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*Irreducible 4 by 4 sign patterns that require 4 distinct eigenvalues*

A sign pattern (matrix) is a matrix whose entries are from the set  $\{+, -, 0\}$ . Some necessary or sufficient conditions for a square sign pattern to require all distinct eigenvalues are presented. In particular, it is known that such sign patterns require a fixed number of real eigenvalues. The  $3 \times 3$  irreducible sign patterns that require 3 distinct eigenvalues have been identified previously. The  $4 \times 4$  irreducible sign patterns that require four distinct real eigenvalues and those that require four distinct nonreal eigenvalues are characterized. The  $4 \times 4$  irreducible sign patterns that require two distinct real eigenvalues and two distinct nonreal eigenvalues are investigated.