

Existence of Nonoscillatory Solutions of a Class of Nonlinear Dynamic Equations with a Forced Term

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, we consider the following forced higher-order nonlinear neutral dynamic equation

$$\left[x(t) + p(t)x(\tau(t)) \right]^{\Delta^m} + f\left(t, x(\tau_1(t)), x(\tau_2(t)), \dots, x(\tau_k(t))\right) = q(t), t \in [t_0, \infty)_{\mathbb{T}}$$

on time scales. By using Banach contraction principle, we obtain sufficient conditions for the existence of nonoscillatory solutions for general $p(t)$ and $q(t)$ which means that we allow oscillatory $p(t)$ and $q(t)$. We give some examples to illustrate the obtained results.

Keywords: Dynamic Equation; Higher Order; Non-Oscillation; Time Scale; Neutral

1. Introduction

The study of dynamic equations on time scales, which has recently received a lot of attention, was introduced by Stefan Hilger in his Ph.D. thesis in 1988 in order to unify continuous and discrete analysis [1]. Dynamic equations on time scales have an enormous potential for modelling a variety of applications such as in population dynamics. Several authors have expounded on various aspects of this new theory, see the survey paper by Agarwal, Bohner, O'Regan and Peterson [2] and references cited therein. A book on the subject of time scales, by Bohner and Peterson [3], summarizes and organizes much of the time scale calculus. We refer also to the last book by Bohner and Peterson [4] for advances in dynamic equations on time scales.

Recently, much attention is concerned with oscillation and nonoscillatory solutions for dynamic equations on time scales [5-12].

In Li and Zhang [6] studied the existence of nonoscillatory solutions to neutral dynamic equation

$$\left[x(t) + p(t)x(\tau(t)) \right]^{\Delta^n} + f_1\left(t, x(\tau_1(t))\right) - f_2\left(t, x(\tau_2(t))\right) = 0.$$

Li, Han, Sun and Yang [10] established the existence of nonoscillatory solutions to the following second order neutral delay dynamic equation

$$\left[x(t) + p(t)x(\tau_0(t)) \right]^{\Delta\Delta} + q_1(t)x(\tau_1(t)) - q_2(t)x(\tau_2(t)) = e(t).$$

Zhang and Sun [13] studied the existence of nonoscillatory solutions of the forced nonlinear difference equation

$$\Delta\left(x_n - p_n x_{\tau(n)}\right) + f\left(n, x_{\sigma(n)}\right) = q_n.$$

Zhou and Zhang [14] obtained some sufficient conditions of nonoscillatory solutions for the higher order delay difference equation with positive and negative coefficients

$$\Delta^m\left(x_n + cx_{n-k}\right) + p_n x_{n-r} - q_n x_{n-l} = 0.$$

Lu [15] obtained some necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of nonoscillatory solutions for the following first order neutral equation

$$\left(x(t) - \sum_{i=1}^m p_i(t)x(h_i(t)) \right)' + \sum_{j=1}^n f_j\left(t, x(g_j(t))\right) = Q(t).$$

Motivated by these works, in this paper, we consider the higher-order nonlinear neutral dynamic equation

$$\left[x(t) + p(t)x(\tau(t)) \right]^{\Delta^m} + f\left(t, x(\tau_1(t)), x(\tau_2(t)), \dots, x(\tau_k(t))\right) = q(t), \quad (1)$$

where $t \in [t_0, \infty)_{\mathbb{T}}$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\sup \mathbb{T} = \infty$. We assume $p, q \in C_{rd}([t_0, \infty)_{\mathbb{T}}, \mathbb{R})$ and allow $p(t)$ and $q(t)$ to be oscillatory. $\tau, \tau_i \in C_{rd}([t_0, \infty)_{\mathbb{T}}, \mathbb{T})$ satisfy $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \tau(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \tau_i(t) = +\infty, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, $f(t, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) \in C(\mathbb{T} \times \mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R})$ is nondecreasing for

u_j and $u_1 f(t, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) \geq 0$ for
 $u_1 u_j \geq 0, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$.

We recall x is a solution of Equation (1) provided that $x(t) + p(t)x(\tau(t))$ is m times differentiable, and x satisfies Equation (1). A solution x of Equation (1) is called nonoscillatory if x is of one sign when eventually.

2. Existence Results for Nonoscillatory Solutions

In this section, we establish sufficient conditions of the existence of nonoscillatory solutions for Equation (1). First we define a sequence of functions $g_k(s, t), k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ as follows:

$$g_0(s, t) \equiv 1, g_{k+1}(s, t) = \int_t^s g_k(\sigma(\tau), t) \Delta \tau.$$

For $g_k(s, t)$, we have the following Lemma.

Lemma 2.1. (Li and Zhang [6]) Assume s is fixed, and let $g_k^\Delta(s, t)$ be the derivative $g_k(s, t)$ with respect to t . Then

$$g_k^\Delta(s, t) = -g_{k-1}(s, t), k \in \mathbb{N}, t \in \mathbb{T}^k.$$

Let BC denote the Banach space of all bounded functions $x(t), t \geq t_0$, with the norm $\|x\| = \sup_{t \geq t_0} |x(t)| < \infty$. We will use the following assumptions:

(i) there exists $\alpha > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} &|f(t, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) - f(t, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k)| \\ &\leq L(t) \max_{1 \leq i \leq k} |u_i - v_i| \end{aligned}$$

for $t \geq t_0$ and $0 \leq u_i, v_i \leq \alpha, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$, where $L(t) \in C_{rd}(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T})$;

(ii) $\int_{t_0}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0)L(s)\Delta s < \infty$;

(iii) $\int_{t_0}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0)|q(s)|\Delta s < \infty$;

(iv) there exists $p \in \left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$ such that

$$|p(t)| \leq 1 - p, t \geq t_0;$$

(v) there exists $p \in (-1, 0]$ such that

$$p \leq p(t) \leq 0, t \geq t_0;$$

(vi) there exist $p_1, p_2 \in (-\infty, -1)$ such that

$$p_1 \leq p(t) \leq p_2, t \geq t_0;$$

(vii) there exists $p \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$0 < p(t) \leq p, t \geq t_0;$$

(viii) there exist $p_1, p_2 \in (1, +\infty)$ such that

$$p_1 \leq p(t) \leq p_2, t \geq t_0.$$

Theorem 2.1. Assume that (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) hold, then Equation (1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero.

Proof. Choose d_1, c_1 such that $0 < d_1 < (2p-1)\alpha$ and $d_1 + (1-p)\alpha < c_1 < p\alpha$. Let

$$c = \min \left\{ \frac{p}{2}\alpha, p\alpha - c_1, c_1 - d_1 - (1-p)\alpha \right\}.$$

There exists a $t_1 \geq t_0$ large enough such that when $t \geq t_1$, we have $\tau(t), \tau_i(t) \geq t_0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and

$$\int_{t_1}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0)[\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|]\Delta s \leq c. \tag{2}$$

By condition (i) and the hypotheses on $f(t, u_1, \dots, u_k)$, for any $t \geq t_0, 0 \leq u_i \leq \alpha, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, we have

$$f(t, u_1, \dots, u_k) \leq \alpha L(t). \tag{3}$$

We define a set $\Omega \subset BC$ as follows:

$$\Omega = \{x \in BC : d_1 \leq x(t) \leq \alpha, t \geq t_0\}. \tag{4}$$

Then Ω is a closed, bounded and convex subset of BC . Define a map Γ on Ω as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (\Gamma x)(t) &= \begin{cases} c_1 - p(t)x(\tau(t)) + (-1)^{m-1} \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ \cdot [f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), (\tau_2(s)), \dots, (\tau_k(s))) - q(s)] \Delta s, \\ t \geq t_1, \\ (\Gamma x)(t_1), t_0 \leq t \leq t_1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

First, we shall show that for any $x \in \Omega$ and $t \geq t_0$, $(\Gamma x)(t) \in \Omega$. For any $x \in \Omega$ and $t \geq t_1$, by (2), (3) and (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (\Gamma x)(t) &\geq c_1 - p(t)x(\tau(t)) - \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ &[f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) + |q(s)|]\Delta s \\ &\geq c_1 - |p(t)|x(\tau(t)) \\ &\quad - \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0)[\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|]\Delta s \\ &\geq c_1 - (1-p)\alpha - [c_1 - d_1 - (1-p)\alpha] = d_1. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\Gamma x)(t) &\leq c_1 - |p(t)|x(\tau(t)) - \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ &[f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) + |q(s)|]\Delta s \\ &\leq c_1 + (1-p)\alpha \\ &\quad + \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0)[\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|]\Delta s \\ &\leq c_1 + (1-p)\alpha + p\alpha - c_1 = \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

Hence when $t \geq t_0$, we obtain $d_1 \leq (\Gamma x)(t) \leq \alpha$, so $(\Gamma x)(t) \in \Omega$ for any $x \in \Omega$.

Next, we show that Γ is a contraction mapping on Ω . In fact for any $x, y \in \Omega$ and $t \geq t_1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Gamma x)(t) \\ & \leq |p(t)| |x(\tau(t)) - y(\tau(t))| \\ & + \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \left| f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - f(s, y(\tau_1(s)), y(\tau_2(s)), \dots, y(\tau_k(s))) \right| \Delta s \\ & \leq (1-p) \|x-y\| + \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) L(s) \|x-y\| \Delta s \\ & \leq \left(1-p + \frac{p}{2}\right) \|x-y\| = \left(1 - \frac{p}{2}\right) \|x-y\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $0 < 1 - \frac{p}{2} < 1$, we conclude that Γ is a contraction mapping on Ω . By the Banach fixed point theorem, Γ has a fixed point $x^* \in \Omega$. By Lemma 2.1, it is easy to see that $x^*(t)$ is a bounded nonoscillatory solution of the Equation (1). This completes the proof of Theorem 2.1.

Theorem 2.2. Assume that (i), (ii), (iii) and (v) hold, then Equation (1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero.

Proof. Choose $\beta > 0$, such that $\beta \leq \frac{2(1+p)\alpha}{3}$. Obviously

$(1+p)\alpha - \beta \geq \frac{\beta}{2}$. There exists a $t_1 \geq t_0$ sufficiently large such that when $t \geq t_1$, we have $\tau(t), \tau_i(t) \geq t_0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and

$$\int_{t_1}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \leq \frac{\beta}{2}.$$

We define a closed, bounded and convex subset Ω of BC as follows:

$$\Omega = \left\{ x \in BC : \frac{\beta}{2} \leq x(t) \leq \alpha, t \geq t_0 \right\}.$$

Define a map Γ on Ω as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Gamma x)(t) \\ & = \begin{cases} \beta - p(t)x(\tau(t)) + (-1)^{m-1} \int_t^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ \quad \cdot \left[f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) - q(s) \right] \Delta s, \\ t \geq t_1, \\ (\Gamma x)(t_1), t_0 \leq t \leq t_1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The rest of the proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.1 and hence omitted. The proof is complete.

Theorem 2.3. Assume that (i), (ii), (iii) and (vi) hold. τ has the inverse $\tau^{-1} \in C(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T})$, then Equation (1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero.

Proof. We choose positive constants M_1, M_2, β , such that $M_2 \leq \alpha, -p_1 M_1 < \beta < (-p_2 - 1)M_2$. Let

$$c = \min \left\{ \frac{\beta + p_1 M_1}{p_1} p_2, (-p_2 - 1)M_2 - \beta, -\frac{1+p_2}{2} \alpha \right\}.$$

There exists a $t_1 \geq t_0$ large enough such that when $t \geq t_1$, we have $\tau^{-1}(\tau_i(t)) \geq t_0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, and

$$\int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \leq c.$$

We define a closed, bounded and convex subset Ω of BC as follows:

$$\Omega = \{x \in BC : M_1 \leq x(t) \leq M_2, t \geq t_0\}.$$

Define a map $\Gamma : \Omega \rightarrow BC$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Gamma x)(t) = \\ & \begin{cases} -\frac{\beta}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \frac{x(\tau^{-1}(t))}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} + \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ \quad \cdot \left[f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) - q(s) \right] \Delta s, \\ t \geq t_1, \\ (\Gamma x)(t), t_0 \leq t \leq t_1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

First, we shall show that $\Gamma\Omega \subset \Omega$. For any $x \in \Omega$ and $t \geq t_1$, note that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\Gamma x)(t) \\ & \geq -\frac{\beta}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \\ & + \frac{1}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \\ & \geq -\frac{\beta}{p_1} + \frac{1}{p_2} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^\infty g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \\ & \geq -\frac{\beta}{p_1} + \frac{(\beta + p_1 M_1) p_2}{p_1 p_2} = M_1 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(\Gamma x)(t) \leq -\frac{\beta}{p_2} - \frac{M_2}{p_2} - \frac{(-p_2 - 1)M_2 - \beta}{p_2} = M_2.$$

Thus $(\Gamma x)(t) \in \Omega$ for $x \in \Omega$, this is $\Gamma\Omega \subset \Omega$.

Next, we show that Γ is a contraction mapping on Ω . In fact for any $x, y \in \Omega$ and $t \geq t_1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\Gamma x)(t) &\leq -\frac{1}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \left| x(\tau^{-1}(t)) - y(\tau^{-1}(t)) \right| \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \left| f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - f(s, y(\tau_1(s)), y(\tau_2(s)), \dots, y(\tau_k(s))) \right| \Delta s \\
 &\leq -\frac{1}{p_2} \|x - y\| - \frac{1}{p_2} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) L(s) \|x - y\| \Delta s \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{p_2} \left(-1 + \frac{1 + p_2}{2} \right) \|x - y\| = \frac{p_2 - 1}{2p_2} \|x - y\|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $0 < \frac{p_2 - 1}{2p_2} < 1$, we conclude that Γ is a contraction mapping on Ω .

By the Banach fixed point theorem, Γ has a fixed point $x^* \in \Omega$. By Lemma 2.1, it is easy to see that $x^*(t)$ is a bounded nonoscillatory solution of the Equation (1). This completes the proof of Theorem 2.3.

Theorem 2.4. Assume that (i), (ii), (iii) and (vii) hold, then equation (1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero.

Proof. Choose $\beta > 0$, such that $p\alpha < \beta < \alpha$. Let

$c = \min \left\{ \alpha - \beta, \frac{\beta - p\alpha}{2} \right\}$. There exists a $t_1 \geq t_0$ large enough such that when $t \geq t_1$, we have

$$\tau(t), \tau_i(t) \geq t_0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k,$$

and

$$\int_{t_1}^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \leq c.$$

Easily to know

$$\Omega = \left\{ x \in BC : \frac{\beta - p\alpha}{2} \leq x(t) \leq \alpha, t \geq t_0 \right\}$$

is a closed, bounded and convex subset of BC . Define a map $\Gamma : \Omega \rightarrow BC$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\Gamma x)(t) &= \begin{cases} \beta - p(t)x(\tau(t)) + (-1)^{m-1} \int_t^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ \cdot [f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) - q(s)] \Delta s, \\ t \geq t_1, \\ (\Gamma x)(t_1), t_0 \leq t \leq t_1. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

The rest of the proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.1 and hence omitted. The proof is complete.

Theorem 2.5. Assume that $\alpha \geq 1$, (i), (ii), (iii) and (viii) hold. τ has the inverse $\tau^{-1} \in C(\mathbb{T}, \mathbb{T})$, then Equation (1) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero.

Proof. We choose β , such that $1 < \beta < p_1$. Let

$c = \min \left\{ \beta - 1, \frac{p_1 - \beta}{2}, \frac{\beta - 1}{2} \alpha \right\}$. There exists a $t_1 \geq t_0$

large enough such that when $t \geq t_1$, we have $\tau^{-1}(\tau_i(t)) \geq t_0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, and

$$\int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), 0) [\alpha L(s) + |q(s)|] \Delta s \leq c.$$

We define a closed, bounded and convex subset Ω of BC as follows:

$$\Omega = \left\{ x \in BC : \frac{p_1 - \beta}{2p_2} \leq x(t) \leq \frac{p_1 + \beta}{2p_1}, t \geq t_0 \right\}.$$

Define a map $\Gamma : \Omega \rightarrow BC$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\Gamma x)(t) &= \begin{cases} \frac{\beta}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} - \frac{x(\tau^{-1}(t))}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} + \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{p(\tau^{-1}(t))} \int_{\tau^{-1}(t)}^{\infty} g_{m-1}(\sigma(s), t) \\ \cdot [f(s, x(\tau_1(s)), x(\tau_2(s)), \dots, x(\tau_k(s))) - q(s)] \Delta s, \\ t \geq t_1, \\ (\Gamma x)(t_1), t_0 \leq t \leq t_1. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

The rest of the proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.3 and hence omitted. The proof is complete.

Remark 2.1. Theorem 1 - 5 not only unify the known results for differential and difference equations corresponding to Equation (1), but also generalize and improve essentially the existing results of [13-15] using the time scale theory.

We will give the following examples to illustrate our main results.

Example 2.1. Consider the forth-order dynamic equation on the time scale $\mathbb{T} = \{q^n : n \in \mathbb{N}_0, q > 1\}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left(x(t) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{q}} x\left(\frac{t}{q}\right) \right)^{\Delta^4} + \frac{(1 - \sqrt{q})(q + 1)^2 (q^2 + 1)}{q^{10}} \\
 &\quad \times \frac{(q^2 + q + 1)}{t^2 (t + q^3)^3} x^3\left(\frac{t}{q^3}\right) \\
 &= 2 \frac{(1 - \sqrt{q})(q + 1)^2 (q^2 + 1)(q^2 + q + 1)}{q^{10} t^5}
 \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

Here $m = 4, p(t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{q}}, \tau(t) = \frac{t}{q}$,

$$q(t) = 2 \frac{(1 - \sqrt{q})(q + 1)^2 (q^2 + 1)(q^2 + q + 1)}{q^{10} t^5},$$

$$L(t) = 3\alpha^2 \frac{\left[(1 - \sqrt{q})(q + 1)^2 (q^2 + 1)(q^2 + q + 1) \right]}{q^{10} t^2 (t + q^3)^3}.$$

By the definition of $g_k(s, t)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & g_{4-1}(\sigma(s), 0)L(s) \\ & \leq s^3 \frac{3\alpha^2(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^2 (s+q^3)^3} \\ & \leq \frac{3\alpha^2(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^2}, \\ & g_{4-1}(\sigma(s), 0)|q(s)| \\ & \leq s^3 2 \frac{(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^5} \\ & = 2 \frac{(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{3\alpha^2(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^2} \Delta s < \infty, \\ & \int_{t_0}^{\infty} 2 \frac{(\sqrt{q}-1)(q+1)^2(q^2+1)(q^2+q+1)}{q^{10} s^2} \Delta s < \infty. \end{aligned}$$

It is obvious that Equation (5) satisfies all conditions of Theorem 2.2. Hence Equation (5) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero. In fact $x(t) = 1 + \frac{1}{t}$ is a solution of Equation (5). However, to the best of our knowledge, there are no results dealing with the existence of nonoscillatory solutions for Equation (5).

Example 2.2. Consider the third-order dynamic equation on the time scale $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{N}$

$$(x(t) - 2x(t-1))^{\Delta^3} + \frac{1}{2^t} x(t-1) = \frac{11(2^t) + 16}{8(2^{2t})}, \quad (6)$$

$$t \geq 2.$$

Here $m = 3, p(t) = -2, \tau(t) = t - 1,$

$$f(t, x(\tau_1(t))) = \frac{1}{2^t} x(t-1)$$

and $q(t) = \frac{11(2^t) + 16}{8(2^{2t})}$. It is easy to see that all condi-

tions of Theorem 2.3 are satisfied and hence Equation (6) has a bounded nonoscillatory solution which is bounded away from zero. In fact $x(t) = 1 + \frac{1}{2^t}$ is a solution of Equation (6).

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