

Q3a: Suppose that V is a vector space whose inner product induces a norm. Let $x, y \in V$, consider the following chain of equalities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|x + y\|^2 + \|x - y\|^2 &= \langle x + y, x + y \rangle + \langle x - y, x - y \rangle && \text{(by the definition of the norm)} \\
 &= \langle x, x \rangle + \langle x, y \rangle + \langle y, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle + \langle x, x \rangle - \langle x, y \rangle - \langle y, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle && \text{(by linearity)} \\
 &= \langle x, x \rangle + \langle x, x \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle + \langle y, y \rangle \\
 &= 2\|x\|^2 + 2\|y\|^2 && \text{(by definition of the norm)}
 \end{aligned}$$

We obtain the desired equality, thus we are done.

Q3b: Suppose that $\|\cdot\| : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a norm on V obeying the equality in 3a. We claim that $\langle x, y \rangle := \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} \right\|^2 - \left\| \frac{x-y}{2} \right\|^2$ is an inner product on V uniquely determined by $\|\cdot\|$. We first show that $\langle x, y \rangle$ satisfies all the properties of an inner product. First, note that $\langle x, x \rangle = \left\| \frac{x+x}{2} \right\|^2 = \|x\|^2 \geq 0$, with equality holding iff $x = 0$, by the properties of the norm. Next, we get that $\langle x, y \rangle = \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} \right\|^2 - \left\| \frac{x-y}{2} \right\|^2 = \left\| \frac{y+x}{2} \right\|^2 - \left\| \frac{y-x}{2} \right\|^2 = \langle y, x \rangle$. We skip the proof of bilinearity. We now claim uniqueness. Suppose that $\|\cdot\|$ is a norm satisfying the parallelogram inequality, arising from two distinct inner products, $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_1$ and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2$, where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_1$ is defined as previously, and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_2 = \|x\|^2$. Then we have that for any $x, y \in V$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle x, y \rangle_1 &= \left\| \frac{x+y}{2} \right\|^2 - \left\| \frac{x-y}{2} \right\|^2 \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} [\|x+y\|^2 - \|x-y\|^2] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} [\langle x+y, x+y \rangle_2 - \langle x-y, x-y \rangle_2] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} [\langle x+x \rangle_2 + 2\langle x, y \rangle_2 + \langle y, y \rangle_2 - \langle x, x \rangle_2 + \langle x, y \rangle_2 - \langle y, y \rangle_2] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} 4\langle x, y \rangle_2 \\
 &= \langle x, y \rangle_2
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have $\langle x, y \rangle_1 = \langle x, y \rangle_2$ and we conclude that any norm obeying the parallelogram equality arises from a unique inner product.