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## BEST APPROXIMATION FOR CONVEX SUBSETS OF 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACES

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**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we study the concept of best approximation in 2-inner product spaces. We get some characteristic theorems for the elements of best approximation for convex subsets of 2-inner product spaces. Finally we get some properties of the metric projection map in this spaces.

**KEYWORDS :** 2-Inner product space; 2-Normed space; b-Best approximation; b-Proximinal; b-Chebyshev; b-Metric projection; b-Dual cone

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Recently, some results on best approximation theory in linear 2-normed spaces have been obtained by Y. J. Cho, S. Elumalai, S. S. Kim, R. Ravi, Sh. Rezapour and others (see [1], [4], [6], [12], [13], [15]). These papers are based on the research works in normed linear spaces made by I. Singer ([14]), T. D. Narang ([11]), S. S. Dragomir ([2]) and others. In this paper we want to investigate the concept of best approximation in 2-inner product spaces. The concept of 2-inner product spaces has been investigated by R. Ehret in 1969([3]), and has been developed extensively in different subjects by others.([10], [8])

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $X$  be a linear space of dimension greater than 1 over field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers.

Suppose that  $\langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  is a  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued function defined on  $X \times X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- $\langle x, x | z \rangle \geq 0$  and  $\langle x, x | z \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $z$  are linearly dependent.
- $\langle x, x | z \rangle = \langle z, z | x \rangle$
- $\langle y, x | z \rangle = \langle x, y | z \rangle$
- $\langle \alpha x, y | z \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y | z \rangle$  for any scalar  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$
- $\langle x + x', y | z \rangle = \langle x, y | z \rangle + \langle x', y | z \rangle$

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$\langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle$  is called a *2-inner product* and  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  is called a *2-inner product space* (or a *2-per-Hilbert space*). A concept which is closely related to 2-inner product space and introduced by Gähler in 1965, is 2-normed space [5].

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $X$  be a linear space of dimension greater than 1 over field  $\mathbb{R}$  of real numbers. Suppose  $\| \cdot, \cdot \|$  is a real-valued function on  $X \times X$  satisfying the following conditions:

- a)  $\|x, y\| = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent vectors.
- b)  $\|x, y\| = \|y, x\|$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .
- c)  $\|\lambda x, y\| = |\lambda| \|x, y\|$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $x, y \in X$ .
- d)  $\|x + y, z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|y, z\|$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

Then  $\| \cdot, \cdot \|$  is called a *2-norm* on  $X$  and  $(X, \| \cdot, \cdot \|)$  is called a *linear 2-normed space*. It is easy to show that the 2-norm  $\| \cdot, \cdot \|$  is non-negative and  $\|x, y + \alpha x\| = \|x, y\|$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Every 2-normed space is a locally convex topological vector space. In fact for a fixed  $b \in X$ ,  $p_b(x) = \|x, b\|$ ;  $x \in X$  is a semi-norm on  $X$  and the family  $P = \{p_b : b \in X\}$  of seminorms generates a locally convex topology on  $X$ .

Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space, then

- (i) We can define a 2-norm on  $X \times X$  by  $\|x, y\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x | y \rangle}$ .
- (ii) Let  $0 \neq b \in X$  and  $x, y \in X \setminus \langle b \rangle$ . An element  $x \in X$  is said to be *b-orthogonal* to an element  $y \in X$ , and we write  $x \perp_b y$ , if  $\langle x, y | b \rangle = 0$ .
- (iii) For all  $x, y, b \in X$ , we have the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality

$$\langle x, y | b \rangle^2 \leq \|x, b\|^2 \|y, b\|^2.$$

Let  $(X, \| \cdot, \cdot \|)$  be a 2-normed space and  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be two linear subspaces of  $X$ . A 2-functional  $f : V_1 \times V_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a *bilinear 2-functional* on  $V_1 \times V_2$ , whenever for all  $x_1, x_2 \in V_1, y_1, y_2 \in V_2$  and  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ ;

- i)  $f(x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2) = f(x_1, y_1) + f(x_1, y_2) + f(x_2, y_1) + f(x_2, y_2)$ ,
- ii)  $f(\lambda_1 x_1, \lambda_2 y_1) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 f(x_1, y_1)$ .

A bilinear 2-functional  $f : V_1 \times V_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be bounded if there exists a non-negative real number  $M$  (called a Lipschitz constant for  $f$ ) such that  $|f(x, y)| \leq M \|x, y\|$  for all  $x \in V_1$  and  $y \in V_2$ . Also, the norm of a bilinear 2-functional  $f$  is defined by

$$\|f\| = \inf\{M \geq 0 : M \text{ is a Lipschitz constant for } f\}$$

It is known that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\| &= \sup\{|f(x, y)| : (x, y) \in V_1 \times V_2, \|x, y\| \leq 1\} \\ &= \sup\{|f(x, y)| : (x, y) \in V_1 \times V_2, \|x, y\| = 1\} \\ &= \sup\{|f(x, y)| / \|x, y\| : (x, y) \in V_1 \times V_2, \|x, y\| > 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 1.3.** [7] A 2-functional  $F : V_1 \times V_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be a convex 2-functional if

$$\begin{aligned} F(a\lambda x + (a - a\lambda)x', b\mu y + (b - b\mu)y') &\leq ab|\lambda\mu|F(x, y) + a|\lambda|(b - b\mu)F(x, y') \\ &\quad + (a - a\lambda)b|\mu|F(x', y) + (a - a\lambda)(b - b\mu)F(x', y') \end{aligned}$$

for all  $|\lambda| \leq 1, |\mu| \leq 1$  and  $a, b \geq 0$ .

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space, and  $b \in X$ .

1) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of  $X$  is said to be *b-convergent* and denote by  $x_n \xrightarrow{b} x$ , if there exists an element  $x \in X$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x, b\| = 0$  for all  $x \in X$ .

2) A subset  $E$  of  $X$  is said *b-closed*, if for each sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $E$  such that  $x_n \xrightarrow{b} x$ , we have that  $x \in E$ .

**Definition 1.5.** [13] Let  $(X, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  be a 2-normed space,  $G$  a nonempty subset of  $X$ ,  $0 \neq b \in X$ , then  $g_0 \in G$  is called a *b-best approximation* to  $x$  from  $G$  if

$$\|x - g_0, b\| = \inf\{\|x - g, b\| : g \in G\}.$$

The set of all b-best approximations of  $x$  in  $G$  is denoted by  $P_{G,b}(x)$ . The mapping  $P_{G,b} : X \rightarrow 2^G$  is called the *b-metric projection* onto  $G$ .

If each  $x \in X \setminus (G + \langle b \rangle)$  has at least (resp. exactly) one b-best approximation in  $G$ , then  $G$  is called a *b-proximinal* (resp. *b-chebyshev*) set.

**Definition 1.6.** 1) A nonempty subset  $K$  of the 2-inner product space  $X$ , is called convex if  $\lambda x + (1 - \lambda)y \in K$  whenever  $x, y \in K$  and  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ .

2) A nonempty subset  $C$  of the 2-inner product space  $X$ , is called a convex cone if  $\alpha x + \beta y \in C$  whenever  $x, y \in C$  and  $0 \leq \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

3) A nonempty subset  $M$  of the 2-inner product space  $X$ , is called a linear subspace if  $\alpha x + \beta y \in M$  whenever  $x, y \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ .

4) A nonempty subset  $V$  of the 2-inner product space  $X$ , is called affine if  $\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y \in V$  whenever  $x, y \in V$ , and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Definition 1.7.** Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space over the real number field  $\mathbb{R}$ . The *b-dual cone* (or *b-negative polar*) of  $S$  is the set

$$S_b^\circ := \{x \in X | \langle x, y | b \rangle \leq 0 \text{ for all } y \in S\}$$

The *b-orthogonal complement* of  $S$  is the set

$$S_b^\perp = S_b^\circ \cap (-S_b^\circ) = \{x \in X | \langle x, y | b \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } y \in S\}$$

## 2. CHARACTERIZATION THEOREMS FOR ELEMENTS OF B-BEST APPROXIMATION FOR CONVEX SUBSETS OF A 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACE

In this section we investigate some characteristic theorems for elements of b-best approximation for convex subsets of a 2-inner product space  $X$ . It is known that every nonempty b-closed convex set in a b-Hilbert space is b-chebyshev (see [9], [15]). Now we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space, and  $K$  a b-closed convex subset of  $X$  with  $X \neq K$ . If  $x_0 \in X \setminus (K + \langle b \rangle)$  and  $g_0 \in K$ , then the following statements are equivalent.

(1)  $g_0 = P_{K,b}(x_0)$

(2)  $x_0 - g_0 \in (K - g_0)_b^\circ$

(3) we have that

$$\inf_{g \in K} \langle g - x_0, g_0 - x_0 | b \rangle = \|g_0 - x_0, b\|^2$$

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) : This implication is proved in ([15]).

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) : By (2) we have that for all  $g \in K$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \langle x_0 - g_0, g_0 - g | b \rangle = \langle x_0 - g_0, g_0 - x_0 + x_0 - g | b \rangle \\ &= \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g | b \rangle - \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \\ &= \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g | b \rangle - \|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2 \leq \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g | b \rangle$$

for all  $g \in K$ , Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - g_0, b\|^2 &\leq \inf_{g \in K} \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g|b \rangle \\ &\leq \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g_0|b \rangle = \|x - g_0, b\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2 = \inf_{g \in K} \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g|b \rangle.$$

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) : If (3) holds, then by Cauchy-Schwartz inequality in 2-inner product spaces, for all  $g \in K$  we have

$$\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2 \leq \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g|b \rangle \leq \|x_0 - g_0, b\| \|x_0 - g, b\|.$$

Thus  $\|x_0 - g_0, b\| \leq \|x_0 - g, b\|$  for all  $g \in K$ . That is  $g_0 = P_{K,b}(x_0)$ . □

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $X$  be a 2-inner product space over the real field  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then:

(1) If  $S$  is a nonempty subset of  $X$ , then  $S_b^\circ$  is a  $b$ -closed convex cone and  $S_b^{\perp}$  is a  $b$ -closed subspace.

(2) If  $C$  is a convex cone in  $X$ , then  $(C - y)_b^\circ = C_b^\circ \cap y_b^\perp$  for each  $y \in C$ .

(3) If  $M$  is a subspace of  $X$ , then  $M_b^\circ = M_b^\perp$ .

(4) If  $C$  is a  $b$ -chebyshev convex cone in  $X$ , then  $C_b^{\circ\circ} = C$ .

(5) If  $M$  is a  $b$ -chebyshev subspace in  $X$ , then  $M_b^{\circ\circ} = M_b^{\perp\perp} = M$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x_n \in S_b^\circ$  and  $x_n \xrightarrow{b} x$ . Then for each  $y \in S$ ,

$$\langle x, y|b \rangle = \lim \langle x_n, y|b \rangle \leq 0$$

implies  $x \in S_b^\circ$  and  $S_b^\circ$  is  $b$ -closed. Let  $x, z \in S_b^\circ$  and  $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$ . Then, for each  $y \in S$ ,

$$\langle \alpha x + \beta z, y|b \rangle = \alpha \langle x, y|b \rangle + \beta \langle z, y|b \rangle \leq 0$$

so  $\alpha x + \beta z \in S_b^\circ$  and  $S_b^\circ$  is a convex cone. Similarly we can prove  $S_b^\perp$  is a  $b$ -closed subspace.

(2) We have  $x \in (C - y)_b^\circ$  if and only if  $\langle x, c - y|b \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $c \in C$ . Taking  $c = 0$  and  $c = 2y$ , it follows that the last statement is equivalent to  $\langle x, y|b \rangle = 0$  and  $\langle x, c|b \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $c \in C$ . That is,  $x \in C_b^\circ \cap y_b^\perp$ .

(3) If  $M$  is a subspace, then  $-M = M$  implies

$$M_b^\circ = M_b^\circ \cap (-M)_b^\circ = M_b^\perp.$$

(4) Let  $C$  be a  $b$ -chebyshev convex cone, and  $x \in C \setminus \langle b \rangle$ . Then for any  $y \in C_b^\circ$ ,  $\langle x, y|b \rangle \leq 0$ . Hence  $x \in C_b^{\circ\circ}$ . That is  $C \subseteq C_b^{\circ\circ}$ . Now remains to verify  $C_b^{\circ\circ} \subseteq C$ . If not, choose  $x \in C_b^{\circ\circ} \setminus C$  and let  $y_0 \in P_{C,b}(x)$ . By (2) and theorem (2.1) we have

$$x - y_0 \in (C - y_0)_b^\circ = C_b^\circ \cap y_{0b}^\perp.$$

Thus

$$0 < \|x - y_0, b\|^2 = \langle x - y_0, x - y_0|b \rangle = \langle x - y_0, x|b \rangle \leq 0$$

which is absurd. Therefore  $C_b^{\circ\circ} \subseteq C$ .

(5) It is clear by (3),(4). □

Now we investigate theorem (2.1) in the case of  $b$ -closed convex cone.

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space,  $C$  a  $b$ -closed convex cone in  $X$  with  $X \neq C$ . If  $x_0 \in X \setminus (C + \langle b \rangle)$  and  $g_0 \in C$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

(1)  $g_0 = P_{C,b}(x_0)$ ,

- (2)  $x_0 - g_0 \in C_b^\circ \cap g_0^\perp_b$ ,
- (3)  $x_0 - g_0 \in C_b^\circ$  and  $\langle x_0, g_0 | b \rangle = \|g_0, b\|^2$

*Proof.* The equivalence of (2) and (3) is clear. The equivalence of (1) and (2) is also clear by lemma (2.2). □

**Remark 2.2.** If  $M$  is a linear subspace then by lemma(2.2),  $M_b^\circ = M_b^\perp$  and so condition (2) of above theorem reduces to the classical condition that

$$g_0 = P_{M,b}(x_0) \iff x - g_0 \perp_b M \iff \langle x - g_0, g | b \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } g \in M ; (\text{see [13]}).$$

**Remark 2.3.** Let  $V$  be an affine set in the 2-inner product space  $X$ , i.e.  $V = M + v$ , where  $M$  is a subspace and  $v$  is any element of  $V$ . Then we have that

$$g_0 = P_{V,b}(x_0) \iff x_0 - g_0 \perp_b M \iff \langle x_0 - g_0, g - v | b \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } g \in V.$$

Moreover

$$P_{V,b}(x + e) = P_{V,b}(x) \text{ for all } x \in X, e \in M_b^\perp.$$

If  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  is an inner product space, then the function

$$\langle x, y | z \rangle = \frac{\langle x, y \rangle \langle x, z \rangle}{\langle y, z \rangle \langle z, z \rangle} = \|z\|^2 \langle x, y \rangle - \langle x, z \rangle \langle y, z \rangle$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$  defined a 2-inner product on  $X \times X \times X$ .

**Example 2.4.** Let  $X = \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $C = \{(y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2; |y_2| \leq y_1\}$  and  $b = (b_1, b_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ . It is simple to verify that  $C$  is a b-closed convex cone. Now if  $(x_1, x_2) \in C + \langle b \rangle$ , then

$$P_{C,b}(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} (\{ \frac{x_2 b_1 - x_1 b_2}{b_2 - b_1}, \frac{x_2 b_1 - x_1 b_2}{b_2 - b_1} \} + \langle b \rangle) \cap C & \text{if } x_2 > 0, b_1 \neq b_2 \\ ((x_1, x_2) + \langle b \rangle) \cap C & \text{if } b_1 = b_2 \\ (\{ \frac{x_2 b_1 - x_1 b_2}{b_2 + b_1}, \frac{x_1 b_2 - x_2 b_1}{b_2 + b_1} \} + \langle b \rangle) \cap C & \text{if } x_2 < 0, b_1 \neq -b_2 \\ ((x_1, x_2) + \langle b \rangle) \cap C & \text{if } b_1 = -b_2 \end{cases}$$

and if  $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus (C + \langle b \rangle)$ , then  $P_{C,b}(x_1, x_2) = \{(0, 0)\}$ .

Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space over the real field  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $F : X \times \langle b \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continues convex 2-functional on  $X \times \langle b \rangle$ . Denote by

$$A_b(r) := \{x \in X | F(x, b) \leq r\}$$

Assume that  $r$  is a real number that  $A_b(r) \neq \emptyset$ . It is clear that  $A_b(r)$  is a b-closed convex subset of  $X$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$  be a 2-inner product space over the real field  $\mathbb{R}$  and let  $F : X \times \langle b \rangle \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a convex 2-functional on  $X \times \langle b \rangle$ . Let  $x_0 \in X \setminus (A_b(r) + \langle b \rangle)$  and  $g_0 \in A_b(r)$ . Then the following are equivalent.

- (1)  $g_0 = P_{A_b(r),b}(x_0)$ ;
- (2)  $F(x, b) \geq r + \frac{F(x_0, b) - r}{\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle$  for all  $x \in A_b(r)$  where  $r = F(g_0, b)$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Assume that  $g_0 = P_{A_b(r),b}(x_0)$ . Since  $x_0 \in X \setminus (A_b(r) + \langle b \rangle)$  we have  $F(x_0, b) > r$ . Let  $x \in A_b(r)$ , then  $F(x, b) \leq r$ . Set  $\alpha = F(x_0, b) - r$ ,  $\beta = r - F(x, b)$ . Then  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $\beta \geq 0$  and  $0 < \alpha + \beta = F(x_0, b) - F(x, b)$ . Consider the element  $u = \frac{\alpha x + \beta x_0}{\alpha + \beta}$ . By convexity of  $F$ , for  $y = y' = b$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$ ,  $\mu = 1$  and  $a = b = 1$  in definition of convex 2-functional we have that:

$$\begin{aligned} F(u, b) &= F\left(\frac{\alpha x + \beta x_0}{\alpha + \beta}, b\right) \leq \frac{\alpha F(x, b) + \beta F(x_0, b)}{\alpha + \beta} \\ &= \frac{(F(x_0, b) - r)F(x, b) + (r - F(x, b))F(x_0, b)}{F(x_0, b) - F(x, b)} = r \end{aligned}$$

That is  $u \in A_b(r)$ . As  $g_0 = P_{A_b(r),b}(x_0)$ , we have by theorem (2.1) that  $x_0 - g_0 \in (A_b(r) - g_0)_b^\circ$ , so,  $\langle g - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \leq 0$  for all  $g \in A_b(r)$ . In particular,  $\langle u - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \leq 0$ . That is

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\geq \langle u - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle = \left\langle \frac{\alpha x + \beta x_0}{\alpha + \beta} - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \right\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha + \beta} \langle \alpha x + \beta x_0 - (\alpha + \beta)g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \\ &= \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle + \frac{\beta}{\alpha + \beta} \langle x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \\ &= \frac{(F(x_0, b) - r)}{F(x_0, b) - F(x, b)} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle + \frac{(r - F(x, b))}{F(x_0, b) - F(x, b)} \|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$F(x, b) \geq \frac{(F(x_0, b) - r)}{\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle$$

for all  $x \in A_b(r)$ . Since above theorem is true for all  $x \in A_b(r)$  so for  $x = g_0$  we have that  $F(g_0, b) \geq r$ . But since  $g_0 \in A_b(r)$  we have  $F(g_0, b) \leq r$ . Thus  $F(g_0, b) = r$ .

(2)  $\implies$  (1): Assume that (2) holds. Then for all  $x \in A_b(r)$ ,

$$0 \geq F(x, b) - r \geq \frac{(F(x_0, b) - r)}{\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle$$

Since  $F(x_0, b) - r > 0$ , we have that

$$\langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle \leq 0$$

for all  $x \in A_b(r)$ . That is,  $x_0 - g_0 \in (A_b(r) - g_0)^\circ$ , whence,  $g_0 = P_{A_b(r),b}(x_0)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.5.** Let  $f : X \times \langle b \rangle \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous sublinear 2-functional on the 2-inner product space  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$ . Put  $K_b(f) := \{x \in X | f(x, b) \leq 0\}$ . Let  $x_0 \in X \setminus (K_b(f) + \langle b \rangle)$  and  $g_0 \in K_b(f)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(1)  $g_0 = P_{K_b(f),b}(x_0)$ ;

(2)  $f(x, b) \geq \frac{f(x_0, b)}{\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2} \langle x - g_0, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle$  for all  $x \in K_b(f)$ .

*Proof.* It is sufficient that in above theorem taking  $F = f$  and  $r = 0$ .  $\square$

It is clear that  $X = K_b(f) \cup K_b(-f)$  and  $\ker(f) = \{x \in X | f(x, b) = 0\} = K_b(f) \cap K_b(-f)$ . If in the above corollary replacing  $f$  with  $-f$ , then we have:

**Corollary 2.6.** Let  $f : X \times \langle b \rangle \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous sublinear 2-functional on the 2-inner product space  $(X, \langle \cdot, \cdot | \cdot \rangle)$ . Let  $x_0 \in X \setminus (\ker(f) + \langle b \rangle)$  and  $g_0 \in \ker(f)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(1)  $g_0 = P_{\ker(f),b}(x_0)$ ;

(2)  $f(x, b) = \frac{f(x_0, b)}{\|x_0 - g_0, b\|^2} \langle x, x_0 - g_0 | b \rangle$  for all  $x \in \ker(f)$ .

**Remark 2.7.** For another proof of above corollary see [15].

### 3. B-METRIC PROJECTION IN 2-INNER PRODUCT SPACES

In this section we investigate some properties of the b-metric projection onto convex cone and get some consequence, specially we show that every 2-inner product space is direct sum of any b-chebyshev subspace and its b-orthogonal complement.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $K$  be a convex  $b$ -chebyshev set and  $K \cap \langle b \rangle = \emptyset$ . Then*

(1)  $P_{K,b}$  is idempotent i.e.

$$P_{K,b}(P_{K,b}(x)) = P_{K,b}(x)$$

for every  $x \in X$ .

(2)  $P_{K,b}$  is firmly nonexpansive i.e.

$$\langle x - y, P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle \geq \|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

(3)  $P_{K,b}$  is monotone i.e.

$$\langle x - y, P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle \geq 0$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

(4)  $P_{K,b}$  is strictly nonexpansive i.e.

$$\|x - y, b\|^2 > \|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2 + \|x - P_{K,b}(x) - (y - P_{K,b}(y)), b\|^2$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

(5)  $P_{K,b}$  is nonexpansive i.e.

$$\|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\| \leq \|x - y, b\|$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

(6)  $P_{K,b}$  is uniformly continuous.

*Proof.* (1) It is clear.

(2) We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x - y, P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle &= \langle x - P_{K,b}(x), P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle P_{K,b}(y) - y, P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y) | b \rangle \end{aligned}$$

The first and third terms on the right are nonnegative by theorem (2.1), and the second term is  $\|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2$ . This verifies (2).

(3) It is immediate consequence of (2).

(4) Using (2) we obtain for each  $x, y \in X$  that:

$$\begin{aligned} \|x - y, b\|^2 &= \|(x - P_{K,b}(x)) + (P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y)) + (P_{K,b}(y) - y), b\|^2 \\ &= \|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2 + \|(x - P_{K,b}(x)) - (y - P_{K,b}(y)), b\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2\langle P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), x - P_{K,b}(x) - (y - P_{K,b}(y)) | b \rangle \\ &= \|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2 + \|(x - P_{K,b}(x)) - (y - P_{K,b}(y)), b\|^2 \\ &\quad + 2\langle P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), x - y | b \rangle - 2\|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2 \\ &\geq \|P_{K,b}(x) - P_{K,b}(y), b\|^2 + \|x - P_{K,b}(x) - (y - P_{K,b}(y)), b\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

This proves (4).

(5) It follows immediately from (4).

(6) It follows immediately from (5). □

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $C$  be a  $b$ -chebyshev convex cone in the 2-inner product space  $X$  and  $C \cap \langle b \rangle = \emptyset$ . Then  $C_b^\circ$  is a  $b$ -chebyshev convex cone and*

(1) For each  $x \in X$ ,

$$x = P_{C,b}(x) + P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) \text{ and } P_{C,b}(x) \perp_b P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x).$$

Moreover, this representation is unique in the sense that if  $x = y + z$  for some  $y \in C$  and  $z \in C_b^\circ$  with  $y \perp_b z$ , then  $y = P_{C,b}(x)$  and  $z = P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$ .

- (2)  $\|x, b\|^2 = \|P_{C,b}(x), b\|^2 + \|P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x), b\|^2$  for all  $x \in X \setminus \langle b \rangle$ .  
 (3)  $C_b^\circ = \{x \in X | P_{C,b}(x) = 0\}$  and  $C = \{x \in X | P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) = 0\} = \{x \in X | P_{C,b}(x) = x\}$ .  
 (4)  $\|P_{C,b}(x), b\| \leq \|x, b\|$  for all  $x \in X$ ; moreover,  $\|P_{C,b}(x), b\| = \|x, b\|$  if and only if  $x \in C$ .  
 (5)  $C_b^{\circ\circ} = C$ .  
 (6)  $P_{C,b}$  is positively homogeneous. i.e.

$$P_{C,b}(\lambda x) = \lambda P_{C,b}(x) \text{ for all } x \in X, \lambda \geq 0.$$

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x \in X$  and  $c_0 = x - P_{C,b}(x)$ . By theorem (2.3)  $c_0 \in C_b^\circ$  and  $c_0 \perp_b (x - c_0)$ . For every  $y \in C_b^\circ$ ,

$$\langle x - c_0, y | b \rangle = \langle P_{C,b}(x), y | b \rangle \leq 0.$$

Hence  $x - c_0 \in (C_b^\circ)^\circ$ . By theorem (2.3), we get that  $c_0 = P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$ . This proves that  $C_b^\circ$  is  $b$ -chebyshev convex cone,  $x = P_{C,b}(x) + P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$  and  $P_{C,b}(x) \perp_b P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$ . Now we verify the uniqueness of this representation. Let  $x = y + z$ , where  $y \in C, z \in C_b^\circ$  and  $y \perp_b z$ . For each  $c \in C$ ,

$$\langle x - y, c | b \rangle = \langle z, c | b \rangle \leq 0$$

and

$$\langle x - y, y | b \rangle = \langle z, y | b \rangle = 0.$$

By theorem (2.3)  $y = P_{C,b}(x)$ . Similarly  $z = P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$ .

(2) It is clear by (1) and Pythagorean theorem in 2-inner product spaces.

(3) By using (1) we have that:

$$x \in C_b^\circ \iff x = P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) \iff P_{C,b}(x) = 0,$$

and

$$x \in C \iff x = P_{C,b}(x) \iff P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) = 0.$$

(4) From (2), it is clear that  $\|P_{C,b}(x), b\| \leq \|x, b\|$  for all  $x \in X$ . Also from (2),  $\|P_{C,b}(x), b\| = \|x, b\|$  if and only if  $P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) = 0$ , which from (3) is equivalent to  $x \in C$ .

(5) By (3) we have:

$$C_b^{\circ\circ} = (C_b^\circ)^\circ = \{x \in X | P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) = 0\} = C.$$

(6) Let  $x \in X$  and  $\lambda \geq 0$ . Then  $x = P_{C,b}(x) + P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$  and  $\lambda x = \lambda P_{C,b}(x) + \lambda P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x)$ . Since both  $C$  and  $C_b^\circ$  are convex cones,  $\lambda P_{C,b}(x) \in C$  and  $\lambda P_{C_b^\circ,b}(x) \in C_b^\circ$ . By (1) and the uniqueness of representation for  $\lambda x$ , we see that  $P_{C,b}(\lambda x) = \lambda P_{C,b}(x)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $M$  be a  $b$ -chebyshev subspace of the 2-inner product space  $X$ . Then  $M_b^\perp$  is a  $b$ -chebyshev subspace and:

(1)  $x = P_{M,b}(x) + P_{M_b^\perp,b}(x)$ , for each  $x \in X$ . Moreover, this representation is unique in the sense that if  $x = y + z$  where  $y \in M$  and  $z \in M_b^\perp$ , then  $y = P_{M,b}(x)$  and  $z = P_{M_b^\perp,b}(x)$ .

(2)  $\|x, b\|^2 = \|P_{M,b}(x), b\|^2 + \|P_{M_b^\perp,b}(x), b\|^2$  for all  $x \in X \setminus \langle b \rangle$ .

(3)  $M_b^\perp = \{x \in X | P_{M,b}(x) = 0\}$  and  $M = \{x \in X | P_{M_b^\perp,b}(x) = 0\} = \{x \in X | P_{M,b}(x) = x\}$ .

(4)  $\|P_{M,b}(x), b\| \leq \|x, b\|$  for all  $x \in X$ ; moreover,  $\|P_{M,b}(x), b\| = \|x, b\|$  if and only if  $x \in M$ .

(5)  $M_b^{\perp\perp} = M$ .



**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $M$  be a  $b$ -chebyshev subspace of the 2-inner product space  $X$  and  $M \cap \langle b \rangle = \emptyset$ . Then:

(1)  $P_{M,b}$  is a bounded linear 2-functional and  $\|P_{M,b}\| = 1$  (in the case  $M = \{0\}$ , we have  $\|P_{M,b}\| = 0$ ).

(2)  $P_{M,b}$  is self-adjoint i.e.

$$\langle P_{M,b}(x), y|b \rangle = \langle x, P_{M,b}(y)|b \rangle \text{ for all } x, y \in X.$$

(3) For every  $x \in X$ ,

$$\langle P_{M,b}(x), x|b \rangle = \|P_{M,b}(x), b\|^2.$$

(4)  $P_{M,b}$  is nonnegative i.e.

$$\langle P_{M,b}(x), x|b \rangle \geq 0 \text{ for every } x \in X.$$

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x, y \in X$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ . By remark (2.4),  $x - P_{M,b}(x)$  and  $y - P_{M,b}(y)$  are in  $M_b^\perp$ . since  $M_b^\perp$  is subspace,

$$\alpha x + \beta y - (\alpha P_{M,b}(x) + \beta P_{M,b}(y)) = \alpha(x - P_{M,b}(x)) + \beta(y - P_{M,b}(y)) \in M_b^\perp.$$

Since  $\alpha P_{M,b}(x) + \beta P_{M,b}(y) \in M$ , remark (2.4) implies that  $\alpha P_{M,b}(x) + \beta P_{M,b}(y) = P_{M,b}(\alpha x + \beta y)$ . Thus  $P_{M,b}$  is linear. From corollary (3.3 [4]) we get  $\|P_{M,b}(x)\| \leq \|x, b\|$  for all  $x \in X$ . So  $\|P_{M,b}$  is bounded and  $\|P_{M,b}\| \leq 1$ . Since  $P_{M,b}y = y$  for all  $y \in M$  and  $\|y, b\| = \|P_{M,b}(y)\| \leq \|P_{M,b}\| \|y, b\|$ , implies that  $\|P_{M,b}\| \geq 1$  therefore  $\|P_{M,b}\| = 1$ .

(2) By remark (2.4), for each  $x, y \in X$  we have  $\langle P_{M,b}(x), y - P_{M,b}(y)|b \rangle = 0$ , and hence

$$\langle P_{M,b}(x), y|b \rangle = \langle P_{M,b}(x), P_{M,b}(y)|b \rangle. (*)$$

By replacing  $x$  and  $y$  in above relation we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x, P_{M,b}(y)|b \rangle &= \langle P_{M,b}(y), x|b \rangle \\ &= \langle P_{M,b}(y), P_{M,b}(x)|b \rangle \\ &= \langle P_{M,b}(x), P_{M,b}(y)|b \rangle \\ &= \langle P_{M,b}(x), y|b \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

(3) Tacking  $y = x$  in (\*).

(4) It is clear from (3). □

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