# *n*-NORMAL AND *n*-QUASINORMAL COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTED COMPOSITION OPERATORS ON $L^2(\mu)$

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**Abstract.** An operator T is called *n*-normal operator if  $T^nT^* = T^*T^n$  and *n*-quasinormal operator if  $T^nT^*T = T^*TT^n$ . In this paper, the conditions under which composition operators and weighted composition operators become *n*-normal operators and *n*-quasinormal operators have been obtained in terms of Radon-Nikodym derivative  $h_n$ .

#### 1. Introduction

Let H be the infinite dimensional complex Hilbert space and  $\mathbb{B}(H)$  be the algebra of all bounded linear operators on H. An operator T is called *normal* if  $TT^* = T^*T$ . If T is a normal operator then Ker  $T = \text{Ker } T^*$ . An operator T is called *quasinormal* if  $T(T^*T) = (T^*T)T$ . Every normal operator is a quasinormal operator but converse need not be true. The unilateral shift operator on  $\mathbb{B}(H)$  is quasinormal but not normal. An operator T is called *n-normal* [2] if  $T^nT^* = T^*T^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Also, in [2] Alzuraiqi and Patel proved that T is *n-normal* if and only if  $T^n$  is normal. i.e.,  $T^nT^{*n} = T^{*n}T^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The class of *n*-normal operators is denoted by [nN]. An operator T is called *n-quasinormal* operator [1] if  $T^nT^*T = T^*TT^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The class of *n*-normal operator [1] if  $T^nT^*T = T^*TT^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . The class of *n*-quasinormal operators is denoted by [nQN].

Let  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space. A transformation T is said to be *measurable* if  $T^{-1}(B) \in \Sigma$  for  $B \in \Sigma$ . A measurable transformation T is said to be *non-singular* if

$$\mu(T^{-1}(B)) = 0$$
 whenever  $\mu(B) = 0$  for every  $B \in \Sigma$ .

If T is a measurable transformation then  $T^n$  is also a measurable transformation. If T is non-singular, then we say that  $\mu T^{-1}$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  and hence  $\mu(T^{-1})^n$  becomes absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$ . Hence,

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by Radon-Nikodym theorem there exists a unique non-negative essentially bounded measurable function  $h_n$  such that

$$\mu(T^{-1})^n(B) = \int_B h_n \, d\mu \quad \text{for } B \in \Sigma$$

and  $h_n$  is called the *Radon-Nikodym derivative* and is denoted by  $d\mu(T^{-1})^n/d\mu$ .

PROPOSITION 1.1. Change of Variables: Let X be a non-empty set and let  $\Sigma$  be a  $\sigma$ -algebra on X. Let  $\mu$  and  $\mu T^{-1}$  be measures on  $\Sigma$  and let  $h: X \to [0, \infty]$  be a measurable function. Then the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mu T^{-1}$  is absolutely continuous with respect to  $\mu$  and h is Radon-Nikodym derivative of  $\mu T^{-1}$  with respect to  $\mu$ .
- (ii) For every measurable function  $f: X \to [0, \infty]$ , the equality

$$\int_X f \, d\mu T^{-1} = \int_X f h \, d\mu$$

holds.

Let  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space. Then the *conditional expectation* operator  $E(\cdot | T^{-1}(\Sigma)) = E(f)$  is defined for each non-negative function f in  $L^p$  $(1 \le p < \infty)$  and is uniquely determined by the following set of conditions:

- (i) E(f) is  $T^{-1}(\Sigma)$  measurable.
- (ii) If B is any  $T^{-1}(\Sigma)$  measurable set for which  $\int_B f d\mu$  converges then we have

$$\int_B f \, d\mu = \int_B E(f) \, d\mu.$$

The conditional expectation operator E has the following properties:

- (i)  $E(f \cdot g \circ T) = (E(f))(g \circ T).$
- (ii) E is monotonically increasing, i.e., if  $f \leq g$  a.e. then  $E(f) \leq E(g)$  a.e.

(iii) 
$$E(1) = 1$$

(iv) E(f) has the form  $E(f) = g \circ T$  for exactly one  $\Sigma$ -measurable function g provided that the support of g lies in the support of h which is given by

$$\sigma(h) = \{x : h(x) \neq 0\}.$$

E is the projection operator onto the closure of the range of the composition operator  $C_T$  on  $L^2(\mu)$ .

Let  $\phi$  be an essentially bounded function. The multiplication operator  $M_{\phi}$  on the space  $L^2(\mu)$  induced by  $\phi$  is given by

$$M_{\phi}f = \phi f \quad \text{for } f \in L^2(\mu)$$

Let T be a measurable transformation on X. The composition operator  $C_T$  on the space  $L^2(\mu)$  is given by

$$C_T f = f \circ T$$
 for  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ 

Let  $\phi$  be a complex-valued measurable function then the weighted composition operator  $W_{\phi,T}$  on the space  $L^2(\mu)$  induced by  $\phi$  and T is given by

$$W_{\phi,T}f = \phi \cdot f \circ T \quad \text{for } f \in L^2(\mu).$$

In this paper, we study *n*-normal composition operators, *n*-quasinormal composition operators and weighted composition operators in terms of Radon-Nikodym derivative and expectation operators. We have derived the condition under which the product of two *n*-normal composition operators is also an *n*-normal composition operator.

# 2. *n*-normal composition operators and *n*-quasinormal composition operators

Let  $C_T$  be the composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then the adjoint  $C_T^*$  is given by  $C_T^* f = hE(f) \circ T^{-1}$  for f in  $L^2(\mu)$ .

The following lemma [4, 7] plays a significant role in the subsequent results.

LEMMA 2.1. Let P be the projection of  $L^2(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  onto  $\overline{R(C_T)}$ . Then

- (i)  $C_T^*C_T f = hf$  and  $C_T C_T^* f = (h \circ T)Pf \forall f \in L^2(\mu)$ .
- (ii)  $\overline{R(C_T)} = \{ f \in L^2(\mu) : f \text{ is } T^{-1}(\Sigma) \text{ measurable} \}.$
- (iii) If f is T<sup>-1</sup>(Σ) measurable and g and fg belong to L<sup>2</sup>(μ), then P(fg) = fP(g), (f need not be in L<sup>2</sup>(μ)).
  Also, for k ∈ N,
- (iv)  $(C_T^* C_T)^k f = h^k f.$
- (v)  $(C_T C_T^*)^k f = (h \circ T)^k P(f).$
- (vi) E is the identity operator on  $L^2(\mu)$  if and only if  $T^{-1}(\Sigma) = \Sigma$ .

The following theorem characterizes the n-normal composition operators.

THEOREM 2.2 Let  $C_T$  be a composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $C_T$  is n-normal operator.
- (ii)  $h_n \circ T^n E(f) = h_n f$ .

*Proof.* For  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ 

 $C_T^n C_T^{*n} f = C_T^n (h_n . E(f) \circ T^{-n}) = (h_n . E(f) \circ T^{-n}) \circ T^n = h_n \circ T^n . E(f).$ 

Also,

$$C_T^{*n}C_T^n f = C_T^{*n}(f \circ T^n) = h_n \cdot E(f \circ T^n) \circ T^{-n} = h_n f$$

If  $C_T$  is *n*-normal composition operator then

$$C_T^n C_T^{*n} = C_T^{*n} C_T^n \iff h_n \circ T^n E(f) = h_n f. \quad \blacksquare$$

COROLLARY 2.3. If  $T^{-1}\Sigma = \Sigma$ , then  $C_T$  is n-normal operator if and only if  $h_n \circ T^n = h_n$ .

THEOREM 2.4. If  $C_T$  is a composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $C_T$  is n-normal.

(ii)  $||f \circ T^n|| = ||h_n E(f) \circ T^{-n}||$  for  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ .

COROLLARY 2.5. If  $C_T$  is the composition operator and  $C_T^*$  is its adjoint, then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i)  $C_T$  is n-normal operator.
- (ii)  $C_T^*$  is n-normal operator.
- (iii)  $||f \circ T^n|| = ||h_n E(f) \circ T^{-n}||$  for  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ .

COROLLARY 2.6. If  $C_T$  is n-normal composition operator then  $\operatorname{Ker}(C_T^n) = \operatorname{Ker}(C_T^{*n})$ .

The following example shows that there exists a composition operator which is quasinormal but not *n*-normal operator for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

EXAMPLE 2.7. Let  $\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{Z}_+$  with  $\mu$  as the counting measure. Let  $T^n$  be the transformation defined as  $T^n(j) = j - n$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $C_T^n$  is a unilateral shift operator on  $l^2$  which is quasinormal but not *n*-normal.

In [3], it has been shown that if  $h \circ T \leq h$  then  $C_T^n$  is hyponormal for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Also, we know that if  $C_T$  is *n*-hyponormal and compact then  $C_T$  is *n*-normal.

EXAMPLE 2.8. Let  $\{e_i\}_{i=-\infty}^{+\infty}$  be an orthonormal basis of H. Define T as

$$Te_{i} = \begin{cases} e_{i+1}, & \text{if } i \leq 0\\ 4e_{i+1}, & \text{if } i \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{where} \quad b_{i} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \leq 0\\ 4, & \text{if } i \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Then  $T^k e_i = b_{i,k} e_{i+k}$  where  $|b_{i,k}| \leq |b_{i+1,k}|$ . So  $C_T^k$  is hyponormal and is not compact. Thus  $C_T$  is not *n*-normal operator.

LEMMA 2.9. Let  $C_T$ ,  $M_h \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$ . Then  $C_T^n M_h = M_h C_T^n$  if and only if  $h = h \circ T^n$  a.e., where  $M_h$  is the multiplication operator induced by h.

THEOREM 2.10. If  $C_T$  and  $C_S \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$  are n-normal composition operators. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $C_T^n C_S^n$  and  $C_S^n C_T^n$  are normal operators.

(ii)  $h_{S^nT^n} = h_{T^nS^n} = h_{S^n}h_{T^n}$  a.e., where  $h_{S^nT^n}$ ,  $h_{T^nS^n}$  are the Radon-Nikodym derivatives of  $\mu(T^n \circ S^n)^{-1}$ ,  $\mu(S^n \circ T^n)^{-1}$  with respect to  $\mu$ , respectively.

Proof. (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2).

For  $f \in L^2(\mu)$  and using Proposition 1.1.,

$$\langle C_T^n C_S^n f, f \rangle = \int |f|^2 \circ S^n \circ T^n \, d\mu = \int |f|^2 \, d\mu (S^n \circ T^n)^{-1} = h_{S^n T^n}$$

Also,

$$\langle C_{S}^{n}, C_{T}^{n}f, f \rangle = \int |f|^{2} \circ T^{n} \circ S^{n} \, d\mu = \int |f|^{2} \, d\mu (T^{n} \circ S^{n})^{-1} = h_{T^{n}S^{n}} \, d\mu$$

If  $C_T^n C_S^n$  is a normal operator then

$$(C_{T^n}C_{S^n})^*(C_{T^n}C_{S^n}) = (C_{T^n}C_{S^n})(C_{T^n}C_{S^n})^*$$
$$C_{S^n}^*C_{T^n}^*C_{T^n}C_{S^n} = C_{T^n}C_{S^n}C_{S^n}^*C_{T^n}^*$$
$$C_{S^n}^*C_{S^n}M_{h_{T^n}} = C_{T^n}M_{h_{S^n}}C_{T^n}^*$$
$$M_{h_{T^n}}M_{h_{S^n}} = M_{h_{S^n}}M_{h_{T^n}}.$$

Also,

$$M_{h_{T^nS^n}} = (C_{T^n}C_{S^n})^*(C_{T^n}C_{S^n}) = C_{S^n}^*C_{T^n}^*C_{T^n}C_{S^n}$$
$$= C_{S^n}^*M_{h_{T^n}}C_{S^n} = C_{S^n}^*C_{S^n}M_{h_{T^n}} = M_{h_{S^n}}M_{h_{T^n}}.$$

Similarly,  $M_{h_{S^nT^n}} = M_{h_{T^n}} M_{h_{S^n}}$ .

 $(2) \Rightarrow (1)$  is obvious.

COROLLARY 2.11. If  $C_T$  is n-normal operator then any positive power of  $C_T$  is also n-normal.

The following theorem follows from the definition of the n-quasinormal operator.

THEOREM 2.12. Let  $C_T \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$  be a composition operator. Then  $C_T$  is n-Quasinormal operator if and only if it commutes with the multiplication operator  $M_h$  induced by h.

COROLLARY 2.13. Let  $C_T \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$  be a composition operator. Then  $C_T$  is n-quasinormal operator if and only if it  $h \circ T^n = h$  a.e. for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

THEOREM 2.14. Let  $C_T \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$  be a composition operator. Then  $C_T^*$  is n-quasinormal operator then  $h = h \circ T^n$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $C_T^*$  is *n*-quasinormal. Then

$$C_T^{*n}(C_T^*C_T) = (C_T^*C_T)C_T^{*n}.$$

By taking adjoint on both the sides, we get

$$C_T^* C_T C_T^n = C_T^n C_T^* C_T$$
$$M_h C_T^n = C_T^n M_h$$
$$M_h C_T^n = M_{h \circ T^n} C_T^n.$$

Hence,  $h = h \circ T^n$  a.e.

COROLLARY 2.15. Let  $C_T \in \mathbb{B}(L^2(\mu))$  be a composition operator. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $C_T$  is n-quasinormal operator.

- (ii)  $C_T^*$  is n-quasinormal operator.
- (iii)  $h = h \circ T^n \ a.e.$

## 3. *n*-normal weighted composition operators and *n*-quasinormal weighted composition operators

Let  $(X, \Sigma, \mu)$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure space and  $W \equiv W_{\phi,T}$  be the weighted composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$  induced by the complex valued function  $\phi$  and a measurable transformation T. The adjoint  $W^*$  of W is given by  $W^*f = hE(\phi f) \circ T^{-1}$  for f in  $L^2(\mu)$ . For a natural number n, we put  $\phi_n = \phi.(\phi \circ T).(\phi \circ T^2) \cdots (\phi \circ T^{(n-1)})$ . For  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ ,  $W^n f = \phi_n.f \circ T^n$  and  $W^{*n} f = h_n.E(\phi_n.f) \circ T^{-n}$ .

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- (i) W is n-normal operator.
- (ii)  $\phi_n(h_n \circ T^n.E(\phi_n f)) = h_n.E(\phi_n^2) \circ T^{-n}f.$

Proof. For  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ ,

$$\begin{split} W^n W^{*n} f &= W^n(h_n.E(\phi_n f) \circ T^{-n}) = \phi_n(h_n.E(\phi_n f) \circ T^{-n}) \circ T^n \\ &= \phi_n(h_n \circ T^n.E(\phi_n f)). \end{split}$$

Also,

$$W^{*n}W^n f = W^{*n}(\phi_n \cdot f \circ T^n) = h_n \cdot E(\phi_n^2 \cdot f \circ T^n) \circ T^{-n}$$
$$= h_n \cdot E(\phi_n^2) \circ T^{-n} f.$$

Suppose that W is a n-normal weighted composition operator. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n h_n. E(\phi_n f) \circ T^{-n} &= h_n. E(\phi_n^2. f \circ T^n) \circ T^{-n} \\ \iff & \phi_n(h_n \circ T^n. E(\phi_n f)) = h_n. E(\phi_n^2) \circ T^{-n} f. \end{aligned}$$

COROLLARY 3.2. Let W be a weighted composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) W is n-normal operator.
- (ii)  $W^*$  is n-normal operator.
- (iii)  $\phi_n(h_n \circ T^n.E(\phi_n f)) = h_n.E(\phi_n^2)f$  for  $f \in L^2(\mu)$ .

PROPOSITION 3.3. For  $\phi \geq 0$ ,

- (i)  $W^*Wf = hE[(\phi^2)] \circ T^{-1}f.$
- (ii)  $WW^*f = \phi(h \circ T)E(\phi f).$

THEOREM 3.4. Let W be a weighted composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i) W is n-quasinormal operator.

(ii) 
$$\phi_n h.E(\phi^2) \circ T^{-1}.f \circ T^n = h.E(\phi_{n+2}) \circ T^{-1}.f \circ T^n.$$

Proof. For  $f \in L^{2}(\mu)$ ,  $W^{n}(W^{*}W)f = W^{n}(h.E(\phi^{2}) \circ T^{-1}f) = \phi_{n}h.E(\phi^{2}) \circ T^{-1}.f \circ T^{n}.$ 

Also,

$$\begin{split} (W^*W)W^nf &= (W^*W)(\phi_n.f \circ T^n) = W^*(\phi_{n+1}f \circ T^{n+1}) \\ &= h.E(\phi_{n+2}.f \circ T^{n+1}) \circ T^{-1} = h.E(\phi_{n+2}) \circ T^{-1}.f \circ T^n. \end{split}$$

Suppose that W is a n-quasinormal operator. Then

$$\begin{split} W^n(W^*W) &= (W^*W)W^n\\ \phi_n h. E(\phi^2) \circ T^{-1}. f \circ T^n &= h. E(\phi_{n+2}) \circ T^{-1}. f \circ T^n. \end{split}$$

THEOREM 3.5. Let W be a weighted composition operator on  $L^2(\mu)$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

(i)  $W^*$  is n-quasinormal operator.

(ii) 
$$h_n \cdot E(\phi_n \cdot hE(\phi^2) \circ T^{-1} \cdot f) = h \circ T^{-1} \cdot E(\phi^2 \cdot h_n E(\phi_n \cdot f) \cdot f)$$

Proof.

$$W^{*n}(W^*W)f = W^{*n}(h.E((\phi^2) \circ T^{-1}.f))$$
  
=  $h_n.E(\phi_n.hE(\phi^2) \circ T^{-1}.f) \circ T^{-n}.$ 

Also,

$$\begin{split} (W^*W)W^{*n}f &= (W^*W)(h_n.E(\phi_n.f) \circ T^{-n}) \\ &= W^*(\phi.(h_n.E(\phi_n.f)) \circ T^{-n} \circ T)) \\ &= h.E(\phi^2.h_n.E(\phi_n.f) \circ T^{-n} \circ T \circ T^{-1} \\ &= h \circ T^{-1}.E(\phi^2.h_nE(\phi_n.f) \circ T^{-n}. \end{split}$$

Suppose that  $W^*$  is a *n*-quasinormal weighted composition operator. Then

$$W^{*n}(W^*W) = (W^*W)W^{*n}$$
  
$$h_n.E(\phi_n.hE(\phi^2) \circ T^{-1}.f) = h \circ T^{-1}.E(\phi^2.h_nE(\phi_n.f). \quad \bullet$$

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