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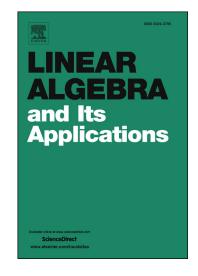
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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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

#### KENNETH NORDSTRÖM

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

$$(\lambda A + \overline{\lambda}B)^+ \leqslant \lambda A^+ + \overline{\lambda}B^+$$

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  $\overline{\lambda} := 1 - \lambda$ .] 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  $\mathcal{H}^n, \mathcal{H}^n_{\geq}$ , and  $\mathcal{H}^n_{\geq}$  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  $H \leq K$  (or  $K \geq H$ ) if  $K - H \in \mathcal{H}^n_{\geq}$ ; this is the natural (Loewner) partial ordering of  $\mathcal{H}^n$ , induced by the closed convex cone  $\mathcal{H}^n_{\geq}$ .

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

$$(\lambda A + \overline{\lambda}B)^{-1} \leqslant \lambda A^{-1} + \overline{\lambda}B^{-1}, \qquad (1.1)$$

with  $\overline{\lambda} := 1 - \lambda$ . (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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