

## Approximation of continuous linear functionals in real normed spaces

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**RIASSUNTO** - *Vengono dati alcuni teoremi di approssimazione per i funzionali lineari continui su spazi reali normati in termini di derivate della norma.*

**ABSTRACT** - *Some approximation theorems for the continuous linear functionals on real normed spaces in terms of norm derivatives are given*

**KEY WORDS** - *Continuous linear functionals - Norm derivatives - Reflexivity - James' theorem - Bishop-Phelps' theorem.*

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### 1 - Introduction

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a real normed space and consider the norm derivatives (see [2] or [5]):

$$(x, y)_{i(s)} := \lim_{t \rightarrow 0-(+)} (\|y + tx\|^2 - \|y\|^2)/2t \quad \text{for all } x, y \text{ in } X.$$

For the sake of completeness we list some usual properties of these mappings that will be used in the sequel [2]:

- (i)  $(x, x)_p = \|x\|^2$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ ;
- (ii)  $(-x, y)_s = (x, -y)_s = -(x, y)_i$  if  $x, y$  are in  $X$ ;

- (iii)  $(\alpha x, \beta y)_p = \alpha\beta(x, y)_p$  for all  $x, y$  in  $X$  and  $\alpha\beta \geq 0$ ;
- (iv)  $(\alpha x + y, x)_p = \alpha(x, x)_p + (y, x)_p$  if  $x, y$  belong to  $X$  and  $\alpha$  is in  $\mathbb{R}$ ;
- (v) the element  $x$  in  $X$  is Birkhoff orthogonal over  $y$  in  $X$ , i.e.,  $\|x + ty\| \geq \|x\|$  for all  $t$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  iff  $(y, x)_i \leq 0 \leq (y, x)_s$ ;
- (vi)  $(x + y, z)_p \leq \|x\| \|z\| + (y, z)_p$  for all  $x, y, z$  in  $X$ ;
- (vii) the space  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  is smooth iff  $(y, x)_i = (y, x)_s$  for all  $x, y$  in  $X$  or iff  $(\cdot, \cdot)_p$  is linear in the first variable;

where  $p = s$  or  $p = i$ .

For other properties of  $(\cdot, \cdot)_p$  in connection to best approximation element or continuous linear functionals see [2] where further references are given.

## 2 - A characterization of reflexivity

To recall some well-known theorems of reflexivity due to R.C. James we need the following concept: the nonzero element  $u \in X$  is a maximal element for the functional  $f \in X^*$  if  $f(u) = \|f\| \|u\|$  [6, p. 35].

**THEOREM 1.** [3]. *Let  $X$  be a Banach space. Then  $X$  is reflexive iff every nonzero continuous linear functional on  $E$  has at least one maximal element in  $X$ .*

Another famous result of R.C. James is the following.

**THEOREM 2.** [4]. *Let  $X$  be a Banach space.  $X$  is reflexive iff for every closed and homogeneous hyperplane  $H$  in  $X$  (i.e.,  $H$  contains the null element) there exists a point  $u \in X \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $u \perp_B H$ .*

The following characterization of reflexivity in terms of norm derivatives also holds.

**THEOREM 3.** *Let  $X$  be a Banach space.  $X$  is reflexive if and only if for every continuous linear functional  $f$  on  $X$  there exists an element  $u$  in  $X$  such that the next evaluation holds:*

$$(1) \quad (x, u)_i \leq f(x) \leq (x, u)_s \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X$$

and  $\|f\| = \|u\|$ .

PROOF. Let  $H$  be a closed and homogeneous hyperplane in  $X$  and  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous linear functional on  $X$  such that  $H = \text{Ker}(f)$ . Then from (1) follows that  $u \perp_B H$  and by Theorem 2 we conclude that  $X$  is reflexive.

Now, assume that  $X$  is reflexive and let  $f$  be a nonzero continuous linear functional on it. Since  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is a closed and homogeneous hyperplane in  $X$  then there exists, by Theorem 2, a nonzero element  $w_0$  in  $X$  so that:

$$(2) \quad (x, w_0)_i \leq 0 \leq (x, w_0)_s \quad \text{for all } x \in \text{Ker}(f).$$

Because  $f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x \in \text{Ker}(f)$  for all  $x$  in  $X$ , from (2) we derive that:

$$(3) \quad (f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x, w_0)_i \leq 0 \leq (f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x, w_0)_s,$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ .

On the other hand, by the use of norm derivatives properties, we have

$$(f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x, w_0)_p = f(x)\|w_0\|^2 - (x, f(w_0)w_0)_q, \quad x \in X$$

where  $p \neq q$ ,  $p, q \in \{i, s\}$ .

We conclude, by (3), that

$$(x, f(w_0)w_0/\|w_0\|^2)_i \leq f(x) \leq (x, f(w_0)w_0/\|w_0\|^2)_s, \quad x \in X$$

from where results

$$(x, u)_i \leq f(x) \leq (x, u)_s \quad \text{for all } x \in X,$$

where  $u := f(w_0)w_0/\|w_0\|^2$ .

To prove the fact that  $\|f\| = \|u\|$ , we observe that:

$$-\|x\| \|u\| \leq -(x, -u)_s = (x, u)_i \leq f(x) \leq (x, u)_s \leq \|x\| \|u\|, \quad x \in X$$

and

$$\|f\| \geq f(u)/\|u\| \geq (u, u)_i/\|u\| = \|u\|.$$

The theorem is thus proven.

REMARK 1. If  $u$  is an "interpolation" element satisfying the relation (1), then  $u$  is a maximal element for the functional  $f$ .

Indeed, we have  $f(u) = \|u\|^2$  and since  $\|u\| = \|f\|$  we obtain  $f(u) = \|f\| \|u\|$ .

REMARK 2. The above theorem is a natural generalization of Riesz's representation theorem which works in Hilbert spaces via a result of R.A. TAPIA [7] for smooth spaces which is embodied in the following corollary.

COROLLARY. *Let  $X$  be a real Banach space. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is reflexive and smooth;
- (ii) for every continuous linear functional  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  there exists an element  $u$  in  $X$  such that:

$$f(x) = (x, u)_s \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

and  $\|f\| = \|u\|$ .

Further on, we shall point out other approximations of continuous linear functionals on real normed spaces in terms of norm derivatives.

### 3 – Approximation of continuous linear functionals

Let  $f \in X^*$  with  $\|f\| = 1$  and let  $k \geq 0$ . Define [1, p. 1]:

$$K(f, k) := \{x \in X \mid \|x\| \leq kf(x)\};$$

$K(f, k)$  is a closed convex cone. If  $k > 1$  then the interior of  $K(f, k)$  is nonempty.

THEOREM 4. *Let  $X$  be a real normed space,  $\varepsilon \in (0, 1)$ ,  $f \in X^*$  with  $\|f\| = 1$  and  $u \in X$ ,  $\|u\| = 1$  such that the norm derivative  $(\cdot, u)_p$  ( $p = s$  or  $p = i$ ) is linear on  $X$ . If  $k > 1 + 2/\varepsilon$  and  $(x, u)_p \geq 0$  on  $K(f, k)$  then we have the estimation:*

$$|f(x) - (x, u)_p| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X.$$

PROOF. The proof follows from Lemma 3, [1, p. 3] for the continuous linear functional  $g: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(x) := (x, u)_p$  and we shall omit the details.

The following approximation theorem for the continuous linear functionals on a general normed linear space also holds.

**THEOREM 5.** *Let  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous linear functional such that for all  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  there exists a nonzero element  $x_{f,\delta}$  in  $X$  with the property:*

$$(A) \quad (x, x_{f,\delta})_i \leq \delta \|x\| \|x_{f,\delta}\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } \text{Ker}(f).$$

Then for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a nonzero element  $u_{f,\varepsilon}$  in  $X$  so that the following estimation holds:

$$(4) \quad -\varepsilon \|x\| + (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_i \leq f(x) \leq (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_s + \varepsilon \|x\|$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ .

PROOF. Since  $f$  is nonzero, it follows that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is closed in  $X$  and  $\text{Ker}(f) \neq X$ .

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and put  $\delta(\varepsilon) := \varepsilon/(2\|f\|)$ . If  $\delta(\varepsilon) \geq 1$ , then there exists an element  $x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}$  in  $X \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  such that

$$(5) \quad (y, x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)})_i \leq \delta(\varepsilon) \|y\| \|x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } \text{Ker}(f).$$

If  $0 < \delta(\varepsilon) < 1$  and since the functional  $f$  has the (A)-property, then there exists an element  $x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}$  in  $X \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  (the fact that  $x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}$  is not in  $\text{Ker}(f)$  follows from (A)) such that (5) is valid too.

Put in all cases,  $z_{f,\varepsilon} := x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}/\|x_{f,\delta(\varepsilon)}\|$ . Then for all  $x$  in  $X$  we have  $y := f(x)z_{f,\varepsilon} - f(z_{f,\varepsilon})x$  belongs to  $\text{Ker}(f)$  which implies, by (5), that:

$$\begin{aligned} (f(x)z_{f,\varepsilon} - f(z_{f,\varepsilon})x, z_{f,\varepsilon})_i &\leq \delta(\varepsilon) \|f(x)z_{f,\varepsilon} - f(z_{f,\varepsilon})x\| \leq \\ &\leq 2\delta(\varepsilon) \|f\| \|x\| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$ .

On the other hand, as above, we have:

$$\left( f(x)z_{f,\varepsilon} - f(z_{f,\varepsilon})x, z_{f,\varepsilon} \right)_i = f(x) - \left( x, f(z_{f,\varepsilon})z_{f,\varepsilon} \right)_s$$

for all  $x$  in  $X$  and denoting  $u_{f,\varepsilon} := f(z_{f,\varepsilon}) \neq 0$ , we obtain:

$$f(x) \leq (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_s + \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X.$$

Now, if we replace  $x$  by  $-x$  in the above estimation, we derive

$$f(x) \geq (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_i - \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X$$

and the proof is finished.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $X$  be a smooth normed space over the real number field and denote  $[x, y] = (x, y)_i = (x, y)_s$ ,  $x, y \in X$ . If  $f \in X^*$  is a nonzero functional such that for all  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  there exists an element  $x_{f,\delta} \in X \setminus \{0\}$  with the property*

$$(A') \quad \left| [x, x_{f,\delta}] \right| \leq \delta \|x\| \|x_{f,\delta}\| \quad \text{for all } x \in \text{Ker}(f),$$

then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is an element  $u_{f,\varepsilon} \in X \setminus \{0\}$  so that

$$(4') \quad \left| f(x) - [x, u_{f,\varepsilon}] \right| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \in X$$

The proof is obvious from the above theorem and to the fact that  $[ \cdot, \cdot ]$  is linear in the first variable.

To give the main result of our paper, we need the famous theorem of Bishop-Phelps which says [1, p. 3]:

**THEOREM 6.** *Let  $C$  be a closed bounded convex set in the Banach space  $X$ , then the collection of functionals that achieve their maximum on  $C$  is dense in  $X^*$ .*

Now, we can state and prove our main result.

**THEOREM 7.** *Let  $X$  be a real Banach space. Then for every continuous linear functional  $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an element  $u_{f,\varepsilon}$  in  $X$  such that the estimation (4) holds.*

**PROOF.** By the use of Bishop-Phelps' theorem for  $C = \overline{B}(0, 1)$  it follows that the collection of functionals which achieve their norm on unit closed ball is dense in  $X^*$ , i.e., for every  $f \in X^*$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a continuous linear functional  $f_\varepsilon$  on  $X$  which achieve their norm on  $\overline{B}(0, 1)$  and such that

$$(6) \quad |f(x) - f_\varepsilon(x)| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X.$$

Suppose  $f_\varepsilon \neq 0$  and  $f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon}) = \|f_\varepsilon\|$  with  $v_{f,\varepsilon} \in \overline{B}(0, 1)$ . Then

$$0 < \|v_{f,\varepsilon}\| \leq 1 = f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon})/\|f_\varepsilon\| = f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon} + \lambda y)/\|f_\varepsilon\| \leq \|v_{f,\varepsilon} + \lambda y\|$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $y \in \text{Ker}(f_\varepsilon)$ , i.e.,  $v_{f,\varepsilon} \perp_B \text{Ker}(f_\varepsilon)$ .

By a similar argument as in Theorem 3 we get:

$$\left( x, f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon})v_{f,\varepsilon}/\|v_{f,\varepsilon}\|^2 \right)_i \leq f_\varepsilon(x) \leq \left( x, f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon})v_{f,\varepsilon}/\|v_{f,\varepsilon}\|^2 \right)_s$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Denoting  $u_{f,\varepsilon} := f_\varepsilon(v_{f,\varepsilon})v_{f,\varepsilon}/\|v_{f,\varepsilon}\|^2$  we obtain

$$(7) \quad (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_i \leq f_\varepsilon(x) \leq (x, u_{f,\varepsilon})_s \quad \text{for all } x \in X.$$

If  $f_\varepsilon = 0$  then (4) holds with  $u_{f,\varepsilon} = 0$ .

Now, we observe that the relations (6) and (7) give the desired evaluation and the proof is finished.

**COROLLARY.** *Let  $X$  be a smooth Banach space. Then for every  $f \in X^*$  and for any  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists an element  $u_{f,\varepsilon}$  in  $X$  such that:*

$$\left| f(x) - [x, u_{f,\varepsilon}] \right| \leq \varepsilon \|x\| \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } X,$$

where  $[ \ , \ ]$  is as above.

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