

Exercise 3.3.11

Suppose that A is Hermitian and it can be decomposed into the form

$$A = \sum_i a_i |i\rangle\langle i| \quad (1)$$

where $|i\rangle$ is a set of orthonormal basis, the function of an operator A is defined by

$$f(A) = \sum_i f(a_i) |i\rangle\langle i| \quad (2)$$

Also, for sine and cosine function, we have

$$\cos \frac{\phi}{2} = \frac{e^{i\phi/2} + e^{-i\phi/2}}{2}, \sin \frac{\phi}{2} = \frac{e^{i\phi/2} - e^{-i\phi/2}}{2i} \quad (3)$$

Here I will use eq. (1) – (3) to prove the rotation operator expression.

- For $R_X(\phi) = \exp\{iX\phi/2\}$, since $|+\rangle$ and $|-\rangle$ are eigenvector of X With eigenvalue $+1$ and -1 , respectively, we can write X into the form as eq. (1),

$$\begin{aligned} X &= |+\rangle\langle +| - |-\rangle\langle -| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

According to eq. (2), the rotation operator is then given by

$$\exp\{iX\phi/2\} = e^{i\phi/2} |+\rangle\langle +| + e^{-i\phi/2} |-\rangle\langle -| \quad (5)$$

Note that

$$|+\rangle\langle +| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I + X) \quad (6a)$$

$$|-\rangle\langle -| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I - X) \quad (6b)$$

Use eq. (6a) – (6b), we can re-write eq. (5) as

$$\begin{aligned} \exp\{iX\phi/2\} &= e^{i\phi/2} |+\rangle\langle +| + e^{-i\phi/2} |-\rangle\langle -| \\ &= \frac{1}{2} e^{i\phi/2} (I + X) + \frac{1}{2} e^{-i\phi/2} (I - X) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Use eq. (3), we can re-write eq. (7) as

$$\begin{aligned}
\exp\{iX\phi/2\} &= \frac{1}{2}e^{i\phi/2}(I + X) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\phi/2}(I - X) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(e^{i\phi/2} + e^{-i\phi/2})I + \frac{1}{2i}(e^{i\phi/2} - e^{-i\phi/2})iX \\
&= \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}X
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

- For $R_Y(\phi) = \exp\{iY\phi/2\}$, since

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}, |\phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} \tag{9}$$

are eigenvector of Y with eigenvalue $+1$ and -1 , respectively, we can write Y into the form as eq. (1),

$$\begin{aligned}
Y &= |\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - |\phi\rangle\langle\phi| \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} (1 \quad -i) - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix} (1 \quad i) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

According to eq. (2), the rotation operator is then given by

$$\exp\{iY\phi/2\} = e^{i\phi/2}|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + e^{-i\phi/2}|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| \tag{11}$$

Note that

$$|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ i & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I + Y) \tag{12a}$$

$$|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i \\ -i & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I - Y) \tag{12b}$$

Use eq. (12a) – (12b), we can re-write eq. (11) as

$$\begin{aligned}
\exp\{iY\phi/2\} &= e^{i\phi/2}|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| + e^{-i\phi/2}|\phi\rangle\langle\phi| \\
&= \frac{1}{2}e^{i\phi/2}(I + Y) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\phi/2}(I - Y)
\end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Use eq. (3), we can re-write eq. (13) as

$$\begin{aligned}
\exp\{iY\phi/2\} &= \frac{1}{2}e^{i\phi/2}(I + Y) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\phi/2}(I - Y) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(e^{i\phi/2} + e^{-i\phi/2})I + \frac{1}{2i}(e^{i\phi/2} - e^{-i\phi/2})iY \\
&= \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}Y
\end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

- For $R_Z(\phi) = \exp\{iZ\phi/2\}$, since $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ are eigenvector of Z With eigenvalue $+1$ and -1 , respectively, we can write Z into the form as eq. (1),

$$\begin{aligned}
Z &= |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1| \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}
\end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

According to eq. (2), the rotation operator is then given by

$$\exp\{iZ\phi/2\} = e^{i\phi/2}|0\rangle\langle 0| + e^{-i\phi/2}|1\rangle\langle 1| \tag{16}$$

Note that

$$|0\rangle\langle 0| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I + Z) \tag{17a}$$

$$|1\rangle\langle 1| = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(I - Z) \tag{17b}$$

Use eq. (17a) – (17b), we can re-write eq. (16) as

$$\begin{aligned}
\exp\{iZ\phi/2\} &= e^{i\phi/2}|+\rangle\langle +| + e^{-i\phi/2}|-\rangle\langle -| \\
&= \frac{1}{2}e^{i\phi/2}(I + Z) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\phi/2}(I - Z)
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

Use eq. (3), we can re-write eq. (18) as

$$\begin{aligned}
\exp\{iZ\phi/2\} &= \frac{1}{2}e^{i\phi/2}(I + Z) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-i\phi/2}(I - Z) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(e^{i\phi/2} + e^{-i\phi/2})I + \frac{1}{2i}(e^{i\phi/2} - e^{-i\phi/2})iZ \\
&= \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}Z
\end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

From eq. (8), eq. (14) and eq. (19), we can conclude that

$$\exp\{iX\phi/2\} = \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}X \tag{20a}$$

$$\exp\{iY\phi/2\} = \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}Y \tag{20b}$$

$$\exp\{iZ\phi/2\} = \cos \frac{\phi}{2}I + i \sin \frac{\phi}{2}Z \tag{20c}$$