

# NONLINEAR DELAY EVOLUTION INCLUSIONS WITH GENERAL NONLOCAL INITIAL CONDITIONS \*

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*Dedicated to the memory of Prof. Dr. Viorel Arnăutu*

## Abstract

We consider a nonlinear delay differential evolution inclusion subjected to nonlocal implicit initial conditions and we prove an existence result for bounded  $C^0$ -solutions.

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**keywords:** differential delay evolution inclusion; nonlocal delay initial condition; bounded  $C^0$ -solutions; periodic  $C^0$ -solutions; anti-periodic  $C^0$ -solutions; nonlinear diffusion equation.

## 1 Introduction

The goal of this paper is to prove an existence result for bounded  $C^0$ -solutions to a class of nonlinear delay differential evolution inclusions sub-

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jected to nonlocal implicit initial conditions of the form

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ f(t) \in F(t, u_t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $X$  is a Banach space,  $\tau \geq 0$ ,  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  is the infinitesimal generator of a nonlinear semigroup of contractions, the multifunction  $F : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \rightrightarrows X$  is nonempty, convex weakly compact valued and strongly-weakly u.s.c., and  $g : C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  is nonexpansive and has *affine growth*, i.e. there exists  $m_0 \geq 0$  such that

$$\|g(u)\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} \leq \|u\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} + m_0 \quad (2)$$

for each  $u \in C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

If  $I$  is an interval,  $C_b(I; X)$  denotes the space of all bounded and continuous functions from  $I$ , equipped with the sup-norm  $\|\cdot\|_{C_b(I; X)}$ , while  $C_b(I; \overline{D(A)})$  denotes the closed subset in  $C_b(I; X)$  consisting of all elements  $u \in C_b(I; X)$  satisfying  $u(t) \in \overline{D(A)}$  for each  $t \in I$ . Let  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ . On the linear space  $C_b([a, +\infty); X)$  let us consider the family of seminorms  $\{\|\cdot\|_k; k \in \mathbf{N}, k \geq a\}$ , defined by  $\|u\|_k = \sup\{\|u(t)\|; t \in [a, k]\}$  for each  $k \in \mathbf{N}, k \geq a$ . Endowed with this family of seminorms,  $C_b([a, +\infty); X)$  is a separated locally convex space, denoted by  $\tilde{C}_b([a, +\infty); X)$ . Further,  $C([a, b]; X)$  stands for the space of all continuous functions from  $[a, b]$  to  $X$  endowed with the sup-norm  $\|\cdot\|_{C([a, b]; X)}$  and  $C([a, b]; \overline{D(A)})$  is the closed subset of  $C([a, b]; X)$  containing all  $u \in C([a, b]; X)$  with  $u(t) \in \overline{D(A)}$  for each  $t \in [a, b]$ . Finally, if  $u \in C_b([- \tau, +\infty); X)$  and  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ ,  $u_t \in C([- \tau, 0]; X)$  is defined by

$$u_t(s) := u(t + s)$$

for each  $s \in [- \tau, 0]$ .

The existence problem on the standard compact interval  $[0, 2\pi]$ , in the simplest case when  $\tau = 0$ , i.e. when the delay is absent, was studied by Paicu, Vrabie [41]. In this case  $C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  identifies with  $\overline{D(A)}$ ,  $F$  identifies with a multifunction from  $[0, 2\pi] \times X$  to  $X$ . By using an interplay between compactness arguments and invariance techniques, they have proved an existence result handling periodic, anti-periodic, mean-value evolution inclusions subjected to initial condition expressed by an integral with

respect to a Radon measure  $\mu$ . A very important specific case concerns  $T$ -periodic problems, which corresponds to the choice of  $g$  as  $g(u) = u(T)$ , was studied by Paicu [39]. For  $F$  single-valued, this case was analyzed by Aizicovici, Papageorgiou, Staicu [3], Caşcaval, Vrabie [18], Hirano, Shioji [34], Paicu [40], Vrabie [44]. For a survey concerning: periodic, anti-periodic, quasi-periodic and almost periodic solutions to differential inclusions, see Andres [6]. As long as differential inclusions subjected to general nonlocal initial conditions without delay are concerned, we mention the papers of Aizicovici, Staicu [5] and Paicu, Vrabie [41]. The case of periodic retarded equations and inclusions subjected to nonlocal initial conditions were studied by Vrabie [46], and Chen, Wang, Zhou [20], while the general delay equations was considered by Burlică, Roşu [14] and Vrabie [48], [49] and [50].

Existence results in the periodic abstract undelayed case were obtained by Aizicovici, Papageorgiou, Staicu [3], Caşcaval, Vrabie [18], Hirano, Shioji [34], Paicu [40], Vrabie [44], while the anti-periodic case was considered by Aizicovici, Pavel, Vrabie [4]. The semilinear case of undelayed differential equations subjected to nonlocal initial data, was initiated by the pioneering work of Byszewski [15]. Further steps in this direction were made by Byszewski [16], Byszewski, Lakshmikantham [17], Aizicovici, Lee [1], Aizicovici, McKibben [2], Zhenbin Fan, Qixiang Dong, Gang Li [27], García-Falset [29] and García-Falset, Reich [30]. All these studies are strongly motivated by the fact that specific problems of this kind describe the evolution of various phenomena in Physics, Meteorology, Thermodynamics, Population Dynamics. A model of the gas flow through a thin transparent tube, expressed as a problem with nonlocal initial conditions, was analyzed in Deng [24]. Some models in Pharmacokinetics were discussed in the monograph of McKibben [35, Section 10.2, pp. 394–398]. Models arising from Physics were analyzed by Olmstead, Roberts [38] and Shelukhin [43]. Linear second order evolution equations subjected to linear nonlocal initial conditions in Hilbert triples were considered in Avalishvili, Avalishvili [8] and motivated by mathematical models for long-term reliable weather forecasting as mentioned in Rabier, Courtier, Ehrendorfer [42]. For Navier-Stokes equations subjected to initial nonlocal conditions see Gordeziani [32]. Classical nonlinear delay evolution initial-value problems, i.e. when  $g \equiv \psi$  with  $\psi \in C([\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ , were considered by Mitidieri, Vrabie [36] and [37], also by using compactness arguments. It should be emphasized that in Mitidieri, Vrabie [36] and [37] the general assumptions on the forcing term  $F$  are very general allowing – in certain specific cases when  $A$  is a second order elliptic operator –  $F$  to depend on  $Au$  as well.

Our paper extends the main result in Vrabie [47] to cover the more general case in which  $g$  has affine rather than linear growth. This case is important in applications and does not follow by a simple modification of the arguments used in Vrabie [47].

The paper is divided into 7 sections. In Section 2 we have included some concepts and results widely used subsequently. In Section 3 we prove an existence and uniqueness result for the unperturbed problem (1) which, although auxiliary, is important by its own. Section 4 collects the hypotheses used and provides some comments on several remarkable particular cases handled by the general frame considered. Section 5 is devoted to the statement of the main result, i.e. Theorem 7 and to a short description of the idea of the proof. Section 6 is concerned with the proof of the main result and the last Section 7 contains an example illustrating the possibilities of the abstract developed theory.

## 2 Preliminaries

Although the paper is almost self-contained, some familiarity with the basic concepts and results on nonlinear evolution equations governed by  $m$ -dissipative operators, delay evolution equations and on multifunction theory would be welcome. For details in these three topics, we refer the reader, in order, to Barbu [11], Hale [33] and Vrabie [45]. However, we recall for easy reference the most important notions and results we will use in the sequel.

**Definition 1** If  $X$  is a Banach space and  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq X$ , the multifunction  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightrightarrows X$  is said (*strongly-weakly*) *upper semicontinuous (u.s.c.)* at  $\xi \in \mathcal{C}$  if for every (weakly) open neighborhood  $V$  of  $F(\xi)$  there exists an open neighborhood  $U$  of  $\xi$  such that  $F(\eta) \subseteq V$  for each  $\eta \in U \cap \mathcal{C}$ . We say that  $F$  is (*strongly-weakly*) *u.s.c. on  $\mathcal{C}$*  if it is (strongly-weakly) u.s.c. at each  $\xi \in \mathcal{C}$ .

**Definition 2** A multifunction  $F : I \times \mathcal{C} \rightrightarrows X$  is said to be *almost strongly-weakly u.s.c.* if for each  $\gamma > 0$  there exists a Lebesgue measurable subset  $E_\gamma \subseteq I$  whose Lebesgue measure  $\lambda(E_\gamma) \leq \gamma$  and such that  $F$  is strongly-weakly u.s.c. from  $(I \setminus E_\gamma) \times \mathcal{C}$  to  $X$ .

**Remark 1** If the sequence  $(\varepsilon_n)_n$  is strictly decreasing to 0, we can always choose the sequence  $(E_{\varepsilon_n})_n$ , where  $E_{\varepsilon_n}$  corresponds to  $\varepsilon_n$  as specified in Definition 2, such that  $E_{\varepsilon_{n+1}} \subseteq E_{\varepsilon_n}$ , for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ .

We also need the following general fixed point theorem for multifunctions obtained independently by Ky Fan [28] and Glicksberg [31].

**Theorem 1** (Ky Fan-Glicksberg) *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, convex and compact set in a separated locally convex space and let  $\Gamma : K \rightrightarrows K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex valued multifunction with closed graph. Then  $\Gamma$  has at least one fixed point, i.e. there exists  $f \in K$  such that  $f \in \Gamma(f)$ .*

A very useful variant of Theorem 1, is

**Theorem 2** *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, convex and closed set in a separated locally convex space and let  $\Gamma : K \rightrightarrows K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex valued multifunction with closed graph. If  $\Gamma(K) := \cup_{x \in K} \Gamma(x)$  is relatively compact, then  $\Gamma$  has at least one fixed point, i.e. there exists  $f \in K$  such that  $f \in \Gamma(f)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $K$  is closed, convex and  $\Gamma(K) \subseteq K$ , we have

$$\overline{\text{conv} \Gamma(K)} \subseteq \overline{\text{conv} K} = K.$$

So,

$$\Gamma(\overline{\text{conv} \Gamma(K)}) \subseteq \Gamma(K) \subseteq \overline{\text{conv} \Gamma(K)},$$

which shows that the set  $\mathcal{C} := \overline{\text{conv} \Gamma(K)}$ , which by Mazur's Theorem, i.e. Dunford, Schwartz [22, Theorem 6, p. 416] is compact, is nonempty, closed, convex and  $\Gamma(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathcal{C}$ . So, we are in the hypotheses of Theorem 1, with  $K$  substituted by  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq K$ , wherefrom the conclusion.  $\square$

Since, by Edwards [23, Theorem 8.12.1, p. 549], the weak closure of a weakly relatively compact set, in a Banach space, coincides with its weak sequential closure, Theorem 2 implies:

**Theorem 3** *Let  $K$  be a nonempty, convex and weakly compact set in Banach space and let  $\Gamma : K \rightrightarrows K$  be a nonempty, closed and convex valued multifunction with sequentially closed graph. Then  $\Gamma$  has at least one fixed point, i.e. there exists  $f \in K$  such that  $f \in \Gamma(f)$ .*

In the single-valued case, Theorem 3 is due to Arino, Gautier, Penot [7].

If  $x, y \in X$ , we denote by  $[x, y]_{\pm}$  the right (left) directional derivative of the norm calculated at  $x$  in the direction  $y$ , i.e.

$$[x, y]_{+} = \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{\|x + hy\| - \|x\|}{h} \quad \left( [x, y]_{-} = \lim_{h \uparrow 0} \frac{\|x + hy\| - \|x\|}{h} \right).$$

We recall that:

$$[x, y + ax]_{\pm} = [x, y]_{\pm} + a\|x\| \tag{3}$$

for  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ . See Barbu [11, Proposition 3.7, p. 101].

We say that the operator  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  is *dissipative* if

$$[x_1 - x_2, y_1 - y_2]_- \leq 0$$

for each  $x_i \in D(A)$  and  $y_i \in Ax_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , and *m-dissipative* if it is dissipative and, for each  $\lambda > 0$ , or equivalently for some  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $R(I - \lambda A) = X$ .

Let  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  be an *m-dissipative* operator, let  $\xi \in \overline{D(A)}$ ,  $f \in L^1(a, b; X)$  and let us consider the differential equation

$$u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t). \quad (4)$$

**Theorem 4** (Benilan) *Let  $\omega \in \mathbf{R}$  and let  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  be an m-dissipative operator such that  $A + \omega I$  is dissipative. Then, for each  $\xi \in \overline{D(A)}$  and  $f \in L^1(a, b; X)$ , there exists a unique  $C^0$ -solution of (4) on  $[a, b]$  which satisfies  $u(a) = \xi$ . Furthermore, if  $f, g \in L^1(a, b; X)$  and  $u, v$  are the two  $C^0$ -solutions of (4) corresponding to  $f$  and  $g$  respectively, then:*

$$\|u(t) - v(t)\| \leq e^{-\omega(t-s)} \|u(s) - v(s)\| + \int_s^t e^{-\omega(t-\theta)} \|f(\theta) - g(\theta)\| d\theta \quad (5)$$

for each  $a \leq s \leq t \leq b$ .

See Benilan [12], or Barbu [11, Theorem 4.1, p. 128].

We denote by  $u(\cdot, a, \xi, f)$  the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (4) satisfying

$$u(a, a, \xi, f) = \xi$$

and we notice that  $u(t, 0, \xi, 0) = S(t)\xi$ , where  $\{S(t); S(t) : \overline{D(A)} \rightarrow \overline{D(A)}\}$  is the semigroup of nonexpansive mappings generated by  $A$  via the Crandall-Liggett Exponential Formula. See Crandall, Liggett [21].

We recall that the semigroup  $\{S(t); S(t) : \overline{D(A)} \rightarrow \overline{D(A)}\}$  is called *compact* if, for each  $t > 0$ ,  $S(t)$  is a compact operator.

We conclude this section with some compactness results concerning the set of  $C^0$ -solutions of the problem (4) whose initial data  $u(a)$  and forcing terms  $f$  belong to some subsets  $B$ , in  $\overline{D(A)}$ , and respectively  $\mathcal{F}$ , in  $L^1(a, b; X)$ . First, we introduce:

**Definition 3** Let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a complete measure space,  $\mu(\Omega) < +\infty$ . A subset  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq L^1(\Omega, \mu; X)$  is called *uniformly integrable* if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\int_E \|f(t)\| d\mu(t) \leq \varepsilon$$

for each  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  and each  $E \in \Sigma$  satisfying  $\mu(E) \leq \delta(\varepsilon)$ .

The next result is an extension of a compactness theorem due to Baras [10].

**Theorem 5** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space, let  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  be an  $m$ -dissipative operator and let us assume that  $A$  generates a compact semigroup. Let  $B \subseteq \overline{D(A)}$  be bounded and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be uniformly integrable in  $L^1(a, b; X)$ . Then, for each  $\sigma \in (a, b)$ , the set  $\{u(\cdot, a, \xi, f); (\xi, f) \in B \times \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([\sigma, b]; X)$ . If, in addition,  $B$  is relatively compact, then  $\{u(\cdot, a, \xi, f); (\xi, f) \in B \times \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact even in  $C([a, b]; X)$ .*

See Vrabie [45, Theorems 2.3.2 and 2.3.3, pp. 46–47].

**Definition 4** An  $m$ -dissipative operator  $A$  is called of *complete continuous type* if for each  $a < b$  and each sequences  $(f_n)_n$  in  $L^1(a, b; X)$  and  $(u_n)_n$  in  $C([a, b]; X)$ , with  $u_m$  a  $C^0$ -solution on  $[a, b]$  of the problem  $u'_m(t) \in Au_m(t) + f_m(t)$ ,  $m = 1, 2, \dots$  satisfying:

$$\begin{cases} \lim_n f_n = f & \text{weakly in } L^1(a, b; X), \\ \lim_n u_n = u & \text{strongly in } C([a, b]; X), \end{cases}$$

it follows that  $u$  is a  $C^0$  solution on  $[a, b]$  of the limit problem  $u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t)$ .

**Remark 2** If the topological dual of  $X$  is uniformly convex and  $A$  generates a compact semigroup, then  $A$  is of complete continuous type. See Vrabie [45, Corollary 2.3.1, p. 49]. An  $m$ -dissipative operator of complete continuous type in a nonreflexive Banach space (and, by consequence, whose dual is not uniformly convex) is the nonlinear diffusion operator  $\Delta\varphi$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$ . See the example below.

**Example 1** Let  $\Delta$  be the Laplace operator in the sense of distributions over  $\Omega$ . Let  $\varphi : D(\varphi) \subseteq \mathbf{R} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{R}$ , let  $u : \Omega \rightarrow D(\varphi)$  and let us denote by

$$\mathcal{S}_\varphi(u) = \{v \in L^1(\Omega); v(x) \in \varphi(u(x)), \text{ a.e. for } x \in \Omega\}.$$

We recall that  $\varphi : D(\varphi) \subseteq \mathbf{R} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is said to be *maximal monotone* if  $-\varphi$  is  $m$ -dissipative.

The (i) part in Theorem 6 below is due to Brezis, Strauss [13], the (ii) part to Badii, Díaz, Tesi [9] and the (iii) part to Cârjă, Necula, Vrabie [19].

**Theorem 6** *Let  $\Omega$  be a nonempty, bounded and open subset in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  with  $C^1$  boundary  $\Sigma$  and let  $\varphi : D(\varphi) \subseteq \mathbf{R} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be maximal monotone with  $0 \in \varphi(0)$ .*

(i) Then the operator  $\Delta\varphi : D(\Delta\varphi) \subseteq L^1(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L^1(\Omega)$ , defined by

$$\begin{cases} D(\Delta\varphi) = \{u \in L^1(\Omega); \exists v \in \mathcal{S}_\varphi(u) \cap W_0^{1,1}(\Omega), \Delta v \in L^1(\Omega)\} \\ \Delta\varphi(u) = \{\Delta v; v \in \mathcal{S}_\varphi(u) \cap W_0^{1,1}(\Omega)\} \cap L^1(\Omega) \text{ for } u \in D(\Delta\varphi), \end{cases}$$

is  $m$ -dissipative on  $L^1(\Omega)$ .

(ii) If, in addition,  $\varphi : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is continuous on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $C^1$  on  $\mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}$  and there exist two constants  $C > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$  if  $d \leq 2$  and  $\alpha > (d-2)/d$  if  $d \geq 3$  such that

$$\varphi'(r) \geq C|r|^{\alpha-1}$$

for each  $r \in \mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $\Delta\varphi$  generates a compact semigroup.

(iii) In the hypotheses of (ii),  $\Delta\varphi$  is of complete continuous type.

For the proof of (i) see Barbu [11, Theorem 3.5, p. 115], for the proof of (ii) see Vrabie [45, Theorem 2.7.1, p. 70] and for proof of the (iii) – which rests heavily on slight extension of a continuity result established in Díaz, Vrabie [26, Corollary 3.1, p. 527] which, in turn, follows from a compactness result due to Díaz, Vrabie [25] –, see Cârjă, Necula, Vrabie [19, Theorem 1.7.9, p. 22].

### 3 An auxiliary lemma

We begin by considering the problem

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0]. \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

**Lemma 1** *Let us assume that  $A$  is  $m$ -dissipative,  $0 \in D(A)$ ,  $0 \in A0$  and there exists  $\omega > 0$  such that  $A + \omega I$  is dissipative, too. Let us assume, in addition, that there exists  $a > 0$  such that  $g : C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  satisfies*

$$\|g(v) - g(\tilde{v})\|_{C_b([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})} \leq \|v - \tilde{v}\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})}, \quad (7)$$

for each  $v, \tilde{v} \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  and has affine growth, i.e. satisfies (2). Then, for each  $f \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$ , (6) has a unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .



**Remark 3** If  $g : C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  satisfies (7), then  $g$  depends only on the restriction  $v|_{[a, +\infty)}$  of  $v$  to  $[a, +\infty)$ .

We can now pass to the proof of Lemma 1.

*Proof.* Let us observe first that, for each  $v \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ , the initial value problem for the delay equation

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(v)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0] \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

has a unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u : [-\tau, +\infty) \rightarrow \overline{D(A)}$ . Clearly,  $u$  is bounded on  $[-\tau, 0]$  because it is continuous. Next, recalling that  $0 \in A0$ , from Theorem 4 we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \|u(t)\| &\leq e^{-\omega t} \|u(0)\| + \int_0^t e^{-\omega(t-\theta)} \|f(\theta)\| d\theta \\ &\leq \|u(0)\| + \frac{1}{\omega} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)}, \end{aligned}$$

for each  $t \geq 0$ . Finally, since  $u$  is bounded on both  $[-\tau, 0]$  and  $[0, +\infty)$ , it follows that  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

Now let us observe that, in view of Remark 3,  $g(v)(t) = g(\tilde{v})(t)$  for each  $t \in [-\tau, 0]$  whenever  $v$  and  $\tilde{v}$  coincide on  $[a, +\infty)$  and so,  $g$  depends only on the restriction of  $v$  on  $[a, +\infty)$ . To conclude the proof, it suffices to show that the operator

$$Q : C_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow C_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}),$$

defined by

$$Q(v) := u|_{[a, +\infty)},$$

where  $u$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (8), is a strict contraction. Hence by the Banach Fixed Point Theorem,  $Q$  has a unique fixed point  $v = u|_{[a, +\infty)}$  and

$$u(t) = \begin{cases} u(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+ \\ g(v)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases}$$

is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of (6).

To this end, let  $v, \tilde{v} \in C_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  and  $t \in [a, +\infty)$  be arbitrary. We have

$$\|Q(v)(t) - Q(\tilde{v})(t)\| \leq e^{-\omega t} \|Q(v)(0) - Q(\tilde{v})(0)\|$$

$$\leq e^{-\omega a} \|g(v)(0) - g(\tilde{v})(0)\| \leq e^{-\omega a} \|v - \tilde{v}\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)}.$$

To complete the proof, we have merely to observe that

$$\|Q(v) - Q(\tilde{v})\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)} \leq e^{-\omega a} \|v - \tilde{v}\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)}$$

for each  $v, \tilde{v} \in C_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .  $\square$

## 4 The general frame and basic assumptions

In the sequel we shall denote by  $z : [-\tau, +\infty) \rightarrow \overline{D(A)}$  the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the unperturbed problem

$$\begin{cases} z'(t) \in Az(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ z(t) = g(z)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0]. \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

which, in view of Lemma 1, belongs to  $C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

The assumptions we need in that follows are listed below.

( $H_A$ )  $A : D(A) \subseteq X \hookrightarrow X$  is an operator with the properties:

- ( $A_1$ )  $A$  is  $m$ -dissipative, there exists  $\omega > 0$  such that  $A + \omega I$  is dissipative too,  $0 \in D(A)$ ,  $0 \in A0$  and  $\overline{D(A)}$  is convex;
- ( $A_2$ ) the semigroup generated by  $A$  on  $\overline{D(A)}$  is compact;
- ( $A_3$ )  $A$  is of complete continuous type. See Definition 4.

( $H_F$ )  $F : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \hookrightarrow X$  is a nonempty, convex and weakly compact valued, almost strongly-weakly u.s.c. multifunction. See Definition 2.

( $H_I$ ) There exists  $r > 0$  such that for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , each  $v \in C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ , with  $\|v - z_t\|_{C([-\tau, 0]; X)} = r$  and  $f \in F(t, v)$ , we have  $[v(0) - z(t), f]_+ \leq 0$ , where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the unperturbed problem (9).

( $H_I'$ ) There exists  $r > 0$  such that for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , each  $v \in C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  with  $\|v(0) - z(t)\| > r$  and  $f \in F(t, v)$ , we have  $[v(0) - z(t), f]_+ \leq 0$ , where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the unperturbed problem (9).

( $H_B$ ) There exists  $\ell \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+)$  such that for almost every  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$  and for each  $v \in C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  satisfying  $\|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r$ , where  $r > 0$  is given by ( $H_I$ ), and each  $f \in F(t, v)$ , we have

$$\|f\| \leq \ell(t).$$

$(H'_B)$  There exists  $\ell \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+)$  such that

$$\|f\| \leq \ell(t)$$

for each  $v \in C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ , each  $f \in F(t, v)$  and a.e. for  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ .

$(H_g)$   $g : C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  satisfies:

- $(g_1)$   $g$  has affine growth, i.e. there exists  $m_0 \geq 0$  such that for each  $u$  in  $C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ ,  $g$  satisfies (2);
- $(g_2)$  there exists  $a > 0$  such that for each  $u, v \in C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ , we have

$$\|g(u) - g(v)\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} \leq \|u - v\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)};$$

$(g_4)$   $g$  is continuous from  $\tilde{C}_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  to  $C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ .

**Remark 4** The hypothesis  $(H_I)$  ensures the invariance of a certain moving set with respect to the  $C^0$ -solutions of the problem

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(v)(t), & t \in [- \tau, 0]. \end{cases}$$

Namely, if a  $C^0$ -solution  $u$  of the problem above satisfies the initial constraint  $u(t) - z(t) \in D(0, r)$  for each  $t \in [- \tau, 0]$ , where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of (9), then  $(H_I)$  implies that  $u$  satisfies the very same constraint for all  $t$  belonging to domain of existence of  $u$ .

If  $\|g(u)\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} \leq \|u\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$  for each  $u \in C_b([- \tau, +\infty); X)$ , case in which we will say that  $g$  has linear growth, we have  $g(0) = 0$  and, accordingly, the unique  $C^0$ -solution  $z$  of (9) is identically 0. So, in this case, the invariance condition is nothing but a variant of the condition  $(H_3)$  in Vrabie [47].

Conditions  $(g_1) \sim (g_2)$  and  $(g_4)$  are satisfied by all functions  $g$  of the general form specified in Remark 5 below.

**Remark 5** Let  $0 \leq \tau < T$ . If the function  $g$  is defined as

- (i)  $g(u)(t) = u(T + t)$ ,  $t \in [- \tau, 0]$  ( $T$ -periodicity condition);
- (ii)  $g(u)(t) = -u(T + t)$ ,  $t \in [- \tau, 0]$  ( $T$ -antiperiodicity condition);

$$(iii) \quad g(u)(t) = \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} k(\theta)u(t+\theta) d\theta, \quad t \in [-\tau, 0], \text{ where } k \in L^1([\tau, +\infty); \mathbf{R})$$

$$\text{and } \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} |k(\theta)| d\theta = 1 \text{ (mean condition);}$$

$$(iv) \quad g(u)(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i u(t+t_i) \text{ for each } t \in [-\tau, 0], \text{ where } \sum_{i=1}^n |\alpha_i| \leq 1 \text{ and}$$

$$\tau < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n = T \text{ are arbitrary, but fixed (multi-point discrete mean condition);}$$

then  $g$  satisfies  $(g_1)$  with  $m_0 = 0$  and  $(g_2)$  with  $a = T - \tau > 0$ . A more general case is that in which the support of the measure  $\mu$  is in  $(\tau, +\infty)$  and the function is  $g$  given by

$$g(u)(t) = \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} \mathcal{N}(u(t+\theta)) d\mu(\theta) + \psi(t), \quad (10)$$

for each  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  and  $t \in [-\tau, 0]$ . Here  $\mathcal{N} : X \rightarrow X$  is a (possible nonlinear) nonexpansive operator with  $\mathcal{N}(0) = 0$  and  $\mu$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite and complete measure on  $[\tau, +\infty)$ , for which there exists  $b > \tau$  such that  $\text{supp } \mu = [b, +\infty)$ ,  $\mu([b, +\infty)) = 1$  and  $\psi \in C([-\tau, 0]; X)$  is such that  $g(u)(t) \in \overline{D(A)}$  for each  $t \in [-\tau, 0]$ . Obviously, in this case, the constant  $a > 0$  in  $(g_2)$  is exactly  $b - \tau$ .

**Remark 6** From  $(g_2)$ ,  $(g_4)$  and Remark 3, we conclude that, for each convergent sequence  $(u_k)_k$  in  $\tilde{C}_b([a, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  to some limit  $u$  we have  $\lim_k g(u_k) = g(u)$  in  $C([-\tau, 0]; X)$ .

## 5 The main result

We may now proceed to the statement of the main result in this paper.

**Theorem 7** *If  $(H_A)$ ,  $(H_F)$ ,  $(H_I)$ ,  $(H_B)$  and  $(H_g)$  are satisfied, then (1) has at least one  $C^0$ -solution,  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  satisfying  $u(t) - z(t) \in D(0, r)$  for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of (9) and  $r > 0$  is given by  $(H_I)$ .*

We will prove our Theorem 7 with the help of:

**Theorem 8** *If  $(H_A)$ ,  $(H_F)$ ,  $(H'_I)$ ,  $(H'_B)$  and  $(H_g)$  are satisfied, then (1) has at least one  $C^0$ -solution,  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  and  $u(t) - z(t) \in D(0, r)$  for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of (9) and  $r > 0$  is given by  $(H'_I)$ .*

The proof of Theorem 8 is divided into four steps.

**The first step.** We begin by showing that, for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $f \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$ , the problem

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) - \varepsilon[u(t) - z(t)] + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

has a unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon^f \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

**The second step.** We show that for each fixed  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ , the operator  $f \mapsto u_\varepsilon^f$ , which associates to  $f$  the unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon^f$  of the problem (11), is compact from  $L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$  to  $\tilde{C}_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

**The third step.** As  $F$  is almost strongly-weakly u.s.c. – see Definition 1 –, it follows that, for the very same  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $E_\varepsilon \subseteq \mathbf{R}_+$  whose Lebesgue measure  $\lambda(E_\varepsilon) \leq \varepsilon$  and such that  $F|_{(\mathbf{R}_+ \setminus E_\varepsilon) \times C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})}$  is strongly-weakly u.s.c., we construct an approximation for  $F$  as follows. Let

$$\begin{aligned} D(F) &= \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}), \\ D_\varepsilon(F) &= (\mathbf{R}_+ \setminus E_\varepsilon) \times C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \end{aligned}$$

and let us define the multifunction  $F_\varepsilon : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \hookrightarrow X$ , by

$$F_\varepsilon(t, v) = \begin{cases} F(t, v), & (t, v) \in D_\varepsilon(F), \\ \{0\}, & (t, v) \in D(F) \setminus D_\varepsilon(F). \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

Further, we prove that the multifunction  $f \mapsto \text{Sel } F_\varepsilon(\cdot, u_\varepsilon^f(\cdot))$ , where

$$\text{Sel } F_\varepsilon(\cdot, u_\varepsilon^f(\cdot)) = \{h \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X); h(t) \in F_\varepsilon(t, u_\varepsilon^f_t) \text{ a.e. } t \in \mathbf{R}_+\},$$

maps some nonempty, convex and weakly compact set  $\mathcal{K} \subseteq L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$  into itself and has weakly  $\times$  weakly sequentially closed graph. Then, we are in the hypotheses of Theorem 3, wherefrom it follows that this mapping has at least one fixed point which, by means of  $f \mapsto u_\varepsilon^f$ , produces a  $C^0$ -solution for the approximate problem

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in Au(t) - \varepsilon[u(t) - z(t)] + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ f(t) \in F_\varepsilon(t, u_t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where  $F_\varepsilon$  is defined by (12).

**The fourth step.** For each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ , we fix a  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon$  of the problem (13), and we show that there exists a sequence  $\varepsilon_n \downarrow 0$  such that  $(u_{\varepsilon_n})_n$  converges in  $\tilde{C}_b([0, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  to a  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (1).

## 6 Proofs of Theorems 7 and 8

We begin with the proofs of the four steps outlined above which are labeled here as four lemmas.

**Lemma 2** *Let us assume that  $(A_1)$  in  $(H_A)$ , and  $(g_1) \sim (g_2)$  in  $(H_g)$  are satisfied. Then, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and each  $f \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$ , the problem (11) has a unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon^f : [-\tau, +\infty) \rightarrow X$  which belongs to  $C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ . Moreover,  $u_\varepsilon^f$  satisfies*

$$\|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([-\tau, +\infty); X)} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)}, \quad (14)$$

where  $z$  is the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (9).

*Proof.* First, let us observe that the problem (11) has the form

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) \in A_\varepsilon u(t) + f_\varepsilon(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

where  $A_\varepsilon = A - \varepsilon I$  and  $f_\varepsilon(t) = f(t) + \varepsilon z(t)$  for  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . Clearly,  $A_\varepsilon + \varepsilon I$  is  $m$ -dissipative,  $0 \in D(A_\varepsilon)$  and  $0 \in A_\varepsilon 0$ . Since  $z \in C_b([0, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  we have  $f_\varepsilon \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$  and so Lemma 1 applies with  $\omega = \varepsilon$  and this implies the existence and uniqueness of solution  $u_\varepsilon^f \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

Next, using the very same operator  $A_\varepsilon = A - \varepsilon I$ , we rewrite the unperturbed problem (9) as

$$\begin{cases} z'(t) \in A_\varepsilon z(t) + h_\varepsilon(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ z(t) = g(z)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0], \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

with  $h_\varepsilon(t) = \varepsilon z(t)$ , for  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . Then, for each  $t \in (0, +\infty)$ , the unique  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon^f$  of (15) and the unique solution  $z$  of (16) satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_\varepsilon^f(t) - z(t)\| &\leq e^{-\varepsilon t} \|u_\varepsilon^f(0) - z(0)\| + \int_0^t e^{-\varepsilon(t-s)} \|f(s)\| ds \\ &\leq e^{-\varepsilon t} \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)} + \frac{1 - e^{-\varepsilon t}}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)}, \end{aligned}$$

for each  $t \in (0, +\infty)$ .

Clearly, there exists a sequence  $(\alpha_n)$  in  $(0, a)$  such that

$$\lim_n \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([\alpha_n, +\infty); X)} = \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}. \quad (17)$$

From the last inequality it follows that, for every  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , we have

$$\|u_\varepsilon^f(t) - z(t)\| \leq e^{-\varepsilon\alpha_n} \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([\alpha_n, +\infty); X)} + \frac{1 - e^{-\varepsilon\alpha_n}}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)} \quad (18)$$

for each  $t \in [\alpha_n, +\infty)$ , and so

$$\|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([\alpha_n, +\infty); X)} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)},$$

for every  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . From (17), it readily follows that

$$\|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} \leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \|f\|_{L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; X)}.$$

Next, if  $t \in [-\tau, 0]$ , from  $(g_2)$  in  $(H_g)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_\varepsilon^f(t) - z(t)\| &= \|g(u_\varepsilon^f)(t) - g(z)(t)\| \\ &\leq \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)} \leq \|u_\varepsilon^f - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} \end{aligned}$$

and thus (14) holds true, and this completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3** *Let us assume that  $(A_1)$ ,  $(A_2)$  in  $(H_A)$  and  $(H_g)$  are satisfied, let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be fixed and let  $\ell \in L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}_+)$ . Then the operator  $f \mapsto u_\varepsilon^f$ , where  $u_\varepsilon^f$  is the unique solution of the problem (11) corresponding to  $f$ , maps the set*

$$\mathcal{F} = \{f \in L^\infty([0, +\infty); X) \cap L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X); \|f(t)\| \leq \ell(t) \text{ a.e. for } t \in \mathbf{R}_+\},$$

into a relatively compact set in  $\tilde{C}_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

*Proof.* By (14),  $\{u_\varepsilon^f; f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is bounded in  $C_b([0, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$  and thus  $\{u_\varepsilon^f(0); f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is bounded in  $\overline{D(A)}$ . Since  $\mathcal{F}$  is uniformly integrable in  $L^1(0, k; X)$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  – see Definition 3 –, from  $(A_2)$  and Theorem 5, we conclude that, for every  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , and  $\sigma \in (0, k)$ ,  $\{u_\varepsilon^f; f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([\sigma, k]; \overline{D(A)})$ . Thanks to  $(g_2)$ ,  $(g_4)$  in  $(H_g)$  and to Remark 6, we deduce that the set  $\{g(u_\varepsilon^f); f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ , and therefore  $\{g(u_\varepsilon^f)(0); f \in \mathcal{F}\} = \{u_\varepsilon^f(0); f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact in  $\overline{D(A)}$ . Again, from  $(g_1)$  and the second part of Theorem 5, it follows that the set  $\{u_\varepsilon^f; f \in \mathcal{F}\}$  is relatively compact in  $\tilde{C}_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ . The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 4** *Let us assume that  $(H_A)$ ,  $(H_F)$ ,  $(H'_B)$  and  $(H_g)$  are satisfied. Then, for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the problem (13) has at least one solution  $u_\varepsilon$ .*

Since the proof follows the very same lines as those in the proof of Lemma 4.3 in Vrabie [47], we do not give details.  $\square$

**Lemma 5** *If  $(H_A)$ ,  $(H_F)$ ,  $(H'_I)$ ,  $(H'_B)$  and  $(H_g)$  are satisfied, then, for each  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ , each  $C^0$ -solution  $u_\varepsilon$  of the problem (13) satisfies*

$$\|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} \leq r, \quad (19)$$

where  $r > 0$  is given by  $(H'_I)$ .

*Proof.* Let us observe that, if  $0 \leq t < \tilde{t}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_\varepsilon(\tilde{t}) - z(\tilde{t})\| &\leq \|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| \\ &+ \int_t^{\tilde{t}} [u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s), f(s)]_+ ds - \varepsilon \int_t^{\tilde{t}} \|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\| ds. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Let us assume by contradiction that there exists  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$  such that

$$\|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| > r.$$

We distinguish between two cases.

**Case 1.** There exists  $t_m \in \mathbf{R}_+$  such that

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} = \|u_\varepsilon(t_m) - z(t_m)\|. \quad (21)$$

If  $t_m = 0$ , then

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} = \|u_\varepsilon(0) - z(0)\| = \|g(u_\varepsilon)(0) - g(z)(0)\|$$

$$\leq \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)} \leq \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$$

and so

$$\|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} = \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([a, +\infty); X)}.$$

Therefore, we can always confine ourselves to analyze the case when, in (21), either  $t_m \in (0, +\infty)$  or there is no  $t_m \in (0, +\infty)$  satisfying the equality in (21).



So, if there exists  $t_m \in (0, +\infty)$  such that (21) holds true, then the mapping

$$t \mapsto \|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\|$$

cannot be constant on  $(0, t_m)$ . Indeed, if we assume that

$$\|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\| = \|u_\varepsilon(t_m) - z(t_m)\|$$

for each  $s \in (0, t_m)$ , then, taking  $t \in (0, t_m)$  and  $\tilde{t} = t_m$  in (20) and using  $(H'_I)$  with  $v(0) = u_{\varepsilon_s}(0) = u_\varepsilon(s)$ , we get

$$r < r - \varepsilon(t_m - t)r < r \tag{22}$$

which is impossible. Consequently, there exists  $t_0 \in (0, t_m)$  such that

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon(t_0) - z(t_0)\| < \|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\| \leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_m) - z(t_m)\| = \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$$

for each  $s \in (t_0, t_m)$ . Since

$$\|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\| \leq \|u_{\varepsilon_s} - z_s\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)},$$

for each  $s \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , we have

$$r < \|u_{\varepsilon_s} - z_s\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)}$$

for each  $s \in (t_0, t_m)$  and then, using again (20) and  $(H'_I)$ , we get

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon(t_m) - z(t_m)\| \leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_0) - z(t_0)\| - \varepsilon(t_m - t_0)r$$

which implies the very same contradiction as before, i.e. (22).

It remains only to analyze

**Case 2.** There is no  $t_m \in \mathbf{R}_+$  such that (21) holds true. Then, there exists at least one sequence  $(t_k)_k$  such that

$$\begin{cases} \lim_k t_k = +\infty, \\ \lim_k \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| = \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}. \end{cases}$$

If there exists  $\tilde{t} \in \mathbf{R}_+$  such that  $\|u_\varepsilon(\tilde{t}) - z(\tilde{t})\| = r$ , then  $\|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| \leq r$  for each  $t \in [\tilde{t}, +\infty)$ . Indeed, if we assume the contrary, there would exist  $[t, \tilde{t}] \subseteq [0, +\infty)$  such that

$$\|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| = r$$

and

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\|$$

for each  $s \in (t, \tilde{t}]$ . Then, using once again (20) and  $(H'_I)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} r < \|u_\varepsilon(\tilde{t}) - z(\tilde{t})\| &\leq \|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| - \varepsilon(\tilde{t} - t)r \\ &\leq r - \varepsilon(\tilde{t} - t)r \end{aligned}$$

leading to (22) which is impossible.

So, when both

$$r < \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$$

and

$$\|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| < \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$$

hold true for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , we necessarily have

$$\|u_\varepsilon(t) - z(t)\| > r$$

for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . If this is the case, let us remark that we may assume with no loss of generality, by extracting a subsequence if necessary, that

$$t_{k+1} - t_k \geq 1$$

for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Then, by (3) and  $(H'_I)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} r &< \|u_\varepsilon(t_{k+1}) - z(t_{k+1})\| \\ &\leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| + \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} [u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s), f(s) - \varepsilon(u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s))]_+ ds \\ &\leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| - \varepsilon \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} \|u_\varepsilon(s) - z(s)\| ds \\ &\leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| - \varepsilon(t_{k+1} - t_k)r \leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| - \varepsilon r \end{aligned}$$

for each  $k \in \mathbf{N}$ . Passing to the limit for  $k \rightarrow +\infty$  in the inequalities

$$\|u_\varepsilon(t_{k+1}) - z(t_{k+1})\| \leq \|u_\varepsilon(t_k) - z(t_k)\| - \varepsilon r, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

we get

$$\|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} \leq \|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)} - \varepsilon r.$$

But, in view of Lemma 2,  $\|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0, +\infty); X)}$  is finite and thus we get a contradiction. This contradiction can be eliminated only if **Case 2** cannot hold. Thus, both **Case 1** and **Case 2** are impossible. In turn, this is a

contradiction too, because at least one of these two cases should hold true. So, the initial supposition, that  $\|u_\varepsilon - z\|_{C_b([0,+\infty);X)} > r$ , is necessarily false. It then follows that (19) holds true and this completes the proof.  $\square$

Now, we can pass to the proof of Theorem 8.

*Proof.* Let  $(\varepsilon_n)_n$  be a sequence with  $\varepsilon_n \downarrow 0$ , let  $(u_n)_n$  be the sequence of the  $C^0$ -solutions of the problem (13) corresponding to  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_n$  for  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ , and let  $(f_n)_n$  be such that

$$\begin{cases} u'_n(t) \in Au_n(t) - \varepsilon_n[u_n(t) - z(t)] + f_n(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ f_n(t) \in F_{\varepsilon_n}(t, u_{nt}), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u_n(t) = g(u_n)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0]. \end{cases}$$

In view of Remark 1, we may assume without loss of generality that  $E_{\varepsilon_{n+1}} \subset E_{\varepsilon_n}$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . This means that

$$F_{\varepsilon_n}(t, v) = F_{\varepsilon_{n+1}}(t, v) \tag{23}$$

for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+ \setminus E_{\varepsilon_n}$  and  $v \in C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ .

From  $(H'_B)$ , we deduce that, for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , the set  $\{f_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is uniformly integrable in  $L^1(0, k; X)$ . Then, from Lemma 5,  $(A_2)$  in  $(H_A)$  and Theorem 5, it follows that, for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , and each  $\sigma \in (0, k)$ , the set  $\{u_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([\sigma, k]; \overline{D(A)})$ . In view of  $(g_4)$  in  $(H_g)$ , we deduce that the set  $\{u_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([-\tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ . In particular, the set

$$\{u_n(0) = g(u_n)(0); n \in \mathbf{N}\}$$

is relatively compact in  $\overline{D(A)}$ . From the second part of Theorem 5, we conclude that  $\{u_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is relatively compact in  $C([0, k]; \overline{D(A)})$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  and thus in  $C([-\tau, k]; \overline{D(A)})$ . So,  $\{u_n; n \in \mathbf{N}\}$  is relatively compact in  $\widetilde{C}_b([-\tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ . Accordingly, for each  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ ,

$$C_k = \overline{\{u_n(t); n \in \mathbf{N}, t \in [0, k]\}}$$

is compact in  $\overline{D(A)}$ . Let  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  be arbitrary, let  $E_\gamma$  be the Lebesgue measurable set in  $[0, +\infty)$  given by Definition 2 and, for each  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , let us define the set

$$D_{\gamma,k} = \overline{\bigcup_{n \in \mathbf{N}} \{(t, u_{\varepsilon_n t}); t \in [0, k] \setminus E_\gamma\}}.$$

Clearly,  $D_{\gamma,k}$  is compact in  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ . Next, for each  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$  and each  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , let us define

$$C_{\gamma,k} = F_{\gamma}(D_{\gamma,k}) = F(D_{\gamma,k}) \cup \{0\}$$

which is weakly compact since  $D_{\gamma,k}$  is compact and  $F|_{D_{\gamma,k}}$  is strongly-weakly u.s.c. See Lemma 2.6.1, p. 47 in Cârjă, Necula, Vrabie [19]. Further, the family  $\mathcal{F} = \{f_{\varepsilon_n}; n = 0, 1, \dots\} \subseteq L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X)$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 4.1 in Vrabie [46]. So, on a subsequence at least, we have

$$\begin{cases} \lim_n f_n = f & \text{weakly in } L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; X), \\ \lim_n u_n = u & \text{in } \tilde{C}_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)}), \\ \lim_n u_{nt} = u_t & \text{in } C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \text{ for each } t \in \mathbf{R}_+. \end{cases}$$

From Lemma 2.6.2, p. 47 in Cârjă, Necula, Vrabie [19] combined with (23), we get

$$f(t) \in F_{\varepsilon_n}(t, u_t)$$

for each  $n \in \mathbf{R}$  and a.e.  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+ \setminus E_{\varepsilon_n}$ . Since  $\lim_n \lambda(E_{\varepsilon_n}) = 0$ , it follows that

$$f(t) \in F(t, u_t)$$

a.e.  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . But  $A$  is of complete continuous type, wherefrom it follows that  $u$  is a  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (1) corresponding to the selection  $f$  of  $t \mapsto F(t, u_t)$ . Finally, it suffices to observe that, from (19) in Lemma 5, it follows that  $u(t) - z(t) \in D(0, r)$  for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ .  $\square$

We can now proceed to the proof of Theorem 7.

*Proof.* Let  $r > 0$  be given by  $(H_I)$  and let us define the set

$$\mathcal{K}_r = \{(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}); \|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r\}.$$

Clearly,  $\mathcal{K}_r$  is nonempty and closed in  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; X)$ . In addition, since by  $(A_1)$  in  $(H_A)$ ,  $\overline{D(A)}$  is convex, it follows that for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ , the cross-section of  $\mathcal{K}_r$  at  $t$ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{K}_r(t) = \{v \in C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}); (t, v) \in \mathcal{K}_r\}$$

is convex. Let  $\pi : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; X)$  be defined by

$$\pi(t, v) = \begin{cases} (t, v) & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r, \\ \left( t, \frac{r}{\|v - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)}}(v - z_t) + z_t \right) & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| > r. \end{cases}$$

We observe that  $\pi$  is continuous,  $\pi$  restricted to  $\mathcal{K}_r$  is the identity operator and  $\pi$  maps  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  into  $\mathcal{K}_r$ . The first two properties mentioned are obvious. To prove the fact that  $\pi$  maps  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  into  $\mathcal{K}_r$ , we have merely to observe that if  $\|v(0) - z(t)\| > r$  then, inasmuch as  $\overline{D(A)}$  is convex and  $v, z_t \in C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ , it follows that their convex combination

$$\frac{r}{\|v - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)}}(v - z_t) + z_t - z_t \in C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}).$$

Moreover

$$\left\| \frac{r}{\|v - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)}}(v - z_t) + z_t - z_t \right\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} = r$$

and so, in this case,  $\pi(t, v) \in \mathcal{K}_r$ . If  $\|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r$ , then  $\pi(t, v) = (t, v)$  and thus,  $\pi$  maps  $\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  into  $\mathcal{K}_r$ .

Then, we can define the multifunction  $F_\pi : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)}) \hookrightarrow X$  by

$$F_\pi(t, v) = F(\pi(t, v)),$$

for each  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$ . As  $\pi$  is continuous, it follows that  $F_\pi$  satisfies  $(H_F)$ . Moreover, one can easily verify that it satisfies  $(H'_B)$ . Moreover, since

$$\pi(\mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})) \subseteq \mathcal{K}_r,$$

we conclude that  $F_\pi$  satisfies  $(H'_F)$  too. Indeed, let  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([- \tau, 0]; \overline{D(A)})$  be arbitrary and satisfying

$$\|v(0) - z(t)\| > r \tag{24}$$

and let  $f \in F(\pi(t, v))$ .

From the definition of  $\pi$ , it follows that the projection  $P_2$  of  $\pi(t, v)$  on the second component, i.e.

$$P_2(\pi(t, v)) = \begin{cases} v & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r, \\ \frac{r}{\|v - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)}}(v - z_t) + z_t & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| > r. \end{cases}$$

satisfies:

$$\|P_2(\pi(t, v)) - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} = \begin{cases} r & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| > r, \\ \|v - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} & \text{if } \|v(0) - z(t)\| \leq r. \end{cases}$$

Therefore, if  $(t, v)$  satisfies (24), it follows that

$$\|P_2(\pi(t, v)) - z_t\|_{C([- \tau, 0]; X)} = r.$$

So, by  $(H_I)$ , we have

$$[v(0) - z(t), f]_+ = [P_2(\pi(t, v))(0) - z(t), f]_+ \leq 0$$

which proves that  $F_\pi$  satisfies  $(H'_I)$ .

Hence, by virtue of Theorem 8, the problem

$$\begin{cases} u'(t) = Au(t) + f(t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ f(t) \in F_\pi(t, u_t), & t \in \mathbf{R}_+, \\ u(t) = g(u)(t), & t \in [-\tau, 0] \end{cases}$$

has at least one  $C^0$ -solution  $u \in C_b([- \tau, +\infty); \overline{D(A)})$ .

By (19), we have  $\|u_t(0) - z(t)\| \leq r$  for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . So,  $(t, u_t) \in \mathcal{K}_r$ , which shows that

$$F_\pi(t, u_t) = F(t, u_t)$$

for each  $t \in \mathbf{R}_+$ . Thus  $u$  is a  $C^0$ -solution of (1) and this completes the proof of Theorem 7.  $\square$

## 7 Nonlinear diffusion in $L^1(\Omega)$

Let  $\Omega$  be a nonempty, bounded and open subset in  $\mathbf{R}^d$ ,  $d \geq 1$ , with  $C^1$  boundary  $\Sigma$ , let  $\varphi : D(\varphi) \subseteq \mathbf{R} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be maximal monotone with  $0 \in \varphi(0)$  and let  $\omega > 0$ . Let us consider the porous medium equation subjected to nonlocal initial conditions

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(t, x) \in \Delta\varphi(u(t, x)) - \omega u(t, x) + f(t, x), & \text{in } Q_+, \\ f(t, x) \in F\left(t, u(t), \int_{-\tau}^0 u(t+s, x) ds\right), & \text{in } Q_+, \\ \varphi(u(t, x)) = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_+, \\ u(t, x) = \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} \mathcal{N}(u(\theta+t))(x) d\mu(\theta) + \psi(t)(x), & \text{in } Q_\tau. \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

Let us consider the auxiliary problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial z}{\partial t}(t, x) \in \Delta\varphi(z(t, x)) - \omega z(t, x), & \text{in } Q_+, \\ \varphi(z(t, x)) = 0, & \text{on } \Sigma_+, \\ z(t, x) = \int_{-\tau}^{+\infty} \mathcal{N}(z(\theta + t))(x) d\mu(\theta) + \psi(t)(x), & \text{in } Q_\tau \end{cases} \quad (26)$$

and let us denote by  $z \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); L^1(\Omega))$  the unique  $C^0$ -solution of (26).

Before passing to the statement of the main existence result concerning (25), we need to introduce some notation and to explain the exact definition of  $F$ .

Let  $f_i : \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be two functions with  $f_1(t, u, v) \leq f_2(t, u, v)$  for each  $(t, u, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$  and let

$$F : \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega)) \hookrightarrow L^1(\Omega)$$

be given by

$$F := F_0 + F_1,$$

where

$$F_0(t, v) = \left\{ f \in L^1(\Omega); f(x) \in [\tilde{f}_1(t, v)(x), \tilde{f}_2(t, v)(x)], \text{ a.e. for } x \in \Omega \right\}$$

and

$$F_1(t, v)(x) := \{\sigma(t)h(x)\}$$

for each  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega))$ . Here

$$\tilde{f}_i : \mathbf{R}_+ \times \Omega \times C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega)) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

are defined as:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{f}_1(t, x, v) := f_1 \left( t, v(0)(x), \int_{-\tau}^0 v(s)(x) ds \right) \\ \tilde{f}_2(t, x, v) := f_2 \left( t, v(0)(x), \int_{-\tau}^0 v(s)(x) ds \right) \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

for each  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega))$ , a.e. in  $\Omega$ ,  $h \in L^1(\Omega)$  is a fixed element satisfying  $\|h\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \neq 0$  and  $\sigma \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R})$ .

**Theorem 9** *Let  $\Omega$  be a nonempty, bounded and open subset in  $\mathbf{R}^d$  with  $C^1$  boundary  $\Sigma$ , let  $\omega > 0$  and let  $\varphi : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be continuous on  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $C^1$  on  $\mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}$  with  $\varphi(0) = 0$  and for which there exist two constants  $C > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$  if  $d \leq 2$  and  $\alpha > (d - 2)/d$  if  $d \geq 3$  such that*

$$\varphi'(r) \geq C|r|^{\alpha-1}$$

for each  $r \in \mathbf{R} \setminus \{0\}$ . Let  $f_i : \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be two given functions,  $h \in L^1(\Omega)$ ,  $\|h\|_{L^1(\Omega)} > 0$ ,  $\sigma \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R})$  and let  $F$  be defined as above.

Let  $\mathcal{N} : L^1(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\Omega)$ ,  $\psi \in C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega))$  and let  $\mu$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite and complete measure on  $[\tau, +\infty)$ . Let us assume that:

$$(\sigma_1) \quad \|\sigma(t)\| \leq 1 \text{ for each } t \in \mathbf{R}_+;$$

$$(F_1) \quad f_1(t, u, v) \leq f_2(t, u, v) \text{ for each } (t, u, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R};$$

$$(F_2) \quad f_1 \text{ is l.s.c. and } f_2 \text{ is u.s.c. and, for each } (t, u, v), (t, u, w) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R} \text{ with } v \leq w, \text{ we have}$$

$$\begin{cases} f_1(t, u, v) \leq f_1(t, u, w), \\ f_2(t, u, v) \geq f_2(t, u, w); \end{cases}$$

$$(F_3) \quad \text{there exists } c > 0 \text{ such that, for every } (t, x, v) \in D(f_1, f_2) \text{ with}$$

$$\|v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq c^{-1}\|h\|_{L^1(\Omega)}$$

we have

$$\text{sign}[v(0)(x) - z(t, x)]f_0(x) \leq -c|v(0)(x) - z(t, x)|$$

for each  $f_0(x) \in [f_1(t, x, v), f_2(t, x, v)]$ ,  $z$  being the unique  $C^0$ -solution of the problem (26);

$$(F_4) \quad \text{there exists a nonnegative function } \tilde{\ell} \in L^1(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}) \cap L^\infty(\mathbf{R}_+; \mathbf{R}) \text{ such that}$$

$$|f_i(t, u, v)| \leq \tilde{\ell}(t)$$

for  $i = 1, 2$  and for each  $(t, u, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R} \times \mathbf{R}$ ;

$$(F_5) \quad \text{for each } t \in \mathbf{R}_+ \text{ and each } v \in C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega)), \text{ we have}$$

$$f_i(t, z(t, x), v) = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2$  and a.e. for  $x \in \Omega$ ;



( $\mu_1$ ) there exists  $b > \tau$  such that  $\text{supp } \mu \subseteq [b, +\infty)$ ;

( $\mu_2$ )  $\mu([b, \infty)) = 1$ ;

( $\mathcal{N}_1$ )  $\|\mathcal{N}(u) - \mathcal{N}(v)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} \leq \|u - v\|_{L^1(\Omega)}$  for each  $u, v \in L^1(\Omega)$ ;

( $\mathcal{N}_2$ )  $\mathcal{N}(0) = 0$ .

Then, the problem (25) has at least one  $C^0$ -solution  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); L^1(\Omega))$  satisfying

$$\|u - z\|_{C_b(\mathbf{R}_+; L^1(\Omega))} \leq c^{-1} \|h\|_{L^1(\Omega)}.$$

**Remark 7** Condition ( $F_5$ ) is satisfied, for instance, if

$$f_i(t, u, v) = \psi(t, u) \cdot \bar{f}_i(t, u, v),$$

where  $\psi$  is positive, continuous and bounded and  $\psi(t, z(t, x)) = 0$ , while  $\bar{f}_i$  satisfy ( $F_1$ )  $\sim$  ( $F_4$ ),  $i = 1, 2$ . In the particular case in which  $\psi \equiv 0$ , it follows that  $z \equiv 0$  and so, ( $F_5$ ) reduces to

$$f_i(t, 0, v) = 0$$

for each  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times \mathbf{R}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X = L^1(\Omega)$  and let us define  $A : D(A) \subseteq L^1(\Omega) \rightarrow L^1(\Omega)$ , by

$$Au := \Delta\varphi(u) - \omega u$$

for each  $u \in D(A)$ , where

$$D(A) = \left\{ u \in L^1(\Omega); \varphi(u) \in W_0^{1,1}(\Omega), \Delta\varphi(u) \in L^1(\Omega) \right\}.$$

As  $\varphi(0) = 0$ ,  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  is dense in  $D(A)$  and so  $\overline{D(A)} = L^1(\Omega)$ .

Theorem 6 implies that  $A$  is  $m$ -dissipative and  $A + \omega I$  is dissipative in  $L^1(\Omega)$ ,  $A0 = 0$ ,  $A$  generates a compact semigroup and is of complete continuous type on  $\overline{D(A)} = L^1(\Omega)$ . Hence,  $A$  satisfies ( $H_A$ ). Let  $F$  be defined as above and

$$g : C_b([-\tau, +\infty); L^1(\Omega)) \rightarrow C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega))$$

be defined by

$$g(u)(t)(x) = \int_{\tau}^{+\infty} \mathcal{N}(u(t+\theta))(x) d\mu(\theta) + \psi(t)(x)$$

for each  $u \in C_b([-\tau, +\infty); L^1(\Omega))$ , each  $t \in [-\tau, 0]$  and a.e. for  $x \in \Omega$ .

From  $(\sigma_1)$ ,  $(F_1)$ ,  $(F_2)$ ,  $(F_4)$  and Lemma 5.1 in Vrabie [47], using a similar arguments as in the proof of the corresponding part in the preceding section, we conclude that  $F$  satisfies  $(H_F)$ . From  $(F_2)$  and  $(F_3)$ , we conclude that  $F$  satisfies  $(H_I)$  and  $(H_B)$  with

$$r = c^{-1} \|h\|_{L^1(\Omega)}.$$

Indeed, we will show that for each  $(t, v) \in \mathbf{R}_+ \times C([-\tau, 0]; L^1(\Omega))$ , with

$$\|v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot)\|_{L^1(\Omega)} = r,$$

and every  $f \in F(t, v)$ , we have

$$[v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot), f]_+ \leq 0.$$

Let us observe that in our case, i.e.  $X = L^1(\Omega)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} [v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot), f]_+ &= \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) > 0\}} f(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) < 0\}} f(x) dx + \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) = 0\}} |f(x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $f \in F(t, v)$ . Clearly  $f$  is of the form  $f = f_0 + h$ , where  $f_0 \in L^1(\Omega)$  satisfies  $f_1(t, x, v) \leq f_0(x) \leq f_2(t, x, v)$  a.e. for  $x \in \Omega$ . From the definition of  $[\cdot, \cdot]_+$  in  $L^1(\Omega)$ , we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} &[v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot), f]_+ \\ &\leq \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) > 0\}} f_0(x) dx - \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) < 0\}} f_0(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) = 0\}} |f_0(x)| dx + \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) > 0\}} \alpha(t) h(x) dx \\ &\quad - \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) < 0\}} h(x) dx + \int_{\{y \in \Omega; v(0)(y) - z(t, y) = 0\}} |\alpha(t)| \cdot |h(x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

Next, taking into account that, from  $(F_5)$ , we have  $f_0(x) = 0$  a.e. for those  $x \in \Omega$  for which  $v(0)(x) = z(t, x)$ , the last inequality, conjunction with  $(F_4)$ , yields

$$[v(0)(\cdot) - z(t, \cdot), f]_+ \leq \int_{\Omega} \text{sign}[v(0)(x) - z(t, x)] f_0(x) dx + \int_{\Omega} |\alpha(t)| \cdot |h(x)| dx$$

$$\leq -c \int_{\Omega} |v(0)(x) - z(t, x)| dx + \int_{\Omega} |h(x)| dx \leq 0.$$

So,  $F$  satisfies  $(H_I)$ . As  $(H_4)$  follows from  $(F_3)$ , we deduce that  $F$  satisfies  $(H_B)$ . Since the proof of  $(H_g)$  is very simple, we do not enter into details. So, we are in the hypotheses of Theorem 7 wherefrom the conclusion.

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