

# Hyponormal Toeplitz Operators with Non-harmonic Symbols Acting on the Bergman Space

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CAFT 2018 - University of Crete

July 3, 2018

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Self-adjoint  $\implies$  Normal  $\implies$  Sub-normal  $\implies$  Hyponormal

# Putnam's Inequality

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Theorem (C.R. Putnam, 1970)

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We are interested in studying the stability of hyponormal operators under perturbation in certain analytic function spaces.

# The Hardy Space

## Definition

A function  $f(z)$ , analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$ , is said to belong to the *Hardy space*,  $H^2$ , if

$$\sup_{0 < r < 1} \int_{\mathbb{T}} |f(re^{i\theta})|^2 d\theta < \infty$$

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## Definition

Let  $\varphi(z)$  be in  $L^\infty(\mathbb{T})$ . The Toeplitz operator  $T_\varphi : H^2 \rightarrow H^2$  with symbol  $\varphi$  is given by

$$T_\varphi f = P_+(\varphi f),$$

where  $P_+$  is the projection from  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$  onto  $H^2$ .

# Hyponormal Operators in the Hardy Space

Theorem (C. Cowen, 1988)

Let  $\varphi \in L^\infty(\mathbb{T})$  be given by  $\varphi = f + \bar{g}$ , with  $f, g \in H^2$ . Then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if

$$g = c + T_{\bar{h}}f,$$

for some constant  $c$  and some  $h \in H^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , with  $\|h\|_\infty \leq 1$ .

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for some constant  $c$  and some  $h \in H^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , with  $\|h\|_\infty \leq 1$ .

The proof relies on a dilation theorem by Sarason and the fact that  $H^{2\perp}$  consists of conjugates of functions in  $zH^2$ .

# The Bergman Space

## Definition

A function  $f$  analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$  is said to belong to the *Bergman space*,  $A^2$ , if

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\mathbb{D}} |f(z)|^2 dA(z) < \infty,$$

where  $dA$  is area measure on  $\mathbb{D}$ .



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For  $f = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n z^n$  in  $A^2(\mathbb{D})$ , we have that

$$\|f\|_{A^2}^2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{|a_n|^2}{n+1}.$$

# Toeplitz Operators on $A^2$

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$(A^2)^\perp$  is a much larger space.

## Some useful facts about Toeplitz operators

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- $T_\varphi$  hyponormal  $\iff \|T_\varphi u\|^2 - \|T_{\bar{\varphi}} u\|^2 \geq 0$  for all  $u \in A^2$ .
- For  $f, g \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $u \in A^2$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle [T_{f+g}^*, T_{f+g}]u, u \rangle &= \left( \|T_f u\|^2 - \|T_f^* u\|^2 \right) + \left( \|T_g u\|^2 - \|T_g^* u\|^2 \right) \\ &\quad + 2\operatorname{Re} \left( \langle T_f u, T_g u \rangle - \langle T_f^* u, T_g^* u \rangle \right). \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem (H. Sadraoui, 1992 )

*Let  $f$  and  $g$  be bounded analytic functions, such that  $f' \in H^2$ . If  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  acting on  $A^2$  is hyponormal, then  $g' \in H^2$  and  $|g'| \leq |f'|$  almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{T}$ .*

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P. Ahern and Z. Čučković showed in 1996 that the hypotheses can be relaxed quite a bit.

## Known results continued

The condition is necessary, but not sufficient in general, as demonstrated by the next theorem.

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Theorem (H. Sadraoui, 1992)

1. If  $m \leq n$ , then  $T_{z^n + \alpha \bar{z}^m}$  is hyponormal if and only if

$$|\alpha| \leq \sqrt{\frac{m+1}{n+1}}.$$

2. If  $m \geq n$ ,  $T_{z^n + \alpha \bar{z}^m}$  is hyponormal if and only if  $|\alpha| \leq \frac{n}{m}$ .

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e.g.  $T_{z^3 + \bar{z}^2}$  is not hyponormal.



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Theorem (I.S. Hwang and J. Lee, 2005)

Let  $f(z) = a_m z^m + a_n z^n$  and  $g(z) = a_{-m} z^m + a_{-n} z^n$ , with  $0 < m < n$ . If  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is hyponormal and  $|a_m| \leq |a_{-n}|$  then we have that

$$n^2 |a_{-n}|^2 + m^2 |a_{-m}|^2 \leq m^2 |a_m|^2 + n^2 |a_n|^2$$

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Theorem (Z. Čučković and R. Curto, 2016)

Suppose  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal on  $A^2(\mathbb{D})$  with  $\varphi(z) = \alpha z^m + \beta z^n + \gamma \bar{z}^p + \delta \bar{z}^q$ , where  $m < n$  and  $p < q$ , and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \mathbb{C}$ . Assume also that  $n - m = q - p$ . Then

$$|\alpha|^2 n^2 + |\beta|^2 m^2 - |\gamma|^2 p^2 - |\delta|^2 q^2 \geq 2 |\bar{\alpha}\beta mn - \bar{\gamma}\delta pq|.$$

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Note that so far, all the symbols involved are harmonic.

## Small excursions into non-harmonic symbols

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### Example

$T_{z-2\sqrt{2}|z|^2}$  is not hyponormal. In particular,

$$\left\langle \left[ T_{z-2\sqrt{2}|z|^2}^*, T_{z-2\sqrt{2}|z|^2} \right] \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{\sqrt{2}} \right), \frac{1}{2} + \frac{z}{\sqrt{2}} \right\rangle < 0.$$

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In fact  $T_{\frac{z}{C} + |z|^2}$  fails to be hyponormal whenever  $|C| \geq 2\sqrt{2}$ !

## Two term non-harmonic polynomial symbols

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**Theorem (MCF and Liaw, 2017)**

*Suppose  $\varphi = \alpha z^m \bar{z}^n + z^i \bar{z}^j$ , with  $m > n$  and  $m - n > i - j$ . Then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if  $\alpha$  lies outside some annulus (when  $i > j$ ) or outside some disk (when  $j > i$ ), which depends on  $m, n, i$ , and  $j$ .*

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The case when  $m - n = i - j$  is not covered by this theorem, but will be addressed later.

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### Theorem (MCF and Liaw, 2017)

*Fix  $\delta \in \mathbb{N}$ . For every integer  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $T_\varphi$  with symbol  $\varphi(z) = z^{n+\delta}\bar{z}^n + \frac{1}{2j+\delta}\bar{z}^{j+\delta}z^j$  is hyponormal.*

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Up until now everything has been in terms of the moduli of the coefficients.

# Mellin Transform

## Definition

Suppose  $\varphi \in L^1([0, 1], r dr)$ . For  $\operatorname{Re} z \geq 2$ , the *Mellin Transform* of  $\varphi$ , is given by

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For  $\varphi(re^{i\theta}) = e^{ik\theta} \varphi_0(r)$ , with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\varphi_0$  radial,

$$T_{\varphi} z^n = \begin{cases} 2(n+k+1) \hat{\varphi}_0(2n+k+2) z^{n+k} & n+k \geq 0 \\ 0 & n+k < 0 \end{cases}$$

and

$$T_{\bar{\varphi}} z^n = \begin{cases} 2(n-k+1) \hat{\varphi}_0(2n-k+2) z^{n-k} & n-k \geq 0 \\ 0 & n-k < 0 \end{cases}$$

## A more general result

Theorem (Y. Lu and C. Liu, 2009 )

*Let  $\varphi(re^{i\theta}) = e^{i\delta\theta}\varphi_0(r) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ , where  $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\varphi_0$  is radial. Then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if one of the following conditions holds:*

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- 1)  $\delta < 0$  and  $\varphi_0 \equiv 0$ ;
- 2)  $\delta = 0$ ;
- 3)  $\delta > 0$  and for each  $\alpha \geq \delta$ ,

$$|\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha + \delta + 2)| \geq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1}} |\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha - \delta + 2)|. \quad (1)$$

## A consequence of the Liu-Lu Theorem

From this Theorem, we may conclude that if

$$\varphi(z) = a_1 z^{m_1} \bar{z}^{n_1} + \dots + a_k z^{m_k} \bar{z}^{n_k},$$

with  $m_1 - n_1 = \dots = m_k - n_k \geq 0$ , and  $a_i$  all lie on the same ray for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal.

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- If we take  $\delta = m_1 - n_1$ , we may write

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- Since  $T_{a_i z^{m_i} \bar{z}^{n_i}}$  is hyponormal for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then inequality (1) is satisfied for each  $i$  individually



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From this Theorem, we may conclude that if

$$\varphi(z) = a_1 z^{m_1} \bar{z}^{n_1} + \dots + a_k z^{m_k} \bar{z}^{n_k},$$

with  $m_1 - n_1 = \dots = m_k - n_k \geq 0$ , and  $a_i$  all lie on the same ray for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal.

- If we take  $\delta = m_1 - n_1$ , we may write

$$\varphi(re^{i\theta}) = e^{i\delta\theta} (a_1 r^{m_1+n_1} + \dots + a_k r^{m_k+n_k}).$$

- Since  $T_{a_i z^{m_i} \bar{z}^{n_i}}$  is hyponormal for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then inequality (1) is satisfied for each  $i$  individually
- Since all  $a_i$  lie on the same ray inequality (1) will be satisfied by the sum.

## Argument Matters

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### Example

Let  $\varphi(z) = z^2\bar{z} - z^3\bar{z}^2$ . Then  $\widehat{\varphi}_0(k) = \frac{1}{k+3} - \frac{1}{k+5}$ , and we find that

$$\frac{1}{2\alpha+6} - \frac{1}{2\alpha+8} < \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+2}} \left( \frac{1}{2\alpha+4} - \frac{1}{2\alpha+6} \right),$$

whenever  $\alpha \geq 2$ . By the Liu-Lu Theorem,  $T_\varphi$  cannot be hyponormal.

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whenever  $\alpha \geq 2$ . By the Liu-Lu Theorem,  $T_\varphi$  cannot be hyponormal.

However if  $\varphi(z) = z^2\bar{z} + z^3\bar{z}^2$ , then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal.

## Theorem (MCF and Liaw, 2017)

Let  $\varphi(z) = a_1 z^{m_1} \bar{z}^{n_1} + \dots + a_k z^{m_k} \bar{z}^{n_k}$ , with  $m_1 - n_1 = \dots = m_k - n_k = \delta \geq 0$ , and  $a_i$  all lying in the same quarter-plane  $1 \leq i \leq k$  (i.e.  $\max_{1 \leq i, j \leq k} |\arg(a_i) - \arg(a_j)| \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ ), then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal.

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The proof involves examining the Mellin transform of  $\varphi$ , and then applying the Liu-Lu theorem.

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**Theorem (MCF and Liaw, 2017)**

Let  $\varphi(z) = a_1 z^m \bar{z}^n + a_2 z^i \bar{z}^j$ , with  $m - n = i - j = \delta \geq 0$ . If

$$0 \leq \frac{|a_1|}{\alpha + m + 1} - \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha + i + 1} < \frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1} \left( \frac{|a_1|}{\alpha + n + 1} - \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha + j + 1} \right)$$

for some  $\alpha \geq \delta$ , then  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if  $|\arg(a_1) - \arg(a_2)| \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

## Idea of the proof

- WLOG assume that  $a_1 > 0$ , and let  $\theta = \arg(a_2)$ .

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- Recall that by the Liu-Lu Theorem,  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if for each  $\alpha \geq \delta$ ,

$$|\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha + \delta + 2)| \geq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1}} |\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha - \delta + 2)|.$$

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$$|\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha + \delta + 2)| \geq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1}} |\widehat{\varphi}_0(2\alpha - \delta + 2)|.$$

- This is equivalent to the condition that for  $\alpha \geq \delta$

$$F_{\varphi, \alpha}(\theta) := \left( \frac{a_1}{\alpha + m + 1} + \frac{|a_2| \cos(\theta)}{\alpha + i + 1} \right)^2 + \frac{|a_2|^2 \sin^2(\theta)}{(\alpha + i + 1)^2} - \frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1} \left[ \left( \frac{a_1}{\alpha + n + 1} + \frac{|a_2| \cos(\theta)}{\alpha + j + 1} \right)^2 + \frac{|a_2|^2 \sin^2(\theta)}{(\alpha + j + 1)^2} \right] \geq 0.$$

# Idea of the proof

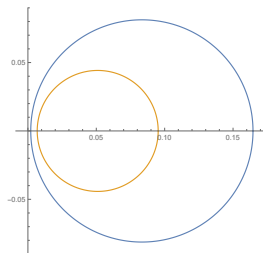


Figure: The situation when  $\alpha = 6$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $i = 9$ , and  $\delta = 4$

Consider the two circles:

$$C_1 := \left\{ z : \left| z - \frac{a_1}{\alpha+m+1} \right| = \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha+i+1} \right\}$$

$$C_2 := \left\{ z : \left| z - \frac{\alpha-\delta+1}{\alpha+\delta+1} \frac{a_1}{\alpha+n+1} \right| = \frac{\alpha-\delta+1}{\alpha+\delta+1} \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha+j+1} \right\}$$

## Idea of the proof

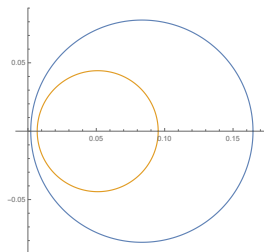


Figure: The situation when  $\alpha = 6$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $i = 9$ , and  $\delta = 4$

The hypothesis that

$$0 \leq \frac{|a_1|}{\alpha + m + 1} - \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha + i + 1} < \frac{\alpha - \delta + 1}{\alpha + \delta + 1} \left( \frac{|a_1|}{\alpha + n + 1} - \frac{|a_2|}{\alpha + j + 1} \right)$$

guarantees that  $C_2$  lies completely in the region bounded by  $C_1$ .

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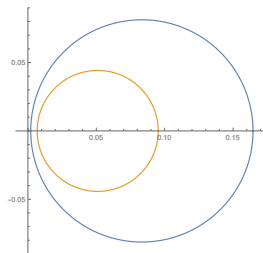


Figure: The situation when  $\alpha = 6$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $i = 9$ , and  $\delta = 4$

For every  $\alpha$  there will exist a  $\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta_\alpha < \pi$  such that  $F_{\varphi, \alpha}(\theta) < 0$  for  $\theta_\alpha < \theta < \pi$ .

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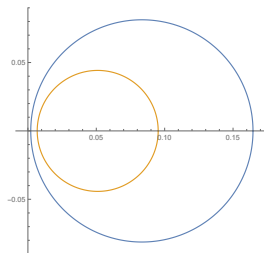


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For every  $\alpha$  there will exist a  $\frac{\pi}{2} \leq \theta_\alpha < \pi$  such that  $F_{\varphi, \alpha}(\theta) < 0$  for  $\theta_\alpha < \theta < \pi$ .

As  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that  $\theta_\alpha \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}$ , and so  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal if and only if  $|\theta| \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$ .



## Argument only matters sometimes

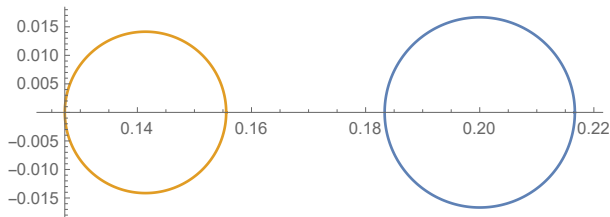


Figure: The situation when  $\alpha = 2$ ,  $m = 2$ ,  $i = 3$ , and  $\delta = 1$

Let  $\varphi_\theta(z) = \varphi(z) = z^2 \bar{z} + \frac{1}{10} e^{i\theta} z^3 \bar{z}^2$ . As  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$ , we find that  $F_{\varphi, \alpha}(\theta) > 0$  for all  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and all  $\alpha \geq 1$ .

## Remarks and Further Research

We would like to thank Carl Cowen for his helpful correspondence, and Brian Simanek for very fruitful discussions.

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The current proofs rely on rather straightforward calculations and “hard” analysis. We would like to find “softer”, more function theoretic proofs, if possible, of these results including the Liu-Lu Theorem. Our current estimates could also be sharpened quite a bit.

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We would also like to explore more qualitative conditions, similar to Sardaoui’s results, on a symbol  $\varphi$  for when  $T_\varphi$  is hyponormal.

For example, if  $f, g \in C^\infty(\bar{\mathbb{D}})$  and  $T_{f+g}$  is hyponormal, does that imply a necessary relationship between  $|f_z|$  and  $|g_{\bar{z}}|$ ?

*Ευχαριστω!*