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Complementary and refined inequalities of Callebaut inequality for operators

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The Callebaut inequality says that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} \sharp B_{j} \right) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sigma B_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sigma^{\perp} B_{j} \right) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_{j} \right),$$

where A_j , B_j $(1 \le j \le n)$ are positive invertible operators, and σ and σ^{\perp} are an operator mean and its dual in the sense of Kabo and Ando, respectively. In this paper we employ the Mond–Pečarić method as well as some operator techniques to establish a complementary inequality to the above one under mild conditions. We also present some refinements of a Callebaut-type inequality involving the weighted geometric mean and Hadamard products of Hilbert space operators.

Keywords: Callebaut inequality; operator mean; Mond–Pečarić method; Hadamard product; operator geometric mean

AMS Subject Classifications: Primary: 47A63; Secondary: 15A60; 47A60

1. Introduction and preliminaries

Let $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ denote the C^* -algebra of all bounded linear operators on a complex Hilbert space \mathcal{H} with the identity I. In the case when dim $\mathcal{H} = n$, we identify $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with the matrix algebra \mathbb{M}_n of all $n \times n$ matrices with entries in the complex field. An operator $A \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is called positive if $\langle Ax, x \rangle \ge 0$ for all $x \in \mathcal{H}$, and we then write $A \ge 0$. We write A > 0 if A is a positive invertible operator. The set of all positive invertible operators (resp., positive definite for matrices) is denoted by $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})_+$ (resp., \mathcal{P}_n). For self-adjoint operators $A, B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$, we say $B \ge A$ if $B - A \ge 0$.

It is known that the Hadamard product can be presented by filtering the tensor product $A \otimes B$ through a positive linear map. In fact, $A \circ B = U^*(A \otimes B)U$, where $U : \mathcal{H} \to \mathcal{H} \otimes \mathcal{H}$ is the isometry defined by $Ue_j = e_j \otimes e_j$, where (e_j) is an orthonormal basis of the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} ; see [1]. In the case of matrices, one easily observes that the Hadamard

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product of $A = (a_{ij})$ and $B = (b_{ij})$ is $A \circ B = (a_{ij}b_{ij})$, a principal submatrix of the tensor product $A \otimes B = (a_{ij}B)_{1 \le i, j \le n}$.

Let *f* be a continuous real-valued function defined on an interval *J*. It is called operator monotone if $A \leq B$ implies $f(A) \leq f(B)$ for all self-adjoint operators *A*, $B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with spectra in *J*. It said to be operator convex if $f(\lambda A + (1 - \lambda)B) \leq \lambda f(A) + (1 - \lambda)f(B)$ for all self-adjoint operators *A*, $B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with spectra in *J* and all $\lambda \in [0, 1]$.

The axiomatic theory for operator means of positive invertible operators have been developed by Kubo and Ando [2]. A binary operation σ on $\mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})_+$ is called a connection, if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) $A \leq C$ and $B \leq D$ imply $A\sigma B \leq C\sigma D$;
- (ii) $A_n \downarrow A$ and $B_n \downarrow B$ imply $A_n \sigma B_n \downarrow A \sigma B$, where $A_n \downarrow A$ means that $A_1 \ge A_2 \ge \cdots$ and $A_n \rightarrow A$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ in the strong operator topology;
- (iii) $T^*(A\sigma B)T \leq (T^*AT)\sigma(T^*BT) \ (T \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})).$

There exists an affine order isomorphism between the class of connections and the class of positive operator monotone functions f defined on $(0, \infty)$ via $f(t)I = I\sigma(tI)$ (t > 0). In addition, $A\sigma B = A^{\frac{1}{2}} f(A^{\frac{-1}{2}}BA^{\frac{-1}{2}})A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ for all $A, B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$. The operator monotone function f is called the representing function of σ . The dual σ^{\perp} of a connection σ with the representing function f is the connection with the representing function t/f(t). A connection σ is a mean if it is normalized, i.e. $I\sigma I = I$. The function $f_{\sharp\mu}(t) = t^{\mu}$ on $(0, \infty)$ for $\mu \in (0, 1)$ gives the operator weighted geometric mean $A \sharp_{\mu} B = A^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(A^{\frac{-1}{2}}BA^{\frac{-1}{2}}\right)^{\mu} A^{\frac{1}{2}}$. The case $\mu = 1/2$ gives rise to the geometric mean $A \sharp B$. An operator mean σ is symmetric if $A\sigma B = B\sigma A$ for all $A, B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$. For a symmetric operator mean σ , a parametrized operator mean σ_t , $0 \le t \le 1$ is called an interpolational path for σ if it satisfies

- (1) $A\sigma_0 B = A$, $A\sigma_{1/2} B = A\sigma B$, and $A\sigma_1 B = B$;
- (2) $(A\sigma_p B)\sigma(A\sigma_q B) = A\sigma_{\frac{p+q}{2}}B$ for all $p, q \in [0, 1]$;
- (3) The map $t \in [0, 1] \mapsto A\sigma_t B$ is norm continuous for each A and B.

It is easy to see that the set of all $r \in [0, 1]$ satisfying

$$(A\sigma_p B)\sigma_r(A\sigma_q B) = A\sigma_{rp+(1-r)q} B$$
(1.1)

for all p, q is a convex subset of [0, 1] including 0 and 1. The power means

$$Am_r B = A^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{1 + (A^{\frac{-1}{2}} B A^{\frac{-1}{2}})^r}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{r}} A^{\frac{1}{2}} \qquad (r \in [-1, 1])$$

are some typical interpolational means. Their interpolational paths are

$$Am_{r,t}B = A^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - t + t \left(A^{\frac{-1}{2}} B A^{\frac{-1}{2}} \right)^r \right)^{\frac{1}{r}} A^{\frac{1}{2}} \qquad (t \in [0, 1]).$$

In particular, $Am_{1,t}B = A\nabla_t B = (1-t)A + tB$, $Am_{0,t}B = A\sharp_t B$ and $Am_{-1,t}B = A!_t B = ((1-t)A^{-1} + tB^{-1})^{-1}$. The representing function $F_{r,t}$ of $m_{r,t}$ is

$$F_{r,t}(x) = 1m_{r,t}x = (1 - t + tx^r)^{\frac{1}{r}} \qquad (x > 0)$$

Daykin et al. [3] showed the following refinement of the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality. If $f(\cdot, \cdot)$ and $g(\cdot, \cdot)$ are positive functions with two variables on $(0, \infty) \times (0, \infty)$ such that $f(x, y)g(x, y) = x^2y^2$, $f(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^2 f(x, y)$ and $\frac{yf(x, 1)}{xf(y, 1)} + \frac{xf(y, 1)}{yf(x, 1)} \le \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x}$ hold for all positive real numbers x, y, λ , then inequalities

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_{j} y_{j}\right)^{2} \leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} f(x_{j}, y_{j}) \sum_{j=1}^{n} g(x_{j}, y_{j}) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_{j}^{2}\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} y_{j}^{2}\right)$$

hold for all positive real numbers x_j , y_j $(1 \le j \le n)$. A example of such pair of the functions are $f(x, y) = x^{1+s}y^{1-s}$ and $g(x, y) = x^{1-s}y^{1+s}$. Thus, we get the following inequality due to Callebaut [4]

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j y_j\right)^2 \le \sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j^{1+s} y_j^{1-s} \sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j^{1-s} y_j^{1+s} \le \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j^2\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} y_j^2\right).$$

where x_j, y_j $(1 \le j \le n)$ are positive real numbers and $s \in [0, 1]$. This is indeed an extension of the Cauchy–Schwarz inequality. Another example of such pair of the functions are $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ and $g(x, y) = \frac{x^2y^2}{x^2 + y^2}$. Hence we reach the following Milne inequality [3]

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \sqrt{x_j y_j} \le \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{n} (x_j + y_j)} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{x_j y_j}{x_j + y_j} \le \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j \sum_{j=1}^{n} y_j},$$

where $x_j, y_j \ (1 \le j \le n)$ are positive real numbers.

There have been obtained several Cauchy–Schwarz-type inequalities for Hilbert space operators and matrices; see [5,6] and references therein. Wada [7] gave an operator version of the Callebaut inequality. Hiai and Zhan established a matrix analog of the Callebaut inequality by considering the convexity of a certain norm function [8]. In [9], the authors showed another operator version of the Callebaut inequality:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} \sharp B_{j} \right) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sigma B_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sigma^{\perp} B_{j} \right) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_{j} \right), \quad (1.2)$$

where $A_j, B_j \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ and σ is an operator mean. They presented

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sigma_{s}B_{j}\right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sigma_{1-s}B_{j}\right) \leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sigma_{t}B_{j}\right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sigma_{1-t}B_{j}\right), \quad (1.3)$$

where $A_j, B_j \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$ $(1 \leq j \leq n), \sigma_t$ is an interpolational path for σ such that $\sigma_t^{\perp} = \sigma_{1-t}, t \in [0, 1]$ and *s* is a real number between *t* and 1 - t.

They also showed that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp B_j) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp B_j) \le \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp_s B_j) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp_{1-s} B_j)$$
$$\le \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp_t B_j) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sharp_{1-t} B_j)$$
$$\le \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right), \tag{1.4}$$

where $A_j, B_j \in \mathcal{P}_n$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ and either $1 \ge t \ge s > \frac{1}{2}$ or $0 \le t \le s < \frac{1}{2}$.

In this paper, we present some reverses of inequalities (1.2) and (1.3) under some mild conditions and discuss some related problems. In the last section, we obtain a refinement of inequality (1.4).

2. Some reverses of the Callebaut inequality for Hilbert space operators

In this section, we provide some reverses of operator Callebaut inequality under some mild conditions. It is known [10, Theorem 5.7] that for positive operators $A_j, B_j \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ it holds that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \le \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right).$$
(2.1)

We need a reverse of inequality (2.1).

There is an effective method for finding inverses of some operator inequalities. It was introduced for investigation of converses of the Jensen inequality associated with convex functions and has been shown that the problem of determining multiple or additive complementary inequalities is reduced to solving a single variable maximization or minimization problem, see [10,11] and references therein. This method sometimes gives also a unified view to several different operator inequalities and can be applied for the study of the Hadamard product, operator means, positive linear maps and other topics in the framework of operator inequalities; cf. [12]. We explain it briefly for the operator Choi-Davis-Jensen inequality. It says that if f is an operator concave function on an interval J and $\Phi : \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H}) \to \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a unital positive linear map, then $f(\Phi(A)) \ge \Phi(f(A))$ for all self-adjoint operators A with spectrum in J. We need the next result appeared in [10, Chapter 2] in some general forms. We state a sketch of its proof for the reader convenience. Incidentally, we explain the essence of the Mond–Pečarić method.

THEOREM 2.1 Let f be a strictly positive concave function on an interval [m, M] with 0 < m < M and let Φ be a unital positive linear map. Then

$$\gamma \Phi(f(A)) \ge f(\Phi(A)) \tag{2.2}$$

for all self-adjoint operators $A \in \mathbb{B}(\mathcal{H})$ with spectrum in [m, M], where $\mu_f = \frac{f(M) - f(m)}{M - m}$, $\nu_f = \frac{Mf(m) - mf(M)}{M - m}$ and $\gamma = \max\left\{\frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} : m \le t \le M\right\}$.

Proof Since *f* is concave we have $f(t) \ge \mu_f t + \nu_f$ for all $t \in [m, M]$. It follows from the continuous functional calculus that $f(A) \ge \mu_f A + \nu_f$ and so $\Phi(f(A)) \ge \mu_f \Phi(A) + \nu_f$ for all self-adjoint operators *A* with spectrum in [m, M]. To prove (2.2), it therefore is enough to find a scalar γ such that show that $\gamma(\mu_f \Phi(A) + \nu_f) \ge f(\Phi(A))$, or by the functional calculus it is sufficient to show that $\gamma(\mu_f t + \nu_f) \ge f(t)$ for all $t \in [m, M]$. Thus γ should be max $\left\{\frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} : m \le t \le M\right\}$, which can be found by maximizing the one variable function $\frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f}$ by usual calculus computations. One should note that there is no $t \ge m$ such that $\mu_f t + \nu_f = 0$.

In the above theorem, if we put $\Phi(X) := \Psi(A)^{-1/2} \Psi(A^{1/2}XA^{1/2})\Psi(A)^{-1/2}$, where Ψ is an arbitrary unital positive linear map and take *f* to be the representing function of an operator mean σ , then we reach the inequality

$$\max\left\{\frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} : m \le t \le M\right\} \Psi(A\sigma B) \ge \Psi(A)\sigma\Psi(B)$$
(2.3)

whenever $0 \le mA \le B \le MA$.

Finally, if we take Ψ in (2.3) to be the positive linear map defined on the diagonal blocks of operators by $\Psi(\text{diag}(A_1, \dots, A_n)) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n A_j$, then

$$\gamma \sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right) \quad \text{with } \gamma = \max\left\{\frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} : m \le t \le M\right\}$$
(2.4)

for any positive operators $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. If $\sigma = \sharp_{\alpha}$ $(\alpha \in [0, 1])$, then we reach the following inequality appeared in [13]

$$\frac{\alpha^{\alpha}(M-m)(Mm^{\alpha}-mM^{\alpha})^{\alpha-1}}{(1-\alpha)^{\alpha-1}(M^{\alpha}-m^{\alpha})^{\alpha}}\sum_{j=1}^{n}A_{j}\sharp_{\alpha}B_{j} \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n}A_{j}\right)\sharp_{\alpha}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n}B_{j}\right).$$

In particular, for $\sigma = \sharp = \sharp_{1/2}$, we have the following result due to Lee [14]

$$\frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sharp B_j \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right).$$
(2.5)

We are ready to prove our main result of this section, which gives a reverse of double inequality (1.2).

THEOREM 2.2 Let $0 < mA_j \leq B_j \leq MA_j$ $(1 \leq j \leq n)$ and σ be a mean with the representing function f. Then

$$\sqrt{\gamma\zeta} \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma^{\perp} B_j \right) \right] \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j \right)$$
(2.6)

where

$$\mu_f = \frac{f(M) - f(m)}{M - m}, \quad \nu_f = \frac{Mf(m) - mf(M)}{M - m}$$

$$\gamma = \max_{m \le t \le M} \frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta = \max_{m \le t \le M} \frac{f(M)f(m)t}{f(t)(\nu_f t + Mm\mu_f)}.$$
 (2.7)

In addition,

$$\frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_j \sharp B_j \right) \ge \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma^{\perp} B_j \right) \right].$$

Proof Since $f(t) \sharp f(t)^{\perp} = \sqrt{f(t) \frac{t}{f(t)}} = \sqrt{t}$, we get

$$(A\sigma B)\sharp(A\sigma^{\perp}B) = A\sharp B \tag{2.8}$$

for all positive operators A, B; cf. [2]. It follows from (2.4) that

$$\gamma \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sigma B_j) \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \sigma \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right)$$

and

$$\zeta \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_j \sigma^{\perp} B_j) \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j\right) \sigma^{\perp} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j\right),$$

where γ and ζ are defined by (2.7). It follows from the property (i) of the mean that

$$\left(\gamma\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma B_j\right) \sharp \left(\zeta\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma^{\perp} B_j\right) \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma\sum_{i=1}^n B_i\right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma^{\perp}\sum_{j=1}^n B_j\right).$$

Now equality (2.8) yields that

$$\sqrt{\gamma\zeta}\left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma B_j\right) \ddagger \left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\sigma^{\perp}B_j\right)\right] \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^n A_j\right) \ddagger \left(\sum_{j=1}^n B_j\right).$$

Finally we have

$$\frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_j \sharp B_j \right) \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j \right)$$
(by (2.5))
$$\ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma^{\perp} B_j \right).$$
(by(1.2)).

Remark 2.3 Applying (2.5) and (1.2), we get the following inequality

$$\frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}} \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma B_j \right) \ddagger \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \sigma^{\perp} B_j \right) \right] \ge \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \right) \ddagger \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j \right), \quad (2.9)$$

where $0 < mA_j \leq B_j \leq MA_j$ $(1 \leq j \leq n)$. Now, if we consider the operator function $f(t) = \frac{1+t}{2}$ corresponding to the arithmetic mean, M = 4 and m = 1 in (2.7), then we observe that

$$\gamma = \max_{1 \le t \le 4} \frac{1+t}{2(\mu_f t + \nu_f)} = 1 \ne \frac{10}{9} = \max_{1 \le t \le 4} \frac{2f(4)f(1)t}{(1+t)(\nu_f t + 4\mu_f)} = \zeta.$$

$$\sqrt{\gamma \zeta} = \frac{\sqrt{10}}{3} < \frac{3}{2\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}}.$$

Using Theorem 2.2 for the function $f(t) = \frac{1+t}{2}$, due to $\gamma = \max_{m \le t \le M} \frac{f(t)}{\mu_f t + \nu_f} = 1$ and $\zeta = \max_{m \le t \le M} \frac{f(M)f(m)t}{f(t)(\nu_f t + Mm\mu_f)} = \frac{(1+M)(1+m)}{(1+\sqrt{Mm})^2}$ we obtain the following operator version of the reverse Milne inequality.

COROLLARY 2.4 Let $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. Then

$$\frac{\sqrt{M} + \sqrt{m}}{2\sqrt[4]{Mm}} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_j \sharp B_j \right) \ge \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \nabla B_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j ! B_j \right) \right]$$
$$\ge \frac{1 + \sqrt{mM}}{\sqrt{(1+M)(1+m)}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_j \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_j \right). \quad (2.10)$$

Now, we show a reverse of (1.3) under some mild conditions. First we need the following lemma.

LEMMA 2.5 Let

$$H_{r,t}(x) = \frac{F_{r,t}(x)}{F_{r,1-t}(x)} \qquad (x > 0, r \in [-1, 1], 0 \le t \le 1).$$

Then for a fixed r, $H_{r,t}$ is decreasing for $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and increasing for $t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$.

Proof The case when r = 0 is clear. Let $r \in [-1, 1] - \{0\}$. It follows from

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(H_{r,t}(x)\right) = \left(\frac{(1-t)+tx^r}{t+(1-t)x^r}\right)^{\frac{1}{r}-1} \frac{x^{r-1}(2t-1)}{(t+(1-t)x^r)^2}$$

that $\frac{d}{dx}(H_{r,t}(x)) \le 0$ for $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and $\frac{d}{dx}(H_{r,t}(x)) \ge 0$ for $t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$. Therefore, $H_{r,t}(x)$ is decreasing for $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$ and is increasing for $t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$.

THEOREM 2.6 Let $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$, $r \in [-1, 1]$ and $t \in [0, 1]$. Then

$$\sqrt{\gamma\zeta} \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} m_{r,s} B_{j} \right) \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} m_{r,1-s} B_{j} \right) \right) \right] \\
\geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} m_{r,t} B_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} m_{r,1-t} B_{j} \right),$$
(2.11)

where $s = s_0 t + (1 - s_0)(1 - t)$ for some $s_0 \in [0, 1]$ is any number between t and 1 - t,

$$\mu_{r,s_0} = \frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M)) - F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m))}{H_{r,t}(M) - H_{r,t}(m)},$$

$$\nu_{r,s_0} = \frac{H_{r,t}(M)F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m)) - H_{r,t}(m)F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M))}{H_{r,t}(M) - H_{r,t}(m)},$$

$$\gamma = \max\left\{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(x)}{\mu_{r,s_0}x + \nu_{r,s_0}} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M)\right\}$$

and

$$\zeta = \max\left\{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M))F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m))x}{F_{r,s_0}(x)(\nu_{r,s_0}x + H_{r,t}(M)H_{r,t}(m)\mu_{r,s_0})} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M)\right\}.$$

Proof Assume that $t \in [\frac{1}{2}, 1]$. It follows from $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ that $m \le A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \le M$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. Using Lemma 2.5, we have

$$H_{r,t}(m) \le H_{r,t}\left(A_j^{-1/2}B_jA_j^{-1/2}\right) \le H_{r,t}(M) \qquad (-1 \le r \le 1, \ 1 \le j \le n).$$

So

$$H_{r,t}(m) F_{r,1-t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right) \leq F_{r,t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right)$$

$$\leq H_{r,t}(M) F_{r,1-t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right),$$

where $-1 \le r \le 1$ and $1 \le j \le n$. Multiplying both sides by $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ we reach

$$H_{r,t}(m) \left(A_j m_{r,1-t} B_j \right) \le A_j m_{r,t} B_j \le H_{r,t}(M) \left(A_j m_{r,1-t} B_j \right) \quad (-1 \le r \le 1, \ 1 \le j \le n).$$

Let *s* be any number between 1 - t and *t*. So $s = s_0t + (1 - s_0)(1 - t)$ for some $s_0 \in [0, 1]$. Using inequality (2.6), we get

Next, assume that $t \in [0, \frac{1}{2}]$. It follows from $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ that $m \le A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \le M$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. Using Lemma 2.5 we have

$$H_{r,t}(M) \le H_{r,t}\left(A_j^{-1/2}B_jA_j^{-1/2}\right) \le H_{r,t}(m) \qquad (-1 \le r \le 1, \ 1 \le j \le n).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} H_{r,t}(M)F_{r,1-t}\left(A_j^{-1/2}B_jA_j^{-1/2}\right) &\leq F_{r,t}\left(A_j^{-1/2}B_jA_j^{-1/2}\right) \\ &\leq H_{r,t}(m)F_{r,1-t}\left(A_j^{-1/2}B_jA_j^{-1/2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where $-1 \le r \le 1$ and $1 \le j \le n$. Hence

$$\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} F_{r,t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right) \leq F_{r,1-t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right) \\
\leq \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)} F_{r,t} \left(A_j^{-1/2} B_j A_j^{-1/2} \right),$$

where $-1 \le r \le 1$ and $1 \le j \le n$. Multiplying both sides by $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$ we reach

$$\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} \left(A_j m_{r,t} B_j \right) \le A_j m_{r,1-t} B_j$$
$$\le \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)} \left(A_j m_{r,t} B_j \right) \qquad (-1 \le r \le 1, \ 1 \le j \le n).$$

Let *s* be any number between *t* and 1 - t. So $s = (1 - s_0)t + s_0(1 - t)$ for some $s_0 \in [0, 1]$. It follows from

$$F_{r,s_0}(x^{-1}) = (1 - s_0 + s_0 x^{-r})^{\frac{1}{r}} = x^{-1}((1 - s_0)x^r + s_0)^{\frac{1}{r}} = \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}(x)}{x} \quad (x > 0)$$
(2.12)

that

$$\mu_{r,1-s_0} = \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\right) - F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\right)}{\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} - \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}} = \frac{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m))}{H_{r,t}(m)} - \frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M))}{H_{r,t}(M)}}{\frac{H_{r,t}(M) - H_{r,t}(m)}{H_{r,t}(M) + H_{r,t}(m)}}$$
$$= \frac{H_{r,t}(M)F_{r,s_0}\left(H_{r,t}(m)\right) - H_{r,t}(m)F_{r,s_0}\left(H_{r,t}(M)\right)}{H_{r,t}(M) - H_{r,t}(m)} = \nu_{r,s_0}$$
(2.13)

and

$$\nu_{r,1-s_0} = \frac{\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\right) - \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\right)}{\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} - \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}}$$
$$= \frac{F_{r,s_0}\left(H_{r,t}(M)\right) - F_{r,s_0}\left(H_{r,t}(m)\right)}{H_{r,t}(M) - H_{r,t}(m)} = \mu_{r,s_0}.$$
(2.14)

Therefore,

$$\max \left\{ \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}(x)}{\mu_{r,1-s_0}x + \nu_{r,1-s_0}} : x \text{ is between } \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} \text{ and } \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)} \right\}$$

$$= \max \left\{ \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}(x^{-1})}{\mu_{r,1-s_0}x^{-1} + \nu_{r,1-s_0}} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M) \right\}$$

$$= \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(x)}{x}}{\nu_{r,s_0}x^{-1} + \mu_{r,s_0}} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M) \right\}$$

$$(by (2.12), (2.13) \text{ and } (2.14))$$

$$= \max \left\{ \frac{F_{r,s_0}(x)}{\nu_{r,s_0} + \mu_{r,s_0}x} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M) \right\}$$

and

$$\max \left\{ \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\right)F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\right)x}{F_{r,1-s_0}(x)(\nu_{r,1-s_0}x+\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\mu_{r,1-s_0})} : x \text{ is between } \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)} \text{ and } \frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)} \right\}$$

$$= \max \left\{ \frac{F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\right)F_{r,1-s_0}\left(\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\right)x^{-1}}{F_{r,1-s_0}(x^{-1})\left(\nu_{r,1-s_0}x^{-1}+\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\mu_{r,1-s_0}\right)} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M) \right\}$$

$$= \max \left\{ \frac{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m))}{H_{r,t}(m)}\frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M))}{H_{r,t}(M)}x^{-1}}{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(x)}{x}\left(\mu_{r,s_0}x^{-1}+\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(M)}\frac{1}{H_{r,t}(m)}\nu_{r,1-s_0}\right)} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M) \right\}$$

$$(by (2.12), (2.13) \text{ and } (2.14))$$

$$= \max\left\{\frac{F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(M))F_{r,s_0}(H_{r,t}(m))x}{F_{r,s_0}(x)(\nu_{r,s_0}x + H_{r,t}(M)H_{r,t}(m)\mu_{r,s_0})} : x \text{ is between } H_{r,t}(m) \text{ and } H_{r,t}(M)\right\}$$

= ζ .

Using inequality (2.6), we get

Utilizing Theorem 2.7 for the special case r = 0, we get the following result.

COROLLARY 2.7 Let $0 < mA_j \le B_j \le MA_j$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ and $t \in [0, 1]$. Then

$$\frac{s_{0}^{s_{0}}(M^{2t-1}-m^{2t-1})(M^{2t-1}m^{s_{0}(2t-1)}-m^{2t-1}M^{s_{0}(2t-1)})^{s_{0}-1}}{(1-s_{0})^{(s_{0}-1)}(M^{s_{0}(2t-1)}-m^{s_{0}(2t-1)})^{s_{0}}} \\ \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} \sharp_{s} B_{j} \right) \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} \left(A_{j} \sharp_{1-s} B_{j} \right) \right) \right] \\ \geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sharp_{t} B_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sharp_{1-t} B_{j} \right), \qquad (2.15)$$

where $s = s_0t + (1 - s_0)(1 - t)$ for some $s_0 \in [0, 1]$ is any number between t and 1 - t. In particular, if t = 1, then

$$\frac{s^{s}(M-m)(Mm^{s}-mM^{s})^{s-1}}{(1-s)^{s-1}(M^{s}-m^{s})^{s}} \left[\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sharp_{s} B_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \sharp_{1-s} B_{j} \right) \right]$$
$$\geq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j} \right) \sharp \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} B_{j} \right). \tag{2.16}$$

3. A refinement of the Callebaut inequality

In this section, we obtain a refinement of inequality (1.4) for operators. We need the following lemmas.

LEMMA 3.1 (See [15]) Let a, b > 0 and $v \notin [0, 1]$. Then

$$(a+b) + 2(\nu-1)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 \le a^{\nu}b^{1-\nu} + b^{\nu}a^{1-\nu}.$$

Proof Let $v \notin [0, 1]$. Assume that $f(t) = t^{1-\nu} - \nu + (\nu - 1)t$ $(t \in (0, \infty))$. It is easy to see that f(t) has a minimum at t = 1 in the interval $(0, \infty)$. Hence $f(t) \ge f(1) = 0$ for all t > 0. Assume that a, b > 0. Letting $t = \frac{b}{a}$, we get

$$\nu a + (1 - \nu)b \le a^{\nu}b^{1 - \nu}.$$
(3.1)

Now by inequality (3.1) we have

$$\nu a + (1 - \nu)b + (\nu - 1)(\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b})^2 = (2 - 2\nu)\sqrt{ab} + (2\nu - 1)a$$
$$\leq (\sqrt{ab})^{2 - 2\nu}a^{2\nu - 1} = a^{\nu}b^{1 - \nu}.$$
 (3.2)

Similarly

$$vb + (1 - v)a + (v - 1)(\sqrt{b} - \sqrt{a})^2 \le b^v a^{1 - v}.$$
 (3.3)

Adding inequalities (3.2) and (3.3), we get the desired inequality.

LEMMA 3.2 Let $A, B \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$ and either $1 \ge t \ge s > \frac{1}{2}$ or $0 \le t \le s < \frac{1}{2}$. Then

$$A^{s} \otimes B^{1-s} + A^{1-s} \otimes B^{s} + \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(A^{s} \otimes B^{1-s} + A^{1-s} \otimes B^{s} - 2(A^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes B^{\frac{1}{2}})\right)$$
$$\leq A^{t} \otimes B^{1-t} + A^{1-t} \otimes B^{t}.$$
(3.4)

Proof If we put a^{-1} instead of b and s instead of $2\nu - 1$, respectively, in Lemma 3.1 we get

$$a + a^{-1} + (s - 1)(a + a^{-1} - 2) \le a^s + a^{-s}$$
 $(a > 0, s \ge 1).$

Let us fix positive real numbers α , β such that $\beta \ge \alpha$. Using the functional calculus, if we replace *a* by $A^{\alpha} \otimes B^{-\alpha}$ and *s* by $\frac{\beta}{\alpha}$, then we get

$$A^{\alpha} \otimes B^{-\alpha} + A^{-\alpha} \otimes B^{\alpha} + \left(\frac{\beta - \alpha}{\alpha}\right) \left(A^{\alpha} \otimes B^{-\alpha} + A^{-\alpha} \otimes B^{\alpha} - 2I\right)$$

$$\leq A^{\beta} \otimes B^{-\beta} + A^{-\beta} \otimes B^{\beta}.$$
(3.5)

Multiplying both sides of (3.5) by $A^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes B^{\frac{1}{2}}$ we reach

$$A^{1+\alpha} \otimes B^{1-\alpha} + A^{1-\alpha} \otimes B^{1+\alpha} + \left(\frac{\beta-\alpha}{\alpha}\right) \left(A^{1+\alpha} \otimes B^{1-\alpha} + A^{1-\alpha} \otimes B^{1+\alpha} - 2(A \otimes B)\right) \leq A^{1+\beta} \otimes B^{1-\beta} + A^{1-\beta} \otimes B^{1+\beta}.$$
(3.6)

Now, if we replace α , β , A, B by 2s - 1, 2t - 1, $A^{\frac{1}{2}}$, $B^{\frac{1}{2}}$, respectively, in (3.6), we obtain

$$A^{s} \otimes B^{1-s} + A^{1-s} \otimes B^{s} + \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(A^{s} \otimes B^{1-s} + A^{1-s} \otimes B^{s} - 2(A^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes B^{\frac{1}{2}})\right)$$

$$\leq A^{t} \otimes B^{1-t} + A^{1-t} \otimes B^{t}.$$

We are ready to establish the main result of this section.

THEOREM 3.3 Let A_j , $B_j \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. Then

$$\begin{split} \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) &\circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) \\ &+ \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) - \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp B_{j}) \right) \\ &\leq \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{t}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-t}B_{j}), \end{split}$$

for
$$1 \ge t \ge s > \frac{1}{2}$$
 or $0 \le t \le s < \frac{1}{2}$.

Proof The first inequality is clear. We prove the second one. Put $C_j = A_j^{-\frac{1}{2}} B_j A_j^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ (1 ≤ j ≤ n). By inequality (3.4), we get

$$C_{j}^{s} \otimes C_{i}^{1-s} + C_{j}^{1-s} \otimes C_{i}^{s} + \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(C_{j}^{s} \otimes C_{i}^{1-s} + C_{j}^{1-s} \otimes C_{i}^{s} - 2\left(C_{j}^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes C_{i}^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)\right)$$

$$\leq C_{j}^{t} \otimes C_{i}^{1-t} + C_{j}^{1-t} \otimes C_{i}^{t} \qquad (1 \leq i, j \leq n).$$
(3.7)

Multiplying both sides of (3.7) by $A_j^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes A_i^{\frac{1}{2}}$ we get

$$(A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \otimes (A_{i}\sharp_{1-s}B_{i}) + (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) \otimes (A_{i}\sharp_{s}B_{i}) + \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left((A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \otimes (A_{i}\sharp_{1-s}B_{i}) + (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j})\right)$$
(3.8)

$$\otimes (A_i \sharp_s B_i) - 2(A_j \sharp B_j) \otimes (A_i \sharp B_i))$$

$$\leq (A_j \sharp_t B_j) \otimes (A_i \sharp_{1-t} B_i) + (A_j \sharp_{1-t} B_j) \otimes (A_i \sharp_t B_i).$$
(3.9)

for all $1 \le i, j \le n$. Therefore,

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j})$$

$$+ \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) - \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sharp B_{j}\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}\sharp B_{j}\right)\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \left((A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp_{1-s}B_{i}) + (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp_{s}B_{i}) \right)$$

$$+ \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left((A_{j}\sharp_{s}B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp_{1-s}B_{i}) + (A_{j}\sharp_{1-s}B_{j}) \right)$$

$$\circ (A_{i}\sharp_{s}B_{i}) - 2(A_{j}\sharp B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp B_{i}) \right)$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \left((A_{j}\sharp_{t}B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp_{1-t}B_{i}) + (A_{j}\sharp_{1-t}B_{j}) \circ (A_{i}\sharp_{t}B_{i}) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{t}B_{j}) \circ \sum_{j=1}^{n} (A_{j}\sharp_{1-t}B_{j}).$$
(by inequality (3.8))

If we put $B_j = I$ $(1 \le j \le n)$ in Theorem 3.3, then we get the next result.

COROLLARY 3.4 Let $A_j \in \mathbb{B}(\mathscr{H})_+$ $(1 \le j \le n)$. Then

$$\begin{split} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{s}\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{1-s}\right) \\ &+ \left(\frac{t-s}{s-1/2}\right) \left(\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{s}\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{1-s}\right) - \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{\frac{1}{2}}\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)\right) \\ &\leq \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{t}\right) \circ \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} A_{j}^{1-t}\right), \end{split}$$

where $1 \ge t \ge s > \frac{1}{2}$ or $0 \le t \le s < \frac{1}{2}$.

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