

## ***M*-Hyponormal Powers of Weighted Composition Operators**

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**Abstract.** In this note, *M*-hyponormality powers of weighted composition operators on  $L^2$ -spaces are characterized and their various properties are studied.

**Keywords:** Weighted composition operator; Conditional expectation; *M*-hyponormal.

### **1. Preliminaries And Notations**

Let  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a complete  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and suppose that  $T$  is a measurable transformation from  $X$  into  $X$  such that  $\mu \circ T^{-1}$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  and write  $\mu \circ T^{-1} \ll \mu$ . Let  $h$  be the Radon-Nikodym derivative  $d\mu \circ T^{-1}/d\mu$  and we always assume that  $h$  is almost everywhere finite-valued or, equivalently  $(X, T^{-1}(\Sigma), \mu)$  is  $\sigma$ -finite. All comparisons between two functions or two sets are to be interpreted as holding up to a  $\mu$ -null set. To examine the weighted composition operators efficiently, Lambert in [8] associated with each transformation  $T$ , the so-called conditional expectation operator  $E(\bullet|T^{-1}(\Sigma)) = E_i(\bullet)$ .  $E(f)$  is defined for each non-negative measurable function  $f$  or for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , and is uniquely determined by the conditions:

- (i)  $E(f)$  is  $T^{-1}(\Sigma)$ -measurable and
- (ii) If  $A$  is any  $T^{-1}(\Sigma)$ -measurable set for which  $\int_A f d\mu$  converges we have

$$\int_{T^{-1}(A)} f d\mu = \int_{T^{-1}(A)} E(f) d\mu.$$

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As an operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $E(\bullet)$  is the contractive orthogonal projection onto  $L^2(T^{-1}(\Sigma)) = \overline{R(C_T)}$ , the closure of the range of  $C_T$ , used by Harrington and Whitley in [5]. It is easy to show that for each non-negative  $\Sigma$ -measurable function  $f$  or for each  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , there exists a  $\Sigma$ -measurable function  $g$  such that  $E(f) = g \circ T$ . We can assume that the support of  $g$ ,  $\sigma(g) = \{x \in X : g(x) \neq 0\}$ , lies in the  $\sigma(h)$  and there exists only one  $g$  with this property. We then write  $g = E(f) \circ T^{-1}$  though we make no assumptions regarding the invertibility of  $T$  (see [2]). For further discussion of the conditional expectation operator see the interesting papers [6], [8] and [3]. If  $u : X \rightarrow C$  is a measurable function, the weighted composition operator  $W_T = uC_T$  on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  induced by  $T$  and  $u$  is given by

$$W_T(f) = u.f \circ T, \quad f \in L^2(\Sigma).$$

Here, the non-singularity of  $T$  guarantees that  $W_T$  is well defined as a mapping of equivalence classes of functions on  $\sigma(u)$ . In this case, the adjoint  $W_T^*$  is given by

$$W_T^*f = hE(uf) \circ T^{-1}, \quad f \in L^2(\Sigma).$$

If  $W_T(L^2(\Sigma)) \subseteq L^2(\Sigma)$ , by the closed graph theorem  $W_T$  is bounded. Boundedness of weighted composition operators on  $L^2(\Sigma)$  spaces already being studied in [6]. Namely,  $W_T$  is bounded if  $J = hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$ .

Let  $B(H)$  denote the Banach space of all bounded linear operators on the Hilbert space  $H$ . An operator  $T \in B(H)$  is called  $M$ -hyponormal if there exists some  $M > 0$  such that  $\|T^*x\| \leq M\|Tx\|$  for all  $x \in H$ .

Power-hyponormality of composition operators in  $L^2(\Sigma)$  appeared already in [4] and for adjoint of weighted composition operators in the paper [3]. Also, the analogous results for  $M$ -cohyponormality of composition operators has been studied in [7]. Namely, if  $C_{T_1}^*$  and  $C_{T_2}^*$  are both  $M$ -hyponormal with  $h_1 \leq M^2(h_2 \circ T_2)$  a.e. and  $h_2 \leq M^2(h_1 \circ T_1)$  a.e., then for all positive integers  $m$ ,  $n$  and  $p$ ,  $[(C_{T_1}^m C_{T_2}^n)^p]^*$  is  $M^{p^2(m+n)^2}$ -hyponormal. The aim of this paper is to generalize the results obtained for composition operators in [7] to the weighted composition operators.

### 2. Lemmas and Main Result

In the following we list some facts that will be applied often in this article (see [1, 8]):

- $\int_X f \circ T d\mu = \int_X h.f d\mu$  for all  $f \in L^1(\Sigma)$  (change of variables formula).
- $\|W_T f\| = \|M_{\sqrt{J}} f\|$  where  $J = hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ .
- If  $u$  is in  $L^\infty(T^{-1}(\Sigma))$ , then  $E(uf) = uE(f)$ .
- For any  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^2(\Sigma)$  and any  $T^{-1}(\Sigma)$ -measurable set  $A$ ,  $\int_A E(f)E(g) d\mu = \int_A fE(g) d\mu$ .
- For any  $f$  and  $g$  in  $L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $|E(fg)|^2 \leq E(|f|^2)E(|g|^2)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** [4] Let  $T_i$  be a measurable transformation of  $X$  such that  $\mu \circ T_i^{-1}$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  and  $h_i = d\mu \circ T_i^{-1} / d\mu \in L^\infty(\Sigma)$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , and  $T_3 : X \rightarrow X$  given by  $T_3 = T_1 \circ T_2$ . Then  $h_3 = d\mu \circ T_3^{-1} / d\mu$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  and  $h_3 = h_1 E_1(h_2) \circ T_1^{-1}$  where  $E(\bullet | T_i^{-1}(\Sigma)) = E_i(\bullet)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A \in \Sigma$ . By using of conditional expectation operator and change of variables formula we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_A h_3 d\mu &= \int_A \frac{d\mu \circ (T_1 \circ T_2)^{-1}}{d\mu} d\mu = \int_A d\mu \circ T_2^{-1} \circ T_1^{-1} \\ &= \int_{T_1^{-1}(A)} d\mu \circ T_2^{-1} = \int_{T_1^{-1}(A)} h_2 d\mu = \int_{T_1^{-1}(A)} E_1(h_2) d\mu \\ &= \int_A E_1(h_2) \circ T_1^{-1} d\mu \circ T_1^{-1} = \int_A h_1 E_1(h_2) \circ T_1^{-1} d\mu. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space, so the proof is therefore complete. ■

For a generalization of the above fact, we define the measure  $\mu_{T_i, u}(E) = \int_{T_i^{-1}(E)} |u|^2 d\mu$ , for  $E \in \Sigma$  and  $i = 1, 2$ . Then it is easy to see that  $\mu_{T_i, u} \ll \mu$ . Put  $H_i = d\mu_{T_i, u} / d\mu$  which, of course, is a non-negative  $\Sigma$ -measurable function. By simple calculation we have  $H_i = h_i E_i(|u|^2) \circ T_i^{-1}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $H_3 = h_1 E_1(H_2) \circ T_1^{-1}$ .

*Example 2.2.* Let  $X = [-1, 1]$ ,  $d\mu = \frac{1}{2} dx$  and  $\Sigma$  the Lebesgue sets. Define  $T_i : X \rightarrow X$  by  $T_1(x) = (\sqrt{1+x} - 1)\chi_{[-1,0]} + (1 - \sqrt{1-x})\chi_{(0,1]}$  and  $T_2(x) = \sqrt[3]{3x}$ . One easily verifies that  $E_1(f) = (f(x) + f(-x))/2$  for all positive measurable function  $f$  on  $X$ . Direct computation shows that  $h_1(x) = (2 + 2x)\chi_{[-1,0]} + (2 - 2x)\chi_{(0,1]}$ ,  $E_1(h_2(x)) = x^2$  and  $(h_1 E_1(h_2) \circ T_1^{-1})(x) = (2 + 2x)(2x + x^2)\chi_{[-1,0]} + (2 - 2x)(2x - x^2)\chi_{(0,1]}$  =  $h_3(x)$ . Now, if we take  $u(x) = x$ , then  $H_2(x) = x^8/9$  and  $(h_1 E_1(H_2) \circ T_1^{-1})(x) = 1/9(2 + 2x)(2x + x^2)^8 \chi_{[-1,0]} + 1/9(2 - 2x)(2x - x^2)^8 \chi_{(0,1]}$  =  $H_3(x)$ .

In order to prove our main result, it is necessary to state and prove several lemmas.

**Lemma 2.3.** If  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal, then  $J \leq M^2(J \circ T)$ , where  $J = hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal, then

$$\|W_T f\|^2 \leq M^2 \|W_T^* f\|^2, \quad \text{for all } f \in L^2(\Sigma).$$

To assert the inequality it suffices to show that  $\|W_T f\|^2 = (Jf, f)$  and  $\|W_T^* f\|^2 \leq ((J \circ T)f, f)$ . For all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|W_T f\|^2 &= \int |uf \circ T|^2 d\mu = \int |u|^2 |f|^2 \circ T d\mu = \int E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ &= \int hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} |f|^2 d\mu = (hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} f, f) = (Jf, f); \end{aligned}$$

therefore, the first identity holds. On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|W_T^* f\|^2 &= (W_T^* f, W_T^* f) = (W_T W_T^* f, f) = (uh \circ TE(\bar{u}f), f) \\ &= \int uh \circ TE(\bar{u}f) \bar{f} d\mu = \int (h \circ T) E(\bar{u}f) E(u\bar{f}) d\mu \\ &= \int (h \circ T) |E(\bar{u}f)|^2 d\mu \leq \int (h \circ T) E(|u|^2) E(|f|^2) d\mu \\ &= \int (h \circ T) E(|u|^2) f \bar{f} d\mu = \int (J \circ T) f \bar{f} d\mu = ((J \circ T)f, f). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $(Jf, f) \leq M^2((J \circ T)f, f)$ . Since  $f$  is an arbitrary element of  $L^2(\Sigma)$ , we have  $J \leq M^2(J \circ T)$ ; and the proof is therefore complete. ■

*Example 2.4.* Let  $X = [0, 1]$ ,  $d\mu = dx$  and  $\Sigma$  the Lebesgue sets. Let  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be defined by  $T(x) = 4x - 4x^2$  and let  $u$  be the map  $u(x) = (4 - 8x)(\chi_{[0,1/2]} - \chi_{(1/2,1]})$  on  $X$ . Then a simple computation gives  $\|W_T^* f\| = \|f((1 + \sqrt{1-x})/2) + f((1 - \sqrt{1-x})/2)\|$ ,  $\|W_T f\| = \|\sqrt[4]{64(1-x)}f\|$  and  $J \circ T(x) = 8|2x - 1|$ . So for each  $M > 2^{-3/4}$ ,  $J \geq M^2(J \circ T)$  and hence by lemma 2.3,  $W_T$  is not  $M$ -hyponormal operator on  $L^2(\Sigma)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** *If  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal, then for  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $((J \circ T)Ef, f) = ((J \circ T)f, f)$  where  $J = hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((J \circ T)Ef, f) &= \int (J \circ T)(Ef) \bar{f} d\mu = \int (J \circ T)Ef E\bar{f} d\mu \\ &= \int (J \circ T)|Ef|^2 d\mu \leq \int (J \circ T)E(|f|^2) d\mu \\ &= \int (J \circ T)|f|^2 d\mu = ((J \circ T)f, f) \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $((J \circ T)Ef, f) \leq ((J \circ T)f, f)$ . On the other hand, since  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal, then

$$Ker E = \overline{(R(W_T))}^\perp = Ker W_T^* \subseteq Ker(W_T).$$

Now, since for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,  $Ef - f \in \text{Ker}E$ , then  $Ef - f \in \text{Ker}(W_T)$ . This shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \int J(Ef - f)d\mu &= \int hE(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1}(Ef - f)d\mu \\ &= \int E(|u|^2)(Ef - f) \circ Td\mu = \int |u|^2(Ef - f) \circ Td\mu = 0. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $J(Ef - f) = 0$ . Thus, it follows from Lemma 2.3 that for all  $g \in L^2(\Sigma)$ , we have

$$((J \circ T)(Ef - f), g) = \int (J \circ T)(Ef - f)\bar{g}d\mu \geq \frac{1}{M^2} \int J(Ef - f)\bar{g}d\mu = 0.$$

We conclude that  $((J \circ T)(Ef - f), g) \geq 0$ , hence  $(J \circ T)Ef \geq (J \circ T)f$ . ■

Lemma 2.5 can be extended to give the following result.

**Lemma 2.6.** *If  $W_T^*$  is M-hyponormal, then for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $n \in N$*

$$((J^n \circ T)Ef, f) = ((J^n \circ T)f, f).$$

**Lemma 2.7.** *If  $J \leq M^2(h \circ T)$ , for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $r, m \in N$ , then*

$$((J \circ T)^r W_T^m f, W_T^m f) \leq M^{(m-1)(2r+m)}(J^{r+m} f, f).$$

*Proof.* We shall prove the result by induction on  $m$  and fixed  $r$ . For  $m = 1$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} ((J \circ T)^r W_T f, W_T f) &= \int (J \circ T)^r u f \circ T \overline{u f \circ T} d\mu \\ &= \int (J \circ T)^r |u|^2 |f|^2 \circ T d\mu = \int J^r \circ T E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ &= \int J^r h E(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} |f|^2 d\mu = \int J^r J f \bar{f} d\mu = (J^{r+1} f, f), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the Lemma holds for  $m = 1$ . Now assuming that the Lemma

holds for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, k$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & ((J \circ T)^r W_T^{k+1} f, W_T^{k+1} f) = ((J \circ T)^r W_T^k W_T f, W_T^k W_T f) \\ & \leq M^{(k-1)(2r+k)} (J^{r+k} W_T f, W_T f) = M^{(k-1)(2r+k)} \int J^{r+k} |u|^2 |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ & = M^{(k-1)(2r+k)} \int J^{r+k} E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ & \leq M^{(k-1)(2r+k)} M^{2(r+k)} \int (J \circ T)^{r+k} E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ & = M^{k(2r+k+1)} \int J^{r+k} h E(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} |f|^2 d\mu \\ & = M^{k(2r+k+1)} \int J^{r+k} J f \bar{f} d\mu = M^{k(2r+k+1)} (J^{r+k+1} f, f), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the result holds for  $m = k + 1$ . Thus the result holds for all  $r, m \in N$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . ■

**Lemma 2.8.** *If  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal and  $u \in L^\infty(T^{-1}\Sigma)$  then for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $r, m \in N$ , we have*

$$M^{(m-1)(2r+m)} (J^r (W_T^m)^* f, (W_T^m)^* f) \geq ((J \circ T)^{r+m} f, f).$$

*Proof.* We shall prove the result by induction on  $m$  and fixed  $r$ . Suppose that  $m = 1$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (J^r W_T^* f, W_T^* f) &= ((J^r \circ T) W_T W_T^* f, f) = ((J^r \circ T) u h \circ T E(\bar{u} f), f) \\ &= ((J^r \circ T) |u|^2 h \circ T E f, f) = ((J^r \circ T) E(|u|^2) h \circ T E f, f) \\ &= ((J^r \circ T) (J \circ T) E f, f) = ((J^{r+1} \circ T) f, f), \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the Lemma holds for  $m = 1$ . The rest of the proof can be repeated as in Lemma 2.8 in [7]. ■

**Lemma 2.9.** *If  $J \leq M^2(J \circ T)$ , then for all  $n \in N$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ ,*

$$((W_T^n)^* (W_T^n) f, f) \leq M^{n(n-1)} (J^n f, f).$$

*Proof.* Since  $W_T^* W_T f = J f$ , hence the result holds for  $n = 1$ . Let us suppose that the result is true for  $n = r$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . First we show that

$$(J^k W_T f, W_T f) \leq M^{2k} (J^{k+1} f, f). \tag{1}$$

Suppose  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (J^k W_T f, W_T f) &= \int J^k W_T f \overline{W_T f} d\mu = \int J^k |u|^2 |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ &= \int J^k E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \leq M^2 \int (J^k \circ T) E(|u|^2) |f|^2 \circ T d\mu \\ &= M^{2k} \int J^k h E(|u|^2) \circ T^{-1} f \bar{f} d\mu = M^{2k} \int J^{k+1} f \bar{f} d\mu = M^{2k} (J^{k+1} f, f). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by induction hypothesis and (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((W_T^{k+1})^* (W_T^{k+1}) f, f) &= ((W_T^k)^* (W_T^k) W_T f, W_T f) \\ &\leq M^{k(k-1)} (J^k W_T f, W_T f) \leq M^{k(k-1)} M^{2k} (J^{k+1} f, f) \\ &= M^{k(k+1)} (J^{k+1} f, f). \end{aligned}$$

■

**Lemma 2.10.** *If  $(uC_T)^*$  is M-hyponormal and  $u \in L^\infty(T^{-1}(\Sigma))$  then for all  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$*

$$M^{n(n-1)} ((W_T^n)^* (W_T^n) f, f) \geq ((J \circ T)^n f, f).$$

*Proof.* We shall prove the result by induction on  $n$ . Suppose that  $n = 1$  and  $f \in L^2(\Sigma)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (W_T^1 W_T^* f, f) &= \int u h \circ T E(\bar{u} f) \bar{f} d\mu = \int h \circ T |u|^2 E(|f|^2) d\mu \\ &= \int h \circ T E(|f|^2) E(|u|^2) d\mu = \int (J \circ T) f \bar{f} d\mu = ((J \circ T) f, f). \end{aligned}$$

Now, assume that the Lemma holds for  $n$ . Then by using Lemma 2.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned} ((W_T^{n+1})^* (W_T^{n+1}) f, f) &= (W_T W_T^n (W_T^n)^* W_T^* f, f) \\ &= (W_T^n (W_T^n)^* W_T^* f, W_T^* f) \geq \frac{1}{M^{n(n-1)}} ((J \circ T)^n W_T^* f, W_T^* f) \\ &\geq \frac{1}{M^{n(n-1)}} \frac{1}{M^{2n}} ((J)^n W_T^* f, W_T^* f) = \frac{1}{M^{n(n+1)}} ((J^{n+1} \circ T) f, f), \end{aligned}$$

which completes the induction step and the Lemma is proved. ■

If we change the role of  $h$  and  $C_T$  with  $J$  and  $W_T$  respectively and using previous lemmas in this paper, we can prove the following theorem similar to the proof used in [7].

**Theorem 2.11.** (a) If  $W_T^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal, then for all  $n \in N$ ,  $(W_T^*)^n$  is  $M^{n^2}$ -hyponormal.

(b) Put  $A = W_{T_1}$  and  $B = W_{T_2}$ . If  $A^*$  and  $B^*$  are  $M$ -hyponormal such that

$$J_1 \leq M^2(J_2 \circ T_2), \quad (J_1 = h_1 E_1(|u|^2) \circ T_1^{-1})$$

and

$$J_2 \leq M^2(J_1 \circ T_1), \quad (J_2 = h_2 E_2(|u|^2) \circ T_2^{-1}).$$

Then  $(A^m B^n)^*$  is  $M^{(m+n)^2}$ -hyponormal for all  $m, n \in N$ .

(c) Under the hypothesis of (b),  $[(A^m B^n)^p]^*$  is  $M^{p^2(m+n)^2}$ -hyponormal.

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