

# Original Research Article

## APROXIMATIONS IN DIVISIBLE GROUPS: PART I

### ABSTRACT

We prove a general Dirichlet-type approximation theorem in the setting of Cauchy sequences in normed divisible groups. Essentially, we demonstrate that the concept of approximation exponents are extendable to elements belonging to the completion of a normed uniquely-divisible group, where the approximation is given in terms of quasi-order functions on the pre-complete group.

**KEYWORDS:** Divisible Groups, Cauchy Sequences, Group Norms, Proximity Functions

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The study of group theory naturally leads to problem of finding elements of a group that belongs to cyclic subgroups of the group. It is easy to see that there are groups for which some elements do not belong to any cyclic subgroup other than those generated by the elements; for instance, a prime number does not belong to any cyclic subgroup of the multiplicative group of rational numbers other than that generated by the prime itself. To study the groups for which every element belongs a cyclic group generated by some other element, the notion of *divisible groups* are important. To be precise, a divisible group is a group  $(G, \cdot)$  such that for every  $g \in G$  and natural number  $n$  there is an  $h \in G$  such that  $g = h^n := h \cdot h^{n-1}$ —we shall informally say that  $G$  has  $n$ -th roots for all  $n$ . Classically, divisible groups appeared in the theory of Abelian groups; in particular, every Abelian group can be naturally embedded in an Abelian divisible group and an Abelian group is divisible if and only if it is an injective object in the category of Abelian groups (Griffith (1970), Feigelstock (2006), Lang (1984)); moreover in the Abelian, or generally locally nilpotent, torsion-free case Malcev (1949), every divisible group is a *uniquely divisible group*: that is,  $g^n = h^n$  implies  $g = h$ . In any case, non-trivial Abelian divisible groups are not finitely generated, which is easily demonstrable via the Fundamental Theorem of Finitely-generated Abelian groups, and uniquely divisible groups are necessarily torsion free. A foremost example is the group of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  under addition. In another but similar vein, given a prime number  $p$ , a *p-divisible* group is a group with  $p$ -th roots. We extend this further to a subset  $\varpi$  of the prime numbers by defining  *$\varpi$ -divisible* groups as groups with  $p$ -th roots for all  $p \in \varpi$  (this is not standard, for instance Baumslag (1958) calls these  $E_{\varpi}$ -groups); when  $\varpi$  is the whole of the primes, then we get the divisible groups. The archetypal examples are the additive subgroups of  $\mathbb{Q}$  given by  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\} = \{q \in \mathbb{Q} : p \mid D(q) \Rightarrow p \in \varpi\}$ .

42  $\varpi\}$  where  $D(q)$  is the denominator of  $q$ . We say a group is *uniquely  $\varpi$ -divisible* if it  
 43 is  *$\varpi$ -divisible* group with unique roots. As a further example, if  $\varpi$  is all of the  
 44 prime numbers, then a vector space over a field of characteristic  $k$  is a well-defined  
 45 uniquely  $\varpi \setminus \{k\}$ -divisible group; this latter example shows *that uniquely  $\varpi$ -divisible*  
 46 groups can be cyclic groups, torsion groups or finitely generated groups, in  
 47 contradistinction to uniquely divisible Abelian groups (the finite fields, being of  
 48 prime characteristics, are such examples).

49

## 50 2.0 SALIENT EXPOSITION ON NOTATION AND MOTIVATION

51 Now given a  *$\varpi$ -divisible group*  $(G, \cdot)$ , henceforward the notation  $g^r$ , where  
 52  $r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\varpi\}$  and  $g \in G$ , shall denote (one of possibly many elements)  $h \in G$  such that  
 53  $g^n = h^d$  where  $r = n/d$  with  $\gcd(n, d) = 1$ ; in particular,  $g^r$  represents a unique  
 54 element in  $G$  if  $G$  is a uniquely  $\varpi$ -divisible group. Now if we denote by  $|\cdot|: \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\varpi\} \rightarrow$   
 55  $\mathbb{R}$  an absolute value function from  $\mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\varpi\}$  to the real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ , then Ostrowski  
 56 (1916) showed that  $|\cdot|$  is, up to equivalence, the usual absolute value  $|\cdot|_\infty$  on the real  
 57 numbers or the usual absolute value  $|\cdot|_p$  on the  $p$ -adic numbers for a prime  $p$ .  
 58 When  $|\cdot| := |\cdot|_\infty$ , we have the following classical elementary but important result:

59 **THEOREM 2.1:** Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then for some  $\mu > 1$ , there is an infinite sequence  
 60  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \in \mathbb{Q}$  so that  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  if and only if  $0 < |\alpha - r_n| = O((\text{ord}(r_n \bmod \mathbb{Z}))^{-\mu})$ .

61 Here  $\mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$  is the complement of  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ —that is, the irrational numbers; the  
 62 notation  $x = O(y)$  implies  $|x| \leq My$  for some absolute constant  $M > 0$ ;  
 63 also,  $\text{ord}(h \in H)$  denotes the order (or period) of an element  $h$  in the group  $H$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$   
 64 denotes the set of integers (thus,  $\text{ord}(r_n \bmod \mathbb{Z})$  gives denominator of  $r_n$ ).  
 65 Dirichlet proved that in fact with the implied constant being  $M = 1$ , the theorem  
 66 holds with  $\mu \geq 2$ ; the optimal situation occurs when  $M = 1/\sqrt{5}$  (see Hurwitz  
 67 (1891)) still with  $\mu \geq 2$ . An important remark is that the sequence  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  in the  
 68 Theorem above is a Cauchy sequence, therefore Theorem 2.1 equally states that  
 69 there are no Cauchy sequences converging inside  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the given estimate. The  
 70 object of this paper is to extend the “if” part of the above theorem to uniquely  $\varpi$ -  
 71 divisible groups  $G$  and their completions via norms, with the estimates measured in  
 72 terms of quasi-order functions on  $G$ . We address the “only if” part in a sequel to this  
 73 paper. First, we define our main functions:

74 **DEFINITION 2.2** (Norm on  $\varpi$ -Divisible Groups): For a set of primes  $\varpi$ , let  $(G, \cdot)$   
 75 be a  $\varpi$ -divisible group with identity element and let  $|\cdot|: \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\varpi\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an absolute  
 76 value function. Then a function  $\|\cdot\|: G \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a *norm* on  $G$  if it satisfies:

- 77 i.  $\|g\| = 0$  only if  $g = e$
- 78 ii.  $\|gh\| \leq \|g\| + \|h\|$
- 79 iii.  $\|g^r\| = |r| \|g\|, r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{\varpi\}$

80 We denote by  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  a  $\varpi$ -divisible group with a norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . If  $G$  is Abelian, then it is  
 81 just a normed linear space but over the integral domain  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$ . Indeed if  $(G, +, \|\cdot\|)$  is  
 82 a normed vector space over a field  $\mathbb{F}$ , then  $|\cdot|$  is the well-defined absolute value  
 83 function induced by the absolute value function on  $\mathbb{F}$  over the vector space.

84 **DEFINITION 2.3** (Proximity Function on Groups): Let  $G$  be a group with identity  
 85  $e$ . Then a function  $\varrho: G \setminus \{e\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a *proximity function* on  $G$  if for all  $g \neq h$ :

- 86 i.  $\varrho(g \neq e) = \varrho(g^{-1}) > 0$
- 87 ii.  $\varrho(gh^{-1}) \leq C\varrho(g)\varrho(h)$
- 88 iii.  $\varrho(gh^{-1}) \leq C\varrho(g)$  if  $\varrho(g) = \varrho(h)$

89 where  $C > 0$  is an absolute constant. If in (ii) we have the stronger bound  
 90  $\varrho(gh^{-1}) \leq C \max\{\varrho(g), \varrho(h)\}$ , then we say  $\varrho$  is an *ultra-metric proximity*  
 91 *function*. Especially, if  $\varrho$  is integer-valued with  $C = 1$  and that (ii) and (iii)  
 92 read  $\varrho(gh^{-1}) | \text{lcm}(\varrho(g), \varrho(h))$  and  $\varrho(gh^{-1}) | \varrho(g)$  if  $\varrho(g) = \varrho(h)$  respectively,  
 93 then we say  $\varrho$  is an *order function*.

94 We shall typify a proximity function by  $\varrho$  with the constant  $C$  understood. Obviously  
 95 the product of two proximity functions is a proximity function; and also if  $\varrho$  is a  
 96 proximity function, then so is  $\varrho^\mu$  for any real number  $\mu > 0$ ; thus we say two  
 97 proximity functions  $\varrho_1, \varrho_2$  are *equivalent* if  $\varrho_1 = \varrho_2^\mu$  for some  $\mu > 0$ .

#### 98 Examples 2.4:

- 99 • For Abelian torsion groups  $G$ , the function  $\varrho(\cdot) := \text{ord}(\cdot)$  is an *order* function  
 100 with  $C = 1$ .
- 101
- 102 • For groups with ultra-metric norms  $\|\cdot\|$ , the functions  $\varrho(\cdot) := \|\cdot\|$  and  $\varrho(\cdot) :=$   
 103  $\alpha^{\|\cdot\|}$ , where  $\alpha \geq 1$  is real, are ultra-metric proximity functions with  $C = 1$ .
- 104
- 105 • For groups with bounded norms—that is,  $\|\cdot\| \leq M$  with  $M$  fixed—the  
 106 function  $\varrho(\cdot) := \alpha^{\|\cdot\| - M}$ , where  $\alpha \geq 1$  is real, is a proximity function with  
 107  $C = \alpha^M$ .
- 108
- 109 • If  $G$  is the additive group of an algebraic number field, then the absolute  
 110 Weil height  $h(\cdot) := \prod_{v \text{ place}} \max\{1, |\cdot|_v\}$  is a proximity function with  $C = 2$ .

111 We shall be interested in those proximity functions  $\varrho$  on  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  such that for  
 112 some  $\mu_0 > 0$  the function  $\varrho(\cdot)^{\mu_0} \|\cdot\|: G \setminus \{e\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is, in essence, discontinuous at the  
 113 *identity*; precisely,

114 **DEFINITION 2.5** (Proximity Function on  $\varpi$ -Divisible Groups): Let  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  be a  
 115 *normed  $\varpi$ -divisible group* with identity  $e$  and let  $\varrho$  be a proximity function on  $G$ .  
 116 Then  $\varrho$  is said to be a *close proximity* function on  $G$  if there exists a  $\mu_0 > 0$  such

117 that  $\inf\{\varrho(g_n)^\mu \|g_n\|\} = 0$  for some null sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$  if and only if  
 118  $\mu < \mu_0$ ; otherwise, then  $\varrho$  is said to be an *open proximity* function on  $G$ .

119 REMARKS: Otherwise stated,  $\inf\{\varrho(g_n)^\mu \|g_n\|\} > 0$  for all null sequences  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset$   
 120  $G \setminus \{e\}$  if and only if  $\mu \geq \mu_0$ . We typify a close proximity function on  $G$  by  
 121  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  and in that case we shall say that the elements in  $G$  are *in close proximity*  
 122 *y(or in close order)* to each other; else, where necessary, we shall say the elements  
 123 *are in open proximity*(resp. *in open order*) to each other.

124 Our interest in close proximity functions on normed  $\varpi$ -divisible groups is  
 125 the following result, which is the main theorem of this paper:

126 **THEOREM 2.6:** *Let  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  be a close proximity function on  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  and*  
 127 *let  $g \in G$ . Then for every  $\mu > \mu_0$  and Cauchy sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus$*   
 128  *$\{g, e\}$  converging to  $g$ , there exists  $N$  such that  $\|gg_n^{-1}\| = O(\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu})$  if and only if*  
 129  *$n \leq N$ , where the implied constant is independent of  $n$  or  $g$ ; moreover, this is also*  
 130 *true for  $\mu = \mu_0$  if  $\varrho$  is ultra-metric and the implied constant is less than*  
 131  $\frac{1}{C^{\mu_0}} \inf_{g \neq g_n} \{\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\|\}.$

132 In other words, there are only finitely many elements of  $G$  in close proximity to any  
 133 element in  $G$  with respect to the given estimates; or equivalently, Cauchy sequences  
 134 in  $G$  do not converge inside  $G$  with respect to the given estimates.

135

### 136 3.0 PRELIMINARY RESULTS

137 We establish here some elementary but noteworthy properties of normed  $\varpi$ -  
 138 *divisible groups* endowed with close proximity functions. We also state some close  
 139 proximity functions on certain  $\varpi$ -divisible groups *but first*, we prove the following:

140 **COROLLARY 3.1:** *Every normed  $\varpi$ -divisible Abelian group is a uniquely  $\varpi$ -*  
 141 *divisible group.*

142 *Proof:* Indeed, for some  $g \neq h$  suppose  $g^n = h^n$  where  $n > 1$  is a natural number  
 143 whose prime divisors belong to  $\varpi$ . Then  $g^n h^{-n} = (gh^{-1})^n = e$ , thus

$$|n| \|gh^{-1}\| = \|(gh^{-1})^n\| = \|e\| = 0$$

144 But  $|n| \neq 0$  and so  $\|gh^{-1}\| = 0$ , implying  $gh^{-1} = e$  or  $g = h$ , a contradiction. **QED**

145 **COROLLARY 3.2:** *Any normed  $\varpi$ -divisible group is non-cyclic and torsion-free.*

146 *Proof:* Let  $\{g \neq e\}$  generate the group. Then  $g^{1/p} = g^n$  for some  $p \in \varpi$  and integer  
 147  $n$  and so  $g^{pn-1} = e$ , implying that  $g$  is a torsion element. But if  $h \neq e$  is a torsion  
 148 element with  $h^r = e$  for some  $r \neq 0$ , then  $0 = \|e\| = \|h^r\| = |r| \|h\|$ . It follows

149 that  $\|h\| = 0$  or  $h = e$ , which is a contradiction. Thus there are no torsion  
150 elements. **QED**

151 **COROLLARY 3.3:** Let  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed  $\varpi$ -divisible group and let  $\hat{G}$  be  
152 its completion with respect to  $\|\cdot\|$ . Then  $\hat{G} \ni \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g^{r_n}$  where  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$   
153 converges in the completion of  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$  with respect to the absolute value  $|\cdot|$   
154 associated to  $\|\cdot\|$ .

155 **Proof:** First, let  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$ , then for any  $g \in G$  we have  $\{g^{r_n}\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G$ . Thus

$$\|g^{r_n} \cdot (g^{r_m})^{-1}\| = \|g^{r_n - r_m}\| = \|g\| |r_n - r_m|$$

156 Consequently, the sequence  $\{g^{r_n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converges in  $\hat{G}$  with respect to (the natural  
157 metric induced by) the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  if the sequence  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converges in the completion  
158 of  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$  with respect to (the natural metric induced by) the absolute value  $|\cdot|$ . **QED**

159 **COROLLARY 3.4:** Let  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  be a close proximity function on  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$ .  
160 Then there exists an absolute constant  $L_\varrho > 0$  such that  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow 0} \varrho(g_n)^{\mu_0} \|g_n\| \geq$   
161  $L_\varrho$  for every null sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$ .

162 **Proof:** Suppose to the contrary that there exists no such absolute constant  $L_\varrho$ .  
163 Indeed, then for every integer  $m \geq 1$ , there is a null sequence  $\{g_n(m)\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$   
164 such that  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varrho(g_n(m))^{\mu_0} \|g_n(m)\| < 1/m$ . It follows that for every  $m$  there  
165 are infinitely many  $h_m \in \{g_n(m)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  so that  $\varrho(h_m)^{\mu_0} \|h_m\| < 1/m$ . But since  
166  $\{g_n(m)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  and  $\{g_n(m+1)\}_{n=1}^\infty$  are null sequences, then we can choose  $h_{m+1}$   
167 such that  $\|h_{m+1}\| < \|h_m\|$ . It then implies that  $\{h_m\}_{m=1}^\infty$  is a null sequence  
168 with  $\inf\{\varrho^{\mu_0}(h_m) \|h_m\|\} = 0$ , which is a contradiction to the fact that  $\varrho$  is a close  
169 proximity function. **QED**

170 **COROLLARY 3.5:** A close proximity function on a  $\varpi$ -divisible group induces  
171 close proximity functions on  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$ .

172 **Proof:** Indeed fix a non-identity element  $g$  belonging to the  $\varpi$ -divisible group  $G$ .  
173 Now given any null sequence  $\{r_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset \mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\} \setminus \{0\}$  and a close proximity function  $\varrho$   
174 on  $G$ , then  $\{g^{r_n}\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a null sequence in  $G$  and thus  $\inf\{\varrho(g^{r_n}) \|g^{r_n}\|\} > 0$ . But then  
175  $\inf\{\varrho(g^{r_n}) \|g^{r_n}\|\} = \|g\| \inf\{\varrho(g^{r_n}) |r_n|\}$ . Hence if  $\varrho_g(r_n) := \varrho(g^{r_n})$  then we have  
176  $\inf\{\varrho_g(r_n) |r_n|\} > 0$ , implying that  $\varrho_g$  is a close proximity function on  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$ . Since  
177 we can do same for every non-identity element  $g$  in  $G$ , the conclusion follows. **QED**

178 As per examples we state, without verification, three close proximity  
179 functions, which we put together in the following lemma. We shall verify these,  
180 alongside other close proximity functions, in a sequel to this paper

181 **LEMMA 3.6:** The following are close proximity functions on the respective groups  
182 defined:

- 183 (i) Suppose the absolute value function associated to the normed  $\varpi$ -  
 184 divisible group  $(G, \|\cdot\|)$  is the usual one on the real numbers. Assume  $S$   
 185 is a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that the quotient group  $G/S$  is Abelian  
 186 and torsion, and that the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  is a discrete norm on  $S$ —i.e., there is  
 187 **an absolute** constant  $l$  **such that**  $\|g \in S \setminus \{e\}\| \geq l$ . Then the function  
 188  $\varrho_{G/S}(g) = \text{ord}(g \cdot S) := \min\{n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} : g^n \in S\}$  is a close order  
 189 function on  $G$  with  $\mu_0 = 1$ ,  $C = 1$ ; moreover, if  $\varpi$  is a singleton set then  
 190  $\varrho$  is ultra-metric. (We refer to this as a  $\varpi$ -ary order function on  $G$ ).  
 191
- 192 (ii) Given a prime  $p$  and the group  $\mathbb{Q}\{p\}$ , then the function  $\varrho_p(q \neq 0) =$   
 193  $\lfloor p^{\lfloor \log(|q|_\infty) / \log p} \rfloor$  (where  $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$  (resp.  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$ ) denotes the floor (resp. ceiling)  
 194 function and where  $|\cdot|_\infty$  is the usual absolute value on the real numbers)  
 195 is a close ultra-metric proximity function on  $\mathbb{Q}\{p\}$  with  $\mu_0 = 1$  and  
 196  $C = p$  given the usual  $p$ -adic norm on  $\mathbb{Q}$ . (We refer to this proximity  
 197 function as the  $p$ -adic proximity function on  $\mathbb{Q}\{p\}$ ).  
 198
- 199 (iii) For an algebraic number field  $\mathbb{K}$  with the usual normalised absolute  
 200 values  $|\cdot|_v$  over all places  $v$  such that  $\prod_v |\alpha|_v = 1$  for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{K} \setminus \{0\}$ ,  
 201 the function  $\varrho_{\mathbb{K}}(\alpha) := \prod_v \max\{1, |\alpha|_v\}$ —i.e., the Weil height—is a close  
 202 proximity function on  $\mathbb{K}^+$  with  $\mu_0 = 1$  and  $C = 2$  given the **norm defined**  
 203 by the usual absolute value on the complex numbers. (We shall refer to  
 204 this as the  $\mathbb{K}$ -proximity function).

205 **EXAMPLE 3.7:** A particular example of case (i) above is given by  $G = \mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$  and  
 206  $S = \mathbb{Z}$ , where the function  $\varrho_{G/S}$  is a close order function on  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$  given the usual  
 207 norm on the real numbers. Indeed  $|n \in \mathbb{Z}| \geq 1$  and so  $|\cdot|$  is discrete on  $\mathbb{Z}$ . On the  
 208 other hand, a non-example is given by  $G = \mathbb{Q}_{\varpi}^{\times}$ , the multiplicative group of (the  
 209 positive real values of the)  $\mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}$ -powers of the positive rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}_{>0} := S$   
 210 with norm  $\|\cdot\| := |\log(\cdot)|$ —that is,  $\mathbb{Q}_{\varpi}^{\times} := \{q^r \in \mathbb{R}_{>0} : q \in \mathbb{Q}_{>0}, r \in \mathbb{Q}\{\varpi\}\}$ . Here the  
 211 so-defined  $\varpi$ -ary order function  $\varrho_{G/S}$  is an open order function on  $\mathbb{Q}_{\varpi}^{\times}$ . This is so,  
 212 obviously, as the norm is not a discrete **norm on**  $\mathbb{Q}_{>0}$ ; indeed, for instance,  $\left\{1 + \frac{1}{n}\right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$   
 213  $\subset \mathbb{Q}_{>0}$  and yet  $\left|\log\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)\right| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  
 214  
 215  
 216

#### 217 4.0 PROOF OF MAIN RESULTS

218 We now establish the main results of this paper, culminating in the proof of the main  
 219 theorem stated in the introduction. We start with the following lemma.



220 **LEMMA 4.1:** Let  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  be a close proximity function on  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$ . Then for  
 221 every distinguished Cauchy sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$  (i.e.,  $g_n \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g_n$  for  
 222 all  $n$ ) we have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varrho(g_n) = \infty$ .

223 **Proof:** Given that  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is distinguished and Cauchy, then it contains an infinite  
 224 subsequence of distinct elements; thus for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N$  such that for  
 225 all  $m, n \geq N$  where  $g_m \neq g_n$  we have  $0 < \|g_m g_n^{-1}\| < \varepsilon$ ; in that case since  $L :=$   
 226  $\inf\{\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^\mu \|g_m g_n^{-1}\|\} > 0$  for every  $\mu \geq \mu_0$ , then it follows that

$$(C\varrho(g_m)\varrho(g_n))^\mu \geq \varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^\mu \geq \frac{\inf \varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^\mu \|g_m g_n^{-1}\|}{\|g_m g_n^{-1}\|} = \frac{L}{\|g_m g_n^{-1}\|} > \frac{L}{\varepsilon}$$

227 But  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{L}{\varepsilon} = L \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon} = \infty$ , thus  $\lim_{\substack{m, n \geq N \rightarrow \infty \\ g_m \neq g_n}} (C\varrho(g_m)\varrho(g_n))^\mu = \infty$ . Now  
 228 suppose to the contrary that  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varrho(g_n) < \infty$ . It follows that there exists an  
 229 infinite subsequence of  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , say  $\{g_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , such that  $\varrho(g_n^*) \leq U$  for some upper  
 230 bound  $U$ . But since  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is a distinguished Cauchy sequence, then  $\{g_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$  is  
 231 also a distinguished Cauchy sequence converging to the same limit, thus (by the  
 232 same argument as above) we have  $\lim_{\substack{m, n \geq N \rightarrow \infty \\ g_m^* \neq g_n^*}} (C\varrho(g_m^*)\varrho(g_n^*))^\mu = \infty$ . But then  
 233 given any disjoint partitions  $A$  and  $B$  of  $\{g_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$ —i.e.  $A \cup B = \{g_n^*\}_{n=1}^\infty$  but  $A \cap B =$   
 234  $\emptyset$ —then we arrive at

$$\lim_{\substack{m, n \geq N \rightarrow \infty \\ g_m^* \neq g_n^*}} (C\varrho(g_m^*)\varrho(g_n^*))^\mu = C^\mu \left( \lim_{\substack{m \geq N \rightarrow \infty \\ g_m^* \in A}} \varrho(g_m^*)^\mu \right) \left( \lim_{\substack{n \geq N \rightarrow \infty \\ g_n^* \in B}} \varrho(g_n^*)^\mu \right) \leq (CU^2)^\mu$$

235 which is a contradiction to the fact that left-hand side is unbounded. Consequently,  
 236  $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varrho(g_n) = \infty$  and so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varrho(g_n) = \infty$ . **QED**

237 **THEOREM 4.2:** Let  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  be a close proximity function on  $(G, \cdot, \|\cdot\|)$  with  $\hat{G}$  as  
 238 its completion. Let  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$  be a Cauchy sequence converging to  $\hat{g} \in \hat{G}$  so  
 239 that  $0 < \|\hat{g} g_n^{-1}\| = O(\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu})$  for all  $n$ , where  $\mu > \mu_0$ . Then for all sufficiently  
 240 large  $m$  and  $n$ ,  $\varrho(g_m) = \varrho(g_n)$  if and only if  $g_m = g_n$ ; moreover, this is also true for  
 241  $\mu = \mu_0$  if the implied constant is less than  $\frac{1}{2C^{\mu_0}} \inf_{g_m \neq g_n} \{\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|g_m g_n^{-1}\|\}$ .

242 **Proof:** Let  $M$  be the implied constant in the estimate  $O(\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu})$ . Now from the  
 243 sub-additivity of  $\|\cdot\|$ , we have  $\|g_m g_n^{-1}\| \leq \|g_m \hat{g}^{-1}\| + \|\hat{g} g_n^{-1}\| = \|\hat{g} g_m^{-1}\| +$   
 244  $\|\hat{g} g_n^{-1}\| \leq M\varrho(g_m)^{-\mu} + M\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu}$ . Let us assume that  $\varrho(g_m) = \varrho(g_n)$  but that  
 245  $g_m \neq g_n$ . Thus  $\|g_m g_n^{-1}\| \leq 2M\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu}$  or equivalently  
 246  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0} \varrho(g_n)^{\mu_0} \|g_m g_n^{-1}\| \leq 2M$   
 247 and since  $\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1}) \leq C\varrho(g_n)$  then  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0} (\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|g_m g_n^{-1}\|) \leq$   
 248  $2C^{\mu_0} M$ . Finally, via the bound  
 249  $\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|g_m g_n^{-1}\| \geq \inf_{g_m \neq g_n} \{\varrho(g_m g_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|g_m g_n^{-1}\|\} := L$ , then we arrive  
 250 at  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0} \leq \frac{1}{L} 2C^{\mu_0} M$  and as such  $\varrho(g_n)$  is bounded above

251 by  $\left(\frac{1}{L} 2C^{\mu_0} M\right)^{1/(\mu-\mu_0)}$  if  $\mu > \mu_0$  or that  $M \geq \frac{L}{2C^{\mu_0}}$  when  $\mu = \mu_0$ . Hence if  $\mu > \mu_0$ ,  
 252 then  $g_m = g_n$  if  $\varrho(g_m) = \varrho(g_n) > \left(\frac{1}{L} 2C^{\mu_0} M\right)^{1/(\mu-\mu_0)}$ , which latter condition holds  
 253 for all sufficiently large  $n$  due to Lemma 4.1; similarly if  $\mu = \mu_0$  and  $M < L/2C^{\mu_0}$ , then  
 254 necessarily  $g_m = g_n$  if  $\varrho(g_m) = \varrho(g_n)$ . Hence the proof. QED

255 **THEOREM 4.3:** Let  $(\varrho; C, \mu_0)$  be a close proximity function on  $(G, \|\cdot\|)$  and  
 256 let  $g \in G$ . Then for every  $\mu > \mu_0$  and Cauchy sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus$   
 257  $\{g, e\}$  converging to  $g$ , there exists  $N$  such that  $\|gg_n^{-1}\| = O(\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu})$  if and only if  
 258  $n \leq N$ , where the implied constant is independent of  $n$  or  $g$ ; moreover, this is also  
 259 true for  $\mu = \mu_0$  if  $\varrho$  is ultra-metric and the implied constant is less than  
 260  $\frac{1}{C^{\mu_0}} \inf_{g \neq g_n} \{\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\|\}$ .

261 *Proof:* Given  $\|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq M\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu}$  for some absolute constant  $M$ , then multiplying  
 262 through by  $(\varrho(g)\varrho(g_n))^{\mu_0}$  gives us  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0}(\varrho(g)\varrho(g_n))^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq M\varrho(g)^{\mu_0}$ .  
 263 But  $\varrho(gg_n^{-1}) \leq C\varrho(g)\varrho(g_n)$ , hence  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0}\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq$   
 264  $C^{\mu_0} M\varrho(g)^{\mu_0}$ . Since  $g \notin \{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ , then for some infimum  $L$  we have  $L \leq$   
 265  $\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\|$ ; thus  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu-\mu_0} \leq C^{\mu_0} M\varrho(g)^{\mu_0}/L$  and as such for  $\mu > \mu_0$  it  
 266 follows that  $\varrho(g_n)$  is bounded above by  $(C^{\mu_0} M\varrho(g)^{\mu_0}/L)^{\mu_0/(\mu-\mu_0)}$ . Hence Lemma  
 267 4.1 tells us that there is no distinguished Cauchy sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converging to  $g$   
 268 and satisfying the estimate in the lemma, so we can choose  $N := \max\{n: \varrho(g_n) \leq$   
 269  $(C^{\mu_0} M\varrho(g)^{\mu_0}/L)^{\mu_0/(\mu-\mu_0)}\}$ . Now let  $\mu = \mu_0$  with  $\varrho$  being ultra-metric  
 270 and suppose  $\varrho(g_n) > \varrho(g)$  such that  $\|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq M\varrho(g_n)^{-\mu_0}$ . Here, note  
 271 that  $\varrho(gg_n^{-1}) \leq C \max\{\varrho(g_n), \varrho(g)\} = C\varrho(g_n)$  and consequently we have  $L \leq$   
 272  $\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq C^{\mu_0} \varrho(g_n)^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\| \leq C^{\mu_0} M$ , implying that  $M \geq L/C^{\mu_0}$ ;  
 273 hence if we require that  $M < L/C^{\mu_0}$ , then necessarily we must have the bound  
 274  $\varrho(g_n) \leq \varrho(g)$ . It thus follows from Lemma 4.1 that there is no distinguished  
 275 Cauchy sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  converging to  $g$  and satisfying the estimate in the  
 276 Lemma. In this case we can choose  $N := \max\{n: \varrho(g_n) \leq \varrho(g)\}$ . QED

277

## 278 5.0 CONCLUSION

279 In conclusion, we note that if a close proximity function exhibits the extra  
 280 property of being uniform—that is, if there exists some absolute constant  $L_\varrho > 0$   
 281 such that  $\varrho(g_n)^{\mu_0} \|g_n\| \geq L_\varrho$  for every null sequence  $\{g_n\}_{n=1}^\infty \subset G \setminus \{e\}$ —then the  
 282 latter parts of Theorems 1 and 2 would have  $\frac{1}{2C^{\mu_0}} L_\varrho$  and  $\frac{1}{C^{\mu_0}} L_\varrho$  respectively instead  
 283 of the terms  $\frac{1}{2C^{\mu_0}} \inf_{g \neq g_n} \{\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\|\}$  and  $\frac{1}{C^{\mu_0}} \inf_{g \neq g_n} \{\varrho(gg_n^{-1})^{\mu_0} \|gg_n^{-1}\|\}$ .  
 284 In this way, the implied constants in the theorems above would be independent of  $n$   
 285 or  $G$  when  $\mu = \mu_0$ . We make use of this uniformity in the sequel to this paper.

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