

# Superlinear mixed BVP with time and space singularities

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**Abstract.** Motivated by a problem arising in the theory of shallow membrane caps we investigate the solvability of the singular boundary value problem

$$(p(t)u')' + p(t)f(t, u, p(t)u') = 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p(t)u'(t) = 0, \quad u(T) = 0,$$

where  $[0, T] \subset R$ ,  $p \in C[0, T]$  and  $f = f(t, x, y)$  can have time singularities at  $t = 0$  and/or  $t = T$  and space singularities at  $x = 0$  and/or  $y = 0$ . A superlinear growth of  $f$  in its space variables  $x$  and  $y$  is possible. We present conditions for the existence of solutions positive and decreasing on  $[0, T)$ .

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**Key words.** Superlinear singular mixed BVP, positive decreasing solution, lower and upper functions.

## 1. Introduction.

Let  $[0, T] \subset R = (-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $\mathcal{D} \subset R^2$ . We deal with the singular mixed boundary value problem

$$(1.1) \quad (p(t)u')' + p(t)f(t, u, p(t)u') = 0,$$

$$(1.2) \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p(t)u'(t) = 0, \quad u(T) = 0,$$

where  $p \in C[0, T]$  and  $f$  satisfies the Carathéodory conditions on  $(0, T) \times \mathcal{D}$ . Here,  $f$  can have time singularities at  $t = 0$  and/or  $t = T$  and space singularities at  $x = 0$  and/or  $y = 0$ . We provide sufficient conditions for the existence of solutions of (1.1), (1.2) which are positive and decreasing on  $[0, T)$ .

Let  $[a, b] \subset R$ ,  $\mathcal{M} \subset R^2$ . Recall that a real valued function  $f$  satisfies the Carathéodory conditions on the set  $[a, b] \times \mathcal{M}$  if

- (i)  $f(\cdot, x, y) : [a, b] \rightarrow R$  is measurable for all  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$ ,
- (ii)  $f(t, \cdot, \cdot) : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow R$  is continuous for a.e.  $t \in [a, b]$ ,

(iii) for each compact set  $K \subset \mathcal{M}$  there is a function  $m_K \in L_1[0, T]$  such that  $|f(t, x, y)| \leq m_K(t)$  for a.e.  $t \in [a, b]$  and all  $(x, y) \in K$ . We write  $f \in Car([a, b] \times \mathcal{M})$ . By  $f \in Car((0, T) \times \mathcal{D})$  we mean that  $f \in Car([a, b] \times \mathcal{D})$  for each  $[a, b] \subset (0, T)$  and  $f \notin Car([0, T] \times \mathcal{D})$ .

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $f \in Car((0, T) \times \mathcal{D})$ .

We say that  $f$  has a *time singularity* at  $t = 0$  and/or at  $t = T$  if there exists  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{D}$  such that

$$\int_0^\varepsilon |f(t, x, y)| dt = \infty \quad \text{and/or} \quad \int_{T-\varepsilon}^T |f(t, x, y)| dt = \infty$$

for each sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ . The point  $t = 0$  and/or  $t = T$  will be called a *singular point* of  $f$ .

We say that  $f$  has a *space singularity* at  $x = 0$  and/or at  $y = 0$  if

$$\limsup_{x \rightarrow 0^+} |f(t, x, y)| = \infty \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T] \text{ and for some } y \in (-\infty, 0)$$

and/or

$$\limsup_{y \rightarrow 0^-} |f(t, x, y)| = \infty \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T] \text{ and for some } x \in (0, \infty).$$

**Definition 1.2.** By a *solution* of problem (1.1), (1.2) we understand a function  $u \in C[0, T] \cap C^1(0, T]$  with  $pu' \in AC[0, T]$  satisfying conditions (1.2) and fulfilling

$$(1.3) \quad (p(t)u'(t))' + p(t)f(t, u(t), p(t)u'(t)) = 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T].$$

The study of equations with the term  $(pu')'$  was motivated by a problem arising in the theory of shallow membrane caps, namely

$$(t^3 u')' + \frac{t^3}{8u^2} - a_0 \frac{t^3}{u} - b_0 t^{2\gamma-1} = 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^3 u'(t) = 0, \quad u(1) = A,$$

where  $a_0 \geq 0, b_0 > 0, A > 0, \gamma > 1$ .

Singular mixed problem (1.1), (1.2) was studied for example in the works [1, 6] and special cases of (1.1), (1.2) were investigated in [3, 4, 5, 7]. In [2] we can find a mixed problem with  $\phi$ -Laplacian and a real parameter. Here, we generalize the existence results of [7] and extend those of the work [1]. We offer new and rather simple conditions (in comparison with those in [1]), which guarantee the existence of positive solutions of the singular problem (1.1), (1.2) provided both time and space singularities are allowed.

## 2. Approximating regular problem.

First, we will study the auxiliary regular mixed problem

$$(2.1) \quad (q(t)u')' + h(t, u, q(t)u') = 0, \quad u'(0) = 0, \quad u(T) = 0,$$

where  $q \in C[0, T]$  is positive on  $[0, T]$  and  $h \in Car([0, T] \times R^2)$ . In order to prove the solvability of problem (2.1) we will modify the classical lower and upper functions method (see e.e. [5]).

**Definition 2.1.** A *solution* of the regular problem (2.1) is defined as a function  $u \in C^1[0, T]$  with  $qu' \in AC[0, T]$  satisfying  $u'(0) = u(T) = 0$  and fulfilling  $(q(t)u'(t))' + h(t, u(t), q(t)u'(t)) = 0$  for a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A function  $\sigma \in C[0, T]$  is called a *lower function* of (2.1) if there exists a finite set  $\Sigma \subset (0, T)$  such that  $q\sigma' \in AC_{loc}([0, T] \setminus \Sigma)$ ,  $\sigma'(\tau+), \sigma'(\tau-) \in R$  for each  $\tau \in \Sigma$ ,

$$(2.2) \quad (q(t)\sigma'(t))' + h(t, \sigma(t), q(t)\sigma'(t)) \geq 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T]$$

and

$$(2.3) \quad \sigma'(0) \geq 0, \quad \sigma(T) \leq 0, \quad \sigma'(\tau-) < \sigma'(\tau+) \quad \text{for each } \tau \in \Sigma.$$

If the inequalities in (2.2) and (2.3) are reversed, then  $\sigma$  is called an *upper function* of (2.1).

**Theorem 2.3. (Lower and upper functions method)** Let  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  be a lower function and an upper function for problem (2.1) such that  $\sigma_1 \leq \sigma_2$  on  $[0, T]$ . Assume also that there is a function  $\psi \in L_1[0, T]$  such that

$$(2.4) \quad |h(t, x, y)| \leq \psi(t) \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T], \quad \text{all } x \in [\sigma_1(t), \sigma_2(t)], \quad y \in R.$$

Then problem (2.1) has a solution  $u \in C^1[0, T]$  satisfying  $qu' \in AC[0, T]$  and

$$(2.5) \quad \sigma_1(t) \leq u(t) \leq \sigma_2(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

**Proof.** *Step 1.* For a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$  and each  $x, y \in R$ ,  $\varepsilon \in [0, 1]$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , put

$$w_i(t, \varepsilon) = \sup\{|h(t, \sigma_i(t), q(t)\sigma_i'(t)) - h(t, \sigma_i(t), y)| : |q(t)\sigma_i'(t) - y| \leq \varepsilon\},$$

$$h^*(t, x, y) = \begin{cases} h(t, \sigma_2(t), y) - w_2(t, \frac{x - \sigma_2(t)}{x - \sigma_2(t) + 1}) - \frac{x - \sigma_2(t)}{x - \sigma_2(t) + 1} & \text{for } x > \sigma_2(t) \\ h(t, x, y) & \text{for } \sigma_1(t) \leq x \leq \sigma_2(t) \\ h(t, \sigma_1(t), y) + w_1(t, \frac{\sigma_1(t) - x}{\sigma_1(t) - x + 1}) + \frac{\sigma_1(t) - x}{\sigma_1(t) - x + 1} & \text{for } x < \sigma_1(t) \end{cases}$$

and consider the auxiliary problem

$$(2.6) \quad (q(t)u')' + h^*(t, u, q(t)u') = 0, \quad u'(0) = 0, \quad u(T) = 0.$$

Define the operator  $\mathcal{F} : C^1[0, T] \rightarrow C^1[0, T]$  by

$$(2.7) \quad (\mathcal{F}u)(t) = \int_t^T \frac{1}{q(\tau)} \int_0^\tau h^*(s, u(s), q(s)u'(s)) ds d\tau.$$

Solving (2.6) is equivalent to finding a fixed point of the operator  $\mathcal{F}$ . Moreover  $h^* \in Car([0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^2)$  and there exists  $\psi^* \in L_1[0, T]$  such that

$$|h^*(t, x, y)| \leq \psi^*(t) \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T] \text{ and each } x, y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Therefore  $\mathcal{F}$  is continuous and compact and the Schauder fixed point theorem yields a fixed point  $u$  of  $\mathcal{F}$ . By (2.7),

$$u(t) = \int_t^T \frac{1}{q(\tau)} \int_0^\tau h^*(s, u(s), q(s)u'(s)) ds d\tau \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T],$$

which implies that  $u$  is a solution of (2.6).

*Step 2.* We prove that  $u$  satisfies the equation in (2.1). Put  $v = u - \sigma_2$  on  $[0, T]$  and assume that  $\max\{v(t) : t \in [0, T]\} = v(t_0) > 0$ . Since  $\sigma_2(T) \geq 0$  and  $u(T) = 0$ , we can assume that  $t_0 \in [0, T)$ . Hence  $v'(t_0) = 0$  and we can find  $\delta > 0$  such that for  $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta)$

$$v(t) > 0, \quad |q(t)v'(t)| < \frac{v(t)}{v(t) + 1} < 1.$$

Then for a.e.  $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta)$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} (q(t)v'(t))' &= -h^*(t, u(t), q(t)u'(t)) - (q(t)\sigma_2'(t))' = -h(t, \sigma_2(t), q(t)u'(t)) \\ &\quad - (q(t)\sigma_2'(t))' + w_2 \left( t, \frac{v(t)}{v(t) + 1} \right) + \frac{v(t)}{v(t) + 1} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$0 < \int_{t_0}^t (q(s)v'(s))' ds = q(t)v'(t)$$

for each  $t \in (t_0, t_0 + \delta)$ , which contradicts the fact that  $v(t_0)$  is the maximal value of  $v$ . So  $u \leq \sigma_2$  on  $[0, T]$ . The inequality  $\sigma_1 \leq u$  on  $[0, T]$  can be proved analogously. Using the definition of  $h^*$  we see that  $u$  is also a solution of (2.1).  $\square$

### 3. Main result.

We are interested in positive and decreasing solutions of singular problem (1.1), (1.2) and hence the following existence result will be proved under the assumptions

$$(3.1) \quad p \in C[0, T], \quad p > 0 \text{ on } (0, T], \quad \frac{1}{p} \in L_1[0, T],$$

and

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{cases} \mathcal{D} = (0, \infty) \times (-\infty, 0), & f \in Car((0, T) \times \mathcal{D}), \\ f \text{ can have time singularities at } t = 0, t = T \\ \text{and space singularities at } x = 0, y = 0. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 3.1. (Existence result)** *Let (3.1), (3.2) hold. Assume that there exist  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\nu \in (0, T)$ ,  $c \in (\nu, \infty)$  such that*

$$(3.3) \quad f(t, P(t), -c) = 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T],$$

$$(3.4) \quad 0 \leq f(t, x, y) \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T], \text{ all } x \in (0, P(t)], y \in [-c, 0),$$

$$(3.5) \quad \varepsilon \leq f(t, x, y) \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, \nu], \text{ all } x \in (0, P(t)], y \in [-\nu, 0),$$

where

$$P(t) = c \int_t^T \frac{ds}{p(s)}.$$

Then problem (1.1), (1.2) has a positive decreasing solution  $u \in C[0, T]$  with  $pu' \in AC[0, T]$  satisfying

$$(3.6) \quad 0 < u(t) \leq P(t), \quad -c \leq p(t)u'(t) < 0 \quad \text{for } t \in (0, T).$$

**Proof.** Let  $k \in N$ , where  $N$  is the set of all natural numbers and let  $k \geq \frac{3}{T}$ .  
Step 1. *Approximate solutions.* For  $x, y \in R$  put

$$\alpha_k(x) = \begin{cases} P(t) & \text{if } x > P(t) \\ x & \text{if } \frac{1}{k} \leq x \leq P(t) \\ \frac{1}{k} & \text{if } x < \frac{1}{k} \end{cases},$$

and

$$\beta_k(y) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{k} & \text{if } y > -\frac{1}{k} \\ y & \text{if } -c \leq y \leq -\frac{1}{k} \\ -c & \text{if } y < -c \end{cases},$$

and

$$\gamma(y) = \begin{cases} \varepsilon & \text{if } y \geq -\nu \\ \varepsilon \frac{c+y}{c-\nu} & \text{if } -c < y < -\nu \\ 0 & \text{if } y \leq -c \end{cases}.$$

For a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $x, y \in R$  define

$$f_k(t, x, y) = \begin{cases} \gamma(y) & \text{if } t \in [0, \frac{1}{k}) \\ f(t, \alpha_k(x), \beta_k(y)) & \text{if } t \in [\frac{1}{k}, T - \frac{1}{k}] \\ 0 & \text{if } t \in (T - \frac{1}{k}, T] \end{cases}$$

and

$$p_k(t) = \begin{cases} \max\{p(t), p(\frac{1}{k})\} & \text{if } t \in [0, \frac{1}{k}) \\ p(t) & \text{if } t \in [\frac{1}{k}, T] \end{cases}.$$

Then  $p_k f_k \in Car([0, T] \times R^2)$  and there is  $\psi_k \in L_1[0, T]$  such that

$$(3.7) \quad |p_k(t)f_k(t, x, y)| \leq \psi_k(t) \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T], \text{ all } x, y \in R.$$

We have got a sequence of auxiliary regular problems

$$(3.8) \quad (p_k(t)u')' + p_k(t)f_k(t, u, p_k(t)u') = 0, \quad u'(0) = 0, \quad u(T) = 0,$$

for  $k \in N$ ,  $k \geq \frac{3}{T}$ . Put

$$\sigma_1(t) = 0, \quad \sigma_{2k}(t) = c \int_t^T \frac{ds}{p_k(s)} \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

Then  $p_k(t)\sigma'_{2k}(t) = -c$  for  $t \in [0, T]$  and conditions (3.3) and (3.4) yield

$$p_k(t)f_k(t, 0, 0) \geq 0, \quad p_k(t)f_k(t, \sigma_{2k}(t), -c) = 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T].$$

Hence  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_{2k}$  are lower and upper functions of (3.8). By Theorem 2.3 problem (3.8) has a solution  $u_k \in C^1[0, T]$  satisfying

$$(3.9) \quad 0 \leq u_k(t) \leq \sigma_{2k}(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T].$$

Note that since  $p_k \in C[0, T]$  is positive on  $[0, T]$ , we have  $\sigma_{2k} \in C^1[0, T]$ .

*Step 2. A priori estimates of approximate solutions.* The conditions (3.9) and  $u_k(T) = \sigma_{2k}(T) = 0$  give

$$p_k(t) \frac{u_k(T) - u_k(t)}{T - t} \geq p_k(t) \frac{\sigma_{2k}(T) - \sigma_{2k}(t)}{T - t},$$

which yields  $p_k(T)u'_k(T) \geq p_k(T)\sigma'_{2k}(T) = -c$ . Further, by (3.8),  $p_k(0)u'_k(0) = 0$ . Since  $p_k u'_k$  is nonincreasing on  $[0, T]$ , we have proved

$$(3.10) \quad -c \leq p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq 0 \quad \text{on } [0, T].$$

Due to  $p_k(0)u'_k(0) = 0$ , there is  $t_k \in (0, T]$  such that

$$-\nu \leq p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq 0 \quad \text{for } t \in [0, t_k].$$

If  $t_k \geq \nu$ , we get by (3.5)

$$p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq -\varepsilon \int_0^t p(s)ds \quad \text{for } t \in [0, \nu].$$

Assume that  $t_k < \nu$  and  $p_k(t)u'_k(t) < -\nu$  for  $t \in (t_k, \nu]$ . Then

$$p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq -\varepsilon \int_0^t p(s)ds \quad \text{for } t \in [0, t_k]$$

and, since  $-\nu < -\varepsilon t$  for  $t \in (t_k, \nu]$ , we get

$$p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq -\varepsilon t \quad \text{for } t \in (t_k, \nu].$$

Choose an arbitrary compact interval  $[a, T] \subset (0, T)$  and denote

$$m = \min\{p(t) : t \in [a, T]\}, \quad M = \max\{p(t) : t \in [a, T]\},$$

$$d = \min\{a, \nu, \int_0^a p(s)ds, \int_0^\nu p(s)ds\}.$$

Using the fact that  $p_k u'_k$  is nonincreasing on  $[0, T]$  we obtain by (3.10) and the above inequalities  $-c \leq p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq -\varepsilon d$  for  $t \in [a, T]$  and hence, for each sufficiently large  $k$ , we get

$$(3.11) \quad -\frac{c}{m} \leq u'_k(t) \leq -\frac{\varepsilon d}{M} \quad \text{for } t \in [a, T]$$

and

$$(3.12) \quad (T-t)\frac{\varepsilon d}{M} \leq u_k(t) \leq (T-t)\frac{c}{m} \quad \text{for } t \in [a, T].$$

*Step 3. Convergence of a sequence of approximate solutions.* Consider the sequence  $\{u_k\}$ . Choose an arbitrary compact interval  $J \subset (0, T)$ . By virtue of (3.11) and (3.12) there is  $k_J \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k \geq k_J$

$$(3.13) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{1}{k_J} \leq u_k(t) \leq k_J, & -k_J \leq u'_k(t) \leq -\frac{1}{k_J}, \\ -c \leq p_k(t)u'_k(t) \leq -\frac{1}{k_J} & \text{for } t \in J, \end{cases}$$

and hence there is  $\psi \in L_1(J)$  such that

$$(3.14) \quad |p_k(t)f_k(t, u_k(t), p_k(t)u'_k(t))| \leq \psi(t) \quad \text{a.e. on } J.$$

Using conditions (3.13), (3.14) we see that the sequences  $\{u_k\}$  and  $\{p_k u'_k\}$  are equibounded and equicontinuous on  $J$ . Therefore by the Arzelà-Ascoli theorem and the diagonalization principle we can choose  $u \in C(0, T)$  and a

subsequences of  $\{u_k\}$  and of  $\{p_k u'_k\}$  which we denote for the simplicity in the same way such that

$$(3.15) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} u_k = u, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_k u'_k = pu' \quad \text{locally uniformly on } (0, T).$$

Having in mind (3.9), (3.10), (3.13) and the fact that

$$(3.16) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_k(t) = p(t), \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sigma_{2k}(t) = P(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T]$$

we get (3.6).

*Step 4. Convergence of a sequence of approximate problems.* Choose an arbitrary  $\xi \in (0, T)$  such that

$$f(\xi, \cdot, \cdot) \quad \text{is continuous on } (0, \infty) \times (-\infty, 0).$$

There exists a compact interval  $J_\xi \subset (0, T)$  with  $\xi \in J_\xi$  and, by (3.13), we can find  $k_\xi \in \mathbb{N}$  such that and for each  $k \geq k_\xi$

$$u_k(\xi) \geq \frac{1}{k_\xi}, \quad p_k(\xi)u'_k(\xi) \leq -\frac{1}{k_\xi}, \quad J_\xi \subset \left[\frac{1}{k}, T - \frac{1}{k}\right].$$

Therefore

$$f_k(\xi, u_k(\xi), p_k(\xi)u'_k(\xi)) = f(\xi, u_k(\xi), p_k(\xi)u'_k(\xi))$$

and, due to (3.15), (3.16), we have for a.e.  $t \in (0, T)$

$$(3.17) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_k(t)f_k(t, u_k(t), p_k(t)u'_k(t)) = p(t)f(t, u(t), p(t)u'(t)).$$

Choose an arbitrary  $s \in (0, T)$ . Then there exists a compact interval  $J_s \subset (0, T)$  containing  $s$  and (3.14) holds for  $J = J_s$  and for all sufficiently large  $k$ . By virtue of (3.8) we get

$$p_k \left( \frac{T}{2} \right) u'_k \left( \frac{T}{2} \right) - p_k(s)u'_k(s) = \int_{\frac{T}{2}}^s p_k(\tau)f_k(\tau, u_k(\tau), p_k(\tau)u'_k(\tau))d\tau.$$

Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and using (3.14)–(3.17) and the Lebesgue convergence theorem on  $J_s$  we get for an arbitrary  $s \in (0, T)$

$$(3.18) \quad p \left( \frac{T}{2} \right) u' \left( \frac{T}{2} \right) - p(s)u'(s) = \int_{\frac{T}{2}}^s p(\tau)f(\tau, u(\tau), p(\tau)u'(\tau))d\tau.$$

*Step 5. Properties of  $u$  and  $pu'$ .* By virtue of (3.18) we have  $pu' \in AC_{loc}(0, T)$  and

$$(3.19) \quad (p(t)u'(t))' + p(t)f(t, u(t), p(t)u'(t)) = 0 \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in (0, T).$$



According to (3.8) and (3.10) we have for each  $k \geq \frac{3}{T}$

$$\int_0^T p_k(s) f_k(s, u_k(s), p_k(s) u'_k(s)) ds = -p_k(T) u'_k(T) \leq c,$$

which together with (3.4), (3.6) and (3.17) yield, by the Fatou lemma, that  $p(t)f(t, u(t), p(t)u'(t)) \in L_1[0, T]$ . Therefore, by (3.19),  $pu' \in AC[0, T]$ . Denote  $v = pu'$ . Since  $v \in C[0, T]$ , we have by (3.1) that  $u' \in L_1[0, T]$  and consequently  $u \in C[0, T] \cap C^1(0, T]$ .

Further for each  $k \geq \frac{3}{T}$  and  $t \in (0, T)$

$$\begin{aligned} |p_k(t)u'_k(t)| &\leq \int_0^t |p_k(s)f_k(s, u_k(s), p_k(s)u'_k(s)) - p(s)f(s, u(s), p(s)u'(s))| ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t |p(s)f(s, u(s), p(s)u'(s))| ds \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|u_k(t)| \leq \int_t^T |u'_k(s) - u'(s)| ds + \int_t^T |u'(s)| ds.$$

Hence, by (3.15) and (3.17),

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \forall t \in (0, \delta) \exists k_1 = k_1(\varepsilon, t) \in \mathbb{N} :$$

$$|(pu')(t)| \leq |(pu')(t) - (p_{k_1}u'_{k_1})(t)| + |(p_{k_1}u'_{k_1})(t)| < \varepsilon$$

and

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists \delta > 0 \forall t \in (T - \delta, T) \exists k_2 = k_2(\varepsilon, t) \in \mathbb{N} :$$

$$|u(t)| \leq |u(t) - u_{k_2}(t)| + |u_{k_2}(t)| < \varepsilon.$$

This implies

$$(3.20) \quad u(T) = \lim_{t \rightarrow T^-} u(t) = 0, \quad (pu')(0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} (pu')(t) = 0.$$

□

**Remark 3.2.** By virtue of (3.20) there is a point  $t_0 \in (0, T]$  such that

$$u(t) < P(t), \quad -c < p(t)u'(t) \quad \text{for } t \in [0, t_0].$$

*Example.* Let  $\alpha, \gamma \in (0, \infty)$ ,  $\beta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $\theta \in (0, 1)$ . By Theorem 3.1 the problem

$$(t^\theta u')' + t^\theta (u^{-\alpha} + u^\beta + 1)(1 - (-t^\theta u')^\gamma) = 0,$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} t^\theta u'(t) = 0, \quad u(1) = 0,$$

has a solution  $u \in C[0, 1]$  satisfying  $t^\theta u' \in AC[0, 1]$  and

$$0 < u(t) \leq \frac{1 - t^{1-\theta}}{1 - \theta}, \quad -1 \leq t^\theta u'(t) < 0 \quad \text{for } t \in (0, 1).$$

To see this we put  $p(t) = t^\theta$ ,  $c = 1$ ,  $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\varepsilon = 1 - (\frac{1}{2})^\gamma$  and  $f(t, x, y) = (x^{-\alpha} + x^\beta + 1)(1 - (-y)^\gamma)$ .

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