

# Inverse eigenvalue problem for normal $J$ -hamiltonian matrices

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## Abstract

A complex square matrix  $A$  is called  $J$ -hamiltonian if  $AJ$  is hermitian where  $J$  is a normal real matrix such that  $J^2 = -I_n$ . In this paper we solve the problem of finding  $J$ -hamiltonian normal solutions for the inverse eigenvalue problem.

*Keywords:* Inverse eigenvalue problem, hamiltonian matrix, normal matrix, Moore-Penrose inverse

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## 1. Introduction

Inverse eigenvalue problems arise as important tools in several research subjects, including structural design, parameter identification and modeling [3, 5, 11], etc. The main goal of the inverse eigenvalue problem is to construct a matrix  $A$  with a determined structure and a specified spectrum. In the literature, this kind of problems has been studied under certain constraints on  $A$ . For instance, the case when  $A$  is hermitian reflexive or anti-reflexive with respect to a tripotent hermitian matrix was analyzed in [7]. Subsequently, that problem was generalized to matrices that are hermitian reflexive with respect to a normal  $\{k + 1\}$ -potent matrix [4]. By using hamiltonian matrices, in [1] Bai solved the inverse eigenvalue problem for hermitian and generalized skew-hamiltonian matrices.

It is remarkable that hamiltonian matrices play an important role in several engineering areas such as optimal quadratic linear control [8, 10],  $H_\infty$  optimization [12] and the solution of Riccati algebraic equations [6], among others.

The symbols  $M^*$  and  $M^\dagger$  will denote the conjugate transpose and the Moore-Penrose inverse of a matrix  $M$ , respectively. As is standard,  $I_n$  will stand for the  $n \times n$  identity

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matrix. We remind the reader that for a given complex rectangular matrix  $M \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ , its Moore-Penrose inverse is the unique matrix  $M^\dagger \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  that satisfies  $MM^\dagger M = M$ ,  $M^\dagger MM^\dagger = M^\dagger$ ,  $(MM^\dagger)^* = MM^\dagger$  and  $(M^\dagger M)^* = M^\dagger M$ . This matrix always exists [2]. We also need the following notation for both specified orthogonal projectors:  $W_M^{(l)} = I_n - M^\dagger M$  and  $W_M^{(r)} = I_m - MM^\dagger$ .

It is well known that a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{2k \times 2k}$  is called hamiltonian if it satisfies  $(AJ)^* = AJ$  for

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_k \\ -I_k & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We extend this concept by considering the following matrices.

**Definition 1.** Let  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a normal matrix such that  $J^2 = -I_n$ . A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called  $J$ -hamiltonian if  $(AJ)^* = AJ$ .

From now on, we will consider a fixed normal matrix  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $J^2 = -I_n$ . It is clear that  $n = 2k$  for some positive integer  $k$ . For a given matrix  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$  and a given diagonal matrix  $D \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ , we are looking for solutions of the matrix equation

$$AX = XD \tag{1}$$

where the unknown  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  must be normal and  $J$ -hamiltonian.

## 2. Inverse eigenvalue problem

### 2.1. General expression for matrices $A$

Let  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a normal matrix satisfying  $J^2 = -I_n$ . It is easy to see that  $J$  is skew-hermitian and its spectrum is included in  $\{-i, i\}$  where both eigenvalues  $i$  and  $-i$  have the same multiplicity,  $k = n/2$ . Then, there exists a unitary matrix  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$J = U \begin{bmatrix} iI_k & 0 \\ 0 & -iI_k \end{bmatrix} U^*. \tag{2}$$

Using block matrices, we can analyze the structure of matrices  $A$  as follows. We partition

$$U^*AU = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \tag{3}$$

according to the partition of  $J$ . From (2) and (3), equality  $(AJ)^* = AJ$  yields

$$U \begin{bmatrix} -iA_{11}^* & -iA_{21}^* \\ iA_{12}^* & iA_{22}^* \end{bmatrix} U^* = U \begin{bmatrix} iA_{11} & -iA_{12} \\ iA_{21} & -iA_{22} \end{bmatrix} U^*$$

from where we deduce

$$A_{11}^* = -A_{11}, \quad A_{22}^* = -A_{22}, \quad A_{21}^* = A_{12}. \tag{4}$$

Since  $A$  must be normal, using expressions (4) we get that

$$AA^* = U \begin{bmatrix} -A_{11}^2 + A_{12}A_{12}^* & A_{11}A_{12} - A_{12}A_{22} \\ -A_{12}^*A_{11} + A_{22}A_{12}^* & A_{12}^*A_{12} - A_{22}^2 \end{bmatrix} U^*$$

and

$$A^*A = U \begin{bmatrix} -A_{11}^2 + A_{12}A_{12}^* & -A_{11}A_{12} + A_{12}A_{22} \\ A_{12}^*A_{11} - A_{22}A_{12}^* & A_{12}^*A_{12} - A_{22}^2 \end{bmatrix} U^*$$

imply  $A_{11}A_{12} = A_{12}A_{22}$ . We have obtained the following result.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be partitioned as in (2). Then  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is a normal  $J$ -hamiltonian matrix if and only if*

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{12}^* & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} U^* \quad (5)$$

where  $A_{11}^* = -A_{11}$ ,  $A_{22}^* = -A_{22}$ , and  $A_{11}A_{12} = A_{12}A_{22}$ .

## 2.2. Existence and explicit solution

In order to solve the inverse eigenvalue problem we need the next result.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $M, N \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ . Then  $YM = N$  has a skew-hermitian solution  $Y$  if and only if*

$$NW_M^{(l)} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad M^*N \text{ is skew-hermitian.}$$

In this case, the general solution is given by

$$Y = NM^\dagger - (NM^\dagger)^*W_M^{(r)} + W_M^{(r)}ZW_M^{(r)} \quad (6)$$

where  $Z \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is skew-hermitian.

**Proof.** By Theorem 1, [2, pp. 52], the equation  $YM = N$  has a solution if and only if  $N = NM^\dagger M$ . Let  $Y$  be a skew-hermitian solution of  $YM = N$ . It is easy to see that  $M^*N$  is skew-hermitian. Now, if  $M^*N$  is skew-hermitian then  $N^*M$  and  $Y_0 = NM^\dagger - (NM^\dagger)^* + (NM^\dagger)^*MM^\dagger$  are skew-hermitian as well since  $NM^\dagger - (NM^\dagger)^*$  and  $(NM^\dagger)^*MM^\dagger = (M^\dagger)^*(N^*M)M^\dagger$  are skew-hermitian. Moreover, it can be easily shown that  $Y_0$  is a solution of  $YM = N$ .

The general skew-hermitian solution can be obtained adding to  $Y_0$  the general skew-hermitian solution of the homogeneous equation  $YM = 0$ . Hence, by Corollary 1 of Lemma 2.3.1 of [9] we deduce that in fact the solution is (6).  $\blacksquare$

Now we consider the following partition of  $X$

$$X = U \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

where  $X_1, X_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times m}$ .

Substituting (5) and (7) in  $AX = XD$  we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{12}^* & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} D.$$

This matrix equation can be equivalently written as

$$\begin{cases} A_{11} X_1 + A_{12} X_2 = X_1 D \\ A_{12}^* X_1 + A_{22} X_2 = X_2 D \end{cases} . \quad (8)$$

Clearly, from the first equation we have

$$A_{11} X_1 = X_1 D - A_{12} X_2. \quad (9)$$

By Theorem 1 in [2, pp. 52], equation (9) has a solution in  $A_{11}$  if and only if

$$(X_1 D - A_{12} X_2) W_{X_1}^{(l)} = 0. \quad (10)$$

The condition (10) is equivalent to

$$A_{12} X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)} = X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)}. \quad (11)$$

Again, by Theorem 1 in [2, pp. 52], equation (11) has a solution in  $A_{12}$  if and only if

$$X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} W_{X_2 W^{(l)}(X_1)} = 0. \quad (12)$$

In this case, the general expression for  $A_{12}$  is

$$A_{12} = X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger + Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} \quad (13)$$

for arbitrary  $Y_{12} \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}$ .

If we now substitute  $A_{12}$  by (13) in equation (9) we obtain

$$A_{11} X_1 = X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W^{(l)}(X_1)}^{(r)} X_2. \quad (14)$$

Using Lemma 1, equation (14) has a skew-hermitian solution in  $A_{11}$  if and only if

$$\left[ X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} X_2 \right] W_{X_1}^{(l)} = 0 \quad (15)$$

and

$$X_1^* \left[ X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} X_2 \right] \quad (16)$$

is skew-hermitian. In this case the general solution of (14) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} A_{11} = & \left[ X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} X_2 \right] X_1^\dagger - \\ & -(X_1^\dagger)^* \left[ X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} X_2 \right]^* W_{X_1}^{(r)} + W_{X_1}^{(r)} Y_{11} W_{X_1}^{(r)}, \end{aligned}$$

for arbitrary skew-hermitian  $Y_{11} \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}$ . The properties of the Moore-Penrose inverse provide the following expression:

$$A_{11} = \left[ X_1 D - X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger X_2 - Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} X_2 \right] X_1^\dagger + (X_1^\dagger)^* X_2^* W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* W_{X_1}^{(r)} + W_{X_1}^{(r)} Y_{11} W_{X_1}^{(r)}. \quad (17)$$

In order to determine  $A_{22}$ , we substitute expression  $A_{12}$  given by (13) in the second equation of (8) and we obtain

$$A_{22} X_2 = X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1. \quad (18)$$

Equation (18) has a skew-hermitian solution in  $A_{22}$  if and only if

$$\left[ X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1 \right] W_{X_2}^{(l)} = 0 \quad (19)$$

and

$$X_2^* \left[ X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1 \right] \quad (20)$$

is skew-hermitian. In this case, its general solution is given by

$$A_{22} = \left[ X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1 \right] X_2^\dagger - (X_2^\dagger)^* \left[ X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1 \right]^* W_{X_2}^{(r)} + W_{X_2}^{(r)} Y_{22} W_{X_2}^{(r)},$$

for arbitrary skew-hermitian  $Y_{22} \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}$ , which can be also written as

$$A_{22} = \left[ X_2 D - (W_{X_1}^{(l)} X_2^*)^\dagger W_{X_1}^{(l)} D^* X_1^* X_1 - W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} Y_{12}^* X_1 \right] X_2^\dagger + (X_2^\dagger)^* \left[ X_1^* X_1 D W_{X_1}^{(l)} (X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)})^\dagger - X_1^* Y_{12} W_{X_2 W_{X_1}^{(l)}}^{(r)} \right] W_{X_2}^{(r)} + W_{X_2}^{(r)} Y_{22} W_{X_2}^{(r)}. \quad (21)$$

Summarizing, we have obtained the following result.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ ,  $D \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$  be a diagonal matrix and  $J \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a normal matrix such that  $J^2 = -I_n$ . Consider the partition  $X = U \begin{bmatrix} X_1^* & X_2^* \end{bmatrix}^*$  as in (7) where  $X_1, X_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times m}$ . Then there exists a  $J$ -hamiltonian, normal matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  such that  $AX = XD$  if and only if conditions (12), (15), (16), (19), (20) and  $A_{11}A_{12} = A_{12}A_{22}$  hold. In this case, the general solution can be written as*

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{12}^* & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} U^*$$

where  $A_{11}$ ,  $A_{12}$  and  $A_{22}$  are given by (17), (13) and (21), respectively.

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