



## Elementary properties of $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators

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**Abstract.** Inspired by recent works on  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator, we introduce the class of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators and study various properties of this class. We study the quasi-nilpotent perturbations of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. Also, we prove that the class of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators is norm closed. Finally, we characterize when product of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators is also  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a separable complex Hilbert space and let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  be the  $C^*$ -algebra of all bounded linear operators acting on  $\mathcal{H}$ , and let  $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{C}$  be the set of natural numbers and complex numbers, respectively. An operator  $C$  on  $\mathcal{H}$  is said to be conjugation if  $C$  is antilinear operator and satisfies  $C^2 = I$  and  $(Cx, Cy) = (y, x)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ .

In [11],  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator with conjugation  $C$  is introduced as follow: if there exists some conjugation  $C$  satisfying

$$\sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} CT^i CT^{m-i} = 0,$$

$T$  is called an  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator. For an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and a conjugation  $C$ , define  $w_m(T)$  as follows:

$$w_m(T) = \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} CT^i CT^{m-i}.$$

It's clear that  $T$  is  $[m]$ -complex symmetric if and only if  $w_m(T) = 0$ . Moreover,

$$CTC.w_m(T) - w_m(T).T = w_{m+1}(T)$$

holds. Hence every  $[m]$ -complex symmetric is  $[n]$ -complex symmetric for each  $n \geq m$ . But the converse isn't true in general, see [11]. We now introduce the class of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators.

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**Definition 1.1.** Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $T$  satisfies

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0,$$

then  $T$  is said to be an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $T$  is an  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator for some  $m \geq 1$ , then  $T$  is called a finite  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator with conjugation  $C$ . The class of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators is larger than finite  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operators with conjugation  $C$ .

The motivation of studying  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator comes from recent interests in  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator and  $m$ -complex symmetric operator [2–11], and  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator enjoys many properties of  $[m]$ -complex symmetric operator.

## 2. $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator

We next show that the following result about eigenvectors for  $(\infty, C)$ -isometric operators does not extend to  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators, see part (a) of Theorem 2.2 in [1].

**Theorem 2.1.** [1] Let  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $T$  is an  $(\infty, C)$ -isometric operator and satisfies  $(T - \alpha)x = 0$  and  $(T - \beta)y = 0$  with  $\alpha\beta \neq 1$ , then  $(Cx, y) = 0$ .

**Example 2.2.** Let  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2$  and let  $C$  be a conjugation on  $\mathcal{H}$  satisfying  $C \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{x} \\ \bar{y} \end{pmatrix}$ . If  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , simple calculations show that  $(T - 6) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ ,  $(T + 1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ , and  $T$  is a  $[2]$ -complex symmetric operator, hence  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator, while  $(C \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}) = -3 \neq 0$ .

But we have the following result.

**Theorem 2.3.** Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

- (i) If there exist nonzero vectors  $x, y$  such that  $(T - \alpha)x = 0$  and  $(T^* - \beta)y = 0$  with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , then  $(Cx, y) = 0$ .
- (ii) If there exists nonzero vector  $x$  such that  $(T - \alpha)x = 0$  and  $(T^* - \beta)Cx = 0$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ .
- (iii) If there exist sequences of unit vectors  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T - \alpha)x_n = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T^* - \beta)y_n = 0$  with  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , then  $\{(Cx_n, y_n)\}$  has a subsequence  $\{(Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l})\}$  which converges to 0.
- (iv) If there exists a sequence of unit vectors  $\{x_n\}$  such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T - \alpha)x_n = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T^* - \beta)Cx_n = 0$ , then  $\alpha = \beta$ .

*Proof.* (i) Let  $x, y$  be nonzero vectors such that  $(T - \alpha)x = 0$  and  $(T^* - \beta)y = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (Cw_m(T)x, y) &= (C \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} CT^i CT^{m-i} x, y) \\ &= (\sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} T^i \bar{\alpha}^{m-i} Cx, y) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} (\bar{\alpha}^{m-i} Cx, \beta^i y) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} \bar{\alpha}^{m-i} \beta^i (Cx, y) \\ &= (\bar{\beta} - \bar{\alpha})^m (Cx, y), \end{aligned}$$

and hence

$$|\bar{\beta} - \bar{\alpha}| |(Cx, y)|^{\frac{1}{m}} = |(Cw_m(T)x, y)|^{\frac{1}{m}} \leq \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \|x\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \|y\|^{\frac{1}{m}}.$$

Since  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator, we have

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |\bar{\beta} - \bar{\alpha}| |(Cx, y)|^{\frac{1}{m}} \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \|x\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \|y\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0. \tag{2.1}$$

Since  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , it follows from (2.1) that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |(Cx, y)|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0.$$

This implies  $(Cx, y) = 0$ .

(ii) Assume that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Set  $y = Cx$ . Then  $y$  is a nonzero vector. By (i),  $\|x\|^2 = (Cx, Cx) = 0$ , which contradicts with the fact that  $x$  is a nonzero vector. Hence  $\alpha = \beta$ .

(iii) Let  $\{x_n\}$  and  $\{y_n\}$  be sequences of unit vectors such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T - \alpha)x_n = 0 \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T^* - \beta)y_n = 0.$$

Since  $\{(Cx_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is bounded, there exists a convergent subsequence  $\{(Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l})\}$ . Set  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} (Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l}) = \mu$ . For  $\forall m \geq 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})^m \mu| &= |(\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta})^m| \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} |(Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l})| \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \left| \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} \bar{\alpha}^{m-i} \bar{\beta}^i (Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l}) \right| \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \left| \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} (CT^{m-i}x_{n_l}, T^{*i}y_{n_l}) \right| \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} \left| \left( C \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} CT^i CT^{m-i}x_{n_l}, y_{n_l} \right) \right| \\ &= \lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} |(Cw_m(T)x_{n_l}, y_{n_l})| \\ &\leq \|w_m(T)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator, we have

$$|\bar{\alpha} - \bar{\beta}| \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |\mu|^{\frac{1}{m}} \leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0.$$

Since  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , it follows that  $\mu = 0$ , i.e.,  $\lim_{l \rightarrow \infty} (Cx_{n_l}, y_{n_l}) = 0$ .

(iv) Assume that  $\alpha \neq \beta$ . Set  $y_n = Cx_n$ . It follows from (iii) that  $\{(Cx_n, Cx_n)\}$  has a subsequence  $\{(Cx_{n_l}, Cx_{n_l})\}$  which converges to 0. While  $(Cx_{n_l}, Cx_{n_l}) = 1$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\alpha = \beta$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . If  $TCTC = CTCT$ , then

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = r(T - CTC),$$

where  $r(A)$  denotes the spectral radius of  $A$ . In particular, if  $r(T - CTC) = 0$ , then  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* Since  $TCTC = CTCT$ , we have

$$w_m(T) = \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} CT^m CT^{m-i} = (CTC - T)^m,$$

and hence

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|(T - CTC)^m\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = r(T - CTC).$$

In particular, if  $r(T - CTC) = 0$ , then  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Suppose that  $T, Q \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  satisfy  $TQ = QT$  and  $TCQC = CQCT$ . Then, for  $m \geq 2$ ,*

$$\|w_m(T + Q)\| \leq M^m (\max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\| + \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\|),$$

where  $M = 2(2\|T\| + 2\|Q\| + 1)$  and  $j = \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil$  is the integer part of  $\frac{m}{3}$ .

*Proof.* Since

$$\begin{aligned} [(a + b) - (c + d)]^m &= [(a - c) + b - d]^m \\ &= \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m} (-1)^{m_2} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} (a - c)^{m_1} d^{m_2} b^{m_3}, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$w_m(T + Q) = \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m} (-1)^{m_2} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} w_{m_1}(T)(CQC)^{m_2} Q^{m_3}.$$

Suppose that  $j = \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil$  is the integer part of  $\frac{m}{3}$ . Put

$$M_i = \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m, m_i \geq j} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} \|w_{m_1}(T)(CQC)^{m_2} Q^{m_3}\|, i = 1, 2, 3.$$

Since  $m_1 + m_2 + m_3 = m$ , then there exists some  $m_i \geq j, i = 1, 2, 3$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_m(T + Q)\| &\leq \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} \|w_{m_1}(T)(CQC)^{m_2} Q^{m_3}\| \\ &\leq M_1 + M_2 + M_3. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m, m_1 \geq j} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} \|w_{m_1}(T)(CQC)^{m_2} Q^{m_3}\| \\ &\leq \sum_{m_1+m_2+m_3=m, m_1 \geq j} \binom{m}{m_1, m_2, m_3} \|w_{m_1}(T)\| \|Q\|^{m_2} \|Q\|^{m_3} \\ &\leq \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\| (2\|Q\| + 1)^m \\ &\leq \left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^m \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\|w_k(T)\| \leq (2\|T\|)^k$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , by the similar way, we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_2 &\leq \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\| (2\|T\| + \|Q\| + 1)^m \\ &\leq \left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^m \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\| \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} M_3 &\leq \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\| \cdot (2\|T\| + \|Q\| + 1)^m \\ &\leq \left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^m \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_m(T + Q)\| &\leq \left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^m \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\| + 2\left(\frac{M}{2}\right)^m \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\| \\ &\leq M^m (\max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\| + \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\|). \end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 2.6.** Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $C$  is a conjugation on  $\mathcal{H}$ . Then the following statements hold:

(i) If  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator,  $Q^n = 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $TQ = QT$  and  $TCQC = CQCT$ , then  $T + Q$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

(ii) If  $T_n$  is a sequence of commuting  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators which satisfy  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T_n - T\| = 0$ , then  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* (i) Let  $T$  be an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator and  $Q^n = 0$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , Then for a given  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , there exists  $N$  which satisfies

$$\|w_n(T)\| \leq \varepsilon^n \text{ and } \|Q^n\| \leq \varepsilon^n$$

for all  $n \geq N$ . It follows from Lemma 2.5, for  $m \geq 3N$  and  $j = \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil \geq N$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_m(T + Q)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} &\leq M(\max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T)\| + \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|Q^n\|)^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &\leq M(2\varepsilon^n)^{\frac{1}{m}} \leq M(2\varepsilon^j)^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &= 2^{\frac{1}{m}} M \varepsilon^{\frac{j}{m}} = 2^{\frac{1}{m}} M \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{m} \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary,  $\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T + Q)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0$ , i.e.,  $T + Q$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

(ii) Suppose that  $T_n T_k = T_k T_n$  for all  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $T T_n = T_n T$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . For a given  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , there exists  $n_0$  which satisfies

$$\|T - T_{n_0}\| \leq \varepsilon \text{ and } \|w_n(T_{n_0})\| \leq \varepsilon^n$$

for all  $n \geq n_0$ . It follows from Lemma 2.5, for  $m \geq 3n_0$  and  $j = \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil \geq n_0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} &= \|w_m(T_{n_0} + T - T_{n_0})\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &\leq M(\max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|w_n(T_{n_0})\| + \max_{j \leq n \leq m} \|T - T_{n_0}\|)^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &\leq 2^{\frac{1}{m}} M \varepsilon^{\frac{j}{m}} = 2^{\frac{1}{m}} M \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{m} \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  is arbitrary,  $\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0$ , i.e.,  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. □

We use Theorem 2.6 (ii) to illustrate the following example.

**Example 2.7.** Let  $C_n : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$  be the conjugation given by

$$C_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T = (\overline{x_1}, \overline{x_2}, \dots, \overline{x_n})^T.$$

Put  $T = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n$ , where  $T_n$  is an  $n$ th order matrix such that

$$\begin{aligned} T_n &= I_n + N_n \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2^n} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \frac{1}{2^n} & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $N_n$  is a nilpotent operator of order  $n$ , it follows from [11] that  $T_n$  is a  $[2n - 1]$ -complex symmetric operator with conjugation  $C_n$ , we have  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator with a conjugation  $C = \bigoplus_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n$ . In fact, Set  $S_n = T_1 \oplus \dots \oplus T_n \oplus I \oplus I \oplus \dots$ . Then  $S_n$  is a  $[2n - 1]$ -complex symmetric operator with conjugation  $C$  and  $S_n S_k = S_k S_n$  for all  $n, k \geq 1$ . Since  $S_n \rightarrow T$  in the operator norm, it follows from Theorem 2.6 (ii) that  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

In the following, we study the product properties of  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators.

**Lemma 2.8.** Suppose that  $T, R \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  satisfy  $TR = RT$  and  $T(CRC) = (CRC)T$ . Then

$$w_m(TR) = \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{m}{i} CT^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i},$$

where  $w_0(*) = I$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $TR = RT$  and  $T(CRC) = (CRC)T$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} (ab - cd)^m &= [(a - c)b + (b - d)c]^m \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{m}{i} c^i (a - c)^{m-i} (b - d)^i b^{m-i}, \end{aligned}$$

it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} w_m(TR) &= \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} C(TR)^i C(TR)^{m-i} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^m \binom{m}{i} CT^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i}. \end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 2.9.** Suppose that  $T$  and  $R$  are  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators. If  $TR = RT$  and  $T(CRC) = (CRC)T$ , then  $TR$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $T$  and  $R$  are  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators. Then for a given  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ , there exist  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  such that

$$\|w_{n_1}(T)\| \leq \varepsilon^n \text{ and } \|w_{n_2}(R)\| \leq \varepsilon^n$$

for  $n_1 \geq N_1$  and  $n_2 \geq N_2$ . Set  $N = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ . Then it suffices to show that there exists a constant  $M > 0$  which satisfies for  $m \geq 2N$ ,

$$\|w_m(TR)\| \leq M^m \varepsilon^{\frac{m}{2}}.$$

Let  $j = \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$  denote the integer part of  $\frac{m}{2}$ . It follows from Lemma 2.8 that

$$\begin{aligned} w_m(TR) &= \sum_{i=0}^j \binom{m}{i} CT^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=j+1}^m \binom{m}{i} CT^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $i \leq j = \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ , then  $m - i \geq \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor = j \geq N$ , and so  $\|w_{m-i}(T)\| \leq \varepsilon^{m-i} \leq \varepsilon^j$ . Since  $\|C\| = 1$ ,  $\|w_i(R)\| \leq (2\|R\|)^i$  for all  $i \geq 1$ . Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \sum_{i=0}^j \binom{m}{i} C T^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i} \right\| \\ & \leq \sum_{i=0}^j \binom{m}{i} \|w_{m-i}(T)\| \|C T^i C\| \|R^{m-i}\| \|w_i(R)\| \\ & \leq \sum_{i=0}^j \binom{m}{i} \varepsilon^j \|T\|^i \|R\|^{m-i} (2\|R\|)^i \\ & \leq \varepsilon^j (2\|T\| \|R\| + \|R\|)^m. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, if  $i \geq j + 1 \geq N$ , then  $\|w_i(R)\| \leq \varepsilon^j$ , and hence we have

$$\left\| \sum_{i=j+1}^m \binom{m}{i} C T^i C w_{m-i}(T) w_i(R) R^{m-i} \right\| \leq \varepsilon^j (\|T\| + 2\|T\| \|R\|)^m.$$

Then for  $m \geq 2N$

$$\|w_m(TR)\| \leq \varepsilon^{\lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor} ((2\|T\| \|R\| + \|R\|)^m + (\|T\| + 2\|T\| \|R\|)^m).$$

Hence  $\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(TR)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} = 0$ , i.e.,  $TR$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

We use Theorem 2.9 to illustrate the following example.

**Example 2.10.** Let  $C$  be the conjugation on  $\mathcal{H}$  given by

$$C(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots)^T = (\overline{x_1}, \overline{x_2}, \dots, \overline{x_n}, \dots)^T.$$

Suppose that  $T, S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  satisfy  $Te_n = \alpha e_n$  and  $Se_n = \beta_n e_{n+1}$  with  $\beta_n = \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $T$  and  $S + I$  are  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operators, and it is easy to compute

$$TCSCe_n = TCSe_n = TC(\beta_n e_{n+1}) = T\overline{\beta_n e_{n+1}} = \overline{\alpha \beta_n e_{n+1}}$$

and

$$CSCTe_n = CSC(\alpha e_n) = CS(\overline{\alpha e_n}) = C(\overline{\alpha \beta_n e_{n+1}}) = \overline{\alpha \beta_n e_{n+1}}.$$

Moreover,  $TSe_n = T\beta_n e_{n+1} = \beta_n \alpha e_{n+1}$  and  $STe_n = S\alpha e_n = \alpha \beta_n e_{n+1}$ . Hence  $TCSC = CSCT$  and  $TS = ST$ , it follows from Theorem 2.9 that  $T(I + S)$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

**Corollary 2.11.** Suppose that  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. If  $T(CTC) = (CTC)T$ , then  $T^n$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* We shall prove  $T^n$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator by induction. It's easy to show that  $T^2$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator by Theorem 2.9. Assume that  $T^{n-1}$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. Since  $T^{n-1}CTC = CTCT^{n-1}$ , it follows from Theorem 2.9 that  $T^n$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.12.** Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Then the following statements hold:

- (i)  $T$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator if and only if  $T^*$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.
- (ii) If  $T$  is an invertible  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator, then  $T^{-1}$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* (i) Let  $T$  be an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. Since

$$w_m(T^*) = \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} C T^{*i} C T^{*m-i},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} w_m(T^*) &= \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} C T^{*i} C T^{*m-i} \\ &= C \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} T^{*i} C T^{*m-i} C \\ &= \begin{cases} C(w_m(T))^* C, & \text{if } m \text{ is even,} \\ -C(w_m(T))^* C, & \text{if } m \text{ is odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T^*)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} &= \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|C(w_m(T))^* C\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &\leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|(w_m(T))^*\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &= \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $T^*$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator. The converse implication holds by a similar way.

(ii) Note for any  $b, c \in \mathbb{C}$ ,

$$b^m (c^{-1} - b^{-1})^m c^m = (b - c)^m = \sum_{i=0}^m (-1)^{m-i} \binom{m}{i} b^i c^{m-i}.$$

Take  $c = T$  and  $b = CTC$ . Then we have

$$w_m(T) = (-1)^m (CTC)^m w_m(T^{-1}) T^m.$$

Therefore,

$$(-1)^m (CTC)^{-m} w_m(T) T^{-m} = w_m(T^{-1}).$$

Hence

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|w_m(T^{-1})\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \|T^{-1}\| \|w_m(T)\|^{\frac{1}{m}} \|T^{-1}\| = 0,$$

i.e.,  $T^{-1}$  is an  $[\infty, C]$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

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