

## 1 Introduction

The aim of this paper is to clarify the ordering structure of EDMs (Euclidean distance matrices) and spherical EDMs. In Section 2, we introduce a group majorization ordering for EDMs, and then establish two inequalities. The first inequality deals with the radius of a spherical EDM: It states that the radius of a spherical EDM is increasing with respect to the group majorization ordering; The second inequality concerns the spreadth of the eigenvalues of an EDM: It shows that the larger an EDM is in terms of the group majorization ordering, the more spread out its eigenvalues are. Section 3 is devoted to describing minimal elements with respect to this ordering.

## 2 Ordering for EDMs

Let  $\mathbb{G}$  be a compact subgroup of  $\mathbb{O}_n$ , where  $\mathbb{O}_n$  denotes the group of  $n \times n$  orthogonal matrices, and let  $\mathcal{S}_n$  be the set of  $n \times n$  symmetric matrices. The group  $\mathbb{G}$  acts on  $\mathcal{S}_n$  via the group action

$$\Sigma \rightarrow \Gamma \Sigma \Gamma^T \quad \text{with } \Gamma \in \mathbb{G} \text{ and } \Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_n. \quad (2.1)$$

Hence for each  $\Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_n$ , the  $\mathbb{G}$ -orbit of  $\Sigma$  is given by  $\{\Gamma \Sigma \Gamma^T \mid \Gamma \in \mathbb{G}\}$ . For  $\Psi, \Sigma \in \mathcal{S}_n$ , we write  $\Psi \leq_{\mathbb{G}} \Sigma$  if  $\Psi$  is in the convex hull of the  $\mathbb{G}$ -orbit of  $\Sigma$ . Namely,

$$\Psi \leq_{\mathbb{G}} \Sigma \quad \text{iff} \quad \Psi \in \text{co}\{\Gamma \Sigma \Gamma^T \mid \Gamma \in \mathbb{G}\}, \quad (2.2)$$

where, for a set  $A$ , the notation  $\text{co}A$  means the convex hull of  $A$ . The ordering  $\leq_{\mathbb{G}}$  thus defined is called the group majorization ordering induced by  $\mathbb{G}$ .

To introduce a group majorization ordering for EDMs, let  $\mathbb{G} = \mathbb{P}_n$ , where  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is the group of  $n \times n$  permutation matrices. The group  $\mathbb{P}_n$  acts on the set  $\Lambda_n$  via the same action as in (2.1):

$$D \rightarrow \Pi D \Pi^T \quad \text{with } \Pi \in \mathbb{P}_n \text{ and } D \in \Lambda_n. \quad (2.3)$$

Let  $\tilde{\Lambda}_n$  be the set of all spherical EDMs. Below we often limit our consideration to  $\tilde{\Lambda}_n$ , and hence the following lemma is helpful, which shows that  $\mathbb{P}_n$  acts on the set  $\tilde{\Lambda}_n$  via the same action as in (2.3).

**Lemma 1.** (Kurata and Sakuma (2007)) *For each  $D \in \tilde{\Lambda}_n$  and  $\Pi \in \mathbb{P}_n$ , it holds that  $\Pi D \Pi^T \in \tilde{\Lambda}_n$ .*

**Theorem 1.** (Kurata and Sakuma (2007)) *If  $D_1, D_2 \in \tilde{\Lambda}_n$  satisfy*

$$D_1 \leq_{\mathbb{P}_n} D_2, \quad (2.4)$$

then the following two inequalities hold:

$$\text{radius}(D_1) \leq \text{radius}(D_2) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{center}(D_1) \leq \text{center}(D_2). \quad (2.5)$$

holds, where  $\text{radius}(D)$  denote the radius of the sphere of a spherical EDM  $D$ , and  $\text{center}(D)$  the length of the center of the sphere.

Next we state an inequality on the spreadth of the eigenvalues of an EDM  $D \in \Lambda_n$ . We write  $\mathbf{y} \succeq \mathbf{x}$  if  $\mathbf{y}$  majorizes  $\mathbf{x}$ . For  $D \in \Lambda_n$ , let  $\lambda_1(D) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n(D)$  be the ordered eigenvalues of  $D$ , and let

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}(D) = (\lambda_1(D), \dots, \lambda_n(D))^T : n \times 1.$$

**Theorem 2.** (Kurata and Sakuma (2007), Kurata (2007)) *If  $D_1, D_2 \in \Lambda_n$  satisfy  $D_1 \leq_{\mathbb{P}_n} D_2$ , then  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}(D_2)$  majorizes  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}(D_1)$ :*

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda}(D_2) \succeq \boldsymbol{\lambda}(D_1) \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\lambda}(B_2) \succeq \boldsymbol{\lambda}(B_1). \quad (2.6)$$

### 3 Minimal Elements With Respect To $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_n}$

We call an EDM  $D \in \Lambda_n$  minimal with respect to the ordering  $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_n}$ , if there is no EDM  $\overline{D} \in \Lambda_n$  such that  $\overline{D} \neq D$  and  $\overline{D} \leq_{\mathbb{P}_n} D$ .

**Theorem 3.** (Kurata and Sakuma (2007)) *An EDM  $D \in \Lambda_n$  is minimal with respect to the ordering  $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_n}$  if and only if it is of the form*

$$D = \beta(\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}^T - I_n) \quad \text{for some } \beta \geq 0. \quad (3.1)$$

Finally we consider the problem of describing the smallest element of the convex hull of the orbit of a given  $D \in \Lambda_n$ .

**Theorem 4.** (Kurata and Sakuma (2007)) *For each  $D \in \Lambda_n$  the matrix*

$$m \equiv m(D) = \frac{\mathbf{e}^T D \mathbf{e}}{n(n-1)} (\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e}^T - I_n) \quad (3.2)$$

satisfies

$$m(D) \leq_{\mathbb{P}_n} F \quad \text{for any } F \in \text{co}\{\Pi D \Pi^T \mid \Pi \in \mathbb{P}_n\}.$$

That is,  $m(D)$  is the smallest element of  $\text{co}\{\Pi D \Pi^T \mid \Pi \in \mathbb{P}_n\}$ .

### 4 Spreadth of Configuration

Fix a spherical EDM  $D \in \tilde{\Lambda}_n$  with configuration  $\{\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n\} \subset \mathbb{R}^r$ , and let  $-\mathbf{q}$  be the center of  $\{\mathbf{p}_1, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n\}$ . Then the vectors

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}_i = (\mathbf{p}_i + \mathbf{q}) / \|\mathbf{q}\| \quad (i = 1, \dots, n) \quad (4.3)$$

thus defined are on the unit sphere in  $\mathbb{R}^r$ . Let  $\text{SV}(D)$  be the spherical variance of  $\{\hat{\mathbf{p}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{p}}_n\}$ . Then the following monotonicity result holds.

**Theorem 5.** (Kurata (2007)) *If  $D_1, D_2 \in \tilde{\Lambda}_n$  satisfy  $D_2 \leq_{\mathbb{P}_n} D_1$ , then the inequality*

$$\text{SV}(D_2) \leq \text{SV}(D_1) \quad (4.4)$$

holds.