

## APPROXIMATELY $p$ -WRIGHT AFFINE FUNCTIONS, INNER PRODUCT SPACES AND DERIVATIONS

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**Abstract.** We prove a result on hyperstability (in normed spaces) of the equation that defines the  $p$ -Wright affine functions and show that it yields a simple characterization of complex inner product spaces. We also obtain in this way some inequalities describing derivations, Lie derivations and Lie homomorphisms.

**Key Words and Phrases:** Hyperstability,  $p$ -Wright affine function, inner product space, derivation, Lie derivation, Lie homomorphism, fixed point theorem.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The subsequent theorem seems to be the most classical result concerning stability of the Cauchy equation

$$T(x + y) = T(x) + T(y). \quad (1.1)$$

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be two normed spaces,  $E_2$  be complete,  $c \geq 0$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$ , and  $f: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  be a mapping such that*

$$\|f(x + y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq c(\|x\|^s + \|y\|^s), \quad x, y \in E_1 \setminus \{0\}. \quad (1.2)$$

*Then there exists a unique solution  $T: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  of equation (1.1) with*

$$\|f(x) - T(x)\| \leq \frac{c\|x\|^s}{|1 - 2^{s-1}|}, \quad x \in E_1 \setminus \{0\}. \quad (1.3)$$

That result is due to D.H. Hyers [24] ( $s = 0$ ), T. Aoki [3] ( $0 < s < 1$ ; cf. [46]), Z. Gajda [21] ( $s > 1$ ) and Th.M. Rassias [47] ( $s < 0$ ). For more information on stability of functional equations we refer to [8, 26, 34, 35, 42]. Let us only mention that the main motivation for the investigation of this issue was given by a problem raised by S.M. Ulam in 1940 and several papers inspired by it that were published in the next few years (see [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29]).

Moreover, recently, the following result (improving Theorem 1.1 for  $s < 0$ ) has been proved in [11] (see also [45]).

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be two normed spaces,  $c \geq 0$ ,  $s \in (-\infty, 0)$ , and  $f: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  satisfy (1.2). Then  $f$  is additive, i.e., it is a solution of equation (1.1).*

A result analogous to Theorem 1.1 has been obtained in [9] for the subsequent functional equation

$$f(px + (1-p)y) + f((1-p)x + py) = f(x) + f(y), \quad (1.4)$$

with a fixed  $p \in \mathbb{F}$ , where  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$  ( $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  denote the sets of real and complex numbers, resp.), for functions  $f$  mapping a normed space over  $\mathbb{F}$  into a normed space. It reads as follows.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $E_1$  be a normed space over a field  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $E_2$  be a Banach space,  $p \in \mathbb{F}$ ,  $A, k \in (0, \infty)$ ,  $|p|^k + |1-p|^k < 1$ ,  $g: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ , and*

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(px + (1-p)y) + g((1-p)x + py) - g(x) - g(y)\| \\ \leq A(\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k), \quad x, y \in E_1. \end{aligned}$$

*Then there exists a unique solution  $G: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  of equation (1.4) such that*

$$\|g(x) - G(x)\| \leq \frac{A\|x\|^k}{1 - |p|^k - |1-p|^k}, \quad x \in E_1.$$

In this paper we prove a result (see Theorem 3.1) that complements Theorem 1.3 (analogously as Theorem 1.2 improves Theorem 1.1) and show that it yields a simple characterization of complex inner product spaces (see Corollary 3.1). We also show that from Theorem 3.1 we can derive inequalities characterizing derivations, Lie derivations and Lie homomorphisms in algebras and Lie algebras, respectively.

Let us recall (cf. [20]) that, for a fixed number  $p \in \mathbb{F}$ , where  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ , a function  $f$  mapping a linear space  $E$  over  $\mathbb{F}$  into a semigroup  $(S, +)$  is  $p$ -Wright affine if it satisfies functional equation (1.4) (for all  $x, y \in E$ ). This definition of  $p$ -Wright affine functions is connected to the notions of  $p$ -Wright convexity and  $p$ -Wright concavity (see, e.g., [20, 22, 38, 44, 49]) for  $S = \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{F}$ . Clearly, for  $p = 1/2$ , equation (1.4) is just the well known Jensen's equation

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) = \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2}.$$

For

$$p = \frac{e^{i\alpha} + 1}{2} \quad (1.5)$$

(with  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ ) equation (1.4) characterizes norms in the complex inner product spaces (see Theorem 4.1).

## 2. AUXILIARY RESULT

To present an auxiliary (fixed point) result we need to introduce some necessary hypotheses ( $\mathbb{R}_+$  stands for the set of nonnegative reals and  $A^B$  denotes the family of all functions mapping a set  $B \neq \emptyset$  into a set  $A \neq \emptyset$ ).

(H1)  $X$  is a nonempty set,  $E_2$  is a Banach space,  $f_1, \dots, f_k: X \rightarrow X$  and  $L_1, \dots, L_k: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  are given, and  $\mathcal{T}: E_2^X \rightarrow E_2^X$  is an operator satisfying the inequality

$$\|\mathcal{T}\xi(x) - \mathcal{T}\mu(x)\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^k L_i(x) \|\xi(f_i(x)) - \mu(f_i(x))\|,$$

$$\xi, \mu \in E_2^X, x \in X.$$

(H2)  $\Lambda: \mathbb{R}_+^X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^X$  is defined by

$$\Lambda\delta(x) := \sum_{i=1}^k L_i(x)\delta(f_i(x)), \quad \delta \in \mathbb{R}_+^X, x \in X.$$

Now we are in a position to present the above mentioned fixed point theorem proved in [12, Theorem 1] (see also [13, Theorem 2] and [17]).

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let hypotheses (H1), (H2) be valid and functions  $\varepsilon: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $\varphi: X \rightarrow E_2$  fulfil the following two conditions*

$$\|\mathcal{T}\varphi(x) - \varphi(x)\| \leq \varepsilon(x), \quad x \in X,$$

$$\varepsilon^*(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Lambda^n \varepsilon(x) < \infty, \quad x \in X.$$

Then there exists a unique fixed point  $\psi$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  with

$$\|\varphi(x) - \psi(x)\| \leq \varepsilon^*(x), \quad x \in X.$$

Moreover,

$$\psi(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{T}^n \varphi(x), \quad x \in X.$$

From now on we assume that  $(W, +)$  is a group uniquely divisible by 2,  $V$  is a linear space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1\}$ ,  $\widehat{p} := 1 - p$ . So, equation (1.4) can be written in the form

$$g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) = g(x) + g(y). \quad (2.1)$$

First, we prove an auxiliary proposition which describes functions  $h: V \rightarrow W$  satisfying (1.4) for  $x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}$ . To this end let us recall that a function  $h: V \rightarrow W$  is quadratic provided it is a solution to the functional equation

$$h(x + y) + h(x - y) = 2h(x) + 2h(y).$$

**Proposition 2.2.** *If a function  $g: V \rightarrow W$  satisfies*

$$g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) = g(x) + g(y), \quad x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}, \quad (2.2)$$

then

$$g(x) = A(x) + B(x) + c, \quad x \in V, \quad (2.3)$$

with some  $c \in W$ , an additive  $A: V \rightarrow W$  and a quadratic  $B: V \rightarrow W$  fulfilling the condition

$$B(x) = B((2p - 1)x), \quad x \in V. \quad (2.4)$$

Conversely, if a function  $g: V \rightarrow W$  has the form (2.3) with some  $c \in W$ , an additive  $A: V \rightarrow W$  and a quadratic  $B: V \rightarrow W$  such that (2.4) holds, then it satisfies the equation (2.1) (for all  $x, y \in V$ ).

*Proof.* Assume that  $g$  fulfils (2.2). Let  $g_e, g_o: V \rightarrow W$  denote the even and the odd parts of  $g$ , respectively, i.e.,

$$g_e(x) := \frac{g(x) + g(-x)}{2}, \quad g_o(x) := \frac{g(x) - g(-x)}{2}, \quad x \in V. \quad (2.5)$$

Obviously,  $g_e$  and  $g_o$  are solution of (2.2), too.

Let  $A := g_o$ . We show that  $A$  is additive. Take  $t \in V$  and write

$$s_1 = t - \frac{t}{p}.$$

Then  $ps_1 + \widehat{p}t = 0$ , whence (2.2) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & A(p(x+t) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) + A(\widehat{p}x + py) \\ &= A(x+t) + A(y+s_1), \quad x, y \in V, x \neq -t, y \neq -s_1. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.2) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & A(x+t) - A(x) + A(y+s_1) - A(y) \\ &= A(p(x+t) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) - A(px + \widehat{p}y), \\ & \quad x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}, x \neq -t, y \neq -s_1. \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

Next, write  $s_2 = pt/\widehat{p}$ . Then  $\widehat{p}s_2 - pt = 0$ , whence (2.6) (with  $x$  replaced by  $x-t$  and  $y$  replaced by  $y+s_2$ ) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & A(x) - A(x-t) + A(y+s_1+s_2) - A(y+s_2) \\ &= A(p(x+t) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) - A(px + \widehat{p}y), \\ & \quad x, y \in V, x \neq t, x \neq 0, y \neq -s_2, y \neq -s_1 - s_2. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & A(x) - A(x-t) - A(x+t) + A(x) \\ &= -A(y+s_1+s_2) + A(y+s_2) + A(y+s_1) - A(y) \\ & \quad x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}, x \notin \{t, -t\}, y \notin \{-s_1, -s_2, -s_1 - s_2\}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $-x$  in (2.7) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & A(-x) - A(-x-t) - A(-x+t) + A(-x) \\ &= -A(y+s_1+s_2) + A(y+s_2) + A(y+s_1) - A(y), \\ & \quad x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}, x \notin \{t, -t\}, y \notin \{-s_1, -s_2, -s_1 - s_2\}. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.7) we finally have

$$4A(x) - 2A(x-t) - 2A(x+t) = 0, \quad x \in V \setminus \{0, t, -t\}.$$

Thus we have proved that

$$2A(x) = A(x+t) + A(x-t), \quad x, t \in V, x \notin \{0, t, -t\}. \quad (2.8)$$

Further,  $A$  is odd, so  $A(0) = 0$  and

$$2A(0) = 0 = A(t) - A(t) = A(t) + A(-t), \quad t \in V.$$

This and (2.8) imply that

$$2A(x) = A(x+t) + A(x-t), \quad x, t \in V, \quad x \notin \{t, -t\}. \quad (2.9)$$

Take  $z, w \in V \setminus \{0\}$  and write

$$x = \frac{z+w}{2}, \quad t = \frac{w-z}{2}.$$

Then  $x \neq t$  and  $x \neq -t$ , whence (2.9) implies that

$$2A\left(\frac{z+w}{2}\right) = A(w) + A(z).$$

In this way we have proved that

$$A\left(\frac{z+w}{2}\right) = \frac{A(z) + A(w)}{2}, \quad z, w \in V \setminus \{0\}. \quad (2.10)$$

Fix  $z \in V \setminus \{0\}$  and write  $V_z := \{az : a \in (0, \infty)\}$ . Then  $V_z$  is a convex set and consequently there exist an additive mapping  $A_z : V_z \rightarrow W$  and a constant  $w_z \in W$  such that

$$A(x) = A_z(x) + w_z, \quad x \in V_z.$$

Take  $a \in (0, \infty)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A_z(az) + w_z = A(az) &= A\left(\frac{3az - az}{2}\right) = \frac{A(3az) - A(az)}{2} \\ &= \frac{A_z(3az) - A_z(az)}{2} = A_z(az), \end{aligned}$$

which means that  $w_z = 0$ . Hence

$$2A\left(\frac{1}{2}z\right) = 2A_z\left(\frac{1}{2}z\right) = A_z(z) = A(z).$$

Therefore, in view of (2.10), we obtain that

$$A\left(\frac{z+w}{2}\right) = \frac{A(z) + A(w)}{2}, \quad z, w \in V.$$

This implies that  $A$  is additive.

Now we prove that the function

$$B(x) := g_e(x) - g(0), \quad x \in V$$

is quadratic. First we show that

$$B(px + \widehat{p}y) + B(\widehat{p}x + py) = B(x) + B(y), \quad x, y \in V. \quad (2.11)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $(p-1)x$  and  $y$  by  $px$  in (2.2) we get

$$g(0) + g((2p-1)x) = g((p-1)x) + g(px), \quad x \in V. \quad (2.12)$$

Next, setting  $y = -x$  in (2.2) we obtain

$$g((2p-1)x) + g((1-2p)x) = g(x) + g(-x), \quad x \in V.$$

Thus the even part of  $g$  satisfies

$$g_e((2p-1)x) = g_e(x), \quad x \in V.$$

By (2.12) it follows that

$$g_e(0) + g_e(x) = g_e(\widehat{p}x) + g_e(px), \quad x \in V,$$

whence

$$B(px) + B(\widehat{p}x) = B(x) + B(0),$$

which means that (2.11) holds.

Take  $t_1 \in V$  and write  $s_1 = t_1 - \frac{t_1}{p}$ . Then  $ps_1 + \widehat{p}t_1 = 0$ , so (2.11) yields

$$\begin{aligned} & B(p(x+t_1) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) + B(\widehat{p}x + py) \\ &= B(x+t_1) + B(y+s_1), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.11) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & B(x+t_1) - B(x) + B(y+s_1) - B(y) \\ &= B(p(x+t_1) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) - B(px + \widehat{p}y), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

Next, take  $t_2 \in V$  and write  $s_2 = -t_2p/\widehat{p}$ . Then  $\widehat{p}s_2 + pt_2 = 0$ , whence (2.13) (with  $x$  replaced by  $x+t_2$  and  $y$  replaced by  $y+s_2$ ) gives

$$\begin{aligned} & B(x+t_1+t_2) - B(x+t_2) + B(y+s_1+s_2) - B(y+s_2) \\ &= B(p(x+t_1) + \widehat{p}(y+s_1)) - B(\widehat{p}x + py), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.13) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & B(x+t_1+t_2) - B(x+t_2) - B(x+t_1) + B(x) \\ &= -B(y+s_1+s_2) + B(y+s_2) + B(y+s_1) - B(y), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $x-t_2$  in (2.14) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & B(x+t_1) - B(x) - B(x+t_1-t_2) + B(x-t_2) \\ &= -B(y+s_1+s_2) + B(y+s_2) + B(y+s_1) - B(y), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Subtracting this and (2.14), and taking  $x=0$  we finally have

$$B(t_1) - B(t_1-t_2) + B(-t_2) - B(t_1+t_2) + B(t_2) + B(t_1) = 0.$$

Thus we have proved that

$$B(t_1-t_2) + B(t_1+t_2) = 2B(t_1) + 2B(t_2), \quad t_1, t_2 \in V,$$

which means that  $B$  is quadratic. Consequently (2.3) holds with  $c = g(0)$ .

For the proof of (2.4) note that (2.11) holds, and this, with  $y = -x$ , gives

$$B(px - \widehat{p}x) = B(x), \quad x \in V \setminus \{0\},$$

which actually is (2.4).

For the proof of the converse, assume that a function  $g: V \rightarrow W$  has the form (2.3) with some  $c \in W$ , an additive  $A: V \rightarrow W$  and a quadratic  $B: V \rightarrow W$  such that

(2.4) holds. It is well known (see, e.g., [1]) that there exists a biadditive symmetric  $L: V^2 \rightarrow W$  such that  $B(x) = L(x, x)$  for  $x \in V$ . It is easy to check that (2.4) implies

$$L(px, \widehat{p}x) = 0, \quad x \in V, \quad (2.15)$$

whence by simple calculations we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} B(px + \widehat{p}y) + B(\widehat{p}x + py) &= L(px + \widehat{p}y, px + \widehat{p}y) + L(\widehat{p}x + py, \widehat{p}x + py) \\ &= 2L(p(x + y), \widehat{p}(x + y)) + L(px, \widehat{p}x) + L(px, \widehat{p}x) + L(x, x) + L(y, y) \\ &= B(x) + B(y), \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $g$  satisfies the equation (2.1) (for all  $x, y \in V$ ).  $\square$

**Remark 2.3.** *In view of Proposition 2.2, it is easily seen that  $g: V \rightarrow W$  fulfils (2.2) if and only if  $g$  satisfies the equation (2.1) (for all  $x, y \in V$ ).*

**Remark 2.4.** *The proof of Proposition 2.2 is very long. This raises a natural question of a shorter proof of this proposition.*

### 3. APPROXIMATELY $p$ -WRIGHT AFFINE FUNCTIONS

In this section we show that a fixed point approach (for some information on this approach see [8, 14, 15, 19]) can be applied to prove a theorem on stability of the equation of  $p$ -Wright affine functions (according to the terminology used in [39] (see also [8, 10, 23, 37]), it can be actually called a hyperstability result). Namely, we have the following.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a normed space over a field  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $Y$  be a normed space,  $p \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1, 1/2\}$ ,  $c \geq 0$  and  $k < 0$ . Then every function  $g: X \rightarrow Y$  with*

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - g(x) - g(y)\| & (3.1) \\ & \leq c(\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k), \quad x, y \in X \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned}$$

*is  $p$ -Wright affine (i.e., is a solution to (1.4)).*

*Proof.* First we notice that without loss of generality we can assume that  $Y$  is a Banach space, because otherwise we can replace it by its completion.

Replacing  $x$  by  $(mp - m + 1)x$  and taking  $y = (mp + 1)x$  in (3.1), for  $m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1/\widehat{p}, -1/p\}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|g((mp - m + 1)x) + g((mp + 1)x) - g((2mp - m + 1)x) - g(x)\| & (3.2) \\ \leq c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k)\|x\|^k, \quad x \in X \setminus \{0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Write

$$A_m := c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k), \quad \varepsilon_m(x) := A_m\|x\|^k, \quad x \in X \setminus \{0\},$$

and

$$\mathcal{T}_m \xi(x) := \xi((mp - m + 1)x) + \xi((mp + 1)x) - \xi((2mp - m + 1)x)$$

for  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\xi \in Y^{X \setminus \{0\}}$ . Then (3.2) takes the form

$$\|\mathcal{T}_m g(x) - g(x)\| \leq \varepsilon_m(x), \quad x \in X \setminus \{0\}.$$

Let

$$\Lambda_m \eta(x) := \eta((mp - m + 1)x) + \eta((mp + 1)x) + \eta((2mp - m + 1)x)$$

for  $\eta \in \mathbb{R}_+^{X \setminus \{0\}}$ ,  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ . Then it is easily seen that  $\Lambda_m$  has the form described in (H2) with  $k = 3$  and

$$f_1(x) = (mp - m + 1)x, \quad f_2(x) = (mp + 1)x,$$

$$f_3(x) = (2mp - m + 1)x, \quad L_1(x) = L_2(x) = L_3(x) = 1$$

for  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ . Moreover, for every  $\xi, \mu \in Y^{X \setminus \{0\}}$ ,  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{T}_m \xi(x) - \mathcal{T}_m \mu(x)\| \\ &= \|\xi((mp - m + 1)x) + \xi((mp + 1)x) - \xi((2mp - m + 1)x) \\ &\quad - \mu((mp - m + 1)x) - \mu((mp + 1)x) + \mu((2mp - m + 1)x)\| \\ &\leq \|\xi((mp - m + 1)x) - \mu((mp - m + 1)x)\| \\ &\quad + \|\xi((mp + 1)x) - \mu((mp + 1)x)\| \\ &\quad + \|\xi((2mp - m + 1)x) - \mu((2mp - m + 1)x)\| \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^3 \|\xi(f_i(x)) - \mu(f_i(x))\|, \end{aligned}$$

so (H1) is valid.

Let  $m_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $m_0 > \max\{1/\widehat{p}, -1/p\}$  and

$$|mp - m + 1|^{-1} + |mp + 1|^{-1} + |2mp - m + 1|^{-1} < 1, \quad m \geq m_0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_m^*(x) &:= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Lambda_m^n \varepsilon_m(x) \\ &= A_m \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^n \|x\|^k \\ &= \frac{A_m \|x\|^k}{1 - |mp - m + 1|^k - |mp + 1|^k - |2mp - m + 1|^k} \end{aligned}$$

for  $m \geq m_0$  and  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ .

Thus, according to Theorem 2.1, for each  $m \geq m_0$  there exists a unique solution  $G_m: X \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow Y$  of the equation

$$G_m(x) = G_m((mp - m + 1)x) + G_m((mp + 1)x) - G_m((2mp - m + 1)x)$$

such that

$$\|g(x) - G_m(x)\| \leq \frac{A_m \|x\|^k}{1 - |mp - m + 1|^k - |mp + 1|^k - |2mp - m + 1|^k}$$

for  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ . Moreover,

$$G_m(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\mathcal{T}_m^n g)(x), \quad x \in X \setminus \{0\}.$$



We show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{T}_m^n g(px + \widehat{p}y) + \mathcal{T}_m^n g(\widehat{p}x + py) - \mathcal{T}_m^n g(x) - \mathcal{T}_m^n g(y)\| \\ & \leq c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^n (\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k) \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

for every  $x, y \in X \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

If  $n = 0$ , then (3.3) is simply (3.1). So, take  $l \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and suppose that (3.3) holds for  $n = l$  and  $x, y \in X \setminus \{0\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(px + \widehat{p}y) + \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(\widehat{p}x + py) - \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(x) - \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(y)\| \\ & = \|\mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) \\ & \quad + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)x) - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)x) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)x) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)y) - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)y) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)y)\| \\ & \leq \|\mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)x) - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp - m + 1)y)\| \\ & \quad + \|\mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)x) - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((mp + 1)y)\| \\ & \quad + \|\mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)(px + \widehat{p}y)) + \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)(\widehat{p}x + py)) \\ & \quad - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)x) - \mathcal{T}_m^l g((2mp - m + 1)y)\| \end{aligned}$$

and consequently

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(px + \widehat{p}y) + \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(\widehat{p}x + py) - \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(x) - \mathcal{T}_m^{l+1} g(y)\| \\ & \leq c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^l \\ & \quad \times (\|(mp - m + 1)x\|^k + \|(mp - m + 1)y\|^k) \\ & \quad + c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^l \\ & \quad \times (\|(mp + 1)x\|^k + \|(mp + 1)y\|^k) \\ & \quad + c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^l \\ & \quad \times (\|(2mp - m + 1)x\|^k + \|(2mp - m + 1)y\|^k) \\ & = c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k \\ & \quad + |2mp - m + 1|^k)^{l+1} (\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k) \end{aligned}$$

for  $x, y \in X \setminus \{0\}$ .

Letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (3.3), we obtain that

$$G_m(px + \widehat{p}y) + G_m(\widehat{p}x + py) = G_m(x) + G_m(y), \quad x, y \in X \setminus \{0\};$$

moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|g(x) - G_m(x)\| \\ & \leq \frac{c(|mp - m + 1|^k + |mp + 1|^k)}{1 - |mp - m + 1|^k - |mp + 1|^k - |2mp - m + 1|^k} \|x\|^k \end{aligned}$$

for  $x \in X \setminus \{0\}$ . Hence, with  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we obtain that (2.2) holds. So, according to Proposition 2.2 and Remark 2.3,  $g$  satisfies equation (2.1) (for all  $x, y \in X$ ), which completes the proof.  $\square$

#### 4. CHARACTERIZATION OF COMPLEX INNER PRODUCT SPACES

In this part we show that Theorem 3.1 yields a characterization of complex inner product spaces.

**Theorem 4.1.** *The following three statements are valid.*

- (i) *Let  $V$  be a normed space over  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ . Then, for every  $p \in \mathbb{F}$  with  $|2p-1| \notin \{0, 1\}$ ,  $r > 0$  and  $k \in (-\infty, 0)$ , we have*

$$\sup_{x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^r + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^r - \|x\|^r - \|y\|^r|}{\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k} = \infty.$$

- (ii) *Assume that  $V$  is a complex normed space and there exist  $p \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$  and  $k \in (-\infty, 0)$  such that*

$$\sup_{x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^2 - \|x\|^2 - \|y\|^2|}{\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k} < \infty. \quad (4.1)$$

*Then  $V$  is an inner product space and  $|2p - 1| = 1$ .*

- (iii) *Let  $V$  be an inner product space over  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ . Then*

$$\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2, \quad x, y \in V,$$

*for every  $p \in \mathbb{F}$  with  $|2p - 1| = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Take  $p \in \mathbb{F}$  with  $|2p - 1| \notin \{0, 1\}$ ,  $r > 0$  and  $k \in (-\infty, 0)$  and suppose that

$$\sup_{x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}} \frac{|\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^r + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^r - \|x\|^r - \|y\|^r|}{\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k} < \infty. \quad (4.2)$$

This means that the function  $g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(x) = \|x\|^r$ , satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} |g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - g(x) - g(y)| & \leq M(\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k), \\ & x, y \in V \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

with some  $M > 0$ . Next, it is easily seen that  $p \notin \{0, 1, 1/2\}$ . Consequently, in view of Theorem 3.1,

$$\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^r + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^r = \|x\|^r + \|y\|^r, \quad x, y \in V. \quad (4.4)$$

Setting  $y = -x$  in (4.4) we get

$$|2p - 1|^r \|x\|^r = \|x\|^r, \quad x \in V,$$

hence  $|2p - 1| = 1$ , which is a contraction.

For the proof of (ii) observe that (4.1) is just condition (4.2) with  $r = 2$ . Hence

$$\|px + \widehat{p}y\|^2 + \|\widehat{p}x + py\|^2 = \|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2, \quad x, y \in V, \quad (4.5)$$

and  $|2p - 1| = 1$ . According to Proposition 2.2, (2.3) holds with some  $c \in W$ , an additive  $A: V \rightarrow W$ , and a quadratic  $B: V \rightarrow W$ . From the fact that  $g$  is even and  $g(0) = 0$ , we obtain

$$g(x) = B(x), \quad x \in V, \quad (4.6)$$

which means that for every  $x, y \in V$  we have the parallelogram equality

$$\|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 = 2\|x\|^2 + 2\|y\|^2.$$

Consequently  $V$  is an inner product space.

It remains to show (iii). So fix  $p \in \mathbb{F}$  with  $|2p - 1| = 1$ . Note that the case  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$  is trivial, because then  $p = 1$  or  $p = 0$ . So assume that  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\langle x, y \rangle$  denote the inner product of vectors  $x, y \in V$ . Write

$$b(x, y) = \frac{\langle x, y \rangle + \langle y, x \rangle}{2}, \quad g(x) := \|x\|^2 = b(x, x), \quad x, y \in V.$$

Then

$$b(x, y) = \frac{g(x + y) - g(x - y)}{4}, \quad x, y \in V,$$

whence (with  $x$  replaced by  $px$  and  $y$  by  $\widehat{p}x$ ) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (1 - |2p - 1|^2)\|x\|^2 = g(x) - g((2p - 1)x) \\ &= 4b(px, \widehat{p}x), \quad x \in V. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, by simple calculations we get

$$\begin{aligned} &g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - g(x) - g(y) \\ &= 2(b(px, y) + b(x, py) - 2b(px, py)) \\ &= 2(b(px, \widehat{p}y) + b(py, \widehat{p}x)) \\ &= 2(b(p(x + y), \widehat{p}(x + y))) = 0, \quad x, y \in V. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Remark 4.2.** Note that if  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , then the condition  $|2p - 1| = 1$  means that  $p \in \{0, 1\}$ . Moreover, every  $p \in \mathbb{C}$  satisfying the condition  $|2p - 1| = 1$  is of the form (1.5) with some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .

## 5. SOME FINAL OBSERVATIONS

We end the paper with some examples of simple applications of Theorem 3.1 in characterizations of derivations, Lie derivations and Lie homomorphisms.

Let us start with some auxiliary results. The first one concerns the linearity of additive mappings.

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  be a linear space over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $Y$  be a normed space and  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow Y$  be additive. Assume that the following hypothesis holds.

( $\mathcal{H}_1$ ) for each  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  there is a set  $D_x \subset \mathbb{F}$  such that  $\text{int}(D_x - D_x) \neq \emptyset$  and  $g$  is bounded on the set  $D_x x := \{ax : a \in D_x\}$ .

Then  $g$  is  $\mathbb{F}$ -homogenous (i.e.,  $g(\alpha x) = \alpha g(x)$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ ,  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ ).

*Proof.* For the proof (which actually is a routine by now) it is enough to note that, for each  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , the function  $g_x: \mathbb{F} \rightarrow Y$  such that  $g_x(a) = ax$  is additive and bounded on the set  $D_x$ , which means that it is continuous and consequently linear (see, e.g., [36]).  $\square$

It is well known that  $\text{int}(D - D) \neq \emptyset$  if a set  $D \subset \mathbb{F}$  (with  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ) has a positive inner Lebesgue measure or contains a subset of the second category and with the Baire property (see, e.g., [36]). For some information on related results see [30, 31, 36].

The subsequent lemma follows at once from [18, Theorem 1].

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $Y$  be normed spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow Y$ ,  $g(0) = 0$  and the following hypothesis be fulfilled.*

( $\mathcal{H}_2$ ) *There exists  $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus ([1, \infty) \times [0, \infty))$  such that*

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g(\alpha x) - \alpha g(x)\|}{|\alpha|^u + \|x\|^v} < \infty.$$

Then  $g$  is  $\mathbb{F}$ -homogenous.

The next lemma can be derived from [32, 48].

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $Y$  be normed spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow Y$ ,  $g(0) = 0$  and the following hypothesis be fulfilled.*

( $\mathcal{H}_3$ ) *There exists  $(u, v) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \{(1, 1)\}$  such that*

$$\sup_{x \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \alpha \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g(\alpha x) - \alpha g(x)\|}{|\alpha|^u \|x\|^v} < \infty.$$

Then  $g$  is  $\mathbb{F}$ -homogenous.

*Proof.* If  $u \neq v$ , then the statement follows from [48, Corollary 3] (attention: the assumption  $p \neq p_2$  in [48, Corollary 2] should be  $p_1 \neq p_2$ ). The case  $u = v \neq 1$  can be deduced from [32, Theorem 1] (with  $K(x) \equiv \|x\|^u$ ,  $\delta(\alpha) \equiv |\alpha|^v$ ,  $\psi(\alpha) \equiv |\alpha|^v$  and all ideals being trivial, i.e., equal to  $\{\emptyset\}$ ).  $\square$

Let us yet remind that an additive function  $h$ , mapping an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  into an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule  $\mathcal{M}$ , is a derivation provided that

$$h(xy) = xh(y) + yh(x), \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Now we are in a position to present the subsequent corollary, which corresponds to some recent results in, e.g., [33, 40, 41, 43].

**Corollary 5.4.** *Let  $\mathbb{F} \in \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}\}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  be a normed algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  be a normed  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule,  $\mathcal{A}$  has an element  $e$  that is not a zero divisor, and  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ . Assume that there exist  $p \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{0, 1, 1/2\}$  and  $k, l \in (-\infty, 0)$  such that*

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - g(x) - g(y)\|}{\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k} < \infty, \quad (5.1)$$

$$\sup_{x,y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g(xy) - g(x)y - xg(y)\|}{\|x\|^l \|y\|^l} < \infty. \quad (5.2)$$

Then  $g$  is a derivation. Moreover, if one of hypotheses  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ - $(\mathcal{H}_3)$  is valid, then  $g$  is linear.

*Proof.* Clearly (5.1) and (5.2) mean that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - g(x) - g(y)\| \\ & \leq M(\|x\|^k + \|y\|^k), \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\|g(xy) - g(x)y - xg(y)\| \leq M\|x\|^l \|y\|^l, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \quad (5.3)$$

with some  $M > 0$ . Hence, according to Theorem 3.1,  $g$  is  $p$ -Wright affine and consequently, by Proposition 2.2, there exist  $c \in \mathcal{M}$ , an additive  $A: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  and a quadratic  $B: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  such that

$$g(z) = B(z) + A(z) + c, \quad z \in \mathcal{A}. \quad (5.4)$$

Next, (5.3) with  $x$  replaced by  $sx$  and  $y$  replaced by  $ty$  ( $s, t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ) and (5.4) give

$$\begin{aligned} & \|stB(xy) + A(xy) - sB(x)y - A(x)y - txB(y) - xA(y) - s^{-1}t^{-1}c\| \\ & \leq M|s|^{l-1}|t|^{l-1}\|x\|^l \|y\|^l, \quad s, t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned}$$

whence

$$A(xy) = A(x)y + xA(y), \quad B(x)y = 0, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A}. \quad (5.5)$$

The second equality in (5.5), with  $y = e$ , means that  $B(x) = 0$  for  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ . Using this and (5.3)-(5.5) we have  $\|c\| \leq M\|x\|^l \|y\|^l$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}$ , whence  $c = 0$ , and consequently  $g = A$ .  $\square$

In the rest of this paper  $\mathcal{A}$  is a real or complex Lie algebra and  $\mathcal{M}$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule. For all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $u \in \mathcal{M}$ , the symbols  $[x, u]$  and  $[u, x]$  denote in  $\mathcal{M}$  the commutators  $xu - ux$  and  $ux - xu$ , respectively. Moreover, we say that an additive mapping  $d: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is a Lie derivation provided

$$d([x, y]) = [d(x), y] + [x, d(y)], \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A}.$$

**Corollary 5.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a normed Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  be a normed  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule, and  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ . Assume that there exist  $p \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0, 1, 1/2\}$ ,  $k \in (-\infty, 0)$ , and  $l \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$  such that (5.1) holds and*

$$\sup_{x,y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g([x, y]) - [g(x), y] - [x, g(y)]\|}{\|x\|^l \|y\|^l} < \infty. \quad (5.6)$$

Then  $g$  is a Lie derivation. Moreover, if one of hypotheses  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ - $(\mathcal{H}_3)$  is valid, then  $g$  is linear.

*Proof.* Clearly (5.6) means that

$$\|g([x, y]) - [g(x), y] - [x, g(y)]\| \leq M\|x\|^l \|y\|^l, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \quad (5.7)$$

with some  $M > 0$ . Next, as in the proof of Corollary 5.4, we obtain that there exist  $c \in \mathcal{M}$ , an additive  $A: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  and a quadratic  $B: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  such that (5.4) holds.

Note that condition (5.7) with  $y = x$  yields  $\|c\| \leq M\|x\|^{2l}$  for  $x \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}$ , whence  $c = 0$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & B(px + \widehat{p}y) + B(\widehat{p}x + py) \\ &= g(px + \widehat{p}y) + g(\widehat{p}x + py) - A(px + \widehat{p}y) - A(\widehat{p}x + py) \\ &= g(x) + g(y) - A(x) - A(y) = B(x) + B(y), \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A}. \end{aligned}$$

This, with  $y = 0$ , implies that

$$p^2B(x) + \widehat{p}^2B(x) = B(x), \quad x \in \mathcal{A},$$

because  $p$  is a rational number. Hence  $B(x) = 0$  for each  $x \in X$ , which means that  $g = A$ . Consequently, by (5.7) with  $x$  replaced by  $tx$  ( $t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} \|g([x, y]) - [g(x), y] - [x, g(y)]\| &\leq M|t|^{l-1}\|x\|^l\|y\|^l, \\ x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}, \end{aligned}$$

whence  $g$  is a Lie derivation.  $\square$

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a Lie algebra. In what follows we say that an additive mapping  $h: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a Lie homomorphism if

$$h([x, y]) = [h(x), h(y)], \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A}.$$

We end this paper with a corollary corresponding to the results in [16].

**Corollary 5.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a normed Lie algebra over  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  be a normed Lie algebra, and  $g: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ . Assume that there exist  $p \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0, 1, 1/2\}$ ,  $k \in (-\infty, 0)$ , and  $l \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$  such that (5.1) holds and*

$$\sup_{x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|g([x, y]) - [g(x), g(y)]\|}{\|x\|^l\|y\|^l} < \infty. \quad (5.8)$$

*Then  $g$  is a Lie homomorphism. Moreover, if one of hypotheses  $(\mathcal{H}_1)$ - $(\mathcal{H}_3)$  is valid and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a complex linear space over  $\mathbb{F}$  (i.e.,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a complex linear space when  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$ ), then  $g$  is linear.*

*Proof.* Condition (5.8) implies that

$$\|g([x, y]) - [g(x), g(y)]\| \leq M\|x\|^l\|y\|^l, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, \quad (5.9)$$

with some  $M > 0$ . Analogously as in the proof of Corollary 5.4, we obtain that there exist  $c \in \mathcal{B}$ , an additive  $A: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  and a quadratic  $B: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  such that  $g(z) = B(z) + A(z) + c$  for  $z \in \mathcal{A}$ . Next, as in the proof of Corollary 5.5, we show that  $c = 0$  and  $B(x) = 0$  for  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , which means that  $g$  is additive. Consequently, by (5.9) with  $x$  replaced by  $tx$  ( $t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$ ),

$$\|g([x, y]) - [g(x), g(y)]\| \leq M|t|^{l-1}\|x\|^l\|y\|^l, \quad x, y \in \mathcal{A} \setminus \{0\}, t \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\},$$

whence  $g$  is a Lie homomorphism.  $\square$

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