

## AM-Compactness of some classes of operators

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*Abstract.* We characterize Banach lattices on which each regular order weakly compact (resp. b-weakly compact, almost Dunford-Pettis, Dunford-Pettis) operator is AM-compact.

*Keywords:* AM-compact operator, order weakly compact operator, b-weakly compact operator, almost Dunford-Pettis operator, b-AM-compact operator, order continuous norm, discrete Banach lattice

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### 1. Introduction and notation

The class of AM-compact operators is introduced and studied by Dodds-Fremlin [14] and its domination problem is characterized in [5]. Recall that a regular operator  $T$  from a Banach lattice  $E$  into a Banach space  $F$  is said to be AM-compact if it carries each order bounded subset of  $E$  onto a relatively compact subset of  $F$ .

On the other hand, each regular compact operator is AM-compact, but an AM-compact operator is not necessarily compact. In fact, the identity operator of the Banach lattice  $\ell^1$  is AM-compact (because  $\ell^1$  is discrete with order continuous norm) but it is not compact. However, if  $E$  is an AM-space with unit, the class of regular compact operators coincides with that of AM-compact operators. For a more detailed study of this class of operators we refer the reader to the book of Zaanen [21].

In this paper we are interested in three classes of operators. The first one is bigger than that of AM-compact operators. It is the class of order weakly compact operators introduced by Dodds [13]. Recall that an operator  $T$  from a Banach lattice  $E$  into a Banach space  $F$  is said to be order weakly compact if for each  $x \in E_+$ , the set  $T([0, x])$  is relatively weakly compact in  $F$ . Note that an order weakly compact operator is not necessarily AM-compact. In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{L^1[0,1]} : L^1[0,1] \rightarrow L^1[0,1]$  is order weakly compact (because the norm of  $L^1[0,1]$  is order continuous), but it is not AM-compact (because  $L^1[0,1]$  is not discrete).

The second class is that of b-weakly compact operators introduced by Alpay-Altin-Tonyali [3]. An operator  $T$  from a Banach lattice  $E$  into a Banach space  $F$  is said to be b-weakly compact if for each b-order bounded subset  $A$  of  $E$  (i.e. order bounded in the topological bidual  $E''$ ),  $T(A)$  is relatively weakly compact in  $F$ . Note that there is an AM-compact operator which is not b-weakly compact

and conversely there is a b-weakly compact operator which is not AM-compact. In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{L^1[0,1]} : L^1[0,1] \rightarrow L^1[0,1]$  is b-weakly compact (because  $L^1[0,1]$  is KB-space), but it is not AM-compact (because  $L^1[0,1]$  is not discrete), and conversely the identity operator  $Id_{c_0} : c_0 \rightarrow c_0$  is AM-compact (because  $c_0$  is discrete with order continuous norm), but is not b-weakly compact (because  $c_0$  is not KB-space).

The third class is that of almost Dunford-Pettis operators introduced by Sanchez in [18]. Recall from [20] that an operator  $T$  from a Banach lattice  $E$  into a Banach space  $F$  is called almost Dunford-Pettis if the sequence  $(\|T(x_n)\|)$  converges to 0 for every weakly null sequence  $(x_n)$  consisting of pairwise disjoint elements in  $E$ . Note that there is an AM-compact operator which is not almost Dunford-Pettis, and conversely there is an almost Dunford-Pettis operator which is not AM-compact. In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{L^1[0,1]} : L^1[0,1] \rightarrow L^1[0,1]$  is almost Dunford-Pettis (because  $L^1[0,1]$  has the positive Schur property) but it is not AM-compact, and conversely the identity operator  $Id_{c_0} : c_0 \rightarrow c_0$  is AM-compact but is not almost Dunford-Pettis (because  $c_0$  does not have the positive Schur property).

In [6], we studied the AM-compactness of positive Dunford-Pettis operators. The aim of this paper is to extend this study to other classes of operators, by characterizing Banach lattices for which each regular order weakly compact (resp. b-weakly compact, almost Dunford-Pettis, Dunford-Pettis) operator is AM-compact. Also, we will give some interesting consequences.

To state our results, we need to fix some notation and recall some definitions. A vector lattice is said to be Dedekind  $\sigma$ -complete if every nonempty countable subset that is bounded from above has a supremum. A nonzero element  $x$  of a vector lattice  $E$  is discrete if the order ideal generated by  $x$  equals the lattice subspace generated by  $x$ . The vector lattice  $E$  is discrete, if it admits a complete disjoint system of discrete elements. A Banach lattice is a Banach space  $(E, \|\cdot\|)$  such that  $E$  is a vector lattice and its norm satisfies the following property: for each  $x, y \in E$  such that  $|x| \leq |y|$ , we have  $\|x\| \leq \|y\|$ . Note that the topological dual  $E'$ , endowed with the dual norm and the dual order, is also a Banach lattice. A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  of a Banach lattice  $E$  is order continuous if for each generalized sequence  $(x_\alpha)$  such that  $x_\alpha \downarrow 0$  in  $E$ , the sequence  $(x_\alpha)$  converges to 0 for the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  where the notation  $x_\alpha \downarrow 0$  means that the sequence  $(x_\alpha)$  is decreasing, its infimum exists and  $\inf(x_\alpha) = 0$ . A Banach lattice  $E$  is said to be a KB-space whenever every increasing norm bounded sequence of  $E^+$  is norm convergent. As an example, each reflexive Banach lattice is a KB-space. A Banach lattice  $E$  is said to be an AM-space if for each  $x, y \in E$  such that  $\inf(x, y) = 0$ , we have  $\|x + y\| = \max\{\|x\|, \|y\|\}$ . A Banach lattice  $E$  is said to have weakly sequentially continuous lattice operations whenever  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $\sigma(E, E')$  implies  $\|x_n\| \rightarrow 0$  in  $\sigma(E, E')$ . Note that every AM-space has this property ([2, Theorem 4.31]). Also, any discrete Banach lattice with an order continuous norm has weakly sequentially continuous lattice operations ([17, Proposition 2.5.23]).

For a bounded linear mapping  $T : E \rightarrow F$  between two Banach lattices, we will use the term operator. It is positive if  $T(x) \geq 0$  in  $F$  whenever  $x \geq 0$  in  $E$ . An operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is regular if  $T = T_1 - T_2$  where  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are positive operators from  $E$  into  $F$ . It is well known that each positive linear mapping on a Banach lattice is continuous. If an operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  between two Banach lattices is positive, then its dual operator  $T' : F' \rightarrow E'$  is likewise positive, where  $T'$  is defined by  $T'(f)(x) = f(T(x))$  for each  $f \in F'$  and for each  $x \in E$ .

For terminology concerning Banach lattice theory and positive operators, we refer the reader to the excellent book of Aliprantis-Burkinshaw [2].

## 2. Preliminaries

Recall that an operator  $T$  from a Banach space  $E$  into another  $F$  is said to be Dunford-Pettis if it carries weakly compact subsets of  $E$  onto compact subsets of  $F$ . A Banach space  $E$  has the Dunford-Pettis property if every weakly compact operator defined on  $E$  (and taking their values in a Banach space  $F$ ) is Dunford-Pettis.

Note that if  $E$  is a Banach lattice and  $X, Y$  are two Banach spaces, and if  $T : E \rightarrow X$  and  $S : X \rightarrow Y$  are two operators such that  $T$  is order weakly compact and  $S$  is Dunford-Pettis, then the composed operator  $S \circ T$  is AM-compact.

To give a characterization of AM-compact operators, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $E$  be a Banach lattice. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (1) *Every positive operator from  $E$  into  $E$  is AM-compact.*
- (2) *The identity operator of the Banach lattice  $E$  is AM-compact.*
- (3)  *$E$  is discrete and its norm is order continuous.*

PROOF: (1) $\implies$ (2) Obvious.

(2) $\implies$ (3) Since the identity operator of  $E$  is AM-compact, then for each  $x \in E_+$ , the order interval  $[0, x]$  is norm relatively compact, and since  $[0, x]$  is norm closed, then  $[0, x]$  is norm compact. Finally, Corollary 21.13 of [1] implies that  $E$  is discrete with order continuous norm.

(3) $\implies$ (1) Let  $T$  be a positive operator from  $E$  into  $E$ . Since  $E$  is discrete and its norm is order continuous, it follows from Corollary 21.13 of [1] that for each  $x \in E_+$ , the order interval  $[0, x]$  is norm compact and hence  $T[0, x]$  is norm compact.  $\square$

Let  $E$  be a Banach lattice. For each  $u \in E_+$ , we denote  $E_u$  the principal ideal generated by  $u$ , that we endow with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  defined by  $\|x\|_\infty = \inf\{\lambda > 0 : \|x\| \leq \lambda u\}$ . It is an AM-space having  $u$  as the unit and  $[-u, u]$  as the closed unit ball (see Theorem 4.21 of [2]), and the natural embedding  $i_u : (E_u, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \rightarrow E$  is continuous.

Moreover, for every  $f \in E'$  we have  $f \circ i_u \in (E_u)'$  and  $\|f \circ i_u\|_{(E_u)'} = \sup\{|(f \circ i_u)(y)| : y \in [-u, u]\} = \sup\{|f(y)| : |y| \leq u\} = |f|(u)$ .

Note that an operator  $T : E \rightarrow X$  is AM-compact if and only if for every  $u \in E_+$  the composed map  $T \circ i_u : E_u \rightarrow E \rightarrow X$  is compact. Thus  $T : E \rightarrow X$  is AM-compact if and only if for every order bounded sequence  $(x_n)$  of  $E$ , the sequence  $(T(x_n))$  has a norm convergent subsequence in  $X$ .

Now we are in position to give this characterization.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $E$  be a Banach lattice,  $X$  a Banach space and  $T$  an operator from  $E$  into  $X$ . Then  $T$  is AM-compact if and only if for every order bounded sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $E$  such that  $(T(x_n))$  converges weakly to  $x$  in  $X$ , we have  $\lim_n \|T(x_n) - x\| = 0$ .*

PROOF: Let  $T : E \rightarrow X$  be an AM-compact operator and  $A$  an order bounded subset of  $E$  and let  $(x_n)$  be a sequence in  $A$  such that the sequence  $(T(x_n))$  converges weakly to  $x$  in  $X$ . Since  $T(A)$  is norm relatively compact and  $(T(x_n))$  converges weakly to  $x$  in  $X$ , we obtain  $\lim_n \|T(x_n) - x\| = 0$ .

Conversely, consider the operator  $T : E \rightarrow X$  and let  $A$  be an order bounded subset of  $E$ . Choose  $x \in E_+$  with  $A \subset [-x, x]$ . Let  $E_x$  be the principal ideal generated by  $x$  in  $E$  and endowed with the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  and  $(x_n)$  be a weakly null sequence in  $E_x$ . Since the identity mapping  $i_x : (E_x, \|\cdot\|_\infty) \rightarrow (E, \|\cdot\|)$  is continuous,  $(x_n)$  converges weakly to 0 in  $E$ . Hence  $(Tx_n)$  converges weakly to zero in  $X$ , and thus  $\|Tx_n\| \rightarrow 0$  by the assumption. Thus we have verified that  $T \circ i_x : E_x \rightarrow X$  is a Dunford-Pettis operator. Since  $(E_x, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$  is an AM-space with unit, then by Theorem 2.1.3 of [2],  $(E_x, \|\cdot\|_\infty)$  can be identified with a suitable  $C(K)$ -space. It follows from Theorem 4 of [15], that  $T \circ i_x$  is weakly compact. Thus  $T(A)$  is a relatively weakly compact subset of  $X$ .

Now we claim that  $T(A)$  is relatively norm compact. Indeed, otherwise there would exist a sequence  $(Tx_n)$  in  $T(A)$  without a norm convergent subsequence. By the relative weak compactness of  $T(A)$  we may assume that  $(Tx_n)$  converges weakly to a point  $x \in X$ . But then we have a contradiction with the assumption. Therefore,  $T(A)$  is a norm relatively compact subset of  $X$ , and hence  $T : E \rightarrow X$  is AM-compact.  $\square$

As a consequence of Proposition 2.2, we obtain the following characterization of a discrete Banach lattice with order continuous norm.

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $E$  be a Banach lattice. Then  $E$  is discrete and its norm is order continuous if and only if every order bounded weakly convergent sequence  $(x_n)$  in  $E$  is norm convergent.*

PROOF: Let  $(x_n)$  be an order bounded and weakly convergent sequence in  $E$ . Since  $E$  is discrete with order continuous norm, it follows from Lemma 2.1 that its identity operator is AM-compact. And hence Proposition 2.2 implies that  $(x_n)$  is norm convergent.

Conversely, let  $(x_n)$  be an order bounded and weakly convergent sequence in  $E$ . Then  $(x_n)$  is norm convergent and it follows from Proposition 2.2 that the identity operator of  $E$  is AM-compact. Finally, Lemma 2.1 implies that  $E$  is discrete and its norm is order continuous.  $\square$

### 3. Major results

Note that each b-weakly compact operator is order weakly compact, but the converse is false in general. However, if the Banach lattice  $E$  has the (b)-property (i.e. each subset  $A \subset E$  is order bounded in  $E$  whenever it is order bounded in its topological bidual  $E''$ ), then the class of b-weakly compact operators on  $E$  coincides with that of order weakly compact operators on  $E$ .

On the other hand, each almost Dunford-Pettis operator is b-weakly compact. (In fact, let  $(x_n)$  be a disjoint b-order bounded sequence of  $E$ . Then  $(x_n)$  is an order bounded disjoint sequence of the topological bidual  $E''$ . So,  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  for the topology  $\sigma(E'', E''')$ , and hence  $x_n \rightarrow 0$  for the topology  $\sigma(E, E')$ . If  $T : E \rightarrow X$  is almost Dunford-Pettis, then  $T(x_n)$  converges in norm to 0 and hence it follows from Proposition 2.8 of [3] that  $T$  is b-weakly compact). However, a b-weakly compact operator is not necessarily almost Dunford-Pettis. In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{\ell^2} : \ell^2 \rightarrow \ell^2$  is b-weakly compact, but it is not almost Dunford-Pettis.

Now, we are in position to give necessary and sufficient conditions under which each regular order weakly compact (resp. b-weakly compact, almost Dunford-Pettis, Dunford-Pettis) operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be two Banach lattices such that the lattice operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *Every regular order weakly compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.*
- (2) *Every regular b-weakly compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.*
- (3) *Every regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.*
- (4) *One of the following conditions is valid:*
  - (i)  *$E'$  is discrete,*
  - (ii)  *$F$  is discrete with order continuous norm.*

PROOF: (1) $\implies$ (2) Since every regular b-weakly compact operator is order weakly compact, it is evident that every regular b-weakly compact operator is AM-compact.

(2) $\implies$ (3) Since every regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator is b-weakly compact, then every regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator is AM-compact.

(3) $\implies$ (4) Suppose that  $E'$  is not discrete. So, we have to show that  $F$  is discrete and its norm is order continuous.

Suppose that  $F$  is not discrete or its norm is not order continuous. It follows from Corollary 2.4 the existence of an order bounded sequence  $(y_n) \subset F$  which converges weakly to some  $y$  and  $\lim_n \|y_n - y\| > \varepsilon$ . Consider the sequence  $(v_n) = (|y_n - y|)$ . Since the lattice operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous, then  $(v_n)$  converges weakly to 0 and we have  $\lim_n \|v_n\| > \varepsilon$ . Now, by Corollary 2.3.5 of [17], there exist a subsequence  $(k_n) \subset \mathbf{N}$  and a disjoint sequence  $(z_n) \subset F_+$  such that  $z_n \leq v_{k_n}$  and  $\|z_n\| \geq \frac{1}{2}$  for all  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ . Since  $(v_n)$  is order bounded then  $(z_n)$  is order bounded and hence there exists  $z \in F_+$  such that  $(z_n) \subset [0, z]$ . By Lemma 3.4 of [7] there exists a positive disjoint sequence  $(g_n)$  of

$F'$  with  $\|g_n\| \leq 1$  such that

$$g_n(z_n) = 1 \text{ for all } n \text{ and } g_n(z_m) = 0 \text{ for } n \neq m.$$

On the other hand, as  $E'$  is not discrete, it follows from Theorem 3.1 of Chen-Wickstead [11] the existence of a sequence  $(f_n) \subset E'$  such that  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  in  $\sigma(E', E)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\|f_n\| = f > 0$  for all  $n$  and some  $f \in E'$ .

Now, we consider the operators  $S, T : E \rightarrow F$  defined by

$$S(x) = \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x) \cdot z_n \right) \quad \text{and} \quad T(x) = f(x) \cdot z \quad \text{for all } x \in E.$$

Since  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|f_n(x) \cdot z_n\| \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(|x|) \cdot \|z_n\| \leq f(|x|) \cdot \|z\|$ , the series defining  $S$  converges in norm for each  $x \in E$ . So, the operator  $S$  is well defined and is positive. Note that  $S$  and  $T$  are the same operators considered in Theorem 2 of [19].

Clearly,  $0 \leq S \leq T$  holds. (In fact, for each  $x \in E^+$  and each  $n \geq 1$ , we have  $|\sum_{k=1}^n f_k(x) \cdot z_k| \leq \sum_{k=1}^n f(x) \cdot z_k \leq f(x) \cdot z$ . Then  $|\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(x) \cdot z_n| \leq f(x) \cdot z$  for each  $x \in E^+$ . Hence  $0 \leq S(x) \leq T(x)$  for each  $x \in E^+$ .)

The operator  $T$  is compact and hence almost Dunford-Pettis. After that, it follows from the Corollary 2.3 of [9] that the operator  $S$  is almost Dunford-Pettis.

It remains to show that  $S$  is not AM-compact. Choose  $u \in E_+$  such that  $f(u) > 0$ , and note that  $(f_n \circ i_u)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  has no norm convergent subsequence in  $(E_u)'$ . In fact, for each  $y \in E_u$  we have  $f_n \circ i_u(y) = f_n(y) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Then  $f_n \circ i_u \rightarrow 0$  in  $\sigma((E_u)', E_u)$ . As  $\|f_n \circ i_u\|_{(E_u)'} = \|f_n\|(u) = f(u) > 0$  for all  $n$ , we conclude that  $(f_n \circ i_u)_{n=1}^{\infty}$  has no norm convergent subsequence in  $(E_u)'$ .

If  $S$  is AM-compact, then  $S \circ i_u : E_u \rightarrow E \rightarrow F$  is compact and so is  $(S \circ i_u)'$ . As we have  $(S \circ i_u)'(g) = (\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g(z_n) \cdot (f_n \circ i_u))$  for all  $g \in F'$ , then  $(S \circ i_u)'(g_k) = (f_k \circ i_u)$  for all  $k$ . Hence  $((S \circ i_u)'(g_k))$  has a norm convergent subsequence in  $(E_u)'$ . We conclude that  $(f_k \circ i_u)_k$  has a convergent subsequence in  $(E_u)'$ . This is a contradiction and then  $S$  is not AM-compact.

(4)(i) $\implies$ (1) Follows from Proposition 7 of [4].

(4)(ii) $\implies$ (1) Since  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is a regular operator, then the image by  $T$ , of each order interval of  $E$ , is an order bounded subset of  $F$ . Finally, the result follows from Corollary 21.13 of [1]. □

**Remark 3.2.** The assumption “the lattice operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous” is essential in Theorem 3.1. For instance, every regular operator  $T : L^1[0, 1] \rightarrow L^2[0, 1]$  is AM-compact. But neither  $(L^1[0, 1])'$  is discrete nor  $L^2[0, 1]$  is discrete with order continuous norm.

As consequences of Theorem 3.1, we obtain the following results:

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $F$  be a Banach lattice with weakly sequentially continuous lattice operations. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *Every regular order weakly compact operator  $T : \ell^\infty \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.*

- (2) Every regular  $b$ -weakly compact operator  $T : \ell^\infty \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.
- (3) Every regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : \ell^\infty \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.
- (4)  $F$  is discrete with order continuous norm.

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $E$  be a Banach lattice, then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) Every regular order weakly compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow c$  is AM-compact.
- (2) Every regular  $b$ -weakly compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow c$  is AM-compact.
- (3) Every regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : E \rightarrow c$  is AM-compact.
- (4)  $E'$  is discrete.

To give another consequence of Theorem 3.1, we need to recall from [8] that an operator  $T$  from a Banach lattice  $E$  into a Banach space  $X$  is said to be  $b$ -AM-compact if it carries each  $b$ -order bounded subset of  $E$  into a relatively compact subset of  $X$ .

Note that a regular order weakly compact (resp.  $b$ -weakly compact, almost Dunford-Pettis) operator is not necessarily  $b$ -AM-compact. In fact, the identity operator  $Id_{L^1[0,1]} : L^1[0,1] \rightarrow L^1[0,1]$  is order weakly compact (resp.  $b$ -weakly compact, almost Dunford-Pettis) but it is not  $b$ -AM-compact (because  $L^1[0,1]$  is not a discrete KB-space).

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be two Banach lattices such that the norm of  $E$  is order continuous and the lattice operations of  $E$  and  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) Every regular operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is  $b$ -AM-compact.
- (2) Every regular order weakly compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is  $b$ -AM-compact.
- (3) Every regular AM-compact operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is  $b$ -AM-compact.
- (4) One of the following conditions is valid:
  - (a)  $E$  is a discrete KB-space,
  - (b)  $F$  is a discrete KB-space.

PROOF: (1) $\implies$ (2) Obvious.

(2) $\implies$ (3) Since every regular AM-compact is order weakly compact, then every regular AM-compact operator is  $b$ -AM-compact.

(3) $\implies$ (4) Since the norm of  $E$  is order continuous and the lattice operations of  $E$  are weakly sequentially continuous, it follows from Corollary 2.3 of [12] that  $E$  is discrete.

Suppose that  $E$  is not a KB-space and that  $F$  is not a discrete KB-space. Since the norm of  $E$  is order continuous, then it follows from [10] that  $E$  contains a complemented copy of  $c_0$ . Hence, there exists a positive projection  $P : E \rightarrow c_0$  and let  $i : c_0 \rightarrow E$  be the injection of  $c_0$  in  $E$ . And as  $F$  is not a discrete KB-space, it follows from Corollary 3.9 of [8] that there exists a regular operator  $S : c_0 \rightarrow F$  which is not  $b$ -AM-compact.

Consider the operator  $T = S \circ P : E \rightarrow c_0 \rightarrow F$ , since  $S$  and  $P$  are two regular operators and the identity operator  $Id_{c_0}$  is AM-compact, then  $T = S \circ Id_{c_0} \circ P$

is AM-compact. But  $T$  is not b-AM-compact. Otherwise, the operator  $T \circ i = S$  would be b-AM-compact, which is a contradiction.

(4) $\implies$ (1) Follows from [8, Corollary 2.4].  $\square$

**Remarks 3.6.** (1) The assumption “the norm of  $E$  is order continuous” is essential in Theorem 3.5. For instance, every positive operator  $T : l^\infty \rightarrow c_0$  is b-AM-compact. But neither  $l^\infty$  nor  $c_0$  is a discrete KB-space.

(2) The assumption “the lattice operations of  $E$  are weakly sequentially continuous” is essential in Theorem 3.5. For instance, from [16, Theorem] it follows that each regular operator  $T : L^1[0, 1] \rightarrow c_0$  is Dunford-Pettis. Since  $T = T \circ Id_{L^1[0,1]}$  and  $Id_{L^1[0,1]}$  is b-weakly compact, it follows from Proposition 3.4 of [8] that the operator  $T : L^1[0, 1] \rightarrow c_0$  is b-AM-compact. But neither  $L^1[0, 1]$  nor  $c_0$  is a discrete KB-space.

(3) The assumption “the lattice operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous” is essential in Theorem 3.5. For instance, from Theorem 6.8 of Wnuk [20] every regular operator  $T : c_0 \rightarrow (l^\infty)'$  is compact. But neither  $c_0$  nor  $(l^\infty)'$  is a discrete KB-space.

Let us recall that a Banach space  $X$  has the Dunford-Pettis property if  $\lim_n x'_n(x_n) = 0$  whenever  $(x_n)$  converges weakly to zero in  $X$  and  $(x'_n)$  converges weakly to zero in  $X'$ .

It follows from Theorem 5.82 of [2] that a Banach space  $X$  has the Dunford-Pettis property if and only if every weakly compact operator from  $X$  to an arbitrary Banach space is Dunford-Pettis.

We end this paper by establishing a result on the AM-compactness of Dunford-Pettis operators.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $E$  and  $F$  be two Banach lattices such that  $E$  is Dedekind  $\sigma$ -complete and the lattice operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous. Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- (1) *Every regular Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.*
- (2) *One of the following conditions is valid:*
  - (a) *the norm of  $E$  is order continuous,*
  - (b)  *$F$  is discrete with order continuous norm.*

PROOF: (2)(a) $\implies$ (1). Let  $T : E \rightarrow F$  be a regular Dunford-Pettis operator and let  $A$  be an order bounded subset of  $E$ . Since  $E$  has an order continuous norm, then it follows from Theorem 4.9 of [2] that  $A$  is weakly relatively compact. On the other hand, since the operator  $T$  is Dunford-Pettis, then  $T(A)$  is norm relatively compact and hence  $T$  is AM-compact.

(2)(b) $\implies$ (1). In this case it follows from Corollary 21.13 of [1] that every regular operator  $T : E \rightarrow F$  is AM-compact.

(1) $\implies$ (2). Assume that the norm of  $E$  is not order continuous and that  $F$  is not discrete with order continuous norm. Since  $E$  is Dedekind  $\sigma$ -complete, it follows from Corollary 2.4.3 of [17] that  $E$  contains a sublattice which is isomorphic to  $l^\infty$  and there exists a positive projection  $P$  from  $E$  onto  $l^\infty$ . As the lattice



operations of  $F$  are weakly sequentially continuous and  $F$  is not discrete with order continuous norm, it follows from Corollary 3.3 that there exists a regular almost Dunford-Pettis operator  $S : l^\infty \rightarrow F$  which is not AM-compact. Since  $S : l^\infty \rightarrow F$  is almost Dunford-Pettis, it is order weakly compact and as  $l^\infty$  is an AM-space with unit,  $S : l^\infty \rightarrow F$  is weakly compact. As  $l^\infty$  has the Dunford-Pettis property, then  $S : l^\infty \rightarrow F$  is Dunford-Pettis. We consider the operator product  $T = S \circ P : E \rightarrow F$ . Note that  $T$  is Dunford-Pettis because the operator  $S$  is Dunford-Pettis and the class of Dunford-Pettis operators is a two-sided ideal. But it is not AM-compact. If not, the operator  $T \circ i = S$  would be AM-compact and this is a contradiction.  $\square$

**Remark 3.8.** The assumption “ $E$  is Dedekind  $\sigma$ -complete” is essential in Theorem 3.7. In fact, every regular Dunford-Pettis operator  $T : c \rightarrow c$  is AM-compact (In fact, since  $T$  is Dunford-Pettis then  $T$  is almost Dunford-Pettis. As  $c'$  is discrete and the lattice operations of  $c$  are weakly sequentially continuous, then it follows from Theorem 3.1 that the operator  $T$  is AM-compact), but the norm of the Banach lattice  $c$  is not order continuous.

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