# AN ITERATIVE ALGORITHM FOR $\eta$-(ANTI)-HERMITIAN LEAST-SQUARES SOLUTIONS OF QUATERNION MATRIX EQUATIONS* 

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#### Abstract

Recently, some research has been devoted to finding the explicit forms of the $\eta$ Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian solutions of several kinds of quaternion matrix equations and their associated least-squares problems in the literature. Although exploiting iterative algorithms is superior than utilizing the explicit forms in application, hitherto, an iterative approach has not been offered for finding $\eta$-(anti)-Hermitian solutions of quaternion matrix equations. The current paper deals with applying an efficient iterative manner for determining $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian least-squares solutions corresponding to the quaternion matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$. More precisely, first, this paper establishes some properties of the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices. These properties allow for the demonstration of how the well-known conjugate gradient leastsquares (CGLS) method can be developed for solving the mentioned problem over the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices. In addition, the convergence properties of the proposed algorithm are discussed with details. In the circumstance that the coefficient matrices are ill-conditioned, it is suggested to use a preconditioner for accelerating the convergence behavior of the algorithm. Numerical experiments are reported to reveal the validity of the elaborated results and feasibility of the proposed iterative algorithm and its preconditioned version.


Key words. Quaternion matrix equation, $\eta$ - Hermitian matrix, $\eta$-Anti-Hermitian matrix, Iterative algorithm, Convergence, Preconditioner.

AMS subject classifications. 15A24, 65F10.

1. Introduction. Let us first present some notations and symbols used throughout this paper. We use $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ to refer the set of all $m \times n$ matrices over the quaternion ring

$$
\mathbb{Q}=\left\{a_{1}+a_{2} i+a_{3} j+a_{4} k \mid i^{2}=j^{2}=k^{2}=i j k=-1, a_{1}, a_{2}, a_{3}, a_{4} \in \mathbb{R}\right\},
$$

and $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ stands for the set of all $m \times n$ real matrices. For a given $m \times n$ matrix $A$, the symbols $A^{T}, \bar{A}, A^{H}$ and $\operatorname{tr}(A)$ are respectively utilized to represent the transpose, the conjugate, the conjugate transpose and the trace of $A$. The real part of a quaternion $a$ is denoted by $\operatorname{Re}(a)$, i.e., if $a=a_{1}+a_{2} i+a_{3} j+a_{4} k$ then $\operatorname{Re}(a)=a_{1}$. For given $a=a_{1}+a_{2} i+a_{3} j+a_{4} k \in \mathbb{Q}$, the conjugate of $a$ is defined by $\bar{a}=a_{1}-a_{2} i-a_{3} j-a_{4} k$.

[^0]The inner product over $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ is defined as follows:

$$
\langle A, B\rangle=\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{tr}\left(B^{H} A\right)\right) \quad \text { for } A, B \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}
$$

and the induced matrix norm is specified by

$$
\|A\|=\sqrt{\langle A, A\rangle}=\sqrt{\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{tr}\left(A^{H} A\right)\right)}
$$

As a natural way, the inner product over $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ can be elucidated by

$$
\left\langle\left[A_{1}, A_{2}\right],\left[B_{1}, B_{2}\right]\right\rangle=\left\langle A_{1}, B_{1}\right\rangle+\left\langle A_{2}, B_{2}\right\rangle
$$

where $\left[A_{1}, A_{2}\right]$ and $\left[B_{1}, B_{2}\right]$ belong to $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n} \times \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$. The set of all $n \times n$ real symmetric and anti-symmetric matrices are respectively indicated by $\mathbb{S}^{n \times n}$ and $\mathbb{A S}^{n \times n}$. A matrix $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ is $\eta$-Hermitian if $A^{\eta H}=A$ and it is called $\eta$-anti-Hermitian if $A^{\eta H}=-A$ where $A^{\eta H}=-\eta A^{H} \eta$ and $\eta \in\{i, j, k\}$. The set of all $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices are respectively signified by $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $\eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$.

The linear matrix equations have a crucial role in many branches of applied and pure mathematics such as control and system theory, stability theory, perturbation analysis, etc; for further details one may refer to [1, 2, 9, 18, 42, 43, 44] and the references therein. So far, several types of iterative algorithms have been proposed for solving various kinds of (coupled) matrix equations in the literature. For instance, Beik and Salkuyeh [3] have presented the Global Full Orthogonalization Method (GlFOM) and Global Generalized Minimum Residual (Gl-GMRES) method to determine the unique solution group $\left(X_{1}, X_{2}, \ldots, X_{p}\right)$ of the subsequent coupled linear matrix equations

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{p} A_{i j} X_{j} B_{i j}=C_{i}
$$

where the nonsingular matrices $A_{i j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $B_{i j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and the right hand side $C_{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ are known matrices for $i, j=1,2, \ldots, p$. In 4], an efficient algorithm has been presented to solve the next coupled Sylvester-transpose matrix equations over the generalized centro-symmetric matrices

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{q} A_{i j} X_{j} B_{i j}+C_{i j} X_{j}^{T} D_{i j}=C_{i}, \quad i=1, \ldots, p
$$

in which $A_{i j}, C_{i j} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_{i} \times n_{j}}, \quad B_{i j}, D_{i j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{j} \times s_{i}}$ and $C_{i} \in \mathbb{R}^{r_{i} \times s_{i}}$ are given matrices and the matrices $X_{j} \in \mathbb{R}^{n_{j} \times n_{j}}$ are unknown for $j=1,2, \ldots, q$. By making use of convex optimization theory, Cai and Chen 8 have proposed an iterative algorithm for finding the least-squares bisymmetric solutions of the coupled matrix equations
$\left(A_{1} X B_{1}, A_{2} X B_{2}\right)=\left(C_{1}, C_{2}\right)$. Ding and Chen [15, 16, 17] have developed some stationary iterative methods named gradient-based iterative methods to solve some kinds of matrix equations. In [11, 13], Dehghan and Hajarian have developed the well-known conjugate gradient (CG) method to solve the ensuring coupled matrix equations

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\sum_{i=1}^{l} A_{i} X B_{i}+\sum_{i=1}^{l} C_{i} Y D_{i}=M \\
\sum_{i=1}^{l} E_{i} X F_{i}+\sum_{i=1}^{l} G_{i} Y H_{i}=N
\end{array}\right.
$$

and

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{c}
A_{11} X_{1} B_{11}+A_{12} X_{2} B_{12}+\cdots+A_{1 l} X_{l} B_{1 l}=C_{1} \\
A_{21} X_{1} B_{21}+A_{22} X_{2} B_{22}+\cdots+A_{2 l} X_{l} B_{2 l}=C_{2} \\
\vdots \\
A_{l 1} X_{1} B_{l 1}+A_{l 2} X_{2} B_{l 2}+\cdots+A_{l l} X_{l} B_{l l}=C_{l}
\end{array}\right.
$$

respectively. In [12], the extended version of the CG method has been examined to solve the succeeding system of matrix equations

$$
\sum_{j=1}^{p} A_{i j} X_{j} B_{i j}=C_{i}, \quad i=1,2, \ldots, p
$$

over the generalized bisymmetric matrices. In [14], the authors have exploited the idea of the CG method to construct an iterative algorithm to find the generalized reflexive and anti-reflexive solutions of the following system of linear operator equations

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{F}_{1}(X)=A_{1} \\
\mathcal{F}_{2}(X)=A_{2} \\
\vdots \\
\mathcal{F}_{n}(X)=A_{n}
\end{array}\right.
$$

The outline of this paper is organized as follows. Before ending the current section, we momentarily describe our inspiration for presenting this paper and express two main problems of concern. Section 2 is devoted to proving some properties of the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices. In Section 3, we propose an iterative algorithm to solve our main mentioned problems and analyze the convergence of the proposed algorithm. The preconditioned version of the algorithm is proposed to accelerate the convergence rate of the method in Section 4. In Section 5, some numerical examples are solved to demonstrate the validity of the established results and effectiveness of the proposed algorithm. Finally the paper is ended with a brief conclusion and some suggestions for further works in Section 6
1.1. Motivations and highlight points. Recently, there is a growing interest to find the solutions of quaternion matrix equations. A linear quaternion matrix equation is a linear matrix equation over the quaternion ring; see [20, 21, 22, $35,40,41$ for more details. We would like to comment here that the quaternion matrices and quaternion matrix equations arise in the fields of quantum physics, signal and color image processing, computer science and so on; for further details see [5, 6, 23, 25, 33, and the references therein. Lately, some research has focused on developing iterative methods to solve such problems, for instance one may refer to [22, 28, 35].

Obtaining the explicit forms of the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian solutions of linear quaternion matrix equations have been studied in [19, 39, 40. It is well-known that the explicit forms are not computationally practical even in the case that the size of coefficient matrices are moderate. More precisely, Yuan et al. 40 have derived the explicit forms of $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian solutions of $A X B+C Y D=E$ and also the explicit forms of the solution pair $[X, Y]$ with least-norm theoretically. Nevertheless there exist some drawbacks for utilizing these forms such as:

- The complicated forms of the obtained explicit solutions and the requirement to compute the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse which would be expensive for large scale quaternion least-squares problems.
- For deriving solutions by means of obtained explicit forms, Kronecker product of matrices is required to be explicitly formed. Therefore the size of original problem increases and causes high computational cost.

These disadvantages in using explicit forms inspire us to develop an iterative algorithm for computing the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian solutions of $A X B+$ $C Y D=E$. We would like to emphasize that, to the best of our knowledge, a neat and feasible iterative technique to solve such solutions has not been examined so far. In the literature, the well-known CGLS method has been successfully implemented to solve different types of matrix equations; the reader may refer to [26, 27, 29, 30, 31, and the references therein. Hence, our main goal is to extend the CGLS method for resolving the least-squares problem corresponding to the quaternion matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$ over the $\eta$ - Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrix pair $[X, Y]$. To this end, we first need to establish some properties of $\eta$ - Hermitian and $\eta$-antiHermitian matrices. For improving the convergence speed of the proposed algorithm, the application of a preconditioner is examined.
1.2. Problem reformulation. For simplicity, we consider the linear operator $\mathcal{M}: \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$
\mathcal{M}(X, Y)=\mathcal{M}_{1}(X)+\mathcal{M}_{2}(Y)
$$

where $\mathcal{M}_{i}: \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ for $i=1,2$. The linear operators $\mathcal{M}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{2}$ are specified by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{M}_{1}(X)=A X B \quad \text { and } \quad \mathcal{M}_{2}(Y)=C Y D \tag{1.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using (1.1), the matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$ can be reformulated in the following form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathcal{M}(X, Y)=E . \tag{1.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

Definition 1.1. Let $\mathcal{L}$ be a linear operator from $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ onto $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$, then the adjoint of $\mathcal{L}$ is denoted by $\mathcal{L}^{*}$ and satisfies

$$
\langle\mathcal{L}(X), Z\rangle=\left\langle X, \mathcal{L}^{*}(Z)\right\rangle
$$

By straightforward computations and using the fact that $\operatorname{tr}(X Y)=\operatorname{tr}(Y X)$, we may conclude that the adjoint operators corresponding to the linear operators $\mathcal{M}_{1}$ and $\mathcal{M}_{2}$ have the next forms

$$
\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(Z)=A^{H} Z B^{H} \quad \text { and } \quad \mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(Z)=C^{H} Z D^{H}
$$

which implies that $\mathcal{M}^{*}=\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}, \mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}\right)$.
In this paper, we focus on the solutions of the subsequent two problems.
Problem 1.2. Presume that the $n \times n$ quaternion matrices $A, B, C, D$ and $E$ are given. Find the matrices $X$ and $Y$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|A X B+C Y D-E\| \text { is minimized, } \tag{1.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $X \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $Y \in \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$.
Problem 1.3. Presume that the $n \times n$ quaternion matrices $A, B, C, D$ and $E$ are given. Suppose that $S_{E}$ stands for the solution set of Problem 1.2, Given $\tilde{X} \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $\tilde{Y} \in \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, find $X^{*} \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $Y^{*} \in \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$
\left\|\tilde{X}-X^{*}\right\|+\left\|\tilde{Y}-Y^{*}\right\|=\min _{[X, Y] \in S_{E}}\|\tilde{X}-X\|+\|\tilde{Y}-Y\| .
$$

2. On the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices. In this section, we scrutinize some properties of the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices which have an essential role for constructing our algorithm to solve the mentioned problems. Exploiting the derived results, two new linear operators are also expounded.

For an arbitrary given $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, suppose that the operators $\mathcal{H}(A)$ and $\mathcal{S}(A)$ give the Hermitian and skew-Hermitian parts of matrix $A$, respectively. That is,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{H}: \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} & \rightarrow \mathbb{S R}^{n \times n} \\
A & \mapsto \mathcal{H}(A)=\frac{1}{2}\left(A+A^{T}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{S}: \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} & \rightarrow \mathbb{A S}^{n \times n} \\
A & \mapsto \mathcal{S}(A)=\frac{1}{2}\left(A-A^{T}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

The following theorem reveals that the set of all $n \times n$ quaternion matrices can be written as a direct sum of $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $\eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$. The theorem supplies a cardinal tool for extending the CGLS algorithm to solve Problems 1.2 and 1.3

Theorem 2.1. Presume that $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $\eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ stand for the set of all $n \times n$ $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices, respectively. Then,

$$
\mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}=\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \oplus \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n} .
$$

Proof. We only demonstrate the validity of the assertion for $\eta=i$, the strategy of the proof for $\eta=j(\eta=k)$ is similar. For clarification, the proof is divided into three steps as follows:

Step 1. In this step, we show that for an arbitrary given matrix $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, there exist matrices $B \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $C \in i \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$
\begin{equation*}
A=B+C \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

To do so, it is required to characterize the structure of the members of $i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $i \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$. Let $B=B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k$ be an $i$-Hermitian matrix, i.e, $-i B^{H} i=B$. Straightforward computations reveal that

$$
\begin{equation*}
B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k=B_{1}^{T}-B_{2}^{T} i+B_{3}^{T} j+B_{4}^{T} k \tag{2.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

In view of (2.2), it can be deduced that

$$
B_{1}^{T}=B_{1}, \quad B_{2}^{T}=-B_{2}, \quad B_{3}^{T}=B_{3} \quad \text { and } \quad B_{4}^{T}=B_{4}
$$

On the other hand if $B_{1}^{T}=B_{1}, B_{2}^{T}=-B_{2}, B_{3}^{T}=B_{3}$ and $B_{4}^{T}=B_{4}$, then it is not difficult to verify that $B=B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k$ is an $i$-Hermitian matrix. With a similar manner, it can be seen that $C \in i \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ (i.e., $i C^{H} i=C$ ) if and only
if $C_{1}^{T}=-C_{1}, C_{2}^{T}=C_{2}, C_{3}^{T}=-C_{3}$, and $C_{4}^{T}=-C_{4}$. Consequently, we may set $A=B+C$ in which

$$
\begin{aligned}
& B=\mathcal{H}\left(A_{1}\right)+\mathcal{S}\left(A_{2}\right) i+\mathcal{H}\left(A_{3}\right) j+\mathcal{H}\left(A_{4}\right) k \\
& C=\mathcal{S}\left(A_{1}\right)+\mathcal{H}\left(A_{2}\right) i+\mathcal{S}\left(A_{3}\right) j+\mathcal{S}\left(A_{4}\right) k
\end{aligned}
$$

where the operators $\mathcal{H}$ and $\mathcal{S}$ are defined as before. Evidently, $B \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $C \in i \mathbb{A}^{( }{ }^{n \times n}$.

Step 2. Here it is demonstrated that if $B \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $C \in i \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ then $\langle B, C\rangle=0$.

Suppose that $B=B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k$ and $C=C_{1}+C_{2} i+C_{3} j+C_{4} k$, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
C^{H} B= & \left(C_{1}^{T}-C_{2}^{T} i-C_{3}^{T} j-C_{4}^{T} k\right)\left(B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k\right) \\
= & \left(C_{1}^{T} B_{1}+C_{2}^{T} B_{2}+C_{3}^{T} B_{3}+C_{4}^{T} B_{4}\right)+\left(C_{1}^{T} B_{2}-C_{2}^{T} B_{1}-C_{3}^{T} B_{4}+C_{4}^{T} B_{3}\right) i \\
& +\left(C_{1}^{T} B_{3}+C_{2}^{T} B_{4}-C_{3}^{T} B_{1}-C_{4}^{T} B_{2}\right) j+\left(C_{1}^{T} B_{4}-C_{2}^{T} B_{3}+C_{3}^{T} B_{2}-C_{4}^{T} B_{1}\right) k .
\end{aligned}
$$

Thence, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle B, C\rangle & =\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{tr}\left(C^{H} B\right)\right) \\
& =\operatorname{tr}\left(C_{1}^{T} B_{1}+C_{2}^{T} B_{2}+C_{3}^{T} B_{3}+C_{4}^{T} B_{4}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

From the earlier discussions in the first step, it is not onerous to see that

$$
\operatorname{Re}\left(\operatorname{tr}\left(C_{i}^{T} B_{i}\right)\right)=0 \quad \text { for } i=1,2,3,4
$$

Step 3. In this part, it is shown that the splitting (2.1) is unique. In fact, if $A=B+C=B^{\prime}+C^{\prime}$ such that $B, B^{\prime} \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $C, C^{\prime} \in i \mathbb{A Q}^{n \times n}$ then $B-B^{\prime}=C-C^{\prime}$. On the other hand, $B-B^{\prime} \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $C-C^{\prime} \in i \mathbb{A Q}^{n \times n}$. Now Step 2 implies that $B=B^{\prime}$ and $C=C^{\prime}$. The result can be concluded immediately from Steps 1, 2 and 3.

The following corollary is a direct conclusion of Theorem 2.1.
Corollary 2.2. For each $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, there exist unique matrices $U_{1} \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $U_{2} \in \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ such that $A=U_{1}^{\eta}+U_{2}^{\eta}$ and $\left\langle U_{1}^{\eta}, U_{2}^{\eta}\right\rangle=0$.

Based on the above lemma, we introduce two useful linear operators as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}: \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} & \rightarrow \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \\
U & \mapsto \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}(U)=U_{1}^{\eta},
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}: H^{n \times n} & \rightarrow \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n} \\
U & \mapsto \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}(U)=U_{2}^{\eta} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Iterative Algorithm for $\eta$-(Anti)-Hermitian Solutions of Quaternion Matrix Equations

We finish the current section by presenting the next two useful remarks.
REMARK 2.3. In view of Theorem [2.1, we conclude that for given arbitrary matrices $U \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, Q \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $W \in \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle U, Q\rangle=\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}(U), Q\right\rangle \quad \text { and } \quad\langle U, W\rangle=\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}(U), W\right\rangle \tag{2.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Remark 2.4. Note that Theorem 2.1 helps us to derive the explicit forms of the operators $\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}(U)$ and $\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}(U)$. For instance, consider the case that $\eta=i$. Then,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}(U)=\mathcal{H}\left(U_{1}\right)+\mathcal{S}\left(U_{2}\right) i+\mathcal{H}\left(U_{3}\right) j+\mathcal{H}\left(U_{4}\right) k, \\
& \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}(U)=\mathcal{S}\left(U_{1}\right)+\mathcal{H}\left(U_{2}\right) i+\mathcal{S}\left(U_{3}\right) j+\mathcal{S}\left(U_{4}\right) k,
\end{aligned}
$$

where the operators $\mathcal{H}$ and $\mathcal{S}$ are defined as before and $U=U_{1}+U_{2} i+U_{3} j+U_{4} k$.
3. Proposed iterative scheme. The well-known CGLS method for resolving the following least-squares problem

$$
\|A x-b\|_{2}
$$

is obtained by applying the conjugate gradient (CG) algorithm on the normal equations $A^{T} A x=A^{T} b$ and the derived algorithm is called CGLS; see [7, 36] for more details. We would like to comment here that the CGLS method is also known as the CGNR method; for more details see [32, Chapter 8].

As a matter of fact, the CGLS method is an oblique projection technique onto

$$
\mathcal{K}_{n}=\left\{r_{0},\left(A^{T} A\right) r_{0}, \ldots,\left(A^{T} A\right)^{n-1} r_{0}\right\}
$$

and orthogonal to $\mathcal{L}_{n}=A \mathcal{K}_{n}$ where $r_{0}=A^{T} b-A^{T} A x_{0}$ and $x_{0}$ is a given initial guess. It can be theoretically shown that in the absent of round-off errors, the CGLS method converges to the exact solution of the normal equations $A^{T} A x=A^{T} b$ within finite number of steps 32 .

The main objective of the present section is to exploit the idea of the CGLS approach for constructing an iterative manner for resolving Problems 1.2 and 1.3 and study its convergence properties. To this end, we mainly utilize the results obtained in the previous section. In the rest of this section, first, an iterative algorithm is offered for determining the solution set of Problem 1.2 Afterward an approach is proposed to solve the second problem.
3.1. An iterative algorithm and its convergence properties. Developing the idea of the CGLS method and using the linear operators introduced in the previous
section, we may propose an iterative algorithm to determine the least-squares the $\eta$ Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian solution pair of the linear matrix equation $A X B+$ $C Y D=E$. The proposed algorithm is given by Algorithm 3.1.

Algorithm 3.1. The developed CGLS method for Problem 1.2,
Data: Input $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, B \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, C \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, D \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, E \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, X(0) \in$ $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}, Y(0) \in \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ and choose tolerance $\epsilon$.

## Initialization:

- $k=0$;
- $R(0)=E-A X(0) B-C Y(0) D$;
- $P_{0, x}=\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(0))\right)$;
- $P_{0, y}=\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(0))\right)$;
- $Q_{0, x}=P_{0, x}$;
- $Q_{0, y}=P_{0, y}$;

While $\quad\left\|R^{(0)}\right\|>\epsilon$ or $\left\|P_{0, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{0, y}\right\|^{2}>\epsilon \quad$ Do:

- $\alpha_{k}=\frac{\left\|P_{k, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{k, y}\right\|^{2}}{\| \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{k, x}, Q_{k, y} \|^{2}\right.}$;
- $X(k+1)=X(k)+\alpha_{k} Q_{k, x}$;
- $Y(k+1)=Y(k)+\alpha_{k} Q_{k, y}$;
- $R(k+1)=R(k)-\alpha_{k} \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{k, x}, Q_{k, y}\right)$;
- $P_{k+1, x}=\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(k+1))\right)$;
- $P_{k+1, y}=\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(k+1))\right)$;
- $\beta_{k}=\frac{\left\|P_{k+1, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{k+1, y}\right\|^{2}}{\left\|P_{k, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{k, y}\right\|^{2}}$;

- $Q_{k+1, y}=P_{k+1, y}+\beta_{k} Q_{k, y}$;
- $k=k+1$;

EndDo
We will inspect the convergence behavior of Algorithm3.1 First we need to recall the next lemma which is called "Projection Theorem" and its proof can be found in 37.

Lemma 3.2. Let $\mathbb{X}$ be a finite-dimensional inner product space, $\mathbb{M}$ be a subspace of $\mathbb{X}$, and $\mathbb{M}^{\perp}$ be the orthogonal complement of $\mathbb{M}$. For a given $x \in \mathbb{X}$, always, there exists an $m_{0} \in \mathbb{M}$ such that $\left\|x-m_{0}\right\| \leq\|x-m\|$ for all $m \in \mathbb{M}$ where $\|$.$\| is$ the norm associated with the inner product defined in $\mathbb{X}$. Moreover, $m_{0} \in \mathbb{M}$ is the unique minimization vector in $\mathbb{M}$ if and only if $\left(x-m_{0}\right) \perp \mathbb{M}$ which is equivalent to say that $\left(x-m_{0}\right) \in \mathbb{M}^{\perp}$.

Theorem 3.3. Suppose that $\tilde{R}=E-A \tilde{X} B-C \tilde{Y} D$ where $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times$ $\eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$. If $\mathcal{L}_{i}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{i}^{*}(\tilde{R})\right)=0$ for $i=1,2$, then $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2 .

Proof. Consider the following linear subspace

$$
\mathbb{V}=\left\{V \mid V=A X B+C Y D, X \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \text { and } Y \in \eta \mathbb{A}^{\mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}}\right\}
$$

Presume that $\tilde{X} \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $\tilde{Y} \in \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$, then $\tilde{E}=A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D \in \mathbb{V}$. Lemma 3.2 implies that $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ is a least-squares solution of $A X B+C Y D=E$ if and only if

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle E-\tilde{E}, A X B+C Y D\rangle=\langle\tilde{R}, A X B+C Y D\rangle=0 \tag{3.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $X \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $Y \in \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$. On the other hand, invoking (2.3), we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle\tilde{R}, A X B+C Y D\rangle & =\left\langle A^{H} \tilde{R} B^{H}, X\right\rangle+\left\langle C^{H} \tilde{R} D^{H}, Y\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} \tilde{R} B^{H}\right), X\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} \tilde{R} D^{H}\right), Y\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(\tilde{R})\right), X\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(\tilde{R})\right), Y\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

Consequently, from (3.1), the assumptions $\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(\tilde{R})\right)=0$ and $\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(\tilde{R})\right)=0$ ensure that $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ is the least-squares solution pair of $A X B+C Y D=E$ which completes the proof.

Lemma 3.4. [24] Let $f(Z)$ be a continuous, differentiable and convex function on subspace $\mathbb{Y}$, then there exists $Z^{*} \in \mathbb{Y}$ such that $f\left(Z^{*}\right)=\min _{Z \in \mathbb{Y}} f(Z)$ if and only if the projection of the gradient $\nabla f\left(Z^{*}\right)$ onto $\mathbb{Y}$ equals to zero.

Remark 3.5. Using Lemma 3.4 we can present an alternative proof for Theorem 3.3. To this end, we define

$$
\begin{align*}
f: \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} & \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\
{[X, Y] } & \mapsto f(X, Y)=\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2} . \tag{3.2}
\end{align*}
$$

It is not difficult to establish that $f(X, Y)$ is a continuous, differentiable and convex function. With a similar approach used in [26], the gradient of $f(X, Y)$ can be obtained. To do so, consider the next auxiliary function

$$
\begin{align*}
g: \mathbb{R} & \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\
t & \mapsto g(t)=f\left(X+t P_{1}, Y+t P_{2}\right) \tag{3.3}
\end{align*}
$$

in which $P_{1}$ and $P_{2}$ are arbitrary quaternion matrices. It can be seen that

$$
\begin{equation*}
g^{\prime}(0)=\left\langle\nabla_{X} f(X, Y), P_{1}\right\rangle+\left\langle\nabla_{Y} f(X, Y), P_{2}\right\rangle \tag{3.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

From (3.2), (3.3) and some straightforward computations, we get

$$
\begin{align*}
g^{\prime}(0)= & 2\left\langle A X B+C Y D-E, A P_{1} B\right\rangle \\
& +2\left\langle A X B+C Y D-E, C P_{2} D\right\rangle \\
= & 2\left\langle A^{H}(A X B+C Y D-E) B^{H}, P_{1}\right\rangle  \tag{3.5}\\
& +2\left\langle C^{H}(A X B+C Y D-E) D^{H}, P_{2}\right\rangle .
\end{align*}
$$

In view of (3.4) and (3.5), it turns out that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \nabla_{X} f(X, Y)=2 A^{H}(A X B+C Y D-E) B^{H}=-2 A^{H} R B^{H} \\
& \nabla_{Y} f(X, Y)=2 C^{H}(A X B+C Y D-E) D^{H}=-2 C^{H} R D^{H}
\end{aligned}
$$

Now from the discussion of this remark, it is not difficult to conclude that if

$$
\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} R B^{H}\right)=0 \quad \text { and } \quad \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} R D^{H}\right)=0
$$

where $R=E-A X B-C Y D$, then $[X, Y]$ is the minimizer of (3.2) over the $\eta$ Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices.

The next theorem can be proved by mathematical induction and its proof is elaborated in Appendix A.

Theorem 3.6. Suppose that $k$ steps of Algorithm 3.1 have been performed, i.e., $\left\|P_{l, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{l, y}\right\|^{2} \neq 0$ and $\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{l, x}, Q_{l, y}\right) \neq 0$ for $l=0,1, \ldots, k$. The sequences $P_{l, x}, P_{l, y}, Q_{l, x}$ and $Q_{l, y}(l=0,1, \ldots, k)$ produced by Algorithm 3.1 satisfy the following statements

$$
\begin{align*}
& \left\langle P_{i, x}, P_{j, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{i, y}, P_{j, y}\right\rangle=0,  \tag{3.6}\\
& \left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{j, x}, Q_{j, y}\right)\right\rangle=0,  \tag{3.7}\\
& \left\langle P_{i, x}, Q_{j, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{i, y}, Q_{j, y}\right\rangle=0, \tag{3.8}
\end{align*}
$$

for $i, j=0,1,2, \ldots, k(i \neq j)$.
Remark 3.7. Note that if in a specific step of Algorithm 3.1] say $l$-th step, we face to the situation that $\left\|P_{l, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{l, y}\right\|^{2}=0$. Then,

$$
P_{l, x}=\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(l))\right)=0 \quad \text { and } \quad P_{l, y}=\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(l))\right)=0
$$

which, in view of Theorem 3.3, implies that $[X(l), Y(l)]$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2. On the other hand, the subsequent computations reveal that if $\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{l, x}, Q_{l, y}\right)=0$, then $\left\|P_{l, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{l, y}\right\|^{2}=0$,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{l, x}, Q_{l, y}\right), R(l)\right\rangle & =\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}\left(Q_{l, x}\right)+\mathcal{M}_{2}\left(Q_{l, y}\right), R(l)\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle Q_{l, x}, \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(l))\right)\right\rangle+\left\langle Q_{l, y}, \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(l))\right)\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle Q_{l, x}, P_{l, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle Q_{l, y}, P_{l, y}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\|P_{l, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{l, y}\right\|^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

The following theorem can be deduced from Theorem 3.6 immediately. The proof of the theorem is straightforward and is omitted.

THEOREM 3.8. For any initial matrix pair $[X(0), Y(0)] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, Algorithm 3.1 converges to the exact solution of Problem 1.2 within finite number of steps in the absence of round-off errors.

In the sequent part of this subsection, our goal is to demonstrate that the leastnorm solution of Problem 1.2 can be obtained by choosing appropriate initial matrices. To this end, let us define the next linear subspace over $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbb{W}=\left\{\left[W_{1}, W_{2}\right] \mid W_{1}=\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} Z B^{H}\right) \text { and } W_{2}=\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} Z D^{H}\right)\right\} \tag{3.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $Z \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ is an arbitrary given matrix.
Lemma 3.9. Let $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ be a solution pair of Problem1.2. Suppose that $\left[N_{1}, N_{2}\right] \in$ $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$. Then, $\left[\tilde{X}+N_{1}, \tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right]$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2 if and only if $A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D=0$.

Proof. If $\left[\tilde{X}+N_{1}, \tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D=0$, then

$$
\left\|A\left(\tilde{X}+N_{1}\right) B+C\left(\tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right) D-E\right\|^{2}=\|A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E\|^{2}
$$

which ensures that $\left[\tilde{X}+N_{1}, \tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right]$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2, Conversely, suppose that $\left[\tilde{X}+N_{1}, \tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{Q}}{ }^{n \times n}$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2. By the hypophysis, $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ is a solution pair of Problem 1.2, therefore

$$
\begin{equation*}
\|A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E\|^{2}=\left\|A\left(\tilde{X}+N_{1}\right) B+C\left(\tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right) D-E\right\|^{2} \tag{3.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

As $[\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y}]$ is a least-squares solution of $A X B+C Y D=E$, Lemma 3.2 implies that

$$
\langle A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E, A X B+C Y D\rangle=0
$$

In view of the above relation and the next computations, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\|A\left(\tilde{X}+N_{1}\right) B+C\left(\tilde{Y}+N_{2}\right) D-E\right\|^{2} & =\|A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E\|^{2}+\left\|A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D\right\|^{2} \\
& -2\left\langle A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E, A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D\right\rangle \\
& =\|A \tilde{X} B+C \tilde{Y} D-E\|^{2}+\left\|A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D\right\|^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

Now the result follows from (3.10) immediately.
Theorem 3.10. If the initial matrix pair $[X(0), Y(0)]$ belongs to $\mathbb{W}$, then Algorithm 3.1 converges to the least-norm solution pair of Problem 1.2,

Proof. Suppose that the initial matrices are chosen such that $[X(0), Y(0)] \in \mathbb{W}$. Presume that $\ell$ steps of Algorithm 3.1 have been performed. In this case, for the sequence of approximate solutions $\{X(j)\}_{j=1}^{\ell}$ and $\{Y(j)\}_{j=1}^{\ell}$ produced by Algorithm 3.1, we have $[X(j), Y(j)] \in \mathbb{W}$ for some $Z \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$. Suppose that $X(j) \rightarrow X^{*}$ and $Y(j) \rightarrow Y^{*}$ as $j \rightarrow \infty$. From Lemma [3.9] it reveals that any arbitrary solution pair $[X, Y]$ of Problem 1.2 can be expressed as $\left[X^{*}+N_{1}, Y^{*}+N_{2}\right]$ such that $\left[N_{1}, N_{2}\right] \in$ $\eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ and $A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D=0$. On the other hand,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle X^{*}, N_{1}\right\rangle+\left\langle Y^{*}, N_{2}\right\rangle & =\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} Z B^{H}\right), N_{1}\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} Z D^{H}\right), N_{2}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle A^{H} Z B^{H}, N_{1}\right\rangle+\left\langle C^{T} Z D^{T}, N_{2}\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle Z, A N_{1} B\right\rangle+\left\langle Z, C N_{2} D\right\rangle \\
& =\left\langle Z, A N_{1} B+C N_{2} D\right\rangle . \\
& =0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence, we get

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\|X^{*}+N_{1}\right\|^{2}+\left\|Y^{*}+N_{2}\right\|^{2} & =\left\|X^{*}\right\|^{2}+\left\|Y^{*}\right\|^{2}+\left\|N_{1}\right\|^{2}+\left\|N_{2}\right\|^{2} \\
& \geq\left\|X^{*}\right\|^{2}+\left\|Y^{*}\right\|^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

This implies that the solution pair $\left[X^{*}, Y^{*}\right]$ is the least-norm solution pair of Problem 1.2. $\square$

The next theorem illustrates that the sequence of approximate solutions generated via Algorithm 3.1 satisfies a minimization property.

THEOREM 3.11. Let $[X(0), Y(0)] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A}^{n \times n}$ be an arbitrary initial matrix pair, then the generated matrix solution pair $[X(k), Y(k)]$ at the $k$-th iteration step is the minimizer of the following optimization problem

$$
\min _{[X, Y] \in U_{k}}\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2}
$$

where the affine subspace $U_{k}$ is expounded as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
U_{k}=[X(0), Y(0)]+\operatorname{span}\left\{\left[Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right],\left[Q_{1, x}, Q_{1, y}\right], \ldots,\left[Q_{k-1, x}, Q_{k-1, y}\right]\right\} \tag{3.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof. Consider an arbitrary matrix pair $[X, Y] \in U_{k}$. From (3.11), there exist real numbers $\beta_{0}, \beta_{2}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}$ such that

$$
[X, Y]=[X(0), Y(0)]+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i}\left[Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right]
$$

We define the next function with respect to $\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}$,
$f\left(\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}\right)=\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
=\left\|A\left(X(0)+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} Q_{i, x}\right) B+C\left(Y(0)+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} Q_{i, y}\right) D-E\right\|^{2} . \tag{3.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is well-known that the function (3.12) is continuous and differentiable with respect to the variables $\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}$. Straightforward computations reveal that

$$
\begin{aligned}
f\left(\beta_{0}, \beta_{2}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}\right)= & \left\|A\left(X(0)+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} Q_{i, x}\right) B+C\left(Y(0)+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} Q_{i, y}\right) D-E\right\|^{2} \\
= & \left\|A X(0) B+C Y(0) D-E+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} A Q_{i, x} B+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i} C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2} \\
= & \|R(0)\|^{2}+\sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i}^{2}\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2} \\
& -2 \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \beta_{i}\left\langle R(0), A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

where $R(0)=E-A X(0) B-C Y(0) D$.
From Algorithm 3.1, it is seen that $R(0)$ can be written as

$$
\begin{align*}
R(0)= & R(i)+\gamma_{i-1}\left(A Q_{i-1, x} B+C Q_{i-1, y} D\right) \\
& +\cdots+\gamma_{0}\left(A Q_{0, x} B+C Q_{0, y} D\right) \tag{3.13}
\end{align*}
$$

for some $\gamma_{0}, \gamma_{1}, \ldots, \gamma_{i-1}$. Note that Lemma 3.4 demonstrates that the necessary and sufficient conditions for minimizing $f\left(\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}\right)$ are

$$
\frac{\partial f\left(\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}\right)}{\partial \beta_{i}}=0, \quad i=0,1, \ldots, k-1
$$

Hence, the optimal solution is obtained as soon as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\beta_{i}=\frac{\left\langle R(0), A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\rangle}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}}, \quad i=0,1, \ldots, k-1 \tag{3.14}
\end{equation*}
$$

Using Eqs. (3.7), (3.8), (3.13) and some computations, we can simplify (3.14) as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\beta_{i} & =\frac{\left\langle R(0), A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\rangle}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}}=\frac{\left\langle R(i), A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\rangle}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}} \\
& =\frac{\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} R(i) B^{H}\right), Q_{i, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} R(i) D^{H}\right), Q_{i, y}\right\rangle}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}} \\
& =\frac{\left\langle P_{i, x}, Q_{i, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{i, y}, Q_{i, y}\right\rangle}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}}=\frac{\left\|P_{i, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{i, y}\right\|^{2}}{\left\|A Q_{i, x} B+C Q_{i, y} D\right\|^{2}}=\alpha_{i}, \quad i=0,1, \ldots, k-1 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Now the result follows from the following fact immediately,

$$
\min _{\beta_{i}} f\left(\beta_{0}, \beta_{1}, \ldots, \beta_{k-1}\right)=\min _{[X, Y] \in U_{k}}\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2}
$$

Remark 3.12. Let us define the sets $U_{k-1}$ and $U_{k}$ as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
U_{k-1} & =[X(0), Y(0)]+\operatorname{span}\left\{\left[Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right],\left[Q_{1, x}, Q_{1, y}\right], \ldots,\left[Q_{k-1, x}, Q_{k-1, y}\right]\right\}, \\
U_{k} & =[X(0), Y(0)]+\operatorname{span}\left\{\left[Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right],\left[Q_{1, x}, Q_{1, y}\right], \ldots,\left[Q_{k, x}, Q_{k, y}\right] .\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

It is obvious that $U_{k-1} \subseteq U_{k}$ which illustrates that

$$
\|R(k)\|^{2}=\min _{U_{k}}\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2} \leq \min _{U_{k-1}}\|A X B+C Y D-E\|^{2}=\|R(k-1)\|^{2}
$$

Evidently, the above inequality demonstrates that the sequence of the norm of residuals produced by Algorithm [3.1] is decreasing which shows that the algorithm is convergent.
3.2. The solution of Problem 2. In this subsection, we briefly express how the second problem can be solved using Algorithm 3.1. Suppose that a matrix pair $[\hat{X}, \hat{Y}] \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \times \eta \mathbb{A Q}^{n \times n}$ is given. Evidently, we may find the solution pair of Problem 1.3 by finding the least-norm solution pair $[Z, W]$ of the following leastsquares problem

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min \|A Z B+C W D-F\|, \tag{3.15}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $Z=X-\hat{X}, W=Y-\hat{Y}$ and $F=E-A \hat{X} B-C \hat{Y} D$.
To this end, we exploit Algorithm 3.1 with the initial matrices $[Z(0), W(0)] \in \mathbb{W}$, e.g. $[Z(0), W(0)]=[0,0]$, for determining the least-norm solution pair $\left[Z^{*}, W^{*}\right]$. Then the solution pair of Problem 1.3 can be obtained by setting $\left[X^{*}, Y^{*}\right]=\left[\hat{X}+Z^{*}, \hat{Y}+\right.$ $\left.W^{*}\right]$.
4. Application of a preconditioner. In this section, we propose a preconditioned form of Algorithm 3.1 for solving Problem 1.2 to accelerate the convergence of the algorithm. Exploiting the offered preconditioner can be profitable when the quaternion coefficient matrices are extremely ill-conditioned. First, we need to recall some theorems and definitions.

Theorem 4.1. 38 Let $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ with $\operatorname{rank}(A)=r$. Then there exist unitary quaternion matrices $U \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ and $V \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ such that

$$
U^{H} A V=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Sigma_{r} & 0  \tag{4.1}\\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right)
$$

where $\Sigma_{r}=\operatorname{diag}\left(\sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots, \sigma_{r}\right), \sigma_{1} \geq \sigma_{2} \geq \cdots \geq \sigma_{r}>0$, and $\sigma_{1}, \sigma_{2}, \ldots, \sigma_{r}$ are the nonzero singular values of quaternion matrix $A$.

Let $A=A_{1}+i A_{2}+j A_{3}+k A_{4} \in \mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ be an arbitrary quaternion matrix, then the real representation of $A$ is specified as follows:

$$
A^{R}=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
A_{1} & -A_{2} & -A_{3} & -A_{4}  \tag{4.2}\\
A_{2} & A_{1} & -A_{4} & A_{3} \\
A_{3} & A_{4} & A_{1} & -A_{2} \\
A_{4} & -A_{3} & A_{2} & A_{1}
\end{array}\right)
$$

From (4.1) and using the properties of the real representation operator (4.2), we get

$$
\left(U^{R}\right)^{T} A^{R} V^{R}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
\Sigma_{r} & 0 \\
0 & 0
\end{array}\right)^{R}
$$

which is the SVD decomposition of matrix $A^{R}$. Consequently, the singular values of the quaternion matrix $A$ and its real representation form $A^{R}$ are the same.

Definition 4.2. The spectral condition number of a quaternion matrix $A \in$ $\mathbb{Q}^{m \times n}$ is defined by

$$
\operatorname{cond}(A)=\|A\|_{2}\left\|A^{+}\right\|_{2}=\frac{\sigma_{1}}{\sigma_{r}}
$$

where $A^{+}$, stands for the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of the quaternion matrix $A$.
By straightforward computations, it can be proved that $\operatorname{cond}(A)=\operatorname{cond}\left(A^{R}\right)$. Developing the idea utilized in [28], the preconditioned form of Algorithm 3.1] to solve (1.2) can be presented. Consider the ensuing four nonsingular preconditioners

$$
\begin{aligned}
& Q_{1}=\operatorname{diag}(1 /\|A(:, 1)\|, 1 /\|A(:, 2)\|, \ldots, 1 /\|A(:, n)\|) \\
& Q_{2}=\operatorname{diag}(1 /\|B(1,:)\|, 1 /\|B(2,:)\|, \ldots, 1 /\|B(n,:)\|) \\
& Q_{3}=\operatorname{diag}(1 /\|C(:, 1)\|, 1 /\|C(:, 2)\|, \ldots, 1 /\|C(:, n)\|) \\
& Q_{4}=\operatorname{diag}(1 /\|D(1,:)\|, 1 /\|D(2,:)\|, \ldots, 1 /\|D(n,:)\|)
\end{aligned}
$$

where for arbitrary given matrix $Z,\|Z(:, i)\|$ and $\|Z(i,:)\|$ signify the Frobenius norm of $i$-th column and $i$-th row of matrix $Z$, respectively. As discussed in 28, the idea behind these choices of preconditionres comes from an established theorem in 34, Theorem 3.5]. As a matter of fact after applying the preconditioners of the above forms, the condition numbers of the coefficient matrices of the obtained preconditioned problem become smaller; for more details see [28, 34].

Consider the equivalent form of (1.3) as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min \left\|A Q_{1} Q_{1}^{-1} X Q_{2}^{-1} Q_{2} B+C Q_{3} Q_{3}^{-1} Y Q_{4}^{-1} Q_{4} D-E\right\| \tag{4.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Assume that

$$
\hat{A}=A Q_{1}, \hat{B}=Q_{2} B, \hat{C}=C Q_{3}, \hat{D}=Q_{4} D, \hat{X}=Q_{1}^{-1} X Q_{2}^{-1}, \text { and } \hat{Y}=Q_{3}^{-1} Y Q_{4}^{-1}
$$

Then (4.3) can be rewritten in the next form

$$
\begin{equation*}
\min \|\hat{A} \hat{X} \hat{B}+\hat{C} \hat{Y} \hat{D}-E\| . \tag{4.4}
\end{equation*}
$$

By employing Algorithm 3.1 to solve (4.4), we can obtain $\hat{X}$ and $\hat{Y}$. Afterward, the solutions of (4.3) can be obtained by setting $X=Q_{1} \hat{X} Q_{2}$ and $Y=Q_{3} \hat{Y} Q_{4}$.
5. Numerical experiments. In this section, we examine some test examples to numerically confirm the validity of the results elaborated in the previous sections and to demonstrate that Algorithm 3.1 is robust and effective for solving Problems 1.2 and 1.3. We comment here that all of the numerical experiments were performed on a Pentium 4 PC with a 2.67 GHz CPU and 4.00 GB of RAM using some Matlab code in MATLAB 8.1.0.604.

Example 5.1. Consider Problem 1.2 where

$$
\begin{aligned}
A & =\left(\begin{array}{cc}
1+4 i+7 j+2 k & 1+2 i-4 j+2 k \\
3+i+4 j+3 k & 1+2 i+3 j+4 k
\end{array}\right) \\
B & =\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-6+i+5 j+8 k & 3+2 i+j+4 k \\
7+9 i+3 j+2 k & -2-3 i+4 j-5 k
\end{array}\right) \\
C & =\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-3+4 i+j+5 k & 0 \\
5+i+3 j+8 k & 0
\end{array}\right), D=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-7+i+2 j-k & -1+2 i+9 j-k \\
-3-3 i+2 j+k & 1+2 i+3 j+k
\end{array}\right),
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
E=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-95.33-75.67 i-110 j-34.83 k & -75-17.67 i-72.33 j-19.17 k \\
-156.7-92.33 i-90 j-64.67 k & -148.5-0.666 i-30.17 j+47.17 k
\end{array}\right) .
$$

We aim to apply Algorithm 3.1 to solve Problem 1.2. In addition, for two given matrices $\hat{X} \in i \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{2 \times 2}$ and $\hat{Y} \in i \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{2 \times 2}$,

$$
\hat{X}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
3+5 j+k & 2-i+2 j+2 k \\
2+i+2 j+2 k & 1+3 j+4 k
\end{array}\right)
$$

and

$$
\hat{Y}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
4 i & -2-0.5 i-2 j-0.5 k \\
2-0.5 i+2 j+0.5 k & -2 i
\end{array}\right)
$$

the solution pair of Problem 1.3 is determined.
It can be verified that the matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$ is consistent over the $i$-Hermitian and $i$-anti-Hermitian matrices as the following $i$-Hermitian and $i$-anti-Hermitian matrices satisfy $A X B+C Y D=E$,

$$
X=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
1+j+k & 0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k \\
0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k & 0.33+0.33 j+0.33 k
\end{array}\right)
$$

and,

$$
Y=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
i & 0.5 i \\
0.5 i & 10 i
\end{array}\right)
$$

In order to resolve Problem [1.2, we set $[X(0), Y(0)]=[0,0]$ as the initial guess and exploit the subsequent stopping criterion,

$$
\|R(k)\|=\|F-A X(k) B-C Y(k) D\|<10^{-10}
$$

Utilizing Algorithm 3.1, the approximate least-norm solution pair of mentioned problem can be derived respectively as follows:

$$
X^{(21)}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
1+j+k & 0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k \\
0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k & 0.33+0.33 j+0.33 k
\end{array}\right)
$$

and

$$
Y^{(21)}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
i & 0.5 i \\
0.5 i & 0
\end{array}\right)
$$

where the corresponding residual norm is $\|R(21)\|=\|F-A X(21) B-C Y(21) D\|=$ $4.1507 \times 10^{-10}$. It can be seen that

$$
\|X\|+\|Y\|=10.3118 \text { and }\left\|X^{(21)}\right\|+\left\|Y^{(21)}\right\|=2.5166
$$

Therefore,

$$
\|X\|+\|Y\|>\left\|X^{(21)}\right\|+\left\|Y^{(21)}\right\|
$$

which confirms the established fact that performing Algorithm 3.1 with the initial approximate of the form (3.9) gives the least-norm solution pair of Problem 1.2, For
more details, the required iteration numbers and CPU time (sec) for the convergence and the Frobenius norm of residuals at different iterates are reported in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1
Numerical results for Example 5.1.

| Iteration | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CPU time | 0.3327 | 0.4354 | 0.5618 | 0.6543 |
| $\\|R(k)\\|$ | 0.0019 | $1.0057 e-10$ | $2.1703 e-12$ | $3.4083 e-13$ |

For solving Problem 1.3 Algorithm 3.1 is used to determine the solution pair of (3.15) in which

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F=E-A \hat{X} B-C \hat{Y} D= \\
& \left(\begin{array}{cc}
143.2+203.3 i-33.5 j+143.2 k & 147+35.83 i+155.7 j+185.3 k \\
374.8+278.7 i+65.5 j+163.3 k & 146.5-56.83 i+176.8 j-158.3 k
\end{array}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

By the following choice of the initial guess $[Z(0), W(0)]=[0,0]$, we derive

$$
\|R(21)\|=\|F-A Z(21) B-C W(21) D\|=5.0558 \times 10^{-11}
$$

The computed approximate solution pair for $\left[Z^{*}, W^{*}\right]$ is given by

$$
Z^{*} \simeq Z^{(21)}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-2-4 j & -1.5+i-1.5 j-1.5 k \\
-1.5-i-1.5 j-1.5 k & -0.6667-2.667 j-3.667 k
\end{array}\right)
$$

and

$$
W^{*} \simeq W^{(21)}=\left(\begin{array}{cc}
-3 i & 2+i+2 j+0.5 k \\
-2+i-2 j-0.5 k & 0
\end{array}\right) .
$$

Using the presented discussion in Subsection 3.2, the solution of Problem 1.3 is calculated by

$$
X^{*}=\hat{X}+Z^{*} \simeq\left(\begin{array}{cc}
1+j+k & 0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k \\
0.5+0.5 j+0.5 k & 0.33+0.33 j+0.33 k
\end{array}\right)
$$

and,

$$
Y^{*}=\hat{Y}+W^{*} \simeq\left(\begin{array}{cc}
i & 0.5 i \\
0.5 i & -2 i
\end{array}\right) .
$$

For more clarification, we exhibit the convergence curves of the methods in Figures 5.1 where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\varepsilon(k)=\log _{10}\|R(k)\| . \tag{5.1}
\end{equation*}
$$



Fig. 5.1. Convergence history for Problem 1.2.

Example 5.2. In this instance, we focus on Problem 1.2 such that

$$
\begin{gathered}
A=A_{1}+A_{2} i+A_{3} j+A_{4} k, B=B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k \\
C=C_{1}+C_{2} i+C_{3} j+C_{4} k, D=D_{1}+D_{2} i+D_{3} j+D_{4} k, \\
\quad E=E_{1}+E_{2} i+E_{3} j+E_{4} k
\end{gathered}
$$

where

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{1}=\operatorname{triu}(\operatorname{hilb}(n)), \quad A_{2}=\operatorname{triu}(\operatorname{ones}(n, n)), \quad A_{3}=\operatorname{eye}(n), A_{4}=\operatorname{zeros}(n, n), \\
& B_{1}=\operatorname{tridiag}(n,-1,2,-1), \quad B_{2}=\operatorname{eye}(n), \quad B_{3}=\operatorname{zeros}(n, n), \\
& B_{4}=\operatorname{tridiag}(n, 0.5,6,-0.5) \\
& C_{1}=C_{2}=C_{3}=C_{4}=\operatorname{ones}(n, n), \quad D_{1}=D_{2}=D_{3}=D_{4}=\operatorname{ones}(n, n), \\
& E_{1}=\operatorname{hankel}(1: n), E_{2}=\operatorname{zeros}(n, n), \quad E_{3}=\operatorname{zeros}(n, n), E_{4}=\operatorname{zeros}(n, n)
\end{aligned}
$$

Our goal is to find the least-norm solution pair of Problem 1.2,
It can be seen that the matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$ mentioned in Example 5.2 is not consistent over $k$-Hermitian and $k$-anti-Hermitian matrices. From Theorem 3.10, it is known that if the initial matrix group $[X(0), Y(0)]$ are chosen so that $[X(0), Y(0)] \in \mathbb{W}$, then the least-norm solution pair can be obtained. We apply

Algorithm 3.1 to solve Problem 1.2 for different values of $n$ with $[X(0), Y(0)]=[0,0]$. The iterations are stopped as soon as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\eta(k)=\log _{10} \sqrt{\frac{\left\|P_{k, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{k, y}\right\|^{2}}{\left\|P_{0, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{0, y}\right\|^{2}}}<10^{-5} . \tag{5.2}
\end{equation*}
$$

The details of numerical results including the required iteration numbers and the Frobenius norm of residuals are recorded in Table 5.2 where $R(k)=F-A X(k) B-$ $C Y(k) D$. The convergence histories are depicted in Figure 5.2 where $\eta(k)$ defined by (5.2).

Table 5.2
Numerical results for Example 5.2.

| $n$ | $\\|X(k)\\|+\\|Y(k)\\|$ | $\min \\|R(k)\\|$ | Iteration |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 20 | 13.3815 | 27.9922 | 76 |
| 40 | 38.8499 | 65.7652 | 178 |
| 60 | 107.3637 | 71.9070 | 287 |



Fig. 5.2. Convergence history for Example 5.2.

REMARK 5.3. We would like to comment here that it is not possible to use the presented scheme in 40 for $n=40,60$ during the programming process due to
the required high computational costs. Whereas Algorithm 3.1 can be successfully handled which reveals the superiority of the proposed algorithm.

Example 5.4. In this example, we examine the efficiency of Algorithm 3.1 for solving sparse quaternion least-squares problems. The test matrices were chosen from HB (Harwell-Boeing) group of Tim Davis's collection [10. The four test matrices utilized in this experiment appear in structural problem (bcsstm01) and directed weighted graph problems (gre_115, gre_185 and gre_343). The sparsity structure of mentioned matrices are illustrated in Figure 5.3 where " $n z$ " stands for the number of nonzero entries of the matrix. In addition, the properties of the test matrices are presented in Table 5.3 for more details.

Table 5.3
The sparsity structure of test matrices for Example 5.4.

| Matrix | number of <br> rows | number of <br> columns | structure | condition number |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| bcsstm01 | 48 | 48 | symmetric | Inf |
| gre_115 | 115 | 115 | unsymmetric | 49.6709 |
| gre_185 | 185 | 185 | unsymmetric | 103.015 |
| gre_343 | 343 | 343 | unsymmetric | 111.976 |

The main objective is to find the solution pair of Problem 1.2 associated with the matrix equation $A X B+C Y D=E$ such that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A=A_{1}+A_{2} i+A_{3} j+A_{4} k, B=B_{1}+B_{2} i+B_{3} j+B_{4} k, \\
& C=C_{1}+C_{2} i+C_{3} j+C_{4} k, D=D_{1}+D_{2} i+D_{3} j+D_{4} k, \\
& \quad E=E_{1}+E_{2} i+E_{3} j+E_{4} k .
\end{aligned}
$$

Presume that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A_{1}=B_{1}=C_{1}=D_{1}, \quad A_{2}=B_{2}=C_{2}=D_{2} \\
& A_{3}=B_{3}=C_{3}=D_{3}, \quad A_{4}=B_{4}=C_{4}=D_{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

The right hand side $E$ is constructed such that $X=\mathcal{L}_{1}^{j}(C)$ and $Y=\mathcal{L}_{2}^{j}(D)$ satisfy $A X B+C Y D=E$. Hence, the problem is consistent over $j$-Hermitian and $j$-anti-Hermitian matrices. The following four instances are examined:

Case 1:

$$
A_{1}=\operatorname{tridiag}(-1,2,-1), A_{2}=\operatorname{bcsstm} 01, A_{3}=\operatorname{tridiag}(1,3,1), A_{4}=\operatorname{bcsstm} 01
$$



FIG. 5.3. The sparsity structure of test matrices.

Case 2:

$$
A_{1}=\operatorname{tridiag}(-1,2,-1), A_{2}=\operatorname{gre} e_{-} 115, A_{3}=\operatorname{tridiag}(1,3,1), A_{4}=\text { gre } e_{-} 115
$$

Case 3:

$$
A_{1}=\operatorname{tridiag}(-1,2,-1), A_{2}=\operatorname{gre} \_185, A_{3}=\operatorname{tridiag}(1,3,1), A_{4}=\text { gre }-185
$$

Case 4:

$$
A_{1}=\operatorname{tridiag}(-1,2,-1), A_{2}=\operatorname{gre} \_343, A_{3}=\operatorname{tridiag}(1,3,1), A_{4}=\text { gre }-343 .
$$

We employed Algorithm 3.1 and its preconditioned version for Example 5.4 the obtained results are presented in the following figures. For Case 1, Algorithm 3.1 has slow convergence rate than preconditioned version since the matrix bcsstm01 is an illconditioned matrix. The convergence histories of Algorithm3.1 and its preconditioned version for this case are depicted in Figure 5.4 where $\varepsilon(k)$ specified by (5.1). However,
for Cases 2-4, the convergence rate of Algorithm 3.1 and its preconditioned version is almost equal as the coefficients are well conditioned. The convergence history of Algorithm 3.1 for Cases 2-4 is plotted in Figure 5.5.


Fig. 5.4. Convergence history for Case 1 of Example 5.4.


Fig. 5.5. Convergence history for Cases 2, 3, 4 of Example 5.4
6. Conclusion and further works. The paper has been concerned with solving two main problems referred Problem 1.2 and Problem 1.3. More precisely, Problem 1.2 deals with solving the least-squares problem

$$
\|A X B+C Y D-E\|=\min
$$

over $X \in \eta \mathbb{H} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ and $Y \in \eta \mathbb{A} \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ matrices. The main aim of the second problem was to obtain the optimal approximate solution pair of Problem 1.2 with respect to an arbitrary given matrix pair. After establishing some properties of the $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices, the well-known CGLS iterative algorithm has been developed to construct an efficient and robust algorithm for solving Problems 1.2 and 1.3. The convergence properties of the algorithm have been analyzed and a preconditioned version of the algorithm has been suggested. Numerical results have illustrated the efficiency and feasibility of the presented algorithm. The proposed iterative scheme can be generalized for solving the following generalized quaternion least-squares problem over $\eta$-Hermitian and $\eta$-anti-Hermitian matrices,

$$
\min \left\|\sum_{j=1}^{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(A_{i} X_{i} B_{i}+C_{i} X_{i}^{H} D_{i}-E_{i}\right)\right\| .
$$

Future work can investigate applying suitable preconditioners to speed up the convergence of the CGLS algorithm for solving the least-squares problems corresponding to coupled matrix equations.

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Appendix A. Proof of Theorem [3.6. Because of commutative property of the inner product $\langle.,$.$\rangle , we only need to prove the validity of Eqs. (3.6), (3.7) and$ (3.8) for $1 \leq i<j \leq k$. For $k=1$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle P_{0, x},\right. & \left.P_{1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{0, y}, P_{1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle P_{0, x}, P_{0, x}-\alpha_{0} \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right) B^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\left\langle P_{0, y}, P_{0, y}-\alpha_{0} \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right) D^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{0, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{0, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{0}\left\langle A P_{0, x} B, \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\rangle-\alpha_{0}\left\langle C P_{0, y} D, \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{0, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{0, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{0}\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & 0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\langle\mathcal{M}( \left.\left.Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{1, x}, Q_{1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{1, x}+\beta_{0} Q_{0, x}, P_{1, y}+\beta_{0} Q_{0, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&= \beta_{0}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{1, x}, P_{1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&= \beta_{0}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\|^{2} \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{0}}\left(\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}\left(R_{0}-R_{1}\right), P_{1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}\left(R_{0}-R_{1}\right), P_{1, y}\right\rangle\right) \\
&=\beta_{0}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\|^{2} \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{0}}\left(\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}\left(R_{0}-R_{1}\right)\right), P_{1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}\left(R_{0}-R_{1}\right)\right), P_{1, y}\right\rangle\right) \\
&= \beta_{0}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{0, x}, Q_{0, y}\right)\right\|^{2} \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{0}}\left(\left\langle P_{0, x}-P_{1, x}, P_{1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{0, y}-P_{1, y}, P_{1, y}\right\rangle\right) \\
&= 0 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Evidently, it can be seen that

$$
\left\langle P_{1, x}, Q_{0, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{1, y}, Q_{0, y}\right\rangle=\left\langle P_{1, x}, P_{0, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{1, y}, P_{0, y}\right\rangle=0
$$

Hence, the equations (3.6) -(3.8) are valid for $k=1$. Suppose that assertions (3.6)(3.8) are true for $i \leq s$. To complete the proof, in the sequel, we demonstrate the validity of the conclusions for $k=s+1$. For $i<s$, it can be deuced that

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\left\langle P_{i, x},\right.\left.P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{i, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
&=\left\langle P_{i, x}, P_{s, x}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) B^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\left\langle P_{i, y}, P_{s, y}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) D^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}\left(P_{i, x}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}\left(P_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}\left(Q_{i, x}-\beta_{i-1} Q_{i-1, x}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}\left(Q_{i, y}-\beta_{i-1} Q_{i-1, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=0
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\langle\mathcal{M}( \left.\left.Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s+1, x}, Q_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}+\beta_{s} Q_{s, x}, P_{s+1, y}+\beta_{s} Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&=\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle R(i)-R(i+1), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(i)-R(i+1)), P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(i)-R(i+1)), P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(i))-\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(i+1)), P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(i))-\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(i+1)), P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
&=\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(i))-\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(i+1))\right), P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(i))-\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(i+1))\right), P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
&=-\frac{1}{\alpha_{i}}\left(\left\langle P_{i+1, x}, P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{i+1, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle\right)=0,
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle Q_{i, x},\right. & \left.P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle Q_{i, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle Q_{i, x}, P_{s, x}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) B^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\left\langle Q_{i, x}, P_{s, x}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) D^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & -\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}\left(Q_{i, x}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}\left(Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & -\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{i, x}, Q_{i, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle=0
\end{aligned}
$$

For $i=s$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle P_{s, x}\right. & \left., P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle P_{s, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle P_{s, x}, P_{s, x}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) B^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
\quad & \quad+\left\langle P_{s, y}, P_{s, y}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H}\left(\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right) D^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{s, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{s, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}\left(P_{s, x}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
& \quad-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}\left(P_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{s, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{s, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(P_{s, x}, P_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{s, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{s, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{s}\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle=0
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
\langle\mathcal{M}( & \left.\left.Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s+1, x}, Q_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}+\beta_{s} Q_{s, x}, P_{s+1, y}+\beta_{s} Q_{s, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\left\langle\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle R(s)-R(s+1), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle R(s)-R(s+1), \mathcal{M}\left(P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, y}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(s)-R(s+1)), P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(s)-R(s+1)), P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{1}^{*}(R(s)-R(s+1))\right), P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle\mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(\mathcal{M}_{2}^{*}(R(s)-R(s+1))\right), P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \beta_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle P_{s, x}-P_{s+1, x}, P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle \\
& \quad+\frac{1}{\alpha_{s}}\left\langle P_{s, y}-P_{s+1, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle=0,
\end{aligned}
$$

and,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left\langle Q_{s, x},\right. & \left.P_{s+1, x}\right\rangle+\left\langle Q_{s, y}, P_{s+1, y}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\langle Q_{s, x}, P_{s, x}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{1}^{\eta}\left(A^{H} \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right) B^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
\quad & \quad\left\langle Q_{s, y}, P_{s, y}-\alpha_{s} \mathcal{L}_{2}^{\eta}\left(C^{H} \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right) D^{H}\right)\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{s, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{s, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{s}\left\langle Q_{s, x}, A^{H} \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right) B^{H}\right\rangle \\
\quad & \quad-\alpha_{s}\left\langle Q_{s, y}, C^{H} \mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right) D^{H}\right\rangle \\
= & \left\|P_{s, x}\right\|^{2}+\left\|P_{s, y}\right\|^{2}-\alpha_{s}\left\|\mathcal{M}\left(Q_{s, x}, Q_{s, y}\right)\right\|^{2}=0
\end{aligned}
$$

Now the result can be concluded from the principle of mathematical induction.


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