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## On a Degenerate Quasilinear Elliptic Equation with Mixed Boundary Conditions

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## Introduction

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded simply connected domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The boundary  $\partial \Omega$  is assumed to be of class  $C^1$ . Let S be a compact  $C^1$  manifold of dimension n-2 belonging to  $\partial \Omega$ . We assume that S divide  $\partial \Omega$  into two non-empty relatively open subsets  $\partial_1 \Omega$  and  $\partial_2 \Omega$ , more precisely,

$$\partial \Omega = \partial_1 \Omega \cup \partial_2 \Omega \cup S$$
,  $\partial_1 \Omega \cap \partial_2 \Omega = \emptyset$ .

We assume that the usual function spaces  $C^{k}(\overline{\Omega})$ ,  $C_{0}^{k}(\Omega)$ ,  $L^{q}(\Omega)$ ,  $W^{1,q}(\Omega)$ ,  $W_{0}^{1,q}(\Omega)$  are known. The norm in  $W^{1,q}(\Omega)$  ( $L^{q}(\Omega)$ ) is written with  $\| \|_{1,q}$ ( $\| \|_{q}$ ), respectively. Throughout this paper let 2 , and let all functions be real-valued. We set

 $C_{(0)}^{1}(\overline{\Omega}) = \{ u \in C^{1}(\overline{\Omega}); u = 0 \text{ in a neighborhood of } \overline{\partial_{1}\Omega} \}.$ 

The completion of  $C^1_{(0)}(\overline{\Omega})$  with respect to the norm  $\| \|_{1,p}$  is denoted by  $V(\Omega)$ . The space  $V(\Omega)$  is reflexive and separable. The norm in  $V(\Omega)$  is denoted by  $\| \|_{V}$ . Let  $V'(\Omega)$  be the dual space of  $V(\Omega)$ . As is well-known, Poincaré's inequality is valid for all functions in  $V(\Omega)$ , that is,

$$(0.1) ||u||_{p} \leq C ||\nabla u||_{p}, \quad u \in V(\Omega).$$

Hereafter let  $\alpha$  be a real number such that

(0.2) 
$$\begin{cases} \alpha \ge 0 & \text{when } p \ge n , \\ 0 \le \alpha \le \frac{n(p-1)}{n-p} - 1 & \text{when } p < n . \end{cases}$$

We denote by (,) the inner product in  $L^2(\Omega)$ . For  $u \in V(\Omega)$  we define

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