

## A growth property assertion for positive solutions of non-uniformly degenerate elliptic equations of second order

Narmin R. Amanova

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**Abstract.** *In this paper, we consider a class of non-divergent form elliptic equations satisfying non-uniform ellipticity condition concerning the leading coefficients. For those equations, E.M.Landis's type growth assertion of positive solutions has been proved.*

**Keywords.** non-uniformly elliptic, degenerate elliptic equations, qualitative properties

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### 1 Introduction

Let  $E_n$  be  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space of points  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ ,  $n \leq 3$ ,  $D$  be a bounded domain contained in  $E_n$  such that  $0 \in D$ . The  $\partial D$  is a boundary of the domain  $D$ . We consider in  $D$  an elliptic equation of the form

$$Lu = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x)u_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ij}(x)u_i + c(x) = 0, \quad (1.1)$$

where for  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $u_i = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}$ ,  $u_{ij} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$ . For  $x \in D$  the matrix  $\|a_{ij}(x)\|$  is symmetric and has elements measurable functions satisfying non-uniformly ellipticity condition: for all  $x \in D$ ,  $\xi \in E_n$  it is fulfilled the condition

$$\gamma \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x)\xi_i^2 \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x)\xi_i\xi_j \leq \gamma^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x)\xi_i^2, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$  is a constant, the functions  $\lambda_i(x)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are finite and positive a.e. in  $D$ . Here the lower term coefficients satisfy the conditions

$$|b_i| \leq b_0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \quad -c_0 \leq c(x) \leq 0, \quad (1.3)$$

by some positive constants  $C_0, b_0 > 0$ .

Let  $\omega_i(t)$  be positive continuous and monotony increasing functions on  $[0, \text{diam}D]$ ,  $\omega_i(0) = 0$ . Set  $\rho(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i(|x_i|)$ ,  $\lambda_i(t) = g_i(\rho(x))$ ,  $g_i(t) = (\omega_i^{-1}(t)/t)^2$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

Here  $\omega_i^{-1}(t)$  are the functions inverse to  $\omega_i(t)$ , wherein

$$\alpha\omega_i(t) \leq \omega_i(\eta t) \leq \beta\omega_i(t) \quad (1.4)$$

with positive constants  $\alpha, \beta, \eta \in (0, \infty)$  not depending on  $t \in (0, \text{diam}D)$ .

Under the solution of equation (1) we will mean its classical solution, -i.e. the functions  $u(x) \in C^2(D) \cap C(\bar{D})$  satisfying pointwise equation (1). The function  $u(x) \in C^2(D)$  is said to be  $L$  subelliptic in  $D$  if  $Lu \geq 0$ . The function  $u(x)$  is called  $L$ - superelliptic in  $D$  if the function  $-u(x)$  is  $L$ -subelliptic in  $D$ .

Let  $x^0 \in E_n$ ,  $R > 0$ ,  $k > 0$ ,  $\exists_{R:K} (x^0)$  be the ellipsoid  $\left\{x : x \in D \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} < K^2\right\}$ ,  $\Pi_{R:K}(x^0)$  be the parallelepiped  $\{x : x \in D, |x_i - x_i^0| < K\omega_i^{-1}(R), i = 1, \dots, n\}$ , the ball  $B_R(x^0) = \{x : x \in D, |x - x^0| < R\}$ .

Denote  $B^1 = \exists_{R:17} (0)$ ,  $B^2 = \exists_{R:1} (0)$ ,  $B^3 = B^1 \setminus B^2$ . For  $x, y \in B^3$ ,  $x \neq y$  we introduce the function

$$G(x, y) = r^{-S},$$

where  $r = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}}$ ,  $S$ -is a positive number,  $R \leq 1$  and  $\omega_i^{-1}(1) \leq 1$ .

We assume that the coefficients of operator  $L$  are defined all over  $E_n$  and satisfy conditions (1.2)-(1.4).

The goal of the paper is to prove an assertion on growth of positive solutions for a class of non-divergent non-uniformly degenerating elliptic equations of second order. A basic study the uniform ellipticity cases, see e.g. in [12, 9, 7, 8, 13, 10]. On a study of qualitative behavior of solutions we refer to the papers [5, 4] and [3, 2, 11, 6], in cases uniform and nonuniform degeneration, respectively. In their study of non-uniformly degeneration we refer to [2, 6, 3], where power type weights or at most leading terms have been considered. Also, another approach has been applied in this study.

The notation  $C(\dots)$  means that a positive constant  $C$  depends only on the content of bracket.

Similarly to [11, 6], one can show that, there exist constants  $C_1(n)$  and  $C_2(n)$  such that

$$C_1(n) \left( \frac{\omega_i^{-1}(R)}{R} \right)^2 \leq \lambda_i(x) \leq C_2(n) \left( \frac{\omega_i^{-1}(R)}{R} \right)^2, \quad x \in B^3. \quad (1.5)$$

Let  $E$  be a Borel set contained in  $B^3$ . The positive measure  $\mu(y)$  defined on measurable subsets of  $E$  is admissible if

$$\int_E G(x, y) d\mu(y) \leq 1, \quad x \in E.$$

The number  $C_S(E) = \sup \mu(E)$ , where the least upper bound is taken all over the admissible measures  $\mu$  is called elliptic  $S$ - capacity of set  $E$ .

**Lemma 1.1** *Let the coefficients of operator  $L$  satisfy conditions (1.2)-(1.4). Then there exists a positive number  $S(\gamma, n, b_0)$  such that for any fixed point  $y \in B^3$  the function  $G(x, y)$  is  $L$ -subelliptic in  $B^3$  for  $R \leq 1$ ,  $\omega_i^{-1}(1) \leq 1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .*

**Proof.** For  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial r}{\partial x_i} &= \frac{x_i - y_i}{r (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}; \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i} = -\frac{S}{r^{S+2}} \cdot \frac{x_i - y_i}{r (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}; \\ \frac{\partial G}{\partial x_i^2} &= S(S+2)r^{-S-4} \cdot \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^4} - \frac{S}{r^{S+2} (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} &= \frac{S(S+2)}{r^{S+4}} \cdot \frac{(x_i - y_i)(x_j - y_j)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2 (\omega_j^{-1}(R))^2}.\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}LG &= r^{-S-2} \left[ S(S+2) \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) \frac{(x_i - y_i)(x_j - y_j)}{r^2 (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2 (\omega_j^{-1}(R))^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - S \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{u_{ii}(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} - S \sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x) \frac{x_i - y_i}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + C(x)r^2 \right].\end{aligned}$$

Using condition (1.3) and the Cauchy inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned}LG &\geq r^{-S-2} \left[ \frac{S(S+2)\gamma}{r^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda_i(x)(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^4} - \frac{S}{\gamma} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda_i(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - S \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i^2(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} + C(x)r^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

Taking into account (1.5) in the last inequality, we get

$$LG \geq r^{-S-2} \left[ \frac{S(S+2)\gamma C_1}{R^2} - \frac{SnC_2}{\gamma R^2} - Sr \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i^2(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}} - C(x)r^2 \right] \quad (1.6)$$

Using (1.2),

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i^2(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \leq b_0 \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}}.$$

For  $x, y \in B^3$  it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}r &= \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}} \leq \sqrt{2(17^2 + 17^2)} = 2 \cdot 17 = 34.\end{aligned}$$

Here, we have used inequality  $(a - b)^2 \leq 2(a^2 + b^2)$ . Hence, we conclude

$$r \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i^2(x)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}} \leq 34b_0\sqrt{n}. \quad (1.7)$$

By condition (1.2)

$$c(x)r^2 \geq -C_0r^2 \geq -34^2C_0 = -1156C_0. \quad (1.8)$$

Taking into account (1.7)-(1.8) in (1.6), we get

$$\begin{aligned} LG &\geq r^{-s-2} \left( S \left[ (S+2) \frac{\gamma C_1}{R^2} - \frac{nC_2}{\gamma R^2} - 34b_0\sqrt{n} \right] - 1156C_0 \right) \\ &\geq r^{-s-2} (S((S+2)\gamma C_1 - nC_2\gamma^{-1} - 34b_0\sqrt{n}) - 1156C_0). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $S_1$  be such that

$$(S_1 + 2)\gamma C_1 = \frac{nC_2}{\gamma} 34b_0\sqrt{n} + 1,$$

i.e.

$$S_1 = \frac{nC_2}{\gamma C_1} + \frac{34b_0\sqrt{n}}{\gamma C_1} + \frac{1}{\gamma C_1} - 2.$$

Then for a fixed  $S \geq S_1$  it holds

$$LG \geq r^{-S-2}(S - 1156C_0).$$

Denote  $S = 1156C_0$ , and fix  $S = \max\{S_1, S_2\}$ .

We get  $LG \geq 0$ , this completes the proof of lemma.  $\square$

**Lemma 1.2** Let  $b \in \in_{R;\rho}(x^0)$ ,  $\bar{B} \subset B^3$  with  $\rho > 0$ ,  $R \leq 1$ . Then  $C_S(B) \geq \rho^S$ .

**Proof.** Consider the function  $W(x) = G(x, x^0)$  for  $x \in \bar{B}$ .

If  $x \in \bar{B}$  then

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \geq \rho^2, \text{ therefore } W(x) = G(x, x^0) = \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right]^{-S/2} \leq \rho^{-S}.$$

Hence

$$\sup_{E_n \setminus \bar{B}} W(x) \leq \rho^{-S}. \quad (1.9)$$

Now, we consider a singular measure  $\mu$  concentrated at the point  $x^0$  with volume  $\rho^{-S}$ . Allowing for (1.9)  $x \in \bar{B}$  we have

$$\int_B G(x, y) d\mu(y) = \int_{x^0} W(x) d\mu(x^0) \leq \rho^{-S} \mu(x^0) = \rho^{-S} \cdot \rho^S = 1,$$

i.e. the measure  $\mu$  is  $S$ -admissible. Therefore,

$$C_S(B) \geq \mu(B) = \mu(x^0) = \rho^S.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma.

Let  $B^4 = \ni_{R;9}(0)$ ,  $x^0 \in \partial B^4$ ,  $B^5 = \ni_{R;8}(x^0)$ ,  $B^6 = \ni_{R;1}(x^0)$ .

**Lemma 1.3** Let the domain  $D$  have limit points on  $\partial B^5$ , and has nonempty intersection with  $B^5$ . Let  $H = B^6 \setminus D$  and a positive  $L$ -subelliptic function  $u(x)$  be continuous in  $\bar{D}$  and vanishes on part of boundary  $\partial D$  that strongly located in  $B^5$ . Then then there exists a constant  $\eta_1(S) > 0$  such that it holds

$$\sup_D u(x) \geq (1 + \eta_1(S) \cdot C_S(H)) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x). \quad (1.10)$$

provided the conditions (1.2)-(1.4) and  $R \leq 1$  are fulfilled.

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, we can assume  $C_S(H) > 0$ , otherwise (1.10) is evidently. Fix an arbitrary  $\epsilon \in (0, C_S(H))$  such that measure  $\mu(H)$  be such that  $\mu(H) > C_S(H) - \epsilon$  and

$$U(x) = \int_H G(x, y) d\mu(y) \leq 1 \quad \text{for } x \in \bar{H}. \quad (1.11)$$

Fix a point  $y \in H$  and a point  $x \in \partial B^5$ . Then

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \geq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \geq 8 - 1 = 7.$$

If  $y \in H$  then  $x \in \partial B^6$ , therefore

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \leq \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} + \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i^0 - y_i)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \leq 1 + 1 = 2.$$

We have

$$G(x, y)|_{\partial B^5} \leq \frac{1}{7S} \quad \text{and} \quad U(x)|_{\partial B^5} \leq \frac{1}{7S} C_S(H). \quad (1.12)$$

On the other hand,

$$G(x, y) \Big|_{\substack{\partial B^6 \\ y \in H}} \geq \frac{1}{7S} \quad \text{and} \quad U(x) \Big|_{\partial B^6} \geq \frac{1}{7S} C_S(H) \geq \frac{1}{2S} \mu(H). \quad (1.13)$$

Consider the auxiliary functions

$$W(x) = M \left[ 1 - U(x) + \left( \frac{1}{7} \right)^S C_S(H) \right] - u(x), \quad (1.14)$$

where  $M = \sup_D u(x)$ .

By lemma 1.1, the function  $L$ -superelliptic in  $D$ . According to inequality (1.13)  $W(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \in \partial B^5$ . Furthermore, by inequality (1.11)  $W(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \in \partial D \cap B^5$ . Thus,  $W(x) \geq 0$  for  $x \in \partial D \cap B^5$ . By the maximum principle,  $W(x) \geq 0$  in  $D$ .

In particular, inserting (1.14) in (1.12), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x) &\leq M \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2S} \mu(H) + \frac{1}{7S} C_S(H) \right] \leq M \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2S} (C_S(H) - \epsilon) + \frac{1}{7S} C_S(H) \right] \\ &= M \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{1}{2S} - \frac{1}{7S} \right) C_S(H) + \epsilon \cdot \frac{1}{2S} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Now taking into account arbitrariness of  $\epsilon > 0$  and denoting  $\frac{1}{2S} - \frac{1}{7S} = \eta_1(S)$ , we get

$$\sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x) \leq M(1 - \eta_1(S) C_S(H)).$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.3.

**Corollary 1.1** *Let the notations of Lemma 1.3 be satisfied. If  $H$  contains ellipsoid  $\ni_{R;\rho}(x')$ , then*

$$\sup_D u(x) \geq (1 + \eta_2) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x),$$

where  $\eta_2 = \eta_2(s, \rho)$ .

**Proof.** As  $H$  contains the ellipsoid  $\mathfrak{E}_{R:\rho}(x')$ , then

$$C_S(H) \geq C_S(\mathfrak{E}_{R:\rho}(x')).$$

On the other hand using (1.10), we get

$$\sup_D u(x) \geq \left(1 + \eta_1(S)C_3(S) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x)\right).$$

Inserting  $\eta_2 = \eta_1 C_3(S)\rho^S$  this completes the proof of Corollary 1.1.

**Lemma 1.4** *Let the conditions of Lemma 1.3 be fulfilled. Then there exists  $\delta(\gamma, n, b_0)$  such that*

$$\sup_D u(x) \geq (1 + \eta_3) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x). \quad (1.15)$$

provided that  $\text{mes } D \leq \delta \cdot \text{mes } B^5$ , with  $\eta_3 = \frac{61}{64}$ .

**Proof.** Consider the auxiliary function

$$W_1(x) = \frac{M}{64} \left[1 + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right]$$

where  $M$  has the same sense as in the previous lemma. We have

$$W_1(x)|_{\partial B^5} = \frac{M}{64} (1 + 64) = \frac{65\mu}{64}, \quad (1.16)$$

$$W_1(x)|_{\partial D \cap B^6} \leq \frac{M}{64}, \quad (1.17)$$

$$W_1(x)|_{D \cap B^6} \leq \frac{\mu}{64} [1 + 1] = \frac{2\mu}{64} = \frac{M}{32}, \quad (1.18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} LW_1(x) &= \frac{M}{32} \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii}(x) \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + \frac{M}{32} \sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x) \frac{x_i - x_i^0}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + \frac{MC(x)}{64} \\ &\left(1 + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right) \leq \frac{M}{32\gamma} \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + \frac{M}{32} \\ &\times \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i^2 (x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right)^{1/2} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right) \leq \frac{MnC_2}{32\gamma R^2} + \frac{Mb_0}{32} \\ &\times \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right)^{1/2} \cdot \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}\right)^{1/2} \leq \frac{MnC_2}{32\gamma R^2} + \frac{Mb_0\sqrt{n}}{32} \\ &\leq \frac{M}{R^2} \left(\frac{nC_2}{32\gamma} + \frac{b_0\sqrt{n}}{4}\right) = C_5(n, \gamma, b_0)M \text{ where } C_5 = \frac{nC_2}{32\gamma} + \frac{b_0\sqrt{n}}{4}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.19)$$

Consequently,

$$L(W_1(x) - u(x)) = LW_1(x) - Lu(x) \leq \frac{C_5M}{R^2}. \quad (1.20)$$

In the parts  $\partial D \cap B^5$  and  $\partial B^5$  we have the estimates

$$(W_1(x) - u(x))|_{\partial B^5} \geq \frac{65M}{64} - M = \frac{M}{64}, \quad (1.21)$$

$$(W_1(x) - u(x))|_{\partial D \cap B^5} \geq \frac{M}{64}. \quad (1.22)$$

Let  $D'$  be a domain located in  $\partial_{R:15,5}(0) \setminus \partial_{R:1/2}(0)$  and such that  $\bar{D} \subset D'$ ,  $mes D' \leq 2 mes D$ . One can easily construct a function  $f \in C^\infty(\bar{D}')$  with inequality  $0 \geq f(x) \geq -\frac{C_5 M}{R^2}$ ,  $x \in D' \setminus D$  and such that

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -\frac{C_5 M}{R^2}, & x \in D \\ 0, & x \in \bar{D}' \end{cases}$$

Denote by  $z(x)$  the solution of Dirichlet problem in  $\partial_{R:17,5}(0) \setminus \partial_{R:0,5}(0)$

$$Lz(x) = f(x), \quad z(x)|_{\partial(\partial_{R:17,5}(0) \setminus \partial_{R:0,5}(0))} = 0. \quad (1.23)$$

Obviously,

$$\det(a_{ij}) \geq C_6(n, \gamma) \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i(x) \geq C_7(n, \gamma) \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\omega_i^{-1}(R)}{R} \right)^2. \quad (1.24)$$

We make change of variables

$$y_i = \frac{x_i}{17, 5 \omega_i^{-1}(R)}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Then the ellipsoid layer  $\partial_{R:17,5}(0) \setminus \partial_{R:0,5}(0)$  will go into spherical layer  $Q = Q_1^0 \setminus Q_{1/35}^0$  and problem (1.24) will get the following form

$$\tilde{L}\tilde{z}(y) = f(y); \quad \tilde{z}(y)|_{\partial Q} = 0,$$

where

$$\tilde{L} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{a_{ij}(y)}{(17, 5)^2 \omega_i^{-1}(R) \omega_j^{-1}(R)} \cdot \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_i \partial y_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{b_i(y)}{17, 5 \cdot \omega_i^{-1}(R)} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} + c(y). \quad (1.25)$$

Denote

$$\tilde{a}_{ij}(y) = \frac{a_{ij}(y)}{(17, 5)^2 \omega_i^{-1}(R) \omega_j^{-1}(R)}, \quad \tilde{b}_i(y) = \frac{b_i(y)}{17, 5 \cdot \omega_i^{-1}(R)}.$$

From (1.25) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \det(\tilde{a}_{ij}) &= -\frac{\det(a_{ij})}{\prod_{i=1}^n (17, 5)^2 (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \geq \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^n (17, 5)^2 (\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \\ &\times C_7 \prod_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))}{R} \right)^2 = \frac{C_8(n, \gamma)}{R^{2n}}. \end{aligned}$$

According to A.D. Alexandov's maximum principle [1],

$$\tilde{z}(y) \leq C_9(n, \gamma) \left\| \frac{f}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \right\|_{L_n(Q)} \cdot F_n \left( \left\| \frac{\tilde{b}}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \right\|_{L_n(Q)} \right), \quad (1.26)$$

where  $F_n(t)$  is a bounded function of  $t$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned} j_1 &= \left\| \frac{\tilde{b}}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \right\|_{L_n(Q)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \left( \int_Q \left( \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{b}_i^2} \right)^n dy \right)^{1/n} \\ &\leq \frac{C_{10}(n, \gamma)}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \int_Q |\tilde{b}_i|^n dy \right)^{1/n} \end{aligned}$$

(where  $\omega_n$  is the volume of  $n$  dimensional unique ball )

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq \frac{C_{10}(n, \gamma)}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \int_Q |\tilde{b}_i|^n dy \right)^{1/n} \\ &\leq C_{11}(n, \gamma) R^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \int_Q \frac{|b_i|^n}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^n} \right)^{1/n} \leq C_{11} b_0 \sqrt[n]{n \omega_n} \leq C_{12}(n, \gamma, b_0), \\ &\left\| \tilde{b} \right\|_{L_n(Q)} = \left\| \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n b_i^2} \right\|_{L_n(Q)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the second multiplier in (1.26) is bounded:

$$F_n(j_1) \leq C_{13}(n, \gamma, b_0). \quad (1.27)$$

We have

$$j_2 = \left\| \frac{f}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \right\|_{L_n(Q)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{\det(\tilde{a}_{ij})}} \left( \int_Q |f|^n dy \right)^{1/n} \leq R^2 C_{14}(n, \gamma) \left( \int_Q |f|^n dy \right)^{1/n}.$$

We insert the last inequality and (1.27) in (1.26) and get

$$\tilde{z}(y) \leq C_{15}(n, \gamma, b_0) R^2 \left( \int_Q |f|^n dy \right)^{1/n}.$$

Coming back to the initial coordinates, we conclude

$$z(x) \leq C_{15}(n, \gamma, b_0) R^2 \left( \int_{\exists R:17,5(0) \setminus \exists R:0,5(0)} \left( \prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R) \right)^{-1} dx \right)^{1/n}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{C_{16}R^2}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} \cdot \left(\int_{D'} |f|^n dx\right)^{1/n} = \frac{C_{16}R^2}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} \\
&\times \left(\int_{D'} \left(\frac{MC_5}{R^2}\right)^n dx\right)^{1/n} = \frac{MC_{17}(n, \gamma, b_0)}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} \left(\int_{D'} dx\right)^{1/n} \\
&= \frac{MC_{17}}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} (\text{mes } D')^{1/n} \leq \frac{MC_{17}}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} (2 \text{ mes } D')^{1/n} \\
&\leq \frac{MC_{18}}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} (\delta \text{ mes } B^5)^{1/n} \\
&\leq \frac{M \sqrt[n]{\delta} \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n} \cdot C_{19}(n, \gamma, b_0, C_0)}{\left(\prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R)\right)^{1/n}} = M \sqrt[n]{\delta} C_{19}.
\end{aligned}$$

Choose  $\delta = (64C_{19})^{-n}$ . For  $x \in \partial_{R:17,5}(0) \setminus \partial_{R:17,5}(0)$

$$0 \leq z(x) \leq \frac{M}{64}. \quad (1.28)$$

Let  $W_2(x) = W_1(x) - u(x) + z(x)$ . Then from (1.17)-(1.24) and (1.28) it follows that

$$LW_2 \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad W_2(x)|_{\partial B^5} \geq \frac{65M}{64} - M + 0 = \frac{\mu}{64}; \quad W_2(x)|_{\partial D \cap B^5} \geq \frac{M}{64}.$$

By the maximum principle,  $W_2(x) \geq 0$  in  $D$  i.e.  $u(x) \leq W_1(x) + z(x)$ . Hence, it follows

$$\begin{aligned}
\sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x) &\leq \sup_{D \cap B^6} W_1(x) + \sup_{D \cap B^6} z(x) \leq \frac{M}{32} + \frac{M}{64} = \frac{3M}{64} \\
&= M \left(1 - \frac{61}{64}\right) \leq M - \frac{61}{64} \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x),
\end{aligned}$$

therefore,

$$\sup_D u(x) \geq \left(1 - \frac{61}{64}\right) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x). \quad (1.29)$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.4.

**Remark 1.1** The statements of Corollary 1.1 for Lemma 1.3, and Lemma 1.4 are valid (with constants  $\eta'_2 = \frac{\eta_2 64\eta}{1+64\eta}$  and  $\eta'_3 = \frac{\eta_2 64\eta}{1+64\eta}$  respectively). In that case,  $Lu \geq MC(x)$ , where  $M = \sup_D u(x)$  provided the function  $u(x)$  is not  $L$ -subelliptic in  $D$ .

Prove the statement of Lemma 1.4. For that consider the function

$$W(x) = u(x) + Mh \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2}$$

where a positive constant  $h$  will be chosen later. We have

$$\begin{aligned} LW(x) &= Lu(x) + 2Mh \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} + 2Mh \sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x) \frac{x_i - x_i^0}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \\ &+ c(x)Mh \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \geq Mc(x) + 2Mhb_0 \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\times \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} \right)^{1/2} - C_0Mh64 \geq -MC_0 + 2C_1nhM\gamma - 16Mhb_0\sqrt{n} \\ &= -MC_0 + M(2C_1nh\gamma - 16hb_0\sqrt{n} - 64C_0h). \end{aligned}$$

We have chosen a fixed number

$$h = \frac{C_0}{2C_1n\gamma - 16b_0\sqrt{n} - 64C_0}$$

Then the function  $W(x)$  is  $L$ -subelliptic in  $D$ . Applying Lemma 1.4 to it, we get

$$\sup_D W(x) \geq (1 + \eta_3) \sup_{D \cap B^6} W(x)$$

or

$$\sup_D (u(x) + 64Mh) \geq (1 + \eta_3) \sup_{D \cap B^6} (x),$$

$$M(1 + 64h) \geq (1 + \eta_3) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_D u &\geq \frac{1 + \eta_3}{1 + 64h} \sup_{D \cap B^6} u = \left( 1 + \frac{\eta_3 - 64h}{1 + 64h} \right) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u \\ &= \left( 1 + \eta_3' \right) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u, \quad \text{where } \eta_3' = \frac{\eta_3 - 64h}{1 + 64h}. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Corollary 1.2** *Let the assumptions of Lemma 1.3 be fulfilled with respect to the domain  $D$  and a positive  $L$ -superelliptic function  $v(x)$  is continuous in  $\bar{D}$  and equals unit on  $\partial D \cap B^5$ . Then*

$$\inf_{D \cap B^5} v(x) \geq \eta_2'' = \frac{\eta_2'}{1 + \eta_2'}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $D' = \{x, x \in D, v(x) < 1\}$ . Consider the function  $u(x) = 1 - v(x)$  for  $x \in D'$ . Applying to this function the corollary of Lemma 1.3 (according to remark to Lemma 1.4), we get

$$\sup_{D''} u(x) \geq (1 + \eta'_2) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x)$$

or

$$1 - \inf_{D'} v(x) \geq (1 + \eta'_2) \left( 1 - \inf_{D \cap B^6} v(x) \right),$$

i.e.

$$(1 + \eta'_2) \left( 1 - \inf_{D' \cap B^6} v(x) \right) \leq 1$$

$$(1 + \eta'_2) - (1 + \eta'_2) \inf_{D' \cap B^6} v(x) \leq 1$$

$$\inf_{D' \cap B^6} v(x) \geq \frac{\eta'_2}{1 + \eta'_2}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\inf_{D \setminus D'} v(x) \geq 1.$$

Inserting  $\eta''_2 = \frac{\eta'_2}{1 + \eta'_2}$  this completes the proof of Corollary 1.2.

The following Corollary 1.3 is proved in the same way.

**Corollary 1.3** *Let the conditions of Lemma 1.4 be fulfilled with respect to the domain  $D$  and a positive  $L$ -subelliptic function  $v(x)$  that is continuous in  $D$  and equals to unit on  $\partial D \cap B^5$ . Then*

$$\inf_{D' \cap B^6} v(x) \geq \eta''_3 = \frac{\eta'_3}{1 + \eta'_3}.$$

**Lemma 1.5** *Let  $D$  be a domain with limit points on  $\partial B^5$  and having nonempty intersection with  $B^6$  is contained in  $B^5$ . A positive  $L$ -superelliptic function  $v(x)$  nonnegative in  $D$ , be continuous in  $\bar{D}$  and equals unit on that part  $D' \cap B^5$ . If conditions (1.2)-(1.4) are fulfilled and  $\text{mes} H \geq \sigma_1 \text{mes} B^6$  then*

$$\inf_{D' \cap B^6} v(x) \geq \eta_4(\gamma, n, b_0, C_0, \sigma_0),$$

where  $\eta > 0$  and  $H = B^6 \setminus D$ .

**Proof.** Consider the ellipsoid

$$B^7 = B^7(\rho_0) = \exists_{R:1-\rho_0} (x^0) = \left\{ x : \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - x_i^0)^2}{(\omega_i^{-1}(R))^2} < (1 - \rho_0)^2 \right\},$$

where  $\rho_0 \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ . Choose a fixed  $\rho_0 > 0$  such that

$$\text{mes} (B^6 \setminus B^7) = \frac{\sigma_1}{2} \text{mes} B^6. \quad (1.30)$$

It is known that

$$\text{mes} (B^6 \setminus B^7) = (1 - (1 - \rho_0)^n) \prod_{i=1}^n \omega_i^{-1}(R).$$

Inserting this in (1.29) we get

$$(1 - (1 - \rho_0)^n) = \frac{\sigma_1}{2}.$$

Hence, it follows

$$\rho_0 = 1 - \sqrt[n]{1 - \frac{\sigma_1}{2}}.$$

It is clear that  $\rho_0$  depends only on  $n$  and  $\sigma_1$ .

Denote by  $E^0$  the set of inner points  $H \cap B^7$ . Since

$$H \setminus (B^6 \setminus B^7) \subset E^0,$$

it follows

$$\text{mes} E^0 \geq \text{mes} H - \text{mes}(B^6 \setminus B^7) \geq \sigma_1 \text{mes} B^6 - \frac{\sigma_1}{2} \text{mes} B^6 = \frac{\sigma_1}{2} \text{mes} B^6. \quad (1.31)$$

Now let  $x'$  be an arbitrary point from  $E^0$ , set

$$B_\nu^5(x') = \ni_{R:8\nu}(x'), \quad B_\nu^6(x') = \ni_{R:\nu}(x'),$$

where  $\nu \in (0, \rho_0]$  is such that  $\bar{B}_\nu^5(x') \subset B^6$ .

Denote by  $\nu(x')$  the least upper bound of  $\nu \in (0, \rho_0]$ , for which

$$\text{mes}(D \cap B_\nu^5(x')) \leq \delta \text{mes} B_\nu^5(x'), \quad (1.32)$$

where  $\delta$  is the constant of Lemma 1.4. Two cases are possible: 1)  $\nu(x') = \rho_0$ , 2)  $\nu(x') < \rho_0$ .

Let case 1) holds. According to Corollary 1.2 and Lemma 1.4, either  $D \cap B_{\rho_0}^6(x') = \emptyset$  or

$$\inf_{D \cap B_{\rho_0}^6(x')} v(x) \geq \eta_3''.$$

Let  $D = \{x : x \in D, v(x) < \eta_3''\}$ . From the above assumption it follows  $B^6 \setminus D'$  contains the ellipsoid  $B_{\rho_0}^6(x')$ . Applying to the function  $\frac{v(x)}{\eta_3''}$  Corollary 1.1 of Lemma 1.4, we get

$$\inf_{D \cap B^6} \frac{v(x)}{\eta_3''} \geq \eta_2'',$$

where the constant  $\eta_2''$  depends only on  $\gamma, n, b_0, C_0$  and  $\sigma_1$ . Taking into account  $v(x) \geq \eta_3''$  for  $x \in D \setminus D'$  we conclude

$$\inf_{D \cap B^6} v(x) \geq \eta_2'' \eta_3''.$$

Thus, in case 1) the Lemma 1.5 has been proved. Consider case 2). If for a point  $x'' \in E^0$  case 1) takes place the assertion of Lemma 1.5 takes place as above. So, it remains to consider the salutation when for any point  $x \in E^0$  it holds case 2).

Cover  $E^0$  with ellipsoids  $B_{\nu(x)}^6(x)$  and choose from theirs subcover of countable bolls  $\{B_{\nu(k)}^6(x^k)\}, k = 1, 2, \dots$ , with finite multiplicity  $q_1(n)$  so that

$$\text{mes} \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} (D \cap B_{\nu_k}^6(x^k)) \right] \leq q_2(n) \text{mes} \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} (D \cap B_{\nu_k}^6(x^k)) \right].$$

According to Corollary 1.2 and Lemma 1.4, for every natural  $k$  it follows  $D \cap B_{\nu_k}^6(x^k) = \emptyset$  or

$$\inf_{D \cap B_{\nu_k}^6(x^k)} v(x) \geq \eta_3''. \quad (1.33)$$

Furthermore, inserting (1.31) one gets

$$\begin{aligned}
mes \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( D \cap B_{\nu_k}^6(x^k) \right) \right] &\leq \frac{1}{q_2} mes \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( D \cap B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \right) \right] \\
&\geq \frac{1}{q_1 q_2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} mes \left( D \cap B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \right) = \frac{\delta}{q_1 q_2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} mes B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \\
&\geq \frac{\delta}{q_1 q_2} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} mes B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \geq \frac{\delta}{q_1 q_2} mes E^0 \geq \frac{\sigma \delta}{q_1 q_2} mes B^6.
\end{aligned} \tag{1.34}$$

Denote  $\frac{v(x)}{\eta_3''}$  by  $v_1(x)$  and set  $D_1 = \{x : x \in D, v_1(x) < 1\}$ . Let  $E^1 = B^6 \setminus D_1$ . According to (1.33) it is seen that

$$E^1 \supset (B^6 \setminus D) \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( D \cap B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \right) \right).$$

Consequently, regarding to the condition on  $H$  and (1.34) it follows

$$\begin{aligned}
mes E^1 &\geq mes H + mes \left[ \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left( D \cap B_{\nu_k}^5(x^k) \right) \right] \\
&\geq \sigma_1 mes B^6 + \frac{\delta \sigma_1}{q_1 q_2} mes B^6 \geq \sigma_1 \left( 1 + \frac{\delta}{2q_1 q_2} \right) mes B^6.
\end{aligned}$$

Apply to the function  $v_1(x)$  the same argues used for  $v(x)$  above. The last estimate proves assertion of Lemma or yields a domain  $D_2 = \left\{ x : x \in D, \frac{v(x)}{\eta_3''} < 1 \right\}$  with  $E^2 = B^6 \setminus D_2$  such that

$$mes E^2 \geq \sigma_1 \left( 1 + \frac{\delta}{2q_1 q_2} \right)^2 mes B^6.$$

Let  $l_0 = l_0(n, \delta, \sigma_1)$  is a least integer for which

$$\sigma_1 \left( 1 + \frac{\delta}{2q_1 q_2} \right)^{l_0} > 1.$$

Repeating the above used argues  $l_0$  times for the function  $\frac{v(x)}{\eta_3''}$  we get an estimate

$$\inf_{D \cap B^6} \frac{v(x)}{(\eta_3'')^{l_0}} \geq \eta_3'',$$

i.e.

$$\inf_{D \cap B^6} v(x) \geq (\eta_3'')^{l_0+1}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 1.5.

**Corollary 1.4** *Let all assumptions of Lemma 1.5 be fulfilled for domain  $D$  and a positive  $L$ -subelliptic function  $u(x)$ , assume that, it is also continuous in  $\bar{D}$  and vanishes on  $\partial D \cap B^5$ . Then*

$$\sup_D u \geq (1 + \eta_4) \sup_{D \cap B^6} u. \tag{1.35}$$

**Proof.** Let  $v(x) = 1 - \frac{u(x)}{M}$ , where  $M = \sup_{D \cap B^6} u(x)$ . Applying Lemma 1.5 for the function  $v(x)$ , we get

$$\inf_{D \cap B^6} v(x) \geq \eta_4$$

or

$$1 - \frac{1}{M} \sup_{D \cap B^6} u \geq \eta_4,$$

Therefore, the required estimation (1.35) has been derived.

**Lemma 1.6** *Let  $D$  be a domain located in  $B^3$  and be such that it have a limit points on the boundaries of both ellipses  $B^1$  and  $B^2$ . Let  $u(x)$  be an  $L$ -subelliptic continuous function in  $\bar{D}$  and vanishes on  $\partial D \cap B^3$ . Then*

$$\sup_D u \geq (1 + \eta(\gamma, n, b_0, C_0, \tau)) \sup_{D \cap B^4} u \quad (1.36)$$

provided that,

$$\text{mes } H \geq \sigma \text{mes } B^8$$

for  $H = B^8 \setminus D$  and fixed  $\sigma > 0$ .

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, we can assume  $\sup_{D \cap B^4} u(x) = 1$ .

Let  $x^* \in D \cap B^4$  be a point wherein  $u(x^*) = 1$ .

Choose on  $\partial B^4$  minimal number of points  $x^1, \dots, x^m$  so that

1)  $\bar{B}^4 \subset \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} B^6(x^i)$ , where  $B^6(x^i) = \partial \ni_{R:1}(x^i)$ ;

2) One of the points  $x^i, i = 1, \dots, m$  coincides with  $x^*$ .

3) for any  $i, 1 \leq i \leq m$ , there will be found  $j, 1 \leq j \leq m$  such that  $x^j \in \partial \ni_{\frac{R}{Am}:1}(x^i)$ ,

where the constant  $A(n) > 1$  will be chosen later.

It is clear, the number  $m$  depends on  $n$ . From the properties of the covering it follows: for any  $i_0, 1 \leq i_0 \leq m$ , there exist a chain  $x^{i_1}, \dots, x^{i_k}$  such that  $x^{i_k} = x^*$  and  $x^{i_{l+1}} \in \partial \ni_{\frac{R}{Am}:1}(x^{i_l}), l = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$ . The condition of  $H$  implies, there exists a  $0 \leq i_0 \leq m$  such that

$$\text{mes}(H \cup B^6(x^{i_0})) \geq \frac{\text{mes } H}{m} \geq \frac{\sigma}{m} \text{mes } B^8 \quad (1.37)$$

It is easily seen that,  $\text{mes } B^8 \leq \text{mes } B^6(x^{i_0})$ . Therefore and from (1.37) it follows

$$\text{mes}(H \cup B^6(x^{i_0})) \leq \frac{\sigma}{m} \text{mes } B^6(x^{i_0}). \quad (1.38)$$

Let  $\delta_1 = \frac{\eta_4}{2(1+\eta_4)}$ , with  $\eta_4$  taken from Lemma 1.5 and  $\sigma_1 = \frac{\sigma}{m}$ . Assume that

$$\sup_{D \cap B^6(x^{i_0})} u \leq 1 - \delta_1.$$

Then according to Corollary 1.4 of Lemma 1.5 and (1.38) one gets

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_D u(x) &\geq \sup_{D \cap B^5(x^{i_0})} u(x) \geq (1 + \eta_4) \sup_{D \cap B^6(x^{i_0})} u(x) \geq (1 + \eta_4)(1 - \delta_1) = \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{\eta_4}{2}\right) 1 = \left(1 + \frac{\eta_4}{2}\right) \sup_{D \cap B^4} u(x), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of Lemma in this case.

Now, let

$$\sup_{D \cap B^6(x^{i_0})} u(x) < 1 - \delta_1$$

and consider the function  $v_1(x) = u(x) - 1 + \delta_1$ . Since  $\sigma k \delta_1 < 1$  it easily seen that  $v_1(x)$  is  $L$ -subelliptic in  $D$ .

Let

$$D_1 = \{x : x \in D, v_1(x) < 0\}.$$

By assumptions, the ellipsoid  $B^6(x^{i_0})$  is contained in the complement of  $D$ . Let  $x' \in \partial B^4$ . Insert the ellipsoids  $B^i(x')$ ,  $i = 5, 6$  and find such  $A > 1$  that  $B_R^5(x') \subset B_{AR}^6(x')$ . It is clear that, for the validity of this inclusion it suffices

$$8\omega_i^{-1}(R) \leq \omega_i^{-1}(AR).$$

From condition (1.4) it easily seen that the last inequalities are fulfilled if  $A \geq \alpha > 1$ .

Let  $x^{i_1}, \dots, x^{i_k}$  be the above-mentioned chain of points. By construction,  $B_R^6(x^{i_1}) \setminus D_1$  contains ellipsoid  $\ni_{\frac{R}{A}; \rho_1}(x^{i_1})$ , where  $\rho_1$  depends only on  $n$ . Let  $\sigma_0 = \frac{\eta_2}{2(1+\eta_2)}$ , where the constant  $\eta_2$  is taken from Corollary 1.1 of Lemma 1.3 and  $\rho = \rho_1$ . Assume that

$$\sup_{D_1 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} v_1(x) \geq \delta_1(1 - \sigma_0), \text{ i.e. } \sup_{D_1 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} u(x_0) \geq 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0.$$

Applying the Corollary 1.1 of Lemma 1.3 again we get

$$\sup_{D_1 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} v_1 \geq (1 + \eta_2) \sup_{D_1 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} v_1 \geq (1 + \eta_2) \delta_1(1 - \sigma_0).$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_D u(x) &\geq \sup_{D_1 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} u(x) \geq 1 - \delta_1 + (1 + \eta_2) \delta_1(1 - \sigma_0) \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{\delta_1 \eta_2}{2}\right) 1 = \left(1 + \frac{\delta_1 \eta_2}{2}\right) \sup_{D \cap B^4} u(x), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of Lemma in this case.

Let

$$\sup_{D \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} v_1(x) < \eta_1(1 - \sigma_0), \text{ i.e. } \sup_{D \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})} u(x) < 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0.$$

We consider in  $D$  a subelliptic function  $v_2(x) = u(x) - 1 + \delta_1 \sigma_0$ . Let

$$D_2 = \{x : x \in D, v_2(x) > 0\}.$$

By assumptions, the ellipsoid  $B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_1})$  is contained in complement of  $D_2$ . If

$$\sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})} v_2(x) \leq \delta_1 \sigma_0(1 - \sigma_0), \text{ i.e. } \sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})} u(x) \leq 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0^2,$$

then we apply the Corollary 1.1 to Lemma 1.3 in order to get

$$\sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_2})} v_2(x) \geq (1 + \eta_2) \sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})} v_2(x) \geq (1 + \eta_2) \delta_1 \sigma_0(1 - \sigma_0).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_D u(x) &\geq \sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A}}^6(x^{i_2})} u \geq 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0 + (1 + \eta_2) \delta_1 \sigma_0 (1 - \sigma_0) \\ &= 1 + \frac{\delta_1 \sigma_0 \eta_2}{2} = \left(1 + \frac{\delta_1 \sigma_0 \eta_2}{2}\right) \sup_{D \cap \partial B^4} u(x), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof of lemma in this case.

Now, let

$$\sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})} v_2(x) < \delta_1 \sigma_0 (1 - \sigma_0), \text{ i.e. } \sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})} u(x) < 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0^2,$$

In this case, we set  $v_3(x) = u(x) - 1 + \delta_1 \sigma_0^2$  and  $D_3 = \{x : x \in D, v_3(x) > 0\}$ . By assumptions, the ellipsoid  $B_{\frac{R}{A^2}}^6(x^{i_2})$  is located in the complement to  $D_3$ . Continue the process in the similar way. No later then in the  $k$ -th step we will attain

$$\sup_{D_2 \cap B_{\frac{R}{A^k}}^6(x^{i_k})} u(x) \geq 1 - \delta_1 \sigma_0^k,$$

showing that  $u(x^{2k}) = u(u^*) = 1$ .

This completes the proof of Lemma in this case.

**Theorem 1.1** *Let the domain  $D$  located in  $B^1$  has a limit point on  $\partial B^1$  and intersects  $B^4$ . Let a positive  $L$ -subelliptic function  $u(x)$  be continuous in  $D$  and vanishes on  $\bar{D}$ . If the coefficients of the operator  $L$  satisfy conditions (1.2)-(1.4), then*

$$\sup_D u \geq (1, \eta, \gamma, n, b_0 C_0, \sigma) \sup_{D \cap B^4} u$$

provided that  $\text{mes} H \leq \sigma \text{mes} B^8$  and  $R \leq 1$ .

The statement of the theorem follows from Lemma 1.6 and the maximum principle.

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