

# Periodic solutions of Euler-Lagrange equations with “sublinear nonlinearity” in an Orlicz-Sobolev space setting

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## Abstract

In this paper we....

## 1 Introduction

This paper is concerned with the existence of periodic solutions of the problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} D_y \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{u}(t), \dot{\mathbf{u}}(t)) = D_x \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{u}(t), \dot{\mathbf{u}}(t)) & \text{a.e. } t \in (0, T) \\ \mathbf{u}(0) - \mathbf{u}(T) = \dot{\mathbf{u}}(0) - \dot{\mathbf{u}}(T) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

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where  $T > 0$ ,  $\mathbf{u} : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is absolutely continuous and the *Lagrangian*  $\mathcal{L} : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a Carathéodory function satisfying the conditions

$$|\mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})| \leq a(|\mathbf{x}|) \left( b(t) + \Phi \left( \frac{|\mathbf{y}|}{\lambda} + f(t) \right) \right), \quad (2)$$

$$|D_{\mathbf{x}}\mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})| \leq a(|\mathbf{x}|) \left( b(t) + \Phi \left( \frac{|\mathbf{y}|}{\lambda} + f(t) \right) \right), \quad (3)$$

$$|D_{\mathbf{y}}\mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})| \leq a(|\mathbf{x}|) \left( c(t) + \varphi \left( \frac{|\mathbf{y}|}{\lambda} + f(t) \right) \right). \quad (4)$$

In these inequalities we assume that  $a \in C(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\Phi$  is an  $N$ -function (see section Preliminaries for definitions),  $\varphi$  is the right continuous derivative of  $\Phi$ . The non negative functions  $b, c$  and  $f$  satisfy that  $b \in L_1^1([0, T])$ ,  $c \in L_1^\Psi([0, T])$  and  $f \in E_1^\Phi([0, T])$ , where the Banach spaces  $L_1^1([0, T])$ ,  $L_1^\Psi([0, T])$  and  $E_1^\Phi([0, T])$  will be defined later.

It is well known that problem (1) comes from a variational one, that is, a solution of (1) is a critical point of the *action integral*

$$I(\mathbf{u}) = \int_0^T \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{u}(t), \dot{\mathbf{u}}(t)) dt. \quad (5)$$

## 2 Preliminaries

For reader convenience, we give a short introduction to Orlicz and Orlicz-Sobolev spaces of vector valued functions and a list of results that we will use throughout the article. Classic references for Orlicz spaces of real valued functions are [1, 2, 3]. For Orlicz spaces of vector valued functions, see [4] and the references therein.

Hereafter we denote by  $\mathbb{R}^+$  the set of all non negative real numbers. A function  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is called an  $N$ -function if  $\Phi$  is given by

$$\Phi(t) = \int_0^t \varphi(\tau) d\tau, \quad \text{for } t \geq 0,$$

where  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a right continuous non decreasing function satisfying  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(t) > 0$  for  $t > 0$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(t) = +\infty$ .

Given a function  $\varphi$  as above, we consider the so-called right inverse function  $\psi$  of  $\varphi$  which is defined by  $\psi(s) = \sup_{\varphi(t) \leq s} t$ . The function  $\psi$  satisfies the same properties as the function  $\varphi$ , therefore we have an  $N$ -function  $\Psi$  such that  $\Psi' = \psi$ . The function  $\Psi$  is called the *complementary function* of  $\Phi$ .

We say that  $\Phi$  satisfies the  $\Delta_2$ -condition, denoted by  $\Phi \in \Delta_2$ , if there exist constants  $K > 0$  and  $t_0 \geq 0$  such that

$$\Phi(2t) \leq K\Phi(t) \quad (6)$$

for every  $t \geq t_0$ . If  $t_0 = 0$ , we say that  $\Phi$  satisfies the  $\Delta_2$ -condition globally ( $\Phi \in \Delta_2$  globally).

Let  $d$  be a positive integer. We denote by  $\mathcal{M}_d := \mathcal{M}_d([0, T])$  the set of all measurable functions defined on  $[0, T]$  with values on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  and we write  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, \dots, u_d)$  for  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{M}_d$ . In this paper we adopt the convention that bold symbols denote points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

Given an  $N$ -function  $\Phi$  we define the *modular function*  $\rho_\Phi : \mathcal{M}_d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+ \cup \{+\infty\}$  by

$$\rho_\Phi(\mathbf{u}) := \int_0^T \Phi(|\mathbf{u}|) dt.$$

Here  $|\cdot|$  is the euclidean norm of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The *Orlicz class*  $C_d^\Phi = C_d^\Phi([0, T])$  is given by

$$C_d^\Phi := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{M}_d \mid \rho_\Phi(\mathbf{u}) < \infty\}. \quad (7)$$

The *Orlicz space*  $L_d^\Phi = L_d^\Phi([0, T])$  is the linear hull of  $C_d^\Phi$ ; equivalently,

$$L_d^\Phi := \{\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{M}_d \mid \exists \lambda > 0 : \rho_\Phi(\lambda \mathbf{u}) < \infty\}. \quad (8)$$

The Orlicz space  $L_d^\Phi$  equipped with the *Orlicz norm*

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} := \sup \left\{ \int_0^T \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} dt \mid \rho_\Psi(\mathbf{v}) \leq 1 \right\},$$

is a Banach space. By  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$  we denote the usual dot product in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ . The following alternative expression for the norm, known as *Amemiya norm*, will be useful (see [2, Thm. 10.5] and [5]). For every  $\mathbf{u} \in L^\Phi$ ,

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} = \inf_{k>0} \frac{1}{k} \{1 + \rho_\Phi(k\mathbf{u})\}. \quad (9)$$

The subspace  $E_d^\Phi = E_d^\Phi([0, T])$  is defined as the closure in  $L_d^\Phi$  of the subspace  $L_d^\infty$  of all  $\mathbb{R}^d$ -valued essentially bounded functions. It is shown that  $E_d^\Phi$  is the only one maximal subspace contained in the Orlicz class  $C_d^\Phi$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{u} \in E_d^\Phi$  if and only if  $\rho_\Phi(\lambda \mathbf{u}) < \infty$  for any  $\lambda > 0$ .

A generalized version of *Hölder's inequality* holds in Orlicz spaces (see [2, Th. 9.3]). Namely, if  $\mathbf{u} \in L_d^\Phi$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in L_d^\Psi$  then  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v} \in L_1^1$  and

$$\int_0^T \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u} dt \leq \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} \|\mathbf{v}\|_{L^\Psi}. \quad (10)$$

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are Banach spaces such that  $Y \subset X^*$ , we denote by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : Y \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the bilinear pairing map given by  $\langle x^*, x \rangle = x^*(x)$ . Hölder's inequality shows that  $L_d^\Psi \subset [L_d^\Phi]^*$ , where the pairing  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle$  is defined by

$$\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle = \int_0^T \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{u} dt \quad (11)$$

with  $\mathbf{u} \in L_d^\Phi$  and  $\mathbf{v} \in L_d^\Psi$ . Unless  $\Phi \in \Delta_2$ , the relation  $L_d^\Psi = [L_d^\Phi]^*$  will not hold. In general, it is true that  $[E_d^\Phi]^* = L_d^\Psi$ .

Like in [2], we will consider the subset  $\Pi(E_d^\Phi, r)$  of  $L_d^\Phi$  given by

$$\Pi(E_d^\Phi, r) := \{\mathbf{u} \in L_d^\Phi \mid d(\mathbf{u}, E_d^\Phi) < r\}.$$

This set is related to the Orlicz class  $C_d^\Phi$  by means of inclusions, namely,

$$\Pi(E_d^\Phi, r) \subset rC_d^\Phi \subset \overline{\Pi(E_d^\Phi, r)} \quad (12)$$

for any positive  $r$ . If  $\Phi \in \Delta_2$ , then the sets  $L_d^\Phi$ ,  $E_d^\Phi$ ,  $\Pi(E_d^\Phi, r)$  and  $C_d^\Phi$  are equal.

We define the *Sobolev-Orlicz space*  $W^1 L_d^\Phi$  (see [1]) by

$$W^1 L_d^\Phi := \{\mathbf{u} | \mathbf{u} \text{ is absolutely continuous and } \dot{\mathbf{u}} \in L_d^\Phi\}.$$

$W^1 L_d^\Phi$  is a Banach space when equipped with the norm

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} = \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}.$$

For a function  $\mathbf{u} \in L_d^1([0, T])$ , we write  $\mathbf{u} = \bar{\mathbf{u}} + \tilde{\mathbf{u}}$  where  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathbf{u}(t) dt$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u} - \bar{\mathbf{u}}$ .

As usual, if  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  is a Banach space and  $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y)$  is a subspace of  $X$ , we write  $Y \hookrightarrow X$  and we say that  $Y$  is *embedded* in  $X$  when the restricted identity map  $i_Y : Y \rightarrow X$  is bounded. That is, there exists  $C > 0$  such that for any  $y \in Y$  we have  $\|y\|_X \leq C\|y\|_Y$ . With this notation, Hölder's inequality states that  $L_d^\Psi \hookrightarrow [L_d^\Phi]^*$ ; and, it is easy to see that for every  $N$ -function  $\Phi$  we have that  $L_d^\infty \hookrightarrow L_d^\Phi \hookrightarrow L_d^1$ .

Recall that a function  $w : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is called a *modulus of continuity* if  $w$  is a continuous increasing function which satisfies  $w(0) = 0$ . For example, it can be easily shown that  $w(s) = s\Phi^{-1}(1/s)$  is a modulus of continuity for every  $N$ -function  $\Phi$ . We say that  $\mathbf{u} : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  has modulus of continuity  $w$  when there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$|\mathbf{u}(t) - \mathbf{u}(s)| \leq Cw(|t - s|). \quad (13)$$

We denote by  $C^w([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  the space of  $w$ -Hölder continuous functions. This is the space of all functions satisfying (13) for some  $C > 0$  and it is a Banach space with norm

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{C^w([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)} := \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\infty} + \sup_{t \neq s} \frac{|\mathbf{u}(t) - \mathbf{u}(s)|}{w(|t - s|)}.$$

An important aspect of the theory of Sobolev spaces is related to embedding theorems. There is an extensive literature on this question in the Orlicz-Sobolev space setting, see for example [6, 7, 8, 9, 10]. The next simple lemma is essentially known and we will use it systematically. For the sake of completeness, we include a brief proof of it.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $w(s) := s\Phi^{-1}(1/s)$ . Then, the following statements hold:*

1.  $W^1 L^\Phi \hookrightarrow C^w([0, T], \mathbb{R}^d)$  and for every  $\mathbf{u} \in W^1 L^\Phi$

$$|\mathbf{u}(t) - \mathbf{u}(s)| \leq \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} w(|t - s|), \quad (14)$$

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\infty} \leq \Phi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{T}\right) \max\{1, T\} \|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \quad (15)$$

2. For every  $\mathbf{u} \in W^1 L^\Phi$  we have  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}} \in L_d^\infty$  and

$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty} \leq T\Phi^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{T}\right) \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \quad (\text{Sobolev's inequality}). \quad (16)$$

The next result is analogous to some lemmata in  $W^1 L_d^p$ , see [11].

**Lemma 2.2.** *If  $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $(|\overline{\mathbf{u}}| + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}) \rightarrow \infty$ .*

*Proof.* We have

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} = \|\overline{\mathbf{u}} + \tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \leq \|\overline{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} + \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} = |\overline{\mathbf{u}}| \|1\|_{L^\Phi} + \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}$$

We know that Holder's inequality implies that  $L_d^\infty \hookrightarrow L_d^\Phi$ , that is, there exists  $C > 0$  such that for any  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}} \in L_d^\infty$  we have

$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \leq C \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty}$$

and, applying Sobolev's inequality to the previous formula, we get

$$\|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \leq C \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}$$

**La desigualdad anterior sería del tipo Wirtinger's que no tenemos enunciada en ningún lado.**

Therefore,

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} \leq C(|\overline{\mathbf{u}}| + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}) \quad (17)$$

As  $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} = \|\mathbf{u}\|_{L^\Phi} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}$ , then

$$\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \leq C(|\overline{\mathbf{u}}| + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi})$$

and by hypothesis  $\|\mathbf{u}\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ , then  $|\overline{\mathbf{u}}| + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ .  $\square$

**Esta definición va así o requiere modificaciones/adaptaciones???**

**Definition 2.3.** *We say that a function  $\mathcal{L} : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a Carathéodory function if for fixed  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  the map  $t \mapsto \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is measurable and for fixed  $t$  the map  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \mapsto \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is continuously differentiable for almost everywhere  $t \in [0, T]$ .*

In [12] we proved the next results.

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a Carathéodory function satisfying (2), (3) and (4). Then the following statements hold:*

1. *The action integral given by (5) is finitely defined on  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda) := W^1 L_d^\Phi \cap \{\mathbf{u} | \dot{\mathbf{u}} \in \Pi(E_d^\Phi, \lambda)\}$ .*
2. *The function  $I$  is Gâteaux differentiable on  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  and its derivative  $I'$  is demi-continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  into  $[W^1 L_d^\Phi]^*$ . Moreover,  $I'$  is given by the following expression*

$$\langle I'(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{v} \rangle = \int_0^T \{D_{\mathbf{x}} \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{u}, \dot{\mathbf{u}}) \cdot \mathbf{v} + D_{\mathbf{y}} \mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{u}, \dot{\mathbf{u}}) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{v}}\} dt. \quad (18)$$

3. *If  $\Psi \in \Delta_2$  then  $I'$  is continuous from  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  into  $[W^1 L_d^\Psi]^*$  when both spaces are equipped with the strong topology.*

In [12] we derived the Euler-Lagrange equations associated to critical points of action integrals on the subspace of  $T$ -periodic functions. We denote by  $W^1 L_T^\Phi$  the subspace of  $W^1 L_d^\Phi$  containing all  $T$ -periodic functions. As usual, when  $Y$  is a subspace of the Banach space  $X$ , we denote by  $Y^\perp$  the *annihilator subspace* of  $X^*$ , i.e. the subspace that consists of all bounded linear functions which are identically zero on  $Y$ .

We recall that a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *strictly convex* if  $f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) < \frac{1}{2}(f(x) + f(y))$  for  $x \neq y$ . It is well known that if  $f$  is a strictly convex and differentiable function, then  $D_x f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$  is a one-to-one map (see, e.g. [13, Thm. 12.17]).

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $u \in \mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  be a  $T$ -periodic function. The following statements are equivalent:*

1.  $I'(u) \in (W^1 L_T^\Phi)^\perp$ .
2.  $D_y \mathcal{L}(t, u(t), \dot{u}(t))$  is an absolutely continuous function and  $u$  solves the following boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} D_y \mathcal{L}(t, u(t), \dot{u}(t)) = D_x \mathcal{L}(t, u(t), \dot{u}(t)) & \text{a.e. } t \in (0, T) \\ u(0) - u(T) = D_y \mathcal{L}(0, u(0), \dot{u}(0)) - D_y \mathcal{L}(T, u(T), \dot{u}(T)) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

Moreover if  $D_y \mathcal{L}(t, x, y)$  is  $T$ -periodic with respect to the variable  $t$  and strictly convex with respect to  $y$ , then  $D_y \mathcal{L}(0, u(0), \dot{u}(0)) - D_y \mathcal{L}(T, u(T), \dot{u}(T)) = 0$  is equivalent to  $\dot{u}(0) = \dot{u}(T)$ .

DECIR ALGO DE LOS ÍNDICES ACÁ O EN LA INTRO...???

Por acá aparecía la NOTACIÓN DE  $J_{C,\nu}$ , que usamos en alguna demostración más adelante. Me parece que no es necesaria, sólo hay que corregir la prueba donde se la usaba!!!!

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $\Phi$  and  $\Psi$  be complementary  $N$ -functions. Then:*

1.  $\|u\|_{L^\Phi} = O(\rho_\Phi(u))$ .
2. If  $\Psi \in \Delta_2$  globally, then there exists a constant  $\alpha_\Phi > 1$  such that, for any  $0 < \mu < \alpha_\Phi$ ,

$$\|u\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu = o(\rho_\Phi(u)). \quad (20)$$

Reciprocally, if (20) holds for  $\mu \geq 1$  then  $\Psi \in \Delta_2$ .

Based on [14] we say that  $F$  satisfies the condition (A) if  $F(t, x)$  is a Carathéodory function and  $F$  is continuously differentiable with respect to  $x$ . Moreover, the next inequality holds

$$|F(t, x)| + |D_x F(t, x)| \leq a(|x|)b_0(t), \quad \text{for a.e. } t \in [0, T], \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d. \quad (21)$$

**La continua diferenciabilidad implica la primera parte de la desigualdad???**

### 3 Lagrangians with sublinear nonlinearity

The symbol  $C$  will stand for a constant, not necessarily the same at each occurrence, which can depend (unless otherwise stated) on some constants displayed between brackets.

Like in [12] we assume that

$$\mathcal{L}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq \alpha_0 \Phi\left(\frac{|\mathbf{y}|}{\Lambda}\right) + F(t, \mathbf{x}), \quad (22)$$

where  $F$  satisfies the condition (A) or (21)???

Now, we have another result about coercivity of  $I$  assuming some conditions on the nonlinearity  $\nabla F$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a lagrangian function satisfying (2), (3), (4), (22) and (21). We assume the following conditions:*

1.  $\Psi \in \Delta_2$ .
2. *There exist non negative functions  $b_1, b_2 \in L^1_1$  and a constant  $1 < \mu < \alpha_\Phi$  such that for any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and a.e.  $t \in [0, T]$*

$$|\nabla F(t, \mathbf{x})| \leq b_1(t)|\mathbf{x}|^{\mu-1} + b_2(t). \quad (23)$$

3. *There exists a real positive number  $\sigma$  such that  $\sigma > (\mu - 1)\beta_\Psi$  and*

$$|\mathbf{x}|^\sigma = o\left(\int_0^T F(t, \mathbf{x}) dt\right) \text{ as } |\mathbf{x}| \rightarrow \infty. \quad (24)$$

Then the action integral  $I$  is coercive.

*Proof.* By the decomposition  $u = \bar{u} + \tilde{u}$ , Mean Value Theorem, Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and (23), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_0^T F(t, \mathbf{u}) - F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) dt \right| &= \left| \int_0^T \int_0^1 \nabla F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}} + s\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)) \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t) ds dt \right| \\ &\leq \int_0^T \int_0^1 b_1(t) |\bar{\mathbf{u}} + s\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)|^{\mu-1} |\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)| ds dt + \int_0^T \int_0^1 b_2(t) |\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)| ds dt \\ &= I_1 + I_2. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

On the one hand, by Hölder's inequality and Sobolev's inequality, we estimate  $I_2$  as follows

$$I_2 \leq \|b_2\|_{L^1} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty} \leq C(\|b_2\|_{L^1}, T) \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}. \quad (26)$$

On the other hand, as  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $s \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$|\bar{\mathbf{u}} + s\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)|^{\mu-1} \leq C(\mu)(|\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^{\mu-1} + \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty}^{\mu-1}). \quad (27)$$

Now, inequality (27), Hölder's inequality and Sobolev's inequality imply that

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &\leq C(\mu) \left( |\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^{\mu-1} \int_0^T b_1(t) |\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)| dt + \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty}^{\mu-1} \int_0^T b_1(t) |\tilde{\mathbf{u}}(t)| dt \right) \\ &\leq C(\mu) \left\{ |\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^{\mu-1} \|b_1\|_{L^1} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty} + \|b_1\|_{L^1} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty}^\mu \right\} \\ &\leq C(\mu, T, \|b_1\|_{L^1}) \left\{ |\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^{\mu-1} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Let  $\mu'$  be a positive constant such that  $1 < \mu \leq \mu' < \alpha_\Phi$ . Next, using Young's inequality with conjugate exponents  $\mu'$  and  $\frac{\mu'}{\mu'-1}$  we get

$$|\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^{\mu-1} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty} \leq \frac{(\mu'-1)}{\mu'} |\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^\sigma + \frac{1}{\mu'} \|\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\infty}^{\mu'} \quad (29)$$

where  $\sigma = \frac{(\mu-1)\mu'}{\mu'-1}$  is a positive constant such that  $\sigma > (\mu-1)b_\Psi$ .

From (28), (29) and (26), we have

$$I_1 + I_2 \leq C(\mu, T, \|b_1\|_{L^1}, \mu') \left\{ |\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^\sigma + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \right\}. \quad (30)$$

In the subsequent estimates, we use the decomposition  $u = \bar{u} + \tilde{u}$ , (22), (25), (30) and we get

$$\begin{aligned} I(\mathbf{u}) &\geq \alpha_0 \rho_\Phi \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{u}}}{\Lambda} \right) + \int_0^T F(t, \mathbf{u}) dt \\ &= \alpha_0 \rho_\Phi \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{u}}}{\Lambda} \right) + \int_0^T [F(t, \mathbf{u}) - F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}})] dt + \int_0^T F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) dt \\ &\geq \alpha_0 \rho_\Phi \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{u}}}{\Lambda} \right) - C(\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}) \\ &\quad + \int_0^T F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) dt - C|\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^\sigma. \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

As  $1 < \mu \leq \mu'$ , we have  $\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi} \leq \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + 1$  and  $\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu \leq \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + 1$ , then

$$-C(\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}) \geq -C(3\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + 2). \quad (32)$$

In this way, from (31) and (32)

$$\begin{aligned} I(\mathbf{u}) &\geq \alpha_0 \rho_\Phi \left( \frac{\dot{\mathbf{u}}}{\Lambda} \right) - C\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}\|_{L^\Phi}^{\mu'} + \int_0^T F(t, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) dt - K|\bar{\mathbf{u}}|^\sigma - C \\ &= \alpha_0 J_{C, \mu'}(\dot{\mathbf{u}}) + \gamma(\bar{\mathbf{u}}) - C. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\mathbf{u}_n$  be a sequence in  $\mathcal{E}_d^\Phi(\lambda)$  with  $\|\mathbf{u}_n\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$  and we have to prove that  $I(\mathbf{u}_n) \rightarrow \infty$ .



On the contrary, suppose that for a subsequence, still denoted by  $\mathbf{u}_n$ ,  $I(\mathbf{u}_n)$  is upper bounded, that is, there exists  $M > 0$  such that  $|I(\mathbf{u}_n)| \leq M$ . As  $\|\mathbf{u}_n\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ , from Lemma 2.2, we have  $|\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n| + \|\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n\|_{L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ . Then, there exists subsequence of the subsequence  $\{\mathbf{u}_n\}$ , still denoted by  $\mathbf{u}_n$ , which is not bounded. Then,  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\|\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n\|_{L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$ . Now, as the functionals  $J_{C,\mu'}(\dot{\mathbf{u}})$  and  $\gamma(\bar{\mathbf{u}})$  are coercive, then  $J_{C,\mu'}(\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n) \rightarrow \infty$  or  $\gamma(\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n) \rightarrow \infty$ . By (21), the functional  $\gamma(\bar{\mathbf{u}}_n)$  is lower bounded and  $J_{C,\mu'}(\dot{\mathbf{u}}_n)$  is also lower bounded on a bounded set because the modular  $\rho_\Phi\left(\frac{\mathbf{u}}{\Lambda}\right)$  is always bigger than zero. Therefore,  $I(\mathbf{u}_n) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $\|\mathbf{u}_n\|_{W^1 L^\Phi} \rightarrow \infty$  which contradicts the initial assumption on the behavior of  $I(\mathbf{u}_n)$ .  $\square$

REVISAR LA PRUEBA ANTERIOR Y MEJORAR LA ESCRITURA, y adaptar quitando  $J$  si fuera el caso!!!!

## 4 Limit case $\mu = \alpha_\Phi$

In [] coercivity was obtained even in the limit case  $\mu = 1$  and  $\mu = p$  assuming additional conditions on ... This was possible because in  $L^p$  spaces, the norm and the modular coincides, that is,  $\|\cdot\|_p^p = O(\int_0^T |\cdot|^p dt)$ . In Orlicz spaces,  $\|\cdot\|_{L^\Phi}^\mu$  can be upper controlled by a modular provided that  $\mu < \alpha_\Phi$  for any  $N$ -function  $\Phi$ . But, the limit case does not hold for any  $\Phi$ , i.e. in general  $\|\cdot\|_{L^\Phi}^{\alpha_\Phi} = O(\int_0^T \Phi(|u|) dt)$  is false as can be seen as follows.

Let  $\Phi, \Psi \in \Delta_2$ , then the next inequality  $\Phi(tu) \geq t^{\alpha_\Phi} \Phi(u)$  for any  $u > 0$  and for any  $t \geq 1$  is false.

$$\text{In fact, let } \Phi(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{p-1}{p} u^p & u \leq e \\ \frac{u^p}{\log u} - \frac{e^p}{p} & u > e \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $p \geq \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2}$ , then  $\Phi$  is an  $N$ -function.*

*Proof.* We have

$$\Phi'(u) = \begin{cases} (p-1)u^{p-1} =: \varphi_1(u) & u < e \\ \frac{u^{p-1}}{\log u} (p - \frac{1}{\log u}) := \varphi_2(u) & u > e \end{cases}$$

and  $\Phi$  is differentiable at  $e$  because  $\varphi_1(e) = \varphi_2(e) = (p-1)e^{p-1}$ .

**Tendríamos que ver que  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  son crecientes y que  $\varphi_2 \rightarrow \infty$  cuando  $u \rightarrow \infty$  o basta con ver que  $\varphi_2$  es creciente????**

$\varphi_1$  is an increasing function provided that  $p > 1$  and  $\varphi_1(u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $u \rightarrow 0$ .

In addition,  $\varphi_2(u) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $u \rightarrow \infty$  provided that  $p > 1$ . And

$$0 < \varphi_2'(u) = \frac{u^{p-2}}{\log u} \left( p^2 - p - \frac{2p}{\log u} + \frac{1}{\log u} + \frac{2}{\log^2 u} \right)$$

on  $[e, \infty)$  if and only if

$$\left( p^2 - p - \frac{2p}{\log u} + \frac{1}{\log u} + \frac{2}{\log^2 u} \right) > 0.$$

If we take  $\alpha := \frac{1}{\log u}$ , then we need

$$2\alpha^2 + (1 - 2p)\alpha + (p^2 - p) \geq 0$$

which is true if and only if  $p \notin (\frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2})$ . Therefore,  $\varphi_2$  is an increasing function when  $p \geq \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** *There exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that*

$$\Phi(tu) \leq ct^p \Phi(u) \quad t \geq 1, u > 0. \quad (33)$$

*For every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a constant  $C = C(\varepsilon, p)$  such that*

$$\Phi(tu) \geq Ct^{p-\varepsilon} \Phi(u) \quad t \geq 1, u > 0. \quad (34)$$

*Proof.* Resumir la prueba  $\square$

**Remark 4.3.** *The inequality*

$$\Phi(tu) \geq Ct^p \Phi(u)$$

*is false for every  $C$  because for every  $u \geq e$  we have*

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\Phi(tu)}{t^p \Phi(u)} = 0$$

**Theorem 4.4.**  $\alpha_\Phi = \beta_\Phi = p$

*Proof.* Resumir la prueba.  $\square$

Now, we are able to see that

$$\rho_\Phi(u) = \int_0^T \Phi(|u|) dx \geq C \|u\|_{L^\Phi}^{\alpha_\Phi} = C \|u\|_{L^\Phi}^p$$

is false.

If we take  $u \equiv t > 0$ , then  $\|u\|_{L^\Phi}^p = C_1 t^p$  where  $C_1 = \|1\|_{L^\Phi}$  and  $\int_0^T \Phi(|u|) dx = C_2 \Phi(t)$  with  $C_2 = T$ . Then, if  $\rho_\Phi(u) \geq C \|u\|_{L^\Phi}^p$  were true, then  $\Phi(t) \geq Ct^p$  were also true but this last inequality is false.

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No sé por qué pero parece que funciona..., en realidad quité el .bib... Y recién ahora me doy cuenta que las referencias se ordenan de acuerdo al orden de mención/aparición...

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