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## ON THE GENERALIZED FUGLEDE-PUTNAM THEOREM

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we prove the following assertions:

- (1) If the pair of operators  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property and  $S \in \ker(\delta_{A,B})$ , where  $S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , then we have

$$\|\delta_{A,B}X + S\| \geq \|S\|.$$

- (2) Suppose the pair of operators  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property. If  $A^2X = XB^2$  and  $A^3X = XB^3$ , then  $AX = XB$ .
- (3) Let  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be such that  $A, B^*$  are  $p$ -hyponormal. Then for any  $X \in \mathcal{C}_2$ ,  $AX - XB \in \mathcal{C}_2$  implies  $A^*X - XB^* \in \mathcal{C}_2$ .
- (4) Let  $T, S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be such that  $T$  and  $S^*$  are quasihyponormal operators. If  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $TX = XS$ , then  $T^*X = XS^*$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  denote a separable, infinite dimensional Hilbert space. Let  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathbf{C}_2$  and  $\mathbf{C}_1$  denote the algebra of all bounded operators acting on  $\mathcal{H}$ , the Hilbert-Schmidt class and the trace class in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  respectively. It is known that  $\mathbf{C}_2$  and  $\mathbf{C}_1$  each form a two-sided  $*$ -ideal in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $\mathbf{C}_2$  is itself a Hilbert space with inner product

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \sum \langle Xe_i, Ye_i \rangle = \text{tr}(XY^*),$$

where  $\{e_i\}$  is any orthonormal basis of  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  is the natural trace on  $\mathbf{C}_1$ . The Hilbert-Schmidt norm of  $X \in \mathcal{C}_2$  is given by  $\|X\|_2$ .

For operators  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , the generalized derivation  $\delta_{A,B}(X)$  as an operator on  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is defined as follows:

$$\delta_{A,B}(X) = AX - XB$$

for all  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . When  $A = B$ , we simply write  $\delta_A$  for  $\delta_{A,A}$ .

In [3], Anderson proved that if  $N \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is normal,  $S$  is an operator such that  $NS = SN$ , then for all  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$

$$\|\delta_N X + S\| \geq \|S\|,$$

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where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the usual operator norm. Thus in the sense of [3, Definition 1.2], Anderson's result says that the range of  $\delta_N$  is orthogonal to the kernel of  $\delta_N$ , which is just the commutant  $\{N\}'$  of  $N$ .

Kittaneh [10] extended this result to an arbitrary unitarily invariant norm (for more information about this norm the reader should refer to [10]), and he proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *If the operator  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  are normal, then for all  $X, S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $AS = SB$  we have*

$$\| \|AX - XB + S\| \| \geq \| \|S\| \|.$$

Recall that an operator  $T$  in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called normal if  $T^*T = TT^*$  and  $p$ -hyponormal if  $(T^*T)^p \geq (TT^*)^p$ , where  $0 < p \leq 1$ . In particular 1-hyponormal is called hyponormal and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -hyponormal is called semi-hyponormal. The Löwner-Heinz inequality implies that if  $T$  is  $p$ -hyponormal, then it is  $q$ -hyponormal for any  $0 < q \leq p$ . Let  $T = U|T|$  be the polar decomposition of  $T$ , where  $U$  is partial isometry. Then  $|T|$  is a positive square root of  $T^*T$  and  $\ker T = \ker |T| = \ker U$ , where  $\ker(T)$  denotes the kernel of  $T$ . Aluthge [2] introduced the operator  $\tilde{T} = |T|^{\frac{1}{2}} U |T|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  which is called the Aluthge transform, and also shown to satisfy the following result.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $A = U|A|$  be the polar decomposition of a  $p$ -hyponormal for  $0 < p < 1$  and  $U$  is unitary. Then the following assertion holds:*

- (1)  $\tilde{A} = |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} U |A|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is  $p + \frac{1}{2}$ -hyponormal if  $0 < p < \frac{1}{2}$ .
- (2)  $\tilde{A} = |A|^{\frac{1}{2}} U |A|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is hyponormal if  $\frac{1}{2} \leq p < 1$ .

According to [13],  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called dominant if  $\text{ran}(T - zI) \subseteq \text{ran}(T - zI)^*$ , for all  $z \in \sigma(T)$ , where  $\text{ran}(T)$  and  $\sigma(T)$  denotes the range and the spectrum of  $T$ .

It has been shown in [4, Theorem 3.4] that if  $A, B^*$  and  $S$  are operators in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $B^*$  is  $p$ -hyponormal or log-hyponormal,  $A$  is dominant and  $AS = SB$ , then for all  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  we have

$$\|AX - XB + S\| \geq \|S\|.$$

## 2. Main Results

We begin by the following definition of the orthogonality in the sense of Anderson [3, Definition 1.2] which generalize the idea of orthogonality in Hilbert space.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\mathbb{C}$  be the field of complex numbers and let  $X$  be a normed linear space. If  $\|x - \lambda y\| \geq \|\lambda y\|$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  whenever  $x, y \in X$ , then  $x$  is said to be orthogonal to  $y$ . Let  $U$  and  $W$  be two subspace in  $X$ . If  $\|x + y\| \geq \|y\|$ , for all  $x \in U$  and for all  $y \in W$ , then  $U$  is said to be orthogonal to  $W$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . We say that the pair  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property, if whenever  $S \in \ker(\delta_{A,B})$ , where  $S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  implies that  $S \in \ker(\delta_{A^*,B^*})$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $A, B, X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If the pair of operators  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property and  $S \in \ker(\delta_{A,B})$ , where  $S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  then we have

$$\|\delta_{A,B}X + S\| \geq \|S\|.$$

**Proof.** Since the pair  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property, it follows that  $\overline{ranS}$  reduces  $A$ ,  $\ker^\perp S$  reduces  $B$ . Let  $A_1 = A|_{\overline{ranS}}$ ,  $B_1 = B|_{\ker^\perp S}$  and let  $S_1 : \ker^\perp S \rightarrow \overline{ranS}$  be the quasi-affinity defined by setting  $S_1x = Sx$  for each  $x \in \ker^\perp S$ . Then  $\delta_{A_1,B_1}(S_1) = 0 = \delta_{A_1^*,B_1^*}(S_1)$ , and it follows that  $0 \notin \sigma(A_1)$  and  $0 \notin \sigma(B_1)$ .

Since the pair  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property, then  $\delta_{A,B}(AS) = 0$  implies  $A_1^*B_1^*S_1^* = A_1S_1B_1^{*-1} = A_1A_1^*S_1$ , then  $A_1$  is normal, similarly  $B_1$  is normal.

Then, with respect to the orthogonal decompositions  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{ranS} \oplus (\overline{ranS})^\perp$  and  $\mathcal{H} = \ker^\perp S \oplus \ker S$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  can be respectively represented as  $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ 0 & B_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Now assume that the operators  $S, X : \ker^\perp S \oplus \ker S \rightarrow \overline{ranS} \oplus (\overline{ranS})^\perp$  have the matrix representations  $\begin{pmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ X_3 & X_4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Then

$$\|\delta_{A,B}(X) + S\| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{A_1,B_1}(X_1) + S_1 & * \\ * & * \end{pmatrix} \right\| \geq \|\delta_{A_1,B_1}(X_1) + S_1\| = \|S\|,$$

which completes the proof of the theorem.

Next, we prove some commutativity results. Al-Moadjil [1] proved that if  $N$  is a normal operator such that  $N^2X = XN^2$  and  $N^3X = XN^3$  for some  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , then  $NX = XN$ . Kittaneh [7] generalize this results for subnormal operators by taking  $A$  and  $B^*$  subnormal operators. This result was also generalized by Bachir [4] by taking  $A$  is a dominant operator and  $B^*$  is  $P$ -hyponormal operators. In this note, we generalize this result for any pair  $(A, B^*)$  satisfying the Fuglede-Putnam Property.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $A, B, X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and let the pair of operators  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property. If  $A^2X = XB^2$  and  $A^3X = XB^3$ , then  $AX = XB$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Y = AX - XB$ , then

$$A^2Y = A^3X - A^2XB = XB^3 - XB^3 = 0,$$

$$YB^2 = AXB^2 - XB^3 = A^3X - A^3X = 0,$$

and

$$AYB = A^2XB - AXB^2 = XB^3 - A^3X = 0.$$

Hence  $A(AY - YB) = A^2Y - AYB = 0$  and  $(AY - YB)B = AYB - YB^2 = 0$ .

This yields that  $AY - YB \in \ker(\delta_{A,B}) \cap \overline{ran}(\delta_{A,B}) = \{0\}$ , therefore  $AY - YB = 0$ . Hence  $Y \in$

$\ker(\delta_{A,B}) \cap \text{ran}(\delta_{A,B}) = \{0\}$  is obtained by Theorem 2.3, this implies that  $Y = 0$ . That is,  $AX = XB$ .

Kittaneh [7] proved that if  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  such that  $A^2 = B^2$ ,  $A^3 = B^3$ ,  $\ker A \subset \ker A^*$  and  $\ker B \subset \ker B^*$ , then  $A = B$ . This results can be generalized to any pair  $(A, B^*)$  that satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property as follows.

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If the pair of operators  $(A, B^*)$  satisfies the Fuglede-Putnam Property and  $A^2 = B^2$  and  $A^3 = B^3$ , then  $A = B$ .*

**Proof.** This is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.3 and Theorem 2.4.

**Remark 2.6.** Algebraic manipulations and induction show that the powers 2 and 3 in Theorem 2.4 and Corollary 2.5 can be replaced by any two relatively prime powers  $n$  and  $m$ .

In order to obtain our next result, we require some lemmas.

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & S \\ 0 & T_2 \end{pmatrix}$  be a quasihyponormal operator on  $\mathcal{H} = M \oplus M^\perp$ , where  $M$  is a  $T$ -invariant such that the restriction  $T_1 = T|_M$  is normal. Then the range of  $S$  is included in  $\ker T_1$ . In particular, if  $T$  is injective, every normal part of  $T$  reduces  $T$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $P$  be the orthogonal projection onto  $M$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} PT^*TP &= \begin{pmatrix} T_1^*T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leq P|T^2|P && \text{(since } T \text{ is quasihyponormal)} \\ &\leq \begin{pmatrix} (T_1^{*2}T_1^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} && \text{(by Hansen's inequality)} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} T_1^*T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} && \text{(since } T_1 \text{ is normal).} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $|T^2| = \begin{pmatrix} X & Y \\ Y^* & Z \end{pmatrix}$  be the matrix representation of  $|T^2|$  on  $H = M \oplus M^\perp$ . Then we have  $X = T_1^*T_1$ .  
Since

$$|T^2|^2 = T^{*2}T^2 = \begin{pmatrix} X^2 + YY^* & XY + YZ \\ ZY^* + Y^*X & Y^*Y + Z^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_1^{*2}T_1^2 & T_1^{*2}T_1S \\ S^*T_1^*T_1^2 & S^*S + T_2^{*2}T_2^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence

$$X^2 + YY^* = T_1^{*2}T_1^2 = (T_1^*T_1)^2 = X^2.$$

This implies that  $Y = 0$ . Thus we have

$$|T^2| = \begin{pmatrix} T_1^*T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & Z^2 \end{pmatrix} \geq T^*T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1^*T_1 & T_1^*S \\ S^*T_1 & S^*S + T_2^*T_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

and hence  $T_1^* S = 0$ . Thus the range of  $S$  is included in  $\ker T_1^* = \ker T_1$ . If  $T$  is injective, then so is  $T_1$ . Thus the second statement of lemma follows from [6, Lemma 10].

**Lemma 2.8.** *If  $T$  is a quasihyponormal operator, then every normal part of  $T$  reduces  $T$ .*

**Proof.** If  $T$  is invertible, then  $T$  is hyponormal. Hence the assertion holds by Stampfli result [12]. Now, we assume that  $T$  is not invertible. Let  $M$  be a normal part of  $T$ . By Lemma 2.7  $T$  is of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} N & S \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $M \oplus M^\perp$ , where  $N$  is normal and  $\text{ran} S \subset \ker N$ . It is easy to see that

$$T^{2*} T^2 = \begin{pmatrix} N^{2*} N^2 & N^{2*} N S \\ S^* N^* N^2 & S^* N^* N S \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$(T^* T)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} (N^* N)^2 + N^* S S^* N & N^* N N^* S + N^* S S^* S \\ S^* N N^* N + S^* S S^* N & S^* N N^* S + S^* S S^* S \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$0 \leq T^{2*} T^2 - (T^* T)^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -N^* S S^* N & -N^* S S^* S \\ -S^* S S^* N & -S^* S S^* S \end{pmatrix}.$$

This implies that  $S = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be a quasihyponormal operator. Let  $L \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be self-adjoint which satisfies  $TL = LT^*$ . Then  $T^* L = LT$ .*

**Proof.** First, we will show that If  $TL = LT^* = 0$ , then  $T^* L = LT = 0$ . Since  $\ker T$  reduces  $T$ ,  $TL = 0$  implies that  $\text{ran} L \subset \ker T \subset \ker T^*$ . Hence  $\overline{\text{ran} T} \subset \ker T$ . Therefore we have  $T^* L = LT = 0$

Next, we prove the case  $TL \neq 0$ . Assume that  $T$  is quasihyponormal. Using the decomposition  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{ran} L} \oplus \ker L$ , the operators  $L$  and  $T$  can be represented as follows.

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} L_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & S \\ 0 & T_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $L_1$  is self-adjoint with  $\ker L_1 = \{0\}$  and  $T_1$  is also quasihyponormal. The assumption  $TL = LT^*$  implies that  $T_1 L_1 = L_1 T_1^*$ . Since  $\ker T_1$  reduces  $T_1$  and  $L_1$ , they are of the form  $T_1 = T_{11} \oplus 0$  and  $L_1 = L_{11} \oplus L_{22}$  on  $\overline{\text{ran} L} = \overline{\ker |T|} \oplus \ker T_1$ . Hence  $T_{11}$  is an injective quasihyponormal operator and  $L_{11}$  is self-adjoint operator which satisfies  $T_{11} L_{11} = L_{11} T_{11}^*$ . But this implies that  $T_{11}$  is normal. Hence  $T_1 = T_{11} \oplus 0$  is also normal. By Fuglede-Putnam Theorem, we see that  $T_1^* L_1 = L_1 T_1$ . since  $T_1$  is normal,  $S = 0$ , so we have  $T^* L = LT$ .

**Corollary 2.10.** *Let  $T \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be a quasihyponormal operator. If  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $TX = XT^*$ , then  $T^* X = XT$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $X = Y + iZ$  be the cartesian decomposition of  $X$ . Then  $TX = XT^*$  implies that  $TY = YT^*$  and  $TZ = ZT^*$ . By Theorem 2.9, we have  $T^* Y = YT$  and  $T^* Z = ZT$ . Hence  $TX = XT^*$ .

**Corollary 2.11.** *Let  $T, S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be such that  $T$  and  $S^*$  are quasihyponormal operators. If  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $TX = XS$ , then  $T^*X = XS^*$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} T & 0 \\ 0 & S^* \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & X \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H}$ . Then  $A$  is quasihyponormal operator on  $\mathcal{H} \oplus \mathcal{H}$  that satisfies

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & TX \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & XS \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = BA^*,$$

by Corollary 2.10, we have  $A^*B = BA$  and therefore  $T^*X = XS^*$ .

The most recent generalization of the Fuglede-Putnam theorem was obtained by Uchiyama and Tanahashi [15] and can be stated as follows.

**Theorem 2.12.** *Let  $T, S \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be such that  $T$  and  $S^*$  are  $p$ -hyponormal operators. If  $X \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $TX = XS$ , then  $T^*X = XS^*$ .*

As an application of the above results we have

**Lemma 2.13.** *Let  $V, A$  and  $X$  be operators in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $V$  is an isometry,  $A^*$  is  $p$ -hyponormal, and  $X$  is one-one, then  $VX = XA$  implies  $A$  is unitary.*

**Proof.** By Corollary 11,  $VX = XA$  implies that  $V^*X = XA^*$ . Multiply the first equation on the left by  $V^*$  to get  $X = V^*A^*A$ . Therefore,  $X = XA^*A$ . Let  $X = UP$  be the polar decomposition of  $X$ , then  $U$  is unitary and  $P$  is one-one. But this implies that  $1 = A^*A$ . Since  $A^*$  is  $p$ -hyponormal and  $A^*A = 1$ , it follows that  $A$  is normal and hence unitary.

An attempt to generalize Theorem [7, Theorem 1] to the hyponormal case was made by T. Furuta [5], who obtained the following result.

**Theorem 2.14.** *If  $A$  and  $B^*$  are hyponormal operators in  $\mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , then for any  $X \in \mathcal{C}_2$ ,  $AX - XB \in \mathcal{C}_2$  implies  $A^*X - XB^* \in \mathcal{C}_2$ .*

In the following theorem, we relax the hypotheses on  $A$  and  $B^*$  in Theorem 2.14 to  $p$ -hyponormality.

**Theorem 2.15.** *Let  $A, B \in \mathbf{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be such that  $A, B^*$  are  $p$ -hyponormal. Then for any  $X \in \mathcal{C}_2$ ,  $AX - XB \in \mathcal{C}_2$  implies  $A^*X - XB^* \in \mathcal{C}_2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $A, B^*$  be  $p$ -hyponormal for  $p \geq \frac{1}{2}$  and let  $U|B|$  be the the polar decomposition of  $B$ . Then it follows from [2] that the Aluthge transform  $\widetilde{B}^*$  of  $B$  is hyponormal and satisfies

$$|\widetilde{B}| \leq |B| \leq |\widetilde{B}^*| \tag{1.1}$$

and

$$AY - Y\widetilde{B} \in \mathcal{C}_2 \tag{1.2}$$

, where  $Y = XU|B|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Using the decomposition  $\mathcal{H} = \ker Y^\perp \oplus \ker Y$ , we see that  $A, \tilde{B}, Y$  are of the form

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & T \\ 0 & A_2 \end{pmatrix}, \tilde{B} = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & 0 \\ S & B_2 \end{pmatrix}, Y = \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where,  $A_1$  is  $p$ -hyponormal,  $B_1^*$  is hyponormal and  $Y_1$  is one-one mapping with dense range. It follows from equation 1.2 that

$$A_1 Y_1 - Y_1 B_1 \in \mathcal{C}_2. \tag{1.3}$$

Hence  $A_1, B_1$  are normal by [11, Theorem 10], so that  $T = 0$  by [15, Lemma 12] and  $S = 0$  by [6]. Thus  $|B| = |B_1| \oplus J$ , for some positive operator  $J$ , by equation 1.1 and [15, Lemma 13] that  $U = \begin{pmatrix} U_{11} & U_{12} \\ 0 & U_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $X = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11} & X_{12} \\ X_{21} & X_{22} \end{pmatrix}$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix representation of  $X$  with respect to the decomposition  $\mathcal{H} = \ker Y^\perp \oplus \ker Y$ . Then,  $Y = XU|B|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  implies that  $Y_1 = X_{11}U_{11}|B_1|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  and hence  $\ker B_1 \subset \ker Y_1 = \{0\}$ . This shows that  $B_1$  is one-one (hence, it has dense range), so that  $U_{12} = 0$  and  $B = B_1 \oplus B_3$ , for some co- $p$ -hyponormal operator  $B_3$  by [15, Lemma 13]. Since,

$$\begin{pmatrix} Y_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = Y = XU|B|^{\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{pmatrix} X_{11} & X_{12} \\ X_{21} & X_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_{11}|B_1|^{\frac{1}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & U_{22}|A_{33}|^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{pmatrix},$$

we have the following statements.

- $X_{12}U_{22}|B_3|^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0$ ; hence  $X_{12}B_3 = 0$  because  $B_3 = U_{22}|B_3|$ .
- $X_{12}U_{11}|B_1|^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0$ ; hence  $X_{12} = 0$  because  $U_{11}|B_1|^{\frac{1}{2}}$  has dense range.
- $X_{22}U_{22}|B_3|^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0$ ; hence  $X_{22}B_3 = 0$ .

The assumption  $AX - XB \in \mathcal{C}_2$  imply that

$A_1 X_{11} - X_{11} B_1 \in \mathcal{C}_2$ ,  $X_{12} B_3 = A_1 X_{12} = 0$  and  $X_{22} B_3 = A_2 X_{22} = 0$ . Since  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  are normal we have  $A_1^* X_{11} - X_{11} B_1^* \in \mathcal{C}_2$ , by Fuglede-Putnam Theorem. The  $p$ -hyponormality of  $B_3^*$  shows that  $\text{ran} B_3^* \subset \overline{B_3}$ . Also we have  $\ker A_2 \subset \ker A_2^*$  from the fact  $A_2$  is  $p$ -hyponormal. Hence, we also have  $X_{12} B_3^* = A_1^* X_{12} = 0$  and  $X_{22} B_3^* = A_2^* X_{22} = 0$ . This implies that  $AX - XB \in \mathcal{C}_2$ .

Next, we prove the case where  $0 < p \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . Let  $Y$  be as above. Then  $\tilde{B}^*$  is  $p + \frac{1}{2}$ -hyponormal and satisfies  $AX - X\tilde{B} \in \mathcal{C}_2$ . Use the same argument as above. We obtain  $\tilde{B} = B_1 \oplus B_2$  on  $\mathcal{H} = \ker Y^\perp \oplus \ker Y$  and  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$ , where  $B_1$  is an injective normal operator and  $A_1$  is also normal. Hence, we have  $B = B_1 \oplus B_3$  for some  $p$ -hyponormal  $B_3^*$ . Again using the same argument as above we obtain the result.

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