

Advanced Geometric Methods in Computer Science

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Homework 1

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Problem B1 (50). (a) Find two symmetric matrices, A and B , such that AB is not symmetric.

(b) Find two matrices A and B such that

$$e^A e^B \neq e^{A+B}.$$

Hint. Try

$$A = \pi \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \pi \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and use the Rodrigues formula.

(c) Find some square matrices A, B such that $AB \neq BA$, yet

$$e^A e^B = e^{A+B}.$$

Hint. Look for 2×2 matrices with zero trace.

Problem B2 (80 pts). Let $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ denote the vector space of $n \times n$ matrices with complex coefficients (and $M_n(\mathbb{R})$ denote the vector space of $n \times n$ matrices with real coefficients). For any matrix $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$, let R_A and L_A be the maps from $M_n(\mathbb{C})$ to itself defined so that

$$L_A(B) = AB, \quad R_A(B) = BA, \quad \text{for all } B \in M_n(\mathbb{C}).$$

Check that L_A and R_A are linear, and that L_A and R_B commute for all A, B .

Let $\text{ad}_A : M_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C})$ be the linear map given by

$$\text{ad}_A(B) = L_A(B) - R_A(B) = AB - BA = [A, B], \quad \text{for all } B \in M_n(\mathbb{C}).$$

Note that $[A, B]$ is the Lie bracket.

(1) Prove that if A is invertible, then L_A and R_A are invertible; in fact, $(L_A)^{-1} = L_{A^{-1}}$ and $(R_A)^{-1} = R_{A^{-1}}$. Prove that if $A = PBP^{-1}$ for some invertible matrix P , then

$$L_A = L_P \circ L_B \circ L_P^{-1}, \quad R_A = R_P^{-1} \circ R_B \circ R_P.$$

(2) Recall that the n^2 matrices E_{ij} defined such that all entries in E_{ij} are zero except the (i, j) th entry, which is equal to 1, form a basis of the vector space $M_n(\mathbb{C})$. Consider the partial ordering of the E_{ij} defined such that for $i = 1, \dots, n$, if $n \geq j > k \geq 1$, then E_{ij} precedes E_{ik} , and for $j = 1, \dots, n$, if $1 \leq i < h \leq n$, then E_{ij} precedes E_{hj} .

Draw the Hasse diagram of the partial order defined above when $n = 3$.

There are total orderings extending this partial ordering. How would you find them algorithmically? Check that the following is such a total order:

$$(1, 3), (1, 2), (1, 1), (2, 3), (2, 2), (2, 1), (3, 3), (3, 2), (3, 1).$$

(3) Let the total order of the basis (E_{ij}) extending the partial ordering defined in (2) be given by

$$(i, j) < (h, k) \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{cases} i = h \text{ and } j > k \\ \text{or } i < h. \end{cases}$$

Let $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ be the eigenvalues of A (not necessarily distinct). Using Schur's theorem, A is similar to an upper triangular matrix B , that is, $A = PBP^{-1}$ with B upper triangular, and we may assume that the diagonal entries of B in descending order are $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$. If the E_{ij} are listed according to the above total order, prove that R_B is an upper triangular matrix whose diagonal entries are

$$\underbrace{(\lambda_n, \dots, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n, \dots, \lambda_1)}_{n^2},$$

and that L_B is an upper triangular matrix whose diagonal entries are

$$\underbrace{(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_1)}_n \dots \underbrace{(\lambda_n, \dots, \lambda_n)}_n.$$

Hint. Figure out what are $R_B(E_{ij}) = E_{ij}B$ and $L_B(E_{ij}) = BE_{ij}$.

Use the fact that

$$L_A = L_P \circ L_B \circ L_P^{-1}, \quad R_A = R_P^{-1} \circ R_B \circ R_P,$$

to express $\text{ad}_A = L_A - R_A$ in terms of $L_B - R_B$, and conclude that the eigenvalues of ad_A are $\lambda_i - \lambda_j$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$, and for $j = n, \dots, 1$.

(4) (**Extra Credit**) Let R be the $n \times n$ permutation matrix given by

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Observe that $R^{-1} = R$. I checked for $n = 3$ that in the basis (E_{ij}) ordered as above, the matrix of L_A is given by $A \otimes I_3$, and the matrix of R_A is given by $I_3 \otimes RA^T R$. Here, \otimes the *Kronecker product* (also called *tensor product*) of matrices. I conjecture that for any $n \geq 1$, the matrix of L_A is given by $A \otimes I_n$, and the matrix of R_A is given by $I_n \otimes RA^T R$. Prove (or disprove) this conjecture.

Note that if instead of the ordering

$$E_{1n}, E_{1n-1}, \dots, E_{11}, E_{2n}, \dots, E_{21}, \dots, E_{nn}, \dots, E_{n1},$$

that I proposed you use the standard lexicographic ordering

$$E_{11}, E_{12}, \dots, E_{1n}, E_{21}, \dots, E_{2n}, \dots, E_{n1}, \dots, E_{nn},$$

then the matrix representing L_A is still $A \otimes I_n$, but the matrix representing R_A is $I_n \otimes A^T$. In this case, if A is upper-triangular, then the matrix of R_A is *lower triangular*. This is the motivation for using the first basis (avoid upper becoming lower).

Problem B3 (80 pts). Given any two matrices $A, X \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$, define the function $f_A: M_n(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{C})$ by

$$f_A(X) = \sum_{p, q \geq 0} \frac{A^p X A^q}{(p + q + 1)!}.$$

(1) Prove that

$$f_A = \sum_{p, q \geq 0} \frac{L_A^p \circ R_A^q}{(p + q + 1)!}.$$

(2) Prove that

$$\text{ad}_A \circ f_A = \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{1}{k!} (L_A^k - R_A^k).$$

(3) Prove that

$$\text{ad}_A \circ f_A = e^{L_A} \circ (\text{id} - e^{-\text{ad}_A}).$$

Check that

$$e^{L_A}(B) = e^A B.$$

Conclude that

$$\text{ad}_A \circ f_A = e^A (\text{id} - e^{-\text{ad}_A}).$$

Observe that

$$\text{id} - e^{-\text{ad}_A} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \text{ad}_A^{k+1}}{(k+1)!}$$

so it would be tempting to say that

$$f_A = e^A \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \text{ad}_A^k}{(k+1)!},$$

but I don't know a simple way of justifying this fact!

(4) Prove that

$$d(\exp)_A(X) = \sum_{p,q \geq 0} \frac{A^p X A^q}{(p+q+1)!} = f_A(X).$$

Remark: It is known that

$$d(\exp)_A = e^A \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \text{ad}_A^k}{(k+1)!},$$

so the bold unsubstantiated conclusion in (3) is actually correct. In fact, it is customary to use the notation

$$\frac{\text{id} - e^{-\text{ad}_A}}{\text{ad}_A}$$

for the power series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \text{ad}_A^k}{(k+1)!},$$

and the formula for the derivative of \exp is usually stated as

$$d(\exp)_A = e^A \left(\frac{\text{id} - e^{-\text{ad}_A}}{\text{ad}_A} \right).$$

Problem B4 (20 pts). Let $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the function given by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2 y}{x^4 + y^2} & \text{if } (x, y) \neq (0, 0) \\ 0 & \text{if } (x, y) = (0, 0). \end{cases}$$

(a) Compute the directional derivative $D_u f(0, 0)$ of f at $(0, 0)$ for every vector $u = (u_1, u_2) \neq 0$.

(b) Prove that the derivative $Df(0, 0)$ does not exist. What is the behavior of the function f on the parabola $y = x^2$ near the origin $(0, 0)$?

Problem B5 (40 pts). (a) Let $f: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be the function defined on $n \times n$ matrices by

$$f(A) = A^2.$$

Prove that

$$Df_A(H) = AH + HA,$$

for all $A, H \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

(b) Let $f: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be the function defined on $n \times n$ matrices by

$$f(A) = A^3.$$

Prove that

$$Df_A(H) = A^2H + AHA + HA^2,$$

for all $A, H \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

(c) Let $f: GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be the function defined on invertible $n \times n$ matrices by

$$f(A) = A^{-1}.$$

Prove that

$$Df_A(H) = -A^{-1}HA^{-1},$$

for all $A \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ and for all $H \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

Problem B6 (80 pts). Recall that a matrix $B \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is skew-symmetric if

$$B^\top = -B.$$

Check that the set $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ of skew-symmetric matrices is a vector space of dimension $n(n-1)/2$, and thus is isomorphic to $\mathbb{R}^{n(n-1)/2}$.

(a) Given a rotation matrix

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix},$$

where $0 < \theta < \pi$, prove that there is a skew symmetric matrix B such that

$$R = (I - B)(I + B)^{-1}.$$

(b) Prove that the eigenvalues of a skew-symmetric matrix are either 0 or pure imaginary (that is, of the form $i\mu$ for $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$).

Let $C: \mathfrak{so}(n) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ be the function given by

$$C(B) = (I - B)(I + B)^{-1}.$$

Prove that if B is skew-symmetric, then $I - B$ and $I + B$ are invertible, and so C is well-defined. Prove that

$$(I + B)(I - B) = (I - B)(I + B),$$

and that

$$(I + B)(I - B)^{-1} = (I - B)^{-1}(I + B).$$

Prove that

$$(C(B))^{\top}C(B) = I$$

and that

$$\det C(B) = +1,$$

so that $C(B)$ is a rotation matrix. Furthermore, show that $C(B)$ does not admit -1 as an eigenvalue.

(c) Let $\mathbf{SO}(n)$ be the group of $n \times n$ rotation matrices. Prove that the map

$$C: \mathfrak{so}(n) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(n)$$

is bijective onto the subset of rotation matrices that do not admit -1 as an eigenvalue. Show that the inverse of this map is given by

$$B = (I + R)^{-1}(I - R) = (I - R)(I + R)^{-1},$$

where $R \in \mathbf{SO}(n)$ does not admit -1 as an eigenvalue. Check that C is a homeomorphism between $\mathfrak{so}(n)$ and $C(\mathfrak{so}(n))$.

(d) If $f: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ and $g: M_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathbb{R})$ are differentiable matrix functions, prove that

$$d(fg)_A(B) = df_A(B)g(A) + f(A)dg_A(B),$$

for all $A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$.

(e) Prove that

$$dC(B)(A) = -[I + (I - B)(I + B)^{-1}]A(I + B)^{-1} = -2(I + B)^{-1}A(I + B)^{-1}.$$

Prove that $dC(B)$ is injective, for every skew-symmetric matrix B . Prove that C a parametrization of $\mathbf{SO}(n)$.

TOTAL: 350 points.