

**A POSITIVE SOLUTION OF SINGULAR IMPULSIVE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH NONLINEAR BOUNDARY CONDITION\***

**ДОДАТНИЙ РОЗВ'ЯЗОК СИНГУЛЯРНИХ ДИФЕРЕНЦІАЛЬНИХ РІВНЯНЬ З ІМПУЛЬСНИМ ВПЛИВОМ ТА НЕЛІНІЙНОЮ ГРАНИЧНОЮ УМОВОЮ**

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*By using priori estimates and the theory of topological degree, we study the existence of positive solution to a class of second order singular impulsive differential equations with nonlinear boundary conditions. Our result admits that the nonlinear term of differential equation can be singular in its second and third variable.*

*Із використанням апіорних оцінок та теорії топологічного ступеня вивчено існування розв'язку для класу сингулярних диференціальних рівнянь другого порядку з імпульсним впливом та нелінійними граничними умовами. Отриманий результат має місце також у випадку, коли нелінійний член диференціального рівняння є сингулярним відносно другої та третьої змінних.*

**1. Introduction.** In this paper, we study the singular boundary-value problem with impulsive effect,

$$\begin{aligned} u''(t) + f(t, u(t), u'(t)) &= 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= 0, \quad u'(1) = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

where  $J = [0, 1]$ ,  $f : J \times (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $I_k, M_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for  $1 \leq k \leq p$ ,  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_p < 1 = t_{p+1}$ ,  $u'(t_k^+) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} h^{-1}[u(t_k + h) - u(t_k)]$ ,  $u'(1) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 1^-} u'(t)$ ,  $u'(0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u'(t)$ .  $f(t, u, v)$  may be singular at  $u = 0$  or  $v = 0$ , which means that  $f$  tends to infinity when  $u \rightarrow 0^+$  or  $v \rightarrow 0^+$ , i.e.,

$$\lim_{u \rightarrow 0^+} f(\cdot, u, \cdot) = +\infty \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{v \rightarrow 0^+} f(\cdot, \cdot, v) = +\infty.$$

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Singular differential equations play a very important role in modern applied mathematics due to their deep physical background and broad application, and has been studied extensively, see [1–5]. Recently, boundary-value problems of nonlinear singular impulsive differential equations have received a considerable attention, for example, see [6–12] and the references therein. However to the best knowledge of the authors, there is no paper concerned with the existence of positive solutions to boundary-value problems of impulsive differential equation with nonlinear boundary conditions so far. In the present paper, we investigate the existence of positive solutions of (1.1) by using priori estimates and the theory of topological degree.

Let  $J^* = J \setminus \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_p\}$ ,  $PC^r(J) = \{u : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R} | u^{(j)}(t)$  be continuous at  $t \neq t_k$ , left continuous at  $t = t_k$ , and each  $u^{(j)}(t_k^+)$  exist for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, p$ , where  $j = 0, 1, \dots, r\}$ . Note that  $PC^0(J) = PC(J)$  and  $PC^1(J)$  are Banach spaces with the norms  $\|u\|_0 = \sup\{|u(t)| : t \in J\}$ ,  $\|u\|_1 = \max\{\|u\|_0, \|u'\|_0\}$ , respectively.

By a solution to (1.1) we mean a function  $x \in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$  that satisfies (1.1).

In the study of problem (1.1), we introduce the following assumptions:

(H<sub>1</sub>)  $M_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous and strictly increasing functions,  $I_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous, nondecreasing functions,  $M_k(0) = I_k(0) = 0$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p$ .

(H<sub>2</sub>)  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous and nondecreasing function,  $xg(x) > 0$  for  $x \neq 0$ .

(H<sub>3</sub>)  $\limsup_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{I_k(x)}{x} < \infty$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{M_1(x)}{x} > 0$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{M_k(x)}{x} > 1$ ,  $2 \leq k \leq p$ .

(H<sub>4</sub>)  $f : J \times (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is continuous. For  $(t, u, v) \in J \times (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty)$ ,

$$f(t, u, v) \leq h(t, u + v) + p(t)w_1(u) + q(t)w_2(v),$$

where the functions  $p, q$  are continuous and nonnegative on  $J$ ,  $w_1, w_2 : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  are continuous and nonincreasing on  $J$ ,  $h : J \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is continuous and nondecreasing in its second argument,

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{z} \int_0^1 h(t, z) dt = 0.$$

(H<sub>5</sub>) There exists  $\psi \in C(J, [0, \infty)) : \psi \not\equiv 0$  on  $J$  such that

$$f(t, u, v) \geq \psi(t), \quad (t, u, v) \in J \times (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty),$$

$$\int_0^1 (w_1(G(s)) + w_2(H(s))) ds < \infty,$$

where

$$H(t) = \min \left\{ \int_t^1 \psi(s) ds, \alpha \right\}, \quad G(t) = \min \left\{ \int_0^t H(s) ds, \beta \right\}, \quad t \in J,$$

$$\alpha = \min \left\{ M_p^- \left( \int_{t_p}^1 \psi(s) ds \right), M_{p-1}^- \left( M_p^- \left( \int_{t_p}^1 \psi(s) ds \right) \right), \dots \right.$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \dots, M_1^- \left( M_2^- \left( \dots \left( M_p^- \left( \int_{t_p}^1 \psi(s) ds \right) \dots \right) \right) \right) \Big\}, \\ \beta = \min & \left\{ I_1 \left( \int_0^{t_1} H(s) ds \right), I_2 \left( I_1 \left( \int_0^{t_1} H(s) ds \right) \right), \dots \right. \\ & \left. \dots, I_p \left( I_{p-1} \left( \dots \left( I_1 \left( \int_0^{t_1} H(s) ds \right) \dots \right) \right) \right) \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $M_k^-$  is the inverse of  $M_k$ .

**2. Preliminaries.** We establish some results that we shall need in the paper.

**Lemma 2.1.** Assume that  $(H_1)$ ,  $(H_2)$  hold and  $u \in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} -u''(t) &\geq 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = a > 0. \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

Then  $u(t) \geq g(a) + a$ ,  $u'(t) \geq a$  for  $t \in J$ .

**Proof.** It is easy to check that  $u'(t)$  is nonincreasing in  $(t_k, t_{k+1})$  since  $u''(t) \leq 0$ ,  $t \in (t_k, t_{k+1})$ . Suppose that  $u(0) \leq 0$ , then  $g(u'(0)) \leq u(0) - a < 0$ , which implies that  $u'(0) < 0$ . So  $u'(t) < 0$  for  $t \in [0, t_1]$  and  $u'(t_1^+) = M_1(u'(t_1)) < 0$ . In such a way we can show that  $u'(t) < 0$  for  $t \in J$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $u(0) > 0$ . Similarly,  $u'(0) > 0$ .

Assume that there exists  $s \in (0, 1]$  such that  $u(s) < 0$ . Let  $\tau = \inf\{t \in (0, 1], u(t) < 0\}$ . By  $u(0) > 0$  and  $(H_1)$ , we obtain that  $u'(\tau) \leq 0$ .

If  $\tau = t_{i_0}$  for some  $1 \leq i_0 \leq p$ , then  $u(\tau) = 0$ ,  $u'(\tau^+) = M_{i_0}(u'(\tau)) \leq 0$ . Using the fact that  $u'(t)$  is nonincreasing in  $(t_k, t_{k+1})$  and  $(H_1)$ , one can obtain that  $u'(t) \leq 0$  for  $t \in (\tau, 1]$ , a contradiction.

If  $\tau \neq t_k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq p$ , then  $u'(\tau) < 0$  and  $u'(t) \leq 0$  for  $t \in (\tau, 1]$ , a contradiction.

Hence,  $u(t) > 0$  on  $J$ . Next, we show that  $u'(t) > 0$ . If not, there exists  $i : 1 \leq i \leq p$  and sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $u(t)$  is nonincreasing on  $(t_i - \varepsilon, t_i)$ . Therefore,  $u'(t_i) \leq 0$ ,  $u'(t_i^+) = M_i(u'(t_i)) \leq 0$ . One can obtain that  $u'(t) \leq 0$  for  $t \in (t_i, 1]$ , a contradiction. The conclusion is true by monotonicity of  $u$ .

Lemma 2.1 is proved.

**Lemma 2.2.** Assume that  $(H_1)$ ,  $(H_2)$  hold and  $\psi \in C(J, [0, \infty))$  with  $\psi \not\equiv 0$  on  $J$ .  $u \in$

$\in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} -u''(t) &\geq \psi(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = a > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $u'(t) \geq H(t), u(t) \geq G(t)$  for  $t \in J$ .

**Proof.** Put

$$\bar{h}(t) = \begin{cases} h_p(t), & t_p < t \leq 1, \\ h_k(t), & t_k < t \leq t_{k+1}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq p-1, \\ h_0(t), & t_0 \leq t \leq t_1, \end{cases}$$

$$\bar{g}(t) = \begin{cases} g_0(t), & t_0 \leq t \leq t_1, \\ g_k(t), & t_k < t \leq t_{k+1}, \quad 1 \leq k \leq p-1, \\ g_p(t), & t_p < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

where

$$h_p(t) = \int_t^1 \psi(s)ds, \quad h_k(t) = \int_t^{t_{k+1}} \psi(s)ds + M_{k+1}^-(h_{k+1}(t_{k+1})), \quad 0 \leq k \leq p-1,$$

$$g_0(t) = \int_0^t H(s)ds, \quad g_k(t) = \int_{t_k}^t H(s)ds + I_k(g_{k-1}(t_{k-1})), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p.$$

Since  $u(t) > 0, u'(t) > 0$  on  $J, I_k(u(t_k)) > 0, M_k(u'(t_k)) > 0$ . When  $t \in (t_p, 1]$ ,

$$u'(t) - u'(1) \geq \int_t^1 \psi(s)ds = h_p(t).$$

So  $u'(t_p^+) \geq \int_{t_p^+}^1 \psi(s)ds + u'(1) \geq h_p(t_p)$ . By  $u'(t_p^+) = M_p(u'(t_p))$ , we obtain that  $u'(t_p) \geq M_p^-(h_p(t_p))$ . For  $t \in (t_{p-1}, t_p]$ ,

$$u'(t) \geq \int_t^{t_p} \psi(s)ds + u'(t_p) \geq \int_t^{t_p} \psi(s)ds + M_p^-(h_p(t_p)).$$

By induction, we obtain that  $u'(t) \geq \bar{h}(t), t \in J$ . It is easy to check that  $\bar{h}(t) \geq H(t), t \in J$ . So  $u'(t) \geq H(t), t \in J$ . Similarly,  $u(t) \geq G(t)$  for  $t \in J$ .

Lemma 2.2 is proved.

**Lemma 2.3.** Assume that  $(H_1)$ – $(H_4)$  hold, then there exist constants  $A, B > 0$  such that for any  $u \in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$  satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq -u''(t) \leq h(t, u + u') + p(t)w_1(u) + q(t)w_2(u'(t)), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = a \in (0, 1], \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

the estimates  $u(t) \leq A, u'(t) \leq B, t \in J$  hold true, where  $h, p, q, w_1, w_2$  are defined as in  $(H_4)$ .

**Proof.** Note that  $u(t) > 0, u'(t) > 0$  on  $J$  by Lemma 2.1. Set  $u'(t_i) = \rho_i, 0 \leq i \leq p + 1$ . Since  $u'(t)$  is nonincreasing on  $(t_i, t_{i+1})$ ,

$$\sup\{u'(t) : t \in (t_i, t_{i+1})\} = u'(t_i) = \rho_i, \quad 0 \leq i \leq p. \tag{2.3}$$

Put  $r = \max\{t_{i+1} - t_i : 0 \leq i \leq p\}, M_0(\rho_0) = \rho_0, Q = \sup\{q(t) : t \in J\}, P = \sup\{p(t) : t \in J\}$ , then

$$\rho_0 > \rho_1, \quad M_i(\rho_i) > \rho_{i+1}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq p, \tag{2.4}$$

$$\sup\{u(t) : t \in [0, t_1]\} = u(t_1) = r\rho_0 + 1 = r_1 > 0, \tag{2.5}$$

$$\sup\{u(t) : t \in (t_i, t_{i+1}]\} = u(t_{i+1}) = I_i(r_i) + r\rho_i =: r_{i+1}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq p. \tag{2.6}$$

Integrating the inequality  $-u''(t) \leq h(t, u + u') + p(t)w_1(u) + q(t)w_2(u'(t))$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p M_i(\rho_i) - \sum_{i=1}^p \rho_i &\leq \int_0^1 [h(t, u(t) + u'(t)) + p(t)w_1(u(t)) + q(t)w_2(u'(t))] dt \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1} + M_i(\rho_i)) dt + P \sum_{i=1}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} w_1(G(t)) dt + \\ &\quad + Q \sum_{i=1}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} w_2(H(t)) dt. \end{aligned}$$

By the condition  $(H_4)$ , we obtain that

$$L := P \sum_{i=1}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} w_1(G(t)) dt + Q \sum_{i=1}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} w_2(H(t)) dt < \infty,$$

$$1 \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p \rho_i}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_i)} + \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_i)} \left( \sum_{i=0}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1} + M_i(\rho_i)) dt + L \right). \tag{2.7}$$

Suppose  $\{u_m\}_{m \in N}$  satisfy (2.2). Put  $u'_m(t_i) = \rho_{i,m}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq p+1$ . Assume that  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, p+1\}$  such that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{k,m} = \infty. \tag{2.8}$$

We derive a contradiction in the following way. Let  $k$  be the largest number satisfying (2.8), i.e., if  $i > k$ ,  $\rho_{i,m}$  are bounded and

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{i,m} = \infty, \quad 1 \leq i \leq k. \tag{2.9}$$

In fact, (2.9) is obvious if  $k = 1$ . If  $k \geq 2$ , from  $M_i(\rho_i) > \rho_{i+1}$ , we obtain that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} M_{i-1}(\rho_{i-1,m}) = +\infty,$$

which implies by  $(H_3)$  that  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{i-1,m} = \infty$ . By induction, we know that (2.9) holds.

Put

$$\begin{aligned} r_{1,m} &= r\rho_0 + 1, \\ r_{i+1,m} &= I_i(r_{i,m}) + rM_i(\rho_{i,m}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq p, \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

and  $M_0(\rho_{0,m}) = \rho_{0,m}$ , then

$$1 \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p \rho_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} + \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} \left( \sum_{i=0}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1,m} + M_i(\rho_{i,m})) dt + L \right). \tag{2.11}$$

Consider the first term in the right-hand side of (2.7). By  $(H_3)$  there exist  $\delta > 0$  and  $m_0 \in N$  such that if  $m \geq m_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} M_1(\rho_{1,m}) &\geq \rho_{1,m}\delta, \\ M_i(\rho_{i,m}) &\geq (1 + \delta)\rho_{i,m}, \quad \text{if } k \geq 2, \quad 2 \leq i \leq k. \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} S_m &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p \rho_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} < \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k \rho_{i,m}}{(1 + \delta) \sum_{i=1}^k \rho_{i,m}} + \frac{\sum_{i=k+1}^p \rho_{i,m}}{\rho_{0,m}}, \\ \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} S_m &\leq \frac{1}{1 + \delta} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Next, we consider the second term in the right-hand side of (2.7). Set

$$z_{i,m} = r_{i+1,m} + M_i(\rho_{i,m}), \quad 0 \leq i \leq p. \quad (2.13)$$

From (2.8), (2.9) and (2.12), we have

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r_{i,m} = \infty, \quad 1 \leq i \leq k+1, \quad (2.14)$$

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} z_{i,m} = \infty, \quad 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

By  $(H_4)$ , we have

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{z_{i,m}} \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, z_{i,m}) dt = 0. \quad (2.15)$$

When  $1 \leq i \leq p$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} &< \frac{I_i(r_{i,m})}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} + 1 + r < \frac{I_i(r_{i,m})}{r_{i,m}} \frac{r_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} + 1 + r < \\ &< \frac{I_i(r_{i,m})}{r_{i,m}} \left( \frac{I_{i-1}(r_{i-1,m})}{r_{i-1,m}} \frac{r_{i-1,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} + r \right) + 1 + r. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $1 \leq i \leq p$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{z_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} &< \frac{I_i(r_{i,m})}{r_{i,m}} \left( \frac{I_{i-1}(r_{i-1,m})}{r_{i-1,m}} \left( \frac{I_{i-2}(r_{i-2,m})}{r_{i-2,m}} \times \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \times \left( \dots \frac{I_1(r\rho_{0,m} + 1)}{r\rho_{0,m} + 1} \frac{r\rho_{0,m} + 1}{\rho_{0,m}} + r \dots \right) + r \right) + r \right) + 1 + r. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\frac{z_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} < A_i(A_{i-1}(A_{i-2}(\dots(A_1 r + r)\dots) + r) + r) + 1 + r,$$

where  $A_i = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} I_i(x)/x < \infty$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq p$ . Combining (2.15) we obtain that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1,m} + M_i(\rho_{i,m})) dt = 0.$$

Hence,

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} \left( \sum_{i=0}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1,m} + M_i(\rho_{i,m})) dt + L \right) = 0,$$

$$1 \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^p \rho_{i,m}}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sum_{i=0}^p \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} h(t, r_{i+1,m} + M_i(\rho_{i,m})) dt + L}{\sum_{i=0}^p M_i(\rho_{i,m})} \leq \frac{1}{1 + \delta} < 1,$$

a contradiction. Hence, there exists  $B > 0$  such that  $u'(t) \leq B \forall t \in [0, 1]$ . Next, we show that there exists  $A > 0$  such that  $u(t) \leq A \forall t \in [0, 1]$ . Clearly,  $u(0) \leq 1 + g(B)$ . Using the mean value theorem, we obtain that  $u(t_1) - u(0) \leq Bt_1$ . Hence,

$$u(t_1) \leq Bt_1 + 1 + g(B) := \lambda_1.$$

When  $t \in (t_1, t_2]$ , we have

$$u(t) - u(t_1^+) \leq B(t - t_1),$$

$$u(t_2) \leq J_1(u(t_1)) + B(t_2 - t_1) \leq J_1(\lambda_1) + B(t_2 - t_1) := \lambda_2.$$

By induction, there is a constant  $A > 0$  such that  $u(t) \leq A \forall t \in [0, 1]$ .

Lemma 2.3 is proved.

**Lemma 2.4.** Assume that  $v \in PC(J)$ ,  $d_k, e_k \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} -u''(t) &= v(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= u(t_k) + d_k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= u'(t_k) + e_k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = a \end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

has a unique solution,

$$\tilde{u}(t) = a + g \left( a + \int_0^1 v(s) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p e_k \right) + at + \int_0^1 G(t, s)v(s) ds + \sum_{0 < t_k < t} [d_k + (t - t_k)e_k] - t \sum_{k=1}^p e_k,$$

where

$$G(t, s) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1, \\ s, & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Assume that  $u_1, u_2$  are solutions of (2.16) and  $U = u_1 - u_2$ . It is easy to check that  $U \in C^2(J)$  and  $U'' \equiv 0$  on  $J$ . Hence,  $U(t) = bt + c$ , where  $b, c$  are constants. From  $U'(1) = u_1'(1) - u_2'(1) = 0$ , we obtain that  $b = 0$ . Thus  $u_1'(0) = u_2'(0) = 0$  and  $c = U(0) = u_1(0) - u_2(0) = g(u_1'(0)) - g(u_2'(0)) = 0$ . That is,  $u_1 = u_2$  on  $J$ .

Next, we show that  $\tilde{u}$  is a solution of (2.16). From the definition of  $\tilde{u}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}'(t) &= a + \int_t^1 v(s) ds + \sum_{0 < t_k < t} e_k - \sum_{k=1}^p e_k, \quad \tilde{u}''(t) = -v(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \\ \tilde{u}(t_k^+) - \tilde{u}(t_k) &= \sum_{i \leq k} d_i - \sum_{i < k} d_i = d_k, \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{u}'(t_k^+) - \tilde{u}'(t_k) &= \sum_{i \leq k} e_i - \sum_{i < k} e_i = e_k, \\ \tilde{u}'(0) &= a + \int_0^1 v(s) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p e_k, \quad \tilde{u}'(1) = a + \int_1^1 v(s) ds + \sum_{0 < t_k < 1} e_k - \sum_{k=1}^p e_k = a, \\ \tilde{u}(0) &= a + g \left( a + \int_0^1 v(s) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p e_k \right) + \int_0^1 G(0, s) v(s) ds = a + g(\tilde{u}'(0)).\end{aligned}$$

That is,  $\tilde{u}$  is a unique solution of (2.16).

Lemma 2.4 is proved.

**Lemma 2.5.** *Assume that  $(H_1)$ – $(H_3)$  hold,  $v \in C(J, [0, \infty))$ ,  $\tilde{f}(t, x, y) \in C(J \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  and  $0 \leq \tilde{f}(t, x, y) \leq v(t)$  for any  $(t, x, y) \in J \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Then the equation*

$$\begin{aligned}-u''(t) &= \tilde{f}(t, u(t), u'(t)), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = a \in (0, 1]\end{aligned}\tag{2.17}$$

has a positive solution  $u \in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$ .

**Proof.** Define an operator  $T_\lambda : PC^1(J) \rightarrow PC^1(J)$  by

$$\begin{aligned}(T_\lambda u)(t) &= a + g \left( a + \lambda \int_0^1 \tilde{f}(s, u(s), u'(s)) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)) \right) + at + \\ &+ \lambda \int_0^1 G(t, s) \tilde{f} ds + \sum_{0 < t_k < t} [I_k(u(t_k)) - u(t_k)] + (t - t_k)(M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)) - \\ &- t \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)), \quad \lambda \in [0, 1].\end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 2.4, one can check that  $u \in PC^1(J) \cap C^2(J^*)$  is a solution of (2.16) if and only if  $u \in PC^1(J)$  is fixed point of  $T_1$ . Moreover,  $T_0$  has a unique fixed point  $u_0 \in PC^1(J)$ .

It is not difficult to prove that  $T_\lambda (\lambda \in [0, 1])$  is completely continuous. For any  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ , we show that there exists a constant  $M > 0$  independent of  $\lambda$  such that  $u_\lambda$ , with  $T_\lambda u_\lambda = u_\lambda$ , satisfies  $\|u_\lambda\|_{PC^1} < M$ . If  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}0 \leq -u_\lambda''(t) &= \lambda \tilde{f}(t, u_\lambda(t), u_\lambda'(t)) \leq v(t), \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u_\lambda(t_k^+) &= I_k(u_\lambda(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p,\end{aligned}$$

$$u'_\lambda(t_k^+) = M_k(u'_\lambda(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p,$$

$$u_\lambda(0) - g(u'_\lambda(0)) = u'_\lambda(1) = a \in (0, 1].$$

By Lemma 2.3, we have that  $0 < u_\lambda(t) \leq A$ ,  $0 < u'_\lambda(t) \leq B$  ( $h(t, z) \equiv v(t), p = q \equiv 0$  in Lemma 2.3). Put  $M > 1 + A + B + \|u_0\|_{PC^1}$ ,  $\|u_\lambda\|_{PC^1} < M$  for any  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Set  $\Omega = \{u \in PC^1(J), \|u\|_{PC^1} < M\}$  and  $\Psi_\lambda = I - T_\lambda$ , here  $I$  is the identity operator, then

$$\deg(\Psi_1, \Omega, 0) = \deg(\Psi_0, \Omega, 0) = \deg(I - T_0, \Omega, 0) \neq 0,$$

here,  $\deg$  is the Lery–Schauder degree. Hence,  $\Psi_1(u) = u - T_1u = 0$  has a solution  $u \in \bar{\Omega}$ . Since the fixed point of  $T_1$  is the solution of (2.17) and due to Lemma 2.1, (2.17) has a positive solution.

Lemma 2.5 is proved.

**3. Main result.** Our main result is the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Assume that  $(H_1) - (H_5)$  are satisfied, then (1.1) has at least one positive solution.*

**Proof.** Let  $m \in N$ ,

$$F(t, x, y) = f(t, \delta_1(m, x), \delta_2(m, y))$$

for  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , where

$$\delta_1(m, x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{m}, & x \leq \frac{1}{m}, \\ x, & \frac{1}{m} \leq x \leq 1 + A, \\ 1 + A, & x > 1 + A, \end{cases} \quad \delta_2(m, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{m}, & y \leq \frac{1}{m}, \\ y, & \frac{1}{m} \leq y \leq 1 + B, \\ 1 + B, & y > 1 + B, \end{cases}$$

here,  $A, B$  are defined as in Lemma 2.3.

Consider the equation

$$u''(t) + F(t, u(t), u'(t)) = 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J,$$

$$u(t_k^+) = I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p,$$

$$u'(t_k^+) = M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p,$$

$$u(0) - g(u'(0)) = u'(1) = \frac{1}{m}.$$
(3.1)

Note that

$$\psi(t) \leq F(t, x, y) \leq V(t) < +\infty,$$

where

$$V(t) = \sup \left\{ f(t, x, y) : x \in \left[ \frac{1}{m}, 1 + A \right], y \in \left[ \frac{1}{m}, 1 + B \right] \right\}.$$

By Lemma 2.5, (3.1) has a positive solution  $u_m(t)$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Using Lemmas 2.1 and 2.3, we obtain that for any  $t \in J$ ,

$$\frac{1}{m} \leq u_m(t) < 1 + A, \quad \frac{1}{m} \leq u'_m(t) < 1 + B.$$

Hence,  $u_m$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} u''_m(t) + f(t, u_m(t), u'_m(t)) &= 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u_m(t_k^+) &= I_k(u_m(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'_m(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'_m(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u_m(0) - g(u'_m(0)) &= u'_m(1) = \frac{1}{m}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

By  $(H_5)$ ,

$$-u''_m(t) = f(t, u_m(t), u'_m(t)) \geq \psi(t), \quad t \in J.$$

By Lemma 2.3,

$$u_m(t) \geq G(t), \quad u'_m(t) \geq H(t), \quad t \in J.$$

If  $s_1, s_2 \in (t_i, t_{i+1}]$ ,  $s_1 < s_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |u_m(s_2) - u_m(s_1)| &\leq \left| \int_{s_1}^{s_2} u'_m(t) dt \right| \leq B(s_2 - s_1), \\ |u'_m(s_2) - u'_m(s_1)| &= \left| \int_{s_1}^{s_2} u''_m(t) dt \right| = \left| \int_{s_1}^{s_2} f(t, u_m(t), u'_m(t)) dt \right| \leq \\ &\leq \int_{s_1}^{s_2} h(t, u_m(t) + u'_m(t)) dt + \int_{s_1}^{s_2} p(t) w_1(u_m(t)) dt + \\ &\quad + \int_{s_1}^{s_2} q(t) w_2(u'_m(t)) dt \leq \\ &\leq \int_{s_1}^{s_2} h(t, A + B + 2) dt + P \int_{s_1}^{s_2} w_1(u_m(t)) dt + Q \int_{s_1}^{s_2} w_2(u'_m(t)) dt \leq \\ &\leq \int_{s_1}^{s_2} h(t, A + B + 2) dt + P \int_{s_1}^{s_2} w_1(G(t)) dt + Q \int_{s_1}^{s_2} w_2(H(t)) dt \leq \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq (s_2 - s_1) \max\{h(t, A + B + 2) : t \in [0, 1]\} + (P + Q) \int_{s_1}^{s_2} (w_1(G(t)) + w_2(H(t))) dt,$$

which by the condition  $(H_5)$  implies that  $\{u'_m\}$  is equicontinuous on  $(t_i, t_{i+1})$ . Hence, there exist a subsequence  $\{u_{m_j}\}$  of  $\{u_m\}$  which converges to  $u \in PC^1(J)$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} u_m(t) &= \frac{1}{m} + g \left( \frac{1}{m} + \int_0^1 f(s, u_m(s), u'_m(s)) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'_m(t_k)) - u'_m(t_k)) \right) + \frac{t}{m} + \\ &+ \int_0^1 G(t, s) f(s, u_m(s), u'_m(s)) ds - t \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'_m(t_k)) - u'_m(t_k)) + \\ &+ \sum_{0 < t_k < t} [I_k(u_m(t_k)) - u_m(t_k)] + (t - t_k)(M_k(u'_m(t_k)) - u'_m(t_k)), \end{aligned}$$

taking  $m_j \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) &= g \left( \int_0^1 f(s, u(s), u'(s)) ds - \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)) \right) + \\ &+ \int_0^1 G(t, s) f(s, u(s), u'(s)) ds - t \sum_{k=1}^p (M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)) + \\ &+ \sum_{0 < t_k < t} [I_k(u(t_k)) - u(t_k)] + (t - t_k)(M_k(u'(t_k)) - u'(t_k)), \end{aligned}$$

which follows that

$$\begin{aligned} u''(t) + f(t, u(t), u'(t)) &= 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \\ u(t_k^+) &= I_k(u(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u'(t_k^+) &= M_k(u'(t_k)), \quad 1 \leq k \leq p, \\ u(0) - g(u'(0)) &= u'(1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $u$  is one positive solution of (1.1).

Theorem 3.1 is proved.

**Example 3.1.** Consider the equation

$$\begin{aligned} u''(t) + t^2 + (u'(t))^{-\frac{1}{2}} + (u(t))^{-\frac{1}{2}} &= 0, \quad t \neq t_k, \quad t \in J, \\ u(t_k^+) &= 2u(t_k), \quad u'(t_k^+) = 2u'(t_k), \quad k = 1, 2, \\ u(0) - (u'(0))^3 &= u'(1) = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

where  $0 < t_1 < t_2 < 1$ .

In fact,  $f(t, x, y) = t^2 + y^{-\frac{1}{2}} + x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ . Put  $\psi(t) = t^2$ , then

$$H(t) = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{3} (1 - t^3), \frac{1}{12} (1 - t_2^3) \right\} \geq \frac{1}{12} (1 - t_2^3)(1 - t),$$

$$G(t) \geq \frac{1}{24} (1 - t_2^3)t_1 t.$$

Setting  $h(t, x) = 1$ ,  $w_1(x) = w_2(x) = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ , then for  $(t, x, y) \in [0, 1] \times (0, \infty)^2$ ,

$$\psi(t) \leq f(t, x, y) \leq h(t, x + y) + w_1(x) + w_2(y),$$

$$\int_0^1 (w_1(G(s)) + w_2(H(s))) ds \leq \frac{8\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{t_1(1-t_2^3)}} < \infty.$$

By Theorem 3.1, (3.3) has at least one positive solution.

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