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Smoothness in Fractional Evolution Equations and Conservation Laws

GUSTAF GRIPENBERG – PHILIPPE CLÉMENT – STIG-OLOF LONDEN

Abstract. The regularity of solutions of the equation

$$\left(D_t^\alpha(u - u_0)\right)(t, x) + \sigma(u)_x(t, x) = f(t, x), \quad t, x \geq 0,$$

where D_t^α denotes the fractional derivative, is studied in the case where $\sigma' > 0$. It is also shown that the solution to the Riemann problem for the fractional Burgers equation (where $\sigma(\underline{r}) = \frac{1}{2}\underline{r}^2$) is continuous and has compact support (in the x -direction). A result on the continuity of the interface is established. In order to prove these results it is first shown that if A is an m -accretive operator in a Banach space, k is log-convex with $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} k(t) = +\infty$, and if u is the solution of

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s) - y) ds + A(u(t)) \ni f(t), \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = y,$$

then $A(u(t))$ is continuous when $t > 0$.

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1. – Introduction

Recently a new type of approximation of scalar conservation laws in several variables has been introduced in [3]. Rather than adding a viscosity term (for this approach see, e.g., [8]), the order of derivation with respect to time is lowered, that is, the derivative is replaced by a fractional derivative of order $\alpha \in (0, 1)$. Furthermore, instead of using the Crandall-Liggett theorem as is done in [4], another abstract result, [10], is employed to establish the existence of a *strong* solution. In [3] the convergence of these strong solutions as $\alpha \uparrow 1$ to the entropy solution of $u_t + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{g}(u) = 0$ is proven and some estimates for the speed of convergence are established.

The aim of this paper is to investigate further these solutions in the one-dimensional case, i.e., we analyze the regularity of solutions of the nonlinear fractional conservation law

$$(1) \quad D_t^\alpha(u - u_0) + \sigma(u)_x = f.$$

Here D_t^α denotes the fractional derivative of order $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, see [15, p. 133], i.e.,

$$(D_t^\alpha v)(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t g_{1-\alpha}(t-s)v(s) ds, \quad t > 0,$$

$$(D_t^\alpha v)(0) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \int_0^h g_{1-\alpha}(h-s)v(s) ds,$$

where

$$g_\beta(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{\Gamma(\beta)} t^{\beta-1}, \quad t > 0, \quad \beta > 0,$$

and where v is (at least) continuous and satisfies $v(0) = 0$.

As an important tool for studying this equation we consider the abstract fractional nonlinear evolution equation

$$(2) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s) - y) ds + A(u(t)) \ni f(t), \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = y.$$

In (2), u is the unknown function with range in a Banach space X , $y \in X$ and $f: \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$ are given, and k is a locally integrable real-valued function with a singularity at the origin. The nonlinear operator A may be multivalued and maps $\mathcal{D}(A) \subset X$ into (subsets of) X . Our primary current interest concerns the continuity and boundedness of the function $A(u(t))$.

In [10], the existence of a strong solution u of (2), satisfying $A(u) \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(\mathbb{R}^+; X)$, was obtained. Conditions implying that the solution u is continuous were given in [3].

In this paper we demonstrate that under rather weak hypotheses one has $A(u) \in \mathcal{C}((0, \infty); X)$. In addition this function is uniformly bounded on $(0, T]$ for each $T > 0$. Subsequently, these facts are applied to examine the regularity of the solution of (1).

As a first application we get the continuity of the solution of the Riemann problem for the fractional Burgers equation, i.e., for equation (1) with $\sigma(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ and $f = 0$. This improves on a result of [11] concerning (1). (In [11] it was assumed that $\sigma'(u) \geq c_0 > 0$; an assumption not satisfied by $\sigma(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$.) The special structure of the fractional Burgers equation implies that the solution vanishes when $x \geq \Gamma(1-\alpha)t^\alpha$, in contrast to the linear case where there is an infinite speed of propagation. We also establish a result on the continuity of the interface. Recall that the entropy solution to the Riemann problem for the (nonfractional) Burgers equation is 1 when $x < \frac{t}{2}$ and 0 when $x > \frac{t}{2}$.

A motivation for studying the Riemann problem is, of course, that it is the simplest case where one has a discontinuity. Recall also that many numerical

methods use the solution to the Riemann problem (with other constant states than just 1 and 0) and that this problem provides all solutions to the Cauchy problem $u_t + \sigma(u)_x = 0$ which are invariant under the group of homotheties $(t, x) \mapsto (at, ax)$. This group leaves first order conservation laws invariant, see [14, p. 43].

Furthermore, in Theorem 3 the results obtained on (2) are combined with earlier Schauder estimates on linear equations, [2], to establish results on the smoothness of solutions of (1).

The regularity, both temporal and spatial, of solutions of equations involving fractional derivatives of order $\alpha \in (1, 2)$ have been studied in several papers; [5], [6], and [7]. See also the monograph [12] for further results and references.

2. – Statement of results

Our result on (2) is the following.

THEOREM 1. *Assume that X is a real Banach space and that*

- (i) $k \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ is positive and nonincreasing, $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} k(t) = +\infty$, and $\log(k(t))$ is convex;
- (ii) A is an m -accretive operator on X ;
- (iii) $y \in \hat{D}(A)$, i.e., $y \in X$ and $\sup_{\lambda > 0} \|A_\lambda y\|_X < \infty$;
- (iv) $f \in C(\mathbb{R}^+; X)$ is such that $\int_0^T \omega_{f,T}(s) |k'(s)| ds < \infty$ for each $T > 0$ where $\omega_{f,T}$ is the modulus of continuity of f , i.e., $\omega_{f,T}(\underline{s}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup_{t_1, t_2 \in [0, T], |t_1 - t_2| \leq \underline{s}} \|f(t_1) - f(t_2)\|_X$.

Then there is a unique strong solution u of (2) such that $u \in C(\mathbb{R}^+; X)$, $u(0) = y$, and there is a function $w \in C((0, \infty); X)$ such that $\sup_{0 < t < T} \|w(t)\|_X < \infty$ for each $T > 0$, $w(t) \in A(u(t))$ for all $t > 0$ and

$$(3) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s) - y) ds + w(t) = f(t), \quad t > 0.$$

Moreover, if $0 \leq t < t+h \leq \tau$ then

$$(4) \quad \|u(t+h) - u(t)\|_X \leq \int_0^t \|f(t+h-s) - f(t-s)\|_X r(s) ds + \left(\sup_{\tau \in [0, h]} \|f(\tau)\|_X + \sup_{\lambda > 0} \|A_\lambda(y)\|_X \right) \int_t^{t+h} r(s) ds,$$

where r is the first kind resolvent of k , i.e.,

$$(5) \quad \int_{[0, t]} k(t-s)r(s) ds = 1, \quad t \in (0, \tau].$$

Here A_λ denotes the Yosida approximation of A , i.e., $A_\lambda \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{1}{\lambda}(I - J_\lambda)$ where $J_\lambda = (I + \lambda A)^{-1}$.

A function $u : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X$ is a strong solution of (2) if there exists a function $w \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^+; X)$ such that $w(\underline{t}) \in A(u(\underline{t}))$ a.e. on \mathbb{R}^+ and $\int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s) - y) ds = \int_0^t (f(s) - w(s)) ds$ for every $t \geq 0$.

Our next result concerns the homogeneous version of (1) with, essentially $\sigma(\underline{r}) = cr^\gamma$, $\gamma > 1$. In particular, this includes the fractional Burgers equation.

THEOREM 2. *Assume that*

- (i) $k \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ is positive and nonincreasing, $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} k(t) = +\infty$, and $\log(k(\underline{t}))$ is convex;
- (ii) $\sigma \in C^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R})$ is strictly increasing on $(0, 1)$ and there are constants C and $\gamma > 1$ such that

$$\frac{1}{C}r^\gamma \leq \sigma(r) \leq Cr^\gamma, \quad r \in [0, 1].$$

Then there is a solution u of the Riemann problem

$$(6) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s, x) - \chi_{(-\infty, 0]}(x)) ds + \sigma(u)_x(t, x) = 0, \quad t > 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$u(0, x) = \chi_{(-\infty, 0]}(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

which is continuous for $(t, x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R} \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ and is such that for each $t > 0$ the function $x \rightarrow u(t, x)$ is absolutely continuous and nonincreasing, for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$ the function $t \mapsto u(t, x)$ is nondecreasing (so that the function $t \mapsto \int_0^t k(t-s)(u(s, x) - \chi_{(-\infty, 0]}(x)) ds$ is locally absolutely continuous), and equation (6) holds a.e. on $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}$. Moreover,

$$(7) \quad u(t, x) = 0 \text{ when } x \geq \frac{1}{k(t)} \int_0^1 \frac{\sigma'(r)}{r} dr, \quad t > 0,$$

and the function

$$\varphi(\underline{t}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \inf\{x > 0 \mid u(\underline{t}, x) = 0\}$$

is continuous and strictly increasing.

Let X be a (complex) Banach space and let I be an interval. The Hölder spaces $C^{(\gamma)}(I; X)$, $\gamma \in [0, 1]$, are defined by

$$C^{(\gamma)}(I; X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \left\{ f : I \rightarrow X \mid \sup_{\substack{s, t \in I \\ s \neq t}} \frac{\|f(t) - f(s)\|_X}{|t - s|^\gamma} < \infty \right\},$$

with norm

$$\|f\|_{C^{(\gamma)}(I)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup_{t \in I} \|f(t)\|_X + \sup_{\substack{s, t \in I \\ s \neq t}} \frac{\|f(t) - f(s)\|_X}{|t - s|^\gamma}.$$

If $\gamma \in (1, 2]$, then $C^{(\gamma)}(I; X) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{f \in C^1(I; X) \mid f' \in C^{(\gamma-1)}(I; X)\}$ with norm $\|f\|_{C^{(\gamma)}(I)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sup_{t \in I} \|f(t)\|_X + \|f'\|_{C^{(\gamma-1)}(I)}$. Observe that $C^{(0)} \neq C$ and $C^{(1)} \neq C^1$.

We consider a function of two variables to be a function of the first variable with values in a function space, that is, $f(\underline{t}, \underline{x})$ is the function $t \mapsto (x \mapsto f(t, x))$.

THEOREM 3. *Assume that $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\tau > 0$, $\xi > 0$, $\mu \in (0, \alpha)$, and that*

- (i) $\sigma \in C_{\text{loc}}^{(2)}(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R})$ and $\sigma'(x) > 0$;
- (ii) $u_0 \in C^{(1+\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$ and $u_0(0) = u'_0(0) = 0$;
- (iii) $f \in C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau], C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})) \cap C^{(\alpha+\delta)}([0, \tau], L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$ where $\delta > 0$, and $f(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$ and $f(0, \underline{x}) \in C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$.

Then there is a unique solution u of (1) on $(0, \tau] \times (0, \xi]$ with $u(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$ and $u(0, \underline{x}) = u_0(\underline{x})$ such that $u_x \in C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$.

3. – Proofs

PROOF OF THEOREM 1. Let $\{k_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ be a sequence of functions that satisfy the assumption (i), except that $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} k_n(t) < \infty$, and are such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^t k_n(s) ds = \int_0^t k(s) ds$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k_n(t) = k(t)$, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k'_n(t) = k'(t)$, and $|k'_n(t)| \leq |k'(t)|$ for all $t > 0$. We let ρ_n be the first kind resolvent associated with k_n (cf. (5)); thus ρ_n satisfies

$$\int_{[0,t]} k_n(t-s)\rho_n(ds) = 1, \quad t \geq 0.$$

The measure ρ_n then has the pointmass $1/k_n(0)$ at 0 and is otherwise induced by an integrable function, that is

$$\rho_n([0, \underline{t}]) = \frac{1}{k_n(0)} + \int_0^{\underline{t}} r_n(s) ds, \quad \underline{t} \geq 0,$$

where r_n is nonnegative and nonincreasing, because k_n is log-convex, see [9, Lemma 2.1]. When k is replaced by k_n one can use (ii) and a standard fixed-point argument to show that there is a unique solution of (2); we denote this solution by u_n . It is a consequence of [3, Theorem 1] that u_n converges uniformly on compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^+ to a continuous function u . However, we need to know more. In particular our next purpose is to show that $w \in C((0, \infty); X)$ where $w(\underline{t}) \in A(u(\underline{t}))$ is defined by (14).

By [3, formula (24)] we have for $0 \leq t < t + h$

$$(8) \quad \begin{aligned} \|u_n(t+h) - u_n(t)\|_X &\leq \int_{[0,t]} \|f(t+h-s) - f(t-s)\|_X \rho_n(ds) \\ &+ \left(\sup_{\tau \in [0,h]} \|f(\tau)\|_X + \|A_{1/k_n(0)}(y)\|_X \right) \\ &\times \int_{[0,t]} \left(\int_{[0,h]} (k_n(t-s) - k_n(t-s+h-\sigma)) \rho_n(d\sigma) \right) \rho_n(ds). \end{aligned}$$

Now a straightforward calculation using (5) (with k and r replaced by k_n and ρ_n , respectively) shows that

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} &\int_{[0,t]} \left(\int_{[0,h]} (k_n(t-s) - k_n(t-s+h-\sigma)) \rho_n(d\sigma) \right) \rho_n(ds) \\ &= \rho_n((t, t+h]) = \int_t^{t+h} r_n(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

By [3, Theorem 1], (8), (9), and by the fact that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho_n([0, t]) = \int_0^t r(s) ds$, we get (4).

By a change of variables,

$$\int_0^h \left(\int_{t-s}^t r_n(\sigma) d\sigma \right) |k'_n(s)| ds = \int_{t-h}^t (k_n(t-\sigma) - k_n(h)) r_n(\sigma) d\sigma, \quad 0 < h \leq t.$$

Since the functions r_n are nonincreasing, it follows that

$$(10) \quad \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \int_0^h \left(\int_{t-s}^t r_n(\sigma) d\sigma \right) |k'_n(s)| ds = 0,$$

uniformly for $n \geq 1$ and uniformly for t in a compact subset of $(0, \infty)$. Since $|k'_n(t)| \leq |k'(t)|$ we deduce from (iv) that

$$(11) \quad \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \int_0^h \omega_{f,\tau}(s) |k'_n(s)| ds = 0 \text{ uniformly in } n.$$

Use (9) in (8), replace $t+h$ and t by t and $t-s$, respectively, multiply by $|k'_n(s)|$, integrate with respect to s over $[0, h]$ and let $h \downarrow 0$. This gives, by (10) and (11),

$$(12) \quad \lim_{h \downarrow 0} \int_0^h \|u_n(t-s) - u_n(t)\|_X |k'_n(s)| ds = 0,$$

uniformly for $n \geq 1$ and uniformly for t in a compact subset of $(0, \infty)$.

Now we can rewrite (2) (with k replaced by k_n) for each $t \geq 0$ as

$$(13) \quad k_n(t)(u_n(t) - y) + \int_0^t (u_n(t - s) - u_n(t))k'_n(s) \, ds + A(u_n(t)) \ni f(t).$$

By (12), and as u_n converges uniformly on compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^+ to the continuous function u , it follows that $k_n(t)(u_n(t) - y) + \int_0^t (u_n(t - s) - u_n(t))k'_n(s) \, ds$ converges uniformly on each compact subset of $(0, \infty)$ to $k(t)(u(t) - y) + \int_0^t (u(t - s) - u(t))k'(s) \, ds$ which must then be a continuous function on $(0, \infty)$. Let

$$(14) \quad w(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} f(t) - k(t)(u(t) - y) - \int_0^t (u(t - s) - u(t))k'(s) \, ds,$$

so that (3) holds with $w \in C((0, \infty), X)$. Since A is m -accretive it is also closed and therefore we have by (13) and by the convergence results that $w(t) \in A(u(t))$ for all $t > 0$.

It remains to show that w is bounded on $(0, T]$ for each $T > 0$. Since $u(0) = y$ we get from (4), when we take $t = 0$, that

$$\|u(h) - y\|_X \leq \left(\sup_{\tau \in [0, h]} \|f(\tau)\|_X + \sup_{\lambda > 0} \|A_\lambda(y)\|_X \right) \int_0^h r(s) \, ds, \quad h > 0.$$

Because k is nonincreasing there follows by (5) that $k(t) \int_0^t r(s) \, ds \leq 1$ so that

$$\|k(t)(u(t) - y)\|_X \leq \left(\sup_{\tau \in [0, t]} \|f(\tau)\|_X + \sup_{\lambda > 0} \|A_\lambda(y)\|_X \right).$$

Similarly, replace t and $t + h$ in (4) by $t - s$ and t , respectively, multiply by $|k'(s)|$ and integrate over $[0, t]$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \int_0^t (u(t - s) - u(t))k'(s) \, ds \right\| &\leq \int_0^t \omega_{f, \tau}(s) \int_0^{t-s} r(\sigma) \, d\sigma |k'(s)| \, ds \\ &+ \left(\sup_{\tau \in [0, t]} \|f(\tau)\|_X + \sup_{\lambda > 0} \|A_\lambda(y)\|_X \right) \int_0^t \left(\int_{t-s}^t r(\sigma) \, d\sigma \right) |k'(s)| \, ds. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by (5),

$$\int_0^t \left(\int_{t-s}^t r(\sigma) \, d\sigma \right) |k'(s)| \, ds = \int_0^t (k(t - \sigma) - k(t))r(\sigma) \, d\sigma \leq 1,$$

and so by the fact that k and r are nonnegative and by (iii) and (iv) we get the desired conclusion. \square

PROOF OF THEOREM 2. Since we will show that the solution takes its values in the interval $[0, 1]$ we may without loss of generality assume that $\sigma \in C^1(\mathbb{R}; \mathbb{R})$ is strictly increasing on \mathbb{R} .

We easily see that by taking $u(t, x) = 1$ for $x \leq 0$ and $t \geq 0$ we have a solution in that region and we are left with the equation

$$(15) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_0^t k(t-s)u(s, x) \, ds + \sigma(u)_x(t, x) &= 0, \quad t > 0, \quad x > 0, \\ u(t, 0) &= 1, \quad t > 0, \\ u(0, x) &= 0, \quad x > 0, \end{aligned}$$

In [11, Lemma 3] it is shown that if one lets $\mathcal{D}(A) = \{u \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R}) \mid \sigma(u) \in AC(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R}), u(0) = 1, \sigma(u)' \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})\}$, and defines $A(u) = \sigma(u)'$, $u \in \mathcal{D}(A)$, then A is a closed, m -accretive operator in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$. By [11, Theorem 5] there exists a solution u of (15), which is nonincreasing in the x -variable and nondecreasing in the t -variable, such that the function $x \mapsto \sigma(u(t, x))$ is absolutely continuous for almost every $t > 0$, and such that the function $t \mapsto \int_0^t k(t-s)u(s, x) \, ds$ is locally absolutely continuous for every $x \geq 0$, and (15) holds almost everywhere.

By Theorem 1 we know that the function $t \mapsto \sigma(u(t, \underline{x}))_x \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ is continuous on $(0, \infty)$ and that (15) holds in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ for all $t > 0$. Since $\sigma(u(t, 0)) = \sigma(1)$ for all $t > 0$ and $\sigma(u(t, x)) = \int_0^x \sigma(u(t, y))_x \, dy + \sigma(u(t, 0))$ it follows that $\sigma(u)$ is continuous in $(0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^+$ and since σ is strictly increasing the same result holds for u . By Theorem 1 we also know that $u(t, \underline{x}) \rightarrow 0$ in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ as $t \downarrow 0$ and from the monotonicity properties of u we can therefore conclude that u is continuous in $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^+ \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$.

Next we derive an inequality that we will use repeatedly below. Assume that $x_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varphi(t_0) < \infty$ and that $x_0 < x_1 \leq \varphi(t_1)$ where $t_1 > t_0 \geq 0$. From the proof of Theorem 1 we know that for each $t > 0$ we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_0^t k(t-s)u(s, x) \, ds \stackrel{\text{a.e.}}{=} k(t)u(t, x) + \int_0^t (u(t-s, x) - u(t, x))k'(s) \, ds, \quad x > 0,$$

(where the derivative with respect to t is a function with values in $L^1(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$). Since $u(s, x) = 0$ when $s \leq t_0$ and $x > x_0$ (by the monotonicity properties of u), we can rewrite this equality for $t > t_0$ as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_0^t k(t-s)u(s, x) \, ds \\ \stackrel{\text{a.e.}}{=} k(t-t_0)u(t, x) + \int_0^{t-t_0} (u(t-s, x) - u(t, x))k'(s) \, ds, \quad x > x_0. \end{aligned}$$

Because k is nonincreasing and u is nondecreasing in its first variable, it follows from the fact that (1) (or equivalently (3)) holds that for each $t > t_0$ we get

$$k(t-t_0)u(t, x) + \sigma'(u(t, x))u_x(t, x) \stackrel{\text{a.e.}}{\leq} 0, \quad x > x_0.$$

In particular, if we choose $t = t_1$, then we know that $u(t, x) > 0$ for $x_0 < x < x_1$ and it follows by the continuity of u that

$$(16) \quad k(t_1 - t_0)(x_1 - x_0) \leq \int_{u(t_1, x_1)}^{u(t_1, x_0)} \frac{\sigma'(r)}{r} dr.$$

Since clearly $\varphi(0) = 0$ we may take $t_0 = 0$. Because the function $\frac{\sigma'(r)}{r}$ is integrable on $[0, 1]$ and $k(t) > 0$, we see from (16) that we have $\varphi(t_1) < \infty$ and that (7) holds.

The monotonicity properties of u imply that φ is nondecreasing. By the continuity of the function u it follows that φ is continuous from the left, so in order to establish the claim about continuity we suppose to the contrary that there is a point $t_0 \geq 0$ such that $\lim_{t \downarrow t_0} \varphi(t) = \varphi(t_0) + \delta$ for some $\delta > 0$. If we choose $x_0 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \varphi(t_0)$ and $x_1 = x_0 + \delta$, then $x_1 \leq \varphi(t_1)$ for each $t_1 > t_0$ and we get a contradiction from (16) if we let $t_1 \downarrow t_0$. Thus we have established the continuity of φ .

It remains to prove that φ is strictly increasing. Suppose that this is not the case but that there are two points $t_1 < t_2$ such that $\varphi(t_1) = \varphi(t_2)$. By the continuity of u we know that $t_1 > 0$ and that we can choose t_1 such that $\varphi(t) < \varphi(t_1)$ when $0 \leq t < t_1$. We define $x_1 = \varphi(t_1)$.

We shall derive a contradiction and first we show that

$$(17) \quad \lim_{x \uparrow x_1} \sigma(u(t_1, x))(x_1 - x)^{-\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} = \infty.$$

Write $\frac{\sigma'(r)}{r} = \frac{\sigma(r)}{r^2} + \frac{d}{dr}(\frac{\sigma(r)}{r})$, use the inequalities in (ii), and the facts that $\gamma > 1$ and $\sigma(u(t_1, x_1)) \geq 0$, to conclude from (16) that when $0 < t_0 < t_1$ and $x_0 = \varphi(t_0)$ we have

$$k(t_1 - t_0)(x_1 - x_0) \leq \frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} C^{\frac{2\gamma-1}{\gamma}} \sigma(u(t_1, x_0))^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}}.$$

Since $\varphi(t) < \varphi(t_1)$ when $0 \leq t < t_1$ it follows that $t_0 \uparrow t_1$, and hence $k(t_1 - t_0) \uparrow \infty$, when $x_0 \uparrow x_1$. By the above inequality we therefore obtain (17).

Next, let y be some small positive number and integrate both sides of equation (15) over $(x_1 - y, x_1)$. Then we get, because $u(t, x_1) = 0$ for all $t \in (0, t_2]$,

$$(18) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^t k(t-s) \int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} u(s, v) dv ds = \sigma(u(t, x_1 - y)), \quad t \in (0, t_2].$$

We let r be the resolvent of first kind of k , that is, r satisfies (5). Our assumptions on k guarantee that such a resolvent exists and that it is positive and nonincreasing, see [9, Lemma 2.1]. Take the convolution (with respect to t)

of both sides of (18) with the function $p(\underline{t}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_0^{\underline{t}} r(\underline{t}-s)s^\alpha ds$ where $\alpha > \frac{2-\gamma}{\gamma-1}$. By (5),

$$(19) \quad \int_0^{t_2} (t_2-s)^\alpha \int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} u(s,v) dv ds = \int_0^{t_2} p(t_2-s) \sigma(u(s, x_1-y)) ds.$$

Using Hölder's inequality twice to estimate the left hand side of (19), we obtain

$$(20) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_0^{t_2} (t_2-s)^\alpha \int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} u(s,v) dv ds \\ & \leq \int_0^{t_2} (t_2-s)^\alpha \left(\int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} u(s,v)^\gamma dv \right)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} ds y^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}} \\ & \leq \left(\int_0^{t_2} p(t_2-s) \int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} u(s,v)^\gamma dv ds \right)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}} y^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}} \left(\int_0^{t_2} \frac{s^{\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\gamma-1}}}{p(s)^{\frac{1}{\gamma-1}}} ds \right)^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since r is nonincreasing and not identically zero there exists a constant c_1 such that $p(t) \geq c_1 t^{\alpha+1}$ when $t \in [0, t_2]$ and therefore it follows from our choice of α that

$$(21) \quad \int_0^{t_2} \frac{s^{\frac{\alpha\gamma}{\gamma-1}}}{p(s)^{\frac{1}{\gamma-1}}} ds < \infty.$$

If we now let

$$w(y) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_0^{t_2} p(t_2-s) \int_{x_1-y}^{x_1} \sigma(u(s,v)) dv ds,$$

then the right hand side of (19) equals $w'(y)$, and so by (ii), (20), and by (21) there is a constant c_2 such that

$$w'(y) \leq c_2 y^{\frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma}} w(y)^{\frac{1}{\gamma}}.$$

Since $w(0) = 0$ and $w(y) > 0$ for $y > 0$ we get

$$w(y) \leq \left(c_2 \frac{\gamma-1}{2\gamma-1} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} y^{\frac{2\gamma-1}{\gamma-1}},$$

and we conclude that there is a constant c_3 such that

$$(22) \quad w'(y) \leq c_3 y^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}}.$$

But from the definition of w , from the fact that u is nondecreasing in its first variable, and by the monotonicity of σ it follows that

$$w'(y) \geq \int_0^{t_2-t_1} p(s) ds \sigma(u(t_1, x_1-y)).$$

When this inequality is combined with (17) (where we take $x = x_1 - y$) and (22), a contradiction follows. This completes the proof. \square

PROOF OF THEOREM 3. The idea of the proof is roughly as follows: First we show that if one has a solution for t on some interval $[0, T]$ (one clearly has such a solution when $T = 0$), then it can be extended to a slightly larger interval. From the proof of this fact one sees that if this extension procedure does not give a solution on the entire interval $[0, \tau]$ then there is some maximal interval $[0, \hat{\tau})$ on which there is a solution and which is such that $\sup_{T < \hat{\tau}} \|\sigma'(u)\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \xi]))} = \infty$. In order to show that this last fact leads to a contradiction we then apply the same argument as when establishing the existence of a local solution, but we derive estimates for $\|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}])}$ instead of estimating $\|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \mathfrak{X}]))}$. It is of crucial importance for this part of the proof that we derive these estimates for all $\mathfrak{X} \in [0, \xi]$. In this connection, the use of Theorem 1 is essential.

First we show that we may, without loss of generality, assume that there are positive constants c_0, c_1 , and c_2 such that

$$(23) \quad 0 < c_0 \leq \sigma'(\underline{t}) \leq c_1 < \infty \text{ and } \sup_{r \neq s} \frac{|\sigma'(r) - \sigma'(s)|}{|r - s|} \leq c_2 < \infty.$$

By (i) it is sufficient to show that there is an apriori bound for the solution. In analogy with the proof of Theorem 2 we let

$$(24) \quad \mathcal{D}(A) = \{ v \in L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}) \mid \sigma(v) \in AC([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}), v(0) = 0 \},$$

and

$$(25) \quad A(v) = \sigma(v)', \quad v \in \mathcal{D}(A).$$

Then one can easily show (cf. the proof of [11, Lemma 3]) that A is a closed, m -accretive operator in $L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$ and that $\|(I + \lambda A)^{-1}v\|_{L^\infty([0, \xi])} \leq \|v\|_{L^\infty([0, \xi])}$ for all $v \in L^\infty([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$ when $\lambda > 0$. Then it follows from [3, Theorem 4.(a), Prop. 5] that if we find a solution u of (1), then it must satisfy $\sup_{x \in [0, \xi]} |u(t, x)| \leq \sup_{x \in [0, \xi]} |u_0(x)| + \int_0^t g_\alpha(t - s) \sup_{x \in [0, \xi]} |f(s, x)| ds$ and this is the desired apriori bound. Thus we shall for the rest of the proof assume that (23) holds.

Suppose next that there is a number $T \in [0, \tau)$ such that there is a solution $u \in C([0, T] \times [0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$ of (1) on $(0, T] \times (0, \xi]$ such that $u_x \in C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$, $u(0, \underline{x}) = u_0(\underline{x})$ and $u(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$; if $T = 0$ this solution is taken to be $u(0, \underline{x}) = u_0(\underline{x})$ (so that this hypothesis holds at least with $T = 0$).

We intend to show that this solution can be continued to $[0, \hat{T}] \times [0, \xi]$ where $\hat{T} > T$ and $\hat{T} - T$ is sufficiently small. We do this in two steps. In the first step we solve (27) with c given; in the second step we find a fixed-point for the map $c \mapsto \sigma'(v)$ (where v is the solution of (27) obtained in the first step). This continuation procedure is concluded by formula (41).

Thus we first show (using the same argument as in the proof of [2, Theorem 1]) that there are constants δ and M_1 depending on $\alpha, \mu, \tau, \xi, c_0,$ and c_1 such that if $\hat{T} \in (T, \tau]$ and $c \in \mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$ satisfy

$$(26) \quad \begin{aligned} c_0 &\leq c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) \leq c_1, \\ c(t, x) &= \sigma'(u(t, x)), \quad (t, x) \in [0, T] \times [0, \xi], \\ (\hat{T} - T)^\mu \|c\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} &\leq \delta, \end{aligned}$$

then there exists a unique solution v of the equation

$$(27) \quad \begin{aligned} (D_t^\alpha (v - u_0))(t, x) + c(t, x)v_x(t, x) &= f(t, x), \quad (t, x) \in (0, \hat{T}) \times (0, \xi], \\ v(0, x) &= u_0(x), \quad x \in [0, \xi], \\ v(t, 0) &= 0, \quad t \in [0, \hat{T}], \end{aligned}$$

such that (clearly $v(t, x) = u(t, x)$ for $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times [0, \xi]$)

$$(28) \quad \begin{aligned} \|v_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} &\leq M_1 \|u_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} \\ &+ M_1 \|f\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} + M_1 \|\sigma'(u_0(\underline{x}))u'_0(\underline{x}) - f(0, \underline{x})\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])} \\ &+ M_1 \|u_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} \|c\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \mathfrak{X}]))}, \quad \mathfrak{X} \in [0, \xi]. \end{aligned}$$

Observe that the first and last term of this inequality are written in terms of the space variable $\mathfrak{X} \in [0, \xi]$. The proof of the existence of v satisfying (27) will be completed by the paragraph containing formula (39).

To solve (27), we begin by studying the following equation:

$$(29) \quad (D_t^\alpha (v - u_0))(t, x) + b(x)v_x(t, x) = g(t, x), \quad t \in (0, \tau], \quad x \in (0, \xi],$$

with boundary condition $v(t, 0) = 0$ and initial condition $v(0, \underline{x}) = u_0(\underline{x})$ under the following assumption on the function b :

$$(30) \quad b \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R}) \text{ and } 0 < c_0 \leq b(\underline{x}) \leq c_1 < \infty.$$

We denote by B_b the linear operator in $\mathcal{C}_{0 \rightarrow 0}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{C}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{q \in \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{C}) \mid q(0) = 0\}$ with domain

$$\mathcal{D}(B_b) = \{q \in \mathcal{C}^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{C}) \mid q(0) = q'(0) = 0\}$$

and defined by

$$(B_b q)(x) = b(x)q'(x), \quad x \in [0, \xi], \quad q \in \mathcal{D}(B_b).$$

We denote by B the corresponding operator with $b(\underline{x}) = 1$ and ξ replaced by $\xi_0 = \xi/c_0$.

Thus (29) can be written as

$$(31) \quad D_t^\alpha (v - u_0) + B_b v = g.$$

Next, perform a change of variable $y = \int_0^x \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$, so that equation (31) is replaced by

$$(32) \quad D_t^\alpha (v^b - u_0^b) + B v^b = g^b,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g^b(t, \underline{y}) &= g(t, \rho(\underline{y})), \\ u_0^b(\underline{y}) &= u_0(\rho(\underline{y})), \end{aligned} \quad y \in [0, \xi_b]$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} g^b(t, \underline{y}) &= g(t, \xi), \\ u_0^b(\underline{y}) &= u_0(\xi) + b(\xi)u_0'(\xi)(y - \xi_b), \end{aligned} \quad y \in (\xi_b, \xi_0].$$

Here $\xi_b = \int_0^\xi \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$ and ρ is the inverse of the function $x \mapsto \int_0^x \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$. By [1, Theorem 6.(a)] equation (32) has a unique solution v^b which satisfies the bound

$$\begin{aligned} &\|Bv^b(\underline{t}) - g^b(0)\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C_{0 \rightarrow 0}([0, \xi_0]))} \\ &\leq M_2 \left(\|Bu_0^b - g^b(0)\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi_0])} + \|g^b(\underline{t}) - g^b(0)\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C_{0 \rightarrow 0}([0, \xi_0]))} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where M_2 depends on α, μ, τ and ξ_0 . Now we change variables back again, that is, we define

$$(33) \quad v(\underline{t}, x) = v^b \left(\underline{t}, \int_0^x \frac{1}{b(s)} ds \right), \quad \text{for } x \in [0, \xi].$$

We can therefore conclude that there is a unique solution v of (29) such that

$$(34) \quad \begin{aligned} \|v_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C([0, \xi]; C))} &\leq M_3 \left(\|b(x)u_0'(x) - g(0, x)\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|g\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C([0, \xi]))} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where (with some crude estimates) $M_3 = \frac{1}{c_0} (M_2 \max\{2, c_1^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}}\} + 1)$.

Our next claim is that (34) holds with τ replaced by an arbitrary $\hat{T} \in (0, \tau]$, ξ replaced by an arbitrary $\hat{\mathfrak{X}} \in [0, \xi]$, and with M_3 unchanged. To see this, choose $\hat{T} \in (0, \tau]$, $\hat{\mathfrak{X}} \in [0, \xi]$, and redefine b, u_0 and g as $b(x) = b(\mathfrak{X})$, $u_0(x) = u_0(\mathfrak{X}) + u_0'(\mathfrak{X})(x - \mathfrak{X})$, and $g(t, x) = g(t, \mathfrak{X})$ for $x \in [\mathfrak{X}, \xi]$ and $t \in [0, \hat{T}]$ and $g(t, x) = g(\hat{T}, x)$ for $x \in [0, \hat{\mathfrak{X}}]$ and $t \in [\hat{T}, \tau]$. Then we can

use the uniqueness of the solution and the definition of the Hölder norms to conclude that we in fact have our claim, i.e.,

$$(35) \quad \begin{aligned} \|v_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \underline{x}]; \mathbb{C}))} &\leq M_3 \left(\|b(\underline{x})u'_0(\underline{x}) - g(0, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \underline{x}])} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \|g\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \underline{x}]))} \right), \quad \hat{T} \in (0, \tau], \quad \underline{x} \in [0, \xi]. \end{aligned}$$

Choose

$$(36) \quad \delta = \frac{1}{4M_3},$$

and $\hat{T} \in (T, \tau]$ such that the last part of (26) holds. Having a solution of (29) satisfying (35) and having chosen \hat{T} , we proceed to find a solution of (27).

Let P denote the set

$$P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{ p \in C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{C})) \mid p(t, \underline{x}) = u_x(t, \underline{x}), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T \}.$$

For each $p \in P$ we have to find a solution w of the equation

$$(37) \quad D_t^\alpha(w - u_0)(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) + c(T, \underline{x})w_x(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = f(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) + (c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))p(\underline{t}, \underline{x}),$$

on $[0, \hat{T}] \times [0, \xi]$ with boundary condition $w(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$ (and initial condition $w(0, \underline{x}) = u_0(\underline{x})$) and c as in (26). Note that this equation is of type (29). Observe also that the right-hand side of (37) evaluated at $t = 0$ is

$$f(0, x) + (c(T, x) - c(0, x))u'_0(x),$$

and therefore the term $b(x)u'_0(\underline{x}) - g(0, \underline{x})$ appearing in (35) is now, when $b(\underline{x}) = c(T, \underline{x})$, equal to $c(0, x)u'_0(x) - f(0, x)$. Thus we conclude from (ii) and from the results above on (29) that we can find a solution w of (37) such that $w_x \in C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{C}))$. Moreover, the uniqueness guarantees that we have $w_x \in P$.

Let us denote the mapping $p \rightarrow w_x$ by $w_x = G(p)$. Using the linearity of equation (37), and (35) with $b(\underline{x}) = c(T, \underline{x})$ once more, we conclude that

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} \|(G(p_1) - G(p_2))(\underline{t}, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \underline{x}]))} \\ \leq M_3 \|(c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))(p_1 - p_2)(\underline{t}, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \underline{x}]))}, \quad \underline{x} \in [0, \xi]. \end{aligned}$$

Let $p_\Delta = p_1 - p_2$ and $c_\Delta(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x})$. Since p_1 and $p_2 \in P$ it follows that $p_\Delta(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = 0$ for $t \in [0, T]$ and therefore we can, when analyzing the term $(c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))(p_1 - p_2)(\underline{t}, \underline{x})$, assume that $c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = c(T, \underline{x})$ for $t \in [0, T]$. Thus we conclude from the last part of (26) and from (36) that

$$\sup_{\substack{t \in [0, \hat{T}] \\ x \in [0, \underline{x}]}} |c_\Delta(t, x)p_\Delta(t, x)| \leq \frac{1}{4M_3} \sup_{\substack{t \in [0, \hat{T}] \\ x \in [0, \underline{x}]}} |p_\Delta(t, x)|, \quad \underline{x} \in [0, \xi].$$

Furthermore, if we write $c_\Delta(t, x)p_\Delta(t, x) - c_\Delta(s, x)p_\Delta(s, x) = c_\Delta(t, x)(p_\Delta(t, x) - p_\Delta(s, x)) + (c_\Delta(t, x) - c_\Delta(s, x))(p_\Delta(s, x) - p_\Delta(T, x))$ using the fact that $p_\Delta(T, x) = 0$, and use (26) once again, then we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (c(T, x) - c(t, x))(p_1 - p_2)(t, x) \|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2M_3} \| (p_1 - p_2)(t, x) \|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))}, \quad \mathfrak{x} \in [0, \xi]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have, using (38), for every $\mathfrak{x} \in [0, \xi]$,

$$(39) \quad \| (G(p_1) - G(p_2))(t, x) \|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))} \leq \frac{1}{2} \| (p_1 - p_2)(t, x) \|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))},$$

and we see that the mapping G is a contraction and that there is a unique fixed-point, i.e., a function v such that $v_x = G(v_x)$. Thus we get a solution of (27) on the interval $[0, \hat{T}]$.

If we take $p_0 \in P$ to be such that $p_0(t, x) = u_x(T, x)$ for $t \in [T, \hat{T}]$ then $\|p_0\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))} = \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \xi]))}$. Using inequality (35) to estimate $\|G(p_0)\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))}$ and then (39) to estimate $\|G(v_x) - G(p_0)\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))}$, we conclude that (28) holds with

$$M_1 = \max\{1 + 4M_3 \|c\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \xi]))}, 2M_3\}.$$

With c fixed, the solution v of (27) can of course be continued to $[0, \tau] \times [0, \xi]$. However, our goal is to solve (1), i.e., (27) with $c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = \sigma'(v(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))$. For this purpose we apply another fixed-point argument on $[0, \hat{T}]$ with $\hat{T} - T$ sufficiently small (and recall that we have a solution of (1) on $[0, T]$).

We let M_4 be the constant

$$\begin{aligned} M_4 & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} c_1 + c_2 \max\{1, \xi\} M_1 \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, T]; C([0, \xi]))} \\ & + \xi c_2 M_1 \|f\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \tau]; C([0, \xi]))} + \xi c_2 M_1 \|\sigma'(u_0(\underline{x}))u'_0(\underline{x}) - f(0, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}, \end{aligned}$$

and choose $\hat{T} \in (T, \tau]$ such that

$$(40) \quad (\hat{T} - T)^\mu \leq \frac{\delta}{M_4 e^{M_4 \xi}}.$$

For our fixed-point argument we let

$$\begin{aligned} V = \{ & c \in C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})) \mid c(t, x) = \sigma'(u(t, x)), \quad t \in [0, T], \quad x \in [0, \xi], \\ & c_0 \leq c(t, x) \leq c_1, \quad t \in [T, \hat{T}], \quad x \in [0, \xi], \\ & \|c\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, \xi]))} \leq M_4 e^{M_4 \mathfrak{x}}, \quad \mathfrak{x} \in [0, \xi] \}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that V is convex and not empty. Now we define the function $F(c)$ for $c \in V$ by

$$F(c)(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma'(v(\underline{t}, \underline{x})),$$

where v is the solution of (27). (By the definition of V and by (40) condition (26) is satisfied and hence such a (unique) solution exists.)

By the uniqueness we know that we have $F(c)(t, x) = \sigma'(u(t, x))$ for $t \in [0, T]$ and $x \in [0, \xi]$ and by (23) we also have $c_0 \leq F(c)(t, \underline{x}) \leq c_1$. Finally we note that since $v(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$ we have

$$F(c)(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = \sigma' \left(\int_0^{\underline{x}} v_x(\underline{t}, r) \, dr \right),$$

and it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|F(c)\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \underline{x}]))} &\leq c_1 + c_2 \int_0^{\underline{x}} \|v_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, r]))} \, dr \\ &\leq M_4 + M_4 \int_0^{\underline{x}} \|c\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, r]))} \, dr \leq M_4 e^{M_4 \underline{x}}, \quad \underline{x} \in [0, \xi], \end{aligned}$$

where the second inequality is a consequence of (28) and the definition of M_4 , and where the last inequality follows because $c \in V$. This shows that $F(c) \in V$.

Finally we observe that by [2, Theorem 1 and (4)] the set of solutions of (27) one gets when $c \in V$ is contained in a bounded subset of $\mathcal{C}^{((\mu+\alpha)/2)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}^{(1/2)}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$ (for example) and therefore this set of solutions, and hence also $F(c) = \sigma'(v)$ for $c \in V$ is contained in a compact subset of $\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$. (Note in particular that since our boundary condition is now $v(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$ we do not need the assumption that the function $x \mapsto c(\underline{t}, x)$ is a continuous function with values in $\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathbb{R})$. Therefore the constant M appearing in [2, formula (4)] depends on $\|c\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))}$, c_0 and c_1 , but not otherwise on c .) Thus we know by the Schauder fixed-point theorem that there is a function $c \in V$ such that $F(c) = c$ and the corresponding solution of (27) is then the unique solution of (1) on $[0, \hat{T}] \times [0, \xi]$.

If the claim of the theorem does not hold there is, by the continuation argument above, a maximal number $\hat{\tau} \in (0, \tau]$ such that there is a solution of (1) on $(0, \hat{\tau}) \times (0, \xi]$, and such that $u_x \in \mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$ for all $T \in (0, \hat{\tau})$. If $\sup_{T < \hat{\tau}} \|u_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} < \infty$, then this solution can be continued by the argument used above, and we get a contradiction. Furthermore, it also follows from the argument in the above that if $\sup_{T < \hat{\tau}} \|\sigma'(u)\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} < \infty$, then $\sup_{T < \hat{\tau}} \|u_x\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} < \infty$. Thus we assume that

$$(41) \quad \sup_{T < \hat{\tau}} \|\sigma'(u)\|_{\mathcal{C}^{(\mu)}([0, T]; \mathcal{C}([0, \xi]))} = \infty,$$

and we will derive a contradiction from this.

We want to apply Theorem 1 and therefore we define the operator A by (24) and (25). It is straightforward to check that by (ii) $y = u_0$ belongs to $\mathcal{D}(A) \subset \hat{\mathcal{D}}(A)$ and that by (iii) the function $t \mapsto f(t, \underline{x}) \in L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$ satisfies the assumption (iv) of Theorem 1. Thus Theorem 1 may be applied to (1) and so we obtain the existence of a unique (strong) solution $u \in \mathcal{C}([0, \tau]; L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}))$. By uniqueness, this solution coincides with the one constructed above on $[0, \hat{\tau}] \times [0, \xi]$.

It follows from Theorem 1, together with the results on the local solution that we already have established, that the function

$$t \mapsto \sigma(u)_x(t, \underline{x}) \in L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}) \text{ is uniformly continuous on } [0, \hat{\tau}).$$

An immediate consequence of this result, of (23), and of the fact that $u(\underline{t}, 0) = 0$, is that

$$(42) \quad u \text{ is uniformly continuous on } [0, \hat{\tau}) \times [0, \xi],$$

and hence we also conclude that

$$(43) \quad t \mapsto u_x(t, \underline{x}) \in L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R}) \text{ is uniformly continuous on } [0, \hat{\tau}).$$

In the above, the results of [1] were applied to the operator $u \mapsto u_x$ in the space of continuous functions. Now we shall do the same thing but with integrable functions instead. We let $\xi_0 = \xi/c_0$ and denote by B the linear operator in $L^1([0, \xi_0]; \mathbb{C})$ with domain

$$\mathcal{D}(B) = \{ v \in \mathcal{AC}([0, \xi_0]; \mathbb{C}) \mid v(0) = 0 \}$$

and

$$(Bv)(x) = v'(x), \quad x \in [0, \xi_0], \quad v \in \mathcal{D}(B).$$

As the norm in $\mathcal{D}(B)$ we can take $\|w\|_{\mathcal{D}(B)} = \|w'\|_{L^1([0, \xi_0])}$.

If $b \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R})$ satisfies $c_0 \leq b(\underline{x}) \leq c_1$, then we can use an argument similar to the one employed when deriving (35) to conclude that it follows from [1, Theorem 6] that there is a constant M_5 (which depends on $\alpha, \mu, \tau, \xi, c_0$ and c_1) and a unique solution v of (29) such that

$$(44) \quad \|v_x\|_{\mathcal{C}(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} \leq M_5 \left(\|\chi_{[0, \underline{x}]}(\rho(\underline{y}))h_0(\rho(\underline{y}))\|_{\mathcal{D}_B(\frac{\mu}{\alpha}, \infty)} + \|g\|_{\mathcal{C}(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} \right),$$

for all $\hat{T} \in [0, \tau]$ and $\underline{x} \in [0, \xi]$ where $h_0(\underline{x}) = b(\underline{x})u'_0(\underline{x}) - g(0, \underline{x})$, ρ is the inverse of the function $x \mapsto y = \int_0^x \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$, and where $\mathcal{D}_B(\frac{\mu}{\alpha}) =$

$(L^1([0, \xi_0]; \mathbb{C}), \mathcal{D}(B))_{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}, \infty}$. In this argument one extends the functions as constants in the t -direction and as 0 in the x -direction (but u_0 is extended as a constant) and changes the x -variable to the new variable $y = \int_0^x \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$.

Having (44), our next goal is to estimate the first term on the right hand side. We claim that if h is an arbitrary function in $C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$, which is extended as zero to (ξ, ∞) , then there is a constant $M_6 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 2c_1^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} \xi_0 + 4$, such that

$$(45) \quad \|\chi_{[0, \underline{x}]}(\rho(\underline{y}))h(\rho(\underline{y}))\|_{\mathcal{D}_B(\frac{\mu}{\alpha}, \infty)} \leq M_6 \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}, \quad \underline{x} \in [0, \xi].$$

To see this we argue as follows: Let $w(\underline{y}) = \chi_{[0, \underline{x}]}(\rho(\underline{y}))h(\rho(\underline{y}))$ and extend this function as 0 on $(-\infty, 0)$ and let $t \in (0, 1)$ be arbitrary. Now write $w = w_1 + w_2$ where $w_1(\underline{y}) = \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{t} e^{-\frac{r}{t}} (w(\underline{y}) - w(\underline{y} - r)) dr$ and where $w_2(\underline{y}) = \int_0^{\underline{y}} \frac{1}{t} e^{-\frac{r}{t}} w(\underline{y} - r) dr$. We note that $w(\underline{y}) = 0$ when $y < 0$ and when $y > \underline{x}_\rho \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_0^{\underline{x}} \frac{1}{b(s)} ds$. Because ρ is Lipschitz continuous with constant c_1 we know that $|w(\underline{y}) - w(\underline{y} - r)| \leq c_1^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} r^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}$ when $0 \leq r \leq y \leq \underline{x}_\rho$. Furthermore, $|w(\underline{y}) - w(\underline{y} - r)| \leq \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}$ when $0 \leq y < r$ or $\underline{x}_\rho < y \leq \underline{x}_\rho + r$ (because then either $w(\underline{y})$ or $w(\underline{y} - r)$ vanishes) and $|w(\underline{y}) - w(\underline{y} - r)| = 0$ otherwise. It follows from these inequalities that $\|w_1\|_{L^1([0, \xi_0])} \leq (t^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} c_1^{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} \xi_0 \Gamma(1 + \frac{\mu}{\alpha}) + 2t) \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}$. Furthermore, $\|w_2\|_{\mathcal{D}(B)} = \|w_2'\|_{L^1([0, \xi_0])} = \frac{1}{t} \|w_1\|_{L^1([0, \xi_0])}$ because $w_2'(\underline{y}) = \frac{1}{t} w_1(\underline{y})$. Thus we see that $t^{-\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} \|w_1\|_{L^1([0, \xi_0])} + t^{1-\frac{\mu}{\alpha}} \|w_2\|_{\mathcal{D}(B)} \leq M_6 \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])}$ and by the definition of the interpolation space $\mathcal{D}_B(\frac{\mu}{\alpha}, \infty) = (L^1([0, \xi_0]; \mathbb{C}), \mathcal{D}(B))_{\frac{\mu}{\alpha}, \infty}$ (see e.g., [13, Definition 1.2.2]), this is exactly what we need in order to get (45).

Using (45) we see that (44) implies that the function v that solves (29) satisfies

$$(46) \quad \|v_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} \leq M_5 \left(M_6 \|h\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{\alpha})}([0, \xi])} + \|g\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} \right),$$

for all $\hat{T} \in [0, \tau]$ and all $\underline{x} \in [0, \xi]$.

Let $c(t, \underline{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sigma'(u(t, \underline{x}))$. By (42) we can choose $T \in (0, \hat{T})$ such that

$$(47) \quad \sup_{\substack{t, s \in [0, \hat{T}] \\ |t-s| \leq \hat{T}-T}} \sup_{x \in [0, \xi]} |c(t, x) - c(s, x)| \leq \frac{1}{2M_5}.$$

Let \hat{T} be some arbitrary number in (T, \hat{T}) .

Now we rewrite (1) in the form

$$(D_t^\alpha(u - u_0))(t, x) + c(T, x)u_x(t, x) = f(t, x) + (c(T, x) - c(t, x))u_x(t, x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} g(t, x), \quad t \in [0, \hat{T}], \quad x \in [0, \xi].$$

Note that this equation is of type (29); hence the estimate (46) may be applied to u with $b(\underline{x}) = c(T, \underline{x})$ (and b extended as a constant for $x > \xi$). Also observe that $c(T, \underline{x})u'_0(\underline{x}) - g(0, \underline{x}) = c(0, \underline{x})u'_0(\underline{x}) - f(0, \underline{x}) = \sigma'(u_0(\underline{x}))u'_0(\underline{x}) - f(0, \underline{x})$. Thus we see by (46) that

$$(48) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \leq M_7 \\ & + M_5 \|\chi_{[T, \hat{T}]}(\underline{t})(c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))u_x(\underline{t}, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))}, \end{aligned}$$

where M_7 is some constant such that

$$\begin{aligned} & M_5 \|f\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} + M_5 M_6 \|\sigma'(u_0(\underline{x}))u'_0(\underline{x}) - f(0, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\frac{\mu}{2})}([0, \xi])} \\ & + M_5 \|\chi_{[0, T]}(\underline{t})(c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))u_x(\underline{t}, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \leq M_7, \end{aligned}$$

for all $\mathfrak{X} \in [0, \xi]$ and for all $\hat{T} \in (T, \hat{\tau})$. Now a simple calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\chi_{[T, \hat{T}]}(\underline{t})(c(T, \underline{x}) - c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}))u_x(\underline{t}, \underline{x})\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \\ & \leq \sup_{t \in [T, \hat{T}]} \sup_{x \in [0, \xi]} |c(T, x) - c(t, x)| \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \\ & \quad + \sup_{\substack{t, s \in [0, \hat{T}] \\ t \neq s}} \int_0^{\mathfrak{X}} \frac{|c(t, x) - c(s, x)|}{|t - s|^\mu} |u_x(s, x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

Invoking this inequality together with (47) in (48) we get

$$(49) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \leq 2M_7 \\ & + 2M_5 \sup_{\substack{t, s \in [0, \hat{T}] \\ t \neq s}} \int_0^{\mathfrak{X}} \frac{|c(t, x) - c(s, x)|}{|t - s|^\mu} |u_x(s, x)| dx \\ & \leq 2M_7 + 2M_5 \sup_{s \in [0, \hat{T}]} \int_0^{\mathfrak{X}} \|c\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, x]))} |u_x(s, x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since $c(\underline{t}, \underline{x}) = \sigma' \left(\int_0^{\underline{x}} u_x(\underline{t}, r) dr \right)$ it follows from (23) that

$$(50) \quad \|c\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; C([0, x]))} \leq c_1 + c_2 \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, x]))}, \quad x \in [0, \xi].$$

From (49) and (50) it follows that for each $\mathfrak{X} \in [0, \xi]$ there exists a number $s(\mathfrak{X}) \in [0, \hat{\tau})$ such that

$$(51) \quad \begin{aligned} & \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, \mathfrak{X}]))} \leq 1 + 2M_7 + 2c_1 M_5 \sup_{s \in [0, \hat{\tau})} \|u_x(s, \underline{x})\|_{L^1([0, \xi])} \\ & + 2M_5 c_2 \int_0^{\mathfrak{X}} \|u_x\|_{C^{(\mu)}([0, \hat{T}]; L^1([0, x]))} |u_x(s(\mathfrak{X}), x)| dx. \end{aligned}$$

By (43) there is a finite set of points $\{t_j\}_{j=1}^n \subset [0, \hat{\tau})$ such that if $s \in [0, \hat{\tau})$ then there is an index $j(s) \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that

$$(52) \quad \|u_x(s, \underline{x}) - u_x(t_{j(s)}, \underline{x})\|_{L^1([0, \xi])} \leq \frac{1}{4M_5c_2}.$$

Let $M_8 = \max\{4M_5c_2, 2 + 4M_7 + 4c_1M_5 \sup_{s \in [0, \hat{\tau})} \|u_x(s, \underline{x})\|_{L^1([0, \xi])}\}$, (by (43) $M_8 < \infty$). Then we conclude from (51) and (52) that we in fact have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_x\|_{C(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} &\leq M_8 + M_8 \int_0^{\underline{x}} \|u_x\|_{C(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, x]))} |u_x(t_{j(s(x))}, x)| dx \\ &\leq M_8 + M_8 \int_0^{\underline{x}} \|u_x\|_{C(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, x]))} p(x) dx, \end{aligned}$$

where $p(x) = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} |u_x(t_j, x)|$ so that we have $p \in L^1([0, \xi]; \mathbb{R})$. But now it follows from Gronwall's inequality that

$$\|u_x\|_{C(\mu)([0, \hat{\tau}]; L^1([0, \underline{x}]))} \leq M_8 e^{M_8 \int_0^{\underline{x}} p(s) ds} \leq M_8 e^{M_8 \|p\|_{L^1([0, \xi])}}.$$

This inequality combined with (50) contradicts (41) and the proof is complete. \square

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