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## Decreasing Diagonal Elements in Completely Positive Matrices.

FRANCESCO BARIOLI (\*)

All matrices considered in this paper are real matrices<sup>(1)</sup>.

It is well known that a diagonally dominant symmetric matrix with nonnegative diagonal elements is positive semidefinite; actually, this fact is an immediate consequence of the Gerschgorin circles theorem.

An analogous result, not equally well known, holds for completely positive matrices, i.e. for those matrices  $A$  that can be factorized in the form  $A = VV^T$ , where  $V$  is a nonnegative matrix. In fact Kaykobad [4] proved that a nonnegative symmetric diagonally dominant matrix is completely positive.

Hence, if the diagonal elements of a symmetric matrix  $A$  have sufficiently large positive values, then  $A$  is positive semidefinite and, if  $A$  is nonnegative, it is completely positive.

In this paper we consider the question arising by assuming the opposite point of view. Let  $A$  be a positive semidefinite or a completely positive matrix; then we will consider the following question: how much a diagonal element of  $A$  can be decreased while preserving the semidefinite positivity or, respectively, the complete positivity of  $A$ ?

We will answer this question concerning positive semidefinite matrices in Section 2; the answer is simple and follows from an inductive test

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for semidefinite positivity (see [7], Cor. 1.3), which involves the Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse matrix of a maximal principal submatrix.

As to completely positive matrices the answer arises from the connection of the above question with the property PLSS (positivity of least square solutions) introduced in [7]. More precisely, we will consider in Section 3 *i-minimizable matrices* ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ , where  $n$  is the order of the considered matrix), which are those completely positive matrices such that the minimal value of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  diagonal element making the matrix positive semidefinite makes the matrix completely positive too. We will show that 1-minimizability is equivalent to property PLSS, that singular completely positive matrices are *i-minimizable* for some  $i$ , and that completely positive matrices with completely positive associated graph (see [5]) are *i-minimizable* for all  $i$ .

Recent results (see [1]) show that completely positive matrices with cyclic graph of odd length are not *i-minimizable* for any  $i$ . Conversely, it follows from results by Berman and Grone [2] that completely positive matrices with cyclic graph of even length are *i-minimizable* for all  $i$ . Thus the following problem arises: to find examples of completely positive matrices with more complicate behaviour with respect to minimizability.

In Section 4 we will investigate *excellent* completely positive matrices, already introduced in [1], and defined in terms of their graphs, which are «almost» completely positive. We will give a characterization of excellent 1-minimizable completely positive matrices, which enables us to produce several examples of excellent matrices with different behaviour with the respect to minimizability.

## 2. – Minimized positive semidefinite matrices.

We recall the following definitions. A symmetric matrix  $A$  of order  $n$  is *positive semidefinite* if  $\underline{x}^T A \underline{x} \geq 0$  for all vectors  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . The matrix  $A$  is *doubly nonnegative* if it is both semidefinite and (entrywise) nonnegative; it is *completely positive* if there exist a nonnegative (not necessarily square) matrix  $V$  such that  $A = VV^T$ .

It is well known that a completely positive matrix is doubly nonnegative and that the converse is not generally true for matrices of order larger than four.

We will denote by  $R(A)$  the column space (range) of the matrix  $A$ , by  $A^+$  its Moore-Penrose pseudo-inverse and by  $\text{rk}(A)$  its rank. For unexplained notation we refer to [6].

Let  $A$  be a symmetric semidefinite matrix of order  $n > 1$  in bordered form

$$(1) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{b}^T \\ \underline{b} & A_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In [7] the following result, which provides an inductive test for semidefinite positivity, was proved:

LEMMA 2.1. *The symmetric matrix  $A$  in (1) is positive semidefinite if and only if  $A_1$  is positive semidefinite,  $\underline{b} \in R(A_1)$  and  $a \geq \underline{b}^T A_1^{-1} \underline{b}$ .*

It follows from Lemma 2.1 that the minimal value of  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  such that the matrix

$$(2) \quad A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} t & \underline{b}^T \\ \underline{b} & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is positive semidefinite is  $\underline{b}^T A_1^{-1} \underline{b}$ ; we will denote it by  $a_\mu$ . The matrix

$$(3) \quad A_\mu = \begin{pmatrix} a_\mu & \underline{b}^T \\ \underline{b} & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is called the *1-minimized* of  $A$ . We say that  $A$  itself is *1-minimized* if  $A = A_\mu$ . If  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , the *i-minimized* of  $A$  is the matrix  $(P_i^T A P_i)_\mu$ , where  $P_i$  is the permutation matrix obtained from the identity matrix by transposing the first and the  $i^{\text{th}}$  row. The matrix  $A$  is said to be *i-minimized* if  $P_i^T A P_i = (P_i^T A P_i)_\mu$ .

A 1-minimized (or, more generally, an *i-minimized*) matrix is singular. This fact is trivial if  $A_1$  is singular, otherwise it follows from the equality  $\text{Det}(A) = \text{Det}(A_1)(a - \underline{b}^T A_1^{-1} \underline{b})$  applied to  $A = A_\mu$ .

The converse is not generally true, as the trivial example

$$(4) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

shows. However, we have the following result:

**THEOREM 2.2.** *A singular positive semidefinite matrix  $n$ -by- $n$  is  $i$ -minimized for some  $i \leq n$ .*

In order to prove the preceding theorem, we need two lemmas, whose straightforward proofs are given for sake of completeness.

**LEMMA 2.3.** *Let  $A$  be a positive semidefinite  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix. Then its rank coincides with the maximum order of a non-singular principal submatrix.*

**PROOF.** Let  $\text{rk}(A) = k$ . Since  $A$  is positive semidefinite, there exists a real  $n$ -by- $k$  matrix  $W$  such that  $A = WW^T$ . Since  $\text{rk}(W) = k$  too, we can find a non-singular  $k$ -by- $k$  submatrix of  $W$ . Let it  $W_1$ . Finally  $A' = W_1 W_1^T$  is a non-singular principal submatrix of  $A$  of order  $k$ . ■

The second result that we need is the following:

**LEMMA 2.4.** *Let  $A$  be a positive semidefinite matrix in bordered form (1), with  $\text{rk}(A_1) = k$ , and let  $M$  a non-singular principal submatrix of  $A_1$  of order  $k$ . Then  $a_\mu = \underline{c}^T M^{-1} \underline{c}$ , where  $\underline{c}$  is the vector obtained by taking the coordinates of  $\underline{b}$  corresponding to the rows of  $M$ .*

**PROOF.** The existence of  $M$  is ensured by Lemma 2.3. There is no loss of generality if we consider  $A$  in the form

$$(5) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{c}^T & \underline{d}^T \\ \underline{c} & M & D^T \\ \underline{d} & D & N \end{pmatrix}.$$

There exists a matrix  $W_1$  of rank  $k$  such that  $A_1 = W_1 W_1^T$  and clearly  $A_\mu = WW^T$  for  $W^T = (W_1^+ \underline{b} \ W_1^T)$ , because

$$a_\mu = \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} = \underline{b}^T (W_1 W_1^T)^+ \underline{b} = \underline{b}^T (W_1^T)^+ W_1^+ \underline{b} = (W_1^+ \underline{b})^T W_1^+ \underline{b}.$$

Thus  $\text{rk}(A_\mu) = k$  and the principal submatrix

$$(6) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a_\mu & \underline{c}^T \\ \underline{c} & M \end{pmatrix}$$

is singular and positive semidefinite, thus  $a_\mu = \underline{c}^T M^{-1} \underline{c}$ , by Lemma 2.1. ■

We are now able to give the

PROOF OF THEOREM 2.2 Let  $B$  the singular positive semidefinite matrix,  $k = \text{rk}(B)$ . There exists a permutation matrix of the form  $P_i$  for some  $i \leq n$ , such that  $A = P_i^T B P_i$ , written in bordered form (1), has  $\text{rk}(A_1) = k$ .

By Lemma 2.4, there exists a non-singular principal submatrix  $M$  of order  $k$  of  $A_1$ , so that  $A$  is cogredient to the matrix

$$(7) \quad A^* = \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{c}^T & \underline{d}^T \\ \underline{c} & M & D^T \\ \underline{d} & D & N \end{pmatrix}.$$

We will show that this matrix is 1-minimized, hence the matrix  $B$  will be  $i$ -minimized. The principal submatrix

$$(8) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{c}^T \\ \underline{c} & M \end{pmatrix}$$

is singular, hence  $a = \underline{c}^T M^{-1} \underline{c}$  and, by Lemma 2.4, this is the minimal value that makes  $A^*$  positive semidefinite. ■

From the preceding results we get the following

COROLLARY 2.5. *Let  $A$  be a singular positive semidefinite matrix in bordered form (1). Then  $A$  is 1-minimized if and only if  $\text{rk}(A) = \text{rk}(A_1)$ .*

PROOF. Assume  $A$  1-minimized. The proof of Lemma 2.4 shows that  $W$  has the same number of columns as  $W_1$ , hence  $\text{rk}(A) = \text{rk}(A_1)$ . Conversely, if  $\text{rk}(A) = \text{rk}(A_1)$ , in the proof of Theorem 2.2,  $M$  can be chosen as a submatrix of  $A_1$  without using the permutation matrix  $P_i$ , and one can conclude that  $A$  itself is 1-minimized. ■

### 3. – Minimizable completely positive matrices.

Let  $A$  be a completely positive matrix of order  $n$  in bordered form (1). An immediate consequence of the fact that the class of the completely positive matrices of order  $n$  is closed in the class of the symmetric matrices of the same order (see [3]) is that there exists a minimal value  $\alpha_e \in \mathbb{R}$

such that the matrix

$$(9) \quad A_e = \begin{pmatrix} a_e & \underline{b}^T \\ \underline{b} & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is completely positive; obviously  $a_e \geq a_\mu$ . The matrix  $A_e$  is called the 1-*extremized* of  $A$ .  $A$  itself is called an 1-*extreme* matrix if  $A = A_e$ . If  $i \leq n$ , the *i-extremized* of  $A$  is the 1-extremized of  $P_i^T A P_i$  and  $A$  itself is an *i-extreme* matrix if  $P_i^T A P_i$  is 1-extreme.

**DEFINITION.** We say that a completely positive matrix  $A$  in bordered form (1) is *i-minimizable* if the *i*-minimized matrix of  $A$  is also completely positive, i.e. if  $(P_i^T A P_i)_\mu = (P_i^T A P_i)_e$ .

**DEFINITION.** We say that a completely positive matrix  $A$  in bordered form (1) is *totally minimizable* if it is *i*-minimizable for all  $i \leq n$ ; equivalently, if all the matrices cogredient to  $A$  are 1-minimizable.

The apparently new notion of 1-minimizable completely positive matrix is equivalent to the notion of «property PLSS» already introduced in [7], and simply called «property (P)» in [6]. Recall that the symmetric non-negative matrix  $A$  in bordered form (1) satisfies property PLSS if there exists a nonnegative matrix  $V_1$  such that  $A_1 = V_1 V_1^T$  and  $V_1^+ \underline{b} \geq \underline{0}$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *A completely positive matrix  $A$  in bordered form (1) is 1-minimizable if and only if it satisfies the property PLSS.*

**PROOF.** Let  $A$  satisfy the property PLSS. Then  $A_\mu$  also satisfies this property; hence, by ([7], Theorem 2.1),  $A_\mu$  is completely positive.

Conversely, let  $A$  be 1-minimizable. By ([7], Proposition 1.2), there exists a nonnegative matrix  $V_1$  and a nonnegative vector  $\underline{v}$  such that:

$$A_1 = V_1 V_1^T \quad \underline{b} = V_1 \underline{v} \quad \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} = \underline{v}^T \underline{v}.$$

From the equalities

$$\begin{aligned} \|\underline{v}\|_2^2 &= \underline{v}^T \underline{v} = \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} = \underline{b}^T (V_1 V_1^T)^+ \underline{b} = \\ &= \underline{b}^T (V_1^T)^+ V_1^+ \underline{b} = \underline{b}^T (V_1^+)^T V_1^+ \underline{b} = \|V_1^+ \underline{b}\|_2^2 \end{aligned}$$

and from the uniqueness of the least square solution of the linear system

$V_1 \underline{x} = \underline{b}$ , there follows that  $\underline{v} = V_1^+ \underline{b}$ . Thus  $V_1^+ \underline{b} \geq \underline{0}$  and property PLSS holds. ■

The class of totally minimizable matrices is quite large, as the following result shows. Recall that a graph  $\Gamma$  is called *completely positive* if every doubly nonnegative matrix  $A$  whose associated graph  $\Gamma(A)$  equals  $\Gamma$  is completely positive. Kogan and Berman [5] proved that a graph is completely positive if and only if it does not contain a cycle of odd length larger than three.

**PROPOSITION 3.2.** *The class of totally minimizable matrices contains all the completely positive matrices with completely positive graphs.*

**PROOF.** Let  $A$  be a completely positive matrix such that its graph  $\Gamma(A)$  is completely positive. Let  $B$  the  $i$ -minimized matrix of  $A$  for some  $i \leq n$ . Obviously  $\Gamma(B)$  is completely positive, thus  $B$ , which is obviously doubly nonnegative, is completely positive. ■

The connection between singularity and minimizability is illustrated in the following

**PROPOSITION 3.3.** *Let  $A$  be a singular completely positive matrix in bordered form (1). Then  $A$  is  $i$ -minimizable for some  $i \leq n$  and is 1-minimizable if  $\text{rk}(A) = \text{rk}(A_1)$ .*

**PROOF.** By Theorem 2.2,  $A$  is  $i$ -minimized for a certain  $i$ ; let  $A^* = P_i^T A P_i$ .  $A^*$  is completely positive and 1-minimized, so it is obviously 1-minimizable, hence  $A$  is  $i$ -minimizable. Furthermore, if  $\text{rk}(A) = \text{rk}(A_1)$ , by Corollary 2.5 it follows that  $A$  is 1-minimizable. ■

We conclude this section with a result providing the construction of a completely positive singular matrix (hence  $i$ -minimizable for some  $i \leq n$ ) which fails to be 1-minimizable; this matrix is obtained by bordering in a suitable way a non-singular not 1-minimizable completely positive matrix. Such a matrix does exist (see Example 4.6).



PROPOSITION 3.4. *Let  $C$  be a non-singular completely positive matrix of order  $n > 1$  in bordered form*

$$(10) \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{c}^T \\ \underline{c} & C_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

*which is not 1-minimizable. Then there exists a completely positive matrix  $A$  obtained by suitably bordering the matrix  $C$*

$$(11) \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} a & \underline{c}^T & d \\ \underline{c} & C_1 & \underline{d} \\ d & \underline{d}^T & e \end{pmatrix}$$

*which is not 1-minimizable, but is  $i$ -minimizable for some  $1 < i \leq n$ .*

PROOF. There exists a matrix  $V \geq 0$  such that  $C = VV^T$ . Let  $V^T = (\underline{v}_1 \ V_1^T)$ . Then  $\text{rk}(V) = \text{rk}(C) = n$  and  $\text{rk}(V_1) = \text{rk}(C_1) = n - 1$ . Let  $W^T = (\underline{v}_1 \ V_1^T \ \underline{v})$ , where  $\underline{v}$  is a nonnegative vector of the column space  $R(V_1^T)$ . Obviously  $\text{rk}(W^T) = n$ . Let now  $A = WW^T$ . Then  $A$  is completely positive of order  $n + 1$  and rank  $n$ , and has the form (11) for  $d = \underline{v}_1^T \underline{v}$ ,  $\underline{d} = V_1 \underline{v}$  and  $e = \underline{v}^T \underline{v}$ . By Proposition 3.3,  $A$  is  $i$ -minimizable for some  $i$ . Assume, by way of contradiction, that  $A$  is 1-minimizable; then the 1-minimized matrix  $A_\mu$  of  $A$  is completely positive, hence the its submatrix

$$(12) \quad \begin{pmatrix} a_\mu & \underline{c}^T \\ \underline{c} & C_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is completely positive too. By Lemma 2.4,  $a_\mu = \underline{c}^T C_1^{-1} \underline{c}$ , hence we reach the contradiction, since  $C$  is not 1-minimizable. ■

#### 4. – Minimizability of excellent completely positive matrices.

A cycle of even length is a bipartite graph, hence it is a completely positive graph; therefore, in view of Proposition 3.2, a cyclic completely positive matrix of even order is totally minimizable.

Cyclic doubly nonnegative matrices of odd order which are not completely positive can be easily produced (see [3]). In [1] it is proved that a doubly nonnegative cyclic matrix  $A$  of odd order is completely positive if

and only if  $\text{Det}(A) \geq 4h_1 h_2 \dots h_n$ , where the  $h_i$ 's are the non-zero elements over the main diagonal. It follows that such a matrix cannot be singular and consequently, given any  $i \leq n$ , it is not  $i$ -minimizable.

In this section we study a family of completely positive matrices, containing the cyclic ones, which provides more interesting examples with respect to minimizability.

In [1] doubly nonnegative matrices  $A = (a_{ij})$  in bordered form (1) have been considered satisfying the following properties:

- 1)  $a_{2, n} = a_{n, 2} = 0$ ;
- 2)  $\underline{b} = (\beta_2 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ \beta_n)^T$  with  $\beta_2 \neq 0 \neq \beta_n$ ;
- 3) The graph  $\Gamma(A_1)$  associated to  $A_1$  is completely positive.

The graph  $\Gamma(A)$  associated to the matrix  $A$  is obtained from the graph  $\Gamma(A_1)$  by adding one more vertex, connected with only two vertices of  $\Gamma(A_1)$ , which are not connected each other. We will say that such a graph is an *excellent graph*, and that a doubly nonnegative matrix  $A$  satisfying the preceding properties is an *excellent matrix*.

In the preceding notation, let us denote by  $A^-$  the matrix obtained from  $A$  by substituting  $\beta_n$  by  $-\beta_n$ , or, equivalently, substituting the vector  $\underline{b}$  by the vector  $\underline{b}_1 - \underline{b}_2$ , where  $\underline{b}_1 = (\beta_2 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0)^T$  and  $\underline{b}_2 = (0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ \beta_n)^T$ . In [1], part of the following result was proved.

**THEOREM 4.1.** *Let  $A$  be an excellent doubly nonnegative  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix with  $n > 2$  in bordered form (1), with  $\underline{b} = (\beta_2 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ \beta_n)^T$ . The following facts are equivalent:*

- 1)  $A$  is completely positive;
- 2)  $A^-$  is positive semidefinite;
- 3) The vector  $(1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 0)^T$  of  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$  belongs to the column space  $R(A_1)$  of  $A_1$  and  $a \geq a_\mu - 4\beta_2\beta_n a$ , where  $a$  is the element in the first row and last column of  $A_1^+$ .

**PROOF.** For 1)  $\Leftrightarrow$  2) see [1]. For 2)  $\Leftrightarrow$  3), observe that, by Lemma 2.1,  $A^-$  is positive semidefinite if and only if  $\underline{b}_1 - \underline{b}_2 \in R(A_1)$  and  $a \geq (\underline{b}_1^T - \underline{b}_2^T) A_1^+ (\underline{b}_1 - \underline{b}_2)$ . But since  $\underline{b} = \underline{b}_1 + \underline{b}_2 \in R(A_1)$ ,  $\underline{b}_1 - \underline{b}_2 \in R(A_1)$  if and only if  $\underline{b}_1 \in R(A_1)$  (or equivalently  $\underline{b}_2 \in R(A_1)$ ), if and only if

$\underline{b} = (1 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ 0)^T \in R(A_1)$ . Moreover, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} (\underline{b}_1^T - \underline{b}_2^T) A_1^+ (\underline{b}_1 - \underline{b}_2) &= \underline{b}_1^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_1 + \underline{b}_2^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_2 - 2 \underline{b}_2^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_1 = \\ &= \underline{b}_1^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_1 + \underline{b}_2^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_2 + 2 \underline{b}_2^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_1 - 4 \underline{b}_2^T A_1^+ \underline{b}_1 = a_\mu - 4\beta_2\beta_n\alpha. \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

We must remark that it is not possible to eliminate in Theorem 4.1 the hypothesis that  $A$  is doubly nonnegative, since there are symmetric nonnegative matrices  $A$  with  $A_1$  positive semidefinite and  $\underline{b} \in R(A_1)$ , which fail to be positive semidefinite, and such that  $A^-$  is positive semidefinite. This happens (by using the preceding notation and with  $A$  in bordered form (2.1)) when  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} > \alpha > \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} - 4\beta_2\beta_n\alpha$ . On the other hand, in the hypothesis of Theorem 4.1, if  $\alpha \geq 0$ , the condition  $a \geq a_\mu - 4\beta_2\beta_n\alpha$  is automatically verified, since  $a \geq a_\mu$ . An immediate consequence of this remark is the following

**COROLLARY 4.2.** *Let  $A$  be an excellent completely positive matrix of order  $n > 1$  in bordered form (1), with  $\underline{b} = (\beta_2 \ 0 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ \beta_n)^T$ , and let  $a$  be the element in the first row and last column of  $A_1^+$ . Then*

- 1)  $a_e = \max(a_\mu, a_\mu - 4\beta_2\beta_n\alpha)$ ;
- 2)  $A$  is 1-minimizable if and only if  $\alpha \geq 0$ .

**PROOF.** 1) is an immediate consequence of Theorem 4.1.

2) If  $A$  is 1-minimizable, then  $a_e = a_\mu$ , hence  $\alpha \geq 0$  by point 1). Conversely  $\alpha \geq 0$  and point 1) imply  $a_e = a_\mu$ .  $\blacksquare$

We give now some examples of excellent matrices with different behaviour with respect to 1-minimizability.

**EXAMPLE 4.3.** Consider the following symmetric matrix with excellent associated graph

$$(13) \quad A(a) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 11 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The principal submatrix  $A_1$  (obtained from the last four rows and columns) is singular and completely positive, and the vector  $\underline{b} = (1\ 0\ 0\ 1)^T \in R(A_1)$ , hence  $A(a)$  is doubly nonnegative for  $a \geq \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b}$ . However, the matrix  $A(a)$  is not completely positive for any value of  $a$ , since, according to Theorem 4 the vector  $(1\ 0\ 0\ 0)^T$  does not belong to  $R(A_1)$ .

EXAMPLE 4.4. Consider the following symmetric matrix with excellent associated graph

$$(14) \quad A(a) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case the principal submatrix  $A_1$  is non-singular and completely positive, so the vectors  $\underline{b} = (1\ 0\ 0\ 1)^T$  and  $\underline{b}_1 = (1\ 0\ 0\ 0)^T$  belong to  $R(A_1)$ , hence  $A(a)$  is doubly nonnegative for  $a \geq \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} = 7$ . Moreover, the element  $a$  in the first row and last column of  $A_1^+$  equals 1, hence  $A(a)$  is completely positive and 1-minimizable for all  $a \geq 7$ . If  $7 > a \geq 3 = 7 - 4\beta_2\beta_n\alpha$ ,  $A$  is not doubly nonnegative and  $A^-$  is positive semidefinite.

EXAMPLE 4.5. Consider the following symmetric matrix with excellent associated graph

$$(15) \quad A(a) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case  $A_1$  is non-singular and completely positive, so  $\underline{b} =$

$= (1\ 0\ 0\ 1)^T$  and  $\underline{b}_1 = (1\ 0\ 0\ 0)^T$  belong to  $R(A_1)$ , hence  $A(a)$  is doubly non-negative for  $a \geq \underline{b}^T A_1^+ \underline{b} = 3$ . Moreover  $\alpha = -1$ , hence  $A(a)$  is completely positive if and only if  $a \geq a_\mu - 4\alpha = 7$  and one can conclude that  $A$  is not 1-minimizable.

EXAMPLE 4.6. Consider the following completely positive cyclic matrix of order 5

$$(16) \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which is not  $i$ -minimizable for any  $i$ . A factorization of  $C = VV^T$  is obtained for

$$(17) \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using Proposition 3.4, one can see that, setting  $W^T = (V^T \underline{b})$  where  $\underline{b} = (0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1)^T$ , the following completely positive matrix

$$(18) \quad A = WW^T = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is singular, hence  $i$ -minimizable for some  $i$ , but it is not 1-minimizable.

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