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# Secondary orthogonal similarity of a real matrix and its secondary transpose

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#### Abstract

In this paper we present some extended results of Vermeer in the context of secondary orthogonal (respectively complex secondary unitary) Matrices.

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# **1** Introduction

Throughout this paper we use the following notation:

Notation 1.1. Let F be a field and  $\mathcal{M}_n(F)$  be the algebra of  $n \times n$  matrices. Let  $\mathcal{GL}_n(F)$  denote the set of invertible  $n \times n$  matrices. Let  $\mathcal{O}_n^s(F)$  and  $\mathcal{U}_n^s(F)$  denote the set of s-orthogonal and s-unitary matrices respectively.

Notation 1.2. The secondary transpose (conjugate secondary transpose) of A is defined by  $A^s = VA^T V$  ( $A^{\Theta} = VA^*V$ ), where "V" is the fixed disjoint permutation matrix with units in its secondary diagonal.

**Definition 1.3.** [4] Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(F)$ .

- i. The matrix A is called *s*-symmetric if  $A^s = A$ .
- ii. The matrix A is called *s-skew symmetric* if  $A^s = -A$ .
- iii. The matrix A is called *s*-normal if  $AA^{\Theta} = A^{\Theta}A$
- iv. The matrix A is called *s*-orthogonal if  $AA^s = A^sA = I$ .
- v. The matrix A is called *s*-unitary if  $AA^{\Theta} = A^{\Theta}A = I$ .

**Definition 1.4.** [4] Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(F)$  and  $B \in \mathcal{M}_n(F)$ . A is said to be *s*-orthogonally similar (respectively *s*-unitarily) to B if there exists a s-orthogonal matrix  $Q \in \mathcal{M}_n(F)$  such that  $A = Q^s BQ(A = Q^{\Theta} BQ)$ .

Theorem 1.5. [1] Every square complex matrix is similar to a s-symmetric matrix.

**Theorem 1.6.** [6] Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(F)$ . Then

- *i.* there exists an  $X \in \mathcal{GL}_n(F)$  such that  $XAX^{-1} = A^s$ .
- ii. there exists a s-symmetric  $X \in \mathcal{GL}_n(F)$  such that  $XAX^{-1} = A^s$ .
- iii. every  $X \in \mathcal{GL}_n(F)$  with  $XAX^{-1} = A^s$  is s-symmetric if and only if the minimal polynomial of A is equal to its characteristic polynomial.

### 2 Secondary Orthogonal similarity

**Lemma 2.1 ([5]).** A s-unitary matrix U is a product of a s-symmetric s-unitary matrix and s-orthogonal matrix O. That is,  $U = e^{iS}O$ . It is also true that  $U = O'e^{iS'}$ , where O' is s-orthogonal and S' is real s-symmetric.

**Theorem 2.2.**  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$ . The following assertions are equivalent.

- i. A is s-unitarily similar to a complex s-symmetric matrix.
- ii. There exists a s-symmetric s-unitary matrix U such that  $UAU^{\Theta}$  is s-symmetric.
- iii. There exists a s-symmetric s-unitary matrix U and a s-symmetric matrix S such that A = SU.
- iv. There exists a s-symmetric s-unitary matrix V such that  $VAV^{\Theta} = A^s$ .

**Proof.**  $(i) \Rightarrow (ii)$ : Suppose that  $V^{\Theta}AV = S$ , where  $V \in \mathcal{U}_n^s(F)$  and S is s-symmetric. By Lemma 2.1, V = UO with U is s-symmetric s-unitary matrix and  $O \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(F)$  We have  $A = VSV^{\Theta} = U(OSO^s)U^{\Theta}$  and hence  $U^{\Theta}AU = OSO^s$  is s-symmetric.

 $(ii) \Rightarrow (iii)$ : Suppose that  $U^{\Theta}AU = S$  with U is s-symmetric s-unitary and S is s-symmetric. Then  $A = USU^{\Theta} = (USU^s)(UU^s)^{\Theta}$  with  $USU^{\Theta}$  s-symmetric and  $(UU^s)^{\Theta}$  s-symmetric s-unitary.

 $(iii) \Rightarrow (iv)$ : Suppose that A = SU with S s-symmetric and U s-symmetric s-unitary. Then  $UAU^{\Theta} = US = U^s S^s = A^s$ .

 $(iv) \Rightarrow (i)$ : Suppose  $VAV^{\Theta} = A^s$  for some V s-symmetric s-unitary, then there exists  $U \in \mathcal{U}_n^s(F)$ such that  $V = U^s U$ . Now  $(U^s U)A(U^s U)^{\Theta} = A^s$  and hence  $UAU^{\Theta} = (U^s)^{\Theta}A^sU^s = (UAU^{\Theta})^s$ , which is s-symmetric.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{C})$  be non-singular. Then there are matrices R and E such that

- i. If A is s-unitary then R is s-orthogonal.
- ii. If A is s-unitary and s-symmetric then R is s-orthogonal and s-symmetric.

**Proof.** (i) If A is s-unitary then  $\overline{A}^{-1}A = A^sA$  is s-symmetric and hence E is also s-symmetric. The property  $E\overline{E} = I_n$  and the s-symmetry implies that E is s-unitary. Finally,  $R = AE^{-1}$  is s-unitary and real, so it is s-orthogonal.

(ii) If A is s-unitary and s-symmetric then  $\overline{A}A = I = A\overline{A}$  and so A = ER = RE. It follows that  $R = \overline{E}A = A\overline{E}$  and since E (and A) are s-symmetric we see that  $R^s = (\overline{E}A)^s = A^s\overline{E}^s = A\overline{E} = R$ , That is, R is s-symmetric.

**Corollary 2.4.** Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be given.

- i. A,B are real s-orthogonally similar if and only if A,B are s-unitarily similar.
- *ii.* A,B are similar via a real s-symmetric s-orthogonal matrix if and only if A, B are similar via a s-symmetric s-unitary matrix.

We assume that all matrices are real for the rest of the paper. We use the notation Q,  $\Psi$  for arbitrary matrices in  $\mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\Omega$  for s-symmetric s-orthogonal matrices, S for a s-symmetric matrix, T for a s-skew symmetric matrix, D for diagonal matrices and  $\Sigma$  for a real diagonal matrix with  $\Sigma^2 = I_n$ .

We say that A has type T + D if it is the sum of a s-skew symmetric and a diagonal matrix; and A is of type QD if A is the product of an s-orthogonal and a diagonal matrix.

We write  $A \simeq B$  (respectively  $A \simeq_S B$ ) if there exists an s-orthogonal (respectively s-symmetric and s-orthogonal) matrix Q with  $QAQ^s = B$ . The notation [A] denotes the equivalence class of A with respect to  $\simeq$ . The relation  $\simeq_S$  is not an equivalence relation.

Lemma 2.5. Let  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ .

*i.* If  $A \simeq A^s$  and  $A \simeq B$ , then  $B \simeq B^s$ 

- ii. If  $A \simeq_S A^s$  and  $A \simeq B$ , then  $B \simeq_S B^s$
- iii. If  $Q \in \mathcal{O}_n(\mathbb{R})$  and  $A = QA^sQ^s$ , then  $A = Q^sA^sQ$ .
- iv. If  $A \simeq B$ , then  $A + A^s \simeq B + B^s$  and  $AA^s \simeq BB^s$

**Proof.** (i) and (ii). If  $A = Q_1 B Q_1^s$  and  $A = Q_2 A^s Q_2(Q_1, Q_2 \text{ are s-orthogonal matrices) then <math>A^s = Q_1 B^s Q_1^s$  and so  $B = Q_1^s A Q_1 = Q_1^s Q_2 A^s Q_2 Q_1 = Q_1^s Q_2 Q_1 B^s Q_1^s Q_2 Q_1$ , and we conclude  $B \simeq B^s$ . If  $Q_2$  is s-symmetric then  $Q_1^s Q_2 Q_1$  and so  $B \simeq_S B^s$ . (iii).  $A = Q A^s Q^s = Q A^s Q^{-1} \Rightarrow Q^s A Q = A^s$ , so  $A = (A^s)^s = (Q^s A Q)^s = Q^s A^s Q$ . (iv). Obvious.

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ . The following assertions are equivalent.

i. A is s-unitarily similar to a complex s-symmetric matrix.

- ii.  $A \simeq_S A^s$ .
- iii.  $A = \Omega S$ , where  $\Omega \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  is s-symmetric and S is real s-symmetric.
- iv.  $A \simeq \Omega' D$ , where  $\Omega' \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  is s-symmetric and D is real diagonal.

**Proof.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) : According to Theorem 2.1 there exists a s-unitary secondary symmetric matrix V with  $VAV^{\Theta} = A^s$ . Corollary 2.4 now ensures that  $A \simeq_S A^s$ .

The equivalence of (i), (ii) and (iii) can be proved as in Theorem 2.2.

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv): If  $A = \Omega S$ , then write  $S = QDQ^s$  and we obtain  $A = \Omega QDQ^s \simeq Q^s \Omega QD = \Omega'D$ . (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) If  $A \simeq \Omega'D = B$  then  $B \simeq_S B^s$  and so by Lemma 2.5 we have  $A \simeq_S A^s$ .

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ . Then

- i.  $A \simeq B$ , where B has type T + D.
- ii.  $A \simeq B$ , where B has type QD.

**Proof.** (i). Consider the Toeplitz decomposition  $A = 1/2(A + A^s) + 1/2(A - A^s)$  and suppose  $Q(A + A^s)Q^{-1} = 2D$ . Then  $Q^sAQ = D + 1/2Q^s(A - A^s)Q$  is the sum of a diagonal matrix and a secondary skew-symmetric matrix.

(ii). Consider the singular value decomposition  $A = Q_1 D Q_2^s$ . Then  $A \simeq B = Q_2^s A Q_2 = (Q_2^s Q_1) D$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a matrix of type T + D, where  $D = \bigoplus_{i=1}^r d_i I_i$  with  $d_i \neq d_j$  for  $i \neq j$  and  $I_i$  the  $k_i \times k_i$  identity matrix. If  $Q \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  and  $QAQ^s = A^s$  then  $Q = \bigoplus_{i=1}^r Q_i$ , with  $Q_i \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Proof.** By Lemma 3.1(3),  $QAQ^s = A^s$  implies  $QA^sQ^s = A$  and so  $Q(A + A^s)Q^s = A + A^s$ , That is,  $Q(2D)Q^s = 2D$ . Hence Q commutes with the diagonal matrix 2D and this implies the result.

**Theorem 2.9.** Assume that  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  satisfies one of the following properties

- i. A has n different real eigenvalues
- ii.  $A + A^s$  has n different eigenvalues
- iii. A has n different singular values.

If there exists  $Q \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  with  $A = QA^sQ^s$ , then Q is s-symmetric and there exist at most  $2^n$  such matrices.

**Proof.** (i). The s-symmetry of Q is a direct corollary of Theorem 1.5. We have to check that there exist at most  $2^n$  such matrices Q. Let  $D \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  be a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the eigen values of A. Suppose  $P, R \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  are nonsingular and diagonalize A. That is,  $A = PDP^{-1} = RDR^{-1}$ .

Corresponding columns of P and R are non-zero vectors in the same one-dimensional eigen space of A so there is a diagonal matrix  $C \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  such that R = PC. We fix one special matrix  $P \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  with  $A = PDP^{-1}$ .

Now suppose  $Q, \Psi \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  are such that  $A = QA^sQ^s = \Psi A^s\Psi$ , so

$$A = Q(PDP^{-1})^{s}Q^{s} = (Q(P^{s})^{-1})D(Q(P^{s})^{-1})^{-1}$$
 and

$$A = \Psi(PDP^{-1})^{s}\Psi^{s} = (\Psi(P^{s})^{-1})D(\Psi(P^{s})^{-1})^{-1}$$

Note that  $Q(P^s)^{-1} = PC_1$  for some diagonal matrix  $C_1 \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ , so  $Q = PC_1P^s$  is s-symmetric. Note that  $Q(P^s)^{-1} = \Psi(P^s)^{-1}C_2$  for some diagonal matrix  $C_2 \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ , so  $P^s(\Psi^{-1}Q)(P^s)^{-1} = C_2$  and we have obtained a real diagonalization of the real s-orthogonal matrix  $\Psi^{-1}Q$  whose only possible real eigen values are  $\pm 1$ . Thus  $C_2 = diag(\pm 1, ..., \pm 1)$  which shows that there are at most  $2^n$  choices for  $\Psi$ , since  $\Psi = Q(P^s)^{-1}C_2^{-1}P^s$ .

(ii). If  $Q \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  and  $A = Q^s A^s Q$  then by Lemma 2.5(iii),  $A^s = QAQ^s$  and so  $Q(A + A^s)Q^s = A + A^s = (A + A^s)^s$ , the conclusion follows from part(i).

(iii). Fix  $Q \in \mathcal{O}_n^s(\mathbb{R})$  with the property  $A = QA^sQ^s$  and consider a singular value decomposition  $A = UDV^s$  of A. Then  $A = QA^sQ^s = (QV)D(QU)^s$ , so we have two singular value decomposition of A. Distinct singular values and the uniqueness theorem for the singular value decomposition([3], Theorem 3.1.1) ensure that QV = UP and QU = VP for some diagonal real s-orthogonal matrix P. Then  $Q = UPV^s = VPU^s = Q^s$  is s-symmetric and there are only  $2^n$  choices for P.

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