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ON CERTAIN ASYMPTOTIC PROPERTIES OF THE SOLUTIONS  
OF THE EQUATION  $\dot{z} = f(t, z)$   
WITH A COMPLEX-VALUED FUNCTION  $f$

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to present certain results concerning the asymptotic properties of the solutions of an equation

$$(1.1) \quad \dot{z} = f(t, z), \quad \dot{\phantom{z}} = \frac{d}{dt},$$

where  $f$  is a continuous complex-valued function of a real variable  $t$  and a complex variable  $z$ . Some results dealing with the asymptotic behaviour of the solutions of (1.1) are established in [1], [2]. The principal tool used in these papers is the technique of Liapunov-like functions.

In the present paper, we give conditions under which a solution  $z(t)$  of (1.1) satisfies

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} D(t) |z(t)|^{\alpha} dt < \infty \quad \left( \text{in particular } \int_{t_1}^{\infty} |z(t)|^2 dt < \infty \right),$$

where  $D(t)$  is a continuous nonnegative function. It is convenient to write the equation (1.1) in the form

$$(1.2) \quad \dot{z} = G(t, z) [h(z) + g(t, z)],$$

where  $G$  is a real-valued function and  $g, h$  are complex-valued functions. We shall assume that the function  $h$  is holomorphic and that the right-hand side of (1.2) is in a suitable sense "close" to this function.

The paper consists of four sections. In Section 2 we recall the definition of the Liapunov-like function  $W(z)$  and of the sets  $\tilde{K}(\lambda), K(\lambda), K(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  which were useful in [1], [2]. For our further purposes, we also quote some theorems from [1] concerning the asymptotic behaviour of the solutions of (1.2). The fundamental results are stated in Section 3. The fourth section is devoted to the equation

$$\dot{z} = q(t, z) - p(t) z^2.$$

Applying the results of Section 3 to this equation we generalize some results of [3] and [4].

## 2. NOTATION AND PRELIMINARIES

Throughout the paper we use the following notation:

$\mathbb{C}$	Set of all complex numbers
$\mathbb{N}$	Set of all positive integers
$\operatorname{Re} b$	Real part of a complex number $b$
$\operatorname{Im} b$	Imaginary part of a complex number $b$
$\bar{b}$	Conjugate of $b$
$ b $	Absolute value of $b$
$\operatorname{Bd} \Gamma$	Boundary of a set $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{C}$
$\operatorname{Cl} \Gamma$	Closure of a set $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{C}$
$\operatorname{Int} \Gamma$	Interior of a Jordan curve $z = z(t)$ , $t \in [\alpha, \beta]$ whose points $z$ form a set $\Gamma$ ; $\Gamma$ will be called the <i>geometric image</i> of the Jordan curve $z = z(t)$ , $t \in [\alpha, \beta]$
$I$	Interval $[t_0, \infty)$
$\Omega$	Simply connected region in $\mathbb{C}$ such that $0 \in \Omega$
$C[\alpha, \infty)$	Class of all continuous real-valued functions defined on the interval $[\alpha, \infty)$
$C(\Gamma)$	Class of all continuous real-valued functions defined on the set $\Gamma$
$\tilde{C}(\Gamma)$	Class of all continuous complex-valued functions defined on the set $\Gamma$
$\mathcal{H}(\Gamma)$	Class of all complex-valued functions defined and holomorphic in the region $\Gamma$ .

Suppose that  $h(z) \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  is a function such that  $h'(0) \neq 0$  and  $h(z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow z = 0$ . Following [1] we define

$$r(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z h'(0) - h(z)}{z h(z)} & \text{for } z \in \Omega, \quad z \neq 0, \\ -\frac{h''(0)}{2 h'(0)} & \text{for } z = 0, \end{cases}$$

$$w(z) = z \exp \left[ \int_0^z r(z^*) dz^* \right]$$

and

$$W(z) = |w(z)|.$$

All of these functions are well-defined on  $\Omega$ . Let  $\Xi$  be the system of all simply connected regions  $\Gamma \subset \Omega$  with the property  $0 \in \Gamma$ . For any  $\Gamma \in \Xi$  put

$$\lambda_0^\Gamma = \lim_{M \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{z \in \Gamma_M} W(z),$$

where

$$\Gamma_M = \{z \in \Gamma : \inf_{z^* \in \text{Bd}\Gamma} |z - z^*| < M^{-1}\} \cup \{z \in \Gamma : |z| > M\}.$$

Denote

$$\lambda_0 = \sup_{\Gamma \in \Xi} \lambda_0^{\Gamma}.$$

Obviously  $0 < \lambda_0 \leq \infty$ .

For  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$  define sets  $\hat{K}(\lambda) \subset \Omega$  in the following way: choose  $\Gamma \in \Xi$  so that  $\lambda_0^{\Gamma} > \lambda$  and put

$$\hat{K}(\lambda) = \{z \in \Gamma : W(z) = \lambda\}.$$

According to [1], this definition is correct, and, denoting

$$\hat{K}(0) = \{0\},$$

$$K(\lambda) = \bigcup_{0 \leq \mu < \lambda} \hat{K}(\mu) \quad \text{for } 0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0,$$

$$K(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \bigcup_{\lambda_1 < \mu < \lambda_2} \hat{K}(\mu) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_0,$$

we have the following statement:

**Theorem 2.1.**  $K = K(\lambda_0)$  is a simply connected region and  $\lambda_0^K = \lambda_0$ . Every set  $\hat{K}(\lambda)$ , where  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ , is the geometric image of a certain Jordan curve, and,

$$\hat{K}(\lambda) = \{z \in K(\lambda_0) : W(z) = \lambda\},$$

$$\text{Int } \hat{K}(\lambda) = \{z \in K(\lambda_0) : W(z) < \lambda\}.$$

Moreover,

$$K(\lambda) = \text{Int } \hat{K}(\lambda) \quad \text{for } 0 < \lambda < \lambda_0,$$

$$K(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = K(\lambda_2) - \text{Cl } K(\lambda_1) \quad \text{for } 0 < \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \leq \lambda_0,$$

and

$$K(0, \lambda) = K(\lambda) - \{0\} \quad \text{for } 0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0.$$

Now, for our further purposes, we recall Theorems 2.2, 2.3 and 2.5 of [1]. Assume that  $G \in C(I \times (\Omega - \{0\}))$ ,  $g \in \bar{C}(I \times (\Omega - \{0\}))$ ,  $G(t, z) [h(z) + g(t, z)] \in \bar{C}(I \times \Omega)$  and consider the equation

$$(2.1) \quad \dot{z} = G(t, z) [h(z) + g(t, z)].$$

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $\delta \geq 0$ ,  $\vartheta \leq \lambda_0$ . Suppose there is an  $E(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that the conditions

$$\sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq t < \infty} \int_s^t E(\xi) d\xi = \varkappa < \infty,$$

$$\delta e^{\varkappa} < \vartheta$$

are fulfilled and

$$-G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E(t)$$

holds for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z \in K(\delta, \vartheta)$ .

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (2.1) satisfies

$$z(t_1) \in \hat{K}(\gamma),$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$  and  $\delta e^\alpha < \gamma < \vartheta$ , then

$$z(t) \notin K(\gamma e^{-\alpha})$$

for all  $t \geq t_1$  for which  $z(t)$  is defined.

**Theorem 2.3.** Suppose  $\delta_n \geq 0$ ,  $\vartheta \leq \lambda_0$ ,  $s_n \in I$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\vartheta < \infty$ . Assume that there are functions  $E_n(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that:

(i) for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the following conditions are fulfilled:

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} E_n(s) ds = -\infty,$$

$$\sup_{s_n \leq s \leq t < \infty} \int_s^t E_n(\xi) d\xi = \kappa_n < \infty,$$

$$\delta_n e^{\kappa_n} < \vartheta;$$

(ii) for  $t \geq s_n$ ,  $z \in K(\delta_n, \vartheta)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the following inequality holds

$$G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E_n(t).$$

Denote

$$\delta = \inf_{n \in \mathbb{N}} [\delta_n e^{\kappa_n}].$$

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (2.1) satisfies

$$z(t_1) \in K(\vartheta e^{-\kappa_1}),$$

where  $t_1 \geq s_1$ , then for any  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\delta < \varepsilon < \lambda_0$ , there is a  $T = T(\varepsilon, t_1) > 0$  independent of  $z(t)$  such that

$$z(t) \in K(\varepsilon)$$

for  $t \geq t_1 + T$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $\delta > 0$ ,  $\vartheta_n \leq \lambda_0$ ,  $s_n \in I$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Suppose there are functions  $E_n(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that:

(i) for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the following conditions are fulfilled:

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} E_n(s) ds = -\infty,$$

$$\sup_{s_n \leq s \leq t < \infty} \int_s^t E_n(\xi) d\xi = \varkappa_n < \infty,$$

$$\delta e^{\varkappa_n} < \vartheta_n;$$

(ii) for  $t \geq s_n$ ,  $z \in K(\delta, \vartheta_n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  the following inequality holds

$$-G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E_n(t).$$

Denote

$$\vartheta = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} [\vartheta_n e^{-\varkappa_n}].$$

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (2.1) satisfies

$$z(t_1) \in K(\delta e^{\varkappa_1}, \lambda_0),$$

where  $t_1 \geq s_1$ , then for any  $\varepsilon$ ,  $0 < \varepsilon < \vartheta$ , there exists a  $T = T(\varepsilon, t_1) > 0$  independent of  $z(t)$  such that

$$z(t) \notin \operatorname{Cl} K(\varepsilon)$$

for all  $t \geq t_1 + T$  for which  $z(t)$  is defined.

### 3. MAIN RESULTS

Consider the equation

$$(3.1) \quad \dot{z} = G(t, z) [h(z) + g(t, z)],$$

where  $G \in C(I \times \Omega)$ ,  $g \in \tilde{C}(I \times \Omega)$ ,  $h \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$ . Assume that  $h'(0) \neq 0$  and  $h(z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow z = 0$ . Let  $W(z)$ ,  $\lambda_0$ ,  $\hat{K}(\lambda)$ ,  $K(\lambda)$ ,  $K(\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  be defined as before.

**Note.** Suppose  $E(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$ ,  $0 < \gamma_n < \lambda_0$ ,

$$\inf_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \gamma_n = 0.$$

If

$$(3.2) \quad G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E(t)$$

or

$$(3.3) \quad -G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E(t)$$

holds for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z \in \hat{K}(\gamma_n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $G(t, 0)g(t, 0) = 0$  for  $t \geq t_0$ .

Proof. Notice that  $h(z) = h'(0)[z + q(z)]$ , where  $q(z) = o(|z|)$  as  $z \rightarrow 0$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} = \\ &= G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) + G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ g(t, z) \frac{\bar{z} + \overline{q(z)}}{|z|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{z} q(z)] + |q(z)|^2} \right\} = \\ &= G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) + G(t, z) \frac{X\varphi + Y\psi + \varphi \operatorname{Re} q(z) + \psi \operatorname{Im} q(z)}{|z|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{z} q(z)] + |q(z)|^2}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $X = \operatorname{Re} z$ ,  $Y = \operatorname{Im} z$ ,  $\varphi = \varphi(t, X, Y) = \operatorname{Re} g(t, z)$ ,  $\psi = \psi(t, X, Y) = \operatorname{Im} g(t, z)$ . Using (3.2) and (3.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \varepsilon G(t, X + iY) [X\varphi + Y\psi + \varphi \operatorname{Re} q(z) + \psi \operatorname{Im} q(z)] \leq \\ & \leq [E(t) - \varepsilon G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0)] \{ |z|^2 + 2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{z} q(z)] + |q(z)|^2 \} \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z = X + iY \in \hat{K}(\gamma_n)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\varepsilon = 1$  or  $\varepsilon = -1$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \varepsilon G(t, X + iY) \left[ X(X^2 + Y^2)^{-1/2} \varphi + Y(X^2 + Y^2)^{-1/2} \psi + \varphi \frac{\operatorname{Re} q(z)}{|z|} + \right. \\ & \left. + \psi \frac{\operatorname{Im} q(z)}{|z|} \right] \leq [E(t) - \varepsilon G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0)] \left\{ |z| + \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{z} q(z)]}{|z|} + \frac{|q(z)|^2}{|z|} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $Y = 0$  and letting  $X \rightarrow 0 \pm$ , we observe that  $G(t, 0)\varphi(t, 0, 0) = 0$ . Similarly  $G(t, 0)\psi(t, 0, 0) = 0$ . Therefore  $G(t, 0)g(t, 0) = 0$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** Assume that  $0 < \vartheta < \lambda_0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ . Suppose there is a function  $E(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that

$$(3.4) \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_0}^s E(\xi) d\xi \right] ds < \infty,$$

and that

$$(3.5) \quad G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \leq E(t)$$

holds for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z \in K(0, \vartheta)$ . For  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  suppose in addition that any initial value problem (3.1),  $z(\tau) = 0$ , where  $\tau \geq t_0$ , possesses the unique solution  $(z(t) \equiv 0)$ .

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (3.1) satisfies

$$(3.6) \quad z(t) \in K(\vartheta) \quad \text{for } t \geq t_1,$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$ , then

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} |z(t)|^\alpha dt < \infty.$$

Proof. Let  $z(t)$  be any solution of (3.1) satisfying (3.6). If  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  we may assume that  $z(t) \neq 0$  for  $t \geq t_1$ . For  $t \geq t_1$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} W^2(z) &= \frac{d}{dt} [w(z) \overline{w(z)}] = 2 \operatorname{Re} [w'(z) \overline{w(z)} \dot{z}] = \\ &= 2 \operatorname{Re} \{w(z) \overline{w(z)} [z^{-1} + r(z)] \dot{z}\} = 2 W^2(z) \operatorname{Re} [h'(0) h^{-1}(z) \dot{z}], \end{aligned}$$

where  $z = z(t)$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W}(z) &= W(z) \operatorname{Re} [h'(0) h^{-1}(z) \dot{z}] = \\ &= G(t, z) W(z) \operatorname{Re} \{h'(0) h^{-1}(z) [h(z) + g(t, z)]\} = \\ &= G(t, z) W(z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ . This together with (3.5) yields

$$\frac{d}{dt} W^\alpha(z(t)) = \alpha W^{\alpha-1}(z(t)) \dot{W}(z(t)) \leq \alpha E(t) W^\alpha(z(t))$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ . Hence

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ W^\alpha(z(t)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t E(\xi) d\xi \right] \right\} \leq 0, \quad t \geq t_1.$$

Integrating this inequality from  $t_1$  to  $t$ , we obtain

$$W^\alpha(z(t)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t E(\xi) d\xi \right] - W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \leq 0.$$

Thus

$$W^\alpha(z(t)) \leq W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_1}^t E(s) ds \right], \quad t \geq t_1.$$

Integration over  $[t_1, t]$  gives

$$\int_{t_1}^t W^\alpha(z(s)) ds \leq W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \int_{t_1}^t \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_1}^s E(\xi) d\xi \right] ds, \quad t \geq t_1.$$

Consequently,

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} W^\alpha(z(t)) dt \leq W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_0}^{t_1} E(\xi) d\xi \right] \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_0}^s E(\xi) d\xi \right] ds.$$



This inequality together with (3.4) implies

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} W^\alpha(z(t)) dt < \infty .$$

Since

$$W(z) = \left| z \exp \left[ \int_0^z r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right| ,$$

and  $\text{Cl } K(\vartheta) \subset K(\lambda_0)$  is a compact set, there exists a constant  $L > 0$  such that

$$W(z) \geq L|z| \quad \text{for } z \in \text{Cl } K(\vartheta) .$$

Accordingly

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} |z(t)|^\alpha dt \leq L^{-\alpha} \int_{t_1}^{\infty} W^\alpha(z(t)) dt < \infty .$$

**Theorem 3.2.** Assume that  $0 < \vartheta < \lambda_0$ ,  $\alpha \geq 1$ . Suppose there are functions  $D(t)$ ,  $E(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$ ,  $E(t) \geq 0$ , such that

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_0}^s D(\xi) d\xi \right] ds < \infty ,$$

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_{t_0}^s E(\xi) \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{\xi}^s D(\eta) d\eta \right] d\xi \right\} ds < \infty ,$$

and that

$$(3.7) \quad G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) \leq D(t) ,$$

$$(3.8) \quad W(z) G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left[ g(t, z) \frac{h'(0)}{h(z)} \right] \leq E(t)$$

hold for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z \in K(0, \vartheta)$ .

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (3.1) satisfies

$$(3.6) \quad z(t) \in K(\vartheta) \quad \text{for } t \geq t_1 ,$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$ , then

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} |z(t)|^\alpha dt < \infty .$$

*Proof.* Let  $z(t)$  be any solution of (3.1) satisfying (3.6). Put  $\mathcal{M} = \{t \geq t_1 : z(t) \in K(0, \vartheta)\}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}_0 = \{t \geq t_1 : z(t) \in K(\vartheta)\} = [t_1, \infty)$ . We have

$$\dot{W}(z) = G(t, z) W(z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\}$$

for  $t \in \mathcal{M}$ . Let  $\tau \geq t_1$  be such a number that  $z(\tau) = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{W}_+(z(\tau)) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \tau+} \frac{W(z(t))}{t - \tau} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \tau+} \frac{|z(t)| \left| \exp \left[ \int_0^{z(t)} r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right|}{t - \tau} = \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \tau+} \left\{ \frac{|z(t)|}{|t - \tau|} \left| \exp \left[ \int_0^{z(t)} r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right| \right\} = |\dot{z}(\tau)| = \\ &= |G(\tau, 0) g(\tau, 0)|. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\dot{W}_-(z(\tau)) = -|G(\tau, 0) g(\tau, 0)|.$$

Hence  $\dot{W}(z(\tau))$  exists if and only if  $G(\tau, 0) g(\tau, 0) = 0$ . In this case  $\dot{W}(z(\tau)) = 0$ .

Let  $\mathcal{M}_1 = \{t \geq t_1 : z(t) = 0, G(t, 0) g(t, 0) = 0\}$ . The set  $\mathcal{M}_0 - (\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1)$  is at most countable. For  $t \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} W^\alpha(z) = \alpha W^{\alpha-1}(z) \dot{W}(z) = \alpha G(t, z) W^\alpha(z) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g(t, z)}{h(z)} \right] \right\}$$

holds. Notice that  $h(z) = z q(z)$ , where  $q \in \mathcal{H}(\Omega)$  and  $q(z) \neq 0$  for  $z \in \Omega$ . Using (3.7) and (3.8), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} W^\alpha(z) &\leq \alpha D(t) W^\alpha(z) + \alpha W^{\alpha-1}(z) E(t) \leq \\ &\leq \alpha D(t) W^\alpha(z) + \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} E(t) \quad \text{for } t \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{d}{dt} W^\alpha(z) - \alpha D(t) W^\alpha(z) \right| &\leq \alpha |G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) - D(t)| W^\alpha(z) + \\ &+ \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} |G(t, z) g(t, z) h'(0)| \left| \exp \left[ \int_0^z r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right| |q(z)|^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1$ .

Define

$$B(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ W^\alpha(z(t)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t D(s) ds \right] \right\} & \text{whenever } t \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1, \\ 0 & \text{whenever } t \in \mathcal{M}_0 - (\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1). \end{cases}$$

$B(t)$  satisfies the estimates

$$(3.9) \quad \begin{aligned} B(t) &\leq \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} E(t) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t D(s) ds \right], \\ |B(t)| &\leq \alpha \{ |G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) - D(t)| W^\alpha(z) + \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \vartheta^{\alpha-1} |G(t, z) g(t, z) h'(0)| \frac{\left| \exp \left[ \int_0^z r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right|}{|q(z)|} \left\} \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t D(s) ds \right]$$

for  $t \in \mathcal{M}_0$ . Thus  $B(t)$  is continuous for  $t \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_2$  be the set of all  $t \geq t_1$  for which  $B(t)$  is discontinuous. Since  $\mathcal{M}_2 \subset \mathcal{M}_0 - (\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1)$ , the set  $\mathcal{M}_2$  is at most countable. Moreover,  $B(t)$  is bounded on any compact subinterval of  $[t_1, \infty)$ . Therefore

$$\int_{t_1}^t B(s) ds = W^\alpha(z(t)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t D(s) ds \right] - W^\alpha(z(t_1))$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ .

Integration of (3.9) yields

$$\begin{aligned} W^\alpha(z(t)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^t D(s) ds \right] - W^\alpha(z(t_1)) &\leq \\ &\leq \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} \int_{t_1}^t E(s) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_1}^s D(\xi) d\xi \right] ds \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_1}^\infty W^\alpha(z(s)) ds &\leq W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \int_{t_1}^\infty \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_1}^s D(\xi) d\xi \right] ds + \\ &+ \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} \int_{t_1}^\infty \left\{ \int_{t_1}^s E(\xi) \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{\xi}^s D(\eta) d\eta \right] d\xi \right\} ds \leq \\ &\leq W^\alpha(z(t_1)) \exp \left[ -\alpha \int_{t_0}^{t_1} D(\xi) d\xi \right] \int_{t_0}^\infty \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{t_0}^s D(\xi) d\xi \right] ds + \\ &+ \alpha \vartheta^{\alpha-1} \int_{t_0}^\infty \left\{ \int_{t_0}^s E(\xi) \exp \left[ \alpha \int_{\xi}^s D(\eta) d\eta \right] d\xi \right\} ds < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

The rest of the proof is the same as that of Theorem 3.1.

**Theorem 3.3.** Assume that  $0 < \vartheta \leq \lambda_0$ ,  $\vartheta < \infty$ ,  $\alpha \geq 1$ ,  $\operatorname{Re} h'(0) \neq 0$ . Suppose there are nonnegative functions  $D(t)$ ,  $E(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that

$$(3.10) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{t_0}^\infty D(t) dt &= \infty, \\ \int_{t_0}^\infty E(t) dt &< \infty, \end{aligned}$$

and that

$$G(t, z) \geq D(t),$$

$$- \operatorname{sgn} [\operatorname{Re} h'(0)] W(z) G(t, z) \operatorname{Re} \left[ g(t, z) \frac{h'(0)}{h(z)} \right] \leq E(t)$$

hold for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z \in K(0, \vartheta)$ .

If a solution  $z(t)$  of (3.1) satisfies

$$(3.6) \quad z(t) \in K(\vartheta) \quad \text{for } t \geq t_1,$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$ , then

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} D(t) |z(t)|^{\alpha} dt < \infty$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = 0.$$

Proof. Without loss of generality we may assume that  $\alpha = 1$ . Proceeding similarly as in the proof of Theorem 3.2 and defining

$$B(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} W(z(t)) & \text{whenever } t \in \mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1, \\ 0 & \text{whenever } t \in \mathcal{M}_0 - (\mathcal{M} \cup \mathcal{M}_1), \end{cases}$$

we observe that

$$\int_{t_1}^t B(s) ds = W(z(t)) - W(z(t_1)), \quad t \geq t_1$$

and

$$- \operatorname{sgn} [\operatorname{Re} h'(0)] B(t) \leq -D(t) |\operatorname{Re} h'(0)| W(z(t)) + E(t)$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ . Integrating this inequality over  $[t_1, t]$  and letting  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we infer, in view of (3.10) and  $0 \leq W(z) \leq \vartheta$ , that

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} D(t) W(z(t)) dt < \infty.$$

Therefore

$$(3.11) \quad \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} W(z(t)) = \liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} |z(t)| = 0.$$

Let  $\operatorname{Re} h'(0) < 0$ . For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  choose  $s_n \geq t_0$  such that

$$\int_{s_n}^{\infty} E(t) dt < \frac{\vartheta}{2(n+1)} \ln(n+1), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

By using Theorem 2.3 with  $\delta_n = \vartheta/(n+1)$ ,  $E_n(t) = D(t) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) + (n+1)E(t)/\vartheta$ ,

we obtain

$$(3.12) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = 0.$$

We shall prove that (3.12) holds also if  $\operatorname{Re} h'(0) > 0$ . Suppose this is not the case. Then

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} W(z(t)) = \beta > 0.$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  define  $s_n \geq t_0$  such that

$$\int_{s_n}^{\infty} E(t) dt < \frac{\beta}{2n} e^{-1}.$$

Using Theorem 2.4 with  $\delta = \beta e^{-1}/2$ ,  $\vartheta_n = \vartheta$ ,  $E_n(t) = -D(t) \operatorname{Re} h'(0) + 2e E(t)/\beta$  we get

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} W(z(t)) > 0,$$

which contradicts (3.11). This proves (3.12).

Now, there exists a positive constant  $L$  such that

$$W(z(t)) = |z(t)| \left| \exp \left[ \int_0^{z(t)} r(z^*) dz^* \right] \right| \geq L|z(t)|$$

for  $t \geq t_1$ . Therefore

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} D(t) |z(t)| dt \leq L^{-1} \int_{t_1}^{\infty} D(t) W(z(t)) dt < \infty.$$

#### 4. APPLICATION TO THE EQUATION $\dot{z} = q(t, z) - p(t) z^2$

In this section we propose establishing certain results concerning the asymptotic behaviour of the equation

$$(4.1) \quad \dot{z} = q(t, z) - p(t) z^2,$$

where  $p \in \tilde{C}(I)$ ,  $q \in \tilde{C}(I \times \mathbb{C})$ . Some results of this type are given in [1], [2]. The special case of (4.1) is studied in [3], [4], where M. Ráb has obtained results describing the asymptotic properties of the Riccati differential equation

$$\dot{z} = q(t) - p(t) z^2$$

with complex-valued coefficients  $p, q$ .

If  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\psi(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$ ,  $\psi(t) > 0$ , then (4.1) can be written in the form

$$(4.2) \quad \dot{z} = \psi(t) \left[ (\bar{b} - \bar{a})(z - a)(z - b) + \frac{q(t, z)}{\psi(t)} - \frac{p(t)}{\psi(t)} z^2 + (\bar{a} - \bar{b})(z - a)(z - b) \right].$$

Suppose  $a \neq b$  and denote  $c = a - b$ . Substituting  $z_1 = z - a$  or  $z_2 = z - b$ , we get

$$(4.2_1) \quad \dot{z}_1 = G_1(t, z_1) [h_1(z_1) + g_1(t, z_1)]$$

or

$$(4.2_2) \quad \dot{z}_2 = G_2(t, z_2) [h_2(z_2) + g_2(t, z_2)]$$

respectively, where

$$\begin{aligned} G_1(t, z_1) &= \psi(t), \quad h_1(z_1) = -\bar{c}z_1(z_1 + c), \\ g_1(t, z_1) &= \frac{q(t, z_1 + a)}{\psi(t)} - \frac{p(t)}{\psi(t)}(z_1 + a)^2 + \bar{c}z_1(z_1 + c), \\ G_2(t, z_2) &= \psi(t), \quad h_2(z_2) = -\bar{c}z_2(z_2 - c), \\ g_2(t, z_2) &= \frac{q(t, z_2 + b)}{\psi(t)} - \frac{p(t)}{\psi(t)}(z_2 + b)^2 + \bar{c}z_2(z_2 - c). \end{aligned}$$

Put

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_1 &= \{z_1 \in \mathbb{C} : 2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{c}z_1] > -|c|^2\}, \\ \Omega_2 &= \{z_2 \in \mathbb{C} : 2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{c}z_2] < |c|^2\}. \end{aligned}$$

I. First we shall consider the equation (4.2<sub>1</sub>) on the set  $I \times \Omega_1$ . We find out that  $W(z_1) = |c| |z_1| |z_1 + c|^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda_0 = |c|$  and  $K(\lambda_0) = \Omega_1$ . Moreover, we have

$$\hat{K}(\lambda) = \{z_1 \in \Omega_1 : |c| |z_1| = \lambda |z_1 + c|\}$$

for  $0 \leq \lambda < \lambda_0$ . Notice that

$$|z_1 + c| > \frac{|c|^2}{|c| + \lambda}$$

for  $z_1 \in K(\lambda)$ , where  $0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0$ , and

$$|z_1| > \frac{|c|\lambda}{|c| + \lambda}$$

for  $z_1 \in K(\lambda, \lambda_0)$ , where  $0 \leq \lambda < \lambda_0$ .

Suppose that there is an  $H(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that

$$|q(t, z_1 + a) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t)(z_1 + a)| \leq H(t)$$

for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z_1 \in \Omega_1$ .

1° Assume that

$$(4.3) \quad \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] > 0 \quad \text{for } t \geq t_0,$$

$$(4.4) \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] dt = \infty$$

and

$$(4.5) \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} H(t) dt < \infty.$$

Let  $s_n \geq t_0$  be such that

$$\int_{s_n}^{\infty} H(t) dt < \frac{|c|}{4n} e^{-1}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Put  $\psi(t) \equiv 1$  and

$$\delta_n = \frac{|c|}{n} e^{-1} \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Re} \left\{ h_1'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g_1(t, z_1)}{h_1(z_1)} \right] \right\} = \\ & = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ [q(t, z_1 + a) - a^2 p(t) - (a + b) p(t) z_1] \frac{c}{z_1(z_1 + c)} \right\} + \\ & \quad + \operatorname{Re} \left\{ [-c p(t) z_1 - p(t) z_1^2] \frac{c}{z_1(z_1 + c)} \right\} = \\ & = \operatorname{Re} \left\{ [q(t, z_1 + a) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t) (z_1 + a)] \frac{c}{z_1(z_1 + c)} \right\} - \\ & \quad - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \leq H(t) \frac{|c|}{|z_1| |z_1 + c|} - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \leq \\ & \leq H(t) |c| \left[ \frac{|c| \delta_n}{|c| + \delta_n} \frac{1}{2} |c| \right]^{-1} - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \leq \frac{4}{\delta_n} H(t) - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq s_n$ ,  $z_1 \in K(\delta_n, \lambda_0)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Using Theorem 2.3 (with  $\mathfrak{A} = \lambda_0 = |c|$ ,  $G(t, z) \equiv 1$ ,  $E_n(t) = 4 H(t)/\delta_n - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)]$ ), we get the following assertion:

*If a solution  $z_1(t)$  of (4.2<sub>1</sub>) satisfies the condition*

$$|z_1(t_1)| < \exp \left[ -\frac{4e}{|c|} \int_{s_1}^{\infty} H(t) dt \right] |z_1(t_1) + c|,$$

where  $t_1 \geq s_1$ , then

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z_1(t) = 0.$$

2° Suppose that (4.3), (4.4) and (4.5) hold. Put

$$\psi(t) = \frac{\operatorname{Re} [c p(t)]}{|c|^2}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & W(z_1) \psi(t) \operatorname{Re} \left[ g_1(t, z_1) \frac{h_1'(0)}{h_1(z_1)} \right] = \\ & = W(z_1) \operatorname{Re} \left\{ [q(t, z_1 + a) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t)(z_1 + a)] \frac{c}{z_1(z_1 + c)} \right\} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{|c| |z_1|}{|z_1 + c|} H(t) \frac{|c|}{|z_1| |z_1 + c|} \leq \frac{|c|^2}{|z_1 + c|^2} H(t) \leq 4 H(t) \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z_1 \in K(0, \lambda_0)$ .

Applying Theorem 3.3 (with  $\vartheta = \lambda_0 = |c|$ ,  $D(t) = G(t, z) = \psi(t)$ ,  $E(t) = 4 H(t)$ ), we obtain the following statement:

If a solution  $z_1(t)$  of (4.2<sub>1</sub>) satisfies

$$2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{c} z_1(t)] > -|c|^2 \quad \text{for } t \geq t_1,$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$ , then

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] |z_1(t)| dt < \infty$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z_1(t) = 0.$$

II. Consider the equation (4.2<sub>2</sub>) on the set  $I \times \Omega_2$ . In this case we have  $W(z_2) = |c| |z_2| |z_2 - c|^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda_0 = |c|$  and  $K(\lambda_0) = \Omega_2$ . Further,

$$\hat{K}(\lambda) = \{z_2 \in \Omega_2 : |c| |z_2| = \lambda |z_2 - c|\}$$

for  $0 \leq \lambda < \lambda_0$ . Notice that

$$|z_2 - c| > \frac{|c|^2}{|c| + \lambda}$$

for  $z_2 \in K(\lambda)$ , where  $0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0$ , and,

$$|z_2| > \frac{|c| \lambda}{|c| + \lambda}$$

for  $z_2 \in K(\lambda, \lambda_0)$ , where  $0 \leq \lambda < \lambda_0$ .

Suppose there is an  $H(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that

$$|q(t, z_2 + b) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t)(z_2 + b)| \leq H(t)$$

for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z_2 \in \Omega_2$ .

3° Assume that (4.3), (4.4) and (4.5) hold. Put  $\psi(t) \equiv 1$  and choose  $\delta \in (0, |c| e^{-1})$ . Define  $S \geq t_0$  so that

$$\int_S^{\infty} H(t) dt < \frac{\delta}{4}.$$



Then

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{Re} \left\{ h_2'(0) \left[ 1 + \frac{g_2(t, z_2)}{h_2(z_2)} \right] \right\} &\leq H(t) \frac{|c|}{|z_2| |z_2 - c|} - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \leq \\ &\leq H(t) |c| \left[ \frac{|c| \delta}{|c| + \delta} \frac{1}{2} |c| \right]^{-1} - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \leq \\ &\leq \frac{4}{\delta} H(t) - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \end{aligned}$$

holds for  $t \geq S$  ad  $z_2 \in K(\delta, \lambda_0)$ .

Making use of Theorem 2.2 (with  $\vartheta = \lambda_0 = |c|$ ,  $E(t) = 4H(t)/\delta - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)]$ ,  $G(t, z) \equiv 1$ ), we get:

If a solution  $z_2(t)$  of (4.2<sub>2</sub>) satisfies

$$|c| |z_2(t_1)| > \delta |z_2(t_1) - c|,$$

where  $t_1 \geq S$ , then

$$|c| |z_2(t)| > \delta |z_2(t) - c|$$

for all  $t \geq t_1$  for which  $z_2(t)$  is defined.

4° Suppose that (4.3), (4.4) and (4.5) hold. Putting

$$\psi(t) = \frac{\operatorname{Re} [c p(t)]}{|c|^2},$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} -W(z_2) \psi(t) \operatorname{Re} \left[ g_2(t, z_2) \frac{h_2'(0)}{h_2(z_2)} \right] &\leq \frac{|c| |z_2|}{|z_2 - c|} H(t) \frac{|c|}{|z_2| |z_2 - c|} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{|c|^2}{|z_2 - c|^2} H(t) \leq 4 H(t) \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $z_2 \in K(0, \lambda_0)$ .

Applying Theorem 3.3 (with  $\vartheta = \lambda_0 = |c|$ ,  $D(t) = G(t, z) = \psi(t)$ ,  $E(t) = 4H(t)$ ) we get the following assertion:

If a solution  $z_2(t)$  of (4.2<sub>2</sub>) satisfies

$$2 \operatorname{Re} [\bar{c} z_2(t)] < |c|^2 \quad \text{for } t \geq t_1,$$

where  $t_1 \geq t_0$ , then

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] |z_2(t)| dt < \infty$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z_2(t) = 0.$$

By virtue of 1°, 2°, 3°, 4° we can prove the following generalization of Theorem 5 of [3] and Theorem 6 of [4]:

**Theorem 4.1.** *Suppose there exist  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $H(t) \in C[t_0, \infty)$  such that*

$$|q(t, z) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t) z| \leq H(t) \quad \text{for } t \geq t_0, \quad z \in \mathbb{C},$$

$$\operatorname{Re} [(a - b) p(t)] > 0 \quad \text{for } t \geq t_0,$$

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [(a - b) p(t)] dt = \infty$$

and

$$(4.5) \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} H(t) dt < \infty.$$

Then each solution  $z(t)$  of (4.1) defined for  $t \rightarrow \infty$  satisfies either

$$(4.6) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = a, \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [(a - b) p(t)] |z(t) - a| dt < \infty$$

or

$$(4.7) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = b, \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \operatorname{Re} [(a - b) p(t)] |z(t) - b| dt < \infty.$$

Let  $S \geq t_0$  be such that

$$\int_S^{\infty} H(t) dt < (4e)^{-1} |a - b|.$$

Then each solution  $z(t)$  of (4.1) satisfying

$$|z(t_1) - a| < \exp \left[ - \frac{4e}{|a - b|} \int_S^{\infty} H(t) dt \right] |z(t_1) - b|,$$

where  $t_1 \geq S$ , is defined for all  $t \geq t_1$ , and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} z(t) = a.$$

*Proof.* Denote  $c = a - b$ . Suppose there is a solution  $z(t)$  of (4.1) such that

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ \bar{c} [2 z(\tilde{t}_n) - a - b] \} = 0, \quad n \in \mathbb{N},$$

where

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{t}_n = \infty.$$

Using 1°, 3°, it can be easily verified that there exists an  $L > 0$  with the following property:

$$|z(t) - a| |z(t) - b| \geq L$$

for sufficiently large  $t \in I$ . For these  $t$ 's we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} &= \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ \frac{c}{(z - a)(z - b)} [q(t, z) - p(t) z^2] \right\} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} \left\{ \frac{|c|}{|z - a| |z - b|} |q(t, z) + ab p(t) - (a + b) p(t) z| - \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \right\} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} \left\{ \frac{|c|}{L} H(t) - \operatorname{Re} [c p(t)] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \exp \left[ - \int_{t_1}^t \left[ \frac{|c|}{L} H(s) - \operatorname{Re} [c p(s)] \right] ds \right] \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} \right\} \leq 0.$$

Integration and the limiting process  $t \rightarrow \infty$  yield

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|z(t) - a|}{|z(t) - b|} = 0,$$

which contradicts our initial supposition. Consequently, there is a  $\tau \geq t_0$  such that either

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ \bar{c} [2 z(t) - a - b] \} > 0 \quad \text{for } t \geq \tau$$

or

$$\operatorname{Re} \{ \bar{c} [2 z(t) - a - b] \} < 0 \quad \text{for } t \geq \tau.$$

In view of 2° and 4° the solution  $z(t)$  satisfies either (4.6) or (4.7). The rest of the proof results from 1°.

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