

## A note on a paper by B-N

Periodic problem:

$$(PP) \quad u_t + H(x, Du) = f(t) \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R},$$

where  $f \in C(\mathbf{R})$  is periodic, i.e.,  $f(t + T) = f(t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbf{R}$  and for some  $T > 0$ .

Stationary problem:

$$(SP) \quad H(x, Dw) = \langle f \rangle \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbf{R}^n,$$

where  $\langle f \rangle = (1/T) \int_0^T f(s) ds$ .

Here we consider solutions of these equations in the class of bounded functions.

We introduce the function  $F \in C^1(\mathbf{R})$  by setting

$$F(t) = \int_0^t (f(s) - \langle f \rangle) ds.$$

Note that  $F$  is again  $T$ -periodic. For function  $u$  on  $\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}$  we define  $v$  by

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - F(t).$$

**Proposition 1.** *Under the above notation,  $u$  is a solution of (PP) if and only if  $v$  is a solution of*

$$(PP') \quad v_t + H(x, Dv) = \langle f \rangle \quad \text{for } (x, t) \in \mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}.$$

**Proof.** We compute that if  $u$  is a solution of (PP), then

$$v_t = u_t - F' = -H(x, Du) + f(t) - f(t) + \langle f \rangle = -H(x, Dv) + \langle f \rangle$$

and if  $v$  is a solution of (PP'), then

$$u_t = v_t + F' = -H(x, Dv) + \langle f \rangle + f(t) - \langle f \rangle = -H(x, Du) + f(t). \quad \square$$

**Proposition 2.** *If (PP') has a bounded solution, then there exists a solution  $w$  of (SP).*

**Proof.** Let  $v$  be a bounded solution of (PP'). For  $r \in \mathbf{R}$  define  $v^r$  by  $v^r(x, t) = v(x, t + r)$ . Noting that  $v^r$  is a solution of (PP'), we see that

$$v^+(x) := \sup_{t \in \mathbf{R}} v(x, t) \equiv \sup_{r \in \mathbf{R}} v^r(x, t)$$

is a subsolution of (PP'), which guarantees that  $v^+$  is a subsolution of (SP). Similarly, the function

$$v^-(x) = \inf_{t \in \mathbf{R}} v(x, t)$$

is a supersolution of (SP). Let  $C > 0$  be a constant such that  $\sup u \leq \inf u + C$ . Then, we have  $v^+ \leq v^- + C$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . By the Perron method, we find a solution  $w$  of (SP) such that  $v^- + C \leq w \leq v^+$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n \times \mathbf{R}$ .  $\square$

**Remark.** If  $w$  is a solution of (SP), then the function  $u(x, t) := w(x) + F(t)$  is a  $T$ -periodic solution of (PP).