



Gain and phase type multipliers for feedback robustness

Downloaded from: <https://research.chalmers.se>, 2026-01-30 03:03 UTC

Citation for the original published paper (version of record):

Ringh, A., Mao, X., Chen, W. et al (2026). Gain and phase type multipliers for feedback robustness. *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, 71(1). <http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/TAC.2025.3590114>

N.B. When citing this work, cite the original published paper.

© 2026 IEEE. Personal use of this material is permitted. Permission from IEEE must be obtained for all other uses, in any current or future media, including reprinting/republishing this material for advertising or promotional purposes, or reuse of any copyrighted component of this work in other works.

Gain-Type and Phase-Type Multipliers for Feedback Robustness

Axel Ringh , Xin Mao , Wei Chen , Member, IEEE, Li Qiu , Fellow, IEEE, and Sei Zhen Khong , Senior Member, IEEE

Abstract—It is known that the stability of a feedback interconnection of two linear time-invariant systems implies that the graphs of the open-loop systems are quadratically separated. This separation is defined by an object known as the multiplier. The theory of integral quadratic constraints shows that the converse also holds under certain conditions. This article establishes that if the feedback is robustly stable against certain structured uncertainty, then there always exists a multiplier that takes a corresponding form. In particular, if the feedback is robustly stable to certain gain-type uncertainty, then there exists a corresponding multiplier that is of phase-type, i.e., its diagonal blocks are zeros. These results build on the notion of phases of matrices and systems, which was recently introduced in the field of control. Similarly, if the feedback is robustly stable to certain phase-type uncertainty, then there exists a gain-type multiplier, i.e., its off-diagonal blocks are zeros. The results are meaningfully instructive in the search for a valid multiplier for establishing robust closed-loop stability, and cover the well-known small-gain and the recent small-phase theorems.

Index Terms—Feedback robustness, multipliers, quadratic graph separation, structured uncertainty.

Received 1 November 2024; revised 7 March 2025; accepted 10 July 2025. Date of publication 17 July 2025; date of current version 30 December 2025. This work was supported in part by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg foundation under Grant KAW 2018.0349, in part by the Wallenberg AI, Autonomous Systems and Software Program (WASP) funded by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, in part by the Hong Kong Research Grants Council under Grant GRF 16200619 and Grant GRF 16201120, in part by the Guangdong Science and Technology Department under Grant 2019B010117002, in part by the National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant 62073003 and Grant 72131001, and in part by the National Science and Technology Council of Taiwan under Grant 113-2222-E-110-002-MY3 and Grant 114-2218-E-007-011-. Recommended by Associate Editor T. Yucelen. (Corresponding author: Sei Zhen Khong.)

Axel Ringh is with the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Chalmers University of Technology and University of Gothenburg, SE-412 96 Gothenburg, Sweden (e-mail: axelri@chalmers.se).

Xin Mao is with the School of Data Science and Society, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599 USA (e-mail: xinm@unc.edu).

Wei Chen is with the School of Advanced Manufacturing and Robotics and State Key Laboratory for Turbulence and Complex Systems, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China (e-mail: w.chen@pku.edu.cn).

Li Qiu is with the School of Science and Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen 518172, China (e-mail: qili@cuhk.edu.cn).

Sei Zhen Khong is with the Department of Electrical Engineering, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung 80424, Taiwan (e-mail: szkhong@mail.nsysu.edu.tw).

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/TAC.2025.3590114

I. INTRODUCTION

ONE of the most fundamental problems in control theory is feedback stability analysis. In this context, it is well known that topological graph separation is both necessary and sufficient for the stability of a well-posed feedback configuration [1], [2]. Such topological graph separation is required to hold in the *hard* (a.k.a. *unconditional* [3]) manner, i.e., the integrals involved are taken over $[0, T]$ for all $T > 0$. A specific type of separation, called quadratic graph separation with linear multipliers, has been studied extensively in the nonlinear [4], [5], [6], [7], [8], [9], [10] and linear [11], [12], [13], [14] literatures. Quadratic graph separation has often been employed in the *soft* (a.k.a. *conditional*) manner, where the integrals are taken over $[0, \infty)$ in conjunction with homotopies that are continuous in the graph topology. In the linear time-invariant (LTI) setting, soft quadratic graph separation is equivalent, via the Parseval–Plancherel theorem, to two complementary frequency-domain inequalities [15]. Such inequalities are the main object of study in this article.

In robust stability analysis, the objective is to determine if a feedback interconnection between a nominal system and a set of uncertainties is stable or not for all uncertainties in the set [16, ch. 9]. One way to guarantee stability is by finding a certificate that the graph of the nominal system is separated from the graph of each of the system in the uncertainty set.¹ In the case of quadratic graph separation, the object of interest is a function of an LTI object known as a multiplier, and the search for a suitable multiplier for characterizing the uncertainty is a common theme in the vast literature on robust control, see, e.g., [5], [6], [20], [21], [22], [23], and [24]. While quadratic graph separation with linear multipliers has, in general, been used as a sufficient condition for robust stability, the chief focus of this article is on the necessity of it. Some elegant results along this direction have been obtained in [25], where it was shown that the closed-loop stability of the interconnection between a matrix and a set of matrices is equivalent to the existence of a multiplier by which quadratic separation holds. In other words, quadratic graph separation is both necessary and sufficient for the closed-loop stability of matrices. Moreover, results along this direction also generalize to LTI systems [25].

This article strengthens the existing results by revealing a number of intricate relationships between the type of feedback robustness and the structure of any multiplier needed to establish such a robustness. Specifically, we define multipliers of the gain

¹ Sometimes, the problem is better formulated in terms of a feedback interconnection between two sets of uncertain systems, see, e.g., [17], [18], and [19]. In this case, the problem becomes to verify that for each pair of systems from the two uncertainty sets, the graphs are separated. The results in this article can be interpreted as any of these two cases.

type (a.k.a. magnitudinal multipliers) to be multipliers whose off-diagonal blocks are 0, and show that the existence of a gain-type multiplier is equivalent with that the closed-loop system is robust against phasal uncertainties, i.e., multiplication by arbitrary stable unitary (i.e., all-pass) transfer functions. On the other hand, multipliers of the phase type (a.k.a. phasal multipliers) are defined as multipliers that are 0 on the diagonal blocks, and we show that the existence of a phase-type multiplier is equivalent with that the closed-loop system is robust against magnitudinal uncertainties, i.e., arbitrary nonnegative scalings. The novelty in these equivalences lies in the necessity-part: if a feedback system is robust against phasal (respectively, magnitudinal) uncertainties, then its robust stability can always be established using a multiplier of the gain (respectively, phase) type. The results are of both theoretical and practical interest: theoretical, since they reveal a fundamental connection between the structure of the uncertainties and the structure of the multiplier; and practical, since they imply that if a feedback system is expected to be robust against a certain form of uncertainties, then the search for a suitable multiplier to establish its robust stability can be restricted to one that admits a prescribed structure, and vice versa.

There are also other methods to determine robust stability in the case of structured uncertainty. One of the most prominent ways is via the structural singular value, μ , in which one considers block-diagonal type uncertainties [26], [27], [28]. While computing the value of μ exactly is, in general, a difficult problem (NP-hard) [29], [30], the celebrated (D, G) -scaling is a computable upper bound for the structured singular value [28], [31], [32]. Moreover, for (among other cases) robust stability with respect to scalar gain uncertainties [31], [32] and to scalar phase uncertainties [33], the (D, G) -scaling bound is known to be tight. It has also been shown that this upper bound being less than one, which is a sufficient condition for robust stability of the interconnection, is equivalent with the existence of a multiplier for characterizing the loop (transfer) matrix [34] (see, also [35], [36], and [37]). In this work, we, among other things, also consider the case of scalar gain and phase uncertainties (see Theorems III.1 and IV.1 for the matrix cases). While the structure of the multipliers in the case of scalar phase uncertainties can be obtained by carefully analyzing and using the results in [33] on the loop (transfer) matrix, we use a different approach to prove our main results, working directly with the multipliers and characterizing both the potentially uncertain open-loop (transfer) matrices as opposed to only the loop (transfer) matrix. Moreover, although the (D, G) -scaling method is closely related to our work, for the three other types of structured uncertainties considered (see, Theorems III.1, III.2, and IV.2, for the matrix cases), existing results related to the structured singular value can, to the best of the authors' knowledge, not be used to establish the necessity of the form of the multipliers for robust stability.

Finally, note that there exist relevant converse quadratic separation results that are different from those examined in this article. Such results typically state that a feedback system is robustly stable against an arbitrary uncertainty characterized by a quadratic constraint if and only if the other open-loop subsystem satisfies the reverse quadratic constraint [38], [39], [40], [41]. However, in these references the multiplier defining the quadratic constraint is explicitly specified, whereas in this work certain forms of feedback stability are shown to imply the existence of a multiplier by which quadratic graph separation of the open-loop systems is defined.

The rest of this article is organized as follows. In Section II, we introduce necessary background material related to quadratic

graph separation and its use in stability analysis of multiple-input-multiple-output (MIMO) LTI systems, and to sectorial matrices and phases of a matrix. In Section III, we analyze the form of multipliers needed in order to guarantee robust stability with respect to certain types of gain uncertainties. The conclusion is that the existence of certain types of phasal multipliers is a both necessary and sufficient condition. Similarly, Section IV is devoted to stability against certain types of phase uncertainties, and the existence of certain types of magnitudinal multipliers turns out to be a both necessary and sufficient condition. In Section V, we use a numerical example to illustrate how the results of this article can be used. Finally, Section VI, concludes this article. In order to improve the readability, some of the lengthier proofs are deferred to appendices in the end of this article.

II. BACKGROUND AND NOTATION

In this section, we present some background material on quadratic graph separation, transfer matrices and multipliers for feedback stability of LTI systems, and sectorial matrices and matrix phases. Moreover, the section is also used to set up the notations; basic notations are introduced in the the following paragraph, and further notations are introduced where needed.

Notations: Let j denote the imaginary unit, i.e., $j^2 = -1$. For two sets \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} , let $\mathcal{A} \cup \mathcal{B}$ denote the union, let $\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}$ denote the intersection, and let $\mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{B}$ denote the set-difference, i.e., $\mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{B} := \{a \in \mathcal{A} \mid a \notin \mathcal{B}\}$. Let \mathbb{R} and \mathbb{C} denote the real and complex numbers, respectively, \mathbb{R}^n and \mathbb{C}^n the real and complex vectors of length n , respectively, $\mathbb{R}_+ := [0, \infty)$, $\mathbb{R}_- := (-\infty, 0]$, and $\mathbb{R}_{--} = \mathbb{R}_- \setminus \{0\}$ are the positive, negative, and strictly negative real numbers, respectively, $\mathbb{C}_+ := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid z = a + jb, a > 0\}$ is the open right-half complex plane, $\mathbb{T} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| = 1\}$ is the unit circle, and $\mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |z| < 1\}$ is the open unit disc. Next, let $\mathbb{M}_{n,m}$ denote the set of complex matrices with n rows and m columns; for square matrices, we simply write \mathbb{M}_n . Let $\mathbb{GL}_n \subset \mathbb{M}_n$ denote the set of invertible matrices, $\mathbb{H}_n \subset \mathbb{M}_n$ denote the set of Hermitian matrices, $\mathbb{P}_n \subset \mathbb{H}_n$ denote the set of (Hermitian) positive definite matrices, and $\mathbb{U}_n \subset \mathbb{GL}_n$ denote the set of unitary matrices. For the corresponding sets of matrices with real entries, we write $\mathbb{M}_{n,m}(\mathbb{R})$, etc. Moreover, on the set of Hermitian matrices we use \succeq to denote the Loewner partial order, i.e., for $H_1, H_2 \in \mathbb{H}_n$, $H_1 \succ H_2$ and $H_1 \succeq H_2$ mean that $H_1 - H_2$ is positive definite and positive semidefinite, respectively; see, e.g., [42, Sect. 7.7]. Furthermore, by \cdot^T and \cdot^* , we denote the transpose and the conjugate transpose of a matrix, respectively, and two matrices $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n$ are said to be congruent if there exists a $C \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that $A = C^*BC$. By I_n , we denote the identity matrix of size $n \times n$; sometimes, the subscript n is omitted when the dimension is clear from the context. Finally, $\lambda(\cdot)$ denotes the set of eigenvalues, and $\sigma(\cdot)$ denotes the set of singular values of a matrix, i.e., for a matrix $A \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, $\sigma_i(A) = \sqrt{\lambda_i(A^*A)}$, and hence, A has m singular values. By convention, the singular values are sorted in a nonincreasing order, and if $m > n$, this means that $\sigma_{n+\ell}(A) = 0$ for $\ell = 1, \dots, m - n$.

A. Graph Separation and Multipliers for Feedback Stability

Let $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, and consider the (negative) feedback interconnection, as shown in Fig. 1. This interconnection is said to be stable if for each $(p, q) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+m}$ there exists a unique vector $(r, w) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+m}$. From the representation in Fig. 1, it follows that $r = p + Bw$ and $w = q - Ar$, or equivalently

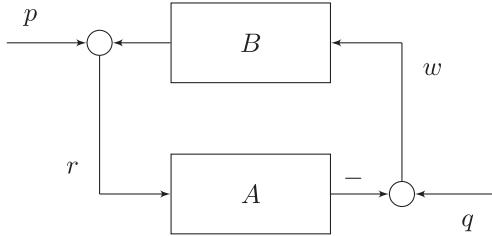


Fig. 1. Block diagram of feedback interconnection.

that:

$$\begin{bmatrix} I_n & -B \\ A & I_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} r \\ w \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, the interconnection is stable if and only if the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} I_n & -B \\ A & I_m \end{bmatrix}$ is invertible, i.e., if and only if $\det\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n & -B \\ A & I_m \end{bmatrix}\right) \neq 0$. The latter is true if and only if $\det(I_m + AB) \neq 0$.

Next, let the graph of a matrix $C \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ be defined as all ordered pairs $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+m}$ such that $Cx_1 = x_2$, and the inverse graph be defined as all ordered pairs (x_2, x_1) . Then, $\det(I_m + AB) = 0$ if and only if there exists a nonzero $(x_1, x_2) \in \mathbb{C}^{n+m}$ such that

$$0 = \begin{bmatrix} I_n & -B \\ A & I_m \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - Bx_2 \\ Ax_1 + x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

where (x_1, x_2) is identified as being a nontrivial element in both the graph of $-A$ and the inverse graph of B . Therefore, $\det(I_m + AB) \neq 0$ if and only if the graph of $-A$ and the inverse graph of B only intersect in the origin, i.e., if and only if

$$\text{range}\left(\begin{bmatrix} I_n \\ -A \end{bmatrix}\right) \cap \text{range}\left(\begin{bmatrix} B \\ I_m \end{bmatrix}\right) = \{0\} \quad (1)$$

where $\text{range}(\cdot)$ denotes the column range of a matrix. A similar condition holds for the stability of a well-defined interconnection of dynamical systems, see, e.g., [43] and [44].

In [25], it was shown that a necessary and sufficient condition for (1) to hold is that there exists a multiplier that achieves quadratic separation. More precisely, (1) holds if and only if there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ such that

$$(I - A^*) P \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -A \end{pmatrix} \prec 0 \quad (2a)$$

$$(B^* - I) P \begin{pmatrix} B \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0. \quad (2b)$$

There are several equivalent forms of this condition. For example, if there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ such that (2) holds, due to the strict inequality in (2a), then this P also satisfies

$$(I - A^*) P \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -A \end{pmatrix} \preceq -\varepsilon A^* A \quad (3a)$$

$$(B^* - I) P \begin{pmatrix} B \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \quad (3b)$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Moreover, by rewriting the (2,2)-block of the block-matrix $P = \begin{bmatrix} P_{11} & P_{12} \\ P_{12}^T & P_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ as $P_{22} = \tilde{P}_{22} - \varepsilon I_m$ in (3), with a slight abuse of notation, we see that there exists another matrix P such that

$$(I - A^*) P \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -A \end{pmatrix} \preceq 0 \quad (4a)$$

$$(B^* - I) P \begin{pmatrix} B \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succ 0 \quad (4b)$$

which, in turn, implies that

$$(I - A^*) P \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -A \end{pmatrix} \preceq 0 \quad (5a)$$

$$(B^* - I) P \begin{pmatrix} B \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq \varepsilon B^* B \quad (5b)$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$. Finally, by rewriting the (1,1)-block of P in (5) as $P_{11} = \tilde{P}_{11} + \varepsilon I_n$, we have that the existence of a multiplier fulfilling (5) implies that there exists a multiplier fulfilling (2). This shows that the conditions (2)–(5) are equivalent. Nevertheless, in the step from (3) to (4), and from (5) to (2), the actual multiplier (and hence also potentially the structure) changes. Since the results in this article are concerned with necessary conditions for existence of multipliers of certain structures, we state all these cases explicitly. For convenience we summarize the results in the following lemmas.

Lemma II.1: Let $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$. If there exists a multiplier $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ such that any of the four conditions (2)–(5) is satisfied, then there exist (potentially different) multipliers such that all the other three conditions are also satisfied.

Lemma II.2 (See [25]): For $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) $\det(I_m + AB) \neq 0$;
- (ii) condition (1) holds;
- (iii) there exists a matrix $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ such that (2) holds.

B. LTI Systems and Multipliers for Feedback Stability

Next, we consider extensions of the aforementioned results to LTI systems. To this end, let us first introduce the function spaces needed (see, e.g., [16] or [45] for more details). Let $\|\cdot\|_2$ denote the matrix 2-norm, and let ess sup denote the essential supremum of a function. Define the Lebesgue space

$$\mathbf{L}_{\infty}^{m \times n} := \{\phi : j\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{M}_{m,n} \mid \|\phi\|_{\infty} := \text{ess sup}_{\omega \in \mathbb{R}} \|\phi(j\omega)\|_2 < \infty\}$$

and the Hardy space

$$\mathbf{H}_{\infty}^{m \times n} := \left\{ \phi \in \mathbf{L}_{\infty}^{m \times n} \mid \begin{array}{l} \phi \text{ has analytic continuation} \\ \text{into } \mathbb{C}_+ \text{ with } \text{ess sup}_{s \in \mathbb{C}_+} \|\phi(s)\|_2 \\ = \text{ess sup}_{\omega \in \mathbb{R}} \|\phi(j\omega)\|_2 < \infty \end{array} \right\}.$$

The latter is the space of all stable transfer functions. Denote by $\mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$ the set of $m \times n$ real-rational proper transfer function matrices, and let $\mathbf{RH}_{\infty}^{m \times n} := \mathbf{R}^{m \times n} \cap \mathbf{H}_{\infty}^{m \times n}$, i.e., the subset of $\mathbf{R}^{m \times n}$ with no poles in the closed right-half complex plane. A $G \in \mathbf{RH}_{\infty}^{n \times n}$ is said to be passive if $G(j\omega) + G(j\omega)^* \succeq 0$ for all $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$, and it is said to be output strictly passive if there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that $G(j\omega) + G(j\omega)^* \succeq \epsilon G(j\omega)^* G(j\omega)$ for all $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$.

Next, consider $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$. Akin to the matrix setting, the (negative) feedback interconnection of G and K is said to be stable if $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$. The following sufficient conditions for feedback stability are significantly important—the first part of the result is well-known whereas the second is less so.

Proposition II.1: Let $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$. Then, $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ if there exists $\Pi = \begin{bmatrix} \Pi_{11} & \Pi_{12} \\ \Pi_{21} & \Pi_{22} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{(n+m) \times (n+m)}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $\Pi(j\omega)^* = \Pi(j\omega)$, $\Pi_{11}(j\omega) \preceq 0$, $\Pi_{22}(j\omega) \succeq 0$

$$\begin{aligned} (I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} &\prec 0 \\ (K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} &\succeq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{aligned} (I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} &\preceq 0 \\ (K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} &\succeq \epsilon K(j\omega)^* K(j\omega) \end{aligned}$$

for some $\epsilon > 0$. Furthermore, if $m = n$ and $G^{-1}, K^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$, then $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ if there exists $\Pi \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{(2m) \times (2m)}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $\Pi(j\omega)^* = \Pi(j\omega)$, $\Pi_{11}(j\omega) \succeq 0$, $\Pi_{22}(j\omega) \preceq 0$, and (6) holds.

Proof: If $\Pi_{11}(j\omega) \preceq 0$ and $\Pi_{22}(j\omega) \succeq 0$, then

$$(K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

is equivalent to

$$(\alpha K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} \alpha K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

for all $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. Feedback stability can then be established using the Parseval–Plancherel theorem as in [15, Thm. 3.1] and the theory of integral quadratic constraints [6, Thm. 1] or [9, Corollary IV.3], where the proofs are written purely in the time domain. An alternative, more direct frequency-domain proof is provided below for completeness.

By applying Lemma II.2 frequencywise, it holds that $\det(I + \alpha G(j\omega)K(j\omega)) \neq 0$ for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$ and $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. It remains to show that $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s)) \neq 0$ for all $s \in \mathbb{C}_+$, from which $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ follows. To this end, observe that since $GK \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$, $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s)) \neq 0$ for all $s \in \mathbb{C}_+$ for sufficiently small $\alpha > 0$. Suppose to the contrapositive that $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s)) = 0$ for some $s \in \mathbb{C}_+$. Then, by the continuity of the locations of the zeros of $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s))$ in α , there must exist an $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and an $\omega \in [0, \infty]$ such that $\det(I + \alpha G(j\omega)K(j\omega)) = 0$, leading to a contradiction. Therefore, it must be true that $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s)) \neq 0$ for all $s \in \mathbb{C}_+$ and $\alpha \in [0, 1]$.

On the other hand, if $\Pi_{11}(j\omega) \succeq 0$ and $\Pi_{22}(j\omega) \preceq 0$, then

$$(K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

is equivalent to

$$(\alpha K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} \alpha K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

for all $\alpha \geq 1$. Since $G^{-1}, K^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$, by the large gain theorem [46, Thm. 4.1], $(I + \alpha GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ for sufficiently large $\alpha \geq 1$. By repeating the preceding arguments, one may then establish that $\det(I + \alpha G(s)K(s)) \neq 0$ for all $s \in \mathbb{C}_+$ and $\alpha \geq 1$, from which $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ follows. \blacksquare

Remark II.1: Proposition II.1 remains true when all the inequality signs therein are flipped.

The following necessary condition for feedback stability, complementing the sufficient condition in Proposition II.1, can be proved by using a construction from [25].

Proposition II.2: Let $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$. Then, $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ only if there exists $\Pi \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{(n+m) \times (n+m)}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $\Pi(j\omega)^* = \Pi(j\omega)$

$$\begin{aligned} (I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} &\prec 0 \\ (K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} &\succeq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Proof: That $(I + GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ implies that $\inf_{\omega \in \mathbb{R}} |\det(I + K(j\omega)G(j\omega))|^2 > 0$ for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$. Following the proof in [25, Corollary 1] frequencywise, define

$$\Pi(j\omega) := \begin{pmatrix} G(j\omega)^* \\ I \end{pmatrix} (G(j\omega) - I) - \epsilon I.$$

The claim may now be verified to hold for sufficiently small $\epsilon > 0$. \blacksquare

C. Sectorial Matrices and Matrix Phases

The numerical range, also called the field of values, of a matrix $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$ is defined as

$$W(A) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid z = x^* Ax, x \in \mathbb{C}^n, \|x\|^2 := x^* x = 1\}.$$

By the Toeplitz–Hausdorff theorem, for any $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$, the numerical range $W(A)$ is a compact convex subset of \mathbb{C} , see, e.g., [47, Properties 1.2.1 and 1.2.2], [48, Thm. 4.1], or [49, Thm. 1.1–2]. Moreover, the numerical range of a matrix always contains its eigenvalues [47, Property 1.2.6]. Next, the conic hull of $W(A)$, i.e., the smallest convex cone that contains the numerical range, is given by the set

$$W'(A) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid z = x^* Ax, x \in \mathbb{C}^n, x \neq 0\}$$

which is called the angular numerical range [47, Def. 1.1.2]. In particular, by the convexity of $W(A)$, it follows that if $0 \notin W(A)$, then $W(A)$ is contained in an open half-plane, and hence, the opening angle of $W'(A)$ is strictly less than π —such matrices are called *sectorial*. If $0 \notin \text{int}W(A)$, i.e., not in the interior, then $W(A)$ is contained in a closed half-plane, and hence, the opening angle of $W'(A)$ is less than or equal to π —such matrices are called *semisectorial*. If $0 \in \text{int}W(A)$, then $W'(A) = \mathbb{C}$, and the opening angle is defined to be 2π (cf., [47, Def. 1.1.3]). Clearly, all sectorial matrices are also semisectorial. However, there exist matrices that are not sectorial but for which the opening angle of the angular numerical range is strictly less

than π ; see Remark II.2 for details. In light of this, we define the set of *quasi-sectorial* matrices as the set of all semisectorial matrix A with opening angle of $W'(A)$ strictly less than π . This definition gives the (strict) inclusions

$$\text{sectorial} \subset \text{quasi-sectorial} \subset \text{semisectorial}.$$

Finally, an important subset of sectorial matrices is the set of *strictly accretive* matrices, which is defined as

$$\mathbb{A}_n := \{A \in \mathbb{M}_n \mid A + A^* \succ 0\}.$$

The closure of this set is the set of accretive matrices, i.e., the set of all matrices $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$ such that $A + A^* \succeq 0$, which is a subset of the semisectorial matrices. In relation to this, we also define a matrix to be *quasi-strictly accretive* if it is accretive and quasi-sectorial (cf., Remark II.2).

All sectorial matrices can be diagonalized by congruence [50], [51], [52], [53]. More specifically, any sectorial matrix A can be written as $A = T^*DT$, where $T \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, and $D \in \mathbb{U}_n$ is diagonal. This is called the *sectorial factorization* [53], and the matrix D is unique up to ordering of the diagonal elements [52], [53]. Based on this factorization, following [54], we define the phases of a sectorial matrix to be the phases of the eigenvalues of D , and denote them by

$$\phi(A) = [\phi_1(A), \phi_2(A), \dots, \phi_n(A)]^T.$$

Each phase is only defined modulo 2π , but by convention we sort them nonincreasingly, i.e., as

$$\bar{\phi}(A) := \phi_1(A) \geq \phi_2(A) \geq \dots \geq \phi_n(A) =: \underline{\phi}(A)$$

and define them so that $\bar{\phi}(A) - \underline{\phi}(A) < \pi$. With this convention, we can, for example, see that the phases of a sectorial matrix are invariant under congruence transformations, and that strictly accretive matrices are sectorial matrices with phases contained in $(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ modulo 2π . The phases of a sectorial matrix have many nice properties, and can, for example, be used to guarantee that a matrix of the form $I + AB$ is of full rank; for an in-depth treatment of matrix phases we refer the reader to [54]. Moreover, the definition of phases can be extended to all semisectorial matrices; for the extension to quasi-sectorial matrices, see Remark II.2, and for the extension in the general case, see, [55], [56], and [57] for details. In any case, we still use $\bar{\phi}(A)$ and $\underline{\phi}(A)$ to denote the largest and smallest phases, respectively.

Remark II.2: Since the eigenvalues of a matrix are contained in its numerical range, any sectorial matrix must be full rank. The set of quasi-sectorial matrices extends the sectorial matrices to the set of matrices A for which the opening angle of $W'(A)$ is strictly less than π , but that are not necessarily of full rank. In particular, let $A \in \mathbb{M}_n$ be a quasi-sectorial but not sectorial matrix. Then, the origin must be a sharp point on $\partial W(A)$, i.e., the boundary of $W(A)$. This implies that 0 is a normal eigenvalue of A , and that there exists a $U \in \mathbb{U}_n$ such that

$$A = U \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{A} \end{bmatrix} U^*$$

where \tilde{A} is sectorial and $\text{rank}(\tilde{A}) = \text{rank}(A)$ [47, Thm. 1.6.6]. The phases of a quasi-sectorial matrix is hence defined as the phases of \tilde{A} , and quasi-sectorial matrix, thus, have between 1 and n phases.

Use of phases in MIMO LTI systems: The concepts of magnitude and phase are well-established in the context of single-input-single-output LTI systems, and they both constitute highly useful and complementary tools. However, while the concept of system gain has a generally accepted and useful generalization to MIMO LTI systems, including small-gain theorems for robust stability, the concept of phase has attracted much less attention. Early works trying to establish definitions of phases with useful properties in the MIMO setting can be found in, e.g., [58], [59], [60], [61], and [62]. Recently, there has been a renewed interest in the concept of phases for MIMO systems, both for LTI systems [56], [63], [64] and for nonlinear systems [65], with small-phase theorems for robust stability as a result. This concept of phases for MIMO LTI systems builds on the concept of matrix phases [54], as introduced above, and can also be seen as a quantitative generalization of passive and negative imaginary systems [56]. As will be seen below it is also connected to quadratic graph separation. In fact, this notion of phase turns out to be, in some sense, the correct notion in order to guarantee robust stability against certain types of magnitudinal uncertainties (see Section III).

III. MULTIPLIERS OF PHASE TYPE

In this section, we investigate the necessity of certain multipliers of phase type for robust stability of feedback interconnections with respect to magnitudinal uncertainties. In particular, we first show that $I + AB$ is nonsingular for magnitude scaling and certain congruence transformations, respectively, only if there exists certain types of phasal multipliers. The results are then extended to MIMO LTI systems.

A. Multipliers for Stability Under Scaling Uncertainty

One of the simplest forms of uncertainty is an uncertainty in the scaling of one of the matrices. In order to guarantee that the interconnection is stable for all scalings, it would, therefore, be desirable to show that $I + \tau AB$ is nonsingular for all $\tau \in \mathbb{R}_+$. For $A, B \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, that is equivalent to that $\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{R}_- = \emptyset$, i.e., that the intersection is empty, and necessary and sufficient conditions for the latter is given in the following proposition.

Proposition III.1: Given $A, B \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, there exists an $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that HA and H^*B are strictly accretive if and only if $\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{R}_- = \emptyset$.

Proof: The proof follows by using results in [54] and [66]. More precisely, first assume $\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{R}_- = \emptyset$. Then, by [66, Thm. 1] we have that the matrix AB can be factored as $\tilde{A}\tilde{B}$, where $\tilde{A}, \tilde{B} \in \mathbb{A}_n$. Let $H^* = \tilde{B}\tilde{B}^{-1}$, then $H^*B = \tilde{B} \in \mathbb{A}_n$. Moreover, by congruence we have that HA is accretive if and only if $H^{-1}(HA)H^{-*} = AH^{-*}$ is accretive. For the latter, we have that $AH^{-*} = AB\tilde{B}^{-1} = \tilde{A}\tilde{B}\tilde{B}^{-1} = \tilde{A} \in \mathbb{A}_n$, and hence, there exists an $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ so that $HA, H^*B \in \mathbb{A}_n$. This proves the “if” statement. To show the “only if” statement, assume that there exists an H so that $HA, H^*B \in \mathbb{A}_n$. Again, by congruence $HA \in \mathbb{A}_n$ if and only if $AH^{-*} \in \mathbb{A}_n$. By [54, Thm. 6.2], it follows that $AB = AH^{-*}H^*B$ have no eigenvalues along \mathbb{R}_- . ■

The result in Proposition III.1 can be understood in terms of the existence of a phasal multiplier $P \in \mathbb{H}_{2n}$ that fulfills (2), i.e., a multiplier P where only the off-diagonal blocks are nonzero and where in fact both inequalities in (2) are strict (see [32, Corollary VI.2]). In particular, this formally confirms the intuition that in order to show that the interconnection is

stable under an arbitrary positive scaling uncertainty, a certain type of “phase information” is the only thing that is needed. Moreover, these results can be strengthened to (certain) matrices, which are not of full rank as follows.

Theorem III.1: Given $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n$, assume that if zero is an eigenvalue of AB , then it is semisimple.² Then, the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) $\det(I + \tau AB) \neq 0$ for all $\tau \geq 0$;
- (ii) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{2n}$ fulfilling (3), and P takes the form

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & H \\ H^* & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

for some $H \in \mathbb{M}_n$;

- (iii) for the eigenvalues of AB , it holds that

$$\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{R}_{--} = \emptyset. \quad (8)$$

Proof: See Appendix A. \blacksquare

If the matrix A in Theorem III.1 is full rank, then the statement in Theorem III.1(ii) can be strengthened and a number of other equivalent conditions can also be derived. In particular, the multiplier H can be chosen to be nonsingular and strict accretiveness of HA can be guaranteed.

Corollary III.1: Let $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n$ be as in Theorem III.1. If $A \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, then the statements in Theorem III.1 are also equivalent to the following:

- (iv) there exists an $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that HA is strictly accretive and H^*B is quasi-strictly accretive;
- (v) there exists an $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that HA is strictly accretive and H^*B is accretive.

Moreover, the multiplier P in Theorem III.1(ii) can be selected so that it fulfills (2).

Proof: See Appendix A. \blacksquare

In many applications, we would be interested in corresponding results for real-valued matrices. By just slightly modifying the proof of the theorem, we have the following corollary.

Corollary III.2: Under the assumptions in Theorem III.1, if $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$, then the same conclusion is true where we can restrict H to also be real.

Proof: See Appendix A. \blacksquare

Observe that, in general, it is not possible to relax the assumption in Theorem III.1 that if zero is an eigenvalue of AB , then it is semisimple. This can be seen by the following counterexample for 3×3 matrices, where the zeroeigenvalue of AB has a Jordan block of size 2×2 .

Example III.1: Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = I_3, \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} & h_{12} & h_{13} \\ h_{21} & h_{22} & h_{23} \\ h_{31} & h_{32} & h_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

and note that $\det(I + \tau AB) = 1 + \tau \neq 0$ for all $\tau \geq 0$. Moreover, $A^*A = \text{diag}(1, 0, 1)$. Next, note that the existence of a multiplier of the form (7) that fulfills any of the conditions (2)–(5) would imply that both $HA + A^*H^* \succeq 0$ and $H^*B + B^*H \succeq 0$.

² An eigenvalue is called semisimple if its algebraic and geometric multiplicities are the same [42, Def. 1.4.3]. This is equivalent with that all Jordan blocks corresponding to the eigenvalue are of size 1×1 [42, Prob. 3.1.P5].

A direct calculation gives that

$$HA + A^*H^* = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} + h_{11}^* & h_{12} + h_{31}^* & h_{13} \\ h_{31} + h_{12}^* & h_{32} + h_{32}^* & h_{33} \\ h_{13}^* & h_{33}^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and for this to be positive semidefinite, we must have $h_{13} = h_{33} = 0$, see, e.g., [42, Observation 7.1.10]. Therefore, $HA + A^*H^*$ has at most rank 2, and can hence only be positive semidefinite. This means that there is no multiplier of the form (7) that fulfills (2). Moreover, it is easily seen that $HA + A^*H^* \not\succeq \epsilon A^*A$ for all $\epsilon > 0$, and therefore, there is no multiplier of the form (7) that satisfies (3). Next, note that

$$H^*B + B^*H = H + H^* = \begin{bmatrix} h_{11} + h_{11}^* & h_{12} + h_{21}^* & h_{31}^* \\ h_{21} + h_{12}^* & h_{22} + h_{22}^* & h_{23} + h_{32}^* \\ h_{31} & h_{32} + h_{23}^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

which, similar to above, can only be positive semidefinite if $h_{31} = 0$ and $h_{32} = -h_{23}^*$. However, that means that $H + H^*$ has rank 2, and hence can only be positive semidefinite. Moreover, for all $\epsilon > 0$ we, therefore, also have that $H^*B + B^*H \not\succeq \epsilon B^*B$. Thus, there is no multiplier of the form (7) that satisfies (4) or (5).

Nevertheless, while the abovementioned counterexample shows that the condition on the semisimple zero-eigenvalue can in general not be relaxed, the case for matrices of size 2×2 is still open. The following gives an example of where there exists a multiplier of the form (7) that fulfills (3), despite the fact that that zero is an eigenvalue of AB which is not semisimple.

Example III.2: Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = I_2, \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and note that $\det(I + \tau AB) = 1 \neq 0$ for all $\tau \geq 0$. A direct calculation gives that $A^*A = \text{diag}(0, 1)$, that $HA = \text{diag}(0, 1)$, and that $H^*B + HB^* = H^* + H = \text{diag}(0, 2)$. Therefore, for $\epsilon = 1$ we have that P as in (7) fulfills (3).

Remark III.1: Theorem III.1 appears to be intrinsically and closely related to μ -analysis when AB is invertible. In particular, it may be established using the μ -analysis results in [31] and [34] that (i) in Theorem III.1 implies that there exists $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that $HAB + B^*A^*H^* > 0$ and $H + H^* > 0$, which may also be established via (iv) in Corollary III.1. Further investigation into the delicate relation between Theorem III.1 and μ -analysis does not appear to be straightforward and is a worthwhile future research direction of significant importance.

B. Multipliers for Stability Under Congruence

The results in Theorem III.1 show that stability under magnitude scaling is equivalent to the existence of a phasal multiplier. Interesting to note in this context is that for this limited (and in some sense minimal) set of magnitudinal perturbations, the set of possible multipliers of phase type to which we could restrict our attention, and still have a necessary and sufficient condition for robust stability, is large (and in some sense maximal). Motivated by this, we next investigate a type of perturbations against which a minimal set of phasal multipliers can guarantee robust stability. In this case, we have the following result.

Theorem III.2: Given $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n \setminus \{0\}$, the following statements are equivalent:

(i) $\det(I + T^* A T S^* B S) \neq 0$ for all $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n$;
(ii) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{2n}$ fulfilling (5) or (3), and which takes the form

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & zI \\ z^* I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

for some $z \in \mathbb{T}$;

(iii) one matrix is quasi-sectorial, the other is semisectorial, $\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B) < \pi$, and $\underline{\phi}(A) + \underline{\phi}(B) > -\pi$.

Finally, if the quasi-sectorial matrix in (iii) is of full rank, then the multiplier P in (ii) fulfills (2) and (4). \blacksquare

Proof: See Appendix B.

Remark III.2: The result in Theorem III.2 is a type of small-phase theorem, akin to [57, Thm. 7.1]. The difference is that Theorem III.2 considers robust stability against congruence of two given matrices, while [57, Thm. 7.1] considers robust stability with respect to a matrix cone of semisectorial matrices. Nevertheless, note that when $B = I$, the result in Theorem III.2 specializes to robust stability against the matrix cone \mathbb{P}_n .

Similar to before, we get the following real-valued version of the theorem as a corollary.

Corollary III.3: Theorem III.2 remains true when A, B, T, S , and z are all real.

Proof: This can be established by noting that a real matrix A is semisectorial if and only if either $A + A^T \succeq 0$ or $A + A^T \preceq 0$. \blacksquare

C. Phasal Multipliers for LTI Systems

Next, we extend the above results to LTI systems. In particular, in Section II, it was shown how quadratic graph-separation results for matrices can be extended to LTI systems. Here, we follow along the same line. In particular, for magnitudinal perturbations, we have the following necessary and sufficient conditions for stability.

Theorem III.3: Given $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ for which any potential zero-eigenvalue of $G(j\omega)K(j\omega)$, for $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, is semisimple, then $(I + \tau G K)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ for all $\tau > 0$ if and only if there exists an $H \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{n \times n}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$

$$(I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \preceq -\epsilon G(j\omega)^* G(j\omega)$$

$$(K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

where

$$\Pi(j\omega) := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & H(j\omega) \\ H(j\omega)^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof: Sufficiency follows from Proposition II.1, Remark II.1, and the fact that the inequality

$$(K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

implies that

$$(\tau K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} \tau K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

for all $\tau > 0$. Necessity can be established by applying Theorem III.1 and Corollary III.2 frequencywise in a similar fashion to the proof of Proposition II.2. In particular, since G and K are continuous on the imaginary axis, Π may also be chosen to be continuous on the imaginary axis. \blacksquare

Remark III.3: By examining a transfer function matrix frequencywise, analogous observations to those in Remark III.1 are applicable in the context of Theorem III.3.

The abovementioned result shows that if the feedback interconnection is robustly stable against arbitrary positive scaling, then only phasal properties of the open-loop components are required to establish its stability, i.e., any corresponding multiplier Π has its diagonal blocks being 0.

Analogously, the following two results, which establish sufficiency and necessity for stability under real congruence transformations, may be readily derived.

Theorem III.4: Given $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$, then $(I + T^T G T S^T K S)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ for all $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, if there exists $z \in \mathbf{L}_\infty$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, then

$$(I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \preceq -\epsilon G(j\omega)^* G(j\omega) \quad (9)$$

$$(K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

or

$$(I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \preceq 0 \quad (10)$$

$$(K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq \epsilon K(j\omega)^* K(j\omega)$$

where

$$\Pi(j\omega) := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & z(j\omega)I \\ z(j\omega)^* I & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof: Observe that (9) implies that for all $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$, there exists ϵ_T such that

$$(I - T^T G(j\omega)^* T) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -T^T G(j\omega) T \end{pmatrix} \preceq -\epsilon_T T^T G(j\omega)^* T T^T G(j\omega) T$$

$$(S^T K(j\omega)^* S \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} S^T K(j\omega) S \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

and similarly for (10). The claim then follows from Proposition II.1 and Remark II.1. \blacksquare

Theorem III.5: Given $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$, then $(I + T^T G T S^T K S)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ for all $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n(\mathbb{R})$ only if for $\omega \in \{0, \infty\}$

$$(I - G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \preceq -\epsilon G(j\omega)^* G(j\omega)$$

$$(K(j\omega)^* \quad I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0$$

or

$$(I - G(j\omega)^* \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \preceq 0$$

$$(K(j\omega)^* - I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq \epsilon K(j\omega)^* K(j\omega)$$

where for each $\omega \in \{0, \infty\}$

$$\Pi(j\omega) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } -\begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof: This follows by applying Corollary III.3 to the pairs of real matrices $\{G(j0), K(j0)\}$ and $\{G(j\infty), K(j\infty)\}$. \blacksquare

The separation condition in the abovementioned theorem holds for sufficiently small and large frequencies by the continuity of the transfer functions G and K . Such properties are useful, for instance, in the study of negative imaginary systems [67], where an example of open-loop systems being passive on sufficiently small and large frequencies and negative imaginary elsewhere can be found.

Example III.3: Let $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ be output strictly passive and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ be passive. Then, they satisfy the separation conditions in all three of the theorems mentioned above with

$$\Pi := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I \\ I & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This is a well-known passivity theorem.

IV. MULTIPLIERS OF GAIN TYPE

In the previous section, we investigated the necessity of phasal multipliers in order to guarantee robust stability with respect to certain magnitudinal perturbations. In this section, we turn to the necessity of magnitudinal multipliers in order to guarantee robust stability with respect to certain phasal perturbations.

A. Multiplier for Stability Under Scalar Rotation Uncertainty

In analogy with Section III, we first consider scalar rotational uncertainties. In this case, we have the following result.

Theorem IV.1: Given $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) $\det(I + e^{j\theta} AB) \neq 0$ for all $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$;
- (ii) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ fulfilling (2), with both inequalities strict, which takes the form

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} -N & 0 \\ 0 & M \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

for some $N \in \mathbb{H}_n$ and $M \in \mathbb{H}_m$;

- (iii) for the eigenvalues of AB , it holds that

$$\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{T} = \emptyset; \quad (12)$$

- (iv) there exists $M \in \mathbb{H}_m$ and $N \in \mathbb{H}_n$ such that $A^*MA \prec N$ and $B^*NB \prec M$.

Proof: The equivalences “(i) \Leftrightarrow (iii)” and “(ii) \Leftrightarrow (iv)” are straightforward. We, therefore, restrict our attention to the equivalence “(iii) \Leftrightarrow (iv).” To this end, first note that the statement is trivial if any of the two matrices A and B is the zero matrix.

Therefore, in the remaining we will, without loss of generality, assume that both are nonzero.

To show “(iv) \Rightarrow (iii)”, assume that there exist $M \in \mathbb{H}_m$ and $N \in \mathbb{H}_n$ such that $A^*MA \prec N$ and $B^*NB \prec M$. Together with [42, Observation 7.1.8], the former inequality implies that

$$B^*A^*MAB \preceq B^*NB$$

and hence

$$B^*A^*MAB \preceq B^*NB \prec M.$$

Let $Q := M - B^*A^*MAB \succ 0$. This means that M is a solution to the Stein equation

$$M - B^*A^*MAB = Q$$

where $Q \in \mathbb{P}_m$, and hence, by [68, Thm. 13.2.2] we, therefore, have that $\lambda(AB) \cap \mathbb{T} = \emptyset$.

To show the “(iii) \Rightarrow (iv)”, assume that (12) holds, and let $AB = XJX^{-1}$ be a Jordan decomposition of AB . By (12) we can, without loss of generality, assume that

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} J_1 & 0 \\ 0 & J_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $J_1 \in \mathbb{M}_{m_1}$ has all eigenvalues in \mathbb{D} and $J_2 \in \mathbb{M}_{m_2}$ has all eigenvalues in $(\bar{\mathbb{D}})^C$, i.e., outside of the close unit disc, where $m = m_1 + m_2$. Next, using [68, Sect. 13.2] and [69, Exercise 4.9.30], we have that for any $P_1 \in \mathbb{P}_{m_1}$ and $P_2 \in \mathbb{P}_{m_2}$, there is at least one solution M to the Stein equation³

$$M - B^*A^*MAB = X^{-*} \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & 0 \\ 0 & P_2 \end{pmatrix} X^{-1} := Q \succ 0. \quad (13)$$

Let M be a solution to (13), in which case $B^*A^*MAB \prec M$. Now, define $\tilde{N} := A^*MA$ and note that this implies that

$$A^*MA = \tilde{N} \preceq \tilde{N}$$

$$B^*\tilde{N}B = B^*A^*MAB \prec M.$$

To prove that there exist $M \in \mathbb{H}_m$ and $N \in \mathbb{H}_n$ with both inequalities above strict, consider $N := \tilde{N} + \epsilon I$ for some $\epsilon > 0$. In particular

$$A^*MA = \tilde{N} \prec \tilde{N} + \epsilon I = N$$

for all $\epsilon > 0$. Moreover, since $M - B^*\tilde{N}B = M - B^*AMAB = Q \succ 0$, we have that

$$M - B^*NB = M - B^*\tilde{N}B - \epsilon B^*B = Q - \epsilon B^*B \succ 0$$

for ϵ small enough. This completes the proof. \blacksquare

B. Multiplier for Stability Under Unitary Perturbation

In the previous section, we established that the existence of a magnitudinal multiplier is necessary and sufficient for stability in the case of a scalar rotational uncertainty. Similarly to Section III, a minimal set of uncertainties gives rise to a maximal set

³ Solutions to the Stein equation can be obtained by using solutions to the discrete-time Lyapunov equation: one for the stable part, and one for the antistable part. In particular, in this case one solution is given by $M = X^{-*} \text{diag}(H_1, H_2) X^{-1}$, where $H_1 = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (J_1^*)^\ell P_1 J_1^\ell$ and $H_2 = -J_2^{-*} (\sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (J_2^{-*})^\ell P_2 (J_2^{-1})^\ell) J_2^{-1} = -\sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty} (J_2^{-*})^\ell P_2 (J_2^{-1})^\ell$. It can be verified that both H_1 and H_2 are well-defined, since J_1 has all eigenvalues in the open unit disc and J_2 has all eigenvalues outside of the closed unit disc.

of multipliers. Motivated by this, we now consider for which type of phasal uncertainties a much smaller (in some sense minimal) set of magnitudinal multipliers can guarantee robust stability. More specifically, the set of magnitudinal multipliers considered is diagonal and completely parameterized by a nonnegative number and an element that is either 1 or -1 , i.e., a nonzero element whose useful information is only its sign.

We start by establishing a lemma. To state the result, recall the convention we use that a matrix $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ has n singular values, which are given by $\sigma(A) = \sqrt{\lambda(A^*A)}$, and hence, if $n > m$, then $\sigma_{m+1}(A) = \dots = \sigma_n(A) = 0$.

Lemma IV.1: Given $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, then

- (i) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ of the form $P = \text{diag}(-\gamma^2 I, I)$, $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$, fulfilling (2), with both inequalities strict, if and only if $\sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B) < 1$;
- (ii) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ of the form $P = \text{diag}(\gamma^2 I, -I)$, $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$, fulfilling (2), with both inequalities strict, if and only if $\sigma_n(A)\sigma_m(B) > 1$.

Before we proceed, note that the conditions in Lemma IV.1(ii) can only ever be fulfilled if $n = m$ and both matrices are full rank, since otherwise at least one of the two singular values $\sigma_n(A)$ and $\sigma_m(B)$ equals zero.

Proof: We start with proving (i). To this end, note that a direct calculation in (2) (with both inequalities strict) gives that a multiplier of the prescribed form exists if and only if

$$A^*A \prec \gamma^2 I \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma^2 B^*B \prec I \quad (14)$$

which is the case if and only if there exists a $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ such that all singular values of A are strictly smaller than $|\gamma|$, and all singular values of B are strictly smaller than or $1/|\gamma|$. Therefore, the existence of such a multiplier clearly implies that $\sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B) < 1$. Conversely, if $\sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B) < 1$, then a direct calculation shows that $1/\sigma_1^2(A) - \sigma_1^2(B) > 0$ and that for any $0 < \epsilon < 1/\sigma_1^2(A) - \sigma_1^2(B)$, if we take $\gamma^2 = 1/(\sigma_1^2(B) + \epsilon)$ we have that $\gamma^2 > 1/(\sigma_1^2(B) + 1/\sigma_1^2(A) - \sigma_1^2(B)) = \sigma_1^2(A)$ and that $1/\gamma^2 > \sigma_1^2(B)$, and hence such γ^2 fulfills (14).

Next, to prove (ii), we follow along the same lines. However, first note that $\sigma_n(A)\sigma_m(B) > 1$ only if $n = m$ and both A and B are invertible, since otherwise at least one of the two singular values equals zero. Now, a multiplier of the prescribed form exists if and only if

$$A^*A \succ \gamma^2 I \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma^2 B^*B \succ I \quad (15)$$

which, similarly, can only hold if $n = m$ and both A and B are invertible. Henceforth, we can, therefore, restrict our attention to that case. Now, (15) holds if and only if there exists a $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ such that all singular values of A are strictly larger than $|\gamma|$, and all singular values of B are strictly larger than $1/|\gamma|$. Therefore, the existence of such a multiplier implies that $\sigma_n(A)\sigma_n(B) > 1$. The converse statement is proved analogously, but by instead considering $0 < \epsilon < \sigma_n^2(B) - 1/\sigma_n^2(A)$ and $\gamma^2 = 1/(\sigma_n^2(B) - \epsilon)$, which means that $\gamma^2 < 1/(\sigma_n^2(B) - \sigma_n^2(B) + 1/\sigma_n^2(A)) = \sigma_n^2(A)$ and that $1/\gamma^2 < \sigma_n^2(B)$. This proves the lemma. ■

The preceding lemma considers two different domains in which stability of $I + AB$ can be guaranteed: when both A and B have either small gain or large gain. In both cases, we expect that stability should be preserved under a suitable notion of rotation. We can now formalize this as follows.

Theorem IV.2: Given $A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ and $B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$, the following statements are equivalent:

- (i) $\det(I + UABV) \neq 0$ for all $U \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and all $V \in \mathbb{U}_n$;

- (ii) there exists a $P \in \mathbb{H}_{n+m}$ fulfilling (2), with both inequalities strict, which takes the form

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} -\xi\gamma^2 I & 0 \\ 0 & \xi I \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

for some $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\xi \in \{-1, 1\}$;

- (iii) either $\sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B) < 1$ or $\sigma_n(A)\sigma_m(B) > 1$.

Proof: See Appendix C. ■

Remark IV.1: When $n = m$, both A and B in Theorem IV.2 have polar decompositions $A = U_A Q_A$ and $B = U_B Q_B$, where $U_A, U_B \in \mathbb{U}_n$ and $Q_A, Q_B \in \mathbb{P}_n$. In this case, the uncertainty can be interpreted as the principle phases of the two matrices being unknown; the principle phases are defined in [58]. Moreover, if $B = I$, the result in Theorem IV.2 establishes conditions for robust stability against all elements in \mathbb{U}_n , and in this case the equivalence between (i) and (iii) follows from [70].

Remark IV.2: Note that in a numerical implementation searching for multipliers to guarantee stability, the conditions in Theorem IV.2(ii) can be relaxed to searching for multipliers of the form $P = \text{diag}(-\eta_1 I, \eta_2 I)$, for $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$. This means that the search for multipliers fulfilling (2) can either be formulated as two linear matrix inequalities (LMIs) of the form (16), each of which has one unknown $\gamma^2 \geq 0$, or it can be solved as one LMI in the two unknowns $\eta_1, \eta_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

C. Magnitudinal Multipliers for LTI Systems

In order to extend the above results to LTI systems, we first need the following definitions and results: a transfer function $U \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ is said to be unitary if $U(j\omega) \in \mathbb{U}_n$ for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$. Moreover, by the proof of [45, Lemma 1.14], it holds that for every $\omega > 0$ and $X \in \mathbb{U}_n$, there exists unitary $U \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times n}$ such that $Q(j\omega) = X$. Next, the following expression will be used in the forthcoming theorems:

$$\begin{aligned} (I &- G(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} \prec 0 \\ (K(j\omega)^* &I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

First, a sufficiency condition for robust stability against phasal uncertainties is stated.

Theorem IV.3: Given $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$, then $(I + uGK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ for all unitary $u \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{1 \times 1}$ if there exist $N \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{n \times n}$ and $M \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{m \times m}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $N(j\omega) = N(j\omega)^* \preceq 0$, $M(j\omega) = M(j\omega)^* \succeq 0$, and (17) holds with

$$\Pi := \begin{bmatrix} N & 0 \\ 0 & M \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof: By noting that $u(j\omega)^*u(j\omega) = 1$ for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, the claim holds by Proposition II.1. ■

Next, a necessary condition for robust stability to phasal uncertainties is provided.

Theorem IV.4: Given $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$, then $(I + uGK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ for all unitary $u \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{1 \times 1}$ only if there exist $N \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{n \times n}$ and $M \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{m \times m}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $N(j\omega) = N(j\omega)^*$, $M(j\omega) = M(j\omega)^*$, and (17) holds

with

$$\Pi := \begin{bmatrix} N & 0 \\ 0 & M \end{bmatrix}.$$

Proof: The claim can be established by applying Theorem IV.1 frequencywise as in the proof for Proposition II.2. \blacksquare

The abovementioned theorem shows that if a feedback system is robust against all scalar phasal uncertainties (with unity gain), then there necessarily exists a multiplier of the gain type with which to establish its robust stability via quadratic graph separation. When the phasic perturbations are allowed to span all present dimensions, the following necessary and sufficient condition for robust closed-loop stability may be acquired.

Theorem IV.5: Given $G, G^{-1}, K, K^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$, then $(I + UGVK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ for all unitary $U, V \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ if and only if there exists $\gamma \in \mathbf{L}_\infty^{1 \times 1}$ such that for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$, $|\gamma(j\omega)| > 0$ and (17) holds with

$$\Pi(j\omega) := \begin{bmatrix} -\xi|\gamma(j\omega)|^2 I & 0 \\ 0 & \xi I \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\xi \in \{-1, 1\}$.

Proof: Necessity can be established by applying Theorem IV.2 frequencywise as in the proof for Proposition II.2. In particular, continuity of G and K on the imaginary axis guarantees the uniqueness of ξ for all $\omega \in [0, \infty]$. Sufficiency follows from Proposition II.1 and the fact that (17) implies

$$\begin{aligned} (I - G(j\omega)^* U(j\omega)^*) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -U(j\omega)G(j\omega) \end{pmatrix} &\prec 0 \\ (K(j\omega)^* V(j\omega)^* & I) \Pi(j\omega) \begin{pmatrix} V(j\omega)K(j\omega) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all unitary $U \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$ and $V \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times m}$. \blacksquare

Example IV.1: Consider $G \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{m \times n}$ and $K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{n \times m}$ for which $\|G\|_\infty < \gamma$ and $\|K\|_\infty \leq \frac{1}{\gamma}$. Then, G and K satisfy the quadratic separation condition in the abovementioned theorems, i.e., (17), with

$$\Pi := \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma^2 I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix}.$$

This is the celebrated small-gain theorem.

V. NUMERICAL EXAMPLE

In this section, we illustrate that how the results in this article can be used in practice. In particular, we here consider an example of verifying robust stability against positive scaling uncertainty, i.e., we focus on using Theorem III.3. It is noteworthy that the other results in this article can be used analogously in appropriate settings.

To this end, consider the two transfer functions $G, K \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{2 \times 2}$ given in (18) shown at the bottom of this page. The goal is to verify that the negative feedback interconnection between the two systems is stable against any positive scaling

uncertainty, i.e., that $(I + \tau GK)^{-1} \in \mathbf{RH}_\infty^{2 \times 2}$ for all $\tau > 0$. It can be easily seen that neither system is passive, e.g., by noting that $G(j1) + G(j1)^* \not\leq 0$ and that $K(j0) + K(j0)^* \not\leq 0$, and hence, results based on passivity cannot be used to guarantee robust stability of the interconnection. However, from Theorem III.3, we know that finding a phase-type multiplier is a both necessary and sufficient condition for the sought robust stability. To numerically obtain a stability certificate, we discretize the frequency interval into 1000 points $\{\omega_\ell\}_{\ell=1}^{1000}$, frequency $\omega_1 = 0$, and 999 grid points logarithmically equally spaced between $\omega_2 = 10^{-40}$ and $\omega_{1000} = 10^{40}$ (note that $\omega_{501} = 1$). Then, for each ω_ℓ , we search for an $H_\ell \in \mathbb{M}_2$ so that with

$$\Pi_\ell := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & H_\ell \\ H_\ell^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the two LMIs

$$\begin{aligned} (I - G(j\omega_\ell)^*) \Pi_\ell \begin{pmatrix} I \\ -G(j\omega_\ell) \end{pmatrix} &\preceq -10^{-10} G(j\omega_\ell)^* G(j\omega_\ell) \\ (K(j\omega_\ell)^* & I) \Pi_\ell \begin{pmatrix} K(j\omega_\ell) \\ I \end{pmatrix} \succeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

are satisfied. Here, we set $\epsilon = 10^{-10}$, since a small value of ϵ makes the LMIs easier to satisfy. If there exists one solution H_ℓ to the two LMIs, then there in general exist multiple solutions. In order to obtain similar matrices for the different frequencies, for each ℓ we minimize $\|I_2 - H_\ell\|_2$ subject to the two LMIs as constraint. For each ℓ , the resulting semidefinite programming problem is a convex optimization problem, and the numerical implementation is performed in MATLAB using CVX [71], [72] on a standard desktop computer with a 64-bit operating system (Windows 10), a 2.90 GHz Intel i7-10700 CPU, and 32 GB of RAM. The optimization problem is feasible for all $\ell = 1, \dots, 1000$, which by continuity is a numerical certificate that the feedback interconnection of G and K is stable against any positive scaling uncertainty. Moreover, the total time to solve all the semidefinite programming problems was less than 5 min. Finally, for illustration purposes, a few of the obtained H_ℓ s are as follows:

$$H_1 \approx 10^{-7} \begin{bmatrix} 7.82 & -7.72 \\ 8.26 & -8.12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_{501} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 6.52 + 37.7j & 4.60 + 52.9j \\ 1.53 + 53.1j & 8.80 + 77.1j \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H_{1000} \approx I_2.$$

VI. CONCLUSION

We have shown that the robustness of feedback interconnections against certain structured uncertainty corresponds to specific forms of quadratic separation of the open-loop systems. Specifically, gain-type multipliers define quadratic separation needed in a feedback, which is robust against all phase-type

$$G(s) = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} 7s^2 + 57s + 90 & 10s^2 + 82s + 132 \\ 10s^2 + 73s + 78 & 14s^2 + 104s + 120 \end{bmatrix}}{(s+1)(s+6)^2}, \quad K(s) = -\frac{\begin{bmatrix} -7s^3 - 91s^2 - 413s - 609 & 2s^2 + 20s + 58 \\ 5.5s^3 + 71.5s^2 + 324.5s + 478.5 & 0.5s^3 + 6s^2 + 24.5s + 29 \end{bmatrix}}{(s+5-2j)^2(s+5+2j)^2} \quad (18)$$

uncertainty. Analogously, a robustly stable feedback against all gain-type uncertainty can always be established via the existence of phase-type multipliers. These results are importantly informative when using multiplier-based methods for establishing robust feedback stability. Future research directions of interest include the consideration of block-diagonal structured uncertainty as in the μ -analysis and the investigation of its intricate relation with the main results in this article. The exploration of a possibly unifying description of the structures of uncertainties and the corresponding multipliers beyond those examined in this article is also desirable.

APPENDIX

A. Proof of Theorem III.1, Corollary III.1, and Corollary III.2

Proof of Theorem III.1: The equivalence between (i) and (iii) is clear: the determinant is nonzero for all nonnegative scaling if and only if AB have no eigenvalue along the strictly negative real axis.

Next, we prove that “(ii) \Rightarrow (i).” To this end, assume that (ii) holds. By Lemma II.2, the existence of the multiplier P that fulfills (3) means that $\det(I + AB) \neq 0$. Now, for any $\tau \geq 0$ consider the matrices $\tilde{A} = A$ and $\tilde{B} = \tau B$. For these matrices, it is easily verified that this P also fulfills (3). Therefore, by Lemma II.2 we have that $0 \neq \det(I + \tilde{A}\tilde{B}) = \det(I + \tau AB)$.

We complete the proof by showing that “(iii) \Rightarrow (ii).” To this end, assume that (8) holds. This means that the principle part of the matrix square root $(AB)^{1/2}$ is well-defined and that all the eigenvalues of $(AB)^{1/2}$ lie in the open right half-plane or at the origin [73, Prob. 1.27]. Moreover, $(AB)^{1/2}$ has as many zero-eigenvalues as AB , and since a potential zero-eigenvalue of AB is assumed to be semisimple, so will the potential zero-eigenvalue of $(AB)^{1/2}$. Next, let \oplus denote the direct sum of two matrices, i.e., the block-diagonal with the two matrices on the diagonal [42, Sect. 0.9.2], and let $(AB)^{1/2} = XJX^{-1}$ be a Jordan normal form. More specifically, let $J = J_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus J_{\ell_1} \oplus \mathbf{0}$, where each block J_k is of size n_k and have the nonzero eigenvalue λ_k on the diagonal, as per usual, but let the Jordan normal form be such that the elements on the sup-diagonal of each J_k take the value

$$\epsilon = \min_{k \in \{1, \dots, \ell_1\}} \operatorname{real}(\lambda_k((AB)^{1/2})) / 2 > 0$$

which is always possible [42, Corollary 3.1.21].

Now, set $D = J_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus J_{\ell_1} \oplus I$ and note that D is of full rank, that $D^{-1} = J_1^{-1} \oplus \cdots \oplus J_{\ell_1}^{-1} \oplus I$, and that $D^{-1}J = I \oplus \cdots \oplus I \oplus \mathbf{0}$. Moreover, D is strictly accretive. To see the latter, first note that by [47, 1.2.10, p. 12], we have that $W(D) = W(J_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus J_{\ell_1} \oplus I) = \operatorname{Co}(W(J_1) \cup \cdots \cup W(J_{\ell_1}) \cup \{1\})$, where Co denotes the convex hull. Moreover, $J_k = \lambda_k((AB)^{1/2})I_{n_k \times n_k} + \epsilon S$, where S is the nilpotent matrix with zeros everywhere except the first sup-diagonal which is ones. By [47, 1.2.10, p. 12] $W(J_k) \subset \lambda_k + \epsilon W(S)$, and by [47, Prob. 29, pp. 45–46] the set $W(S)$ is contained in the unit disc. Since by construction $\epsilon \leq \operatorname{real}(\lambda_k)/2$, we, therefore, have that $W(J_k) \subset \mathbb{C}_+$ for all k , and hence

$W(D) \subset \mathbb{C}_+$, i.e., D is strictly accretive. In particular, this means that $D + D^* \succ 0$.

Finally, take $H = A^*X^{-*}D^{-*}X^{-1}$ and note that

$$HA + A^*H^* = A^*X^{-*}(D^{-*} + D^{-1})X^{-1}A \succeq \varepsilon A^*A$$

for some $\varepsilon > 0$ small enough, since $X^{-*}(D^{-*} + D^{-1})X^{-1} \succ 0$. By multiplying the above inequality with -1 , (3a) follows. Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} H^*B &= X^{-*}D^{-1}X^{-1}AB = X^{-*}D^{-1}X^{-1}XJX^{-1}XJX^{-1} \\ &= X^{-*}(I \oplus \cdots \oplus I \oplus \mathbf{0})JX^{-1} = X^{-*}JX^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

which is congruent to J and hence quasi-strictly accretive. A direct calculation in (3b), therefore, verifies that last claim, and hence proves that “(iii) \Rightarrow (ii).” \blacksquare

Proof of Corollary III.1: To prove the corollary, assume that $A \in \mathbb{GL}_n$. A direct calculation shows that if (iv) is fulfilled, then so is (ii). Moreover, observe that the fact that A is of full rank implies that $H = A^*X^{-*}D^{-*}X^{-1}$ constructed in the proof of Theorem III.1, above, is of full rank. Furthermore, it also means that $HA + A^*H^* = A^*X^{-*}(D^{-*} + D^{-1})X^{-1}A$ is congruent to $D^{-*} + D^{-1}$ and therefore positive definite, i.e., HA is strictly accretive. In particular, that means that the corresponding multiplier P fulfills (2), and also that (iii) implies (iv) in this case.

Finally, clearly (iv) implies (v), since a quasi-strictly accretive matrix is accretive. What is left to show is, thus, that under the assumption that $A \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, (v) implies any of the statements (i)–(iv). To this end, note that if $H \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ and HA is strictly accretive, then by congruence HA and AH^{-*} have the same phases. Therefore, using [56, Lemma 2.4] we have that

$$\begin{aligned} -\pi &< \underline{\phi}(HA) + \underline{\phi}(H^*B) = \underline{\phi}(AH^{-*}) + \underline{\phi}(H^*B) \\ &\leq \angle \lambda_i(AH^{-*}H^*B) = \angle \lambda_i(AB) = \angle \lambda_i(AH^{-*}H^*B) \\ &\leq \bar{\phi}(HA) + \bar{\phi}(H^*B) < \pi \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$, which shows that (v) implies (iii). \blacksquare

Proof of Corollary III.2: Reexamining the proof of Theorem III.1, the proof of “(i) \Leftrightarrow (iii),” and the proof of “(ii) \Rightarrow (i)” hold directly also in the case of real matrices A , B , and H . Moreover, the remaining parts of the proof, showing that “(iii) \Rightarrow (ii),” would also hold if the constructed H is real. The latter is true if X and D are real, which is true if $(AB)^{1/2}$ is real. Thus, the conclusion follows if AB has a real primary square root. Since a potential zero-eigenvalue is assumed to be semisimple, by [73, Thm. 1.23] the matrix AB has a real primary square root. \blacksquare

B. Proof of Theorem III.2

The proof proceeds by showing that (i) and (iii) are equivalent, and that (ii) is equivalent to (iii). The former equivalence is the lengthier part, and for improved readability we, hence, separate the equivalence of (i) and (iii) into a separate proposition.

Proposition A.1: Let $n \geq 2$, and let $A, B \in \mathbb{M}_n \setminus \{0\}$. Then

$$\det(I + T^*ATS^*BS) \neq 0 \text{ for all } T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n \quad (19a)$$

if and only if

one matrix is quasi-sectorial, the other semisectorial, and

$$\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B) < \pi, \quad \underline{\phi}(A) + \underline{\phi}(B) > -\pi. \quad (19b)$$

Proof: To show \Leftarrow , assume that (19b) holds. For any $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, by congruence invariance of phases of matrices we have that $\phi(T^*AT) = \phi(A)$ and that $\phi(S^*BS) = \phi(B)$. Therefore, by [56, Lemma 2.4], we have that

$$\begin{aligned} -\pi &< \underline{\phi}(A) + \underline{\phi}(B) = \underline{\phi}(T^*AT) + \underline{\phi}(S^*BS) \\ &\leq \lambda_i(T^*ATS^*BS) \leq \bar{\phi}(T^*AT) + \bar{\phi}(S^*BS) \\ &= \bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B) < \pi \end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$. In particular, this means that there exists an $\epsilon > 0$ so that $\lambda(T^*ATS^*BS) \cap \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid z = -re^{j\theta}, r > 0, \theta \in [-\epsilon, \epsilon]\} = \emptyset$ for all $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n$. The latter implies that (19a) holds.

Next, to show \Rightarrow we will show that the contraposition is true, namely, that if (19b) is not true, then there exists $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that $\det(I + T^*ATS^*BS) = 0$, i.e., such that T^*ATS^*BS has an eigenvalue in -1 . The latter is shown by explicitly considering all possible cases using the results in [51] and [55], and is also making heavy use of [74, Thm. 1] (see also [47, Thm. 1.7.9] and [51, Thm. 3]).

To this end, first assume that B is arbitrary and with at least one nonzero eigenvalue, and A has only the zero-eigenvalue. Since $A \neq 0$, the eigenvalue cannot be semisimple, and hence, A must have a Jordan block of size at least 2×2 . The latter has a numerical range that is a circle centered around the origin [47, Prob. 9, p. 25], and hence the angular numerical range of the 2×2 block, and hence of the matrix A , is the entire complex plane. Now, let $B = V_B^* \Gamma_B V_B$ be a Schur decomposition of B , i.e., where V_B is unitary and Γ_B is upper triangular. Any such Γ_B is called a Schur form of B . Moreover, note that at least one of the diagonal elements of Γ_B is nonzero; without loss of generality assume that it is $(\Gamma_B)_{11}$. Next, by [74, Thm. 1] there exists a $C \in \mathbb{M}_n$ such that one of the eigenvalues of C is $-1/(\Gamma_B)_{11}$ and such that $\tilde{T}^*A\tilde{T} = C$ for some $\tilde{T} \in \mathbb{GL}_n$. Moreover, let $C = V_C^* \Gamma_C V_C$ be a Schur decomposition of C such that $(\Gamma_C)_{11} = -1/(\Gamma_B)_{11}$. By taking $S = V_B^*$ and $T = \tilde{T}V_C^*$, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (T^*AT)(S^*BS) &= (V_C \tilde{T}^* A \tilde{T} V_C^*)(V_B V_B^* \Gamma_B V_B V_B^*) \\ &= (V_C C V_C^*) \Gamma_B = \Gamma_C \Gamma_B \end{aligned}$$

which is upper triangular and with -1 in the upper left corner, i.e., for these T and S we have that T^*ATS^*BS has an eigenvalue in -1 .

Note that the above procedure can also be carried out, mutatis mutandis, if B only has the zero-eigenvalue. In particular, if B only has the zero-eigenvalue, then it must also have a Jordan block of size at least 2×2 . Using [74, Thm. 1], by an appropriate selection of $S = S_1 S_2$, we can, thus, make sure that $S_1^*BS_1$ has a nonzero eigenvalue, after which the above procedure can be repeated to select T and S_2 so that $(T^*AT)(S^*BS)$ has an eigenvalue in -1 . This means that in the following, we can always

assume that both A and B have at least one nonzero eigenvalue. In fact, for any matrix A that is nonzero and which is not sectorial and any arbitrary nonzero matrix B , a similar argument to the preceding one shows that $\det(I + T^*ATS^*BS) = 0$ for some $S, T \in \mathbb{GL}_n$, since the angular numerical range of A is the entire complex plane (see [74, Thm. 1]).

The above argument shows that a necessary condition for (19a) to hold is that both A, B are semisectorial. By [55, Thm. 5] this means that, without loss of generality, we can restrict ourselves to consider matrices of the form

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} e^{j\theta_A} I_{k_2^A} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \text{diag}\left(e^{j\tilde{\phi}_1(A)}, \dots, e^{j\tilde{\phi}_{k_1^A}(A)}\right) & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

where $\theta_A + \pi/2 \geq \tilde{\phi}_1(A) \geq \dots \geq \tilde{\phi}_{k_1^A}(A) \geq \theta_A - \pi/2$, $k_1^A \geq 0$, $k_2^A \geq 0$, and $n = 2k_2^A + k_1^A$, and analogously for B . Note also that $\bar{\phi}(A) = \theta_A + \pi/2$ if $k_2^A > 0$ and $\bar{\phi}(A) = \tilde{\phi}_1(A)$ if $k_2^A = 0$; an analogous observation holds for $\underline{\phi}(A)$. Moreover a matrix A of the form (20) is quasi-sectorial if and only if $k_2^A = 0$ and $\bar{\phi}(A) - \underline{\phi}(A) < \pi$. Finally, note that by potentially applying an appropriate permutation that rearranges the block-diagonal elements we can, without loss of generality, restrict our attention to matrices of size 2×2 .

Now, we first show that we cannot have $k_2^A > 0$ and $k_2^B > 0$. To this end, let $S = I$ and consider the unitary matrix

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) & -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -\sin\left(\frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) & -\cos\left(\frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) \\ \cos\left(\frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) & -\sin\left(\frac{\theta_A + \theta_B}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $S_{AB} := \sin((\theta_A + \theta_B)/2)$ and $C_{AB} := \cos((\theta_A + \theta_B)/2)$. A direct (albeit somewhat cumbersome) calculation gives that

$$\begin{aligned} T^* \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} T \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} &= \\ \begin{bmatrix} (S_{AB} - C_{AB})^2 & 4S_{AB}^2 - 4S_{AB}C_{AB} + 2C_{AB}^2 \\ -2C_{AB}^2 & S_{AB}^2 + 2S_{AB}C_{AB} - 3C_{AB}^2 \end{bmatrix} & \end{aligned}$$

which has eigenvalues $-\cos(\theta_A + \theta_B) \pm i\sin(\theta_A + \theta_B) = -e^{\mp i(\theta_A + \theta_B)}$. Therefore, taking T as above and $S = I$, the matrix T^*ATS^*BS has an eigenvalue in -1 .

Next, we, therefore, assume that $k_2^A > 0$ and $k_2^B = 0$. In this case, first assume that B only has one nonzero phase, in which case it suffices to consider

$$A = e^{j\theta_A} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \text{diag}(e^{j\phi_1(B)}, 0).$$

If $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) \geq \pi$ or $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) \leq -\pi$, then we can write

$$T^*ATB = T^*\tilde{A}T\text{diag}(1, 0)$$

where $\tilde{A} = e^{j\phi_1(B)} A$. However, since $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) \geq \pi$ or $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) \leq -\pi$, -1 is in the numerical range of \tilde{A} . Therefore, using [74, Thm. 1] we can make a construction similar to before, and select an appropriate T such that T^*ATB has an eigenvalue in -1 . On the other hand, if $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) < \pi$ and $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \phi_1(B) > -\pi$, then (19b) is fulfilled [and thus (19a) holds, see the proof of the implication “ \Leftarrow ”].

The next case we consider is when the diagonal unitary part of B is of size at least 2×2 . To this end, it suffices to consider

$$A = e^{j\theta_A} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \text{diag}(e^{j\bar{\phi}(B)}, e^{j\underline{\phi}(B)}).$$

We split this into two different subcases. In the first case, we assume that B is quasi-sectorial, which means that $\bar{\phi}(B) - \underline{\phi}(B) < \pi$. If $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \bar{\phi}(B) \geq \pi$ or $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \underline{\phi}(B) \leq -\pi$, then we can make constructions analogous to the above one, and if $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \bar{\phi}(B) < \pi$ and $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \underline{\phi}(B) > -\pi$, then (19b) is fulfilled and thus (19a) holds. Therefore, we next assume that $\bar{\phi}(B) - \underline{\phi}(B) = \pi$, in which case B is rotation-Hermitian, i.e., $B = e^{j\bar{\phi}(B)} \text{diag}(1, -1)$. Moreover, that means that either $\theta_A + \pi/2 + \bar{\phi}(B) \geq \pi$ or $\theta_A - \pi/2 + \underline{\phi}(B) = \theta_A - \pi/2 + \bar{\phi}(B) - \pi \leq -\pi$. In any case, let $S = I$ and let

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\left(\frac{\theta_A + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) & j \sin\left(\frac{\theta_A + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) \\ j \sin\left(\frac{\theta_A + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{\theta_A + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}.$$

This T is unitary, and a direct (albeit somewhat cumbersome) calculation verify that T^*ATB has an eigenvalue in -1 . This means that we cannot have $k_2^A > 0$ and $k_2^B = 0$, unless (19b) is satisfied.

Now, consider the case where both A and B have a rotation-Hermitian 2×2 block, i.e., when

$$A = e^{j\bar{\phi}(A)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = e^{j\bar{\phi}(B)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Similarly to the last case just above, this means that either $\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B) \geq \pi$ or $\bar{\phi}(A) - \pi + \bar{\phi}(B) - \pi \leq -\pi$. In any case, let $S = I$ and let

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) & -\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) & \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B)}{2}\right) \end{bmatrix}.$$

A calculation similar to before shows that T^*ATB has an eigenvalue in -1 .

The two final cases to consider are when either 1) A has a rotation-Hermitian 2×2 block and B is quasi-sectorial, or 2) when both A and B are quasi-sectorial, but when the phase condition is not satisfied in either case. The two cases can be handled together, and we can, without loss of generality, assume that $\bar{\phi}(A) + \bar{\phi}(B) \geq \pi$. In this case, by [74, Thm. 1], there is a T such that $C = T^*AT$ has an eigenvalue in $e^{j\bar{\phi}(A)}$. Let $C = V_C^* \Gamma_C V_C$ be a Schur decomposition, with $e^{j\bar{\phi}(A)}$ as top-left element. Let $S = S_1 S_2$, and note that since $\bar{\phi}(B) \geq \pi - \bar{\phi}(A)$ and B is quasi-sectorial, we can in a similar way select S_1 so that $D = S_1^* B S_1$ has an eigenvalue in $e^{j(\pi - \bar{\phi}(A))}$.

Let $D = V_D^* \Gamma_D V_D$ be a Schur decomposition with $e^{j(\pi - \bar{\phi}(A))}$ as top-left element. By taking $S_2 = V_D^* V_C$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} (T^*AT)(SBS^*) &= C(S_2^* DS_2) \\ &= V_C^* \Gamma_C V_C V_D^* V_D V_D^* \Gamma_D V_D V_D^* V_C = V_C^* \Gamma_C \Gamma_D V_C \end{aligned}$$

which by construction has an eigenvalue in -1 .

In summary, this means that unless (19b) holds, then there exist $T, S \in \mathbb{GL}_n$ such that $\det(I + T^*ATS^*BS) = 0$. This shows the implication \Rightarrow , and hence, the result follows. ■

Proof of Theorem III.2: For $n = 1$ the matrices are scalar and hence commute. Therefore, in this case $\det(I + T^*ATS^*BS) = \det(1 + \tau ab)$ for $\tau > 0$, and the conclusions follow almost trivially.

For $n \geq 2$, Proposition 1 shows that (i) and (iii) are equivalent. Next, we prove that “(iii) \Rightarrow (ii).” To this end, without loss of generality, assume that A is quasi-sectorial of rank $n - k$, and that B is semisectorial. The fact that the sum of the largest and smallest phases is bounded away from $\pm\pi$, respectively, it implies that there exists a $z \in \mathbb{T}$ such that zA is quasi-strictly accretive and z^*B is accretive, and hence, in particular, that $-zA - z^*A^* \preceq 0$ and $z^*B + zB^* \succeq 0$. The latter means that for this P , (3b) holds. It remains to show that (3a) holds, i.e., that the former inequality above can be strengthened to $-zA - z^*A^* \preceq -\varepsilon A^*A$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$. To do so, let $zA = T^*DT$ be a sectorial decomposition of the quasi-strictly accretive zA . In particular, this means that

$$D = \text{diag}(e^{j\phi_1}, \dots, e^{j\phi_{n-k}}, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{k \text{ of them}})$$

and $zA + z^*A^* = T^*(D + D^*)T$, which is positive semidefinite with the top-left block of $D + D^*$ containing the $n - k$ strictly positive eigenvalues. A direct calculation gives that

$$A^*A = A^*z^*zA = T^*D^*TT^*DT = T^* \begin{bmatrix} \star & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} T =: T^*\Delta T$$

where the block \star is of dimension $n - k \times n - k$ and is positive definite. In particular, this means that for $\epsilon > 0$ small enough, we have that $D + D^* \succ \epsilon\Delta$, and hence that

$$zA + z^*A^* = T^*(D + D^*)T \succ \epsilon T^*\Delta T = \epsilon A^*A.$$

Multiplying the above inequality by -1 gives the inequality (3a). This completes the proof of the implication “(iii) \Rightarrow (ii).”

To show that “(ii) \Rightarrow (iii),” without loss of generality, assume that P fulfills (3). The proof for the case where P fulfills (5) is analogous. Now, note that (3) implies that both zA and z^*B are accretive. What remains to be shown is thus that zA is in fact quasi-strictly accretive. To this end, let $zA = T^*DT$ be the sectorial decomposition, with D of the form (20). By an argument similar to the one above, we have that (3a) implies that

$$-\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = -D - D^* \preceq -\varepsilon D^*TT^*D = -\varepsilon \begin{bmatrix} \star & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

where $*$ is a block-diagonal matrix that is positive semidefinite, and \star is a matrix that is positive definite. However, the inequality

means that $* \succeq \varepsilon *$ for some $\varepsilon > 0$, and since $*$ is the positive definite, this can only be true if $*$ is also positive definite. Now, if D has a block

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

then a direct calculation gives that $*$ contains a block

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This would mean that $*$ is not of full rank, and hence, it is only positive semidefinite. Therefore, D cannot contain any such blocks. Analogously, we can also exclude that D contains the element j and $-j$, which implies that zA is quasi-strictly accretive.

Finally, the last part of the theorem follows by simply reexamining the proofs for the equivalence of (ii) and (iii) under the additional assumption that A is of full rank. It is, then, easily seen that the same conclusion holds, but with (3) replaced by (2). \blacksquare

C. Proof of Theorem IV.2

Proof of Theorem IV.2: The equivalence between (ii) and (iii) follows directly from Lemma IV.1.

To show that “(ii) \Rightarrow (i),” first assume that there exists a multiplier P of the form (16), with $\xi = 1$, that satisfies (2). A direct calculation, as in the proof of Lemma IV.1, gives that (14) holds. Now, let $U \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and $V \in \mathbb{U}_n$, and note that for $\tilde{A} = UA$ and $\tilde{B} = VB$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{A}^* \tilde{A} &= A^* U^* U A = A^* A \prec \gamma^2 I \\ \gamma^2 \tilde{B}^* \tilde{B} &= \gamma^2 B^* V^* V B = \gamma^2 B^* B \prec I. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for this P , (2) holds for \tilde{A} and \tilde{B} , and hence $0 \neq \det(I + \tilde{A}\tilde{B}) = \det(I + UAVB)$ by Lemma II.2. Since $U \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and $V \in \mathbb{U}_n$ were arbitrary, the implication follows in the case of $\xi = 1$. The proof for the case $\xi = -1$ follows analogously.

We now show that “(i) \Rightarrow (iii).” To this end, assume that $\det(I + UAVB) \neq 0$ for all $U \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and all $V \in \mathbb{U}_n$. First note that the statement is trivial if any of the two matrices A and B is the zero matrix, and hence, we can, without loss of generality, assume that neither of them is. Now, let $A = W_A \Sigma_A V_A^*$ and $B = W_B \Sigma_B V_B^*$ be the singular value decompositions of A and B , respectively, where $W_A, V_A \in \mathbb{U}_m$, $W_B, V_B \in \mathbb{U}_n$, $\Sigma_A \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$, and $\Sigma_B \in \mathbb{M}_{n,m}$. Next, note that for any $k \geq 1$, \mathbb{U}_k is closed under matrix multiplication, i.e., that for all $U, V \in \mathbb{U}_n$, $UV \in \mathbb{U}_n$, and that all permutation matrices are unitary. Therefore, for any $\tilde{V}, \tilde{W} \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and any permutation matrix $\mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{U}_n$, let $U = V_B \tilde{V}^* \tilde{W} W_A^* \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and $V = V_A \mathcal{P} W_B^* \in \mathbb{U}_n$. This means that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \neq \det(I + UAVB) &= \det(I + V_B \tilde{V}^* \tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B V_B^*) \\ &= \det(I + \tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B \tilde{V}^*) \end{aligned}$$

for all $\tilde{V}, \tilde{W} \in \mathbb{U}_m$ and all permutation matrices \mathcal{P} .

Next, assume that $n \geq m$. In this case, note that $\Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{M}_{m,n}$ with the n columns of Σ_A permuted according to the permutation matrix \mathcal{P} . Therefore, $\tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B \tilde{V}^*$ can be identified as a singular value decomposition of the matrix whose singular values are given by $\sigma_{\Phi(i)}(A)\sigma_i(B)$, $i = 1, \dots, m$, where $\Phi : \{1, \dots, m\} \mapsto \{1, \dots, n\}$ is the injective map corresponding to the permutation matrix \mathcal{P} . Moreover, by appropriately selecting the permutation matrix \mathcal{P} , we can get any injective map that maps from $\{1, \dots, m\}$ to $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Now, if there exists a Φ such that $\max_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) \geq 1$ and $\min_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) \leq 1$, then by [70] (see also [75, Thm. 9.E.5]) there exist matrices $\tilde{W}, \tilde{V} \in \mathbb{U}_n$ such that the corresponding matrix $\tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B \tilde{V}^*$ has an eigenvalue in -1 . However, that would mean that the corresponding determinant is zero, which is a contradiction. Therefore, for all Φ we must either have that $\max_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) < 1$ or that $\min_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) > 1$. In particular, this must hold for all Φ such that $\Phi(1) = 1$ and $\Phi(m) = n$, in which case either $1 > \max_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) = \sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B)$ or $1 < \min_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) = \sigma_n(A)\sigma_m(B)$. This shows that the (i) implies (iii) in the case where $n \geq m$.

To complete the proof of the theorem, assume that $m > n$. In this case, $\tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B \tilde{V}^*$ can still be identified as a singular value decomposition of the matrix, but now the singular values are given by $m - n$ zeros as well as $\sigma_{\Phi(i)}(A)\sigma_i(B)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, where $\Phi : \{1, \dots, n\} \mapsto \{1, \dots, n\}$ is a permutation. This means that 0 will always be a singular value of $\tilde{W} \Sigma_A \mathcal{P} \Sigma_B \tilde{V}^*$, and by arguments similar to those in the previous paragraph, we must therefore have that for all permutations Φ , it holds that $\max_k \sigma_{\Phi(k)}(A)\sigma_k(B) < 1$, and hence, in particular, that $\sigma_1(A)\sigma_1(B) < 1$. \blacksquare

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors would like to thank Chao Chen, Dan Wang, Di Zhao, and Ding Zhang for valuable discussions, and the anonymous reviewers for valuable feedback that helped improve this article.

REFERENCES

- [1] A. R. Teel, T. T. Georgiou, L. Praly, and E. D. Sontag, “Input-output stability,” in *The Control Systems Handbook : Control System Advanced Methods*, 2nd ed., W. S. Levine, Ed. Boca Raton, FL, USA: CRC Press, 2011, pp. 44.1–44.23.
- [2] A. R. Teel, “On graphs, conic relations, and input-output stability of nonlinear feedback systems,” *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 41, no. 5, pp. 702–709, May 1996.
- [3] A. Megretski, U. T. Jönsson, C.-Y. Kao, and A. Rantzer, “Integral quadratic constraints,” in *The Control Systems Handbook : Control System Advanced Methods*, 2nd ed., W. S. Levine, Ed. Boca Raton, FL, USA: CRC Press, 2011, pp. 41.1–41.19.
- [4] G. Zames, “On the input-output stability of time-varying nonlinear feedback systems part one: Conditions derived using concepts of loop gain, conicity, and positivity,” *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. TAC-11, no. 2, pp. 228–238, Apr. 1966.
- [5] G. Zames and P. Falb, “Stability conditions for systems with monotone and slope-restricted nonlinearities,” *SIAM J. Control*, vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 89–108, 1968.
- [6] A. Megretski and A. Rantzer, “System analysis via integral quadratic constraints,” *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 42, no. 6, pp. 819–830, Jun. 1997.

[7] L. Lessard, B. Recht, and A. Packard, "Analysis and design of optimization algorithms via integral quadratic constraints," *SIAM J. Optim.*, vol. 26, no. 1, pp. 57–95, 2016.

[8] B. Hu and P. Seiler, "Exponential decay rate conditions for uncertain linear systems using integral quadratic constraints," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 61, no. 11, pp. 3631–3637, Nov. 2016.

[9] S. Z. Khong, "On integral quadratic constraints," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 67, no. 3, pp. 1603–1608, Mar. 2022.

[10] S. Z. Khong and A. Lanzon, "Connections between integral quadratic constraints and dissipativity," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 69, no. 8, pp. 5672–5677, Aug. 2024.

[11] M. Cantoni, U. T. Jönsson, and C.-Y. Kao, "Robustness analysis for feedback interconnections of distributed systems via integral quadratic constraints," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 57, no. 2, pp. 302–317, Feb. 2012.

[12] M. Cantoni, U. T. Jönsson, and S. Z. Khong, "Robust stability analysis for feedback interconnections of time-varying linear systems," *SIAM J. Control Optim.*, vol. 51, no. 1, pp. 353–379, 2013.

[13] S. Z. Khong, E. Lovisari, and C.-Y. Kao, "Robust synchronization in multi-agent networks with unstable dynamics," *IEEE Trans. Control Netw. Syst.*, vol. 5, no. 1, pp. 205–214, Mar. 2018.

[14] S. Z. Khong and A. Lanzon, "Feedback stability analysis via frequency dependent constraints," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 70, no. 2, pp. 1228–1235, Feb. 2025.

[15] A. Megretski and S. Treil, "Power distribution inequalities in optimization and robustness of uncertain systems," *J. Math. Systems, Estimation, Control*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 301–319, 1993.

[16] K. Zhou, J. C. Doyle, and K. Glover, *Robust and Optimal Control*. Upper Saddle River, NJ, USA: Prentice-Hall, 1996.

[17] T. T. Georgiou and M. C. Smith, "Optimal robustness in the gap metric," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 35, no. 6, pp. 673–686, Jun. 1990.

[18] L. Qiu and E. J. Davison, "Feedback stability under simultaneous gap metric uncertainties in plant and controller," *Syst. Control Lett.*, vol. 18, no. 1, pp. 9–22, 1992.

[19] D. Zhao, L. Qiu, and G. Gu, "Stabilization of two-port networked systems with simultaneous uncertainties in plant, controller, and communication channels," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 65, no. 3, pp. 1160–1175, Mar. 2020.

[20] J. Willems and R. Brockett, "Some new rearrangement inequalities having application in stability analysis," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. TAC-13, no. 5, pp. 539–549, Oct. 1968.

[21] U. T. Jönsson and A. Rantzer, "Optimization of integral quadratic constraints," in *Proc. Adv. Linear Matrix Inequality Methods Control*, 2000, pp. 109–127.

[22] C. W. Scherer, "LPV control and full block multipliers," *Automatica*, vol. 37, no. 3, pp. 361–375, 2001.

[23] C.-Y. Kao and A. Rantzer, "Stability analysis of systems with uncertain time-varying delays," *Automatica*, vol. 43, no. 6, pp. 959–970, 2007.

[24] H. Pfifer and P. Seiler, "Integral quadratic constraints for delayed nonlinear and parameter-varying systems," *Automatica*, vol. 56, pp. 36–43, 2015.

[25] T. Iwasaki and S. Hara, "Well-posedness of feedback systems: Insights into exact robustness analysis and approximate computations," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 43, no. 5, pp. 619–630, May 1998.

[26] J. Doyle, "Analysis of feedback systems with structured uncertainties," *IEE Proc. D (Control Theory Appl.)*, vol. 129, no. 6, pp. 242–250, 1982, doi: [10.1049/ip-d.1982.0053](https://doi.org/10.1049/ip-d.1982.0053).

[27] M. G. Safonov, "Stability margins of diagonally perturbed multivariable feedback systems," *IEE Proc. D (Control Theory Appl.)*, vol. 129, no. 6, pp. 251–256, 1982, doi: [10.1049/ip-d.1982.0054](https://doi.org/10.1049/ip-d.1982.0054).

[28] A. Packard and J. Doyle, "The complex structured singular value," *Automatica*, vol. 29, no. 1, pp. 71–109, 1993.

[29] A. Nemirovskii, "Several NP-hard problems arising in robust stability analysis," *Math. Control, Signals Syst.*, vol. 6, pp. 99–105, 1993.

[30] R. P. Braatz, P. M. Young, J. C. Doyle, and M. Morari, "Computational complexity of μ calculation," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 39, no. 5, pp. 1000–1002, May 1994.

[31] M. K. H. Fan, A. L. Tits, and J. C. Doyle, "Robustness in the presence of mixed parametric uncertainty and unmodeled dynamics," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 36, no. 1, pp. 25–38, Jan. 1991.

[32] G. Meinsma, Y. Shrivastava, and M. Fu, "A dual formulation of mixed μ and on the losslessness of (D, G) scaling," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 42, no. 7, pp. 1032–1036, Jul. 1997.

[33] V. Chellaboina, W. M. Haddad, and A. Kamath, "The structured phase margin for robust stability analysis of linear systems with phase and time delay uncertainties," *Int. J. Control.*, vol. 81, no. 8, pp. 1298–1310, 2008.

[34] Y.-S. Chou, A. L. Tits, and V. Balakrishnan, "Stability multipliers and μ upper bounds: Connections and implications for numerical verification of frequency domain conditions," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 44, no. 5, pp. 906–913, May 1999.

[35] S. R. Hall and J. P. How, "Mixed H_2/μ performance bounds using dissipation theory," in *Proc. 32nd IEEE Conf. Decis. Control*, 1993, pp. 1536–1541.

[36] J. P. How and S. R. Hall, "Connections between the Popov stability criterion and bounds for real parameter uncertainty," in *Proc. 1993 Amer. Control Conf.*, 1993, pp. 1084–1089.

[37] M. Fu and N. E. Barabanov, "Improved upper bounds for the mixed structured singular value," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 42, no. 10, pp. 1447–1452, Oct. 1997.

[38] S. Z. Khong and A. van der Schaft, "On the converse of the passivity and small-gain theorems for input–output maps," *Automatica*, vol. 97, pp. 58–63, 2018.

[39] S. Z. Khong and C.-Y. Kao, "Converse theorems for integral quadratic constraints," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 66, no. 8, pp. 3695–3701, Aug. 2021.

[40] S. Z. Khong and C.-Y. Kao, "Addendum to ‘‘converse theorems for integral quadratic constraints,’’" *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 67, no. 1, pp. 539–540, Jan. 2022.

[41] S. Z. Khong, D. Zhao, and A. Lanzon, "Converse negative imaginary theorems," *Automatica*, vol. 165, 2024, Art. no. 111682.

[42] R. A. Horn and C. R. Johnson, *Matrix Analysis*, 2nd ed. New York, NY, USA: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2013.

[43] C. Foias, T. T. Georgiou, and M. C. Smith, "Robust stability of feedback systems: A geometric approach using the gap metric," *SIAM J. Control Optim.*, vol. 31, no. 6, pp. 1518–1537, 1993.

[44] J. C. Doyle, T. T. Georgiou, and M. C. Smith, "The parallel projection operators of a nonlinear feedback system," *Syst. Control Lett.*, vol. 20, no. 2, pp. 79–85, 1993.

[45] G. Vinnicombe, *Uncertainty and Feedback – \$H_{\infty}\$ Loop-Shaping and the \$\mu\$ Gap Metric*. London, U.K.: Imperial College Press, 2001.

[46] V. Zahedzadeh, H. J. Marquez, and T. Chen, "On the input-output stability of nonlinear systems: Large gain theorem," in *Proc. 2008 Amer. Control Conf.*, 2008, pp. 3440–3445.

[47] R. A. Horn and C. R. Johnson, *Topics in Matrix Analysis*. New York, NY, USA: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1994.

[48] F. Zhang, *Matrix Theory: Basic Results and Techniques*. New York, NY, USA: Springer, 2011.

[49] K. E. Gustafson and D. K. Rao, *Numerical Range*. New York, NY, USA: Springer, 1997.

[50] C. R. DePrima and C. R. Johnson, "The range $A^{-1}A^*$ $GL(n, C)$," *Linear Algebra its Appl.*, vol. 9, pp. 209–222, 1974.

[51] S. Furtado and C. R. Johnson, "Spectral variation under congruence," *Linear Multilinear Algebra*, vol. 49, no. 3, pp. 243–259, 2001.

[52] C. R. Johnson and S. Furtado, "A generalization of Sylvester's law of inertia," *Linear Algebra its Appl.*, vol. 338, no. 1–3, pp. 287–290, 2001.

[53] F. Zhang, "A matrix decomposition and its applications," *Linear Multilinear Algebra*, vol. 63, no. 10, pp. 2033–2042, 2015.

[54] D. Wang, W. Chen, S. Z. Khong, and L. Qiu, "On the phases of a complex matrix," *Linear Algebra Appl.*, vol. 593, pp. 152–179, 2020.

[55] S. Furtado and C. R. Johnson, "Spectral variation under congruence for a nonsingular matrix with 0 on the boundary of its field of values," *Linear Algebra Appl.*, vol. 359, no. 1–3, pp. 67–78, 2003.

[56] W. Chen, D. Wang, S. Z. Khong, and L. Qiu, "A phase theory of multi-input multi-output linear time-invariant systems," *SIAM J. Control Optim.*, vol. 62, no. 2, pp. 1235–1260, 2024.

[57] D. Wang, X. Mao, W. Chen, and L. Qiu, "On the phases of a semi-sectorial matrix and the essential phase of a Laplacian," *Linear Algebra its Appl.*, vol. 676, pp. 441–458, 2023.

[58] I. Postlethwaite, J. Edmunds, and A. MacFarlane, "Principal gains and principal phases in the analysis of linear multivariable feedback systems," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. TAC-26, no. 1, pp. 32–46, Feb. 1981.

[59] D. H. Owens, "The numerical range: A tool for robust stability studies?," *Syst. Control Lett.*, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 153–158, 1984.

[60] B. D. O. Anderson and M. Green, "Hilbert transform and gain/phase error bounds for rational functions," *IEEE Trans. Circuits Syst.*, vol. 35, no. 5, pp. 528–535, May 1988.

[61] W. M. Haddad and D. Bernstein, "Is there more to robust control theory than small gain," in *Proc. 1992 Amer. Control Conf.*, 1992, pp. 83–84.

- [62] J. Chen, "Multivariable gain-phase and sensitivity integral relations and design trade-offs," *IEEE Trans. Autom. Control*, vol. 43, no. 3, pp. 373–385, Mar. 1998.
- [63] W. Chen, D. Wang, S. Z. Khong, and L. Qiu, "Phase analysis of MIMO LTI systems," in *Proc. IEEE 58th Conf. Decis. Control*, IEEE, 2019, pp. 6062–6067.
- [64] X. Mao, W. Chen, and L. Qiu, "Phases of discrete-time LTI multivariable systems," *Automatica*, vol. 142, 2022, Art. no. 110311.
- [65] C. Chen, D. Zhao, W. Chen, S. Z. Khong, and L. Qiu, "Phase of nonlinear systems," 2020, *arXiv:2012.00692*.
- [66] C. S. Ballantine and C. R. Johnson, "Accretive matrix products," *Linear Multilinear Algebra*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 169–185, 1975.
- [67] S. Z. Khong, I. R. Petersen, and A. Rantzer, "Robust stability conditions for feedback interconnections of distributed-parameter negative imaginary systems," *Automatica*, vol. 90, pp. 310–316, 2018.
- [68] P. Lancaster and M. Tismenetsky, *The Theory of Matrices*, 2nd ed. Orlando, FL, USA: Academic Press, 1985.
- [69] I. Gohberg, P. Lancaster, and L. Rodman, *Indefinite Linear Algebra and Applications*. Basel, Switzerland: Birkhäuser, 2006.
- [70] A. Horn, "On the eigenvalues of a matrix with prescribed singular values," *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, vol. 5, no. 1, pp. 4–7, 1954.
- [71] M. Grant and S. Boyd, "CVX: Matlab software for disciplined convex programming, version 2.1," Mar. 2014. [Online]. Available: <http://cvxr.com/cvx>
- [72] M. Grant and S. Boyd, "Graph implementations for nonsmooth convex programs," in *Recent Advances in Learning and Control* (Lecture Notes in Control and Information Sciences Series), V. Blondel, S. Boyd, and H. Kimura, Eds. Berlin, Germany: Springer, 2008, pp. 95–110.
- [73] N. J. Higham, *Functions of Matrices: Theory and Computation*. Philadelphia, PA, USA: SIAM, 2008.
- [74] C. R. Johnson, "The field of values and spectra of positive definite multiples," *J. Res. Notional Bur. Standards - B. Math. Sci.*, vol. 78, no. 4, pp. 197–8, 1974.
- [75] A. W. Marshall, I. Olkin, and B. C. Arnold, *Inequalities: Theory of Majorization and Its Applications*, 2nd ed. New York, NY, USA: Springer, 2011.



Axel Ringh received the M.Sc. degree in engineering physics and the Ph.D. degree in applied and computational mathematics from the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, in 2014 and 2019, respectively.

From 2019 to 2021, he was a Postdoctoral Researcher with the Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, and since 2021, he has been an Assistant Professor with the Department of Mathematical Sciences, Chalmers University of Technology and University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden. His research interests include optimization theory, systems and control, inverse problems, and machine learning.

Dr. Ringh was the recipient of the European Control Conference 2015 Best Student Paper Award and a co-recipient of the SIAM Activity Group on Control and Systems Theory Best SICON Paper Prize 2023.



Xin Mao received the B.Eng. degree in automation engineering from Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, in 2017, and the Ph.D. degree in electronic and computer engineering from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, in 2022.

She is currently a Postdoctoral Research Associate with the School of Data Science and Society, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC, USA. Her research interests include system and control theory, dynamical networks, and machine learning.



Wei Chen (Member, IEEE) received the B.S. degree in engineering and the double B.S. degree in economics from Peking University, Beijing, China, in 2008, and the M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees in electronic and computer engineering from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, in 2010 and 2014, respectively.

He is currently an Assistant Professor with the School of Advanced Manufacturing and Robotics, Peking University, Beijing, China. Prior to joining Peking University, he was with the ACCESS Linnaeus Center, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, and the EECS Department, University of California at Berkeley, for postdoctoral research, and with the ECE Department, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology as a Research Assistant Professor. His research interests include linear systems and control, phase theory, networked control systems, optimal control, smart grid, and network science.

Dr. Chen was the recipient of the Best Student Paper Award at the 2012 IEEE International Conference on Information and Automation.



Li Qiu (Fellow, IEEE) received the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, in 1990.

After briefly working with Canadian Space Agency, the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences, Waterloo, ON, Canada, and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, Minneapolis, MN, USA, he joined the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, in 1993 and became a Professor Emeritus in August 2024. He is currently a Presidential Chair Professor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, China. He has coauthored an undergraduate textbook *Introduction to Feedback Control* (Prentice-Hall, 2009). His research interests include system, control, optimization theory, and mathematics for information technology, their applications in manufacturing industry and energy systems, and control education.

Dr. Qiu was an Associate Editor for IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON AUTOMATIC CONTROL AND AUTOMATICA. He was the General Chair of the 7th Asian Control Conference, which was held in Hong Kong in 2009. He was a Distinguished Lecturer from 2007 to 2010 and was a Member of the Board of Governors in 2012 and 2017 of the IEEE Control Systems Society. He is the founding Chairperson of the Hong Kong Automatic Control Association. He is a Fellow of IFAC.



Sei Zhen Khong (Senior Member, IEEE) received the Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (with first-class Hons.) and the Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Melbourne, Melbourne, VIC, Australia, in 2008 and 2012, respectively.

He was a Researcher with the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Melbourne, Department of Automatic Control, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, University of Minneapolis, MN, USA, and the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. He is currently with the Department of Electrical Engineering, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan. His research interests include network control, systems theory, and optimization with applications to systems biology, power systems, and electromechanical systems.