

**MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS I  
HOMEWORK 4**

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**Problem 1** (Cartesian Tensors in 3-D).

a) If  $\vec{A}$ ,  $\vec{B}$ , and  $\vec{C}$  are vectors (polar), show that  $(\vec{A} \times \vec{B})$  is a pseudovector, and that  $\epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j C_k$  is a pseudoscalar.

**Answer.** The cross product is a pseudovector because it transforms to maintain its positivity.

$$\begin{aligned} C_i &= A_j B_k - A_k B_j \text{ so } C'_i = A'_j B'_k - A'_k B'_j \\ &= (-A_j)(-B_k) - (-A_k)(-B_j) \\ &= A_j B_k - A_k B_j = C_i = C'_i \end{aligned}$$

In Levi-Civita:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k &\rightarrow \epsilon_{ijk} A_j B_k |a| \stackrel{?}{=} \epsilon'_{ijk} A'_j B'_k \\ A_j B_k |a| &\stackrel{?}{=} A'_j B'_k \end{aligned}$$

$|a|$  = the determinant of the transformation matrix, in this case,  $a = \mathbf{I}_2$  (Identity matrix, order 2) and so it has a value of 1.

$$\begin{aligned} A_j B_k &\stackrel{?}{=} A'_j B'_k \\ A_j B_k &\stackrel{?}{=} (-A_j)(-B_k) \\ A_j B_k &= A_j B_k. \end{aligned}$$

And so we see that the two quantities are equal, and equal to their originator. Now, for the pseudoscalar (which by definition will transform to its *negative*) we see:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j C_k |a| &= \epsilon'_{ijk} A'_i B'_j C'_k \\ &= A'_i B'_j C'_k \\ &= (-A_i)(-B_j)(-C_k) \\ &= -(A_i B_j C_k) = -\epsilon_{ijk} A_i B_j C_k \end{aligned}$$

The transformed scalar is equal to the negative of its originator. Thus, the triple dot product is a pseudoscalar.

b) Let  $T_{ij}$  be a second-rank cartesian tensor, and let  $S_{ij}$ ,  $A_{ij}$ , and  $T$  be a symmetric (traceless) matrix, an antisymmetric matrix, and a scalar number, respectively. Find expressions for these three entities which can compose  $T$  in the following way:

$$T_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} S_{ij} + \frac{1}{2} A_{ij} + \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} T.$$

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**Answer.** This looks suspiciously like Arfken & Weber's equation (3.97) where the matrix is rewritten in terms of symmetric and antisymmetric components in the following fashion:

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}[\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T] + \frac{1}{2}[\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A}^T].$$

So let's pick these apart to discover if this is in-fact valid...

$$S_{ij} \stackrel{?}{=} [\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}^T], A_{ij} \stackrel{?}{=} [\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{T}^T]$$

Suppose so. Suppose that these identities hold true. If this is the case, then we will be able to generate  $T_{ij}$  from the addition of  $S_{ij} + A_{ij}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S_{ij} &= [\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}^T], A_{ij} = [\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{T}^T] \\ \rightarrow S_{ij} + A_{ij} &= \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}^T + \mathbf{T} - \mathbf{T}^T \\ &= T_{ij} + T_{ji} + T_{ij} - T_{ji} = 2T_{ij} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}S_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}A_{ij} &= \frac{1}{2}[S_{ij} + A_{ij}] = \frac{1}{2}2T_{ij} = T_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

And thus,

$$S_{ij} = [\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{T}^T], A_{ij} = [\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{T}^T]$$

*But* There is an additional component added into our original statement. We must account for the  $\frac{1}{3}\delta_{ij}T$  term.

**Note** that the  $S_{ij}$  is traceless and so the diagonals sum to zero.  $T$  is a pure number, and this is achievable (in terms of a matrix) only through a determinant or a trace. It seems unlikely that determinant would be involved here, so let's explore the trace. The trace involves elements of the diagonal and thus, may be held to the Kronecker-Delta restriction, ( $\delta_{ij}$  as indexed according to  $T_{ij}$ ). We will let the factor of  $\frac{1}{3}$  account for the over-summing as a result of the delta. And so with this traceless  $S_{ij}$  let us declare

$$T = Tr(T_{ij})$$

As for their transformation properties, let us discuss them in order of rank. The Trace term,  $\delta_{ij}T = Tr(T_{ij})$  will transform like a scalar. Pseudoscalars take the form  $S' = |a|S$  where  $a \equiv \mathbf{I}_1$ . In other words, there is a sign change on the pseudoscalar under inversion (but not rotation). Because the trace will not change signs under the inversion, it does not behave like a pseudoscalar, and thus will transform like a scalar. Contrastingly, the  $A_{ij}$  term, which can be expressed as  $C_i = \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_0 C_{jk}$ , is visibly a dual pseudovector, as it will maintain its positive sign through an inversion. As for the  $S_{ij}$  term, it is expressed above as an irreducible tensor of Rank 2, which under inversion will carry the negative sign, and thus means that it transforms like a pseudotensor of Rank 2.

*c) Show that there is a rotated coordinate system in which  $S'_{ij}$  is purely diagonal. What is the value of the trace of  $S'$ ?*

**Answer.** We know that in order to diagonalize, we can hit a matrix with the following similarity transformation:

$$\mathbf{S}^{\text{Diag}} = \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{S}_{ij} \mathbf{P}$$

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<sup>1</sup> $\epsilon_{ijk} = \epsilon'_{ijk}$  by definition that Levi-Civita is a pseudo tensor, so we can drop this from our expression immediately

So, owning our  $\mathbf{S}_{ij}$ , we can open it up and ascertain its eigenvalues, use these to find the eigenvectors, and then normalize for the orthonormal eigenvectors,  $\mathbf{u}_i$ . We also know (from Arfken & Weber 3.3) that we can express any coordinate axis rotation as

$$x'_i = \sum_{j=1}^3 a_{ij} x_j.$$

Let us now rotate our matrix through two rotation matrices given by  $\mathbf{P}$  and  $\mathbf{P}^T$ . Where (as before)

$$\mathbf{P} \equiv [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n]; \quad \mathbf{u}_i \equiv \frac{\mathbf{v}_i}{\|\mathbf{v}_i\|}$$

and  $\mathbf{v}_i$  is the eigenvector of corresponding to the  $i$ th eigenvalue. Please note that because  $\mathbf{P}$  is an orthonormal matrix, its transpose is equal to its inverse.

Accordingly, the trace is given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} Tr(\mathbf{S}^{\text{Diag}}) &= Tr(\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{S}_{ij} \mathbf{P}) \\ &= Tr(\mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{S}_{ij}) \\ &= Tr(\mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^{-1} \mathbf{S}_{ij}) \\ &= Tr(\mathbf{I} \mathbf{S}_{ij}) \\ &= Tr(\mathbf{S}_{ij}) \end{aligned}$$

So we see that the trace of our diagonalized matrix is equal the trace of our original matrix. And in this instance, where  $S_{ij}$  is defined as a traceless entity, we see that the trace of our diagonalized matrix is 0.

$$Tr(\mathbf{S}_{ij}) = 0.$$

d) The antisymmetric piece can be written as  $A_{ij} = \epsilon_{ijk} v_k$ . Show that  $v_k$  transforms like a pseudovector.

**Answer.** Let us write the antisymmetric vector  $\mathbf{A}$  as

$$\mathbf{A} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0 & A_{12} & A_{31} \\ A_{12} & 0 & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{23} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We know that  $\mathbf{A}$  must transform as a vector under rotations from the double contraction of the fifth-rank pseudo tensor  $\epsilon_{ijk} C_{mn}$  but that is really a pseudovector from the pseudo nature of  $\epsilon_{ijk}$ . Specifically the components are given by

$$(C_1, C_2, C_3) = (C_{23}, C_{31}, C_{12})$$

Notice the cyclic order of the indices that comes from the cyclic order of the components of  $\epsilon_{ijk}$ . This duality, given by the above equation means that our three-dimensional vector product may literally be taken to be either a pseudovector or an antisymmetric second-rank tensor, depending on how we choose to write it out.

We know that  $A_{ij}$  is a pseudovector (re:above). So, under transformation we see that

$$-A_{ij} \rightarrow \epsilon_{ijk} v_k > 0$$

$\epsilon_{ijk}$  is a pseudotensor, so this maintains positivity in the inversion. SO, the consequence

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<sup>2</sup>Trace arguments are equivalent under cyclic permutation

is that if our entire expression  $\epsilon_{ijk}v_k$  must be greater than zero, and if our Levi is to remain positive, then  $v_k$  must be positive- i.e. it *must* be a pseudovector.

$$\epsilon_{ijk}v_k \stackrel{!}{>} 0.$$

Otherwise, suppose not: Suppose  $A_{ij}$  is a pseudo matrix but  $v_k$  is not a pseudo vector. By assignment,  $-A_{ij} = +(\epsilon_{ijk}v'_k)$ . Again,  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  is a pseudotensor, and so remains positive. Now,  $v_k$  is supposedly not a pseudo vector, so it will transform negatively:

$$-A_{ij} = -v_k \neg (+(-v_k)). \rightarrow \leftarrow$$

*Contradiction*

**Problem 2** (Problems in the delta function). .

a) Evaluate the following:

$$\int_0^\pi dx \int_1^2 dy \delta(\sin x) \delta(x^2 - y^2).$$

**Answer.** We know that integrals that resemble the following format

$$\int f(x) \delta(x^*) dx = f(a)$$

(where  $x^* = g(x)$  such that  $g(x) = 0$  at some point  $x = a$ ) can be utilized to simplify integrals. Accordingly, let's make the following substitution:

$$a = x^2, da = 2x dx, dx = \frac{da}{2x} = \frac{da}{2\sqrt{a}}$$

and so...

$$\int_0^\pi dx \int_1^2 dy \delta(\sin x) \delta(x^2 - y^2) = \int_0^\pi \int_1^2 \frac{\delta(\sin \sqrt{a})}{2\sqrt{a}} dy \delta(a - y^2) da dy = \int_0^\pi \frac{\delta(\sin y)}{2y} dy$$

Again, let's select  $f(y)$  to be  $\frac{1}{2y}$ ,  $\delta(\sin y)$  selects out  $y = 0, \pi$ . (Both 0 and  $\pi$  are within our bounds, so we may use both- BUT, using 0 will yield an undefined result, so we will use  $\pi$ .)

$$\int_0^\pi \frac{\delta(\sin y)}{2y} dy = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

b) **Arfken & Weber 1.15.11** Show that in spherical polar coordinates  $(r, \cos \theta, \phi)$  the delta function  $\delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$  becomes

$$\frac{1}{r_1^2} \delta(r_1 - r_2) \delta(\cos \theta_1 - \cos \theta_2) \delta(\phi_1 - \phi_2).$$

**Answer.** We know that by definition of the delta that

$$\int \int \int_{AllSpace} \delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2) r_2^2 dr_2 \sin \theta_2 d\theta_2 d\phi_2 = 1.$$

So, if

$$\delta(r_2 - r_1) = \frac{1}{r_1^2} \delta(r_1 - r_2) \delta(\cos \theta_1 - \cos \theta_2) \delta(\phi_1 - \phi_2)$$

does this hold?

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^R \frac{1}{r_2^2} \delta(r_2 - r_1) \delta(\cos \theta_2 - \cos \theta_1) \delta(\phi_2 - \phi_1) r_2^2 dr_2 \sin \theta_2 d\theta_2 d\phi_2 \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \int_0^R \delta(r_2 - r_1) \delta(\cos \theta_2 - \cos \theta_1) \delta(\phi_2 - \phi_1) dr_2 \sin \theta_2 d\theta_2 d\phi_2 \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

**\*\*Note:** Separable integrands, so let's pull them apart:

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \delta(\phi_2 - \phi_1) d\phi_2 \int_0^\pi \delta(\cos \theta_2 - \cos \theta_1) \sin \theta_2 d\theta_2 \int_0^R \delta(r_2 - r_1) dr_2 \stackrel{?}{=} 1$$

The first integral selects out  $\phi_1 = \phi_2$ , the second selects out  $\cos \theta_2 = \cos \theta_1$  -or more properly-  $\theta_2 = \theta_1$ , and the third integral selects out where  $r_1 = r_2$ . In the case of the  $\phi$  integral, this is true trivially. Similarly, by construction, this is true for the  $r$  integral as well. For the  $\theta$  integral, however, Either the angles are equal on the interval  $0 \rightarrow \pi$  or on the interval  $-\pi \rightarrow 0$ . In either case, we are okay, because  $\cos \theta = -\cos \theta$ .

Thus, all 3 of our integrals select out valid quantities, and so all are unity.

$$1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} 1.$$

**Problem 3** (Matrix Problems). .

1) Let  $U$  be a unitary matrix with eigenvectors  $|x_1\rangle$  and  $|x_2\rangle$  belonging to eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  respectively. Show that:

a)  $|\lambda_1| = |\lambda_2| = 1$

**Answer.** We know that by definition, we have:

$$A|x_1\rangle = \lambda_1|x_1\rangle$$

But in this discussion we are working with a Unitary matrix. So, more properly:

$$U|x_1\rangle = \lambda_1|x_1\rangle$$

Now, let us run through an identity:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x_1|U^\dagger U|x_1\rangle &= \langle x_1|U^\dagger \lambda_1|x_1\rangle \\ \langle x_1|x_1\rangle &= \langle x_1|U^\dagger \lambda_1|x_1\rangle \\ \langle x_1|x_1\rangle &= \lambda_1^* \langle x_1|\lambda_1|x_1\rangle \\ &= \lambda_1^* \lambda_1 \langle x_1|x_1\rangle \\ &\Rightarrow \lambda_1^* \lambda_1 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

And this is true, because by definition,  $|\lambda_1^* \lambda_1| = 1$ .

Now, for the converse. Suppose not. Suppose  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  were different.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x_2|U|x_1\rangle &= \lambda_1 \langle x_2|x_1\rangle \\ \langle x_2|U^\dagger U|x_1\rangle &= \lambda_1 \langle x_2|x_1\rangle \\ &= \lambda_2^* \lambda_1 \langle x_2|U|x_1\rangle \\ &\rightarrow \langle x_2|x_1\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Which is 0 unless  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_1$ , (orthogonality condition), which would equate the eigenvalues, forcing a contradiction.  $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ .

b) If  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2, \langle x_1|x_2\rangle = 0$ .

**Answer.** Proof: If  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 \dots \bar{\mathbf{v}}_r$  are linearly independent then there exists a least index  $p$  such that  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_{p+1}$  is a linear combination of the preceding (linearly independent) vectors. And there exist scalars  $c_1 \bar{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_p \bar{\mathbf{v}}_p = \bar{\mathbf{v}}_{p+1}$ .  
Multiplying through by  $A$ :

$$(1) \quad c_1 A \bar{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 A \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_p A \bar{\mathbf{v}}_p = \bar{\mathbf{v}}_{p+1}$$

**\*\*Note:**  $A \bar{\mathbf{v}}_k = \lambda_k \bar{\mathbf{v}}_k$  for all  $k$ .

$$c_1 \lambda_1 \bar{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 \lambda_2 \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_p \lambda_p \bar{\mathbf{v}}_p = \lambda_{p+1} \bar{\mathbf{v}}_{p+1}$$

Multiplying through by  $\lambda_{p+1}$  and subtracting from our equation (1):

$$c_1 (\lambda_1 - \lambda_{p+1}) \bar{\mathbf{v}}_1 + c_2 (\lambda_2 - \lambda_{p+1}) \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 + \dots + c_p (\lambda_p - \lambda_{p+1}) \bar{\mathbf{v}}_p = 0$$

Since  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 \dots \bar{\mathbf{v}}_r$  are linearly independent,  $c_i$ 's are all 0. But none of the factors  $\lambda_1 \dots \lambda_{p+1}$  are 0 because they are all distinct. Hence,  $c_i = 0$  for all  $i = 1 \dots p$ . But then our equation (1) reads that  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_{p+1} = 0$ . *Contradiction.*  $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ . Thus,  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 \dots \bar{\mathbf{v}}_r$  must be linearly dependent and can not be linearly independent.

2) Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix

$$\mathbf{A} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

a) Find the eigenvalues and normalized eigenvectors of  $A$

**Answer.**

$$\mathbf{A} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Generates the following characteristic equation

$$(2 - \lambda)[(2 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - 1] + (-1)(2 - \lambda) = 0$$

$$(2 - \lambda)[(2 - \lambda)^2 - 2] = 0$$

So,  $\lambda_1 = 2$ , or

$$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = 2 \pm \sqrt{2} = \lambda_{2,3}.$$

Accordingly, the proper eigenvectors are as follows:

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2}, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -\sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda_3 = 2 - \sqrt{2}, \bar{\mathbf{v}}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The orthonormal basis vectors are as follows:

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \quad \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix} \quad \bar{\mathbf{u}}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

b) Construct an orthogonal matrix  $O$  which diagonalizes  $\mathbf{A}$

**Answer.**

$$\mathbf{P} = [\mathbf{u}_1 \mathbf{u}_2 \mathbf{u}_3] = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{D} \stackrel{!}{=} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ & & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & & \\ & 2 + \sqrt{2} & \\ & & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{P}$  is square, has orthonormal columns, so  $\mathbf{P}$  is orthogonal,  $\mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}^T$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P} &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} & 1 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ 0 & 1 - \sqrt{2} & -1 + \sqrt{2} \\ -\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} & 1 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & 1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{2} + \frac{2}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (1 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (1 - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2})2 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\surd}{=} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 + 2\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 - \sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

c) Use spectral decomposition to

-show that  $\sum_{i=1}^3 |e_i\rangle\langle e_i| = \mathbf{I}$ , and  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i |e_i\rangle\langle e_i| = \mathbf{A}$

**Answer.** Suppose  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}^{-1}$  where the columns of  $\mathbf{P}$  are the orthonormal eigenvectors  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}_1, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n$ , and the corresponding eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  are in the diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{D}$ . Then, since  $\mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}^T$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}^T = [\bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \quad \dots \quad \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n^T \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \lambda_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^T + \lambda_2 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2^T + \dots + \lambda_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n^T. \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{D}$  is a square (diagonal) matrix, so we can do it out:

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^T = \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^T + \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2^T + \dots + \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n^T.$$

In our matrix notation:

$$\mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^T = \sum_{i=1}^3 \lambda_i |e_i\rangle\langle e_i| \frac{1}{\lambda_i} = \sum_{i=1}^3 |e_i\rangle\langle e_i|$$

Note:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^T \rightarrow \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^T &= \mathbf{P} \mathbf{P}^{-1} = \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^{-1} + \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_2^{-1} + \dots + \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n^{-1} \\ &= \mathbf{1}_1 + \mathbf{1}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{1}_n \\ &= \mathbf{I}_n \stackrel{\surd}{=} \sum_{i=1}^3 |e_i\rangle\langle e_i| \end{aligned}$$

Now calculate  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  and  $\exp \mathbf{A}$ .

**Answer.**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A} &= \lambda_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1 \bar{\mathbf{u}}_1^T + \dots + \lambda_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n \bar{\mathbf{u}}_n^T \\ \mathbf{A} &= \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{P}^T \\ \mathbf{A}^{-1} &= (\mathbf{P}^T)^{-1} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^{-1} \\ &= (\mathbf{P}^{-1})^T \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^{-1} \\ &= (\mathbf{P}^T)^T \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^T \\ &= \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^T\end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$(\text{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_n))^{-1} = \text{diag}\left(\frac{1}{a_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{a_n}\right)$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^T = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D}^{-1} \mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{a} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{b} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Where

$$a \equiv 2 + \sqrt{2}, \quad b \equiv 2 - \sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{2a} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2a} & \frac{1}{2a} \\ \frac{1}{2b} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2b} & \frac{1}{2b} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 + \frac{1}{4a} + \frac{1}{4b} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}\right) & 1 + \frac{1}{4a} + \frac{1}{4b} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b}\right) & \frac{1}{2a} + \frac{1}{2b} & +\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}\right) \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{4a} + \frac{1}{4b} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \left(\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{b}\right) & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{4a} + \frac{1}{4b} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

3) Show that if  $A$  is a Hermitian matrix, then  $\det[\exp(A)] = \exp[\text{tr}(A)]$ .

**Answer.** The diagonalization theorem says that a similarity transformation

$$\mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{S}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S}$$

Where  $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}') = \text{Tr}(\mathbf{A})$  (as shown in Problem 1.3).

$$\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}') = A'_1 + A'_2 + \dots + A'_n$$

This is the sum of all eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}'$ . Whereas the *determinant* is the *product* of the eigenvalues:

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = A'_1 \cdot A'_2 \cdot \dots \cdot A'_n$$

Let us define:

$$\exp A = 1 + \frac{1}{1!} A + \frac{1}{2!} A^2 + \dots = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{n}{N}\right)^N$$

Now, the eigenvalues of  $\exp(A) = \exp(A')$ . So:

$$\det(\exp A) = \prod_i e^{A_i} = \exp\left(\sum_i A_i\right) = \exp(\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A})) \stackrel{\vee}{=} \det(\exp A)^4$$

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<sup>3</sup>(AB)<sup>-1</sup> = B<sup>-1</sup>A<sup>-1</sup>

**Problem 4** (Infinite Sums).

(a) Show that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)(2n+1)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Hint: Show by mathematical induction that  $s_m = \frac{m}{(2m+1)}$ .

**Answer.** 1) Show that  $s_m = \frac{m}{(2m+1)}$ :

i) Show P(1):

$$\frac{1}{(2-1)(2+1)} = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{2(1)+1}$$

ii) Presume P(m) to be true. That is, presume  $s_m = \frac{m}{(2m+1)}$ .

iii) Show P(m+1) to be true.

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)(2m-1)} + \frac{1}{(2(m+1)-1)(2(m+1)-1)} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{m+1}{(2(m+1)+1)}$$

By presumption:

$$\sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2m+1)(2m-1)} = \frac{m}{(2m+1)},$$

So our equivalence becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{m}{(2m+1)} + \frac{1}{(2m+1)(2m+3)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{m+1}{(2m+3)} \\ \frac{m(2m+3)}{(2m+1)} + \frac{(2m+3)}{(2m+1)(2m+3)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(2m+3)m+1}{(2m+3)} \\ \frac{m(2m+3)}{(2m+1)} + \frac{1}{(2m+1)} &\stackrel{?}{=} (m+1) \\ m(2m+3) + 1 &\stackrel{?}{=} (2m+1)(m+1) \\ 2m^2 + 3m + 1 &\stackrel{\checkmark}{=} 2m^2 + 2m + 1m + 1 \end{aligned}$$

And now that we have shown that this is a reasonable substitution, let us show that  $s_m$  has a limit of  $\frac{1}{2}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m}{2m+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dm} 2m}{\frac{d}{dm} m + \frac{d}{dm} 1} \stackrel{5}{=} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2+0} \stackrel{\checkmark}{=} \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Show that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 1$$

<sup>4</sup>( $e^a e^b = e^{a+b}$ )

<sup>5</sup>By L'Hopital's rule,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dx} f(x)}{\frac{d}{dx} g(x)}$ .

Find the partial sum  $s_m$  and verify its correctness by mathematical induction.

**Answer.** 1) Find  $s_m$ . Let's do this by expanding out our first few terms:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1(1+1)} + \frac{1}{2(2+1)} + \frac{1}{3(3+1)} + \frac{1}{4(4+1)} &= \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 5} \\ s_1 &= \frac{1}{2}, s_2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6}, s_3 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12}, s_4 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{20} \\ s_1 &= \frac{1}{2}, s_2 = \frac{4}{6}, s_3 = \frac{9}{12}, s_4 = \frac{16}{20} \\ &\Rightarrow s_m = \frac{n^2}{n(n+1)} \end{aligned}$$

Now to verify that this is the equivalence of our given sum:

i) Show P(1):

$$\frac{1}{1(1+1)} = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1^2}{1(1+1)}$$

ii) Presume P(m) to be true. That is, presume  $s_m = \frac{m^2}{m(m+1)}$ .

iii) Show P(m+1) to be true.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{(n+1)((n+1)+1)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+1)((n+1)+1)} \\ \frac{n^2}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{(n+1)((n+1)+1)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+1)((n+1)+1)} \\ \frac{n^2}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{(n+1)(n+2)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} \\ \frac{(n+2)n^2}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{(n+1)} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(n+1)^2}{(n+1)} \\ \frac{(n+2)n}{(n+1)} + \frac{1}{(n+1)} &\stackrel{?}{=} (n+1) \\ (n+2)n + 1 &\stackrel{?}{=} (n+1)^2 \\ (n^2 + 2n) + 1 &\stackrel{\checkmark}{=} (n^2 + 2n + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Again, to check the limit:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m^2}{m(m+1)} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dm} m^2}{\frac{d}{dm} m^2 + \frac{d}{dm} m} \\ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2m}{2m+1} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{d}{dm} 2m}{\frac{d}{dm} 2m + \frac{d}{dm} 1} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2}{2} = 1 \end{aligned}$$