# ON THE GROUP INVERSE FOR THE SUM OF MATRICES 

CHANGJIANG BU ${ }^{\boxtimes}$, XIUQING ZHOU, LIANG MA and JIANG ZHOU

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#### Abstract

Let $\mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$ denote the set of all $m \times n$ matrices over a skew field $\mathbb{K}$. In this paper, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of the group inverse of $P+Q$ and its representation under the condition $P Q=0$, where $P, Q \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$. In addition, in view of the natural characters of block matrices, we give the existence and representation for the group inverse of $P+Q$ and $P+Q+R$ under some conditions, where $P, Q, R \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$.


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## 1. Introduction

Let $\mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$ and $\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$ denote the set of all $m \times n$ matrices over a skew field $\mathbb{K}$ and complex field $\mathbb{C}$, respectively. For $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$, the smallest nonnegative integer $k$ such that $\operatorname{rank}\left(A^{k+1}\right)=\operatorname{rank}\left(A^{k}\right)$ is called the index of $A$ and denoted by $\operatorname{ind}(A)$. Let $A \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ with $\operatorname{ind}(A)=k$. The matrix $X \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ satisfies $X A X=X, A X=X A ; A^{k+1} X=A^{k}$ is called the Drazin inverse of $A$ and denoted by $A^{D}$. The Drazin inverse of a square matrix always exists and is unique (see [3,18]). If $\operatorname{ind}(A)=1$, then $A^{D}$ is called the group inverse of $A$ and denoted by $A^{\sharp}$. If $A^{\sharp}$ exists, $A$ is called group invertible. In this paper, we let $A^{\pi}=I-A A^{\sharp}$ if $A$ is group invertible.

In [14], Hartwig et al. gave a representation for the Drazin inverse of $P+Q$ under the condition $P Q=0$, and there are some results on the representation for the Drazin inverse of $P+Q$, for example [4, 12, 13, 16]. In [1], Benítez et al. studied the invertibility of $c_{1} P+c_{2} Q$ when $P, Q \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ are two $k$-potent matrices and $P Q=0$, where $c_{1}, c_{2} \in \mathbb{C}$. The representation of the group inverse of $c_{1} P+c_{2} Q$ was also obtained in [1] when $P, Q \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ are two $k$-potent matrices and $P Q=0$. Benítez et al. also [2] gave a representation of the group inverse of $P+Q$ when $P Q=0$

[^0]and $P, Q \in \mathcal{A}$ are group invertible, where $\mathcal{A}$ is an algebra. In this paper, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of the group inverse of $P+Q$ and its representation under the condition $P Q=0$, where $P, Q \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$.

In 1979, Campbell and Meyer proposed an open problem to find an explicit representation of the Drazin inverse for a $2 \times 2$ block matrix $M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}{ }_{C}^{A} & B \\ D\end{array}\right)$, where $A$ and $D$ are square (see [8]). Hitherto, this problem has not been solved completely. However, there are some results on the group inverse for the block matrix $\left(\begin{array}{c}A \\ C \\ B\end{array}\right)$ under certain conditions (see $[6,7,10,11,15,17]$ ). Notice that $M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}A & B \\ C & D\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{cc}A & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right)+\left(\begin{array}{cc}0 & B \\ C & D\end{array}\right):=P+Q$, then $P Q P=0$, and that $M=\left(\begin{array}{ll}A & B \\ C & D\end{array}\right)=\left(\begin{array}{ll}A & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right)+\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & B \\ 0 & D\end{array}\right)+\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ C & 0\end{array}\right):=P+Q+R$, then $P R=0$ and $Q P=0$.

In this paper, we give the existence and representation for the group inverse of $P+Q$ under $P Q P=0$ and other conditions, where $P, Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. We also give the existence and representation for the group inverse of $P+Q+R$ under $P R=0, Q P=0$ and other conditions, where $P, Q, R \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$.

## 2. Lemmas

In order to obtain our main results, we give the following two lemmas which play an important role throughout this paper.
Lemma 2.1 [5]. Let $M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}A & B \\ C & D\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$, where $A \in \mathbb{K}^{r \times r}$ is invertible, and the group inverse of $S=D-C A^{-1} B$ exists. Then $M^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $G=A^{2}+B S^{\pi} C$ is invertible. If $M^{\sharp}$ exists, then

$$
M^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
X & Y \\
Z & W
\end{array}\right),
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
X & =A G^{-1}\left(A+B S^{\sharp} C\right) G^{-1} A, \\
Y & =A G^{-1}\left(A+B S^{\sharp} C\right) G^{-1} B S^{\pi}-A G^{-1} B S^{\sharp}, \\
Z & =S^{\pi} C G^{-1}\left(A+B S^{\sharp} C\right) G^{-1} A-S^{\sharp} C G^{-1} A, \\
W & =S^{\pi} C G^{-1}\left(A+B S^{\sharp} C\right) G^{-1} B S^{\pi}-S^{\sharp} C G^{-1} B S^{\pi}-S^{\pi} C G^{-1} B S^{\sharp}+S^{\sharp} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Lemma 2.2 [9]. Let $M=\left(\begin{array}{cc}A & B \\ 0 & C\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times r}$. Then $M^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $A^{\sharp}, C^{\sharp}$ exist and $\operatorname{rank}(M)=\operatorname{rank}(A)+\operatorname{rank}(C)$. If $M^{\sharp}$ exists, then

$$
M^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
A^{\sharp} & \left(A^{\sharp}\right)^{2} B C^{\pi}+A^{\pi} B\left(C^{\sharp}\right)^{2}-A^{\sharp} B C^{\sharp} \\
0 & C^{\sharp}
\end{array}\right) .
$$

## 3. Main results

In this section, we give our main results.
Theorem 3.1. Let $P, Q \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $P Q=0$. Then $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $P^{2}, Q^{2}$ are group invertible and $\operatorname{rank}(P+Q)=\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)$. If $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists, then

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp} P+Q\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}+Q X P,
$$

where

$$
X=\left(\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}\right)^{2}(P+Q)\left(P^{2}\right)^{\pi}+\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\pi}(P+Q)\left(\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp}\right)^{2}-\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}(P+Q)\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp} .
$$

Proof. It is well known [3] that there exists an invertible matrix $U$ such that

$$
P=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta & 0  \tag{3.1}\\
0 & N
\end{array}\right) U^{-1}
$$

where $\Delta$ is invertible and $N$ is a nilpotent matrix. Let $Q=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}Q_{1} & Q_{2} \\ Q_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$, where $Q_{1}$ has the same order as $\Delta$. From $P Q=0$,

$$
Q=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
0 & 0  \tag{3.2}\\
Q_{3} & Q_{4}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1}, \quad N Q_{3}=0, \quad N Q_{4}=0
$$

By Lemma 2.2, the group inverse of $P+Q=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}\Delta & 0 \\ Q_{3} & N+Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$ exists if and only if $\left(N+Q_{4}\right)^{\#}$ exists. Similarly, there exists an invertible matrix $V$ such that

$$
Q_{4}=V\left(\begin{array}{ll}
R & 0  \tag{3.3}\\
0 & S
\end{array}\right) V^{-1}
$$

where $R$ is invertible and $S$ is a nilpotent matrix. Let $N=V\left(\begin{array}{l}N_{1} \\ N_{3} \\ N_{3}\end{array} N_{4}\right) V^{-1}$, where $N_{1}$ has the same order as $R$. From $N Q_{4}=0$,

$$
N=V\left(\begin{array}{ll}
0 & N_{2}  \tag{3.4}\\
0 & N_{4}
\end{array}\right) V^{-1}, \quad N_{2} S=0, \quad N_{4} S=0
$$

Applying Lemma 2.2, the group inverse of $N+Q_{4}=V\left(\begin{array}{cc}R & N_{2} \\ 0 & N_{4}+S\end{array}\right) V^{-1}$ exists if and only if $\left(N_{4}+S\right)^{\#}$ exists. Since $N_{4}, S$ are nilpotent matrices and $N_{4} S=0, N_{4}+S$ is a nilpotent matrix. Since $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $\left(N+Q_{4}\right)^{\sharp}$ exists, $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $N_{4}+S=0$.

We prove the 'only if' part. If $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists, then $N_{4}+S=0, N_{4}=-S$. By $N_{4} S=0$ we get $N_{4}^{2}=0$ and $S^{2}=0$. From $N_{4}=-S$ and (3.4) we have $N^{2}=0$. From (3.1) we know that $P^{2}$ is group invertible. By $S^{2}=0$ and (3.3) we know that $Q_{4}^{2}$ is group invertible. By $Q^{2}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}0 & 0 \\ Q_{4} Q_{3} Q_{4}^{2}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$, we have $\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)=\operatorname{rank}\left(\begin{array}{c}0 \\ Q_{4} Q_{3}-Q_{4}^{2} Q_{4}^{\sharp} Q_{3}\end{array}{ }_{4}^{0}\right)=$ $\operatorname{rank}\left(Q_{4}^{2}\right)$. By Lemma 2.2, we know that $Q^{2}$ is group invertible. So

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{rank}(P+Q) & =\operatorname{rank}(\Delta)+\operatorname{rank}\left(N+Q_{4}\right)=\operatorname{rank}(\Delta)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q_{4}^{2}\right) \\
& =\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

We now turn to the 'if' part. Since $P^{2}$ and $Q^{2}$ are group invertible, by (3.1) and (3.2), we know that $N^{2}=0, Q_{4}^{2}$ is group invertible and $\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)=\operatorname{rank}\left(Q_{4}^{2}\right)=$ $\operatorname{rank}(R)$. Since $\operatorname{rank}(P+Q)=\operatorname{rank}(\Delta)+\operatorname{rank}\left(N+Q_{4}\right)=\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(N+Q_{4}\right)=$ $\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)=\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}(R)$, we have $\operatorname{rank}\left(N+Q_{4}\right)=\operatorname{rank}(R)$. By $N+$ $Q_{4}=V\left(\begin{array}{ll}R & N_{2} \\ 0 & N_{4}+S\end{array}\right) V^{-1}$, we have $N_{4}+S=0$. Hence $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists.

If $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists,

$$
\begin{aligned}
(P+Q)^{\sharp} & =U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta & 0 \\
Q_{3} & N+Q_{4}
\end{array}\right)^{\sharp} U^{-1} \\
& =U\left(\begin{array}{cc} 
& \Delta^{-1} \\
\left(N+Q_{4}\right)^{\pi} Q_{3} \Delta^{-2}-\left(N+Q_{4}\right)^{\sharp} Q_{3} \Delta^{-1} & \left(N+Q_{4}\right)^{\sharp}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} \\
& =\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp} P+Q\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}+Q X P,
\end{aligned}
$$

where $X=\left(\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}\right)^{2}(P+Q)\left(P^{2}\right)^{\pi}+\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\pi}(P+Q)\left(\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp}\right)^{2}-\left(Q^{2}\right)^{\sharp}(P+Q)\left(P^{2}\right)^{\sharp}$.
Theorem 3.2. Let $P, Q \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ and $P Q=0$. Then $P+Q$ is invertible if and only if $P, Q$ are group invertible and $\operatorname{rank}(P)+\operatorname{rank}(Q)=n$. If $P+Q$ is invertible, then

$$
(P+Q)^{-1}=Q^{\pi} P^{\sharp}+Q^{\sharp} P^{\pi} .
$$

Proof. We begin with the 'only if' part. If $P+Q$ is invertible, according to Theorem 3.1, we have $\operatorname{rank}(P+Q)=\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)=n$. By $P Q=0$, we get $\operatorname{rank}(P)+$ $\operatorname{rank}(Q) \leq n=\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)$, which implies that $P$ and $Q$ are group invertible.

Turning to the 'if' part, suppose that $P$ and $Q$ have the decompositions given in (3.1) and (3.2). Since $P$ is group invertible, $N=0$. Since $Q$ is group invertible, by Lemma 2.2, $Q_{4}$ is group invertible and $\operatorname{rank}(Q)=\operatorname{rank}\left(Q_{4}\right)$. By $\operatorname{rank}(P)+\operatorname{rank}(Q)=$ $\operatorname{rank}(\Delta)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q_{4}\right)=n$, we have that $Q_{4}$ is invertible. Hence $P+Q$ is invertible.

If $P+Q$ is invertible, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
(P+Q)^{-1} & =U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta & 0 \\
Q_{3} & Q_{4}
\end{array}\right)^{-1} U^{-1}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta^{-1} & 0 \\
-Q_{4}^{-1} Q_{3} \Delta^{-1} & Q_{4}^{-1}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} \\
& =Q^{\pi} P^{\sharp}+Q^{\sharp} P^{\pi} .
\end{aligned}
$$

This concludes the proof.
Theorem 3.3. Let $P, Q \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}, P^{\sharp}$ exists, $P Q P=0$ and the group inverse of $V=$ $P^{\pi} Q P^{\pi}-Q P^{\sharp} Q$ exists. Then $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $\operatorname{rank}(H)=\operatorname{rank}(P)$, where $H=P^{2}+P P^{\sharp} Q V^{\pi} Q P^{\sharp} P$. If $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists, then $H^{\sharp}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=\left(I+V^{\pi} Q P^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-P H^{\sharp} Q\right)\left(P H^{\sharp} P H^{\sharp} P+V^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-Q H^{\sharp} P\right)\left(I+P^{\sharp} Q V^{\pi}\right) .
$$

Proof. Since $P^{\sharp}$ exists, there exist invertible matrices $U$ and $\Delta$ such that $P=$ $U\left(\begin{array}{ll}\Delta \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$. Let $Q=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}Q_{1} & Q_{2} \\ Q_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$, where $Q_{1}$ has the same order as $\Delta$. By $P Q P=0$ we get $Q_{1}=0$. Hence

$$
V=P^{\pi} Q P^{\pi}-Q P^{\sharp} Q=U\left(\begin{array}{lc}
0 & 0 \\
0 & Q_{4}-Q_{3} \Delta^{-1} Q_{2}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} .
$$

Since $V^{\sharp}$ exists, $S=Q_{4}-Q_{3} \Delta^{-1} Q_{2}$ is group invertible. Applying Lemma 2.1, the group inverse of $P+Q=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}\Delta & Q_{2} \\ Q_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$ exists if and only if $G=\Delta^{2}+Q_{2} S^{\pi} Q_{3}$ is
invertible. Since $H=P^{2}+P P^{\sharp} Q V^{\pi} Q P^{\sharp} P=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}G & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}, G$ is invertible if and only if $\operatorname{rank}(H)=\operatorname{rank}(P)$. Hence $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $\operatorname{rank}(H)=\operatorname{rank}(P)$.

From the above arguments, $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists if and only if $G$ is invertible. So $H^{\sharp}$ exists if $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists. Then we have $H^{\sharp}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}G^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$. By Lemma 2.1,

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta & Q_{2} \\
Q_{3} & Q_{4}
\end{array}\right)^{\sharp} U^{-1}=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}
X_{1} & X_{2} \\
X_{3} & X_{4}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1},
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& X_{1}= \Delta G^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} S^{\sharp} Q_{3}\right) G^{-1} \Delta, \\
& X_{2}= \Delta G^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} S^{\sharp} Q_{3}\right) G^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\pi}-\Delta G^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\sharp}, \\
& X_{3}= S^{\pi} Q_{3} G^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} S^{\sharp} Q_{3}\right) G^{-1} \Delta-S^{\sharp} Q_{3} G^{-1} \Delta, \\
& X_{4}= S^{\pi} Q_{3} G^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} S^{\sharp} Q_{3}\right) G^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\pi}-S^{\sharp} Q_{3} G^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\pi}-S^{\pi} Q_{3} G^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\sharp}+S^{\sharp} . \text { So } \\
&(P+Q)^{\sharp}= U\left(\begin{array}{ll}
X_{1} & X_{2} \\
X_{3} & X_{4}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} \\
&=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & 0 \\
S^{\pi} Q_{3} \Delta^{-1} & I
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & -\Delta G^{-1} Q_{2} \\
0 & I
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
G^{-1} \Delta G^{-1} \Delta & 0 \\
0 & S^{\sharp}
\end{array}\right) \\
& \times\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & 0 \\
-Q_{3} G^{-1} \Delta & I
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & \Delta^{-1} Q_{2} S^{\pi} \\
0 & I
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} \\
&=\left(I+V^{\pi} Q P^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-P H^{\sharp} Q\right)\left(P H^{\sharp} P H^{\sharp} P+V^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-Q H^{\sharp} P\right)\left(I+P^{\sharp} Q V^{\pi}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

This concludes the proof.
Remark 3.1. If $P^{\sharp}, Q^{\sharp}$ exist and $P Q=0$, then $P=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}\Delta & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}, Q=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}0 & 0 \\ Q_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$ and $Q_{4}^{\sharp}$ exists. Thus $V=Q P^{\pi}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}0 & 0 \\ 0 & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$ is group invertible and $H=P^{2}$. By Theorem 3.3, $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=Q^{\pi} P^{\sharp}+Q^{\sharp} P^{\pi} .
$$

Theorem 3.4. Let $P, Q, R \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}, P^{\sharp}$ and $Q^{\sharp}$ exist, $P R=0, Q P=0, R P^{\pi}=0$ and $R P^{\sharp} Q=0$. Then the group inverse of $P+Q+R$ exists and

$$
(P+Q+R)^{\sharp}=\left(I+P^{\pi} Q^{\pi} R P^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-P^{\sharp} Q\right)\left(P^{\sharp}+P^{\pi} Q^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-R P^{\sharp}\right) .
$$

Proof. Since $P^{\sharp}$ exists, there exist invertible matrices $U$ and $\Delta$ such that $P=$ $U\left(\begin{array}{cc}\Delta \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$. Suppose that $Q=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}Q_{1} & Q_{2} \\ Q_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}, R=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}R_{1} & R_{2} \\ R_{3} & R_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$, where $Q_{1}, R_{1}$ have the same order as $\Delta$. Since $P R=0, Q P=0$ and $R P^{\pi}=0, Q=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & Q_{2} \\ 0 & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}, R=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}0 & 0 \\ R_{3} & 0\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$. By $R P^{\sharp} Q=0$ we get $R_{3} \Delta^{-1} Q_{2}=0$. Since $Q^{\sharp}$ exists, by Lemma $2.2, Q_{4}^{\sharp}$ exists and there exists a matrix $X$ such that $Q_{2}=X Q_{4}$. So we have $Q_{2} Q_{4}^{\pi}=0$. Since $R_{3} \Delta^{-1} Q_{2}=0$, by Lemma 2.1, the group inverse of $P+Q+R=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}\Delta & Q_{2} \\ R_{3} & Q_{4}\end{array}\right) U^{-1}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q+R)^{\sharp}=U\left(\begin{array}{ll}
X_{1} & X_{2} \\
X_{3} & X_{4}
\end{array}\right) U^{-1}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& X_{1}=\Delta^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} Q_{4}^{\sharp} R_{3}\right) \Delta^{-1}, \\
& X_{2}=-\Delta^{-1} Q_{2} Q_{4}^{\sharp}, \\
& X_{3}=Q_{4}^{\pi} R_{3}\left(\Delta^{2}\right)^{-1}\left(\Delta+Q_{2} Q_{4}^{\sharp} R_{3}\right) \Delta^{-1}-Q_{4}^{\sharp} R_{3} \Delta^{-1}, \\
& X_{4}=-Q_{4}^{\pi} R_{3}\left(\Delta^{2}\right)^{-1} Q_{2} Q_{4}^{\sharp}+Q_{4}^{\sharp} . \text { Hence } \\
&(P+Q+R)^{\sharp}=U\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & 0 \\
Q_{4}^{\pi} R_{3} \Delta^{-1} & I
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & -\Delta^{-1} Q_{2} \\
0 & I
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Delta^{-1} & 0 \\
0 & Q_{4}^{\sharp}
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{cc}
I & 0 \\
-R_{3} \Delta^{-1} & I
\end{array}\right) U^{-1} \\
&=\left(I+P^{\pi} Q^{\pi} R P^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-P^{\sharp} Q\right)\left(P^{\sharp}+P^{\pi} Q^{\sharp}\right)\left(I-R P^{\sharp}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

This concludes the proof.
Next we use $\mathbb{K}=\{a+b i+c j+d k\}$ to denote the real quaternion skew field, where $a, b, c, d$ are real numbers. We give some examples to illustrate the application of the representations given in this paper.

Example 3.5. Let $P=\left(\begin{array}{lll}1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{3 \times 3}, Q=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{3 \times 3}$. By computation,

$$
P^{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right), \quad Q^{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) \quad \text { and } P+Q=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

So $P^{2}, Q^{2}$ are group invertible and $\operatorname{rank}\left(P^{2}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(Q^{2}\right)=\operatorname{rank}(P+Q)=1 . \quad$ By Theorem 3.1, $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Example 3.6. Let

$$
P=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
i & j & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{4 \times 4}, \quad Q=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
0 & 0 & i & j \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
k & k & 2 k & 1 \\
k & k & k & 2
\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{4 \times 4} ;
$$

then by computation,

$$
P^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
-i & -j & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right), \quad P^{\pi}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
0 & k & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right) \quad \text { and } \quad P Q P=0 .
$$

And then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V=P^{\pi} Q P^{\pi}-Q P^{\sharp} Q=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & k-1 & k & 0 \\
0 & k-1 & k & 1
\end{array}\right), \\
& V^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1-k & -k & 0 \\
0 & -k-1 & -1 & 1
\end{array}\right), \quad V^{\pi}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & -1-k & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
H=P^{2}+P P^{\sharp} Q V^{\pi} Q P^{\sharp} P=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
-1 & k & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

So $\operatorname{rank}(H)=\operatorname{rank}(P)=1$. By Theorem 3.3, $(P+Q)^{\sharp}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q)^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
i & j & i & j \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
k & k & 2 k & 1 \\
k & k & k & 2
\end{array}\right)^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
-3 i & 6 i-9 j-2 & k & k \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
i & -2 i+3 j-k+1 & -k & 0 \\
j & -3 i-2 j+k-1 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Example 3.7. Let

$$
P=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
i & j & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{3 \times 3}, \quad Q=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & i
\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{3 \times 3}, \quad R=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & k & 0
\end{array}\right) \in \mathbb{K}^{3 \times 3} ;
$$

then by computation,

$$
P^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
-i & -j & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right), \quad P^{\pi}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
0 & k & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Then $P R=0, Q P=0, R P^{\pi}=0$ and $R P^{\sharp} Q=0$. By Theorem 3.4, we know that $(P+$ $Q+R)^{\sharp}$ exists and

$$
(P+Q+R)^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
i & j & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & k & i
\end{array}\right)^{\sharp}=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
-i & -j & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & k & -i
\end{array}\right) .
$$

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CHANGJIANG BU, College of Science, Harbin Engineering University, Harbin 150001, PR China
e-mail: buchangjiang@hrbeu.edu.cn
XIUQING ZHOU, College of Science, Harbin Engineering University, Harbin 150001, PR China

LIANG MA, College of Science, Harbin Engineering University, Harbin 150001, PR China

JIANG ZHOU, College of Science, Harbin Engineering University, Harbin 150001, PR China


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