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**Problem 1:**

Suppose that  $V$  is an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over the field  $F$  where  $\text{char}(F) \neq 2$ . We want to show the following isomorphisms of  $F$ -modules (vector spaces).

(a)  $V \otimes_F V \cong M_n(F)$

Let  $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{v_i\}$  be a basis of  $V$ , then the set  $\{v_i \otimes v_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$  is a basis of  $V \otimes_F V$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{E_{ij}\}$  be the standard ordered basis of  $M_n(F)$ , which is the set of elementary matrices (1 in the  $ij^{\text{th}}$  entry and 0 elsewhere). Then the map  $\varphi : v_i \otimes v_j \mapsto E_{ij}$  extends linearly to an isomorphism. Alternatively, we can easily see that  $\dim_F(V \otimes_F V) = \dim_F(M_n(F)) = n^2$ .

(b)  $S^2(V) \cong \text{Sym}_n(F)$

Take arbitrary  $M \in \text{Sym}_n(F) \subseteq M_n(F)$ , then we have  $M = M^T$ , which means  $M_{ij} = M_{ji}$  for each entry where  $i \neq j$ . Given the standard ordered basis we chose in the codomain and the map  $\varphi$  we defined in part (a), we know the entry at  $M_{ij}$  is completely determined by the elementary matrix  $E_{ij}$  (a scalar multiple of it), and by no other basis elements. This means  $M_{ij} = M_{ji}$  implies that  $v_i \otimes v_j = v_j \otimes v_i$  in the domain, which belongs to  $S^2(V)$ . Alternatively, we can see that  $\dim_F(S^2(V)) = \binom{2+n-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+1}{n-1} = \binom{n+1}{2} = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \dim_F(\text{Sym}_n(F))$ .

(c)  $\bigwedge^2(V) \cong \text{Skew}_n(F)$

Take arbitrary  $M \in \text{Skew}_n(F) \subseteq M_n(F)$ , then we have  $M = -M^T$ , which means  $M_{ij} = -M_{ji}$  for each entry where  $i \neq j$ . Given the standard ordered basis we chose in the codomain and the map  $\varphi$  we defined in part (a), we know the entry at  $M_{ij}$  is completely determined by the elementary matrix  $E_{ij}$  (a scalar multiple of it), and by no other basis elements. This means  $M_{ij} = -M_{ji}$  implies that  $v_i \otimes v_j = -(v_j \otimes v_i)$  in the domain, which belongs to  $\bigwedge^2(V)$ . Alternatively, we can see that  $\dim_F(\bigwedge^2(V)) = \binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = \dim_F(\text{Skew}_n(F))$ .

*QED*

**Problem 2:**

In  $S = R[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , we want to prove an ideal is a graded ideal if and only if it is generated by homogeneous polynomials.

( $\Rightarrow$ ):

Suppose an ideal  $I$  in the polynomial ring is a graded ideal. By definition, this means

$$I = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} (I \cap S_k).$$

Clearly,  $I$  is generated by the set  $\{I \cap S_k\}$ . Since each  $S_k$  is a homogeneous component, and each  $I \cap S_k$  is a subspace of  $S_k$ , we can conclude  $I$  is generated by homogeneous polynomials.

( $\Leftarrow$ ):

Suppose an ideal  $I$  in the polynomial ring is generated by homogeneous polynomials, that  $I = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n)$  where each  $f_i$  is homogeneous. Take arbitrary  $g \in I$ , we can express as

$$g = h_1 f_1 + h_2 f_2 + \dots + h_n f_n.$$

Since each  $h_i \in S$ , we can write it as

$$h_i = h_{i,0} + h_{i,1} + \dots + h_{i,m},$$

where each  $h_{i,j}$  is the homogeneous component of  $S$  of degree  $j$ .

We can then expand the expression of  $g$  with each  $h_i$ , and group together homogeneous components of the same degree, which gives us

$$g = \sum \left( \sum h_{i,j} f_i \right).$$

This means each summand of  $g$  can be expressed as a linear combination of  $f_i$ , which are elements already in  $I$ . Hence each summand is also in  $I$ . By a remark on the bottom of page 443, we can conclude the ideal  $I$  is graded.

*QED*

**Problem 3:**

Consider the graded ring  $S = \mathbb{Q}[x, y]$  and the ideal  $I = (x^4, y^4)$ . We want to give a basis for each of the following  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector spaces.

(a)  $S_5$

Since  $S = \bigoplus_{k=0}^{\infty} S_k$ , where  $S_k$  contains homogeneous elements of degree  $k$ , we know  $\mathcal{B}_1 = \{x^5, x^4y, x^3y^2, x^2y^3, xy^4, y^5\}$  is a basis for  $S_5$  because these are all the monic monomials of degree 5 in  $S$ .

(b)  $I_5$

We know by definition that  $I_5 = I \cap S_5$ , which means  $I_5$  is a subgroup of  $S_5$ . If  $\mathcal{B}_2$  is a basis of  $I_5$ , then it must be that  $\mathcal{B}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{B}_1$ . Recall that  $I = (x^4, y^4)$ , so we know elements of  $\mathcal{B}_2$  must be divisible by either  $x^4$  or  $y^4$ . This gives us  $\mathcal{B}_2 = \{x^5, x^4y, xy^4, y^5\}$ .

(c)  $(S/I)_5$

We know  $S/I$  is naturally a graded ring whose homogeneous component  $(S/I)_k$  is isomorphic to  $S_k/I_k$ . If  $\mathcal{B}_3$  is a basis of  $(S/I)_5 \cong S_5/I_5$ , then its elements are those in  $\mathcal{B}_1$  that do not get killed after quotienting by elements in  $\mathcal{B}_2$ . Hence  $\mathcal{B}_3 = \{x^3y^2, x^2y^3\}$ .

*QED*

**Problem 4:**

Let  $F$  be any field of characteristic  $\text{char}(F) \neq 2$  and let  $V$  be any vector space over  $F$ . We want to show that  $V \otimes_F V = S^2(V) \oplus \Lambda^2(V)$ . In other words, every 2-tensor may be written uniquely as a sum of a symmetric and an alternating tensor.

By the isomorphisms from Problem 1, we can see  $S^2(V)$  and  $\Lambda^2(V)$  as subspaces of  $M_2(F)$ , hence also elements of  $V \otimes_F V$ . Specifically, elements of  $S^2(V)$  have the relation  $v_i \otimes v_j = v_j \otimes v_i$ , and elements of  $\Lambda^2(V)$  have the relation  $v_i \otimes v_j = -(v_j \otimes v_i)$ .

Take an arbitrary 2-tensor  $v_i \otimes v_j \in S^2(V) \cap \Lambda^2(V)$ , then it must be that  $v_j \otimes v_i = -(v_j \otimes v_i)$ . Clearly, the only possibility for  $v_i \otimes v_j$  is the trivial element, which means  $S^2(V)$  and  $\Lambda^2(V)$  intersect trivially.

We finally claim that  $\dim_F(V \otimes_F V) = \dim_F(S^2(V) \oplus \Lambda^2(V))$ . We already know that  $\dim_F(V \otimes_F V) = n^2$ . By the counting formulas provided, we know  $\dim_F(S^2(V)) = \binom{2+n-1}{n-1} = \binom{n+1}{n-1} = \binom{n+1}{2}$ , and  $\dim_F(\Lambda^2(V)) = \binom{n}{2}$ . We can use a combinatorial argument to show

$$\binom{n+1}{2} + \binom{n}{2} = n^2.$$

Hence we have proved that  $V \otimes_F V = S^2(V) \oplus \Lambda^2(V)$ .

*QED*