

On Powers of p -Hyponormal and Log-Hyponormal Operators

TAKAYUKI FURUTA[†] and MASAHIRO YANAGIDA*

Department of Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Science University of Tokyo, 1-3 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku, Tokyo 162-8601, Japan

Dedicated to the memory of Prof. Szökefalvi-Nagy, Béla in deep sorrow

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A bounded linear operator T on a Hilbert space H is said to be p -hyponormal for $p > 0$ if $(T^*T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p$, and T is said to be log-hyponormal if T is invertible and $\log T^*T \geq \log TT^*$. Firstly, we shall show the following extension of our previous result: If T is p -hyponormal for $p \in (0, 1]$, then $(T^n T^n)^{(p+1)/n} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2^n} T^{2^n})^{(p+1)/2} \geq (T^*T)^{p+1}$ and $(TT^*)^{p+1} \geq (T^2 T^2)^{(p+1)/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^n T^n)^{(p+1)/n}$ hold for all positive integer n . Secondly, we shall discuss the best possibilities of the following parallel result for log-hyponormal operators by Yamazaki: If T is log-hyponormal, then $(T^n T^n)^{1/n} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2^n} T^{2^n})^{1/2} \geq T^*T$ and $TT^* \geq (T^2 T^2)^{1/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^n T^n)^{1/n}$ hold for all positive integer n .

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1 INTRODUCTION

A capital letter means a bounded linear operator on a complex Hilbert space H . An operator T is said to be positive (denoted by $T \geq 0$) if $(Tx, x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in H$ and also an operator T is said to be strictly positive (denoted by $T > 0$) if T is positive and invertible.

* Corresponding author. E-mail: yanagida@am.kagu.sut.ac.jp.

[†] E-mail: furuta@rs.kagu.sut.ac.jp.

An operator T is said to be p -hyponormal for $p > 0$ if $(T^*T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p$ and an operator T is said to be log-hyponormal if T is invertible and $\log T^*T \geq \log TT^*$. p -Hyponormal and log-hyponormal operators are defined as extensions of hyponormal one, i.e., $T^*T \geq TT^*$. It is easily obtained that every p -hyponormal operator is q -hyponormal for $p \geq q > 0$ by the celebrated Löwner–Heinz theorem “ $A \geq B \geq 0$ ensures $A^\alpha \geq B^\alpha$ for any $\alpha \in [0, 1]$,” and every invertible p -hyponormal operator is log-hyponormal since $\log t$ is an operator monotone function. We remark that $(A^p - 1)/p \rightarrow \log A$ as $p \rightarrow +0$ for positive invertible operator $A > 0$, so that p -hyponormality of T approaches log-hyponormality of T as $p \rightarrow +0$. In this sense, log-hyponormal can be considered as 0-hyponormal.

Recently, Aluthge and Wang [2] showed the following results.

THEOREM A [2] *Let T be a p -hyponormal operator for $p \in (0, 1]$. Then*

$$(T^n T^n)^{p/n} \geq (T^*T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p \geq (T^n T^n)^{p/n} \quad (1.1)$$

hold, that is, T^n is (p/n) -hyponormal for all positive integer n .

It is well known that even if T is hyponormal, T^2 is not hyponormal in general [9, Problem 209], but paranormal [4], i.e., $\|T^2x\| \geq \|Tx\|^2$ holds for every unit vector x . Now it turns out by Theorem A that T^2 is $(1/2)$ -hyponormal for every hyponormal operator T , which is more precise since $(1/2)$ -hyponormality ensures paranormality [1, 7].

Very recently, in [8], we showed an extension of Theorem A as follows.

THEOREM B *Let T be a p -hyponormal operator for $p \in (0, 1]$. Then*

$$(T^n T^n)^{(p+1)/n} \geq (T^*T)^{p+1} \quad (1.2)$$

and

$$(TT^*)^{p+1} \geq (T^n T^n)^{(p+1)/n} \quad (1.3)$$

hold for all positive integer n .

We also discussed the best possibilities of Theorem 1 and Theorem A.

On the other hand, Yamazaki [12] showed another extension of Theorem A as follows.

THEOREM C [12] *Let T be a p -hyponormal operator for $p \in (0, 1]$. Then*

$$(T^n T^n)^{1/n} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2^n} T^2)^{1/2} \geq T^*T \quad (1.4)$$

and

$$TT^* \geq (T^2T^{2^*})^{1/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^nT^{n^*})^{1/n} \tag{1.5}$$

hold for all positive integer *n*.

We remark that Theorem A follows from Theorem B (or Theorem C) obviously. In fact, the first and third inequalities of (1.1) hold by (1.2) and (1.3) of Theorem B (or (1.4) and (1.5) of Theorem C) and Löwner–Heinz theorem, and the second inequality of (1.1) holds since *T* is *p*-hyponormal.

Yamazaki [12] also showed the following Theorem D and Corollary E for log-hyponormal operators which are parallel results to Theorem C and Theorem A for *p*-hyponormal operators, respectively.

THEOREM D [12] *Let T be a log-hyponormal operator. Then*

$$(T^{n^*}T^n)^{1/n} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2^*}T^2)^{1/2} \geq T^*T \tag{1.6}$$

and

$$TT^* \geq (T^2T^{2^*})^{1/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^nT^{n^*})^{1/n} \tag{1.7}$$

hold for all positive integer *n*.

COROLLARY E [12] *Let T be a log-hyponormal operator. Then*

$$\log(T^{n^*}T^n)^{1/n} \geq \log T^*T \geq \log TT^* \geq \log(T^nT^{n^*})^{1/n} \tag{1.8}$$

hold, that is, *Tⁿ* is also log-hyponormal for all positive integer *n*.

We remark that Corollary E is more general than the following result by Aluthge and Wang [1] “If *T* is log-hyponormal, then *T^{2ⁿ}* is log-hyponormal for any positive integer *n*.”

In this paper, we shall show Theorem 1 stated below which is an extension of both Theorem B and Theorem C. We shall also discuss the best possibilities of Theorem D and Corollary E.

2 AN EXTENSION OF BOTH THEOREM B AND THEOREM C

THEOREM 1 *Let T be a p-hyponormal operator for p ∈ (0, 1]. Then*

$$(T^{n^*}T^n)^{(p+1)/n} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2^*}T^2)^{(p+1)/2} \geq (T^*T)^{p+1} \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$(TT^*)^{p+1} \geq (T^2T^{2^*})^{(p+1)/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^nT^{n^*})^{(p+1)/n} \quad (2.2)$$

hold for all positive integer n .

We remark that Theorem B follows from Theorem 1 by comparing the first and last terms of each of the inequalities, and Theorem C also follows from Theorem 1 by Löwner–Heinz theorem. It is interesting to remark that Theorem D just corresponds to Theorem 1 in case $p = 0$ since log-hyponormal can be considered as 0-hyponormal as mentioned in Section 1.

In order to give a proof of Theorem 1, we use the following Theorem F.

THEOREM F (Furuta inequality [5]) *If $A \geq B \geq 0$, then for each $r \geq 0$,*

- (i) $(B^{r/2}A^pB^{r/2})^{1/q} \geq (B^{r/2}B^pB^{r/2})^{1/q}$ and
 (ii) $(A^{r/2}A^pA^{r/2})^{1/q} \geq (A^{r/2}B^pA^{r/2})^{1/q}$

hold for $p \geq 0$ and $q \geq 1$ with $(1+r)q \geq p+r$.

We remark that Theorem F yields Löwner–Heinz theorem when we put $r = 0$ in (i) or (ii) stated above. Alternative proofs of Theorem F are given in [3, 10] and also an elementary one-page proof in [6]. It is shown in [11] that the domain drawn for p, q and r in Fig. 1 is the best possible for Theorem F.

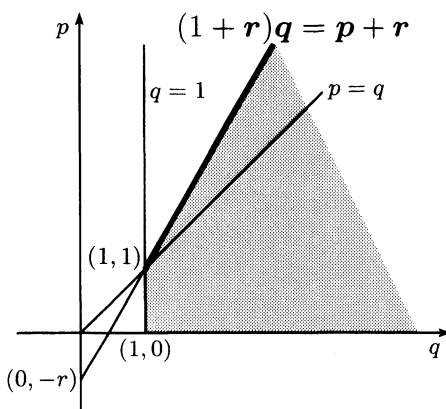


FIGURE 1

We also use the following result which is an application of Theorem F.

THEOREM F' *If $A \geq B \geq 0$, then the following assertions hold:*

- (i) *for each $q \geq 0$ and $r \geq 0$, $f(s) = (B^{r/2} A^s B^{r/2})^{(q+r)/(s+r)}$ is increasing for $s \geq q$.*
- (ii) *for each $q \geq 0$ and $r \geq 0$, $g(s) = (A^{r/2} B^s A^{r/2})^{(q+r)/(s+r)}$ is decreasing for $s \geq q$.*

Proof of Theorem 1 Let $T = U|T|$ be the polar decomposition of T . Then it is well known that the polar decomposition of T^* is $T^* = U^*|T^*|$. Put $A_n = (T^{n*} T^n)^{p/n} = |T^n|^{2p/n}$ and $B_n = (T^n T^{n*})^{p/n} = |T^{n*}|^{2p/n}$ for each positive integer n .

Proof of (2.1) We shall prove that the following (2.3) holds for all positive integer n , which is equivalent to (2.1) obviously:

$$(T^{n+1*} T^{n+1})^{(p+1)/(n+1)} \geq (T^{n*} T^n)^{(p+1)/n}. \tag{2.3}$$

- (i) Firstly, we prove that (2.3) holds for $n = 1$, that is,

$$(T^{2*} T^2)^{(p+1)/2} \geq (T^* T)^{p+1}. \tag{2.4}$$

$A_1 = (T^* T)^p \geq (T T^*)^p = B_1$ holds since T is p -hyponormal. By applying (i) of Theorem F to A_1 and B_1 for $1/p \geq 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (T^{2*} T^2)^{(p+1)/2} &= (U^* |T^*| T^* T |T^*| U)^{(p+1)/2} \\ &= U^* (|T^*| T^* T |T^*|)^{(p+1)/2} U \\ &= U^* (B_1^{1/2p} A_1^{1/p} B_1^{1/2p})^{(1+1/p)/(1/p+1/p)} U \\ &\geq U^* B_1^{1+1/p} U \\ &= U^* |T^*|^{2(p+1)} U \\ &= |T|^{2(p+1)} \\ &= (T^* T)^{p+1}, \end{aligned}$$

so that (2.4) is proved.

(ii) Secondly, in order to prove that (2.3) holds for $n \geq 2$, we prove the following (2.5) by induction:

$$(T^{n+1*} T^{n+1})^{n/(n+1)} \geq T^{n*} T^n \quad \text{for all positive integer } n. \quad (2.5)$$

We remark that (2.5) implies that (2.3) holds for $n \geq 2$ by applying Löwner–Heinz theorem to (2.5) for $(p + 1)/n \in (0, 1]$.

(2.5) holds for $n = 1$ by (2.4) and Löwner–Heinz theorem. Assume that (2.5) holds for $n = 1, 2, \dots, k - 1$. By applying Löwner–Heinz theorem to (2.5) for $p/n \in (0, 1]$, we have $(T^{n+1*} T^{n+1})^{p/(n+1)} \geq (T^{n*} T^n)^{p/n}$, so that

$$A_k = (T^{k*} T^k)^{p/k} \geq \dots \geq (T^{2*} T^2)^{p/2} \geq (T^* T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p = B_1.$$

The last inequality holds since T is p -hyponormal. Put $q_1 = (k - 1)/p \geq 0$ and $r_1 = 1/p \geq 0$. Then by (i) of Theorem F', $f(s) = (B_1^{r_1/2} A_k^s B_1^{r_1/2})^{(q_1+r_1)/(s+r_1)} = (B_1^{1/2p} A_k^s B_1^{1/2p})^{k/(ps+1)}$ is increasing for $s \geq q_1 = (k - 1)/p$, so that we have

$$\begin{aligned} (T^{k+1*} T^{k+1})^{k/(k+1)} &= (U^* |T^* |T^{k*} T^k |T^* |U)^{k/(k+1)} \\ &= U^* (|T^* |T^{k*} T^k |T^* |)^{k/(k+1)} U \\ &= U^* (B_1^{1/2p} A_k^{k/p} B_1^{1/2p})^{k/(k+1)} U \\ &= U^* f\left(\frac{k}{p}\right) U \\ &\geq U^* f\left(\frac{k-1}{p}\right) U \\ &= U^* B_1^{1/2p} A_k^{(k-1)/p} B_1^{1/2p} U \\ &= T^* (T^{k*} T^k)^{(k-1)/k} T \\ &\geq T^* T^{k-1*} T^{k-1} T \\ &= T^{k*} T^k. \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality holds since we assume that (2.5) holds for $n = k - 1$. Hence (2.5) also holds for $n = k$, so that it is proved that (2.5) holds for all positive integer n .

Consequently, the proof of (2.1) is complete by combining (i) and (ii).

Proof of (2.2) We shall prove that the following (2.6) holds for all positive integer n , which is equivalent to (2.2) obviously:

$$(T^n T^{n*})^{(p+1)/n} \geq (T^{n+1} T^{n+1*})^{(p+1)/(n+1)}. \tag{2.6}$$

(i) Firstly, we prove that (2.6) holds for $n = 1$, that is,

$$(TT^*)^{p+1} \geq (T^2 T^{2*})^{(p+1)/2}. \tag{2.7}$$

$A_1 = (T^* T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p = B_1$ holds since T is p -hyponormal. By applying (ii) of Theorem F to A_1 and B_1 for $1/p \geq 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (T^2 T^{2*})^{(p+1)/2} &= (U|T|TT^*|T|U^*)^{(p+1)/2} \\ &= U(|T|TT^*|T|)^{(p+1)/2} U^* \\ &= U(A_1^{1/2p} B_1^{1/p} A_1^{1/2p})^{(1+1/p)/(1/p+1/p)} U^* \\ &\leq UA_1^{1+1/p} U^* \\ &= U|T|^{2(p+1)} U^* \\ &= |T^*|^2(p+1) \\ &= (TT^*)^{p+1}, \end{aligned}$$

so that (2.7) is proved.

(ii) Secondly, in order to prove that (2.6) holds for $n \geq 2$, we prove the following (2.8) by induction:

$$T^n T^{n*} \geq (T^{n+1} T^{n+1*})^{n/(n+1)} \quad \text{for all positive integer } n. \tag{2.8}$$

We remark that (2.8) implies that (2.6) holds for $n \geq 2$ by applying Löwner–Heinz theorem to (2.8) for $(p + 1)/n \in (0, 1]$.

(2.8) holds for $n = 1$ by (2.7) and Löwner–Heinz theorem. Assume that (2.8) holds for $n = 1, 2, \dots, k - 1$. By applying Löwner–Heinz theorem to (2.8) for $p/n \in (0, 1]$, we have $(T^n T^{n*})^{p/n} \geq (T^{n+1} T^{n+1*})^{p/(n+1)}$, so that

$$A_1 = (T^* T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p \geq (T^2 T^{2*})^{p/2} \geq \dots \geq (T^k T^{k*})^{p/k} = B_k.$$

The first inequality holds since T is p -hyponormal. Put $q_1 = (k - 1)/p \geq 0$ and $r_1 = 1/p \geq 0$. Then by (ii) of Theorem F', $g(s) = (A_1^{r_1/2} B_k^s A_1^{r_1/2})^{(q_1+r_1)/(s+r_1)} = (A_1^{1/2p} B_k^s A_1^{1/2p})^{k/(ps+1)}$ is decreasing for $s \geq q_1 = (k - 1)/p$, so that we have

$$\begin{aligned} (T^{k+1} T^{k+1^*})^{k/(k+1)} &= (U|T|T^k T^{k^*}|T|U^*)^{k/(k+1)} \\ &= U(|T|T^k T^{k^*}|T|)^{k/(k+1)} U^* \\ &= U(A_1^{1/2p} B_k^{k/p} A_1^{1/2p})^{k/(k+1)} U^* \\ &= Ug\left(\frac{k}{p}\right) U^* \\ &\leq Ug\left(\frac{k-1}{p}\right) U^* \\ &= UA_1^{1/2p} B_k^{(k-1)/p} A_1^{1/2p} U^* \\ &= T(T^k T^{k^*})^{(k-1)/k} T^* \\ &\leq T T^{k-1} T^{k-1^*} T^* \\ &= T^k T^{k^*}. \end{aligned}$$

The last inequality holds since we assume that (2.8) holds for $n = k - 1$. Hence (2.8) also holds for $n = k$, so that it is proved that (2.8) holds for all positive integer n .

Consequently, the proof of (2.2) is complete by combining (i) and (ii).

3 BEST POSSIBILITIES OF THEOREM D AND COROLLARY E

The following Theorem 2 asserts the best possibility of Theorem D.

THEOREM 2 *Let $n \geq 2$ and $\alpha > 1$. The the following hold:*

- (i) *there exists a log-hyponormal operator T such that $(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \not\leq (T^* T)^\alpha$.*
- (ii) *there exists a log-hyponormal operator T such that $(TT^*)^\alpha \not\leq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}$.*

We remark that $A^\delta \geq B^\delta$ for $\delta > 0$ approaches $\log A \geq \log B$ as $\delta \rightarrow +0$ for positive invertible operators A and B . In this sense, the following Theorem 3 asserts the best possibilities of all the inequalities of (1.8) in Corollary E.

Proof of (i) By (i) of Proposition 1, there exist positive invertible operators A and B on H such that

$$\log A \geq \log B \quad (3.5)$$

and $(B^{r_1/2} A^{p_1} B^{r_1/2})^{1/q_1} \not\geq B^{(p_1+r_1)/q_1}$, that is,

$$(B^{1/2} A^{n-1} B^{1/2})^{\alpha/n} \not\geq B^\alpha. \quad (3.6)$$

Define an operator T on $\bigoplus_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} H$ as (3.1). Then T is log-hyponormal by (3.5) and (ii) of Lemma 1, and $(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \not\geq (T^* T)^\alpha$ by (iii) of Lemma 1 since the case $k = 1$ of (3.2) does not hold for $\beta = \alpha$ by (3.6).

Proof of (ii) By (ii) of Proposition 1, there exist positive invertible operators A and B on H such that

$$\log A \geq \log B \quad (3.7)$$

and $A^{(p_1+r_1)/q_1} \not\geq (A^{r_1/2} B^{p_1} A^{r_1/2})^{1/q_1}$, that is,

$$A^\alpha \not\geq (A^{1/2} B^{n-1} A^{1/2})^{\alpha/n}. \quad (3.8)$$

Define an operator T on $\bigoplus_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} H$ as (3.1). Then T is log-hyponormal by (3.7) and (ii) of Lemma 1, and $(TT^*)^\alpha \not\geq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}$ by (iv) of Lemma 1 since the case $k = 1$ of (3.3) does not hold for $\beta = \alpha$ by (3.8).

Proof of Theorem 3

Proof of (i) It is well known that there exist positive invertible operators A and B on H such that

$$\log A \geq \log B \quad (3.9)$$

and

$$A^\alpha \not\geq B^\alpha. \quad (3.10)$$

Define an operator T on $\bigoplus_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} H$ as (3.1). Then T is log-hyponormal by (3.9) and (ii) of Lemma 1, and $(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \not\geq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}$ for $n \geq 2$ by (v) of Lemma 1 since the first inequality of (3.4) does not hold for $\beta = \alpha$ by (3.10), and $(T^* T)^\alpha \not\geq (TT^*)^\alpha$ by (3.10) and (i) of Lemma 1.

Proof of (ii) We have only to prove the case $1 \geq \alpha > 0$ by Löwner–Heinz theorem. Assume

$$(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \geq (TT^*)^\alpha. \tag{3.11}$$

Then we have

$$(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \geq (TT^*)^\alpha \geq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}.$$

The first inequality is (3.11) itself, and the second inequality holds by (1.7) in Theorem D and Löwner–Heinz theorem. This is a contradiction to (i) of Theorem 3.

Proof of (iii) We have only to prove the case $1 \geq \alpha > 0$ by Löwner–Heinz theorem. Assume

$$(T^* T)^\alpha \geq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}. \tag{3.12}$$

Then we have

$$(T^{n^*} T^n)^{\alpha/n} \geq (T^* T)^\alpha \geq (T^n T^{n^*})^{\alpha/n}.$$

The first inequality holds by (1.6) in Theorem D and Löwner–Heinz theorem, and the second inequality is (3.12) itself. This is a contradiction to (i) of Theorem 3.

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