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*"The benefits of changing identity (in Lagrangian subspaces and doubling algorithms)"*

**Abstract:**

We prove that every Lagrangian subspace is spanned by some row permutation of  $[I; X]$ , where  $I$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix and  $X$  is symmetric/Hermitian (up to some sign changes) with all its entries bounded in modulus by  $\sqrt{2}$ . With respect to the usual representation as span of  $[I; X]$ , allowing the row permutation lets us obtain the entrywise bound on  $X$ , which ensures that the basis is computationally tame.

Small modifications of this result can be adapted to provide representations of symplectic and Hamiltonian pencils, and can be used to implement a pencil arithmetic primitive that is used in the context of doubling algorithms for algebraic Riccati equations. In particular, we obtain for the first time a doubling variant that has the potential to be *structure-preserving* and *computationally stable* at the same time. This is joint work with Volker Mehrmann.