

OSCILLATION THEOREMS FOR SECOND ORDER  
DELAY EQUATIONS

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R I N G K A S A N

*Dalam tulisan ini kriteria oksilasi untuk  
suatu persamaan diferensial, diperluas.*

*Hasil yang diperoleh dari perluasan itu  
menjadi berbentuk*

$$(r(t)y'(t))' + F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) = 0$$

*untuk  $t \geq a > 0$ .*

A B S T R A C T

*Recently, oscillation criteria for cer-  
tain second order delay differential equations  
have been substantially studied by [2], [3],  
[5], and others.*

*In this paper, we generalize and extend  
some of their results to a more general delay  
differential equation of the type*

$$(r(t)y'(t))' + F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) = 0$$

*$t \geq a > 0$ .*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Consider the following delay differential equation

$$(r(t)y'(t))' + F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) = 0 \quad t \geq a > 0 \quad (1-1)$$

where  $F \in C([a, \infty) \times R \times R, R)$ ;  $g \in C([a, \infty), R)$ ;  $r \in C'([a, \infty), R)$ ;  $r(t) > 0$  for  $t \geq a$ ; and  $g(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Clearly, Eq.(1-1) is more general than the following two differential equations

$$(r(t)y'(t))' + p(t) f(y(t), y(g(t))) = 0 \quad t \geq a > 0 \quad (1-2)$$

where  $f \in C(R \times R, R)$ ;  $p, g$  are assumed continuous on  $[a, \infty)$ ;  $r \in C'([a, \infty), R)$ ;  $r(t) > 0$  and  $p(t) \geq 0$  for  $t \geq a$ ; and  $g(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

$$y''(t) + F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) = 0 \quad t \geq a > 0 \quad (1-3)$$

where  $F \in C([a, \infty) \times R \times R, R)$ ;  $g \in C([a, \infty), R)$ , and  $g(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Recently, Chiou [3], Erbe [5], and Ladas [8] have obtained some oscillation criteria for Eq.(1-3) and Bradley [2] for Eq.(1-2). The purpose of this paper is to present conditions for the oscillatory of solutions of Eq.(1-1). We would see that oscillation criteria depend significantly on the rate of increase of the function  $g(t)$  and the boundedness of the function  $r(t)$ . The main results of the paper generalize and extend some of the previous results of Bradley [2], Chiou [3], Kung [7], Travis [10], Waltman [11], and Wong [13]. These results are obtained by using integral inequality and a well-known theorem of Wintner [12]. As a consequence of our main results, an oscillation criteria is given for Eq.(1-2).

Consider the equation

$$y''(t) + \lambda p(t) y(t) = 0 \quad (1-4)$$

We shall call  $p(t)$  a strongly oscillatory coefficient if (1-4) is oscillatory for all positive  $\lambda$ . For the case  $p(t) \geq 0$ ,

Nehari [9] has shown that

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_t^{\infty} p(s) ds = \infty$$

is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $p(t)$  to be a strongly oscillatory coefficient.

A nontrivial solution to (1-1), (1-2) or (1-3) is called oscillatory if it has arbitrarily large zeroes in  $[a, \infty)$ , and nonoscillatory if it is eventually of one sign on  $[a, \infty)$ .

Eqs.(1-1), (1-2) or (1-3) is said to be oscillatory if its every solution is oscillatory. We shall assume the existence of nontrivial solutions of (1-1), (1-2) or (1-3) in the interval  $[a, \infty)$ . A general discussion of existence and uniqueness of solutions to delay equations is given in El'sgol'ts [4].

## 2. OSCILLATION CRITERIA

In order to prove the oscillation theorem, we need the following Lemma. Its proof is similar to those of Bradley [2, Lemma 2] and Erbe [6, Lemma 1-2].

*Lemma 1.* Consider the differential equation (1-1). Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i)  $F(t, u, v)$  has the sign of  $u$  and  $v$  when they have the same sign for  $t \geq a$ ;
- (ii)  $F(t, u, v)$  is nondecreasing in both  $u$  and  $v$  for  $t \geq a$ ; and
- (iii)  $\int_a^{\infty} \frac{dt}{r(t)} = \infty$ .

Then, if  $y(t)$  is a solution of (1-1) that is eventually positive (negative),  $y'(t) > 0$  ( $y'(t) < 0$ ) for all large  $t$ .

*Proof.* Let  $y(t) > 0$  for all large  $t$ . Firstly, we show that  $y'(t) \geq 0$  for all large  $t$ . If this is not true, then there exists a  $t_0$  larger than the last zeroes of  $y(t)$  and  $y(g(t))$  such that  $y'(t_0) < 0$ . For  $t \geq t_0$

$$(r(t)y'(t))' = -F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) \leq 0 \quad (2-1)$$

Integrating (2-1) from  $t_0$  to  $t$ , we have

$$r(t)y'(t) \leq r(t_0)y'(t_0) < 0$$

Hence, 
$$y'(t) \leq \frac{r(t_0)y'(t_0)}{r(t)} \quad \text{for } t \leq t_0. \quad (2-2)$$

Integrating (2-2) from  $t_0$  to  $t$ , and letting  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we see that  $y(t)$  is eventually negative. This contradicts the hypothesis.

Next, let us assume that  $\{T_n\}$  is a sequence of real numbers at which  $y'(T_n) = 0$ ,  $\forall n$ , and  $T_n \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, it follows from the above result that  $y(t)$  is nondecreasing for  $t$  sufficiently large. Therefore it has a limit (finite positive or  $+\infty$ ). This implies that there exist a constant  $c > 0$  and a sufficiently large  $t_1$  such that  $y(t) > c$  and  $y(g(t)) > c$  for all  $t \geq t_1$ . By conditions (i) and (ii),  $F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) \geq F(t, c, c) > 0$  for  $t \geq t_1$ . Thus, by choosing a  $T_k \in \{T_n\}$  so that  $T_k \geq t_1$ , we obtain from Eq.(1-1) that for all  $t > t_k$

$$(r(t)y'(t))' \leq -F(t, c, c) \quad (2-3)$$

Integrating (2-3) from  $T_n$  to  $T_{n+1}$  ( $n \geq k$ ), summing over the indices  $n$  and using the fact that  $F(t, c, c) > 0$  for  $t \geq T_k$ , we obtain a contradiction. Thus, we have that  $y'(t) > 0$  or  $y'(t) \equiv 0$  for all large  $t$ . However, if  $y'(t) \equiv 0$  for all large  $t$ , then  $y(t) = c$  for some constant  $c > 0$ . A contradiction follows immediately from Eq.(1-1) and condition (i). Therefore,  $y'(t) > 0$  for all large  $t$ . The proof remains the same if  $y(t) < 0$  for all large  $t$ . This completes the proof.

With the help of Lemma 1, we prove the following theorem.

*Theorem 1:* Consider the differential equation (1-1). Suppose that the following conditions are satisfied

- (i)  $F(t, u, v)$  has the sign of  $u$  and  $v$  when they have the same sign for  $t \geq a$ ;
- (ii)  $F(t, u, v)$  is nondecreasing in both  $u$  and  $v$  for  $t \geq a$ ;
- (iii)  $\int_a^\infty \frac{dt}{r(t)} = \infty$ ; and

(iv)  $\int_0^{\infty} |F(t, c, c)| dt = \infty$ , for every constant  $c \neq 0$ .

Then Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

*Proof:* Let  $y(t)$  be a nonoscillatory solution of (1-1). Since all the assumptions of Lemma 1 are satisfied, it follows from Lemma 1, that we may assume  $y(t) > 0$  and  $y'(t) > 0$  for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq a$ . This implies that  $y(t) \rightarrow L$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $L$  is a finite positive or  $+\infty$ . In either case, there exist a constant  $c > 0$  and a  $t_1, t_1 \geq t_0$ , such that  $y(t) > c$  and  $y(g(t)) > c$  for all  $t \geq t_1$ .

By conditions (i) and (ii), it follows from integrating (1-1) from  $t_1$  to  $t$  that for all  $t \geq t_1$

$$\begin{aligned} r(t)y'(t) &= r(t_1)y'(t_1) - \int_{t_1}^t F(s, y(s), y(g(s))) ds \\ &\leq r(t_1)y'(t_1) - \int_{t_1}^t F(s, c, c) ds \end{aligned} \quad (2-4)$$

Thus, we obtain from condition (iv) that  $r(t)y'(t)$  is eventually negative for sufficiently large  $t$ . Further, since  $r(t) > 0$ , it is clear that  $y'(t)$  is eventually negative. This contradicts the fact that  $y'(t) > 0$  for all  $t \geq t_0$ . A similar argument applies to the case in which  $y(t) < 0$  for all large  $t$ . This completes the proof.

Note that Theorem 1 contains Theorem 3-1 of Ladas [8] in the case  $n = 2$  as a special case.

*Remark 1.* The condition (iv) of Theorem 1 is not a necessary condition as shown in the following example.

Consider the equation

$$y''(t) + \frac{1}{2t^2} y(t) = 0$$

Clearly, the condition (iv) is not satisfied. However, the equation is oscillatory, (see Bellman [1], Theorem 10, p. 121).

In order to obtain the desired oscillation criteria for Eq.(1-1), we shall impose some restrictions on  $g(t)$  and  $r(t)$ . Suppose that there exists a differentiable function  $q(t)$  such that

$$q(t) \leq \min \{g(t), t\} \text{ and } q'(t) \geq \gamma > 0 \quad (3-1)$$

for sufficiently large  $t$ .

We prove the following theorem using a well-known theorem of Wintner [12, part 4, p.371].

*Theorem 2.* Consider the differential equation (1-1). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy (3-1) and suppose that

- (i)  $F(t, u, v)$  has the sign of  $u$  and  $v$  when they have the same sign for  $t \geq a$ ;
- (ii)  $F(t, u, v)$  is nondecreasing in both  $u$  and  $v$  for  $t \geq a$ ;
- (iii) there exists a positive nondecreasing continuous function  $k(t)$  for  $t \geq a$ , and a constant  $M > 0$  such that  $|u| > M$  implies

$$\liminf_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{k(\alpha|v|)F(t, u, v)}{v} \right| \geq \varepsilon |F(t, c, c)| \quad (3-2)$$

for every constant  $\alpha > 0$ , for some constant  $c \neq 0$ , for some  $\varepsilon > 0$  and for sufficiently large  $t$ .

- (iv)  $\frac{1}{r(t)} \geq \lambda > 0$  and  $r'(t) \geq 0$  for sufficiently large  $t$ ;  
and

$$(v) \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_t^{\infty} \frac{|F(s, c, c)|}{k(g(s))} ds = \infty \quad (3-3)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ . Then Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

*Proof:* Let  $y(t)$  be a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1-1). Then, by (iv) and Lemma 1, we may assume that  $y(t) > 0$  and  $y'(t) > 0$  for all large  $t \geq t_0 \geq a$ . (The case  $y(t) < 0$  can be similarly treated). Choose a  $t_1 \geq t_0$  so that  $q(t) \geq t_0$  and  $r'(t) \geq 0$  for  $t \geq t_1$ . Then it is easily verified from Eq.(1-1) that  $y''(t) \leq 0$  for  $t \geq t_1$ .

Define  $w(t) = \frac{r(t)y'(t)}{y(q(t))}$  for  $t \geq t_1$ .

Clearly, for  $t \geq t_1$ ,  $w(t)$  satisfies

$$w'(t) + \frac{F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{y(q(t))} + \frac{w(t)y'(q(t))q'(t)}{y(q(t))} = 0 \quad (3-4)$$

Since  $y(t)$  is increasing and positive for all  $t \geq t_0$ , it has a limit (a finite positive or  $+\infty$ ). We shall discuss these two cases separately.

(i) If  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = L$ , where  $0 < L < \infty$ , then we may choose a  $t_2 > t_1$ , so that, for  $t \geq t_2$

$$y(t) > \frac{1}{2}L \text{ and } y(g(t)) > \frac{1}{2}L \quad (3-5)$$

Since  $y'(t)$  is nonincreasing for  $t \geq t_1$ , it follows from the mean value theorem that  $0 < \alpha y(t) \leq t$  for some positive constant  $\alpha$  and for all large  $t \geq t_3 \geq t_2$ . Thus, if we choose a  $t_4 \geq t_3$  so that  $g(t) \geq t_3$  for  $t \geq t_4$ , we have

$$\alpha y(g(t)) \leq g(t) \quad (3-6)$$

for  $t \geq t_4$ .

Since  $F, k$  are nondecreasing, and  $y(t)$  is increasing for  $t \geq t_2$ , it follows from (3-1), (3-5) and (3-6) that for  $t \geq t_4$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{y(q(t))} &\geq \frac{k(\alpha y(g(t))) F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{k(\alpha y(g(t))) \cdot y(t)} \\ &\geq \frac{k(\frac{1}{2}\alpha L) F(t, \frac{1}{2}L, \frac{1}{2}L)}{k(g(t)) \cdot L} \\ &= \beta \frac{F(t, \frac{1}{2}L, \frac{1}{2}L)}{k(g(t))} \end{aligned} \quad (3-7)$$

where  $\beta = \frac{k(\frac{1}{2}\alpha L)}{L} > 0$ .

(ii) Now, suppose that  $y(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Since  $y'(t)$  is nonincreasing for  $t \geq t_1$ , it follows from the mean value theorem that  $0 < \alpha y(t) \leq t$  for some positive constant  $\alpha$  and for all large  $t \geq t_5 \geq t_1$ . Thus, if we choose a  $t_6 \geq t_5$  so that  $g(t) \geq t_5$  for  $t \geq t_6$ , we have

$$0 < \alpha y(g(t)) \leq g(t) \quad (3-8)$$

for  $t \geq t_6$ .

Since  $F, k$  are nondecreasing, and  $y(t)$  is increasing, we deduce from (3-1), (3-8) and condition (iii), that for  $t \geq t_7 \geq t_6$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{y(q(t))} &\geq \frac{k(\alpha y(g(t))) F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{k(\alpha y(g(t))) y(g(t))} \\ &\geq \frac{k(\alpha y(g(t))) F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{k(g(t)) y(g(t))} \\ &= \varepsilon \frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} \end{aligned} \quad (3-9)$$

for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and for some constant  $c \neq 0$ .

In view of inequality (3-7) and inequality (3-9), we see that (3-9) holds true for both cases, for  $t \geq t_7$ . Further, since  $y'(t)$  is nonincreasing for  $t \geq t_1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{w(t) y'(q(t)) q'(t)}{y(q(t))} &\geq \gamma w(t) \frac{y'(t) r(t)}{y(q(t)) r(t)} \\ &\geq \gamma \lambda w^2(t) \end{aligned} \quad (3-10)$$

Thus, (3-4) is reduced to

$$w'(t) + \varepsilon \frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} + \gamma \lambda w^2(t) \leq 0 \quad (3-11)$$



Now, let  $R(t) = \gamma \lambda w(t)$ . Then, we obtain the following Riccati inequality from (3-11)

$$R'(t) + R^2(t) + \gamma \lambda \epsilon \frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} \leq 0 \quad (3-12)$$

Thus, it follows from the result of Wintner [12, part 4, p. 371], that the equation

$$y''(t) + \gamma \lambda \epsilon \frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} y(t) = 0 \quad (3-13)$$

is nonoscillatory.

But this contradicts the fact that condition (v) is a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))}$  to be a strongly oscillatory coefficient for Eq.(3-13). Thus completes the proof.

*Remark 2.* If  $g(t) \leq t$  in Theorem 2, the conditions (iii) and (iv) can be replaced, respectively, by

(iii)' there exists a positive nondecreasing continuous function  $k(t)$  for  $t \geq a$  such that for sufficiently large  $t$

$$\lim_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{|u| \geq |v|} \left| \frac{k(\alpha|v)F(t, u, v)}{v} \right| \geq \epsilon |F(t, c, c)| \quad (3-14)$$

for every constant  $\alpha > 0$ , for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , and for some constant  $c \neq 0$

$$(iv)' \quad \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_0^{\infty} \frac{|F(s, c, c)|}{k(s)} ds = \infty \quad (3-15)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ .

Consider the following equations

$$y''(t) + \frac{1}{4}(t \ln t)^{-1/2} y(\ln t) = 0 \quad t > 1 \quad (3-16)$$

and

$$(t^{1/4} y'(t))' + \frac{1}{4} t^{-7/4} y(\frac{1}{4} t) = 0 \quad t > 1 \quad (3-17)$$

We see that both equations have nonoscillatory solutions  $y(t) = \sqrt{t}$ . However, in view of Eq.(1-4) we note that  $p(t) = \frac{1}{4} (t \ln t)^{-1/2}$  and  $p(t) = \frac{1}{4} t^{-7/4}$  are strongly oscillatory coefficients. Thus, the assumptions on the rate of increase of  $g(t)$  and the boundedness of  $r(t)$  given in Theorem 2 are necessary.

We shall prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 3:** Consider the differential equation (1-1). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy (3-1), and suppose that conditions (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) of Theorem 2 are satisfied. Then, if

$$\int^{\infty} \left( \lambda \gamma \frac{t|F(t,c,c)|}{k(g(t))} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) dt = \infty \quad (4-1)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ , Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

*Proof:* Let  $y(t)$  be a nonoscillatory solution of (1-1). Using the argument similar to that of Theorem 2, we may assume that  $y(t) > 0$ ,  $y(q(t)) > 0$ ,  $y'(t) > 0$ , and  $y''(t) \leq 0$  for all  $t \geq t_1 \geq a$ .

Define  $w(t) = - \frac{t r(t) y'(t)}{y(q(t))}$  for  $t \geq t_1$ .

Differentiating the expression for  $w(t)$ , it follows from Eq.(1-1) that for  $t \geq t_1$

$$\begin{aligned} w'(t) &= \frac{t F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{y(q(t))} - \frac{r(t) y'(t)}{y(q(t))} + \\ &+ \frac{t r(t) y'(t) (y(q(t)))'}{y^2(q(t))} \end{aligned} \quad (4-2)$$

Arguing as for theorem 2, we have for all  $t \geq T_0 \geq t_1$

$$\frac{F(t, y(t), y(g(t)))}{y(q(t))} \geq \epsilon \frac{F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} > 0 \quad (4-3)$$

for some constant  $c \neq 0$ , and some  $\epsilon$  which is chosen in such a

way that  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ . Further, since  $y'(t)$  is nondecreasing for  $t \geq t_1$ , it follows from the argument similar to that of Theorem 2 that

$$\frac{t r(t) y'(t) (y(q(t)))'}{y^2(q(t))} \geq \lambda \gamma \frac{w^2(t)}{t} \quad (4-4)$$

By (4-3) and (4-4), we see that Eq.(4-2) can be reduced to

$$w'(t) \geq \epsilon \frac{t F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} + \frac{w(t)}{t} + \lambda \gamma \frac{w^2(t)}{t} \quad (4-5)$$

for  $t \geq T_0$ .

Since  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ , Eq.(4-5) becomes

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} w'(t) \geq \frac{t F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} + \frac{w(t)}{t} + \lambda \gamma \frac{w^2(t)}{t}$$

Let  $H(t) = \sqrt{\lambda \gamma} w(t) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\lambda \gamma}}$ . Then, for  $t \geq T_0$

$$\frac{w'(t)}{\epsilon} = \frac{H'(t)}{\epsilon \sqrt{\lambda \gamma}} \geq \frac{t F(t, c, c)}{k(g(t))} + \frac{H^2(t)}{t} - \frac{1}{4\lambda \gamma t} \quad (4-6)$$

Integrating (4-6) from  $T_0$  to  $t$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{H(t)}{\epsilon \sqrt{\lambda \gamma}} \geq \frac{H(T_0)}{\epsilon \sqrt{\lambda \gamma}} + \int_{T_0}^t \left( \frac{s F(s, c, c)}{k(g(s))} - \frac{1}{4\lambda \gamma s} \right) ds + \\ + \int_{T_0}^t \frac{H^2(s)}{s} ds \end{aligned} \quad (4-7)$$

By (4-1) and the fact that  $\lambda \gamma > 0$ , we see that the sum of the

first two terms on the right side of (4-7) will be positive for sufficiently large  $t \geq T_1 \geq T_0$ , and hence for  $t \geq T_1$

$$\frac{H(t)}{\varepsilon\sqrt{\lambda\gamma}} \geq \int_{T_0}^t \frac{H^2(s)}{s} ds = K(t)$$

Thus,  $K'(t) = \frac{H^2(t)}{t} \geq \varepsilon^2\lambda\gamma \frac{K^2(t)}{t}$ , and

$$\frac{1}{t} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2\lambda\gamma} \frac{K'(t)}{K^2(t)} \quad \text{for } t \geq T_1 \quad (4-8)$$

Integrating (4-8) from  $T_1$  to  $t$ , and letting  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$\int_{T_1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{t} dt \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2\lambda\gamma K(T_1)} < \infty$$

This is a contradiction. The case  $y(t) < 0$  can be treated in the same way. This completes the proof.

Note that we can see from Theorem 3 that the assumptions on the rate of increase of  $g(t)$  and the boundedness of  $r(t)$  are required for (4-1) to hold.

*Remark 3*

(i) In particular, Theorem 3 shows that Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory, if

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{t^2 |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} > \frac{1}{4\lambda\gamma} \quad (4-9)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ .

(ii) If  $g(t) \leq t$  in Theorem 3, condition (iii) can be replaced by (iii)' of Remark 2, and (4-1) by

$$\int_{T_1}^{\infty} \left( \lambda\gamma \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(t)} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) dt = \infty \quad (4-10)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ .

As a consequence of Theorem 3, we have the following corollaries.

*Corollary 1:* Consider the differential equation (1-1). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy condition (3-1), and suppose that conditions (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv) of Theorem 2 are satisfied. Further, if

$$\int^{\infty} \frac{t^{\delta} |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} dt = \infty \quad (4-11)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ , and for some  $\delta < 1$ . Then, Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

*Proof:* From (4-11) it is clear that for any  $\epsilon > 0$

$$\frac{t^{\delta} |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} \geq \frac{1}{t^{1+\epsilon}} \quad (4-12)$$

for all  $t \geq T_0 \geq a$ . Thus, if  $\epsilon$  is chosen so that  $\epsilon + \delta < 1$ , we have

$$\left( \lambda_Y \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) \geq \frac{Y\lambda}{t^{\epsilon+\delta}} - \frac{1}{4t} \geq \frac{1}{t} \left( \lambda_Y t^{1-(\epsilon+\delta)} - \frac{1}{4} \right)$$

Therefore, for all  $t \geq T_1 \geq T_0$

$$\left( \lambda_Y \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) \geq \frac{1}{t} \quad (4-13)$$

Integrating (4-13) from  $T_1$  to  $t$ , and letting  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain (4-1). Thus, it follows from Theorem 3 that Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

In view of the inequality (4-12), it is readily seen that the condition (4-11) implies the condition (3-3).

Using the similar technique as for Corollary 1, we have

*Corollary 2:* Consider the differential equation (1-1). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy condition (3-1), and suppose that conditions (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) of Theorem 2 are satisfied. Further, if

$$\int^{\infty} \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{(\log g(t))^{\beta} k(g(t))} dt = \infty \quad (4-14)$$

for every constant  $c \neq 0$ , and for some  $\beta > 1$ . Then Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

*Proof:* Clearly, the condition (4-14) implies that for any given  $\alpha > 1$

$$\frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{(\log g(t))^{\beta} k(g(t))} \geq \frac{1}{t(\log t)^{\alpha}} \quad \text{for all } t \geq t_0 \geq a$$

Thus, choosing  $\alpha < \beta$ , and using the fact that  $q(t) \geq b t$  for some  $b$  with  $0 < b \leq \gamma$  and for  $t \geq t_1 \geq a$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \gamma \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} &\geq \lambda \gamma \frac{(\log g(t))^{\beta}}{t(\log t)^{\alpha}} \geq \lambda \gamma \frac{(\log q(t))^{\beta}}{t(\log t)^{\alpha}} \\ &\geq \lambda \gamma \frac{(\log bt)^{\beta}}{t(\log t)^{\alpha}} \geq \frac{\lambda \gamma}{t} \left( \frac{\log bt}{\log t} \right)^{\alpha} (\log bt)^{\beta-\alpha} \end{aligned} \quad (4-15)$$

for  $t \geq t_2 = \max \{t_0, t_1\}$ .

Since  $\frac{\log bt}{\log t} \rightarrow 1$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , there exists for every given  $\varepsilon$  with  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , a  $t_3 \geq a$  such that  $\frac{\log bt}{\log t} > 1 - \varepsilon$  for  $t \geq t_3$ . Thus, for  $t \geq t_4 = \max \{t_2, t_3\}$ , the inequality (4-15) becomes

$$\lambda \gamma \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} \geq \lambda \gamma \frac{(1 - \varepsilon)^{\alpha} (\log bt)^{\beta-\alpha}}{t}$$

Therefore,

$$\left( \lambda_Y \frac{t |F(t, c, c)|}{k(g(t))} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) \geq \frac{1}{t} \left( \lambda_Y (1 - \epsilon)^\alpha (\log bt)^{\beta - \alpha} - \frac{1}{4} \right) \\ \geq \frac{1}{t} \text{ for all } t \geq t_5 \geq t_4 \quad (4-16)$$

Integrating (4-16) from  $t_5$  to  $t$ , and letting  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain (4-1). Thus, by Theorem 3, Eq.(1-1) is oscillatory.

Applying Theorem 2 and Theorem 3 to the Eq.(1-2) we obtain the following Corollary.

*Corollary 3:* Consider the differential equation (1-2). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy the condition (3-1), and suppose that the following conditions are satisfied

- (i)  $f(u, v)$  has the sign of  $u$  and  $v$  when they have the same sign;
- (ii)  $f(u, v)$  is nondecreasing in both  $u$  and  $v$ ;
- (iii) there exists a positive nondecreasing continuous function  $k(t)$  for  $t \geq a$ , and a constant  $M > 0$  such that  $|u| > M$  implies

$$\liminf_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{k(\alpha|v|) f(u, v)}{v} \right| \geq \epsilon > 0 \quad (5-1)$$

for every constant  $\alpha > 0$  and for some  $\epsilon$ .

- (iv)  $\frac{1}{r(t)} \geq \lambda > 0$ , and  $r'(t) \geq 0$  for all large  $t$ ;

$$(v) \text{ either } \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_t^\infty \frac{p(s)}{k(g(s))} ds = \infty \quad (5-2)$$

or

$$\int^\infty \left( \lambda_Y \frac{tp(t)}{k(g(t))} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) dt = \infty. \quad (5-3)$$

Then, Eq.(1-2) is oscillatory.

*Remark 4*

(1) If  $g(t) \leq t$  in Corollary 3, conditions (iii) and (iv) can be replaced, respectively, by

(iii)' there exists a positive nondecreasing continuous function  $k(t)$  for  $t \geq a$  such that

$$\lim_{|v| \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{|u| \geq |v|} \left| \frac{k(\alpha|v|) f(u,v)}{v} \right| > 0 \quad (5-4)$$

for every constant  $\alpha > 0$ ,

$$(iv)' \text{ either } \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_t^{\infty} \frac{p(s)}{k(s)} ds = \infty \quad (5-5)$$

or

$$\int_a^{\infty} \left( \lambda \gamma \frac{tp(t)}{k(t)} - \frac{1}{4t} \right) dt = \infty \quad (5-6)$$

(2) In the case  $g(t)$  and  $r(t)$  satisfy (3-1) and condition (iv) of Theorem 2, respectively, Corollary 3 contains Theorem 2 of Bradley [2] as a special case. In particular, if  $r(t) = 1$ , Corollary 3 contains the results of Waltman [11], and Theorem 2-2 of Travis [10], as special cases.

Consider the following equation

$$y''(t) + p(t)y(g(t)) = 0 \quad t \geq a \geq 0 \quad (5-7)$$

where  $p$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $[a, \infty)$ ;  $p(t) \geq 0$ , and  $g(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Eq.(5-7) is a special case of Eq.(1-2) when  $r(t) = 1$ , and  $f(u,v) = v$ . If  $k(t) = 1$  for  $t \geq a$ , we have the following corollary.

*Corollary 4:* Consider the differential equation (5-7). Let  $g(t)$  and  $q(t)$  satisfy (3-1). Then, if either one of the following two conditions are satisfied

$$(a) \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} t \int_t^{\infty} p(s) ds = \infty \quad (5-8)$$

$$(b) \int_a^{\infty} \left( \gamma t p(t) - \frac{1}{4t} \right) dt = \infty, \quad (5-9)$$

Eq.(5-7) is oscillatory.



*Remark 5.* Corollary 4 improves Theorem 4-1 of Wong [13], Corollary 2-4 of Erbe [5], Corollary 4-1 of Kung [7], and Corollary 2-4 of Chiou [3].

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