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Further refinements of reversed AM–GM operator inequalities

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Abstract

In this paper, we shall give further improvements of reversed AM–GM operator inequalities due to Yang et al. (Math. Slovaca 69:919–930, 2019) for matrices and positive linear map.

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1 Introduction

Throughout this paper, let m, M be scalars and I be the identity operator. Other capital letters are used to denote the general elements of the C^* algebra $B(\mathcal{H})$ of all bounded linear operators acting on a Hilbert space $(\mathcal{H}, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle)$. Also $A \geq 0$ means that the operator A is positive. We say that $A \geq B$ ($A \leq B$) if $A - B \geq 0$ ($A - B \leq 0$). A linear map $\Phi : B(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is called positive (strictly positive) if $\Phi(A) \geq 0$ ($\Phi(A) > 0$) whenever $A \geq 0$ ($A > 0$), and Φ is said to be unital if $\Phi(I) = I$.

If $A, B \in B(\mathcal{H})$ are two positive operators, then the operator weighted arithmetic and geometric means are defined as $A \nabla_{\nu} B = (1 - \nu)A + \nu B$ and $A \sharp_{\nu} B = A^{\frac{1}{2}}(A^{-\frac{1}{2}}BA^{-\frac{1}{2}})^{\nu}A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ for $\nu \in [0, 1]$, respectively, denoted by $A \nabla B$ and $A \sharp B$ for brevity when $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$. The Kantorovich constant is defined by $K(t, 2) = \frac{(t+1)^2}{4t}$ for $t > 0$. What's more, the relative operator entropy of A and B is defined as $S(A|B) = A^{\frac{1}{2}} \log(A^{-\frac{1}{2}}BA^{-\frac{1}{2}})A^{\frac{1}{2}}$. For $A = (a_{ij}) \in M_n$, the Hilbert–Schmidt norm is defined by $\|A\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}^2}$. As we all know that $\|\cdot\|_2$ has the unitary invariance property: $\|UAV\|_2 = \|A\|_2$ for all $A \in M_n$ and unitary matrices $U, V \in M_n$. The singular values of a matrix A is defined by $s_j(A)$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$, and arranged in a non-increasing order.

It is well known that the AM–GM inequality reads

$$\frac{A+B}{2} \geq A \sharp B \tag{1.1}$$

for any two positive operators A, B .

Lin [10] gave a reversed AM–GM inequality involving unital positive linear maps

$$\Phi\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq K(h, 2)\Phi(A \sharp B) \tag{1.2}$$

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for $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$ and $K(h, 2) = \frac{(h+1)^2}{4h}$ with $h = \frac{M}{m}$.

As we all know, for any two positive operators A and B ,

$$A \geq B \quad \nRightarrow \quad A^p \geq B^p \tag{1.3}$$

for $p > 1$. To our surprise, Lin [10] showed that a reversed version of the operator AM–GM inequality can be squared: for $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$,

$$\Phi^2\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^2 \Phi^2(A\sharp B) \tag{1.4}$$

and

$$\Phi^2\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^2 (\Phi(A)\sharp\Phi(B))^2, \tag{1.5}$$

where Φ is a unital positive linear map. So we can easily get the following inequalities by Lemma 2.8 (L–H inequality):

$$\Phi^p\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^p \Phi^p(A\sharp B) \tag{1.6}$$

and

$$\Phi^p\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^p (\Phi(A)\sharp\Phi(B))^p \tag{1.7}$$

for $0 \leq p \leq 2$. Fu and He [5] generalized (1.6) and (1.7) for $p \geq 2$,

$$\Phi^p\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4^{\frac{p}{2}}Mm}\right)^p \Phi^p(A\sharp B) \tag{1.8}$$

and

$$\Phi^p\left(\frac{A+B}{2}\right) \leq \left(\frac{(M+m)^2}{4^{\frac{p}{2}}Mm}\right)^p (\Phi(A)\sharp\Phi(B))^p, \tag{1.9}$$

where $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$. Bakherad [2] further improved (1.6)–(1.9) as follows:

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + 2rMm(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) \tag{1.10}$$

and

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + 2rMm(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p (\Phi(A)\sharp_\nu\Phi(B))^p \tag{1.11}$$

for $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI, p \geq 0, \alpha = \max\{\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}, \frac{(M+m)^2}{4^{\frac{p}{2}}Mm}\}, \nu \in [0, 1], r = \min\{\nu, 1 - \nu\}$ and Φ being a unital positive linear map.

Recently, Yang et al. [12] gave some further refinements to the above:

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + Mm(G(A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1})G^* + 2r(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}))) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) \tag{1.12}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + Mm(G(A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1})G^* + 2r(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}))) \\ & \leq \alpha^p(\Phi(A)\sharp_\nu\Phi(B))^p, \end{aligned} \tag{1.13}$$

where $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$, Φ is a positive unital linear map on $B(\mathcal{H})$, $\nu \in [0, 1]$ and $p > 0$, $r = \min\{\nu, 1 - \nu\}$, $\alpha = \max\{\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}, \frac{(M+m)^2}{4^\frac{p}{2}Mm}\}$, $G = \frac{\sqrt{L(2\nu)}}{2}A^{-1}S(A|B)$, $L(t)$ is 1-periodic, and $L(t) = \frac{t^2}{2}(\frac{1-t}{t})^{2t}$ for $t \in [0, 1]$. In fact, we can get (1.10) from (1.12) and (1.11) from (1.13) when $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$, respectively. For more information about AM–GM operator inequalities, we refer the readers to [9, 11, 13–18] and the references therein.

In this paper, we shall give further improvements of (1.12) and (1.13) for positive linear maps. We also give some inequalities for Hilbert–Schmidt norms and determinants.

2 Main results

Firstly, we give some further refinements of the corresponding results in [12] for scalars and Hilbert–Schmidt norms. Before that, we state a lemma.

Lemma 2.1 ([7]) *Let $a, b > 0$. Then*

$$(1 + L(\nu)(\log a - \log b)^2)a^{1-\nu}b^\nu \leq (1 - \nu)a + \nu b, \tag{2.1}$$

where

$$L(\nu) = \begin{cases} \frac{\nu^2}{2}(\frac{1-\nu}{\nu})^{2\nu}, & 0 < \nu < 1, \\ 0, & \nu = 0, 1. \end{cases}$$

Theorem 2.2 *Let $a, b > 0$, $\nu \in [0, 1]$, $Q(\nu) = \frac{L(8\nu)}{64}(\log \frac{b}{a})^2$. We have:*

(1) *If $r = \min\{4\nu, 1 - 4\nu\}$ and $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{4}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + Q(\nu))a^{1-\nu}b^\nu + \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + 2\nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ & \leq (1 - \nu)a + \nu b; \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

(2) *If $r = \min\{2 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 1\}$ and $\frac{1}{4} \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + Q(\nu))a^{1-\nu}b^\nu + \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + (1 - 2\nu)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt[4]{ab} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ & \leq (1 - \nu)a + \nu b; \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

(3) *If $r = \min\{3 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 2\}$ and $\frac{1}{2} \leq \nu \leq \frac{3}{4}$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + Q(\nu))a^{1-\nu}b^\nu + (1 - \nu)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + (2\nu - 1)(\sqrt{b} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt[4]{ab} - \sqrt[8]{ab^3})^2 \\ & \leq (1 - \nu)a + \nu b; \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

(4) *If $r = \min\{4 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 3\}$ and $\frac{3}{4} \leq \nu \leq 1$, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + Q(\nu))a^{1-\nu}b^\nu + (1 - \nu)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 + (2 - 2\nu)(\sqrt{b} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt{b} - \sqrt[8]{ab^3})^2 \\ & \leq (1 - \nu)a + \nu b. \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

Proof (1) When $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{8}$, then $r = 4\nu$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \nu)a + \nu b - \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 - 2\nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 - r(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ &= (1 - 8\nu)a + 8\nu a^{\frac{7}{8}} b^{\frac{1}{8}} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu \quad (\text{by (2.1)}). \end{aligned}$$

When $\frac{1}{8} \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{4}$, then $r = 1 - 4\nu$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \nu)a + \nu b - \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 - 2\nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 - r(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ &= (2 - 8\nu)a^{\frac{7}{8}} b^{\frac{1}{8}} + (8\nu - 1)a^{\frac{3}{4}} b^{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu - 1)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equality from $L(\nu)$ is a 1-periodic function and $L(\nu) = L(1 - \nu)$ for $\nu \in [0, 1]$.

(2) When $\frac{1}{4} \leq \nu \leq \frac{3}{8}$, then $r = 4\nu - 1$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \nu)a + \nu b - \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 - (1 - 2\nu)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 - r(\sqrt[4]{ab} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ &= (3 - 8\nu)a^{\frac{3}{4}} b^{\frac{1}{4}} + (8\nu - 2)a^{\frac{5}{8}} b^{\frac{3}{8}} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu - 2)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu. \end{aligned}$$

When $\frac{3}{8} \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then $r = 2 - 4\nu$, and

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 - \nu)a + \nu b - \nu(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 - (1 - 2\nu)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt[4]{ab})^2 - r(\sqrt[4]{ab} - \sqrt[8]{a^3b})^2 \\ &= (4 - 8\nu)a^{\frac{5}{8}} b^{\frac{3}{8}} a^{\frac{1}{2}} b^{\frac{1}{2}} + (8\nu - 3)a^{\frac{1}{2}} b^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\geq \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu - 3)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu \\ &= \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{64} \left(\log \frac{b}{a}\right)^2\right) a^{1-\nu} b^\nu. \end{aligned}$$

Here, we completed the proof of Theorem 2.2 when $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Substituting a by b and ν by $1 - \nu$ in (2.2) and (2.3), we can get (2.4) and (2.5) easily, so we omit the details. \square

The following corollary is a direct consequence of Theorem 2.2 by substituting a by a^2 and b by b^2 .

Corollary 2.3 *Let $a, b > 0, \nu \in [0, 1], F(\nu) = \frac{L(8\nu)}{16}(\log \frac{b}{a})^2$. We have:*

(1) If $r = \min\{4v, 1 - 4v\}$ and $0 \leq v \leq \frac{1}{4}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + F(v))(a^{1-v}b^v)^2 + v^2(a - b)^2 + 2v(a - \sqrt{ab})^2 + r(a - \sqrt[4]{a^3b})^2 \\ & \leq ((1 - v)a + vb)^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

(2) If $r = \min\{2 - 4v, 4v - 1\}$ and $\frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + F(v))(a^{1-v}b^v)^2 + v^2(a - b)^2 + (1 - 2v)(a - \sqrt{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt{ab} - \sqrt[4]{a^3b})^2 \\ & \leq ((1 - v)a + vb)^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

(3) If $r = \min\{3 - 4v, 4v - 2\}$ and $\frac{1}{2} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{4}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + F(v))(a^{1-v}b^v)^2 + (1 - v)^2(a - b)^2 + (2v - 1)(b - \sqrt{ab})^2 + r(\sqrt{ab} - \sqrt[4]{ab^3})^2 \\ & \leq ((1 - v)a + vb)^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

(4) If $r = \min\{4 - 4v, 4v - 3\}$ and $\frac{3}{4} \leq v \leq 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & (1 + F(v))(a^{1-v}b^v)^2 + (1 - v)^2(a - b)^2 + (2 - 2v)(b - \sqrt{ab})^2 + r(b - \sqrt[4]{ab^3})^2 \\ & \leq ((1 - v)a + vb)^2. \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

Theorem 2.4 Let $A, B, X \in M_n$ be such that $0 < mI \leq A \leq m'I < M'I \leq B \leq MI$, $h = \frac{M'}{m}$, $W(v) = \frac{L(8v)}{16}(\log h)^2$. We have:

(1) If $r = \min\{4v, 1 - 4v\}$ and $0 \leq v \leq \frac{1}{4}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(1 - v)AX + vXB\|_2^2 \\ & \geq v^2\|AX - XB\|_2^2 + 2v\|AX - A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \\ & \quad + r\|AX - A^{\frac{3}{4}}XB^{\frac{1}{4}}\|_2^2 + (1 + W(v))\|A^{1-v}XB^v\|_2^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

(2) If $r = \min\{2 - 4v, 4v - 1\}$ and $\frac{1}{4} \leq v \leq \frac{1}{2}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(1 - v)AX + vXB\|_2^2 \\ & \geq v^2\|AX - XB\|_2^2 + (1 - 2v)\|AX - A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \\ & \quad + r\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} - A^{\frac{3}{4}}XB^{\frac{1}{4}}\|_2^2 + (1 + W(v))\|A^{1-v}XB^v\|_2^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

(3) If $r = \min\{3 - 4v, 4v - 2\}$ and $\frac{1}{2} \leq v \leq \frac{3}{4}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(1 - v)AX + vXB\|_2^2 \\ & \geq (1 - v)^2\|AX - XB\|_2^2 + (2v - 1)\|XB - A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}}\|_2^2 \\ & \quad + r\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} - A^{\frac{3}{4}}XB^{\frac{1}{4}}\|_2^2 + (1 + W(v))\|A^{1-v}XB^v\|_2^2; \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

(4) If $r = \min\{4 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 3\}$ and $\frac{3}{4} \leq \nu \leq 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (1 - \nu)AX + \nu XB \|_2^2 \\ & \geq (1 - \nu)^2 \| AX - XB \|_2^2 + (2 - 2\nu) \| XB - A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} \|_2^2 \\ & \quad + r \| XB - A^{\frac{1}{4}}XB^{\frac{3}{4}} \|_2^2 + (1 + W(\nu)) \| A^{1-\nu}XB^\nu \|_2^2. \end{aligned} \tag{2.13}$$

Proof Since A and B are strictly positive-definite matrices, it follows by the spectral decomposition theorem that there exist unitary matrices $U, V \in M_n$, such that $A = U\Lambda_1U^*$, $B = V\Lambda_2V^*$, where $\Lambda_1 = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)$, $\Lambda_2 = \text{diag}(\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n)$ with $\lambda_i > 0$, $\eta_i > 0$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (1 - \nu)AX + \nu XB \|_2^2 \\ & = \sum_{i,j=1}^n ((1 - \nu)\lambda_i + \nu\eta_j)^2 |y_{ij}|^2 \\ & \geq \sum_{i,j=1}^n \left\{ \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{16} \min(\log t_{ij})^2 \right) (\lambda_i^{1-\nu}\eta_j^\nu)^2 + \nu^2(\lambda_i - \eta_j)^2 + 2\nu(\lambda_i - \sqrt{\lambda_i\eta_j})^2 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + r(\lambda_i - \sqrt[4]{\lambda_i^3\eta_j})^2 \right\} |y_{ij}|^2 \quad (\text{by (2.6)}) \\ & = \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{16} \min(\log t_{ij})^2 \right) \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i^{1-\nu}\eta_j^\nu)^2 |y_{ij}|^2 + \nu^2 \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \eta_j)^2 |y_{ij}|^2 \\ & \quad + 2\nu \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \sqrt{\lambda_i\eta_j})^2 |y_{ij}|^2 + r \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \sqrt[4]{\lambda_i^3\eta_j})^2 |y_{ij}|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where $t_{ij} = \frac{\lambda_i}{\eta_j}$.

Due to the conditions $0 < m \leq A \leq m' < M' \leq B \leq M$, $\frac{m}{M} \leq t_{ij} = \frac{\lambda_i}{\eta_j} \leq \frac{m'}{M'} = \frac{1}{h}$ and the monotonicity of the function $f(x) = \log x$ ($0 < x \leq 1$), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (1 - \nu)AX + \nu XB \|_2^2 \\ & \geq \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{16} (\log h)^2 \right) \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i^{1-\nu}\eta_j^\nu)^2 |y_{ij}|^2 + \nu^2 \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \eta_j)^2 |y_{ij}|^2 \\ & \quad + 2\nu \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \sqrt{\lambda_i\eta_j})^2 |y_{ij}|^2 + r \sum_{i,j=1}^n (\lambda_i - \sqrt[4]{\lambda_i^3\eta_j})^2 |y_{ij}|^2 \\ & = \left(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{16} (\log h)^2 \right) \| A^{1-\nu}XB^\nu \|_2^2 + \nu^2 \| AX - XB \|_2^2 + 2\nu \| AX - A^{\frac{1}{2}}XB^{\frac{1}{2}} \|_2^2 \\ & \quad + r \| AX - A^{\frac{3}{4}}XB^{\frac{1}{4}} \|_2^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we completed the proof of (2.10). Using the same method, we can get (2.11)–(2.13) by (2.7)–(2.9), respectively, so we omit the details. □

Next, we give further improvements of (1.12) and (1.13) for positive linear maps. But first, let us present the following lemmas that will be useful later.

Lemma 2.5 ([1]) *Let Φ be a unital positive linear map, A, B be positive operators, and $\nu \in [0, 1]$. Then*

$$\Phi(A\sharp_{\nu}B) \leq \Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B). \tag{2.14}$$

Lemma 2.6 ([2]) *Let $A, B \geq 0$ and $\alpha > 0$. Then*

$$\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \alpha^{\frac{1}{2}} \text{ iff } A \leq \alpha B. \tag{2.15}$$

Lemma 2.7 ([4]) *Let $A, B \geq 0$. Then the following norm inequality holds:*

$$\|AB\| \leq \frac{1}{4}\|A + B\|^2. \tag{2.16}$$

Lemma 2.8 (L–H inequality, [8]) *If $0 \leq p \leq 1$ and $A \geq B \geq 0$, then*

$$A^p \geq B^p. \tag{2.17}$$

Lemma 2.9 ([1]) *Let $A, B \geq 0$. Then for $1 \leq p < +\infty$,*

$$\|A^p + B^p\| \leq \|(A + B)^p\|. \tag{2.18}$$

Lemma 2.10 (Choi inequality, [3]) *Let Φ be a unital positive linear map and $A > 0$. Then*

$$\Phi(A)^{-1} \leq \Phi(A^{-1}). \tag{2.19}$$

Theorem 2.11 *Let $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$, $\alpha = \max\{\frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm}, \frac{(M+m)^2}{4^{\frac{p}{2}}Mm}\}$, $p \geq 0$, and $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{4}$. For every positive unital linear map Φ , we have*

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_{\nu}B) \tag{2.20}$$

and

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p (\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^p, \tag{2.21}$$

where $J(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) = 2\nu(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + 2\nu(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}}B^{-1})) + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}}B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{8}}B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_{\nu}B^{-1}G$ for $G = \frac{\sqrt{L(8\nu)}}{8}AS(A^{-1}|B^{-1})$.

Proof For $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI$, we have

$$(M - A)(A - m)A^{-1} \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (M - B)(B - m)B^{-1} \geq 0,$$

that is,

$$A + MmA^{-1} \leq M + m \quad \text{and} \quad B + MmB^{-1} \leq M + m.$$

For every positive unital linear map Φ , we have

$$\Phi(A) + Mm\Phi(A^{-1}) \leq M + m \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi(B) + Mm\Phi(B^{-1}) \leq M + m.$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi((1 - \nu)A) + Mm\Phi((1 - \nu)A^{-1}) &\leq (1 - \nu)(M + m) \quad \text{and} \\ \Phi(\nu B) + Mm\Phi(\nu B^{-1}) &\leq \nu(M + m). \end{aligned}$$

Summing up the inequalities above, we can get

$$\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B) + Mm\Phi(A^{-1}\nabla_\nu B^{-1}) \leq M + m. \tag{2.22}$$

When $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{4}$, taking $a = 1$ in (2.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} b^\nu + \nu(1 + b - 2b^{\frac{1}{2}}) + 2\nu(1 + b^{\frac{1}{2}} - 2b^{\frac{1}{4}}) + r(1 + b^{\frac{1}{4}} - 2b^{\frac{1}{8}}) \\ + \left(\frac{\sqrt{L(8\nu)}}{8} \log b\right) \times b^\nu \times \left(\frac{\sqrt{L(8\nu)}}{8} \log b\right) \leq (1 - \nu) + \nu b. \end{aligned}$$

Now by the functional calculus for the positive operator $A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^\nu + \nu(I + (A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}}) - 2(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}}) \\ + 2\nu(I + (A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{2}} - 2(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{4}}) + r(I + (A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{4}} - 2(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{1}{8}}) \\ + \left(\frac{\sqrt{L(8\nu)}}{8} \log(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})\right) \times (A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})^\nu \times \left(\frac{\sqrt{L(8\nu)}}{8} \log(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}})\right) \\ \leq (1 - \nu)I + \nu(A^{\frac{1}{2}}B^{-1}A^{\frac{1}{2}}). \end{aligned} \tag{2.23}$$

Multiplying by $A^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ both sides of inequality (2.23), we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1} + 2\nu(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + 2\nu(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1})) \\ + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{8}} B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1}G \\ \leq A^{-1}\nabla_\nu B^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1} + J(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) \\ = A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1} + 2\nu(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + 2\nu(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1})) \\ + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{8}} B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1}G \\ \leq A^{-1}\nabla_\nu B^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.24}$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\| \\
 & \leq \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi(A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1})\| \\
 & = \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B) + Mm\Phi(J(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) + A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1})\| \\
 & \leq \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B) + Mm\Phi(A^{-1}\nabla_\nu B^{-1})\| \\
 & \leq M + m,
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.25}$$

where the first inequality is by (2.19), the second is by (2.24), and the third is by (2.22). Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\|^2 \\
 & \leq \frac{(M + m)^2}{4},
 \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality is by (2.16) and the second is by (2.25). That is,

$$\|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\| \leq \frac{(M + m)^2}{4Mm}.$$

By Lemma 2.6, we have

$$\Phi^2(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \left(\frac{(M + m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^2 \Phi^2(A\sharp_\nu B).$$

When $0 \leq p \leq 2$, then $0 \leq \frac{p}{2} \leq 1$, hence by (2.17), we have

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \left(\frac{(M + m)^2}{4Mm}\right)^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) = \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B).$$

When $p > 2$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & M^{\frac{p}{2}} m^{\frac{p}{2}} \|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))\Phi^{-\frac{p}{2}}(A\sharp_\nu B)\| \\
 & = \|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))M^{\frac{p}{2}} m^{\frac{p}{2}} \Phi^{-\frac{p}{2}}(A\sharp_\nu B)\| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + M^{\frac{p}{2}} m^{\frac{p}{2}} \Phi^{-\frac{p}{2}}(A\sharp_\nu B)\|^2 \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\|^{\frac{p}{2}} \\
 & = \frac{1}{4} \|\Phi(A\nabla_\nu B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_\nu B)\|^p \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{4} (M + m)^p,
 \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality is by (2.16), the second is by (2.18), and the third is by (2.25). That is,

$$\|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))\Phi^{-\frac{p}{2}}(A\sharp_{\nu}B)\| \leq \frac{(M+m)^p}{4M^{\frac{p}{2}}m^{\frac{p}{2}}} = \alpha^{\frac{p}{2}},$$

which is equivalent to (2.20) by (2.15). Here we completed the proof of (2.20). We now prove (2.21) for $0 \leq p \leq 2$. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))Mm(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-1}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-1}\|^2 \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_{\nu}B)\|^2 \\ & \leq \frac{(M+m)^2}{4}, \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality is by (2.16), the second is by (2.14), and the third is by (2.25). That is,

$$\|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))(\Phi(A)\sharp\Phi(B))^{-1}\| \leq \frac{(M+m)^2}{4Mm} = \alpha,$$

so we can get (2.21) by (2.15) and (2.17) easily when $0 \leq p \leq 2$. When $p > 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} & M^{\frac{p}{2}}m^{\frac{p}{2}}\|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-\frac{p}{2}}\| \\ & = \|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))M^{\frac{p}{2}}m^{\frac{p}{2}}(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-\frac{p}{2}}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + M^{\frac{p}{2}}m^{\frac{p}{2}}(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-\frac{p}{2}}\|^2 \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}\|(\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-1})^{\frac{p}{2}}\|^2 \\ & = \frac{1}{4}\|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-1}\|^p \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}\|\Phi(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) + Mm\Phi^{-1}(A\sharp_{\nu}B)\|^p \\ & \leq \frac{1}{4}(M+m)^p, \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality is by (2.16), the second is by (2.18), the third is by (2.14), and the last inequality is by (2.25). That is,

$$\|\Phi^{\frac{p}{2}}(A\nabla_{\nu}B + MmJ(A^{-1}; B^{-1}))(\Phi(A)\sharp_{\nu}\Phi(B))^{-\frac{p}{2}}\| \leq \frac{(M+m)^p}{4M^{\frac{p}{2}}m^{\frac{p}{2}}} = \alpha^{\frac{p}{2}},$$

and we can get (2.21) by (2.15) easily. Hence we completed the proof of Theorem 2.11. \square

Remark 2.12 Let $0 < mI \leq A, B \leq MI, \nu \in [0, 1]$ and $r = \min\{\nu, 1 - \nu\}$. It is clear that $2\nu(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}}B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}}B^{-1})) \geq 0$ and $r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}}B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{8}}B^{-1})) \geq 0$. In other

words, our results can be regarded as further refinements of reversed AM–GM operator inequalities of [12].

By the same methods of Theorem 2.11, we can get further improvements of (1.12) and (1.13) for $\frac{1}{4} \leq \nu \leq 1$.

Corollary 2.13 *Under the same conditions as in Theorem 2.11, we have:*

(1) *When $\frac{1}{4} \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$,*

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_1(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) \tag{2.26}$$

and

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_1(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p (\Phi(A)\sharp_\nu \Phi(B))^p, \tag{2.27}$$

where $F_1(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) = 2\nu(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + (1 - 2\nu)(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + A^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1})) + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B^{-1} + A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{3}{8}} B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1}G$;

(2) *When $\frac{1}{2} \leq \nu \leq \frac{3}{4}$,*

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_2(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) \tag{2.28}$$

and

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_2(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p (\Phi(A)\sharp_\nu \Phi(B))^p, \tag{2.29}$$

where $F_2(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) = 2(1 - \nu)(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + (2\nu - 1)(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + B^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B^{-1})) + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B^{-1} + A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{5}{8}} B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1}G$;

(3) *When $\frac{3}{4} \leq \nu \leq 1$,*

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_3(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p \Phi^p(A\sharp_\nu B) \tag{2.30}$$

and

$$\Phi^p(A\nabla_\nu B + MmF_3(A^{-1}; B^{-1})) \leq \alpha^p (\Phi(A)\sharp_\nu \Phi(B))^p, \tag{2.31}$$

where $F_3(A^{-1}; B^{-1}) = 2(1 - \nu)(A^{-1}\nabla B^{-1} - A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1}) + 2(1 - \nu)(A^{-1}\sharp B^{-1} + B^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B^{-1})) + r(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B^{-1} + B^{-1} - 2(A^{-1}\sharp_{\frac{7}{8}} B^{-1})) + G^*A^{-1}\sharp_\nu B^{-1}G$.

In the end of this paper, we give some inequalities for determinants which were not mentioned in Yang’s paper and its references. But first, we state a lemma.

Lemma 2.14 (Minkowski inequality, [6]) *Let $a = [a_i]$, $b = [b_i]$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ be such that a_i, b_i are positive real numbers. Then*

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^n a_i\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} + \left(\prod_{i=1}^n b_i\right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \leq \left(\prod_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i)\right)^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

The equality holds if and only if $a = b$.

Theorem 2.15 *Let $A, B \in M_n$ be two positive semidefinite matrices and $T = A^{-\frac{1}{2}}BA^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, $\nu \in [0, 1]$, $\tilde{F}(\nu) = \min(1 + \frac{L(8\nu)}{16}(\log s_j(T))^2)$. Then the following statements are true:*

(1) *When $0 \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{4}$ and $r = \min\{4\nu, 1 - 4\nu\}$, we have*

$$\det(A\nabla_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} \geq \tilde{F}(\nu) \det(A\sharp_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \nu^2 \det(A - B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + 2\nu \det(A - A\sharp B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + r \det(A - A\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B)^{\frac{2}{n}}. \tag{2.32}$$

(2) *When $\frac{1}{4} \leq \nu \leq \frac{1}{2}$ and $r = \min\{2 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 1\}$, we have*

$$\det(A\nabla_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} \geq \tilde{F}(\nu) \det(A\sharp_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \nu^2 \det(A - B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + (1 - 2\nu) \det(A - A\sharp B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + r \det(A\sharp B - A\sharp_{\frac{1}{4}} B)^{\frac{2}{n}}. \tag{2.33}$$

(3) *When $\frac{1}{2} \leq \nu \leq \frac{3}{4}$ and $r = \min\{3 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 2\}$, we have*

$$\det(A\nabla_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} \geq \tilde{F}(\nu) \det(A\sharp_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + (1 - \nu)^2 \det(A - B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + (2\nu - 1) \det(B - A\sharp B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + r \det(A\sharp B - A\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B)^{\frac{2}{n}}. \tag{2.34}$$

(4) *When $\frac{3}{4} \leq \nu \leq 1$ and $r = \min\{4 - 4\nu, 4\nu - 3\}$, we have*

$$\det(A\nabla_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} \geq \tilde{F}(\nu) \det(A\sharp_\nu B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + (1 - \nu)^2 \det(A - B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + (2 - 2\nu) \det(B - A\sharp B)^{\frac{2}{n}} + r \det(B - A\sharp_{\frac{3}{4}} B)^{\frac{2}{n}}. \tag{2.35}$$

Proof Using inequality (2.6) and denoting the positive definite matrix as $T = A^{-\frac{1}{2}}BA^{-\frac{1}{2}}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\tilde{F}(\nu)(s_j^\nu(T))^2 + \nu^2(1 - s_j(T))^2 + 2\nu(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{2}}(T))^2 + r(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{4}}(T))^2 \\ &\leq ((1 - \nu) + \nu s_j(T))^2 \end{aligned} \tag{2.36}$$

for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. It is a fact that the determinant of a positive definite matrix is a product of its singular values. So we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\det(I\nabla_\nu T)^{\frac{2}{n}} \\ &= \det[((1 - \nu)I + \nu T)^2]^{\frac{1}{n}} \\ &= \left[\prod_{j=1}^n ((1 - \nu)I + \nu s_j(T))^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} \\ &\geq \left[\prod_{j=1}^n \{ \tilde{F}(\nu)(s_j^\nu(T))^2 + \nu^2(1 - s_j(T))^2 + 2\nu(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{2}}(T))^2 + r(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{4}}(T))^2 \} \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} \\ &\geq \left[\prod_{j=1}^n \{ \tilde{F}(\nu)(s_j^\nu(T))^2 \} \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} + \left[\prod_{j=1}^n \{ \nu^2(1 - s_j(T))^2 \} \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} + \left[\prod_{j=1}^n \{ 2\nu(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{2}}(T))^2 \} \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \left[\prod_{j=1}^n \{r(1 - s_j^{\frac{1}{4}}(T))^2\} \right]^{\frac{1}{n}} \\
& = \tilde{F}(\nu) \det(T^\nu)^{\frac{2}{n}} + \nu^2 \det(I - T)^{\frac{2}{n}} + 2\nu \det(I - T^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{2}{n}} + r \det(I - T^{\frac{1}{4}})^{\frac{2}{n}}.
\end{aligned}$$

The first inequality is obtained by (2.36), while the second by Lemma 2.14. Multiplying by $(\det A^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{2}{n}}$ both sides of inequalities above, we can get the desired inequality (2.32) directly. Using the same technique above in (2.7)–(2.9), we can (2.33)–(2.35), respectively. To keep our paper concise, we omit the details. \square

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Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

Authors' contributions

All author contributed to each part of this work equally, and they all read and approved the final manuscript.

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