

Quantum Computing CO484

Tutorial*

Sheet 1 - Questions

Exercise 1 Consider a single qubit system, i.e. a system with $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{C}^2$.

(i) Does the following matrix represent an observable on \mathbb{C}^2

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 \end{pmatrix}?$$

What are its eigenbase vectors and eigenvalues?

(ii) Construct an observable \mathbf{A}_2 (i.e. its matrix representation) on \mathbb{C}^2 which has eigenvalues $\{+1, -1\}$ and eigenvectors

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1, 1), \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(-1, 1) \right\}.$$

(iii) What happens if you measure either of the two observables \mathbf{A}_1 and \mathbf{A}_2 in the state $|x\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1, -1)$? Sketch the situation geometrically.

Note: The outer product $|x\rangle\langle y|$ for vectors $|x\rangle = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T$ and $\langle y| = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ is an operator/matrix: $(|x\rangle\langle y|)_{ij} = x_i y_j$. It could be treated just as a formal combination of a ket and a bra vector.

Exercise 2 Consider the complex numbers \mathbb{C} .

(i) Show that for complex numbers x and y we have: $|x + y|^2 = |x|^2 + |y|^2 + 2\text{Re}(x^*y)$.

(ii) Compare x^*x with x^2 for a complex number x and explain why the inner product of two complex vectors $v, w \in \mathbb{C}^d$ is defined as $v^\dagger w$ rather than $v^T w$.

*Based partly on the tutorials by Abbas Edalat.

Exercise 3 *Complex numbers (again)*

- (i) Give the cartesian representation of (in polar coordinates) the following complex numbers $(1, \frac{\pi}{4})$, $(1, \frac{\pi}{2})$ and $(1, \pi)$.
- (ii) What is $1^{\frac{1}{4}}$?
- (iii) **Proof De Moivre's formula:** $(e^{i\theta})^n = \cos(n\theta) + i \sin(n\theta)$

Exercise 4 *Generalise the following notions and properties given for the vector space \mathbb{R}^2 to \mathbb{R}^d .*

- (i) Define linear independence and linear dependence of vectors in \mathbb{R}^d .
- (ii) What is the least integer n such that any set of n vectors in \mathbb{R}^d will be linearly dependent?
- (iii) What is a basis of \mathbb{R}^d ? How many linearly independent vectors it takes to get a basis for \mathbb{R}^d ?
- (iv) Define the notion of an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^d . What would be the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^d ?

Exercise 5 *Generalise the following notions and properties given for the vector space \mathbb{C}^2 to \mathbb{C}^d .*

- (i) Define the norm $\|w\|$ of a vector and the inner product of two vectors w_1 and w_2 in \mathbb{C}^d . What is the dual of a vector w in \mathbb{C}^d and what can it be identified with?
- (ii) Define linear independence and linear dependence of vectors in \mathbb{C}^d .
- (iii) What is the least integer n such that any set of n vectors in \mathbb{C}^d will be linearly dependent?
- (iv) What is a basis of \mathbb{C}^d ? How many linearly independent vectors it takes to get a basis for \mathbb{C}^d ?
- (v) Define the notion of an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{C}^d . What would be the standard basis of \mathbb{C}^d ?

Exercise 6 *Show that the two vectors w_1 and w_2 in \mathbb{C}^4 with $w_1^T = \frac{1}{2}(1, 1, 1, 1)$ and $w_2^T = \frac{1}{2}(1, -1, 1, -1)$ are orthogonal unit vectors. Find vectors w_3 and w_4 such that the collection $\{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$ forms an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{C}^4 .*

Exercise 7 *Linear Maps*

(i) Show that composition of two linear maps (on \mathbb{C}^2) is again linear.

(ii) Show that if $\mathbf{L}_1, \mathbf{L}_2 : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ are linear, so is $\alpha_1 \mathbf{L}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{L}_2 : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ defined by

$$(\alpha_1 \mathbf{L}_1 + \alpha_2 \mathbf{L}_2)(v) = \alpha_1 \mathbf{L}_1(v) + \alpha_2 \mathbf{L}_2(v).$$

(iii) Show that for $|\psi\rangle, |\phi\rangle \in \mathbb{C}^2$, the map $|\psi\rangle\langle\phi| : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ defined, using the bracket notation, by $|\psi\rangle\langle\phi|(|x\rangle) = \langle\phi|x\rangle|\psi\rangle$ is linear.

Exercise 8 Show that the matrix representation of the NOT gate – i.e. a linear map on \mathbb{C}^2 which maps $|0\rangle \mapsto |1\rangle$ and $|1\rangle \mapsto |0\rangle$ – in the basis $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$ is given by

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

What is its matrix representation in the basis $|+\rangle, |-\rangle$?

Exercise 9 *Unitary Maps and Matrices*

(i) Check that a matrix (in computational basis) is unitary iff its columns (or its rows) form an orthonormal basis.

(ii) Check: the matrix for a change in the computational basis is unitary.

(iii) Show that $(\mathbf{AB})^\dagger = \mathbf{B}^\dagger \mathbf{A}^\dagger$ and deduce that if a linear map has a unitary matrix representation, then its matrix representation in any computational basis is unitary.

Exercise 10 Show that $\langle u|\mathbf{A}v\rangle = \langle \mathbf{A}^\dagger u|v\rangle$. Deduce that a matrix \mathbf{M} is unitary iff it preserves all inner products, i.e. iff $\langle \mathbf{M}u|\mathbf{M}v\rangle = \langle u|v\rangle$ for all $u, v \in \mathbb{C}^2$.

Exercise 11 Show that any unitary matrix \mathbf{U} can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{i(\alpha-\beta/2-\delta/2)} \cos \gamma/2 & -e^{i(\alpha-\beta/2+\delta/2)} \sin \gamma/2 \\ e^{i(\alpha+\beta/2-\delta/2)} \sin \gamma/2 & e^{i(\alpha+\beta/2+\delta/2)} \cos \gamma/2 \end{pmatrix}$$

where α, β, δ and γ are real numbers.

Exercise 12 Verify the output, up to a global phase, of the following:

