

The adjoint semigroup on E^* is given by the operators

$$T(t)^* := T(t)'|_{E^*}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Since $(T(t)^*)_{t \geq 0}$ is strongly continuous on E^* we call its generator $(A^*, D(A^*))$ the adjoint generator.

The above definition makes sense since E^* is norm-closed in E' and $(T(t)')$ -invariant. The main point is that E^* is still reasonably large. In fact, since $\int_0^t T(s)' \phi \, ds$, understood in the weak sense, is contained in E^* for every $\phi \in E'$, $t \geq 0$ it follows that $\sup\{\langle f, \phi \rangle : \phi \in E^*, \|\phi\| \leq 1\} \leq \|f\| \leq M \cdot \sup\{\langle f, \phi \rangle : \phi \in E^*, \|\phi\| \leq 1\}$ where $M := \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \|T(t)\|$. In particular, E^* separates E , i.e. E^* is $\sigma(E', E)$ -dense in E' . In addition the estimate of $\|\cdot\|$ given above yields

$$\|T(t)^*\| \leq \|T(t)\| \leq M \|T(t)^*\| \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0.$$

In the following proposition we describe the relation between A^* and A' .

Proposition. For the adjoint generator A^* of a strongly continuous semigroup $(T(t))_{t \geq 0}$ on E the following assertions hold:

- (i) E^* is the $\|\cdot\|$ -closure of $D(A')$.
- (ii) $D(A^*) = \{\phi \in D(A') : A'\phi \in E^*\}$.
- (iii) A^* and A' coincide on $D(A^*)$.

Proof. (i) Take $\phi \in D(A')$ fixed. For every $f \in D(A)$ with $\|f\| \leq 1$ we define a continuously differentiable function

$$t \mapsto \xi_f(t) := \langle T(t)f, \phi \rangle$$

on $[0, 1]$ with derivative $\xi_f'(t) = \langle T(t)Af, \phi \rangle = \langle T(t)f, A'\phi \rangle$.

Since $\{\xi_f'(t) : t \in [0, 1], f \in D(A), \|f\| \leq 1\}$ is bounded it follows that the set

$$\{\xi_f : f \in D(A), \|f\| \leq 1\}$$

is equicontinuous at 0, i.e. for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $0 < t_0 < 1$ such that

$$|\xi_f(s) - \xi_f(0)| = |\langle f, T(s)' \phi - \phi \rangle| < \varepsilon$$

for every $0 \leq s \leq t_0$ and $f \in D(A)$, $\|f\| \leq 1$. But this implies $\|T(s)' \phi - \phi\| < \varepsilon$ and hence $\phi \in E^*$.

Conversely take $\psi \in E^*$. Then $\frac{1}{t} \int_0^t T(s)' \psi \, ds$, $t > 0$, belongs to $D(A')$ and norm converges to ψ as $t \rightarrow 0$, i.e. ψ belongs to the norm closure of $D(A')$.

(ii) and (iii): Since the weak* topology on E' is weaker than the norm topology it follows that A' is an extension of A^* .

Now take $\phi \in D(A')$ such that $A'\phi \in E^*$. As above define the func-