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ATTI ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI  
CLASSE SCIENZE FISICHE MATEMATICHE NATURALI  
**RENDICONTI**

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**Periodic or almost-periodic solutions of a non linear  
functional equation. Nota IV**

*Atti della Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei. Classe di Scienze Fisiche,  
Matematiche e Naturali. Rendiconti, Serie 8, Vol. 44 (1968), n.1, p. 1–8.*

Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei

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# RENDICONTI

DELLE SEDUTE

DELLA ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

**Classe di Scienze fisiche, matematiche e naturali**

*Seduta del 13 gennaio 1968*

*Presiede il Presidente* BENIAMINO SEGRE

## SEZIONE I

**(Matematica, meccanica, astronomia, geodesia e geofisica)**

**Analisi matematica.** — *Periodic or almost-periodic solutions of a non linear functional equation.* Nota IV (\*) di GIOVANNI PROUSE, presentata dal Corrisp. L. AMERIO.

SUNTO. — Si danno le dimostrazioni dei teoremi 2, 3, 4 e 5 enunciati nel § 1 e si studia una particolare equazione a cui sono applicabili i risultati ottenuti.

4. Let us now give the proofs of Theorems 2, 3, 4 and 5.

*Proof of Theorem 2:* Consider the transformation  $S$  of the space  $V_2$  in itself, defined by

$$(4.1) \quad Su(o) = u(T)$$

$u(\eta)$  being the solution in  $[0, T]$  corresponding to the initial value  $u(o)$ .

By lemma 4,  $S$  is weakly continuous in  $V_2$ ; moreover, by lemma 5, it maps each sphere of radius  $R \geq \sqrt{K}$  in itself.

The transformation has therefore, by a theorem of Tychonoff (see for instance Dunford and Schwarz [1]) a fixed point, i.e. there exists a solution  $\tilde{u}(\eta)$  such that

$$(4.2) \quad \tilde{u}(o) = \tilde{u}(T).$$

This solution is obviously periodic with period  $T$ .

(\*) Pervenuta all'Accademia il 23 settembre 1967.

*Proof of Theorem 3:* Let  $u_n(\eta)$  be the solution, defined for  $\eta \geq -n$ , satisfying the initial condition  $u_n(-n) = 0$ . Setting  $u_n(\eta) = 0$  for  $\eta < -n$  and

$$(4.3) \quad f_n(\eta) = \begin{cases} f(\eta) & \text{for } \eta \geq -n \\ 0 & \text{for } \eta < -n \end{cases}$$

the function  $u_n(\eta)$  is obviously a solution in  $J$  of the equation

$$(4.4) \quad u_n'(\eta) + (A_1 + A_3)u_n(\eta) + BA_2 u_n(\eta) = f_n(\eta).$$

By lemma 6, it results

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{cases} \sup_{\eta \in J} \|u_n(\eta)\|_{V_1} = M'_1, & \sup_{t \in J} \|u_n(t)\|_{L^2(0,1;W)} = M'_2, \\ \sup_{t \in J} \|A_2 u_n(t)\|_{L^2(0,1;Y)} = M'_3, & \sup_{t \in J} \|A_2 u_n(t)\|_{H^s(0,1;D(A_1^s))} = M'_4. \end{cases}$$

Repeating, without any change, the procedure followed in Theorem 1 to prove the existence of a solution of the Cauchy problem, from relations (4.5) follows that it is possible to extract from  $\{u_n(\eta)\}$  a subsequence (again denoted by  $\{u_n(\eta)\}$ ) which converges, in the topologies introduced in (2.33), to a solution in  $J$  of (1.24), satisfying relations (1.27). The existence of a bounded solution in  $J$  is therefore proved.

Let us now show that, if also hypothesis XI) holds, this solution is unique.

Assume this is not so and let  $v(t)$  be another solution  $L^2(0, 1; V_2)$ -bounded in  $J$ . Setting  $w(\eta) = u(\eta) - v(\eta)$ ,  $w(\eta)$  is obviously a solution of the equation

$$(4.6) \quad w'(\eta) + (A_1 + A_3)w(\eta) + BA_2 u(\eta) - BA_2 v(\eta) = 0$$

and satisfies the relation, analogous to (2.38),

$$(4.7) \quad \frac{1}{2} \langle w(\eta_2), A_2 w(\eta_2) \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle w(\eta_1), A_2 w(\eta_1) \rangle + \\ + \int_{\eta_1}^{\eta_2} \langle (A_1 + A_3)w(\eta), A_2 w(\eta) \rangle d\eta + \int_{\eta_1}^{\eta_2} \langle BA_2 u(\eta) - BA_2 v(\eta), A_2 w(\eta) \rangle d\eta = 0.$$

By hypotheses III), VIII), XI), it results therefore,  $\forall \eta \in J$  and  $\forall \delta > 0$ ,

$$(4.8) \quad \|w(\eta - \delta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq \|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 + 2\alpha \int_{\eta-\delta}^{\eta} \|w(t)\|_W^2 dt - 2c_5 \int_{\eta-\delta}^{\eta} \|w(t)\|_{D(A_2)}^2 dt \geq \\ \geq \|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 + 2(\alpha - c_5 \gamma^2) \int_{\eta-\delta}^{\eta} \|w(t)\|_W^2 dt = \|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 + \sigma_1 \int_{\eta-\delta}^{\eta} \|w(t)\|_W^2 dt,$$

being  $\sigma_1 = 2(\alpha - c_5 \gamma^2) > 0$ .

As the embedding of  $W$  in  $V_2$  is continuous, we obtain, from (4.8),

$$(4.9) \quad \|w(\eta - \delta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq \|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 + \sigma_2 \int_{\eta-\delta}^{\eta} \|w(t)\|_{V_2}^2 dt.$$

Consequently, the function  $\|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}$  is decreasing and from (4.9) it follows that

$$(4.10) \quad \|w(\eta - \delta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq (1 + \sigma_2 \delta) \|w(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2.$$

Hence

$$(4.11) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \|w(t)\|_{L^2(0,1;V_2)} = +\infty,$$

which, for the hypotheses made, is absurd.  $u(t)$  is then the only  $L^2(0,1;V_2)$ -bounded solution in  $J$ .

By exactly the same procedure it can be proved that (1.28) holds. The theorem is then completely proved.

*Proof of Theorem 4:* In the proof of this and of the next theorem, we shall follow a procedure given by Amerio [2], [3] for linear functional equations.

In order that the theorem be proved, it will be sufficient, by Bochner's criterion, to show that it is possible to extract from any real sequence  $\{l_n\}$  a subsequence  $\{l'_n\}$  such that

$$(4.12) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{u}(t + l'_n) = z(t) \quad L^2(0,1;V_2)$$

uniformly in  $J$ .

In view of the hypotheses we have made, we can obviously assume that, uniformly in  $J$

$$(4.13) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* f(t + l'_n) = g(t) \quad L^{p'}(0,1;Y')$$

Repeating, without any change, the procedure followed in Theorem 1, we find that it is possible to extract from  $\{l_n\}$  a subsequence  $\{l'_n\}$  such that,  $\forall t \in J$ ,

$$(4.14) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^{**} \tilde{u}(t + l'_n) = z(t), \quad L^\infty(0,1;V_2) \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* \tilde{u}(t + l'_n) = z(t), \quad L^2(0,1;W) \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* A_2 \tilde{u}(t + l'_n) = A_2 z(t), \quad L^p(0,1;Y) \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_2 \tilde{u}(t + l'_n) = A_2 z(t), \quad L^2(0,1;H) \end{array} \right.$$

The function  $z(\eta)$  is, moreover, a solution in  $J$  of the equation

$$(4.15) \quad z'(\eta) + (A_1 + A_3)z(\eta) + BA_2 z(\eta) = g(\eta).$$

Assume that (4.12) does not hold uniformly in  $J$ . There exist then a number  $\sigma > 0$  and three sequences  $\{t_n\}$ ,  $\{\alpha'_n\} \subseteq \{l'_n\}$ ,  $\{\alpha''_n\} \subseteq \{l'_n\}$  such that

$$(4.16) \quad \|\bar{u}(t_n + \alpha'_n) - \bar{u}(t_n + \alpha''_n)\|_{L^2(0,1;V_2)} \geq \sigma.$$

It is, on the other hand, possible to extract from  $\{t_n + \alpha'_n\}$  and  $\{t_n + \alpha''_n\}$  two subsequences (again denoted by  $\{t_n + \alpha'_n\}$  and  $\{t_n + \alpha''_n\}$ ) for which it results, in the various topologies introduced in (4.14),

$$(4.17) \quad \begin{cases} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(t + t_n + \alpha'_n) = z_1(t), \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(t + t_n + \alpha''_n) = z_2(t). \end{cases}$$

By the hypotheses made, it is however

$$(4.18) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* f(t + t_n + \alpha'_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* f(t + t_n + \alpha''_n) = g(t),$$

$L^{p'}(0,1;Y')$

uniformly in  $J$ .

The functions  $z_1(\eta)$  and  $z_2(\eta)$  are therefore  $V_2$ -bounded solutions in  $J$  of equation (4.15). By theorem 3 it must then be  $z_1(\eta) = z_2(\eta)$ , which is in contrast with (4.16). Consequently, (4.12) holds uniformly in  $J$  and the theorem is proved.

*Proof of Theorem 5:* Let us prove at first that  $\bar{u}(\eta)$  is  $V_2$ -a.p.

Let  $\{l'_n\}$  be any real sequence; we shall show that it is possible to extract a subsequence  $\{l'_n\} \subseteq \{l'_n\}$  such that

$$(4.19) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(\eta + l'_n) = z(\eta)$$

$V_2$

uniformly in  $J$ .

We may obviously assume that

$$(4.20) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(t + l'_n) = g(t)$$

$L^{p'}(0,1;Y')$

and also, by Theorem 4,

$$(4.21) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{u}(t + l'_n) = z(t)$$

$L^2(0,1;V_2)$

uniformly in  $J$ .

Suppose that (4.19) does not hold uniformly in  $J$ ; there exist then a number  $\sigma > 0$  and three sequences  $\{\eta_n\}$ ,  $\{\alpha'_n\} \subseteq \{l'_n\}$ ,  $\{\alpha''_n\} \subseteq \{l'_n\}$  such that

$$(4.22) \quad \|\bar{u}(\eta_n + \alpha'_n) - \bar{u}(\eta_n + \alpha''_n)\|_{V_2} \geq \sigma.$$

Setting  $w_n(\eta) = \bar{u}(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - \bar{u}(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha''_n)$ , the function  $w_n(\eta)$  satisfies the equation

$$(4.23) \quad w'_n(\eta) + (A_1 + A_3)w_n(\eta) + BA_2\bar{u}(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - \\ - BA_2\bar{u}(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha''_n) = f(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - f(\eta + \eta_n + \alpha''_n)$$

and,  $\forall \eta < 0$ , the relation, analogous to (4.7),

$$(4.24) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|w_n(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq \|w_n(0)\|_{V_2}^2 + \\ & + 2 \int_{\eta}^0 \langle BA_2 \bar{u}(t + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - BA_2 \bar{u}(t + \eta_n + \alpha''_n), A_2 w_n(t) \rangle dt + \\ & + 2\alpha \int_{\eta}^0 \|w_n(t)\|_W^2 dt - 2 \int_{\eta}^0 \langle f(t + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - f(t + \eta_n + \alpha''_n), A_2 w_n(t) \rangle dt. \end{aligned}$$

As  $f(t)$  is  $L^{\beta'}(0, 1; Y)$ -a.p. and  $A_2 w_n(t)$  is  $L^{\beta}(0, 1; Y)$ -bounded, it is possible to choose  $n \geq n_{\sigma}$  so large that, when  $-1 \leq \eta < 0$ ,

$$(4.25) \quad \left| \int_{\eta}^0 \langle f(t + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - f(t + \eta_n + \alpha''_n), A_2 w_n(t) \rangle dt \right| \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{4}.$$

On the other hand, by (1.23) and condition XI),

$$(4.26) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{\eta}^0 \langle BA_2 \bar{u}(t + \eta_n + \alpha'_n) - BA_2 \bar{u}(t + \eta_n + \alpha''_n), A_2 w_n(t) \rangle dt \geq \\ & \geq -c_5 \int_{\eta}^0 \|w_n(t)\|_{D(A_2)}^2 dt \geq -c_5 \gamma^2 \int_{\eta}^0 \|w_n(t)\|_W^2 dt \geq -\alpha \int_{\eta}^0 \|w_n(t)\|_W^2 dt. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, introducing (4.22), (4.25), (4.26) into (4.24),

$$(4.27) \quad \|w_n(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \quad \forall \eta \in [-1, 0],$$

and, consequently,

$$(4.28) \quad \|w_n(-1)\|_{L^2(0,1;V_2)}^2 = \int_{-1}^0 \|w_n(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 d\eta \geq \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$

Relation (4.28) contradicts (4.21) and (4.19) holds therefore uniformly in  $J$ .

As  $\bar{u}(\eta)$  is  $V_2$ -continuous, it follows, by Bochner's criterion, that  $\bar{u}(\eta)$  is  $V_2$ -a.p.

Finally, we prove that  $\bar{u}(t)$  is  $L^2(0, 1; W)$ -a.p.

Setting, in fact,  $w_{jk}(\eta) = \bar{u}(\eta + l_j) - \bar{u}(\eta + l_k)$ , it results (see (4.24))

$$(4.29) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|w_{jk}(\eta)\|_{V_2}^2 \geq \|w_{jk}(\eta + 1)\|_{V_2}^2 + \\ & + 2 \int_{\eta}^{\eta+1} \langle BA_2 \bar{u}(t + l_j) - BA_2 \bar{u}(t + l_k), A_2 w_{jk}(t) \rangle dt + \\ & + 2\alpha \int_{\eta}^{\eta+1} \|w_{jk}(t)\|_W^2 dt - 2 \int_{\eta}^{\eta+1} \langle f(t + l_j) - f(t + l_k), A_2 w_{jk}(t) \rangle dt. \end{aligned}$$

By (1.23) and hypothesis XI), it follows from (4.29), setting  $\sigma_1 = 2(\alpha - c_5 \gamma^2) > 0$ ,

$$(4.30) \quad \sigma_1 \int_{\eta}^{\eta+1} \|w_{jk}(t)\|_W^2 dt \leq \|w_{jk}(\eta)\|_{V_*}^2 + 2 \int_{\eta}^{\eta+1} \langle f(t+l'_j) - f(t+l'_k), A_2 w_{jk}(t) \rangle dt.$$

By what has been proved above, the right hand side of (4.30) converges to zero, when  $j, k \rightarrow \infty$ , uniformly in  $J$ ;  $\tilde{u}(t)$  is therefore  $L^2(0, 1; W)$ -a.p. and the theorem is completely proved.

5. We now want to show that, under the assumptions made at the end of § 1, equation (1.33) satisfies hypotheses I) ... X); the theorems and lemmas given in the preceding §§ will therefore hold for the solutions of this equation.

We observe, first of all, that the operators  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  defined by (1.29), (1.30) are obviously linear, positive, self adjoint and permutable (having constant coefficients) and therefore satisfy condition II). Moreover, if  $\Gamma$  is of class  $C^2$ , it results, by a theorem of Nirenberg [4],

$$(5.1) \quad D(A_1) = D(E) = H^2(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega).$$

Hence,  $\forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$ ,

$$(5.2) \quad D(A_1^\alpha) = D(E^\alpha).$$

As  $A_2 = E^\sigma$ , it is then

$$(5.3) \quad D(A_1^\sigma) = D(A_2)$$

so that hypothesis I) is verified.

Being, in the case we are now considering,  $V_1 = D(A_1^{1/2}) = H_0^1(\Omega)$ ,  $V_2 = D(A_2^{1/2}) = D(A_1^{\sigma/2})$ ,  $W = D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})$ ,  $A_1 W = D(A_1^{(\sigma-1)/2})$ ,  $A_2 W = D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2})$ , it is obviously, by the second of (1.29),

$$(5.4) \quad A_3 W \subset A_3 H_0^1(\Omega) \subset L^2(\Omega) \subset A_1 W,$$

that is hypothesis IV).

Setting  $v = \sup_{\substack{x \in \Omega \\ j=0,1,\dots,m}} |a_j(x)|$ , it results, by (1.29), (1.30),

$$(5.5) \quad (A_1 v, A_2 v)_{L^2(\Omega)} + (A_3 v, A_2 v)_{L^2(\Omega)} \geq \|v\|_{D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})}^2 - \|A_3 v\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|v\|_{D(A_1^\sigma)}.$$

Hence, if  $c$  is the embedding constant of  $D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})$  in  $D(A_1^\sigma)$ ,

$$(5.6) \quad ((A_1 + A_3) v, A_2 v)_{L^2(\Omega)} \geq \|v\|_{D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})}^2 - c \|A_3 v\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \|v\|_{D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})}.$$

For hypothesis III) to be verified, it is therefore sufficient that

$$(5.7) \quad \|A_3 v\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq \frac{\delta}{c} \|v\|_{D(A_1^{(1+\sigma)/2})} \quad \text{with } \delta < 1,$$

which is obviously true then  $v$  is small enough.



Setting  $Y = L^p(\Omega)$ , from the hypotheses made on the function  $\beta(\xi)$  it follows that conditions V), VI), VIII) are satisfied.

Let us prove that also condition VII) holds. Let  $\{v_n(x, \eta)\}$  be a sequence such that, setting  $Q = \Omega \times [0, T]$ ,

$$(5.8) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* v_n = v \quad \text{in } L^p(Q), \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n = v \quad \text{in } L^{p'}(Q).$$

From (1.31) and the first of (5.8) it follows that it is possible to extract from  $\{v_n\}$  a subsequence (again denoted by  $\{v_n\}$ ) such that

$$(5.9) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty}^* \beta(v_n) = \psi \quad \text{in } L^{p'}(Q) \quad \left( \frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1 \right).$$

We shall show that

$$(5.10) \quad \psi = \beta(v).$$

Let us observe that, by the second of (5.8), it is possible to extract from  $\{v_n\}$  a subsequence (again denoted by  $\{v_n\}$ ) such that

$$(5.11) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n(x, \eta) = v(x, \eta) \quad \text{almost everywhere in } Q.$$

Hence

$$(5.12) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta(v_n(x, \eta)) = \beta(v(x, \eta)) \quad \text{almost everywhere in } Q.$$

If  $\varepsilon$  is an arbitrary positive number, there exists a closed set  $Q_\varepsilon$ , with  $m(Q - Q_\varepsilon) < \varepsilon$ , such that in  $Q_\varepsilon$  the convergence is uniform and all the functions  $v_n$  are continuous. It is then,  $\forall h \in L^p(Q)$ , with  $h = 0$  in  $Q - Q_\varepsilon$ ,

$$(5.13) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_Q \beta(v_n(x, \eta)) h(x, \eta) dQ = \int_{Q_\varepsilon} \psi(x, \eta) h(x, \eta) dQ = \\ = \int_{Q_\varepsilon} \beta(v(x, \eta)) h(x, \eta) dQ.$$

Consequently, being  $h$  arbitrary,  $\psi(x, \eta) = \beta(v(x, \eta))$  almost everywhere in  $Q_\varepsilon$  and hence also in  $Q$ . Relation (5.10) is therefore proved and hypothesis VII) verified.

Let us finally show that also conditions IX) and X) hold.

If  $\Gamma$  is of class  $C^{2s}$ , with  $s = \left[ \frac{m(p-2)}{4p} \right] + 1$ , it follows from a theorem of Nirenberg [4] and an embedding theorem of Sobolev (see Gagliardo [5]) that

$$(5.14) \quad D(A_1^s) \subset H^{2s}(\Omega) \cap H_0^1(\Omega) \subset L^p(\Omega).$$

Being  $D(A_1^s)$  dense in  $L^p(\Omega)$ , we obtain, from (5.14),

$$(5.15) \quad L^{p'}(\Omega) \subset D(A_1^s)',$$

i.e. hypothesis X). On the other hand,  $D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2}) \cap L^p(\Omega)$  is separable, as it is contained in  $H^{1-\sigma}(\Omega) \cap L^p(\Omega)$ , which is separable, being isometric to a

direct sum of  $L^q(\Omega)$  spaces, with various separable measures. Moreover, being  $D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2}) \cap L^p(\Omega) \supset H_0^1(\Omega) \cap L^p(\Omega) \supset \mathfrak{D}(\Omega)$  and  $\mathfrak{D}(\Omega)$  dense in  $D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2})$  and in  $L^p(\Omega)$ , the space  $D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2}) \cap L^p(\Omega)$  is dense in  $D(A_1^{(1-\sigma)/2})$  and in  $L^p(\Omega)$ . Also hypothesis IX) is therefore verified.

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