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# **A nonlocal type problem involving a mixed local and nonlocal operator**

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**Abstract** In this paper, we consider the nonlocal elliptic problem involving a mixed local and nonlocal operator,

$$
(P)\left\{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, u)dx\right)^{\beta} \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{s}}(u) = f^{\alpha}(x, u) \text{ in } \Omega, \right.\n\begin{aligned}\nu &> 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u &= 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^{N} \setminus \Omega,\n\end{aligned}\right.
$$

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  is a bounded regular domain,  $\mathfrak{L}_{p,s} \equiv -\Delta_p + (-\Delta)_p^s$ ,  $0 < s < 1 < p < N$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  be a nonnegative function which is defined almost everywhere with respect to the variable *x*. Using Schauder and Tychonoff fixed point theorems, we get two existence theorems of weak positive solutions under some hypothesis on  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $f$ .

**Mathematics Subject Classification** 35R11 · 35A01 · 35B09

# **1 Introduction**

<span id="page-0-0"></span>In this work, we deal with the following nonlocal elliptic problem involving a mixed local and nonlocal operator,

$$
\begin{cases}\n\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, u) dx\right)^{\beta} \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{s}}(u) = f^{\alpha}(x, u) & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u > 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^{N} \setminus \Omega,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n
$$
(1.0)
$$

where  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a bounded regular domain with  $0 < s < 1 < p < N$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a nonnegative function.

Here  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}} \equiv -\Delta_p + (-\Delta)_p^s$  where  $\Delta_p u = \text{div}(|\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u)$  is standard *p* − Laplace operator and  $(-\Delta)_p^s$ denotes the so-called *fractional p*−*Laplacian* operator, is defined as,

$$
(-\Delta)^s_p u(x) := \text{PV} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{p-2} (u(x) - u(y))}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dy,
$$

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In this paper, we assume two sets of assumptions.

• First set,

 $(\mathcal{H}_1)$   $f : \Omega \times \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is a function such that  $t \mapsto f(x, t)$  is continuous for a.e in  $\Omega, x \mapsto f(x, t)$  is measurable for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and for some nonnegative function  $g \in L^1(\Omega)$ , we have

 $0 < f(x, t) \le g(x)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and a.e  $x \in \Omega$ ,

and  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  satisfy one of the two following assumptions

$$
(\mathcal{H}_2) \ \ 0 \le \alpha \le \frac{1}{p'}, \text{ where } p' = \frac{p}{p-1}, (p' > 1) \text{ and } \beta \le \alpha;
$$
\n
$$
(\mathcal{H}_3) \ \alpha > \frac{1}{p'}, \ \beta \le \frac{1}{p'} \text{ with } g(x) \le 1 \text{ a.e } x \in \Omega.
$$

• In the second set, we assume that

 $(\mathcal{G}_1)$   $x \mapsto f(x, t)$  is measurable for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and

 $f(x, t) > 0$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and a.e  $x \in \Omega$ ,

.  $(\mathcal{G}_2)$   $f(.) 0 \in L^1(\Omega), |f(x, t_1) - f(x, t_2)| \leq h_\delta(x)|t_1 - t_2|^\delta$  for all  $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and a.e  $x \in \Omega$ such that

$$
(G_3) \ \ 0 < \delta \leq p, \ h_\delta \in L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}}(\Omega) \ \text{for} \ \delta \in (0, p), \ h_p \in L^\infty(\Omega), \ 0 < \beta \leq \alpha \leq \frac{1}{p'} \ \text{with} \ \ p' > 1.
$$

In recent years, the problems driven by operators like  $\mathcal{L}_{p,s}$  have attracted a huge amount of attention, both for the mathematical complications that the combination of two so different operators imply and for a wide range of applications, for example in [\[25](#page-15-0)], these operators in the case  $p = 2$ , describe a biological species whose individuals diffuse either by a random walk or by a jump process, according to prescribed probabilities. For other applications in the biological field generated by mixed operators, we refer readers [\[24](#page-15-1),[38,](#page-15-2)[39](#page-15-3)]. See also [\[11\]](#page-14-0) for further applications.

Moreover, several studies have been carried out on mixed local and nonlocal operators from different points of view, like the regularity theory, existence and non-existence results, calculus of variations, shape of optimization and eigenvalue problems see for instance  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  $[1,5-10,12,15,20,21,23,32,41,42]$  and the references therein.

Before stating our main results, we begin by recalling some well-known results related to our problem.  $- Local case: s = 1$ . In this case, we consider the following problem,

<span id="page-1-0"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\n-\left(\int_{\Omega} f_1(x, u) dx\right)^{\beta} \Delta_p u = \rho^{\gamma}(x) f_2^{\alpha}(x, u) \text{ in } \Omega, \\
u > 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u = 0 & \text{in } \partial\Omega,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(1.1)

where  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $\rho$  are measurable functions,  $a \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are real parameters. Several works are devoted to classes of problems [\(1.1\)](#page-1-0).

In the case of semilinear problem corresponding to  $p = 2$ ,  $\gamma = 0$  and  $f_1(x, t) \equiv f_2(x, t) \equiv f(t)$  depends only on the variable of *t*, has been treated in [\[31](#page-15-12)], where the authors have used a fixed-point theorem in cone, to show that problem [\(1.1\)](#page-1-0) has at least one positive solution, in which *f* is a positive continuous, nondecreasing function and satisfies a boundedness condition. In [\[18](#page-15-13)], the authors proved the existence and uniqueness results of problem [\(1.1\)](#page-1-0) for  $p = 2$ ,  $\gamma = 1$  and under some conditions on the functions  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $\rho$  and the constants  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ . In the case,  $p = 2$ ,  $\gamma = \alpha = 1$ ,  $f_1(x, u) = f_1(u)$ ,  $f_2(x, u) = f_2(u)$  and  $\rho(x) = \sigma = const > 0$ , problem [\(1.1\)](#page-1-0) was treated in [\[3\]](#page-14-4), where the authors have showed the existence of positive solution using Bolzano theorem. Recently in [\[45](#page-15-14)], the author gave sufficient conditions on the function *f* and the real parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ 



in order to have an existence of positive solutions via Schauder and Tychonoff fixed point theorems for the following problem

<span id="page-2-0"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\n-\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, u) dx\right)^{\beta} \operatorname{div}(a(x)\nabla u) = f^{\alpha}(x, u) \text{ in } \Omega, \\
u > 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u = 0 & \text{in } \partial\Omega,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(1.2)

where  $a(x)$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix function defined a.e in  $\Omega$ .

For other classes of nonlocal elliptic problems namely for  $p \in (1, \infty)$  see for instance [\[14](#page-15-15),[16](#page-15-16)[,17](#page-15-17),[33\]](#page-15-18) and the references therein.

*Non-local case:*  $0 < s < 1$ . In this case, the Kirchhoff-type problems involving the non-local integrodifferential operator has been widely studied in recent years, we refer to [\[4](#page-14-5)[,13,](#page-15-19)[27](#page-15-20)[,35,](#page-15-21)[36](#page-15-22)[,40,](#page-15-23)[43](#page-15-24)[,44\]](#page-15-25) and the references therein.

Needless to say, the references mentioned above do not exhaust the rich literature on the subject.

*Mixed local and non-local case.* Unlike the two cases above, Kirchhoff-type problems with mixed local and non-local operators are even less known to our knowledge.

Inspired by the work [\[45\]](#page-15-14), we will try to reproduce the same reasoning applied to a class nonlocal elliptic problem [\(1.2\)](#page-2-0) and adapt it to our problem with mixed local and nonlocal operator. As far as we are aware, our main results are new even in the semilinear case  $p = 2$ .

Notice that, the two sets of assumptions mentioned above  $(\mathcal{H}_1) - (\mathcal{H}_3)$  and  $(\mathcal{G}_1) - (\mathcal{G}_3)$  are purely technical, so they allowed us to apply the fixed-point theorems of Tychonoff and Schauder respectively, to obtain existence results (see sect. [3](#page-4-0) ).

The article is organized as follows. In Sect. [2](#page-2-1) , we collect some preliminaries dealing with the functional setting associated to our problem, like the concepts of solutions and useful lemmas are included that will be needed along of the paper. In the last Section, by using the Schauder and Tychonoff fixed point theorems, we prove the main existence results of this work under two sets of hypothesis on  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $f$  and  $g$ .

### <span id="page-2-1"></span>**2 The functional setting and tools**

In this section, we collect some well-known results on Sobolev spaces and give some tools as they are needed to prove our main results.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  with  $N \ge 2$  and  $0 < s < 1 < p < \infty$  be the real numbers. The fractional Sobolev space is defined by,

$$
W^{s,p}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^p(\Omega) : \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N+ps}} dx dy < +\infty \right\}.
$$

Notice that  $W^{s,p}(\Omega)$  is a Banach space endowed with the norm

$$
||u||_{W^{s,p}(\Omega)} = \left(||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} + \int_{\Omega} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N+ps}} dxdy\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.
$$

We denote by  $W_0^{s,p}(\Omega)$  the following space,

$$
W_0^{s,p}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in W^{s,p}(\mathbb{R}^N) : u = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^N \setminus \Omega \right\},\
$$

endowed with the norm

$$
||u||_{W_0^{s,p}(\Omega)} := \left( \iint_{D_{\Omega}} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + sp}} dx dy \right)^{1/p},
$$

where

$$
D_{\Omega} := (\mathbb{R}^N \times \mathbb{R}^N) \setminus (\mathcal{C}\Omega \times \mathcal{C}\Omega) = (\Omega \times \mathbb{R}^N) \cup (\mathcal{C}\Omega \times \Omega),
$$

is reflexive Banach space we refer to [\[2](#page-14-6)[,22,](#page-15-26)[37](#page-15-27)] for more details and properties of the fractional Sobolev spaces.



Now we define, for  $1 < p < \infty$ , the Sobolev space

$$
W^{1,p}(\Omega) = \left\{ u \in L^p(\Omega) : |\nabla u| \in L^p(\Omega) \right\},\
$$

endowed with the classical norm,

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

Notice that  $(W^{1,p}(\Omega), ||.||_{W^{1,p}(\Omega)})$  is reflexive Banach space.

The space  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  is defined as the closure of the space  $C_0^{\infty}(\Omega)$  of smooth functions with compact support in the norm of the Sobolev space  $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$ .

The following result asserts that Sobolev space  $W^{1,p}(\Omega)$  is continuously embedded in the fractional Sobolev space, see [\[22\]](#page-15-26) for more details.

**Lemma 2.1** *Let*  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  *be bounded Lipschitz domain and*  $0 < s < 1 < p < \infty$ *, then, there exists a constant*  $C = C(N, p, s)$  *such that* 

$$
||u||_{W^{s,p}(\Omega)} \le C||u||_{W^{1,p}(\Omega)}, \quad \forall u \in W^{1,p}(\Omega). \tag{2.3}
$$

We need also the following result, where the proof can be found in [\[12](#page-15-4)],

**Lemma 2.2** *Under the same hypothesis of the previous lemma, there exists a constant*  $C = C(N, p, s, \Omega)$ *such that*

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy \le C \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx, \quad \forall u \in W_0^{1, p}(\Omega). \tag{2.4}
$$

*Remarks 2.3* It is clear that from the previous lemma, the following norm on the space  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  defined by

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} = \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy\right)^{\frac{1}{p}} \tag{2.5}
$$

is equivalent to

<span id="page-3-2"></span>
$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} = \left(\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}.
$$
\n(2.6)

For the following Sobolev embedding, see for example [\[26,](#page-15-28)[34](#page-15-29)].

**Lemma 2.4** *The following embedding operators*

$$
W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow \begin{cases} L^q(\Omega), & \text{for } q \in [1, p^*], \text{ if } p \in (1, N) \\ L^q(\Omega), & \text{for } q \in [1, \infty), \text{ if } p = N \\ L^\infty(\Omega), & \text{if } q > N, \end{cases}
$$

*are continuous. Also, the above embeddings are compact, except for*  $q = p^* = \frac{pN}{N-p}$  *if*  $p \in (1, N)$ *.* 

Now, we define the notion of zero of Dirichlet boundary condition as follows,

**Definition 2.5** We say that  $u \le 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$ , if  $u = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^N \setminus \Omega$  and for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have

<span id="page-3-0"></span>
$$
(u-\varepsilon)_+\in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega).
$$

We say that *u* = 0 on  $\partial \Omega$ , if *u* in nonnegative and *u* ≤ 0 on  $\partial \Omega$ .

<span id="page-3-1"></span>Now, we need to render precise the sense of the weak solution for the problem [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0).

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**Definition 2.6** Assume that  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ . We say that *u* is a weak solution to problem [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0), if  $u >$ 0 in Ω, *u* = 0 on ∂Ω in the sense of Definition [2.5](#page-3-0) and for every  $φ ∈ W_0^{1,p}$  (Ω), we have

$$
\int_{\Omega} \phi \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u) dx = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x,u) \phi dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x,u) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$
\n(2.7)

To close this section, we recall the following elementary algebraic inequality (see [\[19](#page-15-30)]) that will be used in some arguments.

**Lemma 2.7** *Let p* > 1*. Then for every a, b*  $\in \mathbb{R}^N$ *, there exists a positive constant*  $C = C(p) > 0$  *such that* 

<span id="page-4-3"></span>
$$
\langle |a-b|^{p-2}(a-b), a-b \rangle \ge C \frac{|a-b|^2}{(|a|+|b|)^{2-p}}.
$$
\n(2.8)

## <span id="page-4-0"></span>**3 Existence results**

In this section, we focus to prove two existing results of nontrivial solutions to  $(1.0)$  by using, respectively, Tychonoff and Schauder fixed-point theorems under two sets of hypothesis on  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $f$ .

We begin with the following result.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let*  $s \in (0, 1)$  *and*  $1 < p < N$ *. Assume that*  $s \in (0, 1)$ *,*  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$  *and one of*  $(\mathcal{H}_2)$ *,*  $(\mathcal{H}_3)$  *hold. Then, problem* [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0) *has a positive weak solution*  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  *in the sense of Definition* [2.6.](#page-3-1)

*Proof* The proof will be given in several steps.

<span id="page-4-1"></span>**Step 1:** For  $v \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ , we consider the following problem,

<span id="page-4-4"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\n\mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u) = \frac{f^{\alpha}(x,v)}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\beta}} & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u > 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\
u = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{R}^{N} \setminus \Omega.\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(3.9)

To show that the previous problem has a solution  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ , we need to show that

$$
h(v) := \frac{f^{\alpha}(x, v)}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}} \in (W_0^{1, p}(\Omega))'. \tag{3.10}
$$

To do this, using  $\phi \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  as a test function in problem [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1), we get

$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \leq \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) |\phi| dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}},
$$

<span id="page-4-2"></span>

Using Hölder and Poincaré inequalities, it holds that

$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \leq \frac{\left(\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha p'}(x, v) dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}} \left(\int_{\Omega} |\phi|^p dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\leq \frac{C||\phi||_{W_0^{1, p}(\Omega)} \left(\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha p'}(x, v) dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}}}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$

First, if we assume that  $(\mathcal{H}_2)$  holds, it follows that

• if  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{p'})$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have

<span id="page-5-0"></span>
$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \le \frac{C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\alpha}}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\le C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\alpha-\beta}
$$

$$
\le C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}} ||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\alpha-\beta} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)};\tag{3.11}
$$

• if  $\alpha = \frac{1}{p'}$  and  $\beta \le \alpha$ , we get

<span id="page-5-1"></span>
$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \le \frac{C ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left( \int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'}}}{\left( \int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx \right)^{\beta}}
$$
  

$$
\le C ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left( \int\limits_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}
$$
  

$$
\le C ||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}; \tag{3.12}
$$

• if  $\beta \le \alpha = 0$ , we obtain

$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \le C |\Omega|^{1 - \frac{1}{p}} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1, p}(\Omega)} \bigg( \int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx \bigg)^{-\beta}
$$
  
 
$$
\le C |\Omega|^{1 - \frac{1}{p}} ||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{-\beta} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1, p}(\Omega)}.
$$
 (3.13)



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Now, if suppose that  $(\mathcal{H}_3)$  holds, we get

<span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
|\langle h(v), \phi \rangle| \le \frac{\left(\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha p'}(x, v) dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}} \left(\int_{\Omega} |\phi|^{p} dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, u) dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\le C ||\phi||_{W_0^{1, p}(\Omega)} \left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'} - \beta}
$$

$$
\le C ||g||_{L^{1}(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p'} - \beta} ||\phi||_{W_0^{1, p}(\Omega)}.
$$
(3.14)

Hence, combining with [\(3.11\)](#page-5-0), [\(3.12\)](#page-5-1), [\(3.14\)](#page-6-0), [\(3.10\)](#page-4-2) follows.

Now, using Theorem 1.1 of [\[29\]](#page-15-31), this problem possess a unique solution  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ .

Obviously, from  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ , we derive that  $u = 0$  is not solution to problem [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1). On the other hand, to show that *u* is nonnegative solution, we choose  $u^-$  as a test function in [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1), it follows that

<span id="page-6-1"></span>
$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{p-2} (u(x) - u(y))(u^-(x) - u^-(y))}{|x - y|^{N+ps}} dx dy
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u^-|^p dx = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) u^- dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}} \le 0. \tag{3.15}
$$

Following the same arguments from the proof of Lemma 3.1 in [\[30\]](#page-15-32), we get

$$
|u(x) - u(y)|^{p-2}(u(x) - u(y))(u^-(x) - u^-(y)) \ge 0, \quad \text{for a.e } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^N \times \mathbb{R}^N. \tag{3.16}
$$

Using  $(3.15)$  and  $(3.16)$ , it follows that

<span id="page-6-2"></span>
$$
\int\limits_{\Omega} |\nabla u^-|^p dx \le 0
$$

Hence,  $u \ge 0$  in  $\Omega$ . Since  $u = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^N \setminus \Omega$ , we derive that the function *u* is nonnegative in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . As  $g(x, t) > 0$  for a.e  $x \in \Omega$  and for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then, by using theorem 8.3 of [\[28\]](#page-15-33), we have that for every  $\omega \in \Omega$ , there exists a constant  $C(\omega) > 0$  such that  $u \ge C(\omega) > 0$  in  $\Omega$ . Hence  $u > 0$  in  $\Omega$ .

Therefore, the operator

$$
T: W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \to W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)
$$
  

$$
v \mapsto T(v) = u.
$$

is well defined.

**Step 2:** Let us show  $T(\overline{B}_R(0)) \subset \overline{B}_R(0)$  where  $\overline{B}_R(0)$  is closed ball in  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  with center 0 and radius *R*. For this purpose, it is sufficient to prove that if *u* solves Problem [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1), then

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \leq R,
$$

where *R* will be precise later.



To do this, we use  $u$  as a test function in  $(3.9)$ , we get

<span id="page-7-0"></span>
$$
\int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^p dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^p}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) u dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$
(3.17)

As in the first step, we assume that  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  satisfy ( $\mathcal{H}_2$ ) and we distinguish three cases. Therefore, by using Hölder and Poincaré inequalities, we get from  $(3.17)$ ,

• if  $\alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{p'})$  and  $\alpha \leq \beta$ , we have

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \leq \frac{C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\alpha}}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\leq C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\alpha-\beta}
$$

$$
\leq C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\alpha-\beta}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}.
$$

Therefore,

<span id="page-7-1"></span>
$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \leq \left(C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\alpha-\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{p-1}};
$$
\n(3.18)

• if 
$$
\alpha = \frac{1}{p'}
$$
 and  $\beta \leq \alpha$ , we get

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \le \frac{C||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}}}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$
  

$$
\le C||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}
$$
  

$$
\le C||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}.
$$

Thus

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \leq \left(C||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{p-1}}.\tag{3.19}
$$

• if  $\beta \le \alpha = 0$ , we obtain

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \le C|\Omega|^{1-\frac{1}{p}}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \bigg(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\bigg)^{-\beta}
$$
  

$$
\le C|\Omega|^{1-\frac{1}{p}}||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{-\beta}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}.
$$



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Therefore

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \le \left( C|\Omega|^{1-\frac{1}{p}} ||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{-\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{p-1}}.
$$
\n(3.20)

Now, by using (*H*3), and, Hölder and Poincaré inequalities, it follows that

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \le \frac{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f^{\alpha p'}(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} |u|^p dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,u)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\le C||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}
$$

$$
\le C||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}.
$$

Thus, we deduce that

<span id="page-8-0"></span>
$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \le \left( C||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p} - \beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{p-1}}.
$$
\n(3.21)

Hence, from [\(3.18\)](#page-7-1)-[\(3.21\)](#page-8-0), there exists a positive constant  $R := R(\alpha, \beta, \Omega, p, ||g||_{L^1(\Omega)}) > 0$  such that  $T(\overline{B}_R(0)) \subset \overline{B}_R(0).$ 

**Step 3:** Now, we prove that  $T : \overline{B}_R(0) \to \overline{B}_R(0)$  is weakly continuous.

In order to show this, let  $\{v_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a generalized sequence in  $\overline{B}_R(0)$  such that  $v_i \rightharpoonup v$  weakly in  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ , and, define  $u_i = T(v_i)$  and  $u = T(v)$ .

Since  $\overline{B}_R(0)$  is weakly compact in  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  and to prove that  $\{u_i\}_{i\in I}$  converge weakly in  $\overline{B}_R(0)$ , it suffices to show that  $\{u_i\}_{i\in I}$  has *u* as unique weak limit for that topology. To do this, we assume by contradiction that

$$
u_i \rightharpoonup \overline{u} \quad \text{weakly in } W_0^{1,p}(\Omega), \tag{3.22}
$$

On the other hand, from Lemma [2.4,](#page-3-2) we have  $W_0^{1,p}(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^p(\Omega)$  is compact, and, therefore we get the existence of a subsequence of  $\{v_i\}_{i \in I}$  such that

<span id="page-8-4"></span><span id="page-8-3"></span>
$$
v_i(x) \to v(x) \quad \text{a.e in } \Omega. \tag{3.23}
$$

Since  $u_i$  and *u* are two positive solutions to [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1), then, by taking  $\phi = (u_i - u)$  as a test function in (3.9), we get

<span id="page-8-1"></span>
$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u_i(x) - u_i(y)|^{p-2} (u_i(x) - u_i(y)) (\phi(x) - \phi(y))}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u_i|^{p-2} \nabla u_i \nabla \phi(x) dx = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v_i) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx\right)^{\beta}},
$$
\n(3.24)

and

<span id="page-8-2"></span> $\overline{\phantom{a}}$ 

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{p-2} (u(x) - u(y)) (\phi(x) - \phi(y))}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy
$$
\n
$$
+ \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u \nabla \phi(x) dx = \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$
\n(3.25)





Subtracting  $(3.24)$  with  $(3.25)$ , we get

<span id="page-9-0"></span>
$$
\left\langle \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u) - \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u), \phi \right\rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u_i(x) - u_i(y)|^{p-2} (u_i(x) - u_i(y)) (\phi(x) - \phi(y))}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy
$$

$$
- \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \int_{\mathbb{R}^N} \frac{|u(x) - u(y)|^{p-2} (u(x) - u(y)) (\phi(x) - \phi(y))}{|x - y|^{N + ps}} dx dy
$$

$$
+ \int_{\Omega} (|\nabla u_i|^{p-2} \nabla u_i - |\nabla u|^{p-2} \nabla u) \nabla \phi(x) dx
$$

$$
= \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v_i) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx\right)^{\beta}} - \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$
(3.26)

Hence, by using Lemma [2.7,](#page-4-3) for  $p \ge 2$  it holds that

<span id="page-9-1"></span>
$$
\left\langle \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u) - \mathfrak{L}_{\mathfrak{p},\mathfrak{s}}(u), u_i - u \right\rangle \ge c||u_i - u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p, \tag{3.27}
$$

Combining with  $(3.26)$  and  $(3.27)$ , we reach that

$$
c||u_i - u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \le \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v_i)\phi(x)dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i)dx\right)^p} - \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v)\phi(x)dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v)dx\right)^p}.
$$
(3.28)

<span id="page-9-3"></span>So,

$$
c||u_i - u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)}^p \le \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v_i) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx\right)^{\beta}} - \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) \phi(x) dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$
  

$$
\le \frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx\right)^{\beta}} \int_{\Omega} \left(f^{\alpha}(x, v_i) - f^{\alpha}(x, v_i)\right) (u_i - u) dx
$$
  

$$
+ \left[\frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx\right)^{\beta}} - \frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}} \right] \int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v) (u_i - u) dx
$$
  
(3.29)

On the other hand, by using  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ , we get

$$
\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i) dx > 0 \text{ and } \int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx > 0, \text{ for every } k \in \mathbb{N}.
$$

So, from  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ ,  $(3.23)$  and by applying the dominated convergence theorem, we reach that

<span id="page-9-2"></span>
$$
f^{\alpha}(x, v_i) \to f^{\alpha}(x, v) \quad \text{strongly in } L^{p'}(\Omega), \tag{3.30}
$$



<span id="page-10-0"></span>and

$$
\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_i)\right)^{\beta} \to \left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v)\right)^{\beta} \text{ strongly in } \mathbb{R}.
$$
 (3.31)

Notice that  $u_i \in \overline{B}_R(0)$ , then, by using [\(3.30\)](#page-9-2), [\(3.31\)](#page-10-0) and letting  $i \to +\infty$  in [\(3.29\)](#page-9-3), it follows that

$$
u_i \to u \quad \text{strongly in } W_0^{1,p}(\Omega).
$$

Going back to [\(3.22\)](#page-8-4), we derive that  $u = \overline{u}$ . Hence, *u* is the unique weak limit point of  $\{u_i\}_{i \in I}$ , and then

$$
u_i = T(v_i) \rightharpoonup u = T(v) \quad \text{weakly in } W_0^{1,p}(\Omega).
$$

Therefore, by applying Tychonoff fixed point theorem, the operator *T* admits at least one fixed point  $u \in \overline{B}_R(0)$ such that  $T(u) = u$ , which is a weak solution to [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0).

The case  $1 < p < 2$  is made using similar arguments, and we will omit its proof.

Now, we are going to establish the second result.

**Theorem 3.2** *Let s* ∈ (0, 1) *and* 1 < *p* < *N. Assume that* (*G*1)−(*G*3) *hold. Then, problem* [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0) *has a positive weak solution*  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  *in sense of Definition* [2.6.](#page-3-1)

*Proof* The proof will be done in several steps.

**Step 1:** For  $v \in L^p(\Omega)$ , as in the proof of the previous result, we want to show that

<span id="page-10-1"></span>
$$
h(v) := \frac{f^{\alpha}(x, v)}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}} \in (W_0^{1, p}(\Omega))'.
$$

Observe that,

• if  $0 < \delta < p$  and  $h_{\delta} \in L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}}(\Omega)$ , so, by  $(\mathcal{G}_2)$ - $(\mathcal{G}_3)$ , and by applying Hölder and Poincaré inequalities, we derive that

$$
f(., v) \in L^1(\Omega)
$$
 and  $f^{\alpha}(., v) \in L^{p'}(\Omega)$ .

Hence, by the same computations as in first step in the proof of theorem [3.1](#page-4-4) we get  $h(v) \in (W_0^{1,p}(\Omega))'$ .

• Similarly, if we take  $\delta = p$  and  $h_{\delta} \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ , we get also  $h(v) \in (W_0^{1,p}(\Omega))'$ .

Therefore, by applying theorem 1.1 in [\[29](#page-15-31)], there exists a unique weak solution  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$  to [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1).

Notice that  $f(x, t) > 0$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and a.e  $x \in \Omega$ , then, by the same reasoning as in first step in the proof of theorem [3.1,](#page-4-4) we get  $u > 0$  in  $\Omega$ .

Hence, the operator,

$$
H: L^{p}(\Omega) \to W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)
$$
  

$$
v \mapsto H(v) = u.
$$

is well defined. Moreover, if *u* is a fixed point of *H*, then *u* is a weak solution to Problem [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0). Thus, we just have to show that *H* has a fixed point.

**Step 2:** In this step, we will prove the existence  $R > 0$  such that  $H(\overline{B}_R(0)) \subset \overline{B}_R(0)$  where  $\overline{B}_R(0)$  is the closed ball of center 0 and radius *R*.

Taking *u* as a test function in Problem [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1) and using Poincaré inequality, it follows that

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \leq C \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v)|u| dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v) dx\right)^{\beta}}.
$$
\n(3.32)

Therefore, by taking into consideration  $(G_1)$ - $(G_3)$  and by using Hölder's inequality, we get





• if  $0 < \beta < \alpha < \frac{1}{p'}$ , we have

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \leq \frac{C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\alpha}}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\leq C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\alpha-\beta}
$$

$$
\leq C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}}||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} (h_{\delta}(x)|v|^{\delta} + f(x,0))dx\right)^{\alpha-\beta}.
$$

Thus

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p-1} \leq \begin{cases} C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}} \left( ||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}}(\Omega)} ||v||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{\delta} + ||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^{1}(\Omega)} \right)^{\alpha-\beta} & \text{if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p'}} \left( ||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} ||v||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} + ||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^{1}(\Omega)} \right)^{\alpha-\beta} & \text{if } \delta = p, \end{cases}
$$

which implies

$$
||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \leq \begin{cases} C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p}} \left( ||h_\delta||_{L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}}(\Omega)}^{\frac{\alpha-\beta}{p-1}} ||v||_{L^p(\Omega)}^{\frac{\delta(\alpha-\beta)}{p-1}} + ||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{\alpha-\beta}{p-1}} \right) & \text{if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p}} \left( ||h_\delta||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)}^{\frac{\alpha-\beta}{p-1}} ||v||_{L^p(\Omega)}^{p'(\alpha-\beta)} + ||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^1(\Omega)}^{\frac{\alpha-\beta}{p-1}} \right) & \text{if } \delta = p. \end{cases}
$$

<span id="page-11-0"></span>Using now the fact  $0 < \frac{\delta(\alpha - \beta)}{p-1} < 1$ , then, we can find a positive constant  $R_1$  depends only of the data such that

$$
||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \le R_1; \tag{3.33}
$$

• if  $0 < \beta < \alpha = \frac{1}{p'}$ , we get

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p} \leq \frac{C||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}}}{\left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$
  

$$
\leq C||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} f(x,v)dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta}
$$
  

$$
\leq C||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \left(\int\limits_{\Omega} (h_{\delta}(x)|v|^{\delta} + f(x,0))dx\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta},
$$

which leads to

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p-1} \leq \begin{cases} C\left(||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}(\Omega)}}||v||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{\delta}+||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^{1}(\Omega)}\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta} \text{ if } \delta \in (0, p),\\ C\left(||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)}||v||_{L^{p}(\Omega)}^{p}+||f(\cdot,0)||_{L^{1}(\Omega)}\right)^{\frac{1}{p'}-\beta} \text{ if } \delta = p,\end{cases}
$$

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thus

$$
||u||_{L^{p}(\Omega)} \leq \begin{cases} C \left( ||h_{\delta}|| \frac{1-\beta p'}{p} \left( ||h_{\delta}|| \frac{ \delta(1-\beta p')}{p} + ||f(\cdot,0)|| \frac{1-\beta p'}{p} \right) \text{ if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ C \left( ||h_{\delta}|| \frac{1-\beta p'}{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} ||v||^{1-\beta p'}_{L^{p}(\Omega)} + ||f(\cdot,0)|| \frac{1-\beta p'}{L^{1}(\Omega)} \right) \text{ if } \delta = p, \end{cases}
$$

Since,  $0 < \frac{\delta(1-\beta p')}{p}$  $\frac{p(p)}{p}$  < 1 for every  $\delta \in (0, p]$ , therefore, we get  $R_2 > 0$  depends only of the data such that

$$
||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \le R_2;\tag{3.34}
$$

• finally, if  $0 < \beta = \alpha \leq \frac{1}{p'}$ , then, by using the same arguments as above, we get

<span id="page-12-0"></span>
$$
||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \le R_3,\tag{3.35}
$$

where  $R_3 := C|\Omega|$  $\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p}$ .

So, combining [\(3.33\)](#page-11-0)-[\(3.35\)](#page-12-0), we get the existence a positive constant *R* such that

$$
||u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \le R,\tag{3.36}
$$

as desired.

**Step 3:** Now, we show that *H* is a continuous and compact operator on  $B_R(0)$ .

*Let us begin by proving the continuity of H*. Consider  $\{v_n\}_n \subset B_R(0)$  and  $v \in B_R(0)$  such that

 $v_n \to v$  strongly in  $L^p(\Omega)$ .

Since  $u_n$  and  $u$  are two positive solutions to [\(3.9\)](#page-4-1), then, by taking ( $u_n - u$ ) as a test function in both equations of  $u_n$  and  $u$ , and, by using the same computations as in the proof of theorem [3.1](#page-4-4) for  $p \ge 2$ , we get

<span id="page-12-2"></span>
$$
c||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \le \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v_n)(u_n - u)(x)dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_n)dx\right)^{\beta}} - \frac{\int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v)(u_n - u)(x)dx}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v)dx\right)^{\beta}}
$$

$$
\le \frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_n)dx\right)^{\beta}} \int_{\Omega} \left(f^{\alpha}(x, v_n) - f^{\alpha}(x, v)\right)(u_n - u)dx + \left[\frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v_n)dx\right)^{\beta}} - \frac{1}{\left(\int_{\Omega} f(x, v)dx\right)^{\beta}}\right] \int_{\Omega} f^{\alpha}(x, v)(u_n - u)dx, \quad (3.37)
$$

where in the last inequality we have used Poincaré inequality.

Since  $\alpha \leq \frac{1}{p'} < 1$ , so, by Hölder's inequality, we get

<span id="page-12-1"></span>
$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} (f^{\alpha}(x, v_n) - f^{\alpha}(x, v))(u_n - u) dx \right| \leq \int_{\Omega} |f^{\alpha}(x, v_n) - f^{\alpha}(x, v)||u_n - u| dx
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \int_{\Omega} |f(x, v_n) - f(x, v)|^{\alpha} |u_n - u| dx
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq \left( \int_{\Omega} |f(x, v_n) - f(x, v)|^{p^{\prime} \alpha} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p^{\prime}}} \left( \int_{\Omega} |u_n - u|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} (3.38)
$$
  
\n
$$
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$$

So, by  $(\mathcal{G}_2)$ ,  $(\mathcal{G}_3)$  and from  $(3.38)$ , we distinguish two cases,

• if  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{p'}$ , it follows that

$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} (f^{\alpha}(x, v_n) - f^{\alpha}(x, v))(u_n - u) dx \right|
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq |\Omega|^{\frac{1 - \alpha p'}{p'}} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \left( \int_{\Omega} |f(x, v_n) - f(x, v)| dx \right)^{\alpha}
$$
  
\n
$$
\leq |\Omega|^{\frac{1 - \alpha p'}{p'}} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \left( \int_{\Omega} |h_{\delta}(x)| v_n - v|^{\delta} dx \right)^{\alpha}.
$$

Therefore, by using Hölder's inequality, it holds that

$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} \left( f^{\alpha}(x, v_n) - f^{\alpha}(x, v) \right) (u_n - u) dx \right| \leq C \left\{ \begin{aligned} &||h_{\delta}||^{\alpha} \underset{L}{\overset{p}{p-\delta}} \underset{(\Omega)}{|\Omega|} ||v_n - v||^{\alpha \delta}_{L^p(\Omega)} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \text{ if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ &||h_{\delta}||^{\alpha}_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} ||v_n - v||^{\alpha p}_{L^p(\Omega)} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \text{ if } \delta = p. \end{aligned} \right. \tag{3.39}
$$

• If  $\alpha = \frac{1}{p'}$ , then, we have

$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} \left( f^{\frac{1}{p'}}(x, v_n) - f^{\frac{1}{p'}}(x, v) \right) (u_n - u) dx \right| \leq C ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \left( \int_{\Omega} |f(x, v_n) - f(x, v)| dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'}} \leq C ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \left( \int_{\Omega} |h_\delta(x)| v_n - v|^\delta dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p'}}.
$$

So,

$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} (f^{\frac{1}{p'}}(x, v_n) - f^{\frac{1}{p'}}(x, v))(u_n - u)dx \right| \leq \begin{cases} C||h_{\delta}||^{\frac{1}{p'}}_{L^{\frac{p}{p- \delta}}(\Omega)} ||v_n - v||^{\frac{\delta}{p'}}_{L^p(\Omega)} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \text{ if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ C||h_{\delta}||^{\frac{1}{p'}}_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} ||v_n - v||^{\frac{p}{p'}}_{L^p(\Omega)} ||u_n - u||_{L^p(\Omega)} \text{ if } \delta = p. \end{cases}
$$
\n(3.40)

On the other hand, by using  $(G_1) - (G_2)$  and Hölder's inequality, we reach that

$$
\left| \int_{\Omega} (f(x, v_n) - f(x, v)) dx \right| \leq \begin{cases} ||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\frac{p}{p-\delta}}(\Omega)} ||v_n - v||_{L^p(\Omega)}^{\delta} \text{ if } \delta \in (0, p), \\ ||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} ||v_n - v||_{L^p(\Omega)}^p \text{ if } \delta = p. \end{cases}
$$
(3.41)

Now, combining [\(3.38\)](#page-12-1)-[\(3.41\)](#page-13-0), we obtain from [\(3.37\)](#page-12-2) by letting  $n \to +\infty$ ,

<span id="page-13-0"></span> $u_n \to u$  strongly in  $L^p(\Omega)$ ,

and the continuity of *H* follows.

By using the same reasoning as above with lemma [2.7,](#page-4-3) we get also the continuity of *H* in the case 1 < *p* < 2, and we will omit its proof.

*Now, we prove that the operator H is compact.* Let  $v \in \overline{B}_R(0)$  such that  $u = H(v)$ .

Thus, by using the same arguments as in the second step, we get the existence a positive constant *C* depends only of the data such that

$$
||u||_{W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)} \leq C.
$$

Since, by Lemma [2.4,](#page-3-2) we have that, the set  $H(\overline{B}_R(0))$  is relatively compact in  $L^p(\Omega)$ , hence, the compactness of *H* follows.

To conclude the proof, we apply Schauder fixed-point theorem. Hence, we get the existence of  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ which is solution to Problem  $(1.0)$ . *Remarks* 3.3 (*A*) Under the hypothesis ( $G_1$ ) – ( $G_2$ ) and one of

$$
(1) \ \delta \in (0, p], \alpha \in [0, \frac{1}{p'}], \beta \le 0 \text{ and } 0 < \frac{\delta(\alpha - \beta)}{p - 1} < 1,
$$
\n
$$
(2) \ \delta \in (0, p), \beta = -\frac{p - 1}{\delta}, \alpha = 0 \text{ and } C|\Omega|^{\frac{1}{p}}||h_{\delta}||_{\delta}^{\frac{p}{\delta}} \ge 1,
$$
\n
$$
(3) \ \delta \in (0, p), \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{p'}], \beta \le 0, \delta(\alpha - \beta) = p - 1 \text{ and } C|\Omega|^{\frac{1 - \alpha p'}{p}}|h_{\delta}||_{L^{\frac{p}{p - \delta}}(\Omega)}^{\frac{\alpha - \beta}{p - \delta}} < 1,
$$

(4) 
$$
\delta = p, \alpha = 0, \beta = -\frac{1}{p'}
$$
 and  $C|\Omega|^{\frac{1}{p}}||h_{\delta}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p}} < 1$ ,  
(5)  $\delta = p, \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{p} \mid \beta \in \Omega, \alpha \in \mathcal{A} - \frac{1}{p}$  and  $C|\Omega|^{\frac{1-\alpha p'}{p}}|_{L^{\frac{\alpha-\beta}{p-1}}}$ 

(5) 
$$
\delta = p, \alpha \in (0, \frac{1}{p'}], \beta \le 0, \alpha - \beta = \frac{1}{p'}
$$
 and  $C|\Omega|^{\frac{1}{p}} |h_{\delta}||_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)}^{\frac{1}{p-1}} < 1$ 

hold, then, Problem [\(1.0\)](#page-0-0) has a positive weak solution  $u \in W_0^{1,p}(\Omega)$ . Moreover by using [\[9](#page-14-7), Theorem 3.1] (see also [\[30,](#page-15-32) Lemma 3.1]), we get,  $u \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$  in the cases (2) and (4).

(*B*) Notice that, all the existence results obtained in (*A*), can be proved, by using the same stratigy as in the proof of theorem [3.2.](#page-10-1)

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#### **Declarations**

**Conflict of interest** This work does not have any conflicts of interest.

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