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**A NOTE ON THE OSCILLATION OF SOLUTIONS
OF THE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION $y'' + \lambda q(t)y = 0$
WITH AN ALMOST PERIODIC COEFFICIENT**

SVATOSLAV STANĚK

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Let q be a (real) almost periodic function ($[1], [2]$), $q \neq 0$, and λ a (real) parameter. Consider the differential equation

$$y'' + \lambda q(t)y = 0. \quad (\lambda q)$$

It is well known (see [3]) that (λq) is either disconjugate, i.e. every nontrivial solution of (λq) has one zero (on \mathbf{R}) at most, or it is oscillatory, i.e. $\pm\infty$ are the cluster points of zeros relative to every nontrivial solution of this equation. If $\lambda = 0$, then (λq) is disconjugate.

Our object now is to obtain such a necessary and sufficient condition laid on the function q for the equation (λq) to be oscillatory for every λ , $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$. A necessary and sufficient condition for the special case with q being periodic is given in [6] and follows directly from

Theorem 1. *Let q be an almost periodic function, $q \neq 0$. Then (λq) is oscillatory for every λ , $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$, exactly if $M\{q\} = 0$, where $M\{q\} := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t q(s) ds$ means the mean value of the function q .*

Prior to proving the above Theorem we will prove

Lemma 1. *Let f be an almost periodic function and $M\{f\} = 0$. Then there exists to every number $\tau > 0$ an almost periodic function p , $|p(t)| < \tau$ for $t \in \mathbf{R}$, such that the function $\alpha(t) := \int_0^t (f(s) + p(s)) ds$, $t \in \mathbf{R}$, is bounded on \mathbf{R} .*

PROOF. If the function $\int_0^t f(s) ds$ is bounded on \mathbf{R} , we put $p = 0$. Let the function $\int_0^t f(s) ds$ be unbounded on \mathbf{R} and $\tau > 0$ be an arbitrary number. Then there exists a trigonometric polynom $P(t) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^N (a_k \cos v_k t + b_k \sin v_k t)$ ($v_k \neq 0$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$) (see e.g. [2] p. 62), such that

$$|f(t) - P(t)| < \frac{\tau}{2} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbf{R}. \quad (1)$$

If $M\{P\} = a_0$, then on our assumptions $M\{f\} = 0$ and (1) we get inequality

$$|a_0| < \frac{\tau}{2}. \quad (2)$$

Putting $p(t) := P(t) - f(t) - a_0$, $t \in \mathbf{R}$, then p is almost periodic function and from (1) and (2) we get $|p(t)| < \tau$ for $t \in \mathbf{R}$. Since $\alpha(t) = \int_0^t (f(s) + p(s)) ds = \int_0^t \sum_{k=1}^N (a_k \cos v_k x + b_k \sin v_k x) dx$, it follows that $|\alpha(t)| \leq \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\left| \frac{a_k}{v_k} \right| + 2 \left| \frac{b_k}{v_k} \right| \right)$ for $t \in \mathbf{R}$, so that the function α is bounded on \mathbf{R} .

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. (\Leftarrow) If $M\{q\} = 0$, then it follows from Theorem 2 ([3]) that (λq) is oscillatory for every λ , $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$.

(\Rightarrow) Suppose (λq) to be oscillatory for every λ , $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$, and $M\{q\} = c (\neq 0)$. For certainly let $c > 0$ (for $c < 0$ the function $-q$ instead of q is considered). Let us put $q_1(t) := q(t) - c$, $t \in \mathbf{R}$. Then q_1 is an almost periodic function and $M\{q_1\} = 0$. By Lemma 1 there exists an almost periodic function p , $|p(t)| < \frac{c}{2}$ for $t \in \mathbf{R}$, such that the function $\int_0^t (q_1(s) + p(s)) ds$ is bounded on \mathbf{R} . Let $|\int_0^t (q_1(s) + p(s)) ds| \leq K$ for $t \in \mathbf{R}$, where K is a constant. Then, of course,

$$\left| \int_0^t (q_1(s) + p(s)) ds \right| \leq 2K \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq t. \quad (3)$$

Let

$$0 < \lambda < \frac{c}{8K^2}. \quad (4)$$

We will prove that

$$y'' - \lambda \left(q_1(t) + p(t) + \frac{c}{2} \right) y = 0 \quad (5)$$

is nonoscillatory on $[0, \infty)$ for all λ satisfying (4). Consequently, equation (5) is for all such λ necessarily disconjugate (on \mathbf{R}). Suppose that $\lambda > 0$. By substitution of $y = \exp\left(\sqrt{\frac{\lambda c}{2}} t\right) z$ equation (5) is transformed onto equation

$$(r(t) z')' + Q(t) z = 0, \quad (6)$$

where $r(t) := \exp(\sqrt{2\lambda}ct)$, $Q(t) := -\lambda(q_1(t) + p(t)) \exp(\sqrt{2\lambda}ct)$, $t \in \mathbf{R}$. Then for every λ satisfying (4) we get from (3) for every $0 \leq x \leq t$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_x^t (Q(s) \int_s^\infty (1/r(u)) du ds \right| &= \lambda \left| \int_x^t \exp(\sqrt{2\lambda}cs) (q_1(s) + p(s)) \int_s^\infty \exp(-\sqrt{2\lambda}cu) du ds \right| = \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{2\lambda}c} \left| \int_x^t (q_1(s) + p(s)) \sigma s \right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2\lambda}{c}} K < \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

It now follows from the above and from the Moore criterion for the nonoscillation of (6) (see [4] or [5] p. 196) that equation (6) is nonoscillatory on $[0, \infty)$ for every λ satisfying (4). It then naturally follows from the inequality $\lambda \left(q_1(t) + p(t) + \frac{c}{2} \right) < \lambda(q_1(t) + c) = \lambda q(t)$ and from the Sturm comparison theorem that (λq) is disconjugate for every λ satisfying (4) which, however, is contrary to our assumption of the Theorem.

Remark 1. If the function $\int_0^t q(s) ds$ is bounded on \mathbf{R} , then the assertion of Theorem 1 may be proved directly using Theorems 2 and 6 in [4].

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OSCILACE ŘEŠENÍ DIFERENCIÁLNÍ ROVNICE $y'' = \lambda q(t) y$ SE SKOROPERIODICKÝM KOEFICIENTEM

Souhrn

V práci je dokázána věta: Nechť q je skoroperiodická funkce, $q \not\equiv 0$. Pak rovnice

$$y'' = \lambda q(t) y$$

je oscilatorické pro každé λ , $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$, právě když $M\{q\} = 0$, kde $M\{q\} := \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T q(t) dt$ značí střední hodnotu funkce q .

**О КОЛЕБЛЮЩИХСЯ РЕШЕНИЯХ
ДИФФЕРЕНЦИАЛЬНОГО УРАВНЕНИЯ $y'' = \lambda q(t)y$
С ПОЧТИ-ПЕРИОДИЧЕСКИМ КОЭФФИЦИЕНТОМ**

Резюме

В работе приводится теорема: Пусть q почти-периодическая функция, $q \not\equiv 0$. Для того, чтобы дифференциальное уравнение $y'' = \lambda q(t)y$ было колеблющимся для $\lambda \in \mathbf{R} - \{0\}$, необходимо и достаточно, чтобы $M\{q\} = 0$, где $M\{q\} := \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T q(t) dt$ — среднее значение функции q .