

## The Construction of Maximum Independent Set of Matrices via Clifford Algebras

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### Abstract

In [1], [2] and [6] the maximum number of some special type  $n \times n$  matrices with elements in  $F$  whose nontrivial linear combinations with real coefficients are nonsingular is studied where  $F$  is the real field  $\mathbb{R}$ , the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$  or the skew field  $\mathbb{H}$  of quaternions. In this work we construct such matrices explicitly by using representations of Clifford algebras. At the end we give some analogues of the celebrated theorem of Radon-Hurwitz.

**Key Words:** Hurwitz Theorem, Clifford algebras, maximum independent set of matrices.

### 1. Introduction

We shall write  $F(n)$  for (resp.  $F_x(n)$ ,  $n \times n$  matrices with property  $x$ ) the maximum number of  $n \times n$  matrices with elements in  $F$  whose nontrivial linear combinations with real coefficients are non-singular and  $x$  will stand for hermitian (h), skew-hermitian (sk-h), symmetric (s), or skew-symmetric (sk-s). If  $n$  is a positive integer we write  $n = (2a + 1)2^b$  where  $b = c + 4d$  and  $a, b, c, d$  are non-negative integers with  $0 \leq c < 4$ , and Radon-Hurwitz function  $\rho$  of  $n$  as  $\rho(n) = 2^c + 8d$ .

In [1] and [2]  $F(n)$  and  $F_h(n)$  are calculated as follows: ( Note that  $\mathbb{R}_h(n) = \mathbb{R}_s(n)$  )

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{R}(n) &= \rho(n) \\ \mathbb{R}_s(n) &= \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1 \\ \mathbb{C}(n) &= 2b + 2 \\ \mathbb{C}_h(n) &= 2b + 1 \\ \mathbb{H}(n) &= \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4 \\ \mathbb{H}_h(n) &= \rho\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 5\end{aligned}$$

and in [6]  $\mathbb{R}_{sk-s}(n)$ ,  $F_s(n)$  and  $F_{sk-h}(n)$  are calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{R}_{sk-s}(n) &= \rho(n) - 1 \\ \mathbb{C}_s(n) &= \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 2 \\ \mathbb{C}_{sk-h}(n) &= 2b + 1 \\ \mathbb{H}_s(n) &= \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4 \\ \mathbb{H}_{sk-h}(n) &= \mathbb{H}(n) - 1 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 3\end{aligned}$$

The goal of this work is to construct the maximum number of matrices for each case.

## 2. Construction of Matrices

Most of our statements in this work are related to the Radon-Hurwitz Theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** (*Radon-Hurwitz*) *The maximum number of  $n \times n$  real orthogonal matrices  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $A_i^2 = -I$ ,  $A_i A_j + A_j A_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $\rho(n) - 1$ .*

There are various applications of this theorem; (see [5]). If a family of matrices  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}$  has the above properties then it is called a Radon-Hurwitz family. Such a family of matrices is given in [3] by using the representations of the real Clifford algebra  $Cl_{n,0}$  where  $Cl_{n,0}$  is the Clifford algebra on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with the quadratic form  $q : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2)$ ; (see [4]).

**2.1. Construction of Real Matrices**

1. Let  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}$  be a family of Radon-Hurwitz matrices, where  $k = \rho(n) - 1$ . Note that if a matrix  $A$  has the property  $A^2 = -I$  then  $A$  is orthogonal iff  $A$  is skew-symmetric. Consider the nontrivial linear combination  $A = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i A_i$  for some non-zero real numbers  $\lambda_i$ . We can calculate

$$A^2 = (-\lambda_1^2 - \lambda_2^2 - \dots - \lambda_k^2) I.$$

Since some  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ , the *determinat* of  $A^2$  is not equal to zero, so  $\det A$  is not *zero*.

2. Let  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}$  be a family of Radon-Hurwitz matrices, where  $k = \rho(n) - 1$  and consider the set of  $n \times n$  matrices  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k, I\}$  where  $I$  is the  $n \times n$  unit matrix. Then the non-trivial real linear combination of these matrices

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i A_i + \lambda I$$

is non-singular. Since  $A^t = -\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i A_i + \lambda I$ , and

$$AA^t = -(\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \dots + \lambda_k^2 + \lambda^2) I,$$

we get  $\det(AA^t) \neq 0$ , whence  $\det A \neq 0$ . Hence we obtain a collection of  $\rho(n) = \mathbb{R}(n)$   $n \times n$  real matrices.

3. The construction of  $n \times n$ ,  $\mathbb{R}_s(n) = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$  real symmetric matrices:

Such matrices can be obtained using by a real representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{0,k+2}$  where  $k = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) - 1$  and  $Cl_{0,k+2}$  is the Clifford algebra on  $\mathbb{R}^{k+2}$  with the quadratic form  $q : \mathbb{R}^{k+2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+2}) = -(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_{k+2}^2)$  (see [4]). Let  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k\}$  be a family of Radon-Hurwitz matrices of type  $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ . Then we can define the following map:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_k : Cl_{k,0} &\longrightarrow Mat\left(\frac{n}{2}, \mathbb{R}\right) \\ e_i &\longmapsto \psi_k(e_i) = A_i \end{aligned}$$

where  $Cl_{k,0}$  is the Clifford algebra over  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . This map is a real representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{k,0}$ . Also the map

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{0,2} : Cl_{0,2} &\longrightarrow Mat(2, \mathbb{R}) \\ \varepsilon_1 &\longmapsto \psi_{0,2}(\varepsilon_1) = \sigma_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 &\longmapsto \psi_{0,2}(\varepsilon_2) = \sigma_2\end{aligned}$$

is a representation of  $Cl_{0,2}$  where  $\sigma_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\sigma_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Moreover,  $\psi_{0,2}$  is an algebra isomorphism. By using the maps  $\psi_{k,0}$  and  $\psi_{0,2}$  we can define a new map  $\psi_{k,0} \otimes \psi_{0,2}$  which is called the tensor (or Kronecker) product of the maps  $\psi_{k,0}$  and  $\psi_{0,2}$  :

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{k,0} \otimes \psi_{0,2} : Cl_{k,0} \otimes Cl_{0,2} &\longrightarrow Mat\left(\frac{n}{2}, \mathbb{R}\right) \otimes Mat(2, \mathbb{R}) \cong Mat(n, \mathbb{R}) \\ (\psi_{k,0} \otimes \psi_{0,2})(u \otimes v) &= \psi_{k,0}(u) \otimes \psi_{0,2}(v),\end{aligned}$$

where  $Mat(n, \mathbb{R})$  is the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices. The map  $\psi_{k,0} \otimes \psi_{0,2}$  is an algebra homomorphism. Since  $Cl_{k,0} \otimes Cl_{0,2} \cong Cl_{0,k+2}$  we can get a real representation  $\psi_{0,k+2}$  of the Clifford algebra  $Cl_{0,k+2}$  which is defined on generators as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Cl_{0,k+2} & \longrightarrow & Cl_{k,0} \otimes Cl_{0,2} & \longrightarrow & Mat(n, \mathbb{R}) \\ \varepsilon_1 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 & \longmapsto & I \otimes \sigma_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes \varepsilon_2 & \longmapsto & I \otimes \sigma_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 & \longmapsto & e_1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 & \longmapsto & A_1 \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \varepsilon_{k+2} & \longmapsto & e_k \otimes \varepsilon_1 \varepsilon_2 & \longmapsto & A_k \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \end{array}$$

The image of the generators  $\varepsilon_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k+2$  of  $Cl_{0,k+2}$  under the homomorphism  $\psi_{0,k+2}$  are the matrices that we are looking for. Define

$$B_1 = I \otimes \sigma_1, \quad B_2 = I \otimes \sigma_2 \quad \text{and} \quad B_{j+2} = A_j \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2, \quad \text{for } j = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

Note that these matrices are symmetric and  $B_i^2 = I$ ,  $B_i B_j + B_j B_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ . Let us consider a non-trivial real linear combination of the members of the family  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{k+2}\}$ ,

$$B = \sum_{i=1}^{k+2} \lambda_i B_i.$$

We calculate

$$B^2 = (\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \cdots + \lambda_{k+2}^2) I.$$

Since some  $\lambda_i \neq 0$ , the *determinant* of  $B^2$  is not equal to zero, so  $\det B \neq 0$ .

## 2.2. The construction of complex matrices

In this case, before giving  $\mathbb{C}(n) = 2b + 2$  complex matrices of type  $n \times n$ , we obtain  $\mathbb{C}_{sk-h}(n) = 2b + 1$  complex skew-hermitian matrices of type  $n \times n$  by using a skew-hermitian representation of the complex Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_m$ , where  $n = (2a + 1)2^b$ .  $\mathbb{C}l_m$  is the complex Clifford algebra over the complex vector space  $\mathbb{C}^m$  with the quadratic form  $Q : \mathbb{C}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ ,  $Q(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_m) = (z_1^2 + z_2^2 + \cdots + z_m^2)$ ; (see [4]).

First, irreducible skew-hermitian representation of complex Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_m$  will be obtained for all  $m$ .

To do this we use following representations in dimension 1 and 2. The map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_1 : \mathbb{C}l_1 &\longrightarrow \text{Mat}(1, \mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C} \\ e_1 &\longmapsto i \end{aligned}$$

is a skew-hermitian irreducible representation of complex Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_1$ , where  $\text{Mat}(1, \mathbb{C})$  is the space of  $1 \times 1$  matrices with complex entries. The map

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_2 : \mathbb{C}l_2 &\longrightarrow \text{Mat}(2, \mathbb{C}) \\ e_1 &\longmapsto i\sigma_2 \\ e_2 &\longmapsto \sigma_1\sigma_2 \end{aligned}$$

is a skew-hermitian irreducible representation of complex Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_2$  where  $\text{Mat}(2, \mathbb{C})$  is the space of  $2 \times 2$  matrices with complex entries where  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  are as in 2.1. It is known that there is a periodicity relation  $\mathbb{C}l_{m+2} \cong \mathbb{C}l_m \otimes \mathbb{C}l_2$  between complex Clifford algebras and its also known that the complex tensor product of irreducible complex representations of  $\mathbb{C}l_m$  and  $\mathbb{C}l_2$  gives an irreducible complex representation of  $\mathbb{C}l_{m+2} \cong \mathbb{C}l_m \otimes \mathbb{C}l_2$  (see [4]). From these datum, we can get skew-hermitian irreducible representation of  $\mathbb{C}l_m$  for all  $m \geq 3$  recursively.

In particular, we obtain such a representation for  $\mathbb{C}l_3$  :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{C}l_3 & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{C}l_1 \otimes \mathbb{C}l_2 & \longrightarrow & \text{Mat}(1, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \text{Mat}(2, \mathbb{C}) \\ e_1 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes e_1 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes i\sigma_1 \\ e_2 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes e_2 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes i\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ e_3 & \longmapsto & ie_1 \otimes e_1e_2 & \longmapsto & i\phi_1(e_1) \otimes \sigma_2 \end{array}$$

In generally, let  $\phi_m : \mathbb{C}l_m \longrightarrow \text{Mat}(\mathbb{C}, 2^p)$  be irreducible complex representation of  $\mathbb{C}l_m$  such that  $(\rho_m(e_i))^* = -\rho_m(e_i)$ , where  $p = \frac{m}{2}$  if  $m$  is even and  $p = \frac{m-1}{2}$  if  $m$  is odd. The irreducible skew-hermitian representation of Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_{m+2}$  is obtained as the map

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \mathbb{C}l_{m+2} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{C}l_m \otimes \mathbb{C}l_2 & \longrightarrow & \text{Mat}(2^p, \mathbb{C}) \otimes \text{Mat}(2, \mathbb{C}) \\ e_1 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes e_1 & \longmapsto & I \otimes i\sigma_1 \\ e_2 & \longmapsto & 1 \otimes e_2 & \longmapsto & I \otimes i\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ e_3 & \longmapsto & ie_1 \otimes e_1e_2 & \longmapsto & i\phi_m(e_1) \otimes \sigma_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ e_{m+2} & \longmapsto & ie_m \otimes e_1e_2 & \longmapsto & i\phi_m(e_m) \otimes \sigma_2. \end{array}$$

Let us define

$$C_1 = I \otimes i\sigma_1, C_2 = I \otimes i\sigma_1\sigma_2, C_3 = i\phi_m(e_1) \otimes \sigma_2, \dots, C_{m+2} = i\phi_m(e_m) \otimes \sigma_2.$$

These matrices satisfy

$$C_i^* = -C_i, C_i^2 = -I, C_i C_j + C_j C_i = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

1. Now we can find  $\mathbb{C}_{sk-h}(n) = 2b+1, n \times n$  complex skew-hermitian matrices, where  $n = (2a+1)2^b$  is as follows:

Let  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_{2b+1}\}$  be a family of  $2^b \times 2^b$  type matrices which are obtained by irreducible, skew-hermitian representation of Clifford algebra  $\mathbb{C}l_{2b+1}$  as above. Let  $I$  be the unit matrix of type  $(2a+1) \times (2a+1)$ , then

$$D_i = I \otimes C_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq 2b+1$$

are  $n \times n$  matrices and they also satisfy

$$D_i^* = -D_i, D_i^2 = -I, D_i D_j + D_j D_i = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

The non-trivial linear combinations with real coefficients of the family of matrices  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{2b+1}\}$  are non-singular: If

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^{2b+1} \beta_i D_i$$

then  $D^2 = -(\beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2 + \dots + \beta_{2b+1}^2) I$ . Since  $\det(D^2) \neq 0$ , we get  $\det D \neq 0$ .

2. We can define a new family of matrices  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{2b+1}\}$  using the above family of the matrices by  $E_1 = iD_1, E_2 = iD_2, \dots, E_{2b+1} = iD_{2b+1}$ . These matrices satisfy

$$E_i^* = E_i, E_i^2 = I, E_i E_j + E_j E_i = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

Then non-trivial linear combinations  $E = \sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_i E_i = i \sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_i D_i$  with real coefficients of the family of matrices  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{2b+1}\}$  are non-singular. Therefore we obtained  $\mathbb{C}_h(n) = 2b + 1, n \times n$  hermitian matrices.

3. The construction of  $\mathbb{C}(n) = 2b + 2, n \times n$  type complex matrices:

Consider the family  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{2b+1}, iI\}$  where  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_{2b+1}$  as above and  $iI$  is  $i$  times the  $n \times n$  unit matrix. Let

$$E = \sum_{j=1}^{2b+1} \lambda_j E_j + \lambda I$$

be a nontrivial linear combination with real coefficients. Then we can write

$$EE^* = (\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \dots + \lambda_{2b+1}^2 + \lambda^2) I.$$

Hence  $E$  is non-singular.

4. In order to find  $\mathbb{C}_s(n) = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 2$  complex symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, we must add the symmetric matrix  $iI$  to the  $\rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$  real symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, as in 1.2. Hence we obtain the family of matrices

$$\left\{ B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{\rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)+1}, iI \right\}.$$

Let  $B = \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j B_j + \lambda iI$ , where  $m = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$ . Since

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j B_j + \lambda iI \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j B_j - \lambda iI \right) = (\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \cdots + \lambda_m^2 + \lambda^2) I,$$

the nontrivial linear combination  $B$  with real coefficients is non-singular.

### 2.3. Construction of Quaternionic matrices

1.  $\mathbb{H}(n) = \mathbb{H}_s(n) = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4$ ,  $n \times n$  quaternionic symmetric matrices can be found as follows. We know that there are  $\mathbb{R}_s(n) = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$ ,  $n \times n$  real symmetric matrices given 2.1. Let  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{\rho(\frac{n}{2})+1}\}$  be real symmetric matrices. Let us add the symmetric matrices  $iI, jI, kI$  to this family where  $I$  is a  $n \times n$  unit matrix. Then the family

$$\left\{ B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{\rho(\frac{n}{2})+1}, iI, jI, kI \right\}$$

has  $\rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4$  members and they are  $n \times n$  symmetric quaternionic matrices. Take the non-trivial linear combination with real coefficient of these matrices:

$$B = \sum_{j=1}^q \lambda_j B_j + \alpha_1 iI + \alpha_2 jI + \alpha_3 kI,$$

where  $q = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$ . Since

$$BB^* = (\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \cdots + \lambda_q^2 + \alpha_1^2 + \alpha_2^2 + \alpha_3^2) I,$$

$\det(BB^*) \neq 0$ . Hence  $B$  is non-singular.

2.  $\mathbb{H}_h(n) = \mathbb{H}\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 1 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 5$  hermitian matrices of type  $n \times n$  are obtained by using representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{1,k}$ .  $Cl_{1,k}$  is the real Clifford algebra over the real vector space  $\mathbb{R}^{1+k}$  with the quadratic form  $q : \mathbb{R}^{1+k} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}) = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \cdots + x_k^2 - x_{k+1}^2)$ ; (see [4]).



Let  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{k-1}\}$  be the family of matrices of type  $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$  as in 2.1. Then we can define the following map:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{0,k-1} : Cl_{0,k-1} &\longrightarrow Mat\left(\frac{n}{2}, \mathbb{R}\right) \\ \varepsilon_i &\longmapsto \psi_k(\varepsilon_i) = B_i, \end{aligned}$$

where  $k-1 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 1$ . This map is a real representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{0,k-1}$ . Also the map

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{1,1} : Cl_{1,1} &\longrightarrow Mat(2, \mathbb{R}) \\ \varepsilon_1 &\longmapsto \psi_{1,1}(e_1) = \sigma_1 \\ e_1 &\longmapsto \psi_{1,1}(\varepsilon_1) = \sigma_1\sigma_2 \end{aligned}$$

is a representation of the Clifford algebra  $Cl_{1,1}$  where  $\sigma_1$  and  $\sigma_2$  as in 2.1. Moreover,  $\psi_{1,1}$  is an algebra isomorphism. By using the maps  $\psi_{0,k-1}$  and  $\psi_{1,1}$  we consider the tensor product map  $\psi_{0,k-1} \otimes \psi_{1,1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{0,k-1} \otimes \psi_{1,1} : Cl_{0,k-1} \otimes Cl_{1,1} &\longrightarrow Mat\left(\frac{n}{2}, \mathbb{R}\right) \otimes Mat(2, \mathbb{R}) \cong Mat(n, \mathbb{R}) \\ (\psi_{0,k-1} \otimes \psi_{1,1})(u \otimes v) &= \psi_{0,k-1}(u) \otimes \psi_{1,1}(v), \end{aligned}$$

where  $Mat(n, \mathbb{R})$  is the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices. The map  $\psi_{0,k-1} \otimes \psi_{1,1}$  is an algebra homomorphism. It is known that  $Cl_{1,k} \cong Cl_{0,k-1} \otimes Cl_{1,1}$ . We can get a real representation  $\psi_{1,k}$  of the Clifford algebra  $Cl_{1,k}$  which is defined on generators as follows:

$$\begin{array}{lll} Cl_{1,k} & \longrightarrow & Cl_{0,k-1} \otimes Cl_{1,1} & \longrightarrow & Mat(n, \mathbb{R}) \\ \varepsilon_1 & \longrightarrow & 1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes \sigma_1 \\ \varepsilon_2 & \longrightarrow & \varepsilon_1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & B_1 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ \varepsilon_3 & \longrightarrow & \varepsilon_2 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & B_2 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ \varepsilon_4 & \longrightarrow & \varepsilon_3 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & B_3 \otimes \sigma_2 \\ \vdots & \longrightarrow & \vdots & \longrightarrow & \vdots \\ \varepsilon_k & \longrightarrow & \varepsilon_{k-1} \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & B_{k-1} \otimes \sigma_2 \\ e_1 & \longrightarrow & 1 \otimes e_1 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes \sigma_1\sigma_2. \end{array}$$

The image of the generators  $\varepsilon_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $e_1$  of  $Cl_{1,k}$  under the above homomorphism are the matrices we are looking for. Note that  $\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2, \dots, \varepsilon_k, e_1$

is a  $q$ -orthogonal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^{1+k}$  such that  $q(\varepsilon_j) = -1$  for all  $j$  and  $q(e_1) = 1$  (see [4] on page 26). Define

$$F_1 = I \otimes \sigma_1, F_2 = B_1 \otimes \sigma_2, F_3 = B_2 \otimes \sigma_2, \dots, F_k = B_{k-1} \otimes \sigma_2, F_{k+1} = I \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2.$$

Consider the family

$$\{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k, iF_{k+1}, jF_{k+1}, kF_{k+1}\}.$$

Note that this family has  $k + 3 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 5$  members. These matrices satisfy

$$F_i^2 = I \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k, F_{k+1}^2 = -I, F_i F_j + F_j F_i = 0, \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

Elements of this family are quaternionic hermitian and their nontrivial linear combination with real coefficients are non-singular. Let

$$F = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j F_j + \beta_1 i F_{k+1} + \beta_2 j F_{k+1} + \beta_3 k F_{k+1}$$

be a non-trivial linear combination with real coefficients. Since

$$F^2 = \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j^2 + \beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2 + \beta_3^2 \right) I$$

$F^2$  is non-singular, so is  $F$ .

3.  $\mathbb{H}_{sk-h}(n) = \mathbb{H}(n) - 1 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 3$  skew-hermitian matrices of type  $n \times n$  are obtained as follows. Representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{k,1}$  will be used to obtain skew-hermitian matrices of type  $n \times n$ , where  $k = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ .  $Cl_{k,1}$  is the real Clifford algebra over the real vector space  $\mathbb{R}^{k+1}$  with the quadratic form  $q : \mathbb{R}^{k+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $q(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}) = -(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_k^2 - x_{k+1}^2)$ ; (see [4]).

Let  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{k-1}\}$  be the Radon-Hutwitz family of matrices of type  $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \times \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ . Then we can define following map

$$\begin{aligned} \psi_{k-1,0} : Cl_{k-1,0} &\longrightarrow Mat\left(\frac{n}{2}, \mathbb{R}\right) \\ e_i &\longmapsto \psi_k(e_i) = A_i. \end{aligned}$$

This map is a real representation of Clifford algebra  $Cl_{k-1,0}$ . Also consider the map  $\psi_{1,1} : Cl_{1,1} \longrightarrow Mat(2, \mathbb{R})$ . Consider the tensor product map  $\psi_{k-1,0} \otimes \psi_{1,1}$  of  $\psi_{k-1,0}$  and  $\psi_{1,1}$ .

The map  $\psi_{k-1,0} \otimes \psi_{1,1}$  is an algebra homomorphism. Since  $Cl_{k,1} \cong Cl_{k-1,0} \otimes Cl_{1,1}$  we can get a real representation  $\psi_{k,1}$  of the Clifford algebra  $Cl_{k,1}$  which is defined on generators as follows:

$$\begin{array}{llll}
 Cl_{k,1} & \longrightarrow & Cl_{k-1,0} \otimes Cl_{1,1} & \longrightarrow & Mat(n, \mathbb{R}) \\
 e_1 & \longrightarrow & 1 \otimes e_1 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \\
 e_2 & \longrightarrow & e_1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & A_1 \otimes \sigma_2 \\
 e_3 & \longrightarrow & e_2 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & A_2 \otimes \sigma_2 \\
 e_4 & \longrightarrow & e_3 \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & A_3 \otimes \sigma_2 \\
 \vdots & \longrightarrow & \vdots & \longrightarrow & \vdots \\
 e_k & \longrightarrow & e_{k-1} \otimes \varepsilon_1 e_1 & \longrightarrow & A_{k-1} \otimes \sigma_2 \\
 \varepsilon_1 & \longrightarrow & 1 \otimes \varepsilon_1 & \longrightarrow & I \otimes \sigma_1.
 \end{array}$$

The image of the generators  $e_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $\varepsilon_1$  of  $Cl_{k,1}$  under the above homomorphism are the matrices we are looking for. Define

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_1 &= I \otimes \sigma_1 \sigma_2, \quad G_2 = A_1 \otimes \sigma_2, \\
 G_3 &= A_2 \otimes \sigma_2, \quad \dots, \quad G_k = A_{k-1} \otimes \sigma_2, \quad G_{k+1} = I \otimes \sigma_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us consider the family

$$\{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k, iG_{k+1}, jG_{k+1}, kG_{k+1}\}.$$

Note that this family has  $k+3 = \rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 3$  members. These matrices satisfy

$$G_i^2 = -I \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq k, \quad G_{k+1}^2 = I, \quad G_i G_j + G_j G_i = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

Elements of this family are quaternionic skew-hermitian and nontrivial linear combination with real coefficients are non-singular. Let

$$G = \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j G_j + \beta_1 i G_{k+1} + \beta_2 j G_{k+1} + \beta_3 k G_{k+1}$$

be a non-trivial linear combination with real coefficients. Since

$$G^2 = - \left( \sum_{j=1}^k \lambda_j^2 + \beta_1^2 + \beta_2^2 + \beta_3^2 \right) I,$$

$G^2$  is non-singular, so is  $G$ .

### 3. Some Analogues of Radon-Hurwitz Theorem:

As a result of the above calculations we can express some analogues of Radon-Hurwitz theorem as follows:

1. The maximum number of  $n \times n$  real orthogonal matrices  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $B_i^2 = I$ ,  $B_i B_j + B_j B_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $\rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 1$ .
2. The maximum number of  $n \times n$  complex unitary matrices  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $D_i^2 = -I$ ,  $D_i D_j + D_j D_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $2b + 1$ .
3. The maximum number of  $n \times n$  complex unitary matrices  $\{E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $E_i^2 = I$ ,  $E_i E_j + E_j E_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $2b + 1$ .
4. The maximum number of  $n \times n$  quaternionic unitary matrices  $\{Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $Q_i^2 = I$ ,  $Q_i Q_j + Q_j Q_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $\rho\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) + 4$ .
5. The maximum number of  $n \times n$  quaternionic unitary matrices  $\{Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_k\}$  satisfying the relations  $Q_i^2 = -I$ ,  $Q_i Q_j + Q_j Q_i = 0$  for  $i \neq j$  is  $\rho\left(\frac{n}{4}\right) + 5$ .

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