## CONSTANT-SIGN SOLUTIONS OF A SYSTEM OF VOLTERRA INTEGRAL EQUATIONS IN ORLICZ SPACES

## RAVI P. AGARWAL, DONAL O'REGAN, AND PATRICIA J. Y. WONG

Communicated by Charles Groetsch

This paper is dedicated to Professor Zuhair Nashed in recognition of his contributions to the field of integral and operator equations.

ABSTRACT. We consider the following system of Volterra intergral equations

$$u_i(t) = \int_0^t g_i(t,s) f_i(s, u_1(s), u_2(s), \cdots, u_n(s)) ds,$$
  
a.e.  $t \in [0,T], \ 1 \le i \le n.$ 

Criteria are offered for the existence of one and more *constant*sign solutions  $u = (u_1, u_2, \cdots, u_n)$  of the system in  $L^p$  and the Orlicz spaces. We say u is of *constant sign* if for each  $1 \leq i \leq n, \ \theta_i u_i(t) \geq 0$  for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ , where  $\theta_i \in \{1, -1\}$  is fixed.

**1.** Introduction. In this paper we shall consider the system of Volterra integral equations

(1.1) 
$$u_i(t) = \int_0^t g_i(t,s) f_i(s, u_1(s), u_2(s), \cdots, u_n(s)) ds,$$
$$a.e. \ t \in [0,T], \ 1 \le i \le n.$$

Throughout, let  $u = (u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ . We are interested in establishing the existence of one and more solutions u of the system (1.1) in

<sup>2000</sup> AMS Mathematics subject classification. Primary 45B05, 45G15, 45M20. Keywords and phrases. Constant-sign solutions, system of Volterra integral equations, Orlicz space.

Received by the editors on November 2, 2006, and in revised form on February 7, 2007.

DOI:10.1216/JIE-2008-20-3-337 Copyright ©2008 Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium

<sup>337</sup>