

Representation theory of finite groups

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Throughout, fix a \mathbb{C} -vector space V , and a finite group G .

1. Let $T, S \in \text{End}(V)$ be two commuting operators. Prove that $\text{Ker}(S)$ is T -invariant.
2. Fix a \mathbb{C} -vector space V and $T \in \text{End}(V)$. Suppose $V = V_1 \oplus V_2$, and moreover both V_1, V_2 are T -invariant subspaces. Then find a basis of V such that matrix of T is block diagonal.
3. Fix $T \in \text{End}(V)$. Prove for any fixed vector $v \in V$, that $\mathbb{C}[T] \cdot v := \text{span}_{\mathbb{C}}\{v, Tv, T^{\circ 2}v, \dots, T^{\circ n}v, \dots\}$ is a T -invariant subspace; recall $\mathbb{C}[T]$ is the polynomial algebra on (symbol/operator) T .
4. Fix $T \in \text{End}(V)$. For any subspace $W \leq V$, prove that:
 - i) W is T -invariant iff W is $\mathbb{C}[T]$ -invariant.
 - ii) W is T -irreducible iff W is $\mathbb{C}[T]$ -irreducible.
 - iii) W is T -indecomposable iff W is $\mathbb{C}[T]$ -indecomposable.
5. Recall, $T \in \text{End}(V)$ is diagonalisable, iff the minimal polynomial of T has distinct roots.
6. Prove that every irreducible G -representation is also indecomposable.
7. Given a G -representation (ρ, V) , verify that $\rho_{g^{-1}}$ equals $(\rho_g)^{-1}$.
8. Given two G -representations (ρ^V, V) and (ρ^W, W) , check that $g \cdot (v, w) := (\rho_g^V(v), \rho_g^W(w))$ defines a G -representation on $V \oplus W$.
9. Consider the set

$$\{T_i \mid i \text{ is an element of the indexing set } I\},$$

where each T_i is an endomorphism in a finite-dimensional vector space V over the complex numbers \mathbb{C} . Prove that if the above family is commutative, then there exists a common eigenvector for each endomorphism T_i .

10. Find all the irreducible representations for \mathbb{Z}_3 up to isomorphism.
11. Prove that all the irreducible representations of an abelian group are one-dimensional.

1. Given two G -representations V, W , prove that $T : V \oplus W \rightarrow W \oplus V$ defined by $(v, w) \xrightarrow{T} (w, v)$ is an isomorphism of G -representations.
2. For any fixed basis $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ of V , check that $v_i \mapsto e_i$ defines an isomorphism from V to \mathbb{C}^n .
3. Given a representation (V, ρ) , and the transformation $T : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n$ as above. Prove that

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\rho}_T : G &\longrightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{C}) \\ g &\longrightarrow T\rho_g T^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

defines a G -representation of \mathbb{C}^n .

4. Prove the following are equivalent for a G -representation V :
 - a) V is completely reducible.
 - b) Every proper sub-representation W in V has a complement; i.e., there exists a sub-representation W' in V such that $V = W \oplus W'$.
 - c) The short exact sequence $0 \rightarrow W \rightarrow V \rightarrow V/W \rightarrow 0$ splits.
5. Let S_3 denote the permutation group on letters $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Consider the permutation representation $\rho^{\text{Perm}} : S_3 \rightarrow GL_3(\mathbb{C})$, on $V = \mathbb{C}^3 = \mathbb{C}\{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$ (standard basis vectors), via:

$$\rho_{(123)}^{\text{Perm}} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rho_{(12)}^{\text{Perm}} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Prove that $W = \mathbb{C}\{e_1 + e_2 + e_3\}$ is a sub-representation, and moreover V has a 2-dimensional irreducible sub-representation W' such that $V = W \oplus W'$.

6. Find the number of conjugacy classes in S_n .
7. Consider the regular representation of S_2 . Decompose $\mathbb{C}[S_2]$ into direct sum of irreducible sub-representations.
8. Consider the regular representation of S_3 . Find all the 1-dim. sub-representations of $\mathbb{C}[S_3]$. Next, if $\{e_\sigma \mid \sigma \in S_3\}$ is a basis for $\mathbb{C}[S_3]$, check that $v = [e_1 - e_{(12)}] \times [e_1 + e_{(13)}]$ generates an irreducible 2-dim. sub-representation. Thereby, decompose $\mathbb{C}[S_3]$ into direct sum of irreducible sub-representations.

9. Let $T : V \rightarrow V'$ be a G -invariant transformation (G -intertwiner) between two G -representations V and V' . Then prove that $\text{Ker}(T)$ and $\text{Im}(T)$ are also G -invariant Subspaces . Thereby, show that if V and V' are non-isomorphic irreducible representations, then $T \equiv 0$.
In particular if $V = V'$ then show that $T = \lambda I$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$.
10. In the above problem, show that the dimensions of the space of G -intertwiners $\text{Hom}_G(V, V')$, is 1 if $V \simeq V'$ and is 0 otherwise.
11. Let (ρ, V) be an irreducible representation of G then prove that the centre of G act as a scalar.
12. Compute the character table for S_3 and verify row orthogonality relation .