

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

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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 λ_0 with $\operatorname{Re}(\lambda_0) > 0$,

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

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

Then J_{λ_0} is the resolvent of the infinitesimal generator A of a contraction linear semi-group

$\{T(t); t \geq 0\}$ of class (C_0) in X and

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow \infty} T^{(\sigma)}(t)x = T(t)x \text{ for every } x \in X.$$

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

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

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:

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

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 .

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

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 $[0, \infty)$.

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

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

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

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

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

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 $\{T^{(n)}(t); t \geq 0\}$ 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 σ .

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 $R(J_n) = R(J_m)$ for $n, m = 1, 2, \dots$.
- (ii) there exists a multi-valued maximal dissipative operator A such that $J_n = \left(I - \frac{1}{n} A\right)^{-1}$ 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

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

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

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 $x, y \in H$

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

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

Hence,

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

for each $x, y \in H$.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Since

D_0 is dense in H and $T_n^{(\sigma)}$ 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 σ and t on any compact interval of $[0, \infty)$.

In fact, for each $x \in D_0$

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

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 σ 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 arbitratily 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 σ 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),

$$(3.22) \quad \|T^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T(t)x\| < \varepsilon + \|T_n^{(\sigma)}(t)x - T_n(t)x\|$$

for $t \in [0, T]$, $n \geq n_0$ 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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