

ON SOME INEQUALITIES FOR NUMERICAL RADIUS OF OPERATORS IN HILBERT SPACES

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ABSTRACT. By the use of inequalities for nonnegative Hermitian forms some new inequalities for numerical radius of bounded linear operators in complex Hilbert spaces are established.

1. Introduction

Let \mathbb{K} be the field of real or complex numbers, i.e., $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} and X be a linear space over \mathbb{K} .

DEFINITION 1. A functional $(\cdot, \cdot) : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ is said to be a Hermitian form on X if

(H1) $(ax + by, z) = a(x, z) + b(y, z)$ for $a, b \in \mathbb{K}$ and $x, y, z \in X$;

(H2) $(x, y) = \overline{(y, x)}$ for all $x, y \in X$.

The functional (\cdot, \cdot) is said to be *positive semi-definite* on a subspace Y of X if

(H3) $(y, y) \geq 0$ for every $y \in Y$,

and *positive definite* on Y if it is positive semi-definite on Y and

(H4) $(y, y) = 0, y \in Y$ implies $y = 0$.

The functional (\cdot, \cdot) is said to be *definite* on Y provided that either (\cdot, \cdot) or $-(\cdot, \cdot)$ is positive semi-definite on Y .

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When a Hermitian functional (\cdot, \cdot) is positive-definite on the whole space X , then, as usual, we will call it an *inner product* on X and will denote it by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$.

We use the following notations related to a given Hermitian form (\cdot, \cdot) on X :

$$X_0 := \{x \in X \mid (x, x) = 0\}, \quad K := \{x \in X \mid (x, x) < 0\}$$

and, for a given $z \in X$,

$$X^{(z)} := \{x \in X \mid (x, z) = 0\} \quad \text{and} \quad L(z) := \{az \mid a \in \mathbb{K}\}.$$

The following fundamental facts concerning Hermitian forms hold:

THEOREM 1 (Kurepa, 1968 [28]). *Let X and (\cdot, \cdot) be as above.*

1. *If $e \in X$ is such that $(e, e) \neq 0$, then we have the decomposition*

$$(1.1) \quad X = L(e) \bigoplus X^{(e)},$$

where \bigoplus denotes the direct sum of the linear subspaces $X^{(e)}$ and $L(e)$;

2. *If the functional (\cdot, \cdot) is positive semi-definite on $X^{(e)}$ for at least one $e \in K$, then (\cdot, \cdot) is positive semi-definite on $X^{(f)}$ for each $f \in K$;*

3. *The functional (\cdot, \cdot) is positive semi-definite on $X^{(e)}$ with $e \in K$ if and only if the inequality*

$$(1.2) \quad |(x, y)|^2 \geq (x, x)(y, y)$$

holds for all $x \in K$ and all $y \in X$;

4. *The functional (\cdot, \cdot) is semi-definite on X if and only if the Schwarz's inequality*

$$(1.3) \quad |(x, y)|^2 \leq (x, x)(y, y)$$

holds for all $x, y \in X$;

5. *The case of equality holds in (1.3) for $x, y \in X$ and in (1.2), for $x \in K, y \in X$, respectively; if and only if there exists a scalar $a \in \mathbb{K}$ such that*

$$y - ax \in X_0^{(x)} := X_0 \cap X^{(x)}.$$

Let X be a linear space over the real or complex number field \mathbb{K} and let us denote by $\mathcal{H}(X)$ the class of all positive semi-definite Hermitian forms on X , or, for simplicity, *nonnegative* forms on X .

If $(\cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}(X)$, then the functional $\|\cdot\| = (\cdot, \cdot)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is a *semi-norm* on X and the following equivalent versions of Schwarz's inequality hold:

$$(1.4) \quad \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 \geq |(x, y)|^2 \quad \text{or} \quad \|x\| \|y\| \geq |(x, y)|$$

for any $x, y \in X$.

Now, let us observe that $\mathcal{H}(X)$ is a *convex cone* in the linear space of all mappings defined on X^2 with values in \mathbb{K} , i.e.,

- (e) $(\cdot, \cdot)_1, (\cdot, \cdot)_2 \in \mathcal{H}(X)$ implies that $(\cdot, \cdot)_1 + (\cdot, \cdot)_2 \in \mathcal{H}(X)$;
- (ee) $\alpha \geq 0$ and $(\cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}(X)$ implies that $\alpha(\cdot, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}(X)$.

The following simple result is of interest in itself as well:

LEMMA 1. *Let X be a linear space over the real or complex number field \mathbb{K} and (\cdot, \cdot) a nonnegative Hermitian form on X . If $y \in X$ is such that $(y, y) \neq 0$, then*

$$(1.5) \quad p_y : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{K}, \quad p_y(x, z) = (x, z) \|y\|^2 - (x, y)(y, z)$$

is also a nonnegative Hermitian form on X .

We have the inequalities

$$(1.6) \quad (\|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x, y)|^2) (\|y\|^2 \|z\|^2 - |(y, z)|^2) \\ \geq |(x, z) \|y\|^2 - (x, y)(y, z)|^2$$

and

$$(1.7) \quad (\|x + z\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x + z, y)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ \leq (\|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x, y)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} + (\|y\|^2 \|z\|^2 - |(y, z)|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

for any $x, y, z \in X$.

REMARK 1. *The case when (\cdot, \cdot) is an inner product in Lemma 1 was obtained in 1985 by S. S. Dragomir, [2].*

REMARK 2. *Putting $z = \lambda y$ in (1.7), we get:*

$$(1.8) \quad 0 \leq \|x + \lambda y\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x + \lambda y, y)|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x, y)|^2$$

and, in particular,

$$(1.9) \quad 0 \leq \|x \pm y\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x \pm y, y)|^2 \leq \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x, y)|^2$$

for every $x, y \in H$.

We note here that the inequality (1.8) is in fact equivalent to the following statement

$$(1.10) \quad \sup_{\lambda \in \mathbb{K}} [\|x + \lambda y\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x + \lambda y, y)|^2] = \|x\|^2 \|y\|^2 - |(x, y)|^2$$

for each $x, y \in H$.

The following result holds (see [11, p. 38] for the case of inner product):

THEOREM 2. *Let X be a linear space over the real or complex number field \mathbb{K} and (\cdot, \cdot) a nonnegative Hermitian form on X . For any $x, y, z \in X$, the following refinement of the Schwarz inequality holds:*

$$(1.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \|x\| \|z\| \|y\|^2 &\geq |(x, z) \|y\|^2 - (x, y) (y, z)| + |(x, y) (y, z)| \\ &\geq |(x, z)| \|y\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

COROLLARY 1. *For any $x, y, z \in X$ we have*

$$(1.12) \quad \frac{1}{2} [\|x\| \|z\| + |(x, z)|] \|y\|^2 \geq |(x, y) (y, z)|.$$

The inequality (1.12) follows from the first inequality in (1.11) and the triangle inequality for modulus

$$|(x, z) \|y\|^2 - (x, y) (y, z)| \geq |(x, y) (y, z)| - \|y\|^2 |(x, z)|$$

for any $x, y, z \in X$.

REMARK 3. *We observe that if (\cdot, \cdot) is an inner product, then (1.12) reduces to Buzano's inequality obtained in 1974 [1] in a different way.*

For some inequalities in inner product spaces and operators on Hilbert spaces see [3]- [26] and the references therein.

The *numerical radius* $w(T)$ of an operator T on H is given by [27, p. 8]:

$$(1.13) \quad w(T) = \sup \{|\lambda|, \lambda \in W(T)\} = \sup \{|\langle Tx, x \rangle|, \|x\| = 1\}.$$

It is well known that $w(\cdot)$ is a norm on the Banach algebra $\mathcal{B}(H)$ of all bounded linear operators $T : H \rightarrow H$. This norm is equivalent with the operator norm. In fact, the following more precise result holds [27, p. 9]:

THEOREM 3 (Equivalent norm). *For any $T \in \mathcal{B}(H)$ one has*

$$(1.14) \quad w(T) \leq \|T\| \leq 2w(T).$$

Utilising Buzano's inequality we obtained the following inequality for the numerical radius [12] or [13]:

THEOREM 4. *Let $(H; \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ be a Hilbert space and $T : H \rightarrow H$ a bounded linear operator on H . Then*

$$(1.15) \quad w^2(T) \leq \frac{1}{2} [w(T^2) + \|T\|^2].$$

The constant $\frac{1}{2}$ is best possible in (1.15).

The following general result for the product of two operators holds [27, p. 37]:

THEOREM 5. *If U, V are two bounded linear operators on the Hilbert space $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$, then $w(UV) \leq 4w(U)w(V)$. In the case that $UV = VU$, then $w(UV) \leq 2w(U)w(V)$. The constant 2 is best possible here.*

The following results are also well known [27, p. 38].

THEOREM 6. *If U is a unitary operator that commutes with another operator V , then*

$$(1.16) \quad w(UV) \leq w(V).$$

If U is an isometry and $UV = VU$, then (1.16) also holds true.

We say that U and V *double commute* if $UV = VU$ and $UV^* = V^*U$. The following result holds [27, p. 38].

THEOREM 7. *If the operators U and V double commute, then*

$$(1.17) \quad w(UV) \leq w(V) \|U\|.$$

As a consequence of the above, we have [27, p. 39]:

COROLLARY 2. *Let U be a normal operator commuting with V . Then*

$$(1.18) \quad w(UV) \leq w(U)w(V).$$

For a recent survey of inequalities for numerical radius, see [21] and the references therein.

Motivated by the above facts we establish in this paper some new numerical radius inequalities concerning four operators A, B, C and P on a Hilbert space with P nonnegative in the operator order. Some particular cases of interest that generalize and improve an earlier result are also provided.

2. Main Results

The following result holds for $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$ a Hilbert space over the real or complex numbers field \mathbb{K} .

THEOREM 8. *Let P be a nonnegative operator on H and A, B, C three bounded operators on H . Then for any $e \in H$ we have the inequalities*

$$(2.1) \quad \|A^*P C e\| \|B^*P C e\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2} C e\|^2 [\|P^{1/2} A\| \|P^{1/2} B\| + \|B^* P A\|].$$

Moreover, we have

$$(2.2) \quad w(C^* P A B^* P C) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2} C\|^2 [\|P^{1/2} A\| \|P^{1/2} B\| + \|B^* P A\|].$$

Proof. We observe that if $P \geq 0$, then the mapping $(\cdot, \cdot) : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$ defined by

$$(x, y)_P := \langle P x, y \rangle$$

is a hermitian form on H and by (1.12) we have the inequality

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{2} [\|x\|_P \|y\|_P + |(x, y)_P|] \|e\|_P^2 \geq |(x, e)_P (y, e)_P|$$

for any $x, y, e \in H$.

This can be written as

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{1}{2} [\langle P x, x \rangle^{1/2} \langle P y, y \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle P x, y \rangle|] \langle P e, e \rangle \geq |\langle P x, e \rangle \langle P y, e \rangle|$$

for any $x, y, e \in H$.

Now if we replace x by Ax , y by By and e by Ce we get

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{1}{2} [\langle P A x, A x \rangle^{1/2} \langle P B y, B y \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle P A x, B y \rangle|] \langle P C e, C e \rangle \geq |\langle P A x, C e \rangle \langle P B y, C e \rangle|$$

for any $x, y, e \in H$, which is equivalent to

$$(2.6) \quad \frac{1}{2} [\langle A^* P A x, x \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^* P B y, y \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^* P A x, y \rangle|] \langle C^* P C e, e \rangle \geq |\langle x, A^* P C e \rangle \langle y, B^* P C e \rangle|$$

for any $x, y, e \in H$.

Taking the supremum over $x, y \in H$ with $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ we have

(2.7)

$$\begin{aligned} & \|A^*PCe\| \|B^*PCe\| \\ &= \sup_{\|x\|=1} |\langle x, A^*PCe \rangle| \sup_{\|y\|=1} |\langle y, B^*PCe \rangle| \\ &= \sup_{\|x\|=\|y\|=1} \{|\langle x, A^*PCe \rangle \langle y, B^*PCe \rangle|\} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \langle C^*PCe, e \rangle \\ &\times \sup_{\|x\|=\|y\|=1} \left[\langle A^*PAx, x \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PB y, y \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^*PAx, y \rangle| \right] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \langle C^*PCe, e \rangle \\ &\times \left[\sup_{\|x\|=1} \langle A^*PAx, x \rangle^{1/2} \sup_{\|y\|=1} \langle B^*PB y, y \rangle^{1/2} + \sup_{\|x\|=\|y\|=1} |\langle B^*PAx, y \rangle| \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle C^*PCe, e \rangle \left[\|A^*PA\|^{1/2} \|B^*PB\|^{1/2} + \|B^*PA\| \right] \end{aligned}$$

for any $e \in H$.

Since

$$A^*PA = |P^{1/2}A|^2, \quad B^*PB = |P^{1/2}B|^2$$

and

$$C^*PC = |P^{1/2}C|^2$$

then by (2.7) we get the desired inequality in (2.1).

By Schwarz inequality we have

$$(2.8) \quad |\langle C^*PBA^*PCe, e \rangle| \leq \|A^*PCe\| \|B^*PCe\|$$

for any $e \in H$.

Using inequality (2.1) we then have

(2.9)

$$|\langle C^*PBA^*PCe, e \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}Ce\|^2 \left[\|P^{1/2}A\| \|P^{1/2}B\| + \|B^*PA\| \right]$$

for any $e \in H$.

Taking the supremum over $e \in H, \|e\| = 1$ in (2.9) we get

$$(2.10) \quad w(C^*PBA^*PC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 \left[\|P^{1/2}A\| \|P^{1/2}B\| + \|B^*PA\| \right]$$

and since

$$w(C^*PBA^*PC) = w(C^*PAB^*PC)$$

then by (2.10) we get the desired result (2.2). \square

The following result also holds.

THEOREM 9. *Let P be a nonnegative operator on H and A, B, C three bounded operators on H such that $B^*PC = C^*PA$, then*

$$(2.11) \quad w^2(C^*PA) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|P^{1/2}B\| + w(B^*PA)]$$

and

$$(2.12) \quad w^2(C^*PA) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 \left[\left\| \frac{|P^{1/2}A|^2 + |P^{1/2}B|^2}{2} \right\| + w(B^*PA) \right].$$

Proof. From the inequality (2.6) we have

$$(2.13) \quad \frac{1}{2} \left[\langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \langle C^*Pce, e \rangle \\ \geq |\langle e, A^*Pce \rangle \langle e, B^*Pce \rangle|$$

for any $e \in H$.

Since

$$B^*PC = C^*PA = (A^*PC)^*$$

then

$$(2.14) \quad |\langle e, A^*Pce \rangle \langle e, B^*Pce \rangle| = |\langle e, A^*Pce \rangle \langle e, (A^*PC)^*e \rangle| \\ = |\langle A^*Pce, e \rangle|^2 = |\langle C^*PAe, e \rangle|^2$$

for any $e \in H$.

By (2.13) and (2.14) we then have

$$(2.15) \quad |\langle C^*PAe, e \rangle|^2 \\ \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \langle C^*Pce, e \rangle$$

for any $e \in H$. This inequality is of interest in itself.

Taking the supremum over $e \in H, \|e\| = 1$ in (2.15) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & w^2(C^*PA) \\
 &= \sup_{\|e\|=1} |\langle C^*PAe, e \rangle|^2 \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sup_{\|e\|=1} \left\{ \left[\langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \langle C^*PCE, e \rangle \right\} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sup_{\|e\|=1} \left[\langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} + |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \sup_{\|e\|=1} \langle C^*PCE, e \rangle \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\sup_{\|e\|=1} \langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \sup_{\|e\|=1} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} + \sup_{\|e\|=1} |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \\
 &\times \sup_{\|e\|=1} \langle C^*PCE, e \rangle \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\|A^*PA\|^{1/2} \|B^*PB\|^{1/2} + w(B^*PA) \right] \|C^*PC\|,
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the inequality (2.11).

Using the *arithmetic mean - geometric mean* inequality we also have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle A^*PAe, e \rangle^{1/2} \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle^{1/2} &\leq \frac{1}{2} [\langle A^*PAe, e \rangle + \langle B^*PBe, e \rangle] \\
 &= \left\langle \frac{A^*PA + B^*PB}{2} e, e \right\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

for any $e \in H$.

By (2.15) we then have

$$(2.16) \quad |\langle C^*PAe, e \rangle|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\left\langle \frac{A^*PA + B^*PB}{2} e, e \right\rangle + |\langle B^*PAe, e \rangle| \right] \langle C^*PCE, e \rangle$$

for any $e \in H$.

Taking the supremum over $e \in H, \|e\| = 1$ in (2.16) we obtain the desired result (2.12). □

3. Some Particular Inequalities

In this section we explore some particular inequalities of interest that can be obtained from the main results stated above.

If we take in (2.1) and (2.2) $B = A^*$, then we get

$$(3.1) \quad \|A^*PCe\| \|APCe\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}Ce\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + \|APA\|]$$

for any $e \in H$ and

$$(3.2) \quad w(C^*PA^2PC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + \|APA\|],$$

where A, C are bounded operators on H and P is a nonnegative operator on H .

If we put in (2.1) and (2.2) $P = 1_H$, then we have

$$(3.3) \quad \|A^*Ce\| \|B^*Ce\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|Ce\|^2 [\|A\| \|B\| + \|B^*A\|]$$

for any $e \in H$ and

$$(3.4) \quad w(C^*AB^*C) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|C\|^2 [\|A\| \|B\| + \|B^*A\|]$$

where A, B, C are bounded operators on H .

Choosing $B = A^*$ in (3.3) and (3.4), we get

$$(3.5) \quad \|A^*Ce\| \|ACe\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|Ce\|^2 [\|A\|^2 + \|A^2\|]$$

for any $e \in H$ and

$$(3.6) \quad w(C^*A^2C) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|C\|^2 [\|A\|^2 + \|A^2\|].$$

If we take in (2.1) and (2.2) $C = 1_H$, then we get

$$(3.7) \quad \|A^*Pe\| \|B^*Pe\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}e\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|P^{1/2}B\| + \|B^*PA\|]$$

for any $e \in H$ and

$$(3.8) \quad w(PAB^*P) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P\| [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|P^{1/2}B\| + \|B^*PA\|],$$

where A, B are bounded operators on H and P is a nonnegative operator on H . Moreover, if in (3.7) and (3.8) we take $B = A^*$, then we get the inequalities

$$(3.9) \quad \|A^*Pe\| \|APe\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}e\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + \|APA\|]$$

for any $e \in H$ and

$$(3.10) \quad w(PA^2P) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P\| [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + \|APA\|].$$

Further, if we assume that $APC = C^*PA$, then by taking $B = A^*$ in (2.11) and (2.12) we get

$$(3.11) \quad w^2(APC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + w(APA)]$$

and

$$(3.12) \quad w^2(APC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P^{1/2}C\|^2 \left[\left\| \frac{|P^{1/2}A|^2 + |P^{1/2}A^*|^2}{2} \right\| + w(APA) \right].$$

If $AC = C^*A$, then by taking $P = 1_H$ in (3.11) and (3.12) we have

$$(3.13) \quad w^2(AC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|C\|^2 [\|A\|^2 + w(A^2)]$$

and

$$(3.14) \quad w^2(AC) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|C\|^2 \left[\left\| \frac{|A|^2 + |A^*|^2}{2} \right\| + w(A^2) \right].$$

Since

$$\left\| \frac{|A|^2 + |A^*|^2}{2} \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} [\| |A|^2 \| + \| |A^*|^2 \|] = \|A\|^2,$$

then the inequality (3.14) is better than (3.13).

If $AP = PA$, then by taking $C = 1_H$ in (3.11) and (3.12) we also have

$$(3.15) \quad w^2(AP) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P\| [\|P^{1/2}A\| \|AP^{1/2}\| + w(PA^2)]$$

and

$$(3.16) \quad w^2(AP) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|P\| \left[\left\| \frac{|P^{1/2}A|^2 + |P^{1/2}A^*|^2}{2} \right\| + w(PA^2) \right].$$

Taking into account the above results, we can state the following two inequalities for an operator T , namely

$$(3.17) \quad w^2(T) \leq \frac{1}{2} [\|T\|^2 + w(T^2)], \text{ see (1.15),}$$

and

$$(3.18) \quad w^2(T) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[\left\| \frac{|T|^2 + |T^*|^2}{2} \right\| + w(T^2) \right].$$

The inequality (3.18) is better than (3.17).

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