

## Periodic solutions for a class of nonautonomous second order systems

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**Abstract.** In this paper, some multiplicity theorem is obtained for periodic solutions of nonautonomous second order systems with partially periodic potential by the minimax methods.

**Keywords:** Nonautonomous second order systems; periodic solutions; minimax methods

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### 1. Introduction and main results

Consider the second-order systems

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{u}(t) - \nabla F(t, u(t)) = 0 \\ u(0) - u(T) = \dot{u}(0) - \dot{u}(T) = e(t) \end{cases} \quad \text{a.e. } t \in [0, T], \quad (1)$$

where  $T > 0$ , and  $F: [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfies the following assumption:

(H)  $F(t, x)$  is measurable in  $t$  for each  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and continuously differentiable in  $x$  for  $a.e. t \in [0, T]$  and there exist  $a \in C(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $b \in L^1(0, T; \mathbb{R}^+)$  such that

$$|F(t, x)| \leq a(|x|)b(t), |\nabla F(t, x)| \leq a(|x|)b(t)$$

for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and  $a.e. t \in [0, T]$ .

The existence of periodic solutions for problem (1) has been studied extensively, a lot of existence and multiplicity results have been obtained, we refer the readers to [1-17] and the reference therein.

Suppose that  $F(t, x)$  is  $T_i$ -periodic in  $x_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq r$ , that is

$$F\left(t, x + \sum_{i=1}^r k_i T_i e_i\right) = F(t, x), \quad (2)$$

for all  $a.e. t \in [0, T]$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$  and all integers  $k_i, 1 \leq i \leq r$ , where  $\{e_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq r}$  is the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^N$ .

With periodic potentials, that is, (2) holding with  $r=N$ , the existence and multiplicity theorems are obtained for the nonautonomous second-order system (1) in [1] and [2] respectively. When the nonlinearity is bounded, In [3-4], Chang and Liu have studied the nonautonomous second order system (1) with partially periodic (that is, (2) holding with  $1 \leq r \leq N$ ) and partially uniformly coercive potentials ( $F(t, x) \rightarrow +\infty$  for every  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \in \mathbb{R}^r$  as  $(x_{r+1}, x_{r+2}, \dots, x_N)$  tends to infinity in  $\mathbb{R}^{N-r}$ ).

In [5], Wu has obtained the following result.

**Theorem A.** Suppose that  $F$  satisfies conditions (H) and (2). Assume that there exist  $g \in L^1(0, T; \mathbb{R}^+)$  such that

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$$|\nabla F(t, x)| \leq g(t) \quad \text{and} \quad \int_0^T F(t, x) dt \rightarrow +\infty,$$

for every  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \in R^r$  as  $(x_{r+1}, x_{r+2}, \dots, x_N)$  tends to infinity in  $R^{N-r}$ . Then problem (1) has at least  $r+1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

In 2003, Tang [6] generalized Theorem A and obtained the following results.

**Theorem B.** Assume that there exist  $f, g \in L^1(0, T; R^+)$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  such that

$$|\nabla F(t, x)| \leq f(t)|x|^\alpha + g(t) \quad (3)$$

for all  $x \in R^N$  and a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ . Suppose that F satisfies conditions (H) and (2). and

$$|x|^{-2\alpha} \int_0^T F(t, x) dt \rightarrow +\infty, \quad (4)$$

for every  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \in R^r$  as  $(x_{r+1}, x_{r+2}, \dots, x_N)$  tends to infinity in  $R^{N+r}$ . Then problem (1) has at least  $r+1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

In 2011, Zhang and Tang [7] investigated the existence of periodic solutions for problem (1) and obtained the following results.

**Theorem C.** Assume that there exist  $f, g \in L^1(0, T; R^+)$  and  $0 \leq \alpha < 1$  such that

$$|\nabla F(t, x)| \leq f(t)|x|^\alpha + g(t),$$

for all  $x \in R^N$  and a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ . Suppose that F satisfies conditions (H) and (2). and

$$\liminf_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} |x|^{-2\alpha} \int_0^T F(t, x) dt > \frac{T}{8} \left( \int_0^T f(t) dt \right)^2,$$

for every  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r) \in R^r$  as  $(x_{r+1}, x_{r+2}, \dots, x_N)$  tends to infinity in  $R^{N+r}$ . Then problem (1) has at least  $r+1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

In this paper, we consider the following second-order systems:

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{u}(t) + A \dot{u}(t) + \nabla F(t, u(t)) = 0, & \text{a.e. } t \in [0, T], \\ u(0) - u(T) = \dot{u}(0) - \dot{u}(T) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where  $T > 0$ , A is antisymmetry constant matrix with  $\|A\| < \frac{2\pi}{T}$ .

The Hilbert space  $H_T^1$  is defined by  $H_T^1 = \{u : [0, T] \mapsto R^N \mid u \text{ is an absolutely continuous } u(0) = u(T) \text{ and } \dot{u} \in L^2(0, T; R^N)\}$  and  $H_T^1$  is endowed with the norm

$$\|u\| = \left( \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 dt + \int_0^T |u|^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

By Sobolev embedding theorems, there exist  $C > 0$ , for all  $u \in H_T^1$ , such that

$$\|u\|_\infty \leq C \|u\|. \quad (6)$$

where  $\|u\|_\infty = \max_{t \in [0, T]} |u(t)|$ . Motivated by [1-7], The following main results are obtained by the minimax methods.

**Theorem 1.1.** Suppose that F satisfies conditions (H), and there exist  $f, g \in L^1(0, T; R^+)$  such that

$$|\nabla F(t, x)| \leq f(t)|x| + g(t), \quad (7)$$

for all  $x \in R^N$  and a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ , where

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$$M_1 = \int_0^T f(t) dt, \delta = \min\left\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2\pi^2}{T^2}\right\} \left(1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|\right),$$

$$2M_1 C^2 < \delta,$$

Assume that (2) holds and

$$|x|^{-2} \int_0^T F(t, x) dt \rightarrow +\infty, \quad (8)$$

as  $x$  tends to infinity in  $\in 0 \times R^{N-r}$ . Then problem (5) has at least  $r + 1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

**Remark 1.1.** System (5) generalizes system (1) obviously, for if  $A = 0$ , then system (5) becomes system (1). We consider the system (5) with partially periodic potentials and linear nonlinearity.

Theorem 1.1 is a new result, which completes the theorem B and theorem C with  $\alpha = 1$  in (3). Theorem 1.1 generalized Theorem A, which is the special case of Theorem 1.1 corresponding to  $f(t) \equiv 0$ .

**Example 1.1.** There are functions  $F$  satisfying our Theorem 1.1 and not satisfying the results in [1]-[7]. For example, let

$$F(t, x) = r + 1 + \sin x_1 + \sin x_2 + \cdots + \sin x_r + \sum_{j=r+1}^N |x_j|^2,$$

where  $x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} \in R^N$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** Suppose that  $F$  satisfies conditions (H), (2), (7) and

$$|x|^2 \int_0^T F(t, x) dt \rightarrow -\infty, \quad (9)$$

as  $x$  tends to infinity in  $\in 0 \times R^{N-r}$ . Then problem (5) has at least  $r + 1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

**Example 1.2.** There are functions  $F$  satisfying our Theorem 1.2 and not satisfying the results in [1]-[7]. For example, let

$$F(t, x) = -(r + 1 + \sin x_1 + \sin x_2 + \cdots + \sin x_r + \sum_{j=r+1}^N |x_j|^2),$$

where  $x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} \in R^N$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

For  $u \in H_T^1$ , let  $\bar{u} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T u(t) dt$ , and  $\tilde{u}(t) = u(t) - \bar{u}$ . Then we have Sobolev's inequality

$$\|\tilde{u}\|^2 \leq \frac{T}{12} \int_0^T |\dot{u}(t)|^2 dt, \quad (10)$$

and Wirtinger's inequality

$$\int_0^T |\tilde{u}(t)|^2 dt \leq \frac{T^2}{4\pi^2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}(t)|^2 dt \quad (11)$$

for all  $u \in H_T^1$  (see Proposition 1.3 in [8]).

Put  $\hat{u}(t) = P\bar{u} + Q\bar{u} + \tilde{u}(t)$ , where

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$$P\bar{u} = \sum_{i=r+1}^N (\bar{u}, e_i) e_i, Q\bar{u} = \sum_{i=1}^r [(\bar{u}, e_i) - l_i T_i] e_i$$

and  $l_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$  is the unique integer such that  $0 \leq (\bar{u}, e_i) - l_i T_i < T_i$

Define the functional  $\varphi$  on  $H_T^1$  by

$$\varphi(u) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}(t)|^2 dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T (Au(t), \dot{u}(t)) dt - \int_0^T F(t, u(t)) dt$$

Then  $\varphi$  is continuously differentiable by Lemma 1 in [9] and the solutions of systems (5) correspond to the critical points of  $\varphi$ . Moreover, one has

$$\langle \varphi(u), v \rangle = \int_0^T (u(t), v(t)) dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T (Au(t), v(t)) dt - \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u(t)), v(t)) dt$$

Let

$$G = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^r k_i T_i e_i \mid k_i \in \mathbb{Z}, 1 \leq i \leq r \right\}$$

be a discrete subgroup of  $H_T^1$  and let  $\pi: H_T^1 \rightarrow H_T^1/G$  be the canonical surjection. It is obvious that  $H_T^1/G = X \times V$ ,

where  $X = Y \oplus Z, Y = \tilde{H}_T^1 = \{u \in H_T^1 \mid \bar{u} = 0\}, Z = \text{span}\{e_{r+1}, \dots, e_N\}$ , and  $V = \text{span}\{e_1, \dots, e_r\}/G$  is isomorphic to the torus  $T^r$ . Define  $\psi: X \times Y \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$\psi(\pi(u)) = \varphi(u).$$

It follows from (2) that  $\psi$  is well-defined. Moreover,  $\psi$  is continuously differentiable.

### 3. Proof of theorem

Now we begin to prove our main result, for the sake of convenience,  $c$  denote some constant.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** the proof relies on the generalized saddle point theorem due to Liu [4]. Assume that  $\pi((u_n)) \rightarrow 0$  is a (PS) sequence for  $\psi$ , that is,  $\psi(\pi(u_n))$  is bounded and  $\psi'(\pi(u_n)) \rightarrow 0$ . Then  $\varphi(u_n)$  is bounded and  $\varphi'(u_n) \rightarrow 0$ .

Let  $\{u_n\} \in H_T^1$  be such that

$$|\varphi(u_n)| \leq c, \varphi'(u_n) \rightarrow 0, (n \rightarrow \infty) \quad (12)$$

First, we shall prove that  $\{u_n\}$  is bounded in  $H_T^1$ . By contradiction, we assume  $\|u_n\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

For  $\{u_n\} \in H_T^1$ , let  $\bar{u} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T u(t) dt$ , and  $\tilde{u}(t) = u(t) - \bar{u}$ . By (12), for  $\forall \phi \in H_T^1$ , we have

$$\int_0^T (\dot{u}_n, \dot{\phi}) dt + \int_0^T (Au_n, \dot{\phi}) dt - \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \phi) dt = 0(\|\phi\|).$$

Taking  $\phi = \tilde{u}_n$ , we have

$$\int_0^T |\dot{u}_n|^2 dt + \int_0^T (Au_n, \dot{u}_n) dt - \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \tilde{u}_n) dt \leq \|\tilde{u}_n\|. \quad (13)$$

By the Wirtinger inequality (11) and  $\|A\| \leq \frac{2\pi}{T}$ , we have

$$\int_0^T |\dot{u}_n|^2 dt + \int_0^T (Au_n, \dot{u}_n) dt$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq (1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|) \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 dt \\
&\geq \frac{1}{2} (1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|) \int_0^T |\dot{u}_n|^2 dt + \frac{1}{2} \frac{4\pi^2}{T^2} (1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|) \int_0^T |\tilde{u}_n|^2 dt \\
&\geq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2\pi^2}{T^2} \right\} (1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|) \|\tilde{u}_n\|^2 = \delta \|\tilde{u}_n\|^2
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

where  $\delta = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2\pi^2}{T^2} \right\} (1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\|)$ .

By (7), (11) and the Hölder inequality, one has

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left| \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \tilde{u}_n) dt \right| \\
&\leq \int_0^T f(t) |u_n| |\tilde{u}_n| dt + \int_0^T g(t) |\tilde{u}_n| dt \\
&\leq \int_0^T f(t) dt \|u_n\|_\infty \|\tilde{u}_n\|_\infty + \int_0^T g(t) dt \|\tilde{u}_n\|_\infty \\
&\leq C^2 \int_0^T f(t) dt \|u_n\| \|\tilde{u}_n\| + C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|\tilde{u}_n\| \\
&= M_1 C^2 \|u_n\| \|\tilde{u}_n\| + C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|\tilde{u}_n\|
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

where  $M_1 = \int_0^T f(t) dt$ .

By (13), (14) and (15), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\|u_n\| &\geq \int_0^T |\dot{u}_n|^2 dt + \int_0^T (A u_n, \dot{u}_n) dt - \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \tilde{u}_n) dt \\
&\geq \delta \|\tilde{u}_n\|^2 - M_1 C^2 \|u_n\| \|\tilde{u}_n\| - C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|\tilde{u}_n\|,
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\|\tilde{u}_n\| \leq \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} \|u_n\| + C \tag{16}$$

It follows from (15) and (16) that

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left| \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \tilde{u}_n) dt \right| \\
&\leq M_1 C^2 \|u_n\| \|\tilde{u}_n\| + C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|\tilde{u}_n\| \\
&\leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \|u_n\|^2 + C \|u_n\| + C,
\end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

By (16),  $2M_1 C^2 < \delta$  and the boundedness of  $\|Q\bar{u}_n\|$ , we have

$$\frac{\|\tilde{u}_n\|}{\|u_n\|} \rightarrow m \leq \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} < \frac{1}{2}, \quad (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

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$$\frac{\|P\bar{u}_n\|}{\|u_n\|} \geq 1 - \frac{\|\tilde{u}_n\|}{\|u_n\|} - \frac{\|Q\bar{u}_n\|}{\|u_n\|} \rightarrow 1 - m \geq \frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta}, \quad (n \rightarrow \infty) \quad (18)$$

By (18), for  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ , such that  $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon > 0$ , we have

$$\|u_n\| \leq \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon} \|P\bar{u}_n\|. \quad (19)$$

It follows from (13), (16), (17) and (19) that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T |\dot{u}_n|^2 dt + \int_0^T (Au_n, \dot{u}_n) dt &\leq \int_0^T (\nabla F(t, u_n), \tilde{u}_n) dt + \|\tilde{u}_n\| \leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \|u_n\|^2 + c \|u_n\| + c \\ &\leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

By (16) and (19), we have

$$\|\tilde{u}_n\| \leq \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} \|u_n\| + c \leq \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon} \|P\bar{u}_n\|. \quad (21)$$

By (6), (7), (21), the Hölder inequality and the boundedness of  $\|Q\bar{u}_n\|$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^T F(t, \hat{u}_n) dt - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}_n) dt \right| &\leq \int_0^T \int_0^T |\nabla F(t, P\bar{u}_n + s(Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n))| \\ &\leq \int_0^T f(t) (|P\bar{u}_n| + |Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n|) |Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n| dt + \int_0^T g(t) |Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n| dt \\ &\leq \int_0^T f(t) dt (\|P\bar{u}_n\|_\infty + \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\|_\infty) \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\|_\infty + \int_0^T g(t) dt \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\|_\infty \\ &\leq C^2 \int_0^T f(t) dt (\|P\bar{u}_n\| + \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\|) \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\| &= M_1 C^2 \|P\bar{u}_n\| \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\| + M_1 C^2 \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\|^2 + C \int_0^T g(t) dt \|Q\bar{u}_n + \tilde{u}_n\| \\ &\leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c + \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta^2} \frac{1}{(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon)^2} M_1 C^2 \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 \\ &= \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \left[ \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon} - \frac{\frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta}}{(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon)^2} \right] \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon}{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon\right)^2} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c \quad (22)$$

By (20) and (22), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(u_n) &= \varphi(\hat{u}_n) \leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon\right)^2} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c \\ &\quad - \int_0^T [F(t, \hat{u}_n) - F(t, P\bar{u}_n)] dt - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}_n) dt \\ &\leq \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon\right)^2} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 t + \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \frac{\frac{1}{2} - \varepsilon}{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon\right)^2} \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 \\ &\quad + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}_n) dt \\ &= \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{\delta} \left[ \frac{1 - \varepsilon}{\left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{M_1 C^2}{\delta} - \varepsilon\right)^2} - \frac{1}{\|P\bar{u}_n\|^2} \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}_n) dt \right] \\ &\quad \|P\bar{u}_n\|^2 + c \|P\bar{u}_n\| + c \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Since  $\|u_n\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , by (19), we have  $\|P\bar{u}_n\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Let  $\varepsilon$  small enough, by (8), we get that  $\varphi(u_n) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , this contradicts (12) and hence  $\{u_n\}$  is bounded in  $H_T^1$ . Arguing then as in Proposition 4.1 in [9], we conclude that the (PS) condition is satisfied.

Now we check the link condition that

- (a)  $\inf\{\psi(\pi(u)) \mid \pi(u) \in Y \times X\} > -\infty$ .
- (b)  $\psi(\pi(x)) \rightarrow -\infty$  uniformly for  $\pi(Qx)$  as  $|P_x| \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $x \in R^N$ .

For  $\pi(u) \in Y \times V$ ,  $u = \tilde{u} + Q\bar{u}$ .

In a similar way to (22), we can get that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_0^T F(t, \tilde{u}(t) + Q\bar{u}) dt - \int_0^T F(t, 0) dt \right| \\ &\leq M_1 C^2 \|\tilde{u}\|^2 + M_2 |T|^{\frac{1}{2}} C \|\tilde{u}\| + c, \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

It follows from (24),  $\|A\| < \frac{2\pi}{T}$  and the boundedness of  $\|Q\bar{u}_n\|$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(\pi(u)) &= \psi(\pi(\tilde{u} + Q\bar{u})) = \varphi(\tilde{u} + Q\bar{u}) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T |\dot{u}|^2 dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T (Au(t), \dot{u}(t)) dt \\ &\quad - \left[ \int_0^T F(t, \tilde{u}(t) + Q\bar{u}) dt - \int_0^T F(t, 0) dt \right] - \int_0^T F(t, 0) dt \end{aligned}$$

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$$\geq \frac{1}{2} \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2\pi^2}{T^2} \right\} \left( 1 - \frac{T}{2\pi} \|A\| \right) \|\tilde{u}\|^2 - M_1 C^2 \|\tilde{u}\|^2 - M_2 |T|^{\frac{1}{2}} C \|\tilde{u}\| + c - \int_0^T F(t, 0) dt$$

By  $2M_1 C^2 < \delta$ , we have  $\psi(\pi(x)) \rightarrow +\infty$ , as  $\|u\| \rightarrow \infty$ , for all  $\pi(u) \in Y \times V$ , which implies (a).

It follows from (7) and the boundedness of  $|Q\bar{u}_n|$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(\pi(x)) &= \Phi(x) = \Phi(\hat{x}) = -\int_0^T F(t, Px + Qx) dt \\ &= -\int_0^T \int_0^1 (\nabla F(t, Px + sQx), Qx) ds dt - \int_0^T F(t, Px) dt \\ &\leq -\int_0^T F(t, Px) dt + \int_0^T M_1 |Px + Qx| |Qx| dt + \int_0^T M_2 |Qx| dt \\ &\leq -\int_0^T F(t, Px) dt + c|Px| + c = -|Px|^2 \left[ \frac{1}{|Px|^2} \int_0^T F(t, Px) dt + \frac{c}{|Px|} + \frac{c}{|Px|^2} \right], \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R^N$ . Hence we have, by (8), (b) is satisfied. It follows from the generalized saddle point theorem (Theorem 1.7 in [4]) that has at least  $r+1$  critical points. Hence  $\Phi$  has at least  $r+1$  geometrically distinct critical points. Therefore, problem (5) has at least  $r+1$  geometrically distinct solutions in  $H_T^1$ .

**Proof of Theorem 1.2** the proof relies on Theorem 4.12 in [8]. In a similar way to (22), we can get that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \int_0^T F(t, \hat{u}) dt - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \right| \\ &\leq M_1 C^2 \|P\bar{u}\| \|\tilde{u}\| + c \|P\bar{u}\| + M_1 C^2 \|\tilde{u}\|^2 + c \|\tilde{u}\| + c \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

It follows from (14) and (25) that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(u) &= \Phi(\hat{u}) \\ &\geq \frac{\delta}{2} \|\tilde{u}\|^2 - \left[ \int_0^T F(t, \hat{u}) dt - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \right] - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \\ &\geq \left( \frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2 \right) \|\tilde{u}\|^2 - M_1 C^2 \|P\bar{u}\| \|\tilde{u}\| + c \|P\bar{u}\| + c \|\tilde{u}\| + c - \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \\ &= \left( \frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2 \right) \left[ \|\tilde{u}\| - \frac{M_1 C^2}{2(\frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2)} \|P\bar{u}\| \right]^2 + c \|P\bar{u}\| + c \|\tilde{u}\| + c \\ &\quad - \left[ \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{4(\frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2)} + \frac{1}{\|P\bar{u}\|^2} \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \right] \|P\bar{u}\|^2 \end{aligned}$$



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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left(\frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2\right) \left[ \|\tilde{u}\| - \frac{M_1 C^2}{2\left(\frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2\right)} \|P\bar{u}\| \right]^2 + c\|P\bar{u}\| + c\|\tilde{u}\| + c \\
 &\quad - \left[ \frac{M_1^2 C^4}{4\left(\frac{\delta}{2} - M_1 C^2\right)} + \frac{1}{\|P\bar{u}\|^2} \int_0^T F(t, P\bar{u}) dt \right] \|P\bar{u}\|^2 \tag{26}
 \end{aligned}$$

By  $2M_1 C^2 < \delta$  and (9), we get that  $\varphi$  is bounded from below. Moreover, the functional  $\varphi$  satisfies the  $(PS)$  condition; that is, for every sequence  $(u_n)$  in  $H_T^1$  such that  $\varphi(u_n) \rightarrow 0$  is bounded and  $\varphi'(u_n) \rightarrow 0$ , the sequence  $\pi(u_n)$  has a convergent subsequence (see Definition 4.2 in [8]). In fact, the boundedness of  $\varphi(u_n)$ , (9) and (26) imply that  $(\tilde{u}_n)$  and  $(Pu_n)$  are bounded. Hence  $(\hat{u}_n)$  bounded. As in the proof of Proposition 4.1 in [8],  $(\hat{u}_n)$  has a convergent subsequence, so we have  $\pi(u_n) = \pi(\hat{u}_n)$ .

Now the Theorem in this case follows from Theorem 4.12 in [8].

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