

# 1 Eigenvalues of the sum of matrices from unitary similarity orbits

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Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $n \times n$  complex matrices. Characterization is given for the set  $\mathcal{E}(A, B)$  of eigenvalues of matrices of the form  $U^*AU + V^*BV$  for some unitary matrices  $U$  and  $V$ . Consequences of the results are discussed and computer algorithms and programs are designed to generate the set  $\mathcal{E}(A, B)$ . The results refine those of Wielandt on normal matrices. Extensions of the results to the sum of matrices from three or more unitary similarity orbits are also considered.