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## Sufficient conditions to be exceptional

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## Research Article

## Open Access

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# Sufficient conditions to be exceptional

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**Abstract:** A copositive matrix  $A$  is said to be exceptional if it is not the sum of a positive semidefinite matrix and a nonnegative matrix. We show that with certain assumptions on  $A^{-1}$ , especially on the diagonal entries, we can guarantee that a copositive matrix  $A$  is exceptional. We also show that the only 5-by-5 exceptional matrix with a hollow nonnegative inverse is the Horn matrix (up to positive diagonal congruence and permutation similarity).

**Keywords:** copositive matrix; positive semidefinite; nonnegative matrix; exceptional copositive matrix; irreducible matrix

**MSC:** 15A18, 15A48, 15A57, 15A63

## 1 Introduction

All of the matrices considered will be symmetric matrices with real entries. We will say a matrix is a *nonnegative matrix* if all of its entries are nonnegative, and likewise for a vector. A symmetric matrix  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  is *positive semidefinite* (*positive definite*) if  $x^T A x \geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$  ( $x^T A x > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $x \neq 0$ ). A symmetric matrix  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  is called *copositive* (*strictly copositive*) if  $x^T A x \geq 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $x \geq 0$  ( $x^T A x > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $x \geq 0$ ,  $x \neq 0$ ). We will let  $e_i \in \mathbf{R}^n$  denote the vector with  $i$ th component one and all other components zero. A *permutation matrix* is an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix whose columns are  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  in some order. For  $n \geq 2$ , an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix is said to be *irreducible* [9] if under similarity by a permutation matrix, it cannot be written in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

with  $A_{11}$  and  $A_{22}$  square matrices of order less than  $n$ . We call an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix *hollow* if all of its diagonal entries are zero.

## 2 When the inverse is nonnegative and hollow

The results in this paper grew out of a question that arose from studying symmetric, nonnegative, hollow, invertible matrices in [4]. Theorem 1, despite its short proof and the fact that we will extend it in Section 3, is the core theorem of this paper.

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric, invertible, and that  $A^{-1}$  is nonnegative and hollow. If  $A$  is of the form  $A = P + N$ , with  $P$  positive semidefinite and  $N$  nonnegative, then  $P$  is zero.*

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**Proof** The assumption  $e_i^T A^{-1} e_i = 0$ , for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , can be rewritten  $e_i^T A^{-1} A A^{-1} e_i = 0$ . Then if  $A = P + N$ , this implies  $0 = e_i^T A^{-1} (P + N) A^{-1} e_i = e_i^T A^{-1} P A^{-1} e_i + e_i^T A^{-1} N A^{-1} e_i$ , and so  $0 = e_i^T A^{-1} P A^{-1} e_i$ , for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Letting  $x_i = A^{-1} e_i$ , we have  $x_i^T P x_i = 0$ , for all  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , but then  $P x_i = 0$ , for all  $i$ , so  $P = 0$ .  $\square$

The conclusion of Theorem 1, stated as “For  $P$  nonzero, then  $A$  is not of the form  $P + N$ ”, is where our main interest lies. In this contrapositive form, we note that  $A$  being copositive is not an assumption of the theorem. Diananda [7] proved that for  $n = 3$ , and  $n = 4$ , copositivity coincides with being of the form  $P + N$ . So from Theorem 1 if  $A^{-1}$  is any 3-by-3 or 4-by-4 hollow, nonnegative matrix then  $A$  cannot be copositive with  $P$  nonzero when written as  $P + N$ . An example of a matrix meeting the hypotheses of Theorem 1 is  $A =$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ If instead } A^{-1} \text{ is the matrix } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ then } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here, not only is  $A$  not of the form  $P + N$ , it is not copositive either (note the central 3-by-3 block).

A copositive matrix, known as the Horn matrix, is

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for which } H^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

An example suggesting we cannot improve on Theorem 1 by having  $n - 1$  zero diagonal entries, is  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , which is of the form  $P + N$ .

It would also appear to be not possible to improve on Theorem 1 by  $A^{-1}$  having all zero diagonal entries and not requiring  $A^{-1}$  to be nonnegative, by considering  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , for which  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and this is also of the form  $P + N$ .

The following theorem is well-known (See [6], or Lemma 1.1 of [14]).

**Theorem 2.** Suppose  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  is invertible. Both  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$  are nonnegative if and only if  $A$  is the product of a permutation matrix and a diagonal matrix with positive diagonal entries.

Since Theorem 1 is only concerned with symmetric matrices, Theorems 1 and 2 imply that the only way an invertible matrix  $A$  of the form  $A = P + N$ , can have all zeroes on the diagonal of its nonnegative inverse is if  $P = 0$ ,  $n$  is even, and  $A$  consists of blocks on the diagonal of  $A$ , in which each diagonal block is a product of a symmetric permutation matrix and a positive diagonal matrix.

A simple observation is that if  $P$  is a positive semidefinite matrix and  $N$  is nonnegative, then  $A = P + N$  is a copositive matrix. It is well-known (see [7], [8], [10], [12]) that copositive matrices do not have to be of this form, an example of which is the 5-by-5 matrix  $H$  (from above) that we called the Horn matrix in [12]. In fact the Horn matrix is extreme [10], i.e. it cannot be written nontrivially as the convex sum of two copositive matrices. In [12] we called copositive matrices *exceptional* if they are not the trivial sum of a positive semidefinite matrix and a nonnegative matrix. Otherwise, we call them *non-exceptional*.

The proof of Theorem 3 will use the property proved in [11] (or see [13], [15]) that for any copositive matrix  $A$ , if  $x \geq 0$  and  $x^T A x = 0$ , then  $A x \geq 0$ . In [2], [3], Baumert studied copositive matrices that had a weak form of extremity, namely, copositive matrices that are not of the form  $C + N$  (nontrivially), in which  $C$  is copositive, and  $N$  is nonnegative with all zeroes on its diagonal. Baumert gave a characterization for such matrices in

[1], which included an error, later corrected in [5]. In [5], the authors called such matrices *irreducible with respect to the nonnegative cone*. Obviously, if a matrix is not of the form  $C + N$ , then it is not of the form  $P + N$ . For Theorem 3 we need the assumption that  $n \geq 3$ , since in the proof we will write  $A^{-1}$  in block form with a specified  $(1, 2)$  entry, as well as another nonzero column to the right of it.

**Theorem 3.** *For  $n \geq 3$ , suppose that  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  is symmetric, irreducible, invertible, and  $A^{-1}$  is nonnegative and hollow. If  $A$  is of the form  $C + N$ , in which  $C$  is copositive and  $N$  is nonnegative and hollow, then  $N$  is zero.*

**Proof** Our method of proof will be to show, with the stated assumptions, that if  $A = C + N$ , we must have that  $N$  is diagonal and therefore  $N = 0$ .

We proceed now to show that  $N$  is diagonal. Choose a permutation matrix  $R$ , so that if  $N$  has a nonzero off-diagonal entry  $n_{ij}$ , we have  $n_{ij}$  in the  $(1, 2)$  position of  $R^T N R$ . In other words, we may assume  $n_{12} \neq 0$ . We know  $A$  is irreducible if and only if  $A^{-1}$  is irreducible. Write the nonnegative matrix  $B = A^{-1}$  partitioned into block form as  $A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_2^T & B_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , with  $B_1$  as a 2-by-2 matrix and the other blocks of conforming dimensions.

Next, let  $Q$  be the permutation matrix given by  $Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \oplus Q_1$ , in which  $Q_1$  is an  $(n - 2)$ -by- $(n - 2)$  permutation matrix chosen so that

$$Q^T A^{-1} Q = Q^T \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & B_2 \\ B_2^T & B_3 \end{pmatrix} Q = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 & B_2 Q_1 \\ Q_1^T B_2^T & Q_1^T B_3 Q_1 \end{pmatrix},$$

has a nonzero last column in the top right 2-by- $(n - 2)$  block matrix  $B_2 Q_1$ . If it is not possible to choose  $Q_1$  in this way, it would imply  $A^{-1}$  was reducible. In other words, with  $B = (b_{ij})$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ , we may assume  $b_{1n} \neq 0$  or  $b_{2n} \neq 0$  (or both).

Now write  $Q^T A Q$  in block form as  $Q^T A Q = \begin{pmatrix} C_1 + N_1 & a \\ a^T & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$ , in which  $C_1$  and  $N_1$  are  $(n - 1)$ -by- $(n - 1)$  and  $a$  is  $(n - 1)$ -by-1, with  $C_1$  copositive, and  $N_1$  a nonnegative matrix. Further, write  $Q^T A^{-1} Q$  in block form, although in a different way than earlier, as  $Q^T A^{-1} Q = \begin{pmatrix} D & b \\ b^T & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , in which  $b$  is  $(n - 1)$ -by-1, and  $D$  is  $(n - 1)$ -by- $(n - 1)$ .

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_1 + N_1 & a \\ a^T & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D & b \\ b^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} I_{n-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

implies  $(C_1 + N_1)b = 0$ . It follows that  $C_1 b = -N_1 b$ , and then since  $N_1$  and  $b$  are nonnegative we have  $b^T C_1 b = -b^T N_1 b \leq 0$ . But this implies  $b^T C_1 b = 0$ . Then  $C_1 b \geq 0$ , from the property mentioned in the paragraph before the theorem, and so  $N_1 b = 0$ .

However,  $N_1 b$  is the  $(n - 1)$ -by-1 matrix with first two components  $n_{11} b_{1n} + n_{12} b_{2n} + \dots = 0$  and  $n_{12} b_{1n} + n_{22} b_{2n} + \dots = 0$ . Since all entries of  $N_1$  and  $b$  are nonnegative, this forces  $n_{12} = 0$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

Thus, the only way a copositive matrix  $A$  can satisfy the assumptions of Theorem 3 is for  $A$  to be “irreducible with respect to the nonnegative hollow cone”. Again, the Horn matrix provides an example of such a matrix.

### 3 Extending Theorem 1

Our next theorem (and its proof) reduces to Theorem 1 when the matrix  $B$  of Theorem 4 is the identity matrix. Theorem 4 improves on Theorem 1, since the signs of the entries, including the diagonal entries, of  $A^{-1}$  are not restricted to being nonnegative. This may be seen from the examples of exceptional matrices from [11] and [12] following the theorem.

**Theorem 4.** Let  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  be symmetric and invertible. Suppose there exists an invertible matrix  $B \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  such that  $A^{-1}B$  is nonnegative, and  $B^T A^{-1}B$  is hollow. If  $A$  is of the form  $A = P + N$ , with  $P$  positive semidefinite and  $N$  nonnegative, then  $P$  is zero. Moreover, whether or not  $A$  is of the form  $P + N$ , if  $A$  is copositive then  $B$  is nonnegative.

**Proof** Suppose  $A$  can be written as  $A = P + N$ , with  $P$  positive semidefinite and  $N$  nonnegative. Then, with the assumptions on the matrix  $B$ , and letting  $A^{-1}B = C$  we have for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $0 = e_i^T B^T A^{-1} B e_i = e_i^T B^T A^{-1} A A^{-1} B e_i = e_i^T C^T A C e_i = e_i^T C^T (P + N) C e_i = e_i^T C^T P C e_i + e_i^T C^T N C e_i$ . This implies for each  $i$ ,  $0 = e_i^T C^T P C e_i$ . Then  $P C e_i = 0$  for all  $i$ , so  $P = 0$ .

For the “Moreover” part of the statement of the theorem, since for each  $i$  we have  $e_i^T C^T A C e_i = 0$ , and  $A$  is copositive, then  $A C e_i \geq 0$ , from the property of copositive matrices stated in Section 2. Therefore  $B = AC \geq 0$ .  $\square$

An example of a matrix  $A$  to illustrate Theorem 4 is the Hoffman-Pereira matrix [11], as we called it in [12], which is copositive. This exceptional  $A$  along with its inverse is

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and the corresponding  $B$ ,  $A^{-1}B$  and  $B^T A^{-1}B$  of Theorem 4 are

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A^{-1}B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$B^T A^{-1}B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Another illustration of the same theorem is the 7-by-7 extension of the Horn matrix given in [12], which is the exceptional matrix  $A$ , along with  $A^{-1}$  given by

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, A^{-1} = \frac{1}{6} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 2 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

for which

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{-1}B = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and

$$B^T A^{-1} B = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using similar reasoning to that given in Theorem 8 of [12] we also have Theorem 5.

**Theorem 5.** For  $n \geq 3$ , let  $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$  be symmetric, invertible, with  $A^{-1}$  nonnegative, and with  $A^{-1}$  having three zero diagonal entries such that all entries are positive in the rows and columns of these three zero diagonal entries. If  $A$  is of the form  $C + N$ , with  $C$  copositive and  $N$  nonnegative, then  $N$  is zero.

**Proof** Suppose  $0 = e_i^T A^{-1} e_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Then, as in the proof of Theorem 1, we have when  $i = 1$  that  $0 = e_1^T A^{-1} N A^{-1} e_1$ , which means that the  $(n - 1)$ -by- $(n - 1)$  block of  $N$  obtained by deleting row and column 1 is zero. Arguing in the same way for  $i = 2$ , and  $i = 3$ , we have that  $N = 0$ .  $\square$

## 4 The 5-by-5 case

In this section, we will use a theorem from [5], which we state as Theorem 6, to show that the only 5-by-5 exceptional matrix with a hollow nonnegative inverse is the Horn matrix, up to positive diagonal congruence and permutation similarity.

Let

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\cos \theta_1 & \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) & \cos(\theta_4 + \theta_5) & -\cos \theta_5 \\ -\cos \theta_1 & 1 & -\cos \theta_2 & \cos(\theta_2 + \theta_3) & \cos(\theta_5 + \theta_1) \\ \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2) & -\cos \theta_2 & 1 & -\cos \theta_3 & \cos(\theta_3 + \theta_4) \\ \cos(\theta_4 + \theta_5) & \cos(\theta_2 + \theta_3) & -\cos \theta_3 & 1 & -\cos \theta_4 \\ -\cos \theta_5 & \cos(\theta_5 + \theta_1) & \cos(\theta_3 + \theta_4) & -\cos \theta_4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Theorem 6 appears at the end of [5], where they use  $\mathcal{C}^5$ ,  $\mathcal{S}_+^5$  and  $\mathcal{N}^5$ , respectively, to denote the copositive, positive semidefinite, and nonnegative matrices, in  $\mathbf{R}^{5 \times 5}$ .

**Theorem 6.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{C}^5 - (\mathcal{S}_+^5 + \mathcal{N}^5)$ . Then, up to permutation similarity and positive diagonal congruence,  $A$  can be written as  $A = S + N$ , for some hollow  $N \in \mathcal{N}^5$ , where  $\theta_i \geq 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^5 \theta_i < \pi$ .

Let now  $A$  be a 5-by-5 exceptional matrix that has a hollow nonnegative inverse. Theorem 6 implies that, up to permutation similarity and positive diagonal congruence,  $A$  can be written as  $A = S + N$ , where  $N$  is hollow and nonnegative. We would like to apply Theorem 3, but we need to first check that  $A$  is irreducible. If  $A$  is reducible, it is permutation similar to a matrix with irreducible diagonal blocks. We note that if  $A$  is reducible this does not necessarily imply  $S$  is reducible. If  $A$  had a 1-by-1 diagonal block (under permutation similarity), then its inverse could not be hollow. If  $A$  had a 2-by-2 diagonal block, then this 2-by-2 block, when inverted,

must be nonnegative with both diagonal entries being zero. Then the (not inverted) 2-by-2 block of  $A$  would also be nonnegative with both diagonal entries being zero, but  $S$  has all ones on the diagonal, in which case we could not have  $A = S + N$  (under permutation similarity or positive diagonal congruence). Now applying Theorem 3, since  $A$  has a hollow nonnegative inverse, we know that  $N = 0$ . We next determine the values of the  $\theta_i$ 's, for  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ , that ensure  $S$  has a hollow inverse. In effect, we will show that the  $\theta_i$ 's are all equal to zero, whereupon  $S$  becomes the Horn matrix. Let us examine the 4-by-4 principal minors of  $S$ .

A computer algebra system can be used to show that the top left 4-by-4 principal minor of  $S$ , namely  $\det(S[1, 2, 3, 4])$ , satisfies

$$\det(S[1, 2, 3, 4]) = -\left[\cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) + \cos(\theta_4 + \theta_5)\right]^2 \sin^2 \theta_2.$$

Suppose now that  $\det(S[1, 2, 3, 4]) = 0$ . If  $0 = \cos(\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3) + \cos(\theta_4 + \theta_5) = 2 \cos\left(\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 + \theta_4 + \theta_5}{2}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 - \theta_4 - \theta_5}{2}\right)$ , then  $\cos\left(\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 - \theta_4 - \theta_5}{2}\right) = 0$ , which implies  $\theta_1 + \theta_2 + \theta_3 - \theta_4 - \theta_5 = m\pi$ , for some odd integer  $m$ . However,  $-\pi < \sum_{i=1}^5 -\theta_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^5 \pm\theta_i \leq \sum_{i=1}^5 \theta_i < \pi$ , so we must have  $\theta_2 = 0$ .

The other 4-by-4 principal minors can be obtained from  $\det(S[1, 2, 3, 4])$  by cyclically permuting the indices appropriately. Then, after setting each of these minors equal to zero, we have  $\theta_i = 0$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq 5$ .

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