

ORTHOGONALITIES AND CHARACTERIZATIONS
OF 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACES

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1. Introduction

Let X be a real linear space of dimension greater than 1. Let $(\cdot, \cdot|\cdot)$ be a real-valued function on $X \times X \times X$ which satisfies the following conditions:

- (I₁) $(x, x|z) \geq 0$,
 $(x, x|z) = 0$ if and only if x and z are linearly dependent,
- (I₂) $(x, x|z) = (z, z|x)$,
- (I₃) $(x, y|z) = (y, x|z)$,
- (I₄) $(\alpha x, y|z) = \alpha(x, y|z)$,
- (I₅) $(x + x', y|z) = (x, y|z) + (x', y|z)$

for every x, x', y, z in X and for real number α . Then $(\cdot, \cdot|\cdot)$ is called a *2-inner product* and $(X, (\cdot, \cdot|\cdot))$ a *2-inner product space* ([4]). The concepts of 2-inner product and 2-inner product space are 2-dimensional analogy of the concepts of inner product and inner product space. R. E. Ehret [4] proved that on any 2-inner product space $(X, (\cdot, \cdot|\cdot))$, $\|x, z\|^2 = (x, x|z)$ defines a 2-norm for which

$$(x, y|z) = \frac{1}{4} (\|x + y, z\|^2 - \|x - y, z\|^2)$$

and

$$\|x+y, z\|^2 + \|x-y, z\|^2 = 2(\|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2)$$

for every $x, y, z (\neq 0)$ in X and $z \notin V(x, y)$.

One of the following (A)~(C) listed below is a condition which is necessary and sufficient condition for a linear 2-normed space X to be a 2-inner product space. These characterization (A)~(C) of 2-inner product spaces were proved by C. Diminnie, S. Gähler and A. White ([1]): let $z \in X$ be an arbitrary nonzero element.

- (A) If $x, y \in X$, $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$ and $z \notin V(x, y)$, then $\|x+y, z\|^2 + \|x-y, z\|^2 = 4$,
- (B) If $x, y \in X$ and a nonzero real number k , $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\|$, then $\|kx+k^{-1}y, z\| \geq \|x+y, z\|$,
- (C) If $x, y \in X$ and $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\|$, then $\|kx+y, z\| = \|x+ky, z\|$ for all real number k .

The main purpose of this paper is to give some new characterizations of 2-inner product spaces and to provide simpler proofs of existing similar characterization.

2. Orthogonalities

Throughout this note, X will denote a linear 2-normed space, x, y, z in X with $z \neq 0$ and $z \notin V(x, y)$.

DEFINITION 2.1. For linear 2-normed space an element x of X is *isosceles orthogonal* to an element y (written $x \perp_i y$) if $\|x+y, z\| = \|x-y, z\|$.

DEFINITION 2.2. For a linear 2-normed space an element x of X is *pythagorean orthogonal* to an element y (written $x \perp_p y$) if $\|x-y, z\|^2 = \|x, z\|^2 + \|y, z\|^2$.

DEFINITION 2.3. For a linear 2-normed space an element x of X is J -orthogonal to an element y (written $x \perp_J y$) if $\|x+ky, z\| \geq \|x, z\|$ for every real number k .

From [5] we know the following theorem:

THEOREM 2.1. If $x \neq 0, y$ in a linear 2-normed space, then there exist numbers a, b, c and d such that $x \perp_L(ax+y), x \perp_P(bx+y), x \perp_J(cx+y)$ and $(dx+y) \perp_J x$. Further, if $\|y\| \leq \|x\|$, then $|a| \leq \|y\|/\|x\|$.

By using the techniques in C. Diminnie, S. Gähler and A. White ([2]), we have the following results: let $z \in X$ and X_z denoted the quotient space $X/V(z)$. For $(x)_z, (y)_z$ in X_z define $(x)_z + (y)_z = (x+y)_z, (ax)_z = a(x)_z$ and $\|(x)_z\|_z = \|x, z\|$. Then $(X_z, \|\cdot\|_z)$ is a normed linear space. X_z will denote this linear space.

Thus it follows that;

THEOREM 2.2. If $x \neq 0, y$ in X , then there exist numbers a, b, c and d such that $x \perp_L(ax+y), x \perp_P(bx+y), x \perp_J(cx+d)$ and $(dx+y) \perp_J x$. Further if $\|y, z\| \leq \|x, z\|$, then $|a| \leq \|y, z\|/\|x, z\|$.

An orthogonality \perp is called left(right) unique if for $x \neq 0, y$ in X , there exist only one a such that $(ax+y) \perp x$ ($x \perp_L(ax+y)$).

REMARK. For isosceles and pythagorean orthogonalities, left and right uniqueness are equivalent.

For J -orthogonality, the following was proved

THEOREM 2.3 ([6]). J -orthogonality, \perp_J , is left(right)

unique if and only if X is strictly convex (smooth).

DEFINITION 2.4([3]). X is strictly convex if $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\| = 1$ imply $y=x$.

THEOREM 2.4. An isosceles orthogonality, \perp_1 , in X is unique if and only if X is strictly convex.

PROOF. Suppose that X is not strictly convex and isosceles orthogonality is not unique. Then, by Theorem 2.2, there exist $x \neq 0$, y in X and a real number $a > 0$ such that $x \perp_1 y$ and $x \perp_1 (ax+y)$. The function $f(t) = \|y+tx, z\|$, $-\infty < t < \infty$, is a strictly convex function with $f(1) = f(-1)$ and $f(a+1) = f(a-1)$ because \perp_1 is isosceles orthogonality.

In the case $0 < a \leq 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(a-1) &= f\left(\frac{2-a}{2}(-1) + \frac{a}{2}\right) \\ &< \frac{2-a}{2}f(-1) + \frac{a}{2}f(1) = f(1) \\ &= f\left(\frac{a}{2}(a-1) + \left(1 - \frac{a}{2}\right)(a+1)\right) < f(a+1). \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts $f(a-1) = f(a+1)$.

In other case $a > 2$, f will have two distinct local minima, one each in $[-1, 1]$ and $[a-1, a+1]$. This contradicts that f is strictly convex function.

Conversely, suppose that X is not strictly convex. Then there exist x, y in X such that $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\| = 1$ implies $y \neq x$. We get $\|x+y, z\| = \|x+y+(x-y), z\| = \|x+y-(x-y), z\|$. Put $x' = x+y$ and $y' = x-y$. Then we have $\|x', z\| = \|x'+y', z\| = \|x'-y', z\|$, $y' \neq 0$. Hence,

$$\left\|x' + \frac{y'}{2} - \frac{y'}{2}, z\right\| = \left\|x' + \frac{y'}{2} + \frac{y'}{2}, z\right\| = \left\|x' - \frac{y'}{2} - \frac{y'}{2}, z\right\|.$$

Thus

$$\frac{y'}{2} \perp_i \left(x' + \frac{y'}{2}\right) \text{ and } \frac{y'}{2} \perp_i \left(x' - \frac{y'}{2}\right).$$

This contradicts the uniqueness of \perp_i .

3. Characterizations of 2-inner product spaces

THEOREM 3.1. For a linear 2-normed space X , the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) X is a 2-inner product space,
- (2) x, y in X , $x \perp_p y$ imply $x \perp_i y$,
- (3) x, y in X , $x \perp_i y$ imply $x \perp_p y$.

At first, we shall prove lemma.

LEMMA 3.2. If pythagorean orthogonality implies isosceles orthogonality in a linear 2-normed space X , then X is strictly convex.

PROOF. Suppose that X is not strictly convex. Then there exist x, y in X such that $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = \left\|\frac{x+y}{2}, z\right\| = 1$ implies $y \neq x$ and $x \not\perp_p y$ (called x is not pythagorean orthogonality to y). By Theorem 2.2., there exists a nonzero real number a such that $x \perp_p ax+y$, that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - (ax+y), z\|^2 &= \|x, z\|^2 + \|ax+y, z\|^2 \\ &= 1 + \|ax+y, z\|^2 \dots\dots\dots(*) \end{aligned}$$

and by the fact that \perp_p implies \perp_i , $x \perp_i (ax+y)$.

Further, $|a| \leq 1$ by Theorem 2.2.

From (*), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 &\leq 1 + \|ax + y, z\|^2 \\
 &= (2+a)^2 \left\| \frac{ax + x + y}{2+a}, z \right\|^2 \\
 &= \|ax + x + y, z\|^2 \\
 &\leq \{ \|ax + x, z\| + \|y, z\| \}^2 \\
 &= (a+1)^2 \|x, z\|^2 + 2|a+1| \|x, z\| \|y, z\| + \|y, z\|^2 \\
 &= (a+2)^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain $a = -1$. Apply $a = -1$ to (*). Then $1 = \|y, z\|^2 = \|x - y, z\|^2 + 1$ and therefore $\|x - y, z\| = 0$. Hence $x - y$ and z are linearly dependent. That is, $z = \alpha(x - y)$ for some $\alpha \in R$, or $x - y = 0$.

- (i) $\alpha = 0$, then $z = 0$. This contradicts $\|x, z\| = 1 = \|y, z\|$.
- (ii) $\alpha \neq 0$ and $x - y \neq 0$, then $z = \alpha(x - y) \neq 0$.

This contradicts $z \notin V(x, y)$. Consequently, $x - y = 0$ which contradicts $x \neq y$.

PROOF of THEOREM 3.1. (1) implies (2) is trivial, (2) implies (3): Suppose that (2) does not imply (3). Then there exist x, y in X such that $x \perp_i y$ but $x \not\perp_\rho y$. By Theorem 2.2., choose a nonzero real number a such that $x \perp_\rho (ax + y)$. But by (2), $x \perp_i (ax + y)$. Hence, by Lemma 3.2 and (2), X is strictly convex. Also, by Theorem 2.4, an isosceles orthogonality, \perp_i , is unique. This contradicts $a \neq 0$.

(3) implies (1): Let $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$. Then, since $\|x + y + x - y, z\| = \|x + y - x + y, z\|$, $x + y \perp_i x - y$ and so $x + y \perp_\rho x - y$. Thus, we get $\|x + y, z\|^2 + \|x - y, z\|^2 = \|x + y + x - y, z\|^2 = 4$. By (A), X is a 2-inner product space.

THEOREM 3.3. For a linear 2-normed space, the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) X is a 2-inner product space,
- (2) x, y in X , $x \perp_{\rho} y$ implies $x \perp_J y$,
- (3) x, y in X , $x \perp_J y$ implies $x \perp_{\rho} y$.

At first, we shall prove lemma.

LEMMA 3.4. If pythagorean orthogonality, \perp_{ρ} , implies J -orthogonality, \perp_J , in a linear 2-normed space, then X is strictly convex.

PROOF. Suppose that X is not strictly convex. Then there exist x, y in X such that $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\| = 1$ implies $y \neq x$ and $x \not\perp_{\rho} \frac{x+y}{2}$. By Theorem 2.2, there exists a nonzero real number a such that $\frac{x+y}{2} \perp_{\rho} \left(a \frac{x+y}{2} + x \right)$, that is,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} - \left(a \frac{x+y}{2} + x \right), z \right\|^2 &= \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\|^2 \\ &\quad + \left\| a \frac{x+y}{2} + x, z \right\|^2 \\ &= 1 + \left\| a \frac{x+y}{2} + x, z \right\|^2 \dots (**) \end{aligned}$$

and since \perp_{ρ} implies \perp_J ,

$$\left\| \frac{x+y}{2} + k \left(a \frac{x+y}{2} + x \right), z \right\| \geq \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\| = 1 \dots (***)$$

for every real k .

With $k = -\frac{1}{a}$, (***) yields $|a| \leq 1$. Again putting

$$\begin{aligned} k = -\frac{1}{a+2}, \quad & \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} - \frac{1}{a+2} \left(a \frac{x+y}{2} + x \right), z \right\| \\ & = \left\| \frac{1}{a+2} y, z \right\| \\ & = \left| \frac{1}{a+2} \right| \\ & \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $a = -1$. We apply $a = -1$ to (**)

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{x-y}{2}, z \right\|^2 \\ &= \left\| \frac{x+y}{2}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x-y}{2}, z \right\|^2 \\ &= 1 + \left\| \frac{x-y}{2}, z \right\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\|x-y, z\| = 0$. The rest of the argument is same as in proof of lemma 3.2.

PROOF of THEOREM 3.3. (1) implies (2) is trivial. (2) implies (3): Suppose that (2) does not imply (3). Then there exist x, y in X such that $x \perp_J y$ but $x \not\perp_{\rho} y$. By Theorem 2.2, choose a nonzero real number a such that $(ay+x) \perp_{\rho} y$. By (2), $(ay+x) \perp_J y$. Also, by Lemma 3.4, X is strictly convex and by Theorem 2.3, J -orthogonality is a left unique. This contradicts $a \neq 0$.

(3) implies (1): Let $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$. If $x \perp_J y$ and $(x+y) \perp_J (x-y)$, then $4 = \|x+y+x-y, z\|^2 = \|x+y, z\|^2 + \|x-y, z\|^2$. Thus by (A), X is 2-inner product space. If $x \not\perp_J y$, then choose $w \in X$ such that $x \perp_J w$ and $(x+w) \perp_J (x-w)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|w, z\|^2 &= \left\| \frac{(x+w) - (x-w)}{2}, z \right\|^2 \\
 &= \left\| \frac{x+w}{2}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x-w}{2}, z \right\|^2 \\
 &= \left\| \frac{x}{2}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{w}{2}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{x}{2}, z \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{w}{2}, z \right\|^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

This means $\|x, z\| = \|w, z\| = 1$. Let a and b be such that $y = ax + bw$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|y, z\|^2 &= \|ax + bw, z\|^2 \\
 &= \|ax, z\|^2 + \|bw, z\|^2 \\
 &= a^2 + b^2, \\
 \|x + y, z\|^2 &= \|(1+a)x + bw, z\|^2 \\
 &= (1+a)^2 + b^2,
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|x - y, z\|^2 &= \|(1-a)x - bw, z\|^2 \\
 &= (1-a)^2 + b^2.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Therefore, } \|x + y, z\|^2 + \|x - y, z\|^2 &= 2(a^2 + b^2) + 2 \\
 &= 2\|y, z\|^2 + 2 \\
 &= 4.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by(A), X is a 2-inner product space.

LEMMA 3.5. If isosceles orthogonality is homogenous in linear 2-normed space X , then X is a 2-inner product space.

PROOF. If $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\|$, x, y in X , then $\|x + y + x - y, z\| = \|x + y - (x - y), z\|$ and so $(x + y) \perp_2 (x - y)$. If isosceles orthogonality is homogenous in X , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\|(a+1)(x+y) + (a-1)(x-y), z\| \\
 &= \|(a+1)(x+y) - (a-1)(x-y), z\|
 \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\|ax + y, z\| = \|x + ay, z\| \quad \text{for all real } a.$$

Hence, by (C), X is a 2-inner product space.

THEOREM 3.6. For a linear 2-normed space X , the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) X is a 2-inner product space.
- (2) x, y in X , $x \perp_J y$ implies $x \perp_I y$.

PROOF. (1) implies (2) is trivial. (2) implies (1): Let $x \neq 0$, y in X . By [6, Theorem], there exists a real number a such that $x \perp_J(ax+y)$. Since J -orthogonality is homogenous, $x \perp_J k(ax+y)$ for every real number k . Also, by (2), $x \perp_I k(ax+y)$ for every real number k . Thus by Lemma 3.5, we obtain (2) implies (1).

THEOREM 3.7. For a linear 2-normed space X , the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) X is a 2-inner product space.
- (2) x, y in X , $x \perp_I y$ implies $x \perp_J y$.

PROOF. (1) implies (2) is trivial. (2) implies (1): Suppose that

$$\|x, z\| = \|y, z\|$$

for every x, y in X . Then

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

that is, $(x+y) \perp_I (x-y)$. Therefore $(x+y) \perp_J (x-y)$. Thus we have $\|x+y+k(x-y), z\| \geq \|x+y, z\|$ for all real number k . In particular for all $a > 1$ we have

$$\left\| x+y+\frac{a^2-1}{a^2+1}(x-y), z \right\| \geq \|x+y, z\|.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \|ax+a^{-1}y, z\| &\geq \frac{a^2+1}{2a} \|x+y, z\| \\ &\geq \|x+y, z\| \quad \text{for all } a > 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence by (B), X is a 2-inner product space.

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