Research Article

Some Properties of Furuta Type Inequalities and Applications

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This work is to consider Furuta type inequalities and their applications. Firstly, some Furuta type inequalities under $A \geq B \geq 0$ are obtained via Loewner-Heinz inequality; as an application, a proof of Furuta inequality is given without using the invertibility of operators. Secondly, we show a unified satellite theorem of grand Furuta inequality which is an extension of the results by Fujii et al. At the end, a kind of Riccati type operator equation is discussed via Furuta type inequalities.

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, an operator T means a bounded linear operator on a Hilbert space. $T \geq 0$ and $T > 0$ mean a positive operator and an invertible positive operator, respectively, (see [1, page 103]). The classical Loewner-Heinz inequality (L-H) is stated below (see [2, page 127]).

Theorem 1 (Loewner-Heinz inequality (L-H)). *Let $p \in [0, 1]$; then $A \geq B \geq 0$ ensures*

$$A^p \geq B^p. \quad (1)$$

In general, (L-H) is not true for $p > 1$. As a celebrated development of (L-H), Furuta provided a kind of order preserving operator inequality [2, page 129], the so-called Furuta inequality (FI).

Theorem 2 (Furuta inequality (FI), [3]). *Let $r \geq 0$, $p > 0$; then $A \geq B \geq 0$ ensures*

$$\begin{aligned} (B^{r/2} A^p B^{r/2})^{(\min\{1, p\}+r)/(p+r)} &\geq (B^{r/2} B^p B^{r/2})^{(\min\{1, p\}+r)/(p+r)}, \\ (A^{r/2} A^p A^{r/2})^{(\min\{1, p\}+r)/(p+r)} &\geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(\min\{1, p\}+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Tanahashi proved that the outer exponent $\min\{1, p\} + r$ above is optimal; see [3] for related topics. In order to establish the order structure on Aluthge transform of nonnormal operators, the complete form of Furuta inequality was showed in [4].

Theorem 3 (Complete form [4]). *Let $q > 0$, $r \geq 0$, $p > p_0 > 0$ and $s(q) = \min\{p, 2p_0 + \min\{q, r\}\}$. Then $A \geq 0$ and $B \geq 0$ such that $A^q \geq B^q$ ensures*

$$(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2})^{(s(q)+r)/(p_0+r)} \geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(s(q)+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (3)$$

We call the theorem above the complete form of Furuta inequality because the case $p_0 = q = 1$ of it implies the essential part ($p > 1$) of Furuta inequality by the Loewner-Heinz inequality for $(1+r)/(s(1)+r) \in (0, 1]$. For convenience, we call Furuta inequality (Theorem 2) the original form of Furuta inequality.

It is known that there are many applications of Furuta type inequalities; we cite [5–7].

Based on Ito et al. [8] which is a continuation of [9], the equivalent relations between two operator inequalities are useful. For $A \geq 0$, A^0 means the projection $P_{(\ker A)^\perp}$.

Theorem 4 (see [8]). *Let $r > 0$, $0 \leq p_0 < p$, $A \geq 0$ and $B \geq 0$.*

(1) *If $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$, then, for each r , p_0 , and p , the following inequalities are equivalent to each other:*

$$(B^{p/2} A^r B^{p/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p)} \geq (B^{p/2} B^p B^{p/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p)}, \quad (4)$$

$$(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2})^{(p_0+r)/(p_0+r)} \geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(p_0+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (5)$$

In particular, (4) implies (5) without condition $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$.

(2) For each r , p_0 , and p , the following inequalities are equivalent to each other:

$$\begin{aligned} (A^{p/2} B^r A^{p/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p)} &\leq (A^{p/2} A^r A^{p/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p)}, \\ (B^{r/2} A^{p_0} B^{r/2})^{(p_0+r)/(p_0+r)} &\leq (B^{r/2} A^p B^{r/2})^{(p_0+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

It should be pointed out that (5) ensures (4) is not true without the condition $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$ [8, Remark 1]. Moreover, the proof of Theorem 4 is independent of (L-H).

In Section 2, some Furuta type inequalities under $A \geq B \geq 0$ are proved via Loewner-Heinz inequality; as applications, we show alternate proofs of some well-known Furuta type inequalities (proofs of Theorems 10 and 2).

In 1995, Furuta [10] proved the so-called grand Furuta inequality which is also an extension of Theorem 2.

Theorem 5 (grand Furuta inequality [10]). *Let $p \geq 1$, $-1 \leq t < 0$, $r \geq -t$ and $s \geq 1$. If $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$; then*

$$A^{1+t+r} \geq \left(A^{r/2} (A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2})^s A^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)}. \quad (7)$$

Fujii et al. proved some satellite theorems of grand Furuta inequality.

Theorem 6 (see [11]). *Let $p \geq 1$, $-1 \leq t < 0$, $r \geq -t$ and $s \geq 1$. If $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$; then*

$$\left(A^{r/2} (A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2})^s A^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \leq A^{(r+t)/2} B A^{(r+t)/2}. \quad (8)$$

Theorem 7 (see [12]). *Let $p \geq 1$, $-1 \leq t < 0$, $r \geq -t$ and $s \geq 1$. If $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$; then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left(A^{r/2} (A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2})^s A^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ \leq A^{r/2} (A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2})^{(1+t)/(p+t)} A^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Theorems 6 and 7 are extensions of Theorem 5.

In Section 3, we will show a unified satellite theorem which is an extension of Theorems 6 and 7 via the complete forms of Furuta inequality with negative powers.

Lastly, it is known that Riccati type operator equations $K = THT - TC - C^*T$ relate to control theory closely and have been studied extensively [13]. Pedersen and Takesaki [14] developed the special kind of Riccati equation $K = THT$ as a useful tool for the noncommutative Radon-Nikodym theorem.

Yuan and Gao [15] discussed the Riccati type equation:

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} (T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2})^{(p-\delta)/(\delta+r)} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (10)$$

In Section 4, as a continuation of [15, 16], we will consider the Riccati type equation:

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} (T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2})^{(1/w)-1} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2} \quad (11)$$

via Furuta type inequalities.

2. Furuta Type Inequalities under the Order $A \geq B \geq 0$

Reference [17] proved a kind of equivalent relations which can be regarded as a parallel result to Theorem 4.

Theorem 8 (see [17]). *Let $r > 0$, $0 < p_0 < p$, $A \geq 0$ and $B \geq 0$. If $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$, then, for each r , p_0 and p , the following inequalities are equivalent to each other:*

$$\begin{aligned} (B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)} \\ \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) (B^{p_0/2} B^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)}, \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p_0+r)} \\ \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

In particular, (12) implies (13) without condition $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$.

The proof of Theorem 8 is different from Theorem 4 and independent of (L-H).

In this section, we consider some Furuta type inequalities under the order $A \geq B \geq 0$. As applications, alternate proofs of some Furuta type inequalities are given (proofs of Theorems 10 and 2). Especially, we prove (FI) without using the invertibility of operators.

Theorem 9. *Let $1 \geq r > 0$, $A \geq B \geq 0$.*

(1) *For each $p_0 > 0$ and p with $p_0 < p \leq 2p_0 + r$, the following inequalities hold and they are equivalent to each other:*

$$(B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)} \geq (B^{p_0/2} B^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)}, \quad (14)$$

$$(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p_0+r)} \geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (15)$$

(2) *For each $p_0 > 0$ and p with $p_0 < p \leq 2p_0 + r$, the following inequalities hold:*

$$(A^{p_0/2} B^r A^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)} \leq (A^{p_0/2} A^r A^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)}, \quad (16)$$

$$(B^{r/2} A^{p_0} B^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p_0+r)} \leq (B^{r/2} A^p B^{r/2})^{(p+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (17)$$

(3) *If $p > 1$, then*

$$A^{1+r} \geq A^{r/2} B A^{r/2} \geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(1+r)/(p+r)}, \quad (18)$$

$$B^{1+r} \leq B^{r/2} A B^{r/2} \leq (B^{r/2} A^p B^{r/2})^{(1+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (19)$$

Proof. (1) Since $p_0 < p \leq 2p_0 + r$, $1 \geq (p - p_0)/(r + p_0) > 0$ follows. By $A \geq B \geq 0$ and (L-H) for $1 \geq r > 0$ and $1 \geq (p - p_0)/(r + p_0) > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^r &\geq B^r, & B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2} &\geq B^{p_0/2} B^r B^{p_0/2}, \\ (B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)} &\geq (B^{p_0/2} B^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)}. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Hence, (14) holds. Since $A \geq B \geq 0$, $\ker(AB^{p_0/2}) \subseteq \ker B$ follows. So, the equivalency follows by Theorem 8.

(2) Similar to the proof of (14), we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^r &\geq B^r, & A^{p_0/2} B^r A^{p_0/2} &\leq A^{p_0/2} A^r A^{p_0/2}, \\ (A^{p_0/2} B^r A^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)} &\leq (A^{p_0/2} A^r A^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(r+p_0)}. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Hence, (16) holds. Since (12) implies (13) without kernel condition, (17) follows by (16).

(3) By (15), there exists the function $d(t) = t + r$ defined on $(0, \infty)$ satisfying [18, Lemma 2.6(1)]. Hence, case 1 = $p_0 < p$ of [18, Lemma 2.6(2)] implies

$$\begin{aligned} (A^{r/2} B A^{r/2})^{(\min\{p, 2+r\}+r)/(1+r)} \\ \geq (A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2})^{(\min\{p, 2+r\}+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

So (18) holds by $A \geq B \geq 0$ and (L-H) for $(1+r)/(\min\{p, 2+r\}+r) \in (0, 1)$. It is easy to prove (19) in a similar way. $\square$

As prompt applications, we show alternate proofs of some Furuta type inequalities.

Theorem 10 (see [19]). *Let $\alpha > 0$, $\beta_0 > 0$, $A \geq 0$, $B \geq 0$. For δ such that $-\beta_0 < \delta \leq \alpha$, if*

$$(B^{\beta_0/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_0/2})^{(\delta+\beta_0)/(\alpha+\beta_0)} \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) B^{\delta+\beta_0}, \quad (23)$$

then

$$(B^{\beta/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta/2})^{(\delta+\beta)/(\alpha+\beta)} \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) B^{\delta+\beta}, \quad (24)$$

where $\beta \geq \beta_0$. Moreover, for each $\delta' > -\alpha$, the function

$$f(\beta) = (A^{\alpha/2} B^\beta A^{\alpha/2})^{(\delta'+\alpha)/(\beta+\alpha)} \quad (25)$$

is decreasing (resp., increasing) for $\beta \geq \max\{\beta_0, \delta'\}$.

Proof. It is enough to prove the case $\geq$ because the case $\leq$ can be proved in a similar manner. Denote (23) by $A_1 \geq B_1$; that is,

$$A_1 = (B^{\beta_0/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_0/2})^{(\delta+\beta_0)/(\alpha+\beta_0)}, \quad B_1 = B^{\delta+\beta_0}. \quad (26)$$

For $1 \geq r_1 > 0$, $p_1 \geq 1$, by (19) of Theorem 9, we have

$$(B_1^{r_1/2} A_1^{p_1} B_1^{r_1/2})^{(1+r_1)/(p_1+r_1)} \geq B_1^{1+r_1}. \quad (27)$$

By putting $p_1 = (\alpha + \beta_0)/(\delta + \beta_0)$, the inequality above becomes

$$\begin{aligned} (B^{(\beta_0+(\delta+\beta_0)r_1)/2} A^\alpha B^{(\beta_0+(\delta+\beta_0)r_1)/2})^{(\delta+\beta_0+(\delta+\beta_0)r_1)/(\alpha+\beta_0+(\delta+\beta_0)r_1)} \\ \geq B^{\delta+\beta_0+(\delta+\beta_0)r_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

This implies that (24) holds for $\beta_0 \leq \beta \leq \beta_1 = \beta_0 + (\delta + \beta_0)$. Denote $A_2 = (B^{\beta_1/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_1/2})^{(\delta+\beta_1)/(\alpha+\beta_1)}$ and $B_2 = B^{\delta+\beta_1}$; repeating this process, (24) holds for $\beta \geq \beta_0$.

For each $\delta' > -\alpha$, $\beta_1 \geq \max\{\beta_0, \delta'\}$, by (24) and (L-H),

$$\begin{aligned} (B^{\beta_1/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_1/2})^{(\delta+\beta_1)/(\alpha+\beta_1)} &\geq B^{\delta+\beta_1}, \\ (B^{\beta_1/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_1/2})^{\nu/(\alpha+\beta_1)} &\geq B^\nu, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where $0 < \nu \leq \delta + \beta_0$. This together with Theorem 8 and (L-H) deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} (A^{\alpha/2} B^{\beta_1} A^{\alpha/2})^{(\nu+\beta_1+\alpha)/(\beta_1+\alpha)} \\ \geq (A^{\alpha/2} B^{\nu+\beta_1} A^{\alpha/2})^{(\nu+\beta_1+\alpha)/(\nu+\beta_1+\alpha)}, \\ (A^{\alpha/2} B^{\beta_1} A^{\alpha/2})^{(\delta'+\alpha)/(\beta_1+\alpha)} \geq (A^{\alpha/2} B^{\beta_2} A^{\alpha/2})^{(\delta'+\alpha)/(\beta_2+\alpha)}, \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

where $\beta_2 = \nu + \beta_1 \in (\beta_1, \delta + \beta_0 + \beta_1]$. So, the monotonicity of the function $f(\beta)$ holds. $\square$

It should be pointed out that, if $\delta = 0$ and $0 < \beta < \beta_0$, the assertion that (23) ensures (24) is not true [15, Theorem 2.8].

Theorem 11 (see [15]). *Given any positive numbers p , r , p_1 , and r_1 with $r_1 > r$, there exist invertible positive operators H and K such that*

$$\begin{aligned} H^{r_1} &\geq (H^{r_1/2} K^{p_1} H^{r_1/2})^{r_1/(p_1+r_1)}, \\ aH^r &\not\geq (H^{r/2} K^p H^{r/2})^{r/(p+r)}, \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

where a is an arbitrary positive number.

Alternate Proof of Theorem 2. The case $r \geq 0$ and $0 < p \leq 1$ of Theorem 2 follows by (L-H) directly. Theorem 9(3) means the case $0 < r \leq 1$ and $p > 1$ of Theorem 2; this together with Theorem 10 implies the case $r > 0$ and $p > 1$ of Theorem 2. So, the proof is complete.

The proof above says that the original form of Furuta inequality (Theorem 2) is a composition of (L-H), Theorems 9 and 10. The proof here is independent of the invertibility of the operators A and B .

3. A Unified Satellite Theorem of Grand Furuta Inequalities

Denote $:= (A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2})^{1/(p+t)}$, where $p + t \neq 0$.

Theorem 12. Let $-1 \leq t < 0$, $p \geq 1$, $\bar{p} \geq 1$, $C \geq A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$.

(1) If $r \geq -t$, $s \geq 1$, $1 \leq p_0 \leq p$ and $1 \leq p_0 \leq \bar{p}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_0+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ & \leq A^{(r+t)/2} B^{p_0} A^{(r+t)/2} \leq A^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^{\bar{p}} A^{t/2} \right)^{(p_0+t)/(\bar{p}+t)} A^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

(2) If $r \geq -t$ and $s \geq 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s C^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ & \leq C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^{(1+t)/(p+t)} C^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

The case $C = A$ of Theorem 12(2) is just Theorem 7. The special case $p_0 = 1$ of Theorem 12(1) implies the result below.

Corollary 13. Let $-1 \leq t < 0$, $p \geq 1$, $\bar{p} \geq 1$, $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$. If $r \geq -t$ and $s \geq 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s A^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ & \leq A^{(r+t)/2} B A^{(r+t)/2} \leq A^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^{\bar{p}} A^{t/2} \right)^{(1+t)/(\bar{p}+t)} A^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

It is obvious that the special case $p = \bar{p}$ of Corollary 13 is a unified result of Theorems 6 and 7; that is, it is an extension of Theorems 6 and 7. So, we call Theorem 12 a unified satellite theorem of grand Furuta inequality (Theorem 5).

In order to give a proof, we prepare some results in advance.

Lemma 14 (see [18]). Let $-1 \leq t < 0$, $p \geq 1$ and $s \geq 1$. Then $C \geq A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$ ensures that the function

$$f(s) = \left(C^{-t/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s C^{-t/2} \right)^{1/((p+t)s-t)} \quad (35)$$

is decreasing for $s \geq 1$. In particular,

$$C \geq \left(C^{-t/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s C^{-t/2} \right)^{1/((p+t)s-t)}. \quad (36)$$

Lemma 15 (see [18]). Let $-1 \leq t < 0$, $p \geq 1$, $r \geq -t$, $1 \leq s_0 < s$ and $\delta = \min\{(p+t)s, 2(p+t)s_0\}$. Then $C \geq A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$ ensures

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(C^{r/2} D^{(p+t)s_0} C^{r/2} \right)^{(\delta+r)/((p+t)s_0+r)} \\ & \geq \left(C^{r/2} D^{(p+t)s} C^{r/2} \right)^{(\delta+r)/((p+t)s+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

Lemma 16. Let $r < 0$, $A > 0$ and $B \geq 0$. Then the following assertion (1) implies (2).

(1) There exists an increasing function $d(p) : (-r, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ such that, for each $p_0 > -r$, if $p_0 < p \leq p_0 + d(p_0)$, then

$$\left(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p+r)/(p_0+r)} \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) \left(A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2} \right)^{(p+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (38)$$

(2) The function $d(p) : (-r, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$ in (1) satisfies that, for each $p_0 > -r$, if $p_0 < p$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2} \right)^{(\min\{p, p_0+d(p_0)\}+r)/(p_0+r)} \\ & \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) \left(A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2} \right)^{(\min\{p, p_0+d(p_0)\}+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

Lemma 16 is a complement to [18, Lemma 2.6].

Proof. It is sufficient to prove the case $\geq$ for the case $\leq$ can be proved in a similar manner. For each $p_0 > 0$ and $p_0 < p$, if $p \leq p_0 + d(p_0)$, then (2) follows by (1) immediately. Suppose that $p_n < p \leq p_{n+1} = p_n + d(p_n)$ for some positive integer n and $p_1 = p_0 + d(p_0)$. By (1), for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_k} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_{k+1}+r)/(p_k+r)} \geq \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_{k+1}} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_{k+1}+r)/(p_{k+1}+r)}, \\ & \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_n} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p+r)/(p_n+r)} \geq \left(A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2} \right)^{(p+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

Noting that $((p_1+r)/(p_{k+1}+r)) \in [0, 1]$ and $((p_1+r)/(p+r)) \in [0, 1]$, these together with (L-H) deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_1+r)/(p_0+r)} \geq \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_1} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_1+r)/(p_1+r)} \\ & \geq \dots \geq \left(A^{r/2} B^{p_n} A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_1+r)/(p_n+r)} \\ & \geq \left(A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2} \right)^{(p_1+r)/(p+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

Therefore, the function d in (1) satisfies (2). $\square$

Lemma 17. Let $0 > r \geq -1$, $p > p_0 > -r$ and $\beta = \min\{p, 2p_0 + r\}$; then $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$ ensures

$$\left(A^{r/2} B^{p_0} A^{r/2} \right)^{(\beta+r)/(p_0+r)} \leq \left(A^{r/2} B^p A^{r/2} \right)^{(\beta+r)/(p+r)}. \quad (42)$$

Proof. Firstly, we prove the case $p \leq 2p_0 + r$ of Lemma 17. By [10, Lemma 1], (42) is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} & A^{r/2} B^{p_0/2} \left(B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2} \right)^{(p-p_0)/(p_0+r)} B^{p_0/2} A^{r/2} \\ & \leq A^{r/2} B^{p_0/2} B^{p-p_0} B^{p_0/2} A^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

On the other hand, $(B^{p_0/2} A^r B^{p_0/2})^{(p-p_0)/(p_0+r)} \leq B^{p-p_0}$ holds by Loewner-Heinz inequality for $((p-p_0)/(p_0+r)) \in (0, 1]$. So (42) holds for $p \leq 2p_0 + r$.

Now, it is proved that (42) holds when $-r < p_0 < p \leq 2p_0 + r$. Meanwhile, it is easy to see that the increasing function $d(t) = t + r$ satisfies (1) of Lemma 16, so (42) holds for $-r < p_0 < p$. $\square$

Proof of Theorem 12. By the case $s_0 = 1$ of Lemma 15 and (L-H) for $((p_0 + t + r)/(\delta + r)) \in [0, 1]$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s C^{r/2} \right)^{(p_0+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ & \leq \left(C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right) C^{r/2} \right)^{(p_0+t+r)/((p+t)+r)}. \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

(1) For $1 \leq p_0 \leq p$, Theorem 3 and (L-H) deduce that

$$\left(A^{(r+t)/2} B^p A^{(r+t)/2} \right)^{(p_0+t+r)/((p+t)+r)} \leq A^{(r+t)/2} B^{p_0} A^{(r+t)/2}. \quad (45)$$

Meanwhile, for $-1 \leq t < 0$ and $1 \leq p_0 \leq \tilde{p}$, Lemma 17 and (L-H) imply

$$A^{t/2} B^{p_0} A^{t/2} \leq \left(A^{t/2} B^{\tilde{p}} A^{t/2} \right)^{(p_0+t)/(\tilde{p}+t)}. \quad (46)$$

Hence, (1) follows by the case $C = A$ of (44), (45), and (46).

(2) By (L-H), (44), $f(1) \leq C$, Theorem 3 and Lemma 17 ensure

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^s C^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)s+r)} \\ & \leq \left(C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right) C^{r/2} \right)^{(1+t+r)/((p+t)+r)} \\ & \quad \text{by (44) and (L-H)} \\ & = \left(C^{(r+t)/2} \left(C^{-t/2} A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} C^{-t/2} \right)^{(1/p)p} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times C^{(r+t)/2} \right)^{(1+r+t)/(p+r+t)} \\ & = \left(C^{(r+t)/2} (f(1))^p C^{(r+t)/2} \right)^{(1+r+t)/(p+r+t)} \\ & \leq \left(C^{(r+t)/2} (f(1))^1 C^{(r+t)/2} \right)^{(1+r+t)/(1+r+t)} \\ & \quad \text{by } f(1) \leq C, \text{ Theorem 3 and (L-H)} \\ & = C^{r/2} C^{t/2} (f(1))^1 C^{t/2} C^{r/2} \\ & \leq C^{r/2} \left(C^{t/2} (f(1))^p C^{t/2} \right)^{(1+t)/(p+t)} C^{r/2} \\ & \quad \text{by } f(1) \leq C, \text{ Lemma 17 and (L-H)} \\ & = C^{r/2} \left(A^{t/2} B^p A^{t/2} \right)^{(1+t)/(p+t)} C^{r/2}. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

The $f(s)$ above is the same as the function $f(s)$ in Lemma 14. $\square$

4. Riccati Type Operator Equations

Yuan and Gao [15] discussed the Riccati type equation:

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} \left(T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2} \right)^{(p-\delta)/(\delta+r)} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (48)$$

Theorem 18 (see [15]). Let $H \geq 0$, $K \geq 0$ and assume that $\ker H = \{0\}$.

(1) The following statements are equivalent for each $p > 0$, $r > 0$ and $p \geq \delta \geq 0$.

- (a) $aH^{\delta+r} \geq (H^{r/2} K^p H^{r/2})^{(\delta+r)/(p+r)}$ for some $a \geq 0$.
- (b) There exists a unique operator $T \geq 0$ that satisfies $\|T\| \leq a$ and (48).

If in addition H is invertible, (1) holds for $p \geq \delta > -r$.

(2) If there exists $T \geq 0$ satisfying (48) for fixed $p > 0$, $r > 0$ and $p \geq \delta \geq 0$, then, for $p_1 \geq p$ and $r_1 \geq r$, there exists $T_1 \geq 0$ satisfying

$$K^{p_1} = H^{\delta/2} T_1^{1/2} \left(T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta+r_1} T_1^{1/2} \right)^{(p_1-\delta)/(\delta+r_1)} T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (49)$$

One of the applications of Riccati equation (48) is to show that the inclusion relations among class $A(p, r)$ operators are strict [15, Theorem 3.1]. Recently, there are some developments on operator equations including the following equation (see [16, 20]):

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} \left(T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2} \right)^{(1/w)-1} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (50)$$

Obviously, the special case $w = (\delta + r)/(p + r)$ of (50) is just (48).

Theorem 19 (see [16]). Let $H \geq 0$, $K \geq 0$ and assume that $\ker H = \{0\}$. The following statements are equivalent for each $p > 0$, $r > 0$, $\delta \geq 0$ and $0 < w \leq 1$.

- (1) $aH^{\delta+r} \geq (H^{r/2} K^p H^{r/2})^w$ for some $a \geq 0$.
- (2) There exists a unique operator $T \geq 0$ which satisfies $\|T\| \leq a$ and (50).

If in addition H is invertible, the condition $\delta \geq 0$ can be replaced with $\delta \in \mathcal{R}$ where $\mathcal{R}$ means the set of all real numbers, and if H and K are both invertible, the conditions $\delta \geq 0$ and $0 < w \leq 1$ can be replaced with $\delta \in \mathcal{R}$ and $w \neq 0$.

The case $w = (\delta + r)/(p + r)$ of Theorem 19 is a generalization of Theorem 18(1). In this section, we give a generalization of Theorem 18(2).

Lemma 20. Let $\alpha > 0$, $\beta_0 > 0$, $\alpha' > 0$, $\beta'_0 > 0$, $A \geq 0$, $B \geq 0$. For δ and δ' such that $\delta \in (-\beta_0, \infty)$ and $\delta' \in (-\beta'_0, \alpha']$, if

$$\left(B^{\beta_0/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_0/2} \right)^{(\delta'+\beta'_0)/(\alpha'+\beta'_0)} \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) B^{\delta+\beta_0}, \quad (51)$$

then, for $\beta \geq \beta_0$,

$$\left(B^{\beta/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta/2} \right)^{(\delta'+\beta')/(\alpha'+\beta')} \geq (\text{resp. } \leq) B^{\delta+\beta}, \quad (52)$$

where $\beta' = ((\beta(\delta' + \beta'_0) + \beta'_0\delta - \beta_0\delta')/(\delta + \beta_0)) (\geq \beta'_0)$.

The case $\alpha = \alpha'$, $\beta_0 = \beta'_0$ and $\delta = \delta'$ of Lemma 20 implies Theorem 10. The case $\alpha = \alpha'$, $\beta_0 = \beta'_0$ and $\delta = \delta' = 0$ of Lemma 20 implies Yanagida's result [21, Proposition 4].

Proof. It is enough to prove the case $\geq$ because the case $\leq$ can be proved in a similar manner. Denote (51) by $A_1 \geq B_1$; that is,

$$A_1 = (B^{\beta_0/2} A^\alpha B^{\beta_0/2})^{(\delta' + \beta'_0)/(\alpha' + \beta'_0)}, \quad B_1 = B^{\delta + \beta_0}. \quad (53)$$

For $r_1 > 0$, $p_1 \geq 1$, by (FI) (Theorem 2), we have

$$(B_1^{r_1/2} A_1^{p_1} B_1^{r_1/2})^{(1+r_1)/(p_1+r_1)} \geq B_1^{1+r_1}. \quad (54)$$

By putting $p_1 = ((\alpha' + \beta'_0)/(\delta' + \beta'_0))(\geq 1)$, the inequality above becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & (B^{(\beta_0 + (\delta + \beta_0)r_1)/2} A^\alpha \\ & \times B^{(\beta_0 + (\delta + \beta_0)r_1)/2})^{(\delta' + \beta'_0 + (\delta' + \beta'_0)r_1)/(\alpha' + \beta'_0 + (\delta' + \beta'_0)r_1)} \\ & \geq B^{\delta + \beta_0 + (\delta + \beta_0)r_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

Denote $\beta = \beta_0 + (\delta + \beta_0)r_1$ and $\beta' = \beta'_0 + (\delta' + \beta'_0)r_1$; then $\beta \geq \beta_0$ and $\beta' = ((\beta(\delta' + \beta'_0) + \beta'_0\delta - \beta_0\delta')/(\delta + \beta_0)) \geq \beta'_0$, so that (52) holds by the inequality above. $\square$

Theorem 21. Let $H \geq 0$, $K \geq 0$ and assume that $\ker H = \{0\}$. For each $p > 0$, $r > 0$ and $\delta \geq 0$, if there exists $T \geq 0$ satisfying the equation

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} (T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2})^{(p'-\delta')/(\delta'+r')} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}, \quad (56)$$

where $p' > 0$, $r' > 0$ and $-r' < \delta' \leq p'$. Then, for $r_1 \geq r$ and $r'_1 = ((r_1(\delta' + r') + r'\delta - r\delta')/(\delta + r))(\geq r')$, there exists $T_1 \geq 0$ satisfying

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T_1^{1/2} (T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta+r_1} T_1^{1/2})^{(p'-\delta')/(\delta'+r'_1)} T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (57)$$

If H is invertible, the condition $\delta \geq 0$ can be replaced with $\delta > -r$.

Proof. By the assumption, (1) of Theorem 19 holds for some $a > 0$; that is,

$$\begin{aligned} & (a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{\delta+r} \\ & \geq \left((a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{r/2} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times K^p (a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{r/2} \right)^w. \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

So, the following holds by Lemma 20:

$$\begin{aligned} & (a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{\delta+r_1} \\ & \geq \left((a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{r_1/2} \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times K^p (a^{1/(\delta+r(1-w))} H)^{r_1/2} \right)^{(\delta'+r'_1)/(p'+r'_1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (59)$$

where $r'_1 = ((r_1(\delta' + r') + r'\delta - r\delta')/(\delta + r))(\geq r')$; that is,

$$a^{(\delta+r_1(1-w_1))/(\delta+r(1-w))} H^{\delta+r_1} \geq (H^{r_1/2} K^p H^{r_1/2})^{w_1}, \quad (60)$$

where $w_1 = ((\delta' + r'_1)/(p' + r'_1)) \in (0, 1]$. Hence, (57) is solvable by Theorem 19. $\square$

The result below is the case $r = r'$ and $\delta = \delta'$ of Theorem 21.

Corollary 22. Let $H \geq 0$, $K \geq 0$ and assume that $\ker H = \{0\}$. For each $p > 0$, $r > 0$ and $\delta \geq 0$, if there exists $T \geq 0$ satisfying the equation

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T^{1/2} (T^{1/2} H^{\delta+r} T^{1/2})^{(p'-\delta)/(\delta+r)} T^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}, \quad (61)$$

where $p' > 0$ and $p' \geq \delta$. Then, for $r_1 \geq r$, there exists $T_1 \geq 0$ satisfying

$$K^p = H^{\delta/2} T_1^{1/2} (T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta+r_1} T_1^{1/2})^{(p'-\delta)/(\delta+r_1)} T_1^{1/2} H^{\delta/2}. \quad (62)$$

If H is invertible, the condition $\delta \geq 0$ can be replaced with $\delta > -r$.

It is obvious that Corollary 22 is a generalization of the case $p_1 = p$ of Theorem 18(2).

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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