

SERIES ON

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## BLOCH-MESSIAH DECOMPOSITIONS OF SYMMETRIC RAY TRANSFER MATRICES IN $\mathbb{R}^4$

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Here we present a plethora of explicitly parameterized real symmetric symplectic matrices in dimension four. It turns out that structurally these matrices depend on a set of six real parameters and a constructive formula for building them by these parameters is derived.

On the other side, assuming the possibility of Bloch-Messiah decomposition, makes clear the fact that the set of these matrices splits naturally as a product of rotational and squeezing transformations.

This possibility is proved by presenting an algorithmic procedure for performing the factorization of an arbitrary real symmetric symplectic matrix and this is illustrated via numerous explicit examples.

MSC:15A23, 15A90, 17B81, 22E70, 81R0

*Keywords*: Boost matrices, eigenvalues, group factorization, Lorentz group, orthosymplectic matrices, squeezing matrices

## Contents

1	Introduction	38
2	Some Fundamental Facts about Symplectic Groups and Algebras	39
3	Parameterization of Real Symmetric Four-Dimensional Symplectic Matrices	40
4	Factorization of Symmetrical Ray Transfer Matrices	42
5	Examples	43
	5.1 One-Parameter Transfer Matrices	43
	5.2 Two-Parametric Transfer Matrices	49
	5.3 Three-Parametric Transfer Matrices	53
6	Conscluding Remarks	55
Re	eferences	57
do	bi: 10.7546/giq-31-2025-37-58	37