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Explicit solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation for diagonalizable coefficient matrix with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues

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Abstract. Let *A* be a complex diagonalizable matrix with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues λ and μ , the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation AXA = XAX is reconsidered. We correct and improve the results in Shen et al. (2020) when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$. We also improve the results in Shen et al. (2020) when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$. We obtain the explicit structure of the solutions *X* for the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation AXA = XAX, which are diagonalizable. Finally, we improve other existing relevant conclusions.

1. Introduction

Let *A* be an $n \times n$ diagonalizable complex matrix with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues. The quadratic matrix equation

$$AXA = XAX,$$

(1)

is often called the *Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation* (also called the star-triangle-like equation in statistical mechanics; see, e.g., in Part III of [9]) because of its connections with the classical Yang-Baxter equation arising in statistical mechanics [4, 16, 17]. The Yang-Baxter equation first appeared in theoretical physics, in a paper by the Nobel laureate C. N. Yang [16], and in statistical mechanics, in R. J. Baxter's work [4]. Later, it became one of the important equations of mathematical physics. It plays a crucial role in: Knot theory, braided categories, non-commutative descent theory, quantum computing, integrable systems, non-commutative geometry, and so on [1–3, 7, 10, 17].

Solving Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) is equivalent to solving a polynomial system of n^2 quadratic equations with n^2 unknowns, which solving this system is a very challenging topic. This compelled many researchers to find solutions for particular *A*. All solutions have been constructed for rank-1 matrices *A* in [15], rank-2 matrices *A* in [18, 19], non-diagonalizable elementary matrices *A* in [20], idempotent matrices

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 $A (A^2 = A)$ in [11], $A^2 = I$ in [8, 12], $A^3 = A$ in [13], and diagonalizable matrices A with two different eigenvalues in [14]. However, some results in [14] is false.

In this paper, we solve the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) to derive all explicit solutions *X* when the given diagonalizable matrix *A* has two distinct nonzero eigenvalues λ and μ . We correct and improve the results in [14] when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$. We also improve the results in [14] when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$. We obtain the explicit structure of the solutions. We prove that the solutions are diagonalizable and the spectrum contained in the set { λ , μ , 0}. We extend the research for which *A* is a Householder matrix $A = I - 2uu^H$ [6], *A* is a class of elementary matrices $A = I - uv^T$ ($v^T u \neq 0$) [5] and $A \neq \pm I$ is an $n \times n$ complex matrix satisfying $A^2 = I$ [8, 12], respectively. This is an important step to solve more general matrices.

2. Main results

In this section, we give main results. At first, we give an assumption as follows.

Assumption 2.1. Let A be an $n \times n$ complex diagonalizable matrix with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues λ and μ , that is, $A = SJS^{-1}$ in which, S is a nonsingular matrix and

 $J = diag(\lambda I_m, \mu I_{n-m}).$

Recently, in [14], the authors gave the following results.

Theorem 2.1. [14, Theorem 4.4, Theorem 4.5 and Theorem 4.6] Suppose that A satisfies Assumption 2.1. If $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_t & 0 & F & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline G & 0 & \mu I_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & Q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$
(2)

in which, $P \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices, $0 \le t \le m$, $0 \le k \le n - m$, F is an arbitrary $t \times k$ matrix, $G = (I - F^{\dagger}F)M(I - FF^{\dagger})$, M is an arbitrary $k \times t$ matrix.

If $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) are

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & V \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{\lambda}I_r & 0 & 0 & C & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline D & 0 & 0 & \widehat{\mu}I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & n_{m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & V^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$
(3)

in which, $U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices, $0 \le r \le \min\{m, n-m\}$, $0 \le v \le m-r$, $0 \le \tau \le n-m-r$, $\widehat{\lambda} = \frac{\mu^2}{\mu - \lambda}$, $\widehat{\mu} = \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda - \mu}$, C is an arbitrary $r \times r$ invertible matrix, and $D = \frac{-\lambda \mu (\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2)}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} C^{-1}$.

The result in (2) is false. There is a counterexample as follows.

Example 2.2. Let $A = diag(1, 1, \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2})$. The eigenvalues of A are 1, 1, and $\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2}$. It is easy to verify that $1^2 - 1 \times \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2} + (\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2})^2 = 0$ and

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2} & 1\\ 0 & 1 & 0\\ \hline 0 & 1 & \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

is a solution of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1). In this case, we see that its upper left 2×2 corner is not diagonalizable. So the result in (2) does not hold.

The false in proving Theorem 4.3 in [14] is that

$$\widetilde{C^{(1)}}\widetilde{D^{(1)}} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\lambda_1^2}{\lambda_2}I_{s_1} & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \widetilde{D^{(1)}}\widetilde{C^{(1)}} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\lambda_2^2}{\lambda_1}I_{s_2} & 0\\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

If $C^{(1)} \in \mathbb{C}^{t_1 \times t_2}$, $D^{(1)} \in \mathbb{C}^{t_2 \times t_1}$, $C^{(1)}([2:2:2s_1],:) = 0$, $C^{(1)}(:,[1:2:2s_2-1]) = 0$, $D^{(1)}([2:2:2s_2],:) = 0$, $D^{(1)}(:,[1:2:2s_1-1]) = 0$, $2s_1 \le t_1$, $2s_2 \le t_2$, Suppose that $\widetilde{C^{(1)}}$ is a matrix obtained from $C^{(1)}$ by deleting the rows 2j for $j = 1:s_1$ and columns 2j - 1 for $j = 1:s_2$. $\widetilde{D^{(1)}}$ is a matrix obtained from $D^{(1)}$ by deleting the rows 2j for $j = 1:s_2$ and columns 2j - 1 for $j = 1:s_1$. Suppose that $s_1 = 1$, $s_2 = 1$, $t_1 = 3$, $t_2 = 3$,

$$C^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & c_{12} & c_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{32} & c_{33} \end{bmatrix}, \quad D^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & d_{12} & d_{13} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & d_{32} & d_{33} \end{bmatrix},$$

then

$$\widetilde{C^{(1)}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{12} & c_{13} \\ c_{32} & c_{33} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \widetilde{D^{(1)}} = \begin{bmatrix} d_{12} & d_{13} \\ d_{32} & d_{33} \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is obvious that $\widetilde{C^{(1)}D^{(1)}}$ is not equal to the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{13}d_{32} & c_{13}d_{33} \\ c_{32}d_{32} & c_{33}d_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

obtained from $C^{(1)}D^{(1)}$ by deleting the row 2 and column 1.

According to Lemma 4.1 and 4.2, and Theorem 4.3 in [14], we have the following lemma. Then we will prove that the solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) is diagonalizable and the eigenvalues are contained in the set { λ , μ , 0} whenever $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$ or $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$.

Lemma 2.3. [14, Lemma 4.1 and 4.2, Theorem 4.4] Suppose that A satisfies Assumption 2.1 with $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$. Then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_t + N_1 & 0 & F & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline G & 0 & \mu I_k + N_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & Q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$
(4)

in which, $P \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices, $0 \le t \le m$, $0 \le k \le n-m$, $F \in \mathbb{C}^{t \times k}$, $G \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times t}$. The elements of N_1 , N_2 are zeros except that the second upper diagonal elements may be one or zero. $N_1^2 = 0$, $N_2^2 = 0$, $FG = -\frac{\lambda^2}{\mu}N_1$, $GF = -\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}N_2$, $N_1F = 0$, $GN_1 = 0$, $FN_2 = 0$, $N_2G = 0$.

The following lemma is the key to deriving our theorem.

Lemma 2.4. Let $B = \lambda I + \alpha N$. λ and α are scalars ($\lambda \neq 0$). If $N^2 = 0$, then

$$B^{-1} = \frac{1}{\lambda}I - \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}N.$$

Proof. Since $N^2 = 0$, it is easy to verify that

$$(\lambda I + \alpha N)(\frac{1}{\lambda}I - \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}N) = I.$$

Thus

$$B^{-1} = \frac{1}{\lambda}I - \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}N.$$

This completes the proof. \Box

Based on Theorem 2.1, and Lemma 2.3 and 2.4, we give our results in the following theorem.

Theorem 2.5. Suppose that A satisfies Assumption 2.1. If $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & Q \end{bmatrix} R \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \mu I_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix} R^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} P^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & Q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$
(5)

 $P \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $Q \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices,

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I_t & 0 & | \frac{F}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & I_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \frac{G}{\lambda - \mu} & 0 & | I_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix},$$

 $0 \le t \le m, 0 \le k \le n - m, F \in \mathbb{C}^{t \times k}, G \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times t}, FG = -\frac{\lambda^2}{\mu}N_1, GF = -\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}N_2, N_1F = 0, GN_1 = 0, FN_2 = 0, N_2G = 0.$ The elements of N_1, N_2 are zeros except that the second upper diagonal elements may be one or zero. $N_1^2 = 0, N_2^2 = 0.$ Thus all solutions X of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues of X are contained in the set $\{\lambda, \mu, 0\}$.

Proof. According to (4) in Lemma 2.3, let

$$Y_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_t + N_1 & 0 & F & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline G & 0 & \mu I_k + N_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Apply Lemma 2.4 and $N_1^2 = 0$, $N_2^2 = 0$, $FG = -\frac{\lambda^2}{\mu}N_1$, $GF = -\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}N_2$, $N_1F = 0$, $GN_1 = 0$, $FN_2 = 0$, $N_2G = 0$, we obtain that the characteristic polynomial of Y_1 is

$$P_{Y_1}(x) = det(xI - Y_1) = x^{n-t-k}(x - \lambda)^t (x - \mu)^k.$$

Thus the eigenvalues λ , μ , and 0 of Y_1 have algebraic multiplicity t, k, and n - t - k, respectively. It is easy to verify that $Rank(\lambda I - Y_1) = n - t$, $Rank(\mu I - Y_1) = n - k$, $Rank(0I - Y_1) = t + k$. So Y_1 is diagonalizable. In fact, let

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I_t & 0 & \frac{F}{\mu - \lambda} & 0\\ 0 & I_{m-t} & 0 & 0\\ \hline \frac{G}{\lambda - \mu} & 0 & I_k & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix}$$

Since $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$ and $GF = -\frac{\mu^2}{\lambda}N_2$, we have

$$det(R) = \begin{vmatrix} I_t & 0 & \frac{F}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & I_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{G}{\lambda - \mu} & 0 & I_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-k} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} I_t & 0 & \frac{F}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & I_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_k - \frac{N_2}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-k} \end{vmatrix} = 1 \neq 0.$$

Thus matrix *R* is invertible and

$$R^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} I_t + \frac{N_1}{\lambda - \mu} & 0 & | \frac{F}{\lambda - \mu} & 0 \\ 0 & I_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \frac{G}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 & | I_k + \frac{N_2}{\mu - \lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$Y_1 = R \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_t & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{m-t} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \mu I_k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-k} \end{bmatrix} R^{-1}.$$

Thus, we get (5). So all solutions *X* of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues of *X* are contained in the set { λ , μ , 0}. This completes the proof.

Theorem 2.6. Suppose that A satisfies Assumption 2.1. If $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & V \end{bmatrix} W \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_r & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix} W^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} U^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & V^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

in which, $U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices,

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2} C & 0 & 0 & \frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda \mu} C & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline I_r & 0 & 0 & I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix},$$

 $0 \le r \le \min\{m, n - m\}, 0 \le v \le m - r, 0 \le \tau \le n - m - r, and C is an arbitrary r \times r invertible matrix. Thus, all solutions X of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues of X are contained in the set {<math>\lambda, \mu, 0$ }.

Proof. According to (3) in Theorem 2.1, let

$$Y_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} \widehat{\lambda}I_{r} & 0 & 0 & | C & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda I_{v} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline D & 0 & 0 & \widehat{\mu}I_{r} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_{\tau} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2} C & 0 & 0 & \frac{\lambda - \mu}{\lambda \mu} C & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{\nu} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{m-r-\nu} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline I_r & 0 & 0 & I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{\tau} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then
$$det(W) = det(-\frac{(\lambda-\mu)^3}{\lambda\mu(\lambda^2-\lambda\mu+\mu^2)}C) \neq 0$$
. Thus matrix *W* is invertible and

$$W^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\lambda\mu(\lambda^2 - \lambda\mu + \mu^2)}{(\lambda - \mu)^3} C^{-1} & 0 & 0 & \frac{\lambda^2 - \lambda\mu + \mu^2}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \frac{0}{(\lambda - \mu)^3} C^{-1} & 0 & 0 & -\frac{\lambda\mu}{(\lambda - \mu)^2} I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix}$$

Compute

$$W^{-1}Y_2W = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda I_r & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \mu I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix},$$

so all solutions *X* of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues of *X* are contained in the set { $\lambda, \mu, 0$ }. This completes the proof.

3. Application

Next we apply Theorem 2.5 and 2.6 to the case that $A = I - uv^T$ ($v^T u \neq 0$) in [5]. Since the matrix A is $I - uv^T$ with two given nonzero n-dimensional complex vectors u and v such that $v^T u \neq 0$. Clearly A is diagonalizable. In fact, let v_1, \ldots, v_{n-1} be linearly independent vectors such that $v^T v_j = 0$ for $j = 1, \ldots, n-1$, the matrix $S = [v_1, \ldots, v_{n-1}, u]$ is nonsingular such that $A = SJS^{-1}$, where $J = diag(I_{n-1}, 1 - v^T u)$. If $v^T u \neq 0$ and $v^T u \neq 1$, since A is diagonalizable with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues, applying Theorem 2.5 and 2.6, we have the following results.

Theorem 3.1. Suppose $A = I - uv^T$ with $v^T u \neq 0$ and $v^T u \neq 1$. Let $A = SJS^{-1}$, where $J = diag(I_{n-1}, 1 - v^T u)$. If $v^T u = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & q \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{n-1-t} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

or

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} P & 0 \\ 0 & q \end{bmatrix} R \begin{bmatrix} I_t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{n-1-t} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \frac{1 \mp \sqrt{3}i}{2} \end{bmatrix} R^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} P^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & q^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

 $q \neq 0, P \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$ is any invertible matrix,

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I_t & 0 & \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}f \\ 0 & I_{n-1-t} & 0 \\ \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}g & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

 $0 \le t \le n-1$, $f \in \mathbb{C}^{t \times 1}$, $g \in \mathbb{C}^{1 \times t}$. The elements of N_1 is zeros except that the second upper diagonal elements may be one or zero. $N_1^2 = 0$, $fg = \frac{-1 \mp \sqrt{3}i}{2}N_1$, $N_1f = 0$, $gN_1 = 0$.

If $v^T u \neq \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}$, then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{n-r-1} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & l \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

or

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q} \end{bmatrix} W \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{n-2-k} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - v^T u \end{bmatrix} W^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

in which, $\tilde{q} \neq 0$, $\tilde{P} \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1)\times(n-1)}$ are any invertible matrices, $0 \leq r \leq n-1$, l is either 0 or $1 - v^T u$, $0 \leq k \leq n-2$,

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{v^{T}u}{1 - v^{T}u + (v^{T}u)^{2}}c & 0 & 0 & \frac{v^{T}u}{1 - v^{T}u}c \\ 0 & I_{k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{n-2-k} & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \forall \ c \neq 0.$$

When $v^T u = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}$, since $N_1^2 = 0$, $fg = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{3}i}{2}N_1$, $N_1f = 0$, $gN_1 = 0$, if f = 0 or g = 0, then $N_1 = 0$. If $fg \neq 0$, then $rank(N_1) = 1$. If $v^T u \neq 0$ and $v^T u \neq 1$, the formula X in Theorem 3.1 are more general than the formula in Theorem 2.1 by J. Ding and H. Tian [5]. We obtain the explicit structure of the solutions X for the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation AXA = XAX when $A = I - uv^T$ with $v^T u \neq 0$ and $v^T u \neq 1$. Also, we prove that the solutions X are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues are contained in the set $\{1, 1 - v^T u, 0\}$.

As a direct consequence of Theorem 2.6 and 3.1, we look for all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) with a Householder matrix $A = I - 2uu^H$, where u is a unit vector in \mathbb{C}^n and u^H is the conjugate transpose of u. Householder transformations are widely used in numerical linear algebra, for example, to annihilate the entries below the main diagonal of a matrix to perform QR decompositions and in the first step of the QR algorithm. They are also widely used for transforming to a Hessenberg form. 1 is an eigenvalue of A with multiplicity n-1 and -1 is the other eigenvalue of A with multiplicity 1. Let u_1, \ldots, u_{n-1} be orthonormal vectors such that $u^H u_j = 0$ ($u_j^H u_j = 1$) for $j = 1, \ldots, n-1$, the matrix $S = [u_1, \ldots, u_{n-1}, u]$ is a unitary matrix such that $A = SJS^{-1}$, where $J = diag(I_{n-1}, -1)$. Thus we have the following results.

Theorem 3.2. Suppose $A = I - 2uu^H$ with $u^H u = 1$. Let $A = SJS^{-1}$, where $J = diag(I_{n-1}, -1)$. Then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0_{n-r-1} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & l \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

or

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q} \end{bmatrix} W \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{n-2-k} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} W^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \widetilde{P}^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \widetilde{q}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

in which, $\tilde{q} \neq 0$, $\tilde{P} \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-1)\times(n-1)}$ are any invertible matrices, $0 \leq r \leq n-1$, l is either 0 or -1, $0 \leq k \leq n-2$,

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3}c & 0 & 0 & -2c \\ 0 & I_k & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{n-2-k} & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \forall \ c \neq 0.$$

We obtain the explicit structure of the solutions *X* for the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) when *A* is a Householder matrix. Also, we prove that the solutions *X* are diagonalizable and the eigenvalues are contained in the set $\{1, -1, 0\}$. Thus, the formula *X* in Theorem 3.2 are better than the formula in Corollary 3.1 and Theorem 4.1 by Q. Dong and J. Ding [6].

Let $A \neq \pm I$ be an $n \times n$ complex matrix satisfying $A^2 = I$. The matrix A is diagonalizable with eigenvalues 1 and -1. Let m be the multiplicity of 1. Then $A = SJS^{-1}$ for a nonsingular matrix S, where $J = diag(I_m, -I_{n-m})$.

Theorem 3.3. Suppose $A^2 = I$ and $A \neq \pm I$. Let $A = SJS^{-1}$, where $J = diag(I_m, -I_{n-m})$. Then all solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) have the form

$$X = S \begin{bmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & V \end{bmatrix} W \begin{bmatrix} I_r & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_v & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0_{m-r-v} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -I_\tau & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix} W^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} U^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & V^{-1} \end{bmatrix} S^{-1},$$

in which, $U \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$, $V \in \mathbb{C}^{(n-m) \times (n-m)}$ are any invertible matrices,

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3}C & 0 & 0 & | & -2C & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I_{\nu} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & I_{m-r-\nu} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline I_r & 0 & 0 & I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{\tau} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & I_{n-m-r-\tau} \end{bmatrix},$$

 $0 \le r \le \min\{m, n-m\}, 0 \le v \le m-r, 0 \le \tau \le n-m-r, and C \text{ is an arbitrary } r \times r \text{ invertible matrix.}$

We have constructed the structure of the solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1). The solutions *X* are diagonalizable. The eigenvalues of *X* constitute a subset of $\{0, 1, -1\}$. The formula *X* in Theorem 3.3 are better than the results in [8, 12].

4. Numerical examples

This section contains two examples to illustrate our theoretical results.

Example 4.1. Let $u = (1, 0, -i)^H$, $v = (\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^H$, and

$$A = I - uv^{H} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -1 & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2}i & -i & 1 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i \end{bmatrix}.$$

We choose $v_1 = (2, -1, 0)^T$ and $v_2 = (\sqrt{3}, 0, 1)^T$ so that $A = SJS^{-1}$, where

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & \sqrt{3} & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & i \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } J = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $v^H u = \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2}$, by Theorem 3.1, we get the follow solutions. Case I: t = 0

$$X = 0, \quad X = \left[\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{i}{2} & i & -\frac{\sqrt{3}i}{2} \end{array} \right].$$

Case II: t = 1

<i>X</i> =	$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(2\sqrt{3}-2i)p_1p_2+(3-\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}\\ \frac{(\sqrt{3}-i)p_1p_2}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}\\ -\frac{(\sqrt{3}-i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)} \end{bmatrix}$	$-\frac{4p_1p_4+(2\sqrt{3}-2i)p_1p_2+2\sqrt{3}p_3p_4+(3-\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{2(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}$ $-\frac{2p_1p_4+(\sqrt{3}-i)p_1p_2}{2(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}$ $-\frac{2p_3p_4+(\sqrt{3}-i)p_2p_3}{2(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}$	$-\frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)p_1p_2+(\sqrt{3}+3i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}\\\frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_1p_2}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}\\-\frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)}$,
	L $4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)$	$2(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)$	$4(p_1p_4-p_2p_3)$	

 $\begin{aligned} \text{for all } p_i \in \mathbb{C}, \, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \, p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3 \neq 0. \\ X = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(2\sqrt{3} - 2i)p_1 p_2 + (3 - \sqrt{3}i)p_2 p_3 + (\sqrt{3} - i)qp_2 g}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} + \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{4p_1 p_4 + (2\sqrt{3} - 2)p_1 p_2 + 2\sqrt{3}p_3 p_4 + (3 - \sqrt{3}i)p_2 p_3 + 2qp_4 g + (\sqrt{3} - i)qp_2 g}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} + 1 \\ & \frac{(\sqrt{3} - i)p_1 p_2}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} & -\frac{(\sqrt{3} - i)p_1 p_2 g_3 + (1 + \sqrt{3}i)qp_2 g}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} + \frac{i}{2} & -\frac{2p_1 p_4 + (\sqrt{3} - 1)p_1 p_2}{2(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} \\ & -\frac{(2 + 2\sqrt{3}i)p_1 p_2 + (\sqrt{3} + 3i)p_2 p_3 + (1 - \sqrt{3}i)qp_2 g}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ & -\frac{(1 + \sqrt{3}i)p_2 p_3 + (1 - \sqrt{3}i)qp_2 g}{4(p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3)} - \frac{\sqrt{3}i}{2} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$

for all $q, g, p_i \in \mathbb{C}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3 \neq 0$.

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{(2\sqrt{3}-2i)p_1p_2 + (3-\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} + \frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)p_1f + (\sqrt{3}+3i)p_3f}{4q} + \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{4p_1p_4 + (2\sqrt{3}-2i)p_1p_2 + 2\sqrt{3}p_3p_4 + (3-\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{2(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} + \frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)p_1f + (\sqrt{3}+3i)p_3f}{2q} + \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{(\sqrt{3}-i)p_1p_2}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} - \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_1f}{4q} & \frac{2p_1p_4 + (\sqrt{3}-i)p_1p_2}{2(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} - \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_1f}{2q} \\ -\frac{(\sqrt{3}-i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} + \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_3f}{4q} + \frac{i}{2} & -\frac{2p_3p_4 + (\sqrt{3}-i)p_2p_3}{2(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} + \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_3f}{2q} + i \\ -\frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)p_1p_2 + (\sqrt{3}+3i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} - \frac{(2\sqrt{3}+6i)p_1f + (3+\sqrt{3}i)p_3f}{4q} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} - \frac{(\sqrt{3}+3i)p_1f}{4q} \\ -\frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)p_2p_3}{4(p_1p_4 - p_2p_3)} - \frac{(\sqrt{3}+3i)p_3f}{4q} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all $q, f, p_i \in \mathbb{C}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, q \neq 0, p_1 p_4 - p_2 p_3 \neq 0.$ Case III: t = 2 $X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3-\sqrt{3}i}{4} & -\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}+3i}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3-\sqrt{3}i}{4} & -\frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}+3i}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}-i}{4} & \frac{\sqrt{3}-i}{2} & \frac{1+\sqrt{3}i}{4} \end{bmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{5-\sqrt{3}i}{4} & \frac{1-\sqrt{3}i}{2} & \frac{-\sqrt{3}+3i}{4} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}+i}{4} & \frac{\sqrt{3}+i}{2} & \frac{1-\sqrt{3}i}{4} \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{(\sqrt{3}-i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{4(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} + \frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)(p_{1}f_{1}+p_{2}f_{2})+(\sqrt{3}+3i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} + \frac{1}{2} & \frac{-2q(g_{1}p_{4}-g_{2}p_{3})+(\sqrt{3}-i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{2(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} + \frac{(2+2\sqrt{3}i)(p_{1}f_{1}+p_{2}f_{2})+(\sqrt{3}+3i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{2q} - 1 \\ & -\frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)(p_{1}f_{1}+p_{2}f_{2})}{4(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} & \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} - \frac{i}{2} & \frac{-2iq(g_{1}p_{4}-g_{2}p_{3})+(1+\sqrt{3}i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{2(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} + \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{2q} - i \\ & \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{4(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} + \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)(g_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} - \frac{i}{2} & \frac{-2iq(g_{1}p_{4}-g_{2}p_{3})+(1+\sqrt{3}i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{2(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} + \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{2q} - i \\ & \frac{(1+\sqrt{3}i)q(g_{2}p_{1}-g_{1}p_{2})}{4(p_{1}p_{4}-p_{2}p_{3})} - \frac{(2\sqrt{3}+6i)(p_{1}f_{1}+p_{2}f_{2})+(3+3\sqrt{3}i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} + \frac{\sqrt{3}-2+(3+2\sqrt{3})i}{4} \\ & \frac{(\sqrt{3}+3i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} + \frac{(1-2\sqrt{3}+(\sqrt{3}-2)i}{4} \\ & \frac{(\sqrt{3}+3i)(p_{3}f_{1}+p_{4}f_{2})}{4q} + \frac{(1-2\sqrt{3}+(\sqrt{3}-2)i}{4} \\ & for all p_{i}, f_{j} \in \mathbb{C}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, j = 1, 2, q \neq 0, f_{1}g_{1} + f_{2}g_{2} = 0, \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

Example 4.2. Let $u = (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^T$, and

$$A = I - 2uu^{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We choose $v_1 = (1, 0, 1)^T$ *and* $v_2 = (0, 1, 0)^T$ *so that* $A = SJS^{-1}$ *, where*

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \quad and \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By Theorem 3.2, we get the follow solutions.

Case I: r = 0

$$X=0, \quad X=\left[\begin{array}{ccc} -\frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right],$$

and

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1}c}{2v} + \frac{1}{4} & \frac{4cu_{1}u_{2}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{2}}{8c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1}c}{2v} - \frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{u_{3}u_{4}}{4(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{3}c}{2v} & \frac{u_{2}u_{3}}{2(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{u_{3}u_{4}}{4(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{3}c}{2v} \\ -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1}c}{2v} - \frac{1}{4} & \frac{4cu_{1}u_{2}-3\sqrt{2}vu_{2}}{8c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1}c}{2v} + \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all $c, v, u_i \in \mathbb{C}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, v \neq 0$, $c \neq 0$, $u_1u_4 - u_2u_3 \neq 0$. Case II: r = 1

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{u_1 u_4}{2(u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3)} & -\frac{u_1 u_2}{u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3} & \frac{u_1 u_4}{2(u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3)} \\ \frac{u_2 u_3}{2(u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3)} & -\frac{u_1 u_4}{u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3} & \frac{u_1 u_4}{2(u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3)} \\ \frac{u_1 u_4}{2(u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3)} & -\frac{u_1 u_2}{u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3} & \frac{u_1 u_4}{u_1 u_4 - u_2 u_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all $u_i \in \mathbb{C}$, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, $u_1u_4 - u_2u_3 \neq 0$.

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{u_1u_4}{2(u_1u_4 - u_2u_3)} + \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{u_1u_2}{u_1u_4 - u_2u_3} & \frac{u_1u_4}{2(u_1u_4 - u_2u_3)} - \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{u_1u_4}{2(u_1u_4 - u_2u_3)} & -\frac{u_1u_2}{u_1u_4 - u_2u_3} & \frac{u_1u_4}{2(u_1u_4 - u_2u_3)} \\ \frac{u_1u_4}{2(u_1u_4 - u_2u_3)} - \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{u_1u_2}{u_1u_4 - u_2u_3} & -\frac{u_1u_4}{u_1u_4 - u_2u_3} + \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all $u_i \in \mathbb{C}$, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, $u_1u_4 - u_2u_3 \neq 0$.

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+8cu_{2}u_{3}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1c}}{2v} + \frac{1}{4} & \frac{12cu_{1}u_{2}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{2}}{8c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+8cu_{2}u_{3}+3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1c}}{2v} - \frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{3u_{3}u_{4}}{4(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{3}c}{2v} & \frac{u_{2}u_{3}+2u_{1}u_{4}}{2(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{3u_{3}u_{4}}{4(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{3}c}{2v} \\ -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+8cu_{2}u_{3}-3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} - \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1c}}{2v} - \frac{1}{4} & \frac{12cu_{1}u_{2}-3\sqrt{2}vu_{2}}{8c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} & -\frac{4cu_{1}u_{4}+8cu_{2}u_{3}-3\sqrt{2}vu_{4}}{16c(u_{1}u_{4}-u_{2}u_{3})} + \frac{\sqrt{2}u_{1c}}{2v} + \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

for all $c, v, u_i \in \mathbb{C}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, v \neq 0, c \neq 0, u_1u_4 - u_2u_3 \neq 0$. Case III: r = 2

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

5. Conclusions

When the given matrix A is diagonalizable matrix with two distinct nonzero eigenvalues λ and μ , we have derived all explicit expression for the solutions X of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) under the conditions that $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$ and $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$, respectively. We correct and improve the results in

Shen et al. [14] when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 = 0$. We also improve the results in Shen et al. [14] when $\lambda^2 - \lambda \mu + \mu^2 \neq 0$. We prove that the solutions are diagonalizable and the spectrum contained in the set { $\lambda, \mu, 0$ }. We improve the research for which *A* is a Householder matrix $A = I - 2uu^H$ [6], *A* is a class of elementary matrices $A = I - uv^T (v^T u \neq 0)$ [5] and $A \neq \pm I$ is an $n \times n$ complex matrix satisfying $A^2 = I$ [8, 12], respectively. This is an important step to solve more general matrices. Finding all the solutions of the Yang-Baxter-like matrix equation (1) for a general matrix *A* is a hard task, which is continuing research work in the future.

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