

# 155 Lecture 17

Review of Multilinear algebra: tensor, exterior, & symmetric powers.

Def: The tensor product of 2 vector spaces  $V$  &  $W$  over a field is a vect. space  $V \otimes W$  equipped w/ a bilinear map

$$V \times W \rightarrow V \otimes W$$
$$v \times w \mapsto v \otimes w$$

which is universal:

for any bilinear map  $\beta: V \times W \rightarrow U$  to a vector space  $U$ , there is a unique linear map from  $V \otimes W$  to  $U$  that takes  $v \otimes w$  to  $\beta(v, w)$ .

This determines the tensor product up to canon. isomorphism.

Explicit construction: if  $\{e_i\}$  and  $\{f_j\}$  are bases for  $V$  and  $W$ , the elements  $\{e_i \otimes f_j\}$  form a basis for  $V \otimes W$ .  
i.e.  $V \otimes W$  consists of all linear combinations of elements of the form  $e_i \otimes f_j$ .

Similarly we have the tensor product  $V_1 \otimes \dots \otimes V_n$  of  $n$  vector spaces.

Properties:

comm:  $V \otimes W \cong W \otimes V$  via  $v \otimes w \mapsto w \otimes v$

$$\text{distrib: } (V_1 \oplus V_2) \otimes W \cong (V_1 \otimes W) \oplus (V_2 \otimes W)$$

$$\text{assoc: } (U \otimes V) \otimes W \cong U \otimes (V \otimes W) \cong U \otimes V \otimes W \text{ via}$$

$$(u \otimes v) \otimes w \mapsto u \otimes (v \otimes w) \mapsto u \otimes v \otimes w$$

If  $A$  is an algebra over the ground field  $\mathbb{F}$   
 $V$  is a right  $A$ -module &  $W$  is a left  
 $A$ -module then we have a tensor product

$$V \otimes_A W := \text{quotient of } V \otimes W$$

by the subspace generated by  
 all  $(v \cdot a) \otimes w - v \otimes (a \cdot w)$   
 $\forall v \in V, w \in W, a \in A$ .

So in  $V \otimes_A W$ , we have

$$va \otimes_A w = v \otimes_A aw$$

(we can move element of  $A$  across the  $\otimes$ )

Def: A multilinear map  $\beta$  is alternating if  
 $\beta(v_1, \dots, v_n) = 0$  whenever two of the vectors are  
 equal.

Note:  $\beta$  alternating  $\Rightarrow \beta(v_1, \dots, v_n)$  changes sign whenever two of the vectors are switched.

Because:  $0 = \beta(v_1 + v_2, v_1 + v_2) = \beta(v_1, v_2) + \beta(v_2, v_1) \quad \checkmark$

$\circ \circ \beta(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(n)}) = \text{sgn}(\sigma) \beta(v_1, \dots, v_n) \quad \forall \sigma \in S_n.$

The exterior powers  $\Lambda^n V$  of a vect. space  $V$ , sometimes denoted  $\text{Alt}^n V$ , come w/ an alternating multilinear map

$$V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow \Lambda^n V, \quad v_1 \times \dots \times v_n \mapsto v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_n$$

that is universal: for  $\beta: V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow U$  an alternating multilinear map,  $\exists!$  linear map from  $\Lambda^n V$  to  $U$  which takes  $v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_n$  to  $\beta(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ .

Explicit construction: quotient of  $V^{\otimes n}$  by subspace generated by all  $v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n$  w/ two of the vectors equal.

If  $\{e_i\}$  is a basis for  $V$ , then  $\{e_{i_1} \wedge e_{i_2} \wedge \dots \wedge e_{i_n} : i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_n\}$  is a basis for  $\Lambda^n V$ .

Define  $\Lambda^0 V$  to be the ground field.

Def: A multilinear map  $\beta: V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow U$  is symmetric if  $\beta(v_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, v_{\sigma(n)}) = \beta(v_1, \dots, v_n) \quad \forall \sigma \in S_n.$

The symmetric power  $\text{Sym}^n V$  ( $S^n V$ ) comes w/ a univ. symm. multilinear map

$$V \times \dots \times V \rightarrow \text{Sym}^n V, \quad v_1 \times \dots \times v_n \mapsto v_1 \cdot \dots \cdot v_n.$$

This can be constructed as the quotient of  $V^{\otimes n}$  by the subspace generated by all

$$v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n - v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(n)}$$

If  $\{e_i\}$  is a basis for  $V$ , then  $\{e_{i_1} \cdot e_{i_2} \cdot \dots \cdot e_{i_n} : i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_n\}$  is a basis for  $\text{Sym}^n V$ .

So  $\text{Sym}^n V$  can be regarded as the space of homog. poly's of degree  $n$  in the variables  $e_i$ .

Define  $\text{Sym}^0 V$  to be ground field.

We can also identify  $\Lambda^n V$  and  $\text{Sym}^n V$  as subspaces of  $V^{\otimes n}$ , assuming that  $\text{char } F = 0$ .

$i: \Lambda^n V \rightarrow V^{\otimes n}$  is defined by

$$i(v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge v_n) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} \text{sgn}(\sigma) v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(n)}$$

$$\text{im } i \cong \Lambda^n V.$$

Similarly we define  $i: \text{Sym}^n V \rightarrow V^{\otimes n}$  by

$$i(v_1 \cdot \dots \cdot v_n) := \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(n)}.$$

Now, let's define some representations of  $GL(V)$ .

Let  $V$  be a fin. dim. complex vector space.  $GL(V)$  acts on  $V^{\otimes d}$  with the diagonal action, i.e.  $g(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_d) = gv_1 \otimes \dots \otimes gv_d$ .

We saw that  $S_d$  acts on  $V^{\otimes d}$  by permuting the factors, i.e.

$$(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_d) \cdot \sigma = v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(d)}.$$

Recall if  $\lambda \vdash d$ , we can take a filling  $T$  of  $\lambda$ , say  $\rightarrow$  and define  $\text{Row}(T)$  &  $\text{Col}(T)$ .

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	
8	9		

Then define 2 elems in the group alg  $\mathbb{C}[S_d]$ :

$$a_\lambda = \sum_{w \in \text{Row}(\lambda)} w \quad \text{and} \quad b_\lambda = \sum_{w \in \text{Col}(\lambda)} \text{sgn}(w) \cdot w$$

$C_\lambda = a_\lambda b_\lambda \in \mathbb{C}[S_d]$  Young Symmetrizer.

Note that  $S_d$  acts on  $V^{\otimes d}$  by permuting the factors, i.e.

$$(v_1 \otimes \dots \otimes v_d) \cdot \sigma = v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(d)}.$$

Let  $S_\lambda V$  denote the image of  $C_\lambda$  on  $V^{\otimes d}$ , i.e.  $(V^{\otimes d})_{C_\lambda}$

CLAIM This is a representation of  $GL(V)$ .

Why? Need: for  $g \in GL(V)$ ,  $g \cdot S_\lambda V \subset S_\lambda V$ .  
Since actions of  $GL(V)$  &  $S_d$  on  $V^{\otimes d}$  commute,  
this follows...  $g \cdot (V^{\otimes d})_{C_\lambda} = (V^{\otimes d})_{C_\lambda}$ .

The functor  $V \mapsto S_\lambda V$  is called the Schur functor or Weyl module corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

Ex: If  $\lambda = (2)$  then  $S_{(2)} V = (\text{id} + (12)) V \otimes V$

Elements of  $S_{(2)} V$  have the form

$$(\text{id} + (12))(v_i \otimes v_j) = v_i \otimes v_j + v_j \otimes v_i,$$

(we allow  $i=j$ )

which we identify w/ the element  $v_i \cdot v_j$  of  $\text{Sym}^2 V$ .

More generally, if  $\lambda = (d)$  then  $S_\lambda V = \sum_{\omega \in S_d} \omega \cdot V^{\otimes d}$

Elements have the form  $\left( \sum_{\omega \in S_d} \omega \right) (v_{i_1} \otimes v_{i_2} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{i_d})$

which we identify w/ the element  $v_{i_1} v_{i_2} \dots v_{i_d}$  of  $\text{Sym}^d V$ .

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the eigenvalues of  $g \in GL(V)$ .  
 The character  $\chi_{S_2}$  of the action of  $GL(V)$  on  $S_2 V$  is given by:

$$\chi_{S_2}(g) = \text{trace of the matrix of } g \text{ acting on } S_2.$$

If  $V$  has basis  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  then  $Sym^2 V$  has basis  $v_i \otimes v_j + v_j \otimes v_i$  ( $i$  may be equal to  $j$ )

And  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 & & \\ & x_2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & x_n \end{pmatrix}$  sends  $v_i \otimes v_j + v_j \otimes v_i$  to  $x_i x_j (v_i \otimes v_j + v_j \otimes v_i)$ .

∴ trace of  $g = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & x_n \end{pmatrix}$  acting on  $S_{(2)} V$  is

$$x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + \dots + x_{n-1} x_n + x_n^2 = h_2(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

This is true for a diagonal  $g \in GL(V)$  and hence for a diagonalizable  $g \in GL(V)$ .

Fact: diagonalizable elements are dense inside  $GL(V)$ .

∴ this is true for all of  $GL(V)$

⇒

$$\chi_{S_{(2)}}(g) = h_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ for all } g \in GL(V),$$

where the eigenvalues of  $g \in GL(V)$  are  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

Similarly,  $\chi_{S_{(d)}}(g) = h_d(x_1, \dots, x_n) = S_d(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  for all  $g \in GL(V)$ .

correspond to semistable fillings of  $\boxed{\quad \quad \quad \dots \quad \quad \quad}$

Ex: If  $\lambda = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  then  $S_\lambda V = \sum_{w \in S_d} \text{sgn}(w) w V^{\otimes d}$

Elements of  $S_{(1,1)}(V)$  have the form

$$(e_{id} - e_{(1,2)})(v_i \otimes v_j) = v_i \otimes v_j - v_j \otimes v_i$$

Note: if  $i=j$  this element is 0.

So if  $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is basis for  $V$  then

$S_{(1,1)}(V)$  has basis of element  $v_i \otimes v_j - v_j \otimes v_i$  where  $i \neq j$ .

$g = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & & & \\ & x_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & x_n \end{pmatrix}$  sends  $v_i \otimes v_j - v_j \otimes v_i$  to  $x_i x_j (v_i \otimes v_j - v_j \otimes v_i)$

So trace of  $g$  acting on  $S_{(1,1)}(V)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 x_2 + x_1 x_3 + \dots + x_{n-1} x_n &= e_2(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= S_{(1,1)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

More generally,

$$\chi_{S_{(1,1,\dots,1)}}(g) = S_{(1,1,\dots,1)}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

where the eigenvalues of  $g \in GL(V)$  are  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

Theorem: (1) Let  $k = \dim V$ . Then  $S_\lambda V$  is zero if  $\lambda_{k+1} \neq 0$ . If  $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k \geq 0)$  then

$$\dim S_\lambda V = S_\lambda(1, \dots, 1) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} \frac{\lambda_i - \lambda_j + j - i}{j - i}$$

$$(2) V^{\otimes d} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda} (S_\lambda V)^{\otimes f^\lambda} \quad \text{where } f^\lambda = \dim \text{ of the irrep } V_\lambda \text{ of } S_d$$

(3) For  $g \in GL(V)$ , the trace of  $g$  on  $S_\lambda V =$  value of the Schur poly on the eigenvalues  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  of  $g$  on  $V$ :  
 $\chi_{S_\lambda V}(g) = S_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ .

(4) Each  $S_\lambda V$  is an irrep of  $GL(V)$ .

Before proving this, note that the construction  $V_\lambda$  of irreps of  $S_d$  using tabloids can be re-stated in a way analogous to this construction of reps of  $GL(V)$ .

Recall:  $V_\lambda$  has basis given by  $v_T = b_T \{T\}$   
 $V_\lambda \subset M_n^\lambda$  (tabloid module)

Claim: Tabloid module  $M_\lambda \cong$  the image of  $a_\lambda$  (by right mult) on  $\mathbb{C}[S_d]$ ,

and  $V_\lambda \cong$  the image of  $c_\lambda$  (by right multiplication) on  $\mathbb{C}[S_d]$

Here  $c_\lambda = a_\lambda b_\lambda$  where  $a_\lambda = \sum_{w \in \text{Row}(\lambda)} w$ ,  $b_\lambda = \sum_{w \in \text{Col}(\lambda)} \text{sgn}(w) w$

Note that for any  $u \in S_d$ ,  $u \cdot a_\lambda$  can be identified w/ a tabloid:

Say  $\lambda = (3, 2)$

1	2	3
4	5	

$\text{Row}(\lambda) = \sum_{\{1,2,3\}} \times \sum_{\{4,5\}}$

Say  $u = (4, 2, 1, 5, 3)$ .  $\leftarrow$  list notation

4	2	1
5	3	

$\swarrow$  Depict permutations by placing their values in the boxes of the tableau.

The effect of multiplying  $u$  by any element in  $\text{Row}(\lambda)$  is to permute elements w/in each row.

So  $u \cdot a_\lambda = \overbrace{\left[ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 4 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline 5 & 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right] + \left[ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 2 & 4 & 1 \\ \hline 5 & 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right] + \dots + \left[ \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline 3 & 5 & \\ \hline \end{array} \right]}$  12 terms

which we can identify w/ the tabloid 

1	2	4
3	5	