

## On Generalized $m$ -Power Matrices and Transformations

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**Abstract:** In this paper, generalized  $m$ -power matrices and generalized  $m$ -power transformations are defined and studied. First, we give two equivalent characterizations of generalized  $m$ -power matrices, and extend the corresponding results about  $m$ -idempotent matrices and  $m$ -unit-ponent matrices. And then, we also generalize the relative results of generalized  $m$ -power matrices to the ones of generalized  $m$ -power transformations.

**Key Words:** Generalized  $m$ -power matrix, generalized  $m$ -power transformation, equivalent characterization.

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### §1. Introduction

The  $m$ -idempotent matrices and  $m$ -unit-ponent matrices are two typical matrices and have many interesting properties (for example, see [1]-[5]).

A matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is called an  $m$ -idempotent ( $m$ -unit-ponent) matrix if there exists positive integer  $m$  such that  $A^m = A$  ( $A^m = I$ ). Notice that

$$A^m = A \text{ if and only if } \prod_{i=1}^m (A + \varepsilon_i I) = O,$$

where  $\varepsilon_1 = 0, \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_3, \dots, \varepsilon_m$  are the  $m-1$  power unit roots,

$$A^m = I \text{ if and only if } \prod_{i=1}^m (A + \varepsilon_i I) = O,$$

where  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m$  are the  $m$ -power unit roots. Naturally, we will consider the class of matrices which satisfies that

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O,$$

where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$  are the pairwise different complex numbers.

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For convenience, we call a matrix  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  to be a generalized  $m$ -power matrix if it satisfies that  $\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O$ , where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$  are the pairwise different complex numbers.

In this paper, we firstly study the generalized  $m$ -power matrices, and give two equivalent characterizations of such matrices. Consequently, the corresponding results about  $m$ -idempotent matrices and  $m$ -unit-ponent matrices are generalized. And then, we also define the generalized  $m$ -power transformations, and generalize the relative results of generalized  $m$ -power matrices to those of generalized  $m$ -power transformations.

For terminologies and notations occurred but not mentioned in this paper, the readers are referred to the reference [6].

## §2. Generalized $m$ -Power Matrices

In this section, we are going to study some equivalent characterizations of generalized  $m$ -power matrices. First, we introduce some lemmas following.

**Lemma 2.1**([4]) *Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$  be the pairwise different complex numbers and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then*

$$r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I)\right) = \sum_{i=1}^m r(A + \lambda_i I) - (m-1)n.$$

**Lemma 2.2**([4]) *Let  $f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_m(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$  be pairwise co-prime and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then*

$$\sum_{i=1}^m r(f_i(A)) = (m-1)n + r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (f_i(A))\right).$$

**Lemma 2.3**([1]) *Assume that  $f(x), g(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ ,  $d(x) = (f(x), g(x))$  and  $m(A) = [f(x), g(x)]$ . Then for any  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,*

$$r(f(A)) + r(g(A)) = r(d(A)) + r(m(A)).$$

**Theorem 2.4** *Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be the pairwise different complex numbers and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then  $\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O$  if and only if  $\sum_{i=1}^m r(A + \lambda_i I) = (m-1)n$ .*

*Proof* Assume that  $\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O$ , by Lemma 2.1, we can immediately get  $\sum_{i=1}^m r(A + \lambda_i I) = (m-1)n$ .

Assume that  $\sum_{i=1}^m r(A + \lambda_i I) = (m-1)n$ . Take  $f_i(x) = x + \lambda_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ ), where  $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$  if  $i \neq j$ . Clearly, we have  $(f_i(x), f_j(x)) = 1$  if  $i \neq j$ . Now, by Lemma 2.2,

$$\sum_{i=1}^m r(f_i(A)) = (m-1)n + r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (f_i(A))\right).$$

Also, since  $\sum_{i=1}^m r(A + \lambda_i I) = (m-1)n$ , we can get  $r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (f_i(A))\right) = 0$ , this implies that

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O. \quad \square$$

By Theorem 2.4, we can obtain the following conclusions. Consequently, the corresponding result in [3] is generalized.

**Corollary 2.5** *Let  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_{m-1} \in \mathbb{C}$  be the  $m-1$  power unit roots and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then  $A^m = A$  if and only if  $r(A) + r(A - \varepsilon_1 I) + r(A - \varepsilon_2 I) + \dots + r(A - \varepsilon_{m-1} I) = (m-1)n$ .*

**Corollary 2.6** *Let  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be the  $m$  power unit roots and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then  $A^m = I$  if and only if  $r(A - \varepsilon_1 I) + r(A - \varepsilon_2 I) + \dots + r(A - \varepsilon_m I) = (m-1)n$ .*

Now, we give another equivalent characterizations of the generalized  $m$ -power matrices.

**Theorem 2.7** *Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be the pairwise different complex numbers and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then*

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O \text{ if and only if } \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}.$$

*Proof* Assume that  $\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O$ . Then  $r(\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I)) = 0$ . Notice that

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I)) = \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \sum_{j=i+1}^m r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I))$$

and by Lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, it is not hard to get that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=2}^m r((A + \lambda_1 I)(A + \lambda_j I)) &= (m-2) \cdot r(A + \lambda_1 I) + r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I)\right) \\ &= (m-2) \cdot r(A + \lambda_1 I), \\ \sum_{j=3}^m r((A + \lambda_2 I)(A + \lambda_j I)) + r(A + \lambda_1 I) &= n + (m-3) \cdot r(A + \lambda_2 I), \\ \sum_{j=4}^m r((A + \lambda_3 I)(A + \lambda_j I)) + r(A + \lambda_1 I) + r(A + \lambda_2 I) &= 2n + (m-4) \cdot r(A + \lambda_3 I), \\ &\dots\dots\dots, \\ \sum_{j=m-1}^m r((A + \lambda_{m-2} I)(A + \lambda_j I)) + \sum_{i=1}^{m-3} r(A + \lambda_i I) &= (m-3) \cdot n + r(A + \lambda_{m-2} I), \\ r((A + \lambda_{m-1} I)(A + \lambda_m I)) + \sum_{i=1}^{m-2} r(A + \lambda_i I) &= (m-2) \cdot n. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}.$$

From the discussions above, we have

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2} + (m-1) \cdot r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I)\right).$$

Hence, if

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \lambda_i I)(A + \lambda_j I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2},$$

then

$$r\left(\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I)\right) = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (A + \lambda_i I) = O. \quad \square$$

By Theorem 2.7, we can get corollaries following. Also, the corresponding result in [3] is generalized.

**Corollary 2.8** *Let  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_{m-1} \in \mathbb{C}$  be the  $m-1$  power unit roots and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then  $A^m = A$  if and only if  $r(A(A - \varepsilon_1 I)) + \dots + r(A(A - \varepsilon_{m-1} I)) + r((A - \varepsilon_1 I)(A - \varepsilon_2 I)) + \dots + r((A - \varepsilon_1 I)(A - \varepsilon_{m-1} I)) + \dots + r((A - \varepsilon_{m-2} I)(A - \varepsilon_{m-1} I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}$ .*

**Corollary 2.9** *Let  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_m \in \mathbb{C}$  be the  $m$  power unit roots and  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ . Then  $A^m = I$  if and only if*

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} r((A + \varepsilon_i I)(A + \varepsilon_j I)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}.$$

### §3. Generalized $m$ -Power Transformations

In this section, analogous with the discussions of the generalized  $m$ -power matrices, we will firstly introduce the concepts of generalized  $m$ -power linear transformations, and then study some of their properties.

Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . We call  $\sigma$  to be a generalized  $m$ -power transformation if it satisfies that

$$\prod_{i=1}^m (\sigma + \lambda_i \epsilon) = \theta$$

for pairwise different complex numbers  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$ , where  $\epsilon$  is the identical transformation and  $\theta$  is the null transformation. Especially,  $\sigma$  is called an  $m$ -idempotent ( $m$ -unit-ponent) transformation if it satisfies that  $\sigma^m = \sigma(\sigma^m = \epsilon)$ .

From [6], it is known that  $n$  dimensional vector space  $V$  over a field  $F$  is isomorphic to  $F^n$  and the linear transformation space  $L(V)$  is isomorphic to  $F^{n \times n}$ . Thus, we can obtain the following results about generalized  $m$ -power transformations whose proofs are similar with the corresponding ones in Section 2. And we omit them here.

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is a generalized  $m$ -power transformation if and only if*

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \dim \text{Im}(\sigma + \lambda_i \epsilon) = (m-1)n.$$

By Theorem 3.1, we obtain the following conclusions.

**Corollary 3.2** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is an  $m$ -idempotent transformation if and only if*

$$\dim \text{Im}(A) + \dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_1 I) + \dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_2 I) + \cdots + \dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_{m-1} I) = (m-1)n.$$

**Corollary 3.3** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is an  $m$ -unit-ponent transformation if and only if*

$$\dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_1 I) + \dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_2 I) + \cdots + \dim \text{Im}(A - \varepsilon_m I) = (m-1)n.$$

**Corollary 4.4** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is a generalized  $m$ -power transformation if and only if*

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} \dim \text{Im}((\sigma + \lambda_i \epsilon)(\sigma + \lambda_j \epsilon)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}.$$

**Corollary 3.5** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is an  $m$ -idempotent transformation if and only if*

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim \text{Im}(\sigma(\sigma - \varepsilon_1 \epsilon)) + \cdots + \dim \text{Im}(\sigma(\sigma - \varepsilon_{m-1} \epsilon)) \\ & + \dim \text{Im}(\sigma - \varepsilon_1 \epsilon)(\sigma - \varepsilon_2 \epsilon) + \cdots + \dim \text{Im}((\sigma - \varepsilon_1 \epsilon)(\sigma - \varepsilon_{m-1} \epsilon)) \\ & + \cdots + \dim \text{Im}((\sigma - \varepsilon_{m-2} \epsilon)(\sigma - \varepsilon_{m-1} \epsilon)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 3.6** *Let  $V$  be a  $n$  dimensional vector space over a field  $F$  and  $\sigma$  a linear transformation on  $V$ . Then  $\sigma$  is an  $m$ -unit-ponent transformation if and only if*

$$\sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} \dim \text{Im}((\sigma + \varepsilon_i \epsilon)(\sigma + \varepsilon_j \epsilon)) = \frac{(m-2)(m-1)n}{2}.$$

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