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JANUARY 1975.

A NEW CLASS OF MATRICES  
WITH POSITIVE INVERSES.

BY

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This work was supported by a NATO postdoctorate fellowship.

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## A B S T R A C T

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It is well known that irreducibly diagonally-dominant matrices with positive diagonal and non-positive off-diagonal elements have positive inverses. A whole class of symmetric circulant and symmetric quindagonal Toeplitz matrices with positive inverses which do not satisfy the above conditions is found.

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The values of a and b for which the polynomial (1) has real positive zeros may be described as follows. Suppose the real zeros of polynomial (1) are  $r_1$ ,  $1/r_1$ ,  $r_2$  and  $1/r_2$  where  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are positive, then the values a and b may be expressed as

$$a = - \frac{(r_1 + 1/r_1) + (r_2 + 1/r_2)}{(r_1 + 1/r_1) + (r_2 + 1/r_2) + 2},$$

and

$$b = \frac{1}{(r_1 + 1/r_1) + (r_2 + 1/r_2) + 2}.$$

It is easy to verify that  $-2/3 < a < 0$  and  $0 < b \leq 1/6$ .

The relation  $a + b \geq 1/2$  follows from the inequality

$$(r_1 + 1/r_1 - 2)(r_2 + 1/r_2 - 2) \geq 0 \text{ and } a^2 + 8b^2 - 4b \geq 0$$

is the condition that  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are real. The above inequalities describe a region, R,

in the a - b plane bounded by the three curves  $b = 0$ ,  $a + b = -\frac{1}{2}$  and

$$a^2 + 8b^2 - 4b = 0$$

with intersection points  $(0,0)$ ,  $(-1/2,0)$  and  $(-2/3, 1/6)$ .

Theorem 2.

If the real numbers a and b, b non-zero, are chosen such that the symmetric polynomial

$$bx^4 + ax^3 + x^2 + ax + b \tag{1}$$

has real positive zeros, not equal to one, then the inverse of the symmetric circulant matrix

$$C_n = \text{circ}(1, a, b, 0, \dots, 0, b, a)_{n \times n} \tag{3}$$

consists of positive entries for all orders n.

Proof

The matrix  $C_n$ , in (3), can be factored into the product of two matrices,

$$C_n = [(r_1 + \mathbf{1} / r_1) I - (P + P^{-1})] [(r_2 + \mathbf{1} / r_2) I - (P + P^{-1})], \text{ where}$$

where  $P$  is the permutation matrix  $\text{circ}(0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)_{n \times n}$  and

$r_1$  and  $r_2$  are zeros of (1) not equal to 1. However, both factors are irreducibly diagonally dominant and have positive inverses, Varga (1962), and consequently, the inverse of the matrix  $C_n$  is positive.

The above method of proof may be used for a more general theorem concerning circulant matrices, Meek (1973).

Theorem 3. (Trench(1964)).

If  $T_n$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  order,  $n \geq 3$ , symmetric Toeplitz matrix in (2)

with  $T_n^{-1} > \mathbf{0}$  and the first row of the matrix  $T_{n+1}^{-1}$  is positive, then the matrix  $T_{n+1}^{-1} > \mathbf{0}$ .

Proof

The matrix  $T_{n+1}^{-1}$  may be partitioned in the form

$$T_{n+1}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} t & W_n^T \\ W_n & T_n^{-1} + W_n W_n^T / t \end{bmatrix}_{(n+1) \times (n+1)}$$

If the first row of  $T_{n+1}^{-1} > \mathbf{0}$  is positive, then both  $t$  and the  $1 \times n$  Vector  $W_n^T$  are positive. However, thus  $T_n^{-1} > \mathbf{0}$ , all of the elements of the matrix  $T_{n+1}^{-1}$  are positive.

3. Proof of Theorem 1.

The first row of the matrix  $T_n^{-1}$  is shown positive by solving a difference equation so that theorem 3 is an induction step in the proof of theorem 1. It is easy to verify that  $T_3^{-1} > \mathbf{0}$  when a and b are chosen so that (a,b) is in region R.

The difference equation for the elements of the first row of the matrix  $T_n^{-1}$  is

$$bD_{r-2} + aD_{r-1} + D_r + aD_{r+1} + bD_{r+2} = e_r, r = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (4)$$

with end conditions  $D_{-1} = D_0 = D_{n+1} = D_{n+2} = 0$ , where

$$e_r = \begin{cases} 1 & r = 1 \\ 0 & r = 2, 3, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

A particular solution to equation (4) is the function

$$H_r = \begin{cases} 1/b & r = -1 \\ 0 & r = 0, 1, \dots, n+2, \end{cases}$$

while the general solution falls into four cases, depending upon the zeros of the polynomial (1). The more general case of positive real distinct zeros not equal to 1 will be discussed first.

The zeros of the polynomial (1) are positive, distinct and not equal to 1, if and only if a and b are such that the point (a,b) lies in the interior of the region R. For convenience take  $r_1 > r_2 > 1$  to be zeros of (1), then the general solution to the difference equation (4) is of the form

$$D_r = Ar \mathbf{1}^{-r} + Br \mathbf{1}^{-r} + Cr \mathbf{2}^r + Dr \mathbf{2}^{-r} H_r, r = -1, \dots, n+2.$$



If the function  $f(r,n)$  is defined

$$f(r,n) = s_r t_1 + s_1 t_r + s_{n+2} t_{n-r+1} - s_{n-r+2} t_{n+1} - s_{n+1} t_{n-r+2} + s_{n-r+1} t_{n+2} , \quad (5)$$

where  $s_\omega \equiv r \frac{\omega}{1} - r \frac{\omega}{1}$  and  $t_\omega \equiv r \frac{\omega}{2} - r \frac{\omega}{2}$ , then the solution satisfy-

ing the end condition is

$$D_r = f(r,n) / (b f(1,n+1)) + H_r , r = -1, 0, \dots, n+2. \quad (6)$$

As  $n$  becomes large,  $D_r$  approaches the function

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_r = \begin{cases} 1/(b r_1, r_2) & t = 0 \\ 0 & 0 < t \leq 1 \end{cases} ,$$

where  $r \equiv (n-1)t+1$ .

The substitution  $r_1 = e^{(\theta + \psi)}$ ,  $r_2 = e^{(\theta - \psi)}$ , where

$\theta > \psi > 0$ , transforms the function  $f(r,n)$  in (5) into

$$f(r,n) = 16 \sinh(n+1)\theta \sinh(n-r+2)\theta \sinh r \psi \sinh \psi \\ - 16 \sinh(n+1)\psi \sinh(n-r+2)\psi \sinh r \theta \sinh \theta$$

which is positive for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$  since both

$$\sinh(n+1)\theta \sinh r \psi - \sinh(n+1)\psi \sinh r \theta$$

and

$$\sinh(n-r+2)\theta \sinh \psi - \sinh(n-r+2)\psi \sinh \theta$$

are positive  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , (see the appendix) - Now both  $b$  and

$f(r,n)$  are positive, thus  $D_r$ ,  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$  in equation (6) is

positive.

The results for the remaining three cases may now be summarized.

The polynomial (1) may have one repeated zero, that is the zeros are

$r_1, 1/r_1, 1, 1, r_1 > 1$ , and  $a+b = -1/2$ , or it may have two pairs of

repeated zeros, that is the zeros are  $r_1, 1/r_1, r_1, 1/r_1, r_1 > 1$  and

$a^2 + 8b^2 - 4b = 0$ , of it. may have all. Four zeros equal to 1, whence  $a = -2/3$   $b = 1/6$ . The solution of the difference equation (4) is of the same form as in equation (6) with the function  $f(r,n)$  being defined

$$f(r,n) = s_{r+1}s_{n+1} (n-r+1)s_{n+2} - (n+1) s_{n-r+2} - (n-r+2)s_{n+1} + {}^{(n+2)}s_{n-r+1},$$

$$f(r,n) = rs_{n+1}s_{n-r+2} - (n+1)(n-r+2) s_r s_1,$$

and

$$f(r,n) = r(n-r+1)(n-r+2),$$

respectively. As  $n$  becomes large,  $D_r$ , in these three cases approaches the functions

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_r = \begin{cases} 1/(br_1) & t = 0 \\ (1-t)/(b(r_1-1)) & 0 < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_r = \begin{cases} 1/(br_1^2) & t = 0 \\ 0 & 0 < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} D_r = \begin{cases} 6 & t = 0 \\ 6nt(1-t)^2 & 0 < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $r = (n-1)t + 1$ .

The substitution  $r_1 = e^{2\theta}$ ,  $\theta > 0$ , in the first case yields

$$f(r,n) = 8\sinh(n-r+2)\theta \sinh\theta[(n+1)\cosh(n+1)\theta \sinh r\theta - r\cosh r\theta \sinh(n+1)\theta]$$

$$+ 8\sinh(n+1)\theta \sinh r\theta [(n-r+2)\cosh(n-r+2)\theta \sinh\theta - \cosh\theta \sinh(n-r+2)\theta]$$

in which both of the terms are positive for each  $n$  and  $r=1,2,\dots,n$

(see the appendix). The substitution  $r_1 = e^\theta$ ,  $\theta > 0$ , in the second case

gives

$f(r,n) = 4[r \sinh(n+1)\theta] : \sinh(n-r+2)\theta] - U[(n+1) \sinh r \epsilon 3L(n-p+2) \sin h \epsilon]$   
 which is also positive for each  $n$  and  $r=1,2,\dots, n$  (see the appendix).  
 In the third case,  $f(r,n)$  is obviously positive for each  $n$  and  
 $r = 1,2,\dots, n$ .

4. Examples

The matrix arising from quintic polynomial spline interpolation on a uniform partition with non-periodic boundary conditions is the quindagonal

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 66 & 26 & 1 & \bigcirc \\ 26 & 66 & & \\ 1 & & & 1 \\ \bigcirc & & & 26 \\ & 1 & 26 & 66 \end{pmatrix},$$

Ahlberg, Nilson and Walsh, p. 124 (1967). The related matrix  $DAD^T$ , where  $D$  is the diagonal matrix  $\text{diag} ( 1,-1,\dots,(-1)^{n-1} )_{n \times n}$ , has a positive inverse since the zeros of

$$1/66 z^4 - 26/66 z^3 + z^2 - 26/66 z + 1/66$$

are real and positive

Hoskins and Ponzo (1972) have found another class of symmetric Toeplitz matrices with positive inverses which intersects with the class described here in the  $n \times n$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2/3 & 1/6 & \bigcirc \\ -2/3 & 1 & & \\ 1/6 & & & 1/6 \\ \bigcirc & & & -2/3 \\ & 1/6 & -2/3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

6. Appendix

Lemma 1.

The function  $(\sinh m\theta)^m$  is greater than  $\theta$  and monotone increasing in  $m$  when  $\theta > 0, m > 0$ .

Proof

The result follows from a Maclaurin expansion of  $\sinh m\theta$ .

Lemma 2.

The function  $m \coth m\theta$  is greater than  $\theta$  and is monotone increasing in  $m, \theta > 0, m > 0$ .

Proof

The derivative of  $m \coth m\theta$  with respect to  $m$  can be shown to be positive using lemma 1. for  $\theta > 0, m > 0$  and  $\lim_{m \rightarrow 0} (m \coth m\theta) = \theta$ .

Lemma 3.

The function  $(\sinh m\theta)/(\sinh m\psi)$  is greater than  $\theta/\psi$  and increases with  $m, \theta > 0, \psi > 0, m > 0$ .

The derivative of  $(\sinh m\theta)/(\sinh m\psi)$  with respect to  $m$  can be shown to be positive using lemma 2. and  $\lim_{m \rightarrow 0} (\sinh m\theta)/(\sinh m\psi) = \theta/\psi$ .

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