

Positive solutions of two-point boundary value problems for nonlinear differential equations with strong singularities

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Let $-\infty < a < b < +\infty$, *m* be an arbitrary natural number, and $f:]a, b[\times]0, +\infty[\rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function. In the open interval]a, b[, we consider the nonlinear differential equation

$$u^{(2m)} = f(t, u)$$
(1)

with the boundary conditions of one of the following two types:

$$\lim_{t \to a} u^{(i-1)}(t) = 0, \quad \lim_{t \to b} u^{(i-1)}(t) = 0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, m);$$
(2)

$$\lim_{t \to a} u^{(i-1)}(t) = 0, \quad \lim_{t \to b} u^{(m+i-1)}(t) = 0 \quad (i = 1, \dots, m).$$
(3)

By $C^{2m,m}(]a, b[)$ we denote the space of 2m-times continuously differentiable functions $u:]a, b[\to \mathbb{R}$, satisfying the condition $\int_a^b |u^{(m)}(t)|^2 dt < +\infty$.

Theorem 1. Let in the domain $]a, b[\times]0, +\infty[$ the inequality

$$0 \le (-1)^m f(t,x) - h(t)x^{\mu} \le \ell \left((t-a)^{-2m} + (b-t)^{-2m} \right) x + q(t,x)$$

be satisfied, where $\mu \in [0,1[$ and $\ell \ge 0$ are constants, $h:]a,b[\rightarrow [0,+\infty[$ is a continuous function, and $q:]a,b[\times]0,+\infty[\rightarrow [0,+\infty[$ is a continuous and nonincreasing in the second argument function. If, moreover,

$$\ell < 4^{-m} \left[(2m-1)!! \right]^2, \tag{4}$$

$$h(t) \neq 0, \qquad \int_a^b \left[(t-a)(b-t) \right]^{(1+\mu)(m-\frac{1}{2})} h(t) \, dt < +\infty, \qquad \int_a^b \left[(t-a)(b-t) \right]^{m-\frac{1}{2}} q\left(t, (t-a)^m (b-t)^m x \right) dt < +\infty \quad \text{for } x > 0,$$

then problem (1), (2) in the space $C^{2m,m}(]a, b[)$ has at least one positive solution.

Unlike the previous well-known results the Theorem 1 cover the case where equation (1), along with **strong singularities** with respect to the time variable at the points *a* and *b*, has **strong singularity** with respect to the phase variable, as well, i.e. the case where

$$\int_{a}^{t_{0}} (t-a)^{2m-1} |f(t,x)| dt = \int_{t_{0}}^{b} (t-a)^{2m-1} |f(t,x)| dt = +\infty \quad \text{for } a < t_{0} < b, \ x > 0,$$
$$\limsup_{x \to 0} \left(x^{k} |f(t,x)| \right) = +\infty \quad \text{for arbitrary } t \in]a, b[\text{ and } k > 0.$$

Theorem 2. If

$$(-1)^m \big[f(t,x) - f(t,y) \big] \le \ell \big((t-a)^{-2m} + (b-t)^{-2m} \big) (x-y) \quad \text{for } a < t < b, \ x > y > 0,$$

where ℓ is a nonnegative constant, satisfying (4), then problem (1), (2) in the space $C^{2m,m}(]a,b[)$ has at most one positive solution.

As an example let us consider the differential equation

$$u^{(2m)} = (-1)^m \left[p_0(t)u + p_1(t)u^{\mu} + p_2(t)u^{-\nu} \right],$$
(5)

where $\mu \in [0, 1[, \nu \ge 0 \text{ and } p_i:]a, b[\to [0, +\infty[(i = 0, 1, 2) \text{ are continuous functions such that either } p_1(t) \neq 0$, or $p_0(t)p_2(t) \neq 0$. From Theorems 1 and 2 follow the following corollaries.

Corollary 1. Let

$$p_0(t) \le \ell \left((t-a)^{-2m} + (b-t)^{-2m} \right) \text{ for } a < t < b,$$

where ℓ is a nonnegative constant satisfying inequality (4). If, moreover,

$$\int_{a}^{b} \left[(t-a)(b-t) \right]^{(1+\mu)(m-\frac{1}{2})} p_{1}(t) dt < +\infty,$$

$$\int_{a}^{b} \left[(t-a)(b-t) \right]^{(1-\nu)m-\frac{1}{2}} p_{2}(t) dt < +\infty,$$
(6)

then problem (5), (2) in the space $C^{2m,m}(]a, b[)$ has at least one positive solution.

Corollary 2. Let

$$p_0(t) + \mu p_1(t) \le \ell \left((t-a)^{-2m} + (b-t)^{-2m} \right) \quad \text{for } a < t < b,$$

$$\mu p_1(t) \le \nu p_2(t) \quad \text{for } a < t < b,$$

where ℓ is a nonnegative constant satisfying inequality (4). If, moreover, the condition (6) holds, then problem (5), (2) in the space $C^{2m,m}(]a, b[)$ has one and only one positive solution.

The results analogous to theorems and corollaries formulated above are established for problems (1), (3) and (5), (3) as well.

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