

SOME INEQUALITIES RELATED TO NUMERICAL RADIUS AND DISTANCE FROM SCALAR OPERATORS IN HILBERT SPACES

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Abstract. In this paper, we characterize bounded linear operators A, B on a complex Hilbert space such that $\inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}} \|A + B - \lambda I\| = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}} \|A - \lambda I\| + \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}} \|B - \lambda I\|$, where I is the identity operator. We also establish some inequalities satisfied by the distance from scalar operators for products of two complex Hilbert space operators.

1. Introduction

Let \mathcal{H} be a complex Hilbert space with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ and $\|\cdot\|$ denote the induced norm. Let $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ denote the collection of all bounded linear operators acting on \mathcal{H} , the operator norm is also denoted by $\|\cdot\|$. For $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, the *numerical range* of A is given by

$$W(A) = \left\{ \langle Ax, x \rangle : x \in \mathcal{H} \text{ and } \|x\| = 1 \right\}.$$

It is known that $W(A)$ is a nonempty (when $\mathcal{H} \neq \{0\}$) bounded convex subset (not necessarily closed) of the complex plane. To measure the location and relative size of $W(A)$, one frequently used quantity; *numerical radius* of A . It is denoted and given by

$$w(A) = \sup \left\{ |\lambda| : \lambda \in W(A) \right\}.$$

It is well-known that $w(\cdot)$ is a norm on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and

$$\frac{1}{2} \|A\| \leq w(A) \leq \|A\| \tag{1}$$

for all $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, that is $w(\cdot)$ defines an equivalent norm to $\|\cdot\|$ on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Also, it is a basic fact that the norm $w(\cdot)$ is self-adjoint (i.e., $w(A^*) = w(A)$ for all $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$)

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where A^* is the adjoint of A). For more material about the numerical radius and other information on the basic theory of numerical range, we refer the reader to [10].

In [16], Stampfli introduced the center of mass of $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ as the (unique) value $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ at which the minimum of $\|A - \lambda I\|$ (where I is the identity operator on \mathcal{H}) is attained, we denote $d(A) := \inf_{\lambda \in \mathbb{C}} \|A - \lambda I\|$.

In 1963 Björck and Thomée [5] proved, that if A is a normal operator acting on a Hilbert space, then the radius R_A of the smallest circular disc containing the spectrum of A , $\sigma(A)$, is equal to $d(A)$. Later, in 1980 Garske [8] generalized Björck and Thomée’s result for an arbitrary operator $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and showed that in the general case we have only the inequality $R_A \leq d(A)$. In [3], Ando has proved that

LEMMA 1. ([3]) *Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then,*

- (i) $d(A) = \sup \{ |\langle Ax, y \rangle| : x, y \in \mathcal{H}, \|x\| = \|y\| = 1 \text{ and } \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \}$;
- (ii) $d(A) = \sup \{ \|(I - P)AP\| : P \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \text{ is an orthogonal projection of rank one} \}$ ($P \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is called an orthogonal projection if $P^2 = P = P^*$).

Many authors have obtained several refinements and reverses for the inequalities in (1) see e.g., [7, 9, 14, 15]. It has been shown in [7, 12], that if $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then

$$\|A\|^2 \leq w^2(A) + d^2(A),$$

it is shown in [2] that if $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, then

$$w(AB) \leq w(A)(d(B) + \|B\|).$$

In [11, 13], the authors proved that

$$w(AB) \leq w(A)w(B) + d(A)d(B).$$

The numerical radius equality ($w(A + B) = w(A) + w(B)$), has been discussed in [1], the authors proved that

THEOREM 1. ([1]) *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$, the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i) $w(A + B) = w(A) + w(B)$;
- (ii) *there exists a sequence of unit vectors $\{x_n\}$ in \mathcal{H} such that*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle A^*x_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle = w(A)w(B).$$

The proof of Theorem 1 is similar to that of norm equality ($\|A + B\| = \|A\| + \|B\|$) which says that $\|A + B\| = \|A\| + \|B\|$ if and only if there exists a sequence $\{x_n\}$ of unit vectors in \mathcal{H} such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle A^*Bx_n, x_n \rangle = \|A\|\|B\|$, see [4].

The purpose of this paper is to characterize operators $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ such that $d(A + B) = d(A) + d(B)$. We also establish some inequalities satisfied by $d(\cdot)$ for products of two complex Hilbert space operators.

2. Main results

Our first main result in this section reads as follows.

THEOREM 2. *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with A is normaloid (i.e., $\|A\| = w(A)$) and*

$$w(A + B) = w(A) + w(B).$$

Then,

$$w(A)w(B) \leq \min \{w(AB), w(BA)\}.$$

Proof. If $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 1$, then the inequality holds without any hypothesis.

Using Theorem 1, there exists a sequence of unit vectors $\{x_n\}$ in \mathcal{H} such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle B^*x_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle = w(A)w(B).$$

Let $\{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ be a sequence of unit vectors with $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$ and $Ax_n = \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle x_n + \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle y_n$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that

$$\langle BAx_n, x_n \rangle = \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle + \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle \langle By_n, x_n \rangle, \tag{2}$$

and

$$\|Ax_n\|^2 = |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle|^2. \tag{3}$$

Since $|\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle| \leq w(A)w(B)$ and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle| = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle B^*x_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle| = w(A)w(B),$$

$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle| = w(B)$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle| = w(A) = \|A\|$ (because A is normaloid).

From (3), we have

$$\|Ax_n\|^2 = |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle|^2 \geq |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle|^2$$

this implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle = 0$. Now, from (2) we derive that

$$w(A)w(B) \leq w(BA). \tag{4}$$

Now, we apply the same argument to A^* and B^* , we get

$$w(A^*)w(B^*) \leq w(B^*A^*) = w(AB).$$

So,

$$w(A)w(B) \leq w(AB). \tag{5}$$

From the inequalities (4) and (5), we get

$$w(A)w(B) \leq \min \{w(AB), w(BA)\},$$

and this completes the proof. \square

REMARK 1. It is worth mentioning that in the absence of normaloidity, the result of Theorem 2 need not be true. To see this, consider

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

then $w(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ and $w(A^2) = 0$.

COROLLARY 1. *Under the conditions of Theorem 2, if also B is normaloid, then*

$$w(AB) = w(BA) = w(A)w(B).$$

In the following theorem, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the equality $d(A + B) = d(A) + d(B)$ where $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$.

THEOREM 3. *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with $\dim(\mathcal{H}) \geq 2$. The following conditions are equivalent:*

(i) $d(A + B) = d(A) + d(B)$;

(ii) *there exist two sequences of unit vectors $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ with $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle A^* y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle = d(A) d(B).$$

Proof. (i) \implies (ii) Assume that $d(A + B) = d(A) + d(B)$. By Lemma 1, there exist two sequences of unit vectors $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ with $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} d^2(A + B) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle (A + B)x_n, y_n \rangle|^2 \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle + \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle|^2 \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \left(|\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle|^2 + 2\operatorname{Re}(\langle A^* y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle) \right) \\ &\leq \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \left(|\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle|^2 + 2|\langle A^* y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle| \right) \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \left(|\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle| + |\langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle| \right)^2 \\ &\leq (d(A) + d(B))^2 = d^2(A + B). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle A^* y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle = d(A) d(B).$$

(ii) \implies (i) Suppose that there exist two sequences of unit vectors $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ and $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle A^* y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle = d(A) d(B).$$

Since $|\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle| \leq d(A)$ and $|\langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle| \leq d(B)$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle A^*y_n, x_n \rangle| = d(A) \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Bx_n, y_n \rangle| = d(B).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle (A+B)x_n, y_n \rangle|^2 &= d^2(A) + d^2(B) + 2d(A)d(B) \\ &= (d(A) + d(B))^2. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$d(A+B) \geq d(A) + d(B). \tag{6}$$

Further, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(A+B) &= \sup \{ |\langle (A+B)x, y \rangle| : \|x\| = \|y\| = 1 \text{ and } \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \} \\ &\leq d(A) + d(B). \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

By (6) and (7), we conclude that

$$d(A+B) = d(A) + d(B). \quad \square$$

The following lemma will be useful in the proof of the next result.

LEMMA 2. Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with $\dim(\mathcal{H}) \geq 3$ and $d(A) = \|A\|$. Let $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ be two sequences of unit vectors such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle| = d(A)$ and $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $\{z_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ be a sequence of unit vectors with $\langle x_n, z_n \rangle = \langle y_n, z_n \rangle = 0$ and $Ax_n = \alpha_n x_n + \beta_n y_n + \gamma_n z_n$, ($\alpha_n, \beta_n, \gamma_n \in \mathbb{C}$) for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle = 0.$$

Proof. The following identity holds true:

$$\|Ax_n\|^2 = |\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle|^2.$$

Since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} |\langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle| = d(A),$$

we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (|\langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle|^2 + |\langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle|^2) = 0$$

thus,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle = 0. \quad \square$$

An application of Theorem 3 is the following result.

THEOREM 4. *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with B is self-adjoint. If $d(A) = \|A\|$ and $d(A+B) = d(A) + d(B)$, then $d(A)d(B) \in \overline{W(BA)}$, $d(A)d(B) \in W((AB)^*)$ and so*

$$d(A)d(B) \leq \min \{w(AB), w(BA)\}.$$

Proof. If $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 1$, then the results hold.

Assume that $\dim(\mathcal{H}) \geq 3$. In view of Theorem 3, there exist two sequences of unit vectors $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ with $\langle x_n, y_n \rangle = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle B^*y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle = d(A)d(B).$$

Let $\{z_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ be a sequence of unit vectors with $\langle x_n, z_n \rangle = \langle y_n, z_n \rangle = 0$ and $Ax_n = \alpha_n x_n + \beta_n y_n + \gamma_n z_n$, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, it follows that

$$\langle BAx_n, x_n \rangle = \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle \langle Bx_n, x_n \rangle + \langle By_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle + \langle Bz_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle.$$

By Lemma 2, we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, x_n \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle Ax_n, z_n \rangle = 0.$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle BAx_n, x_n \rangle &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle By_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \langle B^*y_n, x_n \rangle \langle Ax_n, y_n \rangle \text{ (since } B^* = B) \\ &= d(A)d(B). \end{aligned}$$

This implies that $d(A)d(B) \in \overline{W(BA)}$. Hence,

$$d(A)d(B) \leq w(BA). \tag{8}$$

On the other hand, we have $d(A^*) = d(A) = \|A\| = \|A^*\|$ and

$$d((A+B)^*) = d(A+B) = d(A) + d(B) = d(A^*) + d(B^*).$$

Hence,

$$d(A^*)d(B^*) \in \overline{W(B^*A^*)}$$

thus,

$$d(A)d(B) \in \overline{W((AB)^*)}.$$

Consequently, we obtain

$$d(A)d(B) \leq w(AB). \tag{9}$$

So, it follows from (8) and (9) that

$$d(A)d(B) \leq \min \{w(AB), w(BA)\}.$$

Hence, the desired results are proved.

If $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 2$, the proof is similar to that in the case $\dim(\mathcal{H}) \geq 3$; take $z_n = 0$. \square

Our next result is stated as follows.

PROPOSITION 1. *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. Then*

$$d(AB) \leq w(A)d(B) + \|B\|d(A).$$

Proof. If $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 1$ then the inequality holds.

Let $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$. Put $Bx = \alpha y + \beta y^\perp$ with $\alpha = \langle Bx, y \rangle$, $\beta = \langle Bx, y^\perp \rangle$ and y^\perp is orthogonal to y . Now, it can be observed that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle ABx, y \rangle &= \alpha \langle Ay, y \rangle + \beta \langle Ay^\perp, y \rangle \\ &= \langle Bx, y \rangle \langle Ay, y \rangle + \langle Bx, y^\perp \rangle \langle Ay^\perp, y \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that

$$|\langle ABx, y \rangle| \leq |\langle Bx, y \rangle| |\langle Ay, y \rangle| + \left| \langle Bx, y^\perp \rangle \right| \left| \langle Ay^\perp, y \rangle \right|.$$

Thus, by taking the supremum in the above inequality over all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$, we get

$$d(AB) \leq w(A)d(B) + \|B\|d(A).$$

Hence, the proof of the proposition is complete. \square

Now, we are in a position to prove the following result.

PROPOSITION 2. *Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$. If $\dim \mathcal{H} = 2$, then*

$$d(AB) \leq w(A)d(B) + w(B)d(A).$$

Proof. Let $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$. Put $Bx = \alpha x + \beta y$ with $\alpha = \langle Bx, x \rangle$ and $\beta = \langle Bx, y \rangle$. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle ABx, y \rangle| &= |\alpha \langle Ax, y \rangle + \beta \langle Ay, y \rangle| \\ &= |\langle Bx, x \rangle \langle Ax, y \rangle + \langle Bx, y \rangle \langle Ay, y \rangle| \\ &\leq |\langle Bx, x \rangle \langle Ax, y \rangle| + |\langle Bx, y \rangle \langle Ay, y \rangle|. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the supremum in the above inequality over all $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ with $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$, we get

$$d(AB) \leq w(B)d(A) + w(A)d(B).$$

This completes the proof. \square

Next we need the following inequality, known as Buzano’s inequality [6].

LEMMA 3. ([6]) *Let $x, y, z \in \mathcal{H}$, then*

$$|\langle x, z \rangle \langle z, y \rangle| \leq \frac{\|z\|^2}{2} (\|x\| \|y\| + |\langle x, y \rangle|).$$

The following lemma is useful in the proof of the next results.

LEMMA 4. Let $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be a positive operator and let $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$. Then

$$|\langle Ax, y \rangle| \leq \frac{\|A\|}{2} (\|x\| \|y\| + |\langle x, y \rangle|).$$

Proof. By using Lemma 3, we obtain

$$|\langle Ax, y \rangle \langle Ax, x \rangle| \leq \frac{\|Ax\|^2}{2} (\|x\| \|y\| + |\langle x, y \rangle|).$$

If $\langle Ax, x \rangle \neq 0$, then

$$|\langle Ax, y \rangle| \leq \frac{\|Ax\|^2}{2 \langle Ax, x \rangle} (\|x\| \|y\| + |\langle x, y \rangle|).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\|Ax\|^2}{\langle Ax, x \rangle} &= \frac{\|Ax\|^2}{\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}x\|^2} \leq \frac{\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}x\|^2}{\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}x\|^2} \\ &= \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}\|^2 \\ &= \|A\|. \end{aligned}$$

If $\langle Ax, x \rangle = 0$, then $A^{\frac{1}{2}}x = 0$ and so $Ax = 0$. Therefore, we get the desired inequality. This completes the proof. \square

Next, we introduce the following theorem.

THEOREM 5. Let $T, S, A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be such that A is positive. Then,

$$d(SAT) \leq \frac{\|A\|}{2} (\|T\| \|S\| + d(ST)).$$

Proof. If $\dim(\mathcal{H}) = 1$, then the inequality holds.

Let $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\|x\| = \|y\| = 1$ and $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$. By using Lemma 4, it can be observed that

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle SATx, y \rangle| &= |\langle ATx, S^*y \rangle| \\ &\leq \frac{\|A\|}{2} (|\langle Tx, S^*y \rangle| + \|Tx\| \|S^*y\|) \\ &\leq \frac{\|A\|}{2} (|\langle STx, y \rangle| + \|T\| \|S\|) \\ &\leq \frac{\|A\|}{2} (\|T\| \|S\| + d(ST)). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

As an application of Theorem 5, we derive the following inequality.

COROLLARY 2. *Let $T, S, A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ be such that A is positive and let $r \geq 1$. Then,*

$$d^r(SAT) \leq \frac{\|A\|^r}{2} \left(\|T\|^r \|S\|^r + d^r(ST) \right).$$

Proof. Since $t \mapsto t^r, r \geq 1$ is a convex increasing function on $[0, +\infty)$,

$$\begin{aligned} d^r(SAT) &\leq \|A\|^r \left(\frac{\|T\| \|S\| + d(ST)}{2} \right)^r \\ &\leq \frac{\|A\|^r}{2} \left(\|T\|^r \|S\|^r + d^r(ST) \right). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Our final result is the following

THEOREM 6. *Let $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with the polar decomposition $T = U|T|$. Then,*

$$d(T) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\|T\| + \|T\|^{\frac{1}{2}} d(U|T|^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right).$$

Proof. For any $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle Tx, y \rangle| &= |\langle U|T|x, y \rangle| \\ &= \left| \left\langle |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}x, |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}U^*y \right\rangle \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 4, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \left\langle |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}x, |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}U^*y \right\rangle \right| &\leq \frac{\||T|^{\frac{1}{2}}\|}{2} \left(\left| \langle x, |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}U^*y \rangle \right| + \|x\| \||T|^{\frac{1}{2}}U^*y\| \right) \\ &\leq \frac{\|T\|^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2} \left(\left| \langle U|T|^{\frac{1}{2}}x, y \rangle \right| + \|x\| \|y\| \|T\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \|U^*\| \right). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\|U\| = \|U^*\| = 1$ and taking the supremum over all unit vectors $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ such that $\langle x, y \rangle = 0$, we obtain

$$d(T) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(\|T\| + \|T\|^{\frac{1}{2}} d(U|T|^{\frac{1}{2}}) \right),$$

as desired. \square

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