

all  $\lambda, \mu \in K$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(u_1 + u_2, v) &= \varphi(u_1, v) + \varphi(u_2, v) \\ \varphi(u, v_1 + v_2) &= \varphi(u, v_1) + \varphi(u, v_2) \\ \varphi(\lambda u, v) &= \lambda \varphi(u, v) \\ \varphi(u, \mu v) &= \mu \varphi(u, v).\end{aligned}$$

A bilinear form as in Definition 29.1 is sometimes called a *pairing*. The first two conditions imply that  $\varphi(0, v) = \varphi(u, 0) = 0$  for all  $u \in E$  and all  $v \in F$ .

If  $E = F$ , observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi(\lambda u + \mu v, \lambda u + \mu v) &= \lambda \varphi(u, \lambda u + \mu v) + \mu \varphi(v, \lambda u + \mu v) \\ &= \lambda^2 \varphi(u, u) + \lambda \mu \varphi(u, v) + \lambda \mu \varphi(v, u) + \mu^2 \varphi(v, v).\end{aligned}$$

If we let  $\lambda = \mu = 1$ , we get

$$\varphi(u + v, u + v) = \varphi(u, u) + \varphi(u, v) + \varphi(v, u) + \varphi(v, v).$$

If  $\varphi$  is *symmetric*, which means that

$$\varphi(u, v) = \varphi(v, u) \quad \text{for all } u, v \in E,$$

then

$$2\varphi(u, v) = \varphi(u + v, u + v) - \varphi(u, u) - \varphi(v, v). \quad (*)$$

The function  $\Phi$  defined such that

$$\Phi(u) = \varphi(u, u) \quad u \in E,$$

is called the *quadratic form* associated with  $\varphi$ . If the field  $K$  is not of characteristic 2, then  $\varphi$  is completely determined by its quadratic form  $\Phi$ . The symmetric bilinear form  $\varphi$  is called the *polar form* of  $\Phi$ . This suggests the following definition.

**Definition 29.2.** A function  $\Phi: E \rightarrow K$  is a *quadratic form* on  $E$  if the following conditions hold:

- (1) We have  $\Phi(\lambda u) = \lambda^2 \Phi(u)$ , for all  $u \in E$  and all  $\lambda \in E$ .
- (2) The map  $\varphi'$  given by  $\varphi'(u, v) = \Phi(u + v) - \Phi(u) - \Phi(v)$  is bilinear. Obviously, the map  $\varphi'$  is symmetric.

Since  $\Phi(x + x) = \Phi(2x) = 4\Phi(x)$ , we have

$$\varphi'(u, u) = 2\Phi(u) \quad u \in E.$$