

# Quasiaffine Inverses of Linear Operators in Hilbert Spaces

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**Abstract:** Let  $H$  denote a complex Hilbert space and  $B(H)$  denote the Banach algebra of bounded linear operators on  $H$ . Given operators  $A, B, X \in B(H)$ , we define  $R(A, B) : B(H) \rightarrow B(H)$  by  $R(A, B)X = AXB - X$  and  $C(A, B) : B(H) \rightarrow B(H)$  by  $C(A, B)X = AX - XB$ . In this paper, we investigate properties of the operators  $A, B \in B(H)$  satisfying  $R(A, B)X = 0$  or  $R(B, A)Y = 0$  or both where  $X$  and  $Y$  are one-one or have a dense range or both. In particular, the case  $R(A, B)X = 0 = R(B, A)Y$  is of special interest with respect to invertibility of the operator  $A$  under some classes of operators.

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## 1. Introduction

The study of operator equations  $R(A, B)X = 0$  and  $C(A, B)X = 0$  has been considered by a number of authors among them: Khalagai and Sheth [6] showed that if two operators  $A, B \in B(H)$  are such that  $A^2B = BA^2$  then  $AB = BA$  if  $\sigma(A) \cap \sigma(-A) = \emptyset$  or  $A$  is normal and  $0 \notin W(A)$  or  $\{A\}' = \{A^{2m}\}'$  for some positive integer  $m$ . Duggal [1] was able to show that if  $A$  is dominant and  $B^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal such that  $C(A, B)X = 0$  then  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  for some operator  $X$ . Khalagai and Nyamai [4] showed that if  $C(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  then  $A$  and  $B$  are normal if  $X$  is one-one or has a dense range. Hongke and Chuan [2] showed that subnormal (normal) operator with left (right) quasiaffine inverse is invertible. They also showed that given two operators  $A, B \in B(H)$  such that  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant operators and  $X$  a quasiaffinity then,  $R(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $R(A^*, B^*)X = 0$ . Khalagai and Otieno [5] showed that if  $B$  is a quasiaffine inverse of  $A$  then both  $A$  and  $B$  are quasiaffinities and that a quasi-invertible partial isometry is unitary. Khalagai [3] showed that a left (right) invertible operator with a right (left) quasiaffine inverse is invertible and that quasiaffine inverse of an operator can be the usual inverse of the operator given  $\sigma(X) \cap \sigma(-X) = \emptyset$ , where  $X$  is the implementing quasiaffinity. In this paper, we make a continuation of this study by showing among other results that a quasiaffine inverse can be the usual inverse of the operator under some conditions different from the one stated by Khalagai [3]. We also deduce some corollaries pertaining to these results and show that a quasinormal partial isometry with a dense range is unitary.

## 2. Notations and Terminology

In this paper, we denote the range of an operator  $A$  by  $\text{Ran } A$  and its closure by  $\overline{\text{Ran } A}$ . The kernel of operator  $A$  will be denoted by  $\text{Ker } A$ . The commutator of two operators  $A$  and  $B$  is defined by  $[A, B] = AB - BA$  and two operators  $A$  and  $B$  are said to commute if  $[A, B] = 0$ .  $\{A\}' = \{B : [A, B] = 0\}$ . The numerical range of an operator  $A$  is denoted by  $W(A)$  where  $W(A) = \{\langle Ax, x \rangle : \|x\| = 1\}$ . The spectrum of  $A$  will be denoted by  $\sigma(A)$  where  $\sigma(A) = \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : A - \lambda I \text{ is not invertible}\}$ . An operator  $A \in B(H)$  is said to be a quasiaffinity if it is injective and has a dense range. An operator  $A$  is said to be:

*Dominant*, if to each  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  there corresponds a number  $M_\lambda \leq 1$  such that for all  $x \in H$   $\|(A - \lambda)^*x\| \leq M_\lambda \|(A - \lambda)x\|$ .

*M-Hyponormal*, if there exist a constant  $M \leq M_\lambda$  such that for all  $x \in H$   $\|(A - \lambda)^*x\| \leq M \|(A - \lambda)x\|$ .

*Quasinormal*, if  $AA^*A = A^*AA$ .

*Partial isometry*, if  $A = AA^*A$ .

*Isometric*, if  $A^*A = I$ .

*Co-Isometric*, if  $AA^* = I$ .

*Unitary*, if  $A^*A = AA^* = I$ .

### 3. Results

#### Theorem 3.1.

Let  $A, B \in B(H)$ . If  $X$  and  $Y$  are quasiaffinities such that  $AXB = X$  and  $BYA = Y$ .

Then we have

- (i)  $[A, XY] = 0$
- (ii)  $[B, YX] = 0$

#### Proof

(i) From  $AXB = X$  we have by post multiplying each side by  $Y$  that  $AXBY = XY$ . This implies  $AXBYA = XYA$ . Since  $BYA = Y$ , we have  $XYA = AXBYA = AXY$ . Hence the result,  $XYA = AXY$ .

(ii) From  $BYA = Y$  we have by post multiplying each side by  $X$ ,  $BYAX = YX$ . This implies  $BYAXB = YXB$ . Since  $AXB = X$ ,  $YXB = BYAXB = BYX$ . Hence the result,  $YXB = BYX$ .

**Remark 3.2.** We note from the Theorem 3.1 above that if  $B$  is quasiaffine inverse of  $A$  then both operators commute with a product of the implementing quasiaffinities in a given order.

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $AXB = X$  and  $A^*XB^* = X$ . Then we have

- (i)  $[A, XX^*] = 0$ .
- (ii)  $[B, X^*X] = 0$ .

#### Proof

Given  $AXB = X$  implies  $A^*XB^* = X$ , by taking adjoint both sides we have  $BX^*A = X^*$ . Thus, in the Theorem 3.1 above, we replace  $Y$  with  $X^*$  hence the proof carries through.

**Corollary 3.4.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $AXB = X$  where  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant and  $X$  is a quasiaffinity. Then  $B$  is a quasiaffine inverse of  $A$ .

#### Proof

Since  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant then  $AXB = X$  implies  $A^*XB^* = X$ . Taking adjoint gives  $BX^*A = X^*$  where  $X^*$  is also a quasiaffinity. Hence  $B$  is a quasiaffine inverse of  $A$ .

**Remark 3.5.** We note that in Theorem 3 (ii) of Khalagai[3] the condition

$\sigma(X) \cap \sigma(-X) = \emptyset$  can be replaced with a number of other conditions, which are less stringent by using the following results due to Khalagai and Sheth [6].

**Theorem A.** (Khalagai and Sheth [6]) Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $[B, A^2] = 0$ . Then  $[B, A] = 0$  under any of the following conditions.

- (i)  $\sigma(A) \cap \sigma(-A) = \emptyset$ .
- (ii)  $A$  is normal and  $0 \notin W(A)$
- (iii)  $\{A\}' = \{A^{2m}\}'$  for some positive integer  $m$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $AXB = X$  implies  $A^*XB^* = X$  where  $X$  is self-adjoint. Then  $B = A^{-1}$  under any of the following conditions:

- (i)  $0 \notin W(X)$ .
- (ii)  $\{X\}' = \{X^{2m}\}'$  for some positive integer  $m$  and  $X$  is one-one or has a dense range.

**Proof**

Given that  $AXB = X$  implies  $A^*XB^* = X$ , we have by Corollary 3.3 above  $[A, XX^*] = 0 = [B, X^*X]$ .

Since  $X$  is self-adjoint, then  $X = X^*$  and  $X^*X = X^2$ . This implies  $[A, X^2] = 0 = [B, X^2]$ . By Theorem A above, each of conditions (i) and (ii) implies  $[A, X] = 0$  and  $[B, X] = 0$ .

Consequently,  $[A^*, X] = 0$  and  $[B^*, X] = 0$ . Now from  $AXB = X$ , we have  $ABX = X$  implying  $(AB - I)X = 0$ . Since  $0 \notin W(X)$  then  $X$  has a dense range. Thus,  $AB - I = 0$ . That is  $AB = I$ . Also, from  $A^*XB^* = X$  taking adjoint, we have  $BXA = X$ .

If  $[A, X] = 0$ , then  $BAX = X$ . That is  $(BA - I)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $BA - I = 0 \Leftrightarrow BA = I$ . For part (ii) since  $X$  has a dense range or is one-one, we also have that  $(AB - I)X = 0$  and  $(BA - I)X = 0$ . That is:

$$AB = I \text{ and } BA = I. \text{ Hence } B = A^{-1}.$$

**Remark 3.7.** It follows that if  $X$  is a quasiaffinity in Theorem 3.6 above then the quasi-affine inverse  $B$  of  $A$  is the same as the inverse of  $A$  under any of the two conditions.

**Corollary 3.8.** [Khalagai[3] Theorem 3(ii)] Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant satisfying the equation  $AXB = X$  and  $X$  is self-adjoint and a quasiaffinity. Then  $B$  is the quasi-affine inverse of  $A$  which is equal to  $A^{-1}$  under any of the following conditions:

- (i)  $0 \notin W(X)$ .
- (ii)  $\{X\}' = \{X^{2m}\}'$  for some positive integer  $m$  and  $X$  is one-one or has a dense range.

**Proof**

We first note that if  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant operators then  $AXB = X$  implies  $A^*XB^* = X$  and by tracing the proof of Theorem 3.6 above the results are obtained.

**Corollary 3.9.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$ . If  $R(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $R(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  with  $X$  being a quasiaffinity then:

- (i)  $A$  is co-isometric if and only if  $B$  is isometric.
- (ii)  $A$  is isometric if and only if  $B$  is co-isometric.

**Proof**

To proof (i) If  $AXB = X$  and  $A^*XB^* = X$  then  $X = AXB = AA^*XB^*B$ . That is  $X = AA^*XB^*B$ . If  $B$  is isometric then  $B^*B = I$  and  $X = AA^*XB^*B = AA^*X$ . This implies  $X - AA^*X = 0$  and  $(I - AA^*)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - AA^* = 0$  and  $AA^* = I$ . Similarly, we have  $X = AA^*XB^*B$ . Substituting  $AA^* = I$  we have  $X = XB^*B$  and  $X - XB^*B = 0$ . This implies  $X(I - B^*B) = 0$ . Since  $X$  is injective then  $I - B^*B = 0$  implying  $B^*B = I$ .

To Proof (ii), We rearrange the equations  $AXB = X$  and  $A^*XB^* = X$  so that  $X = A^*XB^* = A^*AXB^*B^*$  implying  $X = A^*AXB^*B^*$ . If  $B$  is co-isometric then  $BB^* = I$  and  $X = A^*AXB^*B^* = A^*AX$ . This implies  $X - A^*AX = 0$  and  $(I - A^*A)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - A^*A = 0 \Leftrightarrow A^*A = I$ . Also,  $X = A^*AXB^*B^*$ . Substituting  $A^*A = I$  we obtain  $X = XBB^* \Leftrightarrow X - XBB^* = 0$ . This implies  $X(I - BB^*) = 0$ . Since  $X$  is injective then  $I - BB^* = 0$  implying  $BB^* = I$ .

**Corollary 3.10.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$ . If  $R(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $R(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  with  $X$  being a quasiaffinity then  $A$  is unitary if and only if  $B$  is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $A$  is unitary then its isometric and co-isometric. From Corollary 3.9,  $B$  is co-isometric and isometric thus unitary. Similarly, if  $B$  is unitary, it is isometric and co-isometric thus by Corollary 3.9,  $A$  is co-isometric and isometric.

**Corollary 3.11.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  with  $A$  and  $B^*$  dominant. If  $R(A, B)X = 0$  where  $X$  is a quasiaffinity, then  $A$  is unitary if and only if  $B$  is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $A$  and  $B^*$  are dominant then  $R(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $R(A^*, B^*)X = 0$ . From Corollary 3.10 the results follow.

**Theorem 3.12**

Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that

$R(A, B)X = 0$  or  $R(B, A)Y = 0$ . If there exist an operator  $B_1 \in B(H)$  such that:

- (i)  $R(A, B_1)X = 0$  where  $A$  and  $X$  are one-to-one then  $B_1 = B$
- (ii)  $R(B_1, A)Y = 0$  where  $A$  and  $Y$  have a dense range then  $B_1 = B$ .

**Proof**

(i) If  $R(A, B)X = 0$  and  $AXB_1 = X$  then  $AXB = AXB_1 = X$ .

Thus,  $AXB_1 - AXB = 0$ . If  $A$  and  $X$  are one-to-one then,  $A(XB_1 - XB) = 0$  implies  $X(B_1 - B) = 0$  and

$B_1 - B = 0$ . Thus,  $B_1 = B$ .

(ii) If  $R(B, A)Y = 0$  and  $R(B_1, A)Y = 0$  then  $BYA = B_1YA = Y$ . Thus,  $BYA - B_1YA = 0$  and  $(BY - B_1Y)A = 0$ . If  $A$  and  $Y$  have a dense range then  $(B - B_1)Y = 0$  and  $(B - B_1) = 0$ . Thus  $B_1 = B$ .

**Theorem B.** (Khalagai and Otieno [5] Theorem 1) Let  $A \in B(H)$ . If  $B$  is a quasiaffine inverse of  $A$  then both  $A$  and  $B$  are quasiaffinities.

**Corollary 3.13.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $B$  is quasiaffine inverse of  $A$  where  $X$  and  $Y$  are the implementing quasiaffinities. If there exist operator  $B_1 \in B(H)$  such that  $R(A, B_1)X = 0$  and  $R(B_1, A)Y = 0$  then  $B_1 = B$ .

**Proof**

From Theorem B above both  $A$  and  $B$  are quasiaffinities. This implies  $A$  and  $B$  are one-to-one and have dense range. By tracing Theorem 3.12 proof follows through.

**Remark 3.14** We note from Theorem 3.12 and Corollary 3.13 above that a quasiaffine inverse is indeed unique.

**Theorem 3.15.** Let  $A, B, X \in B(H)$  satisfy  $R(A, B)X = 0$ . If  $X$  has dense range and  $A$  is quasinormal partial isometry then  $A$  is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $A$  is quasinormal partial isometry then  $A = AA^*A = A^*AA$ . If  $X = AXB$  then

$$X = AXB = AA^*AXB = A^*AAXB = AA^*X.$$

This means  $X = AA^*X$  and  $(I - AA^*)X = 0$ . If  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - AA^* = 0$  implying  $AA^* = I$ . Similarly,  $X = A^*AAXB = A^*AX$  implying  $X = A^*AX$  and

$(I - A^*A)X = 0$ . If  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - A^*A = 0$  and  $A^*A = I$ . Thus,  $A^*A = AA^* = I$ .

**Corollary 3.16.** Let  $A, B, X \in B(H)$  satisfy  $R(A, B)X = 0$ . If  $X$  is a quasiaffinity and  $A$  is quasinormal partial isometry then  $A$  is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $X$  is a quasiaffinity then  $X$  has a dense range. By tracing Theorem 3.15 the results follows.

**Corollary 3.17.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$ . If a quasiaffine inverse  $B$  of  $A$  is quasinormal partial isometry then it is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $B$  is a quasiaffine inverse of  $A$  then there exist quasiaffinities  $X$  and  $Y$  such that

$R(A, B)X = 0$  and  $R(B, A)Y = 0$ . If  $B$  is a quasinormal partial isometry and  $R(B, A)Y = 0$  then by Corollary 3.16 the proof carries through.

**Remark 3.18.** Khalagai and Otieno [5] showed that if a partial isometry is a quasiaffinity then it is unitary. In Corollary 3.19, we extend the result to a quasinormal partial isometry with a dense range and notice that it is indeed invertible.

**Corollary 3.19.** Let  $A \in B(H)$  be a quasinormal partial isometry. If  $A$  has a dense range then  $A$  is unitary.

**Proof**

If  $A$  is a quasinormal partial isometry then  $A = AA^*A = A^*AA$ . This means  $A - AA^*A = 0$  and  $(I - AA^*)A = 0$ . Since  $A$  has a dense range then,  $I - AA^* = 0$ . That is  $AA^* = I$ . Also,  $A = A^*AA$  and  $A - A^*AA = 0$ . This implies  $(I - A^*A)A = 0$ . Since  $A$  has a dense range then  $I - A^*A = 0$  and  $A^*A = I$ . Thus,  $A^*A = AA^* = I$ .

**Theorem 3.20.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  such that  $R(A, B)X = 0$  for a quasiaffinity  $X$ . If:

- (i)  $A$  isometric operator then  $C(A^*, B)X = 0$ .
- (ii)  $C(A^*, B)X = 0$  then  $A$  is co-isometric.

**Proof**

(i) If  $R(A, B)X = 0$  and given that  $A$  is isometric then  $XB = A^*AXB = A^*X$ . This implies  $A^*X = XB$  hence  $C(A^*, B)X = 0$ .

(ii) If  $A^*X = XB$  then multiplying both sides by  $A$  from the left we have

$AA^*X = AXB = X$ . Thus,  $AA^*X = X \Leftrightarrow AA^*X - X = 0 \Leftrightarrow (AA^* - I)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $AA^* - I = 0 \Leftrightarrow AA^* = I$ .

**Corollary 3.21.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  such that  $R(A, B)X = 0$  where  $X$  is one-to-one. If:

(i)  $B$  is co-isometric operator then  $C(A, B^*)X = 0$ .

(ii)  $C(A, B^*)X = 0$  then  $B$  is isometric.

**Proof**

Following the steps of Theorem 3.20, we multiply  $AXB = X$  by  $B^*$  from the right we have  $AXBB^* = XB^*$ . Since  $B$  is co-isometric then  $BB^* = I$  and  $AX = XB^*$  also multiplying  $AX = XB^*$  by  $B$  from the right we obtain  $AXB = XB^*B$ . Since  $AXB = X$  then  $XB^*B = AXB = X$ . Thus  $XB^*B = X$  and  $X - XB^*B = 0$ . Since  $X$  is one-to-one, then  $X(I - B^*B) = 0$  implies  $I - B^*B = 0$  and  $B^*B = I$

**Theorem 3.22.**

Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $C(A,$

$B)X = 0$  for some operator  $X$ . If:

(i)  $A$  is a one-to-one partial isometry then  $R(A^*, B)X = 0$ .

(ii)  $B$  is a partial isometry with a dense range then  $R(A, B^*)X = 0$ .

**Proof.**

If  $A$  is a partial isometry then  $A = AA^*A$  and  $C(A, B)X = 0$ . It follows that

$AX = AA^*AX = AA^*XB$ . Thus,  $AX = AA^*XB$  and  $AX - AA^*XB = 0$ . This implies  $A(X - A^*XB) = 0$  and since  $A$  is one-to-one then,  $X - A^*XB = 0$  and  $A^*XB = X$ . That is  $R(A^*, B)X = 0$ . Similarly, If  $B$  is a partial isometry and  $C(A, B)X = 0$  then it follows that  $XB = XBB^*B = AXB^*B$ . Thus,  $XB = AXB^*B$ . This implies  $(X - AXB^*)B = 0$ . Since  $B$  has a dense range then,  $X - AXB^* = 0$  and  $AXB^* = X$ . That is  $R(A, B^*)X = 0$ .

**Corollary 3.23.** Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $A^*$  is dominant and  $B$  is  $M$ -hyponormal operator satisfying  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  for some operator  $X$ . If:

(i)  $A$  is a one-to-one partial isometry then  $R(A^*, B)X = 0$ .

(ii)  $B$  is a partial isometry with a dense range then  $R(A, B^*)X = 0$ .

**Proof.**

If  $A^*$  is dominant and  $B$  is  $M$ -hyponormal operator then  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  imply  $C(A, B)X = 0$ . Thus, by **Theorem 3.22** the proof follows through.

**Theorem 3.24.**

Let  $A, B, X \in B(H)$  be such that  $C(A, B)X = 0$  imply

$C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$ . If  $X$  is a quasiaffinity then  $A$  and  $B$  are unitary operators under each of the following conditions:

(i)  $A$  is a one-to-one partial isometry.

(ii)  $B$  is a partial isometry with a dense range.

**Proof**

To proof (i): If  $C(A, B)X = 0$  then  $X = A^*XB$  and  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$ . Thus,  $X = A^*XB = XB^*B$  implying  $X = XB^*B$  and  $X - XB^*B = 0$  and  $X(I - B^*B) = 0$ . Since  $X$  is one-to-one then  $I - B^*B = 0$  implies  $B^*B = I$ . Since  $B$  is normal then  $I = B^*B = BB^*$ . Similarly,  $X = A^*XB = A^*AX$  implying  $X = A^*AX$  and  $X - A^*AX = 0$ . Thus,  $(I - A^*A)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - A^*A = 0$  and  $A^*A = I$ . Since  $C(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  and  $X$  has a dense range then  $A$  is normal implying  $A^*A = AA^* = I$ .

To proof (ii): If  $B$  is a partial isometry with a dense range and  $C(A, B)X = 0$  then  $X = AXB^*$ . Since  $C(A, B)X = 0$  imply  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$  then  $X = AXB^* = XBB^*$  and  $X = XBB^*$  Thus  $X - XBB^* = 0$  and  $X(I - BB^*) = 0$ . Since  $X$  is one-to-one then  $I - BB^* = 0$  and  $BB^* = I$ .  $B$  is normal implying  $I = BB^* = B^*B$ . Similarly,

$X = AXB^* = AA^*X$  implying  $X = AA^*X$  and  $X - AA^*X = 0$ . Thus,  $(I - AA^*)X = 0$ . Since  $X$  has a dense range then  $I - AA^* = 0$  and  $AA^* = I$ . Since  $A$  is normal then  $A^*A = AA^* = I$ .

**Corollary 3.25.**

Let  $A, B \in B(H)$  be such that  $A$  is dominant and  $B^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal satisfying

$C(A, B)X = 0$ . If  $X$  is a quasiaffinity then  $A$  and  $B$  are unitary operators under each of the following conditions:

- (i)  $A$  is a one-to-one partial isometry.
- (ii)  $B$  is a partial isometry with a dense range.

**Proof**

If  $A$  is dominant and  $B^*$  is  $M$ -hyponormal operator then  $C(A, B)X = 0$  implies  $C(A^*, B^*)X = 0$ . By tracing Theorem 3.24 the proof carries through.

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