

THE RATIOS BETWEEN THE NUMERICAL RADIUS AND  
THE SPECTRAL RADIUS OF A MATRIX AND  
THE SQUARE ROOT OF THE SPECTRAL NORM OF  
THE SQUARE OF THIS MATRIX

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we introduce some ratios between the numerical radius and the spectral radius of a matrix and the square root of the spectral norm of the square of this matrix, and we review the existing results for extreme cases.

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**Key Words:** ratios, numerical radius, spectral norm, spectral radius

## 1. Introduction

Let  $B(H)$  denote the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra of all bounded linear operators on a complex Hilbert space  $H$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ . For  $A \in B(H)$ . Let  $w(A)$ ,  $r(A)$  and  $\|A\|$  denote the numerical radius, the spectral radius and the usual operator norm of  $A$ , respectively. It is well known that  $w(\cdot)$  defines a norm on  $B(H)$ , and that for every  $A \in B(H)$ ,

$$r(A) \leq w(A) \leq \|A\|,$$

and that equality holds if  $A$  is normal.

The best known result in the affirmative direction is the power inequality, which asserts that  $A \in B(H)$ , then

$$r(A^n) = (r(A))^n \text{ and } w(A^n) \leq (w(A))^n,$$

for every positive integer  $n$ .

Numerical radii estimate of companion matrices have been invoked by many Mathematicians. Also, we know that

$$\frac{1}{2}\|A\| \leq w(A) \leq \|A\|.$$

In (2009), we find that

$$w(A) \leq \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \|A\| + \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \leq \|A\|,$$

whenever,  $A^2 \neq [0]_{n \times n}$ .

Also, if  $A^2 = [0]_{n \times n}$ , then  $w(A) = \frac{1}{2}\|A\|$

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In this work, let  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  denote the algebra of all  $n \times n$  complex matrices  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ .

Kui Du presents the ratios between the spectral norm, the numerical radius and the spectral radius. In this note, we consider the ratios

$$s_1(A) = \frac{\|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}}}{w(A)}.$$

and

$$\tau(A) = \frac{w(A)}{r(A)}.$$

It is well known that

$$0 \leq r(A) \leq w(A) \leq \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 2w(A).$$

Thus

$$0 \leq s_1(A) \leq 2,$$

and

$$0 \leq \tau(A) \leq \infty.$$

Here we employ the convention that  $\tau(A) = \infty$  for  $r(A) = 0$ . Obviously

$$s_1(zA) = s_1(A) \text{ and } \tau(zA) = \tau(A) \text{ for all } z \neq 0.$$

It follows from  $r(A^m) = [r(A)]^m$  and  $w(A^m) \leq [w(A)]^m$  that

$$\tau(A^m) \leq [\tau(A)]^m.$$

Now, we list some known results as a background and reminder for the reader.

**Definition 1.1** If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , then:

(i) The spectral norm (or the operator norm) is defined by

$$\|A\| = \max \{ \|Ax\| : \|x\| = 1 \} = \max \left\{ \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|} : \|x\| \neq 0 \right\}.$$

(ii) The numerical radius of  $A$  is defined by

$$w(A) = \max \{ |(Ax, x)| : x \in \mathbb{C}^n, \|x\| = 1 \}.$$

(iii) The spectral radius of  $A$  is defined by

$$r(A) = \max \{ |\lambda| : \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue of } A \}.$$

**Theorem 1.1.** (i) If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , then:

$$\frac{1}{2}\|A\| \leq w(A) \leq \|A\|.$$

(ii) If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , then

$$0 \leq r(A) \leq w(A) \leq \|A\|,$$

(iii) If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , then

$$w(A) \leq \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \|A\| + \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \leq \|A\|,$$

## 2. The Ratios Between the Numerical Radius and the Spectral Radius of a Matrix and the Square Root of the Spectral Norm of the Square of This Matrix

The extreme cases  $\tau(A) = 1$ ,  $s_1(A) = 1$  and  $s(A) = 2$ . In this subsection, we review the existing results for the extreme cases  $\tau(A)=1$ ,  $s_1(A)=1$  and  $s_1(A) = 2$ , respectively. We focus on the relation between  $s_1(A)$  and  $\tau(A)$ .

A matrix  $A$  is said to be spectral if  $w(A) = r(A)$ , i.e.  $\tau(A) = 1$ , see (11). By using similar method in (11), we present the following theorems.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $A \in C^{n \times n}$  such that  $\tau(A) = 1$ .*

- 1) *If  $n \leq 2$ , then  $s_1(A) = 1$ , and  $A$  is a normal matrix.*
- 2) *If  $n > 2$ , then  $A$  is unitarily similar to a triangle matrix of the form*

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Lambda_k & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $1 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\Lambda_k = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \cdots & & \\ & \lambda_2 & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \cdots & & \lambda_k \end{bmatrix}. \tag{1}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{k+1} & * & \cdots & * & * \\ & \lambda_{k+2} & \cdots & * & * \\ & & \ddots & * & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \cdots & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} r(B) &< r(A) = |\lambda_1| = \cdots = |\lambda_k|, \\ w(B) &< r(A) = |\lambda_1| = \cdots = |\lambda_k|, \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, if

$$\begin{aligned} r(A) &< \|B^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\ 1 &< s_1(A) \leq 2. \end{aligned}$$

otherwise,

$$s_1(A) = 1.$$

A matrix  $A$  is said to be radial if

$$w(A) = \|A^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

i.e.,

$$s_1(A) = 1.$$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $A \in C^{n \times n}$  such that  $s_1(A) = 1$ . Then  $\tau(A) = 1$ .*

- 1) *If  $n \leq 2$ , then  $A$  is a normal matrix.*
- 2) *If  $n > 2$ , then  $A$  is unitarily similar to a block diagonal matrix of the form (1) such that*

$$r(B) \leq r(A),$$

and

$$r(A) \geq \|B^2\|^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

**Remark 2.3.** Note that  $s_1(A) = 1$  does not imply that  $\tau(A) = 1$ .

See the following example.

**Example 2.4.** (A Scaled Jordan Block) Let

$$J_n^\alpha(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & \alpha & \cdots & & \\ & \lambda & \alpha & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \alpha \\ & & \cdots & & \lambda \end{bmatrix}_{n \times n} = \lambda I + N. \tag{2}$$

be a matrix of order  $n > 1$ . Then the numerical range of  $J_n^\alpha(\lambda)$  is a disk centered at  $\lambda$  with radius  $|\alpha| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}$  (see [10, Theorem 2.1]). We have

$$r(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) = |\lambda|, \quad w(N) = |\alpha| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}, \quad w(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) = |\lambda| + |\alpha| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1},$$

and

$$\|J_n^\alpha(\lambda)\| = |\lambda| + |\alpha|.$$

So,

$$s_1(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) = \frac{\sqrt{|\lambda|^2 + |2\alpha\lambda|}}{|\lambda| + |\alpha| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{1 + |\frac{2\alpha}{\lambda}|}}{1 + |\frac{\alpha}{\lambda}| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}}$$

and

$$\tau(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) = 1 + \left| \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \right| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}.$$

Thus, when  $n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $|\alpha|/|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $s_1(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) \rightarrow 1$ . However  $\tau(J_n^\alpha(\lambda)) \rightarrow \infty$ .

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