MATRIX LOCALIZATIONS OF n-FIRS. II

BY

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ABSTRACT. In a previous paper by this author and with a similar title, it was shown that adjoining universal inverses for all $k \times k$ full matrices over an n-fir results in the localized ring being an (n-2k)-fir. In this note a counterexample is used to show that the result is best possible in general. Techniques of the previous paper are strengthened and a result on a kind of finite inertia of certain rings within their localizations is obtained.

In this note we extend the techniques of a previous paper [4] to complete the arguments regarding a counterexample given there. In that paper it was shown that if Σ consists of all $k \times k$ full matrices over an *n*-fir R (with 2k < n), then the universal Σ -inverting ring R_{Σ} is an (n-2k)-fir. A counterexample was suggested (but not proved) to show that this result was best possible—that is, R_{Σ} need not be an (n-2k+1)-fir. New arguments now allow us to prove this for the counterexample originally presented. They also can be used to give a kind of "finite" inertia of a ring R inside its matrix localization R_{Σ} .

We keep all the definitions from [4], including the specialized one we now recall. A set Σ of square matrices over R is said to be *p-complete* if the following trivialization condition holds: for every matrix relation of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X & P \\ S & T & U \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & W \\ R & Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where A and B are either null (0×0) or in Σ , and where X has $\leq p$ columns, there exists an invertible matrix Z over R such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X & P \\ S & T & U \end{pmatrix} Z = \begin{pmatrix} A' & X' & 0 \\ S' & T' & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$Z^{-1}\begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & W \\ R & Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G' & W' \\ B' & Y' \end{pmatrix},$$

where A' and B' are either null or in Σ , and where

$$\begin{pmatrix} X' \\ T' \end{pmatrix} (G' \quad W') = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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is a trivial relation (i.e., each column in $\binom{X'}{T'}$) is either zero or the corresponding row in $(G' \ W')$ is zero).

The results of [4] include the facts that if Σ is *p*-complete, then it consists of non-zero-divisors and its multiplicative closure $\overline{\Sigma}$ is also *p*-complete. The first result of this note is the following extension of Lemma 2 of [4].

LEMMA 2^+ . Let Σ be 0-complete, $\overline{\Sigma}$ its multiplicative closure and λ : $R \to R_{\Sigma}$ the universal Σ -inverting homomorphism. Then an $i \times j$ matrix N over R has $\lambda(N) = \lambda(F)\lambda(A)^{-1}\lambda(X)$ (where $A \in \overline{\Sigma}$ and F, X are appropriately sized) in R_{Σ} if and only if there exist P, Q of the same shape as A (i.e., same diagonal block sizes), with $P \in \overline{\Sigma}$ and U, V, all over R, such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ F & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P \\ U \end{pmatrix} (Q \quad V).$$

PROOF. Lemma 2 of [4] is the same statement for i = j = 1, so we proceed by induction on i + j > 2. If $j \ge 2$, rewrite X as $(X_1 \ X_2)$ and N as $(N_1 \ N_2)$. By induction,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X_1 \\ F & N_1 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\begin{pmatrix} A & X_2 \\ F & N_2 \end{pmatrix}$

both factor as before, say

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X_1 \\ F & N_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 \\ U_1 \end{pmatrix} (Q_1 \quad V_1),$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X_2 \\ F & N_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_2 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} (Q_2 \quad V_2),$$

where $P_1, P_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$.

We now need to use Lemma 3 of [4] (or some symmetry), which states that if Σ is 0-complete and if A = BC with A, $B \in \Sigma$, then there is an invertible E with $EC \in \Sigma$. Applying this to $A = P_2Q_2$ we see that we can get E' invertible with $E'Q_2 = Q_2' \in \overline{\Sigma}$, still the same shape as A. Now we let $P_2' = P_2E'^{-1}$, $U_2' = U_2E'^{-1}$, $V_2' = E'V_2$, so that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X_2 \\ F & N_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_2' \\ U_2' \end{pmatrix} (Q_2' & V_2').$$

We now see that

$$\begin{pmatrix} P_1 & -P_2' \\ U_1' & -U_2' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

with $P_1, Q_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$. Using 0-completeness, there exists an invertible Z such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} P_1 & -P_2' \\ U_1 & -U_2' \end{pmatrix} Z = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 \\ S_1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad Z^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ B_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

say, where $A_1, B_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$, all the same shape. Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix} (I \quad 0) Z^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & V_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -V_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P_1 & -P_2' \\ U_1 & -U_2' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 & V_1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -V_2' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} A & X_1 & X_2 \\ F & N_1 & N_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ F & N \end{pmatrix},$$

providing the required factorization (the first block in the second factor has the same shape as A by an examination of the block diagonal structure, just as in the proof of Lemma 2). If j = 1 then a symmetrical argument will work to complete the induction.

Now we will use the extended Lemma 2^+ to prove our main result, which is essentially a further generalization of the original lemma. Note here that A may be null.

THEOREM. Let Σ be p-complete, $\overline{\Sigma}$ its multiplicative closure, and λ : $R \to R_{\Sigma}$ the universal Σ -inverting homomorphism. Suppose $A \in \overline{\Sigma}$ is $n \times n$ ($n \ge 0$) and let $m \le p$. Then $\lambda(N) - \lambda(F)\lambda(A)^{-1}\lambda(X)$ has inner rank $\le m$ over R_{Σ} (where F, X, N are of appropriate sizes over R) if and only if there is a factorization

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ F & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P & J \\ U & K \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ L & M \end{pmatrix} \quad over R,$$

where $P \in \overline{\Sigma}$ has the same shape as A and where the number of columns in J is $\leq m$. Hence, if $\lambda(N) - \lambda(F)\lambda(A)^{-1}\lambda(X)$ has inner rank $\leq m$, then $\binom{AX}{FN}$ has inner rank $\leq n + m$ over R.

PROOF. For the purposes of the proof we will suppress the notation λ , since it is an injection anyway (Lemma 2 of [4]). If such a factorization occurs over R, then calculation shows

$$N - FA^{-1}X = (K - UP^{-1}J)(M - LA^{-1}X),$$

so the inner rank is $\leq m$ over R_{Σ} .

To prove the converse, assume the inner rank of $N - FA^{-1}X$ is $\leq m$, so $N - FA^{-1}X$ may be written as a product of a matrix with m columns over R_{Σ} times one with m rows. As in the proof of Theorem 1 of [4], we may assume the matrices over R_{Σ} are of the forms $GB^{-1}Y$ and $HC^{-1}Z$, where G, H, Y, Z are over R and R and R and R are from R and R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R are over R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R and R are over R and R are over R and R are over R are over R and R are over R are over R and

$$N = (F \quad G \quad 0 \quad 0) \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & B & -Y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I & -H \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ Z \end{pmatrix}$$

over R_{Σ} , where the identity matrix I is $m \times m$. By using Lemma 2^+ and the 0-completeness of $\overline{\Sigma}$ we get a factorization over R, (1)

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 & 0 & 0 & X \\ 0 & B & -Y & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I & -H & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C & Z \\ F & G & 0 & 0 & N \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & * & * & * \\ 0 & B_1 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & D_1 & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_1 \\ * & * & * & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_2 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & B_2 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & D_2 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_2 & * \end{pmatrix},$$

where A_1 , B_1 , D_1 , $C_1 \in \overline{\Sigma}$, A_1 has the same shape as A, and where the asterisks represent unlabelled blocks.

We can use Lemma 3 of [4] as before to get that $EC_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$ for some invertible E over R. Then we can multiply the left factor in (1) by

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & E^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

on the right, and the right factor by the inverse of this matrix; or, equivalently, we may assume in (1) that $A_1, B_1, C_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$.

Now consider the product of the second block row times the last two block columns in (1):

(2)
$$(0 \quad B_1 \quad *) \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ * & * \\ \hline * & * \\ \hline C_2 & * \end{pmatrix} = (0 \quad 0).$$

We may use p-completeness of $\overline{\Sigma}$ here, since the outlined block in the first factor has $m \le p$ columns. The invertible matrix obtained will alter only the last three blocks of each factor, giving a new form of (2):

$$(0 \quad B_1' \quad \boxed{* \quad 0} \quad 0) \begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ * & * \end{pmatrix} = (0 \quad 0),$$

where B_1' , $C_2' \in \overline{\Sigma}$ and where the now-trivialized outlined blocks have been explicitly divided into their zero/nonzero rows/columns. The effect of the invertible matrix on the original factorization (1) changes it into

Now we consider the product of the first and last block rows times the next-to-last block column,

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 & * & \boxed{*} & * \\ * & * & \boxed{*} & * \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} * \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ * \\ C_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Again we may use p-completeness of $\overline{\Sigma}$, obtaining an invertible matrix which only affects the first one and last two block columns of the left factor (and similarly on the right.) We get a new form of the above, namely

$$\begin{pmatrix} P & * & \boxed{* & J & 0} \\ U & * & \boxed{* & K & 0} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ * \\ C_2^{\prime\prime} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where $P, C_2'' \in \overline{\Sigma}$ and P has the same shape as A. Again we have explicitly divided the now-trivialized outlined blocks, and we have also labelled certain of the blocks. The effect on the entire factorization (3) changes it into

where again we have labelled certain of the blocks. Now certainly

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ F & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} P & J \\ U & K \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ I & M \end{pmatrix}$$

and J has $\leq m$ columns, as desired.

From the theorem we get an immediate corollary on preserving inner ranks.

COROLLARY A. Let Σ be p-complete, and λ : $R \to R_{\Sigma}$ the universal homomorphism. Let N be any matrix over R with inner rank m and let m_{Σ} be the inner rank of its image over R_{Σ} . Then always $m_{\Sigma} \le m$, and if $m_{\Sigma} < m$ then $p < m_{\Sigma}$. In particular, λ maps full $(p+1) \times (p+1)$ matrices to full matrices.

Now let us proceed to the counterexample suggested in [4]. Let F be a field and let L be the F-algebra generated by two (noncommuting) variables c, d, satisfying cd = 0. The ring $W_n(L)$ is the F-algebra generated by the entries of two $n \times n$ matrices C, D of variables satisfying CD = 0. Bergman [1] has shown that $W_n(L)$ is an (n-1)-fir but not an n-fir.

COROLLARY B. Let L be as above, 0 < k < n/2 and let $R = W_{n+1}(L)$, an n-fir. Let Σ consist of all $k \times k$ full matrices over R. Then the universal Σ -inverting ring R_{Σ} is an (n-2k)-fir but not an (n-2k+1)-fir.

PROOF. Here we suppress the notation for λ : $R \to R_{\Sigma}$ as before, and we regard $R \subset R_{\Sigma}$. We already know that R_{Σ} is an (n-2k)-fir by Corollary 1 of [4]. Let p = n - 2k + 1 and recall the matrices C, D over R with CD = 0. Write the first k + p rows of C as

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X & P \\ S & T & U \end{pmatrix}$$

where A is $k \times k$, X is $k \times p$, etc. Similarly write the first k + p columns of D as

$$\begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & W \\ B & Y \end{pmatrix},$$

where B is $k \times k$, G is $p \times k$, etc. Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X & P \\ S & T & U \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & W \\ R & Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Furthermore, by mapping C to I and D to 0 over F we can see that A must be full over R (and similarly B is full). Then A, $B \in \Sigma$ and by a calculation as in [4] we see that

$$(T - SA^{-1}X)(W - GB^{-1}Y) = 0$$

over R_{Σ} , where both factors are $p \times p$.

Now suppose R_{Σ} is a p-fir. Then by trivialization we could see that the sum of the inner ranks of $T - SA^{-1}X$ and $W - GB^{-1}Y$ over R_{Σ} is some $m \le p$ (the Sylvester inequality; see [3]). By the Theorem of this paper we must have that the sum of the inner ranks of

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & X \\ S & T \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $\begin{pmatrix} G & W \\ B & Y \end{pmatrix}$

over R is $\leq 2k + m \leq 2k + p$. But as before we can establish that both these matrices are full over R (as submatrices of C, D), so their ranks sum to 2k + 2p > 2k + p. This contradiction shows R_{Σ} is not an (n - 2k + 1)-fir.

This result, together with the remarks of [4] for p = 1, completes the presentation of the counterexample. We may remark that the above construction results in a pair of $p \times p$ full matrices over R_{Σ} (use the Theorem) whose product is zero. This suggests that we may give a definition of deficiency of a (p-1)-fir R: with each pair of an $i \times p$ matrix C and a $p \times j$ matrix D such that CD = 0, we associate the

number which is the sum of the inner ranks of C and D. If m is the maximum such number among all such pairs, then the deficiency dp(R) = m - p. Under this definition a p-fir would have deficiency 0, while the R_{Σ} of Corollary B would have the maximum deficiency p.

Before describing the sort of "finite" inertia that may hold in our situation, we recall the actual definitions from [2]. Let R be a subring of a ring S. Given a row vector X and a column vector Y over S of the same length and such that $XY \in R$, we shall say that XY lies trivially in R if for each entry of X one of the following holds: (1) the entry is zero; (2) the corresponding entry in Y is zero; or (3) both corresponding entries in X and Y lie in R.

Then R will be said to be *n*-inert in S if the following condition holds: whenever we have any family $\{X_{\lambda}\}$ of rows over S with n entries and any family $\{Y_{\mu}\}$ of columns over S with n entries, such that $X_{\lambda}Y_{\mu} \in R$ for every λ , μ , then there exists an invertible $n \times n$ matrix P over S such that every product $(X_{\lambda}P)(P^{-1}Y_{\mu})$ lies trivially in R.

We wish to adjust this definition (as suggested by Proposition 1.6.2 of [2]) for our purposes: we will say that R is *finitely n-inert* in S if the condition above is required to hold for all finite families $\{X_{\lambda}\}$, $\{Y_{\mu}\}$. It can be seen (as in [2]) that this is equivalent to the following condition: given two matrices X, Y over S such that X has n columns, Y has n rows and XY is over R, there exists an $n \times n$ invertible matrix P over S such that XP has the block form $(X_1, X_0, 0)$ and $(X_1, X_0, 0)$ are the compatible block form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ Y_0 \\ Y_2 \end{pmatrix}$$
,

where X_0 , Y_0 are over R.

PROPOSITION. Let Σ be p-complete and let λ : $R \to R_{\Sigma}$ be the universal homomorphism. Then $\lambda(R)$ is finitely p-inert in R_{Σ} .

PROOF. Again we suppress the notation λ . As before, instead of X over R_{Σ} we may write $FA^{-1}X$, where F, X are over R, A is in the multiplicative closure of $\overline{\Sigma}$, and X has p columns. Instead of Y we write $GB^{-1}Y$, where $B \in \overline{\Sigma}$, G, Y over R, and G having p rows. The assumption is then $(FA^{-1}X)(GB^{-1}Y) = N$, a matrix over R. By Lemma 2^+ we get a factorization as follows:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & -XG & 0 \\ 0 & B & Y \\ F & 0 & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & P \\ 0 & B_1 \\ S & T \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} A_2 & Q & V \\ 0 & B_2 & W \end{pmatrix},$$

where by the standard juggling we may assume $A_1, B_2 \in \overline{\Sigma}$.

Now consider the product

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_2 & X & P \\ S & 0 & T \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & 0 \\ B_2 & W \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix}.$$

We may trivialize (using p-completeness) the portion

$$(A_1 \quad X \quad P) \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & 0 \\ B_2 & W \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{into} \quad (A_1' \quad X' \quad 0) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G' & V' \\ B_2' & W' \end{pmatrix} = (0 \quad 0),$$

where the relation $X'(G' \ V'') = (0 \ 0)$ is trivial. The effect on the original product changes it into

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_1 & X' & 0 \\ S' & T' & U' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G' & V' \\ B'_2 & W' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now we may trivialize the portion

$$(T' \quad U') \begin{pmatrix} G' \\ B'_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0,$$

adjusting only the nonzero rows of G', B'_2 (and thus not altering A'_1 or X'_1). The effect on the product is then

$$\begin{pmatrix} A'_1 & X' & 0 \\ S' & T'' & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G'' & V'' \\ B''_2 & W'' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix},$$

where both relations $X'(G'' \ V'') = (0 \ 0)$ and

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} X' \\ T'' \end{array}\right) G'' = \left(\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \end{array}\right)$$

are trivial. (Note that now N can be seen to have inner rank $\leq p$ over **R**.)

The result of the two trivializations is that there exists an invertible matrix Z over R such that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_1 & X & P \\ S & 0 & T \end{pmatrix} Z = \begin{pmatrix} A'_1 & X' & 0 \\ S' & T'' & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad Z^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} Q & V \\ G & 0 \\ B_2 & W \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ G'' & V'' \\ B''_2 & W'' \end{pmatrix},$$

where $A_1, A_1', B_2, B_2'' \in \overline{\Sigma}$, and where both X'(G'' V'') and T''G'' are trivially zero. Now, just as in the proof of Theorem 1 of [4] we can see that

$$\underline{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & I & -GB_2^{-1} \end{pmatrix} Z \begin{pmatrix} -A_1^{\prime -1}X^{\prime} \\ I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is an invertible matrix over R_{Σ} . Computation as before will then show that

$$(FA^{-1}X)\underline{D} = (-S \quad 0 \quad -T)Z \begin{pmatrix} -A_1'^{-1}X' \\ I \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= (S'A_1'^{-1} \quad -I) \begin{pmatrix} X' \\ T'' \end{pmatrix}.$$

Similarly,

$$\underline{D}^{-1}(GB^{-1}Y) = (G'' \quad V'') \begin{pmatrix} B_2''^{-1}W'' \\ -I \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let us write

$$\begin{pmatrix} X' \\ T'' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} X'_1 & 0 & 0 \\ T''_1 & T''_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and $(G'' \ V'') = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & V''_2 \\ G''_3 & V''_3 \end{pmatrix}$

recalling that these are already trivial relations. Then

$$FA^{-1}X\underline{D} = \begin{pmatrix} S'A_1'^{-1} & -I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X_1' & 0 & 0 \\ T_1'' & T_2'' & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S'A_1'^{-1}X_1 - T_1'' & -T_2'' & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and, similarly,

$$\underline{D}^{-1}GB^{-1}Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & V_2^{"} \\ G_3^{"} & V_3^{"} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_2^{"-1}W^{"} \\ -I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -V_2^{"} \\ G_3^{"}B_2^{"-1}W^{"} - V_3^{"} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus $(FA^{-1}XD)(\underline{D}^{-1}GB^{-1}Y) = N$ lies trivially in R, as claimed.

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