

133. Criteria for Oscillation of Solutions of Differential Equations of Arbitrary Order¹⁾

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H. Onose extending a result of the author [2], gave in [7] a sufficient condition for all solutions of the equation

$$(*) \quad x^{(n)} + p(t)g(x, x', \dots, x^{(n-1)}) = 0$$

to oscillate, provided that n is even and g homogeneous of degree $2s+1$.

Here we improve Onose's result considerably, by assuming quite weaker conditions which guarantee the oscillation of all solutions of $(*)$, and moreover, we consider the case n =odd. Thus, we also improve a result due to Howard ([1], Theorem 2), and generalize results of Ličko and Švec [5], and Mikusiński [6].

All functions considered are supposed to be continuous on their domains, and such that they guarantee the existence of solutions of $(*)$ for all large t (n will always be supposed to be >1). In what follows, we consider only such solutions which are nontrivial for all large t . By an oscillatory solution of $(*)$, we mean a solution with arbitrarily large zeros.

1. The following theorem has been proved in [4]:

Theorem 1. *For n even, let $(*)$ satisfy the following assumptions:*

$$(i) \quad p: I \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_+ = (0, +\infty), \quad I = [t_0, +\infty), \quad t_0 \geq 0, \quad \text{and}$$

$$(S) \quad \int_{t_0}^{\infty} t^{n-1}p(t)dt = +\infty;$$

$$(ii) \quad g: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R} = (-\infty, +\infty), \quad x_1 g(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) > 0 \\ \text{for every } (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbf{R}^n \\ \text{with } x_1 \neq 0;$$

then every bounded solution of $()$ is oscillatory.*

Now we show that an analogous result holds for the case n =odd. In fact, we establish the following

Lemma. *Suppose that n is odd, and that the functions p, g satisfy the hypotheses of Theorem 1; then every bounded solution of $(*)$ is oscillatory, or tends to zero monotonically as $t \rightarrow +\infty$.*

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