



# Uncountably many solutions of a third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

Zeqing Liu<sup>a</sup>, Xiaoying Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Jeong Sheok Ume<sup>b,\*</sup>, Shin Min Kang<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Mathematics, Liaoning Normal University Dalian, Liaoning 116029, People's Republic of China.

<sup>b</sup>Department of Mathematics, Changwon National University, Changwon 641-773, Korea.

<sup>c</sup>Department of Mathematics and the Research Institute of Natural Science, Gyeongsang National University, Jinju 660-701, Korea.

Communicated by P. Kumam

## Abstract

In this paper, by using the Schauder fixed point theorem, Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem and some new techniques, we obtain the existence of uncountably many solutions for a third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay of the form

$$\Delta(a(n, x_{a_{1n}}, x_{a_{2n}}, \dots, x_{a_{rn}})\Delta^2(x_n + b_n x_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, x_{h_{1n}}, x_{h_{2n}}, \dots, x_{h_{kn}}) + f(n, x_{f_{1n}}, x_{f_{2n}}, \dots, x_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad n \geq n_0.$$

The results presented improve and generalize some results in literatures. Seven examples are given to illustrate the results presented in this paper. ©2016 All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay, uncountably many solutions, Schauder fixed point theorem, Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem.

**2010 MSC:** 39A10, 39A20.

## 1. Introduction

In the past few years, many authors studied the oscillation, nonoscillation and existence of solutions for various linear and nonlinear difference equations with delays, see, for example, [1]-[16] and the references cited therein.

\*Corresponding author

Email addresses: [zeqingliu@163.com](mailto:zeqingliu@163.com) (Zeqing Liu), [xiaoyingzhang01@163.com](mailto:xiaoyingzhang01@163.com) (Xiaoying Zhang), [jsume@changwon.ac.kr](mailto:jsume@changwon.ac.kr) (Jeong Sheok Ume), [smkang@gnu.ac.kr](mailto:smkang@gnu.ac.kr) (Shin Min Kang)

Cheng [3] considered the second order neutral delay difference equation with positive and negative coefficients

$$\Delta^2(x_n + px_{n-m}) + p_n x_{n-k} - q_n x_{n-l} = 0, \quad \forall n \geq n_0, \tag{1.1}$$

where  $p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-1\}$ . He obtained the existence of a bounded nonoscillatory solution by using the Banach fixed point theorem. Liu et al.[13] studied solvability of a second order nonlinear neutral delay difference equation

$$\Delta[a_n \Delta(x_n + b_n x_{n-\tau}) + f(n, x_{f_{1n}}, \dots, x_{f_{kn}})] + g(n, x_{g_{1n}}, \dots, x_{g_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad n \geq n_0. \tag{1.2}$$

Taking full advantage of the Schauder fixed point theorem, Yan and Liu [16] proved the existence of a bounded nonoscillatory solution for the third order difference equation

$$\Delta^3 x_n + f(n, x_n, x_{n-\tau}) = 0, \quad n \geq n_0. \tag{1.3}$$

In 2012, by applying the Leray-Schauder nonlinear alternative theorem, Liu et al.[8] established the existence results of bounded positive solutions for the third order difference equation

$$\Delta(a_n \Delta^2(x_n + p_n x_{n-\tau})) + f(n, x_{n-d_{1n}}, \dots, x_{n-d_{kn}}) = g_n, \quad n \geq n_0. \tag{1.4}$$

Inspired and motivated by the results in [1]-[16], in this paper, we are concerned with the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta(a(n, x_{a_{1n}}, x_{a_{2n}}, \dots, x_{a_{rn}}) \Delta^2(x_n + b_n x_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, x_{h_{1n}}, x_{h_{2n}}, \dots, x_{h_{kn}}) \\ &+ f(n, x_{f_{1n}}, x_{f_{2n}}, \dots, x_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad n \geq n_0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.5}$$

where  $\tau, r, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $\{b_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}} \cup \{c_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}} \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $a \in C(\mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^r, \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\})$ ,  $h, f \in C(\mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^k, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $a_{dn}, h_{ln}$  and  $f_{ln} : \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{dn} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} h_{ln} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_{ln} = +\infty, \quad d \in \Lambda_r, l \in \Lambda_k.$$

By virtue of the Schauder fixed point theorem, Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem and some new techniques, we establish sufficient conditions for the existence results of uncountably many nonoscillatory, positive and negative solutions of Eq.(1.5), and construct seven nontrivial examples.

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we assume that  $\Delta$  is the forward difference operator defined by  $\Delta x_n = x_{n+1} - x_n$ ,  $\Delta^3 x_n = \Delta(\Delta^2 x_n)$ ,  $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, +\infty)$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^+ = [0, +\infty)$ ,  $\mathbb{R}_- = (-\infty, 0)$ ,  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{N}_0$  stand for the sets of all positive integers and nonnegative integers, respectively,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{N}_{n_0} &= \{n : n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \text{ with } n \geq n_0\}, \quad n_0 \in \mathbb{N}_0, \\ \Lambda_t &= \{1, 2, \dots, t\}, \quad t \in \mathbb{N}, \\ \alpha &= \inf\{a_{dn}, h_{ln}, f_{ln} : d \in \Lambda_r, l \in \Lambda_k, n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}\}, \\ \beta &= \min\{n_0 - \tau, \alpha\} \in \mathbb{N}. \end{aligned}$$

$l_\beta^\infty$  represents the Banach space of all real sequences on  $\mathbb{N}_\beta$  with norm

$$\|x\| = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \left| \frac{x_n}{n} \right| < +\infty \quad \text{for each } x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in l_\beta^\infty.$$

For  $d \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $D > 0$ , put

$$d_n = dn, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta,$$

$$A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) = \{\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} : \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in l_\beta^\infty \text{ and } \left| \frac{x_n}{n} - \frac{d_n}{n} \right| \leq D, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  is a closed and convex subset in  $l_\beta^\infty$ .

By a solution of Eq.(1.5), we mean a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  with a positive integer  $T \geq n_0 + \tau + \beta$  such that Eq.(1.5) is satisfied for all  $n \geq T$ . As is customary, a solution of Eq.(1.5) is said to be oscillatory if it is neither eventually positive nor eventually negative. Otherwise, it is said to be nonoscillatory.

The following lemmas play important roles in this paper.

**Lemma 2.1** ([4]). *A bounded, uniformly Cauchy subset  $Y$  of  $l_\beta^\infty$  is relatively compact.*

**Lemma 2.2** (Krasnoselskii Fixed Point Theorem [5]). *Let  $Y$  be a nonempty bounded closed convex subset of a Banach space  $X$  and  $S, G : Y \rightarrow X$  be mappings such that  $Sx + Gy \in Y$  for every pair  $x, y \in Y$ . If  $S$  is a contraction and  $G$  is completely continuous, then the equation*

$$Sx + Gx = x$$

has a solution in  $Y$ .

**Lemma 2.3** (Schauder Fixed Point Theorem [5]). *Let  $Y$  be a nonempty closed convex subset of a Banach space  $X$  and  $S : Y \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous mapping such that  $S(Y)$  is a relatively compact subset of  $X$ . Then  $S$  has a fixed point in  $Y$ .*

### 3. Existence of Uncountably Many Solutions

Now we show the existence of uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions for Eq.(1.5) by using the Schauder fixed point theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d \in \mathbb{R}, D \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying*

$$|d| > D, \quad b_n = -1, \quad \forall n \geq n_1; \tag{3.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |a(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r)| &\geq a_n, \quad \forall (n, u_d) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times (\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}), d \in \Lambda_r; \\ |f(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| &\leq P_n, \quad |h(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| \leq Q_n, \quad \forall (n, u_l) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times (\mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}), l \in \Lambda_k; \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n_0+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \max \left\{ Q_s, \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \max\{P_t, |c_t|\} \right\} < +\infty. \tag{3.3}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - D, d + D)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a nonoscillatory solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_n}{n} = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $L \in (d - D, d + D)$ . On account of Eq.(3.3), we infer that there exists  $T \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} (Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|)) < D - |L - d|. \tag{3.4}$$

Define a mapping  $S_L : A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \rightarrow l_\beta^\infty$  by

$$S_L x_n = \begin{cases} nL + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} (h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \\ \quad - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t)), & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} S_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.5}$$

for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Now we prove that

$$S_L x \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \text{ and } \|S_L x\| < |L| + D, \quad \forall x \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D). \tag{3.6}$$

Let  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . It follows from (3.2), (3.4) and (3.5) that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - d \right| &= \left| L - d + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq |L - d| + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< |L - d| + D - |L - d| \\ &= D, \quad n \geq T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} - d \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right| &= \left| L + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq |L| + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< |L| + D - |L - d| \\ &< |L| + D, \quad n \geq T \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} \right| < |L| + D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

which imply (3.6).

Next we prove that  $S_L$  is continuous and  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy. Let  $x^\nu = \{x_n^\nu\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  and  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x^\nu = x$ . Put  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Using (3.3) and the continuity of  $a$ ,  $h$  and  $f$ , we deduce that there exist five positive integers  $T_1, T_2, T_3, T_4$  and  $T_5$  with  $T_4 > T, T_2 > T_4 + T_1\tau$  and  $T_3 > T_2 - 1$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_4+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right), \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|), \right. \\ \left. T_1(T_4 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right), \sum_{j=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{25}; \tag{3.7} \end{aligned}$$

$$\max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \Bigg), \\
 & \left. \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{25}, \quad (3.8) \\
 & \forall \nu \geq T_5.
 \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of (3.2), (3.5), (3.7) and (3.8), we obtain that for each  $\nu \geq T_5$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|S_L x^\nu - S_L x\| \\
 & = \max \left\{ \sup_{\beta \leq n < T} \left| \frac{S_L x_n^\nu}{n} - \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right|, \sup_{n \geq T} \left| \frac{S_L x_n^\nu}{n} - \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right| \right\} \\
 & = \sup_{n \geq T} \frac{1}{n} \left| \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} \right. \\
 & \quad \times \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - c_t) \right) \\
 & \quad - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \\
 & \quad \times \left. \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\
 & \leq \sup_{n \geq T} \frac{1}{n} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sup_{n \geq T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \times \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_4+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu)| + |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \\
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} \left. \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} \left( \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) \right| + \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) \right| + \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \\
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left. \left( \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) \right| + \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \right) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) \right| + \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \\
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left. \left( \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) \right| + \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \right) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_4+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \\
 & + \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{j=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \Big] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ 2 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_4+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + \frac{\varepsilon}{25} + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} P_t \right. \\
 & + 2T_1(T_4 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + 2 \sum_{j=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) \\
 & + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_4+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) + \frac{\varepsilon}{25} + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{T_1-1} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \\
 & \left. + 2T_1(T_4 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) + 2 \sum_{j=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T+j\tau}^{T_4+j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & < \varepsilon,
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} S_L x^\nu = S_L x$ , that is,  $S_L$  is continuous in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It follows from (3.3) that there exists  $T^* > T$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T^*} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T^*+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \tag{3.9}$$

which together with (3.2) and (3.5) yields that for all  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $t_1 > t_2 > T^*$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{S_L x_{t_1}}{t_1} - \frac{S_L x_{t_2}}{t_2} \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_1+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_2+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_1+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_2+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &\leq \frac{2}{T^*} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T^*+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

which means that  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy. Lemma 2.1 implies that  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is relatively compact. It follows from Lemma 2.3 that the mapping  $S_L$  possesses a fixed point  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n &= nL + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T \end{aligned} \tag{3.10}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} w_{n-\tau} &= (n-\tau)L + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(j-1)\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau. \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

(3.10) and (3.11) lead to

$$\begin{aligned} w_n - w_{n-\tau} &= \tau L - \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned}$$

$$\Delta(w_n - w_{n-\tau}) = \sum_{s=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau,$$

$$\Delta^2(w_n - w_{n-\tau}) = -\frac{1}{a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}})} \left( h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) - \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau,$$

which together with (3.1) yields that

$$\Delta(a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}})\Delta^2(w_n + b_n w_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) + f(n, w_{f_{1n}}, \dots, w_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau.$$

That is,  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5) in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

In view of (3.3) and (3.10), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{w_n}{n} - L \right| &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}})| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned} \tag{3.12}$$

that is,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_n}{n} = L$ .

Next we show that Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . Let  $L_1, L_2 \in (d - D, d + D)$  and  $L_1 \neq L_2$ . Similarly we infer that for each  $l \in \Lambda_2$ , there exist a constant  $T_l^* \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  and a mapping  $S_{L_l}$  satisfying (3.5), where  $L, T$  and  $S_L$  are replaced by  $L_l, T_l^*$  and  $S_{L_l}$ , respectively, the mapping  $S_{L_l}$  has a fixed point  $w^l = \{w_n^l\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , which is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5), that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n^l &= nL_l + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^l)} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^l) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^l, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^l) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T_l^*, \quad l \in \Lambda_2. \end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

Note that (3.3) implies that there exists  $T_3^* > \max\{T_1^*, T_2^*\}$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T_3^*} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_3^*+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{|L_1 - L_2|}{4}, \tag{3.14}$$

which together with (3.2), (3.13) gives that

$$\left| \frac{w_n^1}{n} - \frac{w_n^2}{n} \right| = \left| L_1 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^1)} \right.$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \times \left( h\left(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1\right) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1\right) - c_t \right) \right) \\
 & - L_2 - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a\left(s, w_{a_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^2\right)} \\
 & \times \left( h\left(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2\right) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2\right) - c_t \right) \right) \Big| \\
 & \geq |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h\left(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1\right) \right| + \left| h\left(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2\right) \right| \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( \left| f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1\right) \right| + \left| c_t \right| + \left| f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2\right) \right| + \left| c_t \right| \right) \right) \\
 & \geq |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{2}{T_3^*} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=T_3^*+j\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & > \frac{1}{2} |L_1 - L_2| > 0, \quad \forall n \geq T_3^*,
 \end{aligned}$$

that is,  $w^1 \neq w^2$ . Therefore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d \in \mathbb{R}, D \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.2) and

$$|d| > D, \quad b_n = 1, \quad \forall n \geq n_1; \tag{3.15}$$

$$\sum_{i=n_0}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \max \left\{ Q_s, \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \max \{ P_t, |c_t| \} \right\} < +\infty. \tag{3.16}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - D, d + D)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a nonoscillatory solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_n}{n} = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $L \in (d - D, d + D)$ . It follows from (3.16) that there exists  $T \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < D - |L - d|. \tag{3.17}$$

Define a mapping  $S_L : A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \rightarrow l_\beta^\infty$  by

$$S_L x_n = \begin{cases} nL - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h\left(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}\right) \right. \\ \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( f\left(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}\right) - c_t \right) \right), & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} S_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.18}$$

for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . Combining (3.2), (3.17) and (3.18), we get that for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - d \right| &= \left| L - d - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq |L - d| + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< |L - d| + D - |L - d| \\ &= D, \quad n \geq T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} - d \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right| &= \left| L - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq |L| + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< |L| + D - |L - d| \\ &< |L| + D, \quad n \geq T \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} \right| < |L| + D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

which yield (3.6).

Now we assert that  $S_L$  is continuous and  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy. Let  $x^\nu = \{x_n^\nu\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  and  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x^\nu = x$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It follows from (3.16) and the continuity of  $a, h$  and  $f$  that there exist  $T_1, T_2, T_3$  and  $T_4 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $T_1 > T, T_2 > T_1 + \tau - 1$  and  $T_3 > T_2 - 1$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right), \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|), \right. \\ \left. (T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{16}; \end{aligned} \tag{3.19}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right), \right. \end{aligned} \tag{3.20}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{16}, \\ \forall \nu \geq T_4. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (3.2) and (3.18)-(3.20) that for any  $\nu \geq T_4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|S_L x^\nu - S_L x\| \\
 &= \max \left\{ \sup_{\beta \leq n < T} \left| \frac{S_L x_n^\nu - S_L x_n}{n} \right|, \sup_{n \geq T} \left| \frac{S_L x_n^\nu - S_L x_n}{n} \right| \right\} \\
 &= \sup_{n \geq T} \frac{1}{n} \left| \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})) \right) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right) \\
 &\quad \times \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \Big| \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sup_{n \geq T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sup_{n \geq T} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \times \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu)| + |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \right) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu)| + |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \\
 & \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \Big] \\
 \leq & \frac{1}{T} \left[ 2 \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + \frac{\varepsilon}{16} + 2 \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} P_t \right. \\
 & + 2(T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + 2 \sum_{i=T_1+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & \left. + \frac{\varepsilon}{16} + 2 \sum_{i=T+\tau}^{T_1+\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) + 2(T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 < & \varepsilon,
 \end{aligned}$$

which gives that  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} S_L x^\nu = S_L x$ , that is,  $S_L$  is continuous in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Using (3.16), we infer that there exists  $T^* > T$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T^*} \sum_{i=T^*+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \tag{3.21}$$

which together with (3.2) and (3.18) implies that for all  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $t_1 > t_2 > T^*$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{S_L x_{t_1}}{t_1} - \frac{S_L x_{t_2}}{t_2} \right| \\
 = & \left| \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_1+(2j-1)\tau}^{t_1+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right. \\
 & \left. - \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_2+(2j-1)\tau}^{t_2+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\
 \leq & \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_1+(2j-1)\tau}^{t_1+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \times \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ & + \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=t_2+(2j-1)\tau}^{t_2+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \\ & \times \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ & \leq \frac{2}{T^*} \sum_{i=T^*+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ & < \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

which yields that  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy. Lemma 2.1 means that  $S_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is relatively compact. Lemma 2.3 ensures that the mapping  $S_L$  has a fixed point  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n = nL - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} & \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T \end{aligned} \tag{3.22}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} w_{n-\tau} = (n-\tau)L - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-2)\tau}^{n+(2j-1)\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} & \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned}$$

which lead to

$$\begin{aligned} w_n + w_{n-\tau} = (2n-\tau)L - \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} & \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(w_n + w_{n-\tau}) = 2L + \sum_{s=n}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} & \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^2(w_n + w_{n-\tau}) = -\frac{1}{a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}})} & \left( h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) \right. \\ & \left. - \sum_{t=n}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned}$$

which together with (3.15) yields that

$$\Delta(a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}})\Delta^2(w_n + b_n w_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) + f(n, w_{f_{1n}}, \dots, w_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau.$$

That is,  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5) in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

It follows from (3.16) and (3.22) that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{w_n}{n} - L \right| &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}})| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{w_n}{n} = L$ .

Next we claim that Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . Let  $L_1, L_2 \in (d - D, d + D)$  and  $L_1 \neq L_2$ . We deduce similarly that for every  $l \in \Lambda_2$ , there exist a constant  $T_l^* \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  and a mapping  $S_{L_l}$  satisfying (3.18), where  $L, T$  and  $S_L$  are replaced by  $L_l, T_l^*$  and  $S_{L_l}$ , respectively, the mapping  $S_{L_l}$  has a fixed point  $w^l = \{w_n^l\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , which is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5), that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n^l &= nL_l - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^l)} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^l) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^l, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^l) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T_l^*, \quad l \in \Lambda_2. \end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

Obviously (3.16) yields that there exists  $T_3^* > \max\{T_1^*, T_2^*\}$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T_3^*} \sum_{i=T_3^*+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{|L_1 - L_2|}{4}, \tag{3.24}$$

which together with (3.2), (3.23) means that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{w_n^1}{n} - \frac{w_n^2}{n} \right| &= \left| L_1 - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^1)} \right. \\ &\quad \times \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1) - c_t) \right) \\ &\quad - L_2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^2)} \\ &\quad \times \left. \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\geq |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=n+(2j-1)\tau}^{n+2j\tau-1} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1)| + |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2)| \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( \left| f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1\right) \right| + |c_t| + \left| f\left(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2\right) \right| + |c_t| \right) \\
 \geq & |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{2}{T_3^*} \sum_{i=T_3^*+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 > & \frac{1}{2}|L_1 - L_2| > 0, \quad \forall n \geq T_3^*,
 \end{aligned}$$

that is,  $w^1 \neq w^2$ . Therefore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Now we use the Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem to prove the existence of uncountably many nonoscillatory, positive and negative solutions of Eq.(1.5).

**Theorem 3.3.** *Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d \in \mathbb{R}, D, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.2), (3.16) and*

$$1 < \frac{|d|}{D} < \frac{1-b}{b}, \quad |b_n| \leq b, \quad \forall n \geq n_1. \tag{3.25}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - (1 - b)D + b|d|, d + (1 - b)D - b|d|)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a nonoscillatory solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau} \right) = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $L \in (d - (1 - b)D + b|d|, d + (1 - b)D - b|d|)$ . In view of (3.16), we deduce that there exists  $T \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < (1 - b)D - b|d| - |L - d|. \tag{3.26}$$

Define two mappings  $S_L$  and  $G_L : A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \rightarrow l_\beta^\infty$  by

$$S_L x_n = \begin{cases} nL - b_n x_{n-\tau}, & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} S_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.27}$$

and

$$G_L x_n = \begin{cases} - \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} G_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.28}$$

for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Now we assert that

$$S_L x + G_L y \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D), \quad \forall x, y \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D), \tag{3.29}$$

$$\|S_L x - S_L y\| \leq b \|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \tag{3.30}$$

and

$$\|G_L x\| < D, \quad \forall x \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D). \tag{3.31}$$

In light of (3.2) and (3.25)-(3.28), we get that for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $y = \{y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} + \frac{G_L y_n}{n} - d \right| &= \left| L - d - b_n \frac{x_{n-\tau}}{n} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, y_{a_{1s}}, \dots, y_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, y_{h_{1s}}, \dots, y_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, y_{f_{1t}}, \dots, y_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq |L - d| + b(|d| + D) + \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< |L - d| + b(|d| + D) + (1 - b)D - b|d| - |L - d| \\ &= D, \quad n \geq T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} + \frac{G_L y_n}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} + \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{G_L y_T}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} + \frac{G_L y_T}{T} - d \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - \frac{S_L y_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{(n - \tau)b_n}{n} \left( \frac{x_{n-\tau}}{n - \tau} - \frac{y_{n-\tau}}{n - \tau} \right) \right| \leq b \|x - y\|, \quad n \geq T,$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - \frac{S_L y_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} - \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L y_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} - \frac{S_L y_T}{T} \right| \leq b \|x - y\|, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right| &= \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< (1 - b)D - b|d| - |L - d| \\ &< D, \quad n \geq T \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{G_L x_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{G_L x_T}{T} \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

which imply (3.29)-(3.31).

Next we show that  $G_L$  is continuous and  $G_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy. Let  $x^\nu = \{x_n^\nu\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  and  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} x^\nu = x$ . By virtue of (3.16) and the continuity of  $a$ ,  $h$  and  $f$ , we infer that for given  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $T_1, T_2, T_3$  and  $T_4 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $T_1 > T, T_2 > T_1 - 1$  and  $T_3 > T_2 - 1$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} \max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{i=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right), \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|), \right. \\ \left. (T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{16}; \end{aligned} \tag{3.32}$$

$$\max \frac{1}{T} \left\{ \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right) \right\}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right|, \\
 & \left. \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right\} < \frac{\varepsilon}{16}, \tag{3.33} \\
 & \forall \nu \geq T_4.
 \end{aligned}$$

In view of (3.2), (3.28), (3.32) and (3.33), we deduce that for any  $\nu \geq T_4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|G_L x^\nu - G_L x\| \\
 & = \max \left\{ \sup_{\beta \leq n < T} \left| \frac{G_L x_n^\nu}{n} - \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right|, \sup_{n \geq T} \left| \frac{G_L x_n^\nu}{n} - \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right| \right\} \\
 & = \sup_{n \geq T} \frac{1}{n} \left| \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})) \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \times \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sup_{n \geq T} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sup_{n \geq T} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \times \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left| \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)} - \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right| \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ \sum_{i=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu)| + |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| \right) \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) - h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \\
 & + \left. \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} \left| f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu) - f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) \right| \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}^\nu) \right| + \left| h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) \right| \right. \\
 & + \left. \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}^\nu, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}^\nu)| + |f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu) - a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|}{a_s^2} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{T_3-1} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & + \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \\
 & + \left. \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}^\nu, \dots, x_{a_{rs}}^\nu)|} + \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \right) \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{T} \left[ 2 \sum_{i=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + \frac{\varepsilon}{16} + 2 \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} P_t \right. \\
 & + 2(T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} P_t \right) + 2 \sum_{i=T_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\
 & \left. + \frac{\varepsilon}{16} + 2 \sum_{i=T}^{T_1-1} \sum_{s=i}^{T_2-1} \frac{1}{a_s} \sum_{t=T_3}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) + 2(T_1 - T) \sum_{s=T_2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\
 & < \varepsilon,
 \end{aligned}$$

which yields that  $\lim_{\nu \rightarrow \infty} \|G_L x^\nu - G_L x\| = 0$ , that is,  $G_L$  is continuous in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It follows from (3.16) that there exists  $T^* > T$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T^*} \sum_{i=T^*}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}, \tag{3.34}$$

which together with (3.2) and (3.28) implies that for all  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $t_1 > t_2 > T^*$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left| \frac{G_L x_{t_1}}{t_1} - \frac{G_L x_{t_2}}{t_2} \right| \\
 & = \left| \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{i=t_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right. \\
 & \left. - \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{i=t_2}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right|
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \frac{1}{t_1} \sum_{i=t_1}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{t_2} \sum_{i=t_2}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}})| + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &\leq \frac{2}{T^*} \sum_{i=T^*}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

which yields that  $G_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is uniformly Cauchy, which together with (3.31) and Lemma 2.1 means that  $G_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is relatively compact. Consequently  $G_L$  is completely continuous in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . Thus (3.29), (3.30) and Lemma 2.2 ensure that the mapping  $S_L + G_L$  has a fixed point  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n = nL - b_n w_{n-\tau} - \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} &\left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ &\left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned} \tag{3.35}$$

which yields that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}}) \Delta^2(w_n + b_n w_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) \\ + f(n, w_{f_{1n}}, \dots, w_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau. \end{aligned}$$

That is,  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5) in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

In view of (3.16) and (3.35), we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau} - L \right| &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}})| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \\ &< \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau} \right) = L$ .

Next we show that Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . Let  $L_1, L_2 \in (d - (1 - b)D + b|d|, d + (1 - b)D - b|d|)$  and  $L_1 \neq L_2$ . Similarly, we conclude that for every  $l \in \Lambda_2$ , there exist a constant  $T_l^* \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  and two mapping  $S_{L_l}$  and  $G_{L_l}$  satisfying (3.27) and (3.28), where  $L, T, S_L$  and  $G_L$  are replaced by  $L_l, T_l^*, S_{L_l}$  and  $G_{L_l}$ , respectively, the mapping  $S_{L_l} + G_{L_l}$  has a fixed point  $w^l = \{w_n^l\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , which is a nonoscillatory solution of Eq.(1.5), that is,

$$\begin{aligned} w_n^l = nL_l - b_n w_{n-\tau}^l - \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^l)} &\left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^l, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^l) \right. \\ &\left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^l, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^l) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T_l^*, \quad l \in \Lambda_2. \end{aligned} \tag{3.36}$$

Note that (3.16) implies that there exists  $T_3^* > \max\{T_1^*, T_2^*\}$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{T_3^*} \sum_{i=T_3^*}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) < \frac{|L_1 - L_2|}{4}. \tag{3.37}$$

Using (3.2), (3.36) and (3.37), we get that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{w_n^1}{n} - \frac{w_n^2}{n} + b_n \left( \frac{w_{n-\tau}^1}{n} - \frac{w_{n-\tau}^2}{n} \right) \right| \\ &= \left| L_1 - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^1)} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1) - c_t) \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - L_2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{a_{rs}}^2)} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\geq |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( \left| h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^1, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^1) \right| + \left| h(s, w_{h_{1s}}^2, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}^2) \right| \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} \left( \left| f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^1, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^1) \right| + |c_t| + \left| f(t, w_{f_{1t}}^2, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}^2) \right| + |c_t| \right) \right) \\ &\geq |L_1 - L_2| - \frac{2}{T_3^*} \sum_{i=T_3^*}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \\ &> \frac{1}{2} |L_1 - L_2| > 0, \quad \forall n \geq T_3^*, \end{aligned}$$

which yields that  $w^1 \neq w^2$ . Therefore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Similar to the proofs of Theorems 3.3, we have the following results.

**Theorem 3.4.** Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d, D, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.16) and

$$d > D, \quad \frac{d}{D} < \frac{1-b}{b}, \quad |b_n| \leq b, \quad \forall n \geq n_1; \tag{3.38}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |a(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r)| \geq a_n, \quad \forall (n, u_d) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times (\mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}), d \in \Lambda_r; \\ & |f(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| \leq P_n, \quad |h(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| \leq Q_n, \quad \forall (n, u_l) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times (\mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}), l \in \Lambda_k. \end{aligned} \tag{3.39}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - (1-b)D + bd, d + (1-b)D - bd)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a positive solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau}) = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many positive solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d \in \mathbb{R}_-, D, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.16) and

$$d + D < 0, \quad \frac{d}{D} > \frac{b-1}{b}, \quad |b_n| \leq b, \quad \forall n \geq n_1; \tag{3.40}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & |a(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r)| \geq a_n, \quad \forall (n, u_d) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}_-, d \in \Lambda_r; \\ & |f(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| \leq P_n, \quad |h(n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)| \leq Q_n, \quad \forall (n, u_l) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}_-, l \in \Lambda_k. \end{aligned} \tag{3.41}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - (1-b)D - bd, d + (1-b)D + bd)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a negative solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau}) = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many negative solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d, D, b \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.2), (3.16) and

$$d < D, \quad \frac{d}{D} < \frac{1-b}{b}, \quad |b_n| \leq b, \quad \forall n \geq n_1. \tag{3.42}$$

Then for every  $L \in (d - (1 - b)D + bd, d + (1 - b)D - bd)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau}) = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** Assume that there exist  $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}, d \in \mathbb{R}, D, b_* \in \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{0\}$ , two nonnegative sequences  $\{P_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and  $\{Q_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  and a positive sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0}}$  satisfying (3.2), (3.16) and

$$|d| < D, \quad \frac{D + |d|}{D - |d|} < b_* \leq |b_n|, \quad \forall n \geq n_1. \tag{3.43}$$

Then for every  $L \in (-b_*(D - |d|) + D + |d|, b_*(D - |d|) - D - |d|)$ , Eq.(1.5) has a solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  with  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau}) = L$ . Furthermore, Eq.(1.5) has uncountably many solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $L \in (-b_*(D - |d|) + D + |d|, b_*(D - |d|) - D - |d|)$ . Using (3.16), we infer that there exists  $T \geq 1 + n_0 + n_1 + \tau + \beta$  satisfying

$$\frac{1}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) < 1, \tag{3.44}$$

$$L \in \left(-b_*(D - |d|) + (D + |d|) \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right), b_*(D - |d|) - (D + |d|) \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right)\right), \tag{3.45}$$

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left(Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|)\right) < b_*(D - |d|) - (D + |d|) \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) - |L|. \tag{3.46}$$

Define two mappings  $S_L$  and  $G_L : A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \rightarrow l_\beta^\infty$  by

$$S_L x_n = \begin{cases} \frac{nL}{b_{n+\tau}} - \frac{x_{n+\tau}}{b_{n+\tau}}, & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} S_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.47}$$

and

$$G_L x_n = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{b_{n+\tau}} \sum_{i=n+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} (h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t)), & n \geq T, \\ \frac{n}{T} G_L x_T, & \beta \leq n < T \end{cases} \tag{3.48}$$

for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

Now we assert that (3.29), (3.31) and

$$\|S_L x - S_L y\| \leq \frac{1}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) \|x - y\|, \quad \forall x, y \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D) \tag{3.49}$$

hold. It follows from (3.2) and (3.43)-(3.48) that for any  $x = \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $y = \{y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} + \frac{G_L y_n}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{L}{b_{n+\tau}} - d - \frac{x_{n+\tau}}{nb_{n+\tau}} - \frac{1}{nb_{n+\tau}} \sum_{i=n+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, y_{a_{1s}}, \dots, y_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, y_{h_{1s}}, \dots, y_{h_{ks}}) \right. \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, y_{f_{1t}}, \dots, y_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right| \\ & \leq \frac{|L|}{b_*} + |d| + \frac{D + |d|}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) + \frac{1}{b_* T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left(Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|)\right) \\ & < \frac{|L|}{b_*} + |d| + \frac{D + |d|}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) + \frac{1}{b_*} \left(b_*(D - |d|) - (D + |d|) \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) - |L|\right) \\ & = D, \quad n \geq T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} + \frac{G_L y_n}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} + \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{G_L y_T}{n} - d \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} + \frac{G_L y_T}{T} - d \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

$$\left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - \frac{S_L y_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n + \tau}{nb_{n+\tau}} \left( \frac{x_{n+\tau}}{n + \tau} - \frac{y_{n+\tau}}{n + \tau} \right) \right| \leq \frac{1}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) \|x - y\|, \quad n \geq T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{S_L x_n}{n} - \frac{S_L y_n}{n} \right| &= \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L x_T}{n} - \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{S_L y_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{S_L x_T}{T} - \frac{S_L y_T}{T} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{b_*} \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) \|x - y\|, \quad \beta \leq n < T, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right| &= \left| \frac{1}{nb_{n+\tau}} \sum_{i=n+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, x_{a_{1s}}, \dots, x_{a_{rs}})} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times \left( h(s, x_{h_{1s}}, \dots, x_{h_{ks}}) - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, x_{f_{1t}}, \dots, x_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{b_* T} \sum_{i=T}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left(Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|)\right) \\ &< \frac{1}{b_*} \left(b_*(D - |d|) - (D + |d|) \left(1 + \frac{\tau}{T}\right) - |L|\right) \\ &< D, \quad n \geq T \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left| \frac{G_L x_n}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{n}{T} \cdot \frac{G_L x_T}{n} \right| = \left| \frac{G_L x_T}{T} \right| < D, \quad \beta \leq n < T,$$

which imply (3.29), (3.31) and (3.49).

As in the proof of Theorem 3.3, we prove similarly that  $G_L$  is continuous in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$  and  $G_L(A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D))$  is relatively compact. Thus  $G_L$  is completely continuous, which together with (3.29), (3.49) and Lemma 2.2 ensures that the equation  $S_L x + G_L x = x$  has a solution  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta} \in A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ , which together with (3.47) and (3.48) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} w_n &= \frac{nL}{b_{n+\tau}} - \frac{w_{n+\tau}}{b_{n+\tau}} - \frac{1}{b_{n+\tau}} \sum_{i=n+\tau}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})} \left( h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}}) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}}) - c_t) \right), \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau, \end{aligned} \tag{3.50}$$

which yields that

$$\Delta(a(n, w_{a_{1n}}, \dots, w_{a_{rn}})\Delta^2(w_n + b_n w_{n-\tau})) + \Delta h(n, w_{h_{1n}}, \dots, w_{h_{kn}}) + f(n, w_{f_{1n}}, \dots, w_{f_{kn}}) = c_n, \quad \forall n \geq T + \tau.$$

That is,  $w = \{w_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}$  is a solution of Eq.(1.5) in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

In light of (3.16) and (3.50), we get that

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau} - L \right| &\leq \frac{1}{n} \left[ \tau L + \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{|a(s, w_{a_{1s}}, \dots, w_{a_{rs}})|} \left( |h(s, w_{h_{1s}}, \dots, w_{h_{ks}})| \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (|f(t, w_{f_{1t}}, \dots, w_{f_{kt}})| + |c_t|) \right) \right] \\ &< \frac{1}{n} \left[ \tau L + \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \sum_{s=i}^{\infty} \frac{1}{a_s} \left( Q_s + \sum_{t=s}^{\infty} (P_t + |c_t|) \right) \right] \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\frac{w_n}{n} + \frac{b_n}{n} w_{n-\tau}) = L$ . The rest of the proof is similar to that of Theorem 3.3 and is omitted. This completes the proof. □

#### 4. Examples and Applications

In this section we suggest seven examples to explain the advantage and applications of the results presented in Section 3. Note that all known results are not applicable to the seven examples.

**Example 4.1.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta((n^8 + n^3 + 2)(1 + x_{n^2}^2)\Delta^2(x_n - x_{n-\tau})) + \Delta \frac{(-1)^2 n^3 x_{n^2-n} x_{2n}}{(n^7 + n^2 + 3)(1 + x_{n^2-n}^2 + x_{2n}^2)} \\ + \frac{\sin^2 x_{3n-1}}{(n^6 + n + 1)(1 + x_{n-8}^2)} = \frac{(-1)^n (n^3 + 1)}{n^9 + \sin \sqrt{n^2 + 2}}, \quad n \geq 14, \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

where  $n_0 = 14$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 14, r = 1, k = 2, d = \pm 9, D = 5, \beta = \min\{14 - \tau, 6\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1n} &= n^2, \quad f_{1n} = n - 8, \quad f_{2n} = 3n - 1, \quad h_{1n} = n^2 - n, \quad h_{2n} = 2n, \\ a(n, u) &= (n^8 + n^3 + 2)(1 + u^2), \quad b_n = -1, \quad c_n = \frac{(-1)^n (n^3 + 1)}{n^9 + \sin \sqrt{n^2 + 2}}, \\ f(n, u, v) &= \frac{\sin^2 v}{(n^6 + n + 1)(1 + u^2)}, \quad h(n, u, v) = \frac{(-1)^2 n^3 uv}{(n^7 + n^2 + 3)(1 + u^2 + v^2)}, \\ a_n &= n^8 + n^3 + 2, \quad P_n = \frac{4}{n^6}, \quad Q_n = \frac{4}{n^4}, \quad (n, u, v) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^2. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to show that (3.1)-(3.3) hold. It follows from Theorem 3.1 that Eq.(4.1) possesses uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Example 4.2.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta((-1)^{n^2-1}(n^2 + 3)(1 + 3x_{3n-5}^2 + |\sin x_{n-2}|)\Delta^2(x_n + x_{n-\tau})) \\ + \Delta \left( \frac{\sin^4(n^5 x_{5n^2-9}^7 x_{n-5}^8)}{n^{10} - \ln n + 2} + \frac{n - (-1)^{n-1}}{(n^5 + 5)(x_{n-5}^2 + 9)} \right) + \frac{\cos^5 x_{3n^3-1}}{n^3(n^5 + 3)(2 + |x_{n^2-3}|)} \\ = \frac{n^2 - \sqrt{n} - 10}{n^{10} + n^3 + 8}, \quad n \geq 15, \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

where  $n_0 = 15$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 15, r = 2, k = 2, d = \pm 6, D = 3, \beta = \min\{15 - \tau, 10\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{1n} &= 3n - 5, & a_{2n} &= n - 2, & f_{1n} &= n^2 - 3, & f_{2n} &= 3n^3 - 1, & h_{1n} &= 5n^2 - 9, & h_{2n} &= n - 5, \\
 a(n, u, v) &= (-1)^{n^2-1}(n^2 + 3)(1 + 3u^2 + |\sin v|), & b_n &= 1, & c_n &= \frac{n^2 - \sqrt{n} - 10}{n^{10} + n^3 + 8}, \\
 f(n, u, v) &= \frac{\cos^5 v}{n^3(n^5 + 3)(2 + |u|)}, & h(n, u, v) &= \frac{\sin^4(n^5 u^7 v^8)}{n^{10} - \ln n + 2} + \frac{n - (-1)^{n-1}}{(n^5 + 5)(v^2 + 9)}, \\
 a_n &= n^2 + 3, & P_n &= \frac{5}{n^8}, & Q_n &= \frac{9}{n^4}, & (n, u, v) &\in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that (3.2), (3.15) and (3.16) hold. Theorem 3.2 ensures that Eq.(4.2) possesses uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Example 4.3.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\Delta \left( n^6(2 + \sin x_{n-3}) \Delta^2 \left( x_n + \frac{(-1)^n(n-3)}{4n+2} x_{n-\tau} \right) \right) + \Delta \left( \frac{(n^3 + n + 1) \cos^5 x_{n^3-8n}}{(n^6 + 2n^2 + 9)(1 + x_{n-4}^4)} \right) \\
 &+ \frac{(-1)^n \sin^2 x_{3n-15}}{n^7} - \frac{1}{(n^{10} + 6n^2)(1 + x_{n^2-3n}^2)} = \frac{(-1)^n(n^2 + 2)}{n^{10}(1 + \ln n)}, \quad n \geq 13,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

where  $n_0 = 13$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 13, r = 1, k = 2, d = \pm 8, D = 5, b = \frac{1}{4}, \beta = \min\{13 - \tau, 9\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{1n} &= n + 3, & f_{1n} &= 3n - 15, & f_{2n} &= n^2 - 3n, & h_{1n} &= n - 4, & h_{2n} &= n^3 - 8n, \\
 a(n, u) &= n^6(2 + \sin u), & b_n &= \frac{(-1)^n(n-3)}{4n+2}, & c_n &= \frac{(-1)^n(n^2 + 2)}{n^{10}(1 + \ln n)}, \\
 f(n, u, v) &= \frac{(-1)^n \sin^2 u}{n^7} - \frac{1}{(n^{10} + 6n^2)(1 + v^2)}, & h(n, u, v) &= \frac{(n^3 + n + 1) \cos^5 v}{(n^6 + 2n^2 + 9)(1 + u^4)}, \\
 a_n &= n^6, & P_n &= \frac{3}{n^7}, & Q_n &= \frac{10}{n^3}, & (n, u, v) &\in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that (3.2), (3.16) and (3.25) hold. It follows from Theorem 3.3 that Eq.(4.3) possesses uncountably many nonoscillatory solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Example 4.4.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\Delta \left( (n^3 - n)(6 + 3 \sin x_{n^2-6n} + 2 \cos x_{10n-6}) \Delta^2 \left( x_n + \frac{(-1)^{n^2-2}(n-4)}{6n+3} x_{n-\tau} \right) \right) \\
 &+ \Delta \left( \frac{(n-3)x_{n-4}x_{5n^2-7}}{(n^5 + n + 4)(x_{n-4}^2 + x_{5n^2-7}^2)} + \frac{\sin^3 x_{n-5}}{n^7(1 + x_{3n^3-9}^2)} \right) = \frac{(-1)^n(n^2 - 2)}{7n^{11}}, \quad n \geq 24,
 \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

where  $n_0 = 24$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 24, r = 2, k = 2, d = 9, D = 3, b = \frac{1}{5}, \beta = \min\{24 - \tau, 19\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{1n} &= n^2 - 6n, & a_{2n} &= 10n - 6, & f_{1n} &= n - 5, & f_{2n} &= 3n^3 - 9, \\
 h_{1n} &= n - 4, & h_{2n} &= 5n^2 - 7, & a(n, u, v) &= (n^3 - n)(6 + 3 \sin u + 2 \cos v), \\
 b_n &= \frac{(-1)^{n^2-2}(n-4)}{6n+3}, & c_n &= \frac{(-1)^n(n^2 - 2)}{7n^{11}}, & f(n, u, v) &= \frac{\sin^3 u}{n^7(1 + v^2)}, \\
 h(n, u, v) &= \frac{(n-3)uv}{(n^5 + n + 4)(u^2 + v^2)}, & a_n &= n^2, & P_n &= \frac{3}{n^7}, \\
 Q_n &= \frac{5}{n^4}, & (n, u, v) &\in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to get that (3.16), (3.38) and (3.39) hold. Theorem 3.4 ensures that Eq.(4.4) possesses uncountably many positive solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .



**Example 4.5.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta \left( n^3(9 + n|x_{7n-4}|) \Delta^2 \left( x_n + \frac{2 + e^n}{9 + 3e^n} x_{n-\tau} \right) \right) + \Delta \frac{\cos(3n - 1)}{(n + 2)^5 \sqrt{2 + 3|x_{n^2-16}|}} \\ &+ \frac{\sin(n^3 x_{n-2})}{n^8 + 3n^2} = \frac{n - \ln n}{n^{12} + 3n^4 + 3}, \quad n \geq 13, \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

where  $n_0 = 13$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 15$ ,  $r = 1$ ,  $k = 1$ ,  $d = -7$ ,  $D = 4$ ,  $b = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\beta = \min\{13 - \tau, 11\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1n} &= 7n - 4, \quad f_{1n} = n - 2, \quad h_{1n} = n^2 - 16, \quad a(n, u) = n^3(9 + n|u|), \\ b_n &= \frac{2 + e^n}{9 + 3e^n}, \quad c_n = \frac{n - \ln n}{n^{12} + 3n^4 + 3}, \quad f(n, u) = \frac{\sin(n^3 u)}{n^8 + 3n^2}, \\ h(n, u) &= \frac{\cos(3n - 1)}{(n + 2)^5 \sqrt{2 + 3|u|}}, \quad a_n = n^3, \quad P_n = \frac{10}{n^8}, \quad Q_n = \frac{16}{n^5}, \quad (n, u) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that (3.16), (3.40) and (3.41) hold. It follows from Theorem 3.5 that Eq.(4.5) possesses uncountably many negative solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Example 4.6.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta \left( n^2(2 + x_{(2n+1)^2}^2 - \sin x_{(2n+1)^2}) \Delta^2 \left( x_n + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}(2n^2 - n - 3)}{4n^2 + 9} x_{n-\tau} \right) \right) \\ &+ \Delta \frac{\sin(x_{7n}^4 x_{n^2-n+3}^5)}{n^5 + 4n^2 + 3} + \frac{x_{n-5} x_{10n-4} \cos(n^3 + 5)}{(n + 2)^{11}(x_{n-5}^2 + x_{10n-4}^2)} = \frac{(-1)^n n^3 + 6}{n^{10} + n + 1}, \quad n \geq 12, \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

where  $n_0 = 12$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 17$ ,  $r = 1$ ,  $k = 2$ ,  $d = 2$ ,  $D = 9$ ,  $b = \frac{3}{4}$ ,  $\beta = \min\{12 - \tau, 7\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1n} &= (2n + 1)^2, \quad f_{1n} = n - 5, \quad f_{2n} = 10n - 4, \quad h_{1n} = 7n, \quad h_{2n} = n^2 - n + 3, \\ a(n, u) &= n^2(2 + u^2 - \sin u), \quad b_n = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}(2n^2 - n - 3)}{4n^2 + 9}, \quad c_n = \frac{(-1)^n n^3 + 6}{n^{10} + n + 1}, \\ f(n, u, v) &= \frac{uv \cos(n^3 + 5)}{(n + 2)^{11}(u^2 + v^2)}, \quad h(n, u, v) = \frac{\sin(u^4 v^5)}{n^5 + 4n^2 + 3}, \\ a_n &= n^2, \quad P_n = \frac{3}{n^{11}}, \quad Q_n = \frac{7}{n^5}, \quad (n, u, v) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}^2. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to show that (3.2), (3.16) and (3.42) hold. It follows from Theorem 3.6 that Eq.(4.6) possesses uncountably many solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

**Example 4.7.** Consider the third order nonlinear difference equation with neutral delay

$$\begin{aligned} &\Delta \left( (n^3 - 5n + 3)(1 + \sin^2 x_{3n+2}) \Delta^2 \left( x_n + \frac{(-1)^n(8n^4 - 3n + 5)}{n^4 + n + 7} x_{n-\tau} \right) \right) \\ &+ \Delta \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(n + 1)^8(2 + \cos x_{n-5}^2)} + \frac{n^2 \sin(n^3 x_{n^2-1}^9)}{n^{13} + 4n^2 + 1} = \frac{7\sqrt{n^4 - 2}}{n^{12}(1 + e^n)}, \quad n \geq 20, \end{aligned} \tag{4.7}$$

where  $n_0 = 20$  and  $\tau \in \mathbb{N}$  is fixed. Let  $n_1 = 20$ ,  $r = 1$ ,  $k = 1$ ,  $d = \pm 4$ ,  $D = 9$ ,  $b_* = 6$ ,  $\beta = \min\{20 - \tau, 15\} \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{1n} &= 3n + 2, \quad f_{1n} = n^2 - 1, \quad h_{1n} = n - 5, \quad a(n, u) = (n^3 - 5n + 3)(1 + \sin^2 u), \\ b_n &= \frac{(-1)^n(8n^4 - 3n + 5)}{n^4 + n + 7}, \quad c_n = \frac{7\sqrt{n^4 - 2}}{n^{12}(1 + e^n)}, \quad f(n, u) = \frac{n^2 \sin(n^3 u^9)}{n^{13} + 4n^2 + 1}, \\ h(n, u) &= \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(n + 1)^8(2 + \cos u^2)}, \quad a_n = n^2, \quad P_n = \frac{5}{n^{11}}, \quad Q_n = \frac{10}{n^8}, \quad (n, u) \in \mathbb{N}_{n_0} \times \mathbb{R}. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that (3.2), (3.16) and (3.43) hold. Theorem 3.7 ensures that Eq.(4.7) possesses uncountably many solutions in  $A(\{d_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}_\beta}, D)$ .

## Acknowledgements

This research was supported by the Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) funded by the Ministry of Science, ICT & Future Planning (2013R1A1A2057665).

## References

- [1] R. P. Agarwal, S. R. Grace, *Oscillation of certain third-Order difference equations*, Comput. Math. Appl., **42** (2001), 379–384.1, 1
- [2] R. P. Agarwal, J. Henderson, *Positive solutions and nonlinear eigenvalue problems for third-Order difference equations*, Comput. Math. Appl., **36** (1998), 347–355.
- [3] J. F. Cheng, *Existence of a nonoscillatory solution of a second-order linear neutral difference equation*, Appl. Math. Lett., **20** (2007), 892–899.1
- [4] S. S. Cheng, W. T. Patual, *An existence theorem for a nonlinear difference equation*, Nonlinear Anal., **20** (1993), 193–203.2.1
- [5] L. H. Erbe, Q. K. Kong, B. G. Zhang, *Oscillatory theorem for functional differential equations*, Dekker, (1995). 2.2, 2.3
- [6] L. J. Kong, Q. K. Kong, B. G. Zhang, *Positive solutions of boundary value problems for third-order functional difference equations*, Comput. Math. Appl., **44** (2002), 481–489.
- [7] W. Lu, W. G. Ge, Z. H. Zhao, *Oscillatory criteria for third-order nonlinear difference equation with impulses*, Comput. Math. Appl., **234** (2010), 3366–3372.
- [8] Z. Liu, M. Jia, S. M. Kang, Y. C. Kwun, *Bounded positive solutions for a third order discrete equation*, Abst. Appl. Anal., **2012** (2012), 12 pages.1
- [9] Z. Liu, Y. Lu, S. M. Kang, Y. C. Kwun, *Positive solutions and Mann iterative algorithms for a nonlinear three-dimensional difference system*, Abst. Appl. Anal., **2014** (2014), 23 pages.
- [10] Z. Liu, W. Sun, J. S. Ume, S. M. Kang, *Positive solutions of a second order nonlinear neutral delay difference equation*, Abst. Appl. Anal., **2012** (2012), 30 pages.
- [11] Z. Liu, Y. G. Xu, S. M. Kang, *Bounded oscillation criteria for certain third order nonlinear difference equations with several delays and advances*, Comput. Math. Appl., **61** (2011), 1145–1161.
- [12] Z. Liu, X. P. Zhang, S. M. Kang, Y. C. Kwun, *On positive solutions of a fourth order nonlinear neutral delay difference equation*, Abst. Appl. Anal., **2014** (2014), 29 pages.
- [13] Z. Liu, L. S. Zhao, J. S. Ume, S. M. Kang, *Solvability of a second order nonlinear neutral delay difference equation*, Abst. Appl. Anal., **2011** (2011), 24 pages.1
- [14] N. Parhi, *Non-oscillation of solutions of difference equations of third order*, Comput. Math. Appl., **62** (2011), 3812–3820.
- [15] N. Parhi, A. Panda, *Nonoscillation and oscillation of solutions of a class of third order difference equations*, J. Math. Anal. Appl., **336** (2007), 213–223.
- [16] J. Yan, B. Liu, *Asymptotic behavior of a nonlinear delay difference equation*, Appl. Math. Lett., **8** (1995), 1–5.1, 1, 1