

ORTHOGONAL PROJECTIONS AND THE PERTURBATION OF THE EIGENVALUES OF SINGULAR PENCILS*

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Abstract

In this paper we obtain a Hoffman-Wielandt type theorem and a Bauer-Fike type theorem for singular pencils of matrices. These results delineate the relations between the perturbation of the eigenvalues of a singular diagonalizable pencil $A-\lambda B$ and the variation of the orthogonal projection onto the column space $\mathfrak{R}\begin{pmatrix} A^H \\ B^H \end{pmatrix}$.

1. Introduction

Let A and B be complex $m \times n$ matrices. A pencil of matrices $A-\lambda B$ is called singular if $m \neq n$ or $m = n$ but $\det(A-\lambda B) \equiv 0^{[4]}$. A prevalent viewpoint is that in this case any complex number λ is an eigenvalue of $A-\lambda B$ (ref. [6]), consequently it is difficult to investigate the perturbation of the eigenvalues of singular pencils. In this paper we adopt a new definition for the eigenvalues of a singular pencil which is due to P. van Dooren²⁾, and relate the perturbation of the eigenvalues of $A-\lambda B$ and the variation of the orthogonal projection onto the column space $\mathfrak{R}\begin{pmatrix} A^H \\ B^H \end{pmatrix}$ to each other, thus obtain a Hoffman-Wielandt type theorem (§ 3) and a Bauer-Fike type theorem (§ 4) for singular pencils which are generalizations of the main results for regular pencils in [8] and [3].

Notation: Capital case is used for matrices and lower case Greek letters for scalars. The symbol $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ denotes the set of complex $m \times n$ matrices. \bar{A} and A^T stand for conjugate and transpose of A , respectively; $A^H = \bar{A}^T$. $I^{(n)}$ is the $n \times n$ identity matrix, and 0 is the null matrix. The matrix $|A|$ has elements $|a_{ij}|$ if $A = (a_{ij})$. $A > 0$ (≥ 0) denotes that H is a positive definite (semi-positive definite) Hermitian matrix. The column space of A is denoted by $\mathfrak{R}(A)$ and the null space by $N(A)$. $\mathfrak{R}(A)^\perp$ is the orthogonal complement space of $\mathfrak{R}(A)$. $G_{1,2}$ denotes the complex projective plane. The chordal distance between the points (α, β) and (γ, δ) on $G_{1,2}$ is

$$\rho((\alpha, \beta), (\gamma, \delta)) = \frac{|\alpha\delta - \beta\gamma|}{\sqrt{(|\alpha|^2 + |\beta|^2)(|\gamma|^2 + |\delta|^2)}}.$$

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2) P. van Dooren has advanced a new definition for the eigenvalues of a singular pencil in his lecture "A numerical method to compute reducing subspaces of a singular pencil" at "The Conference on Matrix Pencils" in March 1982, Piteå, Sweden.

