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## On Some Properties of Interval Matrices Preserved by Nonsingularity

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In this note we show that for several frequently used properties of square matrices there holds: *each matrix in an interval matrix  $A^I$  has a property P if and only if  $A^I$  is nonsingular and contains at least one matrix having the property P.*

We begin with listing the properties in question. A square matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  is called *inverse nonnegative* if  $A^{-1} \geq 0$ , and *inverse positive* if  $A^{-1} > 0$  (componentwise inequalities); it is called an *M-matrix* if  $A^{-1} \geq 0$  and  $a_{ij} \leq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . More generally, for two signature matrices  $S_1, S_2$  (i.e., diagonal matrices with  $\pm 1$  diagonal entries) we say that  $A$  is of *inverse sign pattern*  $(S_1, S_2)$  if  $S_1 A^{-1} S_2 \geq 0$ , and that  $A$  is of *strict inverse sign pattern*  $(S_1, S_2)$  if  $S_1 A^{-1} S_2 > 0$ . A matrix  $A$  (not necessarily symmetric) is called *positive definite* if  $x^T A x > 0$  for each  $x \neq 0$ , and (*Hurwitz*) *stable* if  $\operatorname{Re} \lambda < 0$  for each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ .

An interval matrix is a set of matrices  $A^I = [\underline{A}, \bar{A}] = \{A; \underline{A} \leq A \leq \bar{A}\}$ , where  $\underline{A}$  and  $\bar{A}$  are square,  $\underline{A} \leq \bar{A}$ . We say that  $A^I$  has a property P (inverse nonnegative, ..., stable, nonsingular) if each  $A \in A^I$  has the property P. The following theorem shows that all the above-listed properties are preserved by nonsingularity:

**Theorem:** *Let  $A^I$  be nonsingular. Then we have:*

- (i)  $A^I$  is inverse nonnegative if and only if  $\bar{A}^{-1} \geq 0$ ,
- (ii)  $A^I$  is inverse positive if and only if  $\bar{A}^{-1} > 0$ ,
- (iii)  $A^I$  is an M-matrix if and only if  $\bar{A}$  is an M-matrix,
- (iv)  $A^I$  is of inverse sign pattern  $(S_1, S_2)$  if and only if the matrix  $\frac{1}{2}(\underline{A} + \bar{A}) + \frac{1}{2}S_2(\bar{A} - \underline{A})S_1$  is of inverse sign pattern  $(S_1, S_2)$ ,
- (v)  $A^I$  is of strict inverse sign pattern  $(S_1, S_2)$  if and only if the matrix  $\frac{1}{2}(\underline{A} + \bar{A}) + \frac{1}{2}S_2(\bar{A} - \underline{A})S_1$  is of strict inverse sign pattern  $(S_1, S_2)$ .

Moreover, if both  $\underline{A}$  and  $\bar{A}$  are symmetric, then

- (vi)  $A^I$  is positive definite if and only if at least one  $A \in A^I$  is positive definite,
- (vii)  $A^I$  is stable if and only if at least one symmetric  $A \in A^I$  is stable.

**Proof:** The "only if" parts follow obviously from the definition; thus we are confined to prove the "if" ones. (i) is proved in [3], Theorem 1, assertion (iv). (ii): From (i) we have that  $A^I$  is inverse nonnegative; for each  $A \in A^I$ , premultiplying the inequality  $A \leq \bar{A}$  by  $A^{-1}$  and  $\bar{A}^{-1}$  we obtain  $A^{-1} \geq \bar{A}^{-1} > 0$ , hence  $A^I$  is inverse positive. (iii):  $A^I$  is inverse nonnegative by (i) and for each  $A \in A^I$  we have  $A_{ij} \leq \bar{A}_{ij} \leq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ , implying that  $A^I$  is an M-matrix. (iv): An obvious computation shows that  $\{S_2 A S_1; A \in A^I\} = [S_2 \underline{A} S_1, S_2 \bar{A} S_1]$ , where  $\underline{A} = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{A} + \bar{A}) - \frac{1}{2}S_2(\bar{A} - \underline{A})S_1$  and  $\bar{A} = \frac{1}{2}(\underline{A} + \bar{A}) + \frac{1}{2}S_2(\bar{A} - \underline{A})S_1$ . Since  $(S_2 \bar{A} S_1)^{-1} = S_1 \bar{A}^{-1} S_2 \geq 0$  by assumption, we have in the light of (i) that  $[S_2 \underline{A} S_1, S_2 \bar{A} S_1]$  is inverse nonnegative, hence for each  $A \in A^I$  we obtain  $S_1 A^{-1} S_2 = (S_2 A S_1)^{-1} \geq 0$ . (v) follows in a similar way from (ii). These assertions (vi) and (vii) are proved in [4], Theorems 3 and 8. ■

Let us note that the assertions (i)–(v) are rather of theoretical interest since there exists a verifiable necessary and sufficient inverse nonnegativity condition due to KUTTLER [1] which can be easily extended to the cases (ii)–(v) as well. The cases (vi) and (vii) are different since no such a condition is known for them. Here, employing the sufficient nonsingularity condition

$$\rho(|\underline{A} + \bar{A}|^{-1}(\bar{A} - \underline{A})) < 1$$

(cf. [2]), we obtain from (vi), (vii) verifiable sufficient conditions for positive definiteness or stability of  $A^I$ .

### References

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