

Read sections 6.1, 6.2 of Linear algebra done wrong. Solve the following problems.

1 Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  and  $B$  a  $k \times m$  complex matrices. Prove that

$$(BA)^* = A^*B^*.$$

Here as before  $*$  means conjugate transpose.

2 Suppose  $T : V \rightarrow W$  and  $S : W \rightarrow U$  are two complex linear maps between complex finite dimensional inner product spaces. Prove that

$$(S \circ T)^* = T^* \circ S^*.$$

Here  $*$  means the adjoint.

3 Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional complex vector space with an inner product and  $\mathcal{B} = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  an orthonormal basis of  $V$ .

(a) Prove that the unique linear map  $\varphi : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow V$  that takes the standard basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  to  $\mathcal{B}$  is unitary.

(b) Let  $\mathcal{B}'$  be another orthonormal basis of  $V$ . Prove that the change of coordinates matrix  $[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}'}$  is unitary.

4 A Hermitian matrix  $A$  is positive definite if

$$(v, Av) > 0$$

for all non-zero vectors  $v$ . Prove that a matrix  $A$  is positive definite if and only if all the eigenvalues of  $A$  are (real and) positive.

5 Prove that if a Hermitian matrix  $A$  is positive definite then there is a matrix  $S$  so that  $A = S^*S$ .

Hints:

(i) Since  $A$  is Hermitian, it is unitarily diagonalizable: there is a unitary matrix  $U$  so that  $A = UDU^*$  where  $D$  is diagonal.

(ii) Argue that since  $A$  is positive definite, all the diagonal entries of  $D$  are positive real numbers. Explain why this implies that there is a diagonal matrix  $D'$  with real entries so that  $D = D'D'$ .

(iii)  $A = UD'D'U^*$ . What should you take to be the matrix  $S$ ?

6 A  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is skew-Hermitian if and only if  $A^* = -A$ .

(a) Prove that  $A$  is skew-Hermitian  $\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{-1}A$  is Hermitian

(b) Prove that if a matrix  $A$  is skew-Hermitian then all of its eigenvalues are purely imaginary (you may consider 0 as purely imaginary for the purpose of this problem).

(c) ~~Prove that one can rescale eigenvectors of a skew-Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrix so that they form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$~~  given a skew-Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  there is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ .

7 A commutator of two  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  is the matrix  $[A, B]$  defined by

$$[A, B] := AB - BA.$$

( $[A, B]$  is also called the Lie bracket of  $A$  and  $B$ ).

(a) Prove that

$$[B, A] = -[A, B]$$

for any two matrices  $A$  and  $B$ .

(b) Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are two skew-Hermitian matrices then their bracket  $[A, B]$  is also skew-Hermitian.

(c) Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are Hermitian, then  $[A, B]$  is **not** Hermitian.

**8** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  Hermitian matrix with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  and corresponding orthonormal eigenvectors  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

(a) Prove that

$$I = \sum_{j=1}^n v_j v_j^*$$

where  $I$  is the identity matrix,  $v_j$ 's are column vectors and  $v_j^*$ 's are the corresponding row vectors.

(b) Prove that

$$A = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j v_j v_j^*.$$

(c) (Optional !) What do parts (a) and (b) say in the Dirac notation?