

OSCILLATION CRITERIA FOR DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS WITH SEVERAL
DELAY ARGUMENTS

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Abstract. In the paper the following difference equation

$$\Delta u(k) + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(k) u(\tau_i(k)) = 0$$

is considered, where $m \in N$, the functions $p_i : N \rightarrow R_+$, $\tau_i : N \rightarrow N$, $\tau_i(k) \leq k - 1$, $\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \tau_i(k) = +\infty$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$) are defined on the set of natural numbers and the difference operator is defined by $\Delta u(k) = u(k + 1) - u(k)$. New oscillation criteria of all solutions to these equation are established.

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1. Introduction

Consider the difference equation

$$\Delta u(k) + \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(k) u(\tau_i(k)) = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

where $m \geq 1$ is a natural number, $p_i : N \rightarrow R_+$, $\tau_i : N \rightarrow N$, ($i = 1, \dots, m$), are functions defined on the set $N = \{1, 2, \dots\}$ and $\Delta u(k) = u(k + 1) - u(k)$. Everywhere below it is assumed that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \tau_i(k) = +\infty, \quad \tau_i(k) \leq k - 1. \quad (1.2)$$

For each $n \in N$ denote $N_n = \{n, n + 1, \dots\}$.

Definition 1.1. Let $n \in N$. We will call a function $u : N \rightarrow R$ a proper solution of equation (1.1) on the set N_n , if it satisfies (1.1) on N_n and $\sup\{|u(i)| : i \geq k\} > 0$ for any $k \in N_n$.

Definition 1.2. We say that a proper solution $u : N_n \rightarrow R$ of equation (1.1) is oscillatory if for any $k \in N$ there exist $n_1, n_2 \in N_k$ such that $u(n_1) \cdot u(n_2) \leq 0$. Otherwise the solution is called nonoscillatory.

Definition 1.3. Equation (1.1) is said to be oscillatory, if any of its proper solutions is oscillatory.

The problem of oscillation of solutions of linear difference equation (1.1) for $m = 1$, has been studied by several authors, see [1,2] and references therein.

As to investigation of the analogous problem for equation of type (1.1) ($m > 1$), to our knowledge for them there have not been obtained results analogous to those known

for equation (1.1), where $m = 1$. Analogous results for first order differential equations with several delay see [3,4].

2. Sufficient conditions for oscillation

Denote

$$\psi_1(k) = 1, \quad \psi_s(k) = \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^m \prod_{j=\tau_\ell(k)}^k \left[1 + m \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^m p_\ell(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \psi_{s-1}(j) \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \quad (2.1)$$

$$k \in N, \quad s = 2, 3, \dots$$

Theorem 2.1. *Let there exist $k_0 \in N$ and nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow N$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$) such that*

$$1 + \tau_i(k) \leq \sigma_i(k) \leq k \quad \text{for } k \in N \quad (i = 1, \dots, m) \quad (2.2)$$

and

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{\ell=1}^m \left(\prod_{i=1}^m \sum_{s=\sigma_\ell(k)}^k p_i(s) \prod_{j=\tau_i(s)}^{\sigma_i(k)-1} \left[1 + m \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^m p_\ell(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \psi_{k_0}(j) \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} > \frac{1}{m^m},$$

then equation (1.1) is oscillatory, where ψ_{k_0} is given by (2.1) when $k = k_0$.

Corollary 2.1. Let there exist nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow R$ such that

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{\ell=1}^m \left(\prod_{i=1}^m \sum_{s=\sigma_\ell(k)}^k p_i(s) \prod_{j=\tau_i(s)}^{\sigma_i(k)-1} \left[1 + m \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^m p_\ell(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \right] \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} > \frac{1}{m^m},$$

then equation (1.1) is oscillatory.

Corollary 2.2. Let there exist nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow R$ such that condition (2.2) is fulfilled and

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{\ell=1}^m \left(\prod_{i=1}^m \sum_{s=\sigma_\ell(k)}^k p_i(s) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} > \frac{1}{m^m},$$

then equation (1.1) is oscillatory.

Theorem 2.2. *Let there exist nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow N$ such that (2.2) is fulfilled,*

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{\ell=1}^m \left(\prod_{i=1}^m \sum_{s=\sigma_\ell(k)}^k p_i(s) \prod_{j=\tau_j(s)}^{\sigma_i(k)-1} \left(\prod_{\ell=1}^m p_\ell(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} > 0 \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{j=\tau_\ell(k)}^k \left(\prod_{i=1}^m p_i(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{m}} = \alpha_\ell > 0 \quad (\ell = 1, \dots, m). \quad (2.4)$$

Moreover, if for some $\ell \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} (k - \tau_\ell(k)) = +\infty, \quad (2.5)$$

then equation (1.1) is oscillatory.

Theorem 2.3. Let there exist nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow N$, such that (2.2) and (2.3) hold. If moreover,

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow +\infty} (k - \tau_\ell(k)) = n_\ell \in N \quad (\ell = 1, \dots, m) \quad (2.6)$$

and

$$\prod_{\ell=1}^m \alpha_\ell > \frac{1}{n_0^m} \left(\frac{n_0}{n_0 + m} \right)^{n_0 + m}, \quad (2.7)$$

where α_ℓ ($\ell = 1, \dots, m$) are given by (2.4) and $n_0 = \sum_{\ell=1}^m n_\ell$. Then equation (1.1) is oscillatory.

Theorem 2.4. Let $\tau_i : N \rightarrow N$ ($i = 1, \dots, m$) be nondecreasing functions, let (2.6) and (2.7) be fulfilled and

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{i=\tau_j(k)}^{k-1} p_j(i) > 0 \quad (j = 1, \dots, m). \quad (2.8)$$

Then equation (1.1) is oscillatory, where α_ℓ is given by (2.4).

Theorem 2.5. Let there exist nondecreasing functions $\sigma_i : N \rightarrow N$ such that (2.2), (2.3) and let (2.6) be fulfilled. Moreover, if $m \leq \sum_{\ell=1}^m n_\ell$ and

$$\prod_{\ell=1}^m \alpha_\ell > (2\sqrt{m})^{-\sum_{\ell=1}^m (n_\ell + 1)}, \quad (2.9)$$

then equation (1.1) is oscillatory, where

$$\alpha_\ell = \liminf_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \prod_{j=\tau_\ell(k)}^k \left(\prod_{i=1}^m p_i(j) \right)^{\frac{1}{2m}} \quad (\ell = 1, \dots, m). \quad (2.10)$$

Theorem 2.6. Let $\tau_i : N \rightarrow N$ be nondecreasing functions and (2.6), (2.8) and let (2.9) be fulfilled. Then equation (1.1) is oscillatory, where α_ℓ is given by (2.10).

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