# BEST APPROXIMATION SETS IN LINEAR 2-NORMED SPACES

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we give some properties of the sets  $D_z(x_o, G)$ ,  $P_{G,z}(x)$ . We also provide the relation between  $P_{G,z}(x)$  and Gâteaux derivatives.

### 1. Introduction

The concept of linear 2-normed spaces has been initially investigated by S. Gähler ([7]) and has been developed extensively by Y. J. Cho, C. Diminnie, R. Freese, S. Gähler, A. White and many other ([2], [7], [8], [11]).

Let X be a linear space of dimension greater than 1 and let  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  be a real-valued function on  $X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

 $(N_1) ||x,y|| = 0$  if and only if x and y are linearly dependent,

 $(N_2) \|x,y\| = \|y,x\|,$ 

(N<sub>3</sub>)  $\|\alpha x, y\| = |\alpha| \|x, y\|$ , where  $\alpha$  is real,

 $(N_4) ||x+y,z|| \le ||x,z|| + ||y,z||.$ 

 $\|\cdot,\cdot\|$  is called a 2-norm on X and  $(X,\|\cdot,\cdot\|)$  is called a linear 2-normed space. Some of the basic properties of 2-norms are that they are nonnegative and  $\|x,y+\alpha x\|=\|x,y\|$  for every  $x,y\in X$  and every real number  $\alpha$ .

Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space and V(x, y) be the subspace of X generated by x and y in X. For all  $x, y \in X$ , define

$$n(x,y|z)(t) = \frac{\|x+ty,z\|-\|x,z\|}{t}$$

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for any real t and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ .

Then the functional n(x, y|z)(t) is non-decreasing of the real positive variable t for any fixed x, y in X and for arbitrary z in X. Moreover, the limit  $\lim_{t\to 0^+} n(x, y|z)(t)$  exists ([1]).

Put  $N_+(x,z)(y) = \lim_{t\to 0^+} n(x,y|z)(t)$ , which is called the *right-hand Gâteaux derivative* of the 2-norm  $\|\cdot,\cdot\|$  at (x,z) in the direction y. In [1], Y. J. Cho, S. S. Kim and A. White obtained the following properties of  $N_+(\cdot,\cdot)(\cdot)$ :

For every x, y in X and  $z \in X \setminus V(x, y)$ ,

- $(1) |N_+(x,z)(y)| \leq ||y,z||.$
- $(2) N_{+}(x,z)(y+y') \leq N_{+}(x,z)(y) + N_{+}(x,z)(y').$
- (3)  $N_{+}(\alpha x, z)(\beta y) = \beta N_{+}(x, z)(y)$  for all reals  $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$ .
- (4)  $N_+(x,z)(0) = 0$  and  $N_+(0,z)(y) = ||y,z||$ .
- $(5) -N_{+}(x,z)(-y) = \lim_{t\to 0^{-}} (\|x+ty,z\| \|x,z\|)/t \le N_{+}(x,z)(y).$
- (6)  $N_+(x,z)(\alpha x) = \alpha ||x,z||$  for all real  $\alpha$ .

Recently, some results on best approximation theory in linear 2-normed spaces have been obtained by S. Elumalai and R. Ravi ([4], [5]), I. Franić ([6]), S. S. Kim and Y. J. Cho ([9]), S. A. Mariadoss ([13]), R. Ravi ([19]). These papers are based on the reseach works in normed linear spaces made by G. Godini ([10]), T. D. Narang ([14], [15]). P. L. Papini ([16], [17]), P. L. Papini and I. Singer ([18]), I. Singer ([20]), and they have contributed to the study on the geometric structures of linear 2-normed spaces.

For a fixed  $z \in X$ , the function  $p_z(x) = ||x, z||, x \in X$ , is a seminorm on X and the family  $P = \{p_z : z \in X\}$  of seminorms generates a locally convex topology on X, which is called the *natural topology* induced by the 2-norm  $||\cdot, \cdot||$ .

In this paper, we give some properties of the sets  $D_z(x_o, G)$ ,  $P_{G,z}(x)$ . We also provide the relation between  $P_{G,z}(x)$  and Gâteaux derivatives.

## **2.** $D_z(x_o, G)$ and $P_{G,z}(x)$

In this section, we define and study two subsets of X, denoted by  $D_z(x_o, G)$  and  $P_{G,z}(x)$ .

Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space and G be an arbitrary nonempty subset of X and  $x_o \in X$ . Then for every  $x \in X$  and for every  $z \in X \setminus G$  which is independent of x and  $x_o$ , we have

(1) 
$$d_z(x,G) \le ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G),$$

where  $d_z(x, G) = \inf_{g \in G} ||x - g, z||$ . For each  $G \subset X$  and  $x_o \in X$ , we define

(2) 
$$D_z(x_o, G) = \{x \in X | d_z(x, G) = ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G)\}$$

for any  $z \in X \setminus G$  which is independent of x and  $x_o$ .

Note that  $D_z(x_o, G) \neq \phi$  since  $x_o \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . If  $x_o \in \text{Int } G$ , the interior of G, then  $D_z(x_o, G) = \{x_o\}$ .

We denote

(3) 
$$P_{G,z}(x) = \{g_o \in G : ||x - g_o, z|| = d_z(x, G)\}$$

and

(4) 
$$P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o) = \{x \in X : ||x - x_o, z|| = d_z(x, G)\},\$$

where  $x_o \in G$ .

We now provide some simple properties of  $D_z(x_o, G)$ .

LEMMA 2.1. Let  $g_n \in G, n = 1, 2, \dots$ , such that

$$d_z(x_o, G) = \lim_{n \to \infty} ||x_o - g_n, z||.$$

Then for each  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$  and for any  $z \in X \setminus G$  which is independent of x and  $x_o$ ,

$$d_z(x,G) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \|x - g_n, z\|.$$

PROOF. For each  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ ,

$$d_{z}(x,G) = \|x - x_{o}, z\| + d_{z}(x_{o}, G)$$

$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} (\|x - x_{o}, z\| + \|x_{o} - g_{n}, z\|)$$

$$\geq \limsup_{n \to \infty} \|x - g_{n}, z\|$$

$$\geq d_{z}(x, G).$$

Therefore, we have  $d_z(x,G) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \|x - g_n, z\|$ . This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

LEMMA 2.2. (i) 
$$||y-x_o,z|| = ||y-x,z|| + ||x-x_o,z||$$
. (ii)  $y-x+x_o \in D_z(x_o,G)$ .

PROOF. (i) Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$  and  $y \in D_z(x, G)$ . Then, by (1) and (2), we have

$$\|y - x_o, z\|$$
 $\leq \|y - x, z\| + \|x - x_o, z\|$ 
 $= \left(d_z(y, G) - d_z(x, G)\right) + \left(d_z(x, G) - d_z(x_o, G)\right)$ 
 $= d_z(y, G) - d_z(x_o, G)$ 
 $\leq \|y - x_o, z\|.$ 

Therefore, it follows that  $||y-x_o,z|| = ||y-x,z|| + ||x-x_o,z||$ .

(ii) Take x and y as in the proof of (i). Then, from (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &d_{z}(y-x+x_{o},G) \\ &\geq d_{z}(y,G) - \|y-(y-x+x_{o}),z\| \\ &= d_{z}(y,G) - \|x-x_{o},z\| \\ &= \left(\|y-x,z\| + d_{z}(x,G)\right) - \|x-x_{o},z\| \\ &= \|y-x,z\| + \left(\|x-x_{o},z\| + d_{z}(x_{o},G)\right) - \|x-x_{o},z\| \\ &= \|(y-x+x_{o}) - x_{o},z\| + d_{z}(x_{o},G). \end{aligned}$$

Again, by (1), it follows that

$$d_z(y - x + x_o, G) = \|(y - x + x_o) - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o, G),$$

which proves (ii). This completes the proof.

LEMMA 2.3. Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . Then

(i) 
$$[x_o, x] = \{\lambda x_o + (1 - \lambda)x : 0 \le \lambda \le 1\} \subset D_z(x_o, G).$$

(ii) 
$$D_z(x,G) \subset D_z(x_o,G)$$
.

PROOF. (i) Let  $y = \lambda x_o + (1 - \lambda)x$  such that  $0 \le \lambda \le 1$ . Then we have

$$d_z(y,G) \ge d_z(x,G) - ||x-y,z||$$

$$= ||x-x_o,z|| + d_z(x_o,G) - ||x-y,z||$$

$$= ||y-x_o,z|| + d_z(x_o,G).$$

So, by (1), it follows that  $d_z(y,G) = ||y - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G)$  implies  $y \in D_z(x_o, G)$ .

(ii) Let  $y \in D_z(x, G)$ . Then, by Lemma 2.2 (i),

$$\begin{aligned} d_z(y,G) &= \|y - x, z\| + d_z(x,G) \\ &= \|y - x, z\| + (\|x - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o,G)) \\ &= \|y - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o,G). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we have  $y \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . This completes the proof.

LEMMA 2.4. Let  $x_o, y_o \in X$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Then

(i) 
$$D_z(x_o, G) + y_o = D_z(x_o + y_o, G + y_o)$$
.

(ii) 
$$D_z(x_o, \lambda G) = \lambda D_z(x_o/\lambda, G)$$
.

PROOF. (i) Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_z(x+y_o, G+y_o) &= d_z(x, G) \\ &= \|x-x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o, G) \\ &= \|x+y_o - (x_o+y_o), z\| + d_z(x_o+y_o, G+y_o). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $x + y_o \in D_z(x_o + y_o, G + y_o)$ . Conversely, let  $y \in D_z(x_o + y_o, G + y_o)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_z(y - y_o, G) &= d_z(y, G + y_o) \\ &= \|y - y_o - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o + y_o, G + y_o) \\ &= \|(y - y_o) - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o, G). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, it follows that  $y - y_o \in D_z(x_o, G)$  and so

$$D_z(x_o, G) + y_o = D_z(x_o + y_o, G + y_o).$$

(ii) Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, \lambda G)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{split} d_z(x/\lambda, G) &= \frac{1}{|\lambda|} d_z(x, \lambda G) \\ &= \frac{1}{|\lambda|} \big( \|x - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o, \lambda G) \big) \\ &= \left\| \frac{x}{\lambda} - \frac{x_o}{\lambda}, z \right\| + d_z(x_o/\lambda, G). \end{split}$$

Therefore,  $x/\lambda \in D_z(x_o/\lambda, G)$ . Conversely, let  $x \in D_z(x_o/\lambda, G)$ . Then we have

$$d_z(\lambda x, \lambda G) = |\lambda| d_z(x, G)$$

$$= |\lambda| \left( ||x - \frac{x_o}{\lambda}, z|| + d_z(x_o/\lambda, G) \right)$$

$$= ||\lambda x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, \lambda G).$$

Therefore,  $\lambda x \in D_z(x_o, \lambda G)$ .

In particular, if G is a subspace of X, then

$$D_z(\lambda x_o + g_o, G) = \lambda D_z(x_o, G) + g_o$$

for every  $g_o \in G$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . This completes the proof.

LEMMA 2.5. Let  $G \subset G_1$  and  $x_o \in X$ , where  $G_1$  is a subset of X such that

(5) 
$$d_z(x_o, G) = d_z(x_o, G_1).$$

Then  $D_z(x_o, G_1) \subset D_z(x_o, G)$ .

PROOF. Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G_1)$ . Then, by (5), we have

$$d_z(x,G) \ge d_z(x,G_1)$$

$$= ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G_1)$$

$$= ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G).$$

By (1), it follows that  $d_z(x,G) = ||x-x_o,z|| + d_z(x_o,G)$ . Therefore, by (2),  $x \in D_z(x_o,G)$ . This completes the proof.

THEOREM 2.6. (i)  $P_{G,z}(x_o) \subset P_{G,z}(x)$  for every  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . (ii)  $D_z(x_o, G) = P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o)$  for every  $x_o \in \overline{G}$ .

PROOF. (i) Let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$  and  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(x_o)$ . Then, by Lemma 2.2 (i),

$$d_z(x,G) = ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G)$$
  
=  $||x - x_o, z|| + ||x_o - g_o, z||$   
=  $||x - g_o, z||$ ,

which proves that  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$ .

(ii) Let  $x_o \in \overline{G}$  and let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . Then we have

$$d_z(x,G) = ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G) = ||x - x_o, z||,$$

where  $x_o \in \overline{G}$ . This shows that  $x_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$ , i.e.,  $x \in P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o)$  and so  $D_z(x_o, G) \subset P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o)$ .

Conversely, let  $x \in P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o)$ . Then  $x_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$ . Since  $x_o \in \overline{G}$ ,  $d_z(x_o, G) = 0$ . Hence, we have  $d_z(x, G) = \|x - x_o, z\| + d_z(x_o, G)$  implies  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . Therefore, it follows that  $D_z(x_o, G) = P_{G,z}^{-1}(x_o)$  for  $x_o \in \overline{G}$ . This completes the proof.

For a subset G of a linear 2-normed space X and for each  $b \ge 0$ , the b-extension of G denoted by  $G_b$  and defined by

$$G_b = \{ x \in X : d_z(x, G) \le b, \quad z \in X \}.$$

If b=0, then  $d_z(x,G)=\inf_{g\in G}\|x-g,z\|=0$ . This shows that  $x\in \overline{G}$ 

and for each  $x \in \overline{G}$ , the best approximation of x is itself. Hence,  $G_b = \overline{G}$ .

THEOREM 2.7. Let  $G \subset X, x_o \in X$  and  $b \leq d_z(x_o, G)$ . Then

$$D_z(x_o, G) = D_z(x_o, G_b).$$

PROOF. From [3], for each  $x \in X$  with  $d_z(x,G) \geq b$ , we have

(6) 
$$d_z(x,G) = d_z(x,G_b) + b.$$

Let  $y \in D_z(x_o, G)$ . Then

$$d_z(y,G) = ||y - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G) \ge b,$$

since  $d_z(x_o, G) \ge b$ . So, by (6), we have

$$d_z(y,G) = d_z(y,G_b) + b,$$
  $d_z(x_o,G) = d_z(x_o,G_b) + b.$ 

Hence, we have

$$d_z(y, G_b) = d_z(y, G) - b$$
  
=  $||y - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G) - b$   
=  $||y - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G_b)$ .

Therefore, it follows that  $y \in D_z(x_o, G_b)$  and so  $D_z(x_o, G) \subset D_z(x_o, G_b)$ . Conversely, let  $x \in D_z(x_o, G_b)$  such that  $x \neq x_o$ . Then  $x \notin G_b$  and so  $d_z(x, G) > b$ . By (6) and by  $x \in D_z(x_o, G_b)$ , we have

$$d_z(x, G_b) = ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G_b) = ||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G) - b.$$

Thus, it follows that

$$d_z(x,G) = d_z(x,G_b) + b$$
  
=  $||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G_b) + b$   
=  $||x - x_o, z|| + d_z(x_o, G)$ .

which implies that  $x \in D_z(x_o, G)$  and so  $D_z(x_o, G_b) \subset D_z(x_o, G)$ . This completes the proof.

THEOREM 2.8 ([19]). Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space. Let G be a linear subspace of  $X, x \in X \setminus \overline{G}$  and  $z \in X \setminus [x, G]$ , where [x, G] is the space generated by x and G. Then for  $g_o \in G$ ,  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$  if and only if  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)g_o)$  for all  $\alpha \in R$ .

By using Theorem 2.8, we have following:

THEOREM 2.9. Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a linear 2-normed space and let G be a linear subspace of X,  $x \in X \setminus \overline{G}$  and  $z \in X \setminus [x, G]$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) For  $g_o \in \overline{G}$ ,  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$ .
- (ii)  $N_{+}(x-g_{o},z)(g_{o}-g) \geq 0$  for all  $g \in G$ .

PROOF. (i) implies (ii): Assume that (i) holds. Then by theorem 2.8, we have  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(\alpha x + (1-\alpha)g_o)$  for  $\alpha \geq 1$ . Thus, for all  $g \in G$ ,

$$\|\alpha x + (1-\alpha)g_o - g_o, z\| \le \|\alpha x + (1-\alpha)g_o - g, z\|,$$

which implies that

$$||x - g_o, z|| \le ||x - g_o + \frac{1}{\alpha}(g_o - g), z||.$$

Taking  $t = 1/\alpha$ , we have  $||x - g_o + t(g_o - g), z|| \ge ||x - g_o, z||$ . Therefore, we have

$$N_{+}(x-g_{o},z)(g_{o}-g) = \lim_{t\to 0^{+}} \frac{\|x-g_{o}+t(g_{o}-g),z\| - \|x-g_{o},z\|}{t}$$

$$> 0.$$

(ii) implies (i): Assume that (ii) holds. Then, since

$$\frac{\|x - g_o + t(g_o - g), z\| - \|x - g_o, z\|}{t}$$

is non-decreasing function of the real positive variable t, for any fixed  $x \in X \setminus \overline{G}, z \in X \setminus [x,G]$  and  $g \in G$ , we have

$$||x - g_o + t(g_o - g), z|| \ge ||x - g_o, z||$$

for t > 0. So, for t = 1, it follows that  $||x - g, z|| \ge ||x - g_o, z||$  for every  $g \in G$ . Therefore, we have  $g_o \in P_{G,z}(x)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$ 

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