

Norm inequalities for commutators of self-adjoint operators

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Let A , B , and X be bounded linear operators on a complex separable Hilbert space. It is shown that if A and B are self-adjoint with $a_1 \leq A \leq a_2$ and $b_1 \leq B \leq b_2$ for some real numbers a_1 , a_2 , b_1 , and b_2 , then for every unitarily invariant norm $\|\cdot\|$,

$$\|AX - XB\| \leq \max(a_2 - b_1, b_2 - a_1) \|X\|.$$

If, in addition, X is positive, then

$$\|AX - XA\| \leq \frac{1}{2}(a_2 - a_1) \|X \oplus X\|.$$

These norm inequalities generalize recent related inequalities due to Kittaneh, Bhatia-Kittaneh, and Wang-Du.