

# Existence of periodic solution for a higher-order *p*-Laplacian differential equation with multiple deviating arguments

Moutaouekkil  $L^1$ , Chakrone  $O^2$ 

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Multidisciplinary Faculty, Mohammed first University of Oujda, Présidence de l'Université Mohammed Premier, BV Mohammed VI B.P. 524, Oujda 60000, Morroco <sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Sciences, Mohammed first University of Oujda, Présidence de l'Université Mohammed Premier, BV Mohammed VI B.P. 524, Oujda 60000, Morroco

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By applying Mawhin's continuation theorem, theory of Fourier series, Bernoulli numbers theory and some new inequalities, we study the higher-order p-Laplacian differential equation with multiple deviating arguments of the form

 $(\varphi_p(x^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} = f(x(t))x'(t) + g(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t).$ 

Some new results on the existence of periodic solutions for the previous equation are obtained.

**Keywords:** periodic solution, higher order, p-Laplacian equation, deviating argument, Mawhin's continuation.

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### 1. Introduction

The periodic solution problem for p-Laplacian differential equation has extensively studied by many researchers, we refer the reader to see papers [1-3] and the references cited therein.

Recently, the higher-order p-Laplacian differential equations have received more and more attention, which are derived from many fields, such as fluid mechanics and nonlinear elastic mechanics. However, as far as we know, work on the existence of periodic solutions for higher-order p-Laplacian differential equations has been partially discussed [4,5]. For instance, Li [5] has studied the existence and uniqueness of periodic solutions for a kind of higher-order p-Laplacian differential equation of the following form:

$$(\varphi_p(x^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} + \beta(t))x'(t) + g(t, x(t)) = e(t).$$

In this paper, inspired by the results presented in [1,4,5], we study the existence of periodic solution for the following higher-order *p*-Laplacian differential equation with multiple deviating arguments of the form:

$$(\varphi_p(x^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} = f(x(t))x'(t) + g(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t).$$
(1)

Where p > 1 is a fixed real number. The conjugate exponent of p is denoted by q, i.e.  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ . Let  $\varphi_p \colon \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  be the mapping defined by  $\varphi_p(s) = |s|^{p-2}s$  for  $s \neq 0$ , and  $\varphi_p(0) = 0$ ,  $f, e, \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  are continuous T-periodic functions defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  and T > 0,  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}^{k+2}, \mathbb{R})$  and  $g(t+T, u_0, u_1, \ldots, u_k) = g(t, u_0, u_1, \ldots, u_k), \forall (t, u_0, u_1, \ldots, u_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{k+2}, \tau_i \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$   $(i = 1, 2, \ldots, k)$  with  $\tau_i(t+T) = \tau_i(t)$ . Therefore, in this paper, based on the Mawhin's continuation theorem and some analysis skills, without the assumption of  $\int_0^T e(t)dt = 0$ , some new sufficient conditions for the existence of T-periodic solution of p-Laplacian equation (1) will be established.

## 2. Preliminaries

Before stating the results, some necessary Lemmas are introduced.

**Lemma 1 (Ref. [4]).** Let T > 0 be constant,  $x \in C^m(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $m \ge 2$  and x(t+T) = x(t),  $|x^{(i)}|_0 = \max_{t \in [0,T]} |x^{(i)}(t)|$ , then there are  $M_i(m) > 0$  independent of x such that

$$|x^{(i)}|_0 \leq M_i(m) \int_0^T |x^{(m)}(t)| dt, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$$
(2)

where, if m is an even integer

$$M_{i}(m) = \begin{cases} M_{2s-1}(m) = T^{m-2s} \sqrt{\frac{-B_{2m-4s}}{12(2m-4s)!}}, & s = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{m}{2} - 1; \\ M_{2s}(m) = \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-2s}{2}+1}T^{m-2s-1}B_{m-2s}}{(m-2s)!}, & s = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{m}{2} - 1; \\ M_{m-1}(m) = \frac{1}{2}, \end{cases}$$
(3)

if m is an odd integer

$$M_{i}(m) = \begin{cases} M_{2s+1}(m) = \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-2s-1}{2}+1}T^{m-2s-2}B_{m-2s-1}}{(m-2s-1)!}, & s = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{m+1}{2} - 2; \\ M_{2s}(m) = T^{m-2s-1}\sqrt{\frac{-B_{2m-4s-2}}{12(2m-4s-2)!}}, & s = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{m+1}{2} - 2; \\ M_{m-1}(m) = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$
(4)

and  $B_{m-2s}$ ,  $B_{2m-4s}$ ,  $B_{m-2s-1}$ ,  $B_{2m-4s-2}$  are Bernoulli numbers, which can be calculed using the following recursion formula:  $B_0 = 1$ ,  $B_p = \frac{-\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} C_{p+1}^i B_i}{p+1}$ , where  $C_{p+1}^i$  is the combination number.

**Lemma 2.** Let r > 0, T > 0 be two constants,  $s \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  such that s(t+T) = s(t),  $\tau_i \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  with  $\tau_i(t+T) = \tau_i(t)$  and  $|\tau'_i|_0 < 1$ . Then

$$\int_0^T |s(t-\tau_i(t))|^r dt \leq \delta_i \int_0^T |s(t)|^r dt,$$

where  $\delta_i = \frac{1}{1 - |\tau_i'|_0}, \ |\tau_i'|_0 = \max_{t \in [0,T]} |\tau_i'(t)|.$ 

**Proof.** It is easy to see that

$$\int_0^T |s(t-\tau_i(t))|^r dt = \int_0^T |s(t-\tau_i(t))|^r d(t-\tau_i(t)) + \int_0^T \tau_i'(t) |s(t-\tau_i(t))|^r dt,$$

i.e.

$$(1 - |\tau_i'|_0) \int_0^T |s(t - \tau_i(t))|^r dt \leq \int_0^T |s(t)|^r dt$$

and thus

$$\int_0^T |s(t - \tau_i(t))|^r dt \leqslant \frac{1}{1 - |\tau_i'|_0} \int_0^T |s(t)|^r dt.$$

This completes the proof.

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**Lemma 3 (Borsuk [6]).**  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an open bounded set, and symmetric with respect to  $0 \in \Omega$ . If  $f \in C(\overline{\Omega}, \mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $f(x) \neq \mu f(-x)$ ,  $\forall x \in \partial \Omega$ ,  $\forall \mu \in [0, 1]$ , then  $\deg(f, \Omega, 0)$  is an odd number.

Now, we recall Mawhin's continuation theorem which our study is based upon.

Let X and Y be real Banach spaces and  $L: D(L) \subset X \to Y$  be a Fredholm operator with index zero. Here D(L) denotes the domain of L. This means that Im L is closed in Y and dim  $KerL = \dim(Y/ImL) < +\infty$ . Consider the supplementary subspaces  $X_1$  and  $Y_1$  and such that  $X = \operatorname{Ker} L \oplus X_1$ and  $Y = \operatorname{Im} L \oplus Y_1$  and let  $P: X \to \operatorname{Ker} L$  and  $Q: Y \to Y_1$  be natural projections. Clearly,  $\operatorname{Ker} L \cap (D(L) \cap X_1) = \{0\}$ , thus the restriction  $L_p := L|_{D(L)\cap X_1}$  is invertible. Denote the inverse of  $L_p$  by K. Now, let  $\Omega$  be an open bounded subset of X with  $D(L) \cap \Omega \neq \emptyset$ , a map  $N: \overline{\Omega} \to Y$  is said to be L-compact on  $\overline{\Omega}$ . If  $QN(\overline{\Omega})$  is bounded and the operator  $K(I-Q)N: \overline{\Omega} \to Y$  is compact.

**Lemma 4 (Mawhin [7]).** Suppose that X and Y are two Banach spaces, and  $L: D(L) \subset X \to Y$  is a Fredholm operator with index zero. Furthemore,  $\Omega \subset X$  is an open bounded set, and  $N: \overline{\Omega} \to Y$  is L-compact on  $\overline{\Omega}$ . If all of the following conditions hold:

- (1)  $Lx \neq \lambda Nx, \forall x \in \partial \Omega \cap D(L), \lambda \in ]0, 1[;$
- (2)  $Nx \notin \text{Im } L, \forall x \in \partial \Omega \cap \text{Ker } L;$  and

(3) deg{ $JQN, \Omega \cap \text{Ker } L, 0$ }  $\neq 0$ , where  $J \colon \text{Im } Q \to \text{Ker } L$  is an isomorphism.

Then the equation Lx = Nx has at least one solution on  $\overline{\Omega} \cap D(L)$ .

In order to use Mawhin's continuation theorem to study the existence of T-periodic solution for (1), we rewrite (1) in the following system

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(m)}(t) = \varphi_q(x_2)(t) = |x_2(t)|^{q-2} x_2(t), \\ x_2^{(m)}(t) = f(x_1(t)) x_1'(t) + g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t). \end{cases}$$
(5)

Where q > 1 is constant with  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$ . Clearly, if  $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t))^T$  is a *T*-periodic solution to equation set (5), then  $x_1(t)$  must be a *T*-periodic solution to equation (1). Thus, in order to prove that (1) has a *T*-periodic solution, it suffices to show that equation set (5) has a *T*-periodic solution.

Now, we set  $C_T = \{x \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) : x(t+T) = x(t)\}$  with the norm  $|x|_0 = \max_{t \in [0,T]} |x(t)|, C_T^1 = C_T^1$ 

 $\{x \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}) : x(t+T) = x(t)\}$  with the norm  $||x|| = \max\{|x|_0, |x'|_0\} X = \{x = (x_1(t), x_2(t))^\top \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2) : x(t+T) = x(t)\}$  with the norm  $||x||_X = \max\{||x_1||, ||x_2||\}, Y = \{x = (x_1(t), x_2(t))^\top \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2) : x(t+T) = x(t)\}$  with the norm  $||x||_Y = \max\{|x_1|_0, |x_2|_0\}$ . Obviously, X and Y are two Banach spaces. Meanwhile, let

$$L: D(L) \subset X \to Y, \quad Lx = x^{(m)} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^{(m)} \\ x_2^{(m)} \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (6)

 $N \colon X \to Y,$ 

$$[Nx](t) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_q(x_2)(t) \\ f(x_1(t))x'_1(t) + g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (7)

where  $D(L) = \{x = (x_1(t), x_2(t))^\top \in C^m(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^2) : x(t+T) = x(t)\}$  It is easy to see that equation set (5) can be converted to the abstract equation Lx = Nx. Moreover, from the definition of L, we see that Ker  $L = \mathbb{R}^2$ , Im  $L = \{y : y \in Y, \int_0^T y(s) ds = 0\}$ . So L is a Fredholm operator with index zero.

Let projections  $P \colon X \to \operatorname{Ker} L$  and  $Q \colon Y \to \operatorname{Im} Q$  be defined by

$$Px = x(0), \quad Qy = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T y(s) ds,$$

and let K represent the inverse of  $L|_{\operatorname{Ker} P \cap D(L)}$ . Clearly,  $\operatorname{Ker} L = \operatorname{Im} Q = \mathbb{R}^2$  and

$$[Ky](t) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{1}{i!} x^{(i)}(0) t^i + \frac{1}{(m-1)!} \int_0^t (t-s)^{m-1} y(s) ds, \tag{8}$$

where  $x^{(i)}(0)$  (i = 1, 2, ..., m - 1) are defined by the equation AX = D,

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ c_1 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ c_2 & c_1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & c_{m-5} & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\ c_{m-2} & c_{m-3} & c_{m-4} & \cdots & c_1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
  
$$X = \left(x^{(m-1)}(0), x^{(m-2)}(0), \cdots, x''(0), x'(0)\right)^{\top},$$
  
$$D = \left(d_1, d_2, \cdots, d_{m-2}, d_{m-1}\right)^{\top},$$
  
$$d_i = -\frac{1}{i!T} \int_0^T (T-s)^i y(s) ds \quad i = 1, 2, \cdots, m-1 \quad \text{and} \quad c_j = \frac{T^j}{(j+1)!} \quad j = 1, 2, \cdots, m-2.$$

From (7) and (8), it is not difficult to find that N is L-compact on  $\overline{\Omega}$ , where  $\Omega$  is an arbitrary open bounded subset of X. For the sake of convenience, we list the following assumptions which will be used by us in studing the existence of T-periodic solution to the equation (1)

 $[H_1]$  There is a constant d > 0 such that:

(1)  $g(t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k) > |e|_0, \forall (t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  with  $u_i > d$   $(i = 0, 1, \dots, k)$ . (2)  $g(t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k) < -|e|_0, \forall (t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  with  $u_i < -d$   $(i = 0, 1, \dots, k)$ . [ $H_2$ ]  $|g(t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k)| \leq \sum_{i=0}^k \alpha_i |u_i|^{p-1} + \beta$ , where  $\alpha_i$   $(i = 0, \dots, k), \beta$  are non-negative constants.

#### 3. Main results

**Lemma 5.** Suppose that  $[H_1]$  holds, if  $x \in D(L)$  is an arbitrary solution of the equation Lx = $\lambda Nx, \lambda \in ]0,1[$ , where L and N are defined by (6) and (7), respectively, then there must be a point  $t^* \in [0,T]$  such that

$$|x_1(t^*)| \leqslant d. \tag{9}$$

**Proof.** Suppose  $x \in D(L)$  is an arbitrary solution of the equation  $Lx = \lambda Nx$ , for some  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  then

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(m)}(t) = \lambda \varphi_q(x_2)(t) = \lambda |x_2(t)|^{q-2} x_2(t), \\ x_2^{(m)}(t) = \lambda f(x_1(t)) x_1'(t) + \lambda g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + \lambda e(t). \end{cases}$$
(10)

From the first equation of (10), we have  $x_2(t) = \varphi_p\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}x_1^{(m)}\right)(t)$ , and then by substituting it into the second equation of (10), we have

$$(\varphi_p(x_1^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} = \lambda^p f(x_1(t)) x_1'(t) + \lambda^p g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + \lambda^p e(t).$$
(11)

Integrating both sides of equation (11) on the interval [0, T], we have

$$\int_0^T g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + \int_0^T e(t) = 0.$$

By the integral mean value theorem, there is a constant  $t_0 \in [0,T]$  such that

$$g(t, x_1(t_0), x_1(t_0 - \tau_1(t_0)), \dots, x_1(t_0 - \tau_k(t_0))) = -\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T e(t) dt.$$
(12)

If  $|x_1(t_0)| \leq d$ , then taking  $t^* = t_0$  such that  $|x_1(t^*)| \leq d$ . If  $|x_1(t_0)| > d$ . It follows from assumption  $[H_1]$  that there is some  $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, k\}$  such that  $|x_1(t_0 - \tau_i(t_0))| \leq d$ . Since  $x_1(t)$  is continuous for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x_1(t+T) = x_1(t)$ , so there must be an integer r and a point  $t^* \in [0, T]$  such that  $t_0 - \tau_i(t_0) = rT + t^*$ . So  $|x_1(t^*)| = |x_1(t_0 - \tau_i(t_0))| \leq d$ .

**Theorem 6.** Suppose  $|\tau'_i|_0 < 1$ ,  $(i = 0, 1 \cdots, k)$  and assumption  $[H_1], [H_2]$  hold. Then equation (1) has at one least one *T*-periodic solution, if  $(\alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \delta_i)^{\frac{1}{p}} T^2 M_1(m) < 1$ , where  $M_1(m)$  and  $\delta_i$  are defined in Lemma 1, Lemma 2.

**Proof.** Let  $\Omega_1 = \{x \in X : Lx = \lambda Nx, \lambda \in ]0, 1[\}$  if  $x(.) = (x_1(.), x_2(.))^\top \in \Omega_1$ , then from (6) and (7), we have

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(m)}(t) = \lambda \varphi_q(x_2)(t) = \lambda |x_2(t)|^{q-2} x_2(t), \\ x_2^{(m)}(t) = \lambda f(x_1(t)) x_1'(t) + \lambda g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + \lambda e(t). \end{cases}$$
(13)

From Lemma 5, we have

$$|x_1(t)| = \left|x_1(t^*) + \int_{t^*}^t x_1'(s)ds\right| \le d + \int_{t^*}^t |x_1'(s)|ds, \quad t \in [t^*, t^* + T],$$

and

$$|x_1(t)| = |x_1(t-T)| = \left| x(t^*) - \int_{t-T}^{t^*} x_1'(s) ds \right| \le d + \int_{t^*-T}^{t^*} |x_1'(s)| ds, \quad t \in [t^*, t^* + T].$$

Combining the above two inequalities, we obtain

$$|x_{1}|_{0} = \max_{t \in [0,T]} |x_{1}(t)| = \max_{t \in [t^{*}, t^{*}+T]} |x_{1}(t)| \leq \max_{t \in [t^{*}, t^{*}+T]} \left\{ d + \frac{1}{2} \left( \int_{t^{*}}^{t} |x_{1}'(s)| ds + \int_{t-T}^{t^{*}} |x_{1}'(s)| ds \right) \right\}$$

$$\leq d + \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}'(s)| ds.$$
(14)

On the hand, multiplying both sides of (11) by  $x_1(t)$  and integrating it from 0 to T, we obtain

$$\int_{0}^{T} (\varphi_{p}(x_{1}^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} x_{1}(t) dt = \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} f(x_{1}(t)) x_{1}'(t) x_{1}(t) dt + \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} g(t, x_{1}(t), x_{1}(t - \tau_{1}(t)), \dots, x_{1}(t - \tau_{k}(t))) x_{1}(t) dt + \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} e(t) x_{1}(t) dt.$$
(15)

Case 1. If m is even, we obtain

$$\int_0^T (\varphi_p(x_1^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} x_1(t) dt = (-1)^m \int_0^T |x_1^{(m)}(t)|^p dt = \int_0^T |x_1^{(m)}(t)|^p dt.$$

Hence

$$\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt = \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} f(x_{1}(t)) x_{1}'(t) x_{1}(t) dt + \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} g(t, x_{1}(t), x_{1}(t - \tau_{1}(t)), \dots, x_{1}(t - \tau_{k}(t))) x_{1}(t) dt + \lambda^{p} \int_{0}^{T} e(t) x_{1}(t) dt.$$
(16)

In view of assumption  $[H_2]$ , Lemma 2 and (16), we have

$$\int_0^T |x_1^{(m)}(t)|^p dt \leqslant \left(\alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \delta_i\right) T |x_1|_0^p + (\beta + |e|_0) T |x_1|_0^p$$

i.e.

$$\left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq T^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\alpha_{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{i} \delta_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} |x_{1}|_{0} + T^{\frac{1}{p}} (\beta + |e|_{0})^{\frac{1}{p}} |x_{1}|_{0}^{\frac{1}{p}},$$

which together with (14), yields

$$\left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leq \frac{T^{\frac{1}{p}+1}}{2} \left(\alpha_{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{i} \delta_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} |x_{1}'|_{0} + \left(\frac{T^{2}}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} (\beta + |e|_{0})^{\frac{1}{p}} |x_{1}'|_{0}^{\frac{1}{p}} + T^{\frac{1}{p}} d\left(\alpha_{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{i} \delta_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + T^{\frac{1}{p}} d^{\frac{1}{p}} (\beta + |e|_{0})^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$

$$(17)$$

From Lemma 1, there exists  $M_1(m) > 0$  independent of  $\lambda$  and x such that

$$|x_1'|_0 \leq M_1(m) \int_0^T |x_1^{(m)}(t)| dt,$$

which together with (17) yields

$$\left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leqslant \frac{T^{2}}{2} M_{1}(m) \left(\alpha_{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{i} \delta_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + \left(\frac{T^{\frac{2}{p} + \frac{1}{pq}}}{2^{\frac{1}{p}}}\right) M_{1}(m)^{\frac{1}{p}} (\beta + |e|_{0})^{\frac{1}{p}} \left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p^{2}}} + T^{\frac{1}{p}} d\left(\alpha_{0} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{i} \delta_{i}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} + T^{\frac{1}{p}} d^{\frac{1}{p}} (\beta + |e|_{0})^{\frac{1}{p}}.$$
(18)

In view of p > 1 and  $\frac{T^2}{2}M_1(m)(\alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \delta_i)^{\frac{1}{p}} < 1$ , from (18) we see that there is a constant  $M_0$  independent of  $\lambda$  such that

$$\left(\int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}^{(m)}(t)|^{p} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \leqslant M_{0}.$$
(19)

Thus, it follows from Lemma 1 and (19) that we have

$$|x_1'|_0 \leqslant M_1(m) \int_0^T |x_1^{(m)}(t)| dt \leqslant M_1(m) T^{\frac{1}{q}} M_0 := M_{11}.$$
(20)

By means of (14) and (20), we have

$$|x_1|_0 \leqslant d + TM_{11} := M_{12}. \tag{21}$$

Let  $M_f = \max_{|u| \leq M_{12}} |f(u)|$ ,  $M_g = \max_{t \in [0,T], |u_0| \leq M_{12}, \dots, |u_k| \leq M_{12}} |g(t, u_0, \dots, u_k)|$  and from the second equation of (13), we have

$$\int_{0}^{T} |x_{2}^{(m)}(t)| dt \leq \int_{0}^{T} |f(x_{1}(t))x_{1}'(t)| dt + \int_{0}^{T} |g(t, x_{1}(t), x_{1}(t - \tau_{1}(t)), \dots, x_{1}(t - \tau_{k}(t)))| dt + \int_{0}^{T} |e(t)| \\
\leq M_{f} \int_{0}^{T} |x_{1}'(t)| dt + T(M_{g} + |e|_{0}) \\
\leq M_{f} T |x_{1}'|_{0} + T(M_{g} + |e|_{0}) \\
\leq M_{f} T M_{11} + T(M_{g} + |e|_{0}) := \overline{M_{0}}.$$
(22)

Again, from Lemma 1, we have

$$|x_2'|_0 \leq M_1(m) \int_0^T |x_2^{(m)}(t)| dt \leq M_1(m) M_{21} := M_{21}.$$

Integrating the first equation of (13), we have  $\int_0^T |x_2(t)|^{q-2} x_2(t) dt = 0$ , which implies that there is a constant  $\eta \in [0, T]$  such that  $x_2(\eta) = 0$ , thus

$$|x_2|_0 \leqslant \int_0^T |x_2'(t)| dt \leqslant T M_{21} := M_{22}.$$
(23)

Let  $\Omega_2 = \{x | x \in \text{Ker } L, QNx = 0\}$  if  $x \in \Omega_2$  then  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is a constant vector with

$$\begin{cases} |x_2|^{q-2}x_2 = 0, \\ \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [f(x_1(t))x_1'(t) + g(t, x_1(t), x_1(t - \tau_1(t)), ..., x_1(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t)]dt = 0. \end{cases}$$
(24)

According to the first formula of (24), we have  $x_2 = 0$ , which together with the second equation of (24) yields

$$\frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [g(t, x_1, x_1, \dots, x_1) + e(t)] dt = 0.$$

In view of  $[H_1]$ , we see that  $|x_1| \leq d$ . Now, let  $M_1 = \max\{M_{11}, M_{12}\}$ ,  $M_2 = \max\{M_{21}, M_{22}\}$ , then  $||x_1|| \leq M_1, ||x_2|| \leq M_2$ . Taking  $\Omega = \{x|x = (x_1, x_2)^\top \in X, ||x_1|| < M_1 + d, ||x_2|| < M_2 + d\}$ , then  $\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2 \subset \Omega$ . So from (21) and (23), it is easy to see that conditions (1) and (2) of Lemma 4 are satisfied.

Next, we verify the condition (3) of Lemma 4. To do this, we define the isomorphism

$$J: \operatorname{Im} Q \to \operatorname{Ker} L, \quad J(x_1, x_2)^T = (x_1, x_2)^\top,$$

then

$$JQN(x) = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_q(x_2) \\ \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [g(t, x_1, x_1, \dots, x_1) + e(t)] dt \end{pmatrix}, \quad x \in \overline{\operatorname{Ker} L \cap \Omega}.$$

By Lemma 3, we need to prove that

$$JQN(x) \neq \mu(JQN(-x)), \quad \forall x \in \partial\Omega \cap \operatorname{Ker} L, \quad \mu \in [0,1],$$

Case 1. If  $x = (x_1, x_2)^\top \in \partial \Omega \cap \operatorname{Ker} L \setminus \{(M_1 + d, 0)^\top, (-M_1 - d, 0)^\top\}$ , then  $x_2 \neq 0$  which, gives us  $\varphi_q(x_2) \neq 0$ 

$$\varphi_q(x_2)\varphi_q(-x_2) < 0,$$

obviously,  $\forall \mu \in [0, 1] \ JQN(x) \neq \mu(JQN(-x)).$ 

Case 2. If  $x = (M_1 + d, 0)^{\top}$  or  $x = (-M_1 - d, 0)^{\top}$  then

$$JQN(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T [g(t, x_1, x_1, \dots, x_1) + e(t)] dt \end{pmatrix},$$

which, together with  $[H_1]$ , yields  $\forall \mu \in [0, 1]$ ,  $JQN(x) \neq \mu(JQN(-x))$ .

Thus, the condition (3) of Lemma 4 is also satisfied. Therefore, by applying Lemma 4, we conclude that the equation Lx = Nx has at least one *T*-periodic solution on  $\overline{\Omega}$ , so (1).

The case m is odd can be treated similarly. This completes the proof of Theorem 6.

#### 4. Example

In this section, we provide an example to illustrate effectiveness of Theorem 6. Let us consider the following equation

$$(\varphi_3(x^{(8)}(t)))^{(8)} = f(x(t))x'(t) + g\left(t, x(t), x\left(t - \frac{\cos 20\pi t}{90}\right), x\left(t - \frac{\sin 20\pi t}{100}\right)\right) + \cos(20\pi t), \quad (25)$$

where

$$p = 3, \quad T = \frac{1}{10}, \quad \tau_1(t) = \frac{\cos 20\pi t}{90}, \quad \tau_2(t) = \frac{\sin 20\pi t}{100}, \quad e(t) = \cos 20\pi t,$$
$$g(t, u, v, w) = \operatorname{sgn}(u)u^2(2 + \sin 20\pi t) + \frac{3}{225}\left(\operatorname{sgn}(v)v^2 + \operatorname{sgn}(w)w^2\right)|\cos 20\pi t|.$$

Therefore we can choose d = 1,  $\alpha_0 = 3$ ,  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.014$ ,  $M_1(8) = (2\pi)^6 \sqrt{\frac{691}{2730 \times 12 \times 12!}}$ .

We can easily check that condition  $[H_1], [H_2]$  of Theorem 6 holds. We can compute

$$\left(\alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \delta_i\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} T^2 M_1(m) < 1,$$

by Theorem 6, (25) has at least one  $\frac{1}{10}$ -periodic solution.

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# Існування періодичного розв'язку для *p*-лапласівського диференціального рівняння вищого порядку з багатьма аргументами, що відхиляються

Мутауекіл Л.<sup>1</sup>, Чакроне О.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Кафедра математики, багатопрофільний факультет, Університет Мохамеда Першого в Ужді, Présidence de l'Université Mohammed Premier, BV Mohammed VI В.Р. 524, Oujda 60000, Morroco <sup>2</sup>Кафедра математики, факультет наук, Університет Мохамеда Першого в Ужді, Présidence de l'Université Mohammed Premier, BV Mohammed VI В.Р. 524, Oujda 60000, Morroco

Застосовуючи теорему продовження Мовхіна, теорію рядів Фур'є, теорію чисел Бернуллі та деякі нові нерівності, досліджується *p*-лапласівське диференціальне рівняння вищого порядку з аргументами, що відхиляються, виду

 $(\varphi_p(x^{(m)}(t)))^{(m)} = f(x(t))x'(t) + g(t, x(t), x(t - \tau_1(t)), \dots, x(t - \tau_k(t))) + e(t).$ 

Отримано деякі нові результати щодо існування періодичних розв'язків такого рівняння.

Ключові слова: періодичний розв'язок, вищий порядок, p-рівняння Лапласа, аргумент, що відхиляється, продовження Мовхіна.