## Časopis pro pěstování matematiky

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On $L^{p}$-solutions of the differential equation $y^{\prime \prime}=q(t) y$

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# ČASOPIS PRO PĚSTOVÁNI MATEMATIKY 

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## ON $L^{p}$-SOLUTIONS OF THE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION $y^{\prime \prime}=\dot{q}(t) y$

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1.1. Consider a differential equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
y^{\prime \prime}=q(t) y, \quad q \in C^{0}[a, b), \quad b \leqq \infty, \quad q(t)<0, \quad t \in \dot{[a, b)} \tag{q}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $C^{n}[a, b)$ ( $n$ being a non-negative integer) is the set of all continuous functions having continuous derivatives up to and including the order $n$ on $[a, b)$.

Let $y_{1}$ be a non-trivial solution of $(q)$ vanishing at $t \in[a, b)$ and $y_{2}$ a non-trivial one the derivative of which vanishes at $t$. If $\varphi(t), \psi(t), \chi(t), \omega(t)$ is the first zero respectively of $y_{1}, y_{2}^{\prime}, y_{1}^{\prime}, y_{2}$ lying to the right from $t$, then $\varphi, \psi, \chi, \omega$ is called the basic central dispersion of the 1 -st, 2-nd, 3-rd, 4-th kind, respectively (briefly, dispersion of the 1 -st, 2 -nd, 3 -rd, 4 -th kind).

Throughout the paper we shall deal with oscillatory $\left(t \rightarrow b_{-}\right)$differential equations (i.e., every non-trivial solution has infinitely many zeros on every interval of the form $\left.\left[t_{0}, b\right), t_{0} \in[a, b)\right)$.

Let $\delta$ be the dispersion of the $k$-th kind, $k=1,2,3,4$. Then $\delta$ has the following properties (see [4] § 13)

$$
\begin{array}{lll}
\text { 1) } & \delta \in C^{3}[a, b) & \text { if }  \tag{1}\\
& \delta \in C^{1}[a, b) & \text { if } \\
& k=2,3 \text { or } 4 \\
\text { 2) } & \delta(t)>t & \text { on }[a, b) \\
\text { 3) } & \delta^{\prime}(t)>0 & \text { on }[a, b) \\
\text { 4) } \lim _{t \rightarrow b-} \delta(t)=b &
\end{array}
$$

Let $n$ be a positive integer. If $\delta_{n}$ is the $n$-th iteration of the dispersion $\delta$ of the $k$-th kind, then $\delta_{n}$ has the same properties (1), see [4] § 13.

We shall need also some other properties of dispersions. Let $y$ be a non-trivial solution of ( q ) and let $\varphi_{n}, \psi_{n}$ be the $n$-th iteration of the dispersion $\varphi, \psi$ of the 1 -st or 2-nd kind, respectively. Then we have (see [4] § 13):

$$
\begin{align*}
\varphi_{n}^{\prime}(t) & =y^{2}\left(\varphi_{n}(t)\right) / y^{2}(t)  \tag{2}\\
& =y^{\prime 2}(t) / y^{\prime 2}\left(\varphi_{n}(t)\right) \quad \text { for } \quad y(t) \neq 0 \\
\psi_{n}^{\prime}(t) & =\frac{q(t)}{q\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)} \cdot \frac{y^{\prime 2}\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)}{y^{\prime 2}(t)} \text { for } \quad y^{\prime}(t) \neq 0 \\
& =\frac{q(t)}{q\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)} \cdot \frac{y^{2}(t)}{y^{2}\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)} \text { for } \quad y^{\prime}(t)=0 .
\end{align*}
$$

1.2. First we summarize the results that we shall need in the sequel. See [1], [6], [2] (Theorems 5, 9, 10).

Theorem 1. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, b), q(t)<0, t \in[a, b)$ be an oscillatory $\left(t \rightarrow b_{-}\right)$ differential equation and $\varphi_{n}\left(\psi_{n}\right)$ the $n$-th iteration of its dispersion $\varphi(\psi)$ of the first (second) kind. Let $t_{0} \in[a, b)$.
a) Every solution of $(\mathrm{q})$ is bounded on $\left[t_{0}, b\right)$ if and only if a constant $N$ exists such that

$$
\varphi_{n}^{\prime}(x) \leqq N, \quad x \in\left[t_{0}, \varphi\left(t_{0}\right)\right), \quad n=1,2,3, \ldots
$$

b) Every solution of (q) belongs to $L^{p}\left[t_{0}, b\right), p>0$ if and only if

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)}\left[\varphi_{n}^{\prime}(t)\right]^{1+p / 2} \mathrm{~d} t<\infty
$$

holds.
c) If $q$ is non-increasing (non-decreasing), then

$$
\frac{q(t)}{q(\delta(t))} \leqq \delta^{\prime}(t) \leqq 1 \quad\left(\delta^{\prime}(t) \geqq 1\right), \quad t \in[a, b)
$$

holds where $\delta$ is the dispersion of the $k$-th kind of (q), $k=1,2$.
d) Let $0>q(t) \geqq$ const $>-\infty$. If there exists a solution $y$ of (q) tending to zero for $t \rightarrow b_{-}$, then every solution of $(\mathrm{q})$ linearly independent of $y$ is unbounded on $[a, b)$.
e) Let $0>$ const. $\geqq q(t)>-\infty$. If there exists a solution $y$ of (q) the derivative of which tends to zero $t \rightarrow b_{-}$, then the derivative of every solution of (q) linearly independent of $y$ is unbounded on $[a, b)$.
f) Consider the following assertions on $[a, b)$ :
A) The sequence of absolute values of local extremes of (the derivative of) an arbitrary solution of $(\mathrm{q})$ is non-increasing.
B) The sequence of absolute values of local extremes of the derivative of an arbitrary solution (of an arbitrary solution) is non-decreasing.
C) $\frac{q(\psi(t))}{q(t)} \psi^{\prime}(t) \geqq 1(\varphi(t)-t$ is non-decreasing $)$.
D) $\varphi(t)-t$ is non-increasing $\left(\frac{q(\psi(t))}{q(t)} \psi^{\prime}(t) \leqq 1\right)$.

Then $\mathrm{A} \Leftrightarrow \mathrm{C} \Rightarrow \mathrm{D} \Leftrightarrow \mathrm{B}$ holds.
2. This paragraph deals with the relation of the dispersions of the 1 -st and 2 -nd kind of ( $q$ ) and the property of every solution (of the derivative of every solution) of ( q ) to belong to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$. Theorem 1 b ) gives the necessary and sufficient condition for every solution to belong to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$. The situation for the derivative of an arbitrary solution is described by the following

Theorem 2. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, b), q(t)<0, t \in[a, b)$ be oscillatory on $[a, b)$ and let $\psi_{n}$ be the $n$-th iteration of the dispersion $\psi$ of the 2-nd kind. Then the derivative of every solution of (q) belongs to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$ if and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{a}^{\psi(a)}\left|q\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)\right|^{p / 2} \psi_{n}^{\prime}(t)^{1+p / 2} \mathrm{~d} t<\infty \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds.
Proof. Let the condition (4) be satisfied. According to (3) we have for an arbitrary solution $y$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\int_{a}^{b}\left|y^{\prime}(t)\right|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\psi_{n}(a)}^{\psi_{n+1}(a)}\left|y^{\prime}(t)\right|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{a}^{\psi(a)}\left|y^{\prime}\left(\psi_{n}\right)\right|^{p} \psi_{n}^{\prime} \mathrm{d} t= \\
=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{a}^{\psi(a)} \psi_{n}^{\prime 1+p / 2}\left(\left|y^{\prime}(t)\right|^{2} \frac{\left|q\left(\psi_{n}\right)\right|}{|q(t)|}\right)^{p / 2} \mathrm{~d} t \leqq M \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{a}^{\psi(a)}\left|q\left(\psi_{n}(t)\right)\right|^{p / 2} \psi_{n}^{\prime 1+p / 2} \mathrm{~d} t<\infty
\end{gathered}
$$

where

$$
M=\max _{t \in[a, \psi(a)]}\left|\frac{y^{\prime 2}(t)}{q(t)}\right|^{p / 2}
$$

We can see that $y^{\prime}$ belongs to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$. Let $y^{\prime}$ belong to $L^{p}[a,(b), p>0$ for an arbitrary solution $y$. Let $y_{1}, y_{2}$ be two linearly independent solutions of (q) such that $y_{1}^{\prime} \neq 0$ on $\left[a, t_{1}\right], y_{2}^{\prime} \neq 0$ on $\left[t_{1}, \psi(a)\right], t_{1}=(a+\psi(a)) / 2$. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{a}^{\psi(a)}\left|q\left(\psi_{n}\right)\right|^{p / 2} \psi_{n}^{\prime 1+p / 2} \mathrm{~d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left[\int_{a}^{t_{1}}\left|\frac{y_{1}^{\prime}\left(\psi_{n}\right)}{y_{1}^{\prime}(t)}\right|^{p}|q(t)|^{p / 2} \psi_{n}^{\prime} \mathrm{d} t+\right. \\
+ & \left.\int_{t_{1}}^{\psi(a)}\left|\frac{y_{2}^{\prime}\left(\psi_{n}\right)}{y_{2}^{\prime}(t)}\right|^{p} \cdot|q(t)|^{p / 2} \psi_{n}^{\prime} \mathrm{d} t\right] \leqq M_{1} \cdot\left(\int_{a}^{b}\left|y_{1}^{\prime}\right|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t+\int_{a}^{b}\left|y_{2}^{\prime}\right|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t\right)<\infty
\end{aligned}
$$

where

$$
M_{1}=\max \left(\max _{t \in\left[a, t_{1}\right]}\left|\frac{q(t)}{y_{1}^{\prime 2}(t)}\right|^{p / 2}, \max _{t \in\left[t_{1}, \psi(a)\right]}\left|\frac{q(t)}{y_{2}^{\prime 2}(t)}\right|^{p / 2}\right)
$$

and we can see that the condition (4) is satisfied.
Lemma 1. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, b), q(t)<0, t \in[a, b)$ be oscillatory on $[a, b)$ and let $y$ be an arbitrary solution. Let $\varphi_{n}, \psi_{n}, \chi_{n}, \omega_{n}$ be the $n$-th iteration of the dispersion $\varphi, \psi, \chi, \omega$ of the 1-st, 2-nd, 3-rd, 4-th kind, respectively. Let $t_{0}, t_{1} \in[a, b), y\left(t_{0}\right)=0$, $y^{\prime}\left(t_{1}\right)=0$.
a) The solution $y$ belongs to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0 i j$ and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)<\infty \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds.
b) The derivative of $y$ belongs to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$ if and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left|y^{\prime}\left(\omega_{n+1}\left(t_{1}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\left(\psi_{n+1}\left(t_{1}\right)-\psi_{n}\left(t_{1}\right)\right)<\infty \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds.
Proof. a) Let $y$ belong to $L^{p}[a, b), p>0$. Then

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)= \\
=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left[\int_{\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}\left(t-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right) \frac{\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}}{\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)} \mathrm{d} t+\right. \\
\left.+\int_{\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}\left(t-\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right) \frac{\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}}{\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)} \mathrm{d} t\right] \leqq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}|y(t)|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t<\infty
\end{gathered}
$$

(because $|y|^{p}$ has not smaller values on the interval $\left[\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right), \chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right]$ or on $\left[\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right.$, $\left.\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right]$ than the function the graph of which is the line segment connecting the points $\left(\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right),\left|y\left(\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\right)$ and $\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right),\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\right)$ or $\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right),\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\right)$ and $\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right),\left|y\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\right)$, respectively. Thus we can see that (5) is valid.

Let (5) be valid. Then

$$
\begin{gathered}
\int_{a}^{b}|y(t)|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t=M+\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}|y(t)|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t \leqq M+\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)}\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t= \\
=M+\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)<\infty, \quad M=\int_{a}^{t_{0}}|y(t)|^{p} \mathrm{~d} t
\end{gathered}
$$

and the theorem is poved in this case.
b) The statement for $y^{\prime}$ can be proved in the same way. We only use $\psi, \omega$ instead of $\varphi, \chi$.

Theorem 3. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, \infty), q(t)<0, t \in[a, \infty)$ be oscillatory on $[a, \infty)$, $q$ monotone.
a) If there exists a solution $y$ belonging to $L^{p}[a, \infty), p>0$, then $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t)=0$.
b) If every solution belongs to $L^{p}[a, \infty), p>0$, then every solution converges to zero for $t \rightarrow \infty$ and $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t)=-\infty$.
c) If there exists a solution $y$ such that $y^{\prime}$ belongs to $L^{p}[a, \infty), p>0$, then $y^{\prime}$ converges to zero for $t \rightarrow \infty$.
d) If the derivative of every solution belongs to $L^{p}[a, \infty), p>0$, then $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t)=0$ and the derivative of every solution tends to zero for $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. a) Let $y$ be a non-trivial solution of (q) such that $y \in L^{p}[a, \infty), p>0$. Let $t_{0} \in[a, \infty), y\left(t_{0}\right)=0$. According to Theorem 1c) f) the sequence of absolute values of local extremes of $y$ is monotone. Hence $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left|y\left(\chi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|=M \geqq 0$ where $\chi_{n}$ is the $n$-th iteration of the dispersion $\chi$ of the 3 -rd kind of $(q)$. If $M=0$, then $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t)=0$. If $M \neq 0$, then there exists a constant $M_{1}$ such that $\left|y\left(\chi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right| \geqq M_{1}>$ $t \rightarrow \infty$
$>0, n=1,2, \ldots$ and according to Lemma 1 we have

$$
\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left|y\left(\chi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)\right|^{p}\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right) \geqq M_{1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)=\infty .
$$

However, this contradicts our assumption.
c) This case can be proved in the same way as a).
b) d) The statement follows from a) c) and Theorem 1d) e).

Remark 1. A result of Bellman [3] § 6.8 concerns problems of this paragraph.
Let $a \in C^{0}\left[t_{0}, \infty\right), b \in C^{0}\left[t_{0}, \infty\right),|b(t)| \leqq$ const. $<\infty$ for $t \in\left[t_{0}, \infty\right)$. Let $p>1$ be a number and $p^{\prime}=p /(p-1)$. If every solution of $y^{\prime \prime}=a(t) y$ belongs to $L^{p}\left[t_{0}, \infty\right)$ and $L^{p^{\prime}}\left[t_{0}, \infty\right)$, then every solution of $y^{\prime \prime}=(a(t)+b(t)) y$ has the same property.

For $p=2$ the statement $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t)=-\infty$ from Theorem 3 b ) follows from this result by indirect proof: Let $\lim _{t \rightarrow \infty} q(t)=-C>-\infty$. Put $a(t)=q(t), b(t)=-1-q(t)$. Then every solution of $y^{\prime \prime}=-y$ belongs to $L^{2}\left[t_{0}, \infty\right)$ but this is not true.
3. In the last paragraph we shall prove some new results concerning the existence of integral $\int_{a}^{b} y(t) \mathrm{d} t$ where $y$ is a non-trivial solution of (q).

Lemma 2. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, b)$ be oscillatory on $[a, b)$ and let $y$ be its solution. Let $\varphi_{n}$ be the $n$-th iteration of its dispersion $\varphi$ of the 1-st kind.
Let $t_{0} \in[a, b)$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{t_{0}}^{b} y(t) \mathrm{d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}(-1)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime 3 / 2} y(t) \mathrm{d} t . \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. According to (2) we have

$$
\begin{gathered}
\int_{t_{0}}^{b} y(t) \mathrm{d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)}^{\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)} y(t) \mathrm{d} t=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} y\left(\varphi_{n}(t)\right) \varphi_{n}^{\prime}(t) \mathrm{d} t= \\
=\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}(-1)^{n} \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime 3 / 2}(t) y(t) \mathrm{d} t
\end{gathered}
$$

and thus the stament is valid.

Theorem 4. Let (q), $q \in C^{0}[a, b), b<\infty$ be a differential equation, $q$ nonincreasing, $\lim _{t \rightarrow b-} q(t)=-\infty$. Let $y$ be an arbitrary solution of $(\mathfrak{q})$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|\int_{a}^{b} y(t) \mathrm{d} t\right|=M_{y}=\text { const. }<\infty \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds.
Proof. As $\lim _{t \rightarrow b-} q(t)=-\infty$, the equation (q) is oscillatory on $[a, b)$. Let $y$ be a non trivial solution of (q). Let $t_{0} \in[a, b), y\left(t_{0}\right)=0, q(t)<0, t \in\left[t_{0}, b\right)$. As $\varphi^{\prime} \leqq 1$ on $\left[t_{0}, b\right)$ (see Theorem 1c)) we have

$$
\left|\int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime 3 / 2} y(t) \mathrm{d} t\right| \leqq\left|\int_{t_{0}}^{\dot{\varphi}\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n-1}^{\prime}(t) y(t) \mathrm{d} t\right|, \quad n=2,3, \ldots
$$

and according to the alternating series test the infinite series in (7) converges if and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime 3 / 2}(t) y(t) \mathrm{d} t=0 \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

holds. Hence $\int_{a}^{b} y(t) \mathrm{d} t$ converges iff the condition (9) is valid.
Let $c<0$ be a number. As $\lim _{t \rightarrow b_{-}} q(t)=-\infty$, there exists a number $t_{1}, t_{1} \in[a, b)$ such that $q(t)<c, t \in\left[t_{1}, b\right)$. Then the Sturm Comparison Theorem for the equations (q) and $y^{\prime \prime}=c . y$ implies $0<\varphi(t)-t \leqq \pi / \sqrt{ }-c$. Thus $\lim _{t \rightarrow b-}(\varphi(t)-t)=0$. According to Theorem 1a) c) an arbitrary solution of (q) is bounded on $[a, b)$ and
$\varphi_{n}^{\prime}(x) \leqq 1, x \in[a, b)$. There exists a constant $M>0$ such that $|y(t)| \leqq M, t \in[a, b)$ holds and we have

$$
\begin{gathered}
0 \leqq \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left|\int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime 3 / 2}(t) y(t) \mathrm{d} t\right| \leqq \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} M \int_{t_{0}}^{\varphi\left(t_{0}\right)} \varphi_{n}^{\prime}(t) \mathrm{d} t= \\
=\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} M\left(\varphi_{n+1}\left(t_{0}\right)-\varphi_{n}\left(t_{0}\right)\right)=0
\end{gathered}
$$

(because $\lim _{t \rightarrow b_{-}}(\varphi(t)-t)=0, \lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_{n}=b$ ).
Thus (9) is valid and the theorem is proved.
Remark 2. Theorem 4 is a generalization of a result in [5] XIV, § 3, where the assumptions are: $q \in C^{0}[a, b), q$ non-increasing, (q) oscillatory on $[a, b)$. However, (8) was proved only for solutions tending to zero for $t \rightarrow b_{-}$. Theorem 4 is a generalization of this result because if $\lim _{t \rightarrow b} q(t)=c, 0>c>-\infty$, then no non-trivial solution of (q) tends to zero for $t \rightarrow b_{-}$. This follows from the following argument:

Suppose that $\lim _{t \rightarrow b} y_{1}(t)=0$. According to Theorem 1d) we have that the function $y_{2}$ is unbounded on $[a, b)$ where $y_{1}, y_{2}$ are linearly independent solutions of ( q ). Theorem 1c) gives $q(\psi(t)) \psi^{\prime}(t) / q(t) \geqq 1, t \in[a, b)$ where $\psi$ is the dispersion of the 2-nd kind of (q). On the other hand it follows from Theorem 1f) that the sequence of absolute values of local extremes of $y_{2}$ is non-increasing and thus $y_{2}$ is bounded on $[a, b)$ which is a contradiction.

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