

POSITIVE SOLUTIONS FOR A SINGULAR THIRD ORDER BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM

JOHNNY HENDERSON, RODICA LUCA, CHARLES NELMS JR. AND AIJUN YANG

Abstract. The existence of positive solutions is shown for the third order boundary value problem, $u''' = f(x, u)$, $0 < x < 1$, $u(0) = u(1) = u''(1) = 0$, where $f(x, y)$ is singular at $x = 0$, $x = 1$, $y = 0$, and may be singular at $y = \infty$. The method involves application of a fixed point theorem for operators that are decreasing with respect to a cone.

Mathematics subject classification (2010): 34B16, 34B18.

Keywords and phrases: fixed point theorem; boundary value problem, singular.

REFERENCES

- [1] R. P. AGARWAL AND D. O'REGAN, *Singular problems on the infinite interval modelling phenomena in draining flows*, IMA J. Appl. Math. **66** (2001), 621–635.
- [2] R. P. AGARWAL, D. O'REGAN AND P. J. Y. WONG, *Positive Solutions of Differential, Difference and Integral Equations*, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, 1999.
- [3] C. BANDLE, R. SPERB AND I. STAKGOLD, *Diffusion and reaction with monotone kinetics*, Nonlinear Anal. **18** (1984), 321–333.
- [4] J. V. BAXLEY, *A singular boundary value problem: membrane response of a spherical cap*, SIAM J. Appl. Math. **48** (1988), 855–869.
- [5] F. BERNIS AND L. A. PELETIER, *Two problems from draining flows involving third order ordinary differential equations*, SIAM J. Appl. Math. **27** (1996), 515–527.
- [6] L. E. BOBISUD, D. O'REGAN AND W. D. ROYALTY, *Existence and nonexistence for a singular boundary value problem*, Appl. Anal. **28** (1988), 245–256.
- [7] L. E. BOBISUD, D. O'REGAN AND W. D. ROYALTY, *Solvability of some nonlinear singular boundary value problems*, Nonlinear Anal. **12** (1988), 855–869.
- [8] A. CALLEGARI AND A. NACHMAN, *Some singular nonlinear differential equations arising in boundary layer theory*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **64** (1978), 96–105.
- [9] A. CALLEGARI AND A. NACHMAN, *A nonlinear singular boundary value problem in the theory of pseudoplastic fluids*, SIAM J. Appl. Math. **38** (1980), 275–281.
- [10] P. W. ELOE AND J. HENDERSON, *Singular nonlinear boundary value problems for higher order ordinary differential equations*, Nonlinear Anal. **17** (1991), 1–10.
- [11] J. A. GATICA, V. OLICKER AND P. WALTMAN, *Singular nonlinear boundary value problems for second-order ordinary differential equations*, J. Differential Equations **79** (1989), 62–78.
- [12] J. R. GRAEF AND B. YANG, *Existence and nonexistence of positive solutions of a nonlinear third order boundary value problem*, Electron. J. Qual. Theory Differ. Equ. **9** (2008), 1–13.
- [13] J. R. GRAEF AND B. YANG, *Upper and lower estimates of the positive solutions of a higher order boundary value problem*, J. Appl. Math. Comput. **41** (2013), 321–337.
- [14] A. GRANAS, R. B. GUENTHER AND J. W. LEE, *A note on the Thomas-Fermi equation*, Z. Angew. Math. Mech. **61** (1981), 204–205.
- [15] K. S. HA AND Y. H. LEE, *Existence of multiple positive solutions of singular boundary value problems*, Nonlinear Anal. **28** (1997), 1429–1438.
- [16] J. HENDERSON AND W. YIN, *Singular $(k, n - k)$ boundary value problems between conjugate and right focal*, J. Comput. Appl. Math. **88** (1998), no. 1, 57–69.

- [17] J. HERNANDEZ, F. MANCEBO AND J. M. VEGA, *Positive solutions for nonlinear elliptic equations*, Proc. Roy. Soc. Edinburgh **137A** (2007), 41–62.
- [18] C. D. LUNING AND W. L. PERRY, *Positive solutions of negative exponent generalized Emden-Fowler boundary value problems*, SIAM J. Math. Anal. **12** (1981), 874–879.
- [19] M. MAROUN, *Positive solutions to a third-order right focal boundary value problem*, Comm. Appl. Nonlinear Anal. **12** (2005), 71–82.
- [20] M. MAROUN, *Positive solutions to an n th order right focal boundary value problem*, Electron. J. Qual. Theory Differ. Equ. (2007), No. 4, 17 pp.
- [21] D. O'REGAN, *Positive solutions to singular and nonsingular second-order boundary value problems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **142** (1989), 40–52.
- [22] D. O'REGAN, *Some new results for second order boundary value problems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **148** (1990), 548–570.
- [23] D. O'REGAN, *Existence of positive solutions to some singular and nonsingular second order boundary value problems*, J. Differential Equations **84** (1990), 228–251.
- [24] P. SINGH, *A second-order singular three-point boundary value problem*, Appl. Math. Lett. **17** (2004), 969–976.
- [25] W. B. QU, Z. X. ZHANG AND J. D. WU, *Positive solutions to a singular second order three-point boundary value problem*, (English summary) Appl. Math. Mech. (English Ed.) **23** (2002), 854–866.
- [26] Z. WEI, *Positive solutions of singular sublinear second order boundary value problems*, Systems Sci. Math. Sci. **11** (1998), 82–88.
- [27] X. YANG, *Positive solutions for nonlinear singular boundary value problems*, Appl. Math. Comput. **130** (2002), 225–234.