

Periodic Boundary Value Problem for Second Order Ordinary Differential Equations

Slimane Benaicha

Department of Mathematics
University of Oran, Es-senia, Algeria
slimanebenaicha@yahoo.fr

Abstract

In this paper we study the periodic boundary value problem for a nonlinear ordinary differential equation of second order. We give sufficient and necessary conditions for the existence of periodic solutions.

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1 Introduction

In this paper we consider the following periodic boundary value problem (PBVP for short) of second order:

$$x'' + f(x)|x'| + g(x) = h(t) \quad (1.1)$$

$$x(0) = x(2\pi), x'(0) = x'(2\pi) \quad (1.2)$$

in which the functions $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $h : [0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are continuous. The equation (1.1) is called the Lienard equation with forcing term $f(x)$. If f is constant, we obtain the problem studied in [7]. The important case $f = 0$ (also known as the conservative case) is treated in [4], [5], [8] and [9].

We shall establish some necessary and sufficient conditions to ensure the existence of a periodic solution for the problem (1.1)-(1.2) following the spirit of [7]. While studying this problem, we distinguish two cases for the nonlinearity namely

(1) when g is decreasing, in this case we use the method of upper and lower solutions,

(2) when g is increasing, first we show that the method of upper and lower solutions is not useful and in this case we employ an abstract existence theorem [3].

2 Preliminary results

We consider the equation

$$-x'' = k(t, x, x') \quad (2.1)$$

where the function $k : [0, 2\pi] \times \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous. A function $\alpha \in C^2 [0, 2\pi]$ will be called a lower solution of (2.1) on $[0, 2\pi]$ if

$$-\alpha'' \leq k(t, \alpha, \alpha')$$

Similarly $\beta \in C^2 [0, 2\pi]$ will be called an upper solution of (2.1) on $[0, 2\pi]$ if

$$-\beta'' \geq k(t, \beta, \beta')$$

Theorem 2.1[7]: Assume the following

(a) there exist α and β lower and upper solutions of (2.1) on $[0, 2\pi]$, respectively, with $\alpha(0) = \alpha(2\pi)$, $\beta(0) = \beta(2\pi)$, and $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$;

(b) the inequalities $\alpha'(0) \geq \alpha'(2\pi)$ and $\beta'(0) \leq \beta'(2\pi)$ hold;

(c) k satisfies the following Nagumo condition relative to α, β : There exists $e \in C [[0, \infty[, (0, \infty)]$ such that $|k(t, u, v)| \leq e(|v|)$ whenever $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and e is such that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{s ds}{e(s)} = \infty.$$

Then the PBVP

$$-x'' = k(t, x, x'), x(0) = x(2\pi), x'(0) = x'(2\pi) \quad (2.2)$$

has at least one solution x such that $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$.

We write $k(t, x, x') = f(x) |x'| + g(x) - h(t)$ and we have the following result.

Lemma 2.1: Let α, β be lower and upper solutions of (1.1), respectively, satisfying the Conditions (a) and (b) of Theorem 2.1. Then k satisfies the Nagumo Condition (c) of Theorem 2.1 relative to α, β .

Proof: From the notation of Theorem 2.1 we have $k(t, u, v) = f(u) |v| + g(u) - h(t)$. Taking into account that f, g and h are continuous we see that there exist positive constants K, L such that $|f(u)| \leq K$ and $|g(u)| + |h(t)| \leq L$, for $\alpha(t) \leq u(t) \leq \beta(t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$. Thus we can take $e(s) = Ks + L$.

3 Existence of solutions

Theorem 3.1: We assume that g is decreasing on \mathbb{R} and f satisfies the following condition

$$(a) \exists M > 0 : f(x) - f(y) \geq -M(x - y), \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then the PBVP(1.1)-(1.2) has a solution if and only if

$$\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} h(t)dt \in \text{Range } g.$$

Proof: Assume that $\omega \in \text{Range } g$. Then there exists $r \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $g(r) = \omega$. The problem

$$x'' + f(x) |x'| = h(t) - g(r), \quad x(0) = x(2\pi), x'(0) = x'(2\pi) \quad (3.1)$$

has a solution since $\int_0^{2\pi} [h(t) - g(r)] dt = 0$. Let u be the solution of (3.1) satisfying $\int_0^{2\pi} u(t)dt = 0$. Choose constants $a \in \mathbb{R}_-^*$ and $b \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$ such that

$$u(t) + a \leq r \leq u(t) + b, \forall t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

Take $\alpha = u + a$ and $\beta = u + b$. Thus,

$$-\alpha'' = -u'' = f(u) |u'| - h(t) + g(r) = f(\alpha - a) |\alpha'| - h(t) + g(r)$$

By Condition (a) of Theorem 3.1 we obtain for $x = \alpha$ and $y = \alpha - a$

$$\exists M > 0 : f(\alpha) - f(\alpha - a) \geq -Ma$$

since $\alpha' = u'$ then $f(\alpha) |\alpha'| + M a |\alpha'| \geq f(\alpha - a) |\alpha'|$ and hence

$$-\alpha'' \leq f(\alpha) |\alpha'| + M a |\alpha'| - h(t) + g(r) \leq f(\alpha) |\alpha'| - h(t) + g(r)$$

so that α is lower solution of (1.1) such that

$$\alpha(0) = \alpha(2\pi), \alpha'(0) = \alpha'(2\pi)$$

Similarly

$$-\beta'' = -u'' = f(u) |u'| - h(t) + g(r) = f(\beta - b) |\beta'| - h(t) + g(r)$$

Again by Condition (a) of Theorem 3.1 we obtain for $x = \beta - b$ and $y = \beta$

$$\exists M > 0 : f(\beta - b) - f(\beta) \geq Mb$$

Thus

$$-\beta'' \geq f(\beta) |\beta'| + Mb |\beta'| - h(t) + g(r) \geq f(\beta) |\beta'| - h(t) + g(\beta)$$

$$\beta(0) = u(0) + b = u(2\pi) + b = \beta(2\pi)$$

$$\beta'(0) = u'(0) = u'(2\pi) = \beta'(2\pi)$$

so that β is upper solution of (1.1). From Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.1 it follows that the PBVP (1.1)-(1.2) has a solution x such that $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$.

Conversely suppose that x is a solution of the PBVP (1.1)-(1.2). Integrating (1.1) on $[0, 2\pi]$ and using (1.2), we get

$$\int_0^{2\pi} g(x(t)) dt = \int_0^{2\pi} h(t) dt = 2\pi\omega.$$

Since g is decreasing, we have $g(\infty) \leq g(x) \leq g(-\infty)$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$, where

$$g(\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} g(x), \quad g(-\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} g(x).$$

Then, we have

$$\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} h(t) dt \in [g(\infty), g(-\infty)] = \overline{\text{Range } g}.$$

Now if $\omega \notin \text{Range } g$, then either $\omega = g(\infty)$ or $\omega = g(-\infty)$. For $\omega = g(\infty)$ we have $g(x(t)) > \omega$, $\forall t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and hence $\int_0^{2\pi} g(x(t)) dt > 2\pi\omega$, which is a contradiction. For $\omega = g(-\infty)$ we have $g(x(t)) < \omega$, $\forall t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and hence $\int_0^{2\pi} g(x(t)) dt < 2\pi\omega$, which is a contradiction. Then $\omega \in \text{Range } g$.

Remark : For the case when g is increasing on \mathbb{R} , we first show that the method of upper and lower solutions described in Theorem 2.1 is not useful since in this case we have $\alpha(t) = \beta(t)$ on $[0, 2\pi]$ which amounts to assuming the existence of a periodic solution. Indeed, assume that Conditions (a) and (b) of Theorem 2.1 hold and also assume that g is strictly increasing. We have from the definition of α and β

$$\beta'' - \alpha'' \leq f(\alpha) |\alpha'| - f(\beta) |\beta'| + g(\alpha) - g(\beta)$$

Integration on $[0, 2\pi]$ together with (1.2) yields

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [g(\alpha(t)) - g(\beta(t))] dt \geq 0$$

Since g is strictly increasing and $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$ on $[0, 2\pi]$ then

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [g(\alpha(t)) - g(\beta(t))] dt \leq 0$$

Thus,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [g(\alpha(t)) - g(\beta(t))] dt = 0$$

which implies that $\alpha(t) = \beta(t)$ on $[0, 2\pi]$.

Also, we see that the conclusion of Theorem 2.1 does not hold in general as may be seen from the following example.

Example: We consider the problem

$$x'' + x = h(t), t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

$$x(0) = x(2\pi), x'(0) = x'(2\pi)$$

in this case we have $f(x) = 0$ and $g(x) = x$, so that g is strictly increasing and $\text{Range } g = \mathbb{R}$. However, this problem has no solution unless

$$\int_0^{2\pi} h(t) \sin t dt = \int_0^{2\pi} h(t) \cos t dt = 0$$

Therefore, in the case when g is increasing, we employ an abstract existence theorem [3] to study the PBVP (1.1)-(1.2). We consider the operator equation

$$Lx = Nx \tag{3.2}$$

in which $L : D(L) \subset E \rightarrow F$ and $N : E \rightarrow F$ are linear and nonlinear operators respectively, and E and F are Banach spaces.

(I) Let us suppose that there exist projection operators $P : E \rightarrow E$ and $Q : F \rightarrow F$ (that is, linear, bounded, and idempotent) such that $E = E_0 \oplus E_1, F = F_0 \oplus F_1$ with $E_0 = PE = \ker L, E_1 = (I - P)E, F_0 = QF, F_1 = \text{Range } L = (I - Q)F$ and $\dim E_0 = \dim F_0 < \infty$ and there exists a linear operator $H : (I - Q)F \rightarrow (I - P)E$, called the partial inverse of L , such that

$$(a) H(I - Q)Lx = (I - P)x, \text{ for every } x \in D(L)$$

$$(b) QLx = LPx, \text{ for every } x \in D(L)$$

$$(c) LH(I - Q)Nx = (I - Q)Nx, \text{ for every } x \in E$$

Equation (3.2) is equivalent to the system of auxiliary and bifurcation equations

$$x = Px + H(I - Q)Nx \quad (3.4)$$

$$Q(Lx - Nx) = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

(II) In addition, suppose that there exist continuous maps $B : E \times F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $J : F_0 \rightarrow E_0$ such that

- (i) B is bilinear and J is one-to-one and onto;
- (ii) $y_0 \in F_0, y_0 = 0$ iff $B(x_0, y_0) = 0 \quad \forall x_0 \in E_0$;
- (iii) $J y_0 = 0$ iff $y_0 = 0$;
- (iv) $B(J y_0, y_0) \geq 0 \quad \forall y_0 \in F_0$;
- (v) $B(J y_0, y_0) = 0$ iff $y_0 = 0$;
- (vi) $B(x_0, J^{-1}x_0) = 0$ iff $x_0 = 0$;
- (vii) $B(x_0, y_0) = B(J y_0, J^{-1}x_0), \forall x_0 \in E_0, \forall y_0 \in F_0$.

Note that if $E \subset F$ and F is a Hilbert space with inner product $\langle x, y \rangle$ we can define $B(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle$.

Under assumptions (I) and (II), the operator equation (3.2) is equivalent to

$$x = Px + H(I - Q)Nx + JQNx.$$

Theorem 3.2 [7] : Assume that hypotheses (I) and (II) hold. In addition assume that H is compact and N maps bounded sets into bounded sets. Finally, suppose that there exists numbers $R > R_0 > 0$ such that

(a) the set

$$C(R) = \{x_1 \in E_1 : x_1 = \lambda H(I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1) \text{ for some } \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

and $x_0 \in E_0$ with $\|x_0\| \leq R$

is bounded.

(b) $B(x_0, QN(x_0 + x_1)) \leq 0, x = x_0 + x_1, \|x_0\| = R_0, x_1 = \lambda H(I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1)$ for some $\lambda \in [0, 1]$

Then Equation (3.2) has at least one solution.

For the PBVP (1.1)-(1.2), we consider

$$E = \{x \in C^1[0, 2\pi] : x(0) = x(2\pi), x'(0) = x'(2\pi)\}$$

and $F = L_2 [0, 2\pi]$. Define $L : D(L) \subset E \longrightarrow F$ by $Lx = x''$, in which $D(L) = \{x \in E : x \in C^2 [0, 2\pi]\}$ and $N : E \longrightarrow F$ by $Nx = h(t) - f(x) |x'| - g(x)$. The projections $P : E \longrightarrow E$ and $Q : F \longrightarrow F$ are given by $Px = x(0)$ and $Qx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x(t) dt$. Finally, the operator $H : F_1 \longrightarrow E_1$ may be defined by $Hy = x$ if and only if $x'' = y$, $x(0) = x(2\pi) = 0$ $x'(0) = x'(2\pi) = 0$. Further,

$$E_0 = \ker L = \{x \in E : x = x(0)\}.$$

$$\text{Range } L = \left\{ y \in F : Qy = \int_0^{2\pi} y(t) dt = 0 \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that the hypothesis (I) is satisfied. Now we define $B : E \times F \longmapsto \mathbb{R}$ and $J : F_0 \longmapsto E_0$ respectively by $B(x, y) = \int_0^{2\pi} x(t) y(t) dt$ and $Jy_0 = y_0$, so that (II) is satisfied. Clearly H is compact (the inclusion of H^2 into C^1 is compact [see 2]) and N maps bounded sets into bounded sets. We now verify the Conditions (a) and (b) of Theorem 3.2.

Let $R > 0$ and $x_1 \in C(R)$, so that $x_1 = \lambda H(I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1)$ for some $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ and $x_0 \in E_0$. Hence, $x_1'' = \lambda(I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1)$. Multiplying by x_1'' , we get

$$\begin{aligned} B(x_1'', x_1'') &= \lambda B((I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') \\ &= \lambda B((I - Q)h, x_1'') - \lambda B((I - Q)f(x_0 + x_1) |(x_0 + x_1)'|, x_1'') \\ &\quad - \lambda B((I - Q)g(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') \end{aligned} \tag{3.6}$$

we have

$$B((I - Q)h, x_1'') = B(h, x_1'') - B(Qh, x_1'')$$

and

$$B((I - Q)g(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') = B(g(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') - B(Qg(x_0 + x_1), x_1'')$$

since $x_1'' \in F_1$, then

$$B(Qh, x_1'') = 0, \quad B(Qg(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad B(Qf(x_0 + x_1) |(x_0 + x_1)'|, x_1'') = 0$$

and hence (3.6) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} B(x_1'', x_1'') &= \lambda B(h, x_1'') - \lambda B(f(x_0 + x_1) |(x_0 + x_1)'|, x_1'') - \lambda B(g(x_0 + x_1), x_1'') \\ &= \lambda B(h, x_1'') - \lambda B(f(x_0 + x_1) |x_1'|, x_1'') - \lambda B(g(x_0 + x_1), x_1''), \quad (x_0 \in E_0 \text{ is a constant}) \end{aligned}$$

and this in turn yields

$$\left\|x_1''\right\|^2 = \lambda \langle h, x_1' \rangle - \lambda \langle f(x_0 + x_1) \Big|_{x_1}, x_1' \rangle$$

$-\lambda \langle g(x_0 + x_1), x_1' \rangle$, where \langle, \rangle denotes the usual inner product in L_2 .

Using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality we get

$$\left\|x_1''\right\|^2 \leq \lambda \|h\| \left\|x_1'\right\| + \lambda \left\|f(x_0 + x_1) \Big|_{x_1}\right\| \left\|x_1'\right\| + \lambda \|g(x_0 + x_1)\| \left\|x_1'\right\|$$

$\lambda \in [0, 1]$, then

$$\left\|x_1'\right\| \leq \|h\| + \|f(x_0 + x_1)\| \left\|x_1'\right\| + \|g(x_0 + x_1)\|. \quad (3.7)$$

Since $\int_0^{2\pi} x_1'(t) dt = 0$, by Wirtinger's inequality

$$\int_0^{2\pi} (x_1'(t))^2 dt \leq \int_0^{2\pi} (x_1''(t))^2 dt$$

(ie $\left\|x_1'\right\| \leq \left\|x_1''\right\|$) [see 1] and from(3.7) we have

$$(1 - \|f(x_0 + x_1)\|) \left\|x_1'\right\| \leq \|h\| + \|g(x_0 + x_1)\| = A.$$

If $1 - \|f(x_0 + x_1)\| \neq 0$, then

$$\left\|x_1'\right\| \leq \frac{A}{1 - \|f(x_0 + x_1)\|} = B. \quad (3.8)$$

Using(3.8) in the identity $x_1(t) = x_1(0) + \int_0^t x_1'(s) ds$ (with $x_1(0) = 0$), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |x_1(t)| &\leq \int_0^t |x_1'(s)| ds \leq \int_0^{2\pi} |x_1'(s)| ds \leq \sqrt{2\pi} \left(\int_0^{2\pi} |x_1'(t)|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{2\pi} \left\|x_1'\right\| \\ &\leq \sqrt{2\pi} B = C \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

From(3.9),(3.8) and (3.7) we obtain that x_1, x_1' and x_1'' are bounded in L_2 and so $C(R)$ is bounded in $H^2(0, 2\pi)$, and in consequence, $C(R)$ is bounded in $C^1[0, 2\pi]$ and in E independently of

$R > 0$. Thus, Condition (a) of Theorem 3.2 is satisfied. To verify the Condition (b) of Theorem 3.2 we have

$$\begin{aligned} B(x_0, QN(x_0 + x_1)) &= \int_0^{2\pi} x_0 \left[h(t) - f(x_0 + x_1) \left| x_1' \right| - g(x_0 + x_1) \right] dt \\ &= 2\pi x_0 QN(x_0 + x_1) \end{aligned}$$

Then Condition (b) of Theorem 3.2 is equivalent to the following condition: there exists $R_0 > 0$ such that

$$QN(R_0 + x_1) \leq 0 \leq QN(-R_0 + x_1) \tag{3.10}$$

for every x_1 such that $x_1 = \lambda H(I - Q)N(x_0 + x_1)$.

By the above arguments we have proved the following theorem

Theorem 3.3: Suppose that g is increasing, $1 - \|f(x_0 + x_1)\| \neq 0$ and condition (3.10) holds. Then the PBVP(1.1)-(1.2) has at least one solution.

Now assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} g(x) = g(\pm\infty)$ exists and

$$g(-\infty) \leq g(x) \leq g(\infty), \text{ for every } x \in \mathbb{R} \tag{3.11}$$

The well-known Landesman-Lazer[6] is

$$g(-\infty) < \omega < g(\infty). \tag{3.12}$$

Corollary 3.4: If g satisfies (3.11), $1 - \|f(x_0 + x_1)\| \neq 0$ and (3.12) holds, then the PBVP(1.1)-(1.2) has at least one solution.

Proof: We have from (3.8) and (3.9)

$$\|x_1\|_E = \sup_{t \in [0, 2\pi]} |x_1(t)| + \left\| x_1' \right\| \leq B + C = B(1 + \sqrt{2\pi}) = \delta.$$

Thus, we get $-\delta \leq x_1(t) \leq \delta$, for every $x_1 \in C(R_0), t \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $R_0 > 0$. From (3.12), there exists $T > 0$ such that

$$g(-x) < \omega < g(x) \text{ for } x > T. \tag{3.13}$$

Choose $R_0 \geq \delta + T$ so that $R_0 + x_1(t) \geq T$ and $-R_0 + x_1(t) \leq -T$. By integration of (3.13) we get

$$\int_0^{2\pi} [h(t) - g(R_0 + x_1(t))] dt \leq 0 \leq \int_0^{2\pi} [h(t) - g(-R_0 + x_1(t))] dt,$$

and thus condition (3.10) of Theorem 3.3 is satisfied.

4 References

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