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# AN INCORRECTLY POSED PROBLEM FOR NONLINEAR ELLIPTIC EQUATIONS

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ABSTRACT. We study properties of solutions to non-linear elliptic problems involving the Laplace operator on the unit sphere. In particular, we show that solutions do not depend continuously on the initial data.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we study properties of solutions to the initial-value problem

$$u_{rr} + \frac{n-1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}\Delta_S u = f(r, u), \quad r \ge r_0,$$
(1.1)

$$u|_{r=r_0} = u_0 \in X, \quad u_r|_{r=r_0} = u_1 \in Y, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $n \geq 2$ ,  $r_0 \geq 1$  is suitable chosen and fixed number, X and Y are Banach spaces,  $f \in \mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty)) \times \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , f(r, 0) = 0 for every  $r \geq r_0$ ,  $a|u| \leq f'_u(r, u) \leq b|u|$ for every  $r \geq r_0$ ,  $u \in \mathbb{R}^1$ , a and b are positive constants,  $\Delta_S$  is the Laplace operator on the unit sphere  $S^{n-1}$ . More precisely we prove that the initial-value problem (1.1)-(1.2) is incorrectly posed in the following sense.

When we say that (1.1)-(1.2) is incorrectly posed when the following happens: (1.1)-(1.2) has exactly one solution  $u(r) \in X$  for each  $u_0 \in X$ ,  $u_1 \in Y$ ; there exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for every  $\delta > 0$ , we have:  $||u_0 - u'_0||_X < \delta$ ,  $||u_1 - u'_1||_Y < \delta$  and  $||u - u'||_X \ge \epsilon$ , where u is a solution with initial data  $u_0, u_1$ , and u' is a solution with initial data  $u'_0, u'_1$ .

In this article, we obtain the following results using the same approach as in [3, 4, 5, 6],

**Theorem 1.1.** Let  $n \ge 2$ ,  $r_0 \ge 1$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty)) \times \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$  f(r, 0) = 0 for every  $r \ge r_0$ , and  $X = Y = L^2(S^{n-1})$ . Assume that there are positive constants,  $a \le b$ , such that  $a|u| \le f'_u(r, u) \le b|u|$  for every  $r \ge r_0$  and every  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then (1.1)-(1.2) is incorrectly posed.

**Theorem 1.2.** Let  $n \geq 2$ ,  $r_0 \geq 1$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty)) \times \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , f(r, 0) = 0 for every  $r \geq r_0$ ,  $X = \mathcal{C}^2(S^{n-1})$  and  $Y = \mathcal{C}^1(S^{n-1})$ . Assume that there are positive constants,  $a \leq b$ , such that  $a|u| \leq f'_u(r, u) \leq b|u|$  for every  $r \geq r_0$  and every  $u \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then (1.1)-(1.2) is incorrectly posed.

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This paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we prove our main results. In the appendix we prove results needed for the proof of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2.

## 2. Proof of Main Results

Here and below we will assume that  $r_0 \ge 1$  and  $n \ge 2$ . First we will consider the initial-value problem

$$u_{rr} + \frac{n-1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}\Delta_S u = f(u), \quad r \ge r_0,$$
(2.1)

$$u(r)|_{r=r_0} = u_0 \in L^2(S^{n-1}), u_r(r)|_{r=r_0} = u_1 \in L^2(S^{n-1}),$$
(2.2)

where  $\Delta_S$  is the Laplace operator on the unit sphere  $S^{n-1}$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , f(0) = 0,  $a|u| \leq f'(u) \leq b|u|$  for every  $u \in \mathbb{R}^1$ ,  $a \leq b$  are fixed positive constants.

For fixed positive constants  $n \ge 2$ ,  $r_0 \ge 1$ ,  $a, b, a \le b$ , we suppose that the constants  $A, B, c_1, d_1$  satisfy the following conditions

$$r_0 \le c_1 \le d_1,$$
  
 $A \ge B > 0,$   
 $\frac{a}{2A} \frac{d_1^n}{(d_1 + 1)^n} \ge 1.$ 
(2.3)

**Example.** Let  $n \ge 1$ ,  $r_0 \gg 1$ , A = 2, B = 1,  $a = r_0^{10n}, b = 2r_0^{10n}, c_1 = r_0 + 1$ ,  $d_1 = r_0 + 2$ .

Let N be the set

$$\begin{split} N &= \Big\{ u(r) : u(r) \in \mathcal{C}^2([r_0,\infty)), \ u(\infty) = u_r(\infty) = 0, \\ r^\alpha |\partial_r^\beta u(r)| &\leq 1 \ \forall r \geq r_0, \ \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \beta = 0, 1, \\ u(r) &\geq 0 \ \forall r \geq r_0, u(r) \leq \frac{1}{B} \ \forall r \geq r_0, \\ u(r) &\geq \frac{1}{A} \ \forall r \in [c_1,d_1], \ u(r) \in L^2([r_0,\infty)) \ \Big\}. \end{split}$$

For  $n \ge 1$ ,  $f(u) \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ ,  $a|u| \le f'(u) \le b|u|$ , where  $a \ge b$  are positive constants, and  $u \in N$  we define the operator and the initial values

$$P(u) = \int_r^\infty \frac{1}{s^n} \int_s^\infty \tau^n f(u) d\tau ds,$$
$$u_0 = \int_{r_0}^\infty \frac{1}{s^n} \int_s^\infty \tau^n f(u) d\tau ds, \quad u_1 = -\frac{1}{r_0^n} \int_{r_0}^\infty \tau^n f(u) d\tau d\tau$$

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $n \ge 2$ ,  $r_0 \ge 1$ ,  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , and f(0) = 0. Assume that there exist positive constants  $a \le b$  such that  $a|u| \le f'(u) \le b|u|$ . Then (2.1)-(2.2) has exactly one solution  $u \in N$ .

*Proof.* First we prove that  $P: N \to N$ . Let  $u \in N$  be fixed. Then (1) Since  $f \in \mathcal{C}^1([r_0,\infty)), u \in \mathcal{C}^2([r_0,\infty))$  we have that  $P(u) \in \mathcal{C}^2([r_0,\infty))$ . Also

we have

$$\begin{split} P(u)_{|_{r=\infty}} &= 0,\\ \frac{\partial P(u)}{\partial r} &= -\frac{1}{r^n} \int_r^\infty \tau^n f(u) d\tau,\\ \frac{\partial P(u)}{\partial r}_{|_{r=\infty}} &= 0. \end{split}$$

(2) Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ . We choose  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $k \ge \alpha + 3$  and  $\frac{b}{2B(k-1)} < 1$ . Then

$$r^{\alpha}P(u) = r^{\alpha} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} f(u) d\tau ds \,.$$

Now we use that for  $u \in N$ , we have  $u \ge 0$  for every  $r \ge r_0$ , f(0) = 0,  $f'(u) \le bu$ , from here  $f(u) \le \frac{b}{2}u^2$ , since  $u \le \frac{1}{B}$  for every  $r \ge r_0$  we get  $f(u) \le \frac{b}{2B}u$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} r^{\alpha}P(u) &\leq \frac{b}{2B}r^{\alpha}\int_{r}^{\infty}\frac{1}{s^{n}}\int_{s}^{\infty}\tau^{n}ud\tau ds \\ &= r^{\alpha}\frac{b}{2B}\int_{r}^{\infty}\frac{1}{s^{n}}\int_{s}^{\infty}\tau^{n+k}\frac{1}{\tau^{k}}ud\tau ds \quad (\text{use that } \tau^{n+k}u \leq 1) \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2B}r^{\alpha}\int_{r}^{\infty}\frac{1}{s^{n}}\int_{s}^{\infty}\frac{1}{\tau^{k}}d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2B}\frac{1}{(k-1)(n+k-2)}\frac{1}{r_{0}^{n+k-\alpha-2}} \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

In the above inequality we use our choice of the constant k. Also,

$$\begin{split} \left| r^{\alpha} \frac{\partial P(u)}{\partial r} \right| &\leq \frac{b}{2B} r^{\alpha} \frac{1}{r^{n}} \int_{r}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u d\tau \\ &= r^{\alpha} \frac{b}{2B} \frac{1}{r^{n}} \int_{r}^{\infty} \tau^{n+k} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} u d\tau \quad (\text{use } \tau^{n+k} u \leq 1) \\ &\leq r^{\alpha} \frac{b}{2B} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2B} \frac{1}{(k-1)} \frac{1}{r_{0}^{n+k-\alpha-1}} \leq 1. \end{split}$$

In the above inequality we use our choice of the constant k. (3) First we note that for  $u \in N$  we have  $f(u) \ge au^2/2$ . Therefore for every  $r \ge r_0$  we have

$$P(u) \ge \frac{a}{2} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u^{2} d\tau ds \ge 0.$$

(4) Let  $r \in [c_1, d_1]$ . Then

$$P'(u) = \int_r^\infty \frac{1}{s^n} \int_s^\infty \tau^n f'(u) d\tau ds \ge a \int_r^\infty \frac{1}{s^n} \int_s^\infty \tau^n u d\tau ds \ge 0.$$

Therefore, for  $u \in N$  the function P(u) is increase function of u. Since for every  $r \in [c_1, d_1]$  we have that  $u \ge 1/A$  we get

$$\begin{split} P(u) &\geq P(\frac{1}{A}) = \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} f\left(\frac{1}{A}\right) d\tau ds \\ &\geq \frac{a}{2A^{2}} \int_{d_{1}}^{d_{1}+1} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{d_{1}}^{d_{1}+1} \tau^{n} d\tau ds \\ &\geq \frac{a}{2A^{2}} \frac{d_{1}^{n}}{(d_{1}+1)^{n}} \geq \frac{1}{A}, \end{split}$$

in the above inequality we use (2.3).

(5) Choose  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$k > 3$$
,  $\frac{b}{2(k-1)(n+k-2)} < 1$ .

Then

$$\begin{split} P(u) &\leq \frac{b}{2B} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2B} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{k+n} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} u d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2B} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds \\ &= \frac{b}{2B(k-1)(n+k-2)r_{0}^{n+k-2}} \leq \frac{1}{B} \end{split}$$

(6) Now we prove that  $P(u) \in L^2([r_0, \infty))$ . Indeed,

$$\begin{split} \|P(u)\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{2} &= \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} f(u) d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u^{2} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{k+n} u \frac{u}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \quad (\text{use that } \tau^{k+n} u \leq 1) \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{u}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \leq \quad (\text{use Hölder's inequality}) \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \left(\int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\tau^{2k}} d\tau\right)^{1/2} \left(\int_{s}^{\infty} u^{2} d\tau\right)^{1/2} ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4(2k-1)(n+k-\frac{3}{2})^{2}(2n+2k-4)r_{0}^{2n+2k-4}} \|u\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{2} <\infty, \end{split}$$

because  $u \in L^2([r_0,\infty))$ . From (1)–(6) we conclude that  $P: N \to N$ .

Now we prove that the operator P has exactly one fixed point in N. Let  $u_1, u_2 \in N$  are fixed and  $\alpha = ||u_1 - u_2||_{L^2([r_0,\infty))}$ . We choose the constant  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  large so that  $Q_1/\alpha < 1$ , where

$$Q_1 = \frac{2b^2}{B^2(\frac{4}{3}k-1)^{\frac{3}{2}}(n+k-\frac{7}{4})^2(2n+2k-\frac{9}{2})r_0^{2n+2k-\frac{9}{2}}}.$$

Then

$$\begin{split} \|P(u_{1}) - P(u_{2})\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{2} \\ &= \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} (f(u_{1}) - f(u_{2})) d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \quad (\text{mean value theorem}) \\ &= \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} f'(\xi) (u_{1} - u_{2}) d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} |f'(\xi)| |u_{1} - u_{2}| d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &(\text{use that } |f'(\xi)| \leq b |\xi| \leq \frac{b}{B}, \, |\xi| \leq \max\{|u_{1}|, |u_{2}|\}) \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{B^{2}} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} |u_{1} - u_{2}| d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &= \frac{b^{2}}{B^{2}} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \sqrt{\tau^{2k+2n} |u_{1} - u_{2}|} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} \sqrt{|u_{1} - u_{2}|} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &(\text{use that } \sqrt{\tau^{2k+2n} |u_{1} - u_{2}|} \leq \sqrt{2}) \\ &\leq \frac{2b^{2}}{B^{2}} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \sqrt{|u_{1} - u_{2}|} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \quad (\text{Hölder's inequality}) \\ &\leq \frac{2b^{2}}{B^{2}} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \left(\int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\tau^{\frac{4k}{3}}} d\tau\right)^{3/4} \left(|u_{1} - u_{2}|^{2} d\tau\right)^{1/4} ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq Q_{1} \|u_{1} - u_{2}\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}; \end{split}$$

i.e.,

$$|P(u_1) - P(u_2)||^2_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} \le Q_1 ||u_1 - u_2||_{L^2([r_0,\infty))}.$$

From this,

$$\|P(u_1) - P(u_2)\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))}^2 \le \frac{Q_1}{\alpha} \alpha \|u_1 - u_2\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} \le \frac{Q_1}{\alpha} \|u_1 - u_2\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))}^2.$$

For our next step we need the theorem in [8, page 294]:

Let B be the complete metric space for which  $AB\subset B$  and for the operator A satisfies the condition

$$\rho(Ax, Ay) \le L(\alpha, \beta)\rho(x, y), \quad x, y \in B, \alpha \le \rho(x, y) \le \beta,$$

where  $L(\alpha, \beta) < 1$  for  $0 < \alpha \leq \beta < \infty$ . Then the operator A has exactly one fixed point in B.

From the above result and our choice of k we conclude that the operator P has exactly one fixed point  $u \in N$ . Consequently u is a solution to the problem (2.1)-(2.2). In the appendix we will prove that the set N is closed subset of the space  $L^2([r_0,\infty))$ . We have that  $u_0 \in L^2(S^{n-1})$ ,  $u_1 \in L^2(S^{n-1})$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $n \ge 2$ ,  $r_0 \ge 1$ ,  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , and f(0) = 0. Assume that there exists positive constants,  $a \le b$ , such that  $a|u| \le f'(u) \le b|u|$ . Then (2.1)-(2.2) is incorrectly posed.

*Proof.* On the contrary, suppose that (2.1)-(2.2) is correctly posed. Let u is the solution from Theorem 2.1. We choose  $\epsilon$  such that  $0 < \epsilon < 1/Q_2$ , where

$$Q_2 = \frac{b^2}{4(4k-1)^{1/2}(n+k-\frac{5}{4})^2(2n+2k-\frac{7}{2})r_0^{2n+2k-\frac{7}{2}}}.$$

Then there exists  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$||u_0||_{L^2(S^{n-1})} < \delta, \quad ||u_1||_{L^2(S^{n-1})} < \delta$$

imply

$$\|u\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} < \epsilon.$$

From the definition of u, we have

$$\begin{split} \|u\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{2} &= \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} f(u) d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u^{2} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &= \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \sqrt{\tau^{2k+2n} u} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\quad \text{(use that } \sqrt{\tau^{2k+2n} u} \leq 1) \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds\right)^{2} dr \quad \text{(Hölder's inequality)} \\ &\leq \frac{b^{2}}{4} \int_{r_{0}}^{\infty} \left(\int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \left(\int_{s}^{\infty} u^{2} d\tau\right)^{3/4} \left(\frac{1}{\tau^{4k}} d\tau\right)^{1/4} ds\right)^{2} dr \\ &\leq Q_{2} \|u\|_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{3}; \end{split}$$

i.e.,

$$||u||_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{2} \leq Q_{2}||u||_{L^{2}([r_{0},\infty))}^{3}.$$

From this,,

$$\|u\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} \geq \frac{1}{Q_2} > \epsilon$$

which is a contradiction. Consequently the problem (2.1)-(2.2) is incorrectly posed.  $\hfill\square$ 

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $n \ge 2$ ,  $r_0 \ge 1$ ,  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^1)$ , and f(0) = 0. Assume that there are positive constants  $a \le b$  such that  $a|u| \le f'(u) \le b|u|$ . Then the problem

$$u_{rr} + \frac{n-1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}\Delta_S u = f(u), \quad r \ge r_0,$$
(2.4)

$$u(r)_{|_{r=r_0}} = u_0 \in \mathcal{C}^2(S^{n-1}), \quad u_r(r)_{|_{r=r_0}} = u_1 \in \mathcal{C}^1(S^{n-1}),$$
(2.5)

is incorrectly posed.

*Proof.* Let us suppose that (2.4)-(2.5) is correctly posed, and let

$$Q_3 = \frac{b}{2(k-1)(n+k-2)r_0^{n+k-2}}.$$

Then for  $0 < \epsilon < 1/Q_3^2$ , there exists  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$||u_0||_{\mathcal{C}^2(S^{n-1})} < \delta, \quad ||u_1||_{\mathcal{C}^1(S^{n-1})} < \delta,$$

imply

$$\max_{r \in [r_0,\infty)} |u| < \epsilon, \quad \max_{r \in [r_0,\infty)} |u_r| < \epsilon, \quad \max_{r \in [r_0,\infty)} |u_{rr}| < \epsilon,$$

where u is the solution from the Theorem 2.1. From the definition of u, and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{split} u(r) &\leq \frac{b}{2} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \tau^{n} u^{2} d\tau ds \\ &= \frac{b}{2} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \sqrt{\tau^{2k+2n} u} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds \\ &\leq \frac{b}{2} (\max_{r \in [r_{0}, \infty)} u)^{\frac{3}{2}} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{1}{s^{n}} \int_{s}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\tau^{k}} d\tau ds \\ &\leq Q_{3} (\max_{r \in [r_{0}, \infty)} u)^{\frac{3}{2}}. \end{split}$$

From this it follows that

$$Q_3(\max_{r \in [r_0,\infty)} u)^{1/2} \ge 1$$
, or  $\max_{r \in [r_0,\infty)} u > \frac{1}{Q_3^2} > \epsilon$ ,

which is a contradiction with our assumption. Consequently (2.4)-(2.5) is incorrectly posed.  $\hfill \Box$ 

The proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2 follow from the method used in the proof of Theorems 2.2 and 2.3.

### 3. Appendix

**Lemma 3.1.** The set N is a closed subset of  $L^2([r_0, \infty))$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\{u_n\}$  is a sequence of elements in N for which

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|u_n - \tilde{u}\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} = 0,$$

where  $\tilde{u} \in L^2([r_0, \infty))$ . Since P(u) is a continuous differentiable function of u, for  $r \in [r_0, c_1]$  and  $u \in N$  we have

$$P'(u) = \int_r^\infty \frac{1}{s^n} \int_s^\infty \tau^n f'(u) d\tau ds$$
  

$$\geq a \int_{c_1}^{d_1} \frac{1}{s^n} \int_{c_1}^{d_1} \tau^n u d\tau ds$$
  

$$\geq \frac{a}{A} \frac{c_1^n}{d_1^n} (d_1 - c_1)^2.$$

From this, it follows that for every  $u \in N$  there exists

$$L = \min_{r \in [r_0, c_1]} |P'(u)(r)| > 0$$

Let

$$M_1 = \max_{r \in [r_0, c_1]} \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial r} P'(u)(r) \right|.$$

Now we prove that for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that from  $|x - y| < \delta$  we have

$$|u_m(x) - u_m(y)| < \epsilon \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{N}.$$

S. G. GEORGIEV

We suppose that there exists  $\tilde{\epsilon} > 0$  such that for every  $\delta > 0$  there exist natural number m and  $x, y \in [r_0, \infty), |x - y| < \delta$  for which  $|u_m(x) - u_m(y)| \ge \tilde{\epsilon}$ . We choose  $\tilde{\tilde{\epsilon}}$  such that  $0 < \tilde{\tilde{\epsilon}} < L\tilde{\epsilon}$ . We note that  $P(u_m)(x)$  is uniformly continuous for  $x \in [r_0, \infty)$ . For  $u \in N$  P(u)(r) is uniformly continuous function for  $r \in [r_0, \infty)$ because  $P(u)(r) \in \mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty))$  and as in the proof of the Theorem 2.1 we have that there exists positive constant C such that  $\left|\frac{\partial}{\partial r}P(u)(r)\right| \le C$ . Then there exists  $\delta_1 = \delta_1(\tilde{\tilde{\epsilon}}) > 0$  such that for every natural m we have

$$|P(u_m)(x) - P(u_m)(y)| < \tilde{\tilde{\epsilon}}, \quad \forall x, y \in [r_0, \infty) : |x - y| < \delta_1.$$

Consequently we can choose

$$0 < \delta < \min\left\{c_1 - r_0, \delta_1, \frac{(L\tilde{\epsilon} - \tilde{\epsilon})B}{M_1}\right\}$$

such that there exist natural number m and  $x_1, x_2 \in [r_0, \infty)$  for which

$$|x_1 - x_2| < \delta, \quad |u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - u_m(r_0)| \ge \tilde{\epsilon}.$$

In particular,

$$P(u_m)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P(u_m)(r_0)| < \tilde{\epsilon}.$$
(3.1)

Let us suppose for convenience that  $x_1 - x_2 > 0$ . Then  $x_1 - x_2 < c_1 - r_0$  and for every  $u \in N$  we have  $P'(u)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) \ge L$ . Then from the middle point theorem we have P(0) = 0,  $P(u_m)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) = P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)$ ,  $P(u_m)(r_0) = P'(\xi)(r_0)u_m(r_0)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |P(u_m)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P(u_m)(r_0)| \\ &= |P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P'(\xi)(r_0)u_m(r_0)| \\ &= |P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(r_0) \\ &+ P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(r_0)| \\ &\geq |P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(r_0) - P'(\xi)(r_0)u_m(r_0)| \\ &- |P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(r_0)| \\ &= |P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(x_1 - x_2 + r_0) - P'(\xi)(x_1 - x_2 + r_0)u_m(r_0)| \\ &- \left|\frac{\partial}{\partial r}P'(\xi)\right| |x_1 - x_2||u_m(r_0)| \\ &\geq L\tilde{\epsilon} - M_1\delta\frac{1}{B} \geq \tilde{\epsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction with (3.1). Therefore, for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that from  $|x - y| < \delta$  follows

$$|u_m(x) - u_m(y)| < \epsilon \quad \forall m \in \mathbb{N}.$$
(3.2)

On the other hand from the definition of the set N we have that for every natural number m

$$u_m(r) \le \frac{1}{B} \quad \forall r \ge r_0. \tag{3.3}$$

From this inequality and (3.2) it follows that the set  $\{u_m\}$  is a compact subset of the space  $\mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty))$ . Therefore there is a subsequence  $\{u_{n_k}\}$  and function  $u \in \mathcal{C}([r_0, \infty))$  for which

$$|u_{n_k}(x) - u(x)| < \epsilon \quad \forall x \in [r_0, \infty).$$

Now we suppose that that  $u \neq \tilde{u}$  a.e. in  $[r_0, \infty)$ . Then there exist  $\epsilon_1 > 0$  and subinterval  $\Delta \subset [r_0, \infty)$  such that  $\mu(\Delta) > 0$  and

$$|u - \tilde{u}| > \epsilon_1 \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta.$$

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  is chosen such that

$$\epsilon < \frac{\epsilon_1(\mu(\Delta))^{1/2}}{\mu(\Delta)^{1/2} + 1}.$$
(3.4)

Then, for every  $n_k \in \mathbb{N}$  sufficiently large, we have  $||u_{n_k} - \tilde{u}||_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} < \epsilon$ ,

$$\epsilon \mu(\Delta) = \epsilon \int_{\Delta} dx$$

$$> \int_{\Delta} |u_{n_k} - u| dx = \int_{\Delta} |u_{n_k} - \tilde{u} + \tilde{u} - u| dx$$

$$\ge \int_{\Delta} |\tilde{u} - u| dx - \int_{\Delta} |u_{n_k} - \tilde{u}| dx$$

$$\ge \epsilon_1 \mu(\Delta) - \left( \int_{\Delta} |u_{n_k} - \tilde{u}|^2 dx \right)^{1/2} (\mu(\Delta))^{1/2}$$

$$\ge \epsilon_1 \mu(\Delta) - \|u_{n_k} - \tilde{u}\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} (\mu(\Delta))^{1/2}$$

$$> \epsilon_1 \mu(\Delta) - \epsilon (\mu(\Delta))^{1/2},$$

which is a contradiction with (3.4). From this,  $u = \tilde{u}$  a.e. in  $[r_0, \infty)$ ,  $|u_n - u|^2 = |\tilde{u} - u_n|^2$  a.e. in  $[r_0, \infty)$ ,  $||u_n - u||_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} = ||u_n - \tilde{u}||_{L^2([r_0,\infty))}$ . Consequently, for every sequence  $\{u_n\}$  from elements of the set N, which is convergent in  $L^2([r_0,\infty))$ , there exists a function  $u \in \mathcal{C}([r_0,\infty))$ ,  $u \in L^2([r_0,\infty))$  for which

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|u_n - u\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} = 0.$$

Bellow we will suppose that  $\{u_n\}$  is a sequence from elements of the set N, which is convergent in  $L^2([r_0,\infty))$ . Then there exists a function  $u \in \mathcal{C}([r_0,\infty))$ ,  $u \in L^2([r_0,\infty))$  for which

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \|u_n - u\|_{L^2([r_0,\infty))} = 0$$

Now we suppose that  $u(\infty) \neq 0$ . Then there exist sufficiently large Q > 0, a large natural number m and  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  for which

$$u_m(r) = 0, \quad u(r) > \epsilon_2, \quad \forall r \ge Q.$$

We choose

$$0 < \epsilon_3 < \epsilon_2. \tag{3.5}$$

Then, for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  sufficiently large, we have  $|u_n(r) - u(r)| < \epsilon_3$  and

$$\epsilon_{3} > \int_{Q}^{Q+1} |u_{n}(r) - u(r)| dr$$
  

$$\geq \int_{Q}^{Q+1} (|u(r)| - |u_{n}(r)|) dr$$
  

$$= \int_{Q}^{Q+1} |u(r)| dr > \epsilon_{2},$$

which is a contradiction with (3.5). Therefore,  $u(\infty) = 0$ .

Now we prove that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial r}u(r)$  exists for every  $r \geq r_0$ . Let us suppose that there exists  $r_1 \in [r_0, \infty)$  such that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial r}u(r_1)$  does not exists. Then for every h > 0, which is enough small, exists  $\epsilon_4 > 0$  such that

$$\left|\frac{u(r_1+h)-u(r_1)}{h}\right| > \epsilon_4,$$

$$0 < \epsilon_5 < \frac{h}{2}\epsilon_4,$$
(3.6)

such that  $|u_n(r_1+h) - u(r_1)| < \epsilon_5$ . From this,

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_5 &> |u_n(r_1+h) - u(r_1+h)| \\ &= |u_n(r_1+h) - u(r_1) + u(r_1) - u(r_1+h)| \\ &\ge |u(r_1) - u(r_1+h)| \frac{1}{h}h - |u_n(r_1+h) - u(r_1)| \\ &\ge \epsilon_4 h - \epsilon_5, \end{aligned}$$

which is a contradiction of our choice of  $\epsilon_5$ . Therefore  $\frac{\partial}{\partial r}u(r)$  exists for every  $r \in [r_0, \infty)$ . As in above we can see that  $u(r) \in \mathcal{C}^2([r_0, \infty))$   $u_r(\infty) = 0$ .

Now we suppose that there exists interval  $\Delta_2 \subset [r_0, \infty)$  such that

$$u(r) \ge \frac{1}{B} + \epsilon_7 \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta_2.$$

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be large and  $\epsilon_8 > 0$  chosen such that

$$|u_n(r) - u(r)| < \epsilon_8 \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta_2, 0 < \epsilon_8 < \epsilon_7.$$
(3.7)

From this, for  $r \in \Delta_2$ , we have

$$\epsilon_8 > |u_n(r) - u(r)| \ge |u(r)| - |u_n(r)| \ge \frac{1}{B} + \epsilon_7 - \frac{1}{B} = \epsilon_7$$

which is a contradiction with (3.7). Therefore,  $u(r) \leq \frac{1}{B}$  for every  $r \geq r_0$ .

Now we suppose that there exists interval  $\Delta_3 \subset [c_1, d_1]$  for which  $u(r) < \frac{1}{A}$  for every  $r \in \Delta_3$ . From this, there exists  $\epsilon_9 > 0$  such that  $u(r) \leq \frac{1}{A} - \epsilon_9$  for  $r \in \Delta_3$ . Also, let

$$0 < \epsilon_{10} < \epsilon_9 \tag{3.8}$$

and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is enough large such that  $\epsilon_{10} > |u_n(r) - u(r)|$  for  $r \in \Delta_3$ . Then for  $r \in \Delta_3$  we have

$$\epsilon_{10} > |u_n(r) - u(r)| \ge |u_n(r)| - |u(r)| \ge \frac{1}{A} - \frac{1}{A} + \epsilon_9$$

which is a contradiction with (3.8). Consequently, for every  $r \in [c_1, d_1]$  we have  $u(r) \geq \frac{1}{A}$ .

Now we suppose that there exist  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , interval  $\Delta_4 \subset [r_0, \infty)$  and  $\epsilon_{11} > 0$  such that

$$|r^{\alpha}u(r)| > 1 + \epsilon_{11} \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta_4$$

Let  $\epsilon_{12} > 0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  be chosen such that

$$|r^{\alpha}(u_n(r) - u(r))| < \epsilon_{12} \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta_4, \ 0 < \epsilon_{12} < \epsilon_{11}.$$
 (3.9)

From this,

$$\epsilon_{12} > |r^{\alpha}(u_n(r) - u(r))| \ge |r^{\alpha}u(r)| - r^{\alpha}|u_n(r)| \ge \epsilon_{11},$$

and

11

which is a contradiction with (3.9). Therefore for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and for every  $r \in [r_0, \infty)$  we have  $r^{\alpha}u(r) \leq 1$ . After we use the same arguments we can see that for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  and for every  $r \in [r_0, \infty)$  we have  $r^{\alpha}|u_r(r)| \leq 1$ .

Now we suppose that there exist interval  $\Delta_5 \subset [r_0, \infty)$  and  $\epsilon_{13} > 0$  such that for  $r \in \Delta_5$  we have  $u(r) < -\epsilon_{13}$ . Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  is enough large and  $\epsilon_{14} > 0$  are fixed for which

$$|u_n(r) - u(r)| < \epsilon_{14} \quad \text{for } r \in \Delta_5, \quad 0 < \epsilon_{14} < \epsilon_{13}.$$
 (3.10)

Then for  $r \in \Delta_5$  we have

$$\epsilon_{14} > u_n(r) - u(r) > \epsilon_{13}$$

which is a contradiction with (3.10).

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