

## Note on the Approximation of Nonlinear Semi-Groups in Hilbert Space

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(Received April 30, 1969)

In the theory of linear semi-groups, the following Trotter-Kato Theorem is well known. [7]  
Theorem.

Let  $\{T^{(\sigma)}(t); t \geq 0\}$  be a sequence of contraction linear semigroups of class  $(C_0)$  in a Banach space  $X$  and let  $A^{(\sigma)}$  be the infinitesimal generator of  $\{T^{(\sigma)}(t); t \geq 0\}$ .

Suppose that, for some  $\lambda_0$  with  $Re(\lambda_0) > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} R(\lambda_0; A^{(\sigma)})x = J_{\lambda_0} x \text{ exists for all } x \in X$$

in such a way that the range  $R(J_{\lambda_0})$  is dense in  $X$ .

Then  $J_{\lambda_0}$  is the resolvent of the infinitesimal generator  $A$  of a contraction linear semi-group

$$\begin{aligned} & \{T(t); t \geq 0\} \text{ of class } (C_0) \text{ in } X \text{ and} \\ & \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for every } x \in X. \end{aligned}$$

The above convergence is uniform with respect to  $t$  on any compact interval of  $(0, \infty)$ .

This note has been motivated by the recent results by I. Miyadera [1], in which he treats a general theory of the convergence of nonlinear semi-groups in Banach spaces.

The object of the present note is to give the approximation theorem of this type in case of semi-groups of nonlinear contraction operators in Hilbert space.

1. Let  $H$  be a Hilbert space with inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle$  and let  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  be a family of nonlinear operators from  $H$  into itself satisfying the following conditions:

- (1)  $T(s+t) = T(s)T(t)$  for every  $s, t \geq 0$ , and  $T_0 = I$  (the identity operator),
- (2)  $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} T(t)x = x$  for every  $x \in H$ ,
- (3)  $\|T(t)x - T(t)y\| \leq \|x - y\|$  for every  $x, y \in H$ .

We call such a family  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  a nonlinear contraction semi-group.

The infinitesimal generator  $A$  of a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  is defined by

$$Ax = \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{T(h)x - x}{h},$$

that is,  $A$  is the operator whose domain is the set

$$D(A) = \left\{ x \in H; \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} (T(h)x - x) \text{ exists in } H \right\}, \text{ and, for}$$

$$x \in D(A), Ax = \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} (T(h)x - x).$$

By virtue of the condition (3),  $A$  satisfies the following

$$Re \langle Ax - Ay, x - y \rangle \leq 0 \text{ for every } x, y \in D(A).$$

In general, an operator  $A$  satisfying the above condition is called dissipative.

For a multi-valued operator  $A$  (that is, for an  $A$  which maps an element  $x \in D(A)$  to a subset  $Ax$  of  $H$ ), we also say that  $A$  is dissipative, if the following is satisfied:

$$Re \langle x' - y', x - y \rangle \leq 0 \text{ for any } x' \in Ax, y' \in Ay.$$

An operator  $A$  is said to be maximal dissipative if  $A$  is dissipative and if for each any dissipative extension of  $A$  coincides with  $A$ .

By Minty, for a multi-valued maximal dissipative operator  $A$ ,  $R(I - \lambda A) = H$   $\lambda > 0$ , where  $R(I - \lambda A)$  denotes the range of  $I - \lambda A$  [2].

Let  $A$  be a multi-valued maximal dissipative operator, then  $Ax$  is closed convex in  $H$ . Hence there exists a unique element  $A^0x \in Ax$  such that  $\|A^0x\| = \inf_{y \in Ax} \|y\|$  [1].

We call this  $A^0$  the canonical restriction of  $A$ .

**2. Lemma 1.** [2]

Let  $A$  be the infinitesimal generator of a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$ . Then  $A$  is a densely defined single valued maximal dissipative operator.

**Lemma 2.** [1, 4]

Let  $A$  be a densely defined multi-valued maximal dissipative operator. Then  $A$  generates a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$  whose infinitesimal generator is  $A^0$ , the canonical restriction of  $A$ .

Put  $A_n = n \left( \left( I - \frac{1}{n} A \right)^{-1} - I \right)$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ .

Then  $A_n$  generates a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T_n(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$  which satisfies the following conditions.

(1)  $T_n(t)x \in C_H^1[0, \infty)$  for  $t \geq 0$  and  $x \in H$ , where  $C_H^1[0, \infty)$  denotes the set of all strongly continuously differentiable  $H$ -valued functions on  $[0, \infty)$ .

(2)  $\frac{d}{dt} T_n(t)x = A_n T_n(t)x$  for  $t \geq 0$  and  $x \in H$ .

(3)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(t)x = T(t)x$  for  $t \geq 0$  and  $x \in H$ .

The convergence (3) is uniform in  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$ .

**Lemma 3.**

Let  $\{T_n(t); t \geq 0\}$  be a sequence of nonlinear contraction semi-groups on  $H$  with the infinitesimal generators  $A_n$  and let  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  be a nonlinear contraction semi-group on  $H$  with the infinitesimal generator  $A$ .

Suppose that,

- (a)  $D(A_n) = D(A) = H$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , and  $T_n(t)x, T(t)x \in C_H^1[0, \infty)$  for  $t \geq 0, n$  and  $x \in H$ ,
- (b) there exists a positive constant  $L$  such that  $\|A_n x - A_n y\| \leq L\|x - y\|$  for each  $x, y \in H$  and  $n$ ,
- (c)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n x = Ax$  for all  $x \in H$ .

Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for } t \geq 0 \text{ and } x \in H.$$

The above convergence is uniform in  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$ .

**Proof**

By the conditions (b), (c), the convergence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n x = Ax$  is uniform with respect to  $x$  on any compact subset of  $H$  and,

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_n(t)x - T(t)x\|^2 &= \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds} \|T_n(s)x - T(s)x\|^2 ds \\ &= 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n T_n(s)x - AT(s)x, T_n(s)x - T(s)x \rangle ds \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n T(s)x - AT(s)x, T_n(s)x - T(s)x \rangle ds, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the dissipativity of  $A_n$ .

Since

$$T_n(s)x = x + \int_0^s A_n T_n(\tau)x d\tau \text{ and}$$

$$T(s)x = x + \int_0^s AT(\tau)x d\tau,$$

$$\sup_{\substack{0 \leq s \leq t \\ n \geq 1}} \|T_n(s)x - T(s)x\| \leq t \sup_{n \geq 1} (\|A_n x\| + \|Ax\|) < \infty.$$

Since

$$\{T(s)x; 0 \leq s \leq t\} \text{ is compact for any } t > 0,$$

$$\|T_n(t)x - T(t)x\|^2 \leq t \operatorname{const.} \sup_{0 \leq s \leq t} \|(A_n - A)T(s)x\| \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

The uniform convergence in  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$  is obvious from the above estimate.

**3. The main result is the following**

**Theorem**

Let  $\{T^{(\sigma)}(t); t \geq 0\}$  be a sequence of nonlinear contraction semi-groups on  $H$

and let  $A^{(\sigma)}$  be the infinitesimal generator of  $\{T^{(\sigma)}(t); t \geq 0\}$  such that the range of  $I - \lambda_0 A^{(\sigma)} = H$  for some  $\lambda_0 > 0$  and for all  $\sigma$ .

Put

$$R(n; A^{(\sigma)}) = \left( I - \frac{1}{n} A^{(\sigma)} \right)^{-1} \text{ for } \sigma, n = 1, 2, \dots,$$

and suppose that,

(a)  $\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x = J_n x$  for each  $x \in H$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots,$

(b) there exists a  $n_0$  such that  $R(J_{n_0})$  is dense in  $H$ ,

(c)  $\bigcap_{\sigma=1}^{\infty} D(A^{(\sigma)}) \supset R(J_{n_0})$ , and  $\{A^{(\sigma)}; \sigma = 1, 2, \dots\}$  is pointwise bounded for  $R(J_{n_0})$ ,

that is,  $\sup_{\sigma \geq 1} \|A^{(\sigma)}x\| = M_x < \infty$  for each  $x \in R(J_{n_0})$ .

Then,

(i)  $R(J_n)$  is dense in  $H$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , and

$$R(J_n) = R(J_m) \text{ for } n, m = 1, 2, \dots$$

(ii) there exists a multi-valued maximal dissipative operator  $A$  such that

$$J_n = \left( I - \frac{1}{n} A \right)^{-1} \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Moreover,  $A$  generates a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$  whose infinitesimal generator is  $A^0$  and

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for each } x \in H \text{ and } t \geq 0.$$

The above convergence is uniform in  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$ .

Proof

(i) By the dissipativity of  $A^{(\sigma)}$  and  $R\left(I - \frac{1}{n} A^{(\sigma)}\right) = H$ ,  $R(n; A^{(\sigma)}) = \left(I - \frac{1}{n} A^{(\sigma)}\right)^{-1}$  is well defined everywhere for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ .

Since

$$\|R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y\| \leq \|x - y\| \text{ for each } x, y \in H \text{ and } n, \sigma = 1, 2, \dots,$$

by passing to the limit as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain

$$(3.1) \quad \|J_n x - J_n y\| \leq \|x - y\| \text{ for each } x, y \in H \text{ and } n.$$

For each  $x \in H$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( I - \frac{1}{n} A^{(\sigma)} \right) R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x \\ &= R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x + \frac{m}{n} \left( I - \frac{1}{m} A^{(\sigma)} \right) R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x - \frac{m}{n} R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x \\ &= \left( 1 - \frac{m}{n} \right) R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x + \frac{m}{n} x. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(3.2) \quad R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x = R(n; A^{(\sigma)})\left\{\left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right)R(m; A^{(\sigma)})x + \frac{m}{n}x\right\}$$

for each  $x \in H$ .

This leads the following

$$(3.3) \quad R(R(m; A^{(\sigma)})) = R(R(n; A^{(\sigma)})),$$

$$(3.4) \quad n(I - (R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))^{-1})x = m(I - (R(m; A^{(\sigma)}))^{-1})x$$

for  $x \in R(R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))$ , where  $(R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))^{-1}$  are multi-valued operators defined by

$$(R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))^{-1}x = \{y; R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y = x\}.$$

Since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x = J_n x \text{ for } x \in H \text{ and } n, \text{ we have}$$

$$(3.5) \quad J_n x = J_m \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{m}{n}\right) J_n x + \frac{m}{n} x \right\} \text{ for all } x \in H.$$

Consequently

$$(3.6) \quad R(J_n) = R(J_m),$$

$$(3.7) \quad n(I - J_n^{-1})x = m(I - J_m^{-1})x \text{ for all } x \in D,$$

where  $D_0$  is the set  $R(J_n)$  independent of  $n$ .

(ii) We define  $A$  by

$$(3.8) \quad Ax = n(I - J_n^{-1})x \text{ for } x \in D_0.$$

Then  $A$  is a multi-valued maximal dissipative operator. In fact, for each  $x, y \in H$

$$\begin{aligned} & Re \langle R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y, (I - R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))x - (I - R(n; A^{(\sigma)}))y \rangle \\ &= Re \langle R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y, \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{n} (A^{(\sigma)}R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - A^{(\sigma)}R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y \rangle \\ &= - \frac{1}{n} Re \langle A^{(\sigma)}R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - A^{(\sigma)}R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y, \\ & \quad R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y \rangle \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the dissipativity of  $A^{(\sigma)}$ .

Hence,

$$(3.9) \quad Re \langle R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y, x - y \rangle \geq \|R(n; A^{(\sigma)})x - R(n; A^{(\sigma)})y\|^2$$

for each  $x, y \in H$ .

By passing to the limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$(3.10) \quad Re \langle J_n x - J_n y, x - y \rangle \geq \|J_n x - J_n y\|^2 \text{ for all } x, y \in H.$$

For any  $x, x' \in D_0 = D(A)$ , and for  $y \in Ax$ , and  $y' \in Ax'$

there exist  $z$  and  $z'$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} y &= n(n-z) \text{ and } y' = n(x'-z'). \\ \operatorname{Re}\langle y-y', x-x' \rangle &= n\operatorname{Re}\langle X-x'-(z-z'), x-x' \rangle \\ &= n(\|x-x'\|^2 - \operatorname{Re}\langle z-z', x-x' \rangle) \\ &\leq n(\|x-x'\|^2 - \|J_n z - J_n z'\|) = 0 \text{ by (3.10)} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A$  is a dissipative operator.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} Ax &= n(I - J_n^{-1})x \text{ for } x \in D_0 \text{ and } n, \\ (3.11) \quad J_n x &= \left( I - \frac{1}{n} A \right)^{-1} x \text{ for all } x \in H \text{ and } n. \end{aligned}$$

This follows that  $A$  is maximal dissipative.

(ii)

By Lemma 2,  $A$  generates a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$  whose infinitesimal generator is  $A^0$ .

We put  $A_n = n(J_n - I)$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ .

Then, by Lemma 2  $A_n$  generates a nonlinear contraction semi-group  $\{T_n(t); t \geq 0\}$  on  $H$  which satisfies the following conditions;

$$T_n(t)x \in C_H^1[0, \infty) \text{ and } \frac{d}{dt} T_n(t)x = A_n T_n(t)x \text{ for all } x \in H \text{ and } t \geq 0.$$

Moreover

$$(3.12) \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for all } x \in H.$$

The convergence (3.12) is uniform in  $t$  on any compact interval.

Put

$$\begin{aligned} A_n^{(\sigma)} x &= A^{(\sigma)} R(n; A^{(\sigma)}) x = n(R(n; A^{(\sigma)}) - I)x \\ &\text{for } x \in H. \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$(3.13) \quad \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} A_n^{(\sigma)} x = A_n x = n(J_n - I)x \text{ and}$$

$$(3.14) \quad \|A_n^{(\sigma)} x - A_n^{(\sigma)} y\| \leq n\|x - y\| \text{ for each } x, y \in H \text{ and } n, \sigma.$$

Let  $\{T_n^{(\sigma)}(t); t \geq 0\}$  be the sequence of nonlinear contraction semi-groups on  $H$  which are generated by  $A_n^{(\sigma)}$ .

Since

$$(3.15) \quad \|A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x\| \leq \|A_n^{(\sigma)} x\| \leq \|A^{(\sigma)} x\| \leq M_\sigma, \text{ and}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (3.16) \quad \|A_n T_n(t)x\| &\leq \|A_n x\| \leq \|A^0 x\| \text{ for any } x \in D_0, \\ \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x &= T_n(t)x \text{ for any } x \in D_0 \text{ and } t \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

and the convergence is uniform in  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$  by Lemma 3. [4]

Since

$$D_0 \text{ is dense in } H \text{ and } T_n^{(\sigma)} \text{ are contraction,}$$

$$(3.17) \quad \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T_n(t)x \text{ holds good for all } x \in H.$$

In other hand, by Lemma 2

$$(3.18) \quad \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T_n(t)x \text{ for all } x \in H \text{ and } \sigma.$$

The convergence (3.18) is uniform with respect to  $\sigma$  and  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$ .

In fact, for each  $x \in D_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \|T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T_m^{(\sigma)}(t)x\|^2 &= \int_0^t \frac{d}{ds} \|T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x\|^2 ds \\ &= 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x, T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x \rangle ds \\ &= 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x, \\ &R(n; A^{(\sigma)}) T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - R(m; A^{(\sigma)}) T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x \rangle ds \\ &+ 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x, \\ &\frac{1}{m} A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x - \frac{1}{n} A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x \rangle ds \\ &\leq 2 \int_0^t \operatorname{Re} \langle A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x - A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x, \frac{1}{m} A_m^{(\sigma)} T_m^{(\sigma)}(s)x - \frac{1}{n} A_n^{(\sigma)} T_n^{(\sigma)}(s)x \rangle ds \\ &\leq 4 \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} \right) t \|A^{(\sigma)} x\|^2 \leq 4 \left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} \right) t M_x^2 \end{aligned}$$

For an arbitrary  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $T > 0$  there exists a  $n_0$ , such that

$$\left( \frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} \right) T < \frac{\varepsilon^2}{4M_x^2} \text{ for } n, m \geq n_0.$$

Thus

$$\|T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T_m^{(\sigma)}(t)x\| \leq 2M_x \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m}} \text{ for } m, n \geq n_0,$$

$$t \in [0, T] \text{ and } \sigma = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since

$D_0$  is dense in  $H$  and  $T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)$  are contraction the convergence (3.18) is uniform with respect to  $\sigma$  and  $t$  on any compact interval of  $[0, \infty)$  for all  $x \in H$ .

Now we can prove the convergence

$$(3.19) \quad \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for all } x \in H.$$

Let

$T > 0$  be arbitrarily fixed and let  $x \in D$ .

For each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a  $n_0$  such that

$$(3.20) \quad \|T^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \text{ for } t \in [0, T], \quad n \geq n_0$$

and  $\sigma$  by (3.18), and

$$(3.21) \quad \|T_n(t)x - T(t)x\| < \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \text{ for } t \in [0, T] \text{ and } n \geq n_0$$

by (3.12.)

Thus, by (3.20) and (3.21),

$$(3.22) \quad \|T^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T(t)x\| < \varepsilon + \|T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T_n(t)x\| \\ \text{for } t \in [0, T], \quad n \geq n_0 \text{ and } \sigma = 1, 2, \dots$$

By passing to the limit as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for all } x \in D_0 \text{ and } t \in [0, T].$$

Since  $D_0$  is dense in  $H$  and  $T^{(\sigma)}(t)$  are contraction

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ holds good for any } x \in H \text{ and } t \in [0, T].$$

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