

Quaternion Algebras

Miriam Ciavarella

Università degli Studi di Torino
Italy
miriam.ciavarella@unito.it

Marina Marchisio

Università degli Studi di Torino
Italy
marina.marchisio@unito.it

▼ Introduction

The aim of this worksheet is to define some procedures in order to make computations in a quaternion algebra over the field of rational number.

Quaternion algebra means something more general than the algebra of Hamilton's quaternions (for which there exists already a Maple package).

Let us recall some definitions. A quaternion algebra over F is a central simple algebra of dimension 4 over F . To give a quaternion algebra is equivalent to give a pair of non-zero rational numbers so that is defined as the F -algebra of basis where the elements verify the relations and.

The conjugation is the F -endomorphism of which extends the non-trivial F -automorphism of F , defined by $\text{Conj}Q$. This is an involutive anti-automorphism of and we denote by $\text{Conj}Q$ the quaternion conjugate of the element.

Let h ; let us recall the definitions of two rational numbers associated to h : the reduced trace of h is $\text{Tr}Q\text{Conj}Q$ and the reduced norm of h is $\text{Norm}Q\text{Conj}Q$. The invertible elements of are those elements with non-zero reduced norm.

Let v be a place of F with completion (so it is either the p -adic numbers field for some prime p or the real number field \mathbf{R}). We say that B is unramified at v if B_v (defined as the tensor product over F_v) is isomorphic to the $M_2(F_v)$ matrices over F_v . We say that B is ramified at v if B_v is the quaternion division algebra over F_v . The set of places of F where a quaternion algebra over F ramifies is always finite and even, and their product is called the reduced discriminant of B . By the Classification Theorem, the places where B is ramified determine B up to isomorphism as an algebra; thus it can be very useful to give a procedure which computes the reduced discriminant of a given quaternion algebra $B=(a,b)$.

We recall that if B is ramified at infinity then B is a definite quaternion algebra over \mathbf{Q} ; in this case the reduced discriminant is the product of an odd number of prime numbers and if we write $B=(a,b)$ then both a and b are negative numbers.

We define the following procedures for computing some operations over a quaternion algebra $B=(a,b)$:

- 1)The procedure **ProdQuat** returns the product of two elements of B ;
- 2)The procedure **InvQ** returns the inverse of a non-zero-element of B ;
- 3)The procedure **TrQ** returns the reduced trace of an element of B ;
- 4)The procedure **NormQ** returns the reduced norm of an element of B ;
- 5)The procedure **Discriminant** returns the reduced discriminant of B .

▼ Product of two Quaternion Numbers

▼ Initialization

```
> restart:
> with(LinearAlgebra):
```

▼ Procedure Definition

Let B be a quaternion algebra over \mathcal{Q} , where the elements i, j verify $i^2 = -a, j^2 = -b$ and $ij = -ji$. The new procedure **ProdQuat** in Maple computes the product of two quaternions in B . The algorithm is based on an isomorphism between B and $\mathbf{GL}(2, \mathcal{Q})$.

Input data are the pair (a, b) of non zero rational numbers and two elements h, g .

The parameters a and b can be rational numbers or symbols. The output data is the quaternion product of h and g in B .

```
> ProdQuat:=proc(a,b,h,g)
  local terminenoto1,terminenoto2, m1,mi,mj,mk,hm1,hm2,
  prodquatm,prodquat,coef;
  terminenoto1:=h-coeff(h,i)*i-coeff(h,j)*j-coeff(h,k)*k:
  terminenoto2:=g-coeff(g,i)*i-coeff(g,j)*j-coeff(g,k)*k:
  m1:=Matrix([[1,0],[0,1]]):
  mi:=Matrix([[sqrt(a),0],[0,-sqrt(a)]]):
  mj:=Matrix([[0,1],[b,0]]):
  mk:=mi.mj:
  hm1:=MatrixScalarMultiply(m1,terminenoto1)+
  MatrixScalarMultiply(mi,coeff(h,i))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mj,
  coeff(h,j))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mk,coeff(h,k)):
  hm2:=MatrixScalarMultiply(m1,terminenoto2)+
  MatrixScalarMultiply(mi,coeff(g,i))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mj,
  coeff(g,j))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mk,coeff(g,k)):
  prodquatm:=MatrixMatrixMultiply(hm1,hm2):
  coef:=solve({x+y*sqrt(a)=prodquatm[1,1], z+w*sqrt(a)=
  prodquatm[1,2], z*b-b*w*sqrt(a)=prodquatm[2,1], x-y*sqrt(a)=
  prodquatm[2,2]}, {x,y,z,w});
```

```

assign(coef);
prodquat:=x+y*i+z*j+k*w;
end:

```

▼ Examples

Example 1.

```
> h[1]:=i+k;
```

$$h_1 := i + k \quad (2.3.1)$$

```
> g[1]:=-1/12*i-1/12*k;
```

$$g_1 := -\frac{i}{12} - \frac{k}{12} \quad (2.3.2)$$

```
> ProdQuat(3,5,h[1],g[1]);
```

$$1 \quad (2.3.3)$$

Example 2.

```
> h[2]:=2*i-3*j+k;
```

$$h_2 := 2i - 3j + k \quad (2.3.4)$$

```
> g[2]:=i+k;
```

$$g_2 := i + k \quad (2.3.5)$$

```
> ProdQuat(3,1,h[2],g[2]);
```

$$3 + 3i + 3j + 3k \quad (2.3.6)$$

▼ Inverse of a Quaternion Number

▼ Initialization

```

> restart:
> with(LinearAlgebra):
> with(linalg):

```

▼ Procedure Definition

We give a new procedure **InvQ** in Maple for computing the inverse of a non-zero element h of $B = (a, b)$.

Input data are the pair (a, b) of non zero rational numbers which define B and a quaternion number h . The parameters a and b can be rational numbers or symbols.

The output data is an element **InvQ**(h) of B such that $h * \mathbf{InvQ}(h) = 1$.

```

> InvQ:=proc(a,b,h)
local InvQ,terminenoto,m1,mi,mj,mk,hm,coef,mh;
terminenoto:=h-coeff(h,i)*i-coeff(h,j)*j-coeff(h,k)*k:

```

```

m1:=Matrix([[1,0],[0,1]]):
mi:=Matrix([[sqrt(a),0],[0,-sqrt(a]])]:
mj:=Matrix([[0,1],[b,0]]):
mk:=mi.mj:
hm:=MatrixScalarMultiply(m1,terminenoto)+
MatrixScalarMultiply(mi,coeff(h,i))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mj,
coeff(h,j))+MatrixScalarMultiply(mk,coeff(h,k)):
mh:=inverse(hm):
coef:=solve({x+y*sqrt(a)=mh[1,1], z+w*sqrt(a)=mh[1,2], z*b-
b*w*sqrt(a)=mh[2,1], x-y*sqrt(a)=mh[2,2]}, {x,y,z,w}):
assign(coef);
InvQ:=x+y*i+z*j+k*w;
end:

```

▼ Examples

Example 1.

```
> h[1]:=i+k;
```

$$h_1 := i + k \quad (3.3.1)$$

```
> InvQ(3,5,h[1]);
```

$$-\frac{i}{12} - \frac{k}{12} \quad (3.3.2)$$

Example 2.

```
> h[2]:=1-i+2*j+1/2*k;
```

$$h_2 := 1 - i + 2j + \frac{k}{2} \quad (3.3.3)$$

```
> InvQ(2,3,h[2]);
```

$$-\frac{2}{23} - \frac{2i}{23} + \frac{4j}{23} + \frac{k}{23} \quad (3.3.4)$$

▼ Reduced Trace of a Quaternion

▼ Initialization

```
> restart:
```

```
> with(LineaeAlgebra):
```

▼ Procedure Definition

The new procedure **TrQ** in Maple computes the reduced trace of a quaternion number. Input data is quaternion number h . The output data is the reduced trace of h , which is a rational number.

```

> TrQ:=proc(h) local TrQ,terminenoto;
  terminenoto:=h-coeff(h,i)*i-coeff(h,j)*j-coeff(h,k)*k:
  TrQ:=2*terminenoto:
end:

```

▼ Examples

Example 1.

```
> h[1]:=2+4*i;
```

$$h_1 := 2 + 4i \quad (4.3.1)$$

```
> TrQ(h[1]);
```

$$4 \quad (4.3.2)$$

Example 2.

```
> h[2]:=1/2+4*i-11*j+k;
```

$$h_2 := \frac{1}{2} + 4i - 11j + k \quad (4.3.3)$$

```
> TrQ(h[2]);
```

$$1 \quad (4.3.4)$$

▼ Reduced Norm of a Quaternion

▼ Initialization

```

> restart:
> with(LinearAlgebra):

```

▼ Procedure Definition

We give a new procedure **NormQ** in Maple for computing the reduced norm of a quaternion number.

Input data are the pair (a,b) of non zero rational numbers which define B and a quaternion number h . The parameters a and b can be rational numbers or symbols.

The output data is the reduced norm **NormQ**(h) of h , which is a rational number.

```

> NormQ:=proc(a,b,h) local NormQ,terminenoto;
  terminenoto:=h-coeff(h,i)*i-coeff
  (h,j)*j-coeff(h,k)*k: NormQ:=terminenoto^2-a*coeff(h,i)^2-b*
  coeff(h,j)^2+a*b*coeff(h,k)^2: end:

```

▼ Examples

Example 1.

$$\begin{aligned} > \text{h}[1]:=i; & & h_1 := i & & (5.3.1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} > \text{NormQ}(3,5,\text{h}[1]); & & -3 & & (5.3.2) \end{aligned}$$

Example 2.

$$\begin{aligned} > \text{h}[2]:=-2+3*i-1/3*k; & & h_2 := -2 + 3i - \frac{k}{3} & & (5.3.3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} > \text{NormQ}(3,4,\text{h}[2]); & & -\frac{65}{3} & & (5.3.4) \end{aligned}$$

▼ Discriminant of a Quaternion Algebra B

▼ Initialization

```
> restart;
> with(padic);
```

▼ Procedure Definition

We give a new procedure (**Discriminant**) in Maple for computing the discriminant of a quaternion algebra $B=(a,b)$.

Input data are the rational numbers a, b defining the quaternion algebra where and . The output data is the product of the finite places of \mathcal{Q} which ramify in B .

```
> Discriminant:=proc(a,b)
  local a2,b2,u2,v2,eu,ev,wu,wv,alpha,beta,u,v,d,e,p,Lu,
  Lv,Discriminant;
  a2:=ordp(a,2);
  b2:=ordp(b,2);
  u2:=a/(2^a2);
  v2:=b/(2^b2);
  eu:=modp((u2-1)/2,2);
  ev:=modp((v2-1)/2,2);
  wu:=modp((u2^2-1)/8,2);
  wv:=modp((v2^2-1)/8,2);
  if (-1)^(eu*ev+a2*wv+b2*wu)=-1 then
    d:=2
  else
    d:=1
  end if;
end if;
```

```

for p from 3 to max(abs(a),abs(b)) do
    if type(p,prime) and gcd(a*b,p)<>1 then
        alpha:=ordp(a,p):
        beta:=ordp(b,p):
        u:=a/(p^alpha):
        v:=b/(p^beta):
        e:=modp((p-1)/2,2):
        Lu:=modp(u^((p-1)/2),p):
        Lv:=modp(v^((p-1)/2),p) :
        if Lv=p-1 then
            Lv:=-1
        end if:
        if Lu=p-1 then
            Lu:=-1
        end if:
        if (-1)^(alpha*beta *e)*(Lu)^beta*(Lv)
^alpha=-1 then
            d:=d*p
        end if:
    end if:
end do:
Discriminant:=d;
end:

```

▼ Examples

Example 1.

```
> Discriminant(-2,-5);
```

5 (6.3.1)

Example 2.

```
> Discriminant(3,5);
```

15 (6.3.2)

▼ References

Roger C. Alperin, *Free Subgroups of Quaternion Algebras*, Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, Volume 118, Number 1, May 1993.

Marie-France Vigneras, *Arithmétique des Algèbres de Quaternions*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, 800, Springer-Verlag, 1980.

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