

1. Prove that an isometry on a straight line  $\mathbb{R}$  is either a translation along the line or a reflection about some point on the line.

**Solution:**

$O_1(\mathbb{R}) = \{[b] \in GL_1(\mathbb{R}) \mid [b]^t = [b]^{-1}\} = \{b \in \mathbb{R}^* \mid b = b^{-1}\} = \{\pm 1\}$ . So the orthogonal linear operators on  $\mathbb{R}^1$  are  $\phi_+(x) = x$  and  $\phi_-(x) = -x$ .

We know each  $f \in M_1$  can be written as  $f = t_a \phi$  with  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\phi$  an orthogonal linear operator. So  $f(x) = t_a \phi_+(x) = x + \vec{a}$  or  $f(x) = t_a \phi_-(x) = -x + a = a - x$ . The former is translation by  $a$  units, the latter is reflection with respect to  $\frac{a}{2}$ .

2. Prove that every matrix in  $SO_3(\mathbb{R})$  has an eigenvalue  $\lambda = 1$ . Is it true for  $SO_2(\mathbb{R})$ ?

**Solution:** If  $A \in SO_3$ , then  $AA^T = I$  and  $\det(A) = 1$ .

$$\det(I - A) = \det(AA^T - A) = (\det A)(\det(A - I)^T) = \det(A - I) = -\det(I - A)$$

So  $\det(I - A) = 0$ , i.e. 1 is an eigenvalue.

It is not true for  $SO_2(\mathbb{R})$ . For example, the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in SO_2(\mathbb{R})$  has no eigenvalue.

3. Let  $s$  be the rotation of the plane with angle  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  about the point  $(1, 1)$ . Write the formula for  $s$  as a product  $t_{\vec{a}} \rho_{\theta}$ .

**Solution:** Let  $\vec{p} = (1, 1)$ .

$$s = t_{\vec{p}} \rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}} t_{-\vec{p}} = t_{\vec{p}} t_{\rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}}(-\vec{p})} \rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}} = t_{(1,1)+(1,-1)} \rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}} = t_{(2,0)} \rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

4. Let  $s$  be the reflection along the line  $y = x + 1$  followed by a translation along the vector  $\vec{v} = (1, 1)$ . Write  $s$  in the form  $t_{\vec{a}} \rho_{\theta} r$

**Solution:**  $y = x + 1$  is parallel to  $y = x$ .  $y = x$  forms angle  $\frac{\pi}{4}$  with  $x$ -axis, so reflection along  $y = x$  is  $\rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}} r$ .  $y = x + 1$  is obtained from  $y = x$  by translation along  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  that is perpendicular to  $y = x + 1$ , we get  $\vec{a}_2 = 2(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = (-1, 1)$ .  $\vec{a}_1 = (1, 1)$  is given, so  $\vec{a} = \vec{a}_1 + \vec{a}_2 = (1 - 1, 1 + 1) = (0, 2)$ . We conclude  $s = t_{(0,2)} \rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}} r$ .

5. Let  $H = \{t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta} \in M_2 | \vec{a} \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}, \theta = \frac{\pi k}{2}, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Prove  $H$  is a subgroup of  $M_2$ .

**Solution:** For any  $t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}, t_{\vec{b}}\rho_{\eta} \in H$ ,

$$(t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta})^{-1}t_{\vec{b}}\rho_{\eta} = \rho_{-\theta}t_{-\vec{a}}t_{\vec{b}}\rho_{\eta} = \rho_{-\theta}t_{\vec{b}-\vec{a}}\rho_{\eta} = t_{\rho_{-\theta}(\vec{b}-\vec{a})}\rho_{\eta-\theta}.$$

Note that  $\rho_{\frac{\pi}{2}}(x, y) = (-y, x)$ , and  $\theta$  is an integer multiple of  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ , so  $\rho_{-\theta}$  sends  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$  to  $\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ . In particular,  $\rho_{-\theta}(\vec{b} - \vec{a}) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $t_{\rho_{-\theta}(\vec{b}-\vec{a})}\rho_{\eta-\theta} \in H$ .

6. Prove that  $\rho_{\theta}r^k = \rho_{\omega}r^l$  in  $O_2$  if and only if  $\theta - \omega = 2\pi m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\bar{k} \equiv \bar{l} \pmod{2}$

**Solution:**  $\rho_{\theta}r^k = \rho_{\omega}r^l \iff \rho_{\omega}^{-1}\rho_{\theta} = r^lr^k \iff \rho_{\theta-\omega} = r^{l-k}$ . We know  $\langle r \rangle = \{1, r\}$ , and  $\langle r \rangle \cap SO_2 = \{id\}$ , so

$$\rho_{\theta-\omega} = r^{l-k} = id$$

which implies  $\theta - \omega = 2\pi m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\bar{k} \equiv \bar{l} \pmod{2}$

7. Define a map

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi : M_2 &\longrightarrow \{\pm 1\} \\ t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k &\mapsto (-1)^k \end{aligned}$$

Prove  $\Psi$  is a well-defined homomorphism.

(Remark: This provides an algebraic way to define the orientation of an isometry. Those corresponding to  $+1$  are called orientation preserving, and those corresponding to  $-1$  are called orientation reversing.)

**Solution:** If  $t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k = t_{\vec{b}}\rho_{\omega}r^l$ , by the unique decomposition of isometry into translation and orthogonal linear operator, we get

$$t_{\vec{a}} = t_{\vec{b}} \text{ and } \rho_{\theta}r^k = \rho_{\omega}r^l$$

Then by the previous question,  $\rho_{\theta}r^k = \rho_{\omega}r^l$  if and only if  $\theta - \omega = 2\pi m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\bar{k} \equiv \bar{l} \pmod{2}$ , so

$$\Psi(t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k) = (-1)^k = (-1)^l = \Psi(t_{\vec{b}}\rho_{\omega}r^l)$$

We see  $\Psi$  is well-defined.

$\Psi$  is a homomorphism because for any isometries  $t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k$  and  $t_{\vec{c}}\rho_{\alpha}r^n$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Psi((t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k)(t_{\vec{c}}\rho_{\alpha}r^n)) \\
&= \Psi(t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k t_{\vec{c}}\rho_{\alpha}r^n) \\
&= \Psi(t_{\vec{a}}t_{\rho_{\theta}r^k(\vec{c})}\rho_{\theta}r^k\rho_{\alpha}r^n) \\
&= \Psi(t_{\vec{a}+\rho_{\theta}r^k(\vec{c})}\rho_{\theta}\rho_{(-1)^k\alpha}r^k r^n) \\
&= \Psi(t_{\vec{a}+\rho_{\theta}r^k(\vec{c})}\rho_{\theta+(-1)^k\alpha}r^{k+n}) \\
&= (-1)^{k+l} \\
&= (-1)^k(-1)^l \\
&= \Psi(t_{\vec{a}}\rho_{\theta}r^k)\Psi(t_{\vec{c}}\rho_{\alpha}r^n)
\end{aligned}$$