Physics 2605H: Assignment I

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Problem 1.

(a) Find the real part and imaginary of the complex number $\frac{5+3i}{1+5i}$ and express your answer in polar form.

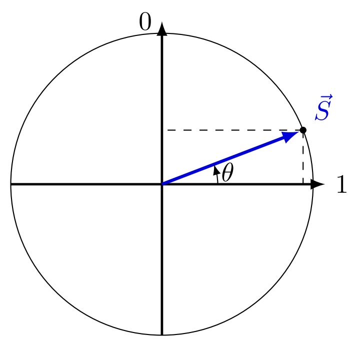
(b) Consider the product of two complex numbers (1+3i) and (5+4i). Find the complex conjugate in two ways: (i) Take the complex conjugates before and after the multiplication and show that they are the same. **what does this mean?? why is there only (i)??**

Solution 1.

$\frac{5+3i}{1+5i} = \frac{5+3i}{1+5i}\frac{1-5i}{1-5i} = \frac{10}{13} - \frac{11}{13}i \approx \frac{\sqrt{221}}{13}e^{-0.83i}$

Consider the product of two complex numbers (1+3i) and (5+4i). Find the complex conjugate in two ways: (i) Take the complex conjugates before and after the multiplication and show that they are the same. **what does this mean?? why is there only (i)??**

Problem 2. The figure shows the general representation of a qubit



(a) How many states are possible for the qubit to be in?

(b) If it is classical bit where would you draw your vector that represents classical state?

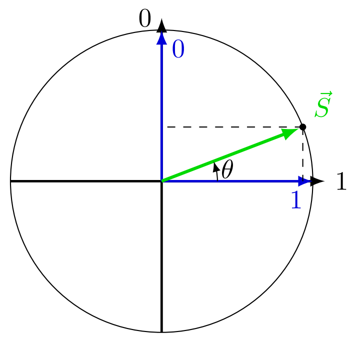
(c) If the vector makes an angle 45 degree with the x-axis, how would you represent the qubit state mathematically?

(d) If the vector makes an angle of 135 degrees with x-axis, how would your response to (c) change?

Solution 2.

(a) There are an infinite number of possible states as the cardinality of $[0,1]$—the set of possible values for the components of the state vector—is the same as the cardinality of $\mathbb{R}$. This can be shown several ways, one of which is through the bijection established somewhat informally by the fact that $[0,1]$ clearly injects into $\mathbb{R}$ as $[0,1] \subset \mathbb{R}$ and $x \mapsto \frac{2\left[\arctan(x)+\frac{\pi}{2}\right]}{\pi}$ which injects $\mathbb{R}$ into $[0,1]$ by virtue of the periodic nature of arctan.

(b) Here the blue vectors represent classical states 0 and 1 and the green vector represents some arbitrary quantum state



(c) $\vec{S} = \left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right), \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)\right) = \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\right)$

(d) If the vector makes an angle of 135 degrees with the x-axis, how would your response to (c) change?

Problem 3.

(a) Can a scalar be a complex number?

(b) Given entries i , -i, 1+i create a column vector A and find

  (i) $A^\dagger$

  (ii) $A^\dagger A$

(c) Which of the following matrices are unitary matrices?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 4 \end{bmatrix} \qquad\qquad \frac{1}{5}\begin{bmatrix} -1+2i & -4-2i \\ 2-4i & -2-i \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) Can the matrices in (c) be Hermitian? Why?

Solution 3.

(a) Yes. Just as any element of $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}\ldots$ is a scalar, so is any element of $\mathbb{C}$.

(b) $A = \begin{bmatrix} i \\ -i \\ 1+i \end{bmatrix}$

  (i) $A^\dagger = (A^T)^* = \begin{bmatrix} -i & i & 1-i \end{bmatrix}$

  (ii) $A^\dagger A = \begin{bmatrix} -i & i & 1-i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} i \\ -i \\ 1+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) Which of the following matrices are unitary matrices?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+i \\ 1-i & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-2i & 5-3i \\ 3+i & 16+2i \end{bmatrix} \neq I_2 \therefore \text{not unitary}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1+2i & -4-2i \\ 2-4i & -2-i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1-2i & -4+2i \\ 2+4i & -2+i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5-20i & 10-10i \\ -10-10i & 5+20i \end{bmatrix} \neq I_2 \therefore \text{not unitary}$$

(d) The first matrix, $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 4 \end{bmatrix}$, is Hermitian as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 4 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The second matrix is not Hermitian as it does not satisfy $A^\dagger = A$