

Powers of A - m -Isometric Operators and Their Supercyclicity

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Abstract

We obtain some results on A - m -isometric operators. The paper consists of two parts. At first, we consider the products of A - m -isometries. It will be proved that the iterates of an A - m -isometry are all of this type. We discuss when an A - m -isometry becomes an A -isometry. Also, we consider the products of A - m -isometries for different values of m . In the second part, we are going to investigate the supercyclicity of these operators and prove that they are never supercyclic.

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1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, \mathcal{H} denotes a complex Hilbert space with inner product \langle, \rangle and $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ stands for a Banach algebra of all bounded linear operators on \mathcal{H} . Also, $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})^+$ is the cone of positive semi-definite operators; *i.e.*,

$$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})^+ = \{A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) : \langle Ah, h \rangle \geq 0, \forall h \in \mathcal{H}\}.$$

In all that follows, by an operator we mean a bounded linear operator. The range of every operator is denoted by $R(T)$, and its null space by $\ker(T)$; furthermore T^* is the adjoint of T .

Any operator $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})^+$ defines a positive semi-definite sesquilinear form, denoted by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle, \rangle_A : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{C} \\ \langle h, k \rangle_A &= \langle Ah, k \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

We remark that $\langle h, k \rangle_A = \langle A^{1/2}h, A^{1/2}k \rangle$. The semi-norm induced by \langle, \rangle_A , which is denoted by $\|\cdot\|_A$, is given by $\|h\|_A = \langle h, h \rangle_A^{1/2}$.

Observe that $\|h\|_A = 0$ if and only if $h \in \ker(A)$, and so $\|\cdot\|_A$ is a norm if and only if A is injective. Besides the semi-normed space $(\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|_A)$ is complete if and only if $R(A^{1/2})$ is closed.

Recall that for a positive integer m an operator $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is called an m -isometry, if

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} T^{*k} T^k = 0;$$

or equivalently,

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|T^{m-k}h\|^2 = 0, \quad \forall h \in \mathcal{H}.$$

The class of m -isometric operators on a complex Hilbert space has been studied intensively; see for example, [1-3] and [5-14].

An extension of these operators, called A - m -isometries on semi-Hilbertian spaces, are introduced by the authors in [16].

Definition 1. Let m be a positive integer and $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})^+$. An operator T is called an A - m -isometry, if

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} T^{*m-k} A T^{m-k} = 0.$$

It is obvious that T is an A - m -isometry if and only if for every $h \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|T^{m-k}h\|_A^2 = 0.$$

Thus, T is an m -isometry relative to the semi-norm on \mathcal{H} induced by A .

In [16], the authors have extended some properties for A - m -isometric operators which are generalizations of well-known assertions of m -isometries; also they have obtained some spectral properties of them.

Recently, the products of m -isometries are discussed in [7] and [8]. Our main purpose in the first part of this paper, is to study the products of A - m -isometries. It will be shown that the product of such two operators is again an operator of this type. We remark that our techniques of proofs for A - m -isometries are different from the ones used for m -isometries. The supercyclicity of m -isometries has been studied by Faghih-Ahmadi and Hedayatian ([11], [12]). **Also, in [15] the authors give sufficient conditions under which an A - m -isometry is not supercyclic.** In the second part of this paper, we shall prove that A - m -isometries are all non-supercyclic.

2. Products of A - m -Isometric Operators

At first, integer powers of an A - m -isometry are considered. We begin with a lemma. By convention, take $0^0 = 1$.

Lemma 1. *If n is any positive integer then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} k^i \binom{n}{k} = 0, \quad (1)$$

for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$.

Proof. Using the binomial Theorem, (1) holds for $i = 0$. Suppose that $i \geq 1$. We prove (1) by induction on n . Clearly, (1) holds for $n = 1$. Suppose that it is true for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$. Then for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (-1)^{n+1-k} k^i \binom{n+1}{k} &= - \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} (-1)^{n-k} k^{i-1} \frac{(n+1)!}{(k-1)!(n+1-k)!} \\ &= (n+1) \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} (k+1)^{i-1} \\ &= (n+1) \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} \sum_{s=0}^{i-1} \binom{i-1}{s} k^s \\ &= (n+1) \sum_{s=0}^{i-1} \binom{i-1}{s} \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} k^s \binom{n}{k} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 1. *If T is an A - m -isometry on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} , then so is T^n for each positive integer n .*

Two proofs for this theorem will be given.

The First Proof. Fix a positive integer n . Let $x_0 = 1$ and x_i ($1 \leq i \leq m(n-1)$) be real numbers so that

$$\left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} t^i\right)^m = \sum_{i=0}^{m(n-1)} x_i t^i,$$

for every $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Furthermore, define x_i to be zero for $i > m(n-1)$. Take $\binom{m}{i} = 0$, for $i > m$. Note that if

$$s_k = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^i \binom{m}{i} x_{k-i} \quad (0 \leq k \leq nm)$$

then $s_k = (-1)^{k_1} \binom{m}{k_1}$, whenever $k = nk_1$ for some positive integer k_1 , and otherwise $s_k = 0$. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{mn} s_k t^k &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} t^k\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^{m(n-1)} x_k t^k\right) \\ &= (1-t)^m \left(\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} t^i\right)^m \\ &= (1-t^n)^m \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} t^{kn}. \end{aligned}$$

Since T is an A - m -isometry, for any $h \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} \|T^j h\|_A^2 = 0.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \sum_{i=0}^{m(n-1)} x_i \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} \|T^{j+i}h\|_A^2 \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{mn} s_k \|T^k h\|_A^2 \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m s_{kn} \|T^{kn} h\|_A^2 \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|T^{kn} h\|_A^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, T^n is an A - m -isometry. □

For non-negative integers n and k , we denote

$$n^{(k)} = \begin{cases} 1 & (n = 0 \text{ or } k = 0), \\ n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1) & (n \neq 0 \text{ and } k \neq 0). \end{cases}$$

If $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ and k is a non-negative integer, the operator $\beta_k(T)$ is defined by

$$\beta_k(T) = \frac{1}{k!} \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{k-j} \binom{k}{j} T^{*j} A T^j.$$

Also, similar to [1] it can be proved that $T^{*n} A T^n = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} n^{(k)} \beta_k(T)$. Note that if T is an A - m -isometry, then $\beta_k(T) = 0$ for every $k \geq m$; moreover,

$$T^{*n} A T^n = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \beta_k(T),$$

and consequently, for any $h \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$\|T^n h\|_A^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \langle \beta_k(T) h, h \rangle.$$

Considering these notations, we can bring another proof of Theorem 1, based upon Lemma 1.

The Second Proof of Theorem 1. For each $n \geq 1$,

$$T^{*n} A T^n = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \beta_k(T).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^{m-k} \binom{m}{k} T^{*nk} AT^{nk} &= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^{m-k} \binom{m}{k} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (nk)^{(j)} \beta_j(T) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left[\sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^{m-k} \binom{m}{k} (nk)^{(j)} \right] \beta_j(T). \end{aligned}$$

Using Lemma 1, we observe that each inner summation in the above equality is zero. Hence T^n is an A - m -isometry. \square

It is known that the inverse of any invertible A - m -isometry is again an A - m -isometry [16]. Since the identity operator is also an A - m -isometry, the following result holds.

Corollary 1. *Any integer power of an invertible A - m -isometry is an A - m -isometry.*

In general, the class of A -isometric operators is a strict subclass of A - m -isometries [16]. However, we can obtain the following result (see also Page 83 of [15]).

Theorem 2. *Suppose that $T \in B(\mathcal{H})$ is an A - m -isometry and there is a sequence $\{n_i\}_i$ of positive integers so that $\sup_i \|T^{n_i}\|_A < \infty$. Then T is an A -isometry.*

Proof. The result is obvious for $m = 1$. Suppose that $m > 1$. For every h in the closure of $R(A)$, denoted by $\overline{R(A)}$, and every non-negative integer n

$$\|T^n h\|_A^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \langle \beta_k(T)h, h \rangle. \quad (2)$$

Assume that k_0 is the largest integer so that $1 \leq k_0 \leq m-1$ and $\langle \beta_{k_0}(T)h, h \rangle \neq 0$. Then taking for granted that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{(k)}}{n^{(k_0)}} = 0$ for $i = 0, \dots, k_0 - 1$, we see that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \langle \beta_k(T)h, h \rangle = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{(k_0)} \sum_{k=0}^{k_0} \frac{n^{(k)}}{n^{(k_0)}} \langle \beta_k(T)h, h \rangle = +\infty.$$

On the other hand, there is a real number $M > 0$ so that for every i and every $h \in \overline{R(A)}$,

$$\|T^{n_i} h\|_A \leq M \|h\|_A;$$

consequently, $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \|T^{n_i} h\|_A$ cannot be $+\infty$, which is a contradiction. Thus,

$$\langle \beta_k(T)h, h \rangle = 0$$

for $k = 1, \dots, m-1$. This coupled with (2) for $n = 1$ implies that $\|Th\|_A = \|h\|_A$ for every $h \in \overline{R(A)}$.

Now, an arbitrary h in H can be written as $h = h_1 + h_2$ for some $h_1 \in kreA^{\frac{1}{2}}$ and $h_2 \in \overline{R(A)}$. Taking into account that $\|h\|_A = \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}h\| = \|h_2\|_A$ and $\|Th\|_A = \|Th_2\|_A$, we conclude that $\|Th\|_A = \|h\|_A$ for every $h \in H$. Thus, T is an A -isometry. \square

Recall that an operator T is said to be A -power bounded, if

$$\sup_n \|T^n\|_A < \infty,$$

or equivalently, there exists $M > 0$ so that for every n and every $u \in \overline{R(A)}$, one has $\|T^n u\|_A \leq M \|u\|_A$ (see [16] for details). As a consequence of the above theorem, it is remarkable that every A -power bounded A - m -isometry is an A -isometry. Moreover, if T is an A - m -isometry so that T^k is an A -isometry for some k , then T is an A -isometry.

Lemma 2. *An operator $T \in B(\mathcal{H})$ is an A - m -isometry if and only if for every non-negative integer n and every $h \in H$,*

$$\|T^n h\|_A^2 = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left(\sum_{k=j}^{m-1} (-1)^{k-j} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} n^{(k)} \binom{k}{j} \right) \|T^j h\|_A^2. \quad (3)$$

Proof. Suppose that T is an A - m -isometry and $h \in \mathcal{H}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|T^n h\|_A^2 &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} n^{(j)} \langle \beta_j(T)h, h \rangle \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \left(\sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{k-j} \binom{k}{j} \right) \|T^j h\|_A^2 \\ &= \left[\sum_{k=0}^{m-1} n^{(k)} (-1)^k \binom{k}{0} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \right] \|h\|_A^2 + \left[\sum_{k=1}^{m-1} n^{(k)} (-1)^{k-1} \binom{k}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \right] \|Th\|_A^2 \\ &\quad + \cdots + \left[\sum_{k=m-1}^{m-1} n^{(k)} (-1)^{k-m+1} \binom{k}{m-1} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \right] \|T^{m-1} h\|_A^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left(\sum_{k=j}^{m-1} (-1)^{k-j} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} n^{(k)} \binom{k}{j} \right) \|T^j h\|_A^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, (3) holds.

To prove the converse note that equality (3) shows that $\|T^n h\|_A^2$ is, indeed, a polynomial in n , and so we can write

$$\|T^n h\|_A^2 = a_0 + a_1 n + \cdots + a_{m-1} n^{m-1}$$

for some scalars a_0, \dots, a_{m-1} . Consequently, applying Lemma 1 we observe that

$$\sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^{m-n} \binom{m}{n} \|T^n h\|_A^2 = 0.$$

Hence T is an A - m -isometry. □

Lemma 3. *Suppose that T is an A - m -isometry, $n \geq m$ is an integer number and $h \in \mathcal{H}$. Then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} k^i \|T^{n-k}h\|_A^2 = 0, \quad (4)$$

for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - m$.

Proof. It is known that if T is an A - m -isometry, then it is an A - n -isometry for each $n \geq m$ (see Proposition 2.4 of [16]). Thus, the hypotheses imply that (4) is valid for $i = 0$. Suppose that $i \geq 1$. We are going to prove (4) by applying induction on n . The result clearly holds if $n = m$. Suppose that (4) holds for $i = 1, \dots, n - m$. Then for $i = 1, \dots, n - m + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (-1)^k \binom{n+1}{k} k^i \|T^{n-k+1}h\|_A^2 = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n+1}{k+1} (k+1)^i \|T^{n-k}h\|_A^2 \\ &= -(n+1) \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} (k+1)^{i-1} \|T^{n-k}h\|_A^2 \\ &= -(n+1) \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \binom{i-1}{j} k^j \right) \|T^{n-k}h\|_A^2 \\ &= -(n+1) \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \binom{i-1}{j} \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \binom{n}{k} k^j \|T^{n-k}h\|_A^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 3. *Suppose that T is an A - m -isometry and S is an A - n -isometry. If $TS = ST$ then ST is an A - $m + n - 1$ -isometry.*

Proof. For any $h \in \mathcal{H}$, using Lemma 2 we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} (-1)^j \binom{m+n-1}{j} \|(TS)^{m+n-1-j}h\|_A^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} (-1)^j \binom{m+n-1}{j} \|T^{m+n-1-j}S^{m+n-1-j}h\|_A^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} (-1)^j \binom{m+n-1}{j} R_{m,j} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$R_{m,j} = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{k=i}^{m-1} (-1)^{k-i} (m+n-1-j)^{(k)} \binom{k}{i} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \|S^{m+n-1-j}(T^i h)\|_A^2.$$

So to prove the theorem, it is enough to show that for $i = 0, 1, \dots, m - 1$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} Q_{m,n,j}^{(i)} = 0 \quad (5)$$

where

$$Q_{m,n,j}^{(i)} = \sum_{k=i}^{m-1} (-1)^{j+k-i} \binom{m+n-1}{j} (m+n-1-j)^{(k)} \binom{k}{i} \cdot \frac{1}{k!} \|S^{m+n-1-j}(T^i h)\|_A^2.$$

Notice that $(m+n-1-j)^{(k)} = \sum_{l=0}^k a_l j^l$, where each a_l is a scalar in terms of m and n . So the left hand side of (5) is

$$\sum_{k=i}^{m-1} (-1)^{k-i} \frac{1}{k!} \binom{k}{i} \sum_{l=0}^k a_l \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} (-1)^j j^l \binom{m+n-1}{j} \|S^{m+n-1-j}(T^i h)\|_A^2.$$

Now, taking into account that S is an A - n -isometry and applying Lemma 3, we see that

$$\sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} (-1)^j j^l \binom{m+n-1}{j} \|S^{m+n-1-j}(T^i h)\|_A^2 = 0, \quad (6)$$

when $k = i, i + 1, \dots, m - 1$, for $l = 0, 1, \dots, k$. \square

Theorem 1 along with the preceding theorem leads to the following result.

Corollary 2. *Let S, T be operators satisfying $ST = TS$. If T is an A - m -isometry and S is an A - n -isometry, then the operators $S^p T^q$, ($p, q = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) are A - $m + n - 1$ -isometries.*

3. Supercyclicity of A - m -Isometric Operators

In this section, we show that an A - m -isometric operator cannot be supercyclic. This generalizes a similar result obtained for m -isometries in [12]. The following lemma will be useful.

Lemma 4. *The null space $\ker A$ is a closed subspace of $(\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|_A)$.*

Proof. Suppose that $\{u_n\}_n$ is a sequence in $\ker A$ and $u \in \mathcal{H}$. Note that

$$\|u_n - u\|_A^2 = \langle A(u_n - u), u_n - u \rangle = -\langle u, A(u_n - u) \rangle = \langle u, Au \rangle.$$

Consequently, if $\|u_n - u\|_A \rightarrow 0$ then $\langle u, Au \rangle = 0$. Taking into account that A is a positive operator, we get $Au = 0$, and so $u \in \ker A$. Hence $\ker A$ is closed in $(\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|_A)$. \square

Define $\|\cdot\|_A$ on the quotient space $\mathcal{H}/\ker A$ via

$$\|u + \ker A\|_A = \inf\{\|u + x\|_A : x \in \ker A\}. \quad (7)$$

The above lemma implies that $\|u + \ker A\|_A$ defines a norm on the space $\mathcal{H}/\ker A$.

Theorem 4. *Every A - m -isometric operator is not supercyclic.*

Proof. Let T be an A - m -isometric operator on a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . For each $u \in \mathcal{H}$,

$$\|u\|_A^2 = |\langle Au, u \rangle| \leq \|A\| \|u\|^2.$$

Thus, if $T : (\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|)$ is a supercyclic operator, then so is $T : (\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|_A) \rightarrow (\mathcal{H}, \|\cdot\|_A)$.

Now, define the operator $\tilde{T} : \mathcal{H}/\ker A \rightarrow \mathcal{H}/\ker A$ by

$$\tilde{T}(u + \ker A) = Tu + \ker A.$$

For any $u \in \mathcal{H}$, $\|u + \ker A\|_A = \|u\|_A$, which implies that \tilde{T} is an m -isometric operator. Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|\tilde{T}^{m-k}(u + \ker A)\|_A^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|T^{m-k}u + \ker A\|_A^2 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k \binom{m}{k} \|T^{m-k}u\|_A^2 = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Denote the completion of $\mathcal{H}/\ker A$ by \mathcal{K} , and let S be the extension of \tilde{T} on the Hilbert space \mathcal{K} . Then define the operator $Q : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}/\ker A$ by $Q(x) = x + \ker A$, and consider

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{H} & \xrightarrow{T} & \mathcal{H} \\ Q \downarrow & & \downarrow Q \\ \mathcal{H}/\ker A & \xrightarrow{\tilde{T}} & \mathcal{H}/\ker A \\ I \downarrow & & \downarrow I \\ \mathcal{K} & \xrightarrow{S} & \mathcal{K} \end{array}$$

The comparison principle [4] states that if T is supercyclic then so is \tilde{T} , which, in turn, implies that S is supercyclic. But the operator S , being an m -isometry on a Hilbert space \mathcal{K} cannot be supercyclic [12]. This leads to a contradiction. \square

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