

ON THE SOLUTIONS OF NONLINEAR FUNCTIONAL EVOLUTION EQUATIONS IN A BANACH SPACE WITH UNIFORMLY CONVEX DUAL

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1. Introduction

Let X be a real Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|$. Let PC be the space of piecewise continuous functions $\psi : [-r, 0] \rightarrow X$ for a fixed $r > 0$. PC is a Banach space with norm $\|\psi\|_{PC} = \sup\{\|\psi(\theta)\| \mid \theta \in [-r, 0]\}$ for $\psi \in PC$. In this paper, we consider the abstract nonlinear functional evolution equation

$$(FDE; \phi) \begin{cases} u'(t) = A(t)u(t) + G(t, u_t), & t \in [0, T], \\ u_0 = \phi, & \phi \in PC. \end{cases}$$

where $u : [-r, T] \rightarrow X$ is an unknown function, $\{A(t) : D \subset X \rightarrow X \mid t \in [0, T]\}$ is a given family of single-valued operators on X , D independent of t , $G : [0, T] \times PC \rightarrow X$, and $\phi : [-r, 0] \rightarrow X$ is Lipschitzian with $\phi(0) \in D$. The symbol u_t denotes the function $u_t(\theta) = u(t + \theta)$, $\theta \in [-r, 0]$. The purpose of this paper is to establish the existence of the limit solution of $(FDE; \phi)$. To do this, we give a convergence theorem for solutions of a certain approximate difference equation associated with $(FDE; \phi)$. The limits of solutions of the approximate difference equation are regarded as generalized solution of $(FDE; \phi)$ and we shall call them *limit solutions* of $(FDE; \phi)$.

Now we make further assumption regarding $A(t)$ and G .

(A.1) The dual X^* of X is uniformly convex.

(A.2) There exists $\omega \geq 0$ and a nondecreasing function $L : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that

$$\langle y_1 - y_2, x_1 - x_2 \rangle_* \leq \omega \|x_1 - x_2\|^2 + |t - s| L(\|x_2\|) \|x_1 - x_2\|$$

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for all $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$, $[x_1, y_1] \in A(t)$ and $[x_2, y_2] \in A(s)$.

(A.3) For each $t \in [0, T]$ and $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$, $\lambda_0 \omega < 1$, $R(I - \lambda A(t)) = X$.

(A.4) There exists a constant $\beta > 0$ such that, for $\phi, \psi \in PC$ and $t \in [0, T]$,

$$\|G(t, \phi) - G(t, \psi)\| \leq \beta \|\phi - \psi\|_{PC}.$$

(A.5) There exists $L_1 : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ nondecreasing such that

$$\|G(t, \phi) - G(s, \phi)\| \leq L_1(\|\phi\|_{PC})|t - s| \text{ for } \phi \in PC.$$

2. Preliminaries

Let X be a real Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|$ and let X^* be the dual space of X with $\|\cdot\|$ also denoting the norm of X^* . The value of $x^* \in X^*$ at x will be denoted by (x, x^*) . Recall that the definition of the duality mapping $F : X \rightarrow X^*$ of X , i.e., $F(x) = \{x^* \mid (x, x^*) = \|x\|^2 = \|x^*\|^2\}$. Using the Hahn-Banach theorem it is immediately clear that $F(x)$ is nonempty for any $x \in X$. In general, F is a multi-valued operator. One would need somewhat stronger condition to ensure that F is continuous. A convenient sufficient condition is given by the following.

Theorem 2.1 [1]. *If X^* is uniformly convex, then F is single-valued and is uniformly continuous on any bounded set of X . In other words, for each $\varepsilon > 0$ and $M > 0$, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that $\|x\| \leq M$ and $\|x - y\| < \delta$ imply $\|F(x) - F(y)\| < \varepsilon$.*

The properties of F are related to the differentiability of the norm $\|\cdot\|$ in X . For $x, y \in X$ and $h \in \mathbb{R}$, let $\langle x, y \rangle_h = h^{-1}(\|x + hy\| - \|x\|)$ be the difference quotient of $\|x\|$ at x in the direction y . Since the function $h \mapsto \|x + hy\|$ is convex, we easily deduce that $h \mapsto \langle x, y \rangle_h$ is monotone increasing for $h > 0$ and $\langle x, y \rangle_h \geq -\|y\|$ for all $h > 0$. This implies the existence of the right derivative

$$\langle x, y \rangle_+ = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \langle x, y \rangle_h$$

of $\|x + hy\|$ at $h = 0$. As $\langle x, y \rangle_{-h} = -\langle x, -y \rangle_h$ we deduce that $\langle x, y \rangle_h$ is also monotone increasing and bounded above for $h < 0$. Thus the left derivative

$$\langle x, y \rangle_- = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \langle x, y \rangle_h$$

exists and we have $\langle x, y \rangle_- = -\langle x, -y \rangle_+$. Finally, we obtain the following inequality (see [1])

$$\langle x, y \rangle_{-h} \leq \langle x, -y \rangle_- \leq \langle x, y \rangle_+ \leq \langle x, y \rangle_h, \quad h > 0.$$

For $x, y \in X$, we define the functionals $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_s$ and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_t$ on $X \times X$ by

$$\langle y, x \rangle_s = \sup\{\langle y, x^* \rangle \mid x^* \in F(x)\}$$

and

$$\langle y, x \rangle_t = \inf\{\langle y, x^* \rangle \mid x^* \in F(x)\}.$$

Clearly $\langle y, x \rangle_s = -\langle -y, x \rangle_t = -\langle y, -x \rangle_t$ for all $x, y \in X$.

Definition 2.1. An operator A on X is said to be *dissipative* if for every $x_1, x_2 \in D(A)$ there is a $x^* \in F(x_1 - x_2)$ such that

$$\langle y_1 - y_2, x^* \rangle \leq 0, \quad \text{for all } y_j \in Ax_j, \quad j = 1, 2.$$

An operator A is said to be *accretive* if $-A$ is dissipative.

Definition 2.2. Let ω be a real number. An operator A on X is said to be ω -*dissipative* if $A - \omega I$ is dissipative.

The condition (A.2) implies that, for each $t \in [0, T]$, $A(t)$ is ω -dissipative.

The following proposition is useful for later argument.

Proposition 2.1. (1) The condition (A.2) is equivalent to the statement

$$(2.1) \quad (1 - \lambda\omega)\|x_1 - x_2\| \leq \|x_1 - x_2 - \lambda(y_1 - y_2)\| + \lambda|t - s|L(\|x_2\|)$$

for all $\lambda > 0$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$, $[x_1, y_1] \in A(t)$ and $[x_2, y_2] \in A(s)$.

(2) The inequality (2.1) implies

$$(2.2) \quad \begin{aligned} (\lambda + \mu - \lambda\mu\omega)\|x_1 - x_2\| &\leq \lambda\|x_2 - \mu y_2 - x_1\| + \mu\|x_1 - \lambda y_1 - x_2\| \\ &\quad + \lambda\mu|t - s|L(\|x_2\|) \end{aligned}$$

for all $\lambda > 0$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$, $[x_1, y_1] \in A(t)$ and $[x_2, y_2] \in A(s)$.

(3) The inequality (2.2) implies

$$(1 - \lambda\omega)\|x_1 - u\| \leq \|x_1 - \lambda y_1 - u\| + \lambda|A(s)u| + \lambda|t - s|L(\|u\|)$$

for all $\lambda > 0$, $0 \leq s \leq t \leq T$, $[x_1, y_1] \in A(t)$ and $u \in D(A(s))$, where $|A(s)u| = \inf\{\|v\| \mid v \in A(s)u\}$.

3. Main result

In what follows, we assume that the conditions (A.1)-(A.5) hold. As in [7], we have the following lemmas.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $\{t_j^n\}$ be a partition of the interval $[0, T]$, where $t_j^n = jh_n = jT/n$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. If $n > (\omega + \beta)T$, then there exists $\{z_j^n\}_{j=0}^n$ such that for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$,*

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n}{h_n} = A(t_{j-1}^n)z_j^n + G(t_j^n, \bar{z}_j^n, t_j^n),$$

where

$$\bar{z}_j^n(t) = \begin{cases} \phi(t), & t \in [-r, 0] \\ z_k^n, & t \in (t_{k-1}^n, t_k^n] \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots, j-1 \\ z_j^n, & t \in (t_{j-1}^n, T]. \end{cases}$$

and

$$\bar{z}_{j,t_{j-1}^n}^n(\theta) = \bar{z}_j^n(t_{j-1}^n + \theta), \theta \in [-r, 0]$$

Lemma 3.2. *There is a constant $M_0 = M_0(\phi)$ such that*

$$(3.2) \quad \sup\{\max\|z_j^n\| \mid 1 \leq j \leq n, n > (\beta + \omega)T\} \leq M_0.$$

Lemma 3.3. *There exists a constant $M_1 = M_1(\phi)$ and an integer $N = N(\phi)$ such that*

$$(3.3) \quad \sup\{\max\|z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n\|/h_n \mid 1 \leq j \leq n, n \geq N\} \leq M_1.$$

We now define the functions

$$(3.4) \quad z_n(t) = \begin{cases} \phi(t), & t \in [-r, 0], \\ z_{j-1}^n + (t - t_{j-1}^n)(z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n)/h_n, & t \in (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n] \\ \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

Then the sequence $\{z_n(t)\}_{t \in [-r, T]}$ is uniformly Lipschitz with Lipschitz constant $M_2 = \max\{M_1, L_0\}$. Let

$$(3.5) \quad u_n(t) = \bar{z}_n^n(t), \quad t \in [-r, T]$$

where $\bar{z}_n^n(t)$ is obtained from Lemma 3.1 (the function $u_n(t) = \bar{z}_n^n(t)$ is said to be h_n -approximate solution of $(FDE; \phi)$). Explicitly, we have

$$\bar{z}_n^n(t) = \begin{cases} \phi(t), & t \in [-r, 0], \\ z_k^n, & t \in (t_{k-1}^n, t_k^n] \text{ for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \\ z_n^n = (1 - h_n A(t_{n-1}^n))^{-1} (z_{n-1}^n + h_n G(t_{n-1}^n, \bar{z}_{n, t_{n-1}^n}^n)), & t \in (t_{n-1}^n, T]. \end{cases}$$

The operators $A(t)$ and $G_n(t)$ are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} A_n(0) &= A(0)\phi(0), \\ A_n(t) &= A(t_{j-1}^n)z_j^n, \text{ for } t_{j-1}^n < t \leq t_j^n, \\ G_n(t) &= G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{j, t_{j-1}^n}^n), \text{ for } t_{j-1}^n < t \leq t_j^n. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to check that the function $z_n(t)$ is strongly differentiable on $[0, T]$ except at a finite number of points at which the strong left derivative $(d^-/dt)z_n(t)$ exists. Thus, from (3.1) and (3.4), we obtain

$$(3.6) \quad (d^-/dt)z_n(t) = A_n(t) + G_n(t), \quad t \in (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n].$$

We will show that $u_n(t) - z_n(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$. For $t \in (0, T]$, $t \in (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n]$ for some $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then, from the definition of $z_n(t)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (3.7) \quad \|u_n(t) - z_n(t)\| &= \|z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n - (t - t_{j-1}^n)(z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n)/h_n\| \\ &= \|(h_n - t + t_{j-1}^n)(z_j^n - z_{j-1}^n)/h_n\| \\ &\leq (t_j^n - t)M_1 \\ &\leq M_1 h_n \\ &\leq M_2 h_n. \end{aligned}$$

Since $u_n(t) = z_n(t) = \phi(t)$ for $t \in [-r, 0]$, we have $\|u_n(t) - z_n(t)\| \leq M_2 h_n$ for $t \in [-r, T]$. On the other hand, by the Lipschitz continuity of $z_n(t)$, we have, for $t, s \in [-r, T]$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|u_n(t) - u_n(s)\| &\leq \|u_n(t) - z_n(t)\| + \|z_n(t) - z_n(s)\| \\
 &\quad + \|z_n(s) - u_n(s)\| \\
 &\leq M_2 h_n + M_2 |t - s| + M_2 h_n \\
 &\leq 2M_2(|t - s| + h_n) \\
 (3.8) \quad &= M(|t - s| + h_n),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $M = 2M_2$.

Theorem 4.1. *The sequence $\{u_n(t)\}$ of functions converges uniformly, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, to an absolutely continuous function $u(t)$ on $[0, T]$.*

Proof. We will show that $z_n(t)$ converges uniformly, as $n \rightarrow \infty$, to a function $u(t)$. Then it follows from above that $u_n(t)$ also converges uniformly to $u(t)$. Let $\{t_j^n\}$ and $\{t_k^m\}$ be two partitions of $[0, T]$, where $t_j^n = j h_n = jT/n$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, $t_k^m = k h_m = kT/m$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Let $t \in (t_{k-1}^m, t_k^m] \cap (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n]$. By the Lipschitz continuity of $z_n(t)$ and Lemma 3.1 of Kato [4], we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.9) \quad (d^-/dt)\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 &= 2\langle (d^-/dt)z_m(t) \\
 &\quad - (d^-/dt)z_n(t), F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rangle \\
 &= 2\langle G_m(t) - G_n(t) + A_m(t) - A_n(t), \\
 &\quad F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rangle \\
 &\leq 2\|G_m(t) - G_n(t)\|\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| \\
 &\quad + 2\langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|G_m(t) - G_n(t)\| &= \|G(t_{k-1}^m, \bar{z}_{k, t_{k-1}^m}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{j, t_{j-1}^n}^n)\| \\
 &\leq \|G(t_{k-1}^m, \bar{z}_{k, t_{k-1}^m}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k, t_{k-1}^m}^m)\| \\
 &\quad + \|G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k, t_{k-1}^m}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k, t_{j-1}^n}^n)\| \\
 &\quad + \|G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k, t_{j-1}^n}^n) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{j, t_{j-1}^n}^n)\|,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\|G(t_{k-1}^m, \bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m)\| \leq |t_{k-1}^m - t_{j-1}^n| L_1(\|\bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m\|),$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \|G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k,t_{j-1}^n}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{j,t_{j-1}^n}^n)\| \\ & \leq \beta \|\bar{z}_{k,t_{j-1}^n}^m - \bar{z}_{j,t_{j-1}^n}^n\|_{PC} \\ & = \beta \sup\{\|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| \\ & \quad | s \in [t_{j-1}^n - r, t_{j-1}^n]\} \\ & \leq \beta \sup\{\|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| | s \in [-r, t]\}, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\|G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m) - G(t_{j-1}^n, \bar{z}_{k,t_{j-1}^n}^m)\| \leq \beta \|\bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m - \bar{z}_{k,t_{j-1}^n}^m\|_{PC}.$$

If $t_{j-1}^n < t_{k-1}^m$, then

$$\bar{z}_k^m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta) = \bar{z}_m^m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta)$$

and

$$\bar{z}_k^m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta) = \bar{z}_m^m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta)$$

for any $\theta \in [-r, 0]$. Also, since $u_m(t) - z_m(t) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$, there exists a sequence of positive numbers ε_m such that $\varepsilon_m \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \|\bar{z}_k^m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta) - \bar{z}_k^m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta)\| &= \|\bar{z}_m^m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta) - \bar{z}_m^m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta)\| \\ &= \|u_m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta) - u_m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta)\| \\ &\leq \|z_m(t_{k-1}^m + \theta) - z_m(t_{j-1}^n + \theta)\| + \varepsilon_m \\ &\leq M_2 |t_{k-1}^m - t_{j-1}^n| + \varepsilon_m \end{aligned}$$

by the Lipschitz continuity of $z_m(t)$ on $[-r, T]$. Now, it is easy to prove that the sequence $\{t_{k-1}^m - t_{j-1}^n\}$ converges to zero uniformly in j, k . From this fact, it follows that

$$\|\bar{z}_{k,t_{k-1}^m}^m - \bar{z}_{k,t_{j-1}^n}^m\| \leq \bar{\varepsilon}_{m,n}$$

where $\bar{\varepsilon}_{m,n} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Since similar inequality holds if $t_{k-1}^m < t_{j-1}^n$, we conclude that there exist sequences $\varepsilon'_{m,n}$ and $\varepsilon''_{m,n}$ such that $\varepsilon'_{m,n} \rightarrow 0$ and $\varepsilon''_{m,n} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & \|G_m(t) - G_n(t)\| \\ & \leq L_1(M_0)|t_{k-1}^m - t_{j-1}^n| \\ & + \beta \sup\{\|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, t]\} + \beta \varepsilon'_{m,n} \\ & \leq (L_1(M_0) + \beta)\varepsilon''_{m,n} + \beta \sup\{\|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, t]\} \end{aligned}$$

Now, for any $s \in [-r, T]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| &= \|\bar{z}_m^m(s) - \bar{z}_n^n(s)\| \\ &= \|u_m(s) - u_n(s)\| \\ &\leq \|z_m(s) - z_n(s)\| + \|\varepsilon_{m,n}^*(s)\|, \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon_{m,n}^*(s) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup\{\|\bar{z}_k^m(s) - \bar{z}_j^n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, T]\} \\ & \leq \sup\{\|z_m(s) - z_n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, T]\} + \varepsilon_{m,n}^*, \end{aligned}$$

where the constants $\varepsilon_{m,n}^* \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Applying the above bound to (3.9), we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned} (3.10) \quad & (d^-/dt)\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 \\ & \leq 2[\varepsilon_{m,n}^{**} + \beta \sup\{\|z_m(s) - z_n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, t]\}]\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| \\ & + 2\langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon_{m,n}^{**} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Using the uniform continuity of F on bounded subsets of X , we obtain a sequence of functions $\varepsilon'_{m,n}(t)$ with values in X^* such that $\lim_{m,n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varepsilon'_{m,n}(t)\| = 0$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$ and

$$F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) = F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) + \varepsilon'_{m,n}(t).$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rangle \\ &= \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) \rangle + \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), \varepsilon'_{m,n}(t) \rangle \\ &\leq \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) \rangle + [\|A(t_{k-1}^m)z_k^m\| \\ &+ \|A(t_{j-1}^n)z_j^n\|]\|\varepsilon'_{m,n}(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

From equation (3.1), we obtain

$$\|A(t_{j-1}^n)z_j^n\| \leq M_1 + \beta M_0 + C_1 \leq C_7.$$

Similarly, $\|A(t_{k-1}^m)z_k^m\| \leq C_7$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} & (d^-/dt)\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 \\ & \leq 2[\varepsilon_{m,n}^{**} + \beta \sup\{\|z_m(s) - z_n(s)\| \mid s \in [-r, t]\}]\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| \\ & + 2\langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) \rangle + 2C_7\|\varepsilon'_{m,n}(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since $(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) - (z_m(t) - z_n(t)) \rightarrow 0$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$, there exists a sequence $\{\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n}\}$ of positive numbers such that $\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ and

$$\|u_m(t) - u_n(t)\| \leq \|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| + \hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n}.$$

On the other hand, by the condition (A.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) \rangle \\ & = \langle A(t_{k-1}^m)z_k^m - A(t_{j-1}^n)z_j^n, F(z_k^m - z_j^n) \rangle \\ & \leq \omega\|z_k^m - z_j^n\|^2 + |t_{k-1}^m - t_{j-1}^n|L(M_3)\|z_k^m - z_j^n\| \\ & \leq [\omega\|z_k^m - z_j^n\| + (h_n + h_m)L(M_3)]\|z_k^m - z_j^n\| \\ & = [\omega\|u_m(t) - u_n(t)\| + \varepsilon_{m,n}^0]\|u_m(t) - u_n(t)\|, \end{aligned}$$

where $\varepsilon_{m,n}^0 = (h_n + h_m)L(M_0)$ and M_0' is a constant such that

$$\sup\{\max\{\|z_k^m\| \mid 1 \leq k \leq m\} \mid m > (\omega + \beta)T\} \leq M_0',$$

and $M_3 = \max\{M_0, M_0'\}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle A_m(t) - A_n(t), F(u_m(t) - u_n(t)) \rangle \\ & \leq (\omega\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| + \omega\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n} + \varepsilon_{m,n}^0)(\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| + \hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n}) \\ & = \omega\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 + \varepsilon_{m,n}^{***} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{m,n}^{***} & = \omega\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n} + (\omega\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n} + \varepsilon_{m,n}^0)\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\| \\ & + \hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n}(\omega\hat{\varepsilon}_{m,n} + \varepsilon_{m,n}^0) \end{aligned}$$

and so $\varepsilon_{m,n}^{***} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Therefore, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & (d^-/dt)\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 \\ ((3.11)) \quad & \leq \varepsilon_{m,n} + 2(\beta + \omega) \sup\{\|z_m(s) - z_n(s)\|^2 \mid s \in [-r, T]\}, \end{aligned}$$

where the sequence of positive constants $\varepsilon_{m,n} \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$. Integrating (3.11), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 \\ & \leq \varepsilon_{m,n}T + 2(\beta + \omega) \int_0^t [\sup\{\|z_m(\tau) - z_n(\tau)\| \mid \tau \in [-r, s]\}]^2 ds, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used $z_m(0) = z_n(0) = \phi(0)$.

Since for any t_1 in the interval $[0, t]$, $t_1 \in (t_{j-1}^n, t_j^n] \cap (t_{k-1}^m, t_k^m]$ for some j, k , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|z_m(t_1) - z_n(t_1)\|^2 \\ & \leq \varepsilon_{m,n}T + 2(\beta + \omega) \int_0^{t_1} [\sup\{\|z_m(\tau) - z_n(\tau)\| \mid \tau \in [-r, s]\}]^2 ds \\ & \leq \varepsilon_{m,n}T + 2(\beta + \omega) \int_0^t [\sup\{\|z_m(\tau) - z_n(\tau)\| \mid \tau \in [-r, s]\}]^2 ds. \end{aligned}$$

We actually get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup\{\|z_m(t) - z_n(t)\|^2 \mid \tau \in [-r, t]\} \\ & \leq \varepsilon_{m,n}T + 2(\beta + \omega) \int_0^t [\sup\{\|z_m(\tau) - z_n(\tau)\| \mid \tau \in [-r, s]\}]^2 ds. \end{aligned}$$

An application of Gronwall's inequality to the above estimate shows that the sequence $z_m(t) - z_n(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$. This implies that $z_n(t) \rightarrow u(t)$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$ and hence $u_n(t) \rightarrow u(t)$ uniformly on $[-r, T]$. Finally, by (4.26), we obtain

$$\|u(t) - u(s)\| \leq M|t - s| \text{ for } t, s \in [-r, T].$$

This shows that $u(t)$ is absolutely continuous on $[-r, T]$. This completes the proof.

We say that the function $u(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} u_n(t)$ is a limit solution of $(FDE; \phi)$.

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