

3.2 Let $\sigma_z = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$, $|u\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$, and $|d\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b \\ d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow b = c = 0, a = 1, \text{ and } d = -1.$$

$$\therefore \sigma_z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \checkmark$$