

EXISTENCE OF POSITIVE SOLUTIONS FOR SECOND ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION WITH FOUR POINT BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

LIU YANG^{*,**}, CHUNFANG SHEN^{*} AND WEIGUO ZHANG^{*}

^{*} College of Science, University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, Shanghai, 200093, China.

^{**,**} Department of Mathematics, Hefei Normal University, Hefei, Anhui Province, 230061, China.

E-mail: xjiangfeng@163.com

Abstract. We consider positive solutions to second-order four-point boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} x''(t) + f(t, x, x') = 0, t \in (0, 1) \\ x(0) = \alpha x(\eta), x(1) = \beta x(\xi) \end{cases}$$

By using fixed point theorem, we present sufficient conditions which ensure the existence of three positive solutions to this problem. It's necessary to point out that it's the first time that positive solutions to this problem were established for the general case $\eta, \xi \in (0, 1)$. An examples is given to illustrate the main results.

Key Words and Phrases: Boundary value problem, positive solution, cone, fixed point.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 34B10, 34B15, 47H10.

Acknowledgement. The authors are grateful to referee for his helpful comments which led to an improvement of this paper.

REFERENCES

- [1] R. Ma, *Positive solutions for a nonlinear three-point boundary value problem*, Electronic Journal of Differential Equations, **34**(1999), 1-8.
- [2] X. He and W. Ge, *Triple solutions for second-order three-point boundary value problems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl., **268**(2002), 256-265.
- [3] Z. Bai and W. Ge, *Existence of three positive solutions for some second-order boundary value problems*, Comput. Math. Appl., **48**(2004), 699-707.
- [4] P. Palamides, *Positive and monotone solutions of an m-point boundary-value problem*, Electronic Journal of Differential Equations, **18**(2002), 1-16.
- [5] L. Yang etc, *Multiplicity results for second-order m-point boundary value problem*, J. Math. Anal. Appl, **324**(2006), 532-542.
- [6] L. Yang etc, *Existence of Three Positive Solutions for Some Second-Order M-Point Boundary Value Problems*, Acta. Math. Appl. Sinica, **24**(2008), 253-264.
- [7] R. Avery and A. Peterson, *Three positive fixed points of nonlinear operators on an ordered Banach space*, Comput. Math. Appl., **208**(2001), 313-322.
- [8] B. Liu, *Positive solutions of a nonlinear four-point boundary value problems*, Appl. Math. Comput, **155**(2004), 179-203.

This work was supported by the Anhui Provincial Natural Science Foundation (10040606Q50).

- [9] Z. Bai and W. Ge, Y. Wang, *Multiplicity results for some second-order four-point boundary-value problems*, Nonlinear Anal., **60**(2004), 491-500.
- [10] Z. Bai, Z. Du, *Positive solutions for some second-order four-point boundary value problems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl, **330**(2007), 34-50.
- [11] R. Khan, *Positive solutions of four-point singular boundary value problems*, Appl. Math. Comput., **201**(2008), 762-773.
- [12] X. Xian, D. O'Regan, *Multiplicity of sign-changing solutions for some four-point boundary value problem*, Nonlinear Anal., **69**(2008), 434-447.

Received: April 27, 2009; Accepted: June 17, 2010.