# ON THE NONLINEAR ELASTIC SIMPLY SUPPORTED BEAM EQUATION 

Marek Galewski


#### Abstract

Using a direct variational approach, we consider the existence of solutions and their dependence on a functional parameter for the elastic beam equation by means of investigating the critical points to the relevant Euler action functional.


## 1 Introduction

In this research we intend to investigate a fourth order Dirichlet problem connected with the elastic beam equation with simply supported ends via direct variational approach. In the recent literature, see for example [3], [14], [17], where also critical point theory is applied, mainly the simplified form of the beam equation

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d^{4}}{d t^{4}} x=f(t, x) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

pertaining to rigidly fastened boundary conditions

$$
\begin{equation*}
x(0)=x(1)=\dot{x}(0)=\dot{x}(1)=0 \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

or simply supported conditions

$$
\begin{equation*}
x(0)=x(1)=\ddot{x}(0)=\ddot{x}(1)=0 \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Key Words: beam equation; simply supported ends; variational method; dependence on a parameter.

Mathematics Subject Classification: 34B15, 49J45
Received: February, 2010
Accepted: December, 2010
is considered. Since equation (1) does not fully reflect the real physical object, we investigate the following model

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(t) I(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x(t)\right)+w(t) x(t)=f(t, x(t)) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

with suitable assumptions on $f$; here $E:[0,1] \rightarrow R$ is Young's modulus of elasticity for the beam, $I:[0,1] \rightarrow R$ is the moment of inertia of cross section of the beam and $w$ is the load density (force per unit length of a beam); it is natural to assume that $w(t)>0, E(t) \geq E_{0}>0, I(t) \geq I_{0}>0$ for $t \in[0,1]$ and $E, I, w \in L^{\infty}(0,1)$. However, the simplified version (1) of the beam equation (4) seems to be easier tackled by mathematical methods and therefore a variety of methods could be applied in investigating the existence of solutions. The three critical point theorem due to Ricerri, the Sturm comparison theorem combined with the shooting method and also the Guo-Krasnosel'skij fixed point theorem of cone-expansion compression type were used in [3], [14], [17]. Apart from these methods, there were used the method of upper and lower solutions together with a type of a Landesman-Lazer condition, LeraySchauder fixed point theorem, degree-theoretic methods, semiorder method on cones of Banach space, minimax method, a priori estimates together with the Krasnosel'skij theorem on cones, see [1], [2], [7], [8], [12], [16].

The case is not as easy with (4) due to the form of the left hand side of the beam equation. Although we may put functions $E, I$ to be fixed constants, we may not put $w=0$ on $[0,1]$ without altering the original model. Let $H=H_{0}^{1}(0,1) \cap H^{2}(0,1)$ considered with the norm

$$
\sqrt{\left\|\frac{d}{d t} x\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}^{2}+\left\|\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}^{2}} .
$$

Via a direct approach in the space we will look for solutions to the following problem

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(t) I(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x(t)\right)+w(t) x(t)+F_{x}^{1}(t, x(t))=F_{x}^{2}(t, x(t)) u(t),  \tag{5}\\
& x(0)=x(1)=\ddot{x}(0)=\ddot{x}(1)=0 .
\end{align*}
$$

A functional parameter $u:[0,1] \rightarrow R$ belongs to the set
$L_{M}=\{u:[0,1] \rightarrow R: u$ is measurable, $|u(t)| \leq m$ for a.e. $t \in[0,1]\}$,
$m>0$ is a fixed real number; functions $F^{1}, F^{2}$ are subject to the following conditions:

A1 $F^{1}, F_{x}^{1}:[0,1] \times R \rightarrow R$ are Caratheodory functions; $F^{1}$ is continuously differentiable and convex with respect to the second variable in $R$ for $a$. $e$. $t \in[0,1] ; t \rightarrow F^{1}(t, 0)$ is integrable on $[0,1] ;$ function $t \rightarrow F_{x}^{1}(t, 0)$ belongs to $L^{2}(0,1)$; function $t \rightarrow \max _{x \in[-d, d]}\left|F^{1}(t, x)\right|$ is integrable for any $d>0$.

A2 $F^{1}, F_{x}^{1}:[0,1] \times R \rightarrow R$ are Caratheodory functions, functions $t \rightarrow$ $F^{1}(t, 0)$ and $t \rightarrow\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0)$ are integrable on $[0,1] ;$ function

$$
t \rightarrow \max _{x \in[-d, d]}\left|F^{1}(t, x)\right|
$$

is integrable for any $d>0$.
A3 $F^{2}, F_{x}^{2}:[0,1] \times R \rightarrow R$ are Caratheodory functions, there exists a function $a \in L^{2}(0,1)$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|F^{2}(t, x)\right| \leq a(t) \quad \text { for a.e. } t \in[0,1] \text { and all } x \in R \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

$\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}$ denotes the Fenchel-Young transform of a function $F^{1}$ with respect to the second variable, [9], namely

$$
\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, v)=\sup _{x \in R}\left\{x v-F^{1}(t, x)\right\} \text { for a.e. } t \in[0,1]
$$

Remark 1.1. We observe that for any $x \in H$ the following estimation holds

$$
\begin{aligned}
& |\dot{x}(t)-\dot{x}(s)|=\left|\int_{s}^{t} \ddot{x}(\tau) d \tau\right| \leq \sqrt{t-s} \int_{s}^{t} \ddot{x}^{2}(\tau) d \tau \\
& \leq \sqrt{|t-s|}\|\ddot{x}\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \leq\|\ddot{x}\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} .
\end{aligned}
$$

For any bounded sequence $\left\{x_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty} \subset H$, the sequence of derivatives $\left\{\dot{x}_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ is uniformly convergent (up to the subsequence) by the Ascoli-Arzela Theorem and thus strongly convergent in $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$. Moreover, we have the following Poincaré type inequalities for any $v \in H$, see [10]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|v\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \leq \frac{1}{\pi}\|\dot{v}\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \text { and }\|\dot{v}\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \leq \frac{1}{\pi}\|\ddot{v}\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

The paper is organized as follows. Firstly we investigate the dependence on a functional parameter for the action functionals. Next we investigate the existence of a solution for problem (5) and its dependence on a parameter.

## 2 Dependence of the argument of a minimum on a functional parameter

The Euler action functional $J_{u}: H \rightarrow R$ associated with (5) is given by

$$
\begin{aligned}
& J_{u}(x)=\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} E(t) I(t)\left(\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x(t)\right)^{2} d t+\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} w(t) x^{2}(t) d t+ \\
& -\int_{0}^{1} F^{2}(t, x(t)) u(t) d t+\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t
\end{aligned}
$$

$J_{u}$ is well defined with either A1-A3 or A2-A3. We mention here that assumptions A1-A3 or A2-A3 do not provide the Gâteaux differentiability of $J_{u}$. It is interesting to note that the dependence on functional parameter $u$ can be investigated for the arguments of a minimum for $J_{u}$ without invoking its differentiability contrary to what is done in [6].

Lemma 2.1. Suppose that either A1-A3 or A2-A3 hold. For any fixed $u \in L_{M}$ functional is coercive and weakly l.s.c. on $H$. For any fixed $u \in L_{M}$ there exists $x_{u} \in H$ such that $\inf _{x \in H} J_{u}(x)=J_{u}\left(x_{u}\right)$.

Let us fix $u \in L_{M}$ and let $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset H$ be such a sequence that $x_{n}$ converges to $x$ weakly in $H$. By Remark 1.1 sequence $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ contains a subsequence, denoted by $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, convergent strongly in $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$ and also convergent uniformly. The Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem and (6) show that

$$
\int_{0}^{1} F^{2}\left(t, x_{n}(t)\right) u(t) d t \rightarrow \int_{0}^{1} F^{2}(t, x(t)) u(t) d t \text { as } n \rightarrow \infty
$$

Since $\left\{x_{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is uniformly convergent, there exists a number $d>0$ such that $\left|x_{n}(t)\right| \leq d$ for all $t \in[0,1]$. Hence, by the Lebesgue dominated convergence

$$
\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}\left(t, x_{n}(t)\right) d t \rightarrow \int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t \text { as } n \rightarrow \infty
$$

Since the remaining terms of $J_{u}$ are convex and l.s.c., these are also weakly l.s.c. on $H$ and so $J_{u}$ is weakly l.s.c.

By the convexity of $F^{1}$ with respect to the second variable and by $\mathbf{A 1}$ we see that

$$
\begin{align*}
& \int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t \geq \int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, 0) d t+\int_{0}^{1} F_{x}^{1}(t, 0) x(t) d t \geq \\
& \int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, 0) d t-\left\|F_{x}^{1}(\cdot, 0)\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}\|x\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \tag{8}
\end{align*}
$$

for any $x \in H$. By (8) and by relation

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\int_{0}^{1}\left|F^{2}(t, x(t)) u(t)\right| d t \geq-m \int_{0}^{1}|a(t)| d t \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

$J_{u}$ is coercive on $H$ with assumptions A1-A3.
Let as assume A2-A3. By inequality

$$
\begin{equation*}
\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t \geq-\int_{0}^{1}\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0) d t \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

and by (9) we see that $J_{u}$ is coercive.
Finally, since $J_{u}$ is coercive and weakly l.s.c. in both cases, there exists $x_{u} \in H$ such that $J_{u}\left(x_{u}\right)=\inf _{x \in H} J_{u}(x)$.
Theorem 2.1. We suppose that either A1, A3 or A2, A3 hold. Let $\left\{u_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}, u_{k} \in L_{M}$, be such a sequence that $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} u_{k}=\bar{u}$ weakly in $L^{2}(0,1)$. For each $k=1,2, \ldots$ the set

$$
V_{u_{k}}=\left\{x \in H: J_{u}(x)=\inf _{v \in H} J_{u}(v)\right\}
$$

is nonempty and for any sequence $\left\{x_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}, x_{k} \in V_{u_{k}}$, of arguments of a minimum of $J_{u_{k}}$ corresponding to $u_{k}$, there exists a subsequence $\left\{x_{k_{n}}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset H$ and an element $\bar{x} \in V_{\bar{u}}$ such that $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{k_{n}}=\bar{x}$ (strongly in $C(0,1)$, strongly in $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$, weakly in $\left.H^{2}(0,1)\right)$ and $J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})=\inf _{x \in H} J_{\bar{u}}(x)$.

Proof. Firstly, we investigate the convergence of the sequence of the arguments of a minimum. Secondly, we show the last assertion.

By Lemma 2.1 for each $k=1,2, \ldots$ there exists

$$
x_{k} \in V_{u_{k}} \subset S_{k}=\left\{x: J_{u_{k}}(x) \leq J_{u_{k}}(0)\right\}
$$

With A1, A3 for any $x \in S_{k}$ we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
-\int_{0}^{1} F^{2}(t, 0) u_{k}(t) d t+\int_{0}^{1} F^{2}(t, x(t)) u_{k}(t) d t \leq 2 m \int_{0}^{1}|a(t)| d t \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

By (8) we obtain

$$
\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, 0) d t-\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t \leq-\left\|F_{x}^{1}(\cdot, 0)\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}\|x\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}
$$

By writing $0 \leq J_{u_{k}}(0)-J_{u_{k}}\left(x_{k}\right)$ explicitly we see that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 0 \leq-\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} E(t) I(t)\left(\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{k}(t)\right)^{2} d t-\frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} w(t) x_{k}^{2}(t) d t \\
& \leq 2 m \int_{0}^{1}|a(t)| d t-\left\|F_{x}^{1}(\cdot, 0)\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}\left\|x_{k}\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} .
\end{aligned}
$$

By (7) we obtain

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{1}{2} E_{0} I_{0}\left\|\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{k}\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}^{2}-\frac{1}{\pi^{2}}\left\|F_{x}^{1}(\cdot, 0)\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)}\left\|\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{k}\right\|_{L^{2}(0,1)} \leq  \tag{12}\\
& 2 m \int_{0}^{1}|a(t)| d t
\end{align*}
$$

With A2, A3 we also have (11). By (10) we see that

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{1}{2} \int_{0}^{1} E_{0} I_{0}\left(\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{k}(t)\right)^{2} d t \leq  \tag{13}\\
& 2 m \int_{0}^{1}|a(t)| d t+\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, 0) d t+\int_{0}^{1}\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0) d t
\end{align*}
$$

Therefore either by (12) or by (13) there exists a subsequence $\left\{x_{k_{n}}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ of $\left\{x_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ weakly convergent in $H$, which up to a subsequence may be assumed to be strongly convergent in $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$ and so convergent uniformly.

Next,by Lemma 2.1 applied with $\bar{u}$ there exists $x_{0} \in H$ such that $J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)=$ $\inf _{x \in H} J_{\bar{u}}(x)$. We suppose that $J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)<J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})$ and investigate the right hand side of the equivalent inequality

$$
\begin{align*}
& \delta<\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{k_{n}}\right)-J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right)-\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{k_{n}}\right)-J_{u_{k_{n}}}(\bar{x})\right)  \tag{14}\\
& -\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}(\bar{x})-J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})\right),
\end{align*}
$$

where $\delta>0$ is certain constant such that $\delta<J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})-J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)$. By Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem, we see that

$$
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}(\bar{x})-J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})\right)=0
$$

By the generalized Krasnosel'skij Theorem, see [5], and by (15) we see that $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} F^{2}\left(\cdot, x_{k_{n}}(\cdot)\right)=F^{2}(\cdot, \bar{x}(\cdot))$ strongly in $L^{2}(0,1)$. Since $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} u_{k_{n}}=$ $\bar{u}$ weakly in $L^{2}(0,1)$, we see that

$$
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_{0}^{1} F^{2}\left(t, x_{k_{n}}(t)\right) u_{k_{n}}(t) d t=\int_{0}^{1} F^{2}(t, \bar{x}(t)) \bar{u}(t) d t .
$$

Thus we have $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{k_{n}}\right)-J_{u_{k_{n}}}(\bar{x})\right)=0$. By similar arguments we show that $\lim _{k_{n} \rightarrow \infty}\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{0}\right)-J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right)=0$. Now, since $x_{k_{n}}$ minimizes $J_{u_{k_{n}}}$ over $H$ we get

$$
\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty}\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{k_{n}}\right)-J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right) \leq \lim _{k_{n} \rightarrow \infty}\left(J_{u_{k_{n}}}\left(x_{0}\right)-J_{\bar{u}}\left(x_{0}\right)\right)=0
$$

Therefore we obtain in (14) that $\delta<0$. Thus $J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})=\inf _{x \in H} J_{\bar{u}}(x)$ and so $\bar{u} \in V_{\bar{u}}$.

## 3 Existence of solutions to beam equation and their dependence on a parameter

Now we proceed to investigate the existence of solutions to (5) and their dependence on a functional parameter $u$. We must make additional assumptions which would ensure that $J_{u}$ is differentiable in the sense of Gâteaux.

A4 For any $d \in R$ there exists a function $f \in L^{2}(0,1)$ (depending on $d$ ), $f_{d}(t)>0$ for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$, such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\max \left\{\left|F_{x}^{1}(t,-b)\right|,\left|F_{x}^{1}(t, b)\right|\right\} \leq f_{d}(t) \quad \text { for a.e. } t \in[0,1] \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

there exists a function $b \in L^{2}(0,1)$ such that

$$
\left|F_{x}^{2}(t, x)\right| \leq b(t) \quad \text { for all } x \in R \text { and for a.e.t } \in[0,1]
$$

A5 For any $d>0$ there exists a function $f_{d} \in L^{2}(0,1)$ (depending on $d$ ), $f_{d}(t)>0$ for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$, such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left|F_{x}^{1}(t, x)\right| \leq f_{d}(t), \text { for all } x \in[-d, d], \text { for a.e. } t \in[0,1] ; \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

there exists a function $b \in L^{2}(0,1)$ such that

$$
\left|F_{x}^{2}(t, x)\right| \leq b(t) \text { for all } x \in R \text { and for a.e. } t \in[0,1]
$$

Lemma 3.1. Suppose that $\boldsymbol{A} 1-\boldsymbol{A} 3-\boldsymbol{A} 4$ or $\boldsymbol{A} 2-\boldsymbol{A} 3-\boldsymbol{A} 5$ hold. For any fixed $u \in L_{M}$ the functional $J_{u}$ has an argument of a minimum over $H$ which satisfies (5) in the weak sense, i.e. for any $g \in H$ we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \int_{0}^{1} E(t) I(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} g(t) d t+\int_{0}^{1} w(t) x(t) g(t) d t  \tag{17}\\
& +\int_{0}^{1}\left(-F_{x}^{2}(t, x(t)) u(t) g(t)+F_{x}^{1}(t, x(t)) g(t)\right) d t=0 .
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. It is easy to see that with either assumptions A1-A3-A4 or A2-A3A5 functional $J_{u}$ has a Gâteaux derivative $\frac{d}{d x} J_{u}$ at any $x \in H$. Only the differentiability of the term $\int_{0}^{1} F^{1}(t, x(t)) d t$ requires some explanation due to the lack of a global growth conditions. We observe that for any $v \in H$ there exists a constant $d_{v}>0$ such that $v(t) \in\left[-d_{v}, d_{v}\right]$ for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$. Now, by either A4 or A5 we see that for any $\varepsilon>0$ and any fixed $g \in H$ a function $t \rightarrow F_{x}^{1}(t, x(t)+\varepsilon g(t))$ belongs to $L^{2}(0,1)$. It is obvious with $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{5}$ while with A4 it follows by the same argument since the derivative of a convex function is nondecreasing.

Proof. Summarizing $J_{u}$ is coercive, weakly l.s.c. and Gâteaux differentiable on $H$ and so it has an argument of a minimum $x_{u}$ for which $\frac{d}{d x} J_{u}\left(x_{u}\right)=0$, i.e. for which (17) holds.

Finally, we have the following theorem
Theorem 3.1. Suppose that either A1, A3, A4 or A2, A3, A5 hold. Let $u \in L_{M}$ be fixed. There exists

$$
x_{u} \in V_{u}=\left\{x \in H: J_{u}(x)=\inf _{v \in H} J_{u}(v) \text { and } \frac{d}{d x} J_{u}(x)=0\right\}
$$

and such that $x_{u}$ satisfies (5) in the weak sense (17). Moreover, $x_{u}$ satisfies (5) for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$ and is subject to boundary conditions (3) and $\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(\cdot) I(\cdot) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{u}(\cdot)\right) \in L^{2}(0,1)$.
Proof. By Lemma 3.1 it remains to be shown that $x_{u}$ satisfies (5) for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$ and that it is subject to boundary conditions (3). We mention that the last assertion does not follow by the definition of the weak solution. Since relation (17) holds for any $g \in H$, it holds also for any $g \in C_{0}^{\infty}(0,1)$. Now by the application of the higher order version of the Fundamental Lemma of the calculus of variations, see [13], we obtain that $x_{u}$ satisfies (5) for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$. Obviously now $\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(\cdot) I(\cdot) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{u}(\cdot)\right) \in L^{2}(0,1)$.

Proof. Next, given any $g \in H$, we integrate (17) by parts to obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \int_{0}^{1} \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(t) I(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} x_{u}(t)\right) g(t) d t+\left(\dot{g}(1) \ddot{x}_{u}(1)-\dot{g}(0) \ddot{x}_{u}(0)\right) \\
& \int_{0}^{1} w(t) x_{u}(t) g(t) d t+ \\
& \int_{0}^{1}\left(-F_{x}^{2}\left(t, x_{u}(t)\right) u(t) g(t)+F_{x}^{1}\left(t, x_{u}(t)\right) g(t)\right) d t=0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $x_{u}$ satisfies (5) a.e. we see that $\dot{g}(1) \ddot{x}_{u}(1)-\dot{g}(0) \ddot{x}_{u}(0)=0$. Since $g$ is arbitrary we must have $\ddot{x}_{u}(1)=\ddot{x}_{u}(0)=0$.

Theorem 3.2. We suppose that either A1, A3, A4 or A2, A3, A5 hold. Let $\left\{u_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}, u_{k} \in L_{M}$, be such a sequence that $\lim _{k \rightarrow \infty} u_{k}=\bar{u}$ weakly in $L^{2}(0,1)$. For each $k=1,2, \ldots$ the set $V_{u_{k}}$ is nonempty and for any sequence $\left\{x_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ of solutions $x_{k} \in V_{u_{k}}$ to the problem (5) corresponding to $u_{k}$, there exists a subsequence $\left\{x_{k_{n}}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \subset H$ and an element $\bar{x} \in H$ such that $\lim _{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{k_{n}}=\bar{x}$ (strongly in $C(0,1)$, strongly in $H_{0}^{1}(0,1)$, weakly in $\left.H^{2}(0,1)\right)$ and $J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})=\inf _{x \in H} J_{\bar{u}}(x)$. Moreover, $\bar{x} \in V_{\bar{u}}$ and satisfies for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$

$$
\begin{align*}
& \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}\left(E(t) I(t) \frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} \bar{x}(t)\right)+w(t) \bar{x}(t)=F_{x}^{2}(t, \bar{x}(t)) \bar{u}(t)-F_{x}^{1}(t, \bar{x}(t)), \\
& \bar{x}(0)=\bar{x}(1)=\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} \bar{x}(0)=\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} \bar{x}(1)=0 . \tag{18}
\end{align*}
$$

Proof. All the assertions of the Theorem follow by Theorem 2.1 apart from the last one. Since $J_{\bar{u}}$ is differentiable in the sense of Gâteaux we have $\bar{x} \in V_{\bar{u}}$ and since $J_{\bar{u}}(\bar{x})=\inf _{x \in H} J_{\bar{u}}(x)$ it follows that $\bar{x}$ satisfies (18).

## 4 Examples

Finally, we give examples of nonlinear terms satisfying our assumptions.
Example 4.1 (Conditions A1, A3, A4). Let $F^{2}(t, x)=a(t) f_{2}(x), F^{1}(t, x)=$ $g(t) f_{1}(x)$, where $a, g \in L^{2}(0,1), f_{1}, f_{2} \in C^{1}(R), f_{1}$ is convex (say, $f_{1}(x)=$ $e^{x}$ ) and $f_{2}$ is bounded and has a bounded derivative (say, $f_{2}(x)=\arctan x$ ). Then $\left|F_{x}^{2}(t, x)\right|=\left|a(t) \frac{d}{d x} f_{2}(x)\right| \leq|a(t)| \sup _{x \in R}\left|\frac{d}{d x} f_{2}(x)\right|$ and since $F_{x}^{1}(t, x)=g(t) \frac{d}{d x} f_{2}(x)$ we see that for any fixed $x \in R$ function $t \rightarrow F_{x}^{1}(t, x)$ belongs to $L^{2}(0,1)$.
Example 4.2 (Conditions A2, A3, A5). Let $F^{2}(t, x)=f(t) g(x), g \in C^{1}$ has a bounded derivative and $F^{1}(t, x)=\frac{1}{4} g_{1}(t) x^{4}-\frac{1}{2} g_{2}(t) x^{2}$, where $f \in$ $L^{2}(0,1), g_{1}, g_{2} \in L^{\infty}(0,1), g_{1}(t), g_{2}(t)>0$ for a.e. $t \in[0,1]$. Then

$$
\left|F_{x}^{2}(t, x)\right|=\left|f(t) \frac{d}{d x} g(x)\right| \leq|f(t)| \sup _{x \in R}\left|\frac{d}{d x} g(x)\right|=a(t) \text { and } a \in L^{2}(0,1)
$$

and

$$
F^{1}(t, x)=g_{1}(t) x^{3}-g_{2}(t) x
$$

Again, for any fixed $x \in R$ the function $t \rightarrow\left|g_{1}(t)\right| x^{3}+\left|g_{2}(t)\right| x$ belongs to $L^{2}(0,1)$. We remark that $F^{1}$ need not be convex on $R$ and that $t \rightarrow\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0)$
is integrable. Indeed, for a.e. (fixed) $t \in[0,1]$ function $x \rightarrow-\frac{1}{4} g_{1}(t) x^{4}+$ $\frac{1}{2} g_{2}(t) x^{2}$ has its maximum $x_{M}$ satisfying $g_{1}(t) x^{3}-g_{2}(t) x=0$ so either

$$
x_{M}=0 \text { and }\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0)=\sup _{x \in R}\left\{-\frac{1}{4} g_{1}(t) x^{4}+\frac{1}{2} g_{2}(t) x^{2}\right\}=0
$$

or

$$
x_{M}^{2}=\frac{g_{2}(t)}{g_{1}(t)} \text { and }\left(F^{1}\right)^{*}(t, 0)=-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\left(g_{2}(t)\right)^{2}}{g_{1}(t)} .
$$

## References

[1] P. Amster, P.P. Cárdenas Alzate, Existence of solutions for some nonlinear beam equations. Port. Math. (N.S.), 63 (2006), no. 1, 113-125.
[2] Z. Bai, H. Wang, On positive solutions of some nonlinear fourth-order beam equations, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 270 (2002), no. 2, 357-368.
[3] G. Bonanno, B. Di Bella, A boundary value problem for fourth-order elastic beam equation, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 342 (2008), 1166-1176.
[4] M. Galewski, On the optimal control problem governed by the nonlinear elastic beam equation, App. Math. Comp., 203 (2008), no. 2, 916-920.
[5] D. Idczak, A. Rogowski, On a generalization of Krasnoselskii's theorem, J. Austral. Math. Soc., 72 (2002), no. 3, 389-394.
[6] U. Ledzewicz, H. Schättler, S. Walczak, Optimal control systems governed by second-order ODEs with Dirichlet boundary data and variable parameters, Illinois J. Math., 47 (2003), no.4, 1189-1206.
[7] X.-L. Liu, W.-T. Li, Positive solutions of the nonlinear fourth-order beam equation with three parameters. J. Math. Anal. Appl., 303 (2005), no. 1, 150-163.
[8] T. F. Ma, Positive solutions for a beam equation on a nonlinear elastic foundation. Math. Comput. Modelling, 39 (2004), no. 11-12, 1195-1201.
[9] J. Mawhin, Problèmes de Dirichlet variationnels non linéaires, Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1987.
[10] L. A. Peletier, R. K. A. M Van der Vorst; V.K. Troy, Stationary solutions of a fourth-order nonlinear diffusion equation, Differ. Equ., 31 (1995), no. 2, 301-314.
[11] R. T. Rockafellar, Convex Integral Functionals and Duality, in E. Zarantonello (Ed) Contributions to Nonlinear Functional Analysis, Academic Press, New York, 1971, 215-236.
[12] L. Sanchez, Boundary value problems for some fourth order ordinary differential equations, Appl. Anal., 38 (1990), no. 3, 161-177.
[13] J.L. Troutman, Variational Calculus with Elementary Convexity, Springer-Verlag, New York Inc, 1983
[14] X. Yang, K. Lo, Existence of a positive solution to a fourth-order boundary value problem, Nonlinear Anal., 69 (2008), 2267-2273.
[15] B., Yang, Positive solutions for the beam equation under certain boundary conditions, Electron. J. Differential Equations, 2005, no. 78
[16] Q. Yao, Solvability of an elastic beam equation with Caratheodory function, Math. Appl. (Wuhan), 17 (2004), no. 3, 389-392.
[17] Q. Yao, Positive solutions of a nonlinear elastic beam equation rigidly fastened on the left and simply supported on the right, Nonlinear Anal., 69 (2008), 2267-2273.

Technical University of Lodz,
Institute of Mathematics,
Wolczanska 215, 90-924 Lodz, Poland,
Email: marek.galewski@p.lodz.pl

