

**ON SYLVESTER OPERATOR EQUATIONS, COMPLETE  
TRAJECTORIES, REGULAR ADMISSIBILITY,  
AND STABILITY OF  $C_0$ -SEMIGROUPS**

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ABSTRACT. We show that the existence of a nontrivial bounded uniformly continuous (BUC) complete trajectory for a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  generated by an operator  $A$  in a Banach space  $X$  is equivalent to the existence of a solution  $\Pi = \delta_0$  to the homogenous operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ . Here  $S|_{\mathcal{M}}$  generates the shift  $C_0$ -group  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  in a closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ , and  $\delta_0$  is the point evaluation at the origin. If, in addition,  $\mathcal{M}$  is operator-invariant and  $0 \neq \Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is any solution of  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ , then all functions  $t \rightarrow \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , are complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . We connect these results to the study of regular admissibility of Banach function spaces for  $T_A(t)$ ; among the new results are perturbation theorems for regular admissibility and complete trajectories. Finally, we show how strong stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup can be characterized by the nonexistence of nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for the sun-dual semigroup, and by the surjective solvability of an operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .

1. INTRODUCTION

Consider the abstract Cauchy problem

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), \quad t \geq 0, \quad x(0) = x_0 \in X \tag{1.1}$$

where  $A$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in some Banach space  $X$ . It is well known that a unique mild solution  $x(t) = T_A(t)x_0$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , of (1.1) always exists. However, sometimes there also exist so-called complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$ . A complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  is a continuous function  $x : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$  such that  $x(t) = T_A(t-s)x(s)$  for each  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}$  for which  $t \geq s$ , and  $x(0) = x_0$ . Such a trajectory is nontrivial if it is not identically zero. Bounded nontrivial complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  are important e.g. in the study of equations (1.1) on the whole real line [18, 19]; Vu has studied their existence and construction in [19]. His main

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result asserts that if  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded and sun-reflexive, and its sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\odot(t)$  (see Subsection 1.1) is not strongly stable<sup>1</sup>, then there exist nontrivial bounded complete trajectories provided one of the following conditions holds:  $i\mathbb{R} \not\subseteq \sigma(A)$  or  $\text{ran}(T_A^\odot(t_0))$  is dense in  $X^\odot$  for some  $t_0 > 0$ . Vu also shows in [19] that if the intersection of the approximate point spectrum of  $A$  and the imaginary axis is countable, then every bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  is almost periodic provided  $X$  does not contain an isomorphic copy of  $c_0$ , the Banach space of sequences convergent to 0, or the trajectory itself is weakly compact.

A related problem for the inhomogenous abstract Cauchy problem

$$\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + f(t), \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1.2)$$

in  $X$  is the following [15, 21]. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a closed translation-invariant operator-invariant (i.e. CTO, see Definition 1.1) subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ , the space of bounded uniformly continuous  $X$ -valued functions. We say that  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$  if for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  there exists a unique mild solution  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  of (1.2), i.e. for which

$$x(t) = T_A(t-s)x(s) + \int_s^t T_A(t-\tau)f(\tau)d\tau \quad \forall t \geq s, \quad t, s \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1.3)$$

Vu and Schüler [21] showed, among other things, that  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$  if and only if the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \delta_0$ , where  $S|_{\mathcal{M}} = \frac{d}{dx}|_{\mathcal{M}}$  and  $\delta_0$  is the point evaluation operator in  $\mathcal{M}$  centered at the origin, has a unique solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  (see Section 2).

The main purpose of the present article is to interconnect the results in [19] and [21]. To avoid repetition we shall assume the reader to have access to these papers. Our main results are the following. We show that the existence of a nontrivial complete trajectory  $x \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  for  $T_A(t)$  is equivalent to the existence of a solution  $\Pi = \delta_0$  to the homogenous operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  for some closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . If, in addition,  $\mathcal{M}$  is operator-invariant and  $0 \neq \Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is any solution of  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ , then all functions  $t \rightarrow \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  are complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . There are three remarkable features in these results. First of all, we do not need to assume e.g. the uniform boundedness of  $T_A(t)$  or restrict  $\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  in any explicit way to obtain nontrivial bounded complete trajectories. Secondly, the complete trajectories are known to be in  $\mathcal{M}$  – hence we can conclude more than just boundedness of the trajectory. For example  $\mathcal{M}$  could be the space  $AP(\mathbb{R}, X)$  of  $X$ -valued almost periodic functions. Finally, these results also provide a way to construct bounded complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  via the solution operators  $\Pi$ .

By combining our main results with those in [19, 21] we obtain several useful corollaries. For example, we immediately see that if  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$ , then there cannot be complete nontrivial trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Since all CTO subspaces  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  are regularly admissible for an exponentially dichotomous semigroup  $T_A(t)$  [21], exponentially dichotomous  $C_0$ -semigroups cannot have bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectories. Consequently the same is true for exponentially stable  $C_0$ -semigroups.

<sup>1</sup>A  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T(t)$  in a Banach space  $Z$  is strongly stable if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T(t)z = 0$  for every  $z \in Z$

In Section 4 we shall show that the existence of nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  is a fragile property; arbitrarily small bounded additive perturbations to the generator  $A$  may destroy it. On the other hand, we shall show that the *nonexistence* of such trajectories may be a stable property even under certain unbounded additive perturbations to  $A$ . We also show that regular admissibility of  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_A(t)$  may sustain some unbounded additive perturbations to  $A$ . Hence we have another situation in which the nonexistence of bounded complete trajectories in  $\mathcal{M}$  is not affected by perturbations to  $A$ .

We conclude this article with some new characterizations for strong stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$ . We shall show that if  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded and  $\sigma_A(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is countable, then  $T_A(t)$  is *not* strongly stable if and only if the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$  has a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory. We also show that strong stability of  $T_A(t)$  is equivalent to the existence of a surjective solution to the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  for a closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$ .

**1.1. Preliminaries.** As in the above, let  $X$  be a Banach space and consider a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$  generated by  $A$ . The spectrum, point spectrum, approximate point spectrum and resolvent set of  $A$  are denoted by  $\sigma(A)$ ,  $\sigma_P(A)$ ,  $\sigma_A(A)$  and  $\rho(A)$  respectively.  $A^*$  denotes the adjoint operator of  $A$  and for every  $\lambda \in \rho(A)$  we denote by  $R(\lambda, A)$  the resolvent operator of  $A$ . A linear operator  $\Delta_A : \mathcal{D}(\Delta_A) \subset X \rightarrow X$  is called  $A$ -bounded if  $\mathcal{D}(A) \subset \mathcal{D}(\Delta_A)$  and for some nonnegative constants  $a, b$  we have

$$\|\Delta_A x\| \leq a\|x\| + b\|Ax\| \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{D}(A) \quad (1.4)$$

If the Banach space  $X$  is not reflexive, then the adjoint semigroup  $T_A^*(t)$  is not necessarily strongly continuous. However, the subspace

$$X^\circ = \{\phi \in X^* \mid T_A^*(t)\phi \text{ is strongly continuous}\} \quad (1.5)$$

is closed in  $X^*$  and invariant for  $T_A^*(t)$ . Additionally,  $X^\circ = \overline{\mathcal{D}(A^*)}$  and the restriction  $T_A^*(t)|_{X^\circ}$  defines a strongly continuous semigroup in  $X^\circ$ , the so-called sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$  [9, 19].

We denote the Banach space (with sup-norm) of bounded uniformly continuous functions  $t \rightarrow X$  by  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . The shift operators  $T_S(t)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , are defined for each  $f \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  as  $T_S(t)f = f(\cdot + t)$ . It is clear that  $T_S(t)$  constitutes a strongly continuous group in  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . Its infinitesimal generator is the differential operator  $S = \frac{d}{dx}$  with a suitable domain of definition. Clearly the restrictions  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  of the shift group to closed (in the sup-norm) translation-invariant subspaces  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  are also strongly continuous. The infinitesimal generator of such a restriction  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  is denoted by  $S|_{\mathcal{M}}$ . Of special interest are the so-called CTO (closed translation-invariant operator-invariant) subspaces  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ :

**Definition 1.1.** A sup-norm closed translation-invariant function space  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  is operator-invariant if for each  $C \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  and every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  the function  $t \rightarrow CT_S(t)f$  is in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

Several interesting function spaces are CTO. For example: Continuous  $p$ -periodic  $X$ -valued functions, almost periodic functions  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$  and functions in  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  whose Carleman spectrum is contained in a given closed subset  $\Lambda$  of  $i\mathbb{R}$ , the imaginary axis. Recall that almost periodic functions are those which can be uniformly approximated by trigonometric polynomials [2], and that the Carleman spectrum

$sp(f)$  of a function  $f \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  is defined as the set of singularities of its Carleman transform

$$\tilde{f}(\lambda) = \begin{cases} \int_0^\infty e^{-\lambda t} f(t) dt, & \Re(\lambda) > 0 \\ -\int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-\lambda t} f(t) dt, & \Re(\lambda) < 0 \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

on  $i\mathbb{R}$ . The reader is referred to [2, 11, 21] for more details.

In this article we shall use the well known fact that for every closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  there exists a sequence  $(\mathcal{M}_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{M}$  of closed translation-invariant subspaces with the following properties [16, 21]:

- (1)  $\mathcal{M}_n \subset \mathcal{M}_{n+1}$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (2)  $S_n = S|_{\mathcal{M}_n}$  is a bounded operator for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (3)  $\sigma(S_n) \subset \sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (4)  $\cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{M}_n$  is dense in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

## 2. MILD AND STRONG SOLUTIONS OF $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta$

Let  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  be a closed translation-invariant function space and let  $\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . As before, we assume that  $A$  generates the  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$ . In this section we shall study the operator equation

$$\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta \quad (2.1)$$

which will play a prominent role throughout this article. Equation (2.1) is a special instance of general linear Sylvester type operator equations. Such equations have a long history: For classical finite-dimensional results the reader is referred to [10] and to the excellent survey article [8]. The treatment of Bhatia and Rosenthal [8] actually also covers the case of bounded linear operators in infinite-dimensional spaces. Many of these results can be generalized for unbounded operators which may or may not generate  $C_0$ -semigroups. Such results can be found e.g. in [3, 14, 20, 21].

Vu and Schüller [21] concentrated on the unique solvability of (2.1) for each  $\Delta$ . They showed that it is equivalent to the regular admissibility of  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_A(t)$ . It turns out, however, that also nonunique solutions of (2.1) have importance. We shall see in the next section that the existence of a nontrivial solution  $\Pi = \delta_0$  to the homogenous equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  — which implies nonuniqueness of solutions of (2.1) — is equivalent to the existence of nontrivial bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$ . In order to establish this result we consider two types of solutions for (2.1):

**Definition 2.1.** An operator  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is called a strong solution of (2.1) if  $\Pi(\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$  and  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} f = A\Pi f + \Delta f$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ .

**Definition 2.2.** An operator  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is called a mild solution of (2.1) if

$$\Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f = T_A(t)\Pi f + \int_0^t T_A(t-s)\Delta T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f ds \quad (2.2)$$

for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and every  $t \geq 0$ .

The main result of this section shows that mild and strong solutions of (2.1) coincide. Hence we may refer to them as just solutions of (2.1).

**Theorem 2.3.** *An operator  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is a mild solution of (2.1) if and only if it is a strong solution of (2.1).*

*Proof.* Assume first that  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is a strong solution of the (2.1). Let  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  be arbitrary. Then since  $\Pi(\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$ , we have for every  $t \geq 0$  that

$$\Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - T_A(t)\Pi f = \int_{\tau=0}^t T_A(t-\tau)\Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \quad (2.3)$$

$$= \int_0^t \frac{d}{d\tau} T_A(t-\tau)\Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \quad (2.4)$$

$$= \int_0^t T_A(t-\tau)[\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} - A\Pi]T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \quad (2.5)$$

$$= \int_0^t T_A(t-\tau)\Delta T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \quad (2.6)$$

because  $T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  for every  $\tau \geq 0$ . Since  $\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  is dense in  $\mathcal{M}$ , we must have that

$$\Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f = T_A(t)\Pi f + \int_0^t T_A(t-\tau)\Delta T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{M} \quad \forall t \geq 0 \quad (2.7)$$

In other words  $\Pi$  is a mild solution of (2.1).

Assume then that  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is a mild solution of (2.1). We first show that  $\Pi(\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ . Then for every  $h > 0$

$$\frac{T_A(h)\Pi f - \Pi f}{h} = \frac{T_A(h)\Pi f - \Pi T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f}{h} + \frac{\Pi T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - \Pi f}{h} \quad (2.8)$$

$$= -\frac{\int_0^h T_A(h-\tau)\Delta T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau}{h} + \frac{\Pi T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - \Pi f}{h} \quad (2.9)$$

which by the boundedness of  $\Pi$  shows that  $\Pi f \in \mathcal{D}(A)$ ; also observe that the function  $t \rightarrow \Delta T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  is continuously differentiable so that the convolution in (2.9) is differentiable. Moreover, we see that  $A\Pi f = -\Delta f + \Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ . Consequently  $\Pi$  is a strong solution of (2.1).  $\square$

**Remark 2.4.** As mentioned in the introductory section, the special case  $\Delta = \delta_0 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  has turned out to be particularly important in the qualitative theory of differential equations. Theorem 2.3 immediately reveals why this is so. Clearly  $f(t) = \delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and hence if  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  is a solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \delta_0$ , then (2.2) reads

$$\Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f = T_A(t)\Pi f + \int_0^t T_A(t-s)f(s)ds, \quad t \geq 0 \quad (2.10)$$

so that for  $x(0) = \Pi f$  the right hand side of (2.10) is the mild solution of the inhomogenous differential equation  $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + f(t)$ ,  $t \geq 0$ . If in addition,  $\mathcal{M}$  is a CTO subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ , then this mild solution  $t \rightarrow \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  is in  $\mathcal{M}$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Consequently we may deduce e.g. the existence of periodic mild solutions from solvability of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \delta_0$  in a suitable space  $\mathcal{M}$ . We shall not pursue this discussion any further; the interested reader is referred to [12, 21] for a related discussion.

The operator equation (2.1) has also been studied as an operator equation  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}\Pi = \Delta$  in the literature [3]. Here  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}$  is an (unbounded) operator on

$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  defined as follows.

$$\mathcal{D}(\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}}) = \{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X) : X(\mathcal{D}(S|\mathcal{M})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A), \exists Y \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X) : \quad (2.11a)$$

$$Yu = XS|\mathcal{M}u - AXu \forall u \in \mathcal{D}(S|\mathcal{M})\} \quad (2.11b)$$

$$\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}}X = Y$$

It can be shown that  $\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}}$  is a closed operator on  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  [3]. The following result is then evident.

**Proposition 2.5.** *Equation (2.1) has a unique solution for every  $\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  if and only if  $0 \in \rho(\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}})$ . The homogenous equation  $\Pi S|\mathcal{M} = A\Pi$  has a nontrivial solution if and only if  $0 \in \sigma_P(\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}})$ .*

Proposition 2.5 is particularly useful if  $T_A(t)$  is a holomorphic semigroup or if  $S|\mathcal{M}$  is bounded. By the results of Arendt, Răbiger and Sourour [3], in both cases  $\sigma(\tau_{A,S|\mathcal{M}}) = \sigma(A) + \sigma(S|\mathcal{M})$ . We shall, however, use Proposition 2.5 in a different context in Section 4: We make use of the well known fact that bounded invertibility of a closed operator is preserved under small (but possibly unbounded) additive perturbations.

### 3. COMPLETE TRAJECTORIES, REGULAR ADMISSIBILITY AND $\Pi S|\mathcal{M} = A\Pi$

The main results of this article are Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.3 below. They connect the existence of nontrivial bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  to the nonunique solvability of the homogenous operator equation  $\Pi S|\mathcal{M} = A\Pi$ . Consequently they provide the link between the articles [19] and [21] mentioned in the introductory section.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $A$  generate a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1) *There exists a nontrivial bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectory  $x(t)$  for  $T_A(t)$ .*
- (2) *There exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  in which  $\delta_0$  solves the operator equation  $\Pi S|\mathcal{M} = A\Pi$ .*
- (3) *There exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  for which every  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  is a bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ .*

*Proof.* Since by Theorem 2.3 mild and strong solutions of the operator equation (2.1) coincide, we may restrict our attention to mild solutions. We show  $1 \implies 2 \implies 3 \implies 1$ .

$1 \implies 2$ : Assume that  $x \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  is a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ . Let  $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\text{span}}\{x(\cdot + t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  where closure is taken in the sup-norm. Then  $\mathcal{M} \neq 0$  is a closed translation invariant subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  and clearly  $\delta_0 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Moreover  $x(t) = \delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}x$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore, for any  $\tau \geq 0$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$x(\tau + s) = \delta_0 T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}} T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}}x = T_A(\tau)x(s) = T_A(\tau)\delta_0 T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}}x \quad (3.1)$$

since  $x$  is a complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ . This shows that  $\delta_0 T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}x(\cdot + s) = T_A(\tau)\delta_0 x(\cdot + s)$  for each  $\tau \geq 0$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  because  $T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}}x = x(\cdot + s)$ . In other words  $\delta_0$  is a mild solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|\mathcal{M} = A\Pi$  in the set  $\{x(\cdot + s) \mid s \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Upon extensions by linearity and continuity

we immediately have that for  $\mathcal{M}$  as in the above, the equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a nontrivial mild solution  $\Pi = \delta_0$ .

2  $\implies$  3 : Assume that the homogenous equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a mild solution  $\delta_0 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then  $f(t) = \delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f$  for every  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Furthermore for every  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $t \geq s$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_A(t-s)f(s) &= T_A(t-s)\delta_0 T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= \delta_0 T_S(t-s)|_{\mathcal{M}} T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= \delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f = f(t) \end{aligned}$$

This shows that every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  is a complete nontrivial trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ .

3  $\implies$  1 : This is trivial. □

We state the following corollary to emphasize that in parts 2 and 3 of Theorem 3.1 the closed translation invariant spaces are equal.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $T_A(t)$  be a  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  generated by  $A$ , and let  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  be a closed and translation-invariant subspace. Then every  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  is a complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  if and only if  $\delta_0$  is a solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that every  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  is a bounded complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ . Then for any  $\tau \geq 0$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $x(\tau + s) = \delta_0 T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}} T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} x = T_A(\tau)x(s) = T_A(\tau)\delta_0 T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} x$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , because every  $x \in \mathcal{M}$  is a complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ . Consequently  $\delta_0$  is a mild solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  in the set  $\{x(\cdot + s) \mid s \in \mathbb{R}\}$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ . Since  $\mathcal{M}$  is translation-invariant, we have  $\mathcal{M} = \cup_{x \in \mathcal{M}} \{x(\cdot + s) \mid s \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . This shows that  $\delta_0$  is a mild solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ . The converse claim is contained in the proof of Theorem 3.1. □

In the above results we assumed that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a closed and translation-invariant subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . If  $\mathcal{M}$  is in addition CTO, then also other nontrivial solutions of the homogenous operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  yield nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$ :

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $T_A(t)$  be a  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  generated by  $A$ . Then the following assertions are equivalent for a given CTO space  $0 \neq \mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ .*

- (1) *There exists a nonzero operator  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  such that for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ , the function  $t \rightarrow \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f$  is a complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .*
- (2) *The homogenous operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a nontrivial solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ .*
- (3) *There exists an operator  $\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  such that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta$  has at least two distinct solutions.*
- (4) *The operator  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}$  defined in (2.11) has 0 as its eigenvalue.*

*Proof.* We show  $1 \iff 2 \iff 3$  and  $2 \iff 4$ :

1  $\iff$  2 : First assume that for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  the functions  $t \rightarrow x_f(t) = \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f$  are complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Hence for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\tau \geq 0$

and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} x_f(\tau + s) &= \Pi T_S(\tau + s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= \Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}} T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= T_A(\tau) x_f(s) \\ &= T_A(\tau) \Pi T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $\Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}} f(\cdot + s) = T_A(\tau) \Pi f(\cdot + s)$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $\tau \geq 0$  and  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ . As we let  $s = 0$  we see that  $\Pi$  satisfies the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .

Conversely assume that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a nonzero mild solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and define the function  $x_f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow X$  such that  $x(t) = \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Since  $\mathcal{M}$  is CTO,  $x_f \in \mathcal{M}$ . Furthermore for every  $t, s \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $t \geq s$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_A(t - s)x_f(s) &= T_A(t - s)\Pi T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= \Pi T_S(t - s)|_{\mathcal{M}} T_S(s)|_{\mathcal{M}} f \\ &= \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f = x_f(t) \end{aligned}$$

because  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} f = f(\cdot + t) \in \mathcal{M}$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . This shows that for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  the function  $x_f$  is a complete nontrivial trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

2  $\iff$  3 : This is trivial.

2  $\iff$  4 : This is contained in Proposition 2.5.

□

**Remark 3.4.** Vu [19] studied bounded uniformly continuous and almost periodic complete nontrivial trajectories for  $T_A(t)$ . Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.3 provide more flexibility. For example, in Theorem 3.3 one may look for  $p$ -periodic continuous complete trajectories or complete trajectories  $x \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  such that the Carleman spectrum  $sp(x)$  of  $x$  is contained in some closed set  $\Lambda \subset i\mathbb{R}$ .

**Remark 3.5.** Theorem 3.3 also provides a way to construct nontrivial complete trajectories in  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  for  $T_A(t)$  via nontrivial solutions of the homogeneous operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .

The following result is of fundamental importance, since it provides a simple necessary condition for the existence of a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ , and since this condition allows us to combine our results with the regular admissibility theory of Vu and Schüler [21]. Because of its importance we choose to give two separate proofs for this result.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  and assume that  $A$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$ . If  $\sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}}) \cap \sigma(A) = \emptyset$ , then there are no nontrivial complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .*

*Proof 1.* Assume, conversely, that there exists a nontrivial complete trajectory  $x$  for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then by Proposition 3.5 in [19]  $sp(x) = \sigma(S_x)$  where  $S_x$  is the restriction of  $S|_{\mathcal{M}}$  to the space  $\overline{\text{span}}\{x(\cdot + t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Consequently  $sp(x) \subset \sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ , and  $sp(x) \cap \sigma(A) = \emptyset$ . But by Proposition 3.7 in [19]  $sp(x) \subset \sigma_A(A)$  which implies  $sp(x) = \emptyset$ . According to Wiener's Tauberian Theorem [19] this is possible only if  $x$  is identically zero — a contradiction. □

*Proof 2.* Assume again, conversely, that there exists a nontrivial complete trajectory  $x$  for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ . By Theorem 3.1 there exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{M}$  in which the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{N}} = A\Pi$  has a nontrivial solution. Then by a result stated in Subsection 1.1 there exists another nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{N}_0 \subset \mathcal{N}$  in which the restriction  $S|_{\mathcal{N}_0}$  is a nonzero bounded operator. Moreover the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{N}_0} = A\Pi$  also has a nontrivial solution. But this is impossible since  $\sigma(S|_{\mathcal{N}_0}) \cap \sigma(A) \subset \sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}}) \cap \sigma(A) = \emptyset$  and the boundedness of  $S|_{\mathcal{N}_0}$  imply that the only solution of  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{N}_0} = A\Pi$  is the zero operator (see Section 2 in [21]).  $\square$

Throughout the following corollaries  $A$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$ .

**Corollary 3.7.** *If a given CTO space  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$ , then there cannot be complete nontrivial trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .*

*Proof.* By Corollary 3.2 in [21] we have  $\sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}}) \cap \sigma(A) = \emptyset$ . By Theorem 3.6 there cannot be complete nontrivial trajectories in  $\mathcal{M}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a CTO subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  and suppose that  $\sigma(T_A(1)) \cap \sigma(T_S(1)|_{\mathcal{M}}) = \emptyset$ . Then there cannot be complete nontrivial trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .*

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.4 and Theorem 3.1 in [21]  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$ . By Corollary 3.7 there cannot be complete nontrivial trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.9.** *Assume that there are no complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$  in a CTO subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  and that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \delta_0$  has a solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.3,  $\Pi$  must be the unique solution of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \delta_0$ . The result follows by Theorem 3.1 in [21].  $\square$

Recall that  $T_A(t)$  is exponentially dichotomous if there exists a bounded projection operator  $P$  on  $X$  and positive constants  $M, \omega$  such that

- (1)  $PT_A(t) = T_A(t)P$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .
- (2)  $\|T_A(t)x_0\| \leq Me^{-\omega t}\|x_0\|$  for all  $x_0 \in \text{ran}(P)$  and all  $t \geq 0$ .
- (3) The restriction  $T_A(t)|_{\ker(P)}$  extends to a  $C_0$ -group and  $\|T_A(-t)|_{\ker(P)}x_0\| \leq Me^{-\omega t}\|x_0\|$  for all  $x_0 \in \ker(P)$  and all  $t \geq 0$ .

Clearly if  $T_A(t)$  is exponentially stable, then it is also exponentially dichotomous. Vu ([19], Example 2.7) showed that there are no complete bounded trajectories for the diffusion semigroup on  $C_0(\mathbb{R})$ . The following result implies that the same is in fact true for all exponentially stable semigroups.

**Corollary 3.10.** *Let  $T_A(t)$  be exponentially dichotomous. Then there cannot exist nontrivial bounded uniformly continuous complete trajectories for  $T_A(t)$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.1 in [21] the space  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$ . The result follows by Corollary 3.7.  $\square$

The last corollary of Theorem 3.3 provides a sufficient condition for the almost periodicity of a nontrivial complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$ .

**Corollary 3.11.** *Let  $\sigma_A(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  be countable and assume that the space  $X$  does not contain a subspace which is isomorphic to  $c_0$  (the Banach space of numerical sequences which converge to zero). Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a CTO subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . If the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a nontrivial solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ , then  $x_f(t) = \Pi T_S(t)f$  is an almost periodic complete trajectory for  $T_A(t)$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.10 in [19] all bounded uniformly continuous bounded trajectories are almost periodic. By Theorem 3.3, the function  $t \rightarrow \Pi T_S(t)f$  is a complete trajectory in  $\mathcal{M} \subset BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$ .  $\square$

#### 4. SOME PERTURBATION RESULTS

Consider again a closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . Clearly for every  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  the trajectory  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  of the left shift group is bounded and complete, and it is in  $\mathcal{M}$ . However, for every  $\epsilon > 0$  the semigroup  $T_{S-\epsilon I}(t)$  generated by  $S - \epsilon I$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  is exponentially stable. By Corollary 3.10 there are no nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for  $T_{S-\epsilon I}(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and hence the existence of nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for a semigroup is a fragile property; arbitrarily small bounded additive perturbations to the generator may destroy it. On the other hand, in this section we shall provide conditions under which the *nonexistence* of nontrivial bounded complete trajectories is not destroyed by small unbounded (but possibly structured) additive perturbations to the generator  $A$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $A$  generate a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in  $X$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a closed translation-invariant subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$  and let  $\sigma(A) \cap \sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}}) = \emptyset$ . Let  $\Delta_A : \mathcal{D}(\Delta_A) \subset X \rightarrow X$  be a linear  $A$ -bounded operator such that*

- (1)  $A + \Delta_A$  with domain  $\mathcal{D}(A)$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_{A+\Delta_A}(t)$  in  $X$ .
- (2) The  $A$ -boundedness constants  $a, b$  in (1.4) satisfy

$$\sup_{i\omega \in \sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}})} a\|R(i\omega, A)\| + b\|AR(i\omega, A)\| < 1 \quad (4.1)$$

*Then there are no nontrivial complete trajectories in  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_A(t)$  and the same holds for the perturbed  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_{A+\Delta_A}(t)$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem IV.3.17 in [13],  $\sigma(S|_{\mathcal{M}}) \subset \rho(A + \Delta_A)$ . The result then follows by Theorem 3.6.  $\square$

It is well known that if  $A$  generates an analytic or contractive  $C_0$ -semigroup, then so does  $A + \Delta_A$  under rather mild additional conditions for the  $A$ -bounded perturbation  $\Delta_A$  [9].

We next prove that regular admissibility of  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_A(t)$  is also preserved under certain additive perturbations to  $A$ . According to Corollary 3.7 we then have another situation in which the nonexistence of bounded complete trajectories in  $\mathcal{M}$  is not affected by such perturbations. In order to establish this result, we need some notation. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a CTO subspace of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X)$ . Let  $\Delta_A : \mathcal{D}(\Delta_A) \subset X \rightarrow X$  be a closed linear operator such that  $\mathcal{D}(A) \subset \mathcal{D}(\Delta_A)$  and such that  $A - \Delta_A$  (with domain  $\mathcal{D}(A)$ ) generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$ . Define another linear operator  $\underline{\Delta}_A : \mathcal{D}(\underline{\Delta}_A) \subset \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  such that

$$\mathcal{D}(\underline{\Delta}_A) = \{X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X) \mid A_{\Delta}X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)\} \quad (4.2a)$$

$$\underline{\Delta}_A X = A_{\Delta}X \quad \forall X \in \mathcal{D}(\underline{\Delta}_A) \quad (4.2b)$$

**Proposition 4.2.** *In the above notation assume that  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_A(t)$ . Let*

$$M = \sup\{\|\Pi\| \mid \Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta, \|\Delta\| = 1\} \quad (4.3)$$

*If  $\underline{\Delta}_A$  is  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}$ -bounded with the boundedness constants  $a, b$  in (1.4) satisfying  $aM + b < 1$ , then  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_{A-\Delta_A}(t)$ .*

*Proof.* First observe that by Theorem 3.1 in [21] regular admissibility of  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_A(t)$  is equivalent to the unique solvability of the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta$  for every  $\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Consequently by Proposition 2.5 we have  $0 \in \rho(\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}})$  and  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta$  if and only if  $\Pi = \tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}^{-1} \Delta$ . Hence

$$\|\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}^{-1}\| = \sup_{\|\Delta\|=1} \|\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}^{-1} \Delta\| = \sup_{\|\Delta\|=1} \{\|\Pi\| \mid \Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi + \Delta\} = M \quad (4.4)$$

By our assumptions  $\underline{\Delta}_A$  is  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}$ -bounded, with the boundedness constants  $a, b$  in (1.4) satisfying  $a\|\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}}^{-1}\| + b < 1$ . Theorem IV.1.16 in [13] then implies that the operator  $\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}} + \underline{\Delta}_A$  with domain  $\mathcal{D}(\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}})$  is also boundedly invertible. But for each  $X \in \mathcal{D}(\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}})$  and  $u \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} [\tau_{A,S|_{\mathcal{M}}} + \underline{\Delta}_A]Xu &= XS|_{\mathcal{M}}u - AXu + \underline{\Delta}_A Xu \\ &= XS|_{\mathcal{M}}u - AXu + \Delta_A Xu \\ &= XS|_{\mathcal{M}}u - (A - \Delta_A)Xu \end{aligned}$$

which shows that for every  $\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  the operator equation  $XS|_{\mathcal{M}} - (A - \Delta_A)X = \Delta$  has a unique solution  $X = \Pi_\Delta \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . By Theorem 3.1 in [21] this implies regular admissibility of  $\mathcal{M}$  for  $T_{A-\Delta_A}(t)$ .  $\square$

**Remark 4.3.** For bounded additive perturbations  $\Delta_A \in \mathcal{L}(X)$  to  $A$  the content of Proposition 4.2 may be formulated in a much simpler way: There exists  $\epsilon > 0$  such that whenever  $\|\Delta_A\| < \epsilon$ , the space  $\mathcal{M}$  is regularly admissible for  $T_{A+\Delta_A}(t)$ .

**Remark 4.4.** It follows from Theorem 5.1 in [21] that regular admissibility of a space  $\mathcal{M}$  is not destroyed by certain sufficiently continuous and small nonlinear perturbations to  $A$ . Theorem 4.2 is, however, not entirely contained in this result of Vu and Schüler, because we allow for a degree of unboundedness in the additive perturbation operator  $\Delta_A$ . Furthermore, their proof relies on a fixed point argument, and consequently it is rather different from ours.

## 5. ON STRONG STABILITY OF $C_0$ -SEMIGROUPS

Exponential stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup can be completely characterized in many equivalent ways: There are the well-known conditions of the Datko Theorem [2], and a condition of Vu and Schüler [21] according to which exponential stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  is equivalent to the uniform boundedness of  $T_A(t)$  and the unique solvability of the operator equation  $\Pi S = A\Pi + \delta_0$ . On the other hand, it has turned out that strong stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup is considerably more difficult to characterize. Since the pioneering work of Arendt, Batty, Lyubich and Vu [1, 17] this question has received much attention in the literature; the reader is referred to [2, 4, 7, 5, 6] and the references therein. It is obvious that a strongly stable  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded and that  $\sigma_P(A^*) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \emptyset$ . On the other hand, the ABLV Theorem states that if  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded,  $\sigma_P(A^*) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \emptyset$  and  $\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is countable, then  $T_A(t)$  is strongly stable.

We next present new characterizations for strong stability of a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_A(t)$  in terms of nontrivial bounded complete trajectories for the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$  and nontrivial solvability of an operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** *Assume that  $\sigma_A(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is countable and that  $T_A(t)$  is a uniformly bounded  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  generated by  $A$ . Then there exists a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory for the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$  if and only if  $T_A(t)$  is not strongly stable.*

*Proof.* Assume first that  $T_A(t)$  is not strongly stable. Then  $\sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \sigma_A(A) \cap i\mathbb{R} \neq i\mathbb{R}$ , which by Theorem 2.3 in [19] immediately shows that there exists a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory for the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$ .

For the converse, suppose that there exists a nontrivial bounded complete trajectory  $f$  for the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$ . Since  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded, the sun-dual semigroup  $T_A^\circ(t)$  is uniformly bounded, and hence  $f \in BUC(\mathbb{R}, X^\circ)$ . Then  $sp(f) \subset \sigma(A^\circ) \cap i\mathbb{R} \subset \sigma(A) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  by Proposition 3.7 in [19] and Proposition IV.2.18 in [9]. This shows that  $sp(f)$  is a closed countable subset of the imaginary axis, and so it must contain an isolated point. Consider the closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M}_f = \overline{\text{span}}\{f(\cdot + t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  of  $BUC(\mathbb{R}, X^\circ)$  and the restriction  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}_f}$  of the translation group  $T_S(t)$  to  $\mathcal{M}_f$ . By Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.2 every  $g \in \mathcal{M}_f$  is a complete trajectory for  $T_A^\circ(t)$ . Furthermore, the generator  $S_f$  of this restriction  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}_f}$  has an isolated point  $i\lambda \in i\mathbb{R}$  in its spectrum because  $\sigma(S_f) = sp(f)$  by Proposition 3.5 in [19]. It then follows from Gelfand's Theorem (cf. [2] Corollary 4.4.9) that  $i\lambda$  must be an eigenvalue of  $S_f$ . Hence there exists a nonzero  $g \in \mathcal{M}_f$  such that  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}_f}g = e^{i\lambda t}g$  for each  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Now the function  $t \rightarrow \delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}_f}g = g(t) = g(0)e^{i\lambda t}$  is a (nontrivial) complete trajectory for  $T_A^\circ(t)$  in  $\mathcal{M}_f$ . It is easy to see that this implies  $i\lambda \in \sigma_P(A^\circ) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \sigma_P(A^*) \cap i\mathbb{R}$ . Consequently  $T_A(t)$  cannot be strongly stable.  $\square$

In the following theorem we shall characterize strongly stable semigroups by the solvability of an operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ . However, in contrast to the previous sections, here  $\mathcal{M}$  is a closed translation-invariant subspace of  $C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X) = \{f \in BUC([0, \infty), X) \mid \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t) = 0\}$ , and  $S|_{\mathcal{M}}$  generates the strongly continuous left shift semigroup in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $X \neq \{0\}$  and let  $T_A(t)$  be a  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  generated by  $A$ . Then  $T_A(t)$  is strongly stable if and only if there exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$  such that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a surjective solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)^2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $T_A(t)$  be strongly stable and let  $\mathcal{M} = \overline{\text{span}}\{T_A(\cdot)x \mid x \in X\}$  where closure is taken in the sup-norm. Then  $0 \neq \mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$ . Let  $\Pi = \delta_0$ , the point evaluation operator in  $\mathcal{M}$  centered at the origin. Then  $\delta_0 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  and  $\delta_0$  is surjective; for any  $x \in X$  we have  $x = \delta_0 T_A(t)x$ . Moreover, for every trajectory  $f_x(t) = T_A(t)x$  we have  $\delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f_x = f_x(t) = T_A(t)x = T_A(t)\delta_0 f_x$ . Extension by continuity and linearity shows that  $\delta_0 T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}} = T_A(t)\delta_0$  throughout  $\mathcal{M}$  for each

<sup>2</sup>In analogy to Section 2, by a surjective solution of  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  we mean a bounded linear surjective operator  $\Pi$  such that  $\Pi(\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$  and  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}}f = A\Pi f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ .

$t \geq 0$ . Let  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{T_A(h)\delta_0 f - \delta_0 f}{h} &= \frac{T_A(h)\delta_0 f - \delta_0 T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f}{h} + \frac{\delta_0 T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - \delta_0 f}{h} \\ &= \frac{\delta_0 T_S(h)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - \delta_0 f}{h} \quad \forall h > 0 \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

which by the boundedness of  $\delta_0$  shows that  $\delta_0 f \in \mathcal{D}(A)$  and that  $A\delta_0 f = \delta_0 S|_{\mathcal{M}}f$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$ . Consequently  $\delta_0$  is a surjective solution of  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$ .

Conversely, assume that there exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$  such that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a surjective solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Then since  $\Pi(\mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})) \subset \mathcal{D}(A)$ , we have for every  $t \geq 0$  and  $f \in \mathcal{D}(S|_{\mathcal{M}})$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - T_A(t)\Pi f &= \int_{\tau=0}^t T_A(t-\tau)\Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \\ &= \int_0^t \frac{d}{d\tau} T_A(t-\tau)\Pi T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau \\ &= \int_0^t T_A(t-\tau)[\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} - A\Pi]T_S(\tau)|_{\mathcal{M}}f d\tau = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and by continuity  $\Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f - T_A(t)\Pi f = 0$  for each  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $t \geq 0$ . Let  $x \in X$  be arbitrary. Then by the surjectivity of  $\Pi$  there exists  $f \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $x = \Pi f$ . Moreover,

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T_A(t)x = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T_A(t)\Pi f = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \Pi T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}f = 0 \quad (5.2)$$

since  $T_S(t)|_{\mathcal{M}}$  is strongly stable and  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$ . Consequently  $T_A(t)$  is strongly stable.  $\square$

In a very similar way we obtain the following corollary.

**Corollary 5.3.** *Let  $X \neq \{0\}$  and let  $T_A(t)$  be a  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  generated by  $A$ . Then  $T_A(t)$  is strongly stable if and only if  $T_A(t)$  is uniformly bounded and there exists a nontrivial closed translation-invariant subspace  $\mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$  such that the operator equation  $\Pi S|_{\mathcal{M}} = A\Pi$  has a solution  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, X)$  such that  $\text{ran}(\Pi)$  is dense in  $X$ .*

**Remark 5.4.** Theorem 5.2 and Corollary 5.3 are related to, but independent of, a result of Batty [4]. He showed that if  $T_S(t)$  is a  $C_0$ -semigroup in some Banach space  $Y$  with generator  $S$ , if  $T_A(t)$  is a uniformly bounded  $C_0$ -semigroup in  $X$  with generator  $A$ , if  $\sigma(S) \cap i\mathbb{R}$  is countable and  $\sigma_P(A^*) \cap i\mathbb{R} = \emptyset$ , and if  $\Pi T_S(t) = T_A(t)\Pi$  for some  $\Pi \in \mathcal{L}(Y, X)$  with a dense range, then  $T_A(t)$  is strongly stable. In the above, we had to assume that  $T_S(t)$  is the translation semigroup in some  $\mathcal{M} \subset C_0(\mathbb{R}_+, X)$ . However, we also obtained complete characterizations for strong stability.

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