

A Dirichlet problem on the half-line for nonlinear second-order differential equations

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We study the existence of positive solutions on the half-line $[0, \infty)$ for the nonlinear second order differential equation

$$(a(t)x')' + b(t)F(x) = 0, \quad t \geq 0,$$

satisfying Dirichlet type conditions, say $x(0) = 0$, $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$. The function b is allowed to change sign and the nonlinearity F is assumed to be asymptotically linear in a neighborhood of zero and infinity. Our results cover also the cases in which b is a periodic function for large t or it is unbounded from below.