

On The Existence Of Periodic Solutions Of Certain Fourth Order Differential Equations With Delay

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Abstract

We derive existence results for the periodic boundary value problem $x^{(iv)} + ax'' + f(x)\ddot{x} + cx' + g(t, x(x-\tau)) = p(t)$, $x(0) = x(2\pi)$, $\dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}(2\pi)$, $\ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi)$, $\ddot{\ddot{x}}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{x}}(2\pi)$ using degree theoretic methods. The uniqueness of periodic solutions is also examined.

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1. Introduction

In this paper we study the periodic boundary value problem

$$x^{(iv)} + ax'' + f(x)\ddot{x} + cx' + g(t, x(t-\tau)) = p(t) \quad (1.1)$$

$$x(0) = x(2\pi), \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{\ddot{x}}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{x}}(2\pi)$$

with fixed delay $\tau \in [0, 2\pi)$ Where $c \neq 0$ is a constant, $p: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $g: [0, 2\pi] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are 2π periodic in t and g satisfies certain Caratheodory conditions.

The unknown function $x: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined for $0 < t < \tau$ by $x(t-\tau) = x(2\pi - (t-\tau))$

$$\text{The differential equation } x^{(iv)} + ax'' + b\dot{x} + h(x)\dot{x} + g(t, x(t-\tau)) = p(t) \quad (1.2)$$

In which $b < 0$ is a constant was the object of a recent study [6].

Results on the existence and uniqueness of 2π periodic solutions were established subject to certain resonant conditions on g . Fourth order differential equations with delay occur in a variety of physical problems in fields such as Biology, Physics, Engineering and Medicine. In recent year, there have been many publications involving differential equation with delay; see for example [1,2,4,5,6,8,9]. However, as far as we know, there are few results on the existence and uniqueness of periodic solution to [1.1].

In what follows we shall use the spaces $C([0, 2\pi])$, $C^k([0, 2\pi])$

and $L^k([0, 2\pi])$ of continuous, k times continuously differentiable or measurable real functions whose k th power of the absolute value is Lebesgue integrable.

We shall also make use of the sobolev space defined by

$$H_{2\pi}^k = \{x: [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid x, \dot{x} \text{ are absolutely continuous on } [0, 2\pi] \text{ and } \ddot{x} \in L^2[0, 2\pi] \text{ with norm } \|x\|_{H^k}^2 = (\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2(t) dt)^2 + \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{i=1}^k \int_0^{2\pi} |x^{(i)}(t)|^2 dt$$

$$x^{(i)} = \frac{d^i x}{dt^i}$$

2. The Linear cases

In this section we shall first consider the equation:

$$x^{(iv)}(t) + a\ddot{x}(t) + b\dot{x}(t) + cx(t) - dx(t-\tau) = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

$$x(0) = x(2\pi), \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{\ddot{x}}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{x}}(2\pi)$$

Where a, b, c, d are constants

Lemma 2.1 Let $c \neq 0$ and Let $a/c < 0$

Suppose that:

$$0 < d/c < n, n \geq 1 \quad (2.2)$$

Then (2.1) has no non-trivial 2π periodic solution for any fixed $\tau \in [0, 2\pi)$.

Proof

By substituting $x(t) = e^{\lambda t}$ with $\lambda = in, i^2 = -1$. We can see that the conclusion of the Lemma is true if $\Phi(n, \tau) = an^4 - cn + d \sin n\tau \neq 0$ for all $n \geq 1$ and $\tau \in [0, 2\pi)$ (2.3)

By (2.2) we have

$$c^{-1} \Phi(n, \tau) = \frac{a}{c} n^4 - n + \frac{d}{c} \sin n\tau$$

$$\frac{a}{c} n^4 - n + \frac{d}{c} \leq \frac{a}{c} n^4 < 0$$

Therefore $\Phi(n, \tau) \neq 0$ and the result follows

If $x \in L^1 [0, 2\pi]$ we shall write

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x(t) dt, \tilde{x}(t) = x(t) - \bar{x}$$

So that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}(t) dt = 0$$

We shall consider next the delay equation

$$x^{(m)} + ax'' + bx' + c\dot{x} + d(t)x(t-\tau) = 0 \quad (2.4)$$

$$x(0) = x(2\pi), \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi), \dots$$

Where a, b, c are constants and $d \in L^1_{2\pi}$

Here the coefficient d in (2.4) is not necessarily constant. We have the following results which apart from being of independent interest are also useful in the non-linear case involving (1.1)

Lemma 2.2 Let $c \neq 0$ and let $a/c < 0$. Set $\Gamma(t) =$

$$c^{-1}d(t) \in L^1_{2\pi} \text{ Suppose that } 0 < \Gamma(t) < 1 \quad (2.5)$$

Then for arbitrary constant b the equation (2.4) admits in $H^1_{2\pi}$ only the trivial solution for every $\tau \in [0, 2\pi)$.

We note that a and c are not arbitrary.

Proof

If $x \in H^1_{2\pi}$ is a possible solution of (2.4) then on multiplying (2.4) by $\bar{x} + \tilde{x}(t)$ and integrating over $[0, 2\pi]$ noting that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\bar{x} + \tilde{x}(t)) dt = \bar{x}$$

$$c^{-1} [x^{(m)} + ax'' + bx'] = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \ddot{x}^2(t) dt$$

We have that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\bar{x} + \tilde{x}(t)) \{c^{-1} [x^{(m)} + ax'' + bx'] + \dot{x} + \Gamma(t)x(t-\tau)\} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\bar{x} + \tilde{x}(t)) [\dot{x} + \Gamma(t)x(t-\tau)] dt$$

$$\geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\bar{x} + \tilde{x}(t)) \{\dot{x}(t) + \Gamma(t)x(t-\tau)\} dt$$

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt + \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) \tilde{x}x(t-\tau) dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} 1(t) \bar{x}^2 dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) \tilde{x}\tilde{x}(t-\tau) dt$$

Using the identity

$$ab = \frac{(a+b)^2}{2} - \frac{a^2}{2} - \frac{b^2}{2}$$

We get

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) \tilde{x}^2 dt + \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) x\tilde{x}(t-\tau) dt$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) \left\{ \frac{[x(t-\tau) + \tilde{x}(t)]^2}{2} - \frac{\tilde{x}^2}{2} - \frac{\tilde{x}^2(t-\tau)}{2} - x\tilde{x}(t-\tau) - \frac{\tilde{x}^2}{2} \right\} dt$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma(t)}{2} [\tilde{x}^2 + \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau)] dt$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma(t)}{2} \{ [x(t-\tau) + \tilde{x}(t)]^2 + \tilde{x}^2 \} dt$$

Using (2.5) we get

$$0 \geq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt - \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma(t)}{2} [\tilde{x}^2 + \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau)] dt$$

From the periodicity of \tilde{x} we have that

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t) dt = \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau) dt$$

Hence

$$0 \geq \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau) - \Gamma(t) \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau) \right] dt$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\tilde{x}^2(t) - \Gamma(t) \tilde{x}^2(t-\tau)) dt \right]$$

(2.6)

Using (2.5) we can see that the last expression is non-negative hence

$$\tilde{y}(t,x) = \begin{cases} (cx)^{-1}g(t,x) \\ (cR_1)^{-1}g(t,R_1) \\ -(cR_1)^{-1}g(t,-R_1) \\ \Gamma(t) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |x| &\geq R_1 \\ 0 < x < R_1 \\ -R_1 < x < 0 \\ x &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Then

$$0 < \tilde{y}(t,x) \leq \Gamma(t) + \delta/2 \quad (3.7)$$

for a.e $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and all $x \in \mathfrak{R}$. Moreover the function $\tilde{y}(t,x)$ satisfy Caratheodory's conditions and $\tilde{g}: [0, 2\pi] \times \mathfrak{R} \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$ defined by

$$\tilde{g}(t, x(t-\tau)) = g(t, x(t-\tau)) - cx(t-\tau)\tilde{y}(t, x(t-\tau)) \quad (3.8)$$

is such that for a.e $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and all $x \in \mathfrak{R}$,

$$|\tilde{g}(t, x(t-\tau))| \leq \alpha(t) \text{ for some } \alpha(t) \in L^2_{2\pi}.$$

Let $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ be such that

$$\begin{aligned} c^{-1}[x^{(m)} + a\ddot{x} + \lambda f(\dot{x})\dot{x}] + \dot{x} + (1-\lambda)\Gamma(t)x(t-\tau) + \lambda\tilde{y} \\ x(t-\tau)x(t-\tau) \\ + c^{-1}(1-\lambda)b\ddot{x} + \lambda c^{-1}\tilde{g}(t, x(t-\tau)) - c^{-1}\lambda p(t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

For $\lambda = 0$ we obtain (2.1) which by Lemma 2.2 admits only the trivial solution

For $\lambda = 1$ we get the original equation (1.1). To prove that equation (3.1) has at least one solution, we show according to the Leray-Schauder Method that the possible solution of the family of equations (3.9) are a priori bounded in $C^1[0, 2\pi]$ independently of $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

Notice that by (3.5) one has

$$0 \leq (1-\lambda)\Gamma(t) + \lambda\tilde{y}(t, x(t-\tau)) \leq \Gamma(t) + \delta/2 \quad (3.10)$$

Then using Theorem 2.1 with $V(t) = (1-\lambda)\Gamma(t) + \lambda\tilde{y}(t, x(t-\tau))$ and Cauchy Schwarz inequality we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \\ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (\bar{x} + \hat{x}(t)) \{c^{-1}[x^{(m)} + a\ddot{x} + \lambda f(\dot{x})\dot{x}] + \dot{x} + \\ (1-\lambda)\Gamma(t)x(t-\tau) + \lambda\tilde{y}(t, x(t-\tau)) + \lambda\tilde{g}(t, x(t-\tau)) \\ + (1-\lambda)b\ddot{x} - \lambda p(t)\} dt. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \delta/2 |\bar{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} - (\|\alpha\|_2 + \|p\|_2)(|\bar{x}| + |\hat{x}|_2) \\ &\geq \delta/2 |\bar{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} - \beta(|\bar{x}| + |\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$|\bar{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} \leq \frac{2\beta}{\delta} (|\bar{x}| + |\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}}) \quad (3.11)$$

With $\beta > 0$ independent of x and λ . Integrating (3.9) over $[0, 2\pi]$ we obtain

$$(1-\lambda) \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t)x(t-\tau) dt = -c^{-1}\lambda \int_0^{2\pi} g(t, x(t-\tau)) dt \quad (3.12)$$

Since $\Gamma(t) > 0$ we derive that

$$\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \Gamma(t) dt = \bar{\Gamma} > 0 \quad (3.13)$$

Hence if $x(t) \geq r$ for all $t \in [0, 2\pi]$, (3.3) and (3.12)

implies that $(1-\lambda)\bar{\Gamma} < 0$ contradicting $\bar{\Gamma} > 0$.

Similarly if $x(t) \leq -r$ for all $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ we reach a contradiction.

Thus there exists a $t_1 \in [0, 2\pi]$ such that

$|x(t_1)| < r$. Let t_2 be such that

$$\bar{x} = x(t_2) = x(t_1) + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \dot{x}(s) ds. \quad \text{This}$$

implies that $|\bar{x}| \leq r + 2\pi|\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}}$.

Substituting this in (3.11) we get

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} &\leq c_1 |\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} \\ \text{or } |\bar{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} &\leq c_1, c_1 > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (3.14)$$

Now

$$|\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} \leq |\bar{x}| + |\hat{x}|_{H^1_{2\pi}} \leq r + (2\pi + 1)c_1 = c_2 \quad (3.15)$$

Thus

$$|\dot{x}|_2 \leq c_3, c_3 > 0 \quad (3.16)$$

From (3.16) we have

$$|\hat{x}|_2 \leq c_4, c_4 > 0 \quad (3.17)$$

Multiplying (3.9) by $-\dot{x}(t)$ and integrating over $[0, 2\pi]$ we have

$$|\dot{x}|_2^2 \leq |a|^{-1} (|\hat{x}|_2^2 + \|1 + \frac{a}{2}\| |\hat{x}|_2 |\dot{x}|_2 + \|\alpha\|_2 |\dot{x}|_2 + \|p\|_2 |\dot{x}|_2)$$

Hence

$$|\dot{x}|_2 \leq c_5, c_5 > 0 \quad (3.18)$$

And thus

$$|\hat{x}|_2 \leq c_6, c_6 > 0 \quad (3.19)$$

Multiplying (3.9) by $-\ddot{x}(t)$ and integrating over $[0, 2\pi]$
 We get

$$|\ddot{x}|_2^2 \leq |f(\dot{x})|_2 |\dot{x}|_2^2 + |1 + \frac{1}{2}|\ddot{x}|_2 |\dot{x}|_2 + |c|^{-1}|\alpha|_2 |\dot{x}|_2 + |\rho|_2 |\dot{x}|_2 + |b| |\dot{x}|_2$$

Thus

$$|\ddot{x}|_2 \leq c_7, c_7 > 0 \quad (3.20)$$

And hence

$$|\dot{x}|_{\infty} \leq c_8, c_8 > 0 \quad (3.21)$$

Also

$$|x^{(iv)}|_1 \leq c_9, c_9 > 0 \quad (3.22)$$

Since $\ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi)$ there exists $t_0 \in [0, 2\pi]$

Such that $\ddot{x}(t_0) = 0$ Hence

$$|\ddot{x}|_{\infty} \leq c_{10}, c_{10} > 0 \quad (3.23)$$

From (3.17), (3.19), (3.22) and (3.23) our result follows.

4. Uniqueness Result

If in (1.1), $f(\dot{x}) = b$ a constant. The following uniqueness results holds.

Theorem 4.1

Let a, b, c, be constants with $c \neq 0$ $a/c < 0$.
 Suppose g is a Caratheodory function satisfying

$$0 < \frac{g(t, x_1(t-\tau)) - g(t, x_2(t-\tau))}{c(x_1 - x_2)} < \Gamma(t)$$

For a.e., $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and all $x_1, x_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ $x_1 \neq x_2$
 where $\Gamma \in L^2_{2\pi}$

Then the boundary value problem

$$\begin{aligned} x'''' + ax'' + bx' + cx + g(t, x(t-\tau)) &= p(t) \\ x(0) = x(2\pi), \dot{x}(0) = \dot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{x}(0) = \ddot{x}(2\pi), \ddot{\ddot{x}}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{x}}(2\pi) \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

has at most one solution.

Proof

Let $u = x_1 - x_2$ for any two solutions x_1, x_2 of (4.1).
 Then u satisfies the boundary value problem

$$\begin{aligned} c^{-1}[u^{(iv)} + au'' + bu'] + u + \beta(t)u(t-\tau) &= 0 \\ u(0) = u(2\pi), \dot{u}(0) = \dot{u}(2\pi), \ddot{u}(0) = \ddot{u}(2\pi), \ddot{\ddot{u}}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{u}}(2\pi) \end{aligned}$$

Where $\beta(t) \in L^2_{2\pi}$ is defined by

$$\beta(t) = \frac{g(t, x_1(t-\tau)) - g(t, x_2(t-\tau))}{c(x_1 - x_2)}$$

If $u = x_1 - x_2 \neq 0$ and since $0 < \beta(t) \leq \Gamma(t)$ for a.e. $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ then using the arguments of theorem 2.1 we have that $u = 0$ and thus $x_1 = x_2$ a. e.

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