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$GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ is path-connected

Proposition: The open set $GL(n, \mathbb{C}) \subset \mathbb{C}^{n^2}$ is path-connected.

💡 Pick $A \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$. Let

$$P(t) := \det(A + t(I - A))$$

- $P(0) = \det A \neq 0$ and $P(1) = \det I = 1 \neq 0$.
- As $P(t)$ is a polynomial the zero set is finite, so $\{P \neq 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}$ is path-connected. So we may pick a polygonal path

$$\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \{P \neq 0\} \subset \mathbb{C}$$

such that

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(0) &= 0 \in \{P \neq 0\} \\ \gamma(1) &= 1 \in \{P \neq 0\} \end{aligned}$$

- Thus $P(\gamma(t)) \neq 0$ for all t by construction.
- Finally, we consider the path

$$\Gamma(t) := A + \gamma(t)(I - A)$$

where $\det \Gamma(t) = P(\gamma(t)) \neq 0$ so

$$\Gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow GL(n, \mathbb{C})$$

such that

$$\Gamma(0) = A, \Gamma(1) = I$$

- If $B_1, B_2 \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ we consider the path

$$B_2 \Gamma(t)$$

for Γ as above for $A := B_2^{-1} B_1$.

Current note has 0 direct children and 0 total descendants.

- [squishy](#)
 - GL
 - $\mathbb{C}^n$
 - $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ [is path-connected](#)

And it has 2 siblings.

- [squishy](#)
 - GL
 - $\mathbb{C}^n$
 - $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ [is path-connected](#)
 - [surjectivity of exponential map onto \$GL\(n, \mathbb{C}\)\$](#)