

*Research Article*

## Mild Solutions for Fractional Differential Equations with Nonlocal Conditions

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This paper is concerned with the existence and uniqueness of mild solution of the fractional differential equations with nonlocal conditions  $d^q x(t)/dt^q = -Ax(t) + f(t, x(t), Gx(t))$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$ , and  $x(0) + g(x) = x_0$ , in a Banach space X, where  $0 < q < 1$ . General existence and uniqueness theorem, which extends many previous results, are given.

### 1. Introduction

The fractional differential equations can be used to describe many phenomena arising in engineering, physics, economy, and science, so they have been studied extensively (see, e.g., [1–8] and references therein).

In this paper, we discuss the existence and uniqueness of mild solution for

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^q x(t)}{dt^q} &= -Ax(t) + f(t, x(t), Gx(t)), \quad t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) + g(x) &= x_0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

where  $0 < q < 1$ ,  $T > 0$ , and  $-A$  generates an analytic compact semigroup  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  of uniformly bounded linear operators on a Banach space X. The term  $Gx(t)$  which may be interpreted as a control on the system is defined by

$$Gx(t) := \int_0^t K(t, s)x(s)ds, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $K \in C(D, \mathbb{R}^+)$  (the set of all positive function continuous on  $D := \{(t, s) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$ ) and

$$G^* = \sup_{t \in [0, T]} \int_0^t K(t, s) ds < \infty. \quad (1.3)$$

The functions  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous.

The nonlocal condition  $x(0) + g(x) = x_0$  can be applied in physics with better effect than that of the classical initial condition  $x(0) = x_0$ . There have been many significant developments in the study of nonlocal Cauchy problems (see, e.g., [6, 7, 9–14] and references cited there).

In this paper, motivated by [1–7, 9–15] (especially the estimating approach given by Xiao and Liang [14]), we study the semilinear fractional differential equations with nonlocal condition (1.1) in a Banach space  $X$ , assuming that the nonlinear map  $f$  is defined on  $[0, T] \times X_\alpha \times X_\alpha$  and  $g$  is defined on  $C([0, T], X_\alpha)$  where  $X_\alpha = D(A^\alpha)$ , for  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , the domain of the fractional power of  $A$ . New and general existence and uniqueness theorem, which extends many previous results, are given.

## 2. Preliminaries

In this paper, we set  $I = [0, T]$ , a compact interval in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We denote by  $X$  a Banach space with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Let  $-A : D(A) \rightarrow X$  be the infinitesimal generator of a compact analytic semigroup of uniformly bounded linear operators  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ , that is, there exists  $M > 1$  such that  $\|S(t)\| \leq M$ ; and without loss of generality, we assume that  $0 \in \rho(A)$ . So we can define the fractional power  $A^\alpha$  for  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , as a closed linear operator on its domain  $D(A^\alpha)$  with inverse  $A^{-\alpha}$ , and one has the following known result.

**Lemma 2.1** (see [15]). (1)  $X_\alpha = D(A^\alpha)$  is a Banach space with the norm  $\|x\|_\alpha := \|A^\alpha x\|$  for  $x \in D(A^\alpha)$ .

(2)  $S(t) : X \rightarrow X_\alpha$  for each  $t > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$ .

(3) For every  $u \in D(A^\alpha)$  and  $t \geq 0$ ,  $S(t)A^\alpha u = A^\alpha S(t)u$ .

(4) For every  $t > 0$ ,  $A^\alpha S(t)$  is bounded on  $X$  and there exists  $M_\alpha > 0$  such that

$$\|A^\alpha S(t)\| \leq M_\alpha t^{-\alpha}. \quad (2.1)$$

*Definition 2.2.* A continuous function  $x : I \rightarrow X$  satisfying the equation

$$x(t) = S(t)(x_0 - g(x)) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \quad (2.2)$$

for  $t \in I$  is called a mild solution of (1.1).

In this paper, we use  $\|f\|_p$  to denote the  $L^p$  norm of  $f$  whenever  $f \in L^p(0, T)$  for some  $p$  with  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . We denote by  $C_\alpha$  the Banach space  $C([0, T], X_\alpha)$  endowed with the sup norm given by

$$\|x\|_\infty := \sup_{t \in I} \|x\|_\alpha, \quad (2.3)$$

for  $x \in C_\alpha$ .

The following well-known theorem will be used later.

**Theorem 2.3** (Krasnoselkii, see [16]). *Let  $\Omega$  be a closed convex and nonempty subset of a Banach space  $X$ . Let  $A, B$  be two operators such that*

- (i)  $Ax + By \in \Omega$  whenever  $x, y \in \Omega$ .
- (ii)  $A$  is compact and continuous,
- (iii)  $B$  is a contraction mapping.

*Then there exists  $z \in \Omega$  such that  $z = Az + Bz$ .*

### 3. Main Results

We require the following assumptions.

- (H1) The function  $f : [0, T] \times X_\alpha \times X_\alpha \rightarrow X$  is continuous, and there exists a positive function  $\mu(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(t, x, y)\| \leq \mu(t), \text{ the function } s \mapsto \frac{\mu(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} \text{ belongs to } L^p([0, t], \mathbb{R}^+), \\ \gamma(t) := \left( \int_0^t \left( \frac{\mu(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} \right)^p ds \right)^{1/p} \leq M_T < \infty, \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T], \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

where  $p > 1/q > 1$ .

- (H2) The function  $g : C_\alpha \rightarrow X_\alpha$  is continuous and there exists  $b > 0$  such that

$$\|g(x) - g(y)\|_\alpha \leq b \|x - y\|_\infty, \quad (3.2)$$

for any  $x, y \in C_\alpha$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $-A$  be the infinitesimal generator of an analytic compact semigroup  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  with  $\|S(t)\| \leq M$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , and  $0 \in \rho(A)$ . If the maps  $f$  and  $g$  satisfy (H1), (H2), respectively, and  $Mb < 1$ , then (1.1) has a mild solution for every  $x_0 \in X_\alpha$ .*

*Proof.* Set  $\lambda = \sup_{x \in C_\alpha} \|g(x)\|_\alpha$  and choose  $r$  such that

$$r \geq M(\|x_0\|_\alpha + \lambda) + \frac{M_\alpha M_T}{\Gamma(q)} M_{p,q} \cdot T^{(q-1)/p}, \quad (3.3)$$

where  $M_{p,q} := ((p-1)/(pq-1))^{(p-1)/p}$ .

Let  $B_r = \{x \in C([0, T], X_\alpha) \mid \|x\|_\infty \leq r\}$ .  
Define

$$(Ax)(t) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds, \quad (3.4)$$

$$(Bx)(t) := S(t)(x_0 - g(x)).$$

Let  $x, y \in B_r$ , then for  $t \in [0, T]$  we have the estimates

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (Ax)(t) + (By)(t) \|_\alpha \\ & \leq \|S(t)\| (\|x_0\|_\alpha + \lambda) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|A^\alpha S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| ds \\ & \leq M(\|x_0\|_\alpha + \lambda) + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \frac{\mu(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} ds \\ & \leq M(\|x_0\|_\alpha + \lambda) + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \left( \int_0^t (t-s)^{(q-1)p/(p-1)} ds \right)^{(p-1)/p} \cdot \left( \int_0^t \left( \frac{\mu(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} \right)^p ds \right)^{1/p} \\ & \leq M(\|x_0\|_\alpha + \lambda) + \frac{M_\alpha M_T}{\Gamma(q)} M_{p,q} \cdot T^{q-1/p} \\ & \leq r. \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

Hence we obtain  $Ax + By \in B_r$ .

Now we show that  $A$  is continuous. Let  $\{x_n\}$  be a sequence of  $B_r$  such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$  in  $B_r$ . Then

$$f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) \rightarrow f(s, x(s), Gx(s)), \quad n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (3.6)$$

since the function  $f$  is continuous on  $I \times X_\alpha \times X_\alpha$ . For  $t \in [0, T]$ , using (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (Ax_n)(t) - (Ax)(t) \|_\alpha \\ & = \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} S(t-s) [f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) - f(s, x(s), Gx(s))] ds \right\|_\alpha \\ & \leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|A^\alpha S(t-s) [f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) - f(s, x(s), Gx(s))]\| ds \\ & \leq \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) - f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| (t-s)^{-\alpha} ds. \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

In view of the fact that

$$\|f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) - f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| \leq 2\mu(s), \quad s \in [0, T], \quad (3.8)$$

and the function  $s \rightarrow 2\mu(s)(t-s)^{-\alpha}$  is integrable on  $[0, t]$ , then the Lebesgue Dominated Convergence Theorem ensures that

$$\int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|f(s, x_n(s), Gx_n(s)) - f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| (t-s)^{-\alpha} ds \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty. \quad (3.9)$$

Therefore, we can see that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|(Ax_n)(t) - (Ax)(t)\|_\infty = 0, \quad (3.10)$$

which means that  $A$  is continuous.

Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(Ax)(t)\|_\alpha &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|A^\alpha S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| ds \\ &\leq \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \frac{\mu(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} ds \\ &\leq \frac{M_\alpha M_T}{\Gamma(q)} M_{p,q} \cdot T^{q-1/p}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

we can see that  $A$  is uniformly bounded on  $B_r$ .

Next, we prove that  $(Ax)(t)$  is equicontinuous. Let  $0 < t_2 < t_1 < T$ , and let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be small enough, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(Ax)(t_1) - (Ax)(t_2)\|_\alpha &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^{t_2} [(t_1-s)^{q-1} - (t_2-s)^{q-1}] S(t_2-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_{t_2}^{t_1} (t_1-s)^{q-1} S(t_1-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^{t_2} (t_1-s)^{q-1} [S(t_1-s) - S(t_2-s)] f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\ &= I_1 + I_2 + I_3. \end{aligned} \quad (3.12)$$

Using (2.1) and (H1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I_1 &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^{t_2} [(t_1 - s)^{q-1} - (t_2 - s)^{q-1}] S(t_2 - s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^{t_2} |(t_1 - s)^{q-1} - (t_2 - s)^{q-1}| \|A^\alpha S(t_2 - s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| ds \\
&\leq \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^{t_2} |(t_1 - s)^{q-1} - (t_2 - s)^{q-1}| \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2 - s)^\alpha} ds \\
&\leq \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^{t_2 - \varepsilon} [(t_2 - s)^{q-1} - (t_1 - s)^{q-1}] \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2 - s)^\alpha} ds \\
&\quad + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_{t_2 - \varepsilon}^{t_2} (t_2 - s)^{q-1} \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2 - s)^\alpha} ds \\
&= I'_1 + I''_1.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.13}$$

It follows from the assumption of  $\mu(s)$  that  $I'_1$  tends to 0 as  $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$ . For  $I''_1$ , using the Hölder inequality, we can see that  $I''_1$  tends to 0 as  $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$  and  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

For  $I_2$ , using (2.1), (H1), and the Hölder inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
I_2 &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_{t_2}^{t_1} (t_1 - s)^{q-1} S(t_1 - s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\
&\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_{t_2}^{t_1} (t_1 - s)^{q-1} \|A^\alpha S(t_1 - s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s))\| ds \\
&\leq \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_{t_2}^{t_1} (t_1 - s)^{q-1} \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_1 - s)^\alpha} ds \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t_2 \rightarrow t_1.
\end{aligned} \tag{3.14}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned}
I_3 &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_0^{t_2 - \varepsilon} (t_1 - s)^{q-1} [S(t_1 - s) - S(t_2 - s)] f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \left\| \int_{t_2 - \varepsilon}^{t_2} (t_1 - s)^{q-1} [S(t_1 - s) - S(t_2 - s)] f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds \right\|_\alpha
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^{t_2-\varepsilon} (t_1-s)^{q-1} \left\| S\left(\frac{t_1-t_2}{2} + \frac{t_1-s}{2}\right) - S\left(\frac{t_2-s}{2}\right) \right\| \\
&\quad \cdot \left\| A^\alpha S\left(\frac{t_2-s}{2}\right) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) \right\| ds \\
&\quad + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_{t_2-\varepsilon}^{t_2} (t_1-s)^{q-1} \left[ \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_1-s)^\alpha} + \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2-s)^\alpha} \right] ds \\
&\leq \frac{2^\alpha M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^{t_2-\varepsilon} (t_1-s)^{q-1} \left\| S\left(\frac{t_1-t_2}{2} + \frac{t_1-s}{2}\right) - S\left(\frac{t_2-s}{2}\right) \right\| \cdot \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2-s)^\alpha} ds \\
&\quad + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_{t_2-\varepsilon}^{t_2} (t_1-s)^{q-1} \left[ \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_1-s)^\alpha} + \frac{\mu(s)}{(t_2-s)^\alpha} \right] ds \\
&= I'_3 + I''_3. \tag{3.15}
\end{aligned}$$

Using the compactness of  $S(t)$  in  $X$  implies the continuity of  $t \mapsto \|S(t)\|$  for  $t \in [0, T]$ ; integrating with  $s \mapsto \mu(s)/(t_2-s)^\alpha \in L^1_{\text{loc}}([0, t_2], \mathbb{R}^+)$ , we see that  $I'_3$  tends to 0, as  $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$ . For  $I''_3$ , from the assumption of  $\mu(s)$  and the Hölder inequality, it is easy to see that  $I''_3$  tends to 0 as  $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$  and  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

Thus,  $\|(Ax)(t_1) - (Ax)(t_2)\|_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ , as  $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$ , which does not depend on  $x$ .

So,  $A(B_r)$  is relatively compact. By the Arzela-Ascoli Theorem,  $A$  is compact.

Now, let us prove that  $B$  is a contraction mapping. For  $x, y \in C([0, T], X_\alpha)$  and  $t \in [0, T]$ , we have

$$\|(Bx)(t) - (By)(t)\|_\alpha \leq \|S(t)\| \|g(x) - g(y)\|_\alpha \leq Mb \|x - y\|_\infty < \|x - y\|_\infty. \tag{3.16}$$

So, we obtain

$$\|(Bx)(t) - (By)(t)\|_\infty < \|x - y\|_\infty. \tag{3.17}$$

We now conclude the result of the theorem by Krasnoselkii's theorem.  $\square$

Now we assume the following.

(H3) There exists a positive function  $\mu_1(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

$$\|f(t, x(t), Gx(t)) - f(t, y(t), Gy(t))\| \leq \mu_1(t) (\|x - y\|_\alpha + \|Gx - Gy\|_\alpha), \tag{3.18}$$

the function  $s \mapsto \mu_1(s)/(t-s)^\alpha$  belongs to  $L^1([0, t], \mathbb{R}^+)$  and

$$\gamma'(t) := \left( \int_0^t \left( \frac{\mu_1(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} \right)^p ds \right)^{1/p} \leq M'_T < \infty, \quad \text{for } t \in [0, T]. \tag{3.19}$$

(H4) The function  $L_{\alpha,q} : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $0 < \alpha, q < 1$  satisfies

$$L_{\alpha,q}(t) = Mb + \frac{M_\alpha M'_T}{\Gamma(q)} M_{p,q} \cdot t^{q-1/p} (1 + G^*) \leq \omega < 1, \quad t \in [0, T]. \quad (3.20)$$

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $-A$  be the infinitesimal generator of an analytic semigroup  $\{S(t)\}_{t \geq 0}$  with  $\|S(t)\| \leq M$ ,  $t \geq 0$  and  $0 \in \rho(A)$ . If  $x_0 \in X_\alpha$  and (H2)–(H4) hold, then (1.1) has a unique mild solution  $x \in C_\alpha$ .

*Proof.* Define the mapping  $\mathcal{F} : C([0, T], X_\alpha) \rightarrow C([0, T], X_\alpha)$  by

$$(\mathcal{F}x)(t) = S(t)(x_0 - g(x)) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} S(t-s) f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) ds. \quad (3.21)$$

Obviously,  $\mathcal{F}$  is well defined on  $C([0, T], X_\alpha)$ .

Now take  $x, y \in C([0, T], X_\alpha)$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(\mathcal{F}x)(t) - (\mathcal{F}y)(t)\|_\alpha \\ & \leq \|S(t)(g(x) - g(y))\|_\alpha \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|S(t-s)[f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) - f(s, y(s), Gy(s))]ds\|_\alpha ds \\ & \leq M \|g(x) - g(y)\|_\alpha \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \|A^\alpha S(t-s)[f(s, x(s), Gx(s)) - f(s, y(s), Gy(s))]ds\|_\alpha ds \quad (3.22) \\ & \leq Mb \|x - y\|_\infty + \frac{M_\alpha}{\Gamma(q)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{q-1} \frac{\mu_1(s)}{(t-s)^\alpha} (\|x - y\|_\alpha + \|Gx - Gy\|_\alpha) ds \\ & \leq Mb \|x - y\|_\infty + \frac{M_\alpha M'_T}{\Gamma(q)} M_{p,q} \cdot t^{q-1/p} (1 + G^*) \|x - y\|_\alpha \\ & \leq L_{\alpha,q}(t) \|x - y\|_\infty. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain

$$\|(\mathcal{F}x)(t) - (\mathcal{F}y)(t)\|_\infty \leq \omega \|x - y\|_\infty < \|x - y\|_\infty, \quad (3.23)$$

and the result follows from the contraction mapping principle.  $\square$

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