Computational Complexity

Chapter 3. Forms 3.1. σ -Sesquilinear Forms—Proofs of Theorems



Table of contents







Lemma 3.1

Lemma 3.1. Let U be a subspace of $V_k(\mathbb{F})$. If b is a non-degenerate σ -sesquilinear form on $V_k(\mathbb{F})$ then dim $U + \dim U^{\perp} = k$.

Proof. Let $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_r\}$ be a basis for U. Define linear maps α_i for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, r$ as $\alpha_i(v) = b(e_i, v)$ (if b is an inner product, then $\alpha_i(v)$ is the projection of v onto basis vector e_i).

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$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \lambda_i \alpha_i(v) = \sim_{i=1}^{r} \lambda_i b(e_i, v) = b\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \lambda_i e_i, v\right)$$

and so $\sum_{i=1}^{r} \lambda_i e_i = 0$ since *b* is nondegenerate by hypothesis. Since $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_r\}$ be a basis for *U*, then the e_i are linearly independent and so we must have $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \cdots = \lambda_r = 0$. This implies that $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \ldots, \alpha_r$ are linearly independent.

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