

Nonlinear Nonautonomous Differential Equations

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Introduction.

Let  $X$  be a real Banach space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$  and let  $C = C([-r,0];X)$ ,  $0 \leq r < \infty$ , be the Banach space of all continuous functions from  $[-r,0]$  into  $X$ . We denote the norm of  $\phi \in C$  by  $\|\phi\|_C$ , i.e.,  $\|\phi\|_C = \sup_{\theta \in [-r,0]} \|\phi(\theta)\|$ .

This paper is concerned with the abstract nonlinear functional differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(FDE; } \phi)_s \quad & u'(t) + A(t)u(t) \ni F(t, u_t), \quad t \in [s, T] \quad (s \geq 0) \\ & u_s = \phi, \end{aligned}$$

where  $u: [-r, T] \rightarrow X$  is the unknown function;  $\{A(t); t \in [0, T]\}$  is a given family of operators in  $X$ ;  $F: [0, T] \times C \rightarrow X$  is a given function;  $\phi$  is given in  $C$ . The symbol  $u_t$  denotes the function  $u_t(\theta) = u(t+\theta)$ ,  $\theta \in [-r, T]$ .

We assume that the following conditions (A.1) – (A.4) hold:

(A.1) There exists a constant  $\alpha_0$  such that for each  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $A(t) + \alpha_0$  is accretive and  $R(I + \lambda A(t)) = X$  for  $0 < \lambda < 1/\max(0, \alpha_0)$ .

(A.2) There are a continuous function  $h: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  which is of bounded variation on  $[0, T]$ , and a monotone increasing continuous function  $L_1: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that

$$\|A_\lambda(t)x - A_\lambda(\tau)x\| \leq \|h(t) - h(\tau)\| L_1(\|x\|)(1 + \|A_\lambda(\tau)x\|)$$

for  $0 < \lambda < 1/\max(0, \alpha_0)$ ,  $t, \tau \in [0, T]$  and  $x \in X$ , where

$$J_\lambda(t) = (I + \lambda A(t))^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad A_\lambda(t) = \lambda^{-1}(I - J_\lambda(t)).$$

(A.3) There exists a constant  $\beta_0 > 0$  such that for  $\phi, \psi \in C$  and  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $\|F(t, \phi) - F(t, \psi)\| \leq \beta_0 \|\phi - \psi\|_C$ .

(A.4) There are a continuous function  $k:[0,T] \rightarrow X$  which is of bounded variation on  $[0,T]$ , and a monotone increasing function  $L_2:[0,\infty) \rightarrow [0,\infty)$  such that for  $t, \tau \in [0,T]$  and  $\phi \in C$ ,

$$\|F(t, \phi) - F(\tau, \phi)\| \leq \|k(t) - k(\tau)\| L_2(\|\phi\|_C).$$

The purpose of this paper is to show the existence of a generalized solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_S$ . In particular, in case  $X$  is reflexive, we show that the generalized solution is the strong solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_S$ .

Recently, Kartsatos [6] has proved the existence of the evolution operator associated with  $(FDE; \phi)_S$  under the following conditions (B.2) and (B.3) instead of (A.2), (A.3) and (A.4).

(B.2) There exists an increasing continuous function  $L:[0,\infty) \rightarrow [0,\infty)$  such that for all  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $x \in X$ ,  $t, \tau \in [0,T]$ ,

$$\|A_\lambda(t)x - A_\lambda(\tau)x\| \leq |t - \tau| L(\|x\|)(1 + \|A_\lambda(\tau)x\|).$$

(B.3) There exists a positive constant  $b$  such that

$$\|F(\tau, f_1) - F(t, f_2)\| \leq b(|t - \tau| + \|f_1 - f_2\|_C)$$

for every  $t, \tau \in [0,T]$ ,  $f_1, f_2 \in C$ .

In order to apply the method of successive approximations to  $(FDE; \phi)_S$ , he essentially used conditions (B.2) and (B.3) which imply that  $A_\lambda(t)x$  and  $F(t, f)$  are Lipschitz continuous in  $t$ . However this method does not seem to be directly applicable under (A.1) - (A.4). Also, it has not been proved that the generalized solutions in the sense of Kartsatos are weak solutions, except on a small interval in which they are Lipschitz continuous. (For a refined definition of weak solutions, see Definition 2.)

Now, in order to improve these points, we use the nonlinear evolution operator theory of Crandall and Pazy [2] as the main

tool for solving  $(FDE;\phi)_s$ . Various author have so far considered  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  under different setting in nonlinear operator theory. (For example, see [3,4,10].)

This paper consists of three sections. In section 1, we recall the nonlinear evolution operator theory. In section 2, we show that the existence of generalized solutions of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  and it is represented as the uniform limit of a sequence of strong solutions of the approximating equations for  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  involving the Yosida approximations. Finally, in section 3, we investigate some properties of generalized solutions and consider weak solutions and give the existence for strong solutions of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  when  $X$  is reflexive.

### 1. Basic concept of nonlinear evolution operator theory

We discuss briefly some concepts in the nonlinear evolution operator theory. Let  $Y$  be a Banach space with  $\| \cdot \|_Y$ . A family  $\{V(t,s); 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$  of operators  $V(t,s): Y \rightarrow Y$  is said to be a family of operators, if

$$V(t,t)y = y \text{ for all } y \in Y \text{ and } t \in [0,T],$$

$$V(t,r)V(r,s) = V(t,s) \text{ for } 0 \leq s \leq r \leq t \leq T.$$

Let  $\{V(t,s); 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$  be an evolution operator and define the operator  $B(t)$  by

$$D(B(t)) = \{y \in Y; \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} (1/h)(V(t+h,t)y - y) \text{ exists}\}$$

$$-B(t)y = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} (1/h)(V(t+h,t)y - y) \text{ for } y \in D(B(t)).$$

If  $D(B(t))$  is non-empty for each  $t \geq 0$ , then the family  $-B(t)$  is said to be the infinitesimal generator of  $V(t,s)$ .

Consider the problem  $(FDE; \phi)_s$ . Suppose that for every  $\phi \in C$  and  $s \geq 0$ ,  $(FDE; \phi)_s$  has the unique solution  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  and that  $A(t)$  and  $F$  are continuous. Then one can find that the infinitesimal generator of the evolution operator  $V(t, s)$ , defined by  $V(t, s)\phi = u_t(s, \phi)$  is given by

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} D(\hat{A}(t)) &= \{ \phi \in C; \phi' \in C, \phi(0) \in D(A(t)), \\ &\quad \phi'(0) + A(t)\phi(0) \ni F(t, \phi) \} \\ \hat{A}(t)\phi &= -\phi'. \end{aligned}$$

Conversely, given the family  $A(t)$ , we shall prove that under suitable conditions on  $A(t)$  and  $F$ ,  $A(t)$  generates an evolution operator  $V(t, s)$  such that  $V(t, s)\phi$  gives the segments of a solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_s$ . This will rely on the following result due to Crandall - Pazy [2].

A subset  $B$  of  $Y \times Y$  is in class  $\mathcal{A}(\omega)$  if for each  $\lambda > 0$  such that  $\lambda\omega > 1$  and each pair  $[y_i, z_i] \in B$ ,  $i=1, 2$ , we have

$$(1.2) \quad \| (y_1 + \lambda z_1) - (y_2 + \lambda z_2) \|_Y \geq (1 - \lambda\omega) \| y_1 - y_2 \|_Y.$$

$B$  is called accretive if  $B \in \mathcal{A}(0)$ . Also, (1.2) implies that

$(I + \lambda B)^{-1}$  exists on  $R(I + \lambda B)$  and is a Lipschitzian with constant  $(1 - \lambda\omega)^{-1}$ . Let  $B \in \mathcal{A}(\omega)$  and  $R(I + \lambda B) = Y$  for all  $0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_0$ .

Define  $|By|$  by  $|By| = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} \| B_\lambda y \|_Y$ , where  $J_\lambda = (I + \lambda B)^{-1}$  and  $B_\lambda = \lambda^{-1}(I - J_\lambda)$ . (Note that this limit exists, although it may be infinite.) For such  $B$  we define  $\hat{D}(B) = \{ y \in Y; |By| < \infty \}$

which is called a generalized domain of  $B$ .

**Theorem 1. (Crandall-Pazy).** Let  $T > 0$  and  $\omega$  be real number and assume that  $B(t)$  satisfies the following conditions:

$$(C.1) \quad B(t) \in \mathcal{A}(\omega) \text{ for } 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

(C.2)  $R(I + \lambda B(t)) = Y$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T$  and  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ , where  $\lambda_0 > 0$  and  $\lambda_0 \omega < 1$ ,

(C.3) There are a continuous function  $f: [0, T] \rightarrow Y$  which is of bounded variation on  $[0, T]$ , and a monotone increasing function  $L: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that

$$\|B_\lambda(t)y - B_\lambda(\tau)y\|_Y \leq \|f(t) - f(\tau)\|_Y L(\|y\|_Y)(1 + \|B_\lambda(\tau)y\|_Y)$$

for  $0 < \lambda < \lambda_0$ ,  $0 \leq t, \tau \leq T$  and  $y \in Y$ .

Then

$$(1.3) \quad V(t, s)y = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i=1}^n (I + (\frac{t-s}{n})B(s + i(\frac{t-s}{n})))^{-1}y$$

exists for  $y \in \overline{D(B(t))}$  and  $0 \leq s < t \leq T$ . The  $V(t, s)$  defined by (1.3) for  $0 \leq s < t \leq T$  and by  $V(t, t) = I$  for  $0 \leq t \leq T$  is an evolution operator on  $\overline{D(B(t))}$ .

2. On the existence of generalized solutions of  $(FDE; \phi)_s$

We define for each  $t \in [0, T]$  an operator  $\hat{A}(t): D(\hat{A}(t)) \subset C \rightarrow C$  by (1.1).

Proposition 1. Suppose that conditions (A.1)-(A.4) hold. If  $\{\hat{A}(t); t \in [0, T]\}$  is the family of operators defined in C by (1.1), then there exists a family of nonlinear evolution operators  $V(t, s): \overline{D(\hat{A}(t))} \subset C \rightarrow C$  such that for all  $\phi \in \overline{D(\hat{A}(t))}$

$$(2.1) \quad V(t, s)\phi = \begin{cases} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \prod_{i=1}^n (I + (\frac{t-s}{n})\hat{A}(s + i(\frac{t-s}{n})))^{-1}\phi & 0 \leq s < t \leq T, \\ \phi & 0 \leq s = t \leq T. \end{cases}$$

Proof. We are going to apply Theorem 1 for  $B(t) = \hat{A}(t)$  and  $Y = C$ . Under assumptions (A.1) and (A.3) we can apply [11, Proposition 1] to show that  $\hat{A}(t) \in \hat{A}(\omega_0)$  for  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $R(I + \lambda \hat{A}(t)) = C$  for  $0 < \lambda < 1/\omega_0$ , where  $\omega_0 = \max(0, \alpha_0 + \beta_0)$ . Thus

conditions (C.1) and (C.2) hold for  $\hat{A}(t)$ . Next, by using the same argument as in [4, Theorems 12 and 13] and the inequality

$\|h(t) - h(\tau)\| + \|k(t) - k(\tau)\| \leq |g(t) - g(\tau)|$ , where  $g(t) = \text{Var}([0,t];h) + \text{Var}([0,t];k)$  and  $\text{Var}([0,t];h)$  denotes the total variation of  $h$  on  $[0,t]$ , we will show that  $\hat{A}(t)$  satisfies (C.3) with  $B(t) = \hat{A}(t)$  and  $f(t) = g(t)I$ , where  $I$  denotes the identity in  $X$ . To this end, set  $\phi(t, \cdot) = (I + \lambda A(t))^{-1} \psi, \psi \in C$ . Then we have  $\phi(t, \theta) = e^{\theta/\lambda} \phi(t, 0) + \int_{\theta}^0 \frac{1}{\lambda} e^{-(s-\theta)/\lambda} \psi(s) ds$ , and by  $\phi(t, \cdot) \in D(\hat{A}(t))$ , we have  $\phi(t, 0) = \psi(0) + \lambda \phi'(t, 0) = \psi(0) - \lambda A(t) \phi(t, 0) + \lambda F(t, \phi(t, \cdot))$ , i.e.,  $\phi(t, 0) = (I + \lambda A(t))^{-1} (\psi(0) + \lambda F(t, \phi(t, \cdot)))$ .

Now, for  $0 < \lambda < 1$  with  $\lambda \omega_0 < 1/2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \phi(t, \cdot) - \phi(\tau, \cdot) \|_C = \| \phi(t, 0) - \phi(\tau, 0) \| \\ &= \| (I + \lambda A(t))^{-1} (\psi(0) + \lambda F(t, \phi(t, \cdot))) \\ & \quad - (I + \lambda A(\tau))^{-1} (\psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))) \| \\ &\leq \lambda (1 - \lambda \alpha_0)^{-1} \| F(t, \phi(t, \cdot)) - F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot)) \| \\ & \quad + \lambda \| h(t) - h(\tau) \| L_1( \| \psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot)) \| ) \\ & \quad \times (1 + \| A_\lambda(\tau) (\psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))) \| ). \end{aligned}$$

But,

$$\begin{aligned} & \| A_\lambda(\tau) (\psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))) \| \\ &= \lambda^{-1} \| \psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot)) - J_\lambda(\tau) (\psi(0) + \lambda F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))) \| \\ &\leq \| \hat{A}_\lambda(\tau) \psi \|_C + \| F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot)) \|, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \phi(t, \cdot) - \phi(\tau, \cdot) \|_C \\ &\leq \lambda (1 - \lambda \alpha_0)^{-1} [ \beta_0 \| \phi(t, \cdot) - \phi(\tau, \cdot) \|_C \\ & \quad + \| k(t) - k(\tau) \| L_2( \| \phi(\tau, \cdot) \|_C) ] + \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \lambda \|h(t) - h(\tau)\|_{L_1} (\|\psi(0)\| + \lambda \|F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))\|) \\ \times (1 + \|\hat{A}_\lambda(\tau)\psi\|_C + \|F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))\|).$$

Thus there exists a constant  $K_1$  such that

$$(2.2) \quad \|\phi(t, \cdot) - \phi(\tau, \cdot)\|_C \\ \leq K_1 \lambda |g(t) - g(\tau)| [1 + \|\hat{A}_\lambda(\tau)\psi\|_C] [L_2(\|\phi(\tau, \cdot)\|_C) \\ + (1 + \|F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))\|) L_1(\|\psi(0)\| + \lambda \|F(\tau, \phi(\tau, \cdot))\|)].$$

Suppose that  $\chi \in C$  and  $\phi_0 \in D(\hat{A}(0))$ . Then  $\|F(\tau, \chi)\| \leq$

$$\beta_0 [\|\chi\|_C + \|\phi_0\|_C] + \|k(\tau) - k(0)\|_{L_2} (\|\phi_0\|_C) + \|F(0, \phi_0)\|$$

and hence  $\|F(\tau, \chi)\|$  is bounded by an increasing function of  $\|\chi\|_C$ . It remains to prove that  $\|\phi(\tau, \cdot)\|_C \leq L_3(\|\psi\|_C)$  for some monotone increasing function  $L_3$ . From (2.2),  $\|\phi(\tau, \cdot)\|_C \leq$

$$\leq \|\phi(0, \cdot)\|_C + K_1 \lambda |g(\tau) - g(0)| [1 + \|\hat{A}_\lambda(0)\psi\|_C] \times \\ \times [L_2(\|\phi(0, \cdot)\|_C) + \\ + (1 + \|F(0, \phi(0, \cdot))\|) L_1(\|\psi(0)\| + \lambda \|F(0, \phi(0, \cdot))\|)].$$

However  $\lambda \|\hat{A}_\lambda(0)\psi\|_C = \|\psi - \hat{J}_\lambda(0)\psi\|_C \leq \|\psi\|_C + \|\phi(0, \cdot)\|_C$

and if  $\phi_0 \in D(\hat{A}(0))$  then

$$\|\phi(0, \cdot)\|_C = \|(1 + \lambda \hat{A}(0))^{-1} \psi\|_C \\ \leq (1 - \lambda \omega_0)^{-1} [\|\psi - \phi_0\|_C + \lambda \|\hat{A}(0)\phi_0\|_C] + \|\phi_0\|_C \\ \leq K_2 [\|\psi\|_C + \|\phi_0\|_C + \|\hat{A}(0)\phi_0\|_C] \text{ for some } K_2,$$

which implies that

$\|\phi(0, \cdot)\|_C$  is bounded by a monotone increasing function of  $\|\psi\|_C$ . Thus  $\hat{A}(t)$  satisfies (C.3) with  $B(t) = \hat{A}(t)$  and  $f(t) = g(t)I$ . Therefore, the conclusion of the proposition follows from

Theorem 1.

Q.E.D.

Note that, as was proved in [5],  $\hat{D}(\hat{A}(t))$  is independent of  $t$  because  $\hat{A}(t)$  satisfies (C.3) and also  $\hat{D}(A(t))$  is independent of  $t$  because of (A.2). In what follows,  $\hat{D}_0$  and  $\hat{D}$  stand for a generalized domain of  $\hat{A}(0)$  and  $A(0)$ , respectively.

As in [3, Proposition 1], we have the following

Proposition 2. Suppose that conditions (A.1)-(A.4) hold.

If  $u(s,\phi)(\cdot)$  for each  $\phi \in \hat{D}_0$  and  $s \geq 0$  is defined by

$$(2.3) \quad u(s,\phi)(t) = \begin{cases} \phi(t-s) & s-r \leq t \leq s, \\ (V(t,s)\phi)(0) & s \leq t \leq T, \end{cases}$$

where  $V(t,s)$  is as constructed by Proposition 1, then

$u(s,\phi)(\cdot) \in C([s-r, T]; X)$  and  $V(t,s)\phi = u_t(s,\phi)$  for  $t \in [s, T]$ .

Remark. We introduce the following stronger conditions than

(A.1) and (A.2):

(A.1)' There exists a constant  $\alpha_1 > 0$  such that for  $x, y \in X$ ,  
 $\|A(t)x - A(t)y\| \leq \alpha_1 \|x - y\|$ .

(A.2)' There are a continuous function  $h: [0, T] \rightarrow X$  which is of bounded variation on  $[0, T]$  and a monotone increasing continuous function  $L_4: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that

$$\|A(t)x - A(\tau)x\| \leq \|h(t) - h(\tau)\| L_4(\|x\|)(1 + \|A(\tau)x\|)$$

for all  $t, \tau \in [0, T]$  and  $x \in X$ .

Since (A.1)' and (A.2)' imply (A.1) and (A.2), Propositions 1 and 2 hold, although (A.1) and (A.2) are replaced by (A.1)' and (A.2)'. .

Next, we recall the following expression for  $\hat{D}_0$ .

Lemma 1 ([4, Theorem 10]). Let  $A(t)$  and  $F(t, \phi)$  satisfy conditions (A.1) and (A.3). Then

$$\hat{D}_0 = \{\phi \in C; \phi \text{ is Lipschitz continuous function and } \phi(0) \in \hat{D}\}.$$



Remark. If  $\phi$  is Lipschitz continuous function and  $\phi(0) \in \hat{D}$ , then the function defined by (2.3) is a Lipschitzian. In fact, for such  $\phi$ , by [2, Proposition 2.3] and Lemma 1, there exists a constant  $K$  such that for  $0 \leq s \leq t, \tau \leq T$ ,  $\|V(t,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C \leq K|t - \tau|$ . So that our assertion holds.

Definition 1. A function  $u(s,\phi)(\cdot) \in C([-r,T];X)$  is said to be a strong solution of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  if it is an absolutely continuous function which is differentiable a.e. on  $[s,T]$  and satisfies  $(FDE;\phi)_s$  a.e. on  $[s,T]$ .

We shall first prove the following uniqueness result for strong solutions of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$ .

Proposition 3. Assume that  $\{A(t); t \in [0,T]\}$  and  $F:[0,T] \times C \rightarrow X$  satisfy conditions (A.1) and (A.3). Then there exists at most one strong solution of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$ .

Proof. Let  $u(s,\phi)(t)$  and  $v(s,\phi)(t)$  be two strong solutions of  $(FDE;\phi)_s$ . Then  $\|u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t)\|$  is differentiable a.e.  $t$  and  $(d/dt) \|u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t)\|$

$$\begin{aligned} &= [u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t), u'(s,\phi)(t) - v'(s,\phi)(t)]_- \\ &\leq [u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t), F(t, u_t(s,\phi)) - F(t, v_t(s,\phi))]_+ \\ &\quad - [u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t), F(t, u_t(s,\phi)) - u'(s,\phi)(t) \\ &\quad \quad \quad - F(t, v_t(s,\phi)) + v'(s,\phi)(t)]_+. \end{aligned}$$

By  $A(t) \in A(\alpha_0)$  and (A.3), we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} &(d/dt) \|u(s,\phi)(t) - v(s,\phi)(t)\| \\ &\leq (\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \|u_t(s,\phi) - v_t(s,\phi)\|_C \quad \text{a.e. } t \in [s,T], \end{aligned}$$

which yields that for  $t \in [s, T]$ ,

$$\sup_{\theta \in [s-r, t]} \|u(s, \phi)(\theta) - v(s, \phi)(\theta)\| \leq \begin{cases} (\alpha_0 + \beta_0) \int_0^t \sup_{\theta \in [s-r, \tau]} \|u(s, \phi)(\theta) - v(s, \phi)(\theta)\| d\tau & \text{if } \alpha_0 + \beta_0 > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By Gronwall's inequality, we have that

$$\sup_{\theta \in [s-r, T]} \|u(s, \phi)(\theta) - v(s, \phi)(\theta)\| = 0, \text{ i.e., } u(s, \phi) = v(s, \phi).$$

Q.E.D.

We next prove the existence of strong solutions to  $(FDE; \phi)_s$  under stronger conditions than those in Propositions 1 and 2.

Proposition 4. Suppose that conditions  $(A.1)'$ ,  $(A.2)'$ ,  $(A.3)$  and  $(A.4)$  hold. If  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  is the function defined by (2.3), then  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot) \in C^1([s-r, T]; X)$  and satisfies

$$(2.4) \quad u'(s, \phi)(t) + A(t)(u(s, \phi)(t)) = F(t, u_t(s, \phi))$$

for  $t \in [s, T]$  and for all  $\phi \in \text{Lip} \equiv \{\phi \in C; \phi \text{ is Lipschitz continuous}\}$ .

Proof. By Remark after Proposition 2,  $\{V(t, s); 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$  defined by (2.1) is an evolution operator. We approximate  $V(t, s)$  by the evolution operator  $V_\lambda(t, s)$  generated by  $\hat{A}_\lambda(t) = \hat{A}(t)\hat{J}_\lambda(t) = \lambda^{-1}(I - \hat{J}_\lambda(t))$ . From [2, Lemma 4.2], we see that for  $\phi \in \bar{D}_0$ ,  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} V_\lambda(t, s)\phi = V(t, s)\phi$  uniformly in  $t \in [s, T]$ .

Also, the approximate problem

$$u'(t) + \hat{A}_\lambda(t)u_\lambda(t) = 0, \quad t \in [s, T], \quad u_\lambda(s) = \phi,$$

has a unique continuously differentiable solution  $u_\lambda(t) = V_\lambda(t, s)\phi$ .

Hence, we have that

$$V_\lambda(t, s)\phi = \phi - \int_s^t \hat{A}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau, s)\phi d\tau = \phi - \int_s^t \hat{A}(\tau)\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau, s)\phi d\tau.$$

Taking account of the definition of  $D(\hat{A}(\tau))$ , we obtain that

$$(2.5) \quad (V_\lambda(t,s)\phi)(0) = \phi(0) - \int_s^t [A(\tau)(\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi)(0) - F(\tau,\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi)] d\tau.$$

Now, by (A.1)' and (A.3), we see that

$$I_1 = \int_s^t \|A(\tau)(\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi)(0) - A(\tau)(V(\tau,s)\phi)(0)\| d\tau \\ \leq \alpha_1 \int_s^t \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C d\tau$$

and

$$I_2 = \int_s^t \|F(\tau,\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi) - F(\tau,V(\tau,s)\phi)\| d\tau \\ \leq \beta_0 \int_s^t \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C d\tau.$$

Let  $\phi \in \hat{D}_0$ ; note here that  $\phi \in \text{Lip}$  by  $D(A(t)) = X$  and Lemma 1.

For each  $\tau \in [s,T]$ , we have for  $\lambda$  with  $\lambda\omega_1 < 1$ ,

$$I_3 = \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C \\ \leq (1 - \lambda\omega_1)^{-1} \|V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C \\ + \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V(\tau,s)\phi - V(\tau,s)\phi\|_C, \text{ where } \omega_1 = \alpha_1 + \beta_0.$$

By [2, Proposition 2.4],  $V(\tau,s)\phi \in \hat{D}_0$  for  $\phi \in \hat{D}_0$ . This implies that the second term of the above inequality tends to zero as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0+$ .

Hence  $I_3 \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0+$ .

Next, we note that

$$(2.6) \quad \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi\|_C \\ \leq (1 - \lambda\omega_1)^{-1} \|V_\lambda(\tau,s)\phi - \phi\|_C + \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)\phi\|_C.$$

Since (C.3) is satisfied with  $B(t) = \hat{A}(t)$  and  $f(t) = g(t)I$ , it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.7) \quad & \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)\phi\|_C \\
\leq & \|\hat{J}_\lambda(s)\phi\|_C + \lambda|g(\tau) - g(s)|L(\|\phi\|_C)(1 + \|\hat{A}_\lambda(s)\phi\|_C) \\
\leq & \lambda\|\hat{A}_\lambda(s)\phi\|_C + \|\phi\|_C \\
& + \lambda|g(\tau) - g(s)|L(\|\phi\|_C)(1 + \|\hat{A}_\lambda(s)\phi\|_C) \\
\leq & \lambda(1 - \lambda\omega_1)^{-1}|\hat{A}(s)\phi| + \|\phi\|_C \\
& + \lambda|g(\tau) - g(s)|L(\|\phi\|_C)(1 + (1 - \lambda\omega_1)^{-1}|\hat{A}(s)\phi|).
\end{aligned}$$

Besides, since  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} \{\sup_{\tau \in [s, T]} \|V_\lambda(\tau, s)\phi - V(\tau, s)\phi\|_C\} = 0$ , we see that there exists  $\lambda_1$  such that if  $0 < \lambda \leq \lambda_1$ ,  $\sup_{\tau \in [s, T]} \|V_\lambda(\tau, s)\phi - V(\tau, s)\phi\|_C < 1$ . Thus it follows from (2.6) and (2.7) that  $\sup_{0 < \lambda < \lambda_1} (\sup_{\tau \in [s, T]} \|\hat{J}_\lambda(\tau)V_\lambda(\tau, s)\phi\|_C)$  is bounded. By the Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem, we obtain that  $I_1 \rightarrow 0$  and  $I_2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ . Therefore, letting  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$  in (2.5) yields (2.4). Q.E.D.

Remark. In general setting  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  defined by (2.3) need not have a strong derivative. We may have regard the function  $u(s, \phi)(t)$  as a generalized solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_s$  and investigate the meaning of generalized solutions. For convenience, the function  $u(s, \phi)(t)$  defined by (2.3) is called a generalized solution.

Now, we consider the approximate problem

$$\begin{aligned}
(FDE; \phi)_s^\beta \quad & u_\beta'(t) + A_\beta(t)u_\beta(t) = F(t, u_{\beta t}) \quad t \in [s, T] \\
& u_{\beta s} = \phi,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $A_\beta(t)$  is the Yosida approximation of  $A(t)$ .

We define  $\hat{A}^\beta(t): D(\hat{A}^\beta(t)) \subset C \rightarrow C$  by

$$\hat{A}^\beta(t)\phi = -\phi'$$

$$D(\hat{A}^\beta(t)) = \{\phi \in C; \phi' \in C, \phi'(0) + A_\beta(t)\phi(0) = F(t, \phi)\}.$$

Clearly  $A_\beta(t)$  satisfies the conditions of Proposition 4 with  $\alpha_1 = \beta^{-1}(1 + (1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1})$ ; see [2, Lemma 1.2]. Therefore, there exists a family of nonlinear evolution operators  $\{V_\beta(t,s); 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$  generated by  $\hat{A}^\beta(t)$ . If  $u_\beta(s,\phi)(\cdot)$  is defined by

$$u_\beta(s,\phi)(t) = \begin{cases} \phi(t-s) & s-r \leq t \leq s, \\ (V_\beta(t,s)\phi)(0) & s \leq t \leq T, \end{cases}$$

then  $u_\beta(s,\phi)(t)$  is the strong solution of  $(FDE;\phi)_S^\beta$  and by Proposition 2,  $V_\beta(t,s)\phi = u_{\beta t}(s,\phi)$  for  $s \leq t \leq T$  and  $\phi \in \text{Lip}$ . By the proof of [2, Lemma 4.2],  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} (1 + \lambda A_\beta(t))^{-1}x = (1 + \lambda A(t))^{-1}x$  for  $x \in X$  and sufficiently small  $\lambda$ . Thus, by [10, Lemma 3.2], we obtain that  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} (1 + \lambda \hat{A}^\beta(t))^{-1}\phi = (1 + \lambda \hat{A}(t))^{-1}\phi$  for  $\phi \in C$  and small  $\lambda$ . Also, it follows from [2, Lemma 4.1] that  $A_\beta(t)$  satisfies (A.1) and (A.2) uniformly in  $\beta$ , sufficiently small and hence  $\hat{A}^\beta(t)$  satisfies (C.1)-(C.3) uniformly in  $\beta$ , sufficiently small. (To speak more carefully, by the same way as Proposition 1, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} & \| \phi_\beta(t, \cdot) - \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot) \|_C \\ & \leq K_3 \lambda |g(t) - g(\tau)| [1 + \| \hat{A}_\lambda^\beta(\tau)\psi \|_C] [L_2(\| \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot) \|_C) + \\ & \quad + (1 + \| F(\tau, \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot)) \|) L_1(\| \psi(0) \| + \lambda \| F(\tau, \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot)) \|)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $\phi_\beta(t, \cdot) = (1 + \lambda \hat{A}^\beta(t))^{-1}\psi$ ,  $\psi \in C$ ,

and if  $\chi \in C$  and  $\phi_0 \in D(\hat{A}(0))$  then

$$\| F(\tau, \chi) \| \text{ is bounded by an increasing function of } \| \chi \|_C.$$

Now, in this case, we must prove that

$$(2.8) \quad \| \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot) \|_C \leq L_5(\| \psi \|_C)$$

for some monotone increasing function  $L_5$ . However, since  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} (1 + \lambda \hat{A}^\beta(t))^{-1}\phi = (1 + \lambda \hat{A}(t))^{-1}\phi$  for all  $\phi \in C$ ,

$$\| \phi_\beta(\tau, \cdot) \|_C \leq \| \phi(\tau, \cdot) \|_C + 1 \text{ for all small } \beta. \text{ Therefore,}$$

using  $\|\phi(\tau, \cdot)\|_C \leq L_3(\|\psi\|_C)$  (see, Proposition 1), (2.8) is proved and hence  $\hat{A}^\beta(t)$  satisfies (C.3) uniformly in  $\beta$ .) We can apply the Crandall-Pazy approximation theorem [2, Theorem 4.1] to give  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} V_\beta(t, s)\phi = V(t, s)\phi$  for all  $\phi \in \hat{D}_0$ . Therefore, by Proposition 2 and Lemma 1, we have that

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\phi \in \text{Lip}$  with  $\phi(0) \in \hat{D}$ . Suppose that  $\{A(t); t \in [0, T]\}$  and  $F: [0, T] \times C \rightarrow X$  satisfy conditions (A.1)-(A.4). If  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  is a generalized solution of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_s$  then  $u(s, \phi)(t) = \lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} u_\beta(s, \phi)(t)$  uniformly in  $t \in [s, T]$ , where  $u_\beta(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  is the strong solution of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_s^\beta$ .

3. Properties for generalized solutions and existence of weak solutions and strong solutions.

Our first result in this section is on the comparison of two generalized solutions.

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\phi_i \in \text{Lip}$  with  $\phi_i(0) \in \hat{D}$  for  $i=1, 2$ . If  $u(s, \phi_i)(\cdot)$  is a generalized solution of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi_i)_s$ , then we have

$$(3.1) \quad e^{-\alpha_0 t} \|u(s, \phi_1)(t) - u(s, \phi_2)(t)\| \\ - e^{-\alpha_0 \tau} \|u(s, \phi_1)(\tau) - u(s, \phi_2)(\tau)\| \\ \leq \int_\tau^t e^{-\alpha_0 \xi} [u(s, \phi_1)(\xi) - u(s, \phi_2)(\xi), F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi_1)) - F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi_2))]_+ d\xi$$

for  $s \leq \tau \leq t \leq T$ , where the symbol  $[x, y]_+$  is defined by

$$[x, y]_+ = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} \lambda^{-1} (\|x + \lambda y\| - \|x\|) \quad \text{for } x, y \in X.$$

**Proof.** Let  $u_\beta(s, \phi_i)(t)$  be the strong solution of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi_i)_s^\beta$  such that  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} u_\beta(s, \phi_i)(t) = u(s, \phi_i)(t)$  uniformly for  $t \in [s, T]$ .

Then  $\| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t) \|$  is differentiable a.e.  $t \in [s, T]$  and

$$(d/dt) \| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t) \|$$

$$= [u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t), -A_\beta(t)(u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t)) + F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi_1))$$

$$+ A_\beta(t)(u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t)) - F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi_2))]_-.$$

where  $[x, y]_- = -[x, -y]_+$ .

Since  $[x - y, A_\beta(t)x - A_\beta(t)y]_+ \leq -\alpha_0(1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1} \| x - y \|$ , it follows that

$$(d/dt) \| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t) \|$$

$$\leq \alpha_0(1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1} \| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t) \|$$

$$+ [u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t), F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi_1)) - F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi_2))]_+.$$

Integrating the above inequality, we have for  $s \leq \tau \leq t \leq T$ ,

$$\| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(t) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(t) \| - \| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(\tau) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(\tau) \|$$

$$\leq \alpha_0(1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1} \int_\tau^t \| u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(\xi) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(\xi) \| d\xi$$

$$+ \int_\tau^t [u_\beta(s, \phi_1)(\xi) - u_\beta(s, \phi_2)(\xi), F(\xi, u_{\beta\xi}(s, \phi_1)) - F(\xi, u_{\beta\xi}(s, \phi_2))]_+ d\xi.$$

Letting  $\beta \rightarrow 0+$  in this inequality, we see that for  $s \leq \tau \leq t \leq T$ ,

$$(3.2) \quad \| u(s, \phi_1)(t) - u(s, \phi_2)(t) \| - \| u(s, \phi_1)(\tau) - u(s, \phi_2)(\tau) \|$$

$$\leq \alpha_0 \int_\tau^t \| u(s, \phi_1)(\xi) - u(s, \phi_2)(\xi) \| d\xi$$

$$+ \int_\tau^t [u(s, \phi_1)(\xi) - u(s, \phi_2)(\xi), F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi_1)) - F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi_2))]_+ d\xi.$$

By the standard argument one can prove that (3.2) implies (3.1).

(For example, see [9].)

Q.E.D.

The following theorem gives the existence of integral solutions.

Theorem 4. Let  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  be a generalized solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_s$ .

Then the following inequality holds:

$$(3.4) \quad e^{-\alpha_0 t} \|u(s, \phi)(t) - x\| - e^{-\alpha_0 \tau} \|u(s, \phi)(\tau) - x\| \\ \leq \int_{\tau}^t e^{-\alpha_0 \xi} \{ [u(s, \phi)(\xi) - x, F(\xi, u_{\xi}(s, \phi)) - y]_+ + \theta(\xi, r) \} d\xi$$

for  $s \leq \tau \leq t$ ,  $[x, y] \in A(r)$ ,  $r \in [0, T]$ ,

where  $\theta(\xi, r) = L_1(\|x\|) \|h(\xi) - h(r)\| (1 + \|y\|)$ .

Proof. Let  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  be a generalized solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_s$ .

By Theorem 2,  $\lim_{\beta \rightarrow 0^+} u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) = u(s, \phi)(t)$  uniformly for  $t \in [s, T]$ , where  $u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t)$  is the strong solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_s^{\beta}$ . Let  $[x, y] \in A(r)$  and set  $x_{\beta} = x + \beta y$ . Note that  $x = J_{\beta}(r)x_{\beta}$  and  $y = A_{\beta}(r)x_{\beta}$ , where  $J_{\beta}(r)$  and  $A_{\beta}(r)$  are the resolvent and the Yosida approximation of  $A(r)$ , respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & (d/dt) \|u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}\| \\ &= [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, -A_{\beta}(t)(u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t)) + F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi))]_{-} \\ &\leq [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, -A_{\beta}(t)(u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t)) + y]_{-} \\ &\quad + [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi)) - y]_{+} \\ &\leq \beta^{-1} (\|u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta} + \beta(-A_{\beta}(t)(u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t)) + y)\| \\ &\quad - \|u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}\|) + [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi)) - y]_{+} \\ &= \beta^{-1} (\|J_{\beta}(t)(u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t)) - J_{\beta}(r)x_{\beta}\| - \|u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}\|) \\ &\quad + [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi)) - y]_{+} \\ &\leq L_1(\|x_{\beta}\|) \|h(t) - h(r)\| (1 + \|y\|) \\ &\quad + \alpha_0 (1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1} \|u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}\| \\ &\quad + [u_{\beta}(s, \phi)(t) - x_{\beta}, F(t, u_{\beta t}(s, \phi)) - y]_{+} \text{ by } A(t) \in \mathcal{A}(\alpha_0) \text{ and (A.2)}. \end{aligned}$$



Integrating these inequality over  $[\tau, t] \subset [s, T]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u_\beta(s, \phi)(t) - x_\beta\| - \|u_\beta(s, \phi)(\tau) - x_\beta\| \\ \leq & \int_\tau^t \{L_1(\|x_\beta\|) \|h(\xi) - h(r)\| (1 + \|y\|) \\ & + \alpha_0(1 - \beta\alpha_0)^{-1} \|u_\beta(s, \phi)(\xi) - x_\beta\| \\ & + [u_\beta(s, \phi)(\xi) - x_\beta, F(\xi, u_{\beta\xi}(s, \phi)) - y]_+\} d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\beta \rightarrow 0+$ , we see that for  $s \leq \tau \leq t \leq T$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (3.5) \quad & \|u(s, \phi)(t) - x\| - \|u(s, \phi)(\tau) - x\| \\ \leq & \int_\tau^t \{[u(s, \phi)(\xi) - x, F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi)) - y]_+ + \theta(\xi, r)\} d\xi \\ & + \alpha_0 \int_\tau^t \|u(s, \phi)(\xi) - x\| d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

which yields (3.4).

Q.E.D.

Next, we recall the definition of weak solutions in the sense of Kartsatos and Parrott [6,7] and consider the existence of weak solutions of  $(FDE; \phi)_0$ .

Definition 2. A function  $u(t) \in C([-r, T]; X)$  is said to be a weak solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_0$  if  $u(t) = \phi(t)$  for  $t \in [-r, 0]$  and

$$\begin{aligned} (DE) \quad & v'(t) + A(t)v(t) \ni F(t, u_t), \quad t \in [0, T] \\ & v(0) = \phi(0) \end{aligned}$$

has a solution  $v(t)$  in the sense of Evans [5] such that  $v(t) = u(t)$  for  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Remark. By definition and [5, Theorem 3], there exists at most one weak solution of  $(FDE; \phi)_0$ . Indeed, if  $u_1(t)$  and  $u_2(t)$  are two weak solutions, they satisfy the integral inequality

$$\|u_1(t) - u_2(t)\| \leq \int_0^t \|F(\tau, u_{1\tau}) - F(\tau, u_{2\tau})\| d\tau. \text{ (See [5, (8.3)].)}$$

Thus, by (A.3) and the Gronwall inequality,  $u_1(t) = u_2(t)$  for  $t \in [0, T]$ .

Theorem 5. Suppose that  $\{A(t); t \in [0, T]\}$  satisfy (A.1) with  $\alpha_0 = 0$  and (A.2) and  $F: [0, T] \times C \rightarrow X$  satisfy (A.3) and (A.4). If  $\phi \in \text{Lip}$  and  $\phi(0) \in \hat{D}$ , then  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_0$  has a unique weak solution.

Proof. It suffices to show a generalized solution  $u(0, \phi)(t)$  of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_0$  is a weak solution. Note that  $t \rightarrow F(t, u_t(0, \phi))$  is of bounded variation by (A.3) and (A.4) because  $u(0, \phi)(t)$  is Lipschitz continuous. Then (DE) has a solution  $v(t)$  in the sense of Evans, i.e., there exist sequence  $\{t_k^n\}$  and  $\{u_k^n\}$  such that

$$\text{i) } \frac{u_k^n - u_{k-1}^n}{h_k^n} + A(t_k^n)u_k^n \ni F(t_k^n, u_{t_k^n}(0, \phi)), \text{ where } h_k^n = t_k^n - t_{k-1}^n,$$

ii) the step functions  $v^n(t)$  ( $\equiv u_k^n$  on  $(t_{k-1}^n, t_k^n]$ ) converge uniformly on  $[0, T]$  to  $v(t)$ .

Note here that

$$M \equiv \max \left\{ \sup \|u_k^n\|, \sup \left\| \frac{u_k^n - u_{k-1}^n}{h_k^n} - F(t_k^n, u_{t_k^n}(0, \phi)) \right\| \right\} < \infty.$$

(See [5, Proof of Theorem 2].)

Let  $v_k^n \in A(t_k^n)u_k^n$ . By (3.5) we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u(0, \phi)(t) - u_k^n\| = \|u(0, \phi)(\tau) - u_k^n\| \\ & \leq \int_{\tau}^t \{ [u(0, \phi)(\xi) - u_k^n, F(\xi, u_{\xi}(0, \phi)) - v_k^n]_+ + \theta_1(\xi, t_k^n) \} d\xi \\ & \quad + \alpha_0 \int_{\tau}^t \|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - u_k^n\| d\xi, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta_1(\xi, r) = M_1 \|h(\xi) - h(r)\|$  and  $M_1 = L_1(M)(1 + M)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Since } h_k^n[u(0, \phi)(\xi) - u_k^n, F(\xi, u_\xi(0, \phi)) - v_k^n]_+ \\ & \leq \|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - u_{k-1}^n\| - \|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - u_k^n\| \\ & \quad + h_k^n \|F(\xi, u_\xi(0, \phi)) - F(t_k^n, u_{t_k^n}(0, \phi))\|, \end{aligned}$$

it follows by the standard argument that

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{t_j^n}^{t_i^n} (\|u(0, \phi)(t) - v^n(\eta)\| - \|u(0, \phi)(\tau) - v^n(\eta)\|) d\eta \\ & \leq \int_\tau^t (\|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - v^n(t_j^n)\| - \|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - v^n(t_i^n)\|) d\xi \\ & \quad + \int_{t_j^n}^{t_i^n} \int_\tau^t \{ \alpha_0 \|u(0, \phi)(\xi) - v^n(\eta)\| + \theta_1^n(\xi, \eta) \\ & \quad \quad + \|F(\xi, u_\xi(0, \phi)) - F^n(\eta)\| \} d\xi d\eta, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\theta_1^n$  and  $F^n$  are functions defined by

$$\theta_1^n(\xi, \eta) = \theta_1(\xi, t_k^n) \quad \text{for } \eta \in (t_{k-1}^n, t_k^n]$$

and

$$F^n(\eta) = F(t_k^n, u_{t_k^n}(0, \phi)) \quad \text{for } \eta \in (t_{k-1}^n, t_k^n], \text{ respectively.}$$

Letting  $t_i^n \rightarrow t'$ ,  $t_j^n \rightarrow \tau'$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and applying [8, Proposition 2.5] we obtain that  $u(0, \phi)(t) = v(t)$  for  $t \in [0, T]$ . Q.E.D.

Finally, we consider the existence of strong solutions of  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_s$ .

Corollary 1. Let  $\phi \in \text{Lip}$  with  $\phi(0) \in \hat{D}$ . Assume that  $\{A(t); t \in [0, T]\}$  and  $F: [0, T] \times C \rightarrow X$  satisfy conditions (A.1)-(A.4). If  $X$  is reflexive, or, more generally,  $X$  satisfies the Radon-Nikodym property, then  $(\text{FDE}; \phi)_s$  has a unique strong solution.

Proof. By virtue of Theorem 2, there exists a generalized solution  $u(s, \phi)(t)$  and by the Remark after Lemma 1,  $u(s, \phi)(t)$  is Lipschitz continuous and hence  $u(s, \phi)(t)$  is differentiable a.e.  $t \in [s, T]$ . Now, let  $h > 0$  and  $t_0$  be any point at which  $u(s, \phi)(\cdot)$  is differentiable. Putting  $\tau = r = t_0$  and  $t = t_0 + h$  in (3.5), we see that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|u(s, \phi)(t_0 + h) - x\| - \|u(s, \phi)(t_0) - x\| \\ & \leq \int_{t_0}^{t_0+h} \{ [u(s, \phi)(\xi) - x, F(\xi, u_\xi(s, \phi)) - y]_+ + \theta(\xi, t_0) \} d\xi \\ & \quad + \alpha_0 \int_{t_0}^{t_0+h} \|u(s, \phi)(\xi) - x\| d\xi \text{ for } [x, y] \in A(t_0). \end{aligned}$$

Dividing the above inequality by  $h$  and letting  $h \downarrow 0$ , it follows

$$\leq [u(s, \phi)(t_0) - x, F(t_0, u_{t_0}(s, \phi)) - y]_+ + \alpha_0 \|u(s, \phi)(t_0) - x\|,$$

i.e., for  $[x, y] \in A(t_0)$

$$\begin{aligned} (3.6) \quad & [u(s, \phi)(t_0) - x, -u'(s, \phi)(t_0) + F(t_0, u_{t_0}(s, \phi)) \\ & \quad + \alpha_0 u(s, \phi)(t_0) - (\alpha_0 x + y)]_+ \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

By condition (A.1), it is easy to see that  $A(t_0) + \alpha_0$  is  $m$ -accretive. Therefore, by (3.6), we see that

$$u'(s, \phi)(t_0) + A(t_0)(u(s, \phi)(t_0)) \ni F(t_0, u_{t_0}(s, \phi)).$$

Q.E.D.

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