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# ON OPERATORS WHICH ARE POWER SIMILAR TO HYPONORMAL OPERATORS

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## Abstract

In this paper, we study power similarity of operators. In particular, we show that if  $T \in PS(H)$  (defined below) for some hyponormal operator  $H$ , then  $T$  is subscalar. From this result, we obtain that such an operator with rich spectrum has a nontrivial invariant subspace. Moreover, we consider invariant and hyperinvariant subspaces for  $T \in PS(H)$ .

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a complex Hilbert space and let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  denote the algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ . As usual, we write  $\sigma(T)$ ,  $\sigma_l(T)$ ,  $\sigma_p(T)$ ,  $\sigma_{ap}(T)$ ,  $\sigma_{re}(T)$ , and  $\sigma_{le}(T)$  for the spectrum, the left spectrum, the point spectrum, the approximate point spectrum, the right essential spectrum, and the left essential spectrum of  $T$ , respectively.

A closed subspace  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$  is called an *invariant subspace* for an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  if  $T\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{M}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is a *hyperinvariant subspace* for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  if  $\mathcal{M}$  is an invariant subspace for every  $S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  commuting with  $T$ .

An operator  $X$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is a *quasiaffinity* if it has trivial kernel and dense range. An operator  $T$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be a *quasiaffine transform* of operator  $S$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  if there is a quasiaffinity  $X$  in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $XT = SX$ , and this relation of  $S$  and  $T$  is denoted by  $T < S$ . If both  $T < S$  and  $S < T$ , then we say that  $S$  and  $T$  are *quasisimilar*.

An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be *p-hyponormal* if  $(TT^*)^p \leq (T^*T)^p$ , where  $0 < p < \infty$ . In particular, 1-hyponormal operators and 1/2-hyponormal operators are called *hyponormal* operators and *semi-hyponormal* operators, respectively. It is well known that

$$\text{hyponormal} \Rightarrow p\text{-hyponormal} \quad (0 < p < 1).$$

An arbitrary operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  has a unique polar decomposition  $T = U|T|$ , where  $|T| = (T^*T)^{1/2}$  and  $U$  is the appropriate partial isometry satisfying  $\ker(U) = \ker(|T|) =$

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$\ker(T)$  and  $\ker(U^*) = \ker(T^*)$ . Associated with  $T$  is a related operator  $|T|^{1/2}U|T|^{1/2}$ , called the *Aluthge transform* of  $T$ , and denoted throughout this paper by  $\hat{T}$ . For an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , the sequence  $\{\hat{T}^{(n)}\}$  of Aluthge iterates of  $T$  is defined by  $\hat{T}^{(0)} = T$  and  $\hat{T}^{(n+1)} = \widehat{\hat{T}^{(n)}}$  for every positive integer  $n$  (see [2], [9], and [10]). We note from [3] that if  $T$  is  $p$ -hyponormal, then  $\hat{T}$  is  $(p + 1/2)$ -hyponormal.

An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *scalar* of order  $m$  if it possesses a spectral distribution of order  $m$ , i.e., if there is a continuous unital morphism of topological algebras

$$\Phi: C_0^m(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$$

such that  $\Phi(z) = T$ , where  $z$  stands for the identical function on  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $C_0^m(\mathbb{C})$  for the space of all compactly supported functions continuously differentiable of order  $m$ ,  $0 \leq m \leq \infty$ . An operator is said to be *subscalar* of order  $m$  if it is similar to the restriction of a scalar operator of order  $m$  to an invariant subspace.

DEFINITION 1.1. Let  $R \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be given. We say that an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is *power similar* to  $R$  if there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $T^n$  is similar to  $R^n$ . In this case, we use the notation  $T \stackrel{ps}{\sim} R$ .

It is easy to check that the relation  $\stackrel{ps}{\sim}$  is an equivalence relation. Indeed, if  $T_1 \stackrel{ps}{\sim} T_2$  and  $T_2 \stackrel{ps}{\sim} T_3$ , then there exist positive integers  $n, m$  and invertible operators  $X, Y$  such that  $XT_1^n = T_2^n X$  and  $YT_2^m = T_3^m Y$ . Let  $s$  be the least common multiplier of  $n$  and  $m$ . Then  $s = nr = mt$  for some integers  $r, t$ . Hence  $YXT_1^s = YXT_1^{nr} = YT_2^{nr}X = YT_2^{mt}X = T_3^{mt}YX = T_3^sYX$ , i.e.,  $T_1 \stackrel{ps}{\sim} T_3$ .

For a fixed operator  $R \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , define the following subset of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ :

$$PS_n(R) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : T^n \text{ is similar to } R^n\}$$

where  $n$  is a positive integer. We observe that the following relations hold:

$$PS_1(R) \subset PS_n(R) \subset PS_{n^2}(R) \subset PS_{n^3}(R) \subset \cdots$$

for each positive integer  $n$ . Set

$$PS(R) := \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} PS_n(R) = \{T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H}) : T \stackrel{ps}{\sim} R\}.$$

We remark that there exists a non-hyponormal operator power similar to a hyponormal operator. For example, let  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be a hyponormal operator and let  $N \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be a nilpotent operator of order  $m > 1$ . Since zero operators are the only nilpotent hyponormal operators, the direct sum  $T := H \oplus N$  is not hyponormal, but  $T \in$

$PS_n(H \oplus 0)$  for any integer  $n \geq m$ . Let's consider another example. Assume that  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  and  $\{\beta_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  are bounded sequences of positive real numbers, and let  $A$  and  $B$  be the weighted shifts in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  with weights  $\{\alpha_k\}$  and  $\{\beta_k\}$ , respectively, that is,  $Ae_k = \alpha_k e_{k+1}$  and  $Be_k = \beta_k e_{k+1}$  for all  $k \geq 0$ , where  $\{e_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ . Suppose that  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is an increasing sequence such that  $\alpha_k \alpha_{k+1} = \beta_k \beta_{k+1}$  holds for each  $k \geq 0$ . Then  $A$  is hyponormal. In addition, we get that

$$\frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_{2k}}{\beta_0 \beta_1 \cdots \beta_{2k}} = \frac{\alpha_0}{\beta_0} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\alpha_0 \alpha_1 \cdots \alpha_{2k+1}}{\beta_0 \beta_1 \cdots \beta_{2k+1}} = 1$$

for all nonnegative integers  $k$ . This implies that  $A$  is similar to  $B$  from [8], and so  $B \in PS_1(A)$ . In this case, we can choose a non-increasing weight sequence  $\{\beta_k\}$  for  $B$ , which ensures that  $B$  is not hyponormal; in particular, if we select the beginning weight  $\beta_0$  satisfying that  $\beta_0^2 > \alpha_0 \alpha_1$ , then  $\beta_0 > \beta_1$  and so  $B$  is a non-hyponormal operator power similar to the hyponormal operator  $A$ . Furthermore, Example 3.17 also gives  $B \in PS_4(A)$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are the weighted shifts with weights  $\{1/3, 1/2, 1, 1, 1, \dots\}$  and  $\{1/6, 1, 1/2, 2, 1/2, 2, \dots\}$ , respectively; here, we observe that  $A$  is hyponormal, but  $B$  is not.

In this paper, we study power similarity of operators. In particular, we show that if  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H$ , then  $T$  is subscalar. From this result, we obtain that such an operator with rich spectrum has a nontrivial invariant subspace. Moreover, we consider invariant and hyperinvariant subspaces for  $T \in PS(H)$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to have the *single-valued extension property*, abbreviated SVEP, if for every open subset  $G$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  and any analytic function  $f: G \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that  $(T - z)f(z) \equiv 0$  on  $G$ , it results  $f(z) \equiv 0$  on  $G$ . For an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , the *resolvent set*  $\rho_T(x)$  of  $T$  at  $x$  is defined to consist of  $z_0$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  such that there exists an analytic function  $f(z)$  on a neighborhood of  $z_0$ , with values in  $\mathcal{H}$ , which verifies  $(T - z)f(z) \equiv x$ . We denote the *local spectrum* of  $T$  at  $x$  by  $\sigma_T(x) = \mathbb{C} \setminus \rho_T(x)$ , and by using local spectra, we define the *local spectral subspace* of  $T$  by  $\mathcal{H}_T(F) = \{x \in \mathcal{H}: \sigma_T(x) \subset F\}$ , where  $F$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{C}$ . An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to have *Dunford's property (C)* if  $\mathcal{H}_T(F)$  is closed for each closed subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ . An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to have *Bishop's property ( $\beta$ )* if for every open subset  $G$  of  $\mathbb{C}$  and every sequence  $f_n: G \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$ -valued analytic functions such that  $(T - z)f_n(z)$  converges uniformly to 0 in norm on compact subsets of  $G$ , then  $f_n(z)$  converges uniformly to 0 in norm on compact subsets of  $G$ . It is well known [13] that

$$\text{Bishop's property } (\beta) \Rightarrow \text{Dunford's property (C)} \Rightarrow \text{SVEP}.$$

For an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and a subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ , we define the *glocal spectral subspace*  $\widetilde{\mathcal{H}}_T(F)$  to consist of all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  such that there is an analytic function  $f: \mathbb{C} \setminus F \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  for

which  $(T - z)f(z) \equiv x$  on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus F$ . Clearly, if  $T$  has the single-valued extension property, then  $\mathcal{H}_T(F) = \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_T(F)$  for any subset  $F$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ . We say that an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  has *property* ( $\delta$ ) if we have the decomposition  $\mathcal{H} = \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_T(\overline{U}) + \widehat{\mathcal{H}}_T(\overline{V})$  for any open cover  $\{U, V\}$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *upper semi-Fredholm* if  $T$  has closed range and  $\dim \ker(T) < \infty$ , and  $T$  is called *lower semi-Fredholm* if  $T$  has closed range and  $\dim(\mathcal{H}/\text{ran}(T)) < \infty$ . When  $T$  is either upper semi-Fredholm or lower semi-Fredholm, it is called *semi-Fredholm*. The *index of a semi-Fredholm operator*  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , denoted  $\text{index}(T)$ , is given by  $\text{index}(T) = \dim \ker(T) - \dim(\mathcal{H}/\text{ran}(T))$  and this value is an integer or  $\pm\infty$ . Also an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be *Fredholm* if it is both upper and lower semi-Fredholm. An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be *Weyl* if it is Fredholm of index zero. For an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , if we can choose the smallest positive integer  $m$  such that  $\ker(T^m) = \ker(T^{m+1})$ , then  $m$  is called *the ascent* of  $T$  and  $T$  is said to have *finite ascent*. Moreover, if there is the smallest positive integer  $n$  satisfying  $\text{ran}(T^n) = \text{ran}(T^{n+1})$ , then  $n$  is called *the descent* of  $T$  and  $T$  is said to have *finite descent*. We say that  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is *Browder* if it is Fredholm of finite ascent and finite descent. We define the Weyl spectrum  $\sigma_w(T)$  and the Browder spectrum  $\sigma_b(T)$  by

$$\sigma_w(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda \text{ is not Weyl}\}$$

and

$$\sigma_b(T) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : T - \lambda \text{ is not Browder}\}.$$

It is evident that

$$\sigma_e(T) \subset \sigma_w(T) \subset \sigma_b(T).$$

We say that *Weyl's theorem holds* for  $T$  if

$$\sigma(T) \setminus \pi_{00}(T) = \sigma_w(T), \quad \text{or equivalently,} \quad \sigma(T) \setminus \sigma_w(T) = \pi_{00}(T)$$

where  $\pi_{00}(T) := \{\lambda \in \text{iso } \sigma(T) : 0 < \dim \ker(T - \lambda) < \infty\}$  and  $\text{iso } \sigma(T)$  denotes the set of all isolated points of  $\sigma(T)$ . We say that *Browder's theorem holds* for  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  if  $\sigma_b(T) = \sigma_w(T)$ .

Let  $z$  be the coordinate function in the complex plane  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $d\mu(z)$  the planar Lebesgue measure. Consider a bounded (connected) open subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ . We shall denote by  $L^2(U, \mathcal{H})$  the Hilbert space of measurable functions  $f: U \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$\|f\|_{2,U} = \left( \int_U \|f(z)\|^2 d\mu(z) \right)^{1/2} < \infty.$$

The space of functions  $f \in L^2(U, \mathcal{H})$  which are analytic functions in  $U$  is denoted by

$$A^2(U, \mathcal{H}) = L^2(U, \mathcal{H}) \cap \mathcal{O}(U, \mathcal{H})$$

where  $\mathcal{O}(U, \mathcal{H})$  denotes the Fréchet space of  $\mathcal{H}$ -valued analytic functions on  $U$  with respect to uniform topology. The space  $A^2(U, \mathcal{H})$  is called *the Bergman space* for  $U$ , and it is a Hilbert space.

Now let us define a special Sobolev type space. Let  $U$  be again a bounded open subset of  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $m$  be a fixed non-negative integer. The vector-valued Sobolev space  $W^m(U, \mathcal{H})$  with respect to  $\bar{\partial}$  and of order  $m$  will be the space of those functions  $f \in L^2(U, \mathcal{H})$  whose derivatives  $\bar{\partial}f, \dots, \bar{\partial}^m f$  in the sense of distributions still belong to  $L^2(U, \mathcal{H})$ . Endowed with the norm

$$\|f\|_{W^m}^2 = \sum_{i=0}^m \|\bar{\partial}^i f\|_{2,U}^2,$$

$W^m(U, \mathcal{H})$  becomes a Hilbert space contained continuously in  $L^2(U, \mathcal{H})$ . Note that the linear operator  $M$  of multiplication by  $z$  on  $W^m(U, \mathcal{H})$  is continuous and it has a spectral distribution  $\Phi_M: C_0^m(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(W^m(U, \mathcal{H}))$  of order  $m$  defined by the following relation:

$$\Phi_M(\varphi)f = \varphi f \quad \text{for } \varphi \in C_0^m(\mathbb{C}) \quad \text{and } f \in W^m(U, \mathcal{H}).$$

Therefore,  $M$  is a scalar operator of order  $m$ .

### 3. Main results

In this section, we first prove that if  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $T$  has scalar extensions.

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $T \in PS_n(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and some positive integer  $n > 1$ , then  $T$  is subscalar of order  $2n$ . Hence, if  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $T$  is subscalar.*

**Proof.** Suppose that  $T \in PS_n(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and some positive integer  $n > 1$ . For any open disk  $D$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  containing  $\sigma(T)$ , define the map  $V: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow H(D)$  by

$$Vh = \widetilde{1 \otimes h} \quad (\equiv 1 \otimes h + \overline{(T - z)W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H})})$$

where  $H(D) := W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H}) / \overline{(T - z)W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H})}$  and  $1 \otimes h$  denotes the constant function sending any  $z \in D$  to  $h$ . Let  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be an invertible operator such that  $T^n = X^{-1}H^nX$ , and let  $h_k \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $f_k \in W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H})$  be sequences such that

$$(1) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(T - z)f_k + 1 \otimes h_k\|_{W^{2n}} = 0.$$

By the definition of the norm of the Sobolev space and (1), we have that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(T - z)\bar{\partial}^i f_k\|_{2,D} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$ , which implies that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(T^n - z^n)\bar{\partial}^i f_k\|_{2,D} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$ . Since  $T^n = X^{-1}H^nX$ , we ensure that

$$(2) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(H^n - z^n)X\bar{\partial}^i f_k\|_{2,D} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(H - z)Q(H, z)X\bar{\partial}^i f_k\|_{2,D} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$  where  $Q(\lambda, z) = \lambda^{n-1} + z\lambda^{n-2} + \dots + z^{n-1}$ . By the fundamental theorem of algebra,

$$Q(\lambda, z) = (\lambda - p_1z) \cdots (\lambda - p_{n-1}z)$$

where  $p_1z, \dots, p_{n-1}z$  list the zeros of  $Q(\lambda, z)$  by multiplicities. Set  $p_n = 1$ . Since each  $p_j$  is nonzero, we obtain from (2) that

$$(3) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \prod_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X\bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2,D} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$ .

**Claim.** *It holds for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$  that*

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \prod_{j=r}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X\bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2,D_r} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-r)+2$ , where  $D_1 = D$  and each  $D_r$  is an open disk containing  $\sigma(T)$  with  $\overline{D_{r+1}} \subset D_r$  for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ .

To prove the claim, we will apply the induction on  $r$ . If  $r = 1$ , then the claim holds clearly by (3). Suppose that the claim is true for some  $r = t < n$ , that is,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \left( \frac{1}{p_t} H - z \right) \prod_{j=t+1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X\bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2,D_t} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-t)+2$ . Since  $(1/p_t)H$  is hyponormal, we obtain from [15, Proposition 2.1] that

$$(4) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| (I - P) \prod_{j=t+1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X\bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2,D_t} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-t-1) + 2$ , where  $P$  denotes the orthogonal projection of  $L^2(D_t, \mathcal{H})$  onto  $A^2(D_t, \mathcal{H})$ . Hence

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \left( \frac{1}{p_t} H - z \right) P \prod_{j=t+1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X \bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2, D_t} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-t-1) + 2$ . Since  $(1/p_t)H$  is hyponormal, it has Bishop's property  $(\beta)$  and so

$$(5) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| P \prod_{j=t+1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X \bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2, D_{t+1}} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-t-1) + 2$ . From (4) and (5) we get that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \prod_{j=t+1}^n \left( \frac{1}{p_j} H - z \right) X \bar{\partial}^i f_k \right\|_{2, D_{t+1}} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2(n-t-1) + 2$ , which completes the proof of our claim.

From the claim with  $r = n$ , we have

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(H - z)X \bar{\partial}^i f_k\|_{2, D_n} = 0$$

for  $i = 1, 2$ . Since  $H$  is hyponormal, it follows from [15, Proposition 2.1] that

$$(6) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|X(I - P)f_k\|_{2, D_n} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(I - P)Xf_k\|_{2, D_n} = 0$$

where  $P$  denotes the orthogonal projection of  $L^2(D_n, \mathcal{H})$  onto  $A^2(D_n, \mathcal{H})$ . Since  $X$  is invertible, it holds that

$$(7) \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(I - P)f_k\|_{2, D_n} = 0.$$

From (1) and (7), we see that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(T - z)Pf_k + (1 \otimes h_k)\|_{2, D_n} = 0.$$

Let  $\Gamma$  be a curve in  $D_n$  surrounding  $\sigma(T)$ . Then

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|Pf_k(z) + (T - z)^{-1}(1 \otimes h_k)\| = 0$$

uniformly for  $z \in \Gamma$ , which yields that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} Pf_k(z) dz + h_k \right\| = 0$$



by Riesz–Dunford functional calculus. Since  $(1/(2\pi i)) \int_{\Gamma} P f_k(z) dz = 0$  by Cauchy's theorem, we have  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|h_k\| = 0$ , which means that the map  $V$  is one-to-one and has closed range.

The class of a vector  $f$  or an operator  $A$  on  $H(D)$  will be denoted by  $\widetilde{f}$ , respectively  $\widetilde{A}$ . Let  $M$  be the multiplication by  $z$  on  $W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H})$ . As noted at the end of section two,  $M$  is a scalar operator of order  $2n$  and has a spectral distribution  $\Phi_M$ . Since  $\overline{(T - z)W^{2n}(D, \mathcal{H})}$  is invariant under  $\Phi_M(\varphi)$  for every  $\varphi \in C_0^{2n}(\mathbb{C})$ ,  $\widetilde{M}$  is a scalar operator of order  $2n$  with spectral distribution  $\widetilde{\Phi_M}$ . Since

$$VTh = \widetilde{1 \otimes Th} = \widetilde{z \otimes h} = \widetilde{M(1 \otimes h)} = \widetilde{M}Vh$$

for every  $h \in \mathcal{H}$ , we get the identity  $VT = \widetilde{M}V$ . In particular,  $\text{ran}(V)$  is invariant for  $\widetilde{M}$ . Furthermore,  $\text{ran}(V)$  is closed by the argument above, and hence  $\text{ran}(V)$  is a closed invariant subspace of the scalar operator  $\widetilde{M}$ . Since  $T$  is similar to the restriction  $\widetilde{M}|_{\text{ran}(V)}$  and  $\widetilde{M}$  is scalar of order  $2n$ , the operator  $T$  is subscalar of order  $2n$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** *Assume that  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $\sigma(T)$  has nonempty interior, then  $T$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.*

*Proof.* The proof follows from Theorem 3.1 and [6].  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** *If  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then the following statements hold.*

- (a)  *$T$  has the single-valued extension property, Dunford's property (C), and Bishop's property ( $\beta$ ).*
- (b) *If  $Q$  is a quasinilpotent operator commuting with  $T$ , then  $T + Q$  has the single-valued extension property.*
- (c) *If  $f$  is any function analytic on a neighborhood of  $\sigma(T)$ , then both Weyl's and Browder's theorems hold for  $f(T)$  and  $\sigma_w(f(T)) = \sigma_b(f(T)) = f(\sigma_w(T)) = f(\sigma_b(T))$ .*
- (d)  *$\sigma(f(T)) - \pi_{00}(f(T)) = f(\sigma(T) - \pi_{00}(T))$  for every analytic function  $f$  on a neighborhood of  $\sigma(T)$ .*

*Proof.* (a) From section two, it suffices to prove that  $T$  has Bishop's property ( $\beta$ ). We note that Bishop's property ( $\beta$ ) is transmitted from an operator to its restrictions to closed invariant subspaces and every scalar operator has Bishop's property ( $\beta$ ) (see [15]). Since  $T$  is subscalar by Theorem 3.1, we complete the proof.

(b) Since  $T$  is subscalar from Theorem 3.1, the proof follows from (a) and [5].

(c) Let  $f$  be any function analytic on a neighborhood of  $\sigma(T)$ . Since  $T$  is subscalar from Theorem 3.1, so is  $f(T)$  and thus Weyl's theorem holds for  $f(T)$  from [1]. Moreover, since  $f(T)$  has the single-valued extension property by [13], Browder's theorem holds for  $f(T)$  and the given equalities are satisfied from [1, Corollary 3.72].

(d) Since both  $T$  and  $f(T)$  satisfy Weyl's theorem by (c), it follows that  $f(\sigma_w(T)) = f(\sigma(T) - \pi_{00}(T))$  and  $\sigma_w(f(T)) = \sigma(f(T)) - \pi_{00}(f(T))$ . Since the identity  $\sigma_w(f(T)) = f(\sigma_w(T))$  holds from (c), we complete the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . Then the operator matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & T \\ I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H}$  has Bishop's property  $(\beta)$ .*

Proof. Set  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a0 & T \\ I & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $A^2 = T \oplus T$  and  $T$  has Bishop's property  $(\beta)$  from Corollary 3.3, we obtain that  $A^2$  has Bishop's property  $(\beta)$ , and so does  $A$  by [13].  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.** *Let  $T_1 \in PS(H_1)$  and  $T_2 \in PS(H_2)$  for some hyponormal operators  $H_1, H_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are quasimilar, then  $\sigma(T_1) = \sigma(T_2)$  and  $\sigma_e(T_1) = \sigma_e(T_2)$ .*

Proof. Since  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  have Bishop's property  $(\beta)$  by Corollary 3.3, the proof follows from [16].  $\square$

If  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , then  $\{T^n x\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is called the orbit of  $x$  under  $T$ , and is denoted by  $\mathcal{O}(x, T)$ . If  $\mathcal{O}(x, T)$  is dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ , then  $x$  is called a hypercyclic vector for  $T$ . If there exists a hypercyclic vector  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be hypercyclic. An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called hypertransitive if every nonzero vector in  $\mathcal{H}$  is hypercyclic for  $T$ . Denote the set of all nonhypertransitive operators in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  by  $(NHT)$ . The hypertransitive operator problem is the open question whether  $(NHT) = \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ .

**Proposition 3.6.** *If  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $T$  is nonhypertransitive. In particular, if  $T$  is invertible, then  $T$  and  $T^{-1}$  have a common nontrivial invariant closed subset.*

Proof. Since  $H$  is not hypercyclic, any power of  $H$  is not hypercyclic by [4]. Since  $T^n$  is similar to  $H^n$  for some positive integer  $n$ , we obtain that  $T^n$  is not hypercyclic, and neither is  $T$  by [4]. Therefore  $T$  is nonhypertransitive. In addition, the second result follows from the first statement and [11].  $\square$

**Corollary 3.7.** *Let  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $\sigma_T(x) \cap \mathbb{D} \neq \emptyset$  and  $\sigma_T(x) \cap (\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}) \neq \emptyset$  for every nonzero  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ , where  $\mathbb{D}$  stands for the open unit disk in  $\mathbb{C}$ , then  $T^*$  is hypercyclic.*

Proof. Suppose that  $\sigma_T(x) \cap \mathbb{D} \neq \emptyset$  and  $\sigma_T(x) \cap (\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}}) \neq \emptyset$  for all nonzero  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . Then we get that  $\mathcal{H}_T(\mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{D}) = \{0\}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_T(\mathbb{D}) = \{0\}$ . Since  $T$  has Bishop's property  $(\beta)$  by Corollary 3.3,  $T^*$  has property  $(\delta)$ . Thus, by [13, Proposition 2.5.14], we can infer that both  $\mathcal{H}_{T^*}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\mathcal{H}_{T^*}(\mathbb{C} \setminus \overline{\mathbb{D}})$  are dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ . By using [7, Theorem 3.2],  $T^*$  is hypercyclic.  $\square$

In the following proposition, we give some spectral properties under power similarity to a hyponormal operator. An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is called *quasitriangular* if there is a sequence  $\{P_k\}$  of finite rank orthogonal projections on  $\mathcal{H}$  converging strongly to the identity operator  $I$  on  $\mathcal{H}$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|(I - P_k)T P_k\| = 0$ . When both  $T$  and  $T^*$  are quasitriangular, we say that *biquasitriangular*.

**Proposition 3.8.** *If  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then the following statements hold.*

- (a)  $\sigma_{ap}(T)^* \subset \sigma_{ap}(T^*) = \sigma_l(T^*) = \sigma(T^*)$ .
- (b)  $T$  is invertible if and only if  $T$  is right invertible.
- (c) Suppose that  $T$  is not a scalar multiple of the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H}$ . If  $T$  has no nontrivial invariant subspace, then  $T$  is biquasitriangular.
- (d)  $T$  has finite ascent.

Proof. (a) Since  $T$  has the single-valued extension property from Corollary 3.3, we have  $\sigma(T^*) = \sigma_{ap}(T^*)$  (see [1] or [13]). Hence it holds that

$$\sigma_{ap}(T)^* \subset \sigma(T)^* = \sigma(T^*) = \sigma_{ap}(T^*) = \sigma_l(T^*).$$

(b) The proof follows from (a); indeed,  $\sigma_r(T) = \sigma_l(T^*)^* = \sigma(T^*)^* = \sigma(T)$ .

(c) Since  $T$  has no nontrivial invariant subspace, then  $\sigma_p(T^*) = \emptyset$ . Thus  $T^*$  has the single-valued extension property. Since both  $T$  and  $T^*$  have the single-valued extension property, we conclude from [12] that  $T$  is biquasitriangular.

(d) If  $T \in PS(H)$ , then  $T^n = X^{-1}H^nX$  for some positive integer  $n$ . It suffices to show the inclusion  $\ker(T^{n+1}) \subset \ker(T^n)$ . If  $x \in \ker(T^{n+1})$ , then  $T^{2n}x = 0$  and  $H^{2n}Xx = 0$  since  $T^{2n} = X^{-1}H^{2n}X$ . By the hyponormality of  $H$ , it holds that  $\ker(H) = \ker(H^2)$ , which implies that  $H^nXx = 0$  and so  $T^n x = 0$ . Thus  $\ker(T^{n+1}) \subset \ker(T^n)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.9.** *If  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $\ker(T) \cap \text{ran}(T^n) = \{0\}$  for some positive integer  $n$ .*

Proof. If  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , then we obtain from Proposition 3.8 that  $\ker(T^n) = \ker(T^{n+1})$  for some positive integer  $n$ . If  $y \in \ker(T) \cap \text{ran}(T^n)$ , then  $Ty = 0$  and  $y = T^n x$  for some  $x \in \mathcal{H}$ . This implies that  $T^{n+1}x = Ty = 0$ . Since  $x \in \ker(T^{n+1}) = \ker(T^n)$ , we have  $y = T^n x = 0$ . Hence  $\ker(T) \cap \text{ran}(T^n) = \{0\}$ .  $\square$

In the following proposition, we show that the translation invariant property does not hold in  $PS_n(H)$ , in general.

**Proposition 3.10.** *Let  $T, H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . Then  $T \in PS_1(H)$  if and only if there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $T - \lambda \in PS_n(H - \lambda)$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .*

**Proof.** If there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $T - \lambda \in PS_n(H - \lambda)$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , then we can choose an invertible operator  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $(T - \lambda)^n = X^{-1}(H - \lambda)^n X$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , which implies that

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{n-k} T^k = X^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{n-k} H^k \right) X$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Since both sides are  $(-1)^n \lambda^n$  when  $k = 0$ , we obtain the following equation:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{n-k} T^k = X^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{n-k} H^k \right) X$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Dividing both sides by  $\lambda^{n-1}$  when  $\lambda \neq 0$ , we get that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{1-k} T^k + (-1)^{n-1} T \\ &= X^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^{n-k} \lambda^{1-k} H^k \right) X + X^{-1} ((-1)^{n-1} H) X \end{aligned}$$

for all nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . Set  $\lambda = r e^{i\theta}$  with  $r > 0$  and real  $\theta$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^{n-k} \frac{e^{i(1-k)\theta}}{r^{k-1}} T^k + (-1)^{n-1} T \\ &= X^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^{n-k} \frac{e^{i(1-k)\theta}}{r^{k-1}} H^k \right) X + X^{-1} ((-1)^{n-1} H) X \end{aligned}$$

for all  $r > 0$  and all real  $\theta$ . Letting  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , we have  $T = X^{-1} H X$ . Hence  $T \in PS_1(H)$ .

Conversely, if  $T \in PS_1(H)$ , then  $T - \lambda \in PS_1(H - \lambda)$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

We say that  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  has *Dunford's boundedness condition (B)* if  $T$  has the single-valued extension property and there exists a constant  $K > 0$  such that  $\|x\| \leq K \|x + y\|$  whenever  $\sigma_T(x) \cap \sigma_T(y) = \emptyset$ , where  $K$  is independent of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Proposition 3.11.** *Let  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $T$  has the property that  $\sigma_T(P_F(x)) \subset \sigma_T(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  and each closed set  $F$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  where  $P_F$  denotes the orthogonal projection of  $\mathcal{H}$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_T(F)$ , then it has Dunford's boundedness condition (B).*

**Proof.** Since  $T$  has Dunford's property (C) by Corollary 3.3,  $\mathcal{H}_T(F)$  is closed. Let  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{H}$  be such that  $\sigma_T(x_1) \cap \sigma_T(x_2) = \emptyset$ . Set  $F_j = \sigma_T(x_j)$  for  $j = 1, 2$ .

By the hypothesis, we have  $\sigma_T(P_{F_2}x_1) \subset \sigma_T(x_1) = F_1$ . Moreover, it is obvious that  $\sigma_T(P_{F_2}x_1) \subset F_2$ . Hence

$$\sigma_T(P_{F_2}x_1) \subset F_1 \cap F_2 = \sigma_T(x_1) \cap \sigma_T(x_2) = \emptyset.$$

Since  $T$  has the single-valued extension property from Corollary 3.3, we get that  $P_{F_2}x_1 = 0$ . This means that  $x_1 \perp \mathcal{H}_T(F_2)$ . But since  $\sigma_T(x_2) = F_2$ , it holds that  $x_2 \in \mathcal{H}_T(F_2)$  and so  $\langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = 0$ . This implies that

$$\|x_1 + x_2\| = (\|x_1\|^2 + \|x_2\|^2)^{1/2} \geq \|x_1\|,$$

which completes our proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.12.** *Let  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $T \neq \lambda I$  for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . If there exists  $x \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\sigma_T(x) \subsetneq \sigma(T)$ , then  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace.*

*Proof.* If there exists a nonzero vector  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $\sigma_T(x) \subsetneq \sigma(T)$ , set

$$\mathcal{M} := \mathcal{H}_T(\sigma_T(x)), \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \mathcal{M} = \{y \in \mathcal{H} : \sigma_T(y) \subset \sigma_T(x)\}.$$

Since  $T$  has Dunford's property (C) by Corollary 3.3,  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $T$ -hyperinvariant subspace from [13]. Since  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ , we get that  $\mathcal{M} \neq \{0\}$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{H}$ . Since  $T$  has the single-valued extension property, it follows that

$$\sigma(T) = \bigcup \{\sigma_T(y) : y \in \mathcal{H}\} \subset \sigma_T(x) \subsetneq \sigma(T).$$

But this is a contradiction, and hence  $\mathcal{M}$  is a nontrivial  $T$ -hyperinvariant subspace.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.13.** *Let  $T \in PS(H)$  for some hyponormal operator  $H \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  with  $T \neq \lambda I$  for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . If there exists  $x \in \mathcal{H} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $\|T^n x\| \leq Cr^n$  for all positive integers  $n$ , where  $C > 0$  and  $0 < r < r(T)$  are constants, then  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace.*

*Proof.* Put  $f(z) := -\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} z^{-(n+1)} T^n x$ , which is analytic for  $|z| > r$ ; in fact,  $\omega = z^{-1}$  for  $|z| > r$ , then  $f(\omega) = -\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \omega^{n+1} T^n x$  for  $0 < |\omega| < 1/r$ . Since the hypothesis implies that  $\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T^n x\|^{1/n} \leq r$ , the radius of convergence for the power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \omega^{n+1} T^n x$  is at least  $1/r$ . Setting  $f(0) := 0$ , we get that  $f(\omega)$  is analytic for  $|\omega| < 1/r$ , i.e.,  $f(z)$  is analytic for  $|z| > r$ . Since

$$(T - z)f(z) = -\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} z^{-(n+1)} T^{n+1} x + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} z^{-n} T^n x = x$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|z| > r$ , we have  $\rho_T(x) \supset \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| > r\}$ , i.e.,

$$\sigma_T(x) \subset \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| \leq r\}.$$

Since  $r < r(T)$ , it holds that  $\sigma_T(x) \subsetneq \sigma(T)$ . Thus, we conclude from Lemma 3.12 that  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace.  $\square$

Finally, we consider a special case of power similarity.

**Proposition 3.14.** *Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ . Suppose that  $R \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is an operator satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a)  $T^n = R^n$ ,
- (b)  $T^{n-2}R = R^{n-1}$ ,  $R^{n-2}T = T^{n-1}$ , and
- (c)  $T^{n-1} + R^{n-1} \neq 0$

*for some positive integer  $n \geq 2$ . If  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace, then  $R$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R$  has no nontrivial invariant subspace. Then  $T$  and  $R$  have no common nontrivial invariant subspace. Define  $A = T^{n-1} + R^{n-1}$  for some positive integer  $n \geq 2$ . Then we have  $AT = (T^{n-1} + R^{n-1})T = T^n + R^{n-1}T$  and  $RA = R(T^{n-1} + R^{n-1}) = RT^{n-1} + R^n$ . Since  $R^{n-1}T = RR^{n-2}T = RT^{n-1}$ , we get that  $AT = RA$ . Similarly,  $AR = TA$  holds. By [14, Lemma],  $A = 0$  or  $A$  is a quasiaffinity. However,  $A$  is nonzero by (c), and so it should be a quasiaffinity. This implies that  $T$  and  $R$  are quasisimilar. Since  $T$  has nontrivial a hyperinvariant subspace by hypothesis, [17, Theorem 6.19] implies that  $R$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace. So we have a contradiction. Hence  $R$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.  $\square$

As some applications of Proposition 3.14, we get the following corollaries.

**Corollary 3.15.** *Under the same hypotheses as in Proposition 3.14, if  $T$  is a normal operator that is not a scalar multiple of the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  or  $T$  is nonzero and is not a quasiaffinity, then  $R$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.*

*Proof.* If  $T$  satisfies the first condition, then  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace by [17, Corollary 1.17]. If  $T$  is nonzero and is not a quasiaffinity, then  $\sigma_p(T) \cup \sigma_p(T^*) \neq \emptyset$ , and so  $T$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace. Hence, in both cases,  $R$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace from Proposition 3.14.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.16.** *Let  $A \in PS_2(B)$  for some  $B \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$ , i.e., there exists an invertible operator  $X$  such that  $A^2 = X^{-1}B^2X$ , and  $XAX^{-1} + B \neq 0$ . If  $B$  has a nontrivial hyperinvariant subspace, then  $A$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.*

Proof. Since  $B^2 = XA^2X^{-1} = (XAX^{-1})^2$ , taking  $R = XAX^{-1}$  and  $T = B$  in Proposition 3.14, we obtain that  $A$  has a nontrivial invariant subspace.  $\square$

We observe that even if  $T$  is hyponormal in Proposition 3.14, it is not necessary that  $R$  is hyponormal from the following examples.

EXAMPLE 3.17. Let  $A$  and  $B$  be weighted shifts defined by  $Ae_k = \alpha_k e_{k+1}$  and  $Be_k = \beta_k e_{k+1}$  with positive weight sequences  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  and  $\{\beta_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$ . Note that  $A$  and  $B$  satisfy the conditions in Proposition 3.14 if and only if

$$(8) \quad \begin{cases} \alpha_k \alpha_{k+1} \cdots \alpha_{k+n-1} = \beta_k \beta_{k+1} \cdots \beta_{k+n-1}, \\ \alpha_{k+1} \alpha_{k+2} \cdots \alpha_{k+n-2} = \beta_{k+1} \beta_{k+2} \cdots \beta_{k+n-2} \end{cases}$$

for all nonnegative integers  $k$ . In particular, we note that if  $A$  and  $B$  satisfy the conditions in Proposition 3.14 for  $n = 3$ , then they must be the same by (8).

Let  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^\infty = \{1/3, 1/2, 1, 1, 1, \dots\}$  and  $\{\beta_k\}_{k=0}^\infty = \{1/6, 1, 1/2, 2, 1/2, 2, \dots\}$ . Then equation (8) holds for  $n = 4$ . Hence, we obtain that  $A$  and  $B$  satisfy all conditions in Proposition 3.14 for  $n = 4$ . Since  $\{\alpha_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is increasing but  $\{\beta_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is not, we conclude that  $A$  is hyponormal, while  $B$  is not.

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