

§ Clifford and Lie algebra

8.1

1. Show that the vector space $\mathbb{R}^3$ forms an algebra when provided with the vector product $\circ$.

F 是一個域(field)，所謂 F -algebra A 就是

- (1) A 在 F 上是一個 vector space
- (2) A 是一個 ring，具有結合律 分配律
- (3) 相容性 $\lambda(a \circ b) = (\lambda a) \circ b = a \circ (\lambda b)$

這裡的 vector product 指的是外積。

2. Show that it is a Lie algebra $\circ$.

考慮 Lie bracket 定義為外積 $[x, y] = x \times y$ 要滿足

- (1) 雙線性
- (2) 反對稱性
- (3) Jacobi 恆等式 Jacobi identity $[x, [y, z]] + [y, [z, x]] + [z, [x, y]] = 0$

$$a \times (b \times c) = (a \cdot c)b - (a \cdot b)c$$

如果沒有 Jacobi 恆等式會怎樣？

- (1) 李的三個基本定理會失效
- (2) 通用包絡代數無法正確定義
- (3) 表示論基礎崩壞
- (4) 分類理論不可能

李的三個基本定理是：

- (1) 每一個李群都決定一個李代數

每一個李群 G 都唯一地決定了一個李代數 $\mathfrak{g}$ ，這個李代數作為向量空間同構於 G 在單位元處的切空間 $T_e G$ 。李括號 $[X, Y]$ 可以通過群乘法來定義（例如，通過左不變向量場的李括號，或通過交換子的極限）。

- (2) 李代數的同態可以局部地提升為李群的同態。

令 G 和 H 為李群，其對應的李代數為 $\mathfrak{g}$ 和 $\mathfrak{h}$ 。如果 $\phi: \mathfrak{g} \rightarrow \mathfrak{h}$ 是一個李代數同態（即保持李括號的線性映射），那麼存在 G 中單位元的一個鄰域 U 和 H 中單位元的一個鄰域 V ，以及一個局部李群同態 $\Phi: U \rightarrow V$ ，使得 Φ 在單位元處的微分 $d\Phi_e$ 正好等於 ϕ 。

- (3) 每一個有限維李代數都同構於某一個李群的李代數。每個李代數都來自某個李群。

$\mathbb{R}^2$ 可以有 Lie algebra 的結構：

- (1) 定義 $[u, v] = 0$ 對所有 $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ 是 Abel 結構，對應於平面平移。
- (2) 取標準基 $\{e_1, e_2\}$ ，定義 $[e_1, e_2] = e_1$ ($[u, v] = (u_1 v_2 - u_2 v_1)e_1$) 是非 Abel 結構，對應於仿射變換。

這體現了李代數的一個深刻事實：同一個向量空間可以承載多個不同的李代數結構，取決於我們如何定義李括號。

3. Determine the structure constants of this algebra .

假設 $\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$ 是 R^3 的標準么正基，則 $[e_j, e_k] = e_j \times e_k = \varepsilon_{jkm}$ ， $j, k, m=1,2,3$

這個 ε_{jkm} 就稱為這 Lie algebra 的結構常數。

8.2

Consider the operators $Q = x, P = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ acting on functions of the real variable x .

1. Calculate the commutator $[P, Q]$

$$[P, Q]f(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} x f(x) - x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x) = f(x)$$

所以 $[P, Q]=1$

2. Consider the commutator as the Lie bracket，show that the vector space with the basis $\{1, P, Q\}$ is a Lie algebra .

這個 Lie algebra 稱為海森堡代數 η_3 ，在量子力學扮演著基本角色。

3 維海森堡李代數由 3 個生成元 $\{p, q, z\}$ 構成，滿足

$[p, q] = z, [p, z] = 0, [q, z] = 0$ ，這裡 p, q 可以理解為位置和動量算符。

z 是中心元（與所有元素對易）。

$$\text{考慮矩陣則 } \eta_3 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a & c \\ 0 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : a, b, c \in R \right\}$$

$$\text{取 } P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

則 $[P, Q]=z, [P, z]=0, [Q, z]=0$

在量子力學中，對於位置算符 $\hat{x}$ 和動量算符 $\hat{p}$ ， $[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar \hat{I}$

若我們定義 $p = \frac{\hat{p}}{\sqrt{\hbar}}, q = \frac{\hat{x}}{\sqrt{\hbar}}, z = i\hat{I}$ 則 $[p, q]=z$ 。

$$\text{相關的海森堡群為 } H_3 = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & c \\ 0 & 1 & b \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, a, b, c \in R \right\}$$

3. Set $a = \frac{P+Q}{\sqrt{2}}, a^\dagger = \frac{Q-P}{\sqrt{2}}$ ，calculate the commutator $[a, a^\dagger]$

The operators a and $a^\dagger$ are called respectively *boson creation and annihilation operators*. They are introduced naturally during the solution of the Schrödinger equation for the harmonic oscillator, the solutions of which form a representation of the operators a and $a^\dagger$ in Hilbert space.

算符 $a, a^\dagger$ 分別稱為玻色子的生成算符與湮滅算符。

$$[a, a^\dagger] = 1, [a, a] = [a^\dagger, a^\dagger] = 0$$

最經典的例子是量子諧振子：

- 哈密頓算符： $H = \hbar\omega(a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2})$
- 位置算符： $x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}}(a + a^\dagger)$
- 動量算符： $p = i\sqrt{\frac{m\hbar\omega}{2}}(a^\dagger - a)$

這裡的對易關係 $[a, a^\dagger] = 1$ 保證了 $[x, p] = i\hbar$ 。

4. Consider a set of operators Q_i and P_i operating on some independent variables x_i . Find the commutation relations for the operators a_i and $a_i^\dagger$ associated with each variables.
5. Consider two operators a_1, a_2 . Show that the operators $J_+ = a_1^\dagger a_2, J_- = a_2^\dagger a_1, J_0 = \frac{1}{2}(a_1^\dagger a_1 - a_2^\dagger a_2)$ form a realization of the Lie algebra $su(2)$.

8.3

1. Show that the following matrices $\gamma_i = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_i & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_i \end{pmatrix}, i=1,2,3, \gamma_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i\sigma_2 \\ i\sigma_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

where the σ_i are the Pauli matrices, are able to serve as generating elements of a Clifford algebra.

The generating elements of a Clifford algebra have to satisfy the conditions

$$\gamma_i \gamma_j + \gamma_j \gamma_i = \{\gamma_i, \gamma_j\} = 2\delta_{ij} \text{ with } i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3$$

$$\text{由 } \sigma_i \sigma_j + \sigma_j \sigma_i = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

Similarly, $\{\gamma_0, \gamma_i\} = 0$ for $i=1,2,3$; $(\sigma_i)^2 = 1$ for $i=0,1,2,3$

We can verify $\gamma_i \gamma_j + \gamma_j \gamma_i = \{\gamma_i, \gamma_j\} = 2\delta_{ij}$ with $i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3$

2. Determine the basis elements of this Clifford algebra ◦

8.4

Let there be n Hermitian operators α_j satisfying the Clifford algebra relations

$$\alpha_j \alpha_k + \alpha_k \alpha_j = 2\delta_{jk} \quad \circ$$

Set $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 + i\alpha_2), a_1^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1 - i\alpha_2), a_2 = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_3 + i\alpha_4)$, etc

Calculate the anticommutation relations $\{a_j, a_k\}$

We obtain the following anticommutation relations by taking account of the Clifford algebras relations, that is,

$$\{a_i, a_j\} = 0, \quad \{a_i^\dagger, a_j^\dagger\} = 0, \quad \{a_i, a_j^\dagger\} = \delta_{ij}.$$

These anticommutation relations are those realized by the fermion creation and annihilation operators in quantum mechanics. They are the operators associated with particles having half-integer spin. Mathematically, they appear as the artefacts of a Clifford algebra.

8.5

This exercise allows us to introduce the relation between the Pauli spinors and quaternions ◦

1. Let i, j, k be the basis vectors of the quaternion algebra ◦ Recall the properties of these vectors ◦

2. Quaternions can be written $q = w + xi + yj + zk$ ◦

Set $\psi = w + zk, \phi = -y + xk$ ◦ Show that q can be written in the form

$$q = \psi - j\phi$$

3. Consider a quaternion $u = \alpha + \beta k$, and write $\bar{u} = \alpha - \beta k$ ◦ Let $q_1 = \psi_1 - j\phi_1$ ◦

Show that the product $q_1 q$ can be put in the form $q_1 q = \psi_1' - j\phi_1'$, where the

quaternions ψ_1' and ϕ_1' are functions of $\psi, \phi, \psi_1, \bar{\psi}_1, \bar{\phi}_1$ ◦

4. Consider the following rotation quaternion $q_2 = \cos \frac{1}{2} \theta - (iL_1 + jL_2 + kL_3) \sin \frac{1}{2} \theta$,

which can be associated with a rotation in three-dimensional space through an angle θ about an axis along a vector L with components L_1, L_2, L_3 . Let

$q_2 q = \psi'_2 - j\phi'_2$. Calculate ψ'_2 and ϕ'_2 as a function of the rotation parameters.

5. In the expressions obtained in the preceding exercise replace k by $\sqrt{-1} = i$, and

show that the vector $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ \phi \end{pmatrix}$ transforms under a rotation given by q_2 as a two-component spinor.

Pauli matrices $\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ 滿足 $\sigma_i \sigma_j = \delta_{ij} I + i \epsilon_{ijk} \sigma_k$

Quaternions $q = a + bi + cj + dk$

$i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1$, $ij = k, jk = i, ki = j$, 反對稱 $ji = -ij \dots$

Pauli 矩陣提供四元數的一種矩陣表示：

$i = -i\sigma_x, j = -i\sigma_y, k = -i\sigma_z$ (這裡符號有故意誤用，例如 $i = -i\sigma_x$ 第一個 i 是四元

數的 i ，第二個 $i = \sqrt{-1}$)

$$ij = (-i\sigma_x)(-i\sigma_y) = -\sigma_x \sigma_y = -i\sigma_z = k$$

Pauli spinors 是二分量複數矩陣，屬於 $SU(2)$ 的表示空間。

$SU(2)$ 由 2×2 酉矩陣構成， $U = \begin{pmatrix} a + id & -b + ic \\ b + ic & a - id \end{pmatrix}$

($SU(2)$ 是 Pauli spinors 的變換群)

單位四元數 $q = a + bi + cj + dk$ 滿足 $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1$ 可對應到 U ，這種對應是二對一，這反映了 $SU(2)$ 是 $SO(3)$ 的雙覆蓋。

在量子力學中，Pauli spinors $\chi = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}$ 在旋轉下由 $SU(2)$ 變換。由於 $SU(2)$ 與單位 quaternions 同構，quaternions 可用來描述 spinors 的旋轉。具體地，一個單位 quaternion q 對應一個旋轉操作，作用於 spinor 上相當於矩陣乘法。

然而，在實際計算中，通常直接使用 Pauli 矩陣和 $SU(2)$ 表示，因為 quaternions 在量子力學中較少直接使用，但這種關係在數學物理和計算機圖學中有應用。