# On some properties of the class of semi-compact operators

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#### Abstract

We investigate Banach lattices for which the class of positive semi-compact operators coincides with that of L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact) operators, and we give some consequences.

## 1 Introduction and notation

It is well known that each L-weakly compact (resp. regular M-weakly compact) operator is semi-compact (Theorem 3.6.10 and Corollary 3.6.14 of [4]), but a semi-compact operator is not necessary L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact). In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{l^{\infty}} : l^{\infty} \longrightarrow l^{\infty}$  is semi-compact, but it is not L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact). However, in [2], it is proved that if *E* and *F* are nonzero Banach lattices, then each semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact if and only if the norm of *F* is order continuous [2, Theorem 1]. Also, if *F* is  $\sigma$ -Dedekind complete, then each positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is M-weakly compact if and only if the norms of *E'* and *F* are order continuous or *E* is finite dimensional [2, Theorem 2].

Our aim in this paper is to characterize Banach lattices for which every positive semi-compact operator is L-weakly compact and M-weakly compact. After that, we establish our second Theorem, with another hypothesis different from that of [2], for the M-weak compactness of semi-compact operators. Finally, we

Bull. Belg. Math. Soc. Simon Stevin 18 (2011), 761–767

Received by the editors December 2010.

Communicated by F. Bastin.

<sup>2000</sup> Mathematics Subject Classification: 46A40, 46B40, 46B42.

*Key words and phrases* : semi-compact operator, L-weakly compact operator, M-weakly compact operator, order continuous norm.

give a necessary and sufficient condition for which the square of a semi-compact operator is L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact).

Recall from [4] that an operator *T* from a Banach space *E* into a Banach lattice *F* is said to be semi-compact if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $u \in F^+$ such that  $T(B_E) \subset [-u, u] + \varepsilon B_F$  where  $B_H$  is the closed unit ball of H = E or *F* and  $F^+ = \{y \in F : 0 \le y\}$ . The operator *T* is called L-weakly compact if for each disjoint sequence  $(y_n)$ , in the solid hull of  $T(B_E)$ , we have  $\lim_n ||y_n|| = 0$ . Finally, an operator *T* from a Banach lattice *E* into a Banach space *F* is said to be M-weakly compact if for each norm bounded disjoint sequence  $(x_n)$  of *E*, we have  $\lim_n ||T(x_n)|| = 0$ . Note that an operator *T*, between two Banach lattices, is L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact) if and only if its adjoint *T'* is Mweakly compact (resp. L-weakly compact) [4, Proposition 3.6.11]. We refer to [1] and [4] for any unexplained terms from Banach lattice theory.

### 2 Major results

A compact operator is not necessary L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact). In fact, if we consider the operator  $T : l^1 \longrightarrow l^\infty$  defined by

$$T((\lambda_n)) = (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n) e \text{ for all } (\lambda_n) \in l^1$$

where  $e = (1, 1, \dots)$  is the constant sequence with value 1 [1, p. 322]. It is clear that *T* is compact (because its rank is one) but it is neither L-weakly compact nor M-weakly compact.

Also, this example proves that a semi-compact operator is not necessary Mweakly compact nor L-weakly compact.

On the other hand, a Dunford-Pettis operator is not necessarily either M-weakly compact or L-weakly compact. For an example, we have to just take the preceding example or the identity operator  $Id_{l^1} : l^1 \longrightarrow l^1$ .

The following characterization follows immediately from Theorem 1 of [2] and its proof:

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let E and F be nonzero Banach lattices. Then the following assertions are equivalent:* 

- 1. Every positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact.
- 2. Every positive compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact.
- *3. The norm of F is order continuous.*

As a consequence, we obtain the following characterization:

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let E and F be nonzero Banach lattices. Then the following assertions are equivalent:* 

1. Every positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact and M-weakly compact.

- 2. Every positive Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact and *M*-weakly compact.
- 3. Every positive compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is L-weakly compact and M-weakly compact.
- 4. The norms of E' and F are order continuous.

*Proof.* The implications  $(1) \Rightarrow (3)$  and  $(2) \Rightarrow (3)$  are clear.

 $(3) \Rightarrow (4)$  Assume that (3) holds. It follows from Theorem 2.1 that the norm of *F* is order continuous.

Assume by way of contradiction that the norm of E' is not order continuous. It follows from Theorem 4.14 of [1] that there exists some  $f \in (E')^+$  and there exists a disjoint sequence  $(f_n) \subset [0, f]$  which does not converge to zero in norm. Pick some  $y \in F^+$  with ||y|| = 1. By Theorem 39.3 of [9] there exists some  $\psi \in (F')^+$  such that  $||\psi|| = 1$  and  $\psi(y) = ||y|| = 1$ .

Now, we consider the positive operator  $T : E \to F$  defined by

$$T(x) = f(x) y$$
 for each  $x \in E$ .

It is clear that *T* is compact (it has rank one).

On the other hand, we claim that *T* is not M-weakly compact. By Theorem 3.6.11 of [4], it suffices to show that its adjoint  $T' : F' \to E'$  is not L-weakly compact. Note that  $T'(\varphi) = \varphi(y) f$  for each  $\varphi \in F'$ . In particular,  $T'(\psi) = \psi(y) f = f$ . So,  $f \in T'(B_{F'})$ . From  $(f_n) \subset [0, f]$ , it follows that  $(f_n)$  is a disjoint sequence in the solid hull of  $T'(B_{F'})$ . Since  $(f_n)$  is not norm convergent to zero, then T' is not L-weakly compact. Hence *T* is not M-weakly compact. But this is in contradiction with our hypothesis (3). So, the norm of E' is order continuous.

 $(4) \Rightarrow (1)$  We have just to apply Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 3.6.17 of [4].

 $(4) \Rightarrow (2)$  We have just to apply Theorem 3.7.10 and Theorem 3.6.17 of [4].

To establish another characterization of the M-weak compactness of semicompact operators, we need to give some Lemmas. The first one is just a characterization of infinite-dimensional Banach lattices.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let *E* be a Banach lattice. Then *E* is infinite-dimensional if and only if there exists a positive disjoint sequence  $(x_n)$  of  $E^+$  such that  $||x_n|| = 1$  for all *n*.

*Proof.* Assume that there exists a disjoint sequence  $(x_n)$  of  $E^+$  such that  $||x_n|| = 1$  for each n. It follows from Corollary 2 [5, p. 53] that the subset  $A = \{x_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is linearly independent. Then E is infinite-dimensional.

Conversely, assume that *E* is infinite-dimensional. By Proposition 0.2.11 of [7], there exists a disjoint positive sequence  $(y_n)$  of *E* such that  $y_n \neq 0$  for all *n*. For every *n*, pick  $x_n = \frac{1}{\|y_n\|}y_n$ . Then the sequence  $(x_n)$  satisfies the desired properties.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let *E* be a Banach lattice, and let  $(x_n)$  be a disjoint sequence of *E*. If  $(f_n)$  is a sequence of *E'*, then there exists a disjoint sequence  $(g_n)$  of *E'* such that  $|g_n| \le |f_n|$ ,  $g_n(x_n) = f_n(x_n)$  for all *n* and  $g_n(x_m) = 0$  for  $n \ne m$ .

*Moreover, if*  $(f_n)$  *is a positive sequence of* E' *then we may take*  $(g_n)$  *in*  $(E')^+$ .

*Proof.* Follows immediately from Proposition 0.3.11 of [7] and its proof.

**Lemma 2.5.** Let *E* be a Banach lattice. If  $(x_n)$  is a positive disjoint sequence of *E* such that  $||x_n|| = 1$  for all *n*, then there exists a positive disjoint sequence  $(g_n)$  of *E'* with  $||g_n|| = 1$  such that  $g_n(x_n) = 1$  for all *n* and  $g_n(x_m) = 0$  for  $n \neq m$ .

*Proof.* It follows from Theorem 39.3 of [9] that for each *n* there exists  $f_n \in (E')^+$  such that  $||f_n|| = 1$  and  $f_n(x_n) = ||x_n|| = 1$ . Now, by applying Lemma 2.4 to the two sequences  $(x_n)$  and  $(f_n)$ , there exists a positive disjoint sequence  $(g_n)$  of E' with  $0 \le g_n \le f_n$  such that  $g_n(x_n) = f_n(x_n) = 1$  for all *n* and  $g_n(x_m) = 0$  for  $n \ne m$ .

Finally, it is clear that  $||g_n|| = ||f_n|| = 1$  for all *n*.

If we replace "*F* is  $\sigma$ -Dedekind complete" by "*E* has an order continuous norm" in Theorem 2 of [2], we obtain the following characterization:

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let E and F be two Banach lattices such that E has an order continuous norm. Then the following assertions are equivalent:* 

- 1. Each positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is M-weakly compact.
- 2. One of the following conditions holds:
  - (a) both E' and F have order continuous norms.
  - (b) E is finite-dimensional.

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Assume that (1) holds. If the norm of E' is not order continuous, then it follows from the proof of Theorem 2.2 that there exists a positive compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  which is not M-weakly compact. Hence T is semicompact but it is not M-weakly compact, and this gives a contradiction with our hypothesis (1). So, the norm of E' is order continuous.

Assume by way of contradiction that the norm of *F* is not order continuous. By Theorem 4.14 of [1], there exists some  $u \in F^+$  and there exists a disjoint sequence  $(u_n) \subset [0, u]$  which does not converge to zero in norm. We may assume that  $||u_n|| = 1$  for all *n*.

On the other hand, since *E* is an infinite-dimensional Banach lattice, it follows from Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.5 the existence of a positive disjoint sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $E^+$  with  $||x_n|| = 1$  for all *n* and there exists a positive disjoint sequence  $(g_n)$  of E' with  $||g_n|| = 1$  for each *n*, such that

$$g_n(x_n) = 1$$
 for all  $n$  and  $g_n(x_m) = 0$  for  $n \neq m$ . (\*)

To finish the proof, we have to construct a positive semi-compact operator  $T: E \longrightarrow F$  which is not M-weakly compact.

Since *E* has an order continuous norm, it follows from Corollary 2.4.3 of [4] that  $g_n \to 0$  for  $\sigma(E', E)$ . Hence the positive operator  $R : E \to c_0$  defined by

$$R(x) = (g_n(x))_{n=1}^{\infty}$$
 for each  $x \in E$ ,

is well defined and  $R(B_E) \subset B_{c_0}$ . Also, it follows from the proof of Theorem 117.1 of [8] that the positive operator

$$S: c_0 \longrightarrow F, \ (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \cdots) \longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \alpha_i u_i$$

defines a lattice isomorphism from  $c_0$  into F and  $S(B_{c_0}) \subset [-u, u]$ .

Next, we consider the composed operator

$$T = S \circ R : E \longrightarrow F, x \longmapsto \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} g_i(x)u_i.$$

It follows from  $T(B_E) = S(R(B_E)) \subseteq S(B_{c_0}) \subseteq [-u, u]$  that *T* is semicompact but the operator *T* is not M-weakly compact. In fact, by (\*) we have

$$T(x_n) = u_n$$
 for all  $n$ .

Since  $(x_n)$  is a disjoint sequence of  $E^+$  with  $||x_n|| = 1$  for all n and  $||T(x_n)|| = ||u_n|| = 1$  for all n, it follows that T is not M-weakly compact, and this gives a contradiction with our hypothesis (1). So, the norm of F is order continuous and this completes the proof of  $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ .

 $(a) \Rightarrow (1)$  Follows from Theorem 2.2.

 $(b) \Rightarrow (1)$  In this case, every operator  $T : E \longrightarrow F$  is M-weakly compact. In fact, if *E* is finite-dimensional then for every norm bounded disjoint sequence  $(x_n)$  of *E* there exists some  $n_0$  such that  $x_n = 0$  for all  $n \ge n_0$ . So,  $T(x_n) = 0$  for all  $n \ge n_0$ . Then  $||T(x_n)|| \to 0$  and hence *T* is M-weakly compact.

**Remark 2.7.** The assumption "the norm of E is order continuous" in Theorem 2.6 or "F is  $\sigma$ -Dedekind complete" in Theorem 2 of [2] is essential. For instance, take  $E = l^{\infty}$ and F = c. It is clear that every operator  $T : l^{\infty} \longrightarrow c$  is semi-compact (because c is an AM-space with unit). On the other hand, every operator  $T : l^{\infty} \longrightarrow c$  is weakly compact (see the proof of Proposition 1 of [6]). Since  $l^{\infty}$  is an AM-space, T is M-weakly compact [1, Theorem 5.62], and then the class of semi-compact operators coincides with that of M-weakly compact operators from  $l^{\infty}$  into c. But the condition (2) of Theorem 2.6 (resp. Theorem 2 of [2]) is not satisfied.

Finally, we observe that the square of a semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow E$  is not necessary L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact). In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{l^{\infty}} : l^{\infty} \longrightarrow l^{\infty}$  is semi-compact but its square  $(Id_{l^{\infty}})^2 = Id_{l^{\infty}}$  is not L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact).

In the following, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for which the square of a semi-compact operator is L-weakly compact (resp. M-weakly compact).

#### **Theorem 2.8.** *Let E be a Banach lattice. Then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- 1. For every positive operators S and T from E into E such that  $0 \le S \le T$  and T is semi-compact, the operator S is L-weakly compact.
- 2. Every positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow E$  is L-weakly compact.
- 3. For every positive semi-compact operator T from E into E,  $T^2$  is L-weakly compact.

4. The norm of *E* is order continuous.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)$  Obvious.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Assume by way of contradiction that the norm of *E* is not order continuous. By Theorem 4.14 of [1], there exists some  $u \in E^+$  and there exists a disjoint sequence  $(u_n) \subset [0, u]$  which does not converge to zero in norm. We may assume that ||u|| = 1.

On the other hand, it follows from Theorem 39.3 of [9] that there exists  $f \in (E')^+$  such that ||f|| = 1 and f(u) = ||u|| = 1.

Now, we consider the positive operator  $T : E \to E$  defined by

T(x) = f(x) u for each  $x \in E$ .

It is clear that *T* is semi-compact (it has rank one) but the operator  $T^2$  is not L-weakly compact. In fact, note that  $T^2(u) = u$  and ||u|| = 1. So it follows from  $(u_n) \subset [0, u]$  that  $(u_n)$  is a disjoint sequence in the solid hull of  $T^2(B_E)$ . Since  $(u_n)$  is not norm convergent to zero, then *T* is not L-weakly compact. But this is in contradiction with our hypothesis (3).

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) It follows from Theorem 5.72 of [1] that *S* is semi-compact and hence *S* is L-weakly compact by Theorem 1 of [2].

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let E be a Banach lattice. Then the following assertions are equivalent:* 

- 1. For every positive operators S and T from E into E such that  $0 \le S \le T$  and T is semi-compact, the operator S is M-weakly compact.
- 2. Every positive semi-compact operator  $T : E \longrightarrow E$  is M-weakly compact.
- 3. For every positive semi-compact operator T from E into E,  $T^2$  is M-weakly compact.

4. The norm of E' is order continuous.

*Proof.*  $(1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)$  Obvious.

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) Assume by way of contradiction that the norm of E' is not order continuous. By Theorem 4.14 of [1], there exists some  $f \in (E')^+$  and there exists a disjoint sequence  $(f_n) \subset [0, f]$  which does not converge to zero in norm. We may assume that ||f|| = 1. Pick some  $u \in E^+$  such that f(u) > 0.

Now, we consider the positive operator  $T : E \to E$  defined by

$$T(x) = \frac{f(x)}{f(u)}u$$
 for each  $x \in E$ .

It is clear that *T* is semi-compact (it has rank one) but the operator  $T^2$  is not M-weakly compact. In fact, by Theorem 3.6.11 of [4], it suffices to show that its adjoint  $(T^2)': E' \to E'$  is not L-weakly compact. Note that  $T'(\varphi) = \frac{\varphi(u)}{f(u)}f$  for each  $\varphi \in E'$ . In particular, T'(f) = f and hence  $(T^2)'(f) = f$ . Then it follows from  $(f_n) \subset [0, f]$  that  $(f_n)$  is a disjoint sequence in the solid hull of  $(T^2)'(B_{E'})$ . Since  $(f_n)$  is not norm convergent to zero, then  $(T^2)'$  is not L-weakly compact and hence  $T^2$  is not M-weakly compact. But this is in contradiction with our hypothesis (3).

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) It follows from Theorem 5.72 of [1] that *S* is semi-compact and hence *S* is M-weakly compact by Theorem 2 of [2].

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