

**Solution** (#561) Define the complex  $2 \times 2$  matrices  $\mathcal{I}, \mathcal{J}, \mathcal{K}$  as

$$\mathcal{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathcal{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathcal{K} = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = -I_2; \\ \mathcal{J}^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i^2 & 0 \\ 0 & i^2 \end{pmatrix} = -I_2; \\ \mathcal{K}^2 &= \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i^2 & 0 \\ 0 & i^2 \end{pmatrix} = -I_2. \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}\mathcal{J} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{K}; & \mathcal{J}\mathcal{I} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix} = -\mathcal{K}; \\ \mathcal{J}\mathcal{K} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i^2 \\ i^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{I}; & \mathcal{K}\mathcal{J} &= \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i^2 \\ -i^2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -\mathcal{I}; \\ \mathcal{K}\mathcal{I} &= \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{J}; & \mathcal{I}\mathcal{K} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ -i & 0 \end{pmatrix} = -\mathcal{J}. \end{aligned}$$