**Documentation**

This package was written using Mathematica version 11. The best way to get started is by becoming familiar with the palette. After this, additional examples can be found by running the file "Examples". These instructions assume you have already read and implemented the steps in Quick Start.

Open a new notebook\*. If the palette is not open, select it from the Palette menu and use it to configure your geometric algebra (GA) and to enter the “Needs” command in your notebook. In the 2nd section of the palette, Subscripts & Operators, click on e1, then e2. Hover over the 3 operators (geometric product, wedge, and dot) until you find the small circle that represents geometric product, and click it. Then click on e1 again and press [EnterKey]. Try other examples and use the wedge and dot operators to examine the results. Observe that the tooltips explain how to enter both the subscripted e's and the operators from the keyboard. If you find the operator symbols too small to see, click on a magnification level at the bottom of the palette. Zoom back when you wish to restore a smaller palette.

In the next section of the palette, Multivector Generators, you may need to click the triangle to expand the section. (Click it again to hide the section.) In the 1st column enter a command by selecting it. In the workbook, press [EnterKey]. The output should be the same as the corresponding entry in the right-hand column of the palette. Now modify some parameters in the notebook, say, change the letter a to the letter b, or dimension 3 to dimension 4. Now select something from column 2. This generates the same output, but now it is provided in the input area for you to use, saving you from having to copy and paste the output. Finally, hoover over the commands in both columns to get more information.

Rotors are used to perform rotations in any number of dimensions. They are used in Clifford algebras and there is an example in the Examples file.

The last 2 items in this section are Complex numbers and Quaternions. The complex numbers are the Clifford subalgebra {a + b i} with i = e1 e2 and a and b are reals. Quaternions are the Clifford subalgebra of elements {a + b i + c j + d k} where a, b, c, & d are real numbers and i, j, and k are as explained in the palette (remember to hover your mouse to reveal tooltips). GA operations that are appropriate (such as InverseG and NormG) for complex numbers or quaternions will also work when restricted to these subalgebras. To use this package to perform complex multiplication, simply type e1e2 where you would normally type i. Similarly for Quaternions, type e2e3 for i, - e1e3 for j, and e1e2 for k.

At this time (2016) there seems not to be a standard vocabulary for GA objects like multivectors, n-vectors, and blades. For example, is a 2-vector a vector in 2-space or is it a bivector, a grade 2 multivector? The vocabulary used in the palette is illustrated clearly in the spreadsheet named Multivector Terminology.

The 4th section of the palette, Geometric Algebra Operations, should largely be self-explanatory except perhaps for the Hodge Dual. There are several conflicting definitions given in current literature so I have provided a couple of functions to allow the user freedom of choice. The equations defining the two I have chosen are shown in the tooltips (hover the mouse over the palette). The first definition is consistent with the implicit definition that the Hodge Dual is the unique operator that satisfies clif2 ^ Hodge[ clif ] = ( clif · clif2 ) ○ i for all multivectors clif2 and where i is the pseudoscalar. By using this package I was able to experimentally verify that the simple explicit definition I use in function HodgeDualG works. The HodgeDual2G definition does NOT satisfy the implicit equations but does have similarly nice geometric properties and seems to be pretty commonly used.

The operators in the next section, Multivector Support, were developed to simplify the definitions of the primary operators in the prior section and thus may or may not be useful to the user. ExpandG and CollectG are similar to Mathematica's Expand and Collect commands except they are basis-aware, able to expand and collect while handling ei terms. GradePpiece will pick out the grade p component, if any, of a multivector. MaxDimG will find the highest basis subscript among the terms of a multivector. ConstantG will pick out the constant term or terms, if any, in a multivector. InitializeG is used internally to reduce squares of basis elements. In the event that the user creates his own products, not using the GA operators, InitializeG can be used to reduce the squares according to the GA initialization specified by the user in step 1.

It is not necessary to revert to lists in order to perform most operations. This package allows straight-forward operation on the multivectors themselves using standard mathematical notation. However, it can be convenient to use lists for complex operations where one needs to keep the terms of a multivector in a particular order in order to operate on them. (Mathematica, as we all know, puts terms in its own inimitable and mostly-uncontrollable order.) Thus, the last section of the palette is list-related. The top two operators quickly switch between a multivector and its corresponding list of terms. The 2nd row generates two lists from a multivector. The 2nd list is a list of the subscripts of the blades of the multivector terms. The 1st list is a similar list but with the subscripts represented as e-subscripts like e2, 3, 5. Both lists can come in handy.

The last item is a Signature operator that extends Mathematica's signature operator. Mathematica's operator will find the signature of a list of, say, integers as long as they are all distinct. But, in GA we often as not deal with duplicate integers such as in e2 e3 ^ e1 e3. SignatureG will find the signature for { 2, 3, 1, 3 }. I believe, actually, that Signature G will find the signature for any class of items for which Mathematica's Signature function works but I have not extensively tested this. Signature is a measure of the number of pairwise transpositions of adjacent terms required to put the list in natural order. An odd number of transpositions reverses signs and an even number preserves the sign. It is used to determine the correct signs during antisymmetrization operations. Thus, e1 e2 ^ e1 = - e2 in 2-space in a + + Clifford algebra.

# Cautions

1. If you receive a warning about context shadowing or if you notice ei2 terms in your output, you should quit the kernel using the Evaluation menu, close and reopen the palette, and reset your GA initialization settings.
2. Until such time as the author might implement operator precedence, it is necessary to put parentheses around your multivectors when using the binary operator symbols (see 1st section of palette). For example, you must enter (2 e1) • (3 + e1 e2). However, A = 2 e1, B = 3 + e1 e2, and A • B is OK. So is DotPrdtG [ 2 e1, 3 + e1 e2 ].

This package contains only a very basic set of GA operations, but other GA operations can easily be built upon them. The geometric product is somewhat complicated to program because it must handle antisymmetrization. Most GA operations are easy to implement once the geometric product is defined. Thus, the benefits of this package are:

1. It uses natural mathematical notation for subscripts and standard wedge and dot symbols, not requiring you to learn new notation. (Both geometric product and Mathematica's product use a space. To distinguish them, we use a small circle for geometrical product.)

2. Operations are performed naturally, not by converting back and forth to lists (though lists are supported)

3. The function definitions are generally very short, self-documented, and easy to follow, thus easily modified or extended

4. The palette greatly simplifies typing input, entering sample multivectors that can quickly be edited

5. Because symbolic equations are handled (as well as numeric), it is easy to generate generic formulas and to test hypotheses such as whether an identity works in dimensions higher than, say, 3 or whether an identity can be expanded from vectors to blades or beyond.

6. The numeric capabilities allow you to instantly carry out computations that would require an extensive amount of time and tedium to do manually

7. One can quickly configure, or switch between, spatial dimensions, space and space-time, and Clifford and Grassmann.

8. Except for printouts (which can be pages long in higher dimensions) most operations compute instantly even in higher dimensions. The definitions are written entirely without slow computing "for loops" and other such constructs.

Finally, the author is retired and built this package working in a vacuum as a way of teaching himself both GA and Mathematica. If you are using this package, consider yourself a beta-tester. Let me know of any bugs you find. I might find time to correct them. I have thoroughly tested - + + + and somewhat tested + - - - Clifford algebras, but haven't much tested Grassmann algebras as of yet. Contact me at [budsimrin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:budsimrin@sbcglobal.net).

\* You can use the notebook as is or else implement a private notebook context. Private cell contexts have not been tested are likely compatible. The problem is that the author has had to take great care to manage the context of the symbol e used in the basis e1, e2, ... . . This is because only the multivector symbols, like A, are passed to the package yet the package manipulates the basis elements contained in A. Were the package "e" to have a different context than the notebook "e", those manipulations would fail.

**Warning:** If you open a second notebook during a session, you must execute the “Needs” statement before performing any package operations. Otherwise the context of e will not be preserved and those computations will fail dramatically. If you forget, you need to quit the kernel and then execute Needs ["GeomAlg2017Jan`"] as soon as you see the failure.