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k-GAMMA, k-BETA MATRIX FUNCTIONS AND THEIR PROPERTIES

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Abstract. The main aim of this paper is to define *k*-gamma and *k*-beta matrix functions, and derive the conditions for matrices M,N so that the *k*-beta matrix function $B_k(M,N)$ satisfies the relations $B_k(M,N) = B_k(N,M)$ and $B_k(M,N) = \Gamma_k(M)\Gamma_k(N)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+N)$ in the form of *k*-symbol, where k > 0. A limit expression for the *k*-gamma function of a matrix is also established.

Keywords: k-gamma matrix function; k-beta matrix function; Factorial function, Matrix.

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1. Introduction

Many of the ordinary special functions of mathematical physics and most of their useful properties can be obtained from the theory of group representations. James [4] discussed that the special functions of a matrix argument appear in the study of spherical functions on certain symmetric spaces and multivariate analysis in statistics. Special functions of two diagonal matrix argument have been used in [5]. In [6], some properties of gamma and beta matrix functions are proved and analogue of the expression of the scalar gamma function as a limit is

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given for the gamma function of a matrix and it is also shown that the conditions for matrices M,N in $C^{r\times r}$ so that B(M,N) is well defined and satisfy B(M,N) = B(N,M), and $B(M,N) = \Gamma(M)\Gamma(N)\Gamma^{-1}(M+N)$ are established.

2. Preliminaries

Definition 2.1. The factorial function is denoted and defined by, $(a)_n = a(a+1)(a+2)\cdots(a+n-1)$; for $n \ge 1, a \ne 0$ and $(a)_0 = 1$. The function $(a)_n$ is called the factorial function. It is also known as Pochhmmer's symbol.

Note that $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where \mathbb{N} is the set of natural numbers. It is an immediate generalization of the elementary factorial i.e., $n! = (1)_n$. In manipulations with $(a)_n$, it is important to keep in mind that $(a)_n$ is a product of *n* factors, starting with *a* and with each factor large by unity than the preceding factor.

Definition 2.2. Let $z \in \mathbb{C}$ (\mathbb{C} is a set of complex numbers), the gamma function is defined by

$$\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt, \quad Re(z) > 0.$$

In another way, it is defined as

$$\Gamma(z) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{n! n^{z-1}}{(z)_n}.$$

The relation between Pochhammer's symbol and gamma function is given below

$$(z)_n = \frac{\Gamma(z+n)}{\Gamma(z)},$$

see [3].

Definition 2.3. Let k > 0, then the Pochhammer *k*-symbol is defined by $(a)_{n,k} = a(a+k)(a+2k)\cdots(a+(n-1)k)$ for $n \ge 1, a \ne 0$ and $(a)_{0,k} = 0$.

Definition 2.4. For k > 0 and $z \in \mathbb{C}$, the *k*-gamma function Γ_k is defined by

$$\Gamma_k(z) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{n! k^n (nk)^{\tilde{k}^{-1}}}{(z)_{n,k}}.$$

Its integral representation is also given by,

$$\Gamma_k(z) = \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{\frac{-t^k}{k}} dt.$$

The relation between Pochhammer k-symbol and k-gamma function is given as

$$(z)_{n,k} = \frac{\Gamma_k(z+nk)}{\Gamma_k(z)},$$

see [1].

Definition 2.5. If *P* is a matrix in $C^{r \times r}$ then by application of the matrix functional calculus, we define the pochhammar symbol for any matrix *P* in $C^{r \times r}$ as;

(1)
$$(P)_n = P(P+I)(P+2I)\cdots(P+(n-1)I), \quad n>0, \quad (P)_0 = I.$$

Definition 2.6. If *P* is a matrix in $C^{r \times r}$ and k > 0 then by application of the matrix functional calculus, we define the pochhammar *k*-symbol for any matrix *P* in $C^{r \times r}$ as;

(2)
$$(P)_n = P(P+kI)(P+2kI)\cdots(P+(n-1)kI), \quad n>0, \quad (P)_{0,k} = I.$$

If *P* lies in $C^{r \times r}$, using decomposition and denoting $\alpha(P) = max_{z \in \sigma(P)} \mathbb{R}(z)$ (where $\sigma(P)$ is the set of all eigenvalue of *P*) for $t \in \mathbb{R}$, it follows that [7, pp. 336-556]:

(3)
$$\|e^{tP}\| \le e^{t\alpha(P)} [\frac{(\sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \|P\| \sqrt{rt})^j}{j!}]$$

Definition 2.7. Let *M* be a matrix and let $n \ge 1$, then $\Gamma(M)$ is defined by

(4)
$$\Gamma(M) = \lim_{n \to \infty} (n-1)! (M)_n^{-1} n^M,$$

where $(M)_n = M(M+I) \cdots (M + (n-1)I)$.

Definition 2.8. Let *M* and *N* be two matrices in $C^{r \times r}$ such that Re(z) > 0, Re(w) > 0, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, then

$$B(M,N) = \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{M-I} (1-t)^{N-I} dt$$

and

$$B(M,N) = \Gamma_k(M)\Gamma_k(N)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+N),$$

see [6].

Lemma 2.1. *If* $0 \le \alpha < 1$ *and* k > 0*, then*

$$1+\alpha \leq e^{\alpha} \leq (1-\alpha)^{-1}.$$

Lemma 2.2. If $0 \le \alpha < 1$, *n* is a positive integer, then

$$(1-\alpha)^n \geq 1-n\alpha.$$

Lemma 2.3. If $0 \le t < n$, *n* is a positive integer, then

$$0 \le e^{-t} - (1 - \frac{t}{n}) \le \frac{te^{-t}}{n},$$

see [3].

3. Derivation of *k*-gamma and *k*-beta matrix functions

To derive the k-gamma matrix function, first we have to prove the above Lemma 2.3 in terms of k, which is given by

Lemma 3.1. If $0 \le t < n$, *n* is a positive integer and k > 0, then

$$0 \le e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk}) \le \frac{t^{2k}e^{-t^k}}{nk^2}.$$

Proof. Using $\alpha = \frac{t^k}{nk}$ in Lemma 2.1, we get

$$1 + \frac{t^k}{nk} \le e^{\frac{t^k}{nk}} \le (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^{-1},$$

from which it follows that

$$(1+\frac{t^k}{nk})^n \le e^{\frac{t^k}{k}} \le (1-\frac{t^k}{nk})^{-n}$$
$$\Rightarrow (1+\frac{t^k}{nk})^{-n} \ge e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} \ge (1-\frac{t^k}{nk})^n.$$

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Hence, we have $e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n \ge 0$ and

$$e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{n})^n = e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} [1 - e^{\frac{t^k}{k}} (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n].$$

Since $e^{\frac{t^k}{k}} \ge (1 + \frac{t^k}{nk})^n$, we have

(5)
$$e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n \le e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} [1 - (1 - \frac{t^{2k}}{n^2k^2})^n].$$

Now using $\alpha = \frac{t^{2k}}{n^2k^2}$ in Lemma 2.2, we obtain

$$(1 - \frac{t^{2k}}{n^2 k^2})^n \ge 1 - \frac{t^{2k}}{nk^2}.$$

Using this result in equation (5), we get

$$e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n \le e^{\frac{-t^k}{k}} [1 - 1 + \frac{t^{2k}}{nk^2})^n] = \frac{t^{2k}}{nk^2} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}},$$

which is the required result.

Lemma 3.2. If *M* is a matrix in $C^{r \times r}$, k > 0 and $\mathbb{R}e(z) > 0$ for all $z \in \sigma(M)$, then by application of matrix calculus, we have

(6)
$$\Gamma_k(M) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_0^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n t^{M-I} dt = \lim_{n \to \infty} n! k^n (nk)^{\frac{M}{k} - 1} (M)_{n,k}^{-1}.$$

Proof. In the integral on right hand side in (6) put $\frac{t^k}{nk} = \beta$, this implies that $t = (nk\beta)^{\frac{1}{k}}$ (where β is a matrix, so this means that $\beta^{\frac{1}{k}} = \beta^{\frac{1}{k}}$). Thus after simplification we obtain

(7)
$$\int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n} t^{M-I} dt = \frac{(nk)^{\frac{M}{k}}}{k} \int_{0}^{1} (1 - \beta)^{n} \beta^{\frac{M}{k} - I} d\beta.$$

An integrating by parts gives us the reduction formula, we get

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$$\int_{0}^{1} (1-\beta)^{n} \beta^{\frac{M}{k}-I} d\beta = \frac{k^{n-1}n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots 1}{M(M+kI)(M+2kI)\cdots(M+(n-1)kI)} \int_{0}^{1} \beta^{\frac{M}{k}+n-I} d\beta$$

$$= \frac{k^{n+1}n(n-1)(n-2)\cdots 1}{M(M+kI)(M+2kI)\cdots(M+(n-1)kI)(M+nkI)} [\beta^{\frac{M}{k}+n}]_{0}^{1} \beta^{\frac{M}{k}+n} [\beta^{\frac{M}{k}+n}]_{0}^{1} \beta^{\frac{M}{k}+$$

Therefore, (7) becomes

$$\int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} (1 - \frac{t^{nk}}{n})^{n} t^{M-I} dt = \frac{(nk)^{\frac{M}{k}} k^{n} n!}{M(M + kI)(M + 2kI) \cdots (M + (n-1)kI)(M + nkI)}$$

so that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n} t^{M-I} dt = \lim_{n \to \infty} n! k^{n} (nk)^{\frac{M}{k}-I} (M)_{n,k}^{-1}.$$

Furthermore, we write

$$\Gamma_k(M) = \lim_{n \to \infty} n! k^n (nk)^{\frac{M}{k} - I} (M)^{-1}_{n,k}.$$

Theorem 3.1. If *M* is a matrix in $C^{r \times r}$ and k > 0, then by matrix functional calculus gamma matrix as:

(8)
$$\Gamma_k(M) = \int_0^\infty t^{M-I} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt.$$

Proof. The integral on right hand side in (8) converges. With the aid of above (6) and (8), we write

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} t^{M-I} dt - \Gamma_{k}(M) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[\int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} t^{M-I} dt - \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n} t^{M-I} dt \right]$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \left[\int_{0}^{n^{\frac{1}{k}}} [e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n}] t^{M-I} dt - \int_{n^{\frac{1}{k}}}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} t^{M-I} dt \right].$$

Since $\int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-t^{k}} t^{z-1} dt$ is convergent, so this implies that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\int_{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}}^{\infty}e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}}t^{M-I}dt=0.$$

Hence

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} t^{M-I} dt - \Gamma_{k}(z) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} [e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n}] t^{M-I} dt.$$

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Next, we prove

(9)
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} [e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n}] t^{M-I} dt = 0$$

By lemma 3.1, $0 \le e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^k}{nk})^n \le \frac{t^{2k}e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}}}{nk^2} = \frac{t^{2kI}e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}}}{nk^2}$, where $0 \le t \le n$ Hence

(10)
$$\| \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} [e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n}] t^{M-I} dt \| \leq \frac{1}{nk^{2}} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} \|t^{M+I}\| e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} dt.$$

By equation (3) and using $\ln t \le t$ for t > 0, we write

$$\|t^{M+I}\| \leq t^{\alpha(M)+1} (\frac{[\sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (\|M\|+1)\sqrt{r}\ln t]^j}{j!})$$

(11)
$$\leq t^{\alpha(M)+1} \{ \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (\|M\|+1)\sqrt{rt}]^j}{j!} \}.$$

By (10) and (11), we have

(12)
$$\frac{1}{nk^2} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} \|t^{M+I}\| e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt \le \frac{1}{nk^2} \{ \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (\|M\|+1)\sqrt{rt}]^j}{j!} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} t^{\alpha(M)+j+1} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt.$$

Since for $0 \le j \le r-1$, we have $\int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\alpha(M)+j+1} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt$ is convergent. Thus $\int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} t^{\alpha(M)+j+1} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt$ is bounded. Therefore

(13)
$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \int_{0}^{(nk)^{\frac{1}{k}}} \left[e^{-\frac{t^{k}}{k}} - (1 - \frac{t^{k}}{nk})^{n} \right] t^{M-I} dt = 0.$$

Hence the following result has been established.

$$\Gamma_k(M) = \int_0^\infty t^{M-I} e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} dt.$$

Since the reciprocal *k*-gamma function denoted by $\Gamma_k^{-1}(z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma_k(z)}$ is an entire function of the complex variable *z*. In case of gamma function, for any matrix *M* in $C^{r \times r}$ the Riesz-Dunford functional calculus shows that the image of $\Gamma^{-1}(z)$ acting on *M*, denoted by $\Gamma^{-1}(M)$ is a well

defined matrix, see [4]. Similarly the image of $\Gamma_k^{-1}(z)$ acting on M is denoted by $\Gamma_k^{-1}(M)$ is well defined matrix. Furthermore, if M is a matrix such that M + nkI is invertible matrix for every integer $n \ge 0$, then $\Gamma_k(M)$ is invertible, its inverse coincides with $\Gamma_k^{-1}(M)$ and

(14)
$$M(M+kI)(M+2kI)\cdots(M+(n-1)kI)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+nkI) = \Gamma_k^{-1}(M), n \ge 1, k > 0.$$

From equation (14), we can write

(15)
$$M(M + kI)(M + 2kI)\cdots(M + (n-1)kI) = \Gamma_k(M + nkI)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M), n \ge 1, k > 0.$$

Theorem 3.2. Let M and N be two matrices in $C^{r \times r}$ such that $\mathbb{R}e(z) > 0$, $\mathbb{R}e(w) > 0$, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, then

(16)
$$B_k(M,N) = \frac{1}{k} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{M}{k} - I} (1-t)^{\frac{N}{k} - I} dt$$

Proof. By equation (3) and using $\ln t \le t$ and $\ln(1-t) \le 1-t$ for 0 < t < 1, it follows that

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{k} \| \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\frac{M}{k}-I} (1-t)^{\frac{N}{k}-I} dt \| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{k} \int_{0}^{\infty} \| t^{\frac{M}{k}-I} \| \| (1-t)^{\frac{N}{k}-I} \| dt \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \frac{(\|M\|+1)^{i} (\|N\|+j)^{j} (\sqrt{r})^{i+j}}{i! j! k^{i+j+1}} \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\frac{\alpha(M)}{k}-1} (1-t)^{\frac{\alpha(N)}{k}-1} \ln^{i}(t) \ln^{j}(1-t) dt \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \frac{(\|M\|+1)^{i} (\|N\|+j)^{j} (\sqrt{r})^{i+j}}{i! j! k^{i+j+1}} \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\frac{\alpha(M)}{k}-1} (1-t)^{\frac{\alpha(N)}{k}-1} (t)^{i} (1-t)^{j} dt \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \frac{(\|M\|+1)^{i} (\|N\|+j)^{j} (\sqrt{r})^{i+j}}{i! j! k^{i+j+1}} \int_{0}^{\infty} t^{\frac{\alpha(M)}{k}+i-1} (1-t)^{\frac{\alpha(N)}{k}+j-1} dt \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \frac{(\|M\|+1)^{i} (\|N\|+j)^{j} (\sqrt{r})^{i+j}}{i! j! k^{i+j}} B_{k}(\alpha(M)+ik,\alpha(N)+jk). \end{split}$$

Since

$$\sum_{i=0}^{r-1} \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} \frac{(\|M\|+1)^i (\|N\|+j)^j (\sqrt{r})^{i+j}}{i! j! k^{i+j}} B_k(\alpha(M)+ik, \alpha(N)+jk) < +\infty,$$

we see that $B_k(M,N) = \frac{1}{k} \int_0^\infty t^{\frac{M}{k}-I} (1-t)^{\frac{N}{k}-I} dt$.

Next we prove the following Lemma related to k-beta matrix function.

Lemma 3.3. Let *M* and *N* be commuting matrices in $C^{r \times r}$ such that Re(z) > 0, Re(w) > 0, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, then

(17)
$$B_k(M,N) = B_k(N,M).$$

Proof. Since *M* and *N* are commutable, therefore MN = NM. It follows that

$$(\frac{M}{k} - I)(\ln t)(\frac{N}{k} - I)\ln(1 - t) = (\frac{N}{k} - I)\ln(1 - t)(\frac{M}{k} - I)(\ln t), \qquad 0 < t < 1.$$

Hence, we write

$$\begin{split} B_k(M,N) &= \frac{1}{k} \int_0^1 t^{\frac{M}{k} - I} (1-t)^{\frac{N}{k} - I} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \int_0^1 e^{(\frac{M}{k} - I) \ln t} e^{(\frac{N}{k} - I) \ln(1-t)} dt; \qquad t^{\frac{M}{k} - I} = e^{(\frac{M}{k} - I) \ln t} \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \int_0^1 e^{(\frac{N}{k} - I) \ln(1-t)} e^{(\frac{M}{k} - I) \ln t} dt \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \int_0^1 e^{(\frac{N}{k} - I) \ln u} e^{(\frac{M}{k} - I) \ln(1-u)} du; \qquad 1-t = u \\ &= \frac{1}{k} \int_0^1 u^{\frac{N}{k} - I} (1-u)^{\frac{M}{k} - I} dt \\ &= B_k(N,M). \end{split}$$

Lemma 3.4. Let D, E be diagonal matrices in $C^{r \times r}$ such that Re(z) > 0, Re(w) > 0, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, then

$$B_k(D,E) = \Gamma_k(D)\Gamma_k(E)\Gamma_k^{-1}(D+E).$$

Theorem 3.3. Let M and E be diagonalizable matrices in $C^{r \times r}$ such that MN = NM and Re(z) > 0, Re(w) > 0, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, then

(18)
$$B_k(M,N) = \Gamma_k(M)\Gamma_k(N)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+N).$$

Proof. Since M, N are diagonalizable and commute by [8], they are simultaneously diagonalizable. Let *S* be an invertible matrix in $C^{r \times r}$ such that

(19)
$$S^{-1}MS = D, \qquad S^{-1}NS = E,$$

where *D* and *E* are diagonal matrices. In order to prove (18), by [8, p. 54], if $\sigma(M) = \{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r\}$ and $\sigma(N) = \{\mu_1, \dots, \mu_r\}$, Then $\sigma(M+N) = \{\lambda_1 + \mu_{i_j}\}_{j=1}^r$, for some permutation i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r of $1, 2, \dots, r$. Since matrices *M* and *N* satisfy Re(z) > 0, Re(w) > 0, for all $z \in \sigma(M)$ and $w \in \sigma(N)$, it follows that $\mathbb{R}e(w) > 0$, for all $w \in \sigma(M+N)$. By Lemmas 3.3 and 3.4 and by equation (19), it follows $M+N = S(D+E)S^{-1}$ and

(20)
$$\Gamma_k(M+N) = S[\int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} t^{D+E-I} dt] S^{-1} = S\Gamma_k(D+E)S^{-1},$$

(21)
$$\Gamma_k(M) = S[\int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} t^{D-I} dt] S^{-1} = S\Gamma_k(D) S^{-1},$$

(22)
$$\Gamma_k(N) = S[\int_0^\infty e^{-\frac{t^k}{k}} t^{E-I} dt] S^{-1} = S\Gamma_k(E) S^{-1},$$

and

(23)
$$B_k(M,N) = S[\int_0^\infty t^{\frac{D}{k}-I}(1-t)^{\frac{E}{k}-I}dt]S^{-1}$$

$$(24) = SB_k(D,E)S^{-1}$$

(25)
$$= S[\Gamma_k(D)\Gamma_k(E)\Gamma_k^{-1}(D+E)]S^{-1}.$$

By (20), we get $\Gamma_k^{-1}(D+E) = S^{-1}\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+N)$ and by (21), (22) and (23), it follows that

$$B_k(M,N) = S\Gamma_k(D)\Gamma_k(E)[S\Gamma_k^{-1}(D+E)S^{-1}]S^{-1}$$

= $(S\Gamma_k(D)S^{-1})(S\Gamma_k(E)S^{-1})(S\Gamma_k^{-1}(D+E)S^{-1})$
= $\Gamma_k(M)\Gamma_k(N)\Gamma_k^{-1}(M+N).$

This completes the proof.

Remark Apart from the commutativity hypothesis, the diagnalizability condition of Theorem 2.2 guarantees that every eigenvalue *z* of the matrix M + N lies in the right half plane.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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