

1-31-2024

## Extremal functions for a singular super-critical Trudinger-Moser inequality

Juan Zhao  
zhaojuan0509@ruc.edu.cn

Follow this and additional works at: <https://journals.tubitak.gov.tr/math>



Part of the [Mathematics Commons](#)

### Recommended Citation

Zhao, Juan (2024) "Extremal functions for a singular super-critical Trudinger-Moser inequality," *Turkish Journal of Mathematics*: Vol. 48: No. 1, Article 7. <https://doi.org/10.55730/1300-0098.3492>  
Available at: <https://journals.tubitak.gov.tr/math/vol48/iss1/7>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by TÜBİTAK Academic Journals. It has been accepted for inclusion in Turkish Journal of Mathematics by an authorized editor of TÜBİTAK Academic Journals. For more information, please contact [academic.publications@tubitak.gov.tr](mailto:academic.publications@tubitak.gov.tr).

## Extremal functions for a singular super-critical Trudinger-Moser inequality

Juan ZHAO\* 

Department of Mathematics, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China

Received: 26.07.2023

Accepted/Published Online: 23.11.2023

Final Version: 31.01.2024

**Abstract:** In this paper, we deal with a singular super-critical Trudinger-Moser inequality on a unit ball of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . For any  $p > 1$ , we set

$$\lambda_p(\mathbb{B}) = \inf_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}), u \neq 0} \frac{\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u|^n dx}{\left(\int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p dx\right)^{n/p}}$$

as an eigenvalue related to the  $n$ -Laplacian. Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of radially symmetric functions. Precisely, if  $\beta \geq 0$  and  $\alpha < (1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+n/p}\lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ , then there exists a positive constant  $\epsilon_0$  such that when  $\lambda \leq 1 + \epsilon_0$ ,

$$\sup_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}) \cap \mathcal{S}, \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u|^n dx - \alpha \left(\int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p dx\right)^{n/p} \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)|u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)u^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx$$

is attained, where  $\alpha_n = n\omega_{n-1}^{1/(n-1)}$ ,  $\omega_{n-1}$  is the surface area of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The proof is based on the method of blow-up analysis. The case  $\lambda = 0$  was studied by Yang-Zhu in [38]. de Figueiredo [11] considered the case  $p = 2$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$ , and  $\alpha = 0$  in two dimension. The case  $\lambda = 0, p = n, -1 < \beta < 0$ , and  $\alpha = 0$  was considered by Adimurthi-Sandeep [1]. Our results extend those of the above cases.

**Key words:** Trudinger-Moser inequality, extremal functions, blow-up analysis

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded smooth domain in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , and  $W_0^{1,n}(\Omega)$  be the completion of  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  in the norm  $\|u\|_{W_0^{1,n}(\Omega)}^n = \int_{\Omega} |\nabla u|^n dx$ . The study of sharp constant for Trudinger-Moser inequality traces back to the 1960s and 1970s. In 1971, Moser [26] elegantly sharpened the results of Pohozaev [30] and Trudinger [33], then established the classical Trudinger-Moser inequality:

$$\sup_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\Omega), \|\nabla u\|_n = 1} \int_{\Omega} e^{\alpha|u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} dx < \infty \quad (1.1)$$

for any  $\alpha \leq \alpha_n = n\omega_{n-1}^{1/(n-1)}$ , where  $\omega_{n-1}$  is the surface area of the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Here and in the sequel,  $\|\cdot\|_p$  denotes the  $L^p$ -norm with respect to the Lebesgue measure. Also, there are fruitful results in the literature dealing with the existence of extremal functions, such as Carleson-Chang [5], Flucher [15], and Lin [24].

\*Correspondence: zhaajuan0509@ruc.edu.cn

2010 AMS Mathematics Subject Classification: 35J15, 46E35

The extensions of (1.1) are numerous. Yang [35] proved singular versions of (1.1) for some subspaces of  $W^{1,n}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  under the additional condition:  $\nabla u_k(x) \rightarrow \nabla u(x)$ . By using a symmetrization argument and a change of variables, Adimurthi and Sandeep [1] generalized (1.1) to the singular case:

$$\sup_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\Omega), \|u\|_{W_0^{1,n}(\Omega)} \leq 1} \int_{\Omega} \frac{e^{\alpha_n \gamma |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}}{|x|^{n\beta}} dx < \infty, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $0 \leq \beta < 1$  and  $0 < \gamma \leq 1 - \beta$ . The inequality (1.2) was extended to the whole Euclidean space by Adimurthi-Yang [2]. Various extensions of the inequality (1.2) were obtained in [7, 28, 39, 40]. The problem on the existence of extremals for the singular Trudinger–Moser inequality was solved by Csató and Roy [7, 8], and by Csató, Roy and the author [6] in any dimension  $n \geq 3$ .

Trudinger-Moser inequalities were discussed in the unit ball as well. Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of all radially symmetric functions. In 1982, Ni [29] showed that Sobolev spaces of radially symmetric functions defined in the unit ball  $\mathbb{B} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ , can be embedded into weighted Lebesgue spaces, i.e.  $W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}) \cap \mathcal{S}$  can be embedded in  $L^p(\mathbb{B}, |x|^\alpha)$  with  $\alpha > 0$  and  $p = \frac{2(n+\alpha)}{n-2}$  greater than  $2^* = \frac{2n}{n-2}$ . Based on the works of Bonheure et al. [3] and Calanchi [4], de Figueiredo [10, 11] proved that for any  $\alpha \leq 4\pi(1 + \gamma)$ ,

$$\sup_{u \in W_0^{1,2}(\mathbb{B}) \cap \mathcal{S}, \|u\|_{W_0^{1,2}(\mathbb{B})} \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{B}} e^{\alpha u^2} |x|^{2\gamma} dx < \infty. \tag{1.3}$$

In [38], Yang-Zhu generalized (1.3) to a version involving  $\lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$  in the unit ball: for any given  $p > 1$ , if  $\beta \geq 0$  and  $\alpha < (1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1 + \frac{n}{p}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ ,

$$\sup_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}) \cap \mathcal{S}, \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u|^n dx - \alpha (\int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p |x|^{p\beta} dx)^{\frac{n}{p}} \leq 1} \int_{\mathbb{B}} e^{\gamma |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx < \infty, \quad \gamma \leq \alpha_n (1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}), \tag{1.4}$$

where  $\lambda_p(\mathbb{B}) = \inf_{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}), u \neq 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u|^n dx / (\int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p dx)^{\frac{n}{p}}$  is an eigenvalue related to the  $n$ -Laplacian. Furthermore,

the supremum in (1.4) can be attained. Nguyen [27] extended (1.4) to more general cases of the nonlinearity function  $F$  and the weight function  $h$ . In [9], de Figueiredo et al. gave a generalized result which states that

$$\sup_{u \in H_0^{1,n}(B_1(0)), \|\nabla u\|_{L^n(B_1(0))} = 1} \int_{B_1(0)} (e^{\alpha_n |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}) dx$$

is attained for any  $\lambda < \alpha_n$ . In [22], Li proved a counter-example to the conjecture of de Figueiredo and Ruf in [9]:

$$f(\lambda) = I(M, \lambda, m) = \sup_{u \in H_0^{1,n}(M), \int_M |\nabla u|^n dV = 1} \int_{\Omega} \left( e^{\alpha_n |u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{|\alpha_n u^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dV \tag{1.5}$$

is continuous for a fixed integer  $m$ , where  $M$  is a compact manifold with boundary. Then he proved there is a constant  $\lambda_0 > 1$  such that  $I(M, \lambda, m)$  can be attained on  $[0, \lambda_0]$ .

In this paper, we consider a singular super-critical Trudinger-Moser inequality in the unit ball, which is a combination of (1.4) and (1.5). To state the main result of the paper, we introduce some relevant notations:

$$H_{\alpha,\beta}(u) = \|\nabla u\|_n^n - \alpha \|u\|_{p,\beta}^n = \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u|^n dx - \alpha \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p |x|^{p\beta} dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}},$$

where  $\|u\|_{p,\beta} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}} |u|^p |x|^{p\beta} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$ . We use the symbol  $\mathbb{B}_x(r)$  to represent a ball with  $x$  as the center and  $r$  as the radius. If  $x = 0$ , the symbol  $\mathbb{B}(r)$  to represent a ball with 0 as the center and  $r$  as the radius. Then we state the following:

**Theorem 1.1** *Let  $\mathbb{B}$  be the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , for any  $\beta \geq 0$  and  $\alpha < (1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+\frac{n}{p}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ , there exists a positive constant  $\epsilon_0$  such that if  $\lambda \leq 1 + \epsilon_0$ , then*

$$\sup_{u \in \mathcal{H}} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)|u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)u^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx$$

can be attained, where  $\mathcal{H} = \{u \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}) \cap \mathcal{S} : H_{\alpha,\beta}(u) \leq 1\}$ .

The case  $\lambda = 0$  was studied by Yang-Zhu in [38]. de Figueiredo [11] considered the case  $p = 2$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$ , and  $\alpha = 0$  in two dimension. The case  $\lambda = 0, p = n, -1 < \beta < 0$ , and  $\alpha = 0$  was considered by Adimurthi-Sandeep [1].

The remaining part of this paper is organized as follows: In section 2, we obtain the maximizer of the subcritical function. Section 3 provides the method of blow-up analysis, which was extensively used by [12, 13, 18–20, 36]. An upper bound of  $\Lambda_{\lambda,\alpha_n}$  is derived in section 4. In section 5, we construct a sequence of functions which contradicts the upper bound.

## 2. The subcritical case

This section is devoted to the subcritical case of the singular Trudinger-Moser inequality. For the sake of simplicity, we define

$$\Lambda_{\lambda,\alpha_n}(u) = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{H}} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)|u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)u^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx,$$

and

$$\Lambda_{\lambda,n,\epsilon}(u) = \sup_{u \in \mathcal{H}} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx.$$

Then we have the following result:

**Lemma 2.1** *For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , if  $\alpha < (1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+\frac{n}{p}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ , then there exists  $u_\epsilon \in C^1(\overline{\mathbb{B}}) \cap W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$  with*

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx - \alpha \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}} |u_\epsilon|^p |x|^{p\beta} dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}} = 1$$

such that

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx = \Lambda_{\lambda,n,\epsilon}(u). \tag{2.1}$$

**Proof** We take a sequence of decreasing radially symmetric functions  $u_j \in W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$  such that  $\|\nabla u_j\|_n^n - \alpha\|u_j\|_{p,\beta}^n = 1$  and

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_j|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_j^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx = \Lambda_{\lambda,n,\epsilon}(u). \tag{2.2}$$

From the definition of  $\lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ , we can get

$$1 \geq \|\nabla u_j\|_n^n - \alpha\|u_j\|_{p,\beta}^n \geq \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+\frac{n}{p}}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B}) \right) \|\nabla u_j\|_n^n.$$

Since  $\alpha < (1+\frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+\frac{n}{p}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ , we obtain that  $u_j$  is bounded in  $W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$ , then we assume that

$$\begin{aligned} u_j &\rightharpoonup u_\epsilon \quad \text{weakly in } W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}), \\ u_j &\rightarrow u_\epsilon \quad \text{strongly in } L^n(\mathbb{B}), \\ u_j &\rightarrow u_\epsilon \quad \text{a.e. in } \mathbb{B}. \end{aligned}$$

We claim that  $u_\epsilon \neq 0$ . Suppose not, there holds  $\|u_j\|_{W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})} \leq 1 + o(1)$ . Thus  $e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_j|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}$  converges to 1 in  $L^1(\mathbb{B})$ , which implies that  $\Lambda_{\lambda,n,\epsilon}(u) = \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx$ . But this is impossible. Therefore  $u_\epsilon \neq 0$ . Then define a function sequence

$$v_j = \frac{u_j}{(1 + \alpha(\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} u_j^p dx)^{\frac{n}{p}})^{1/n}}.$$

It follows that  $\|v_j\|_{W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})} \leq 1$  and  $v_j$  converges to  $v_\epsilon = u_\epsilon / (1 + \alpha(\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} u_\epsilon^p dx)^{\frac{n}{p}})^{1/n}$  weakly in  $W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$ . One can easily check that

$$\left( 1 + \alpha \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} u_\epsilon^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}} \right) \left( 1 - \|v_\epsilon\|_{W_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})}^n \right) = 1 - (\|\nabla u_\epsilon\|_n^n - \alpha\|u_\epsilon\|_{p,\beta}^n) < 1.$$

By a result of Lions [25], we can know  $e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_j|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}$  is bounded in  $L^r(\mathbb{B})$  for some  $r > 1$ . Thus

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{B}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_j|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} dx = \int_{\mathbb{B}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} dx.$$

Furthermore,

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_j^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} dx - \int_{\mathbb{B}} \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} dx = o_j(1).$$

Accordingly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{j \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_j|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_j^{\frac{n}{n-1}|^k}}{k!} \right) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}|^k}}{k!} \right) dx. \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Combining (2.2) and (2.3), we have

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}|^k}}{k!} \right) dx = \Lambda_{\lambda,n,\epsilon}(u).$$

□

Furthermore, one can check that the corresponding Euler-Lagrange equation of  $u_\epsilon$  is

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_n u_\epsilon = \alpha |x|^{p\beta} \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} u_\epsilon^{p-1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} h'_m(u_\epsilon) \\ h_m(u_\epsilon) = \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}|^k}}{k!} \\ \lambda_\epsilon = \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} (u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda u_\epsilon h'_m(u_\epsilon)) dx. \end{cases} \tag{2.4}$$

According to the regularity theory for degenerate elliptic equations, see (Serrin [31], page 269, Theorem 8), (Tolksdorf [32], page 127, Theorem 1), and (Lieberman [23], page 1203, Theorem 1), we are able to attain  $u_\epsilon \in C^1(\overline{\mathbb{B}})$ . By the inequality  $e^t \leq 1 + te^t$  and the definition of  $\lambda_\epsilon$ , we can easily get  $\liminf_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \lambda_\epsilon > 0$ . From the equality (2.1), it is not difficult to see that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}|^k}}{k!} \right) dx = \Lambda_{\lambda,\alpha_n}(u). \tag{2.5}$$

Since  $\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx - \alpha (\int_{\mathbb{B}} |u_\epsilon|^p |x|^{p\beta} dx)^{\frac{n}{p}} = 1$ , without loss of generality, we can assume that  $u_\epsilon$  converges to  $u_0$  weakly in  $W_0^{1,n}(\overline{\mathbb{B}})$ , strongly in  $L^s(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $s > 1$ , and almost everywhere in  $\mathbb{B}$ . Let  $c_\epsilon = u_\epsilon(0) = \max_{\mathbb{B}} u_\epsilon$ . If  $c_\epsilon$  is bounded, then applying the Lebesgue-dominated convergence theorem to (2.5), we know that  $u_0$  is the desired extremal function for the supremum  $\Lambda_{\lambda,\alpha_n}(u)$ . In the following, we assume

$$c_\epsilon \rightarrow +\infty \quad \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

The following concentration phenomenon is useful in our subsequent blow-up analysis:

**Lemma 2.2** *Under the assumption that  $c_\epsilon \rightarrow +\infty$ , we have  $u_0 \equiv 0$  and  $|\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx \rightharpoonup \delta_0$  in sense of measure, where  $\delta_0$  is the Dirac measure at 0.*

**Proof** Suppose  $u_0 \not\equiv 0$ , we can easily get  $-\Delta_n u_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^q(\Omega)$  for some  $q > 1$  provided that  $\epsilon$  is sufficiently small. Applying the elliptic estimates to the Euler-Lagrange equation (2.4), one gets  $c_\epsilon$  is bounded, which contradicts  $c_\epsilon \rightarrow +\infty$ . Therefore,  $u_0 \equiv 0$ .

Assume  $|\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx \rightharpoonup \mu$  in sense of measure. We can choose a cut-off function  $\varphi \in C_0^1(\mathbb{B})$ , which is supported in  $\mathbb{B}(r_0) \subset \mathbb{B}$  and equals to 1 in  $\mathbb{B}(r_0/2)$  for some small  $r_0 > 0$ . So

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}(r_0)} |\nabla(\varphi u_\epsilon)|^n dx \leq 1 - \eta$$

for some  $\eta > 0$  provided that  $\epsilon$  is sufficiently small. By the classical Trudinger-Moser inequality (1.1), we can know  $e^{\alpha_\epsilon(\varphi u_\epsilon)^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}$  is bounded in  $L^s(\Omega)$  for some  $s > 1$ . Then applying the elliptic estimates ([16], Chapter 9) to equation (2.4), we obtain  $\|u_\epsilon\|_{W^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})} \leq C$ , this together with the compact embedding theorem lead that  $u_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{B}(r_0/2))$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $c_\epsilon \rightarrow +\infty$ . Therefore,  $|\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx \rightharpoonup \delta_0$ .  $\square$

### 3. Blow-up analysis

In this section, we will use the method of blow-up analysis to investigate the asymptotic behaviour of  $u_\epsilon$  near the blow-up point  $x_0 = 0$ . We set

$$r_\epsilon = \lambda_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n}} c_\epsilon^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)}{n} c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}.$$

By Lemma 2.2 and the classical Trudinger-Moser inequality (1.1), one can easily check that  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} r_\epsilon^n e^{\delta c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} = 0$  for any  $0 < \delta < \alpha_n(1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)$ . Define two sequences of functions

$$\psi_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{c_\epsilon} u_\epsilon(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x), \quad \varphi_\epsilon(x) = c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} (u_\epsilon(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x) - c_\epsilon),$$

where  $\psi_\epsilon$  and  $\varphi_\epsilon$  are defined on  $\mathbb{B}(r_\epsilon^{-1})$ . By equation (2.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta_n \psi_\epsilon(x) &= c_\epsilon^{-n} \psi_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)(u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} |x|^{p\beta} \\ &\quad + \alpha c_\epsilon^{p-n} r_\epsilon^n \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \psi_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} \\ &\quad - \lambda c_\epsilon^{1-n} r_\epsilon^n c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} e^{-\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta}, \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta_n \varphi_\epsilon(x) &= \psi_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)(u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} |x|^{p\beta} \\ &\quad + \alpha c_\epsilon^p r_\epsilon^n \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \psi_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} \\ &\quad - \lambda c_\epsilon r_\epsilon^n c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} e^{-\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

Since  $u_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^p(\mathbb{B})$ , we have

$$\left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(r_\epsilon^{-1})} (c_\epsilon^{p-n} r_\epsilon^n \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \psi_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta})^{\frac{p-1}{p}} dx \right)^{\frac{p-1}{p}} = c_\epsilon^{1-n} r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{p}} \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-1} |x|^{p\beta} \rightarrow 0.$$

Then we can get  $\Delta_n \psi_\epsilon(x)$  is bounded in  $L^{\frac{p}{p-1}}(\mathbb{B}(r_\epsilon^{-1}))$ . Applying the standard elliptic regularity theory [32] to (3.1), we obtain  $\psi_\epsilon \rightarrow \psi$  in  $C_{loc}^0(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . When  $1 < p \leq n$ , one can easily see that

$$\alpha c_\epsilon^p r_\epsilon^n \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \psi_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} \rightarrow 0$$

uniformly in  $x \in \mathbb{B}(r_\epsilon^{-1})$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . When  $p > n$ , we have that for any  $R > 0$  and sufficiently small  $\epsilon$ ,

$$\|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}} u_\epsilon^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}-1} \leq \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon)} u_\epsilon^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}-1} = c_\epsilon^{n-p} r_\epsilon^{\frac{n^2}{p}-n} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} \psi_\epsilon^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}-1}.$$

Then we have

$$\|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \leq 2c_\epsilon^{n-p} r_\epsilon^{\frac{n^2}{p}-n} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} \psi^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}-1}.$$

In view of  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} r_\epsilon^n e^{\delta c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} = 0$  for any  $0 < \delta < \alpha_n(1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)$ , we can obtain

$$\alpha c_\epsilon^p r_\epsilon^n \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \psi_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} \leq 2c_\epsilon^n r_\epsilon^{\frac{n^2}{p}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} \psi^p dx \right)^{\frac{n}{p}-1} \rightarrow 0.$$

It follows that  $\Delta_n \psi_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{B}(R))$ . According to the regularity theory [32], we conclude that  $\psi_\epsilon \rightarrow \psi$  in  $C^1(\mathbb{B}(R/2))$ . Therefore,  $\psi_\epsilon \rightarrow \psi$  in  $C_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . Hence  $\psi$  satisfies  $-\Delta_n \psi(x) = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Obviously we have  $0 \leq \psi(x) \leq \psi(0) = 1$ , so Liouville type theorem implies that  $\psi = 1$ .

Applying the standard elliptic regularity theory [32] to (3.2), then by the similar argument, we have for any  $p > 1$ ,  $\varphi_\epsilon \rightarrow \varphi$  in  $C_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . In this situation, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u_\epsilon (r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} &= c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \left(1 + \frac{\varphi_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}\right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{n}{n-1} \varphi_\epsilon + c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} o\left(\frac{\varphi_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}\right) \\ &= \frac{n}{n-1} \varphi + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\varphi(x)$  is the distributional solution of the equation

$$-\Delta_n \varphi(x) = |x|^{p\beta} e^{\frac{n}{n-1} \alpha_n (1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}) \varphi(x)} \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n.$$

We make the change of variable  $y = r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x$  with  $|x| \leq R$ , then for any fixed  $R > 1$ , there holds  $|y| \leq 2R r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}$ . We also have

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} |x|^{p\beta} e^{\frac{n}{n-1} \alpha_n (1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}) \varphi} dx = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} |x|^{p\beta} e^{\alpha_n (1 + \frac{p\beta}{n} - \epsilon) (u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} (r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} x) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} dx \leq 1.$$

In viewing of [14], it is not hard to see that

$$\varphi(x) = -\frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \left( 1 + \left( \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} |x|^{\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} \right).$$

In particular,

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} e^{\frac{n}{n-1} \alpha_n (1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}) \varphi} |x|^{p\beta} dx = 1. \tag{3.3}$$



Define  $u_{\epsilon,\delta} = \min\{u_\epsilon, \delta c_\epsilon\}$  for any real number  $0 < \delta < 1$ . In the same way as [21, 34], we have the following lemma:

**Lemma 3.1** *There holds*

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx = \delta.$$

**Proof** We have by the equation (2.4) and the divergence theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx &= - \int_{\mathbb{B}} u_{\epsilon,\delta} (\Delta_n u_\epsilon) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{B}} u_{\epsilon,\delta} \left( \alpha |x|^{p\beta} \|u_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} u_\epsilon^{p-1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} h'_m(u_\epsilon) \right) dx \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} (\delta c_\epsilon + o_\epsilon(1)) \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} \right) dx + o(1). \end{aligned}$$

By making the change of variable  $x = r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} y$ , we get

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx \geq \delta(1 + o_\epsilon(1)) \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}-\epsilon)(u_\epsilon(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}} y) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} |y|^{p\beta} dy,$$

which yields

$$\liminf_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx \geq \delta \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} e^{\frac{n}{n-1} \alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n})\varphi(y)} |y|^{p\beta} dy.$$

Letting  $R \rightarrow +\infty$  and by equation (3.3), we obtain

$$\liminf_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx \geq \delta.$$

By the same argument, we establish that

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla(u_\epsilon - u_{\epsilon,\delta})|^n dx \geq 1 - \delta.$$

Since

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla u_{\epsilon,\delta}|^n dx + \int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla(u_\epsilon - u_{\epsilon,\delta})|^n dx = 1,$$

we get the result. □

The following lemma is used in proving the existence of extremal functions of the Trudinger-Moser inequality. Due to it providing the asymptotic behavior of  $u_\epsilon$ , we include it here.

**Lemma 3.2** *There holds*

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \limsup_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\lambda_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}. \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 4.8 in [34], so we omit here. It follows from Lemma 3.2 that

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}{\lambda_\epsilon} = 0. \tag{3.5}$$

In order to investigate the convergence behaviour of  $u_\epsilon$  away from the blow-up point, we need the following lemma:

**Lemma 3.3** *For any  $\varphi \in C(\overline{\mathbb{B}})$ , we have*

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} \varphi(x) dx = \varphi(0).$$

**Proof** We divide  $\mathbb{B}$  into three parts as follows:

$$\mathbb{B} = \left( \{u_\epsilon > \delta c_\epsilon\} \setminus \mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}) \right) \cup \{u_\epsilon \leq \delta c_\epsilon\} \cup \mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}),$$

where  $\delta \in (0, 1)$ . Denote the integrals on the above three domains by  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$  and  $I_3$  respectively. Letting  $\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}) \subset \{u_\epsilon > \delta c_\epsilon\}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |I_1| &\leq \sup_{\overline{\mathbb{B}}} |\varphi| \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} \left( \int_{\{u_\epsilon > \delta c_\epsilon\}} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx - \int_{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}(x_\epsilon))} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx \right) \\ &\leq \sup_{\overline{\mathbb{B}}} |\varphi| \left( \frac{1}{\delta} - \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)(u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}x) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} |x|^{p\beta} dx \right) \\ &= \sup_{\overline{\mathbb{B}}} |\varphi| \left( \frac{1}{\delta} - \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} e^{\frac{n}{n-1}\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi} |x|^{p\beta} dx + o(1) \right) \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling the definition of  $u_{\epsilon,\delta}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |I_2| &\leq \sup_{\overline{\mathbb{B}}} |\varphi| \frac{c_\epsilon}{\lambda_\epsilon} \int_{\{u_\epsilon \leq \delta c_\epsilon\}} u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx \\ &\leq \sup_{\overline{\mathbb{B}}} |\varphi| \frac{c_\epsilon}{\lambda_\epsilon} \int_{\mathbb{B}} u_{\epsilon,\delta}^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_{\epsilon,\delta}^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx. \end{aligned}$$

From Lemma 3.1 and (3.5), we conclude that  $I_2 \rightarrow 0$ . Finally, making the change of variable  $y = r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}x$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= \int_{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon(y)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_\epsilon(y)^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |y|^{p\beta} dy \\ &= (1 + o_\epsilon(1)) \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} \varphi(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}x) e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)(u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}(r_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}x) - c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}})} |x|^{p\beta} dx \\ &= (\varphi(0) + o_\epsilon(1)) \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} e^{\frac{n}{n-1}\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)\varphi} |x|^{p\beta} dx + o_\epsilon(1) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we have  $I_3 \rightarrow \varphi(0)$ . Combining all the above three estimates, we conclude the result.  $\square$

The following statement is similar to Lemma 3.10 in [41]:

**Lemma 3.4** *If  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{B})$ , and  $u \in C^1(\overline{\mathbb{B}}) \cap H_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$  satisfies the following equation*

$$-\Delta_n u = f + \alpha \|u\|_p^{n-p} u^{p-1},$$

where  $\alpha < (1 + \frac{p}{n}\beta)^{n-1+\frac{n}{p}} \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$  is a constant. Then for any  $1 < s < n$ , we have  $\|\nabla u\|_s \leq C \|f\|_1$  for some constant  $C$  depending only on  $p, s, \alpha, n, \lambda_p(\mathbb{B})$ .

We omit the proof here. The interested readers can refer to [34] and its corrigendum in [34] to get the detailed process of argumentation. Using Lemma 3.4, we can prove the following:

**Lemma 3.5** *For any  $1 < s < n$ ,  $c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} u_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $H_0^{1,s}(\mathbb{B})$ .*

**Proof** We denote  $\omega_\epsilon = c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} u_\epsilon$ , then it is easy to verify that

$$-\Delta_n \omega_\epsilon = \alpha |x|^{p\beta} \|\omega_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \omega_\epsilon^{p-1} + \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \frac{\lambda}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} h'_m(\omega_\epsilon) c_\epsilon. \quad (3.6)$$

We assert that  $\|\omega_\epsilon\|_p$  is bounded. Suppose not, we can assume that  $\|\omega_\epsilon\|_p \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Letting  $\tilde{\omega}_\epsilon = \omega_\epsilon / \|\omega_\epsilon\|_p$ , we have  $\|\tilde{\omega}_\epsilon\|_p = 1$  and

$$-\Delta_n \tilde{\omega}_\epsilon = \alpha |x|^{p\beta} \tilde{\omega}_\epsilon^{p-1} + \frac{\frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}}{\|\omega_\epsilon\|_p^{n-1}} + o(1). \quad (3.7)$$

It can be deduced from (3.7) that  $\Delta_n \tilde{\omega}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $L^1(\mathbb{B})$ . By Lemma 3.4, we get  $\tilde{\omega}_\epsilon$  is bounded in  $H_0^{1,s}(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $1 < s < n$ . Assume  $\tilde{\omega}_\epsilon \rightharpoonup \tilde{\omega}$  weakly in  $H_0^{1,s}(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $1 < s < n$ , and  $\tilde{\omega}_\epsilon \rightarrow \tilde{\omega}$  strongly in  $L^p(\mathbb{B})$ . Testing (3.6) with  $\varphi \in C_0^1(\mathbb{B})$  and letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} \nabla \varphi \nabla \tilde{\omega} dx = \alpha \int_{\mathbb{B}} \varphi |x|^{p\beta} \tilde{\omega}^{p-1} dx. \quad (3.8)$$

One can derive from (3.8) that  $\omega \equiv 0$ , which contradicts the fact that  $\|\tilde{\omega}\|_p = 1$ . Hence  $\|\omega_\epsilon\|_p$  is bounded. Again by using Lemma 3.4, we complete the proof.  $\square$

The following lemma reveals how  $u_\epsilon$  converges away from  $x_0 = 0$ :

**Lemma 3.6**  *$c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} u_\epsilon \rightharpoonup G_\alpha$  weakly in  $H^{1,s}(\mathbb{B})$  for any  $1 < s < n$ , where  $G_\alpha$  is a Green function satisfying*

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_n G_\alpha - \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} = \delta_0 & \text{in } \mathbb{B} \\ G_\alpha = 0 & \text{on } \partial \mathbb{B}. \end{cases} \quad (3.9)$$

Furthermore,  $c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} u_\epsilon \rightarrow G_\alpha$  in  $C^1(\overline{\mathbb{B}'})$  for any domain  $\mathbb{B}' \subset \subset \overline{\mathbb{B}} \setminus \{0\}$ .

**Proof** Assume  $c_\epsilon^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} u_\epsilon \rightharpoonup G_\alpha$  weakly in  $H^{1,s}(\mathbb{B})$ . Testing equation (2.4) with  $\varphi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} - \int_{\mathbb{B}} \varphi \Delta_n \omega_\epsilon dx &= \int_{\mathbb{B}} \left( \varphi \frac{1}{\lambda_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} c_\epsilon u_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p}{n}\beta-\epsilon)u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} + \alpha \|\omega_\epsilon\|_p^{n-p} \int_{\mathbb{B}} \varphi \omega_\epsilon^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} \right) dx + o(1) \\ &\rightarrow \varphi(0) + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \varphi |\nabla G_\alpha|^{n-2} \nabla G_\alpha dx = \varphi(0) + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta}.$$

Then there holds

$$-\Delta_n G_\alpha = \delta_0 + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta}.$$

The usual elliptic estimates give the second assertion of Lemma 3.6. □

According to Kichenassamy and Veron [17],  $G_\alpha$  can be represented by

$$G_\alpha(x) = -\frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln |x| + A_\alpha + \psi_\alpha(x),$$

where  $A_\alpha$  is a constant,  $\psi_\alpha(x) \in C^\nu(\mathbb{B})$  for some  $0 < \nu < 1$  and  $\psi_\alpha(0) = 0$ .

#### 4. The estimate of upper bound

In this section, we use the capacity estimate, which was inspired by [28, 37], to derive an upper bound of  $\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n}$ . Taking  $R > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  small enough such that  $\mathbb{B}(2\delta) \subset \mathbb{B}$ , for  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , we define the function space

$$W_\epsilon(a, b) = \left\{ u \in W^{1,n}(\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})) : u|_{\partial\mathbb{B}(\delta)} = a, u|_{\partial\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} = b \right\}.$$

Let

$$i_\epsilon = \inf_{\partial\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} u_\epsilon, \quad s_\epsilon = \sup_{\partial\mathbb{B}(\delta)} u_\epsilon.$$

It follows from (3.8) and Lemma 3.6 that

$$i_\epsilon = c_\epsilon + \frac{1}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{1}{n-1}}} \left( -\frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln R - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} + o(1) \right), \tag{4.1}$$

and

$$s_\epsilon = c_\epsilon^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} \left( -\frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \delta + A_\alpha + o(1) \right). \tag{4.2}$$

Therefore,  $i_\epsilon > s_\epsilon$ . It is not hard to see that

$$\inf_{u \in W_\epsilon(a,b)} \int_{\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} |\nabla u|^n dx$$

is attained by a function  $h(x)$  satisfying

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_n h(x) = 0 & \text{in } \mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} \\ h|_{\partial\mathbb{B}(\delta)} = s_\epsilon \\ h|_{\partial\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})} = i_\epsilon. \end{cases}$$

By the uniqueness of the solution, we obtain

$$h(x) = \frac{s_\epsilon(\ln|x| - \ln(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})) + i_\epsilon(\ln\delta - \ln|x|)}{\ln\delta - \ln(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})},$$

and hence

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla h|^n dx = \frac{\omega_{n-1}(i_\epsilon - s_\epsilon)^n}{(\ln\delta - \ln(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}}))^{n-1}}. \tag{4.3}$$

Defining  $\tilde{u}_\epsilon = \max\{s_\epsilon, \min\{u_\epsilon, i_\epsilon\}\}$ , one gets  $\tilde{u}_\epsilon \in W_\epsilon(s_\epsilon, i_\epsilon)$  and  $|\nabla \tilde{u}_\epsilon| \leq |\nabla u_\epsilon|$  a.e. in  $\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla h|^n dx &\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla \tilde{u}_\epsilon|^n dx \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}(\delta) \setminus \overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx \\ &= 1 + \alpha \|u\|_{p,\beta}^n - \int_{\overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx - \int_{\mathbb{B} \setminus \mathbb{B}(\delta)} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx. \end{aligned}$$

We next estimate two integrals on the right-hand side of the above equation. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\overline{\mathbb{B}(Rr_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n+p\beta}})}} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} |\nabla \varphi_\epsilon|^n dx \\ &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B}(R)} |\nabla \varphi_0|^n dx + o_\epsilon(1) \right) \\ &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln R + \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + o(1) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{4.4}$$

Since  $\|u_\epsilon\|_{p,\beta}^n = c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} (\|G_\alpha\|_{p,\beta}^n + o(1))$ , integrating by parts with Lemma 3.6 leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B} \setminus \mathbb{B}(\delta)} |\nabla u_\epsilon|^n dx &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B} \setminus \mathbb{B}(\delta)} |\nabla G_\alpha|^n dx + o(1) \right) \\ &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{B} \setminus \mathbb{B}(\delta)} (-\Delta_n G_\alpha) G_\alpha dx + \int_{\partial \mathbb{B}(\delta)} |\nabla G_\alpha|^{n-2} \nabla G_\alpha \cdot \frac{\partial G_\alpha}{\partial \nu} ds + o(1) \right) \\ &= c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} - \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \delta + A_\alpha + o(1) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{4.5}$$

Combining (4.3), (4.4), and (4.5) together, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\omega_{n-1}^{\frac{1}{n-1}} (i_\epsilon - s_\epsilon)^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}{\ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{n+p\beta} \ln r_\epsilon^n} &\leq \left( 1 + c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} - A_\alpha + o(1) \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \\ &\leq 1 + \frac{1}{n-1} c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} - A_\alpha + o(1) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{4.6}$$

From the definition of  $r_\epsilon$ , we get

$$\ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{n+p\beta} \ln r_\epsilon^n = \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{n+p\beta} \ln \frac{\lambda_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} + \frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}}{n+p\beta}. \tag{4.7}$$

It follows from (4.1) and (4.2) that

$$\begin{aligned} (i_\epsilon - s_\epsilon)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} &= c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( 1 + c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} - A_\alpha + o(1) \right) \right)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} \\ &\geq c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \frac{n}{n-1} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} - A_\alpha + o(1) \right). \end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

Denoting  $b = \frac{1}{n-1} c_\epsilon^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} - \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} + \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} - A_\alpha + o(1) \right)$ , we can obtain  $b \rightarrow 0$ . Then putting (4.6), (4.7), and (4.8) together, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1+b) \ln \frac{\lambda_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} &\leq -\epsilon c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \left( \alpha_n \left(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}\right) b - \frac{\epsilon}{n-1} \right) \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} + \frac{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n} - \epsilon)}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} \\ &\quad + \left( 1 + \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})(n-1)} \right) \left( \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} + \alpha_n \left(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}\right) A_\alpha \right) + o(1) \\ &\leq \left( \alpha_n \left(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}\right) b - \frac{\epsilon}{n-1} \right) \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{\delta}{R} + \frac{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n} - \epsilon)}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} \\ &\quad + \left( 1 + \frac{\epsilon}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})(n-1)} \right) \left( \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} + \alpha_n \left(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}\right) A_\alpha \right) + o(1), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\limsup_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \ln \frac{\lambda_\epsilon}{c_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} \leq \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} + \alpha_n \left(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}\right) A_\alpha + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}.$$

Therefore, we conclude by (3.4),

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n} &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)|u_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n} - \epsilon) u_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ &\leq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha+1+\frac{1}{2}+\dots+\frac{1}{n-1}}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

### 5. The existence result

In this section, we will construct a blow-up sequence  $\varphi_\epsilon(x) \in \mathcal{H}$  such that when  $\epsilon$  is small enough, there holds

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}) \varphi_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ &> \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha+1+\frac{1}{2}+\dots+\frac{1}{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

We first establish several properties of  $G_\alpha$  as following:

**Lemma 5.1** *Let  $G_\alpha$  be the  $n$ -Green function in the above (3.9).*

(a) *The sets  $\{G_\alpha > t\}$  form a sequence of approximately small balls of radii  $\rho_t = e^{\frac{1}{n-1}(A_\alpha-t)}$ . In other words,  $B_{\rho_t-r_t}(p) \subset \{G_\alpha > t\} \subset B_{\rho_t+r_t}(p)$ , with  $r_t/\rho_t \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ . In particular,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})t} \int_{G_\alpha > t} |x|^{p\beta} dx =$*

$$\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha}.$$

(b)  $\int_{G_\alpha < t} |\nabla G_\alpha|^n dx = t + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_p^{n-p} G_\alpha^{p-1} |x|^{p\beta} + O(t^{n-1} e^{-\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})t})$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

(c)  $\int_{G_\alpha=t} |\nabla G_\alpha|^{n-1} dx = 1 + O(t^{n-1} e^{-\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})t})$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

(d)  $\int_{G_\alpha=t} \frac{|x|^{p\beta}}{|\nabla G_\alpha|} ds \geq \omega_{\frac{n-1}{n-1}} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})(A_\alpha-t)} (1 + O(t^{n-1} e^{-\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})t}))$  as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ .

The proof is similar to [34] so we omit the process of proof here. Then we take

$$f_\epsilon(t) = \begin{cases} c + c^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} \left( -\frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln(1 + (\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \epsilon^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})}{n-1}t}) + b \right) & \text{for } t \geq t_\epsilon \\ c^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} t & \text{for } t < t_\epsilon, \end{cases}$$

with  $t_\epsilon = \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{1}{R\epsilon}$ ,  $R$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are constants to be chosen later such that  $R \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $R\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ . Let  $G_\alpha$  be as above. Set

$$\varphi_\epsilon(x) = f_\epsilon(G_\alpha(x)).$$

To ensure  $\varphi_\epsilon \in H_0^{1,n}(\mathbb{B})$ , we assume

$$c + c^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} \left( -\frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln(1 + (\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \epsilon^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})}{n-1}t_\epsilon}) + b \right) = c^{-\frac{1}{n-1}} t_\epsilon. \quad (5.1)$$

We have by Lemma 5.1(b),

$$\int_{G_\alpha < t_\epsilon} |\nabla \varphi_\epsilon|^n dx = c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \frac{1}{R\epsilon} + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_{p,\beta}^n + O((R\epsilon)^{n+p\beta} (\ln \frac{1}{R\epsilon})^{n-1}) \right).$$

An elementary calculation shows

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{t_\epsilon}^{+\infty} |f'_\epsilon(t)|^n dt &= c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \int_{t_\epsilon}^{+\infty} \left( \frac{(\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \epsilon^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})}{n-1}t}}{1 + (\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \epsilon^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})}{n-1}t}} \right)^n dt \\ &= \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \int_0^{(\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} R^{\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}} \frac{s^{n-1}}{(1+s)^n} ds \\ &= c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln R + \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} - \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have by Lemma 5.1(c),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{G_\alpha > t_\epsilon} |\nabla \varphi_\epsilon|^n dx &= \int_{t_\epsilon}^{+\infty} |f'_\epsilon(t)|^n \left( \int_{G_\alpha=t} |\nabla G_\alpha|^n \frac{1}{|\nabla G_\alpha|} ds \right) dt \\ &= c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln R + \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} - \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}) \right). \end{aligned}$$



Therefore,

$$\int_{\mathbb{B}} |\nabla \varphi_\epsilon|^n dx = c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} \left( \frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \epsilon + \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} - \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + \alpha \|G_\alpha\|_{p,\beta}^n + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}) \right).$$

Since  $\|\varphi_\epsilon\|_{p,\beta}^n = c^{-\frac{n}{n-1}} (\|G_\alpha\|_{p,\beta}^n + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}))$ , then we have

$$c^{\frac{n}{n-1}} = -\frac{n}{\alpha_n} \ln \epsilon + \frac{1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} - \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}). \tag{5.2}$$

Combining (5.1) and (5.2), one gets

$$b = \frac{n-1}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k} + O(R^{-\frac{n}{n-1}}) + O\left( (R\epsilon)^n \ln^n \frac{1}{R\epsilon} \ln R \right).$$

For  $t \geq t_\epsilon$ , one can check that

$$f_\epsilon(t)^{\frac{n}{n-1}} \geq c^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \frac{n}{n-1} b - \frac{n}{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})} \ln \left( 1 + \left( \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} \right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \epsilon^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}} e^{-\frac{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})}{n-1} t} \right).$$

Hence we have by Lemma 5.1(d),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{G_\alpha \geq t_\epsilon} e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} |x|^{p\beta} dx &= \int_{t_\epsilon}^{+\infty} e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|f_\epsilon(t)|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} \left( \int_{G_\alpha=t} \frac{|x|^{p\beta}}{|\nabla G_\alpha|} ds \right) dt \\ &\geq (n-1) e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})(A_\alpha + c^{\frac{n}{n-1}} + \frac{n}{n-1} b)} \epsilon^{n+p\beta} (1 + O(t_\epsilon^{n-1} e^{-\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}) t_\epsilon})) \\ &\quad \times \int_0^{\left(\frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta}\right)^{\frac{1}{n-1}} R^{\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}} \frac{s^{n-2}}{(1+s)^n} ds \\ &\geq \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}} + O(R^{-\frac{n+p\beta}{n-1}}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\frac{\ln R}{c^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} \rightarrow 0$ , we can obtain  $\frac{\epsilon}{2} < \varphi_\epsilon|_{G_\alpha > t} < 2c$ . Then we have

$$\int_{G_\alpha > t_\epsilon} \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{(\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}})^k}{k!} = O(c^{\frac{mn}{n-1}} \epsilon^2 R^2).$$

Moreover, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{G_\alpha < t_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} (e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - h_m(\varphi_\epsilon)) dx &\geq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx - \int_{G_\alpha \geq t_\epsilon} |x|^{p\beta} dx \\ &\quad + \int_{G_\alpha < t_\epsilon} \frac{(\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n}))^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} \left| \frac{G_\alpha}{c^{\frac{1}{n-1}}} \right|^{\frac{n(m+1)}{n-1}} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above two estimates, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} (e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - h_m(\varphi_\epsilon)) dx &\geq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{k}} \\ &+ c^{-\frac{n(m+1)}{(n-1)^2}} \left( \int_{G_\alpha < t_\epsilon} \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})G_\alpha^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} dx \right. \\ &\left. + O(c^{\frac{n(m+1)}{(n-1)^2}} R^2 \epsilon^2) + O(c^{\frac{n(m+1)}{(n+1)^2}} R^{-\frac{n}{n-1}}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $R = (-\ln \epsilon)^{m+1}$ , we immediately have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ &> \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $\lambda \leq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_\epsilon|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi_\epsilon^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \tag{5.3} \\ &> \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n+p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n})A_\alpha + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

The contradiction between (4.9) and (5.3) implies that  $c_\epsilon$  is bounded and Theorem 1 follows when  $\lambda \leq 1$ . In the following, we consider the situation when  $\lambda \in (1, 1 + \epsilon_0)$ ,  $\epsilon_0$  is a constant. First we claim that  $\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n}$  is continuous with respect to  $\lambda$  at  $\lambda = 1$ . It is clearly that there exists  $u_1$  such that

$$\Lambda_{1, \alpha_n} = \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)|u_1|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_1^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx.$$

Since  $\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)|u_1|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_1^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx$  is continuous with respect to  $\lambda$  at  $\lambda = 1$ , for any  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $\epsilon_1 > 0$  such that

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)|u_1|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_1^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx - \Lambda_{1, \alpha_n} \right| < \delta,$$

where  $1 < \lambda < 1 + \epsilon_1$ , then

$$\Lambda_{1, \alpha_n} - \delta < \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)|u_1|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1+\frac{p\beta}{n}-\epsilon)u_1^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx < \Lambda_{1, \alpha_n} + \delta. \tag{5.4}$$

Moreover,  $\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n}$  is monotonically decreasing with respect to  $\lambda$ . Thus for any  $1 < \lambda < 1 + \epsilon_1$ , we have

$$\Lambda_{1, \alpha_n} - \delta < \Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n} \leq \Lambda_{1, \alpha_n}.$$

So our claim is true. If the extremal function of  $\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n}$  does not exist when  $1 < \lambda < 1 + \epsilon_0$ , then similar to the proof of the above, we can derive

$$\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n} \leq \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})A_{\alpha} + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1}},$$

but we found that  $\int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_{\epsilon}|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi_{\epsilon}^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx$  is continuous with respect to  $\lambda$  at  $\lambda = 1$ , so there exists a constant  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} \left( e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})|\varphi_{\epsilon}|^{\frac{n}{n-1}}} - \lambda \sum_{k=0}^m \frac{|\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})\varphi_{\epsilon}^{\frac{n}{n-1}}|^k}{k!} \right) dx \\ & > \int_{\mathbb{B}} |x|^{p\beta} dx + \frac{\omega_{n-1}}{n + p\beta} e^{\alpha_n(1 + \frac{p\beta}{n})A_{\alpha} + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n-1}} \end{aligned}$$

for any  $\lambda \in (1, 1 + \epsilon_2)$ , which contradicts with (5.4). Thus  $\Lambda_{\lambda, \alpha_n}$  can be attained if  $\lambda \leq 1 + \epsilon_0$ .

## References

- [1] Adimurthi, Sandeep K. A singular Moser-Trudinger embedding and its applications. *Nonlinear Differential Equations and Applications NoDEA* 2007; 13 (5-6): 585-603. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00030-006-4025-9>
- [2] Adimurthi, Yang YY. An interpolation of Hardy inequality and Trudinger-Moser inequality in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and its applications. *International Mathematics Research Notices* 2010; 13 (2010): 2394-2426. <https://doi.org/10.1093/imrn/rnp194>
- [3] Bonheure D, Serra E, Tarallo M. Symmetry of extremal functions in Moser-Trudinger inequalities and a Hénon type problem in dimension two. *Advances in Differential Equations* 2008; 13 (1-2): 105-138. <https://doi.org/10.57262/ade/1355867361>
- [4] Calanchi M, Terraneo E. Non-radial maximizers for functionals with exponential non-linearity in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . *Advanced Nonlinear Studies* 2005; 5 (3): 337-350. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ans-2005-0302>
- [5] Carleson L, Chang SYA. On the existence of an extremal function for an inequality of J. Moser. *Bulletin des Sciences Mathématiques* 1986; 110 (2): 113-127.
- [6] Csató G, Roy P. Extremals for the singular Moser-Trudinger inequality via n-harmonic transplantation. *Journal of Differential Equations* 2021; 270: 843-882. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jde.2020.08.005>
- [7] Csató G, Roy P. Extremal functions for the singular Moser-Trudinger inequality in 2 dimensions. *Calculus of Variations and Partial Differential Equations* 2015; 54 (2): 2341-2366. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00526-015-0867-5>
- [8] Csató G, Roy P. Singular Moser-Trudinger inequality on simply connected domains. *Communications in Partial Differential Equations* 2016; 41 (5): 838-847. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03605302.2015.1123276>
- [9] de Figueiredo DG, do Ó JM, Ruf B. On an inequality by N. Trudinger and J. Moser and related elliptic equations. *Communications on Pure and Applied Mathematics* 2002; 55 (2): 135-152. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cpa.10015>

- [10] de Figueiredo DG, dos Santos EM, Miyagaki OH. Sobolev spaces of symmetric functions and applications. *Journal of Functional Analysis* 2011; 261 (12): 3735-3770. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfa.2011.08.016>
- [11] de Figueiredo DG, do Ó JM, dos Santos EM. Trudinger-Moser inequalities involving fast growth and weights with strong vanishing at zero. *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society*. 2016; 144 (8): 3369-3380. <https://doi.org/10.1090/proc/13114>
- [12] do Ó JM, de Souza M. A sharp inequality of Trudinger-Moser type and extremal functions in  $H^{1,n}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ . *Journal of Differential Equations* 2015; 258 (11): 4062-4101. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jde.2015.01.026>
- [13] do Ó JM, de Souza M. Trudinger-Moser inequality on the whole plane and extremal functions. *Communications in Contemporary Mathematics* 2016; 18 (05): 1550054. <https://doi.org/10.1142/S0219199715500546>
- [14] Esposito P. A classification result for the quasi-linear Liouville equation. *Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré C. Analyse Non Linéaire* 2018; 35 (3): 781-801. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.anihpc.2017.08.002>
- [15] Flucher M. Extremal functions for the Trudinger-Moser inequality in 2 dimensions. *Commentarii Mathematici Helvetici* 1992; 67 (1): 471-497. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02566514>
- [16] Gilbarg D, Trudinger NS. *Elliptic partial differential equations of second order*. Springer-Verlag, 1983.
- [17] Kichenassamy S, Véron L. Singular solutions of the p-Laplace equation. *Mathematische Annalen* 1986; 275 (4): 599-615. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01459140>
- [18] Li XM. An improved singular Trudinger-Moser inequality in  $\mathbb{R}^N$  and its extremal functions. *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications* 2018; 462 (2): 1109-1129. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmaa.2018.01.080>
- [19] Li XM, Yang YY. Extremal functions for singular Trudinger-Moser inequalities in the entire Euclidean space. *Journal of Differential Equations* 2018; 264 (8): 4901-4943. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jde.2017.12.028>
- [20] Li YX. Moser-Trudinger inequality on compact Riemannian manifolds of dimension two. *Journal of Partial Differential Equations* 2001; 14 (2): 163-192.
- [21] Li YX. Extremal functions for the Moser-Trudinger inequalities on compact Riemannian manifolds. *Science in China. Series A. Mathematics* 2005; 48 (5): 618-648. <https://doi.org/10.1360/04ys0050>
- [22] Li YX. Remarks on the extremal functions for the Moser-Trudinger inequality. *Acta Mathematica Sinica (English Series)* 2006; 22 (2): 545-550. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10114-005-0568-7>
- [23] Lieberman GM. Boundary regularity for solutions of degenerate elliptic equations. *Nonlinear Analysis* 1988; 12 (11): 1203-1219. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0362-546X\(88\)90053-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/0362-546X(88)90053-3)
- [24] Lin KC. Extremal functions for Moser's inequality. *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* 1996; 348 (7): 2663-2671. <https://doi.org/10.1090/S0002-9947-96-01541-3>
- [25] Lions PL. The concentration-compactness principle in the calculus of variation, the limit case, part I. *Revista Matemática Iberoamericana* 1985; 1 (1): 145-201. <https://doi.org/10.4171/RMI/6>
- [26] Moser J. A sharp form of an inequality by N. Trudinger. *Indiana University Mathematics Journal* 1971; 20 (11): 1077-1091. <https://doi.org/10.1512/iumj.1971.20.20101>
- [27] Nguyen VH. Trudinger-Moser type inequalities with vanishing weights in the unit ball. *The Journal of Fourier Analysis and Applications* 2020; 26 (5): 77. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00041-020-09789-9>
- [28] Nguyen VH. Improved singular Moser-Trudinger inequalities and their extremal functions. *Potential analysis* 2020; 53: 55-58. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11118-018-09759-3>
- [29] Ni WM. A nonlinear Dirichlet problem on the unit ball and its applications. *Indiana University Mathematics Journal* 1982; 31 (6): 801-807. <https://doi.org/10.1512/iumj.1982.31.31056>
- [30] Pohozaev S. The Sobolev embedding in the special case  $pl = n$ , Proceedings of the technical scientific conference on advances of scientific research 1964-1965, Mathematics sections. *Moscow. Energet. Inst., Moscow* 1965; 158-170.

- [31] Serrin J. Local behavior of solutions of quasi-linear equations. *Acta Mathematica* 1964; 111 (1): 248-302. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02391014>
- [32] Tolksdorf P. Regularity for a more general class of quasilinear elliptic equations. *Journal of Differential Equations* 1984; 51 (1): 126-150. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0022-0396\(84\)90105-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/0022-0396(84)90105-0)
- [33] Trudinger NS. On embeddings into Orlicz spaces and some applications. *Journal of Mathematics and Mechanics* 1967; 17 (5): 473-484. <https://doi.org/10.1512/iumj.1968.17.17028>
- [34] Yang YY. A sharp form of Moser-Trudinger inequality in high dimension. *Journal of Functional Analysis* 2006; 239 (1): 100-126. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfa.2006.06.002>
- [35] Yang YY. Existence of positive solutions to quasi-linear elliptic equations with exponential growth in the whole Euclidean space. *Journal of Functional Analysis* 2012; 262 (4): 1679-1704. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfa.2011.11.018>
- [36] Yang YY. Extremal functions for Trudinger-Moser inequalities of Adimurthi-Druet type in dimension two. *Journal of Differential Equations* 2015; 258 (9): 3161-3193. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jde.2015.01.004>
- [37] Yang YY, Zhu XB. Blow-up analysis concerning singular Trudinger-Moser inequalities in dimension two. *Journal of Functional Analysis* 2016; 8 (8): 3347-3374. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfa.2016.12.028>
- [38] Yang YY, Zhu XB. A Trudinger-Moser inequality for a conical metric in the unit ball. *Archiv Der Mathematik* 2019; 112 (5): 531-545. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00013-018-1285-7>
- [39] Yu PX. A weighted singular Trudinger-Moser inequality. *Journal of Partial Differential Equations* 2022; 35 (3): 208-222. <https://doi.org/10.4208/jpde.v35.n3.2>
- [40] Zhou CL, Zhou CQ. Extremal functions of the singular Moser-Trudinger inequality involving the eigenvalue. *Journal of Partial Differential Equations* 2018; 31 (1): 71-96. <https://doi.org/10.4208/jpde.v31.n1.6>
- [41] Zhu JY. Improved Moser-Trudinger inequality involving  $L^p$  norm in  $n$  dimensions. *Advanced Nonlinear Studies* 2014; 14 (2): 273-293. <https://doi.org/10.1515/ans-2014-0202>