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**Further results on the existence of periodic solutions  
of a certain third order differential equation**

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**Equazioni differenziali ordinarie.** — *Further results on the existence of periodic solutions of a certain third order differential equation.*

Nota di JAMES O.C. EZEILO, presentata (\*) dal Socio G. SANSONE.

RIASSUNTO. — L'Autore considera l'equazione  $\ddot{x} + \psi(\dot{x})\ddot{x} + \varphi(x)\dot{x} + f(x) = p(t)$  con  $p(t)$  funzione periodica di periodo  $\omega$ , e con ipotesi, non molto restrittive, su  $\psi(\dot{x})$ ,  $\varphi(x)$ ,  $f(x)$  dimostra l'esistenza di almeno una soluzione periodica di periodo  $\omega$  in due casi.

I.

Consider the third order differential equation

$$(1.1) \quad \ddot{x} + a\dot{x} + \varphi(x)\dot{x} + f(x) = p(t)$$

in which  $a$  is constant and  $\varphi, f, p$  are continuous functions depending only on the arguments shown and  $p$  is  $\omega$ -periodic in  $t$ , that is  $p(t + \omega) = p(t)$

for some  $\omega > 0$ . Let  $\Phi(x) \equiv \int_0^x \varphi(\xi) d\xi$ . There is a result in [1] by Reissig

which shows that if the following conditions hold:

- (i)  $a \neq 0$ , (ii)  $|x|^{-1}|f(x)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$ , (iii)  $f(x) \operatorname{sgn} x \geq 0$  ( $|x| \geq |$ ),
- (iv)  $|x|^{-1}|\Phi(x)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$  and (v)  $\int_0^\omega p(t) dt = 0$ ,

then (1.1) has at least one  $\omega$ -periodic solution. The restrictions (i) and (iv) here were removed in a subsequent paper [2] (See Appendix 3).

We propose, in the present paper, to examine the above result with the following weaker conditions on  $f, \varphi$  in place of Reissig's (ii) and (iv) respectively:

$$(1.2) \quad |f(x)| \leq A_1|x| + A_2,$$

$$(1.3) \quad |\Phi(x)| \leq B_1|x| + B_2,$$

for all  $x$ , where  $A_i \geq 0, B_i \geq 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are constants with  $A_1, B_1$  sufficiently small. The investigation will, furthermore, be concerned with the more general equation

$$(1.4) \quad \ddot{x} + \psi(\dot{x})\ddot{x} + \varphi(x)\dot{x} + f(x) = p(t)$$

(\*) Nella seduta del 10 dicembre 1977.

in which the coefficient  $\psi$ , not necessarily constant, is a continuous function depending only on  $x$ : but our other main objective is to identify certain equations (1.4) for which, subject to the conditions ((iii) and (v) above):

$$(1.5) \quad f(x) \operatorname{sgn} x \geq 0 \quad (|x| \geq 1)$$

$$(1.6) \quad \int_0^{\omega} p(t) dt = 0$$

the use of *just one (only)* of (1.2) or (1.3) would suffice for the existence of an  $\omega$ -periodic solution. The position is summed up more clearly in the following two theorems for (1.4) which will be proved shortly:

**THEOREM 1.** *Given the equation (1.4) suppose that  $\varphi$ ,  $f$  and  $p$  are subject to (1.3), (1.5) and (1.6) respectively. Then there exists a constant  $\varepsilon_0 > 0$  such that if  $B_1 \leq \varepsilon_0$ , then (1.4) admits of at least one  $\omega$ -periodic solution for all arbitrary  $\psi(x)$ .*

Note here the absence of a restriction on  $\psi$ .

The next theorem covers the special case corresponding to  $a \neq 0$  when results are specialized to (1.1).

**THEOREM 2.** *Given the equation (1.4) in which  $p$  is subject, as before, to (1.6), suppose that  $f$  is subject to (1.2) and (1.5) and that*

$$(1.7) \quad \psi(y) \geq \alpha > 0 \quad \text{for all } y$$

or, otherwise, that

$$(1.8) \quad \psi(y) \leq -\beta < 0 \quad \text{for all } y,$$

for some constants  $\alpha, \beta$ . Then there exists a constant  $\varepsilon_1 > 0$  such that if  $A_1 \leq \varepsilon_1$  then (1.4) admits of an  $\omega$ -periodic solution for all arbitrary  $\varphi(x)$ .

Observe that, when specialized to the case  $\psi \equiv \text{constant}$  with  $f$  bounded Theorem 2 here gives a significant improvement on the results in [2], [3] and [4] for the same equation.

## 2.

The method of proof of either theorem will be by the Leray-Schauder technique, just as in [1] except that for our purpose it will be convenient here to consider the parameter-dependent equation in the form:

$$(2.1) \quad \ddot{x} + \mu\psi(x)\dot{x} + \mu\varphi(x)\dot{x} + (1 - \mu)c_1x + \mu f(x) = \mu p(t)$$

for dealing with Theorem 1, and in the form:

$$(2.2) \quad \ddot{x} + \{(1 - \alpha)\mu + \mu\psi(x)\}\dot{x} + \mu\varphi(x)\dot{x} + (1 - \mu)c_2x + \mu f(x) = \mu p(t)$$

for dealing with Theorem 2 when  $\psi$  is subject to (1.7). The case when  $\psi$  is subject to (1.8) can also be handled with the same (2.2) but with  $\alpha$  replaced by  $(-\beta)$  as will be explained in § 6. Here in (2.1)  $c_1$  is an arbitrarily chosen, but fixed positive constant. The constant  $c_2$  in (2.2) is also positive, but its value is to be fixed (sufficiently small) to advantage later (see (6.4)).

The equations (2.1) and (2.2) reduce to the same (1.4) when  $\mu = 1$  and to the constant-coefficient equations:

$$(2.3) \quad \ddot{x} + c_1 x = 0$$

$$(2.4) \quad \ddot{x} + \alpha \dot{x} + c_2 x = 0$$

when  $\mu = 0$ . It is easily verified that neither of the auxiliary equations corresponding to (2.3) or (2.4) has a purely imaginary root. Thus it will now be sufficient, as in [1], for our proof of Theorem 1 or Theorem 2 with  $\psi$  subject to (1.7) to establish merely that there is fixed constant  $D > 0$ , whose magnitude is *independent of  $\mu$* , such that any  $\omega$ -periodic solution  $x(t)$  of (2.1) or (2.2), corresponding to  $0 < \mu < 1$  satisfies:

$$(2.5) \quad |x(t)| \leq D, \quad |\dot{x}(t)| \leq D \quad \text{and} \quad |\ddot{x}(t)| \leq D \quad (\tau \leq t \leq \tau + \omega)$$

for some  $\tau$ .

### 3. NOTATION

Let  $A_3 \equiv \max_{0 \leq t \leq \omega} |p(t)|$ . In what follows here the capitals  $D, D_0, D_1 \dots$  are finite positive constants whose magnitudes are independent of the parameter  $\mu$  and, indeed, in the context of Theorem 1 depend only on  $c_1, A_3, B_2, \varphi, \psi$  and  $f$ , and, in the context of Theorem 2, on  $c_2, A_3, A_2, \varphi, \psi$  and  $f$ . The  $D$ 's without suffixes attached are not necessarily the same in each place of occurrence but the numbered  $D$ 's:  $D_0, D_1, \dots$  retain a fixed identity throughout.

### 4. SOME PRELIMINARY RESULTS

As we shall be dealing extensively here with integrals such as  $\int x^2 dt, \int \dot{x}^2 dt, \int \ddot{x}^2 dt$  taken over time intervals of length  $\omega$ , we might as well note that if  $x$  is  $\omega$ -periodic then  $\int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} x^2 dt = \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} x^2 dt$  for arbitrary  $\tau$  and  $\tau_0$ , since either integral equals  $\int_0^{\omega} x^2 dt$  if  $x$  is  $\omega$ -periodic. The same is true of  $\int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt$  and  $\int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt$ .

We shall require specially the use of the following two subsidiary results:

LEMMA 1. *If  $x = x(t)$  is continuous and  $\omega$ -periodic in  $t$  then*

$$(4.1) \quad \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \leq \frac{1}{4} \omega^2 \pi^{-2} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt.$$

*Proof of Lemma.* Let  $x$  have the Fourier expansion:

$$(4.2) \quad x \sim \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} (a_r \cos 2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t + b_r \sin 2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t),$$

so that  $\dot{x}$  and  $\ddot{x}$  in turn have the corresponding expansions:

$$\dot{x} \sim 2 \pi \omega^{-1} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} -r \{a_r \sin (2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t) - b_r \cos (2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t)\}$$

$$\ddot{x} \sim -4 \pi^2 \omega^{-2} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^2 \{a_r \cos (2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t) + b_r \sin (2 \pi \omega^{-1} r t)\}.$$

We have, in the usual manner, from the expansion for  $\dot{x}$  that

$$(4.3) \quad \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt = 2 \pi^2 \omega^{-1} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^2 (a_r^2 + b_r^2)$$

and from the expansion for  $\ddot{x}$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt &= 8 \pi^4 \omega^{-3} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^4 (a_r^2 + b_r^2) \\ &\leq 8 \pi^4 \omega^{-3} \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^3 (a_r^2 + b_r^2) \\ &\leq 4 \pi^2 \omega^{-2} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \end{aligned}$$

by (4.3), which proves (4.1).

LEMMA 2. *Let  $x = x(t)$  be an  $\omega$ -periodic solution of (2.1) or of (2.2) corresponding to  $0 < \mu < 1$*

$$(4.4) \quad \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} x^2 dt \leq D_0^2 + D_1^2 \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt$$

for some  $D_0, D_1$ .

*Proof of Lemma.* Let  $x$  have the Fourier expansion (4.2) so that then

$$(4.5) \quad \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} x^2 dt = a_0^2 + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} (a_r^2 + b_r^2)$$

whether or not  $x$  is a solution of (2.1) or of (2.2).

If in particular  $x(t)$  is a solution of (2.1) or of (2.2) then we have, in view of (1.6) on integrating (2.1), (2.2) that

$$(4.6) \quad \int_0^{\omega} \{(1 - \mu) c_i x + \mu f(x)\} dt = 0 \quad (i = 1, 2).$$

Since  $c_i > 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $f$  is subject to (1.5) it is clear from (4.6) with  $0 < \mu < 1$  that

$$(4.7) \quad |x(\tau_0)| < 1 \quad \text{for some } \tau_0 \text{ such that } 0 \leq \tau_0 \leq \omega.$$

Now the coefficient  $a_0$  in (4.2) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \omega^{-1} \int_0^{\omega} x(t) dt \\ &= \omega^{-1} \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} x(t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

since  $x(t)$  is  $\omega$ -periodic in  $t$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} x(t) dt &= t\dot{x}(t) \Big|_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} - \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} t\dot{x}(t) dt \\ &= \omega x(\tau_0) - \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} t\dot{x}(t) dt, \end{aligned}$$

so that, by (4.7),

$$|a_0| < 1 + \omega^{-1} \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} t |\dot{x}(t)| dt$$

and therefore, since  $0 \leq \tau_0 \leq \omega$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |a_0| &\leq 1 + D \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} |\dot{x}(t)| dt \\ &\leq 1 + D \left( \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

by Schwarz's inequality. Hence

$$(4.8) \quad a_0^2 \leq D_2 \left( 1 + \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0 + \omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)$$

for sufficiently large  $D_2$ . As for the term under the summation sign in (4.5) it is clear by comparison with (4.3) that

$$(4.9) \quad \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} (a_r^2 + b_r^2) \leq D \int_{\tau}^{\tau + \omega} \dot{x}^2 dt.$$

The result (4.4) now follows on combining (4.8) and (4.9) with (4.5).

## 5. PROOF OF THEOREM I

Let now  $x = x(t)$  be any  $\omega$ -periodic solution of (2.1) with  $0 < \mu < 1$  and  $\varphi$  subject to (1.3).

Define  $I_0 \geq 0$ ,  $I_1 \geq 0$ ,  $I_2 \geq 0$  by:

$$I_0^2 = \int_0^{\omega} x^2 dt, \quad I_1^2 = \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt, \quad I_2^2 = \int_0^{\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt.$$

Since

$$\int \dot{x} \ddot{x} dt = \dot{x} \dot{x} - \int \dot{x}^2 dt \quad \text{and} \quad \int \varphi(x) \dot{x}^2 dt = \dot{x} \Phi(x) - \int \ddot{x} \Phi(x) dt$$

we have, on multiplying (2.1) by  $\dot{x}$  and integrating, that

$$I_2^2 + \mu \int_0^{\omega} \Phi(x) \ddot{x} dt = -\mu \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x} p(t) dt,$$

so that, by (1.3) and since  $0 < \mu < 1$ ,

$$(5.1) \quad I_2^2 \leq B_1 \int_0^{\omega} |x| |\ddot{x}| dt + \left\{ B_2 \int_0^{\omega} |\ddot{x}| dt + A_3 \int_0^{\omega} |\dot{x}| dt \right\} \\ \leq B_1 I_0 I_2 + \omega^{1/2} (B_2 I_2 + A_3 I_1),$$

by Schwarz's inequality. But, by (4.4),

$$(5.2) \quad I_0 \leq D_0 + D_1 I_1 \\ \leq D_3 (1 + I_2),$$

by (4.1), for sufficiently large  $D_3$ . Thus (5.1) also implies that

$$I_2^2 \leq D_3 B_1 I_2^2 + (B_1 D_3 + D) I_2$$



by (4.1); and hence if  $B_1$  is fixed, as we assume henceforth, such that

$$(5.3) \quad B_1 \leq \frac{1}{2} D_3^{-1},$$

then

$$I_2^2 \leq D I_2,$$

from which it follows at once that

$$(5.4) \quad I_2^2 \leq D_4,$$

and then also, by (4.1), that

$$(5.5) \quad I_1^2 \leq D_5.$$

Now a combination of (4.7) with the identity:

$$x(t) \equiv x(\tau_0) + \int_{\tau_0}^t \dot{x}(s) \, ds$$

shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq t \leq \omega} |x(t)| &< 1 + \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0 + \omega} |\dot{x}(s)| \, ds \\ &\leq 1 + \omega^{1/2} \left( \int_{\tau_0}^{\tau_0 + \omega} \dot{x}^2(s) \, ds \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

by Schwarz's inequality. Hence, by (5.5),

$$(5.6) \quad |x(t)| \leq D_6 \equiv 1 + \omega^{1/2} D_5^{1/2} \quad (0 \leq t \leq \omega).$$

Next, since  $x(0) = x(\omega)$  it is clear  $\dot{x}(\tau_1) = 0$  for some  $\tau_1 \in [0, \omega]$ . Thus we have, as a result of the identity:

$$\dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}(\tau_1) + \int_{\tau_1}^t \ddot{x}(s) \, ds,$$

that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq t \leq \omega} |\dot{x}(t)| &\leq \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1 + \omega} |\ddot{x}(s)| \, ds \\ &\leq \omega^{1/2} \left( \int_{\tau_1}^{\tau_1 + \omega} \ddot{x}^2(s) \, ds \right)^{1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

by Schwarz's inequality, and therefore, by (5.4), that

$$(5.7) \quad |\dot{x}(t)| \leq D_7 \equiv \omega^{1/2} D_4^{1/2} \quad (0 \leq t \leq \omega).$$

It remains now to establish the last estimate in (2.5). For this let us note from (2.1) that  $\bar{x} = Q$ , where by virtue of (5.6) and (5.7) and the boundedness of  $p$  the function  $Q$  satisfies

$$|Q| \leq D_8 (|\dot{x}| + 1).$$

Thus if we multiply both sides of (2.1) by  $\bar{x}$  and integrate we shall obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \bar{x}^2 dt &\leq D_8 \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} |\dot{x}| |\bar{x}| dt + D_8 \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} |\bar{x}| dt \\ &\leq D \left( \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \bar{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} + D \left( \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \bar{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

by Schwarz's inequality. Hence, by (5.4),

$$\int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \bar{x}^2 dt \leq D \left( \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2}$$

which in turn implies that

$$(5.8) \quad \int_{\tau}^{\tau+\omega} \bar{x}^2 dt \leq D_9.$$

Now, since  $x(0) = x(\omega)$  it follows that  $\dot{x}(\tau_2) = 0$  for some  $\tau_2 \in [0, \omega]$ . Therefore we have, from the identity:

$$\dot{x}(t) = \dot{x}(\tau_2) + \int_{\tau_2}^t \ddot{x}(s) ds,$$

that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{0 \leq t \leq \omega} |\dot{x}(t)| &\leq \omega^{1/2} \left( \int_{\tau_2}^{\tau_2+\omega} \ddot{x}^2(s) ds \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq D \end{aligned}$$

by (5.8).

This completes the verification of (2.5) for all  $\omega$ -periodic solutions of (2.1) with  $0 < \mu < 1$  and Theorem 1 now follows with  $\varepsilon_0 = \frac{1}{2} D_8^{-1}$  (See (5.3)).

## 6. PROOF OF THEOREM 2

We deal first with the case  $\psi$  subject to (1.7). Let then  $x = x(t)$  be any  $\omega$ -periodic solution of (2.2) with  $0 < \mu < 1$ . The whole substance of our proof, as pointed out in § 2 will be to establish (2.5) for  $x(t)$ . With the

groundwork laid out in § 4 the pattern for the proof of (2.5) here is almost as in § 5 and we shall therefore skip any inessential details.

Indeed the main difference between our procedure here and the procedure in § 5 is in the method for estimating  $\int_0^\omega \dot{x}^2 dt$ . This time it is convenient to multiply our parameter—dependent equation (2.2) by  $x$  (not by  $\dot{x}$  as in § 5) and then integrate. Since

$$\int x \ddot{x} dt = x \dot{x} - \frac{1}{2} \dot{x}^2 \quad , \quad \int x \dot{x} \ddot{x} dt = x \dot{x} \ddot{x} - \int \dot{x}^2 \ddot{x} dt$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^x \xi \varphi(\xi) d\xi = x \varphi(x) \dot{x} \quad , \quad \int x \psi(\dot{x}) \ddot{x} dt = x \Psi'(\dot{x}) - \int \dot{x} \Psi'(\dot{x}) dt$$

where  $\Psi'(y) \equiv \int_0^y \psi(\eta) d\eta$ , and  $x$  is  $\omega$ -periodic, the integration leads at once to the result:

$$(6.1) \quad (1 - \mu) \alpha \int_0^\omega \dot{x}_2 dt + \mu \int_0^\omega \dot{x} \Psi'(\dot{x}) dt =$$

$$= \int_0^\omega \{ (1 - \mu) c_2 x^2 + \mu x f(x) - \mu x p \} dt .$$

By (1.7)  $\psi \geq \alpha$  and therefore also  $y \Psi'(y) \geq \alpha y^2$  for all  $y$ .

Thus the inequality (6.1), if (1.2) holds, implies that

$$(6.2) \quad \int_0^\omega \dot{x}^2 dt \leq \alpha^{-1} (c_2 + A_1) \int_0^\omega x^2 dt + D \int_0^\omega |x| dt$$

$$\leq \alpha^{-1} (c_2 + A_1) \int_0^\omega x^2 dt + D \left( \int_0^\omega x^2 dt \right)^{1/2} ,$$

by Schwarz's inequality. By (4.4) and (5.2) this implies in turn that

$$(6.3) \quad \int_0^\omega \dot{x}^2 dt \leq \alpha^{-1} (c_2 + A_1) D_1^2 \int_0^\omega x^2 dt + D \left\{ \left( \int_0^\omega x^2 dt \right)^{1/2} + A_1 + 1 \right\} .$$

Hence if for example  $c_2$  and  $A_1$  are fixed, as we assume henceforth, such that

$$(6.4) \quad 0 < c_2 < \frac{1}{4} \alpha D_1^{-2} \quad , \quad A_1 \leq \frac{1}{4} \alpha D_1^{-2}$$

then we have from (6.3) that

$$\int_0^{\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt \leq D \left\{ \left( \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} + 1 \right\}$$

which, in turn leads to (5.5) and therefore to (5.6) as in § 5.

It remains now to obtain the estimates for  $|\dot{x}(t)|$  and  $|\ddot{x}(t)|$  in (2.5).

The estimate for  $|\dot{x}(t)|$  requires (5.4), just as in § 5, and to establish this we note that (2.2) implies that

$$(6.5) \quad \ddot{x} + \{(1 - \mu)\alpha + \mu\psi(\dot{x})\} \dot{x} = R$$

where, because of the boundedness, just established, of  $|x(t)|$  by a  $D$ , the function  $R$  satisfies

$$|R| \leq D(|\dot{x}| + 1).$$

Thus if we multiply both sides of (6.5) by  $\dot{x}$  and integrate we shall have, since  $x$  is  $\omega$ -periodic and  $(1 - \mu)\alpha + \mu\psi \geq \alpha$ , that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt &\leq D \left( \int_0^{\omega} |\dot{x}| |\ddot{x}| dt + \int_0^{\omega} |\dot{x}| dt \right) \\ &\leq \left\{ \left( \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \left( \int_0^{\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} + \left( \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \right\} \\ &\leq D \left( \int_0^{\omega} \ddot{x}^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

by (5.6) which has just been established for  $\omega$ -periodic solutions of (2.2). Hence

$$\int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt \leq D$$

as before and the estimate (5.7) then follows as in § 5 for our solution  $x$  of (2.2).

With the boundedness (each by a  $D$ ) of  $|x(t)|$  and  $|\dot{x}(t)|$  established, the estimate (5.8) can now follow, for our solution of (2.2) exactly as in § 5, and so also the boundedness of  $|\ddot{x}(t)|$  by a  $D$  for arbitrary  $t \in [0, \omega]$ . This concludes the verification of Theorem 2 with  $\varepsilon_1 = \frac{1}{4} \alpha D_1^{-2}$  (see (6.4)) when  $\psi$  is subject to (1.7).

To tackle the case  $\psi$  subject to (1.8) we had pointed out in § 2 that we should deal with the equation (2.2) with  $\alpha$  replaced by  $(-\beta)$ . The effect of

the replacement on the estimate for  $\int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt$  is merely to replace  $\alpha^{-1}$  in (6.2) by  $\beta^{-1}$ , as is easily seen by multiplying both sides of (6.1) by  $(-1)$  and noting that  $-\mu y \Psi'(y) \geq \mu \beta y^2$  so that then

$$(1 - \mu) \beta \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt - \mu \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x} \Psi'(x) dt \geq \beta \int_0^{\omega} \dot{x}^2 dt.$$

Thus the estimate (6.3) comes through here with  $\beta$  in place of  $\alpha$  and the rest of the proof when  $\psi$  is subject to (1.8) can now follow from that point exactly as before.

This completes our proof of Theorem 2.

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