

By the definition of the scalar triple product, we find that,

$$\begin{aligned} [(\mathbf{T}\mathbf{a}), (\mathbf{T}\mathbf{b}), (\mathbf{T}\mathbf{c})] &= \epsilon_{ijk} T_{\alpha}^i a^{\alpha} T_{\beta}^j b^{\beta} T_{\gamma}^k c^{\gamma} \\ &= \epsilon_{ijk} T_{\alpha}^i T_{\beta}^j T_{\gamma}^k a^{\alpha} b^{\beta} c^{\gamma} \\ &= e_{ijk} T_1^i T_2^j T_3^k \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} a^{\alpha} b^{\beta} c^{\gamma} \\ &= \det(\mathbf{T})[\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}]. \end{aligned}$$

Using the definition of the third invariant. Consequently,

$$I_3(\mathbf{T}) = \det(\mathbf{T}) = e_{ijk} T_1^i T_2^j T_3^k$$

We can also express this using similar arguments as,

$$I_3(\mathbf{T}) = \det(\mathbf{T}) = e^{ijk} T_i^1 T_j^2 T_k^3$$

We here establish the equality assumed above that,

$$\epsilon_{ijk} T_{\alpha}^i T_{\beta}^j T_{\gamma}^k = \epsilon_{ijk} T_1^i T_2^j T_3^k e_{\alpha\beta\gamma}$$

We do this by first establishing the fact that the LHS is completely antisymmetric in α, β and γ . We first note that the indices i, j and k are dummy and therefore,

$$\epsilon_{ijk} T_{\alpha}^i T_{\beta}^j T_{\gamma}^k = \epsilon_{kji} T_{\alpha}^k T_{\beta}^j T_{\gamma}^i = \epsilon_{kji} T_{\gamma}^i T_{\alpha}^k T_{\beta}^j = -\epsilon_{ijk} T_{\gamma}^i T_{\beta}^j T_{\alpha}^k$$

Hence we see immediately that a simple swap of α and γ changes sign just as any other two lower symbols. Also note that the both sides take the same values when α, β and γ take the values of 1,2 and 3. The swapping of the indices α, β and γ make this value positive or negative in the same antisymmetric way. This completes the proof of equality.