

## ON EXISTENCE OF PERIODIC SOLUTIONS OF THE RAYLEIGH EQUATION OF RETARDED TYPE

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(Received 31 July 1998)

**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we give two sufficient conditions on the existence of periodic solutions of the non-autonomous Rayleigh equation of retarded type by using the coincidence degree theory.

**Keywords and phrases.** Rayleigh equation, periodic solution, coincidence degree.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification. 34K13.

**1. Introduction.** In [1, 2], the authors studied the existence of periodic solutions of the differential equation

$$x''(t) + f(x'(t)) + h(t, x(t)) = 0. \quad (1.1)$$

In this paper, we discuss the existence of periodic solutions of the non-autonomous Rayleigh equation of related type

$$x''(t) + f(t, x'(t - \tau)) + g(t, x(t - \sigma)) = p(t), \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\tau, \sigma \geq 0$  are constants,  $f$  and  $g \in C(R^2, R)$ ,  $f(t, x)$  and  $g(t, x)$  are functions with period  $2\pi$  for  $t$ ,  $f(t, 0) = 0$  for  $t \in R$ ,  $p \in C(R, R)$ ,  $p(t) = p(t + 2\pi)$  for  $t \in R$  and  $\int_0^{2\pi} p(t) dt = 0$ . Using coincidence degree theory developed by Mawhin [2], we find two sufficient conditions for the existence of periodic solutions of (1.2).

### 2. Main results

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Suppose there are positive constants  $K, D$ , and  $M$  such that*

- (i)  $|f(t, x)| \leq K$  for  $(t, x) \in R^2$ ;
- (ii)  $xg(t, x) > 0$  and  $|g(t, x)| > K$  for  $t \in R$  and  $|x| \geq D$ ;
- (iii)  $g(t, x) \geq -M$  for  $t \in R$  and  $x \leq -D$ ;
- (iv)  $\sup_{(t, x) \in R \times [-D, D]} |g(t, x)| < +\infty$ .

*Then (1.2) has at least a periodic solution with period  $2\pi$ .*

**PROOF.** Consider the equation

$$x''(t) + \lambda f(t, x'(t - \tau)) + \lambda g(t, x(t - \sigma)) = \lambda p(t), \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ . Suppose that  $x(t)$  is a periodic solution with period  $2\pi$  of (2.1). Since  $x(0) = x(2\pi)$ , there is some  $t_0 \in [0, 2\pi]$  such that  $x'(t_0) = 0$ . In view of (2.1), we see

that for any  $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |x'(t)| &= \left| \int_{t_0}^t x''(s) ds \right| \leq \int_0^{2\pi} |x''(s)| ds \\
 &\leq \lambda \int_0^{2\pi} |f(s, x'(s-\tau))| ds + \lambda \int_0^{2\pi} |g(s, x(s-\sigma))| ds + \lambda \int_0^{2\pi} |p(s)| ds \\
 &\leq 2\pi K + \int_0^{2\pi} |g(s, x(s-\sigma))| ds + 2\pi \max_{0 \leq s \leq 2\pi} |p(s)|.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

We assert that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |g(s, x(s-\sigma))| ds \leq 2\pi K + 4\pi D_1 \tag{2.3}$$

for some positive number  $D_1$ . Indeed, integrating (2.1) from 0 to  $2\pi$  and noting condition (i), we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^{2\pi} \{g(t, x(t-\sigma)) - K\} dt &\leq \int_0^{2\pi} \{g(t, x(t-\sigma)) - |f(t, x'(t-\tau))|\} dt \\
 &\leq \int_0^{2\pi} \{f(t, x'(t-\tau)) + g(t, x(t-\sigma))\} dt = 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Thus letting

$$E_1 = \{t \in [0, 2\pi] \mid x(t-\sigma) > D\}, \quad E_2 = [0, 2\pi] \setminus E_1. \tag{2.5}$$

By applying (ii), (iii), and (iv), we have

$$\int_{E_2} |g(t, x(t-\sigma))| dt \leq 2\pi \max \left\{ M, \sup_{(t,x) \in R \times [-D,D]} |g(t, x)| \right\}, \tag{2.6}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{E_1} \{|g(t, x(t-\sigma))| - K\} dt \\
 &\leq \int_{E_1} |g(t, x(t-\sigma)) - K| dt = \int_{E_1} \{g(t, x(t-\sigma)) - K\} dt \\
 &\leq - \int_{E_2} \{g(t, x(t-\sigma)) - K\} dt \leq \int_{E_2} |g(t, x(t-\sigma))| dt + \int_{E_2} K dt.
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Therefore

$$\int_0^{2\pi} |g(t, x(t-\sigma))| dt \leq 2\pi K + 4\pi \max \left\{ M, \sup_{(t,x) \in R \times [-D,D]} |g(t, x)| \right\}, \tag{2.8}$$

and so (2.3) holds. Combining (2.2) and (2.3), we see that

$$|x'(t)| \leq D_2, \quad t \in [0, 2\pi] \tag{2.9}$$

for some positive number  $D_2$ . Next, note that the last equality in (2.4) implies

$$f(t_1, x'(t_1-\tau)) + g(t_1, x(t_1-\sigma)) = 0 \tag{2.10}$$

for some  $t_1$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Thus in view of condition (i), we have

$$|g(t_1, x(t_1-\sigma))| = |f(t_1, x'(t_1-\tau))| \leq K, \tag{2.11}$$

and in view of (ii), we have

$$|x(t_1-\sigma)| < D. \tag{2.12}$$

Since  $x(t)$  is a periodic solution with period  $2\pi$  of (2.1), we infer that  $|x(t_2)| < D$  for some  $t_2$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Therefore,

$$|x(t)| = \left| x(t_2) + \int_{t_2}^t x'(t) dt \right| \leq D + \int_0^{2\pi} |x'(t)| dt \leq D + 2\pi D_2, \quad t \in [0, 2\pi]. \quad (2.13)$$

Let  $X$  be the Banach space of all continuous differentiable functions of the form  $x = x(t)$ , defined on  $R$  such that  $x(t + 2\pi) = x(t)$  for all  $t$ , and endowed with the norm  $\|x\|_1 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq 2\pi} \{|x(t)|, |x'(t)|\}$ . Let  $Y$  be the Banach space of all continuous functions of the form  $y = y(t)$ , defined on  $R$  such that  $y(t + 2\pi) = y(t)$  for all  $t$ , and endowed with the norm  $\|y\|_0 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq 2\pi} |y(t)|$ , and let  $\Omega$  be the subspace of  $X$  containing functions of the form  $x = x(t)$ , such that  $|x(t)| < \bar{D}$  and  $|x'(t)| < \bar{D}$ , where  $\bar{D}$  is a fixed number greater than  $D + 2\pi D_2$ . Now, let  $L : X \cap C^{(2)}(R, R) \rightarrow Y$  be the differential operator defined by  $(Lx)(t) = x''(t)$  for  $t \in R$ , and let  $N : X \rightarrow Y$  be defined by

$$(Nx)(t) = -f(t, x'(t - \sigma)) - g(t, x(t - \tau)) + p(t), \quad t \in R. \quad (2.14)$$

We know that  $\ker L = R$ . Furthermore if we define the projections  $P : X \rightarrow \ker L$  and  $Q : Y \rightarrow Y/\text{Im}L$  by

$$\begin{aligned} Px &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x(t) dt, \\ Qy &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} y(t) dt, \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

respectively, then  $\ker L = \text{Im}P$  and  $\ker Q = \text{Im}L$ . Furthermore, the operator  $L$  is a Fredholm operator with index zero, and the operator  $N$  is  $L$ -compact on the closure  $\bar{\Omega}$  of  $\Omega$  (see, e.g., [2, p. 176]). In terms of valuation of bound of periodic solutions as above, we know that for any  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$  and any  $x = x(t)$  in the domain of  $L$ , which also belongs to  $\partial\Omega$ ,  $Lx \neq \lambda Nx$ . Since for any  $x \in \partial\Omega \cap \ker L$ ,  $x = \bar{D}$  or  $x = -\bar{D}$ , then in view of (ii), (iii), and  $\int_0^{2\pi} p(t) dt = 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} QNx &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [-f(t, x'(t - \tau)) - g(t, x(t - \sigma)) + p(t)] dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [-f(t, 0) - g(t, x(t - \sigma))] dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} [-g(t, x(t - \sigma))] dt \\ &= -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(t, x) dt \neq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

In particular, we see that

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(t, -\bar{D}) dt &> 0, \\ -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} g(t, \bar{D}) dt &< 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2.17)$$

This shows that

$$\deg \{QN\mathbf{x}, \Omega \cap \ker L, 0\} \neq 0. \quad (2.18)$$

In view of Mawhin continuation theorem [2, p. 40], there exists a periodic solution with period  $2\pi$  of (1.2). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Suppose that there are positive constants  $K, D,$  and  $M$  such that*

- (i)  $|f(t, \mathbf{x})| \leq K$  for  $(t, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ;
- (ii)  $\mathbf{x}g(t, \mathbf{x}) > 0$  and  $|g(t, \mathbf{x})| > K$  for  $t \in \mathbb{R}, |\mathbf{x}| \geq D$ ;
- (iii)  $g(t, \mathbf{x}) \leq M$  for  $t \in \mathbb{R}, \mathbf{x} \geq D$ ;
- (iv)  $\sup_{(t, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbb{R} \times [-D, D]} |g(t, \mathbf{x})| < +\infty$ .

*Then (1.2) has at least a periodic solution with period  $2\pi$ .*

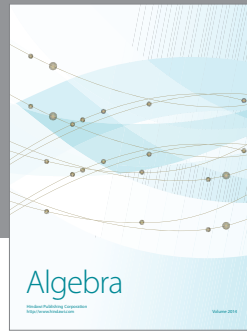
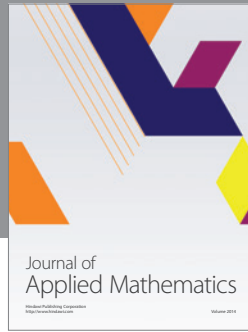
The proof of Theorem 2.2 is similitude of Theorem 2.1, and so, we omit the details here.

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