

On the density of extremal solutions of differential inclusions

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Abstract. An existence theorem for the Cauchy problem $(*) \dot{x} \in \text{ext } F(t, x), x(t_0) = x_0$, in Banach spaces is proved, under assumptions which exclude compactness. Moreover, a type of density of the solution set of $(*)$ in the solution set of $\dot{x} \in F(t, x), x(t_0) = x_0$, is established. The results are obtained by using an improved version of the Baire category method developed in [8]–[10].

1. Introduction. Let \mathbb{E} be a separable reflexive real Banach space. Let F be a continuous multifunction defined on a nonempty open subset of $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{E}$ with values in the space of closed convex bounded subsets of \mathbb{E} with nonempty interior. We shall consider the Cauchy problems

$$(1.1) \quad \dot{x} \in F(t, x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0,$$

$$(1.2) \quad \dot{x} \in \text{ext } F(t, x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0,$$

where $\text{ext } F(t, x)$ denotes the set of extreme points of $F(t, x)$.

By a result of Pliś ([2], p. 127) the solution set $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F}$ of (1.2) is not, in general, dense in the solution set \mathcal{M}_F of (1.1). Nevertheless, elements of $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F}$ do approximate some significant subsets of \mathcal{M}_F . More specifically, we shall prove that, for any selection f of F in an admissible class which includes locally α -Lipschitz selections, if we denote by K_f the solution set of the Cauchy problem

$$(1.3) \quad \dot{x} = f(t, x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0,$$

then $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F}$ has nonempty intersection with every neighborhood of K_f . In particular, the Cauchy problem (1.2) has solutions.

In finite dimensions this type of approximation result has been established by Pianigiani [16], by using the technique of Antosiewicz and Cellina [1]. Additional difficulties occur in infinite dimensions because, in this setting, the existence theory for differential equations is more delicate [12].

For recent contributions, see Tolstonogov [17], Bahi [3], Tolstonogov and Finogenko [18], Papageorgiou [14], [15].

The approach used in the present paper is a variant of the Baire category method introduced in [8]–[10] in order to prove the existence of solutions for nonconvex-valued differential inclusions in Banach spaces. We mention that recently this method has been improved by Bressan and Colombo [4], who have obtained an existence theorem containing both the existence theorem of [10] and Filippov's theorem [11] (see also Kaczyński and Olech [13], Antosiewicz and Cellina [1]). The property that $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F} \neq \emptyset$ has been proved in [10], under stronger hypotheses; subsequently the same result has been established in [7], by following the method and the techniques of [10].

2. Preliminaries and auxiliary results. Let \mathbb{E} be a reflexive separable real Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|$. We denote by \mathcal{B} the metric space of all closed convex bounded subsets of \mathbb{E} , with nonempty interior, endowed with the Hausdorff distance h .

Let Z be a metric space. A multifunction $G : Z \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is said to be continuous, bounded, if it so as a function from Z to the metric space \mathcal{B} . Let X be a nonempty subset of Z . A single-valued function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ satisfying $f(x) \in G(x)$ for every $x \in X$ is called a *selection* of G on X (a selection of G if $X = Z$). For any subset X of Z , the interior of X and the closure of X are denoted by $\text{int } X$ and \bar{X} , respectively. Moreover, if $X \subset Z$ is bounded, $\alpha[X]$ stands for the Kuratowski measure of noncompactness of X . In Z an open (resp. closed) ball with center $x \in Z$ and radius $r > 0$ is denoted by $B(x, r)$ (resp. $\bar{B}(x, r)$). The unit open ball in a normed space Z is denoted by B ; moreover, for any subset X of Z , $\text{ext } X$ stands for the set of extreme points of X .

Let J be a nonempty bounded interval of \mathbb{R} . As usual, $C(J, \mathbb{E})$ denotes the Banach space of all continuous bounded functions $x : J \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ endowed with the norm of uniform convergence. Furthermore, by $|J|$ we mean the length of J . The space $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{E}$ will be equipped with the norm $\|(t, x)\| = \max\{|t|, \|x\|\}$, $(t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{E}$. In the sequel, when a set $X \subset Z$ is considered as a metric space, it is understood that X retains the metric of Z .

Let U be a nonempty subset of $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{E}$. A function $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ is said to be α -Lipschitzean (with constant k) if f is continuous and bounded on U , and there exists a constant $k \geq 0$ such that $\alpha[f(X)] \leq k\alpha[X]$ for every bounded set $X \subset U$. A function $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ is said to be *locally Lipschitzean* (resp. *locally α -Lipschitzean*) if f is bounded (resp. continuous and bounded), and for each $(s, u) \in U$ there exist $\delta_{s,u} > 0$ and $k_{s,u} \geq 0$ such that f restricted to $B((s, u), \delta_{s,u})$ is Lipschitzean (resp. α -Lipschitzean) with constant $k_{s,u}$.

Let J be a nonempty bounded interval of the form $[a, b[$. We denote by $\mathcal{I}(J)$ the class of all countable families $\{J_i\}$ of nonempty pairwise disjoint

intervals $J_i = [a_i, b_i[$ such that $\bigcup_i J_i = J$. A member of $\mathcal{I}(J)$ is called, for short, a *partition* of J . Let $\{J_i\}$ be a partition of J ; the set of end points of the intervals J_i is called the *mesh* of the partition, and the number $\sup |J_i|$ the *norm* of the partition. Let $J = [a, b[$ be nonempty and bounded, and let $B(x_0, r) \subset \mathbb{E}$, $r > 0$. A function $f : J \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ is said to be *piecewise locally Lipschitzean* (resp. *piecewise locally α -Lipschitzean*) if f is bounded and there exists a partition $\{J_i\} \in \mathcal{I}(J)$ of J such that the restriction of f to each set $J_i \times B(x_0, r)$ is locally Lipschitzean (resp. locally α -Lipschitzean).

We shall denote by $\mathcal{L}(J \times B(x_0, r))$ and $\mathcal{L}^\alpha(J \times B(x_0, r))$ the class of all functions $f : J \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ which are, respectively, piecewise locally Lipschitzean and piecewise locally α -Lipschitzean.

Let $F : I \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be a multifunction, where $I = [t_0, T[$ and $B(x_0, r) \subset \mathbb{E}$ ($r > 0$). We suppose:

- (H₁) F is continuous on $I \times B(x_0, r)$,
- (H₂) F is bounded on $I \times B(x_0, r)$ by a constant $M \geq 1$,
- (H₃) $0 < T - t_0 < r/(2M)$.

By a *solution* of (1.1) (resp. (1.2), (1.3)) we mean a Lipschitzean function $x : J \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ defined on a nondegenerate interval J containing t_0 , satisfying (1.1) (resp. (1.2), (1.3)) a.e. in J . Set

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_F &= \{x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{E} \mid x \text{ is a solution of (1.1)}\}, \\ \mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F} &= \{x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{E} \mid x \text{ is a solution of (1.2)}\}. \end{aligned}$$

The space \mathcal{M}_F , endowed with the metric of uniform convergence, is complete [8].

For F satisfying (H₁)–(H₃), set $\mathcal{S}_F = \{f \in \mathcal{L}(I \times B(x_0, r)) \mid f \text{ is a selection of } F\}$, $\mathcal{S}_F^\alpha = \{f \in \mathcal{L}^\alpha(I \times B(x_0, r)) \mid f \text{ is a selection of } F\}$. Clearly $\mathcal{S}_F, \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$ are nonempty. For $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$, we set $K_f = \{x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{E} \mid x \text{ is a solution of (1.3)}\}$. K_f is a nonempty compact subset of \mathcal{M}_F and, if $f \in \mathcal{S}_F$, then K_f is a singleton.

PROPOSITION 2.1. *Let F satisfy (H₁)–(H₃). Let $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$ and $\eta > 0$. Then there exists $\varrho = \varrho_f(\eta)$, $0 < \varrho < r/2$, such that if $x \in C(I, \mathbb{E})$ satisfies $\|x(t) - x_0\| < r$ and*

$$\left\| \int_{t_0}^t [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| < \varrho \quad \text{for every } t \in I,$$

then $x \in K_f + \eta B$.

Proof. Suppose the statement is not true. Then there exist $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$, $\eta > 0$, and a sequence $\{x_n\} \subset C(I, \mathbb{E})$, with $\|x_n(t) - x_0\| < r$, $t \in I$,

satisfying for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\left\| \int_{t_0}^t [\dot{x}_n(s) - f(s, x_n(s))] ds \right\| < \frac{r}{2n} \quad \text{for every } t \in I,$$

and $x_n \notin K_f + \eta B$. By a standard argument one can prove that $\alpha[\{x_n(t)\}] = 0$ for every $t \in I$. Hence the sequence $\{x_n\} \subset C(I, \mathbb{E})$ is compact. Let $\{x_{n_k}\}$ be a subsequence of $\{x_n\}$ converging to x , say. As $x \in K_f$, for k large enough we have $x_{n_k} \in K_f + \eta B$, a contradiction. This completes the proof.

PROPOSITION 2.2. *Let T, X be metric spaces. Let $G : T \times X \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be a continuous multifunction. Let $u_0 \in \mathbb{E}$ be such that $u_0 \in \text{int } G(t, x)$ for every $(t, x) \in T \times \tilde{B}(x_0, \delta)$, where $x_0 \in X$ and $\delta > 0$. Then there exists a locally Lipschitzian selection g of G satisfying $g(t, x) = u_0$ for every $(t, x) \in T \times \tilde{B}(x_0, \delta)$.*

Proof. Let $(s, z) \in T \times X$. Suppose that $d(z, x_0) = \delta$, where d is the metric of X . Since $u_0 \in \text{int } G(s, z)$, and G is continuous, there exists a ball $B((s, z), \delta_{s,z}) \subset T \times X$ such that $u_0 \in G(t, x)$ for every $(t, x) \in B((s, z), \delta_{s,z})$.

Suppose $d(z, x_0) > \delta$. In this case choose any $u_{s,z} \in \text{int } G(s, z)$. Since G is continuous there exists a ball $B((s, z), \delta_{s,z}) \subset T \times X$ not intersecting $T \times \tilde{B}(x_0, \delta)$ such that $u_{s,z} \in G(t, x)$ for every $(t, x) \in B((s, z), \delta_{s,z})$. Denote by $\mathcal{U} = \{U\}$ the family whose members are $T \times B(x_0, \delta)$ and each of the sets $B((s, z), \delta_{s,z})$ constructed above. \mathcal{U} is an open covering of $T \times X$. For $U \in \mathcal{U}$, set

$$y_U = \begin{cases} u_0 & \text{if } U = T \times B(x_0, \delta), \\ u_{s,z} & \text{if } U = B((s, z), \delta_{s,z}). \end{cases}$$

Let $\{p_U\}_{U \in \mathcal{U}}$ be a partition of unity subordinate to \mathcal{U} [6]. Without loss of generality we suppose that the functions $p_U : T \times X \rightarrow [0, 1]$ are locally Lipschitzian. Now, define $g : T \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ by

$$g(t, x) = \sum_{U \in \mathcal{U}} p_U(t, x) y_U.$$

It is straightforward to verify that g is a locally Lipschitzian selection of G such that $g(t, x) = u_0$ for every $(t, x) \in T \times \tilde{B}(x_0, \delta)$. This completes the proof.

Let \mathbb{E}^* be the topological dual of \mathbb{E} . Let $\{e_n\} \subset \mathbb{E}^*$, $\|e_n\| = 1$, be a sequence dense in the unit sphere of \mathbb{E}^* (recall that \mathbb{E} is separable and reflexive). Let $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denote the pairing between \mathbb{E}^* and \mathbb{E} . Let $F : I \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . Following Choquet [6] and Castaing and Valadier [5], define $\varphi_F : I \times B(x_0, r) \times \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [0, +\infty]$ by

$$\varphi_F(t, x, v) = \begin{cases} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \langle e_n, v \rangle^2 / 2^n & \text{if } v \in F(t, x), \\ +\infty & \text{if } v \notin F(t, x). \end{cases}$$

Let \mathcal{A} denote the class of all continuous affine functions $a : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. We associate with φ_F the function $\widehat{\varphi}_F : I \times B(x_0, r) \times \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty[$ given by $\widehat{\varphi}_F(t, x, v) = \inf\{a(v) \mid a \in \mathcal{A} \text{ and } a(z) \geq \varphi_F(t, x, z) \text{ for every } z \in F(t, x)\}$. Now, define the Choquet function $d_F : I \times B(x_0, r) \times \mathbb{E} \rightarrow [-\infty, +\infty[$ by

$$d_F(t, x, v) = \widehat{\varphi}_F(t, x, v) - \varphi_F(t, x, v).$$

Some known properties of the Choquet function d_F are collected in the following proposition (see [5], [3]).

PROPOSITION 2.3. *Let F satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . Then we have:*

(i) *For each $(t, x) \in I \times B(x_0, r)$ and $v \in F(t, x)$ we have $0 \leq d_F(t, x, v) \leq M^2$. Moreover, $d_F(t, x, v) = 0$ if and only if $v \in \text{ext } F(t, x)$.*

(ii) *For each $(t, x) \in I \times B(x_0, r)$ the function $v \rightarrow d_F(t, x, v)$ is concave on \mathbb{E} and strictly concave on $F(t, x)$.*

(iii) *d_F is upper semicontinuous on $I \times B(x_0, r) \times \mathbb{E}$.*

(iv) *For each solution $x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ of (1.1), the function $t \rightarrow d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t))$ is nonnegative, bounded and Lebesgue measurable.*

(v) *If $\{x_n\} \subset \mathcal{M}_F$ converges uniformly to $x \in \mathcal{M}_F$, then*

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_I d_F(t, x_n(t), \dot{x}_n(t)) dt \leq \int_I d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt.$$

3. Main result. Let F satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . For $\theta > 0$, define

$$\mathcal{M}_\theta = \left\{ x \in \mathcal{M}_F \mid \int_I d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt < \theta \right\}.$$

LEMMA 3.1. *Let F satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . Then for every $\theta > 0$ the set \mathcal{M}_θ is open in \mathcal{M}_F .*

Proof. Let $\{x_n\} \subset \mathcal{M}_F \setminus \mathcal{M}_\theta$ be any sequence converging to $x \in \mathcal{M}_F$. By virtue of Proposition 2.3(v), we have

$$\int_I d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt \geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \int_I d_F(t, x_n(t), \dot{x}_n(t)) dt \geq \theta,$$

and so $x \in \mathcal{M}_F \setminus \mathcal{M}_\theta$. Hence $\mathcal{M}_F \setminus \mathcal{M}_\theta$ is closed, completing the proof.

LEMMA 3.2. *Let F satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . Let $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$. Let $\eta > 0$ and $\theta > 0$. Then there exists $g \in \mathcal{S}_F$ such that*

$$(3.1) \quad K_g \in \mathcal{M}_\theta \cap (K_f + \eta B).$$

Proof. The construction of g is realized in three steps. In Step 1, g is constructed locally on a set of the form $I_\delta \times B(x_0, r)$ for some interval $I_\delta \subset I$. In Step 2, g is extended to the whole set $I \times B(x_0, r)$ and it is shown that $g \in \mathcal{S}_F$. In Step 3, it is proved that for such g , (3.1) is satisfied.

Let $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$, $\eta > 0$ and $\theta > 0$. Let $\varrho = \varrho_f(\eta)$ correspond to f and η according to Proposition 2.1. Fix σ with

$$(3.2) \quad 0 < \sigma < \min\{\varrho, \theta\}.$$

Denote by $\{L_j\} \in \mathcal{I}(I)$ a partition of I associated with f (according to the definition of a piecewise α -Lipschitz function) and let L_j be the interval of such partition containing t_0 .

Step 1 (*Local construction of g*). Since $f(t_0, x_0) \in F(t_0, x_0)$, by the Krein–Milman theorem there exist $v_k \in \text{ext } F(t_0, x_0)$ and $0 < \lambda_k \leq 1$ ($k = 1, \dots, p$), with $\sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k = 1$, such that

$$\left\| f(t_0, x_0) - \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k v_k \right\| < \frac{\sigma}{4|I|}.$$

By Proposition 2.3(i), (iii), there exist $u_k \in \text{int } F(t_0, x_0)$ ($k = 1, \dots, p$) such that $d_F(t_0, x_0, u_k) < \sigma/|I|$, and

$$(3.3) \quad \left\| f(t_0, x_0) - \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k u_k \right\| < \frac{\sigma}{4|I|}.$$

Since f and F are continuous at (t_0, x_0) , and d_F is upper semicontinuous at (t_0, x_0, u_k) , there exists a δ_0 , with $[t_0, t_0 + \delta_0[\subset L_j$, such that for every $(t, x) \in [t_0, t_0 + \delta_0[\times \tilde{B}(x_0, \delta_0)$ we have

$$(3.4) \quad \|f(t, x) - f(t_0, x_0)\| \leq \sigma/(4|I|),$$

$$(3.5) \quad u_k \in \text{int } F(t, x), \quad k = 1, \dots, p,$$

$$(3.6) \quad d_F(t, x, u_k) \leq \sigma/|I|, \quad k = 1, \dots, p.$$

Consider the interval $I_\delta = [t_0, t_0 + \delta[$, where

$$(3.7) \quad 0 < \delta < \min\{\delta_0/M, \sigma/(4M)\}$$

($M \geq 1$ is the constant in (H_2)). Let $\{J_k\}_{k=1}^p$ be the partition of I_δ given by

$$J_k = [t_{k-1}, t_k[, \quad t_k = t_0 + \sum_{h=1}^k \lambda_h \delta, \quad k = 1, \dots, p.$$

By Proposition 2.2, there exists a function $g : I_\delta \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ which is a selection of F on $I_\delta \times B(x_0, r)$ and, moreover, for each k , $1 \leq k \leq p$, the restriction of g to $J_k \times B(x_0, r)$ is locally Lipschitz and satisfies

$$(3.8) \quad g(t, x) = u_k \quad \text{for every } (t, x) \in J_k \times B(x_0, \delta_0).$$

Let $x : I_\delta \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ be the solution of the Cauchy problem

$$(3.9) \quad \dot{x} = g(t, x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0.$$

We claim that

$$(3.10) \quad d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) \leq \sigma/|I|, \quad t \in I_\delta \text{ a.e.},$$

$$(3.11) \quad \left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| \leq \frac{\sigma\delta}{2|I|}.$$

In order to prove (3.10), observe that for each $t \in I_\delta$ we have $\|x(t) - x_0\| < M\delta \leq \delta_0$, thus

$$(3.12) \quad (t, x(t)) \in I_\delta \times B(x_0, \delta_0) \quad \text{for every } t \in I_\delta.$$

Then, by (3.12), (3.8) and (3.6), for almost all $t \in \text{int } I_\delta$ we have

$$d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) = d_F(t, x(t), g(t, x(t))) = d_F(t, x(t), u_k) \leq \sigma/|I|,$$

and (3.10) is satisfied.

Let us prove (3.11). We have

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| &= \left\| \delta \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k u_k - \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} f(s, x(s)) ds \right\| \\ &\leq \left\| \delta \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k u_k - \delta f(t_0, x_0) \right\| + \left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} [f(s, x(s)) - f(t_0, x_0)] ds \right\| \\ &\leq \delta \left\| \sum_{k=1}^p \lambda_k u_k - f(t_0, x_0) \right\| + \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} \|f(s, x(s)) - f(t_0, x_0)\| ds. \end{aligned}$$

From this, by virtue of (3.3), (3.12), and (3.4), we have

$$\left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_0+\delta} [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| < \delta \frac{\sigma}{4|I|} + \delta \frac{\sigma}{4|I|} = \frac{\sigma\delta}{2|I|},$$

and also (3.11) is satisfied.

Step 2 (Global construction of g). Denote by \mathcal{G} the class of all functions $g : D_g \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$, $D_g = [t_0, t_g[$, $t_0 < t_g \leq T$, such that:

- (i) g is a selection of F on $D_g \times B(x_0, r)$,
- (ii) g is a piecewise locally Lipschitzean function,
- (iii) the solution $x : D_g \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ of the Cauchy problem (3.9) satisfies

$$(3.13) \quad d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) \leq \sigma/|I|, \quad t \in D_g \text{ a.e.},$$

(iv) D_g admits a partition $\{I_i\} \in \mathcal{I}(D_g)$ of norm strictly less than $\sigma/(4M)$ such that, at each mesh point t_i , we have

$$(3.14) \quad \left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_i} [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| \leq \frac{\sigma(t_i - t_0)}{2|I|}.$$

\mathcal{G} is nonempty, for the function $g : I_\delta \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ constructed in Step 1 satisfies (i)–(iv). Now, let us introduce in \mathcal{G} a partial order. For $g_k : D_{g_k} \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ ($k = 1, 2$), define $g_1 \prec g_2$ if and only if $t_{g_1} \leq t_{g_2}$ and the restriction of g_2 to the set $D_{g_1} \times B(x_0, r)$ is equal to g_1 . Let $\{g_j\}_{j \in \Gamma}$ be an arbitrary chain in \mathcal{G} . Let $\tau = \sup\{t_{g_j} \mid j \in \Gamma\}$. Define $g : D_g \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$, where $D_g = [t_0, \tau[$, by $g(t, x) = g_j(t, x)$ if $(t, x) \in D_{g_j} \times B(x_0, r)$. Clearly $g \in \mathcal{G}$ is an upper bound of the chain $\{g_j\}_{j \in \Gamma}$. By Zorn's Lemma there exists in \mathcal{G} a maximal element, say g , where $g : D_g \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ and $D_g = [t_0, t_g[$. We claim that $t_g = T$. Suppose $t_g < T$. Let $x : D_g \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ be the solution of the Cauchy problem (3.9). Let u be the limit of $x(t)$ as t tends to t_g . As in Step 1 we construct a piecewise locally Lipschitz selection of F on $\Delta \times B(x_0, r)$, say $h : \Delta \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ (where $\Delta = [t_g, t_g + \delta[$ and $0 < \delta < \sigma/(4M)$), such that the solution $y : \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ of the Cauchy problem $\dot{y} = h(t, y)$, $y(t_g) = u$, satisfies (3.10) and (3.11) (with y, Δ, t_g in place of x, I_δ, t_0). Now, defining $\gamma : [t_0, t_g + \delta[\times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ by

$$\gamma(t, x) = \begin{cases} g(t, x) & \text{if } (t, x) \in D_g \times B(x_0, r), \\ h(t, x) & \text{if } (t, x) \in \Delta \times B(x_0, r), \end{cases}$$

one can easily see that $\gamma \in \mathcal{G}$ and $g \prec \gamma$, $g \neq \gamma$, a contradiction. Thus $t_g = T$ and the existence of a map $g : I \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ satisfying (i)–(iv) is proved, completing Step 2.

Step 3 (*The solution x of (3.9) satisfies $x \in \mathcal{M}_\theta \cap (K_f + \eta B)$*). Let $g : I \times B(x_0, r) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ satisfy (i)–(iv) (with I in place of D_g). By construction $g \in \mathcal{S}_F$. Let $x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ be the solution of (3.9). From (3.13) and (3.2), we have

$$\int_I d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt < \theta,$$

thus $x \in \mathcal{M}_\theta$. Now, let $t \in I$. With the notations of (iv) for some mesh point t_i of the partition $\{I_i\} \in \mathcal{I}(I)$, we have $|t - t_i| < \theta/(4M)$. From this inequality and (3.14) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \int_{t_0}^t [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| \\ & \leq \left\| \int_{t_0}^{t_i} [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| + \left\| \int_{t_i}^t [\dot{x}(s) - f(s, x(s))] ds \right\| \\ & \leq \frac{\sigma(t_i - t_0)}{2|I|} + |t - t_i|2M < \frac{\sigma}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{2} = \sigma. \end{aligned}$$

As the last inequality is satisfied for arbitrary $t \in I$ and $\sigma < \varrho$ (by (3.2)), Proposition 2.1 implies that $x \in K_f + \eta B$. Hence $x \in \mathcal{M}_\theta \cap (K_f + \eta B)$ and thus $K_g \in \mathcal{M}_\theta \cap (K_f + \eta B)$, for $K_g = x$. This completes the proof.

THEOREM 3.3. Let F satisfy (H_1) – (H_3) . Let $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$. Then for every $\eta > 0$ we have

$$(3.15) \quad \mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F} \cap (K_f + \eta B) \neq \emptyset.$$

In particular, $\mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F}$ is nonempty.

Proof. Fix $f \in \mathcal{S}_F^\alpha$, $\eta > 0$ and set $\theta_n = 1/n$ ($n \in \mathbb{N}$). We denote by $B(u, r)$ and $\tilde{B}(u, r)$ an open and a closed ball in the space \mathcal{M}_F . By Lemma 3.2 there exists $g_1 \in \mathcal{S}_F$ such that $K_{g_1} \in \mathcal{M}_F \cap (K_f + \eta B)$ and thus, for some $0 < \eta_1 < \theta_1$ we have

$$\tilde{B}(K_{g_1}, \eta_1) \subset \mathcal{M}_F \cap (K_f + \eta B).$$

By Lemma 3.2 there exists $g_2 \in \mathcal{S}_F$ such that $K_{g_2} \in \mathcal{M}_{\theta_1} \cap B(K_{g_1}, \eta_1)$. Since, by Lemma 3.1, this set is open in \mathcal{M}_F , there exists $0 < \eta_2 < \theta_2$ such that

$$\tilde{B}(K_{g_2}, \eta_2) \subset \mathcal{M}_{\theta_1} \cap B(K_{g_1}, \eta_1).$$

Continuing in this way gives a decreasing sequence of closed balls $\tilde{B}(K_{g_n}, \eta_n) \subset \mathcal{M}_F$, where $g_n \in \mathcal{S}_F$ and $0 < \eta_n < \theta_n$, with diameters tending to zero, satisfying

$$\tilde{B}(K_{g_{n+1}}, \eta_{n+1}) \subset \mathcal{M}_{\theta_n} \cap B(K_{g_n}, \eta_n), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

As \mathcal{M}_F is complete, by Cantor's intersection theorem there is one (and only one) point, say x , lying in all the balls $\tilde{B}(K_{g_n}, \eta_n)$. Since $x \in \mathcal{M}_{\theta_n}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\int_I d_F(t, x(t), \dot{x}(t)) dt = 0.$$

Thus, by Proposition 2.3(i), $\dot{x}(t) \in \text{ext } F(t, x(t))$ a.e., showing that $x \in \mathcal{M}_{\text{ext } F}$. On the other hand, $x \in \tilde{B}(K_{g_1}, \eta_1) \subset K_f + \eta B$. Hence (3.15) is proved. This completes the proof.

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