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# On the projection which appears in the variational treatment of elasto-plastic torsion problem

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## Abstract

In the treatment of variational inequalities, the projection operator  $P_K$  from some Hilbert space  $V$  onto a certain closed convex subset  $K$  plays an important role. But, only for few problems, it is known how to get the explicit form of  $P_K u$  for each given  $u \in V$ . In this article, we consider  $K = \{f \in H_0^1(\Omega); |\nabla f| \leq 1 \text{ a.e.}\}$ , which is related to elasto-plastic torsion problems, and propose an iterative method to approximate  $P_K u$  for 1 dimensional case  $\Omega = (a, b)$ . We also show an expansion of it for higher dimensional but radial symmetric cases.

## 1 Problem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a bounded domain with a smooth boundary and

$$K := \{f \in H_0^1(\Omega); |\nabla f| \leq 1 \text{ a.e.}\}.$$

We will denote by  $P_K$  the projection mapping from  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  into its convex closed subset  $K$ , namely, for  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  and  $v \in K$ ,

$$P_K u = v \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \|u - v\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)} = \inf_{f \in K} \|u - f\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}.$$

For convenience sake, we take

$$\|u\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)} := \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x)|^2 dx \right\}^{1/2},$$

throughout this article. (Note that  $\Omega$  is bounded.) The problem is to find  $v = P_K u \in K$  for each given  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

This projection  $P_K$  appears in the variational treatment of elasto-plastic torsion problem. Consider an infinitely long cylindrical elastic-plastic bar of

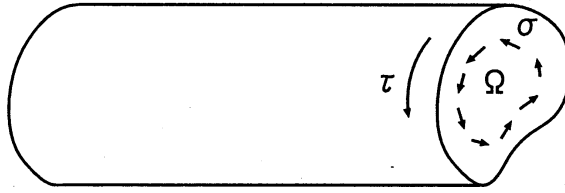


Figure 1: cylindrical elastic-plastic bar of cross section  $\Omega$ .

cross section  $\Omega$  to which some torsion momentum ( $\tau$  denotes the torsion angle per unit length) is applied (Fig. 1). It is known that the stress vector  $\sigma$  in  $\Omega$  is determined by the minimizer  $u$  of

$$J(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla v|^2 dx - \tau \int_{\Omega} v dx \quad (v \in K),$$

namely,  $\sigma = \nabla u$  [2, p.42]. This minimizing problem is equivalent to finding  $u \in K$  such that

$$u = P_K(u - \rho(Au - l)) \quad \text{for some } \rho > 0,$$

where  $A \in \mathcal{L}(V, V)$  and  $l \in V$  are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} (Af, g) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \nabla f \cdot \nabla g dx, \\ (l, f) &= \tau \int_{\Omega} f dx \quad \left( (\cdot, \cdot) : \text{inner product of } V \right) \end{aligned}$$

for  $f, g \in V := H_0^1(\Omega)$ , respectively [2, p.3].

The projection  $P_K$  also plays an important role in the error estimates of the corresponding penalized elliptic variational inequalities [5].

## 2 Rewriting the problem

We introduce a functional  $J_u : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  for each given  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ :

$$J_u(f) := \|u - f\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}^2 = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u(x) - \nabla f(x)|^2 dx. \quad (1)$$

By using it, the problem can be rewritten such as “To find the minimizer  $v$  of  $J_u$  on  $K$ .” On this problem, one can easily show:

**Proposition 1** *If there exists a solution  $v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  to*

$$\nabla v = C(\nabla u) \quad (\text{a.e. in } \Omega), \quad (2)$$

*then  $v$  is the minimizer of  $J_u$  on  $K$ , where  $C(z) := \begin{cases} z & (|z| \leq 1), \\ z/|z| & (|z| > 1). \end{cases}$*

Especially, for 1 dimensional case  $\Omega = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$ , put

$$v(x) := \int_a^x C(u'(\xi)) d\xi \quad (a \leq x \leq b) \quad (3)$$

for a given function  $u \in H_0^1(a, b)$ . If this function  $v (\in H^1(a, b) \cap C([a, b]))$  satisfies that  $v(b) = 0$ , then  $v$  belongs to  $H_0^1(a, b)$  and hence  $v = P_K u$ . An example of this kind:  $u(x) = -\frac{3}{10} \cos(\frac{3}{2}\pi x)$  and  $v$  defined by (3) for  $\Omega = (-1, 1)$  are shown in Fig. 2. We also plot their derivatives in Fig. 3. In this case,  $P_K u$  and  $v$  coincide perfectly (see Fig. 2), and  $(P_K u)'$  is only the “cut-off” of  $u'$ , namely,  $(P_K u)' = C(u')$  (see Fig. 3).

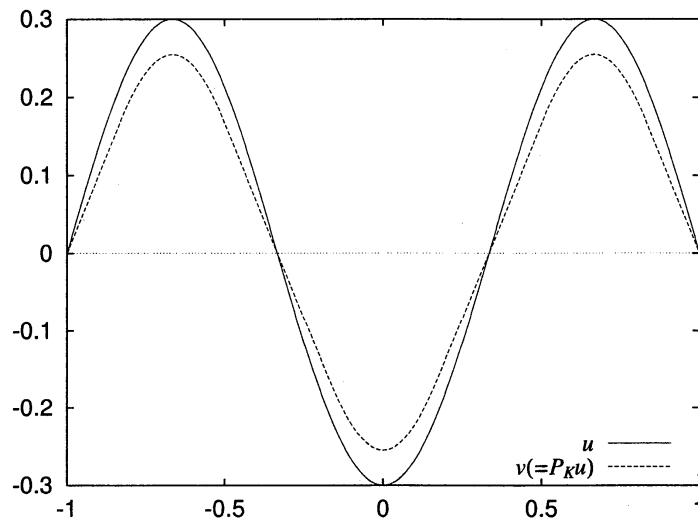


Figure 2: the case  $v(b) = 0$ ;  $u(x) = -\frac{3}{10} \cos \frac{3}{2}\pi x$ .

In fact, for 1 dimensional case  $\Omega = (a, b)$ , one can easily show that if the given function  $u$  is symmetric (i.e.,  $u(a + \xi) = u(b - \xi)$  for any  $\xi$ ), then  $v$  defined by (3) satisfies that  $v(b) = 0$  and hence  $v = P_K u$ .

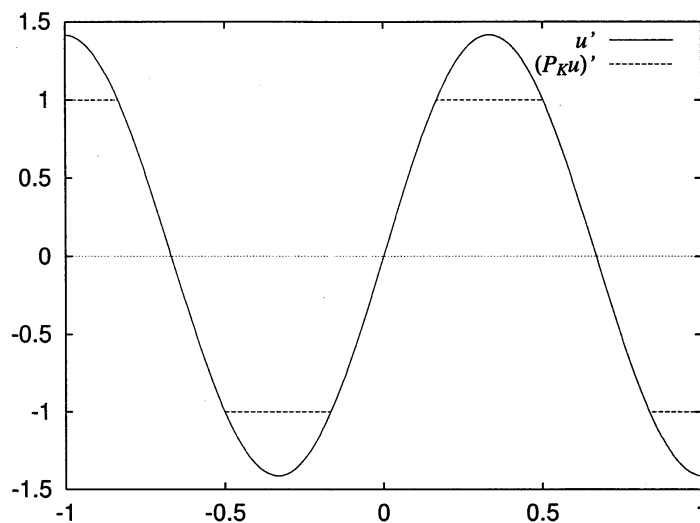


Figure 3:  $u'$  and  $(P_K u)'$ ;  $u(x) = -\frac{3}{10} \cos \frac{3}{2} \pi x$ .

But it is rather special. We will show an example for the case  $v(b) \neq 0$ :  $u(x) = 4(x+1)^2(x+\frac{1}{2})(x-\frac{1}{5})(x-\frac{3}{5})(x-\frac{4}{5})(x-1)$  for  $\Omega = (-1, 1)$ . The graphs of  $u$ , corresponding  $v$  and  $P_K u$  are shown in Fig. 4. Also the derivatives  $u'$  and  $(P_K u)'$  are plotted in Fig. 5.

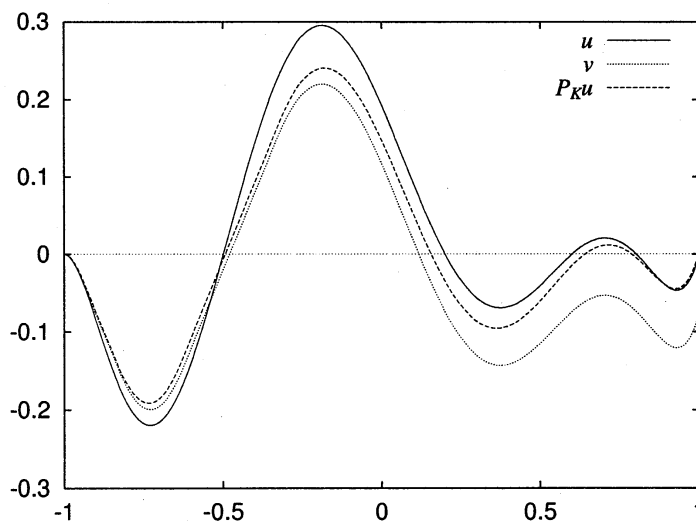


Figure 4: the case  $v(b) \neq 0$ ;  $u(x) = 4(x+1)^2(x+\frac{1}{2})(x-\frac{1}{5})(x-\frac{3}{5})(x-\frac{4}{5})(x-1)$ .

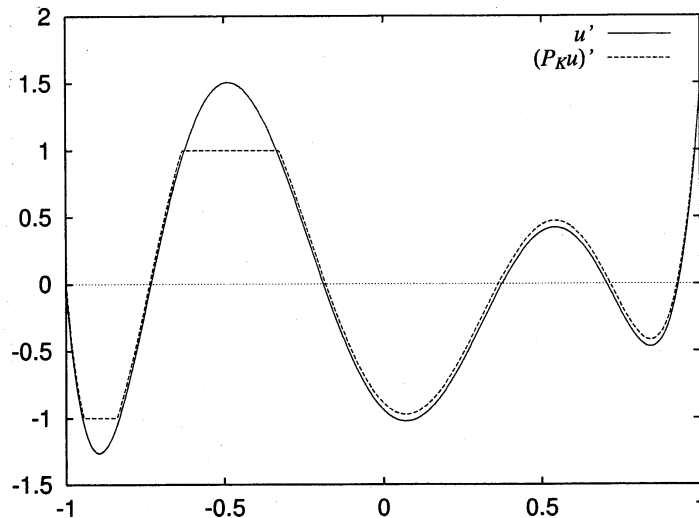


Figure 5:  $u'$  and  $(P_K u)'$ ;  $u(x) = 4(x+1)^2(x+\frac{1}{2})(x-\frac{1}{5})(x-\frac{3}{5})(x-\frac{4}{5})(x-1)$ .

In such a case, it is clear that any primitive function of  $C(u')$  can not belong to  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  since its values at 2 boundary points are not equal. In other words, (2) has no solution in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ , in general.

Then, instead of (2), we consider the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla v = C(\nabla u - \nabla w) & (\text{a.e. in } \Omega), \\ \Delta w = 0 & (\text{weak sense}). \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

It means that at first, we alter  $u$  by subtracting the appropriate quantity, namely, a function  $w \in H^1(\Omega)$  satisfying  $\Delta w = 0$ . Then we “cut-off” its gradient and get the primitive function. If the obtained function  $v$  belongs to  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ , then the next theorem assures that  $v = P_K u$ .

**Theorem 1** *Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a bounded domain with smooth boundary. If there exists a solution  $(v, w)$  in  $H_0^1(\Omega) \times H^1(\Omega)$  to the system of equations (4) with a given parameter  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ , then  $v$  belongs to  $K$  and minimizes the functional  $J_u$  defined by (1).*

**(Proof)** It is clear that  $v \in K$ . Hence, it suffices to show that

$$\forall f \in K, \quad J_u(f) - J_u(v) \geq 0.$$

Let denote  $\Omega_p := \{x \in \Omega; |\nabla(u - w)| > 1\}$  and  $\Omega_z := \Omega \setminus \Omega_p$ . Fix  $f \in K$  and put  $\delta := f - v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ . For this  $\delta$ , we can easily show

$$\nabla \delta \cdot \nabla v = \nabla f \cdot \nabla v - |\nabla v|^2 = \nabla f \cdot \nabla v - 1 \leq 0 \quad (\text{a.e. in } \Omega_p)$$

since  $|\nabla f| \leq 1$  and  $|\nabla v| = 1$  (a.e. in  $\Omega_p$ ), and hence

$$\nabla \delta \cdot (\nabla u - \nabla w) \leq 0 \quad (\text{a.e. in } \Omega_p).$$

On the other hand, since  $\Delta w = 0$  (weak sense in  $H^1(\Omega)$ ) and  $\delta \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ ,

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \delta \cdot \nabla w \, dx = \int_{\Omega_p} \nabla \delta \cdot \nabla w \, dx + \int_{\Omega_z} \nabla \delta \cdot \nabla w \, dx = 0.$$

By using these facts, we get

$$\begin{aligned} J_u(f) - J_u(v) &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u - \nabla(v + \delta)|^2 \, dx - \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u - \nabla v|^2 \, dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \delta|^2 \, dx - 2 \int_{\Omega} \nabla \delta \cdot (\nabla u - \nabla v) \, dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \delta|^2 \, dx - 2 \int_{\Omega_p} \nabla \delta \cdot \left( \nabla u - \frac{\nabla u - \nabla w}{|\nabla u - \nabla w|} \right) \, dx - 2 \int_{\Omega_z} \nabla \delta \cdot \nabla w \, dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \delta|^2 \, dx + 2 \int_{\Omega_p} \nabla \delta \cdot \left( \frac{\nabla u - \nabla w}{|\nabla u - \nabla w|} - \nabla u \right) \, dx + 2 \int_{\Omega_p} \nabla \delta \cdot \nabla w \, dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \delta|^2 \, dx + 2 \int_{\Omega_p} (|\nabla u - \nabla w|^{-1} - 1) \nabla \delta \cdot (\nabla u - \nabla w) \, dx \\ &\geq \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \delta|^2 \, dx \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

### 3 1 dimensional case

Theorem 1 assures that if one could solve the system of equations (4) with a given parameter  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ , one get the projection  $P_K u$ . But unfortunately, there may not be any solution to (4) in general, except 1 dimensional case. In fact, when  $\Omega = (a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}^1$  ( $-\infty < a < b < \infty$ ), the equation  $w'' = 0$  can be solved such as  $w' \equiv \text{const.}$  a.e. in  $(a, b)$ . Hence it is sufficient to solve

$$v' = C(u' - \alpha) \quad (\text{a.e. in } \Omega) \quad (5)$$

for  $v \in H_0^1(a, b)$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  instead of (4). And we got an iterative solution to (5), namely, an algorithm to produce the sequences  $\{v_k\} \subset H^1(a, b)$  and  $\{\alpha_k\} \subset \mathbb{R}$  which approximate  $v$  and  $\alpha$ , respectively.

**Algorithm I** Put  $\alpha_0 := 0$  and iterate the followings on  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .

1. Define  $v_k \in H^1(a, b) \cap C([a, b])$  by using  $\alpha_k$  such as

$$v_k(x) := \int_a^x C(u'(\xi) - \alpha_k) d\xi \quad (a \leq x \leq b).$$

2. Put  $\delta_k := \frac{v_k(b)}{b-a}$  and  $\alpha_{k+1} := \alpha_k + \delta_k$ .

When  $v_k \rightarrow v$  in  $H^1(a, b)$  and  $\alpha_k \rightarrow \alpha$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , one can expect  $v(b) = 0$ , i.e.,  $v \in H_0^1(a, b)$ . If it holds, the pair of  $v$  and  $\alpha$  solves to (4). In fact, these properties are assured by the following theorem.

**Theorem 2** For any  $u \in H_0^1(a, b)$ , each sequence  $\{\alpha_k\}$  and  $\{v_k\}$  in Algorithm I converges. Moreover, the limit function of  $v_k$  belongs to  $H_0^1(a, b)$ .

Theorem 2 is the direct result of following 3 lemmas. At first, we will prove the convergence of  $\{\alpha_k\}$  by showing the monotonicity and the boundedness of it.

**Lemma 1 (monotonicity)** In Algorithm I, if

$$\alpha_1 = \delta_0 := \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b C(u'(\xi)) d\xi > 0,$$

then the sequence  $\{\delta_k\}$  satisfies that  $0 \leq \delta_{k+1} \leq \delta_k$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

**(Proof)** Fix  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and assume  $\delta_k \geq 0$ . Let denote

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega_p(f) &:= \{x \in \Omega; f(x) > 1\}, & \Omega_n(f) &:= \{x \in \Omega; f(x) < -1\}, \\ \Omega_z(f) &:= \Omega \setminus (\Omega_p(f) \cup \Omega_n(f)), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Omega = (a, b)$ , and define  $\Omega_{ij}$  by

$$\Omega_{ij} := \Omega_i(u' - \alpha_{k+1}) \cap \Omega_j(u' - \alpha_k) \quad (i, j \in \{p, z, n\}).$$

For brevity, we will use the notations

$$|\Omega_{ij}| := \int_{\Omega_{ij}} dx \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_{ij} := \frac{|\Omega_{ij}|}{|\Omega|} = \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega_{ij}} dx \quad (i, j \in \{p, z, n\}).$$



Note that

$$|\Omega| := b - a = \sum_{i,j} |\Omega_{ij}| \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{i,j} \omega_{ij} = 1 \quad (i, j \in \{p, z, n\}),$$

and  $|\Omega_{pz}| = |\Omega_{pn}| = |\Omega_{zn}| = 0$  since  $\alpha_{k+1} = \alpha_k + \delta_k \geq \alpha_k$ . By using them, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{k+1} - \delta_k &= \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \sum_{i,j} \int_{\Omega_{ij}} \{C(u' - \alpha_{k+1}) - C(u' - \alpha_k)\} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \left\{ \int_{\Omega_{zp}} (u' - \alpha_{k+1} - 1) dx + \int_{\Omega_{zz}} (-\alpha_{k+1} + \alpha_k) dx \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{\Omega_{np}} (-2) dx + \int_{\Omega_{nz}} (-1 - u' + \alpha_k) dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega_{zp}} (u' - \alpha_{k+1} - 1) dx - \omega_{zz} \delta_k - 2\omega_{np} + \frac{1}{|\Omega|} \int_{\Omega_{nz}} (-1 - u' + \alpha_k) dx. \end{aligned}$$

From the definition of  $\Omega_{zp}$  and  $\Omega_{nz}$ , we obtain the following evaluations:

$$\begin{aligned} -\min\{2, \delta_k\} &\leq u'(x) - \alpha_{k+1} - 1 \leq 0 \quad (\text{a.e. } x \text{ in } \Omega_{zp}), \\ -\min\{2, \delta_k\} &\leq -1 - u'(x) + \alpha_k \leq 0 \quad (\text{a.e. } x \text{ in } \Omega_{nz}). \end{aligned}$$

By the estimates from above, we get the monotone decreasingness of  $\{\delta_k\}$ :

$$\delta_{k+1} \leq (1 - \omega_{zz})\delta_k - 2\omega_{np} \leq \delta_k.$$

Next, we will show the non-negativeness of  $\{\delta_k\}$ . By the estimates from below, we get

$$\delta_{k+1} \geq -\min\{2, \delta_k\}\omega_{zp} + (1 - \omega_{zz})\delta_k - 2\omega_{np} - \min\{2, \delta_k\}\omega_{nz}.$$

When  $\delta_k \geq 2$ , we can deduce from this estimate

$$\delta_{k+1} \geq 2(-\omega_{zp} + 1 - \omega_{zz} - \omega_{np} - \omega_{nz}) \geq 0.$$

In the other hand, when  $\delta_k < 2$ , we can easily show that  $\omega_{np} = 0$ , and hence

$$\delta_{k+1} \geq \delta_k(-\omega_{zp} + 1 - \omega_{zz} - \omega_{nz}) \geq 0.$$

□

One can get similar result as Lemma 1 for the case  $\delta_0 < 0$ .

**Corollary 2** *In Algorithm I, if*

$$\alpha_1 = \delta_0 := \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b C(u'(\xi)) d\xi < 0,$$

*then the sequence  $\{\delta_k\}$  satisfies that  $0 \geq \delta_{k+1} \geq \delta_k$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).*

It is obvious that  $\delta_k = 0$  implies  $\delta_{k'} = 0$  for all  $k' \in \{k, k+1, k+2, \dots\}$ . Since  $\alpha_k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \delta_j$ , it is easy to look that  $\{\alpha_k\}$  is also monotone and that the sign of  $\alpha_k$  is “same” as that of  $\delta_k$  in the sense considering the sign of 0 to belong to both of plus and minus one. Hence, we get the following.

**Corollary 3** *For the sequences  $\{\delta_k\}$  and  $\{\alpha_k\}$  generated by Algorithm I, it holds that*

$$\alpha_k > 0 \Rightarrow \delta_k \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_k < 0 \Rightarrow \delta_k \leq 0 \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

We use this property in the proof of Lemma 4.

**Lemma 4 (boundedness)** *In Algorithm I, the sequence  $\{\alpha_k\}$  is bounded such as*

$$|\alpha_k| \leq \left( \frac{2}{b-a} \right)^{1/2} \|u\|_{H_0^1(a,b)} + 1 \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

**(Proof)** When  $u = 0$  in  $H_0^1(a, b)$ , it is clear that  $\alpha_k = 0$  for any  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ . Then, we take  $u \neq 0$ , namely,  $\|u\|_{H_0^1(a,b)} = \|u'\|_{L^2(a,b)} > 0$ . And we will show only for the case  $\alpha_k > 0$  here. Almost the same proof works for the case  $\alpha_k < 0$ .

For each fixed  $\varepsilon > 0$ , assume that

$$\exists k \in \mathbb{N} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \alpha_k \geq \left( \frac{2 + \varepsilon}{b-a} \right)^{1/2} \|u\|_{H_0^1(a,b)} + 1. \quad (*)$$

Note that  $\delta_k \geq 0$  since  $\alpha_k > 0$ . Putting

$$\Omega_1 := \{x \in \Omega; u'(x) - \alpha_k \geq -1\}, \quad \Omega_2 := (a, b) \setminus \Omega_1,$$

we get the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} (b-a)\delta_k &= \int_{\Omega_1} C(u'(\xi) - \alpha_k) d\xi + \int_{\Omega_2} C(u'(\xi) - \alpha_k) d\xi \\ &\leq \int_{\Omega_1} |C(u'(\xi) - \alpha_k)| d\xi - \int_{\Omega_2} d\xi \leq |\Omega_1| - |\Omega_2|, \end{aligned} \quad (\dagger)$$

where  $|\Omega_i| := \int_{\Omega_i} dx$ . Since  $|\Omega_2| = (b-a) - |\Omega_1|$ ,  $|\Omega_1| = 0$  implies that  $\delta_k < 0$  which contradicts to the assumption (\*). Then, we assume  $|\Omega_1| > 0$  hereafter. By using (\*) and the definition of  $\Omega_1$ , we can easily show that

$$\xi \in \Omega_1 \Rightarrow |u'(\xi)|^2 \geq (\alpha_k - 1)^2 \geq \frac{2+\varepsilon}{b-a} \|u'\|_{L^2(a,b)}^2.$$

Hence, it follows that

$$\|u'\|_{L^2(a,b)}^2 \geq \int_{\Omega_1} |u'(\xi)|^2 d\xi \geq \frac{2+\varepsilon}{b-a} \|u'\|_{L^2(a,b)}^2 |\Omega_1|,$$

and then,

$$|\Omega_2| - |\Omega_1| \geq \varepsilon |\Omega_1|.$$

This and (†) lead that  $\delta_k < 0$  which contradicts to (\*).  $\square$

Lemma 1 (Corollary 2) and Lemma 4 show the convergence of  $\{\alpha_k\}$  generated by Algorithm I. Then, we will show the convergence of  $\{v_k\}$  in  $H^1(a, b)$ .

**Lemma 5** For  $\{\alpha_k\}$  and  $\{v_k\}$  generated by Algorithm I, denoting

$$\alpha := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_k \quad \text{and} \quad v(x) := \int_a^x C(u'(\xi) - \alpha) d\xi \quad (a \leq x \leq b),$$

it holds that  $v_k \rightarrow v$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ) in  $H^1(a, b)$  and  $v \in H_0^1(a, b)$ .

**(Proof)** It is easy to see that

$$\forall z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}, \quad |C(z_1) - C(z_2)| \leq |z_1 - z_2|.$$

By using this property and the definitions of  $v$  and  $v_k$ , we get

$$|v'(x) - v'_k(x)| = |C(u'(x) - \alpha) - C(u'(x) - \alpha_k)| \leq |\alpha - \alpha_k| \quad (\text{a.e. in } \Omega).$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|v - v_k\|_{H^1(\Omega)}^2 &:= \int_a^b |v(x) - v_k(x)|^2 dx + \int_a^b |v'(x) - v'_k(x)|^2 dx \\ &= \int_a^b \left| \int_a^x (v'(\xi) - v'_k(\xi)) d\xi \right|^2 dx + \int_a^b |v'(x) - v'_k(x)|^2 dx \\ &\leq \int_a^b |\alpha - \alpha_k|^2 (x-a)^2 dx + \int_a^b |\alpha - \alpha_k|^2 dx \\ &= |\alpha - \alpha_k|^2 \left( \frac{1}{3}(b-a)^3 + (b-a) \right), \end{aligned}$$

and then the convergence  $v_k \rightarrow v$  in  $H^1(a, b)$ . Furthermore, since

$$\begin{aligned} |v(b) - v_k(b)| &= \left| \int_a^b (v'(x) - v'_k(x)) dx \right| \\ &\leq \int_a^b |v'(x) - v'_k(x)| dx \leq |\alpha - \alpha_k| (b - a), \end{aligned}$$

it holds that  $v_k(b) \rightarrow v(b)$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ). In the other hand,

$$v_k(b) = \delta_k(b - a) = (\alpha_{k+1} - \alpha_k)(b - a)$$

implies  $v_k(b) \rightarrow 0$ , hence we get  $v(b) = 0$ , namely,  $v \in H^1_{\mathbf{0}}(a, b)$ .  $\square$

## 4 Radial symmetric case

For higher dimensional cases, the system of equations (4) may not have any solution, in general. But, when both of domain  $\Omega$  and given function  $u$  are radial symmetric, the problem is reducible to 1 dimensional one, and can be solved. In this section, we consider that both  $\Omega$  and  $u$  are radial symmetric.

At first, we mention about the most simple (trivial) case, namely, the domain  $\Omega$  is spherical one:

$$\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^N; |x| < a\} \quad \text{with } 0 < a < \infty.$$

In this case, it is obvious that  $v = P_K u$  can be obtained such as

$$v(x) := - \int_{|x|}^a C(\tilde{u}'(\rho)) d\rho \quad (x \in \Omega),$$

where  $\tilde{u} : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by  $\tilde{u}(|x|) := u(x)$ .

For more interesting case, we consider a ring domain:

$$\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^N; a < |x| < b\} \quad \text{with } 0 < a < b < \infty. \quad (6)$$

In this case, the system of equations (4) can be written as

$$\begin{cases} v_r = C(u_r - w_r) & (\text{a.e. in } \Omega), \\ w_{rr} + \frac{N-1}{r} w_r = 0 & (\text{weak sense}) \end{cases}$$

with  $r := |x|$ . Since the 2nd equation of this system is solvable such as

$$w_r(x) = \alpha r^{1-N} \quad (\text{a.e. } x \in \Omega),$$

with arbitrary constant  $\alpha$ , it suffices to solve

$$\tilde{v}'(r) = C \left( \tilde{u}'(r) - \alpha r^{1-N} \right) \quad (\text{a.e. } r \in [a, b]) \quad (7)$$

for  $\tilde{v} \in H_0^1(a, b)$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . The equation (7) is similar to (5) and we can expand Algorithm I to solve it as followings.

**Algorithm II** Put  $\alpha_0 := 0$  and iterate the followings for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ .

1. Define  $v_k(x)$  by using  $\alpha_k$  such as

$$v_k(x) := \int_a^{|x|} C \left( \tilde{u}'(\rho) - \frac{\alpha_k}{\rho^{N-1}} \right) d\rho \quad (x \in \Omega).$$

2. Put  $\delta_k := \frac{a^{N-1}}{b-a} \lim_{|x| \rightarrow b} v_k(x)$  and  $\alpha_{k+1} := \alpha_k + \delta_k$ .

This algorithm is justified by the next theorem.

**Theorem 3** If  $\Omega$  is a ring domain such as (6) and  $u \in H_0^1(\Omega)$  is radial symmetric one, then each sequence of  $\{\alpha_k\}$  and  $\{v_k\}$  in Algorithm II converges.

The sequence  $\{\alpha_k\}$  generated by Algorithm II also has the monotonicity and the boundedness, and the convergence of  $\{\alpha_k\}$  is direct result of them. Once the convergence of  $\{\alpha_k\}$  was shown, one can also show the convergence of  $\{v_k\}$ . These lemmas written below prove Theorem 3.

**Lemma 6 (monotonicity)** In Algorithm II, if

$$\alpha_1 = \delta_0 := \frac{a^{N-1}}{b-a} \int_a^b C(\tilde{u}'(\rho)) d\rho > 0,$$

then the sequence  $\{\delta_k\}$  satisfies that  $0 \leq \delta_{k+1} \leq \delta_k$  ( $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ).

**Lemma 7 (boundedness)** In Algorithm II, the sequence  $\{\alpha_k\}$  is bounded such as

$$|\alpha_k| \leq b^{N-1} \left( \frac{2}{b-a} \right)^{1/2} \|\tilde{u}'\|_{L^2(a,b)} + 1 \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

**Lemma 8** For  $\{\alpha_k\}$  and  $\{v_k\}$  generated by Algorithm II, denoting

$$\alpha := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_k \quad \text{and} \quad v(x) := \int_a^{|x|} C \left( \tilde{u}'(\rho) - \frac{\alpha}{\rho^{N-1}} \right) d\rho \quad (x \in \Omega),$$

then it holds that  $v_k \rightarrow v$  ( $k \rightarrow \infty$ ) in  $H^1(\Omega)$  and  $v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

The proofs of Lemma 6, 7 and 8 are done by almost same arguments as Lemma 1, 4 and 5, respectively, and we omit them here.

Finally, we will show an example of numerical result of Algorithm II. In Fig. 6,  $u$  and  $P_K u$  defined in 2 dimensional ring domain  $\Omega$  such as

$$u(x) = 4(|x| + 1)^2(|x| + \frac{1}{2})(|x| - \frac{1}{5})(|x| - \frac{3}{5})(|x| - \frac{4}{5})(|x| - 1),$$

$$\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2; 0.5 \leq |x| \leq 2.5\},$$

are plotted as 3D graphs.

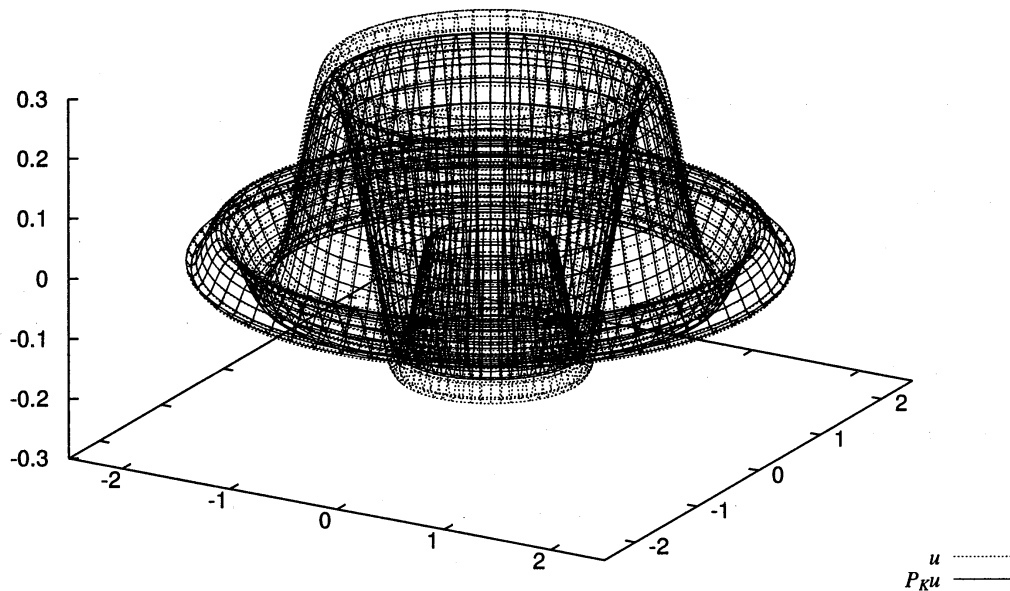


Figure 6:  $u$  and  $P_K u$  for 2 dimensional ring domain case:

$$u(r) = 4(r+1)^2(r+\frac{1}{2})(r-\frac{1}{5})(r-\frac{3}{5})(r-\frac{4}{5})(r-1).$$

In Fig. 7, the same  $u$  and  $P_K u$  expressed above but for 1, 2 and 3 dimensional domains are plotted as  $r-u$  and  $r-P_K u$  graphs. One may notice that the difference between the values of  $u$  and those of  $P_K u$  is rather uniform in 1 dimensional case. But in a higher dimensional case, the difference between the values of  $u$  and those of  $P_K u$  near the origin is larger than that of them far from the origin.

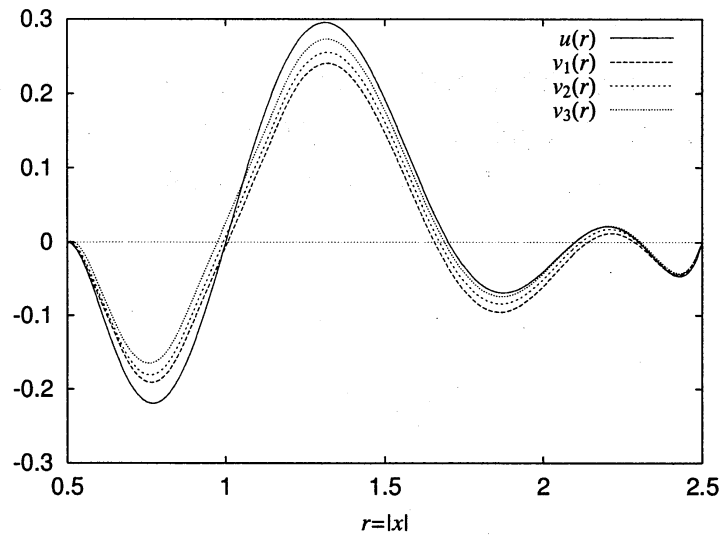


Figure 7:  $u$  and  $P_K u$  for higher dimensional cases:

$$u(r) = 4(r+1)^2(r+\frac{1}{2})(r-\frac{1}{5})(r-\frac{3}{5})(r-\frac{4}{5})(r-1);$$

$v_n$  denotes  $P_K u$  for  $n$  dimensional case.

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