

# Matrix Completion and Decomposition in Phase-Bounded Cones

Ding Zhang   Axel Ringh   Li Qiu

SIAM J. Matrix Analysis & Applications  
Vol. 46, No. 2 (2025)  
DOI: 10.1137/23M1626529

# Problem Background

## Example 1: Nuclear-Norm Matrix Completion

$$\min_X \|X\|_* \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X) = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(M)$$

Equivalent semi-definite programming (SDP) formulation:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{X, W, Z} \quad & \frac{1}{2} (\text{tr } W + \text{tr } Z) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \begin{bmatrix} W & X \\ X^\top & Z \end{bmatrix} \succeq 0, \quad W, Z \succeq 0, \\ & \mathcal{P}_\Omega(X) = \mathcal{P}_\Omega(M). \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ The feasible set lives inside the **positive semi-definite cone (PSD)**—only the *magnitudes* of singular values are enforced; *phase* information remains unrestricted.

# Motivation

- ▶ In many real-world applications(e.g. *multivariable control systems, impedance circuit synthesis, robust control*) the **phase** of matrix entries must be bounded as well as their magnitude.
- ▶ We therefore introduce a more general *phase-bounded cone* (相位有界锥)  $\text{SS}[\alpha, \beta]$  and extend matrix completion / decomposition theory from PSD to the joint “magnitude + phase” setting.

## Phase-Bounded Cone $SS[\alpha, \beta]$

► **numerical range:**  $W(C) = \{x^H C x \mid \|x\|_2 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ .

► **Minimum / Maximum Phase:**

$$\varphi_{\min}(C) = \min_{z \in W(C)} \arg z, \quad \varphi_{\max}(C) = \max_{z \in W(C)} \arg z.$$

## Phase-Bounded Cone $SS[\alpha, \beta]$

► **numerical range:**  $W(C) = \{x^H C x \mid \|x\|_2 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ .

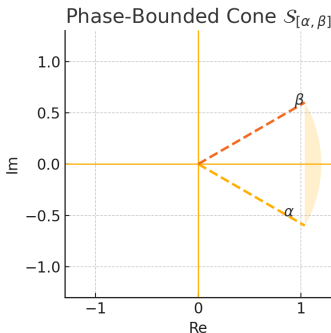
► **Minimum / Maximum Phase:**

$$\varphi_{\min}(C) = \min_{z \in W(C)} \arg z, \quad \varphi_{\max}(C) = \max_{z \in W(C)} \arg z.$$

### Definition

A complex matrix  $C$  is in  $SS[\alpha, \beta]$  if it is *semi-sectorial* and its numerical range satisfies

$$\alpha \leq \varphi_{\min}(C) \leq \varphi_{\max}(C) \leq \beta, \quad 0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi.$$



# Methodology

## Toeplitz Split

Any complex matrix  $C$  can be written as

$$C = C_H + iC_S, \quad \text{with } C_H, C_S \in \mathbb{H}_n \text{ (Hermitian).}$$

## Linear Map $R_{\alpha,\beta}$

$$R_{\alpha,\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \\ \sin \beta & -\cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \otimes I_n.$$

It *preserves sparsity patterns* and is invertible for  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$ .

# Methodology

## Toeplitz Split

Any complex matrix  $C$  can be written as

$$C = C_H + iC_S, \quad \text{with } C_H, C_S \in \mathbb{H}_n \text{ (Hermitian).}$$

## Linear Map $R_{\alpha,\beta}$

$$R_{\alpha,\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \\ \sin \beta & -\cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \otimes I_n.$$

It *preserves sparsity patterns* and is invertible for  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$ .

## Key Lemma

$$C \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha,\beta]} \iff R_{\alpha,\beta} \begin{bmatrix} C_H \\ C_S \end{bmatrix} \in \underbrace{\text{PSD} \times \text{PSD}}_{\text{positive semi-definite cone (正半定锥)}}.$$

# Methodology

## Toeplitz Split

Any complex matrix  $C$  can be written as

$$C = C_H + iC_S, \quad \text{with } C_H, C_S \in \mathbb{H}_n \text{ (Hermitian)}.$$

## Linear Map $R_{\alpha,\beta}$

$$R_{\alpha,\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} -\sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \\ \sin \beta & -\cos \beta \end{bmatrix} \otimes I_n.$$

It *preserves sparsity patterns* and is invertible for  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$ .

## Key Lemma

$$C \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha,\beta]} \iff R_{\alpha,\beta} \begin{bmatrix} C_H \\ C_S \end{bmatrix} \in \underbrace{\text{PSD} \times \text{PSD}}_{\text{positive semi-definite cone (正半定锥)}}.$$

- The lemma transfers **PSD theory** to the phase-bounded cone via an *invertible, pattern-preserving* transform.



# Graph-Constrained Matrices

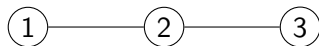
## Definition

Fix an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  on  $n$  vertices. Define

$$\mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n} := \{C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n} \mid C_{ij} = 0 \text{ whenever } (i, j) \notin E \cup \text{diag}\}.$$

In other words, non-zero entries of  $C$  are allowed only on edges of  $G$  (plus the diagonal).

## Toy example:



Matrix pattern respecting  
 $E = \{(1, 2), (2, 3)\}$  :

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}_G^{3 \times 3}.$$

# Methodology

## (1) Phase-Bounded Completion

Given a *partial* matrix  $C$  whose known entries lie on  $E$ , decide whether there exists

$$K \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad K_{ij} = C_{ij} \quad (\forall (i, j) \in E).$$

## (2) Phase-Bounded Decomposition

Given a matrix  $C \in \mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n}$ , decide whether

$$C = \sum_{k=1}^m C_k, \quad C_k \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}, \quad \text{rank}(C_k) = 1, \quad \text{supp}(C_k) \subseteq E.$$

- Both tasks generalise classical PSD completion/decomposition to the *phase-bounded cone*  $\mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}$ .

# Four Fundamental Cones

## Definitions

$$\mathcal{S}_G := \mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n} \cap \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]} \quad (\text{sparse phase-bounded matrices})$$

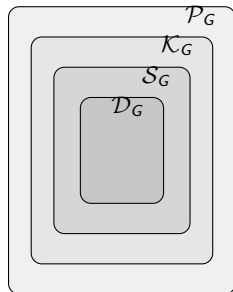
$$\mathcal{P}_G := \{C \in \mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n} \mid C[K] \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]} \quad \forall \text{ cliques } K \subseteq G\}$$

$$\mathcal{K}_G := \{C \in \mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n} \mid \exists B \in \mathbb{C}_{G^c}^{n \times n} \ C + B \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}\}$$

$$\mathcal{D}_G := \left\{ \sum_k C_k \mid C_k \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}, \text{rank}(C_k) = 1, \text{supp}(C_k) \subseteq \right.$$

- All four are **closed, pointed, convex** cones.

- $\mathcal{D}_G \subseteq \mathcal{S}_G \subseteq \mathcal{K}_G \subseteq \mathcal{P}_G$ .



dual to  $\mathcal{D}_G$



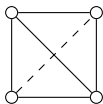
dual to  $\mathcal{K}_G$

# Chordal-Graph Characterisation

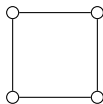
## Main Theorem

For  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$  and an undirected graph  $G$ , the following statements are *equivalent*:

1.  $G$  is **chordal** (every cycle of length  $\geq 4$  has a chord);
  2.  $\mathcal{D}_G = \mathcal{S}_G$ ;
  3.  $\mathcal{K}_G = \mathcal{P}_G$ .
- ▶ Extends the PSD result to the *phase-bounded cone*  $\mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}$ .
  - ▶ Provides a **necessary & sufficient** graph criterion for phase-bounded completion and decomposition.



chordal



non-chordal

# Completion Criterion for Chordal Graphs

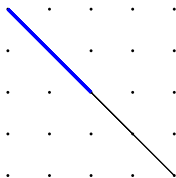
## Corollary

Let  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$  and  $G$  be **chordal**. A partial matrix  $C$  with graph  $G$  admits a completion

$$K \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]} \quad \text{such that} \quad K_{ij} = C_{ij} \quad (i, j) \in E(G)$$

*iff every specified clique submatrix  $C[K]$  already lies in  $\mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}$ .*

- ▶ **Practical meaning:** only maximal cliques need to be checked —no global SDP.
- ▶ For banded or tree patterns this reduces to testing a few small principal blocks.



5x5 banded graph ( $w = 2$ ). Blue triangle = a maximal clique to check.

# Decomposition Criterion for Chordal Graphs

## Corollary

Let  $0 < \beta - \alpha < \pi$  and  $G$  be **chordal**. A sparse matrix  $C \in \mathbb{C}_G^{n \times n}$  admits a rank-one sum

$$C = \sum_{k=1}^m C_k, \quad C_k \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}, \quad \text{rank}(C_k) = 1, \quad \text{supp}(C_k) \subseteq E(G)$$

*iff* the matrix itself already lies in the phase-bounded cone:

$$C \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]}.$$



tree pattern (chordal). Blue edge = one rank-one component  $C_k$ .

# Banded Graphs $\Rightarrow$ Two PSD Sub-Problems

Key idea: transform one complex problem into two real, band-preserving PSD problems, easy to solve.

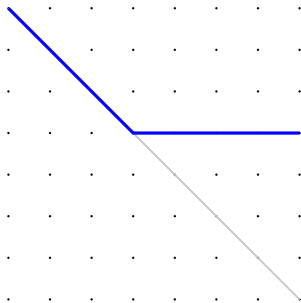
Key fact for banded graphs (Lemma 3.3 + Remark 5.1)

$$C \in \mathcal{S}_{[\alpha, \beta]} \iff \begin{cases} C_\alpha = -\sin \alpha C_H + \cos \alpha C_S \in \text{PSD}, \\ C_\beta = \sin \beta C_H - \cos \beta C_S \in \text{PSD}. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ **Band-preserving** (same half-bandwidth  $w$ ).
- ▶ Phase-bounded completion reduces to two banded-PSD sub-problems, solvable in  $\mathcal{O}(nw^2)$  time.

# Staircase Algorithm

Algorithm 5.1 (staircase fill): Start at the main diagonal and successively complete principal submatrices of size  $w+1, w+2, \dots, n$  via Schur complements. The result  $H_c$  is the **unique** phase-bounded completion maximising  $\det H$ .



$n = 8, w = 2$  Blue = fill order.



# Conclusions & Outlook

## Takeaways

- ▶ Extended classical PSD completion/decomposition to **phase-bounded cones**  $\mathcal{S}_{[\alpha,\beta]}$ .
- ▶ Chordal graphs give *iff* criteria; banded graphs admit an  $\mathcal{O}(nw^2)$  staircase algorithm and a det-max *central completion*.

## Future Works

- ▶ Real-time applications in robust control and impedance circuit synthesis.
- ▶ Scalable ADMM / primal-dual solvers for large  $\mathcal{S}_{[\alpha,\beta]}$ -SDPs.
- ▶ Exploring matrix completion and decomposition methods for other constrained graphs, including non-chordal and non-banded graphs.