

A MASSERA THEOREM FOR QUASI-LINEAR PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS OF FIRST ORDER

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ABSTRACT. Massera-type criteria are derived for the existence of periodic wave solutions of quasi-linear partial differential equations of first order. Results generalize a theorem of Massera for first order scalar ordinary differential equations.

1. Introduction. In 1950, Massera [8] first established the following results, which now are often referred to as Massera theorems.

Theorem A. *For a scalar differential equation*

$$(1) \quad \dot{x} = f(t, x),$$

where $f \in C(\mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R})$ is ω -periodic in t for some $\omega > 0$, the existence of a solution that is bounded in the future implies the existence of a nonconstant ω -periodic solution.

Theorem B. *Consider a linear system of differential equation*

$$(2) \quad \dot{x} = A(t)x + b(t),$$

where $A \in C(\mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^{n \times n})$ and $b \in C(\mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n)$ are ω -periodic for some $\omega > 0$. System (2) admits a nonconstant ω -periodic solution if and only if it admits a solution that is bounded in the future.

In 1973, Chow [1] extended Theorem B to linear scalar functional differential equations with finite delay of retarded type under a “small

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