## Block Diagonal Majorization on C<sub>0</sub>

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathbf{c}_0$  be the real vector space of all real sequences which converge to zero. For every  $x,y\in\mathbf{c}_0$ , it is said that y is block diagonal majorized by x (written  $y\prec_b x$ ) if there exists a block diagonal row stochastic matrix R such that y=Rx. In this paper we find the possible structure of linear functions  $T:\mathbf{c}_0\to\mathbf{c}_0$  preserving  $\prec_b$ .

**Keywords:** Block diagonal matrices, Majorization, Stochastic matrices, Linear preservers.

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## 1. Introduction

Let V and W be two linear spaces and let  $\sim$  be a relation on both of V and W. A linear function  $T:V\to W$  is said to be a linear preserver (strong linear preserver) of  $\sim$  if for every  $x,y\in V$ ,  $Tx\sim Ty$  whenever  $x\sim y$  ( $Tx\sim Ty$  if and only if  $x\sim y$ ). The topic of linear preservers is of interest to a large group of matrix theorists, see [8] for a survey of linear preserver problems. In this paper we shall designate by  $\mathbf{M}_n$ ,  $\mathbb{R}_m$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$  the set of all  $n\times n$ ,  $1\times m$  and  $n\times 1$  real matrices respectively. We recall that a matrix  $R\in \mathbf{M}_n$  is row stochastic if all its entries are nonnegative and Re=e, where  $e=(1,\ldots,1)^t\in\mathbb{R}^n$ . For vectors  $x,y\in\mathbb{R}^n$ , it is said that x is left matrix majorized by y (respectively  $x^t$  is right matrix majorized by  $y^t$ ) and write  $x\prec_l y$  (respectively  $x^t\prec_r y^t$ ) if for some row stochastic matrix  $R\in \mathbf{M}_n$ ; x=Ry (respectively  $x^t=y^tR$ ). It is known

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that, for  $x,y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x \prec_l y$  if and only if  $\min y \leq \min x \leq \max x \leq \max y$ , here the maximum and the minimum are taken over all components of x and y. A characterization of linear functions  $T: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^p$  which preserve left matrix majorization  $\prec_l$ , can be found in [5, 6]. Note that the right and left matrix majorizations are essentially different and no characterization is known for functions  $T: \mathbb{R}_n \to \mathbb{R}_p$  preserving right matrix majorization. There has been a great deal of interests in studying linear maps preserving or strongly preserving some special kinds of majorizations on some matrix spaces; for more information about types of majorizations see [4] and [7], and for their preservers see [1]-[3], and [5]-[6].

**Definition 1.1.** (a) Let  $\{n_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence in  $\mathbb{N}$  and let  $R_i \in \mathbf{M}_{n_i}$  be a row stochastic matrix for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $R = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i$  is called a block diagonal row stochastic matrix.

(b) For every  $x, y \in \mathbf{c}_0$ , it is said that y is block diagonal majorized by x (written  $y \prec_b x$ ) if there exists a block diagonal row stochastic matrix R such that y = Rx. We write  $x \sim_b y$  if  $x \prec_b y$  and  $y \prec_b x$ .

In this paper, we find the possible structure of linear functions T on  $\mathbf{c}_0$  preserving block diagonal majorization.

## 2. Block diagonal majorization

This section studies some properties of the notion of block diagonal majorization and we obtain some equivalent conditions for this concept.

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $x, y \in \mathbf{c}_0$ . If  $x \prec_b y$ , then  $\inf y \leq \inf x \leq \sup x \leq \sup y$ . Furthermore if  $\inf x = \min x$  (respectively  $\sup x = \max x$ ) then  $\inf y = \min y$  (respectively  $\sup y = \max y$ ).

Proof. Assume that  $x \prec_b y$ , then there exists a block diagonal matrix  $R = (r_{ij})$  such that x = Ry, and so for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $x_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_{ij} y_j$  where  $r_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_{ij} = 1$ . It follows that  $\inf y \leq x_i$  and hence  $\inf y \leq \inf x$ . One can show that  $\sup x \leq \sup y$  with a similar argument. Suppose that  $\inf x = \min x$ . We just consider the case  $x, y \geq 0$ . Since  $x \in \mathbf{c}_0$ , there exists an integer  $i \geq 1$  such that  $\inf x = \min x = x_i = 0$ . In the other hand  $x_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_{ij} y_j$ ,  $r_{ij} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} r_{ij} = 1$ , it follows that  $y_k = 0$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and hence  $\inf y = \min y$ .  $\square$ 

For  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , one can easily show that  $x \prec_l y$  if and only if  $\min y \leq \min x \leq \max x \leq \max y$ , but the following example shows that this is not true for  $\prec_b$  on  $\mathbf{c}_0$  (the converse of Proposition 2.1 is not true).

**Example 2.2.** Let 
$$x = (0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, ...)^t$$
 and  $y = (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, ...)^t$ . Then  $x, y \in \mathbf{c}_0$  and  $\inf y \leq \inf x \leq \sup y$ ,

but it is easy to verify that  $x \not\prec_b y$ .

The following proposition gives two equivalent conditions for  $\prec_b$  on  $\mathbf{c}_0$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $x, y \in \mathbf{c}_0$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent. (i)  $x \prec_b y$ .

- (ii) There exists a subsequence  $\{k_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  of sequence  $\{k_n\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  with  $k_0 = 0$  such that for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $(x_{k_j+1}, \dots, x_{k_{j+1}})^t \prec_l (y_{k_j+1}, \dots, y_{k_{j+1}})^t$ .
- (iii) There exists a subsequence  $\{k_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  of sequence  $\{k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  with  $k_0 = 0$  such that for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\min_{k_j+1 \le i \le k_{j+1}} y_i \le \min_{k_j+1 \le i \le k_{j+1}} x_i \le \max_{k_j+1 \le i \le k_{j+1}} x_i \le \max_{k_j+1 \le i \le k_{j+1}} y_i \ .$$

Proof. (i)  $\to$  (ii). Let  $x \prec_b y$ . Then there exists a diagonal block matrix  $R = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i$  such that x = Ry and  $R_i$  is a  $m_i \times m_i$  row stochastic matrix. Put  $k_0 = 0$  and  $k_n = \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$  then  $(x_{k_j+1}, \ldots, x_{k_{j+1}})^t = R_{j+1}(y_{k_j+1}, \ldots, y_{k_{j+1}})^t$  and hence  $(x_{k_j+1}, \ldots, x_{k_{j+1}})^t \prec_l (y_{k_j+1}, \ldots, y_{k_{j+1}})^t$ .

 $(ii) \to (i)$ . Suppose that there exists a subsequence  $\{k_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  with  $k_0 = 0$  and  $(x_{k_j+1}, \ldots, x_{k_{j+1}})^t \prec_l (y_{k_j+1}, \ldots, y_{k_{j+1}})^t$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a row stochastic  $R_{j+1} \in \mathbf{M}_{k_{j+1}-k_j}$  such that  $(x_{k_j+1}, \ldots, x_{k_{j+1}})^t = R_{j+1}(y_{k_j+1}, \ldots, y_{k_{j+1}})^t$  and hence x = Ry, where  $R = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\infty} R_i$ .

 $(ii) \leftrightarrow (iii)$  is a direct consequence of definition of  $\prec_l$ .

3. Linear preservers of  $\prec_{h}$ 

In this section we will find the possible structure of linear functions  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  which preserve  $\prec_b$ . The symbol  $e_i$  is used for the sequence  $(0, \ldots, 0, 1, 0, \ldots)$  in  $c_0$ , where 1 is in the ith place.

**Proposition 3.1.** Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  preserve  $\prec_b$ . Suppose that  $a := \sup Te_1$  and  $b := \inf Te_1$ , then for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a = \sup Te_i = \max Te_i \geq 0$  and  $b = \inf Te_i = \min Te_i \leq 0$ .

Proof. First we show that  $\sup Te_i = \sup Te_j$  and  $\inf Te_i = \inf Te_j$  for every  $i,j \in \mathbb{N}$ . By Proposition 2.3, we have  $e_i \prec_b e_j$  and  $e_j \prec_b e_i$  for every  $i,j \in \mathbb{N}$ , it follows that  $Te_i \prec_b Te_j$  and  $Te_j \prec_b Te_i$ . By Proposition 2.1,  $\inf Te_j \leq \inf Te_i \leq \sup Te_i \leq \sup Te_j$  and  $\inf Te_j \leq \inf Te_i \leq \sup Te_j \leq \sup Te_i$ . This would imply  $\inf Te_i = \inf Te_j$  and  $\sup Te_i = \sup Te_j$ . To complete the proof it is enough to show that  $\sup Te_1 = \max Te_1$  and  $\inf Te_1 = \min Te_1$ . We just consider the case that  $Te_1$  has only nonnegative components, so  $Te_1 = (t_{11}, t_{21}, \ldots)^t \geq 0$ . Since  $\lim_{i \to \infty} t_{i1} = 0$  and  $t_{i1} \geq 0$ ,  $\sup Te_1 = \max Te_1$ . Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $t_{k1} = a$ . By Proposition 2.3,  $e_1 + e_2 \prec_b e_1$  and hence  $Te_1 + Te_2 \prec_b Te_1$ . By Proposition 2.1,  $\max(Te_1 + Te_2) \leq \max Te_1$  and consequently  $t_{k1} + t_{k2} \leq \max(Te_1 + Te_2) \leq \max Te_1 = t_{k1}$ . It follows that  $t_{k2} = 0$ , and hence  $\inf Te_2 = \min Te_2 = 0$ . Since  $e_1 \prec_b e_2$ , by Proposition 2.1 we conclude that  $\inf Te_2 = \min Te_2 = \inf Te_1 = \min Te_1 = 0$ . It is clear that  $t_k \leq 0 \leq a$ , as desired.

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  be a linear preserver of  $\prec_b$ . Suppose that a and b are as in Proposition 3.1. If  $t_{ij} = a$  (respectively  $t_{ij} = b$ ) for some  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , then  $t_{ik} \leq 0$  (respectively  $t_{kj} \geq 0$ ) for all  $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{j\}$ .

Proof. Let  $t_{ij} = a$  for some  $i, j \in \mathbb{N}$ . For every  $k \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{j\}$ ,  $e_k + e_j \prec_b e_1$  and hence  $(Te_k + Te_j) \prec_b Te_1$ . Use Lemma 2.1 to write  $\max(Te_k + Te_j) \leq \max Te_1$ . Therefore  $t_{ik} + a = t_{ik} + t_{ij} \leq \max(Te_k + Te_j) \leq \max Te_1 = a$  and consequently  $t_{ik} \leq 0$ .

Note that a linear function  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  preserves  $\prec_b$  if and only if  $\alpha T: c_0 \to c_0$  preserves  $\prec_b$  for every nonzero  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  be a nonzero linear preserver of  $\prec_b$ . Assume that a and b are as in Proposition 3.1. Now, we consider two cases:

Case 1; If  $|b| \leq |a|$ . Then  $T' := \frac{1}{a}T : c_0 \to c_0$  preserves  $\prec_b$  and  $0 \leq -b' := \min T'e_i \leq 1 = a' = \max T'e_i$ .

Case 2; If |b| > |a|. Then  $T' := \frac{-1}{b}T : c_0 \to c_0$  preserves  $\prec_b$  and  $0 \le -b' := \min T' e_i \le 1 = a' = \max T' e_i$ .

Consequently, without loss of generality for every linear function  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  preserving  $\prec_b$  we may assume that  $0 \le -b \le a = 1$ .

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  be a linear preserver of  $\prec_b$ . Assume that a(=1) and b are as in Proposition 3.1. For every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\mathbf{I}_k := \{i \in \mathbb{N} : t_{ik} = 1\}$  and  $\mathbf{J}_k := \{j \in \mathbb{N} : t_{jk} = b\}$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  be a linear preserver of  $\prec_b$ . Assume that  $0 \le -b \le a = 1$  are as in Proposition 3.1. Then for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exist (i)  $i_k \in \mathbf{I}_k$ , such that for every  $j \ne k$ ,  $t_{i_k}$ , j = 0. (ii)  $j_k \in \mathbf{J}_k$ , such that for every  $j \ne k$ ,  $t_{j_k}$ , j = 0.

Proof. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a large enough  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and there exist some  $i_m \in \mathbf{I}_k$  such that  $\min T(-Ne_k + e_{k+m}) = -N + t_{i_m k+m}$ . It is clear that  $(-Ne_k + e_{k+m}) \sim_b (-Ne_k + e_{k+m} + e_j)$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{k, k+m\}$ . Then  $T(-Ne_k + e_{k+m}) \sim_b T(-Ne_k + e_{k+m} + e_j)$  and hence  $(-N + t_{i_m k+m}) = \min T(-Ne_k + e_{k+m}) = \min T(-Ne_k + e_{k+m} + e_j) \leq (-N + t_{i_m k+m} + t_{i_m j})$ . Consequently  $t_{i_m j} \geq 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{k, k+m\}$ . Use Lemma 3.2 to conclude that  $t_{i_m j} = 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{k, k+m\}$ . Since  $I_k$  is a finite set, there exist two distinct number  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $i_m = i_n$ . Therefore  $t_{i_m j} = 0$  for every  $j \in (\mathbb{N} \setminus \{k, k+m\}) \cup (\mathbb{N} \setminus \{k, k+n\})$ . Since  $m \neq n$ ,  $t_{i_m j} = 0$  for every  $j \neq k$ . With an argument same as the above one may prove (ii).

Let A be an infinite matrix. Then the row indices of A and the column indices of A are  $\{1, 2, \ldots\}$ . Let  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be nonempty sets of indices  $\{1, 2, \ldots\}$ . A submatrix  $A[\alpha, \beta]$  is a matrix whose rows have indices  $\alpha$  among the row indices of A, and whose columns have indices  $\beta$  among the column indices of A. Now, we can prove the main theorem of this paper. For a linear operator

 $T: c_0 \to c_0$ , we use the symbol [T] for the infinite matrix with  $Te_j$  as jth column, i.e.  $[T] = [Te_1|Te_2|\dots|Te_j|\dots]$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $T: c_0 \to c_0$  be a linear preserver of  $\prec_b$ . Assume that  $0 \le -b \le a = 1$  are as in Proposition 3.1. Then one of the following holds;

- (i) There exist infinite permutations P and Q such that P and bQ are submatrices of [T].
- (ii) [T] is a row substochastic matrix and there exists an infinite permutation P such that P is a submatrix of [T].

*Proof.* We consider two cases.

Case 1; Let  $b \neq 0$ . By Theorem 3.4 for every  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist  $i_k, j_k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

- (i)  $t_k i_k = 1$  and  $t_k j = 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{i_k\}$ ,
- (ii)  $t_{k j_k} = 1$  and  $t_{k j} = 0$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{j_k\}$ .

Put  $\alpha = \{i_1, i_2, \ldots\}$ ,  $\beta = \{j_1, j_2, \ldots\}$ ,  $P = [T][\alpha, \mathbb{N}]$  and  $Q = \frac{1}{b}[T][\beta, \mathbb{N}]$ . It is clear that P and Q are infinite permutations and P and bQ are submatrices of [T], therefore (i) holds.

Case 2; Let b=0. Then  $t_{i j} \geq 0$  for all  $i,j \in \mathbb{N}$ . For every  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , put  $X_m = e_1 + \ldots + e_m$ , it is clear that  $X_m \prec_b e_1$  and hence  $TX_m \prec_b Te_1$ . By using Lemma 2.1, it follows that

$$0 \le \sum_{j=1}^{m} t_{i j} = (TX_m)_i \le \max Te_1 = 1, \ \forall \ i \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $(TX_m)_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  component of  $TX_m$ . Therefore the nonnegative infinite series  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} t_{i \ j}$  is convergent and  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} t_{i \ j} \leq 1$  for every  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . Consequently [T] is a row substochastic matrix. Since a=1, with an argument same as the above [T] has a submatrix which is an infinite permutation, therefore (ii) holds.

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