

1. Consider the pair of statements  $(\dagger)$ ,  $(\ddagger)$  of the form below:

$(\dagger)$  ‘*Let/suppose bluh-bluh-bluh. Suppose blah-blah-blah. Then bleh-bleh-bleh.*’

$(\ddagger)$  ‘*Let/suppose bluh-bluh-bluh. Suppose bleh-bleh-bleh. Then blah-blah-blah.*’

When want to state that both of  $(\dagger)$ ,  $(\ddagger)$  are to hold simultaneously, we may combine them into one statement of the form

- ‘*Let/suppose bluh-bluh-bluh. blah-blah-blah iff bleh-bleh-bleh.*’

When one or both of ‘*blah-blah-blah*’, ‘*bleh-bleh-bleh*’ is very lengthy, we may write in this way:

- ‘*Let/suppose bluh-bluh-bluh. The following statements are logically equivalent:*

(1) *Blah-blah-blah.*

(2) *Bleh-bleh-bleh.*’

The safest way for proving such a statement is to return to its original meaning: prove  $(\dagger)$ ,  $(\ddagger)$  separately.

## 2. Statement (a).

Suppose  $x, y$  are positive real numbers. Then  $\frac{x+y}{2} = \sqrt{xy}$  iff  $x = y$ .

### Proof of Statement (a).

Suppose  $x, y$  are positive real numbers. (Then  $\sqrt{x}, \sqrt{y}, \sqrt{xy}, \sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y}$  are well-defined as real numbers.)

- [' $\Leftarrow$ -part'.] Suppose  $x = y$ . [We want to deduce  $\frac{x+y}{2} = \sqrt{xy}$ .]

$$\text{Then } \frac{x+y}{2} = \frac{2x}{2} = x.$$

Since  $x$  is positive,  $\sqrt{x^2} = x$ . Then  $\sqrt{xy} = \sqrt{x^2} = x$ .

$$\text{Hence } \frac{x+y}{2} = x = \sqrt{xy}.$$

- [' $\Rightarrow$ -part'.] Suppose  $\frac{x+y}{2} = \sqrt{xy}$ . [We want to deduce  $x = y$ .]

Since  $x, y$  are positive, we have  $(\sqrt{x})^2 = x$  and  $(\sqrt{y})^2 = y$  and  $\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{y} = \sqrt{xy}$ .

$$\text{Then } (\sqrt{x})^2 + (\sqrt{y})^2 = x+y = 2\sqrt{xy} = 2\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{y}.$$

$$\text{Therefore } (\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y})^2 = (\sqrt{x})^2 + (\sqrt{y})^2 - 2\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{y} = 0.$$

$$\text{Hence } \sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y} = 0.$$

Now we have  $\sqrt{x} = \sqrt{y}$ . Therefore  $x = (\sqrt{x})^2 = (\sqrt{y})^2 = y$ .  $\square$

### 3. Statement (b).

Let  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{y}$  be non-zero vectors in the real  $n$ -dimensional space. The following statements are logically equivalent:

- (1) There exist some real numbers  $\kappa$ ,  $\lambda$ , not both zero, such that  $\kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- (2)  $|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ .

#### Proof of Statement (b).

Let  $\mathbf{x}$ ,  $\mathbf{y}$  be vectors in the real  $n$ -dimensional space.

- ['(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2)']?

Suppose there exist some real numbers  $\kappa$ ,  $\lambda$ , not both zero, such that  $\kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .

[ We want to deduce  $|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ . ]

Without loss of generality, suppose  $\lambda \neq 0$ .

Then  $\mathbf{y} = -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda}\mathbf{x}$ . Therefore

$$|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = \left| \left\langle \mathbf{x}, -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda}\mathbf{x} \right\rangle \right| = \left| -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda} \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle \right| = \left| -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda} \right| \cdot |\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle|$$

$$= \left| -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda} \right| \cdot \|\mathbf{x}\|^2$$

$$= \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \left( \left| -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda} \right| \cdot \|\mathbf{x}\| \right) = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \left\| -\frac{\kappa}{\lambda}\mathbf{x} \right\| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|.$$

- ['(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1)']? ...

## Statement (b).

Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  be non-zero vectors in the real  $n$ -dimensional space. The following statements are logically equivalent:

- (1) There exist some real numbers  $\kappa, \lambda$ , not both zero, such that  $\kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- (2)  $|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ .

## Proof of Statement (b).

Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  be vectors in the real  $n$ -dimensional space.

- ['(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2)']? ...

- ['(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1)']?

Suppose  $|\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle| = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ . Then  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$  or  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = -\|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ .

[What do we want to deduce?]

(Case 1). Suppose  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ .

Define  $\kappa = \|\mathbf{y}\|, \lambda = -\|\mathbf{x}\|$ .

Since  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  are non-zero vectors,  $\kappa, \lambda$  are non-zero real numbers.

We have  $\| \kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} \|^2 = \langle \kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y}, \kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} \rangle$   
 $= \kappa^2 \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + \kappa\lambda \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle + \lambda\kappa \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} \rangle + \lambda^2 \langle \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = \dots = 0$

[Your exercise.]

Then  $\| \kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} \| = 0$ . Therefore  $\kappa\mathbf{x} + \lambda\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .

(Case 2). Suppose  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle = -\|\mathbf{x}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{y}\|$ . Then so-and-so.  $\leftarrow$  [Your exercise.]

4. Here are some other examples of such statements in school mathematics.

( $\alpha$ ) Let  $\triangle ABC$  be a triangle.

$\angle ACB$  is a right angle iff  $AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$ .

( $\beta$ ) Let  $\triangle ABC$  be a triangle.

$\angle ACB$  is a right angle iff  $AB$  passes through the centre of the circumcircle of  $\triangle ABC$ .

( $\gamma$ ) Let  $f(z)$  be a polynomial with real/complex coefficients and indeterminate  $z$ , and  $c$  be a real/complex number.

The polynomial  $z - c$  is a factor of the polynomial  $f(z)$  iff  $f(c) = 0$ .

( $\delta$ ) Let  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  be an infinite sequence of complex numbers. The statements below are logically equivalent:

(1)  $\{a_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is an arithmetic progression. (There exists some complex number  $d$  such that for any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $a_n = a_0 + nd$ .)

(2) For any  $n \in \mathbf{N}$ ,  $a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n + a_{n+2}}{2}$ .

5. Many results in your *linear algebra* course are statements of this form. Here are some examples.

( $\alpha$ ) Let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ . The statements below are logically equivalent:

- (1)  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  are linearly dependent.
- (2) One of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  is a linear combination of the others.

( $\beta$ ) Let  $A$  be an  $(n \times n)$ -square matrix with real entries. The statements below are logically equivalent:

- (1)  $A$  is non-singular. (The zerovector is the only element of the null space of  $A$ .)
- (2)  $A$  is row-equivalent to the identity matrix  $I_n$ .
- (3)  $A$  is invertible.
- (4) For any  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a unique solution.
- (5) The columns of  $A$  constitute a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (6)  $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

Watch out how these results are proved in your *linear algebra* course.