

A CHARACTERIZATION OF THE VECTOR LATTICE OF MEASURABLE FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. Given a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) , it is well known that the Riesz space $L^0(\mu)$ of equivalence classes of measurable functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is universally complete and the constant function $\mathbf{1}$ is a weak order unit. Moreover, the linear functional $L^\infty(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined by $f \mapsto \int f \, d\mu$ is strictly positive and order continuous. Here we show, in particular, that the converse holds true, i.e., any universally complete Riesz space E with a weak order unit $e > 0$ which admits a strictly positive order continuous linear functional on the principal ideal generated by e is lattice isomorphic onto $L^0(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) .

1. INTRODUCTION

A classical result of Kakutani [17] states that every AL-space, that is, every Banach lattice with the norm additive on pairs of positive disjoint vectors, has to be a space $L^1(\mu) = L^1(X, \Sigma, \mu)$ of equivalence classes of μ -integrable functions $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, where $\mu : \Sigma \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ is a σ -additive measure. In addition, if there exists a weak order unit, then μ can be chosen finite. This is a characterization of the class of integrable functions by properties of the norm and order.

Relying on this result, Masterson [21] proved a classification for the set of (equivalence classes of) real-valued measurable functions (see Section 1.1 for definitions):

Theorem 1.1. *Let E be an Archimedean Riesz space. Then there exists an onto lattice isomorphism $E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$, for some σ -finite measure space (X, Σ, μ) , if and only if E is universally complete, has the countable sup property, and the extended order continuous dual of E is separating on E .*

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary: 16G30; Secondary: 18B35, 46A40.

Key words and phrases. Measurable functions, lateral completeness, f -algebra of L^0 type, extended order continuous dual, strictly positive order continuous linear functional.

Note that Theorem 1.1 involves only order properties. Here, the extended order continuous dual of E , usually denoted by $\Gamma(E)$, is the set of equivalence classes of order continuous linear functionals defined on order dense ideals of E , where two functionals are identified whenever they agree on an order dense ideal of E , cf. [20, §1]. It is well known that $\Gamma(E)$ is separating on E if and only if there exists an order dense ideal I of E such that the order continuous dual of I is separating on I , and in that case there exists an order dense ideal which admits a strictly positive order continuous linear functional, see [20, Theorem 2.5]. Other equivalent conditions are provided in [11, Theorem 3.4]; in particular, if $\Gamma(E)$ is separating on E , then there exists a measure space (X, Σ, μ) for which E can be embedded order densely into $L^0(\mu)$.

Related results concerning representations of Archimedean Riesz spaces as spaces of measurable functions can be found, e.g., in Pinsker [22], Fremlin [12], and Labuda [19], and are surveyed by Filter [11, Section 3].

The aim of this work is to obtain a concrete characterization of the space of (equivalence classes of) measurable real-valued functions $L^0(X, \Sigma, \mu)$, where $\mu : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a *probability* measure, which is analogous to Theorem 1.1, and relies more on algebraic than on order properties (see also [13, Chapter 36]). Remarkably, this characterization avoids the use of the extended order continuous dual, thus providing an operational criterion to establish when a vector lattice is necessarily a space of random variables, and the proof of our result is self-contained.

In the recent years there has been a lot of research in L^0 -modules and their applications. See, for example the works of Cerreia-Vioglio et al. [5, 6, 7], Doldi and Frittelli [8], Filipović et al. [10], Frittelli and Maggis [14, 15], and Hoffmann et al. [16]. An abstract characterization of $L^0(\mu)$ extends the scope of these applications to modules that are not *prima facie* on $L^0(\mu)$, such as the modules on algebras of stochastic processes that are sometimes used in mathematical finance (e.g., modules on the algebras of predictable and progressively measurable processes, see Doob [9]).

Another advantage of this paper is introducing the possibility of working with “the scalars” of L^0 -modules from a purely algebraic/functional analytic perspective. Dispensing with the —sometimes cumbersome— techniques needed to consider zero measure sets, a.s. null functions, and the induced quotient spaces.

Dually, our result delivers a concrete representation for f -algebras of L^0 type considered in [5, 6], which was the original motivation for this work (see Section 2 below).

1.1. Notation. We refer to [3] for basic aspects of Riesz spaces. Let E be a Riesz space. Then, we denote the positive cone of a Riesz subspace F by $F^+ := \{x \in F : x \geq 0\}$. A net $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ with values in E is said to be order convergent to $x \in E$ if there exists a net $(y_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ with the same index set satisfying $y_\alpha \downarrow 0$ and $|x_\alpha - x| \leq y_\alpha$ for all $\alpha \in A$. A non-empty subset $S \subseteq E$ is said to be solid if $|y| \leq |x|$ implies $y \in S$ whenever $x \in S$. The principal ideal generated by a vector $x \in E$, that is, the smallest solid Riesz subspace containing x , is denoted by E_x . A vector $e > 0$ is called a *strong order unit* if the principal ideal generated by e , namely,

$$E_e = \{y \in E : |y| \leq \lambda e \text{ for some } \lambda \in \mathbf{R}\},$$

coincides with E . Instead, e is said to be a *weak order unit* if, for each $x \in E$, there exists a net $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ with values in E_e which is order convergent to x .

E is said to be *laterally complete* [respectively, *laterally σ -complete*] if the supremum of every disjoint subset [resp., sequence] of E^+ exists in E . If E is also Dedekind complete, then we say that E is *universally complete*. E has the *countable sup property* if for every subset S of E whose supremum exists in E , there exists an at most countable subset of S having the same supremum as S in E . A (not necessarily Hausdorff) topology τ on a Riesz space E is said to be *locally solid* if τ has a base at zero consisting of solid sets.

As usual, a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) is a non-empty set X , together with a σ -algebra Σ of subsets of X , and a σ -additive measure $\mu : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ with $\mu(X) = 1$. Moreover, $\mathbf{1}$ stands for the multiplicative unit of $L^0(\mu)$, whenever the underlying measure space is understood. Finally, given an integrable function $f \in L^1(\mu)$, we shorten $\int f d\mu$ with $\mu(f)$.

2. THE CHARACTERIZATION

We start with a preliminary observation, whose proof is given in Section 3.

Lemma 2.1. *Let E be a Riesz space with weak order unit $e > 0$ and let $\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be a strictly positive linear functional. Then*

$$d_\varphi : E \times E \rightarrow \mathbf{R} : (x, y) \mapsto \varphi(|x - y| \wedge e) \tag{1}$$

is an invariant metric and the topology τ_φ generated by d_φ is Hausdorff locally solid.

Our main result follows.

Theorem 2.2. *Let E be a Dedekind complete Riesz space with weak order unit $e > 0$. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (i) *There exist a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) and an onto lattice isomorphism $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$ such that $T(e) = \mathbf{1}$.*
- (ii) *There exists a strictly positive order continuous linear functional $\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that the metric d_φ is complete.*
- (iii) *There exists a strictly positive order continuous linear functional $\psi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and E is laterally complete.*

Moreover, in such case, E_e is lattice isomorphic onto $L^\infty(\mu)$, the metrics d_φ and d_ψ are topologically equivalent, i.e., $\tau_\varphi = \tau_\psi$, and E has the countable sup property.

The implication (ii) \implies (i) is related to [18, Theorem 6.4], which characterizes norm dense ideals of $L^1(\mu)$. To the best of our knowledge, the equivalence (i) \iff (iii) is completely new.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.2, we obtain a result in the same spirit of Theorem 1.1. Indeed, recalling that $L^0(\mu)$ is universally complete [3, Theorem 7.73] and has a weak order unit $\mathbf{1}$, it follows that (we omit details):

Corollary 2.3. *Let E be an Archimedean Riesz space. Then E is lattice isomorphic onto $L^0(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) , if and only if E is universally complete (hence, with weak order unit $e > 0$) and admits a strictly positive order continuous linear functional on E_e .*

Finally, we obtain a characterization of f -algebras of L^0 type, cf. [6, Definition 6]. In this regard, we recall that an f -algebra is a Riesz algebra E for which $(a \cdot c) \wedge b = (c \cdot a) \wedge b = 0$ for all $a, b, c \geq 0$ such that $a \wedge b = 0$. If, in addition, E is Dedekind complete and admits a non-zero multiplicative unit e , then it is said to be a Stonean algebra, cf. [5, Definition 2]. In such case, the following facts are well known and readily provable: (i) The multiplication is commutative, i.e., $a \cdot b = b \cdot a$ for all $a, b \in E$, (ii) $x^2 := x \cdot x \geq 0$ for all $x \in E$; in particular, $e > 0$, and (iii) e is a weak order unit.

Accordingly, a Stonean algebra E is said to be f -algebra of L^0 type whenever the principal ideal E_e is an Arens algebra, i.e., a real commutative Banach algebra

such that $\|e\| = 1$ and $\|a\|^2 \leq \|a^2 + b^2\|$ for all $a, b \in E_e$, and there exists a strictly positive order continuous linear functional φ on E_e such that the metric d_φ defined in (1) is complete. As an application, Theorem 2.2 implies that f -algebras of L^0 type are (equivalence classes of) spaces of random variables.

Corollary 2.4. *Let E be an Archimedean f -algebra with non-zero multiplicative unit. Then E is an f -algebra of L^0 type if and only if E is lattice and algebra isomorphic onto $L^0(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) .*

Finally, it is worth noting that the topological equivalence of d_φ and d_ψ at the end of Theorem 2.2 cannot be strengthened to strongly equivalence, as it is shown in the following example.

Example 2.5. Let μ be the function $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{N}) \rightarrow \mathbf{R} : X \mapsto \sum_{x \in X} 2^{-x}$, where \mathbf{N} is the set of positive integers and $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{N})$ its powerset. Then $(\mathbf{N}, \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{N}), \mu)$ is a probability measure space, $L^0(\mu)$ is the space of real-valued sequences (indexed by \mathbf{N}), and $L^\infty(\mu)$ is the ideal generated by $e = (1, 1, \dots)$, i.e., the subspace of bounded sequences ℓ^∞ . Accordingly, define the strictly positive order continuous linear functionals $\varphi : \ell^\infty \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and $\psi : \ell^\infty \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ mapping each $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots)$ into $\sum_{n \geq 1} x_n 2^{-n}$ and $\sum_{n \geq 1} x_n 3^{-n}$, respectively.

With this, let us suppose for the sake of contradiction that there exists a positive constant c such that $d_\varphi(x, y) \leq c d_\psi(x, y)$ for all $x, y \in L^0(\mu)$. Moreover, for each $n \in \mathbf{N}$, define $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 1, \dots)$, where 0 is repeated exactly n times. Then, it would follow

$$\sum_{k \geq n} 2^{-k} = \varphi(e_n) = d_\varphi(e_n, 0) \leq c d_\psi(e_n, 0) = c \psi(e_n) = c \sum_{k \geq n} 3^{-k},$$

which is false whenever n is sufficiently large.

Proofs of Theorem 2.2 and Corollary 2.4 follow in Section 4.

3. PRELIMINARIES

We start with the proof of Lemma 2.1.

Proof of Lemma 2.1. Note that d_φ is well defined since E_e is solid and $0 \leq |x - y| \wedge e \leq e \in E_e$ for all $x, y \in E$. Since e is a weak order unit, $|x - y| \wedge e = 0$ if and only if $x = y$. Then, the strict positivity of φ implies that $d_\varphi(x, y) = d_\varphi(y, x) \geq 0$ for all $x, y \in E$, with equality if and only if $x = y$. Finally, for each $x, y, z \in E$, we have $|x - z| \leq |x - y| + |y - z|$, so that, thanks to [3, Theorem 1.7.(4)],

$$|x - z| \wedge e \leq (|x - y| + |y - z|) \wedge e \leq |x - y| \wedge e + |y - z| \wedge e.$$

Since φ is a positive operator, we obtain $d_\varphi(x, z) \leq d_\varphi(x, y) + d_\varphi(y, z)$. Clearly, d_φ is invariant and (E, τ_φ) is Hausdorff.

Finally, the local solidness follows by the fact each open ball B centered in 0 and with radius $r > 0$ is solid. Indeed, given $x, y \in E$ with $|x| \leq |y|$ and $y \in B$, then by the positivity of φ we get $\varphi(|x| \wedge e) \leq \varphi(|y| \wedge e)$, that is, $x \in B$. \square

The following result is classical, hence we omit its proof.

Lemma 3.1. *Let E, F be Riesz spaces and let $T : E \rightarrow F$ be an onto lattice isomorphism. Then T is order continuous.*

Finally, we will use the following characterization of $L^\infty(\mu)$; cf. also Abramovich, Aliprantis, and Zame [1, Corollary 2.2].

Lemma 3.2. *Let E be a Dedekind complete Riesz space with strong order unit $e > 0$ which admits a strictly positive order continuous linear functional φ . Then there exist a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) and an onto lattice isomorphism $T : E \rightarrow L^\infty(\mu)$ such that $T(e) = \mathbf{1}$ and $\varphi(x) = \mu(T(x))$ for all $x \in E^+$.*

Proof. Since φ is strictly positive, then $\varphi(e) > 0$. Hence, dividing by $\varphi(e)$, we can suppose without loss of generality that $\varphi(e) = 1$. It follows that

$$\|\cdot\| : E \rightarrow \mathbf{R} : x \mapsto \varphi(|x|)$$

is an order continuous L-norm. Let \widehat{E} be the topological completion of E . Then, \widehat{E} is an AL-space and, according to [1, Footnote 6], E is an (order dense) ideal of \widehat{E} . It follows by Kakutani's representation theorem [17, Theorem 7] that there exists an onto lattice and isometric $\widehat{T} : \widehat{E} \rightarrow L^1(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) , such that $\widehat{T}(e) = 1$. In particular,

$$\varphi(x) = \mu(\widehat{T}(x))$$

for all $x \in E^+$. In addition, since e is unit of E and E is an ideal of \widehat{E} , then $E = E_e = \widehat{E}_e$. The claim follows by letting T equal to the restriction of \widehat{T} from E to its direct image. \square

4. PROOF OF THE MAIN RESULT

Proof of Theorem 2.2. We are going to show the following chain of equivalences:

$$(i) \implies (ii) \implies (iii) \implies (ii) \implies (i).$$

(i) \implies (ii). Let us assume that there exist a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) and an onto lattice isomorphism $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$ such that $T(e) = \mathbf{1}$. In particular, T is a positive operator. It follows that $T([-\lambda e, \lambda e]) = [-\lambda T(e), \lambda T(e)]$, hence

$$T(E_e) = T\left(\bigcup_{\lambda>0}[-\lambda e, \lambda e]\right) = \bigcup_{\lambda>0}[-\lambda \mathbf{1}, \lambda \mathbf{1}] = L^\infty(\mu). \quad (2)$$

Therefore, the restriction of T on E_e , hereafter denoted by T_e , is a lattice isomorphism onto $L^\infty(\mu)$. Note that, thanks to Lemma 3.1, T_e is order continuous.

At this point, define the linear functional

$$\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R} : x \mapsto \mu(T(x)).$$

It is routine to check that φ is strictly positive. Moreover, φ is order continuous. To this aim, since φ is a positive operator, it is enough to show that $\varphi(x_\alpha) \downarrow 0$ for every net $(x_\alpha) \downarrow 0$ in E_e . Since \mathbf{R} is an Archimedean Riesz space with the countable sup property and $\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is strictly positive, it follows by [3, Theorem 1.45] that E_e has the countable sup property as well. In particular, it is enough to show that $\varphi(x_n) \downarrow 0$ for every sequence $(x_n) \downarrow 0$ in E_e . Since T_e is order continuous, $T_e(x_n) \downarrow 0$ in $L^\infty(\mu)$. Finally $\varphi(x_n) = \mu(T_e(x_n)) \downarrow 0$ by Lebesgue's dominated convergence theorem.

Finally, we need to prove that the metric space (E, d_φ) is (topologically) complete. Let d be the metric of convergence in measure on $L^0(\mu)$, that is,

$$d : L^0(\mu) \times L^0(\mu) \rightarrow \mathbf{R} : (f, g) \mapsto \mu(|f - g| \wedge \mathbf{1}).$$

Hence, for all $x, y \in E$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d_\varphi(x, y) &= \varphi(|x - y| \wedge e) = \mu(T(|x - y| \wedge e)) = \mu(T(|x - y|) \wedge T(e)) \\ &= \mu(|T(x - y)| \wedge \mathbf{1}) = \mu(|T(x) - T(y)| \wedge \mathbf{1}) = d(T(x), T(y)). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Then, fix a Cauchy sequence (x_n) of vectors in E , i.e., for each $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists $n_0 = n_0(\varepsilon)$ such that $d_\varphi(x_n, x_m) \leq \varepsilon$ whenever $n, m \geq n_0$. It follows from (3) that $(T(x_n))$ is a Cauchy sequence in $(L^0(\mu), d)$. Since the metric space $(L^0(\mu), d)$ is complete, there exists $f \in L^0(\mu)$ such that $d(T(x_n), f) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow +\infty$. Moreover, T is a bijection, hence there exists $x \in E$ such that $T(x) = f$. Therefore, thanks to (3), we obtain $d_\varphi(x_n, x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow +\infty$.

(ii) \implies (iii). Suppose that there exists a strictly positive order continuous linear functional $\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ for which the metric space (E, d_φ) is complete, and set $\varphi = \psi$.

Since e is a weak order unit and E is Dedekind complete, it follows by [3, Theorem 7.39] that it is enough to show that E is laterally σ -complete. To this aim, let (x_n) be a sequence of disjoint vectors in E^+ and define the sequences (y_n) by $y_n := x_n \wedge e$ for each $n \geq 1$. Note that (y_n) is a disjoint sequence of vectors in the order interval $[0, e]$. Moreover, for each positive integer n , define

$$a_n := x_1 + \cdots + x_n \quad \text{and} \quad b_n := y_1 + \cdots + y_n.$$

Since E is Dedekind complete and $b_n = y_1 \vee \cdots \vee y_n \leq e$ for each $n \geq 1$, then the supremum of the sequence (b_n) exists in $[0, e]$, and we denote it by b . Hence $0 \leq b - b_n \downarrow 0$, which implies $0 \leq (b - b_n) \wedge e \downarrow 0$. Since φ is order continuous, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_\varphi(b_n, b) = 0.$$

In particular, (b_n) is a Cauchy sequence in (E, d_φ) . In addition, for all positive integers n, m with $n > m$, it holds

$$\begin{aligned} d_\varphi(a_n, a_m) &= \varphi((a_n - a_m) \wedge e) = \varphi((x_{m+1} \vee \cdots \vee x_n) \wedge e) = \varphi(y_{m+1} \vee \cdots \vee y_n) \\ &= \varphi((y_{m+1} + \cdots + y_n) \wedge e) = \varphi((b_n - b_m) \wedge e) = d_\varphi(b_n, b_m). \end{aligned}$$

It follows that also (a_n) is a Cauchy sequence in (E, d_φ) . Since (E, d_φ) is complete by hypothesis, there exists $a \in E$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_\varphi(a_n, a) = 0. \quad (4)$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.1, (E, τ_φ) is a locally solid Hausdorff Riesz space. Therefore, according to [3, Theorem 2.21.(c)] and (4), it follows that $x_1 \vee \cdots \vee x_n = a_n \uparrow a$. By the previous argument, this implies that E is laterally complete.

(iii) \implies (ii). Set $\varphi = \psi$ and note that $\tau := \tau_\psi$ is a Fatou topology on E , i.e., it has a neighborhood base at 0 consisting of solid and order closed sets. Let $(\widehat{E}, \widehat{\tau})$ be the topological completion of (E, τ) .

According to a classical result of Nakano, see e.g. [3, Theorem 4.28], since (E, τ) is a Dedekind complete locally solid Riesz space with the Fatou property, then the order intervals of E are τ -complete. Fix $x \in E$ and $\widehat{x} \in \widehat{E}$ such that $0 \leq \widehat{x} \leq x$ in \widehat{E} and let (y_α) be a net of positive vectors in E such that $y_\alpha \xrightarrow{\tau} \widehat{x}$. This implies that $x_\alpha \xrightarrow{\tau} \widehat{x}$, where $x_\alpha := y_\alpha \wedge x$ for each index α . Since $x_\alpha \in [0, x]$ for each α and the order intervals are τ -complete, then $\widehat{x} \in E$. Hence E is an ideal of \widehat{E} . (An alternative proof of this fact can be found also in [2, Theorem 2.2].)

Moreover, given $0 \leq \hat{x} \in \widehat{E}$ and a net (x_α) of positive vectors in E such that $x_\alpha \xrightarrow{\tau} \hat{x}$, then $x_\alpha \wedge \hat{x}$ belongs to E^+ (since E is an ideal). Hence, considering the finite suprema of the net $(x_\alpha \wedge \hat{x})$, we obtain a net (y_β) of vectors in E^+ such that $y_\beta \xrightarrow{\tau} \hat{x}$ and $y_\beta \uparrow \hat{x}$. This means that E is an order dense ideal of \widehat{E} .

Therefore, since E is a universally complete order dense Riesz subspace of the Archimedean Riesz space \widehat{E} , then $E = \widehat{E}$ by the uniqueness of the universal completion, see e.g. [3, Theorem 7.15.(ii)].

(ii) \implies (i). Suppose that an increasing net $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in A}$ of positive vectors in E_e is upper bounded by some $y \in E_e$. Then $x := \sup\{x_\alpha : \alpha \in A\}$ exists in E and belongs to the order interval $[0, y]$. Since E_e is solid, then $x \in E_e$. Therefore, thanks to [3, Lemma 1.39], E_e is a Dedekind complete Riesz subspace with strong order unit $e > 0$. It follows by Lemma 3.2 that there exist a probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) and an onto lattice isomorphism

$$T_e : E_e \rightarrow L^\infty(\mu)$$

such that $T_e(e) = \mathbf{1}$ and $\varphi(x) = \mu(T_e(x))$ for all $0 \leq x \in E_e$. Then, for all $x, y \in E_e$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(T_e(x), T_e(y)) &= \mu(|T_e(x) - T_e(y)| \wedge \mathbf{1}) \\ &= \mu(T_e(|x - y|) \wedge \mathbf{1}) = \mu(T_e(|x - y| \wedge e)) \\ &= \varphi(|x - y| \wedge e) = d_\varphi(x, y). \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

CLAIM 1. E is the topological closure of E_e in (E, τ_φ) .

Proof. Given $x \in E^+$, then $(x_n) \uparrow x$, where $x_n := x \wedge ne$, by the fact that e is a weak order unit. This implies that $(|x - x_n| \wedge e) \downarrow 0$. Since φ is order continuous, then

$$d_\varphi(x_n, x) = \varphi(|x - x_n| \wedge e) \downarrow 0,$$

i.e., $x_n \rightarrow x$ in (E, τ_φ) . The claim follows by the fact that $x = x^+ - x^-$ for each $x \in E$ and the topological limits are linear. \square

CLAIM 2. There exists a positive operator $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$ extending T_e for which (5) holds for all $x, y \in E$.

Proof. Define the operator $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$ as the unique extension of

$$E^+ \rightarrow L^0(\mu) : x \mapsto \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(x_n), \tag{6}$$

where $(x_n)_{n \geq 1}$ is any sequence in E_e^+ such that $x_n \rightarrow x$ in (E, τ_φ) . The limit in (6) is understood to be in $(L^0(\mu), d)$.

At first, we show that T is well defined. To prove the existence of the limit, fix a sequence (x_n) of vectors in E_e such that $x_n \rightarrow x$ (note that such sequence exists by Claim 1). Then (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence. It follows by (5) that $(T_e(x_n))$ is a Cauchy sequence in $(L^0(\mu), d)$. Then, by the completeness of the latter space, there exists (a unique) $f \in L^0(\mu)$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(x_n) = f$.

Then, we show that the limit in (6) is independent from the choice of the sequence (x_n) . Indeed, let us suppose that (x'_n) is another sequence of vectors such that $x'_n \rightarrow x$ in (E, τ_φ) . This implies that $x_n - x'_n \rightarrow 0$, i.e.,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(|x_n - x'_n| \wedge e) = 0.$$

Since $x_n - x'_n \in E_e$ for each n and E_e is Dedekind complete, there exists $\ell \in E_e$ such that $\ell = \inf\{|x_n - x'_n| : n \geq 1\}$. In particular, there exists a real $\lambda > 0$ such that $\ell \leq \lambda e$. Clearly, $\ell \geq 0$ and, by the strict positivity of φ , it follows that $\varphi(|x_n - x'_n| \wedge e) \geq \varphi(\ell \wedge e)$ for all n , proving that $\ell \wedge e = 0$. Hence $\ell = \ell \wedge \lambda e = 0$. By the same argument, it is easy to see that there does not exist any $y > 0$ in E_e such that $|x_n - x'_n| \geq y$ for infinitely many n . In particular, choosing $y = 1/k e$, we obtain that $x_n - x'_n$ belongs to the order interval $[-1/k e, 1/k e]$ whenever n is sufficiently large. This implies that $x_n - x'_n$ converges to 0 with respect to the order, i.e.,

$$x_n - x'_n \xrightarrow{o} 0. \tag{7}$$

Since T_e is a lattice isomorphism onto $L^\infty(\mu)$, then it is also order continuous, thanks to Lemma 3.1. Hence $T_e(x_n - x'_n) \xrightarrow{o} 0$ in $L^\infty(\mu)$, which is equivalent to

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(x_n - x'_n)(\omega) = 0$$

for each $\omega \in X$. Since it is well known that puntual convergence implies convergence in measure, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(T_e(x_n - x'_n), 0) = 0,$$

which is what we wanted to show.

In addition, it is routine to check that T is a positive operator.

Finally, for each $x, y \in E$, there exist by Claim 1 two sequences of vectors (x_n) and (y_n) in E_e such that $x_n \rightarrow x$ and $y_n \rightarrow y$ in (E, τ_φ) . Thanks to Claim 1 and

(5), we get

$$\begin{aligned} d_\varphi(x, y) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d_\varphi(x_n, y_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} d(T_e(x_n), T_e(y_n)) \\ &= d(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(x_n), \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(y_n)) = d(T(x), T(y)) \end{aligned}$$

for all $x, y \in E^+$, hence also for all $x, y \in E$. \square

CLAIM 3. T is an onto lattice isomorphism.

Proof. Fix $0 \leq f \in L^0(\mu)$. Since the constant function $\mathbf{1}$ is a weak order unit, then $f_n \uparrow f$, where $f_n := f \wedge n\mathbf{1}$ for each positive integer n . Again, since puntual convergence implies convergence in measure, we get $f_n \rightarrow f$ in $(L^0(\mu), d)$. In particular, (f_n) is a Cauchy sequence.

At this point, define $x_n := T_e^{-1}(f_n)$ for each n . Note that (x_n) is a sequence of positive vectors in E_e and, thanks to (5), is a Cauchy sequence in (E, τ_φ) . Since the metric d_φ is complete by hypothesis, there exists $x \in E^+$ for which $x_n \rightarrow x$. According to (6), we conclude that

$$T(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_e(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n = f,$$

i.e., $f \in T(E)$. Then, by the arbitrariness of f , T is onto, i.e., $T(E) = L^0(\mu)$.

To sum up, $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$ is a one-to-one and onto linear operator such that T and T^{-1} are both positive operators. Therefore, thanks to [3, Exercise 16], T is an onto lattice isomorphism. \square

At this point, note that, if one of the equivalent conditions (i)-(iii) hold, then E_e is lattice isomorphic onto $L^\infty(\mu)$, thanks to (2).

Also, the metrics d_φ and d_ψ are topologically equivalent: indeed, a laterally complete Riesz space admits at most one Hausdorff Fatou topology, which must be necessarily a Lebesgue topology (i.e., $x_\alpha \xrightarrow{\tau} 0$ whenever $x_\alpha \downarrow 0$), see e.g. [3, Theorem 7.53].

Finally, suppose that $0 \leq x_\alpha \uparrow x$ in E , hence by the Lebesgue property $x - x_\alpha \xrightarrow{\tau} 0$, i.e., $\varphi((x - x_\alpha) \wedge e) \rightarrow 0$. Then, there exists a subsequence (x_{α_n}) of the net (x_α) such that $\varphi((x - x_{\alpha_n}) \wedge e) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, i.e., $x - x_{\alpha_n} \xrightarrow{\tau} 0$. Considering that $x - x_{\alpha_n}$ is a decreasing sequence, we conclude that $x - x_{\alpha_n} \downarrow 0$ by [3, Theorem 2.21.(c)], that is, $x_{\alpha_n} \uparrow x$. This means that E has the countable sup property. \square

Let us conclude with the proof of the last corollary.

Proof of Corollary 2.4. If E is lattice and algebra isomorphic onto $L^0(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) , then it is easy to check that E is an f -algebra of L^0 type (we omit details).

Conversely, let us suppose that E is an f -algebra of L^0 type. Then, in particular, E is a Dedekind complete Riesz space with weak order unit $e > 0$ and admits a strictly positive order continuous linear functional $\varphi : E_e \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that the metric d_φ defined in (1) is complete. It follows by Theorem 2.2 that there exists a lattice isomorphism $T : E \rightarrow L^0(\mu)$, for some probability measure space (X, Σ, μ) .

Then, we have to prove that T is also an algebra isomorphism. Note that the multiplication \cdot defined by

$$x \cdot y := T^{-1}(T(x)T(y))$$

for all $x, y \in E$ makes E an Archimedean f -algebra with multiplicative unit $e > 0$. The claim follows by the fact that there exists at most one algebra multiplication on an Archimedean Riesz space L that makes L an Archimedean f -algebra with given unit, see e.g. [4, Theorem 2.58]. \square

4.1. Acknowledgements. The authors are grateful to PRIN 2017 (grant 2017CY2NCA) for financial support, and to an anonymous reviewer for constructive comments which improved the overall presentation.

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