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PONNALURI SURYANARAYANA

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# THE HIGHER ORDER DIFFERENTIABILITY OF SOLUTIONS OF ABSTRACT EVOLUTION EQUATIONS

#### P. SURYANARAYANA

In this paper, the regularity of the solution of the initial value problem for the abstract evolution equation

$$(0.1) \qquad \qquad \frac{du}{dt} + A(t)u = f(t), \quad u(0) \in X, \qquad 0 \le t \le T$$

and the associated homogeneous equation

$$(0.2)$$
  $\qquad \qquad rac{du}{dt}+A(t)u=0 ext{ , } \qquad 0\leq t\leq T$ 

in a Banach space X is considered. Here u = u(t) and f(t) are functions from [0, T] to X and A(t) is a function on [0, T] to the set of (in general) unbounded linear operators acting in X.

DEFINITION. u(t) is called a strict solution of (0.1) or (0.2) in (s, T] if

(i) u(t) is strongly continuous in the closed interval [s, T]and is strongly continuously differentiable in the semiclosed interval (s, T],

(ii)  $u(t) \in D(A(t))$ , the domain of A(t), for each  $t \in (s, T]$ ,

(iii) u(t) satisfies (0.1) resp. (0.2) in (s, T], u(s) coinciding with the given initial value at t = s.

It is assumed that A(t) for each  $t \in [0, T]$  satisfies the following conditions.

(i) -A(t) generates a semigroup  $\exp(-sA(t))$  of operators analytic in the sector  $|\arg s| < \theta$ ,  $s \neq 0$ ,  $0 < \theta < \pi/2$ ,

(ii) For any complex number  $\lambda$  satisfying  $|\arg \lambda| < \pi/2 + \theta$ ,  $0 < \theta < \pi/2$ ,  $(\partial/\partial t)(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}$  exists in the operator topology and that there exist constants N and  $\rho$  independent of t and  $\lambda$  with N > 0,  $0 \le \rho < 1$  such that

$$\left\| \left| rac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \lambda + A(t) 
ight)^{-1} 
ight\| \leq N \left| \lambda 
ight|^{
ho - 1}.$$

The main result proved in the paper can be stated as follows. If, in addition to the above assumptions,  $A(t)^{-1} \in C^{n+\alpha}[0, T]$  in the uniform operator topology, B(t), a bounded operator for each  $t \in [0, T]$  is of class  $C^{n-1+\beta}[0, T]$ , and  $f(t) \in C^{n-1+\gamma}[0, T]$ in the strong topology, then the unique strict solution u(t) of

$$rac{du}{dt}+(A(t)+B(t))u=f(t)$$
 ,  $u(0)\in X$  .  $0\leq t\leq T$ 

belongs to the class  $C^{n+\delta}[s_0, T]$ ,  $s_0 > 0$  arbitrary,  $\delta > 0$  depending on  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\rho$ . In this no assumption regarding the constancy of the domain D(A(t)) is made. From the above it is clear that if further  $A(t)^{-1} \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$ ,  $B(t) \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$  and  $f(t) \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$ , then  $u(t) \in C^{\infty}(0, T]$ . It is shown by an example that the solution u(t) need not be real analytic even though  $A(t)^{-1}$  is real analytic and satisfies all other requirements.

The existence and uniqueness of strict solutions are established under varying hypotheses in a number of papers, Kato [3, 4, 5, 7], Tanabe [10, 11, 12], Kato and Tanabe [8] and Fisher [1] based on the theory of semigroups of operators. A survey of work done on the abstract evolution equation (0.1) is given in Kato [5]. Kato and Tanabe [8] established the existence and uniqueness of strict solutions without any assumptions on the constancy of the domain of the operators A(t). They also proved that the solution u(t) is analytic when (-A(t)) is a generator of an analytic semigroup for complex values of t in a convex neighbourhood of [0, T] provided that the inhomogeneous term f(t) is also analytic. On the other hand, when D(A(t)) is constant, Tanabe [12] proved that the solution of (0.2) is twice differentiable if  $A(t)A(s)^{-1}$  is Holder continuously differentiable. P. E. Sobolevskii [9] showed that if

$$A(t)A(s)^{-1} \in C^{n+\delta}[0, T]$$
,  $f(t) \in C^n[0, T]$ ,

then  $u(t) \in C^{n+1}[0, T]$  and that u(t) is real analytic if  $A(t)A(0)^{-1}$  is real analytic.

The following notations are used throught the paper. X denotes a fixed Banach space.  $\Sigma$  denotes the closed sector in the complex plane consisting of the complex numbers  $\lambda$  satisfying

$$|rg \lambda| \leq \pi/2 + heta$$
 ,  $0 < heta < \pi/2$  .

E.1. For each  $t \in [0, T]$ , A(t) is a densely defined closed linear operator acting in X. The resolvent set  $\rho(-A(t))$  of -A(t) contains  $\Sigma$ . The resolvent of (-A(t)) satisfies

(1.1) 
$$||(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}|| \leq \frac{M}{|\lambda|}$$
 for any  $\lambda \in \Sigma, t \in [0, T]$ ,

*M* being a constant independent of t and  $\lambda$ . (This implies that for each t, -A(t) generates a semigroup  $\exp(-sA(t))$  analytic in the sector  $|\arg s| \leq \theta, s \neq 0$ . Hille-Phillips [2], Yosida [13]).

E.2.n.  $A(t)^{-1}$  as a bounded operator for each  $t \in [0, T]$  belongs to the class  $C^{n+\alpha}[0, T]$  in the uniform operator topology (i.e.  $d^n A(t)^{-1}/dt^n$ exists in the uniform operator topology and is Hölder continuous in the same topology with a Hölder exponent  $\alpha > 0$ ). E.3. (K - T-condition) For any  $\lambda \in \Sigma$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$ , there exist constants N and  $\rho$  independent of t and  $\lambda$  with  $N > 0, 0 \leq \rho < 1$  such that

(1.2) 
$$\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \lambda + A(t) \right)^{-1} \right\| \leq \frac{N}{|\lambda|^{1-\rho}} \,.$$

**E.4.n.** The inhomogeneous term f(t) is of class  $C^{n-1+\gamma}[0, T]$  in the strong topology for  $X, 0 < \gamma < 1$ .

E.5.n. B(t) for each  $t \in [0, T]$  is a bounded operator and belongs to the class  $C^{n-1+\beta}[0, T]$  in the uniform operator topology  $(0 < \beta < 1)$ .

We first observe that if  $(d/dt)A(t)^{-1}$  exists and  $\lambda \in \rho(-A(t))$ , then  $(d/dt)(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}$  exists and

(1.3) 
$$\frac{\frac{d}{dt}(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}}{= [1 - \lambda(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}]\frac{d}{dt}A(t)^{-1}[1 - \lambda(\lambda + A(t))^{-1}]}$$

So K - T condition always makes sense if A(t) satisfies at least E.2.1 and we will always be taking K - T condition in conjunction with E.2.1 at least.

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

THEOREM 1. Let A(t) satisfy E1, E.2.1, and E3, B(t) satisfy E.5.1 and f(t) satisfy E.4.1. Then the unique strict solution u(t) of

(1.4) 
$$\frac{du}{dt} + (A(t) + B(t))u = f(t), \quad u(0) \in X, \qquad 0 \le t \le T$$

belongs to the class  $C^{1+\epsilon}[s_0, T], s_0 > 0$  arbitrary,  $\delta > 0$  depending on  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\rho$ .

THEOREM 2. Let A(t) satisfy E.1, E.2.n, and E.3, B(t) satisfy E.5.n and f(t) satisfy E.4.n. Then the unique strict solution u(t)of (1.4) is of class  $C^{n+\delta}[s_0, T], s_0 > 0$  arbitrary,  $\delta > 0$  depending on  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\rho$ .

COROLLARY 1. If A(t) satisfies E.1, E.3 and further

(a)  $A(t)^{-1} \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$ ,

(b)  $B(t) \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$ 

in the uniform operator topology and

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$$f(\mathbf{c}) \qquad \qquad f(t) \in C^{\infty}[0, T]$$

in the strong topology of X, then the unique strict solution u(t) of (1.4) is of class  $C^{\infty}(0, T]$  in the strong topology of X.

COROLLARY 2. Let us assume that D(A(t)) is independent of t, A(t) satisfies E.1 and E.2.n and f(t) satisfies E.4.n. Further let the bounded operator  $A(t)A(s)^{-1}$  be once continuously differentiable in the uniform operator topology in  $t \in [0, T]$  for any fixed  $s \in [0, T]$ . Then the unique strict solution u(t) of (0.1) is of class  $C^{n+\delta}[s_0, T]$  in the strong topology of  $X, s_0 > 0$  arbitrary.

2. Preliminaries and known results. We collect below some results from Kato and Tanabe [8] which will be used here very frequently.

THEOREM A (Kato and Tanabe). Let A(t) satisfy E.1, E.2.1 and E.3 and f(t) satisfy E.4.1. Then the equation (0.1) has a unique strict solution u(t) given by

(2.1) 
$$u(t) = U(t,0)u(0) + \int_0^t U(t,\sigma)f(\sigma)d\sigma$$

Here U(t, s) is a bounded operator and is called evolution operator, Green's operator, propagator or fundamental solution. It is constructed as

(2.2) 
$$U(t,s) = \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right) + \int_{0}^{t} \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)R(\tau,s)d\tau$$

R(t, s) being determined as the solution of the integral equation

$$R(t, s) - \int_s^t R_1(t, \tau) R(\tau, s) d\tau = R_1(t, s)$$

where

$$R_1(t,s) = -\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial s}\right) \exp\left(-(t-s)A(s)\right)$$
.

This U(t, s) has the properties (i) U(s, s) = I (The identity operator) for any  $s \in [0, T]$ (ii)  $U(t, r)U(r, s) = U(t, s), 0 \le s \le r \le t \le T$ (iii) The range of U(t, s) is contained in D(A(t)) and

(2.3)  

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} U(t,s) = -A(t)U(t,s)$$

$$= A(t) \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right) - R(t,s)$$

$$+ \int_{s}^{t} A(t) \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)(R(\tau,s) - R(t,s))d\tau$$

$$+ \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)R(t,s).$$

LEMMA 1. Under the same assumptions as above, the following are true.

(2.4) (a) 
$$\left\|\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)\right\| \leq C(t-s)^{-1}$$
.

(2.5) (b) 
$$\left\|\frac{\partial}{\partial s}\exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)\right\| \leq C(t-s)^{-1}$$

(2.6) (c)  $||R_1(t,s)|| \leq C(t-s)^{-\rho}$ .

(2.7) (d)  $|| R(t, s) || \leq C(t - s)^{-\rho}$ .

(e) For  $0 \leq s < \tau < t \leq T$ ,  $||R(t,s) - R(\tau,s)||$ (2.8)  $\leq C \left\{ \frac{t-\tau}{(t-s)(\tau-s)^{\rho}} + \frac{(t-\tau)^{\alpha}}{t-s} + \frac{(t-\tau)^{1-\rho}}{(t-s)^{\rho}} + \frac{(t-\tau)^{\alpha}}{(t-s)^{\rho}} \log \frac{t-s}{t-\tau} \right\}.$ (f) For  $0 \leq s < \tau < t \leq T$ ,

(2.9) 
$$||R_1(t,s) - R_1(\tau,s)|| \leq C \left\{ \frac{t-\tau}{(t-s)(\tau-s)^{\rho}} + \frac{(t-\tau)^{\alpha}}{t-s} \right\}.$$

(g) Let

(2.10) 
$$W(t, s) = \int_{s}^{t} \exp(-(t - \tau)A(t))R(\tau, s)d\tau .$$

Then we have

(2.11)  

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}W(t,s) = \int_{s}^{t} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)(R(\tau,s) - R(t,s))d\tau$$

$$-\int_{s}^{t} R_{1}(t,\tau)d\tau R(t,s)$$

$$+ \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)R(t,s) .$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{(2.12)} & \text{(h)} & \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} W(t,s) \right\| \leq C\{(t-s)^{-\rho} + (t-s)^{\alpha-1}\} \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{s}^{t} \exp\left(-(t-\sigma)A(t)\right)f(\sigma)d\sigma \\ \text{(2.13)} & \text{(i)} & = \int_{s}^{t} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp\left(-(t-\sigma)A(t)\right)(f(\sigma) - f(t))d\sigma \\ & - \int_{s}^{t} R_{1}(t,\sigma)f(t)d\sigma + \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)f(t) \end{array} \right.$$

Note. Throughout this section and the following, C denotes a positive constant depending only on the fundamental constants M, N,  $\theta, \rho, \alpha$  and those which appear in the assumptions of Theorem 1. The constant C is not necessarily the same at every occurrence. We use  $C_{\varepsilon}$  to denote a constant depending on  $\varepsilon > 0$  in addition to the constants mentioned above.

We also require a slightly weaker form of Theorem 6.1 [Kato and Tanabe [8]. We present it as

THEOREM B (Kato and Tanabe). Let A(t) satisfy E.1, E.2.1, and E.3, B(t) satisfy E.5.1 and f(t) satisfy E.4.1. Then the equation (1.4) has a unique strict solution given by

$$u(t) = U_1(t, 0)u(0) + \int_0^t U_1(t, \sigma)f(\sigma)d\sigma$$

where

$$U_{1}(t, s) = U(t, s) - \int_{s}^{t} U(t, \sigma) B(\sigma) U_{1}(\sigma, s) d\sigma$$

U(t, s) being the evolution operator corresponding to (0.1).

We now proceed to give the proofs of theorems stated in §1. Section 3 will be devoted for the proof of Theorem 1 and §4 for Theorem 2.

For the proof of Theorem 2, we need the following Theorem C from Kato [6], which is the same as Lemma 13.7.1 in Hille-Phillips [2].

DEFINITION 1.  $H(\omega, 0)$  is the set of all densely defined closed linear operators T in a Banach space X satisfying

(i) the resolvent set  $\rho(-T)$  contains a sector

$$|rg \, \xi \,| \leq rac{\pi}{2} + \omega \;, \qquad \qquad 0 < \omega < rac{\pi}{2}$$

and

(ii) for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$|\,(T+\xi)^{-1}\,|| \leq rac{M_{arepsilon}}{|\,\xi\,|} \qquad \qquad ext{for } |rg\,\xi\,| \leq rac{\pi}{2} + \,\omega \, - \,arepsilon$$

with  $M_{\varepsilon}$  independent of  $\xi$ .

DEFINITION 2.  $H(\omega, \beta), \beta$  real, is the set of operators T of the form  $T = T_0 - \beta$  with  $T_0 \in H(\omega, 0)$ .

THEOREM C. Let  $T \in H(\omega, \beta)$  and let A be relatively bounded with respect to T so that

$$||Au|| \le a ||u|| + b ||Tu||, \quad u \in D(T) \subset D(A).$$

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $\beta' > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$  depending on T,  $\omega$  and  $\varepsilon$  only, such that  $T + A \in H(\omega - \varepsilon, \beta')$  whenever  $a < \delta, b < \delta$ . If in particular  $\beta = 0$  and a = 0, then  $T + A \in H(\omega - \varepsilon, 0)$ .

3. Proof of Theorem 1. In view of Theorem B, we have only to prove the Hölder continuity of du/dt. We do this in several steps.

Step I. We consider the solution u(t) of the homogeneous equation (0.2) with the same assumptions on A(t) as in Theorem 1.

$$||A(t)U(t,s) - A(r)U(r,s)||$$
.

From (2.3) we have

$$\begin{split} A(t)U(t, s) &= A(r)U(r, s) \\ &= [-R(t, s) + R(r, s)] \\ &+ [A(t)\exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right) - A(r)\exp\left(-(r-s)A(r)\right)] \\ &+ [\exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right)R(t, s) - \exp\left(-(r-s)A(r)\right)R(r, s)] \\ &+ \left[\int_{s}^{t} A(t)\exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)(R(\tau, s) - R(t, s))d\tau \\ &- \int_{s}^{r} A(r)\exp\left(-(r-\tau)A(r)\right)(R(\tau, s) - R(r, s))d\tau\right] \\ &= (i) + (ii) + (iii) + (iv) \qquad (say) \end{split}$$

||(i)|| is estimated by (2.8).

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \{ \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right) - \exp\left(-(r-s)A(r)\right) \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{r} \lambda \{ e^{(t-s)\lambda} (\lambda + A(t))^{-1} - e^{(r-s)\lambda} (\lambda + A(r))^{-1} \} d\lambda \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Gamma$  is a smooth contour running in  $\Sigma$  from  $\infty e^{-i((\pi/2)+\theta)}$  to  $\infty e^{i((\pi/2)+\theta)}$ .

$$egin{aligned} &= rac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{arGamma} e^{(t-s)\lambda} \lambda \int_{arGamma}^t rac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} (\lambda + A(\sigma))^{-1} d\sigma d\lambda \ &+ rac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{arGamma} \int_{arGamma-s} \int_{arGamma-s}^{t-s} rac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} (e^{\sigma\lambda}) d\sigma \lambda (\lambda + A(r))^{-1} d\lambda \ . \end{aligned}$$

Using (1.1) and (1.2) we have

(3.1) 
$$||(ii)|| \leq C \left\{ \frac{t-r}{(t-s)^{1+\rho}} + \frac{t-r}{(t-s)(r-s)} \right\}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} &= \{ \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)\right) - \exp\left(-(r-s)A(r)\right) \} R(t,s) \\ &+ \exp\left(-(r-s)A(r)\right) (R(t,s) - R(r,s)) \\ &= (\text{iii a}) + (\text{iii b}) \quad (\text{say}). \end{aligned}$$

 $||(iii)a|| \leq C(t-r)/(t-s)^{o}(r-s)$  using (2.7) and (2.4). ||(iii b)|| is estimated by (2.8) since  $||\exp(-(r-s)A(r))|| \leq M$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{iv}) &= \int_{s}^{r} \{A(t) \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right) - A(r) \exp\left(-(r-\tau)A(r)\right)\} \\ &\times \{R(\tau,s) - R(r,s)\}d\tau \\ &+ \int_{s}^{r} A(t) \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)(R(r,s) - R(t,s))d\tau \\ &+ \int_{r}^{t} A(t) \exp\left(-(t-\tau)A(t)\right)(R(\tau,s) - R(t,s))d\tau \\ &= (\text{iv a}) + (\text{iv b}) + (\text{iv c}) . \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.1) and (2.8) we have

$$egin{aligned} &\|\operatorname{iv}(\mathsf{a})\| < C \!\!\int_{s}^{r} \!\!(t-r) \!\!\left\{ & rac{1}{(t- au)^{
ho+1}} + rac{1}{(r- au)(t- au)} \!\!
ight\} \ & imes \left\{ & rac{r- au}{(r-s)( au-s)^{
ho}} + rac{(r- au)^{lpha}}{r-s} + rac{(r- au)^{1-
ho}}{r-s} + rac{(r- au)^{lpha}}{(r-s)^{
ho}} \log rac{r-s}{r- au} \!\!
ight\} \! d au \ . \end{aligned}$$

Estimating the various integrals on the right, with  $\varepsilon > 0$  arbitrarily chosen, we can prove

$$|| (\text{iv a}) \, || < C_{\epsilon} \Big\{ \frac{(t-r)^{1-\rho}}{(r-s)^{\rho-\alpha}} + \frac{(t-r)^{1-\varepsilon}}{(r-s)^{1+\rho-\varepsilon}} + \frac{(t-r)^{\alpha-\varepsilon}}{(r-s)^{\rho-\varepsilon}} + \frac{(t-r)^{1-\rho-\varepsilon}}{(r-s)^{\rho-\varepsilon}} \Big\} \ .$$

$$\begin{split} \|(\operatorname{iv} \mathsf{b})\| &\leq \|R(t,s) - R(r,s)\| \int_{s}^{r} \frac{d\tau}{t-\tau} \\ &= \|R(t,s) - R(r,s)\| \log \frac{t-s}{t-r} \end{split}$$

and this can be estimated by (2.8).

$$\begin{aligned} || (\text{iv c}) || &\leq C \int_{r}^{t} \frac{d\tau}{t-\tau} || R(\tau, s) - R(t, s) || d\tau & \text{using (2.5)} \\ &\leq C \Big\{ \frac{t-r}{(t-s)(r-s)^{\rho}} + \frac{(t-r)^{\alpha}}{t-s} \\ &+ \frac{(t-r)^{1-\rho}}{(t-s)^{\rho}} + \frac{(t-r)^{\alpha}}{(t-s)^{\rho}} \Big( \frac{1}{\alpha^{2}} + \frac{1}{\alpha} \log \frac{t-s}{t-r} \Big) \Big\} \end{aligned}$$

using (2.8) and estimating the respective integrals. Combining all these estimates, we note for  $0 \leq s < s_0 \leq r < t \leq T$ ,

$$||\, A(t) U(t,s) - A(r) U(r,s)\,|| \leq C(t\,-\,r)^\eta$$
 ,

 $\eta = \min(1 - \rho - \varepsilon, \alpha - \varepsilon)$  and C depends on  $s_0 > s, s, \varepsilon$  and T.  $\varepsilon$  can be chosen to make  $\eta > 0$ .

This establishes the Hölder continuity of the derivative of the solution of the equation (0.2) in every interval of the form  $[s_0, T]$ ,  $0 < s_0 < T$ .

Step II. We now consider the solution u(t) of the equation (0.1) with the same assumptions on A(t) and f(t) as in Theorem 1.

The solution of (0.1) is given by:

$$U(t) = U(t,s)u(s) + \int_s^t U(t,\sigma)f(\sigma)d\sigma \;, \qquad \quad 0 \leq s < t \leq T \;,$$

u(s) being the initial value at t = s and U(t, s) the corresponding evolution operator.

In view of the result proved in Step I, it is enough to consider the case u(s) = 0.

Let  $0 \leq s < r < t \leq T$ .

From the defining equations of U(t, s) and W(t, s) on using (2.11), (2.12) and (2.13) we obtain

$$egin{aligned} rac{du}{dt} &= \int_s^t rac{\partial}{\partial t} \exp\left\{-(t-\sigma)A(t)
ight\}(f(\sigma)-f(t))d\sigma \ &- \int_s^t R_1(t,\sigma)f(t)d\sigma + \exp\left(-(t-s)A(t)
ight)f(t) \ &+ \int_s^t rac{\partial}{\partial t} W(t,\sigma)f(\sigma)d\sigma \ . \end{aligned}$$

Using the Hölder continuity of f(t), the estimates (2.4) through (2.13) and the estimates obtained in Step I, we can prove after some tedious computations that for  $0 \leq s < s_0 \leq r < t \leq T$ ,

$$\left\| rac{du(t)}{dt} - rac{du(r)}{dr} 
ight\| < K(t-r)^{\eta}$$

where  $\eta = \min \{1 - \rho - \varepsilon, \alpha - \varepsilon, \gamma - \varepsilon\}, \varepsilon > 0$  being arbitrarily chosen to make  $\eta > 0$ . K is a constant depending on  $s_0$ , s,  $\varepsilon$  and T but not on t and r. This establishes the Hölder continuity of the derivative of the solution of (0.1) in every interval of the form  $[s_0, T]$ ,  $0 < s_0 < T$ .

Step III. The existence and uniqueness of the solution of the equation (1.4) is established in Theorem B. We have only to establish the Hölder continuity of the derivative du/dt of this solution. Because  $u(t) \in C^1(0, T]$  and B(t) is Hölder continuous, we have that  $B(t)u(t) \in C^{\beta}(0, T]$ . We can treat u(t) as the solution of the equation

$$rac{du}{dt} + A(t)u(t) = f(t) - B(t)u(t)$$
,  $u_0 \in X$  given.

As A(t) satisfies the conditions used in Step II and f(t) - B(t)u(t) is strongly Hölder continuous with Hölder exponent min  $(\gamma, \beta)$ , by appealing to the result in Step II, we have  $u(t) \in C^{1+\eta}[s_0, T]$ ,

$$\eta = \min \left( 1 - 
ho - arepsilon, lpha - arepsilon, \gamma - arepsilon, eta - arepsilon 
ight) \,, \qquad \qquad s_{\scriptscriptstyle 0} > 0 \;,$$

 $\varepsilon > 0$  chosen arbitrarily to make  $\eta > 0$ .

This completes the proof of Theorem 1.

4. Proof of Theorem 2. The proof of Theorem 2 will be given after a few preparatory lemmas.

Let us first remark that if u(t) is a strict solution of

(1.4) 
$$\frac{du}{dt} + (A(t) + B(t))u = f(t), \quad u(0) \in X, \qquad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

then  $e^{-\kappa t}u(t)$  is the strict solution of

(4.1) 
$$\frac{du}{dt} + (A(t) + B(t) + K)u = e^{-\kappa t}f(t), \quad u(0) \in X, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

and conversely. So we may, if necessary, consider the equation (4.1) instead of (1.4) with a suitable choice of K.

LEMMA 2. If A(t) satisfies E.1,  $(d/dt)A(t)^{-1}$  exists as a bounded

operator and E.3 holds, then for a suitable K > 0,

$$A(t) + K + \left\{ \frac{d}{dt} (A(t) + K)^{-1} \right\} (A(t) + K)$$
 {= A(t; K) for short}

satisfies E.1 with a possibly different constant M.

*Proof.* We can regard -A(t; K) as a perturbation of the analytic semi-group generator -(A(t) + K). If  $u \in D(A(t))$ , we have

$$\left\|\frac{d}{dt}(A(t) + K)^{-1}(A(t) + K)u\right\| \leq \left\|\frac{d}{dt}(A(t) + K)^{-1}\right\| \|(A(t) + K)u\|.$$

So  $(d/dt)(A(t) + K)^{-1}(A(t) + K)$  is relatively bounded with respect to (A(t) + K) with a relative bound

$$\leq \left\| rac{d}{dt} (A(t) + K)^{-1} 
ight\|.$$

According to Theorem C of §2, -A(t; K) generates an analytic semigroup if we can make

$$\left\|rac{d}{dt}(A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1}
ight\|<rac{1}{1\,+\,M}\,,$$

M being the constant appearing in E.1. In view of K - T condition we have

$$\left\|rac{d}{dt}(A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1}
ight\| \leq rac{N}{\mid K\mid^{1-
ho}}$$

uniformly for all  $t \in [0, T]$ . So if we choose K > 0 such that

$$(4.2) NK^{\rho-1} < (1 + M \sec \theta)^{-1}$$

(the term  $\sec \theta$  is introduced for convenience in work later on), we have for each  $t \in [0, T]$ , -A(t; K) generates an analytic semigroup. Further, the resolvent set of each of these operators contains the sector  $\Sigma$  and

(4.3) 
$$||(\lambda + A(t; K))^{-1}|| \leq \frac{M^1}{|\lambda|}$$
 for  $\lambda \in \Sigma$ ,

 $M^1$  being a constant independent of t and  $\lambda$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.

**LEMMA 3.** If A(t) satisfies E.3 and E.2.n, then for a suitable K > 0, A(t; K) satisfies E.2.n-1.

*Proof.*  $A(t; K) = \{1 + (d/dt)(A(t) + K)^{-1}\}(A(t) + K)$ . In view of E.3, we can choose K > 0 such that

$$\left\|rac{d}{dt}(A(t)+K)^{-1}
ight\|<1$$

so that  $\{1 + (d/dt)(A(t) + K)^{-1}\}^{-1}$  exists as a bounded operator. Then for such a choice of K,

$$A(t;K)^{-1} = (A(t) + K)^{-1} \Big\{ 1 + rac{d}{dt} (A(t) + K)^{-1} \Big\}^{-1}$$
 .

Also in view of (1.3) and  $A(t)^{-1} \in C^{n+\alpha}[0, T]$ , it follows that

$$A(t; K)^{-1} \in C^{n-1+lpha}[0, T]$$
 .

Hence the Lemma is proved.

LEMMA 4. If A(t) satisfies E.1, E.2.2 and E.3, then for a suitable K > 0, A(t; K) satisfies E.3 with a possibly different N but with the same  $\rho$  ( $0 \le \rho < 1$ ).

*Proof.* By Lemma 1, A(t; K) satisfies E.1 if K > 0 is chosen according to (4.2). Let  $\lambda \in \Sigma$ . From the second resolvent equation, we have

(4.4)

$$egin{aligned} &(\lambda+A(t;\,K))^{-1}-(\lambda+A(t)+K)^{-1}\ &=-(\lambda+A(t;\,K))^{-1}rac{d}{dt}(A(t)+K)^{-1}(A(t)+K)(\lambda+A(t)+K)^{-1}\,. \end{aligned}$$

Since A(t) satisfies E.2.2,  $(\partial/\partial t)(A(t; K) + \lambda)^{-1}$  exists for  $\lambda \in \Sigma$  noting (1.3). From (4.4) we have

$$\begin{split} &\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t;K)+\lambda)^{-1} \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\lambda+K+A(t))^{-1} \\ &\quad - (\lambda+A(t;K))^{-1}\frac{d^2}{dt^2}(A(t)+K)^{-1}(A(t)+K)(A(t)+\lambda+K)^{-1} \\ &\quad - (\lambda+A(t;K))^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}(A(t)+K)^{-1}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\{(A(t)+K)(\lambda+K+A(t))^{-1}\} \\ &\quad - \frac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t;K)+\lambda)^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}(A(t)+K)^{-1}(A(t)+K)(A(t)+\lambda+K)^{-1} \\ &= (1)+(2)+(3)+(4) \qquad \text{say} \;. \end{split}$$

Therefore

$$\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (A(t;K) + \lambda)^{-1} \right\| \le \|(1)\| + \|(2)\| + \|(3)\| + \|(4)\|.$$

Now

$$egin{aligned} &\|(1)\,\| \leq rac{N}{|\,\lambda + K\,|^{1-
ho}} & ext{in view of E.3.} \ &\|(2)\,\| \leq \|\,A(t;\,K) + \lambda)^{-1}\,\| \ & imes \left\|rac{d^2}{dt^2}(A(t) + K)^{-1}\right\| \,\|(A(t) + K)(A(t) + \lambda + K)^{-1}\,\| \ & imes \leq \|\,A(t;\,K) + \lambda)^{-1}\,\|\,C_{\mathbf{K}}\Big(1 + rac{M\,|\,\lambda\,|}{|\,\lambda + K\,|}\Big) & ext{using E.1} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$C_{{\scriptscriptstyle {oldsymbol{K}}}}= \mathop{\mathrm{Sup}}\limits_{{}_{0\leq t\leq T}}\left\|rac{d^2}{dt^2}(A(t)+K)^{-1}
ight\|$$

which is finite in view of E.2.2. Further from (4.4) we have

$$\begin{split} \| \left( A(t; K) + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \\ &\leq \| \left( A(t) + K + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \\ &+ \| \left( A(t; K) + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \left\| \frac{d}{dt} (A(t) + K)^{-1} \right\| \| 1 - \lambda (A(t) + \lambda + K)^{-1} \| \\ &\leq \frac{M}{|\lambda + K|} + \| \left( A(t; K) + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \frac{N}{K^{1-\rho}} \left( 1 + M \frac{|\lambda|}{|\lambda + K|} \right) \\ &\leq \frac{M}{|\lambda + K|} + \| \left( A(t; K) + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \frac{N}{K^{1-\rho}} (1 + M \operatorname{Sec} \theta) \\ &\leq \frac{M}{|\lambda + K|} + \| \left( A(t; K) + \lambda \right)^{-1} \| \mu, \ \mu < 1 \qquad (\text{because of } (4.2)) \,. \end{split}$$

Therefore

$$||\, (A(t;\,K)\,+\,\lambda)^{-1}\,||\,<rac{M}{|\,\lambda\,+\,K\,|\,(1\,-\,\mu)}\,.$$

Hence

$$egin{aligned} &\|(2)\,\| < rac{MC_{{\scriptscriptstyle K}}}{|\,\lambda\,+\,K|} rac{(1\,+\,M\,\operatorname{Sec}\, heta)}{1\,-\,\mu}\,. \ &\|(3)\,\| \leq \|\,(A(t;\,K)\,+\,\lambda)^{-1}\,\| \ & imes \left\|rac{d}{dt}\,(A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1}\,
ight\|\,\left\|rac{\partial}{\partial t}\,(1\,-\,\lambda(A(t)\,+\,K\,+\,\lambda)^{-1})\,
ight\| \ & imes rac{M_1N^2\operatorname{Sec}\, heta}{K^{1-
ho}\,|\,\lambda\,+\,K\,|^{1-
ho}}\,. \end{aligned}$$

$$egin{aligned} &\|(4)\| \leq \left\|rac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t;K)+\lambda)^{-1}
ight\| \ & imes \left\|rac{d}{dt}(A(t)+K)^{-1}
ight\| \|1-\lambda(A(t)+K+\lambda)^{-1}\| \| \ &\leq \left\|rac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t;K)+\lambda)^{-1}
ight\| \mu \ , \ &\mu = rac{N(1+M\operatorname{Sec} heta)}{K^{1-
ho}} < 1 \ . \end{aligned}$$

Combining all these estimates we have

$$\left\|rac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t;K)+\lambda)^{-1}
ight\|\leq rac{N^1}{|\lambda+K|^{1-
ho}}\leq rac{N_1}{|\lambda|^{1-
ho}}$$

 $N^1$ ,  $N_1$  being constants which do not depend on t or  $\lambda$ . Thus A(t; K) satisfies E.3 with the same  $\rho$  and this completes the proof of the Lemma.

*Proof of Theorem* 2. We wish to prove this theorem by induction. First the case n = 1 is Theorem B of Kato and Tanabe.

So let us now assume the theorem true for n = m and make the induction hypothesis that A(t) satisfy E.1, E.2. m + 1 and E.3, B(t) satisfy E.5. m + 1 and f(t) satisfy E.4. m + 1. Let K > 0 be so chosen to satisfy (4.2) and to allow

$$\left\{1 + \frac{d}{dt}(A(t) + K)^{-1} + B(t)(A(t) + K)^{-1}\right\}^{-1} \qquad (=B(t;K)^{-1})$$

exist as a bounded operator for each  $t \in [0, T]$ . This is possible because  $\sup_{0 \le t \le T} || B(t) ||$  is finite and A(t) satisfies E.1 and E.2.

As remarked earlier, we will consider the equation

(4.1) 
$$rac{du}{dt} + (A(t) + B(t) + K)u = e^{-\kappa t}f(t) , \ u(0) = U_0 \in X , \qquad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

with K chosen above.

In view of Theorem B, equation (4.1) has a unique strict solution under our present hypotheses on A(t), B(t) and f(t).

Let  $F(t) = e^{-\kappa t} f(t)$ ,

(4.5) 
$$g(t) = \left(B(t;K)\frac{d}{dt}B(t;K)^{-1}\right)F(t) .$$

In view of Lemmas 2, 3, and 4 and our induction hypothesis, we note that A(t; K) satisfies E.1, E.2.m and E.3. Also because  $A(t)^{-1} \in C^{m+1+\alpha}[0, T], B(t) \in C^{m+\beta}[0, T], f(t) \in C^{m+\gamma}[0, T]$ , if follows that

(i)  $B(t) + B(t; K)(d/dt)B(t; K)^{-1}$  is a bounded operator for each  $t \in [0, T]$ ,

(ii)  $B(t; K) \in C^{m+\nu}[0, T], \nu = \min(\alpha, \beta)$ 

(iii)  $B(t) + B(t; K)(d/dt)B(t; K)^{-1} \in C^{m-1+\nu}[0, T],$ 

(iv)  $(dF/dt) + g(t) \in C^{m-1+\eta}[0, T], \eta = \min(\nu, \gamma).$ 

So A(t; K),  $B(t) + B(t; K)(d/dt)B(t; K)^{-1}$ , g(t) satisfy respectively the conditions for A(t), B(t), f(t) of the theorem with n = m.

Let  $t_0 \in (0, T)$  be arbitrarily chosen. Then consider the equation

(4.6) 
$$\frac{dv}{dt} + \left(A(t;K) + B(t) + B(t;K)\frac{d}{dt}B(t;K)^{-1}\right)v = -\left(\frac{dF}{dt} + g(t)\right)$$

 $0 < t_0 \leq t \leq T$  with initial value at  $t_0$ ,

$$v(t_0) = -F(t_0) + B(t_0; K)(A(t_0) + K)u(t_0)$$

where  $u(t_0)$  is the value of the strict solution of (4.1) at  $t = t_0$ .

Because the equation (4.6) satisfies the conditions of theorem with n = m, we have that the unique strict solution v(t) of (4.6) is of class  $C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T], t_1 > t_0$  arbitrary.

Let w(t) = F(t) + v(t). Clearly  $w(t) \in C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T]$ . Then

$$\begin{split} (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1}\frac{dw}{dt} &+ \Big\{ 1 + (A(t) + K)^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}B(t; K)^{-1} \Big\} w \\ &= (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1}\frac{dF}{dt} + \Big\{ 1 + (A(t) + K)^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}B(t; K)^{-1} \Big\} F \\ &+ (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1} \\ &\times \Big[ \frac{dv}{dt} + B(t; K)(A(t) + K)\Big( 1 + (A(t) + K)^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}B(t; K)^{-1} \Big) v \Big] \\ &= (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1}\frac{dF}{dt} + \Big\{ 1 + (A(t) + K)^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}B(t; K)^{-1} \Big\} F \\ &+ (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1}\Big( - \frac{dF}{dt} - g(t) \Big) \end{split}$$

in view of (4.6) and noting that, B(t;K)(A(t)+K) = A(t;K) + B(t) = F(t)by our choice of g(t) (see 4.5).

Thus w(t) satisfies

$$egin{aligned} &(A(t)+K)^{-1}B(t;K)^{-1}rac{dw}{dt}+\Big(1+(A(t)+K)^{-1}rac{d}{dt}B(t;K)^{-1}\Big)w=F(t)\ ,\ &t_{0}\leq t\leq T\ ,\ &w(t_{0})=F(t_{0})+v(t_{0})=B(t_{0};K)(A(t_{0})+K)u(t_{0})\ . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$(A(t) + K)^{-1} \frac{d}{dt} (B(t; K)^{-1} w) + w = F(t) \; .$$

Writing  $\xi(t) = B(t; K)^{-1}w$ , we have

$$egin{aligned} & (A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1} rac{d\xi}{dt} + \Big\{ 1 + rac{d}{dt} (A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1} + B(t) (A(t)\,+\,K)^{-1} \Big\} \xi = F(t) \;, \ & \xi(t_0) = B(t_0;\,K)^{-1} w(t_0) = (A(t_0)\,+\,K) u(t_0) \;, & t_0 \leq t \leq T \;. \end{aligned}$$

 $\mathbf{So}$ 

$$rac{d}{dt}((A(t)+K)^{-1}\xi)+(A(t)+K+B(t))(A(t)+K)^{-1}\hat{arsigma}=F(t)$$

Writing  $(A(t) + K)^{-1}\xi = \zeta$ , we have

(4.7) 
$$rac{d\zeta}{dt} + (A(t) + B(t) + K)\zeta = F(t) , \ \zeta(t_0) = u(t_0) , \qquad t_0 \leq t \leq T .$$

Since (4.1) has a unique strict solution u(t),  $0 < t \leq T$ , and since the unique strict solution of (4.7) coincides with that of (4.7) at  $t = t_0$ , we conclude that

$$\zeta(t) = u(t)$$
, for  $t \in [t_0, T]$ .

Now

$$u(t) = (A(t) + K)^{-1}\xi(t) = (A(t) + K)^{-1}B(t; K)^{-1}w(t)$$
.

Because  $w(t) \in C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T], B(t; K)^{-1} \in C^{m+\nu}[0, T]$ , and

 $(A(t) + K)^{-1} \in C^{m+1+lpha}[0, T]$  ,

we have  $u(t) \in C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T]$  and

$$(A(t) + K)u(t) = B(t; K)^{-1}w(t) \in C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T]$$
.

Therefore

$$rac{du}{dt} = -(A(t) + K)u(t) - B(t)u(t) \in C^{m+\delta}[t_1, T]$$

Hence  $u \in C^{m+1+\delta}[t_1, T]$ .

Because  $t_0 > 0$ , and  $t_1 > t_0$  are arbitrary, we have

$$u(t) \in C^{m+1+\delta}[t_1, T]$$
,  $t_1 > 0$ 

arbitrary. This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

Corollary 1 follows immediately.

Example of an operator A(t) which satisfies E.1 and E.3 with  $A(t)^{-1}$  real analytic the corresponding evolution operator U(t, s) of which is not real analytic:

This example is the same as given in Kato [5].

Let  $X = L^2[a, b]$ , 0 < a < b < T. A(t) be a family of multiplication operators in X defined by

$$A(t)u(x) = (t - x)^{-2}u(x)$$
,  $u(x) \in D(A(t))$ .

These are positive and self adjoint operators and so E.1 is clearly satisfied. Because  $(\partial/\partial t)(A(t) + \lambda)^{-1}$  is a multiplication operator defined by

$$egin{aligned} &rac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t)+\lambda)^{-1}u(x) = rac{2(t-x)^{-3}}{(\lambda+(t-x)^{-2})^2}u(x)\;, \ &\left\|rac{\partial}{\partial t}(A(t)+\lambda)^{-1}
ight\| &\leq \sup_{t,x} \left|rac{2(t-x)^{-3}}{(\lambda+(t-x)^{-2})^2}
ight| \ &\leq 2\sup_{t,x} \left|\left\{rac{2(t-x)^{-3}}{(\lambda+(t-x)^{-2})^2}
ight\}^{3/2}rac{1}{\{\lambda+(t-x)^{-2}\}^{1/2}}
ight| \ &\leq rac{C}{|\lambda|^{1/2}} & ext{for }\lambda\in arsigmes\;. \end{aligned}$$

Thus K - T condition is satisfied with  $\rho = 1/2$ . The evolution operator to this A(t) is given by

 $\mathbf{Let}$ 

$$\eta(x) = e^{-(1/x)} \qquad \qquad ext{if } x > 0 \ = 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad ext{if } x \leq 0$$

$$U(t, s)u(x) = \eta(x - t)\eta(s - x)u(x) .$$

As  $|\eta(x)| \leq 1$ ,  $||U(t, s)|| \leq 1$ . It is also clear that U(t, t) = I and

$$U(t, r)U(r, s) = U(t, s)$$
  $s \leq r \leq t$ .

It can easily be shown that

$$\sup_{t,x} \left| \frac{\eta(x-t-h)\eta(s-x) - \eta(x-t)\eta(s-x)}{h} - \eta^{\scriptscriptstyle 1}(x-t)\eta(s-x) \right| < \varepsilon$$

for sufficiently small h so that

$$egin{array}{ll} rac{\partial}{\partial t}\,U(t,\,s)\,=\,-(x\,-\,t)^{-2}U(t,\,s)\ &=\,-A(t)\,U(t,\,s)\;. \end{array}$$

This implies that U(t, s) is the evolution operator. Now  $A(t)^{-1}$ , being multiplication by  $(t - x)^2$ , is analytic in t.

Also U(t, s) = 0 if  $s \leq a$  and  $t \geq b$  and  $U(t, s) \neq 0$  otherwise. Hence U(t, s) is not analytic in t.

We note that this is due to the fact that even though  $A(t)^{-1}$  has an analytic extension for t complex, -A(t) is not the generator of an analytic semigroup.

Proof of Corollary 2. In view of Theorem 2, it is enough to show that A(t) satisfies K - T condition under the assumption that the bounded operator  $A(t)A(s)^{-1}$  is continuously differentiable in the uniform operator topology in  $t \in [0, T]$  for any s in [0, T].

Because  $(A(t)A(s)^{-1})^{-1} = A(s)A(t)^{-1}$ , we have

$$\lim_{r \to t} A(s) \frac{A(r)^{-1} - A(t)^{-1}}{r - t}$$

exists in the uniform operator topology. A(s) being closed, we have that  $A(s)(dA(t)^{-1}/dt)$  is a bounded operator for any  $s \in [0, T]$ . In particular  $A(t)(dA(t)^{-1}/dt)$  is a bounded operator. Because of the continuous differentiability of  $A(s)A(t)^{-1}$ , we can find a constant C such that

$$ig\|A(t)rac{dA(t)^{-1}}{dt}ig\| < C \qquad ext{for } t \in [0, T] \;.$$
 $rac{d}{dt}(A(t) + \lambda)^{-1} = A(t)(A(t) + \lambda)^{-1}rac{d}{dt}A(t)^{-1}A(t)(A(t) + \lambda)^{-1}$ 
 $= (A(t) + \lambda)^{-1}A(t)rac{d}{dt}A(t)^{-1}A(t)(A(t) + \lambda)^{-1}$ 

therefore

$$\left\|rac{d}{dt}(A(t)+\lambda)^{-1}
ight\|<rac{M}{\mid\lambda\mid}C(1+M)$$
 .

Thus K - T condition is verified with  $\rho = 0$ .

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