

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1' \\ a_2' \\ a_3' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & 0 & \sin \theta \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \theta & 0 & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \cos \theta + a_3 \sin \theta \\ a_2 \\ -a_1 \sin \theta + a_3 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_1' \\ b_2' \\ b_3' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \cos \theta + b_3 \sin \theta \\ b_2 \\ -b_1 \sin \theta + b_3 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_3' &= \sum_{j,k} \epsilon_{3jk} a_j' b_k' = a_1' b_2' - a_2' b_1' = a_1 b_2 \cos \theta + a_3 b_2 \sin \theta \\ &\quad - a_2 b_1 \cos \theta - a_2 b_3 \sin \theta = (a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \cos \theta + (a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) \sin \theta \\ &= c_3 \cos \theta - c_1 \sin \theta. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$c_2' = c_2, \quad c_1' = c_1 \cos \theta + c_3 \sin \theta. \quad \text{Also,}$$

$$(R_{ij})(c_j) = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \cos \theta + c_3 \sin \theta \\ c_2 \\ -c_1 \sin \theta + c_3 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1' \\ c_2' \\ c_3' \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and } \det R = 1.$$

We have proved that the formula $c_i' = (\det R) \sum_j R_{ij} c_j$ is true for inversion in the origin, and for rotations about the x_1, x_2 and x_3 axes.

Since any arbitrary orthogonal transformation can be obtained by applying these operations in succession, the theorem is proved.