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*Časopis pro pěstování matematiky*, Vol. 113 (1988), No. 2, 169--178

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/118340>

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## OSCILLATION CRITERIA FOR FORCED NONLINEAR ELLIPTIC EQUATIONS OF ARBITRARY ORDER

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(Received October 18, 1985)

*Summary.* In the paper sufficient conditions are derived for the oscillation of solutions of the equation

$$\Delta^m u + c(x, u) = f(x), \quad x \in E_{r_0},$$

where  $\Delta^m$  denotes the  $m$ -th iteration of the Laplace operator

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \dots + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2}$$

and  $E_{r_0}$  is an exterior domain in an  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $R^n$ .

*Keywords:* Forced elliptic equation, ordinary differential inequality, oscillation.

*AMS Classification:* Primary 35J30, Secondary 34C10.

We consider the forced elliptic differential equation of the form

$$(1) \quad \Delta^m u + c(x, u) = f(x), \quad x \in E_{r_0},$$

where  $\Delta^m = (\partial^2/\partial x_1^2 + \dots + \partial^2/\partial x_n^2)^m$  is the  $m$ -metaharmonic operator in an  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $R^n$ ,

$$E_{r_0} = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in R^n, |x| > r_0\}, \quad r_0 > 0$$

$$|x| = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2\right)^{1/2}, \quad c \in C(E_{r_0} \times R, R) \quad \text{and} \quad f \in C(E_{r_0}, R).$$

Let  $D(E_{r_0})$  denote the set of all functions  $u \in C^{2m}(E_{r_0}, R)$  such that  $u \not\equiv 0$  in any domain  $E_r$ ,  $r \geq r_0$ , defined analogously as  $E_{r_0}$ . Equation (1) will be said to be oscillatory in  $E_{r_0}$  if every solution  $u \in D(E_{r_0})$  of (1) has arbitrarily large zeros, i.e. the set  $\{x \in E_{r_0}: u(x) = 0\}$  is unbounded.

The purpose of this paper is to generalize and improve recent results of Kusano and Naito [6] for the second order case of (1). We note that the unforced case of (1) ( $f(x) \equiv 0$ ) has been studied by Kitamura and Kusano in [4]. Other related results on the oscillation of solutions of the unforced partial differential equations and inequalities can be found in the papers of Kitamura and Kusano [3] and Kulenović [5].

Using the method of spherical means introduced by Noussair and Swanson [8]

we reduce the problem of oscillation of the partial differential equation (1) to the problem of oscillation of a certain ordinary differential inequality.

Denote

$$S_r = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n: |x| = r\}.$$

**Lemma 1.** (Kitamura and Kusano [4].) *If  $u \in C^{2m}(E_r, \mathbb{R})$  for some  $r \geq r_0$ , then the spherical mean of  $u$  over  $S_r$ , i.e. the function*

$$U(r) = \frac{1}{\sigma_n r^{n-1}} \int_{S_r} u(x) \, dS,$$

where  $\sigma_n$  is the area of the unit sphere  $S_1$ , satisfies

$$(2) \quad \left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) = \frac{1}{\sigma_n r^{n-1}} \int_{S_r} \Delta^m u(x) \, dS, \quad r \geq r_0.$$

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose that the following condition is satisfied:*

(i) *if  $u \neq 0$ , then*

$$u[c(x, u) - q(|x|) \varphi(u)] \geq 0$$

*for all  $x \in E_{r_0}$  where  $q$  is continuous and positive on  $[r_0, \infty)$ ,  $\varphi \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  is convex on  $[0, \infty)$ , concave on  $(-\infty, 0)$  and such that  $u \varphi(u) > 0$  for  $u \neq 0$ . Moreover, let  $F(r)$  be the spherical mean of  $f(x)$  over  $S_r$ , i.e.*

$$F(r) = \frac{1}{\sigma_n r^{n-1}} \int_{S_r} f(x) \, dS.$$

*Then the equation (1) is oscillatory in  $E_{r_0}$  if the ordinary differential inequality*

$$(3) \quad y \left[ \left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m y + q(r) \varphi(y) - F(r) \right] \leq 0$$

*is oscillatory at  $r = \infty$  in the sense that every nontrivial solution of (3) has arbitrarily large zeros in  $[r_0, \infty)$ .*

**Proof.** Suppose that the equation (1) is nonoscillatory, i.e. there exists a nonoscillatory solution  $u \in D(E_{r_0})$  of (1).

Let  $u(x)$  be positive in  $E_R$  for some  $R \geq r_0$ . By Lemma 1, the spherical mean  $U(r)$  of  $u(x)$  over  $S_r$ ,  $r \geq R$ , satisfies (2) and, therefore, from (1) we have

$$\left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) = - \frac{1}{\sigma_n r^{n-1}} \int_{S_r} c(x, u(x)) \, dS + F(r)$$

for  $r \geq R$ . Using (i), we get

$$\left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) \leq - \frac{q(r)}{\sigma_n r^{n-1}} \int_{S_r} (u(x)) \, dS + F(r).$$

Since the function  $\varphi$  is convex on  $[0, \infty)$ , we can use Jensen's inequality (see for example [9]) and conclude that

$$\left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) \leq -q(r) \varphi(U(r)) + F(r).$$

But this means that the positive function  $U(r)$ ,  $r \geq R$ , satisfies the inequality (3), which contradicts the fact that (3) is oscillatory at  $r = \infty$ .

Similarly we can prove that the equation (1) cannot have a solution which is negative in  $E_R$  for some  $R \geq r_0$ .

In the light of Theorem 1 it will be necessary to examine the oscillation properties of the ordinary differential inequality (3). We shall consider a more general inequality of the form

$$(4) \quad y \left[ \frac{1}{p_{2m}(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{p_{2m-1}(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \cdots \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{p_1(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \frac{y(r)}{p_0(r)} + h(r, y) - F(r) \right] \leq 0$$

including our inequality (3) as a special case.

We assume that the following conditions hold:

(a) the functions  $p_i(r)$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 2m$ ) are continuous and positive on  $[r_0, \infty)$  and

$$\int_{r_0}^{\infty} p_i(r) dr = \infty \quad (1 \leq i \leq 2m - 1);$$

(b)  $h: [r_0, \infty) \times R \rightarrow R$  is continuous and there exist continuous functions  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  defined on  $[r_0, \infty)$  and such that for every  $r \geq r_0$ ,

$$h(r, y) \geq h_1(r) \quad \text{for } y > 0$$

and

$$h(r, y) \leq h_2(r) \quad \text{for } y < 0;$$

(c)  $F: [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow R$  is continuous.

We employ the notation

$$D^0 y(r) = \frac{y(r)}{p_0(r)}, \quad D^{j+1} y(r) = \frac{1}{p_{j+1}(r)} \frac{d}{dr} D^j y(r), \quad 0 \leq j \leq 2m - 1;$$

$$P_0(r, s) = p_0(r),$$

$$P_i(r, s) = p_0(r) \int_s^r p_1(s_1) \int_s^{s_1} p_2(s_2) \cdots \int_s^{s_{i-1}} p_i(s_i) ds_i ds_{i-1} \cdots ds_1, \quad 1 \leq i \leq 2m - 1.$$

The inequality (4) can be rewritten as

$$y [D^{2m} y + h(r, y) - F(r)] \leq 0.$$

**Theorem 2.** *Let the conditions (a)–(c) be satisfied and let for every  $R \geq r_0$ ,*

$$(5) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{P_{2m-1}(r, R)} \int_R^r P_{2m-1}(r, s) p_{2m}(s) [F(s) - h_1(s)] ds = -\infty$$

and

$$(6) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{P_{2m-1}(r, R)} \int_R^r P_{2m-1}(r, s) p_{2m}(s) [F(s) - h_2(s)] ds = \infty.$$

Then every nontrivial solution of (4) is oscillatory.

**Proof.** Suppose that there exists a nonoscillatory solution  $y(r)$  of (4) on  $[r_0, \infty)$ . Then there is  $r_1 \geq r_0$  such that  $y(r) \neq 0$  for  $r \geq r_1$ . Assume first that  $y(r)$  is positive on  $[r_1, \infty)$ . Then it follows from (4) and (b) that

$$D^{2m} y(r) + h_1(r) - F(r) \leq 0$$

for  $r \geq r_1$ . Integrating the above inequality  $2m$ -times from  $r_1$  to  $r$ , we obtain

$$(7) \quad y(r) \leq \sum_{i=0}^{2m-1} c_i P_i(r, r_1) + \int_{r_1}^r P_{2m-1}(r, s) p_{2m}(s) [F(s) - h_1(s)] ds,$$

where  $c_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 2m - 1$ ) are constants. Since

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{P_i(r, r_1)}{P_{2m-1}(r, r_1)} = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 2m - 2$$

(which can be easily proved with the help of L'Hospital's rule and the condition (a)), dividing (7) by  $P_{2m-1}(r, r_1)$  and passing to the lower limit as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y(r)}{P_{2m-1}(r, r_1)} = -\infty$$

which contradicts the positivity of  $y(r)$  on  $[r_1, \infty)$ .

Similarly we get a contradiction

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{y(r)}{P_{2m-1}(r, r_1)} = \infty$$

in the case  $y(r) < 0$  for  $r \geq r_1$ .

In the proof of the next theorem we use the following lemma which is a particular case of Lemma 2 in [10].

**Lemma 2.** Let the condition (a) be satisfied and let

$$y(r) D^{2m} y(r) < 0 \quad (y(r) D^{2m} y(r) > 0)$$

on  $[r_0, \infty)$ . Then there exist an odd (even) integer  $k$  ( $0 \leq k \leq 2m$ ) and  $r_1 \geq r_0$  such that either

$$(8) \quad y(r) D^i y(r) > 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 2m, \quad r \geq r_1$$

(the case  $k = 2m$ ), or

$$(9) \quad y(r) D^i y(r) > 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, k, \quad r \geq r_1,$$

and

$$(10) \quad (-1)^{k+i} y(r) D^i y(r) > 0, \quad i = k + 1, \dots, 2m, \quad r \geq r_1,$$

(the case  $k < 2m$ ).

**Theorem 3.** Suppose that in addition to (a) and (c) the following conditions hold:

(d)  $h: [r_0, \infty) \times R \rightarrow R$  is continuous, nondecreasing in the second variable for every  $r \geq r_0$  and such that  $yh(r, y) > 0$  for  $y \neq 0$  and every  $r \geq r_0$ ,

and either

(e) there exists a continuous oscillatory function  $q: [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow R$  such that  $D^{2m} q(r) = F(r)$  and  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} D^0 q(r) = 0$ ,

or

(e') there exist a continuous function  $\eta: [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow R$ , constants  $q_1, q_2$  and sequences  $\{r'_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  and  $\{r''_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  such that

$$D^{2m} \eta(r) = F(r),$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r'_k = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r''_k = \infty, \quad D^0 \eta(r'_k) = q_1, \quad D^0 \eta(r''_k) = q_2, \quad q_1 \leq D^0 \eta(r) \leq q_2 \quad \text{for}$$

$$r \geq r_0.$$

Let the unforced inequality

$$(11) \quad y[D^{2m}y + h(r, y)] \leq 0$$

be oscillatory. Then the inequality (4) is oscillatory, too.

**Proof.** Let the inequality (4) have a nonoscillatory solution  $y(r)$  defined on  $[r_0, \infty)$ . Suppose first that this solution is positive for  $r \geq r_1 \geq r_0$  and that the condition (e) is satisfied. Put  $z(r) = y(r) - q(r)$ . Then

$$(12) \quad D^{2m} z(r) \leq -h(r, y(r)) < 0$$

for  $r \geq r_1$ . Obviously,  $D^i z(r)$ ,  $i = 2m - 1, 2m - 2, \dots, 0$ , are monotonous and have to be of constant sign for sufficiently large  $r$ . If  $z(r) < 0$  for  $r \geq r_2 \geq r_1$ , then  $y(r) < q(r)$  for  $r \geq r_2$ , which contradicts the fact that  $q(r)$  is oscillatory. Consequently,  $z(r)$  must be positive for  $r \geq r_2$ , where  $r_2$  is large enough. Now we can use Lemma 2 and conclude, in particular, that  $D^1 z(r) > 0$  for  $r \geq r_3 \geq r_2$ , i.e.  $D^0 z(r)$  is increasing on  $[r_3, \infty)$ . Moreover, since  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} D^0 q(r) = 0$ , there exist constants  $r_4 \geq r_3$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that

$$(13) \quad D^0 z(r) + D^0 q(r) > D^0 z(r) - \varepsilon > 0$$

for  $r \geq r_4$ . Multiplying (13) by  $p_0(r)$  we have

$$z(r) + q(r) > z(r) - p_0(r) \varepsilon > 0$$

for  $r \geq r_4$ . Put  $w(r) = z(r) - \varepsilon p_0(r)$ . Since the function  $h(r, y)$  is nondecreasing

in the second variable and  $D^i w(r) = D^i z(r)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2m$ , we get

$$D^{2m} w(r) + h(r, w(r)) \leq D^{2m} w(r) + h(r, z(r) + \varrho(r)) \leq 0.$$

So  $w(r)$  is a positive solution of

$$D^{2m} w(r) + h(r, w(r)) \leq 0, \quad r \geq r_4,$$

which contradicts the fact that the unforced inequality (11) is oscillatory.

Similarly for  $y(r) < 0$ ,  $r \geq r_1$ , we get the inequality

$$D^{2m} w(r) + h(r, w(r)) \geq 0,$$

where  $w(r) = z(r) + \varepsilon p_0(r) < 0$  for  $r \geq r_4$ . This is again a contradiction to the oscillatoricity of (11).

Now, let the condition (e') hold. Put  $z(r) = y(r) - \eta(r)$ . As in the first part of the proof we conclude for  $z(r)$  eventually positive that  $D^{2m} z(r) < 0$  on  $[r_1, \infty)$ .

If  $D^0 y(r)$  is unbounded, then  $D^0 z(r)$  is unbounded as well and it follows that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} D^0 z(r) = \infty$ . Thus there exists  $r_3 \geq r_2$  such that

$$D^0 z(r) + D^0 \eta(r) \geq D^0 z(r) + q_1 > 0$$

for  $r \geq r_3$ , i.e.

$$z(r) + \eta(r) \geq z(r) + q_1 p_0(r) > 0, \quad r \geq r_3.$$

Therefore, the function  $w(r) = z(r) + q_1 p_0(r)$  is a positive solution of

$$D^{2m} w(r) + h(r, w(r)) \leq 0, \quad r \geq r_3,$$

which contradicts the assumption that (11) is oscillatory.

If  $D^0 y(r)$  is bounded then  $D^0 z(r)$  is also bounded and, by Lemma 2, there exists  $r_2 \geq r_1$  such that  $(-1)^i D^i z(r) < 0$  for  $r \geq r_2$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 2m$ . In particular,  $D^1 z(r) > 0$  for  $r \geq r_2$ , i.e. the function  $D^0 z(r)$  is increasing on  $[r_2, \infty)$ . We claim that  $D^0 z(r) + q_1 > 0$  for sufficiently large  $r$ . In fact, there exists  $r'_k \in \{r'_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ ,  $r'_k \geq r_2$ , such that

$$\begin{aligned} D^0 z(r) + q_1 &= D^0 y(r) - D^0 \eta(r) + q_1 \geq \\ &\geq D^0 y(r'_k) - D^0 \eta(r'_k) + q_1 = D^0 y(r'_k) > 0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $r \geq r'_k$ . Thus we again obtain a contradiction to the oscillation of all nontrivial solutions of (11), because the function  $w(r) = z(r) + q_1 p_0(r)$  is an eventually positive solution of (11).

The proof in the case that eventually  $y(r) < 0$  is similar.

On the basis of Theorems 1, 2 and 3 we can now establish oscillation criteria for the original partial differential equation (1).

**Theorem 4.** *Equation (1) is oscillatory in an exterior domain  $E_{r_0}$  in  $R^n$  if*  
(ii) *there exist real-valued continuous functions  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  defined on  $[r_0, \infty)$*

and such that for every  $x \in E_{r_0}$ ,

$$c(x, u) \geq c_1(|x|) \quad \text{for } u > 0$$

and

$$c(x, u) \leq c_2(|x|) \quad \text{for } u < 0,$$

(iii) the conditions (5) and (6) are satisfied, where  $F(s)$  is the spherical mean of  $f(x)$  over  $S_s$ ,  $s \geq r_0$ ,  $h_1(s) = c_1(s)$ ,  $h_2(s) = c_2(s)$ , and the coefficients in  $P_i(r, s)$  are the following ones:

(I) if  $n = 2$ , then  $p_0(r) = 1$ ,

$$p_1(r) = p_3(r) = \dots = p_{2m-1}(r) = r^{-1},$$

$$p_2(r) = p_4(r) = \dots = p_{2m}(r) = r,$$

(II) if  $n > 2$ , then  $p_0(r) = r^{2-n}$ ,  $p_{2m}(r) = r$  and

$$p_i(r) = p_{2m-i}(r) = r \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, v-1,$$

$$p_i(r) = p_{2m-i}(r) = r^{(-1)^{i-v}(n-2v-1)} \quad \text{for } i = v, v+1, \dots, m,$$

where  $v = \min \{(m, n-1)/2\}$  ( $[N]$  denotes the largest integer not exceeding  $N$ ).

*Proof.* Suppose that the equation (1) is not oscillatory in  $E_{r_0}$  in  $R^n$ , i.e. there exists a nonoscillatory solution  $u(x)$  of (1) defined on  $E_{r_0}$ . As in the proof of Theorem 1 we first show that the spherical mean  $U(r)$  of  $u(x)$  over  $S_r$  satisfies the ordinary differential inequality

$$(14) \quad \left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) + c_1(r) \leq F(r)$$

if  $u(x)$  is eventually positive, or the inequality

$$(15) \quad \left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m U(r) + c_2(r) \geq F(r)$$

if  $u(x)$  is eventually negative.

Consider first the case (I). Then the functions  $p_i(r)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 2m-1$ ) satisfy the condition (a) and we can use Theorem 2 directly. However, in the case (II), i.e.  $n > 2$ , we cannot apply Theorem 2 directly, because  $p_{2i-1}(r)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq m$ ) do not satisfy the condition (a). But on the basis of Trench's theory of canonical forms of disconjugate differential operators [12] the differential operator

$$\left( r^{1-n} \frac{d}{dr} r^{n-1} \frac{d}{dr} \right)^m$$

can be rewritten as

$$\frac{1}{p_{2m}(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{p_{2m-1}(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \dots \frac{d}{dr} \frac{1}{p_1(r)} \frac{d}{dr} \cdot$$

in such a way that the functions  $p_i(r)$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 2m$ ) satisfy condition (a). Kitamura and Kusano in [4] evaluated these new coefficients  $p_i(r)$  explicitly. This evaluation



is given in the case (II) of condition (iii). Therefore we can use Theorem 2 again and conclude that the inequality (14) ((15)) cannot have an eventually positive (negative) solution  $U(r)$ . Consequently, the solution  $u(x)$  of (1) cannot be nonoscillatory in  $E_{r_0}$  and the proof is complete.

Applying Theorem 3 to the equation (1) we get the following result.

**Theorem 5.** Suppose that the condition (i) of Theorem 1 with  $\varphi$  nondecreasing on  $(-\infty, \infty)$  is satisfied and either

(iv) there exists a continuous oscillatory function  $\varrho: [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $D^{2m} \varrho(r) = F(r)$ ,  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} D^0 \varrho(r) = 0$ , where  $F(r)$  denotes the spherical mean of  $f(x)$  over  $S_r$ , and the coefficients in  $D^{2m}$  are given as in the case (I) or (II) of Theorem 4,

or

(v) there exist a continuous function  $\eta: [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , constants  $q_1, q_2$  and sequences  $\{r'_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  and  $\{r''_k\}_{k=1}^\infty$  such that  $D^{2m} \eta(r) = F(r)$ ,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r'_k = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} r''_k = \infty$ ,  $D^0 \eta(r'_k) = q_1$ ,  $D^0 \eta(r''_k) = q_2$ ,  $q_1 \leq D^0 \eta(r) \leq q_2$  for  $r \geq r_0$ , where  $F(r)$  and  $p_i(r)$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 2m$ ) are as in (iv).

Then the equation (1) is oscillatory in  $E_{r_0}$ , if the ordinary differential inequality

$$(16) \quad y[D^{2m}y + q(r)\varphi(y)] \leq 0$$

is oscillatory in  $[r_0, \infty)$ .

Examples 1. Consider the equation

$$(17) \quad \Delta u + \frac{2}{|x|} e^u = |x| \sin(\ln |x|)$$

in  $E_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^4: |x| \geq 1\}$ . In this case  $F(r) = r \sin(\ln r)$ ,  $r \geq 1$ , and it is not difficult to verify that the conditions (5) and (6) with  $p_0(r) = r^{-2}$ ,  $p_1(r) = r$ ,  $p_2(r) = r$  and  $h_1(r) = h_2(r) = 2/r$ , that is

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - (R/r)^2} \int_R^r [1 - (s/r)^2] s^2 \sin(\ln s) ds = -\infty$$

and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{1 - (R/r)^2} \int_R^r [1 - (s/r)^2] s^2 \sin(\ln s) ds = \infty,$$

hold. Therefore, by Theorem 4, all solutions of the above equation are oscillatory in  $E_1$ . We note that the unforced equation

$$(18) \quad \Delta u + \frac{2}{|x|} e^u = 0$$

has a nonoscillatory solution  $u(x) = -\ln |x|$ .

Example 2. Consider the equation

$$(19) \quad \Delta^2 u + \frac{20}{|x|^4} u = \frac{10}{|x|^5} \sin(\ln |x|)$$

in  $E_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^3: |x| \geq 1\}$ . The corresponding ordinary differential inequality

$$y \left[ r^{-1}(ry)^{(4)} + \frac{20}{r^4} y \right] \leq 0$$

is oscillatory and  $F(r) = 10/r^5 \sin(\ln r)$  satisfies condition (v) of Theorem 5 with  $p_0(r) = r^{-1}$ ,  $p_1(r) = p_2(r) = p_3(r) = 1$ ,  $p_4(r) = r$  and  $\eta(r) = -\sin(\ln r)/r$ . Consequently, the equation (19) is oscillatory in  $E_1$ . One oscillatory solution is  $u(x) = \sin(\ln |x|)/|x|$ . The homogeneous equation

$$(20) \quad \Delta^2 u + \frac{20}{|x|^4} u = 0$$

is oscillatory in  $E_1$  (see Müller-Pfeiffer [7]).

#### References

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## Súhrn

### KRITÉRIA OSCILÁCIE PRE NELINEÁRNE ELIPTICKÉ ROVNICE ĽUBOVOLNÉHO RÁDU S NÚTIACIM ČLENOM

PETER ŠVAŇA

V práci sú odvodené postačujúce podmienky oscilácie riešení rovnice

$$\Delta^m u + c(x, u) = f(x), \quad x \in E_{r_0},$$

kde  $\Delta^m$  označuje  $m$ -tú iteráciu Laplaceovho operátora

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \dots + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2}$$

a  $E_{r_0}$  je vonkajšia oblasť v  $n$ -rozmernom euklidovskom priestore  $R^n$ .

## Резюме

### ПРИЗНАКИ КОЛЕБЛЕМОСТИ ДЛЯ НЕЛИНЕЙНЫХ ЭЛЛИПТИЧЕСКИХ УРАВНЕНИЙ ЛЮБОГО ПОРЯДКА С ВЫНУЖДАЮЩИМ ЧЛЕНОМ

PETER ŠVAŇA

В работе приведены достаточные условия колеблемости решений уравнения

$$\Delta^m u + c(x, u) = f(x),$$

где  $\Delta^m$  обозначает  $m$ -тую итерацию лапласиана

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + \dots + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_n^2},$$

вне некоторой ограниченной области в  $n$ -мерном евклидовом пространстве  $R^n$ .

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