

SOME GENERAL NUMERICAL RADIUS INEQUALITIES FOR THE OFF-DIAGONAL PARTS OF 2×2 OPERATOR MATRICES

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Abstract. We give some sharp inequalities involving powers of the numerical radii for the off-diagonal parts of 2×2 operator matrices. These inequalities, which are based on some classical convexity inequalities for the nonnegative real numbers, generalize earlier numerical radius inequalities.

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1. Introduction

Let $B(H)$ denote the C^* - algebra of all bounded linear operators on a complex Hilbert space H with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$. For $A \in B(H)$, let $\omega(A)$ and $\|A\|$ denote the numerical radius and the usual operator norm of A , respectively. It is well known that $\omega(\cdot)$ defines a norm on $B(H)$, which is equivalent to the usual operator norm $\|\cdot\|$. In fact, for every $A \in B(H)$,

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{1}{2}\|A\| \leq \omega(A) \leq \|A\|.$$

The inequalities in (1.1) are sharp. The first inequality becomes an equality if $A^2 = 0$. The second inequality becomes an equality if A is normal. For basic properties of the numerical radius, we refer to [4] and [6]. The inequalities in (1.1) have been improved considerably by Kittaneh. It has been shown in [10] and [11], respectively, that if $A \in B(H)$, then

$$(1.2) \quad \omega(A) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\|A\| + \|A^*\|) \leq \frac{1}{2}(\|A\| + \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}}),$$

where $|A| = (A^*A)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ is the absolute value of A , and

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{1}{4} \|A^*A + AA^*\| \leq \omega^2(A) \leq \frac{1}{2} \|A^*A + AA^*\|.$$

The inequalities in (1.2), which refine the second inequality in (1.1), have been utilized in [10] to derive an estimate for the numerical radius of the Frobenius companion matrix. Such an estimate can be employed to give new bounds for the zeros of polynomials (see, e.g., [9],[10], and references therein).

If $A = B + iC$ is the Cartesian decomposition of A , then B and C are self-adjoint, and $A^*A + AA^* = 2(B^2 + C^2)$. Thus, the inequalities in (1.3) can be written as

$$(1.4) \quad \frac{1}{2} \|B^2 + C^2\| \leq \omega^2(A) \leq \|B^2 + C^2\|.$$

The purpose of this paper is to establish a general inequalities involving powers of the numerical radii for the off-diagonal parts of 2×2 operator matrices that are based on the classical convexity inequalities for nonnegative real numbers and some operator inequalities.

Other recent numerical radius inequalities have been obtained by Dragomir [3], El-Haddad [5], and Yamazaki [12]. The inequalities in [3] are related to the Euclidean radius of two Hilbert space operators, the inequalities in [5] involving powers of the numerical radii for Hilbert space operators, and those in [12] involve the Aluthge transform.

2. Main results

To prove our generalized numerical radius inequalities for the off-diagonal parts of 2×2 operator matrices, we need several well known lemmas. The first lemma is a simple consequence of the classical Jensen's inequality concerning the convexity or the concavity of certain power functions. It is a special case of Schlömilch's inequality for weighted means of nonnegative real numbers (see, e.g., [7, p. 26]).

Lemma 2.1 For $a, b \geq 0$, $0 < \alpha < 1$, and $r \neq 0$, let $M_r(a, b, \alpha) = (\alpha a^r + (1-\alpha)b^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$ and let $M_0(a, b, \alpha) = a^\alpha b^{1-\alpha}$. Then

$$M_r(a, b, \alpha) \leq M_s(a, b, \alpha) \quad \text{for } r \leq s.$$

The second lemma is another application of Jensen's inequality (see, e.g., [7, p. 28]).

Lemma 2.2 For $a, b \geq 0$, and $r > 0$, let $N_r(a, b) = (a^r + b^r)^{\frac{1}{r}}$. Then

$$N_s(a, b) \leq N_r(a, b) \quad \text{for } s \geq r > 0.$$

The third lemma follows from the spectral theorem for positive operators and Jensen's inequality (see, e.g., [8]).

Lemma 2.3 *Let $A \in B(H)$ be positive, and let $x \in H$ be any unit vector. Then*

- (a) $\langle Ax, x \rangle^r \leq \langle A^r x, x \rangle$ for $r \geq 1$.
- (b) $\langle A^r x, x \rangle \leq \langle Ax, x \rangle^r$ for $0 < r \leq 1$.

The fourth lemma is an immediate consequence of the spectral theorem for self-adjoint operators. For generalizations of this lemma, we refer to [8].

Lemma 2.4 *Let $A \in B(H)$ be self-adjoint, and let $x \in H$ be any vector. Then*

$$|\langle Ax, x \rangle| \leq \langle |A| x, x \rangle.$$

The fifth lemma is a generalized for the mixed Schwarz inequality which has been proved by Kittaneh [8].

Lemma 2.5 *Let T be an operator in $B(H)$ and let f and g be nonnegative functions on $[0, \infty)$ which are continuous and satisfying the relation $f(t)g(t) = t$ for all $t \in [0, \infty)$. Then*

$$|\langle Tx, y \rangle| \leq \| f(|T|)x \| \| g(|T^*|)x \| \quad \text{for all } x, y \in H.$$

The sixth lemma contains two parts. Part (a) is well known and can be found in [2, p. 10]. Part (b) is also known and can be found in [1].

Lemma 2.6 *Let $X, Y \in B(H)$. Then*

- (a) $\omega \left(\begin{bmatrix} X & 0 \\ 0 & Y \end{bmatrix} \right) = \max \{ \omega(X), \omega(Y) \}.$
- (b) $\omega \left(\begin{bmatrix} X & Y \\ Y & X \end{bmatrix} \right) = \max \{ \omega(X + Y), \omega(X - Y) \}.$

In particular,

$$\omega \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & Y \\ Y & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \omega(Y).$$

Our first result is a generalization of the first inequality in (1.2).

Theorem 2.7 *Let $S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ be a 2×2 operator matrix in $B(H_1 \oplus H_2)$, and let f and g be nonnegative functions on $[0, \infty)$ which are continuous and satisfying the relation $f(t)g(t) = t$ for all $t \in [0, \infty)$, and $r \geq 1$. Then*

$$(2.1) \quad \omega^r(S) \leq \frac{1}{2} \max \{ \| f^{2r}(|C|) + g^{2r}(|B^*|) \|, \| f^{2r}(|B|) + g^{2r}(|C^*|) \| \}.$$

Proof. For every unit vector $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in (H_1 \oplus H_2)$, by using Lemma 2.5, Lemma 2.1, and Lemma 2.3(a) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& |\langle SX, X \rangle| \leq \|f(|S|)X\| \|g(|S^*|)X\| \\
&= \langle f^2(|S|)X, X \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \langle g^2(|S^*|)X, X \rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= \left\langle f^2 \left(\begin{bmatrix} |C| & 0 \\ 0 & |B| \end{bmatrix} \right) X, X \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\langle g^2 \left(\begin{bmatrix} |B^*| & 0 \\ 0 & |C^*| \end{bmatrix} \right) X, X \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^2(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^2(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^2(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^2(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^2(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^2(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle + \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^2(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^2(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \right) \\
&\leq \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^2(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^2(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^r + \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^2(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^2(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^r \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{r}} \\
&\leq \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{2r}(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{2r}(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle + \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^{2r}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^{2r}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{r}} \\
&\leq \left(\frac{1}{2} \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{2r}(|C|) + g^{2r}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{2r}(|B|) + g^{2r}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$|\langle SX, X \rangle|^r \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{2r}(|C|) + g^{2r}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{2r}(|B|) + g^{2r}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle,$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega^r(S) &= \sup \{ |\langle SX, X \rangle|^r : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \} \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2} \sup \left\{ \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \max \{ \|\lambda\|, \|\mu\| \},
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\lambda = f^{2r}(|C|) + g^{2r}(|B^*|)$$

and

$$\mu = f^{2r}(|B|) + g^{2r}(|C^*|),$$

as required. \blacksquare

Inequality (2.1) includes several numerical radius inequalities for operator matrices. Samples of inequalities are demonstrated in the following remarks.

Remark 2.8 For $f(t) = t^\alpha$ and $g(t) = t^{1-\alpha}$, $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, in inequality (2.1), we get the following inequality

$$\omega^r(S) \leq \frac{1}{2} \max\{\| |C|^{2r\alpha} + |B^*|^{2r(1-\alpha)} \|, \| |B|^{2r\alpha} + |C^*|^{2r(1-\alpha)} \|\}.$$

Remark 2.9 If $B = C$ in the above Remark, and by using Lemma 2.6(b), then

$$\omega^r(B) = \omega^r(S) \leq \frac{1}{2} \| |B|^{2r\alpha} + |B^*|^{2r(1-\alpha)} \|,$$

and this inequality is given in Theorem 1 in [5].

Now, the second result is a generalization of the second inequality in (1.3).

Theorem 2.10 Let $S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ be a 2×2 operator matrix in $B(H_1 \oplus H_2)$, and let f and g be nonnegative functions on $[0, \infty)$ which are continuous and satisfying the relation $f(t)g(t) = t$ for all $t \in [0, \infty)$, and $r \geq 1$ and $0 < k < 1$. Then

$$\omega^{2r}(S) \leq \max\{\|kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|C|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|B^*|)\|, \|kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|B|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|C^*|)\|\}.$$

Proof. For every unit vector $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in (H_1 \oplus H_2)$, by using Lemma 2.5, Lemma 2.3(b), Lemma 2.1, and Lemma 2.3(a), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & | \langle SX, X \rangle |^2 \leq \langle f^2(|S|)X, X \rangle \langle g^2(|S^*|)X, X \rangle \\ & = \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^2(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^2(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^2(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^2(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \\ & \leq \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{\frac{2}{k}}(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{\frac{2}{k}}(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^k \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^{\frac{2}{1-k}}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^{\frac{2}{1-k}}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^{1-k} \\ & \leq \left(k \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{\frac{2}{k}}(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{\frac{2}{k}}(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^r \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (1-k) \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^{\frac{2}{1-k}}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^{\frac{2}{1-k}}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^r \right)^{\frac{1}{r}} \\ & \leq \left(k \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} f^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|B|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (1-k) \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle \right)^{\frac{1}{r}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & | \langle SX, X \rangle |^{2r} \\ & \leq \left\langle \left(k \begin{bmatrix} f^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|C|) & 0 \\ 0 & f^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|B|) \end{bmatrix} + (1-k) \begin{bmatrix} g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} \right) X, X \right\rangle \\ & = \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|C|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|B^*|) & 0 \\ 0 & kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|B|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|C^*|) \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle, \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^{2r}(S) &= \sup \{ | \langle SX, X \rangle |^{2r} : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \} \\ &\leq \sup \left\{ \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \beta & 0 \\ 0 & \gamma \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \right\} \\ &= \max \{ \|\beta\|, \|\gamma\| \}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\beta = kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|C|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|B^*|)$$

and

$$\gamma = kf^{\frac{2r}{k}}(|B|) + (1-k)g^{\frac{2r}{1-k}}(|C^*|),$$

as required. \blacksquare

Now, Theorem 2.10 includes several numerical radius inequalities for operator matrices, and so we give some inequalities in the following remarks.

Remark 2.11 If $f(t) = t^k$ and $g(t) = t^{1-k}$, $k \in (0, 1)$, in Theorem 2.10, then we get the following inequality

$$\omega^{2r}(S) \leq \max \{ \|k|C|^{2r} + (1-k)|B^*|^{2r}\|, \|k|B|^{2r} + (1-k)|C^*|^{2r}\| \}.$$

Remark 2.12 If $B = C$ in the above Remark, and by using Lemma (2.6)b, then we have

$$\omega^{2r}(B) = \omega^{2r}(S) \leq \|k|B|^{2r} + (1-k)|B^*|^{2r}\|,$$

and this inequality can be found in Theorem 2 in [5].

Remark 2.13 If we take $r = 1$ and $k = \frac{1}{2}$ in the last Remark, we find

$$\omega^2(B) \leq \frac{1}{2} \| |B|^2 + |B^*|^2 \|,$$

which is the second inequality in (1.3).

Our next results are generalizations of the second inequality in (1.4).

Theorem 2.14 Let $R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ be a 2×2 operator matrix in $B(H_1 \oplus H_2)$, with the Cartesian decomposition $R = S + iT$ and $1 \leq r \leq 2$. Then

$$\omega^r(R) \leq \frac{1}{2^r} \max\{\| |C + B^*|^r + |C - B^*|^r \|, \| |B + C^*|^r + |B - C^*|^r \| \}.$$

Proof. For every unit vector $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in (H_1 \oplus H_2)$, and for $1 \leq r \leq 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle RX, X \rangle| &= |\langle (S + iT)X, X \rangle| \\ &= |\langle SX, X \rangle + i \langle TX, X \rangle| \\ &= \sqrt{\langle SX, X \rangle^2 + \langle TX, X \rangle^2} \\ &\leq \sqrt{|\langle SX, X \rangle|^r + |\langle TX, X \rangle|^r} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.2}) \\ &\leq \sqrt{\langle |S|^r X, X \rangle + \langle |T|^r X, X \rangle} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.4}) \\ &\leq \sqrt{\langle |S|^r X, X \rangle + \langle |T|^r X, X \rangle} \quad (\text{by Lemma (2.3)a}) \\ &= \sqrt{\langle (|S|^r + |T|^r)X, X \rangle}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$|\langle RX, X \rangle|^r \leq \langle (|S|^r + |T|^r)X, X \rangle$$

and so,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^r(R) &= \sup \{ |\langle RX, X \rangle|^r : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \} \\ &\leq \sup \{ \langle (|S|^r + |T|^r)X, X \rangle : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \} \\ &= \frac{1}{2^r} \max\{\| |C + B^*|^r + |C - B^*|^r \|, \| |B + C^*|^r + |B - C^*|^r \| \}, \end{aligned}$$

as required. ■

Remark 2.15 Let $B = C$ and $r = 2$ in Theorem (2.14). Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^2 \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ B & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) &= \omega^2(B) \quad (\text{by Lemma (2.6)b}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \max\{\| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \|, \| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \| \} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \| B^*B + BB^* \|, \end{aligned}$$

which is the second inequality in (1.3).

Theorem 2.16 Let $R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ C & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ be a 2×2 operator matrix in $B(H_1 \oplus H_2)$, with the Cartesian decomposition $R = S + iT$ and $r \geq 2$. Then

$$\omega^r(R) \leq 2^{\frac{-r}{2}-1} \max\{\| |C + B^*|^r + |C - B^*|^r \|, \| |B + C^*|^r + |B - C^*|^r \| \}.$$

Proof. For every unit vector $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \in (H_1 \oplus H_2)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\langle RX, X \rangle| &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\langle (S + iT)X, X \rangle| \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} |\langle SX, X \rangle + i \langle TX, X \rangle| \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{\langle SX, X \rangle^2 + \langle TX, X \rangle^2}{2}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\frac{|\langle SX, X \rangle|^r + |\langle TX, X \rangle|^r}{2}} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.1}) \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{-1}{r}} (\langle |S|^r X, X \rangle + \langle |T|^r X, X \rangle)^{\frac{1}{r}} \quad (\text{by Lemma 2.4}) \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{-1}{r}} (\langle |S|^r X, X \rangle + \langle |T|^r X, X \rangle)^{\frac{1}{r}} \quad (\text{by Lemma (2.3)a}) \\ &= 2^{\frac{-1}{r}} \langle (|S|^r + |T|^r) X, X \rangle^{\frac{1}{r}} \\ &= 2^{\frac{-1}{r}-1} \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \eta & 0 \\ 0 & \theta \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{r}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$|\langle RX, X \rangle|^r \leq 2^{\frac{-r}{2}-1} \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \eta & 0 \\ 0 & \theta \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle.$$

and so,

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^r(R) &= \sup \{ |\langle RX, X \rangle|^r : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \} \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{-r}{2}-1} \sup \left\{ \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \eta & 0 \\ 0 & \theta \end{bmatrix} X, X \right\rangle : X \in (H_1 \oplus H_2), \|X\| = 1 \right\} \\ &= 2^{\frac{-r}{2}-1} \max\{\|\eta\|, \|\theta\|\}, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\eta = \| |C + B^*|^r + |C - B^*|^r \|$$

and

$$\theta = \| |B + C^*|^r + |B - C^*|^r \|,$$

as required. ■

Remark 2.17 Let $B = C$ and $r = 2$ in Theorem (2.16). Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega^2 \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ B & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) &= \omega^2(B) \quad (\text{by Lemma (2.6)b)} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4} \max\{\| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \|, \| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \|\} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \| |B+B^*|^2 + |B-B^*|^2 \| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \| B^*B + BB^* \|, \end{aligned}$$

which is the second inequality in (1.3).

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