

1113-35-148

**Alfonso Castro\*** (castro@g.hmc.edu), Mathematics, Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, CA 91711, and **Ivan Ventura**. *Existence of augmented Morse index 3 solution for a semilinear boundary value problem*. Preliminary report.

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded region in  $\mathbb{R}^N$ . Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a differentiable function such that  $f(0) = f'(0) = 0$ ,  $f'(t) > f(t)/t$  for  $t \neq 0$ , and there exists  $A > 0$  and  $p \in (1, (N+2)/(N-2))$  such that  $|f'(t)| \leq A(|t|^p + 1)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . The boundary value problem  $\Delta u + f(u) = 0$  in  $\Omega$ ,  $u = 0$  on the boundary of  $\Omega$  has two Morse index 1 solutions and a Morse index 2 solution that changes sign exactly once. We prove that when a sublevel of the functional  $J(u) = \int_{\Omega} \|\nabla u\|^2 - 2F(u) dx$ ,  $F(u) = \int_0^u f(s) ds$ , on the *equator of the Nehari Manifold* has nontrivial topology, an augmented Morse index 3 solutions exists. We provide examples of regions  $\Omega$  for which this assumption applies. (Received August 18, 2015)