

Proof. The second isomorphism follows from the canonical isomorphism $(\bigwedge^n(E))^* \cong \bigwedge^n(E^*)$ and the canonical isomorphism $(\bigwedge^n(E))^* \cong \text{Alt}^n(E; K)$ given by Proposition 34.5. \square

Remarks:

1. The isomorphism $\mu: \bigwedge^n(E^*) \cong \text{Alt}^n(E; K)$ discussed above can be described explicitly as the linear extension of the map given by

$$\mu(v_1^* \wedge \cdots \wedge v_n^*)(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \det(v_j^*(u_i)).$$

2. The canonical isomorphism of Proposition 34.10 holds under more general conditions. Namely, that K is a commutative ring with identity and that E is a finitely-generated projective K -module (see Definition 35.7). See Bourbaki, [25] (Chapter III, §11, Section 5, Proposition 7).
3. Variants of our isomorphism μ are found in the literature. For example, there is a version μ' , where

$$\mu' = \frac{1}{n!} \mu,$$

with the factor $\frac{1}{n!}$ added in front of the determinant. Each version has its own merits and inconveniences. Morita [129] uses μ' because it is more convenient than μ when dealing with characteristic classes. On the other hand, μ' may not be defined for a field with positive characteristic, and when using μ' , some extra factor is needed in defining the wedge operation of alternating multilinear forms (see Section 34.5) and for exterior differentiation. The version μ is the one adopted by Warner [186], Knapp [104], Fulton and Harris [68], and Cartan [34, 35].

If $f: E \rightarrow F$ is any linear map, by transposition we get a linear map $f^\top: F^* \rightarrow E^*$ given by

$$f^\top(v^*) = v^* \circ f, \quad v^* \in F^*.$$

Consequently, we have

$$f^\top(v^*)(u) = v^*(f(u)), \quad \text{for all } u \in E \text{ and all } v^* \in F^*.$$

For any $p \geq 1$, the map

$$(u_1, \dots, u_p) \mapsto f(u_1) \wedge \cdots \wedge f(u_p)$$

from E^p to $\bigwedge^p F$ is multilinear alternating, so it induces a unique linear map $\bigwedge^p f: \bigwedge^p E \rightarrow \bigwedge^p F$ making the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E^p & \xrightarrow{\iota_\wedge} & \bigwedge^p E \\ & \searrow & \downarrow \bigwedge^p f \\ & & \bigwedge^p F, \end{array}$$