

# Positive extensions of matrices indexed by a homogeneous tree

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Let  $T$  be a homogeneous tree of order  $q$  – that is, an acyclic, undirected, connected graph such that every node belongs to exactly  $q + 1$  edges. Let  $T_n$  be a maximal subgraph of  $T$  with the property that the distance between any two nodes of  $T_n$  does not exceed  $n$ , and let  $A = [a_{t,s}]_{t,s \in T_n}$  be a square positive definite matrix indexed by the nodes of  $T_n$ . The matrix  $A$  is said to be *isotropic* if  $a_{t,s}$  depends only on the distance between the nodes  $t$  and  $s$  (in the case  $q = 1$  this means that  $A$  is a real symmetric Toeplitz matrix). The positive extension problem for the matrix  $A$  consists in finding all such isotropic positive definite matrices  $B$  indexed by the nodes of  $T_{n+1} \supset T_n$  that the diagonal block of  $B$  corresponding to  $T_n$  coincides with  $A$ .

In this talk we shall discuss a solution of the positive extension problem based on the canonical form of isotropic matrices, obtained in a joint work with D. Alpay.