

Research Article Completing a 2 × 2 **Block Matrix of Real Quaternions with a Partial Specified Inverse**

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This paper considers a completion problem of a nonsingular 2×2 block matrix over the real quaternion algebra \mathbb{H} : Let m_1, m_2, n_1, n_2 be nonnegative integers, $m_1 + m_2 = n_1 + n_2 = n > 0$, and $A_{12} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times n_2}$, $A_{21} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_2 \times n_1}$, $A_{22} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_2 \times n_2}$, $B_{11} \in \mathbb{H}^{n_1 \times m_1}$ be given. We determine necessary and sufficient conditions so that there exists a variant block entry matrix $A_{11} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times n_1}$ such that $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{22} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{H}^{n \times n}$ is nonsingular, and B_{11} is the upper left block of a partitioning of A^{-1} . The general expression for A_{11} is also obtained. Finally, a numerical example is presented to verify the theoretical findings.

1. Introduction

The problem of completing a block-partitioned matrix of a specified type with some of its blocks given has been studied by many authors. Fiedler and Markham [1] considered the following completion problem over the real number field \mathbb{R} . Suppose m_1 , m_2 , n_1 , n_2 are nonnegative integers, $m_1 + m_2 = n_1 + n_2 = n > 0$, $A_{11} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times n_1}$, $A_{12} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_1 \times n_2}$, $A_{21} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_2 \times n_1}$, and $B_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times m_2}$. Determine a matrix $A_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_2 \times n_2}$ such that

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$
(1)

is nonsingular and B_{22} is the lower right block of a partitioning of A^{-1} . This problem has the form of

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & ? \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} ? & ? \\ ? & B_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$
 (2)

and the solution and the expression for A_{22} were obtained in [1]. Dai [2] considered this form of completion problems with symmetric and symmetric positive definite matrices over \mathbb{R} .

Some other particular forms for 2×2 block matrices over \mathbb{R} have also been examined (see, e.g., [3]), such as

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & ? \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & ? \\ ? & ? \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & ? \\ ? & ? \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} ? & ? \\ ? & B_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & ? \\ ? & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} ? & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & ? \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(3)$$

The real quaternion matrices play a role in computer science, quantum physics, and so on (e.g., [4–6]). Quaternion matrices are receiving much attention as witnessed recently (e.g., [7–9]). Motivated by the work of [1, 10] and keeping such applications of quaternion matrices in view, in this paper we consider the following completion problem over the real quaternion algebra:

$$\mathbb{H} = \left\{ a_0 + a_1 i + a_2 j + a_3 k \mid \\ i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1 \text{ and } a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$
(4)

Problem 1. Suppose m_1 , m_2 , n_1 , n_2 are nonnegative integers, $m_1 + m_2 = n_1 + n_2 = n > 0$, and $A_{12} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times n_2}$,

 $A_{21} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_2 \times n_1}, A_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{m_2 \times n_2}, B_{11} \in \mathbb{H}^{n_1 \times m_1}$. Find a matrix $A_{11} \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times n_1}$ such that

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{H}^{n \times n}$$
(5)

is nonsingular, and B_{11} is the upper left block of a partitioning of A^{-1} . That is

$$\begin{pmatrix} ? & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & ? \\ ? & ? \end{pmatrix},$$
(6)

where $\mathbb{H}^{m \times n}$ denotes the set of all $m \times n$ matrices over \mathbb{H} and A^{-1} denotes the inverse matrix of A.

Throughout, over the real quaternion algebra \mathbb{H} , we denote the identity matrix with the appropriate size by *I*, the transpose of *A* by A^T , the rank of *A* by r(A), the conjugate transpose of *A* by $A^* = (\overline{A})^T$, a reflexive inverse of a matrix *A* over \mathbb{H} by A^+ which satisfies simultaneously $AA^+A = A$ and $A^+AA^+ = A^+$. Moreover, $L_A = I - A^+A$, $R_A = I - AA^+$, where A^+ is an arbitrary but fixed reflexive inverse of *A*. Clearly, L_A and R_A are idempotent, and each is a reflexive inverse of itself. $\mathcal{R}(A)$ denotes the right column space of the matrix *A*.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we establish some necessary and sufficient conditions to solve Problem 1 over \mathbb{H} , and the general expression for A_{11} is also obtained. In Section 3, we present a numerical example to illustrate the developed theory.

2. Main Results

In this section, we begin with the following lemmas.

Lemma 1 (singular-value decomposition [9]). Let $A \in \mathbb{H}^{m \times n}$ be of rank r. Then there exist unitary quaternion matrices $U \in \mathbb{H}^{m \times m}$ and $V \in \mathbb{H}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$UAV = \begin{pmatrix} D_r & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{7}$$

where $D_r = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_r)$ and the d_j 's are the positive singular values of A.

Let \mathbb{H}_{c}^{n} denote the collection of column vectors with *n* components of quaternions and *A* be an $m \times n$ quaternion matrix. Then the solutions of Ax = 0 form a subspace of \mathbb{H}_{c}^{n} of dimension n(A). We have the following lemma.

Lemma 2. Let

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \tag{8}$$

be a partitioning of a nonsingular matrix $A \in \mathbb{H}^{n \times n}$ *, and let*

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$
(9)

be the corresponding (i.e., transpose) partitioning of A^{-1} . Then $n(A_{11}) = n(B_{22})$.

Proof. It is readily seen that

$$\begin{pmatrix} B_{22} & B_{21} \\ B_{12} & B_{11} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{22} & A_{21} \\ A_{12} & A_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$
(10)

are inverse to each other, so we may suppose that $n(A_{11}) < n(B_{22})$.

If $n(B_{22}) = 0$, necessarily $n(A_{11}) = 0$ and we are finished. Let $n(B_{22}) = c > 0$, then there exists a matrix F with c right linearly independent columns, such that $B_{22}F = 0$. Then, using

$$A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} = 0, (11)$$

we have

$$A_{11}B_{12}F = 0. (12)$$

From

$$A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} = I, (13)$$

we have

$$A_{21}B_{12}F = F.$$
 (14)

It follows that the rank $r(B_{12}F) \ge c$. In view of (12), this implies

$$n(A_{11}) \ge r(B_{12}F) \ge c = n(B_{22}).$$
 (15)

Thus

$$n(A_{11}) = n(B_{22}).$$
 (16)

Lemma 3 (see [10]). Let $A \in \mathbb{H}^{m \times n}$, $B \in \mathbb{H}^{p \times q}$, $D \in \mathbb{H}^{m \times q}$ be known and $X \in \mathbb{H}^{n \times p}$ unknown. Then the matrix equation

$$AXB = D \tag{17}$$

is consistent if and only if

$$AA^+DB^+B = D. (18)$$

In that case, the general solution is

$$X = A^{+}DB^{+} + L_{A}Y_{1} + Y_{2}R_{B},$$
(19)

where Y_1 , Y_2 are any matrices with compatible dimensions over \mathbb{H} .

By Lemma 1, let the singular value decomposition of the matrix A_{22} and B_{11} in Problem 1 be

$$A_{22} = Q \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} R^*, \tag{20}$$

$$B_{11} = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} V^*, \tag{21}$$

where $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_s)$ is a positive diagonal matrix, $\lambda_i \neq 0$ (i = 1, ..., s) are the singular values of A_{22} , $s = r(A_{22})$, $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, ..., \sigma_r)$ is a positive diagonal matrix, $\sigma_i \neq 0$ (i = 1, ..., r) are the singular values of B_{11} and $r = r(B_{11})$.

 $\begin{array}{l} \overset{(11)}{Q} = (Q_1 \ Q_2) \in \mathbb{H}^{m_2 \times m_2}, R = (R_1 \ R_2) \in \mathbb{H}^{n_2 \times n_2}, \\ U = (U_1 \ U_2) \in \mathbb{H}^{n_1 \times n_1}, V = (V_1 \ V_2) \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times m_1} \text{ are unitary} \\ \text{quaternion matrices, where } Q_1 \in \mathbb{H}^{m_2 \times s}, R_1 \in \mathbb{H}^{n_2 \times s}, U_1 \in \mathbb{H}^{n_1 \times r}, \\ \end{array}$

Theorem 4. *Problem 1 has a solution if and only if the following conditions are satisfied:*

(a)
$$r \begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = n_2$$
,
(b) $n_2 - r(A_{22}) = m_1 - r(B_{11})$, that is $n_2 - s = m_1 - r$,
(c) $\mathscr{R}(A_{21}B_{11}) \subset \mathscr{R}(A_{22})$,
(d) $\mathscr{R}(A_{12}^*B_{11}^*) \subset \mathscr{R}(A_{22}^*)$.

In that case, the general solution has the form of

$$A_{11} = B_{11}^{+} + A_{12}R \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda^{-1}Q_{1}^{*}A_{21}U_{1}\Sigma & 0 \\ H & -(V_{2}^{*}A_{12}R_{2})^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
(22)

$$\times V^{*}B_{11}^{+} + Y - YB_{11}B_{11}^{+},$$

where H is an arbitrary matrix in $\mathbb{H}^{(n_2-s)\times r}$ and Y is an arbitrary matrix in $\mathbb{H}^{m_1\times n_1}$.

Proof. If there exists an $m_1 \times n_1$ matrix A_{11} such that A is nonsingular and B_{11} is the corresponding block of A^{-1} , then (a) is satisfied. From AB = BA = I, we have that

$$A_{21}B_{11} + A_{22}B_{21} = 0,$$

$$B_{11}A_{12} + B_{12}A_{22} = 0,$$
(23)

so that (c) and (d) are satisfied.

By (11), we have

$$r(A_{22}) + n(A_{22}) = n_2, \qquad r(B_{11}) + n(B_{11}) = m_1.$$
 (24)

From Lemma 2, Notice that $\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ is the corresponding partitioning of B^{-1} , we have

$$n(B_{11}) = n(A_{22}),$$
 (25)

implying that (b) is satisfied.

Conversely, from (c), we know that there exists a matrix $K \in \mathbb{H}^{n_2 \times m_1}$ such that

$$A_{21}B_{11} = A_{22}K.$$
 (26)

Let

$$B_{21} = -K.$$
 (27)

From (20), (21), and (26), we have

$$A_{21}U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}V^* = Q\begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}R^*K.$$
 (28)

It follows that

$$Q^* A_{21} U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} V^* V = Q^* Q \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} R^* K V.$$
(29)

This implies that

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q_1^* A_{21} U_1 & Q_1^* A_{21} U_2 \\ Q_2^* A_{21} U_1 & Q_2^* A_{21} U_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} R_1^* K V_1 & R_1^* K V_2 \\ R_2^* K V_1 & R_2^* K V_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$(30)$$

Comparing corresponding blocks in (30), we obtain

$$Q_2^* A_{21} U_1 = 0. (31)$$

Let $R^*KV = \widehat{K}$. From (29), (30), we have

$$\widehat{K} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda^{-1}Q_1^* A_{21}U_1 \Sigma & 0\\ H & K_{22} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$H \in \mathbb{H}^{(n_2 - s) \times r}, \quad K_{22} \in \mathbb{H}^{(n_2 - s) \times (m_1 - r)}.$$
(32)

In the same way, from (d), we can obtain

$$V_1^* A_{12} R_2 = 0. (33)$$

Notice that $\begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ in (a) is a full column rank matrix. By (20), (21), and (33), we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & Q^* \\ V^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix} R = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ V_1^* A_{12} R_1 & V_1^* A_{12} R_2 \\ V_2^* A_{12} R_1 & V_2^* A_{12} R_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (34)$$

so that

$$n_{2} = r \begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = r \begin{pmatrix} 0 & Q^{*} \\ V^{*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix} R \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= r \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ V_{1}^{*} A_{12} R_{1} & V_{1}^{*} A_{12} R_{2} \\ V_{2}^{*} A_{12} R_{1} & V_{2}^{*} A_{12} R_{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= r (\Lambda) + r (V_{2}^{*} A_{12} R_{2})$$

$$= s + r (V_{2}^{*} A_{12} R_{2}).$$
(35)

It follows from (b) and (35) that $V_2^T A_{12} R_2$ is a full column rank matrix, so it is nonsingular.

From AB = I, we have the following matrix equation:

$$A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} = I, (36)$$

that is

$$A_{11}B_{11} = I - A_{12}B_{21}, \quad I \in \mathbb{H}^{m_1 \times m_1}, \tag{37}$$

where B_{11} , A_{12} were given, $B_{21} = -K$ (from (27)). By Lemma 3, the matrix equation (37) has a solution if and only if

$$(I - A_{12}B_{21})B_{11}^{+}B_{11} = I - A_{12}B_{21}.$$
 (38)

By (21), (27), (32), and (33), we have that (38) is equivalent to:

$$(I + A_{12}K)V\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma^{-1} & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}U^*U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}V^* = I + A_{12}K.$$
 (39)

We simplify the equation above. The left hand side reduces to $(I + A_{12}K)V_1V_1^*$ and so we have

$$A_{12}KV_1V_1^* - A_{12}K = I - V_1V_1^*.$$
 (40)

So,

$$A_{12}R\widehat{K}V^*V_1V_1^* - A_{12}R\widehat{K}V^* = (V_1 \ V_2)\binom{V_1^*}{V_2^*} - V_1V_1^*.$$
(41)

This implies that

$$A_{12}R\widehat{K}\begin{pmatrix} V_1^*V_1\\ V_2^*V_1 \end{pmatrix}V_1^* - A_{12}R\widehat{K}\begin{pmatrix} V_1^*\\ V_2^* \end{pmatrix} = V_2V_2^*, \qquad (42)$$

so that

$$A_{12}R\widehat{K}\begin{pmatrix}I\\0\end{pmatrix}V_{1}^{*} - A_{12}R\widehat{K}\begin{pmatrix}V_{1}^{*}\\V_{2}^{*}\end{pmatrix} = V_{2}V_{2}^{*}.$$
 (43)

So,

$$-A_{12}R\widehat{K}\begin{pmatrix}0\\V_2^*\end{pmatrix} = V_2V_2^*,\tag{44}$$

and hence,

$$-(A_{12}R_1 A_{12}R_2)\binom{\Lambda^{-1}Q_1^*A_{21}U_1\Sigma \ 0}{H \ K_{22}}\binom{0}{V_2^*} = V_2V_2^*.$$
(45)

Finally, we obtain

$$A_{12}R_2K_{22}V_2^* = -V_2V_2^*. (46)$$

Multiplying both sides of (46) by V^* from the left, considering (33) and the fact that $V_2^*A_{12}R_2$ is nonsingular, we have

$$K_{22} = -(V_2^* A_{12} R_2)^{-1}.$$
 (47)

From Lemma 3, (38), (47), Problem 1 has a solution and the general solution is

$$A_{11} = B_{11}^{+} + A_{12}R \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda^{-1}Q_{1}^{*}A_{21}U_{1}\Sigma & 0 \\ H & -(V_{2}^{*}A_{12}R_{2})^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$
(48)
 $\times V^{*}B_{11}^{+} + Y - YB_{11}B_{11}^{+},$

where *H* is an arbitrary matrix in $\mathbb{H}^{(n_2-s)\times r}$ and *Y* is an arbitrary matrix in $\mathbb{H}^{m_1\times n_1}$.

3. An Example

In this section, we give a numerical example to illustrate the theoretical results.

Example 5. Consider Problem 1 with the parameter matrices as follows:

$$A_{12} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+j & \frac{1}{2}k \\ -k & 1+\frac{1}{2}j \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A_{21} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i & -\frac{1}{2}j - \frac{1}{2}k \\ \frac{1}{2}j + \frac{1}{2}k & \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A_{22} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & i \\ 2j & k \end{pmatrix}, \qquad B_{11} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ j & k \end{pmatrix}.$$
(49)

It is easy to show that (c), (d) are satisfied, and that

$$n_{2} = r \begin{pmatrix} A_{12} \\ A_{22} \end{pmatrix} = 2,$$

$$n_{2} - r (A_{22}) = m_{1} - r (B_{11}) = 0,$$
(50)

so (a), (b) are satisfied too. Therefore, we have

$$B_{11}^{+} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2}j \\ -\frac{1}{2}i & -\frac{1}{2}k \end{pmatrix},$$

$$= Q\begin{pmatrix} \Lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} R^{*}, \qquad B_{11} = U\begin{pmatrix} \Sigma & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} V^{*},$$
(51)

where

 A_{22}

$$Q = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ j & k \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix},$$
$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ j & k \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (52)$$
$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We also have

$$Q_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ j & k \end{pmatrix}, \qquad R_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$U_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ j & k \end{pmatrix}, \qquad V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
(53)

By Theorem 4, for an arbitrary matrices $Y \in \mathbb{H}^{2\times 2}$, we have

$$A_{11} = B_{11}^{+} + A_{12}R\left(\Lambda^{-1}Q_{1}^{*}A_{21}U_{1}\Sigma\right)V^{*}B_{11}^{+} + Y - YB_{11}B_{11}^{+}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j + \frac{1}{4}k & \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i - \frac{3}{2}j\\ \frac{1}{2} - i + \frac{1}{4}j - \frac{1}{4}k & \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4}i - \frac{1}{2}j - k \end{pmatrix},$$
(54)

it follows that

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{4}j + \frac{1}{4}k & \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{4}i - \frac{3}{2}j & 2+j & \frac{1}{2}k \\ \frac{1}{2} - i + \frac{1}{4}j - \frac{1}{4}k & \frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4}i - \frac{1}{2}j - k & -k & 1+\frac{1}{2}j \\ \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i & -\frac{1}{2}j - \frac{1}{2}k & 2 & i \\ \frac{1}{2}j + \frac{1}{2}k & \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2}i & 2j & k \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i & -1 & -1 \\ j & k & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{4}j \\ -1 & -1 & \frac{1}{2} - i & \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}i - \frac{1}{2}j - k \end{pmatrix}.$$
(55)

The results verify the theoretical findings of Theorem 4.

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