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# Oscillation of fourth-order neutral differential equations with distributed deviating arguments



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# Abstract

A general class of fourth-order neutral differential equations with distributed deviating arguments is considered. New oscillation criteria are deduced in both canonical and noncanonical cases. Two illustrative examples are given.

**Keywords:** Oscillation, fourth-order, neutral differential equations. **2020 MSC:** 34C10, 34K11.

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# 1. Introduction

In this paper, we are concerned with the oscillation of fourth-order half-linear neutral differential equations of the form

$$\left(r\left(t\right)\left(z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right)^{\alpha}\right)' + \int_{c}^{d}q\left(t,\zeta\right)f\left(x\left(\sigma\left(t,\zeta\right)\right)\right)d\zeta = 0, \quad t \ge t_{0}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $z(t) = x(t) + \int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) x(\tau(t,\mu)) d\mu$  and  $\alpha \ge 1$  is a quotient of odd positive integers under the conditions

$$R(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)} dt = \infty, \qquad (1.2)$$

and

$$R(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)} dt < \infty.$$
(1.3)

Throughout the paper, we assume the following assumptions:

- $(A_{1}) \ r\left(t\right) \in C^{1}\left(\left[t_{0},\infty\right),\left(0,\infty\right)\right) \text{, } r'\left(t\right) \geqslant 0 \text{;}$
- $(A_2) \ p(t,\mu) \in C\left(\left[t_0,\infty\right) \times \left[a,b\right], \left[0,\infty\right)\right), \ 0 \leqslant \int_a^b p(t,\mu) \ d\mu \leqslant P < 1;$
- $\begin{array}{lll} (A_3) \ \tau \left( t, \mu \right) \ \in \ C \left( \left[ t_0, \infty \right) \times \left[ a, b \right], R \right) \ \text{is a nondecreasing function for } \mu \ \text{satisfying } \tau \left( t, \mu \right) \ \leqslant \ t \ \text{and} \\ \lim \inf_{t \to \infty} \tau \left( t, \mu \right) = \infty; \end{array}$

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- $(A_4) \ q (t, \zeta) \in C ([t_0, \infty) \times [c, d], (0, \infty)), f \in C (R, R), f (x) / x^{\alpha} \ge K \text{ for all } x \neq 0, \text{ and for some } K > 0;$
- $\begin{array}{l} (A_5) \ \sigma\left(t,\zeta\right) \ \in \ C([t_0,\infty)\times [c,d]\,,R) \ \text{is a nondecreasing function for } \xi \ \text{satisfying } \sigma\left(t,\xi\right) \ \leqslant \ t,\sigma_1'\left(t\right) \ > \ 0, \\ \text{where } \sigma_1\left(t\right) = \sigma\left(t,c\right), \ \text{and } \lim\inf_{t\to\infty}\sigma\left(t,\xi\right) = \infty. \end{array}$

By a solution of (1.1), we mean a nontrivial real function x(t) such that

$$r(t)\left(\left[x(t)+\int_{a}^{b}p(t,\mu)x(\tau(t,\mu)\,d\mu)\right]^{\prime\prime\prime}\right)$$

is continuously differentiable satisfying (1.1) for any  $t_1 \ge t_0$ . A solution of (1.1) is called oscillatory if it is neither eventually positive nor eventually negative, otherwise it is called nonoscillatory. Equation (1.1) is said to be oscillatory if all its solutions are oscillatory.

In recent years, there has been a great deal of interest in studying the oscillatory behavior of solutions of various types of differential equations; see [1–16, 18, 19, 21–25, 27–36, 38–40]. The half-linear equations have numerous applications in the study of p-Laplace equations, non-Newtonian fluid theory, porous medium, etc; see, e.g., [6–8, 20] for more details. Moreover, in the frame of continuous PDEs, and in particular in dynamical models, delay and oscillatory-type effects are often modeled by external sources perturbing the natural evolution of the related systems, some of these contributions on parabolic chemotaxis model with nonlinear diffusions can be found in [17, 26, 37], which are connected to mathematical biology. In particular, the papers [6–8, 12, 21, 23–25] were concerned with the oscillatory behavior of differential equations, whereas the papers [22, 27, 39] were concerned with the oscillatory behavior of different classes of fourth-order differential equations. In the following, we show some previous results in the literature which related to this paper. The authors in [3, 4, 28] discussed the oscillatory behavior of solutions of the fourth-order neutral differential equation

$$\left(r\left(t\right)\left(\left[x\left(t\right)+p\left(t\right)x\left(\tau\left(t\right)\right)\right]^{\prime\prime\prime}\right)^{\alpha}\right)'+q\left(t\right)x^{\beta}\left(\delta\left(t\right)\right)=0,$$
(1.4)

α

under the condition (1.2).

In [11] Dassios and Bazighifan discussed the oscillation of Eq. (1.4) under the condition (1.3).

In [19] Li et al. studied the oscillation of the fourth-order neutral differential equations with p-laplacian like operators of the type

$$\left(r(t)\left|z^{'''}(t)\right|^{p-2}z^{'''}(t)\right)' + \sum_{i=1}^{l}q_{i}(t)\left|x(\tau_{i}(t))\right|^{p-2}x(\tau_{i}(t)) = 0,$$

where  $z(t) = x(t) + a(t)x(\sigma(t))$ , under the condition  $\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{p-2}}(t)} dt < \infty$ .

In [5] Bazighifan et al. discussed the asymptotic behavior of solutions of the fourth-order neutral differential equations

$$\left(r\left(t\right)\left(\left[x\left(t\right)+p\left(t\right)x\left(\varphi\left(t\right)\right)\right]^{\prime\prime\prime}\right)^{\alpha}\right)^{\prime}+\int_{a}^{b}q\left(t,\theta\right)x^{\beta}\left(\delta\left(t,\theta\right)\right)d\theta=0,$$

where  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  are quotients of odd positive integers and  $\beta \ge \alpha$  under the condition (1.2).

The aim of this paper is to employ generalized Riccati transformation to establish some new conditions for the oscillation of all solutions of equation (1.1), under the conditions (1.2) and (1.3).

# 2. Preliminaries

We first outline some lemmas which will be needed for the proofs of the main results.

**Lemma 2.1** ([29]). Let z(t) be a positive and n-times differentiable function on an interval  $[T, \infty)$ , with nonpositive nth derivative  $z^{(n)}(t)$  on  $[T, \infty)$  which is not identically zero on any interval of the form  $[T', \infty)$ ,  $T' \ge T$ , and such that  $z^{(n-1)}(t) z^{(n)}(t) \le 0$ . Then there exist constants  $0 < \theta < 1$  and N > 0 such that  $z'(\theta t) \ge$  $Nt^{n-2}z^{(n-1)}(t)$  for all sufficient large t.

**Lemma 2.2 ([28]).** Let  $z^{(n)}(t)$  be of fixed sign and  $z^{(n-1)}(t) z^{(n)}(t) \leq 0$ , for all  $t \geq t_1$ . If  $\lim_{t\to\infty} z(t) \neq 0$ , then for every  $\lambda \in (0,1)$  there exists  $t_\lambda \geq t_1$  such that  $z(t) \geq \frac{\lambda}{(n-1)!} t^{n-1} |z^{(n-1)}(t)|$  for  $t \geq t_\lambda$ .

**Lemma 2.3** ([2]). If  $\alpha$  is a ratio of two odd numbers with V > 0 and U are constants, then  $UY - VY^{\frac{(\alpha+1)}{\alpha}} \leq \frac{\alpha^{\alpha}}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1}} \frac{U^{\alpha+1}}{V^{\alpha}}$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** Assume that x(t) is an eventually positive solution of (1.1), and z'(t) > 0, then

$$\left(r\left(t\right)\left(z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right)^{\alpha}\right)' \leqslant -q_{1}\left(t\right)z^{\alpha}\left(\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right),$$
(2.1)

where  $q_{1}(t) = K (1-P)^{\alpha} \int_{c}^{d} q(t,\zeta) d\zeta$ ,  $\sigma_{1}(t) = \sigma(t,c)$ .

*Proof.* Since x(t) is an eventually positive solution of (1.1), then there exists a  $t_1 \ge t_0$  such that x(t) > 0,  $x(\sigma(t,\xi)) > 0$  and  $x(\tau(t,\mu)) > 0$  for  $t \ge t_1$ . Now from the definition of z we have

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= z(t) - \int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) x(\tau(t,\mu)) d\mu \\ &\geqslant z(t) - \int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) z(\tau(t,\mu)) d\mu \\ &\geqslant z(t) - z(\tau(t,b)) \int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) d\mu \geqslant \left(1 - \int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) d\mu\right) z(t) \geqslant (1 - P) z(t) . \end{aligned}$$

Using Eq. (1.1), we get

$$\begin{split} \left( r\left(t\right) \left(z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right)^{\alpha} \right)' &\leqslant -K \int_{c}^{d} q\left(t,\xi\right) x^{\alpha} \left(\sigma\left(t,\xi\right)\right) d\xi \\ &\leqslant -K \left(1-P\right)^{\alpha} \int_{c}^{d} q\left(t,\xi\right) z^{\alpha} \left(\sigma\left(t,\xi\right)\right) d\xi \\ &\leqslant -K \left(1-P\right)^{\alpha} z^{\alpha} \left(\sigma\left(t,c\right)\right) \int_{c}^{d} q\left(t,\xi\right) d\xi = -q_{1}\left(t\right) z^{\alpha} \left(\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right). \end{split}$$

Thus the proof is completed.

The following two auxiliary results are very similar to those in [3, 11].

**Lemma 2.5.** Let x(t) be a positive solution of (1.1). If (1.2) is satisfied, then there exists  $t \ge t_1$  such that

$$z(t) > 0, z'(t) > 0, z'''(t) > 0, z^{(4)}(t) < 0, (r(t)(z'''(t))^{\alpha})' \leq 0.$$

**Lemma 2.6.** Let x(t) be a positive solution of (1.1). If (1.3) is satisfied, then there exist three possible cases for sufficiently large  $t \ge t_1$ :

 $\begin{array}{l} (S_1) \ z \ (t) > 0, z' \ (t) > 0, z''' \ (t) > 0, and \ z^{(4)} \ (t) \leqslant 0; \\ (S_2) \ z \ (t) > 0, z' \ (t) > 0, z'' \ (t) > 0, and \ z''' \ (t) < 0; \\ (S_3) \ z \ (t) > 0, z' \ (t) < 0, z''' \ (t) > 0, and \ z''' \ (t) < 0. \end{array}$ 

# 3. Main results

In this section, we start with the case  $R(t_0) = \infty$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let x be an eventually positive solution of (1.1). If there exist  $\rho(t) \in C^1([t_0,\infty),(0,\infty))$ ,  $\alpha(t) \in C^1([t_0,\infty),[0,\infty))$ ,  $\delta \in (0,1)$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , such that

$$\vartheta(t) = \rho(t) \left[ \frac{r(t) \left( z^{''}(t) \right)^{\alpha}}{z^{\alpha} \left( \delta \sigma_{1}(t) \right)^{\alpha}} + r(t) a(t) \right], \ t \ge t_{1},$$
(3.1)

then

$$\vartheta'(t) \leqslant -Q(t) + A(t)\vartheta(t) - B(t)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t), \qquad (3.2)$$

where

$$A(t) = \frac{\rho'(t)}{\rho(t)} + (\alpha + 1) \,\delta\varepsilon\sigma_1^2(t)\,\sigma_1'(t)\,a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)\,, \qquad B(t) = \frac{\alpha\delta\varepsilon\sigma_1^2(t)\,\sigma_1'(t)}{[r(t)\,\rho(t)]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}},$$

and

$$Q(t) = q_1(t) \rho(t) - \rho(t) [r(t) a(t)]' + \delta \varepsilon \sigma_1^2(t) \sigma_1'(t) r(t) \rho(t) a^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)$$

*Proof.* Assume that x is an eventually positive solution of (1.1). Using Lemma 2.4, we obtain (2.1). It is clear by (3.1) that  $\vartheta(t) > 0$  for  $t \ge t_1$ , and

$$\vartheta'(t) = \frac{\rho'(t)}{\rho(t)}\vartheta(t) + \rho(t)\left[r(t)a(t)\right]' + \rho(t)\frac{\left(r(t)\left(z^{'''}(t)\right)^{\alpha}\right)'}{z^{\alpha}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}(t)\right)} - \rho(t)\frac{\alpha\delta r(t)\sigma_{1}'(t)\left(z^{'''}(t)\right)^{\alpha}z'\left(\delta\sigma_{1}(t)\right)}{z^{\alpha+1}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}(t)\right)}$$

i.e.,

$$\vartheta'\left(t\right) \leqslant \frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}\vartheta\left(t\right) + \rho\left(t\right)\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]' - \rho\left(t\right)\frac{q_{1}\left(t\right)z^{\alpha}\left(\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}{z^{\alpha}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)} - \rho\left(t\right)\frac{\alpha\delta r\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\left(z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right)^{\alpha}z'\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}{z^{\alpha+1}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}$$

By Lemma 2.1, we have

$$z'(\delta\sigma_{1}(t)) \ge \varepsilon\sigma_{1}^{2}(t) z'''(\sigma_{1}(t))$$

Since z(t) is increasing, then we have

$$z^{lpha}\left(\sigma_{1}\left(t
ight)
ight)\geqslant z^{lpha}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t
ight)
ight)$$
 ,

then

$$\vartheta'\left(t\right) \leqslant \frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}\vartheta\left(t\right) + \rho\left(t\right)\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]' - \rho\left(t\right)q_{1}\left(t\right) - \rho\left(t\right)\frac{\alpha\delta\varepsilon r\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\left(z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right)^{\alpha}\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)z^{'''}\left(\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}{z^{\alpha+1}\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}$$

But since

$$z^{'''}\left(\sigma_{1}\left(t
ight)
ight)\geqslant z^{'''}\left(t
ight)$$
 ,

then

$$\vartheta'\left(t\right) \leqslant \frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}\vartheta\left(t\right) + \rho\left(t\right)\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]' - \rho\left(t\right)q_{1}\left(t\right) - \rho\left(t\right)\alpha\varepsilon\delta r\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)\left(\frac{z'''\left(t\right)}{z\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)}\right)^{\alpha+1}.$$

Moreover since from (3.1), we have

$$\frac{z^{'''}(t)}{z\left(\delta\sigma_{1}\left(t\right)\right)} = \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)} \left[\frac{\vartheta\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)} - \left[r\left(t\right) a\left(t\right)\right]\right]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}},$$

then

$$\vartheta'(t) \leqslant \frac{\rho'(t)}{\rho(t)}\vartheta(t) + \rho(t)\left[r(t)a(t)\right]' - \rho(t)q_1(t) - \alpha\delta\varepsilon\sigma_1'(t)\sigma_1^2(t)\frac{\rho(t)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)}\left(\frac{\vartheta(t)}{\rho(t)} - \left[r(t)a(t)\right]\right)^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}.$$
 (3.3)

Following [35], we define

$$M = rac{\vartheta\left(t
ight)}{\rho\left(t
ight)}$$
 and  $N = r\left(t
ight) a\left(t
ight)$ ,

using the inequality

$$M^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}} - (M-N)^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}} \leq N^{\frac{1}{\alpha}} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) M - \frac{1}{\alpha} N \right], \quad MN \ge 0, \quad \alpha \ge 1,$$

we have

$$\left(\frac{\vartheta\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)} - \left[r\left(t\right)\mathfrak{a}\left(t\right)\right]\right)^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}} \ge \left[\frac{\vartheta\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}\right]^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}} + \frac{1}{\alpha}\left[r\left(t\right)\mathfrak{a}\left(t\right)\right]^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}} - \left(1+\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)\frac{\left[r\left(t\right)\mathfrak{a}\left(t\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}}{\rho\left(t\right)}\vartheta\left(t\right).$$
(3.4)

Using the inequalities (3.3) and (3.4), for  $t \ge T$ , we have

$$\begin{split} \vartheta'\left(t\right) &\leqslant \frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)} \vartheta\left(t\right) + \rho\left(t\right)\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]' - \rho\left(t\right)q_{1}\left(t\right) \\ &+ \alpha\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)\frac{\rho\left(t\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}\left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)\frac{\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}}{\rho\left(t\right)}\vartheta\left(t\right) - \frac{1}{\alpha}\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]^{1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}} - \frac{\vartheta^{1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}{\rho^{1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}\right]. \end{split}$$

Then

$$\begin{split} \vartheta'\left(t\right) \leqslant \rho\left(t\right) \left(\left[r\left(t\right)a\left(t\right)\right]' - q_{1}\left(t\right)\right) + \left[\frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)} + \left(\alpha + 1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)\right]\vartheta\left(t\right) \\ - \frac{\alpha\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)\rho^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}\vartheta^{1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right) - \delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)r\left(t\right)\rho\left(t\right)a^{1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right). \end{split}$$

Thus we obtain

$$\vartheta'(t) \leqslant -Q(t) + A(t)\vartheta(t) - B(t)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)$$

This completes the proof.

In the following theorem we establish a Kamenev-type oscillation criterion for (1.1) under the condition (1.2).

# Theorem 3.2. If

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t^{n}} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \left(t-s\right)^{n} \left[ Q\left(s\right) - \frac{r\left(s\right)\rho\left(s\right)}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}} \frac{\left[\frac{\rho'\left(s\right)}{\rho\left(s\right)} + \left(\alpha+1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(s\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha+1}}{\left[\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(s\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha}} \right] ds = \infty, \quad (3.5)$$

then (1.1) is oscillatory.

$$U = \frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)} + \left(\alpha + 1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right), \qquad V = \alpha\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)\frac{1}{\left[r\left(t\right)\rho\left(t\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}}, \quad \text{and} \ \ Y = \vartheta\left(t\right).$$

Thus by Lemma 2.3, we obtain

Thus we have

$$\vartheta'\left(t\right)\leqslant-Q\left(t\right)+\frac{r\left(t\right)\rho\left(t\right)\left[\frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}+\left(\alpha+1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha+1}}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}\left[\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha}}\text{,}$$

and

$$-\int_{t_{0}}^{t} (t-s)^{n} \vartheta'(s) ds \ge \int_{t_{0}}^{t} (t-s)^{n} \left[ Q(s) - \frac{r(s)\rho(s) \left[ \frac{\rho'(s)}{\rho(s)} + (\alpha+1)\delta\varepsilon\sigma'_{1}(s)\sigma_{1}^{2}(s)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s) \right]^{\alpha+1}}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1} \left[ \delta\varepsilon\sigma'_{1}(s)\sigma_{1}^{2}(s) \right]^{\alpha}} \right] ds.$$

$$(3.6)$$

Since

$$\int_{t_0}^t (t-s)^n \vartheta'(s) \, ds = n \int_{t_0}^t (t-s)^{n-1} \vartheta(s) \, ds - (t-t_0)^n \vartheta(t_0) \,,$$

then from (3.6), we get

$$(t-t_0)^n \vartheta(t_0) - n \int_{t_0}^t (t-s)^{n-1} \vartheta(s) \, ds \geqslant \int_{t_0}^t (t-s)^n \left[ Q(s) - \frac{r(s) \rho(s) \left[ \frac{\rho'(s)}{\rho(s)} + (\alpha+1) \, \delta \varepsilon \, \sigma_1'(s) \, \sigma_1^2(s) \, \alpha^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s) \right]^{\alpha+1}}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1} \left[ \delta \varepsilon \, \sigma_1'(s) \, \sigma_1^2(s) \right]^{\alpha}} \right] \, ds.$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{t^{n}}\int_{t_{0}}^{t}(t-s)^{n}\left[Q\left(s\right)-\frac{r\left(s\right)\rho\left(s\right)\left[\frac{\rho'\left(s\right)}{\rho\left(s\right)}+\left(\alpha+1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(s\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha+1}}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}\left[\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(s\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha}}\right]ds \leqslant \left(\frac{t-t_{0}}{t}\right)^{n}\vartheta\left(t_{0}\right),$$

and so

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{t^{n}} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} (t-s)^{n} \left[ Q(s) - \frac{r(s) \rho(s) \left[ \frac{\rho'(s)}{\rho(s)} + (\alpha+1) \,\delta\varepsilon \sigma_{1}'(s) \,\sigma_{1}^{2}(s) \,a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s) \right]^{\alpha+1}}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1} \left[ \delta\varepsilon \sigma_{1}'(s) \,\sigma_{1}^{2}(s) \right]^{\alpha}} \right] ds \to \vartheta(t_{0}),$$

which contradicts (3.5) and this completes the proof.

In the following, we establish Philos-type oscillation criteria for Eq. (1.1) under the condition (1.2). We first need the following definition.

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $D = \{(t,s) \in R^2 : t \ge s \ge t_0\}$  and  $D_0 = \{(t,s) \in R^2 : t > s \ge t_0\}$ . The functions  $H_i(t,s) \in C(D,R)$ , i = 1,2 are said to belong to the class X written as  $H_i \in X$  if they satisfy:

- I)  $H_{i}(t,t) = 0$  for  $t \ge t_{0}$ ,  $H_{i}(t,s) > 0$ ,  $(t,s) \in D_{0}$ ;
- $\text{II) } \ \frac{\partial H_{i}(t,s)}{\partial s} \leqslant 0 \text{, and there exist } \eta\left(t\right) \in C^{1}\left([t_{0},\infty),(0,\infty)\right) \text{ and } h_{i}\left(t,s\right) \in C\left(D,R\right) \text{ satisfying } 0 \text{ for } 0 \text{ and } 0 \text{ for } 0$

$$-\frac{\partial H_{1}\left(t,s\right)}{\partial s}=H_{1}\left(t,s\right)\left[\frac{\rho'\left(t\right)}{\rho\left(t\right)}+\left(\alpha+1\right)\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(t\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)a^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)\right]+h_{1}\left(t,s\right),$$

and

$$\frac{\partial H_{2}(t,s)}{\partial s} + \frac{\eta'(t)}{\eta(t)} H_{2}(t,s) = \frac{h_{2}(t,s)}{\eta(t)} \left[H_{2}(t,s)\right]^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1}}$$

**Theorem 3.4.** *If there exists a function*  $H_1 \in X$  *such that* 

$$\underset{t \to \infty}{\lim \sup} \frac{1}{H_1(t, t_0)} \int_{t_0}^{t} \left[ H_1(t, s) Q(s) - \frac{r(s) \rho(s)}{(\alpha + 1)^{\alpha + 1}} \frac{\left[ \left| h_1(t, s) \right| \right]^{\alpha + 1}}{\left[ \delta \varepsilon \sigma'_1(s) \sigma_1^2(s) H_1(t, s) \right]^{\alpha}} \right] ds = \infty,$$
(3.7)

then every solution of (1.1) is oscillatory.

*Proof.* Let x be a nonoscillatory solution of (1.1). Without loss of generality, we may assume that x is an eventually positive solution of (1.1). Now from Lemma 3.1 we get (3.2). Multiplying the inequality (3.2) by  $H_1(t, s)$  and integrating the resulting inequality from T to t, we have

$$\begin{split} \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{Q}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \leqslant \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\left[-\vartheta'\left(\mathsf{s}\right) + \mathsf{A}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta\left(\mathsf{s}\right) - \mathsf{B}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\right]\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \\ &= \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{T}\right)\vartheta\left(\mathsf{T}\right) + \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \left[\frac{\partial\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)}{\partial\mathsf{s}} + \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{A}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\right]\vartheta\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} - \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}}\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{B}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \\ &= \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{T}\right)\vartheta\left(\mathsf{T}\right) - \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}}\mathsf{h}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} - \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}}\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{B}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)]\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s}, \\ &\leqslant \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{T}\right)\vartheta\left(\mathsf{T}\right) + \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \left[|\mathsf{h}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)|\vartheta\left(\mathsf{s}\right) - \mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}\right)\mathsf{B}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)\right]\mathsf{d}\mathsf{s}. \end{split}$$

Letting  $U = |h_1(t, s)|$ ,  $V = H_1(t, s) B(s)$ , and using Lemma 2.3, we obtain

$$\left|h_{1}\left(t,s\right)\right|\vartheta\left(s\right)-H_{1}\left(t,s\right)B\left(s\right)\vartheta^{1+\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\leqslant\frac{\alpha^{\alpha}}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}}\frac{\left|h_{1}\left(t,s\right)\right|^{\alpha+1}}{\left[H_{1}\left(t,s\right)B\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha}}.$$

Then

$$\int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \mathsf{H}_{1}(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s}) \, Q(\mathsf{s}) \, \mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \leqslant \mathsf{H}_{1}(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{T}) \, \vartheta(\mathsf{T}) + \int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}} \frac{\alpha^{\alpha}}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1}} \frac{\mathsf{r}(\mathsf{s}) \, \rho(\mathsf{s}) \, |\mathsf{h}_{1}(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s})|^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha^{\alpha} \left[\mathsf{H}_{1}(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{s})\right]^{\alpha} \left[\delta \varepsilon \, \sigma_{1}^{\prime}(\mathsf{s}) \, \sigma_{1}^{2}(\mathsf{s})\right]^{\alpha}} \, \mathsf{d}\mathsf{s}.$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},\mathsf{T}\right)}\int_{\mathsf{T}}^{\mathsf{t}}\left[\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},s\right)Q\left(s\right)-\frac{r\left(s\right)\rho\left(s\right)}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}}\frac{\left|\mathsf{h}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},s\right)\right|^{\alpha+1}}{\left[\delta\varepsilon\sigma_{1}'\left(s\right)\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)\mathsf{H}_{1}\left(\mathsf{t},s\right)\right]^{\alpha}}\right]ds\leqslant\vartheta\left(\mathsf{T}\right),$$

for all sufficiently large t, which contradicts (3.7).

#### 4. The case $R(t_0) < \infty$

In this section, we discuss the oscillation of Eq. (1.1) under the condition (1.3). We first need the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.1.** Assume that x is an eventually positive solution of Eq. (1.1) and  $(S_2)$  holds. If

$$\Phi(\mathbf{t}) = \eta(\mathbf{t}) \frac{\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{t}) \left[ z^{''}(\mathbf{t}) \right]^{\alpha}}{\left[ z^{\prime\prime}(\mathbf{t}) \right]^{\alpha}}, \tag{4.1}$$

then

$$\Phi'(t) \leqslant \frac{\eta'(t)}{\eta(t)} \Phi(t) - \eta(t) q_1(t) \left[\frac{\lambda}{2} \sigma_1^2(t)\right]^{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha \Phi^{\alpha+1}(t)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t) \eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)}, \quad \lambda \in (0,1).$$

$$(4.2)$$

*Proof.* Assume that x is an eventually positive solution of Eq. (1.1) and (S<sub>2</sub>) holds. Since z' > 0, then by using Lemma 2.4, we obtain (2.1). Now from (4.1) we see that  $\Phi(t) < 0$ , for  $t \ge t_1$ , and

$$\Phi'\left(t\right) = \frac{\eta'\left(t\right)}{\eta\left(t\right)} \Phi\left(t\right) + \eta\left(t\right) \frac{\left[r\left(t\right)\left[z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha}\right]'}{\left[z^{\prime\prime}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha}} - \frac{\alpha\eta\left(t\right)r\left(t\right)\left[z^{'''}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha+1}}{\left[z^{\prime\prime}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha+1}}$$

This with (2.1) and (4.1) leads to

$$\Phi'(t) \leqslant \frac{\eta'(t)}{\eta(t)} \Phi(t) - \eta(t) \frac{q_1(t) z^{\alpha}(\sigma_1(t))}{\left[z''(t)\right]^{\alpha}} - \frac{\alpha \Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}(t)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t) \eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)},$$

i.e.,

$$\Phi'(t) \leqslant \frac{\eta'(t)}{\eta(t)} \Phi(t) - \eta(t) \frac{q_1(t) z^{\alpha}(\sigma_1(t)) [z''(\sigma_1(t))]^{\alpha}}{[z''(\sigma_1(t))]^{\alpha} [z''(t)]^{\alpha}} - \frac{\alpha \Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}(t)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t) \eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)}$$

Since z''(t) is decreasing, then  $-\frac{z''(\sigma_1(t))}{z''(t)} \leq -1$ , and from Lemma 2.2, we obtain  $z(\sigma_1(t)) \geq \frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_1^2(t) z''(\sigma_1(t))$ . Then

$$\Phi'\left(t\right) \leqslant \frac{\eta'\left(t\right)}{\eta\left(t\right)} \Phi\left(t\right) - \eta\left(t\right) q_{1}\left(t\right) \left[\frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(t\right)\right]^{\alpha} - \frac{\alpha \Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)\eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(t\right)}.$$

Thus the proof is completed.

**Theorem 4.2.** Assume that (3.7) holds. If

$$\limsup_{t\to\infty}\int_{t_0}^{t}\left[H_2(t,s)\eta(s)q_1(s)\left[\frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_1^2(s)\right]^{\alpha}-\frac{r(s)}{(\alpha+1)^{\alpha+1}\eta^{\alpha}(s)}\left[h_2(t,s)\right]^{\alpha+1}\right]ds>0,$$
(4.3)

and one of the following conditions holds

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \mathsf{R}(s) \, \mathrm{d}s = \infty, \tag{4.4}$$

or

$$\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \int_{u}^{\infty} R(s) \, ds \, du = \infty, \tag{4.5}$$

then Eq. (1.1) is oscillatory.

*Proof.* Let x be a nonoscillatory solution of (1.1). Without loss of generality we may assume that x is eventually positive. From Lemma 2.6, we have that three possible cases hold. Letting (S<sub>1</sub>) holds, then by Theorem 3.4 we see that every solution of (1.1) is oscillatory when condition (3.7) holds. Now if (S<sub>2</sub>) holds, then from Lemma 4.1, we have (4.2). Multiplying (4.2) by  $H_2(t, s)$  and integrating from  $t_1$  to t, we obtain

$$\begin{split} \int_{t_{1}}^{t} H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\eta\left(s\right)q_{1}\left(s\right)\left[\frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha}ds \\ &\leqslant H_{2}\left(t,t_{1}\right)\Phi\left(t_{1}\right)+\int_{t_{1}}^{t}\left[\frac{\partial H_{2}\left(t,s\right)}{\partial s}+\frac{\eta'\left(s\right)}{\eta\left(s\right)}H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\right]\Phi\left(s\right)ds-\alpha\int_{t_{1}}^{t}H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\frac{\Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}ds, \\ &= H_{2}\left(t,t_{1}\right)\Phi\left(t_{1}\right)+\int_{t_{1}}^{t}\frac{h_{2}\left(t,s\right)}{\eta\left(s\right)}\left[H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\right]^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1}}\Phi\left(s\right)ds-\alpha\int_{t_{1}}^{t}H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\frac{\Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}ds. \end{split}$$

Set

$$V = \frac{\alpha H_{2}(t,s)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s)\eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s)}, \quad U = \frac{h_{2}(t,s)}{\eta(s)} \left[H_{2}(t,s)\right]^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1}}, \text{ and } Y = \Phi(s).$$

Then by Lemma 2.3, we have

$$\frac{h_{2}\left(t,s\right)}{\eta\left(s\right)}\left[H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\right]^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1}}\Phi\left(s\right)-\frac{\alpha H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\Phi^{\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)\eta^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}\left(s\right)}\leqslant\frac{1}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}}\left[h_{2}\left(t,s\right)\right]^{\left(\alpha+1\right)}\frac{r\left(s\right)}{\eta^{\alpha}\left(s\right)}.$$

Hence

$$\int_{t_{1}}^{t} \left[ H_{2}\left(t,s\right)\eta\left(s\right) q_{1}\left(s\right) \left[\frac{\lambda}{2}\sigma_{1}^{2}\left(s\right)\right]^{\alpha} - \frac{1}{\left(\alpha+1\right)^{\alpha+1}} \left[h_{2}\left(t,s\right)\right]^{\left(\alpha+1\right)} \frac{r\left(s\right)}{\eta^{\alpha}\left(s\right)} \right] ds \leqslant H_{2}\left(t,t_{1}\right) \Phi\left(t_{1}\right) < 0,$$

which contradicts (4.3). Now consider the case (S<sub>3</sub>). Assume that z(t) satisfies (S<sub>3</sub>). Noting that  $r(t)(z''(t))^{\alpha}$  is nonincreasing, we have

$$r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(s)\left(z^{'''}(s)\right) \leqslant r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)\left(z^{'''}(t)\right), \ s \geqslant t \geqslant t_1.$$

Going through as in the proof of Theorem 2.3 case 1 in [19], we get a contradiction with (4.4) and (4.5) and so the proof is completed.  $\Box$ 

# 5. Examples

**Example 5.1.** For  $t \ge 1$  and  $q_0 > 0$ , consider the fourth-order differential equation

$$\left(t\left[x\left(t\right)+\int_{1}^{2}\frac{\mu}{t+1}x\left(\frac{t+\mu}{3}\right)d\mu\right]^{\prime\prime\prime}\right)'+\int_{0}^{1}\frac{2q_{0}\xi}{t^{3}}x\left(\frac{t+\xi}{2}\right)d\xi=0.$$
(5.1)

Here  $\alpha = 1$ , a = 1, b = 2, c = 0, d = 1, K = 1, r(t) = t,  $p(t, \mu) = \frac{\mu}{t+1}$ ,  $\tau(t, \mu) = \frac{t+\mu}{3}$ ,  $q(t, \xi) = \frac{2q_0\xi}{t^3}$ , and  $\sigma(t, \xi) = \frac{t+\xi}{2}$ . Then

$$\int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) \, d\mu = \int_{1}^{2} \frac{\mu}{t+1} d\mu \leqslant \frac{3}{4}, \quad \sigma_{1}(t) = \sigma(t,c) = \frac{t}{2}, \quad \sigma_{1}'(t) = \frac{1}{2} > 0, \text{ and } \int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r(s)} ds = \infty.$$

Therefore the conditions (A<sub>1</sub>)-(A<sub>5</sub>) and (1.2) are satisfied. Choosing  $P = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\rho(t) = t^2$ ,  $\alpha(t) = \frac{1}{t^3}$ , and  $H_1(t,s) = (t-s)^2$ , then  $h_1(t,s) = (t-s)\left[\left(4+\frac{\delta\varepsilon}{4}\right)-\frac{8+\delta\varepsilon}{4}ts^{-1}\right]$ ,  $Q(t) = \left[\frac{q_0}{4}+2+\frac{\delta\varepsilon}{8}\right]\frac{1}{t}$ , and

$$\limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{H_{1}(t, t_{0})} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \left[ H_{1}(t, s) Q(s) - \frac{r(s) \rho(s)}{(\alpha + 1)^{\alpha + 1}} \frac{\left[h_{1}(t, s)\right]^{\alpha + 1}}{\left[\delta \varepsilon \sigma_{1}^{\prime}(s) \sigma_{1}^{2}(s) H_{1}(t, s)\right]^{\alpha}} \right] ds$$

$$= \limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{(t-1)^2} \int_1^t \left[ (t-s)^2 \left[ \frac{q_0}{4} + 2 + \frac{\delta \epsilon}{8} \right] \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2s}{\delta \epsilon} \left[ \left( 4 + \frac{\delta \epsilon}{4} \right) - \frac{8 + \delta \epsilon}{4} t s^{-1} \right]^2 \right] ds = \infty.$$

Therefore, by Theorem 3.4, every solution of (5.1) is oscillatory, if  $q_0 > \frac{32}{\delta \epsilon}$  for some  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . **Example 5.2.** For  $t \ge 1$  and  $q_0 > 0$ , consider the fourth-order differential equation

$$\left(t^{2}\left[x\left(t\right)+\int_{\frac{1}{2}}^{1}\frac{4\mu}{3t^{2}}x\left(\frac{t+\mu}{3}\right)d\mu\right]^{\prime\prime\prime}\right)^{\prime}+\int_{0}^{1}\frac{32q_{0}\xi}{t^{2}}x\left(\frac{t+\xi}{2}\right)d\xi=0.$$
(5.2)

Here  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $a = \frac{1}{2}$ , b = 1, c = 0, d = 1, K = 1,  $r(t) = t^2$ ,  $p(t, \mu) = \frac{4\mu}{3t^2}$ ,  $\tau(t, \mu) = \frac{t+\mu}{3}$ ,  $q(t, \xi) = \frac{32q_0\xi}{t^2}$ , and  $\sigma(t, \xi) = \frac{t+\xi}{2}$ . Then

$$\int_{a}^{b} p(t,\mu) d\mu = \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^{1} \frac{4\mu}{3t^{2}} d\mu \leqslant \frac{1}{2}, \qquad \sigma_{1}(t) = \sigma(t,c) = \frac{t}{2}, \qquad \sigma_{1}'(t) = \frac{1}{2} > 0,$$

$$\int_{t_{0}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r(s)} ds = \int_{1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{2}} ds < \infty, \qquad \int_{t_{0}}^{\infty} R(s) ds = \infty, \qquad \int_{t_{0}}^{\infty} \int_{u}^{\infty} R(s) ds du = \infty.$$

Therefore the conditions (A<sub>1</sub>)-(A<sub>5</sub>), (1.3), (4.4), and (4.5) are satisfied. Choose  $P = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\rho(t) = t$ ,  $\eta(t) = 1$ ,  $\alpha(t) = \frac{1}{t^3}$  and  $H_1(t,s) = H_2(t,s) = (t-s)^2$ . Then

$$\begin{split} h_{1}(t,s) &= (t-s) \left[ \left( 3 + \frac{\delta \varepsilon}{4} \right) - \frac{4 + \delta \varepsilon}{4} ts^{-1} \right], \\ h_{2}(t,s) &= -2, \\ q_{1} &= 8 \frac{q_{0}}{t^{2}}, \\ Q(t) &= \left[ 8q_{0} + 1 + \frac{\delta \varepsilon}{8} \right] \frac{1}{t}, \\ \lim_{t \to \infty} \sup \frac{1}{H_{1}(t,t_{0})} \int_{t_{0}}^{t} \left[ H_{1}(t,s) Q(s) - \frac{r(s) \rho(s)}{(\alpha + 1)^{\alpha + 1}} \frac{[h_{1}(t,s)]^{\alpha + 1}}{[\delta \varepsilon \sigma_{1}'(s) \sigma_{1}^{2}(s) H_{1}(t,s)]^{\alpha}} \right] ds \\ &= \limsup_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{(t-1)^{2}} \int_{1}^{t} \left[ (t-s)^{2} \left[ 8q_{0} + 1 + \frac{\delta \varepsilon}{8} \right] \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2s}{\delta \varepsilon} \left[ \left( 3 + \frac{\delta \varepsilon}{4} \right) - \frac{4 + \delta \varepsilon}{4} ts^{-1} \right]^{2} \right] ds = \infty, \end{split}$$

for any  $\varepsilon > 0, \delta \in (0, 1)$ , and  $q_0 > \frac{1}{4\delta \varepsilon}$ . Moreover

$$\begin{split} &\limsup_{t \to \infty} \int_{t_0}^t \left[ \mathsf{H}_2\left(\mathsf{t}, \mathsf{s}\right) \eta\left(\mathsf{s}\right) \mathsf{q}_1\left(\mathsf{s}\right) \left[ \frac{\lambda}{2} \sigma_1^2\left(\mathsf{s}\right) \right]^{\alpha} - \frac{\mathsf{r}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)}{\left(\alpha + 1\right)^{\alpha + 1} \eta^{\alpha}\left(\mathsf{s}\right)} \left[ \mathsf{h}_2\left(\mathsf{t}, \mathsf{s}\right) \right]^{\alpha + 1} \right] \mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \\ &= \limsup_{t \to \infty} \int_{1}^t \left[ \lambda \mathsf{q}_0\left(\mathsf{t} - \mathsf{s}\right)^2 - \mathsf{s}^2 \mathsf{d}\mathsf{s} \right] > 0, \end{split}$$

for any  $\lambda \in (0,1)$ , and  $q_0 > \frac{1}{\lambda}$ . Therefore, by Theorem 4.2, every solution of (5.2) is oscillatory where  $q_0 > \frac{1}{4\delta\varepsilon}$  and  $q_0 > \frac{1}{\lambda}$ .

# 6. Conclusions

In this work, we discuss the oscillation of fourth-order neutral differential equations with distributed deviating arguments of the type (1.1) in both cases  $\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)} dt = \infty$  and  $\int_{t_0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{r^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}(t)} dt < \infty$ . We establish new oscillation criteria using Riccati and generalized Riccati transformation. For interested researchers, there is a good deal of finding new results for (1.1) with different neutral coefficients see, e.g., the papers [7, 12, 21–23, 25, 27].

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