) = C_1(\beta - 4)^{(\beta-1)} + C_2(\beta - 4)^{(\beta-2)} + C_3(\beta - 4)^{(\beta-3)} + C_4(\beta - 4)^{(\beta-4)} = 0. \quad (7)$$

By using Definition 1, we obtain

$$(\beta - 4)^{(\beta-1)} = (\beta - 4)^{(\beta-2)} = (\beta - 4)^{(\beta-3)} = 0 \text{ and } (\beta - 4)^{(\beta-4)} = \Gamma(\beta - 3). \quad (8)$$

Equations (7) and (8) imply $C_4 = 0$. Using C_4 in Equation (6) provides

$$w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1 \kappa^{(\beta-1)} + C_2 \kappa^{(\beta-2)} + C_3 \kappa^{(\beta-3)}. \quad (9)$$

Using Lemma 1 and taking the operator Δ on both sides of Equation (9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta w(\kappa) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta - 1)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta+1} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1) \\ &\quad + C_1(\beta - 1) \kappa^{(\beta-2)} + C_2(\beta - 2) \kappa^{(\beta-3)} + C_3(\beta - 3) \kappa^{(\beta-4)}. \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

From the third BC $\Delta w(\beta + n) = 0$ in Equation (10), we obtain

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta - 1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1 f_1 + C_2 f_2 + C_3 f_3 = 0. \quad (11)$$

The operator Δ is applied on both sides of Equation (10) with the aid of Lemma 1, and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^2 w(\kappa) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta - 2)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta+2} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-3)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1(\beta - 1)^{(2)} \kappa^{(\beta-3)} \\ &\quad + C_2(\beta - 2)^{(2)} \kappa^{(\beta-4)} + C_3(\beta - 3)^{(2)} \kappa^{(\beta-5)}. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

The second BC of Equation (3) implies

$$C_2(\beta - 2) + C_3(\beta - 4) = 0. \quad (13)$$

Again, using Lemma 1 and taking the operator Δ on both sides of Equation (12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta^3 w(\kappa) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta+3} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1(\beta-1)^{(3)} \kappa^{(\beta-4)} \\ &\quad + C_2(\beta-2)^{(3)} \kappa^{(\beta-5)} + C_3(\beta-3)^{(3)} \kappa^{(\beta-6)}.\end{aligned}\quad (14)$$

Using the last BC $\Delta^3 w(\beta+n) + w(\zeta) = 0$ in Equations (9) and (14) yields

$$w(\zeta) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1 \zeta^{(\beta-1)} + C_2 \zeta^{(\beta-2)} + C_3 \zeta^{(\beta-3)} \quad (15)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta^3 w(\beta+n) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1(\beta-1)^{(3)} (\beta+n)^{(\beta-4)} \\ &\quad + C_2(\beta-2)^{(3)} (\beta+n)^{(\beta-5)} + C_3(\beta-3)^{(3)} (\beta+n)^{(\beta-6)}.\end{aligned}\quad (16)$$

From Equations (15) and (16), and by employing the last BC Equation (3), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}&\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} H(i + \beta - 1) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i + \beta - 1) + C_1 e_1 + C_2 e_2 + C_3 e_3 = 0.\end{aligned}\quad (17)$$

Solving Equations (11) and (17), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}&f_1 \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \right) H(i + \beta - 1) \\ &\quad + C_2(e_2 f_1 - e_1 f_2) + C_3(e_3 f_1 - e_1 f_3) - \frac{e_1}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1) = 0.\end{aligned}\quad (18)$$

Now, a constant C_3 is found by solving Equations (13) and (18) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}C_3 &= \frac{1}{K} \left[\frac{e_1}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - f_1 \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right) H(i + \beta - 1) \right].\end{aligned}$$

Substituting C_3 into Equation (13), we have

$$\begin{aligned}C_2 &= \frac{f_4}{K} \left[f_1 \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right) H(i + \beta - 1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{e_1}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i + \beta - 1) \right].\end{aligned}$$

By using the value of C_2 and C_3 in Equation (17), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_1 = & \frac{1}{e_1 K} \left\{ \frac{e_1 h_2}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i+\beta-1) \right. \\ & \left. + h_1 \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right) H(i+\beta-1) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

By using the constants \mathcal{C}_j for $j = 1, 2, 3$ in Equation (9), we obtain $w(\kappa)$ in the form

$$\begin{aligned} w(\kappa) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} H(i+\beta-1) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] H(i+\beta-1) \\ & + \frac{\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} H(i+\beta-1), \end{aligned}$$

for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$. Therefore, the theorem's proof is complete. \square

Assume that $\mathbb{B}_* : \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}, \mathbb{R})$ is a Banach space with a norm defined by

$$\|w\| = \max \{ |w(\kappa)| : \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \}.$$

To discuss the theorems' existence and uniqueness, we need the following assumptions:

- (A₁) There exists a constant $\mathbb{L}_G > 0$, which satisfies $|G(\kappa, w) - G(\kappa, \hat{w})| \leq \mathbb{L}_G |w - \hat{w}|$ for all $w, \hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ and each $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$.
 (A₂) There exists a bounded function $\chi : \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $|G(\kappa, w)| \leq \chi(\kappa) |w|$ for all $w \in \mathbb{B}_*$.

Theorem 2. In view of assumption (A₁), the discrete FEBE with the three-point BCs in Equation (2) has a unique solution if

$$\Lambda := \left[\frac{(\beta+n+3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} + \frac{(\beta+n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta-2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta+n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right] \mathbb{L}_G < 1, \quad (19)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_1^* &= \left| \frac{1}{K} \left[\frac{(\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-1)}}{e_1} h_1 + (\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-2)} f_1 f_4 - (\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-3)} f_1 \right] \right|, \\ \mathbb{E}_2^* &= \left| \frac{1}{K} \left[(\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-1)} h_2 - (\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-2)} e_1 f_4 + (\beta+n+3)^{(\beta-3)} e_1 \right] \right|, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

such that K is defined in Theorem 1

Proof. Let the operator $\mathcal{A} : \mathbb{B}_* \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_*$ be defined as

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} g_w(\kappa) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] g_w(\kappa) \\ & + \frac{\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta+n-\sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} g_w(\kappa), \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where $g_w(\kappa) = G(\kappa + \beta - 1, w(\kappa + \beta - 1))$. Obviously, the fixed point of \mathcal{A} is a solution to Equation (2). To show that \mathcal{A} is a contraction, let $w, \hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ and for each $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} |(\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} |g_w(i) - g_{\hat{w}}(i)| \\ &\quad + |\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa)| \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] |g_w(i) - g_{\hat{w}}(i)| \\ &\quad + \frac{|\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)|}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} |g_w(i) - g_{\hat{w}}(i)|, \end{aligned}$$

where $g_w(\kappa), g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}, \mathbb{R})$ satisfies the following functional equations:

$$g_w(\kappa) = G(\kappa + \beta - 1, w(\kappa + \beta - 1)) \text{ and } g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) = G(\kappa + \beta - 1, \hat{w}(\kappa + \beta - 1)). \quad (22)$$

By (A_1) , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |g_w(\kappa) - g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa)| &= |G(\kappa + \beta - 1, w(\kappa + \beta - 1)) - G(\kappa + \beta - 1, \hat{w}(\kappa + \beta - 1))| \\ &\leq \mathbb{L}_G |w(\kappa + \beta - 1) - \hat{w}(\kappa + \beta - 1)| \\ |g_w(\kappa) - g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa)| &\leq \mathbb{L}_G \|w - \hat{w}\|. \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

From which we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{A}w - \mathcal{A}\hat{w}\| &\leq \frac{\mathbb{L}_G \|w - \hat{w}\|}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \\ &\quad + |\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa)| \mathbb{L}_G \|w - \hat{w}\| \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{|\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)| \mathbb{L}_G \|w - \hat{w}\|}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

By the application of Lemma 3, we have

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \left[\frac{(\kappa - i)^{(\beta)}}{-\beta} \right]_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta+1} = \frac{\kappa^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} \leq \frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} \quad (25)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \left[\frac{(\zeta - i)^{(\beta)}}{-\beta} \right]_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta+1} = \frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)}. \quad (26)$$

Similarly, by using Lemma 3, we also obtain

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \left[\frac{(\beta + n - i)^{(\beta-1)}}{-(\beta-1)} \right]_{i=0}^{n+2} = \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \quad (27)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \left[\frac{(\beta + n - i)^{(\beta-3)}}{-(\beta-3)} \right]_{i=0}^{n+4} = \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta-2)}. \quad (28)$$

By substituting the relations Equations (25)–(28) into Equation (24), we obtain

$$\|\mathcal{A}w - \mathcal{A}\hat{w}\| \leq \left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta - 2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right] \mathbb{L}_G \|w - \hat{w}\|.$$

By Equation (19), we obtain $\|\mathcal{A}w - \mathcal{A}\hat{w}\| < \|w - \hat{w}\|$. Hence, \mathcal{A} is a contraction. As a result, according to the Banach fixed-point theorem, the three-point BCs for the discrete FEBE Equation (2) has a unique solution. \square

Theorem 3. *If the assumption (A_2) holds, then the discrete FEBE with three-point BCs in Equation (2) has at least one solution provided that*

$$\chi^* \leq \frac{\Gamma(\beta + 1)}{[(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} + \mathbb{E}_1^*(\zeta^{(\beta)} + \beta^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}) + \mathbb{E}_2^*\beta(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}]}, \quad (29)$$

where $\chi^* = \max\{\chi(\kappa) : \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}\}$.

Proof. Assume that $D > 0$ and consider the set $V = \{w \in \mathbb{B}_* : \|w\| \leq D\}$. For proving this theorem, let us claim that \mathcal{A} maps V in V . Now, for any $w \in V$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} |(\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa)| &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} |g_w(i)| \\ &\quad + |\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa)| \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] |g_w(i)| \\ &\quad + \frac{|\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)|}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} |g_w(i)|, \end{aligned}$$

where $g_w(\kappa)$ is given in Equation (22). Using (A_2) , we obtain

$$|g_w(\kappa)| = |G(\kappa + \beta - 1, w(\kappa + \beta - 1))| \leq \chi(\kappa) |w(\kappa + \beta - 1)| \leq \chi^* \|w\|.$$

This further implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{A}w\| &\leq \frac{\chi^* \|w\|}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \\ &\quad + |\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa)| \chi^* \|w\| \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{|\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)| \chi^* \|w\|}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)}. \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Using the relations of Equations (25)–(28) in Equation (30), we obtain

$$\|\mathcal{A}w\| \leq \left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\zeta^{(\beta)} + \beta^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \beta(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} \right] \chi^* D.$$

By Equation (29), we have $\|\mathcal{A}w\| \leq D$, which implies that $\mathcal{A} : V \rightarrow V$. By using the Brouwer fixed-point theorem, let us conclude that three-point BCs for discrete FEBE Equation (2) has at least one solution. \square

4. EB Stability Analysis

The Ulam-type stability for the proposed problem Equation (2) is studied in this section. Now, we present some definitions of Ulam stability, and we also assume that $g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) : \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}, \mathbb{R})$ is a continuous function that satisfies $g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) = G(\kappa + \beta - 1, \hat{w}(\kappa + \beta - 1))$.

Definition 2 ([46]). If for every function $\hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ of

$$\left| \Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} \hat{w}(\kappa) - g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) \right| \leq \epsilon, \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}, \quad (31)$$

where $\epsilon > 0$, there exists solution $w \in \mathbb{B}_*$ of Equation (2) and positive number $\delta_1 > 0$ such that

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)| \leq \delta_1 \epsilon, \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}. \quad (32)$$

Then, the discrete FEBE Equation (2) is \mathcal{HU} stable. It will be \mathcal{GHU} stable if we keep $\Phi(\epsilon) = \delta_1 \epsilon$ in inequality Equation (32), where $\Phi(\epsilon) \in \mathbb{C}(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$ and $\Phi(0) = 0$.

Definition 3 ([46]). If for every function $\hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ of

$$\left| \Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} \hat{w}(\kappa) - g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) \right| \leq \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1), \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}, \quad (33)$$

where $\epsilon > 0$, there are solutions $w \in \mathbb{B}_*$ of Equation (2) and positive number $\delta_2 > 0$ such that

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)| \leq \delta_2 \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1), \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}. \quad (34)$$

Then, the discrete FEBE Equation (2) is \mathcal{HUR} stable. It will be \mathcal{GHUR} stable if $\phi(\kappa + \beta - 1) = \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1)$ in inequality Equations (33) and (34).

Remark 1 ([46]). A function $\hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ is a solution to Equation (31) iff there exists $\Psi : \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ that satisfies, for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}$, the following:

$$(A_3) \quad |\Psi(\kappa + \beta - 1)| \leq \epsilon,$$

$$(A_4) \quad \Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} \hat{w}(\kappa) = g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) + \Psi(\kappa + \beta - 1).$$

Similarly, a remark can be constructed for inequality Equation (33).

Lemma 5. According to Remark 1, a function $\hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$ that corresponds to the discrete FEBE with three-point BCs is expressed as:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} \hat{w}(\kappa) = g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) + \Psi(\kappa + \beta - 1), \quad \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}, \\ w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(\beta - 4) = 0, \Delta w(\beta + n) = 0, \Delta^3 w(\beta + n) + w(\zeta) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

satisfying the following inequality:

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} (\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)},$$

where $(\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)$ is defined in Equation (21).

Proof. By using Theorem 1, the corresponding BVP Equation (35) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{w}(\kappa) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} g_{\hat{w}}(i) \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-\beta} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta-3)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+3} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-4)} \right] g_{\hat{w}}(i) \\ & + \frac{\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)}{\Gamma(\beta-1)} \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} (\beta + n - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-2)} g_{\hat{w}}(i) \\ & + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \Psi(i + \beta - 1).\end{aligned}$$

Using an operator \mathcal{A} and taking the modulus on both sides of the above solution along with (A_3) , we obtain

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} (\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}.$$

□

Theorem 4. Under the assumption (A_1) with the inequality Equation (19), the discrete FEBE Equation (2) is \mathcal{HU} stable.

Proof. If $\hat{w}(\kappa)$ is any solution of the inequality Equation (31), and $w(\kappa)$ is a unique solution to Equation (2), then

$$\begin{aligned}|\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)| &= |\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa)| \\ &= |\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa) + (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa)| \\ &\leq |\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| + |(\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}w)(\kappa)|.\end{aligned}\quad (36)$$

By using Lemma 5 in Equation (36), we have

$$\begin{aligned}|\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)| &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} (\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} \\ &+ \left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1)} + \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta-2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right] \mathbb{L}_G \|\hat{w} - w\|.\end{aligned}$$

This further implies that

$$\|\hat{w} - w\| \leq \delta_1 \epsilon,$$

where

$$\delta_1 = \frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta+1) - \mathbb{L}_G \left[(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* (\zeta^{(\beta)} + \beta^{(3)} (\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \beta (\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)} \right]}.$$

Hence, the solution of Equation (2) is \mathcal{HU} stable. □

Remark 2. If $\Phi(\epsilon) = \delta_1 \epsilon$ such that $\Phi(0) = 0$, then we have

$$\|\hat{w} - w\| \leq \Phi(\epsilon).$$

Hence, the solution of Equation (2) is \mathcal{GHU} stable.

For our next result, the following hypotheses hold:

(A₅) For an increasing function $\phi \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$, there exists $\lambda > 0$ such that, for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^{n+3}$

$$(i) \frac{\epsilon}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \phi(i + \beta - 1) \leq \lambda \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1),$$

$$(ii) \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\beta} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\beta-1)} \phi(i + \beta - 1) \leq \lambda \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1).$$

Lemma 6. For the three-point BCs of discrete FEBE Equation (35), the following inequality holds:

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| \leq \lambda \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1),$$

where $(\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)$ is defined in Equation (21).

Proof. From inequality Equation (33), for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$, we obtain a function $\Delta_{\beta-4}^{\beta} \hat{w}(\kappa) = g_{\hat{w}}(\kappa) + \Psi(\kappa + \beta - 1)$, $|\Psi(\kappa + \beta - 1)| \leq \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1)$ and (A₅)(i) such that

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - (\mathcal{A}\hat{w})(\kappa)| \leq \lambda \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1).$$

□

Theorem 5. Under the hypothesis (A₁) with the inequality Equation (19), the discrete FEBE Equation (2) is \mathcal{HUR} stable.

Proof. By using a similar procedure of Theorem 4 together with Lemma 6 for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\beta-4}^{\beta+n+3}$, we obtain

$$|\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)| \leq \lambda \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1) + \left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta - 2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right] \mathbb{L}_G \|\hat{w} - w\|.$$

This further implies that

$$\|\hat{w} - w\| \leq \delta_2 \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1),$$

where

$$\delta_2 = \frac{\lambda \Gamma(\beta + 1)}{\Gamma(\beta + 1) - \mathbb{L}_G \left[(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* (\zeta^{(\beta)} + \beta^{(3)} (\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \beta (\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)} \right]}.$$

Thus, the solution of Equation (2) is \mathcal{HUR} stable. □

Remark 3. If $\phi(\kappa + \beta - 1) = \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1)$, then we have

$$\|\hat{w} - w\| \leq \delta_2 \phi(\kappa + \beta - 1).$$

Hence, the solution of Equation (2) is \mathcal{GHUR} stable.

5. Applications

Some illustrative examples are provided in this section to demonstrate the applicability of our results in this research work.

Example 1. Suppose that $\beta = 3.7$, $n = 2$, and $H(\kappa) = \kappa^{(13)}$ with different values of ζ . Then, a linear discrete FEBE with the three-point BCs of Equation (3) becomes

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{-0.3}^{3.7} w(\kappa) = (\kappa + 2.7)^{(13)}, \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^5, \\ w(-0.3) = 0, \Delta^2 w(-0.3) = 0, \Delta w(5.7) = 0, \Delta^3 w(5.7) + w(\zeta) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (37)$$

We shall apply Theorem 1 to find a solution $w(\kappa)$ of Equation (37) that can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} w(\kappa) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(3.7)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-3.7} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(2.7)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)} \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(3.7)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-3.7} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(2.7)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(0.7)} \sum_{i=0}^5 (5.7 - \sigma(i))^{(-0.3)} \right] (i + 2.7)^{(13)} \\ & + \frac{\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)}{\Gamma(2.7)} \sum_{i=0}^3 (5.7 - \sigma(i))^{(1.7)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)}, \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

where $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{-0.3}^{8.7}$, $\mathbb{E}_1(\kappa)$ and $\mathbb{E}_2(\kappa)$ are defined in Theorem 1. With the help of both Definition 1 and Lemma 4, we obtain the expression on right-hand side of Equation (38) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Gamma(3.7)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-3.7} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(2.7)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)} &= \Delta^{-3.7} (\kappa + 2.7)^{(13)} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(17.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 3.7)}{\Gamma(\kappa - 13)}. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

Similarly, we find

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(3.7)} \sum_{i=0}^{\zeta-3.7} (\zeta - \sigma(i))^{(2.7)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)} = \frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(17.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\zeta + 3.7)}{\Gamma(\zeta - 13)}. \quad (40)$$

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(2.7)} \sum_{i=0}^3 (5.7 - \sigma(i))^{(1.7)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)} = \frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(16.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(9.4)}{\Gamma(-6.3)}. \quad (41)$$

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(0.7)} \sum_{i=0}^5 (5.7 - \sigma(i))^{(-0.3)} (i + 2.7)^{(13)} = \frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(14.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(9.4)}{\Gamma(-4.3)}. \quad (42)$$

By substituting the expressions Equations (39)–(42) into Equation (38), we obtain Equation (37)'s solution for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{-0.3}^{8.7}$, in the form

$$\begin{aligned} w(\kappa) = & \left[\frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(17.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 3.7)}{\Gamma(\kappa - 13)} \right] + \mathbb{E}_2(\kappa) \left[\frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(16.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(9.4)}{\Gamma(-6.3)} \right] \\ & + \mathbb{E}_1(\kappa) \left[\left(\frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(17.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\zeta + 3.7)}{\Gamma(\zeta - 13)} \right) + \left(\frac{\Gamma(14)}{\Gamma(14.7)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(9.4)}{\Gamma(-4.3)} \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

On one hand, by choosing different values of $\zeta = 2.7, 3.7, 4.7, 5.7$ in Equation (43), we obtain different solutions for this problem, as seen in Figure 1a. On the other hand, Figure 1b shows three-dimensional solution surface plots for various values κ and ζ . In addition, a numerical experiment for our obtained solutions in Example 1 with step size 1 is presented in Table 1.

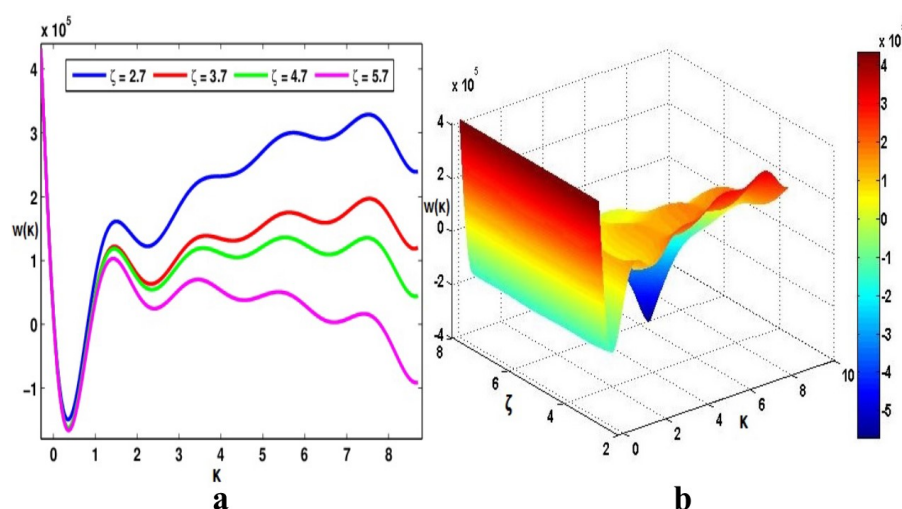


Figure 1. (a) Solution curves for various values of ζ of a discrete FEBE with the three-point BCs of Equation (37); (b) surface plots for different values of κ and ζ corresponding to Figure 1a.

Table 1. Numerical values of $w(\kappa)$ for Example 1 with step size 1.

$\kappa\zeta$	$w(\kappa)$			
	2.7	3.7	4.7	5.7
−0.3	4.3158×10^5	4.3158×10^5	4.3158×10^5	4.3158×10^5
0.7	-0.5233×10^5	-0.7356×10^5	-0.7410×10^5	-0.8078×10^5
1.7	1.5354×10^5	1.0872×10^5	1.0384×10^5	0.8468×10^5
2.7	1.4988×10^5	0.8076×10^5	0.6918×10^5	0.3413×10^5
3.7	2.3044×10^5	1.3849×10^5	1.1846×10^5	0.6559×10^5
4.7	2.5123×10^5	1.3991×10^5	1.1014×10^5	0.3865×10^5
5.7	3.0038×10^5	1.7498×10^5	1.3450×10^5	0.4457×10^5
6.7	2.9459×10^5	1.6211×10^5	1.1023×10^5	0.0290×10^5
7.7	3.2506×10^5	1.9406×10^5	1.3037×10^5	0.0745×10^5
8.7	2.3972×10^5	1.2029×10^5	0.4457×10^5	-0.9137×10^5

Example 2. Consider a discrete FEBE subject to three-point BCs:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{(\kappa + \pi - 1) + 650} \left[\sin(w(\kappa + \pi - 1)) + \frac{e^{-(\kappa + \pi - 1)} \cos(\kappa + \pi - 1)}{10\sqrt{\pi}(\kappa + \pi)} \right], \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^6, \\ w(\pi - 4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(\pi - 4) = 0, \Delta w(\pi + 3) = 0, \Delta^3 w(\pi + 3) + w(2.1416) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (44)$$

Clearly, $\beta = \pi$, $n = 3$, $\zeta = 2.1416$. Set $G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) = \frac{1}{\kappa + 650} \left[\sin(w(\kappa)) + \frac{e^{-\kappa} \cos(\kappa)}{10\sqrt{\pi}(1 + \kappa)} \right]$ which is a continuous function for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\pi-4}^{\pi+6}$. Now, we show that Equation (44) has a unique solution.

For any $w, \hat{w} \in \mathbb{B}_*$, then

$$\begin{aligned} |G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa))| &= \frac{1}{\kappa + 650} \left| \sin(w(\kappa)) + \frac{e^{-\kappa} \cos(\kappa)}{10\sqrt{\pi}(1 + \kappa)} - \sin(\hat{w}(\kappa)) - \frac{e^{-\kappa} \cos(\kappa)}{10\sqrt{\pi}(1 + \kappa)} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{\kappa + 650} |\sin(w(\kappa)) - \sin(\hat{w}(\kappa))| \\ |G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa))| &\leq 0.0015 |w(\kappa) - \hat{w}(\kappa)|. \end{aligned}$$

So, we have $\mathbb{L}_G = 0.0015$, and G is Lipschitz continuous for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\pi-4}^{\pi+6}$. Furthermore, the inequality Equation (19) is satisfied with $\Lambda \approx 0.2944 < 1$. Therefore, from Theorem 2, we conclude that problem Equation (44) has a unique solution.

Example 3. Assume that $\beta = 3.6$, $n = 4$, and $\zeta = 2.6$ with $G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) = \frac{\kappa}{100}e^{-\frac{w^2(\kappa)}{100}}$. Then, we obtain the following discrete FEBE Equation (2) with BCs:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{-0.4}^{3.6} w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{100}(\kappa + 2.6)e^{-\frac{1}{100}w^2(\kappa+2.6)}, \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^7, \\ w(-0.4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(-0.4) = 0, \Delta w(7.6) = 0, \Delta^3 w(7.6) + w(2.6) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (45)$$

Let a Banach space be $\mathbb{B}_* := \{w(\kappa) | \mathbb{N}_{-0.4}^{10.6} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$. Suppose that $D = 1000$. To verify that the hypotheses of Theorem 3 hold, it is noticeable that

$$\frac{D\Gamma(\beta + 1)}{[(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)} + \mathbb{E}_1^*(\zeta^{(\beta)} + \beta^{(3)}(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}) + \mathbb{E}_2^*\beta(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}]} \approx 2.1790.$$

Clearly, we have $|G(\kappa, w(\kappa))| = 0.1060 \leq 2.1790$, whenever $\|w\| \leq 1000$. Thus, the problem Equation (45) has at least one solution.

Example 4. Consider the discrete FEBE with three-point BCs as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{-0.8}^{3.2} w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{700} \cos(w(\kappa + 2.2)) + \frac{1}{((\kappa + 2.2) + 950)}(\kappa + 2.2)^{(3.2)}, \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^5, \\ w(-0.8) = 0, \Delta^2 w(-0.8) = 0, \Delta w(5.2) = 0, \Delta^3 w(5.2) + w(4.2) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (46)$$

Here, we have $\beta = 3.2$, $n = 2$, $\zeta = 4.2$ and $G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) = \frac{1}{700} \cos(w(\kappa)) + \frac{1}{(\kappa + 950)}\kappa^{(3.2)}$ for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{-0.8}^{8.2}$. Now, we prove that Equation (46) is \mathcal{HU} stable. Since (A_1) holds for each $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{-0.8}^{8.2}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, w(\kappa))| &= \left| \frac{1}{700} \cos(\hat{w}(\kappa)) + \frac{1}{(\kappa + 950)}\kappa^{(3.2)} - \frac{1}{700} \cos(w(\kappa)) - \frac{1}{(\kappa + 950)}\kappa^{(3.2)} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{700} |\cos(\hat{w}(\kappa)) - \cos(w(\kappa))| \\ |G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, w(\kappa))| &\leq 0.0014 |\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)|, \end{aligned}$$

so $\mathbb{L}_G = 0.0014$ and G is Lipschitz continuous for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{-0.8}^{8.2}$. Since

$$\frac{1}{\left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta - 2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right]} \approx 0.0080,$$

if $\mathbb{L}_G = 0.0014 < 0.0080$. Furthermore, to verify the stability results, from Theorem 4, we see that $\Lambda = 0.1758 < 1$. Hence, the solution of Equation (46) is \mathcal{HU} stable with $\delta_1 = 80.8287$. In addition, it is \mathcal{GHU} stable from Remark 2. For illustration, we take $\epsilon = 0.6017$ and $\hat{w}(\kappa) = \frac{\kappa^{(4)}}{350}$. We prove that Equation (31) holds. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \Delta_{-0.8}^{3.2} \hat{w}(\kappa) - G(\kappa + 2.2, \hat{w}(\kappa + 2.2)) \right| \\ &= \left| \Delta_{-0.8}^{3.2} \hat{w}(\kappa) - \frac{\cos(\hat{w}(\kappa + 2.2))}{700} - \frac{(\kappa + 2.2)^{(3.2)}}{\kappa + 952.2} \right| \\ &= \left| \Delta_{-0.8}^{3.2} \left(\frac{\kappa^{(4)}}{350} \right) - 0.0014 \cos \left[\frac{(\kappa + 2.2)^{(4)}}{350} \right] - \frac{(\kappa + 2.2)^{(3.2)}}{\kappa + 952.2} \right|. \quad (47) \end{aligned}$$

By using Lemma 4, Equation (47) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \Delta_{-0.8}^{3.2} \hat{w}(\kappa) - G(\kappa + 2.2, \hat{w}(\kappa + 2.2)) \right| \\ &= \left| 0.0736 \kappa^{(0.8)} - 0.0014 \cos \left[\frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 3.2)}{350 \Gamma(\kappa - 0.8)} \right] - \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 3.2)}{(\kappa + 952.2) \Gamma(\kappa)} \right| \\ &\leq 0.0736 \left[\frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 1)}{\Gamma(\kappa + 0.2)} \right] + 0.0014 + \frac{1}{(\kappa + 952.2)} \left[\frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 3.2)}{\Gamma(\kappa)} \right] \\ &\leq 0.6017 \leq \epsilon, \text{ for } \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^5. \end{aligned}$$

Example 5. Consider a discrete FEBE subject to the three-point BCs:

$$\begin{cases} \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} w(\kappa) = \frac{1}{700} \sin(w(\kappa + \pi - 1)) + \frac{1}{310} (\kappa + \pi - 1)^{(\pi)}, \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^4, \\ w(\pi - 4) = 0, \Delta^2 w(\pi - 4) = 0, \Delta w(\pi + 1) = 0, \Delta^3 w(\pi + 1) + w(2.1416) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (48)$$

In this example, $\beta = \pi$, $n = 1$, $\zeta = 2.1416$. Set $G(\kappa, w(\kappa)) = \frac{1}{700} \sin(w(\kappa)) + \frac{1}{310} \kappa^{(\pi)}$ for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\pi-4}^{\pi+4}$. Now, we show that Equation (48) is \mathcal{HUR} stable. For any $\hat{w}, w \in \mathbb{B}_*$ and each $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\pi-4}^{\pi+4}$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, w(\kappa))| &= \left| \frac{1}{700} \sin(\hat{w}(\kappa)) + \frac{1}{310} \kappa^{(\pi)} - \frac{1}{700} \sin(w(\kappa)) - \frac{1}{310} \kappa^{(\pi)} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{700} |\sin(\hat{w}(\kappa)) - \sin(w(\kappa))| \\ |G(\kappa, \hat{w}(\kappa)) - G(\kappa, w(\kappa))| &\leq 0.0014 |\hat{w}(\kappa) - w(\kappa)|. \end{aligned}$$

This satisfies (A_1) with $\mathbb{L}_G = 0.0014$, and G is Lipschitz continuous for $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}_{\pi-4}^{\pi+4}$. Further, by assuming $\epsilon = 0.6519$ and $\phi(\kappa + \pi - 1) = 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{0.6519}{\Gamma(\pi)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\pi} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\pi-1)} (1) &= \frac{(0.6519) \Gamma(\kappa + 1)}{\Gamma(\pi + 1) \Gamma(\kappa + 1 - \pi)} \\ &\leq \frac{(0.6519) \Gamma(5)}{\Gamma(\pi + 1) \Gamma(5 - \pi)} \\ \frac{0.6519}{\Gamma(\pi)} \sum_{i=0}^{\kappa-\pi} (\kappa - \sigma(i))^{(\pi-1)} (1) &\leq 2.2955, \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^4. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $(A_5)(i)$ holds with $\lambda = 3.5213$, $\epsilon = 0.6519$, and $\phi(\kappa + \pi - 1) = 1$. Since

$$\frac{1}{\left[\frac{(\beta + n + 3)^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \mathbb{E}_1^* \left(\frac{\zeta^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)} + \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-3)}}{\Gamma(\beta - 2)} \right) + \mathbb{E}_2^* \frac{(\beta + n)^{(\beta-1)}}{\Gamma(\beta)} \right]} \approx 0.0137,$$

if $\mathbb{L}_G = 0.0014 < 0.0137$, from Theorem 5, we see that $\Lambda = 0.1023 < 1$. Hence, the solution to Equation (48) is \mathcal{HUR} stable with $\delta_2 = 3.9224$. For illustration, we take $\epsilon = 0.6519$ and $\hat{w}(\kappa) = \frac{\kappa^{(3)}}{40}$. We prove that Equation (33) holds. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} \hat{w}(\kappa) - G(\kappa + \pi - 1, \hat{w}(\kappa + \pi - 1)) \right| \\ &= \left| \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} \hat{w}(\kappa) - \frac{1}{700} \sin(\hat{w}(\kappa + \pi - 1)) - \frac{1}{310} (\kappa + \pi - 1)^{(\pi)} \right| \\ &= \left| \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} \left(\frac{\kappa^{(3)}}{40} \right) - 0.0014 \sin \left[\frac{(\kappa + \pi - 1)^{(3)}}{40} \right] - \frac{(\kappa + \pi - 1)^{(\pi)}}{310} \right|. \quad (49) \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 4, Equation (49) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \Delta_{\pi-4}^{\pi} \hat{w}(\kappa) - G(\kappa + \pi - 1, \hat{w}(\kappa + \pi - 1)) \right| \\ &= \left| 0.1358\kappa^{(3-\pi)} - 0.0014 \sin \left[\frac{\Gamma(\kappa + \pi)}{40\Gamma(\kappa + \pi - 3)} \right] - \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + \pi)}{310\Gamma(\kappa)} \right| \\ &\leq 0.1358 \left[\frac{\Gamma(\kappa + 1)}{\Gamma(\kappa - 2 + \pi)} \right] + 0.0014 + \frac{\Gamma(\kappa + \pi)}{310\Gamma(\kappa)} \\ &\leq 0.6519 \leq \epsilon \phi(\kappa + \pi - 1), \text{ for } \kappa \in \mathbb{N}_0^4. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, it is obviously \mathcal{GHUR} stable from Remark 3.

6. Conclusions

Three-point BCs for a discrete FEBE have been investigated in this research work. For our proposed problem involving a Riemann–Liouville discrete fractional operator, some important conditions for the existence and stability theory have been developed. The required findings have been obtained with the help of fixed-point techniques such as the contraction mapping principle and Brouwer fixed-point theorem. Moreover, some new results for various types of Ulam stability of the proposed three-point BCs for a discrete FEBE have been established with the aid of nonlinear analysis. Some suitable examples have been provided and accompanied with numerical experiment for our obtained solutions for various fractional-order values in a graphical representation in order to study the effectiveness and applicability of our theoretical results. All in all, our results are new and interesting for the elastic beam problem arising from mathematical models of engineering and applied science applications.

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