

STABILITY OF FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH OSCILLATING COEFFICIENTS AND DISTRIBUTED DELAYS

MICHAEL I. GIL'

Abstract. We consider the scalar equation

$$\dot{x}(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m a_j(t) \int_0^h x(t-s) dr_j(s) = 0 \quad (h = \text{const} > 0, \dot{x} = dx/dt),$$

where $r_j(s)$ are nondecreasing functions. Besides, we do not require that $a_j(t)$ are positive for all $t \geq 0$. So the function

$$z + \sum_{j=1}^m a_j(t) \int_0^h e^{-zs} dr_j(s)$$

can have zeros in the right-hand plane for some $t \geq 0$. It is proved that the considered equation is exponentially stable, provided $a_j(t) = b_j + c_j(t)$, where b_j are positive constants, such that all the zeros of the function $z + \sum_{j=1}^m b_j \int_0^h e^{-zs} dr_j(s)$ are in the open left-hand plane, and the integrals $\int_0^h c_j(s) ds$ ($j = 1, \dots, m$) are sufficiently small for all $t > 0$.

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