

Exercise 1.3.3

We need to prove the following two things.

i)  $SO(n) \cap \{\mathbb{1}, -\mathbb{1}\} = \{\mathbb{1}\}$

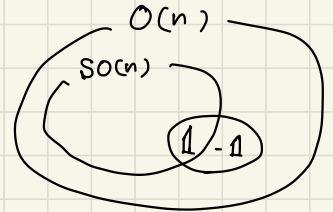
ii) For any  $M$  in  $O(n)$ ,  $\exists M' \in SO(n)$  s.t.  $M = \pm \mathbb{1} \cdot M'$

i)

When  $n$  is odd,

$$\det \mathbb{1} = 1, \det(-\mathbb{1}) = (-1)^n = -1$$

Therefore,  $SO(n) \cap \{\mathbb{1}, -\mathbb{1}\} = \{\mathbb{1}\}$



ii)

Using  $\pm \mathbb{1} = \mathbb{1} \cdot (\pm \mathbb{1})$  and the property of determinant,

$$(|A| = |A||B| \text{ for any } A, B \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}))$$

$$\forall M \in O(n), \exists M' \in SO(n) \text{ s.t. } M = \pm \mathbb{1} \cdot M'$$

Therefore, for  $n$  odd, show that  $O(n)$  is isomorphic to

$$SO(n) \times \{\mathbb{1}, -\mathbb{1}\} \quad \square$$

$O(n) \not\cong SO(n) \times \{\mathbb{1}, -\mathbb{1}\}$  if  $n$  is even, because  $|-1| = 1$

so  $O(n) \cap SO(n) \times \{\mathbb{1}, -\mathbb{1}\} \neq \{\mathbb{1}\}$ .