

# GENERALIZED QUASILINEARIZATION METHOD FOR A FORCED DUFFING EQUATION WITH THREE-POINT NONLINEAR BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

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*Abstract.* We develop a generalized quasilinearization method for a forced Duffing equation with three-point nonlinear boundary conditions and obtain two monotone sequences of approximate solutions converging quadratically to the unique solution of the problem.

## 1. Introduction

The method of quasilinearization (QSL) provides an adequate approach for obtaining approximate solutions of nonlinear problems. The origin of the quasilinearization lies in the theory of dynamic programming [1-3]. This method applies to semilinear equations with convex (concave) nonlinearities and generates a monotone scheme whose iterates converge quadratically to the solution of the problem at hand. The assumption of convexity proved to be a stumbling block for the further development of the method. The nineties brought new dimensions to this technique. The most interesting new idea was introduced by Lakshmikantham [4-5] who generalized the method of quasilinearization by relaxing the convexity assumption. This development was so significant that it attracted the attention of many researchers and the method was extensively developed and applied to a wide range of initial and boundary value problems for different types of differential equations, see [6-17] and references therein. Some real-world applications of the quasilinearization technique can be found in [18-22].

Multi-point nonlinear boundary value problems, which refer to a different family of boundary conditions in the study of disconjugacy theory [23], have been addressed by many authors, for example, see [24-26]. In this paper, we study a generalized quasilinearization method for a forced Duffing equation with nonlinear three-point boundary conditions. In fact, two monotone sequences of upper and lower solutions converging quadratically to the unique solution of the problem are presented.

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## 2. Preliminaries

We consider a three-point boundary value problem for the forced Duffing equation given by

$$x'' + kx' + f(t, x) = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

$$x(0) = a, \quad x(1) = g(x(1/2)), \quad (2.2)$$

where  $f$  is continuous with  $f_x < 0$  on  $[0, 1] \times R$  and  $g : R \rightarrow R$  is continuous.

Here, we remark that the three-point nonlinear boundary conditions 2.2 [15] give rise to Dirichlet boundary conditions for  $a = 0$  and  $g = 0$  which have been addressed in [27-28] whereas  $g = \text{constant}$  corresponds to a nonhomogeneous Dirichlet boundary value problem [29].

By Green's function method, the solution,  $x(t)$  of (2.1)–(2.2) can be written as

$$x(t) = a \left[ \frac{e^{-k} - e^{-kt}}{e^{-k} - 1} \right] + g(x(1/2)) \left[ \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right] + \int_0^1 G_k(t, s) f(s, x(s)) ds,$$

where

$$G_k(t, s) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{ks}}{k(1-e^k)} [1 - e^{k(1-s)}] [1 - e^{-kt}], & 0 \leq t \leq s, \\ \frac{e^{ks}}{k(1-e^k)} [1 - e^{k(1-t)}] [1 - e^{-ks}], & s \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

We say that  $\alpha \in C^2[0, 1]$  is a lower solution of the boundary value problem (2.1)–(2.2) if

$$\alpha''(t) + k\alpha'(t) + f(t, \alpha(t)) \geq 0, \quad t \in [0, 1],$$

$$\alpha(0) \leq a, \quad \alpha(1) \leq g(\alpha(1/2)),$$

and  $\beta \in C^2[0, 1]$  is an upper solution of (2.1)–(2.2) if

$$\beta''(t) + k\beta'(t) + f(t, \beta(t)) \leq 0, \quad t \in [0, 1]$$

$$\beta(0) \geq a, \quad \beta(1) \geq g(\beta(1/2)).$$

Now, we present comparison and existence results related to (2.1)–(2.2) which play a pivotal role in proving the main result.

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Assume that  $f$  is continuous with  $f_x < 0$  on  $[0, 1] \times R$  and  $g$  is continuous on  $R$  satisfying a one-sided Lipschitz condition:  $g(x) - g(y) \leq L(x - y)$ ,  $0 \leq L < 1$ . Let  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  be the upper and lower solutions of (2.1)–(2.2) respectively. Then  $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ .*

*Proof.* Define  $h(t) = \alpha(t) - \beta(t)$ . For the sake of contradiction, we suppose that  $h(t) > 0$  for some  $t \in [0, 1]$ . First we take  $t_0 \in (0, 1)$ . Then by the definition of lower and upper solutions and the assumption  $f_x < 0$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} h''(t_0) + kh'(t_0) &= \alpha''(t_0) + k\alpha'(t_0) - \beta''(t_0) - k\beta'(t_0) \\ &\geq -f(t_0, \alpha(t_0)) + f(t_0, \beta(t_0)) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Now, employing a standard procedure [30] in the applications of upper and lower solutions, let  $h(t)$  have a local positive maximum at  $t_0 \in (0, 1)$ , then  $h'(t_0) = 0$  and

$h''(t_0) \leq 0$ , which contradicts the above inequality. Thus, for  $t_0 \in (0, 1)$ , we have  $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$ . Now, suppose that  $h(t)$  has a local positive maximum at  $t_0 = 1$ , then  $h'(1) = 0$  and  $h''(1) < 0$ . On the other hand, using the definition of lower and upper solutions together with the fact that  $g$  satisfies a one sided Lipschitz condition, we find that

$$h(1) = \alpha(1) - \beta(1) \leq g(\alpha(\frac{1}{2})) - g(\beta(\frac{1}{2})) < \alpha(\frac{1}{2}) - \beta(\frac{1}{2}) = h(\frac{1}{2}),$$

which is a contradiction. Similarly, we get a contradiction for  $t_0 = 0$ . Hence we conclude that  $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$  on  $[0, 1]$ .  $\square$

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Assume that  $f$  is continuous on  $[0, 1] \times \mathbb{R}$  with  $f_x < 0$  and  $g$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$  satisfying a one-sided Lipschitz condition:  $g(x) - g(y) \leq L(x - y)$ ,  $0 \leq L < 1$ . Further, we assume that there exist an upper solution  $\beta$  and a lower solution  $\alpha$  of (2.1)–(2.2) such that  $\alpha(t) \leq \beta(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Then there exists a solution  $x(t)$  of (2.1)–(2.2) satisfying  $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ .*

*Proof.* Let us define  $F$  and  $G$  by

$$F(t, x) = \begin{cases} f(t, \beta) - \frac{x - \beta}{1 + x - \beta}, & \text{if } x(t) > \beta(t), \\ f(t, x), & \text{if } \alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t), \\ f(t, \alpha) - \frac{x - \alpha}{1 + |x - \alpha|}, & \text{if } x(t) < \alpha(t), \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{g}(x) = \begin{cases} g(\beta(\frac{1}{2})), & \text{if } x > \beta(\frac{1}{2}), \\ g(x), & \text{if } \alpha(\frac{1}{2}) \leq x \leq \beta(\frac{1}{2}), \\ g(\alpha(\frac{1}{2})), & \text{if } x < \alpha(\frac{1}{2}). \end{cases}$$

Since  $F(t, x)$  and  $\hat{g}(x)$  are continuous and bounded, a standard application of Schauder's fixed point theorem ensures the existence of a solution,  $x$  of the problem

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + kx'(t) + F(t, x(t)) &= 0, \quad t \in [0, 1], \\ x(0) = a, \quad x(1) &= \hat{g}(x(1/2)). \end{aligned}$$

In order to complete the proof, we need to show that  $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$  on  $[0, 1]$ . For that, we set  $h(t) = \alpha(t) - x(t)$  and observe that  $h(0) \leq 0$ . For the sake of the contradiction, let  $h(t) > 0$  for some  $t \in (0, 1]$ . We define

$$t_0 = \inf\{\tau \in [0, 1] : h(\tau) \geq h(t), 0 \leq t \leq 1\},$$

and note that  $0 < t_0$  by continuity. As  $\hat{g}$  satisfies a one-sided Lipschitz condition on  $[\alpha(\frac{1}{2}), \beta(\frac{1}{2})]$ , it follows that

$$h(1) = \alpha(1) - x(1) \leq \hat{g}(\alpha(1/2)) - \hat{g}(x(1/2)) < (\alpha(1/2) - x(1/2)) = h(1/2).$$

As in the proof of Theorem 2.1, let  $h(t)$  have a local maximum at  $t_0 \in (0, 1)$  implying that  $h'(t_0) = 0$  and  $h''(t_0) \leq 0$ . On the other hand, by the definition of upper and lower solutions together with the assumption  $F_x < 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} h''(t_0) + kh'(t_0) &= \alpha''(t_0) + k\alpha'(t_0) - (x''(t_0) + kx'(t_0)) \\ &\geq -F(t_0, \alpha(t_0)) + F(t_0, x(t_0)) > 0. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts our supposition. Hence  $\alpha(t) - x(t) \leq 0$ . Similarly, it can be shown that  $x(t) \leq \beta(t)$ . Thus, it follows that  $\alpha(t) \leq x(t) \leq \beta(t)$ ,  $t \in [0, 1]$ .  $\square$

### 3. Main Result

**THEOREM 3.** *Assume that*

- (A<sub>1</sub>)  $\alpha_0, \beta_0$  are lower and upper solutions of (2.1)–(2.2) respectively.
- (A<sub>2</sub>)  $f(t, x) \in C([0, 1] \times R)$  be such that  $f_x < 0$  and  $(f_{xx}(t, x) + \phi_{xx}(t, x)) \geq 0$ , where  $\phi_{xx}(t, x) \geq 0$  for some continuous function  $\phi(t, x)$  on  $[0, 1] \times R$ .
- (A<sub>3</sub>)  $g$  is continuous on  $R$  such that  $g', g''$  exist and  $0 \leq g' < 1$ ,  $(g''(x) + \psi''(x)) \leq 0$  with  $\psi'' \leq 0$  on  $R$  for some continuous function  $\psi(x)$ .

*Then there exist monotone sequences  $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$  that converge quadratically in the space of continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$  to the unique solution  $x$  of (2.1)–(2.2).*

*Proof.* Define  $F : [0, 1] \times R \rightarrow R$  by

$$F(t, x) = f(t, x) + \phi(t, x),$$

and  $G : R \rightarrow R$  by

$$G(x) = g(x) + \psi(x).$$

Using the generalized mean value theorem together with (A<sub>2</sub>) and (A<sub>3</sub>), we obtain

$$f(t, x) \geq f(t, y) + F_x(t, y)(x - y) + \phi(t, y) - \phi(t, x), \quad (3.1)$$

$$g(x) \leq g(y) + G'(y)(x - y) + \psi(y) - \psi(x). \quad (3.2)$$

Now, we set

$$F(t, x; \alpha_0) = f(t, \alpha_0) + F_x(t, \alpha_0)(x - \alpha_0) + \phi(t, \alpha_0) - \phi(t, x),$$

$$\bar{F}(t, x; \alpha_0, \beta_0) = f(t, \beta_0) + F_x(t, \alpha_0)(x - \beta_0) + \phi(t, \beta_0) - \phi(t, x),$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} h(x(1/2); \alpha_0, \beta_0) &= g(\alpha_0(1/2)) + G'(\beta_0(1/2))(x(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \\ &\quad + \psi(\alpha_0(1/2)) - \psi(x(1/2)), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{h}(x(1/2); \beta_0) &= g(\beta_0(1/2)) + G'(\beta_0(1/2))(x(1/2) - \beta_0(1/2)) \\ &\quad + \psi(\beta_0(1/2)) - \psi(x(1/2)). \end{aligned}$$

Consider the BVPs

$$x''(t) + kx'(t) + F(t, x; \alpha_0) = 0, \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad (3.3)$$

$$x(0) = a, \quad x(1) = h(x(1/2); \alpha_0, \beta_0), \quad (3.4)$$

and

$$x''(t) + kx'(t) + \bar{F}(t, x; \alpha_0, \beta_0) = 0, \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad (3.5)$$

$$x(0) = a, \quad x(1) = \hat{h}(x(1/2), \beta_0). \quad (3.6)$$

Let us show that  $\alpha_0$  and  $\beta_0$  are respectively lower and upper solutions of (3.3)–(3.4). By definition of lower solution and the fact that  $F(t, \alpha_0; \alpha_0) = f(t, \alpha_0)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_0'' + k\alpha_0' + F(t, \alpha_0; \alpha_0) &= \alpha_0'' + k\alpha_0' + f(t, \alpha_0) \geq 0, \\ \alpha_0(0) &\leq a, \quad \alpha_0(1) \leq g(\alpha_0(1/2)) = h(\alpha_0(1/2); \alpha_0; \beta_0), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\alpha_0$  is a lower solution of (3.3)–(3.4). Using (3.1) and the definition of upper solution, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_0'' + k\beta_0' + F(t, \beta_0; \alpha_0) &= \beta_0'' + k\beta_0' + f(t, \alpha_0) + F_x(t, \alpha_0)(\beta_0 - \alpha_0) + \phi(t, \alpha_0) - \phi(t, \beta_0) \\ &\leq \beta_0'' + k\beta_0' + f(t, \beta_0) \leq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,  $\beta_0(0) \geq a$  and there exists  $c_0 \in (\alpha_0(1/2), \beta_0(1/2))$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} g(\beta_0(1/2)) - h(\beta_0(1/2); \alpha_0, \beta_0) &= g(\beta_0(1/2)) - g(\alpha_0(1/2)) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))(\beta_0(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \\ &\quad - \psi(\alpha_0(1/2)) + \psi(\beta_0(1/2)) \\ &= G(\beta_0(1/2)) - G(\alpha_0(1/2)) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))(\beta_0(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \\ &= [G'(c_0) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))](\beta_0(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\beta_0$  is an upper solution of (3.3)–(3.4). Hence, by Theorem 2.2, there is a solution  $\alpha_1$  of (3.3)–(3.4) satisfying

$$\alpha_0(t) \leq \alpha_1(t) \leq \beta_0(t), \quad t \in [0, 1]. \quad (3.7)$$

Note that Theorem 2.2 applies since  $h' = g'(\beta_0(1/2))$ . Similarly,  $\beta_0$  is an upper solution of (3.5)–(3.6) as

$$\bar{F}(t, \beta_0; \alpha_0; \beta_0) = f(t, \beta_0), \quad g(\beta_0(1/2)) = \hat{h}(\beta_0(1/2); \beta_0).$$

As before, using (3.1), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_0'' + k\alpha_0' + \bar{F}(t, \alpha_0; \alpha_0, \beta_0) &= \alpha_0'' + k\alpha_0' + f(t, \beta_0) + F_x(t, \alpha_0)(\alpha_0 - \beta_0) + \phi(t, \beta_0) - \phi(t, \alpha_0) \\ &\geq \alpha_0'' + k\alpha_0' + f(t, \alpha_0) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Also,  $\alpha_0(0) \leq a$  and there exists  $c_1 \in (\alpha_0(1/2), \beta_0(1/2))$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{h}(\alpha_0(1/2); \beta_0) - g(\alpha_0(1/2)) &= g(\beta_0(1/2)) - g(\alpha_0(1/2)) + \psi(\beta_0(1/2)) - \psi(\alpha_0(1/2)) \\ &\quad + G'(\beta_0(1/2))(\alpha_0(1/2) - \beta_0(1/2)) \\ &= G(\beta_0(1/2)) - G(\alpha_0(1/2)) \\ &\quad + G'(\beta_0(1/2))(\alpha_0(1/2) - \beta_0(1/2)) \\ &= [G'(c_1) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))](\beta_0(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\alpha_0$  is a lower solution of (3.5)–(3.6). Again, by Theorem 2.2, there exists a solution  $\beta_1$  of (3.5)–(3.6) such that

$$\alpha_0(t) \leq \beta_1(t) \leq \beta_0(t), \quad t \in [0, 1]. \quad (3.8)$$

Now, we show that  $\alpha_1 \leq \beta_1$ . To do this we prove that  $\alpha_1, \beta_1$  are lower and upper solutions of (2.1)–(2.2) respectively. Using the fact that  $\alpha_1$  is a solution of (3.3)–(3.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1''(t) + k\alpha_1'(t) + f(t, \alpha_1) & \\ & \geq \alpha_1''(t) + k\alpha_1'(t) + f(t, \alpha_0) + F_x(t, \alpha_0)(\alpha_1 - \alpha_0) + \phi(t, \alpha_0) - \phi(t, \alpha_1) \\ & = \alpha_1''(t) + k\alpha_1'(t) + F(t, \alpha_1; \alpha_0) = 0, \\ \alpha_1(0) & = a, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g(\alpha_1(1/2)) - \alpha_1(1) & \\ & = g(\alpha_1(1/2)) - g(\alpha_0(1/2)) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))(\alpha_1(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \\ & \quad - \psi(\alpha_0(1/2)) + \psi(\alpha_1(1/2)) \\ & = [G'(c_2) - G'(\beta_0(1/2))](\alpha_1(1/2) - \alpha_0(1/2)) \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $c_2 \in (\alpha_0(1/2), \alpha_1(1/2))$ . This implies that  $\alpha_1$  is a lower solution of (2.1)–(2.2). Similarly, it can be shown that  $\beta_1$  is an upper solution of (2.1)–(2.2). By Theorem 2.1, it follows that

$$\alpha_1(t) \leq \beta_1(t), \quad t \in [0, 1]. \quad (3.9)$$

Combining (3.7), (3.8) and (3.9) yields

$$\alpha_0(t) \leq \alpha_1(t) \leq \beta_1(t) \leq \beta_0(t), \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

Continuing this process, by induction, one can prove that

$$\alpha_n(t) \leq \alpha_{n+1}(t) \leq \beta_{n+1}(t) \leq \beta_n(t), \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad n = 0, 1, \dots,$$

where  $\alpha_{n+1}$  satisfies the problem

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + kx'(t) + F(t, x; \alpha_n) & = 0, \quad t \in [0, 1]. \\ x(0) = a, \quad x(1) & = h(x(1/2); \alpha_n, \beta_n), \end{aligned}$$

and  $\beta_{n+1}$  satisfies the BVP

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + kx'(t) + \bar{F}(t, x; \alpha_n, \beta_n) & = 0, \quad t \in [0, 1], \\ x(0) = a, \quad x(1) & = h(x(1/2); \beta_n). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $[0, 1]$  is compact and the convergence is monotone, it follows that the convergence of each sequence  $\{\alpha_n\}$  and  $\{\beta_n\}$  is uniform. Employing the standard

arguments [15, 20], we conclude that  $x$  is the limit point of each of the two sequences and consequently, we get

$$x(t) = a \left[ \frac{e^{-k} - e^{-kt}}{e^{-k} - 1} \right] + g(x(1/2)) \left[ \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right] + \int_0^1 G_k(t, s) f(s, x(s)) ds.$$

This proves that  $x$  is the unique solution of (2.1)–(2.2).

In order to prove that each of the sequences  $\{\alpha_n\}, \{\beta_n\}$  converges quadratically, we set  $q_n = \beta_n - x \geq 0$ ,  $p_n = x - \alpha_n \geq 0$ , where  $x$  denotes the unique solution of (2.1)–(2.2). We only show the quadratic convergence with  $p_n$  as the details for the quadratic convergence for  $q_n$  are similar. Applying the mean value theorem, there exist  $\alpha_n \leq c_3, c_4 \leq x$  and  $\alpha_n \leq \zeta_1 \leq \alpha_{n+1}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} p''_{n+1} + kp'_{n+1} &= -f(t, x) + f(t, \alpha_n) + F_x(t, \alpha_n)(\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n) + \phi(t, \alpha_n) - \phi(t, \alpha_{n+1}) \\ &= -f_x(t, c_3)(x - \alpha_n) + F_x(t, \alpha_n)(\alpha_{n+1} - x + x - \alpha_n) - \phi_x(t, \zeta_1)(\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n) \\ &= [-F_x(t, c_3) + F_x(t, \alpha_n) + \phi_x(t, c_3) - \phi_x(t, \zeta_1)]p_n + [-F_x(t, \alpha_n) + \phi_x(t, \zeta_1)]p_{n+1} \\ &\geq [-F_x(t, x) + F_x(t, \alpha_n) + \phi_x(t, \alpha_n) - \phi_x(t, x)]p_n + [-F_x(t, \zeta_1) + \phi_x(t, \zeta_1)]p_{n+1} \\ &= -F_{xx}(t, c_4)p_n^2 - \phi_{xx}(t, c_3)p_n^2 - f_x(t, \zeta_1)p_{n+1} \\ &\geq -M\|p_n\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $A$  is a bound on  $\|F_{xx}\|$ ,  $B$  is a bound on  $\|\phi_{xx}\|$  for  $t \in [0, 1]$  and  $M = A + B$ . Here  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes the supremum norm on  $C[0, 1]$ . Also there exist  $\alpha_n(1/2) \leq c_5, c_6 \leq x$ ,  $c_5 \leq c_7 \leq \beta_n(1/2)$  and  $\alpha_n \leq \zeta_2 \leq \alpha_{n+1}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} P_{n+1}(t) &= [g(x(1/2)) - h(\alpha_{n+1}(1/2); \alpha_n, \beta_n)] \left( \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right) \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 G_k(t, s) [f(s, x) - F(s, \alpha_{n+1}; \alpha_n)] ds \\ &= [g(x(1/2)) - g(\alpha_n(1/2)) - G'(\beta_n(1/2))(\alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n(1/2)) \\ &\quad - \psi(\alpha_n(1/2)) + \psi(\alpha_{n+1}(1/2))] \left( \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right) - \int_0^1 G_k(t, s) [p''_{n+1} + kp'_{n+1}] ds \\ &\leq [(G'(c_5) - G'(\beta_n(1/2)) - (\psi'(c_6) - \psi'(\zeta_2)))] p_n(1/2) \\ &\quad + (G'(\beta_n(1/2)) - \psi'(\zeta_2)) p_{n+1}(1/2) \left( \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right) + M\|p_n\|^2 \int_0^1 |G_k(t, s)| ds \\ &\leq [-G''(c_7)(\beta_n(1/2) - c_5) p_n(1/2) + g'(\beta_n(1/2)) p_{n+1}(1/2)] \left[ \frac{1 - e^{-kt}}{1 - e^{-k}} \right] + M_1\|p_n\|^2 \\ &\leq [-G''(c_7)(\beta_n(1/2) - \alpha_n(1/2)) p_n(1/2) + g'(\beta_n(1/2)) p_{n+1}(1/2)] + M_1\|p_n\|^2 \\ &= [-G''(c_7)(q_n(1/2) + p_n(1/2)) p_n(1/2) + g'(\beta_n(1/2)) p_{n+1}(1/2)] + M_1\|p_n\|^2 \\ &\leq M_2 \left( \frac{1}{2} q_n^2(1/2) + \frac{3}{2} p_n^2(1/2) \right) + g'(\beta_n(1/2)) p_{n+1}(1/2) + M_1\|p_n\|^2 \\ &\leq \left( \frac{3}{2} M_2 + M_1 \right) \|p_n\|^2 + \frac{M_2}{2} \|q_n\|^2 + \lambda \|p_{n+1}\|, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\|g'\| \leq \lambda < 1$ ,  $M_1$  provides a bound on  $M \int_0^1 |G_k(t, s)| ds$ ,  $M_2$  provides a bound on  $\|G''\|$ . Letting  $M_3 = \frac{3}{2}M_2 + M_1$ ,  $M_4 = \frac{M_2}{2}$  and solving algebraically for  $\|p_{n+1}\|$ , we obtain

$$\|p_{n+1}\| \leq \frac{1}{1-\lambda} [M_3 \|p_n\|^2 + M_4 \|q_n\|^2].$$

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