

## SOME RESULTS ON FARTHEST POINTS IN 2-NORMED SPACES

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we consider the problem of the farthest point for bounded sets in a real 2-normed spaces. We investigate some properties of farthest points in the setting of 2-normalised spaces and present various characterizations of b-farthest point of elements by bounded sets in terms of b-linear functional. We also provide some applications of farthest points in the setting of 2- inner product spaces.

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### 1. Introduction

The concepts of 2-metric spaces and linear 2-normed spaces were first introduced by Gähler in 1963 [8] and have been developed extensively in different subjects by others authors (see [3, 4, 9, 10, 12]). Elumalai, Vijayaragavan and Sistani, Moghaddam in [6, 14] gave some results on the concept best approximation in the context of bounded linear 2-functionals on real linear 2-normed spaces. They established various characterizations of the best approximation elements in these spaces. The concepts of farthest point in normed spaces have been studied by many authors (see [1, 2, 5, 7, 13]). In this paper we study this concept in 2-normed spaces, and obtain some results on characterization and existence of farthest points in normed linear spaces in terms of bounded b-linear functionals. In section 2, we give some preliminary results. In section 3, we give some fundamental concepts of b-farthest points and give characterization of farthest points in 2-normed linear spaces and some basic properties of farthest points. Also we study the farthest point mapping on  $X$  by virtue of the Gateaux derivative in 2-normed spaces. We show in the case that 2-normed space is strictly convex there exists a unique farthest points of the closed convex set from each point. In the end, we delineate some applications of farthest points in 2-inner product spaces.

### 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $X$  be a linear space of dimension greater than 1. Suppose  $\|.,.\|$  is a real-valued function on  $X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

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- a)  $\|x, z\| \geq 0$  and  $\|x, z\| = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent.
- b)  $\|x, z\| = \|z, x\|$ ,
- d)  $\|\alpha x, z\| = \alpha\|x, z\|$  for any scalar  $\alpha \in R$ ,
- e)  $\|x + x', z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|x', z\|$ .

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

**Example 2.2.** Let  $X = R^3$ , and consider the following 2-norm on  $X$ :

$$\|x, y\| = |xxy| = \left| \det \begin{bmatrix} i & j & k \\ x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \end{bmatrix} \right|.$$

where  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3), y = (y_1, y_2, y_3)$ . Then  $X$  is a 2-normed space.

**Example 2.3.** Let  $X$  be a real linear space having two seminorms  $\|.\|_1$  and  $\|.\|_2$ . Then  $(X, \|.\|)$  is a generalized 2-normed space with the 2-norm defined by

$$\|x, y\| = \|x\|_1 \cdot \|y\|_2, \text{ for } x, y \in X.$$

Every 2-normed space is a locally convex topological vector space. In fact for a fixed  $b \in X, p_b = \|x, b\| ; x \in X$  is a semi-norm on  $X$  and the family  $P = \{p_b : b \in X\}$  of semi-norms generates a locally convex topology.

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $(X, \|.,.\|)$  be a 2-normed linear space,  $E$  be a nonempty subset of  $X$ . The set  $E$  is called b-open if and only if for each  $a_0 \in E$ , there exists  $\varepsilon_{a_0} > 0$  such that for each  $c \in E$  with  $\|a_0 - c, b\| < \varepsilon_{a_0}$  implies  $a_0 - c \in E$ . The b-interior of  $E$  is denoted  $int_b(E)$ , is the largest b-open set contained in  $E$ .

A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in 2-normed linear space  $X$  is said to be a b-convergent if there exists an element  $x \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x, b\| = 0$ . A set is b-closed if and only if it contains all of its limit points.

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $(X, \|.,.\|)$  be a 2-normed space,  $b \in X$  be fixed, then a map  $T : X \times \langle b \rangle \rightarrow R$  is called a b-linear functional on  $X \times \langle b \rangle$  whenever

- 1)  $T(a + c, b) = T(a, b) + T(c, b)$  for  $a; c, b \in X$  such that ;
- 2)  $T(\alpha a, b) = \alpha T(a, b)$  for  $\alpha \in R$ .

A b-linear functional  $T : X \times \langle b \rangle \rightarrow R$  is said to be bounded if there exists a real number  $M > 0$  such that  $|T(x, b)| < M\|x, b\|$  for every  $x \in X$ . The norm of the b-linear functional  $T : X \times \langle b \rangle \rightarrow R$  is defined by

$$\|T\| = \sup\{\|T(x, b)\| : \|x, .b\| \neq 0\}.$$

### 3. Farthest points in 2-normed spaces

Let  $X$  be a 2-normed vector space. For a nonempty subset  $G$  of  $X$  and  $x \in X$ , define

$$(3.1) \quad f_G(x, b) = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\|.$$

Recall that a point  $g_0 \in G$  is called a b-farthest point for  $x \in X$  if

$$(3.2) \quad \|x - g_0, b\| = f_G(x, b).$$

The set of all b-farthest points to  $x$  from  $G$  is denoted by  $\mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . Let

$$R_b(G) = \{x \in X : \mathbf{F}_G(x, b) \neq \emptyset\}.$$

The set  $G$  is said to be a b-remotal set if  $R_b(G) = X$ .

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a 2-normed vector space and  $G$  be a nonempty bounded subset of  $X$ . Then for any  $x, z$  of  $X$*

$$i) \quad |f_G(x, b) - f_G(z, b)| \leq \|x - z, b\|.$$

$$ii) \quad \|x - z, b\| \leq f_G(x, b) + f_G(z, b).$$

*Proof.* i) Let  $y \in \mathbf{F}_G(z, b)$ . By the definition of b-farthest points, we have

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

$$f_G(x, b) - f_G(z, b) \geq \|x - z, b\|.$$

Interchanging  $x$  and  $y$ , we get

$$f_G(z, b) - f_G(x, b) \geq \|x - z, b\|.$$

Hence  $|f_G(x, b) - f_G(z, b)| \leq \|x - z, b\|$ .

ii) It's proof is similar to that of (i). □

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $G$  is a closed bounded b-remotal set in a 2-normed space  $X$ . Then  $\mathbf{F}_G(x, b) \cap \text{int}_b(G) = \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $e \in G$  such that  $e \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b) \cap \text{int}_b(G)$ . There exists a number  $r > 0$  such that  $\{y \in X : \|y - e, b\| < r\} \subseteq G$ . Put  $u = e - \frac{r}{2\|x - e, b\|}(x - e)$ .

Then  $\|u - e, b\| = \frac{r}{2} \leq r$ , and hence  $u \in G$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - u, b\| &= \|x - e + \frac{r}{2\|x - e, b\|}(x - e), b\| \\ &= \|(1 + \frac{r}{2\|x - e, b\|})(x - e), b\| \\ &= (1 + \frac{r}{2\|x - e, b\|})\|(x - e), b\| > \|(x - e), b\|. \end{aligned}$$

This is a contradiction. □

**Theorem 3.3.** *A nonvoid bounded set  $G$  in a 2-normed space  $X$  is  $b$ -remotal if and only if the following associated set*

$$K_d = G + CB_d^b(0)$$

*is closed for  $d > 0$ , where  $CB_d^b(0) = \{y \in X : \|x, b\| \geq d\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x$  be an adherent element of  $G + CB_d^b(0)$ , i.e. there exist a sequence  $(x_n)_{n \in N}$  which converges to  $x$  and a sequence  $(u_n)_{n \in N} \subset G$  such that for all  $n \in N$   $\|x_n - u_n, b\| \geq d$ . Thus, for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $n_\varepsilon \in N$  such that  $\|x_n - u_n, b\| > d - \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_\varepsilon$ . Now, if  $G$  is  $b$ -remotal, taking an element  $g' \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$  we obtain that  $\|x - g', b\| \geq \|x_n - u_n, b\|$  for all  $n \geq n_\varepsilon$  and so  $\|x - g', b\| \geq d - \varepsilon$ , for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Consequently  $\|x - g', b\| \geq d$  i.e.  $x \in G + CB_d^b(0)$ . Conversely, for an arbitrary element  $x \in X$  we take  $d = f_G(x, b)$ . We can suppose  $d > 0$  since  $f_G(x, b) = 0$  if and only if  $G = \{x\}$ . When  $G$  is  $b$ -remotal obviously for every  $n \in N$  exist  $u_n \in G$  such that  $\|x - u_n, b\| \geq d - \frac{1}{n}$ . But, we have

$$\frac{1}{n}(d - \frac{1}{n})^{-1}(x - u_n) + x \in u_n + CB_d^b(0) \subset G + CB_d^b(0),$$

for all  $n \in N$  such that  $n > 1$ . Since  $(u_n)_{n \in N}$  is bounded, by passing to the limit we get  $x \in \overline{G + CB_d^b(0)}$ . Therefore, if  $G + CB_d^b(0)$  is closed there exists  $g' \in G$  such that  $\|x - g', b\| \geq d$  i.e.  $g' \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . Hence the set  $G$  is  $b$ -remotal. □

Some characterizations of farthest points in 2-normed spaces are provided in following theorems.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $G$  be a subset of a 2-norm space  $X$  and  $x \in X \setminus M + \langle b \rangle$ , then  $g_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ , if and only if there exists a  $b$ -bilinear function  $p$  such that*

$$(3.3) \quad p(x - g_0, b) = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\| \quad \text{and} \quad \|p\| = 1.$$

*Proof.* Suppose that there is a  $b$ -bilinear function  $p$  which satisfies (3.3), then

$$\|x - g_0, b\| = \|x - g_0, b\| \|p\| \geq |p(x - g_0, b)| = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\| \geq \|x - g, b\|.$$

Conversely, let  $g_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ , by Hahn-Banach theorem in the context of 2-normed spaces (see Theorem 2.2 [11]) there exists a  $b$ -bilinear function  $p$  such that  $\|p\| = 1, p(x - g_0, b) = \|x - g_0, b\| = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\|$ . □

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be a subset of a 2-norm space  $X$  and  $x \in X \setminus M + \langle b \rangle$ . Then the following statements are equivalent.*

- i)  $g_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ .

ii) There is a b-bilinear function  $p$  on  $X$  which satisfies

$$(3.4) \quad |p(x - g_0, b)| = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\| \quad \text{and} \quad \|p\| = 1,$$

$$(3.5) \quad |p(x - g_0, b)| \geq |p(x - g, b)|.$$

iii) There is a b-bilinear function  $p$  on  $X$  which satisfies (3.4) and

$$(3.6) \quad p(g_0 - g, b)p(g_0 - x, b) \geq 0.$$

*Proof.* Let  $g_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . Then by Theorem 3.4 we have (3.4) and

$$|p(x - g_0, b)| = \sup_{g \in G} \|x - g, b\| \geq \|x - g, b\| \geq |p(x - g, b)|,$$

which proves (3.5). Thus, (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii).

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Suppose that there is a b-bilinear function  $p$  on  $X$  satisfying (3.4), (3.5) then

$$\begin{aligned} |p(x - g_0, b)|^2 \geq |p(x - g, b)|^2 &= |p(x - g_0, b)|^2 + |p(g - g_0, b)|^2 \\ &\quad + 2p(g_0 - g, b)p(g_0 - x, b) \\ &\geq |p(x - g_0, b)|^2 + 2p(g_0 - g, b)p(g_0 - x, b), \end{aligned}$$

whence it follows that  $p(g_0 - g, b)p(g_0 - x, b) \geq 0$ .

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) It is a consequence of Theorem 3.4. □

**Definition 3.6.** A linear 2-normed space  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  is said to be strictly convex if  $\|x + y, c\| = \|x, c\| + \|y, c\|$  and  $c \notin \text{Span}\{x, y\}$  imply that  $x = \alpha y$  for some  $\alpha > 0$ .

**Definition 3.7.** A real-valued function  $f$  on  $X \times \langle b \rangle$  is said to be b-Gateaux differentiable at a point  $x$  of  $X$  if there is a b-linear functional  $df_x$  such that, for each  $y \in X$ ,

$$df_x(y, b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + ty, b) - f(x, b)}{t},$$

and we call  $df_x$  the b-Gateaux derivative of  $f$  at  $x$ .

**Theorem 3.8.** Let  $G$  be a subset of a 2-norm space  $X$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $y \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . Suppose that the functional  $df_{x,b}$  is the Gateaux derivative of the function  $f_G(\cdot, b)$  at the point  $x$ . Then

$$df_x(x - y, b) = \|x - y, b\| \quad \text{and} \quad \|df_x\| = 1.$$

*Proof.* If  $G$  is a single point this is clear. Otherwise  $x \neq y$  and  $\|x - y, b\| = f_G(x, b)$ , for  $0 < t < 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_G(x, b) + t\|x - y, b\| &= (1 + t)\|x - y, b\| = \|x + t(x - y) - y, b\| \\ &\leq f_G(x + t(x - y), b) \leq f_G(x, b) + t\|x - y, b\|. \end{aligned}$$

As above and Corollary 3.1 so omitted holds throughout, and

$$df_x(x - y, b) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f_G(x + t(y - x), b) - f_G(x, b)}{t} = \|x - y, b\|.$$

Corollary 3.1 implies that  $\|df_{x,b}\| \leq 1$ , so this also show that  $\|df_x\| = 1$ . □

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $G$  be a convex subset of a strictly convex 2-normed space  $X$ ,  $x \in X \setminus G$  and  $b \notin \text{Span}\{x, G\}$ . Suppose that the functional  $df_{x,b}$  is the Gateaux derivative of the function  $f_G(., b)$  at the point  $x$ . Then there is at most one  $b$ -farthest point in  $G$  to  $x$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $y, z$  of  $\mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . Theorem 3.8 shows that

$$df_x(x - y, b) = \|x - y, b\| = \|x - z, b\| = df_x(x - z, b).$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_G(x, b) &= \frac{1}{2}(\|x - y, b\| + \|x - z, b\|) &= \frac{1}{2}(df_x(x - y, b) + df_x(x - z, b)) \\ & &= df_x(x - \frac{y+z}{2}, b) \leq \|x - \frac{y+z}{2}, b\| \\ & &\leq f_G(x, b). \end{aligned}$$

Hence equality must hold throughout these inequalities. Since  $X$  is strictly convex 2-normed space and  $b \notin \text{Span}\{x, G\}$ , it follows that  $\mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$  has at most one element. □

The properties of linear 2-normed spaces have been extensively studied by many authors. The same properties also hold in 2-inner product spaces, which were introduced by Diminnie et al [4].

**Definition 3.10.** Let  $X$  be a linear space. Suppose that  $\langle .|. \rangle$  is a  $R$  valued function defined on  $X \times X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- a)  $\langle x, x|z \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle x, x|z \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent.
- b)  $\langle x, x|z \rangle = \langle z, z|x \rangle$ ,
- c)  $\langle x, y|z \rangle = \langle y, x|z \rangle$ ,
- d)  $\langle \alpha x, x|z \rangle = \alpha \langle x, x|z \rangle$  for any scalar  $\alpha \in R$ ,
- e)  $\langle x + x', y|z \rangle = \langle x, y|z \rangle + \langle x', y|z \rangle$ .

$\langle ., .|. \rangle$  is called a 2-inner product and  $(X, \langle ., .|. \rangle)$  is called a 2-inner product space (or a 2-perHilbert space).

In any given 2-inner product space  $(X, (., .|.))$ , we can define a function  $\|., .\|$  on  $X \times X$  by

$$\|x, z\| = \langle x, x | z \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Using the above properties, we can prove the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$|\langle x, y | z \rangle|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \langle x, x | z \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle y, y | z \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $G$  be a bounded subset of 2-inner product space  $X$ ,  $x \in X$ , and  $y_0 \in G$ . If  $\langle x - y, y_0 - y|b \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $y \in G$ , then  $y_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\langle x - y, y_0 - y|b \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $y \in G$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - y, b\|^2 &= \langle x - y, x - y|b \rangle = \langle x - y, x - y_0 + y_0 - y|b \rangle \\ &= \langle x - y, x - y_0|b \rangle + \langle x - y, y_0 - y|b \rangle \\ &\leq \langle x - y, x - y_0|b \rangle \leq \|x - y, b\| \|x - y_0, b\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\|x - y, b\|^2 \leq \|x - y_0, b\|$  i.e.  $y_0 \in \mathbf{F}_G(x, b)$ . □

**Definition 3.12.** A set  $A$  in a 2-normed space  $X$  is said to be  $b$ -strongly convex with constant  $r > 0$  if there exists a set  $A_1 \subset E$  such that

$$A = \bigcap_{a \in A_1} B_r^b(a),$$

where  $B_r^b(a) = \{y \in X : \|x - a, b\| \leq r\}$ .

A set  $A$  is called a  $b$ -strongly convex set of radius  $R > 0$  if this set is the intersection of balls of radius  $R$ .

In the following, we study uniqueness problem for a point of closed bounded set that is the farthest point from a given point in 2-inner product spaces.

**Lemma 3.13.** *Let  $G$  be a  $b$ -strongly convex set of radius  $r > 0$  in the 2-inner product space  $X$ . Then the inequality*

$$\|a_1 - a_2, b\|^2 \leq R \langle a_1 - a_2, p_2 - p_1|b \rangle,$$

*holds for vectors  $p_1, p_2$  such that  $\|p_1, b\|, \|p_2, b\| \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* We fix vectors  $p_1, p_2$ . According to the definition of strongly convex sets, we have

$$G \subseteq B_r^b\left(a_1 - R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}\right) \cap B_r^b\left(a_2 - R \frac{p_2}{\|p_2, b\|}\right),$$

which implies the inequalities

$$\|a_2 - a_1 + R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}, b\|^2 \leq R^2, \quad \|a_1 - a_2 + R \frac{p_2}{\|p_2, b\|}, b\|^2 \leq R^2$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|a_2 - a_1 + R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}, b\|^2 &= \langle a_2 - a_1 + R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}, a_2 - a_1 + R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}|b \rangle, \\ &= \langle a_2 - a_1, a_2 - a_1|b \rangle + \langle R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}, R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}|b \rangle + 2 \langle a_2 - a_1, R \frac{p_1}{\|p_1, b\|}|b \rangle \leq R^2, \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|a_1 - a_2, b\|^2 &\leq 2R \langle a_1 - a_2, -p_1|b \rangle \\ \|a_1 - a_2, b\|^2 &\leq 2R \langle a_1 - a_2, p_2|b \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We sum the last two inequalities and obtain the desired inequality. □

For a set  $G$  in a 2-normed space  $X$  and a number  $r > 0$ , we define the set

$$T_r^b(G) = \{x \in X : f_G(x, b) > r\}.$$

**Theorem 3.14.** *Let  $G$  be a  $b$ -strongly convex set of radius  $r > 0$  in the 2-inner product space  $X$ . Then for  $x_1, x_2 \in T_R^b(G)$  the inequality*

$$(3.7) \quad \|f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), b\|^2 \leq \frac{r}{R-r} \|x_1 - x_2, b\|,$$

holds for any  $R > r$  and  $f_b(x_i) \in \mathbf{F}_G(x_i, b)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .

*Proof.* We choose a number  $R > r$ , and introduce the vectors

$$p_i = \frac{1}{R}(f_b(x_i) - x_i), i = 1, 2.$$

From Lemma 3.13, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), b\|^2 \\ & \leq r \langle f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), p_2 - p_1 | b \rangle \\ & = r \langle f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), \frac{1}{R}(f_b(x_2) - x_2) - \frac{1}{R}(f_b(x_1) - x_1), | b \rangle \\ & = \frac{r}{R} \|f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), b\|^2 - \frac{r}{R} \langle f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), x_2 - x_1 | b \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we get

$$(1 - \frac{r}{R}) \|f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), b\|^2 \leq \frac{r}{R} \|f_b(x_1) - f_b(x_2), b\| \|x_1 - x_2, b\|.$$

which implies formula (3.7). □

**Corollary 3.15.** *Let  $G$  be a  $b$ -strongly convex set of radius  $r > 0$  in the 2-inner product space  $X$ ,  $x \in T_R^b(G)$  and  $b \notin \text{Span}\{G\}$ . Then there is at most one  $b$ -farthest point in  $G$  to  $x$ .*

*Proof.* It is a consequence of Theorem 3.14. □

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