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# On the construction of symmetric nonnegative matrix with prescribed Ritz values

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**Abstract.** In this paper for a given prescribed Ritz values that satisfy in the some special conditions, we find a symmetric nonnegative matrix, such that the given set be its Ritz values.

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## 1. Introduction

The Ritz values of a  $n \times n$  matrix are the eigenvalues of its leading principal submatrices of order m = 1, 2, ..., n. In the symmetric case, the Ritz values are real and interlacing, i.e. the ordered values  $\lambda_i^{(j)}$  at level j and  $\lambda_i^{(j+1)}$  at the next level j + 1 satisfy

$$\lambda_1^{(j+1)} \leqslant \lambda_1^{(j)} \leqslant \lambda_2^{(j+1)} \leqslant \lambda_2^{(j)} \leqslant \dots \leqslant \lambda_{j+1}^{(j+1)}.$$
(1)

Kostant and Wallach [1,2], construct the unique unit Hessenberg matrix H with given  $R_B$ , where  $R_B$  is the list of Ritz values. Beresford Parlett and Gilbert Strang [3] solved the problem for symmetric arrow and tridiagonal matrices.

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In the section 2 of this paper similar Theorem 2.1 of [4], we prove a theorem which can be used to construction a nonnegative matrix for a given set of Ritz values in a systematic method. The algorithm of this method is presented in section 3.

#### 2. Main Result

We will use some standard basic concepts and results about square nonnegative matrices such as reducible, irreducible, Frobenius normal form of a reducible matrix, irreducible component and Frobenius Theorem about the spectral structure of an irreducible matrix as are described in [1].

**Theorem 2.1** Let *B* be an  $n \times n$   $(n \ge 2)$  irreducible symmetric nonnegative matrix and let

$$R_B = \{\lambda_1^{(1)}; \lambda_1^{(2)}, \lambda_2^{(2)}; ...; \lambda_1^{(n)}, \lambda_2^{(n)}, ..., \lambda_n^{(n)}\}$$

be the Ritz values of B that satisfy in the interlacing condition (1) for j = 1, 2, ..., n-1. If  $\lambda_n^{(n)}$  is the Perron eigenvalue of B and  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & a \\ a & \lambda_n^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}$  is a 2×2 nonnegative symmetric matrix with Ritz values  $\{\mu_1; \mu_2, \mu_3\}$ , then there exist an  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  nonnegative symmetric matrix  $C = \begin{pmatrix} B & sa \\ s^T a & \delta \end{pmatrix}$  with the following Ritz values

$$M = \{\lambda_1^{(1)}; \lambda_1^{(2)}, \lambda_2^{(2)}; ...; \lambda_1^{(n)}, \lambda_2^{(n)}, ..., \lambda_n^{(n)}; \lambda_1^{(n)}, \lambda_2^{(n)}, ..., \lambda_{n-1}^{(n)}, \mu_2, \mu_3\},\$$

where s is the normalized eigenvector corresponding to the Perron eigenvalue  $\lambda_n^{(n)}$  and  $\delta = \mu_3 + \mu_2 - \lambda_n^{(n)}$ .

**Proof.** Let s be the normalized eigenvector associated to the Perron eigenvalue of B. We find the  $n \times (n-1)$  matrix  $V_1$  such that  $Y_1 = (s, V_1)$  be unitary and  $BY_1 = (\lambda_n^{(n)} s, BV_1)$ . Therefore

$$B_{1} = Y_{1}^{*}BY_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{n}^{(n)}ss^{*} s^{*}BV_{1} \\ \lambda_{n}^{(n)}V_{1}^{*}s V_{1}^{*}BV_{1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{n}^{(n)} * * \cdots * \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\widehat{B} = V_1^* B V_1$  is an  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix and  $\{\lambda_1^{(1)}, ..., \lambda_{n-1}^{(n)}\}$  is set of eigenvalues of  $\widehat{B}$ . On the other hand, by Schur decomposition theorem there exist the unitary matrix  $V_2$  of order (n-1), such that  $V_2^* \widehat{B} V_2 = \widehat{T}_B$ , where  $\widehat{T}_B$  is upper triangular matrix with the eigenvalues of  $\widehat{B}$  on its main diagonal. If

$$Y_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \ 0 \ \cdots \ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

whereas  $V_2$  is a unitary matrix, then  $Y_2$  is also unitary. Thus

$$Y_2^* B_1 Y_2 = Y_2^* (Y_1^* B Y_1) Y_2 = (Y_1 Y_2)^* B(Y_1 Y_2) = Y^* B Y, \quad (\text{if} \quad Y = Y_1 Y_2)$$

$$Y = Y_1 Y_2 = (s \quad V_1 V_2) = (s \quad T) \Longrightarrow Y^* = \begin{pmatrix} s^* \\ T^* \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (if  $T = V_1 V_2$ )

Since T is a unitary matrix, we can write

$$YY^* = ss^* + TT^* = I_n, \qquad Y^*Y = \begin{pmatrix} s^*s \ s^*T \\ T^*s \ T^*T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \ 0 \\ 0 \ I_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{2}$$

and

$$Y^*BY = \begin{pmatrix} s^*Bs \ s^*BT \\ T^*Bs \ T^*BT \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_n^{(n)} \ * \\ 0 \ \widehat{T}_B \end{pmatrix} = T_B.$$
(3)

Consequently,  $T_B$  is an upper triangular matrix with eigenvalues of B on its main diagonal. On the other hand by Schur decomposition theorem there exist a unitary matrix X, such that  $X^*AX = T_A$ , where  $T_A$  is an upper triangular matrix so that eigenvalues of  $A(\{\mu_2, \mu_3\})$  lie on its main diagonal. Assume that the matrices X and  $X^*$  have the following partitions:

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} K_1 \\ K_2 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad X^* = \begin{pmatrix} K_1^* & K_2^* \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are  $1 \times 2$  vectors. Since X is a unitary matrix we have

$$XX^* = \begin{pmatrix} K_1K_1^* & K_1K_2^* \\ K_2K_1^* & K_2K_2^* \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
  
$$XX^* = K_1^*K_2 + K_2^*K_2 = I_2.$$
 (4)

 $\langle \rangle$ 

By (4) we have

$$T_A = X^* A X = K_1^* \lambda K_1 + K_2^* a K_1 + K_1^* a K_2 + \lambda_n^{(n)} K_2^* K_2 = \lambda K_1^* K_1 + a (K_2^* K_1 + K_1^* K_2) + \lambda_n^{(n)} K_2^* K_2.$$
(5)

Now we consider two matrices Z and  $Z^*$  and a nonnegative matrix C of order  $(n + 2 - 1) \times (n + 2 - 1)$  in the following forms:

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} sK_2 T \\ K_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ Z^* = \begin{pmatrix} K_2^* s^* & K_1^* \\ T^* & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \ C = \begin{pmatrix} B & sa \\ as^* & \delta \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using relations (2) and (4), it is easy to show that Z is a unitary matrix. Now by relations (2) - (5), we can calculate  $Z^*CZ$  as follows:

$$Z^*CZ = \begin{pmatrix} K_1^*\lambda K_1 + a(K_2^*K_1 + K_1^*K_2) + \lambda_n^n K_2^*K_1^* K_1^*as^*T + K_2^*s^*BT \\ T^*saK_1 + TBsK_2 & T^*BT \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} T_A & \star \\ 0 & \hat{T}_B \end{pmatrix} = T_C,$$

where  $T_C$  is an upper triangular matrix and the elements of its main diagonal are the elements of the last level of M. On the other hand by the above relation, C and  $T_C$  are similar, therefore C solves the problem which completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

# 3. An Algorithm for construction of a symmetric nonnegative matrix

Let

$$R_A = \{\lambda_1^{(1)}; \lambda_1^{(2)}, \lambda_2^{(2)}; ...; \lambda_1^{(n)}, \lambda_2^{(n)}, ..., \lambda_n^{(n)}\},\$$

where  $\lambda_1^{(j)}, \lambda_2^{(j)}, ..., \lambda_j^{(j)}$  are the eigenvalues of leading principal submatrix  $A_j$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and assume that  $R_A$  satisfies the interlacing condition (1). Assume the eigenvalues of  $A_{j+1}$  are only different with eigenvalues of  $A_j$  in  $\lambda_j^{(j+1)}, \lambda_{j+1}^{(j+1)}$  where  $\lambda_{j+1}^{(j+1)}$  is the Perron eigenvalue of  $A_{j+1}$  and  $\lambda_i^{(j)} = \lambda_i^{(j+1)}$ , for i = 1, 2, ..., j - 1 and j = 1, 2, ..., n. By following algorithm we construct a nonnegative symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix A with Ritz values  $R_A$  and leading principal submatrices.

**step** 1 : Let  $A_1 = (\lambda_1^{(1)})$ . **Step** 2 : Let

$$A_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1}^{(1)} & \sqrt{(\lambda_{2}^{(2)} - \lambda_{1}^{(1)})(\lambda_{1}^{(1)} - \lambda_{1}^{(2)})} \\ \sqrt{(\lambda_{2}^{(2)} - \lambda_{1}^{(1)})(\lambda_{1}^{(1)} - \lambda_{1}^{(2)})} & \lambda_{2}^{(2)} + \lambda_{1}^{(2)} - \lambda_{1}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

By interlacing condition (1) the elements of  $A_2$  are nonnegative. Step j: We construct a nonnegative symmetric matrix with prescribed Ritz values

$$\{\lambda_1^{(1)};\lambda_1^{(2)},\lambda_2^{(2)};...;\lambda_1^{(j)},\lambda_2^{(j)},...,\lambda_j^{(j)}\}$$

that satisfy in interlacing condition (1) and  $\lambda_1^{(j-1)}, ..., \lambda_{j-2}^{(j-1)}$  lies in the set of eigenvalues of  $A_j$ . At first we construct the 2 × 2 symmetric nonnegative matrix A' with Ritz values  $\{\mu_1; \mu_2, \mu_3\}$ , where

$$\mu_3 = \lambda_j^{(j)}, \ \mu_2 = \lambda_{j-1}^{(j)}, \qquad \mu_1 = \mu_2 + \mu_3 - \lambda_{j-1}^{(j-1)}$$

and  $A' = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 & a \\ a & \lambda_{j-1}^{(j-1)} \end{pmatrix}$  and  $a = \sqrt{(\mu_3 - \mu_1)(\mu_1 - \mu_2)}$ . The condition on  $\mu_1$  is the solvability condition for this problem. Now by Theorem 2.1 we construct  $A_j$  by combining

two matrices  $A_{j-1}$  and A' in the form  $A_j = \begin{pmatrix} A_{j-1} & as \\ as^T & \mu_1 \end{pmatrix}$ , where s is the eigenvector corresponding to the Perron eigenvector of A'.

*Example* 3.1 We construct a matrix with the following prescribed Ritz values  $\{1; -1, 3; -1, 2, 4; -1, 2, 3, 5; -1, 2, 2, 4, 6\}$ .

$$A_{1} = (1),$$

$$A_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{1}^{(1)} & a \\ a & \delta_{1} \end{pmatrix},$$
where
$$a = \sqrt{(\lambda_{1}^{(1)} - \lambda_{1}^{(2)})(\lambda_{2}^{(2)} - \lambda_{1}^{(1)})} = 2,$$

$$\delta_{1} = \lambda_{2}^{(2)} + \lambda_{1}^{(2)} - \lambda_{1}^{(1)} = 1.$$

The construction of the matrix  $A_3$  needs the normalized eigenvector to associated eigenvalue 3. This vector is

$$s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}.$$
We must see

We must construct  $2 \times 2$  matrix A' with Ritz values  $\{\mu_1; \mu_2, \mu_3\} = \{\mu_1; 2, 4\}$ , so that  $\lambda_2^{(2)} = 3$  is lies on the main diagonal of A'.

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} \mu_1 & a \\ a & \lambda_2^{(2)} \end{pmatrix},$$
  
where (a)

$$\mu_{1} = \mu_{2} + \mu_{3} - \lambda_{2}^{(2)} = 3,$$
  
 $a = \sqrt{(\mu_{1} - \mu_{2})(\mu_{3} - \mu_{1})} = 1.$   
Now by Theorem 2.1, we combine  $A'$  and  $A_{2}$  to construct  $A_{3}$  as  
 $A_{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \sqrt{2}/2 \\ 2 & 1 & \sqrt{2}/2 \\ \sqrt{2}/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$ 

Similarly we can construct the matrices  $A_4$  and  $A_5$ .

$$A_{4} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 1/2 \\ 2 & 1 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 1/2 \\ \sqrt{2}/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 3 & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 4 \end{pmatrix},$$
  
$$A_{5} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 1/2 & \sqrt{2}/4 \\ 2 & 1 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 1/2 & \sqrt{2}/4 \\ \sqrt{2}/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 3 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 4 & \sqrt{2}/2 \\ \sqrt{2}/4 & \sqrt{2}/4 & 1/2 & \sqrt{2}/2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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