

Existence Criteria For Singular Boundary Value Problems With p-Laplacian Operators*

Yan-ping Guo[†], Wei-hua Jiang[‡], Fang Xu[§]

Received 13 September 2005

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to prove some existence theorems for certain classes of singular nonlinear two point boundary value problems with p-Laplacian operators. In our study, we shall use nonlinear alternative theorem of Leray-Schauder type to prove a priori bound theorem, and from the theorem we get two existence results of differential equations without growth restrictions.

In recent years, singular two-point boundary value problems for ordinary differential equations has been studied by a number of authors. For the singular mixed boundary value problems for the second order differential equation, O'Regan discussed the existence theorems in [1-3]. The aim of the paper is to generalize the O'Regan results in [2-3] to the p-Laplacian ordinary operator of the form

$$\frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = qf(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), \quad 0 < t < 1,$$

where $\psi_n : R \rightarrow R$ is defined by $\psi_n(u) = |u|^{n-2}u$ if $u \neq 0$, and $\psi_n(0) = 0$ where $n > 1$.

We begin to discuss the two point mixed boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = qf(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), \quad 0 < t < 1, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, \\ ay(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = d, \quad a > 0, b \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

We first assume throughout this paper that

(H₁) $f : [0, 1] \times R^2 \rightarrow R$ is continuous, $q \in (0, 1)$ with $q > 0$ on $(0, 1)$;

(H₂) $p \in C[0, 1] \cap C^1(0, 1)$ with $p > 0$ on $(0, 1)$;

(H₃) $\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)dx < \infty$ and $\int_0^1 [\frac{1}{p(s)}]^{\frac{1}{n-1}} [\int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx]^{\frac{1}{n-1}} ds < \infty$.

*Mathematics Subject Classifications: 34B15, 34B10.

[†]College of Sciences, Hebei University of Science and Technology, Shijiazhuang, Hebei 050018, P. R. China

[‡]College of Sciences, Hebei University of Science and Technology, Shijiazhuang, Hebei 050018, P. R. China

[§]College of Mathematics and Science of Information, Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang, Hebei 050016, P. R. China

LEMMA 1. Suppose (H_1) and (H_2) hold. In addition suppose $r_m(x), r(x) \in C[0, 1]$ with $r_m \rightarrow r$. Then for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there is N , independent of s ($s \in [0, 1]$), such that

$$|\psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r_m(x)dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r(x)dx)| \leq \varepsilon \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx)$$

when $m > N$.

PROOF. Since $r(x) \in C[0, 1]$, there is constant $M' > 1$ such that $|r_m(x)| \leq M' - 1$ for all $x \in [0, 1]$. Since ψ_n^{-1} is uniformly continuous in $[-M', M']$, for every $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|\psi_n^{-1}(s) - \psi_n^{-1}(t)| < \varepsilon$ when $|s - t| \leq \delta$ and $s, t \in [-M', M']$. Since $r_m \rightarrow r$, for the above $\delta > 0$, there is N such that $|r_m(x) - r(x)| < \delta$, for all $x \in [0, 1]$ when $m > N$. From Integral Mean-value Theorem, there exists $\xi \in [0, 1]$ such that

$$\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r(x)dx = r(\xi) \int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx.$$

When $m > N$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r_m(x)dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r(x)dx)| \\ & \leq \max\{|\psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)[r(x) - \delta]dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r(x)dx)|, \\ & \quad |\psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)[r(x) + \delta]dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)r(x)dx)|\} \\ & = \max\{|\psi_n^{-1}((r(\xi) - \delta) \int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi) \int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx)|, \\ & \quad |\psi_n^{-1}((r(\xi) + \delta) \int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx) - \psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi) \int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx)|\} \\ & = \max\{|\psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi) - \delta) - \psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi))|, |\psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi) + \delta) - \psi_n^{-1}(r(\xi))|\} \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx) \\ & \leq \varepsilon \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx). \end{aligned}$$

Associated with (1), we have a family of problems

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = \lambda qf(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), 0 < t < 1, 0 < \lambda < 1, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, \\ ay(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = d, a > 0, b \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

THEOREM 1. Suppose (H_1) , (H_2) and (H_3) hold and assume there is a constant M , independent of λ , with $|y|_1 \leq M$ for each solution y to (2), for each $\lambda \in (0, 1)$. Then (1) has a solution $y \in C[0, 1] \cap C^2(0, 1)$ with $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$. Where we set $|y|_1 = \max\{|y|_0, |p\psi_n(y')|_0\} = \max\{\sup_{[0, 1]} |y(t)|, \sup_{[0, 1]} |p(t)\psi_n(y'(t))|\}$.

PROOF. Solving (2) is equivalent to finding a $y \in C[0, 1]$ with $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$ which satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \frac{d}{a} + \lambda^{\frac{1}{n-1}} [\int_0^t (\frac{1}{p(s)})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx)ds \\ &\quad - \frac{b}{a} \psi_n^{-1}(\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx) \\ &\quad - \int_0^1 \psi_n^{-1}(\frac{1}{p(s)} \int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx)ds]. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Let $\mu = \lambda^{\frac{1}{n-1}}$. We can write (3) as

$$y(t) = (1 - \mu) \frac{d}{a} + \mu Ny(t),$$

where $N: K_B^1[0, 1] \rightarrow K_B^1[0, 1]$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} Ny(t) &= \frac{d}{a} + \int_0^t \left(\frac{1}{p(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right) ds \\ &\quad - \frac{b}{a} \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right) \\ &\quad - \int_0^1 \psi_n^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{p(s)} \int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$K^1[0, 1] = \{u \in C[0, 1], p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1] \text{ with norm } |u|_1\},$$

which is a Banach space, and set

$$K_B^1[0, 1] = \{u \in K^1[0, 1], \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, au(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = d\}.$$

Then $K_B^1[0, 1]$ is a convex subset of $K^1[0, 1]$. Consequently (2) is equivalent to the fixed point problem

$$y = (1 - \mu) \frac{d}{a} + \mu Ny.$$

We first prove that N is continuous. Let $y_m, y \in K_B^1[0, 1]$, and $y_m \rightarrow y$. So there is a constant M_0 so that $|y_m|_1 \leq M_0$, $|y| \leq M_0$. With lemma 1, for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is N , when $m > N$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |Ny - Ny_m|_0 &= \sup_{[0,1]} |Ny(t) - Ny_m(t)| \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{p(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} |\psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right) \\ &\quad - \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y_m(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'_m(x)))dx \right)| ds \\ &\quad + \frac{b}{a} |\psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right) \\ &\quad - \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)f(x, y_m(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'_m(x)))dx \right)| \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{p(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)dx \right) ds + \frac{b}{a}\varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |p\psi_n((Ny)' - p\psi_n((Ny_m)'))|_0 &= \sup_{[0,1]} |p(t)\psi_n((Ny)'(t)) - p(t)\psi_n((Ny_m)')(t))| \\ &\leq \int_0^1 p(x)q(x) |f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x))) - f(x, y_m(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'_m(x)))| dx \\ &\leq \varepsilon \int_0^1 p(x)q(x) dx, \end{aligned}$$

so (H_3) and the above inequalities imply $Ny_m \rightarrow Ny$. Thus N is continuous.

Next we show N is completely continuous. Let $\Omega \subseteq K_B^1[0, 1]$ be bounded i.e. there exists a constant $M_1 > 0$ with $|y|_1 \leq M_1$ for each $y \in \Omega$. For each $y \in \Omega$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |Ny|_0 &\leq \frac{d}{a} + 2 \int_0^1 \left(\frac{1}{p(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} |\psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^s p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right)| ds \\ &\quad + \frac{b}{a} |\psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^1 p(x)q(x)f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))dx \right)|, \\ |p((Ny)')|_0 &\leq \int_0^1 p(x)q(x) |f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))| dx, \end{aligned}$$

so there is M_3 such that $|Ny|_1 \leq M_3$ for each $y \in \Omega$ i.e. $N\Omega$ is completely bounded.

For each $y \in \Omega$ and $s, t \in [0, 1]$ with $s < t$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |Ny(t) - Ny(s)| &\leq \left| \int_s^t \left(\frac{1}{p(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^x p(z)q(z)f(z, y(z), p(z)\psi_n(y'(z)))dz \right) dx \right| \\ &\leq M_4 \int_s^t \left(\frac{1}{p(x)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \psi_n^{-1} \left(\int_0^x p(z)q(z)dz \right) dx, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |p(t)\psi_n((Ny)'(t)) - p(s)\psi_n((Ny)'(s))| &\leq \int_s^t p(x)q(x)|f(x, y(x), p(x)\psi_n(y'(x)))|dx \\ &\leq M_5 \int_s^t p(x)q(x)dx, \end{aligned}$$

where M_4 and M_5 are constant. (H_3) and above inequalities imply $N\Omega$ is equicontinuous. The Arzela-Ascoli theory in [4-5] guarantees that N is completely continuous.

Let $U = \{u \in K_B^1[0, 1] : |u|_1 < \max\{M + 1, |\frac{d}{a}| + 1\}\}$, $C = K_B^1[0, 1]$ and $E = K^1[0, 1]$.

Set $p^* = \frac{d}{a}$, with the choice of U , $p^* \in U$ and possibility (ii) of nonlinear alternative theorem of Leray-Schauder type in [6,7] is ruled out. By the theorem, we deduce that N has a fixed point i.e. (1) has a solution $y \in C[0, 1]$ with $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$. The fact that $y \in C^2(0, 1)$ follows from (3) with $\lambda = 1$.

We consider the problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = qf(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), 0 < t < 1, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, \\ ay(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, a > 0, b \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

THEOREM 2. Suppose (H_1) , (H_2) and (H_3) hold. In addition suppose

(H_4) there is a constant $M > 0$ with $uf(t, u, 0) > 0$ for $|u| > M$ and $t \in [0, 1]$;

(H_5) there exists $s_0 < r_0$ with $s_0 \leq 0 \leq r_0$ and $f(t, u, r_0) \leq 0 \leq f(t, u, s_0)$ for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $u \in [-M, M]$.

Then (4) has a solution $y \in C[0, 1] \cap C^2(0, 1)$, with $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$.

PROOF. Let y be a solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = \lambda qf_1(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), 0 < t < 1, 0 < \lambda < 1, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, \\ ay(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, a > 0, b \geq 0, \end{cases} \quad (5)_\lambda$$

where

$$f_1(t, u, v) = \begin{cases} f(t, u, r_0), & v \geq r_0, \\ f(t, u, v), & s_0 \leq v \leq r_0, \\ f(t, u, s_0), & v \leq s_0. \end{cases}$$

We notice $f_1 : [0, 1] \times R^2 \rightarrow R$ is continuous.

We first show that

$$-M \leq y(t) \leq M \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]. \quad (6)$$

Suppose $|y(t)|$ achieves a positive maximum at $t_0 \in [0, 1]$. First if $t_0 \in (0, 1)$, then $y'(t_0) = 0$. Assume $|y(t_0)| > M$. Then (H_4) together with $s_0 \leq 0 \leq r_0$ and the differential equation yields

$$\begin{aligned} y(t_0)(p(t_0)\psi_n(y'(t_0)))' &= \lambda p(t_0)q(t_0)y(t_0)f_1(t_0, y(t_0), 0) \\ &= \lambda p(t_0)q(t_0)y(t_0)f(t_0, y(t_0), 0) > 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $y(t_0)(\psi_n(y'(t_0)))' > 0$. Then one of the following conditions occurs:

(a) if $y(t_0) > 0$, then $(\psi_n(y'(t_0)))' > 0$. Thus there is $\delta > 0$ such that $\psi_n(y'(t)) < 0$ for $t_0 - \delta < t < t_0$, i.e. $y'(t) < 0$; and $\psi_n(y'(t)) > 0$ for $t_0 < t < t_0 + \delta$, i.e. $y'(t) > 0$, a contradiction.

(b) if $y(t_0) < 0$, then $(\psi_n(y'(t_0)))' < 0$. Thus there is $\delta > 0$ such that $\psi_n(y'(t)) > 0$ for $t_0 - \delta < t < t_0$, i.e. $y'(t) > 0$; and $\psi_n(y'(t)) < 0$ for $t_0 < t < t_0 + \delta$, i.e. $y'(t) < 0$, a contradiction.

Next if $t_0 = 1$, then $b > 0$. However $y(1) \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = -\frac{a}{b}y^2(1) < 0$, i.e. there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $y(1)y'(t) < 0$ for $t \in (1 - \delta, 1)$, a contradiction.

It remains to consider the case $t_0 = 0$. Suppose $|y(0)| > M$, then

$$y(0)f_1(0, y(0), 0) = y(0)f(0, y(0), 0) > 0$$

together with the differential equation implies there exists $\delta > 0$ with $y(t)(p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)))' > 0$ for $t \in (0, \delta)$.

(c) if $y(t) > 0$ for $t \in (0, \delta)$, then $(p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)))' > 0$. With $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0$, we reduce $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) > 0$ for $t \in (0, \delta)$, i.e. $y'(t) > 0$, a contradiction.

(d) if $y(t) < 0$ for $t \in (0, \delta)$, then $(p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)))' < 0$. With $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0$, we reduce $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) < 0$ for $t \in (0, \delta)$, i.e. $y'(t) < 0$, a contradiction.

Thus (6) is true.

Next we show

$$s_0 \leq p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0 \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]. \quad (7)$$

Suppose there exists $t \in (0, 1)$ with $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) > r_0$. Then since $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0$, $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) = 0$. So there exists $\mu \in [0, t)$ with $p(s)\psi_n(y'(s)) > r_0$ for $s \in (\mu, t]$ and $p(\mu)\psi_n(y'(\mu)) = r_0$. This together with (H₅) yields

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) - p(\mu)\psi_n(y'(\mu)) &= \int_{\mu}^t (p(s)\psi_n(y'(s)))' ds \\ &= \lambda \int_{\mu}^t p(s)q(s)f_1(s, y(s), p(s)\psi_n(y'(s))) ds \\ &= \lambda \int_{\mu}^t p(s)q(s)f(s, y(s), r_0) ds \leq 0, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$. Similarly $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \geq s_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$.

Thus we have shown that any solution y of (5) _{λ} satisfied (6) and (7). Consequently theorem 1 implies that (5) _{λ} has solution y with $-M \leq y(t) \leq M, t \in [0, 1]$ and $s_0 \leq p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0, t \in [0, 1]$, so y is solution of (4) with $y \in C[0, 1] \cap C^2[0, 1]$ and $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$.

THEOREM 3. Suppose (H₁), (H₂), (H₃) and (H₄) hold. In addition assume

(H₆) there exists $s_0 < r_0$ with $s_0 \leq 0 \leq r_0$ and $uf(t, u, r_0) \geq 0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $u \in [-M_0, M_0]$, and $uf(t, u, s_0) \geq 0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $u \in [-M_0, M_0]$; here $M_0 = \max\{M, \frac{|d|}{a}\}$ and $bs_0 \leq d \leq br_0$.

Then (1) has a solution $y \in C[0, 1] \cap C^2[0, 1]$ and $p\psi_n(y') \in C[0, 1]$.

PROOF. Let y be a solution to

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{p} \left(p\psi_n(y') \right)' = \lambda q f_1(t, y, p\psi_n(y')), 0 < t < 1, 0 < \lambda < 1, \\ \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = 0, \\ ay(1) + b \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = d, a > 0, b \geq 0, \end{cases} \quad (8)_\lambda$$

where f_1 is as in theorem 2. We first show that

$$|y(t)| \leq M_0 \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]. \quad (9)$$

Suppose $|y(t)|$ achieves a positive maximum at $t_0 \in [0, 1]$. If $t_0 \in [0, 1)$, as in Theorem 2, $|y(t_0)| \leq M$. If $t_0 = 1$, then one of the following conditions occurs:

- (a) If $b = 0$, then $|y(1)| = \frac{|d|}{a} \leq M_0$.
- (b) If $b \neq 0$, and suppose $|y(1)| > \frac{|d|}{a}$, then

$$by(1) \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) = y(1)d - a[y(1)]^2 \leq |y(1)||d| - a[y(1)]^2 = |y(1)|(|d| - a|y(1)|) < 0.$$

Thus there is $\delta > 0$ with $y(t)p^{\frac{1}{n-1}}(t)y'(t) < 0$ for $t \in (1 - \delta, 1)$, i.e. $y(t)y'(t) < 0$, a contradiction. Consequently (9) is true.

Next we show

$$s_0 \leq p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0 \text{ for } t \in [0, 1]. \quad (10)$$

Suppose $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \not\leq r_0$, then there is $t_1 \in (0, 1)$ such that $p(t_1)\psi_n(y'(t_1)) > r_0$. One of the following conditions occurs:

(c) If $y(t_1) > 0$, let $I_1 = \{t \in [t_1, 1] : p\psi_n(y')(s) > r_0 \geq 0, \forall s \in [t_1, t]\}$. Then I_1 is an interval, $I_1 \neq \emptyset$ and $y(t) > 0$ on I_1 . Suppose $1 \in I_1$. If $b = 0$, then $y_1 = \frac{d}{a} \leq 0$, a contradiction. If $b \neq 0$, then $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) = \frac{d}{b} - \frac{a}{b}y(1) \leq \frac{d}{b} \leq r_0$, a contradiction.

Thus $1 \notin I_1$. Then there is $t_1 < t_2 \in [0, 1]$ such that $y(t) > 0$, $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) > r_0$ for $t \in (t_1, t_2)$ with $p(t_2)\psi_n(y'(t_2)) = r_0$.

(d) If $y(t_1) < 0$, then there is $t_0 < t_1 \in [0, 1]$ such that $y(t) < 0$, $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) > r_0$ for $t \in (t_0, t_1)$ with $p(t_0)\psi_n(y'(t_0)) = r_0$.

If (c) holds, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 > p(t_2)\psi_n(y'(t_2)) - p(t_1)\psi_n(y'(t_1)) &= \int_{t_1}^{t_2} (p(s)\psi_n(y'(s)))' ds \\ &= \lambda \int_{t_1}^{t_2} p(s)q(s)f(s, y(s), r_0) ds \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction.

If (d) holds, then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 < p(t_1)\psi_n(y'(t_1)) - p(t_0)\psi_n(y'(t_0)) &= \int_{t_0}^{t_1} (p(s)\psi_n(y'(s)))' ds \\ &= \lambda \int_{t_0}^{t_1} p(s)q(s)f(s, y(s), r_0) ds \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction.

Thus $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$. Similarly $p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \geq s_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$, so (10) is true.

Now (9), (10) and Theorem 1 imply $(8)_\lambda$ has a solution y with $|y(t)| \leq M_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $s_0 \leq p(t)\psi_n(y'(t)) \leq r_0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$, so y is a solution of (1).

Acknowledgment. The project is supported by the Natural Science Foundation of China (10371030), and the Natural Science Foundation of Hebei Province (A2006000298) and the Doctoral Program Foundation of Hebei Province (B2004204)

References

- [1] D. O'Regan, Theorem of Singular Boundary Value Problems, World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd., 1994.
- [2] D. O'Regan, Some existence principles and some general results for singular nonlinear two point boundary value problems, *J. Math. Anal. Appl.*, 166(1992), 24–40.
- [3] M. Frigon and D. O'Regan, Existence results for some initial and boundary value problems without growth restriction, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 123(1995), 207–216.
- [4] C. O. Crighton and W. L. Voxman, Aspects of Topology, Marcel Dekker, New York, 1997.
- [5] G. F. Simmons, Introduction to Topology and Modern Analysis, McGraw Hill, Toyok, 1963.
- [6] J. Dugundji and A. Granas, Fixed Point Theory, Monografie Matematyczne, PWN, Warsaw, 1982.
- [7] A. Granas, Sur la méthode de continuation de Poincaré, *C.R. Acad. Sci. Paris*, 282(1976), 983–985.