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by

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If E, F are Riesz spaces, $L_F(E, F)$ will be the ordered vector space of all differences of positive linear operators from E to F ; the order relation on $L_F(E, F)$ is as usual: $U \geq 0$ if $U(E_+) \subset F_+$. $L_F^X(E, F)$ will be the subspace of $L_F(E, F)$ consisting of all differences of positive order continuous operators. In case E and F are endowed with locally solid topologies, $L_F^0(E, F)$ will be the subspace of $L_F(E, F)$ consisting of all differences of positive continuous operators. We shall write E^\sim for $L_F(E, \mathbb{R})$, E^X for $L_F^X(E, \mathbb{R})$ and E^0 for $L_F^0(E, \mathbb{R})$.

For any order bounded linear operator $U: E \rightarrow F$ we let $U': F^\sim \rightarrow E^\sim$ be the transpose of U .

If $f \in E^\sim$ and $y \in F$ we shall denote by $f \otimes y$ the operator given by

$$(f \otimes y)(x) = f(x)y, \quad x \in E.$$

For any order ideal G in E^\sim we let $\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)$ be the collection of all operators of the form $\sum_{i=1}^n f_i \otimes y_i$ with $f_i \in G$ and $y_i \in F$; we also let $\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)$ be the collection of all operators of the form $\sum_{i=1}^n f_i \otimes y_i$ with $f_i \in G_+$ and $y_i \in F_+$. In particular we use the notations $\mathcal{F}(E, F)$ for $\mathcal{F}_{E^\sim}(E, F)$, $\mathcal{F}^X(E, F)$ for $\mathcal{F}_{E^X}(E, F)$, $\mathcal{F}^0(E, F)$ for $\mathcal{F}_{E^0}(E, F)$; a similar convention is applied to $\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)$.

For any Riesz subspace G of E^\sim , $|\cdot|_G(E, G)$ will be the topology on E given by the seminorms $x \mapsto g(|x|)$ with $g \in G_+$.

A subset M of a Riesz space E endowed with a locally solid topology is called almost order bounded (shortly: ao-bounded) if for every neighborhood W of 0 there is $x \in E_+$ such that $(|u| - x)_+ \in W$ whenever $u \in M$.

Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is endowed with a locally solid topology, let \mathcal{M} be an upwards directed collection of subsets of E_+ and let L be a directed subspace of $L_F(E, F)$ such that $U(M)$ is topologically bounded whenever $U \in L$ and $M \in \mathcal{M}$. The solid \mathcal{M} -topology on L has $\{\mathcal{V}_{M, W} \mid M \in \mathcal{M}, W \text{ neighborhood of } 0 \text{ in } F\}$ as a basis for 0 , $\mathcal{V}_{M, W}$ being the set of those $U \in L$ for which there is $V \in L$ such that $U \in [-V, V]$ and $V(M) \subset W$; it is a locally solid topology. In particular, taking \mathcal{M} to be the collection of all finite subsets of E_+ we obtain the solid strong topology on $L_F(E, F)$; taking \mathcal{M} to be the collection of all ao-bounded subsets of E_+ (E being endowed with a locally solid topology) we obtain the solid ao-bounded topology on $L_F^0(E, F)$.

Let E, F be Banach lattices. The regular norm on $L_F(E, F)$ is given by

$$\|U\|_F = \inf \{ \|V\| \mid U \in [-V, V] \},$$

$\|\cdot\|$ being the usual operator norm.

If X is a set, τ a topology on X and M a subset of X we shall denote by \overline{M}^τ the τ -closure of M ; if τ is understood we shall omit it.

For any compact space X , $C(X)$ will be the Banach lattice of all continuous real-valued functions on X (the norm being the usual sup norm); e will denote the function identically one on X .

i_E will be the identity map on a set E . The restriction of a map $U: E \rightarrow F$ to a subset $M \subset E$ will be denoted by $U|_M$.

The group of lemmas below will be used in § 3.

LEMMA 1.1. Let E be a Riesz space endowed with a separated locally solid topology, $F \subset E$ be a subspace and $C \subset F \cap E_+$ be a subset. Suppose that the following hold:

i) For every $x \in F$ there is $y \in C$ such that $|x| \leq y$.

ii) Whenever $x \in E_+$, $y \in C$ and $x \leq y$ it follows that $x \in \overline{C}$.

Then \overline{F} is an order ideal and $(\overline{F})_+ = \overline{C}$.

PROOF. Clearly $\overline{C} \subset \overline{F} \cap E_+$. To prove that \overline{F} is an order ideal and that $\overline{F} \cap E_+ \subset \overline{C}$ it suffices to show that whenever $x \in E$, $y \in \overline{F}$ and $|x| \leq |y|$ it follows that $x_+ \in \overline{C}$ and $x_- \in \overline{C}$. As $y \in \overline{F}$ there is a net $(y_\delta) \subset F$ such that $y_\delta \rightarrow y$. Let $x_\delta = (x \wedge |y_\delta|) \vee (-|y_\delta|)$; as $|y_\delta| \rightarrow |y|$ and $|x| \leq |y|$ we have $x_\delta \rightarrow x$. It suffices therefore to show that $(x_\delta)_+ \in \overline{C}$ and $(x_\delta)_- \in \overline{C}$. But $|x_\delta| \leq |y_\delta|$ and by i), there is $z_\delta \in C$ such that $|y_\delta| \leq z_\delta$; hence $(x_\delta)_+ \leq z_\delta$ and $(x_\delta)_- \leq z_\delta$ which by ii) implies the conclusion.

If E is a Riesz space endowed with two locally solid topologies τ_1, τ_2 such that τ_1 is stronger than τ_2 we denote by $E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ the set of those $x \in E$ with the property that τ_1 and τ_2 coincide on $[-|x|, |x|]$.

LEMMA 1.2. $E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ is a τ_1 -closed order ideal in E .

PROOF. Observe first that $x \in E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ iff whenever $(y_\delta) \subset [0, |x|]$ and $y_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_2 then $y_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_1 .

The fact that $E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ is an order ideal is an easy consequence of the above remark and the Riesz decomposition property.

We prove that $E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ is τ_1 -closed. Let $x \in \overline{E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}}$ and let $(y_\delta) \subset [0, |x|]$, $y_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_2 ; we have to prove that $y_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_1 . So let W be a τ_1 -neighborhood of 0. There is a solid τ_1 -neighborhood W^* of 0 such that $W^* + W^* \subset W$. As $x \in \overline{E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}}$ there is $x_0 \in E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ such that $x - x_0 \in W^*$. As $0 \leq y_\delta \wedge |x_0| \leq |x_0|$ and $x_0 \in E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ we have $y_\delta \wedge |x_0| \rightarrow 0$ for τ_1 ; consequently, there is δ_0 such that $y_\delta \wedge |x_0| \in W^*$ whenever $\delta \geq \delta_0$. The relation

$$y_\delta \leq |x - x_0| + y_\delta \wedge |x_0|$$

implies that $y_\delta \in W$ whenever $\delta \geq \delta_0$. Hence $y_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_1 .

LEMMA 1.3. Let E be a Riesz space endowed with two locally solid topologies τ_1, τ_2 such that τ_1 is stronger than τ_2 . Let $F \subset E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ be a subset such that $x \in \overline{F}^{\tau_1}$ whenever $x \in E$, $y \in F$ and $|x| \leq |y|$.

Then $\overline{F}^{\tau_1} = \overline{F}^{\tau_2} \cap E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$.

PROOF. As τ_1 is stronger than τ_2 , $\overline{F}^{\tau_1} \subset \overline{F}^{\tau_2}$; as $E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ is τ_1 -closed by

lemma 1.2 and $F \subset E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ it follows that $\bar{F}^{\tau_1} \subset E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$. Hence $\bar{F}^{\tau_1} \subset \bar{F}^{\tau_2} \cap E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$.

Now let $x \in \bar{F}^{\tau_2} \cap E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$. There is a net $(x_\delta) \subset F$ such that $x_\delta \rightarrow x$ for τ_2 . Let $y_\delta = (x_\delta \wedge |x|) \vee (-|x|)$. Obviously $y_\delta \rightarrow x$ for τ_2 and $|y_\delta| \leq |x|$; as $x \in E_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ we have $y_\delta \rightarrow x$ for τ_1 , so in order to prove that $x \in \bar{F}^{\tau_1}$ it suffices to establish that $y_\delta \in \bar{F}^{\tau_1}$. But this follows from the relation $|y_\delta| \leq |x_\delta|$ and our hypothesis on F .

LEMMA 1.4. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is endowed with a locally solid topology, let L be a subspace of $L_F(E, F)$ such that the modulus of any $U \in L$ exists and let \mathcal{M} be an upwards directed collection of subsets of E_+ containing all the finite subsets. Denote by τ_1 the solid \mathcal{M} -topology on L and by τ_2 the solid strong topology on L . Let I be the set of those $U \in L$ with the property that for every neighborhood W of 0 in E and every $M \in \mathcal{M}$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $|U|((u-x)_+) \in W$ whenever $u \in M$. Then I is a τ_1 -closed order ideal in the Riesz space L contained in $L_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$.

PROOF. Clearly I is an order ideal. To see that it is τ_1 -closed let $U \in \bar{I}^{\tau_1}$, let W be a neighborhood of 0 in F and let $M \in \mathcal{M}$. There is a solid neighborhood W^0 of 0 such that $W^0 + W^0 \subset W$. As $U \in \bar{I}^{\tau_1}$ there is $U_0 \in I$ such that $|U - U_0|(M) \subset W^0$. As $U_0 \in I$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $|U_0|((u-x)_+) \in W^0$ whenever $u \in M$. It follows then from the relation

$$\begin{aligned} |U|((u-x)_+) &\leq |U - U_0|((u-x)_+) + |U_0|((u-x)_+) \leq \\ &\leq |U - U_0|(u) + |U_0|((u-x)_+) \end{aligned}$$

that $|U|((u-x)_+) \in W$ whenever $u \in M$. Hence $U \in I$.

To see that $I \subset L_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$ let $U \in I$ and let $(U_\delta) \subset L$ be such that $0 \leq U_\delta \leq |U|$ and $U_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_2 . Let W be a neighborhood of 0 in F and let $M \in \mathcal{M}$. There is a solid neighborhood W^0 of 0 such that $W^0 + W^0 \subset W$. As $U \in I$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $|U|((u-x)_+) \in W^0$ whenever $u \in M$; as $U_\delta \rightarrow 0$ for τ_2 there is δ_0 such that $|U_\delta|(x) \in W^0$ whenever $\delta > \delta_0$. Then the relation

$$|U_\delta|(u) \leq |U_\delta|(x) + |U_\delta|((u-x)_+) \leq |U_\delta|(x) + |U|((u-x)_+)$$

implies that $|U_\delta|(M) \subset W$ whenever $\delta > \delta_0$. Hence $(U_\delta) \rightarrow 0$ for τ_1 .

Lemmas 1.1 and 1.3 will be applied in the case when $F = \mathcal{F}_G(E_1, E_2)$ and $G = \mathcal{P}_G(E_1, E_2)$ (assuming that $\mathcal{F}_G(E_1, E_2)$ is contained in a Riesz space of operators); obviously, condition i) of lemma 1.1 is satisfied in this situation. To check condition ii) it suffices to prove it only for the operators in $\mathcal{P}_G(E_1, E_2)$ of the form $f \otimes y$ ($f \in G_+$, $y \in (E_2)_+$).

2. oru-compact operators

A subset M of an Archimedean Riesz space E is called ru-totally bounded if M is contained in a principal order ideal E_x and is totally bounded for $\|\cdot\|_x$.

A linear operator U acting between the Riesz spaces E, F (F Archimedean) is called oru-compact if it takes order bounded subsets into ru-totally bounded subsets. The linear space of all oru-compact operators from E to F will be denoted by $L_{oru}(E, F)$; clearly $\mathcal{F}(E, F) \subset L_{oru}(E, F)$ and $RUS \in L_{oru}(E_0, F_0)$ whenever $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$ and $S: E_0 \rightarrow E, R: F \rightarrow F_0$ are order bounded operators.

Using theorem 2.3 in [1] we see that $1_E \in L_{oru}(E, E)$ for each discrete Banach lattice E with order continuous norm; consequently, every operator $U: E_0 \rightarrow E_1$ representable as a product $U_1 U_0$ of order bounded operators $U_0: E_0 \rightarrow E, U_1: E \rightarrow E_1$ with E as above is also oru-compact. In particular, every nuclear operator between two Banach lattices is oru-compact.

PROPOSITION 2.1. For any $x \in E_+$ and any $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$, the set $M_x = \left\{ \bigvee_{i=1}^n U(y_i) \mid n \geq 1, y_i \in [-x, x] \right\}$ is ru-totally bounded. If F is ru-complete then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is a Riesz space for the order induced by $L_F(E, F)$; the modulus of any $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$ is given by

$$(|U|)(x) = \sup \{ U(y) \mid y \in [-x, x] \}$$

for $x \in E_+$. In fact, $|U|(x)$ is the limit of the upwards directed set M_x for some norm $\|\cdot\|$.

PROOF. The inequality

$$\left| \bigvee_{i=1}^n u_i - \bigvee_{i=1}^n v_i \right| \leq \bigvee_{i=1}^n |u_i - v_i|$$

shows that $\left\{ \bigvee_{i=1}^n z_i \mid n \geq 1, z_i \in M \right\}$ is an ru-totally bounded set whenever M is.

When F is ru-complete, the existence of the supremum in the right side of (*) follows from the fact that M_x is a totally bounded upwards directed subset in a principal ideal F_y complete for $\|\cdot\|_y$. Using the Riesz decomposition property one can see that (*) indeed gives the modulus of U .

COROLLARY 2.1. Let E, F, G be Riesz spaces with F, G ru-complete and let $T: F \rightarrow G$ be a Riesz homomorphism. Then $|TU| = T|U|$ for every $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$.

COROLLARY 2.2. If E, G are Riesz spaces, F is a Riesz subspace of G and F, G are ru-complete then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is a Riesz subspace of $L_{oru}(E, G)$. If E, F are Riesz spaces with F order complete then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is a Riesz subspace of $L_F(E, F)$.

We shall use the notations $L_{oru}^X(E, F)$ for $L_{oru}(E, F) \cap L_F^X(E, F)$, $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$ for $L_{oru}(E, F) \cap L_F^s(E, F)$, $L_{oru}^{sX}(E, F)$ for $L_{oru}^s(E, F) \cap L_F^X(E, F)$; clearly, these are order ideals in the Riesz space $L_{oru}(E, F)$ whenever F is ru-complete.

PROPOSITION 2.2. Let E, F be Riesz spaces endowed with complete metriza-

be an order bounded operator such that $U|_{E_0} \in L_{oru}(E_0, F)$. Then $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$.

PROOF. Let $x \in E_+$; we have to prove that $U([-x, x])$ is ru-totally bounded. There is a sequence $(x_n) \subset E_0$ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$; replacing, if necessary, x_n by

$(x_n) \wedge x$ we may assume that $0 \leq x_n \leq x$. We may also assume that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \rho(2^n(x - x_n)) <$

$< \infty$ where ρ is a Riesz pseudonorm defining the topology of E ; hence $x - x_n \leq 2^{-n}u$

where $u = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n(x - x_n)$. For each n there is $y_n \in F_+$ such that $U([-x_n, x_n])$ is

totally bounded in F_{y_n} . Choose $\alpha_n > 0$ such that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sigma(\alpha_n y_n) < \infty$ (σ being a

Riesz pseudonorm defining the topology of F) and let $y = v \vee \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n y_n$ where v is

an upper bound for $U([-x \vee u, x \vee u])$. Obviously, $U([-x, x]) \subset F_y$ and $U([-x_n, x_n])$ is

totally bounded in F_y for every n . Take any $z \in [-x, x]$; then $z_n = (z \wedge x_n) \vee (-x_n) \in$

$[-x_n, x_n]$ and $|z - z_n| \leq x - x_n \leq 2^{-n}u$ which implies $|U(z) - U(z_n)| \leq 2^{-n}y$.

This shows that any finite ε -net for $U([-x_n, x_n])$ will be an $(\varepsilon + 2^{-n}y)$ -net for

$U([-x, x])$; hence $U([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y .

PROPOSITION 2.3. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is ru-complete and endowed with a locally solid topology. Let also F_0 be a closed ideal in F .

Then any $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$ with the property that $U(E) \subset F_0$ belongs to $L_{oru}(E, F_0)$.

PROOF. Let $x \in E_+$; we have to prove that $U([-x, x])$ is ru-totally bounded in F_0 . There is $y \in F_+$ such that $U([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y ; clearly

$U([-x, x]) \subset F_y \cap F_0$ and $F_y \cap F_0$ is a closed ideal in F_y . By proposition 1.9.2

in [3] there is a sequence $(x_n) \subset F_y \cap F_0$ such that $\|x_n\|_y \rightarrow 0$ and $U([-x, x]) \subset$

$\overline{\text{co}}\{x_n | n \geq 1\}$ (the closure being taken with respect to $\|\cdot\|_y$). Let $z_n =$

$\|x_n\|_y^{-1/2} x_n$. As $\|z_n\|_y \rightarrow 0$, the relation

$$0 \leq \sum_{i=1}^{n+p} |z_i| - \sum_{i=1}^n |z_i| \leq \sum_{i=n+1}^{n+p} |z_i|$$

shows that $(\sum_{i=1}^n |z_i|)_{n \geq 1}$ is a Cauchy sequence for $\|\cdot\|_y$; hence it is convergent

to $z \in F_y \cap F_0$. Consequently, we have $|x_n| = \|x_n\|_y^{1/2} |z_n| \leq \|x_n\|_y^{1/2} z$ which implies

that $x_n \in F_z$ and $\|x_n\|_z \rightarrow 0$. Consider now the space \mathbb{R}^N with the product topo-

logy and let $K = \{(\alpha_n)_{n \geq 1} | \alpha_n \geq 0, \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n \leq 1\}$; K is a compact convex subset

of \mathbb{R}^N . As $\|x_n\|_y \rightarrow 0$, the map $(\alpha_n) \mapsto \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n x_n$ from K into F_y is conti-

nuous; this implies that $\overline{\text{co}}\{x_n | n \geq 1\} \subset \{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n x_n | (\alpha_n) \in K\}$. Therefore, for

every $u \in [-x, x]$ we have $U(u) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n x_n$ (convergence in F_y) for some $(\alpha_n) \in K$.

As $\|x_n\|_z \rightarrow 0$, the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n x_n$ is also convergent in F_z ; as the inclusion

$F_z \rightarrow F_y$ is continuous we still have $U(u) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n x_n$ in F_z . Consequently,

$U([-x, x])$ is contained in the compact subset $\overline{\text{co}}\{x_n | n \geq 1\}$ of F_z , hence it is

ru-totally bounded in F_0 .

The next results consider the completeness of $L_{oru}(E, F)$ for certain

topologies.

THEOREM 2.1. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is endowed with a complete metrizable locally solid topology. Then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is complete for the solid strong topology.

PROOF. Let \mathcal{S} be a Riesz pseudonorm defining the topology of F and let $(U_\delta) \subset L_{oru}(E, F)$ be a Cauchy net. The completeness of F implies the existence of a linear map $U: E \rightarrow F$ such that $U(x) = \lim_{\delta} U_\delta(x)$ for every $x \in E$. To see that $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$ consider an $x \in E_+$. There is an increasing sequence (δ_n) of indices such that $\mathcal{S}(|U_\delta - U_{\delta_n}|(x)) \leq 2^{-2n}$ whenever $n \geq 1$ and $\delta \geq \delta_n$. Put $V_n = U_{\delta_{n+1}} - U_{\delta_n}$. As $V_n \in L_{oru}(E, F)$ there is $y_n \in F_+$ such that $V_n([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_{y_n} . Choose $\alpha_n > 0$ such that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}(\alpha_n y_n) < \infty$ and let

$$y = \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n y_n \right) \vee \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n |V_n|(x) \right).$$

As $V_n([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y and $\sup_{z \in [-x, x]} \|V_n(z)\|_y \leq 2^{-n}$ it follows that the series $U_{\delta_1}|_{E_x} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n|_{E_x}$ converges uniformly on order intervals to an oru -compact operator $V: E_x \rightarrow F_y$. As $V(z) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U_{\delta_n}(z)$ for every $z \in E_x$, it follows by the choice of the sequence (δ_n) that $U(z) = V(z)$ for $z \in E_x$. This shows that $U([-x, x])$ is ru -totally bounded; as x is arbitrary, $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$.

To see that $U_\delta \rightarrow U$ for the solid strong topology, consider an $x \in E_+$ and use the same notations as above. From the relation

$$U(z) - U_{\delta_n}(z) = \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} V_i(z) \leq \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} |V_i|(z), \quad z \in [-x, x]$$

we infer that (using proposition 2.1)

$$|U - U_{\delta_n}|(x) \leq \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} |V_i|(x);$$

hence

$$\mathcal{S}(|U - U_{\delta_n}|(x)) \leq \sum_{i=n}^{\infty} \mathcal{S}(|V_i|(x)).$$

As (U_δ) is a Cauchy net, this is sufficient for the convergence.

COROLLARY 2.3. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is endowed with a complete metrizable locally solid topology. Then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is closed in $L_r(E, F)$ for the solid strong topology.

THEOREM 2.2. If E, F are Banach lattices then $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is a Banach lattice for the regular norm.

PROOF. Follows from the above theorem and the well known fact that $L_r(E, F)$ is complete for the regular norm.

THEOREM 2.3. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is endowed with a complete metrizable locally solid topology. Then $L_{oru}^X(E, F)$ is closed in $L_{oru}(E, F)$ for the solid strong topology.

PROOF. Let $U \in L_{oru}^x(E, F)$, let (x_α) be a net decreasing to 0 and let y be a lower bound for $(|U|(x_\alpha))$. We may assume that $x_\alpha \leq x$ for some $x \in E$. There is a sequence $(U_n) \subset L_{oru}^x(E, F)$ such that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \wp(2^n |U - U_n|(x)) < \infty$ (\wp being a Riesz pseudonorm defining the topology of F). Let $z = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n |U - U_n|(x)$. We have

$$y \leq |U|(x_\alpha) \leq |U - U_n|(x) + |U_n|(x_\alpha) \leq 2^{-n} z + |U_n|(x_\alpha).$$

As $|U_n|(x_\alpha) \downarrow 0$ it follows that $y \leq 2^{-n} z$; as F is Archimedean we find that $y \leq 0$.

3. The approximation of oru -compact operators by finite-rank operators

Our plan is the following: first we give the main technical tool (theorem 3.1) which provides the basis for all approximation results below.

We characterize them (theorem 3.3) the band generated by $\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)$ in $L_{oru}(E, F)$, G being a band in E^\sim ; as a corollary we obtain that, under quite general hypothesis, the band generated by $\mathcal{F}(E, F)$ in $L_{oru}(E, F)$ is the whole $L_{oru}(E, F)$.

The leading idea of the remaining results in the section is as follows: consider an order ideal L in $L_{oru}(E, F)$, a subspace of L of the form $\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)$ where G is an order ideal in E^\sim and a topology τ on L . Our task will be to prove that $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^\tau$ is an order ideal in L and that $(\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^\tau)_+ = \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^\tau$ for certain L and τ . We shall also encounter situations when we are given two topologies τ_1, τ_2 on L such that τ_1 is stronger than τ_2 ; in such a case either we prove that $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ or we characterize those $U \in \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ which also belong to $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$.

As corollaries to all these results, we determine the closure of the subspace of finite-rank operators in various spaces of oru -compact operators with respect to various topologies.

THEOREM 3.1. Let E, F be Riesz spaces with F ru -complete and let $U \in L_{oru}(E, F)$, $x \in E_+$, $y \in F_+$ be such that $U([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y . Suppose also that at least one of the following conditions holds:

- i) E admits x as a strong order unit.
- ii) F^\sim separates F .
- iii) There are $f \in E_+$ and $z \in (F_y)_+$ such that $|U| \leq f \otimes z$.

Then for any $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $V \in \mathcal{F}(E, F)$ such that $|U - V|(x) \leq \varepsilon y$; in case iii) we also have $V \in \mathcal{F}_{F^\sim}(E, F)$ and $|V| \leq f \otimes (z + \varepsilon y)$.

If in addition we have in cases i) and ii) $U \in L_{oru}^x(E, F)$ then $V \in \mathcal{F}^x(E, F)$; if moreover E and F are endowed with locally solid topologies, F° separates F and $U \in L_{oru}^\circ(E, F)$ then $V \in \mathcal{F}^\circ(E, F)$.

In all the statements above about V one may replace the letter \mathcal{F} by

\mathcal{P} whenever $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)_+$.

PROOF. As F is ru-complete there is a compact space K and an order isomorphism $T: C(K) \rightarrow F_y$ such that $T(e) = y$. Let $U_x \in L_{\text{oru}}(E_x, C(K))$ be given by $U_x = T^{-1} U J_x$ where $J_x: E_x \rightarrow E$ is the inclusion map. Consider the topology on E_x^\sim given by the norm $f \mapsto \|f\|(x)$. The map $\Phi: K \rightarrow E_x^\sim$ given by $\Phi(s) = U_x^*(\delta_s)$ is continuous (δ_s being the unit mass supported by $s \in K$). Hence there is an open covering $(G_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ of K such that $\|\Phi(s) - \Phi(t)\|(x) \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $s, t \in G_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$); in case iii), we also assume that $\|\varphi(s) - \varphi(t)\| \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $s, t \in G_i$, where $\varphi = T^{-1}(z)$. Let $(\varphi_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ be a continuous partition of unit subordinated to the covering (G_i) (that is, $\varphi_i \in C(K)_+$, $\text{supp } \varphi_i \subset G_i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n \varphi_i = e$). In case i), define $h_i \in E^\sim$ by $h_i = \Phi(s_i)$ where s_i is any point in G_i . In case ii), if $\varphi_i = 0$ put $h_i = 0$; if not, there is $f_i \in F_+^\sim$ such that $f_i(T(\varphi_i)) > 0$ (as F^\sim separates F). Let $g_i \in F_+^\sim$ be given by

$$g_i(u) = \alpha_i \sup_{n \geq 1} f_i(u \wedge nT(\varphi_i)), \quad u \in F_+$$

where $\alpha_i > 0$ is chosen so that $g_i(y) = 1$. Define $h_i \in E^\sim$ by $h_i = U^*(g_i)$.

In case iii), observe that the hypothesis implies that $\|\Phi(s)\| \leq \varphi(s) J_x^*(f)$ for every $s \in K$. This is equivalent to the relation

$$\langle \Phi(s), u \rangle \leq \varphi(s) f(|u|)$$

for every $u \in E_x$. Let f_s be a Hahn-Banach extension of $\Phi(s)$ such that $f_s(u) \leq \varphi(s) f(|u|)$ for every $u \in E$. This implies that $f_s \in E^\sim$ and $|f_s| \leq \varphi(s) f$. In the case $U \geq 0$ one may choose f_s in E_+^\sim by replacing it, if necessary, with $(f_s)_+$. Define h_i to be f_{s_i} where s_i is any point in G_i .

Now in all three cases define $V \in \mathcal{F}(E, F)$ by $V = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \otimes T(\varphi_i)$. We prove that $\|U - V\|(x) \leq \varepsilon y$. To this purpose, let $V_x \in L_{\text{oru}}(E_x, C(K))$ be given by $V_x = T^{-1} V J_x$. Obviously,

$$\| \|U - V\|(x) \|_y = \sup_{z \in [-x, x]} \| (U_x - V_x)(z) \|.$$

For any $z \in [-x, x]$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \| (U_x - V_x)(z) \| &= \sup_{s \in K} | \langle \delta_s, U_x(z) - V_x(z) \rangle | = \\ &= \sup_{s \in K} | \langle \Phi(s) - \sum_{i=1}^n \varphi_i(s) U_x^*(k_i), z \rangle | \end{aligned}$$

where $k_i = \delta_{s_i}$ in cases i), iii) and $k_i = (J_y T)^*(g_i)$ in case ii) ($J_y: F_y \rightarrow F$ being the inclusion map). To show that the later expression is $\leq \varepsilon$, it suffices, by the properties of the partition of the unit, to prove that $| \langle \Phi(s) - U_x^*(k_i), z \rangle | \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $s \in G_i$ and $\varphi_i \neq 0$. This is obvious in cases i) and iii); in case ii) we have

$$\langle \Phi(s) - U_x^*(k_i), z \rangle = \langle k_i, \langle \Phi(s), z \rangle e - U_x(z) \rangle$$

as $\langle k_1, e \rangle = g_1(y) = 1$. Let $\psi_1 \in C(K)$ be such that $0 \leq \psi_1 \leq e$, $\text{supp } \psi_1 \subset G_1$ and $\psi_1(s) = 1$ for $s \in \text{supp } \varphi_1$. As $(e - \psi_1) \wedge \varphi_1 = 0$ it follows that $\langle k_1, e - \psi_1 \rangle = 0$ be the definition of g_1 . Hence

$$\langle k_1, \psi \rangle = \langle k_1, \psi_1 \psi \rangle + \langle k_1, (e - \psi_1) \psi \rangle = \langle k_1, \psi_1 \psi \rangle$$

for any $\psi \in C(K)$. In particular,

$$\langle \Phi(s) - U_x^0(k_1), z \rangle = \langle k_1, \psi_1 (\langle \Phi(s), z \rangle e - U_x(z)) \rangle.$$

Now observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\psi_1 (\langle \Phi(s), z \rangle e - U_x(z))\| &\leq \sup_{t \in G_1} |\langle \delta_t, \langle \Phi(s), z \rangle e - U_x(z) \rangle| = \\ &= \sup_{t \in G_1} |\langle \Phi(s), z \rangle - \langle \Phi(t), z \rangle| \leq \\ &\leq \sup_{t \in G_1} |\Phi(s) - \Phi(t)|(x) \leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Recalling that $\|k_1\| = 1$ we obtain $|\langle \Phi(s) - U_x^0(k_1), z \rangle| \leq \varepsilon$ which is the desired conclusion.

In the case iii), remark that

$$(1) \quad |h_1| \leq (\varphi(s) + \varepsilon) f$$

whenever $s \in G_1$. Indeed,

$$|h_1| = |f_{s_1}| \leq \varphi(s_1) f \leq (\varphi(s) + \varepsilon) f.$$

From (1) we infer that

$$\varphi_1(s) |h_1| \leq \varphi_1(s) (\varphi(s) + \varepsilon) f$$

for any $s \in K$, which is equivalent to

$$|h_1| \otimes \varphi_1 \leq f \otimes \varphi_1 (\varphi + \varepsilon e).$$

Applying T we obtain

$$|h_1| \otimes T(\varphi_1) \leq f \otimes T(\varphi_1 (\varphi + \varepsilon e)).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} |V| &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n |h_1| \otimes T(\varphi_1) \leq f \otimes \sum_{i=1}^n T(\varphi_1 (\varphi + \varepsilon e)) = f \otimes T(\varphi + \varepsilon e) = \\ &= f \otimes (\varphi + \varepsilon y). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, suppose that $U \in L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F)$ (in cases i) and ii)). That $V \in \mathcal{F}^X(E, F)$ follows from the fact that whenever $U \in L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F)$ and $g \in F^{\omega}$ then $U^0(g) \in E^X$; indeed, $|U^0(g)| \leq |U|^0(|g|)$ and $|U|$ takes decreasing to 0 nets into f_u -convergent to 0 nets.

The remaining assertions in the theorem are easily obtained.

THEOREM 3.2. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is

$= 0$; as we also have $|V^*| \wedge |V^n| = 0$, the relation

$$|U - V^*| \leq |U - V^*| + |V^n| = |U - V^* - V^n| = |U - V|$$

implies that $|U - V^*|(x) \leq \varepsilon y$, which concludes the proof.

COROLLARY 3.2. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is ru-complete and at least one of the conditions in the statement of theorem 3.2 holds. Then the band generated by $\mathcal{F}(E, F)$ in $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ is equal to $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ and the band generated by $\mathcal{F}^X(E, F)$ in $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ is equal to $L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F)$.

PROOF. Follows from theorems 3.1, 3.3, 2.3 (the later will be applied to a principal ideal of F , endowed with its norm $\| \cdot \|_y$).

For E, F Riesz spaces with F order complete we shall denote by $\mathcal{Y}(E, F)$ the band generated by $\mathcal{F}(E, F)$ in $L_{\text{ru}}(E, F)$ and by $\mathcal{Y}^X(E, F)$, the band generated by $\mathcal{F}^X(E, F)$ in $L_{\text{ru}}(E, F)$.

THEOREM 3.4. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is order complete and at least one of the conditions in the statement of theorem 3.2 holds. Then $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) \subset \mathcal{Y}(E, F)$ and $L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F) \subset \mathcal{Y}^X(E, F)$.

PROOF. It suffices to show that $\mathcal{Y}(E, F)^\perp \subset L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)^\perp$ and $\mathcal{Y}^X(E, F)^\perp \subset L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F)^\perp$. So let $U \in \mathcal{Y}(E, F)^\perp$ (respectively $U \in \mathcal{Y}^X(E, F)^\perp$) and let $V \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ (respectively $V \in L_{\text{oru}}^X(E, F)$), $x \in E_+$ and $\varepsilon > 0$. There is $y \in F_+$ such that $V([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y . By theorem 3.1 there is $W \in \mathcal{F}(E, F)$ (respectively $W \in \mathcal{F}^X(E, F)$) such that $|V - W|(x) \leq \varepsilon y$. Using the relations $|U| \wedge |W| = 0$ and

$$|U| \wedge |V| = |U| \wedge |W| + |U| \wedge |V - W| \leq |V - W|$$

we obtain $(|U| \wedge |V|)(x) \leq \varepsilon y$; as ε and x are arbitrary, $|U| \wedge |V| = 0$.

THEOREM 3.5. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is ru-complete and endowed with a separated locally solid topology. Consider the solid strong topology on $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$. Then $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}$ is an order ideal in $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ and $(\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)})_+ = \mathcal{P}_G(E, F)$ whenever G is an order ideal in E^\sim .

PROOF. By lemma 1.1 it suffices to show that whenever $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)_+$, $f \in G_+$ and $y \in F_+$ are such that $U \leq f \otimes y$ then $U \in \mathcal{P}_G(E, F)$. So let $x \in E_+$ and let W be a solid neighborhood of 0 in F . There is $z \in F_+$ such that $y \in F_z$ and $U([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_z . There is also $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\varepsilon z \in W$. By theorem 3.1 we can find $V \in \mathcal{P}_G(E, F)$ verifying $|U - V|(x) \leq \varepsilon z$. Hence $|U - V|(x) \in W$, which concludes the proof.

For the next results we shall need the following lemma.

LEMMA 3.1. Let E, F be Riesz spaces such that F is ru-complete and endowed with a locally solid topology. Let $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)_+$, $f \in E^\sim_+$ and $y \in F_+$ be such that $U \leq f \otimes y$. Consider the solid α -bounded topology on $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$, the topology on E being $|\sigma|(E, E^\sim)$. Then $U \in \mathcal{P}_{E^\sim}(E, F)$.

PROOF. Let W be a neighborhood of 0 in F and let M be an α -bounded subset of E_+ . There is an open solid neighborhood W^0 of 0 such that $W^0 + W^0 + W^0 \subset W$.

$\subset W$. We can find $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\varepsilon y \in W^*$ and $x \in E_+$ such that $f((u-x)_+) \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $u \in M$. There is also $z \in F_+$ with the property that $y \in F_z$ and $U([-x, x])$ is totally bounded in F_z . Let $\eta > 0$ be such that $\eta z \in W^*$ and $\varepsilon(y + \eta z) \in W^*$. By theorem 3.1 there is $V \in \mathcal{P}_{E \times F}^f(E, F)$ verifying $|U - V|(x) \leq \eta z$ and $V \leq f \otimes (y + \eta z)$. Then we have for any $u \in M$

$$\begin{aligned} |U - V|(u) &\leq |U - V|(x) + |U - V|((u-x)_+) \leq \\ &\leq \eta z + |U|((u-x)_+) + |V|((u-x)_+) \leq \\ &\leq \eta z + f((u-x)_+)y + f((u-x)_+)(y + \eta z) \leq \\ &\leq \eta z + \varepsilon y + \varepsilon(y + \eta z) \in W^* + W^* + W^*. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $|U - V|(M) \subset W$ and the proof is complete.

THEOREM 3.6. Let E, F be Riesz spaces endowed with separated locally solid topologies such that F is ru-complete. Let τ_1 be the solid ac-bounded topology on $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$ and let τ_2 be the solid strong topology on $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$.

Then $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ and $\overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ whenever G is an order ideal in E^* .

PROOF. An application of lemma 3.1 shows that $U \in \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ whenever $U \in L_{oru}^s(E, F)_+$, $f \in G_+$ and $y \in F_+$ are such that $U \leq f \otimes y$. By lemma 1.4, $L_{oru}^s(E, F) = L_{oru}^s(E, F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$; therefore, $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ by lemma 1.3. Finally, lemma 1.1 gives

$$\overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = (\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1})_+ = (\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2})_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}.$$

THEOREM 3.7. Let E, F be Riesz spaces endowed with separated locally solid topologies such that F is ru-complete and F^* separates F . Consider the solid ac-bounded topology on $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$. Then

$$L_{oru}^s(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}^s(E, F)},$$

$$L_{oru}^s(E, F)_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}^s(E, F)}.$$

A similar statement holds for $L_{oru}^{s \times}(E, F)$.

PROOF. Let τ_1 be the solid ac-bounded topology on $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$ and let τ_2 be the solid strong topology on $L_{oru}^s(E, F)$. By theorem 3.6,

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_2},$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{P}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{P}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_2}.$$

Now theorem 3.1 shows that $L_{oru}^s(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ and $L_{oru}^s(E, F)_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}^s(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$. A similar reasoning is employed for $L_{oru}^{s \times}(E, F)$.

COROLLARY 3.3. Let E, F be Riesz spaces endowed with complete metrizable locally solid topologies. Suppose that at least one of the conditions in the statement of theorem 3.2 holds. Let τ_1 be the solid ac-bounded topology on $L_{\tau}(E, F)$ and let τ_2 be the solid strong topology on $L_{\tau}(E, F)$. Then

$$L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_2},$$

$$L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$$

(the closures being taken in $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$). A similar statement holds for $L_{\text{oru}}^{\times}(E, F)$.

PROOF. Observe that $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)$, $E^{\circ} = E^{\sim}$, $F^{\circ} = F^{\sim}$ and apply the preceding results.

One of the main results in [5] (theorem 4.4) asserts that whenever E, F are Banach lattices such that F has order continuous norm, then

$$\mathcal{Y}(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_2},$$

$$\mathcal{Y}(E, F)_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_2},$$

τ_1 and τ_2 being defined above; in particular, it is seen that $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = \mathcal{Y}(E, F)$ in this case. Corollary 3.3 is an extension of this result in the sense that it states that the equalities

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_2},$$

$$\overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E, F)}^{\tau_2} = (\overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1})_+$$

still hold even if F has not order continuous norm; however, if F is order complete but has not order continuous norm, the equality $\mathcal{Y}(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ is no longer true. Indeed, there is in this case an order bounded disjoint sequence $(x_n) \subset F_+$ such that $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n\| > 0$. Take $E = l_{\infty}$ and define $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ by

$$U((\alpha_n)_{n \geq 1}) = \sup_{n \geq 1} \alpha_n x_n$$

for $(\alpha_n)_{n \geq 1} \in (l_{\infty})_+$. Clearly $U \in \mathcal{Y}(E, F)$ but $U \notin \overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ as $\overline{\mathcal{F}(E, F)}^{\tau_1} = L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ and $U \notin L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$.

THEOREM 3.8. Let E, F be Riesz spaces endowed with separated locally solid topologies (F ru-complete) and let G be an order ideal in E° . Let τ_1 be the solid \mathcal{M} -topology on $L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)$, \mathcal{M} being the collection of those subsets of E_+ which are bounded for the topology of E and σ -bounded for $|\sigma|(E, G)$; let also τ_2 be the solid strong topology on $L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)$. Then $\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ is the order ideal of those $U \in \overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_2}$ with the following property: for every neighborhood W of 0 in F and every $M \in \mathcal{M}$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $|U|((u - x)_+) \in W$ whenever $u \in M$; we also have $(\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1})_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$.

PROOF. By lemma 3.1 we have $U \in \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ whenever $U \in L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)_+$, $f \in G_+$ and $y \in F_+$ are such that $U \leq f \otimes y$. Therefore, lemma 1.1 implies that

$\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$ is an order ideal and $(\overline{\mathcal{F}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1})_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}_G(E, F)}^{\tau_1}$. Let I be the order ideal of those $U \in L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)$ with the property in the statement of the theorem. By lemma 1.4, I is a τ_1 -closed ideal contained in $L_{\text{oru}}^{\circ}(E, F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2}$. As $\mathcal{F}_G(E, F) \subset$

$\subset I$ we have $\overline{\mathcal{F}_0(E,F)}^{\tau_1} \subset \overline{\mathcal{F}_0(E,F)}^{\tau_2} \cap I$. To prove the reverse inclusion, we have by lemma 1.3

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_2} \cap I \subset \overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_2} \cap L_{\text{oru}}^0(E,F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2} = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1}.$$

COROLLARY 3.4. Let E, F be Banach lattices such that E^* has order continuous norm. Let τ_1 be the topology given by the regular norm on $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ and let τ_2 be the solid strong topology on $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$. Denote by I the order ideal of those $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ with the following property: for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $\| |U|((u-x)_+) \| \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $\|u\| \leq 1$. Then I consists precisely of those $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$ with compact modulus; we have

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1} = I = L_{\text{oru}}(E,F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2},$$

$$(\overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1})_+ = \overline{\mathcal{P}(E,F)}^{\tau_1}.$$

PROOF. As E^* has order continuous norm, a subset of E is σ_0 -bounded for $|\sigma|((E, E^*))$ iff it is norm bounded (see [2]); consequently, $\overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1} = I$ by theorem 3.8 (as theorem 3.2 implies that $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_2}$). On the other side, by lemma 3.1 and lemma 1.3 we have

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_2} \cap L_{\text{oru}}(E,F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2} = L_{\text{oru}}(E,F)_{\tau_1 \tau_2}.$$

As $I = \overline{\mathcal{F}(E,F)}^{\tau_1}$, every U in I has compact modulus. Conversely, let $|U|$ be compact. To prove that U satisfies the condition in the definition of I , it will suffice by theorem 1E in [2] to show that $\| |U|(\pi_n) \| \rightarrow 0$ for every norm bounded disjoint sequence (π_n) ; but this follows from the compactity of U and from the fact that every norm bounded disjoint sequence in a Banach lattice with order continuous dual is weakly convergent to 0 (see [2]).

The above result is an extension of the corresponding result in [5] (theorem 4.5) which is proved in the case when F has also order continuous norm.

4. A situation when $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = \{0\}$

For every Riesz space E we shall denote by \hat{E} the set of all Riesz homomorphisms $h: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

A σ' -universally complete Riesz space is a Riesz space E with the property that every disjoint sequence in E_+ admits a supremum.

THEOREM 4.1. Let E be a σ' -order complete σ' -universally complete Riesz space. The following are equivalent:

- i) $\hat{E} = \{0\}$.
- ii) $L_{\text{oru}}(E, F) = \{0\}$ for every Archimedean Riesz space F .

PROOF.

ii) \Rightarrow i) Obvious.

i) \Rightarrow ii) Let F be an Archimedean Riesz space and let $U \in L_{\text{oru}}(E, F)$.

Replacing F by its Dedekind extension we may assume that F is order complete; then $U = U_+ - U_-$, hence we may confine ourselves to the case $U \geq 0$. Let $x \in E_+ \setminus \{0\}$; there is $y \in F_+ \setminus \{0\}$ such that $U([0, x])$ is totally bounded in F_y . There are a σ -stonian space X , a stonian space Y and order isomorphisms $S: E_x \rightarrow C(X)$, $T: F_y \rightarrow C(Y)$ such that $S(x)$ and $T(y)$ are the functions identically equal to one. Let $V = TUS^{-1}$ and, for each $t \in Y$, let μ_t be the Radon measure associated with $V(\delta_t)$. The proof will now be divided into several steps.

STEP 1). For every sequence (M_n) of closed-open subsets of X such that $\chi_{M_n} \downarrow 0$ in $C(X)$ we have $\|V(\chi_{M_n})\| \rightarrow 0$ (χ_M being the characteristic function of $M \subset X$). PROOF. As V is a compact operator, the sequence $(V(\chi_{M_n}))$ is norm convergent to its infimum $u \in C(Y)$. The sequence $(nS^{-1}(\chi_{M_n} - \chi_{M_{n+1}}))$ is a disjoint sequence in E_+ ; as E is σ -universally complete, there is an upper bound $z \in E$ for this sequence. It follows that $nS^{-1}(\chi_{M_n} - \chi_{M_{n+p}}) \leq z$ for $p \geq 1$; as $S^{-1}(\chi_{M_n}) \downarrow 0$ when $p \rightarrow \infty$, $nS^{-1}(\chi_{M_n}) \leq z$. Consequently, $T^{-1}(u) \leq US^{-1}(\chi_{M_n}) \leq n^{-1}U(z)$ for $n \geq 1$, which implies that $u = 0$.

STEP 2). μ_t is σ -normal for every $t \in Y$ (that is, every σ -meagre subset (a countable union of closed nowhere dense Baire subsets) has μ_t -measure 0).

PROOF. Let $M \subset X$ be a closed nowhere dense Baire subset; we have $M = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} M_n$ where M_n is closed-open and $\chi_{M_n} \downarrow 0$ in $C(X)$. By step 1), $\|V(\chi_{M_n})\| \rightarrow 0$, which implies that M has measure 0 for every μ_t .

STEP 3). $\mu_t(\{s\}) = 0$ for every $s \in X$ and $t \in Y$.

PROOF. Let \mathcal{F} be the set of all closed-open subsets of X containing s ; \mathcal{F} is a downwards directed set. The net $(V(\chi_M))_{M \in \mathcal{F}}$ is norm convergent to its infimum $u \in C(Y)$; hence there is a sequence $(M_n) \subset \mathcal{F}$ such that $\|V(\chi_{M_n}) - u\| \rightarrow 0$. There is a closed-open subset N of X such that $\chi_{M_n} \downarrow \chi_N$ in $C(X)$. We observe that $V(\chi_N) = 0$ for any closed-open subset $N \subset M \setminus \{s\}$. Indeed, $M_n \setminus N \in \mathcal{F}$ which implies $V(\chi_{M_n}) - V(\chi_N) \geq u$ for $n \geq 1$; consequently, $u - V(\chi_N) \geq u$, that is, $V(\chi_N) = 0$. This shows in particular that if $s \notin M$ then $V(\chi_M) = 0$. As $\chi_{M_n \setminus M} = \chi_{M_n} - \chi_M \downarrow 0$ in $C(X)$, step 1) implies $\|V(\chi_{M_n}) - V(\chi_M)\| \rightarrow 0$; consequently, if we have $V(\chi_M) = 0$ then $\|V(\chi_{M_n})\| \rightarrow 0$ and we conclude in this situation that $\mu_t(\{s\}) = 0$ for every $t \in Y$. It will therefore suffice, in order to finish the proof, to show that the assumption $V(\chi_M) \neq 0$ leads to a contradiction. Indeed, in this case we have by the above remark $s \in M$ and $\mu_t(N) = 0$ for any closed-open $N \subset M \setminus \{s\}$; as μ_t is regular, this implies $\mu_t(M \setminus \{s\}) = 0$. Consequently,

$$(1) \quad \chi_M \mu_t = g(t) \delta_s$$

with $g(t) \in \mathbb{R}_+$. The above relation implies that $V(\chi_M f) = \delta_s(f)g$ for any $f \in C(X)$;

in particular, $g = V(\chi_M) \in C(X) \setminus \{0\}$. For any $z \in E_+$ we have

$$\delta_S(S(z \wedge nx))g = V(\chi_M S(z \wedge nx)) \leq VS(z \wedge nx) = TU(z \wedge nx)$$

hence

$$\delta_S(S(z \wedge nx))T^{-1}(g) \leq U(z \wedge nx) \leq U(z).$$

As $T^{-1}(g) \neq 0$, this implies that $\sup_{n \geq 1} \delta_S(S(z \wedge nx)) < \infty$; consequently, the relation

$$h(z) = \sup_{n \geq 1} \delta_S(S(z \wedge nx)), \quad z \in E_+$$

defines a nonzero element of \hat{E} , which establishes the desired contradiction.

STEP 4). Let X be a compact space and let μ_1, \dots, μ_n be positive Radon measures on X such that $\mu_i(\{s\}) = 0$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $s \in X$. Then for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there are disjoint Baire subsets M_1, M_2 such that $M_1 \cup M_2 = X$ and $\mu_i(M_j) \geq 2^{-1} \mu_i(X) - \varepsilon$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $j = 1, 2$.

PROOF. Let $\mu = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i$. By the Radon-Nikodym theorem there are Baire functions f_i such that $\mu_i = f_i \mu$. For each i there is a simple Baire function g_i such that $\int_X |f_i - g_i| d\mu \leq \varepsilon/2$. There is a partition of X into disjoint Baire subsets N_1, \dots, N_m such that each g_i has the form

$$g_i = \sum_{k=1}^m c_{ik} \chi_{N_k}.$$

As μ is regular and $\mu(\{s\}) = 0$ for any $s \in X$, it follows that for every Baire subset M with $\mu(M) > 0$ there are disjoint Baire subsets M', M'' such that $M = M' \cup M''$ and $\mu(M') > 0, \mu(M'') > 0$. Consequently, a well-known measure-theoretic result implies that there are disjoint Baire subsets N_{1k}, N_{2k} such that $N_k = N_{1k} \cup N_{2k}$ and $\mu(N_{jk}) = 2^{-1} \mu(N_k)$ ($1 \leq k \leq m$). Put $M_j = \bigcup_{k=1}^m N_{jk}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_i(M_j) &= \int_{M_j} f_i d\mu \geq \int_{M_j} g_i d\mu - \varepsilon/2 = \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m c_{ik} \mu(N_{jk}) - \varepsilon/2 = 2^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^m c_{ik} \mu(N_k) - \varepsilon/2 = \\ &= 2^{-1} \int_X g_i d\mu - \varepsilon/2 \geq 2^{-1} \int_X f_i d\mu - \varepsilon = 2^{-1} \mu_i(X) - \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

STEP 5). Let $M \subset X$ and $N \subset Y$ be closed-open subsets such that $\inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(M) > 0$.

Then there are disjoint closed-open subsets M_1, M_2 such that $M = M_1 \cup M_2$ and $\inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(M_j) > 0, j = 1, 2$.

PROOF. Let $\varepsilon = 3^{-1} \inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(M)$. As V is compact, there is an open covering $(G_i)_{1 \leq i \leq n}$ of N such that $|V(f)(t) - V(f)(t')| \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $t, t' \in G_i$ and $\|f\| \leq 1$. Let t_1 be any point in G_1 . By steps 3) and 4), there are disjoint Baire subsets P_1, P_2 such that $M = P_1 \cup P_2$ and $\mu_{t_1}(P_j) \geq 2^{-1} \mu_{t_1}(M) - \varepsilon$. As X is σ -stonian, there is a closed-open subset M_j such that $(M_j \setminus P_j) \cup (P_j \setminus M_j)$ is σ -meagre (see [4]);

of course, $M_1 \cap M_2 = \emptyset$ and $M = M_1 \cup M_2$. By step 2), each μ_t is σ -normal; therefore, $\mu_{t_1}(P_j) = \mu_{t_1}(M_j)$. Consequently, we have for any $t \in G_1$

$$\mu_t(M_j) \geq \mu_{t_1}(M_j) - \varepsilon \geq 2^{-1} \mu_{t_1}(M) - \varepsilon \geq 2^{-1} \inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(M) - \varepsilon > 0.$$

As $N \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^n G_i$, the proof is complete.

STEP 6). We may now conclude the proof of the theorem. Suppose that $U(x) \neq 0$; then there is a nonvoid closed-open subset $N \subset Y$ such that $\inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(X) > 0$. Using step 5), we construct inductively a sequence (M_n) of disjoint closed-open subsets such that $\alpha_n = \inf_{t \in N} \mu_t(M_n) > 0$ for $n \geq 1$. The sequence $(n\alpha_n^{-1}S^{-1}(\chi_{M_n}))$ is a disjoint sequence in E_+ ; as E is σ -universally complete, there is an upper bound $z \in E$ for this sequence. We have

$$\alpha_n \chi_N \leq V(\chi_{M_n})$$

whence

$$nT^{-1}(\chi_N) \leq U(n\alpha_n^{-1}S^{-1}(\chi_{M_n})) \leq U(z)$$

for $n \geq 1$. Consequently, $T^{-1}(\chi_N) = 0$ which leads to a contradiction. Therefore, $U(x) = 0$ for any $x \in E_+$ and the proof is complete.

The next result offers a more convenient form for the condition i) in the above theorem.

THEOREM 4.2. Consider the following conditions imposed to a Riesz space E :

- i) $\hat{E} = \{0\}$.
- ii) E contains no nonzero atomic elements.

Then i) \Rightarrow ii); the converse is true whenever E is σ -order complete, order separable and σ -universally complete.

Recall that an atomic element is an element x such that $[0, |x|]$ contains scalar multiples of $|x|$ only.

PROOF.

i) \Rightarrow ii). If $x \in E_+ \setminus \{0\}$ is atomic, it is easily seen that the relation

$$h(y) = \sup\{\alpha \mid \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \alpha x \leq y\}, \quad y \in E_+$$

defines an element of $\hat{E} \setminus \{0\}$.

Suppose now that E is σ -order complete, order separable and σ -universally complete and let $h \in \hat{E}$. If $h \neq 0$ there is $x \in E_+$ such that $h(x) = 1$. Denote by $C(x)$ the set $\{y \mid y \in E, y \wedge (x - y) = 0\}$. Let M be a maximal subset in $C(x) \cap h^{-1}(\{0\}) \setminus \{0\}$ consisting of pairwise disjoint elements. As E is order separable, M is at most countable. We have $x = \sup M$; indeed, if $z = \sup M$ and $z \neq x$ then $x - z \in C(x) \cap M^\perp \setminus \{0\}$; as E is σ -order complete and contains no nonzero atomic elements, we may write $x - z = u_1 + u_2$ with $u_1 \in C(x) \setminus \{0\}$ and $u_1 \wedge u_2 = 0$. Therefore either $h(u_1) = 0$ or $h(u_2) = 0$ which contradicts the maximality of M .

Dispose the elements of M in a sequence (y_m) . Then (ny_m) is a disjoint sequence in E_+ ; as E is σ -universally complete, this sequence has an upper bound $z \in E$. We have

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i = \bigvee_{i=n+1}^{\infty} y_i \leq (n+1)^{-1} z;$$

consequently, $1 = h(x) \leq (n+1)^{-1} h(z)$ for every $n \geq 1$, which leads to a contradiction.

As examples of σ -order complete, order separable, σ -universally complete Riesz spaces containing no nonzero atomic elements we mention the space $L_0(\mu)$ of equivalence classes of measurable functions on a σ -finite measure space (X, Σ, μ) without atoms; also, the maximal extension of $C([0,1])$. Recall that a Riesz space \tilde{E} is called the maximal extension of a Riesz space E if it is order complete, E is order dense in \tilde{E} and every subset of \tilde{E}_+ consisting of pairwise disjoint elements is order bounded; every Archimedean Riesz space possesses a unique (up to isomorphism) maximal extension. It is known that the maximal extension of $C([0,1])$ is not isomorphic to any $L_0(\mu)$.

The following example shows that the order separability condition in the implication ii) \Rightarrow i) cannot be dropped.

EXAMPLE. A σ -order complete, σ -universally complete Riesz space containing no nonzero atomic elements such that $\hat{E} \neq \{0\}$.

Let F be any σ -order complete σ -universally complete Riesz space containing no nonzero atomic elements and let x be a fixed element in $F_+ \setminus \{0\}$. Let Ω be the set of all countable ordinals and let F^{Ω} be the power Riesz space (with the product order). Consider the subset $E \subset F^{\Omega}$ consisting of those $f = (x_{\alpha})_{\alpha \in \Omega}$ for which there are $\lambda_f \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\alpha_f \in \Omega$ such that $x_{\alpha} = \lambda_f x$ whenever $\alpha \geq \alpha_f$. Then E is a Riesz space satisfying our requirements; the map $f \mapsto \lambda_f$ belongs to $\hat{E} \setminus \{0\}$.

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