

On the regularity of solutions to a slightly subcritical Neumann problem

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Abstract: We consider the following Neumann problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u = f(x, u), & x \in \Omega, \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ ($N > 2$) is a bounded, open domain, with $C^{2,\alpha}$ ($0 < \alpha < 1$) boundary $\partial\Omega$, $\partial/\partial\eta := \eta(x) \cdot \nabla$ denotes the outer normal derivative on $\partial\Omega$, and the nonlinear reaction term $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a *slightly subcritical* Carathéodory function.

Through a De Giorgi-Nash-Moser iteration scheme, it is known that weak solutions to (1) with critical growth are in $L^\infty(\Omega)$.

Our contribution is to provide an explicit $L^\infty(\Omega)$ -estimate of weak solutions with slightly subcritical growth, in terms of powers of $H^1(\Omega)$ -norms, by combining the elliptic regularity of weak solutions with Gagliardo–Nirenberg interpolation inequality.

Keywords: De Giorgi-Nash-Moser estimate; Sobolev embedding; Hölder inequality.

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