

of order  $m_i$ , depends only on  $\lambda_i$  and, by (4.6), its  $(\alpha, \beta)$  element is a function of  $\alpha - \beta$ . If we define  $N_i = (e_2, \dots, e_{m_i}, 0)$ , where  $I = (e_1, \dots, e_{m_i})$ , then

$$(4.8) \quad L^{ii} = \sum_{\nu=0}^{m_i-1} \frac{p_i^{(\nu)}(\lambda_i)}{\nu! p_i(\lambda_i)} N_i^\nu,$$

and is a polynomial in  $N_i$ . Since  $J_i$  is also a polynomial in  $N_i$  it must commute with  $L^{ii}$ .

The above results were derived for  $H \in \text{UHM}$ . However, properties (ii) and (iii) generalize immediately to all Hessenberg matrices by the remarks at the beginning of Section 2.

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## An Elimination Method for Computing the Generalized Inverse\*

By Leopold B. Willner

**0. Notations.** We denote by

- $A$  an  $m \times n$  complex matrix,
- $A^*$  the conjugate transpose of  $A$ ,
- $A_j, j = 1, \dots, n$  the  $j$ th column of  $A$ ,
- $A^+$  the generalized inverse of  $A$  [7],
- $H$  the Hermite normal form of  $A$ , [6, pp. 34-36],
- $Q^{-1}$  the nonsingular matrix satisfying

$$(1) \quad H = Q^{-1}A,$$

- $e_i, i = 1, \dots, m$  the  $i$ th unit vector  $e_i = (\delta_{ij})$ ,
- $r$  the rank of  $A$  ( $= \text{rank } H$ ).

**1. Method.** The Hermite normal form of  $A$  is written as

$$(2) \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} B \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where } B \text{ is } r \times n.$$

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Combining (1) and (2) we have:

$$(3) \quad A = QH = [P, R] \quad \begin{bmatrix} B \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = PB,$$

where  $[P, R]$  is the corresponding partition of  $Q$ . Having displayed the  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$  as a product of the  $m \times r$  matrix  $P$  and the  $r \times n$  matrix  $B$ , which are both of rank  $r$ , we have as in [4]

$$(4) \quad A^+ = B^+P^+ = B^*(BB^*)^{-1}(P^*P)^{-1}P^*$$

therefore

$$(5) \quad A^+ = B^*(P^*PBB^*)^{-1}P^*$$

and by (3)

$$(6) \quad A^+ = B^*(P^*AB^*)^{-1}P^*.$$

The method can be summarized as follows:

*Step 1.* Given  $A$  obtain  $H$  by Gaussian elimination.

*Step 2.* From  $H$  determine  $P$  as follows:

The  $i$ th column of  $P$ ,  $P_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, r$  is

$$(7) \quad P_i = A_j \quad \text{if} \quad H_j = e_i, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

*Step 3.* Calculate  $P^*AB^*$ .

*Step 4.* Invert  $P^*AB^*$ .

*Step 5.* Calculate  $A^+$  using (6).

**2. Remarks.** (i) From (7) we conclude that in order to obtain  $P$  it is unnecessary to keep track of the elementary operations involved in finding  $H$ , e.g. [5].

(ii) Representation (4), as a computational method, was suggested by Greville [4], Householder [5] and Frame [2]. The novelty of the present paper lies in equation (6) and Step 2 above.

(iii) Like other elimination methods for computing  $A^+$ , e.g. [1], the method proposed here depends critically on the correct determination of rank  $A$ , e.g. the discussion in [3].

(iv) The advantage of method (6) over the elimination method of [1] is that here the matrix  $A^*A$  (or  $AA^*$ ) is not computed. However, other matrix multiplications are involved in this method.

**3. Example.** For

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we obtain by Gaussian elimination

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = H$$

since  $H_2 = e_1$  we have  $P_1 = A_2$ , and since  $H_3 = e_2$  we have  $P_2 = A_3$ . Hence for

$A = PB$  we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$P^*AB^* = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & -3 \\ 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

from which

$$(P^*AB^*)^{-1} = \frac{1}{15} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ -5 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

hence

$$A^+ = B^*(P^*AB^*)^{-1}P^* = \frac{1}{15} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \\ -5 & 7 & 2 \\ 5 & -4 & 1 \\ 5 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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