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Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, Vol. 25 (1975), No. 3, 475–479

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/101341>

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REMARK TO THE DEPENDENCE OF SOLUTION
OF NONLINEAR OPERATOR EQUATION ON THE SPACE
IN WHICH IT IS SOLVED

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(Received May 31, 1974)

In this paper, we shall consider reflexive Banach space S and its dual space S' , with the norm $\|u\|$ and $\|f\|$, respectively, and with the pairing $\langle u, f \rangle$ ($u \in S, f \in S'$). Throughout the paper, we shall denote the weak convergence in these spaces by $w\text{-lim } v_n = v_0$ or $v_n \rightarrow v_0$; if the sequence $\{v_n\}$ tends to v_0 in the norm we shall write $v_0 = \lim v_n$ or $v_n \rightarrow v_0$.

Let us now introduce the notion of convergence of subspaces; cf. e.g. [3].

Definition 1. Let $H_n \subset S, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ be closed linear subspaces of the space S . We say that $\lim H_n = H_0$ or $H_n \rightarrow H_0$ if the following conditions are fulfilled:

$$(1, i) \quad (n_k < n_{k+1}, v_k \in H_{n_k}, v_k \rightarrow v_0) \Rightarrow v_0 \in H_0,$$

$$(1, ii) \quad \forall w_0 \in H_0 \exists \{w_n\}, w_n \in H_n, w_n \rightarrow w_0.$$

Lemma 1. Let $H_0 = \bigcap_n \overline{\bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} H_i}$. Then (1, i) holds. (By $[M]$ we denote the minimal linear space which contains M .)

Proof. Let $v_k \in H_{n_k}, v_k \rightarrow v_0$. Then there exists a constant K such that $\|v_k\| \leq K, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. The set $B_n = \{x \in [\bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} H_i] \mid \|x\| \leq K\}$ is a convex closed set and hence it is weakly closed, too. This implies that $v_n \in B_n$ for arbitrary n , which proves the lemma.

Example 1. Let $\Omega \subset R_n$ be a bounded domain with infinitely differentiable boundary, and let $S = W^{k,p}(\Omega)$ be the Sobolev space. Let Γ_0 be a relatively open

subset of the boundary $\partial\Omega$ with infinitely differentiable relative boundary; let $\Gamma_n \subset \partial\Omega$ be a sequence of relatively open sets such that

$$(i) \quad \Gamma_0 = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{i=n}^{\infty} \Gamma_i = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{i=n}^{\infty} \Gamma_i;$$

(ii) for any neighbourhood U of Γ_0 there exists n_0 such that for $n \geq n_0$, $\Gamma_n \subset U$.

Let us put $H_n = \{u \in S \mid u = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_n\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Then $H_n \rightarrow H_0$ in the sense of Definition 1 (see [1]).

Theorem 1. Let S be a reflexive Banach space. Let the sequence of functionals Φ_n over S , $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ be given with the following properties:

(i) (differentiability): Φ_n have Gateaux differentials $T_n(x)$ at every point $x \in S$;

(ii) (Strong monotonicity):

$$\forall x, y \in S : \langle x - y, T_n x - T_n y \rangle \geq C \|x - y\|^p, \quad C > 0, \quad p > 1;$$

(iii) (boundedness): Operators T_n are bounded uniformly with respect to n , i.e., for any K_1 there exists K_2 such that $\|u\| \leq K_1 \Rightarrow \|T_n(u)\| \leq K_2$;

(iv) for any $u \in S$

$$T_n u \rightarrow T_0 u.$$

Let H_n , $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ be a sequence of closed subspaces of S ; let $\omega_n \in S$, $f_n \in S'$ be given, $\omega_n \rightarrow \omega_0$, $f_n \rightarrow f_0$, $H_n \rightarrow H_0$.

Then the problem

$$(2) \quad \forall v \in H_n \langle v, T_n(\omega_n + w) \rangle = \langle v, f_n \rangle, \quad w \in H_n$$

has a unique solution w_n for any n and

$$(3) \quad w_n \rightarrow w_0.$$

Proof. Conditions (i), (ii), (iii) guarantee coercivity of T_n , boundedness, continuity and convexity of Φ_n ; of course, it is sufficient to consider the relation

$$(4) \quad \Phi_n(x) - \Phi_n(y) = \int_0^1 \langle x - y, T_n(\tau x + (1 - \tau)y) \rangle d\tau,$$

which holds for arbitrary $x, y \in S$. Hence the existence and unicity of solutions w_n of the problem (2) follows from the general theory, and

$$(5) \quad w_n = v_n - \omega_n,$$

where

$$(6) \quad \alpha_n = \Phi_n(v_n) - \langle v_n, f_n \rangle = \min_{v \in \omega_n + H_n} (\Phi_n(v) - \langle v, f_n \rangle),$$

see [2] or [4].

We shall show that all the points v_n lie in some ball. Of course, putting $y = 0$ we obtain from (ii)

$$\frac{\langle x, T_n(x) \rangle}{\|x\|} \geq C\|x\|^{p-1} - \|T_n(0)\|.$$

Putting, in the case of necessity, $\tilde{\Phi}_n = \Phi_n - \Phi_n(0)$, we can suppose $\Phi_n(0) = 0$ and using the equality (4) we obtain

$$\Phi_n(x) \geq C_1\|x\|^p - C_2\|x\|.$$

We have $\omega_n \rightarrow \omega_0$, $f_n \rightarrow f_0$ and thus we obtain that there exist two constants M, R such that

$$\|f_n\| \leq M, \quad \|T_n(0)\| \leq M, \quad \|\omega_n\| \leq R \quad \text{and} \quad (\|v\| \leq R \Rightarrow |\Phi_n(v)| \leq M).$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_n(\omega_n) - \langle \omega_n, f_n \rangle &\leq M(1 + R), \\ \Phi_n(x) - \langle x, f_n \rangle &\geq C_1\|x\|^p - (M + C_2)\|x\|. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that for Q sufficiently large

$$\|x\| \geq Q \Rightarrow \Phi_n(x) - \langle x, f_n \rangle \geq \Phi_n(\omega_n) - \langle \omega_n, f_n \rangle$$

and hence $\|v_n\| \leq Q$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

The theorem will be proved if we show that for arbitrary subsequence of $\{v_n\}$ we can choose a “subsubsequence”, which tends weakly to v_0 . For the sake of simplicity of notation, we shall consider the original sequence v_n instead of its subsequence.

We have $\|v_n\| \leq Q$; thanks to the reflexivity of S we can choose a subsequence v_{k_n} , which tends weakly to an element $\bar{v}_0 \in S$. It follows from (1, i) that $\bar{v}_0 \in H_0$. Moreover, α_n form a bounded sequence ($|\alpha_n| \leq \max_{n=1,2} (|\Phi_n(\omega_n)| + MR)$) and so we can suppose that our choice is such that $\alpha_{k_n} \rightarrow \bar{\alpha}$.

Rewriting $T_n(\tau x + (1 - \tau)y) = T_n(y) + \{T_n(y + \tau(x - y)) - T_n(y)\}$ we obtain from (4) and (ii)

$$(7) \quad \Phi_n(x) \geq \Phi_n(y) + \langle x - y, T_n(y) \rangle.$$

So we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{k_n} &= \Phi_{k_n}(\bar{v}_0) + \{\Phi_{k_n}(v_{k_n}) - \Phi_{k_n}(\bar{v}_0)\} - \langle v_{k_n}, f_{k_n} \rangle \geq \\ &\geq \Phi_{k_n}(\bar{v}_0) + \langle v_{k_n} - \bar{v}_0, T_{k_n}(\bar{v}) \rangle - \langle v_{k_n}, f_{k_n} \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (4), (iii) and (iv) that $\Phi_n(\bar{v}_0) \rightarrow \Phi_0(\bar{v}_0)$ and so $\bar{\alpha} = \liminf \alpha_{k_n} \geq \Phi_0(\bar{v}_0) - \langle \bar{v}_0, f_0 \rangle \geq \alpha_0$. (Remember that we have supposed $\Phi_n(0) = 0$.)

Let us suppose $\bar{\alpha} > \alpha_0$. We obtain from (1, ii) that there exists a sequence $u_n \in H_{k_n}$, $u_n \rightarrow v_0 - \omega_0$ and hence $z_n = u_n + \omega_n \rightarrow v_0$. We have now

$$\Phi_{k_n}(z_n) = \Phi_{k_n}(v_0) + \Phi_{k_n}(z_n) - \Phi_{k_n}(v_0);$$

but from (4) and (iii) we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\Phi_{k_n}(z_n) - \Phi_{k_n}(v_0)| &= \left| \int_0^1 \langle z_n - v_0, T_{k_n}(\tau z_n + (1 - \tau)v_0) \rangle d\tau \right| \leq \\ &\leq \|z_n - v_0\| \int_0^1 \|T_{k_n}(\tau z_n + (1 - \tau)v_0)\| d\tau \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\Phi_{k_n}(z_n) - \langle z_n, f_{k_n} \rangle \rightarrow \Phi_0(v_0) - \langle v_0, f_0 \rangle = \alpha_0.$$

On the other hand, $\Phi_{k_n}(z_n) - \langle z_n, f_{k_n} \rangle \geq \alpha_{k_n}$, $\lim (\Phi_{k_n}(z_n) - \langle z_n, f_{k_n} \rangle) \geq \bar{\alpha} > \alpha_0$, which is a contradiction. Thus we have

$$\Phi_0(\bar{v}_0) - \langle \bar{v}_0, f_0 \rangle = \Phi_0(v_0) - \langle v_0, f_0 \rangle$$

and thanks to the unicity of the point in which the minimum is attained, $\bar{v}_0 = v_0$ which proves the theorem.

Theorem 2. Let S be a reflexive Banach space and let $\Phi_n, f_n, \omega_n, H_n$, satisfy the assumptions of Theorem 1. Let us denote by w_n the solutions of the problem (2) for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Then $w_n \rightarrow w_0$.

Proof. Because of strong convergence of ω_n it is sufficient to prove that $w_n + \omega_n = v_n \rightarrow v_0$. In virtue of Theorem 1, $v_n \rightarrow v_0 = w_0 + \omega_0$. On the other hand, we have

$$C\|v_n - v_0\|^p \leq \langle v_n - v_0, T_n(v_n) - T_n(v_0) \rangle$$

and hence, if we show that $\langle v_n - v_0, T_n(v_n) - T_n(v_0) \rangle \rightarrow 0$, the theorem will be proved.

There exists a sequence $\{z_n\}$, $z_n \in H_n + \omega_n$, $z_n \rightarrow v_0$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle v_n - v_0, T_n v_n - T_n v_0 \rangle &= \langle v_n - z_n, T_n v_n \rangle + \langle z_n - v_0, T_n v_n \rangle + \\ &+ \langle v_n - v_0, -T_n v_0 \rangle = \langle v_n - z_n, f_n \rangle + \langle z_n - v_0, T_n v_n \rangle + \langle v_n - v_0, -T_n v_0 \rangle \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the theorem.

Example 2. Let S, H_n be the Banach spaces defined in Example 1. Let the function $P = P(x, \xi, \eta)$ be given, defined for $x \in \bar{Q}$, $\xi = (\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_N) \in R_{N+1}$, $\eta \in R_1$, with the following properties:

(i) P has all derivatives up to the second order continuous and bounded in $\bar{\Omega} \times R_{N+1} \times R_1$.

(ii) $\exists C > 0 \forall x \in \Omega \forall \zeta \in R_{N+1} \forall \eta \in R_1 \forall \xi \in R_{N+1}$

$$\sum_{i=0}^N \frac{\partial^2 P(x, \zeta, \eta)}{\partial \zeta_i \partial \zeta_j} \xi_i \xi_j \geq C \sum_{i=0}^N \xi_i^2.$$

Let us define

$$\Phi_n(u) = \int_{\Omega} P(x, u, \nabla u, \alpha_n) dx,$$

where $\alpha_n \in L_2(\Omega)$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \alpha_n \rightarrow \alpha_0$.

Then the assumptions of Theorem 2 are fulfilled and

$$\langle v, T_n u \rangle = \int_{\Omega} v \frac{\partial P}{\partial \xi_0}(x, u, \nabla u, \alpha_n) dx + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \xi_i}(x, u, \nabla u, \alpha_n) dx.$$

Together with Example 1, we obtain a result concerning the dependence of solution of a boundary value problem not only on the boundary conditions but on the type of these conditions, too.

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