Eigenvectors from eigenvalues in quaternion matrix with computer realization *

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Abstract

In this paper, we extend eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (formally named by Peter B. Denton, Stephen J. Parker, Terence Tao, Xining Zhang [1]) to the quaternion division ring. A version of eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for the quaternion matrix is established. Furthermore, we give a new method and algorithm to compute the eigenvectors from the right eigenvalues for the quaternion Hermitian matrix. A program is designed to realize the algorithm to compute the eigenvectors. An open problem ends the paper. Some examples show a good performance of the algorithm and the program.

Keywords: eigenvector-eigenvalue identity; quaternion; right eigenvalue; eigenvector; quaternion Hermitian matrix

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1 Introduction

1.1 Eigenvector-eigenvalue identity

Recently, a very nice and systematic survey was presented for the basic identity of linear algebra which is called **eigenvector-eigenvalue identity** (see Peter B. Denton, Stephen J. Parker, Terence Tao, Xining Zhang [1]). The identity is formulated as follows.

\[
|v_{i,j}|^2 \prod_{k=1;k\neq i}^{n-1} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A)) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1}(\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(M_j)),
\]  

(1.1)

where \(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n\) are the \(n\) real eigenvalues of the \(n \times n\) Hermitian matrix \(A\), \(v_1, v_2, \cdots, v_n\) are their corresponding standard orthogonal eigenvectors; \(v_{i,j}\) denotes the \(j\)-th element of \(v_i\); \(M\) is a \((n-1) \times (n-1)\) submatrix by removing \(j\)-th row and \(j\)-th column of \(A\). The identity tells us that the \(j\)-th component \(v_{i,j}\) of a unit eigenvector \(v_i\) associated to the eigenvalue \(\lambda_i(A)\) is related to the eigenvalues \(\lambda_1(M_j) \cdots \lambda_n(M_j)\) of the minor \(M_j\) of \(A\) formed by removing the \(j\)-th row and column. The elegant identity establishes the direct relationship between the eigenvector component with the eigenvalues of \(A\) and \(M_j\).

As concluded in the survey [1], there are several methods to prove the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1). The methods include the adjugate proof, the Cramer’s rule proof, the Coordinate-free proof, the proof using perturbative analysis, the proof using a Cauchy-Binet type formula and the proof using an alternate expression for eigenvector component magnitudes.

A very complete and detailed history of the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1) was provided in the survey [1]. The authors have spent a lot of times reading and reviewing all the existing works related to the identity (1.1). We will not repeat the details here. But with respect, we should also thank again to the mathematicians who had contributions to the identity (see e.g. [1–4, 6–43]).
1.2 Motivation

It is known that the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1) is valid for the commutative algebra. However, is the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1) valid for the noncommutative algebra? We pay particular attention on the quaternion and the quaternion matrix, which is a special noncommutative algebra. Quaternion and the quaternion matrix have attracted many scholars’ attentions due to its important applications in the description of protein structure, neural networks, quantum mechanics, fluid mechanics, Frenet frame in differential geometry, kinematic modeling, attitude dynamics, Kalman filter design, spatial rigid body transformation, and so on [44–46]. It is known that quaternion is a generalization of the complex number, but quaternion is a division ring. Due to its noncommutation, a lot of properties are completely different from the complex. In particular, we should deal with the eigenvalues by distinguishing the right eigenvalues with the left eigenvalues. Further more, it is known that $n$-degree polynomial in the complex field has no more than $n$ roots. But this is not valid for quaternion ring. Eigenvalues of complex matrices satisfy Brauer’s theorem [47] for the inclusion of the eigenvalues, whereas right eigenvalues of quaternion matrices do not have this property. The number of eigenvalues may not be limited (see [48, 49]). Therefore, It is unknown that the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1) is still valid for the quaternion ring.

In the present paper, we extend eigenvector-eigenvalue identity (1.1) to the quaternion division ring. A version of eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for the quaternion matrix is established. Furthermore, by introducing the definition of quaternion adjoint matrix in [50], we give a new method and algorithm to compute the eigenvectors from the right eigenvalues for the quaternion Hermitian matrix. A program is designed to realize the algorithm to compute the eigenvectors. Some examples show a good performance of the algorithm and the program.

1.3 Outline of the paper

Next section is to present the conceptions and notations. We state and prove our main results in Section 4. Section 5 is to give the MATLAB program to compute the right eigenvalues of Hermitian matrix and the elements of the corresponding eigenvectors.
2 Preliminaries

In this section, we briefly introduce some basic properties of quaternions. We recall some notations and preliminary results from [46, 51]. We need the following notations. \( \mathbb{R} \) and \( \mathbb{Q} \) denote the real field and the quaternion division ring respectively. \( \mathbb{F}^{m \times n} \) denotes the set of all \( m \times n \) matrices on \( \mathbb{F} \). For any \( A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \), \( A^* \) refer to the conjugate transpose of \( A \). A quaternion \( a \in \mathbb{Q} \) is defined by
\[
a = a_0 + a_1 i + a_2 j + a_3 k,
\]
where \( a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{R} \). The imaginary units \( i, j, k \) satisfy
\[
i^2 = j^2 = k^2 = ijk = -1,
\]
which implies \( jk = -kj = i, ki = -ik = j, ij = -ji = k \). The conjugate of \( a \in \mathbb{Q} \) is given by \( \bar{a} = a_0 - a_1 i - a_2 j - a_3 k \) and the module \( |a| \) is defined by
\[
|a| = a_0^2 + a_1^2 + a_2^2 + a_3^2 = \bar{a}a = a\bar{a}.
\]

For any \( A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \), the determinant is defined based on permutation as follows (see [45, 46, 51]).

**Definition 2.1.** For any \( A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \),
\[
det A = \det \begin{pmatrix}
  a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\
  a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\
    \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
  a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn}
\end{pmatrix}
\]
:=\( \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \epsilon(\sigma) a_{n_1 i_2 a_{i_3} \cdots a_{i_s} a_{i_{s-1} \cdots i_s} a_{i_{s+1} n_2} \cdots a_{j_1 n_2} \cdots a_{n_r k_2} \cdots a_{k_r n_r}, \) where \( S_n \) is the symmetric group on \( n \) letters, and the disjoint cycle decomposition of \( \sigma \in S_n \) is written in the normal form:
\[
\sigma = (n_1 i_2 i_3 \cdots i_s)(n_2 j_2 j_3 \cdots j_t) \cdots (n_r k_2 k_3 \cdots k_l),
\]
\( n_1 > i_2, i_3, \cdots, i_s, n_2 > j_2, j_3, \cdots, j_t, \cdots, n_r > k_2, k_3, \cdots, k_l, \)
\( n = n_1 > n_2 > \cdots > n_r \geq 1, \)
and
\[
\epsilon(\sigma) = (-1)^{(s-1)+(t-1)+\cdots+(l-1)} = (-1)^{n-r}.
\]
Under the above definition, the quaternion Hermitian matrix $A$ (i.e. $A = A^* \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$) has following properties [51, 52] (In Lemma 2.2-2.6, we always assume that $A$ is a quaternion Hermitian matrix).

**Lemma 2.2.** The matrix $\lambda E - A$ can be transformed into a centralized matrix in the form of $\text{diag}(1, 1, \cdots, 1, \phi_1(\lambda), \phi_2(\lambda), \cdots, \phi_s(\lambda))$ by elementary transformation, where $\phi_i(\lambda)|\phi_{i+1}(\lambda)$, $i = 1, 2, \cdots, s - 1$. Moreover, we have

$$\det(A) = (-1)^n \phi_1(0) \phi_2(0) \cdots \phi_n(0).$$

**Lemma 2.3.** $A$ has $n$ right eigenvalues, which are all real numbers.

**Lemma 2.4.** There exists a unitary matrix $V \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, such that

$$V^* A V = \text{diag}\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n\},$$

where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n$ are the right eigenvalues of $A$.

**Lemma 2.5.** If $\lambda_1(A), \lambda_2(A), \cdots, \lambda_n(A)$ are the right eigenvalues of $A$, then

$$\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i(A).$$

**Lemma 2.6.** (see [51]) Let $P(k, j, \lambda)$ be the matrix obtained by adding $\lambda(\lambda \in \mathbb{Q})$ times the $j$-th column to the $k$-th column of unit $n \times n$ matrix $E$. If $H^* = H \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, then

$$\det P^*(k, j, \lambda) H P(k, j, \lambda) = \det H, \quad j \neq k = 1, 2, \cdots, n.$$  

3 Main results

3.1 Calculations of the modulus of the eigenvector elements

In this section, we present the main results of this paper. Firstly we extend Cauchy-Binet type formula to quaternions:
Theorem 3.1. [Quaternionic Cauchy-Binet type formula] Suppose that \( A^* = A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \) and one of the right eigenvalues is zero, \( v \) is the corresponding eigenvector to zero eigenvalue. Then,
\[
\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i(A) \det((B^* v)(B^* v)) = \det(B^* A B),
\] (3.1)
for any \( n \times (n - 1) \) quaternion matrix \( B \).

Proof. Let \( \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n \) be the right eigenvalues of \( A \). In view of Lemma 2.3, \( \lambda_i \) \( (i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, n - 1) \) are all real numbers. Without loss of generality, we set \( \lambda_n(A) = 0 \). There exists a unitary matrix \( V \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \), such that \( V^* A V = D \), where \( D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_{n-1}, 0) \).

Set
\[
e_n = (0, 0, \ldots, 0, 1)^T, \quad P = V^* B = \begin{pmatrix} B_1 \\ X \end{pmatrix},
\]
where \( B_1 \) is the upper \((n - 1) \times (n - 1)\) submatrix and \( X \) is some \( 1 \times (n - 1) \) vector. We see that Eq. (3.1) holds if and only if the identity
\[
\det(P^* D P) = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i \det((V P V e_n)^* (V P V e_n))
\]
holds. Note that
\[
\det(P^* D P) = \det \begin{pmatrix} B_1^* X^* & \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_{n-1}, 0) \\ B_1 & X \end{pmatrix} = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i \det(B_1^* B_1).
\]

Then we have
\[
\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i \det((V P V e_n)^* (V P V e_n)) = \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda_i \det(B_1^* B_1) = \det(P^* D P).
\]

The proof is completed. \( \square \)

Now we are in a position to state the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for quaternion matrix.

Theorem 3.2. [eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for quaternion matrix] Suppose that \( A^* = A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \), \( v_{ij} \) is the \( j \)-th element of eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue \( \lambda_i \). \( M_j \) is the
\((n - 1) \times (n - 1)\) submatrix of \(A\) that results from deleting the \(j\)-th column and the \(j\)-th row, with eigenvalues \(\lambda_k(M_j)\). Then

\[
|v_{i,j}|^2 \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n-1} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A)) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(M_j)). \tag{3.2}
\]

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, we take \(j = 1, i = n\). We shift \(A\) by \(\lambda_n(A)E_n\) so that \(\lambda_n(A) = 0\). This also shifts all the remaining eigenvalues of \(A\) as well as those of \(M_j\), then Eq. (3.2) is equivalent to

\[
|v_{n,1}|^2 \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k(A) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k(M_1). \tag{3.3}
\]

Let \(B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ E_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}\). By Eq. (3.1) and (3.3), we get

\[
|v_{n,1}|^2 \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k(A) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k(A) \det((B, v_n)^*(B, v_n))
\]

\[
= \det(B^*AB) = \det(M_1) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \lambda_k(M_1).
\]

The proof is completed. \(\square\)

**Corollary 3.3.** If \(A = A^* \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}\), the eigenvector element \(v_{ij}\) is 0, then \(M_j\) has at least one right eigenvalue equal to \(\lambda_i\).

**Corollary 3.4.** If \(A = A^* \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}\) and the left eigenvalue \(\hat{\lambda}\) is real number, then it’s equal to some right eigenvalue \(\lambda_i\) and

\[
|\hat{v}_j|^2 \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n-1} (\hat{\lambda}(A) - \lambda_k(A)) = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (\hat{\lambda}(A) - \lambda_k(M_j)).
\]

In fact, the right eigenvalues are real numbers when \(A = A^*\) and

\[
Av = v\lambda = \lambda v.
\]

It means that the left eigenvalues of real numbers exist and the right eigenvalues belong to the set of left eigenvalues.
Remark 3.5. The formula in Theorem 3.2 provides a new method different from the traditional method to calculate the element modules of the right eigenvalue of the quaternion matrix corresponding to the unit eigenvector. A simple example is given to verify the correctness of Theorem 3.2.

Example 3.1. Calculate the element modules of the right eigenvalue of the quaternion matrix
\[ A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & i - j + k \\ -i + j - k & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \]

Traditional method: Direct computation gives
\[
\det(A) = 3, \quad \lambda_1 = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{13}}{2}, \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{13}}{2}.
\]
The unit right eigenvector corresponding to \( \lambda_1 \) is
\[
v = \begin{pmatrix} 
\frac{2\sqrt{6}(i - j + k)}{(\sqrt{13} - 1)\sqrt{13} + \sqrt{13}} \\
\frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{13} + \sqrt{13}}
\end{pmatrix}.
\]
Then
\[
|v_1|^2 = \frac{\sqrt{13} + 13}{26}, \quad |v_2|^2 = \frac{13 - \sqrt{13}}{26}.
\]

Method of by using eigenvector-eigenvalue identity: Using the result of Theorem 3.2, we get
\[
|v_1|^2 = \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda(M_1)} = \frac{\sqrt{13} + 13}{26}, \quad |v_2|^2 = \frac{\lambda_1 - \lambda_2}{\lambda_1 - \lambda(M_2)} = \frac{13 - \sqrt{13}}{26},
\]
which is consistent with the result obtained by traditional calculation. However, by using eigenvector-eigenvalue identity, it is more convenient for us to calculate the element modules of the right eigenvector of the quaternion matrix.

We remark that Theorem 3.2 is to compute the element modules of the right eigenvalue. In order to compute the right eigenvectors for quaternion matrix, we provide a new method based on quaternion adjoint matrix in next subsection.
3.2 Calculations of eigenvectors based on quaternion adjoint matrix

To calculate the eigenvectors of quaternion matrices, we first introduce the concepts of row expansion [52] and adjoint of quaternion matrices [50].

Definition 3.6. A \( (a_{ij}) \) is any quaternion matrix of order \( n \).

\[
|A|^{\text{row}} = \sum \pm a_{1p}a_{pq} \cdots a_{st}
\]

is the row expansion of \( A \), where each term corresponds to the following permutation group:

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
1 & p & q & \cdots & s \\
p & q & r & \cdots & t
\end{pmatrix}
\]

(3.4)

The permutation group (3.4) can be decomposed into the product of \( d \) independent rotations, and the positive and negative of each item is the same as \((-1)^{n-d}\). This is the same as the usual sign rule for determinant expansions. However, the factor order of each item should be arranged according to the principle that the first factor can be selected in the first row. If it is \( a_{1p} \) and \( p \neq 1 \), the second factor can be selected in the \( p \)-row; If the first factor is \( a_{11} \), the second factor must be in the second row; If the first factor is \( a_{1p} \) and the second factor is \( a_{p1} \), the third must be the row with the smallest number of rows among the remaining rows except the first row and the \( p - \)th row. The other factor selection methods follow this example.

Example 3.2.

\[
\begin{vmatrix}
|A_{11}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{21}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{31}|^{\text{row}} & \cdots & -|A_{n1}|^{\text{row}} \\
-|A_{12}|^{\text{row}} & |A_{22}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{32}|^{\text{row}} & \cdots & -|A_{n2}|^{\text{row}} \\
-|A_{13}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{23}|^{\text{row}} & |A_{33}|^{\text{row}} & \cdots & -|A_{n3}|^{\text{row}} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
-|A_{1n}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{2n}|^{\text{row}} & -|A_{3n}|^{\text{row}} & \cdots & |A_{nn}|^{\text{row}}
\end{vmatrix}
\]

(3.5)

\[qadj(A) \]

Definition 3.7. \( qadj(A) \) is the adjoint matrix of \( n \)-order quaternion Hermitian matrix, which is defined by
where $A_{ij}$ is the natural submatrix (see [52]), i.e., remove row $i$ and column $j$ of the matrix $A$ and rearrange $j - 2$, $1$, $2$, $\cdots$, $j - 1$ rows into $1$, $2$, $\cdots$, $j - 2$, $j - 1$ rows, and the remaining $n - j$ rows remain in their original positions.

**Lemma 3.8.** (see [50]) If $A \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$ is a quaternion Hermitian matrix, then

$$q\text{adj}(A)A = Aq\text{adj}(A) = \det(A)E. \quad (3.6)$$

Based on the above definitions and theorems, we now give a new method to calculate the quaternion eigenvector. Even the set of eigenvectors can be standard orthogonal.

**Theorem 3.9.** $A = A^* \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda_n$ is the right eigenvalues of $A$ and $v_1, v_2, \cdots, v_n$ are the corresponding standard orthogonal eigenvectors, then

$$q\text{adj}(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A) = \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))v_iv_i^*. \quad (3.7)$$

**Proof.** According to (3.6), if $\lambda$ is not the eigenvalue of $A$, we have

$$q\text{adj}(\lambda E_n - A) = \det(\lambda E_n - A)(\lambda E_n - A)^{-1},$$

which leads to

$$q\text{adj}(\lambda E_n - A)v_j = \det(\lambda E_n - A)(\lambda - \lambda_j(A)^{-1})v_j$$

$$= \prod_{k=1; k \neq j}^{n} (\lambda - \lambda_k(A))v_j, \quad j = 1, 2, \cdots, n.$$ Then

$$q\text{adj}(\lambda E_n - A) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \prod_{k=1; k \neq j}^{n} (\lambda - \lambda_k(A))v_jv_j^*. \quad (3.8)$$

According to the definition (3.6) and (3.7), we can see that every element of matrix $q\text{adj}(\lambda(A)E_n - A)$ of order $n$ is a polynomial about $\lambda$, which means $q\text{adj}(\lambda(A)E_n - A)$ is a continuous function with respect to $\lambda$. By taking the limit $\lambda \to \lambda_i(A)$ on both sides of the equation (3.8), we get

$$q\text{adj}(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A) = \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))v_iv_i^*$$

$\square$
If $A$ is a $n \times n$ Hermitian matrix over complex field, then $q\text{adj}(A)$ is reduced to $	ext{adj}(A)$. Then we can get the following identity proposed by Peter B. Denton, Stephen J. Parker, Terence Tao, Xining Zhang [1].

**Corollary 3.10.** If $A$ is a $n \times n$ Hermitian matrix over complex field,

$$
\text{adj}(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A) = \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))v_i v_i^*.
$$

Through the equation (3.7), the corresponding elements of row $p$ and column $q$ of the left and right matrices are equal, we can get

$$
\left\{
\begin{array}{l}
|\left(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A\right)_{pp}\right|_{\text{row}} = \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))|v_{ip}|^2, \\
-|\left(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A\right)_{qp}\right|_{\text{row}} = \prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))v_{ip}v_{iq}, 
\end{array}
\right. \quad p \neq q. \tag{3.9}
$$

If $\lambda_i(A)$ is not equal to the other eigenvalues of $A$, we can calculate the normalized eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_i(A)$ through the formula. Noticing that one of elements of the eigenvectors is not zero at least, we assume $v_{im} \neq 0$. Since the right eigenvalue of the Hermitian matrix is a real number, it is still an eigenvector to multiply the right of the eigenvector by a quaternion:

$$
Av_i = v_i\lambda_i \iff Av_i q = v_i q \lambda_i, \quad q \in \mathbb{Q},
$$

then we can use this method to control $v_{im}$ to be a real number and calculate the other elements in the vector $v_i$ in combination with the formula (3.9):

$$
v_{ij} = \begin{cases} 
\sqrt{\frac{|(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A)_{mm}\right|_{\text{row}}}{\prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))}}, & j = m, \\
-\frac{v_{im}^{-1}|(\lambda_i(A)E_n - A)_{jm}\right|_{\text{row}}}{\prod_{k=1; k \neq i}^{n} (\lambda_i(A) - \lambda_k(A))}, & j \neq m.
\end{cases} \tag{3.10}
$$

We illustrate it the effectiveness of (3.7) and (3.10) through the following example.

**Example 3.3.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & i-j+k \\ -i+j-k & 2 \end{pmatrix}$.

In Example 3.1, we already know that

$$
\lambda_1 = \frac{5}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{13}}{2}, \lambda_2 = \frac{5}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{13}}{2}.
$$
By using Eq. (3.10), we get

\[
v_{12} = \sqrt{\frac{|(\lambda_1(A)E - A)_{22}|_{\text{row}}}{\lambda_1(A) - \lambda_2(A)}} = \sqrt{\frac{13 - \sqrt{13}}{26}},
\]

\[
v_{11} = -\frac{v_{12}^{-1}|(\lambda_1(A)E - A)_{12}|_{\text{row}}}{\lambda_1(A) - \lambda_2(A)} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{13 - \sqrt{13}}}(i - j + k).
\]

We can verify that \( v_1 = (v_{11}, v_{12})^T \) satisfy the equations \( Av_1 = v_1\lambda_1 \) and \( |v_{11}|^2 + |v_{12}|^2 = 1 \) by direct calculation, which show that \( v_1 \) is the unit eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue \( \lambda_1 \).

In fact, we give an algorithm and program to compute the right eigenvectors of the quaternion matrix. By using our program in next section, we see that the program result verifies the obtained identities (3.7) and (3.10). The following list is the input data of Example 3.3, and output result by running the designed program in Section 4.

```
1 Enter four parts of quaternion matrix B=qadj(a*I_n-A) to be studied:
2 B0=[1/2+sqrt(13)/2,0;0,-1/2+sqrt(13)/2];B1=[0,1;-1,0];
3 B2=[0,-1;1,0];B3=[0,1;-1,0];
4 The value of v11=0.4614i-0.4614j+0.4614k;
5 The value of v12=0.6011.
```

### 4 Algorithms and programs

In this section, we introduce a simple method to calculate the right eigenvalues and the elements of eigenvectors of Hermitian matrices, which are ultimately implemented by MATLAB programs.

For any \( n \times n \) quaternion Hermitian matrix \( A \), it can be uniquely expressed as \( A = A_0 + A_1i + A_2j + A_3k \), where \( A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \). In order to find the right eigenvalues of \( A \), we
introduce a mapping $\Phi : \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n} \to \mathbb{R}^{4n \times 4n}$, 

$$
\Phi(A) = \begin{pmatrix}
A_0 & A_1 & A_2 & A_3 \\
-A_1 & A_0 & -A_3 & A_2 \\
-A_2 & A_3 & A_0 & -A_1 \\
-A_3 & -A_2 & A_1 & A_0
\end{pmatrix}.
$$

Obviously, $\Phi$ is commutative with matrix multiplication and $\Phi$ is a linear mapping, i.e., for any $m \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $A, B \in \mathbb{Q}^{n \times n}$, we have

(i) $\Phi(mA) = m\Phi(A)$;

(ii) $\Phi(A + B) = \Phi(A) + \Phi(B)$;

(iii) $\Phi(AB) = \Phi(A)\Phi(B)$.

**Theorem 4.1.** The right eigenvalues of Hermitian matrix $A$ are the same as the eigenvalues of $\Phi(A)$, and the multiplicity of each eigenvalue of $\Phi(A)$ is 4 times of $A$.

**Proof.** There is an invertible matrix $U$, such that $U^{-1}(\lambda E - A)U$ is a diagonal matrix for any $\lambda$. By Theorem 2.4, we have 

$$
\det(\lambda E - A) = \det(U^{-1}(\lambda E - A)U).
$$

Then the characteristic polynomial of $\Phi(A)$ is 

$$
\det(\lambda E - \Phi(A)) = \det \Phi(\lambda E - A) \\
= \det \Phi(U\text{diag}(\lambda - \lambda_1, \lambda - \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda - \lambda_n)U^{-1}) \\
= \det(\Phi(U)\Phi(\text{diag}(\lambda - \lambda_1, \lambda - \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda - \lambda_n))\Phi(U^{-1})) \\
= \det \Phi(U^{-1}U) \det \Phi(\text{diag}(\lambda - \lambda_1, \lambda - \lambda_2, \cdots, \lambda - \lambda_n)) \\
= (\lambda - \lambda_1)^4(\lambda - \lambda_2)^4 \cdots (\lambda - \lambda_n)^4.
$$

Therefore, the eigenvalues of $A$ and $\Phi(A)$ are the same, and the multiplicity of eigenvalues in $\Phi(A)$ is 4 times that of $A$. 

Thus, the problem of calculating the right eigenvalues of quaternion matrix $A$ is transformed into the problem of calculating the eigenvalues of real matrix $\Phi(A)$. Now we give
a program to calculate the modules of the elements of eigenvalues and eigenvectors when \( A \) has no multiple eigenvalues. Further, by inputting matrix \( \text{qadj}(\lambda I_n - A) \), we can accurately calculate the eigenvectors. For convenience, we label the eigenvalues of \( A \) from small to large: 
\[ \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \cdots < \lambda_n \].

MATLAB code:

```matlab
% Please input four parts of quaternion matrix A to be studied: A0, A1, % A2, A3.
% Please input the label of the eigenvalue to be calculated: k.
[n, m] = size(A0);
mo = zeros(1, n);
A = [A0, A1, A2, A3; -A1, A0, -A3, A2; -A2, A3, A0, -A1; -A3, -A2, A1, A0];
[x, y] = eig(A);
z = sort(sum(y));
a = zeros(1, n);
for i = 1:n
    a(i) = z(4*i - 3);
end
% a is the right eigenvalue vector of matrix A.
M0 = zeros(n-1, n-1);
for p = 1:n
    M0(1:p-1, 1:p-1) = A0(1:p-1, 1:p-1);
    M0(1:p-1, p:n-1) = A0(1:p-1, p+1:n);
    M0(p:n-1, 1:p-1) = A0(p+1:n, 1:p-1);
    M0(p:n-1, p:n-1) = A0(p+1:n, p+1:n);
end
M1 = zeros(n-1, n-1);
for p = 1:n
    M1(1:p-1, 1:p-1) = A1(1:p-1, 1:p-1);
    M1(1:p-1, p:n-1) = A1(1:p-1, p+1:n);
    M1(p:n-1, 1:p-1) = A1(p+1:n, 1:p-1);
    M1(p:n-1, p:n-1) = A1(p+1:n, p+1:n);
end
M2 = zeros(n-1, n-1);
for p = 1:n
    M2(1:p-1, 1:p-1) = A2(1:p-1, 1:p-1);
    M2(1:p-1, p:n-1) = A2(1:p-1, p+1:n);
    M2(p:n-1, 1:p-1) = A2(p+1:n, 1:p-1);
    M2(p:n-1, p:n-1) = A2(p+1:n, p+1:n);
end
M3 = zeros(n-1, n-1);
for p = 1:n
    M3(1:p-1, 1:p-1) = A3(1:p-1, 1:p-1);
    M3(1:p-1, p:n-1) = A3(1:p-1, p+1:n);
    M3(p:n-1, 1:p-1) = A3(p+1:n, 1:p-1);
    M3(p:n-1, p:n-1) = A3(p+1:n, p+1:n);
```
M3(p:n-1,p:n-1)=A3(p+1:n,p+1:n);
M3(p:n-1,1:p-1)=A3(p+1:n,1:p-1);
M=[M0,M1,M2,M3;-M1,M0,-M3,M2;-M2,M3,M0,-M1;-M3,-M2,M1,M0];
[x1,y1]=eig(M);
z1=sort(sum(y1));
a1=zeros(1,n-1);
for i=1:n-1
  a1(i)=z1(4*i-3);
end
a2=zeros(1:n-1);
a2(1:k-1)=a(1:k-1);
a2(k:n-1)=a(k+1:n);
mo(p)=sqrt(prod(a(k)-a1)/prod(a(k)-a2));
end
% mo(p) is the module of the p-th element of the eigenvector
% corresponding to the k-th right eigenvalue.
% Further, we can calculate the eigenvector passes through qadj(a*I_n-A)
% Please input four parts of quaternion matrix B=qadj(a*I_n-A) to be
% studied: B0,B1,B2,B3.
for i=1:n
  if mo(i)~=0
    m=i;
  end
end
v=zeros(4,n);
v(1,m)=sqrt(B0(m,m)/prod(a(k)-a2));
for i=1:m-1
  v(1,i)=1/v(1,m)*B0(m,i)/prod(a(k)-a2);
v(2,i)=-1/v(1,m)*B1(m,i)/prod(a(k)-a2);
v(3,i)=-1/v(1,m)*B2(m,i)/prod(a(k)-a2);
v(4,i)=-1/v(1,m)*B3(m,i)/prod(a(k)-a2);
end
% Columns 1, 2, 3 and 4 in row x of matrix V represent the real part, i
% part, j part and k part of the x-th element of the eigenvector
5 Discussion and open problem

In this paper, we provide the eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for the right eigenvalues. But it is known that the left eigenvalues are quite different from the right ones. And it is more difficult for us to study the left eigenvalues for quaternion matrix. The eigenvector-eigenvalue identity for the left eigenvalues remains open.

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