

Periodic Solutions of the Non-autonomous Liénard equations with deviating arguments

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Abstract

By using Mawhin's continuation theorem, the existence of periodic solutions for the non-autonomous Liénard equations with deviating arguments are studied.

Mathematics Subject Classifications: 34K15, 34C25

Keywords: Periodic solution; Deviating argument; non-autonomous; Liénard equation

1 Introduction

The periodic solutions of the Liénard equations have been the subject of many investigations (see, e.g. [1-10]), while those of non-autonomous Liénard equations with a deviating argument are relatively scarce.

In [2], S. P. Lu and W. G. Ge, studied the existence of periodic solutions of the Liénard equations with a deviating argument of the form

$$x''(t) + f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t)))x'(t) + \beta(t)g(x(t - \tau_1(t))) = p(t), \quad (1)$$

where f is real continuous function defined on R^3 with period T (> 0) for t ; g is real continuous function defined on R , τ_0 , τ_1 , β and p are real continuous functions defined on R with period T .

In this paper, we furthermore consider the existence of T -periodic solutions of the non-autonomous Liénard equations with deviating arguments of the form

$$x''(t) + f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t)))x'(t) + g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) = p(t), \quad (2)$$

where f is real continuous function defined on R^3 with period T (> 0) for t ; g is real continuous function defined on R^2 with period T for t ; τ_0 , τ_1 and p are real continuous functions defined on R with period T .

In this note, existence criteria for periodic solutions of (2) will be established. On (1), as corollaries of our results we also hope to extend the results in [2]. For this purpose, we will make use of a continuation theorem of Mawhin. Let X and Y be two Banach spaces and $L : \text{Dom} L \subset X \rightarrow Y$ is a linear mapping and $N : X \rightarrow Y$ a continuous mapping. The mapping L will be called a Fredholm mapping of index zero if $\dim \text{Ker} L = \text{codim Im} L < +\infty$, and $\text{Im} L$ is closed in Y . If L is a Fredholm mapping of index zero, there exist continuous projectors $P : X \rightarrow X$ and $Q : Y \rightarrow Y$ such that $\text{Im} P = \text{Ker} L$ and $\text{Im} L = \text{Ker} Q = \text{Im}(I - Q)$. It follows that $L|_{\text{Dom} L \cap \text{Ker} P} : (I - P)X \rightarrow \text{Im} L$ has an inverse which will be denoted by K_P . If Ω is an open and bounded subset of X , the mapping N will be called L -compact on $\bar{\Omega}$ if $QN(\bar{\Omega})$ is bounded and $K_P(I - Q)N(\bar{\Omega})$ is compact. Since $\text{Im} Q$ is isomorphic to $\text{Ker} L$ there exist an isomorphism $J : \text{Im} Q \rightarrow \text{Ker} L$.

Theorem A (Mawhin's continuation theorem [1]). Let L be a Fredholm mapping of index zero, and let N be L -compact on $\bar{\Omega}$. Suppose

(i) for each $\lambda \in (0, 1)$, $x \in \partial\Omega$, $Lx \neq \lambda Nx$; and

(ii) for each $x \in \partial\Omega \cap \text{Ker} L$, $QNx \neq 0$ and $\deg(JQN, \Omega \cap \text{Ker} L, 0) \neq 0$.

Then the equation $Lx = Nx$ has at least one solution in $\bar{\Omega} \cap \text{dom} L$.

2 Existence Criteria

Our main results of these paper as follows.

Theorem 1. If

$$\sigma = \sup_{(t,x,y) \in R^3} |f(t, x, y)| < \frac{2}{T}, \quad (3)$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow +\infty} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \max \left| \frac{g(t, x)}{x} \right| \leq \beta \quad (4)$$

and

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow +\infty} \min_{0 \leq t \leq T} \text{sgn}(x) g(t, x) = +\infty. \quad (5)$$

Then for $\beta < 2\left(\frac{2-\sigma T}{T^2}\right)$, (2) has a T -periodic solution.

Theorem 2. If

$$\sigma = \sup_{(t,x,y) \in [0,T] \times R^2} f(t, x, y) > 0, \quad (6)$$

furthermore suppose that (4) and (5) are satiated, Then for $\beta < \frac{2\sigma}{T}$, (2) has a T -periodic solution.

Let $f(t, x, y) = f_1(t, x, y) + f_2(t, x, y)$, where $f_1(t, x, y)$ and $f_2(t, x, y)$ are real continuous function defined on R^2 with period T , then we have

Theorem 3. If

$$\sup_{(t,x,y) \in [0,T] \times R^2} f_1(t, x, y) \geq 0, \text{ and } \delta = \sup_{(t,x,y) \in [0,T] \times R^2} f_2(t, x, y) < \frac{1}{2T}, \quad (7)$$

furthermore suppose that (4) and (5) are satiated, Then for $\beta < \frac{1-2\delta T}{T^2}$, (2) has a T -periodic solution.

To prove our results, we need preliminaries. Let Y be the Banach space of all real T -periodic continuous functions of the form $y = y(t)$ which is defined on R and endowed with the usual linear structure as well as the norm $\|y\|_0 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |y(t)|$. Let X be the Banach space of all real T -periodic continuous differentiable functions of the form $x = x(t)$ which is defined on R and endowed with the usual linear structure as well as the norm $\|x\|_1 = \max\{\|x\|_0, \|x'\|_0\}$. Define the mappings $L : X \cap C^{(2)}(R, R) \rightarrow Y$ and $N : X \rightarrow Y$ respectively by

$$Lx(t) = x''(t), \quad t \in R. \quad (8)$$

and

$$Nx(t) = -f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t)))x'(t) - g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) + p(t). \quad (9)$$

Clearly,

$$\text{Ker} L = R \quad (10)$$

and

$$\text{Im} L = \left\{ y \in Y \mid \int_0^T y(t) dt = 0 \right\} \quad (11)$$

is closed in Y . Thus L is a Fredholm mapping of index zero. Let us define $P : X \rightarrow X$ and $Q : Y \rightarrow Y/\text{Im} L$ respectively by

$$Px(t) = x(0), \quad t \in R, \quad (12)$$

for $x = x(t) \in X$ and

$$Qy(t) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T y(s) ds, \quad t \in R. \quad (13)$$

for $y = y(t) \in Y$. It is easy to see that $\text{Im} P = \text{Ker} L$ and $\text{Im} L = \text{Ker} Q = \text{Im}(I - Q)$. It follows that $L|_{\text{Dom} L \cap \text{Ker} P} : (I - P)X \rightarrow \text{Im} L$ has an inverse which will be denoted by K_P . Furthermore for any $y = y(t) \in \text{Im} L$ we have

$$K_P y(t) = -\frac{t}{T} \int_0^T (t-s)y(s) ds + \int_0^t (t-s)y(s) ds. \quad (14)$$

Let Ω is an open and bounded subset of X , from (9),(13) and (14),we can easy lead that $QN(\bar{\Omega})$ is bounded and $\overline{K_P(I-Q)N(\bar{\Omega})}$ is compact, thus the mapping N is L -compact on $\bar{\Omega}$.That is we have following result

Lemma 1.Let L, N, P and Q defined by (8),(9),(12),(13) respectively .Then L is a Fredholm mapping of index zero and N is L -compact on $\bar{\Omega}$,where Ω is any open and bounded subset of X .

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Let

$$x''(t) + \lambda f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t)))x'(t) + \lambda g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) = \lambda p(t), \quad (15)$$

where $\lambda \in (0, T)$.

Lemma 2.Suppose the condition (5) is satisfied,then there is a positive constant A^* ,for any T -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (15),has a $\xi_x \in [0, T]$, such that

$$|x(\xi_x)| < A^*. \quad (16)$$

Proof.Let $x(t)$ be any T -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (15).By (5) we see that there is a positive constant A^* ,such that when $|x| \geq A^*$,

$$\operatorname{sgn}(x)g(t, x) > \|p\|_0 + 1. \quad (17)$$

Let $x(t_1) = \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} x(t)$ and $x(t_2) = \min_{0 \leq t \leq T} x(t)$,where $t_1, t_2 \in [0, T]$.It is easy to see that $x'(t_1) = 0$ and $x'(t_1) \leq 0$. Further,by (15) we have

$$g(t_1, x(t_1 - \tau_1(t_1))) \geq p(t_1) \geq -\|p\|_0 - 1. \quad (18)$$

From (17) and (18) we know that

$$x(t_1 - \tau_1(t_1)) > -A^*. \quad (19)$$

Similarly,we have

$$x(t_2 - \tau_1(t_2)) < A^*. \quad (20)$$

Note that $x(t)$ is continuous function,it is easy to see from (19) and (20) that there is $t_3 \in R$, $(t_1 - \tau_1(t_1) \geq t_3 \geq t_2 - \tau_1(t_2))$ or $t_2 - \tau_1(t_2) \geq t_3 \geq t_1 - \tau_1(t_1)$,such that $|x(t_3)| < A^*$.Since $x(t)$ with periodic T ,thus there is $\xi \in [0, T]$,such that

$$|x(\xi)| < A^*. \quad (21)$$

The proof is complete.

Lemma 3.Suppose $x = x(t) \in X \cap C^{(2)}(R, R)$ and $\xi \in [0, T]$. Then

$$\|x'\|_0 \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds, \quad (22)$$

and

$$\|x\|_0 \leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{T}{4} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds. \quad (23)$$

Proof. $x = x(t) \in X \cap C^{(2)}(R, R)$ and $\xi \in [0, T]$. Then for any $t \in [\xi, \xi + T]$, we have

$$x(t) = x(\xi) + \int_{\xi}^t x'(s) ds, \quad (24)$$

and

$$x(t) = x(\xi + T) + \int_{\xi+T}^t x'(s) ds = x(\xi) - \int_t^{\xi+T} x'(s) ds. \quad (25)$$

From (24) and (25), we see that for any $t \in [\xi, \xi + T]$,

$$x(t) = x(\xi) + \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \int_{\xi}^t x'(s) ds - \int_t^{\xi+T} x'(s) ds \right\}. \quad (26)$$

it is following that

$$\|x\|_0 \leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds. \quad (27)$$

Sometime, noting that $x(0) = x(T)$, so that there is $\xi_1 \in [0, T]$, such that $x'(\xi_1) = 0$. It is easy to show (22) holds. By (22) and (27) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_0 &\leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \|x'\|_0 ds \\ &= |x(\xi)| + \frac{T}{2} \|x'\|_0 \\ &\leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{T}{4} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

The proof is complete.

The proof of Theorem 1: First of all, we can prove that there exist constants M_0 and M_1 , such that for any T -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (15)

$$\|x\|_0 \leq M_0 \text{ and } \|x'\|_0 \leq M_1. \quad (29)$$

In view of Lemma 2, we can may find a positive constant A^* which is independent of λ and $\xi \in [0, T]$, such that

$$|x(\xi)| \leq A^*. \quad (30)$$

Furthermore , by Lemma 3 we have

$$\begin{aligned}\|x\|_0 &\leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{T}{4} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds \\ &\leq A^* + \frac{T}{4} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds,\end{aligned}\quad (31)$$

and

$$\|x'\|_0 \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds. \quad (32)$$

By (4) ,for constant $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} (2 (\frac{2-\sigma T}{T^2}) - \beta)$,there is constant $A_1 \geq A^*$, such that for $|x(t - \tau_1(t))| \geq A_1$,

$$|g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| \leq (\beta + \varepsilon) |x(t - \tau_1(t))|. \quad (33)$$

Let

$$C_0 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq T, |x| \leq A_1} |g(t, x)|, \quad (34)$$

$$E_1 = \{t \mid t \in [0, T], |x(t - \tau_1(t))| < A_1\}, \quad (35)$$

and

$$E_2 = \{t \mid t \in [0, T], |x(t - \tau_1(t))| \geq A_1\}. \quad (36)$$

In view of (3),(15),(31),(32),(33),(34), (35) and (36),we have

$$\begin{aligned}& \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds \\ & \leq \left\{ \int_0^T |f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t))) x'(t)| dt + \int_0^T |g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| dt \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \int_0^T |p(t)| dt \right\} \\ & \leq \sigma T \|x'\|_0 + \int_{E_2} |g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| dt \\ & \quad + \int_{E_1} |g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| dt + \int_0^T |p(t)| dt \\ & \leq \sigma T \|x'\|_0 + (\beta + \varepsilon) T \|x\|_0 + C_0 T + T \|P\|_0. \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \sigma T \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds + (\beta + \varepsilon) T [A^* + \frac{T}{4} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds] \\ & \quad + C_0 T + T \|P\|_0 \\ & \leq (\frac{1}{2} \sigma T + \frac{1}{4} (\beta + \varepsilon) T^2) \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds + (\beta + \varepsilon) A^* T + C_0 T + T \|P\|_0 \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} (\sigma T + \frac{1}{2} (\beta + \varepsilon) T^2) \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds + C,\end{aligned}\quad (37)$$

for some positive constant C . It leads from (37) that

$$\int_0^T |x''(s)| ds \leq \sigma_2, \quad (38)$$

where $\sigma_2 = \frac{C}{1-\sigma_1}$, $\sigma_1 = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sigma T + \frac{1}{2} (\beta + \varepsilon) T^2 \right\}$. It is easy to see from (31), (32) and (38) that

$$\|x\|_0 \leq M_0 \text{ and } \|x'\|_0 \leq M_1, \quad (39)$$

where $M_0 = A^* + \frac{T}{4} \sigma_2$ and $M_1 = \frac{\sigma_2}{2}$.

Now, taking a positive number $\overline{D} > \max \{M_0, M_1\} + A^*$ and let

$$\Omega = \{x \in X \mid \|x\|_1 < \overline{D}\}. \quad (40)$$

From Lemma 1, we know that L is a Fredholm mapping of index zero and N is L -compact on $\overline{\Omega}$. In terms of valuation of bound of periodic solutions as above, we see that for any $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ and any $x \in \partial\Omega$, $Lx \neq \lambda Nx$. Since for any $x \in \partial\Omega \cap \text{Ker} L$, $x = \overline{D}$ ($> A^*$) or $x = -\overline{D}$, then in view of (17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} QNx &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (-f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t))) x'(t) - g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) + p(t)) ds \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (-g(t, x) + p(t)) ds \\ &\neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, we see that

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (-g(t, -\overline{D}) + p(t)) ds > 0, \text{ and } \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T (-g(t, \overline{D}) + p(t)) ds < 0.$$

This shows that $\deg(JQN, \Omega \cap \text{Ker} L, 0) \neq 0$. In view of Theorem A, There exists a T -periodic solution of (2). The proof is complete.

The proof of Theorem 2: From The proof of Theorem 1 we see that it is sufficient to prove that there exist constants N_0 and N_1 , such that for any T -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (15),

$$\|x\|_0 \leq N_0 \text{ and } \|x'\|_0 \leq N_1. \quad (41)$$

First of all, as the proof of Theorem 1, we can see that there is a constant A^* which is independent of λ and $\xi \in [0, T]$, such that

$$|x(\xi)| \leq A^*, \quad (42)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_0 &\leq |x(\xi)| + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq A^* + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds, \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

and for $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2\sigma}{T} - \beta \right)$, there is a constat $A_2 > 0$, such that for $|x(t - \tau_1(t))| > A_2$,

$$|g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| \leq (\beta + \varepsilon) |x(t - \tau_1(t))|. \quad (44)$$

and

$$\sigma \int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \leq - \int_0^T g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) x'(t) dt + \int_0^T p(t) x'(t) dt. \quad (45)$$

Let

$$C_1 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq T, |x| \leq A_3} |g(t, x)|, \quad (46)$$

$$E_1 = \{t \mid t \in [0, T], |x(t - \tau_1(t))| < A_2\}, \quad (47)$$

and

$$E_2 = \{t \mid t \in [0, T], |x(t - \tau_1(t))| \geq A_2\}. \quad (48)$$

From (43), (44), (45), (46), (47) and (48)

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma \int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds &\leq \int_{E_1} |g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| |x'(t)| dt \\ &\quad + \int_{E_2} |g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| |x'(t)| dt + \int_0^T |p(t)| |x'(t)| dt \\ &\leq (C_1 + \|p\|_0) \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds + (\beta + \varepsilon) \|x\|_0 \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq C_2 \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds + (\beta + \varepsilon) \left(A^* + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \right) \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq \left(C_2 + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) A^*}{2} \right) \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon)}{2} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \right)^2 \\ &\leq \left(C_2 + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) A^*}{2} \right) T^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) T}{2} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \right). \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

where $C_2 = C_1 + \|p\|_0$. It is leads to $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2\sigma}{T} - \beta \right)$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\{ \sigma - \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) T}{2} \right\} \int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \\ &\leq \left(C_2 + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) A^*}{2} \right) T^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds &\leq \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \frac{4C_2T + 2(\beta + \varepsilon)A^*T}{2\sigma - \beta T} \right\}^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \frac{4C_2T + 2\sigma A^* + \beta A^*T}{2\sigma - \beta T} \right\}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

In view of (43) and (51), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_0 &\leq A^* + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq A^* + \frac{T^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq N_0, \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

where

$$N_0 = A^* + \frac{1}{2} \frac{4C_2T + 2\sigma A^* + \beta A^*T}{2\sigma - \beta T}.$$

Let

$$f_{N_0} = \sup_{t \in [0, T], |x| \leq N_0, |y| \leq N_0} f(t, x, y) \quad (53)$$

and

$$g_{N_0} = \sup_{t \in [0, T], |x| \leq N_0} |g(t, x)|. \quad (54)$$

From (15), (22), (52), (53) and (54), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x'\|_0 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x''(s)| ds \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \{ f_{N_0} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds + g_{N_0} T + T \|p\|_0 \} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} f_{N_0} T^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{g_{N_0} T + T \|p\|_0}{2} \\ &\leq N_1, \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

where

$$N_1 = \frac{1}{2} f_{N_0} \frac{4C_2T + 2\sigma A^* + \beta A^*T}{4\sigma - 2\beta T} + \frac{\beta g_{N_0} T + T \|p\|_0}{2}. \quad (56)$$

The proof is complete.

The proof of Theorem 3: Let $x(t)$ be a T -periodic solution of (15). In a similar to The proof of Theorem 1, we see that there are positive A and $t_0 \in [0, T]$ such that for any T -periodic solution $x(t)$ of (15),

$$|x(t_0)| \leq A, \quad (57)$$

and

$$\|x\|_0 \leq A + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds. \quad (58)$$

Since $x(0) = x(T)$, so that there is $t_1 \in (0, T)$ such that $x'(t_1) = 0$. Getting $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1-2\delta T}{T^2} - \beta)$, by (4) there is a constat $A_3 > A$, such that for $|x(t - \tau_1(t))| > A_3$,

$$|g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t)))| \leq (\beta + \varepsilon) |x(t - \tau_1(t))|. \quad (59)$$

Let

$$C_3 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq T, |x| \leq A_3} |g(t, x)| \quad (60)$$

From (15) we have

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) x''(t) + \lambda f(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_0(t))) (x'(t))^2 + \lambda g(t, x(t - \tau_1(t))) x'(t) \\ = \lambda p(t) x'(t). \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

In view of (59), (60) and (61), for $t \in [t_1, t_1 + T]$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} (x'(t))^2 &= -\lambda \int_{t_1}^t f_2(s, x(s), x(s - \tau_0(s))) (x'(s))^2 ds \\ &\quad - \lambda \int_{t_1}^t g(s, x(s - \tau_1(s))) x'(s) ds + \lambda \int_{t_1}^t p(s) x'(s) ds \\ &\leq \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T} |f_2(s, x(s), x(s - \tau_0(s)))| |x'(s)|^2 ds \\ &\quad + \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T} |g(s, x(s - \tau_1(s)))| |x'(s)| ds + \int_{t_1}^{t_1+T} |p(s)| |x'(s)| ds \\ &= \int_0^T |f_2(s, x(s), x(s - \tau_0(s)))| |x'(s)|^2 ds + \int_0^T |g(s, x(s - \tau_1(s)))| |x'(s)| ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^T |p(s)| |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq \delta \int_0^T |x'(s)|^2 ds + (\beta + \varepsilon) T \|x\|_0 \|x'\|_0 + C_3 T \|x'\|_0 + T \|p\|_0 \|x'\|_0 \\ &\leq \delta T \|x'\|_0^2 + (\beta + \varepsilon) T \left\{ A + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \right\} \|x'\|_0 + C_3 T \|x'\|_0 + T \|p\|_0 \|x'\|_0 \\ &\leq \delta T \|x'\|_0^2 + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) T^2}{2} \|x'\|_0^2 + \{(\beta + \varepsilon) T A + C_3 T + T \|p\|_0\} \|x'\|_0 \\ &\leq \left(\delta T + \frac{(\beta + \varepsilon) T^2}{2} \right) \|x'\|_0^2 + \{(\beta + \varepsilon) T A + C_3 T + T \|p\|_0\} \|x'\|_0 \quad (62) \end{aligned}$$

From (58) and (62), we see that

$$\|x'\|_0^2 \leq \{2\delta T + (\beta + \varepsilon)T^2\} \|x'\|_0^2 + 2\{(\beta + \varepsilon)TA + C_3T + T\|p\|_0\} \|x'\|_0, \quad (63)$$

It is following that

$$\|x'\|_0 \leq W_1, \quad (64)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|x\|_0 &\leq A + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |x'(s)| ds \\ &\leq W_2 \end{aligned} \quad (65)$$

where

$$W_1 = \frac{2\{(\beta + \varepsilon)TA + C_3T + T\|p\|_0\}}{1 - 2\delta T - (\beta + \varepsilon)T^2}, \quad (66)$$

and

$$W_2 = A + \frac{1}{2}TW_1. \quad (67)$$

We can prove the remainder parts by the same way of Theorem 1. The proof is complete.

EXAMPLE. Consider a Liénard equation of the form

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + \{2 + \sin t + (x(t))^2 + (x(t - \cos t))^2\}x'(t - \sin t) \\ + \frac{2x(t - \sin t)^{\frac{1}{3}} + \cos t}{7}x(t - \sin t)^{\frac{2}{3}} = 2\cos t - \frac{6}{7}\sin t. \end{aligned} \quad (68)$$

Since $\beta = 2/7$ and $\sigma = 1$, so that $\beta = 2/7 < 2\sigma/2\pi = 1/\pi$, thus from Theorem 2 we see that (68) has a 2π -periodic solution. Furthermore, this solution is nontrivial since $y(t) \equiv 0$ is not a solution of (68).

We remark that (68) can not be expressed as the form of (1), that is, the results of [2] can not be used to (68), thus our results in this paper are new. Also, it is easy to see from our results in this paper that the conditions $f_1 < \frac{1}{T}$ and $r < \frac{1-f_1T}{\beta_1T^2}$ in Theorem 1 of [4] can be relaxed by the weaker conditions $f_1 < \frac{2}{T}$ and $r < 2\left(\frac{2-f_1T}{\beta_1T^2}\right)$, the condition $r < \frac{\sigma}{\beta_1T}$ in Theorem 2 of [4] can be relaxed by the weaker condition $r < \frac{2\sigma}{\beta_1T}$ and the condition $r < \frac{1-2\delta T}{2\beta_1T^2}$ in Theorem 3 of [4] can be relaxed by the weaker condition $r < \frac{1-2\delta T}{\beta_1T^2}$.

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Received: October 10, 2005