

## Research Article

# Global Attractor for Partial Functional Differential Equations with State-Dependent Delay

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This work aims to investigate the existence of global attractors for a class of partial functional differential equations with state-dependent delay. Using the classic theory about global attractors in infinite dimensional dynamical systems, we obtain some sufficient conditions for guaranteeing the existence of a global attractor.

## 1. Introduction

Partial functional differential equations with state-dependent delay appear frequently in applications as models of various phenomena, such as biological, chemical, and physical systems, which are characterized by both spatial and temporal variables. For this reason, the study of this kind of equation has received much attention in recent years. For more details, see for instance [1–5] and the references therein. However, it is worth pointing out that all of the papers mentioned above are mainly devoted to the existence of solutions or mild solutions. The literature related to global attractors is limited.

It is known that the global attractor is a very useful tool, which is valid for more general situations than those for stability to study the asymptotical behavior. In the present paper, we are devoted to investigating the existence of a global attractor for a type of partial functional differential equations with state-dependent delay as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} u'(t) &= Au(t) + F(t, u_{\rho(t, u_t)}), \quad t \geq 0, \\ u_0 &= \phi \in C, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where  $C := C([-r, 0], E)$ ,  $r > 0$ , is the space of continuous functions from  $[-r, 0]$  to the Banach space  $E$ , equipped with the uniform norm  $\|\phi\| = \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} |\phi(\theta)|$ , and  $A$  is a linear

operator on a Banach space  $E$  satisfying the following well-known Hille-Yosida condition:

(H<sub>1</sub>) there exist  $M_0 \geq 1$  and  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$\|(\lambda I - A)^{-n}\| \leq \frac{M_0}{(\lambda - \omega)^n} \quad \text{for } \lambda \in \mathcal{R}(A), \lambda > \omega, \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  is the resolvent set of  $A$ .

Consider that  $\rho : [0, +\infty) \times C \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  satisfies the following properties.

(H<sub>2</sub>) Let  $\mathcal{L}(\rho) = \{\rho(s, \phi) : (s, \phi) \in [0, +\infty) \times C, \rho(s, \phi) \geq 0\}$ . There exists a continuous and bounded function  $J^\phi : \mathcal{L}(\rho) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  such that

$$\|\varphi_{\rho(t, x_t)}\| \leq J^\phi(t) \|\phi_t\|, \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{L}(\rho). \quad (3)$$

Consider that  $F : [0, +\infty) \times C \rightarrow E$  satisfies the following properties.

(H<sub>3</sub>) (i) For every  $\phi \in C$ , the function  $t \rightarrow F(t, \phi)$  is strongly measurable.

(ii) For each  $t \in [0, +\infty)$ ,  $F(t, \cdot) : C \rightarrow E$  is continuous.

(iii) There exist a positive constant  $c$  and a bounded function  $m : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow [0, +\infty)$  such that

$$|F(t, \phi)| \leq c + m(t) \|\phi\|. \tag{4}$$

For every  $t \geq 0$ , the history function  $x_t \in C$  is defined by

$$x_t(\theta) = x(t + \theta), \quad \text{for } \theta \in [-r, 0]. \tag{5}$$

In the present paper, we will obtain some sufficient conditions for guaranteeing the existence of a global attractor to (1) with  $A$  being a Hille-Yosida operator but not necessarily densely defined.

### 2. Preliminaries

We recall some definitions and results from the integrated semigroup.

*Definition 1* (see [6]). Let  $T > 0$ . A function  $x : [-r, T] \rightarrow E$  is said to be an integral solution of (1) if

- (i)  $\int_0^t x(s)ds \in D(A)$  for  $t \geq 0$ ,
- (ii)  $x(t) = \phi(0) + A(\int_0^t x(s)ds) + \int_0^t F(s, x_{\rho(s, x_s)})ds$ ,
- (iii)  $x_0 = \phi$ .

*Remark 2.* Clearly, if  $x$  is an integral solution of (1), then  $x_t(0) = x(t) \in \overline{D(A)}$  for  $t \in [0, T]$ . So  $\phi(0) \in \overline{D(A)}$ , which is a necessary condition for the existence of an integral solution.

Let us introduce the part  $A_0$  of the operator  $A$  in  $\overline{D(A)}$  which is defined by

$$D(A_0) = \{x \in D(A) : Ax \in \overline{D(A)}\}, \tag{6}$$

$$A_0x = Ax \quad \text{for } x \in D(A_0).$$

**Lemma 3** (see [7]).  $A_0$  generates a strongly continuous semigroup  $(T_0(t))_{t \geq 0}$  on  $\overline{D(A)}$ .

Based on the previous abstract results, we give some concrete results for (1); see [6].

*Definition 4.* Let  $T > 0$ . For any given  $\phi \in C$  with  $\phi(0) \in \overline{D(A)}$ , the function  $x(\cdot) := x(\cdot, \phi) : [-r, T] \rightarrow E$  is said to be an integral solution of (1) with initial function  $\phi$  at  $t = 0$  if

$$x(t) = \begin{cases} T_0(t)\phi(0) \\ + \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^t T_0(t-s) \\ \quad \times \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1}F(s, x_{\rho(s, x_s)})ds, & 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ \phi(t), & -r \leq t \leq 0. \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

**Lemma 5** (see [6]). Under the assumptions  $(H_1)$ – $(H_3)$ , if  $\phi \in C$  with  $\phi(0) \in \overline{D(A)}$ , then (1) possesses a unique global integral solution  $x(\cdot, \phi) : [-r, +\infty) \rightarrow E$  with initial function  $\phi$  at  $t = 0$ , which can be expressed by (7).

According to Remark 2, denote  $\Sigma_0 = \{\phi \in C : \phi(0) \in \overline{D(A)}\}$ . Then from Lemma 5, for each  $\phi \in \Sigma_0$ , we define the following operator on  $\Sigma_0$  by

$$U(t)\phi = x_t(\cdot, \phi), \quad t \geq 0, \tag{8}$$

where  $x_t(\cdot, \phi)$  is a unique global integral solution of (1) in Lemma 5. Clearly,  $(U(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is a strongly continuous semigroup on  $\Sigma_0$ .

*Definition 6* (see [8]). An invariant set  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be a global attractor if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a maximal compact invariant set which attracts each bounded set  $B \subset X$ .

*Definition 7* (see [8]). A semigroup  $U(t) : X \rightarrow X, t \geq 0$ , is said to be point dissipative if there is a bounded set  $B \subset X$  that attracts each point of  $E$  under  $U(t)$ .

**Lemma 8** (see [9]). If

- (i) there is a  $t_0 \geq 0$  such that  $U(t)$  is compact for  $t > t_0$ ,
- (ii)  $U(t)$  is point dissipative in  $X$ ,

then there exists a nonempty global attractor  $\mathcal{A}$  in  $X$ .

### 3. The Global Attractor

In this section, we will obtain the existence of a global attractor to (7) by using Lemma 8. For the convenience of the proof, we give some assumptions and lemmas.

$(H_4)$  For  $C_0$ -semigroup  $T_0(t), t \geq 0$ , there exists positive constant  $\alpha$  such that

$$\|T_0(t)\| \leq e^{-\alpha t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0. \tag{9}$$

$(H_5)$   $T_0(t)$  is compact for  $t > 0$ .

**Lemma 9** (see [10]). If

$$x(t) \leq h(t) + \int_{t_0}^t k(s)x(s)ds, \quad t \in [t_0, T], \tag{10}$$

where all the functions involved are continuous on  $[t_0, T], T \leq +\infty$ , and  $k(t) \geq 0$ , then  $x(t)$  satisfies

$$x(t) \leq h(t) + \int_{t_0}^t h(s)k(s)e^{\int_s^t k(u)du}ds, \quad t \in [t_0, T]. \tag{11}$$

**Lemma 10.** Assume that assumptions  $(H_1)$ – $(H_4)$  hold. Then, for each  $\phi \in \Sigma_0$ , if  $\alpha \neq m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}$ , there exists a constant  $\gamma > \alpha$  such that the integral solution  $x(\cdot, \phi)$  of (1) satisfies the following inequality:

$$\|x_t\| \leq \frac{c e^{\gamma r}}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} + e^{\gamma r} \left( \|\phi\| - \frac{c}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} \right) e^{(m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} - \alpha)t}, \quad t \geq 0, \tag{12}$$

where  $m_a = \max_{s \in [0, \infty)} m(s)$  and  $J_a = \max_{s \in \mathcal{S}(\rho)} J^\phi(s)$ .

*Proof.* By  $(H_3)$ , for each  $\phi \in \Sigma_0$ , we have

$$|F(t, \phi)| \leq c + m(t) \|\phi\|. \quad (13)$$

In the following proof, for simplicity, take  $M_0 = 1$ ,  $n = 1$  in  $(H_1)$ ; then

$$\|(\lambda I - A)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda - \omega} \quad \text{for } \lambda > \omega. \quad (14)$$

Instead of considering the norm  $\|x_t\|$  directly, we firstly estimate  $\|e^{\gamma t} x_t\|$  for some constant  $\gamma > \alpha$ .

*Case 1.* For  $0 \leq t \leq r$ , by (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} |e^{\gamma \theta} x_t(\theta)| \\ &= \max \left\{ \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq -t} |e^{\gamma \theta} \phi(t + \theta)|, \sup_{-t \leq \theta \leq 0} |e^{\gamma \theta} x_t(\theta)| \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ e^{-\gamma t} \|\phi\|, \sup_{-t \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{\gamma \theta} e^{-\alpha(t+\theta)} |\phi(0)| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sup_{-t \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{\gamma \theta} \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} e^{-\alpha(t+\theta-s)} \|\lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1}\| \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times [c + m(s) J^\phi(s) \|x_s\|] ds \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ e^{-\gamma t} \|\phi\|, e^{-\alpha t} |\phi(0)| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sup_{-t \leq \theta \leq 0} c e^{-\alpha(t+\theta)} e^{\gamma \theta} \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - \omega} e^{\alpha s} ds \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sup_{-t \leq \theta \leq 0} m_a J_a e^{-\alpha(t+\theta)} e^{\gamma \theta} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - \omega} e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds \right\} \\ &\leq e^{-\alpha t} \|\phi\| + c e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} ds + m_a J_a e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds \\ &= e^{-\alpha t} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha t}) + m_a J_a e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

*Case 2.* For  $t \geq r$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} |e^{\gamma \theta} x_t(\theta)| \\ &\leq \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{\gamma \theta} e^{-\alpha(t+\theta)} |\phi(0)| \\ &\quad + \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{\gamma \theta} \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} e^{-\alpha(t+\theta-s)} \|\lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1}\| \\ &\quad \times [c + m_a J_a \|x_s\|] ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \leq e^{-\alpha t} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha t}) \\ &\quad + m_a J_a e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Therefore, from (15) and (16), for  $t \geq 0$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} |e^{\gamma \theta} x_t(\theta)| &\leq e^{-\alpha t} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha t}) \\ &\quad + m_a J_a e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} |e^{\gamma \theta} x_t(\theta)| &= \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{\gamma \theta} |x_t(\theta)| \\ &\geq \sup_{-r \leq \theta \leq 0} e^{-\gamma r} |x_t(\theta)| \\ &= e^{-\gamma r} \|x_t\|, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

which combines with (17) and yields

$$e^{-\gamma r} \|x_t\| \leq e^{-\alpha t} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} (1 - e^{-\alpha t}) + m_a J_a e^{-\alpha t} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds. \quad (19)$$

So we get

$$e^{\alpha t} \|x_t\| \leq e^{\gamma r} \left[ \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} (e^{\alpha t} - 1) \right] + m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} \int_0^t e^{\alpha s} \|x_s\| ds. \quad (20)$$

Using Lemma 9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\alpha t} \|x_t\| &\leq e^{\gamma r} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} e^{\gamma r} (e^{\alpha t} - 1) \\ &\quad + m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} \int_0^t \left[ e^{\gamma r} \|\phi\| + \frac{c}{\alpha} e^{\gamma r} (e^{\alpha s} - 1) \right] \\ &\quad \times e^{\int_s^t m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} du} ds \\ &\leq \frac{c e^{\gamma r} e^{\alpha t}}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} + e^{\gamma r} \left( \|\phi\| - \frac{c}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} \right) e^{m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} t}. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Thus, (12) holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 11.** Assume that the conditions of Lemma 10 are satisfied; furthermore,  $\alpha > m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}$ , where  $\gamma$  is the constant defined by Lemma 10. Then  $(U(t))_{t \geq 0}$  is point dissipative.

*Proof.* From Lemma 10, we find that for each  $\phi \in \Sigma_0$ , since  $\alpha > m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}$ , there exists a  $t_0 := t_0(\phi) > 0$  such that for  $t > t_0$ ,

$$\|x_t\| \leq \frac{c e^{\gamma r}}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} + 1 \quad (\text{independent of } \phi). \quad (22)$$

Therefore,

$$B_{X_0} \left( 0, \frac{ce^{\gamma r}}{\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}} + 1 \right) \cap X_0 \quad (23)$$

attracts each point of  $X_0$ , where  $B_{X_0}(0, (ce^{\gamma r}/(\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r})) + 1)$  denotes the open ball in  $\Sigma_0$  with center 0 and radius  $(ce^{\gamma r}/(\alpha - m_a J_a e^{\gamma r})) + 1$ .  $\square$

Now, we show the compactness of the operator  $U(t)$ .

**Lemma 12.** *Assume that assumptions  $(H_1)$ – $(H_5)$  hold. Then,  $U(t)$  is compact for  $t > r$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $t > r$  and let  $\{\phi_n\}$  be any bounded sequence of  $\Sigma_0$ . We will use the Ascoli-Arzelà theorem to show that  $\{U(t)\phi_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is precompact in  $\Sigma_0$  by two steps.

*Step 1.* Show that for any  $\theta \in [-r, 0]$ , the set

$$Z(\theta) = \{(U(t)\phi_n)(\theta) : n \in \mathbb{N}\} \quad (24)$$

is precompact. For  $t > r$  and  $\theta \in [-r, 0]$ , by (8), we have

$$\begin{aligned} (U(t)\phi_n)(\theta) &= T_0(t+\theta)\phi_n(0) \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} T_0(t+\theta-s) \\ &\quad \times \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

where  $x^n(\cdot)$  is the integer solution of (1) with initial function  $\phi_n$ . From  $(H_4)$  and the boundedness of  $\{\phi_n\}$ , we know that  $\{T_0(t+\theta)\phi_n(0) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  are precompact. Now, considering the second term in (25), for sufficiently small  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta} T_0(t+\theta-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \\ &= T_0(\varepsilon) \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta-\varepsilon} T_0(t+\theta-s-\varepsilon) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} \\ &\quad \times F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t+\theta-\varepsilon}^{t+\theta} T_0(t+\theta-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

Note that from Lemma 10, we have

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \|x_s^n\| < \infty, \quad s \in [0, t]. \quad (27)$$

By  $(H_2)$  and  $(H_3)$ , we get

$$\left| F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) \right| \leq c + m_a J_a \|x_s^n\|. \quad (28)$$

Therefore, there exist some constants  $M_1, M_2 > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta-\varepsilon} T_0(t+\theta-s-\varepsilon) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \right| \\ &\leq M_1, \\ &\left| \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t+\theta-\varepsilon}^{t+\theta} T_0(t+\theta-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \right| \\ &\leq M_2 \varepsilon \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

which yields

$$\begin{aligned} T_0(\varepsilon) \left\{ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta-\varepsilon} T_0(t+\theta-s-\varepsilon) \right. \\ \left. \times \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds : n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \subset \Gamma_\varepsilon, \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

where  $\Gamma_\varepsilon$  is a compact set. Thus,  $Z(\theta)$  is precompact.

*Step 2.* Show the equicontinuity of  $\{U(t)\phi_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ . Let  $-r \leq \theta_1 < \theta_2 \leq 0$ ; we have

$$\begin{aligned} &(U(t)\phi_n)(\theta_2) - (U(t)\phi_n)(\theta_1) \\ &= [T_0(t+\theta_2) - T_0(t+\theta_1)] \phi_n(0) \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_2} T_0(t+\theta_2-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \\ &- \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_1} T_0(t+\theta_1-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \\ &= T_0(t+\theta_1) [T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I] \phi_n(0) \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t+\theta_1}^{t+\theta_2} T_0(t+\theta_2-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_1} [T_0(t+\theta_2-s) - T_0(t+\theta_1-s)] \\ &\quad \times \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) ds, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

which leads to

$$\begin{aligned} &|(U(t)\phi_n)(\theta_2) - (U(t)\phi_n)(\theta_1)| \\ &\leq \|T_0(t+\theta_1) [T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I]\| \\ &+ \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t+\theta_1}^{t+\theta_2} \left| T_0(t+\theta_2-s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n) \right| ds + \|T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \times \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_1} \left| T_0(t + \theta_1 - s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times F\left(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n\right) \right| ds. \end{aligned} \tag{32}$$

Since the mapping  $t \rightarrow T_0(t)$  is norm continuous for  $t > 0$ , for some  $\delta \in (0, t - r)$ , put

$$\begin{aligned} & T_0(t + \theta_1) [T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I] \\ & = T_0(t + \theta_1 - \delta) [T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1 + \delta) - T_0(\delta)]. \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

Then

$$\|T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1 + \delta) - T_0(\delta)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \theta_2 \rightarrow \theta_1. \tag{34}$$

Thus

$$\|T_0(t + \theta_1) [T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I]\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \theta_2 \rightarrow \theta_1. \tag{35}$$

By the boundedness of  $|T_0(t + \theta_2 - s)\lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1}F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n)|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{t+\theta_1}^{t+\theta_2} \left| T_0(t + \theta_2 - s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times F\left(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n\right) \right| ds \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \theta_2 \rightarrow \theta_1. \end{aligned} \tag{36}$$

Obviously,  $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_1} |T_0(t + \theta_1 - s)\lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1}F(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n)| ds$  belongs to a compact subset of  $E$ ; we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|T_0(\theta_2 - \theta_1) - I\| \\ & \times \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow +\infty} \int_0^{t+\theta_1} \left| T_0(t + \theta_1 - s) \lambda(\lambda I - A)^{-1} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times F\left(x_{\rho(s, x_s)}^n\right) \right| ds \rightarrow 0 \\ & \quad \text{as } \theta_2 \rightarrow \theta_1. \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

Hence  $\{U(t)\phi_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is equicontinuity. □

Here, we state our main theorem of this paper, which is an immediate consequence of Lemmas 8, 11, and 12.

**Theorem 13.** *Assume that assumptions (H<sub>1</sub>)–(H<sub>5</sub>) hold. If  $\alpha > m_a J_a e^{\gamma r}$ , then (1) has a nonempty global attractor  $\mathcal{A}$ .*

As applications, we give the following example. Let  $E = C([0, \pi], \mathbb{R})$  and  $C = C([-r, 0], E)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(t, x) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(t, x) - \mu u(t, x) \\ & \quad + f(u(t - r, x)), \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi, \quad t \geq 0, \\ u(t, 0) &= u(t, \pi) = 0, \quad t \geq 0, \\ u(\theta, x) &= \phi(\theta) x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi, \quad -r \leq \theta \leq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{38}$$

where  $\mu > 0$  is a constant,  $u(t, \cdot) \in E$ , and  $f : C \rightarrow E$  satisfies (H<sub>3</sub>). Define the operator  $A$  by

$$\begin{aligned} D(A) &= \{q \in C^2([0, \pi], \mathbb{R}) : q(0) = q(\pi) = 0\}, \\ A(q) &= q'' \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

and  $F : C \rightarrow E$  with

$$F(\varphi)(x) = f(\varphi(-r)(x)), \quad x \in [0, \pi]. \tag{40}$$

Then  $A$  satisfies the Hille-Yosida condition in  $E$  and

$$\|(\lambda I - A)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad \text{for } \lambda > 0. \tag{41}$$

Moreover, the part  $A_0$  of  $A$  in  $\overline{D(A)}$  is the infinitesimal generator of a strongly continuous semigroup  $(T_0(t))_{t \geq 0}$  on  $E$  such that

$$\|T_0(t)\| \leq e^{-t} \quad \text{for } t \geq 0. \tag{42}$$

According to Theorem 13, if there exist  $\gamma > \mu$ ,  $m_a$  and  $J_a$  such that  $m_a J_a e^{\gamma r} < \mu$ , then (38) has a global attractor.

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