



## Hyponormality on General Bergman Spaces

Houcine Sadraoui<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of mathematics, College of Sciences, King Saud University, P. O Box 2455 Riyadh 11451, Saudi Arabia.

**Abstract.** A bounded operator  $T$  on a Hilbert space is hyponormal if  $T^*T - TT^*$  is positive. We give a necessary condition for the hyponormality of Toeplitz operators on weighted Bergman spaces, for a certain class of radial weights, when the symbol is of the form  $f + \bar{g}$ , where both functions are analytic and bounded on the unit disk. We give a sufficient condition when  $f$  is a monomial.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $w(r)$  be a nonnegative measurable function defined on  $(0, 1)$ , and assume  $0 < \int_0^1 rw(r)dr < \infty$ . Define the Hilbert space  $L_{a,w}^2$  to be the space of analytic functions on the unit disk  $U$  such that  $\int_0^1 \int_0^{2\pi} |f(re^{i\theta})|^2 rw(r) \frac{drd\theta}{\pi} < \infty$ . We set  $\alpha_n = 2 \int_0^1 r^{2n+1} w(r)dr$ . Then  $L_{a,w}^2 = \left\{ f = \sum a_n z^n \text{ analytic on the unit disk such that } \|f\|^2 = \sum \alpha_n |a_n|^2 < \infty \right\}$  and its orthonormal basis is given by  $e_n = \frac{z^n}{\sqrt{\alpha_n}}$ . Toeplitz operators on  $L_{a,w}^2$  are defined by  $T_f(k) = P(fk)$ , with  $f$  bounded measurable on  $U$ ,  $k$  in  $L_{a,w}^2$ , and  $P$  the orthogonal projection on  $L_{a,w}^2$ . Hankel operators are defined by  $H_f(k) = (I - P)(fk)$  where  $f$  and  $k$  are as before. A bounded operator on a Hilbert space is said to be hyponormal if  $T^*T - TT^*$  is positive. Unweighted Bergman spaces are considered in [2, 3, 11]. Hyponormality on the Hardy space was first considered in [4, 5]. The first results on hyponormality of Toeplitz operators on Bergman spaces are in [10] and the necessary condition is improved in [1]. All the known results on hyponormality on weighted Bergman spaces consider particular types of polynomials as a symbol. We cite for example [8] and [9]. In this work we consider hyponormality of Toeplitz operators on  $L_{a,w}^2$ . Under a condition on the weight we give a general necessary condition for the hyponormality of Toeplitz operators on  $L_{a,w}^2$  with a symbol of the form  $f + \bar{g}$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are bounded analytic on the the unit disk. We give sufficient conditions for hyponormality when  $f$  is a monomial and  $g$  is a polynomial. A necessary and sufficient condition for normality of  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$ , when  $f$  and  $g$  are analytic in an open set containing  $U$ , is also obtained as a consequence.

### 2. Basic properties of Toeplitz operators and equivalent forms of hyponormality

These properties are known on the Bergman space and they hold also for weighted Bergman spaces. We assume  $f, g$  are in  $L^\infty(U)$ . Then we have:

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*Email address:* sadrawi@ksu.edu.sa (Houcine Sadraoui)

1.  $T_{f+g} = T_f + T_g$ .
2.  $T_f^* = T_{\bar{f}}$ .
3.  $T_{\bar{f}}T_g = T_{\bar{f}g}$  if  $f$  or  $g$  analytic on  $U$ .

The use of these properties leads to describing hyponormality in more than one form. These are easy to prove, and one of the forms uses Douglas lemma [6].

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $f, g$  be bounded and analytic on  $U$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

1.  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is hyponormal.
2.  $H_{\bar{g}}^*H_{\bar{g}} \leq H_f^*H_f$ .
3.  $\|(I - P)(\bar{g}k)\| \leq \|(I - P)(\bar{f}k)\|$  for any  $k$  in  $L_{a,w}^2$ .
4.  $\|\bar{g}k\|^2 - \|P(\bar{g}k)\|^2 \leq \|\bar{f}k\|^2 - \|P(\bar{f}k)\|^2$  for any  $k$  in  $L_{a,w}^2$ .
5.  $H_{\bar{g}} = LH_{\bar{f}}$  where  $L$  is of norm less than or equal to one.

We also need the following two lemmas. The symbols  $m, n, p$  etc denote nonnegative integers.

**Lemma 2.2.** *For  $m$  and  $n$  integers we have  $P(z^n \bar{z}^m) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n < m \\ \frac{\alpha_n}{\alpha_{n-m}} z^{n-m}, & \text{if } n \geq m \end{cases}$*

*Proof.* If  $n < m$  we have  $\langle P(z^n \bar{z}^m), z^p \rangle = \langle z^n \bar{z}^m, z^p \rangle = \langle z^n, z^{p+m} \rangle = 0$  for any integer  $p$ . Thus  $P(z^n \bar{z}^m) = 0$ . For  $n \geq m$ ,  $\langle P(z^n \bar{z}^m), z^p \rangle = \langle z^n, z^{p+m} \rangle = 0$  if  $p \neq n - m$ . So  $P(z^n \bar{z}^m) = \lambda z^{n-m}$  and  $\langle P(z^n \bar{z}^m), z^{n-m} \rangle = \lambda \|z^{n-m}\|^2 = \lambda \alpha_{n-m}$ . Since  $\langle P(z^n \bar{z}^m), z^{n-m} \rangle = \langle z^n \bar{z}^m, z^{n-m} \rangle = \langle z^n, z^n \rangle = \alpha_n$ , we deduce that  $\lambda = \frac{\alpha_n}{\alpha_{n-m}}$  and the result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *For  $f = \sum a_n z^n$  bounded and analytic on the unit disk. The matrix of  $T_{\bar{f}}T_f - T_fT_{\bar{f}}$  in the orthonormal basis  $\{e_n\}$  is given by*

$$\Lambda_{i,j} = \sum_{m \geq j-i, m \geq 0} \frac{a_{m+i-j} \bar{a}_m \alpha_{i+m}}{\sqrt{\alpha_i} \sqrt{\alpha_j}} - \sum_{i-j \leq m \leq i, 0 \leq m} \frac{a_m \bar{a}_{m+j-i} \sqrt{\alpha_i} \sqrt{\alpha_j}}{\alpha_{i-m}}.$$

*Proof.* We have  $T_f(e_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_j}} \sum_n a_n z^{n+j}$  and  $T_{\bar{f}}T_f(e_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_j}} P(\sum_{m,n} a_n \bar{a}_m z^{n+j} \bar{z}^m) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_j}} \sum_{m-n \leq j} a_n \bar{a}_m \frac{\alpha_{n+j}}{\alpha_{n+j-m}} z^{n+j-m}$  which can be written

$$T_{\bar{f}}T_f(e_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_j}} \sum_{p \geq 0, m+p \geq j} \frac{\alpha_{m+p}}{\alpha_p} a_{m+p-j} \bar{a}_m z^p.$$

We deduce that

$$\langle T_{\bar{f}}T_f(e_j), e_i \rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha_i} \sqrt{\alpha_j}} \sum_{m \geq j-i, m \geq 0} a_{m+i-j} \bar{a}_m \alpha_{i+m}.$$

Similarly, we show that

$$\langle T_fT_{\bar{f}}(e_j), e_i \rangle = \sum_{i-j \leq m \leq i, 0 \leq m} \frac{a_m \bar{a}_{m+j-i} \sqrt{\alpha_i} \sqrt{\alpha_j}}{\alpha_{i-m}}$$

and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.4.** *The following holds*

$$\Lambda_{i+n, i+n+p} = \sum_{l \leq i+n} \frac{(\alpha_{i+n+p+l} \alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n} \alpha_{i+n+p}) \bar{a}_l \bar{a}_{l+p}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}} \alpha_{i+n-l}} + \sum_{l > i+n} \frac{\alpha_{i+n+p+l} \bar{a}_l \bar{a}_{l+p}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}}.$$

*Proof.* This follows from the previous lemma by putting  $m = p + l$  in the first sum and  $m = l$  in the second.  $\square$

3. The results

Denote by  $(\theta_{i,j})$  the matrix of the, possibly unbounded, Toeplitz operator on  $H^2$  with symbol  $|f'|^2$ . Our main result uses the following lemma, where  $C$  denotes a constant.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $f = \sum a_n z^n$  be bounded on  $U$ . Assume  $f' \in H^2$  and  $(\alpha_n)$  satisfies the following conditions:*

$$n^2 \left| \frac{\alpha_{i+n+p+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n+p}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}\alpha_{i+n-l}} \right| \leq Cl(l+p), \quad l \leq i+n \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+p+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n+p})}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}\alpha_{i+n-l}} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} l(l+p) \tag{2}$$

Then

$$n^2 \Lambda_{i+n,i+n+p} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta_{i,i+p}.$$

*Proof.* We have  $\sum_l l^2 |a_l|^2 < \infty$  since  $f' \in H^2$ . Using the previous lemma we have

$$n^2 \Lambda_{i+n,i+n+p} = \sum_{l \leq i+n} \frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+p+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n+p})a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}\alpha_{i+n-l}} + \sum_{l > i+n} \frac{n^2 \alpha_{i+n+p+l} a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}}.$$

Set  $h_n(l) = \frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+p+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n+p})a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}\alpha_{i+n-l}}$ . From (1) we have  $|h_n(l)| \leq (C/2)(l^2|a_l|^2 + (l+p)^2|a_{l+p}|^2) = I(l)$  and  $\int_0^\infty I(l)dv(l) < \infty$ , where  $v$  is the counting measure. Using (2) and the dominated convergence theorem we obtain

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{l \leq i+n} \frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+p+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - \alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n+p})a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}\alpha_{i+n-l}} = \sum l(l+p)a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}.$$

We also have, for  $l > i+n$

$$\left| \frac{n^2 \alpha_{i+n+p+l} a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}} \right| \leq 1/2(l^2|a_l|^2 + (l+p)^2|a_{l+p}|^2).$$

By the dominated convergence theorem we see that

$$\sum_{l > i+n} \frac{n^2 \alpha_{i+n+p+l} a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}}{\sqrt{\alpha_{i+n}} \sqrt{\alpha_{i+n+p}}} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0.$$

The result follows since  $\theta_{i,i+p} = \sum_l l(l+p)a_l \overline{a_{l+p}}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.2.** *Examples of weights satisfying conditions (1) and (2) of the previous lemma are :  $w(r) = r^{2s}$ ,  $s > -\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $w(r) = |\log r|$ , and  $w(r) = 1 - r^2$ .*

From now on we assume  $(\alpha_n)$  satisfies the hypotheses of the previous lemma. We state our main result.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be bounded analytic functions on  $U$ , and assume  $f' \in H^2$ . If  $T_{f+\overline{g}}$  is hyponormal on  $L^2_{a,w}$  then  $g' \in H^2$  and  $|g'| \leq |f'|$  a.e on the unit circle.*

*Proof.* Denote by  $(\Gamma_{i,j})$  the matrix of  $T_{\bar{g}}T_g - T_gT_{\bar{g}}$  and put  $g = \sum_n b_n z^n$ . Hyponormality of  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  leads to the inequality  $n^2\Gamma_{i+n,i+n} \leq n^2\Lambda_{i+n,i+n}$ . We deduce that

$$\sum_{l \leq i+n} \frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - (\alpha_{i+n})^2)|b_l|^2}{\alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n-l}} \leq \sum_{l \leq i+n} \frac{n^2(\alpha_{i+n+l}\alpha_{i+n-l} - (\alpha_{i+n})^2)|a_l|^2}{\alpha_{i+n}\alpha_{i+n-l}} + \sum_{l > i+n} \frac{n^2\alpha_{i+n+l}|a_l|^2}{\alpha_{i+n}}$$

Write the left hand side sum as an integral  $\int u_n(l)dv(l)$ . By Fatou’s lemma, condition (2) of the previous lemma and taking the limit on both sides we get

$$\sum l^2|b_l|^2 \leq \sum l^2|a_l|^2.$$

Thus  $g' \in H^2$ . From the previous lemma we deduce that  $n^2(\Lambda_{i+n,i+n+p} - \Gamma_{i+n,i+n+p}) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \theta_{i,i+p} - \phi_{i,i+p}$  where  $(\phi_{i,j})$  is the matrix of the Hardy space Toeplitz operator  $T_{|g'|^2}$ . Hyponormality leads to the positivity of  $T_{|f'|^2 - |g'|^2}$ , and a property of Toeplitz forms [7] implies that  $|g'| \leq |f'|$  a.e on the unit circle. The proof is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $f$  and  $g$  be analytic and univalent in an open set containing  $U$ . Then  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is normal if and only if  $g = cf + d$  for some constants  $c$  and  $d$  with  $|c| = 1$ .*

*Proof.* if  $g = cf + d$  with  $|c| = 1$ , it is easy to see that  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is normal. Conversely if  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is normal then  $|g'| = |f'|$  on the circle and a maximum modulus argument shows that  $g' = cf'$  with  $|c| = 1$ . Thus  $g = cf + d$ .  $\square$

We now find a sufficient condition for hyponormality when  $f = z^q$ . We begin with the case  $g = \lambda z^p$ . We set

$$\mu_1 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+p}}{\alpha_{i+q}}}, 0 \leq i < q \right\}, \mu_2 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+p}\alpha_{i-q}}{\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-q} - \alpha_i^2}}, q \leq i < p \right\} \text{ and } \mu_3 = \inf \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{(\alpha_{i+p}\alpha_{i-p} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-q}}{(\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-q} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-p}}}, p \leq i \right\}.$$

**Proposition 3.5.** *Assume  $p > q$ . The operator  $T_{z^q+\lambda z^p}$  is hyponormal if and only if  $|\lambda| \leq \lambda_{p,q} = \min\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3\}$ .*

*Proof.* In this case hyponormality is equivalent to  $|\lambda|^2 H_{z^p}^* H_{z^q} \leq H_{z^q}^* H_{z^p}$ . A computation shows that the matrix of  $H_{z^m}^* H_{z^m}$  is diagonal and its diagonal term is given by:

$$D_i = \frac{\alpha_{i+m}}{\alpha_i} \text{ if } m > i, \quad D_i = \frac{\alpha_{i+m}}{\alpha_i} - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-m}} \text{ if } m \leq i.$$

Hyponormality is thus equivalent to the following inequalities:

- i)  $|\lambda|^2 \frac{\alpha_{i+q}}{\alpha_i} \leq \frac{\alpha_{i+p}}{\alpha_i} \quad 0 \leq i < q$
- ii)  $|\lambda|^2 \left( \frac{\alpha_{i+q}}{\alpha_i} - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-q}} \right) \leq \frac{\alpha_{i+p}}{\alpha_i} \quad q \leq i < p$
- iii)  $|\lambda|^2 \left( \frac{\alpha_{i+q}}{\alpha_i} - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-q}} \right) \leq \frac{\alpha_{i+p}}{\alpha_i} - \frac{\alpha_i}{\alpha_{i-p}} \quad p \leq i$

Obviously inequality i) is equivalent to  $|\lambda| \leq \mu_1 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+p}}{\alpha_{i+q}}}, 0 \leq i \leq q \right\}$ , and ii) is equivalent to  $|\lambda| \leq \mu_2 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+p}\alpha_{i-q}}{\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-q} - \alpha_i^2}}, q \leq i < p \right\}$ . The last inequality is equivalent to  $|\lambda| \leq \mu_3 = \inf \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{(\alpha_{i+p}\alpha_{i-p} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-q}}{(\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-q} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-p}}}, p \leq i \right\}$ . Thus hyponormality of  $T_{z^q+\lambda z^p}$  is equivalent to  $|\lambda| \leq \mu_{p,q} = \min\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3\}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.6.** *If  $p = q$  then clearly hyponormality of  $T_{z^q+\lambda z^p}$  is equivalent to  $|\lambda| \leq 1$ . Thus if  $p \geq q$  from the previous theorem  $|\mu_{p,q}| \leq \frac{q}{p}$ .*

In the following proposition we assume  $q \geq 2$  (the case  $q = 1$  being trivial). We set

$$\tau_1 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+q}}{\alpha_{i+p}}}, 0 \leq i < p \right\}, \tau_2 = \min \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-p}}{\alpha_{i-p}\alpha_{i+p} - \alpha_i^2}}, p \leq i < q \right\} \text{ and } \tau_3 = \inf \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{(\alpha_{i+q}\alpha_{i-q} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-p}}{(\alpha_{i+p}\alpha_{i-p} - \alpha_i^2)\alpha_{i-q}}}, q \leq i \right\}.$$

**Proposition 3.7.** Assume  $p < q$  then  $T_{z^q + \lambda \bar{z}^p}$  is hyponormal if and only if  $|\lambda| \leq \sigma_{p,q} = \min\{\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3\}$ .

The proof, being similar to the proof given above, is omitted. We set  $\sigma_{q,q} = 1$ . Note that hyponormality of  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  implies that  $\|g\| \leq \|f\|$ . In particular  $\sigma_{p,q} \leq \sqrt{\frac{\alpha_q}{\alpha_p}}$ . In what follows we give a sufficient condition for the hyponormality of  $T_{z^q + \bar{g}}$ . We denote by  $B_1$  the unit ball of  $L_{a,w}^{2\perp}$ .

**Definition 3.8.** For  $f \in L_{a,w}^2$ , set

$$G_f = \left\{ g \in L_{a,w}^2, \sup\{|\langle \bar{g}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\} \leq \sup\{|\langle \bar{f}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\} \text{ for any } k \in H^\infty \right\}.$$

By the density of  $H^\infty$  in  $L_{a,w}^2$  we see that  $g \in G_f$  is equivalent to  $T_{f+\bar{g}}$  is hyponormal. We list the properties of  $G_f$  in the following proposition:

**Proposition 3.9.** Let  $f \in L_{a,w}^2$ , the following holds:

- i)  $G_f$  is convex and balanced.
- ii) If  $g \in G_f$  and  $c$  is a constant the  $g + c \in G_f$ .
- iii)  $f \in G_f$ .
- iv)  $G_f$  is weakly closed.

*Proof.* i), ii) and iii) follow from the definition of  $G_f$ . For the proof of iv) assume  $(g_i)$  is a net in  $G_f$  such that  $g_i \rightarrow g$ . We have for  $v \in B_1$  and  $k \in H^\infty$ ,  $|\langle \bar{g}_i k, v \rangle| \leq \sup\{|\langle \bar{f}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\}$ . Taking the limit we get  $|\langle \bar{g}k, v \rangle| \leq \sup\{|\langle \bar{f}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\}$  for any  $v \in B_1$ . Taking the supremum on the left hand side we get:  $\sup\{|\langle \bar{g}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\} \leq \sup\{|\langle \bar{f}k, u \rangle|, u \in B_1\}$  for any  $k \in H^\infty$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.10.** Assume  $(\lambda_n)$  is a sequence of complex numbers satisfying  $\sum |\lambda_n| \leq 1$ . Then  $T_{z^q + \sum_{m=1}^q \lambda_m \sigma_{m,q} z^m + \sum_{m=q+1}^\infty \lambda_m \mu_{m,q} z^m}$  is hyponormal.

*Proof.* Set  $g_N = \sum_{m=1}^q \lambda_m \sigma_{m,q} z^m + \sum_{m=q+1}^N \lambda_m \mu_{m,q} z^m$  for  $N \geq q + 1$  and let  $h = \sum_n h_n z^n$  be in  $L_{a,w}^2$ . We have the following inequalities for  $M > N \geq q + 1$

$$|\langle g_M - g_N, h \rangle| \leq \sum_N^M |\lambda_m| |h_m| |\alpha_m| \leq \left( \sum_N^M |\lambda_m|^2 |\alpha_m| \right)^{1/2} \left( \sum_N^M |h_m|^2 |\alpha_m| \right)^{1/2}.$$

Thus  $(g_N)$  converges weakly and a similar argument shows that the limit is  $\sum_{m=1}^q \lambda_m \sigma_{m,q} z^m + \sum_{m=q+1}^\infty \lambda_m \mu_{m,q} z^m$ .

The result follows from the previous proposition.  $\square$

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