

# EXTENDING THE SCOPE OF PIECEWISE LINEAR FUNCTION TECHNIQUES

**Dr. Lorenzo Matteo Bianchi**

Department Disag, University Of Siena, Piazza S.Francesco, 53100 Siena, Italy

**Abstract:** This paper explores a broader class of piecewise linear functions, extending their applicability beyond conventional domains. Piecewise linear functions are typically defined on closed convex domains, but this work introduces a more versatile set of maps known as  $SW(E^m, T)$ . These maps are linear only on selected subsets of vectors and components, making them suitable for a wider range of applications.

The paper establishes an exponential function,  $F$ , which maps linear spaces to the set  $SW(E^m, T)$ . It rigorously proves the uniqueness and existence of a universal element, denoted as  $*$ , within this framework. Furthermore, the paper introduces  $r$ -subset wise linear skew symmetric maps denoted as  $\Phi = \sum \lambda_{\mu\nu} \phi$ , demonstrating that they can be fully characterized by their values for  $\lambda_{\mu\nu}$  and a basis of  $E$ .

The concept of an  $r$ -determinant function is introduced, defined as an  $r$ -subset wise linear skew symmetric map  $\Phi: E^m \rightarrow \Gamma$ , with  $\Gamma$  being an arbitrary field of characteristic  $o$ . The paper delves into various properties of  $r$ -determinant maps, shedding light on their characteristics and utility.

Additionally, the paper explores the adjoint of a linear map  $\psi \in L(E, F)$ , where  $E$  and  $F$  represent linear spaces. It also discusses the development of an  $r$ -determinant function using  $r$ -cofactors.

Furthermore, this work defines extensions of differential forms through  $r$ -subset wise skew symmetric maps, paving the way for generalized differential forms. The paper investigates the basis and spaces of these generalized differential forms.

**Keywords:** piecewise linear functions,  $SW(E^m, T)$ , exponential function,  $r$ -subset wise linear skew symmetric maps,  $r$ -determinant function, adjoint, differential forms, generalized differential forms.

## Introduction

Piecewise linear functions are useful in several different contexts, piecewise linear manifolds, computer science or convex analysis are examples. A definition of a piecewise linear function is the following, see [8]. Let  $C$  a closed convex domain in  $\square^d$ , a function  $\square: C \rightarrow \square$  is said to be piecewise linear if there is a finite family  $Q$  of closed domains such that  $C = \square Q$  and  $\square$  is linear on every domain in  $Q$ . A linear function  $\square$  on  $\square^d$  which coincides with  $\square$  on some  $Q_i \in Q$  is said to be a component of  $\square$ . In this paper is considered a more general class of piecewise linear functions. It is defined the set of maps  $SW(E^m, T)$  which are linear only on a subset of  $r$  vectors and components.

Then an exponential function  $F$  is defined from linear spaces to the set  $SW(E^m, T)$ . It is proved the uniqueness and existence of a function  $*$  as universal element for the function  $F$ . It is defined a  $r$ -subset wise linear skew symmetric  $\square = \square \square, \square \square \square \square$  map and it is proved that this is completely determined by its values for  $\square \square$  and on a basis of  $E$ . A  $r$ -determinant function is defined as a  $r$ -subset wise linear skew

symmetric map  $\square: E^m \rightarrow \square$ , where

$\square$  is an arbitrary field of characteristic  $o$ . Some properties of  $r$ -determinant maps are considered. It is defined the adjoint for a linear map  $\square \in L(E, F)$ , where  $E$  and  $F$  are linear spaces, and the development

of a  $r$ -determinant function by  $r$ -cofactors. Extensions of differential forms are defined by  $r$ -subset wise skew symmetric maps. Basis and spaces of generalized differential forms are studied.

## 2. R-Subset wise Linear Mappings

Some properties of linear functions are extended to mappings which are linear only on subsets of  $r$  variables.  $\square$  Denotes an arbitrarily chosen field such that  $\text{char } \square = 0$ .

The multindex  $I_r^n$  of length  $r$  is defined by

$$I_r^n = \{(i_1, \square, i_r) : 1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \square < i_r \leq n\}$$

Besides, for a fixed natural  $k$

$$(I_r^n)_k = \{(i_1, \square, i_p, \square, i_r) : 1 \leq i_1 < \square < i_p = k < \square < i_r \leq n, \text{ where } 1 \leq k \leq n\}$$

for the indices  $j_1, \square, j_k \in I_k^n$

$$(I_r^n)_{j_1, \square, j_k} = \{(i_1, \square, i_p, \square, i_r) : 1 \leq i_1 < \square < i_p = j_1 < \square < i_p = j_k < \square < i_r \leq n\}$$

Let  $\{e_\square\}$  be a basis of an  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $E$  and let  $x^\square = \square_{\square=1}^n x_\square e_\square$  be vectors of  $E$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

**Definition 2.1** Let  $L(E^r, T)$  be the space of linear mappings of  $E^r$  into the vector space  $T$ . Consider a mapping

$$\square : E^m \rightarrow T$$

$\square$

$$\square : (x_1, \square, x_m) \mapsto \square_{\square=1}^m \square_{\square=1}^r (x_\square e_\square, \square, x_\square e_\square) \quad 1 \leq r \leq n, 1 \leq r \leq m, \square \in \square$$

$\square, \square$

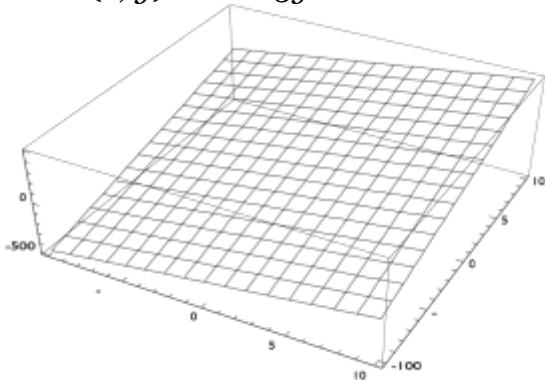
Where the sum is over every system of indices  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \in I_r^m$ ,  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \in I_r^n$ . If  $n=m$  then  $r < n = m$ . The sum  $(x_\square e_\square \square \square x_\square e_\square)$  is denoted in short by  $x_\square e_\square$ , and  $\square : E^r \rightarrow T$  is an  $r$ -linear mapping.

$$1 \quad 1 \quad r \quad r$$

Then  $\square$  is said to be  $r$ -linear with respect to the  $r$ -subsets of vectors and components, that is, an  $r$ -subsetwise linear mapping. The linear mappings  $\square$  are the components of  $\square$ .

**Example 2.1** The function  $\square : \square^2 \rightarrow \square$  defined by

$$\square(x, y) = 2x - 3y \text{ is an 1-subsetwise linear function.}$$



Graph of the function  $\Phi$ . (Obtained by Mathematica).

**Example 2.2** The map  $\square : (\square^2)^3 \rightarrow \square^{2 \times 2}$  defined by

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \square x & & x_{12} & & \square x_{13} & & \square x_{13} \square \\ \square[(x_{11}, x_{21}), (x_{12}, x_{22}), (x_{13}, & 13 \square x_1 & 23 \square x_1 & \square \square x_{23} \square & & & \\ x_{23})] = \square_{12} \square \square x_{1121} & 1 & 2 & & & & \square \square \square \square \\ \square & \square \square \square \square & \square \square \square \square & & & & \\ & \square \square x_{21} & \square \square x_{22} & & & & \\ & x_{22} \square \square & x_{23} \square \square & & & & \end{array}$$

is an 2-subsetwise linear map.

**Example 2.3** Let  $f_1, \square, f_r$  be a linearly independent set of the space  $L(E^r, T)$ , a  $r$ -subsetwise linear map is defined by

$$\square(x_1, \square, x_m) = \square \square \square \square (f_1(x \square \square 1e \square) \square f_2(x \square \square 2e \square) \square \square f_r \square \square \square \square \square \square (x \square \square r e \square)) \square, \square$$

**Theorem 2.1** An  $r$ -subsetwise linear mapping  $\square$ , with  $r < m$ , is not linear. *Proof.* For any  $r$ -subsetwise linear mapping  $\square$ ,  $r < m$ ,

$$\square(x_1, \square, x_i \square y_i, \square, x_m) = \square \square \square \square \square (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, x \square i \square e \square, \square, x \square \square r e \square) \square \square \square \square \square (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, y \square i e \square, \square, x \square \square r e \square) \square, \square \square \square, \square$$

$$\square \square (x_1, \square, x_i, \square, x_m) \square \square (x_1, \square, y_i, \square, x_m)$$

In the first sum on the right side  $\square = \square_1, \square, i, \square, \square_r \square I_{r^m}$ . Unlike, in the second sum  $\square = \square_1, \square, i, \square, \square_r \square (I_{r^m})_i$ , so this sum cannot be  $\square(x_1, \square, y_i, \square, x_m)$ .  $\square$

As a special case, if  $r=m$  then  $\square$  is linear.

If  $t: T \square H$  is linear and  $\square$  is  $r$ -swlin (subsetwise linear) map, then

$$t \square = t(\square \square \square \square) = \square \square \square \square t \square$$

and  $t \square$  is a  $r$ -swlin map.

By the set  $SW(E^m, T)$  of the  $r$ -swlin maps, the following exponential functor  $F$ , from linear spaces to sets, is defined by

$$F(T) = SW(E^m, T) \quad \text{for any linear space } T$$

$$\square F(t): F(T) \square F(H)$$

$$\square \quad \text{for any linear } t: T \square H$$

$$\square F(t): \Phi \square \square t \square \Phi$$

**Theorem 2.2** For any  $r$ -swlin mapping  $\square: E^m \square H$  there exists a unique linear mapping  $f: E \square \square \square E \square H$  such that

$$f(x_1 \square \square \square x_m) = \square(x_1, \square, x_m)$$

That is, the mapping  $\square: E^m \square T$  is an universal element for the functor  $F$ .

*Proof.* The proof generalizes to swlin maps the classical proof of universality of the tensor product, see [4], [6].

Uniqueness. Suppose that  $\square: E^m \square T$  and  $\sim \square: E^m \square T \sim$  are universal elements for the functor  $F$ , then, there exist linear maps

$$\sim f: T \square T \text{ and } g: T \square T$$

such that

$$f(x_1 \square \square \square x_m) = x_1 \text{ and } \sim g(x_1 \square \square \sim \square x_m) = x_1$$

that is

$$gf(x_1 \square \square \square x_m) = x_1 \square \square \square \text{ and } \sim fg(x_1 \square \square \sim \square x_m) = x_1$$

by the universality of  $\square$  and  $\square$  it follows, respectively

$$1T = g \square \square f \text{ and } 1T \sim = f \square \square g$$

thus  $f$  and  $g$  are inverse linear isomorphisms.

**Existence:** Consider the free vector space  $C(E^r)$  generated by the space  $E^r$ . Denote by  $N(E^r)$  the subspace of

$C(E^r)$  spanned by the vectors

$$(x \square \square 1e \square, \square, \square 1 y_1 \square \square 2 y_2, \square, x \square \square r e \square) \square \square 1 (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, y_1, \square, x \square \square r e \square) \\ \square \square 2 (x \square \square 1e \square, \square y_2, \square, x \square \square r e \square)$$

for  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \square I_r^m$ ,  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \square I_r^n$ ,  $\square_i \square \square$  and  $x \square \square r e \square, y_1, y_2 \square E^r$ .

Set  $S = C(E^r)/N(E^r)$  and let  $\square: C(E^r) \square S$  be the canonical projection. Define the map

$$\square \square: E^m \square S \\ \square (x_1, \square, x_m) \\ \square \square: \square \square \square \square \square \square (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, x \square \square r \\ \square \square e \square) \\ \square, \square$$

Since  $\square$  is a homomorphism, it follows that  $\square$  is an  $r$ -swlin map.

If  $z \square S$ , then it is a finite sum

$$z = \square \square \square (\square \square \square \square \square (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, x \square \square r e \square)) \square \\ \square \square, \square \\ = \square \square \square (x_1 \square \square \square x_m) \square \\ \square$$

so  $\square z \square S$ ,  $z$  is spanned by the products  $x_1 \square \square \square x_m$  and  $I_m \square = S$ .

Moreover let  $\square: E^r \square H$  be a  $r$ -linear map. Since  $C(E^r)$  is a free vector space, there exists a unique linear map  $g$  such that the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E^r & \xrightarrow{j} & C(E^r) \\ & \searrow \psi & \downarrow g \\ & & H \end{array}$$

where  $j$  is the insertion of  $E^r$  in  $C(E^r)$ . So

$$g(x \square \square 1e \square, \square, x \square \square r e \square) = \square (x \square \square 1e \square, \square, x \square \square r e \square)$$

If

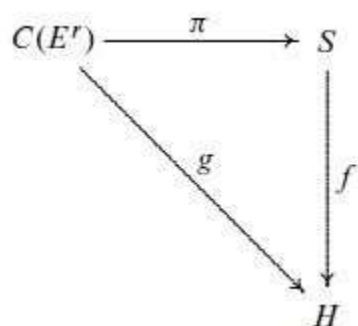
$$z = (x_1 e_1, \dots, x_{r-1} e_{r-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{r-1}, x_r e_r) \in (x_1 e_1, \dots, x_{r-1} e_{r-1}, y_1, \dots, x_r e_r) \oplus (x_1 e_1, \dots, y_{r-1}, x_r e_r)$$

Is a generator of  $N(E^r)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} g(z) &= \pi(z) = \pi(x_1 e_1, \dots, x_{r-1} e_{r-1}, y_1, \dots, y_{r-1}, x_r e_r) \oplus \pi(x_1 e_1, \dots, y_{r-1}, x_r e_r) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

then  $N(E^r) \subseteq \text{Ker } g$ . For the principal theorem on factor spaces, see [5], there exists an unique linear map

$f$  such that the following diagram commutes



that is,  $\pi$  is an universal element. So

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ \pi)(x_1, \dots, x_m) &= f(\pi(x_1 e_1, \dots, x_m e_m)) \\ &= \pi \circ f(x_1 e_1, \dots, x_m e_m) \\ &= \pi(g(x_1 e_1, \dots, x_m e_m)) \\ &= g(x_1 e_1, \dots, x_m e_m) \\ &= \pi(x_1, \dots, x_m) \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.4** Consider the 2-swin function  $\pi$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \pi : (\mathbb{R}^2)^3 &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \\ \pi : (x_1, x_2, x_3) &\mapsto (x_1, x_2) \oplus (x_1, x_3) \oplus (x_2, x_3) \end{aligned}$$

where the bilinear function  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ , on the right side, is the inner product in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . By the theorem 2.2, the map  $\pi : (\mathbb{R}^2)^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$  is universal, so an unique linear function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  exists such that  $f(x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3) = \pi(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2 \oplus \mathbb{R}^2$  is free, the function  $f$  is determined by its values  $f(x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3)$  on the free generators  $x_1 \oplus x_2 \oplus x_3$ .

**Corollary 2.1** For any  $r$ -swlin map  $\varphi : E^m \rightarrow T$

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \varphi(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}), \dots)$$

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \varphi(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}), \dots)$$

*Proof.* Since  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}) = x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+r}, \dots, x_{i+r}$ , by the theorem 2.2

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = (f \circ \varphi)(x_1, \dots, x_m) = f(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}))$$

**Example 2.5** Let  $\varphi : (\mathbb{R}^n)^n \rightarrow T$  be a 2-swlin map. The tensor product  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^n \otimes \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow M^{n \times n}$  is defined by  $x_i \otimes x_j = x_i x_j'$ ,  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , see [4], then  $\varphi : (\mathbb{R}^n)^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n \otimes \mathbb{R}^n$  is given by

$$x_1 \otimes x_2 = x_1 x_2'$$

$$x_1 \otimes x_2 = \varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2}$$

$$\varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} = \varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} x_{i_2}'$$

$$\varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} = \varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} x_{i_2}'$$

$$= \varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} x_{i_2}' = \varphi(i_1, i_2) x_{i_1} x_{i_2}'$$

### 3. $\{r, \varphi\}$ -determinant

If  $\varphi$  is a permutation,  $\varphi \in S_r$ , then the mapping  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^r \rightarrow F$  is defined by

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_r) = \varphi(x_{\varphi(1)}, \dots, x_{\varphi(r)}). \text{ More generally}$$

**Definition 3.1** Let  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  be an  $r$ -swlin map, for any permutation  $\varphi \in S_r$ , the mapping  $\varphi : E^m \rightarrow T$ , is defined by

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \varphi(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}), \dots)$$

**Definition 3.2** An  $r$ -swlin map  $\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  is said skewsymmetric if for any  $\varphi \in S_r$  is  $\varphi = \text{sgn}(\varphi) \varphi$  where

$$\text{sgn}(\varphi) = 1 (\text{sgn}(\varphi) = -1) \text{ for any even (odd) permutation } \varphi.$$

**Theorem 3.1** An  $r$ -swlin map  $\varphi = \varphi \circ \varphi$  is skewsymmetric if and only if  $\varphi$  is skewsymmetric.

*Proof.* Suppose  $\varphi$  is skewsymmetric, then

$$\varphi = \varphi \circ \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}) = \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1e_i, \dots, x_{i+r}, r e_{i+r}) = \varphi$$

Conversely,  $\varphi = \varphi \circ \varphi$  implies

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ji} e_j \otimes e_i$$

so  $\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j = 0$  for all  $x_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2** Every  $r$ -swlin map  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_m)$  determines an  $r$ -swlinskewsymmetric map  $\psi$ , given by

$$\psi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} \phi(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(r)}) e_{\sigma(r+1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\sigma(m)}$$

where the second sum on right side is over all permutations  $\sigma \in S_r$ .

*Proof.* For any  $\sigma \in S_r$

$$\psi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} \phi(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(r)}) e_{\sigma(r+1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\sigma(m)} = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} \phi(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(r)}) e_{\sigma(r+1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\sigma(m)} = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} \phi(x_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, x_{\sigma(r)}) e_{\sigma(r+1)} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\sigma(m)}.$$

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} e_i \otimes e_j$ :  $E^m \rightarrow F$  be an  $r$ -swlinskewsymmetric map, then  $\phi$  is completely determined by its values on a basis of  $E$  and by the constants  $\phi_{ij}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\{e_i\}$  be a basis of  $E$ . Let  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i e_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, m$  be vectors in  $E$  and  $X = (x_i)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(x_1, \dots, x_m) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, \dots, x_{im} e_i) \end{aligned}$$

where  $X_{ij}$  is the square submatrix of  $X$  determined by rows indexed by  $i$  and columns indexed by  $j$ .

**Example 3.1** Let  $\phi: (\mathbb{F}^3)^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^3$  be a 2-swlin skewsymmetric map defined by

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, x_{i2} e_i, x_{i3} e_i)$$

where  $x_i = \sum_{k=1}^3 x_{ki} e_k$ . Then

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, x_{i2} e_i, x_{i3} e_i)$$

$$\phi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \phi_{ij} (x_{i1} e_i, x_{i2} e_i, x_{i3} e_i)$$





*Proof.* Let  $\{e_i\}$ ,  $i=1, \dots, n$  be a basis of  $E$  such that

$$\Delta_E(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \Delta_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid \Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square}) = \Delta_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid$$

that is,  $\Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square}) = 1$ .

Then, for any  $r$ -skew symmetric map

$$\Delta(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \Delta_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid = (\Delta_E(x_1, \dots, x_m))(f)$$

it follows

$$\Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square}) = \Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square}) \Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square}) = 1 \Delta(e_{\square}, \dots, e_{\square})$$

so  $\Delta$  and  $\Delta_E$  have the same values on the basis  $\{e_{\square}\}$  and by theorem 3.3 it follows  $\Delta = \Delta_E \cdot \Delta$ .

If  $\Delta_E$  and  $\Delta'_E$  are two  $r$ -determinant functions in  $E$ , then  $\Delta_E \Delta'_E$ ,  $\Delta, \Delta \Delta$ , is a  $r$ -determinant function too.

Let  $\Delta_F$  be an  $r$ -determinant function in  $F$  and let  $\square: E \rightarrow F$  be a linear mapping of vector spaces, where  $\dim E = n$ ,  $\dim F = t$ , then  $\Delta_{\square}: E^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined by

$$\Delta_{\square}(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \Delta_F(\square x_1, \dots, \square x_m) = \Delta_{\square} \mid \square_F((\square x^{\square_1})_{\square}, \dots, (\square x^{\square_r})_{\square})$$

$\Delta_{\square}$

is an  $r$ -determinant function in  $E$ , where  $\square_F: F^r \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an  $r$ -linear mapping on  $F$ ,  $\square \mid I_r^m, \square \mid I_r^t$ .

By theorem 3.4,  $\Delta_{\square} = \Delta_F(f) = \Delta_{\square} \mid \square_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid f_{\square}$  for a unique vector  $f = (f_{\square})$ .

Let  $\Delta'_F$  be another nonnull skew symmetric map, then

$$\Delta'_F = \Delta_F(g) = \Delta_{\square} \mid \square_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid g_{\square}$$

$\Delta_{\square}, \Delta_{\square}$

and

$$\Delta_{\square} = \Delta_{\square}(g) = (\Delta_F(f))(g) = \Delta_{\square} \mid \square_{\square} \mid X_{\square} \mid f_{\square} g_{\square} = \Delta'_F(f_{\square})$$

$\Delta_{\square}, \Delta_{\square}$

so the vector  $f$  does not depend on the choice of  $\Delta_F$  and it is determined by the map  $\square$ , then the notation  $f = \det \square$ .

**Example 3.3** Let  $\square$  and  $A_{\square}$  be a linear map and its matrix respectively, defined by

$$\square_1 \quad 0 \square$$

$$\square \square: \square_2 \square \square \square \quad \square \quad \square$$

$$\square \quad A_{\square} = \square_0 \quad 1 \square$$

$$\square \square: (x, y) \square \square (x, y, x \square y) \square \square 1 \square \square$$

besides let  $\square_3: (\square^3) \square \square$  be a 2-determinant function and  $x_i \square \square^2$ , then

$$\square_{\square} = \square_{\square} \square_3(\square x_1, \square x_2, \square x_3) = \square^{12} \square(\square x_1, \square x_2) \square^{13} \square(\square x_1, \square x_3) \square^{23} \square(\square x_2, \square x_3)$$

$$= \square^{12} \square(\square x_{i1} \square e_i, \square x_{i2} \square e_i) \square^{13} \square(\square x_{i1} \square e_i, \square x_{i3} \square e_i) \square^{23} \square(\square x_{i2} \square e_i, \square x_{i3} \square e_i)$$

$$i=1 \quad i=1 \quad i=1 \quad i=1 \quad i=1 \quad i=1$$

$$= \square^{12} \mid X^{12} \mid \square(\square e_1, \square e_2) \square^{13} \mid X^{13} \mid \square(\square e_1, \square e_2) \square^{23} \mid X^{23} \mid \square(\square e_1, \square e_2)$$

$$x \quad x$$

$$ij1i \quad 1j$$

$$\text{where} \mid X \mid =.$$

$$x_{2i} x_{2j}$$

Since

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \square(\square e_1, \square e_2) = \square((1,0,1), (0,1,1)) = \square_{12} & \square_{13} & \square_{23} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \square_{12} \square_{13} \square_{23}$$

then

$$\square_{12} = \square_{12} | X_{12} | \det_2, \square_{13} | X_{13} | \det_2, \square_{23} | X_{23} | \det_2, \square_{12} = \square_{12} \square_{13} \square_{23} (\det_2, \square_{12})$$

The expression for  $\det \square$  may be obtained immediately by the matrix  $A_{\square}$ , see [2]

$$\begin{vmatrix} \square_1 & 0 & \square \\ \square & \square_1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \det_2, \square A_{\square} = \det_2, \square_{12} & \square_{13} & \square_{23} \\ \square_{12} & \square_{13} & \square_{23} & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \square_{12} \square_{13} \square_{23}$$

**Theorem 3.5** Let  $\square: E \rightarrow F$  be a linear mapping and  $A_{\square} = (\square_{\square})$  its matrix relative to the bases  $\{e_{\square}\}, \{f_{\square}\}$ ,

$\square = 1, \square, n$ ,  $\square = 1, \square, t$ . Let  $\square_F = \square_{\square}, \square_{\square} \square_{\square} \square_F: F^m \rightarrow F^r$  be an  $r$ -determinant function. If  $\square_F(f_{\square}^{\square_1}, \square, f_{\square}^{\square_r}) = 1$ , then

$$\square_{\square}(x_1, \square, x_m) = \square_{\square}(\square | X_{\square} | | A_{\square} |) \square_{\square} I_{rm}, \square_{\square} I_{rt}, \square_{\square} I_{rt}$$

$$\square_{\square}(e_1, \square, e_n) = \square_{\square}(\square | A_{\square} |)$$

where  $A_{\square}$  is the submatrix of  $A$  determined by rows indexed by  $\square$  and columns indexed by  $\square$ , for  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \square I_r^n$ ,  $\square = \square_1, \square, \square_r \square I_r^t$ . The vectors  $x_1, \square, x_m$ , relative to the basis  $\{e_{\square}\}$ , are expressed by  $x_{\square} = \square_{\square}^n = 1 x_{\square} e_{\square}, \square = 1, \square, m$  and  $X = (x_{\square})$ .

*Proof.* i)

$$\begin{aligned} \square_{\square}(x_1, \square, x_m) &= \square_F(\square x_1, \square, \square x_m) = \square_F(\square x_{\square}^1 e_{\square}, \square, \square x_{\square}^m e_{\square}) \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \\ &= \square_F(\square x_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1 f_{\square}, \square, \square x_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m f_{\square}) \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad t \quad n \quad t \quad n \\ &= \square_F(\square(\square x_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1) f_{\square}, \square, \square(\square x_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m) f_{\square}) \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad n \quad n \\ &= \square_{\square}(\square F(((\square x_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1) f_{\square}), \square, ((\square x_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m) f_{\square})) \square_{\square} I_{rt}, \square_{\square} I_{rm} \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \\ &= \square_{\square}(\square(\square x_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1) \square(\square x_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m)) \square_F(f_{\square}^{\square_1}, \square, f_{\square}^{\square_r}) \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad r \\ &= \square_{\square} S_r, \text{ by} \\ \square_{\square} &= 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad \square_{\square} = 1 \quad r \\ &= \square_{\square}(\square x_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1 \square_{\square}^1) \square(\square x_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m \square_{\square}^m) = \square | X_{\square} | | A_{\square} | \text{ it follows i).} \end{aligned}$$

ii) It is a special case of i) for  $X = I_n$ .

The scalar  $\det_{r, \square} = \square_{\square}, \square_{\square} \square_{\square} | A_{\square} |$  will be called the  $(r, \square)$ -determinant of  $\square$ , relative to the bases

$\{e_{\square}\}, \{f_{\square}\}$ . If  $\square_{\square} = | A_{\square} |$ , then  $\square_{\square}, \square_{\square} | A_{\square} |^2$  will be denoted by  $\det_r \square$  or  $|\square|_r$

□

**Theorem 3.6** Let  $\varphi: E \rightarrow F$  and  $\psi: F \rightarrow G$  be linear mappings of vector spaces. Let  $\Delta_F$  be a determinant function in

$F$ . If  $x_1, \dots, x_m$  are vectors in  $E$ , then

$$\Delta_F(\varphi(x_1), \dots, \varphi(x_m)) = \Delta_G(\psi(\varphi(x_1)), \dots, \psi(\varphi(x_m)))$$

*Proof.*

$$\Delta_F(\varphi(x_1), \dots, \varphi(x_m)) = \Delta_G(\psi(\varphi(x_1)), \dots, \psi(\varphi(x_m))) = \Delta_G(\varphi(x_1), \dots, \varphi(x_m)) = \Delta_F(x_1, \dots, x_m)$$

#### 4. The (t,k)-forms

Let  $\Pi_p$  be the tangent space of  $\Pi^n$  at the point  $p$  and let  $(\Pi_p)^\Pi$  be the dual space. Let  $\Pi^k(\Pi_p)^\Pi$  be the linear space of the  $k$ -linear alternating maps  $\Pi: (\Pi_p)^k \rightarrow \Pi$ , then denote by  $\Pi^k_t(\Pi_p)^\Pi$ , with  $k \leq t \leq n$ , the set of all  $k$ -linear alternating maps  $\Pi: (\Pi_p)^t \rightarrow \Pi$ . The set  $\Pi^k_t(\Pi_p)^\Pi$ , by the usual operations of functions, is a linear

space. If  $\Pi_1, \dots, \Pi_t$  belong to  $(\Pi_p)^\Pi$ , then an element  $\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \dots \Pi_t \Pi^k_t(\Pi_p)^\Pi$  is obtained by setting

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1(v_1) & \quad \Pi_1(v_k) \\ (\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \dots \Pi_t)(v_1, \dots, v_k) &= \det_{k, \Pi} \Pi_i(v_j) = \Pi \\ \Pi(v) & \quad t \quad 1 \end{aligned} \quad \left| \quad \begin{aligned} & \Pi_1(v_k) \\ & \Pi \\ & \Pi \\ & \Pi_t(v_k) \end{aligned} \right.$$

where  $i=1, \dots, t, j=1, \dots, k$  and  $v_j \in \Pi^n$ .

Observe that  $\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \dots \Pi_t$  is  $k$ -linear and alternate.

**Example 4.1** When  $\Pi_1, \Pi_2, \Pi_3$  belong to  $(\Pi^3_p)^\Pi$ , an element  $\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \Pi_3 \Pi^2_3(\Pi^3_p)^\Pi$  is obtained by the 2-swlin skewsymmetric map

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1(v_1) & \quad \Pi_1(v_2) & \quad \Pi_i(v_2) \\ (\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \Pi_3)(v_1, v_2) &= \det_{2, \Pi} \Pi_i(v_j) = \Pi_2(v_1) & \quad \Pi^2(v_2) \Pi_i \Pi_i \Pi_i \Pi_i \Pi_i \Pi_i \\ \Pi(v) & \quad (v_1, v_2) & \quad = \Pi_i(v_2) \\ & \quad 3 \quad 1 & \quad \Pi_3(v_2) \quad i < 2 \quad 1 \\ & \quad (i_1, i_2) \Pi_{23}, \Pi_i \Pi_i & \quad 2 \quad 2 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\Pi_1 \Pi_2 \Pi_3$  is a bilinear alternating map on the vectors  $v_1, v_2$ .

Let  $x^i: \Pi^n \rightarrow \Pi$  be the function which assigns to each point of  $\Pi^n$  its  $i^{\text{th}}$ -coordinate. Then  $(dx^i)_p$  is a linear map in  $(\Pi^n)^\Pi$  and the set  $\{(dx^i)_p; i=1, \dots, n\}$  is the dual basis of the standard  $\{(e_i)_p\}$ . The element  $(dx^i)_p \Pi \Pi \Pi (dx^t)_p$  is denoted by  $(dx^i \Pi \Pi \Pi dx^t)_p$  and belongs to  $\Pi^k_t(\Pi_p)^\Pi$ .

**Theorem 4.1** The set  $\{(dx^i \Pi \Pi \Pi dx^t)_p\}$ ,  $i_1, \dots, i_t \in I_t^n$  is a basis for  $\Pi^k_t(\Pi_p)^\Pi$ . *Proof.* the elements of  $\{(dx^i \Pi \Pi \Pi dx^t)_p\}$  are linearly independent. In fact, suppose

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pi a_{i_1, \dots, i_t} dx^{i_1} \Pi \Pi \Pi dx^{i_t} = 0 \\ & i_1, \dots, i_t \in I_t^n \end{aligned}$$

then, for any  $(e_j, \dots, e_j)$ , with  $j_1, \dots, j_k \in I_k^n$ , it follows

$$1 \quad k$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} dx^{i_1} \dots dx^{i_t}(e_{j_1}, \dots, e_{j_k})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

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Without loss of generality, suppose  $a_{r,\dots,r}$  all equal, then the  $a_{r,\dots,r}$  equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$\sum_{r=1}^n a_{r1,\dots,rt} = 0$ ,  $r_{1,\dots,rt} (I_t)_{j_1,\dots,j_k}$ ,  $j_1,\dots,j_k \in I_k$ , are a linear omogeneous full rank system, so it has only the

$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$  trivial solution. That is  $a_{i,\dots,i} = 0$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

The set  $\{(dx^{i_1} \dots dx^{i_t})_p\}$  spans  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$ , in other words any  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$  may be written

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{i1,\dots,it} I^n$$



S. Ovchinnikov *Max-Min Represenattion of Piecewise Linear Functions* Beiträge zur Algebra und Geometrie, Vol. 43 (2002), n.1, pp. 297-302.