

# AN EXTENSION OF THE FUGLEDE-PUTNAM THEOREM TO $p$ -QUASIHYPONORMAL OPERATORS

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**ABSTRACT.** The equation  $AX = BX$  implies  $A^*X = B^*X$  when  $A$  and  $B$  are normal (Fuglede–Putnam theorem). In this paper, the hypotheses on  $A$  and  $B$  can be relaxed by using a Hilbert–Schmidt operator  $X$ : Let  $A$  be  $p$ -quasihyponormal and let  $B^*$  be invertible  $p$ -quasihyponormal such that  $AX = XB$  for a Hilbert–Schmidt operator  $X$  and  $|||A^*|^{1-p}||| \cdot |||B^{-1}|^{1-p}||| \leq 1$ . Then  $A^*X = XB^*$ .

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable complex Hilbert space and let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  denote the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ . An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *normal* if  $T^*T = TT^*$ , *hyponormal* if  $TT^* \leq T^*T$ ,  *$p$ -hyponormal* if  $(T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p \geq 0$  for  $p > 0$  (see [7]), *quasihyponormal* if  $T^*(T^*T - TT^*)T \geq 0$  and  *$p$ -quasihyponormal* if  $T^*((T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p)T \geq 0$  for  $p > 0$ . If  $p = 1$ , then  $T$  is quasihyponormal and if  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $T$  is semi-quasihyponormal. It is well known that a  $p$ -quasihyponormal operator is a  $q$ -quasihyponormal operator for  $q \leq p$ . But the converse is not true in general (see [1], [7] and [8]).

The familiar Fuglede–Putnam theorem is as follows (see [4] and [6]):

**THEOREM A.** *If  $A$  and  $B$  are normal operators and if  $X$  is an operator such that  $AX = XB$ , then  $A^*X = XB^*$ .*

S. K. Berberian[2] relaxes the hypotheses on  $A$  and  $B$  in Theorem A at the cost of requiring  $X$  to be Hilbert–Schmidt class. Recently, H. K.

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Cha[3] showed that the hyponormality in the result of Berberian[2] can be replaced by the quasihyponormality of  $A$  and  $B^*$  under some additional conditions.

In this paper, we will introduce  $p$ -hyponormal operators and show that the quasihyponormality of  $A$  and  $B^*$  can be replaced by the  $p$ -quasihyponormality of  $A$  and  $B^*$ .

## 2. Main Results

In this paper, let  $0 < p < 1$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $p = 2^{-n}$  for some integer  $n \geq 1$ .

Let  $T$  be an operator in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and let  $\{e_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ . We define the Hilbert-Schmidt norm of  $T$  to be

$$\|T\|_2 = \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \|Te_n\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

This definition is independent of the choice of basis (see [4]). If  $\|T\|_2 < \infty$ , then  $T$  is said to be a Hilbert-Schmidt operator and we denote the set of all Hilbert-Schmidt operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  by  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$ . Then we have the following:

**THEOREM 1** [4].

- (1) The set  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  is a self-adjoint ideal of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .
- (2) If  $(A, B) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (Ae_i, Be_i) = \text{tr}(B^*A) = \text{tr}(AB^*)$  for  $A$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  is an inner product on  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  is a Hilbert space with respect to this inner product, where  $\{e_i\}$  is any orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  denotes the trace.

For each pair of operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , an operator  $\mathcal{J}$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H}))$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{J}X = AXB.$$

Evidently  $\|\mathcal{J}\| \leq \|A\| \cdot \|B\|$ . And the adjoint of  $\mathcal{J}$  is given by the formula  $\mathcal{J}^*X = A^*XB^*$  (more precisely, see [2]). In particular, if  $A$  and  $B$  are both positive, then  $\mathcal{J}$  is positive and  $\mathcal{J}^{\frac{1}{2}}X = A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , as one sees from the calculation

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{J}X, X) &= \text{tr}(AXBX^*) = \text{tr}(A^{\frac{1}{2}}XBX^*A^{\frac{1}{2}}) \\ &= \text{tr}((A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}})(A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}})^*) \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $|\mathcal{J}|^2X = |A|^2X|B^*|^2$  and  $|\mathcal{J}^*|^2X = |A^*|^2X|B|^2$ , we have

$$|\mathcal{J}|^{\frac{1}{2n}}X = |A|^{\frac{1}{2n}}X|B^*|^{\frac{1}{2n}}$$

and

$$|\mathcal{J}^*|^{\frac{1}{2n}}X = |A^*|^{\frac{1}{2n}}X|B|^{\frac{1}{2n}}$$

for each integer  $n \geq 1$ .

Now, we need the following lemmas.

**LEMMA 2.** *If  $A$  and  $B^*$  are  $p$ -quasihyponormal, then the operator  $\mathcal{J}$  on  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  defined by  $\mathcal{J}X = AXB$  is also  $p$ -quasihyponormal.*

*Proof.* For  $X \in \mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}^*(|\mathcal{J}|^{2p} - |\mathcal{J}^*|^{2p})\mathcal{J}X &= \mathcal{J}^*(|\mathcal{J}|^{2p} - |\mathcal{J}^*|^{2p})AXB \\ &= A^*|A|^{2p}AXB|B^*|^{2p}B^* - A^*|A^*|^{2p}AXB|B|^{2p}B^* \\ &= A^*(|A|^{2p} - |A^*|^{2p})AXB|B^*|^{2p}B^* \\ &\quad + A^*|A|^{2p}AXB(|B^*|^{2p} - |B|^{2p})B^*. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A$  and  $B^*$  are  $p$ -quasihyponormal, we have

$$\mathcal{J}^*(|\mathcal{J}|^{2p} - |\mathcal{J}^*|^{2p})\mathcal{J} \geq 0. \quad \square$$

**LEMMA 3.**

- (1) *If  $T$  is invertible  $p$ -hyponormal,  $T^{-1}$  is also  $p$ -hyponormal.*
- (2) *Let  $T$  be invertible. Then  $T$  is  $p$ -hyponormal if and only if  $T$  is  $p$ -quasihyponormal.*

*Proof.* Note that if  $T$  is invertible, then  $|T|$  is invertible.

(1) Since  $(T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p \geq 0$ , we have

$$(T^*T)^{-\frac{p}{2}}((T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p)(T^*T)^{-\frac{p}{2}} \geq 0.$$

This is equivalent to

$$I \geq (T^*T)^{-\frac{p}{2}}(TT^*)^p(T^*T)^{-\frac{p}{2}}.$$

It is well known that  $A \geq I$  implies  $A^{-1} \leq I$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (T^*T)^{\frac{p}{2}}(TT^*)^{-p}(T^*T)^{\frac{p}{2}} - I \\ &= (T^*T)^{\frac{p}{2}}((TT^*)^{-p} - (T^*T)^{-p})(T^*T)^{\frac{p}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

This is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (TT^*)^{-p} - (T^*T)^{-p} \\ &= ((T^{-1})^*T^{-1})^p - (T^{-1}(T^{-1})^*)^p. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $T^{-1}$  is  $p$ -hyponormal.

(2) Suppose that  $T$  is  $p$ -quasihyponormal. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq (T^{-1})^*(T^*((T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p)T)T^{-1} \\ &= (T^*T)^p - (TT^*)^p. \end{aligned}$$

The converse is trivial by the definition. □

The following inequality due to McCarthy is an operator variant of the Hölder Inequality (see [5] and [9]).

**HÖLDER-MCCARTHY INEQUALITY.** *Let  $A$  be a positive operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then the following inequalities hold:*

- (1)  $(A^r x, x) \leq \|x\|^{2(1-r)}(Ax, x)^r$  for  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  if  $0 < r \leq 1$ .
- (2)  $(A^r x, x) \geq \|x\|^{2(1-r)}(Ax, x)^r$  for  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  if  $r \geq 1$ .

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $A$  be  $p$ -quasihyponormal and let  $B^*$  be invertible  $p$ -quasihyponormal such that  $AX = XB$  for  $X \in \mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  and  $|||A^*|^{1-p}|| \cdot |||B^{-1}|^{1-p}|| \leq 1$ . Then  $A^*X = XB^*$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{J}$  on  $\mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$  be defined by  $\mathcal{J}Y = AYB^{-1}$  for all  $Y \in \mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$ . Since  $(B^*)^{-1} = (B^{-1})^*$  is  $p$ -quasihyponormal by Lemma 3, Lemma 2 implies that  $\mathcal{J}$  is  $p$ -quasihyponormal. Since  $\mathcal{J}X = X$  and since  $\mathcal{J}$  is  $p$ -quasihyponormal, we have

$$((\mathcal{J}^*\mathcal{J})^p X, X) \geq ((\mathcal{J}\mathcal{J}^*)^p X, X).$$

By Hölder–McCarthy inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |||\mathcal{J}^*|^p X||^2 &\leq ((\mathcal{J}^*\mathcal{J})^p X, X) \\ &\leq \|X\|^{2(1-p)} (\mathcal{J}^*\mathcal{J}X, X)^p = \|X\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{J}^*X\| &\leq |||\mathcal{J}^*|^{1-p}|| \cdot |||\mathcal{J}^*|^p X|| \\ &\leq |||A^*|^{1-p}|| \cdot |||B^{-1}|^{1-p}|| \cdot \|X\| \leq \|X\|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\|\mathcal{J}^*X - X\|^2 \leq 0$ . So,  $A^*X(B^{-1})^* = X$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

As consequences of Theorem 4, we obtain

**COROLLARY 5** [3, THEOREM 3]. *Let  $A$  be quasihyponormal and let  $B^*$  be invertible quasihyponormal such that  $AX = XB$  for  $X \in \mathcal{B}_2(\mathcal{H})$ . Then  $A^*X = XB^*$ .*

**COROLLARY 6** [2, THEOREM]. *Suppose  $A, B$  and  $X$  are operators in the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ , such that  $AX = XB$ . Assume also that  $X$  is an operator of Hilbert–Schmidt class. Then  $A^*X = XB^*$  under either of the following hypotheses:*

- (1)  $A$  and  $B^*$  are hyponormal;
- (2)  $B$  is invertible and  $\|A\| \cdot \|B^{-1}\| \leq 1$ .

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