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# THE HERMITE-HADAMARD TYPE INEQUALITIES FOR OPERATOR $p$ -CONVEX FUNCTIONS IN HILBERT SPACE

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**Abstract** – In this paper, we introduce operator  $p$ -convex functions and establish some Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities in which some operator  $p$ -convex functions of positive operators in Hilbert spaces are involved.

**Keywords** – The Hermite-Hadamard inequality,  $p$ -convex functions, operator  $p$ -convex functions, selfadjoint operator, inner product space, Hilbert space.

## 1 Introduction

The following inequality holds for any convex function  $f$  define on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ , with  $a < b$

$$f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{b-a} \int_0^1 f(x)dx \leq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \tag{1}$$

both inequalities hold in the reversed direction if  $f$  is concave.

The inequality (1) is known in the literature as the Hermite-Hadamard's inequality. The Hermite-Hadamard's inequality may be regarded as a refinement of the concept of convexity and it follows easily from Jensen's inequality. The classical Hermite-Hadamard inequality provides estimates of the mean value of a continuous convex function  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

In this paper, Firstly we defined for bounded positive selfadjoint operator  $p$ -convex functions in Hilbert space, secondly established some new theorems for them and finally Hermite-Hadamard type inequalities for product two bounded positive selfadjoint operators  $p$ -convex set up in Hilbert space.

In the paper [1] Dragomir et al. consider  $P(I)$ . This class is defined in the following way.

**Definition 1.1.** [1] We say that  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a  $P$ -function, or that  $f$  belongs to the class  $P(I)$ , if  $f$  is a non-negative function and for all  $x, y \in I, \alpha \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$f(\alpha x + (1 - \alpha)y) \leq f(x) + f(y).$$

For some results about the class  $P(I)$  see, e.g., [2] and [3].

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## 2 Preliminary

First, we review the operator order in  $B(H)$  and the continuous functional calculus for a bounded selfadjoint operator. For selfadjoint operators  $A, B \in B(H)$  we write, for every  $x \in H$

$$A \leq B(\text{or } B \geq A) \text{ if } \langle Ax, x \rangle \leq \langle Bx, x \rangle (\text{or } \langle Bx, x \rangle \geq \langle Ax, x \rangle)$$

we call it the operator order.

Let  $A$  be a selfadjoint linear operator on a complex Hilbert space  $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$  and  $C(Sp(A))$  the  $C^*$ -algebra of all continuous complex-valued functions on the spectrum  $A$ . The Gelfand map establishes a  $*$ -isometrically isomorphism  $\Phi$  between  $C(Sp(A))$  and the  $C^*$ -algebra  $C^*(A)$  generated by  $A$  and the identity operator  $1_H$  on  $H$  as follows [6].

For any  $f, g \in C(Sp(A))$  and any  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  we have

- i.  $\Phi(\alpha f + \beta g) = \alpha\Phi(f) + \beta\Phi(g)$  ;
- ii.  $\Phi(fg) = \Phi(f)\Phi(g)$  and  $\Phi(f^*) = \Phi(f)^*$ ;
- iii.  $\|\Phi(f)\| = \|f\| := \sup_{t \in Sp(A)} |f(t)|$  ;
- iv.  $\Phi(f_0) = 1$  and  $\Phi(f_1) = A$ , where  $f_0(t) = 1$  and  $f_1(t) = t$ , for  $t \in Sp(A)$

If  $f$  is a continuous complex-valued functions on  $C(Sp(A))$ , the element  $\Phi(f)$  of  $C^*(A)$  is denoted by  $f(A)$ , and we call it the continuous functional calculus for a bounded selfadjoint operator  $A$ .

If  $A$  is bounded selfadjoint operator and  $f$  is real valued continuous function on  $Sp(A)$ , then  $f(t) \geq 0$  for any  $t \in Sp(A)$  implies that  $f(A) \geq 0$ , i.e  $f(A)$  is a positive operator on  $H$ . Moreover, if both  $f$  and  $g$  are real valued functions on  $Sp(A)$  such that  $f(t) \leq g(t)$  for any  $t \in Sp(A)$ , then  $f(A) \leq g(A)$  in the operator order  $B(H)$ .

A real valued continuous function  $f$  on an interval  $I$  is said to be operator convex (operator concave) if

$$f((1 - \lambda)A + \lambda B) \leq (\geq)(1 - \lambda)f(A) + \lambda f(B)$$

in the operator order in  $B(H)$ , for all  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  and for every bounded self-adjoint operator  $A$  and  $B$  in  $B(H)$  whose spectra are contained in  $I$ .

## 3 Operator $p$ -convex Functions in Hilbert Space

The following definition and function class are firstly defined by Seren Salaş.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $I$  be interval in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $K$  be a convex subset of  $B(H)^+$ . A continuous function  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be operator  $p$ -convex on  $I$ , operators in  $K$  if

$$f(\alpha A + (1 - \alpha)B) \leq f(A) + f(B) \tag{2}$$

in the operator order in  $B(H)$ , for all  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  and for every positive operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $K$  whose spectra are contained in  $I$ .

In the other words, if  $f$  is an operator  $p$ -convex on  $I$ , we denote by  $f \in S_pO$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** If  $f$  belongs to  $S_pO$  for operators in  $K$ , then  $f(A)$  is positive for every  $A \in K$ .

*Proof.* For  $A \in K$ , we have

$$f(A) = f\left(\frac{A}{2} + \frac{A}{2}\right) \leq f(A) + f(A) = 2f(A).$$

This implies that  $f(A) \geq 0$ .

Moslehian and Najafi [4] proved the following theorem for positive operators as follows :

**Theorem 3.3.** [4] Let  $A, B \in B(H)^+$ . Then  $AB+BA$  is positive if and only if  $f(A+B) \leq f(A)+f(B)$  for all non-negative operator functions  $f$  on  $[0, \infty)$ .

Dragomir in [5] has proved a Hermite-Hadamard type inequality for operator convex function as follows:

**Theorem 3.4.** [5] Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an operator convex function on the interval  $I$ . Then for all selfadjoint operators  $A$  and  $B$  with spectra in  $I$  we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} \left( f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \right) & \quad \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{3A+B}{4}\right) + f\left(\frac{A+3B}{4}\right) \right] \\ & \leq \int_0^1 f\left((1-t)A + tB\right) dt \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) + \frac{f(A) + f(B)}{2} \right] \left( \leq \left( \frac{f(A) + f(B)}{2} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $X$  be a vector space,  $x, y \in X, x \neq y$ . Define the segment

$$[x, y] := (1 - t)x + ty; t \in [0, 1].$$

We consider the function  $f : [x, y] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and the associated function

$$g(x, y) : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$g(x, y)(t) := f((1 - t)x + ty), t \in [0, 1].$$

Note that  $f$  is convex on  $[x, y]$  if and only if  $g(x, y)$  is convex on  $[0, 1]$ . For any convex function defined on a segment  $[x, y] \in X$ , we have the Hermite-Hadamard integral inequality

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f((1-t)x + ty) dt \leq \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2}$$

which can be derived from the classical Hermite-Hadamard inequality for the convex  $g(x, y) : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

**Lemma 3.5.** Let  $f : I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a continuous function on the interval  $I$ . Then for every two positive operators  $A, B \in K \subseteq B(H)^+$  with spectra in  $I$  the function  $f \in S_pO$  for operators in

$$[A, B] := (1 - t)A + tB; t \in [0, 1]$$

if and only if the function  $\varphi_{x,A,B} : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\varphi_{x,A,B} := \langle f((1 - t)A + tB)x, x \rangle$$

is operator  $p$ -convex on  $[0, 1]$  for every  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f \in S_pO$  operator in  $[A, B]$ , then for any  $t_1, t_2 \in [0, 1]$  and  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{x,A,B}(\alpha t_1 + (1 - \alpha)t_2) & = \langle f((1 - (\alpha t_1 + (1 - \alpha)t_2)A + (\alpha t_1 + (1 - \alpha)t_2)B)x, x \rangle \\ & = \langle f(\alpha[(1 - t_1)A + t_1B] + (1 - \alpha)[(1 - t_2)A + t_2B])x, x \rangle \\ & \leq \langle f((1 - t_1)A + t_1B)x, x \rangle + f((1 - t_2)A + t_2B)x, x \rangle \\ & \leq \varphi_{x,A,B}(t_1) + \varphi_{x,A,B}(t_2) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.6.** Let  $f \in S_pO$  on the interval  $I \subseteq [0, \infty)$  for operators  $K \subseteq B(H)^+$ . Then for all positive operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $K$  with spectra in  $I$ , we have the inequality

$$\frac{1}{2} f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \int_0^1 f(tA + (1-t)B) dt \leq [f(A) + (B)] \tag{3}$$

*Proof.* For  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$\langle ((1-t)A + tB)x, x \rangle = (1-t)\langle Ax, x \rangle + t\langle Bx, x \rangle \in I, \tag{4}$$

Since  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \in Sp(A) \subseteq I$  and  $\langle Bx, x \rangle \in Sp(B) \subseteq I$ .

Continuity of  $f$  and 4 imply that the operator-valued integral  $\int_0^1 f(tA + (1-t)B)dt$  exists.

Since  $f$  is operator  $p$ -convex, therefore for  $t$  in  $[0, 1]$ , and  $A, B \in K$  we have

$$f(tA + (1-t)B)dt \leq f(A) + f(B) \tag{5}$$

Integrating both sides of 5 over  $[0, 1]$  we get the following inequality

$$\int_0^1 f(tA + (1-t)B)dt \leq f(A) + f(B)$$

To prove the first inequality of 3, we observe that

$$f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq f(tA + (1-t)B) + f((1-t)A + tB) \tag{6}$$

Integrating the inequality 6 over  $t \in [0, 1]$  and taking into account that

$$\int_0^1 f(tA + (1-t)B)dt = \int_0^1 f((1-t)A + tB)dt$$

then we deduce the first part of 3.

## 4 The Hermite-Hadamard Type Inequality for the Product Two Operators $p$ -convex Functions

Let  $f, g \in S_pO$  on the interval in  $I$ . Then for all positive operators  $A$  and  $B$  on a Hilbert space  $H$  with spectra in  $I$ , we define real functions  $M(A, B)$  and  $N(A, B)$  on  $H$  by

$$M(A, B)(x) = \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \quad (x \in H),$$

$$N(A, B)(x) = \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle \quad (x \in H).$$

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $f, g \in S_pO$  be on the interval  $I$  for operators in  $K \subseteq B(H)^+$ . Then for all positive operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $K$  with spectra in  $I$ , we have the inequality

$$\int_0^1 \langle f(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle \langle g(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle dt \leq M(A, B) + N(A, B)$$

hold for any  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$ .

*Proof.* For  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$  and  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$\langle (A+B)x, x \rangle = \langle Ax, x \rangle + \langle Bx, x \rangle \in I, \tag{7}$$

since  $\langle Ax, x \rangle \in Sp(A) \subseteq I$  and  $\langle Bx, x \rangle \in Sp(B) \subseteq I$ .

Continuity of  $f, g$  and 7 imply that the operator-valued integrals

$$\int_0^1 f(tA + (1-t)B)dt, \int_0^1 g(tA + (1-t)B)dt \text{ and } \int_0^1 (fg)(tA + (1-t)B)dt$$

exist.

Since  $f, g \in S_pO$ , therefore for  $t$  in  $[0, 1]$  and  $x \in H$  we have

$$\langle f(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \leq \langle f(A) + f(B)x, x \rangle \tag{8}$$

$$\langle g(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \leq \langle g(A) + g(B)x, x \rangle. \tag{9}$$

From 8 and 9, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \langle g(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle &\leq \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle \\ &\quad + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

Integrating both sides of 10 over  $[0, 1]$ , we get the required inequality 7.

**Theorem 4.2.** Let  $f, g$  belong to  $S_pO$  on the interval  $I$  for operators in  $K \subseteq B(H)^+$ . Then for all positive operators  $A$  and  $B$  in  $K$  with spectra in  $I$ , we have the inequality

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{2} \left\langle f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \left\langle g\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \tag{11} \\ &\leq \int_0^1 \langle f(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \langle g(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle dt \\ &\quad + M(A, B) + N(A, B) \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

hold for any  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f, g \in S_pO$ , therefore for any  $t \in I$  and any  $x \in H$  with  $\|x\| = 1$ , we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} &\left\langle f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \left\langle g\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \\ &\leq \left\langle f\left(\frac{tA + (1 - t)B}{2} + \frac{(1 - t)A + tB}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \\ &\quad \times \left\langle g\left(\frac{tA + (1 - t)B}{2} + \frac{(1 - t)A + tB}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \\ &\leq \left\{ \langle f(tA + (1 - t)B) \rangle + \langle f((1 - t)A + tB) \rangle \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times \langle g(tA + (1 - t)B) \rangle + \langle g((1 - t)A + tB) \rangle \right\} \\ &\leq \left\{ \left[ \langle f(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \langle g(tA + (1 - t)B)x, x \rangle \right] \right. \\ &\quad + \left[ \langle f((1 - t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \langle g((1 - t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \right] \\ &\quad + \left[ \langle f(A)x, x \rangle + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \right] \times \left[ \langle g(A)x, x \rangle + \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \right] \\ &\quad \left. + \left[ \langle f(A)x, x \rangle + \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \right] \times \left[ \langle g(A)x, x \rangle + \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left\{ \left[ \langle f(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle g(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle \right] \right. \\
&\quad + \left[ \langle f((1-t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \langle g((1-t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \right] \\
&\quad + 2 \left[ \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle \right] + 2 \left[ \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \right] \\
&\quad \left. + 2 \left[ \langle f(A)x, x \rangle \langle g(B)x, x \rangle \right] + 2 \left[ \langle f(B)x, x \rangle \langle g(A)x, x \rangle \right] \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

By integration over  $[0, 1]$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
&\left\langle f\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \left\langle g\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right)x, x \right\rangle \\
&\leq \int_0^1 \left[ \langle f((1-t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \langle g(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \langle f(tA + (1-t)B)x, x \rangle \langle g((1-t)A + tB)x, x \rangle \right] dt \\
&\quad + 2M(A, B) + 2N(A, B)
\end{aligned}$$

This implies the inequality 11.

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