

Then we have

$$(2.14) \quad |h| = |e^{i\alpha t}h| = |T(t)h| \leq T(t)|h| \quad \text{or} \quad T(t)|h| - |h| \geq 0,$$

$$(2.15) \quad \langle T(t)|h| - |h|, \psi \rangle = \langle |h|, T(t)' \psi \rangle - \langle |h|, \psi \rangle = 0.$$

Since  $\psi$  is strictly positive, (2.14) and (2.15) imply that

$$T(t)|h| = |h| \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad A|h| = 0.$$

Now Thm.2.4 implies that  $Ah^{[n]} = \text{in}h^{[n]} \quad (n \in \mathbb{Z})$ .

□

Concerning the hypothesis  $T(t_0)' \phi = \exp(s(A)t_0) \cdot \phi \gg 0$  we recall that in case  $X$  is compact there are always positive linear forms such that  $T(t)' \phi = e^{s(A)t} \phi$  (see Thm.1.6). If the semigroup is irreducible, then one also has  $\phi \gg 0$  (see Sec.3 below).

In a second result we consider semigroups having compact resolvent. An important step of the proof is isolated as a lemma. Before stating it we recall that given a closed ideal  $I \subset C_0(X)$  then  $I$  as well as  $C_0(X)/I$  are spaces of continuous functions on a locally compact space vanishing at infinity. More precisely, if  $I = \{f \in C_0(X) : f|_M = 0\}$  for a suitable closed subset  $M \subset X$ , then  $I \cong C_0(X \setminus M)$  and  $C_0(X)/I \cong C_0(M)$  (cf. B-I). It follows that given another closed ideal  $J = \{f \in C_0(X) : f|_N = 0\}$  such that  $I \subset J$  i.e.,  $N \subset M$ , then  $J/I$  can be identified with  $C_0(M \setminus N)$ . We do not use this concrete representation of  $J/I$ . However, this shows that we stay within our setting of Banach spaces of continuous functions on locally compact spaces.

Lemma 2.8. Suppose  $A$  is the generator of a positive semigroup  $T$  such that the spectral bound  $s(A)$  is a pole of the resolvent of order  $k$ . Then there is a sequence

$$(2.16) \quad I_{-1} := \{0\} \subset I_0 \subsetneq I_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq I_k := E$$

of  $T$ -invariant closed ideals with the following properties:

Denoting by  $A_n$  ( $n = 0, 1, \dots, k$ ) the generator of the semigroup on  $I_n/I_{n-1}$  which is induced by  $(T(t))$  we have :

- (a)  $s(A_0) < s(A)$  ;
- (b) If  $n \geq 1$  then  $s(A_n) = s(A)$  is a first order pole of the resolvent  $R(., A_n)$ . The corresponding residue is a strictly positive operator.