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*Positive Solutions for Infinite Semipositone Problems on Exterior Domains.*

We study positive radial solutions to the problem

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u = \lambda K(|x|)f(u), & x \in \Omega \\ u = 0, & \text{if } |x| = r_0 \\ u \rightarrow 0 & \text{as } |x| \rightarrow \infty \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a positive parameter,  $\Delta u = \operatorname{div}(\nabla u)$  is the Laplacian of  $u$ ,  $\Omega = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n, n > 2 \mid |x| > r_0\}$  is an exterior domain and  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  belongs to a class of sublinear functions at  $\infty$  such that they are continuous and  $f(0^+) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} f(s) < 0$ . In particular we also study infinite semipositone problems where  $\lim_{s \rightarrow 0^+} f(s) = -\infty$ . Here  $K : [r_0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  belongs to a class of continuous functions such that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} K(r) = 0$ . We establish various existence results for such boundary value problems and also extend our results to classes of systems. We prove our results by the method of sub-super solutions. (Received July 28, 2010)