

EQUIVARIANT MAPPINGS FROM VECTOR PRODUCT INTO  
 $G$ -SPACE OF VECTORS AND  $\varepsilon$ -VECTORS WITH  $G = O(n, 1, \mathbb{R})$

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*Abstract.* In this note all vectors and  $\varepsilon$ -vectors of a system of  $m \leq n$  linearly independent contravariant vectors in the  $n$ -dimensional pseudo-Euclidean geometry of index one are determined. The problem is resolved by finding the general solution of the functional equation  $F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = (\det A)^\lambda \cdot A \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$  with  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\lambda = 1$ , for an arbitrary pseudo-orthogonal matrix  $A$  of index one and given vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$ .

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

For  $n \geq 2$  consider the matrix  $E_1 = [e_{i,j}] \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  where

$$e_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } i \neq j, \\ +1 & \text{for } i = j \neq n, \\ -1 & \text{for } i = j = n. \end{cases}$$

**Definition 1.** A pseudo-orthogonal group of index one is a subgroup of the group  $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$  satisfying the condition

$$G = O(n, 1, \mathbb{R}) = \{A: A \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \wedge A^T \cdot E_1 \cdot A = E_1\}.$$

Denoting  $\varepsilon(A) = \text{sign}(\det A) = \det A$  we have  $\varepsilon(A \cdot B) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot \varepsilon(B)$ .

The class of  $G$ -spaces  $(M_\alpha, G, f_\alpha)$ , where  $f_\alpha$  is an action of  $G$  on the space  $M_\alpha$ , constitutes a category if we take as morphisms equivariant maps  $F_{\alpha,\beta}: M_\alpha \rightarrow M_\beta$ ,

i.e. the maps which satisfy the condition

$$(1.1) \quad \bigwedge_{\alpha, \beta} \bigwedge_{x \in M_\alpha} \bigwedge_{A \in G} F_{\alpha, \beta}(f_\alpha(x, A)) = f_\beta(F_{\alpha, \beta}(x), A).$$

This category is called a geometry of the group  $G$ . In particular, among the objects of this category are:

the  $G$ -spaces of contravariant vectors and  $\varepsilon$ -vectors

$$(1.2) \quad (\mathbb{R}^n, G, f), \text{ where } \bigwedge_{u \in \mathbb{R}^n} \bigwedge_{A \in G} f(u, A) = \begin{cases} A \cdot u & \text{for vectors,} \\ \varepsilon(A) \cdot A \cdot u & \text{for } \varepsilon\text{-vectors,} \end{cases}$$

the  $G$ -spaces of scalars and  $\varepsilon$ -scalars

$$(1.3) \quad (\mathbb{R}, G, f), \text{ where } \bigwedge_{x \in \mathbb{R}} \bigwedge_{A \in G} f(x, A) = \begin{cases} x & \text{for scalars,} \\ \varepsilon(A) \cdot x & \text{for } \varepsilon\text{-scalars.} \end{cases}$$

For  $m = 1, 2, \dots, n$  let a system of linearly independent vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$  be given. Every equivariant mapping  $F$  of this system into  $G$ -spaces of scalars,  $\varepsilon$ -scalars, vectors,  $\varepsilon$ -vectors satisfies the equality (1.1) which, applying the transformation rules (1.2) and (1.3), may be rewritten into the form

$$(1.4) \quad \bigwedge_{A \in G} F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) \quad \text{for scalars,}$$

$$(1.5) \quad \bigwedge_{A \in G} F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) \quad \text{for } \varepsilon\text{-scalars,}$$

$$(1.6) \quad \bigwedge_{A \in G} F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = A \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) \quad \text{for vectors,}$$

$$(1.7) \quad \bigwedge_{A \in G} F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot A \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) \quad \text{for } \varepsilon\text{-vectors.}$$

For a pair  $u, v$  of contravariant vectors the mapping  $p(u, v) = u^T E_1 v$  satisfies (1.4), namely

$$p(Au, Av) = (Au)^T E_1 (Av) = u^T (A^T E_1 A) v = u^T E_1 v = p(u, v).$$

In [5] it was proved that the general solution of the equation (1.4) is of the form

$$(1.8) \quad F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = \Theta(p(u_i, u_j)) = \Theta(p_{ij}) \quad \text{for } i \leq j = 1, 2, \dots, m \leq n$$

where  $\Theta$  is an arbitrary function of  $\frac{1}{2}m(m+1)$  variables  $p_{ij}$ . The general solution of the equation (1.5) was found in [4]. Before presenting the explicit formula for it, let us denote by  $L_m = L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$  the linear subspace generated by the vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$  and by  $p|L_m$  the restriction of the form  $p$  to the subspace  $L_m$ .

**Definition 2.** The subspace  $L_m$  is called

- (1) an Euclidean subspace if the form  $p|L_m$  is positively definite,
- (2) a pseudo-Euclidean subspace if the form  $p|L_m$  is regular and indefinite,
- (3) a singular subspace if the form  $p|L_m$  is singular.

If we denote

$$P(m) = P(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = \begin{vmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \dots & p_{1m} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \dots & p_{2m} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ p_{m1} & p_{m2} & \dots & p_{mm} \end{vmatrix} = \det[p(u_i, u_j)]_1^m = \det[p_{ij}]_1^m$$

then the above three cases are equivalent to  $P(m) > 0$ ,  $P(m) < 0$  and  $P(m) = 0$ , respectively. Let  $P_{ij}^m$  denote the cofactor of the element  $p_{ij}$  of the matrix  $[p_{ij}]_1^m$  and let  $P_{11}^1 = 1$ ,  $P(0) = 1$  by definition.

Let us consider an isotropic cone  $K_0 = \{u: u \in \mathbb{R}^n \wedge p(u, u) = 0 \wedge u \neq 0\}$ . It is an invariant and transitive subset. Every isotropic vector  $v \in K_0$  determines an isotropic direction which, by virtue of  $v^n \neq 0$  and  $v = v^n [\frac{v^1}{v^n}, \frac{v^2}{v^n}, \dots, \frac{v^{n-1}}{v^n}, 1]^T = v^n [q^1, q^2, \dots, q^{n-1}, 1]^T$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (q^i)^2 = 1 = q^n$ , is equivalent to the point  $q$  belonging to the sphere  $S^{n-2}$ .

In two cases we get particular solutions of the equation (1.5). In the case  $m = n$  that equation is fulfilled by the mapping  $\det$ . For  $A \in G$  we have

$$W' = \det(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_n) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot \det(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot W.$$

If  $m = n - 1$  and  $P(n - 1) = 0$  then the singular subspace  $L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$  determines exactly one isotropic direction  $q \in S^{n-2}$  whose representative, if  $P(n - 2) \neq 0$ , is of the form

$$(1.9) \quad v = \frac{1}{2P(n-2)} \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} P_{n-1,i} \cdot u_i = v^n [q^1, q^2, \dots, q^{n-1}, 1]^T \in K_0 \cap L_{n-1}.$$

From  $p(u_i, v) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$  it follows that each vector  $u_i$  is of the form

$$(1.10) \quad u_i = \left[ u_i^1, u_i^2, \dots, u_i^{n-1}, \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} u_i^k q^k \right]^T \quad \text{where } \Delta = \det[u_i^j]_1^{n-1} \neq 0.$$

The two 1-forms  $\det(u_1, \dots, u_{r-1}, v, u_{r+1}, \dots, u_{n-1}, x)$  and  $p(v, x)$  vanish on the subspace  $L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$ , and consequently there exist uniquely determined numbers  $B_r =$

$B_r(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r, \dots, u_{n-1})$  such that

$$(1.11) \quad \det(u_1, \dots, u_{r-1}, v, u_{r+1}, \dots, u_{n-1}, x) = -B_r(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}) \cdot p(v, x).$$

As  $\det$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -scalar,  $p$  is a scalar as well, so it follows from (1.11) that each  $B_r$  is an  $\varepsilon$ -scalar. Taking any given  $A \in G$  we have

$$B_r' = B_r(Au_1, \dots, Au_r, \dots, Au_{n-1}) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot B_r(u_1, \dots, u_r, \dots, u_{n-1}) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot B_r.$$

From (1.9), (1.10) and (1.11) we get in terms of coordinates the formula

$$(1.12) \quad B_r(u_1, \dots, u_r, \dots, u_{n-1}) = \begin{vmatrix} u_1^1 & \dots & u_1^{n-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ u_{r-1}^1 & \dots & u_{r-1}^{n-1} \\ q^1 & \dots & q^{n-1} \\ u_{r+1}^1 & \dots & u_{r+1}^{n-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ u_{n-1}^1 & \dots & u_{n-1}^{n-1} \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{for } r = 1, 2, \dots, n-1.$$

We have  $B_r \cdot B_k = P_{rk}^{n-1}$  and in particular  $B_r^2 = P(u_1, \dots, u_{r-1}, u_{r+1}, \dots, u_{n-1})$ , so at least one of the  $\varepsilon$ -scalars  $B_r$  is different from zero.

In [4] it was proved that the general solution of the equation (1.5) is of the form

$$(1.13) \quad F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m < n-1, \\ 0 & \text{if } m = n-1, P(m) \neq 0, \\ \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Theta^k(p_{ij}) \cdot B_k & \text{if } m = n-1, P(m) = 0, \\ \Theta(p_{ij}) \cdot \det(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

where  $\Theta, \Theta^1, \dots, \Theta^{n-1}$  are arbitrary functions of  $\frac{1}{2}m(m+1)$  variables.

In this work we find the general solution of the functional equations (1.6) and (1.7).

2. THE SCHMIDT PROCESS OF PSEUDO-ORTHONORMALITY

**Definition 3.** Two vectors  $u \neq 0$  and  $v \neq 0$  satisfying the condition  $p(u, v) = 0$  are called orthogonal and write  $u \perp v$ .

**Definition 4.** We say that a vector  $u$  is

- (1) a versor, if  $p(u, u) = +1$ ,
- (2) a pseudo-versor, if  $p(u, u) = -1$ .

**Definition 5.** We say that a system of vectors  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  constitutes a pseudo-orthonormal base if  $[p(e_i, e_j)]_1^n = E_1$ .

Let a sequence of linearly independent vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s, \dots, u_n$  be given. This sequence generates a sequence of linear subspaces  $L_1 = L(u_1), L_2 = L(u_1, u_2), \dots, L_s = L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s), \dots, L_n$ . Let us denote  $\varepsilon_s = \text{sign } P(s)$ . Apparently  $\varepsilon_n = -1$  and from the definition  $\varepsilon_0 = +1$ .

**Definition 6.** The sequence  $(\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_s, \dots, \varepsilon_n) = (+1, \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_s, \dots, \varepsilon_{n-1}, -1)$  will be called the signature of the sequence of subspaces  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s, \dots, L_n$ , or the signature of the sequence of vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s, \dots, u_n$ .

In [5] it was proved that the only restriction is  $\varepsilon_i \geq \varepsilon_{i+1}$  and that any given system of  $n$  linearly independent vectors can be arranged in the sequence  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s, \dots, u_n$  with the signature either

- (1)  $\varepsilon_0 = \dots = \varepsilon_{s-1} = +1, \varepsilon_s = \dots = \varepsilon_n = -1$  for  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  or
- (2)  $\varepsilon_0 = \dots = \varepsilon_{s-1} = +1, \varepsilon_s = 0, \varepsilon_{s+1} = \dots = \varepsilon_n = -1$  for  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ .

In both these cases we construct a pseudo-orthonormal base  $e_1, \dots, e_{s-1}, e_s, e_{s+1}, \dots, e_{n-1}, e_n$ . In the former case the vectors

$$(2.1) \quad e_k = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k P_{ki} \cdot u_i}{\sqrt{|P(k-1)P(k)|}} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

form a pseudo-orthonormal base such that

$$(2.2) \quad e_k = e_k(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k) \quad \text{and} \quad p(e_k, u_r) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } r < k, \\ \Theta(p_{ij}) & \text{for } r \geq k. \end{cases}$$

In the latter case we determine vectors  $e_1, \dots, e_{s-1}, e_s, e_{s+2}, \dots, e_n$  constituting a pseudo-orthonormal base using (2.1). Since  $P(s) = 0$  we have

$$(P_{s+1,s}^{s+1})^2 = -P(s-1)P(s+1) \neq 0.$$

There exists only one isotropic direction, determined by the vector

$$(2.3) \quad v = \frac{1}{2P(s-1)} \sum_{i=1}^s P_{si} \cdot u_i \perp u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{s-1}, u_s,$$

in the singular space  $L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s)$ . In the pseudo-Euclidean space  $L(u_1, \dots, u_s, u_{s+1})$  there exists one more isotropic direction, which is orthogonal to  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{s-1}$ , determined by the vector

$$(2.4) \quad v = \frac{1}{2 P_{s+1,s} P(s+1)} \sum_{i=1}^{s+1} (2 P_{s+1,s}^{s+1} \cdot P_{si}^{s+1} - P_{ss}^{s+1} \cdot P_{s+1,i}^{s+1}) \cdot u_i.$$

We have  $p(v, u) = 1$  contrary to  $p(v, u) = 0$ . The vectors

$$(2.5) \quad e_s = v - v \quad \text{and} \quad e_{s+1} = v + v$$

complement the pseudo-orthonormal base. This base fulfils conditions (2.2) with only two exceptions,

$$(2.6) \quad e_s = e(u_1, \dots, u_s, u_{s+1}) \quad \text{and} \quad p(e_{s+1}, u) = 1.$$

To each vector  $e_i$  of the pseudo-orthonormal base we assign the covector  $e_i^* = e_i^T \cdot E_1$  and then

$$p(e_i, u) = e_i^T E_1 u = e_i^* \cdot u.$$

**Definition 7.** We say that a pseudo-orthogonal matrix  $A$  whose successive rows consist of successive coordinates of covectors  $e_1^*, \dots, e_{s-1}^*, e_n^*, e_{s+1}^*, \dots, e_{n-1}^*, e_s^*$  corresponds to the pseudo-orthonormal base  $e_1, \dots, e_{s-1}, e_n, e_{s+1}, \dots, e_{n-1}, e_s$ , or corresponds to the sequence of vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ .

The matrix  $A = A(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$  allows us to solve functional equations (1.6) and (1.7).

### 3. SOLUTION OF THE EQUATION $F(Au, \dots, Au) = A \cdot F(u, \dots, u)$

We arrange a given system of  $1 \leq m \leq n$  linearly independent vectors into a sequence  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$  whose signature up to  $\varepsilon_m$  must be in one of the forms

1.  $(+1, \dots, +1)$  for  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$
2.  $(+1, \dots, +1, -1, \dots, -1)$  for  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
3.  $(+1, \dots, +1, 0, -1, \dots, -1)$  for  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$
4.  $(+1, \dots, +1, 0)$  for  $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ .

We solve the equation (1.6) in the first three cases. We construct the vectors  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m$  of a pseudo-orthonormal base using formulas (2.1) or (2.1) and (2.5). The other vectors of the base  $e_{m+1}, \dots, e_n$ , if there is lack of them, are built in the orthogonal complement  $L^\perp(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$ . To simplify the following argument we consider only the first case. Inserting the matrix  $A_0$ , which corresponds to the base  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  and then the matrix  $A_{m+1}$ , which corresponds to the base  $e_1, \dots, e_m, -e_{m+1}, e_{m+2}, \dots, e_n$  into equation (1.6) we get

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{aligned} F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) &= A_0^{-1} F(Au_0, Au_0, \dots, Au_0) = (E_1 A_0^T E_1) F(Au_0, Au_0, \dots, Au_0) \\ &= E_1 A_0^T F_0(p_{ij}) = E_1 A_{m+1}^T F_0(p_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

The constant vector  $F_0$  is the same in both cases and from the last equation we conclude that its  $(m+1)$  component is zero. Moreover, it is obvious that  $F_0^{m+1} = F_0^{m+2} = \dots = F_0^n = 0$ . We get further from (3.1) that

$$(3.2) \quad F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = E_1 A_0^T F_0(p_{ij}) = \sum_{k=1}^n F_0^k \cdot e_k = \sum_{k=1}^m F_0^k \cdot e_k = \sum_{k=1}^m \Theta^k(p_{ij}) \cdot u_k,$$

where  $\Theta^1, \Theta^2, \dots, \Theta^m$  are arbitrary functions of  $\frac{1}{2}m(m+1)$  variables. The same result we get in the cases 2 and 3.

Let us consider the case 4. Now  $P(m-1) > 0$  and  $P(m) = 0$ . In the singular subspace  $L_m$  there lies its only isotropic direction  $q = [v]$ , where the vector  $v$  is given by the formula (2.3) for  $s = m$ . The subspace  $L_{m-1}^\perp$  is a pseudo-Euclidean space of dimension  $n - m + 1$ . If  $n - m + 1 = 2$  or equivalently  $m = n - 1$  then there exists in  $L_{m-1}^\perp$  exactly one isotropic direction  $[v] = q_1 \neq q$  such that  $p(v, u) = 1$ . If  $m < n - 1$  we find at least two such directions  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  represented by linearly independent vectors  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . Since

$$P(u_1, \dots, u_{m-1}, u, v) = -P(u_1, \dots, u_{m-1}) < 0$$

we get the vectors  $e_1, \dots, e_{m-1}$  of a pseudo-orthonormal base using formulas (2.1), the vectors  $e_m, e_{m+1}$  we get using formulas (2.5) and the vectors  $e_{m+2}, \dots, e_n$  we find in the orthogonal complement  $L^\perp(u_1, \dots, u_{m-1}, u_m, v)$ . Let  $C_0$  denote the pseudo-orthogonal matrix which corresponds to this base. We get similarly to (3.1) and (3.2)

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) &= E_1 C_0^T F_0(p_{ij}) = \sum_{k=1}^n F_0^k \cdot e_k \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{m+1} F_0^k \cdot e_k = \sum_{k=1}^m \Theta^k(p_{ij}) \cdot u_k + \Theta(p_{ij}) \cdot v_1. \end{aligned}$$

Now, if  $m < n - 1$  we have at the same time

$$(3.4) \quad F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = \sum_{k=1}^m \Theta^k(p_{ij}) \cdot u_k + \Theta(p_{ij}) \cdot v_2.$$

In this case we have  $\Theta(p_{ij}) \equiv 0$  and analogously to the previous cases we get  $F = \sum_{k=1}^m \Theta^k \cdot u_k$ .

If  $m = n - 1$  then the direction of the vector  $v$  is determined unambiguously. As  $P(n - 2) > 0$  we conclude that  $L^\perp(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-2})$  is a two dimensional pseudo-Euclidean space with exactly two isotropic directions  $q = [v]$  and  $q_1 = [v]$ , where  $v \notin L(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$  contrary to  $v \in L_{n-1}$ .

Let a sequence  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}$  of linearly independent vectors with  $P(n - 2) > 0$  and  $P(n - 1) = 0$  be given. Let  $\Delta^i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$  denote the cofactors of the elements  $u_{n-1}^i$  of the determinant  $\Delta(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$  and let by definition  $\Delta^n = 0$ . Let us denote  $2D = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} (\Delta^i)^2$  and  $B = B_{n-1}$ , where  $B_r$  is defined by formula (1.12).  $B \neq 0$  because of  $B^2 = P(n - 2)$ . Taking these facts into account we have

**Theorem 1.** *Let the mapping  $\eta$  assign  $\eta = \eta(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  to the sequence  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-2}, u_{n-1}$ , such that  $P(n - 2) \neq 0$  and  $P(n - 1) = 0$ , by the formula*

$$(3.5) \quad \eta^i = \frac{1}{\Delta \cdot B} (B \Delta^i - D q^i) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then the equation

$$(3.6) \quad \eta(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_{n-1}) = A \cdot \eta(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$$

holds for an arbitrary matrix  $A \in G$ .



P r o o f. The mapping  $\eta$  is the only solution of the system of  $n$  equations

$$\begin{cases} p(\eta, u_i) = 0 & \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-2, \\ p(\eta, u_{n-1}) = 1, \\ p(\eta, \eta) = 0. \end{cases}$$

As the right hand sides are scalars so  $\eta$  is a vector, so it fulfils (3.6). The vector  $\eta$  is linearly independent of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}$  because

$$\det(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}, \eta(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1})) = -B(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}) \neq 0.$$

□

The vector  $v_1$  from (3.3) and  $\eta$  must be collinear. We have proved

**Theorem 2.** *Every solution of the functional equation*

$$F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = A \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$$

for given vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$  and any matrix  $A \in G$  is of the form

$$(3.7) \quad F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m) = \begin{cases} \sum_{k=1}^m \Theta^k \cdot u_k & \text{for } m \neq n-1 \text{ or } m = n-1, P(n-1) \neq 0, \\ \Theta \cdot \eta + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Theta^k \cdot u_k & \text{for } m = n-1, P(n-1) = 0, P(n-2) \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\Theta, \Theta^1, \dots, \Theta^{n-1}$  are arbitrary functions of  $\frac{1}{2}m(m+1)$  variables  $p_{ij}$ .

#### 4. SOLUTION OF THE EQUATION $F(Au_1, \dots, Au_m) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot A \cdot F(u_1, \dots, u_m)$

If  $m = n$  then according to (1.13) and (3.7) the general solution of the above equation is of the form

$$F = \det(u_1, \dots, u_n) \left( \sum_{k=1}^n \Theta^k \cdot u_k \right).$$

If  $m < n$  and  $P(m) \neq 0$  then at least one of the vectors of the required pseudo-orthogonal base, let us say  $e_r$ , lies in the orthogonal complement  $L^\perp(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$ . Let

the matrix  $A_+$  corresponds to a base which includes  $e_r$  while the matrix  $A_-$  corresponds to the same base in which  $e_r$  is replaced by  $-e_r$ . We have

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{aligned} F(u_1, \dots, u_m) &= \varepsilon(A_+) E_1 A_+^T F_0 = \varepsilon(A_+) \sum_{k=1}^n F_0^k \cdot e_k \\ &= \varepsilon(A_+) \left( F_0^r \cdot e_r + \sum_{k \neq r} F_0^k \cdot e_k \right) = \varepsilon(A_-) \left( -F_0^r \cdot e_r + \sum_{k \neq r} F_0^k \cdot e_k \right). \end{aligned}$$

In this case the required  $\varepsilon$ -vector  $F$  must have the direction of the vector  $e_r$ . It is obvious that if  $e_r$  is not uniquely determined by the vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$ , then the equation (1.7) has only the trivial solution  $F \equiv 0$ . It is so for  $m < n - 1$ .

Let  $m = n - 1$ . The equivalent of the well-known cross product in Euclidean geometry, the  $\varepsilon$ -vector  $\omega(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$  given by the conditions

$$(4.2) \quad \begin{cases} p(u_i, \omega(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})) = 0 & \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \\ \det(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}, \omega) = -p(\omega, \omega) = P(n-1) \end{cases}$$

has the direction of the orthogonal complement if  $P(n-1) \neq 0$ . Then using (4.2) we obtain for  $A \in G$

$$\omega(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_{n-1}) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot A \cdot \omega(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1})$$

and in accordance with (4.1) we get  $F = \Theta \cdot \omega$ . In the case  $P(n-1) = 0$  we have a decomposition  $\omega = \sum_{r=1}^{n-1} B_r \cdot u_r$  and  $L^\perp(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1})$  is not the orthogonal complement. Starting from linearly independent vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-1}, \eta(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1})$ , whose signature is  $(+1, \dots, +1, 0, -1)$ , we define  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n-2}$  by formulas (2.1) and additionally by  $e_{n-1} = \eta + v$  and  $e_n = \eta - v$ . The matrix  $D$  corresponding to this base has the determinant  $B/\sqrt{P(n-2)}$ . Inserting  $D$  into equation (1.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} F(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}) &= \varepsilon(D) \cdot E_1 \cdot D^T \cdot F_0 = \varepsilon(D) \sum_{k=1}^n F_0^k \cdot e_k \\ &= \frac{B}{\sqrt{P(n-2)}} \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} F_0^k \cdot e_k + F_0^{n-1}(\eta + v) + F_0^n(\eta - v) \right) \\ &= B \left( \Theta \cdot \eta + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Theta^k \cdot u_k \right). \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.** *The general solution of the functional equation*

$$F(Au_1, Au_2, \dots, Au_m) = \varepsilon(A) \cdot A \cdot F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m)$$

for given vectors  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m$  and an arbitrary matrix  $A \in G$  is of the form

$$F(u_1, \dots, u_m) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } m < n - 1, \\ \Theta \cdot \omega(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}) & \text{for } m = n - 1, P(n - 1) \neq 0, \\ B \cdot \left( \Theta \cdot \eta + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \Theta^k \cdot u_k \right) & \text{for } m = n - 1, P(m) = 0, P(n - 2) \neq 0, \\ \det(u_1, \dots, u_n) \sum_{k=1}^n \Theta^k \cdot u_k & \text{for } m = n, \end{cases}$$

where  $\Theta, \Theta^1, \Theta^2, \dots, \Theta^n$  are arbitrary functions of  $\frac{1}{2}m(m + 1)$  variables  $p_{ij}$ .

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