

# **Solvability of Inverse Eigenvalue Problem for Dense Singular Symmetric Matrices**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Given a list of real numbers  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ , we determine the conditions under which  $\Lambda$  will form the spectrum of a dense  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix. Based on a solvability lemma, an algorithm to compute the elements of the matrix is derived for a given list  $\Lambda$  and dependency parameters. Explicit computations are performed for  $n \leq 5$  and  $r \leq 4$  to illustrate the result.

**Keywords:** Inverse Eigenvalue Problem; Dense; Nonnegative; Singular; Symmetric

## **1. Introduction**

and Borobia [4]. A list of real numbers  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ The inverse eigenvalue problem (IEP) involves the reconstruction of a matrix from prescribed spectral data. In order to limit the number of usually infinitely many solutions that are usually possible, if a solution does exists, it is usually required that the matrix constructed preserves a specific structure in addition to the spectral requirement. The nonnegative inverse eigenvalue problem (NIEP) is a special case of the IEP first posed by Kolmogorov in 1937. It involves the determination of the existence of entrywise nonnegative matrices when given a set of complex numbers that make up the spectrum of the yet to be determined matrix. The extensions and related conditions have been solved in several different ways. We give a brief review of results for the general inverse eigenvalue problem (IEP) and NIEP, as related to our work. A detailed treatment can be found in [1]. We begin with a realization criterion provided by Soto [2] for the NIEP. This result is based on conditions derived by Fiedler [3] is said to be realizable if it forms the spectrum of an entry wise nonnegative matrix.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$  be a set of real nu*mbers such that* 

$$
\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_p \geq 0 > \lambda_{p+1} \geq \cdots \geq \lambda_n.
$$

*If there exits a partition*  $\Lambda = \Lambda_1 \cup \Lambda_2 \cup \cdots \cup \Lambda_s$  *with* 

$$
\Lambda_k = \left\{ \lambda_{k_1}, \lambda_{k_2} \cdots \lambda_{k_{p_k}} \right\}, \quad k = 1, 2, \cdots, s, \quad \lambda_{l_1} = \lambda_l,
$$

$$
\lambda_{k_1} \ge 0, \quad \lambda_{k_1} \ge \lambda_{k_2} \ge \dots \ge \lambda_{k_{pk}},
$$
  

$$
S_{k_j} = \lambda_{k_j} + \lambda_{k_{pk}-j+1}, j = 2, 3, \dots, \left[\frac{k_{pk}}{2}\right],
$$

*and for*  $k_{p_k}$  *odd* 

$$
S_{\frac{k_{pk}+1}{2}} = \min\left\{\lambda_{\frac{k_{pk}+1}{2}}, 0\right\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, s,
$$
  

$$
T_k = \lambda_{k_1} + \lambda_{k_{pk}} + \sum_{S_{k_j} < 0} S_{k_j}, k = 1, 2, \dots, s,
$$

*and* 

$$
L = \max \left\{ -\lambda_{1_{p1}} - \sum_{S_{1_j} < 0} S_{1_j} ; \max_{2 \le k \le s} \left\{ \lambda_{k_1} \right\} \right\}
$$

*satisfying* 

$$
\lambda_1 \geq L - \sum_{T_k < 0, k=2}^s T_k,
$$

*then is realizable* (*by a nonnegative matrix with constant row sums*).

It has been proved that the above theorem is sufficient for the existence of an  $n \times n$  symmetric nonnegative matrix with real spectrum  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ , see [2].

Recently Wu studied the IEP and gave the solvability criterion for its solution given a spectrum of complex numbers in the following two theorems [5].

**Theorem 2.** *For a given list of complex numbers*,  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n\}$ , if it has closed property under com-

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*plex conjugation*, *that is contains an element and its complex conjugation*, *then there must be at least one real matrix A with spectrum*  $\Lambda$ .

*Proof.* By the closed property of  $\Lambda$  under complex conjugation, construct the polynomial:

$$
f(x) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} (x - \lambda_i).
$$
 (1)

By multiplying out, combining similar terms, and simplifying, the above equation can be written as:

$$
f(x) = x^{n} + a_{1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}x + a_{n}
$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers. It follows that  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers and the polynomial (1) has zeros  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Thus, using  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ , the matrix *A* can be constructed as:

$$
A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ -a_n & -a_{n-1} & -a_{n-2} & \cdots & -a_2 & -a_1 \end{bmatrix}.
$$

It is straightforward to show that *A* has spectrum  $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n\}$ .

 $\Lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n\}$ , the sufficient condition that there **Theorem 3.** *Given a list of real numbers*   $\Lambda$  *is that*  $\Lambda$  *has the following properties exists at least one nonnegative matrix A with spectrum* 

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \ge 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{i,j=1}^{n} \lambda_i \lambda_j \le 0,
$$
\n
$$
\sum_{i,j,k=1}^{n} \lambda_i \lambda_j \lambda_k \ge 0,
$$
\n...\n
$$
\prod_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i \begin{cases} \ge 0, & n \text{ is an odd number} \\ \le 0, & n \text{ is an even number.} \end{cases}
$$

Several other results have been obtained for the inverse eigenvalue problem for Hermitian matrices (see for example [6]). It is obvious from the above theorems and the references that the solution of the IEP or even the NIEP is not unique. In addition, most of the solutions provided in the literature yield only sparse matrices. In this paper, we provide conditions for the solvability of the IEP for singular symmetric matrices. We show that unique solutions exist for matrices of rank one and give the solutions for dense matrices of rank greater than one.

#### **2. Preliminaries**

In what follows, we denote the  $n \times n$  singular symmet-

ric matrix  $(a_{ij})$  such that  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}, i, j = 1, \dots, n$  by  $A_n$ . Wi thout loss of generality, singularity is achieved by note a singular symmetric matrix of rank *r* by  $A_{(n,r)}$ . In this case we write  $R_{i+1} = kR_i$  to denote that the *i*th multiplying the first row by prescribed scalars. We derow is *k* times the first row, where  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . Finally, we denote the spectrum of  $A_n$  by  $\Lambda_n = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n\}$ . If the rank of *A* is *r*, then we assume  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , but  $\lambda_i = 0$ ,  $i = r+1, \dots, n$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let A be a singular symmetric matrix of rank r. Then there exits an isomorphism between the elements of A and its distinct non-zero eigenvalues if and only if rank*  $(A)=1$ .

**Corollary:** The inverse eigenvalue problem has a unique solution for singular symmetric matrices of rank 1 and any prescribed row multiples.

We begin by considering  $A_{(2,1)}$ . By definition,  $A_{(2,1)}$ is of the form:

$$
A_{(2,1)} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & ka_{11} \\ ka_{11} & k^2 a_{11} \end{pmatrix} = a_{11} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k \\ k & k^2 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

Let  $\Lambda_2 = {\lambda_1, \lambda_2}$ . Since  $A_{(2,1)}$  is singular of rank 1, it follows that  $\lambda_2 = 0$ . We have:

$$
Tr(A_{(2,1)}) = \lambda = a_{11}(1 + k^2)
$$
. Therefore  $a_{11} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k^2}$ .

Hence:

$$
A_{(2,1)} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k \\ k & k^2 \end{pmatrix} .
$$
 (2)

Thus  $A_{(2,1)}$  has been reconstructed for given  $\lambda$  and prescribed scalar *k*.

We see from this formula that for any given  $\lambda$  and parameter *k*, we can generate any  $2 \times 2$  singular symmetric matrix of rank one. For example if  $k = 2$ ,  $\lambda = 5$ , we have

$$
\boldsymbol{A}_{(2,1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

## **3. IEP for Dense Singular Symmetric Matrices**

theorems, first for an  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix We generalize the method above in the following two of rank 1 and then of rank  $r$ , where  $1 \le r < n$ .

*ence relations*  $R_{i+1} = k_i R_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ , where the **Theorem 4.** *Given the spectrum and the row depend<sup>i</sup>* '*s are nonzero real numbers*, *the inverse eigenvalue k* problem for a  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix of rank 1 *is solvable.* 

*Proof.* Given the spectrum  $\Lambda_n = {\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n}$ , since rank  $A_n = 1$ , it follows from our notation above that  $\lambda_1 \neq 0$  and  $\lambda_i = 0$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ . Let  $k_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k_{n-1}$ be the row multiples. Letting

$$
A_{(n,1)} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{11}k_1 & a_{11}k_1k_2 & \cdots & a_{11}k_1k_2 \cdots k_{n-1} \\ a_{11}k_1 & a_{11}k_1^2 & a_{11}k_1^2k_2 & \cdots & a_{11}k_1^2k_2 \cdots k_{n-1} \\ a_{11}k_1k_2 & a_{11}k_1^2k_2 & a_{11}k_1^2k_2^2k_3 & \cdots & a_{11}k_1^2k_2^2k_3 \cdots k_{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{11}k_1k_2\cdots k_{i-1} & a_{11}k_1^2k_2\cdots k_{i-1} & a_{11}k_1^2k_2^2k_3\cdots k_{i-1} & \cdots & a_{11}k_1^2k_2^2k_3^2\cdots k_{n-1}^2 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

Then

$$
Tr(A_{(n,1)})
$$
  
=  $\lambda = a_{11} \left( 1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-1}^2 \right).$ 

Hence

$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-1}^2}.
$$

We note that for  $n = 2$ , Equation (2) shows that  $\lambda = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k^2}$ . Thus by writing the matrix  $A_{(n+1,1)}$ , the

 $\Box$ result follows by induction on *n* .

where  $A_n$  has rank  $r$ . We state the following theorem for the general case

**Theorem 5.** *The inverse eigenvalue problem for an n*  × *n singular symmetric matrix of rank r is solvable provided that n − r arbitrary parameters are prescribed.* 

*Proof.* Let  $A_{(n,r)} = \lfloor a_{ij} \rfloor$ , where  $n \ge 2$ . It is obvious that,

$$
a_{ij} = a_{11} \n\left\{\n\begin{pmatrix}\n\prod_{s=0}^{j-1} k_s, & i < j \\
\prod_{s=0}^{i-1} k_s\n\end{pmatrix}, \quad i = j\n\right\}
$$
\n
$$
\prod_{s=0}^{i-1} k_s, \quad i > j
$$

where

$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-r}^2}
$$

and

$$
a_{ij} = \lambda_2, \text{ where } i = j = n - r + 2
$$
  
\n
$$
\vdots = \vdots
$$
  
\n
$$
a_{nn} = \lambda_r
$$
 (3)

 $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_r \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $R_i = k_{i-1}R_{i-1}$  where  $k_i \in R$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n-r+1$  and  $R_i$  is the *i*th row of  $A$ .

$$
Tr(A) = 1 + \sum_{s=1}^{n} \left( \prod_{s=1}^{i-1} k_s \right)^2
$$
. We see that for  $r = 1$ :  

$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-1}^2}.
$$

$$
r = 2:
$$

$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_2^2 k_3^2 \dots k_{n-1}^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-1}^2}.
$$

$$
V_{11} = \frac{V_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-2}^2}
$$

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$$
r=4:
$$

 $r = 3$  :

$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-4}^2}.
$$

 $a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \dots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \dots k_{n-3}^2}.$  $k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + \cdots + k_1^2 k_2^2 \cdots k$  $\lambda$  $=\frac{\lambda_1}{1+k_1^2+k_1^2k_2^2+\cdots+k_1^2k_2^2\cdots k_{n-1}^2}$ 

The result follows for any rank  $1 < r < n$ .

## **4. Numerical Examples**

matrices of size  $3 \le n \le 5$  of rank  $1 \le r \le 4$ . We begin In this section, we illustrate the results above with small  $A_{(3,1)}$ , which is of the form: with the singular  $3 \times 3$  symmetric matrix of rank 1,

$$
A_{(3,1)} = a_{11} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k_1 & k_1 k_2 \\ k_1 & k_1^2 & k_1^2 k_2 \\ k_1 k_2 & k_1^2 k_2 & k_1^2 k_2^2 \end{pmatrix}, a_{11} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2}.
$$

For  $k_1 = -1$ ,  $k_2 = 2$ ,  $\lambda = 6$ , we have:

$$
A_{(3,1)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

Similarly, given  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$ , we obtain the following singular symmetric matrix:

$$
A_{(4,1)} = a_{11} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & k_1 & k_1k_2 & k_1k_2k_3 \ k_1 & k_2 & k_1^2k_2 & k_1^2k_2k_3 \ k_1k_2 & k_1^2k_2 & k_1^2k_2^2 & k_1^2k_2^2k_3 \ k_1k_2k_3 & k_1^2k_2k_3 & k_1^2k_2^2k_3 & k_1^2k_2^2k_3^2 \end{pmatrix}
$$

In this case, 
$$
a_{11} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2}
$$
. When  $\lambda = 2$ ,

 $k_1 = 3$ ,  $k_2 = 2$  and  $k_3 = 4$ , we obtain the following  $4 \times$ 4 singular symmetric matrix of rank one:



Obviously, the two examples given above can easily be verified for density, symmetry, rank, and that they satisfy the prescribed spectrum. Only the nonzero eigenvalue and the *k*'s have to be known for the solution of this type of IEP. As such, for given nonzero eigenvalue and *k*'s, the solution is unique.

The examples below clearly illustrate Theorem 5. For an  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix of rank  $r, n - r$  arbitrary values must be prescribed in addition to the nonzero spectrum for the IEP to be solvable. This clearly leads to infinitely many solutions. We illustrate this with the following examples beginning with the IEP for  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrices of rank 2.  $A_{(3,2)}$  is of the form:

$$
A_{(3,2)} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & ka_{11} & a_{13} \\ ka_{11} & k^2 a_{11} & ka_{13} \\ a_{13} & ka_{13} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix}
$$

Here, 
$$
Tr(A) = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = a_{11} (1 + k^2) + a_{33}
$$
 and  
\n
$$
\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = a_{11} (1 + k^2) a_{33}.
$$
 Hence  $a_{33} = \frac{\lambda_1 \lambda_2}{a_{11} (1 + k^2)}$ . Thus  
\n
$$
a_{11}^2 (1 + k^2)^2 - a_{11} (1 + k^2) (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) + \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 0.
$$

which yields  $a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k^2}$  and  $\lambda_2 = a_{33}$ . Therefore  $a_{13}$ becomes a free variable. When  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 3$ ,  $k = 4$ 

and  $a_{13} = 5$ , for example, we obtain the following singular symmetric matrix:

$$
A_{(3,2)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{17} & \frac{8}{17} & 5\\ \frac{8}{17} & \frac{32}{17} & 20\\ 5 & 20 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

In general, the solution of the IEP for  $A_{n,r}$  leads to the solution of an *r*th degree polynomial equation in  $a_{11}$ of the form:

$$
0 = a_{11}^r \left( 1 + k_1^2 + \dots + k_{n-r}^2 \right)
$$
  
 
$$
- \left( \sum_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \right) \left( 1 + k_1^2 + \dots + k_{n-r}^2 \right) a_{11}^{r-1}
$$
  
 
$$
+ \sum_{k=1}^r \left( \prod_{i=k}^{k+1} \lambda_i \right) \left( 1 + k_1^2 + \dots + k_{n-r}^2 \right) a_{11}^{r-2}
$$
  
 
$$
- \sum_{k=1}^r \left( \prod_{i=k}^{k+2} \lambda_i \right) \left( 1 + k_1^2 + \dots + k_{n-r}^2 \right) a_{11}^{r-3} + \dots - \left( \prod_{i=1}^r \lambda_i \right).
$$
  
(4)

To solve the case for  $n = 4$  and  $r = 2$ , we deduce from the general polynomial equation above that the following quadratic in  $a_{11}$  holds:

$$
a_{11}^2 \left(1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2\right)^2
$$
  
 
$$
- \left(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2\right) \left(1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2\right) a_{11} + \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 0.
$$

This yields:  $a_{11} = \frac{a_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2}$ *a*  $=\frac{\lambda_1}{1+k_1^2+k_1^2+k_2^2}$ ,  $a_{44} = \lambda_2$  and  $a_{14}$  be-

comes a free variable. For  $\lambda_1 = 6$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 5$ ,  $k_1 = 4$ ,  $k_2 = 3$  and  $a_{14} = 2$ , we obtain a singular symmetric matrix below:

$$
A_{(4,2)} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{6}{161} & \frac{24}{161} & \frac{72}{161} & 2\\ \frac{24}{161} & \frac{96}{161} & \frac{288}{161} & 8\\ \frac{72}{161} & \frac{288}{161} & \frac{864}{161} & 24\\ 2 & 8 & 24 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

Similarly, for  $A_{(5,2)}$ , we obtain the following quadratic in  $a_{11}$ :

$$
a_{11}^{2} \left( 1 + k_{1}^{2} + k_{1}^{2} k_{2}^{2} + k_{1}^{2} k_{2}^{2} k_{3}^{2} \right)^{2}
$$

$$
- \left( \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \right) \left( 1 + k_{1}^{2} + k_{1}^{2} k_{2}^{2} + k_{1}^{2} k_{2}^{2} k_{3}^{2} \right) a_{11} \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} = 0.
$$

The solution gives:  $a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k_1^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 + k_1^2 k_2^2 k_3^2}$  and

 $\lambda_2 = a_{55}$  where  $a_{15}$  is a free variable. When  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 5$ ,  $k_1 = 3$ ,  $k_2 = 5$ ,  $k_3 = 7$  and  $a_{15} = 4$ , we obtain a singular symmetric matrix below:



By the same method,  $A_{(4,3)}$  leads to the following cubic equation:

$$
a_{11}^{3} (1 + k^{2})^{3} - (\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3}) a_{11}^{2} (1 + k^{2})^{2}
$$
  
+ 
$$
a_{11} (1 + k^{2}) (\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{1} \lambda_{3} + \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3}) - \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3} = 0.
$$

ing roots.  $\lambda_1 = a_{11} (1 + k^2) \Rightarrow a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k^2}$ Solving the above cubic equation we obtain the follow $a_{11}(1+k^2) \Rightarrow a$ *k*  $\lambda_1 = a_{11} (1 + k^2) \Rightarrow a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k^2}, \ \lambda_2 = a_{33} \text{ and}$ 

 $\lambda_3 = a_{44}$ , where  $a_{13}$ ,  $a_{14}$  and  $a_{34}$  are free variables.

Finally, we want to consider  $5 \times 5$  singular symmetric matrix of rank 4. Using Equation (2), we obtain the following quartic equation in  $a_{11}$  where  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$ ,  $\lambda_3$  and  $\lambda_4$  are the nonzero members of the spectrum.

$$
a_{11}^{4} (1 + k^{2})^{4} - (\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{3} + \lambda_{4}) a_{11}^{3} (1 + k^{2})^{3}
$$
  
\n
$$
\cdot (\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} + \lambda_{1} \lambda_{3} + \lambda_{1} \lambda_{4} + \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{4} + \lambda_{3} \lambda_{4}) a_{11}^{2} (1 + k^{2})^{2}
$$
  
\n
$$
- (\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3} + \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{4} + \lambda_{1} \lambda_{3} \lambda_{4} + \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3} \lambda_{4}) a_{11} (1 + k^{2})
$$
  
\n
$$
+ \lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3} \lambda_{4} = 0.
$$

Factoring the above quartic equation, we obtain the  $=\frac{\lambda_1}{1+k^2}$ ,  $\lambda_2 = a_{33}$ ,  $\lambda_3 = a_{44}$  and

following results:  $a_{11} = \frac{\lambda_1}{1 + k^2}$  $\lambda_4 = a_{55}$ . The free variables are  $a_{13}$ ,  $a_{14}$ ,  $a_{15}$ ,  $a_{35}$ ,  $a_{34}$  and  $a_{45}$ .  $a_{34}$  and  $a_{45}$ .

As an example, if we let  $\lambda_2 = 4$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 7$ ,  $\lambda_4 = 11$ ,  $k = 2$ ,  $a_{13} = 8$ ,  $a_{14} = -4$ ,  $a_{15} = 5$ ,  $a_{35} = 14$ ,  $a_{34} = 6$ and  $a_{45} = 17$ 

$$
A_{(5,4)} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.3 & 2.7 & 8 & -4 & 5 \\ 2.6 & 5.4 & 16 & -8 & 10 \\ 8 & 16 & 4 & 6 & 14 \\ -4 & -8 & 6 & 7 & 17 \\ 5 & 10 & 14 & 17 & 12 \end{pmatrix}.
$$

modified for rank  $1 < r < n$ . We provide in the appendix, a program that generates any dense  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix of rank 1 for given row multipliers. The program could be easily

## **5. Summary and Discussion**

The IEP has a variety of applications which include control design, system identification, principal component analysis, geophysics and mechanical systems. Several interpretations and applications of the IEP have been considered. However, the direct IEP involving full matrices has received relatively less attention owing to the intractability of the problem for even small sized matrices. In this paper, we focused on the IEP for dense singular symmetric matrices. We showed that while unique

ces of rank *r*, where  $1 < r < n$ . With our method, an exsolutions exists for an  $n \times n$  matrices of rank 1, infinitely many solution exist for  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matritension to nonsingular matrices for small *n*, could become feasible via a numerical analytic interpretation of the IEP.

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# **Appendix**

The following program generates an  $n \times n$  singular symmetric matrix of *rank* 1

function ()

%UNTITLED2 Summary of function goes here

% Detailed explanation goes here

- lambda=input('Enter a positive number as trace of the generalized matrix')
- $k = input('1).$  Enter m positive numbers that characterize the generalided matrix')

 $m = length(k); h(1)=1; ss=[];$ 

for i=1:m

 $h(i+1)=h(i)*k(i);$ 

end

 $h;$ k $k=1$ ;

for  $i=m:-1:1$  $kk=kk*(k(i)^{2}+1;$ end kk; format short eng a=lambda/kk ss=a\*h;  $mm(1,:)=ss;$ for  $i=2:(m+1);$  $mm(i,:)=k(i-1)*mm((i-1),:);$ end mm %fprintf('The required singular matrix of rank 1 is:\n %d  $\ln'$ ,mm) tr=trace(mm)