

Assignment (4 & 5)

Submit solutions of problem 1-(a), (b), (c), (d); each carry (2) marks.

1. Let \mathbb{H} be the \mathbb{R} -algebra of quaternions and $V = \mathbb{H}_p$ be the \mathbb{R} -subspace of pure quaternions;

$$\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}i \oplus \mathbb{R}j \oplus \mathbb{R}k, \quad \mathbb{H}_p = \mathbb{R}i \oplus \mathbb{R}j \oplus \mathbb{R}k,$$

Where $i = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}$, $j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $k = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

For $y, x \in \mathbb{H}_p$, $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 i & x_3 + x_4 i \\ -x_3 + x_4 i & -x_2 i \end{pmatrix}$, $Y = \begin{pmatrix} y_2 i & y_3 + y_4 i \\ -y_3 + y_4 i & -y_2 i \end{pmatrix}$,

(a) Show that the Euclidean inner product

$$\langle (x_2, x_3, x_4), (y_2, y_3, y_4) \rangle \text{ equals } -\frac{1}{2} \text{trace}(XY).$$

(b) Verify that, for $x, y \in \mathbb{H}_p$ and $P \in \text{SU}(2)$

$$\langle PXP^*, PYP^* \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle.$$

(c) Identifying \mathbb{H}_p with \mathbb{R}^3 , verify that the

map $\phi: \text{SU}(2) \rightarrow \text{GL}_3(\mathbb{R})$, $\phi(P)((x_2, x_3, x_4))$

$= PXP^*$, where X is the corresponding element

in \mathbb{H}_p , has image in $O(3)$ & is a homomorphism.

(d) Let $y \in \mathbb{H}_p$ be invertible, so $y \in \text{SU}(2)$. Recall

for $x \in \mathbb{H}_p$, $\tau_y(x) := x - \frac{2\langle x, y \rangle y}{\langle y, y \rangle}$, then

$\tau_y \in O(3)$ and $\det \tau_y = -1$.

Verify, for ϕ as above, $\det(\phi(y)) = 1$, $y \in \mathbb{H}_p \setminus \{0\}$.

2. Let, for $X \in \mathbb{H}$, $X = a + b\mathbf{i} + c\mathbf{j} + d\mathbf{k}$,

$\bar{X} := a - b\mathbf{i} - c\mathbf{j} - d\mathbf{k}$. (i) Then verify that

$\bar{X} = X^*$. Recall the Hopf map: $S^3 \xrightarrow{h} S^2$

where $S^3 \cong \text{SU}(2)$, $S^2 = \text{element in } \mathbb{H}_p \text{ of det } 1$;

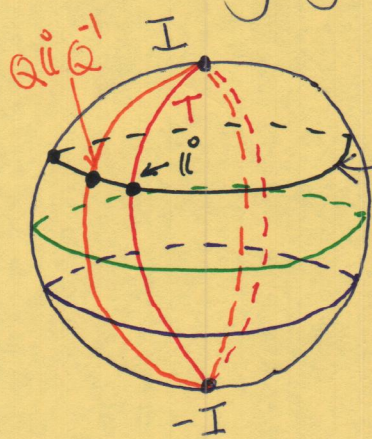
$$h(P) = P\mathbf{i}P^{-1} = P\mathbf{i}P^* = P\mathbf{i}P^{-1} \in \mathbb{H}_p.$$

Consider the action of $\text{SU}(2)$ on itself by conjugation, show that this is transitive.

(ii) Verify that the centralizer of \mathbf{i} in $\text{SU}(2)$ is

$$T = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \mid \alpha \in S^1 \right\}. \text{ So orbit of } \mathbf{i}$$

$$= \text{Conjugacy class of } \mathbf{i} \cong \text{SU}(2) / T$$



conj. class of \mathbf{i}

(iii) Verify that for $h: \text{SU}(2) = S^3 \rightarrow S^2$,

h is surjective with fiber

$$h^{-1}(\mathbf{i}) = T \text{ and } h^{-1}(Q\mathbf{i}Q^{-1}) = QT,$$

the ~~latitude~~ longitude through $\pm Q$ in S^3 ,

hence all fibers of h are circles S^1 .

