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NONLINEAR DEGENERATED ELLIPTIC EQUATION HAVING LOWER ORDER TERM IN WEIGHTED ORLICZ-SOBOLEV SPACES AND L^1 DATA

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Abstract. The paper deals with the existence of solutions for a nonlinear degenerated equation in divergence form having lower order term, this problem is associated to elliptic operators in the framework of weighted orlicz-Sobolev spaces and L^1 data.

Keywords: degenerated elliptic equation; orlicz-Sobolev spaces; compact embedding; truncations.

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1. Introduction

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ be a bounded domain, and M, P two N -functions such that $P \ll M$, $\overline{M}, \overline{P}$ be the complementary functions of M, P , respectively. In this article, we prove the existence of solution for quasilinear degenerate elliptic equations of the form :

$$(1) \quad -\operatorname{div}(\rho(x)a(x, u, \nabla u)) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u) = f,$$

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where $A(u) = -div(\rho(x)a(x, u, \nabla u)) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$ is a Leray-Lions operator defined on $D(A) \subset W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$.

$a : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ and $a_0 : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ are Carathéodorys functions satisfying some natural growth conditions with respect to u and ∇u and the degenerate ellipticity condition

$$a_0(x, s, \xi)\eta + \rho(x)a(x, s, \xi)\xi \geq \lambda_0[M(\lambda_1 s) + \rho(x)M(\lambda_2 |\xi|)].$$

The source term f is supposed in $L^1(\Omega)$. In no degenerate case Gossez [12] solved(1.1) with $f \in W^{-1}E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega)$. An existence theorem have been proved by Benkirane and Elmahi [6,8] with $f \in W^{-1}E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega)$ and $f \in L^1(\Omega)$, respectively, but the result is restricted to N -functions M satisfying a Δ_2 condition. An other work in this direction can be found in [9] in non-weighted case. So for our nonlinear operator $A(u) = -div(\rho(x)a(x, u, \nabla u)) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$, with coefficients are singular or degenerated the classic ellipticity conditions are violated one has to change the classical approach introducing weighted spaces. The case where $f \in W^{-1}E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$, and $A(u) = -div(a(x, u, \nabla u)) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$ is treated in [3] by using the framework of pseudo-monotones operator in complementary systems introduced by Gossez. Note that this type of equations can be applied in sciences physics. Non-standard example of $M(t)$ which occur in the mechanics of solids and Fluids are $M(t) = t \log(1 + t)$. Note that the use of the truncation operator in (1.1) is justified by the fact that the the solution does not in general belong to $L^\infty(\Omega)$ for $f \in L^1(\Omega)$. Specific examples to which our results apply include :

$$\begin{aligned} -div(\rho(x)|\nabla u|^{p-2}\nabla u) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ -div(\rho(x)|\nabla u|^{p-2}\nabla u \log^\beta(1 + |\nabla u|)) &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ -div \frac{\rho(x)M(|\nabla u|)\nabla u}{|\nabla u|^2} &= f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \end{aligned}$$

where $p > 1$, f is function in $L^1(\Omega)$ and ρ is a given weight function on Ω .

2. Preliminaries

In this section we present, some definitions and well-known about N -functions, weighted Orlicz-Sobolev spaces (standard references are in [1], [5] and [8]).

2.1. The N- functions

Let $M : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ be an N- function, ie. M is continuous, convex, with $M(t) > 0$ for $t > 0$, $M(t)/t \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow 0$ and $\frac{M(t)}{t} \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Equivalently. M admits the representation:

$$M(t) = \int_0^t m(\tau)d\tau,$$

where $m : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is non-decreasing right continuous, with $m(0) = 0$, $m(t) > 0$ for $t > 0$ and $m(t) \rightarrow \infty$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ The N-function \bar{M} conjugate to M defined by

$$\bar{M}(t) = \int_0^t \bar{m}(\tau)d\tau,$$

where $\bar{m} : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is given bay $\bar{m}(t) = \sup \{s : m(s) \leq t\}$. Clearly $\bar{\bar{M}} = M$ and has young's inequality $st \leq M(t) + \bar{M}(s)$ for all $s, t \geq 0$.

It is well known that we can assume that m and \bar{m} are continuous and strictly increasing. We will extend the N-functions into even function on all \mathbb{R} . The N-function M is said to satisfy the Δ_2 -condition every where (resp. infinity) if there exist $k > 0$ (resp. $t_0 > 0$) such that, $M(2t) \leq kM(t)$ for all $t \geq 0$ (resp. $t \geq t_0$).

2.2. Orlicz-Sobolev spaces

Let Ω be a open subset of \mathbb{R}^N , and let M be an N-function. The Orlicz classe $K_M(\Omega)$ (resp the Orlicz spaces $L_M(\Omega)$) is the set of all (equivalence classes modulo equality a.e.in Ω of) real-valued measurable functions u defined in Ω and satisfying $\int_{\Omega} M(u(x))dx < \infty$ (resp) $\int_{\Omega} M(\frac{|u(x)|}{\lambda})dx < \infty$ for some $\lambda > 0$.

$L_M(\Omega)$ is a Banach space under the Luxemburg's norm:

$$\|u\|_{M,\Omega} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \int_{\Omega} M\left(\frac{|u(x)|}{\lambda}\right)dx \leq 1 \right\}. \tag{2.1}$$

The closure in $L_M(\Omega)$ of the set of bounded measurable function with compact support in $\bar{\Omega}$ is denoted by $E_M(\Omega)$. We have $E_M(\Omega) \subset K_M(\Omega) \subset L_M(\Omega)$). The equality $L_M(\Omega) = E_M(\Omega)$ hold if and only if M satisfies the Δ_2 -condition, for all t or for t large according to whether Ω has a infinite measure or note. The dual of $E_M(\Omega)$ can be identified with $L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ by means of the pairing $\int_{\Omega} u(x)v(x)dx$ where $u \in L_M(\Omega)$ and $v \in L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ and the dual norm on $L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ is

equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_{\overline{M},\Omega}$.

The space $L_M(\Omega)$ is reflexive if and only if M and \overline{M} satisfy the Δ_2 -condition for all t or for t large, according to whether Ω be infinite measure or not.

We return now to the Orlicz-Sobolev spaces $W^1L_M(\Omega)$ (resp $W^1E_M(\Omega)$) is the space of all function u such that u and its distributional derivatives up to order 1 lies in $\in L_M(\Omega)$ (resp $\in E_M(\Omega)$).

It's Banach space under the norm

$$\|u\|_{1,M} = \sum_{|\alpha|\leq 1} \|D^\alpha u\|_{M,\Omega}. \tag{2.2}$$

Thus $W^1L_M(\Omega)$ and $W^1E_M(\Omega)$ can be identified with subspaces of $\prod L_M$ we have the weak topology $\sigma(\prod L_M, \prod E_{\overline{M}})$ and $\sigma(\prod L_M, \prod L_{\overline{M}})$.

The space $W^1_0E_M(\Omega)$ (resp $W^1_0L_M(\Omega)$) is defined by the closure of $D(\Omega)$ in $W^1E_M(\Omega)$ (resp $W^1L_M(\Omega)$) for the norm 2.2 (resp for the topology $\sigma(\prod L_M, \prod E_{\overline{M}})$).

Definition 2.1 The sequence u_n converges to u in $L_M(\Omega)$ for the modular convergence (denoted by $u_n \rightarrow u \text{ (mod) } L_M(\Omega)$) if $\int_{\Omega} M(\frac{|u_n - u|}{\lambda}) dx \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for some $\lambda > 0$.

2.3. Weighted Orlicz-Sobolev spaces

Now we shall work with weighted Orlicz spaces in the following sense. Let Ω be a domain in \mathbb{R}^N , and let M be an N-fonction and ρ be a weight function on Ω , ie .measurable positive a.e on Ω . The weighted Orlicz classe $K_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp the weighted Orlicz space $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$) is the set of all (equivalence classes modulo equality a.e.in Ω) of real-valued mesurable functions u defined in Ω and satisfying

$$m_\rho(u, M) = \int_{\Omega} M(|u(x)|)\rho(x)dx < \infty$$

(resp)

$$m_\rho(\frac{u}{\lambda}, M) = \int_{\Omega} M(\frac{|u(x)|}{\lambda})\rho(x)dx < \infty \text{ for some } \lambda > 0$$

$L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ is a Banach space under the Luxemburg's norm:

$$\|u\|_{M,\rho} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0; m_\rho(\frac{u}{\lambda}, M) \leq 1 \right\}. \tag{2.3}$$

The closure in $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ of the set of bounded measurable function with compact support in $\overline{\Omega}$ is denoted by $E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ we have

$$E_M(\Omega, \rho) \subset K_M(\Omega, \rho) \subset L_M(\Omega, \rho).$$

The equality $L_M(\Omega, \rho) = E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ hold if and only if M satisfies the Δ_2 -condition, for all t or for t large according to whether Ω has a infinite measure or note. The dual of $E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ can be identified with $L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$ by means of the pairing

$$\int_{\Omega} u(x)v(x)\rho(x)dx$$

where $u \in L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ and $v \in L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$. The dual norm on $L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$ is equivalent to $\|\cdot\|_{\overline{M}, \Omega}$.

Giving birth to the so called Orlicz norm on $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ defined by

$$\|u\|_{(M, \rho)} = \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} f(x)g(x)\rho(x)dx; m_{\rho}(g, \overline{M}) \leq 1 \right\}$$

The space $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ is reflexive if and only if M an \overline{M} satisfy the Δ_2 -condition for all t or for t large, according to weighted Ω be infinite measure or note.

We return now to the weighted Orlicz-Sobolev spaces $W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp $W^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$) is the space of all function u such that $u \in L_M(\Omega)$ (resp $u \in E_M(\Omega)$) and its distributional derivatives up to order 1 lie in $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp in $E_M(\Omega, \rho)$).

It's Banach space under the norm :

$$\|u\|_{1, M, \rho} = \|u\|_M + \|\nabla u\|_{M, \rho}. \tag{2.4}$$

where $\|u\|_M = \|u\|_{M, \Omega}$.

Thus $W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ and $W^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ can be identified with subspaces of $\prod L_{M, \rho} = L_M \times \prod L_M(\Omega, \rho)$

we have the weak topology $\sigma(\prod L_{M, \rho}, \prod E_{\overline{M}, \rho})$ and $\sigma(\prod L_{M, \rho}, \prod L_{\overline{M}, \rho})$.

The space $W_0^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp $W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$) is defined by the closure of $D(\Omega)$ in $W^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp $W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$) for the norm (2.4) (resp for the topology $\sigma(\prod L_{M, \rho}, \prod E_{\overline{M}, \rho})$).

The space $W_0^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ is defined as the (norm) closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega, \rho)$ in $W^1E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ and the space $W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ as the $\sigma(\prod L_M, \prod E_{\overline{M}})$ closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ in $W^1L_M(\Omega)$.

Let $W^{-1}L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp. $W^{-1}E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$) denote the space of distributions on which can be written as sums of derivatives of order ≤ 1 of functions in $L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp. $E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)$). It is a

Banach space under the usual quotient norm (see). If the open set Ω has the segment property, then the space $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ is dense in $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$ for the modular convergence and thus for the topology $\sigma(\Pi L_M, \Pi L_{\bar{M}})$.

Definition 2.3.1 The sequence u_n converges to u in $W^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ for the modular convergence (denoted by $u_n \rightarrow u \pmod{W^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)}$) if for some $\lambda > 0$ $\int_{\Omega} M\left(\frac{|u_n - u|}{\lambda}\right) dx \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $\int_{\Omega} M\left(\frac{|D^\alpha(u_n - u)|}{\lambda}\right) \rho(x) dx \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ for $|\alpha| = 1$.

3. Basic assumptions and fundamental lemmas

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ be a bounded domain, M, P be two N -functions such that $P \ll M$, \bar{M}, \bar{P} be the complementary functions of M, P , respectively, $A : D(A) \subset W_0^1 L_M(\Omega) \rightarrow W^{-1} L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ be a mapping given by $A(u) = -\operatorname{div} a(x, u, \nabla u)$ where $a : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ be a Caratheodory function satisfying for a.e. $x \in \Omega$ and all $s \in \mathbb{R}$, $\xi, \eta \in \mathbb{R}^N$ with $\xi \neq \eta$ The following lemmas will be applied to the truncation operators, and concerns operators of the Nemytskii type in Orlicz spaces.

Lemma 3.1 Let $f_n, f \in L^1(\Omega)$ such that

- (1) $f_n \geq 0$ a.e. in Ω .
- (2) $f_n \rightarrow f$ a.e. in Ω .
- (3) $\int_{\Omega} f_n(x) dx \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} f(x) dx$

Then $f_n \rightarrow f$ strongly in $L^1(\Omega)$.

Lemma 3.2 Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be uniformly lipschitzian, with $F(0) = 0$. Let M be an N -function and let $u \in W^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp. $W^1 E_M(\Omega, \rho)$). Then $F(u) \in W^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (resp. $W^1 E_M(\Omega, \rho)$). Moreover, if the set of discontinuity points of F' is finite, then

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} F(u) = \begin{cases} F'(u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} & \text{a.e. in } \{x \in \Omega : u(x) \notin D\} \\ 0 & \text{a.e. in } \{x \in \Omega : u(x) \in D\}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. First consider de case $F \in C^1$ and let $W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$. Then there exist a sequence $u_n \in D(\Omega)$ such that $u_n \rightarrow u$ (mod) $W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$. Passing to subsequence, we can assume that $D^\alpha u_n \rightarrow D^\alpha u \quad \forall |\alpha| \leq 1$ a.e. in Ω . From the relation $|F(s)| \leq k|s|$, where k denote the lipschitz constant for F , and $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} F(u_n) = F'(u_n) \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial x_i}$, we deduce that $F(u_n)$ remains bounded in $W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$. Thus going to to a further subsequence, we obtain $F(u_n) \rightarrow w \in W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ for $\sigma(\Pi L_M, \Pi E_{\overline{M}})$, and also by a local application of the compact imbedding theorem, $F(u_n) \rightarrow w$ a.e. in Ω . Consequently $w = F(u)$, and $F(u) \in W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$. Finally, by the usual chain rule for weak derivatives

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} F(u) = F'(u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \tag{2.5}$$

a.e. in Ω . For the general case. Taking convolution with the mollifiers, we get a sequence $F_n \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ such that $F_n \rightarrow F$ uniformly on each compact, $F_n(0) = 0$ and $|F'_n| \leq k$. For each n, $F_n \in W_0^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$, and we have (2.5) with F replaced by F_n . Finally (2.5) follows from the generalized chain rule for weak derivatives.

Lemma 3.3 *Let $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be uniformly lipschitzian, with $F(0) = 0$. We suppose that the set of discontinuity points of F' is finite. Let M be an N -function, then the mapping $F : W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho) \rightarrow W^1L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ is sequentially continuous with respect to the weak* topology $\sigma(\Pi L_M, \Pi E_{\overline{M}})$.*

We use also the following technical lemmas:

Lemma 3.4 *If a sequence u_n converge a.e to u and if u_n remains bonded in $L_M(\Omega)$, then $u \in L_M(\Omega)$ and $u_n \rightarrow u$ for $\sigma(L_M(\Omega), E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega))$*

Lemma 3.5 *If a sequence u_n converge a.e to u and if u_n remains bonded in $L_M(\Omega, \rho)$, then $u \in L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ and $u_n \rightarrow u$ for $\sigma(L_M(\Omega, \rho), E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))$*

Lemma 3.6 *Let Ω be an open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with finite measure. Let M, P and Q be N -functions such that $Q \ll P$, and let F be a Carathéodorys function such that, for a.e. $x \in \Omega$ and all $s \in \mathbb{R}$*

$$|F(x, s)| \leq c(x) + k_1 P^{-1} M(k_2 |s|),$$

where k_1, k_2 are real constants and $c(x) \in E_Q(\Omega)$. Then the Nemytskii operator N_F defined by $NF(u)(x) = F(x, u(x))$ is strongly continuous from

$$P(E_M(\Omega), \frac{1}{k_2}) = \{u \in L_M : d(u, E_M(\Omega)) < \frac{1}{k_2}\}$$

into $E_Q(\Omega)$.

Lemma 3.7 *If the sequence $u_n \in E_M(\Omega, \rho)$ Converges a.e in Ω with $\rho \in L^1(\Omega)$, and the norms are uniformly Absolutely Continuous, i.e. for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there existe $\delta > 0$ such that*

$$\|u_n \chi(E)\|_{M,\rho} < \varepsilon$$

for all n , and $E \subset \Omega$ With $|E| < \delta$, then it Converge in norm in $E_M(\Omega, \rho)$.

3.1. Compactness results

Let Ω an bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with locally-lipscitzien boundary, ρ a weight function, and the N-function M such that the assumptions **(H)** are satisfied, there is a real $s > 0$ such that:

(H_1) : $(M(t))^{\frac{s}{s+1}}$ be N -function and that $\rho^{-s} \in L^1(\Omega)$

(H_2) : $\int_1^\infty \frac{t}{M(t)^{1+\frac{s}{N(s+1)}}} dM(t) = \infty$.

(H_3) : $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{M^{-1}(t)} \int_0^t \frac{M^{-1}(u)}{u^{1+\frac{s}{N(s+1)}}} du = 0$.

Remark 3.1.1 In the particular case where $M(t) = \frac{t^p}{p}$ ($1 < p < \infty$), the first part of (H_1) is satisfied if $s > \frac{1}{p-1}$.

Theorem 3.1.2(see [2, theorem 9-5]). *Let Ω an bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with locally lipscitzian boundary and M an N -function.*

*Suppose that assumptions **(H)** are satisfied. So we have the following compact injection:*

$$W^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho) \hookrightarrow E_M$$

Theorem 3.1.2 *Let Ω an bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with locally-lipscitzien boundary, ρ a weight function, and M a N -function, let $u \in W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$ then:*

$$\|u\|_M \leq c \|\nabla u\|_{M,\rho}$$

where c is a positive constant which imply that $\|\nabla u\|_{M,\rho}$ is a equivalent norm of $\|u\|_{1,M}$ in $W_0^1 L_{M,\rho}$

Proof. Under the assumption **(H)**, the Sobolev conjugate N-function M_s^* of M_s is well defined, by $M_s^{*-1} = \int_0^s \frac{M^{-1}(t)}{t^{1+\frac{1}{N}}} dt$ we have $W_0^1 L_{M_s} \subset L_{M_s^*}$. And since $M \ll M_s^*$ we have $L_{M_s^*} \subset L_M$ hence

$$\|u\|_M \leq c_1 \|u\|_{M_s^*} \leq c_2 \|u\|_{1, M_s}$$

where c_1 and c_2 are two positives constants, by (gossez74) their exist a positive constant c' such

$$\|u\|_{1, M_s} \leq c' \|\nabla u\|_{M_s}$$

We well show that

$$\|\nabla u\|_{M_s} \leq c \|\nabla u\|_{M, \rho}$$

For that we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|v\|_{M_s} &\leq \int_{\Omega} M_s(v(x)) dx + 1 = \int_{\Omega} M_s(v(x)) \frac{1}{\rho(x)} \rho(x) dx + 1 \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega} S(M_s(v(x))) \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \bar{S}\left(\frac{1}{\rho(x)}\right) \rho(x) dx + 2 \\ &= \int_{\Omega} M(v(x)) \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \rho^{-s}(x) dx + 1 \end{aligned}$$

witch implies that

$$\|v\|_{M_s} \leq c \|v\|_{M, \rho}$$

for some positive constant C .

In fact if is not true, then there exist a sequence v_n such that $\|v_n\|_{M_s} \rightarrow \infty$ and for n large, $\|v_n\|_{M, \rho} \leq 1$. Hence, for n sufficiently large we get

$$\int_{\Omega} M(v_n(x)) \rho(x) dx \leq \|v_n\|_{M, \rho} \leq 1$$

then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|v_n\|_{M_s} &\leq \int_{\Omega} M(v(x)) \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} \rho^{-s}(x) dx + 1 \\ &\leq \|v_n\|_{M, \rho} + \int_{\Omega} \rho^{-s}(x) dx + 1 \end{aligned}$$

witch is contradiction, since the left hand-side tends to infinity while the right hand-side is bonded. Finally taking $v = \nabla u$ we conclude the result. The following lemma is a immediate consequence of the above theorem.

Lemma 3.1.3. *Let Ω an bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with locally-lipschitzien boundary, ρ a weight function, and M a N -function M let $u \in W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$. Then there exist positives constants c_1 and c_2 such that*

$$\int_{\Omega} M(|u(x)|)dx \leq c_1 \int_{\Omega} M(|c_2 \nabla u(x)|)\rho(x)dx$$

4. Main results

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ be a bounded domain, M, P be two N -functions such that $P \ll M$, \bar{M}, \bar{P} be the complementary functions of M, P , respectively, $A : D(A) \subset W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho) \rightarrow W^{-1} L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega \rho)$ be a mapping (not everywhere defined) given by $A(u) = -\operatorname{div}(\rho(x)a(x, u, \nabla u)) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$ where $a : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ and $a_0 : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ are Carathéodorys functions satisfying for a.e. $x \in \Omega$ and all $s \in \mathbb{R}, \xi, \eta \in \mathbb{R}^N$ with $\xi \neq \eta$:

$$|a_0(x, s, \xi)| \leq K_0[g_0(x) + \bar{M}^{-1}M(\alpha_2 \eta) + \bar{M}^{-1}(\rho(x)P(\alpha_1|\xi|))] \tag{4.1}$$

$$|a(x, s, \xi)| \leq C_0(x) + K_1 \bar{P}^{-1}(\rho^{-1}M(\alpha_2 s)) + K_2 \bar{M}^{-1}M(\alpha_1|\xi|) \tag{4.2}$$

$$[a(x, s, \xi) - a(x, s, \eta)][\xi - \eta] > 0 \tag{4.3}$$

$$a_0(x, s, \xi)\eta + \rho(x)a(x, s, \xi)\xi \geq \lambda_0[M(\lambda_1 s) + \rho(x)M(\lambda_2|\xi|)] \tag{4.4}$$

where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, K_0, K_1, K_2, \lambda_0, \lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0$, $K_0(x)$ in $L_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ and $C_0(x)$ in $(E_{\bar{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$
 Let T_k the truncation operator at height $k > 0$, defined by $T_k(s) = \max(-k, \min(k, s))$, $\forall s \in \mathbb{R}$, for all $k \geq 0$.

And consider the following nonlinear elliptic problem with Dirichlet boundary condition.

$$A(u) = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \tag{4.5}$$

Finally, we assume that

$$f \in L^1(\Omega) \tag{4.6}$$

In the next section, we will prove the following main result.

Theorem 4.1. Let Ω an bounded open subset of \mathbb{R}^N with locally lipscitzian boundary, assume that (4.1)-(4.4) holds, and $f \in \mathcal{L}^1(\Omega)$. Then there exists at least one weak solution of the problem

$$\begin{cases} u \in W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho), & * \\ \int_{\Omega} a(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla v \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} a_0(x, u, \nabla u) v dx = \langle f, v \rangle, & * \\ \forall v \in W_0^1 E_M(\Omega, \rho) \cap L^\infty(\Omega), & * \end{cases} \quad (4.7)$$

Proof.

Step 1. Approximation problem and a priori estimate.

Let consider the sequence of approximate equations:

$$\begin{cases} u_n \in W_0^1 L_M(\Omega), & * \\ -\operatorname{div}(\rho(x) a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)) + a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) = f_n, & * \end{cases} \quad (4.8)$$

where f_n is a smooth function which converges to f in $L^1(\Omega)$ and $\|f_n\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq c_0$. For n fixed by [Theorem 3.1] in [3], there exists at least one solution $\{u_n\}$ to (4.8).

For $k > 0$, by taking $T_k(u_n)$ as test function in (4.8), one has

$$\int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n) \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n) dx = \langle f_n, T_k(u_n) \rangle .$$

In view of the degenerate ellipticity condition (4.4), and the fact that $\|f_n\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq c_0$ we get

$$\int_{\Omega} M(\lambda_2 |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) \rho(x) dx \leq \frac{c_0 k}{\lambda_0} \quad (4.9)$$

Thanks to Lemma 3.8, there exist two constants c_1 and c_2 such that

$$\int_{\Omega} M(|v(x)|) dx \leq c_1 \int_{\Omega} M(|c_2 \nabla v(x)|) \rho(x) dx$$

Taking $v = \frac{\lambda_2 T_k(u_n)}{c_2}$, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} M\left(\frac{\lambda_2 |T_k(u_n)|}{c_2}\right) dx \leq \frac{c_1 c_0 k}{\lambda_0} \quad (4.10)$$

which imply that

$$\operatorname{mes}\{|u_n| \geq k\} \leq \frac{c_1 c_0 k}{\lambda_0 M\left(\frac{k \lambda_2}{c_2}\right)}$$

And using $\frac{t}{M(t)} \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ hence $\operatorname{mes}\{|u_n| \geq k\} \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow +\infty$. for $\delta > 0$ we have :

$$\operatorname{mes}\{|u_n - u_m| > \delta\} \leq \operatorname{mes}\{|u_n| \geq k\} + \operatorname{mes}\{|u_m| \geq k\} + \operatorname{mes}\{|u_n - u_m| > \delta\}$$

by (4.9) $T_k(u_n)$ is bounded in $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$, then their exist $\ell_k \in W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ such $T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup \ell_k$ weakly in $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ (for a subsequence still denoted $T_k(u_n)$) thus $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ their exist $k(\varepsilon) > 0$ mes $\{|u_n - u_m| > \delta\} \leq \varepsilon$ for $n, m \geq n_0(k(\varepsilon), \delta)$

This proves that u_n is a cauchy sequence in measure, then there exists some measurable function u such that

$$u_n \rightarrow u \text{ almost everywhere in } \Omega \tag{4.11}$$

Then

$$T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup T_k(u) \text{ weakly in } W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho) \text{ for } \sigma \left(\Pi L_{M,\rho}, \Pi E_{\overline{M},\rho} \right) \tag{4.12}$$

And by theorem 3.1.1 we deduce that

$$T_k(u_n) \rightarrow T_k(u) \text{ strongly in } E_M(\Omega) \tag{4.13}$$

Step 2. boundedness of $a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$ and $a_0(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$.

In this step we will shows that $a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$ remains bounded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$. We will use the Orlicz norm. For that, let $\psi \in (L_M(\Omega))^N$ with $\|\psi\|_M \leq 1$. In fact, by the monotonicity condition (4.2) we have

$$\int_{\Omega} [a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, T_k(u_n), \psi)] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \psi] \rho(x) dx \geq 0$$

So that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \psi \rho(x) dx &\leq \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n) \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \psi) \nabla T_k(u_n) \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \psi) \psi \rho(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

And by (4.8) we have:

$$\int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n) \rho(x) dx \leq c_0 k$$

To estimate the seconde the tiered terms we us Yuong inequality hence

$$\int_{\Omega} a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \psi \rho(x) dx \leq c_0 k + 2 \int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{|a(x, T_k(u_n), \psi)|}{r} \right) \rho(x) dx$$

$$+ \int_{\Omega} M(r |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} M(r |\psi|) \rho(x) dx$$

where $r > 0$ using the growth conditions (4.1) and the fact that $P \ll M$ we conclude for r large and ε small, that

$$\int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{|a(x, T_k(u_n), \psi)|}{r} \right) \rho(x) dx \leq \frac{1}{r} \int_{\Omega} \overline{M}(C_0(x)) \rho(x) dx$$

$$+ \frac{\varepsilon K_1}{r} \int_{\Omega} M(\alpha_2 T_k(u_n)) dx$$

$$+ \frac{K_2}{r} \int_{\Omega} M(\alpha_1 |\psi|) dx + K'_\varepsilon$$

since $T_k(u_n)$ is bounded in $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega, \rho)$ and ψ is bounded in $(L_M(\Omega))^N$ we get

$$\int_{\Omega} \overline{M}(|a(x, T_k(u_n)), \psi|) \rho(x) dx \leq C_k$$

for all $\psi \in (L_M(\Omega))^N$ with $\|\psi\|_M \leq 1$

Therefore, we deduce that $a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$ remains bounded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$

Let now prove that $a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)$ is bounded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega))^N$.

First using growth conditions (4.1) it follows that for λ large

$$\int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{|a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{2}{\lambda} k_0 |g_0(x)| \right) dx$$

$$+ \frac{k_0}{\lambda} \int_{\Omega} M(\alpha_2 u_n) dx$$

$$+ \frac{k_0}{\lambda} \int_{\Omega} P(\alpha_1 |\nabla u_n|) \rho(x) dx$$

Since $P \ll M$ then for large λ and ε small we get

$$\int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \overline{M} \left(\frac{2}{\lambda} k_0 |g_0(x)| \right) dx$$

$$+ \frac{k_0}{\lambda} \int_{\Omega} M(\alpha_2 u_n) dx + \frac{k_0}{\lambda} \int_{\Omega} M(\varepsilon |\nabla u_n|) \rho(x) dx + \frac{k_\varepsilon}{\lambda}$$

$$\leq 1$$

for some positive constant k_ε , which implies that $a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)$ is bounded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega))^N$

Remark 4.2 we can easily shows as in [3] that $a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)$ remains bounded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$

Step 3. Almost everywhere convergence of the gradient.

In this step we prove that $\nabla u_n \rightarrow \nabla u$ a.e in Ω for a subsequence. For $k > 0$, and n fixed we take $v_n = T_k(u_n) - T_k(u)$ as test function in (4.8) one has :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f_n, v_n \rangle &= \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) (T_k(u_n) - T_k(u)) dx \end{aligned} \tag{4.14}$$

let $\Omega_r = \{x \in \Omega / |\nabla T_k(u_n)| \leq r\}$, and let χ_r denoted the characteristic functions of the sets Ω_r hens $\Omega_r \subset \Omega_{r+1}$ and $|\Omega_r \setminus \Omega_{r+1}| \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow +\infty$ for hat fix $r > 0$ and let $s > r$, by the monotonicity condition (4.2) we get :

$$\int_{\Omega_r} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) dx \geq 0 \tag{4.15}$$

$$\int_{\Omega_s} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) dx \geq 0 \tag{4.16}$$

Then

$$\int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \chi_s \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \chi_s \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) dx \geq 0 \tag{4.17}$$

On the other hand let consider :

$$\langle Bu_n, v_n \rangle = \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) dx$$

We can see that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Bu_n, v_n \rangle &= \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s \rho(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Bu_n, v_n \rangle &= \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s)] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n))] \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u) \chi_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} \rho(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n) \chi_s) [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

Which can be writhed as

$$\langle Bu_n, v_n \rangle = I_n - I_n^1 - I_n^2 + I_n^3 \quad (4.18)$$

where:

$$I_n = \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s)] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx$$

$$I_n^1 = \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n))] \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$$

$$I_n^2 = \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u) \chi_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} \rho(x) dx$$

$$I_n^3 = \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n) \chi_s) [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx$$

In the following we will show this intermediate lemma.

Lemma 4.1.1 *Let I_n^1 , I_n^2 and I_n^3 as above we have:*

- (i) $I_n^1 \rightarrow 0$
- (ii) $I_n^2 \rightarrow \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} h \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$
- (iii) $I_n^3 \rightarrow \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} a(x, u, 0) \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$

(2)

Proof of (i):

First we can write

$$I_n^1 = \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla(u_n)) - a(x, u, 0)] \chi_{G_n} \chi_s \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$$

where: $G_n = \{x \in \Omega; |u_n(x)| > k\}$ we have

$$M(|\chi_{G_n} \chi_s \nabla T_k(u)|) \rho(x) \leq M(|\nabla T_k(u) \chi_s|) \rho(x) \in L^1(\Omega)$$

and we have $u_n(x) \rightarrow u(x)$ a.e in Ω hence if $|u(x)| < k$ then for n large $|u_n(x)| < k$. which implies that

$$|\nabla T_k(u)| \chi_{G_n} \chi_s \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.e in } \Omega$$

then By Lebesgue theorem we deduce that

$$M(|\nabla T_k(u)| \chi_{G_n} \chi_s) \rho(x) \rightarrow 0$$

Thus $\chi_s \chi_{G_n} \nabla T_k(u) \rightarrow 0$ strongly in $(E_M(\Omega, \rho))^N$ and since $a(x, u_n, \nabla(u_n))$ and $a(x, u, 0)$ are bonded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$ we obtain $I_n^1 \rightarrow 0$.

Proof of (ii):

We have $a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n))$ is bonded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$, by the lemma 3.4 we deduce that there exist $h \in L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho)^N$ and a subsequence also denoted $a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n))$ such that $a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) \rightharpoonup h$ weakly in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$ we will pass to the limit over n and obtain:

$$I_n^2 \rightarrow \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} h \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$$

Proof of (iii):

By using (4.12), we have $\nabla T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup \nabla T_k(u)$ weakly in $(L_M(\Omega, \rho))^N$ for $\sigma(\Pi L_M(\Omega, \rho), \Pi E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))$.

Thanks to continuity of Nemytsky operator, we get

$$a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n) \chi_s) \rightarrow a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s)$$

strongly in $(E_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$ Then $I_n^3 \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} a(x, u, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s) [\nabla T_k(u) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx$ ie

$$I_n^3 \rightarrow \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} a(x, u, 0) \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx$$

which achieved the above Lemma.

Finally we shall prove that $\nabla u_n \rightarrow \nabla u$ a.e in Ω , back to approximate problems (4.8), we have

$$\langle B u_n, v_n \rangle = \langle f_n, v_n \rangle - \int_{\Omega} a_0(x, u_n, \nabla(u_n)) v_n dx$$

since $v_n \in W_0^1 E_M(\Omega, \rho) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$ and $v_n \rightarrow 0$ weakly* in $L^\infty(\Omega)$ and $f_n \rightarrow f$ strongly in $L^1(\Omega)$, while $a_0(x, u_n, \nabla(u_n))$ is bonded in $(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho))^N$ then $\langle f_n, v_n \rangle \rightarrow 0$ We conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \int_{\Omega} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s)] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} (h - a(x, u, 0)) \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx + \varepsilon(n) \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon(n)$ is a sequence of real numbers which converge to zero as n tends to infinity.

For $r \leq s$ we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega_r} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s)] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u) \chi_s] \rho(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_s} (h - a(x, u, 0)) \nabla T_k(u) \rho(x) dx + \varepsilon(n) \end{aligned} \tag{4.19}$$

By passing to Limit over n and letting $s \rightarrow \infty$ since $meas(\Omega \setminus \Omega_s) \rightarrow 0$ we get

$$\int_{\Omega_r} [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) dx \rightarrow 0 \quad (4.20)$$

Passing to a subsequence, we have

$$[a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.e in } \Omega_r.$$

For a subsequence still denote u_n , say for each $x \in \Omega \setminus R$ with $|R| = 0$. Fix $x \in \Omega/R$, one has by using (4.1) and (4.3)

$$\begin{aligned} & [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) \geq \\ & \lambda_0 M(\lambda |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) \rho(x) - C_3 \left[1 + |\nabla T_k(u_n)| + \bar{M}^{-1} M(\alpha_1 |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) \right] + C_4 \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

for some positives constants C_3 and C_4 , which implies that $\nabla T_k(u_n)$ is bounded in \mathbb{R}^N .

Indeed suppose that there exists a subsequence denoted again $\nabla T_k(u_n(x))$ such that $\nabla T_k(u_n(x)) \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Writing (4.21) as the form

$$\begin{aligned} & [a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, u_n, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) \geq \\ & M(\lambda |\nabla u_n|) \left[\lambda_0 \rho(x) - C_3 \left(\frac{1 + |\nabla T_k(u_n)|}{M(\lambda |\nabla T_k(u_n)|)} + \frac{\bar{M}^{-1} M(c_1 |\nabla T_k(u_n)|)}{M(\lambda |\nabla T_k(u_n)|)} \right) \right] + C_4 \end{aligned}$$

which gives the contradiction since the right hand-side converge to infinity while the left hand-side tends to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Then, we have for a subsequence $u_{n_p}(x), \nabla T_k(u_{n_p})(x) \rightarrow \xi \in \mathbb{R}^N$, and $[a(x, u_{n_p}, \nabla T_k(u_{n_p})) - a(x, u_{n_p}, \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_{n_p}) - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x)$, tend to $[a(x, u, \xi) - a(x, u, \nabla T_k(u))] [\xi - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x)$ as $n_p \rightarrow \infty$. hence

$$[a(x, u, \xi) - a(x, u, \nabla T_k(u))] [\xi - \nabla T_k(u)] \rho(x) = 0$$

consequently by (4.2) $\nabla T_k(u) = \xi$ and thus $\nabla T_k(u_n(x)) \rightarrow \nabla T_k(u(x))$ since n and k are arbitrary we can construct a subsequence such that

$$\nabla u_n \rightarrow \nabla u \text{ a.e in } \Omega \quad (4.22)$$

Step 4. Passage to limit.

Going back to approximate problems (4.8) and taking $v \in D(\Omega)$ as test function we have:

$$\int_{\Omega} a(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla v \rho(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} a_0(x, u, \nabla u) v dx = \langle f, v \rangle$$

By (4.22) and (4.11) we deduce that $a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightarrow a(x, u, \nabla u)$ a.e in Ω and $a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightarrow a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$ a.e in Ω moreover, Lemma 3.4 and Lemma 3.5 implies that $a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightharpoonup a(x, u, \nabla u)$ weakly in $(L_M(\Omega, \rho))^N$ for $\sigma(\Pi L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega, \rho), \Pi E_M(\Omega, \rho))$, On the other hand, $f_n \rightarrow f$ strongly in $L^1(\Omega)$ and $a_0(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightarrow a_0(x, u, \nabla u)$ weakly in $(L_M(\Omega))$ for $\sigma(L_{\overline{M}}(\Omega), E_M(\Omega))$. On the other hand, $f_n \rightarrow f$ strongly in $L^1(\Omega)$ Finally by passing to the limit in the sequence of approximate problems, we obtain the existence result.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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