

## Bijjective Additive Singularity or Invertibility Preservers on Hermitian Matrices

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### ABSTRACT

Let  $M_n$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  complex matrices, and  $H_n$  be all Hermitian matrices in  $M_n$ . Suppose  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\phi$  is a bijective additive map on  $H_n$  which maps the set of singular or invertible matrices into itself. Then there exists an invertible matrix  $P \in M_n$  and a constant  $c \in \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $\phi(X) = cPX P^*$  or  $cPX^T P^*$ ,  $\forall X \in H_n$ .

**Keywords** - Additive preservers; Hermitian; Singularity; Invertibility

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $M_n$  be the set of all  $n \times n$  complex matrices, and  $H_n$  be all Hermitian matrices in  $M_n$ . Linear Preserver Problems is an active research area in matrix and operator theory. These problems involve linear maps on matrices and operators or other algebraic objects that keep some properties, sets or relations invariant. The earliest paper on such a problem dates back to 1897 when Frobenius [12] proved that a linear map  $L: M_n \rightarrow M_n$  satisfies  $\det(L(A)) = \det(A)$  for all  $A \in M_n$  if and only if there exist  $M, N \in M_n$  with  $\det(MN) = 1$  such that  $L$  has the form

$A \mapsto MAN$  or  $A \mapsto MA^T N$ , where  $A^T$  denotes the transpose of  $A$ . The above linear map is called determinant preserver. More general, researchers study linear map which only preserve singularity (i.e. maps singular matrices to singular matrices) and invertibility (i.e. maps invertible matrices to invertible matrices). Dieudonné[13] determined bijective linear singularity preservers on  $M_n$ , while Marcus and Moyls[14] described linear invertibility preservers on  $M_n$ . Chooi and Lim[15] described linear map which preserver both singularity and invertibility on  $T_n$  (the subset of

$M_n$  containing all up triangular matrices). Fošner and Šemrl [16] characterized almost surjective additive singularity and invertibility preservers on  $M_n$ . Recently, in quantum physics, quantum states of a system with  $n$  physical states are represented as  $n \times n$  density matrices in  $H_n$ , i.e., positive semi-definite with trace one. See [1-11] for linear preserver problem and linear preserver problems arising in quantum information science. However, the maps on Hermitian matrices preserving singularity or invertibility have not been investigated. The propose of this paper is to characteristic bijective additive singularity or invertibility preservers on  $H_n$ .

Throughout this paper, the symbol  $E_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ , will be used for a  $n \times n$  matrix with 1 in  $(i, j)$ -th position and 0 elsewhere. We denote by  $I_n$  and  $0$  the  $n \times n$  identity matrix, and zero matrix of appropriate size, respectively. We denote by  $X^*$  the conjugate transpose of a matrix  $X$ .

The main result can be stated as:

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\phi$  is a bijective additive map on  $H_n$  which maps the set of singular matrices into itself. Then there exist an

invertible matrix  $P \in M_n$  and a constant  $c \in \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $\phi(X) = cPXP^*$  or  $cPX^T P^*$ ,  $\forall X \in H_n$ .

**Remark 2.** The form of general singularity preserver on  $H_n$  may be complexity. For example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ \bar{b} & d \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} f(A) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $f$  is any additive map from  $H_2$  to real field.

**Theorem 3.** Suppose  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\phi$  is a bijective additive map on  $H_n$  which maps the set of invertible matrices into itself. Then there exist an invertible matrix  $P \in M_n$  and a constant  $c \in \{-1, 1\}$  such that  $\phi(X) = cPXP^*$  or  $cPX^T P^*$ ,  $\forall X \in H_n$ .

## II. PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Let us prove now two lemmas which would make the proof more concise.

**Lemma 4.** Let  $r < n$  be a positive integer.

Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  with  $A_1 \in H_r$

invertible and  $X = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ X_2^* & X_4 \end{bmatrix} \in H_n$  with

$X_1 \in H_r$ . If for all integer  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda A + X$  is singular matrix, Then  $X_4$  is singular.

**Proof.** We assume that  $X_4$  is invertible and we are going to find a contradiction.

Since  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda A_1 + X_1 & X_2 \\ X_2^* & X_4 \end{bmatrix}$  is singular, we have

$$0 = \det \begin{bmatrix} \lambda A_1 + X_1 & X_2 \\ X_2^* & X_4 \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} \lambda A_1 - X_2 X_4^{-1} X_2^* & 0 \\ 0 & X_4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus,  $\det(\lambda A_1 - X_2 X_4^{-1} X_2^*) = 0$  for all integer  $\lambda$ . On the other hand,  $\det(\lambda A_1 - X_2 X_4^{-1} X_2^*)$  is a polynomial of degree  $r$ , hence, there is no more than  $r$  different integer such that  $\det(\lambda A_1 - X_2 X_4^{-1} X_2^*) = 0$ , which is a contradiction.

**Lemma 5.** Let  $G \subset H_n$  is an additive group containing only singular matrices. Then the linear span of  $G$  is a proper subset of  $H_n$ .

**Proof.** Choose  $A \in G$  with the maximum rank, i.e., for any  $B \in G$ ,  $\text{rank} B \leq \text{rank} A$ . Denote  $\text{rank} A = r$ . Because  $A$  is singular,  $r < n$ .

$$\text{Set } A = P \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & a_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} P^*, \text{ where } P \text{ is}$$

an invertible matrix. For any  $B \in G$ , we can write

$$B = P \begin{bmatrix} B_1 & B_2^* \\ B_2^* & B_4 \end{bmatrix} P^*, \text{ where } B_1 \in H_r. \text{ We only}$$

need to prove  $B_4 = 0$ , then the lemma follows.

We assume there exists a  $B \in G$  such that  $b_{p,q}$ , the  $(p, q)$ -th element of  $B_4$ , is nonzero. For any integer  $\lambda$ , we consider  $(\lambda A + B)[1, \dots, r, p; 1, \dots, r, q]$ , the submatrix of  $\lambda A + B \in G$  obtained by rows  $1, \dots, r, p$  and column  $1, \dots, r, q$ . By  $\det(\lambda A + B)[1, \dots, r, p; 1, \dots, r, q] = a_1 \cdots a_r b_{pq} \lambda^r + g(\lambda)$  where,  $g$  is some polynomial of  $\lambda$  with degree less than  $r$  and  $a_1 \cdots a_r b_{pq} \neq 0$ , we obtain that there exists integer  $\lambda_0$  such that  $\det(\lambda A + B)[1, \dots, r, p; 1, \dots, q] \neq 0$ .

Hence  $\lambda_0 A + B$  has a rank bigger than  $A$ , which is a contradiction.

**Lemma 6.** Let  $m > n$  be a positive integer. Suppose that  $X_1, \dots, X_m \in H_n$  satisfying for any proper subset  $J \subset \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $\det(\sum_{j \in J} X_j) = 0$ . Then  $\det(\sum_{j=1}^m X_j) = 0$ .

**Proof.** The proof is similar to [16].

**Lemma 7.** [17] Let  $L$  is a bijective additive map on  $H_n$ . Then  $\text{rank} L(A) = 1$  whenever  $\text{rank}(A) = 1$  if and only if there exist an invertible matrix  $P \in M_n$  and a constant such that

$$L(X) = cPXP^* \text{ or } cPX^T P^*, \forall X \in H_n.$$

### III. THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1

Inspired by Lemma 7, we intend to prove  $\phi$  satisfying the assumption of Lemma 7.

If  $n=2$ ,  $\phi(X) \neq 0$  for any  $X \neq 0$  since  $\phi$  is a bijective map. Because  $\phi$  preserves singularity, then  $\text{rank}\phi(A) = 1$  whenever  $\text{rank}(A) = 1$ .

We next assume  $n \geq 3$ .

If there exist a rank-1 matrix  $A$  such that  $1 < r = \text{rank}\phi(A) < n$ , we want to find a contradiction.

Because  $\text{rank}A = 1$ , we may find invertible matrix  $Q$  such that

$$A = Q \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} Q^*$$

and

$$\phi(A) = T \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & b_r & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} T^*.$$

After composing  $\phi$  with the linear transformation  $A \mapsto T^{-1}QAQ^*T^{*-1}$ , we may assume that

$$\phi(aE_{11}) = b_1E_{11} + \cdots + b_rE_{rr}.$$

For any  $X \in H_n$  with  $\text{rank}X \leq n-2$ .

Because  $\text{rank}(X + \lambda aE_{11}) \leq \text{rank}X + 1 \leq n-1$ , for any integer  $\lambda > 0$ , we have  $\text{rank}\phi(X + \lambda aE_{11}) \leq n-1$ , that is, for all integer  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda A + X$

$$\phi(X) + \lambda \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & b_r & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

is singular matrix. By Lemma 4, we have

$$\phi(X) = \begin{bmatrix} X_1 & X_2 \\ X_2^* & X_4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } X_4 \in H_{n-r} \text{ is}$$

singular.

For any fixed matrix  $Y \in H_n$  with  $\text{rank}Y = n-1$ . We can write  $Y$  as  $Y = Y_1 + \cdots + Y_{n-1}$ , with  $\text{rank}Y_k = 1$ . Let  $\phi(Y_k)[r+1, \dots, n]$  be the principal  $(n-r)$ -square submatrix of  $\phi(Y_k) \in G$  obtained by deleting rows  $1, \dots, r$ , and columns  $1, \dots, r$ . We have  $\det \phi(Y_k)[r+1, \dots, n] = 0$ .

Because  $r > 1$ , we have  $n-r < n-1$ . Then, for any proper subset  $J \subset \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , it is obvious that  $\text{rank}(\sum_{j \in J} Y_j) \leq n-2$ . Apply Lemma 6 to

$\phi(Y_k)[r+1, \dots, n]$ , we have

$$\det \phi(Y)[r+1, \dots, n] = \det(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \phi(Y_k)[r+1, \dots, n]) = 0.$$

Again, for any fixed invertible matrix  $Z \in H_n$ , we can write  $Z$  as  $Z = Z_1 + \cdots + Z_n$ , with  $\text{rank}Z_k = 1$ . for any proper subset  $J \subset \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\text{rank}(\sum_{j \in J} Z_j) \leq n-1$ , apply

Lemma 6 to  $\phi(Z_k)[r+1, \dots, n]$ , we have

$$\det \phi(Z)[r+1, \dots, n] = \det(\sum_{k=1}^n \phi(Z_k)[r+1, \dots, n]) = 0.$$

Counting the above, we have  $\det \phi(A)[r+1, \dots, n] = 0$ , for all  $A \in H_n$ . Thus, we obtain by using Lemma 5 that  $\phi$  is not a bijective map. So we have  $\phi$  preserve rank-1. Using lemma 7 we complete the proof of Theorem.

### IV. PROOF OF THEOREM 3

**Lemma 8.** Let  $\phi$  is an additive map on real space  $V$ ,  $p/q$  a rational number and  $x \in V$ , then  $\phi(\frac{p}{q}x) = \frac{p}{q}\phi(x)$ .

**Proof.** Because  $\phi$  is additive, we have  $\phi(0) = 0$ , and  $\phi(-x) = -\phi(x)$ , moreover,  $\phi(px) = \phi(x + \cdots + x) = \phi(x) + \cdots + \phi(x) = p\phi(x)$  and

$$\phi(x) = \phi\left(q \frac{1}{q}x\right) = q\phi\left(\frac{1}{q}x\right)$$

then

$$\phi\left(\frac{1}{q}x\right) = \frac{1}{q}\phi(x). \text{ Hence } \phi\left(\frac{p}{q}x\right) = \frac{p}{q}\phi(x).$$

**Lemma 9.** Let  $\phi$  is bijective additive invertibility preverser on  $H_n$ , then there is a positive or

negative definite matrix  $A \in H_n$  such that  $\phi(A) = I_n$ . Moreover,  $\phi$  is both singular and invertibility preverser.

**Proof.** Since  $\phi$  is bijective there exists  $A \in H_n$  such that  $\phi(A) = I_n$ .

We prove that  $A$  is positive or negative semi-definite. Otherwise, if  $A$  is indefinite, then there exists an invertible  $T \in M_n$  such that

$$A = T \text{diag}(1, -1, \varepsilon_3, \dots, \varepsilon_n) T^* \quad , \quad \text{with} \\ \varepsilon_k \in \{-1, 0, 1\} . \text{ Let}$$

$$B_x = T \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & x \\ \bar{x} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \oplus 0 \right) T^* , x \in C$$

then  $A + \lambda B_x$  is invertible for any rational number  $\lambda$ , so is  $I + \lambda \phi(B_x)$ . Hence  $\phi(B_x) = 0, \forall x \in C$ , which is contradicting that  $\phi$  is bijective. Without of loss generality, we assume  $A$  is positive semi-definite.

We next prove  $A$  must be invertible. Otherwise, there exists an invertible  $T \in M_n$  such that  $A = T(I_r \oplus 0_t)T^*$  with  $t \geq 1$ . Let

$B = T(0_r \oplus I_t)T^*$ , then for any negative rational number  $\lambda$ , we have  $A + \lambda B$  is invertible, and  $\phi(A + \lambda B) = I + \lambda \phi(B)$ . Set  $|\lambda|$  small enough, then  $\phi(A + \lambda B)$  is positive definite.

Replacing  $\phi$  by  $X \mapsto [I + \lambda \phi(B)]^{-1/2} \phi(X) [I + \lambda \phi(B)]^{-1/2}$ , then  $\phi(A + \lambda B) = I$  and  $A + \lambda B$  is indefinite, which is a contradiction.

Define  $\psi : H_n \rightarrow H_n$ ,  $\psi(X) = \phi(A^{1/2} X A^{1/2})$ , then  $\psi$  is a bijective map on  $H_n$  preversing invertible, and  $\psi(I) = \phi(I) = I$ . For any  $\psi(X) \in H_n$  is singular, then  $X$  must be singular, i.e.  $\psi^{-1}$  maps the singular set of  $H_n$  into singular matrices set. By Theorem 1,  $\psi^{-1}$  maps the invertible matrices set of  $H_n$  into invertible matrices set, so is  $\psi$ .

**Proof of Theorem 3** By Lemma 9, we have  $\phi$

is satisfying Theorem 1, and we drive the result directly.

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