

Comparison theorems for p -elliptic equations with laden levelsets as coefficients and some other topics.

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Part 1. Joint work with **Boris E Levitskij**.

We generalize Talenty's symmetrization methods to new comparison theorems for a wider class of equation.

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ be an open set with finite volume. Let $0 < q \leq p - 1$. Let $\Phi(s) = s^{\alpha/(p-1)}$, where $\alpha < \frac{1}{m} + \frac{p-1-q}{q}$. For each measurable function $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and each point $x \in \Omega$ we set

$$g_0(x, u) = \Phi^{p-1}(\text{meas}\{y \in \Omega : |u(y)| > |u(x)|\}).$$

Let u be a positive weak solution of the following equation

$$-\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (g_0(x, u) |\nabla u|^{p-2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k}) = f(x) + k |\nabla u|^q, \quad (1)$$

equipped with zero Dirichlet boundary conditions. Here $f \in L^1(\Omega)$ and $k \geq 0$. Let Ω^* be the spherical symmetrization of the set Ω . In other words Ω^* is a ball in \mathbb{R}^m of the same volume as the measure of Ω . Let $u^* : \Omega^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $f^* : \Omega^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ denote the spherical symmetrization of the functions u and f respectively, and let $V : \Omega^* \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the maximal weak solution for

$$-\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} (g_0(x, V) |\nabla V|^{p-2} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_k}) = f^*(x) + k |\nabla V|^q \quad (2)$$

in Ω^* , which is the symmetrized version of equation (1). Equation (2) is also equipped with zero Dirichlet boundary conditions.

We prove that V exist and unique and that $u^* \leq V$. Also we prove that $|\nabla u|_{L^p(\Omega)} \leq |\nabla V|_{L^p(\Omega^*)}$.

Generalizations of this result are also considered.

Part 2. Other topics.