

EXISTENCE OF WEAK POSITIVE SOLUTION FOR
CLASS OF (p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n) -LAPLACIAN
ELLIPTIC SYSTEM WITH DIFFERENT WEIGHTS

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Abstract: Consider the system

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\Delta_{P_1, p_1} u_1 = \lambda a_1(x) u_1^{\alpha_{11}} u_2^{\alpha_{12}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{1n}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ -\Delta_{P_2, p_2} u_2 = \lambda a_2(x) u_1^{\alpha_{21}} u_2^{\alpha_{22}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{2n}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ \vdots \\ -\Delta_{P_n, p_n} u_n = \lambda a_n(x) u_1^{\alpha_{n1}} u_2^{\alpha_{n2}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{nn}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u_i = 0, \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{array} \right.$$

where Δ_{R_i, r_i} with $r_i > 1$ and $R_i = R_i(x)$ is a weights functions, denotes the weighted r_i -Laplacian defined by $\Delta_{R_i, r_i} u_i = \operatorname{div} \left(R_i(x) |\nabla u_i|^{r_i-2} \nabla u_i \right)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, λ is a positive parameter, $a_i(x)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, are a weights functions, and Ω is a bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^N ($N > 1$) with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$. We prove the existence of a large positive solutions for λ large, we use the method of sub-supersolutions to establish our results.

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1. Introduction

In this paper, we are concerned with the existence of positive weak solutions for the nonlinear elliptic system

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\Delta_{P_1,p_1} u_1 = \lambda a_1(x) u_1^{\alpha_{11}} u_2^{\alpha_{12}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{1n}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ -\Delta_{P_2,p_2} u_2 = \lambda a_2(x) u_1^{\alpha_{21}} u_2^{\alpha_{22}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{2n}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ \dots \\ -\Delta_{P_n,p_n} u_n = \lambda a_n(x) u_1^{\alpha_{n1}} u_2^{\alpha_{n2}} \dots u_n^{\alpha_{nn}}, \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u_i = 0, \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{array} \right. \tag{1.1}$$

where Δ_{R_i,r_i} with $r_i > 1$ and $R_i = R_i(x)$ is a weights functions, denotes the weighted r_i -Laplacian defined by $\Delta_{R_i,r_i} u_i = \operatorname{div} \left(R_i(x) |\nabla u_i|^{r_i-2} \nabla u_i \right)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, λ is a positive parameter, $a_i(x)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, are a weights functions, and Ω is a bounded domain in \mathbb{R}^N ($N > 1$) with smooth boundary $\partial\Omega$. In addition, we assume that $1 < p_i < N$.

Problems involving the p -Laplacian arise from many branches of pure mathematics as in the theory of quasiregular and quasiconformal mapping (see [4]) as well as from various problems in mathematical physics notably the flow of non-Newtonian fluids.

S.A. Khafagy [1] studied the existence and nonexistence of positive solution for the p -Laplacian system

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\Delta_{P,p} u = \lambda a(x) v^\beta \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ -\Delta_{Q,q} v = \lambda b(x) u^\alpha \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = v = 0, \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{array} \right. \tag{1.2}$$

In this paper, we shall prove that if $\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{1j} < p_1 - 1, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{2j} < p_2 - 1, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{nj} < p_n - 1$. (1.1) admits a positive weak solution for each $\lambda > 0$. Our approach is based on the method of sub- and supersolutions, see [3].

This paper is organized as follows:

In Section 2, we introduce some technical results and notations, which are established in [5]. In Section 3, we prove the existence of a positive weak solutions for system (1.1) by using the method of sub-supersolutions.

2. Technical Results

Now, we introduce some technical results [5] concerning the degenerated homogeneous eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{R,r}u = -\operatorname{div} \left(R(x) |\nabla u|^{r-2} \nabla u \right) = \lambda S(x) |u|^{r-2} u \text{ in } \Omega, \\ u = 0, \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \tag{2.1}$$

where $R(x)$ and $S(x)$ are measurable functions satisfying

$$\frac{v(x)}{c} < R(x) < cv(x), \tag{2.2}$$

for a.e. $x \in \Omega$ with some constant $c \geq 1$, where $v(x)$ is a weight function in Ω satisfying the conditions

$$v \in L^1_{lok}(\Omega), v^{\frac{-1}{r-1}} \in L^1_{lok}(\Omega), v^{-s} \in L^1(\Omega) \\ \text{with } s \in \left(\frac{N}{r}, \infty \right) \cap \left[\frac{1}{r-1}, \infty \right), \tag{2.3}$$

and

$$0 \leq S(x) \in L^{\frac{k}{k-r}} \text{ for a.e. } x \in \Omega, \tag{2.4}$$

with some k satisfies $r < k < r_s$ where $r_s = \frac{Nr_s}{N-r_s}$ with $r_s = \frac{rs}{s+1} < r < r_s$ and $\operatorname{meas} \{x \in \Omega : S(x) > 0\} > 0$. Examples of functions satisfying (2.2) and (2.3) are mentioned in [5].

Lemma 2.1. *There exists the first eigenvalue $\lambda_1^{(r)} > 0$ and precisely one corresponding eigenfunction $\phi_1^{(r)} \geq 0$ a.e. in Ω ($\phi_1^{(r)}$ not identical to 0) of the eigenvalue problem (2.1). Moreover, it is characterized by*

$$\lambda_1^{(r)} \int_{\Omega} S(x) u^r dx \leq \int_{\Omega} R(x) |\nabla u|^r dx \tag{2.5}$$

for all $u \in W_0^{1,p}(P, \Omega)$.

Lemma 2.2. *Let $\phi_1^{(r)} \in W_0^{1,p}(P, \Omega)$, $\phi_1^{(r)} \geq 0$ a.e. in Ω , be the eigenfunction corresponding to the first eigenvalue $\lambda_1^{(r)} > 0$ of the eigenvalue problem (2.1). Then $\phi_1^{(r)} \in L^1(\Omega)$.*

Now, let us introduce the weighted Sobolev space $W_0^{1,p}(P, \Omega)$ which is the set of all real valued functions u defined in Ω for which (see [5])

$$\|u\|_{1,v,r} = \left[\int_{\Omega} |u|^r + \int_{\Omega} v(x) |\nabla u|^r \right]^{\frac{1}{r}} < \infty. \tag{2.6}$$

Since we are dealing with the Dirichlet problem, we introduce also the space $W_0^{1,r}(v, \Omega)$ as the closure of $C_0(\Omega)$ in $W^{1,r}(v, \Omega)$ with respect to the norm

$$\|u\|_{1,v,r} = \left[\int_{\Omega} v(x) |\nabla u|^r \right]^{\frac{1}{r}}, \tag{2.7}$$

which is equivalent to the norm given by (2.6) . Both spaces $W^{1,r}(v, \Omega)$ and $W_0^{1,r}(v, \Omega)$ are well defined reflexive Banach Spaces.

In this paper, we shall take $c = 1$ in (2.2) i. e. $v(x) = R(x)$.

3. Existence Results

Throughout this paper, we let X be the Cartesian product of n spaces $W_0^{1,p_i}(P_i, \Omega)$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$, i.e, $X = \prod_{i=1}^n W^{1,p_i}(P_i, \Omega)$. We give the definition of weak solution and sub-super solution of (1.1) as follows.

Definition 3.1. A pair of nonnegative functions $(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n), (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n)$ in X are called a weak subsolution and supersolution of (1.1) if they satisfy $\psi_i \leq z_i$ in Ω , for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and

$$\int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla \psi_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla \psi_i \nabla \omega_i dx \leq \lambda \int_{\Omega} \prod_{j=1}^n a_j(x) \psi_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and

$$\int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla z_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla z_i \nabla \omega_i dx \geq \lambda \int_{\Omega} \prod_{j=1}^n a_j(x) z_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and for all $\omega_i(x) \in W_0^{1,p_i}(P_i, \Omega)$, with $\omega_i \geq 0$.

We shall obtain the existence of positive weak solution to system (1.1) by constructing a positive weak subsolution $(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n)$ and supersolution (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) . Our main result is formulated in the following theorem.

Theorem 3.2. *Suppose that $\alpha_{ii} > 0, \alpha_{ij} \neq 0 (i \neq j)$, and $\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{1j} < p_1 - 1, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{2j} < p_2 - 1, \dots, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{nj} < p_n - 1$, Then system (1.1) has a positive weak solution for each $\lambda > 0$.*

Proof. Let $\lambda_1^{(i)}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) be the first eigenvalue of the problems, respectively

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{P_i, p_i} \phi_1^{(i)} = \lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i-1} \phi_1^{(i)}, \text{ in } \Omega \\ \phi_1^{(i)} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{cases}$$

where $\phi_1^{(i)}$, denote the corresponding eigenfunctions, respectively, satisfying $\phi_1^{(i)} > 0$ in $\Omega, \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} > 0$ on $\partial\Omega$, and $\|\phi_1^{(i)}\| = 1$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

We shall verify that

$$(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n) = \left(k \left(\frac{p_1 - 1}{p_1} \right) \left(\phi_1^{(1)} \right)^{\frac{p_1}{p_1-1}}, k \left(\frac{p_2 - 1}{p_2} \right) \left(\phi_1^{(2)} \right)^{\frac{p_2}{p_2-1}}, \dots, k \left(\frac{p_n - 1}{p_n} \right) \left(\phi_1^{(n)} \right)^{\frac{p_n}{p_n-1}} \right)$$

is a subsolution of (1.1), where $k > 0$ is small and specified later. Let $\omega_i(x) \in W_0^{1, p_i}(P_i, \Omega)$ with $\omega_i \geq 0 (i = 1, 2, \dots, n)$. A calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla \psi_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla \psi_i \nabla \omega_i dx &= k^{p_i-1} \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) \phi_1^{(i)} |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i-2} \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \nabla \omega_i(x) dx \\ &= k^{p_i-1} \left\{ \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i-2} \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \nabla \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \omega_i \right) dx \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i} \omega_i dx \right\} \\ &= k^{p_i-1} \int_{\Omega} \left(\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - P_i(x) |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i} \right) \omega_i dx, \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since $\phi_1^{(i)} = 0$ and $|\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}| > 0$ on $\partial\Omega$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, there is $\delta > 0$ such that for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we have

$$\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} - P_i(x) |\nabla \phi_1^{(i)}|^{p_i} \leq 0, \quad x \in \bar{\Omega}_{\delta},$$

with $\bar{\Omega}_{\delta} = \{x \in \Omega \mid d(x, \partial\Omega) \leq \delta\}$. Now on $\bar{\Omega}_{\delta}$ we have

$$k^{p_i-1} \left(\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} - P_i(x) \left| \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \right|^{p_i} \right) \leq \lambda \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) \psi_i^{\alpha_{ij}} \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, n).$$

Next, we note that $\phi_1^{(i)}(x) \geq \eta > 0$ in $\Omega_0 = \Omega \setminus \overline{\Omega}_\delta$ for some $\eta > 0$, and $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Since for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. we have $\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{ij} < p_i - 1$, then there is $k_0 > 0$ such that if $k \in (0, k_0)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} &k^{p_i-1} \lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i - \alpha_{ii} \left(\frac{p_i}{p_i-1} \right)} \\ &\leq \lambda a_i(x) k^{\sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{ij}} \left(\prod_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{p_j}{p_j-1} \right)^{\alpha_{ij}} \right) \left(\eta^{\sum_{j=2}^n \frac{\alpha_{ij} p_j}{p_j-1}} \right) \\ &\leq \lambda a_i(x) \left(\prod_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{p_j}{p_j-1} \right)^{\alpha_{ij}} \right) \left(\prod_{j=2}^n \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha_{ij} p_j}{p_j-1}} \right), \quad x \in \Omega_0, \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then in Ω_0

$$k^{p_i-1} \left(\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} - P_i(x) \left| \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \right|^{p_i} \right) \leq \lambda \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) \psi_j^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega} P_i(x) \left| \nabla \psi_i \right|^{p_i-2} \nabla \psi_i \nabla \omega_i dx = \int_{\overline{\Omega}_\delta} P_i(x) \left| \nabla \psi_i \right|^{p_i-2} \nabla \psi_i \nabla \omega_i dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega_0} P_i(x) \left| \nabla \psi_i \right|^{p_i-2} \nabla \psi_i \nabla \omega_i dx \\ &= k^{p_i-1} \int_{\overline{\Omega}_\delta} \left(\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} - P_i(x) \left| \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \right|^{p_i} \right) \omega_i dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\Omega_0} \left(\lambda_1^{(i)} a_i(x) \left(\phi_1^{(i)} \right)^{p_i} - P_i(x) \left| \nabla \phi_1^{(i)} \right|^{p_i} \right) \omega_i dx \\ &\leq \lambda \int_{\overline{\Omega}_\delta} \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) \psi_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx + \int_{\Omega_0} \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) \psi_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx \\ &\leq \lambda \int_{\Omega} \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) \psi_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, i.e. $(\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots, \psi_n)$ is a subsolution of (1.1) .

Next, let $\zeta_i(x)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, n$) be the positive solution of

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_{P_i, p_i} \zeta_i = 1, \text{ in } \Omega \\ \zeta_i = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, \end{cases}$$

For existence results of positive solutions for above boundary value problems see [9] . Let

$$(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) = (C_1 \zeta_1(x), C_2 \zeta_2(x), \dots, C_n \zeta_n(x)),$$

where $C_i > 0$ are large numbers to be chosen later. We shall verify that (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) is a supersolution of (1.1) . To this end, let $\omega_i(x) \in W_0^{1, p_i}(P_i, \Omega)$, with $\omega_i \geq 0$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla z_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla z_i \nabla \omega_i dx &= C_i^{p_i-1} \int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla \zeta_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla \zeta_i \nabla \omega_i dx \\ &= C_i^{p_i-1} \int_{\Omega} \omega_i dx, \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Let $l_i = \|\zeta_i\|$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. It is easy to prove that there exist positive large constants C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n such that

$$\begin{aligned} C_1^{p_1-1-\alpha_{11}} &\geq \lambda \left(\prod_{j=2}^n C_j^{\alpha_{1j}} \right) \left(\prod_{j=1}^n l_j^{\alpha_{1j}} \right) \\ &\dots \\ C_n^{p_n-1-\alpha_{nn}} &\geq \lambda \left(\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} C_j^{\alpha_{nj}} \right) \left(\prod_{j=1}^n l_j^{\alpha_{nj}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Then for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we have

$$C_i^{p_i-1} \geq \lambda \left(\prod_{j=1}^n (C_j l_j)^{\alpha_{ij}} \right) \geq \lambda \left(\prod_{j=1}^n (C_j \zeta_j)^{\alpha_{ij}} \right) = \lambda \prod_{j=1}^n z_j^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

and therefore

$$\int_{\Omega} P_i(x) |\nabla z_i|^{p_i-2} \nabla z_i \nabla \omega_i dx \geq \lambda \int_{\Omega} \prod_{j=1}^n a_i(x) z_j^{\alpha_{ij}} \omega_i dx$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, i.e. (z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) is a supersolution of (1.1) with $z_i \geq \psi_i$ in Ω for large $C_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Thus, by the comparison principle, there exists a solution $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) \in X$ of (1.1) with $\psi_i \leq u \leq z_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 1. □

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