

Acta Universitatis Palackianae Olomucensis. Facultas Rerum
Naturalium. Mathematica

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Acta Universitatis Palackianae Olomucensis. Facultas Rerum Naturalium. Mathematica, Vol. 31 (1992), No.
1, 71--82

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/120282>

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ON A CLASS OF FUNCTIONAL BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEMS
FOR THIRD-ORDER FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS
WITH PARAMETER

SVATOSLAV STANĚK

(Received October 27, 1990)

Abstract. In this paper we study the existence of solutions of a one parameter value problem $y'''(t) - Q[y, y', y''](t) \cdot y'(t) = F[y, y', y'', \mu](t)$, $\alpha(y) = 0$, $y'(t_1) = y'(t_2) = y'(t_3) = 0$ in which $Q: X^3 \rightarrow X$, $F: X^3 \times I \rightarrow X$ are continuous operators, $\alpha: X \rightarrow R$ is a continuous increasing functional, $\alpha(0) = 0$, where $X = C^0(\langle t_1, t_3 \rangle)$, $I = \langle a, b \rangle$, $-\infty < t_1 < t_2 < t_3 < \infty$, $-\infty < a < b < \infty$.

Key words: Third-order functional differential equation depending on a parameter, functional boundary value problem, Schauder linearization technique, Schauder fixed point theorem.

MS Classification: 34K10, 34B15.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $-\infty < t_1 < t_2 < t_3 < \infty$, $-\infty < a < b < \infty$, $J = \langle t_1, t_3 \rangle$, $I = \langle a, b \rangle$ and let X be the Banach space of C^0 -functions on J with the norm $\|y\| = \max\{|y(t)|; t \in J\}$. Consider the functional differential

equation

$$(1) \quad y'''(t) - Q[y, y', y''](t) \cdot y'(t) = F[y, y', y'', \mu](t)$$

in which $Q: X^3 \rightarrow X$, $F: X^3 \times I \rightarrow X$ are continuous operators, $Q[y, z, w](t) > 0$ on X^3 for all $t \in J$, depending on the parameter μ .

Let $\alpha: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous increasing (i.e. $\alpha(x) < \alpha(y)$ for all $x, y \in X$, $x(t) < y(t)$ on J) functional, $\alpha(0) = 0$. The purpose of this paper is to obtain by the Schauder linearization technique sufficient conditions imposed on Q , F such that equation (1) admits, for a suitable value of the parameter μ , a solution y satisfying the boundary conditions

$$(2) \quad \alpha(y) = 0, \quad y'(t_1) = y'(t_2) = y'(t_3) = 0.$$

A special case of (1) is the differential equation

$$y''' - q(t, y, y', y'') \cdot y' = f(t, y, y', y'', \mu)$$

in which $q \in C^0(J \times \mathbb{R}^3)$, $f \in C^0(J \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times I)$ and $q(t, y, z, w) > 0$ for all $(t, y, z, w) \in J \times \mathbb{R}^3$.

Many sufficient conditions are known for the existence and uniqueness of solutions of boundary value problems for the third-order differential equations under various types of boundary conditions using different techniques (see for example [1]-[31], [34]).

The boundary value problem

$$y''' = h(t, y, y', y'') f(t, y, y', y'', \mu),$$

$y(t_1) = y(t_2) = y(t_3) = 0$ where μ is a parameter, was investigated in [25] using a suitable version of the Banach fixed point theorem.

2. NOTATION, LEMMAS

Let $\varphi \in C^2(J)$ and let u_φ, v_φ be the solution of the differential equation

$$y''' = Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) \cdot y,$$

$u_\varphi(t_1) = 0, u_\varphi'(t_1) = 1, v_\varphi(t_1) = 1, v_\varphi'(t_1) = 0$. For $(t, s) \in J \times J$ define $r(t, s; \varphi)$ by

$$r(t, s; \varphi) = u_\varphi(t)v_\varphi(s) - u_\varphi(s)v_\varphi(t) \quad (= -r(s, t; \varphi)).$$

Then $r(t, s; \varphi) > 0$ for $t_1 \leq s < t \leq t_3$ and $r(t, s; \varphi) < 0$ for $t_1 \leq t < s \leq t_3$ (see [32]).

Lemma 1. Assume $\varphi \in C^2(J)$, $h \in C^0(J \times I)$, $h(t, \cdot)$ is increasing on I for each fixed $t \in J$ and

$$(3) \quad h(t, a) \cdot h(t, b) \leq 0 \quad \text{for all } t \in J.$$

Then there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that the differential equation

$$(4) \quad y'' = Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) \cdot y + h(t, \mu)$$

with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a solution y satisfying

$$(5) \quad y(t_1) = y(t_2) = y(t_3) = 0.$$

Moreover this solution y is unique.

Proof. Setting

$$y(t, \mu) = \frac{r(t_2, t; \varphi)}{r(t_2, t_1; \varphi)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; \varphi) h(s, \mu) ds + \int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; \varphi) h(s, \mu) ds$$

for $(t, \mu) \in J \times I$, y is the unique solution of (4) satisfying the boundary conditions $y(t_1, \mu) = 0 = y(t_2, \mu)$ and since

$$y(t_3, \mu) = \frac{r(t_2, t_3; \varphi)}{r(t_2, t_1; \varphi)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; \varphi) h(s, \mu) ds + \int_{t_2}^{t_3} r(t_3, s; \varphi) h(s, \mu) ds,$$

$y(t_3, \cdot)$ is an increasing function on I , $y(t_3, a) \cdot y(t_3, b) \leq 0$ (by (3)) and hence $y(t_3, \mu) = 0$ only for a unique $\mu = \mu_0 \in I$. Consequently, equation (4) admits a solution y satisfying (5) if and only if $\mu = \mu_0$. This solution is necessary unique.

Lemma 2. Assume the assumptions of Lemma 1 are fulfilled. Then there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that the differential equation

$$(6) \quad y''' = Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) \cdot y' + h(t, \mu)$$

with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a solution y satisfying (2). Moreover this solution y is unique.

Proof. By Lemma 1 there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that equation (4) with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a (and then unique) solution z satisfying $z(t_1) = z(t_2) = z(t_3) = 0$ consequently, equation (6) admits a solution y satisfying $y'(t_1) = y'(t_2) = y'(t_3) = 0$ exactly if $\mu = \mu_0$ and then

$y(t) = \int_t^t z(t) ds + c$ are all such solutions, where c is an arbitrary constant.

Since $\alpha(\int_{t_0}^t z(s)ds + c_1) < 0$, $\alpha(\int_{t_0}^t z(s)ds + c_2) > 0$ for $c_1 < -\|\int_{t_0}^t z(s)ds\|$, $c_2 > \|\int_{t_1}^t z(s)ds\|$ and $p(c) := \alpha(\int_{t_1}^t z(s)ds + c)$ is a continuous increasing function on R , $p(c_1) < 0$, $p(c_2) > 0$, the equation $p(c) = 0$ has a unique solution c_0 . Therefore $y = \int_{t_0}^t z(s)ds + c_0$ is a (and then unique) solution of (6) with $\mu = \mu_0$ satisfying (2).

Remark 1. If $\alpha(y) = 0$ for some $y \in X$, then $y(\xi) = 0$ for a $\xi \in J$. In the opposite case either $y(t) > 0$ or $y(t) < 0$ for all $t \in J$ and since $\alpha(0) = 0$ and α is increasing we have either $\alpha(y) > 0$ or $\alpha(y) < 0$, respectively.

Next we will assume there are positive constants r_0, r_1, r_2 ,

$$(i) \quad r_1(t_3 - t_1) \leq r_0$$

such that the operators Q, F satisfy the following assumptions :

$$(ii) \quad |F[y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu](t)| \leq r_1 \cdot Q[y_0, y_1, y_2](t) \text{ for all } t \in J \text{ and } [y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu] \in D \times I, \text{ where } D = \{[y_0, y_1, y_2]; y_i \in X, \|y_i\| \leq r_1 \text{ for } i=0, 1, 2\};$$

$$(iii) \quad F[y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu_1](t) < F[y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu_2](t) \text{ for all } t \in J, [y_0, y_1, y_2] \in D \text{ and } \mu_1, \mu_2 \in I, \mu_1 < \mu_2;$$

$$(iv) \quad F[y_0, y_1, y_2, a](t) \cdot F[y_0, y_1, y_2, b](t) \leq 0 \text{ for all } t \in J \text{ and } [y_0, y_1, y_2] \in D;$$

$$(v) \quad \min\{(A+r_1B)\tau, 2(r_1(A+r_1B))^{1/2}\} \leq r_2, \text{ where } A = \sup\{\|F[y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu]\|; [y_0, y_1, y_2, \mu] \in D \times I\}, B = \sup\{\|Q[y_0, y_1, y_2]\|; [y_0, y_1, y_2] \in D\}, \tau = \max\{t_2 - t_1, t_3 - t_2\}.$$

Lemma 3. Assume assumptions (i)-(v) are fulfilled for positive constants r_0, r_1 and r_2 . If $\varphi \in C^2(J)$, $\|\varphi^{(i)}\| \leq r_1$ ($i=0, 1, 2$), then there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that the differential equation

$$(7) \quad y''' - Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) \cdot y' = F[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'', \mu](t)$$

with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a (and then unique) solution y satisfying (2) and moreover

$$(8) \quad \|y^{(i)}\| \leq r_1 \text{ for } i=0, 1, 2.$$

Proof. Setting $h(t, \mu) = F[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'', \mu](t)$ for $(t, \mu) \in J \times I$, then $h \in C^0(J \times I)$, $h(t, \cdot)$ is increasing on I for every fixed $t \in J$ (by (iii)), $h(t, a) \cdot h(t, b) \leq 0$ on J (by (iv)) consequently, by Lemma 2 there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that equation (7) with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a (and then unique) solution y satisfying (2).

Let $|y'(t)| \leq |y'(\xi)| > r_1$ for all $t \in J$ and a $\xi \in (t_1, t_3)$. If $y'(\xi) > r_1$ ($y'(\xi) < -r_1$) then by (ii) we have $y'''(\xi) > 0$ ($y'''(\xi) < 0$) which contradicts that y' has a local maximum (minimum) at the point $t = \xi$. Thus $\|y'\| \leq r_1$. Since $y(\eta) = 0$ for a $\eta \in J$ (see Remark 1) and

$$y(t) = \int_{\eta}^t y'(s) ds$$

we have $\|y\| \leq (t_3 - t_1) \|y'\| \leq r_0$.

Let $r_2 \geq (A + r_1 B)\tau$. Since $y'(t_1) = y'(t_2) = y'(t_3) = 0$ there are $\xi_1 \in (t_1, t_2)$, $\xi_2 \in (t_2, t_3)$ such that $y''(\xi_1) = 0 = y''(\xi_2)$ and form the equalities

$$y''(t) = \int_{\xi_i}^t \left\{ F[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'', \mu_0](s) + Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](s) \cdot y'(s) \right\} ds, \quad t \in J, i=1, 2,$$

we obtain

$$|y''(t)| \leq (A + r_1 B)(t_2 - t_1) \quad \text{for } t \in \langle t_1, t_2 \rangle$$

and

$$|y''(t)| \leq (A + r_1 B)(t_3 - t_2) \quad \text{for } t \in \langle t_2, t_3 \rangle,$$

consequently, $\|y''\| \leq r_2$.

Let $r_2 \geq 2(r_1(A + r_1 B))^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Let $y''(t) \neq 0$ on an open interval $J_1 \subset J$ with an end-point ξ , $y''(\xi) = 0$. Integrating the equality $\frac{d}{dt}(y''(t))^2 = 2Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) \cdot y'(t)y''(t) + 2F[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'', \mu_0](t) \cdot y''(t)$ from ξ to t ($t \in J_1$) after evident estimates we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (y''(t))^2 &\leq 2r_1 B \left| \int_{\xi}^t |y''(s)| ds \right| + 2A \left| \int_{\xi}^t |y''(s)| ds \right| = \\ &= 2(A + r_1 B) |y'(t) - y'(\xi)| \leq 4r_1(A + r_1 B) \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$|y''(t)| \leq 2(r_1(A + r_1 B))^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for all } t \in J$$

and $\|y''\| \leq r_2$. This completes the proof.

3. EXISTENCE THEOREM

Theorem 1. Assume assumptions (i)-(v) are fulfilled for positive constants r_0 , r_1 and r_2 . Then there is $\mu_0 \in I$ such that equation (1) with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a solution y satisfying (2) and (8).

Proof. Let Y be the Banach space of C^2 -functions on J with the norm $\|y\|_2 = \|y\| + \|y'\| + \|y''\|$ and let $K = \{y; y \in Y, \|y^{(i)}\| \leq r_i \text{ for } i=0,1,2\}$. K is a closed bounded convex subset of Y . Let $\varphi \in K$. By Lemma 3 there is a unique $\mu_0 \in I$ such that equation (7) with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a (and then unique) solution y satisfying (2) and (8). Setting $T(\varphi) = y$ we obtain an operator $T: K \rightarrow K$ and to proof of Theorem 1 it is sufficient to show that T has a fixed point.

Let $\{y_n\} \subset K$ be a convergent sequence, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = y$ and let $T(y_n) = z_n$, $T(y) = z$. Then there are a sequence $\{\mu_n\} \subset I$ and a $\mu_0 \in I$ such that we have (see the proof of Lemma 2)

$$z_n(t) = \int_{t_1}^t p_n(s) ds + c_n \quad \text{for all } t \in J \text{ and } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

and

$$z(t) = \int_{t_1}^t p(s) ds + c_0 \quad \text{for all } t \in J,$$

where $c_0, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$p_n(t) = \frac{r(t_2, t; y_n)}{r(t_2, t_1; y_n)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; y_n) F[y_n, y_n', y_n'', \mu_n](s) ds + \int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; y_n) F[y_n, y_n', y_n'', \mu_n](s) ds,$$

$$p(t) = \frac{r(t_2, t; y)}{r(t_2, t_1; y)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \mu_0](s) ds + \int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \mu_0](s) ds$$

and

$$\alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t p_n(s) ds + c_n \right) = 0, \quad \alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t p(s) ds + c_0 \right) = 0,$$

$$p_n(t_1) = p_n(t_2) = p_n(t_3) = 0, \quad p(t_1) = p(t_2) = p(t_3) = 0.$$

If $\{\mu_n\}$ is not a convergent sequence there are convergent subsequences

$$\{\mu_{k_n}\}, \quad \{\mu_{r_n}\}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_{k_n} = \lambda_1, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_{r_n} = \lambda_2, \quad \lambda_1 < \lambda_2,$$

and then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_{k_n}(t) = \frac{r(t_2, t; y)}{r(t_2, t_1; y)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \lambda_1](s) ds + \int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \lambda_1](s) ds,$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_{r_n}(t) = \frac{r(t_2, t; y)}{r(t_2, t_1; y)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} r(t_1, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \lambda_2](s) ds + \int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \lambda_2](s) ds$$

uniformly on J . Since $r(t_2, t_3; y) < 0$, $r(t_2, t_1; y) > 0$, $r(t_1, s; y) < 0$ for all $s \in (t_1, t_3)$, $r(t_3, s; y) > 0$ for all $s \in (t_1, t_3)$ and (by (iii))

$$F[y, y', y'', \lambda_1](t) < F[y, y', y'', \lambda_2](t) \quad \text{on } J,$$

we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_{k_n}(t_3) < \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_{r_n}(t_3)$ which contradicts $p_n(t_3) = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Hence $\{\mu_n\}$ is convergent and let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_n = \mu^*$.

Since $\left\{ \int_{t_1}^t p_n(s) ds \right\}$ is uniformly bounded on J , α is an increasing continuous functional and $\alpha\left(\int_{t_1}^t p_n(s) ds + c_n\right) = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we see $\{c_n\}$ is a bounded sequence. If $\{c_n\}$ is not a convergent sequence there are convergent subsequences

$$\{c_{k_n}\}, \quad \{c_{r_n}\}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_{k_n} = d_1, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_{r_n} = d_2, \quad d_1 < d_2,$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_{k_n}(t) = \int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + d_1, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_{r_n}(t) = \int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + d_2$$

uniformly on J , where

$$\bar{p}(t) = \frac{r(t_2, t; y)}{r(t_2, t_1; y)} \int_{t_1}^t r(t_1, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \mu^*](s) ds +$$

$$\int_{t_2}^t r(t, s; y) F[y, y', y'', \mu^*](s) ds \quad \text{for all } t \in J.$$

Next we have

$$0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t p_{k_n}(s) ds + c_{k_n} \right) = \alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + d_1 \right),$$

$$0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t p_{r_n}(s) ds + c_{r_n} \right) = \alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + d_2 \right),$$

consequently, $d_1 = d_2$ which contradicts $d_1 < d_2$. Therefore $\{c_n\}$ is convergent, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = c^*$ and then

$$(z^*(t) :=) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n(t) = \int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + c^*$$

uniformly on J and $\alpha \left(\int_{t_1}^t \bar{p}(s) ds + c^* \right) = 0$. Evidently z^* is a solution

of the differential equation

$$w'''' - Q[y, y', y''](t) \cdot w' = F[y, y', y'', \mu^*](t)$$

and $\alpha(z^*) = 0$, $z^*(t_1) = z^*(t_2) = z^*(t_3) = 0$.

From Lemma 2 it follows $\mu^* = \mu_0$ and $z^* = z$. Due to the fact that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} z_n^{(i)}(t) = z^{(i)}(t)$$

uniformly on J for $i=0, 1, 2$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T(y_n) = T(y)$ and T is a continuous operator.

Let $\varphi \in \mathcal{K}$ and $T(\varphi) = y$. From the equality

$$y''''(t) = Q[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi''](t) y'(t) + F[\varphi, \varphi', \varphi'', \mu_0](t)$$

holding on J for a $\mu_0 \in I$, we get $\|y''''\| \leq A + r_1 B$ ($:= r_3$) consequently, $T(\mathcal{K}) \subset \{y; y \in C^3(J), \|y^{(i)}\| \leq r_1 \text{ for } i=0, 1, 2, 3\}$ ($:= \mathcal{L}$). By the Ascoli theorem \mathcal{L} is a compact subset of Y and therefore $T(\mathcal{K})$ is a compact subset of Y too. This proves T is a completely continuous operator and by the Schauder fixed point theorem there is a fixed point of T .

Remark 2. Using the results from the paper [33] we can prove that the boundary conditions $y'(t_1)=y'(t_2)=y'(t_3)=0$ in (2) can be replaced by $y'(t_1)-y'(t_4)=y'(t_2)=y'(t_3)-y'(t_5)=0$, where $t_1 < t_4 < t_2 < t_5 < t_3$.

Example 1.

Consider the equation

$$(9) \quad y''''(t) - k(t) \exp\{|y(h_0(t))y'(h_1(t))|\} y'(t) = m(t) \cos(s(t)y''(h_2(t))) + \mu \cdot p(t)$$

in which $k, m, s, p, h_i \in C^0(\langle -1, 1 \rangle)$, $h_i: \langle -1, 1 \rangle \rightarrow \langle -1, 1 \rangle$, $(i=0, 1, 2)$, $k_0 \leq k(t) \leq k_1$, $p_0 \leq p(t) \leq p_1$, $|m(t)| \leq k_0 p_0 / (2(p_0 + p_1))$ for $t \in \langle -1, 1 \rangle$, where k_0, k_1, p_0, p_1 are positive constants. The assumptions of Theorem 1 are fulfilled with $J = \langle -1, 1 \rangle$, $I = \langle -k_0 / (2(p_0 + p_1)), k_0 / (2(p_0 + p_1)) \rangle$, $r_0 = 1$, $r_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $r_2 = (k_0 + e^{\frac{1}{2}k_1})^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Let $t_2 \in (-1, 1)$ and let α be a continuous increasing functional on the Banach space $C^0(J)$ with the sup norm, $\alpha(0) = 0$ (for example $\alpha(y) = \int_{-1}^1 y(s) ds$ or $\alpha(y) = \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k y(\tau_k)$, where $\beta_k \in (0, \infty)$, $\tau_k \in J$ for $k=1, 2, \dots, n$). By Theorem 1 there is $\mu_0 \in I$ such that equation (9) with $\mu = \mu_0$ admits a solution y satisfying

$$\alpha(y) = 0, \quad y'(-1) = y'(t_2) = y'(1) = 0$$

and

$$|y(t)| \leq 1, \quad |y'(t)| \leq \frac{1}{2}, \quad |y''(t)| \leq (k_0 + e^{\frac{1}{2}k_1})^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for all } t \in J.$$

Next let $-1 < t_4 < t_2 < t_5 < 1$. By Remark 2 there is $\mu_1 \in I$ such that equation (9) with $\mu = \mu_1$ admits a solution y_1 satisfying

$$\alpha(y_1) = 0, \quad y_1'(-1) - y_1'(t_4) = y_1'(t_2) = y_1'(1) - y_1'(t_5) = 0$$

and

$$|y_1(t)| \leq 1, \quad |y_1'(t)| \leq \frac{1}{2}, \quad |y_1''(t)| \leq (k_0 + e^{\frac{1}{2}k_1})^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \text{for all } t \in J.$$

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Acta UPO, Fac.rer.nat. 105, Mathematica XXXI (1992)