## Characterizations of k-normal matrices

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**Abstract:** In this paper to extend and generalize lists of characterizations of k-normal and k-hermitian matrices known in the literature, by providing numerous sets of equivalent conditions referring to the notions of conjugate transpose, Moore-Penrose and group inverse.

Keywords: k-normal, k-hermitian, Moore-Penrose inverse, Group inverse and Conjugate transpose.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION:

In this section concerns matrices belonging to the set  $C_{n\times n}$  composed of square matrices of order n with complex entries. Referring to singular value decomposition such matrices can be written in the form

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{V}^* \mathbf{K} \tag{1}$$

where  $U, V \in C_{n \times n}$  are k-unitary,  $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1 I_{r_1}, ..., \sigma_t I_{r_t})$  is the diagonal matrix of singular values of A,  $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 > ... > \sigma_t > 0$ ,  $r_1 + r_2 + ... + r_t = r = \text{rank}(A)$  and  $I_{r_i}$  in the identity matrix of order  $r_i$ , see[13, p.66], using this decomposition, Hartwig and Spindelbock [7,corollory6] derived the following representation.

Let 
$$A \in C_{n \times n}$$
 be of rank r, then  $A = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^* K$  (2)

where U and  $\Sigma$  are taken from the singular decomposition (1) of A, and the matrices N and M satisfy the condition NN<sup>\*</sup> + MM<sup>\*</sup> = I<sub>r</sub>. Utilizing the representation (2), we see that A = KA<sup>\*</sup> K, that is A is k-hermitian if and only if M=0 and  $\Sigma N = N^*\Sigma$ , the matrix A satisfies AA<sup>\*</sup> K = KA<sup>\*</sup>A, that is A is k-normal if and only if M=0 and  $\Sigma N = N\Sigma$ . This is equivalent to the relation AXK = KXA, where X is the Moor-Penrose inverse of A, Uniquely defined by the four conditions AXA = A, XAX = X, (AX)<sup>\*</sup> = AX and (XA)<sup>\*</sup> = XA and expresses the so called k-normal property of matrix A.

From (2) it follows that

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{N}^* \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{M}^* \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}^*$$
(3)

We say that A has the group property if  $rank(A) = rank(A^2)$ . This is equivalent to saying that the matrix N in (2) is nonsingular. In such a case, matrix A has a group inverse Y, which is characterized by the following three conditions AYA = A, YAY = Y, and YA = AY ensuring that matrix Y is unique.

From (2) we obtain,

$$Y = KU \begin{pmatrix} N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1} & N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}N^{-1}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$
(4)

In what follows, whenever the group inverse occurs, it is assumed to exist.

**Theorem 1:** Let  $A \in C_{n \times n}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- a. A is k-normal
- b.  $AKAA^* = AA^*AK$
- c.  $KAA^*A = A^*AKA$
- d.  $A^*KY = YKA^*$
- e.  $KAA^*KY = A^*KYAK$
- f.  $AA^*KY = KYAA^*$
- g.  $KAYKA^* = YKA^*AK$

h. 
$$A^*AYK = YKA^*A$$

- i.  $A^*KA^*KY = A^*KYKA^*$
- j.  $A^*KXKY = YKA^*KX$
- k.  $AA^*KX = KXAA^*$
- $l. \quad A^*KYKA^* = YKA^*KA^*$
- m.  $A^*KYKX = XKA^*KY$
- n.  $A^*KYKY = YKA^*KY$
- o.  $XKA^*KY = YKXKA^*$
- p. XKYKA\*YKA\*KX
- q.  $YKA^*KY = YKYKA^*$

**Proof:** By hypothesis, matrix A of the representation (2) is k-normal if and only if M=0 and  $\sum N = N \sum$ .

(a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b): Assume that A is k-normal matrix.

To prove that  $AKAA^* = AA^*AK$ .

Now, 
$$AKAA^{*} = \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix} K \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix}^{*}$$
$$AKAA^{*} = U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*} & \Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$
$$AKAA^{*} = U\begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^{2}N & N\Sigma^{2}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*} & \Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$
$$AKAA^{*} = U\begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^{2}N & N\Sigma^{2}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*} & \Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$
$$AKAA^{*} = U\begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^{2}N\Sigma N^{*} & N\Sigma^{2}N\Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$
$$AIso, \quad AA^{*}AK = \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix} K$$

$$AA^*AK = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^* & \Sigma M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$
$$AA^*AK = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N\Sigma N^* & \Sigma N\Sigma M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$
$$AA^*AK = U \begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^2 N^* & N\Sigma^2 M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$
$$AA^*AK = U \begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^2 N^* \Sigma N & N\Sigma^2 N^* \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$

If M = 0 implies  $M^* = 0$ . Thus, we obtained equivalently M = 0 and  $N \sum^2 N^* = \sum^2$ . Taking square roots, we arrive at M = 0 and  $N \sum N^* = \sum$ , that is M = 0 and  $\sum N = N \sum$ .

Therefore, 
$$AKAA^* = AA^*AK = U \begin{pmatrix} N\Sigma^3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$
.

Converse part we have to prove directly.

(a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (d): Assume that A is k-normal matrix.

To prove that  $A^*KY = YKA^*$ .

Now, 
$$A^{*}KY = \begin{bmatrix} U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix}^{*} K \begin{bmatrix} KU \begin{pmatrix} N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1} & N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}N^{-1}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*} \end{bmatrix}$$
  
 $A^{*}KY = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*} & \Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1} & N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}N^{-1}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$   
 $A^{*}KY = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*}N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1} & \Sigma N^{*}N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}N^{-1}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$   
Also,  $YKA^{*} = \begin{bmatrix} KU \begin{pmatrix} N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1} & N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}N^{-1}M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*} \end{bmatrix} K \begin{bmatrix} U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}K \end{bmatrix}^{*}$ 

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{K}\mathbf{A}^* &= \mathbf{K}\mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{N}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} & \mathbf{N}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{N}^{-1}\mathbf{M} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{N}^* & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{M}^* \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}^* \\ \end{aligned} \\ \begin{aligned} \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{K}\mathbf{A}^* &= \mathbf{K}\mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{N}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{N}^* & \mathbf{N}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{M}^* \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}^* \end{aligned}$$

It is seen that  $A^*$  and Y commute if and only if M = 0 implies  $M^* = 0$  and  $\Sigma N^* N^{-1} \Sigma^{-1} = N^{-1} \Sigma^{-1} \Sigma N^*$ .

Therefore,  $A^*KY = YKA^*$ . Converse part is obvious.

We show the equivalence between (c) and (e) to (q) to prove the similar way.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $A \in C_{n \times n}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- a. A is k-normal
- b.  $A^*KX = YKA^*$
- c.  $A^*KY = XKA^*$

**Proof:** (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b): Assume that A is k-normal matrix.

To prove that  $A^*KX = YKA^*$ .

Now, 
$$A^*KX = \begin{bmatrix} U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} U^*K \end{bmatrix}^* K \begin{bmatrix} KU \begin{pmatrix} N^*\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ M^*\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{bmatrix} U^* \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{*}KX = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^{*} & \Sigma M^{*} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{*} \begin{pmatrix} N^{*}\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ M^{*}\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{*}\mathbf{K}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{U} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{N}^{*}\mathbf{N}^{*}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\mathbf{M}^{*}\mathbf{M}^{*}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{U}^{*}$$

$$A^*KX = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^*N^*\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$

Also, 
$$YKA^* = KU \begin{pmatrix} N^{-1}\Sigma^{-1}\Sigma N^* & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$$

It follows that  $A^*KX = YKA^*$  implies  $M^* = 0$ . Moreover, by  $N^* = N^{-1}$ , in addition to  $M^* = 0$  we get  $\Sigma N^* N^* \Sigma^{-1} = N^{-1} \Sigma^{-1} \Sigma N^*$ . Hence we further obtain M = 0 and  $\Sigma N = N \Sigma$ , that is, the pair of conditions corresponding to the k-normality of A. The other direction is obvious.

Next, equivalent conditions we have to prove the similar way.

**Theorem 3:** Let  $A \in C_{n \times n}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.

- a. A is k-normal
- b.  $KAA^*KX = A^*$
- c.  $KAA^*KY = A^*$
- d.  $XKA^*AK = A^*$
- e.  $YKA^*AK = A^*$

**Proof:** We again show the equivalence (a)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (b) only.

Assume that A is k-normal matrix.

To prove that  $KAA^*KX = A^*$ .

Now, 
$$\operatorname{KAA^*KX} = \operatorname{K} \left[ \operatorname{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*K} \right] \left[ \operatorname{U} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*K} \right]^* \operatorname{K} \left[ \operatorname{KU} \begin{pmatrix} N^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ M^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*} \right]$$
  
 $\operatorname{KAA^*KX} = \operatorname{KU} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N & \Sigma M \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^* & \Sigma M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ M^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*}$   
 $\operatorname{KAA^*KX} = \operatorname{KU} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N \Sigma N^* & \Sigma N \Sigma M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} N^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ M^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*}$   
 $\operatorname{KAA^*KX} = \operatorname{KU} \begin{pmatrix} N \Sigma^2 N^* N^* \Sigma^{-1} + \Sigma N \Sigma M^* M^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \operatorname{U^*}$ 

$$KAA^{*}KX = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma^{2}N^{*}\Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^{*}$$

and  $A^* = KU \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma N^* & \Sigma M^* \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*$ 

Consequently, the condition  $KAA^*KX = A^*$  is equivalent to M = 0 and  $\Sigma^2 N^* \Sigma^{-1} = \Sigma N^*$ , that is M = 0 and  $\Sigma^2 N = N \Sigma^2$ , which according to the derivations from the above is equivalent to the k-normality of A. the converse part is obvious.

Similarly, we have to prove the other equivalent conditions.

**Remark:** In this section is concluded with some observations concerning k-hermitian matrices, for, by exploiting representation (2), one can obtain also several characterizations of such matrices. For, instance, the following list of conditions is equivalent to  $A = KA^*K$ .

- a.  $AKA = KA^*A$
- b.  $KAX = A^*KX$
- c.  $KAY = A^*KX$
- d.  $KAY = A^*KY$
- e.  $KAY = XKA^*$
- f.  $XAK = YKA^*$

Similarly, the following list provides selected conditions of the form  $A = A^*XY$ , which are satisfied if and only if A is k-hermitian.

- a.  $KAKAX = A^*$
- b.  $AA^*KXK = A$
- c.  $KA^*AYK = A$
- d.  $A^*KA^*KY = A^*$
- e.  $A^*KXKX = Y$
- f.  $A^*KXKY = X$
- g.  $A^*KXKY = Y$

- h.  $A^*KYKY = Y$
- i.  $YKA^*KY = X$

The final observation is that analogous results to the ones referring to k-hermitian matrices can be obtained for skew k-hermitian matrices. This observation follows directly from the fact that a matrix A is skew k-hermitian whenever iA is k-hermitian.

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