

The exact synthesis problem is an important problem in the theory of quantum computing, where one breaks down a given operator into simpler ones to maximize efficiency and reduce cost. Viewing operators as matrices, the problem becomes a matrix factorization problem. In this talk, I will introduce and compare two methods for the exact synthesis of 2×2 unitary matrices, focusing on the case of matrices with entries in the ring $\mathbb{Z}[1/2, \omega]$, where ω is an eighth root of unity. The first method works by considering the columns of the matrix one by one, while the second method considers the matrix globally by interpreting it as a quaternion. Afterwards, I will discuss possible extensions of both methods, and some of the difficulties one might face in generalizing them.