

Periodic and almost periodic solutions for multi-valued differential equations in Banach spaces *

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Abstract

It is known that for ω -periodic differential equations of monotonous type, in uniformly convex Banach spaces, the existence of a bounded solution on \mathbb{R}^+ is equivalent to the existence of an ω -periodic solution (see Haraux [5] and Hanebaly [7, 10]). It is also known that if the Banach space is strictly convex and the equation is almost periodic and of monotonous type, then the existence of a continuous solution with a precompact range is equivalent to the existence of an almost periodic solution (see Hanebaly [8]). In this note we want to generalize the results above for multi-valued differential equations.

1 Preliminaries

Let X and Y be Banach spaces, and 2^Y denote the collection of subsets of Y . For a multi-valued map $F : X \rightarrow 2^Y$ we define the following conditions:

F is **upper semi-continuous** (u.s.c.) in X if for every x_0 in X and every open set $G \subset Y$ with $Fx_0 \subset G$ there exists a neighborhood U of x_0 such that $Fx \subset G$ for all $x \in U$. In practice F is u.s.c. at x_0 means that $Fx \subset Fx_0 + B_\varepsilon(0)$ for all x sufficiently close to x_0 and for ε sufficiently small.

F is **bounding** if it maps bounded subsets of X into bounded subsets of Y .

F is **dissipative** if $X = Y$ and

$$\langle Fx - Fy, x - y \rangle_- \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in X, \forall y \in X.$$

This implies that for all $x_1 \in Fx$ and all $y_1 \in Fy$,

$$\langle x_1 - y_1, x - y \rangle_- \leq 0,$$

where the lower semi-inner product on X introduced by Lumer [11] is defined as

$$\langle x, y \rangle_- = \|y\| \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\|y + hx\| - \|y\|}{h}.$$

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F is **accretive** if $\langle Fx - Fy, x - y \rangle_+ \geq 0$ where the upper semi-inner product on X is defined as

$$\langle x, y \rangle_+ = \|y\| \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|y + hx\| - \|y\|}{h}.$$

We denote by \rightharpoonup the convergence for the weak topology $\sigma(X, X^*)$. Recall that $x : J \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ is said to be absolutely continuous (a.c. for short) if for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $\delta > 0$ such that $\sum \|x(t_i) - x(s_i)\| \leq \varepsilon$ whenever the finitely many intervals $[s_i, t_i] \subset J$ do not overlap and $\sum |t_i - s_i| \leq \delta$. In particular every Lipschitzian map is a.c. When X is of finite dimension it is known that x is a.c. if and only if x is differentiable almost everywhere (a.e. for short) and $x' \in L^1(J, X)$, but if X is of infinite dimension and X is not reflexive, then an a.c. function need not be differentiable at any point (see e.g Deimling [6] p.138).

By a solution of the Cauchy problem

$$x' \in F(t, x); \quad x(t_0) = x_0 \tag{1}$$

in some interval I (with $t_0 \in I$), we mean a continuous function on I , a.c. in every compact subset of I , differentiable a.e., and that satisfies (1) a.e. on I .

The collection non-empty compact convex subsets of X will be denoted by $CV(X)$.

2 Boundedness and periodicity of solutions

We begin by giving a result concerning the existence of a global solutions. Let $(X, \|\cdot\|)$ be a real reflexive Banach space. Consider the multi-valued Cauchy problem

$$x'(t) \in F(t, x(t)) \tag{2}$$

$$x(0) = x_0, \tag{3}$$

where $F : \mathbb{R}^+ \times X \rightarrow CV(X)$ is u.s.c. and bounding.

Theorem 1 *If for all $(t, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times X \times X$, $\langle F(t, x) - F(t, y), x - y \rangle_- \leq 0$, then the Cauchy problem (2)-(3) has a unique solution defined on \mathbb{R}^+ .*

Remark. This theorem is well known for the inclusion of type

$$x' \in -Ax + f(t)$$

where A is a multi-valued maximal monotone operator on a Hilbert space and f is a uni-valued map (see Brezis [4]).

Proof of Theorem 1. Since F is u.s.c. with convex values, by the approximate selection theorem (see Cellina [1]) for each $n \geq 0$ there exists a locally lipschitzian map $f_n : \mathbb{R}^+ \times X \rightarrow X$ such that

$$f_n(t, x) \in F(\mathbb{R}^+ \times X \cap B_{1/n}(t, x)) + B_{\frac{1}{n}}(0) \quad \forall (t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times X,$$

where $B_{1/n}(t, x)$ is a ball in $\mathbb{R}^+ \times X$ and $B_{1/n}(0)$ is a ball in X . Since F is u.s.c. at (t, x) , for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$F(\mathbb{R}^+ \times X \cap B_\delta(t, x)) \subset F(t, x) + B_\varepsilon(0).$$

Then for n large we can choose δ such that $B_{1/n}(t, x) \subset B_\delta(t, x)$ and

$$F(\mathbb{R}^+ \times X \cap B_{1/n}(t, x)) \subset F(t, x) + B_\varepsilon(0).$$

Consequently, for $\varepsilon = 1/m$ with $m \geq n$ we obtain

$$f_n(t, x) \in F(t, x) + B_{1/n}(0) + B_{1/n}(0) \subset F(t, x) + B_{2/n}(0).$$

Now we show that for any $a > 0$ the uni-valued Cauchy problem

$$x'(t) = f_n(t, x(t)) \tag{4}$$

$$x(0) = x_0 \tag{5}$$

has a unique solution x_n on $[0, a]$ and the sequence x_n converges uniformly to the solution of the Cauchy problem (2)-(3).

Consider f_n from $[0, a] \times X$ to X , then f_n satisfies

i) f_n is continuous and locally lipschitzian with respect to x .

ii) $\langle f_n(t, x) - f_n(t, y), x - y \rangle_- \leq \frac{4}{n} \|x - y\|$.

For proving ii), we take $f_n(t, x) \in F(t, x) + B_{2/n}(0)$ and $f_n(t, y) \in F(t, y) + B_{2/n}(0)$, so that $f_n(t, x) = a + \alpha_n$ and $f_n(t, y) = b + \beta_n$ with $a \in F(t, x)$, $b \in F(t, y)$ and $\alpha_n, \beta_n \in B_{2/n}(0)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f_n(t, x) - f_n(t, y), x - y \rangle_- &= \langle a + \alpha_n - b - \beta_n, x - y \rangle_- \\ &\leq \langle a - b, x - y \rangle_- + \langle \alpha_n - \beta_n, x - y \rangle_+ \\ &\leq \langle \alpha_n - \beta_n, x - y \rangle_- \\ &\leq \|\alpha_n - \beta_n\| \|x - y\| \\ &\leq \frac{4}{n} \|x - y\|. \end{aligned}$$

It is well known that by i) the uni-valued Cauchy problem (4)-(5) has a unique local solution x_n , and that by ii) this solution can be extended on $[0, a]$. This statement is proven by the standard procedure of bounding the derivative of x_n .

Taking $y = 0$ in ii), we obtain

$$\langle f_n(t, x) - f_n(t, 0), x \rangle_- \leq \frac{4}{n} \|x\|.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x'_n(t), x_n(t) \rangle_- &= \langle f_n(t, x_n(t)) - f_n(t, 0) + f_n(t, 0), x_n(t) \rangle_- \\ &\leq \langle f_n(t, x_n(t)) - f_n(t, 0), x_n(t) \rangle_- + \langle f_n(t, 0), x_n(t) \rangle_+ \\ &\leq \frac{4}{n} \|x_n(t)\| + \|f_n(t, 0)\| \|x_n(t)\| \\ &\leq (1 + \sup_{t \in [0, a]} \|f_n(t, 0)\|) \|x_n(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

We deduce that (see appendix II)

$$D^- \|x_n(t)\| \leq 1 + \sup_{t \in [0, a]} \|f_n(t, 0)\| = k_n$$

with k_n a constant which does not depend on t . This follows because there is $t_0^n \in [0, a]$ such that

$$\sup_{t \in [0, a]} \|f_n(t, 0)\| = \|f_n(t_0^n, 0)\|.$$

consequently, we have a sequence $x_n \in C([0, a], X)$ that satisfies

$$x'_n(t) \in F(t, x_n(t)) + B_{2/n}(0). \quad (6)$$

Next we show that x_n is a Cauchy sequence. Let $\Phi_{n,m}(t) = \|x_n(t) - x_m(t)\|$. Then $\Phi_{n,m}(0) = 0$ and using the same technique as for proving ii) we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{n,m}(t) D^- \Phi_{n,m}(t) &= \langle x'_n(t) - x'_m(t), x_n(t) - x_m(t) \rangle_- \\ &\leq \left(\frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{m} \right) \Phi_{n,m}(t). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $\Phi_{n,m}(t) \leq (\frac{2}{n} + \frac{2}{m})a$ and then

$$\sup_{t \in [0, a]} \|x_n(t) - x_m(t)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n, m \rightarrow +\infty$$

Let x be the limit of x_n . Then we have in particular $x(0) = x_0$, now we have to show that x is a.e. differentiable and satisfies

$$x'(t) \in F(t, x(t)) \quad \text{a.e. in } [0, a].$$

Since F is u.s.c. and $x_n \rightarrow x$ uniformly on $[0, a]$, we deduce that for n large,

$$F(t, x_n(t)) \subset F(t, x(t)) + B_1(0).$$

Since F is bounding, by (6) we have $\|x'_n(t)\| \leq c$ uniformly on $[0, a]$ for some $c > 0$.

Put $J = [0, a]$, then we have $x'_n \in L^\infty(J, X) \subset L^2(J, X)$. Since $L^2(J, X)$ is reflexive (because X is reflexive), there is a subsequence (which we denote by

the same symbol) such that $x'_n \rightharpoonup y \in L^2(J, X)$ so

$$\begin{aligned} x_n(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t x'_n(s) ds = x_0 + \int_J \chi_{[0,t]}(s) x'_n(s) ds \\ &\rightharpoonup x_0 + \int_J \chi_{[0,t]}(s) y(s) ds = x_0 + \int_0^t y(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Since $x_n(t) \rightarrow x(t)$, it follows that $x_n(t) \rightharpoonup x(t)$. Consequently

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_0^t y(s) ds \quad \text{and} \quad x'(t) = y(t) \quad \text{a.e. in } J.$$

We deduce that $x'_n \rightharpoonup x'$ in $L^2(J, X)$ for the weak topology $\sigma(L^2(J, X), L^2(J, X^*))$. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and put

$$A_\varepsilon = \{z \in L^2(J, X) : z(t) \in F(t, x(t)) + \overline{B}_\varepsilon(0) \text{ a.e. } \}$$

Then A_ε is nonempty (because $x_n(t) \rightarrow x(t)$ and F is u.s.c., so $x'_n \in A_\varepsilon$ for n large), A_ε is closed and convex, hence A_ε is weakly closed. Since $x'_n \in A_\varepsilon$ and $x'_n \rightharpoonup x'$ we deduce that

$$x'(t) \in \overline{F(t, x(t))} = F(t, x(t)) \text{ a.e.}$$

So x is a solution of the Cauchy problem (2)-(3). Since $a > 0$ is arbitrary we deduce that the sequence x_n converges in the Banach space $C(\mathbb{R}^+, X)$ equipped with the topology of uniform convergence in compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^+ .

That x is unique follows from the dissipativeness of F . Indeed let x and y be two solutions of the Cauchy problem (2)-(3), then we have

$$\langle x'(t) - y'(t), x(t) - y(t) \rangle_- \leq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{2} D^- \|x(t) - y(t)\|^2 \leq 0.$$

Hence the map $t \mapsto \|x(t) - y(t)\|^2$ is non increasing, and consequently

$$\|x(t) - y(t)\| \leq \|x(0) - y(0)\|. \quad (7)$$

Now we present a result that gives us the relationship between the existence of bounded solution and the existence of an ω -periodic solution of (2) when F is ω -periodic. Observe that under the hypothesis of Theorem 1 the condition: There exists a positive R such that

$$\langle F(t, x), x \rangle_- \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \|x\| > R$$

ensures the existence of a bounded solution on $[0, +\infty[$ (see Browder [3] and Hanebaly [8]).

Theorem 2 *Under the hypothesis of Theorem 1, assuming that X is uniformly convex, and $F(t + \omega, x) = F(t, x)$ ($\omega > 0$), the equation (2) has an ω -periodic solution if and only if it has a bounded solution on $[0, +\infty[$.*

Proof. The necessity condition is obvious because a continuous periodic map is bounded. Conversely we consider the Poincaré map $P : X \rightarrow X$ defined by $Px_0 = x(\omega)$ where x_0 is given in X and x is a solution of (2) which satisfies $x(0) = x_0$. The map P is well defined because of the uniqueness of solutions for the Cauchy problem (2)-(3). Now let x be the solution of (2) which is bounded on $[0, +\infty[$ and put

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= Px_0 = x(\omega) \\ x_2 &= Px_1 = x(2\omega) \\ &\vdots \\ x_n &= Px_{n-1} = x(n\omega) \end{aligned}$$

Note that the solution x is bounded, so the sequence x_n is bounded, and that P is non-expansive. Indeed, let y and z be two solutions of (2) such that $y(0) = y_0$ and $z(0) = z_0$ so by dissipativeness of F and the inequality (7) we have

$$\|y(t) - z(t)\| \leq \|y(0) - z(0)\| = \|y_0 - z_0\|.$$

Taking $t = \omega$ we deduce that

$$\|Py_0 - Pz_0\| \leq \|y_0 - z_0\|.$$

So by the Browder-Petryshyn's fixed point theorem (see Petryshyn [2]), P has a fixed point. So there is a solution \tilde{x} of (2) which satisfies $\tilde{x}(0) = \tilde{x}(\omega)$ and \tilde{x} is ω -periodic. Indeed, put $\tilde{y}(t) = \tilde{x}(t + \omega)$ then

$$\tilde{y}'(t) = \tilde{x}'(t + \omega) \in F(t + \omega, \tilde{x}(t + \omega)) = F(t, \tilde{y}(t)).$$

Now since $\tilde{y}(0) = \tilde{x}(\omega) = \tilde{x}(0)$, by (7) we deduce that

$$\tilde{x}(t) = \tilde{y}(t) = \tilde{x}(t + \omega)$$

hence \tilde{x} is ω -periodic. ◇

Remark. Let x be an ω -periodic solution of (2), if y is another ω -periodic solution (respectively an T -periodic solution with $\frac{\omega}{T} \notin \mathbb{Q}$) then $\|x(t) - y(t)\|$ is constant for all $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$. From the dissipativeness of F it follows that the map $t \mapsto \|x(t) - y(t)\|$ is decreasing. Since it is continuous and periodic (respectively almost-periodic) we conclude that it is constant.

Example. Consider $(\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|)$ with $\|\cdot\|$ the Euclidean norm and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ the associated inner product. We consider the differential equation

$$x' + x\|x\|^\alpha + \beta \operatorname{sgn}(x) = f(t)$$

where $\alpha \geq 0$, $\beta \geq 0$, $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuous and ω -periodic, and

$$\operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{\|x\|} & \text{if } x \neq 0 \\ \overline{B}(0, 1) & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

Then the above equation becomes $x' \in F(t, x)$ where $F(t, x) = f(t) - x\|x\|^\alpha - \beta \operatorname{sgn}(x)$ is a bounding multi-valued map with compact and convex values. To conclude that the inclusion has an ω -periodic solution, we have to prove the following lemma.

Lemma 1 1) F is upper semi-continuous on $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$.

2) There exist a positive c_α and $r_\alpha \geq 2$ such that for all $(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$\langle F(t, x) - F(t, y), x - y \rangle \leq -c_\alpha \|x - y\|^{r_\alpha}.$$

In particular F is dissipative with respect to x

3) Every solution of the inclusion $x' \in F(t, x)$ is bounded.

Proof of 1) We have to show that for every closed $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, the set

$$F^{-1}(A) = \{(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n : F(t, x) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

is closed in $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $(t_n, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ be such that $(t_n, x_n) \rightarrow (t, x)$ and $F(t_n, x_n) \cap A \neq \emptyset$. We have to show that $F(t, x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$. Let $y_n \in F(t_n, x_n) \cap A$, then $y_n = f(t_n) - x_n\|x_n\|^\alpha - \beta\gamma_n$ with $\|\gamma_n\| \leq 1$, γ_n has a subsequence (which we denote by the same) such that $\gamma_n \rightarrow \gamma$ with $(\|\gamma\| \leq 1)$, so

$$y_n = f(t_n) - x_n\|x_n\|^\alpha - \beta\gamma_n \rightarrow y := f(t) - x\|x\|^\alpha - \beta\gamma \in F(t, x) \cap A.$$

Hence $F(t, x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ and F is upper semi-continuous on $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$.

Proof of 2) It is easy to see that for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\langle \operatorname{sgn}(x) - \operatorname{sgn}(y), x - y \rangle \geq 0$.

Now let $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle x\|x\|^\alpha - y\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \\ &= \langle x\|x\|^\alpha - y\|x\|^\alpha + x\|y\|^\alpha - y\|y\|^\alpha + y\|x\|^\alpha - x\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \\ &= \|x - y\|^2(\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha) + \langle y\|x\|^\alpha - x\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|^2(\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha) + \frac{1}{2}\langle (x + y)\|x\|^\alpha - (x + y)\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|^2(\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha) + \frac{1}{2}(\|x\|^\alpha - \|y\|^\alpha)(\|x\|^2 - \|y\|^2) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|^2(\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality comes from the fact that the map $\varphi(t) = t^\alpha$ is increasing on \mathbb{R}^+ , so $(\|x\|^\alpha - \|y\|^\alpha)(\|x\| - \|y\|) \geq 0$. Hence for $\alpha = 0$,

$$\langle x\|x\|^\alpha - y\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \geq \|x - y\|^2.$$

If $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ then $\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha \geq (\|x\| + \|y\|)^\alpha \geq \|x - y\|^\alpha$, (because the map $\varphi(t) = 1 + t^\alpha - (1 + t)^\alpha$ is positive on \mathbb{R}^+), so

$$\langle x\|x\|^\alpha - y\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \geq \frac{1}{2}\|x - y\|^{\alpha+2}$$

If $\alpha \geq 1$ then the map $\varphi(t) = t^\alpha$ is convex on \mathbb{R}^+ , so

$$\|x\|^\alpha + \|y\|^\alpha \geq \frac{1}{2^{\alpha-1}}(\|x\| + \|y\|)^\alpha \geq \frac{1}{2^{\alpha-1}}\|x - y\|^\alpha.$$

Hence

$$\langle x\|x\|^\alpha - y\|y\|^\alpha, x - y \rangle \geq \frac{1}{2^\alpha}\|x - y\|^{\alpha+2}$$

Proof of 3) From 2) we deduce that

$$\langle F(t, x) - F(t, 0), x \rangle \leq -c_\alpha \|x\|^{r_\alpha},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} c_\alpha &= 1 \text{ and } r_\alpha = 2 && \text{if } \alpha = 0 \\ c_\alpha &= 1/2 \text{ and } r_\alpha = \alpha + 2 && \text{if } 0 < \alpha \leq 1 \\ c_\alpha &= 1/2^\alpha \text{ and } r_\alpha = \alpha + 2 && \text{if } \alpha \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

Let x be a solution of $x' \in F(t, x)$, and let $a \in F(t, 0)$. Then $a = f(t) - \beta\gamma$, ($\|\gamma\| \leq 1$), and we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x'(t), x(t) \rangle &= \langle x'(t) - a + a, x(t) \rangle \\ &= \langle x'(t) - a, x(t) \rangle + \langle a, x(t) \rangle \\ &\leq -c_\alpha \|x(t)\|^{r_\alpha} + (M + \beta)\|x(t)\|, \end{aligned}$$

where $M = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|f(t)\|$. Therefore,

$$\frac{d}{2dt} \|x(t)\|^2 \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \|x(t)\| \geq \left(\frac{M + \beta}{c_\alpha}\right)^{1/(r_\alpha - 1)}.$$

Consequently

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|x(t)\| \leq \max[\|x(0)\|, \left(\frac{M + \beta}{c_\alpha}\right)^{1/(r_\alpha - 1)}]$$

because the map $t \mapsto \|x(t)\|^2$ is decreasing outside $B(0, (\frac{M+\beta}{c_\alpha})^{1/(r_\alpha-1)})$.

3 Almost periodic solutions

Let $(E, \|\cdot\|)$ be a uniformly convex Banach space with E^* uniformly convex. We consider the problem

$$x'(t) \in -Ax(t) + f(t), \tag{8}$$

where $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$ is a continuous almost periodic function (see appendix I for the definition of almost periodicity) and $A : E \rightarrow 2^E \setminus \emptyset$ is a hyper-accretive multi-valued map which means that for all $\lambda > 0$, $\text{Im}(I + \lambda A) = E$ and $\langle Ax - Ay, x - y \rangle_+ \geq 0$ for all $x, y \in E$.

Theorem 3 *Problem (8) has a solution on $[t_0, +\infty[$ ($t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$), which is uniformly continuous with precompact range if and only if it has a weak almost periodic solution.*

Remark. Since a continuous almost periodic map is uniformly continuous with precompact range, it is convenient to relate the existence of a solution to that of uniformly continuous with the precompact range.

Proof of Theorem 3. The proof will be divided into four steps.

Step 1. The Cauchy problem

$$x'(t) \in -Ax(t) + f(t) \tag{9}$$

$$x(t_0) = x_0 \tag{10}$$

has a unique weak solution on $[t_0, +\infty[$. (weak solution means that there are sequences x_n and f_n where x_n is a strong solution and $x_n \rightarrow x$ uniformly in every compact subset J of $[t_0, +\infty[$ and $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^1(J, E)$). Indeed, Since E and E^* are uniformly convex, the Cauchy problem

$$x'(t) \in -Ax(t)$$

$$x(t_0) = x_0$$

has a unique strong solution on $[t_0, +\infty[$ (see Deimling [6]). Since f is almost periodic, $f \in L^1(J, E)$ for every compact $J \subset [t_0, +\infty[$, with $t_0 \in J$, so there is a sequence f_n of stairs functions which converges uniformly to f , hence $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^1(J, E)$. On the other hand for every f_n there is x_n such that

$$x'_n(t) \in -Ax_n(t) + f_n(t)$$

$$x_n(t_0) = x_0.$$

Because if g is a stair function defined on $a = b_0 < b_1 < \dots < b_p = T$ ($T > a$) by $g(t) = y_i$ on $[b_{i-1}, b_i[$ the Cauchy problem

$$x'(t) \in -Ax(t) + g(t)$$

$$x(t_0) = x_0$$

has also a unique strong solution x defined by $x(t) = S_i(t - b_{i-1}).x(b_{i-1})$ for $t \in [b_{i-1}, b_i]$ and $x(t_0) = x_0$ where $S_i(t)$ is the semigroup generated by the hyper-accretive operator $-(A - y_i)$.

Let us show that (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence in the Banach space $C([t_0, +\infty[, E)$ equipped with the topology of uniform convergence in compact subsets. Since $-A$ is dissipative, we have

$$\langle x'_n(t) - f_n(t) - x'_p(t) + f_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \leq 0,$$

E^* is uniformly convex, $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_- = \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_+$, and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_-$ is linear on the first argument. Then

$$\frac{d^-}{2dt} \|x_n(t) - x_p(t)\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \langle x'_n(t) - x'_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \\
&= \langle x'_n(t) - f_n(t) - x'_p(t) + f_p(t) + f_n(t) - f_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \\
&= \langle x'_n(t) - f_n(t) - x'_p(t) + f_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \\
&\quad + \langle f_n(t) - f_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \\
&\leq \langle f_n(t) - f_p(t), x_n(t) - x_p(t) \rangle_- \\
&\leq \|f_n(t) - f_p(t)\| \|x_n(t) - x_p(t)\|
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
\|x_n(t) - x_p(t)\| &\leq \|x_n(t_0) - x_p(t_0)\| + \int_{t_0}^t \|f_n(s) - f_p(s)\| ds \\
&= \int_{t_0}^t \|f_n(s) - f_p(s)\| ds \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n, p \rightarrow +\infty.
\end{aligned}$$

Without loss of generality, we can assume that the Cauchy problem (9)-(10) has a strong solution. Let $x : [t_0, +\infty[\rightarrow E$ be the uniformly continuous solution of the Cauchy problem (9)-(10) with $x([t_0, +\infty[)$ precompact. Since f is almost periodic, there is $t_n \rightarrow +\infty$ such that $f(t + t_n) \rightarrow f(t)$ uniformly on \mathbb{R} (see appendix I). Consider the sequences of translated functions

$$x_n(t) = x(t + t_n) \quad \text{and} \quad f_n(t) = f(t + t_n)$$

which are defined on the real interval $[a, +\infty[$ when $n \geq n(a)$. Since $x([t_0, +\infty[)$ is precompact, we deduce that $\{x_n(t), t \geq a, n \geq n(a)\}$ is also precompact. On the other hand that $\{x_n, n \geq n(a)\}$ is equi-continuous follows from the following lemma which is easy to prove.

Lemma 2 *Let E be a Banach space, $J \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an interval and \mathcal{M} a bounded subset of the Banach space $C_b(J, E)$ of continuous bounded functions. Then \mathcal{M} is uniformly equi-continuous if and only if the mapping $(\psi, t) \mapsto \psi(t)$ of $\mathcal{M} \times J \subset C_b(J, E) \times \mathbb{R}$ into E is uniformly continuous on $\mathcal{M} \times J$.*

Now applying Ascoli's theorem in the intervals $[-N, N]$, $N = 1, 2, \dots$ and using the diagonal procedure (see Zaidman [13]) it is possible to find a subsequence which converges uniformly in every compact subset J of \mathbb{R} . But f_n is almost periodic, so $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $L^1(J, E)$. Therefore, we obtain a weak solution x^* of (8) defined on \mathbb{R} which is uniformly continuous with range contained in the closure of $x([t_0, +\infty[)$, hence with precompact range.

Step 2. Put $K_0 = \overline{Co}(x^*(\mathbb{R}))$, so that K_0 is a compact convex subset of E . Let

$$\Omega = \{x : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E \mid x(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0\}$$

with x a uniformly continuous solution of (8) and $J : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ defined by $Jx = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|x(t)\|$. Put $\mu = \inf_{x \in \Omega} Jx$, so there is $x_n \in \Omega$ such that $J(x_n) \rightarrow \mu$. By Lemma 2 and Ascoli's theorem there is a subsequence of x_n which converges uniformly in every compact subset of \mathbb{R} , let \tilde{x} be this limit, then $\tilde{x} \in \Omega$ and $J\tilde{x} = \mu$.

Step 3. We show that \tilde{x} is unique. Assume that there are x_1 and x_2 in Ω such that $Jx_1 = Jx_2 = \mu$. Since f is almost periodic, there is $t_n \rightarrow -\infty$ such that $f(t + t_n) \rightarrow f(t)$ uniformly on \mathbb{R} . By Ascoli's theorem, we can extract from t_n a subsequence (which we denote by the same symbol) such that $x_1(t + t_n)$ and $x_2(t + t_n)$ converge uniformly in every compact subset of \mathbb{R} . Let

$$y_1 = \lim x_1(t + t_n) \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 = \lim x_2(t + t_n).$$

Then y_1 and y_2 are weak solutions of (8), and $y_1, y_2 \in \Omega$ with $J(y_1) = J(y_2) = \mu$. Now since

$$x'_1(t + t_n) \in -Ax_1(t + t_n) + f(t + t_n)$$

and

$$x'_2(t + t_n) \in -Ax_2(t + t_n) + f(t + t_n)$$

and $-A$ is dissipative, we deduce that

$$\langle x'_1(t + t_n) - x'_2(t + t_n), x_1(t + t_n) - x_2(t + t_n) \rangle_- \leq 0$$

So

$$\frac{d^-}{2dt} \|x_1(t + t_n) - x_2(t + t_n)\|^2 \leq 0$$

Consequently the map $t \mapsto \|x_1(t + t_n) - x_2(t + t_n)\|$ is non increasing. Since $x_i(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0$ for $i=1,2$, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_1(t) - y_2(t)\| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \|x_1(t + t_n) - x_2(t + t_n)\| \\ &= \lim_{\tau \rightarrow -\infty} \|x_1(\tau) - x_2(\tau)\| \\ &= \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|x_1(t) - x_2(t)\| \\ &= \text{a constant} \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

To continue, we need the following lemma.

Lemma 3 *Let E be a strictly convex Banach space, C a closed convex subset of E . Let $T : C \rightarrow C$ be a non expansive map and x_0, y_0 in C such that*

$$\|Tx_0 - Ty_0\| = \|x_0 - y_0\|.$$

Then

$$T\left(\frac{x_0 + y_0}{2}\right) = \frac{Tx_0 + Ty_0}{2}.$$

Let the operator $T_t : E \rightarrow E$ be defined by $T_t x(0) = x(t)$ where $x(\cdot)$ is a weak solution of (8). Then $T_t y_1(0) = y_1(t)$ and $T_t y_2(0) = y_2(t)$ where y_1 and y_2 are in Ω . By (11),

$$\|T_t y_1(0) - T_t y_2(0)\| = \|y_1(t) - y_2(t)\| = \|y_1(0) - y_2(0)\|.$$

So that by Lemma 3,

$$T_t\left(\frac{y_1(0) + y_2(0)}{2}\right) = \frac{T_t y_1(0) + y_2(0)}{2} = \frac{y_1(t) + y_2(t)}{2}$$

and $y(t) := \frac{y_1(t) + y_2(t)}{2}$ is also a solution of (8) satisfying $y(0) = \frac{y_1(0) + y_2(0)}{2}$. Since K_0 is convex, $y(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0$ and $y \in \Omega$. We have

$$Jy_1 = Jy_2 = \mu$$

So, $\mu = \inf_{x \in \Omega} Jx$ and $\frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \in \Omega$. We deduce that

$$\mu \leq J\left(\frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}\right) \leq \frac{Jy_1}{2} + \frac{Jy_2}{2} = \mu$$

and consequently $Jy = \mu$. Since $J\left(\frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}\right) = \frac{Jy_1}{2} + \frac{Jy_2}{2}$ we have

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \left\| \frac{y_1(t) + y_2(t)}{2} \right\| = \frac{1}{2} \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|y_1(t)\| + \frac{1}{2} \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|y_2(t)\|$$

So there is $s_n \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mu - \frac{1}{n} &< \left\| \frac{y_1(s_n) + y_2(s_n)}{2} \right\| \\ &\leq \frac{\|y_1(s_n)\|}{2} + \frac{\|y_2(s_n)\|}{2} \\ &\leq \mu \end{aligned}$$

and since $y_1(s_n) \in K_0$; $y_2(s_n) \in K_0$ there is a subsequence (which we denote by the same symbol) such that $y_1(s_n) \rightarrow l_1$ and $y_2(s_n) \rightarrow l_2$. Then

$$\left\| \frac{l_1 + l_2}{2} \right\| = \frac{\|l_1\|}{2} + \frac{\|l_2\|}{2} = \mu.$$

On the other hand $\|y_i(s_n)\| \leq \mu$ implies $\|l_i\| \leq \mu$ and $\frac{\|l_1\|}{2} + \frac{\|l_2\|}{2} = \mu$ implies $\|l_i\| \geq \mu$ for $i = 1, 2$. Hence $\|l_1\| = \|l_2\| = \mu$. Since the norm of E is strictly convex, we deduce that $l_1 = l_2$ and consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \|l_1 - l_2\| &= \|y_1(t) - y_2(t)\| \\ &= \lim_{\tau \rightarrow -\infty} \|x_1(\tau) - x_2(\tau)\| \\ &= \|x_1(-\infty) - x_2(-\infty)\| \\ &= \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|x_1(t) - x_2(t)\| \end{aligned}$$

So $x_1(t) = x_2(t)$ for every $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Remark. In the case of a Hilbert space, by the parallelogram formula and by (11), we deduce directly that $x_1(t) = x_2(t)$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Step 4. Finally we show that \tilde{x} the unique element of Ω which satisfies $J\tilde{x} = \inf_{x \in \Omega} Jx$ is almost periodic. For this purpose, we use the 2nd Bochner's characterization of almost periodicity (see appendix I). Let t_n and s_n be two real sequences, then by Ascoli's theorem there is a subsequence of t_n (which we denote by the same symbol) such that $\tilde{x}(t + t_n) \rightarrow y(t)$ uniformly in every compact subset of \mathbb{R} . Then $y(\cdot)$ is a weak solution of

$$x' \in -Ax + g(t), \tag{12}$$

where $g(t) = \lim f(t + t_n)$. Now consider $\tilde{x}(t + t_n + s_n)$ and $y(t + s_n)$, then by Ascoli's theorem we can extract from t_n and s_n sub-sequences such that $\tilde{x}(t + t_n + s_n) \rightarrow z_1(t)$ and $y(t + s_n) \rightarrow z_2(y)$, but $f(t + t_n + s_n)$ and $g(t + s_n)$ have the same limit which we denote by $h(t)$. Then $z_1(\cdot)$ and $z_2(\cdot)$ are weak solutions of

$$x' \in -Ax + h(t) \tag{13}$$

so $\mu = J_f(K_0) = J_h(K_0) \leq Jz_i \quad i = 1, 2$ where

$$J_f(K_0) = \inf \{ Jx : x \text{ is a weak solution of (8), } x(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0 \}$$

and

$$J_h(K_0) = \inf \{ Jx : x \text{ is a weak solution of (13), } x(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0 \}.$$

We have $\mu = Jz_1 = Jz_2$, but the equation (13) has the same property as the equation (8) because the map $h(\cdot)$ is almost periodic. Therefore, there is a unique solution which satisfies

$$J_h(K_0) = \inf \{ Ju : u \text{ is a weak solution of (13), } u(\mathbb{R}) \subset K_0 \}.$$

Consequently $z_1 = z_2$. Also $\tilde{x}(t + t_n + s_n)$ and $y(t + s_n)$ have the same limit, hence \tilde{x} is almost periodic. ◇

Example. Let $E = (\mathbb{R}^n, \|\cdot\|)$ with the Euclidean norm $\|\cdot\|$, and let $\varphi(x) = \|x\|$. Consider

$$Ax = \partial\varphi(x) + kx$$

where $k > 0$ and $\partial\varphi$ is the sub-differential of φ . Since φ is continuous and convex,

$$\overbrace{\text{Dom}(\varphi)}^{\circ} \subset \text{Dom}(\partial\varphi) \quad \text{so} \quad \text{Dom}(A) = \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The problem

$$x' \in -Ax + f(t),$$

with $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ continuous and almost periodic, has a strong solution defined on $[t_0, +\infty[$ ($t_0 \in \mathbb{R}$) (see Brezis [4]). Now since $0 \in \partial\varphi(0)$ we have

$$\langle f(t) - kx - x'(t), x(t) \rangle \geq 0.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\langle x'(t), x(t) \rangle &\leq \langle f(t), x(t) \rangle - k\|x(t)\|^2 \\ &\leq (M - k\|x(t)\|)\|x(t)\|\end{aligned}$$

where $M = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|f(t)\|$. We deduce that

$$D^- \|x(t)\| \leq M$$

and

$$\frac{d}{2dt} \|x(t)\|^2 \leq 0 \quad \text{for } \|x(t)\| \geq \frac{M}{k}.$$

The first inequality shows that x is Lipschitzian, hence uniformly continuous and the second one shows that the map $t \mapsto \|x(t)\|$ is non increasing outside of the ball $B(0, \frac{M}{k})$. Consequently

$$\|x(t)\| \leq \sup(\|x(t_0)\|, \frac{M}{k}) \quad \forall t \geq t_0.$$

So that the problem $x' \in -Ax + f(t)$ has a uniformly continuous solution which is bounded, hence with precompact range, so it has an almost periodic solution. \diamond

Appendix I

Let E be a real Banach space, a map $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$ is said to be almost periodic if for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists l_ε such that for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$ there exists $\tau \in [a, a + l_\varepsilon]$ such that

$$\|f(t + \tau) - f(t)\| \leq \varepsilon \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

If f is almost periodic then there exist $t_n \rightarrow +\infty$ and $s_n \rightarrow -\infty$ such that $f(t + t_n) \rightarrow f(t)$ and $f(t + s_n) \rightarrow f(t)$ uniformly on \mathbb{R} . In practice, we use the following Bochner's characterizations of almost periodicity (Yoshisawa [12]).

First characterization. $f \in C(\mathbb{R}, E)$ is almost periodic if and only if from every real sequence t'_n one can extract a subsequence t_n such that $\lim f(t + t_n)$ exists uniformly on the real line, furthermore the limit is also almost periodic.

Second characterization. $f \in C(\mathbb{R}, E)$ is almost periodic if and only if for every pair of real sequences h'_n and k'_n there are sub-sequences h_n and k_n such that $f(t + h_n)$ has a pointwise limit $g(t)$ on \mathbb{R} , and $f(t + h_n + k_n)$ and $g(t + k_n)$ have a same limit $h(t)$ on \mathbb{R} , and h is also almost periodic.

Appendix II

Let E be a real Banach space and $x : [a, b] \subset \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$ differentiable, and put $\Phi(t) = \|x(t)\|$. Then

$$\Phi(t)D^-\Phi(t) = \langle x'(t), x(t) \rangle_-$$

where

$$D^-\Phi(t) = \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\Phi(t+h) - \Phi(t)}{h}$$

is the upper Dini's derivative of Φ (see e.g Deimling [6]).

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