

---

**Exercise 5.1.3:**

We want to determine whether  $O_n$  is isomorphic to the product group  $SO_n \times \{\pm I\}$ .

Recall Proposition 2.11.4d states that let  $H$  and  $K$  be subgroups of  $G$  and  $f : H \times K \rightarrow G$  be the multiplication map,  $f$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $H \cap K = \{1\}$ ,  $HK = G$ , and  $H$  and  $K$  are normal subgroups of  $G$ .

Since  $[O_n : SO_n] = 2$  and  $\{\pm I\} = Z(O_n)$ , we know  $SO_n$  and  $\{\pm I\}$  are normal subgroups in  $O_n$ . Moreover, given  $A \in O_n$ , if  $\det(A) = 1$ , we can associate it with  $(A, I) \in SO_n \times \{\pm I\}$ , and if  $\det(A) = -1$ , we can associate it with  $(-A, -I) \in SO_n \times \{\pm I\}$ , so  $SO_n\{\pm I\} = O_n$ .

It remains to see whether  $SO_n \cap \{\pm I\} = \{I\}$ , and we claim this answer depends on whether  $n$  is odd or even. When  $n$  is odd,  $\det(-I) = -1$ , so  $SO_n \cap \{\pm I\} = \{I\}$ , yet when  $n$  is even,  $\det(-I) = 1$ , so  $SO_n \cap \{\pm I\} = \{\pm I\}$  which is nontrivial.

Hence  $O_n$  is isomorphic to  $SO_n \times \{\pm I\}$  only when  $n$  is odd.

*QED*

**Exercise 9.3.4:**

We want to determine the centralizer of  $j$  in  $SU_2$ .

Recall  $j = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , and let  $\begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_1i & x_2 + x_3i \\ -x_2 + x_3i & x_0 - x_1i \end{bmatrix}$  be an arbitrary element of  $SU_2$ .

Note that  $x_0^2 + x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 = 1$ , and consider the following matrix multiplication:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_1i & x_2 + x_3i \\ -x_2 + x_3i & x_0 - x_1i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 + x_1i & x_2 + x_3i \\ -x_2 + x_3i & x_0 - x_1i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} -x_2 + x_3i & x_0 - x_1i \\ -x_0 - x_1i & -x_2 - x_3i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x_2 - x_3i & x_0 + x_1i \\ -x_0 + x_1i & -x_2 + x_3i \end{bmatrix}$$

For the above equality to be true, it must be that  $x_1 = 0, x_3 = 0$ . Hence  $x_0^2 + x_2^2 = 1$ , and

$$Z(j) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_0 & x_2 \\ -x_2 & x_0 \end{bmatrix} : x_0^2 + x_2^2 = 1 \right\} \in SL_2(\mathbb{R}).$$

Note that  $x_0^2 + x_2^2 = 1$  means the determinant of every matrix in  $Z(j)$  must be 1.

Let  $P \in Z(j)$ , note further that

$$PP^T = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 & x_2 \\ -x_2 & x_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 & -x_2 \\ x_2 & x_0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0^2 + x_2^2 & -x_2x_0 + x_2x_0 \\ -x_2x_0 + x_0x_2 & x_2^2 + x_0^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

which means every matrix in  $Z(j)$  must also be orthogonal.

Hence  $Z(j) = SO_2$ .

*QED*

**Exercise 5.1.2:**

Given a matrix  $A$  that represents a rotation of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  through the angle  $\theta$  about a pole  $u$ , we want to find its complex eigenvalues. By the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, we know that  $A$  has 3 complex eigenvalues.

By Euler's Theorem, the  $3 \times 3$  rotation matrices are elements of  $SO_3$ , so  $\det(A) = 1$ .

Moreover, by Lemma 5.1.29,  $\det(A) = 1$  means  $A$  has an eigenvalue equal to 1.

Finally, by Corollary 5.1.28, since  $A \in SO_3$  and it represents the rotation  $\rho_{(u,\theta)}$  with spin  $(u, \theta)$ , we know  $\text{tr}(A) = 1 + 2 \cos(\theta)$ .

Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  be the two complex eigenvalues that are not 1, and putting the above information together, we have

$$\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad 1 + \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = 1 + 2 \cos(\theta).$$

Substituting  $\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_1}$  into the second equation, we get

$$\lambda_1 + \frac{1}{\lambda_1} = 2 \cos \theta,$$

$$\lambda_1^2 + 1 = 2\lambda_1 \cos \theta,$$

$$\lambda_1^2 - 2\lambda_1 \cos \theta + 1 = 0.$$

Using the quadratic formula, we obtain

$$\lambda_1 = \cos \theta + \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta - 1} = \cos \theta + \sqrt{-\sin^2 \theta},$$

$$\lambda_2 = \cos \theta - \sqrt{\cos^2 \theta - 1} = \cos \theta - \sqrt{-\sin^2 \theta}.$$

Hence the complex eigenvalues of  $A$  are 1 and  $\cos \theta \pm \sqrt{-\sin^2 \theta}$ .

*QED*