



An application of grand Furuta inequality to a type of operator equation

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Abstract

The existence of positive semidefinite solutions of the operator equation $\sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} = Y$ is investigated by applying grand Furuta inequality. If there exists positive semidefinite solutions of the operator equation, one of the special types of Y is obtained, which extends the related result before. Finally, an example is given based on our result.

Keywords: grand Furuta inequality, operator equation, matrix equation, positive semidefinite operator.

1. Introduction

A capital letter (such as T) means a bounded linear operator on a Hilbert space. $T \geq 0$ and $T > 0$ mean a positive semidefinite operator and a positive definite operator, respectively.

In the middle of last century, E. Heinz et al. studied operator theory and obtained the following famous theorem: **Theorem 1.1** (Löwner-Heinz Inequality, [16] [13]). If $A \geq B \geq 0$, then $A^\alpha \geq B^\alpha$ holds for any $\alpha \in [0, 1]$.

It is essential to notice that Löwner-Heinz inequality does not always hold for $\alpha > 1$.

In 1987, T. Furuta proved the following result which is an important and historical extension of Löwner-Heinz inequality:

Theorem 1.2 (Furuta Inequality, [8]). If $A \geq B \geq 0$, then for each $r \geq 0$,

$$(B^{\frac{r}{2}} A^p B^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{q}} \geq (B^{\frac{r}{2}} B^p B^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{q}}, \tag{1.1}$$

$$(A^{\frac{r}{2}} A^p A^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{q}} \geq (A^{\frac{r}{2}} B^p A^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{q}} \tag{1.2}$$

hold for $p \geq 0, q \geq 1$ with $(1+r)q \geq p+r$.

Afterwards, the studies of the theory of operator inequalities have been developed quickly and some results related to Furuta inequality have been obtained in recent twenty-five years, such as [1, 2, 9, 17, 23, 24, 25]. It is well known that Furuta inequality has many applications. See [3, 5, 11, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 26].

In 1995, T. Furuta showed another operator inequality which interpolates Furuta inequality:

Theorem 1.3 (Grand Furuta Inequality, [9]). If $A \geq B \geq 0$ with $A > 0$, then for each $t \in [0, 1]$ and $p \geq 1$,

$$A^{1-t+r} \geq \{A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}B^pA^{-\frac{t}{2}})^sA^{\frac{r}{2}}\}^{\frac{1-t+r}{(p-t)s+r}} \tag{1.3}$$

holds for $s \geq 1$ and $r \geq t$.

Consequently, some nice proofs of grand Furuta inequality were shown, such as [6] and [10]. K. Tanahashi, in [18], proved that the outer exponent value of (1.3) is the best possible. Later on, the proof was improved by T. Yamazaki and M. Fujii et al. in [19] and [7], respectively.

Recently, T. Furuta proved the following theorem by Furuta inequality:

Theorem 1.4 ([12]). Let m and n be nature numbers. If A and B are a positive definite operator and a positive semidefinite operator, respectively, then there exists positive semidefinite operator solution X satisfying the following operator equation:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} = A^{\frac{nr}{2(m+r)}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^m A^{\frac{n(m-i)}{m+r}} B A^{\frac{n(i-1)}{m+r}} \right) A^{\frac{nr}{2(m+r)}} \tag{1.4}$$

for r such that $\begin{cases} r \geq 0, & \text{if } n \geq m; \\ r \geq \frac{m-n}{n-1}, & \text{if } m \geq n \geq 2. \end{cases}$

Our purpose of the present article is to study the existence of positive semidefinite solution of operator equation $\sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} = Y$ by grand Furuta inequality, and show a more generalized special type of Y than Theorem 1.4. Although we use the same method as in [12], we think that careful argument is required, and a more generalized example, especially the expression of Y , is also required. Therefore, we have this article.

2. Positive semidefinite solutions of an operator equation

Let us recall a useful lemma first.

Lemma 2.1 ([4], [12]). Let A be a positive definite operator and B be a positive semidefinite operator. Let m be a positive integer and $x \geq 0$, then

$$\frac{d}{dx} [(A + xB)^m] \Big|_{x=0} = \sum_{j=1}^m A^{m-j} B A^{j-1}.$$

Now we give the main result as follows,

Theorem 2.1. Let m, n and k be positive integers. If A and B are a positive definite operator and a positive semidefinite operator, respectively, then for each $t \in [0, 1]$, there exists positive semidefinite operator solution X which satisfies the following operator equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} \\ &= A^{\frac{nr}{2[(m-t)k+r]}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^m A^{\frac{n[2(m-t)(k-i)-t+2(m-j)]}{2[(m-t)k+r]}} B A^{\frac{n[2(j-1)-t+2(m-t)(i-1)]}{2[(m-t)k+r]}} \right) A^{\frac{nr}{2[(m-t)k+r]}} \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

for r such that $\begin{cases} r \geq t, & \text{if } (1-t)n \geq (m-t)k; \\ r \geq \max\{\frac{(m-t)k-(1-t)n}{n-1}, t\}, & \text{if } (m-t)k \geq (1-t)n \text{ with } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$

Proof. First, by $A + xB \geq A > 0$ holds for any $x \geq 0$, then $A^{-1} \geq (A + xB)^{-1} > 0$. Replacing A by A^{-1} , B by $(A + xB)^{-1}$, p by m , s by k in (1.3), and taking reverse, we have

$$(A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^k A^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1-t+r}{(m-t)k+r}} \geq A^{1-t+r}. \tag{2.2}$$

For any $\alpha \in [0, 1]$, applying Löwner-Heinz inequality to (2.2), and taking an integer n such that $\frac{1}{n} = \frac{1-t+r}{(m-t)k+r} \cdot \alpha$, then the following inequality is obtained:

$$(A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^k A^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{n}} \geq A^{\frac{(m-t)k+r}{n}}. \tag{2.3}$$

By $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ and the condition of r in grand Furuta inequality, we have to take $r \geq t$ if $(1-t)n \geq (m-t)k$, or $r \geq \max\{\frac{(m-t)k-(1-t)n}{n-1}, t\}$ if $(m-t)k \geq (1-t)n$ with $n \geq 2$.

Put $Y(x) = (A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^k A^{\frac{r}{2}})^{\frac{1}{n}}$. According to (2.3), we have $Y(x) \geq Y(0) = A^{\frac{(m-t)k+r}{n}}$ for any $x \geq 0$. Thus, $Y'(0) \geq 0$. Differentiating $Y^n(x) = A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^k A^{\frac{r}{2}}$, using Lemma 2.1, and taking $x = 0$, the following equality holds.

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d}{dx} [Y^n(x)] \right|_{x=0} &= \sum_{j=1}^n Y(0)^{n-j} Y'(0) Y(0)^{j-1} \\ &= \left. \frac{d}{dx} [A^{\frac{r}{2}}(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^k A^{\frac{r}{2}}] \right|_{x=0} \\ &= A^{\frac{r}{2}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k [(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^{k-i}] \cdot [(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})'] \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot [(A^{-\frac{t}{2}}(A + xB)^m A^{-\frac{t}{2}})^{i-1}] \right\} A^{\frac{r}{2}} \\ &= A^{\frac{r}{2}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k [A^{(m-t)(k-i)} (A^{-\frac{t}{2}} (\sum_{j=1}^m A^{m-j} B A^{j-1}) A^{-\frac{t}{2}}) A^{(m-t)(i-1)}] \right\} A^{\frac{r}{2}} \\ &= A^{\frac{r}{2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^m A^{(m-t)(k-i) - \frac{t}{2} + (m-j)} B A^{(j-1) - \frac{t}{2} + (m-t)(i-1)} \right) A^{\frac{r}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Replacing $Y(0)$ by $A^{\frac{(m-t)k+r}{n}}$, $Y'(0)$ by X , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{j=1}^n A^{\frac{(m-t)k+r}{n}(n-j)} X A^{\frac{(m-t)k+r}{n}(j-1)} \\ &= A^{\frac{r}{2}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=1}^m A^{(m-t)(k-i) - \frac{t}{2} + (m-j)} B A^{(j-1) - \frac{t}{2} + (m-t)(i-1)} \right) A^{\frac{r}{2}}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Replacing A by $A^{\frac{n}{(m-t)k+r}}$ in (2.4), (2.1) is obtained. \square

Remark 2.1. If we take $t = 0$ and $k = 1$ in Theorem 2.1, the theorem is just Theorem 1.4, which is the main result of [12].

Remark 2.2. According to the related result before, if A and Y are positive semidefinite matrices in matrix equation $\sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} = Y$, then X is also a positive semidefinite matrix, see [4]. However, by Theorem 2.1, in some special cases, if Y can be expressed as the right hand of (2.1) without being a positive semidefinite matrix, there still exists positive semidefinite solution satisfying the matrix equation $\sum_{j=1}^n A^{n-j} X A^{j-1} = Y$.

For example, let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \times 2^{\frac{1}{3}} \end{pmatrix}, Y = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \times 2^{\frac{1}{4}} + 6 \times 2^{\frac{3}{4}} \\ 3 \times 2^{\frac{1}{4}} + 6 \times 2^{\frac{3}{4}} & 32 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Although Y is not a positive semidefinite matrix (because its eigenvalues are $\{37.5589\dots, -1.5589\dots\}$), by simple calculation, the solution of the following matrix equation

$$A^2 X + A X A + X A^2 = Y$$

is

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{3} & \frac{3 \times 2^{\frac{1}{4}} + 6 \times 2^{\frac{3}{4}}}{1 + 2 \times 2^{\frac{1}{3}} + 4 \times 2^{\frac{2}{3}}} \\ \frac{3 \times 2^{\frac{1}{4}} + 6 \times 2^{\frac{3}{4}}}{1 + 2 \times 2^{\frac{1}{3}} + 4 \times 2^{\frac{2}{3}}} & \frac{4 \times 2^{\frac{2}{3}}}{3} \end{pmatrix},$$

which is still a definite matrix whose eigenvalues are $\{2.9013 \dots, 0.1119 \dots\}$. The critical reason is that Y can be expressed as follows,

$$Y = A^{\frac{3}{8}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 A^{\frac{3[3(2-i) - \frac{1}{2} + 2(2-j)]}{8}} B A^{\frac{3[2(j-1) - \frac{1}{2} + 3(i-1)]}{8}} \right) A^{\frac{3}{8}},$$

which is the right hand of (2.1) under the condition of $m = 2$, $n = 3$, $k = 2$, $t = \frac{1}{2}$, $r = 1$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

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