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# Oscillation criteria for impulsive parabolic boundary value problem with delay

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## Abstract

In this work, we study the criteria of oscillatory solutions to impulsive parabolic boundary value problem with delay. First, we consider two types of boundary condition which resolve in oscillatory solutions in the impulsive problem with delay, then we further reduce the oscillation criteria for the problem.

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**Keywords:** Oscillation criteria; Impulsive; Parabolic; Delay; Eventually positive solution

## 1. Introduction

In 1991, Erbe et al. [1] first studied impulsive parabolic equations in application models. Later in 1994 Bainov et al. [2], extended the impulsive study in hyperbolic partial differential equations for periodic boundary value problem. Fu and Liu [3] then further studied oscillation criteria for impulsive parabolic problems in 1997. In this work, we study oscillation criteria for impulsive parabolic problem with delay which was not previously studied.

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## 23 2. Preliminaries

24 Consider the following impulsive parabolic system with delay

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= a(t)\Delta u + b(t)\Delta u(t - \rho, x) - p(t, x)f(u(t - \sigma, x)), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ u(t_k^+, x) - u(t_k^-, x) &= I(t, x, u), \quad t = t_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

26 where

- 27 1.  $\Delta$  is the Laplacian in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ;  $u = u(t, x)$  for  $(t, x) \in G = \mathbf{R}_+ \times \Omega$ , where  $\Omega$  is a
- 28 bounded domain in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  with a smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$  and  $\mathbf{R}_+ = [0, +\infty)$ ,
- 29 2.  $0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_k < \dots$ , where  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} t_k = +\infty$ ,
- 30 3.  $a(t), b(t) \in PC[\mathbf{R}_+, \mathbf{R}_+]$ ,  $p(t, x) \in PC[\mathbf{R}_+ \times \overline{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}_+]$ , and  $PC$  is the class of
- 31 piecewise continuous functions in  $t$  with discontinuities of first kind only
- 32 at  $t = t_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$  and left continuous at  $t = t_k$  and  $\overline{\Omega}$  is the closure of
- 33  $\Omega$ ; Also, we have  $f(u) \in C[\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{R}]$ ,
- 34 4. both  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  are positive constants, and
- 35 5.  $I : \mathbf{R}_+ \times \overline{\Omega} \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ .

36 We shall consider two kinds of boundary condition in this study:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial N} + h(x)u = g(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \partial\Omega, \quad t \neq t_k \quad (2.2)$$

38 and

$$u = \varphi(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \partial\Omega, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad (2.3)$$

40 where  $h(x) \in (\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ ,  $g(t, x)$  and  $\varphi(t, x) \in PC[\mathbf{R}_+ \times \partial\Omega, \mathbf{R}]$ , and  $N$  is the

41 unit out normal vector to  $\partial\Omega$ .

42 We know that the solutions  $u(t, x)$  of problem (2.1) with boundary condition

43 either (2.2) or (2.3) are both piecewise continuous functions with points of

44 discontinuity of first kind at  $t = t_k, k = 1, 2, \dots$ . Following the convention, we

45 shall assume that they are left continuous. That is, at the moments of impulse,

46 the following relations  $u(t_k^-, x) = u(t_k, x)$  and  $u(t_k^+, x) = u(t_k, x) + I(t_k, x, u(t_k, x))$

47 are satisfied. Next, we recall the definition of oscillatory solutions.

48 **Definition 2.1.** A nonzero solution  $u(t, x)$  of boundary value problem (2.1),

49 (2.2) or problem (2.1), (2.3) is said to be nonoscillatory in the domain  $G$ , if

50 there exists a number  $\tau \geq 0$  such that  $u(t, x)$  has a constant sign for

51  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$ . Otherwise, it is said to be oscillatory.

52 Now, we are ready to develop oscillation criteria.

### 3. Sufficient conditions for oscillatory solutions

Consider the following Robin eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta u + \lambda u &= 0, \quad x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} + h(x)u &= 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega,\end{aligned}\tag{3.1}$$

where  $\lambda$  is a constant. Then, we have the following properties which will lead to the oscillation.

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $h(x) \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ , then the Robin eigenvalue problem (3.1) has a minimum positive eigenvalue  $\lambda_0$  and the corresponding eigenfunction  $\eta(t)$  is positive on  $\Omega$  (see Theorem 3.3.22 of [4]).*

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $h(x) \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$  and the following assumptions*

- (A1)  *$f(u)$  is a positive and convex function in  $\mathbf{R}_+$ ,*  
 (A2) *for any function  $u \in PC[\mathbf{R}_+ \times \overline{\Omega}, \mathbf{R}_+]$  and constants  $\alpha_k > 0$  such that*  

$$\int_{\Omega} I(t_k, x, u(t_k, x)) \, dx \leq \alpha_k \int_{\Omega} u(t_k, x) \, dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

*also hold. If  $u(t, x)$  is a positive solution of problem (2.1), (2.2) in the domain  $[\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$  for some  $\tau \geq 0$ , then the impulsive differential inequality with delay*

$$\begin{aligned}U'(t) + \lambda_0 a(t)U(t) + \lambda_0 b(t)U(t - \rho) + P(t)f(U(t - \sigma)) &\leq R(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ U(t_k^+) &\leq (1 + \alpha_k)U(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}\tag{3.2}$$

*has the eventually positive solution*

$$U(t) = \frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) \, dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \eta(x) \, dx,\tag{3.3}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}P(t) &= \min_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} \{p(t, x)\} \quad \text{and} \\ R(t) &= \frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) \, dx} \left[ a(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x) g(t, x) \, dS + b(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x) g(t - \rho, x) \, dS \right], \\ t &\neq t_k, \quad dS \text{ is an area element of } \partial\Omega.\end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a positive solution of problem (2.1), (2.2) in the domain  $[\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$  for some  $\tau \geq 0$ . For  $t \neq t_k$ , there exists a  $t^* \geq \tau$  such that  $u(t - \rho, x) > 0$ ,  $u(t - \sigma, x) > 0$  for  $(t, x) \in [t^*, +\infty) \times \Omega$ . Multiplying both sides

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75 of (2.1) by the eigenfunction  $\eta(x)$  and integrating with respect to  $x$  over the  
76 domain  $\Omega$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \eta(x) dx \\ &= a(t) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t, x) \eta(x) dx + b(t) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t - \rho, x) \eta(x) dx \\ & \quad - \int_{\Omega} p(t, x) f(u(t - \sigma, x)) \eta(x) dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

78 From (A1) and Jensen's inequality, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} p(t, x) f(u(t - \sigma, x)) \eta(x) dx \\ & \geq P(t) \int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t - \sigma, x) \eta(x) dx\right), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq \tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

80 Using Green's Theorem and Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t, x) \eta(x) dx &= \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \eta \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} - u \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial N} \right) dS + \int_{\Omega} u \Delta \eta dx \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega} (\eta(g - hu) - u(-h\eta)) dS + \int_{\Omega} u(-\lambda_0 \eta) dx \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta g dS - \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} u \eta dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^* \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

82 and

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t - \rho, x) \eta(x) dx \\ &= \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x) g(t - \rho, x) dS - \lambda_0 \int_{\Omega} u(t - \rho, x) \eta(x) dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq \tau. \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

84 Combining (3.4)–(3.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \eta(x) dx + \lambda_0 a(t) \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \eta(x) dx + \lambda_0 b(t) \int_{\Omega} u(t - \rho, x) \eta(x) dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx \cdot P(t) \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t - \sigma, x) \eta(x) dx\right) \\ & \leq a(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x) g(t, x) dS + b(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x) g(t - \rho, x) dS, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

86 For  $t = t_k$ , using (A2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} (u(t_k^+, x) - u(t_k, x)) \eta(x) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} I(t_k, x, u(t_k, x)) \eta(x) dx \leq \alpha_k \int_{\Omega} u(t_k, x) \eta(x) dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

88 That is

$$\int_{\Omega} u(t_k^+, x) \eta(x) dx \leq (1 + \alpha_k) \int_{\Omega} u(t_k, x) \eta(x) dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (3.9)$$

90 Thus, inequalities (3.8) and (3.9) imply that the function  $U(t)$  defined by (3.3) is  
91 a positive solution of the impulsive differential inequality with delay in (3.2) for  
92  $t \geq t^*$ . The proof of Lemma 3.2 is therefore completed.  $\square$

93 **Theorem 3.3.** Assume that conditions (A1) and (A2) hold, and  
94  $h \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ . If we further assume that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(A3)} \quad & f(-u) = -f(u) \quad \text{for } u \in (0, +\infty), \\ & I(t_k, x, -u(t_k, x)) = -I(t_k, x, u(t_k, x)), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

96 and the impulsive differential inequality with delay in both problems (3.2) and

$$\begin{aligned} & U'(t) + \lambda_0 a(t) U(t) + \lambda_0 b(t) U(t - \rho) + P(t) f(U(t - \sigma)) \leq -R(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ & U(t_k^+) \leq (1 + \alpha_k) U(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

98 have no eventually positive solutions, then each nonzero solution of the problem  
99 (2.1), (2.2) is oscillatory in the domain  $G$ .

100 **Proof.** Assuming the contrary is true. Let  $u(t, x)$  be a nonzero solution of the  
101 problem (2.1), (2.2) which has a constant sign in the domain  $[\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$  for  
102 some  $\tau \geq 0$ . We first consider the case of  $u(t, x) > 0$  for  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$ .  
103 From Lemma 3.2, it follows that the function  $U(t)$  defined by (3.3) is an  
104 eventually positive solution of the inequality (3.2), which contradicts the  
105 condition of the theorem. If  $u(t, x) < 0$  for  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$ , then the  
106 function

$$\tilde{u}(t, x) = -u(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$$

108 is a positive solution of the following impulsive parabolic boundary value  
109 problem with delay

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$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= a(t)\Delta u + b(t)\Delta u(t - \rho, x) - p(t, x)f(u(t - \sigma, x)), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad (t, x) \in G \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} + h(x)u &= -g(t, x), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad (t, x) \in R_+ \times \partial\Omega \\ u(t_k^+, x) - u(t_k^-, x) &= I(t, x, u), \quad t = t_k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

111 and satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t, x)\eta(x) dx + \lambda_0 a(t) \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t, x)\eta(x) dx + \lambda_0 b(t) \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t - \rho, x)\eta(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx \cdot P(t) \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t - \sigma, x)\eta(x) dx\right) \\ &\leq - (a(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x)g(t, x) dS + b(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \eta(x)g(t - \rho, x) dS), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq \tau \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

113 and

$$\int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t_k^+, x)\eta(x) dx \leq (1 + \alpha_k) \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t_k, x)\eta(x) dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

115 Thus it follows that the function

$$\tilde{U}(t) = \frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \eta(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} \tilde{u}(t, x)\eta(x) dx$$

117 is a positive solution of the inequality (3.10) for  $t \geq t^* \geq \tau$  which also contra-  
118 dicts the conditions of the theorem. This completes the proof of Theorem  
119 3.3.  $\square$

120 Now, if we set  $g \equiv 0$  in the proof of Theorem 3.3, then we can also obtain  
121 the following theorem.

122 **Theorem 3.4.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold, and  $h \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ .  
123 If the impulsive differential inequality with delay

$$\begin{aligned} U'(t) + \lambda_0 a(t)U(t) + \lambda_0 b(t)U(t - \rho) + P(t)f(U(t - \sigma)) &\leq 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ U(t_k^+) &\leq (1 + \alpha_k)U(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.13)$$

125 has no eventually positive solutions, then each nonzero solution of the system  
126 (2.1), satisfying the boundary condition

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial N} + h(x)u = 0, \quad (t, x) \in R_+ \times \partial\Omega, \quad t \neq t_k \quad (3.14)$$

128 is oscillatory in the domain  $G$ .

129 The following fact shall be used later in the proof of Lemma 3.5. Consider  
130 the Dirichlet problem

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta u + \lambda u &= 0, \quad x \in \Omega, \\ u &= 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega,\end{aligned}$$

132 where  $\lambda = \text{constant}$ . It is well known that the smallest eigenvalue  $\lambda^*$  and the  
133 corresponding eigenfunction  $\Phi(x)$  are positive.

134 **Lemma 3.5.** Assume that (A1) and (A2) hold. If  $u(t, x)$  is a positive solution of  
135 the problem (2.1), (2.3) in the domain  $[\tau, +\infty] \times \Omega$  for some  $\tau \geq 0$ , then the  
136 impulsive differential inequality with delay

$$\begin{aligned}V'(t) + \lambda^* a(t)V(t) + \lambda^* b(t)V(t - \rho) + p(t)f(V(t - \sigma)) &\leq Q(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ V(t_k^+) &\leq (1 + \alpha_k)V(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}\tag{3.15}$$

138 has the eventually positive solution

$$V(t) = \frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx, \tag{3.16}$$

140 where

$$\begin{aligned}Q(t) &= -\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx} \left[ a(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \varphi(t, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} dS + b(t) \int_{\partial\Omega} \varphi(t - \rho, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} dS \right], \\ t &\neq t_k.\end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a positive solution of the problem (2.1), (2.3) in the domain  
143  $[\tau, +\infty] \times \Omega$  for some  $\tau \geq 0$ . For  $t \neq t_k$ , there exist a  $t^* \geq \tau$  such that  
144  $u(t - \rho, x), u(t - \sigma, x) > 0$  for  $(t, x) \in [t^*, +\infty) \times \Omega$ . Multiplying both sides of  
145 (2.1) by the eigenfunction  $\Phi(x)$  and integrating with respect to  $x$  over the do-  
146 main  $\Omega$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}&\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx \\&= a(t) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx + b(t) \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t - \rho, x) \Phi(x) dx \\&\quad - \int_{\Omega} p(t, x) f(u(t - \sigma, x)) \Phi(x) dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*.\end{aligned}\tag{3.17}$$

148 From (A1) and Jensen's inequality, it follows that

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$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} p(t, x) f(u(t - \sigma, x)) \Phi(x) dx \\ & \geq P(t) \int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t - \sigma, x) \Phi(x) dx\right), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.18)$$

150 Using Green's Theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx \\ & = \int_{\Omega} \left( \Phi \frac{\partial u}{\partial N} - u \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} \right) dS + \int_{\Omega} u \Delta \Phi(x) dx = \int_{\partial \Omega} \left( -\varphi(t, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} \right) dS \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega} u(-\lambda^* \Phi) dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.19)$$

152 And

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \Delta u(t - \rho, x) \Phi(x) dx \\ & = - \int_{\partial \Omega} \varphi(t - \rho, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} dS - \lambda^* \int_{\Omega} u(t - \rho, x) \Phi(x) dx, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.20)$$

154 Combining (3.17)–(3.20), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx + \lambda^* a(t) \int_{\Omega} u(t, x) \Phi(x) dx + \lambda^* b(t) \int_{\Omega} u(t - \rho, x) \Phi(x) dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx \cdot P(t) \cdot f\left(\frac{1}{\int_{\Omega} \Phi(x) dx} \int_{\Omega} u(t - \sigma, x) \Phi(x) dx\right) \\ & \leq -a(t) \int_{\partial \Omega} \varphi(t, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} dS - b(t) \int_{\partial \Omega} \varphi(t - \rho, x) \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial N} dS, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \geq t^*. \end{aligned} \quad (3.21)$$

156 For  $t = t_k$ , using (A2) we have

$$\int_{\Omega} u(t_k^+, x) \Phi(x) dx \leq (1 + \alpha_k) \int_{\Omega} u(t_k, x) \Phi(x) dx, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \quad (3.22)$$

158 Thus we can see that the function  $V(t)$  defined in (3.16) is a positive solution of  
159 the impulsive differential inequality with delay (3.15) for  $t \geq t^*$ . Thus the proof  
160 of Lemma 3.5 is complete.  $\square$



**Theorem 3.6.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold. If we assume further that both the impulsive differential inequality with delay (3.15) and the impulsive differential inequality with delay

$$\begin{aligned} V'(t) + \lambda^* a(t)V(t) + \lambda^* b(t)V(t - \rho) + P(t)f(V(t - \sigma)) &\leq -Q(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ V(t_k^+) &\leq (1 + \alpha_k)V(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.23)$$

have no eventually positive solutions, then each nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (2.3) is oscillatory in the domain  $G$ .

Since this proof is similar to Theorem 3.3, we omit it. Furthermore, if we set  $\varphi \equiv 0$ , then we can have the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.7.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold. If the impulsive differential inequality with delay

$$\begin{aligned} V'(t) + \lambda^* a(t)V(t) + \lambda^* b(t)V(t - \rho) + P(t)f(V(t - \sigma)) &\leq 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ V(t_k^+) &\leq (1 + \alpha_k)V(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots \end{aligned} \quad (3.24)$$

have no eventually positive solutions, then each nonzero solution of system (2.1) satisfying the boundary condition

$$u = 0, \quad (t, x) \in R_t \times \partial\Omega, \quad t \neq t_k \quad (3.25)$$

is oscillatory in the domain  $G$ .

#### 4. Further oscillation criteria

From the discussion in previous section, it follows that the problem of establishing oscillation criteria for the impulsive parabolic system (2.1) satisfying some boundary condition can be reduced to the investigation of the properties of the solutions of the first order impulsive differential inequalities. In this section, we shall establish some further oscillation criteria for the impulsive parabolic systems.

**Lemma 4.1.** If there exists a constant  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \geq \delta, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

then there exists a constant  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  such that the number of the impulse moments in each of the intervals  $[t, t + \rho^*]$ ,  $t > 0$  is not greater than  $r$ , where  $\rho^* = \max\{\rho, \sigma\}$ .

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187 **Proof.** It is easy to see that in each interval of the form  $[t, t + \rho^*]$ ,  $t > 0$ , we have  
188 at most  $1 + [\frac{\rho^*}{\delta}]$  impulse moments. Thus we can choose

$$r \geq 1 + \left\lceil \frac{\rho^*}{\delta} \right\rceil. \quad \square$$

**Theorem 4.2.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold, and  $h \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ .

191 If we assume further that

192 1. there exists a constant  $\delta > 0$ , such that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \geq \delta, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

194 2. there exists a constant  $\alpha > 0$ , such that

$$0 < \alpha_k < \alpha, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

196 3.

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t_k}^{t_k + \rho} b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds > \frac{1}{\lambda_0} (1 + \alpha)^{2r},$$

198 then each nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (3.14) is oscillatory in the domain  
199  $G$ .

200 **Proof.** Let  $u(t, x)$  be a nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (3.14) which has a  
201 constant sign in the domain  $[\tau, +\infty] \times \Omega$  for some  $\tau \geq 0$ . If  $u(t, x) > 0$  for  
202  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty] \times \Omega$ , then we can see that the function  $U(t)$  defined by (3.3) a  
203 positive solution of the inequality (3.15) for  $t \geq \tau + \rho^*$  and  $U(t - \rho) > 0$ ,  
204  $f(U(t - \sigma)) > 0$  for  $t \geq \tau + \rho^*$ . For  $t \neq t_k$ , from (3.15) we get

$$U'(t) + \lambda_0 a(t)U(t) + \lambda_0 b(t)U(t - \rho) \leq 0, \quad t \geq \tau + \rho^*. \quad (4.1)$$

206 Multiply (4.1) by  $e^{\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^t a(\xi) d\xi}$  for  $t > T \geq \tau + \rho^*$ , and set

$$y(t) = U(t) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^t a(\xi) d\xi}, \quad t > T. \quad (4.2)$$

208 We obtain

$$y'(t) + e^{\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^t a(\xi) d\xi} \lambda_0 b(t) y(t - \rho) e^{-\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^{t-\rho} a(\xi) d\xi} \leq 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t > T + \rho. \quad (4.3)$$

210 From (4.2) and (4.3), it follows that  $y(t)$  is a nonincreasing function. For  $t = t_k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta y(t_k) &= y(t_k^+) - y(t_k) = [U(t_k^+) - U(t_k)] e^{\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^{t_k} a(\xi) d\xi} \\ &\leq \alpha_k U(t_k) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{\tau}^{t_k} a(\xi) d\xi} = \alpha_k y(t_k). \end{aligned}$$

212 Integrate (4.3) from  $t_k$  to  $t_k + \rho$  and use Lemma 4.1, we have

$$y(t_k + \rho) - y(t_k^+) - \sum_{s=k}^{k+r-1} \alpha_s y(t_s) + \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} \lambda_0 b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} y(s - \rho) ds \leq 0. \quad (4.4)$$

214 Note that

$$y(s - \rho) \geq \frac{y(s - \rho)}{(1 + \alpha)^r}. \quad (4.5)$$

216 From (4.4) and (4.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\lambda_0}{(1 + \alpha)^r} \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} y(s - \rho) ds \\ & \leq y(t_k^+) - y(t_k + \rho) + \sum_{s=k}^{k+r-1} \alpha_s y(t_s) \leq (1 + \alpha_k) y(t_k) + \sum_{s=k+1}^{k+r-1} \alpha_s y(t_s) \end{aligned}$$

218 and

$$\frac{\lambda_0}{(1 + \alpha)^r} y(t_k) \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds \leq (1 + \alpha) y(t_k) + \alpha \sum_{s=k+1}^{k+r-1} y(t_s). \quad (4.6)$$

220 But

$$\begin{aligned} y(t_{k+1}) & \leq y(t_k^+) \leq (1 + \alpha_k) y(t_k) \leq (1 + \alpha) y(t_k), \\ y(t_{k+2}) & \leq y(t_{k+1}^+) \leq (1 + \alpha_{k+1}) y(t_{k+1}) \leq (1 + \alpha) y(t_{k+1}) \leq (1 + \alpha)^2 y(t_k), \\ & \dots \\ y(t_{k+r-1}) & \leq \dots \leq (1 + \alpha)^{r-1} y(t_k). \end{aligned}$$

222 Then

$$\sum_{s=k+1}^{k+r-1} y(t_s) \leq y(t_k) \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} (1 + \alpha)^i = y(t_k) (1 + \alpha) \frac{(1 + \alpha)^{r-1} - 1}{\alpha}. \quad (4.7)$$

224 From (4.6) and (4.7), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\lambda_0}{(1 + \alpha)^r} y(t_k) \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds \\ & \leq (1 + \alpha) y(t_k) + \alpha y(t_k) (1 + \alpha) \frac{(1 + \alpha)^{r-1} - 1}{\alpha} = y(t_k) (1 + \alpha)^r. \end{aligned}$$

226 That is

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$$\int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} b(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds \leq \frac{1}{\lambda_0} (1 + \alpha)^{2r}.$$

228 The last inequality contradicts condition 3 in Theorem 4.2. If  $u(t, x) < 0$  for  
229  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$ , then it is easy to check that  $-u(t, x)$  is a positive solution  
230 of the problem (2.1) and (3.14) for  $(t, x) \in [\tau, +\infty) \times \Omega$ . Thus there is con-  
231 tradiction, by the analogous arguments, the proof is therefore completed.  $\square$

232 It is important to note that the resulting condition involving the coefficient  
233 of delayed Laplacian  $b(t)$ . This result is obtained through the method of Robin  
234 eigenfunction. But this result cannot be obtained by the method in [3]. We can  
235 prove the following result by the analogous arguments as in the proof of  
236 Theorem 4.2.

237 **Theorem 4.3.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold, and  $h \in C(\partial\Omega, (0, +\infty))$ .  
238 If we assume further that

- 239 1.  $\frac{f(u)}{u} \geq A$ ,  $u \in (0, +\infty)$  for some constant  $A > 0$ ,  
240 2. there exists a constant  $\delta > 0$ , such that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \geq \delta, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

- 242 3. there exists a constant  $\alpha > 0$ , such that

$$0 < \alpha_k < \alpha, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots,$$

- 244 4.

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\sigma} P(s) e^{\lambda_0 \int_{s-\sigma}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds > \frac{1}{A} (1 + \alpha)^{2r},$$

246 then each nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (3.14) is oscillatory in the domain  
247  $G$ .

248 **Theorem 4.4.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold. If we assume further that  
249 conditions 1 and 2 in Theorem 4.2 and 3

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t_k}^{t_k+\rho} b(s) e^{\lambda^* \int_{s-\rho}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds > \frac{1}{\lambda^*} (1 + \alpha)^{2r}$$

251 also hold, then each nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (3.25) is oscillatory in  
252 the domain  $G$ .

253 **Theorem 4.5.** Assume that conditions (A1)–(A3) hold. If we assume further that  
254 conditions 1–3 in Theorem 4.3 and 4

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t_k}^{t_k + \sigma} P(s) e^{\lambda^* \int_{s-\sigma}^s a(\xi) d\xi} ds > \frac{1}{A} (1 + \alpha)^{2r}$$

also hold, then each nonzero solution of the problem (2.1), (3.25) is oscillatory in the domain  $G$ .

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