

Quantum Computation and Quantum
Information by Michael A. Nielsen and Isaac L.
Chuang Problems

Chris Doble

June 2024

Contents

I	Fundamental concepts	1
2	Linear algebra	1

Part I

Fundamental concepts

2 Linear algebra

Exercise 2.1

$$(1, -1) + (1, 2) - (2, 1) = (0, 0)$$

Exercise 2.2

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using the basis $|+\rangle = (|0\rangle + |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ and $|-\rangle = (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)/\sqrt{2}$ we get

$$|0\rangle = \frac{|+\rangle + |-\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$|1\rangle = \frac{|+\rangle - |-\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a_{00} + a_{01} = 1$$

$$a_{10} + a_{11} = -1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{00} & a_{01} \\ a_{10} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a_{00} - a_{01} = 1$$

$$a_{10} - a_{11} = 1$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Exercise 2.5

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \left(\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ z_2 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \cdots + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} \right) \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \cdots + \begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} \\
&= z_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \cdots + z_n \begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
\begin{bmatrix} y_1^* & \cdots & y_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_n \end{bmatrix} &= y_1^* z_1 + y_2^* z_2 + \cdots + y_n^* z_n \\
&= (y_1 z_1^* + y_2 z_2^* + \cdots + y_n z_n^*)^* \\
&= \left(\begin{bmatrix} z_1^* & \cdots & z_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix} \right)^* \\
\begin{bmatrix} v_1^* & \cdots & v_n^* \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{bmatrix} &= |v_1|^2 + \cdots + |v_n|^2 \\
&\geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.6

$$\begin{aligned}
\left(\sum_i \lambda_i |w_i\rangle, |v\rangle \right) &= \left(|v\rangle, \sum_i \lambda_i |w_i\rangle \right)^* \\
&= \left(\sum_i \lambda_i (|v\rangle, |w_i\rangle) \right)^* \\
&= \sum_i \lambda_i^* (|v\rangle, |w_i\rangle)^* \\
&= \sum_i \lambda_i^* \langle w_i | v \rangle
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.7

$$\begin{aligned}\langle w|v\rangle &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (1)(1) + (1)(-1) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{|w\rangle}{||w\rangle||} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \frac{|v\rangle}{||v\rangle||} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.9

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_0 &= |0\rangle\langle 0| + |1\rangle\langle 1| \\ \sigma_1 &= |1\rangle\langle 0| + |0\rangle\langle 1| \\ \sigma_2 &= i|1\rangle\langle 0| - i|0\rangle\langle 1| \\ \sigma_3 &= |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1|\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.11

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} &= \lambda^2 - 1 \\ \lambda &= \pm 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} \\ b &= a \\ a &= b\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}X_1 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} -a \\ -b \end{bmatrix} \\ b &= -a \\ a &= -b\end{aligned}$$

$$X_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Exercise 2.12

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1$$

$$\lambda_2 = 1$$

The eigenvalue 1 is degenerate. Because the matrix only has one eigenvector it can't be diagonalised.

Exercise 2.13

$$(|w\rangle\langle v|)^\dagger = \langle v|^\dagger |w\rangle^\dagger = |v\rangle\langle w|$$

Exercise 2.16

$$\begin{aligned} P^2 &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^k |i\rangle\langle i| \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^k |j\rangle\langle j| \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^k |i\rangle\langle i|j\rangle\langle j| \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^k |i\rangle\delta_{ij}\langle j| \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k |i\rangle\langle i| \\ &= P \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.17

$$\begin{aligned} A &= A^\dagger \\ \sum_i \lambda_i |i\rangle\langle i| &= \left(\sum_i \lambda_i |i\rangle\langle i| \right)^\dagger \\ &= \sum_i \lambda_i^* |i\rangle\langle i| \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda_i = \lambda_i^*$ implies the eigenvalues are real.

Exercise 2.18

$$U^\dagger U = I$$

$$\left(\sum_i \lambda_i |i\rangle \langle i| \right)^\dagger \left(\sum_j \lambda_j |j\rangle \langle j| \right) = \sum_k |k\rangle \langle k|$$

$$\sum_{ij} \lambda_i^* \lambda_j |i\rangle \langle i|j\rangle \langle j| = \sum_k |k\rangle \langle k|$$

$$\sum_{ij} \lambda_i^* \lambda_j |i\rangle \delta_{ij} \langle j| = \sum_k |k\rangle \langle k|$$

$$\sum_i |\lambda_i|^2 |i\rangle \langle i| = \sum_k |k\rangle \langle k|$$

$$|\lambda_i|^2 = 1$$

$$\lambda_i = e^{i\theta}$$

Exercise 2.19

$$\begin{aligned} I^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I^\dagger I &= II \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} X^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= X \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} X^\dagger X &= XX \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= Y \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y^\dagger Y &= YY \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z^\dagger &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= Z \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Z^\dagger Z &= ZZ \\ &= I \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.22

$$\begin{aligned}\langle v_1|A|v_2\rangle &= \langle v_1|Av_2\rangle \\ &= \langle v_1|\lambda_2 v_2\rangle \\ &= \lambda_2 \langle v_1|v_2\rangle \\ \langle v_1|A|v_2\rangle &= \langle A^\dagger v_1|v_2\rangle \\ &= \langle Av_1|v_2\rangle \\ &= \langle \lambda_1 v_1|v_2\rangle \\ &= \lambda_1 \langle v_1|v_2\rangle \\ 0 &= (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) \langle v_1|v_2\rangle \\ &= \langle v_1|v_2\rangle\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.23

For each basis vector $|i\rangle, i = 1, \dots, k$, $P|i\rangle = |i\rangle$ and so they are eigenvectors of P with eigenvalue 1. For each basis vector $|j\rangle, j = k+1, \dots, d$, $P|j\rangle = 0$ and so they are eigenvectors of P with eigenvalue of 0. That is a total of d eigenvectors so all eigenvalues are either 0 or 1.

Exercise 2.26

$$\begin{aligned}
|\psi\rangle &= \frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \\
|\psi\rangle^{\otimes 2} &= \left(\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \left(\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \\
&= \frac{|00\rangle + |01\rangle + |10\rangle + |11\rangle}{2} \\
|\psi\rangle^{\otimes 3} &= \left(\frac{|00\rangle + |01\rangle + |10\rangle + |11\rangle}{2} \right) \left(\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \\
&= \frac{|000\rangle + |001\rangle + |010\rangle + |011\rangle + |100\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle}{2^{3/2}} \\
|\psi\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
|\psi\rangle^{\otimes 2} &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
|\psi\rangle^{\otimes 3} &= \frac{1}{2^{3/2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.27

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}
X &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\
Z &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\
X \otimes Z &= \begin{bmatrix} (0)Z & (1)Z \\ (1)Z & (0)Z \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$I \otimes X = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c)

$$X \otimes I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

No, the tensor product is not commutative.

Exercise 2.28

$$\begin{aligned} (A \otimes B)^* &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B & A_{12}B & \cdots & A_{1n}B \\ A_{21}B & A_{22}B & \cdots & A_{2n}B \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{m1}B & A_{m2}B & \cdots & A_{mn}B \end{bmatrix}^* \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}^*B^* & A_{12}^*B^* & \cdots & A_{1n}^*B^* \\ A_{21}^*B^* & A_{22}^*B^* & \cdots & A_{2n}^*B^* \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{m1}^*B^* & A_{m2}^*B^* & \cdots & A_{mn}^*B^* \end{bmatrix} \\ &= A^* \otimes B^* \\ (A \otimes B)^T &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B & A_{12}B & \cdots & A_{1n}B \\ A_{21}B & A_{22}B & \cdots & A_{2n}B \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{m1}B & A_{m2}B & \cdots & A_{mn}B \end{bmatrix}^T \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B^T & A_{21}B^T & \cdots & A_{m1}B^T \\ A_{12}B^T & A_{22}B^T & \cdots & A_{m2}B^T \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{1n}B^T & A_{2n}B^T & \cdots & A_{mn}B^T \end{bmatrix} \\ &= A^T \otimes B^T \\ (A \otimes B)^\dagger &= [(A \otimes B)^*]^T \\ &= (A^* \otimes B^*)^T \\ &= (A^*)^T \otimes (B^*)^T \\ &= A^\dagger \otimes B^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.29

$$\begin{aligned}(A \otimes B)^\dagger (A \otimes B)(|a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle) &= (A^\dagger \otimes B^\dagger)(A |a\rangle \otimes B |b\rangle) \\ &= A^\dagger A |a\rangle \otimes B^\dagger B |b\rangle \\ &= |a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 2.30

$$\begin{aligned}(A \otimes B)^\dagger (|a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle) &= (A^\dagger \otimes B^\dagger)(|a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle) \\ &= (A \otimes B)(|a\rangle \otimes |b\rangle)\end{aligned}$$