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## A NOTE ON THE CONVEXITY OF THE MOORE-PENROSE INVERSE

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#### Abstract

This note is a sequel to an earlier study (Nordström [7]) on convexity properties of the inverse and Moore-Penrose inverse, in which the following question was raised. Given nonnegative definite matrices $A$ and $B$ with Moore-Penrose inverses $A^{+}$and $B^{+}$, respectively, can one show that $$
(\lambda A+\bar{\lambda} B)^{+} \leqslant \lambda A^{+}+\bar{\lambda} B^{+}
$$ holding for a single $\lambda \in] 0,1[$ is enough to guarantee its validity for all $\lambda \in] 0,1[$ ? [The ordering above is the partial ordering, induced by the convex cone of nonnegative definite matrices, and $\bar{\lambda}:=1-\lambda$.] In this note an affirmative answer is provided to this question.


## 1. Introduction

Let $\mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$ denote the set of $n \times m$ matrices over the complex field $\mathbb{C}$, and let $\mathcal{H}^{n}, \mathscr{H}_{\geqslant}^{n}$, and $\mathcal{H}_{>}^{n}$ denote, respectively, the set of Hermitian, nonnegative definite, and positive definite matrices of order $n \times n$. Given $C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times m}$, let $C^{*}, C^{+}$, and $\mathcal{R}(C)$ stand for the conjugate transpose, Moore-Penrose inverse, and range, respectively, of $C$. For $H, K \in \mathcal{H}^{n}$, write $H \leqslant K$ (or $K \geqslant H)$ if $K-H \in \mathcal{H}_{\geqslant}^{n}$; this is the natural (Loewner) partial ordering of $\mathcal{H}^{n}$, induced by the closed convex cone $\mathcal{H}_{\geqslant}^{n}$.

It is well known that, on the set of positive definite matrices, the matrix inverse is a convex map, i.e., for every $A, B \in \mathcal{H}_{>}^{n}$ and for every $\lambda \in] 0,1[$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
(\lambda A+\bar{\lambda} B)^{-1} \leqslant \lambda A^{-1}+\bar{\lambda} B^{-1} \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $\bar{\lambda}:=1-\lambda$. (For the history of this matrix/operator inequality, see Nordström [7] and the references therein.)

One approach to showing inequalities of the type (1.1) is to first show it for the case $\lambda=1 / 2$, and to then use continuity to conclude that it

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