



The m -MP weak core inverse and its applications

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Abstract. Based on the m -core-nilpotent decomposition, we introduce a generalized inverse named the m -MP weak core inverse, which unifies the CMP inverse and the MP weak core inverse. Some properties, characterizations and representations of this generalized inverse are shown. Then, the relationship between the m -MP weak core inverse and a nonsingular bordered matrix is established. A variant of the successive squaring computational iterative scheme is given for calculating the m -MP weak core inverse. An equivalent condition for the continuity for the m -MP weak core inverse is also studied. In the final, the m -MP weak core inverse is used in solving a system of linear equations.

1. Introduction

Let \mathbb{Z}^+ and $\mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$ denote the sets of all positive integers and all $m \times n$ complex matrices, respectively. The symbols $*$ means the conjugate transpose of a matrix. The notations A^* , $R(A)$, $N(A)$, $\text{rank}(A)$ and $\rho(A)$ denote the conjugate transpose, range, null space, rank and spectral radius of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$, respectively. The notation $\|\cdot\|$ stands for the matrix norm. Let $A\{2\} = \{X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m} | XAX = X\}$. If $X \in A\{2\}$, we call X an outer inverse of A , which is denoted by $A^{(2)}$. If an outer inverse X of A satisfies $R(X) = \mathcal{T}$ and $N(X) = \mathcal{S}$, then X is called the outer inverse with the prescribed range \mathcal{T} and null space \mathcal{S} , which is denoted by $A_{\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S}}^{(2)}$. We define that $A^0 = I_n$, where $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ and I_n is the identity matrix of order n . And, 0 denotes the null matrix of an appropriate size. For an $n \times n$ matrix A , the index of A is the smallest non-negative integer k such that $\text{rank}(A^{k+1}) = \text{rank}(A^k)$, which is denoted as $\text{Ind}(A)$. Notice that $\text{Ind}(A) = 0$ if and only if A is invertible. For subspaces \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{S} satisfying their direct sum as $\mathbb{C}_{n \times 1}$, i.e., $\mathcal{S} \oplus \mathcal{T} = \mathbb{C}_{n \times 1}$, the projector onto \mathcal{T} along \mathcal{S} is indicated by $P_{\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{S}}$. Particularly, the orthogonal projector onto \mathcal{T} is $P_{\mathcal{T}} = P_{\mathcal{T}, \mathcal{T}^\perp}$, where \mathcal{T}^\perp presents the orthogonal complement of \mathcal{T} .

The Moore Penrose inverse denoted by $A^\dagger = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [21]

$$(1) AXA = A, \quad (2) XAX = X, \quad (3) (AX)^* = AX, \quad (4) (XA)^* = XA.$$

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The Drazin inverse denoted by $A^D = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [3]

$$(1) A^{k+1}X = A^k, \quad (2) XAX = X, \quad (3) AX = XA.$$

When $k = 1$, A^D is called the group inverse of A and is denoted by $A^\#$.

The CMP inverse denoted by $A^{c,\dagger} = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [15]

$$(1) XAX = X, \quad (2) AXA = AA^D A, \quad (3) XA = A^\dagger AA^D A, \quad (4) AX = AA^D AA^\dagger.$$

Notice that $A^{c,\dagger} = A^\dagger AA^D AA^\dagger$.

The core-EP inverse denoted by $A^\oplus = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [14]

$$(1) XAX = X, \quad (2) XA^{k+1} = A^k, \quad (3) (AX)^* = AX, \quad (4) R(X) \subseteq R(A^k).$$

Notice that $A^\oplus = A^D A^k (A^k)^\dagger$.

The weak group inverse denoted by $A^\mathbb{W} = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [28]

$$(1) AX^2 = X, \quad (2) AX = A^\oplus A.$$

Notice that $A^\mathbb{W} = (A^\oplus)^2 A$.

The MP weak core inverse denoted by $A^\circ = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [12]

$$(1) XAX = X, \quad (2) AX = AA^\mathbb{W} AA^\dagger, \quad (3) XA = A^\dagger AA^\mathbb{W} A.$$

Notice that $A^\circ = A^\dagger AA^\mathbb{W} AA^\dagger$.

The m -weak group inverse denoted by $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [9]

$$(1) AX^2 = X, \quad (2) AX = (A^\oplus)^m A^m, \text{ where } m \in \mathbb{Z}^+.$$

Notice that $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = (A^\oplus)^{m+1} A^m$.

The m -weak group MP inverse denoted by $A^{\mathbb{W}_m,\dagger} = X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ of $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ is the unique matrix satisfying the following matrix equations [8]

$$(1) XAX = X, \quad (2) AX = AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger, \quad (3) XA = A^D AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} A, \text{ where } m \in \mathbb{Z}^+.$$

Notice that $A^{\mathbb{W}_m,\dagger} = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger$.

Let $A, B, C \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$. The (B, C) -inverse of A is the unique matrix $Y \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ satisfying the following matrix equations [1, 22]

$$(1) YAB = B, \quad (2) CAY = C, \quad (3) N(C) \subseteq N(Y), \quad (4) R(Y) \subseteq R(B).$$

Lemma 1.1. [26] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$. Then

$$(1) R(A^\dagger) = R(A^*), \quad N(A^\dagger) = N(A^*);$$

$$(2) AA^\dagger = P_{R(A), N(A^*)};$$

$$(3) A^\dagger A = P_{R(A^*), N(A)}.$$

Lemma 1.2. [9] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

- (1) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^{\mathbb{W}_m}$;
- (2) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^m)}^{(2)}$;
- (3) $A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = P_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^m)}$;
- (4) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A = P_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^{m+1})}$.

Lemma 1.3. [8] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

- (1) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger} = A_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger)}^{(2)}$;
- (2) $A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger} = P_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger)}$;
- (3) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger} A = P_{R(A^k), N((A^k)^* A^{m+1})}$.

Lemma 1.4. [26] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$. Let L and M be complementary subspaces of \mathbb{C}_n , i.e., $L \oplus M = \mathbb{C}_n$. Then,

- (1) $P_{L, M} A = A \Leftrightarrow R(A) \subseteq L$;
- (2) $A = A P_{L, M} \Leftrightarrow M \subseteq N(A)$.

2. The m -MP weak core inverse

In this section, we introduce a generalized inverse named m -MP weak core inverse. In order to do this, we firstly recall the m -core-nilpotent decomposition. Then we consider a system of equations.

Lemma 2.1. [8] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let $A = A_1 + A_2$ be the m -core-nilpotent decomposition of A . Then

$$A_1 = A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A \text{ and } A_2 = A - A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A.$$

Notice that if $m \geq k-1$, then A_1 coincides with $\widetilde{A}_1 = A A^D A$ which is the core part in the core-nilpotent decomposition. If $m = 1$, then A_1 coincides with $C = A A^{\mathbb{W}} A$ which is the weak core part of A .

Definition 2.2. [16] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A_1 be the form of Lemma 2.1. The following matrix equations

$$XAX = X, AX = A_1 A^\dagger, XA = A^\dagger A_1 \quad (1)$$

have the unique solution $A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger$. We term $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger$ as the m -MP weak core inverse (in short, the m -MPWC inverse) of A .

Remark 2.3. From the definitions of CMP inverse and MP weak core inverse, it is easy to infer that:

- (1) If $m = 1$, then $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\circ$;
- (2) If $m \geq k-1$, then $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^{c, \dagger}$.

Hence, the m -MPWC inverse is actually a generalization of the CMP inverse and the MP weak core inverse. It is also a special case of the weak CMP inverse introduced in [16].

Example 2.4. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & I_4 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\text{Ind}(A) = 4$, and

$$A^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} H_1 & -N^\dagger \\ I - H_1 & N^\dagger \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^D = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & H_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{c, \dagger} = \begin{pmatrix} H_1 & H_5 \\ I_4 - H_1 & H_6 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A^{\oplus} = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{\otimes} = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & I_4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{\otimes_2} = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & H_3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A^{\circ} = \begin{pmatrix} H_1 & H_7 \\ I_4 - H_1 & I_4 - H_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A^{\otimes_2, \dagger} = \begin{pmatrix} I_4 & H_4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A^{\otimes_2, \circ} = \begin{pmatrix} H_1 & H_8 \\ I_4 - H_1 & H_9 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$H_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$H_5 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_6 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_7 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H_8 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$H_9 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad N^{\dagger} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

This shows that m -MPWC inverse is different from some known generalized inverses.

3. Characterizations of the m -MP weak core inverse

More characterizations for the Moore-Penrose inverse, the CMP inverse, the core-EP inverse, the weak group inverse, and the m -weak group inverse can be found in [5, 10, 11, 17–19, 29, 30], and we now present characterizations for the m -MP weak core inverse.

Lemma 3.1. [16] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

- (1) $R(A^{\otimes_m, \circ}) = R(A^{\dagger} A^k)$;
- (2) $N(A^{\otimes_m, \circ}) = N((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger})$;
- (3) $A^{\otimes_m, \circ} = A^{(2)}_{R(A^{\dagger} A^k), N((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger})}$.

Theorem 3.2. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

$$A^{\otimes_m, \circ} = A^{(2)}_{R(A^{\dagger} A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}), N(A^{\dagger} A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger})}.$$

Proof. From Theorem 5.3 of [8], we get that

$$R(A^k) = R(A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}), \quad \text{rank}(A^k) = \text{rank}((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}).$$

Hence, we can deduce that

$$R(A^{\dagger} A^k) = A^{\dagger} R(A^k) = A^{\dagger} R(A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}) = R(A^{\dagger} A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}),$$

which implies

$$\text{rank}(A^{\dagger} A^k) = \text{rank}(A^{\dagger} A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\dagger}).$$

We can also infer directly that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rank}(A^\dagger A^k) &\leq \text{rank}(A^k) = \text{rank}(A^{k+1}) = \text{rank}(AA^k) = \text{rank}(AA^\dagger AA^k) \\ &\leq \text{rank}(A^\dagger A^{k+1}) \leq \text{rank}(A^\dagger A^k), \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\text{rank}\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) = \text{rank}(A^k) = \text{rank}(A^\dagger A^k) = \text{rank}\left(A^\dagger A^k \left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right).$$

Since $N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) \subseteq N\left(A^\dagger A^k \left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right)$, it follows that

$$N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) = N\left(A^\dagger A^k \left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right).$$

Combine with Lemma 3.1, we get $A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A^{(2)}_{R(A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger), N(A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger)}$. \square

Theorem 3.3. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A_1 be as in Lemma 2.1. Then

- (1) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ is a reflexive g-inverse of A_1 ;
- (2) $A_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A_1 A^\dagger$; $A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A_1 = A^\dagger A_1$.

Proof. (1). It is easy to see that

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ},$$

$$A_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A_1 = A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A = A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A = A_1.$$

So, $A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ is a reflexive g-inverse of A_1 .

(2). It is obvious that

$$A_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger = A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger = A_1 A^\dagger,$$

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A_1 = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A = A^\dagger A_1.$$

This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 3.4. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$;
- (2) $N(X) = N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right)$, $XA = A^\dagger A_1$;
- (3) $N(X) = N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right)$, $XA^k = A^\dagger A^k$;
- (4) $N(X) = N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right)$, $XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}$.

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). It is easily obtained by (1) and Lemma 3.1.

(2) \Rightarrow (3). Post-multiplying $XA = A^\dagger A_1$ by A^{k-1} , we have

$$XA^k = A^\dagger A_1 A^{k-1} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^{k-1} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A^k = A^\dagger A^k,$$

where the last equality follows from Lemma 1.2 and Lemma 1.4.

(3) \Rightarrow (4). It follows from the fact $A(A^{\mathbb{W}_m})^2 = A^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ that

$$XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = XA^k (A^{\mathbb{W}_m})^k = A^\dagger A^k (A^{\mathbb{W}_m})^k = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$$

(4) \Rightarrow (1). From Lemma 1.3 and Lemma 1.4, we have

$$N(X) = N\left(\left(A^k\right)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) = N(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger}) = N(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger),$$

which implies

$$X = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m}AA^\dagger.$$

Applying $XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ to $X = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m}AA^\dagger$, we have

$$X = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m}AA^\dagger = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ.$$

This finishes the proof. \square

Theorem 3.5. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ;$
- (2) $XAX = X, R(X) = R(A^\dagger A^k), N(X) = N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right);$
- (3) $XAX = X, AX = A_1 A^\dagger, R(XA) = R(A^\dagger A^k);$
- (4) $XAX = X, AX = A_1 A^\dagger, XA^k = A^\dagger A^k;$
- (5) $XAX = X, XA = A^\dagger A_1, N(AX) = N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right).$

Proof. The item (1) implies items (2), (3), (5) can be checked directly using (1) and Lemma 3.1.

(1) \Rightarrow (4). It is obvious by (1) that

$$XAX = X, AX = A_1 A^\dagger.$$

From Lemma 1.2 and Lemma 1.4, we have

$$R(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}) = R(A^k) \text{ and } AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} A^k = A^k.$$

As a consequence, we can infer that

$$XA^k = XAA^{k-1} = A^\dagger A_1 A^{k-1} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{k-1} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} A^k = A^\dagger A^k.$$

(2) \Rightarrow (1). Is is clear by Lemma 3.1 (3).

(3) \Rightarrow (1). Because $R(A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}) = A^\dagger R(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}) = A^\dagger R(A^k) = R(A^\dagger A^k) = R(XA)$ from Lemma 1.2, we have

$$XAA^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}, \text{ i.e., } XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$$

Applying $AX = A_1 A^\dagger$ and $XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ to $XAX = X$, we get that

$$X = XAX = XA_1 A^\dagger = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ.$$

(4) \Rightarrow (1). Since $AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ is an idempotent, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} X &= XAX = XA_1 A^\dagger = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = XA^k (A^{\mathbb{W}_m})^k AA^\dagger \\ &= A^\dagger A^k (A^{\mathbb{W}_m})^k AA^\dagger = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ. \end{aligned}$$

(5) \Rightarrow (1). Since $N(AX) = N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) = N(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ)$, it follows that

$$X = XAX = A^\dagger A_1 X = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AX = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger AX = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ AX = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ.$$

This finishes the proof. \square

Theorem 3.6. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ;$
- (2) $A^\dagger A_1 X = X, AX = A_1 A^\dagger, XA = A^\dagger A_1;$
- (3) $XA_1 X = X, A_1 X = A_1 A^\dagger, XA_1 = A^\dagger A_1;$
- (4) $XA_1 X = X, A^{\mathbb{W}_m} AX = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ, XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$

Proof. (1) \Rightarrow (2). From (1), we have that

$$XAX = X, \quad AX = A_1A^\dagger \quad \text{and} \quad XA = A^\dagger A_1.$$

Post-multiplying $XA = A^\dagger A_1$ by X , we have

$$A^\dagger A_1 X = XAX = X.$$

(2) \Rightarrow (1). Post-multiplying $XA = A^\dagger A_1$ by X , we have

$$XAX = A^\dagger A_1 X = X.$$

Since $AX = A_1A^\dagger$ and $XA = A^\dagger A_1$, we know $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ by Definition 2.2.

(1) \Rightarrow (3). It is obvious by Theorem 3.3.

(3) \Rightarrow (4). Pre-multiplying $A_1X = A_1A^\dagger$ by $A^{\mathbb{W}_m}$, we have

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A_1 X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A_1 A^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger}.$$

Post-multiplying $XA_1 = A^\dagger A_1$ by $A^{\mathbb{W}_m}$, we have

$$XA_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger A_1 A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$$

(4) \Rightarrow (1). Applying $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} AX = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger}$ and $XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ to $X = XA_1X$, we get that

$$X = XA_1X = XAA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AX = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AX = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m, \dagger} = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}.$$

This finishes the proof. \square

Theorem 3.7. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is the $(A^\dagger A_1 A^*, A^* A_1 A^\dagger)$ -inverse of A , where A_1 has the same form as in Lemma 2.1.

Proof. It is easy to check that

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} AA^\dagger A_1 A^* = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger AA^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^* = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^* = A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^* = A^\dagger A_1 A^*,$$

$$A^* A_1 A^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^* AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger AA^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^* AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^* AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger = A^* A_1 A^\dagger.$$

In addition, if $x \in N(A^* A_1 A^\dagger)$, then we can infer

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} x = A^\dagger A_1 A^\dagger x = A^\dagger AA^\dagger A_1 A^\dagger x = A^\dagger (A^\dagger)^* A^* AA^\dagger AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} AA^\dagger x = A^\dagger (A^\dagger)^* A^* A_1 A^\dagger x = 0,$$

implying $x \in N(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})$. Hence, we obtain $N(A^* A_1 A^\dagger) \subseteq N(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})$. Also, from

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A_1 A^\dagger = A^\dagger A_1 A^\dagger AA^\dagger = A^\dagger A_1 A^\dagger AA^* (A^\dagger)^* A^\dagger = A^\dagger A_1 A^* (A^\dagger)^* A^\dagger,$$

we know that $R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A_1 A^*)$. Thus, $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is the $(A^\dagger A_1 A^*, A^* A_1 A^\dagger)$ -inverse of A by the definition of the (B, C) -inverse. \square

4. Two canonical forms of the m -MP weak core inverse

Lemma 4.1. [27] Every matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $\text{rank}(A^k) = r$ has a core-EP decomposition $A = \widehat{A}_1 + \widehat{A}_2$, and has the following matrix form

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} T & S \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad (2)$$

where $\text{Ind}(\widehat{A_1}) \leq 1$, $\widehat{A_2}^k = 0$, $A_1^* A_2 = A_2 A_1 = 0$, and $U \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ is unitary. Furthermore,

$$\widehat{A_1} = U \begin{pmatrix} T & S \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad \widehat{A_2} = U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

where $T \in \mathbb{C}_{r \times r}$ is nonsingular, $S \in \mathbb{C}_{r \times (n-r)}$, $N \in \mathbb{C}_{(n-r) \times (n-r)}$ is nilpotent, and $N^k = 0$.

The Moore Penrose inverse of A is given as [2]:

$$A^\dagger = U \begin{pmatrix} T^* \Delta & -T^* \Delta S N^\dagger \\ (I - N^\dagger N) S^* \Delta & N^\dagger - (I - N^\dagger N) S^* \Delta S N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad (3)$$

where $\Delta = (T T^* + S(I - N^\dagger N) S^*)^{-1}$.

From [9], we gather

$$A^{\oplus_m} = U \begin{pmatrix} T^{-1} & (T^{m+1})^{-1} T_m \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad (4)$$

$$A^k = U \begin{pmatrix} T^k & T_k \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

$$A^m = U \begin{pmatrix} T^m & T_m \\ 0 & N^m \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

$$A A^\dagger = U \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & N N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

where $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $T_k = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} T^j S N^{k-1-j}$ and $T_m = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} T^j S N^{m-1-j}$.

Lemma 4.2. [7] Every matrix $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{rank}(A) = r > 0$ has a Hartwig-Spindelböck decomposition:

$$A = U \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma K & \Sigma L \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad (5)$$

where $U \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ is a unitary matrix, $\Sigma = \text{diag}(\sigma_1 I_{k_1}, \sigma_2 I_{k_2}, \dots, \sigma_t I_{k_t})$ is a diagonal matrix, the elements on the diagonal $\sigma_1 > \sigma_2 > \dots > \sigma_t > 0$ being the singular values of the matrix A , $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_t = r = \text{rank}(A)$, and $K \in \mathbb{C}_{r \times r}$ and $L \in \mathbb{C}_{r \times (n-r)}$ satisfy $KK^* + LL^* = I_r$.

The MP inverse of A is given as [13]:

$$A^\dagger = U \begin{pmatrix} K^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \\ L^* \Sigma^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (6)$$

The core-EP inverse of A is given as [4]:

$$A^\oplus = U \begin{pmatrix} (\Sigma K)^\oplus & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (7)$$

The matrix A^m , where $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, is given as:

$$A^m = U \begin{pmatrix} (\Sigma K)^m & (\Sigma K)^{m-1} \Sigma L \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (8)$$

Theorem 4.3. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ be of the form (2) and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

$$A^{\oplus_m \circ} = U \begin{pmatrix} T^* \Delta & T^* \Delta T^{-m} T_m N N^\dagger \\ (I - N^\dagger N) S^* \Delta & (I - N^\dagger N) S^* \Delta T^{-m} T_m N N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

where $\Delta = (T T^* + S(I - N^\dagger N) S^*)^{-1}$ and $T_m = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} T^j S N^{m-1-j}$.

Proof. From (2), (3), (4), and the fact that $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger$, we can determine the result directly. \square

Theorem 4.4. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ be of the form (5) and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = U \begin{pmatrix} (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} & ((\Sigma K)^\oplus)^{m+1} (\Sigma K)^{m-1} \Sigma L \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*, \quad (9)$$

and

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = U \begin{pmatrix} K^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} & 0 \\ L^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (10)$$

Proof. From (7), we have

$$(A^\oplus)^{m+1} = U \begin{pmatrix} ((\Sigma K)^\oplus)^{m+1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (11)$$

From (8), (11), and the fact that

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = (A^\oplus)^{m+1} A^m,$$

we get that (9) holds. Using (5), (6), (9), and $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger$, we obtain (10). \square

Theorem 4.5. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix if and only if the following conditions hold:

- (1) $K^* \nabla K = (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m}$;
 - (2) $\nabla K = 0$;
 - (3) $L^* \nabla K = 0$,
- where $\nabla = K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger$.

Proof. Let A be of the form (5). It is easy to check that

$$(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})^\dagger = U \begin{pmatrix} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K & (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*. \quad (12)$$

Using (10), (12), and $KK^* + LL^* = I_r$, we can get

$$(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})^\dagger A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = U \begin{pmatrix} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} U^*,$$

and

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} (A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})^\dagger = U \begin{pmatrix} K^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K & K^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L \\ L^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K & L^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L \end{pmatrix} U^*.$$

Since $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix if and only if $(A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})^\dagger A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} (A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ})^\dagger$, then we have

$$K^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K = (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m}; \quad (13)$$

$$K^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L = 0; \quad (14)$$

$$L^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K = 0; \quad (15)$$

$$L^* K (\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L = 0. \quad (16)$$

Pre-multiplying (14) by K , pre-multiplying (16) by L , and adding the results, we have

$$K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger L = 0. \quad (17)$$

So, if $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix, then (13), (15), (17) hold, i.e.,

$$K^* \nabla K = (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m}, \quad L^* \nabla K = 0 \text{ and } \nabla K = 0,$$

where $\nabla = K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger$. On the contrary, if

$$K^* \nabla K = (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m}, \quad L^* \nabla K = 0 \text{ and } \nabla K = 0,$$

then items (13)-(16) hold. This implies $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix. \square

Theorem 4.6. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. If $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix, then the following statements hold:

$$(1) [LL^*, \nabla] = 0;$$

$$(2) [KK^*, \nabla] = 0;$$

$$(3) \nabla K = K(K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m},$$

where $[A \ B] = AB - BA$ and $\nabla = K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger$.

Proof. According to Theorem 4.5, if $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is an EP matrix, we have items (13)-(16) hold. Pre-multiplying by K and post-multiplying by L^* on (14), and pre-multiplying by L and post-multiplying by K^* on (15), we have

$$KK^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* = 0, \text{ and } LL^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* = 0.$$

By $KK^* + LL^* = I_r$, we have

$$(I_r - LL^*) K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* = 0, \text{ and } (I_r - KK^*) K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* = 0,$$

which can be also written as

$$\begin{aligned} & K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* \\ &= LL^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* \\ &= LL^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* + LL^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* \\ &= LL^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger, \\ & K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* \\ &= KK^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* \\ &= KK^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger KK^* + KK^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger LL^* \\ &= KK^* K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger. \end{aligned}$$

So we obtain that

$$[LL^*, K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger] = 0, \text{ and } [KK^*, K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger] = 0.$$

Pre-multiplying (13) by K and pre-multiplying (15) by L , and adding the results, then we have

$$K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m} (K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K = K(K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m})^\dagger K(\Sigma K)^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$$

This finishes the proof. \square

5. Representations of the m -MP weak core inverse

Lemma 5.1. [31] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$, $X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times p}$ and $Y \in \mathbb{C}_{p \times m}$. If $A_{R(XY), N(XY)}^{(2)}$ exists, then

$$A_{R(XY), N(XY)}^{(2)} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} X(\lambda I_p + YAX)^{-1}Y.$$

Lemma 5.2. [6, 23] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$. Then

- (1) $A^\dagger = \int_0^\infty A^* \exp(-AA^*t) dt$;
 (2) $A^\dagger = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (tI_n + A^*A)^{-1}A^*$.

Lemma 5.3. [26] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$. If $A = B_1C_1$ is a full-rank decomposition and $C_iB_i = B_{i+1}C_{i+1}$, ($i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$) are also full-rank decompositions. Then

- (1) C_kB_k is invertible;
 (2) $A^\dagger = C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^*$.

Lemma 5.4. [9] Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A be the full-rank decomposition as in Lemma 5.3, then

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\mathbb{W}_m} &= B \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^\dagger (B_1C_1)^m \\ &= B(C_kB_k)^{-m-1} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m, \end{aligned}$$

where $B = B_1B_2 \dots B_k$.

Theorem 5.5. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A be the full-rank decomposition as in Lemma 5.3, then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} C_1B \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^\dagger (B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^* \quad (18)$$

$$= C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} B_2 \dots B_k (C_kB_k)^{-m} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^*, \quad (19)$$

where $B = B_1B_2 \dots B_k$.

Proof. Using Lemma 5.3 and Lemma 5.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} &= C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^*B_1C_1B(C_kB_k)^{-m-1} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m B_1C_1C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^* \\ &= C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} C_1B(C_kB_k)^{-m-1} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^* \\ &= C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} B_2 \dots B_k C_kB_k (C_kB_k)^{-m-1} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^* \\ &= C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} B_2 \dots B_k (C_kB_k)^{-m} (B^*B)^{-1} B^*(B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^*. \end{aligned}$$

We can get (18) in the same way as above. \square

Theorem 5.6. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A be the full-rank decomposition as in Lemma 5.3, then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = C_1^* (C_1C_1^*)^{-1} C_1B \int_0^\infty \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^* \exp \left(-B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^* v \right) dv (B_1C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^*B_1)^{-1} B_1^*.$$

Proof. Using Lemma 5.2(1), we can see

$$\left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^\dagger = \int_0^\infty \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^* \exp \left(-B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \left(B(C_kB_k)^{m+1} \right)^* v \right) dv,$$

The rest can be proved by (18). \square

Theorem 5.7. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$, $l \geq k = \text{Ind}(A)$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \int_0^\infty A^* \exp(-AA^*t) dt \int_0^\infty A^{l+1} (A^{l+m+1})^* \exp(-A^{l+m+1} (A^{l+m+1})^* u) du \int_0^\infty A^{m+1} A^* \exp(-AA^*t) dt.$$

Proof. From Theorem 2.1 of [20], i.e., $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = A^l (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger A^m$, we gather a new representation of the m -MP weak core inverse

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A^{l+1} (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger.$$

It follows from Lemma 5.2(1) that

$$(A^{l+m+1})^\dagger = \int_0^\infty (A^{l+m+1})^* \exp(-A^{l+m+1} (A^{l+m+1})^* u) du.$$

The proof can be completed. \square

Theorem 5.8. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let A be the full-rank decomposition as in Lemma 5.3, then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} C_1^* (C_1 C_1^*)^{-1} C_1 B (\lambda I_n + (B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^* B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^{-1} (B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^* (B_1 C_1)^m B_1 (B_1^* B_1)^{-1} B_1^*.$$

Proof. Using Lemma 5.2(2), we have

$$(B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^\dagger = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + (B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^* B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^{-1} (B (C_k B_k)^{m+1})^*.$$

The rest can be demonstrated by (18). \square

Theorem 5.9. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$, $l \geq k = \text{Ind}(A)$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (tI_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} A^{l+1} (\alpha I_n + (A^{l+m+1})^* A^{l+m+1})^{-1} (A^{l+m+1})^* A^{m+1} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} (tI_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*.$$

Proof. It follows from Lemma 5.2(2) that

$$(A^{l+m+1})^\dagger = \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} (\alpha I_n + (A^{l+m+1})^* A^{l+m+1})^{-1} (A^{l+m+1})^*.$$

Since $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^\dagger A^{l+1} (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger$, the proof can be finished. \square

Theorem 5.10. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{m \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$. Then

- (1) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (\lambda I_n + (A^k)^* A^{m+k})^{-1} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*$;
- (2) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (A^k)^* (\lambda I_n + A^{m+k} (A^k)^*)^{-1} A^{m+1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*$;
- (3) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (\lambda I_n + (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1})^{-1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*$;
- (4) $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1})^{-1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*$.

Proof. Firstly, we have $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^{(2)}_{R(A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger), N(A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger)}$ by Theorem 3.2. Combining Lemma 5.1 and Lemma 5.2 (2), we have the following proof.

(1) If $X = A^\dagger A^k$, $Y = (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} &= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} A^\dagger A^k (\lambda I_n + (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger A A^\dagger A^k)^{-1} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} A^\dagger A^k (\lambda I_n + (A^k)^* A^{m+k})^{-1} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^* A^k (\lambda I_n + (A^k)^* A^{m+k})^{-1} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (\lambda I_n + A^* A)^{-1} A^*. \end{aligned}$$

(2) If $X = A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^*$, $Y = A^{m+1} A^\dagger$, then we can get the result by similar computation.

(3) If $X = A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1}$, $Y = A^\dagger$, then we can get the result.

(4) If $X = I_n$, $Y = A^\dagger A^k (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger$, then we can get the result. \square

6. Successive matrix squaring algorithm for the m -MP weak core inverse

Inspired by the successive matrix squaring (SMS) algorithm for general outer inverses given in [24], we infer SMS algorithm for computing the m -MP weak core inverse in the section.

Since

$$\begin{aligned} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (A^\oplus)^{m+1} A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (A^D A^k (A^k)^\dagger)^{m+1} A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= (A^k)^* A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger, \end{aligned}$$

we have that

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} &= A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - \beta ((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger) \\ &= (I - \beta (A^k)^* A^{m+1}) A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} + \beta (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger. \end{aligned}$$

Observe the following matrices

$$P = I - \beta (A^k)^* A^{m+1}, \quad Q = \beta (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger, \quad \beta > 0.$$

It is obvious that $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ is the unique solution of $X = PX + Q$. Then an iterative procedure for computing $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ can be defined as follows

$$\begin{cases} X_1 = Q \\ X_{m+1} = PX_m + Q. \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

This algorithm can be implemented in parallel by considering the block matrices

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} P & Q \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}, \quad T^m = \begin{pmatrix} P^m & \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} P^i Q \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}.$$

The upper right block of T^m defines the m th approximation X_m to $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$, i.e., $X_m = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} P^i Q$. The matrix power T^m can be computed by the successive squaring, i.e.,

$$T_0 = T, \quad T_{i+1} = T_i^2, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, j,$$

where the integer j satisfies $2^j \geq m$.

The following theorem gives the sufficient condition for the convergence of the iterative process (20).

Theorem 6.1. Let $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $\text{rank}(A^k) = r$. Then the approximation

$$X_{2^m} = \sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} \left(I - \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} \right)^i \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger,$$

generated by (20), converges to $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$ if the spectral radius $\rho(I - X_1 A) \leq 1$. In addition, the following error estimation holds

$$\frac{\|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - X_{2^m}\|}{\|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\|} \leq \|(I - X_1 A)^{2^m}\|.$$

Besides,

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[2^m]{\|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - X_{2^m}\|} \leq \rho(I - X_1 A).$$

Proof. It is known that $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}$. Next, we prove that $X_{2^m} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} = X_{2^m}$. We can see that

$$\begin{aligned} X_{2^m} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} &= \sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} \left(I - \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} \right)^i \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} \left(I - \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} \right)^i \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{2^m-1} \left(I - \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} \right)^i \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger \\ &= X_{2^m}. \end{aligned}$$

By the mathematical induction, we can get

$$I - X_{2^m} A = (I - X_1 A)^{2^m}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - X_{2^m}\| &= \|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - X_{2^m} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\| = \|(I - X_{2^m} A) A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\| \\ &\leq \|(I - X_{2^m} A)\| \|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\| \\ &= \|(I - X_1 A)^{2^m}\| \|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\|. \end{aligned}$$

On the basis of $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|B^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}} = \rho(B)$ for any square matrix B and any norm, it can be concluded that

$$\limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[2^m]{\|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ} - X_{2^m}\|} \leq \limsup_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt[2^m]{\|(I - X_1 A)^{2^m}\| \|A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \circ}\|} = \rho(I - X_1 A).$$

If β is a real parameter such that $\max_{1 \leq i \leq s} |1 - \beta \lambda_i| \leq 1$, where λ_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, s$) are the nonzero eigenvalues of $(A^k)^* A^{m+1}$, then

$$\rho(I - X_1 A) = \rho\left(I - \beta(A^k)^* A^{m+1}\right) < 1.$$

This finishes the proof. \square

Example 6.2. Consider the following matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then, $k = \text{Ind}(A) = 3$. Let

$$m = 2, P = I - \beta(A^3)^* A^3, Q = \beta(A^3)^* A^3 A^\dagger, \beta = 0.1.$$

The eigenvalues λ_i of QA are included in the set $\{0.2, 0, 0, 0\}$. The nonzero eigenvalues λ_i satisfy

$$\max_i |1 - \beta\lambda_i| = |1 - 0.02| = 0.98 < 1.$$

Then we obtain the satisfactory approximation for $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \odot}$ after the 6th iteration of the successive matrix squaring algorithm.

$$T_6 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The upper right corner of T_6 is an approximation of $A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \odot}$, that is

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_m, \odot} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

7. The m -MP weak core inverse in certain bordered matrices

It is known that $X = A^{-1}$ is the unique solution to the following rank equality, if A is a nonsingular matrix

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A & I \\ I & X \end{pmatrix} = \text{rank}(A). \quad (21)$$

Our intention in this section is to propose a generation of the property (21) to the m -MP weak core inverse. Results of Lemma 7.1 will be useful in verifying this result.

Lemma 7.1. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$, $M = \begin{pmatrix} A & AU \\ VA & B \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}_{2n \times 2n}$, then

$$\text{rank}(M) = \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B - VAU).$$

Theorem 7.2. Let $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $\text{rank}(A^k) = r$. Then there exists a unique matrix X satisfies the conditions

$$XA^k = 0, X^2 = X, (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger X = 0, \text{rank}(X) = n - r, \quad (22)$$

as well as a certain matrix Y such that

$$YA^\dagger A^k = 0, Y^2 = Y, (A^k)^* A^{m+1} Y = 0, \text{rank}(Y) = n - r, \quad (23)$$

and a unique Z satisfying

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A & I - X \\ I - Y & Z \end{pmatrix} = \text{rank}(A). \quad (24)$$

Furthermore, $Z = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ and the matrices X, Y are defines as

$$X = I - AA^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}, Y = I - A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A.$$

Proof. Suppose that A is expressed by Lemma 4.1. Applying Theorem 4.3, we can check that

$$X = I - AA^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = U \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -T^{-m} T_m N N^\dagger \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} U^*$$

satisfies (22). In order to show the uniqueness of X , we assume that X_0 is another matrix which fulfils (22). Let $X_1 = UX_0 U^*$ be bordered as

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & D_2 \\ D_3 & D_4 \end{pmatrix},$$

where D_1 is the $r \times r$ block. On the basis of $XA^k = 0$ and using the invertibility of T , we gather

$$\begin{pmatrix} D_1 & D_2 \\ D_3 & D_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T^k & T_k \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 T^k & D_1 T_k \\ D_3 T^k & D_3 T_k \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

which implies $D_1 = 0$ and $D_3 = 0$. Since $X^2 = X$ and $\text{rank}(X) = n - r$, we can see

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 \\ 0 & D_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 \\ 0 & D_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 D_4 \\ 0 & D_4^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 \\ 0 & D_4 \end{pmatrix},$$

which shows that $D_2 D_4 = D_2$, $D_4^2 = D_4$ and $\text{rank}(D_4) = n - r$. Therefore, $D_4 = I$. In addition, from $(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger X = 0$, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{pmatrix} (T^k)^* & 0 \\ (T_k)^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T^m & T_m \\ 0 & N^m \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & N N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (T^k)^* & 0 \\ (T_k)^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} T^m & T_m N N^\dagger \\ 0 & N^m N N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & D_2 \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \\ & = \begin{pmatrix} (T^k)^* & 0 \\ (T_k)^* & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & T^m D_2 + T_m N N^\dagger \\ 0 & N^m N N^\dagger \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (T^k)^* (T^m D_2 + T_m N N^\dagger) \\ 0 & (T_k)^* (T^m D_2 + T_m N N^\dagger) \end{pmatrix} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

it can be concluded that $T^m D_2 + T_m N N^\dagger = 0$, that is $D_2 = -T^{-m} T_m N N^\dagger$. Hence, $X_0 = X$. Similarly, we can certify that (23) is satisfied for a unique $Y = I - A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A$. The matrices $X = I - AA^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ and $Y = I - A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A$ satisfy

$$\text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A & I - X \\ I - Y & Z \end{pmatrix} = \text{rank} \begin{pmatrix} A & AA^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \\ A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A & Z \end{pmatrix}.$$

In view of Lemma 7.1 and (24), it can be deduced that $\text{rank}(Z - A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} A A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = \text{rank}(Z - A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = 0$, which implies $Z = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$. This finishes the proof. \square

Example 7.3. There is an example to illustrate the results of Theorem 7.2. Consider

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\text{rank}(A) = 4$, $k = \text{Ind}(A) = 4$, $r = \text{rank}(A^4) = 1$. Let $m = 2$, then

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{3}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{3}{20} & \frac{1}{20} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The block matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} A & I - X \\ I - Y & Z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & AA^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} \\ A^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} A & A^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{4}{5} & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} & \frac{3}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{3}{10} & \frac{1}{10} & 0 \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{3}{10} & \frac{3}{20} & \frac{1}{20} & \frac{1}{5} & \frac{1}{10} & \frac{3}{20} & \frac{1}{20} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

satisfies $\text{rank}(B) = \text{rank}(A) = 4$. In addition, the matrices

$$X = I - AA^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{3}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{rank}(X) = 4$$

and

$$Y = I - A^{\mathbb{W}_2, \circ} A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{5} & -\frac{2}{5} & -\frac{3}{5} & -\frac{3}{10} & -\frac{1}{10} \\ -\frac{2}{5} & \frac{4}{5} & -\frac{3}{10} & -\frac{3}{20} & -\frac{1}{20} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{rank}(Y) = 4$$

satisfy (22) and (23), respectively.

8. Continuity of the m -MP weak core inverse

In this part, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the continuity of the m -MP weak core inverse. In order to do this, we firstly recall the known results about the continuity of the Moore-Penrose inverse and the m -weak group inverse.

Lemma 8.1. Let $A, A_p \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ and $m, p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ satisfy $A_p \rightarrow A$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$. Then

- (1) [25] $A_p^\dagger \rightarrow A^\dagger$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if there is $p_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $\text{rank}(A_p) = \text{rank}(A)$ for $p \geq p_0$;
 (2) [20] $A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{W}_m}$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if there is $p_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $\text{rank}(A_p^l) = \text{rank}(A^l)$ for $p \geq p_0$ and $l = \max\{\text{Ind}(A), \text{Ind}(A_p), \text{Ind}(A_{p+1}), \dots\}$.

Theorem 8.2. Let $A, A_p \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ and $m, p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ satisfy $A_p \rightarrow A$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$. Then $A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$ if and only if there is $p_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ such that $\text{rank}(A_p) = \text{rank}(A)$ and $\text{rank}(A_p^l) = \text{rank}(A^l)$, for $p \geq p_0$ and $l = \max\{\text{Ind}(A), \text{Ind}(A_p), \text{Ind}(A_{p+1}), \dots\}$.

Proof. " \Leftarrow ": For $p \geq p_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ and $l = \max\{\text{Ind}(A), \text{Ind}(A_p), \text{Ind}(A_{p+1}), \dots\}$, if

$$\text{rank}(A_p) = \text{rank}(A), \text{rank}(A_p^l) = \text{rank}(A^l),$$

it follows from Lemma 8.1 that

$$A_p^\dagger \rightarrow A^\dagger, A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{W}_m}.$$

As a consequence,

$$A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A_p^\dagger A_p A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m} A_p A_p^\dagger \rightarrow A^\dagger A A^{\mathbb{W}_m} A A^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}.$$

" \Rightarrow ": If $A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$ and $A_p \rightarrow A$, then

$$A_p A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \rightarrow A A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \text{ as } p \rightarrow \infty.$$

From [26], we realize the existence of $p_0 \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, which satisfies

$$\text{rank}(A_p A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = \text{rank}(A A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) \text{ for } p \geq p_0.$$

For $p \geq p_0$ and $l = \max\{\text{Ind}(A), \text{Ind}(A_p), \text{Ind}(A_{p+1}), \dots\}$, we have

$$R(A_p A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = R(A_p^l), \text{rank}(A A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = R(A^l).$$

Hence, for $p \geq p_0$, we can deduce that

$$\text{rank}(A_p^{l+m+1}) = \text{rank}(A_p^l) = \text{rank}(A_p A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = \text{rank}(A A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}) = \text{rank}(A^l) = \text{rank}(A^{l+m+1}),$$

which, together with Lemma 8.1, implies

$$(A_p^{l+m+1})^\dagger \rightarrow (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger \text{ as } p \rightarrow \infty.$$

To confirm $\text{rank}(A_p) = \text{rank}(A)$, we assume that $A_p^\dagger \nrightarrow A^\dagger$ firstly. Then, by

$$A_p^{l+1} \rightarrow A^{l+1}, (A_p^{l+m+1})^\dagger \rightarrow (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger, A_p^{m+1} \rightarrow A^{m+1}, A_p^\dagger \nrightarrow A^\dagger,$$

we can infer

$$A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} = A_p^\dagger A_p^{l+1} (A_p^{l+m+1})^\dagger A_p^{m+1} A_p^\dagger \nrightarrow A^\dagger A^{l+1} (A^{l+m+1})^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger = A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}.$$

This is contradictory to $A_p^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ} \rightarrow A^{\mathbb{W}_m \circ}$. Therefore, we insist that $A_p^\dagger \rightarrow A^\dagger$, i.e., $\text{rank}(A_p) = \text{rank}(A)$. This finishes the proof. \square

9. Applications

Theorem 9.1. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Then the general solution of the following consistent matrix equation

$$(A^k)^* A^{m+1} X = (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger B, \quad B \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n} \quad (25)$$

is expressed as

$$X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A) Y,$$

where $Y \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ is arbitrary.

Proof. In Section 6, we have identified

$$(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} = (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger.$$

This shows that

$$(A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A = (A^k)^* A^{m+1}.$$

Put $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A) Y$, where $Y \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (A^k)^* A^{m+1} X &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} (A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A) Y) \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (A^k)^* A^{m+1} Y - (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A Y \\ &= (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger B. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, by Theorem 5.1 of [9], i.e., $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} = (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^m$, we deduce

$$A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} = A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger B \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger B \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger \left((A^k)^\dagger \right)^* (A^k)^* A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger B \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} \left((A^k)^\dagger \right)^* (A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger B \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} \left((A^k)^\dagger \right)^* (A^k)^* A^{m+1} X \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} X \\ &= A^\dagger A (A^D)^{m+1} A^k (A^k)^\dagger A^{m+1} A^\dagger A X \\ &= A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A X, \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + X - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A) X.$$

Hence, X possess the pattern $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} B + (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m,\circ}} A) Y$, where $Y \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ is arbitrary. \square

Theorem 9.2. If the solution X of (25) satisfies $R(X) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k)$, then X is unique and $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ B$.

Proof. It is obvious that $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ B$ is a solution of (25) and

$$R(X) = R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ B) \subseteq R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A) = R(A^\dagger A^k).$$

For the uniqueness, we assume that X_1 and X_2 are two solutions of (25), and satisfy

$$R(X_1) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k), R(X_2) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k).$$

Using the facts

$$(A^k)^* A^{m+1} (X_1 - X_2) = 0 \text{ and } R(X_1 - X_2) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k),$$

we confirm that

$$R(X_1 - X_2) \subseteq N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1}\right) \cap R(A^\dagger A^k) = N(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A) \cap R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A) = \{0\}.$$

This implies $X_1 = X_2$. Hence, (25) has uniquely determined solution $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ B$ in $R(A^\dagger A^k)$. \square

Theorem 9.3. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Suppose $X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m}$ and $D \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m}$. If $R(D) \subseteq R(A^k)$, then the restricted matrix equation

$$AX = D, R(X) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k) \quad (26)$$

has the unique solution $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D$.

Proof. Since $R(D) \subseteq R(A^k) = R(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A)$, it follows that $AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D = D$, which implies $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D$ is a solution of $AX = D$. And it is obvious that

$$R(X) = R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D) \subseteq R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A) = R(A^\dagger A^k).$$

So $A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D$ is a solution of (26). To prove the uniqueness, we assume Y is another solution of (26). Then we have $R(Y) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k) = R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A)$. This implies

$$X = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ D = A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ AY = Y.$$

This completes the proof. \square

Theorem 9.4. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$ and $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. Let $B \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times r}$ and $C^* \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times r}$ be of null column rank such that $R(B) = N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right)$ and $N(C) = R(A^\dagger A^k)$. Then the bordered matrix

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is nonsingular and its inverse is given by

$$L^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ & (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A)C^\dagger \\ B^\dagger(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ) & B^\dagger(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ A - A)C^\dagger \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. From $R(A^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ) = R(A^\dagger A^k) = N(C)$, we have $CA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ = 0$. And since

$$R(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ) = N(AA^{\mathbb{W}_m} \circ) = N\left((A^k)^* A^{m+1} A^\dagger\right) = R(B) = R(BB^\dagger),$$

it follows that $BB^\dagger(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}) = I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}$.

Let

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} & (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A)C^\dagger \\ B^\dagger(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}) & B^\dagger(AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A - A)C^\dagger \end{pmatrix},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} LT &= \begin{pmatrix} AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} + BB^\dagger(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}) & A(I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A)C^\dagger + BB^\dagger(AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A - A)C^\dagger \\ CA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} & C(I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A)C^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} + I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} & A(I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A)C^\dagger - (I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ})AC^\dagger \\ 0 & CC^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ 0 & I_r \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $T = L^{-1}$. \square

Theorem 9.5. Let $A \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times n}$ with $\text{Ind}(A) = k$, $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $B \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times r}$ and $C^* \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times r}$ be as in Theorem 9.4. Let $X \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m}$ and $D \in \mathbb{C}_{n \times m}$ be as in Theorem 9.3. Then the unique solution of (26) is given by $X = [x_{ij}]$, where

$$x_{ij} = \frac{\det \begin{pmatrix} A(i \rightarrow d_j) & B \\ C(i \rightarrow 0) & 0 \end{pmatrix}}{\det \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix}}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, j = 1, 2, \dots, m, \quad (27)$$

d_j denotes the j -th column of D and $A(i \rightarrow d_j)$ and $C(i \rightarrow 0)$ mean to substitute the i -th column of A and C by d_j and 0 , respectively.

Proof. Since X is the solution of (26), we get that $R(X) \subseteq R(A^\dagger A^k) = N(C)$, which implies $CX = 0$. Then (26) can be written as

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} AX & 0 \\ CX & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

According to Theorem 9.4, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} X & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ} & (I_n - A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A)C^\dagger \\ B^\dagger(I_n - AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}) & B^\dagger(AA^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}A - A)C^\dagger \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} D & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $X = A^{\mathbb{W}_{m'}\circ}D$ and (27) follows from the classical Cramer rule. \square

10. Conclusions

In this paper, we present many basic properties for the m -MP weak core inverse. Representations including full-rank decomposition, limit and integral expressions of the m -MP weak core inverse are discussed. Applying the core-EP decomposition and the Hartwig-Spindelböck decomposition, we deduce two canonical forms of the m -MP weak core inverse. A variant of the successive matrix squaring iterative method, appropriate for generating the m -MP weak core inverse is developed. The relationship between the m -MP weak core inverse and certain bordered matrices is explored. And the continuity and applications of the m -MP weak core inverse are studied.

We are confident that more explorations of the m -MP weak core inverse will draw greater attention and interest, and we describe perspectives for further research.

1. Further properties, characterizations and representations of the m -MP weak core inverse.
2. We can further generalize the m -MP weak core inverse to the linear operator in Hilbert or in Banach space or to the tensor case.

Disclosure statement

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