

# WEAKLY COMPACT OPERATORS ON KÖTHE-BOCHNER SPACES WITH THE MIXED TOPOLOGY

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**Abstract.** Let  $E$  be a Banach function space and let  $X$  be a real Banach space. We examine weakly compact linear operators from a Köthe-Bochner space  $E(X)$  endowed with some natural mixed topology  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  (in the sense of Wiweger) to a Banach space  $Y$ .

**1. Introduction and preliminaries.** The paper is devoted to the study of weakly compact operators acting from a Köthe-Bochner space  $E(X)$  endowed with the mixed topology  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  to a Banach space  $Y$ .

The problem of characterizing weakly compact operators has been considered by many authors (see [Ga], [G], [D], [Ru]). In [G, III. 3, Corollary 1 of Theorem 11] A. Grothendieck has proved that every linear continuous operator from a quasinormable Hausdorff locally convex space  $X$  into a Banach space  $Y$ , which transforms bounded sets into relatively weakly compact sets is weakly compact. Grothendieck's result was partially extended by D. van Dulst to the case when  $Y$  is Fréchet space, but under the additional assumption about the space  $X$  (see [D] for more details). Both those results were later extended by W. Ruess in [Ru] for operators acting between gDF-spaces and Fréchet spaces. gDF spaces have been introduced and studied by K. Nouredine in [No<sub>1</sub>], [No<sub>2</sub>] under the name of  $D_b$ -spaces ("espaces  $D_b$ " in French). Since not only many properties of classical DF-spaces of Grothendieck carry over to  $D_b$ -spaces, but also some fruitful DF-techniques can be applied to them, W. Ruess decided in [Ru] to change their original name of Nouredine to the gDF-spaces (generalized DF-spaces), in order to stress their close relationship with DF-spaces.

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Given a topological vector space  $(L, \xi)$ , by  $(L, \xi)^*$  or  $L_\xi^*$  we will denote its topological dual and by  $Bd(L, \xi)$  we will denote the family of all  $\xi$ -bounded subsets of  $L$ . We denote by  $\sigma(L, K)$  and  $\tau(L, K)$  the weak topology and the Mackey topology on  $L$  with respect to a dual system  $\langle L, K \rangle$  respectively. Recall that a subset  $Z$  of  $L$  is said to be conditionally  $\sigma(L, K)$ -compact (resp. relatively  $\sigma(L, K)$ -sequentially compact) whenever each sequence in  $Z$  contains a  $\sigma(L, K)$ -Cauchy subsequence (resp. each sequence in  $Z$  contains a subsequence which is  $\sigma(L, K)$ -convergent to some element of  $L$ ).

For terminology concerning Riesz spaces and function spaces we refer to [AB], [KA]. Throughout the paper let  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  be an atomless, complete and  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and let  $L^0$  denote the corresponding space of  $\mu$ -equivalence classes of  $\Sigma$ -measurable real valued functions. Then  $L^0$  is super Dedekind complete Riesz space under the ordering  $u_1 \leq u_2$  whenever  $u_1(\omega) \leq u_2(\omega)$  a.e. on  $\Omega$ . A Banach space  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is assumed to be a *Banach function space*, that is,  $E$  is an ideal of  $L^0$  with  $\text{supp } E = \Omega$  and  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is a Riesz norm. The Köthe dual of  $E$  is defined by

$$E' = \left\{ v \in L^0 : \int_{\Omega} |u(\omega)v(\omega)| d\mu < \infty \text{ for all } u \in E \right\}.$$

The associated norm  $\|\cdot\|_{E'}$  on  $E'$  is defined for  $v \in E'$  by

$$\|v\|_{E'} = \sup \left\{ \left| \int_{\Omega} u(\omega)v(\omega) d\mu \right| : u \in E, \|u\|_E \leq 1 \right\}.$$

It is known that  $\text{supp } E' = \Omega$  (see [KA, Theorem 6.1.3]). Recall that a Banach function space  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is said to be *perfect* if  $E'' = E$  and  $\|u\|_{E''} = \|u\|_E$  for  $u \in E$ . It is well known that  $E$  is perfect if and only if the norm  $\|\cdot\|_E$  satisfies both the  $\sigma$ -Fatou property (i.e.,  $0 \leq u_n \uparrow u$  in  $E$  implies  $\|u_n\|_E \uparrow \|u\|_E$ ) and the  $\sigma$ -Levy property (i.e., if  $0 \leq u_n \uparrow$  in  $E$  and  $\sup \|u_n\|_E < \infty$ , then there exists  $u$  in  $E$  such that  $u_n \uparrow u$ ) (see [KA, Theorem 6.1.7]). We denote by  $E_a$  the ideal of elements of order continuous norm in  $E$ , i.e.,

$$E_a = \{u \in E : |u| \geq u_n \downarrow 0 \text{ in } E \text{ imply } \|u_n\| \rightarrow 0\}.$$

From now on in this paper we assume that  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is a perfect Banach function space and  $\text{supp}(E')_a = \Omega$ . Note that  $(L^1)' = L^\infty$  and  $(L^\infty)_a = \{0\}$ . Hence the space  $L^1$  is excluded.

Let  $Z$  be a  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -bounded subset of  $E$ . Then  $Z$  is also  $|\sigma|(E, (E')_a)$ -bounded (see [AB, Theorem 2.33]), so one can define a Riesz seminorm  $p_Z$  on  $(E')_a$  by

$$p_Z(v) = \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |u(\omega)v(\omega)| d\mu : u \in Z \right\}.$$

Then by [N<sub>2</sub>, Theorem 1.1] we have

$$Bd(E, \sigma(E, (E')_a)) = Bd(E, \|\cdot\|_E).$$

Hence for every  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -bounded subset  $Z$  of  $E$  the seminorm  $p_Z$  on  $(E')_a$  is order continuous. Making use of [N<sub>4</sub>, Proposition 1.1] and [BD, Corollary 5.2] we get

**PROPOSITION 1.1.** *For a subset  $Z$  of  $E$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $Z$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -compact.
- (ii)  $Z$  is relatively  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -sequentially compact.

(iii)  $Z$  is  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -bounded.

(iv)  $Z$  is  $\|\cdot\|_E$ -bounded.

Now we establish terminology and some basic results concerning vector-valued function spaces (see [Bu<sub>1</sub>], [Bu<sub>2</sub>], [L, Chap. 3]). Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  be a real Banach space and let  $X^*$  stand for the Banach dual of  $X$ . Let  $B_X$  denote the closed unit ball in  $X$ . By  $L^0(X)$  we denote the set of  $\mu$ -equivalence classes of all strongly  $\Sigma$ -measurable functions  $f : \Omega \rightarrow X$ . The  $F$ -norm

$$\|f\|_{L^0(X)} = \int_{\Omega} \frac{\|f(\omega)\|_X}{1 + \|f(\omega)\|_X} w(\omega) d\mu \quad \text{for } f \in L^0(X),$$

where  $w : \Omega \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  is a  $\Sigma$ -measurable function with  $\int_{\Omega} w(\omega) d\mu = 1$ , determines the topology  $\mathcal{T}_0(X)$  on  $L^0(X)$  of convergence in measure on sets of finite measure.

For  $f \in L^0(X)$  let us set  $\tilde{f}(\omega) = \|f(\omega)\|_X$  for  $\omega \in \Omega$ . The linear space

$$E(X) = \{f \in L^0(X) : \tilde{f} \in E\}$$

provided with the norm  $\|f\|_{E(X)} := \|\tilde{f}\|_E$  is a Banach space and is called a *Köthe-Bochner space* (see [L]). For  $r > 0$  we will write

$$B_{E(X)}(r) = \{f \in E(X) : \|f\|_{E(X)} \leq r\}.$$

Let  $L^0(X^*, X)$  be the set of weak\*-equivalence classes of all weak\*-measurable functions  $g : \Omega \rightarrow X^*$ . One can define the so-called *abstract norm*  $\vartheta : L^0(X^*, X) \rightarrow L^0$  by  $\vartheta(g) = \sup\{|g_x| : x \in B_X\}$ , where  $g_x(\omega) = g(\omega)(x)$  for  $\omega \in \Omega$  and  $x \in X$ . Then for  $f \in L^0(X)$  and  $g \in L^0(X^*, X)$  the function  $\langle f, g \rangle : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $\langle f, g \rangle(\omega) = \langle f(\omega), g(\omega) \rangle$  is measurable and  $|\langle f, g \rangle| \leq \tilde{f}\vartheta(g)$ . Moreover,  $\vartheta(g) = \tilde{g}$  for  $g \in L^0(X^*)$ . For an ideal  $M$  of  $E'$  let

$$M(X^*, X) = \{g \in L^0(X^*, X) : \vartheta(g) \in M\}.$$

Then  $M(X^*, X)$  is an ideal of  $E'(X^*, X)$ , i.e., if  $\vartheta(g_1) \leq \vartheta(g_2)$  with  $g_1 \in E'(X^*, X)$  and  $g_2 \in M(X^*, X)$ , then  $g_1 \in M(X^*, X)$ .  $M(X^*, X)$  can be provided with the norm

$$\|g\|_{M(X^*, X)} := \|\vartheta(g)\|_{E'} \quad \text{for } g \in M(X^*, X).$$

In particular, we will consider the dual pair  $\langle E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X) \rangle$  with the duality:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{\Omega} \langle f(\omega), g(\omega) \rangle d\mu \quad \text{for } f \in E(X), g \in (E')_a(X^*, X).$$

**2. Mixed topologies on Köthe-Bochner spaces.** In this section we consider the mixed topology  $\gamma[\mathcal{T}_E(X), \mathcal{T}_0(X)|_{E(X)}]$  on  $E(X)$  (briefly  $\gamma_{E(X)}$ ), where  $\mathcal{T}_E(X)$  stands for the topology on  $E(X)$  of the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ . For the definition and basic properties of  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  see [F], [W]. In case when  $X = \mathbb{R}$  the mixed topology  $\gamma_E (= \gamma_{E(\mathbb{R})})$  on  $E$  has been studied in [N<sub>1</sub>] and [N<sub>2</sub>]. It is known that  $\mathcal{T}_0(X)|_{E(X)} \subset \gamma_{E(X)} \subset \mathcal{T}_E(X)$ . We will need the following:

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *We have  $Bd(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)}) = Bd(E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$ .*

*Proof.* Using [KA, Lemma 4.3.4] we see that  $B_{E(X)}(1)$  is closed in  $(E(X), \mathcal{T}_0(X)|_{E(X)})$ . Hence by [W, Theorem 2.4.1] we get  $Bd(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)}) = Bd(E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$ . ■

The mixed topology  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  is a Hausdorff locally convex-solid topology on  $E(X)$  (see [F, §3]) and it is the finest locally convex topology on  $E(X)$  which agrees with  $\mathcal{T}_0(X)$  on  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded sets in  $E(X)$  (see [W, 2.2.2]). Since  $(B_{E(X)}(2^n) : n \in \mathbb{N})$  is a fundamental sequence of  $\gamma_{E(X)}$ -bounded sets in  $E(X)$ ,  $(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)})$  is a *generalized DF space* (see [Ru, Definition 1.1]).

Recall that a locally solid topology  $\tau$  on  $E(X)$  is said to be *uniformly Lebesgue* if  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  for  $\tau$  in  $E(X)$  whenever  $\|f_n\|_{L^0(X)} \rightarrow 0$  with  $\sup_n \|f_n\|_{E(X)} < \infty$  (see [F, Definition 2.2]).

The basic properties of  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  are given in the following (see [F, Theorem 3.1]):

PROPOSITION 2.2. *We have*

- (i)  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  is the finest uniformly Lebesgue topology on  $E(X)$ .
- (ii)  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $E(X)$  for  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  if and only if  $\|f_n\|_{L^0(X)} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\sup_n \|f_n\|_{E(X)} < \infty$ .

A linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $\gamma$ -linear if  $\|T(f_n)\|_Y \rightarrow 0$  whenever  $\|f_n\|_{L^0(X)} \rightarrow 0$  and  $\sup_n \|f_n\|_{E(X)} < \infty$ .

PROPOSITION 2.3. *For a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.
- (ii)  $T$  is sequentially  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.
- (iii)  $T$  is  $\gamma$ -linear.
- (iv)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}|_{B_{E(X)}(r)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous for every  $r > 0$ .

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) It is obvious.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii) It follows from Proposition 2.2(i).

(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv) It is obvious, because  $\gamma_{E(X)}|_{B_{E(X)}(r)} = \mathcal{T}_0(X)|_{B_{E(X)}(r)}$  for  $r > 0$ .

(iv) $\Leftrightarrow$ (i) See [W, 2.2.4]. ■

Recall that a Banach space  $X$  is said to be *almost reflexive* if every norm-bounded subset of  $X$  is conditionally weakly compact (see [C], [H]). The fundamental  $l^1$ -Rosenthal theorem [R] says that  $X$  is almost reflexive if and only if it contains no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$ .

From now on for a subset  $H$  of  $E(X)$  we will denote

$$\tilde{H} = \{\tilde{f} : f \in H\}.$$

The following result extends Proposition 1.1 to the vector-valued setting.

PROPOSITION 2.4. *Let  $X$  be an almost reflexive Banach space. Then for a subset  $H$  of  $E(X)$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\sup_{f \in H} \|f\|_{E(X)} < \infty$ .
- (ii)  $H$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ -compact.

Moreover, if  $X$  is a reflexive Banach space, then the statements (i)–(ii) are equivalent to the following:

- (iii)  $H$  is relatively  $\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ -compact.

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) Assume that  $\sup_{f \in H} \|f\|_{E(X)} < \infty$ , i.e.,  $\tilde{H}$  is a  $\|\cdot\|_E$ -bounded subset of  $E$ . Then by Proposition 1.1  $\tilde{H}$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -compact. Making use of [N<sub>4</sub>, Corollary 2.3] we obtain that  $H$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ -compact.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) Assume that  $H$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ -compact. Then  $\tilde{H}$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E, (E')_a)$ -compact in  $E$  (see [N<sub>4</sub>, Theorem 2.2]), so by Proposition 1.1  $\sup_{f \in H} \|f\|_{E(X)} < \infty$ .

(i) $\Leftrightarrow$ (iii) See [N<sub>3</sub>, Corollary 2.4]. ■

**3. Weakly compact operators on Köthe-Bochner spaces.** In this section we examine linear operators  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  whenever  $E(X)$  is provided with the mixed topology  $\gamma_{E(X)}$ . Recall that a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is said to be  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact if there exists a neighbourhood  $V$  of 0 for  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  such that  $T(V)$  is a relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact subset of  $Y$ .

**THEOREM 3.1.** *For a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous and  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) It is obvious.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) Assume that  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous and  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact. Hence for every  $r > 0$ ,  $T(B_{E(X)}(r))$  is a relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact subset of  $Y$ . Since  $Bd(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)}) = Bd(E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$  (see Proposition 2.1), in view of [Ru, Theorem 3.1]  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$ -weakly compact, as desired. ■

**REMARK.** For the proof of the implication (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) one can also use the earlier result of Grothendieck. Indeed, since  $(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)})$  is a generalized DF-space, it is as well a quasinormable Hausdorff locally convex space. Moreover,  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous and  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact, so  $T$  transforms  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded sets into relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact sets in  $Y$ . Thus by [G, III, 3, Corollary 1 of Theorem 11]  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact, because  $Bd(E(X), \gamma_{E(X)}) = Bd(E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$ .

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *Assume that a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.

**COROLLARY 3.3.** *Assume that a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.

Now we are ready to present our main results.

**THEOREM 3.4.** *Let  $X$  be an almost reflexive Banach space and let  $Y$  be a weakly sequentially complete Banach space. Then for a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following*

statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) Assume that  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous. In view of Corollary 3.3 it is enough to show that  $T$  transforms  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded sets in  $E(X)$  into relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact sets in  $Y$ . Indeed, let  $H$  be a  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded set in  $E(X)$ . Then by Proposition 2.4  $H$  is conditionally  $\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ -compact. In view of [F, Theorem 3.2] it is seen that the topology  $\gamma_{E(X)}$  is coarser than the Mackey topology  $\tau(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ . Hence  $T$  is also  $(\tau(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X)), \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous and it follows that  $T$  is  $(\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X)), \sigma(Y, Y^*))$ -continuous. Thus  $T(H)$  is a conditionally  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact subset of  $Y$ , and since  $Y$  is  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -sequentially complete, we obtain that  $T(H)$  is relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -sequentially compact in  $Y$ . It follows that  $T(H)$  is relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact in  $Y$ , as desired.

- (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) See Theorem 3.1. ■

**THEOREM 3.5.** *Let  $X$  be a reflexive Banach space. Then for a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.

*Proof.* (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii) Assume that  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous. Since  $\gamma_{E(X)} \subset \tau(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X))$ ,  $T$  is also  $(\tau(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X)), \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous. It follows that  $T$  is also  $(\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X)), \sigma(Y, Y^*))$ -continuous. Note that  $T$  transforms  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded sets in  $E(X)$  into relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact sets in  $Y$ . Indeed, let  $H$  be a  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -bounded set in  $E(X)$ . Then by Proposition 2.4,  $H$  is relatively  $(\sigma(E(X), (E')_a(X^*, X)))$ -compact, and consequently  $T(H)$  is relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact in  $Y$ . By Corollary 3.3,  $T$  is  $(\gamma_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -weakly compact.

- (ii) $\Rightarrow$ (i) It is obvious. ■

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