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## ON UNIFORMLY CONVEX AND UNIFORMLY 2-CONVEX 2-NORMED SPACES

In [6] the author investigated the generalizations of strictly convex and strictly 2-convex 2-normed spaces (defined in [3] and [4], respectively) without using the quotient spaces, or the bounded bilinear functionals techniques. In this paper we shall define a uniformly convex 2-normed space which is 2-dimensional analogue of the concept of a uniformly convex normed space defined in [1]. Consequently, as in the case of strictly 2-convex 2-normed space, it seems natural to define a uniformly 2-convex 2-normed space. The purpose of this paper is to present characterizations of these two spaces and to study relationships among other 2-normed spaces. Our main tools used here are basic properties of a 2-norm in a 2-normed space. As it is essential let us first repeat those definitions from [5].

Recall that, when  $X$  is a linear space of dimension greater than one and  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  a real function on  $X \times X$ , then  $X$  is called a 2-normed space with a 2-norm  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$ , if the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1°  $\|x, y\| = 0$  if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are linearly dependent,
- 2°  $\|x, y\| = \|y, x\|$ ,
- 3°  $\|ax, y\| = |a| \|x, y\|$  for every real  $a$ ,
- 4°  $\|x+y, z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|y, z\|$ .

We shall frequently use one of the basic properties that  $\|ax+by, y\| = |a| \|x, y\|$  for any real numbers  $a$  and  $b$  ([5] p.5).

**Definition 1.** A 2-normed space  $X$  is said to be uniformly convex, if to each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$ ,  $z \notin V(x, y)$  and  $\|x-y, z\| \geq \varepsilon$ , then  $\frac{1}{2} \|x+y, z\| \leq$

$\leq 1-\delta(\varepsilon)$ , where  $V(x,y)$  denotes the subspace of  $X$  generated by  $x$  and  $y$ .

Definition 1 implies that  $\varepsilon$  must be in the interval  $(0,2]$ .

As an illustration, consider a 2-pre-Hilbert space, i.e., 2-inner product space, which is characterized by the parallelogram law (Theorem 4 and 5 [2]), i.e.,

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

If  $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$ ,  $z \notin V(x, y)$  and  $\|x-y, z\| \geq \varepsilon$ , then

$$\frac{1}{4}\|x+y, z\|^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{4}\|x-y, z\|^2 \leq 1 - \frac{1}{4}\varepsilon^2.$$

Thus, by letting  $\delta(\varepsilon) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{4 - \varepsilon^2}$ , we see that every 2-pre-Hilbert space is uniformly convex.

**Theorem 1.** For a 2-normed space  $X$  the following four statements are equivalent:

(1)  $X$  is uniformly convex;

(2) to each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that, if

$\|x, z\| = \|y, z\|$ ,  $z \notin V(x, y)$  and  $\|x-y, z\| \geq \varepsilon\|x, z\|$ , then

$$\frac{1}{2}\|x+y, z\| \leq (1-\delta(\varepsilon))\|x, z\|;$$

(3) to each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta'(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that,

if  $\|x-ay, z\| \geq \varepsilon\|x, z\|$ , where  $a = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|y, z\|}$ , and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , then

$$\frac{1}{2}\|x+ay, z\| \leq (1-\delta'(\varepsilon))\|x, z\|;$$

(4) to each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta'(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that,

if  $\|x-ay, z\| \geq \varepsilon\|x, z\|$ , with  $a$  from (3) and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , then

$$\|x+y, z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - \delta'(\varepsilon)\|x, z\| \quad \text{or}$$

$$\|x+y, z\| \leq 3\|x, z\| - \|y, z\| - \delta'(\varepsilon)\|x, z\|.$$

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = c$ ,  $c \neq 0$  and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , then  $\|x, \frac{z}{c}\| = \|y, \frac{z}{c}\| = 1$  and  $\|x-y, \frac{z}{c}\| \geq \varepsilon$  imply that  $\frac{1}{2}\|x+y, \frac{z}{c}\| \leq 1 - \delta(\varepsilon)$ , by (1), i.e.,  $\frac{1}{2}\|x+y, z\| \leq (1-\delta(\varepsilon))\|x, z\|$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3):  $\|x, z\| = \|ay, z\|$  obviously. Replace  $y$  by  $ay$  in (2) to get (3).

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Since  $\frac{1}{2}\|x+ay, z\| \leq (1-\delta'(\varepsilon))\|x, z\|$ , by (3), and if

$\|y, z\| \geq \|x, z\|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+y, z\| &= \|x+ay+y(1-a), z\| \leq \|x+ay, z\| + (1-a)\|y, z\| \leq \\ &\leq 2(1-\delta'(\varepsilon))\|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - \|x, z\| = \|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - 2\delta'(\varepsilon)\|x, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta(\varepsilon) = 2\delta'(\varepsilon)$ , so that the first inequality follows. In the case of  $\|y, z\| \leq \|x, z\|$  we have

$$\|x+y, z\| \leq \|x+ay, z\| + (a-1)\|y, z\| \leq 3\|x, z\| - \|y, z\| - 2\delta'(\varepsilon)\|x, z\|.$$

(4)  $\Rightarrow$  (1): If  $\|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$ , then  $\|x+y, z\| \leq 2 - \delta'(\varepsilon)$ , by (4).

We may let  $\delta(\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{2}\delta'(\varepsilon)$ .

**Corollary 1.** Let  $X$  be an uniformly convex 2-normed space.

If  $x_i \in X$ ,  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$  and  $\|x_k, z\| \leq \|y - \sum_{j=1}^k x_j, z\|$  for  $k=1, \dots, n-1$ , then

$$\|y, z\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i, z\| - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \delta(\varepsilon_k) \|x_k, z\|$$

for  $z \in X$  with  $z \notin V(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , where

$$\varepsilon_k = \left\| \frac{x_k}{\|x_k, z\|} - \frac{y - \sum_{j=1}^k x_j}{\|y - \sum_{j=1}^k x_j, z\|}, z \right\|, \quad k=1, 2, \dots, n-1,$$

and  $\delta$  is the function from Definition 1 with  $\delta(0)=0$ .

**Proof.** Use the first inequality of (4) in Theorem 1 and induction.

**Corollary 2.** Let  $X$  be a uniformly convex 2-normed space.

If  $x_i \in X$ ,  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ , and  $y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ , then

$$\|y, z\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - 2\delta(\varepsilon_i)) \|x_i, z\| \quad \text{for } z \in X \text{ with } z \notin V(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$

where  $\varepsilon_i = \left\| \frac{x_i}{\|x_i, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|$  and  $\delta$  is the function from

Definition 1 with  $\delta(0)=0$ .

**Proof.** Clearly,

$$\left\| \frac{x_i}{\|x_i, z\|}, z \right\| = \left\| \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\| = 1, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, n.$$

By the definition there exists  $\delta(\epsilon_i) > 0$  such that

$$\left\| \frac{x_i}{\|x_i, z\|} + \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\| \leq 2(1 - \delta(\epsilon_i)),$$

or  $\|x_i\|y, z\| + y\|x_i, z\|, z\| \leq 2(1 - \delta(\epsilon_i))\|x_i, z\|\|y, z\|$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| y, z\|y + y \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i, z\|, z \right\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i\|y, z\| + y\|x_i, z\|), z \right\| \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|y, z\| + y\|x_i, z\|, z\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n 2(1 - \delta(\epsilon_i))\|x_i, z\|\|y, z\|, \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\|y, z\|(\|y, z\| + \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i, z\|) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n 2(1 - \delta(\epsilon_i))\|x_i, z\|\|y, z\|.$$

Thus,

$$\|y, z\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - 2\delta(\epsilon_i))\|x_i, z\|.$$

**Definition 2.** A 2-normed space is said to be uniformly 2-convex, if to each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$  and  $\|x+y, z\| \geq \epsilon$ , then

$$\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| \leq 1 - \delta(\epsilon).$$

Definition 2 implies that  $\epsilon$  must be in the interval  $(0, 2]$ .

**Theorem 2.** For a 2-normed space  $X$  the following six statements are equivalent:

(1)  $X$  is uniformly 2-convex.

(2) To each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| \neq 0$  and  $\|x+y, z\| \geq \epsilon\|x, z\|$ , then

$$\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| \leq (1 - \delta(\epsilon))\|x, z\|.$$

(3) To each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| \neq 0$  and  $\|x+ay, z\| \geq \epsilon\|x, z\|$ , where  $a = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|y, z\|}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, ay+z\| \leq (1-\delta(\epsilon))\|x, z\|.$$

(4) To each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|y, z\|\|x, z\| \neq 0$ ,  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\|$  and  $\|x+ay, z\| \geq \epsilon\|x, z\|$ , where  $a = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|y, z\|}$ , then

$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq \|x, z\| + 2\|y, z\| - \delta(\epsilon)\|x, z\|,$$

or 
$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq 5\|x, z\| - 2\|y, z\| - \delta(\epsilon)\|x, z\|.$$

(5) To each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\|\|y, z\|\|z, x\| \neq 0$  and  $\|bx+cy, z\| \geq \epsilon\|bx, z\|$ , where  $b = \frac{\|y, z\|}{\|x, y\|}$  and  $c = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|x, y\|}$ , then  $\frac{1}{3}\|bx+z, cy+z\| \leq (1-\delta(\epsilon))\|bx, z\|$ .

(6) To each  $\epsilon > 0$  there corresponds a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\|\|y, z\|\|z, x\| \neq 0$  and  $\|bx+cy, z\| \geq \epsilon\|bx, z\|$ , where  $b = \frac{\|y, z\|}{\|x, y\|}$  and  $c = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|x, y\|}$ , then

$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq \|x, y\| + \|y, z\| + \|z, x\| - \delta(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|,$$

or 
$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq \|x, y\|(8bc+1) - 3(\|y, z\| + \|x, z\|) - \delta(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|,$$

or 
$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq \|x, y\|(2bc-1) + 3\|x, z\| - \|y, z\| - \delta(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|,$$

or 
$$\|x+z, y+z\| \leq \|x, y\|(2bc-1) + 3\|y, z\| - \|x, z\| - \delta(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|.$$

**Proof.** (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Let  $\|x, z\| = d^2$  for some  $d \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{\|x, y\|}{d, d} = \frac{\|y, z\|}{d, d} = \frac{\|z, x\|}{d, d} = 1$  and  $\frac{x}{d} + \frac{y}{d}, \frac{z}{d} \geq \epsilon$ , by (2). Hence,  $\frac{1}{3}\frac{x}{d} + \frac{z}{d}, \frac{y}{d} + \frac{z}{d} \leq 1 - \delta(\epsilon)$ , by (1), i.e.,  $\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| \leq (1-\delta(\epsilon))\|x, z\|$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3):  $\|x, ay\| = \|ay, z\| = \|x, z\| \neq 0$  obviously. Replace  $y$  by  $ay$  in (2) to get (3).

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Assume that  $\|y, z\| \geq \|x, z\|$ , then by (3)

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+z, y+z\| &= \|x+z, ay+z+y(1-a)\| \leq \|x+z, ay+z\| + \|x+z, y\|(1-a) \leq \\ &\leq 3(1-\delta'(\epsilon))\|x, z\| + 2(1-a)\|y, z\| = \|x, z\| + 2\|y, z\| - 3\delta'(\epsilon)\|x, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta(\epsilon) = 3\delta'(\epsilon)$ , so that the first inequality follows. If  $\|y, z\| \leq \|x, z\|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+z, y+z\| &\leq 3(1-\delta'(\epsilon))\|x, z\| + 2(a-1)\|y, z\| = \\ &= 5\|x, z\| - 2\|y, z\| - 3\delta'(\epsilon)\|x, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (1): If  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$ , then  $\|x+z, y+z\| \leq 3 - \delta'(\epsilon)$ ,

by (4). We may let  $\delta(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{3}\delta'(\epsilon)$ .

(3) $\Rightarrow$ (5): Since  $\|bx, y\| = \|y, z\| \neq 0$  and  $\|bx + cy, z\| \geq \epsilon \|bx, z\|$ , where  $c = \frac{\|x, z\|}{\|x, y\|} = \frac{\|bx, z\|}{\|y, z\|}$ . Hence,  $\frac{1}{3}\|bx + z, cy + z\| \leq (1 - \delta(\epsilon))\|bx, z\|$ , by (3).

(5) $\Rightarrow$ (6): We must consider the following four cases.

Case 1. If  $\|x, y\| \geq \|x, z\|$  and  $\|x, y\| \geq \|y, z\|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + z, y + z\| &= \|bx + z - x(b-1), cy + z + y(1-c)\| \leq \\ &\leq \|bx + z, cy + z\| + \|bx + z, y\|(1-c) + \|x, cy + z\|(1-b) + (1-b)(1-c)\|x, y\| \leq \\ &\leq 3(1 - \delta'(\epsilon))\|bx, z\| + 2(1-c)\|y, z\| + 2(1-b)\|x, z\| + \|x, y\| - \|y, z\| - \\ &\quad - \|x, z\| + \|bx, z\| = \|x, y\| + \|y, z\| + \|z, x\| - 3\delta'(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta(\epsilon) = 3\delta'(\epsilon)$ , so that the first inequality follows.

Case 2. If  $\|x, y\| \leq \|x, z\|$  and  $\|x, y\| \leq \|y, z\|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + z, y + z\| &\leq 3(1 - \delta'(\epsilon))\|bx, z\| + 2(c-1)\|y, z\| + 2(b-1)\|x, z\| + \|x, y\| - \\ &- \|y, z\| - \|x, z\| + \|bx, z\| = \|x, y\|(8bc+1) - 3(\|y, z\| + \|x, z\|) - 3\delta'(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

Case 3. If  $\|x, z\| \geq \|x, y\| \geq \|y, z\|$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + z, y + z\| &\leq 3(1 - \delta'(\epsilon))\|bx, z\| + 2(c-1)\|y, z\| + 2(1-b)\|x, z\| - \|x, y\| + \\ &+ \|y, z\| + \|x, z\| - \|bx, z\| = \|x, y\|(2bc-1) + 3\|x, z\| - \|y, z\| - 3\delta'(\epsilon)\|bx, z\|. \end{aligned}$$

Case 4. If  $\|y, z\| \geq \|x, y\| \geq \|x, z\|$ , then we should obtain the result directly by interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  in Case 3. Of course,  $b$  and  $c$  are interchanged, too.

(6) $\Rightarrow$ (1): If  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$ , then  $b=c=1$  in (6). Thus,  $\|x + z, y + z\| \leq 3 - \delta'(\epsilon)$ , by (6). Let  $\delta(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{3}\delta'(\epsilon)$ . The proof is now completed.

Recall that a 2-normed space is said to be strictly convex, if  $\frac{1}{2}\|x+y, z\| = \|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$  and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , imply  $x=y$  [3].

**Theorem 3.** Every uniformly convex 2-normed space is strictly convex.

**Proof.** Let  $\frac{1}{2}\|x+y, z\| = \|x, z\| = \|y, z\| = 1$  and  $z \notin V(x, y)$ . If  $\epsilon = \|x-y, z\| > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that  $2 = \|x+y, z\| \leq 2 - 2\delta(\epsilon)$ , as the space is uniformly convex. This is impossible unless  $\delta(\epsilon) = 0$ . It follows that  $\epsilon = 0$ . Consequently  $x=y$ , since  $z \notin V(x, y)$ .

We include here an alternative proof of the theorem. From

Corollary 1 we see that, if  $x, y \in X$ , then

$$\|x+y, z\| \leq \|x, z\| + \|y, z\| - \delta(\varepsilon) \|x, z\|$$

for  $z \in X$  with  $z \notin V(x, y)$ , where  $\varepsilon = \left\| \frac{x}{\|x, z\|} - \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}, z \right\|$ . If

$\|x+y, z\| = \|x, z\| + \|y, z\|$ , then  $\delta(\varepsilon) = 0$ , and so  $\varepsilon = 0$ . Hence,  $\frac{x}{\|x, z\|} = \frac{y}{\|y, z\|}$ . By Theorem 1 in [3] (or Theorem 1, (4) in [6]),  $X$  is strictly convex.

Recall that a 2-normed space is said to be strictly 2-convex, if conditions  $\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| = \|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$  imply that  $z = x+y$  [4]. It is known that a strictly convex 2-normed space is strictly 2-convex, but not conversely (cf. [4] Example 2).

**Theorem 4.** Every uniformly 2-convex 2-normed space is strictly 2-convex.

**Proof.** Let  $\frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| = \|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$ , also let  $\|x+y, z\| = \varepsilon$ . Then, there exists a  $\delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that  $3 = \|x+z, y+z\| \leq 3 - 3\delta(\varepsilon)$ . This is impossible unless  $\delta(\varepsilon) = 0$ . It follows that  $\varepsilon = 0$ , i.e.,  $z = a(x+y)$  for some real  $a$  and so  $1 = \|x, z\| = \|x, a(x+y)\| = |a| \|x, y\| = |a|$ , that  $a = -1$  leads to a contradiction, as  $1 = \frac{1}{3}\|x+z, y+z\| = \frac{1}{3}\|-y, -x\| = \frac{1}{3}$ , and that  $a = 1$  implies  $z = x+y$ .

We mention that a different proof of the theorem is possible by using (6) in Theorem 2 and Theorem 6 in [2] (or Theorem 2, (6) in [6]). The arguments are similar to that of the alternative proof of Theorem 3.

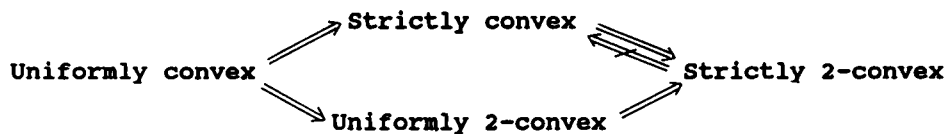
**Theorem 5.** Every uniformly convex 2-normed space is uniformly 2-convex.

**Proof.** To each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta'(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that, if  $\|x, y\| = \|y, z\| = \|z, x\| = 1$ ,  $z \notin V(x, y)$  and  $\|x+y, z\| \geq \varepsilon$ , then  $\|x-y, z\| \leq 2 - 2\delta'(\varepsilon)$ , since the space is uniformly convex. But

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+z, y+z\| &= \|y+z+(x-y), y+z\| = \|x-y, y+z\| \leq \\ &\leq \|x-y, y\| + \|x-y, z\| = \|x, y\| + \|x-y, z\| \leq 1 + 2 - 2\delta'(\varepsilon) = 3 - 2\delta'(\varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

The proof is finished, if we let  $\delta(\varepsilon) = \frac{2}{3}\delta'(\varepsilon)$ .

In conclusion we remark that the following implications hold for a 2-normed space:



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