

# Solutions for some anisotropic nonlinear elliptic unilateral problems

Mohammed Al-Hawmi

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Education, Arts and Sciences, University of Shaba Region, Mareb, Yemen

Email: [m.alhomi2011@gmail.com](mailto:m.alhomi2011@gmail.com),

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## Abstract

In this work,, we consider the following nonlinear elliptic unilateral equations of the type

$$Au + g(x, u, \nabla u) = f \text{ in } \Omega$$

where  $Au$  is an operator of Leray-Lions type acting from  $W_0^{1,p}$  into its dual define by

$$Au = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_i(x, u, \nabla u)$$

and the function  $g(x, u, \nabla u)$  is a nonlinear lower order term with natural growth with respect to  $|\nabla u|$ , satisfying the sign condition in an anisotropic Sobolev space, and we will prove the existence of entropy solutions for our unilateral problem, where  $f$  belongs to  $L^1(\Omega)$ .

**key words :** Anisotropic Sobolev spaces, Nonlinear elliptic unilateral problem, Entropy solutions.

## حلول لبعض مشاكل القطع الناقص الغير الخطية متماثل الخواص بجانب واحد

### الملخص

في هذا العمل، نعتبر معادلة القطع الناقص الغير الخطية من جانب واحد للنموذج الآتي:

$$Au + g(x, u, \nabla u) = f \text{ in } \Omega$$

حيث  $Au$  مؤثر لاري لاينس معرف من فضاء سبوليف متماثل الخواص الى ثنائي الفضاء معرف ب

$$Au = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_i(x, u, \nabla u)$$

والدالة  $g(x, u, \nabla u)$  غير خطية مع التزايد الطبيعي مع ما يتعلق بالقيمة المطلقة لانحدار  $u$  ( $|\nabla u|$ )

وتحقق شرط الاشارة في فضاء متماثل الخواص وسوف نبين وجود الحلول الكونية لمشكلتنا من جانب واحد

حيث الدالة  $f$  تنتمي الى فضاء  $L^1(\Omega)$

**الكلمات المفتاحية :** فضاءات سبوليف متماثل الخواص ، مشكلة القطع الناقص الغير الخطية من جانب واحد ، الحلول الكونية.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  ( $N \geq 2$ ). Boccardo and Gallouët have considered in [14] the elliptic problem

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{div} a(x, u, \nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $f$  is a bounded Radon measure on  $\Omega$ . They have proved the existence of solutions  $u \in W_0^{1,q}(\Omega)$  for all  $1 < q < q = \frac{N(p-1)}{N-1}$ . Also, they have proved some regularity results. In [11], Boccardo has studied

the existence of entropy solutions for the quasilinear elliptic problem of the type

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div} a(x, u, \nabla u) = f - \operatorname{div} \phi(u) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

with  $f \in L^1(\Omega)$  and  $\phi(\cdot) \in C^0(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^N)$ . He has proved the existence and some regularity of solutions. The most studied problems were involved in the  $p$ -Laplace operators

$$\Delta_p u = \operatorname{div} (|\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u), \quad (1.2)$$

with  $p$  constant, where the authors have proved the existence of solutions for some nonlinear elliptic unilateral problems in Sobolev spaces. (see for example [13, 19]).

In the framework of Orlicz Sobolev spaces, Aharouch and Bennouna [1] have treated the quasilinear elliptic unilateral problem

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div} (a(x, \nabla u)) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.3)$$

where  $f \in L^1(\Omega)$ . They have proved the existence and uniqueness of entropy solutions  $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$  without any restriction on the  $N$ -function  $M$  of the Orlicz spaces (i.e. without assuming  $\Delta_2$ -condition), we refer also to [5, 10, 16] for more details.

Bendahmane and Wittbold have studied in [9] the existence and uniqueness solution for the quasilinear elliptic equation

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div} (|\nabla u|^{p(x)-2} \nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.4)$$

in the Sobolev spaces with variable exponents, where the right-hand side  $f \in L^1(\Omega)$  and the exponent  $p(\cdot) : \overline{\Omega} \mapsto (1, +\infty)$  is continuous, for more related results we refer to [4, 6, 22].

Recently, the anisotropic Sobolev spaces have attracted the attention of many scientists and researchers (see. [7, 18, 21]), this impulse mainly comes from their physical applications in the processes of image restoration, flows of electro-rheological fluids and thermistor problem.

M. AL-hawmi, E.Azroul, H. Hjiaj and A.Touzani have studied in [2] the existence of entropy solutions for some anisotropic quasilinear elliptic unilateral problems

$$\begin{cases} Au = \mu - \operatorname{div} \phi(u) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (1.5)$$

where  $Au$  is an operator of Leray-Lions type acting from  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  into its dual define by

$$Au = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_i(x, u, \nabla u),$$

where  $\phi(\cdot) \in C^0(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R}^N)$ , and  $\mu = f - \operatorname{div} F$  such that  $f \in L^1(\Omega)$

and  $F \in \prod_{i=1}^N L^{p'_i}(\Omega)$ .

AL-hawmi, A. Benkirane, H. Hjjaj and A. Touzani have studied in [3] the existence and uniqueness of Entropy Solutions for some Nonlinear Elliptic Unilateral Problems

$$\begin{cases} Au = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

in Musielak-Orlicz-Sobolev spaces, where  $f \in L^1(\Omega)$  and  $A : D(A) \subset W_0^1 L_\varphi(\Omega) \mapsto W^{-1} L_\psi(\Omega)$  is the Leray-Lions operator defined as:

$$A(u) = -\operatorname{div} a(x, \nabla u),$$

In this paper, we will prove the existence of entropy solutions for non-linear anisotropic unilateral elliptic problem of the type

$$\begin{cases} Au + g(x, u, \nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (1.7)$$

where  $Au$  is an operator of Leray-Lions type acting from  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$

into its dual define by  $Au = - \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} a_i(x, u, \nabla u)$  and the function

$g(x, u, \nabla u)$  is a non linear lower order term with natural growth with respect to  $|\nabla u|$  satisfying the sign condition, that is  $g(x, u, \nabla u)u \geq 0$ .

This paper is organized as follows. In section 2 we recall some definitions and basic properties concerning the anisotropic Sobolev spaces. We introduce in section 3 the assumptions on  $a_i(x, s, \xi)$ , and  $g(x, s, \xi)$ , for which our problem has at least one solution. Section 4 is devoted to show the existence of entropy solutions for our anisotropic nonlinear elliptic unilateral problem (1.7).

## 2 Preliminary

Let  $\Omega$  be an open bounded domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  ( $N \geq 2$ ) with boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

Let  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_N$  be  $N + 1$  exponents, with  $1 < p_i < \infty$  for  $i =$

$0, 1, \dots, N$ . We denote

$$\vec{p} = (p_0, p_1, \dots, p_N), \quad D^0 u = u \quad \text{and} \quad D^i u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

We set

$$\underline{p} = \min \{p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_N\} \quad \text{then} \quad \underline{p} > 1. \quad (2.1)$$

The anisotropic Sobolev space  $W^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  is defined as follows

$$W^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) = \{u \in L^{p_0}(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad D^i u \in L^{p_i}(\Omega) \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N\}$$

endowed with the norm

$$\|u\|_{1,\vec{p}} = \sum_{i=0}^N \|D^i u\|_{L^{p_i}(\Omega)}. \quad (2.2)$$

The space  $(W^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega), \|u\|_{1,\vec{p}})$  is a separable and reflexive Banach space (cf [21]).

We define also  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  as the closure of  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(\Omega)$  in  $W^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  with respect to the norm (2.2).

Now, we will present some important compacts embedding,

**Lemma I:** Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded open set in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ , then the following embedding are compact

- if  $\underline{p} < N$  then  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^q(\Omega) \quad \forall q \in [\underline{p}, \underline{p}^*]$ , where  $\frac{1}{\underline{p}^*} = \frac{1}{\underline{p}} - \frac{1}{N}$ ,
- if  $\underline{p} = N$  then  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^q(\Omega) \quad \forall q \in [\underline{p}, +\infty[$ ,
- if  $\underline{p} > N$  then  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^\infty(\Omega) \cap C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ .

The proof of this lemma follows from the fact that the embedding  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow W_0^{1,\underline{p}}(\Omega)$  is continuous, and in view of the compact embedding theorem for Sobolev spaces.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $k > 0$ , we consider the truncation function  $T_k(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , given by

$$T_k(s) = \begin{cases} s & \text{if } |s| \leq k, \\ k \frac{s}{|s|} & \text{if } |s| > k, \end{cases}$$

and we define

$$\mathcal{T}_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) := \{u : \Omega \mapsto \mathbb{R} \text{ measurable, such that } T_k(u) \in W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \text{ for any } k > 0\}.$$

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $u \in \mathcal{T}_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , there exists a unique measurable function  $v_i : \Omega \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  such that*

$$D^i T_k(u) = v_i \cdot \chi_{\{|u| < k\}} \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega, \quad \text{for any } k > 0,$$

where  $\chi_A$  denotes the characteristic function of a measurable set  $A$ . The functions  $v_i$  are called the weak partial derivatives of  $u$  and are still denoted  $D^i u$ . Moreover, if  $u$  belongs to  $W_0^{1,1}(\Omega)$ , then  $v_i$  coincides with the standard distributional derivatives of  $u$ , that is  $v_i = D^i u$ .

The proof follows the usual techniques developed in [12] for the case of Sobolev spaces.

For more details concerning the anisotropic Sobolev spaces, we refer the reader to [8] and [15].

### 3 Essential assumptions

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  ( $N \geq 2$ ), we assume that the vector  $\vec{p} = (p_0, p_1, \dots, p_N)$  satisfying the requirements that  $1 < p_i < \infty$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, N$ .

Taking  $\psi$  as a measurable function on  $\Omega$  with values in  $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$ , such that

$$\psi^+ \in W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega).$$

We define the convex subset  $K_\psi$  by

$$K_\psi = \{v \in W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \text{ such that } v \geq \psi \text{ a.e. in } \Omega\}.$$

We consider a Leray-Lions operator  $A : W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \mapsto W^{-1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  given by

$$Au = - \sum_{i=1}^N D^i a_i(x, u, \nabla u)$$

where  $a_i : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  are Carathéodory functions, for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , (measurable with respect to  $x$  in  $\Omega$  for every  $(s, \xi)$  in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N$  and continuous with respect to  $(s, \xi)$  in  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N$  for almost every  $x$  in  $\Omega$ ), which satisfy the following conditions:

$$|a_i(x, s, \xi)| \leq R_i(x) + |s|^{p-1} + |\xi_i|^{p_i-1} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N, \quad (3.1)$$

$$(a_i(x, s, \xi) - a_i(x, s, \xi'))(\xi_i - \xi'_i) > 0, \quad \text{for } \xi_i \neq \xi'_i. \quad (3.2)$$

There exist  $d(x)$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$  and a strictly positive constant  $\sigma$  such that, for some fixed element  $v_0$  in  $K_\psi \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$

$$a_i(x, s, \xi)(\xi - \nabla v_0) \geq \sigma |\xi_i|^{p_i} - d(x) \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N, \quad (3.3)$$

for a.e.  $x \in \Omega$  and all  $(s, \xi) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N$ , where  $R_i(x)$  is a nonnegative function lying in  $L^{p'_i}(\Omega)$  and  $\sigma > 0$ .

The nonlinear term  $g(x, s, \xi)$  is a *Carathéodory* function which satisfies

$$g(x, s, \xi)s \geq 0, \quad (3.4)$$

$$|g(x, s, \xi)| \leq b(|s|)(c(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N |\xi_i|^{p_i}), \quad (3.5)$$

with  $b : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a continuous, nondecreasing growth function and  $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that  $c \in L^1(\Omega)$ .

We consider the anisotropic quasilinear elliptic unilateral problem

$$\begin{cases} Au + g(x, u, \nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

where

$$f \in L^1(\Omega), \quad (3.7)$$

Now, we recall some important Lemmas useful to prove our main result.

**Lemma II:**(see [17], Theorem 13.47 page 216) Let  $(u_n)_n$  be a sequence in  $L^1(\Omega)$  and  $u \in L^1(\Omega)$  such that

- (i)  $u_n \rightarrow u$  a.e. in  $\Omega$ ,
- (ii)  $u_n \geq 0$  and  $u \geq 0$  a.e. in  $\Omega$ ,
- (iii)  $\int_{\Omega} u_n dx \rightarrow \int_{\Omega} u dx$ ,

then  $u_n \rightarrow u$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$ .

**Lemma III:**(see. [7] page 6) Assuming that (3.1) – (3.3) hold, and let  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega)$  such that  $u_n \rightharpoonup u$  in  $W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega)$  and

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) - a_i(x, u_n, \nabla u))(D^i u_n - D^i u) dx \rightarrow 0, \quad (3.8)$$

then  $u_n \rightarrow u$  in  $W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega)$  for a subsequence.

## 4 Main results.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Assuming that (3.1) – (3.5) and (3.7) hold. Then there exists at least one solution of the following unilateral problem,*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u \in \mathcal{T}_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega), \quad u \geq \psi \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega, \quad g(x, u, \nabla u) \in L^1(\Omega) \\ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, u, \nabla u) D^i T_k(u - v) dx + \int_{\Omega} g(x, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v) dx \leq \int_{\Omega} f T_k(u - v) dx, \\ \text{for any } v \in K_{\psi} \cap L^{\infty}(\Omega), \quad \forall k > 0. \end{array} \right. \quad (4.1)$$

Our objective is to prove the following existence theorem.

### 4.1 Proof of Theorem 4.1

#### Step 1: Approximate problems.

Let  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $W^{-1,\vec{p}'}(\Omega) \cap L^1(\Omega)$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$  and  $|f_n| \leq |f|$  (for example  $f_n = T_n(f)$ ). We consider approximate problem.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_n \in K_{\psi}, \\ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i (u_n - v) dx + \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) (u_n - v) dx \\ \leq \int_{\Omega} f_n (u_n - v) dx \end{array} \right. \quad (4.2)$$

for any  $v \in K_{\psi}$ , and  $g_n(x, T_n(s), \xi) = \frac{g(x, s, \xi)}{1 + \frac{1}{n}|g(x, s, \xi)|}$ ,  $g_n(x, T_n(s), \xi)s \geq 0$ ,  $|g_n(x, s, \xi)| \leq |g(x, s, \xi)|$  and  $|g_n(x, T_n(s), \xi)| \leq n$ . We define the operators  $A_n$  and  $G_n$  acted from  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  into its dual  $W^{-1,\vec{p}'}(\Omega)$  by

$$\langle A_n u, v \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u), \nabla u) D^i v dx \quad \text{and} \quad \langle G_n u, v \rangle = \int_{\Omega} g(x, T_n(u), \nabla u) D^i v dx$$

$\forall u, v \in W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$ ,

**Lemma IV :** The operator  $B_n = A_n + G_n$  from  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  into  $W^{-1,\vec{p}'}(\Omega)$  is pseudo-monotone. Moreover,  $B_n$  is coercive in the following sense: The bounded operator  $B_n = A_n + G_n$  acted from  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  into  $W^{-1,\vec{p}'}(\Omega)$  is pseudo-monotone. Moreover,  $B_n$  is coercive in the following sense :

there exists  $v_0 \in K_\psi$  such that

$$\frac{\langle B_n v, v - v_0 \rangle}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \longrightarrow \infty \quad \text{as} \quad \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{for} \quad v \in K_\psi.$$

#### Proof of Lemma IV :

Using the Hölder's inequality and the growth condition (3.3), we can show that the operator  $A_n$  is bounded and by (3.5) we conclude that  $B_n$  is bounded. For the coercivity, let  $v_0 \in K_\psi$ , for any  $v \in K_\psi$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A_n v, v - v_0 \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(v), \nabla v) (D^i v - \nabla v_0) dx \\ &\geq \sigma \sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i v|^{p_i} dx + C_1 \\ &\geq \sigma' \sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i v|^{p_i} dx \end{aligned}$$

with  $\sigma' = \min(\sigma, C_1)$ . and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle G_n v, v \rangle &= \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(v), \nabla v) v dx \\ &\leq \|g_n(x, T_n(v), \nabla v)\|_{p'_i} \|v\|_{p_i} \\ &\leq \left( \int_{\Omega} |g_n(x, T_n(v), \nabla v)|^{p'_i} dx + 1 \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_i}} \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \quad (4.3) \\ &\leq (n^{p'_i} \text{meas}(\Omega) + 1)^{\frac{1}{p'_i}} \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \\ &\leq C_2 \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle G_n v, v_0 \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(v), \nabla v) D^i v_0 dx \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \int_{\Omega} |g_n(x, T_n(v), \nabla v)|^{p'_i} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_i}} \|D^i v_0\|_{p_i} \\ &\leq C_3 \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \int_{\Omega} C_4 n^{p'_i} (c(x)^{p'_i} + |D^i v|^{p_i}) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_i}} \|v_0\|_{1,\vec{p}} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle B_n v, v - v_0 \rangle}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} &= \frac{\langle A_n v, v - v_0 \rangle}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} + \frac{\langle G_n v, v - v_0 \rangle}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \\ &= \frac{\sigma'}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i v|^{p_i} dx + \frac{C_2 \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

$$-C_3 \frac{\|v_0\|_{1,\vec{p}}}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \int_{\Omega} C_4 |n|^{p'_i} (c(x)^{p'_i} + |D^i v|^{p_i}) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'_i}} \longrightarrow \infty,$$

as  $\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \rightarrow \infty$ . On the other hand, we have then, we obtain

$$\frac{\langle B_n v, v - v_0 \rangle}{\|v\|_{1,\vec{p}}} \longrightarrow +\infty \quad \text{if } \|v\|_{1,\vec{p}} \longrightarrow +\infty.$$

It remains to show that  $B_n$  is pseudo-monotone. Let  $(u_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence in  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  such that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_k \rightharpoonup u \quad \text{in } W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega), \\ B_n u_k \rightharpoonup \chi \text{ in } W^{-1,\vec{p}'}(\Omega), \\ \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \langle B_n u_k, u_k \rangle \leq \langle \chi, u \rangle. \end{array} \right. \quad (4.5)$$

We will prove that

$$\chi = B_n u \quad \text{and} \quad \langle B_n u_k, u_k \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \chi, u \rangle \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Firstly, since  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}(\cdot)}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^p(\Omega)$ , then

$$u_k \rightarrow u \quad \text{in } L^p(\Omega) \quad \text{for a subsequence denoted again } (u_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}.$$

As  $(u_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a bounded sequence in  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$ , then by the growth condition  $(a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded in  $L^{p'_i}(\Omega)$ .

Therefore there exists a function  $\varphi_i \in L^{p'_i}(\Omega)$  such that

$$a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) \rightharpoonup \varphi_i \quad \text{in } L^{p'_i}(\Omega) \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4.6)$$

Similarly, it is easy to see that  $(g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k))_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is bounded in  $L^{p'}(\Omega)$ , then there exists a function  $\psi_n \in L^{p'}(\Omega)$  such that

$$g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) \rightharpoonup \psi_n \quad \text{in } L^{p'}(\Omega) \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4.7)$$

Finally, since  $u_k \rightarrow u$  in  $L^p(\Omega)$ , by using the Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem, we deduce that: It is clear that, for all  $v \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \chi, v \rangle &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \langle B_n u_k, v \rangle \\ &= \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i v \, dx + \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) v \, dx \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i D^i v \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \psi_n v \, dx.\end{aligned}\tag{4.8}$$

From relations (4.5) and (4.8), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \langle B_n(u_k), u_k \rangle &= \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u_k \, dx + \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) u_k \, dx \right\} \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i D^i u \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \psi_n u \, dx.\end{aligned}\tag{4.9}$$

Thanks to (4.7), we have

$$\int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) u_k \, dx \longrightarrow \int_{\Omega} \psi_n u \, dx.\tag{4.10}$$

Therefore

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u_k \, dx \leq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i D^i u \, dx.\tag{4.11}$$

On the other hand, by (3.3), we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) - a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u)) (D^i u_k - D^i u) \, dx \geq 0,\tag{4.12}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u_k \, dx \\ \geq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u \, dx \\ + \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u) (D^i u_k - D^i u) \, dx.\end{aligned}$$

In view of Lebesgue dominated convergence theorem, we have  $T_n(u_k) \rightarrow T_n(u)$  in  $L^{p_i}(\Omega)$  then  $a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u) \rightarrow a_i(x, T_n(u), \nabla u)$  in  $L^{p'_i}(\Omega)$ , and by (4.6), we get

$$\liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u_k \, dx \geq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i D^i u \, dx.$$

This implies by using (4.11) that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) D^i u_k \, dx = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} \varphi_i D^i u \, dx. \quad (4.13)$$

According to (4.8), (4.10) and (4.13), we obtain

$$\langle B_n u_k, u_k \rangle \longrightarrow \langle \chi, u \rangle \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow +\infty.$$

Now, by (4.13) we can prove that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) - a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u)) (D^i u_k - D^i u) \, dx = 0.$$

and so, by virtue of Lemma III, we get

$$u_k \longrightarrow u \quad \text{in } W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega) \quad \text{and} \quad D^i u_k \longrightarrow D^i u \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega,$$

then

$$a_i(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) \rightharpoonup a_i(x, T_n(u), \nabla u) \quad \text{in } L^{p'_i}(\Omega) \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N$$

and

$$g_n(x, T_n(u_k), \nabla u_k) \rightharpoonup g_n(x, T_n(u), \nabla u) \quad \text{in } L^{p'_0}(\Omega),$$

which implies that  $\chi = B_n u$ , there exists at least one solution  $u_n \in W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  of the anisotropic nonlinear elliptic unilateral problem (4.2) (cf. [20], Theorem 8.1 page 131).

## Step 2: A priori estimates.

In this step, we will prove an uniform estimate for the truncated solution  $T_k(u_n)$ . Let  $k||v_0||_{\infty}$  and let  $\varphi_k(s) = se^{\gamma s^2}$ , where  $\gamma = (\frac{b(k)}{\sigma})^2$ . It is well known that,

$$\varphi'_k(s) - \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} |\varphi_k(s)| \geq \frac{1}{2}, \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (4.14)$$

Taking  $v = u_n - \eta \varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0))$  ( $\eta = e^{\gamma l^2}$ ) as test function in (4.2), where  $l = k + \|v\|_\infty$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i T_l(u_n - v_0) \varphi'_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) dx + \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) dx \\ & \leq \int_{\Omega} f_n \varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.15)$$

Since  $g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) \geq 0$  on the subset  $\{x \in \Omega : |u_n(x)| > k\}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\{|u_n - v_0| \leq l\}} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i(u_n - v_0) \varphi'_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) dx \\ & \leq \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} |g(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| |\varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0))| dx + \int_{\Omega} f_n \varphi_k(T_l(u_n - v_0)) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

By using (3.1), (3.5) and the fact that  $\{x \in \Omega, |u_n(x)| \leq k \subseteq x \in \Omega : |u_n - v_0| \leq l\}$ , we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\{|u_n - v_0| \leq l\}} |D^i u_n|^{p_i} dx \leq \sum_{i=0}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i T_k(u_n)|^{p_i} dx \leq 2C_k \quad (4.17)$$

where  $C_k$  is a positive constant depending on  $k$  and we obtain

$$\|T_k(u_n)\|_{1, \vec{p}} \leq C_1,$$

where  $C_1$  is positive constant that does not depend on  $n$ . Thus, the sequence  $(T_k(u_n))_n$  is bounded in  $W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega)$  uniformly in  $n$ , then there exists a subsequence still denoted  $(T_k(u_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and a function  $v_k \in W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega)$  such that

$$\begin{cases} T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup v_k & \text{weakly in } W_0^{1, \vec{p}}(\Omega), \\ T_k(u_n) \rightarrow v_k & \text{strongly in } L^p(\Omega) \text{ and a.e in } \Omega. \end{cases} \quad (4.18)$$

On the other hand, thanks to (4.17) and Poincaré inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla T_k(u_n)\|_{\underline{p}}^{\underline{p}} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i T_k(u_n)|^{\underline{p}} dx \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |D^i T_k(u_n)|^{p_i} dx + N|\Omega| \leq C_2 k. \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

Therefore, there exists a constant  $C_2$  that does not depend on  $k$  and  $n$ , such that

$$\|\nabla T_k(u_n)\|_p \leq C_2 k^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad \text{for } k \geq 1,$$

and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} k \operatorname{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} &= \int_{\{|u_n| > k\}} |T_k(u_n)| \, dx \leq \int_{\Omega} |T_k(u_n)| \, dx \\ &\leq \|1\|_{p'} \|T_k(u_n)\|_p \\ &\leq C \|\nabla T_k(u_n)\|_p \\ &\leq C_3 k^{\frac{1}{p}}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.20)$$

which yields

$$\operatorname{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} \leq C_{13} \frac{1}{k^{1-\frac{1}{p}}} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } k \rightarrow \infty. \quad (4.21)$$

Now, we will show that the sequence  $(u_n)_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure. Indeed, we have for every  $\delta > 0$ ,

$$\operatorname{meas}\{|u_n - u_m| > \delta\} \leq \operatorname{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} + \operatorname{meas}\{|u_m| > k\} + \operatorname{meas}\{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(u_m)| > \delta\}.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , in view of (4.21) we may choose  $k = k(\varepsilon)$  large enough such that

$$\operatorname{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad \operatorname{meas}\{|u_m| > k\} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3}. \quad (4.22)$$

Moreover, thanks to (4.18) we have

$$T_k(u_n) \longrightarrow \eta_k \quad \text{in } L^p(\Omega) \quad \text{and a.e. in } \Omega.$$

Thus  $(T_k(u_n))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure, and for any  $k > 0$  and  $\delta, \varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 = n_0(k, \delta, \varepsilon)$  such that

$$\operatorname{meas}\{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(u_m)| > \delta\} \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{3} \quad \text{for all } m, n \geq n_0(k, \delta, \varepsilon). \quad (4.23)$$

By combining (4.22) and (4.23), we conclude that : for all  $\delta, \varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 = n_0(\delta, \varepsilon)$  such that

$$\operatorname{meas}\{|u_n - u_m| > \delta\} \leq \varepsilon \quad \text{for any } n, m \geq n_0.$$

It follows that  $(u_n)_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure, then converges almost everywhere, for a subsequence, to some measurable function  $u$ . Thanks to (4.18) we obtain

$$\begin{cases} T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup T_k(u) & \text{in } W_0^{1,p}(\Omega), \\ T_k(u_n) \rightarrow T_k(u) & \text{in } L^p(\Omega) \quad \text{and a.e. in } \Omega. \end{cases} \quad (4.24)$$

### Step 3: Almost everywhere convergence of the gradient.

We fix  $k > \|v_0\|_\infty$ , and let  $w_{n,h} = T_{2k}(u_n - v_0 - T_h(u_n - v_0) + T_k(u_n) - T_k(u))$  and  $w_h = T_{2k}(u - v_0 - T_h(u - v_0))$ , with  $h > 2k$ . For  $\eta = e^{(-4\gamma k^2)}$ , we define the following function as

$$v_{n,h} = u_n - \eta \varphi_k(w_{n,h})$$

Now, taking  $v_{n,h}$  as test function in (4.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla \omega_{n,h} \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx + \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \\ \leq \int_{\Omega} f_n \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

Note that,  $\nabla \omega_{n,h} \geq 0$  on the set where  $|u_n| > h + 5k$ , therefore, setting  $m = 5k + h$ , and denoting in the sequel by  $\varepsilon_i(n)$   $i = 1, 2, \dots$  a various functions of real numbers which converges to 0 as  $n$  tends to infinity for any fixed value of  $h$ . By virtue of (4.25), since  $u_n \rightarrow u$  a.e. in  $\Omega$  and the fact that  $g_n(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}) \geq 0$  on the set  $x \in \Omega, |u_n(x)| > k$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) \nabla \omega_{n,h} \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx + \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} g(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \\ \leq \int_{\Omega} f_n \varphi_k(\omega_h) dx + \varepsilon_h^1(n). \end{aligned} \quad (4.26)$$

Splitting the first integral on the left hand side of (4.26) where  $|u_n| \leq k$  and  $|u_n| > k$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) \nabla \omega_{n,h} \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \\ = \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} a(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) D^i \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \\ + \int_{\{|u_n| > k\}} a(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) \nabla \omega_{n,h} \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

On the one hand, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} a(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \\ & \geq \int_{\Omega} (a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) \varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) \\ & \quad - \varphi'_k(2k) \int_{\{|u-v_0|>k\}} \sigma(x) dx + \varepsilon_h^2(n). \end{aligned} \quad (4.28)$$

We now turn to the second term of the left hand side of (4.26), using (3.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}) dx \right| \leq b(k) \int_{\Omega} (c(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N |D^i T_k(u_n)|^{p_i} |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})|) dx \\ & \leq b(k) \int_{\Omega} c(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx + \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} \sigma(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx \\ & \quad + \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) D^i T_k(u_n) |\varphi_k(\omega_n)|) dx \\ & \quad - \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)) \nabla v_0 |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.29)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \int_{\{\frac{|u_n|}{N} \leq k\}} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \varphi_k(\omega_n) dx \right| \\ & \leq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) |\varphi_k(\omega_n)| dx \\ & \leq b(k) \int_{\Omega} c(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx + \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} \sigma(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx \\ & \quad - \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} h_k \nabla v_0 |\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx + \varepsilon_h^3(n). \end{aligned} \quad (4.30)$$

Combining (4.28), (4.29) and (4.30), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) \\ & (\varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) - \frac{b(k)}{\alpha} \varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx \leq b(k) \int_{\Omega} c(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| dx + \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} \sigma(x) |\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx \\ & \quad - \frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} h_k \nabla v_0 |\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx + \int_{\Omega} f(x) \varphi_k(\omega_h) dx + \varepsilon_h^4(n). \end{aligned} \quad (4.31)$$

By (4.14) we have  $(\varphi'_k(\omega_{n,h}) - \frac{b(k)}{\sigma}\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h}))|\varphi_k(\omega_{n,h})| \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , hence the monotonicity (3.2) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) dx \\ & \leq 2b(k) \int_{\Omega} c(x)|\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx + 2\frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} \sigma(x)|\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx \\ & - 2\frac{b(k)}{\sigma} \int_{\Omega} h_k \nabla v_0 |\varphi_k(\omega_h)| dx + 2 \int_{\Omega} f(x)\varphi_k(\omega_h) dx + \varepsilon_h^5(n). \end{aligned} \quad (4.32)$$

Then, by letting  $h$  and  $n$  goes to infinity in (4.32), we get

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a_i(x, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)))(D^i T_k(u_n) - D^i T_k(u)) dx \longrightarrow 0. \quad (4.33)$$

Using the Lemma III, we deduce that

$$T_k(u_n) \longrightarrow T_k(u) \quad \text{in } W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega). \quad (4.34)$$

Therefore,

$$D^i u_n \longrightarrow D^i u \quad \text{a.e. in } \Omega.$$

#### Step 4: The equi-integrability of $g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)$ .

In order to pass to the limit in the approximate equation, we show that

$$g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \longrightarrow g(x, u, \nabla u) \quad \text{strongly in } L^1(\Omega).$$

By using Vitali's Theorem, it suffices to prove that  $g_n(x, u_n, \nabla u_n)$  is uniformly equi-integrable. Indeed, taking  $T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n))$  as a test function in (4.2), and using (3.2) since  $T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n))$  have the same sign as  $u_n$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\{h < |u_n|\}} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n)) dx \\ & \leq \int_{\{h < |u_n|\}} f_n T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n)) dx \end{aligned} \quad (4.35)$$



It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{\{h+1 \leq |u_n|\}} |g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| dx \\
 & \leq \int_{\{h < |u_n|\}} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n)) dx \\
 & \leq \int_{\{h < |u_n|\}} f_n T_1(u_n - T_h(u_n)) dx \\
 & \leq \int_{\{h < |u_n|\}} |f| dx,
 \end{aligned}$$

thus, for all  $\eta > 0$ , there exists  $h(\eta) > 0$  such that

$$\int_{\{h(\eta) \leq |u_n|\}} |g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| dx \leq \frac{\eta}{2}. \quad (4.36)$$

On the other hand, for any measurable subset  $E \subset \Omega$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_E |g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| dx \\
 & \leq b(h(\eta)) \int_E (c(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N |D^i T_{h(\eta)}(u_n)|^{p_i}) dx \\
 & \quad + \int_{\{h(\eta) \leq |u_n|\}} |g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| dx.
 \end{aligned} \quad (4.37)$$

From (4.34), there exists  $\beta(\eta) > 0$  such that, for all  $E \subseteq \Omega$  with  $\text{meas}(E) \leq \beta(\eta)$ , we have

$$b(h(\eta)) \int_E (c(x) + \sum_{i=1}^N |D^i T_{h(\eta)}(u_n)|^{p_i}) dx \leq \frac{\eta}{2}. \quad (4.38)$$

Finally, by combining (4.36), (4.37) and (4.38), one easily has

$$\int_E |g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n)| dx \leq \eta \quad \text{for all } E \text{ such that } \text{meas}(E) \leq \beta(\eta), \quad (4.39)$$

we then deduce that  $(g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n))_n$  is equi-integrable, and by Vitali's Theorem we deduce that

$$g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) \longrightarrow g(x, u, \nabla u) \quad \text{in } L^1(\Omega). \quad (4.40)$$

### Step 5: Passing to the limit.

By using  $T_k(u_n - \varphi)$  as a test function in (4.2), with  $\varphi \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$ , and putting  $m = k + \|\varphi\|_\infty$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i T_k(u_n - \varphi) dx + \int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n - \varphi) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} f_n T_k(u_n - \varphi) dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.41)$$

On one hand, if  $|u_n| > m$  then  $|u_n - \varphi| \geq |u_n| - \|\varphi\|_\infty > k$ , therefore  $\{|u_n - \varphi| \leq k\} \subseteq \{|u_n| \leq m\}$ , which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i T_k(u_n - \varphi) dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) (D^i T_m(u_n) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u_n - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx \\ &= \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla T_m(u_n)) - a_i(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla \varphi)) (D^i T_m(u_n) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u_n - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx \\ & \quad + \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla \varphi) (D^i T_m(u_n) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u_n - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.42)$$

According to Fatou's Lemma, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i T_k(u_n - \varphi) dx \\ & \geq \int_{\Omega} (a_i(x, T_m(u), \nabla T_m(u)) - a_i(x, T_m(u), \nabla \varphi)) (D^i T_m(u) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx \\ & \quad + \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_m(u_n), \nabla \varphi) (D^i T_m(u_n) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u_n - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx. \end{aligned} \quad (4.43)$$

The second term in the right hand side of (4.43) is equal to

$$\int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_m(u), \nabla \varphi) (D^i T_m(u) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u - \varphi| \leq k\}} dx.$$

Therefore, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \liminf_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) D^i T_k(u_n - \varphi) \, dx \\
 & \geq \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, T_m(u), \nabla T_m(u)) (D^i T_M(u) - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u-\varphi| \leq k\}} \, dx \\
 & = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, u, \nabla u) (D^i u - D^i \varphi) \chi_{\{|u-\varphi| \leq k\}} \, dx \\
 & = \sum_{i=1}^N \int_{\Omega} a_i(x, u, \nabla u) D^i T_k(u - \varphi) \, dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we have  $T_k(u_n - \varphi) \rightharpoonup T_k(u - \varphi)$  weak- $\star$  in  $L^\infty(\Omega)$  and in view of (4.40). We obtain,

$$\int_{\Omega} g_n(x, T_n(u_n), \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n - \varphi) \, dx \longrightarrow \int_{\Omega} g(x, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - \varphi) \, dx \quad (4.44)$$

and

$$\int_{\Omega} f_n T_k(u_n - \varphi) \, dx \longrightarrow \int_{\Omega} f T_k(u - \varphi) \, dx. \quad (4.45)$$

Again, since  $T_k(u_n - \varphi) \rightharpoonup T_k(u - \varphi)$  in  $W_0^{1,\vec{p}}(\Omega)$  we have done completed the proof of Theorem 4.1.

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