

EUCLIDEAN AND NON-EUCLIDEAN NORMS IN A PLANE

BY
D. A. SENECHALLE

Introduction. Let L denote a 2-dimensional linear space. If f is any norm on L , $K(f)$ denotes the smallest number $r > 0$ such that for some Euclidean norm g dominated by f , the norm $r \cdot g$ dominates f . Note that $K(f) = 1$ or $K(f) > 1$ according as f is Euclidean or not. The following are the main results in this paper: (1) that

$$K(f) = \sup \{[(f^2(ax + y/a) + f^2(bx - y/b))/(a^2 + 1/a^2 + b^2 + 1/b^2)]^{1/2}; \\ a, b > 0, f(x) = f(y) = 1\};$$

(2) a theorem which shows how to construct all norms f with $K(f)$ fixed; (3) some improvements on known conditions for inner product spaces with the change that they are required to hold only locally or in the limit.

Notation and preliminaries. For any linearly independent x and y in L , $C(x, y)$ denotes the set $\{ax + by: a, b \geq 0\}$ and $W(x, y)$ denotes the set $\{ax + by: ab \geq 0\}$. We call a quadruple of points (x, y, x', y') interlocking if the points are pairwise linearly independent, $C(y', y) \supset C(x, y) \supset C(x', y)$, and the unit sphere of some norm contains them. If f is any functional on L define $S(f)$ and $U(f)$ to be $f^{-1}(1)$ and $f^{-1}([0, 1])$ respectively. Define a subnorm to be any restriction f of a norm on L such that $\text{dom } f$ is closed, $R \cdot \text{dom } f = \text{dom } f$, and there exists an interlocking quadruple of points of $S(f)$. Call a functional f on L a Euclidean pre-norm if either f is a Euclidean norm or $f = |g|$ for some $g \neq 0$ in L^* . If f is any subnorm, $E_f(E^f)$ denotes the set of all Euclidean pre-norms dominating (dominated by) f over $\text{dom } f$, and if g is in E_f of E^f , $d(f, g)$ denotes

$$\sup \{g(x), 1/g(x) : x \in S(f)\}.$$

If N is E_f or E^f , $d(f, N)$ denotes $\inf_{g \in N} d(f, g)$. Note that the definition of $K(f)$ can be extended to subnorms by an obvious modification.

If $w = (x, y, x', y')$ is any interlocking quadruple, define

$$k(w) = [(ab + cd)/(cd(a^2 + b^2) + ab(c^2 + d^2))]^{1/2},$$

where $x' = ax + by$ and $y' = cx - dy$. Thus $(a, b, c, d > 0)$. We list without proof the following four properties of any interlocking quadruple $w = (x, y, x', y')$:

(P₁) There exists only one ordered pair (r, C) such that $r > 0$, $C = S(f)$ for some Euclidean pre-norm f , C contains x' and y' , and $r \cdot C$ contains x and y .

(P₂) $r = k(w)$.

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