

Introduction to Representation Theory

HW1 - Spring 2016

Due March 1

1. *Permutation Representations.* For a finite group G and a finite G -set X we denote by $(\pi_X, L(X))$ the associated permutation representation. For a finite dimensional representation (ρ, G, V) we denote by $\chi_\rho : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ the function $\chi_\rho(g) = \text{Tr}(\rho(g))$, and call it the character of ρ .

- (a) Verify the formula

$$\chi_{\pi_X}(g) = X^g = \{x \in X; gx = x\}.$$

- (b) Consider two permutation representations $(\pi_{X_j}, L(X_j))$, $j = 1, 2$. Verify the intertwining number formula

$$\langle \pi_{X_1}, \pi_{X_2} \rangle = \#(X_1 \times X_2) / G,$$

i.e., the number of G -orbits in $X_1 \times X_2$ with respect to the diagonal action.

- (c) For $G = S_n$ and $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$ compute $\langle \pi_X, \pi_X \rangle$ and decompose π_X to a direct sum of irreducible sub representations.

2. Construct representative for each class in $\text{Irr}(S_3)$.

3. Let $G = A_4$.

- (a) Consider the standard tetrahedron $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Denote by $(,)$ the usual inner product on $\mathbb{R}^3$ and by $SO(3) = \{A \in GL_3(\mathbb{R}); A \text{ preserves } (,) \text{ and } \det(A) = 1\}$. Consider the group $T = \text{Stab}_{SO(3)}(\mathcal{T})$. Write down a natural isomorphism

$$r : T \xrightarrow{\sim} A_4.$$

- (b) Compute $\#\text{Irr}(G)$. Compute $\dim(\sigma)$ for every $\sigma \in \text{Irr}(G)$.

- (c) Construct representative for each class in $\text{Irr}(G)$.

4. Let $G = S_4$.

- (a) Consider the standard cube $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Consider the group $C = \text{Stab}_{SO(3)}(\mathcal{C})$. Write down a natural isomorphism

$$r : C \xrightarrow{\sim} S_4.$$

- (b) Compute $\#\text{Irr}(G)$. Compute $\dim(\sigma)$ for every $\sigma \in \text{Irr}(G)$.

- (c) Find two one dimensional irreps of G .

- (d) Consider the permutation representation π of G on $\mathcal{H} = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and obtain a three-dimensional irreducible representation of G .

- (e) Consider the sign representation $\text{sgn} : S_n \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}$. Show that the representation $\rho = \text{sgn} \otimes \pi$ are not isomorphic.

- (f) Denote by $Y = \{P_1, P_2, P_3\}$ the set of pairs of antipodal faces of the cube $\mathcal{C}$. Then G acts on Y . Use this to construct a new irreducible representation τ of G .
- (g) Construct representative for each class in $Irr(G)$.

5. Let $G = A_5$.

- (a) Consider the standard dodecahedron $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$. Consider the group $D = Stab_{SO(3)}(\mathcal{D})$. Write down a natural isomorphism

$$r : D \xrightarrow{\sim} A_5.$$

- (b) Write down the conjugacy classes of D and compute $\#Irr(G)$.
- (c) Denote by ρ_1 the trivial representation of G . Denote by ρ_3 the tautological three dimensional representation of D , and show that is is irreducible.
- (d) Compute $\dim(\sigma)$ for every $\sigma \in Irr(G)$.
- (e) Use the permutation representation of A_5 on $X = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ to construct a four dimensional irreducible representation ρ_4 .
- (f) Denote by $Y = \{A_1, \dots, A_6\}$ the set of six axes through the centers of opposite centers of $\mathcal{D}$. Denote by π_Y the associated permutation representation. Compute the intertwining number $\langle \rho_1, \pi_Y \rangle$ and construct a five dimensional irreducible representation ρ_5 of D .
- (g) Take an element $\theta \in S_5 \setminus A_5$. Consider the induced (by conjugation) automorphism $\alpha_\theta : A_5 \rightarrow A_5$. Define $\rho_3^\theta = \rho_3 \circ \alpha_\theta$. Show that ρ_3^θ and ρ_3 are not isomorphic.
- (h) Construct representative for each class in $Irr(G)$.

Good Luck!