



## Some results on higher order symmetric operators

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**Abstract.** For some operator  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , positive integers  $m$  and  $k$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric if  $T^{*k}(\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j) T^k = 0$ , which is a generalization of the  $m$ -symmetric operator.

In this paper, some basic structural properties of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators are established with the help of operator matrix representation. We also show that if  $T$  and  $Q$  are commuting operators,  $T$  is  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric and  $Q$  is  $n$ -nilpotent, then  $T + Q$  is  $(k + n - 1)$ -quasi- $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric. In addition, we obtain that every power of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric is also  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric. Finally, some spectral properties of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric are investigated.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  denote the algebra of all bounded linear operators on the complex separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . For  $S, T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , let  $L_S$  and  $R_T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}))$  denote the operators  $L_S(X) = SX$  and  $R_T(X) = XT$  of left multiplication by  $S$  and right multiplication by  $T$ . Recall the definition of the usual derivation operator  $\delta_{S,T}(X)$  given by  $\delta_{S,T}(X) = SX - XT$  for  $X \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . For every positive integer  $m$ , we have  $\delta_{S,T}^m(X) = \delta_{S,T}(\delta_{S,T}^{m-1}(X))$  for  $X \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ . Given any positive integer  $m$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is said to be  $m$ -symmetric (also called  $m$ -selfadjoint in the literature) if

$$\delta_{T^*, T}^m(I) = (L_{T^*} - R_T)^m(I) = \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} T^j = 0,$$

where  $\binom{m}{j}$  is the binomial coefficient and  $T^*$  is the adjoint operator of  $T$ . The  $m$ -symmetric operators have applications in positive definite differential operators of odd order, conjugate point theory, and classical disconjugacy theory [1, 3, 12, 13]. In [11] Helton initiated the study of the  $m$ -symmetric operator, in a series of papers [11–13], he modelled these operators as multiplication  $t$  on a Sobolev space, established their connections to Sturm-Liouville operators. Note that  $T$  is 1-symmetric if and only if  $T$  is selfadjoint. It is clear that if  $T$  is  $m$ -symmetric, then  $T$  is  $n$ -symmetric for all  $n \geq m$ . In [17], McCullough and Rodman obtained some algebraic and spectral properties of  $m$ -symmetric operators. On the other hand, the perturbation of

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$m$ -symmetric operators by nilpotent operators has been considered in [9, 16, 17], and products and sums of two commuting  $m$ -symmetric operators were discussed in [4, 5, 7–9]. In addition,  $m$ -symmetric weighted shift operators have been explored in [18]. Recently, in [14], Jeridi and Rabaoui extended the notion of  $m$ -symmetric operators to  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators. For a positive  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and positive integer  $m$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called  $(A, m)$ -symmetric if

$$\delta_{T^*, T}^m(A) = (L_{T^*} - R_T)^m(A) = \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j = 0.$$

$(A, m)$ -symmetric operators inherit many interesting properties of  $m$ -symmetric operators, for example, if  $T$  and  $Q$  are commuting operators,  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $Q$  is  $n$ -nilpotent, then  $T + Q$  is an  $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator; if  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator, then  $T$  is an  $(A, n)$ -symmetric operator for all  $n \geq m$ ; the powers of an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator are also  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators.

Now we consider an extension of the notion of the  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.

**Definition 1.1.** For some operator  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , positive integers  $m$  and  $k$ , an operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is called  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric if

$$T^{*k} \delta_{T^*, T}^m(A) T^k = T^{*k} (L_{T^*} - R_T)^m(A) T^k = T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j \right) T^k = 0.$$

In particular, for  $A = I$ , the operator  $T$  is said to be  $k$ -quasi- $m$ -symmetric if

$$T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} T^j \right) T^k = 0.$$

In this paper, we study various properties of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators. The perturbation of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators by nilpotent operators is obtained. In addition, some spectral properties of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric are investigated.

## 2. Main Results

Henceforth, let  $\mathbb{N}, \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$  be the set of natural numbers, real numbers and complex numbers, respectively.  $A$  will denote a bounded linear operator unless explicitly stated otherwise,  $\overline{M}$  will denote the closure of a set  $M$ . If  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ , we shall write  $\mathcal{N}(T)$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(T)$  and  $\sigma(T)$  for the null space, the range space and the spectrum of  $T$ , respectively.

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$  be an operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  where  $A_1 = A|_{\overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)}}$  and  $A_2 = A|_{\overline{\mathcal{N}(T^{*k})}}$ . Suppose that  $\mathcal{R}(T^k)$  is not dense. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1)  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator;
- (2)  $T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^{*k})$ , where  $T_1$  is an  $(A_1, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $T_3^k = 0$ . Furthermore,  $\sigma(T) = \sigma(T_1) \cup \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Consider the matrix representation of  $T$  with respect to the decomposition  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^{*k})$ :

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $P$  be the projection onto  $\overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)}$ . Since  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator, we have

$$P \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j \right) P = 0.$$

Therefore

$$\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_1^{*m-j} A_1 T_1^j = 0.$$

On the other hand, for any  $x = (x_1, x_2)^T \in \mathcal{H}$ , we have

$$(T_3^k x_2, x_2) = (T^k(I - P)x, (I - P)x) = ((I - P)x, T^{*k}(I - P)x) = 0,$$

which implies  $T_3^k = 0$ . Since  $\sigma(T_1) \cap \{0\}$  has no interior point, by [10, Corollary 7]  $\sigma(T) = \sigma(T_1) \cup \{0\}$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Suppose that  $T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^{*k})$ , where  $T_1$  is an  $(A_1, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $T_3^k = 0$ . We have

$$T^k = \begin{pmatrix} T_1^k & \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $F = \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_1^{*m-j} A_1 T_1^j$ . Then  $F = 0$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} & T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_1^{*m-j} A T^j \right) T^k \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} T_1^{*k} & 0 \\ \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \right)^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_1^{*m-j} A_1 T_1^j & * \\ * & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T_1^k & \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} T_1^{*k} F T_1^k & T_1^{*k} F \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \\ \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \right)^* F T_1^k & \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \right)^* F \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T_1^j T_2 T_3^{k-1-j} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

for some non specified entries  $*$ . Hence  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2.** ([19]) Suppose that  $\mathcal{R}(T^k)$  is not dense. Then the following statements are equivalent:

(1)  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $m$ -symmetric operator;

(2)  $T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^{*k})$ , where  $T_1$  is an  $m$ -symmetric operator and  $T_3^k = 0$ . Furthermore,  $\sigma(T) = \sigma(T_1) \cup \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* This is a result of Theorem 2.1.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.3.** Suppose that  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $\mathcal{R}(T^k)$  is dense. Then  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* This is a result of Definition 1.1.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.4.** Suppose that  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator. Then  $T^n$  is also a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator, we have

$$T^{*k} \delta_{T^*, T}^m(A) T^k = T^{*k} (L_{T^*} - R_T)^m(A) T^k = T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_1^{*m-j} A T_1^j \right) T^k = 0.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} T^{*nk} \delta_{T^n, T^n}^m(A) T^{nk} &= T^{*nk} (L_{T^n} - R_{T^n})^m(A) T^{nk} \\ &= T^{*nk} (L_{T^n}^n - R_{T^n}^n)^m(A) T^{nk} \\ &= T^{*nk} \{L_{T^n}^{n-1} \delta_{T^n, T^n} + L_{T^n}^{n-2} \delta_{T^n, T^n} R_{T^n} + L_{T^n}^{n-3} \delta_{T^n, T^n} R_{T^n}^2 \\ &\quad + \dots + L_{T^n} \delta_{T^n, T^n} R_{T^n}^{n-2} + \delta_{T^n, T^n} R_{T^n}^{n-1}\}^m(A) T^{nk} \\ &= T^{*(n-1)k} \{L_{T^n}^{n-1} + L_{T^n}^{n-2} R_{T^n} + L_{T^n}^{n-3} R_{T^n}^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + L_{T^n} R_{T^n}^{n-2} + R_{T^n}^{n-1}\}^m \{T^{*k} \delta_{T^n, T^n}^m(A) T^k\} T^{(n-1)k} \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $T^n$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**Remark** The converse of Proposition 2.4 is not true in general as shown in the following example.

**Example 2.5.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in B(\mathbb{C}^4)$  and  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in B(\mathbb{C}^4)$ . A simple calculation shows that  $T^{*2}(T^6A - 3T^{*4}AT^2 + 3T^{*2}AT^4 - AT^6)T^2 = 0$  and  $T^*(T^3A - 3T^{*2}AT + 3T^*AT^2 - AT^3)T \neq 0$ . So, we obtain that  $T^2$  is a quasi- $(A, 3)$ -symmetric operator, but  $T$  is not a quasi- $(A, 3)$ -symmetric operator.

**Corollary 2.6.** Suppose that  $T$  is an invertible  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator. Then  $T^{-1}$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $T$  is an invertible  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator. Then  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator, and so is  $T^{-1}$ . Hence  $T^{-1}$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.7.** Suppose that  $\{T_n\}$  is a sequence of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T_n - T\| = 0$ . Then  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\{T_n\}$  is a sequence of  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operators such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T_n - T\| = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} &\|T_n^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k - T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j \right) T^k\| \\ &\leq \|T_n^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k - T_n^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k\| \\ &\quad + \|T_n^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k - T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k\| \\ &\leq \|T_n^{*k}\| \left\| \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^{j+k} - \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^{j+k} \right\| \\ &\quad + \|T_n^{*k} - T^{*k}\| \left\| \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^{j+k} \right\| \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\{T_n\}$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator,

$$T_n^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T_n^{*m-j} A T_n^j \right) T_n^k = 0,$$

we have

$$T^{*k} \left( \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j \right) T^k = 0,$$

i.e.,  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.8.** ([6, Proposition 2.2]) *Suppose that  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $Q$  is an  $n$ -nilpotent operator such that  $TQ = QT$ . Then  $T + Q$  is an  $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator.*

**Theorem 2.9.** *Let  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$  be an operator on  $\mathcal{H}$  where  $A_1 = A|_{\overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)}}$  and  $A_2 = A|_{\mathcal{N}(T^k)}$ . Suppose that  $T$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $Q$  is an  $n$ -nilpotent operator such that  $TQ = QT$ . Then  $T + Q$  is a  $(k + n - 1)$ -quasi- $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator.*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\mathcal{R}(T^k)$  is dense. Then  $T$  is an  $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator,  $T + Q$  is an  $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator by Lemma 2.8, hence  $T + Q$  is a  $(k + n - 1)$ -quasi- $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator. Now we may assume that  $T^k$  does not have dense range. Then by Theorem 2.1 the  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric  $T$  can be decomposed as follows:

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ 0 & T_3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on } \mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^k),$$

where  $T_1$  is an  $(A_1, m)$ -symmetric operator and  $T_3^k = 0$ . Since  $TQ = QT$ , it follows that  $Q$  has the upper triangular representation

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & Q_2 \\ 0 & Q_3 \end{pmatrix} \text{ on } \mathcal{H} = \overline{\mathcal{R}(T^k)} \oplus \mathcal{N}(T^k),$$

hence  $T_i Q_i = Q_i T_i$  and  $Q_i^n = 0 (i = 1, 3)$ . Since  $T_1$  is an  $(A_1, m)$ -symmetric operator, by Lemma 2.8,  $T_1 + Q_1$  is an  $(A_1, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_{T+Q, T+Q}^{m+2n-2}(A) &= \sum_{j=0}^{m+2n-2} (-1)^j \binom{m+2n-2}{j} (T + Q)^{*(m+2n-2-j)} A (T + Q)^j \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{m+2n-2} (-1)^j \binom{m+2n-2}{j} \begin{pmatrix} T_1 + Q_1 & T_2 + Q_2 \\ 0 & T_3 + Q_3 \end{pmatrix}^{*(m+2n-2-j)} \\ &\quad \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & A_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T_1 + Q_1 & T_2 + Q_2 \\ 0 & T_3 + Q_3 \end{pmatrix}^j \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \delta_{T_1+Q_1, T_1+Q_1}^{m+2n-2}(A_1) & F_1 \\ F_2 & F_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & F_1 \\ F_2 & F_3 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

for some operators  $F_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} (T + Q)^{k+n-1} &= \begin{pmatrix} T_1 + Q_1 & T_2 + Q_2 \\ 0 & T_3 + Q_3 \end{pmatrix}^{k+n-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (T_1 + Q_1)^{k+n-1} & F \\ 0 & (T_3 + Q_3)^{k+n-1} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (T_1 + Q_1)^{k+n-1} & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned}$$

for some operator  $F$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} & (T^* + Q^*)^{k+n-1} \delta_{T^*+Q^*, T+Q}^{m+2n-2}(A)(T + Q)^{k+n-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (T_1^* + Q_1^*)^{k+n-1} & 0 \\ F^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & F_1 \\ F_2 & F_3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (T_1 + Q_1)^{k+n-1} & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,  $T + Q$  is a  $(k + n - 1)$ -quasi- $(A, m + 2n - 2)$ -symmetric operator.  $\square$

In the sequel, let  $\sigma_{ap}(T)$ ,  $\sigma_p(T)$ ,  $\sigma_{su}(T)$ ,  $\sigma_w(T)$ ,  $\sigma_b(T)$  and  $\sigma_T(x)$  for the approximate point spectrum of  $T$ , the point spectrum of  $T$ , the surjective spectrum of  $T$ , the Weyl spectrum of  $T$ , the Browder spectrum of  $T$  and the local spectrum of  $T$  at  $x$ , respectively.

**Theorem 2.10.** *Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for some positive  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $0 \notin \sigma_p(A)$ . The following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\sigma_p(T) \subset \mathbb{R}$ ;
- (2) For distinct non-zero real numbers  $a, b$  and non-zero vectors  $x, y \in \mathcal{H}$ , if  $Tx = ax$  and  $Ty = by$ , then  $(Ax, y) = 0$ ;
- (3) For distinct non-zero real numbers  $a, b$  and sequences of unit vectors  $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ , if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T - a)x_n = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T - b)y_n = 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (Ax_n, y_n) = 0$ .

*Proof.* (1) We argue by contradiction. Assume that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ . If  $\lambda \in \sigma_p(T)$ , then there exists a non-zero vector  $x \in \mathcal{H}$  such that  $(T - \lambda)x = 0$ . Thus, for each integer  $l$ ,  $(T^l - \lambda^l)x = 0$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= (T^{*k} (\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j) T^k x, x) \\ &= |\lambda|^{2k} (\bar{\lambda} - \lambda)^m (Ax, x) \\ &= |\lambda|^{2k} (-2Im(\lambda))^m \|A^{\frac{1}{2}}x\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $Im(\lambda) = 0$  since  $\|A^{\frac{1}{2}}x\| \neq 0$ , this is a contradiction. Hence,  $\sigma_p(T) \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

(2) Since  $a, b$  are two non-zero eigenvalues of  $T$  and  $Tx = ax$  and  $Ty = by$ , we have

$$0 = (T^{*k} (\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j) T^k x, y) = a^k b^k (a - b)^m (Ax, y).$$

Hence  $(Ax, y) = 0$ .

(3) By similar arguments of the proof of (2), we have

$$0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T^{*k} (\sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} T^{*m-j} A T^j) T^k x_n, y_n) = a^k b^k (a - b)^m \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (Ax_n, y_n).$$

Hence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (Ax_n, y_n) = 0$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.11.** [15] *An operator  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  has the single-valued extension property, abbreviated SVEP, if, for every open set  $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ , the only analytic solution  $f : \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  of the equation  $(T - \lambda I)f(\lambda) = 0$  for all  $\lambda \in \mathcal{G}$  is the zero function on  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

**Theorem 2.12.** *Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for some positive  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $0 \notin \sigma_p(A)$ . Then  $T$  has SVEP.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for some positive  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $0 \notin \sigma_p(A)$ . Then by Theorem 2.10  $\sigma_p(T) \subset \mathbb{R}$ . An operator such that its point spectrum has empty interior has SVEP [2, Remark 2.4(d)], hence  $T$  has SVEP.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.13.** *Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $(A, m)$ -symmetric operator for some positive  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  and  $0 \notin \sigma_p(A)$ . The following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_{su}(T) = \cup\{\sigma_T(x) : x \in \mathcal{H}\}$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma_w(T) = \sigma_b(T)$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $T$  has SVEP. For (1) we can apply [15, Proposition 1.3.2]. For (2) we can apply [2, Corollary 3.53].  $\square$

**Corollary 2.14.** *Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$  is a  $k$ -quasi- $m$ -symmetric operator. The following statements hold:*

- (1)  $\sigma(T) = \sigma_{su}(T) = \cup\{\sigma_T(x) : x \in \mathcal{H}\}$ ;
- (2)  $\sigma_w(T) = \sigma_b(T)$ .

*Proof.* This is a result of Corollary 2.13.  $\square$

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