Soler, T. & van Gelder, B. H. W., 1991. On covariances of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of second-rank symmetric tensors (*Geophys. J. Int.*, 105, 537–546)

A recent paper by Bressan *et al.* (2003) has identified a discrepancy in the theory in Soler & van Gelder (1991). This identification has led us to reanalyse carefully our previous work. This time we counted on the opportune independent collaboration of Mr Jen-Yu Han, a Doctoral student of the second author. Mr Han discovered some further typos and potential errors of interpretation in the equations previously published by Soler & van Gelder (1991) that for rigorousness should be clarified. The revisions are as follows.

Owing to the symmetry of the second-rank stress tensor $[\varepsilon]$, there are multiple choices for the elements of the matrix [D] in eq. (8). Although the published values of matrix [D] are correct, they do not validate eq. (12). One way to amend this problem is to modify the values for the matrix [D] in eq. (8) as:

	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
$D]_{5\times9} =$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
	0	0.5	0	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0.5	0	0	0	0.5	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	0	0.5	0	

Given the above modified elements of [D], the transpose symbol 't' in eqs (12) and (14) should be substituted by the pseudo inverse symbol '+'. Therefore these two equations become, respectively:

$$\upsilon_d[\varepsilon'] = [D] \operatorname{vec}[\varepsilon'] = [D][T] \operatorname{vec}[\varepsilon] = [D][T][D]^+ \upsilon_d[\varepsilon]$$

and

$$[V] = [D][T][D]^+.$$

Since eq. (38) is defined to be associated with the vector of rotations of the eigenvalues $\{\Omega^p\}$, eq. (39) should be:

$$[F] = [D] [S^t \bigotimes S^t] [G]$$

and consequently, eq. (43) should also be revised as:

$$\{\beta\} = [F]^{-1}\{d\varepsilon\} = \llbracket [G]^+ [S \otimes S] [D]^+ \rrbracket \{d\varepsilon\}$$

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- Bressan, G., Bragato, P.L. & Venturini, C., 2003. Stress and strain tensors based on focal mechanisms in the seismotectonic framework of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region (Northeastern Italy), *Bull. seism. Soc. Am.*, 93(3), 1280–1297.
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