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# PERIODICITY OF MILD SOLUTIONS TO HIGHER ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS IN BANACH SPACES

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ABSTRACT. We give necessary and sufficient conditions for the periodicity of mild solutions to the higher order differential equation  $u^{(n)}(t) = Au(t) + f(t)$ ,  $0 \le t \le T$ , in a Banach space E. Applications are made to the cases, when A generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup or a cosine family, and when E is a Hilbert space.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper concerns the periodicity of solutions to the higher order Cauchy problem

$$u^{(n)}(t) = Au(t) + f(t), \quad 0 \le t \le T$$
  
$$u^{(i)}(0) = x_i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1,$$
  
(1.1)

where A is a linear and closed operator on a Banach space E, and f is a function from [0,T] to E. The asymptotic behavior and, in particular, the periodicity of solutions of (1.1) has been subject to intensive study in recent decades. It is wellknown [6] that, if A is an  $n \times n$  matrix on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , then the first order Cauchy problem

$$u'(t) = Au(t) + f(t), \quad 0 \le t \le T,$$
  
 $u(0) = x$  (1.2)

in  $E = \mathbb{C}^n$  admits a unique *T*-periodic solution for each continuous *T*-periodic forcing term *f* if and only if  $\lambda_k = 2k\pi t/T$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , are not eigenvalues of *A*. This result was extended by Krein and Dalecki [2, 9] to the Cauchy problem in an abstract Banach space. In [2, Theorem II 4.3] it was claimed that, if *A* is a linear bounded operator on *E*, then (1.2) admits a unique *T*-periodic solution for each  $f \in C[0,T]$  if and only if  $2k\pi i/T \in \varrho(A)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Here  $\varrho(A)$  denotes the resolvent set of *A*. Unfortunately, the above result does not hold any more when *A* is an unbounded operator (see [5]). For the case, when *A* generates a strongly continuous semigroup, periodicity of solutions of (1.2) was studied in [8, 15]. Corresponding results on the periodic solutions of the second order Cauchy problem were obtained in [12, 16], when *A* is generator of a cosine family. Related results can also be found in [3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 17] and the references therein.

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In this paper we investigate the periodicity of mild solutions of the higher order Cauchy problem (1.1) when A is a linear, unbounded operator. The main tool we use here is the Fourier series method. For an integrable function f(t) from [0, T] to E, the Fourier coefficient of f(t) is defined as

$$f_k = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T f(s) e^{-2k\pi i s/T} ds, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Then f(t) can be represented by Fourier series

$$f(t) \approx \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{2k\pi i t/T} f_k.$$

First, we establish the relationship between the Fourier coefficients of the periodic solutions of (1.1) and those of the inhomogeneity f. We then give different equivalent conditions so that (1.1) admits a unique periodic solution for each inhomogeneity f in a certain function space. As applications, in Section 3 we show a short proof of the Gearhart's Theorem: If A is generator of a strongly continuous semigroup T(t), then  $1 \in \rho(T(1))$  if and only if  $2k\pi i \in \rho(A)$  and  $\sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} ||R(2k\pi i, A)|| < \infty$ . Corresponding result for the spectrum of a cosine family is also presented.

Let us fix some notation. A continuous function on [0, T] is said to be *T*-periodic if u(0) = u(T). For the sake of simplicity (and without loss of generality) we assume T = 1 and put J := [0, 1]. For  $p \ge 1$ ,  $L_p(J)$  denotes the space of *E*-valued functions on J with  $\int_0^1 ||f(t)||^p dt < \infty$  and C(J) the space of functions on J with and  $||f|| = \sup_J ||f(t)|| < \infty$ . Moreover, for m > 0 we define the following function spaces

(1)  $W_p^m(J) := \{ f \in L_p(J) : f', f'', \dots, f^{(m)} \in L_p(J) \}$ .  $W_p^m(J)$  is then a Banach space with the norm

$$||f||_{W_p^m} := \sum_{k=0}^m ||f^{(k)}||_{L_p(J)}.$$

(2)  $P^m(J) := \{f \in C(J) : f, f', \dots, f^{(m)} \text{ are in } P(J)\}$ . That means  $P^m(J)$  is the space of all functions on J, which can be extended to 1-periodic, *m*-times continuously differentiable functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $P^m(J)$  is a Banach space with the norm

$$||f||_{P^m(J)} := \sum_{k=0}^m ||f^{(k)}||_{C(J)}.$$

(3)  $WP_p^m(J) := P^{m-1}(J) \cap W_p^m(J)$ . It is easy to see that  $WP_p^m(J)$  is a Banach space with  $W_p^m(J)$ -norm.

We will use the following simple lemma.

**Lemma 1.1.** If F is a continuous function on J such that  $f = F' \in L_p(J)$ , then for  $k \neq 0$  we have

$$F_k = \frac{1}{2k\pi i} f_k + \frac{F(0) - F(1)}{2k\pi i}$$

where  $f_k$  and  $F_k$  are the Fourier series of f and F, respectively.

2. Periodic Mild Solutions of Higher Order Differential Equations

Let J be the interval [0,1] and  $p \ge 1$ . For each function  $f \in L_p(J)$  we define the function If by  $If(t) := \int_0^t f(s) ds$  and, for  $n \ge 2$ , the function  $I^n f$  by  $I^n f(t) := I(I^{n-1}f)(t)$ .

**Definition 2.1.** (1) A continuous function u is called a mild solution of (1.1) on J, if  $I^n u(t) \in D(A)$  and, for all  $t \in J$ ,

$$u(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^i}{i!} x_i + AI^n u(t) + I^n f(t) .$$
(2.1)

(2) A function u is a classical solution of (1.1) on J, if  $u(t) \in D(A)$ , u is *n*-times continuously differentiable, and (1.1) holds for  $t \in J$ .

## Remarks.

(i) If n = 1 and A is the generator of a  $C_0$  semigroup T(t), then a continuous function  $u: J \to E$  is a mild solution of (1.1) if and only if it has the form

$$u(t) = T(t)x_0 + \int_0^t T(t-r)f(r)dr, \ t \in J.$$

(See [1]).

(ii) Similarly, if n = 2 and A generates a cosine family (C(t)) on E, then any continuously differentiable function u on E of the form

$$u(t) = C(t)x_0 + S(t)x_1 + \int_0^t S(t-\tau)f(\tau)d\tau, \ t \in J,$$

where (S(t)) is the associated sine family, is a mild solution of (1.1) (see Section 3 for more details).

The mild solution to (1.1) defined by (2.1) is really an extension of a classical solution in the sense that every classical solution is a mild solution and conversely, if a mild solution is *n*-times continuously differentiable, then it is a classical solution. That statement is actually contained in the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.2.** Suppose  $0 \le m \le n$  and u is a mild solution of (1.1), which is *m*-times continuously differentiable. Then we have  $(I^{n-m}u)(t) \in D(A)$  and

$$u^{(m)}(t) = \sum_{j=m}^{n-1} \frac{t^{j-m}}{(j-m)!} x_j + AI^{n-m} u(t) + I^{n-m} f(t).$$
(2.2)

*Proof.* If m = 0, then (2.2) coincides with (2.1). We prove for m = 1: Let  $v(t) := AI^n u(t)$ . Then, by (2.1), v is continuously differentiable and

$$v'(t) = u'(t) - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{t^{j-1}}{(j-1)!} x_j - I^{n-1} f(t).$$

Let h > 0 and put

$$v_h := \frac{1}{h} \int_t^{t+h} I^{n-1} u(s) ds.$$

Then  $v_h \to (I^{n-1}u)(t)$  for  $h \to 0$  and

$$\lim_{h \to 0} Av_h = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{1}{h} \left( A \int_0^{t+h} I^{n-1} u(s) ds - A \int_0^t I^{n-1} u(s) ds \right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{h} (v(t+h) - v(t))$$
$$= v'(t).$$

Since A is a closed operator, we obtain that  $I^{n-1}u(t) \in D(A)$  and

$$AI^{n-1}u(t) = u'(t) - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{t^{j-1}}{(j-1)!} x_j - I^{n-1}f(t),$$

from which (2.2) with m = 1 follows. If m > 1, we obtain (2.2) by repeating the above process (m-1) times.

In particular, if the mild solution u is *n*-times continuously differentiable, then (2.2) becomes  $u^{(n)}(t) = Au(t) + f(t)$ , i.e. u is a classical solution of (1.1).

We now consider the mild solutions of (1.1), which are (n-1) times continuously differentiable. The following proposition describes the connection between the Fourier coefficients of such solutions and those of f(t).

**Proposition 2.3.** Suppose  $f \in L_p(J)$  and u is a mild solution of (1.1), which is (n-1) times continuously differentiable. Then

$$\frac{((2k\pi i)^n - A)u_k - f_k}{(2k\pi i)^n} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1)}{(2k\pi i)^{j+1}}$$
(2.3)

for  $k \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $u_k^{(j)}$  be the  $k^{th}$  Fourier coefficient of  $u^{(j)}$ . Using the identity

$$u_k^{(j)} = \frac{u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1)}{2k\pi i} + \frac{1}{2k\pi i}u_k^{(j+1)}$$
(2.4)

for j = 0, 1, 2, ..., n - 2 (by Lemma 1.1), we obtain

$$u_k = \sum_{j=0}^{n-2} \frac{u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1)}{(2k\pi i)^{j+1}} + \frac{1}{(2k\pi i)^{n-1}} u_k^{(n-1)}.$$
 (2.5)

Since u is (n-1) times continuously differentiable, by Lemma 2.2,

$$u^{(n-1)}(t) = u^{(n-1)}(0) + AIu(t) + If(t).$$
(2.6)

Taking the  $k^{th}$  Fourier coefficient on both sides of (2.6) and using (2.4), we have

$$u_{k}^{(n-1)} = A(Iu)_{k} + (If)_{k}$$

$$= A\left(\frac{Iu(0) - Iu(1)}{2k\pi i} + \frac{1}{2k\pi i}(Iu)_{k}'\right) + \left(\frac{If(0) - If(1)}{2k\pi i} + \frac{1}{2k\pi i}(If)_{k}'\right)$$

$$= \frac{-(AIu(1) + If(1))}{2k\pi i} + \frac{Au_{k} + f_{k}}{2k\pi i}$$

$$= \frac{u^{(n-1)}(0) - u^{(n-1)}(1)}{2k\pi i} + \frac{Au_{k} + f_{k}}{2k\pi i}.$$
(2.7)

Here we have also used Iu(0) = If(0) = 0,  $(Iu)'_k = u_k$  and  $(If)'_k = f_k$ . Combining (2.5) and (2.7), we obtain

$$u_k = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1)}{(2k\pi i)^{j+1}} + \frac{Au_k + f_k}{(2k\pi i)^n},$$

from which (2.3) follows.

**Proposition 2.4.** Suppose  $f \in L_p(J)$  and u is a mild solution of (1.1), which is (n-1) times continuously differentiable. Then  $u \in P^{(n-1)}(J)$  if and only if

of u and those of f, as the following proposition shows.

$$((2k\pi i)^n - A)u_k = f_k \tag{2.8}$$

for every  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose u is a mild 1-periodic solution of (1.1) in  $P^{n-1}(J)$ . If  $k \neq 0$ , then (2.8) follows directly from (2.3). If k = 0, using (2.2) with m = n - 1 and t = 1 we obtain

$$u^{(n-1)}(1) = u^{(n-1)}(0) + A \int_0^1 u(s)ds + \int_0^1 f(s)ds$$
$$= u^{(n-1)}(0) + Au_0 + f_0.$$

Due to the 1-periodicity of  $u^{(n-1)}$  we obtain  $Au_0 + f_0 = 0$ , from which (2.8) holds for k = 0. Conversely, suppose (2.8) holds for all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then, by (2.3),

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1)}{(2k\pi i)^j} = 0$$
(2.9)

all  $k \neq 0$ . That means that for any positive integer K, the vector

$$X = \left(u(0) - u(1), u'(0) - u'(1), \dots, u^{(n-1)}(0) - u^{(n-1)}(1)\right)^T$$

is a solution of the system of linear equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2\pi i} & \cdots & \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^{n-1}} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2\pi i} & \cdots & \frac{1}{(2 \cdot 2\pi i)^{n-1}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2K\pi i} & \cdots & \frac{1}{(2K\pi i)^{n-1}} \end{pmatrix}_{n \times K} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

This can only happen if X = 0, i.e.  $u^{(j)}(0) - u^{(j)}(1) = 0$  for j = 0, 1, 2, ..., (n-1). Hence,  $u \in P^{(n-1)}(J)$ , and the proposition is proved.

From Proposition 2.4 we obtain

**Corollary 2.5.** Suppose  $f \in L_p(J)$ . Then

- (i) If ((2kπi)<sup>n</sup> − A) is injective for k ∈ Z, then Equation (1.1) has at most one 1-periodic mild solution, which belongs tp P<sup>n−1</sup>(J).
- (ii) If there exists a number  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f_k \notin Range((2k\pi i)^n A)$ , then Equation (1.1) has no periodic mild solution which belongs to  $P^{n-1}(J)$ .
- (iii) Let u be a mild solution of  $u^{(n)} = Au$ , which is (n-1) times continuously differentiable. Then u belongs to  $P^{n-1}$  if and only if

$$(2k\pi i)^n u_k = A u_k,$$

*i.e.*,  $u_k$  is an eigen-vector of A corresponding to  $(2k\pi i)^n$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

We are now in a position to state the main results.

**Theorem 2.6.** Let A be a closed operator on E and  $0 \le m \le n$ . The following statements are equivalent.

- (i) For each function  $f \in WP_p^m(J)$ , Equation (1.1) admits a unique mild solution in  $WP_p^n(J)$ (ii) For each  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $2k\pi i \in \varrho(A)$  and there exists a constant C > 0 such that

$$\|\sum_{k} ((2k\pi i)^{n} - A)^{-1} e^{2k\pi i \cdot x_{k}} \|_{W_{p}^{n}(J)} \le C \cdot \|\sum_{k} e^{2k\pi i \cdot x_{k}} \|_{W_{p}^{m}(J)}$$
(2.10)

for any finite sequence  $\{x_k\} \subset E$ 

If E is a Hilbert space, and p = 2, then (i) and (ii) are equivalent to

(iii) For every  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $(2k\pi i)^n \in \varrho(A)$  and

$$\sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \|k^{n-m} ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}\| < \infty$$
(2.11)

We will need the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $F_1 := WP_p^m(J)$  and  $F_2 := WP_p^m(J)$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (1) For each function  $f \in F_1$ , (1.1) admits a unique mild solution u in  $F_2$ .
- (2) There exists a dense subset D in  $F_1$  such that:
  - (i) For each function  $f \in D$ , (1.1) admits a unique mild solution u in  $F_2$ ;
  - (ii) There exists a constant C > 0 such that for all  $f \in D$ ,

$$\|u\|_{F_2} \le C \|f\|_{F_1} \,. \tag{2.12}$$

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2): We will prove (2) with  $D = F_1$ . It is easy to see that (i) is automatically satisfied. To show (ii), we define the operator  $G: F_1 \mapsto F_2$  by Gf := u, where u is the unique mild solution of (1.1) in  $F_2$ . Then G is a linear, everywhere defined operator. We will prove the boundedness of G by showing that G is a closed operator. To this end, let  $\{f_i\} \subset F_1$  a sequence such that  $f_i \to f$  in  $F_1$  and  $Gf_j \to u$  in  $F_2$  for  $j \to \infty$ . For each  $t \in J$ , let  $v_j := I^n(Gf_j)(t)$ , then

$$\lim_{i \to \infty} v_j = I^n u(t).$$

Moreover, from the identity

$$(Gf_j)(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^j}{j!} (Gf_j)(0) + AI^n (Gf_j)(t) + I^n f_j(t)$$

we have

$$Av_j = AI^n(Gf_j)(t)$$
  
=  $(Gf_j)(t) - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^i}{i!} (Gf_j)(0) - I^n f_j(t) \to u(t) - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^i}{i!} u(0) - I^n f(t)$ 

as  $j \to \infty$ . Since A is a closed operator,  $I^n u(t) \in D(A)$  and

$$AI^{n}u(t) = u(t) - \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^{i}}{i!}u(0) - I^{n}f(t),$$

i.e., u is a mild solution of (1.1) and consequently, Gf = u. So, G is a bounded operator from  $F_1$  to  $F_2$ , from which (2.12) follows with C = ||G||.

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$ . For any  $f \in F_1$  there exists a sequence  $\{f_j\} \subset D$  such that  $f_j \to f$  for  $j \to \infty$ . Let  $u_j$  be the mild solution in  $F_2$  corresponding to  $f_j$ , then, by (2.12),  $u_j \to u$  for some  $u \in F_2$ . With the same manner as in the previous part, we can prove that u is a mild solution of (1.1) corresponding to f. The uniqueness of this solution comes directly from (2.12).

Proof of Theorem 2.6. (i)  $\rightarrow$  (ii): We first show that  $(2k\pi i)^n \in \varrho(A)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . To this end, let  $f(t) = e^{2k\pi i t}x$ ,  $x \in E$  and u(t) be the unique mild solution to (1.2) corresponding to f. By Lemma 2.4 we have  $((2k\pi i)^n - A)u_k = x$ . Hence  $((2k\pi i)^n - A)$  is surjective. On the other side, if  $((2k\pi i)^n - A)$  is not injective, i.e. there is a non-zero vector  $x_0 \in E$  such that  $((2k\pi i)^n - A)x_0 = 0$ , then it is not hard to check that  $u_1 :\equiv 0$  and  $u_2(t) := e^{2k\pi i t}x_0$  are two distinct 1-periodic mild (classical) solution f  $u^{(n)}(t) = Au(t)$ . It is contradicting to the uniqueness of u. So  $((2k\pi i)^n - A)$  is injective and hence bijective, i.e.  $(2k\pi i)^n \in \varrho(A)$ . Let now  $f(t) := \sum_k e^{2k\pi i t}x_k$ , where  $\{x_k\}$  is any finite sequence in E. Then, by Lemma 2.4,  $u(t) = \sum_k ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}e^{2k\pi i t}x_k$  is the unique 1-periodic mild solution to (1.1) corresponding to f. Thus, (2.10) is obtained by inequality (2.12).

$$\mathcal{M} := \{ f(t) = \sum_{k} e^{2k\pi i t} x_k : \{ x_k \} \text{ is a finite sequence in } E \}.$$

Observe that  $\mathcal{M}$  is dense in  $WP_p^m(J)$ . Moreover, if f is a function in  $\mathcal{M}$ , i.e., if  $f(t) = \sum_k e^{2k\pi t} x_k$ , then it is easy to check that  $u(t) = \sum_k ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1} e^{2k\pi i t} x_k$  is a unique 1-periodic mild solution of (1.1) corresponding to f and, by Corollary 2.5(*i*), it is the unique one. From (2.12) it follows that  $||u||_{W_p^n(J)} \leq C||f||_{W_p^m(J)}$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . By Lemma 2.7, that implies (*i*).

Finally, if E is a Hilbert space, then  $WP_2^m(J)$  is a Hilbert space for any  $0 \le m \le n$ . Moreover, for  $f(t) = \sum_k e^{2k\pi i t} x_k$  and  $u(t) = \sum_k ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1} e^{2k\pi i t} x_k$  we have

$$||f||_{W_2^m(J)} = \sum_{j=0}^m \left( \sum_k (2k\pi)^{2j} ||x_k||^2 \right)^{1/2}$$
(2.13)

and

$$\|u\|_{W_2^n(J,E)} = \sum_{j=0}^n \left(\sum_k (2k\pi)^{2j} \|((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1} x_k\|^2\right)^{1/2}.$$
 (2.14)

Suppose (ii) holds, i.e.,  $||u||_{W_2^n(J)} \leq C||f||_{W_2^m(J)}$  for  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . For any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , take  $f(t) := e^{2k\pi i t} x$ . From (2.13) and (2.14), we have

$$||f||_{W_2^m(J)} = \sum_{j=0}^m ||(2k\pi)^j x|| \le (2\pi)^m (m+1) ||k^m x||$$
(2.15)

and

$$\|u\|_{W_2^n(J)} = \sum_{j=0}^n \|(2k\pi)^j ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}x\| \ge (2\pi)^n \|k^n ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}x\|.$$
(2.16)

Combining (2.10), (2.15) and (2.16) we obtain

$$(2\pi)^n \|k^n ((2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}x\| \le C \cdot (2\pi)^m (m+1) \|k^m x\|,$$

from which (2.11) follows.

Conversely, suppose (iii) holds, i.e., there is a positive constant C such that  $||(2k\pi i)^n - A)^{-1}|| \leq C|k|^{m-n}$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Using that inequality for the right hand side of (2.14) we obtain

$$\begin{split} \|\sum_{k} ((2k\pi i)^{n} - A)^{-1} e^{2k\pi i \cdot} x_{k} \|_{W_{2}^{n}(J)} &\leq C \sum_{j=0}^{n} \left( \sum_{k} (2k\pi)^{2j} k^{2m-2n} \|x_{k}\|^{2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C_{1} \sum_{j=0}^{n} \left( \sum_{k} (2k\pi)^{2j+2m-2n} \|x_{k}\|^{2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C_{1} (n+1) \left( \sum_{k} (2k\pi)^{2m} \|x_{k}\|^{2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &\leq C_{1} (n+1) \sum_{j=0}^{m} \left( \sum_{k} (2k\pi)^{2j} \|x_{k}\|^{2} \right)^{1/2} \\ &= C_{1} (n+1) \|\sum_{j=0}^{m} e^{2k\pi i \cdot} x_{k} \|_{W_{2}^{m}(J)}, \end{split}$$

where  $C_1 = C(2\pi)^{n-m}$ . Thus, (2.10) holds and the theorem is proved.

The next theorem shows the relationship between the regularity of the inhomogeneity and that of the corresponding mild solution.

**Theorem 2.8.** If A is a closed operator on E, then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) For each  $f \in L_p(J)$  Eq. (1.1) admits a unique mild solution in  $P^{n-1}(J)$ .
- (ii)  $0 \in \rho(A)$  and for each  $f \in L_p(J)$  with  $\int_0^1 f(s)ds = 0$ , Equation (1.1) admits a unique mild solution in  $P^{n-1}(J)$ .
- (iii) For each  $f \in WP_p^1(J)$ , Equation (1.1) admits a unique 1-periodic classical solution.

*Proof.* If (i) or (iii) holds, then, by the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 2.6, we can prove that  $2k\pi i \in \varrho(A)$  for  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(i)  $\rightarrow$  (iii): Let *F* be any function in  $WP_p^1(J)$ . Then *F* can be written as by  $F(t) = \int_0^t f(s)ds + x_0$ , where  $f \in L_p(J)$  and  $x_0$  is a vector in *E*. Since *F* is 1-periodic we have  $\int_0^1 f(s)ds = 0$ . Let *u* be the mild solution to (1.1) corresponding to *f*, which is in  $P^{n-1}(J)$ , and put

$$U(t) = \int_0^t u(s)ds + A^{-1}u^{n-1}(0) - A^{-1}x_0.$$

From identity (2.2) with m = n - 1 we have

$$u^{(n-1)}(1) = u^{n-1}(0) + A \int_0^1 u(s)ds + \int_0^1 f(s)ds.$$
 (2.17)

Note that  $u^{(n-1)}(1) = u^{(n-1)}(0)$  and  $\int_0^1 f(s)ds = 0$ . Thus, from (2.17) we obtain  $A \int_0^1 u(s)ds = 0$ , which implies, due to  $0 \in \varrho(A)$ ,  $\int_0^1 u(s)ds = 0$ . Hence, U is a

1-periodic function. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} U^{(n)}(t) &= u^{(n-1)}(t) \\ &= u^{n-1}(0) + A \int_0^t u(s) ds + \int_0^t f(s) ds \\ &= u^{n-1}(0) + A[U(t) - A^{-1}u_{n-1} + A^{-1}x_0] + (F(t) - x_0) \\ &= AU(t) + F(t). \end{aligned}$$

So, U is an 1-periodic classical solution. The uniqueness of this solution follows from the fact that  $u \equiv 0$  is the unique 1-periodic mild solution to the homogeneous equation  $u^{(n)}(t) = Au(t)$ , which, in turn, follows from (i).

(iii)  $\rightarrow$  (ii): Let f be a function in  $L_p(J)$  with  $\int_0^1 f(s)ds = 0$ . Define  $F(t) := \int_0^t f(s)ds$ , then it is easy to see that  $F \in WP_p^1(J)$ . Let U be the unique 1-periodic classical solution of (1.2) corresponding to F and put u := U'. Then  $u \in P^{n-1}(J)$  and  $U(t) = \int_0^t u(s)ds + U(0)$ . By the definition of U and F, the equation  $U^{(n)}(t) = AU(t) + F(t)$  means

$$u^{(n-1)}(t) = AU(0) + A \int_0^t u(s)ds + \int_0^t f(s)ds.$$

Hence, by Lemma 2.2, u is a mild solution to (1.1) corresponding to f. The uniqueness of u follows from Corollary 2.5.

(ii)  $\rightarrow$  (i): Let f be a function in  $L_p(J)$ . Define  $\tilde{f}(t) := f(t) - f_0$ , where  $f_0 = \int_0^1 f(s) ds$ , then  $\int_0^1 \tilde{f}(s) ds = 0$ . Let  $\tilde{u}$  be the 1-periodic mild solution to (1.1) corresponding to  $\tilde{f}$  and put  $u(t) := \tilde{u}(t) - A^{-1}f_0$ . Then u, as  $\tilde{u}$ , is in  $P^{n-1}(J)$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{split} u(t) &= \tilde{u}(t) - A^{-1} f_0 \\ &= \Big( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} \tilde{u}^{(k)}(0) + A I^n \tilde{u}(t) + I^n \tilde{f}(t) \Big) - A^{-1} f_0 \\ &= \Big( u(0) + A^{-1} f_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} u^{(k)}(0) \Big) + A I^n \Big( u(t) + A^{-1} f_0 \Big) \\ &+ I^n \Big( f(t) - f_0 \Big) - A^{-1} f_0 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{t^k}{k!} u^{(k)}(0) \Big) + A I^n u(t) + I^n f(t). \end{split}$$

Hence, u is a mild solution to (1.1) corresponding to f. The uniqueness of u follows from Corollary 2.5.

#### 3. Applications

A semigroup case. Here, we consider the first order Cauchy problem

$$u'(t) = Au(t) + f(t) \quad 0 \le t \le T$$
  
 $u(0) = x,$  (3.1)

where A generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $(T(t))_{t\geq 0}$ . Recall that in this case the mild solution is of the form

$$u(t) = T(t)x + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds.$$
 (3.2)

We have the following result, in which the equivalence between (i) and (v) is the Gearhart's Theorem [4].

**Theorem 3.1.** Let A generate a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $(T(t))_{t\geq 0}$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $1 \in \varrho(T(1));$
- (ii) For every function  $f \in L_p(J)$ , Equation (3.1) admits a unique 1-periodic mild solution;
- (iii) For every function  $f \in WP_p^1(J)$ , Equation (3.1) admits a unique mild solution in  $WP_p^1(J)$ ;
- (iv) For every function  $f \in WP_p^1(J)$ , Equation (3.1) admits a unique 1-periodic classical solution

If E is a Hilbert space, all the above statements are equivalent to

(v)  $\{2k\pi i : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \varrho(A)$  and

$$\sup_{k\in\mathbb{Z}} \|(2k\pi i - A)^{-1}\| < \infty.$$

*Proof.* The equivalence (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) was proved in [15]. The equivalence (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iv) follows from Theorem 2.8 and, if E is a Hilbert space, (iii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (v) follows from Theorem 2.6. The inclusion (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is obvious. So, it remains to show (iii)  $\rightarrow$  (iv).

To this end, let u be the unique mild solution of (3.1), which belong to  $WP_p^1(J)$ . Since  $\int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds \in D(A)$  and  $t \to \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds$  is continuously differentiable for any  $f \in W_p^1(J)$  (see e.g. [14]), we obtain that  $T(\cdot)u(0) \in W_p^1(J)$ . It follows that  $T(t)u(0) \in D(A)$  for t > 0 (since  $t \mapsto T(t)x$  is differentiable at  $t_0$  if and only if  $T(t_0)x \in D(A)$ ). Hence, u(1), and thus, x = u(1) belongs to D(A). So u is a classical solution. The uniqueness of the 1-periodic classical solution is obvious.

A cosine family case. We now consider the second order Cauchy problem

$$u''(t) = Au(t) + f(t) \quad 0 \le t \le T$$
  
$$u(0) = x, u'(0) = y,$$
  
(3.3)

where A is generator of a cosine family  $(C(t))_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$  on E. Recall (see u.g. [1]) that in this case there exists a Banach space F such that  $D(A) \hookrightarrow F \hookrightarrow E$  and such that the operator

$$\mathcal{A} := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I \\ A & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $D(\mathcal{A}) = D(\mathcal{A}) \times F$  generates the  $C_0$ -semigroup

$$\mathcal{T}(t) := \begin{pmatrix} C(t) & S(t) \\ C'(t) & C(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

on  $F \times E$ , where S(t) is the associated sine family. Moreover, it is not difficult to check that u is a mild solution of (3.3), which is continuously differentiable (a mild solution, which is in  $WP_p^2(J)$ , or a classical solution of (3.3), respectively), if and

$$\mathcal{U}'(t) = \mathcal{A}\mathcal{U}(t) + (0, f(t))^T, \quad 0 \le t \le T,$$
  
$$\mathcal{U}(0) = (x, y)^T$$
(3.4)

in the space  $F \times E$ . Using (3.2), we have the explicit form of u by

$$u(t) = C(t)x + S(t)y + \int_0^t S(s-\tau)f(\tau)d\tau.$$

**Theorem 3.2.** Let A generate a cosine family  $(C(t))_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$  in E. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $1 \in \varrho(C(1));$
- (ii) For each function  $f \in L_p(J)$ , Equation (3.3) has a unique 1-periodic mild solution, which is continuously differentiable;
- (iii) For each function f ∈ WP<sup>1</sup><sub>p</sub>(J), Equation (3.3) admits a unique mild solution in WP<sup>2</sup><sub>p</sub>(J);
- (iv) For each function  $f \in WP_p^1(J)$ , Equation (3.3) admits a unique 1-periodic classical solution;
- If E is a Hilbert space, all the above statements are equivalent to
  - (v)  $\{-4k^2\pi^2 : k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \subset \varrho(A) \text{ and } \sup_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} \|k(4k^2\pi^2 + A)^{-1}\| < \infty.$

Proof. The equivalence (i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii) is virtually proved in [16]. The equivalence (ii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (iv) from Theorem 2.8 and, if E is a Hilbert space, (iii)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (v) follows from Theorem 2.6. The inclusion (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) is obvious. So, it remains to show (iii)  $\rightarrow$  (iv). To this end, let u be the 1-periodic mild solution of (3.3), which is in  $WP_p^2(J)$ , then  $\mathcal{U} = (u, u')^T$  is the 1-periodic mild solution of (3.4), which is in  $WP_p^1(J, F \times E)$ . Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is the generator of a  $C_0$ -semigroup, we can show (with the same manner as in the proof of Theorem 3.1) that  $\mathcal{U}$  is a 1-periodic classical solution of (3.4). It follows that u is a 1-periodic classical solution of (3.3).

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