

1. [Polarization Identity] Let $x \cdot y$ denote the standard dot product in \mathbb{R}^n where $n = 2$ or $n = 3$. and let $|x|$ denote the length of x , so

$$|x| = \sqrt{x \cdot x}. \quad (1)$$

Show that for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$,

$$x \cdot y = \frac{1}{2} [|x + y|^2 - |x|^2 - |y|^2]. \quad (2)$$

This formula is known as the polarization identity, and it shows that if you can compute lengths, then you can also compute the dot product.

2. [Symmetric bilinear maps are determined by their action on the diagonal] A map $B : \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called symmetric if $B(x, y) = B(y, x)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$. We say B is linear in its first argument if $B(x+z, y) = B(x, y) + B(z, y)$ for all x, y, z and if $B(\lambda x, y) = \lambda B(x, y)$ for all $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$. The definition for B being linear with respect to its second argument is similar, and we say that B is **bilinear** if it is linear with respect to both arguments. Suppose B and \hat{B} are both bilinear and symmetric, and that for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$B(x, x) = \hat{B}(x, x). \quad (3)$$

Show that $B(x, y) = \hat{B}(x, y)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^3$.

Hint: Try out that polarization trick.

3. In this problem you may assume that every isometry of \mathbb{R}^3 that sends the origin to itself is a linear map (i.e. there is a 3×3 matrix A such that $i(x) = Ax$). Under this assumption (which is true!), show that a map $i : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is an isometry if and only if there is a matrix A such that $A^t A = I$ and a vector b such that

$$i(x) = Ax + b. \quad (4)$$

Hint: Preserving distance is the same as preserving distance squared! And think about polarization.

4. Suppose that $A \in O(3)$. Show that $A \in SO(3)$ if and only if for all vectors $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^3$ such that $(0, x, y, z)$ is positively oriented, so is $(0, Ax, Ay, Az)$.

Bonus: Show that if for just one positively oriented $(0, x, y, z)$ we know that $(0, Ax, Ay, Az)$, show that we can still conclude that $A \in SO(3)$.

5. SR 4.1 (ii), (iii)

6. SR 4.2