

## ORDER-WEAKLY COMPACT OPERATORS FROM VECTOR-VALUED FUNCTION SPACES TO BANACH SPACES

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ABSTRACT. Let  $E$  be an ideal of  $L^0$  over a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ , and let  $E^\sim$  stand for the order dual of  $E$ . For a real Banach space  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  let  $E(X)$  be a subspace of the space  $L^0(X)$  of  $\mu$ -equivalence classes of strongly  $\Sigma$ -measurable functions  $f: \Omega \rightarrow X$  and consisting of all those  $f \in L^0(X)$  for which the scalar function  $\|f(\cdot)\|_X$  belongs to  $E$ . For a real Banach space  $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y)$  a linear operator  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is said to be order-weakly compact whenever for each  $u \in E^+$  the set  $T(\{f \in E(X) : \|f(\cdot)\|_X \leq u\})$  is relatively weakly compact in  $Y$ . In this paper we examine order-weakly compact operators  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$ . We give a characterization of an order-weakly compact operator  $T$  in terms of the continuity of the conjugate operator of  $T$  with respect to some weak topologies. It is shown that if  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is an order continuous Banach function space,  $X$  is a Banach space containing no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$  and  $Y$  is a weakly sequentially complete Banach space, then every continuous linear operator  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact. Moreover, it is proved that if  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is a Banach function space, then for every Banach space  $Y$  any continuous linear operator  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact iff the norm  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is order continuous and  $X$  is reflexive. In particular, for every Banach space  $Y$  any continuous linear operator  $T: L^1(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact iff  $X$  is reflexive.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

P. G. Dodds [D] considered order-weakly compact operators from a vector lattice  $E$  to a Banach space  $Y$ . Recall that a linear operator  $T: E \rightarrow Y$  is called order-weakly compact if the set  $T([-u, u])$  is relatively-weakly compact in  $Y$  for every  $u \in E^+$ . Some further properties of these operators can be found in [M, Section 3.4]. M. Duhoux [Du] extended Dodd's results to the setting  $Y$  being a locally convex space. Z. Ercan [E] examined some properties of order-weakly compact operators from a vector lattice  $E$  to a topological vector space  $Y$ .

In this paper, we consider order-weakly compact operators from a vector-valued function space  $E(X)$  to a Banach space  $Y$ .

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For terminology concerning Riesz spaces and function spaces we refer to [AB1], [AB2] and [KA]. Given a topological vector space  $(L, \tau)$ , by  $(L, \tau)^*$  we will denote its topological dual. We denote by  $\sigma(L, K)$ ,  $\beta(L, K)$  and  $\tau(L, K)$  the weak topology, the strong topology and the Mackey topology, respectively, for a dual system  $\langle L, K \rangle$ . By  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  we will denote the sets of all natural and real numbers, respectively.

Throughout the paper we assume that  $(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a complete  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and  $L^0$  denotes the corresponding space of  $\mu$ -equivalence classes of all  $\Sigma$ -measurable real-valued functions. Let  $E$  be an ideal of  $L^0$  with  $\text{supp } E = \Omega$  and let  $E^\sim$  stand for the order dual of  $E$ .

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  be a real Banach space, and let  $S_X$  stand for the unit sphere of  $X$ . By  $L^0(X)$  we denote the set of  $\mu$ -equivalence classes of all strongly  $\Sigma$ -measurable functions  $f: \Omega \rightarrow X$ . For  $f \in L^0(X)$  let us set  $\tilde{f}(\omega) := \|f(\omega)\|_X$  for  $\omega \in \Omega$ . Let

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

For each  $u \in E^+$  the set  $D_u = \{ f \in E(X) : \tilde{f} \leq u \}$  will be called an *order interval* in  $E(X)$ .

Following [D] we are now ready to define two classes of linear operators.

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $E$  be an ideal of  $L^0$ , and let  $(X, \|\cdot\|_X)$  and  $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y)$  be real Banach spaces. A linear operator  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is said to be *order-weakly compact* (resp. *order-bounded*) whenever for each  $u \in E^+$  the set  $T(D_u)$  is relatively-weakly compact (resp. norm-bounded) in  $Y$ .

Clearly each order-weakly compact operator  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-bounded. Order-bounded operators  $T: E(X) \rightarrow Y$  have been considered in [N5].

Now we recall some terminology and results concerning the duality theory of the function spaces  $E(X)$  as set out in [B1], [BL], [N1], [N2].

For a linear functional  $F$  on  $E(X)$  let us put

$$|F|(f) = \sup\{ |F(h)| : h \in E(X), \tilde{h} \leq \tilde{f} \} \quad \text{for } f \in E(X).$$

The set

$$E(X)^\sim = \{ F \in E(X)^\# : |F|(f) < \infty \text{ for all } f \in E(X) \}$$

will be called the *order dual* of  $E(X)$  (here  $E(X)^\#$  denotes the algebraic dual of  $E(X)$ ).

For  $F_1, F_2 \in E(X)^\sim$  we will write  $|F_1| \leq |F_2|$  whenever  $|F_1|(f) \leq |F_2|(f)$  for all  $f \in E(X)$ . A subset  $A$  of  $E(X)^\sim$  is said to be *solid* whenever  $|F_1| \leq |F_2|$  with  $F_1 \in E(X)^\sim$  and  $F_2 \in A$  imply  $F_1 \in A$ .

In particular, for a Banach function space  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  the space  $E(X)$  provided with the norm  $\|f\|_{E(X)} := \|\tilde{f}\|_E$  is a Banach space, and it is usually called a *Köthe-Bochner space*. It is well known that  $(E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})^* = E(X)^\sim$  (see [BL, §3, Lemma 12]).

For each  $f \in E(X)$  let

$$\rho_f(F) = |F|(f) \quad \text{for } F \in E(X)^\sim.$$

We define the *absolute weak topology*  $|\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X))$  on  $E(X)^\sim$  as a locally convex topology generated by the family  $\{ \rho_f : f \in E(X) \}$  of seminorms. Clearly,  $|\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X))$  is the topology of uniform convergence on the family of all order intervals  $D_u$ , where  $u \in E^+$ .

Now let  $\mathcal{B}_0$  be the family of all absolutely convex subsets of  $E(X)$  that absorb every order interval in  $E(X)$ . Then  $\mathcal{B}_0$  is a local base at zero for a locally convex topology  $\tau_0$  on  $E(X)$  (called an *order-bounded topology*), which is the finest locally convex topology on  $E(X)$  for which every order interval is a bounded set (see [Na], [N5]).

The following characterization of  $\tau_0$  and order-bounded operators  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  will be needed (see [N5, Corollary 2.2] and Theorem 2.3).

**Theorem 1.2.** *The order-bounded topology  $\tau_0$  on  $E(X)$  coincides with the Mackey topology  $\tau(E(X), E(X)^\sim)$ , i.e.,  $\tau_0 = \tau(E(X), E(X)^\sim)$ . For a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is order-bounded;
- (ii)  $T$  is  $(\tau(E(X), E(X)^\sim), \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous;
- (iii)  $T$  is  $(\sigma(E(X), E(X)^\sim), \sigma(Y, Y^*))$ -continuous.

Moreover, for a Banach function space  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$ , the statements (i)–(iii) are equivalent to the following:

- (iv)  $T$  is  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous.

## 2. CHARACTERIZATION OF ORDER-WEAKLY COMPACT OPERATORS

Let  $\tau$  be a linear topology on  $E(X)$ . Recall that a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is  $\tau$ -weakly compact whenever there exists a neighbourhood  $U$  of 0 for  $\tau$  such that the set  $T(U)$  is relatively-weakly compact in  $Y$ .

In view of the definition of the order-bounded topology  $\tau_0$  on  $E(X)$  we can easily observe that every  $\tau_0$ -weakly compact operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact. Hence, if  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is a Banach function space, then  $\tau_0$  coincides with the  $\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}$ -topology, so every weakly compact operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact. In particular, a linear operator  $T : L^\infty(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact if and only if  $T$  is weakly compact (because the unit ball in  $L^\infty(X)$  coincides with the order interval  $D_{1_\Omega}$ ).

In this section we characterize order-weakly operators  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  in terms of the continuity of the conjugate operator  $T^\sim$  with respect to appropriate weak topologies. We start by recalling some concepts and results of the duality theory of the spaces  $E(X)$  (see [B1], [BL], [N1], [N2]).

For a linear functional  $V$  on  $E(X)^\sim$  let us put:

$$|V|(F) = \sup \{ |V(G)| : G \in E(X)^\sim, |G| \leq |F| \} \quad \text{for } F \in E(X)^\sim.$$

The set

$$(E(X)^\sim)^\sim = \{ V \in (E(X)^\sim)^\# : |V|(F) < \infty \text{ for all } F \in E(X)^\sim \}$$

will be called the *order dual* of  $E(X)^\sim$  (here  $(E(X)^\sim)^\#$  denotes the algebraic dual of  $E(X)^\sim$ ).

For  $V_1, V_2 \in (E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  we will write  $|V_1| \leq |V_2|$  whenever  $|V_1|(F) \leq |V_2|(F)$  for all  $F \in E(X)^\sim$ . A subset  $K$  of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  is said to be *solid* whenever  $|V_1| \leq |V_2|$  with  $V_1 \in (E(X)^\sim)^\sim, V_2 \in K$  imply  $V_1 \in K$ . A linear subspace  $L$  of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  is called an *ideal* of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  if  $L$  is a solid subset of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$ .

For each  $f \in E(X)$  let us put

$$\pi_f(F) = F(f) \quad \text{for all } F \in E(X)^\sim.$$

One can show (see [N2]) that for  $f \in E(X)$ ,

$$|\pi_f|(F) = |F|(f) \text{ for } F \in E(X)^\sim \text{ and } \pi_f \in (E(X)^\sim)^\sim .$$

Thus we have a natural embedding  $\pi : E(X) \ni f \mapsto \pi_f \in (E(X)^\sim)^\sim$ . Denote by  $E(X)_0$  the ideal of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  generated by the set  $\pi(E(X))$  (i.e.,  $E(X)_0$  is the smallest ideal of  $(E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  containing  $\pi(E(X))$ ).

**Theorem 2.1** (see [N2, Theorem 3.2]). *We have*

$$\begin{aligned} (E(X)^\sim, |\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X)))^* &= E(X)_0 \\ &= \{ V \in (E(X)^\sim)^\sim : |V| \leq |\pi_f| \text{ for some } f \in E(X) \} . \end{aligned}$$

For  $u \in E^+$  and  $f \in E(X)$  let:

$$\begin{aligned} C_u &:= \pi(D_u) = \{ \pi_h : h \in E(X), \tilde{h} \leq u \} \text{ ( = an interval in } \pi(E(X)) \text{ )} , \\ I_f &:= \{ V \in E(X)_0 : |V| \leq |\pi_f| \} \text{ ( = an interval in } E(X)_0 \text{ )} . \end{aligned}$$

The following properties of  $C_u$  and  $I_f$  will be needed.

**Theorem 2.2** ([N2, Theorem 2.4]). *Let  $f \in E(X)$ . Then*

- (i)  $I_f$  is  $\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^\sim)$ -compact in  $E(X)_0$  ;
- (ii)  $C_{\tilde{f}}$  is  $\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^\sim)$ -dense in  $I_f$  .

Assume now that a linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-bounded. Then in view of Theorem 1.1,  $T$  is  $(\sigma(E(X), E(X)^\sim), \sigma(Y, Y^*))$ -continuous. Hence, we can consider the linear mapping

$$T^\sim : Y^* \rightarrow E(X)^\sim$$

defined by

$$T^\sim(y^*)(f) = y^*(T(f)) \text{ for } y^* \in Y \text{ and all } f \in E(X) .$$

Then  $T^\sim$  is  $(\beta(Y^*, Y), \beta(E(X)^\sim, E(X)))$ -continuous; hence  $T^\sim$  is also  $(\beta(Y^*, Y), |\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X)))$ -continuous ( because  $|\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X)) \subset \beta(E(X)^\sim, E(X))$ ; see ([N2, §4]). Since  $(E(X)^\sim, |\sigma|(E(X)^\sim, E(X)))^* = E(X)_0$  (see Theorem 2.1) and  $(Y^*, \beta(Y^*, Y))^* = Y^{**}$ , we see that  $T^\sim$  is also  $(\sigma(Y^*, Y^{**}), \sigma(E(X)^\sim, E(X)_0))$ -continuous. Finally, we consider the linear mapping

$$T^{\sim\sim} : E(X)_0 \rightarrow Y^{**}$$

defined by

$$T^{\sim\sim}(V)(y^*) = V(T^\sim(y^*)) \text{ for } V \in E(X)_0 \text{ and all } y^* \in Y^* ,$$

which is  $(\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^\sim), \sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*))$ -continuous.

Let  $i : Y \ni y \mapsto i_y \in Y^{**}$  stand for the canonical isometry, i.e.,

$$i_y(y^*) = y^*(y) \text{ for } y^* \in Y^* .$$

It is seen that  $T^{\sim\sim} \circ \pi = i \circ T$ , where  $\pi : E(X) \rightarrow (E(X)^\sim)^\sim$  is a natural embedding.

Now we are ready to state a “vector-valued version” of a characterization of order-weakly compact operators  $T : E \rightarrow Y$  (see [D, Theorem 4.2]).

**Theorem 2.3.** *For an order-bounded operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $T$  is order-weakly compact;

- (ii)  $T^{\sim\sim}(E(X)_0) \subset i(Y)$ ;
- (iii)  $T^{\sim} : (Y^*, \sigma(Y^*, Y)) \longrightarrow (E(X)^{\sim}, \sigma(E(X)^{\sim}, E(X)_0))$  is continuous.

*Proof.* (i)  $\implies$  (ii) Assume that  $T$  is order-weakly compact and let  $f \in E(X)$ . Since the set  $C_{\tilde{f}}$  is  $\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^{\sim})$ -dense in  $I_f$  (see Theorem 2.2), by the  $(\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^{\sim}), \sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*))$ -continuity of  $T^{\sim\sim}$  we obtain

$$T^{\sim\sim}(I_f) = T^{\sim\sim}(cl_{\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^{\sim})}C_{\tilde{f}}) \subset cl_{\sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*)}T^{\sim\sim}(C_{\tilde{f}}).$$

But for  $h \in E(X)$  and  $y^* \in Y^*$  we have

$$T^{\sim\sim}(\pi_h)(y^*) = \pi_h(T^{\sim}(y^*)) = \pi_h(y^* \circ T) = y^*(T(h)) = i_{T(h)}(y^*).$$

Thus putting  $A_f = T(\{h \in E(X) : \tilde{h} \leq \tilde{f}\})$  we get

$$T^{\sim\sim}(C_{\tilde{f}}) = \{i_{T(h)} : h \in E(X), \tilde{h} \leq \tilde{f}\} = i(T(\{h \in E(X) : \tilde{h} \leq \tilde{f}\})) = i(A_f).$$

Since  $T$  is order-weakly compact, the set  $A_f$  is relatively  $\sigma(Y, Y^*)$ -compact in  $Y$ , so the space  $(cl_{\sigma(Y, Y^*)}A_f, \sigma(Y, Y^*)|_{cl_{\sigma(Y, Y^*)}A_f})$  is compact. Hence in view of the  $(\sigma(Y, Y^*), \sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*))$ -continuity of  $i$  we obtain that the set  $i(cl_{\sigma(Y, Y^*)}A_f)$  is  $\sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*)$ -closed in  $Y^{**}$ . It follows that

$$cl_{\sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*)}i(A_f) \subset i(cl_{\sigma(Y, Y^*)}A_f) \subset i(Y),$$

so finally  $T^{\sim\sim}(I_f) \subset i(Y)$ . Hence, since  $E(X)_0 = \bigcup\{I_f : f \in E(X)\}$ , we conclude that  $T^{\sim\sim}(E(X)_0) \subset i(Y)$ .

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Assume that  $T^{\sim\sim}(E(X)_0) \subset i(Y)$  and let  $u \in E^+$ . Let us set  $f = u \otimes x_0$ , where  $x_0 \in S_X$  and  $(u \otimes x_0)(\omega) = u(\omega)x_0$  for  $\omega \in \Omega$ . Since the mapping  $T^{\sim\sim} : E(X)_0 \longrightarrow Y^{**}$  is  $(\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^{\sim}), \sigma(Y^{**}, Y^*))$ -continuous and  $I_f$  is a  $\sigma(E(X)_0, E(X)^{\sim})$ -compact subset of  $E(X)_0$ , we obtain that the set  $T^{\sim\sim}(I_f)$  is a  $\sigma(i(Y), Y^*)$ -compact subset of  $i(Y)$ . Since  $T^{\sim\sim} \circ \pi = i \circ T$  and  $\pi(D_u) = C_{\tilde{f}}$ , we get  $i(T(D_u)) = T^{\sim\sim}(\pi(D_u)) = T^{\sim\sim}(C_{\tilde{f}}) \subset T^{\sim\sim}(I_f)$ . Hence  $i(T(D_u))$  is a relatively compact subset of  $(i(Y), \sigma(i(Y), Y^*))$ , so  $T(D_u)$  is relatively-weakly compact in  $Y$ .

(ii)  $\iff$  (iii) See [W, Lemma 11.1.1]. □

### 3. ORDER-WEAKLY COMPACT OPERATORS FROM KÖTHER-BOCHNER SPACES TO BANACH SPACES

In this section we assume that  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  is a Banach function space. Then  $E(X)^{\sim} = E(X)^*$  ( $= (E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})^*$ ). In view of Theorem 1.1 for a Banach space  $Y$  a linear operator  $T : E(X) \longrightarrow Y$  is order-bounded if and only if  $T$  is continuous (i.e.,  $(\|\cdot\|_{E(X)}, \|\cdot\|_Y)$ -continuous).

Recall that a subset  $A$  of the Banach space is said to be *conditionally-weakly compact* whenever each sequence in  $A$  contains a weakly Cauchy subsequence.

Making use of [N3, Corollary 2.8] we get:

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  be an order continuous Banach function space and  $X$  a Banach space containing no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$ . Then for each  $u \in E^+$  the order interval  $D_u$  is conditionally-weakly compact in  $E(X)$ .*

As an application of Theorem 3.1 we get:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  be an order continuous Banach function space,  $X$  a Banach space containing no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$  and  $Y$  a weakly sequentially complete Banach space. Then every continuous linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact.*

*Proof.* Let  $u \in E^+$ . Then by Theorem 3.1,  $D_u$  is a conditionally-weakly compact set in  $E(X)$ . It follows that the set  $T(D_u)$  is conditionally-weakly compact in  $Y$ . Since  $Y$  is supposed to be weakly sequentially complete, we conclude that  $T(D_u)$  is relatively-weakly sequentially compact in  $Y$ . Hence  $T(D_u)$  is relatively-weakly compact in  $Y$ .  $\square$

In particular, we have:

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space containing no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$  and let  $Y$  be a weakly sequentially complete Banach space. Then every continuous linear operator  $T : L^p(X) \rightarrow Y$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) is order-weakly compact.*

It is well known that a Lebesgue-Bochner space  $L^q(Y)$  ( $1 \leq q < \infty$ ) is weakly sequentially complete whenever a Banach space  $Y$  is weakly sequentially complete (see [T, Theorem 11]). Hence, as a consequence of Corollary 3.3 we get:

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space containing no isomorphic copy of  $l^1$  and let  $Y$  be a weakly sequentially complete Banach space. Then every continuous linear operator  $T : L^p(X) \rightarrow L^q(Y)$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,  $1 \leq q < \infty$ ) is order-weakly compact.*

Now, we present necessary and sufficient conditions for the order-weak compactness of any continuous operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  with any Banach space  $Y$ . For this purpose we shall need the following characterization of weak compactness of order intervals in  $E(X)$ .

**Theorem 3.5** (see [BL, §4, Corollary 1], [B2, Proposition 2], [N4, Theorem 2.4]). *Let  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  be a Banach function space and  $X$  a Banach space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *the norm  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is order continuous and  $X$  is reflexive;*
- (ii) *for each  $u \in E^+$  the order interval  $D_u$  is weakly compact.*

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $(E, \|\cdot\|_E)$  be a Banach function space and  $X$  a Banach space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *the norm  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is order continuous and  $X$  is reflexive;*
- (ii) *for every Banach space  $Y$ , any continuous linear operator  $T : E(X) \rightarrow Y$  is order-weakly compact.*

*Proof.* (i)  $\implies$  (ii) This follows from Theorem 3.5.

(ii)  $\implies$  (i) Assume that (ii) holds and let  $(Y, \|\cdot\|_Y) = (E(X), \|\cdot\|_{E(X)})$ . Then the identity operator  $\text{id} : E(X) \rightarrow E(X)$  is order-weakly compact. It follows that for each  $u \in E^+$  the set  $D_u$  is weakly compact in  $E(X)$ , so by Theorem 3.5 the norm  $\|\cdot\|_E$  is order continuous and  $X$  is reflexive.  $\square$

In particular, as an application of Theorem 3.6 we get:

**Corollary 3.7.** *For a Banach space  $X$  the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  *$X$  is reflexive;*
- (ii) *for every Banach space  $Y$ , any continuous linear operator  $T : L^p(X) \rightarrow Y$  ( $1 \leq p < \infty$ ) is order-weakly compact.*

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