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ON THE RELATION BETWEEN INTERIOR CRITICAL POINTS OF SOLUTIONS AND PARAMETERS FOR A CLASS OF P-LAPLACIAN BVP WITH NEUMANN-ROBIN CONDITIONS

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Abstract. In this paper, we consider the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} -(\varphi_p(u'(x)))' = \lambda f(u(x)), & x \in (0,1) \\ u'(0) = 0, & \\ u'(1) + \alpha u(1) = 0, & \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\lambda > 0$ are parameters, p > 1, $\varphi_p(x) := |x|^{p-2}x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\varphi_p(0) = 0$ where $(\varphi_p(u'))'$ is the one dimensional p-Laplacian and $f \in C^2[0,\infty)$ such that f(0) < 0, and also f is increasing and concave up. We study the relation between λ 's, for which this problem has a solution, and the number of interior critical points of solutions.

Keywords. Semipositone problem, nonnegative solutions, interior critical points, quadrature method.

AMS (MOS) subject classification: 34B15.

1 Introduction

We study the nonlinear two point boundary value problem

$$-(\varphi_p(u'(x)))' = \lambda f(u(x)), \qquad x \in (0,1), \tag{1}$$

$$u'(0) = 0,$$
 (2)

$$u'(1) + \alpha u(1) = 0, \tag{3}$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\lambda > 0$ are parameters and p > 1, $\varphi_p(x) = |x|^{p-2}x$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^*$, $\varphi_p(0) = 0$, $f \in C^2[0,\infty)$ and f(0) < 0 (i.e. is the semipositone problem), and we will assume that there exist $\beta, \theta > 0$ such that

(i) f(s) < 0 on $[0,\beta)$, (ii) $f(\beta) = 0$, (iii) $f'(s) \ge 0$ and f''(s) > 0 for $s \ge 0$, (iv) $\lim_{s\to\infty} \frac{f(s)}{|s|^{p-2}s} = \infty$, (v) $F(\theta) = 0$ where $F(s) = \int_0^s f(t) dt$.