

# On copies of $c_0$ and $\ell_\infty$ in $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$

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## Abstract

The aim of this paper is to prove that (a)  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  if and only if either  $X$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ , or  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ , and (b) If both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain a copy of  $c_0$ , then  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ . From these facts we extract some consequences.

## 1 Preliminaries

If  $X$  and  $Y$  are two Banach spaces over the same field  $\mathbb{K}$  ( $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ), we denote by  $L(X, Y)$  the Banach space of all bounded linear operators from  $X$  into  $Y$  equipped with the operator norm and by  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  the closed linear subspace of  $L(X^*, Y)$  formed by all weak\*-weakly continuous linear operators. The closed subspace of  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  consisting of all those compact operators will be designed by  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ , whereas  $W(X, Y)$  will stand for the closed linear subspace of  $L(X, Y)$  consisting of all weakly compact operators. If  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a non-trivial positive finite measure space and  $X$  a Banach space, we will denote by  $\mathcal{P}_1(\mu, X)$  the linear space over the field  $\mathbb{K}$  of all  $X$ -valued [classes of scalarly equivalent] weakly  $\mu$ -measurable Pettis integrable functions  $f$  defined on  $\Omega$ , equipped with the norm

$$\|f\|_1 = \sup \left\{ \int_{\Omega} |x^* f(\omega)| d\mu(\omega) : x^* \in X^*, \|x^*\| \leq 1 \right\}.$$

In what follow we will shorten the sentence ‘weakly unconditionally Cauchy’ by ‘wuC’. Three relevant results concerning copies of  $c_0$  and  $\ell_\infty$  in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  and  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  are in order.

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**Theorem 1.1.** ([1, main Thm.])  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$  if and only if either  $X$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** ([2, main Thm.]) Assuming  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a complemented copy of  $c_0$ , then either  $X$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ .

**Theorem 1.3.** ([3, main Thm.]) If  $c_0$  embeds into  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ , either  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y) = L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  or  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  is uncomplemented in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ .

The aim of this paper is to complete the study of copies of  $c_0$  in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  by proving the two theorems below, from which we will obtain several consequences; among them, Theorem 1.2.

**Theorem 1.4.**  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  if and only if either (a)  $X$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ , or (b)  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ .

**Theorem 1.5.** If both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain a copy of  $c_0$ , then  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ .

## 2 Proof of Theorem 1.4

We will show the nontrivial ‘only if’ part, which is essentially contained in [2]. So assume that  $c_0$  embeds into  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  but neither  $X$  nor  $Y$  contain a copy of  $c_0$ . Let  $\{T_n\}$  be a normalized sequence in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  equivalent to the unit vector basis  $\{e_n\}$  of  $c_0$ , and let  $J$  be a topological isomorphism from  $c_0$  into  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  such that  $Je_n = T_n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since the formal series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n$  is wuC and the linear form on  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  given by  $T \rightarrow y^*Tx^*$  is continuous for each  $x^* \in X^*$  and  $y^* \in Y^*$ , it follows that  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |y^*T_nx^*| < \infty$ . Hence, the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_nx^*$  in  $Y$  is wuC for each  $x^* \in X^*$  and, as  $Y$  contains no copy of  $c_0$ , this implies that the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n T_nx^*$  converges [in norm] in  $Y$  for each  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and  $x^* \in X^*$ . This fact allows us to consider the linear map  $\varphi : \ell_\infty \rightarrow L(X^*, Y)$  defined by

$$(\varphi\xi)x^* = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n T_nx^*$$

for each  $x^* \in X^*$ . This linear operator is well-defined and bounded. Indeed, choosing  $C > 0$  such that

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i T_i x^* \right\|_Y \leq C \|x^*\| \|\xi\|_\infty$$

for each  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and  $x^* \in X^*$ , for each fixed pair  $(\xi, x^*) \in \ell_\infty \times X^*$  there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\left\| \sum_{i=n_0+1}^{\infty} \xi_i T_i x^* \right\|_Y < \epsilon$ , which implies that

$$\|(\varphi\xi)x^*\|_Y \leq C \|x^*\| \|\xi\|_\infty + \epsilon.$$

This shows at the same time that  $\varphi\xi \in L(X^*, Y)$  and that  $\varphi$  is bounded. Now let us prove that  $\varphi(\ell_\infty) \subseteq L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ .

Let  $\xi$  be a fixed non null element of  $\ell_\infty$ . We are going to see that  $\varphi\xi$  is weak\*-weakly continuous. Since  $T \rightarrow x^*(T^*y^*) = y^*Tx^*$  is a continuous linear form on  $L(X^*, Y)$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |x^*(T_n^*y^*)| < \infty$  and thus the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n^*y^*$  in  $X$  is

wuC for each  $y^* \in Y^*$ . Given that  $c_0$  is not embedded into  $X$ , then  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty T_n^* y^*$  is unconditionally convergent in norm for each  $y^* \in Y^*$ . In particular,  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n^* y^*$  converges in  $X$  for each  $y^* \in Y^*$ . Let  $\{x_d^* : d \in D\}$  be a net in  $X^*$  which converges to some  $x^* \in X^*$  under the weak\* topology of  $X^*$ . Working from now onwards with some concrete  $y^* \in Y^*$  and given  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is  $k \in D$  such that

$$\left| \left\langle x_d^* - x^*, \sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n^* y^* \right\rangle \right| < \epsilon$$

for each  $d > k$ . On the other hand, since  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n^* y^*$  converges in norm in  $X$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i (x_d^* - x^*) T_i^* y^* = \left| \left\langle x_d^* - x^*, \sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n^* y^* \right\rangle \right|$$

for each  $d \in D$ , and due to the fact that  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n (x_d^* - x^*)$  converges in norm in  $Y$  to  $(\varphi\xi)(x_d^* - x^*)$  for each  $d \in D$ , one has that

$$\begin{aligned} y^*(\varphi\xi)(x_d^* - x^*) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i y^* T_i (x_d^* - x^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i (x_d^* - x^*) T_i^* y^* \\ &= \left| \left\langle x_d^* - x^*, \sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n T_n^* y^* \right\rangle \right| \end{aligned}$$

for each  $d \in D$ . Therefore,

$$|y^*(\varphi\xi)(x_d^* - x^*)| < \epsilon$$

for each  $d > k$ , i.e.  $y^*(\varphi\xi)x_d^* \rightarrow y^*(\varphi\xi)x^*$ . Since this is true for every  $y^* \in Y^*$ , it follows that  $(\varphi\xi)x_d^* \rightarrow (\varphi\xi)x^*$  under the weak topology of  $Y$ . Consequently, we have that  $\varphi(\ell_\infty) \subseteq L_{w^*}(X^*Y)$  as stated. Finally, since

$$\begin{aligned} \|\varphi e_n\| &= \sup \{ \|(\varphi e_n)x^*\|_Y : x^* \in X^*, \|x^*\| \leq 1 \} \\ &= \sup \{ \|T_n x^*\|_Y : x^* \in X^*, \|x^*\| \leq 1 \} = \|T_n\| = 1 \end{aligned}$$

for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , Rosenthal's  $\ell_\infty$  theorem implies that  $\ell_\infty$  embeds into  $L_{w^*}(X^*Y)$ .

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.5

Let  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  be two normalized basic sequences in  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, equivalent to the unit vector basis  $\{e_n\}$  of  $c_0$ . Since the formal series  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty x_n$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty y_n$  are wuC, it follows that  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  under the weak topology of  $X$  and  $y_n \rightarrow 0$  under the weak topology of  $Y$ . Consider the linear mapping  $\psi : \ell_\infty \rightarrow L(X^*, Y)$  defined by

$$(\psi\xi)x^* = \sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n x^* x_n \cdot y_n$$

for each  $x^* \in X^*$ . This linear operator is well-defined and bounded. Indeed, first note that  $\xi_n x^* x_n \rightarrow 0$ , so  $\sum_{n=1}^\infty \xi_n x^* x_n \cdot y_n$  converges in  $Y$  in norm. On the other hand, if  $C > 0$  satisfies that

$$\sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i x^* x_i \cdot y_i \right\|_Y \leq C \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} |\xi_n x^* x_n| \leq C \|\xi\|_\infty \|x^*\|$$

for each  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and  $x^* \in X^*$ , then

$$\|(\psi\xi)x^*\|_Y = \left\| \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \xi_i x^* x_i \cdot y_i \right\|_Y \leq C \|\xi\|_\infty \|x^*\|$$

for each  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and  $x^* \in X^*$ . Hence,  $\psi\xi \in L(X^*, Y)$  for each  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and  $\psi$  is bounded. Now, let us show that  $\psi(\ell_\infty) \subseteq L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ . So, choose some fixed  $\xi \in \ell_\infty$  and consider a net  $\{x_d^* : d \in D\}$  in  $X^*$  converging to some  $x^* \in X^*$  under the weak\* topology of  $X^*$ . We have to prove that  $y^*(\psi\xi)x_d^* \rightarrow y^*(\psi\xi)x^*$  for each  $y^* \in Y^*$ . Thus, let us work with some concrete  $y^* \in Y^*$ . Since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_n \in X$ , we have

$$x_d^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_n \right) \rightarrow x^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_n \right)$$

But, since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_d^* x_n = x_d^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_n \right)$  for each  $d \in D$  and

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x^* x_n = x^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_n \right),$$

we obtain that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x_d^* x_n \rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n y^* y_n \cdot x^* x_n. \quad (3.1)$$

On the other hand, since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n x^* x_n \cdot y_n$  converges in  $Y$ , we have

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n x_d^* x_n \cdot y^* y_n = y^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n x_d^* x_n \cdot y_n \right) = y^*(\psi\xi)x_d^* \quad (3.2)$$

and

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n x^* x_n \cdot y^* y_n = y^* \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \xi_n x^* x_n \cdot y_n \right) = y^*(\psi\xi)x^* \quad (3.3)$$

Therefore, from (3.1), (3.2) and (3.3), we conclude that

$$y^*(\psi\xi)x_d^* \rightarrow y^*(\psi\xi)x^*$$

as required.

Finally, since  $\|\psi e_n\| = \sup \{\|x^* x_n \cdot y_n\| : \|x^*\| \leq 1\} = \|x_n\| \|y_n\| = 1$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , Rosenthal's  $\ell_\infty$  theorem guarantees that  $\ell_\infty$  is embedded into  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ .

## 4 Some consequences

**Corollary 4.1.** *If  $\mathcal{P}_1(\mu, X)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ , then either  $X$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  or  $L_{w^*}(X^*, L_1(\mu))$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ .*

*Proof.* According to a result of Huff [4],  $\mathcal{P}_1(\mu, X)$  is embedded into  $L_{w^*}(X^*, L_1(\mu))$ . Since  $L_1(\mu)$  contains no copy of  $c_0$ , the statement of the corollary is an obvious consequence of Theorem 1.4. ■

**Corollary 4.2.** (Theorem 1.2) *Assuming  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a complemented copy of  $c_0$ , then either  $X$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ .*

*Proof.* Looking at the proof of Theorem 1.4, assuming by contradiction that neither  $X$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  and denoting by  $P$  a bounded projection operator from  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  onto  $J(c_0)$ , then  $J^{-1} \circ P \circ \varphi$  is a bounded quotient map from  $\ell_\infty$  onto  $c_0$ , a contradiction. ■

**Corollary 4.3.** *Assume that  $W(X, Y)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ . If  $c_0$  is not embedded into  $X^*$  or  $Y$ , then  $W(X, Y)$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ .*

*Proof.* This is due to Theorem 1.4 and to the fact that  $W(X, Y)$  is isomorphic to  $L_{w^*}(X^{**}, Y)$ . ■

**Corollary 4.4.** *Assume that  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ . If  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y) = L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ , then either  $X$  contains a copy of  $c_0$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ . If neither  $X$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $c_0$ , according to Theorem 1.4,  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  must contain a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ . Since  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y) = L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ , applying Theorem 1.1, either  $X$  or  $Y$  contains a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ , a contradiction. ■

**Corollary 4.5.** *Assume that both  $X$  and  $Y$  contain a copy of  $c_0$ . If neither  $X$  nor  $Y$  contain a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ , then  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  is not complemented in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ .*

*Proof.* According to Theorem 1.5,  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  must contain a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ . But since neither  $X$  nor  $Y$  contain a copy of  $\ell_\infty$ , Theorem 1.1 implies that  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y) \neq L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ . Since  $c_0$  is embedded into  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ , Theorem 1.3 guarantees that  $K_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$  is uncomplemented in  $L_{w^*}(X^*, Y)$ . ■

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