

## SOME GEOMETRIC CONSTANTS OF ABSOLUTE NORMALIZED NORMS ON $\mathbb{R}^2$

HIROYASU MIZUGUCHI AND KICHI-SUKE SAITO\*

Communicated by J. I. Fujii

ABSTRACT. We consider the Banach space  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|)$  with a normalized, absolute norm. Our aim in this paper is to calculate the modified Neumann-Jordan constant  $C'_{NJ}(X)$  and the Zbăganu constant  $C_Z(X)$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Let  $X$  be a Banach space with the unit ball  $B_X = \{x \in X : \|x\| \leq 1\}$  and the unit sphere  $S_X = \{x \in X : \|x\| = 1\}$ . Many geometric constants for a Banach space  $X$  have been investigated. In this paper we shall consider the following constants;

$$C_{NJ}(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x+y\|^2 + \|x-y\|^2}{2(\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2)} \mid (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \right\},$$

$$C'_{NJ}(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x+y\|^2 + \|x-y\|^2}{4} \mid x, y \in S_X \right\},$$

$$C_Z(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x+y\|\|x-y\|}{\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2} \mid x, y \in X, (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \right\}.$$

The constant  $C_{NJ}(X)$ , called the von Neumann-Jordan constant (hereafter referred to as NJ constant) have been considered in many papers ([3, 8, 10, 12] and so on). The constant  $C'_{NJ}(X)$ , called the modified von Neumann-Jordan constant (shortly, modified NJ constant) was introduced by Gao in [5] and does not necessarily coincide with  $C_{NJ}(X)$  (cf. [1, 4, 7]). The constant  $C_Z(X)$  was introduced by Zbăganu ([15]) and was conjectured that  $C_Z(X)$  coincides with

---

*Date:* Received: 31 March 2011; Accepted: 14 June 2011.

\* Corresponding author.

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 46B20; Secondary 46B25.

*Key words and phrases.* Zbăganu constant, absolute norm, von Neumann-Jordan constant.

the von Neumann-Jordan constant  $C_{NJ}(X)$ , but Alonso and Martin [2] gave an example that  $C_{NJ}(X) \neq C_Z(X)$  (cf.[6, 9]).

A norm  $\|\cdot\|$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is said to be absolute if  $\|(a, b)\| = \||a|, |b|\|$  for any  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , and normalized if  $\|(1, 0)\| = \|(0, 1)\| = 1$ . Let  $AN_2$  denote the family of all absolute normalized norm on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and  $\Psi_2$  denote the family of all continuous convex function  $\psi$  on  $[0, 1]$  such that  $\psi(0) = \psi(1) = 1$  and  $\max\{1-t, t\} \leq \psi(t) \leq 1$  for all  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ . As in [11], it is well known that  $AN_2$  and  $\Psi_2$  are in a one-to-one correspondence under the equation  $\psi(t) = \|(1-t, t)\|$  ( $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ). Denote  $\|\cdot\|_\psi$  be an absolute normalized norm associated with a convex function  $\psi \in \Psi_2$ .

For  $\psi, \varphi \in \Psi_2$ , we denote  $\psi \leq \varphi$  if  $\psi(t) \leq \varphi(t)$  for any  $t$  in  $[0, 1]$ . Let

$$M_1 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \frac{\psi(t)}{\psi_2(t)} \text{ and } M_2 = \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \frac{\psi_2(t)}{\psi(t)},$$

where  $\psi_2(t) = \|(1-t, t)\|_2 = \sqrt{(1-t)^2 + t^2}$  corresponds to the  $l_2$ -norm. In [11], Saito, Kato and Takahashi proved that, if  $\psi \geq \psi_2$  (resp.  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ ), then  $C_{NJ}(\mathbb{C}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2$  (resp.  $M_2^2$ ).

We put  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$  for  $\psi \in \Psi_2$ . Our aim in this paper is to consider the conditions of  $\psi$  that  $C_{NJ}(X) = C_Z(X)$  or  $C_{NJ}(X) = C'_{NJ}(X)$ .

In §2, we consider the modified von Neumann-Jordan constant. We prove that if  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ , then  $C'_{NJ}(X) = C_{NJ}(X) = M_2^2$ . If  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ , then we present the necessarily and sufficient condition that  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2$ . Further, we consider the conditions that  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ . In §3, we study the Zbăganu constant. First, we show that, if  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ , then  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2$ . If  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ , then we give the necessarily and sufficient condition for that  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_2^2$ . Further we study the conditions that  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ . In §4, we calculate the modified NJ-constant  $C'_{NJ}(X)$  and the Zbăganu constant  $C_Z(X)$  for some normed linear spaces.

## 2. THE MODIFIED NJ CONSTANT OF $\mathbb{R}^2$

In this section, we consider the Banach space  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$ . From the definition of the modified NJ constant, it is clear that  $C'_{NJ}(X) \leq C_{NJ}(X)$ . In this section, we consider the condition that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = C_{NJ}(X)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$ . If  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ , then  $C'_{NJ}(X) = C_{NJ}(X) = M_2^2$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $x, y \in S_X$ , by [11, Lemma 3],

$$\begin{aligned} \|x+y\|_\psi^2 + \|x-y\|_\psi^2 &\leq \|x+y\|_2^2 + \|x-y\|_2^2 \\ &= 2(\|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2) \\ &\leq 2M_2^2(\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2) = 4M_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now let  $\psi_2/\psi$  attain the maximum at  $t = t_0$  ( $0 \leq t_0 \leq 1$ ), and put

$$x = \frac{1}{\psi(t_0)}(1-t_0, t_0), \quad y = \frac{1}{\psi(t_0)}(1-t_0, -t_0).$$

Then  $x, y \in S_X$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 &= \frac{4(1 - t_0)^2 + 4t_0^2}{\psi(t_0)^2} \\ &= 4 \frac{\psi_2(t_0)^2}{\psi(t_0)^2} = 4M_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_2^2$ . By [11, Theorem 1], we have this proposition.  $\square$

If  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ , by [11, Theorem 1], then  $C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$ . We now give the necessarily and sufficient condition of  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  such that  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ . Then  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$  if and only if there exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying one of the following conditions:*

(1)  $\psi(s) = \psi_2(s)$ ,  $\psi(t) = \psi_2(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(s)t + \psi(t)s}{\psi(s) + \psi(t)}$ , then  $\frac{\psi(r)}{\psi_2(r)} = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)} = M_1$ .

(2)  $\psi(s) = \psi_2(s)$ ,  $\psi(t) = \psi_2(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(t)s + \psi(s)t}{\psi(t) + \psi(s)(2t-1)}$ , then  $\frac{\psi(r)}{\psi_2(r)} = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)} = M_1$ .

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ) Suppose that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$ . First, for any  $x, y \in S_X$ , by [11, Lemma 3], we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 &\leq M_1^2(\|x + y\|_2^2 + \|x - y\|_2^2) \\ &= 2M_1^2(\|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2) \\ &\leq 2M_1^2(\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2) = 4M_1^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$  is finite dimensional,

$$C'_{NJ}(X) = \max \left\{ \frac{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2}{4} \mid x, y \in S_X \right\}.$$

Therefore,  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$  if and only if there exist  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) such that

$$\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 = 4M_1^2.$$

From the above inequality, the elements  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) satisfy  $\|x\|_\psi = \|x\|_2 = 1$ ,  $\|y\|_\psi = \|y\|_2 = 1$  and

$$\frac{\|x + y\|_\psi}{\|x + y\|_2} = \frac{\|x - y\|_\psi}{\|x - y\|_2} = M_1.$$

Since  $\|\cdot\|_\psi$  is absolute and  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) satisfy  $\|x\|_2 = \|y\|_2 = 1$ , it is sufficient to consider the following three cases:

(i) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s \neq t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(1 - t, t)$ .

(ii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

(iii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s > t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

Case (i). We may suppose that  $s < t$ . Then there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  ( $\alpha < \beta$ ) such that

$$x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s) = (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha), \quad y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(1 - t, t) = (\cos \beta, \sin \beta).$$

Since  $\|x\|_2 = \|y\|_2 = 1$ , we have

$$x + y = \left( \frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} + \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} + \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)} \right) = \|x + y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right).$$

By [13, Propositions 2a and 2b], we remark that

$$\frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} \geq \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \quad \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} \leq \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)}.$$

Since  $x - y$  is orthogonal to  $x + y$  in the Euclidean space  $(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= \left( \frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} - \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} - \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)} \right) \\ &= \|x - y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta - \pi}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta - \pi}{2} \right) \\ &= \|x - y\|_2 \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, -\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi &= \|x + y\|_2 \left\| \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \right\|_\psi \\ &= \|x + y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|x + y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x + y\|_2$ , we have

$$M_1 = \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right).$$

Putting  $r = \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}$ , then it is clear that  $r = \frac{\psi(s)t + \psi(t)s}{\psi(s) + \psi(t)}$  and  $M_1 = \frac{\psi(r)}{\psi_2(r)}$ .

We also have

$$\|x - y\|_\psi = \|x - y\|_2 \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right).$$

Since  $\|x - y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x - y\|_2$ , we similarly have

$$M_1 = \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right) = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)}.$$

Case (ii). Then there exist  $\alpha \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2}]$  and  $\beta \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]$  such that

$$x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s) = (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha), \quad y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1 + t, t) = (\cos \beta, \sin \beta).$$

Since  $\|x\|_2 = \|y\|_2 = 1$ , we have

$$x + y = \left( \frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} - \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} + \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)} \right) = \|x + y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right).$$

By [13, Propositions 2a and 2b], we remark that

$$\frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} \geq \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \quad \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} \leq \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)}.$$

Since  $x - y$  is orthogonal to  $x + y$  in the Euclidean space  $(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_2)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} x - y &= \left( \frac{1-s}{\psi_2(s)} + \frac{1-t}{\psi_2(t)}, \frac{s}{\psi_2(s)} - \frac{t}{\psi_2(t)} \right) \\ &= \|x - y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta - \pi}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta - \pi}{2} \right) \\ &= \|x - y\|_2 \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, -\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \geq 0$  and  $\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi &= \|x + y\|_2 \left\| \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}, \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \right\|_\psi \\ &= \|x + y\|_2 \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|x + y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x + y\|_2$ , we have

$$M_1 = \left( \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right).$$

Putting  $r = \frac{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}$ , then it is clear that  $r = \frac{\psi(t)s + \psi(s)t}{\psi(t) + \psi(s)(2t-1)}$  and  $M_1 = \frac{\psi(r)}{\psi_2(r)}$ . We also have

$$\|x - y\|_\psi = \|x - y\|_2 \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right).$$

Since  $\|x - y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x - y\|_2$ , we similarly have

$$M_1 = \left( \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \right) \psi \left( \frac{\cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}}{\sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} + \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}} \right) = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)}.$$

Case (iii). There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s > t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1-s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1+t, t)$ . Then, we put  $s_0 = t$  and  $t_0 = s$ . We define  $x_0, y_0$  in  $S_X$  by

$$x_0 = \frac{1}{\psi(s_0)}(1-s_0, s_0), \quad y_0 = \frac{1}{\psi(t_0)}(-1+t_0, t_0).$$

Then we can reduce Case (ii).

( $\Leftarrow$ ). If we suppose (1) (resp. (2)), then we put  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1-s, s)$  (resp.  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1-s, s)$ ) and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(1-t, t)$  (resp.  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1+t, t)$ ). Then we have  $\|x\|_\psi = \|x\|_2 = 1$ ,  $\|y\|_\psi = \|y\|_2 = 1$ ,  $\|x + y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x + y\|_2$  and

$\|x - y\|_\psi = M_1\|x - y\|_2$ . Hence it is clear to prove that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

We next study the modified NJ constant in the general case. If  $\psi \in \Psi$ , then by [11, Theorem 3], we have

$$\max\{M_1^2, M_2^2\} \leq C_{NJ}(X) \leq M_1^2 M_2^2.$$

However, by Theorem 2.2, there exist many  $\psi \in \Psi$  satisfying  $\psi \geq \psi_2$  such that

$$C'_{NJ}(X) < \max\{M_1^2, M_2^2\} = C_{NJ}(X).$$

From [11, Theorem 3],  $C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$  if either  $\psi/\psi_2$  or  $\psi_2/\psi$  attains a maximum at  $t = 1/2$ . Then, we have the following

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  and let  $\psi(t) = \psi(1 - t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . If  $\psi/\psi_2$  attains a maximum at  $t = 1/2$ , then  $C'_{NJ}(X) = C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose first  $M_1 = \psi(1/2)/\psi_2(1/2)$ . Take an arbitrary  $t \in [0, 1]$  and put

$$x = \frac{1}{\psi(t)}(t, 1 - t), \quad y = \frac{1}{\psi(t)}(1 - t, t).$$

Then  $x, y \in S_X$  and

$$\|x + y\|_\psi = \frac{2}{\psi(t)}\psi\left(\frac{1}{2}\right), \quad \|x - y\|_\psi = \frac{2|2t - 1|}{\psi(t)}\psi\left(\frac{1}{2}\right).$$

Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2}{4} &= \{(2t - 1)^2 + 1\} \frac{\psi(1/2)^2}{\psi(t)^2} \\ &= 2\psi_2(t)^2 \frac{\psi(1/2)^2}{\psi(t)^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi_2(t)^2}{\psi(t)^2} \frac{\psi(1/2)^2}{\psi_2(1/2)^2} = M_1^2 \frac{\psi_2(t)^2}{\psi(t)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $t$  is arbitrary, we have  $C'_{NJ}(X) \geq M_1^2 M_2^2$  which prove that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ .  $\square$

In the case that  $M_2 = \psi_2(1/2)/\psi(1/2)$ ,  $C'_{NJ}(X)$  does not necessarily coincide with  $M_1^2 M_2^2$ . However, we have the following

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  and let  $\psi(t) = \psi(1 - t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Assume that  $M_2 = \psi_2(1/2)/\psi(1/2)$  and  $M_1 > 1$ . Then  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$  if and only if there exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying one of the following conditions:*

(1)  $\psi_2(s) = M_2\psi(s)$ ,  $\psi_2(t) = M_2\psi(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(s)t + \psi(t)s}{\psi(s) + \psi(t)}$ , then  $\psi(r) = M_1\psi_2(r)$ .

(2)  $\psi_2(s) = M_2\psi(s)$ ,  $\psi_2(t) = M_2\psi(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(t)s + \psi(s)t}{\psi(t) + \psi(s)(2t-1)}$ , then  $\psi(r) = M_1\psi_2(r)$ .

*Proof.* ( $\implies$ ). For all  $x, y \in S_X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 &\leq M_1^2 (\|x + y\|_2^2 + \|x - y\|_2^2) \\ &= 2M_1^2 (\|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2) \\ &\leq 2M_1^2 M_2^2 (\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2) = 4M_1^2 M_2^2. \end{aligned}$$

From this inequality,  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$  if and only if there exist  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) such that

$$\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 = 4M_1^2 M_2^2.$$

Suppose that  $C'_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ . Then, the elements  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) satisfy

$$\|x\|_2 = \|y\|_2 = M_2, \quad \|x + y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x + y\|_2, \quad \|x - y\|_\psi = M_1 \|x - y\|_2.$$

Since  $\|\cdot\|_\psi$  is absolute, it is sufficient to consider the following three cases:

(i) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s \neq t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi(t)}(1 - t, t)$ .

(ii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

(iii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s > t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

As in the proof of Theorem 2.2, we can prove this theorem. This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3. THE ZBĀGANU CONSTANT OF $\mathbb{R}^2$

The Zbăganu constant  $C_Z(X)$  in [15] is defined by

$$C_Z(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{\|x + y\| \|x - y\|}{\|x\|^2 + \|y\|^2} \mid x, y \in X, (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \right\}.$$

Then it is clear that  $C_Z(X) \leq C_{NJ}(X)$  for any Banach space  $X$ . In this section, we consider the condition that  $C_Z(X) = C_{NJ}(X)$  for  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$ . Then, we have the following

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$ . If  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ , then  $C_Z(X) = C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 2\|x + y\|_\psi \|x - y\|_\psi &\leq \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 \\ &\leq M_1^2 (\|x + y\|_2^2 + \|x - y\|_2^2) \\ &= 2M_1^2 (\|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2) \\ &\leq 2M_1^2 (\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\psi/\psi_2$  attains the maximum at  $t = t_0$  ( $0 \leq t_0 \leq 1$ ), we put  $x = (1 - t_0, 0)$  and  $y = (0, t_0)$ , respectively. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 &= 2\psi(t_0)^2 \\ &= 2M_1^2 \psi_2(t_0)^2 \\ &= 2M_1^2 (\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|x + y\|_\psi = \psi(t_0) = \|x - y\|_\psi$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2\|x + y\|_\psi \|x - y\|_\psi &= \|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2 \\ &= 2M_1^2 (\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have

$$\frac{\|x + y\|_\psi \|x - y\|_\psi}{\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2} = M_1^2,$$

which implies that  $C_Z(X) = M_1^2$ .  $\square$

We next consider the case that  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ . We remark that the Zbăganu constant  $C_Z(X)$  is in the following form;

$$C_Z(X) = \sup \left\{ \frac{4\|x\| \|y\|}{\|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2} \mid x, y \in X, (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \right\}.$$

Then we have the following

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$ . Assume that  $\psi \leq \psi_2$ . Then  $C_Z(X) = M_2^2$  if and only if there exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying one of the following conditions:*

(1)  $\psi(s) = \psi_2(s)$ ,  $\psi(t) = \psi_2(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(s)t + \psi(t)s}{\psi(s) + \psi(t)}$ , then  $\frac{\psi_2(r)}{\psi(r)} = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)} = M_2$ .

(2)  $\psi(s) = \psi_2(s)$ ,  $\psi(t) = \psi_2(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(t)s + \psi(s)t}{\psi(t) + \psi(s)(2t-1)}$ , then  $\frac{\psi_2(r)}{\psi(r)} = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)} = M_2$ .

*Proof.* For any  $x, y \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} 4\|x\|_\psi \|y\|_\psi &\leq 2(\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2) \\ &\leq 2(\|x\|_2^2 + \|y\|_2^2) \\ &= \|x + y\|_2^2 + \|x - y\|_2^2 \\ &\leq M_2^2 (\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$  is finite dimensional,

$$C_Z(X) = \max \left\{ \frac{4\|x\|_\psi \|y\|_\psi}{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2} \mid x, y \in X, (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \right\}.$$

Then  $C_Z(X) = M_2^2$  if and only if there exist  $x, y \in S_X$  ( $x \neq y$ ) such that

$$\frac{4\|x\|_\psi \|y\|_\psi}{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2} = M_2^2.$$

From the above inequality,  $\|x\|_2 = \|x\|_\psi = \|y\|_\psi = \|y\|_2$  and

$$\frac{\|x + y\|_2}{\|x + y\|_\psi} = \frac{\|x - y\|_2}{\|x - y\|_\psi} = M_2^2.$$

Hence we may assume that

$$\|x\|_2 = \|x\|_\psi = \|y\|_\psi = \|y\|_2 = 1.$$



As in the proof of Theorem 2.2, it is sufficient to consider the following three cases:

(i) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s \neq t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(1 - t, t)$ .

(ii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

(iii) There exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s > t$ ) satisfying  $x = \frac{1}{\psi_2(s)}(1 - s, s)$  and  $y = \frac{1}{\psi_2(t)}(-1 + t, t)$ .

As in the proof of Theorem 2.2, we can similarly prove this theorem.  $\square$

We next study the Zbăganu constant  $C_Z(X)$  in general case. If  $\psi \in \Psi$ , by [11, Theorem 3], then we have

$$\max\{M_1^2, M_2^2\} \leq C_Z(X) \leq C_{NJ}(X) \leq M_1^2 M_2^2.$$

However, by Theorem 3.2, there exist many  $\psi \in \Psi$  satisfying  $\psi \geq \psi_2$  such that

$$C_Z(X) < C_{NJ}(X) \leq \max\{M_1^2, M_2^2\}.$$

From [11, Theorem 3],  $C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$  if either  $\psi/\psi_2$  or  $\psi_2/\psi$  attains a maximum at  $t = 1/2$ . Then, we have the following

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  and let  $\psi(t) = \psi(1 - t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . If  $M_2 = \frac{\psi_2(1/2)}{\psi(1/2)}$ , then  $C_Z(X) = C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ .*

*Proof.* From the definition, we have  $C_Z(X) \leq C_{NJ}(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ . Take an arbitrary  $t \in [0, 1]$  and put  $x = (t, 1 - t)$  and  $y = (1 - t, t)$ . Then  $\|x\|_\psi = \|y\|_\psi = \psi(t)$  and  $\|x + y\|_\psi = \|(1, 1)\|_\psi = 2\psi(1/2)$ ,  $\|x - y\|_\psi = \|(2t - 1, 1 - 2t)\|_\psi = 2|2t - 1|\psi(1/2)$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4\|x\|_\psi\|y\|_\psi}{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2} &= \frac{2(\|x\|_\psi^2 + \|y\|_\psi^2)}{\|x + y\|_\psi^2 + \|x - y\|_\psi^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi(t)^2}{(1 + (2t - 1)^2)\psi(1/2)^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi(t)^2}{2\psi_2(t)^2\psi(1/2)^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi(t)^2}{\psi_2(t)^2} \frac{\psi_2(1/2)^2}{\psi(1/2)^2} = M_2^2 \frac{\psi(t)^2}{\psi_2(t)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $t$  is arbitrary, we have  $C_Z(X) \geq M_1^2 M_2^2$ . Therefore we have  $C_Z(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

In case that  $M_1 = \psi(1/2)/\psi_2(1/2)$ , we have the following theorem as in the proof of Theorem 2.2 and so omit the proof.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  and let  $\psi(t) = \psi(1 - t)$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . If  $M_1 = \frac{\psi(1/2)}{\psi_2(1/2)}$  and  $M_2 > 1$ , then  $C_Z(X) = M_1^2 M_2^2$  if and only if there exist  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  ( $s < t$ ) satisfying one of the following conditions:*

(1)  $\psi_2(s) = M_2\psi(s)$ ,  $\psi_2(t) = M_2\psi(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(s)t + \psi(t)s}{\psi(s) + \psi(t)}$ , then  $\psi(r) = M_1\psi_2(r)$ .

(2)  $\psi_2(s) = M_2\psi(s)$ ,  $\psi_2(t) = M_2\psi(t)$  and, if we put  $r = \frac{\psi(t)s + \psi(s)t}{\psi(t) + \psi(s)(2t-1)}$ , then  $\psi(r) = M_1\psi_2(r)$ .

#### 4. EXAMPLES

In this section, we calculate  $C'_{NJ}(X)$  and  $C_Z(X)$  of some Banach spaces  $X = (\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi)$ , where  $\psi \in \Psi$ . First, we consider the case that  $\psi = \psi_p$ .

**Example 4.1.** Let  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and  $1/p + 1/q = 1$ . We put  $t = \min(p, q)$ . Then  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = 2^{\frac{2}{t}-1}$ .

Suppose that  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . Since  $\psi_p \geq \psi_2$ , we have  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = 2^{\frac{2}{p}-1}$  by Proposition 3.1. On the other hand, as in Theorem 2.2, we take  $s = 0$  and  $t = 1$ . Since  $r = \frac{\psi(0) \cdot 1 + \psi(1) \cdot 0}{\psi(0) + \psi(1)} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $M_1 = \psi_p(1/2)/\psi_2(1/2) = 2^{\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{2}}$ , by Theorem 2.2, we have  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = M_1^2 = 2^{\frac{2}{p}-1}$ .

If  $2 \leq p \leq \infty$ , then we similarly have, by Proposition 2.1 and Theorem 3.2,  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_p) = 2^{\frac{2}{p}-1}$ .

In [14, Example], C. Yang and H. Li calculated the modified NJ constant of the following normed linear space. From our theorems, we have

**Example 4.2.** Let  $\lambda > 0$  and  $X_\lambda = \mathbb{R}^2$  endowed with norm

$$\|(x, y)\|_\lambda = (\|(x, y)\|_p^2 + \lambda\|(x, y)\|_q^2)^{1/2}.$$

(i) If  $2 \leq p \leq q \leq \infty$ , then  $C_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = C'_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = C_Z(X_\lambda) = \frac{2(\lambda+1)}{2^{2/p+\lambda 2^{2/q}}}$ .

(ii) If  $1 \leq p \leq q \leq 2$ , then  $C_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = C'_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = C_Z(X_\lambda) = \frac{2^{2/p+\lambda 2^{2/q}}}{2(\lambda+1)}$ .

To see this, first, we remark that  $(p, q)$  is not necessarily a Hölder pair. We define the normalized norm  $\|\cdot\|_\lambda^0$  by

$$\|(x, y)\|_\lambda^0 = \frac{\|(x, y)\|_\lambda}{\sqrt{1+\lambda}}.$$

Then  $\|\cdot\|_\lambda^0$  is absolute and so put the corresponding function  $\psi_\lambda(t) = \|(1-t, t)\|_\lambda^0$ .

(i) Suppose that  $2 \leq p \leq q \leq \infty$ . Since  $\psi_\lambda \leq \psi_2$ , by Proposition 2.1, we have  $C_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = C'_{NJ}(X_\lambda) = M_2^2 = \frac{2(\lambda+1)}{2^{2/p+\lambda 2^{2/q}}}$ . On the other hand, in Theorem 3.2, we take  $s = 0$  and  $t = 1$ . Then we have  $r = 1/2$  and  $\frac{\psi_2(1/2)}{\psi_\lambda(1/2)} = M_2$ . Thus we have  $C_Z(X_\lambda) = M_2^2 = \frac{2^{2/p+\lambda 2^{2/q}}}{2(\lambda+1)}$ .

(ii) Suppose that  $1 \leq p \leq q \leq 2$ . Since  $\psi_\lambda \geq \psi_2$ , by Theorem 2.2 and Proposition 3.1, we similarly have (ii).

**Example 4.3.** Put

$$\psi(t) = \begin{cases} \psi_2(t) & (0 \leq t \leq 1/2), \\ (2 - \sqrt{2})t + \sqrt{2} - 1 & (1/2 \leq t \leq 1). \end{cases}$$

Then  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) < C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} - 1)$ .

In fact,  $\psi \in \Psi_2$  and the norm of  $\|\cdot\|_\psi$  is

$$\|(a, b)\|_\psi = \begin{cases} \sqrt{|a|^2 + |b|^2} & (|a| \geq |b|) \\ (\sqrt{2} - 1)|a| + |b| & (|a| \leq |b|). \end{cases}$$

Since  $\psi \geq \psi_2$ , by Proposition 3.1, we have  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2 = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} - 1)$ .

We assume that  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) = M_1^2$ . By Theorem 2.2, we can choose  $r \in [0, 1]$  such that  $\frac{\psi(r)}{\psi_2(r)} = \frac{\psi(1-r)}{\psi_2(1-r)} = M_1$ . This is impossible by the definition of  $\psi$ . Therefore we have  $C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\psi) < M_1^2$ .

**Example 4.4.** Let  $1/2 \leq \beta \leq 1$ . We define a convex function  $\psi_\beta \in \Psi_2$  by

$$\psi_\beta(t) = \max\{1 - t, t, \beta\}.$$

By [11, Example 4], we have

$$C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = \begin{cases} \frac{\beta^2 + (1 - \beta)^2}{\beta^2} & (\beta \in [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}]) \\ 2(\beta^2 + (1 - \beta)^2) & (\beta \in (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 1]). \end{cases}$$

Indeed,

$$M_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & (\beta \in [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}]) \\ \frac{\psi_\beta(1/2)}{\psi_2(1/2)} = \frac{\beta}{1/\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{2}\beta & (\beta \in (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 1]) \end{cases}$$

and

$$M_2 = \frac{\psi_2(\beta)}{\psi_\beta(\beta)} = \frac{1}{\beta} \{(1 - \beta)^2 + \beta^2\}^{1/2}.$$

If  $1/2 \leq \beta \leq 1/\sqrt{2}$ , then  $\psi_\beta \leq \psi_2$  and so, by Proposition 2.1, we have

$$C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = M_2^2 = \frac{\beta^2 + (1 - \beta)^2}{\beta^2}.$$

By Theorem 3.2, we have  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) < M_2^2$ .

Assume that  $1/\sqrt{2} < \beta \leq 1$ . Since  $M_1 = \frac{\psi_\beta(1/2)}{\psi_2(1/2)}$ , we have, by Proposition 2.3,

$$C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = M_1^2 M_2^2 = 2(\beta^2 + (1 - \beta)^2).$$

On the other hand, we take  $s = \beta$  and  $t = 1 - \beta$  in Theorem 3.4. Then we have  $r = \frac{\psi(\beta)(1-\beta) + \psi(1-\beta)\beta}{\psi(\beta) + \psi(1-\beta)} = 1/2$ . By Theorem 3.4, we have

$$C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = M_1^2 M_2^2 = 2(\beta^2 + (1 - \beta)^2).$$

**Example 4.5.** We consider  $\psi_\beta$  in Example 4.4 in case of  $\beta = 1/\sqrt{2}$ . Then we have

$$C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = M_2^2 = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} - 1).$$

On the other hand, we have  $C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_{\psi_\beta}) = M_2^2 = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} - 1)$ .

For this  $\psi_\beta$ , define a convex function  $\varphi \in \Psi_2$  by

$$\varphi(t) = \begin{cases} \psi_\beta(t) & (0 \leq t \leq 1/2), \\ \psi_2(t) & (1/2 \leq t \leq 1). \end{cases}$$

As in Example 4.2, we similarly have

$$C_Z(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\varphi) < C'_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\varphi) = C_{NJ}(\mathbb{R}^2, \|\cdot\|_\varphi) = M_2^2 = 2\sqrt{2}(\sqrt{2} - 1).$$

**Acknowledgement.** The second author is supported in part by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (No. 23540189). The authors would also like to thank the referees for some helpful comments.

#### REFERENCES

1. J. Alonso, P. Martin and P.L. Papini, *Wheeling around von Neumann-Jordan constant in Banach Spaces*, Studia Math. **188** (2008), no. 2, 135–150.
2. J. Alonso and P. Martin, *A counterexample for a conjecture of G. Zbăganu about the Neumann-Jordan constant*, Rev. Roumaine Math. Pures Appl. **51** (2006), 135–141.
3. J.A. Clarkson, *The von Neumann-Jordan constant for the Lebesgue spaces*, Ann. of Math. (2) **38** (1937), no. 1, 114–115.
4. J. Gao, *A Pythagorean approach in Banach spaces*, J. Inequal. Appl. (2006), Art. ID 94982, 1–11.
5. J. Gao and K. Lau, *On the geometry of spheres in normed linear spaces*, J. Austral. Math. Soc., **48**(1990), 101–112.
6. J. Gao and S. Saejung, *Normal structure and the generalized James and Zbăganu constant*, Nonlinear Anal. **71** (2009), no. 7-8, 3047–3052.
7. J. Gao and S. Saejung, *Some geometric measures of spheres in Banach spaces*, Appl. Math. Comput. **214** (2009), no. 1, 102–107.
8. P. Jordan and J. von Neumann, *On inner products in linear metric spaces*, Ann. of Math. (2) **36** (1935), no. 3, 719–723.
9. E. Llorens-Fuster, E.M. Mazcuñán-Navarro and S. Reich, *The Ptolemy and Zbăganu constants of normed spaces*, Nonlinear Anal. **72** (2010), no. 11, 3984–3993.
10. M. Kato and Y. Takahashi, *On sharp estimates concerning von Neumann-Jordan and James constants for a Banach space*, Rend. Circ. Mat. Palermo, Serie II, Suppl. **82** (2010), 1–17.
11. K.-S. Saito, M. Kato and Y. Takahashi, *Von Neumann-Jordan constant of absolute normalized norms on  $\mathbb{C}^2$* , J. Math. Anal. Appl. **244** (2000), no. 2, 515–532.
12. Y. Takahashi and M. Kato, *A simple inequality for the von Neumann-Jordan and James constants of a Banach space*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **359** (2009), no. 2, 602–609.
13. Y. Takahashi, M. Kato and K. -S. Saito, *Strict convexity of absolute norms on  $\mathbb{C}^2$  and direct sums of Banach spaces*, J. Inequal. Appl., **7**(2002), 179–186.
14. C. Yang and H. Li, *An inequality between Jordan-con Neumann constant and James constant*, Appl. Math. Lett. **23** (2010), no. 3, 277–281.
15. G. Zbăganu, *An inequality of M. Rădulescu and S. Rădulescu which characterizes inner product spaces*, Rev. Roumaine Math. Pures Appl. **47** (2001), 253–257.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, NIIGATA UNIVERSITY, NIIGATA, 950-2181 JAPAN.

*E-mail address:* [mizuguchi@math.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:mizuguchi@math.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp)

*E-mail address:* [saito@math.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp](mailto:saito@math.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp)