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# Eigenvalues of Periodic Sturm Liouville Problems 

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#### Abstract

For h-periodic coefficients and any integer $\mathrm{k}>2$ it is well known that the eigenvalues of some self-adjoint complex boundary condition on the interval $[\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{a}+\mathrm{h}]$ are the same as the periodic eigenvalues on the interval $[\mathrm{a}$, $\mathrm{a}+\mathrm{kh}]$. For each k we identify explicitly which of the uncountable number of complex conditions generates these periodic eigenvalues. In addition, we prove an analogous result for semi-periodic eigenvalues.


## 1. Introduction

We study eigenvalues of the equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\left(p y^{\prime}\right)^{\prime}+q y=\lambda w y, \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with coefficients satisfying

$$
\begin{equation*}
1 / p, q, w \in L_{\text {loc }}(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}), p>0, w>0 \text { a.e. on } \mathbb{R} \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

and for some $h \in \mathbb{R}, 0<h<\infty$ the coefficients are $h$-periodic:

$$
\begin{equation*}
p(t+h)=p(t), q(t+h)=q(t), w(t+h)=w(t), t \in \mathbb{R} \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

together with the complex boundary conditions

$$
\begin{align*}
y(a+h) & =e^{i \gamma} y(a) \\
\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a+h) & =e^{i \gamma}\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a), 0<\gamma<\pi \tag{1.4}
\end{align*}
$$

and, for any $a \in \mathbb{R}$, the periodic and semi-periodic boundary conditions on the $k$-intervals $[a+k h], k \in \mathbb{N}_{1}=\{1,2,3, \cdots\}$ :

$$
\begin{align*}
y(a+k h) & =y(a) \\
\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a+k h) & =\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a)  \tag{1.5}\\
y(a+k h) & =-y(a) \\
\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a+k h) & =-\left(p y^{\prime}\right)(a) .
\end{align*}
$$

Note that condition (1.2) implies that the coefficients satisfy

$$
\begin{equation*}
1 / p, q, w \in L^{1}(J, \mathbb{R}), p>0, w>0 \text { a.e. on } J \tag{1.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

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