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The purpose of this paper is to give some oscillation criteria for even order differential equations with deviating arguments.

A continuous real-valued function f(t) which is defined for all large t is called *oscillatory* if it has arbitrary large zero, otherwise it is called *nonoscillatory*.

Our work extends some results obtained by Ladas and Lakshmikantham [3] and Chiou [1] for second order equations.

1. In this section, we are concerned with the equation

(1.1) 
$$y^{(n)}(t) - \sum\limits_{i=1}^m p_i(t) y(g_i(t)) = 0$$
 ,  $n \geq 2$  an even integer ,

where the following assumptions are assumed to hold:

- $(I_1)$   $g_j(t) \leq t$  on  $[a, \infty)$ ,  $j=1, 2, \cdots, m$  and  $g_k(t) < t$  for some  $1 \leq k \leq m;$   $g_j'(t) \geq 0$  on  $[a, \infty)$  and  $g_j(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $j=1, 2, \cdots, m$ .
- $(I_2)$   $p_j(t) \ge 0$ ,  $p_j'(t) \le 0$  on  $[a, \infty)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \cdots$ , m and  $p_k(t) > 0$  on  $[a, \infty]$  for the same k as in  $(I_1)$ .

We shall give a sufficient condition for all bounded solutions of (1.1) to be oscillatory. Our result extends Ladas and Lakshmikatham's Theorems 2.1-2.4 in [3] to arbitrary even order equation (1.1).

LEMMA 1.1 (Lemma 2 in [2]). If y is a function, which together with its derivatives of order up to (n-1) inclusive, is absolutely continuous and of constant sign on the interval  $[a, \infty)$  and  $y^{(n)}(t)y(t) \ge 0$  on  $[a, \infty)$ , then either

$$y^{(j)}(t)y(t) \geqq 0$$
 ,  $j=0,\,1,\,\cdots,\,n$  ,

or there is an integer l,  $0 \le l \le n-2$ , which is even when n is even and odd when n is odd, such that

$$y^{(j)}(t)y(t) \ge 0 , \qquad j = 0, 1, \dots, l ,$$

and

$$(-1)^{n+j}y^{(j)}(t)y(t)\geq 0$$
,  $j=l+1, \ldots, n$ 

for t in  $[a, \infty)$ .

THEOREM 1.1. If  $(t - g_k(t))^n p_k(t) \ge n!$  for all sufficiently large t, then every bounded solution of (1.1) is oscillatory.

*Proof.* Let y be a nonoscillatory bounded solution of (1.1). Without loss of generality, we can assume that y(t) > 0 for  $t \ge T_1$ . There is a  $T_2 \ge T_1$  such that  $g_j(t) > T_1$   $(j = 1, 2, \dots, m)$  for  $t \ge T_2$ . There is a  $T_3 \ge T_2$  such that  $y^{(j)}(t)$   $(j = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1)$  is of constant sign for  $t \ge T_3$ . By Lemma 1.1 and since y is bounded, we have

$$(1.2) (-1)^{j}y^{(j)}(t) > 0 (j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1) \text{for } t \ge T_3.$$

It follows from (1.1) that

$$y^{(n+1)}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \{p'_j(t)y(g_j(t)) + p_j(t)y'(g_j(t))g'_j(t)\} \le 0$$

for  $t \geq T_3$ .

By Taylor's theorem, there is a  $\xi$  between  $\tau$  and t such that

$$(1.3) y^{(n-1)}(\tau) = y^{(n-1)}(t) + y^{(n)}(t)(\tau - t) + y^{(n+1)}(\xi) \frac{(\tau - t)^2}{2!}$$

$$\leq y^{(n-1)}(t) + y^{(n)}(t)(\tau - t)$$

$$= y^{(n-1)}(t) - (t - \tau) \sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i(t)y(g_i(t))$$

for  $\tau \geq T_3$  and  $t \geq T_3$ .

Integrating (1.3) with respect to  $\tau$  from s to t > s, we have

$$y^{(n-2)}(t) - y^{(n-2)}(s) \leq y^{(n-1)}(t)(t-s) - \frac{(t-s)^2}{2!} \sum_{j=1}^m p_j(t)y(g_j(t))$$
$$\leq y^{(n-1)}(t)(t-s) - \frac{(t-s)^2}{2!} p_k(t)y(g_k(t))$$

or

$$egin{align} y^{(n-2)}(s) & \geq y^{(n-2)}(t) - y^{(n-1)}(t)(t-s) \ & + rac{(t-s)^2}{2!} \ p_{_k}(t) y(g_{_k}(t)) \quad ext{for } t>s \geq T_3 \,. \end{cases}$$

In a similar way repeatedly, we shall have

$$y'(s) \leq y'(t) - y''(t)(t-s) + y'''(t) \frac{(t-s)^2}{2!}$$

$$- \cdots + y^{(n-1)}(t) \frac{(t-s)^{n-2}}{(n-2)!}$$

$$- p_k(t)y(g_k(t)) \frac{(t-s)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \text{ for } t > s \geq T_3.$$

Integrating (1.4) from  $g_k(t)$  to t, we obtain

$$egin{aligned} y(t) - y(g_k(t)) & \leq y'(t)(t-g_k(t)) - y''(t) rac{(t-g_k(t))^2}{2!} \ & + y'''(t) rac{(t-g_k(t))^3}{3!} - \cdots + y^{(n-1)}(t) rac{(t-g_k(t))^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \ & - p_k(t) y(g_k((t)) rac{(t-g_k(t))^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

or

$$(t - g_{k}(t))y'(t) - \frac{(t - g_{k}(t))^{2}}{2!}y''(t) + \frac{(t - g_{k}(t))^{3}}{3!}y'''(t) - \cdots + \frac{(t - g_{k}(t))^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}y^{(n-1)}(t) + \left[1 - \frac{p_{k}(t)(t - g_{k}(t))^{n}}{n!}\right]y(g_{k}(t)) - y(t) \ge 0$$

for all sufficiently large t.

It follows from (1.2) that

$$1 - \frac{p_k(t)(t - g_k(t))^n}{n!} > 0$$

or

$$(t-g_{k}(t))^{n}p_{k}(t)>n!$$
 for all sufficiently large  $t$ .

This is a contradiction and the proof is then complete.

EXAMPLE 1.1. If we consider the equation

$$(1.5) y^{(4)}(t) - \frac{(2k\pi)^4}{\tau^4}y(t-\tau) = 0, \quad \tau > 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \cdots,$$

then  $p(t) = (2k\pi)^4 \tau^{-4}$  satisfies the assumption and every bounded solution of (1.5) is oscillatory. A bounded oscillatory solution of (1.5) is  $y(t) = \sin(2k\pi/\tau)t$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \cdots$ 

COROLLARY 1.1. Consider the equation

$$(1.6) y^{(n)}(t) - \sum_{i=1}^{m} y(t-\tau_i) = 0 , \tau_i \geq 0 (j=1, 2, \cdots, m) .$$

If  $\tau_k \geq \sqrt[n]{n!}$  for some  $1 \leq k \leq m$ , then every bounded solution of (1.6) is oscillatory.

2. We shall consider the equations

$$(2.1) y^{(n)}(t) + p(t)f(y(t), y(g(t))) = 0$$

and

$$(2.2) y^{(n)}(t) + F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) = 0 , n \geq 2 \text{ an even integer ,}$$

with the following conditions:

(II<sub>1</sub>) g(t) is a continuous function on  $[a, \infty)$  such that  $g(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

(II<sub>2</sub>) p(t) is a nonnegative continuous function on  $[a, \infty)$ .

(II<sub>3</sub>) f(u, v) is a continuous function on  $R^2$  and has the same sign as that of u and v if uv > 0.

(II<sub>4</sub>) F(t, u, v) is a continuous function on  $[a, \infty) \times R^2$ , non-decreasing in u and in v for each fixed t and has the same sign as that of u and v if uv > 0.

In this section, we shall give conditions which will ensure that every extensible solution y of (2.1) or (2.2) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 for all sufficiently large t. This generalizes to higher order equations some results due to Chiou [1, Theorems 2.2, 2.6, 2.8, 2.9, 2.12, 2.14, 2.15, 2.18, 2.19, 2.20, 2.22 and 2.23].

LEMMA 2.1 (Lemma 1 in [2]). If y is a function which together with its derivatives of order up to (n-1) inclusive, is absolutely continuous and of constant sign on the interval  $[a, \infty)$  and  $y^{(n)}(t)y(t) \leq 0$  on  $[a, \infty)$ , then there is an integer l,  $0 \leq l \leq n-1$ , which is odd when n is even and even when n is odd, such that

$$y^{\scriptscriptstyle (j)}(t)y(t)\geqq 0$$
 ,  $j=0,\,1,\,\cdots,\,l$  ,

and

$$(-1)^{n+j-1}y^{(j)}(t)y(t)\geq 0$$
,  $j=l+1, \cdots, n$ 

for t in  $[a, \infty)$ .

LEMMA 2.2 (Corollary 2.3 in [4]). If

(2.3) 
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t^{n-1} F(t, \gamma, \gamma) dt = \pm \infty \quad \text{for each } \gamma \neq 0 ,$$

then every bounded solution of (2.2) is oscillatory.

In a similar way, we have

LEMMA 2.3. If

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} t^{n-1} p(t) dt = \infty ,$$

then every bounded solution of (2.1) is oscillatory.

THEOREM 2.1. Assume that

(i) there exists a positive function q(t) such that

(2.5) 
$$q(t) \leq \min \{g(t), t\}, q'(t) > 0 \text{ and } q''(t) \leq 0 \text{ for } t \geq a.$$

(ii) there exist positive functions h(t) and  $h_1(t)$  for  $t \ge \alpha > 0$  and a constant M>0 such that

$$(2.6) \qquad \int^{\infty} \frac{dv}{h(v)} < \infty \quad and \quad \liminf_{v \to \infty} \left| \frac{h_1(cv)f(u, v)}{h(v)} \right| \geq \varepsilon > 0$$

for u>M, every c>0 and for some  $\varepsilon=\varepsilon(c)$ .

If

$$\int^{\infty} \frac{q^{n-1}(t)p(t)}{h_1(g(t))} dt = \infty ,$$

then every extensible solution of (2.1) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t)>0 eventually.

*Proof.* Let y be a nonoscillatory solution of (2.1). Without loss of generality, we may assume that y(t) > 0 for  $t \ge T_1$ . There is a  $T_2 \ge T_1$  such that  $g(t) \ge T_1$  for  $t \ge T_2$ . It follows from (2.1) that  $y^{(n)}(t) \le 0$  for  $t \ge T_2$ . There is a  $T_3 \ge T_2$  such that each  $y^{(j)}(t)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , is of constant sign for  $t \ge T_3$ . By Lemma 2.1, y'(t) > 0 for  $t \ge T_3$ .

If y''(t) > 0 for  $t \ge T_3$ , then our proof is done. Assume that y''(t) < 0 for  $t \ge T_3$ . Then, by Lemma 2.1, we have

$$(2.8) (-1)^{j-1}y^{(j)}(t) > 0 (j = 1, 2, \dots, n-1) for t \ge T_3.$$

Since (2.7) implies (2.4) and since y'(t) > 0 for  $t \ge T_3$ , it follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $y(t) \to \infty$  as  $t \to \infty$ .

Integrating (2.1) repeatedly from t to  $t' > 2t \ge 2T_3$  and using (2.8) as well as integration by parts, we have

$$(2.9) y'(t) \ge \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \int_t^{t'} (u-t)^{n-2} p(u) f(y(u), y(g(u))) du.$$

Dividing (2.9) by h(y(g(t))), we have

$$(2.10) \quad \frac{y'(t)}{h(y(q(t)))} \ge \frac{1}{(n-2)!} \int_t^{t'} \frac{(u-t)^{n-2}p(u)f(y(u), y(g(u)))}{h(y(g(u)))} du .$$

Since y'(t) is decreasing for  $t \ge T_3$ , there exist  $T_4 \ge T_3$  and c > 0 such that  $cy(t) \le t$  for  $t \ge T_4$ . From (2.5) and (2.6) we have

$$(2.11) \frac{p(u)f(y(u), y(g(u)))}{h(y(g(u)))} \ge \frac{p(u)}{h_1(g(u))} \frac{h_1(cy(g(u)))f(y(u), y(g(u)))}{h(y(g(u)))} \\ \ge \frac{\varepsilon p(u)}{h_1(g(u))}.$$

It follows from (2.10) and (2.11) that

$$(2.12) \qquad \frac{y'(t)}{h(y(q(t)))} \ge \frac{\varepsilon}{(n-2)!} \int_{t}^{t'} \frac{(u-t)^{n-2}p(u)}{h_{1}(g(u))} du \\ \ge \frac{\varepsilon t^{n-2}}{(n-2)!} \int_{zt}^{t'} \frac{p(u)}{h_{1}(g(u))} du .$$

Since  $q(t) \le t$ , q'(t) > 0 and  $q''(t) \le 0$ , we have

$$(2.13) \quad \frac{y'(q(t))q'(t)}{h(y(q(t)))} \ge \frac{y'(t)q'(t)}{h(y(q(t)))} \ge \frac{\varepsilon q^{n-2}(2t)q'(2t)}{2^{n-2}(n-2)!} \int_{2t}^{t'} \frac{p(u)}{h_1(g(u))} du.$$

Integrating (2.13) from  $T_4$  to  $T > T_4$  and using integration by parts, we get

$$egin{aligned} \int_{T_4}^T rac{dy(q(s))}{h(y(q(s)))} & \geq rac{arepsilon q^{n-1}(2\,T)}{2^{n-1}(n-1)!} \int_{2T}^{t'} rac{p(u)}{h_1(g(u))} du - rac{arepsilon q^{n-1}(2\,T_4)}{2^{n-1}(n-1)!} \ & imes \int_{2T_4}^{t'} rac{p(u)}{h_1(g(u))} du + rac{arepsilon}{2^{n-2}(n-2)!} \int_{T_4}^{T} rac{q^{n-1}(2t)p(2t)}{h_1(g(2t))} dt \ & \geq -rac{q^{n-1}(2\,T_4)}{2^{n-1}(n-1)!} \int_{2T_4}^{t'} rac{p(u)}{h_1(g(u))} du + rac{arepsilon}{2^{n-2}(n-1)!} \ & imes \int_{T_4}^{T} rac{q^{n-1}(2t)p(2t)}{h_1(g(2t))} dt \ . \end{aligned}$$

Using (2.12) for  $t = T_4$ , we have

$$egin{aligned} \int_{T_4}^T rac{dy(q(s))}{h(y(q(s)))} &\geq -rac{arepsilon q^{n-1}(2\,T_4)}{2^{n-1}(n-1)!} rac{y'(T_4)}{h(y(q(T_4)))} rac{(n-2)!}{arepsilon T_4^{n-2}} \ &+ rac{arepsilon}{2^{n-2}(n-1)!} \int_{T_4}^t rac{q^{n-1}(2t)p(2t)}{h_1(g(2t))} dt \;. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $T \rightarrow \infty$  and obtain

$$\int_{2T_A}^{\infty} rac{q^{n-1}(s)p(s)}{h_1(q(s))} ds < \infty$$
 .

This contradicts (2.7) and the proof is complete.

If  $y(t) \to \infty$  as  $t \to \infty$ , then by the monotonicity of F(t, u, v), there exist  $\alpha > 0$  and T > 0 such that

$$F(t, y(t), y(g(t))) \ge F(t, \alpha, \alpha) > 0$$
 for  $t \ge T$ .

By using this fact and Lemma 2.2 instead of Lemma 2.3 in the proof

of Theorem 2.1, we can prove the following

THEOREM 2.2. Assume that (2.5) is satisfied and that there exist positive nondecreasing functions h(t) and  $h_1(t)$  for  $t \ge a > 0$  and a constant M > 0 such that

$$(2.14) \quad \int^{\infty} \frac{dv}{h(v)} < \infty \quad and \quad \liminf_{v \to \infty} \left| \frac{h_1(cv)F(t, u, v)}{h(v)} \right| \geq \varepsilon F(t, \alpha, \alpha) > 0$$

for u > M, every c > 0 and for some  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(c)$  and  $\alpha > 0$ . If

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{q^{n-1}(t)F(t,\alpha,\alpha)}{h_{1}(q(t))}dt = \infty,$$

then every extensible solution y of (2.2) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

The following example presents the occurrence of the case y''(t)y(t) > 0 for all sufficiently large t.

EXAMPLE 2.1. If we consider the equation

$$(2.16) \qquad y^{(4)}(t) + rac{15}{16}(t- au)^{-3/2}(t-2 au)^{-5/6}[y(t- au)]^{1/3} = 0$$
 ,

then  $F(t, u, v) = (15/16)(t - \tau)^{-3/2}(t - 2\tau)^{-5/6}v^{1/3}$  and  $g(t) = t - \tau$  satisfy conditions (II<sub>4</sub>) and (II<sub>1</sub>). Let  $q(t) = t - \tau$ ,  $h(v) = v^{5/4}$  and  $h_1(v) = v$ . Then conditions (2.5), (2.14) and (2.15) are satisfied and  $y(t) = (t - \tau)^{5/2}$  is a nonoscillatory solution of (2.16) with y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

EXAMPLE 2.2. If we consider the equation

(2.17) 
$$y^{(6)}(t) + y(t) + \frac{6}{6 - \frac{1}{2}\pi}y(g(t)) = 0,$$

then  $F(t, u, v) = u + (6/(6 - (1/2)\pi))v$  and  $g(t) = t - (1/2)\pi$  satisfy conditions (II<sub>4</sub>) and (II<sub>1</sub>). Let  $q(t) = t^{1/2}$ ,  $h(v) = v^{3/2}$  and  $h_1(v) = v$ . Then conditions (2.5), (2.14) and (2.15) are also satisfied. In fact,  $y(t) = t \sin t$  is an oscillatory solution of (2.17) which is not bounded. Lemma 2.2 does not cover this example.

By using the techniques given in [1] and the modification in the proof of Theorem 2.1, we can prove the following theorems. We shall omit their proofs here.

THEOREM 2.3. Let  $0 < g(t) \le t$ . Assume that there exist positive nondecreasing continuous functions h(t),  $h_1(t)$  and  $h_2(t)$  for  $t \ge a > 0$  and that  $u \ge v$  implies

$$\int^{\infty} rac{dv}{h(v)} < \infty \;\; and \; \liminf_{v o \infty} \left| rac{h_1(cu)h_2(u)f(u,\,v)}{h(u)h_2\!\!\left(rac{lpha t}{g(t)}v
ight)} 
ight| \geqq rac{arepsilon}{h_2\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)} > 0$$

for every c>0 and for some  $\alpha>1$  and  $\epsilon>0$ . If

$$\int^{\infty}rac{t^{n-1}p(t)}{h_{1}(t)h_{2}\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)}dt=\infty$$
 ,

then every extensible solution y of (2.1) is either oscillatory or  $y''(t)y(t) \ge 0$  eventually.

THEOREM 2.4. Let  $0 < g(t) \le t$ . Assume that there exist positive nondecreasing continuous functions h(t),  $h_1(t)$  and  $h_2(t)$  for  $t \ge a > 0$  and that u > v implies

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} rac{dv}{h(v)} < \infty \quad and \quad \liminf_{v o \infty} \left| rac{h_1(cu)h_2(u)F(t,\,u,\,v)}{h(u)h_2\!\!\left(rac{lpha t}{g(t)}v
ight)} 
ight| \ge rac{arepsilon F(t,\,eta,\,eta)}{h_2\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)} > 0$$

for every c > 0 and for some  $\alpha > 1$ ,  $\beta > 0$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . If

$$\int^{\infty} rac{t^{n-1}F(t,\,eta,\,eta)}{h_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(t)h_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)}\,dt = \, \infty$$
 ,

then every extensible solution y of (2.2) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

THEOREM 2.5. Let g(t) satisfy (2.5) and  $q(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Assume that there exist a positive nondecreasing function  $h_1(t)$  for  $t \geq a > 0$  and a constant M > 0 such that

$$\liminf_{v \to \infty} \left| \frac{h_1(cv)f(u, v)}{v} \right| \ge \varepsilon > 0$$

for every c>0 and for some  $\varepsilon>0$ . If (2.4) hold and

$$\limsup_{t o\infty}q^{n-1}(t)\int_t^\inftyrac{p(s)}{h_1(g(s))}\;ds>rac{(n-1)!}{arepsilon}$$
 ,

then every extensible solution y of (2.1) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

THEOREM 2.6. Let q(t) satisfy (2.5) and  $q(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Assume that there exist a positive nondecreasing function  $h_1(t)$  for  $t \geq a > 0$  and a constant M > 0 such that

$$\liminf_{v o \infty} \left| rac{h_1(cv)F(t, u, v)}{v} 
ight| \ge arepsilon F(t, lpha, lpha) > 0$$

for every c>0 and for some  $\alpha>1$  and  $\varepsilon>0$ . If (2.3) hold and

$$\limsup_{t o\infty}q^{n-1}(t)\int_t^\inftyrac{F(s,\,lpha,\,lpha)}{h_1(g(s))}\,ds>rac{(n-1)!}{arepsilon}\,for\,\,every\,\,lpha>0$$
 ,

then every extensible solution y of (2.2) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

Theorem 2.7. Let  $0 < g(t) \le t$ . Assume that there exist positive nondecreasing continuous functions  $h_1(t)$  and  $h_2(t)$  for  $t \ge a > 0$  and that  $u \ge v$  implies

$$\liminf_{v o\infty}\left|rac{h_1(cu)h_2(u)f(u,\,v)}{u\,h_2\!\!\left(rac{lpha t}{g(t)}\,v
ight)}
ight| \geqq rac{arepsilon}{h_2\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)}\!>0$$

for every c>0 and for some  $\alpha>1$  and  $\varepsilon>0$ . If (2.4) hold and

$$\limsup_{t o\infty} t^{n-1} \int_t^\infty rac{p(s)}{h_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(s)h_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}\!\!\left(rac{s}{g(s)}
ight)} ds > rac{2^{n-1}(n-1)!}{arepsilon} \; ,$$

then every extensible solution y of (2.1) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

THEOREM 2.8. Let  $0 < g(t) \le t$ . Assume that there exist positive nondecreasing continuous functions  $h_1(t)$  and  $h_2(t)$  for  $t \ge a > 0$  and that  $u \ge v$  implies

$$\left| \liminf_{v o \infty} \left| rac{h_1(cu)h_2(u)f(t,\,u,\,v)}{uh_2\!\!\left(rac{lpha t}{g(t)}v
ight)} 
ight| \geqq rac{arepsilon f(t,\,eta,\,eta)}{h_2\!\!\left(rac{t}{g(t)}
ight)} > 0$$

for every c>0 and for some  $\alpha>1$ ,  $\beta>0$  and  $\varepsilon>0$ . If (2.3) hold and

$$\limsup_{t o\infty} t^{n-1} \int_t^\infty rac{f(s,eta,eta)}{h_{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(s)h_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}\!\!\left(rac{s}{g(s)}
ight)} ds > rac{2^{n-1}(n-1)!}{arepsilon} \, ,$$

then every extensible solution y of (2.2) is either oscillatory or y''(t)y(t) > 0 eventually.

REMARK 2.1. In a similar way, corresponding to Theorems 2.6, 2.12, 2.18 and 2.22 in [1] we can establish the same results as those

of Theorems 2.1, 2.3, 2.5 and 2.7 for the equation

$$y^{\scriptscriptstyle(n)}(t)+\sum\limits_{j=1}^{m}p_{j}(t)f_{j}(y(t),\,y(g_{j}(t)))=0,\,n\geqq 2$$
 an even integer ,

where  $p_j$ ,  $g_j$  and  $f_j$  are continuous functions,  $p_j(t) \ge 0$ ,  $g_j(t) \to \infty$  as  $t \to \infty$  and  $f_j(u, v)$  has the same sign as that of u and v if uv > 0,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

REMARK 2.2. If n=2, then the case of y''(t)y(t) > 0 for all large t couldn't occur. Consequently, under the assumptions in each theorem all extensible solutions of (2.1) or (2.2) with n=2 are oscillatory [1, pp. 384-397].

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