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# ON THE CARATHÉODORY SUPERPOSITION

#### Abstract

In this paper we investigate properties of Carathéodory's superposition and show some of their applications to differential equations.

Throughout this article  $(X, \mathcal{M}, \mu)$  denotes a totally  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and  $(\Phi, \Rightarrow)$  will denote a differentiation basis for this space. This means ([1]) that  $\Phi \subset \mathcal{M}$  is a family of sets of finite positive measure  $\mu$  and  $\Rightarrow$  is a notion of contraction of nets (generalized sequences) of sets in  $\Phi$  to points of X, such that the following two conditions are satisfied:

- (i) if  $x \in X$ , there exists a net  $(I_{\alpha})$  of elements of  $\Phi$  contracting (in the sense of  $\Rightarrow$ ) to x; in symbols,  $I_{\alpha} \Rightarrow x$ ;
- (ii) any subnet of a net contracting to a point x also contracts to x.

Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  and let  $x \in X$ . We define the upper and lower densities of A at x with respect to  $(\Phi, \Rightarrow)$  by

$$D^{u}(A, x) = \sup\{\limsup \mu(A \cap I_{\alpha})/\mu(I_{\alpha})\}$$

and

$$D_l(A, x) = \inf\{\liminf \mu(A \cap I_\alpha) / \mu(I_\alpha)\},\$$

where the limits superior and inferior are taken over a net  $(I_{\alpha})$  contracting to x and the supremum and infimum are taken over the family of all such nets.

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## Section I

Let  $(Y, \varrho)$  be a metric space with the metric  $\varrho$  and let  $g : X \longrightarrow Y$  be a function. Let  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$  be a number. We say that the function g has the property:

- $(S_{u,\gamma})$  (with respect to  $(\Phi, \Rightarrow)$ ) if for every open set  $U \subset Y$  and for every x with  $g(x) \in U$ , there is a set  $B \subset g^{-1}(U)$  such that  $B \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $D^u(B, x) \ge \gamma$ ;
- $(S_{l,\gamma})$  if for every open set  $U \subset Y$  and for every x with  $g(x) \in U$  there is a set  $B \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $D_l(B, x) \geq \gamma$ .

**Theorem 1** Let  $f : X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be a function. Suppose that:

- (1) all sections  $f^{y}(x) = f(x,y)(x \in X, y \in Y)$  have the property  $(S_{u,\gamma})$  $((S_{l,\gamma}))$ , where  $\gamma \in (0,1]$ ;
- (2) for every point  $(x,y) \in X \times Y$  there is a set  $A(x,y) \in \mathcal{M}$  such that all sections  $f_t(u) = f(t,u)$   $(t \in A(x,y), u \in Y)$  are equicontinuous at a point y and  $D_l(A(x,y), x) = 1$ .

Then for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  having the property  $(S_{l,1})$  the Carathédory superposition

$$h(x)=f(x,g(x)), x\in X,$$

has the property  $(S_{u,\gamma})$   $((S_{l,\gamma}))$ .

PROOF. Fix  $x \in X$  and an open set  $U \subset Y$  such that  $h(x) \in U$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be such that  $\{u \in Y; \varrho(u, h(x)) \leq \varepsilon\} \subset U$ . By (2) there is a set  $A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and a positive number  $\delta > 0$  such that  $D_l(A(x, g(x)) = 1$  and  $\varrho(f(t, y), f(t, g(x))) < \varepsilon/2$  for  $t \in A(x, g(x))$  and  $y \in Y$  with  $\varrho(y, g(x)) < \delta$ . Since the section  $t \longrightarrow f(t, g(x))$  has the property  $(S_{u,\gamma})$   $((S_{l,\gamma}))$ , there is a set  $C \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $D^u(C, x) \geq \gamma$   $(D_l(C, x) \geq \gamma)$  and  $\varrho(f(t, g(x)), f(x, g(x))) < \varepsilon/2$  for every  $t \in C$ . Analogously, since the function g has the property  $(S_{l,1})$ , there is a set  $E \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $D_l(E, x) = 1$  and  $\varrho(g(t), g(x)) < \delta$  for every  $t \in E$ . Observe that the set  $B = C \cap E \cap A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $D^u(B, x) \geq \gamma$   $(D_l(B, x) \geq \gamma)$ . If  $t \in B$ , then

$$egin{aligned} arrho(h(t),h(x)) &=& arrho(f(t,g(t)),f(x,g(x))) \ &\leq& arrho(f(t,g(t)),f(t,g(x))) + arrho(f(t,g(x)),f(x,g(x))) \ &<& arepsilon/2 + arepsilon/2 = arepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $B \in \mathcal{M}, D^u(B, x) \geq \gamma$   $(D_l(B, x) \geq \gamma)$  and  $B \subset h^{-1}(U)$ . This completes the proof.

**Remark 1** If  $(X, \mathcal{T})$  is a topological space with the topology  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathcal{M}$ , then we can define the properties  $(S'_{u,\gamma})$  and  $(S'_{l,\gamma})$  assuming that the set  $B \subset g^{-1}(U)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Then we have the following:

**Theorem 2** Let  $f : X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be a function. Suppose that:

- (1') all sections  $f^y, y \in Y$ , have the property  $(S'_{u,\gamma})$   $((S'_{l,\gamma})), \gamma \in (0,1];$
- (2') for every point  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  there is a set  $A(x, y) \in \mathcal{T}$  such that all sections  $f_t$ ,  $t \in A(x, y)$ , are equicontinuous at y and  $D_l(A(x, y), x) = 1$ .

Then for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  having the property  $(S'_{l,1})$  the superposition  $h(x) = f(x, g(x)), x \in X$ , has the property  $S'_{u,\gamma}$   $((S'_{l,\gamma}))$ .

### Section II

In this section we suppose that Y is a separable Banach space with the norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Let  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a function which is integrable (in the Bochner sense) on every set  $I \in \Phi$ . The function g is called a derivative at a point  $x \in X$  (with respect to  $(\Phi, \Rightarrow)$ ) ([1]) if for every net  $I_{\alpha} \Rightarrow x$  we have

$$\lim_{\alpha}\int_{I_{\alpha}}g(t)dt/\mu(I_{\alpha})=g(x).$$

**Theorem 3** Let  $f : X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be a bounded function. Suppose that f satisfies the condition (2) from Theorem 1 and the following conditions:

- (3) all sections  $f^y, y \in Y$ , are derivatives;
- (4) for every function g: X → Y having the property (S<sub>l,1</sub>) the superposition x → f(x,g(x)) is µ-measurable, i.e. for every open set U ⊂ Y the preimage {x; f(x,g(x)) ∈ U} ∈ M.

Then for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  having the property  $(S_{l,1})$  Carathéodory's superposition  $h(x) = f(x, g(x)), x \in X$ , is a derivative.

PROOF. First, we observe that h is  $\mu$ -measurable and bounded, so integrable (in the Bochner sense) on every set  $I \in \Phi$  ([9]). Fix  $x \in X$ , a net  $I_{\alpha} \Rightarrow x$ and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Let a > 0 be such that ||f(t, y)|| < a for each  $(t, y) \in X \times Y$ . By (2) there is a set  $A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that  $D_l(A(x, g(x)), x) =$ 1 and  $||f(t, y) - f(t, g(x))|| < \varepsilon/3$  for all  $t \in A(x, g(x))$  and  $y \in Y$  with  $||y - g(x)|| < \delta$ . Since g has the property  $(S_{l,1})$ , there is a set  $E \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $D_l(E, x) = 1$  and  $||g(t) - g(x)|| < \delta$  for every  $t \in E$ . Observe that the set  $B = E \cap A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $D_l(B, x) = 1$ . Since the section  $t \longrightarrow f(t, g(x))$  is a derivative at x, we have

$$\lim_{\alpha} \int_{I_{\alpha}} f(t,g(x)) dt / \mu(I_{\alpha}) = f(x,g(x)).$$

There exists an index  $\beta$  such that for  $\alpha > \beta$  we have:

(5)  $\left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} f(t,g(x)) dt / \mu(I_{\alpha}) - f(x,g(x)) \right\| < \varepsilon/3;$ (6)  $\mu(B \cap I_{\alpha}) / \mu(I_{\alpha}) > 1 - \varepsilon/6a.$ 

Consequently, by (5) and (6) we have for  $\alpha > \beta$ ,

$$\begin{split} \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} h(t)dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) - h(x) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} f(t,g(t))dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) - f(x,g(x)) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} (f(t,g(t)) - f(x,g(x)))dt \right\| / \mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &\leq \int_{I_{\alpha} \cap B} \| f(t,g(t)) - f(t,g(x)) \| dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &+ \int_{I_{\alpha} \cap B} \| f(t,g(x)) - f(x,g(x)) \| dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &+ \int_{I_{\alpha} - B} \| f(t,g(t)) - f(x,g(x)) \| dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &< \varepsilon \mu(I_{\alpha} \cap B) / 3\mu(I_{\alpha}) + \varepsilon \mu(I_{\alpha} \cap B) / 3\mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &+ 2a\mu(I_{\alpha} - B) / \mu(I_{\alpha}) < \varepsilon / 3 + \varepsilon / 3 + 2a\varepsilon / 6a = \varepsilon. \end{split}$$

This shows that

$$\lim_{\alpha} \int_{I_{\alpha}} h(t) dt / \mu(I_{\alpha}) = h(x)$$

and finishes the proof.

**Remark 2** A particular case of Theorem 3 is proved in [7].

**Remark 3** In the general case there can exist nonmeasurable derivatives having the property  $(S_{l,1})$ . For example, if  $X = \mathbb{R}$  (the set of all reals),  $\mu$  is the Lebesgue measure and  $\Phi$  is the family of open intervals then there exists a  $\mu$ -nonmeasurable set  $A \subset [0,1]$ . Let  $I_k \Rightarrow x \in [0,1]$  mean that  $x \in I_k \subset \mathbb{R} - [0,1]$  for all  $k = 1, 2, \ldots$  and  $\lim_{k\to\infty} d(I_k) = 0$  ( $d(I_k)$  denotes the diameter of  $I_k$ ), and for  $x \in A$  let  $I_k \Rightarrow x$  mean that  $I_k \Rightarrow 2$ , and for  $x \in [0,1] - A$  let  $I_k \Rightarrow x$  mean that  $I_k \Rightarrow -2$ . Then the function

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } x \in A \cup (1,\infty) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

is a  $\mu$ -nonmeasurable derivative having the property  $(S_{l,1})$ . Some additional assumptions for the differentiation basis  $(\Phi, \Rightarrow)$  (for example, the density property [1]) imply the  $\mu$ -measurability of all derivatives and all functions having the property  $(S_{u,\gamma}), \gamma \in (0,1]$ .

**Remark 4** Some counterexamples concerning Theorems 1 and 3 are contained in [5], [7], and [6].

#### Section III

In this section we assume that  $(Y, \varrho)$  is a metric space,  $(Y, \mathcal{M}_1, \mu_1)$  is a totally  $\sigma$ -finite complete measure space and that  $(\Phi_1, \Rightarrow)$  is a differentiation basis in Y.

**Theorem 4** Let  $f : X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be a function such that:

- (7) for every  $(x, y) \in X \times Y$  and for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there are sets  $A(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  $B(x, y) \in \mathcal{M}_1$  such that  $D_l(A(x, y), x) = D_l(B(x, y), y) = 1$ ,  $y \in B(x, y)$ , and  $\varrho(f(t, u), f(t, y)) < \varepsilon$  for every  $t \in A(x, y)$  and every  $u \in B(x, y)$ ;
- (8) all sections  $f^{y}, y \in Y$ , have the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$ , where  $\gamma \in (0,1]$ .

Then for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  satisfying

(9) if  $g(x) \in U \in \mathcal{M}_1$  and  $D_l(U, g(x)) = 1$ , then there is a set  $C \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $x \in C \subset g^{-1}(U)$  and  $D_l(C, x) = 1$ ,

the superposition  $h(x) = f(x, g(x)), x \in X$ , has the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$ .

**PROOF.** Fix  $x \in X$ , and an open set  $U \subset Y$  such that  $h(x) \in U$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be such that

$$\{u \in Y; \varrho(u, h(x)) \leq \varepsilon\} \subset U.$$

By (7) there are sets  $A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $B(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}_1$  such that

 $g(x)\in B(x,g(x)),$  $D_l(A(x,g(x)),x)=D_l(B(x,g(x)),g(x))=1 \ and$ 

 $\varrho(f(t,u),f(t,g(x)))<\varepsilon/2$ 

for every  $t \in A(x, g(x))$  and every  $u \in B(x, g(x))$ . By (9) there is a set  $C \in \mathcal{M}$ such that  $x \in C \subset g^{-1}(B(x, g(x)))$  and  $D_l(C, x) = 1$ . Since the section  $t \longrightarrow f(t, g(x))$  has the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$ , there is a set  $E \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $D_l(E, x) \ge \gamma$   $(D^u(E, x) \ge \gamma)$  and  $\varrho(f(t, g(x)), f(x, g(x))) < \varepsilon/2$  for each  $t \in E$ . Observe that the set  $G = C \cap E \cap A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $D_l(G, x) \ge \gamma$  $(D^u(G, x) \ge \gamma)$ . Moreover, we have for  $t \in G$ ,

$$egin{aligned} arrho(h(t),h(x)) &=& arrho(f(t,g(t)),f(x,g(x))) \ &\leq& arrho(f(t,g(t)),f(t,g(x))) + arrho(f(t,g(x)),f(x,g(x))) \ &<& arepsilon/2 + arepsilon/2 = arepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.

### Section IV

In this section we assume that  $(Y, \|\cdot\|)$  is a separable Banach space and  $(Y, \mathcal{M}_1, \mu_1)$  is a totally  $\sigma$ -finite complete measure space and  $(\Phi_1, \Rightarrow)$  is a differentiation basis in Y.

**Theorem 5** Let  $f: X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be a bounded function satisfying the condition (7) from Theorem 3 such that

- (10) all sections  $f^y$ ,  $y \in Y$ , are derivatives;
- (11) for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  satisfying the condition (9) from Theorem 4 the superposition  $h(x) = f(x, g(x)), x \in X$ , is  $\mu$ -measurable.

Then for every function  $g: X \longrightarrow Y$  satisfying the condition (9) from Theorem 4 the superposition  $h(x) = f(x, g(x)), x \in X$ , is a derivative.

PROOF. Fix  $x \in X$ , a net  $I_{\alpha} \Rightarrow x$ , and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By (7) there are sets  $A(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $B(x, g(x)) \in \mathcal{M}_1$  such that  $g(x) \in B(x, g(x))$ ,  $D_l(A(x, g(x)), x) = D_l(B(x, g(x)), g(x)) = 1$  and  $||f(t, u) - f(t, g(x))|| < \varepsilon/3$  for every  $t \in A(x, g(x))$  and every  $u \in B(x, g(x))$ . By (9) there is a set  $C \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $x \in C \subset g^{-1}(B(x, g(x)))$  and  $D_l(C, x) = 1$ . Observe that the set  $E = A(x, g(x)) \cap C \in \mathcal{M}$  and

(12)  $D_l(E, x) = 1.$ 

By (10) and (12) there is an index  $\beta$  such that for  $\alpha > \beta$  we have:

(13)  $\left\|\int_{I_{\alpha}}f(t,g(x))dt/\mu(I_{\alpha})-f(x,g(x))\right\|<\varepsilon/3;$ 

(14)  $\mu(I_{\alpha} \cap E)/\mu(I_{\alpha}) > 1 - \varepsilon/6a$ , where a > 0 is such that  $||f(t, u)|| \le a$  for all  $(t, u) \in X \times Y$ .

If  $\alpha > \beta$  then, by (13) and (14),

$$\begin{split} \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} h(t)dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) - h(x) \right| \\ &= \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} f(t,g(t))dt/\mu(I_{\alpha}) - f(x,g(x)) \right\| \\ &= \left\| \int_{I_{\alpha}} (f(t,g(t)) - f(x,g(x)))dt \right\| / \mu(I_{\alpha}) \\ &\leq \left( \int_{I_{\alpha} \cap E} \|f(t,g(t)) - f(t,g(x))\| dt \\ &+ \int_{I_{\alpha} - E} \|f(t,g(t)) - f(t,g(x))\| dt \\ &+ \int_{I_{\alpha}} \|f(t,g(x)) - f(x,g(x))\| dt / \mu(I_{\alpha})) \\ &< \varepsilon \mu(I_{\alpha} \cap E) / 3\mu(I_{\alpha}) + 2\varepsilon a / 6a + \varepsilon / 3 \\ &\leq \varepsilon / 3 + \varepsilon / 3 + \varepsilon / 3 = \varepsilon. \end{split}$$

So,

$$\lim_{\alpha}\int_{I_{\alpha}}h(t)dt/\mu(I_{\alpha})=h(x),$$

and the proof is finished.

#### Section V

Now we will show some applications of Theorems 1, 2, and 3 to the differential equations. In this section  $X = \mathbb{R}, \mu$  is the Lebesgue measure and  $\Phi$  denotes the family of all open intervals. Let  $I_k \Rightarrow x$  mean that  $x \in I_k$  for all k and  $\lim_{k\to\infty} d(I_k) = 0$ . Let Y be a separable Banach space. Observe that in this case all derivatives and all functions having the property  $(S_{u,\gamma}), \gamma \in (0,1]$  are measurables in the Lebesgue sense. The functions with the property  $(S_{l,1})$  ( $(S'_{l,1})$ ) are called approximately continuous [2] (a.e. continuous [10]). Moreover, in this case every bounded function g having the property  $(S_{l,1})$  is a derivative ([2], and [8]).

Let  $D \subset \mathbb{R} \times Y$  be a nonempty open set and let  $f : D \longrightarrow Y$  be a function. A continuous function  $g : I \longrightarrow Y$ , where I is a nondegenerate interval, is called a Carathéodory solution of the Cauchy problem

$$y'(x) = f(x, y(x)), y(x_0) = y_0,$$
 (1)

if g'(x) = f(x, g(x)) almost everywhere (with respect to the Lebesgue measure) on I,  $x_0 \in I$ , and  $g(x_0) = y_0$ . Obviously, if the superposition  $x \longrightarrow f(x, g(x)), x \in I$ , is a derivative and f is bounded, then the Carathéodory solution g of the problem (1) is an ordinary solution of (1), i.e. g'(x) = f(x, g(x)) everywhere on I ([7]).

From the above, by Theorems 1, 2, and 3, and by Theorem 1 from [4], p. 7 we have the following:

**Theorem 6** Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $D = [t_0, t_0 + a] \times \{y \in \mathbb{R}^k; |y - y_0| < b\}(a, b > 0)$ , and  $f : D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  be a locally bounded function satisfying the condition (2) ((2)) [(2')] {(2')} and such that:

- all sections  $f^{y}$  are derivatives having the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$  (  $(S_{u,\gamma})$  ) [  $(S'_{l,\gamma})$  ] {  $(S'_{u,\gamma})$  }, where  $\gamma \in (0,1]$ ;
- almost all sections  $f_x$  are continuous;
- there is an integrable function  $h : [t_0, t_0 + a] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|f(t, y)| \le h(t)$  for every  $(t, y) \in D$ .

Let

$$g(u)=\int_{t_0}^u h(t)dt, u\in [t_0,t_0+a].$$

Then for every d such that  $0 < d \le a$  and  $g(t_0 + d) \le b$  there is a solution y of the Cauchy problem (1) (where  $t_0 = x_0$ ) defined on  $[t_0, t_0 + d]$  and such that its derivative y' has the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$  ( $(S_{u,\gamma})$ ) [ $(S'_{l,\gamma})$ ] { $(S'_{u,\gamma})$  }.

**Remark 5** Observe that all sections  $f_x, x \in [t_0, t_0 + a]$ , of the function f from Theorem 6 are continuous. Indeed, if a section  $f_x$  is not continuous at some point y then there is s > 0 such that  $oscf_x(y) \ge s$ . By (2) there is a set  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  and r > 0 such that  $D_l(A, x) = 1$  and |f(t, u) - f(t, y)| < s/4 for each  $t \in A$  and  $u \in Y$  with |u - y| < r. Since every section  $f^u$  is a derivative and |f(t, u) - f(t, y)| < s/4 for  $t \in A$  and  $u \in Y$  with |u - y| < r, we have that  $|f(x, u) - f(x, y)| \le s/4$ , a contradiction.

**Theorem 7** Let  $Y = \mathbb{R}^k$ ,  $D = [0,1] \times U$ , where U is an open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with center  $y_0$  and radius  $r_0 > 0$ . Let  $f : D \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  be a locally bounded function satisfying the condition (2) ((2)) [(2')] { (2') } such that:

- all sections  $f^{y}, y \in U$ , are derivatives having the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$  $[(S_{l,\gamma})] \{ (S'_{u,\gamma}) \}$ , where  $\gamma \in (0,1]$ ;
- almost all sections  $f_x$ ,  $x \in [0, 1]$ , are continuous;

- there is an integrable function  $h : [0,1] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $|f(t,y)| \le h(t)$ for each  $(t,y) \in D$ .

Let J = [0, T], where  $0 < T \leq 1$  be such that  $\int_0^T (h(t)+1)dt < r_0$ . Then the set of all solutions y of the Cauchy problem (1) defined on J and such that their derivatives y' have the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$   $[(S'_{u,\gamma})]$  is an  $R_{\delta}$ -set in the space  $C(J, \mathbb{R}^k)$  of all continuous functions from J to  $\mathbb{R}^k$  with the norm of uniform convergence. (Recall that a subset of a metric space is called an  $R_{\delta}$ -set if it is the intersection of a decreasing sequence of (nonempty) compact absolute retracts.)

The proof of Theorem 7 follows from de Blasi's and Myjak's Theorem in [3] and from our Theorems 1, 2, 3.

Now, we assume that Y is an infinite-dimensional separable Banach space and we recollect the following notions:

- for a bounded set  $A \subset Y$ ,  $\alpha(A)$  denotes the Kuratowski  $\alpha$ -index of the set A, i.e. the greatest lower bound of the set of such numbers r that A can be covered by a finite number of sets with the diameter not larger than r;
- we shall call a Kamke function every function  $\omega : [0, a] \times \mathbb{R}^+ \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that all sections  $\omega_t$ ,  $0 \le t \le a$ , are continuous, all sections  $\omega^y$ ,  $y \ge 0$ , are measurable (in the Lebesgue sense),  $\omega(t, 0) = 0$  for  $0 \le t \le a$ , and u(t) = 0 for  $0 \le t \le a$  is the only continuous solution of the inequality  $u(t) \le \int_0^t \omega(s, u(s)) ds$  satisfying the condition u(0) = 0.

Fix a Kamke function  $\omega$ . Then we have:

**Theorem 8** Let D be a rectangle  $[0, a] \times \{y \in Y; \|y - y_0\| < b\}(a, b > 0)$ . Let  $f: D \longrightarrow Y$  be a bounded function such that:

- all sections  $f_x$ ,  $0 \le x \le a$ , are continuous;
- all sections  $f^{y}$ ,  $y \in Y$  and  $||y y_{0}|| < b$ , are derivatives having the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$   $[(S'_{l,\gamma})] \{ (S'_{u,\gamma}) \}, \gamma \in (0,1];$
- there is c > 0 such that  $||f(x, y)|| \le c$  for each  $(x, y) \in D$ ;
- for each bounded set  $A \subset Y$  and for almost every  $x \in I$ ,

$$\lim_{s \to 0} \alpha(f(I_{x,s}, A)) \le \omega(x, \alpha(A)),$$

where  $I = [0, \beta], \ \beta = \min(a, b/c), \ I_{x,s} = (x - s, x + s);$ 

- f satisfies the condition (2) ( (2) ) [ (2') ] { (2') }.

Then there exists at least one solution y of the Cauchy problem (1) defined on  $[0,\beta]$  such that its derivative y' has the property  $(S_{l,\gamma})$   $((S_{u,\gamma}))$   $[(S'_{l,\gamma})]$  {  $(S'_{u,\gamma})$  }.

The proof of this Theorem follows from Theorems 1, 2, 3 and from Pianigiani's Theorem in [11].

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