

# Characterizations of best approximations in linear 2-normed spaces <sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

In this paper some characterizations of best approximation have been established in terms of 2-semi inner products and normalised duality mapping associated with a linear 2-normed space  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ .

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## 1 Introduction

The concepts of linear 2-normed space was first introduced by S.Gahler in 1965 [6]. Since 1965, Y.J.Cho, C.R.Diminnie, R.W.Freese, S.Gahler,

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A.White, S.S.Dragomir and many other mathematicians have developed extensively the geometric structure of linear 2-normed space. A.White in his Doctoral dissertation entitled “2-Banach spaces” augments the concepts of a linear 2-normed space by defining Cauchy sequence and convergent sequence for such spaces. Section 2 provides some preliminary definitions and results that are used in the sequel. Some main results of the set of best approximation in the context of bounded linear 2-functionals on real linear 2-normed spaces are established in Section 3. Section 4 delineates variational characterization of the best approximation elements. Two new characterizations are established in Section 5.

## 2 Preliminaries

**Definition 1** [6] *Let  $X$  be a real linear space of dimension greater than one and let  $\|.,.\|$  be a real-valued function defined on  $X \times X$  satisfying the following for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .*

(i)  $\|x, y\| > 0$  and  $\|x, y\| = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent,

(ii)  $\|x, y\| = \|y, x\|$ ,

(iii)  $\|\alpha x, y\| = |\alpha| \|x, y\| \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , and

(iv)  $\|x + y, z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|y, z\|$ .

*Then  $\|.,.\|$  is called a 2-norm on  $X$  and  $(X, \|.,.\|)$  is called a linear 2-normed space.*

A concept which is related to a 2-normed space is 2-inner product space as follows:

**Definition 2** [1] *Let  $X$  be a linear space of dimension greater than one and let  $(., .|.)$  be a real-valued function on  $X \times X \times X$  which satisfying the following conditions:*

(i)  $(x, x|y) > 0$  and  $(x, x|y) = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent,

(ii)  $(x, x|y) = (y, y|x)$ ,

(iii)  $(x, y|z) = (y, x|z)$ ,

(iv)  $(\alpha x, y|z) = |\alpha|(x, y|z)$  for every real  $\alpha$ , and

(v)  $(x + y, z|b) = (x, z|b) + (y, z|b)$  for every  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $b$  is independent of  $x, y$  and  $z$ .

Then  $(., .|.)$  is called a 2-inner product on  $X$  and  $(X, (., .|.))$  is called a 2-inner product space.

The concept of 2-inner product space was introduced by Diminnie, et.al [1].

The concepts of 2-norm and 2-inner product are 2-dimensional analogue of the concepts of norm and inner product in [1] it was shown that  $\|x, y\| = (x, x|y)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is a 2-norm on  $(X, (., .|.))$ ,  $\|x, y\|$  may be visualized as the area of the parallelogram with vertices at  $0, x, y$  and  $x + y$ .

**Example 1** *Let  $X = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Then, for  $x = (a_1, b_1, c_1)$  and  $y = (a_2, b_2, c_2)$  in  $X$ ,*

$\|x, y\| = \{(a_1b_2 - a_2b_1)^2 + (b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)^2 + (a_1c_2 - a_2c_1)^2\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and

$\|x, y\| = |a_1b_2 - a_2b_1| + |b_1c_2 - b_2c_1| + |a_1c_2 - a_2c_1|$  are 2-norm on  $X$ .

**Example 2** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then, for  $a = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ ,  $b = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n)$  and  $c = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$ ,

$(a, b|c) = \sum_{i < j} (\alpha_i r_j - \alpha_j r_i) (\beta_i r_j - \beta_j r_i)$  is a 2-inner product and  $(\mathbb{R}^n, (., .|.))$  is a 2-inner product space.

**Definition 3** [8] Let  $X$  be a linear space of dimension greater than one.

Then a mapping

$[., .|.] : X \times X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  ( $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) is a 2-semi inner product if the following conditions are satisfied.

(i)  $[x, x|z] > 0$  and  $[x, x|z] = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent,

(ii)  $[\lambda x, y|z] = \lambda[x, y|z]$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$ ,  $x, y \in X$ ,  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ , where  $V(x, y)$  is the subspace of  $X$  generated by  $x$  and  $y$ ,

(iii)  $[x + y, z|b] = [x, z|b] + [y, z|b]$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $b \in X \setminus V(x, y, z)$ ,

(iv)  $|[x, y|z]|^2 \leq [x, x|z][y, y|z]$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $z \notin V(x, y, z)$ .

Then  $(X, [x, y|z])$  is a 2-semi inner product space.

**Example 3** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$  and let  $a = (a_1, a_2, a_3)$ ,  $b = (b_1, b_2, b_3)$  and  $c = (c_1, c_2, c_3)$  in  $X$ . Then

$[a, b|c] = (a_1c_2 - a_2c_1)(b_1c_2 - b_2c_1)(c_1^2 + c_2^2)$  is a 2-semi inner product.

**Definition 4** Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space,  $G$  be a linear subspace of  $X$  ( $G$  a non-empty subset of  $X$ ),  $x \in X \setminus \bar{G}$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then  $g_0$  is said to be a best approximation element of  $x$  in  $G$  if

$$\|x - g_0, z\| = \inf_{g \in G} \|x - g, z\|, \text{ for all } z \in X \setminus V(x, G).$$

We shall denote  $P_G^z(x)$  by

$$P_G^z(x) = \{g_0 \in G : \|x - g_0, z\| = \inf_{g \in G} \|x - g, z\|\}$$

**Lemma 1** [4, 5] Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space,  $G$  be a linear subspace of  $X$ ,  $x_0 \in X \setminus \bar{G}$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then  $g_0 \in P_G^z(x_0)$  if and only if  $x_0 - g_0 \perp_z G$  for every  $g \in G$ .

Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space. Then, we define

$$(x, y|z)_{s(i)} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|y + tx, z\|^2 - \|y, z\|^2}{2t}, \quad x, y \in X \text{ and } z \in X \setminus V(x, y).$$

The mapping  $(\cdot, \cdot|z)_{s(i)}$  will be called supremum (infimum) of 2-semi inner product associated with the norm  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$ .

For the sake of completeness we list some of the fundamental properties of  $(\cdot, \cdot|z)_{s(i)}$ :

(i)  $(x, x|y)_p = \|x, y\|^2$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

(ii)  $(\alpha x, \beta y|z)_p = \alpha\beta(x, y|z)_p$  if  $\alpha\beta \geq 0$  and  $x, y, z \in X$ .

(iii)  $(-x, y|z)_p = -(x, y|z)_p = (x, -y|z)_p$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

(iv) For all  $x, y, z \in X$  ( $z$  is independent of  $x$  and  $y$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|x + ty, z\|^2 - \|x, z\|^2}{2t} &\geq (y, x|z)_s \geq (y, x|z)_i \\ &\geq \frac{\|x + t^*y, z\|^2 - \|x, z\|^2}{2t^*}, \quad t^* < 0 < t. \end{aligned}$$

(v) The following Schwarz's inequality holds

$$|(x, y|z)_p| \leq \|x, z\| \|y, z\| \text{ for all } x, y, z \in X.$$

(vi)  $(\alpha x + y, x|z)_p = \alpha \|x, z\|^2 + (y, x|z)_p$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x, y, z \in X$ .

(vii) For all  $x, y, z, b \in X$ ,  $|(y + z, x|b)_p - (z, x|b)_p| \leq \|y, b\| \|x, b\|$ .

(viii) For all  $x, y, z \in X$ ,  $x \perp_z (\alpha x + y)(B)$  if and only if

$$(y, x|z)_i \leq \alpha \|x, z\|^2 \leq (y, x|z)_s \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R},$$

and  $x \perp_z y(B)$  if and only if  $(y, x|z)_i \leq 0 \leq (y, x|z)_s$ .

(ix) The norm  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  is Gâteaux differentiable in the space  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  is smooth if and only if  $(x, y|z)_i = (x, y|z)_s$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

### 3 Main results

The following theorem gives the characterization of the best approximation element which also gives a possibility of interpolation (estimation) for the bounded linear 2-functionals on real linear 2-normed spaces.

**Theorem 1** Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space  $X$  and  $G$  be its closed linear subspace of  $X$ ,  $x_0 \in X \setminus G$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $g_0 \in P_G^z(x_0)$   $z \in X \setminus V(x_0, G)$ .

(ii) For every  $f \in (G_{x_0} \times [b])^*$ ,  $[b]$  is the subspace of  $G_{x_0} = G \oplus \text{sp}(x_0)$  generated by  $b$  with  $\text{Ker}(f) = G$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \|f\|_{G_{x_0}} \left( x, \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} \mid z \right)_i &\leq f(x, z) \\ &\leq \|f\|_{G_{x_0}} \left( x, \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} \mid z \right)_s, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in G_{x_0}$ , where

$$\|f\|_{G_{x_0}} = \sup \left\{ \frac{|f(x, z)|}{\|x, z\|} : \|x, z\| \neq 0, x \in G_{x_0} \text{ and } z \in [b] \right\}$$

and  $\lambda_0 = \text{sgn}f(x_0, z)$ .

To prove this theorem we need the following interesting Lemma.

**Lemma 2** Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space  $f \in (X \times K)^* \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $x_0 \in X \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  and  $g_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)$ , where  $K$  is a linear subspace of  $X$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $g_0 \in P_{\text{Ker}(f)}^z(x_0) \quad z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f))$ .

(ii) One has the estimation:

$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} \|f\| \left( x, \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} \mid z \right)_i &\leq f(x, z) \\ &\leq \|f\| \left( x, \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} \mid z \right)_s, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ ,  $z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f))$  and  $\lambda_0 = \text{sgn}f(x_0, z)$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). We shall assume that (i) holds and put  $w_0 = x_0 - g_0$ . Then  $w_0 \neq 0$ . Since  $g_0 \in P_{\text{Ker}(f)}^z(x_0)$  by Lemma 1,  $w_0 \perp_z \text{Ker}(f)(B)$ . Then by property (viii), we have

$$(3) \quad (y, w_0|z)_i \leq 0 \leq (y, w_0|z)_s \text{ for all } y \in \text{Ker}(f) \text{ and } z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f)).$$

Let  $x$  be an arbitrary element of  $X$ . Then the element  $y = f(x, z)w_0 - f(w_0, z)x \in \text{Ker}(f)$ , for all  $x \in X$ . Then by (3), we deduce that

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} (f(x, z)w_0 - f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_i &\leq 0 \\ &\leq (f(x, z)w_0 - f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_s, \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

By the properties of the mappings  $(\cdot, \cdot|z)_i$  and  $(\cdot, \cdot|z)_s$  we have

$$(f(x, z)w_0 - f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_p = f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_p, \quad (x \in X)$$

and  $p = s$  or  $p = i$ .

On the other hand, since  $w_0 \perp_z \text{Ker}(f)(B)$  and  $w_0 \neq 0$ , hence  $f(w_0, z) \neq 0$ . Then we have two cases  $f(w_0, z) > 0$  and  $f(w_0, z) < 0$ .

**Case (a):** If  $f(w_0, z) > 0$ , then by (4)

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + f(w_0, z)(-x, w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-x, f(w_0, z)w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 - (x, f(w_0, z)w_0|z)_i \end{aligned}$$



whence

$$(5) \quad f(x, z) \geq \left( x, \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_i \text{ for all } x \in X \text{ and } z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f)).$$

Similarly, by (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_i \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 - (x, f(w_0, z)w_0|z)_s \end{aligned}$$

$$(6) \quad \Rightarrow \quad f(x, z) \leq \left( x, \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_s \text{ for all } x \in X \text{ and } z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f)).$$

**Case (b):** Let us first remark that for every  $x, y, z \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} -(x, y|z)_i &= (-x, y|z)_s = (-x, -(-y)|z)_s \\ &= (x, -y|z)_s. \end{aligned}$$

If  $f(w_0, z) < 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-f(w_0, z)x, w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (-f(w_0, z))(x, w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 + (x, (-f(w_0, z))w_0|z)_s \\ &= f(x, z)\|w_0, z\|^2 - (x, f(w_0, z)w_0|z)_i \\ &\Rightarrow f(x, z) \geq \left( x, \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_i. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for  $f(w_0, z) > 0$ , we obtain (6).

Hence in both cases we obtain

$$(7) \quad \left( x, \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_i \leq f(x, z) \leq \left( x, \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_s$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f))$

Now, let  $u = \frac{f(w_0, z)w_0}{\|w_0, z\|^2}$ . Then, by (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, z) &\geq (x, u|z)_i = -(x, u|z)_s \\ &\geq -\|x, z\| \|u, z\| \quad \text{for all } x, z \in X \end{aligned}$$

and  $f(x, z) \leq (x, u|z)_s \leq \|x, z\| \|u, z\|$  for all  $x, z \in X$ .

Thus

$$-\|u, z\| \leq \frac{f(x, z)}{\|x, z\|} \leq \|u, z\| \quad \text{for all } x, z \in X$$

That is,  $\|f\| \leq \|u, z\|$ . On the other hand, we obtain:

$$\|f\| \geq \frac{f(u, z)}{\|u, z\|} \geq \frac{(u, u|z)_i}{\|u, z\|} = \|u, z\|$$

whence  $\|f\| = \|u, z\| = \frac{|f(w_0, z)|}{\|w_0, z\|}$ . But  $f(w_0, z) = f(x_0, z)$ .

Hence

$$\|f\| = \frac{|f(x_0, z)|}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} = \frac{f(x_0, z)|\lambda}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_0, z) = \lambda \|f\| \|x_0 - g_0, z\|.$$

This implies that, by (7), the estimation (ii) holds.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Suppose that (ii) holds for all  $x \in X$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \text{Ker}(f))$ .

Then we have

$$\left( x, \frac{\lambda(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} | z \right)_i \leq 0 \leq \left( x, \frac{\lambda(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} | z \right)_s$$

for all  $x \in \text{Ker}(f)$ . Then by property (viii), that

$$(8) \quad \frac{\lambda(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} \perp_z \text{ker}(f)(B).$$

If  $\lambda > 0$ , obviously  $x_0 - g_0 \perp_z \text{ker}(f)(B)$

$$\Rightarrow g_0 \in P_{\ker(f)}^z(x_0).$$

If  $\lambda < 0$ , then also  $-(x_0 - g_0) \perp_z \ker(f)(B)$  (or)  $(x_0 - g_0) \perp_z (-\ker(f))(B)$ .

Since  $-\ker(f) = \ker(f)$ , we have  $g_0 \in P_{\ker(f)}^z(x_0)$

Hence the proof.

**Proof of the Theorem 1** Proof of the theorem follows by the Lemma 2 applied to the linear 2-normed space  $G_{x_0} = G \oplus sp(x_0)$ , ( $x_0 \notin G$ ).

## 4 Variational characterization

The following theorem gives the variational characterization of the best approximation element.

**Theorem 2** *Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space and  $G$  be a closed linear subspace in  $X$  with  $G \neq X$ ,  $x_0 \in X \setminus G$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

$$(i) \quad g_0 \in P_G^z(x).$$

(ii) *For every  $f \in (G_{x_0} \times K)^*$ , where  $K$  is a linear subspace of  $G_{x_0}$  with  $\ker(f) = G$ .*

i.e.,  $G_{x_0} = G \oplus sp(x_0)$ , the element

$$u_0 = \frac{f(x_0, z)(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2}, z \in X \setminus V(x_0, \ker(f)),$$

minimizes the quadratic functional

$$F_f : G_{x_0} \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$F_f(x, z) = \|x, z\|^2 - 2f(x, z).$$

To prove this theorem we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 3** *Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space,  $f \in (X \times K)^* \setminus \{0\}$  and  $w \in X \setminus \{0\}$ , where  $K$  is a linear subspace of  $X$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

(i)

$$(9) \quad (x, w|z)_i \leq f(x, z) \leq (x, w|z)_s \text{ for all } x, z \in X$$

and  $z$  is independent of  $x$  and  $w$ .

(ii) *The element  $w$  minimizes the quadratic functional*

$$F_f = X \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad K \in X,$$

$$F_f(u, z) = \|u, z\|^2 - 2f(u, z).$$

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $w$  satisfy the relation (9).

Then, for  $x = w$ , we obtain  $f(w, z) = \|w, z\|^2$ .

Let  $u \in X$ . Then for  $z$  is independent of  $u$  and  $w$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F_f(u, z) - F_f(w, z) &= \|u, z\|^2 - 2f(u, z) - \|w, z\|^2 + 2f(w, z) \\ &= \|u, z\|^2 - 2f(u, z) + \|w, z\|^2 \\ &\geq \|u, z\|^2 - 2(u, w|z)_s + \|w, z\|^2 \\ &\geq \|u, z\|^2 - 2\|u, z\| \|w, z\| + \|w, z\|^2 \\ &= (\|u, z\| - \|w, z\|)^2 \\ &\geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Which proves that  $w$  minimizes the functional  $F_f$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). If  $w$  minimizes the functional  $F_f$ , then for all  $u \in X$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have

$F_f(w + \lambda u, z) - F_f(w, z) > 0$ , for  $u \in X$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $z$  is independent of  $u$  and  $w$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e., } F_f(w + \lambda u, z) - F_f(w, z) &= \|w + \lambda u, z\|^2 - \|w, z\|^2 \\ &\quad - 2f(w + \lambda u, z) + 2f(w, z) \\ &= \|w + \lambda u, z\|^2 - \|w, z\|^2 - 2\lambda f(u, z). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$(10) \quad 2\lambda f(u, z) \leq \|w + \lambda u, z\|^2 - \|w, z\|^2 \text{ for all } u, z \in X, \text{ and } \lambda \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Now, Let  $\lambda > 0$ . Then by (10), we have

$$f(u, z) \leq \frac{\|w + \lambda u, z\|^2 - \|w, z\|^2}{2\lambda}, \quad u, z \in X.$$

Taking limit as  $\lambda \rightarrow 0^+$ , we obtain

$$f(u, z) \leq (u, w|z)_s \text{ for all } u, z \in X.$$

Replacing  $u$  by  $-u$  in the above relation we obtain

$$f(u, z) \geq -(-u, w|z)_s = (u, w|z)_i \text{ for all } u, z \in X$$

Thus the lemma is proved.

**Corollary 1** *Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space,  $f \in (X \times [b])^* \setminus \{o\}$  and  $w \in X \setminus \{o\}$ . Then  $w$  is a point of smoothness of  $X$  and it minimizes the functional  $F_f$  if and only if  $f(x, z) = (x, w|z)_p$  for all  $x \in X$ , where  $p = s$  or  $i$ .*

**Proof of the Theorem 2.**

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Let  $g_0 \in P_G^z(x_0)$ .

Then by Theorem 1, for every  $f \in (G_{x_0} \times K)^*$ ,  $K$  is a subspace of  $G_{x_0}$ , with  $\ker(f) = G$ . We have the estimation (1). In this relation put

$$x = \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|}, \text{ we obtain}$$

$$\|f\|_{G_{x_0}} = \frac{|f(x_0, z)|}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|}.$$

Then (1) becomes

$$(11) \quad \left( x, \frac{f(x_0, z)(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_i \leq x, z \leq \left( x, \frac{f(x_0, z)(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2} \mid z \right)_s$$

for all  $x \in G_{x_0}$ .

Now applying Lemma 3 for  $u_0 = f(x_0, z) \frac{(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2}$  on the space  $G_{x_0}$ ,  $u_0$  minimizes the functional  $F_f$  on the space  $G_{x_0}$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). If  $u_0$  given above minimizes the functional  $F_f$  on  $G_{x_0}$ , by Lemma 3, we derive that the estimation (11). Further (1) is valid, that is by Theorem 1, we obtain  $g_0 \in P_G^z(x_0)$ . Hence the proof.

**5 Two new characterization**

Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space and let  $X_z^*$  be the space of all bounded linear 2-functionals defined on  $X \times V(z)$  for every non-zero  $z \in X$ .

Then the mapping  $J : X \times V(z) \rightarrow 2^{X_z^*}$  defined by

$$J(x, y) = \{f \in X_z^* : f(x, y) = \|f\| \|x, y\|, \|f\| = \|x, y\|, x \in X \text{ and } y \in V(z)\}$$

will be called the normalized duality mapping associated with 2-normed space  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$ .

**Lemma 4** Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space. Then for every  $\tilde{J}$  a section of the normalized duality mapping one has the representations

$$(12) \quad (y, x|z)_s = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle$$

and

$$(13) \quad (y, x|z)_i = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $z$  is independent of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{J}$  be a section of the duality mapping  $J$ . Then, for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $z$  is independent of  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x \neq 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\| &= \frac{\|x + ty, z\| \|x, z\| - \|x, z\|^2}{\|x, z\|} \\ &\geq \frac{\langle \tilde{J}x, x + ty|z \rangle - \|x, z\|^2}{\|x, z\|} \\ &= \frac{\langle \tilde{J}x, x|z \rangle + t\langle \tilde{J}x, y|z \rangle - \|x, z\|^2}{\|x, z\|} \\ &= \frac{t\langle \tilde{J}x, y|z \rangle}{\|x, z\|}. \end{aligned}$$

Whence

$$(14) \quad \|x, z\| \frac{(\|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\|)}{t} \geq \langle \tilde{J}x, y|z \rangle f$$

or all  $x, y \in X$ ,  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$  and  $t > 0$ .

On the other hand, for  $t \neq 0$  and  $x + ty \neq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\|x+ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} &= \frac{\|x+ty, z\|^2 - \|x, z\| \|x+ty, z\|}{\|x+ty, z\|t} \\
&= \frac{\langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), x+ty|z \rangle - \|x, z\| \|x+ty, z\|}{t\|x+ty, z\|} \\
&= \frac{\langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), x|z \rangle + t\langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), y|z \rangle - \|x, z\| \|x+ty, z\|}{t\|x+ty, z\|} \\
&\leq \frac{\langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), y|z \rangle}{\|x+ty, z\|}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), x|z \rangle \leq \|x, z\| \|x+ty, z\|$  for all  $x, y \in X, z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$  and  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Consequently we have,

$$(15) \quad \langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), y|z \rangle \geq \|x+ty, z\| \frac{(\|x+ty, z\| - \|x, z\|)}{t}$$

for all  $x, y \in X, t > 0$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ .

Replacing  $x$  by  $x+ty$  in the inequality (14) we have,

$$(16) \quad \|x+ty, z\| \frac{(\|x+2ty, z\| - \|x+ty, z\|)}{t} \geq \langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), y|z \rangle$$

for all  $x, y \in X, t > 0$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ .

By (15) and (16), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(17) \quad \|x+ty, z\| \frac{\|x+ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} &\leq \langle \tilde{J}(x+ty), y|z \rangle \\
&\leq \|x+ty, z\| \frac{\|x+2ty, z\| - \|x+ty, z\|}{t}
\end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in X, t > 0$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ .

Since  $(y, x|z)_s = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \|x+ty, z\| \frac{\|x+ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} \right)$ , a simple calculation gives



$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \|x + ty, z\| \frac{\|x + 2ty, z\| - \|x + ty, z\|}{t} \right) \\
&= \|x, z\| \left[ 2 \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \|x + ty, z\| \frac{(\|x + 2ty, z\| - \|x, z\|)}{2t} \right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \|x + ty, z\| \frac{(\|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\|)}{t} \right) \right] \\
&= \|x, z\| \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} \\
&= (y, x|z)_s \quad \text{for all } x, y, z \in X.
\end{aligned}$$

Then by taking limit as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$  in the inequality (17) we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle \text{ exists for all } x, y, z \in X \\
& \text{and } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle = (y, x|z)_s \text{ for all } x, y, z \in X.
\end{aligned}$$

Then we have established (12).

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
(y, x|z)_i &= -(-y, x|z)_s \\
&= - \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + t(-y)), -y|z \rangle \\
&= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + (-t)y), y|z \rangle \\
&= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle \quad \text{for all } x, y, z \in X.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus (13) is obtained.

**Theorem 3** *Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space,  $G$  be a linear subspace of  $X$ ,  $x_0 \in X \setminus G$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

$$(i) \quad g_0 \in P_G^z(x_0).$$

(ii) For every  $f \in (G_{x_0} \times [b])^*$  with  $\ker(f) = G$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(x_0, z)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J} \left( \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} + tx \right) - \tilde{J} \left( \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|}, x_0 - g_0 | z \right)}{t} \right\rangle \leq f(x, z) \\ & \leq \frac{f(x_0, z)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|^2} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J} \left( \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|} + tx \right) - \tilde{J} \left( \frac{\lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)}{\|x_0 - g_0, z\|}, x_0 - g_0 | z \right)}{t} \right\rangle \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in G_{x_0}$  and  $\tilde{J}$  a section of the normalized duality mapping  $J$ .

To prove this theorem we need the following Lemma.

**Lemma 5** Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a real linear 2-normed space. Then for any  $\tilde{J}$  a section of duality mapping  $J$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (y, x|z)_s &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J}(x + ty) - \tilde{J}(x)}{t}, x|z \right\rangle \\ (y, x|z)_i &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^-} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J}(x + ty) - \tilde{J}(x)}{t}, x|z \right\rangle \text{ for all } x, y, z \in X \text{ and } z \in X \setminus V(x, y). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** For every  $x, y \in X$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $t \neq 0$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|x + ty, z\|^2 - \|x, z\|^2}{t} &= \frac{\langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), x + ty|z \rangle - \langle \tilde{J}x, x|z \rangle}{t} \\ &= \frac{\langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), x|z \rangle + t \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle - \langle \tilde{J}x, x|z \rangle}{t} \\ &= \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J}(x + ty) - \tilde{J}(x, x|z)}{t} \right\rangle + \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|x + ty, z\|^2 - \|x, z\|^2}{t} &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|x + ty, z\| + \|x, z\|}{t} \\ &= 2\|x, z\| \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|x + ty, z\| - \|x, z\|}{t} \\ &= 2(y, x|z)_s \quad \text{and} \end{aligned}$$

$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \langle \tilde{J}(x + ty), y|z \rangle = (y, x|z)_s$ . Then by the above relation,  
 $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J}(x + ty) - \tilde{J}(x)}{t}, x|z \right\rangle$  exists for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ .  
 Thus  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \left\langle \frac{\tilde{J}(x + ty) - \tilde{J}(x)}{t}, x|z \right\rangle = (y, x|z)_s$   
 for all  $\tilde{J}$  a section of normalized duality mapping.

**Proof of the Theorem 3** follows from Theorem 1 and from Lemma 5.

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