

ALMOST AUTOMORPHIC SOLUTIONS OF SOME DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS IN BANACH SPACES

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ABSTRACT. We discuss the conditions under which bounded solutions of the evolution equation $x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t)$ in a Banach space are almost automorphic whenever $f(t)$ is almost automorphic and A generates a C_0 -group of strongly continuous operators. We also give a result for asymptotically almost automorphic solutions for the more general case of $x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t, x(t))$.

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1. Introduction. Let A generate a C_0 -group of strongly continuous operators $T(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$ on a Banach space X . Let $f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}; X)$. A basic unsolved problem is: what is the structure of bounded (on \mathbb{R}) mild solutions of $x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t)$? Classically results go back to Ordinary Differential Equations (when dimension of X is finite), and one sought solutions $x(t)$ such that $x(t) - \gamma(t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, when either $\gamma(t)$ is a constant or a periodic function of time. In the evolution context of $x' = Ax + f$, much has been written on asymptotically constant or periodic solutions. Several authors extended these ideas to almost periodic solutions (when f is almost periodic). Our main result (Theorem 1.6) is inspired by the interesting work of Goldstein [3]. We are actually concerned with the more general case of almost automorphic, and when bounded solutions are almost automorphic. We also give a new result (Theorem 1.7) concerning mild solutions of the equation $x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t, x(t))$ which approach almost automorphic functions at infinity under specific conditions on the function $f(t, x)$. See also [6] for another comparable situation.

Let X be a Banach space equipped with the topology norm and $\mathbb{R} = (-\infty, \infty)$ the set of real numbers. Let us first recall some definitions.

DEFINITION 1.1 (Bochner). A continuous function $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ is said to be almost automorphic if and only if, from any sequence of real numbers $(s'_n)_{n=1}^\infty$, we can subtract a subsequence $(s_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ such that: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(t + s_n) = g(t)$ exists for each real number t , and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(t - s_n) = f(t)$ for each t .

DEFINITION 1.2 [4]. A continuous function $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$ is said to be asymptotically almost automorphic if and only if there exists an almost automorphic function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ and a continuous function $h : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$ with $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|h(t)\| = 0$ and such that $f(t) = g(t) + h(t)$ for each $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

DEFINITION 1.3. A Banach space X is said to be perfect if and only if every bounded function $u : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ with an almost automorphic derivative $u'(t)$ is necessarily almost automorphic.

REMARK 1.4. Uniformly convex Banach spaces are nice examples of perfect Banach spaces (see [10, Theorem 1.4]).

We consider the evolution equation

$$x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1.1)$$

THEOREM 1.5. Let X be a perfect Banach space. Let A be a bounded linear operator $X \rightarrow X$ and $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ an almost automorphic function. Then any bounded strong solution of (1.1) is almost automorphic if we assume that there exists a finite-dimensional subspace X_1 of X such that

- (α) $Ax(0) \in X_1$,
- (β) $(e^{tA} - I)f(s) \in X_1$ for any $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$,
- (γ) $e^{tA}u \in X_1$ for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$ and for any $u \in X_1$.

PROOF. Let P be the projection of X onto X_1 ; such P always exists (cf. [7]) and possesses the following properties:

- (1) $X = X_1 \oplus \ker(P)$, where $\ker(P)$ is the kernel of the operator P ,
- (2) P is bounded on X .

If we put $Q = I - P$, then it is easy to verify that $Q^2 = Q$ on X and $Qu = 0$ for any $u \in X_1$. Now if $x(t)$ is a bounded solution of (1.1), then we can write it as

$$x(t) = x_1(t) + x_2(t) \quad (1.2)$$

with $x_1(t) = Px(t) \in X_1$ and $x_2(t) = Qx(t) \in \ker(P)$.

Since $x(t)$ is bounded on \mathbb{R} , it is clear that both $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ are also bounded on \mathbb{R} . On the other hand, we have

$$x'(t) = x_1'(t) + x_2'(t) = Ax_1(t) + Ax_2(t) + Pf(t) + Qf(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1.3)$$

But $x(t)$ has the well-known Lagrange representation:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= e^{tA}x(0) + \int_0^t e^{(t-s)A}f(s) ds \\ &= e^{tA}x(0) + \int_0^t f(s) ds + \int_0^t (e^{(t-s)A} - I)f(s) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

By assumption (β), we deduce that $\int_0^t (e^{(t-s)A} - I)f(s) ds$ is in X_1 , so that if we apply Q to both sides of (1.4), we get

$$x_2(t) = Qe^{tA}x(0) + Q \int_0^t f(s) ds = Qe^{tA}x(0) + \int_0^t Qf(s) ds, \quad (1.5)$$

consequently

$$x_2'(t) = Qe^{tA}Ax(0) + Qf(t) = Qf(t) \quad (1.6)$$

using conditions (α) and (γ).

It is clear that $Qf(t)$ and thus $x_2'(t)$ is almost automorphic (see [9, page 586]). Since $x_2(t)$ is bounded, then it is almost automorphic for we are in a perfect Banach space.

Now if we apply P to both sides of (1.3), we get in the finite-dimensional space X_1 the differential equation

$$x_1'(t) = PAx_1(t) + PAx_2(t) + P^2f(t) + PQf(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (1.7)$$

Since the function $g(t) \equiv P^2f(t) + PQf(t)$ is almost automorphic and PA is a bounded linear operator, we deduce that $x_1(t)$ is almost automorphic [9, Theorem 3]. Finally, $x(t)$ is almost automorphic as the sum of two almost automorphic functions. \square

Theorem 1.5 can be generalized to the case of unbounded operator A as follows.

THEOREM 1.6. *In a perfect Banach space X , let A generate a C_0 -group of strongly continuous linear operators $T(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume that there exists a finite-dimensional subspace X_1 of X such that:*

$$(\alpha) \quad Ax(0) \in X_1,$$

$$(\beta') \quad (T(t) - I)f(s) \in X_1 \text{ for any } s, t \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$(\gamma) \quad T(t)u \in X_1 \text{ for any } t \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and any } u \in X_1.$$

Then every bounded solution of (1.1) is almost automorphic.

PROOF. We just follow the proof of Theorem 1.5 with the appropriate modifications. Here solutions are written as $x(t) = T(t)x(0) + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s)ds$. \square

We return now to a general (not necessarily perfect) Banach space X . We state and prove the following theorem.

THEOREM 1.7. *Let A be a (possibly unbounded) linear operator which is the generator of a C_0 -group of strongly continuous linear operators $T(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $T(t)x : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ is almost automorphic for each $x \in X$. Consider the differential equation*

$$x'(t) = Ax(t) + f(t, x(t)), \quad (1.8)$$

where $f(t, x) : \mathbb{R} \times X \rightarrow X$ is strongly continuous with respect to jointly t and x and such that $\|f(t, x) - f(t, y)\| \leq L\|x - y\|$ for any $t \in \mathbb{R}$, $x, y \in X$, and $\int_0^\infty \|f(t, 0)\|dt < \infty$.

Then every mild solution $x(t)$ of (1.8) with $\int_0^\infty \|x(t)\|dt < \infty$ is asymptotically almost automorphic.

PROOF. Let $x : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$ be a mild solution of (1.8). Then we have

$$x(t) = T(t)x(0) + \int_0^t T(t-s)f(s, x(s))ds. \quad (1.9)$$

We claim that $\int_0^\infty T(-s)f(s, x(s))ds$ exists in X (in Bochner's sense). Indeed, since $T(t)$ is almost automorphic for each $x \in X$, then

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|T(t)x\| < \infty \quad \text{for each } x \in X. \quad (1.10)$$

Consequently

$$\sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \|T(t)\| = M < \infty, \quad (1.11)$$

by the uniform boundedness principle. Let us write

$$\int_0^\infty T(-s)f(s, x(s)) ds = \int_0^\infty T(-s)(f(s, x(s)) - f(s, 0)) ds + \int_0^\infty T(-s)f(s, 0) ds, \quad (1.12)$$

then we get the inequality

$$\left\| \int_0^\infty T(-s)f(s, x(s)) ds \right\| \leq M \left(L \int_0^\infty \|x(s)\| ds + \int_0^\infty \|f(s, 0)\| ds \right) < \infty. \quad (1.13)$$

Now the continuous function $F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$ defined by

$$F(t) = \int_0^\infty T(t-s)f(s, x(s)) ds = T(t) \int_0^\infty T(-s)f(s, x(s)) ds \quad (1.14)$$

is almost automorphic; therefore $V(t) = T(t)x(0) + F(t)$ is also almost automorphic. Let us consider the continuous function $W: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$

$$W(t) = - \int_t^\infty T(t-s)f(s, x(s)) ds. \quad (1.15)$$

If we use the same computation as for $F(t)$ in (1.14), we get

$$\|W(t)\| \leq M \left(L \int_t^\infty \|x(s)\| ds + \int_t^\infty \|f(s, 0)\| ds \right) \quad (1.16)$$

which shows that $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \|W(t)\| = 0$.

Finally $x(t) = V(t) + W(t)$, $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$ is asymptotically almost automorphic. \square

REMARK 1.8. (1) An example of Theorem 1.5 (occurring in Sturm-Liouville theory, for instance) is when X is a Hilbert space and $A\varphi_n = \lambda_n\varphi_n$ for $\{\varphi_n : n = 1, 2, \dots\}$ an orthonormal basis and $|\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_n)| \leq M$ for all n . For X_1 , one may take $X_1 = \operatorname{span}\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_N\}$ (for any N) and assume $f \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}, X_1)$.

(2) An example of operator A satisfying the hypothesis of Theorem 1.7 is the above example with $A^* = -A$, i.e., $M = 0$.

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