

Existence of solutions to a class of second order differential inclusions

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we prove a existence result for a second order differential inclusion

$$x'' \in F(x, x'), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad x'(0) = y_0,$$

where F is an upper semicontinuous, compact valued multifunction, such that $F(x, y) \subset \partial V(y)$, for some convex proper lower semicontinuous function V .

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1. Introduction

The existence of solutions to a Cauchy problem

$$x' \in F(x), \quad x(0) = \xi,$$

where F is an upper semicontinuous, cyclically monotone multifunction, whose compact values are contained in the subdifferential ∂V of a proper convex, lower semicontinuous function V , was proved by Bressan, Cellina and Colombo([4]). For some extensions of this result we refer to ([1], [7], [12], [13]).

In this paper we prove a similar existence result for a second order differential inclusion

$$x'' \in F(x, x'), \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad x'(0) = y_0,$$

where $F(\cdot, \cdot)$ is an upper semicontinuous, compact valued multifunction, such that $F(x, y) \subset \partial V(y)$, for some convex proper lower semicontinuous function V .

Second order differential inclusions were studied by many authors, mainly the case when the right-hand side is convex valued. For some existence results we refer to [3], [8], [9], [11].

2. Preliminaries and statement of the main result

Let \mathbb{R}^m be the m -dimensional euclidean space with norm $\|\cdot\|$ and scalar product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. For $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\varepsilon > 0$ let

$$B_\varepsilon(x) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^m : \|y - x\| < \varepsilon\}$$

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be the open ball centered at x and with radius ε , and let $\overline{B}_\varepsilon(x)$ be its closure. For $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and for a closed subsets $A \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ we denote by $d(x, A)$ the distance from x to A given by

$$d(x, A) = \inf \{ \|x - y\| ; y \in A \}.$$

Let $V : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a proper lower semicontinuous convex function. The multifunction $\partial V : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^m}$ defined by

$$\partial V(x) = \{ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^m : V(y) - V(x) \geq \langle \xi, y - x \rangle, \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^m \}$$

is called subdifferential (in the sense of convex analysis) of the function V .

We say that a multifunction $F : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^m}$ is upper semicontinuous if for every $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that

$$F(y) \subset F(x) + B_\varepsilon(0), \forall y \in B_\delta(x).$$

For a multifunction $F : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{2m} \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^m}$ and for any $(x_0, y_0) \in \Omega$ we consider Cauchy problem

$$x'' \in F(x, x'), x(0) = x_0, x'(0) = y_0, \tag{1}$$

under the following assumptions:

- (H₁) $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^{2m}$ is an open set and $F : \Omega \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^m}$ is an upper semicontinuous compact valued multifunction;
- (H₂) There exists a proper convex and lower semicontinuous function $V : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$F(x, y) \subset \partial V(y), \forall (x, y) \in \Omega. \tag{2}$$

Definition 2.1. *By solution of the problem (1) we mean any absolutely continuous function $x : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ with absolutely continuous derivative x' such that $x(0) = x_0, x'(0) = y_0$ and*

$$x''(t) \in F(x(t), x'(t)), \text{ a.e. on } [0, T].$$

Our main result is the following:

Theorem 2.1. *If $F : \Omega \rightarrow 2^{\mathbb{R}^m}$ and $V : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfy assumptions (H₁) and (H₂) then for every $(x_0, y_0) \in \Omega$ there exist $T > 0$ and $x : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$, a solution of the problem (1).*

3. Proof of the main result

Let $(x_0, y_0) \in \Omega$. Since Ω is open, there exists $r > 0$ such that the compact set $K := \overline{B}_r(x_0, y_0)$ be contained in Ω . Moreover, by the upper semicontinuity of F in (H₁) and by Proposition 1.1.3 in [2], the set

$$F(K) := \bigcup_{(x,y) \in K} F(x, y)$$

is compact, hence there exists $M > 0$ such that

$$\sup \{ \|v\| : v \in F(x, y), (x, y) \in K \} \leq M.$$

Set

$$T := \min \left\{ \frac{r}{M}, \sqrt{\frac{r}{M}}, \frac{r}{2(\|y_0\| + 1)} \right\}.$$

We shall prove the existence of a solution of the problem (1) defined on the interval $[0, T]$.

For each $n \geq 1$ natural and for $1 \leq j \leq n$ we set $t_n^j := \frac{jT}{n}$, $I_n^j = [t_n^{j-1}, t_n^j]$ and for $t \in I_n^j$ we define

$$x_n(t) = x_n^j + (t - t_n^j)y_n^j + \frac{1}{2}(t - t_n^j)^2 v_n^j, \quad (3)$$

where $x_n^0 = x_0$, $y_n^0 = x_0$, and, for $0 \leq j \leq n-1$, and $v_n^j \in F(x_n^j, y_n^j)$,

$$\begin{cases} x_n^{j+1} = x_n^j + \frac{T}{n}y_n^j + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 v_n^j \\ y_n^{j+1} = y_n^j + \frac{T}{n}v_n^j. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

We claim that $(x_n^j, y_n^j) \in K$ for each $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. By the choice of T one has

$$\|x_n^1 - x_0\| \leq \frac{T}{n} \|y_0^n\| + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 \|v_n^0\| < T \|y_0\| + \frac{1}{2}MT^2 < r$$

and

$$\|y_n^1 - y_0\| \leq T \|y_0\| < r,$$

hence the claim is true for $j = 1$.

We claim that for each $j > 1$ one has

$$\begin{cases} x_n^j = x_n^0 + t_n^j y_n^0 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 [(2j-1)v_n^0 + (2j-3)v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^{j-1}] \\ y_n^j = y_n^0 + \frac{T}{n}[v_n^0 + v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^{j-1}]. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

The statement holds true for $j = 0$. Assume it holds for j , with $1 \leq j < n$. Then by (4) one obtains that

$$\begin{aligned} x_n^{j+1} &= x_n^j + \frac{T}{n}y_n^j + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 v_n^j \\ &= x_n^0 + \frac{jT}{n}y_n^0 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 [(2j-1)v_n^0 + (2j-1)v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^{j-1}] + \\ &\quad + \frac{T}{n}y_n^0 + \left(\frac{T}{n}\right)[v_n^0 + v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^{j-1}]v_n^j + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 v_n^j \\ &= x_n^0 + t_n^{j+1}y_n^0 + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 [(2j+1)v_n^0 + (2j-1)v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^j], \end{aligned}$$

and

$$y_n^{j+1} = y_n^j + \frac{T}{n}v_n^j + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 v_n^j = y_n^0 + \frac{T}{n}[v_n^0 + v_n^1 + \dots + v_n^j].$$

Therefore the relations in (5) are satisfied for each j , with $1 \leq j \leq n$ and our claim was proved.

Now, by (5) it follows easily that

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_n^j - x_0\| &\leq \frac{jT}{n} \|y_0^n\| + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{T}{n}\right)^2 [(2j-1) + (2j-3) + \dots + 3 + 1] M \\ &= \frac{jT}{n} \|y_0\| + \frac{1}{2}M\left(\frac{jT}{n}\right)^2 < T \|y_0\| + \frac{1}{2}MT^2 < r. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\|y_n^j - y_0\| \leq \frac{jT}{n} M < r,$$

proving that $(x_n^j, y_n^j) \in K := B_r(x_0, y_0)$, for each j , with $1 \leq j \leq n$.

By (3) we have that

$$x_n'(t) = y_n^j + (t - t_n^j)v_n^j, \quad x_n''(t) = v_n^j \in F(x_n^j, y_n^j), \forall t \in I_n^j,$$

hence

$$\begin{cases} \|x''_n(t)\| \leq M, \forall t \in [0, T], \\ \|x'_n(t)\| \leq \|y_0\| + 2r, \forall t \in [0, T] \\ \|x_n(t)\| \leq \|x_0\| + (T + 2)r, \forall t \in [0, T] \end{cases} \tag{6}$$

Moreover, for all $t \in [0, T]$ we have that

$$d((x_n(t), x'_n(t), x''_n(t)), \text{graph}(F)) \leq \frac{r(T + 2)M}{n}. \tag{7}$$

Then, by (6) we obtain that $(x''_n)_n$ is bounded in $L^2([0, T], \mathbb{R}^m)$, $(x_n)_n$ and $(x'_n)_n$ are bounded in $C([0, T], \mathbb{R}^m)$ and equi-Lipschitzian, hence, by Theorem 0.3.4 in [2] there exist a subsequence (again denoted by) $(x_n)_n$ and an absolutely continuous function $x : [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ such that

- (i) $(x_n)_n$ converges uniformly to x ;
- (ii) $(x'_n)_n$ converges uniformly to x' ;
- (iii) $(x''_n)_n$ converges weakly in $L^2([0, T], \mathbb{R}^m)$ to x'' .

By (H_2) and Theorem 1.4.1 in [2] we get then that

$$x''(t) \in \text{co}F(x(t), x'(t)) \subset \partial V(x'(t)), \text{ a.e. in } [0, T], \tag{8}$$

where co stands for the closed convex hull.

By (8) and Lemma 3.3 in [5] we obtain that

$$\frac{d}{dt}V(x'(t)) = \|x''(t)\|^2,$$

hence,

$$V(x'(T)) - V(x'(0)) = \int_0^T \|x''(t)\|^2 dt. \tag{9}$$

On the other hand, since

$$x''_n(t) = v_n^j \in F(x_n^j, y_n^j) \subset \partial V(x'_n(t_n^j)), \forall t \in I_n^j,$$

it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} V(x'_n(t_n^{j+1})) - V(x'_n(t_n^j)) &\geq \langle x''_n(t), x'_n(t_n^{j+1}) - x'_n(t_n^j) \rangle \\ &= \langle x''_n(t), \int_{t_n^j}^{t_n^{j+1}} x''_n(s) ds \rangle = \int_{t_n^j}^{t_n^{j+1}} \|x''_n(t)\|^2 dt. \end{aligned}$$

By adding the n inequalities from above, we get

$$V(x'_m(T)) - V(y_0) \geq \int_0^T \|x''_n(t)\|^2 dt,$$

and passing to the limit for $n \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain

$$V(x'(T)) - V(y_0) \geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T \|x''_n(t)\|^2 dt. \tag{10}$$

Therefore, by (9) and (10),

$$\int_0^T \|x''(t)\|^2 dt \geq \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^T \|x''_n(t)\|^2 dt \tag{11}$$

and, since $(x''_n)_n$ converge weakly in $L^2([0, T], \mathbb{R}^m)$ to x'' , by applying Proposition III.30 in [6], we obtain that $(x''_n)_n$ converge strongly in $L^2([0, T], \mathbb{R}^m)$ to x'' , hence a subsequence again denoted by $(x''_n)_n$ converge pointwise to x'' .

Since by (H_1) the graph of F is closed and, by (7),

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d((x_n(t), x'_n(t), x''_n(t)), \text{graph}(F)) = 0,$$

we obtain that

$$x''(t) \in F(x(t), x'(t)), \text{ a.e. on } [0, T].$$

Since x satisfies obviously the initial conditions, it is a solution of the problem (1).

4. An application

For $D \subset R^n$ and $x \in D$ denote by $T_D(x)$ the Bouligand's contingent cone of D at x , defined by

$$T_D(x) = \{v \in R^m; \liminf_{h \rightarrow 0_+} \frac{d(x + hv, D)}{h} = 0\}.$$

Also, $N_D(x)$ is the normal cone of D at x , defined by

$$N_D(x) = \{v \in R^m; \langle y, v \rangle \leq 0, (\forall) v \in T_D(x)\}.$$

In what follows we consider that D is closed subset such that $\theta \in D$ and $\theta \notin \text{int}(D)$, where θ is the zero element of R^m .

Suppose that the following condition is satisfied

(H) $\text{int}(N_D(x)) \neq \emptyset$

We set $K = T_D(\theta)$, $Q = \text{int}(N_D(\theta))$, $\Omega = B_1(\theta) \times Q$ and denote by $\pi_K(y)$ the projection a best approximation on K from y , defined by

$$\pi_K(y) = \{u \in K; d(y, u) = d(y, K)\}.$$

Lemma 4.1. *Suppose that (H) is satisfied. Then there exists a convex function $V : R^m \rightarrow R$ such that*

$$(1 - \|x\|)\pi_K(y) \subset \partial V(y), \quad (\forall) (x, y) \in \Omega.$$

Proof. By Proposition 2 in [4] there exists a convex function V such that

$$\pi_K(y) \subset \partial V(y), \quad (\forall) y \in Q.$$

We recall (see [4]) that the function V is defined by

$$V(y) = \sup\{\varphi_u(y); u \in K\},$$

where

$$\varphi_u(y) = \langle u, y \rangle - \frac{1}{2}\|u\|^2, \quad y \in Q.$$

Also, we observe that the following assertions are equivalent:

$$\begin{cases} (i) u \in \pi_K(y); \\ (ii) \|y - u\| \leq \|y - v\|, \quad (\forall) v \in K; \\ (iii) \varphi_u(y) \geq \varphi_v(y), \quad (\forall) v \in K. \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

Let $(x, y) \in \Omega$ by $z \in F(x, y)$. Then there exists $u \in \pi_K(y)$ such that $z = (1 - \|x\|)u$. We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{(1-\|x\|)u}(y) &= \langle (1 - \|x\|)u, y \rangle - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \|x\|)^2 \|u\|^2 \\ &\geq \langle (1 - \|x\|)u, y \rangle - \frac{1}{2}(1 - \|x\|)\|u\|^2 \\ &= \langle u, y \rangle - \frac{1}{2}\|u\|^2 - \|x\|\langle u, y \rangle - \frac{1}{2}\|u\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\varphi_{(1-\|x\|)u}(y) \geq (1 - \|x\|) \varphi_u(y). \tag{13}$$

Since $u \in \pi_K(y)$ then $\varphi_u(y) \geq \varphi_v(y)$, for every $v \in K$, by (13) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{(1-\|x\|)u}(y) - \varphi_v(y) &\geq (1 - \|x\|) \varphi_u(y) - \varphi_v(y) \\ &\geq (1 - \|x\|) \varphi_v(y) - \varphi_v(y) = -\|x\| \varphi_v(y), \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$\varphi_{(1-\|x\|)u}(y) - \varphi_v(y) \geq -\|x\| \varphi_v(y) \tag{14}$$

for every $v \in K$.

Since $y \in Q = \text{int}(N_D(\theta))$ we have that

$$\langle y, v \rangle \leq 0 \text{ for every } v \in K = T_D(\theta),$$

hence

$$\varphi_v(y) = \langle y, v \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \|v\|^2 \leq 0 \text{ for every } v \in K. \tag{15}$$

By (14) and (15) follows that

$$\varphi_{(1-\|x\|)u}(y) \geq \varphi_v(y) \text{ for every } v \in K. \tag{16}$$

Then (16) and the equivalent assertions in (12) imply that

$$z = (1 - \|x\|) u \in \pi_K(y) \subset \partial V(y).$$

□

Proposition 4.1. *Suppose that (H) is satisfied. Then there exist $T > 0$ and $x(\cdot) : [0, T] \rightarrow R^m$ a solution for the following Cauchy problem*

$$x'' \in (1 - \|x\|) \pi_K(x'), \quad (x(0), x'(0)) = (x_0, y_0).$$

Proof. If we define the multifunction $F : \Omega \rightarrow 2^{R^m}$ by

$$F(x, y) = (1 - \|x\|) \pi_K(y),$$

then F is with compact valued and upper semicontinuous and there exists a convex function $V : R^m \rightarrow R$ such that

$$F(x, y) \subset \partial V(y), \quad (\forall) (x, y) \in \Omega.$$

Therefore, F satisfies assumptions (H_1) , (H_2) and Proposition is proved. □

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