

Since $u(t) = (T(t)g)(0) \in D(B)$ for $t \geq 0$ the above calculation shows that u is right-sided differentiable at 0 and differentiable for $t > 0$; hence

$$\dot{u}(t) = Bu(t) + \phi(T(t)g).$$

By the translation property (T) we have $T(t)g = u_t$, indeed

$$u_t(s) = u(t+s) = \begin{cases} g(t+s) & \text{if } t+s \leq 0 \\ T(t+s)g(0) & \text{if } t+s > 0 \end{cases} = T(t)g(s).$$

Therefore $\dot{u}(t) = Bu(t) + \phi(u_t)$, i.e. u solves (RCP).

In order to show uniqueness of the solution we take w to be a solution of (RCP) satisfying $w_0 = 0$. Let $x(t) := w_t$, $t \geq 0$. It is easy to see that $x(t) \in C^1([-1, 0], F)$; moreover, since $\dot{w}_t(0) = \dot{w}(t) = Bw(t) + \phi(w_t)$ we obtain $x(t) \in D(A)$. By the definition of A we have $Ax(t) = \dot{w}_t$. On the other hand, $x(\cdot) \in C^1([0, \infty), E)$ and $(\dot{x}(t))(s) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 1/h \cdot (w_{t+h}(s) - w_t(s)) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 1/h \cdot (w_t(h+s) - w_t(s)) = \dot{w}_t(s)$, whence $\dot{x}(t) = \dot{w}_t$. Therefore we obtain $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t)$. As $x(0) = w_0 = 0$ it follows by the well-posedness of the abstract Cauchy problem corresponding to A that $x(t) = 0$ for each $t \geq 0$. This proves $w \equiv 0$.

□

Remarks 1. By similar arguments the following can be proved. If u is a solution of (RCP) such that $u_0 \in D(A)$, then x given by $x(t) := u_t$ is a solution of the abstract Cauchy problem associated with the operator A defined in (3.1). In this sense, (RCP) and the semigroup generated by A correspond to each other.

2. If additionally to the assumptions of Cor.3.2 $B \in L(F)$ then u is a solution of (RCP) for every $g \in E$. [Indeed, a careful inspection shows that the proof of Cor.3.2 can be generalized to this situation, since $u(t) = (T(t)g)(0) \in F = D(B)$ for all $g \in E$ and $t \geq 0$.]

3. For general $g \in E$ the retarded Cauchy problem (RCP) may not have a solution. Indeed, if u is a solution of (RCP) then the following is valid for $0 \leq s \leq t$:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{ds} S(t-s)u(s) &= -BS(t-s)u(s) + S(t-s)\dot{u}(s) \\ &= -BS(t-s)u(s) + S(t-s)Bu(s) + S(t-s)\phi(u_s) = S(t-s)\phi(u_s). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$u(t) - S(t)u(0) = \int_0^t S(t-s)\phi(u_s) ds.$$

Let $(S(t))_{t \geq 0}$ be a strongly continuous semigroup which is not differentiable (for examples see A-II, 1.28). Define $g \in E$ by $g(s) := \tilde{g}$ for all $s \in [-1, 0]$ where $\tilde{g} \in F$ is chosen such that