

**ON THE STABILITY OF SOLUTIONS OF LINEAR
BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEMS FOR A SYSTEM OF
ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**

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ABSTRACT. Linear boundary value problems for a system of ordinary differential equations are considered. The stability of the solution with respect to small perturbations of coefficients and boundary values is investigated.

Let $\mathcal{P}_0 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $q_0 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be integrable matrix- and vector-functions, respectively, $c_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and let $l_0 : C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear continuous operator such that the boundary value problem

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_0(t)x + q_0(t), \quad (1)$$

$$l_0(x) = c_0 \quad (2)$$

has the unique solution x_0 . Consider the sequences of integrable matrix- and vector-functions, $\mathcal{P}_k : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), and $q_k : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), respectively, the sequence of constant vectors $c_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) and the sequence of linear continuous operators $l_k : C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$). In [1,2], sufficient conditions are given for the problem

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_k(t)x + q_k(t), \quad (3)$$

$$l_k(x) = c_k \quad (4)$$

to have a unique solution x_k for any sufficiently large k and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} x_k(t) = x_0(t) \quad \text{uniformly on } [a, b]. \quad (5)$$

In the present paper, necessary and sufficient conditions are established for the sequence of boundary value problems of the form (3),(4) to have the above-mentioned property.

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Throughout the paper the following notations and definitions will be used:

$\mathbb{R} =] - \infty, +\infty[$;

\mathbb{R}^n is a space of real column n -vectors $x = (x_i)_{i=1}^n$ with the norm

$$\|x\| = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|;$$

$\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ is a space of real $n \times n$ matrices $X = (x_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n$ with the norm

$$\|X\| = \sum_{i,j=1}^n |x_{ij}|;$$

if $X = (x_{ij})_{i,j=1}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, then $\text{diag } X$ is a diagonal matrix with diagonal components x_{11}, \dots, x_{nn} ; X^{-1} is an inverse matrix to X ; E is an identity $n \times n$ matrix;

$C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ is a space of continuous vector-functions $x : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ with the norm

$$\|x\|_c = \max\{\|x(t)\| : a \leq t \leq b\};$$

$\tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ and $\tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ are the sets of absolutely continuous vector- and matrix- functions, respectively;

$L([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ and $L([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ are the sets of vector- and matrix-functions $x : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ and $X : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, respectively, whose components are Lebesgue-integrable;

$\|l\|$ is the norm of the linear continuous operator $l : C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$.

The vector-function $x : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is said to be a solution of the problem (1),(2) if it belongs to $\tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ and satisfies the condition (2) and the system (1) a.e. on $[a, b]$.

Definition 1. We shall say that the sequence $(\mathcal{P}_k, q_k, l_k)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) belongs to $S(\mathcal{P}_0, q_0, l_0)$ if for every $c_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $c_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) satisfying the condition

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} c_k = c_0 \quad (6)$$

the problem (3),(4) has the unique solution x_k for any sufficiently large k and (5) holds.

Along with (1),(2) and (3),(4) we shall consider the corresponding homogeneous problems

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_0(t)x, \quad (1_0)$$

$$l_0(x) = 0 \quad (2_0)$$

and

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_k(t)x, \quad (3_0)$$

$$l_k(x) = 0. \quad (4_0)$$

Theorem 1. *Let*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} l_k(y) = l_0(y) \quad \text{for } y \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n) \quad (7)$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \|l_k\| < +\infty. \quad (8)$$

Then

$$((\mathcal{P}_k, q_k, l_k))_{k=1}^{+\infty} \in S(\mathcal{P}_0, q_0, l_0) \quad (9)$$

if and only if there exist sequences of matrix- and vector-functions, $\Phi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) and $\varphi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), respectively, such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|\mathcal{P}_k^*(\tau)\| d\tau < +\infty \quad (10)$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \Phi_k(t) = 0, \quad (11)$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \varphi_k(t) = 0, \quad (12)$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_k^*(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_0(\tau) d\tau, \quad (13)$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t q_k^*(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t q_0(\tau) d\tau \quad (14)$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$, where

$$\mathcal{P}_k^*(t) \equiv [E - \Phi_k(t)] \cdot \mathcal{P}_k(t) - \Phi_k'(t), \quad (15)$$

$$q_k^*(t) \equiv [E - \Phi_k(t)][\mathcal{P}_k(t)\varphi_k(t) + q_k(t) - \varphi_k'(t)]. \quad (16)$$

Theorem 1'. *Let (7) and (8) be satisfied. The (9) holds if and only if there exist sequences of matrix- and vector-functions, $\Phi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) and $\varphi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), respectively, such that*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|\mathcal{P}_k^*(\tau) - \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k^*(\tau)\| d\tau < +\infty \quad (17)$$

and the conditions (11)–(13) and

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \exp \left(- \int_a^\tau \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k^*(s) ds \right) \cdot q_k^*(\tau) d\tau = \\ = \int_a^t \exp \left(- \int_a^\tau \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_0(s) ds \right) \cdot q_0(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

are fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$, where

$$\mathcal{P}_k^*(t) \equiv [\mathcal{P}_k(t) - \Phi_k(t)\mathcal{P}_k(t) - \Phi_k'(t)] \cdot [E - \Phi_k(t)]^{-1} \quad (19)$$

and $q_k^*(t)$ is the vector-function defined by (16).

Before proving this theorems, we shall give a theorem from [1] and some of its generalizations.

Theorem 2₀. *Let the conditions (6)–(8),*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|\mathcal{P}_k(\tau)\| d\tau < +\infty \quad (20)$$

hold and let the following conditions

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_0(\tau) d\tau, \quad (21)$$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t q_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t q_0(\tau) d\tau \quad (22)$$

hold uniformly on $[a, b]$. Then (9) is satisfied¹.

Theorem 2. *Let there exist sequences of matrix- and vector-functions, $\Phi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) and $\varphi_k \in \tilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), respectively, such that the conditions (10),*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} [c_k - l_k(\varphi_k)] = c_0 \quad (23)$$

hold and let the conditions (11),(13),(14) be fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$, where $\mathcal{P}_k^*(t)$ and $q_k^*(t)$ are the matrix- and vector-functions defined by (15) and (16), respectively. Let, moreover, conditions (7),(8) hold. Then for any sufficiently large k the problem (3),(4) has the unique solution x_k and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|x_k - \varphi_k - x_0\|_c = 0.$$

¹See [1], Theorem 1.2.

Proof. The transformation $z = x - \varphi_k$ reduces the problem (3),(4) to

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_k(t)z + r_k(t), \quad (24)$$

$$l_k(z) = c_{k1}, \quad (25)$$

where $r_k(t) \equiv \mathcal{P}_k(t)\varphi_k(t) + q_k(t) - \varphi_k'(t)$, $c_{k1} = c_k - l_k(\varphi_k)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$).

Let us show that for any sufficiently large k the homogeneous problem (3₀),(4₀) has only trivial solution.

Suppose this proposition is invalid. It can be assumed without loss of generality that for every natural k the problem (3₀),(4₀) has the solution x_k for which

$$\|x_k\|_c = 1. \quad (26)$$

Moreover, it is evident that the vector-function x_k is the solution of the system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_k^*(t)x + [\Phi_k(t) \cdot x_k(t)]'. \quad (27)$$

According to (11) and (26)

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} [\Phi_k(t) \cdot x_k(t)] = 0$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$. Therefore the conditions of Theorem 2₀ are fulfilled for the sequence of problems (27),(4₀). Hence

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|x_k\|_c = 0,$$

which contradicts (26). This proves that the problem (3₀),(4₀) has only trivial solution.

From this fact it follows that for any sufficiently large k the problem (24),(25) has the unique solution z_k .

It can easily be shown that the vector-function z_k satisfies the system

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_k^*(t)z + r_k^*(t), \quad (28)$$

where $r_k^*(t) = [\Phi_k(t) \cdot z_k(t)]' + q_k^*(t)$.

Show that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \|z_k\|_c < +\infty. \quad (29)$$

Let this proposal be invalid. Assume without loss of generality that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|z_k\|_c = +\infty. \quad (30)$$

Put

$$u_k(t) = \|z_k\|_c^{-1} \cdot z_k(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [a, b] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots).$$

Then in view of (25) and (28), for every natural k the vector-function $u_k(t)$ will be the solution of the boundary value problem

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du}{dt} &= \mathcal{P}_k^*(t)u + s_k(t), \\ l_k(u) &= \|z_k\|_c^{-1} \cdot c_{k1}, \end{aligned}$$

where $s_k(t) = \|z_k\|_c^{-1} \cdot r_k^*(t)$. Equations (11),(14),(23), and (30) imply

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} [\|z_k\|_c^{-1} \cdot c_{k1}] = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t s_k(\tau) d\tau = 0$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$. Hence, according to (10) and (13), the conditions of Theorem 2₀ are fulfilled for the sequence of the last boundary value problems. Therefore

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|u_k\|_c = 0.$$

This equality contradicts the conditions $\|u_k\|_c = 1$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$). The inequality (29) is proved.

In view of (11),(14), and (29)

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t r_k^*(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t q_0(\tau) d\tau$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$.

Applying Theorem 2₀ to the sequence of the problems (28),(25), we again show that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|z_k - x_0\|_c = 0. \quad \square$$

Corollary 1. *Let (6)–(8),*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|\mathcal{P}_k(\tau) - \Phi_k(\tau)\mathcal{P}_k(\tau) - \Phi_k'(\tau)\| d\tau < +\infty$$

hold and let the conditions (11),(21),(22),

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \Phi_k(\tau)\mathcal{P}_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t \mathcal{P}^*(\tau) d\tau$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \Phi_k(\tau)q_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t q^*(\tau) d\tau$$

be fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$, where $\Phi_k \in \widetilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), $\mathcal{P}^* \in L([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$, $q^* \in L([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$. Let, moreover, the system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathcal{P}_0^*(t)x + q_0^*(t),$$

where $\mathcal{P}_0^*(t) \equiv \mathcal{P}_0(t) - \mathcal{P}^*(t)$, $q_0^*(t) \equiv q_0(t) - q^*(t)$, have a unique solution satisfying the condition (2). Then

$$((\mathcal{P}_k, q_k, l_k)_{k=1}^{+\infty}) \in S(\mathcal{P}_0^*, q_0^*, l_0).$$

Proof. It suffices to assume in Theorem 2 that $\varphi_k(t) \equiv 0$ and to notice that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t [E - \Phi_k(\tau)] \cdot \mathcal{P}_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_0^*(\tau) d\tau$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t [E - \Phi_k(\tau)] \cdot q_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t q_0^*(\tau) d\tau$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$. \square

Corollary 2. Let (6)–(8) hold, and let there exist a natural number m and matrix-functions $\mathcal{P}_{0j} \in L([a, b], \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($j = 1, \dots, m$) such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} [\mathcal{P}_{km}(t) - \mathcal{P}_k(t)] &= 0, \\ \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t [E + \mathcal{P}_{km}(\tau) - \mathcal{P}_k(\tau)] \cdot \mathcal{P}_k(\tau) d\tau &= \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_0(\tau) d\tau, \\ \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t [E + \mathcal{P}_{km}(\tau) - \mathcal{P}_k(\tau)] \cdot q_k(\tau) d\tau &= \int_a^t q_0(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$, where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{k1}(t) &\equiv \mathcal{P}_k(t), \quad \mathcal{P}_{kj+1}(t) \equiv \mathcal{P}_{kj}(t) - \int_a^t [\mathcal{P}_{kj}(\tau) - \mathcal{P}_{0j}(\tau)] d\tau \\ &\quad (j = 1, \dots, m). \end{aligned}$$

Let, moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|[E + \mathcal{P}_{km}(\tau) - \mathcal{P}_k(\tau)] \cdot \mathcal{P}_k(\tau) + \\ + [\mathcal{P}_{km}(\tau) - \mathcal{P}_k(t)]'\| d\tau < +\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Then (9) holds.

Theorem 2'. *Let there exist sequences of matrix- and vector-functions, $\Phi_k \in \widetilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times n})$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) and $\varphi_k \in \widetilde{C}([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ ($k = 1, 2, \dots$), respectively, such that the conditions (17),(23) hold, and let the conditions (11),(13), and (18) be fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$. Here $\mathcal{P}_k^*(t)$ and $q_k^*(t)$ are the matrix- and vector-functions defined by (19) and (16), respectively. Then the conclusion of Theorem 2 is true.*

Proof. In view of (14), we may assume without loss of generality that for every natural k the matrix $E - \Phi_k(t)$ is invertible for $t \in [a, b]$.

For every $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ and $t \in [a, b]$ assume

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_0^*(t) &= \mathcal{P}_0(t), \quad q_0^*(t) = q_0(t), \quad \Phi_0(t) = 0, \quad \varphi_0(t) = 0, \\ c_{k1} &= c_k - l_k(\varphi_k), \quad Q_k(t) = H_k(t) \cdot [\mathcal{P}_k^*(t) - \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k^*(t)] \cdot H_k^{-1}(t), \\ r_k(t) &= H_k(t) \cdot q_k^*(t), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$H_k(t) = \exp \left(- \int_a^t \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k^*(\tau) d\tau \right).$$

Moreover, assume

$$l_k^*(z) = l_k(x) \quad \text{for } z \in C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n),$$

where $x(t) = [E - \Phi_k(t)]^{-1} \cdot H_k^{-1}(t) \cdot z(t)$.

From (13) it follows that $l_k^* : C([a, b]; \mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 0, 1, \dots$) is a sequence of linear continuous operators for which conditions (7) and (8) are satisfied.

For every $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ the transformation

$$z(t) = H_k(t) \cdot [E - \Phi_k(t)] \cdot [x(t) - \varphi_k(t)] \quad \text{for } t \in [a, b] \quad (31)$$

reduces the problem (3),(4) to

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = Q_k(t)z + r_k(t), \quad (32)$$

$$l_k^*(z) = c_{k1} \quad (33)$$

and the problem (1),(2) to

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = Q_0(t)z + r_0(t), \quad (34)$$

$$l_0^*(z) = c_0. \quad (35)$$

In view of (13) and (17) from Lemma 1.1 ([1], p.9) it follows that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t Q_k(\tau) d\tau = \int_a^t Q_0(\tau) d\tau$$

uniformly on $[a, b]$. According to Theorem 2₀ from the above and from (7),(8),(17),(18),(23) it follows that the problem (32),(33) has the unique solution z_k for any sufficiently large k , and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|z_k - z_0\|_c = 0,$$

where z_0 is the unique solution of the problem (34),(35). Therefore (11),(13) and (31) show that the statement of the theorem is true. \square

Corollary 3. *Let the conditions (6)–(8),*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_a^b \|\mathcal{P}_k(\tau) - \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k(\tau)\| d\tau < +\infty$$

hold and let (21) and

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_a^t \exp\left(-\int_a^\tau \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_k(s) ds\right) \cdot q_k(\tau) d\tau = \\ = \int_a^t \exp\left(-\int_a^\tau \text{diag } \mathcal{P}_0(s) ds\right) \cdot q_0(\tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

be fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$. Then (9) holds.

Remark. As compared with Theorem 2₀ and the results of [2], it is not assumed in Theorems 2 and 2' that the equalities (21) and (22) hold uniformly on $[a, b]$. Below we will give an example of a sequence of boundary value problems for linear systems for which (9) holds but (21) is not fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$.

Example. Let $a = 0$, $b = 2\pi$, $n = 2$, and for every natural k and $t \in [0, 2\pi]$, let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_k(t) &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & p_{k1}(t) \\ 0 & p_{k2}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathcal{P}_0(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \varphi_k(t) &= q_k(t) = q_0(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}; \\ p_{k1}(t) &= \begin{cases} (\sqrt{k} + \sqrt[4]{k}) \sin kt & \text{for } t \in I_k, \\ \sqrt{k} \sin kt & \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi] \setminus I_k; \end{cases} \\ p_{k2}(t) &= \begin{cases} -\alpha'_k(t) \cdot [1 - \alpha_k(t)]^{-1} & \text{for } t \in I_k, \\ 0 & \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi] \setminus I_k; \end{cases} \\ \beta_k(t) &= \int_0^t [1 - \alpha_k(\tau)] \cdot p_{k1}(\tau) d\tau; \\ \alpha_k(t) &= \begin{cases} 4\pi^{-1} (\sqrt[4]{k} + 1)^{-1} \sin kt & \text{for } t \in I_k, \\ 0 & \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi] \setminus I_k, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where $I_k = \cup_{m=0}^{k-1}]2mk^{-1}\pi, (2m+1)k^{-1}\pi[$. Let, moreover, for every $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$, $Y_k(t)$ be the fundamental matrix of the system (3₀) satisfying

$$Y_k(a) = E.$$

It can easily be shown that for every natural k we have

$$Y_0(t) = E, \quad Y_k(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \beta_k(t) \\ 0 & 1 - \alpha_k(t) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} Y_k(t) = Y_0(t)$$

uniformly on $[0, 2\pi]$, since

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|\alpha_k\|_c = \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \|\beta_k\|_c = 0.$$

Note that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{2\pi} p_{k1}(t) dt = 2 \lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt[4]{k} = +\infty.$$

Therefore neither the conditions of Theorem 2₀ nor the results of [2] are fulfilled.

On the other hand, if we assume that

$$\Phi_k(t) = E - Y_k^{-1}(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots),$$

then the conditions of Theorems 2 and 2' will be fulfilled, and if we put

$$\Phi_k(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_k(t) & \beta_k(t) \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for } t \in [0, 2\pi] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots),$$

then in this case only the conditions of Theorem 2 will be fulfilled, since

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sup \int_0^{2\pi} |p_{k2}(t)| dt = +\infty.$$

Proof of Theorem 1. The sufficiency follows from Theorem 2, since in view of (6),(8), and (12), condition (23) holds.

Let us show the necessity. Let $c_k \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ($k = 0, 1, \dots$) be an arbitrary sequence satisfying (6) and let $e_j = (\delta_{ij})_{i=1}^n$ ($j = 1, \dots, n$), where $\delta_{ij} = 1$ if $i = j$ and $\delta_{ij} = 0$ if $i \neq j$.

In view of (9), we may assume without loss of generality that for every natural k the problem (3),(4) has the unique solution x_k .

For any $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ and $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ assume

$$y_{kj}(t) = x_k(t) - x_{kj}(t) \quad (t \in [a, b]),$$

where x_{0j} and x_{kj} ($k = 1, 2, \dots$) are the unique solutions of (1) and (3) satisfying

$$l_0(x) = c_0 - e_j \quad \text{and} \quad l_k(x) = c_k - e_j,$$

respectively. Moreover, for every $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$ denote by $Y_k(t)$ the matrix-function whose columns are $y_{k1}(t), \dots, y_{kn}(t)$.

It can easily be shown that y_{0j} and y_{kj} satisfy (1₀) and (3₀), respectively, and

$$l_k(y_{kj}) = e_j \quad (j = 1, \dots, n; k = 0, 1, \dots). \quad (36)$$

If for some k and $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{R}$ ($j = 1, \dots, n$)

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j y_{kj}(t) = 0 \quad (t \in [a, b]),$$

then, using (36), we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j e_j = 0,$$

and therefore

$$\alpha_1 = \dots = \alpha_n = 0,$$

i.e., Y_0 and Y_k are the fundamental matrices of the systems (1₀) and (3₀), respectively. Hence, (5) implies

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} Y_k^{-1}(t) = Y_0^{-1}(t) \quad \text{uniformly on } [a, b]. \quad (37)$$

Let, for every natural k and $t \in [a, b]$,

$$\Phi_k(t) = E - Y_0(t)Y_k^{-1}(t), \quad (38)$$

$$\varphi_k(t) = x_k(t) - x_0(t). \quad (39)$$

Let us show (10)–(14). Equations (11) and (12) are evident. Moreover, using the equality

$$[Y_k^{-1}(t)]' = -Y_k^{-1}(t)\mathcal{P}_k(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [a, b] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots),$$

it can be easily shown that

$$\mathcal{P}_k^*(t) = \mathcal{P}_0(t)Y_0(t)Y_k^{-1}(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [a, b] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^t q_k^*(\tau) d\tau &= Y_0(t)Y_k^{-1}(t)x_0(t) - Y_0(a)Y_k^{-1}(a)x_0(a) - \\ &- \int_a^t \mathcal{P}_0(\tau)Y_0(\tau)Y_k^{-1}(\tau)x_0(\tau) d\tau \quad \text{for } t \in [a, b] \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, according to (37) the conditions (10),(13), and (14) are fulfilled uniformly on $[a, b]$. This completes the proof. \square

The proof of Theorem 1' is analogous. We note only that Φ_k and φ_k are defined as above.

The behavior at $k \rightarrow +\infty$ of the solution of the Cauchy problem ($l_k(x) = x(t_0)$, $t_0 \in [a, b]$) and of the Cauchy-Nicoletti problem ($l_k(x) = (x_i(t_i))_{i=1}^n$, $t_i \in [a, b]$) is considered in [3-5]. Moreover, in [6] the necessary conditions for the stability of the Cauchy problem are investigated.

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