

Removability of singularity for nonlinear elliptic equations with $p(x)$ -growth*

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Abstract

Using Moser's iteration method, we investigate the problem of removable isolated singularities for elliptic equations with $p(x)$ -type nonstandard growth. We give a sufficient condition for removability of singularity for the equations in the framework of variable exponent Sobolev spaces.

Keywords: variable exponent space; isolated singularity; removable singularity.

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1 Introduction

In recent years, the research of elliptic equations with variable exponent growth conditions has been an interesting topic. These problems possess very complicated nonlinearities, for instance, the $p(x)$ -Laplacian operator $-\operatorname{div}(|\nabla u|^{p(x)-2}\nabla u)$ is inhomogeneous, and these problems have many important applications, see [1, 2, 3]. Since Kováčik and Rákosník first studied the $L^{p(x)}$ spaces and $W^{k,p(x)}$ spaces in [4], many results have been obtained concerning these kinds of variable exponent spaces, see examples in [5 – 12].

In this paper, we study solutions to nonlinear elliptic equations with nonstandard growth in the divergence form

$$-\operatorname{div}A(x, u, \nabla u) + g(x, u) = 0. \quad (1.1)$$

in a punctured domain $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$, where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ is a bounded domain with smooth boundary.

Throughout the paper we suppose that the functions $A(\cdot, \xi, \eta) : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$, $g(\cdot, \xi) : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ are measurable for all $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$, $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^N$, and $A(x, \cdot, \cdot)$, $g(x, \cdot)$ are continuous for almost all $x \in \Omega$. We also assume that the following structure conditions

$$A(x, \xi, \eta)\eta \geq \mu_1|\eta|^{p(x)}, \quad (1.2)$$

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$$|A(x, \xi, \eta)| \leq \mu_2 |\eta|^{p(x)-1}, \quad (1.3)$$

$$A(x, \xi, -\eta) = -A(x, \xi, \eta) \quad (1.4)$$

$$|x|^{-\alpha} |\xi|^{q(x)} \leq g(x, \xi) \operatorname{sgn} \xi \leq C |x|^{-\alpha} |\xi|^{q(x)} \quad (1.5)$$

are fulfilled for almost all $x \in \bar{\Omega}$, $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$, $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^N$, where $\mu_1, \mu_2 > 0$, $\alpha < N$, $C > 1$ are constants, $p, q \in C(\bar{\Omega})$, $1 < p^- \leq p(x) \leq p^+ < N$, and $q(x) \gg p(x) - 1$.

Here we denote

$$p^- = \inf_{x \in \bar{\Omega}} p(x), \quad p^+ = \sup_{x \in \bar{\Omega}} p(x),$$

and denote by $q(x) \gg p(x) - 1$ the fact that $\inf_{x \in \bar{\Omega}} (q(x) - p(x) + 1) > 0$.

For the Laplace's equation, a set of capacity zero constitutes a removable singularity for a bounded harmonic function, while, a single point x_0 is removable if the solution is $o(\log|x - x_0|)$ or $o(|x - x_0|^{2-N})$.

Serrin [13] considered the conditions of removability of an isolated singular point for equation (1.1) in the case of $g(x, u) \equiv 0$, it is shown that at an isolated singularity a positive solution has precisely the order of growth $|x - x_0|^{\frac{p-N}{p-1}}$ if $1 < p < N$, or $\log \frac{1}{|x-x_0|}$ if $p = N$.

Brezis and Veron [14] studied the equation of form (1.1) with a Laplace operator in the principal part. They proved the removability of isolated singularities for solutions under condition $g(x, \xi) \operatorname{sgn} \xi \geq |\xi|^q$ and $q \geq \frac{N}{N-2}$, $N \geq 3$.

For the equation of the form:

$$-\operatorname{div} A(x, u, \nabla u) + a_0(x, u, \nabla u) = 0$$

Serrin [13, 15] considered the conditions of removability of an isolated singular point x_0 , the condition has the form

$$u(x) = o\left(|x - x_0|^{\frac{p-N}{p-1} + \tau}\right), \quad 1 < p < N,$$

with positive number τ . Nicolosi et al. [16] obtained a precise condition for the removability of singularities, it has the form

$$u(x) = o\left(|x - x_0|^{\frac{p-N}{p-1}}\right), \quad 1 < p < N.$$

For equations with weighted functions v, w , Mamedov and Harman [17] proved that an isolated singular point x_0 is removable for solutions of equation (1.1) if the condition of weighted functions

$$v(B(x_0, \varepsilon)) \left(\frac{w(B(x_0, \varepsilon))}{\varepsilon^p v(B(x_0, \varepsilon))} \right)^{\frac{q}{q-p+1}} = o(1), \quad \varepsilon \rightarrow 0,$$

and $p > 1$, $q > p - 1$ are fulfilled. For the removability of singularities for solutions of elliptic equations with absorption term (see [18, 19]).

Recently, there have been a few papers on the study of the removability of singularities for the equations with nonstandard growth. Lukkari [20] investigated the removability of a compact set for the equation $-\operatorname{div}(|Du|^{p(x)-2}Du) = 0$. For the anisotropic elliptic equation, the removability of a compact set was proved by Cianci [21]. Cataldo and Cianci [22] considered the conditions of removability of an isolated singular point for equation (1.1) in the case of $g(x, u) = |u|^{q-2}u$.

In this paper, following Moser's method [23], we establish the condition

$$1 < \frac{(p(x) - \alpha)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1} + \alpha \ll N \quad \text{a.e. on } \bar{\Omega} \quad (1.6)$$

to ensure the removability of singularities.

2 Preliminaries

We first recall some facts on spaces $L^{p(x)}$ and $W^{k,p(x)}$. For the details see [4, 8].

Let $\mathbf{P}(\Omega)$ be the set of all Lebesgue measurable functions $p : \Omega \rightarrow [1, \infty]$, we denote

$$\rho_{p(x)}(u) = \int_{\Omega \setminus \Omega_\infty} |u|^{p(x)} dx + \sup_{x \in \Omega_\infty} |u(x)|,$$

where $\Omega_\infty = \{x \in \Omega : p(x) = \infty\}$.

The variable exponent Lebesgue space $L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$ is the class of all functions u such that $\rho_{p(x)}(tu) < \infty$, for some $t > 0$. $L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$ is a Banach space equipped with the norm

$$\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}} = \inf\{\lambda > 0 : \rho_{p(x)}\left(\frac{u}{\lambda}\right) \leq 1\}.$$

For any $p \in \mathbf{P}(\Omega)$, we define the conjugate function $p'(x)$ as

$$p'(x) = \begin{cases} \infty, & x \in \Omega_1 = \{x \in \Omega : p(x) = 1\}, \\ 1, & x \in \Omega_\infty, \\ \frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}, & x \in \Omega \setminus (\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_\infty). \end{cases}$$

Theorem 2.1 *Let $p \in \mathbf{P}(\Omega)$. For any $u \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$ and $v \in L^{p'(x)}(\Omega)$,*

$$\int_{\Omega} |uv| dx \leq 2\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}}\|v\|_{L^{p'(x)}}.$$

Theorem 2.2 *Let $p \in \mathbf{P}(\Omega)$ with $p^+ < \infty$. For any $u \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$, we have*

(1) *if $\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}} \geq 1$, then $\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}}^{p^-} \leq \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx \leq \|u\|_{L^{p(x)}}^{p^+}$;*

(2) if $\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}} < 1$, then $\|u\|_{L^{p(x)}}^{p^+} \leq \int_{\Omega} |u|^{p(x)} dx \leq \|u\|_{L^{p(x)}}^{p^-}$.

The variable exponent Sobolev space $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ is the class of all functions $u \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$ such that $|\nabla u| \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$. $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ is a Banach space equipped with the norm

$$\|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}} = \|u\|_{L^{p(x)}} + \|\nabla u\|_{L^{p(x)}}.$$

We say that the function $u(x)$ belongs to the space $W_{loc}^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ if $u(x)$ belongs to $W^{1,p(x)}(G)$ in any subdomain $G, \bar{G} \subset \Omega$.

Theorem 2.3 For any $u \in W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$, we have

(1) if $\|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}} \geq 1$, then $\|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}}^{p^-} \leq \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u|^{p(x)} + |u|^{p(x)}) dx \leq \|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}}^{p^+}$;

(2) if $\|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}} < 1$, then $\|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}}^{p^+} \leq \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u|^{p(x)} + |u|^{p(x)}) dx \leq \|u\|_{W^{1,p(x)}}^{p^-}$.

From Zhikov [5, 6], we know smooth functions are not dense in $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ without additional assumptions on the exponent $p(x)$. To study the Lavrentiev phenomenon, he considered the following log-Hölder continuous condition

$$|p(x) - p(y)| \leq \frac{C}{-\log(|x - y|)} \quad (2.1)$$

for all $x, y \in \bar{\Omega}$ such that $|x - y| \leq \frac{1}{2}$. If the log-Hölder continuous condition holds, then smooth functions are dense in $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$ and we can define the Sobolev spaces with zero boundary values $W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)$, as the closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ with the norm of $\|\cdot\|_{W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega)}$.

Theorem 2.4 If $u \in W_0^{1,p}(B_R(a))$, $1 \leq p < N$, then for any $1 \leq q \leq p^*$, the inequality

$$\left(\int_{B_R(a)} |u|^q dx \right)^{\frac{1}{q}} \leq C(N, p) R^{1 + \frac{N}{q} - \frac{N}{p}} \left(\int_{B_R(0)} |Du|^p dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (2.2)$$

is valid, where $B_R(a)$ is the ball of radius R with centre a .

We define $p_\delta^+ = \sup_{y \in \bar{B}_\delta(0) \cap \bar{\Omega}} p(y)$, $p_\delta^- = \inf_{y \in \bar{B}_\delta(0) \cap \bar{\Omega}} p(y)$, $q_\delta^+ = \sup_{y \in \bar{B}_\delta(0) \cap \bar{\Omega}} q(y)$, $q_\delta^- = \inf_{y \in \bar{B}_\delta(0) \cap \bar{\Omega}} q(y)$,

where $\delta > 0$ is a constant.

Lemma 2.1 Since $q(x) \gg p(x) - 1$, then the set $S = \{\delta : p_\delta^+ - 1 < q_\delta^-\}$ is nonempty, bounded above and $\delta_0 = \sup\{\delta : p_\delta^+ - 1 < q_\delta^-\} < +\infty$.

Proof. As $q(x)$, $p(x)$ are continuous on $\overline{\Omega}$, for $\varepsilon_1 \in (0, 1)$ and $0 \in \Omega$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that $|q(0) - q(y)| < \varepsilon_1$ and $|p(0) - p(y)| < \varepsilon_1$ whenever $|y| < \delta$. For any $y \in B_\delta(0) \cap \overline{\Omega}$, we have

$$p(y) - 1 < p(0) - 1 + \varepsilon_1,$$

and

$$q(y) > q(0) - \varepsilon_1.$$

As $q(x) \gg p(x) - 1$, take $\varepsilon_1 = \frac{1}{4} \inf_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} (q(x) - p(x) + 1)$,

$$q(0) - \varepsilon_1 - (p(0) - 1 + \varepsilon_1) \geq \frac{1}{2} \inf_{x \in \overline{\Omega}} (q(x) - p(x) + 1) > 0,$$

then

$$p(y) - 1 < p(0) - 1 + \varepsilon_1 < q(0) - \varepsilon_1 < q(y),$$

and further

$$p_\delta^+ - 1 = \sup_{y \in B_\delta(0) \cap \overline{\Omega}} (p(y) - 1) < q_\delta^- = \inf_{y \in B_\delta(0) \cap \overline{\Omega}} q(y).$$

So the set $S = \{\delta : p_\delta^+ - 1 < q_\delta^-\}$ is nonempty. From the definition of the $q(x) \gg p(x) - 1$, we know the set S is bounded above. By the Continuum Property, it has a smallest upper bound δ_0 . This smallest upper bound δ_0 is called the supremum of the set S . We write $\delta_0 = \sup S = \sup\{\delta : p_\delta^+ - 1 < q_\delta^-\}$.

Consider a solution $u(x)$ of equation (1.1) with an isolated singularity. Assume that $0 \in \Omega$ and zero is a singular point of the solution $u(x)$. We say that $u(x)$ is a solution of equation (1.1) in $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$ if $u \in W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega \setminus \{0\})$ and for any test function $\varphi \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega \setminus \{0\}) \cap L^\infty(\Omega \setminus \{0\})$ in $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$, the following equality is true:

$$\int_{\Omega} (A(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla \varphi + g(x, u) \varphi) dx = 0. \quad (2.3)$$

We say that the solution $u(x)$ of equation (1.1) has a removable singularity at the point 0 if the function $u(x)$ is a solution in $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$ and $u \in W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega \setminus \{0\}) \cap L^\infty(\Omega \setminus \{0\})$ implies that it belongs to the space $W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$ and satisfies (2.3) for any test function $\varphi \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$.

3 Proof of theorems

In this section we state and prove the following theorems.

In the sequel by C we denote a constant, the value of which may vary from line to line.

Theorem 3.1 Let $u \in W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega \setminus \{0\}) \cap L^\infty(\Omega \setminus \{0\})$ be a solution of equation (1.1) in $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$. Assume that conditions (1.2) – (1.5), (2.1) are satisfied. Then for any $0 < |x| \leq R < \min\{\text{dist}(0, \partial\Omega), \delta_0, 1\}$, the estimate

$$|u(x)| \leq C|x|^{-Q}, \quad (3.1)$$

holds almost everywhere, where $Q = Q(N, \alpha, p_R^-, p_R^+, q_R^-)$ and $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^-, p_R^+, q_R^-, q_R^+, R)$.

Proof. For $\rho < R$ we define a smooth cut-off function $\varphi_1(x)$ satisfying conditions: $\varphi_1(x) = 1$ for $\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4}$, $\varphi_1(x) = 0$ outside the set for $\frac{\rho}{4} \leq |x| \leq \rho$, $|\nabla\varphi_1(x)| \leq \frac{C}{\rho}$ and $0 \leq \varphi_1(x) \leq 1$.

Take the test function

$$\psi(x) = (1 + |u(x)|)^m u(x) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(B_R(0) \setminus \{0\}),$$

$m, n \geq 0$ are nonnegative numbers to be determined later, and then

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla\psi(x) &= m(1 + |u(x)|)^{m-1} \nabla u(x) |u(x)| \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} + (1 + |u(x)|)^m \nabla u(x) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} \\ &\quad + (1 + |u(x)|)^m u(x) (n + p_R^+) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+-1} \nabla\varphi_1(x). \end{aligned}$$

We substitute the test function $\psi(x)$ into the integral identity (2.3), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_R(0)} mA(x, u, \nabla u) (1 + |u(x)|)^{m-1} \nabla u(x) |u(x)| \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &+ \int_{B_R(0)} A(x, u, \nabla u) (1 + |u(x)|)^m \nabla u(x) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &+ \int_{B_R(0)} g(x, u) (1 + |u(x)|)^m u(x) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &+ \int_{B_R(0)} A(x, u, \nabla u) (1 + |u(x)|)^m u(x) (n + p_R^+) \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+-1} \nabla\varphi_1(x) dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of the conditions (1.2) – (1.5),

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_R(0)} \mu_1 m |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{m-1} |u(x)| \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &+ \int_{B_R(0)} \mu_1 |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &+ \int_{B_R(0)} |x|^{-\alpha} |u(x)|^{q(x)+1} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\ &\leq \int_{B_R(0)} \mu_2 (n + p_R^+) |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)-1} (1 + |u(x)|)^{m+1} \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+-1} |\nabla\varphi_1(x)| dx, \end{aligned}$$

and using Young's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{B_R(0)} \mu_1 |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx + \int_{B_R(0)} |x|^{-\alpha} |u(x)|^{q(x)+m+1} \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\
 & \leq \mu_2 \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} [|\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)-1}] [(n + p_R^+)(1 + |u(x)|)\varphi_1(x)^{-1} |\nabla \varphi_1(x)|] dx \\
 & \leq \mu_2 C(\varepsilon_2) \int_{B_R(0)} (n + p_R^+)^{p(x)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{p(x)+m} \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+-p(x)} |\nabla \varphi_1(x)|^{p(x)} dx \\
 & \quad + \mu_2 \varepsilon_2 \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Take $\varepsilon_2 = \frac{\mu_1}{2\mu_2}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\mu_1}{2} \int_{B_R(0)} |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} (1 + |u(x)|)^m \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx + \int_{B_R(0)} |x|^{-\alpha} |u(x)|^{q(x)+m+1} \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+} dx \\
 & \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2) \int_{B_R(0)} (n + p_R^+)^{p(x)} \frac{1}{\rho^{p(x)}} (1 + |u(x)|)^{p(x)+m} \varphi_1(x)^{n+p_R^+-p(x)} dx.
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

Denote $p_R^{-*} = \frac{Np_R^-}{N-p_R^-} = kp_R^-$. Since $u(x) \in W^{1,p(x)}(B_R(0) \setminus \{0\})$, then $u(x) \in W^{1,p_R^-}(B_R(0) \setminus \{0\})$ and $\phi(x) = \left[(1 + |u(x)|)^{t+p_R^+} \varphi_1(x)^{s+p_R^+} \right]^{\frac{1}{kp_R^-}} \in W_0^{1,p_R^-}(B_R(0))$, where $t+p_R^+ > kp_R^-$, $s+p_R^+ > kp_R^-$. As $1 < p_R^- < N$, applying (2.2) to the function $\phi(x)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{t+p_R^+} \varphi_1(x)^{s+p_R^+} dx \\
 & \leq C(N, p_R^-) \left(\int_{B_R(0)} |\nabla \phi(x)|^{p_R^-} dx \right)^k \\
 & = C(N, p_R^-) \left\{ \int_{B_R(0)} \left[\left(\frac{t+p_R^+}{kp_R^-} \right)^{p_R^-} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} |\nabla u(x)|^{p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k}} \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \left(\frac{s+p_R^+}{kp_R^-} \right)^{p_R^-} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} |\nabla \varphi_1|^{p_R^-} \right] dx \right\}^k \tag{3.3} \\
 & \leq C(N, p_R^-) \left(\frac{t+s+p_R^+}{kp_R^-} \right)^{kp_R^-} \left\{ \int_{B_R(0)} \left[(1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} |\nabla u(x)|^{p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k}} \right. \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \left. + \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \right)^{p_R^-} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} \right] dx \right\}^k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Taking $m = \frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-$, $n + p_R^+ = \frac{s+p_R^+}{k}$ in (3.2) and using Young's inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} |\nabla u(x)|^{p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k}} dx \\ & \leq \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} |\nabla u(x)|^{p(x)} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k}} dx + \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^-} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k}} dx \quad (3.4) \\ & \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2) (s + p_R^+)^{p_R^+} \frac{1}{\rho^{p_R^+}} \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^- + p(x)} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k} - p(x)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

From (3.3) and (3.4) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{t+p_R^+} \varphi_1(x)^{s+p_R^+} dx \\ & \leq C(s + p_R^+)^{kp_R^+} (t + s + p_R^+)^{kp_R^-} \frac{1}{\rho^{kp_R^+}} \left[\int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{\frac{t+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^- + p_R^+} \varphi_1^{\frac{s+p_R^+}{k} - p_R^+} dx \right]^k, \quad (3.5) \end{aligned}$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-)$.

Denote

$$\begin{aligned} I_i &= \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{t_i+p_R^+} \varphi_1(x)^{s_i+p_R^+} dx, \\ t_i &= (q_R^- + kp_R^-)k^i - p_R^+ + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}, \\ s_i &= \left(s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right) k^i - p_R^+ - \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$s_0 = \frac{p_R^+ \left(q_R^- + kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^- + 1} \right)}{q_R^- - p_R^+ + 1} - p_R^+ + 1.$$

From (3.5), we get

$$I_i \leq C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-) (t_i + s_i + p_R^+)^{2kp_R^+} \frac{1}{\rho^{kp_R^+}} I_{i-1}^k. \quad (3.6)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} t_i + s_i + p_R^+ & \leq (q_R^- + kp_R^-)k^i + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-} + \left(s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right) k^i - \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \\ & \leq \left(q_R^- + kp_R^- + s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right) k^i, \end{aligned}$$

iterate (3.6), then we have

$$\begin{aligned} I_i &\leq C \left(q_R^- + kp_R^- + s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right)^{2kp_R^+} k^{2kip_R^+} \frac{1}{\rho^{kp_R^+}} I_{i-1}^k \\ &\leq C \left(q_R^- + kp_R^- + s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right)^{2 \sum_{j=1}^i k^j p_R^+} k^{2 \sum_{j=1}^i (i+1-j)k^j p_R^+} \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \right)^{\sum_{j=1}^i k^j p_R^+} I_0^{k^i}, \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{(q_R^- + kp_R^-)k^i + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}} \varphi_1(x)^{s_i + p_R^+} dx \right]^{\frac{1}{k^i}} \\ &\leq C \left(q_R^- + kp_R^- + s_0 + p_R^+ + \frac{Np_R^+}{p_R^-} \right)^{2 \sum_{j=1}^i k^{j-i} p_R^+} k^{2 \sum_{j=1}^i (i+1-j)k^{j-i} p_R^+} \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \right)^{\sum_{j=1}^i k^{j-i} p_R^+} I_0, \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-)$.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \left[\int_{B_R(0)} |u(x)|^{q_R^- k^i} \varphi_1(x)^{s_i + p_R^+} dx \right]^{\frac{1}{k^i}} &\leq \left[\int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q_R^- k^i} \varphi_1(x)^{s_i + p_R^+} dx \right]^{\frac{1}{k^i}} \\ &\leq \left[\int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{(q_R^- + kp_R^-)k^i + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}} \varphi_1(x)^{s_i + p_R^+} dx \right]^{\frac{1}{k^i}}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

combining (3.7) and (3.8), and passing to the limit as $i \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \| |u(x)| \|_{L^\infty(\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4})}^{q_R^-} &\leq \| 1 + |u(x)| \|_{L^\infty(\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4})}^{q_R^-} \\ &\leq C \left(\frac{1}{\rho} \right)^{\frac{kp_R^+}{k-1}} \left[\int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q_R^- + kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0 + p_R^+} dx \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.9)$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-)$.

Taking $m = kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}$, $n = s_0$ in (3.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{B_R(0)} |x|^{-\alpha} |u(x)|^{q(x) + kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-} + 1} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0 + p_R^+} dx \\ &\leq C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-) \int_{B_R(0)} \frac{1}{\rho^{p(x)}} (1 + |u(x)|)^{p(x) + kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)N}{p_R^-}} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0 + p_R^+ - p(x)} dx, \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

and further by (3.10), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0+p_R^+} dx \\
& \leq C(N, p_R^+, p_R^-, q_R^+) \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1} \varphi_1^{s_0+p_R^+} dx \\
& \leq C + C \int_{B_R(0)} \rho^{\alpha-p_R^+} (1 + |u(x)|)^{p(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-}} \varphi_1^{s_0+p_R^+ - p(x)} dx \\
& \leq C + C\varepsilon_3 \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0+p_R^+} dx + \\
& \quad C(\varepsilon_3) \int_{B_R(0)} \rho^{(\alpha-p_R^+) \frac{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} \varphi_1^{s_0+p_R^+ - \frac{p(x) \left(q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1 \right)}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} dx.
\end{aligned}$$

Take $\varepsilon_3 = \frac{1}{2C}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_{B_R(0)} (1 + |u(x)|)^{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1} \varphi_1(x)^{s_0+p_R^+} dx \\
& \leq C \left(1 + \int_{B_R(0)} \rho^{(\alpha-p_R^+) \frac{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} dx \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-, q_R^+, R)$.

From (3.9), we have

$$\|u(x)\|_{L^\infty(\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4})}^{q_R^-} \leq C \left(\rho^{-\frac{kp_R^+}{k-1}} + \rho^{-\frac{kp_R^+}{k-1}} \int_{B_R(0)} \rho^{(\alpha-p_R^+) \frac{q(x)+kp_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} dx \right). \quad (3.11)$$

If $p_R^+ \leq \alpha < N$, we have

$$\|u(x)\|_{L^\infty(\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4})}^{q_R^-} \leq C \rho^{-\frac{kp_R^+}{k-1}},$$

and

$$|u(x)| \leq C|x|^{-\frac{kp_R^+}{(k-1)q_R^-}}, \quad \text{a.e.}$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-, q_R^+, q_R^-, R)$.

If $\alpha < p_R^+$, we have

$$\|u(x)\|_{L^\infty(\frac{\rho}{2} < |x| < \frac{3\rho}{4})}^{q_R^-} \leq C \rho^{-\frac{(p_R^+ - \alpha) \left(q_R^+ + k p_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1 \right)}{q_R^- - p_R^+ + 1} - \frac{k p_R^+}{k-1}},$$

and

$$|u(x)| \leq C |x|^{-\left\{ \frac{(p_R^+ - \alpha) \left(q_R^+ + k p_R^- + \frac{(p_R^+ - p_R^-)^N}{p_R^-} + 1 \right)}{(q_R^- - p_R^+ + 1) q_R^-} + \frac{k p_R^+}{(k-1) q_R^-} \right\}}, \quad \text{a.e.}$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, p_R^+, p_R^-, q_R^+, q_R^-, R)$.

The following is the main theorem in this paper.

Theorem 3.2 *Let conditions (1.2) – (1.6), (2.1) be fulfilled. If u is a solution of equation (1.1) in $\Omega \setminus \{0\}$, then the singularity of $u(x)$ at the point 0 is removable.*

Proof. For $0 < r < R < \min\{\text{dist}(0, \partial\Omega), \delta_0, 1\}$, we denote $m(r) = \sup\{|u(x)| : r \leq |x| \leq R\}$. For sufficiently small $r \leq \min\{\frac{1}{e^2}, R^2\}$, we define the function $\psi_r(x)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_r(x) &\equiv 0 & \text{for } |x| < r, \\ \psi_r(x) &\equiv 1 & \text{for } |x| > \sqrt{r}, \\ \psi_r(x) &= \frac{2}{\ln \frac{1}{r}} \ln \frac{|x|}{r} & \text{for } r \leq |x| \leq \sqrt{r}. \end{aligned}$$

We take the following test function

$$\varphi(x) = \psi_r^\gamma(x) \left[\ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} \right]_+, \quad (3.12)$$

for any $x \in \Omega_\varrho$, where $0 < \varrho < R$, $\Omega_\varrho = \{x \in B_R(0) : u(x) > m(\varrho)\}$, $\gamma = \sup_{x \in \Omega} \frac{p(x)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1}$ is a constant and $\varphi(x) \equiv 0$ for $x \notin \Omega_\varrho$.

For some $0 < \varrho < R$, let the domain Ω_ϱ be nonempty. Since $\varphi(x) \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega \setminus \{0\}) \cap L^\infty(\Omega \setminus \{0\})$, testing the equality (2.3) by φ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\Omega_\varrho} A(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla u \frac{\psi_r^\gamma}{u} + g(x, u) \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \\ &+ \int_{\Omega_\varrho} A(x, u, \nabla u) \gamma \psi_r^{\gamma-1}(x) \nabla \psi_r \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

By virtue of the conditions (1.2) – (1.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_e} \mu_1 \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} \psi_r^\gamma(x) dx + \int_{\Omega_e} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \\ & \leq \mu_2 \gamma \int_{\Omega_e} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} |\nabla \psi_r| \psi_r^{\gamma-1}(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

By Young's inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu_2 \gamma \int_{\Omega_e} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} |\nabla \psi_r| \psi_r^{\gamma-1}(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \\ & \leq C(\varepsilon_4) \int_{\Omega_e} u^{p(x)-1} \psi_r^{\gamma-p(x)} |\nabla \psi_r|^{p(x)} \left(\ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} \right)^{p(x)} dx + \mu_2 \gamma \varepsilon_4 \int_{\Omega_e} \psi_r^\gamma u^{-1} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} dx, \end{aligned}$$

take $\varepsilon_4 = \frac{\mu_1}{2\mu_2\gamma}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\mu_1}{2} \int_{\Omega_e} \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} \psi_r^\gamma(x) dx + \int_{\Omega_e} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\rho)} dx \\ & \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2, \gamma) \int_{\Omega_e} u^{p(x)-1} \psi_r^{\gamma-p(x)} |\nabla \psi_r|^{p(x)} \left(\ln \frac{u}{m(\rho)} \right)^{p(x)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\Omega_e} u^{p(x)-1} \psi_r^{\gamma-p(x)} |\nabla \psi_r|^{p(x)} \left(\ln \frac{u}{m(\rho)} \right)^{p(x)} dx \\ & \leq C(\varepsilon_5) \int_{\Omega_e} |x|^{\frac{\alpha q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1} - \alpha} \left(\ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p(x)-1)q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} |\nabla \psi_r|^{\frac{p(x)q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} dx \\ & \quad + \varepsilon_5 \int_{\Omega_e} |x|^{-\alpha} \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^{\frac{(\gamma-p(x))q(x)}{p(x)-1}} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Take $\varepsilon_5 = \frac{1}{2C(\mu_1, \mu_2, \gamma)}$. Since $\frac{(\gamma-p(x))q(x)}{p(x)-1} > \gamma$, $\psi_r(x) \leq 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\mu_1}{2} \int_{\Omega_e} \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} \psi_r^\gamma(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_e} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \\ & \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2, \gamma) \int_{\Omega_e \cap \{x: r \leq |x| \leq \sqrt{r}\}} |x|^{\frac{\alpha q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1} - \alpha} \left(\ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p(x)-1)q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} |\nabla \psi_r|^{\frac{p(x)q(x)}{q(x)-p(x)+1}} dx. \end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

By Lemma 2.1, we get $0 < 1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^+ + 1} < \infty$. Denote $\lambda = \sup_{x \in \Omega} \left(\frac{(p(x) - \alpha)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1} + \alpha \right)$, and from Theorem 3.1 and (3.13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\mu_1}{2} \int_{\Omega_\varrho} \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} \psi_r^\gamma(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_\varrho} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \\ & \leq C \int_{\Omega_\varrho \cap \{x:r \leq |x| \leq \sqrt{r}\}} |x|^{\frac{\alpha q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1} - \alpha} (\ln |x|^{-Q} + C)^{1 + \frac{(p(x) - 1)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1}} \left(\frac{2}{|x| \ln \frac{1}{r}} \right)^{\frac{p(x)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1}} dx \\ & \leq C \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \int_{\Omega_\varrho \cap \{x:r \leq |x| \leq \sqrt{r}\}} |x|^{\frac{\alpha q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1} - \alpha} \left[\left(\ln \frac{1}{|x|} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p(x) - 1)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1}} + 1 \right] \left(\frac{1}{|x|} \right)^{\frac{p(x)q(x)}{q(x) - p(x) + 1}} dx \\ & \leq C \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \int_{\Omega_\varrho \cap \{x:r \leq |x| \leq \sqrt{r}\}} \left(\ln \frac{1}{|x|} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \left(\frac{1}{|x|} \right)^\lambda dx \\ & \leq C \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \int_r^{\sqrt{r}} \left(\frac{1}{t} \right)^\lambda \left(\ln \frac{1}{t} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} t^{N-1} dt, \end{aligned}$$

where $C = C(N, \mu_1, \mu_2, \gamma, p_R^+, p_R^-, q_R^+, q_R^-, R)$.

Further, by (1.6), we get $\lambda < N$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \int_r^{\sqrt{r}} \left(\frac{1}{t} \right)^\lambda \left(\ln \frac{1}{t} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} t^{N-1} dt \\ & \leq \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \int_r^{\sqrt{r}} t^{N-1-\lambda} dt \\ & = \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{-\frac{q_R^+ p_R^-}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \left(\ln \frac{1}{r} \right)^{1 + \frac{(p_R^+ - 1)q_R^+}{q_R^+ - p_R^- + 1}} \frac{1}{N - \lambda} r^{\frac{1}{2}(N-\lambda)} \left(1 - r^{\frac{1}{2}(N-\lambda)} \right) \\ & \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

as $r \rightarrow 0$. Therefore, we obtain

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu_1}{2} \int_{\Omega_\varrho} \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} \psi_r^\gamma(x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega_\varrho} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \psi_r^\gamma(x) \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx \leq 0,$$

then

$$\mu_1 \int_{\Omega_\varrho} \frac{|\nabla u|^{p(x)}}{u} dx + \int_{\Omega_\varrho} |x|^{-\alpha} u^{q(x)} \ln \frac{u}{m(\varrho)} dx = 0.$$

Hence $u(x) = m(\varrho)$ almost everywhere in Ω_ϱ and the Lebesgue measure of Ω_ϱ equals to zero. Considering further the function $-u(x)$ instead of $u(x)$, we obtain the boundedness of $-u(x)$ in a neighborhood of the point 0. Thus we have proved that $u \in L^\infty(\Omega)$.

Next, we take the test function

$$\tilde{\varphi} = \psi^{p^+} u,$$

where $\psi \equiv 1$ in $B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_\rho(0)$, $\psi \equiv 0$ outside $B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0) \setminus B_{\frac{\rho}{2}}(0)$, $0 \leq \psi(x) \leq 1$, $|\nabla\psi| \leq \frac{C}{\rho}$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$. Testing the equality (2.3) by $\tilde{\varphi}$, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u) \left(p^+ \psi^{p^+-1} u \nabla \psi + \psi^{p^+} \nabla u \right) + g(x, u) \psi^{p^+} u dx = 0.$$

By virtue of the conditions (1.2) – (1.5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} \mu_1 |\nabla u|^{p(x)} \psi^{p^+} + |x|^{-\alpha} |u|^{q(x)+1} \psi^{p^+} dx \\ & \leq p^+ \mu_2 \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} \psi^{p^+-1} |\nabla \psi| |u| dx \\ & = p^+ \mu_2 \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} \left[|\nabla \psi| |u| \psi^{p^+-1-\frac{p^+}{p^-(x)}} \right] \left[|\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} \psi^{\frac{p^+}{p^-(x)}} \right] dx \\ & \leq C(\mu_2, p^+, \varepsilon_6) \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} |\nabla \psi|^{p(x)} |u|^{p(x)} \psi^{p^+-p(x)} dx + p^+ \mu_2 \varepsilon_6 \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} \psi^{p^+} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Take $\varepsilon_6 = \frac{\mu_1}{2p^+\mu_2}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} \psi^{p^+} dx & \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+) \int_{B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)} |\nabla \psi|^{p(x)} |u|^{p(x)} \psi^{p^+-p(x)} dx \\ & \leq C \frac{1}{\rho^{p^+}} \max \left\{ \|u\|_{\infty}^{p^+}, \|u\|_{\infty}^{p^-} \right\} |B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)| \\ & \leq C \frac{1}{\rho^{p^+}} \omega_n \left(\frac{5\rho}{2} \right)^N \\ & = C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+) \rho^{N-p^+}, \end{aligned}$$

where ω_n is the volume of the unit ball, $|B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)|$ is the volume of the ball $B_{\frac{5\rho}{2}}(0)$.

Further,

$$\int_{B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_\rho(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} dx \leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+) \rho^{N-p^+}, \quad (3.14)$$

then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_\rho(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} dx &= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \int_{B_{2^{1-j}\rho}(0) \setminus B_{2^{-j}\rho}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} dx \\ &\leq C \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (2^{-j}\rho)^{N-p^+} \\ &\leq C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+) \rho^{N-p^+} \\ &\rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

as $\rho \rightarrow 0$. So $|\nabla u| \in L^{p(x)}(\Omega)$.

Thus, we have proved that $u \in W^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$.

Next, we will show that $u(x)$ is a solution of equation (1.1) in the domain Ω . Pick $\eta_\rho \in C_0^\infty(\mathbb{R}^N)$ be the cutoff function for the ball $B_\rho(0)$, $\eta_\rho \equiv 1$ in $B_\rho(0)$, $\eta_\rho \equiv 0$ outside the ball $B_{2\rho}(0)$, $|\nabla \eta_\rho| \leq \frac{C}{\rho}$ and $0 < \rho \leq 1$. Let $\varphi \in W_0^{1,p(x)}(\Omega) \cap L^\infty(\Omega)$. Testing the equation (2.3) by the test function $(1 - \eta_\rho)\varphi$, we have

$$\int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla[(1 - \eta_\rho)\varphi] dx + \int_{\Omega} g(x, u)(1 - \eta_\rho)\varphi dx = 0,$$

that is,

$$\int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u)(1 - \eta_\rho) \nabla \varphi dx - \int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u) \varphi \nabla \eta_\rho dx + \int_{\Omega} g(x, u)(1 - \eta_\rho)\varphi dx = 0.$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} |A(x, u, \nabla u)(1 - \eta_\rho) \nabla \varphi| &\leq \mu_2 |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} |\nabla \varphi| \\ &\leq \mu_2 \left(\frac{p(x)-1}{p(x)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} + \frac{1}{p(x)} |\nabla \varphi|^{p(x)} \right) \\ &\in L^1(\Omega), \end{aligned}$$

therefore, by Lebesgue's Dominated Convergence Theorem, we have

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u)(1 - \eta_\rho) \nabla \varphi dx = \int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u) \nabla \varphi dx.$$

In the same way,

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \int_{\Omega} g(x, u)(1 - \eta_\rho)\varphi dx = \int_{\Omega} g(x, u)\varphi dx.$$

Meanwhile, by (3.14), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| \int_{\Omega} A(x, u, \nabla u) \varphi \nabla \eta_{\rho} dx \right| \\
& \leq \frac{C\mu_2}{\rho} \int_{B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_{\rho}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} dx \\
& \leq \frac{C(\mu_2)}{\rho} \|\ |\nabla u|^{p(x)-1} \|_{L^{\frac{p(x)}{p(x)-1}}(B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_{\rho}(0))} \| 1 \|_{L^{p(x)}(B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_{\rho}(0))} \\
& \leq \frac{C(\mu_2)}{\rho} \left[\int_{B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_{\rho}(0)} |\nabla u|^{p(x)} dx \right]^{\frac{p^- - 1}{p^+}} \cdot |B_{2\rho}(0) \setminus B_{\rho}(0)|^{\frac{1}{p^+}} \\
& \leq \frac{C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+)}{\rho} \rho^{\frac{(p^- - 1)(N - p^+)}{p^+}} (\rho^N)^{\frac{1}{p^+}} \\
& = C(\mu_1, \mu_2, p^+) \rho^{\frac{p^-(N - p^+)}{p^+}} \\
& \rightarrow 0,
\end{aligned}$$

as $\rho \rightarrow 0$.

So we have obtained that equality (2.3) is fulfilled for any test function.

Therefore, the isolated singular point 0 is removable for solutions of equation (1.1).

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