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**Periodic solutions to a non-linear differential
equation of the order $2n + 1$**

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Equazioni differenziali ordinarie. — *Periodic solutions to a non-linear differential equation of the order $2n + 1$.* Nota (*) di MONIKA KUBICOVA, presentata dal Corrisp. R. CONTI.

ABSTRACT. — A criterion for the existence of periodic solutions of an ordinary differential equation of order k proved by J. Andres and J. Voráček for $k = 3$ is extended to an arbitrary odd k .

KEY WORDS: Nonlinear ordinary differential equations; Periodic solutions; Existence.

RIASSUNTO. — Si estende ad una equazione differenziale ordinaria di ordine dispari arbitrario k un criterio di esistenza di soluzioni periodiche dimostrato da J. Andres e J. Voráček per il caso di $k = 3$.

We consider the equation:

$$(1) \quad x^{(2n+1)} + a_1(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)}) x^{(n+1)} + \dots + a_{n+1}(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)}) x' + b(x) = \\ = c(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)})$$

with functions $a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}, c \in C(R^{2n+2}, R)$, $b \in C(R, R)$. Furthermore we assume the ω -periodicity in the variable t of $a_1, \dots, a_{n+1}, c$ ($\omega > 0$, $n \geq 1$).

The existence of an ω -periodic solution of (1) will be proved by the Leray-Schauder fixed point technique. In the paper the result of J. Andres and J. Voráček from [1] for the third order equations to the equations of the order $2n + 1$ is extended.

The equation (1) results for $p := 1$ from the following family of differential equations depending on the parameter p :

$$(2_p) \quad x^{(2n+1)} + p[a_1(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)}) x^{(n+1)} + \dots + a_{n+1}(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)}) x' + \\ + (b(x) - cx)] + cx = pe(t, x, x', \dots, x^{(2n)})$$

with a suitable constant $c \neq 0$.

For the existence of an ω -periodic solution of (1) the following conditions are sufficient:

(i) All the ω -periodic solutions $x(t)$ of (2_p) and $x'(t), \dots, x^{(2n)}(t)$ are for $0 \leq p \leq 1$ a priori bounded by a constant independent of p .

(ii) The linear equation:

$$(2_0) \quad x^{(2n+1)} + cx = 0$$

(resulting from (2_p) for $p = 0$) has no ω -periodic solution different from identical zero.

The condition (ii) is satisfied if and only if the characteristic equation of (2_0) , i.e. the equation

$$\lambda^{2n+1} + c = 0$$

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has no root in the form $i(2\pi/\omega)k$, k is an integer. It is clear that the condition (ii) is satisfied for any $c \neq 0$. Hence it is sufficient to consider the case when the condition (i) is satisfied.

From the Wirtinger Lemma [2], p. 185, it follows that for every ω -periodic function $x(t) \in C^{2n}(R, R)$ such that $x^{(2n+1)} \in L^2(\langle t, t + \omega \rangle)$ we have:

$$(3) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(k-1)}(s))^2 ds \leq \left(\frac{\omega}{2\pi}\right)^2 \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(k)}(s))^2 ds, \quad \text{for all } t \in R \text{ and } k = 2, 3, \dots, 2n + 1.$$

In the following the composited function $a_k(t, x(t), x'(t), \dots, x^{(2n)}(t))$ of the variable t formed by the function a_k and the function $x(t)$ will be denoted by the symbol $a_{kx}(t)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots, n + 1$).

In the same sense we use the symbols $b_x(t)$, $e_x(t)$. Further we put:

$$\omega_1 := \frac{\omega}{2\pi}.$$

At first we prove the estimates for ω -periodic solutions of (2_p) in the L^2 space norm.

LEMMA 1. If the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} |a_k(t, x_1, \dots, x_{2n})| &\leq A_k, & \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n + 1, \\ |e(t, x_1, \dots, x_{2n})| &\leq E \end{aligned}$$

hold for all $t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n}$, and

$$\theta := 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} A_k \omega_1^{n+k-1} > 0,$$

then every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p) satisfies the inequality:

$$(4) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq D_{n+1}^2, \quad \text{for all } t,$$

where

$$D_{n+1}^2 := \left[\frac{\omega_1^n E}{\theta} \right]^2 \omega.$$

PROOF. Substituting a fixed $x(t)$ into (2_p) , multiplying the obtained identity by $x'(t)$ and integrating in $\langle t, t + \omega \rangle$ we come to:

$$(-1)^n \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(n+1)}(s))^2 ds = p \int_t^{t+\omega} (-a_{1x}(s) x^{(n+1)}(s) x'(s) - \dots - a_{n+1x}(s) (x'(s))^2 + e_x(s) x'(s)) ds.$$

By the assumptions of Lemma 1 we get:

$$\int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq \int_t^{t+\omega} [A_1 |x^{(n+1)}(s) x'(s)| + \dots + A_{n+1} (x'(s))^2 + E |x'(s)|] ds.$$

Using (3) and the Schwarz inequality we get the inequality:

$$\theta^2 \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq E^2 \omega_1^{2n} \omega, \quad \text{for all } t$$

from where we come to (4).

COROLLARY 1. If all assumptions of Lemma 1 are fulfilled, then for every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p) we have:

$$(5) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(k)}(s))^2 ds \leq D_k^2 \quad \text{for } k = n+1, n, \dots, 2, 1 \text{ and for all } t \in R,$$

where

$$(6) \quad D_k := \omega_1 D_{k+1} \quad \text{for } k = n, n-1, \dots, 2, 1, \\ |x^{(k)}(s)| \leq D'_k \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n \text{ and for all } s \in R,$$

where $D'_k := \sqrt{\omega} D_{k+1}$.

PROOF. By the finite induction we get the estimates (5) from (3) and (4). Furthermore for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ and for all t the ω -periodic function $x^{(k)}(s)$ fulfils on $\langle t, t+\omega \rangle$ the assumptions of the Mean value theorem. Thus there is a point $t_1 \in \langle t, t+\omega \rangle$ such that:

$$x^{(k+1)}(t_1) = 0.$$

Consequently

$$x^{(k+1)}(s) = \int_{t_1}^s x^{(k+2)}(u) du \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1 \text{ and for all } s \in \langle t, t+\omega \rangle.$$

On the basis of the Schwarz inequality and (5) we get the estimate (6) in the sup norm.

LEMMA 2. If all assumptions of Lemma 1 are fulfilled and there exist real numbers $c \neq 0$, $m > 0$ such that the inequality

$$(7) \quad xh(x) \operatorname{sgn} c \geq |c|x^2 \quad \text{for every } |x| \geq m$$

is true, then every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p) satisfies

$$(8) \quad |x(t)| \leq D'_0, \quad \text{for all } t \in R$$

with $D'_0 := R + D'_1 \omega$

$$R := \max \left[m, \frac{A_1 D_{n+1} + \dots + A_{n+1} D_1}{c} + \frac{E}{c} \right].$$

PROOF. We again substitute $x(t)$ into (2_p) . Multiplying the resulting identity by $x(t)$ and integrating in $\langle t, t+\omega \rangle$ we obtain for every t :

$$p \int_t^{t+\omega} (a_{1x}(s) x^{(n+1)}(s) x(s) + \dots + a_{n+1x}(s) x'(s) x(s) - e_x(s) x(s)) ds = \\ = (p-1) \int_t^{t+\omega} c x^2(s) ds - p \int_t^{t+\omega} x(s) h_x(s) ds.$$

Hence using the assumptions of Lemma 1 we get the inequality:

$$(9) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} ((1-p) c x^2(s) + p x(s) h_x(s) \operatorname{sgn} c) ds \leq \\ \leq \int_t^{t+\omega} [A_1 |x^{(n+1)}(s) x(s)| + \dots + A_{n+1} |x'(s) x(s)| + E |x(s)|] ds.$$

If on the whole interval $\langle t, t+\omega \rangle$ the inequality $|x(s)| > R (\geq m)$ held, by (7) and (9) we

would have:

$$c \int_t^{t+\omega} x^2(s) ds \leq \int_t^{t+\omega} [A_1 |x^{(n+1)}(s) x(s)| + \dots + A_{n+1} |x'(s) x(s)| + E |x(s)|] ds$$

and on the basis of the Schwarz inequality and (7) this would imply the inequality:

$$(10) \quad c^2 \int_t^{t+\omega} x^2(s) ds \leq c^2 R^2 \omega.$$

On the other hand by the inequality $|x(s)| > R$ on $\langle t, t + \omega \rangle$ we come to

$$c^2 \int_t^{t+\omega} x^2(s) ds > c^2 R^2 \omega$$

which contradicts (10).

Thus on each interval $\langle t, t + \omega \rangle$ there must exist a point t_1 with

$$|x(t_1)| \leq R.$$

Using the Mean value formula we get for all $s \in \langle t, t + \omega \rangle$:

$$|x(s)| \leq |x(t_1)| + |x'(t_2)| |s - t_1|.$$

The periodicity of $x(t)$ assures that (8) holds for all $t \in R$.

LEMMA 3. If all assumptions of Lemma 2 are satisfied then denoting

$$H := \max_{x \in D_0} |h(x)|$$

we have for every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p)

$$(11) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(2n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq D_{2n+1}^2, \quad \text{for all } t \in R,$$

where $D_{2n+1} := A_1 D_{n+1} + \dots + A_{n+1} D_1 + (E + H) \sqrt{\omega}$.

PROOF. We again substitute $x(t)$ into (2_p). Multiplying the obtained identity by $x^{(2n+1)}(t)$ and integrating in $\langle t, t + \omega \rangle$ we get the identity:

$$\int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(2n+1)}(s))^2 ds = -p \int_t^{t+\omega} (a_{1x}(s) x^{(n+1)}(s) + \dots + a_{n+1x}(s) x'(s) + b_x(s) - e_x(s)) x^{(2n+1)}(s) ds.$$

Using the assumptions of Lemma 3 we come to:

$$\int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(2n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq \int_t^{t+\omega} [A_1 |x^{(n+1)}(s) x^{(2n+1)}(s)| + \dots + A_{n+1} |x'(s) x^{(2n+1)}(s)| + E |x^{(2n+1)}(s)| + H |x^{(2n+1)}(s)|] ds.$$

Hence the Schwarz inequality and (5) implies that:

$$\int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(2n+1)}(s))^2 ds \leq (A_1 D_{n+1} + \dots + A_{n+1} D_1 + (E + H) \sqrt{\omega})^2 := D_{2n+1}^2.$$

Using (11) and (3) we can extend the inequalities (5) for $k = 2n + 1, \dots, 2, 1$. Then by a similar method as in Corollary 1, the estimates (6) can be extended for $k = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$. Thus the following corollary holds.

COROLLARY 2. If all assumptions of Lemma 2 are fulfilled, then every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p) satisfies:

$$(12) \quad \int_t^{t+\omega} (x^{(k)}(s))^2 ds \leq D_k^2 \quad \text{for } k = 2n+1, 2n, \dots, 2, 1, \text{ and for all } t \in \mathbb{R},$$

where D_{2n+1} is given in Lemma 3

$$D_k := \omega_1 D_{k+1} \quad \text{for } k = 2n, 2n-1, \dots, n+2,$$

D_{n+1} is given in Lemma 1

$$D_k := \omega_1 D_{k+1} \quad \text{for } k = n, n-1, \dots, 1.$$

Further:

$$(13) \quad |x^{(k)}(s)| \leq D'_k \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, 2n, \text{ and for all } t \in \mathbb{R},$$

where

$$D'_k = \sqrt{\omega} D_{k+1} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, 2n.$$

THEOREM. If the following inequalities:

$$|a_k(t, x_1, \dots, x_{2n})| \leq A_k \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n+1,$$

$$|e(t, x, \dots, x_{2n})| \leq E$$

hold for all $t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2n}$,

$$\theta := 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} A_k \omega_1^{n+k-1} > 0,$$

and if there exist such real numbers $c \neq 0$, $m > 0$ that (7) holds, then the equation (1) admits an ω -periodic solution.

PROOF. From Corollary 2 we get for every ω -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (2_p) :

$$\sum_{k=0}^{2n} |x^{(k)}(t)| \leq \sum_{k=0}^{2n} D'_k := P,$$

with P independent of $p \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle$.

Thus both conditions (i), (ii) which are sufficient for the existence of an ω -periodic solution of (1), are fulfilled.

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