

Homework 08

Due Date: 11/04/27

Instruction. Do not submit part B.

A Homework Problems

Definition A.1. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space, and H be a bilinear form on V . The **rank** of H is defined to be the rank of any matrix representation of H . If $\text{rank}(H) = \dim(V)$, we call H **non-degenerate**.

1. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space, and H be a bilinear form on V . Prove that for any two bases β_1, β_2 of V , the matrices $\psi_{\beta_1}(H)$ and $\psi_{\beta_2}(H)$ has the same rank. Hence the rank of H is well-defined.
2. For the following matrix $A \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$, find a diagonal matrix D with all its entries equalling to 1, -1 or 0, and an invertible matrix $Q \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$ such that $Q^t A Q = D$.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

3. Let V and W be vector spaces over the same field \mathbb{F} , and let $T: V \rightarrow W$ be a linear transformation. For any $H \in \mathcal{B}(W)$, define the mapping $\hat{T}(H)$ on $V \times V$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}(H): V \times V &\longrightarrow \mathbb{F} \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto H(T(x), T(y)) \end{aligned}$$

Prove the following results.

- (a) Show that $\hat{T}(H)$ is also a bilinear form on V .
- (b) Show that $\hat{T}: \mathcal{B}(W) \rightarrow \mathcal{B}(V)$ is a linear transformation.
- (c) If T is an isomorphism, then so is \hat{T} .

Such $\hat{T}(H)$ is called the **pull-back** bilinear form of H on V .

4. Let V be a vector space over a field \mathbb{F} (not necessarily finite-dimensional). For any $H \in \mathcal{B}(V)$, define a function $\mathcal{L}_H: V \rightarrow V^*$ by $(\mathcal{L}_H(v))(w) := H(v, w)$.

- (a) Show that \mathcal{L}_H is a linear transformation.
- (b) Show that the map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(V) &\xrightarrow{\varphi} \mathcal{L}(V, V^*) \\ H &\longmapsto \mathcal{L}_H \end{aligned}$$

is a linear transformation.

- (c) Show that φ is an isomorphism by constructing an inverse linear transformation. (You need to explain that your function is linear, and is inverse to φ .)

B Supplementary Problems

5. For $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$, let $L_v : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be a linear operator defined by $L_v(w) = v \times w$ (cross product in \mathbb{R}^3). Set $B(v, w) = \text{tr}(L_v L_w)$. Show that B is a symmetric bilinear form on \mathbb{R}^3 and compute its matrix representation relative to the standard basis of \mathbb{R}^3 . Is it non-degenerate?
6. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F and $H : V \times V \rightarrow F$ be a non-degenerate bilinear form on V . Suppose $T : V \rightarrow V$ is a linear operator on V .

(a) Show that there exists a unique linear operator $T^* : V \rightarrow V$ such that

$$H(T(v), w) = H(v, T^*(w))$$

for all $v, w \in V$. Such linear operator T^* is called the **adjoint** of T relative to H .

(b) Fix a basis β of V . Show that the matrix representations $[T]_\beta$, $[T^*]_\beta$, and $\psi_\beta(H)$ satisfy the relation

$$[T^*]_\beta = [H]_\beta^{-1} [T]_\beta^t [H]_\beta.$$

7. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F and $H : V \times V \rightarrow F$ be a non-degenerate bilinear form on V . Suppose $T : V \rightarrow V$ is a linear operator on V . Show that the following properties are equivalent:
 - (a) $H(v, w) = 0$ implies $H(Tv, Tw) = 0$ for all $v, w \in V$.
 - (b) There is a constant $c \in F$ such that $H(Tv, Tw) = cH(v, w)$ for all $v, w \in V$.
 - (c) There is a constant $c \in F$ such that $T^*T = c \text{id}_V$.
8. Let $V = C([0, 1])$ be the space of real-valued continuous functions on $[0, 1]$. The function

$$B(f, g) = \int_0^1 f(x)g(x) dx$$

is a symmetric bilinear form on V . Also, for any continuous function $k : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the function

$$B_k(f, g) = \iint_{[0, 1]^2} f(x)g(y)k(x, y) dx dy$$

is a bilinear form on V . Prove or disprove that there exists a function k that makes $B_k = B$. (The function $k = 1$ does not work.)

9. **(Duality)** Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over F and $H : V \times V \rightarrow F$ be a bilinear form on V . Similar as Problem 4, define the mappings

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{L}_H : & V & \rightarrow & V^* \\ & v & \mapsto & H(v, -) \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{R}_H : & V & \rightarrow & V^* \\ & v & \mapsto & H(-, v) \end{array}$$

If we identify the double dual space V^{**} by V in the canonical way (that is, using $\phi : V \rightarrow V^{**}$ defined by $\phi(v)f = f(v)$ for all $f \in V^*$ and $v \in V$), show that $\mathcal{L}_H^* : V^{**} \rightarrow V^*$ is the same mapping as $\mathcal{R}_H : V \rightarrow V^*$. Roughly speaking, we have $\mathcal{L}_H^* = \mathcal{R}_H$.

10. (2019 NTU Math Master Entrance Exam) Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} and $H: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a **symmetric** bilinear form on V .

(a) Let W be the vector subspace of V and let

$$W^\perp = \{u \in V \mid H(u, v) = 0, \text{ for all } v \in W\}.$$

Prove that if $\dim W = m$, and W^\perp is a vector subspace of V with $\dim W^\perp \geq n - m$. (Hint. Choose a basis $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^m$ of W and consider the map

$$u \mapsto (B(u, v_1), \dots, B(u, v_m))$$

from V to \mathbb{R}^m .)

- (b) Prove that $V = W \oplus W^\perp$ if and only if the restriction of H to W is non-degenerate.
 (c) Prove that if H is non-degenerate on V , then there is a non-negative integer p with $p \leq n$ and a basis $\{v_i\}_{i=1}^n$ of V such that

$$H(v_i, v_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & , 1 \leq i = j \leq p; \\ -1 & , p+1 \leq i = j \leq n; \\ 0 & , i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

One may regard this as a “Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization” on V with respect to H .

11. (**Sylvester’s Law of Inertia**) Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} and $H: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a **symmetric** bilinear form on V . Show that

- (a) the number of positive diagonal entries and
 (b) the number of negative diagonal entries

in any diagonal matrix representation of H are each independent of the diagonal representation. (Hint: Use Courant-Fischer min-max theorem from Homework 5, or see Theorem 6.38 in textbook.) The number of positive diagonal entries is called the **index** of the bilinear form H , and the number of positive diagonal entries minus the number of negative diagonal entries is called the **signature** of the bilinear form H .

12. Let V be a n -dimensional vector space over \mathbb{R} ($n \geq 2$) and $f, g \in V^*$ be two linearly independent functionals. Define

$$\begin{aligned} H: V \times V &\rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ (v, w) &\mapsto f(v)g(w) + f(w)g(v) \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Show that H is a symmetric bilinear form.
 (b) Show that the index of H is 1 and the signature of H is 0.