

1 Notes on Quantum computation and quantum information by Nielsen and Chuang

2 Chapter 2: Linear algebra

2.I vector space

- C^n : space of all n-tuple complex numbers (c numbers)

i.e. $(z_1, z_2, z_3, \dots, z_n)$

- a vector space is closed under scalar multiplication and addition

2.II Dirac notation

| Symbols | Meaning |
|--|---|
| $ v\rangle$ | ket, a vector in vec space |
| $\langle v $ | bra, a dual vector in vec space; the complex transpose of ket $\langle v = (v\rangle^*)^T$ |
| $\langle v w\rangle$ | inner product of $ v\rangle$ and $ w\rangle$ |
| $ \varphi\rangle \otimes \psi\rangle$ | tensor product of $ \varphi\rangle$ and $ \psi\rangle$ abbreviates as $ \varphi\rangle \psi\rangle$ |
| A^* | complex conjugate of A |
| A^T | transpose of A |
| A^\dagger | hermitian conjugate of A i.e. $A^\dagger = (A^*)^T$ $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^\dagger = \begin{pmatrix} a^* & c^* \\ b^* & d^* \end{pmatrix}$ |
| $\langle \varphi A \psi\rangle$ | inner product between $ \varphi\rangle$ and $A \psi\rangle$ |

2.III Span

a set of vec $|v_1\rangle, |v_2\rangle, \dots, |v_n\rangle$ spans the vector space if any vector in the space can be written as

$$|v\rangle = \sum_i a_i |v_i\rangle$$

for some complex numbers a_i

2.IV Linear Independence

a set of non-zero vectors $|v_1\rangle, |v_2\rangle, \dots, |v_n\rangle$ are linearly dependent if there exists a set of complex numbers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n , s.t.

$$a_1 |v_1\rangle + a_2 |v_2\rangle + \dots + a_n |v_n\rangle = 0$$

If the only solution to the above equation is $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = 0$, then the vectors are **linearly independent**

2.V Linear operators

A linear operator A is any linear function that

$$A\left(\sum_i a_i |v_i\rangle\right) = \sum_i a_i A(|v_i\rangle)$$

It is convention to write $A(|v_i\rangle) = A|v_i\rangle$

- Identity Operator $I_V : I_V|v\rangle \equiv |v\rangle$. It is convenient to write I if no confusion arises.
- zero operator $0|v\rangle \equiv 0$
- composition of linear operators A and B is AB

We observe that the above is equivalent to the matrix representation of linear transformations.

In other words, for a linear operator $A : V \rightarrow W$, and suppose $|v_1\rangle, |v_2\rangle, \dots, |v_m\rangle$

3 Inner product