

**ON THE OSCILLATION OF SOLUTIONS OF A HIGHER
ORDER NONLINEAR NEUTRAL FUNCTIONAL
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION WITH AN OSCILLATING
COEFFICIENT**

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, we are concerned with the oscillation of the solutions of a certain more general higher order nonlinear neutral type functional differential equation with an oscillating coefficient of the form

$$\left[y(t) + \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) \right]^{(n)} + \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) = 0$$

where $n \geq 2$; $P_i(t), Q_i(t), \tau_i(t) \in C[t_0, +\infty)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $P_i(t)$ is an oscillatory function for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $Q_i(t)$ is positive valued for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. $\sigma_i(t) \in C'[t_0, +\infty)$, $\sigma_i'(t) > 0$, $\sigma_i(t) \leq t$; $\sigma_i(t) \rightarrow +\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $\tau_i(t) \rightarrow +\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $f_i(u) \in C(R, R)$ is a nondecreasing function, $uf_i(u) > 0$ for $u \neq 0$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. We obtained two sufficient criteria for oscillatory behaviour of its solutions.

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**NEUTRAL TİPTEN BİR SALINIMLI KATSAYILI YÜKSEK
MERTEBEDEN LİNEER OLMAYAN BİR FONKSİYONEL
DİFERENSİYEL DENKLEMİN ÇÖZÜMLERİNİN SALINIMLILIĞI
ÜZERİNE BİR ÇALIŞMA**

ÖZET

Bu çalışmada; $n \geq 2$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ için $P_i(t), Q_i(t), \tau_i(t) \in C[t_0, +\infty)$; $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ için $P_i(t)$ ler salınımlı fonksiyonlar; $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ için $Q_i(t)$ ler pozitif değerli fonksiyonlar; $\sigma_i(t) \in C'[t_0, +\infty)$, $\sigma_i'(t) > 0$, $\sigma_i(t) \leq t$ ve $t \rightarrow \infty$ iken $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ için $\tau_i(t) \rightarrow +\infty$; $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ için $f_i(u) \in C(R, R)$ ler azalmayan fonksiyonlar ve $u \neq 0$ iken $uf_i(u) > 0$ olmak üzere

$$\left[y(t) + \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) \right]^{(n)} + \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) = 0$$

tipindeki yüksek mertebeden lineer olmayan diferensiyel denklemin çözümlerinin salınımlılığı üzerine yeter şartlı iki kriter elde edilmektedir.

1. INTRODUCTION.

We consider the higher order nonlinear differential equation of the form

$$\left[y(t) + \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) \right]^{(n)} + \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

where $n \geq 2$; $P_i(t), Q_i(t), \tau_i(t) \in C[t_0, +\infty)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $P_i(t)$ is an oscillatory function for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $Q_i(t)$ is positive valued for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. $\sigma_i(t) \in C'[t_0, +\infty)$, $\sigma_i'(t) > 0$, $\sigma_i(t) \leq t$; $\sigma_i(t) \rightarrow +\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $\tau_i(t) \rightarrow +\infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $f_i(u) \in C(R, R)$ is a nondecreasing function, $uf_i(u) > 0$ for $u \neq 0$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

As is customary, a solution of Eq. (1.1) is said to be oscillatory if it has arbitrarily large zeros. Otherwise the solution is called nonoscillatory.

For the sake of convenience, the function $z(t)$ is defined by,

$$z(t) = y(t) + \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t)y(\tau_i(t)). \quad (1.2)$$

2. SOME AUXILIARY LEMMAS

Lemma 2.1: Let $y(t)$ be a positive and n -times differentiable function on $[t_0, +\infty)$. If $y^{(n)}(t)$ is of constant sign and not identically zero in any interval $[b, +\infty)$, then there exist a $t_1 \geq t_0$ and an integer l , $0 \leq l \leq n$ such that $n+l$ is even, if $y^{(n)}(t)$ is nonnegative, or $n+l$ odd, if $y^{(n)}(t)$ is nonpositive, and that, as $t \geq t_1$, if $l > 0$, $y^{(k)}(t) > 0$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, l-1$, and if $l \leq n-1$, $(-1)^{k+l} y^{(k)}(t) > 0$ for $k = l, l+1, \dots, n-1$ [1].

Lemma 2.2: Let $y(t)$ defined Lemma 2.1. Let $y^{(n-1)}(t)y^{(n)}(t) \leq 0$ ($t \geq t_0$) and there exists a constant $M > 0$ for every λ ($0 < \lambda < 1$), such that $y(\lambda t) \geq Mt^{n-1} |y^{(n-1)}(t)|$ for sufficiently large t [1].

3. THE MAIN RESULTS

Theorem 3.1: Assume that n is odd and

$$C_1) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) = 0,$$

$$C_2) \quad \int_{t_0}^{+\infty} s^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) ds = +\infty.$$

Then every bounded solution of Eq. (1.1) is either oscillatory or tends to zero as $t \rightarrow +\infty$.

Proof: Assume that Eq. (1.1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution $y(t)$. Without loss of generality, assume that $y(t)$ is eventually positive (the proof is similar when $y(t)$ is eventually negative). That is, $y(t) > 0$,

$y(\tau_i(t)) > 0$ and $y(\sigma_i(t)) > 0$ for $t \geq t_1 \geq t_0$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Furthermore suppose that $y(t)$ does not tend to zero as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. By (1.1) and (1.2), we have for $t \geq t_1$

$$z^{(n)}(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) < 0 \quad (3.1)$$

That is, $z^{(n)}(t) < 0$. It follows that, $z^{(j)}(t)$ ($j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$) is strictly monotone and of constant sign eventually. Since $y(t)$ is a bounded function and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) = 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, there exists a $t_2 \geq t_1$ such that as $t \geq t_2$ $z(t) > 0$ eventually and there is a $t_3 \geq t_2$ such that $z(t)$ is also bounded for $t \geq t_3$. Because of n is odd and $z(t)$ is bounded, by Lemma 2.1, when $l = 0$ (otherwise $z(t)$ is not bounded) there exists a $t_4 \geq t_3$ such that $(-1)^k z^{(k)}(t) > 0$ ($k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$) as $t \geq t_4$. In particular, since $z'(t) < 0$ for $t \geq t_4$, $z(t)$ is decreasing. Since $z(t)$ is bounded, we may write $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = L$ ($-\infty < L < +\infty$). Assume that $0 \leq L \leq +\infty$. Let be $L > 0$. Then there exists a constant $c > 0$ and a $t_5 \geq t_4$ such that $z(t) > c > 0$ for $t \geq t_5$. Since $y(t)$ is bounded, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) = 0$ by (C₁). Therefore, there exist a constant $c_1 > 0$ and a $t_6 \geq t_5$ such that $y(t) = z(t) - \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) > c_1 > 0$ for $t \geq t_6$. So, we may take a t_7 with the property of $t_7 \geq t_6$ such that $y(\sigma_i(t)) > c_1 > 0$ for $t \geq t_7$. From (3.1), we have

$$z^{(n)}(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(c_1) < 0, \quad t \geq t_7 \quad (3.2)$$

If we multiply (3.2) by t^{n-1} and integrate from t_7 to t then we obtain

$$F(t) - F(t_7) \leq -f(c_1) \int_{t_7}^t \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) s^{n-1} ds \quad (3.3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(t) = & t^{n-1} z^{(n-1)}(t) - (n-1)t^{n-2} z^{(n-2)}(t) + (n-1)(n-2)t^{n-3} z^{(n-3)}(t) \\
 & - \dots - (n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots 3.2tz'(t) \\
 & + (n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots 3.2.1z(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $(-1)^k z^{(k)}(t) > 0$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ and $t \geq t_4$, $F(t) > 0$ for $t \geq t_7$. From (3.3), we have

$$-F(t_7) \leq -f(c_1) \int_{t_7}^t \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) s^{n-1} ds$$

From (C₂), we obtain

$$-F(t_7) \leq -f(c_1) \int_{t_7}^t \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) s^{n-1} ds = -\infty$$

at $t \rightarrow \infty$. This is a contradiction. So, $L > 0$ is impossible. Therefore, $L = 0$ is the only possible case. That is, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = 0$. Since $y(t)$ is bounded, we obtain

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) - \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) = 0$$

by (C₁) and (1.2). Now let us consider the case of $y(t) < 0$ for $t \geq t_1$. By (1.1) and (1.2),

$$z^{(n)}(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) < 0, \quad t \geq t_1.$$

That is, $z^{(n)}(t) > 0$. It follows that, $z^{(j)}(t)$ ($j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$) is strictly monotone and of constant sign eventually. Since $y(t)$ is a bounded function and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) = 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, there exists a $t_2 \geq t_1$ such that as $t \geq t_2$ $z(t) > 0$ eventually and there is a $t_3 \geq t_2$ such that $z(t)$ is also bounded for $t \geq t_3$. Assume that $x(t) = -z(t)$. Then $x^{(n)}(t) = -z^{(n)}(t)$. Therefore, $x(t) > 0$ and $x^{(n)}(t) < 0$ for $t \geq t_3$. Hence, we observe that $x(t)$ is bounded. Since n is odd. By Lemma 2.1, there is a $t_4 \geq t_3$ and $l = 0$ (otherwise, $x(t)$ is not bounded) such that

$(-1)^k x^{(k)}(t) > 0$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ and $t \geq t_4$. That is $(-1)^k z^{(k)}(t) < 0$ for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ and $t \geq t_4$. In particular, as $t \geq t_4$, $z'(t) > 0$. Therefore, $z(t)$ is increasing. So, we can assume that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = L$ ($-\infty < L < +\infty$). As in the proof of $y(t) > 0$, we may proof that $L = 0$. As for the rest of proof, it similar to the case of $y(t) > 0$. That is, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = 0$. Hence, the proof is completed ■

Theorem 3.2: Assume that n is even and (C_1) is held. If $C_3)$ there is a function $\varphi(t) \in C'[t_0, +\infty)$. Moreover

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{t_0}^t \varphi(s) \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) ds = +\infty \tag{and}$$

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{t_0}^t \left[\frac{[\varphi'(s)]^2}{\varphi(s) \sigma_i'(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s)} \right] ds < +\infty \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, m \text{ is satisfied,}$$

then every bounded solution of Eq. (1.1) is oscillatory.

Proof: Assume that Eq. (1.1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution $y(t)$. Without loss of generality, assume that $y(t)$ is eventually positive (the proof is similar when $y(t)$ is eventually negative). That is, $y(t) > 0$, $y(\tau_i(t)) > 0$ and $y(\sigma_i(t)) > 0$ for $t \geq t_1 \geq t_0$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$. By (1.1) and (1.2), we have for $t \geq t_1$

$$z^{(n)}(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i(y(\sigma_i(t))) < 0 \tag{3.4}$$

That is, $z^{(n)}(t) < 0$. It follows that, $z^{(j)}(t)$ ($j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$) is strictly monotone and of constant sign eventually. Since $y(t)$ is a bounded function and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) = 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$, there exists a $t_2 \geq t_1$ such that as $t \geq t_2$ $z(t) > 0$ eventually and there is a $t_3 \geq t_2$ such that $z(t)$ is

also bounded for $t \geq t_3$. Because of n is even, by Lemma 2.1, when $l = 1$ (otherwise $z(t)$ is not bounded) there exists a $t_4 \geq t_3$ such that as $t \geq t_4$

$$(-1)^{k+1} z^{(k)}(t) > 0 \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1) \quad (3.5)$$

In particular, since $z'(t) > 0$ for $t \geq t_4$, $z(t)$ is increasing. Since $y(t)$ is bounded, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) = 0$ by (C₁). Then, there exists a $t_5 \geq t_4$ and δ positive integer,

$$y(t) = z(t) - \sum_{i=1}^m P_i(t) y(\tau_i(t)) > \frac{1}{\delta} z(t) > 0$$

for $t \geq t_5$ by (1.2). We may get $t_6 \geq t_5$ such that for $t \geq t_6$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

$$y(\sigma_i(t)) > \frac{1}{\delta} z(\sigma_i(t)) > 0 \quad (3.6)$$

From (3.4), (3.6) and the properties of f , we have

$$\begin{aligned} z^{(n)}(t) &\leq - \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) f_i \left(\frac{1}{\delta} z(\sigma_i(t)) \right) \\ &= - \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) \frac{f_i \left(\frac{1}{\delta} z(\sigma_i(t)) \right)}{z(\sigma_i(t))} z(\sigma_i(t)) \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

for $t \geq t_6$. Since $z(t) > 0$ is bounded and increasing, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = L$ ($-\infty < L < +\infty$). By the continuity of f , we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_i \left(\frac{1}{\delta} z(\sigma_i(t)) \right)}{z(\sigma_i(t))} = \frac{f_i \left(\frac{L}{\delta} \right)}{L} > 0.$$

Then, there is a $t_7 \geq t_6$ such that as $t \geq t_7$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f_i \left(\frac{1}{\delta} z(\sigma_i(t)) \right)}{z(\sigma_i(t))} = \frac{f_i \left(\frac{L}{\delta} \right)}{2L} = \alpha > 0. \quad (3.8)$$

By (3.7) and (3.8), we obtain

$$z^{(n)}(t) \leq -\alpha \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) z(\sigma_i(t)) \quad \text{for } t \geq t_7. \quad (3.9)$$

Define

$$w(t) = \frac{z^{(n-1)}(t)}{z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}(\sigma_i(t))\right)}.$$

We know from (3.5) that, there is a $t_8 \geq t_7$ such that $w(t) > 0$ for sufficiently large $t \geq t_8$. Since $z(t) > 0$ is increasing, there exists a $t_9 \geq t_8$ such that $z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}(\sigma_i(t))\right) \geq z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right) > 0$ for sufficiently large $t \geq t_9$. We may get a result together with (3.9) such that

$$\begin{aligned} w'(t) &= \frac{z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)z^{(n)}(t) - z'\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)z^{(n-1)}(t)\frac{\sigma_i'(t)}{\delta}}{z^2\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)} \quad (3.10) \\ &= \frac{z^{(n)}(t)}{z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)} - \frac{1}{\delta}w(t)\frac{z'\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)}{z\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right)}\sigma_i'(t). \end{aligned}$$

We know from (3.5) that, $z'(t) > 0$ and $z^{(n-1)}(t) > 0$ for $t \geq t_9$. Since $\sigma_i(t) \leq t$ and $\sigma_i'(t) > 0$, there exists a constant $M > 0$ and a $t_{10} \geq t_9$ such that

$$z'\left(\frac{1}{\delta}\sigma_i(t)\right) \geq M\sigma_i^{n-2}(t)\sigma_i'(t)z^{(n-1)}(\sigma_i(t)) \geq M\sigma\sigma_i^{n-2}(t)\sigma_i'(t)z^{(n-1)}(t)$$

for $\lambda = \frac{1}{\delta}$ and $z'(t)$ and $t \geq t_{10}$ by Lemma 2.2. Therefore, we may get a result together with (3.10)

$$w'(t) \leq -\alpha \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) - \frac{M}{\delta} w^2(t) \sigma_i^{n-2}(t) \sigma_i'(t) \quad (3.11)$$

From (3.11), we have

$$\alpha \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(t) \leq -w'(t) - \frac{M}{\delta} w^2(t) \sigma_i^{n-2}(t) \sigma_i'(t), \quad (t \geq t_{10}) \quad (3.12)$$

If we multiply (3.12) by $\varphi(t)$ and integrate it from t_{10} to t , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) ds \leq - \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) w'(s) ds \\ & \quad - \frac{M}{\delta} \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) w^2(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s) ds \\ & = -\varphi(t) w(t) + \varphi(t_{10}) w(t_{10}) + \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi'(s) w(s) ds \\ & \quad - \frac{M}{\delta} \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) w^2(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s) ds \\ & \leq \varphi(t_{10}) w(t_{10}) - \frac{M}{\delta} \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) w^2(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s) \\ & \quad \times \left[w(s) - \frac{\delta \varphi'(s)}{2M \varphi(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s)} \right]^2 ds \\ & \quad + \int_{t_{10}}^t \frac{\delta [\varphi'(s)]^2}{4M \varphi(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s)} ds \\ & \leq \varphi(t_{10}) w(t_{10}) + \int_{t_{10}}^t \frac{\delta [\varphi'(s)]^2}{4M \varphi(s) \sigma_i'(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s)} ds < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} +\infty & = \alpha \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_{t_{10}}^t \varphi(s) \sum_{i=1}^m Q_i(s) ds \\ & \leq \varphi(t_{10}) w(t_{10}) + \int_{t_{10}}^t \frac{\delta [\varphi'(s)]^2}{4M \varphi(s) \sigma_i^{n-2}(s) \sigma_i'(s)} ds < +\infty \end{aligned}$$

for $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ by (C_3) . This is a contradiction. If we assume that $y(t) < 0$ then we may prove when $y(t) < 0$ as in Teorem 3.1. Hence, the proof is completed.

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