

# Clifford involutions following Hitzer and Sangwine

Robin K. S. Hankin

02/09/2020

## Clifford inverses

Hitzer and Sangwine set up a number of involutions which I reproduce for convenience below. Given  $M \in Cl(p, q)$  and

$$M = \langle M \rangle_0 + \langle M \rangle_1 + \langle M \rangle_2 + \cdots + \langle M \rangle_n$$

we have a number of involutions, documented at `involutions.Rd`:

- The main grade involution  $\widehat{M} = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \langle M \rangle_k$  `gradeinv(M)`
- Reversion  $\widetilde{M} = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{k(k-1)/2} \langle M \rangle_k$  `rev(M)`
- Clifford conjugation  $\overline{M} = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{k(k+1)/2} \langle M \rangle_k$  `cliffconj(M)`
- Grade specific maps  $m_{\bar{j}, \bar{k}}(M) = M - 2(\langle M \rangle_j + \langle M \rangle_k)$  `neg(M)`
- The generalised grade specific map  $m_A(M) = M - \sum_{i \in A} \langle M \rangle_i$  `neg(M)`

H&S assert that

$$\overline{M} = \widehat{\widetilde{M}} = \widetilde{\widehat{M}} = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{k(k+1)/2} \langle M \rangle_k$$

which we may verify numerically:

```
library(clifford)
```

```
(M <- rcliff())
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to
```

```
## + 3 + 2e_1 - 3e_12 + 1e_25 + 4e_2345 + 3e_256 - 2e_1256 - 1e_456
```

```
a1 <- cliffconj(M)
```

```
a2 <- gradeinv(rev(M))
```

```
a3 <- rev(gradeinv(M))
```

```
is.zero(a2-a1) & is.zero(a3-a1)
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

## $p + q = 3$ , three-dimensional vector spaces.

We now consider the case  $p + q = 3$ . If  $x \in Cl(p, q)$  with  $p + q = 3$  then equation 6.2 asserts that  $x\bar{x} = r_0 + r_3e_1e_2e_3$  for some  $r_0, r_3 \in \mathbb{R}$ :

```
(x <- rcliff(d=3,g=3))
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 3 - 2e_1 + 3e_12 - 1e_13 + 1e_123
```

```
x*cliffconj(x)
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 14 + 6e_123
```

and equation 6.3 asserts that  $x\bar{x}(x\bar{x})^\sim \in \mathbb{R}$ :

```
f <- function(x){  
  jj <- x*cliffconj(x)  
  is.real(jj*rev(jj))  
}
```

```
signature(0,3)  
f(rcliff(d=3,g=3))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
signature(1,2)  
f(rcliff(d=3,g=3))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
signature(2,1)  
f(rcliff(d=3,g=3))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
signature(3,0)  
f(rcliff(d=3,g=3))
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

Thus equation 6.5, which asserts that the right inverse  $x_r^{-1}$  is

$$x_r^{-1} = \frac{\bar{x}\hat{x}\tilde{x}}{x\bar{x}\hat{x}\tilde{x}}, \quad xx_r^{-1} = 1$$

```
RI3 <- function(x){ # right inverse  
  jj <- cliffconj(x)*gradeinv(x)*rev(x)  
  return(jj/drop(x*jj))  
}
```

```
a <- 5+rcliff(d=3,g=3)  
a
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 9 - 2e_1 + 3e_12 + 5e_123
```

```
RI3(a)
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 0.08451062 + 0.01032062e_1 - 0.01548092e_12 - 0.02284071e_3 - 0.01522714e_23
```

```
## - 0.04272058e_123
```

```
zap(a*RI3(a))
```

```
## [1] 1
```

```
zap(RI3(a)*a)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

Now equations 7.7 and 7.8, which assert that if  $x\bar{x}m_{\bar{3},\bar{4}}(x\bar{x})$  is nonzero, we have

$$x_r^{-1} = \frac{\bar{x}m_{\bar{3},\bar{4}}(x\bar{x})}{x\bar{x}m_{\bar{3},\bar{4}}(x\bar{x})}, \quad xx_r^{-1} = 1$$

and

$$x_l^{-1} = \frac{\bar{x}m_{\bar{3},\bar{4}}(x\bar{x})}{\bar{x}m_{\bar{3},\bar{4}}(x\bar{x})x}, \quad x_l^{-1}x = 1$$

Numerical verification:

```
f77 <- function(x){  
  jj <- cliffconj(x)*neg(x*cliffconj(x),3:4)  
  return(jj/drop(x*jj))  
}
```

```
f78 <- function(x){  
  jj <- neg(cliffconj(x)*x,3:4)*cliffconj(x)  
  return(jj/drop(jj*x))  
}
```

```
a <- 3 + rcliff(d=4)  
a
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 7 + 3e_2 - 1e_14 + 2e_124 + 4e_134 + 1e_234 + 5e_1234
```

```
f77(a)
```

```
## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to  
## + 0.175 - 0.075e_2 - 0.01625e_14 - 0.04625e_124 + 0.02625e_34 - 0.1e_134 -  
## 0.03625e_234 - 0.125e_1234
```

```
zap(a*f77(a))
```

```
## [1] 1
```

```
zap(f77(a)*a)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

Try the different signatures:

```
set.seed(0)  
sigs <- 0:4  
left <- rep(NA,5)  
right <- rep(NA,5)  
diff <- rep(NA,5)
```

```

for(i in seq_along(sigs)){
  signature(sigs[i])
  a <- sample(1:9,1) + rcliff(d=4)
  left[i] <- Mod(a*f77(a) -1)
  right[i] <- Mod(f77(a)*a -1)
  diff[i] <- Mod(f77(a)-f78(a))
}
left

## [1] 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 4.336809e-18 2.775558e-17 3.156220e-17
right

## [1] 0.000000e+00 0.000000e+00 4.336809e-18 2.775558e-17 3.151450e-17
diff

## [1] 0 0 0 0 0

```

Just to be explicit, the following DOES NOT WORK:

```

a <- rcliff()
a*f77(a) # (denominator not real)

```

## The case $p + q \leq 5$

### Right inverse

Equation 8.21 asserts that, if  $p + q \leq 5$  then  $z = x\bar{x}\hat{x}m_{\bar{1},4}(x\bar{x}\hat{x}) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Equation 8.22 asserts that, if  $z$  is nonzero, then

$$x_r^{-1} = \frac{\bar{x}\hat{x}m_{\bar{1},4}(x\bar{x}\hat{x})}{x\bar{x}\hat{x}m_{\bar{1},4}(x\bar{x}\hat{x})}, xx_r^{-1} = 1.$$

```

f822 <- function(x){
  jj <- cliffconj(x)*gradeinv(x)*rev(x)
  jj <- jj*neg(x*jj,c(1L,4L))
  jj/drop(zap(x*jj))
}

a <- 7+clifford(list(1,3,5,1:2,c(1,5),c(3,4),1:3,2:4,c(2,3,5),1:4,2:5,c(1,2,3,5),1:5),1:13))
a

## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to
## + 7 + 1e_1 + 4e_12 + 2e_3 + 7e_123 + 6e_34 + 8e_234 + 10e_1234 + 3e_5 + 5e_15 +
## 9e_235 + 12e_1235 + 11e_2345 + 13e_12345

f822(a)

## Element of a Clifford algebra, equal to
## + 0.04709949 + 0.002540291e_1 - 0.05463707e_2 - 0.05130554e_12 - 0.0388956e_3 -
## 0.01465873e_13 + 0.003414817e_23 - 0.01070254e_123 + 0.00466414e_4 +
## 0.006829634e_14 - 0.02798484e_24 + 0.001332612e_124 - 0.04938991e_34 +
## 0.006829634e_134 - 0.01499188e_234 + 0.004914005e_1234 - 0.0588067e_5 -
## 0.01823902e_15 - 0.09401385e_25 - 0.05101002e_125 - 0.02640802e_35 +
## 0.05150748e_135 - 0.09563797e_235 - 0.07498127e_1235 + 0.02165381e_45 -
## 0.01360835e_145 + 0.04395504e_245 + 0.07644131e_1245 - 0.04065396e_345 -
## 0.06661237e_1345 + 0.01847141e_2345 - 0.02107641e_12345

```

```
zap(a*f822(a))
```

```
## [1] 1
```

```
zap(f822(a)*a)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

And a similar set of verifications:

```
sigs <- 0:6
diff1 <- rep(NA,5)
diffr <- rep(NA,5)
for(i in seq_along(sigs)){
  signature(sigs[i])
  a <- sample(1:9,1) + rcliff(d=5)
  diff1[i] <- Mod(a*f822(a)-1)
  diffr[i] <- Mod(f822(a)*a-1)
}
diff1
```

```
## [1] 0.000000e+00 3.469447e-18 3.469447e-18 3.078242e-16 3.974751e-18
```

```
## [6] 4.958112e-17 7.933703e-17
```

```
diffr
```

```
## [1] 0.000000e+00 3.469447e-18 3.469447e-18 3.078242e-16 3.974751e-18
```

```
## [6] 4.958112e-17 8.283200e-17
```

## Left inverse

Similarly, equation 8.23 asserts that, if  $p + q \leq 5$  then  $z' = m_{\bar{1},\bar{4}}(\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x})\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}$ . And if  $z' \neq 0$  equation 8.24 asserts that

$$x_l^{-1} = \frac{m_{\bar{1},\bar{4}}(\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x})\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x}}{m_{\bar{1},\bar{4}}(\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x})\tilde{x}\hat{x}\bar{x}}, \quad x_l^{-1}x = 1.$$

The R idiom would be

```
f824 <- function(x){ # left inverse
  jj <- rev(x)*gradeinv(x)*cliffconj(x)
  jj <- neg(jj*x,c(1L,4L))*jj
  jj/drop(zap(jj*x))
}
```

Check:

```
zap(f824(x)*x)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

```
zap(f822(x)*x)
```

```
## [1] 1
```

It turns out that the left and right inverses coincide:

```
signature(0,5)
Mod(f822(x) - f824(x))
```

```
## [1] 0
signature(1,4)
Mod(f822(x) - f824(x))

## [1] 0
signature(2,3)
Mod(f822(x) - f824(x))

## [1] 0
signature(3,2)
Mod(f822(x) - f824(x))

## [1] 0
signature(4,1)
Mod(f822(x) - f824(x))

## [1] 0
```

## Cartan isomorphism

We will carry out Cartan's isomorphism from  $Cl(p, q)$  to  $Cl(p-4, q+4)$  numerically. Here we specify  $p+q = 7$  by calling `rcliff()` with argument `d=7`, and force  $p = 4$  by executing `signature(4)`:

```
a <- rcliff(d=7) # Cl(4,3)
b <- rcliff(d=7) # Cl(4,3)
signature(4,3) # e1^2 = e2^2 = e3^2 = e4^2 = +1; e5^2 = ... = -1
ab <- a*b      # multiplication in Cl(4,3)

signature(0,7) # e1^2 = ... = -1
cartan(a)*cartan(b) == cartan(ab) # multiplication in Cl(0,7)
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

and again using `cartan_inverse()`:

```
cartan_inverse(cartan(a) * cartan(b)) == ab # precalculated product!
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

Now try mapping  $Cl(5, 2) \rightarrow Cl(1, 7)$ :

```
signature(5,2); ab_sig5 <- a*b

signature(1,7)
cartan(a,2) * cartan(b,2) == cartan(ab_sig5,2)
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```

```
cartan_inverse(cartan(a,2) * cartan(b,2),2) == ab_sig5
```

```
## [1] TRUE
```