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On best approximation in the sense of Lumer  
and applications (\*\*)

1 - Introduction

Let  $E$  be a linear space over real or complex number field  $K$ . A mapping  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  of  $E \times E$  into  $K$  is a semi-inner product in the sense of Lumer or  $L$ -semi-inner product on  $E$ , for short, if the following conditions (P1)-(P4) are satisfied (see for example [6] and [3]):

- (P1)  $[x, x] \geq 0$  for all  $x \in E$  and  $[x, x] = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ ;
- (P2)  $[\lambda x, y] = \lambda[x, y]$  and  $[x, \lambda y] = \bar{\lambda}[x, y]$  for all  $\lambda \in K$  and  $x, y \in E$ ;
- (P3)  $[x + y, z] = [x, z] + [y, z]$  for all  $x, y, z \in E$ ;
- (P4)  $|[x, y]|^2 \leq [x, x][y, y]$  for all  $x, y \in E$ .

It is easy to see that the mapping  $E \ni x \mapsto [x, x]^{1/2} \in \mathbb{R}_+$  is a norm on  $E$  and if  $E$  is a normed space, then every  $L$ -semi-inner product on  $E$  which generates its norm is of the form  $[x, y] = \langle \tilde{J}(y), x \rangle$  for all  $x, y \in E$ , where  $\tilde{J}$  is a section of normalized dual mapping [9]. It is also known that a normed linear space  $E$  is smooth iff there exists a unique  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm or if and only if there exists a continuous  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates

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the norm, i.e., a  $L$ -semi-inner product satisfying condition (see [3])

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \operatorname{Re}[y, x + ty] = \operatorname{Re}[y, x] \quad \text{for all } x, y \in E.$$

Let two elements in  $E$  and  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  a  $L$ -semi-inner product on  $E$  which generates the norm. The element  $x$  is said to be *Lumer-orthogonal over  $y$*  or  *$L$ -orthogonal over  $y$* , for short, if  $[y, x] = 0$ . We denote this fact by  $x \perp_L y$  [2]<sub>1,2</sub>. For some properties of  $L$ -semi-inner products,  $L$ -orthogonality, representation of continuous linear functionals in terms of semi-inner product we send to [2]<sub>1,2</sub>, [3], [7], [9] and [11].

## 2 - Characterizations of best approximation element in the sense of Lumer

Now, we recall some concepts and results in best approximation theory that will be used in the sequel.

Let  $E$  be a normed space and  $x, y$  two elements in  $E$ . The vector  $x$  is called *orthogonal in the sense of Birkhoff over  $y$*  if  $\|x + \lambda y\| \geq \|x\|$  for all  $\lambda \in K$ . We denote this  $x \perp_B y$ .

If  $G$  is a nondense linear subspace in  $E$  and  $\mathcal{P}_G(x_0) := \{g_0 \in G, \|x_0 - g_0\| = \inf_{g \in G} \|g - x_0\|\}$ , denotes the set of best approximation element referring to  $x_0 \in E \setminus \bar{G}$  in  $G$ , then the following simple characterization lemma in terms of Birkhoff orthogonality holds (see Lemma 1.14 from [10]).

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $E, G, x_0$  be as above and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$  if and only if  $x_0 - g_0 \perp_B G$ .*

For other characterizations of best approximation element in normed spaces see [10] and [2]<sub>2</sub>.

The following result is also valid (see [2]<sub>2</sub>, Lemma 1.1).

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $E$  be a smooth normed linear space and  $x, y$  two elements in  $E$ . Then  $x \perp_L y$  if and only if  $x \perp_B y$ .*

In virtue of this fact we can introduce the following concept.

**Def. 1.** Let  $E$  be a normed linear space,  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product on  $E$  which generates its norm,  $G$  a nondense linear subspace of  $E$ ,  $x_0 \in E \setminus \bar{G}$  and

$g_0 \in G$ . The vector  $g_0$  is called *the best approximation element of  $x_0$  in  $G$  in the sense of Lumer* relative to semi-inner product  $[\cdot, \cdot]$ , or  *$L$ -best approximation element of  $x_0$* , for short, if  $x_0 - g_0 \perp G$ .

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $E, [\cdot, \cdot], G, x_0$  and  $g_0$  be as above and denote  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$  the set of  $L$ -best approximation elements referring to  $x_0$  in  $G$ , then  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0) \subseteq \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$ . If, in addition, we suppose that  $E$  is smooth, then  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0) = \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$ . Then  $[g, x_0 - g_0] = 0$  for all  $g \in G$ . On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x_0 - g_0\|^2 &= [x_0 - g_0, x_0 - g_0] = [x_0, x_0 - g_0] = [x_0 - g, x_0 - g_0] \\ &\leq \|x_0 - g\| \|x_0 - g_0\| \quad \text{for all } g \in G \end{aligned}$$

what implies  $\|x_0 - g_0\| \leq \|x_0 - g\|$  for all  $g \in G$ , i.e.,  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$ .

The second part of proposition follows by Lemma 1 and Lemma 2.

Let  $G$  be a linear subspace and denote

$$G^L := \{w \in E \mid w \perp G \text{ for all } g \in G\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $0 \in G^L$ ,  $G \cap G^L = \{0\}$  and  $\alpha \in K, x \in G^L$  imply  $\alpha x \in G^L$ .

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $E$  be a normed linear space,  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product on it,  $G$  be a nondense linear subspace in  $E$ ,  $x_0 \in E \setminus \bar{G}$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$  if and only if there exists an element  $w_0 \in G^L$  such that*

$$(1) \quad x_0 = g_0 + w_0.$$

The proof is obvious by the definition of  $L$ -best approximation and we omit the details.

From the above proposition we have the next

**Corollary.** *Let  $E, [\cdot, \cdot], G$  and  $x_0$  be as in Proposition 2. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i)  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$  contains at least one [at most one (a unique)] element;

(ii) there exists at least one [at most one (a unique)] element  $g_0 \in G$  and at least one [at most one (a unique)]  $w_0 \in G^L$  such that (1) holds.

Remark 1. If  $E$  is a smooth normed linear space then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$  iff there exists  $w_0 \in G^L$  such that (1) holds.

The following result is important in the sequel.

Proposition 3. Let  $E, [, ]$  be as above and  $f$  be a nonzero continuous linear functional on  $E$ ,  $x_0 \in E \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  and  $g_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)$ . Then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x_0)$  if and only if the following representation holds

$$(2) \quad f(x) = \|f\| [x, \lambda_0(x_0 - g_0)/\|x_0 - g_0\|]$$

for all  $x \in E$  where  $\lambda_0 := \overline{f(x_0)}/|f(x_0)|$ .

Proof. Let  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x_0)$  and put  $w_0 := x_0 - g_0 \neq 0$ . Then  $w_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)^L$ . Since  $f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x \in \text{Ker}(f)$  for all  $x \in E$ , hence  $[f(x)w_0 - f(w_0)x, w_0] = 0$  what implies  $f(x) = [x, \overline{f(x_0)}(x_0 - g_0)/\|x_0 - g_0\|^2]$  for all  $x \in E$  and  $\|f\| = |f(x_0)|/\|x_0 - g_0\|$ , then (2) holds. Conversely, if (2) is valid, then  $x_0 - g_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)^L$ , i.e.,  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x_0)$ .

Corollary. Let  $f$  and  $x_0$ , be as above. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mathcal{P}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x_0)$  contains at least one [at most one (a unique)] element;
- (ii) there exists at least one [at most one (a unique)] element  $g_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)$  such that the representation (2) holds.

Remark 2. If  $E$  is smooth, then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{Ker}(f)}(x_0)$  if and only if the representation (2) holds.

By the use of Proposition 3 we can prove the second characterization of  $L$ -best approximation element.

Proposition 4. Let  $G$  be a closed linear subspace in  $E$ ,  $[,]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm,  $x_0 \in E \setminus G$  and  $g_0 \in G$ . Then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$

if and only if for all functional  $f \in (G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0))^*$  such that  $\text{Ker}(f) = G$ , then the following representation holds

$$(3) \quad f(x) = \|f\|_{G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)} [x, \lambda_0(x_0 - g_0) / \|x_0 - g_0\|]$$

for all  $x \in G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)$ , where  $\lambda_0$  is as above.

The following result also holds.

**Corollary.** *Let  $G$  and  $x_0$  be as above. Then  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$  contains at least one [at most one (a unique)] element if and only if for all  $f \in (G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0))^*$  such that  $\text{Ker}(f) = G$  there exists at least one [at most one (a unique)] element  $g_0 \in G$  such that (3) holds.*

**Remark 3.** If  $E$  is smooth, then  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$  iff the representation (3) is valid.

### 3 - Characterizations of semitchebychefian, proximal and tchebychefian subspaces in the sense of Lumer

Firstly, we recall these concepts in the classic sense.

A linear subspace  $G$ ,  $G \neq E$ , is called *proximal [semitchebychefian (tchebychefian)] in  $E$*  if for every  $x_0 \in E$  the set  $\mathcal{P}_G(x_0)$  contains at least one [at most one (a unique)] element.

**Def. 2.** Let  $E$  be a normed linear space and  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm. The linear subspace  $G$ ,  $G \neq E$ , is called *proximal [semitchebychefian (tchebychefian)] in the sense of Lumer relative to  $[\cdot, \cdot]$*  if  $\mathcal{P}_G^L(x_0)$  contains at least one [at most one (a unique)] element for all  $x_0$  in  $E$ .

The following theorem of characterization holds.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $G$  be a closed linear subspace in  $E$ ,  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product on it which generates the norm. Then  $G$  is semitchebychefian [proximal (tchebychefian)] in the sense of Lumer if and only if for all  $x \in E$  there exists at most one [at least one (a unique)] element  $x' \in G$  and at most one [at least one*

(a unique)] element  $x' \in G^L$  such that

$$(4) \quad x = x' + x''$$

and we denote this  $E = G \boxplus G^L [E = G + G^L (E = G \oplus G^L)]$ .

The proof is obvious by the definitions of semitchebycheffian, proximal and tchebycheffian linear subspaces in Lumer's sense and from Corollary of Proposition 2. We omit the details.

Remark 4. If  $E$  is smooth then  $G$  is semitchebycheffian [proximal (tchebycheffian)] iff  $E = G \boxplus G^L [E = G + G^L (E = G \oplus G^L)]$ .

It is known that a finite-dimensional linear subspace in a normed linear space is proximal. We shall improve this result.

Proposition 5. Let  $E$  be a normed space and  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm. Then every finite-dimensional linear subspace in it is proximal in the sense of Lumer.

Proof. Let  $G_n$  be a  $n$ -dimensional linear subspace in  $E$  and  $x_0 \in E \setminus G_n$ . Put  $G_{n+1} = G_n \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)$ . Then  $G_n$  can be regarded as a hyperplane in  $G_{n+1}$ .

On the other hand, let  $\{x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}\}$  be a base in  $G_n$  and  $x_1 \in G_{n+1} \setminus G_n$  such that  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}\}$  is also a base in  $G_{n+1}$ . We construct the vectors

$$e_1 = x_1 / \|x_1\| \quad e_2 = x_2 - [x_2, e_1]e_1, \dots, e_{n+1} = x_{n+1} - \sum_{i=1}^n [x_{n+1}, e_i]e_i.$$

It is easy to see that

$$[e_2, e_1] = [e_3, e_1] = \dots = [e_{n+1}, e_1] = 0$$

and since

$$x_1 = \|x_1\|e_1 \quad x_2 = [x_2, e_1]e_1 + e_2 \dots \quad x_{n+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n [x_{n+1}, e_i]e_i + e_{n+1}$$

we have  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n+1}\}$  is a base in  $G_{n+1}$  and  $\{e_2, \dots, e_{n+1}\}$  is also a base in  $G_n$ . Then  $[u, e_1] = 0$  for all  $u \in G_n$  and since  $e_1 = \lambda_0 x_0 + u_0$  with  $\lambda_0 \in K \setminus \{0\}$  and

$u_0 \in G_n$ , we obtain:  $[u, x_0 - v_0] = 0$  for all  $u \in G_n$ , where  $v_0 := -\frac{1}{\lambda_0} u_0 \in G_n$ , i.e.,  $x_0 - v_0 \in G_n^\perp$  what is equivalent to  $v_0 \in \mathcal{L}_G^L(x_0)$  and the proposition is proven.

Consequences: I. Let  $E$  be a normed linear space,  $[, ]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product on it which generates the norm and  $G$  be a finite-dimensional linear subspace in it. Then

$$E = G + G^L.$$

II. Let  $L$  be a smooth (and strict convex) normed space and  $G$  be its linear subspace. If  $S_G := \{g \in G \mid \|g\| \leq 1\}$  is weakly sequentially compact in  $E$  then the following decomposition holds

$$(5) \quad E = G + G^L (E = G \oplus G^L).$$

If  $E$  is reflexive (and strict convex) then for all closed linear subspace  $G$  in  $E$  the decomposition (5) is valid (see also [2]<sub>2</sub>).

The proof of first statement follows by Klee's theorem (see [5] or [10], Corollary 2.1) and by the above theorem. The second assertion is obvious.

III. Let  $E$  be a normed linear space and suppose that  $E^*$  endowed with the canonical norm is smooth (and strict convex) normed space. If  $F$  is a linear subspace in  $E^*$  and  $F$  is  $\sigma(E^*, E)$ -closed or  $S_F := \{h \in F \mid \|h\| \leq 1\}$  is compact in  $\sigma(E^*, E)$  or  $S_F$  is weak\* sequentially compact in  $E^*$ , then the following decomposition holds

$$(6) \quad E^* = F + F^L \quad (E^* = F \oplus F^L).$$

The proof follows by Phelps' theorems (see [8], p. 239 or [10], Corollary 2.5 and Theorem 2.2) by Klee's theorem (see [5] or [10], Theorem 2.3) and by Theorem 1 for the smooth case (see also [2]<sub>2</sub>).

The following result establishes a connection between proximal [semitechebychefian (tchebychefian)] linear subspace in the sense of Lumer and the representation of continuous linear functional on a normed linear space in terms of  $L$ -semi-inner products.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $f$  be a nonzero continuous linear functional on normed space  $E$  and  $[, ]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

(i)  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is proximinal [semitchebychevian (tchebychevian)] in the sense of Lumer;

(ii) there exists at least one [at most one (a unique)] element  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  such that the following representation holds

$$(7) \quad f(x) = \|f\| [x, u_f] \quad \text{for all } x \in E.$$

Firstly, we shall prove the following lemma what is important in themselves too.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $H$  be a closed linear hyperplane containing the null element and  $[, ]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates the norm of  $E$ . Then  $H$  is proximinal in the sense of Lumer if and only if there exists a nonzero element  $u$  in  $X$  such that  $uLH$ .*

**Proof.** If  $H$  is proximinal in the sense of Lumer and  $x_0 \in E \setminus H$ , then there exists an element  $g_0 \in H$  such that  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_H^L(x_0)$  and putting  $u := x_0 - g_0$  we have  $uLH$  and  $u \neq 0$ .

Conversely, assume that  $x_0 \in E \setminus H$ ,  $u \in E$ ,  $uLH$  and  $u \neq 0$  and let  $f$  be a nonzero continuous linear functional on  $X$  such that  $H = \text{Ker}(f)$ . If we choose  $g_0 := x_0 - f(x_0)/f(u)u$  ( $f(u) \neq 0$  because  $u \notin H$ ) we have  $g_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)$  and since

$$[y, x_0 - g_0] = (\overline{f(x_0)/f(u)})[y, u] = 0 \quad \text{for all } y \in H$$

we deduce  $g_0 \in \mathcal{P}_H^L(x_0)$ , i.e.,  $H$  is proximinal in the sense of Lumer and the lemma is proved.

**Proof of the Theorem 2.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii).(a). Let  $\text{Ker}(f)$  be proximinal in the sense of Lumer. Then by Lemma 3 there exists  $w_0 \in E \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  such that  $w_0L \text{Ker}(f)$ . By an argument similar to that in the proof of Proposition 3 we have

$$f(x) = [x, \overline{f(w_0)}w_0/\|w_0\|^2] \quad \text{for all } x \in E \quad \|f\| = |f(w_0)|/\|w_0\|.$$

Now, let  $\lambda_0 := \overline{f(w_0)}/|f(w_0)| \in K$  and put  $u_f := \lambda_0 w_0/\|w_0\|$  then we obtain representation (7).



(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).(a). Suppose that  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  verifies (7). Then  $u_f \perp \text{Ker}(f)$  and by Lemma 3 it follows that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is proximal in the sense of Lumer.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii).(b). Assume that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is semitchebychefian in the sense of Lumer and suppose, by absurd, that there exists two distinct elements  $u_f, v_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = \|v_f\| = 1$  such that they satisfy (10). Then  $u_f, v_f \in \text{Ker}(f)^\perp$ . Now, let  $x \in E \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  and put

$$y_0 := x - f(x) u_f / f(u_f) \quad y'_0 := x - f(x) v_f / f(v_f).$$

Then  $f(y_0) = f(y'_0) = 0$ , i.e.,  $y_0, y'_0 \in \text{Ker}(f)$ .

On the other hand, for all  $y \in \text{Ker}(f)$  we have

$$[y, x - y_0] = \overline{f(x) / f(u_f)} [y, u_f] = 0$$

and a similar relation for  $y'_0$ . Consequently,  $x - y_0, x - y'_0 \perp \text{Ker}(f)$ , i.e.,  $y_0, y'_0 \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x)$ . Now, if we assume that  $y_0 = y'_0$  we derive  $u_f / f(u_f) = v_f / f(v_f)$  and since  $f(u_f) = f(v_f) = \|f\|$  one gets  $u_f = v_f$ . In conclusion,  $y_0 \neq y'_0$  and since  $y_0, y'_0 \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x)$  we obtain a contradiction to the fact that  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is semitchebychefian in the sense of Lumer and the implication is proven.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).(b). Assume that (7) holds for a unique element  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  and suppose, by absurd, that there exists  $x_0 \in E \setminus \text{Ker}(f)$  and two distinct elements  $g_0$  and  $g'_0$  in  $\mathcal{D}_{\text{Ker}(f)}^L(x_0)$ . As above, we obtain

$$f(x) = [x, \overline{f(x_0)}(x_0 - g_0) / \|x_0 - g_0\|^2] \quad x \in E \quad \|f\| = |f(x_0)| / \|x_0 - g_0\|$$

and a similar representation for  $g'_0$ . Put

$$u_f := \overline{f(x_0)}(x_0 - g_0) / (|f(x_0)| \|x_0 - g_0\|) \quad v_f := \overline{f(x_0)}(x_0 - g'_0) / (|f(x_0)| \|x_0 - g'_0\|).$$

Then  $\|u_f\| = \|v_f\| = 1$  and  $u_f, v_f$  satisfy (7). Now, if we assume that  $u_f = v_f$ , we derive  $(x_0 - g_0) / \|x_0 - g_0\| = (x_0 - g'_0) / \|x_0 - g'_0\|$  and since  $\|x_0 - g_0\| = |f(x_0)| / \|f\| = \|x_0 - g'_0\|$  we obtain  $g_0 = g'_0$ . Consequently, there exists two distinct elements  $u_f, v_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = \|v_f\| = 1$  and they satisfy (7), what produce a contradiction and the proof is finished.

(i)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (ii).(c). The statement:  $\text{Ker}(f)$  is tchebychefian in Lumer's sense if and

only if there exists a unique element  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  such that (7) holds, follows by the above arguments.

The next corollary contains a characterization of proximal [semitchebychefian (tchebychefian)] linear subspaces in the sense of Lumer in normed linear spaces in terms of continuous linear functionals.

*Corollary.* Let  $G$  be a closed linear subspace in normed linear space  $E$ ,  $G \neq E$ , and  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $G$  is proximal [semitchebychefian (tchebychefian)] in the sense of Lumer;

(ii) for all  $x_0 \in E \setminus G$  and for any  $f \in (G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0))^*$  such that  $\text{Ker}(f) = G$ , there exists at least one [at most one (a unique)] element  $u_{x_0, f} \in G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)$ ,  $\|u_{x_0, f}\| = 1$  with the property:  $f(x) = \|f\|_{G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)} [x, u_{x_0, f}]$  for all  $x \in G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)$ .

The proof follows by the previous theorem for the normed linear space  $E_{x_0} := G \oplus \text{Sp}(x_0)$ . We omit the details.

The following consequences are interesting in themselves too.

Consequences: I. Let  $E$  be a normed space,  $[\cdot, \cdot]$  be a  $L$ -semi-inner product which generates its norm and  $G$  be a finite-dimensional linear subspace in  $E$ . Then for all nonzero continuous linear functional  $f$  on  $E$  there exists at least one element  $u_{G, f} \in G$ ,  $\|u_{G, f}\| = 1$  such that

$$f(x) = \|f\| [x, u_{G, f}] \quad \text{for all } x \in G.$$

II. Let  $E$  be a smooth (and strict convex) normed space and  $f$  be a nonzero continuous linear functional on it. If  $S_{\text{Ker}(f)} = \{h \in \text{Ker}(f) \mid \|h\| \leq 1\}$  is weakly sequentially compact in  $E$ , then there exists an (a unique) element  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  such that (7) holds.

Finally, if we assume that  $E$  is reflexive (and strict convex) then for all  $f \in E^* \setminus \{0\}$  there exists an (a unique) element  $u_f \in E$ ,  $\|u_f\| = 1$  such that (7) holds (see also [2]<sub>2</sub>).

The proof of first statement follows by Klee's Theorem (see [5] or Corollary 3.1 from [10]) and by the above theorem. The second statement is obvious.

III. Let  $E$  be a normed linear space and suppose that  $E^*$  endowed with the canonical norm is smooth (and strict convex). If  $\emptyset \in E^{**} \setminus \{0\}$  satisfies the

conditions  $\text{Ker}(\phi)$  is  $\sigma(E^*, E)$ -closed or  $S_{\text{Ker}(\phi)}$  is compact in  $\sigma(E^*, E)$  or  $S_{\text{Ker}(\phi)}$  is weak\* sequentially compact in  $E^*$ , then there exists a (a unique) functional  $f_\phi \in E^*$ ,  $\|f_\phi\| = 1$  such that the following representation holds

$$\phi(f) = \|\phi\| [f, f_\phi]^* \quad \text{for all } f \in E^*$$

where  $[, ]^*$  is the unique semi-inner product which generates the norm of  $E^*$  (see also [2]<sub>2</sub>).

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### Résumé

*Dans cet article on introduit la notion de la meilleure approximation dans le sens de Lumer et on donne quelques caractérisations et applications.*

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