

Solution Set for Exercise Session No.2

Course: Mathematical Aspects of Symmetries in Physics,
ICFP Master Program (for M1)

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1 Representation of D_3

1. Let us check two cases explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned} c_3 \mathbf{e}_1 &= \mathbf{e}_2, & c_3 \mathbf{e}_2 &= \mathbf{e}_3, & c_3 \mathbf{e}_3 &= \mathbf{e}_1, \\ \sigma_1 \mathbf{e}_1 &= \mathbf{e}_1, & \sigma_1 \mathbf{e}_2 &= \mathbf{e}_3, & \sigma_1 \mathbf{e}_3 &= \mathbf{e}_2, \end{aligned}$$

which lead to (from the definition of $R_{ij}(g)$)

$$\begin{aligned} R_{21}(c_3) &= 1, & R_{32}(c_3) &= 1, & R_{13}(c_3) &= 1, \\ R_{11}(\sigma_1) &= 1, & R_{32}(\sigma_1) &= 1, & R_{23}(\sigma_1) &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

while the other components of $R_{ij}(c_3)$ and $R_{ij}(\sigma_1)$ are zero. In the form of matrices, we thus obtain

$$R(c_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R(\sigma_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can compute the other $R(g)$'s in the same way.

2. These two bases are related as

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_3) = (\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \equiv (\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3)N.$$

The inverse of N is computed as

$$N^{-1} = N^T = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} g(\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_3) &= (\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_1, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_2, \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_3)\tilde{R}(g) & \leftrightarrow & & g(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3)N &= (\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3)N\tilde{R}(g) \\ & & \leftrightarrow & & g(\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3) &= (\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3)N\tilde{R}(g)N^T, \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$R(g) = N\tilde{R}(g)N^T \quad \leftrightarrow \quad \tilde{R}(g) = N^T R(g)N.$$

Here we evaluate some $\tilde{R}(g)$'s explicitly:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{R}(c_3) &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ 0 & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \\
 \tilde{R}(\sigma_1) &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The other $\tilde{R}(g)$'s are computed in a similar way.

3. $\rho^{(1)}$ is unitary representation since $(R^{(1)}(g))^{-1} = R^{(1)}(g) = (R^{(1)}(g))^\dagger$. $\rho^{(2)}$ is also unitary (one can check one by one).
4. We can multiply $R^{(1)}(g_1)$ and $R^{(1)}(g_2)$ ($g_1, g_2 \in D_3$) to get the following table.

	$R^{(1)}(e)$	$R^{(1)}(c_3)$	$R^{(1)}(c_3^{-1})$	$R^{(1)}(\sigma_1)$	$R^{(1)}(\sigma_2)$	$R^{(1)}(\sigma_3)$
$R^{(1)}(e)$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$R^{(1)}(c_3)$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$R^{(1)}(c_3^{-1})$	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1
$R^{(1)}(\sigma_1)$	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1
$R^{(1)}(\sigma_2)$	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1
$R^{(1)}(\sigma_3)$	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1

Table 1: Multiplication table for $R^{(1)}$

From this multiplication table derived in Problem Set No.1, we can see that this $\rho^{(1)}$ is a one-dimensional irreducible representation of D_3 (for example $R^{(1)}(c_3)R^{(1)}(\sigma_1) = -1 = R^{(1)}(\sigma_3) = R^{(1)}(c_3\sigma_1)$ etc).