

Summary

3.4 The abstract Cauchy problem
(the core of unbounded operators)

3.5 Nonlinear evolution equations

3.4 The abstract Cauchy problem

Let X be a Banach space and

$A: D(A) \rightarrow X$ a linear operator

(1) The homogeneous Cauchy problem:

$$(1) \begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = Au & t > 0 \\ u(0) = x \in X \end{cases}$$

Def $u: [0, T) \rightarrow X$ continuous, continuous differentiable on $(0, T)$ with $u(t) \in D(A)$ on $(0, T)$ satisfying (1) is called a classical solution of (1).

Theorem (uniqueness) Assume $\overline{D(A)} = X$ and $R(\lambda, A)$ exists for all $\lambda \geq \lambda_0$ with

$$\sup_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|R(\lambda, A)\|}{\lambda} = 0$$

then (1) can have at most one classical solution for any $x \in X$

Proof see Pazy Ch 4 Theorem 1.2.

Theorem (connection with semigroups of operators)

(a) If A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of bounded operators $T(t)$, $t \geq 0$ then (1) has a unique classical solution for all $x \in D(A)$ given by:

$$u(t) = T(t)x$$

(b) If (1) has a unique classical solution for all $x \in D(A)$ and all these solutions are continuously differentiable on $[0, T)$ for some $T > 0$ then A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of operators.

Proof (a) $T(t)x$, $x \in D(A)$ is a classical solution follows from the properties of C_0 semigroups of operators. Uniqueness follows from previous theorem since A infinitesimal generator of $T(t)$ with $\|T(t)\| \leq M e^{\omega t}$ implies:

$R(\lambda, A)$ exists for $\lambda > \omega$ and

$$\|R(\lambda, A)\| \leq \frac{M}{\lambda - \omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow \|R(\lambda, A)\|^{1/\lambda} \leq \frac{M^{1/\lambda}}{(\lambda - \omega)^{1/\lambda}} \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\log \|R(\lambda, A)\|}{\lambda} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty$$

(b) See Pazy Chapter 4 Theorem 1.3.

Def If A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of operators then

$U(t) = T(t)x$, $x \in X \setminus D(A)$ is called a mild solution of (1).

Remark For any mild solution $\hat{u}(t)$ of (1) there exists a sequence of classical solutions $u_n(t)$ such that

$$u_n(t) \rightarrow \hat{u}(t) \text{ uniformly on any } [0, T].$$

Indeed for $x \in X \setminus D(A)$ consider $\{x_n\} \subset D(A)$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$ then

$$u_n(t) = T(t)x_n \text{ are classical solutions and} \\ \|T(t)x - T(t)x_n\| \leq M e^{\omega T} \|x - x_n\| \text{ on } 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

(ii) The inhomogeneous Cauchy problem

$$\text{let } f: (0, T) \rightarrow X$$

$$(2) \begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = Au + f(t) & 0 < t < T \\ u(0) = x \in X \end{cases}$$

Def. 1° classical solution as before

2° Strong solution: $u: [0, T) \rightarrow X$ continuous

$\frac{du}{dt} \in L^1([0, T), X)$, $u(t) \in D(A)$ a.e. on $(0, T)$ and

u satisfies (2) a.e. on $(0, T)$.

3° Mild solution: If A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of operators $T(t), t \geq 0$ $f \in L^1([0, T], X)$ then

$$U(t) = T(t)x + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

is called the mild solution of (2).

Remark The mild solution is continuous on $[0, T]$.

Theorem 1 If A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of operators $T(t), t \geq 0$ and $f \in L^1([0, T], X)$ then any classical or strong solution of (2) is also a mild solution of (2).

Proof Let $U(t)$ be a strong solution of (2). Fix $t > 0$ and denote:

$$g(s) = T(t-s)U(s)$$

then g is differentiable a.e. on $0 < s < t$ and

$$\begin{aligned} g'(s) &= -T(t-s)AU(s) + T(t-s)U'(s) \\ &= \underbrace{T(t-s)f(s)}_{L^1([0, t], X)} \end{aligned}$$

Hence by integrating on $[0, t]$ we get

$$g(t) - g(0) = \int_0^t T(t-s) f(s) ds \quad \text{or.}$$

$$U(t) - T(t)x = \int_0^t T(t-s) f(s) ds \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Reciprocals: Let $v(t) = \int_0^t T(t-s) f(s) ds$

Theorem 2 If A is infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup

$f \in L^1([0, T], X)$ and f continuous on $(0, T)$ then

(2) has a classical solution on $[0, T)$ $\forall x \in D(A)$ iff

(i) $v(t)$ is continuously differentiable on $(0, T)$;

or equivalently

(ii) $v(t) \in D(A) \forall 0 < t < T$ and $Av(t)$ is continuous on $(0, T)$

Proof Classical solutions \Rightarrow (i)

$$v(t) = U(t) - T(t)x \Rightarrow v'(t) = U'(t) - T(t)Ax$$

continuously differentiable on $(0, T)$ / or $x \in D(A)$

(i) \Rightarrow (ii) For $h > 0$ and $0 < t < T$ we have:

$$(3) \quad \frac{T(h) - Id}{h} v(t) = \frac{v(t+h) - v(t)}{h} - \frac{1}{h} \int_t^{t+h} T(t+h-s) f(s) ds$$

From f continuous on $[t, t+h]$ we have RHS has the limit when $h \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow v(t) \in D(A)$ and

$$Av(t) = v'(t) - f(t)$$

$\Rightarrow Av(t)$ continuous on $(0, T)$

(ii) \Rightarrow classical solutions

Now LHS in (3) and integral term in RHS have limits as $h \rightarrow 0$ we have

$$Av(t) = v^+ v(t) - f(t) \text{ or } v^+ v(t) = Av(t) + f(t)$$

hence $v^+ v(t)$ is continuous on $(0, T) \Rightarrow v'$ exists on $(0, T)$ is continuous and

$$v'(t) = Av(t) + f(t)$$

hence $v(t) = T(t)x + v(t)$ is continuously differentiable on $(0, T)$ for $x \in D(A)$ and

$$v'(t) = AT(t)x + Av(t) + f(t) = Av(t) + f(t)$$

Therefore $v(t) = T(t)x + v(t)$ is a classical soln Q.E.D

Corollary 2 If A infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup $[t \in L^1([0, T], X)]$, f continuous on $(0, T)$ and

(i) f is continuously differentiable on $[0, T]$; or

(ii) $f(s) \in D(A)$ for $0 < s < T$ and $Af(s) \in L^1([0, T], X)$;

then (2) has a unique classical solution for any $x \in D(A)$.

Proof (i) $v(t) = \int_0^t T(t-s) f(s) ds = \int_0^t T(s) f(t-s) ds$

$$\Rightarrow v'(t) = T(t) f(0) + \int_0^t T(s) f'(t-s) ds.$$

$\Rightarrow v$ continuously differentiable on $(0, T)$

(ii) By A closed:

$$\begin{aligned} Av(t) &= A \int_0^t T(t-s) f(s) ds = \int_0^t AT(t-s) f(s) ds \\ &= \int_0^t T(t-s) Af(s) ds \text{ continuous on } (0, T) \end{aligned}$$

Remark If v is the mild solution of (2) then v is the uniform limit on $[0, T]$ of classical solutions of (2).

Indeed let $\{f_n\} \subset C^1([0, T], X)$ such that

$$\int_0^T \|f_n(t) - f(t)\| dt \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

and $\{x_n\} \subset D(A)$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$. Then

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dv_n}{dt} = Av_n + f_n(t) \\ v_n(0) = x_n \end{cases}$$

has classical solutions $v_n(t) = T(t)x_n + \int_0^t T(t-s)f_n(s) ds$

and $u_n \rightrightarrows u$ on $[0, T]$

Theorem 3 If A is infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup $f \in L^1([0, T], X)$ then (2) has a strong solution on $[0, T], \forall x \in D(A)$ iff

(i) $v(t)$ is differentiable a.e. on $(0, T)$ and $v \in L^1([0, T], X)$,
or equivalently:

(ii) $v(t) \in D(A)$ a.e. on $(0, T)$ and $Av(t) \in L^1([0, T], X)$

Proof Adapt the one for Theorem 2.

Corollary 3 If $f' \in L^1([0, T], X)$ or f is Lipschitz continuous on $[0, T]$ and X is reflexive, then (2) has a unique strong solution for any $x \in D(A)$.

3.5 Nonlinear evolution equations.

Let X be a Banach space:

$$(4) \begin{cases} \frac{du}{dt} = Au + f(t, u(t)) & t > t_0 \\ u(t_0) = u_0 \in X \end{cases}$$

where $A : D(A) \rightarrow X$ is the infinitesimal generator

of a C_0 semigroup of operators and
 $f: [t_0, T] \times X \rightarrow X$

Lemma If U is a classical or strong solution
of (4) and $f: [t_0, T] \times X \rightarrow X$ is continuous
then U satisfies:

$$(5) \quad U(t) = T(t-t_0)x + \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s)f(s, U(s)) ds$$

Proof As before, fix $t > t_0$ and denote

$$g(s) = T(t-s)U(s)$$

then g is differentiable a.e. on $t_0 < s < t$ and

$$\begin{aligned} g'(s) &= -T(t-s)AU(s) + T(t-s)f'(s) \\ &= \underbrace{T(t-s)f(s, U(s))}_{\text{continuous on } [t_0, t]} \end{aligned}$$

By integrating,

$$g(t) - g(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s)f(s, U(s)) ds.$$

$$\Rightarrow U(t) = T(t-t_0)U_0 + \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s)f(s, U(s)) ds \quad \text{Q.E.D.}$$

Def A continuous solution of (5) is called a mild solution of (4).

Theorem (existence of mild solutions) If A is the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup of operators and $f: [t_0, T] \times X \rightarrow X$ is continuous in t and

$$\|f(t, u) - f(t, v)\| \leq L \|u - v\| \quad \forall t \in [t_0, T] \\ \forall u, v \in X$$

then problem (4) has a unique mild solution that depends continuously on the initial data u_0 .

Proof Consider

$$K: C([t_0, T] \times X, X) \rightarrow C([t_0, T] \times X, X)$$

$$(Ku)(t) = \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s) f(s, u(s)) ds$$

continuity of $f \Rightarrow K$ well defined.

f Lipschitz $\Rightarrow K$ Lipschitz.

To make K contractive use Bielecki norms:

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{B}} = \sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} e^{-\delta(t-t_0)} \|u(t)\| \quad \text{with } \delta > \omega + ML$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\| (Ku_1 - Ku_2)(t) \| &\leq \int_{t_0}^t \| T(t-s) \| \| f(s, u_1(s)) - f(s, u_2(s)) \| ds \\
&\leq \int_{t_0}^t M e^{\omega(t-s)} L \| u_1(s) - u_2(s) \| ds \\
&\leq \| u_1 - u_2 \|_{\mathcal{D}} \int_{t_0}^t M e^{\omega(t-s)} e^{\sigma(s-t_0)} ds \\
&= ML e^{\omega t} \frac{e^{(\sigma-\omega)s}}{\sigma-\omega} \Big|_{t_0}^t e^{-\sigma t_0} \| u_1 - u_2 \|_{\mathcal{D}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} e^{-\sigma(t-t_0)} \| (Ku_1 - Ku_2)(t) \|$$

$$\leq \frac{ML}{\sigma-\omega} (1 - e^{-(\sigma-\omega)(T-t_0)}) \| u_1 - u_2 \|_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \| Ku_1 - Ku_2 \|_{\mathcal{D}} \leq \frac{ML}{\sigma-\omega} \| u_1 - u_2 \|_{\mathcal{D}}$$

$$\text{with } ML/(\sigma-\omega) < 1.$$

$\Rightarrow U(t) = T(t-t_0)u_0 + (Ku)(t)$ has a unique solution in $C([t_0, T], X)$ for any $u_0 \in X$.

Moreover if v solves $v(t) = T(t-t_0)u_0 + (Kv)(t)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\| u - v \|_{\mathcal{D}} &\leq M \| u_0 - v_0 \| + \frac{ML}{\sigma-\omega} \| u - v \|_{\mathcal{D}} \\
\Rightarrow \| u - v \|_{\mathcal{D}} &\leq \frac{M}{1 - (ML)/(\sigma-\omega)} \| u_0 - v_0 \|
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{hence } \sup_{t_0 \leq t \leq T} \|U(t) - V(t)\| \leq \frac{M e^{\sigma(T-t_0)}}{1 - \frac{ML}{\sigma - \omega}} \|v_0 - u_0\|$$

\Rightarrow the mild solution depends continuously (Lipschitz) on the initial data. QED

Theorem (local existence and maximal solutions)

Let A be the infinitesimal generator of a C_0 semigroup $T(t)$, $t \geq 0$. Assume $f: [0, T) \times X \rightarrow X$ satisfies:

- (a) $f(\cdot, x): [0, T) \rightarrow X$ is continuous $\forall x \in X$
 (b) $\forall t_1, t_2 \in [0, T)$, $\forall M > 0 \exists L(t_1, t_2, M)$ such that for all $t \in [t_1, t_2]$ and $u, v \in X$ with $\|u\|, \|v\| \leq M$:

$$\|f(t, u) - f(t, v)\| \leq L(t_1, t_2, M) \|u - v\|$$

then for any $x \in X$ the problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dv}{dt} = Av + f(t, v) & 0 \leq t < T \\ v(0) = x \end{cases}$$

has a unique mild solution $U: [0, T_{\max}) \rightarrow X$ such that either

- (i) $T_{\max} = T$
 or (ii) $\lim_{t \rightarrow T_{\max}} \|U(t)\| = +\infty$

Proof First we show "local existence":

$\forall t_0 \in [0, T), \forall x \in X \exists T(t_0, \|u_0\|) \in (t_0, T)$ such that

$$(5) \quad u(t) = T(t-t_0)u_0 + \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s)f(s, u(s)) ds$$

has a unique solution in $C([t_0, T(t_0, \|x\|)], X)$.

Recall that $\|T(t)\| \leq M e^{\omega t}$. Choose $\delta > 0$ such that $e^{\omega \delta} \leq 2$

For $t_0 \in [0, T)$, $u_0 \in X$ and let $t_1 = \min\{t_0 + \delta, \frac{t_0 + T}{2}\}$

$$K: C([t_0, t_1], X) \rightarrow C([t_0, t_1], X).$$

$$(Ku)(t) = T(t-t_0)u_0 + \int_{t_0}^t T(t-s)f(s, u(s)) ds$$

Now we seek $t_0 < T_1 \leq t_1$ such that:

$$K: C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R)) \rightarrow C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R))$$

$R = 4M \|u_0\|$

where $B(0, R) = \{x \in X \mid \|x\| \leq R\}$.

In other words K leaves the ball of radius R invariant in the Banach space $C([t_0, T_1], X)$ endowed with sup-norm.

We use that for $t_0 \leq t \leq t_1$:

$$\|T(t-s)\| \leq M e^{\omega(t-s)} \leq M e^{\omega T} \leq 2M$$

$\|f(s, v) - f(s, 0)\| \leq L(t_1, t_2, R) R$ for $v \in B(0, R)$
to get:

$$\begin{aligned} \|(\mathcal{K}v)(t)\| &\leq 2M \|u_0\| + \int_{t_0}^t 2M L R ds \\ &\quad + \int_{t_0}^t 2M \|f(s, 0)\| ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq 2M \|u_0\| + R 2M L (t - t_0) + 2M F (t - t_0)$$

where $F = \sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq t_1} \|f(s, 0)\|$

To have $\|(\mathcal{K}v)(t)\| \leq R = 4M \|u_0\|$ for $t_0 \leq t \leq T_1$
it suffices to choose $t_0 < T_1 \leq t_1$ such that

$$2M \|u_0\| + 4M \|u_0\| 2M L (T - t_0) + 2M F (T - t_0) \leq 4M \|u_0\|$$

Hence

$$T_1 = \min \left\{ t_1, t_0 + \frac{2M \|u_0\|}{8M^2 L \|u_0\| + 2M F} \right\}$$

With this choice

$$\mathcal{K}: C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R)) \rightarrow C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R))$$

is well defined. Moreover for $t_0 \leq t \leq T_1$:

$$\begin{aligned} \| (K v_1 - K v_2)(t) \| &\leq \int_{t_0}^t 2M L \| v_1(s) - v_2(s) \| ds \\ &\leq \frac{4M^2 L \| v_0 \|}{8M^2 L \| v_0 \| + 2M} \sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq T_1} \| v_1(s) - v_2(s) \| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq T_1} \| v_1(s) - v_2(s) \| \end{aligned}$$

Hence K is a contraction with Lipschitz constant $\frac{1}{2}$ in the complete metric space

$$C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R))$$

endowed with the supremum metric:

$$d_\infty(v_1, v_2) = \sup_{t_0 \leq s \leq T_1} \| v_1(s) - v_2(s) \|_X$$

(Note that $B(0, R) = \{x \in X : \|x\| \leq R\}$ is closed.)

Consequently, K has a unique fixed point which is equivalent to (5) has a unique soln:

$$u \in (C([t_0, T_1], B(0, R)))$$

Consider now another solution of (5)

$$\tilde{u} \in (C([t_0, T_1], X))$$

and let

$$J = \{t \in [t_0, T_1] \mid u(s) = \tilde{u}(s) \text{ for } t_0 \leq s \leq t\}$$

then $t_0 \in J$ since $u(t_0) = \tilde{u}(t_0) = u_0$.

J is closed since both u, \tilde{u} are continuous

J is open in $[t_0, T_1]$: if $t_2 \in J$, $t_2 < T_1$ then from the choice of T_1 we get $\|U(t_2)\| < R \Rightarrow \|U(t_2)\| = \|\tilde{U}(t_2)\| < R$ and from continuity of $\tilde{U} \Rightarrow \exists T_2 > t_2$ such that $\|\tilde{U}(t)\| \leq R$ on $t_0 \leq t \leq T_2$. Since $K|C([t_0, T_2], \mathcal{B}(0, R))$ is contractive

we get $U(t) = \tilde{U}(t)$ on $[t_0, T_2]$ so $[t_0, t_2 + T_2 - t_2) \subseteq J \Rightarrow J$ open

In conclusion $U(t) = \tilde{U}(t)$ on $[t_0, T_1]$ and (5) has a unique solution in $C([t_0, T_1], X)$.

Maximal solution: Consider

$$(6) \quad U(t) = T(t)x + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s, U(s)) ds \quad 0 \leq t < T$$

Let $S = \{U: [0, \tau) \rightarrow X \mid U \text{ continuous, } U \text{ satisfies (6) on } [0, \tau)\}$

$S \neq \emptyset$: Use the local existence for $t_0=0$ and choose $\tau = T(0, \|x\|)$.

Define the order relation on S

$U_1 \leq U_2$ iff U_2 is defined on a larger interval than U_1 and $U_1(t) = U_2(t)$ on their common interval of definition.

Consider a totally ordered subset $C \subseteq S$ indexed by J

$$C = \{u_j: I_j \rightarrow X \mid j \in J, u_{j_1} \leq u_{j_2} \text{ or } u_{j_2} \leq u_{j_1} \forall j_1, j_2 \in J\}$$

then define

$$u_c: \bigcup_{j \in J} I_j \rightarrow X$$

by $u_c(t) = u_j(t)$ if $t \in I_j$

Note u_c is well defined: for $t \in I_{j_1} \cap I_{j_2}$ we have $u_{j_1} \leq u_{j_2}$ or $u_{j_2} \leq u_{j_1}$ in any case $u_{j_1}(t) = u_{j_2}(t)$

u_c is continuous, since for $t \in I_j$ $\exists \varepsilon < 0$ such that $(t-\varepsilon, t+\varepsilon) \subseteq I_j \Rightarrow u_c = u_j$ on $(t-\varepsilon, t+\varepsilon) \Rightarrow u_c$ continuous.
 $u_j \leq u_c \quad \forall j \in J.$

So u_c is an upper bound for C . By Zorn's Lemma S has a maximal element

$u: [0, \tilde{T}_{\max}) \rightarrow X$ continuous, u satisfies (6) on $[0, \tilde{T}_{\max})$. hence u is a mild solution of the problem
If $\tilde{u}: [0, \tilde{T}_{\max}) \rightarrow X$ is another maximal element then WLOG consider $\tilde{T}_{\max} \leq T_{\max}$ and

$J = \{t \in [0, \tilde{T}_{\max}): u(s) = \tilde{u}(s) \text{ on } 0 \leq s \leq t\}$
then $0 \in J$, J is closed by continuity of u and \tilde{u} , and J is open

since for $t_0 \in Y \exists T(t_0, \|U(t_0)\|) \in [t_0, T_{max})$
 such that (5) has a unique solution in
 $C([t_0, T(t_0, \|U_0\|)], X)$ but both U and \tilde{U} are
 solutions of (5) in $C([t_0, T(t_0, \|U_0\|)], X)$ hence
 $[0, T(t_0, \|U_0\|)] \subseteq Y \Rightarrow Y$ open.
 So $\tilde{U}(t) = U(t)$ on $[0, \tilde{T}_{max}] \Rightarrow \tilde{U} \leq U \Rightarrow \tilde{U} = U$. maximality

Finally if $T_{max} < T$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow T_{max}} \|U(t)\| < \infty$

then consider $t_n \rightarrow T_{max}$ and

$$N = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{ \|U(t_n)\| \} < \infty$$

Note that

$(J_n) \quad U(t) = T(t - t_n)U(t_n) + \int_{t_n}^t T(t-s)f(s, U(s)) ds.$
 But by local existence (J_n) has t_n unique solutions
 in

$$C([t_n, T(t_n, \|U(t_n)\|)], X)$$

and

$T(t_n, \|U(t_n)\|) - t_n \gg T(t_1, N) - t_1 > 0$
 $\Rightarrow U$ can be extended on

$[0, T_{max} + T(t_1, N) - t_1]$
 in contradiction with the maximality of U .