JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICAL RESEARCH AND EXPOSITION

# Multiple Positive Solutions to a Nonlinear Two-point Boundary Value Problem with p-Laplacian

LI Zhi-yan<sup>1</sup>, YAN Shu-lin<sup>2</sup>, GE Wei-gao<sup>3</sup>

- (1. Dept. of Math. & Phys., Hohai University, Changzhou 213022, China;
- 2. Changzhou Engineering Vocational & Technical College, Jiangsu 213004, China;
- 3. Dept. of Appl. Math., Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing 100081, China ) (E-mail: yylin79@126.com)

**Abstract**: By a simple application of a new three functionals fixed point theorem, sufficient conditions are obtained to guarantee the existence of at least three positive solutions for p-Laplacian equation:  $(\varphi_p(u'))' + a(t)f(t,u(t)) = 0$  subject to nonlinear boundary value conditions. An example is presented to illustrate the theory.

**Key words**: boundary value problem; p-Laplacian operator; positive solution; the three functionals fixed point theorem.

MSC(2000): 34B15 CLC number: O175.8

### 1. Introduction

This paper deals with the p-Laplacian equation

$$(\varphi_p(u'))' + a(t)f(t, u(t)) = 0, \quad t \in (0, 1)$$
(1)

subject to the following nonlinear boundary conditions

$$u(0) - B_0(u'(0)) = 0, \quad u(1) + B_1(u'(1)) = 0$$
 (2)

where  $\varphi_p(x) = |x|^{p-2}x, p > 1$ .

In [1], using the three functionals fixed point theorem due to Avery and Henderson<sup>[4]</sup>, HE Xiao-ming and GE Wei-gao obtained at least two positive solutions of (1)(2) when f(t, u) = f(u); In [2], the authors yielded at least triple positive solutions to BVP (1)(2) by applying the five functionals fixed point theorem on cone; In [3], by Leggett-Williams fixed point theorem, the authors obtained three positive solutions of three-point BVPs when p = 2. But the conditions for the methods and techniques mentioned above are difficult to check. This paper will apply a new three functionals three fixed points theorem proved in literature<sup>[5]</sup> to study the existence of three positive solutions of BVP(1)(2). Our results are new and different from those in [1–3] and very easy to check.

The following conditions are satisfied throughout this paper.

Received date: 2004-04-30

Foundation item: the National Natural Science Foundation of China (10371006)

- $(H_1)$   $f: [0,1] \times [0,\infty) \rightarrow [0,\infty)$  is continuous;
- (H<sub>2</sub>)  $B_0(v)$  and  $B_1(v)$  are both nondecreasing continuous odd functions defined on  $(-\infty, +\infty)$ , and satisfy that there are nonnegative numbers l and L such that

$$lv \le B_i(v) \le Lv, \ v \ge 0, \ i = 0, 1;$$

(H<sub>3</sub>) a(t) is a nonnegative measurable function defined on (0,1), and a(t) is not identical zero on any compact subinterval of (0,1). Furthermore, a(t) satisfies

$$0 < \int_0^1 a(t) \mathrm{d}t < +\infty.$$

#### 2. Some definitions and lemmas

In this section, we provide some background definitions cited from cone theory in Banach spaces.

**Definition 2.1** Let  $(E, \|\cdot\|)$  be a real Banach space. A nonempty, closed, convex set  $P \subset E$  is said to be a cone provided the following are satisfied:

- (i) If  $y \in P$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ , then  $\lambda y \in P$ ;
- (ii) If  $y \in P$  and  $-y \in P$ , then y = 0.

If  $P \subset E$  is a cone, we denote the order induced by P on E by  $\leq$ , that is,  $x \leq y$  if and only if  $y - x \in P$ .

**Definition 2.2** Given a cone P in a real Banach space E, a functional  $\psi: P \to R$  is said to be increasing on P, provided  $\psi(x) \le \psi(y)$  for all  $x, y \in P$  with  $x \le y$ .

**Definition 2.3** Given a nonnegative continuous functional  $\gamma$  on a cone P of E, we define for each d > 0 the set

$$P(\gamma, d) = \{ x \in P : \gamma(x) < d \}.$$

The following fixed point theorem is fundamental and important to the proofs of our main results.

**Lemma 2.1**<sup>[5]</sup> Let P be a cone in a Banach space E. Let  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  be three increasing, nonnegative and continuous functionals on P, satisfying for some c > 0 and M > 0 such that

$$\gamma(x) \le \beta(x) \le \alpha(x), \quad ||x|| \le M\gamma(x)$$

for all  $x \in \overline{P(\gamma, c)}$ . Suppose there exists a completely continuous operator  $T : \overline{P(\gamma, c)} \to P$  and 0 < a < b < c such that

- (i)  $\gamma(Tx) < c$ , for all  $x \in \partial P(\gamma, c)$ ;
- (ii)  $\beta(Tx) > b$ , for all  $x \in \partial P(\beta, b)$ ;

(iii)  $P(\alpha, a) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $\alpha(Tx) < a$ , for all  $x \in \partial P(\alpha, a)$ .

Then T has at least three fixed points  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in \overline{P(\gamma, c)}$  such that

$$0 \le \alpha(x_1) < a < \alpha(x_2), \ \beta(x_2) < b < \beta(x_3), \gamma(x_3) < c.$$

## 3. Main results

Let the Banach space E = C([0,1]) be endowed the norm  $||x|| = \max_{t \in [0,1]} |x(t)|$ . And choose the cone  $P \subset E$  defined by

$$P = \{x \in E : x(t) \text{ is nonnegative concave on } [0,1]\}.$$

It follows from  $(H_2)$  that there exists  $\delta \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$  such that

$$0 < \int_{\delta}^{1-\delta} a(t)dt < +\infty \tag{3}$$

and hence the function

$$y(x) := \varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^x a(t)dt) + \varphi_q(\int_x^{1-\delta} a(t)dt), \quad \delta \le x \le 1-\delta$$

is continuous and positive on  $[\delta, 1 - \delta]$ , where  $\varphi_q(x) := |x|^{1/(p-1)} \operatorname{sgn} x$ .

We define the following nonnegative, increasing and continuous functionals

$$\gamma(u) = \frac{1}{2}(u(\delta) + u(1 - \delta)),$$
$$\beta(u) = \max_{\delta \le t \le 1 - \delta} u(t),$$
$$\alpha(u) = \max_{0 \le t \le 1} u(t).$$

Obviously, for every  $u \in P$ , we have  $\gamma(u) \leq \beta(u) \leq \alpha(u)$ .

**Lemma 3.1**<sup>[1]</sup> Let  $u \in P$  and  $\delta \in (0, 1/2)$ , then  $u(t) \ge \delta ||u||$ , for all  $t \in [\delta, 1 - \delta]$ . From Lemma 3.1 and the definition of  $\gamma(u)$ , one has  $\gamma(u) \ge \delta ||u||$ . Thus

$$||u|| \le \frac{1}{\delta} \gamma(u)$$
, for all  $u \in P$ .

We shall use the following notations:

$$\begin{split} K &= \min_{\delta \leq x \leq 1-\delta} y(x), \\ \eta &= \max\{(L+1-\delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^\delta a(r)\mathrm{d}r), (L+1-\delta)\varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r)\}, \\ \xi &= \min\left\{ \begin{array}{l} l\varphi_q(\int_\delta^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \delta\varphi_q(\int_\delta^{1-\delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r), \\ l\varphi_q(\int_0^{1-\delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \delta\varphi_q(\int_\delta^{1-\delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r), \\ \frac{l[\varphi_q(\int_0^\delta a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r)] + K\delta}{2} \end{array} \right\}, \end{split}$$

$$\lambda = (L + 1 - \delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)dr).$$

Now we give the main result of this paper.

**Theorem 3.1** Assume that  $(H_1)$ – $(H_3)$  hold, and that there exist positive constants  $0 < a < b < \frac{\xi a}{\eta} < \delta^2 c$  such that

$$(H_4)$$
  $f(t,\omega) < \varphi_p(\frac{c}{\lambda})$ , if  $\delta \le t \le 1 - \delta$ ,  $\delta c \le \omega \le \frac{c}{\delta}$ ;

$$(H_5)$$
  $f(t,\omega) > \varphi_p(\frac{b}{\xi})$ , if  $0 \le t \le 1, 0 \le \omega \le \frac{b}{\delta}$ ;

$$(H_6)$$
  $f(t,\omega) < \varphi_p(\frac{a}{n})$ , if  $0 \le t \le 1, 0 \le \omega \le a$ .

Then, the BVP (1)+(2) has at least three positive solutions  $u_1, u_2$  and  $u_3$  such that

$$0 \le \alpha(u_1) < a < \alpha(u_2), \ \beta(u_2) < b < \beta(u_3), \gamma(u_3) < c.$$

**Proof** We define an operator  $T: P(\gamma, c) \to E$  by

$$(Tu)(t) = \begin{cases} B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))dr) + \int_0^t \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))dr)ds, & 0 \le t \le \sigma \\ B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_\sigma^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))dr) + \int_t^1 \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))dr)ds, & \sigma \le t \le 1 \end{cases}$$

for each  $u \in P$ , where  $\sigma = 0$  if (Tu)'(0) = 0;  $\sigma = 1$  if (Tu)'(1) = 0; otherwise,  $\sigma$  is a solution of the equation

$$z_0(x) = z_1(x),$$

where

$$z_{0}(x) = B_{0} \circ \varphi_{q}(\int_{0}^{x} a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{0}^{x} \varphi_{q}(\int_{s}^{x} a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds, \ 0 \le x < 1,$$
  
$$z_{1}(x) = B_{1} \circ \varphi_{q}(\int_{x}^{1} a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{x}^{1} \varphi_{q}(\int_{x}^{s} a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds, \ 0 < x \le 1.$$

It is shown in [6] that  $\sigma$  exists and the operator  $T: P(\gamma,c) \to E$  is well defined. In particular, if  $u \in \overline{P(\gamma,c)}$ , we also have  $Tu \in P$ . So  $T: \overline{P(\gamma,c)} \to P$ .

It is easy to prove that  $T: \overline{P(\gamma,c)} \to P$  is completely continuous.

We now show that all the conditions of Lemma 2.1 are satisfied. To make use of property (i) of Lemma 2.1, we choose  $u \in \partial P(\gamma, c)$ , then  $\gamma(u) = \frac{1}{2}(u(\delta) + u(1 - \delta)) = c$ . If we recall that  $||u|| \leq \frac{1}{\delta}\gamma(u)$ , we have

$$\delta c \le \delta \|u\| \le u(t) \le \frac{c}{\delta}, \quad \delta \le t \le 1 - \delta.$$

Then assumption  $(H_4)$  implies

$$f(s, \omega(s)) < \varphi_p(\frac{c}{\lambda}), \quad \delta \le s \le 1 - \delta.$$

Therefore,

$$\gamma(Tu) = \frac{1}{2}(Tu(\delta) + Tu(1 - \delta)) \le Tu(\delta)$$

$$= B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{\delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^s a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$\le L\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{\delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$= (L+1-\delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))dr)$$

$$< (L+1-\delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)dr) \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$= c, \text{ if } \sigma < \delta,$$

$$\gamma(Tu) = \frac{1}{2}(Tu(\delta) + Tu(1 - \delta)) \le Tu(1 - \delta)$$

$$= B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_0^{1 - \delta} \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$\le L\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_0^{1 - \delta} \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$= (L + 1 - \delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)$$

$$< (L + 1 - \delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)dr) \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$= c, \text{ if } \sigma > 1 - \delta,$$

$$\begin{split} 2\gamma(Tu) = & (Tu(\delta) + Tu(1-\delta)) \\ = & B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^\delta \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ & B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1-\delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_s^s a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ \leq & L\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^\delta \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ & L\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1-\delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ < & (2L+2\delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r) \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda} \\ < & (2L+2-2\delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r) \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda} \\ = & 2c, \quad \text{if} \quad \delta < \sigma < 1-\delta. \end{split}$$

Hence, condition (i) is satisfied.

Secondly, we show that (ii) of Lemma 2.1 is fulfilled. For this, we select  $u \in \partial P(\beta, b)$ . Then  $\beta(u) = \max_{\delta < t \le 1-\delta} u(t) = b$ . Noticing that  $\|u\| \le \frac{1}{\delta} \gamma(u) \le \frac{1}{\delta} \beta(u) = \frac{b}{\delta}$ , we have

$$0 \le u(t) \le \frac{b}{\delta}, \quad 0 \le t \le 1.$$

By  $(H_5)$ , we have

$$f(s,\omega(s)) > \varphi_p(\frac{b}{\xi}), \quad 0 \le s \le 1$$

and so

$$\begin{split} \beta(Tu) &= \max_{\delta \leq i \leq 1 - \delta} Tu(t) \geq Tu(1 - \delta) \\ &= B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1 - \delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^s a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &\geq l\varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1 - \delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^{1 - \delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &\geq l\varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^1 a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \delta\varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^{1 - \delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r)] \cdot \frac{b}{\xi} \\ &\geq \xi \cdot \frac{b}{\xi} \\ &= b, \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma < \delta, \\ \beta(Tu) &= \max_{\delta \leq i \leq 1 - \delta} Tu(t) \geq Tu(\delta) \\ &= B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^{1 - \delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^{\delta} \varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &\geq l\varphi_q(\int_0^{1 - \delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^{\delta} \varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^{1 - \delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &\geq [l\varphi_q(\int_0^{1 - \delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \delta\varphi_q(\int_{\delta}^{1 - \delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r)] \cdot \frac{b}{\xi} \\ &\geq \xi \cdot \frac{b}{\xi} \\ &= b, \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma > 1 - \delta, \\ 2\beta(Tu) &= 2\max_{\delta \leq i \leq 1 - \delta} Tu(t) \geq Tu(\delta) + Tu(1 - \delta) \\ &= B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^{\delta} \varphi_q(\int_s^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^{\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1 - \delta}^{\delta} \varphi_q(\int_s^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ &\geq l\varphi_q(\int_0^{\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^{\delta} \varphi_q(\int_\delta^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ &1\varphi_q(\int_{1 - \delta}^{\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_{1 - \delta}^{1 - \delta} \varphi_q(\int_\delta^{\sigma} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ &> \{l[\varphi_q(\int_0^{\delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \varphi_q(\int_{1 - \delta}^{1 - \delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r)] + \delta[\varphi_q(\int_\delta^{\sigma} a(r)\mathrm{d}r) + \varphi_q(\int_0^{1 - \delta} a(r)\mathrm{d}r)]\} \cdot \frac{b}{\xi} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, condition (ii) is satisfied.

=2b, if  $\delta \leq \sigma \leq 1-\delta$ .

Finally, we verify that (iii) of Lemma 2.1 is also satisfied. We note that  $u(t) \equiv \frac{a}{4}, 0 \leq t \leq 1$ , is a member of  $P(\alpha,a)$  and  $\alpha(u) = \frac{a}{4} < a$ . So  $P(\alpha,a) \neq \emptyset$ . Now , let  $u \in \partial P(\alpha,a)$  , then  $\alpha(u) = \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} u(t) = a$ . This means that

$$0 \le u(t) \le a, \quad 0 \le t \le 1.$$

From assumption  $(H_6)$ , we have

$$f(s,\omega(s)) < \varphi_p(\frac{a}{\eta}), \quad 0 \le s \le 1.$$

As before, we get

$$\alpha(Tu) = \max_{0 \le t \le 1} Tu(t) = Tu(\sigma)$$

$$= B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r, u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^\sigma \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r, u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s$$

$$\le L\varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r, u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^\delta \varphi_q(\int_s^\delta a(r)f(r, u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s$$

$$<(L + \delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^\delta a(r)\mathrm{d}r) \cdot \frac{a}{\eta}$$

$$<(L + 1 - \delta)\varphi_q(\int_0^\delta a(r)\mathrm{d}r) \cdot \frac{a}{\eta}$$

$$\le a, \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma < \delta,$$

$$\alpha(Tu) = Tu(\sigma)$$

$$\alpha(Tu) = Tu(\sigma)$$

$$= B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{\sigma}^1 \varphi_q(\int_{\sigma}^s a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$\leq L\varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr) + \int_{1-\delta}^1 \varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^s a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)ds$$

$$= (L+\delta)\varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^1 a(r)f(r, u(r))dr)$$

$$< (L+\delta)\varphi_q(\int_{1-\delta}^1 a(r)dr) \cdot \frac{a}{\eta}$$

$$< (L+1-\delta)\varphi_q(\int_{0}^{\delta} a(r)dr) \cdot \frac{a}{\eta}$$

$$\leq a, \text{ if } \sigma > 1-\delta,$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2\alpha(Tu) = & 2Tu(\sigma) \\ = & B_0 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_0^\sigma \varphi_q(\int_s^\sigma a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ & B_1 \circ \varphi_q(\int_0^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_\sigma^1 \varphi_q(\int_s^s a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \\ \leq & L\varphi_q(\int_0^{1-\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_o^{1-\delta} \varphi_q(\int_0^{1-\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s + \\ & L\varphi_q(\int_\delta^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r) + \int_\delta^1 \varphi_q(\int_\delta^s a(r)f(r,u(r))\mathrm{d}r)\mathrm{d}s \end{aligned}$$

$$= (L+1-\delta)[\varphi_q(\int_0^{1-\delta} a(r)f(r,u(r))dr) + \varphi_q(\int_\delta^1 a(r)f(r,u(r))dr)]$$

$$< (L+1-\delta)[\varphi_q(\int_0^{1-\delta} a(r)dr) + \varphi_q(\int_\delta^1 a(r)dr)] \cdot \frac{a}{\eta}$$

$$\leq 2a, \text{ if } \sigma \in [\delta, 1-\delta].$$

Therefore, BVP(1)(2) has at least three positive solutions  $u_1, u_2$  and  $u_3$  such that

$$0 \le \alpha(u_1) < a < \alpha(u_2), \quad \beta(u_2) < b < \beta(u_3), \quad \gamma(u_3) < c.$$

**Remark** If we add the condition of  $a(t)f(t,u) \not\equiv 0$ ,  $t \in [0,1]$ , to Theorem 3.1, we can get positive solutions  $u_1, u_2$  and  $u_3$  such that

$$0 < \alpha(u_1) < a < \alpha(u_2), \quad \beta(u_2) < b < \beta(u_3), \gamma(u_3) < c.$$

# 4. An example

In this section, we present a simple example to explain our results.

Consider the boundary value problem

$$(\varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(u'))' + a(t)f(t,u) = 0, (4)$$

$$u(0) - B_0(u'(0)) = 0, \quad u(1) + B_1(u'(1)) = 0,$$
 (5)

where

$$f(t,u) = \begin{cases} 60, & 0 \le t \le 1, \ 0 \le u \le 5, \\ u+55, & 0 \le t \le 1, \ 5 \le u \le 36, \\ 91, & 0 \le t \le 1, \ 36 \le u \le 10^4, \\ 91 + \frac{u-10^4}{\sqrt{u}}, & 0 \le t \le 1, \ u \ge 10^4. \end{cases}$$
$$a(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \le t \le \frac{1}{2} \\ 1-t, & \frac{1}{2} \le t \le 1 \end{cases}$$

In the example, we notice that  $B_0(v) = B_1(v) = \frac{1}{2}v$ ,  $l = L = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $p = \frac{3}{2}$ , and q = 3. Choose  $\delta = \frac{1}{4}$ . It follows from a direct calculation that

$$K = \min_{\frac{1}{4} \le x \le 1 - \frac{1}{4}} y(x) = \frac{18}{32^2},$$

$$\eta = \max\{(\frac{1}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{4})\varphi_3(\int_0^{\frac{1}{4}} r dr), (\frac{1}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{4})\varphi_3(\int_{\frac{3}{4}}^1 (1 - r) dr)\} = \frac{5}{4} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2$$

$$\xi = \min\{\frac{67}{2} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2, \frac{67}{2} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2, \frac{11}{4} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2\} = \frac{11}{4} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2,$$

$$\lambda = (\frac{1}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{4})\varphi_3(\int_0^1 a(r) dr) = \frac{5}{64}.$$

Here we choose a = 5, b = 9, c = 2500, then we get

$$f(t,u)=60<64=\varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(4\times 32^2)=\varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{a}{\eta}), \quad \frac{1}{4}\leq t\leq 1-\frac{1}{4}, \ 0\leq u\leq 5,$$

$$f(t,u) \ge 60 > \frac{192}{\sqrt{11}} = \varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{9}{\frac{11}{4} \times (\frac{1}{32})^2}) = \varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{b}{\xi}), \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ 0 \le u \le 36,$$
$$f(t,u) = 91 < 80\sqrt{5} = \varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{2500}{\frac{5}{64}}) = \varphi_{\frac{3}{2}}(\frac{c}{\lambda}), \ 0 \le t \le 1, \ 625 \le u \le 10^4.$$

Then all the conditions of Lemma 2.1 are satisfied. So, by Theorem 3.1, we know BVP(4)(5) has at least three positive solutions.

#### References:

- HE Xiao-ming, GE Wei-gao. Twin positive solutions for the one-dimensional p-Laplacian boundary value problems [J]. Nonlinear Anal., 2004, 56: 975–984.
- [2] GUO Yan-ping, GE Wei-gao. Three positive solutions for the one-dimensional p-Laplacian [J]. J. Math. Anal. Appl., 2003, 286: 491–508.
- [3] HE Xiao-ming, GE Wei-gao. Triple solutions for second-order three-point boundary value problems [J]. J. Math. Anal. Appl., 2002, 268: 256–265.
- [4] AVERY R I, HENDSON J. Two positive fixed points of nonlinear operators on ordered Banach spaces [J].
   Comm. Appl. Nonlinear Anal., 2001, 8: 27–36.
- [5] REN Jing-li. Fixed point theorems and boundary value problems of differential equation [D]. Doctoral Papers of Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, 2004. (in Chinese)
- [6] WANG Jun-yu. The existence of positive solutions for the one-dimensional p-Laplacian [J]. Proc. Amer. Math. Soc., 1997, 125: 2275–2283.

# p-Laplace 非线性两点边值问题多个正解的存在性

李志艳1,严树林2,葛渭高3

- (1. 河海大学常州校区数理部, 江苏 常州 213022; 2. 常州工程职业技术学院, 江苏 常州 213004;
- 3. 北京理工大学应用数学系, 北京 100081)

**摘要**:本文利用一种新的三个泛函不动点定理得到了 *p*-Laplacian 方程在具有非线性边值条件时至少存在三个正解的充分条件,并且举了一个简单例子来说明得到的结论.

**关键词**: 边值问题; p-Laplacian 算子; 正解; 三个泛函不动点定理.