# Moore-Penrose Inverses of Block Circulant and Block k-Circulant Matrices

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#### ABSTRACT

The Moore-Penrose inverse  $A^+$  of a block circulant matrix whose blocks are arbitrary square matrices is obtained. An explicit form is given for  $A^+$  in terms of the blocks of A. The eigenvalues of A are determined in terms of the eigenvalues of the blocks where the blocks themselves are circulants.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In recent papers Cline, Plemmons, and Worm [2] have determined the spectral and Moore-Penrose inverses of certain k-circulants, and Pye, Boullion, and Atchison [3] and Trapp [4] have determined the Moore-Penrose inverse of square block circulant matrices whose blocks are square circulants. Block circulant matrices have also been investigated by Chao [1]. Here we define a block k-circulant and generalize some of the results of [2] to block k-circulants. Then, we obtain the result that k is a block circulant if and only if k is a block circulant. Lastly, we determine the Moore-Penrose inverse of square block circulant matrices in the case where the blocks are arbitrary square matrices and in the case where the blocks are [r]-circulants.

## 2. PROPERTIES OF k-CIRCULANTS

The results listed in this section all come from [2] and are used in later sections.

Let k be a complex number, and let  $Q = (q_{ij})$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix defined by  $q_{i,i+1} = 1$  for i = 1, 2, ..., n-1,  $q_{n1} = k$ , and  $q_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. An  $n \times n$  complex matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  is a k-circulant if A is defined by  $a_{ij} = a_{j-1}$  for  $i \leq j$  and  $a_{ij} = ka_{n+j-1}$  for i > j.

THEOREM A (Cline-Plemmons-Worm). An  $n \times n$  matrix A is a k-circulant if and only if AQ = QA. In this case,  $A = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i Q^i$ , where  $(a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_{n-1})$  is the first row of A.

COROLLARY A. The Moore-Penrose inverse of a circulant matrix is a circulant matrix.

## 3. BLOCK CIRCULANTS AND BLOCK k-CIRCULANTS

A complex matrix  $A = (A_{ij})$ ,  $1 \le i$ ,  $j \le n$ , is a block k-circulant if A is defined by  $A_{ij} = A_{j-1}$  for  $i \le j$  and  $A_{ij} = kA_{n+j-1}$  for i > j, where each  $A_i$  is  $m \times m$ . If k = 1, then A is a block circulant.

Let A be an  $m \times n$  complex matrix and B a  $p \times q$  complex matrix. The Kronecker product of A and B, denoted  $A \otimes B$ , is defined by  $A \otimes B = (C_{ij})$   $(1 \le i \le m; 1 \le j \le n)$ , where  $C_{ij} = a_{ij}B$ . It is well known that  $(A \otimes B)(C \otimes D) = AC \otimes BD$  if all multiplications are defined.

We have the following generalization of Theorem B below, where  $\hat{Q} = Q \otimes I_m$ . The proof is quite similar to the proof of Theorem B.

LEMMA 1. Let  $A = (A_{ij})$ ,  $1 \le i$ ,  $j \le n$ , where each  $A_{ij}$  is  $m \times m$ . Then A is a block k-circulant if and only if  $A\hat{Q} = \hat{Q}A$ . In this case,  $A = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} Q^i \otimes A_i$ , where  $(A_0, A_1, \ldots, A_{n-1})$  is the first "block" row of A.

*Proof.* Define  $A_{j-1} = A_{1j}$  for all  $1 \le j \le n$ . Throughout the proof the subscripts are assumed to be reduced modulo n. Let  $A\hat{Q} = (S_{ij})$  and  $A\hat{Q} = (T_{ij})$ , where  $S_{ij}$  and  $T_{ij}$  are  $m \times m$  blocks for all  $1 \le i, j < n$ . Since  $Q_{ij} = 0$  for  $i \ne j-1 \mod n$ , we have  $S_{i,j+1} = A_{i,j}Q_{j,j+1}$  and  $T_{i,j+1} = Q_{i,i+1}A_{i+1,j+1}$ . Now,  $A\hat{Q} = \hat{Q}A$  if and only if  $A_{i,j}Q_{j,j+1} = Q_{i,i+1}A_{i+1,j+1}$ . The last condition is equivalent to

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} A_{i+1,j+1} & \text{if} \quad 1 \leq i, j < n \text{ or } i = j = n, \\ kA_{1,j+1} & \text{if} \quad i = n \text{ and } 1 \leq j < n. \end{cases}$$

But this means A is a block k-circulant, i.e.,

$$A_{ij} = \begin{cases} A_{j-1} & \text{if } i \leq j, \\ kA_{n+j-1} & \text{if } i > j. \end{cases}$$

It is then obvious that  $A = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} Q^i \otimes A_i$ .

Theorem 1. Let A be a block k-circulant, where k has unit modulus. Then  $A^+$  is a block k-circulant. In particular, the Moore-Penrose inverse of a block circulant is a block circulant.

*Proof.* If 
$$k$$
 has unit modulus, then  $\hat{Q}$  is unitary. Hence,  $A^+ = (\hat{Q}A\hat{Q}^*)^+ = \hat{Q}A^+\hat{Q}^*$ .

We shall now introduce a construction made in [2]. Let  $\omega$  be any primitive *n*th root of unity and  $\lambda$  any *n*th root of k. Let  $\Omega_n = (m_{ii})$ , where

$$m_{ij} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \omega^{(i-1)(j-1)}, \qquad 1 \leq i, j \leq n,$$

for each positive integer n. Let  $\Lambda = \operatorname{diag}(1, \lambda, \lambda^2, \dots, \lambda^{n-1})$ , and let  $T = \Lambda \Omega_n$ . We have the following properties.

- (1)  $\Omega_n$  is unitary.
- (2) C is a circulant in  $C_n$  if and only if  $\Omega_n^* C\Omega_n = \operatorname{diag}(\lambda_0, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{n-1})$ , where the  $\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues of C.
  - (3)  $T^{-1}QT = \operatorname{diag}(\lambda, \lambda\omega, \lambda\omega^2, \dots, \lambda\omega^{n-1}).$

THEOREM B (C-P-W). A is a k-circulant if and only if  $A = \Lambda C \Lambda^{-1}$  for some circulant matrix C.

We have the following characterization of block k-circulants as a generalization of Theorem B. Since the proof is analogous to the proof of Theorem B, it is omitted.

Lemma 2. Let  $\hat{\Lambda} = \Lambda \otimes I$ . A is a block k-circulant if and only if  $A = \hat{\Lambda} C \hat{\Lambda}^{-1}$  for some block circulant matrix C.

In [3] it was noted that if A is a nonsingular k-circulant, then  $A^{-1}$  is a k-circulant. On the other hand, the Moore-Penrose inverse  $A^+$  of a singular k-circulant need not be a k-circulant. The following result gave necessary and sufficient conditions for  $A^+$  to be k-circulant.

THEOREM C (C-P-W). Let A be a k-circulant and singular. Then  $A^+$  is a k-circulant if and only if k lies on the unit circle.

This result is generalized to the case of block k-circulants. It is noted that if A is a nonsingular block k-circulant, then  $A^{-1}$  is a block k-circulant, but as in the case of k-circulants, the Moore-Penrose inverse  $A^+$  of a singular block k-circulant need not be a block k-circulant.

RONALD L. SMITH

THEOREM 2. Let A be a block k-circulant matrix such that  $AA^+ = (AA^+)^*$  is not a diagonal matrix. Then  $A^+$  is a block k-circulant if and only if k lies on the unit circle.

*Proof.* Let  $R=(r_{ij})$  be the *n*-square matrix defined by  $r_{i+1,i}=1$  for  $i=1,2,\ldots,n-1,\ r_{1n}=1/k,$  and  $r_{ij}=0$  otherwise. Then  $R=Q^{-1}$ , and thus  $\hat{R}=R\otimes I=\hat{Q}^{-1}$ . Observe that if  $C=\hat{R}^*C(\hat{R}^*)^{-1}$ , then C is a block  $1/\bar{k}$ -circulant matrix. If  $A^+$  is a block k-circulant, then  $A^+=\hat{Q}A^+\hat{Q}^{-1}$ . Thus,  $AA^+=\hat{Q}AA^+\hat{Q}^{-1}$ , which implies  $AA^+$  is a block k-circulant by Lemma 1. Since  $AA^+=(AA^+)^*$ , we have  $AA^+=(\hat{Q}^{-1})^*AA^+\hat{Q}^*=\hat{R}^*AA^+(\hat{R}^*)^{-1}$ , which implies  $AA^+$  is a block  $1/\bar{k}$ -circulant. Therefore,  $k=1/\bar{k}$ , which implies |k|=1. The converse follows from Theorem 1.

Let  $C_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le p$ , be a set of matrices, each of order  $m_i$ . The direct sum of this set, denoted  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i$ , is defined by

$$\sum_{i=1}^{p} C_i = \operatorname{diag}(C_1, C_2, \dots, C_p).$$

In the following let  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i A_i = B_i$ ,  $T \otimes I_m = T$ , and  $\Omega_n \otimes I_m = \hat{\Omega}_n$ .

THEOREM 3. A is a block k-circulant if and only if

$$A = \hat{T} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_j \right) \hat{T}^{-1}.$$

Proof. Assuming A is a block k-circulant, we have

$$\hat{T}^{-1}A\hat{T} = (T^{-1} \otimes I) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} Q^{i} \otimes A_{i} \right) (T \otimes I)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (T^{-1}Q^{i}T \otimes A_{i})$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \operatorname{diag}(\lambda^{i}, (\lambda \omega)^{i}, (\lambda \omega^{2})^{i}, \dots, (\lambda \omega^{n-1})^{i}) \otimes A_{i}$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^{j})^{i} A_{i} \right) = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_{j}.$$

Since the steps are reversible, the converse holds.

COROLLARY 1. If k has unit modulus, then A is a block k-circulant if and only if

$$A^{+} = \hat{T} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_j^{+} \right) \hat{T}^*.$$

If k has unit modulus, T is unitary and thus T is unitary. The result follows from these two well-known properties of the Moore-Penrose inverse:

(1) if 
$$A = UBV$$
 where  $U$  and  $V$  are unitary, then  $A^+ = V^*B^+U^*$ , and (2) if  $A = \sum_{j=0}^{\bullet} B_j$ , then  $A^+ = \sum_{j=0}^{\bullet} B_j^+$ .

COROLLARY 2. A is a block circulant if and only if

$$A^{+} = \hat{\Omega}_{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_{j}^{+} \right) \hat{\Omega}_{n}^{*}.$$

Take  $\lambda = 1$  and thus  $\hat{T} = \hat{\Omega}_n$ . Now apply Corollary 1.

THEOREM 4. Suppose k has unit modulus. Then the following are equivalent:

- (1) A is a block k-circulant.
- (2) A + is a block k-circulant.

(3) 
$$A^+ = \hat{T} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_j^+ \right) \hat{T}^*.$$

*Proof.* (1) is equivalent to (2) by Theorem 1. (1) is equivalent to (3) by Corollary 1.

Note that k=1 gives the result that A is a block circulant if and only if A + is a block circulant, and in either case

$$A^{+} = \hat{\Omega}_{n} \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} w^{ji} A_{i} \right)^{+} \right] \hat{\Omega}_{n}^{*}.$$

In the single block case with |k|=1, A is a k-circulant if and only if  $A^+$  is a k-circulant, and in either case

$$A^{+} = T \operatorname{diag} \left[ \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i \right)^{+}, \quad \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \omega^{i} a_i \right)^{+}, \dots, \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \omega^{(n-1)i} a_i \right)^{+} \right] T^{*}.$$

## 4. SPECIAL BLOCK AND BLOCK k-CIRCULANTS

The notion of r-circulants was introduced in [5]; we refer to them as [r]-circulants here to avoid confusion.

We say that a matrix  $C = (a_{ij})$  is a [r]-circulant if  $a_{ij} = a_{(j-1)-r(i-1)}$ ,  $1 \le i$ ,  $j \le n$ , where r is a nonnegative integer and each of the subscripts is understood to be reduced modulo n.

We now consider the case where A is a block circulant and the blocks themselves are [r]-circulants. We shall need the following results from [5].

THEOREM C. If C is a [r]-circulant, then  $C^+ = C^*\Omega_n D^+\Omega_n^*$  where D is the diagonal matrix such that  $\Omega_n^*CC^*\Omega_n = D$ .

Theorem D. If C and D are [r]-circulants, then  $CD^*$  is a [1]-circulant.

We mention that the necessity part of Corollary 3 was shown in [3] and both parts were shown in [4] under a different construction.

COROLLARY 3. Suppose the blocks of A are circulants. Then A is a block circulant if and only if

$$A^{+} = \hat{\Omega}_{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \Omega_{m} D_{j}^{+} \Omega_{m}^{*} \right) \hat{\Omega}_{n}^{*},$$

where D<sub>i</sub> is the diagonal matrix such that

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i A_i = \Omega_m D_i \Omega_m^*.$$

*Proof.* Since each block is a circulant,  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i A_i$  is a circulant and thus

$$D_{i} = \Omega_{m}^{*} \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^{i})^{i} A_{i} \right] \Omega_{m}$$

is diagonal. Now apply Corollary 2.

COROLLARY 4. Suppose the blocks of A are [r]-circulants. Then A is a block circulant if and only if

$$A^{+} = \hat{\Omega}_{n} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} B_{j}^{*} \Omega_{m} D_{j}^{+} \Omega_{m}^{*} \right) \hat{\Omega}_{n}^{*},$$

where  $D_i$  is the diagonal matrix such that  $\Omega_m^* B_i B_i^* \Omega_m = D_i$ .

*Proof.* Since each  $A_i$  is a [r]-circulant,  $B_j$  is a [r]-circulant. By Theorem D,  $B_iB_i^*$  is a [1]-circulant and thus  $\Omega_m^*B_iB_i^*\Omega_m = D_i^{\ +}$ , where  $D_i$  is a diagonal matrix. By Theorem C,  $C_i^*\Omega_mD_i^{\ +}\Omega_m^* = C_i$ . Now apply Corollary 2.

We note that the computation of the Moore-Penrose inverse of a block circulant requires only matrix multiplication when the blocks are [r]-circulants. In the general case where the blocks are arbitrary, the computation has been reduced to the computation of n Moore-Penrose inverses of order m. Further, we mention that all this applies to block k-circulants where k has unit modulus.

We now state an explicit correspondence between eigenvalues of A and eigenvalues of the blocks comprising A in the case where the blocks are circulants.

COROLLARY 5. Suppose A is a block k-circulant with each  $A_i$  a circulant. For each  $i, 0 \le i \le n-1$ , let  $\mu_{i1}, \mu_{i2}, \ldots, \mu_{in}$  denote the eigenvalues of  $A_i$ . Then  $\alpha$  is an eigenvalue of A if and only if  $\alpha = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i \mu_{ik}$  for some j and  $k, 1 \le j, k \le n$ .

*Proof.* Let 
$$\tilde{\Omega}_m = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \Omega_m$$
. By Theorem 3,

$$\begin{split} A &= \hat{T} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left( \lambda \omega^j \right)^i A_i \right) \right] T^{-1} \\ &= \hat{T} \left[ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left( \lambda \omega^j \right)^i \Omega_m D_i \Omega_m^* \right) \right] \hat{T}^{-1} \\ &= \hat{T} \tilde{\Omega}_m \left[ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \left( \lambda \omega^j \right)^i D_i \right) \right] \tilde{\Omega}_m^* \hat{T}^{-1}. \end{split}$$

Since  $[\hat{T}\tilde{\Omega}_m]^{-1} = \tilde{\Omega}_m^* \hat{T}^{-1}$ , we are done.

We now consider certain block k-circulants which either are idempotent or else are equal to their Moore-Penrose inverse.

Theorem 5. Suppose that A is a block k-circulant, where k has unit modules, and the blocks  $A_i$  are circulants. Then

- (i) A is idempotent if and only if A is unitarily similar to a diagonal matrix with eigenvalues 0 or 1.
- (ii)  $A = A^+$  if and only if A is unitarily similar to a diagonal matrix with eigenvalues 0, 1, or -1.

*Proof.* If A is block k-circulant where k has unit modulus, then

$$A = \hat{T} \left[ \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^{j})^{i} A_{i} \right) \right] \hat{T}^{*}$$

by Corollary 1.

Since each  $A_i$  is a circulant,  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i A_i$  is a circulant, and thus there exists a diagonal matrix  $D_i$  such that  $\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (\lambda \omega^i)^i A_i = \Omega_m D_j \Omega_m^*$  for  $0 \le j \le n-1$ 

1. Thus, 
$$A = \hat{T} \tilde{\Omega}_m D \tilde{\Omega}_m^* \hat{T}^*$$
, where  $D = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} D_j$  is diagonal.

Proof of (i). It is well known that the n-square matrix B is idempotent if and only if B is similar to a diagonal matrix with roots 0 or 1. Now  $(\tilde{\Omega}_m \hat{T})^{-1} = \hat{T}^* \tilde{\Omega}_m^*$ ; hence if A is idempotent, D is idempotent, which implies the diagonal elements are either 0 or 1. The converse is obvious.

Proof of (ii). If  $A^+ = A$ , then  $A^3 = A$ , which implies  $D^3 = D$ . Thus, each diagonal element is either 0, 1, or -1. Conversely, if  $A = U^*DU$ , where U is unitary and D is diagonal with roots 0, 1, or -1, then  $A^+ = U^*D^+U = U^*DU = A$ .

It is to be noted that these results hold for block circulants where the blocks are circulant and for k-circulants where k has unit modulus.

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