Complex hyperbolic 2×2 rotations

Vedran Novaković

March 15, 2025

Let V be J-unitary, $H = GJG^*$ (Hermitian), and $A = G^*G$, where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \overline{a_{21}} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad J = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} \cosh \phi & e^{-i\beta} \sinh \phi \\ e^{i\beta} \sinh \phi & \cosh \phi \end{bmatrix}. \tag{1}$$

Then, $V^* = V$ and $V^*JV = VJV^* = J$. Find β and ϕ such that $V^*AV = \Xi$,

$$\Xi = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \xi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cosh \phi & e^{-i\beta} \sinh \phi \\ e^{i\beta} \sinh \phi & \cosh \phi \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \overline{a_{21}} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cosh \phi & e^{-i\beta} \sinh \phi \\ e^{i\beta} \sinh \phi & \cosh \phi \end{bmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

Dividing (2) by $\cosh^2 \phi > 0$ gives, with $\xi_i' = \xi_i / \cosh^2 \phi$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & e^{-i\beta} \tanh \phi \\ e^{i\beta} \tanh \phi & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \overline{a_{21}} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & e^{-i\beta} \tanh \phi \\ e^{i\beta} \tanh \phi & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \xi_1' & 0 \\ 0 & \xi_2' \end{bmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

Multiplying the first two matrices in (3) gives

$$\Xi' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} + a_{21}\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi & \overline{a_{21}} + a_{22}\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi \\ a_{11}\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi + a_{21} & \overline{a_{21}}\mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi + a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi \\ \mathrm{e}^{\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh\phi & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

with the final multiplication producing, elementwise,

$$\xi_1' = a_{11} + (2\Re(a_{21}e^{-i\beta}) + a_{22}\tanh\phi)\tanh\phi,$$
 (4)

$$0 = \overline{a_{21}} + (a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{21}e^{-i\beta}\tanh\phi)e^{-i\beta}\tanh\phi,$$
 (5)

$$0 = a_{21} + (a_{11} + a_{22} + \overline{a_{21}}e^{i\beta}\tanh\phi)e^{i\beta}\tanh\phi, \tag{6}$$

$$\xi_2' = a_{22} + (2\Re(a_{21}e^{-i\beta}) + a_{11}\tanh\phi)\tanh\phi,$$
 (7)

since $z + \bar{z} = 2\Re z$. Evidently, $\xi_i \in \mathbb{R}$. If $a_{21} = 0$ then $\tanh \phi = 0$, and vice versa, if $\tanh \phi = 0$, then from (5) (or (6), which is the complex conjugate of (5)) it follows $a_{21} = 0$. Therefore, assume in the following that $\tanh \phi \neq 0$. Multiplying (5) by $e^{i\beta}$ and (6) by $e^{-i\beta}$, it follows

$$0 = \overline{a_{21}}e^{i\beta} + (a_{11} + a_{22})\tanh\phi + a_{21}e^{-i\beta}\tanh^2\phi,$$
 (8)

$$0 = a_{21}e^{-i\beta} + (a_{11} + a_{22})\tanh\phi + \overline{a_{21}}e^{i\beta}\tanh^2\phi.$$
 (9)

By extracting the common middle term on the right hand sides of (8) and (9),

$$-(a_{11} + a_{22}) \tanh \phi = \overline{a_{21}} e^{i\beta} + a_{21} e^{-i\beta} \tanh^2 \phi, \tag{10}$$

$$-(a_{11} + a_{22}) \tanh \phi = a_{21} e^{-i\beta} + \overline{a_{21}} e^{i\beta} \tanh^2 \phi, \tag{11}$$

it follows that the right hand sides of (10) and (11) have to be equal,

$$\overline{a_{21}}e^{\mathrm{i}\beta} + a_{21}e^{-\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh^2\phi = a_{21}e^{-\mathrm{i}\beta} + \overline{a_{21}}e^{\mathrm{i}\beta}\tanh^2\phi,$$
 (12)

while at the same time being the complex conjugates of one another. Therefore, both sides in (12) are real, what (10) and (11) also suggest. With

$$\beta = \arg(a_{21}), \text{ i.e., } e^{i\beta} = \frac{a_{21}}{|a_{21}|}, (a_{21} = 0 \implies \beta = 0), (13)$$

this condition is always fulfilled. Specifically, if a_{21} is real, then $e^{i\beta} = \text{sign } a_{21}$. Now, (8) and (9) become

$$|a_{21}|(1 + \tanh^2 \phi) = -(a_{11} + a_{22}) \tanh \phi,$$
 (14)

or, after rearranging (14),

$$\frac{-|a_{21}|}{a_{11} + a_{22}} = \frac{\tanh \phi}{1 + \tanh^2 \phi} = \frac{1}{2} \tanh(2\phi). \tag{15}$$

Note that $a_{11} \geq 0$ and $a_{22} \geq 0$ by definition, so $a_{11} + a_{22} = 0$ if and only if $a_{11} = 0$ and $a_{22} = 0$, in which case $a_{21} = 0$ (since A is a Grammian), and thus (15) does not even have to be evaluated in this degenerate case to compute $\tanh \phi = 0$. Another issue occurs if somehow $2|a_{21}| \geq (a_{11} + a_{22})$, i.e., if the computed $\tanh(2\phi) \leq -1$.

Alternatively, the hyperbolic cotangent of twice the angle might be computed as:

$$coth(2\phi) = \frac{a_{11} + a_{22}}{-2|a_{21}|},$$
(16)

but this can easily cause overflow for small $|a_{21}|$. On the other hand, underflow of $\tanh(2\phi)$, as long as it is not exactly zero, will cause no trouble in the further computation, and might preserve at least some information, possibly resulting in a non-zero $\tanh \phi$ as well.

There are two solutions for the quadratic equation for $\tanh \phi$ from (15), only one of which obeys $|\tanh \phi| < 1$,

$$tanh \phi = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - \tanh^2(2\phi)}}{\tanh(2\phi)}.$$
(17)

However, if the numerator and the denominator in (17) are multiplied by $1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^2(2\phi)}$, a more stable form emerges

$$\tanh \phi = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}}{\tanh(2\phi)} \cdot \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}}$$

$$= \frac{1 - (1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi))}{\tanh(2\phi) \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}\right)}$$

$$= \frac{\tanh(2\phi) \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}\right)}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \tanh^{2}(2\phi)}} \approx \frac{\tanh(2\phi)}{1 + \sqrt{\text{fma}(-\tanh(2\phi), \tanh(2\phi), 1)}}.$$
(18)

Having computed $\tanh \phi$, it follows that

$$\cosh \phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \tanh^2 \phi}}$$

$$\approx \operatorname{rsqrt}(\operatorname{fma}(-\tanh \phi, \tanh \phi, 1)),$$

$$\sinh \phi = \tanh \phi \cdot \cosh \phi.$$
(19)

TODO: Scaling of A and the accurate computation of $e^{i\beta}$ similarly to https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cam.2024.116003