

SOME INEQUALITIES FOR UNITARILY INVARIANT NORMS

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Abstract. In this note, we use the convexity of the function $\varphi(v)$ to sharpen the matrix version of the Heinz means, where $\varphi(v)$ is defined as $\varphi(v) = \|A^v X B^{1-v} + A^{1-v} X B^v\|$ on $[0, 1]$ for $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite, and also give a refinement of the inequality [Theorem 6, SIAM J. Matrix Anal. Appl. 20 (1998), 466–470] which is due to Zhan.

1. Introduction

Throughout, let M_n , $B(H)$, C_∞ be the set of $n \times n$ complex matrices, the set of all bounded linear operators on a complex separable Hilbert space H and the class of compact operators, respectively. For a compact operator $A \in C_\infty$, let $s_1(A) \geq s_2(A) \geq \dots \geq 0$ be the singular values of A , i.e., the eigenvalues of the positive operator $|A| = (A^*A)^{\frac{1}{2}}$, arranged in a decreasing order and repeated according to multiplicity. $\|\cdot\|$ denotes a unitarily invariant norm defined on a two-sided ideal $K_{\|\cdot\|}$ that is included in C_∞ , which has the basic property $\|UAV\| = \|A\|$ for every $A \in K_{\|\cdot\|}$ and all unitary operators $U, V \in B(H)$. Especially well known among unitarily invariant norms are the Schatten p -norms defined as $\|A\|_p = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} s_i^p(A)\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$, for $p \geq 1$. The Ky-Fan norms defined as $\|A\|_{(k)} = \sum_{i=1}^k s_i(A)$, $k = 1, 2, \dots, \infty$, represent another interesting family of unitarily invariant norms. Properties of such norms may be found in ([1], [7], [10], [14], [15]).

As is well known, the Heinz means of two nonnegative real numbers a and b are defined as

$$H_\nu(a, b) = \frac{a^\nu b^{1-\nu} + a^{1-\nu} b^\nu}{2},$$

for $0 \leq \nu \leq 1$.

It is easy to see that the following inequalities hold:

$$\sqrt{ab} \leq H_\nu(a, b) \leq \frac{a+b}{2}, \quad (1)$$

for $0 \leq \nu \leq 1$.

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The matrix version of (1) due to Bhatia and Davis [2] is the following inequalities,

$$2\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \|A^{\nu}XB^{1-\nu} + A^{1-\nu}XB^{\nu}\| \leq \|AX + XB\|, \tag{2}$$

where $0 \leq \nu \leq 1$, $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite. Usually, $\frac{\|A^{\nu}XB^{1-\nu} + A^{1-\nu}XB^{\nu}\|}{2}$ are called the Heinz means of A and B .

For $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite, putting

$$\varphi(\nu) = \|A^{\nu}XB^{1-\nu} + A^{1-\nu}XB^{\nu}\|,$$

then the function $\varphi(\nu)$ is a continuous convex function on $[0,1]$, attains its minimum at $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$, and attains its maximum at $\nu = 0$ or $\nu = 1$. Thus it is decreasing on $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and increasing on $[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$. Moreover, $\varphi(\nu) = \varphi(1 - \nu)$, for $0 \leq \nu \leq 1$. One may find the mentioned properties of the function $\varphi(\nu)$ in ([2], [3], [8], [9]).

In [6], when $\|\cdot\|$ is operator norm, Corach-Porta-Recht proved the following, so-called C-P-R inequality,

$$\|SXS^{-1} + S^{-1}XS\| \geq 2\|X\|, \tag{3}$$

for any invertible self-adjoint operator S and $X \in K_{\|\cdot\|}$.

They proved this inequality by using the integral representation of a self-adjoint operator with respect to a spectral measure.

An immediate consequence of the C-P-R inequality is the following,

$$\|SXT^{-1} + S^{-1}XT\| \geq 2\|X\|, \tag{4}$$

for invertible self-adjoint operators S, T and $X \in K_{\|\cdot\|}$. (3) and (4) also hold for other unitarily invariant norms.

In [16], by introducing two parameters r and t , Zhan proved that the following inequality

$$(2+t)\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\| \leq 2\|A^2X + tAXB + XB^2\| \tag{5}$$

holds for any unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, where $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite matrices and $(t, r) \in (-2, 2] \times [\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}]$.

In this note, we use the convexity of the function $\varphi(\nu) = \|A^{\nu}XB^{1-\nu} + A^{1-\nu}XB^{\nu}\|$ on $[0, 1]$ to sharpen the inequalities (2), and then give a refinement of the inequality (5).

2. Main results

The following Lemma [13], plays an important role in our discussion.

LEMMA 1. *Let $g(x)$ be a real valued function which is convex on the interval $[a, b]$. If $p, q \geq 0$, and $0 < y \leq \frac{b-a}{p+q} \min(p, q)$, then*

$$g(C) \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C-y}^{C+y} g(t)dt \leq \frac{1}{2}(g(C-y) + g(C+y)) \leq \frac{pg(a) + qg(b)}{p+q}, \tag{6}$$

where $C = \frac{pa+qb}{p+q}$.

It is worth to mention that the inequalities (6) is the Hermite-Hadamard's inequalities when $p = q = 1$, and $y = \frac{b-a}{2}$.

THEOREM 1. *Let A, B and $X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite. For every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, then*

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} & \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\| \\ & \leq \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} (\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|)dv \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} (\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}+y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}\| \\ & \quad + \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}-y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y}\|) \\ & \leq \frac{p}{p+q} \|AX + XB\| + \frac{q}{p+q} \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\| \\ & \leq \|AX + XB\| \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

holds for $0 < \mu \leq \frac{1}{2}$, where $p, q > 0$, $C_\mu^{(1)} = \frac{q\mu}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{\mu}{p+q} \min(p, q)$;

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} & \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\| \\ & \leq \|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(2)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y} (\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|)dv \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} (\|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}-y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}+y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}-y}\| \\ & \quad + \|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}-y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(2)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y}\|) \\ & \leq \frac{p}{p+q} \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\| + \frac{q}{p+q} \|AX + XB\| \\ & \leq \|AX + XB\| \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

holds for $\frac{1}{2} < \mu < 1$, where $p, q > 0$, $C_\mu^{(2)} = \frac{p\mu+q}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{1-\mu}{p+q} \min(p, q)$.

Proof. We consider the case $\mu \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ at first.

Applying Lemma 1 to the function $\varphi(v) = \|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|$ on the interval $[0, \mu]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(C_\mu^{(1)}) & \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} \varphi(t)dt \leq \frac{1}{2} (\varphi(C_\mu^{(1)}-y) + \varphi(C_\mu^{(1)}+y)) \\ & \leq \frac{p\varphi(0) + q\varphi(\mu)}{p+q}, \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

where $C_\mu^{(1)} = \frac{q\mu}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{\mu}{p+q} \min(p, q)$.
 Thus

$$\begin{aligned} & \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}}XC^{C_\mu^{(1)}}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} (\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|)dv \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} (\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}+y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XC^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}\| \\ & \quad + \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}-y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XC^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y}\|) \\ & \leq \frac{p}{p+q} \|AX + XB\| + \frac{q}{p+q} \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\|. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

Noting that the function $\varphi(v) = \|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|$ is decreasing on $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and increasing on $[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$, then by (10), we get the desired inequalities (7).

Likewise, if $\mu \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$, applying Lemma 1 to the function $\varphi(v) = \|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|$ on the interval $[\mu, 1]$, then we obtain the inequalities (8).

The proof is completed. \square

REMARK 1. Putting $p = q = 1$, and $y = \frac{\mu}{2}$ when $0 < \mu \leq \frac{1}{2}$, $y = \frac{1-\mu}{2}$ when $\frac{1}{2} < \mu < 1$, it is easy to see that Theorem 1 is just the result of Corollary 2 in [11]. Thus Corollary 2 in [11] is a special case of Theorem 1.

REMARK 2. Theorem 1 is a refinement of the second inequality in (2).

Similarly, applying Lemma 1 to the function $\varphi(v) = \|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|$ on $[\mu, 1 - \mu]$ when $\mu \in [0, \frac{1}{2})$, and on $[1 - \mu, \mu]$ when $\mu \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$, respectively, we have the refinement of the first inequality in (2).

THEOREM 2. Let A, B and $X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite. For every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 2\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| & \leq \|A^{C_\mu^{(3)}}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}}XC^{C_\mu^{(3)}}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(3)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(3)}+y} (\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\|)dv \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} (\|A^{C_\mu^{(3)}-y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}+y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}+y}XC^{C_\mu^{(3)}-y}\| \\ & \quad + \|A^{C_\mu^{(3)}+y}XB^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}-y} + A^{1-C_\mu^{(3)}-y}XC^{C_\mu^{(3)}+y}\|) \\ & \leq \|A^\mu XB^{1-\mu} + A^{1-\mu}XB^\mu\| \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

holds for $\mu \in [0, 1] - \{\frac{1}{2}\}$, where $p, q > 0$, $C_\mu^{(3)} = \frac{p\mu+q(1-\mu)}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{|1-2\mu|}{p+q} \min(p, q)$.

COROLLARY 1. *Let A and B be positive semidefinite matrices. For every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, then*

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\|AB\| &\leq \|A^{C_\mu^{(3)}+\frac{1}{2}}B^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}}B^{\frac{1}{2}+C_\mu^{(3)}}\| \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(3)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(3)}+y} (\|A^{\frac{1}{2}+v}B^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}B^{\frac{1}{2}+v}\|)dv \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} (\|A^{\frac{1}{2}+C_\mu^{(3)}-y}B^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}+y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}+y}B^{\frac{1}{2}+C_\mu^{(3)}-y}\| \\
 &\quad + \|A^{\frac{1}{2}+C_\mu^{(3)}+y}B^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}-y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(3)}-y}B^{\frac{1}{2}+C_\mu^{(3)}+y}\|) \\
 &\leq \|A^{\frac{1}{2}+\mu}B^{\frac{3}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-\mu}B^{\frac{1}{2}+\mu}\| \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2}\|(A+B)^2\| \tag{12}
 \end{aligned}$$

holds for $\mu \in [0, 1] - \{\frac{1}{2}\}$, where $p, q > 0, C_\mu^{(3)} = \frac{p\mu+q(1-\mu)}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{|1-2\mu|}{p+q} \min(p, q)$.

Proof. Taking $X = A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{\frac{1}{2}}$ in (11), combining (2) with the following inequality

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

then, we can obtain the inequalities (12).

The proof is completed. \square

REMARK 3. Obviously, (12) is a refinement of the following inequality

$$\|AB\| \leq \frac{1}{4}\|(A+B)^2\|,$$

which is due to Bhatia and Kittaneh [4], where $A, B \in M_n$ are positive semidefinite matrices.

Next, we give the refinement of the inequality (5).

THEOREM 3. *Let A, B and $X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive matrices and $(t, r) \in (-2, 2] \times (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2})$. For every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, the following inequalities hold,*

(a) for $r \in (\frac{1}{2}, 1]$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2\|A^2X + XB^2 + tAXB\| &\geq 2(\|A^2X + XB^2 + 2AXB\|) - (4 - 2t)\|AXB\| \\
 &\geq \frac{4p}{p+q} \|A^{\frac{3}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} + A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}}\| + \frac{4q}{p+q} \|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\| - (4 - 2t)\|AXB\| \\
 &\geq 2(\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}\|)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}\|) - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & \frac{2}{y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} (\|A^{v+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}XB^{v+\frac{1}{2}}\|)dv - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & 4\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}+\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & 4\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & (t+2)\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\|,
 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

where $\mu = r - \frac{1}{2}$, $p, q > 0$, $C_\mu^{(1)} = \frac{q\mu}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{\mu}{p+q} \min(p, q)$;

(b) for $r \in [1, \frac{3}{2})$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2\|A^2X + XB^2 + tAXB\| \\
 \geq & 2(\|A^2X + XB^2 + 2AXB\|) - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & \frac{4q}{p+q}\|A^{\frac{3}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} + A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}}\| + \frac{4p}{p+q}\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & 2(\|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}+y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}\| \\
 & + \|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}-y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}\|) - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & \frac{2}{y} \int_{C_\mu^{(2)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(2)}+y} (\|A^{v+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}XB^{v+\frac{1}{2}}\|)dv - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & 4\|A^{C_\mu^{(2)}+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C_\mu^{(2)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(2)}+\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & 4\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\
 \geq & (t+2)\|A^rXB^{2-r} + A^{2-r}XB^r\|,
 \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

where $\mu = r - \frac{1}{2}$, $p, q > 0$, $C_\mu^{(2)} = \frac{p\mu+q}{p+q}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{1-\mu}{p+q} \min(p, q)$.

Proof. Putting $\mu = r - \frac{1}{2}$, then $\mu \in (0, 1)$. We consider the case $\mu \in (0, \frac{1}{2}]$ at first. Using the refinements of the Heinz means (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \\
 \geq & \frac{p}{p+q}\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| + \frac{q}{p+q}\|A^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu}XB^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}\| \\
 \geq & \frac{1}{2}(\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y-\frac{1}{2}}\| \\
 & + \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y-\frac{1}{2}}\|) \\
 \geq & \frac{1}{2y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} (\|A^{v-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-v}XB^{v-\frac{1}{2}}\|)dv \\
 \geq & \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-\frac{1}{2}}\| \\
 \geq & \|A^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu}XB^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}\|.
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Since the following equality holds

$$AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + 2X = A^{\frac{1}{2}}(A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}})B^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}(A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}})B^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

utilizing the generalized version of C-P-R inequality (4) for unitarily invariant norms, we obtain

$$\|AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + 2X\| \geq 2\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\|. \tag{16}$$

On the other hand, due to

$$AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + 2X = AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + tX + (2-t)X,$$

we have

$$\|AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + 2X\| \leq \|AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + tX\| + (2-t)\|X\|. \tag{17}$$

Again, from the generalized version of C-P-R inequality (4) for unitarily invariant norms, it is easy to see that if $s \in R$,

$$\|A^sXB^{-s} + A^{-s}XB^s\| \geq 2\|X\|.$$

Noting that $t - 2 \leq 0$, thus

$$(t - 2)\|A^sXB^{-s} + A^{-s}XB^s\| \leq 2(t - 2)\|X\|,$$

which is equivalent to

$$4\|A^sXB^{-s} + A^{-s}XB^s\| - 4\|X\| + 2t\|X\| \geq (t + 2)\|A^sXB^{-s} + A^{-s}XB^s\|. \tag{18}$$

Combining (15), (16), (17) with (18), we can deduce

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\|AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + tX\| \\ & \geq 2\|AXB^{-1} + A^{-1}XB + 2X\| - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \\ & \geq 4\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \\ & \geq \frac{4p}{p+q}\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{-\frac{1}{2}} + A^{-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \\ & \quad + \frac{4q}{p+q}\|A^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu}XB^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \\ & \geq 2(\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}+y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-y-\frac{1}{2}}\| \\ & \quad + \|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}-y}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y-\frac{1}{2}}\|) - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \\ & \geq \frac{2}{y} \int_{C_\mu^{(1)}-y}^{C_\mu^{(1)}+y} (\|A^{v-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-v}XB^{v-\frac{1}{2}}\|)dv - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \\ & \geq 4\|A^{C_\mu^{(1)}-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-C_\mu^{(1)}}XB^{C_\mu^{(1)}-\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4 - 2t)\|X\| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq 4\|A^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu}XB^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4-2t)\|X\| \\ &\geq (t+2)\|A^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu} + A^{\frac{1}{2}-\mu}XB^{\mu-\frac{1}{2}}\|. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Replacing X by AXB and μ by $r - \frac{1}{2}$ in (19), respectively, we have (13). Finally, (14) is obtained analogously.

The proof is completed. \square

REMARK 4. By continuity, the condition positive in Theorem 3 can be replaced by positive semidefinite.

Taking $r = 1$ in (13), we can get the following corollary.

COROLLARY 2. Let A, B and $X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite. For every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, the following inequalities hold,

$$\begin{aligned} &2\|A^2X + XB^2 + tAXB\| \\ &\geq 2(\|A^2X + XB^2 + 2AXB\|) - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\ &\geq \frac{4p}{p+q}\|A^{\frac{3}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} + A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}}\| + \frac{8q}{p+q}\|AXB\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\ &\geq 2(\|A^{C^{(4)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}+y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}+y}XB^{C^{(4)}-y+\frac{1}{2}}\| \\ &\quad + \|A^{C^{(4)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}-y} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}-y}XB^{C^{(4)}+y+\frac{1}{2}}\|) - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\ &\geq \frac{2}{y} \int_{C^{(4)}-y}^{C^{(4)}+y} (\|A^{v+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}XB^{v+\frac{1}{2}}\|)dv - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\ &\geq 4\|A^{C^{(4)}+\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-C^{(4)}}XB^{C^{(4)}+\frac{1}{2}}\| - (4-2t)\|AXB\| \\ &\geq 2(t+2)\|AXB\|, \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

where $-2 < t \leq 2$, $p, q > 0$, $C^{(4)} = \frac{q}{2(p+q)}$ and $0 < y \leq \frac{1}{2(p+q)} \min(p, q)$.

REMARK 5. Taking $t = 0$ in (20), it is just a refinement of the famous Arithmetic-Geometric mean inequality

$$2\|AXB\| \leq \|A^2X + XB^2\|,$$

for $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A and B are positive semidefinite.

It is worth to point out that techniques from [5] are used to sharpen the inequality (5).

REMARK 6. Putting $p = q = 1$, and $y = \frac{\mu}{2}$ when $0 < \mu \leq \frac{1}{2}$, $y = \frac{1-\mu}{2}$ when $\frac{1}{2} < \mu < 1$, respectively, then Theorem 3 is just the result of Theorem 2.1 in [5]. Thus Theorem 2.1 in [5] is a special case of Theorem 3.

In [8], Hiai and Kosaki (Corollary 2.3) proved

$$\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \left\| \int_0^1 A^tXB^{1-t} dt \right\| \leq \left\| \frac{AX + XB}{2} \right\| \tag{21}$$

for $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A, B are positive semidefinite matrices and every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$.

In [2], the following inequality (p. 164, Exercise 5.4.8)

$$\frac{1}{2}\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\| \leq \left\| \int_0^1 A^tXB^{1-t} dt \right\|, \tag{22}$$

holds for $\frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{4}$ and every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, where $A, B, X \in M_n$ such that A, B are positive semidefinite matrices.

It follows from (2), (21), and (22)

$$\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|A^vXB^{1-v} + A^{1-v}XB^v\| \leq \left\| \int_0^1 A^tXB^{1-t} dt \right\| \leq \left\| \frac{AX + XB}{2} \right\|, \tag{23}$$

where $\frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{4}$.

THEOREM 4. *Let A and B be positive semidefinite matrices. Then for every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, the following inequalities*

$$\begin{aligned} \|AB\| &\leq \frac{1}{2}\|A^{\frac{1}{2}+v}B^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}B^{\frac{1}{2}+v}\| \leq \left\| \int_0^1 A^{\frac{1}{2}+t}B^{\frac{3}{2}-t} dt \right\| \leq \left\| \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right)^2 \right\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4}\|A^2 + B^2 + 2AB\|, \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

holds for $\frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{4}$.

Proof. Putting $X = A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{\frac{1}{2}}$ in (23), we have

$$\|AB\| \leq \frac{1}{2}\|A^{\frac{1}{2}+v}B^{\frac{3}{2}-v} + A^{\frac{3}{2}-v}B^{\frac{1}{2}+v}\| \leq \left\| \int_0^1 A^{\frac{1}{2}+t}B^{\frac{3}{2}-t} dt \right\|. \tag{25}$$

In [17], Zou and He got (Theorem 2.1, its equivalent form)

$$\left\| \int_0^1 A^{\frac{1}{2}+t}B^{\frac{3}{2}-t} dt \right\| \leq \left\| \left(\frac{A+B}{2} \right)^2 \right\| \tag{26}$$

for every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$ and positive semidefinite matrices A and B .

On the other hand, in [12], for every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$, Matharu and Aujla obtained

$$\|(A+B)(A+B)^*\| \leq \|AA^* + BB^* + 2AB^*\|, \tag{27}$$

where $A, B \in M_n$.

Thus, the desired inequalities (24) follows from (25), (26) and (27).

The proof is completed. \square

REMARK 7. (24) is a refinement of the following inequality

$$4\|AB\| \leq \|A^2 + B^2 + 2AB\|,$$

which is due to (5) when $X = I$ (the identity matrix), $r = 1$, and $t = 2$.

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