

The determinant relations we'll be using are

$$\epsilon_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_N} U_{j_1}^{i_1} U_{j_2}^{i_2} \dots U_{j_N}^{i_N} = \epsilon_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_N} \implies \epsilon_{i_1 i_2 \dots i_{N-1} p_N} U_{j_1}^{i_1} U_{j_2}^{i_2} \dots U_{j_{N-1}}^{i_{N-1}} = \epsilon_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_N} (U^\dagger)_{p_N}^{j_N} \quad (1)$$

$$\epsilon_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_N} U_{j_1}^{i_1} U_{j_2}^{i_2} \dots U_{j_N}^{i_N} = \epsilon^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_N} \implies \epsilon^{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{N-1} q_N} U_{j_1}^{i_1} U_{j_2}^{i_2} \dots U_{j_{N-1}}^{i_{N-1}} = \epsilon^{i_1 i_2 \dots i_N} (U^\dagger)_{i_N}^{q_N} \quad (2)$$

Now a few more concrete examples how indices can be moved.

First, in $SU(4)$

$$\phi^{ilm} \equiv \epsilon^{jklm} \phi_{jk}^i \quad (3)$$

I.e., we can cancel the two lower indices in one ϵ multiplication.

In fact, under U , the RHS transforms like

$$\epsilon^{jklm} \phi_{jk}^i \longrightarrow \epsilon^{jklm} U_r^i (U^\dagger)_j^p (U^\dagger)_k^q \phi_{pq}^r \quad (4)$$

But by (2),

$$\epsilon^{pqst} U_p^j U_q^k U_s^l U_t^m = \epsilon^{jklm} \implies \epsilon^{pqst} U_s^l U_t^m = \epsilon^{jklm} (U^\dagger)_j^p (U^\dagger)_k^q$$

So (4) becomes

$$\epsilon^{jklm} \phi_{jk}^i \longrightarrow \epsilon^{jklm} U_r^i (U^\dagger)_j^p (U^\dagger)_k^q \phi_{pq}^r \longrightarrow U_r^i U_s^l U_t^m (\epsilon^{pqst} \phi_{pq}^r) = U_r^i U_s^l U_t^m (\phi^{rst})$$

exactly how rank-3 tensor ϕ^{ilm} would transform under U .

Secondly, indices can be moved upward one by one.

$$\phi_k^{ilmn} \equiv \epsilon^{jlmn} \phi_{jk}^i \quad (5)$$

Again, under U , the RHS transforms like

$$\epsilon^{jlmn} \phi_{jk}^i \longrightarrow \epsilon^{jlmn} U_r^i (U^\dagger)_j^p (U^\dagger)_k^q \phi_{pq}^r \quad (6)$$

But by (2),

$$\epsilon^{pstu} U_p^j U_s^l U_t^m U_u^n = \epsilon^{jlmn} \implies \epsilon^{pstu} U_s^l U_t^m U_u^n = \epsilon^{jlmn} (U^\dagger)_j^p$$

So (6) becomes

$$\epsilon^{jlmn} U_r^i (U^\dagger)_j^p (U^\dagger)_k^q \phi_{pq}^r = U_r^i U_s^l U_t^m U_u^n (U^\dagger)_k^q (\epsilon^{pstu} \phi_{pq}^r) = U_r^i U_s^l U_t^m U_u^n (U^\dagger)_k^q (\phi_q^{rstu})$$

exactly how ϕ_k^{ilmn} would transform.