

# Math 912, Lecture 9, 4/2/2025

Last time: tensor product  $U \otimes V$ .

Space spanned by "pure tensors"  $\{u \otimes v \mid \begin{matrix} u \in U \\ v \in V \end{matrix}\}$   
only subject to constraint that

$$\tau: U \times V \rightarrow U \otimes V$$

$$\tau(u, v) = u \otimes v$$

is bilinear.

Cor: If  $B: U \times V \rightarrow Z$  is a bilinear map,

there is a unique  $f: U \otimes V \rightarrow Z$   
linear

$$\text{s.t. } B = f \circ \tau$$

Lemma: If  $B_U \subset U$ ,  $B_V \subset V$  bases then  $\{u \otimes v \mid \begin{matrix} u \in B_U \\ v \in B_V \end{matrix}\}$   
is a basis of  $U \otimes V$ .

Examples: (1)  $\mathbb{R}^n \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{R}^m \cong M_{nm}(\mathbb{R})$

$$(2) U \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} U$$

$$(3) U \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F} \cong U$$

$$(4) \mathbb{F}[x] \otimes_{\mathbb{F}} \mathbb{F}[y] \cong \mathbb{F}[x, y]$$

(morally. (functions on  $X$ )  $\otimes$  (functions on  $Y$ ) = (functions on  $X \times Y$ ))

(5) QM:  $U, V$  state spaces of quantum systems,  
 $U \otimes V$  " " " of combined system

Observe: If  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}} U, \dim_{\mathbb{F}} V \geq 2$ , have  $\underline{t} \in U \otimes V$   
not in image of  $\tau$  (not pure tensors)

(QM: "entanglement")

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Today: (1) Universal property,  
(2) Extension of scalars

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Def: An **abstract tensor product** of  $U, V$   
is a pair  $(W, \tau)$  where  $W$  is a vspace,  $\tau: U \times V \rightarrow W$   
is bilinear, and  $\forall B: U \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  bilinear  $\exists ! f: W \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$   
linear, s.t.  $B = f \circ \tau$ .

Example:  $\mathbb{F}_m(\mathbb{Z})$  spans  $W$ . Else let  $f: W \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$   
vanish on  $\mathbb{F}_m(\mathbb{Z})$  (any nonzero functional  
on  $W/\mathbb{F}_m(\mathbb{Z})$  will do)

Then  $f \circ \tau = 0 \circ \tau$  so  $f = 0$ , so  $W/\mathbb{F}_m(\mathbb{Z}) = 0$   
so  $W = \mathbb{F}_m(\mathbb{Z})$

Recall Def:  $\{V_i\}_{i \in I}$  vsp. An **abstract direct sum** is a vsp  $W$  equipped with maps  $\iota_i: V_i \rightarrow W$  st. For every system of maps  $f_i \in \text{Hom}_F(V_i, Z)$   $\exists!$   $f \in \text{Hom}_F(W, Z)$  st.  $f_i = f \circ \iota_i$ .

Def: Same input: An **abstract direct product** is a vsp  $W$ , equipped with maps  $\pi_i \in \text{Hom}_F(W, V_i)$  st. for every system of maps  $f_i \in \text{Hom}_F(Z, V_i)$   $\exists!$   $f \in \text{Hom}_F(Z, W)$  st.  $f_i = \pi_i \circ f$

Prop: each notion is unique up to unique isom. Ex: Say  $(W, \{\iota_i\})$ ,  $(W', \{\iota'_i\})$  are direct sums.

Then  $\{\iota'_i: V_i \rightarrow W'\}$  is a system of maps  
 $\{\iota_i: V_i \rightarrow W\}$  " " " " "

so  $\exists f': W \rightarrow W'$  st.  $\iota'_i = f' \circ \iota_i$   
 $\exists f: W' \rightarrow W$  st.  $\iota_i = f \circ \iota'_i$

so  $f \circ f': W \rightarrow W$  has  $f \circ f' \circ \iota_i = \iota_i = \text{id}_W \circ \iota_i$   
 $f' \circ f: W' \rightarrow W'$  '  $f' \circ f \circ \iota'_i = \iota'_i = \text{id}_{W'} \circ \iota'_i$

By uniqueness for maps into  $W, W'$   $f \circ f' = \text{id}_W$ ,  $f' \circ f = \text{id}_{W'}$

Suppose  $(W, \tau), (W', \tau')$  are tensor products of  $U, V$

then  $\tau': U \times V \rightarrow W'$  is bilinear

$\tau: U \times V \rightarrow W$  " "

by property of  $(W, \tau) \exists f': W' \rightarrow W: f' \circ \tau' = \tau$

" " "  $(W', \tau') \exists f: W \rightarrow W': f \circ \tau = \tau'$

so  $f \circ f' \circ \tau = \tau = id_W \circ \tau$

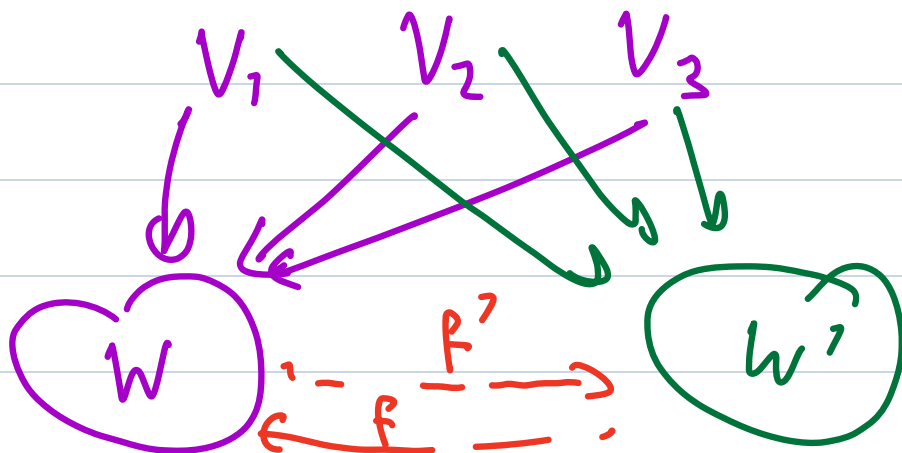
$f' \circ f \circ \tau = \tau = id_{W'} \circ \tau'$

By uniqueness for bilinear maps into  $W, W'$   
 $f \circ f' = id_W, f' \circ f = id_{W'}$ ,

so  $f, f'$  are inverse



Picture:



Remark: This point of view leads to **Category theory**. Forget about algebraic structures, only remember hom sets + composition law. Formulate existing notions purely in terms of objects & homs (no elements).

Example: Ex: Say  $f \in \text{Hom}_F(U, V)$  is an **epimorphism** if:  $\forall Z \forall g_1, g_2 \in \text{Hom}_F(V, Z)$   
if  $g_1 \circ f = g_2 \circ f$  then  $g_1 = g_2$ .

Ex:  $f$  is an epi iff  $f$  is surjective.

Advantage: Prove things once & for all.  
Get notions once & for all.

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Example of tensor products:  
**Extension of Scalars**

Goal: Consider matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  it defines a linear map  $\mathbb{Q}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^2$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$   
(start with  $T: \mathbb{Q}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^2$ ,  $T\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x+2y \\ 3x+4y \end{pmatrix}$ ).

want to say "extend  $T$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{C}^2$  in obvious way".

What if we just set  $\tau: V \rightarrow V$ ,  $V$  is a  $\mathbb{D}$ -vsp?

Approach 1: Choose basis  $B = \{v_i\}_{i \in I}$

Define  $V_c = \bigoplus_i \mathbb{C} v_i$  (formal span)

Def  $\tau_c$  by  $\tau_c v_i = \tau v_i$

$$\text{say } \tau v_i = \sum_j a_{ji} v_j$$

$$\text{set } \tau_c v_i = \sum_j a_{ji} v_j \in V_c$$

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Objection / Check: if we change basis, set "same thing".

Fix field  $F$ , let  $K/F$  be a field extension  
PS 1:  $K$  has structure of  $F$ -vsp

Lemma-Definition: let  $V$  be an  $F$ -vsp  
Then  $V_K \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} K \otimes_F V$  has structure of a  $K$ -vsp  
as  $F$ -vsp

Pf: Given  $\alpha \in K$  want to define  $\alpha \underline{t}$ ,  $\underline{t} \in K \otimes_F V$ .  
 so  $(\alpha \cdot): V_K \rightarrow V_K$  will be linear.

But this is equivalent to defining  $(\alpha \cdot): K \times V \rightarrow V_K$  bilinear. Set

$$\alpha \cdot (a, v) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \alpha a \otimes v$$

If  $\alpha = 1$ , set  $1 \cdot (a, v) = a \otimes v$  ← just?  
 & by uniqueness

Also  $(1 \cdot): V_K \rightarrow V_K$  is  $\text{id}_{V_K}$   
 Also  $(\alpha \cdot) \cdot (a \otimes v) = (\alpha a) \otimes v$

$$\begin{aligned} (\alpha \beta) \cdot (a \otimes v) &= ((\alpha \beta) a) \otimes v = (\alpha (\beta a)) \otimes v \\ &= (\alpha \cdot) ((\beta a) \otimes v) = (\alpha \cdot) (\beta \cdot) (a \otimes v) \end{aligned}$$

pure tensors span, so  $(\alpha \beta) \cdot = (\alpha \cdot) (\beta \cdot)$

Similarly: That  $(\alpha \cdot)$  is  $\mathbb{F}$  linear gives

$$(\alpha \cdot) (\underline{t}_1 + \underline{t}_2) = \alpha \cdot \underline{t}_1 + \alpha \cdot \underline{t}_2$$

Also

$$(\alpha + \beta) \cdot (a \otimes v) \stackrel{\text{Constr}}{=} ((\alpha + \beta) a) \otimes v \stackrel{K}{=} (\alpha a + \beta a) \otimes v$$

$$\stackrel{\circledast}{=} (\alpha a) \otimes v + (\beta a) \otimes v = \alpha \cdot (a \otimes v) + \beta \cdot (a \otimes v). \quad \square$$

(remark: from  $\mathbb{F}$  linear maps  $\tau_u: U \rightarrow U'$   
 $\tau_v: V \rightarrow V'$  set

$\mathbb{F}$ -linear map  $\tau_u \otimes \tau_v: U \otimes V \rightarrow U' \otimes V'$   
satisfies  $(\tau_u \otimes \tau_v)(u \otimes v) = \tau_u u \otimes \tau_v v$ .  
called **Kronecker prod**)

matrices  $a_{ij}, b_{kl}$ , set  $c_{ik, jl} = a_{ij} b_{kl}$

Theorem: Let  $B \subset V$  be an  $\mathbb{F}$ -basis. Then  $\{1 \otimes v \mid v \in B\}$   
is a  $K$ -basis of  $V_K$ .

Pf: Spanning: know  $\{a \otimes v \mid a \in K, v \in B\}$  spans  
 $V_K$  as an  $\mathbb{F}$ -vsp. But  $K$ -span of  $\{1 \otimes v \mid v \in B\}$   
certainly contains this

Fix  $\mathbb{F}$ -basis  $C \subset K$ .  $\mathbb{F}$ -basis of  $V_K$ .

$\text{Span}_K \{1 \otimes v \mid v \in B\} \supset \{c \otimes v \mid \begin{matrix} v \in B \\ c \in C \end{matrix}\}$

so  $\text{Span}_K \{1 \otimes v \mid v \in B\} \supset \text{Span}_{\mathbb{F}} \{ \} = V_K$

concretely:  $\sum_i^{\alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}} \alpha_i (1 \otimes v_i) = 1 \otimes \sum_i \alpha_i v_i$  (bilinearity)



Indep: need to show: if  $\sum_i \alpha_i (1 \otimes v_i) = 0$   
 $\alpha_i \in K$ ,  $v_i \in B$  distinct, then  $\alpha_i = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_i \alpha_i \otimes v_i = 0 \quad \text{then all } \alpha_i = 0$$

To show this, can write each  $\alpha_i$  as

$$\alpha_i = \sum_j \beta_{ij} c_j \quad \begin{array}{l} \{c_j\} \in C \text{ distinct} \\ \beta_{ij} \in F \end{array}$$

Then set:

$$\sum_i \left( \sum_j \beta_{ij} c_j \right) \otimes v_i = 0$$

$$\sum_{ij} \beta_{ij} c_j \otimes v_i = \underline{0}$$

distinct elements of  $F$ -basis

so all  $\beta_{ij} = 0$ , so each  $\alpha_i = 0$   $\square$

Conclusion:  $\dim_K V_K = \dim_F V$ ,  
 $V_K$  really is "K-span of basis of  $V$ "

informally: think of  $K \otimes_F V$  as "all  $K$ -linear  
combos of vectors in  $V$ , subject to compatibility  
of  $F$  action on both sides:

$$\alpha a \otimes_F v = a \otimes_F \alpha v \quad \forall \alpha \in F$$

HW: Given  $T: U \rightarrow V$  can make  $T_k: U_k \rightarrow V_k$   
( $T_k: 1_k \otimes T$ ) check: (1) matrix of  $T_k =$   
matrix of  $T$

$$(2) (T \circ S)_k = T_k \circ S_k \quad (\text{"functoriality"})$$

HW: All constructions (direct sum, direct prod,  
quotient, dual space, tensor prod) respect ext.  
of scalars  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$   $K_{n1}, \mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{C}^n$ .

$$\text{Ex. } U_k \otimes_k V_k \cong (U \otimes_F V)_k$$