

There are **6** problems and a total of 28 points on this exam.

**1. [6 points]**

Define a map from  $\phi : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  by

$$\phi(a + ib) = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

Show that the restriction of  $\phi$  to  $\mathbb{C}_* = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  is a group homomorphism into the group of  $2 \times 2$  invertible real matrices. Compute the kernel of  $\phi$ .

**2. [6 points]**

On your homework you showed that the matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $a \neq 0$  form a group, and that the inverse of such a matrix is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1/a & -b/a \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

a) Show that the matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are a subgroup.

b) Show (using conjugation) that this subgroup is, in fact, a normal subgroup.

**3. [4 points]**

We defined the length of a quaternion  $q = a + b\mathbf{i} + c\mathbf{j} + d\mathbf{k}$  to be  $|q| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2}$ . Use the multiplicative property of the determinant to show that  $|q_1 q_2| = |q_1| |q_2|$  for all quaternions. You may use the fact that quaternions can be represented as a matrix, but you need to be specific about the form of this representation.

**4. [4 points]**

Define an isometry of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then show that multiplication by a unit quaternion is an isometry of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

**5. [4 points]**

Represent the reflection through the plane orthogonal to  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  as an operation involving quaternions.

**6. [8 points]**

- a) Exhibit a surjective group homomorphism from the unit quaternions (i.e.  $SU(2)$ ) to the rotations of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (i.e.  $SO(3)$ ) in terms of quaternion multiplication. [You need only state the map; you do not need to prove it is a homomorphism or that it is surjective.]
- b) State the kernel of the map in part a; you need not prove that it is the kernel.

**7. [Extra Credit (4 points)]**

In problem 2b, an alternative approach would be to show that the subgroup is the kernel of some group homomorphism. Exhibit the homomorphism.