



# Quadratic Hyponormality and Positive Quadratic Hyponormality are not Preserved under Weighted Completion and Restriction

M. Hazarika and B. Kalita

Department of Mathematical Sciences, Tezpur University, Tezpur

## ABSTRACT

Let  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\beta = \{\beta_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be weighted sequences with positive weights, and  $W_\alpha$  and  $W_\beta$  be the weighted shifts on  $l^2(\mathbb{Z}_+)$  with weight sequences  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  respectively. If  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$ , we call  $W_\beta$  a weighted restriction of  $W_\alpha$ . In this paper we show that the properties of quadratic hyponormality and positive quadratic hyponormality are not preserved under weighted extension and weighted restriction.

**Keywords:** Quadratic hyponormality, Positive quadratic hyponormality, Weighted shift.  
**AMS Subject Classification:** 47B37, 47B20

## INTRODUCTION

Let  $H$  be a separable infinite dimensional complex Hilbert space and  $B(H)$  denote the algebra of bounded linear operators on  $H$ . For  $A, B \in B(H)$ , let  $[A, B] := AB - BA$ . We say that an  $n$ -tuple  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$  of operators on  $H$  is hyponormal if the operator matrix  $([T_j^*, T_i])_{i,j=0}^n$  is positive on the direct sum of  $n$ -copies of  $H$ . For  $k \geq 1$  and  $T \in B(H)$ ,  $T$  is  $k$ -hyponormal if  $(1, T, \dots, T^k)$  is hyponormal. Again,  $T$  is weakly  $k$ -hyponormal if  $p(T)$  is hyponormal for every polynomial  $p$  of degree  $\leq k$ . It can be shown easily that  $k$ -hyponormality of  $T$  implies weak  $k$ -hyponormality of  $T$ .

For  $k = 2$ , weak 2-hyponormality, often referred to as quadratic hyponormality (for which we write q.h.) was first considered in detail by Curto in [1]. The definition of positive quadratically hyponormal operators (for which we write p.q.h.) was introduced by Curto-Fialkow in [2]. Subsequently, it has been shown that 2-hyponormality  $\Rightarrow$  p.q.h.  $\Rightarrow$  q.h. though the reverse is not always true.

In this paper we consider a weighted shift  $W_\alpha$  with a positive weight sequence  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ . We prove the following results:

1. If  $W_\alpha$  is q.h. (or p.q.h.) then it is not necessary that  $W_\beta$  is also q.h. (or p.q.h.) , whenever  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$ .
2. If  $W_\alpha$  is not q.h. (or p.q.h.) then it is not necessary that the same is true for  $W_\beta$  , whenever  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$ .

### PRELIMINARIES AND NOTATIONS

Let  $\{e_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be the canonical orthonormal basis for  $\ell^2(Z_+)$  and let  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be a bounded sequence of positive numbers. Let  $W_\alpha$  be a unilateral weighted shift defined by  $W_\alpha e_n = \alpha_n e_{n+1}$  for  $n \geq 0$ . Then  $W_\alpha$  is hyponormal if and only if  $\alpha_n \leq \alpha_{n+1} \forall n \geq 0$ .

We recall here some terminologies and notations from [2]. Also we note that an operator  $T$  is quadratically hyponormal if  $T + sT^2$  is hyponormal for every  $s \in X$ . Let  $W_\alpha$  be a hyponormal weighted shift. For  $s \in X$ , we let  $D(s) := [(W_\alpha + sW_\alpha^2)^*, (W_\alpha + sW_\alpha^2)]$  and let  $P_n$  be the projection onto  $V_{i=0}^n \{e_i\}$ . We define

$$D_n := D_n(s) = P_n [(W_\alpha + sW_\alpha^2)^*, (W_\alpha + sW_\alpha^2)] P_n$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} q_0 & \bar{r}_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ r_0 & q_1 & \bar{r}_1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r_1 & q_2 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & q_{n-1} & \bar{r}_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & r_{n-1} & q_n \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $q_k := u_k + |s|^2 v_k$ ,  $r_k := s \sqrt{w_k}$ ,  $u_k := \alpha_k^2 - \alpha_{k-1}^2$ ,  $v_k := \alpha_k^2 \alpha_{k+1}^2 - \alpha_{k-1}^2 \alpha_{k-2}^2$ ,  $w_k := \alpha_k^2 (\alpha_{k+1}^2 - \alpha_{k-1}^2)^2$  for  $k \geq 0$  and  $\alpha_{-1} = \alpha_{-2} := 0$ .

Clearly,  $W_\alpha$  is q.h. if and only if  $D_n(s) \geq 0$  for every  $s \in X$ , and every  $n \geq 0$ . Let  $d_n(\cdot) := \det(D_n(s))$ . Then it follows from [2] that  $d_0 = q_0$ ,  $d_1 = q_0 q_1 - |r_0|^2$  and  $d_{n+2} = q_{n+2} d_{n+1} - |r_{n+1}|^2 d_n$  for  $n \geq 0$ , and that  $d_n$  is actually a polynomial in  $t := |s|^2$  of degree  $(n+1)$ , with

Maclaurin expansion  $d_n(t) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} c(n,i)t^i$ . This gives that for  $n \geq 0$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n+1$ ,

1.  $c(n, 0) = u_0 u_1 \dots u_n \geq 0$ .
2.  $c(n, n+1) = v_0 v_1 \dots v_n \geq 0$ .
3.  $c(1, 1) = u_1 v_0 - u_0 v_1 - w_0 \geq 0$ .

$$4. \quad c(n, i) = u_n c(n-1, i) + v_n c(n-1, i-1) - w_{n-1} c(n-2, i-1) \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

$$5. \quad c(n, 1) = u_n c(n-1, 1) + (v_n u_{n-1} - w_{n-1} u_0 u_1 \dots u_{n-1}) \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

Also we recall from Definition 4.2 [2] that  $W_\alpha$  is p.q.h. if  $c(n, i) \geq 0$  for all  $n, i \geq 0$  with  $0 \leq i \leq n+1$ .

Again, if  $P_+$  denotes the non-negative real numbers, then for  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r$  and  $s$  in  $P_+$  we denote by  $F_r := F_r(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r, s)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{i=0}^n q_i x_i^2 - 2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} r_i x_i x_{i+1} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^n u_i x_i^2 - 2s \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sqrt{w_i} x_i x_{i+1} + s^2 \sum_{i=0}^n v_i x_i^2 \end{aligned}$$

And recall, for further use, the following result :

**Theorem 2.1.** [7] : Let  $W_\alpha$  be a weighted shift with a weight sequence  $\alpha$ . Then the following are equivalent :

- (i)  $W_\alpha$  is quadratically hyponormal;
- (ii)  $F_r(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r, s) \geq 0$  for any  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r, s \in P_+$  ( $n \geq 2$ );
- (iii) There exists a positive integer  $N$  such that  $F_r(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r, s) \geq 0$  for any  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_r, s \in P_+$  ( $n \geq N$ ).

## EXAMPLES OF QUADRATICALLY HYPONORMAL WEIGHTED SHIFTS

In this section we show that the weighted shift on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_+)$  with weight sequence  $\alpha$ :

$\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{43}{80}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$  having a Bergman tail, is quadratically hyponormal. This example is to be used in the next section to prove the statements 1 and 2 claimed in section 1.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $\alpha$  be the positive weight sequence given by  $\alpha$ :

$\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{43}{80}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ . Then the weighted shift operator  $W_\alpha$  with weight sequence  $\alpha$  is quadratically hyponormal.

**Proof.** Let  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  denote the sequence  $\alpha$ . Then  $\alpha_{n+1} = \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+1}}$ ,  $\forall n \geq 2$  and so, in terms of the notations introduced in section 2, we have  $w_n = u_{n+1} v_n$ ,  $\forall n \geq 5$ . In view of Theorem 2.1, it is sufficient to show that  $F_n \geq 0$ ,  $\forall n \geq 5$ .

For  $x_0, \dots, x_5, s$  reals, we define

$$G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) := F_5 - v_5 t x_5^2 \text{ where } s^2 = t.$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^4 (u_i + t v_i) x_i^2 - 2 \sum_{i=0}^4 \sqrt{w_i t} x_i x_{i+1} + u_5 x_5^2.$$

Then  $F_6 = G_5 + (v_5 t - \frac{w_5 t}{u_6 + t v_6}) x_5^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{w_5 t}}{\sqrt{u_6 + t v_6}} x_5 - \sqrt{u_6 + t v_6} x_6)^2.$

Hence,  $F_6(x_0, \dots, x_6, s) \geq 0$  for any  $x_0, \dots, x_6, s \in P_+$

$$\Leftrightarrow G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) + (v_5 t - \frac{w_5 t}{u_6 + t v_6}) x_5^2 \geq 0 \text{ for any } x_0, \dots, x_5, s \in P_+$$

$$\Leftrightarrow G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) + \frac{z_6 t}{1 + z_6 t} v_5 t x_5^2 \geq 0 \text{ for any } x_0, \dots, x_5, s \in P_+.$$

(using  $w_n = u_{n+1} v_n, \forall n \geq 5$  and  $z_n = \frac{v_n}{u_n}$ ).

Similarly,

$$F_7(x_0, \dots, x_7, s) \geq 0 \text{ for any } x_0, \dots, x_7, s \in P_+$$

$$\Leftrightarrow G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) + \frac{z_7 z_6 t^2}{1 + z_7 t + z_7 z_6 t^2} v_5 t x_5^2 \geq 0 \text{ for any } x_0, \dots, x_5, s \in P_+.$$

So, by mathematical induction, for  $n \geq 6$ , we have

$$F_n \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow G_5 + \frac{(z_n z_{n-1} \dots z_6 t^{n-5}) v_5 t x_5^2}{1 + z_n t + z_n z_{n-1} t^2 + \dots + z_n z_{n-1} \dots z_6 t^{n-5}} \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow G_5 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{z_6 t} + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 t^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 \dots z_n t^{n-5}}} v_5 t x_5^2 \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

Claim1:  $G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) \geq 0$  for  $0 \leq s \leq \sqrt{0.299}$

The corresponding symmetric matrix to the quadratic form  $G_5$  is

$$A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} u_0 + t v_0 & -\sqrt{w_0 t} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\sqrt{w_0 t} & u_1 + t v_1 & -\sqrt{w_1 t} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{w_1 t} & u_2 + t v_2 & -\sqrt{w_2 t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_2 t} & u_3 + t v_3 & -\sqrt{w_3 t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_3 t} & u_4 + t v_4 & -\sqrt{w_4 t} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_4 t} & u_5 \end{pmatrix}$$

We discuss the positivity of  $A(t)$  by Nested Determinant Test. By direct computation, we have

$$d_0 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}t, d_1 = \frac{3t}{320} + \frac{43t^2}{640}, d_2 = \frac{43t^2}{12800} + \frac{559t^3}{76800}, d_3 = \frac{301t^2}{1024000} + \frac{731t^3}{1024000} + \frac{20683t^4}{12288000}$$

$$d_4 = \frac{301t^2}{12288000} + \frac{301t^3}{10240000} + \frac{34529t^4}{368640000} + \frac{599807t^5}{1474560000}$$

$$d_5 = \frac{301t^2}{245760000} - \frac{301t^3}{122880000} - \frac{35647t^4}{7372800000} - \frac{20683t^5}{9830400000}$$

If  $0 < t \leq 0.299$  then  $d_0, \dots, d_4 > 0$  and  $d_5 > 0$ , which implies that  $A(t) \geq 0$  for  $0 < t \leq 0.299$  and  $G_5(x_0, \dots, x_5, s) \geq 0$  for  $0 < s \leq \sqrt{0.299}$  and claim1 is established.

Hence by (1),  $F_n(x_0, \dots, x_n, s) \geq 0$  for any  $x_0, \dots, x_n, s \in P_+$  and  $0 < s \leq \sqrt{0.299}$ .

As  $z_n = \frac{v_n}{u_n} = \frac{4(n+1)}{n+2}$ , ( $n \geq 5$ ), so  $\{z_n\}$  is an increasing sequence and hence

$$1 + \frac{1}{z_6 t} + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 t^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 \dots z_n t^{n-5}} \leq 1 + \frac{1}{z_6 t} + \frac{1}{(z_6 t)^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{(z_6 t)^{n-5}} \leq \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{z_6 t}}$$

Hence if  $t > 0.299$ , then

$$G_5 + \frac{1}{1 + \frac{1}{z_6 t} + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 t^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{z_6 z_7 \dots z_n t^{n-5}}} v_5 t x_5^2 \geq G_5 + \left( \frac{24t-7}{144} \right) x_5^2 \quad (\because z_6 = \frac{24}{7} \text{ and } v_5 = \frac{1}{6})$$

Now we consider the corresponding symmetric matrix  $B(t)$  to the quadratic form

$G_5 + \left( \frac{24t-7}{144} \right) x_5^2$  as follows:

$$B(t) = \begin{pmatrix} u_0 + tv_0 & -\sqrt{w_0 t} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\sqrt{w_0 t} & u_1 + tv_1 & -\sqrt{w_1 t} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{w_1 t} & u_2 + tv_2 & -\sqrt{w_2 t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_2 t} & u_3 + tv_3 & -\sqrt{w_3 t} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_3 t} & u_4 + tv_4 & -\sqrt{w_4 t} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\sqrt{w_4 t} & u_5 + \frac{24t-7}{144} \end{pmatrix}$$

As was done in claim1,  $d_i > 0$  for  $t \geq 0.299$  and  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Also,  $d_5$  of  $B(t)$  is

$$\frac{301t^2}{8847360000} + \frac{301t^3}{1474560000} - \frac{1191487t^4}{265420800000} - \frac{6653089t^5}{1061683200000} + \frac{599807t^6}{8847360000} \geq 0$$

for  $t \geq 0.299$ . This is because  $d_5$  is an increasing graph as is seen from the following mathematica graph of  $d_5$ :

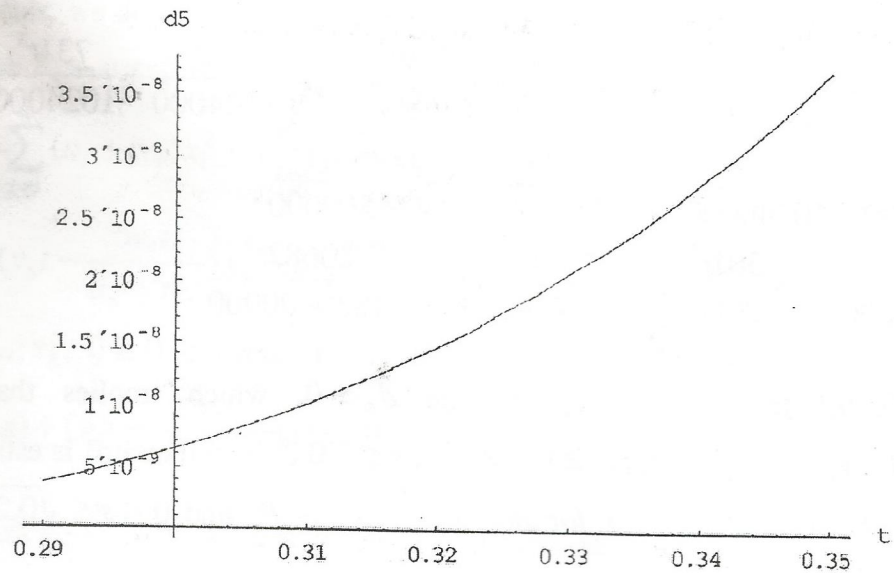


Fig. 1.

Therefore in view of (1),  $F_n(x_0, \dots, x_n, s) \geq 0$  for  $n \geq 5$  and  $s \geq \sqrt{0.299}$ . Thus for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $F_n \geq 0 (n \geq 5)$ . So by theorem 2.1,  $W_\alpha$  is quadratically hyponormal.  $\square$

**Example 3.2.** Let  $\alpha$  be the positive weight sequence given by  $\alpha: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{47}{80}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ . Then the weighted shift operator  $W_\alpha$  with weight sequence  $\alpha$  is quadratically hyponormal.

This can be shown by a method similar to that used in Example 3.1.

### MAIN RESULTS

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be two sequences of positive weights, and  $W_\alpha$  and  $W_\beta$  be corresponding weighted shift operators on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z}_+)$ . If  $\beta$  be a subsequence of  $\alpha$  we define  $W_\beta$  as a weighted extension of  $W_\beta$ , or equivalently,  $W_\beta$  is a weighted restriction of  $W_\alpha$ .

As earlier stated in section 1, here we will show that the properties of quadratic hyponormality and positive quadratic hyponormality are not preserved under weighted extension and weighted restriction.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  be a sequence of positive real numbers and  $\lambda$  be any positive real number. Also let  $\lambda\alpha$  denote the sequence  $\{\lambda\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$ . Then  $W_\alpha$  is quadratically hyponormal if and only if  $W_{\lambda\alpha}$  is quadratically hyponormal. Moreover the result is also true if we replace quadratic hyponormality by positive quadratic hyponormality.

*Proof.* We have  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\lambda\alpha = \{\lambda\alpha_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  and in terms of the notations defined in section 2, we get  $\tilde{d}_k = \lambda^{2k+2}d_k$  for  $k \geq 0$ , where  $\tilde{d}_k := \det(\tilde{D}_n(s))$  and

$\tilde{D}_n(s) = P_n[(W_{\lambda\alpha} + sW_{\lambda\alpha}^2)^*, (W_{\lambda\alpha} + sW_{\lambda\alpha}^2)]P_n$ . This shows that  $W_\alpha$  is q.h. if and only if  $W_{\lambda\alpha}$  is q.h.

Also by an easy calculation we get the relations

$$\tilde{c}(k,0) = \lambda^{2k+2}c(k,0), \tilde{c}(k,1) = \lambda^{2k+4}c(k,1), \dots, \tilde{c}(k,k) = \lambda^{4k+2}c(k,k),$$

$$\tilde{c}(k,k+1) = \lambda^{4k+4}c(k,k+1)$$

and so for  $k \geq 0$  and  $0 < i \leq k+1$ ,  $c(k,i) \geq 0$  if and only if  $\tilde{c}(k,i) \geq 0$ . Hence  $W_\alpha$  is p.q.h. if and only if  $W_{\lambda\alpha}$  is p.q.h.  $\square$

**Question 1:** Is q.h. (or, p.q.h.) preserved under weighted restriction? That is, if  $\beta$  is any subsequence of a sequence  $\alpha$  of positive numbers, then does q.h. (or, p.q.h.) of  $W_\alpha$  necessarily imply q.h. (or, p.q.h.) of  $W_\beta$ ?

This question is answered in the negative as is seen from the following examples:

**Example 4.1.** If  $\alpha$  denotes the weight sequence  $\alpha: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{43}{80}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ , then  $W_\alpha$  is q.h. as shown in Example 3.1. But if  $\beta: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$  then  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$ , and  $W_\beta$  is not q.h. (Example 3.10. [3])

**Example 4.2.** If  $\alpha$  denote the weight sequence  $\alpha: \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \sqrt{\frac{4}{5}}, \dots$ , then  $W_\alpha$  is p.q.h. (Proposition 7. [1]). But if  $\beta: \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{4}{5}}, \sqrt{\frac{6}{7}}, \sqrt{\frac{8}{9}}, \dots$ , then  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$ , and  $W_\beta$  is not p.q.h. since  $c(4,3) < 0$ .

**Question 2:** Is q.h. (or, p.q.h.) preserved under weighted extension? That is, if  $\beta$  is any subsequence of a sequence  $\alpha$  of positive reals, then does q.h. (or, p.q.h.) of  $W_\beta$  imply q.h. (or, p.q.h.) of  $W_\alpha$ ?

This question is answered in the negative as is seen from the following examples:

**Example 4.3.** By Example 3.8 [3] if  $\alpha = \{\alpha_n\}$  is sequence of positive weights such that  $0 < \alpha_0 \leq \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \alpha_4 < \alpha_5 \leq \dots$ , then  $W_\alpha$  is not q.h. Thus if we choose  $\alpha$  as the sequence

$\alpha: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ , then  $W_\alpha$  is not q.h. Let  $\beta$  be the subsequence of  $\alpha$  given by  $\beta: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ . Then  $W_\beta$  is q.h. (proposition 7. [1]).

**Example 4.4.** Let  $\alpha$  be the sequence  $\alpha: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ . Then  $W_\alpha$  is not q.h. (Example 3.10.[2]) and hence not p.q.h.. If  $\beta$  is a subsequence of  $\alpha$  given by  $\beta: \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$ , then  $W_\beta$  is p.q.h. (Proposition 7. [1]).

### CONCLUSION AND OPEN PROBLEM

For a positive real number  $z$ , let  $\alpha(z)$  denote the sequence  $\alpha(z): \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, \sqrt{z}, \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{4}}, \dots$

In examples 3.1. and 3.2. we have shown that  $W_{\alpha(z)}$  is q.h. if  $z = \frac{43}{80}$  and  $\frac{47}{80}$ . In view of the questions answered in section 4, one should be able to determine all the values of  $z$  such that  $W_{\alpha(z)}$  is q.h. We have reasons to believe that it is q.h. for all  $z$  such that  $\frac{43}{80} \leq z \leq \frac{47}{80}$ . However, this has to be validated by rigorous proof.

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