

# Uniqueness of solution of systems of generalized Sylvester and $\star$ -Sylvester equations

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ILAS2025, Kaohsiung  
June 2025

# Joint work with...



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## Outline

## Introduction

## Reduction to periodic systems

## A characterization using formal products

## The matrix pencil approach

## Main ideas

## Conclusions

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# Generalized Sylvester equations

$$AXB - CXD = E \quad (\text{generalized Sylvester})$$

$$AXB - CX^{\star}D = E \quad (\text{generalized } \star\text{-Sylvester}) \quad \star = T, *$$

Particular cases:

$$AX - XD = E \quad (\text{Sylvester})$$

$$AX - X^{\star}D = E \quad (\star\text{-Sylvester})$$

☞ We are interested in:

Systems of all previous equations (coupled):

$$A_i X_j B_i - C_i X_k^{\blacktriangle} D_i = E_i, \quad i, j, k \quad \blacktriangle = 1, \star$$

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When does

$$A_i X_j B_i - C_i X_k^{\blacktriangle} D_i = E_i, \quad i, j, k \quad \blacktriangle = 1, \star$$

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**G2**



Provide an  $O(n^3)$  algorithm to compute the (unique) solution.

# The vec approach

$\text{vec}(AXB - CX^{\blacktriangle}D) = \text{vec}(E)$  leads to

- ▶  $\boxed{\blacktriangle = 1}$ :  $[B^{\top} \otimes A - (C \otimes D^{\top})] \text{vec}(X) = \text{vec}(E)$
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☞  $AXB - CX^\blacktriangle D = E$  can be written as a **linear system**  $MY = b$ :

$$Y = \begin{cases} \text{vec}(X), & \text{if } \blacktriangle = \top, 1 \\ [\text{vec}(\text{Re } X); \text{vec}(\text{Im } X)], & \text{if } \blacktriangle = * \end{cases}$$



# The vec approach (ctd.)

$$AXB - CX^{\blacktriangle}D = E \Leftrightarrow MY = b$$

$$M \in \begin{cases} \mathbb{F}^{n^2 \times n^2}, & \text{if } \blacktriangle = 1, \top, \\ \mathbb{R}^{(2n^2) \times (2n^2)}, & \text{if } \blacktriangle = *$$

☹ Too large!

☹ Not easy to handle with

☹ Combined with:

☹ The appropriate permutation of rows/columns

☹ The resulting sparse representation of  $A, B, C, D$

☹ It will be **useful!!**

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☞ We only need to look at the **homogeneous** equation!

## Related work

- ▶ Systems of generalized Sylvester equations:
  - ▶ Uniqueness (periodic systems): [Byers-Rhee'95]
  - ▶ Consistency, uniqueness (structured coefficients/solutions/equations, matrices over other sets, ...): [Wang-Sun-Li'02], [Lee-Vu'12], [He-etal'16], ...
- ▶ Systems of coupled generalized Sylvester and  $\star$ -Sylvester equations:
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  - ▶ Uniqueness: ???

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**Most general setting !!!**

# Motivation: the case $r = 1$

## Theorem [Chu'87]

$AXB - CXD = 0$  has only the trivial solution iff  $A - \lambda C$  and  $D - \lambda B$  are regular and have disjoint spectra.

## Theorem [DT-Iannazo'16]

$AXB - CX^*D = 0$  has only the trivial solution iff

$$\mathcal{Q}(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda D^* & B^* \\ -A & \lambda C \end{bmatrix}$$

is regular and

$\boxed{\star = *}$ :  $\lambda_i \bar{\lambda}_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i, \lambda_j$  e-vals of  $\mathcal{Q}$ ).

$\boxed{\star = \top}$ :  $\lambda_i \lambda_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i, \lambda_j \neq \pm 1$  e-vals of  $\mathcal{Q}$ ) and  $\lambda = \pm 1$  have multiplicity  $\leq 1$ .

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# Most general setting

$$A_i X_j B_i - C_i X_k^{\blacktriangle} D_i = E_i, \quad i, j, k$$

- ▶  $r$  (matrix) equations and  $s$  (matrix) unknowns.
- ▶ The unknowns  $X_j, X_k$  can be **equal** or **different**.
- ▶  $\blacktriangle = 1, \star$
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# Irreducible systems

$\mathbb{S}$ : a system of (matrix) equations. Then

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- ▶  $\mathbb{S}$  has a unique solution iff  $\mathbb{S}_i$  has a unique solution, for all  $i = 1, \dots, \ell$ .
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☞ We can focus on **irreducible systems**.

# All unknowns appear exactly twice

If some  $X_j$  appears just **once** in  $\mathbb{S}$  (with unique solution), say in  $A_j X_j B_j + C_j X_k^\Delta D_j = 0$ , then

- ▶  $A_j, B_j$  are **invertible**.
- ▶  $\mathbb{S}$  is equivalent to: 
$$\begin{cases} X_j = -A_j^{-1} C_j X_k^\Delta D_j B_j^{-1} \\ \mathbb{S}_{r-1} \end{cases}$$
- ▶  $\mathbb{S}_{r-1}$  irreducible with  $r-1$  equations in the  $r-1$  unknowns  $X_1, \dots, X_{j-1}, X_{j+1}, \dots, X_r$

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☞ In the new system, **all unknowns appear exactly twice**.



# Reduction to a periodic system with at most one $\star$

Given the **irreducible** system

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with each unknown appearing exactly **twice**.

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☞ There is an equivalent system (**periodic**)

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{A}_i X_i \widehat{B}_i + \widehat{C}_i X_{i+1} \widehat{D}_i &= \widehat{E}_i, & i = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ \widehat{A}_r X_r \widehat{B}_r + \widehat{C}_r X_1^{\blacktriangle} \widehat{D}_r &= \widehat{E}_r.\end{aligned}$$

(Applying  $\star$ , and changing variables  $X_i \mapsto X_i^{\star}$ , if necessary)

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# The periodic Schur decomposition

## Theorem [Bojanzyck-Golub-VanDooren'92]

Given  $M_k, N_k \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, r$ . There are  $Q_k, Z_k$  **unitary**, for  $k = 1, \dots, r$ , such that

$$Q_k^* M_k Z_k = T_k, \quad Q_k^* N_k Z_{k+1} = R_k, \quad \text{(Periodic Schur decomposition)}$$

where  $T_k, R_k$  are upper triangular and  $Z_{r+1} = Z_1$ .

# Eigenvalues of formal products

Given the formal product

$$\Pi = N_r^{-1} M_r N_{r-1}^{-1} M_{r-1} \cdots N_1^{-1} M_1$$

through the periodic Schur decomposition of  $M_i, N_i$ ,

$$Q_k^* M_k Z_k = T_k, \quad Q_k^* N_k Z_{k+1} = R_k,$$

we define its **eigenvalues**

$$\lambda_i = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^r (T_k)_{ii}}{\prod_{k=1}^r (R_k)_{ii}}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

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$$(Z_1^{-1} \Pi Z_1 = R_r^{-1} T_r R_{r-1}^{-1} T_{r-1} \cdots R_1^{-1} T_1)$$

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$$\lambda_j = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^r (T_k)_{jj}}{\prod_{k=1}^r (R_k)_{jj}}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

**Definition:**  $\Pi$  is **singular** if:  $\prod_{k=1}^r (T_k)_{jj} = \prod_{k=1}^r (R_k)_{jj} = 0$ , for some  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  (and **regular** otherwise).



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$$Q_k^* M_k Z_k = T_k, \quad Q_k^* N_k Z_{k+1} = R_k,$$

we define its **eigenvalues**

$$\lambda_i = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^r (T_k)_{ii}}{\prod_{k=1}^r (R_k)_{ii}}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

**Definition:**  $\Pi$  is **singular** if:  $\prod_{k=1}^r (T_k)_{ii} = \prod_{k=1}^r (R_k)_{ii} = 0$ , for some  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  (and **regular** otherwise).

► Considered by several authors: [Bojanzyck-Golub-VanDooren'92],  
[Benner-Mehrmann-Xu'02], [Granat-Kågström'06a–b],  
[Granat-Kågström-Kressner'07a–b], ...

# Main result (first formulation). The case $\blacktriangle = 1$

## Theorem

The system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1 D_r = 0 \end{cases}$$

has only the trivial solution iff

$$C_r^{-1} A_r C_{r-1}^{-1} A_{r-1} \cdots C_1^{-1} A_1 \quad \text{and} \quad D_r B_r^{-1} D_{r-1}^{-1} B_{r-1}^{-1} \cdots D_1 B_1^{-1}$$

are **regular** and have **no common e-vals**.

# Main result (first formulation). The case $\blacktriangle = \star$

## Theorem

The system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^{\star} D_r = 0 \end{cases}$$

has only the trivial solution iff

$$\Pi = D_r^{-\star} B_r^{\star} D_{r-1}^{-\star} B_{r-1}^{\star} \cdots D_1^{-\star} B_1^{\star} C_r^{-1} A_r C_{r-1}^{-1} A_{r-1} \cdots C_1^{-1} A_1$$

is **regular** and

$\boxed{\star = \ast}$ :  $\lambda_i \bar{\lambda}_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i, \lambda_j$  e-vals of  $\Pi$ ).

$\boxed{\star = \top}$ :  $\lambda_i \lambda_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i, \lambda_j \neq -1$  e-vals of  $\Pi$ ), and  $\lambda = -1$  has **multiplicity**  $\leq 1$ .

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# Outline

Introduction

Reduction to periodic systems

A characterization using formal products

The matrix pencil approach

Main ideas

Conclusions

# The case $\blacktriangle = \star$

## Theorem

The system  $\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^* D_r = 0. \end{cases}$  has only the trivial solution iff the matrix pencil

$$\mathcal{Q}(\lambda) := \begin{bmatrix} \lambda A_1 & C_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda A_r & C_r & \\ & & & \lambda B_1^* & D_1^* \\ & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & \ddots & D_{r-1}^* \\ -D_r^* & & & & & & \lambda B_r^* \end{bmatrix}$$

is **regular** and

$\boxed{\star = *}$ :  $\lambda_i \bar{\lambda}_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i, \lambda_j$  e-vals of  $\mathcal{Q}$ ).

$\boxed{\star = \top}$ :  $\lambda_i \lambda_j \neq 1$  ( $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$  e-vals of  $\mathcal{Q}$ ) and  $\lambda^{2r} \neq -1$  for any  $\lambda$  e-val of  $\mathcal{Q}$ .

# The case $\blacktriangle = 1$

## Theorem [Chu'87]

The equation  $AXB - CXD = 0$  has only the trivial solution iff the pencils  $A - \lambda C$  and  $D - \lambda B$  are regular and have no common e-vals.

## Theorem [Byers-Rhee'95]

For  $r > 1$ , the system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1 D_r = 0 \end{cases}$$

has only the trivial solution iff the matrix pencils

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda A_1 & C_1 & & \\ & \lambda A_2 & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & C_{r-1} \\ C_r & & & \lambda A_r \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \lambda D_1 & B_2 & & \\ & \lambda D_2 & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & B_r \\ B_1 & & & \lambda D_r \end{bmatrix}$$

are regular and have no common e-vals.

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# Two basic ideas ( $\blacktriangle = 1, \top$ )

☞ Main procedure:

1. Get an equivalent system with  $A_i, C_i$  upper triangular and  $B_i, D_i$  lower triangular (using the periodic Schur).
2. Rearrange the equations / unknowns of the big linear system to get a **block-diagonal** matrix.

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## Two basic ideas ( $\blacktriangle = 1, \top$ )

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2. Rearrange the equations / unknowns of the big linear system to get a **block-diagonal** matrix.

**Choose an appropriate ordering!!**

# An equivalent system with triangular coeffs. ( $\blacktriangle = 1$ )

$$Q_k^* A_k Z_k = \hat{A}_k, \quad Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} = \hat{C}_k,$$

$\hat{A}_k, \hat{C}_k$  upper triangular  $\rightsquigarrow$  **periodic Schur form** of  
 $C_r^{-1} A_r C_{r-1}^{-1} A_{r-1} \cdots C_1^{-1} A_1$

$$\hat{Q}_k^* B_k^* \hat{Z}_k = \hat{B}_k^*, \quad \hat{Q}_k^* D_k^* \hat{Z}_{k+1} = \hat{D}_k^*,$$

$\hat{B}_k^*, \hat{D}_k^*$  upper triangular  $\rightsquigarrow$  **periodic Schur form** of  
 $D_r^{-*} B_r^* D_{r-1}^{-*} B_{r-1}^* \cdots D_1^{-*} B_1^*$

Then

$$A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = E_k \quad (k = 1, \dots, r)$$

is equivalent to

$$\hat{A}_k \hat{X}_k \hat{B}_k - \hat{C}_k \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{D}_k = Q_k^* A_k Z_k \hat{X}_k \hat{Z}_k^* B_k \hat{Q}_k - Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{Z}_{k+1}^* D_k \hat{Q}_k$$

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is equivalent to ( $Z_k \hat{X}_k \hat{Z}_k^* = X_k$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A}_k \hat{X}_k \hat{B}_k - \hat{C}_k \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{D}_k &= Q_k^* A_k Z_k \hat{X}_k \hat{Z}_k^* B_k \hat{Q}_k - Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{Z}_{k+1}^* D_k \hat{Q}_k \\ &= Q_k^* (A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k) \hat{Q}_k \\ &= Q_k^* E_k \hat{Q}_k = \hat{E}_k. \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} Q_k^* A_k Z_k &= \hat{A}_k, & Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} &= \hat{C}_k, & Z_{2r+1} &= Z_1, \\ Q_{r+k}^* B_k^\top Z_{r+k} &= \hat{B}_k^\top, & Q_{r+k}^* D_k^\top Z_{r+k+1} &= \hat{D}_k^\top, & k &= 1, 2, \dots, r, \end{aligned}$$

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Then

$$\begin{aligned} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k &= E_k \quad (k = 1, \dots, r-1) \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^\top D_r &= E_r \end{aligned}$$

is equivalent to

$$\hat{A}_k \hat{X}_k \hat{B}_k - \hat{C}_k \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{D}_k = Q_k^* A_k Z_k \hat{X}_k Z_{r+k}^\top B_k \bar{Q}_{r+k} - Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} \hat{X}_{k+1} Z_{r+k+1}^\top D_k \bar{Q}_{r+k}$$

$$\hat{A}_r \hat{X}_r \hat{B}_r - \hat{C}_r \hat{X}_1^\top \hat{D}_r = Q_r^* A_r Z_r \hat{X}_r Z_{2r}^\top B_r \bar{Q}_{2r} - Q_r^* C_r Z_{r+1} \hat{X}_1^\top Z_1^\top D_r \bar{Q}_{2r}$$

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is equivalent to ( $Z_k \hat{X}_k Z_{r+k}^\top = X_k$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A}_k \hat{X}_k \hat{B}_k - \hat{C}_k \hat{X}_{k+1} \hat{D}_k &= Q_k^* A_k Z_k \hat{X}_k Z_{r+k}^\top B_k \bar{Q}_{r+k} - Q_k^* C_k Z_{k+1} \hat{X}_{k+1} Z_{r+k+1}^\top D_k \bar{Q}_{r+k} \\ &= Q_k^* (A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k) \bar{Q}_{r+k} \\ &= Q_k^* E_k \bar{Q}_{r+k} = \hat{E}_k, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A}_r \hat{X}_r \hat{B}_r - \hat{C}_r \hat{X}_1^\top \hat{D}_r &= Q_r^* A_r Z_r \hat{X}_r Z_{2r}^\top B_r \bar{Q}_{2r} - Q_r^* C_r Z_{r+1} \hat{X}_1^\top Z_1^\top D_r \bar{Q}_{2r} \\ &= Q_r^* (A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^\top D_r) \bar{Q}_{2r} \\ &= Q_r^* E_r \bar{Q}_{2r} = \hat{E}_r. \end{aligned}$$

# Choosing an appropriate ordering

$(i, j, k)$ :

$$\begin{cases} (i, j) \text{ entry of } X_k & \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{U} \text{ (unknowns)} \\ \mathbf{e}_i^\top (\mathbf{A}_k \mathbf{X}_k \mathbf{B}_k - \mathbf{C}_k \mathbf{X}_{k+1} \mathbf{D}_k) \mathbf{e}_j = (\mathbf{E}_k)_{ij} & \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{E} \text{ (equations)} \end{cases}$$

If  $\leq$  is an order on both  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{E}$  satisfying:

$$(i, j, k) \leq (i', j', k') \text{ whenever } i \leq i' \text{ and } j \leq j',$$

then:

$M$  is block-diagonal with  $r \times r$  and  $(2r) \times (2r)$  diagonal blocks.

- ▶  $r \times r$  blocks: Correspond to  $(X_{ij})_1, \dots, (X_{ij})_r$ .
- ▶  $(2r) \times (2r)$  blocks: Correspond to  $(X_{ij})_1, \dots, (X_{ij})_r, i \neq j$ .



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- ▶  $(2r) \times (2r)$  blocks: Correspond to  $(X_{ij})_1, \dots, (X_{ij})_r, i \neq j$ .

# Diagonal blocks: $\blacktriangle = 1$

With such ordering, the diagonal blocks are:

$$M_{ii} := \begin{bmatrix} (A_1)_{ii}(B_1)_{ii} & -(C_1)_{ii}(D_1)_{ii} & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & (A_{r-1})_{ii}(B_{r-1})_{ii} & -(C_{r-1})_{ii}(D_{r-1})_{ii} \\ -(C_r)_{ii}(D_r)_{ii} & & & (A_r)_{ii}(B_r)_{ii} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$M_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} (A_1)_{ii}(B_1)_{jj} & -(C_1)_{ii}(D_1)_{jj} & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & (A_{r-1})_{ii}(B_{r-1})_{jj} & -(C_{r-1})_{ii}(D_{r-1})_{jj} \\ -(C_r)_{ii}(D_r)_{jj} & & & (A_r)_{ii}(B_r)_{jj} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\det M_{ii} = \prod_{k=1}^r (A_k)_{ii}(B_k)_{ii} - \prod_{k=1}^r (C_k)_{ii}(D_k)_{ii}$$

and

$$M_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} (A_1)_{ii}(B_1)_{jj} & -(C_1)_{ii}(D_1)_{jj} & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & (A_{r-1})_{ii}(B_{r-1})_{jj} & -(C_{r-1})_{ii}(D_{r-1})_{jj} \\ -(C_r)_{ii}(D_r)_{jj} & & & (A_r)_{ii}(B_r)_{jj} \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Diagonal blocks: $\blacktriangle = \top$

With these orderings, the diagonal blocks are:

$$M_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{B}_{ij} & -(C_r)_{ii}(D_r)_{jj} \mathbf{e}_r \mathbf{e}_1^\top \\ -(C_1)_{jj}(D_1)_{ii} \mathbf{e}_r \mathbf{e}_1^\top & \mathcal{B}_{ji} \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\mathcal{B}_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} (A_1)_{ii}(B_1)_{jj} & -(C_1)_{ii}(D_1)_{jj} & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & -(C_{r-1})_{ii}(D_{r-1})_{jj} \\ & & & & (A_r)_{ii}(B_r)_{jj} \end{bmatrix}.$$

( $M_{ij}$  as for  $\blacktriangle = 1$ )

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With these orderings, the diagonal blocks are:

$$M_{ij} := \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{B}_{ij} & -(C_r)_{ii}(D_r)_{jj} \mathbf{e}_r \mathbf{e}_1^\top \\ -(C_1)_{jj}(D_1)_{ii} \mathbf{e}_r \mathbf{e}_1^\top & \mathcal{B}_{ji} \end{bmatrix},$$

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$$\mathcal{B}_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} (A_1)_{ii}(B_1)_{jj} & -(C_1)_{ii}(D_1)_{jj} & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & -(C_{r-1})_{ii}(D_{r-1})_{jj} \\ & & & & (A_r)_{ii}(B_r)_{jj} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\det M_{ij} = \prod_{k=1}^r (A_k)_{ii}(B_k)_{ii}(A_k)_{jj}(B_k)_{jj} - \prod_{k=1}^r (C_k)_{ii}(D_k)_{ii}(C_k)_{jj}(D_k)_{jj}$$

( $M_{ii}$  as for  $\blacktriangle = 1$ )

# The pencil approach: idea of the proof

1.  $\det \mathcal{Q}(\lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^n (\lambda^{2r} \prod_{k=1}^r (A_k)_{ii} (B_k^*)_{ii} + \prod_{k=1}^r (C_k)_{ii} (D_k^*)_{ii})$

2.  $\Lambda(\mathcal{Q}) = \sqrt[2r]{\mathcal{J}}$ , where

$$\mathcal{J} := \left\{ - \prod_{k=1}^r \frac{(C_k)_{ii} (D_k^*)_{ii}}{(A_k)_{ii} (B_k^*)_{ii}}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n \right\}.$$

# The case $\blacktriangle = *$

## Lemma

The system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^* D_r = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

has a unique solution if and only if the system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_{r+1} D_r = 0, \\ B_k^* X_{r+k} A_k^* - D_k^* X_{r+k+1} C_k^* = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ B_r^* X_{2r} A_r^* - D_r^* X_1 C_r^* = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

has a unique solution.



# The case $\blacktriangle = *$

## Lemma

The system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^* D_r = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

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has a unique solution.

**Proof**  $(X_1, \dots, X_r) \neq 0$  solution of (1)  $\Rightarrow (X_1, \dots, X_r, X_1^*, \dots, X_r^*) \neq 0$  solution of (2).

$(X_1, \dots, X_r, X_{r+1}, \dots, X_{2r})$  nonzero solution of (2)  $\Rightarrow (X_1 + X_{r+1}^*, \dots, X_r + X_{2r}^*)$  solution of (1). If  $(X_1 + X_{r+1}^*, \dots, X_r + X_{2r}^*) = 0$ , then  $X_{r+i} = -X_i^*$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , and  $i(X_1, \dots, X_r)$  is a nonzero solution of (1).  $\square$

# The case $\blacktriangle = *$

## Lemma

The system

$$\begin{cases} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k = 0, & k = 1, \dots, r-1, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^* D_r = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

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has a unique solution.

Not true for  $\top$  instead of  $*$  !!!

**Counterexample:**  $x_1 + x_1^\top = 2x_1 = 0$  vs  $\begin{cases} z_1 + z_2 = 0 \\ z_1 + z_2 = 0 \end{cases}$

# The case $\blacktriangle = *$ (ctd.)

The results for  $\blacktriangle = *$  follow from the ones for  $\blacktriangle = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} A_k X_k B_k - C_k X_{k+1} D_k &= 0, \\ A_r X_r B_r - C_r X_1^* D_r &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

unique  
sol.

$\Leftrightarrow$

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- ▶ Compute the periodic Schur decomposition  $\rightsquigarrow O(rn^3)$
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Reduction to periodic systems

A characterization using formal products

The matrix pencil approach

Main ideas

Conclusions

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Numer. Linear Algebra Appl. 26 (2019) e2261 (29 pages)