## NEW OSCILLATION RESULTS FOR LINEAR MATRIX HAMILTONIAN SYSTEMS

YUAN GONG SUN AND FAN WEI MENG

Department of Mathematics, Qufu Normal University, Shandong, 273165, China.

**ABSTRACT.** Some new criteria have been established for the oscillation of the linear matrix Hamiltonian system X' = A(t)X + B(t)Y,  $Y' = C(t)X - A^*(t)Y$  under the hypothesis: A(t),  $B(t) = B^*(t) > 0$  and  $C(t) = C^*(t)$  are  $n \times n$  real continuous matrix functions on the interval  $[t_0, \infty)$   $(t_0 > -\infty)$ . Our results are different from most known ones in the sense that they are given in the form  $\limsup_{t\to\infty} g[\cdot] > const$ . rather than  $\limsup_{t\to\infty} \lambda_1[\cdot] = \infty$ , where g is a positive linear functional on the linear space of  $n \times n$  matrices with real entries. Our results improve some previous ones. Two examples are worked out to illustrate the effectiveness of our results.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Consider the linear matrix Hamiltonian system

(1.1) 
$$\begin{cases} X' = A(t)X + B(t)Y \\ Y' = C(t)X - A^*(t)Y \end{cases}$$

where A(t),  $B(t) = B^*(t) > 0$ ,  $C(t) = C^*(t)$  are  $n \times n$ -matrices of real valued continuous functions on  $[t_0, \infty)$ . By  $M^*$  we mean the conjugate transpose of the matrix M.

For any solution (X, Y) of (1.1),  $X^*(t)Y(t) - Y^*(t)X(t)$  is a constant matrix. The solution (X, Y) of (1.1) is said to be *nontrivial* if det  $X(t) \neq 0$  for at least one  $t \in [t_0, \infty)$ . A nontrivial solution (X, Y) of (1.1) is said to be *prepared* if  $X^*(t)Y(t) - Y^*(t)X(t) = 0$  for every  $t \in [t_0, \infty)$ . A prepared solution (X, Y) of (1.1) is said to be oscillatory on  $[t_0, \infty)$  if det X(t) has arbitrarily large zeros. System (1.1) is said to be *oscillatory* on  $[t_0, \infty)$  if each nontrivial prepared solution of (1.1) is oscillatory.

In the case when  $A(t) \equiv 0$ , B(t) > 0, system (1.1) reduces to the second order self-adjoint matrix differential system

(1.2) 
$$(P(t)X')' + Q(t)X = 0$$

with  $P(t) = B^{-1}(t)$ , Q(t) = -C(t). Oscillation and nonoscillation of system (1.1) or (1.2) have been extensively studied by many authors [1-16, 19]. However, all the

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results in [1-16, 19] are given in the form  $\lim_{t\to\infty} \sup \lambda_1[\cdot] = \infty$ , where  $\lambda_1[P]$  denotes the largest eigenvalue of an  $n \times n$  Hermitian matrix P. In our recent papers [18, 20, 21], we gave several oscillation criteria in the form  $\lim_{t\to\infty} \sup \lambda_1[\cdot] > const.$  In this paper, we will further the investigation and establish some new oscillation criteria that are presented in the form  $\limsup_{t\to\infty} g[\cdot] > const.$  for the system (1.1) by using a class of particular functions  $\Phi(t, s, r)$  defined by:

(1.3) 
$$\Phi(t, s, r) = (t - s)^{\alpha} (s - r)^{\beta}, \text{ for } t \ge s \ge r \ge t_0 \text{ and } \alpha, \ \beta > 1/2,$$

where g is a positive linear functional on the linear space of  $n \times n$  matrices with real entries. Our results improve many known oscillation results even for the self-adjoint differential system (1.2), which can be illustrated by the examples given at the end of this paper.

In the sequel, Let  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be the linear space of  $n \times n$  matrices with real entries,  $\wp \subset \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be the subspace of  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices, and g be a linear functional on  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . g is said to be *positive* if g(A) > 0 whenever  $A \in \wp$  and A > 0.

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

The following lemma will be used to prove the main results of this paper.

**Lemma 2.1.** ([17]) If g is a positive linear functional on  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  then for all A,  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , we have  $|g[A^*B]|^2 \leq g[A^*A]g[B^*B]$ .

Now we give the main results of this paper.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $\Phi(t, s, r)$  be defined by (1.3). If there exist a positive linear functional g on  $\Re$  and a function  $f(t) \in C^1[0, \infty)$  such that for each  $r \geq t_0$ 

(2.1) 
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \int_{r}^{t} g\left[M_{1}(t,s,r)\right] ds > 0$$

where

(2.2)  
$$M_{1}(t,s,r) = -\Phi^{2}(t,s,r)(C_{1} + A^{*}B_{1}^{-1}A)(s) + 2\Phi(t,s,r)\Phi'_{s}(t,s,r)(B_{1}^{-1}A)(s) - {\Phi'_{s}}^{2}(t,s,r)B_{1}^{-1}(s),$$

(2.3) 
$$B_1(t) = a^{-1}(t)B(t), \quad a(t) = \exp\left\{-2\int^t f(s)ds\right\},$$

and

(2.4) 
$$C_1(t) = a(t) \left\{ C(t) + f(t) [B^{-1}A + A^*B^{-1}](t) + [f(t)B^{-1}(t)]' - f^2(t)B^{-1}(t) \right\},$$

then the system (1.1) is oscillatory.

*Proof.* Assume to the contrary that (1.1) is nonoscillatory. Then there exists a nontrivial prepared solution (X(t), Y(t)) of (1.1) such that X(t) is nonsingular for all sufficiently large t, say  $t \ge T \ge t_0$ . This allows us to make a transformation

(2.5) 
$$W(t) = -a(t) \left[ Y(t)X^{-1}(t) + f(t)B^{-1}(t) \right], \ t \ge T.$$

From (1.1) and (2.3)-(2.5) we have

(2.6) 
$$W'(t) + A^*(t)W(t) + W^*(t)A(t) - W(t)^*B_1(t)W(t) + C_1(t) = 0.$$

Multiplying (2.6), with t replaced by s, by  $\Phi^2(t, s, T)$  and integrating from T to t, we obtain

(2.7)  

$$\int_{T}^{t} \Phi^{2}(t,s,T)(-C_{1}(s))ds = -2\int_{T}^{t} \Phi(t,s,T)\Phi_{s}'(t,s,T)W(s)ds$$

$$-\int_{T}^{t} \Phi^{2}(t,s,T)(W^{*}B_{1}W - A^{*}W - W^{*}A)(s)ds.$$

Now the substitution

$$P(t) = W(t) - B_1^{-1}(t)A(t)$$

in the above equation (2.7) gives us

(2.8) 
$$\int_{T}^{t} M_{0}(t,s,T) ds = -2 \int_{T}^{t} \Phi(t,s,T) \Phi'_{s}(t,s,T) P(s) ds - \int_{T}^{t} \Phi^{2}(t,s,T) (P^{*}B_{1}P)(s) ds,$$

where

$$M_0(t,s,T) = -\Phi^2(t,s,T)(C_1 + A^*B_1^{-1}A)(s) + 2\Phi(t,s,T)\Phi'_s(t,s,T)(B_1^{-1}A)(s).$$

Applying the linear functional g on both sides of (2.8), we obtain

(2.9) 
$$\int_{T}^{t} g[M_{0}(t,s,T)]ds = -\int_{T}^{t} 2\Phi(t,s,T)\Phi'_{s}(t,s,T)g[P(s)]ds - \int_{T}^{t} \Phi^{2}(t,s,T)g[(P^{*}B_{1}P)(s)]ds$$

We now claim that for  $t \in [T, \infty)$ ,

(2.10) 
$$g\left[(P^*B_1P)(t)\right] \ge \left\{g\left[B_1^{-1}(t)\right]\right\}^{-1} \left\{g\left[P(t)\right]\right\}^2$$

In fact, by the lemma, for all  $t \in [T, \infty)$ 

$$g[B_1^{-1}(t)]g[(P^*B_1P)(t)] = g[(B_1^{-1/2^*}B_1^{-1/2})(t)]g[(B_1^{1/2}P)^*(B_1^{1/2}P)(t)]$$
  

$$\geq \left\{g[(B_1^{-1/2}B_1^{1/2}P)(t)]\right\}^2$$
  

$$= \left\{g[P(t)]\right\}^2.$$

Hence the claim is true. By (2.9) and (2.10), we have that (2.11)

$$\begin{split} \int_{T}^{t} g[M_{0}(t,s,T)]ds &\leq -\int_{T}^{t} 2\Phi(t,s,T)\Phi_{s}'(t,s,T)g[P(s)]ds \\ &-\int_{T}^{t} \Phi^{2}(t,s,T)\left\{g\left[B_{1}^{-1}(s)\right]\right\}^{-1}\left\{g[(P(s)]\right\}^{2}ds \\ &= \int_{T}^{t} \Phi_{s}'^{2}(t,s,T)g[B_{1}^{-1}(s)]ds \\ &-\int_{T}^{t} \left[\frac{\Phi(t,s,T)}{\sqrt{g[B_{1}^{-1}(s)]}}g[P(s)] + \Phi_{s}'(t,s,T)\sqrt{g[B_{1}^{-1}(s)]}\right]^{2} \\ &\leq \int_{T}^{t} \Phi_{s}'^{2}(t,s,T)g[B_{1}^{-1}(s)]ds. \end{split}$$

From (2.2) and (2.11) we have

$$\int_{T}^{t} g\left[M_{1}(t,s,T)\right] ds = \int_{T}^{t} g\left[M_{0}(t,s,T) - {\Phi'_{s}}^{2}(t,s,T)B_{1}^{-1}(s)\right] ds \le 0,$$

which implies a contradiction to the hypothesis (2.1). This completes the proof of Theorem 2.2.  $\hfill \Box$ 

If we choose an appropriate function f(t) and a positive linear functional g in Theorem 2.2 such that  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] = g[a(t)B^{-1}(t)] \leq m$  for  $t \geq t_0$ , where m > 0 is a constant, and let  $\Phi(t, s, r) = (t - s)(s - r)^{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha > 1/2$ , then we have the following theorem from Theorem 2.2:

**Theorem 2.3.** System (1.1) is oscillatory provided that for some  $\alpha > 1/2$  and for each  $r \ge t_0$ ,

(2.12) 
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \frac{1}{t^{2\alpha+1}} \int_{r}^{t} g\left[M_{2}(t,s,r)\right] ds > \frac{m\alpha}{(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)},$$

where

(2.13) 
$$M_2(t,s,r) = -(t-s)^2(s-r)^{2\alpha}g[(C_1+A^*B_1^{-1}A)(s)] +2(t-s)(s-r)^{2\alpha-1}[\alpha t - (\alpha+1)s+r]g[(B_1^{-1}A)(s)],$$

and  $B_1(t)$ ,  $C_1(t)$  are the same as in Theorem 2.2.

*Proof.* Assume to the contrary that (1.1) exists a nontrivial prepared solution (X(t), Y(t)) such that X(t) is nonsingular for  $t \ge T \ge t_0$ . Similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2, and noting that  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] \le m$  for  $t \ge t_0$ , we have for  $t \ge T$ 

(2.14) 
$$\int_{T}^{t} g\left[M_{2}(t,s,r)\right] ds \leq \int_{T}^{t} [\alpha(t-s)(s-T)^{\alpha-1} - (s-T)^{\alpha}]^{2} g[B_{1}^{-1}(s)] ds \\ \leq m \int_{T}^{t} [\alpha(t-s)(s-T)^{\alpha-1} - (s-T)^{\alpha}]^{2} ds.$$

Integrating by parts, we can easily obtain,

(2.15) 
$$\int_{T}^{t} [\alpha(t-s)(s-T)^{\alpha-1} - (s-T)^{\alpha}]^{2} ds = \frac{\alpha}{(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)}(t-T)^{2\alpha+1}$$

Thus, from (2.13), (2.14) and (2.15) we have

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \frac{1}{t^{2\alpha+1}} \int_r^t g\left[M_2(t,s,r)\right] ds \le \frac{m\alpha}{(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)},$$

which contradicts the hypothesis (2.12). This completes the proof of Theorem 2.3.

If we choose an appropriate function f(t) and a positive linear functional g in Theorem 2.2 such that  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] = g[a(t)B^{-1}(t)] \leq m$  for  $t \geq t_0$ , where m > 0 is a constant, and let  $\Phi(t, s, r) = (t - s)^{\alpha}(s - r)$  for  $\alpha > 1/2$ , then, similar to the proof of Theorem 2.3, we have the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.4.** System (1.1) is oscillatory provided that for some  $\alpha > 1/2$  and for each  $r \geq t_0$ ,

(2.16) 
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \frac{1}{t^{2\alpha+1}} \int_{r}^{t} g\left[M_{3}(t,s,r)\right] ds > \frac{m\alpha}{(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)},$$

where

$$M_{3}(t,s,r) = -(t-s)^{2\alpha}(s-r)^{2}g[(C_{1}+A^{*}B_{1}^{-1}A)(s)] +2(t-s)^{2\alpha-1}(s-r)[t-(\alpha+1)s+\alpha r]g[(B_{1}^{-1}A)(s)],$$

and  $B_1(t)$ ,  $C_1(t)$  are the same as in Theorem 2.2.

In the sequel, we generalize Theorems 2.3 and 2.4 as the following theorem:

**Theorem 2.5.** If there exist a positive linear functional g on  $\Re$ , a function  $f(t) \in C^1[0,\infty)$  and a constant m > 0 such that  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] = g[a(t)B^{-1}(t)] \leq m$  for  $t \geq t_0$ , and for each  $r \geq t_0$ ,

$$(2.17) \lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \frac{1}{t^{2\alpha+2\beta-1}} \int_{r}^{t} g[M_{1}(t,s,r)]ds > 2m\alpha\beta(\alpha+\beta-1)\frac{\Gamma(2\alpha-1)\Gamma(2\beta-1)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)},$$

where  $M_1(t, s, r)$  is defined as in Theorem 2.2, then system (1.1) is oscillatory.

*Proof.* Noting that

$$\int_{T}^{t} \Phi_{s}^{\prime 2}(t,s,T) ds = \int_{T}^{t} [\beta(t-s)^{\alpha}(s-T)^{\beta-1} - \alpha(t-s)^{\alpha-1}(s-r)^{\beta}]^{2} ds$$
$$= \int_{T}^{t} [\beta^{2}(t-s)^{2\alpha}(s-T)^{2(\beta-1)} - 2\alpha\beta(t-s)^{2\alpha-1}(s-r)^{2\beta-1} + \alpha^{2}(t-s)^{2(\alpha-1)}(s-r)^{2\beta}] ds.$$

Integrating the above equality by parts and setting u = s - t and w = t - T, we have eventually

(2.18) 
$$\int_{T}^{t} {\Phi'_{s}}^{2}(t,s,T)ds = \int_{T}^{t} (t-s)^{2(\alpha-1)}(s-T)^{2(\beta-1)}[\beta(t-s) - \alpha(s-T)] \\ = \int_{0}^{t-T} (t-T-u)^{2(\alpha-1)}u^{2(\beta-1)}[\beta(t-T-u) - \alpha u]^{2}du \\ = \int_{0}^{w} (w-u)^{2(\alpha-1)}u^{2(\beta-1)}[\beta(w-u) - \alpha u]^{2}du.$$

We now evaluate this integral using Euler's Beta function

$$\int_0^1 x^a (1-x)^b dx = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}, \quad Re(a,b) > 0.$$

Since

(2.19) 
$$\int_{0}^{w} (w-u)^{2(\alpha-1)} u^{2(\beta-1)} [\beta(w-u) - \alpha u]^{2} du = \int_{0}^{w} [\beta^{2}(w-u)^{2\alpha} u^{2(\beta-1)} - 2\alpha\beta(w-u)^{2\alpha-1} u^{2\beta-1} + \alpha^{2}(w-u)^{2(\alpha-1)} u^{2\beta}] du,$$

by evaluating the first integral by Euler's Beta function and setting u = wx, we obtain

$$\int_0^w (w-u)^{2\alpha} u^{2(\beta-1)} du = w \int_0^1 (w-wx)^{2\alpha} (wx)^{2(\beta-1)} dx$$
$$= w^{2(\alpha+\beta)-1} \int_0^1 (1-x)^{2\alpha} x^{2(\beta-1)} dx$$
$$= w^{2\alpha+2\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(2\alpha+1)\Gamma(2\beta-1)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)}.$$

Similarly, we can evaluate the second and the third integral as

$$\int_0^w (w-u)^{2\alpha-1} u^{2\beta-1} du = w^{2\alpha+2\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(2\alpha)\Gamma(2\beta)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)}$$

and

$$\int_0^w (w-u)^{2(\alpha-1)} u^{2\beta} du = w^{2\alpha+2\beta-1} \frac{\Gamma(2\alpha-1)\Gamma(2\beta+1)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)}.$$

Thus, we have

$$\int_{0}^{w} (w-u)^{2(\alpha-1)} u^{2(\beta-1)} [\beta(w-u) - \alpha u]^{2} du$$

$$= \frac{w^{2\alpha+2\beta-1}}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)} [\beta^2 \Gamma(2\alpha+1)\Gamma(2\beta-1) - 2\alpha\beta\Gamma(2\alpha)\Gamma(2\beta)$$

(2.20) 
$$+\alpha^{2}\Gamma(2\alpha-1)\Gamma(2\beta+1)] = 2\alpha\beta(\alpha+\beta-1)\frac{\Gamma(2\alpha-1)\Gamma(2\beta-1)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)}w^{2\alpha+2\beta-1}.$$

From (2.18)-(2.20), we get

$$\int_{T}^{t} \Phi_{s}^{\prime 2}(t,s,T)ds = 2\alpha\beta(\alpha+\beta-1)\frac{\Gamma(2\alpha-1)\Gamma(2\beta-1)}{\Gamma(2\alpha+2\beta)}(t-T)^{2\alpha+2\beta-1}$$

The following proof is similar to that of Theorem 2.2, and hence is omitted. This completes the proof of Theorem 2.5.  $\hfill \Box$ 

The following two examples illustrate our results.

**Example 2.6.** Consider the Euler differential system

(2.21) 
$$Y'' + \operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{t^2}, \frac{\beta}{t^2}\right)Y = 0, \quad t \ge 1,$$

where  $\gamma \ge \beta > 0$  are constants. Our Theorem 2.3 can be applied to (2.21) and easily reveal the well-known fact that (2.21) is oscillatory for  $\gamma > 1/4$ . In fact, if we choose f(t) = 0,  $\Phi(t, s, r) = (t - s)(s - r)^{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha > 1/2$ , then we have

$$M_2(t,s,r) = (t-s)^2(s-r)^{2\alpha}g\left[\operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{\gamma}{t^2}, \frac{\beta}{t^2}\right)\right].$$

Let the positive linear functional  $g[A] = a_{11}$ , where  $A = (a_{ij})$  is a 2 × 2 matrix. Note that  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] = 1$  and for each  $r \ge 1$ 

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t^{2\alpha+1}} \int_{r}^{t} (t-s)^{2} (s-r)^{2\alpha} \frac{\gamma}{s^{2}} ds = \frac{\gamma}{\alpha(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)}$$

For any  $\gamma > 1/4$ , there exists an constant  $\alpha > 1/2$  such that

$$\frac{\gamma}{\alpha(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)} > \frac{\alpha}{(2\alpha-1)(2\alpha+1)}$$

i.e.,  $\gamma > \alpha^2$ . This means that (2.12) holds. By Theorem 2.3, we find that (2.21) is oscillatory for  $\gamma > 1/4$ . However, we can easily see that criteria in [3, 6, 8] fail to reveal this fact.

**Example 2.7.** Consider the 4-dimensional matrix Hamiltonian system (2.22) with system parameters

(2.22) 
$$A(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1/t \\ 2/t & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B(t) = \begin{bmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 2t \end{bmatrix}, \quad C(t) = -\begin{bmatrix} \theta/t^3 & 0 \\ 0 & \eta/t^3 \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $t \ge 1$ ,  $\eta \ge \theta > 0$  are constants. If we let  $f(t) = -\frac{1}{2t}$ ,  $\Phi(t, s, r) = (t - s)(s - r)^{\alpha}$  for  $\alpha > 1/2$ , and the positive linear functional  $g[A] = a_{22}$ , where  $A = (a_{ij})$  is a 2 × 2 matrix, then we have

$$a(t) = t$$
,  $g[M_2(t,s)] = (t-s)^2(s-r)^{2\alpha}(\eta - 11/8)/s^2$ ,

and  $g[B_1^{-1}(t)] = g[a(t)B^{-1}(t)] = 1/2$  for  $t \ge 1$ . Similar to the proof of Example 2.6, we can obtain that system (2.22) is oscillatory for  $\eta > 3/2$  by Theorem 2.3.

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