

ON POSITIVITY OF GREEN'S FUNCTIONS OF TWO-POINT
IMPULSIVE PROBLEMS *

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Abstract. We consider the following second order impulsive differential equation with delays

$$\begin{cases} (Lx)(t) \equiv x''(t) + \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t)x'(t - \tau_j(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)x(t - \theta_j(t)) = f(t), & t \in [0, \omega], \\ x(t_k) = \gamma_k x(t_k - 0), \quad x'(t_k) = \delta_k x'(t_k - 0), & k = 1, 2, \dots, r. \end{cases}$$

In this paper we develop the approach of [5] and obtain explicit conditions of nonpositivity of Green's functions for two-point boundary value problems.

Key Words. Second order impulsive differential equations, boundary value problems, sign-constancy of Green's functions

AMS(MOS) subject classification. 34K06, 34K10, 34K45

1. Introduction. Impulsive differential equations has attracted an attention of a number of recognized mathematicians and has applications in many spheres of science from physics, biology, medicine to economical studies. The following well-known books can be noted in this context [11, 13, 14, 15]. In the book [3] the concept of the general theory of functional differential equations was presented. On the basis of this concept nonoscillation for the first order functional differential equations was considered in [4], where positivity of the Cauchy and Green's functions of the periodic problem was studied. A concept of nonoscillation for the first order differential equations is also considered in the book [1]. The positivity of

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Green's function of one- and two-point boundary value problems was studied in [2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12].

This paper develops the approach of [5] and is aimed to obtain explicit conditions of nonpositivity of Green's functions for two-point boundary value problems.

Let us consider the following impulsive equations:

$$(1) \quad (Lx)(t) \equiv x''(t) + \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t)x'(t - \tau_j(t)) + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)x(t - \theta_j(t)) = f(t),$$

$$t \in [0, \omega],$$

$$(2) \quad x(t_k) = \gamma_k x(t_k - 0), \quad x'(t_k) = \delta_k x'(t_k - 0), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, r,$$

$$0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_r < t_{r+1} = \omega,$$

$$(3) \quad x(\zeta) = 0, \quad \zeta < 0,$$

where $f, a_j, b_j: [0, \omega] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are summable functions and $\tau_j, \theta_j: [0, \omega] \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$ are measurable functions for $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$, p and r are natural numbers, γ_k and δ_k are real positive numbers.

Let $D(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r)$ be a space of functions $x: [0, \omega] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that their derivative $x'(t)$ is absolutely continuous on every interval $t \in [t_i, t_{i+1})$, $i = 0, 1, \dots, r$, $x'' \in L_\infty$ there exist the finite limits $x(t_i - 0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_i^-} x(t)$ and $x'(t_i - 0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow t_i^-} x'(t)$ and condition (2) is satisfied at points t_i ($i = 0, 1, \dots, r$). Solution x is a function $x \in D(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_r)$ satisfying (1)-(3).

2. Preliminaries. For equation (1)-(3) we consider the following variants of boundary conditions:

$$(4) \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x(\omega) = 0,$$

$$(5) \quad x'(0) = 0, \quad x(\omega) = 0,$$

$$(6) \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(\omega) = 0,$$

$$(7) \quad x'(0) = 0, \quad x'(\omega) = 0.$$

General solution of the equation (1)-(3) can be represented in the form [4]:

$$(8) \quad x(t) = \nu_1(t)x(0) + C(t, 0)x'(0) + \int_0^t C(t, s)f(s)ds,$$

where

- $\nu_1(t)$ is a solution of the homogeneous equation

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} (Lx)(t) \equiv x''(t) + \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t)x'(t - \tau_j(t)) \\ + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)x(t - \theta_j(t)) = 0, \quad t \in [0, \omega], \end{aligned}$$

$$(10) \quad \begin{aligned} x(t_k) = \gamma_k x(t_k - 0), \quad x'(t_k) = \delta_k x'(t_k - 0), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, r, \\ 0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_r < t_{r+1} = \omega, \end{aligned}$$

$$(11) \quad x(\zeta) = 0, \quad \zeta < 0,$$

with the boundary conditions $x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 0$.

- $C(t, s)$ is a Cauchy function of the equation (9)-(11).

It means that $C(t, s)$ is the solution of the equation

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} (L_s x)(t) \equiv x''(t) + \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t)x'(t - \tau_j(t)) \\ + \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)x(t - \theta_j(t)) = 0, \quad t \in [s, \omega], \end{aligned}$$

$$(13) \quad \begin{aligned} x(t_k) = \gamma_k x(t_k - 0), \quad x'(t_k) = \delta_k x'(t_k - 0), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, r, \\ 0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_r < t_{r+1} = \omega, \end{aligned}$$

$$(14) \quad x(\zeta) = 0, \quad \zeta < s,$$

satisfying the conditions $C(s, s) = 0, C'_i(s, s) = 1, C(t, s) = 0$ for $t < s$.

If the boundary value problem (1)-(3), (2.i), $i = \overline{1, 4}$ is uniquely solvable, then its solution can be represented as

$$(15) \quad x(t) = \int_0^\omega G_i(t, s)f(s)ds, \quad i = \overline{1, 4},$$

where $G_i(t, s)$ is Green's function of the problem (1)-(3), (2.i) respectively [5].

Using general representation of the solution (8), the following formulas for Green's functions can be obtained:

$$(16) \quad G_1(t, s) = C(t, s) - C(t, 0) \frac{C(\omega, s)}{C(\omega, 0)},$$

$$(17) \quad G_2(t, s) = C(t, s) - C(\omega, s) \frac{\nu_1(t)}{\nu_1(\omega)},$$

$$(18) \quad G_3(t, s) = C(t, s) - C(t, 0) \frac{C'_t(\omega, s)}{C'_t(\omega, 0)},$$

$$(19) \quad G_4(t, s) = C(t, s) - C'_t(\omega, s) \frac{\nu_1(t)}{\nu'_1(\omega)}.$$

Below the following definition will be used.

DEFINITION 1. We call $[0, \omega]$ a semi-nonosillation interval of (9)-(11), if every nontrivial solution having zero of derivative does not have zero on this interval.

In the paper [5] the following assertions about test functions have been proven.

LEMMA 1. Assume that $a_j(t) \geq 0$, $b_j(t) \leq 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, p$, $0 < \gamma_k \leq 1$, $0 < \delta_k \leq 1$ for $k = 1, \dots, r$, and there exists a function $v \in D$ and $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$(20) \quad (Lv)(t) \geq \epsilon > 0, \quad v(t) > 0, \quad v'(t) < 0, \quad v''(t) > 0, \quad t \in (0, \omega),$$

where the differential operator L is defined by (1). And let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonosillation interval of (9)-(11). Then Green's functions $G_1(t, s)$, $G_2(t, s)$, $G_3(t, s)$ satisfy the inequalities $G_1(t, s) \leq 0$, $G_2(t, s) \leq 0$, $G_3(t, s) \leq 0$, $(t, s) \in [0, \omega] \times [0, \omega]$. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t) \chi_{[0, \omega]}(t - \theta_j(t)) \neq 0$, $t \in [0, \omega]$, then $G_4(t, s) \leq 0$, $(t, s) \in [0, \omega] \times [0, \omega]$.

LEMMA 2. Assume that $a_j(t) \geq 0$, $b_j(t) \geq 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, p$, $1 \leq \gamma_k$, $1 \leq \delta_k$ for $k = 1, \dots, r$, and there exists a function $v \in D$ and $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$(21) \quad (Lv)(t) \leq -\epsilon < 0, \quad v(t) > 0, \quad v'(t) > 0, \quad v''(t) < 0, \quad t \in (0, \omega),$$

where the differential operator L is defined by (1). And let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonosillation interval of (9)-(11). Then Green's function $G_1(t, s)$ satisfies the inequality $G_1(t, s) \leq 0$, $(t, s) \in [0, \omega] \times [0, \omega]$.

A question, connected with a particular form of the test functions, satisfying the conditions of Lemma 1 and Lemma 2, will be considered in the next section.

3. Construction of test functions. Let us now find an example of a function $v(t)$ satisfying the condition of Lemma 1. Let us start with $v(t) = e^{-\alpha t}$ in the interval $t \in [0, t_1)$. The function $v(t)$ in the rest of the intervals will be of the form

$$(22) \quad v(t) = c_i e^{-\alpha d_i t}, \quad t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}),$$

$q, c_i, d_i \in \mathbb{R}, c_i \neq 0, i = \overline{1, 4}$ and the conditions (2) are fulfilled.

After some calculations, we get that $v(t)$ is of the form

$$(23) \quad \begin{cases} v(t) = e^{-\alpha t}, & t \in [0, t_1), \\ v(t) = \prod_{j=1}^i \gamma_j e^{-\alpha \prod_{k=1}^i \frac{\delta_k}{\gamma_k} (t-t_i)} \prod_{j=1}^{i-1} e^{-\alpha \prod_{k=1}^j \frac{\delta_k}{\gamma_k} (t_{j+1}-t_j)} e^{-\alpha t_1}, \\ & t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}). \end{cases}$$

It should be mentioned that in the paper [5] the form of the function $v(t)$ (see, equation (3.12) from [5]) covers only the case when $\gamma_i = \delta_i, i = 1, \dots, r$. But our formula (23) is fair for any $\gamma_i > 0$ and $\delta_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, r$.

For the next theorems, we use the following notation:

$$(24) \quad E = \min_{i=1,2,\dots,r} \prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j},$$

$$(25) \quad \Theta = \max_{t \in [0, \omega]} \max_{j=1,2,\dots,p} \theta_j(t),$$

$$(26) \quad T = \max_{t \in [0, \omega]} \max_{j=1,2,\dots,p} \tau_j(t),$$

$$(27) \quad \Omega = \max\{T, \Theta\}.$$

In the theorems below we assume that the delays are small enough to stay within the current interval, i.e. $t - \tau_j \in [t_i, t_{i+1})$ and $t - \theta_j \in [t_i, t_{i+1})$.

THEOREM 1. Let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonoscillation interval of (9)-(11). If $a_j \geq 0$, $b_j \leq 0$, $0 < \gamma_i < \delta_i \leq 1$, $t_i \leq t - \tau_j(t) < t_{i+1}$, $t_i \leq t - \theta_j(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1})$, $j = 1, \dots, p$, $i = 0, \dots, r$, and

$$(28) \quad \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha E \Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

where α satisfies the equation:

$$(29) \quad \alpha(2 - \alpha E \Omega) e^{-\alpha E \Omega} = \frac{1}{E} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|,$$

then Green's functions $G_1(t, s)$, $G_2(t, s)$, $G_3(t, s)$ are nonpositive. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t) \chi_{[0, \omega]}(t - \theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0$, then Green's function $G_4(t, s)$ is also nonpositive.

Proof. Let us substitute this $v(t)$, defined by (23), into the condition of Lemma 1. We obtain:

$$(30) \quad \alpha^2 \left(\prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \right)^2 - \alpha \prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| e^{\alpha \prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \tau_j(t)} - \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| e^{\alpha \prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \theta_j(t)} > 0.$$

Thus,

$$(31) \quad \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha E \Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

where E and Ω are defined by (24) and (27), correspondingly. Denoting

$$(32) \quad F(\alpha) = \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha E \Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|,$$

we can find its maximum using the derivative:

$$(33) \quad F'(\alpha) = \alpha E^2 (2 - \alpha E \Omega) e^{-\alpha E \Omega} - E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|.$$

The solution of the equation

$$(34) \quad \alpha(2 - \alpha E \Omega) e^{-\alpha E \Omega} = \frac{1}{E} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|$$

will give us a point of maximum.

Using this α in Lemma 1, we obtain a condition of nonpositivity of Green's functions $G_1(t, s), G_2(t, s), G_3(t, s)$. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)\chi_{[0,\omega]}(t-\theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0, t \in [0, \omega]$, then, according to Lemma 1, $G_4(t, s) \leq 0$.

□

EXAMPLE 1. Let $r = 1, \gamma_1 = 0.5, \delta_1 = 0.8, t_1 = 0.5, \omega = 1, p = 1$ and delays satisfy the conditions $t_i \leq t - \tau_1(t) < t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_1(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), i = 0, \dots, r$. Let also $a_1(t) = 0.3t$.

Then Ω can not exceed 0.5 and $E = 1.6$. Substituting these values into the equation (29) and solving it, we get $\alpha = 1.9311$.

Then the condition (28) can be written in the form:

$$(35) \quad \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| < 1.1097.$$

If $a_j(t)$ is close to zero for $t \in [0, \omega], j = 1, \dots, p$, then the following Corollary is fulfilled.

COROLLARY 1. Let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonoscillation interval of (9)-(11). If $a_j \approx 0, b_j \leq 0, 0 < \gamma_i < \delta_i \leq 1, t_i \leq t - \tau_j(t) < t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_j(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), j = 1, \dots, p, i = 0, \dots, r$, and

$$(36) \quad \frac{4}{\Omega^2} e^{-2} > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

then Green's functions $G_1(t, s), G_2(t, s), G_3(t, s)$ are nonpositive. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)\chi_{[0,\omega]}(t - \theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0$, then Green's function $G_4(t, s)$ is also nonpositive.

EXAMPLE 2. Let $r = 1, \gamma_1 = 0.5, \delta_1 = 0.8, t_1 = 0.5, \omega = 1, p = 1$ and delays satisfy the conditions $t_i \leq t - \tau_1(t) < t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_1(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), i = 0, \dots, r$. Let also $a_1(t) = 0$.

Then Ω can not exceed 0.5 and $E = 1.6$. Substituting these values into the equation (29) and solving it, we get $\alpha = 2.5$.

Then the condition (28) can be written in the form:

$$(37) \quad \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| < 2.1653.$$

THEOREM 2. Let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonoscillation interval of (9)-(11). If $a_j \geq 0$, $b_j \leq 0$, $0 < \delta_i \leq \gamma_i \leq 1$, $t_i \leq t - \tau_j(t) \leq t_{i+1}$, $t_i \leq t - \theta_j(t) \leq t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1})$, $j = 1, \dots, p$, $i = 0, \dots, r$, and

$$(38) \quad \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha\Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

where α satisfies the equation:

$$(39) \quad \alpha(2 - \alpha\Omega)e^{-\alpha\Omega} = \frac{1}{E} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|,$$

then Green's functions $G_1(t, s)$, $G_2(t, s)$, $G_3(t, s)$ are nonpositive. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t) \chi_{[0, \omega]}(t - \theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0$, then Green's function $G_4(t, s)$ is also nonpositive.

Proof. Let us substitute this $v(t)$, defined by (23), into the condition of Lemma 1. We obtain:

$$(40) \quad \alpha^2 \left(\prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \right)^2 - \alpha \prod_{j=1}^i \frac{\delta_j}{\gamma_j} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| e^{\alpha\tau_j(t)} - \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| e^{\alpha\theta_j(t)} > 0.$$

Thus,

$$(41) \quad \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha\Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)| > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

where E and Ω are defined by (24) and (27), correspondingly. Denoting

$$(42) \quad F(\alpha) = \alpha^2 E^2 e^{-\alpha\Omega} - \alpha E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|,$$

we can find its maximum using the derivative:

$$(43) \quad F'(\alpha) = \alpha E^2 (2 - \alpha\Omega) e^{-\alpha\Omega} - E \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|.$$

The solution of the equation

$$(44) \quad \alpha(2 - \alpha\Omega)e^{-\alpha\Omega} = \frac{1}{E} \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |a_j(t)|$$

will give us a point of maximum.

Using this α in Lemma 1, we obtain a condition of nonpositivity of Green's functions $G_1(t, s), G_2(t, s), G_3(t, s)$. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)\chi_{[0,\omega]}(t-\theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0, t \in [0, \omega]$, then, according to Lemma 1, $G_4(t, s) \leq 0$.

□

EXAMPLE 3. Let $r = 1, \gamma_1 = 0.8, \delta_1 = 0.5, t_1 = 0.5, \omega = 1, p = 1$ and delays satisfy the conditions $t_i \leq t - \tau_1(t) < t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_1(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), i = 0, \dots, r$. Let also $a_1(t) = 0.3t$.

Then Ω can not exceed 0.5 and $E = 1.6$. Substituting these values into the equation (2) and solving it, we get $\alpha = 2.6389$.

Then the condition (38) can be written in the form:

$$(45) \quad \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| < 0.2322.$$

If $a_j(t)$ is close to zero for $t \in [0, \omega], j = 1, \dots, p$, then the following Corollary is fulfilled.

COROLLARY 2. Let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonoscillation interval of (9)-(11). If $a_j \approx 0, b_j \leq 0, 0 < \delta_i \leq \gamma_i \leq 1, t_i \leq t - \tau_j(t) \leq t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_j(t) \leq t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), j = 1, \dots, p, i = 0, \dots, r$, and

$$(46) \quad \frac{4E^2}{\Omega^2} e^{-2} > \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)|,$$

then Green's functions $G_1(t, s), G_2(t, s), G_3(t, s)$ are nonpositive. If, in addition, $\sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t)\chi_{[0,\omega]}(t - \theta_j(t)) \not\equiv 0$, then Green's function $G_4(t, s)$ is also nonpositive.

EXAMPLE 4. Let $r = 1, \gamma_1 = 0.8, \delta_1 = 0.5, t_1 = 0.5, \omega = 1, p = 1$ and delays satisfy the conditions $t_i \leq t - \tau_1(t) < t_{i+1}, t_i \leq t - \theta_1(t) < t_{i+1}$, for $t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}), i = 0, \dots, r$. Let also $a_1(t) = 0$.

Then Ω can not exceed 0.5 and $E = 1.6$. Substituting these values into the equation (2) and solving it, we get $\alpha = 4$.

Then the condition (38) can be written in the form:

$$(47) \quad \operatorname{esssup}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \sum_{j=1}^p |b_j(t)| < 0.8458.$$

Let us now find an example of a function $v(t)$ satisfying the condition of Lemma 2. Let us start with $v(t) = t(m - t)$ in the interval $t \in [0, t_1)$. The function $v(t)$ in the rest of the intervals will be of the form

$$(48) \quad v(t) = v(t_i) + v'(t_i)(t - t_i) - (t - t_i)^2, \quad t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}), \quad i = \overline{1, r}, \quad t_{r+1} = \omega,$$

where the conditions (2) are fulfilled and $m > 2t_1$.

Thus,

$$(49) \quad \begin{cases} v(t) = t(m - t), & t \in [0, t_1), \\ v(t) = v(t_i) + v'(t_i)(t - t_i) - (t - t_i)^2, & t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}), \\ & i = \overline{1, r}, \quad t_{r+1} = \omega, \end{cases}$$

where $v(t_i)$ and $v'(t_i)$ can be presented in the forms:

$$(50) \quad v(t_i) = \begin{cases} t_1(m - t_1)\gamma_1, & \text{if } i = 1, \\ t_1(m - t_1) \prod_{j=1}^i \gamma_j + \\ \quad \sum_{k=2}^i [v'(t_{k-1})(t_k - t_{k-1}) \prod_{j=k}^i \gamma_j] - \\ \quad \sum_{k=2}^i [(t_k - t_{k-1})^2 \prod_{j=k}^i \gamma_j], & \text{if } i = \overline{2, r}, \end{cases}$$

$$(51) \quad v'(t_i) = \begin{cases} (m - 2t_1)\delta_1, & \text{if } i = 1, \\ (m - 2t_1) \prod_{j=1}^i \delta_j - \\ \quad 2 \sum_{k=2}^i [(t_k - t_{k-1}) \prod_{j=k}^i \delta_j], & \text{if } i = \overline{2, r}. \end{cases}$$

Let us assume that $v(t) > 0$ and substitute this $v(t)$ into the condition of Lemma 2.

For the next corollary, we use the following notation

$$(52) \quad \Omega_1 = \max_{i=0,1,\dots,r} v'(t_i),$$

$$(53) \quad \Omega_2 = \max_{i=0,1,\dots,r+1} v(t_i),$$

where $v(t_{r+1}) = v(\omega)$.

COROLLARY 3. Let $[0, \omega]$ be a semi-nonoscillation interval of (9)-(11). If $a_j(t) \geq 0$, $b_j(t) \geq 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, p$, $1 \leq \gamma_k$, $1 \leq \delta_k$, $t_k \leq t - \tau_j(t) < t_{k+1}$, $t_k \leq t - \theta_j(t) < t_{k+1}$ for $k = 0, \dots, r$, $v(t)$ defined by (49) is positive for $t \in (0, \omega)$ and

$$(54) \quad \Omega_1 \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t) + \Omega_2 \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t) < 2,$$

then Green's function $G_1(t, s)$ of problem (1)-(3), (4) is nonpositive.

EXAMPLE 5. Let $r = 1$, $\gamma_1 = \delta_1 = 1.2$, $t_1 = 0.5$, $\omega = 1$. Then the condition (54) can be written in the form:

$$(55) \quad 1.8333 \sum_{j=1}^p a_j(t) + 1.05 \sum_{j=1}^p b_j(t) < 2.$$

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