

Let E_{ij} be the matrix with 1 in (i,j) entry and 0 elsewhere.

Then

$$\langle E_{ij}, E_{kl} \rangle = \text{tr}(E_{ij}E_{kl}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } j \neq k \text{ or } i \neq l, \\ 1, & \text{if } j = k \text{ and } i = l. \end{cases}$$

So the dual basis to $\{E_{ij} \mid i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$

is

$$\{E_{ji} \mid i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}.$$

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$. Define

$$f: V \rightarrow V \text{ by}$$

$$X \mapsto AX - XA$$

Recall that $\langle, \rangle: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$ given by

$$\langle X, Y \rangle = \text{tr}(XY)$$

$$\text{Since } \langle f(X), Y \rangle = \langle AX - XA, Y \rangle = \text{tr}((AX - XA)Y)$$

$$= \text{tr}(AXY - XAY) = \text{tr}(XYA - XAY)$$

$$= \langle X, -f(Y) \rangle$$

So

$$f^* = -f.$$

Let $n=2$ and $A = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$.

$V = \text{span}\{E_{11}, E_{12}, E_{21}, E_{22}\}$.

$= \text{span}\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} = M_2(F)$.

The matrix of f with respect to

$B = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

is

$$f_{BB} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 3 & 12 & 0 \\ -12 & 12 & 0 & 12 \\ -3 & 0 & -12 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & -12 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} f(E_{11}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -12 \\ -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - 12 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - 3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(E_{12}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 12 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 12 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + -3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(E_{21}) = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 0 \\ -6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 12 & 0 \\ -12 & -12 \end{pmatrix} = 12 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - 12 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - 12 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f(\tilde{E}_n) = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 12 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 12 \\ 0 & -6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -3 & -6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 12 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 12 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 0 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Elementary matrices $x_{ij}(c)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ p_1 & p_2 & \dots & p_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & c & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | & & & | \\ p_1 & \dots & cp_i + p_j & \dots & p_n \\ | & & & & | \end{pmatrix}$$