



## The reverse order law for EP modular operators

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### Abstract

In this paper, we present new conditions that reverse order law holds for EP modular operators.  
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### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

It is a classical result of Greville [8], that  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$  if and only if  $\text{ran}(T^*TS) \subset \text{ran}(S)$  and  $\text{ran}(SS^*T^*) \subset \text{ran}(T^*)$ , in the case when  $T$  and  $S$  are complex (possibly rectangular) matrices. This result is extended for bounded linear operators on Hilbert spaces, by Bouldin [2, 3], and Izumino [9]. Then, in [5], the reverse order law for the Moore-Penrose inverse is obtained as a consequence of some set equalities. Recently, Sharifi [13] and Mohammadzadeh Karizaki [11, 12] studied Moore-Penrose inverse of product of the operators with closed range in Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules.

In this paper, we state new conditions that reverse order law for the Moore-Penrose inverse holds. A bounded linear operator  $T$  with closed range on a complex Hilbert space  $H$  is called an EP operator if  $T$  and  $T^*$  have the same range. Djordjević [4] gave necessary and sufficient conditions for a product of two EP operators with closed ranges to be an EP operator with a closed range. In addition, we state new conditions that if  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  are EP operators with closed ranges and  $TS = ST^* = S^*T$ , then  $TS$  has closed range and  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

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Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules are objects like Hilbert spaces, except that the inner product takes its values in a  $C^*$ -algebra, instead of being complex-valued. Throughout the paper,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $C^*$ -algebra (not necessarily unital). A (right) pre-Hilbert module over a  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is a complex linear space  $\mathcal{X}$ , which is an algebraic right  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $\lambda(xa) = (\lambda x)a = x(\lambda a)$  equipped with an  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  satisfying,

- (i)  $\langle x, x \rangle \geq 0$ , and  $\langle x, x \rangle = 0$  iff  $x = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $\langle x, y + \lambda z \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle + \lambda \langle x, z \rangle$ ,
- (iii)  $\langle x, ya \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle a$ ,
- (iv)  $\langle y, x \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle^*$

for each  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ . A pre-Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module  $\mathcal{X}$  is called a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module if it is complete with respect to the norm  $\|x\| = \|\langle x, x \rangle\|^{\frac{1}{2}}$ . Left Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -modules are defined in a similar way. For example, every  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module with respect to inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle = x^*y$ , and every inner product space is a left Hilbert  $\mathbb{C}$ -module.

Suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  are Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -modules, then,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  is the set of all maps  $T : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  for which there is a map  $T^* : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$ , the so-called adjoint of  $T$  such that  $\langle Tx, y \rangle = \langle x, T^*y \rangle$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ . It is known that any element  $T$  of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  must be a bounded linear operator, which is also  $\mathcal{A}$ -linear in the sense that  $T(xa) = (Tx)a$  for  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  [10, Page 8]. We use the notations  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  in place of  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X})$ , and  $\ker(\cdot)$  and  $\text{ran}(\cdot)$  for the kernel and the range of operators, respectively. The identity operator on  $\mathcal{X}$  is denoted by  $1_{\mathcal{X}}$  or  $1$  if there is no ambiguity.

Suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a closed submodule of  $\mathcal{X}$ . We say that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is orthogonally complemented if  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{Y} \oplus \mathcal{Y}^\perp$ , where  $\mathcal{Y}^\perp := \{y \in \mathcal{X} : \langle x, y \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathcal{Y}\}$  denotes the orthogonal complement of  $\mathcal{Y}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$ . The reader is referred to [6, 7, 10] and the references cited therein for more details.

Throughout this paper,  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  are Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -modules. Recall that a closed submodule in a Hilbert module is not necessarily orthogonally complemented, however, Lance [10] proved that certain submodules are orthogonally complemented as follows:

**Theorem 1.1** ([10]). *Suppose that  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  has closed range. Then*

- $\ker(T)$  is orthogonally complemented in  $\mathcal{X}$ , with complement  $\text{ran}(T^*)$ ;
- $\text{ran}(T)$  is orthogonally complemented in  $\mathcal{Y}$ , with complement  $\ker(T^*)$ ;
- The map  $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X})$  has closed range.

Xu and Sheng [16] have shown that a bounded adjointable operator between two Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules admits a bounded Moore-Penrose inverse if and only if the operator has closed range.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ . The Moore-Penrose inverse  $T^\dagger$  of  $T$  (if it exists) is an element in  $X \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{X})$  which satisfies:

1.  $TXT = T$ ;
2.  $XTX = X$ ;
3.  $(TX)^* = TX$ ;
4.  $(XT)^* = XT$ .

If  $\theta \subseteq \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ , and  $X$  satisfies the equations (i) for all  $i \in \theta$ , then  $X$  is a  $\theta$ -inverse of  $T$ . The set of all  $\theta$ -inverses of  $T$  is denoted by  $T\{\theta\}$ . If  $\text{ran}(T)$  is closed, then  $T\{1, 2, 3, 4\} = \{T^\dagger\}$ . An operator  $X$  is an inner inverse of  $T$  if  $X \in T\{1\}$ . In this case,  $T$  is inner invertible, or relatively regular. It is well-known that  $T$  is inner invertible if and only if  $\text{ran}(T)$  is closed.

Motivated by these conditions,  $T^\dagger$  is unique and  $T^\dagger T$  and  $T T^\dagger$  are orthogonal projections, in the sense that they are self-adjoint idempotent operators. Clearly,  $T$  is Moore-Penrose invertible if and only if  $T^*$  is Moore-Penrose invertible, and in this case  $(T^*)^\dagger = (T^\dagger)^*$ .

By Definition 1.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ran}(T) &= \text{ran}(TT^\dagger), & \text{ran}(T^\dagger) &= \text{ran}(T^\dagger T) = \text{ran}(T^*), \\ \text{ker}(T) &= \text{ker}(T^\dagger T), & \text{ker}(T^\dagger) &= \text{ker}(T T^\dagger) = \text{ker}(T^*), \end{aligned}$$

and by Theorem 1.1, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X} &= \text{ker}(T) \oplus \text{ran}(T^\dagger) = \text{ker}(T^\dagger T) \oplus \text{ran}(T^\dagger T), \\ \mathcal{Y} &= \text{ker}(T^\dagger) \oplus \text{ran}(T) = \text{ker}(T T^\dagger) \oplus \text{ran}(T T^\dagger). \end{aligned}$$

A matrix form of a bounded adjointable operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$  can be induced by some natural decompositions of Hilbert  $C^*$ -modules. Indeed, if  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  are closed orthogonally complemented submodules of  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$ , respectively, and  $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{M} \oplus \mathcal{M}^\perp$ ,  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{N} \oplus \mathcal{N}^\perp$ , then  $T$  can be written as the following  $2 \times 2$  matrix

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_3 & T_4 \end{bmatrix},$$

where,  $T_1 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N})$ ,  $T_2 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}^\perp, \mathcal{N})$ ,  $T_3 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{N}^\perp)$  and  $T_4 \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{M}^\perp, \mathcal{N}^\perp)$ . Note that  $P_{\mathcal{M}}$  denotes the projection corresponding to  $\mathcal{M}$ .

In fact  $T_1 = P_{\mathcal{N}} T P_{\mathcal{M}}$ ,  $T_2 = P_{\mathcal{N}} T (1 - P_{\mathcal{M}})$ ,  $T_3 = (1 - P_{\mathcal{N}}) T P_{\mathcal{M}}$ ,  $T_4 = (1 - P_{\mathcal{N}}) T (1 - P_{\mathcal{M}})$ .

**Definition 1.3** ([14]). Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -modules. An operator  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  is called EP if  $\text{ran}(T)$  and  $\text{ran}(T^*)$  have the same closure.

**Lemma 1.4** ([14]). Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  with closed range. Then  $T$  is EP if and only if it is of the matrix form

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \text{ker}(T) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \text{ker}(T) \end{bmatrix}$$

for some invertible operator  $T_1 \in \mathcal{L}(\text{ran}(T), \text{ran}(T))$ .

## 2. The reverse order law

In this section, we state some new conditions that reverse order law holds for EP modular operators.

**Theorem 2.1.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  are EP operators with closed ranges and  $TS = ST^*$ . Then  $TS$  has closed range and  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ .

Moreover, if  $P_{\text{ran}(S)} T = P_{\text{ran}(S)} T P_{\text{ran}(S)}$ , then

- (i)  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$ ,
- (ii)  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

*Proof.* Since  $T$  is EP operator with closed range, then by Lemma 1.4, operators  $S$  and  $T$  have the following matrix representations

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \text{ker}(T) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \text{ker}(T) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.1)$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & S_2 \\ S_3 & S_4 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \ker(T) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(T) \\ \ker(T) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.2)$$

Since  $TS = ST^*$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & S_2 \\ S_3 & S_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & S_2 \\ S_3 & S_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1^* & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & T_1 S_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 T_1 & 0 \\ S_3 T_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.3)$$

Equation (2.3) shows that  $T_1 S_2 = S_3 T_1 = 0$ , by invertibility of  $T_1$  we conclude that  $S_2 = S_3 = 0$ . Since  $\text{ran}(S)$  is closed, then  $\text{ran}(S_1)$  and  $\text{ran}(S_4)$  are closed. We let  $\{y_n = z_n \oplus x_n\}$  be a sequence chosen in  $\text{ran}(T) \oplus \ker(T)$ ,  $\{z_n\}, \{x_n\}$  be sequences chosen in  $\text{ran}(T)$  and  $\ker(T)$ , respectively, such that  $S(z_n \oplus x_n) \rightarrow y$ . Since  $\text{ran}(S)$  is assumed to be closed, then  $y \in \text{ran}(S)$ . On the other hand,  $y = z + x$  for some  $z \in \text{ran}(T)$  and  $x \in \ker(T)$ . By direct sum property,  $S(z_n \oplus x_n) = (S_1 \oplus S_4)(z_n \oplus x_n) = S_1(z_n) \oplus S_4(x_n) \rightarrow z + x$ , that is  $S_1(z_n) \rightarrow z$  and  $S_4(x_n) \rightarrow x$ . Since  $S = S_1 \oplus S_4$ , then  $z \in \text{ran}(S_1)$  and  $x \in \text{ran}(S_4)$ . This implies that  $\text{ran}(S_1)$  and  $\text{ran}(S_4)$  are closed.

Therefore, obviously  $S^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger & 0 \\ 0 & S_4^\dagger \end{bmatrix}$  is Moore-Penrose inverse of  $S = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & S_4 \end{bmatrix}$ . Hence, we have

$$TS = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & S_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.4)$$

$$S^\dagger T^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger & 0 \\ 0 & S_4^\dagger \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.5)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} TSS^\dagger T^\dagger TS &= \begin{bmatrix} (T_1 S_1) S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} (T_1 S_1) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ S^\dagger T^\dagger TSS^\dagger T^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ (S^\dagger T^\dagger TS)^* &= \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $S^\dagger T^\dagger \in (TS)\{1, 2, 4\}$ . By using [1, Lemma 2.1.] we conclude that  $TS$  has closed range and [15, Theorem 2.2] implies that  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ .

- (i) Since  $S$  is EP operator with closed range, then by Lemma 1.4 operators  $S$  and  $T$  have the following matrix representations

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(S) \\ \ker(S) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(S) \\ \ker(S) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (2.6)$$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_3 & T_4 \end{bmatrix} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(S) \\ \ker(S) \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{ran}(S) \\ \ker(S) \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.7)$$

Since  $TS = ST^*$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_3 & T_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1^* & T_3^* \\ T_2^* & T_4^* \end{bmatrix},$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ T_3 S_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1 T_1^* & S_1^* T_3^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2.8)$$

By using (2.8) we have  $T_3 S_1 = 0$ , therefore by the invertibility of  $S_1$ , we conclude that  $T_3 = 0$ . On the other hand, since  $P_{\text{ran}(S)} T = P_{\text{ran}(S)} T P_{\text{ran}(S)}$ , then  $P_{\text{ran}(S)} T - P_{\text{ran}(S)} T P_{\text{ran}(S)} = P_{\text{ran}(S)} T (1 - P_{\text{ran}(S)}) = 0$ , that is,  $T_2 = 0$ . Hence

$$TS = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & T_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By using a similar argument for the closedness of the range of  $S_1$  and  $S_4$  in this proof we imply that, since  $T$  has closed range, then  $T_1$  and  $T_4$  have closed ranges and  $T^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} T_1^\dagger & 0 \\ 0 & T_4^\dagger \end{bmatrix}$ .

On the other hand, since  $(T_1 S_1) S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger (T_1 S_1) = T_1 S_1$  and  $S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger (T_1 S_1) S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger = S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger$  and  $((T_1 S_1) S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger)^* = (T_1 T_1^\dagger)^* = T_1 T_1^\dagger$ , then  $S^\dagger T^\dagger \in (TS)\{1, 2, 3\}$ . Therefore, [15, Theorem 2.1] implies that  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

- (ii) Since  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$  and  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ , then by [15, Corollary 2.3] we have  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

□

**Theorem 2.2.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  are EP operators with closed ranges and  $TS = S^*T$ . Then  $TS$  has closed range and  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

Moreover, if  $P_{\text{ran}(S)} T = P_{\text{ran}(S)} T P_{\text{ran}(S)}$ , then

- (i)  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ ;  
(ii)  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

*Proof.* Since  $S$  is EP operator with closed range, then operators  $T, S$  have the same matrix representations (2.6) and (2.7), respectively. Since  $TS = S^*T$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_3 & T_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^* & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & T_2 \\ T_3 & T_4 \end{bmatrix},$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ T_3 S_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^* T_1 & S_1^* T_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $S_1^* T_2 = T_3 S_1 = 0$ . By the invertibility of  $S_1$  we conclude that  $T_2 = T_3 = 0$ . Hence

$$TS = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & T_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

A similar argument as in the proof of the previous theorem shows that we have

$$S^\dagger T^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^{-1} T_1^\dagger & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in (TS)\{1, 2, 3\}.$$

By using [1, Lemma 2.1], we conclude that  $TS$  has closed range and [15, Theorem 2.1] implies that  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

- (i) Since  $T$  is EP operator with closed range, therefore the operators  $T$  and  $S$  have the matrix representations (2.1) and (2.2), respectively. Since  $TS = S^*T$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_1 & S_2 \\ S_3 & S_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^* & S_3^* \\ S_2^* & S_4^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

or equivalently,

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 S_1 & T_1 S_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^* T_1 & 0 \\ S_2^* T_1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence  $T_1 S_2 = 0$ , by invertibility of  $T_1$  we conclude that  $S_2 = 0$ . On the other hand, since  $SP_{\text{ran}}(T) = P_{\text{ran}(T)}SP_{\text{ran}}(T)$ , then  $S_3 = 0$ . Similar argument for (2.4) and (2.5) in the previous theorem, implies that  $S^\dagger T^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} S_1^\dagger T_1^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in (TS)\{1, 2, 4\}$ . Therefore [15, Theorem 2.2] implies that  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ .

- (ii) Since  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$  and  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ , then by [15, Corollary 2.3] we have  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

□

**Theorem 2.3.** Suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  is a Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module and  $T, S \in \mathcal{L}(\mathcal{X})$  are EP operators with closed ranges and  $TS = ST^* = S^*T$ . Then  $TS$  has closed range and  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ .

*Proof.* Since  $TS = ST^*$ , then Theorem 2.1 implies that  $TS$  has closed range and  $(TS)^\dagger TS = S^\dagger T^\dagger TS$ . On the other hand, since  $TS = S^*T$ , then Theorem 2.2 shows that  $TS(TS)^\dagger = TSS^\dagger T^\dagger$ . Therefore [15, Corollary 2.3] implies that  $(TS)^\dagger = S^\dagger T^\dagger$ . □

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