

If $p = q + 1$, replace (21) by

$$(30) \quad \begin{aligned} & [(2\alpha_k - \beta_q)(1 - x) + (A - B)x]F \\ & = \alpha_k(1 - x)F(\alpha_k +) + (\alpha_k - \beta_q)F(\alpha_k -) \\ & \quad - x \sum_{j=1}^{q-1} V_{j,k} F(\beta_j +); \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, p. \end{aligned}$$

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ON THE GROWTH OF THE SOLUTIONS OF ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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In a recent paper,¹ N. Levinson gave four theorems concerning the behaviour of the solutions of the differential equation of elastic vibrations

$$(1) \quad d^2x/dt^2 + \phi(t)x = 0$$

as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. It is the purpose of this note to give generalizations of the Theorems I and III of Levinson by making use of certain inequalities concerning homogeneous equations of the first order

$$(2) \quad \frac{dx_i}{dt} + \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}x_k = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Theorems I and III of Levinson run as follows:

THEOREM I. *If $\alpha(t)$ denotes the integral*

$$(3) \quad \alpha(t) = \int_0^t |\phi(t) - c^2| dt,$$

then

$$(4) \quad x(t) = O\{\exp(\alpha(t)/2c)\}.$$

THEOREM III. *If $\alpha(t)$ is $O(t)$ then*

$$(5) \quad \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} |x(t) \exp(\alpha(t)/2c)| > 0.$$

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¹ *The growth of the solutions of a differential equation*, Duke Math. J. vol. 8 (1941) pp. 1-11.