

## ENTROPY SOLUTIONS OF NONLINEAR PARABOLIC EQUATIONS IN MUSIELAK FRAMEWORK WITHOUT SIGN CONDITION AND $L^1$ DATA

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ABSTRACT. In the present paper, we study the existence of entropy solution for the strongly nonlinear unilateral parabolic inequalities in Musielak-Orlicz-spaces.

### 1. Introduction:

In this note we prove the existence of entropy solutions for a class of nonlinear parabolic unilateral problems of the type:

$$(\mathcal{P}) \begin{cases} u \geq \zeta & \text{a.e. in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \frac{\partial b(u)}{\partial t} - \operatorname{div} (a(x, t, u, \nabla u)) + g(x, t, u, \nabla u) = f & \text{in } Q, \\ u = 0 & \text{in } \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ u(x, 0) = u_0 & \text{in } \Omega, \end{cases}$$

where  $A(u) = -\operatorname{div}(a(x, t, u, \nabla u))$  is a Leray-Lions Operator defined on  $D(A) \subset W_0^{1,x} L_\varphi(Q) \longrightarrow W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q)$  where  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are two complementary Musielak-Orlicz functions. Let  $g$  be a Caratheodory function such that the growth condition

$$(1) \quad |g(x, t, s, \xi)| \leq P(x, t) + \rho(s)\varphi(x, |\xi|)$$

is satisfied, where  $\rho : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a continuous non-decreasing function which belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $P(x, t)$  is a given non-negative function in  $L^1(Q)$ . The function  $\zeta \in W_0^{1,x} E_\varphi(Q) \cap$

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$L^\infty(Q)$ .

In the classical Sobolev spaces Dall'aglio-Orsina [23] and Porretta [32] proved the existence of solutions for the problem  $(\mathcal{P})$ , where  $b(u) = u$  and  $g$  is a nonlinearity with the following "natural" growth condition (of order  $p$ ):

$$(2) \quad |g(x, t, s, \xi)| \leq b(s) (|\xi|^p + c(x, t)),$$

and which satisfies the classical sign condition,

$$(3) \quad g(x, t, s, \xi)s \geq 0.$$

The right hand side  $f$  is assumed to belong to  $L^1(Q)$ . This result generalizes analogous one of Boccardo - Gallouët [20], see also [21, 22] for related topics.

$$|g(x, t, s, \xi)| \geq \beta|\xi|^p \text{ for } |s| \geq \gamma$$

In the framework of Orlicz-Sobolev spaces, in [2] the authors have studied the existence and uniqueness result to the nonlinear parabolic equations whose prototype is

$$(4) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial b(u)}{\partial t} - \Delta_M u - \operatorname{div}(\bar{c}(x, t)\bar{M}^{-1}M(\frac{\alpha_0}{\lambda}|b(u)|)) = f & \text{in } Q_T, \\ u(x, t) = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ b(u)(t = 0) = b(u_0) & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

where  $-\Delta_M u = -\operatorname{div}\left((1 + |u|)^2 Du \frac{\log(e+Du)}{|Du|}\right)$ ,  $\bar{c} \in (L^\infty(Q_T))^N$  and  $M(t) = t \log(e + t)$  is an  $N$ -function. The data  $f$  and  $b(u_0)$  in  $L^1(Q_T)$  and  $L^1(\Omega)$ .

Another approach to define a suitable generalized solution is that of entropy solution which was introduced in [8] in the elliptic case and by Prignet [29] in the parabolic case.

Aharouch and Bennouna [5] have proved the existence and uniqueness of entropy solutions in the framework of Orlicz-Sobolev spaces  $W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$  assuming the  $\Delta_2$  condition on the  $N$ -function  $M$ .

In the generalized-Orlicz spaces, the work [6] is a continuation of [5] where AlHawmi, Benkirane, Hjiiaj and Touzani proved the existence and uniqueness of entropy solution for

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

where  $\Phi = 0$  and  $\bar{M}$  satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition. Antontsev and Shmarev [7] proved theorems of existence and uniqueness of weak solutions of Dirichlet problem for a class of nonlinear

parabolic equations with nonstandard anisotropic growth conditions in the variable exponent Lebesgue spaces. Equations of this class generalize the evolution  $p(x, t)$ -Laplacian of the type

$$(5) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \sum_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ a_i(x, t, u) |D_i u|^{p_i(x, t)-2} D_i u + b_i(x, t, u) \right] = 0 & \text{in } Q_T \\ u(x, t) = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T) \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x) & \text{in } \Omega \end{cases} .$$

In general Musielak-Sobolev spaces, the authors in [1] have proved the existence of solutions of the unilateral problem

$$Au - \operatorname{div} \Phi(x, u) + H(x, u, \nabla u) = \mu$$

where  $A$  is a Leray-Lions operator defined on  $D(A) \subset W_0^1 L_M(\Omega)$ ,  $\mu \in L(\Omega) + W^{-1} E_{\bar{M}}(\Omega)$ , where  $M$  and  $\bar{M}$  are two complementary Musielak-Orlicz functions and both the first and the second lower terms  $\Phi$  and  $H$  satisfies only the growth condition and  $u \geq \zeta$  where  $\zeta$  is a measurable function, and further works can be found in [9, 10, 34, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28], then our novelty in this paper, is to prove the existence of unilateral entropy solution for the problem  $(\mathcal{P})$  in the general framework of Musielak-Orlicz spaces without the sign condition (3) and without the following coercivity condition

$$|g(x, t, s, \xi)| \geq \beta \varphi(x, |\xi|).$$

The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we present some preliminaries and background, section 3 is devoted to essential assumptions, Section 4 concern some technical lemmas which will be needed later, and section 5 is to specify the definition of an entropy solution. In the final section 6, we give our main result and state the prove of an existence of solution.

## 2. Preliminaries

**2.1. Musielak-Orlicz functions.** Let  $\Omega$  be an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and let  $\varphi$  be a real-valued function defined in  $\Omega \times \mathbb{R}_+$  and satisfying the following conditions:

- (a)  $\varphi(x, \cdot)$  is an N-function for all  $x \in \Omega$  (i.e. convex, strictly increasing, continuous,  $\varphi(x, 0) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(x, t) > 0$ , for all  $t > 0$ ,  $\limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \sup_{x \in \Omega} \frac{\varphi(x, t)}{t} = 0$  and  $\liminf_{t \rightarrow \infty} \inf_{x \in \Omega} \frac{\varphi(x, t)}{t} = \infty$ ),
- (b)  $\varphi(\cdot, t)$  is a measurable function.

The function  $\varphi$  is called a Musielak-Orlicz function.

For a Musielak-orlicz function  $\varphi$  we put  $\varphi_x(t) = \varphi(x, t)$  and we associate its nonnegative reciprocal function  $\varphi_x^{-1}$ , with respect to  $t$ , that is

$$\varphi_x^{-1}(\varphi(x, t)) = \varphi(x, \varphi_x^{-1}(t)) = t.$$

The Musielak-orlicz function  $\varphi$  is said to satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition if for some  $k > 0$ , and a non negative function  $h$ , integrable in  $\Omega$ , we have

$$(6) \quad \varphi(x, 2t) \leq k \varphi(x, t) + h(x) \text{ for all } x \in \Omega \text{ and } t \geq 0.$$

When (6) holds only for  $t \geq t_0 > 0$ , then  $\varphi$  is said to satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition near infinity.

Let  $\varphi$  and  $\gamma$  be two Musielak-orlicz functions, we say that  $\varphi$  dominate  $\gamma$  and we write  $\gamma \prec \varphi$ , near infinity (resp. globally) if there exist two positive constants  $c$  and  $t_0$  such that for almost all  $x \in \Omega$

$$\gamma(x, t) \leq \varphi(x, ct) \text{ for all } t \geq t_0, \quad (\text{resp. for all } t \geq 0 \text{ i.e. } t_0 = 0).$$

We say that  $\gamma$  grows essentially less rapidly than  $\varphi$  at 0 (resp. near infinity) and we write  $\gamma \prec\prec \varphi$  if for every positive constant  $c$  we have

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \left( \sup_{x \in \Omega} \frac{\gamma(x, ct)}{\varphi(x, t)} \right) = 0, \quad (\text{resp. } \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sup_{x \in \Omega} \frac{\gamma(x, ct)}{\varphi(x, t)} \right) = 0).$$

**Remark 2.1.** [18] *If  $\gamma \prec\prec \varphi$  near infinity, then  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$  there exist  $k(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that for almost all  $x \in \Omega$  we have*

$$(7) \quad \gamma(x, t) \leq k(\varepsilon) \varphi(x, \varepsilon t), \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

**2.2. Musielak-Orlicz space:** For a Musielak-Orlicz function  $\varphi$  and a measurable function  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , we define the functional

$$\rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) = \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x, |u(x)|) dx.$$

The set  $K_{\varphi}(\Omega) = \left\{ u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ measurable} / \rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) < \infty \right\}$  is called the Musielak-Orlicz class (or generalized Orlicz class). The Musielak-Orlicz space (the generalized Orlicz spaces)  $L_{\varphi}(\Omega)$  is the vector space generated by  $K_{\varphi}(\Omega)$ , that is,  $L_{\varphi}(\Omega)$  is the smallest linear space containing the set  $K_{\varphi}(\Omega)$ . Equivalently

$$L_{\varphi}(\Omega) = \left\{ u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ measurable} / \rho_{\varphi, \Omega} \left( \frac{u}{\lambda} \right) < \infty, \text{ for some } \lambda > 0 \right\}.$$

For a Musielak-Orlicz function  $\varphi$  we put:  $\psi(x, s) = \sup_{t \geq 0} \{st - \varphi(x, t)\}$ ,

$\psi$  is the Musielak-Orlicz function complementary to  $\varphi$  (or conjugate of  $\varphi$ ) in the sens of Young with respect to the variable  $s$ .

In the space  $L_{\varphi}(\Omega)$  we define the following two norms:

$$\|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 / \int_{\Omega} \varphi \left( x, \frac{|u(x)|}{\lambda} \right) dx \leq 1 \right\},$$

which is called the Luxemburg norm and the so-called Orlicz norm by:

$$\| |u| \|_{\varphi, \Omega} = \sup_{\|v\|_{\psi} \leq 1} \int_{\Omega} |u(x)v(x)| dx,$$

where  $\psi$  is the Musielak Orlicz function complementary to  $\varphi$ . These two norms are equivalent [34].

We will also use the space  $E_\varphi(\Omega)$  defined by

$$E_\varphi(\Omega) = \left\{ u : \Omega \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ measurable} \left/ \rho_{\varphi, \Omega} \left( \frac{u}{\lambda} \right) < \infty, \text{ for all } \lambda > 0 \right. \right\}.$$

A Musielak function  $\varphi$  is called locally integrable on  $\Omega$  if  $\rho_\varphi(t\chi_E) < \infty$  for all  $t > 0$  and all measurable  $E \subset \Omega$  with  $\text{meas}(E) < \infty$ .

Let  $\varphi$  a Musielak function which is locally integrable. Then  $E_\varphi(\Omega)$  is separable [34].

We say that sequence of functions  $u_n \in L_\varphi(\Omega)$  is modular convergent to  $u \in L_\varphi(\Omega)$  if there exists a constant  $\lambda > 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_{\varphi, \Omega} \left( \frac{u_n - u}{\lambda} \right) = 0.$$

For any fixed nonnegative integer  $m$  we define

$$W^m L_\varphi(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L_\varphi(\Omega) : \forall |\alpha| \leq m, D^\alpha u \in L_\varphi(\Omega) \right\}.$$

and

$$W^m E_\varphi(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in E_\varphi(\Omega) : \forall |\alpha| \leq m, D^\alpha u \in E_\varphi(\Omega) \right\}.$$

where  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  with nonnegative integers  $\alpha_i$ ,  $|\alpha| = |\alpha_1| + \dots + |\alpha_n|$  and  $D^\alpha u$  denote the distributional derivatives. The space  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  is called the Musielak Orlicz Sobolev space.

Let

$$\bar{\rho}_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} \rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(D^\alpha u) \text{ and } \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega}^m = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \bar{\rho}_{\varphi, \Omega} \left( \frac{u}{\lambda} \right) \leq 1 \right\}$$

for  $u \in W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$ , these functionals are a convex modular and a norm on  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$ , respectively, and the pair  $(W^m L_\varphi(\Omega), \|\cdot\|_{\varphi, \Omega}^m)$  is a Banach space if  $\varphi$  satisfies the following condition [34]:

$$(8) \quad \text{there exist a constant } c_0 > 0 \text{ such that } \inf_{x \in \Omega} \varphi(x, 1) \geq c_0.$$

The space  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  will always be identified to a subspace of the product  $\prod_{|\alpha| \leq m} L_\varphi(\Omega) = \Pi L_\varphi$ , this subspace is  $\sigma(\Pi L_\varphi, \Pi E_\psi)$  closed.

The space  $W_0^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  is defined as the  $\sigma(\Pi L_\varphi, \Pi E_\psi)$  closure of  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  in  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$ . and the space  $W_0^m E_\varphi(\Omega)$  as the (norm) closure of the Schwartz space  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  in  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$ .

Let  $W_0^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  be the  $\sigma(\Pi L_\varphi, \Pi E_\psi)$  closure of  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  in  $W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$ .

The following spaces of distributions will also be used:

$$W^{-m} L_\psi(\Omega) = \left\{ f \in D'(\Omega); f = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} (-1)^{|\alpha|} D^\alpha f_\alpha \text{ with } f_\alpha \in L_\psi(\Omega) \right\}.$$

and

$$W^{-m}E_\psi(\Omega) = \left\{ f \in D'(\Omega); f = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq m} (-1)^{|\alpha|} D^\alpha f_\alpha \text{ with } f_\alpha \in E_\psi(\Omega) \right\}.$$

We say that a sequence of functions  $u_n \in W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  is modular convergent to  $u \in W^m L_\varphi(\Omega)$  if there exists a constant  $k > 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \bar{\rho}_{\varphi, \Omega} \left( \frac{u_n - u}{k} \right) = 0.$$

For  $\varphi$  and her complementary function  $\psi$ , the following inequality is called the Young inequality [34]:

$$(9) \quad ts \leq \varphi(x, t) + \psi(x, s), \quad \forall t, s \geq 0, x \in \Omega.$$

This inequality implies that

$$(10) \quad \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} \leq \rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) + 1.$$

In  $L_\varphi(\Omega)$  we have the relation between the norm and the modular

$$(11) \quad \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} \leq \rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) \text{ if } \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} > 1.$$

$$(12) \quad \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} \geq \rho_{\varphi, \Omega}(u) \text{ if } \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} \leq 1.$$

For two complementary Musielak Orlicz functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , let  $u \in L_\varphi(\Omega)$  and  $v \in L_\psi(\Omega)$ , then we have the Hölder inequality [34]

$$(13) \quad \left| \int_{\Omega} u(x)v(x) dx \right| \leq \|u\|_{\varphi, \Omega} \|v\|_{\psi, \Omega}.$$

### 3. Essential Assumptions

Throughout this paper, we assume that the following assumptions hold true: Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded Lipschitz domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and  $T > 0$ , we denote  $Q = \Omega \times [0, T]$ , and let  $\varphi$  and  $\gamma$  be two Musielak-Orlicz functions such that  $\varphi$  is locally integrable and  $\gamma \prec \varphi$ .

$b : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a strictly increasing  $C^1$ -function with  $b(0) = 0$  and such that

$$(14) \quad 0 < b_0 \leq b_0(s) \leq b_1 \quad \forall s \in \mathbb{R},$$

where  $b_0$  and  $b_1$  are given real numbers.

Let  $A : D(A) \subset W_0^{1,x} L_\varphi(Q) \rightarrow W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q)$  be a mapping given by

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

where  $a : a(x, t, s, \xi) : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  is a Carathéodory function satisfying, for a.e  $(x, t) \in Q$  and for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  and all  $\xi, \xi' \in \mathbb{R}^N$ ,  $\xi \neq \xi'$ :

$$(15) \quad |a(x, t, s, \xi)| \leq \beta \left( c(x, t) + \psi_x^{-1} \gamma(x, \nu|\xi|) + \psi_x^{-1} \varphi(x, \nu|\xi|) \right),$$

$$(16) \quad \left( a(x, t, s, \xi) - a(x, t, s, \xi') \right) (\xi - \xi') > 0,$$

$$(17) \quad a(x, t, s, \xi) \cdot \xi \geq \alpha \varphi(x, |\xi|).$$

where  $c(x, t)$  a positive function,  $c(x, t) \in E_\psi(Q)$  and positive constants  $\nu, \beta, \alpha$ .

let  $g : \Omega \times [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  be a Caratheodory function satisfying for a.e.  $(x, t) \in \Omega \times [0, T]$  and  $\forall s \in \mathbb{R}, \xi \in \mathbb{R}^N$ , the growth condition

$$(18) \quad |g(x, t, s, \xi)| \leq P(x, t) + \rho(s)\varphi(x, |\xi|)$$

is satisfied, where  $\rho : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is a continuous non-decreasing function which belongs to  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $P(x, t)$  is a given non-negative function in  $L^1(Q)$ .

$$(19) \quad f \text{ is an element of } L^1(Q),$$

$$(20) \quad u_0 \text{ is an element of } L^1(\Omega).$$

Let us give the following lemma which will be needed later.

#### 4. Some technical Lemmas

**Lemma 4.1.** [17]. *Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded Lipschitz domain in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and let  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be two complementary Musielak-Orlicz functions which satisfy the following conditions:*

*i) There exist a constant  $c > 0$  such that  $\inf_{x \in \Omega} \varphi(x, 1) \geq c$ ,*

*ii) There exist a constant  $A > 0$  such that for all  $x, y \in \Omega$  with  $|x - y| \leq \frac{1}{2}$  we have*

$$(21) \quad \frac{\varphi(x, t)}{\varphi(y, t)} \leq t^{\left( \frac{A}{\log\left(\frac{1}{|x-y|}\right)} \right)}, \quad \forall t \geq 1.$$

*iii)*

$$(22) \quad \text{If } D \subset \Omega \text{ is a bounded measurable set, then } \int_D \varphi(x, 1) dx < \infty.$$

*iv) There exist a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\psi(x, 1) \leq C$  a.e in  $\Omega$ .*

*Under this assumptions,  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  is dense in  $L_\varphi(\Omega)$  with respect to the modular topology,  $\mathcal{D}(\Omega)$  is dense in  $W_0^1 L_\varphi(\Omega)$  for the modular convergence and  $\mathcal{D}(\bar{\Omega})$  is dense in  $W^1 L_\varphi(\Omega)$  the modular convergence.*

Consequently, the action of a distribution  $S$  in  $W^{-1} L_\psi(\Omega)$  on an element  $u$  of  $W_0^1 L_\varphi(\Omega)$  is well defined. It will be denoted by  $\langle S, u \rangle$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** [?]. *Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be uniformly Lipschitzian, with  $F(0) = 0$ . Let  $\varphi$  be a Musielak-Orlicz function and let  $u \in W_0^1 L_\varphi(\Omega)$ . Then  $F(u) \in W_0^1 L_\varphi(\Omega)$ . Moreover, if the set  $D$  of discontinuity points of  $F'$  is finite, we have*

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} F(u) = \begin{cases} F'(u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} & \text{a.e in } \{x \in \Omega : u(x) \in D\}. \\ 0 & \text{a.e in } \{x \in \Omega : u(x) \notin D\}. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 4.3** (Poincaré inequality). [36] *Let  $\varphi$  a Musielak Orlicz function which satisfies the assumptions of lemma 4.1, suppose that  $\varphi(x, t)$  decreases with respect of one of coordinate of  $x$ .*

*Then, that exists a constant  $c > 0$  depends only of  $\Omega$  such that*

$$(23) \quad \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x, |u(x)|) dx \leq \int_{\Omega} \varphi(x, c|\nabla u(x)|) dx, \quad \forall u \in W_0^1 L_{\varphi}(\Omega).$$

**Lemma 4.4.** [36] *Let  $u_n, u \in L_{\varphi}(\Omega)$ . If  $u_n \rightarrow u$  with respect to the modular convergence, then  $u_n \rightarrow u$  for  $\sigma(L_{\varphi}(\Omega), L_{\psi}(\Omega))$ .*

**Lemma 4.5** (The Nemytskii Operator). [9]. *Let  $\Omega$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with finite measure and let  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  be two Musielak-Orlicz functions. Let  $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a Carathéodory function such that for a.e.  $x \in \Omega$  and all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  :*

$$(24) \quad |f(x, s)| \leq c(x) + k_1 \psi_x^{-1} \varphi(x, k_2 |s|).$$

*where  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are real positives constants and  $c(\cdot) \in E_{\psi}(\Omega)$ . Then the Nemytskii Operator  $N_f$  defined by  $N_f(u)(x) = f(x, u(x))$  is continuous from*

$$\mathcal{P}\left(E_{\varphi}(\Omega), \frac{1}{k_2}\right) = \left\{ u \in L_{\varphi}(\Omega) : d(u, E_{\varphi}(\Omega)) < \frac{1}{k_2} \right\}.$$

*into  $L_{\psi}(\Omega)$ .*

*Furthermore if  $c(\cdot) \in E_{\gamma}(\Omega)$  and  $\gamma \prec\prec \psi$  then  $N_f$  is strongly continuous from  $\mathcal{P}\left(E_{\varphi}(\Omega), \frac{1}{k_2}\right)$  to  $E_{\gamma}(\Omega)$ .*

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $\varphi$  be a Musielak function. Let  $(u_n)_n$  be a sequence of  $W^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q)$  such that*

$$u_n \rightharpoonup u \text{ weakly in } W^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q) \text{ for } \sigma(\Pi L_{\varphi}, \Pi L_{\psi})$$

*and*

$$\frac{\partial u_n}{\partial t} = h_n + k_n \text{ in } \mathcal{D}'(Q)$$

*with  $(h_n)_n$  bounded in  $W^{-1,x} L_{\psi}(Q)$  and  $(k_n)_n$  bounded in the space  $\mathcal{M}(Q)$  set of measures on  $Q$ . then  $u_n \rightarrow u$  strongly in  $L_{loc}^1(Q)$ .*

*If further  $u_n \in W_0^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q)$  then  $u_n \rightarrow u$  strongly in  $L^1(Q)$ .*

**Proof.** It is easily adapted from that given in [22] by using Theorem 4.4 and Remark 4.3 instead of Lemma 8 of [35].  $\square$

**Theorem 4.1.** [3]

*Let  $\varphi$  be an Musielak-Orlicz function satisfies the assumption (21). If  $u \in W^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q) \cap L^2(Q)$  ( respectively  $u \in W_0^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q) \cap L^2(Q)$ ) and*

*$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \in W^{-1,x} L_{\psi}(Q) + L^2(Q)$ , then there exists a sequence  $(v_j) \in D(\bar{Q})$  ( respectively  $D(\bar{I}, D(\Omega))$ ) such that  $v_j \rightarrow u$  in  $W^{1,x} L_{\varphi}(Q) \cap L^2(Q)$  and  $\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$  in  $W^{-1,x} L_{\psi}(Q) + L^2(Q)$  for the modular convergence.*



### 5. Definition of an entropy solution

For  $k > 0$  we define the truncation at height  $k$ :  $T_k : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by :

$$(25) \quad T_k(s) = \begin{cases} s & \text{if } |s| \leq k, \\ k \frac{s}{|s|} & \text{if } |s| > k. \end{cases}$$

We define

$$T_0^{1,\varphi}(Q) = \left\{ u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ measurable such that } T_k(u) \in W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q) \forall k > 0 \right\}.$$

Let  $\zeta$  a measurable function with values in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\zeta \in W_0^1E_\varphi(Q) \cap L^\infty(Q), \quad \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} \in L^1(Q) \quad \text{such that} \quad u_0 \geq \zeta$$

and let

$$K_\zeta = \left\{ u \in W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q) : u \geq \zeta \text{ a.e. in } Q \right\}.$$

The definition of an entropy solution for problem  $(\mathcal{P})$  can be stated as follows.

**Definition 5.1.** *A measurable function  $u$  defined on  $Q$  is an entropy solution of the problem  $(\mathcal{P})$  if*

$$(26) \quad u \in T_0^{1,\varphi}(Q) \text{ and } u \geq \zeta \text{ a.e. in } \Omega \times (0, T),$$

and for all  $v \in W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q) \cap L^\infty(Q)$ ,  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \in W_0^{-1,x}L_\psi(Q)$  such that  $v \geq \zeta$  a.e. in  $Q$  and  $\forall k > 0$ ,  $\tau \in (0, T)$

$$(27) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_\Omega S_k(b(u(\tau)) - v(\tau)) dx + \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}, T_k(b(u) - v) \right\rangle dt \\ & + \int_Q a(x, t, u, \nabla u) \nabla T_k(u - v) dx dt + \int_Q g(x, t, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v) dx dt \\ & \leq \int_Q f T_k(u - v) dx dt + \int_\Omega S_k(b(u_0) - v(0)) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_k(s) = \int_0^s T_k(r) dr$ .

### 6. Statements of results

This section is devoted to the proof of the following existence theorem.

**Theorem 6.1.** *Assume that (14)...(20) hold true. Then, there exists at least one entropy solution  $u$  of the problem  $(\mathcal{P})$  in the sense of Definition 5.1.*

**Proof.** The proof of Theorem 6.1 is divided into 7 steps.

**Step 1 : Approximate problem.**

For each  $n > 0$ , we define the approximation

$$(28) \quad b_n(s) = b(T_n(s)), \forall s \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$(29) \quad a_n(x, t, s, \xi) = a(x, t, T_n(s), \xi) \quad \text{a.e. } (x, t) \in Q, \forall s \in \mathbb{R}, \forall \xi \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

$$(30) \quad g_n(x, t, s, \xi) = \frac{g(x, t, s, \xi)}{1 + \frac{1}{n}|g(x, t, s, \xi)|}$$

$$(31) \quad u_{0n} \in C_0^\infty(\Omega) \text{ such that } b_n(u_{0n}) \rightarrow b(u_0) \text{ strongly in } L^1(\Omega)$$

$f_n \in L^1(Q)$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow f$  strongly in  $L^1(Q)$ , and  $\|f_n\|_{L^1(Q)} \leq \|f\|_{L^1(Q)}$ .

Consider the nonlinear approximate problems

$$(32) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t} - \operatorname{div}(a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n)) + g_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \\ + nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^-(u_n) = f_n & \text{in } Q, \\ u_n(x, t) = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \times (0, T), \\ u_n(x, 0) = u_{0n} & \text{in } \Omega. \end{cases}$$

Since  $g_n$  is bounded for any fixed  $n > 0$ , there exists at last one solution  $u_n \in W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$  of (32) ( see [33])

### **Step 2 : A priori estimates.**

Fixed  $k > 0$  Let  $\tau \in (0, T)$  and using  $\exp(G(u_n))T_k(u_n)^+ \chi_{(0,\tau)}$  as a test function in problem

(32) where  $G(s) = \int_0^s \frac{\rho(r)}{\alpha} dr$ , We get

$$(33) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{Q_\tau} \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t} \exp(G(u_n))T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla (\exp(G(u_n))T_k(u_n)^+) dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} g(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n))T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^-(u_n) \exp(G(u_n))T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1}}{\alpha}\right) \|f_n\|_{L^1(Q_T)}. \end{aligned}$$

We take

$$\tilde{T}_k(r) = \int_0^r \exp(G(s))T_k(s)^+ ds,$$

then

$$(34) \quad \int_{Q_\tau} \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t} \exp(G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt = \int_{\Omega} \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(\tau))) dx - \int_{\Omega} \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(0))) dx.$$

By definition we have

$$(35) \quad \int_{\Omega} \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(\tau))) dx \geq 0,$$

and

$$(36) \quad \int_{\Omega} \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(0))) dx \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1}}{\alpha}\right) \|b(u_0)\|_{L^1(\Omega)}.$$

By using the hypothesis (18) one has

$$(37) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{Q_\tau} g_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1}}{\alpha}\right) \int_{Q_T} |P(x, t)| dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} \rho(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt. \end{aligned}$$

Finally by combining (33),(34),(35),(36) and (37) we obtain:

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{Q_\tau} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} n T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- \exp(G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^+ dxdt \\ & \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1}}{\alpha}\right) (\|f_n\|_{L^1(Q_T)} + \int_Q |P(x, t)| dxdt + \|b(u_0)\|_{L^1(\Omega)}) \end{aligned}$$

In view of (17) one has  $\forall n > 0$  :

$$(39) \quad \begin{aligned} & \alpha \int_{Q_\tau} \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)^+|) \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \\ & + n \int_{Q_\tau} T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- T_k(u_n)^+ \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \leq c_1 k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha \int_{Q_\tau} \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)^+|) \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \\ & + c_2 n \int_{Q_\tau} T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- T_k(u_n)^+ \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \leq c_1 c_2 k. \end{aligned}$$

with  $c_2 = \frac{1}{\alpha}$

It follows that

$$0 \leq \int_{Q_\tau} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^- \frac{T_k(u_n)^+}{k} \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \leq c_1,$$

we deduce by Fatou's lemma as  $k \rightarrow 0$  that

$$0 \leq \int_{\{u_n \geq 0\}} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^- \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \leq c_1.$$

Return to (39) we deduce easily

$$\int_{\{0 \leq u_n \leq k\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n) dxdt \leq kc_1c_2.$$

And as one has  $\exp(G(u_n)) \geq 1$  for  $0 \leq u_n \leq k$ , then

$$(40) \quad \int_{\{0 \leq u_n \leq k\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n) dxdt \leq kc_1c_2.$$

Thanks to (39) we have

$$(41) \quad \alpha \int_{Q_\tau} \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)^+|) \exp(G(u_n)) dxdt \leq c_1ck,$$

we deduce that,

$$(42) \quad \alpha \int_Q \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)^+|) dxdt \leq c_1c_2k,$$

and

$$(43) \quad 0 \leq \int_{\{u_n \geq 0\}} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^- (u_n) dxdt \leq c_1.$$

Now, by choosing  $\exp(-G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^- \chi_{(0,\tau)}$  in (32) with  $k > 0$  and for every  $\tau \in [0, T]$ , we get

$$(44) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_0^T \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t}; \exp(-G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^- \chi_{(0,\tau)} dt \right\rangle \\ & - \int_{Q_\tau} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(-G(u_n)) \chi_{\{-k \leq u_n \leq 0\}} dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} P(x, t) T_k(u_n)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) dxdt \\ & + \int_{Q_\tau} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^- T_k(u_n)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) (u_n) dxdt \\ & \geq \int_{Q_\tau} f_n T_k(u_n)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) dxdt, \end{aligned}$$

we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}
(45) \quad & \int_{Q_\tau} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(-G(u_n)) \chi_{\{-k \leq u_n \leq 0\}} dx dt \\
& - \int_{Q_\tau} n T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- T_k(u_n)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) dx dt \\
& \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})}}{\alpha}\right) \left(\|\gamma\|_{L^1(Q)} + \|f_n\|_{L^1(Q)}\right) \\
& + \int_0^T \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t}; \exp(-G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^- \chi_{(0, \tau)} \right\rangle dt.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly to (36) we obtain

we take

$$\tilde{T}_k(r) = \int_0^r \exp(-G(s)) T_k(s)^- ds,$$

then

$$(46) \quad \int_{Q_\tau} \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t} \exp(G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^+ dx dt = \int_\Omega \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(\tau))) dx - \int_\Omega \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(0))) dx.$$

By definition we have

$$(47) \quad \int_\Omega \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(\tau))) dx \geq 0,$$

and

$$(48) \quad \int_\Omega \tilde{T}_k(b_n(u_n(0))) dx \leq k \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1}}{\alpha}\right) \|b(u_0)\|_{L^1(\Omega)},$$

and using same techniques, we obtain also

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{Q_\tau} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(-G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(u_n) dx dt \\
& + c_2 \int_{Q_\tau} n T_n(u - \zeta)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) T_k(u_n)^- dx dt \leq k c_1 c_2.
\end{aligned}$$

It follow that

$$0 \leq \int_{Q_\tau} n T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) \frac{T_k(u_n)^-}{k} dx dt \leq c_1,$$

we deduce by Fatou's lemma as  $k \rightarrow 0$  that

$$0 \leq \int_{\{u_n \leq 0\}} n T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- \exp(-G(u_n)) dx dt \leq c_1.$$

And as one has  $\exp(-G(u_n)) \geq 1$  since  $-k \leq u_n \leq 0$ , then

$$(49) \quad \int_{\{-k \leq u_n \leq 0\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n) dx dt \leq k c_1 c_2,$$

$$(50) \quad \int_{Q_\tau} \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)^-|) dxdt \leq \frac{kc_1c_2}{\alpha},$$

and

$$(51) \quad 0 \leq \int_{\{u_n \leq 0\}} nT_n(u_n - \zeta)^- dxdt \leq c_1.$$

Combining now (40) and (49) we get,

$$(52) \quad \int_Q a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n) dxdt \leq kC_1.$$

Of the same with (42) and (50) we get,

$$(53) \quad \int_Q \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) dxdt \leq kC_2.$$

we conclude that  $T_k(u_n)$  is bounded in  $W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$  independently of  $n$  and for any  $k > 0$ , so there exists a subsequence still denoted by  $u_n$  such that

$$(54) \quad T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup \xi_k \quad \text{weakly in } W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$$

On the other hand, using (53), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{x \in \Omega} \varphi\left(x, \frac{k}{\delta}\right) \text{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} &\leq \int_{|u_n| > k} \varphi\left(x, \frac{|T_k(u_n)|}{\delta}\right) dxdt \\ &\leq \int_Q \varphi(x, |\nabla T_k(u_n)|) dxdt \leq kC_2 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\text{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} \leq \frac{kC_2}{\inf_{x \in \Omega} \varphi\left(x, \frac{k}{\delta}\right)}$$

for all  $n$  and for all  $k$ .

Assuming that there exists a positive function  $M$  such that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{M(t)}{t} = +\infty$  and  $M(t) \leq \text{ess inf}_{x \in \Omega} \varphi(x, t), \forall t \geq 0$ . Thus, we get

$$(55) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \text{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} = 0$$

Let  $\lambda > 0$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{meas}\{|u_m - u_n| > \lambda\} &\leq \text{meas}\{|u_m| > k\} \\ &+ \text{meas}\{|u_n| > k\} + \text{meas}\{|T_k(u_m) - T_k(u_n)| > \lambda\} \end{aligned}$$

By (54) we can assume that  $T_k(u_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure in  $Q_T$  and using (55) we deduce that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists some  $k(\epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\text{meas}\{|u_m - u_n| > \lambda\} \leq \epsilon \quad \text{for all } n, m > N_{k(\epsilon), \lambda}$$

Which means that  $u_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure in  $Q$ , thus converge almost everywhere to some measurable function  $u$

For  $k < n$ , let  $g_k \in W^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{R})$ , such that  $g'_k$ , has a compact support  $\text{supp}(g'_k) \subset [-k, k]$ . We multiply (32) by  $g'_k(u_n)$ , to obtain in  $\mathcal{D}'(Q)$

$$(56) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial B_{g_k}^n(u_n)}{\partial t} &= \text{div}(g'_k(u_n)(a_n(u_n, \nabla u_n))) \\ &\quad - g''_k(u_n)(a_n(u_n, \nabla u_n)) + f_n g'_k(u_n), \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } B_{g_k}^n(r) = \int_0^r g'_k(s) \frac{\partial b_n(s)}{\partial s} ds.$$

Then, we show that

$$(57) \quad (B_{g_k}^n(u_n)) \text{ is bounded in } W_0^{1,x} L_\varphi(Q),$$

and

$$(58) \quad \left( \frac{\partial B_{g_k}^n(u_n)}{\partial t} \right) \text{ is bounded in } L^1(Q) + W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q).$$

independently of  $n$ .

Indeed, first we have

$$|\nabla B_{g_k}^n(u_n)| \leq b_1 |\nabla T_k(u_n)| \|g'_k\|_{L^\infty(\mathbb{R})} \text{ a.e. in } Q,$$

and using (52) we obtain (57). To show that (58) holds true, since  $\text{supp}(g'_k)$  and  $\text{supp}(g''_k)$  are both included in  $[-k, k]$ ,  $u_n$  may be replaced by  $T_k(u_n)$  in each of these terms. As a consequence, each term in the right hand side of (56) is bounded either in  $W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q)$  or in  $L^1(Q)$  which shows that (58) holds true.

Arguing again as in (16) estimates (57),(58) and the following remark, imply that, for a subsequence, still indexed by  $n$

$$(59) \quad b_n(u_n) \rightarrow b(u) \text{ a.e in } Q, \quad b(u) \in L^\infty(0, T, L^1(\Omega)),$$

where  $u$  is a measurable function defined on  $Q$ .

**Remark 6.1.**

For every  $g \in W^{2,\infty}(\mathbb{R})$ , nondecreasing function such that  $\text{supp}(g') \subset [-k, k]$  and (14), we have  $b_0 |g(r) - g(r')| \leq |B_g(r) - B_g(r')| \leq b_1 |g(r) - g(r')|$  for every in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Step 3 : Boundedness of  $a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$  in  $(L_\psi(Q))^N$ .**

Let  $\lambda > 0$  then,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{meas } \{|u_m - u_n| > \lambda\} \leq \text{meas } \{|u_m| > k\} \\ & + \text{meas } \{|u_n| > k\} + \text{meas } \{|T_k(u_m) - T_k(u_n)| > \lambda\} \end{aligned}$$

By (54) we can assume that  $T_k(u_n)$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure in  $Q$  and using (55) we deduce that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists some  $k(\epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\text{meas } \{|u_m - u_n| > \lambda\} \leq \epsilon \quad \text{for all } n, m > N_{k(\epsilon), \lambda}$$

Which means that  $u_n$  is a Cauchy sequence in measure in  $Q$ , thus converge almost every where to some measurable function  $u$ .

Let  $w \in (E_\varphi(\Omega))^N$  be arbitrary. By condition (16) we have,

$$(a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) - a(x, t, u_n, w)) (\nabla u_n - w) > 0$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) w dx dt & \leq \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n dx dt \\ & + \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} a(x, t, u_n, w) (w - \nabla u_n) dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

by (15) we have for  $\nu > \beta$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\}} \psi_x \left( x, \frac{a(x, t, u_n, \frac{w}{k_2})}{3\nu} \right) dx dt & \leq \frac{\beta}{3\nu} \int_Q [\psi(x, a_0(x, t)) + \gamma(x, k_1 |T_k(u_n))] dx dt \\ & + \frac{\beta}{3\nu} \int_Q [\varphi(x, |w|)] dx dt \\ (60) \quad & \leq \frac{\beta}{3\nu} \left[ \int_Q \psi(x, a_0(x, t)) + \gamma(x, k_1 k) dx dt \right] \\ & + \frac{\beta}{3\nu} \left[ \int_Q \varphi(x, |w|) dx dt \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\left\{ a \left( x, t, T_k(u_n), \frac{w}{k_2} \right) \right\}$  is bounded in  $(L_\psi(\Omega))^N$ . By (52), (60) and by the theorem of Banach-Steinhaus, the sequence  $\{a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))\}$  remains bounded in  $(L_\psi(\Omega))^N$  and we conclude,

$$(61) \quad a_n(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \rightharpoonup \varpi_k \text{ in } (L_\psi(Q))^N, \text{ for } \sigma(\Pi L_\psi, \Pi E_\varphi) \text{ for some } \varpi_k \in (L_\psi(Q))^N.$$

Consequently,



$$(62) \quad T_k(u_n) \rightharpoonup \text{weakly } T_k(u) \text{ in } W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q) \text{ for the topology } \sigma\left(\prod L_\varphi, \prod E_\psi\right).$$

**Step 4 : Almost everywhere convergence of the gradients.**

Taking  $Z_m(u_n) = T_1(u_n - T_m(u_n))^-$  as a test function in the approximate problem (32) we get

$$\int_{\{m \leq |u_n| \leq m+1\}} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n dx dt \leq C \left( \int_Q f_n Z_m(u_n) dx dt + \int_{\{|u_0| > m\}} |b_n(u_0)| dx dt \right)$$

where  $C > 0$ .

Passing to the limit as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , using the pointwise convergence of  $u_n$  and strongly convergence in  $L^1(Q)$  of  $f_n$  we get

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\{m \leq |u_n| \leq m+1\}} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n dx dt \leq C \left( \int_Q f Z_m(u) dx dt + \int_{\{|u_0| > m\}} |b(u_0)| dx dt \right).$$

Owing to Lebesgue's theorem and passing to the limit as  $m \rightarrow +\infty$ , in the all terms of the right-hand side, we get

$$(63) \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\{m \leq |u_n| \leq m+1\}} a(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n dx dt = 0.$$

Finally, for the almost everywhere convergence of the gradients we use the following lemma

**Lemma 6.1.** *Under the Assumptions (14)-(20), let  $(z_n)$  be a sequence in  $W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$  such that:*

$$(64) \quad z_n \rightarrow z \text{ for } \sigma(\Pi L_\varphi, \Pi E_\psi)$$

$$(65) \quad (a(x, t, z_n, \nabla z_n)) \text{ is bounded in } (L_\psi(Q))^N$$

$$(66) \quad \int_Q [a(x, t, z_n, \nabla z_n) - a(x, t, z_n, \nabla z \chi_s)] [\nabla z_n - \nabla z \chi_s] dx dt \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n$  and  $s$  tend to  $+\infty$ , and where  $\chi_s$  is the characteristic function of

$$Q^s = \{x \in Q; |\nabla z| \leq s\}.$$

Then,

$$(67) \quad \nabla z_n \rightarrow \nabla z \text{ a.e. in } Q$$

$$(68) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_Q a(x, t, z_n, \nabla z_n) \nabla z_n dx dt = \int_Q a(x, t, z, \nabla z) \nabla z dx dt$$

$$(69) \quad \varphi(x, |\nabla z_n|) \rightarrow \varphi(x, |\nabla z|) \text{ in } L^1(Q).$$

**Proof:** It is easily adapted from that given in [11].

Let  $v_j \in D(Q)$  be a sequence such that  $v_j \rightarrow u$  in  $W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$  for the modular convergence. This specific time regularization of  $T_k(v_j)$  (for fixed  $k \geq 0$ ) is defined as follows. Let  $(\alpha_0^\mu)_\mu$  be a sequence of functions defined on  $\Omega$  such that

$$(70) \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha_0^\mu &\in L^\infty(\Omega) \cap W_0^1L_M(\Omega) \text{ for all } \mu > 0 \\ \|\alpha_0^\mu\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} &\leq k \quad \forall \mu > 0 \\ \alpha_0^\mu &\rightarrow T_k(u_0) \text{ a.c. in } \Omega \text{ and } \frac{1}{\mu} \|\alpha_0^\mu\|_{M,\Omega} \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } \mu \rightarrow +\infty \end{aligned}$$

For fixed  $k, \mu > 0$ , let us consider the unique solution  $T_k(v_j)_\mu \in L^\infty(Q) \cap W_0^{1,x}L_M(Q)$  of the monotone problem:

$$(71) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial T_k(v_j)_\mu}{\partial t} + \mu \left( T_k(v_j)_\mu - T_k(v_j) \right) &= 0 \text{ in } D'(Q), \\ T_k(v_j)_\mu(t=0) &= \alpha_0^\mu \text{ in } \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Remark that due to,

$$\frac{\partial T_k(v_j)_\mu}{\partial t} \in W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q)$$

We just recall that,

$$(T_k(v_j))_\mu \rightarrow T_k(u) \text{ a.e. in } Q, \text{ weakly-}^* \text{ in } L^\infty(Q)$$

$(T_k(v_j))_\mu \rightarrow (T_k(u))_\mu$  in  $W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q_T)$  for the modular convergence as  $j \rightarrow +\infty$ .

$(T_k(u))_\mu \rightarrow T_k(u)$  in  $W_0^{1,x}L_\varphi(Q_T)$  for the modular convergence as  $\mu \rightarrow +\infty$ .

$\|(T_k(v_j))_\mu\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)} \leq \max\left(\|(T_k(u))\|_{L^\infty(Q_T)}, \|\alpha_0^\mu\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)}\right) \leq k$  for all  $\mu > 0$ , and for all  $k > 0$ . We introduce a sequence of increasing  $\mathbf{C}^1(\mathbb{R})$ - functions  $S_m$  such that

$$S_m(r) = 1 \text{ for } |r| \leq m, S_m(r) = m + 1 - |r|, \text{ for } m \leq |r| \leq m + 1, S_m(r) = 0$$

for  $|r| \geq m + 1$  for any  $m \geq 1$ . And we denote by  $\epsilon(n, \mu, \eta, j, m)$  the quantities such that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{\mu \rightarrow +\infty} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \epsilon(n, \mu, \eta, j, m) = 0.$$

The main estimate is

**Lemma 6.2.** *We have*

$$\int_0^T \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t}, T_\eta \left( u_n - (T_k(v_j))_\mu \right)^+ \exp(G(u_n)) S'_m(u_n) \right\rangle \geq w(n, \mu, \eta, j), \quad \forall m \geq 1$$

**Proof :** See [4].

For fixed  $k \geq 0$ , let  $W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} = T_\eta \left( T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \right)^+$  and  $W_{\mu,\eta}^j = T_\eta(T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu)^+$

Multiplying the approximating equation by  $\exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S_m(u_n)$  and using the same technique in step 2 we obtain:

$$(72) \quad \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t}, \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S_m(u_n) \right\rangle$$

$$(73) \quad + \int_Q a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla(W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j}) S_m(u_n) dxdt$$

$$(74) \quad + \int_Q a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S'_m(u_n) dxdt$$

$$(75) \quad \leq \int_Q f_n \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S_m(u_n) dxdt + \int_Q P(x, t) \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S_m(u_n) dxdt$$

Now we pass to the limit in (72),(73),(74),and in (75) for  $k$  real number fixed.

By lemma 6.2 we have for any fixed  $k \geq 0$

$$(76) \quad \int_Q \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial t} \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} S_m(u_n) dxdt \geq \epsilon(n, \mu, \eta, j) \quad \text{for any } m \geq 1$$

**For the term (74):**

we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_Q a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S'_m(u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(G(u_n)) \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} dxdt \\ &= \int_{m \leq |u_n| \leq m+1} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S'_m(u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} dxdt \\ &\leq \eta C \int_{m \leq |u_n| \leq m+1} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla u_n dxdt \end{aligned}$$

Using (63), we get

$$\int_Q a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S'_m(u_n) \nabla u_n \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} dxds \leq \epsilon(n, \mu, m).$$

**Concerning the term (75):**

Since  $S_m(r) \leq 1$  and  $W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} \leq \eta$  we get

$$(77) \quad \int_Q f_n S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu,\eta}^{n,j} dxdt \leq \epsilon(n, \eta),$$

$$(78) \quad \int_Q P(x, t) \exp(G(u_n)) W_{\mu, \eta}^{n, j} S_m(u_n) dxdt \leq C\eta.$$

**For the term (73):**

$$(79) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_Q a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla W_{\mu, \eta}^{n, j} dxdt \\ &= \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} a_n(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \\ & \times \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dxdt \\ & - \int_{\{|u_n| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S_m(u_n) \\ & \times \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu dxdt \end{aligned}$$

since  $a_n(x, t, T_{k+\eta}(u_n), \nabla T_{k+\eta}(u_n))$  is bounded in  $(L_\psi(Q))^N$ , there exist some  $\varpi_{k+\eta} \in (L_\psi(Q))^N$  such that

$$a_n(x, t, T_{k+\eta}(u_n), \nabla T_{k+\eta}(u_n)) \rightharpoonup \varpi_{k+\eta} \text{ weakly in } (L_\psi(Q))^N.$$

Consequently,

$$(80) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{\{|u_n| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} a_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu dxdt \\ &= \int_{\{|u| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} S_m(u) \exp(G(u)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \varpi_{k+\eta} dxdt + \epsilon(n) \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} & S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \chi_{\{|u_n| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} \\ & \rightarrow S_m(u) \exp(G(u)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \chi_{\{|u| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} \end{aligned}$$

strongly in  $(E_\varphi(Q))^N$ .

Letting  $j \rightarrow +\infty$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\{|u| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} S_m(u) \exp(G(u)) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \varpi_{k+\eta} dxdt \\ &= \int_{\{|u| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u) - T_k(u)_\mu \leq \eta\}} S_m(u) \exp(G(u)) \nabla T_k(u)_\mu \varpi_{k+\eta} dxdt + \epsilon(n, j) \end{aligned}$$

One easily has,

$$\int_{\{|u| > k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u) - T_k(u)_\mu \leq \eta\}} S_m(u) \exp(G(u)) \nabla T_k(u)_\mu \varpi_{k+\eta} dxdt = \epsilon(n, j, \mu)$$

By (72)-(80) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} a_n(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) S_m(u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \\ & \times \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dxdt \leq C\eta + \epsilon(n, j, \mu, m), \\ & \text{we know that } \exp(G(u_n)) \geq 1 \text{ and } S_m(u_n) = 1 \text{ for } |u_n| \leq k \text{ then,} \\ & \int_{\{|u_n| \leq k\} \cap \{0 \leq T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \leq \eta\}} a_n(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dxdt \\ (81) \quad & \leq C\eta + \epsilon(n, j, \mu, m). \end{aligned}$$

**Now, let us prove that:**

$$(82) \quad \int_Q [a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u))] [\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)] dxdt \rightarrow 0$$

Setting for  $s > 0$ ,  $Q^s = \{(x, t) \in Q : |\nabla T_k(u)| \leq s\}$  and  $Q_j^s = \{(x, t) \in Q : |\nabla T_k(v_j)| \leq s\}$  and denoting by  $\chi^s$  and  $\chi_j^s$  the characteristic functions of  $Q^s$  and  $Q_j^s$  respectively, we deduce that letting  $0 < \delta < 1$ , define

$$\Theta_{n,k} = (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u))) (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u))$$

For  $s > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 & \leq \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta dxdt \\ & = \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt \\ & \quad + \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| > \eta} dxdt. \end{aligned}$$

The first term of the right-side hand, with the Holder inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt & \leq \left( \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k} \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt \right)^\delta \left( \int_{Q^s} dxdt \right)^{1-\delta} \\ & \leq C_1 \left( \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k} \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt \right)^\delta. \end{aligned}$$

Also using the Holder inequality, the second term of the right-side hand is

$$\int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| > \eta} dxdt \leq \left( \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k} dxdt \right)^\delta \left( \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| > \eta} dxdt \right)^{1-\delta},$$

since  $a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$  is bounded in  $(L_\psi(Q))^N$ , while  $\nabla T_k(u_n)$  is bounded in  $(L_\varphi(Q))^N$ , then,

$$\int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| > \eta} dxdt \leq C_2 \text{meas} \left\{ (x, t) \in Q : \left| T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \right| > \eta \right\}^{1-\delta}.$$

We obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k}^\delta dxdt &\leq C_1 \left( \int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k} \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt \right)^\delta \\ &\quad + C_2 \text{meas} \left\{ (x, t) \in Q : \left| T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu \right| > \eta \right\}^{1-\delta}. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{Q^s} \Theta_{n,k} \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} dxdt \\ &\leq \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)) \chi_s) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) \chi_s dxdt. \end{aligned}$$

For each  $s > r, r > 0$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \int_{Q^r \cap \{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta\}} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u))) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) dxdt \\ &\leq \int_{Q^s \cap \{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta\}} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u))) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) dxdt \\ &= \int_{Q^e \cap \{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta\}} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)) \chi_s) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) \chi_s dxdt \\ &\leq \int_{Q \cap \{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta\}} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)) \chi^s) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u)) \chi^s dxdt \\ &= \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(v_j)) \chi_j^s) \\ &\quad \times (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)) \chi_j^s dxdt \\ &\quad + \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) (\nabla T_k(v_j)) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s dxdt \\ &\quad + \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} (a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(v_j)) \chi_j^s - a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u)) \chi^s) \\ &\quad \quad \quad \nabla T_k(u_n) dxdt \\ &\quad - \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(v_j)) \chi_j^s \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s dxdt \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s) \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s dx dt \\
& = I_1(n, j, s) + I_2(n, j) + I_3(n, j) + I_4(n, j, \mu) + I_5(n, \mu).
\end{aligned}$$

We go to the limit as  $n, j, \mu$ , and  $s \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\begin{aligned}
I_1 & = \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dx dt \\
& - \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \left( \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dx dt \\
& - \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s) \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s \right) dx dt.
\end{aligned}$$

Using (81), the first term of the right-hand side, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dx dt \\
& \leq C\eta + \epsilon(n, m, j, s) - \int_{|u| > k \cap |T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u), 0) \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu dx dt \\
& \leq C\eta + \epsilon(n, m, j, \mu).
\end{aligned}$$

The second term of the right-hand side tends to

$$\int_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} \varpi_k \left( \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) dx dt,$$

since  $a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n))$  is bounded in  $(L_\psi(Q))^N$ , there exist some  $\varpi_k \in (L_\psi(Q))^N$  such that (for a subsequence still denoted by  $u_n$ )

$$a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \rightarrow \varpi_k \quad \text{in } (L_\varphi(Q))^N \quad \text{for } \sigma(\Pi L_\psi, \Pi E_\varphi).$$

In view of the fact that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left( \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} \\
& \rightarrow \left( \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(v_j)_\mu \right) \chi_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta},
\end{aligned}$$

strongly in  $(E_\varphi(Q))^N$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ .

The third term of the right-hand side tends to

$$\int_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u), \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s) \left( \nabla T_k(u) - \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s \right) dx dt,$$

since

$$\begin{aligned}
& a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s) \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta} \\
& \rightarrow a(x, t, T_k(u), \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s) \chi_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)| \leq \eta}
\end{aligned}$$

in  $(E_\psi(Q))^N$ . while

$$\left( \nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s \right) \rightarrow \left( \nabla T_k(u) - \nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s \right)$$

in  $(L_\varphi(Q))^N$  for  $\sigma(\Pi L_\psi, \Pi E_\varphi)$  Passing to limit as  $j \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\mu \rightarrow +\infty$  and using Lebesgue's theorem, we have

$$I_1 \leq C\eta + \epsilon(n, j, s, \mu)$$

For what concerns  $I_2$ , by letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we have

$$I_2 \rightarrow \int_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} \varpi_k (\nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s) dxdt,$$

since  $a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) \rightarrow \varpi_k$  in  $(L_\psi(Q))^N$ , for  $\sigma(\Pi L_\psi, \Pi E_\varphi)$ , while

$$\begin{aligned} & (\nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s) \chi_{|T_k(u_n) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta} \\ & \rightarrow (\nabla T_k(v_j) \chi_j^s - \nabla T_k(u) \chi^s) \chi_{|T_k(u) - T_k(v_j)_\mu| \leq \eta}, \end{aligned}$$

strongly in  $(E_\varphi(Q))^N$ .

Passing to limit  $j \rightarrow +\infty$ , and using Lebesgue's theorem, we have

$$I_2 = \epsilon(n, j).$$

Similar ways as above give

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= \epsilon(n, j). \\ I_4 &= \int_{|T_k(u) - T_k(u)_\mu| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u), \nabla T_k(u)) \nabla T_k(u) dxdt + \epsilon(n, j, \mu, s, m). \\ I_5 &= \int_{|T_k(u) - T_k(u)_\mu| \leq \eta} a(x, t, T_k(u), \nabla T_k(u)) \nabla T_k(u) dxdt + \epsilon(n, j, \mu, s, m). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we obtain,

$$\int_{Q^*} \Theta_{n,k} dxdt \leq C_1(C\eta + \epsilon(n, \mu, \eta, m))^\delta + C_2(\epsilon(n, \mu, ))^{1-\delta}.$$

Which yields, by passing to the limit sup over  $n, j, \mu, s$  and  $\eta$

$$\int_{Q^r} [(a(x, t, T_k(u_n), \nabla T_k(u_n)) - a(x, t, T_k(u), \nabla T_k(u))) (\nabla T_k(u_n) - \nabla T_k(u))]^\delta dxdt = \epsilon(n).$$

Thus, passing to a subsequence if necessary,  $\nabla u_n \rightarrow \nabla u$  a.e. in  $Q^r$ , and since  $r$  is arbitrary,

$$\nabla u_n \rightarrow \nabla u, \quad \text{a.e. in } Q.$$

**Step 5 : Equi-integrability of the nonlinearities.**



We shall prove that  $g_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightarrow g(x, t, u, \nabla u)$  strongly in  $L^1(\Omega)$ .

Consider  $\vartheta_0(u_n) = \int_0^{u_n} \rho(s) \chi_{\{s>h\}} ds$  and multiply (32) by  $\exp(G(u_n)) \vartheta_0(u_n)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega} \tilde{T}_h(b_n(u_n)(T)) dx + \int_Q a(x, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla (\exp(G(u_n)) \vartheta_0(u_n)) dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_Q g_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \exp(G(u_n)) \vartheta_0(u_n) dx dt \\ & \leq \left( \int_h^{+\infty} \rho(s) dx \right) \exp\left(\frac{\|\rho\|_{L^1(\mathbb{R})}}{\alpha}\right) \left[ \|f\|_{L^1(Q)} + \|b(u_0)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} + \|P(\cdot, \cdot)\|_{L^1(Q)} \right]. \\ & \quad \text{where } \tilde{T}_h(r) = \int_0^r \vartheta_0(s) \exp(G(s)) ds \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

then using same technique in previous step we can have

$$\int_{\{u_n>h\}} \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt \leq C \left( \int_h^{+\infty} \rho(s) dx \right).$$

since  $\rho \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ , we get

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{\{u_n>h\}} \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt = 0$$

Similarly, let  $\vartheta_0(u_n) = \int_{u_n}^0 \rho(s) \chi_{\{s<-h\}} dx$  in (32) we have also

$$\limsup_{h \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{\{u_n<-h\}} \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt = 0$$

We conclude that

$$(83) \quad \limsup_{h \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{\{|u_n|>h\}} \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt = 0.$$

Let  $D \subset \Omega$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_D \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt & \leq \max_{\{|u_n| \leq h\}} (\rho(x)) \int_{D \cap \{|u_n| \leq h\}} \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt \\ & \quad + \int_{D \cap \{|u_n| > h\}} \rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n) dx dt. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently  $\rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n)$  is equi-integrable. Then  $\rho(u_n) \varphi(x, \nabla u_n)$  converge to  $\rho(u) \varphi(x, \nabla u)$  strongly in  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ . By (18) we get

$$(84) \quad g_n(x, t, u_n, \nabla u_n) \rightarrow g(x, t, u, \nabla u) \text{ strongly in } L^1(Q).$$

**Step 6 : Passage to the limit.**

**Now, we show that  $u$  satisfies (27)**

Firstly show that  $u \geq \zeta$  a.e. in  $Q$  from (43) and (51) we get

$$0 \leq \int_Q T_n (u_n - \zeta)^- dxdt \leq \frac{c_1}{n}$$

Let  $n$  tends to  $+\infty$  we obtain

$$\int_Q (u - \zeta)^- dxdt = 0$$

then

$$(u - \zeta)^- = 0 \text{ a.e. in } Q.$$

Secondly passing Now to the limit in (85) to show that  $u$  satisfies the equation satisfies (27)

Let  $v \in W_0^1 L_\varphi(Q) \cap L^\infty(Q)$  such that  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \in W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q) + L^1(Q)$ , then by theorem 4.1 we can take

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{v} &= v \text{ on } Q \\ \bar{v} &\in W^{1,x} L_\varphi(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}) \cap L^1(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}) \cap L^\infty(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}) \\ \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} &\in W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q) + L^1(Q) \end{aligned}$$

and there exists  $v_j \in \mathcal{D}(\Omega \times \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$v_j \rightarrow \bar{v} \quad \text{in} \quad W_0^{1,x} L_\varphi(\Omega \times \mathbb{R}) \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{\partial \bar{v}}{\partial t} \in W^{-1,x} L_\psi(Q) + L^1(Q).$$

for the modular convergence in  $W_0^1 L_\varphi(Q)$ , with

$$\|v_j\|_{L^\infty(Q)} \leq (N + 2)\|v\|_{L^\infty(Q)}$$

Pointwise multiplication of the approximate equation (32) by  $T_k(u_n - v_j)$ , we get

$$(85) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial s}, T_k(u_n - v_j) \right\rangle ds + \int_Q a_n(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n - v_j) dxds \\ &+ \int_Q T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- sg_{\frac{1}{n}}(u_n) T_k(u_n - v_j) dxds \\ &+ \int_Q g_n(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n - v_j) dxds = \int_Q f_n T_k(u_n - v_j) dxds \end{aligned} \right.$$

We pass to the limit as in (85),  $n$  tend to  $+\infty$  and  $j$  tend to  $+\infty$ . limit of the first term of (85):

The first term can be written

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial s}, T_k(u_n - v_j) \right\rangle ds &= \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial (b_n(u_n) - v_j)}{\partial s}, T_k(u_n - v_j) \right\rangle ds \\ &+ \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial s}, T_k(b_n(u_n) - v_j) \right\rangle ds \\ &= S_k(b_n(u_n)(\tau) - v_j(\tau)) - S_k(b_n(u_n)(0) - v_j(0)) \\ &+ \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial s}, T_k(u_n - v_j) \right\rangle ds \end{aligned}$$

We pass to the limit as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $j \rightarrow +\infty$  we can easily deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial b_n(u_n)}{\partial s}, T_k(u_n - v_j) \right\rangle ds &\rightarrow \int_\Omega S_k(b_n(u_n)(\tau) - v(\tau)) dx - \int_\Omega S_k(b_n(u_n)(0) - v(0)) dx \\ &+ \int_0^\tau \left\langle \frac{\partial v}{\partial s}, T_k(b(u) - v) \right\rangle ds \end{aligned}$$

– We can follow same way in [19] to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} &\liminf_{j \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_Q a(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n) \nabla T_k(u_n - v_j) dx ds \\ &\geq \int_Q a(x, s, u, \nabla u) \nabla T_k(u - v) dx ds \end{aligned}$$

– Limit of  $g_n(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n - v_j)$  :

Since  $g_n(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n)$  converge strongly to  $g(x, t, u, \nabla u)$  in  $L^1(Q)$ . and the pointwise convergence of  $u_n$  to  $u$  as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , it is possible to prove that  $g_n(x, s, u_n, \nabla u_n) T_k(u_n - v_j)$  converge to  $g(x, s, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v_j)$  in  $L^1(Q)$  and

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} \int_Q g(x, s, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v_j) dx ds = \int_Q g(x, s, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v) dx ds$$

– Since  $f_n$  converge strongly to  $f$  in  $L^1(Q)$ , and

$$T_k(u_n - v_j) \rightarrow T_k(u - v_j) \text{ weakly* in } L^\infty(Q),$$

we have

$$\int_Q f_n T_k(u_n - v_j) dx ds \rightarrow \int_Q f T_k(u - v_j) dx ds,$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and also we have

$$\int_Q f T_k(u - v_j) dx ds \rightarrow \int_Q f T_k(u - v) dx ds,$$

as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ .

Finally we know that

$$\int_Q T_n(u_n - \zeta)^- s g_{\frac{1}{n}}(u_n) T_k(u_n - v_j) dx ds \geq 0,$$

thus

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int_{\Omega} S_k(b(u(\tau)) - v(\tau)) dx + \int_0^{\tau} \langle \frac{\partial v}{\partial s}, T_k(b(u) - v) \rangle ds \\ + \int_Q a(x, s, u, \nabla u) \nabla T_k(u - v) dx ds + \int_Q g(x, s, u, \nabla u) T_k(u - v) dx ds \\ \leq \int_Q f T_k(u - v) dx ds - \int_{\Omega} S_k(b(u_0) - v(x, 0)) dx \end{array} \right.$$

As a conclusion, the proof of Theorem (6.1) is complete. □

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