

§1 Lecture 02-24

Definition 1.1 (Bilinear Forms). A bilinear form $B : V \times V \rightarrow F$ is said to be left non degenerate if $B(v, w) = 0, \forall w \in V \Rightarrow v = 0$.

Note 1.2.

$$B(v, w) = \langle v, w \rangle$$

Key remark: A non-degenerate bilinear form induces a linear injection

$$\begin{aligned} l : V &\rightarrow V^* \\ v &\mapsto l_v \\ l_v(w) &= \langle v, w \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Now to show the following:

1. l_v is indeed a linear transformation (follows from the linearity of \langle, \rangle in the second variable)
2. The assignment $v \mapsto l_v$ is linear (follows from the linearity of \langle, \rangle in the first variable).

Lemma 1.3

If $\dim V < \infty$, then l is an isomorphism between V and V^* .

Proof. \langle, \rangle is left-nondegenerate $\Rightarrow l : V \hookrightarrow V^*$ is injective.

The rank-nullity theorem implies that since $\dim V = \dim V^*$, l is also surjective. \square

Is it possible to classify all possible bilinear forms on V , up to isomorphism?

If V is finite dimensional, we can choose a basis $\Sigma = (e_1, \dots, e_n)$ for V such that

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \sum_{i=1}^n x_i e_i \\ w &= \sum_{j=1}^n y_j e_j \\ \langle v, w \rangle &= \langle \sum_{i=1}^n x_i e_i, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j e_j \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n x_i y_j \langle e_i, e_j \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.4. The pairing matrix associated to $B(v, w) = \langle v, w \rangle$, and the basis Σ .

$$\begin{aligned} M_{B, \Sigma} &= (\langle e_i, e_j \rangle)_{i,j=1, \dots, n} \\ \langle v, w \rangle &= (x_1, \dots, x_n) M_{B, \Sigma} \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

The most general bilinear form on F^n is given by a matrix M , by

$$\langle (x_1, \dots, x_n), (y_1, \dots, y_n) \rangle = (x_1, \dots, x_n) M \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Lemma 1.5

\langle, \rangle is left-nondegenerate $\Leftrightarrow M_{B, \Sigma}$ is invertible.

Proof. Left as exercise. □

§1.1 Change of Basis

Let $\Sigma = (e_1, \dots, e_n)$ and $\Sigma' = (e'_1, \dots, e'_n)$ be two bases for V . How are $M_{B, \Sigma}$ and $M_{B, \Sigma'}$ related?

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} e'_1 \\ \vdots \\ e'_n \end{pmatrix} &= P \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_n \end{pmatrix} \\ p &\in M_n(F), \text{ invertible} \\ m_{B, \Sigma} &= \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_n \end{pmatrix}, (e_1, \dots, e_n) \right\rangle \\ M_{B, \Sigma'} &= \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} e'_1 \\ \vdots \\ e'_n \end{pmatrix}, (e'_1, \dots, e'_n) \right\rangle \\ (e'_1, \dots, e'_n) &= (e_1, \dots, e_n) P^t \\ P &= (a_{ij}) \quad p^t = (a_{ji}) \\ M_{B, \Sigma'} &= \end{aligned}$$

$$M_{B, \Sigma'} = P M_{B, \Sigma} P^t$$

Corollary 1.6

Two matrices M_1 and M_2 represent the same bilinear form \Leftrightarrow there exists an invertible linear transformation P such that $M_1 = PM_2P^t$

Isomorphism classes of linear transformations on $F^n = M_n(F)/\text{GL}_n(F)$ where the group $\text{GL}_n(F)$ acts on the set $M_n(F)$ by conjugation $M^g = gMg^{-1}$.

Isomorphism classes of bilinear forms we likewise identified with

$$M_n(F)/\text{GL}_n(F)$$

, but where the action of $\text{GL}_n(F)$ on $M_n(F)$ is very different

$$g * M = gMg^t$$

Example 1.7

1. Orbit of I_n for the conjugation action = $\{I_n\}$.
2. Orbit of I_n for the second action is the set of $\{pp^t, p \in \text{GL}_n(F)\}$

Exercise 1.8. There are no orbits of size 1 for the action $M \mapsto gMg^t$.

Definition 1.9. A vector space equipped with a non-degenerate bilinear form B is called a quadratic space (V, B) .

An isomorphism $T : (V_1, B_1) \rightarrow (V_2, B_2)$ is the natural notion. A linear isomorphism $T : V_1 \rightarrow V_2, \forall v, w \in V_1$,

$$\langle v, w \rangle_{B_1} = \langle Tv, Tw \rangle_{B_2}$$

The adjoint of a linear transformation $T : V \rightarrow V$ when V is a quadratic space, endowed with a nondegenerate form.

$$\begin{aligned} T &: V \rightarrow V \\ T^* &: V^* \rightarrow V^* \\ T^*(l) &= l \circ T \end{aligned}$$

The adjoint of T on the quadratic space V is the linear transformation defined by

$$\begin{aligned} T^*(lv) &= l_{T^*(v)} \\ T^*(lv)(w) &= l'_{T^*(v)}(w) \\ lv \circ T(w) &= \langle T^*v, w \rangle \\ &= \langle v, T(w) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$\langle v, Tw \rangle = \langle T^*v, w \rangle$$