

## On Completion Problems for Various Subclasses of $P_0^+$ - Matrices

Victor Tomno

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Moi University  
P.O Box 3900-30100, Eldoret, Kenya. E-mail: [victomno@gmail.com](mailto:victomno@gmail.com)

Received 12 November 2018; accepted 23 December 2018

**Abstract.** In this paper, we study completions for weakly sign symmetric  $p_0^+$ -matrices, sign symmetric  $p_0^+$ -matrices and nonnegative  $p_0^+$ -matrices. We obtained that digraphs that include all loops and have weakly sign symmetric  $p_0^+$ -completion, sign symmetric  $p_0^+$ -completion and nonnegative  $p_0^+$ -completion are complete digraphs.

**Keywords:** Matrix completion, partial matrix, digraphs, weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix, sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix, nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -matrix.

**AMS Mathematics Subject Classification (2010):** 15A48

### 1. Introduction

In this section we define terms and give a brief literature on related work.

**Definition 1.1.** A  $P$ -matrix ( $P_0$ -matrix) is a matrix in which every principal minor of the matrix  $A$  is positive (nonnegative) [1].

**Definition 1.2.** A  $n \times n$  matrix is a  $P_0^+$ -matrix if for each  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , every  $k \times k$  principal minor is nonnegative and at least one  $k \times k$  principal minor is positive [2].

Clearly,  $P$ -matrix is both  $P_0$ -matrix and  $P_0^+$ -matrix. Also observe that  $P_0^+$ -matrix is a  $P_0$ -matrix.

Definitions 1.1 and 1.2 considers the values of the principal minors, the next definition gives restrictions on the type of entries of a matrix.

**Definition 1.3.** A  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is

- i. **Weakly sign symmetric(wss)** if  $a_{ij}a_{ji} \geq 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j$
- ii. **Sign symmetric(ss)** if  $a_{ij}a_{ji} > 0$  or  $a_{ij} = a_{ji} = 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j$

Victor Tomno

- iii. **Nonnegative** if  $a_{ij} \geq 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j$
- iv. **Positive** if  $a_{ij} > 0$  for all  $i$  and  $j$

Using Definition 1.3, we have four different subclasses of  $P_0^+$ -matrix (given in Definition 1.2).

**Definition 1.4.** A  $P_0^+$ -matrix  $A$  is called a **weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix** (resp. **sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix**) if  $a_{ij}a_{ji} \geq 0$  (resp. either  $a_{ij}a_{ji} > 0$  or  $a_{ij} = 0 = a_{ji}$ ) for all  $i$  and  $j$ . Similarly, A  $P_0^+$ -matrix  $A$  is called a **positive  $P_0^+$ -matrix** (resp. **nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -matrix**) if  $a_{ij}a_{ji} > 0$  (resp.  $a_{ij}a_{ji} \geq 0$ ) for all  $i$  and  $j$ .

**Example 1.5.** The matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is a  $P_0^+$ -matrix since all principal minors

are nonnegative and in every order there is at least one positive principal minor. Looking at the entries, it is clear that matrix  $A$  is a weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix. It fails to be sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrix because  $a_{13} = 2 \neq a_{31} = 0$ , again it is not a nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -matrix since both  $a_{12} = -2$  and  $a_{21} = -3$  are negatives and by the same fact it is not a positive  $P_0^+$ -matrix.

**Definition 1.6.** A  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix is a  $P_0^+$ -matrix whose diagonal entries positive and a **positive  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix** is a  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix in which all entries are positive.

**Proposition 1.7.** A matrix is a positive  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix if and only if it is positive  $P_0^+$ -matrix

**Proof:** Positive  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix is a  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix in which all entries are positive (from Definition 1.6), it means the condition that all diagonal entries are positive and hence it is a positive  $P_0^+$ -matrix.

Conversely, a positive  $P_0^+$ -matrix is a  $P_0^+$ -matrix in which all entries are positive hence all diagonal entries are positive, therefore it correct to say it is a positive  $P_{0,1}^+$ -matrix (although diagonal entries have been repeatedly been mentioned to be positive).

**Definition 1.8.** A **partial matrix** is a matrix in which some entries are specified while others are free to be chosen. Let  $\Pi$  be a class of matrices (e.g. weakly sign

## On Completion Problems for Various Subclasses of $P_0^+$ – Matrices

symmetric  $P_0^+$  -, sign symmetric  $P_0^+$  -, nonnegative  $P_0^+$  - and positive  $P_0^+$  -matrices) then a partial  $\Pi$  -matrix is one whose specified entries satisfy the required properties of a  $\Pi$  -matrix.

Graph theoretic approach will be used in completing these partial matrices, and some definitions are given as follows.

**Definition 1.9.** A **digraph**  $D = (V_D, E_D)$  is a graph  $G$  with ordered pairs  $(u, v)$  of vertices and arc where  $u$  the initial vertex is and  $v$  is the terminal vertex. The order of a digraph  $D$  denoted  $n$  is the number of vertices of  $D$ . A digraph is **complete digraph** if it includes all possible arcs between its vertices (also called **clique**) [3].

A  $n \times n$  partial matrix  $A$  is said to **specify** a digraph  $D$  on vertices  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  if  $(v_i, v_j)$  is an arc in  $D$  if and only if the entry  $a_{ij}$  of  $A$  is specified.

**Definition 1.10.** A **completion** of a partial matrix is a specific choice of values for the unspecified entries. If we consider classes given in Definition 2.8, a digraph  $D$  has  $\Pi$  -completion if any partial  $\Pi$  -matrix specifying  $D$  can be completed to a  $\Pi$  -matrix.

On the related work, we just give a brief history of matrix completions close to our research class. Research on  $P$  -matrix completion was first studied by Johnson and Kroschel in [4] and later extended by DeAlba and Hogben in [5]. In 2003, a subclass of  $P$  -matrices: weakly sign symmetric  $P$  -matrices was studied in [6] and then in two subclasses: positive and nonnegative  $P$  -matrices were considered in [7]. Another class on  $P_0$  -matrices was investigated first by Choi and others in [1], and its subclasses, weakly sign symmetric  $P_0$  -matrices, nonnegative symmetric  $P_0$  -matrices and sign symmetric  $P_0$  -matrices were consider in the following papers [6], [8] and [9] respectively. In 2015, a new class of  $P_0^+$  -matrices was first introduced and classification of digraphs of up to order 4 having  $P_0^+$  -completion was done. It is in this class that we are interested in, and the subclasses to be discussed are weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$  -matrices, sign symmetric  $P_0^+$  -matrices and nonnegative  $P_0^+$  -matrices.

### 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we will present some basic results that will be useful in the next section.

If a partial wss  $P_0^+$  -matrices, ss  $P_0^+$  -matrices and nonnegative  $P_0^+$  -matrices omits all diagonal entries then it can be completed to wss  $P_0^+$  -matrices, ss  $P_0^+$  -matrices and nonnegative  $P_0^+$  -matrices by assigning sufficiently large values to unspecified diagonal entries. In this research we are interested in the situations where all diagonal entries are

Victor Tomno

specified. Zeros along diagonal entries tend to make completion for the three subclasses difficult.

Consider  $A = \begin{bmatrix} x & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  which is a partial wss  $P_0^+$ -matrix, partial ss  $P_0^+$ -matrix and a partial nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -matrix specifying digraph in Fig. 2.1 and cannot be completed to a wss  $P_0^+$ -matrix, a ss  $P_0^+$ -matrix and a nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -matrix respectively since  $\det A = -2 < 0$  for any value of  $x$ . Thus the digraph in Figure 2.1 does not have wss  $P_0^+$ -completion, ss  $P_0^+$ -completion and nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -completion



Figure 2.1:

Now, in the next section we assume that all digraphs have diagonal entries specified.

### 3. Main results

Our main results on completions of various subclasses of  $P_0^+$ -matrices namely weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrices, sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -matrices and nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -completion are presented in Theorem 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 respectively.

**Theorem 3.1.** The digraphs having all loops and weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraph.

**Proof:** Let wss  $n \times n$   $P_0^+$ -matrix  $A_c$  be a completion of partial wss  $n \times n$   $P_0^+$ -matrix  $A$  having all diagonal entries specified. Assume that the partial wss  $n \times n$   $P_0^+$ -matrix  $A$  has the first  $n-1$  diagonal entries as 0 and the last is 1 with specified entries  $a_{ij}$ 's and unspecified entries  $x_{ij}$ 's. Consider the  $2 \times 2$  principal minors  $\det A(i, j)$  for some  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Note that  $d_i d_j = 0$  always. Now split into three cases:

Case 1: Position  $ij$  and  $ji$  are specified. In this case we have

$$\det A(i, j) = d_i d_j - a_{ij} a_{ji} = -a_{ij} a_{ji} \geq 0$$

Thus  $a_{ij} a_{ji} \leq 0$  and by wss  $P_0^+$ -completion ( $a_{ij} a_{ji} \geq 0$ ) we have  $a_{ij} a_{ji} = 0$

Case 2: Position  $ij$  is specified and  $ji$  is unspecified. In this case we have

$$\det A(i, j) = d_i d_j - a_{ij} x_{ji} = -a_{ij} x_{ji} \geq 0$$

### On Completion Problems for Various Subclasses of $P_0^+$ – Matrices

Thus  $a_{ij}x_{ji} \leq 0$  and by wss  $P_0^+$ -completion we have  $a_{ij}x_{ji} = 0$

Case 3: Position  $ij$  and  $ji$  are unspecified. In this case we have

$$\det A(i, j) = d_i d_j - x_{ij} x_{ji} = -x_{ij} x_{ji} \geq 0$$

Thus  $x_{ij}x_{ji} \leq 0$  and by wss  $P_0^+$ -completion we have  $x_{ij}x_{ji} = 0$

Observe that in all cases the product of twin entries is zero. However wss  $P_0^+$ -completion requires that at least one of  $2 \times 2$  principal minors is positive. This is a contradiction.

**Theorem 3.2.** The digraphs having all loops and sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraphs.

**Proof:** Using same hypothesis as in Theorem 3.1, again consider the  $2 \times 2$  principal minor  $\det A(i, j)$  for some  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and that  $d_i d_j = 0$  always. This means if a non-diagonal entry is specified then it must be zero (0) that is  $a_{ij} = 0$  since

$$\det A(i, j) = d_i d_j - a_{ij} x_{ji} = -x_{ij} a_{ji} < 0 \text{ if } a_{ij} \neq 0 .$$

Therefore all unspecified non-diagonal twin entries  $x_{ji}$  are also assigned zero (0) that is  $c_{ji} = 0$ . As a result all non-diagonal entries have zeros hence  $\det A(\alpha) = 0 \quad \forall \alpha \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  this shows that partial ss  $P_0^+$ -matrices with unspecified entries lack sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion and so, the only digraphs having all loops and sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraphs.

**Theorem 3.3.** The digraphs having all loops and nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraph.

**Proof:** The proof for this theorem follows from the proof of Theorem 3.1, also having three cases with all specified entries  $a_{ij}$ s being nonnegative i.e.  $a_{ij} \geq 0$  and values assigned to unspecified entries  $x_{ij}$ s being nonnegative that is  $c_{ij} \geq 0$ , which also shows that all the three cases have the product of the twin entries being zero and similar to Theorem 3.1 does not have  $2 \times 2$  principal sub-matrix with positive determinant hence digraphs having all loops and nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraph.

#### 4. Conclusion and recommendations

Based on the main results we have concluded that digraphs that include all loops and have weakly sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion, sign symmetric  $P_0^+$ -completion and nonnegative  $P_0^+$ -completion are complete digraphs. According to sections on related

Victor Tomno

work and main results, we observe that similar research should be done for positive  $P_0^+$ -matrices.

#### REFERENCES

1. J.Y.Choi, L.M.DeAlba, L.Hogben and M.Maxwell, The  $P_0$ -Matrix Completion Problem, *Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra*, 9 (2002) 1-20.
2. B.K.Sarma and K.Sinha, The  $P_0^+$ -Matrix Completion Problem, *Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra*, 29 (2015) 120-143.
3. L.Hogben, Graph Theoretic Methods of Matrix Completion Problem, *Linear Algebra and its Applications*, 328 (2001) 161-202.
4. C.R.Johnson and B.K.Kroschel, The combinatorially symmetric  $P$ -matrix Completion Problem, *Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra*, 1 (1996) 59-64.
5. L.M.DeAlba, and L.Hogben, The completions  $P$ -matrix patterns, *Linear Algebra and Application*, 319(2000) 83-102.
6. L.M.DeAlba, T.L.Hardy, L.Hogben and A.Wangsness, The (Weakly) Sign Symmetric  $P$ -matrix Completion Problems, *Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra*, 10 (2003) 257-271.
7. J.Bowers, J.Evers, L.Hogben, S.Shaner, K.Snider and A.Wangsness, On completion problems for various classes of  $P$ -matrices, *Linear Algebra and Application*, 413 (2006) 342-354.
8. J.Y.Choi, L.M.DeAlba, L.Hogben, B.M.Kivunge, S.K.Nordstrom and M.Shedenhelm, The nonnegative  $P_0$ -matrix completion problem, *Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra*, 10 (2003) 46-59.
9. V.Tomno, The sign symmetric  $P_0$ -matrix completion problem, *International Journal of Mathematical Archive*, 9(11) (2018) 16-19
10. F.Harary, *Graph Theory*; New York; Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, 1969.