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A DIRECT APPROACH TO THE WEISS CONJECTURE FOR  
BOUNDED ANALYTIC SEMIGROUPS

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*Abstract.* We give a new proof of the Weiss conjecture for analytic semigroups. Our approach does not make any recourse to the bounded  $H^\infty$ -calculus and is based on elementary analysis.

*Keywords:* infinite dimensional systems, analytic semigroups, unbounded observation operator, admissibility, fractional power

*MSC 2010:* 35XX, 34K35, 35Q93, 47XX

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper we consider the abstract differential system

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = Ax(t), & t \geq 0, \\ x(0) = x_0, \\ y(t) = Cx(t), \end{cases}$$

where the operator  $A$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup  $\mathbb{T} := (\mathbb{T}(t))_{t \geq 0}$  on a Banach (state) space  $X$ . We denote by  $\omega(A)$  the growth bound of  $\mathbb{T}$ . The operator  $C$  is a bounded  $Y$ -valued operator from the domain  $D(A)$  of  $A$ , with respect to the graph norm to the second (output) Banach space  $Y$ . That is, there exists a constant  $M_0 > 0$  such that

$$\|Cx\|_Y \leq M_0(\|x\|_X + \|Ax\|_X), \quad x \in D(A).$$

For  $x \in D(A)$  and  $t > 0$ ,  $\mathbb{T}(t)x \in D(A)$ , the resulting function  $t \mapsto C\mathbb{T}(t)x$  is continuous from  $(0, \infty)$  into  $Y$ . An important question is whether the system (1.1) is well-posed. Of course, since  $A$  generates a  $C_0$ -semigroup on  $X$ , the state equation has

a unique mild solution  $x(t) = \mathbb{T}(t)x_0$ . However, since  $C$  is not a bounded operator on  $X$ , it is not clear whether the output equation is well-posed. The output equation makes sense if  $C$  is bounded on  $X$ . However, one could relax this to the question whether the output trajectory is locally square integrable. Therefore the following definition of an admissible observation operator has been introduced. According to [21], we say that  $C$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible if for some (or hence for all)  $\tau \in (0, \infty)$  there exists  $\kappa_p(\tau) > 0$  such that

$$(1.2) \quad \int_0^\tau \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|_Y^p dt \leq \kappa_p^p(\tau)\|x\|_X^p.$$

A variant of admissibility called the infinite-time admissibility when the integral on  $(0, \tau)$  in (1.2) is replaced by the whole time axis  $(0, \infty)$  has also been extensively studied (see e.g., [7], [8], [23], [15], [6], [16], [24]). The notion of finite time  $p$ -admissibility is invariant under scalings  $e^{-\alpha}\mathbb{T}(\cdot)$ . Hence, if we want to investigate finite-time admissibility of observation operators, then we may assume that the semigroup is exponentially stable. We refer to ([8], [22], [20]) and the references therein for historical background and applications of admissibility. Since the resolvent is the Laplace transform of the semigroup, the finite-time  $p$ -admissibility always implies

$$(1.3) \quad \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_\alpha} (\operatorname{Re}(z))^{1-1/p} \|CR(z, A)\| < \infty$$

for some  $\alpha > \omega(A)$ , where  $\mathbb{C}_\alpha = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ s.t. } \operatorname{Re}(z) > \alpha\}$ .

For  $p = 2$ , it has been proved in [21] that the converse does not hold in the general Banach space context. However, in [21] it was conjectured that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are Hilbert spaces, then  $C$  is finite-time  $L^2$ -admissible observation operator if and only if (1.3) holds. Since then, this problem, which is known as the Weiss conjecture, has received much attention. Zwart in [24] presents some sufficient conditions for finite (or infinite) time  $L^2$ -admissibility. It was first shown in [17] that the isometric right shift semigroup in  $H^2(\mathbb{C}^+, X)$  satisfies the Weiss conjecture for scalar observation operators (in the case  $X = \mathbb{C}$ ). By using the Sz.Nagy Foias functional model for contraction semigroups on a Hilbert space and applying the same proof as in [17] for  $X$  a general separable Hilbert space, it was shown in [11] that the Weiss conjecture holds for general contraction semigroups on separable Hilbert spaces with a scalar observation operator. The proof in [11] was later simplified in [19], Section 10.7 by using an isometric extension of the semigroup. For  $Y = \mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{T}(t)$  being a contraction semigroup, it was shown in [11] that the Weiss conjecture holds. But in [12] the authors showed that if  $\dim(Y) = \infty$  then the Weiss conjecture can fail even for a semigroup of isometries. The papers [23] and [13] constructed bounded, analytic semigroups for which the Weiss conjecture fails with  $Y$  of finite or infinite dimension

respectively. The paper [15] gives other examples of bounded analytic semigroups which are not similar to contraction semigroups for which the Weiss conjecture holds for all Banach spaces  $Y$ . Papers [10] and [20] contain the special case when the semigroup is normal and analytic. In the Banach space context and concerning the infinite-time admissibility, LeMerdy in his paper [15] showed that the infinite-time Weiss conjecture holds for a bounded analytic semigroup if and only if the fractional power  $(-A)^{1/2}$  is admissible for  $A$ . For a contractive analytic semigroup on a Hilbert space  $X$ , it is shown in [15] that the Weiss conjecture holds. In particular, the author extends the result by Hansen and Weiss [10] and by Weiss [20] concerning the case when the semigroup is bounded analytic and normal (and hence contractive). In [15], essential use is made of the bounded  $H^\infty$ -functional calculus.

For  $p \in [1, \infty]$ , there are a few results on the  $p$ -admissibility and its associated Weiss conjecture. The author in [4] characterized the finite time  $p$ -admissibility of control and observation operators. In [5] this result was extended to the infinite-time  $p$ -admissibility. Recently, the authors in [9] have extended the result in [15] on the Weiss conjecture for 2-admissibility to the case of  $p$ -admissibility for bounded analytic semigroups.

The aim of this paper is to present new and much shorter proofs of the results of the Weiss-conjecture for analytic semigroups proved in [15] for  $p = 2$  and in [9] for  $p \in (1, \infty]$ , eventually even generalizing them. We will also prove that the analyticity assumption on the semigroup cannot be omitted. Our approach does not make any recourse to the  $H^\infty$ -functional calculus and is based on elementary analysis. Similar results can be obtained for the weighted admissibility of observation operators studied in [9] and this will be the subject of a forthcoming paper.

## 2. DEFINITION AND RESULTS

The following definition explains what does it mean exactly that  $A$  satisfies the finite time  $p$ -Weiss property.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  generate a bounded  $C_0$ -semigroup  $\mathcal{L}(D(A), Y)$  on a Banach space  $X$ . We say that  $A$  satisfies the finite-time  $p$ -Weiss property if for any Banach space  $Y$  and  $C \in \mathcal{L}(D(A), Y)$ , the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $C$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ .
- (ii)  $C$  satisfies the estimate (1.3).

Definition 2.1 has an analogue version for the infinite  $p$ -Weiss property, henceforth called the  $p$ -Weiss property for short.

Our main result is based on the following ergodic result.

**Proposition 2.2.** Let  $p \in [1, \infty)$  and  $T > 0$ . Let  $X$  be a Banach space and let us define operators  $L_0$  and  $L$  as

$$(L_0 f)(t) := \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t f(s) \, ds \text{ and } (L f)(t) := \int_t^T \frac{f(s)}{s} \, ds \text{ for } f \in L^p([0, T], X)$$

and  $0 < t < T$ . Then:

- (i)  $L_0$  is bounded on  $L^p([0, T], X)$  and  $\|L_0\|_p \leq p/(p-1)$  for  $p > 1$ .
- (ii)  $L$  is bounded on  $L^p([0, T], X)$  and  $\|L\|_p \leq p$  for  $p \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* By virtue of the denseness of  $\mathcal{C}([0, T], X)$  (the set of continuous functions on  $[0, T]$ ) in  $L^p([0, T], X)$  it suffices only to prove the result for  $f \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], X)$ .

(i) Let  $p > 1$  and  $0 < t \leq T$ . It is easy to see that

$$\|L_0 f\|_p^p = \int_0^T \frac{1}{t^p} \left\| \int_0^t f(s) \, ds \right\|^p dt \leq \int_0^T \frac{1}{t^p} \left( \int_0^t \|f(s)\| \, ds \right)^p dt = \|L_0(\|f\|)\|_p^p.$$

Then it suffices to prove the statement for  $X = \mathbb{C}$  and  $f \geq 0$ . Let  $p'$  be the conjugate of  $p$  ( $1/p + 1/p' = 1$ ). Note that  $(p-1)p' = p$  and  $p - p/p' = 1$ .

We perform integration by parts to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|L_0(f)\|_p &= \frac{1}{1-p} \|f\|_1^p + \frac{p}{p-1} \int_0^T f(t) \left( \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t f(s) \, ds \right)^{p-1} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{1-p} \|f\|_1^p + \frac{p}{p-1} \int_0^T f(t) (L_0(f)(t))^{p-1} dt \\ &\leq \frac{1}{1-p} \|f\|_1^p + \frac{p}{p-1} \|f\|_p \left( \int_0^T (L_0(f)(t))^{(p-1)p'} dt \right)^{1/p'} \quad (\text{by Hölder inequality}) \\ &= \frac{1}{1-p} \|f\|_1^p + \frac{p}{p-1} \|f\|_p \|L_0(f)\|_p^{p/p'}. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\|L_0 f\|_p \leq \frac{p}{p-1} \|f\|_p$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^+)$ .

Now, we prove (ii). As above,

$$\|L f\|_p^p = \int_0^T \left\| \int_t^T \frac{f(s)}{s} \, ds \right\|^p dt \leq \int_0^T \left( \int_t^T \frac{\|f(s)\|}{s} \, ds \right)^p dt = \|L(\|f\|)\|_p^p,$$

and it suffices again to prove the statement for  $X = \mathbb{C}$  and  $f \geq 0$ . We have by integration by parts

$$\begin{aligned} \|L f\|_p^p &= \left[ t \left( \int_t^T \frac{f(s)}{s} \, ds \right)^p \right]_0^T + p \int_0^T f(t) \left( \int_t^T \frac{f(s)}{s} \, ds \right)^{p-1} dt \\ &\leq p \|f\|_p \|L f\|_p^{p/p'} \quad (\text{by Hölder inequality}) \end{aligned}$$

whence  $\|L f\|_p \leq p \|f\|_p$  for all  $f \in \mathcal{C}([0, T], \mathbb{R}^+)$ . □

Before giving the main result on the  $p$ -Weiss property for  $p \in [1, \infty]$ , we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $A$  generate a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup on a Banach space  $X$  and let  $C \in \mathcal{L}(D(A), Y)$  where  $Y$  is an another Banach space. Let  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . Consider the following statements:*

- (i)  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(z))^{1/p'} \|CR(z, A)\| < \infty$ .
- (ii)  $\sup_{t \geq 0} t^{1/p} \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| \leq M_p \|x\|$  for  $x \in X$  and some  $M_p > 0$ .

Then (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) for  $p \in (1, \infty]$  and (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) for  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .

**Proof.** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $p \in (1, \infty]$ . By continuity of  $C$  on  $D(A)$ , for all  $x \in X$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}_0$ , we have

$$CR(z, A)x = \int_0^\infty e^{-zt} C\mathbb{T}(t)x dt.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|CR(z, A)x\| &\leq \int_0^\infty e^{-\operatorname{Re}(z)t} \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| dt \\ &\leq M_p \|x\| \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-\operatorname{Re}(z)t}}{t^{1/p}} dt \\ &= \frac{M_p \|x\|}{\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1-1/p}} \int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-s}}{s^{1/p}} ds \quad (s := \operatorname{Re}(z)t) \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(1/p') M_p \|x\|}{\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'}} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the usual Gamma function. This shows the assertion.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . For  $\theta \in (0, \pi]$ , we denote by  $S_\theta$  the open sector of all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\operatorname{Arg}(z) \in (-\theta, \theta)$ ,  $\overline{S_\theta}$  its closure and by  $\Gamma_\theta$  its boundary oriented counterclockwise. As  $\mathbb{T}(t)$  is a bounded and analytic semigroup, it is well known that the spectrum of its generator  $A$  is contained in some  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{S_\omega}$  with  $\omega \in (\pi/2, \pi)$ . By the Cauchy integral formula, we have

$$\mathbb{T}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_\Gamma e^{tz} R(z, A) dz,$$

where  $\Gamma = \Gamma_\gamma$  with  $\gamma \in (\pi/2, \omega)$ .

Then for all  $x \in D(A)$

$$\begin{aligned} \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| &= \left\| \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_\Gamma e^{tz} CR(z, A)x dz \right\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_\Gamma e^{t \operatorname{Re}(z)} \|CR(z, A)x\| |dz|. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $|\operatorname{Re}(z)|/|z| = \sin(\gamma)$  for all  $z \in \Gamma$ . By virtue of the resolvent equation and using the analyticity of the semigroup  $\mathbb{T}(t)$ , the statement (i) implies that

$$|z|^{1/p'} \|CR(z, A)\| \leq M_\Gamma \sup_{s \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(s)^{1/p'}) \|CR(s, A)\| \quad \text{for all } z \in \Gamma,$$

for some constant  $M_\Gamma > 0$ .

On the other hand, it is straightforward to see that

$$\begin{aligned} \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| &\leq \frac{1}{t^{1/p}} \int_\Gamma |\lambda|^{1/p} e^{\operatorname{Re}(\lambda)} \frac{|d\lambda|}{|\lambda|} M_\Gamma \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'}) \|CR(z, A)\| \|x\| \quad (\lambda := tz) \\ &= \frac{M_p}{t^{1/p}} \|x\|, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.1) \quad M_p = M_\Gamma \sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'}) \|CR(z, A)\| \int_\Gamma |\lambda|^{-1/p'} e^{\operatorname{Re}(\lambda)} |d\lambda|.$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

Before stating the next lemma, we recall some basic facts on fractional powers. The study of fractional powers of sectorial operators which are classical objects in semigroup theory has a long history. Many results can be found in the book of Amann [1], and in the original papers of Balakrishnan [3], Komatsu [14] and others.

Let  $A$  be a generator of a bounded semigroup. Then  $-A$  is sectorial. In particular, the resolvent set  $\rho(-A)$  contains  $(-\infty, 0)$  and the resolvent satisfies  $\sup_{\lambda > 0} \|\lambda(\lambda - A)^{-1}\| < \infty$ , and then for all  $0 < \theta \leq 1$  the fractional power  $(-A)^\theta$  is well-defined. We refer to [14] for more details and references on fractional powers. In the case  $\theta = 1/2$ , we know from Arendt [[2], page 168], that  $(-A)^{1/2}$  is the unique closed operator satisfying for  $x \in D(A)$ ,  $((-A)^{1/2})^2 x = -Ax$  and

$$(-A)^{1/2} x = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} (\varepsilon - A)^{1/2} x = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{s^{1/2}} R(s, A) A x \, ds.$$

Moreover,  $D(A)$  is a core for  $(-A)^{1/2}$ , and  $D((-A)^{1/2}) = D((\varepsilon - A)^{1/2})$  ( $\varepsilon > 0$ ). If, in addition,  $\mathbb{T}(t)$  is a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup and  $\theta \in (0, 1]$  then  $t^\theta (-A)^\theta \mathbb{T}(t)$  is uniformly bounded on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  (see Theorem 12.1 [14]). In the rest of this paper we set

$$(2.2) \quad a_\theta = \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}^+} \|t^\theta (-A)^\theta \mathbb{T}(t)\| \quad (0 < \theta \leq 1).$$

In this case the fractional power  $(-A)^\theta$  is always finite-time  $p$ -admissible for all  $\theta < 1/p$ .

For  $\theta = 1/p$  we have the following first characterization of the finite-time  $p$ -admissibility of  $(-A)^{1/p}$  for  $p \in [1, \infty]$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $A$  generate a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup on a Banach space  $X$  and  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ .
- (ii) For all  $T > 0$  there exists  $C_p(T) > 0$  such that  $\|t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax\|_{L^p([0,T],X)} \leq C_p(T)\|x\|$  for all  $x \in D(A)$ . (i.e.  $A$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible of type  $1 - 1/p = 1/p'$  see [9])

**Proof.** For  $p = 1$ , the assertions (i) and (ii) with  $C_1(T) = \kappa_1(T)$  are the same. For  $p = \infty$ , both the assertions (i) and (ii) are always true with  $C_\infty(T) = a_1T$ .

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) Let  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . For  $x \in D(A)$  we have  $t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax = -t^{1-1/p} \times (-A)^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)x$ .

Since  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ , for all  $T > 0$  and  $x \in D(A)$  we have

$$\int_0^T \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt \leq \kappa_p^p(T)\|x\|^p$$

for some constant  $\kappa_p(T)$  depending only on  $T$ .

Thus, the assertion follows according to (2.2) with  $C_p(T) = 2^{1+1/p'} a_{1/p'} \kappa_p(T)$  for  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $p \in (1, \infty)$ . For  $x \in D(A)$  and  $t > 0$  we can write

$$t(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax = t^{1/p}(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)Ax.$$

Again by uniform boundedness of the operator  $t^{1/p}(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)$  on  $[0, T]$  and the fact that the function  $t \mapsto t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)Ax$  lies in  $L^p([0, T], X)$ , we deduce that the function  $t \mapsto t(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax$  is so. By applying the semigroup identity we get

$$\begin{aligned} (-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x &= \mathbb{T}(t)(-A)^{1/p}x = (-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(T)x - \int_t^T (-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(s)Ax ds \\ &= (-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(T)x - \int_t^T \frac{s(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(s)Ax}{s} ds \end{aligned}$$

for all  $0 \leq t \leq T$ .

Since  $T^{1/p}(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(T)$  is bounded and the function  $t \mapsto t(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax$  lies in  $L^p([0, T], X)$ , Proposition 2.2 yields the finite-time  $p$ -admissibility of  $(-A)^{1/p}$  and we have precisely

$$\|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\|_{L^p([0,T],X)} \leq \kappa_p(T)\|x\|$$



for all  $x \in D(A)$  with

$$\kappa_p(T) = a_{1/p}(1 + 2^{2p+1}pC_p(T)).$$

□

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $A$  generate a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup and let  $C \in \mathcal{L}(D(A), Y)$ . For  $p \in [1, \infty]$ , if  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$  and  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'}) \|CR(z, A)\| < \infty$ , then for all  $T > 0$  there exists  $C'_p(T) > 0$  such that  $\|tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax\|_{L^p([0, T], X)} \leq C'_p(T)\|x\|$  for all  $x \in D(A)$ .*

**Proof.** For  $p = \infty, p' = 1$ ,  $(-A)^{1/p} = I$  is always finite time  $\infty$ -admissible. Let  $x \in D(A)$  and  $t \in (0, T]$ . Since  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} (\operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'}) \|CR(z, A)\| < \infty$ , Lemma 2.3 implies that  $\sup_{t \in [0, T]} \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| \leq M_\infty\|x\|$  and we have  $tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax = 2C\mathbb{T}(t/2)t/2A\mathbb{T}(t/2)x$ .

The result follows with  $C'_\infty(T) = 2a_1M_\infty$ .

Now, we prove the corollary for  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . Let  $t \geq 0$  and  $x \in D(A)$ . We have again  $tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax = t^{1/p}C\mathbb{T}(t/2)t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t/2)Ax$ . According to Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4 we get the claim. More precisely, if  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ , then there exists  $\kappa_p^p(T) > 0$  such that for all  $x \in D(A)$

$$\int_0^T \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt \leq \kappa_p^p(T)\|x\|^p.$$

Thus we obtain

$$\|tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax\|_{L^p([0, T], X)} \leq C'_p(T)\|x\|$$

with

$$C'_p(T) = 2^{3+1/p}a_{1/p'}\kappa_p(T)M_p \quad (M_p \text{ is given by (2.1)}).$$

□

The following theorem is the main result of the paper. It yields a characterization of the finite-time Weiss-property in terms of the admissibility of  $(-A)^{1/p}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $A$  generate a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup on a Banach space  $X$  and  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . Then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ .
- (ii)  $A$  possesses the finite-time  $p$ -Weiss property on  $\mathbb{C}_0$ .

As mentioned above this result was first obtained by Le Merdy [15] for  $p = 2$  and by Haak-Kunstmann [9] for  $p \in (1, \infty]$ . The proof below includes the case  $p = 1$ .

**Proof.** (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) For  $p \in [1, \infty]$  it follows directly from (2.2) since the resolvent of  $A$  is given by the Laplace transform of the semigroup.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) For  $p = +\infty$  the required result is given by Lemma 2.3.

For  $p = 1$ , assume that  $A$  is finite-time 1-admissible for itself. Now, let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and let  $C: D(A) \rightarrow Y$  be a continuous operator. Since  $C\mathbb{T}(t)x = C(\varepsilon - A)^{-1}(\varepsilon - A)\mathbb{T}(t)x$  for all  $x \in D(A)$  and the fact that  $M := \sup_{0 < s < 1} \|C(s - A)^{-1}\|$  is finite, by letting  $\varepsilon \downarrow 0$ , we obtain for all  $x \in D(A)$

$$\|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\| \leq M\|(-A)\mathbb{T}(t)x\|,$$

which implies that  $C$  is finite-time 1-admissible for  $A$ .

For  $p \in (1, \infty)$ , assume that  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is a finite-time  $p$ -admissible observation for  $A$ . Consider a continuous operator  $C: D(A) \rightarrow Y$  such that  $\sup_{z \in \mathbb{C}_0} \operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'} \|CR(z, A)\| < \infty$ . Thanks to Corollary 2.5, for all  $x \in D(A)$  and  $T > 0$  the function  $f(t) := tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax$  lies in  $L^p([0, T], X)$ . Moreover, for any  $x \in D(A)$  and  $t \in (0, T]$  we have

$$C\mathbb{T}(t)x = C\mathbb{T}(T)x - \int_t^T C\mathbb{T}(s)Ax \, ds = C\mathbb{T}(T)x - (Lf)(t).$$

By Lemma 2.3  $\sup_{T > 0} T^{1/p} \|C\mathbb{T}(T)x\| < \infty$  and by applying Proposition 2.2 to the function  $f$  we obtain

$$\int_0^T \|C\mathbb{T}(s)x\|^p \, ds \leq 2^p (M_p^p + 2^{2p+1} p^p M_p^p \kappa_p^p(T) a_{1/p'}^p) \|x\|^p,$$

where the constant  $M_p$  is given by (2.1). This gives the claim.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $A$  generate a bounded analytic  $C_0$ -semigroup on a Banach space  $X$  and let  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . Then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is  $p$ -admissible for  $A$ .
- (ii)  $A$  possesses the  $p$ -Weiss property on  $\mathbb{C}_0$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) for  $p = \infty$  and (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) for  $p \in [1, \infty]$  are obtained as in Proposition 2.1.

So, we prove (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) for  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . Assume that  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is  $p$ -admissible for  $A$  with

$$\int_0^\infty \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p \, dt \leq \kappa_p^p \|x\|^p$$

for all  $x \in D(A)$  and for some  $\kappa_p > 0$ .

The fact that the semigroup  $\mathbb{T}$  is bounded and analytic, implies that the function  $t \mapsto t^{1-1/p}(-A)^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)$  is uniformly bounded on  $\mathbb{R}^+$  with the bound  $a_{1/p'}$  given by (2.2). Again, Lemma 2.4 implies that  $t \mapsto t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax$  is in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^+, X)$  with

$$\int_0^\infty \|t^{1-1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)Ax\|^p dt \leq 2^{2p-1}a_{1/p'}^p\kappa_p^p\|x\|^p.$$

Now, consider a continuous operator  $C: D(A) \rightarrow Y$  satisfying the estimate  $\sup_{z \in \tilde{C}_0} \operatorname{Re}(z)^{1/p'} \|CR(z, A)\|$  is finite. Thanks to Corollary 2.5, it is easy to see that  $f(t) = tC\mathbb{T}(t)Ax$  is also in  $L^p(\mathbb{R}^+, X)$  and

$$(2.3) \quad \int_0^\infty \|f(t)\|^p dt \leq 2^{p+1}a_{1/p'}^p\kappa_p^pM_p^p\|x\|^p.$$

As above, for  $x \in D(A)$  and  $t \in (0, T]$  we have

$$C\mathbb{T}(t)x = C\mathbb{T}(T)x - \int_t^T C\mathbb{T}(s)Ax ds = C\mathbb{T}(T)x - (Lf)(t).$$

Hence,

$$\|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p \leq 2^p(\|C\mathbb{T}(T)x\|^p + \|(Lf)(t)\|^p).$$

According to Lemma 2.3 and Proposition 2.2 we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt &\leq 2^p(T\|C\mathbb{T}(T)x\|^p + \|(Lf)\|_p^p) \\ &\leq 2^p(M_p^p\|x\|^p + p^p\|f\|_p^p) \\ &\leq 2^pM_p^p(1 + 2^{p+1}a_{1/p'}^p\kappa_p^p a_p^p)\|x\|^p, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that the operator  $C$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$  and

$$\sup_{T>0} \int_0^T \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt < \infty.$$

Since  $\int_0^\infty \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt = \sup_{T>0} \int_0^T \|C\mathbb{T}(t)x\|^p dt$ , the proof is complete.  $\square$

Now we will show that the assumption that  $A$  generates an analytic semigroup in Theorem 2.1 cannot be omitted.

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $A$  be a generator of a bounded  $C_0$ -semigroup on a Banach space  $X$ . If  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$  with  $p \in [1, \infty)$ , then  $A$  generates an analytic semigroup on  $X$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is a finite-time  $p$ -admissible observation operator for  $A$ . It suffices to show that there exists  $K > 0$  such that  $\|A\mathbb{T}(t)\| \leq K/t$ ,  $0 < t \leq 1$  (see, e.g. [2]). Indeed, for  $x \in D(A)$ , Hahn-Banach's Theorem implies that there exists  $\varphi_{t,x} \in X^*$  with  $\|\varphi_{t,x}\| = 1$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} t\|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\| &= t|\langle(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x, \varphi_{t,x}\rangle| \\ &= t|\langle(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t-s)\mathbb{T}(s)x, \varphi_{t,x}\rangle| \quad (0 \leq s \leq t) \\ &= t|\langle(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t-s)x, \mathbb{T}^*(s)\varphi_{t,x}\rangle|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality we find

$$\begin{aligned} (2.4) \quad t\|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\| &\leq \int_0^t \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t-s)x\| \|\mathbb{T}^*(s)\varphi_{t,x}\| \, ds \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^t \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(s)x\|^p \, ds \right)^{1/p} \left( \int_0^t \|\mathbb{T}^*(s)\varphi_{t,x}\|^{p'} \, ds \right)^{1/p'}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(-A)^{1/p}$  is finite-time  $p$ -admissible for  $A$  we have

$$(2.5) \quad \int_0^t \|(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(s)x\|^p \, ds \leq \kappa_p^p \|x\|^p$$

for all  $t \in (0, 1]$  and for some constant  $M_p > 0$  not depending on  $x \in D(A)$ . Since  $\mathbb{T}(t)$  is bounded on  $X$ ,  $\mathbb{T}^*(t)$  is also bounded on  $X^*$ . Combining (2.5) and (2.4) we deduce that

$$(2.6) \quad \|t^{1/p}(-A)^{1/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\| \leq \alpha_p \|x\|, \quad x \in D(A)$$

for some constant  $\alpha_p > 0$ . By density we deduce that (2.6) is true for any  $x \in X$ . For  $n$  integer greater than  $p$  we obtain

$$(2.7) \quad \|t^{n/p}(-A)^{n/p}\mathbb{T}(t)x\| \leq \alpha_p^n n^{n/p} \|x\|, \quad x \in X,$$

and by the fact that  $1 \in [\frac{1}{p}, \frac{n}{p}[$ , the real interpolation completes the proof. □

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