

State-dependent sweeping processes and evolution problems

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Abstract

The basic state-dependent sweeping process in a Hilbert space may be written in short as

$$-\frac{du}{dt}(t) \in N_{C(t,u(t))}(u(t)),$$

where $u : I = [0, T] \rightarrow H$ is an absolutely continuous function, $C(t, u)$ are subsets of H and $N_{C(t,u)}(x)$ denotes the outward normal cone to $C(t, u)$ at x . The r.h.s. may also contain standard $f = f(t, u)$ terms.

Basic results for this problem will be presented, along the lines of the papers [1]-[4]. In their simplest form [1], the sets $C(t, u)$ are closed and convex and the dependence $(t, u) \mapsto C(t, u)$ is Lipschitz-continuous w.r.t. Hausdorff distance h

$$h(C(t, u), C(s, v)) \leq L_1 |t - s| + L_2 |u - v|_H,$$

with $L_2 < 1$. An example of application is given in [2]. It is also possible to work with prox-regular sets [3] and in ordered Hilbert spaces [4].

More generally, the previous study is extended by replacing the normal cone to $C(t, u)$ by a maximal monotone operator $A(t, u)$. Consider the quasi-variational problem: find $u : I \rightarrow H$ such that

$$-\frac{du}{dt}(t) \in A(t, u(t))(u(t))$$

so that, for all $v \in D(A(t, u(t)))$ and $z \in A(t, u(t))v$, one has

$$\left\langle \frac{du}{dt}(t) + z, v - u(t) \right\rangle \geq 0.$$

If the variation of the m.m.o. is measured by Vladimirov's pseudo-distance, one obtains a basic existence result as above.

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