

**Claim:** Let  $A$  be a square matrix and  $\vec{v}, \vec{u}$  vectors such that

$$\vec{v}^\top A \vec{u} = 0.$$

Then given a non-fixing quarter rotation  $Q$ , we have

$$\text{adj}(A)Q\vec{v} = \vec{u}.$$

We want to show that  $\vec{v}^\top A \text{adj}(A)Q\vec{v} = 0$ . Note that  $A \text{adj}(A) = \det(A)I_n$ . So if  $\det(A) = 0$ , we are done. If  $\det(A) \neq 0$ , we can divide both sides by the determinant and show that  $\vec{v}^\top Q\vec{v} = 0$ .

Let  $\{\vec{b}_1, \dots, \vec{b}_n\}$  be an orthonormal basis for  $k^n$ . Then  $Q$  satisfies  $\vec{b}_i^\top Q\vec{b}_i = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Write  $\vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i \vec{b}_i$ . Then

$$\vec{v}^\top Q\vec{v} = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n s_i \vec{b}_i^\top Q s_j \vec{b}_j.$$

We already know that  $s_i \vec{b}_i^\top Q s_i \vec{b}_i = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We wish to show that for each  $s_i \vec{b}_i^\top Q s_j \vec{b}_j$ , there is an  $s_k \vec{b}_k^\top Q s_\ell \vec{b}_\ell$  that cancels it out... actually I think we need  $Q$  to be even and to have the same number of 1's and  $-1$ 's. For example

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$