

ordering (given by $\phi \leq \psi$ if and only if $\phi(f) \leq \psi(f)$ for all $f \in E_+$) under which $E^\#$ is an order complete vector lattice. In particular, positive part, negative part and absolute value exist for any order bounded functional on E , the absolute value of $\phi \in E^\#$ being given by

$$|\phi|(f) = \sup\{\phi(h) : |h| \leq f\} \quad (f \in E_+).$$

As a consequence, one has $|\phi(f)| \leq |\phi|(|f|)$ for all f in E whenever ϕ is order bounded, and $|\phi(f)| \leq \phi(|f|)$ if and only if ϕ is positive. An order bounded linear functional ϕ is called order-continuous (σ -order-continuous) if both positive and negative part of ϕ have the property that they transform any decreasing net (any decreasing sequence) with infimum 0 into a net (sequence) converging to 0 in \mathbb{R} . The order-continuous (σ -order-continuous) functionals form a band in $E^\#$. In general, a vector lattice E need not admit any non-zero order-bounded linear functional. However, if E is a normed lattice, then any continuous functional is order-bounded, and if E is a Banach lattice then one has coincidence between $E^\#$ and E' . Still, order-continuous functionals $\neq 0$ need not exist on a Banach lattice. Situations where every order-bounded functional is order-continuous will be briefly discussed in Section 5.

If E is a Banach lattice, then the dual norm on $E' = E^\#$ is a lattice norm, hence E' is an order-complete Banach lattice under the natural norm and order. The evaluation map from E into the second dual E'' is a lattice homomorphism (for the definition see Section 6) into the band of order-continuous functionals on E' . In particular, every dual Banach lattice E admits sufficiently many order-continuous functionals to separate the points of E .

4. AM- AND AL-SPACES

If the norm on a Banach lattice E satisfies

$$(M) \quad \|\sup(f, g)\| = \sup(\|f\|, \|g\|) \quad \text{for } f, g \in E_+$$

then E is called an abstract M-space or an AM-space. If in addition the unit ball of E contains a largest element u , then u must be an order unit of E and E is then called an (AM)-space with unit. Condition (M) in E implies that in the dual of E one has

$$(L) \quad \|f + g\| = \|f\| + \|g\| \quad \text{for } f, g \geq 0.$$