Group Theory **PHYS2102** Spring, 2020

${\bf Assignment} \,\, {\bf 03}$

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Due Time: 8:15, March 25, 2020 (Wednesday)

 Γ is a faithful representation of a non-Abelian group G. If the representation of each element in the group is transformed as in the following, determine whether the resultant set of matrices forms a representation of the group G.

- (a) $\Gamma(T)^{\dagger}$ (Hermitian conjugate).
- (b) $\Gamma(T)^t$ (transpose).
- (c) $\Gamma(T)^{-1}$ (inverse).
- (d) $\Gamma(T)^*$ (complex conjugate).
- (e) $(\Gamma(T)^{-1})^{\dagger}$ (Hermitian conjugate of the inverse).
- (f) $\det \Gamma(T)$ (determinant).
- (g) Tr Γ (trace).

Solution: (a) $\Gamma(T)^{\dagger}$ does **not** form a representation of G.

Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $\Gamma(T_1)^{\dagger}\Gamma(T_2)^{\dagger} = [\Gamma(T_2)\Gamma(T_1)]^{\dagger} = \Gamma(T_2T_1)^{\dagger}$. Because G is a non-Abelian group, T_2T_1 is not necessarily equal to T_1T_2 . As a result, $\Gamma(T_1)^{\dagger}\Gamma(T_2)^{\dagger}=\Gamma(T_2T_1)^{\dagger}\neq\Gamma(T_1T_2)^{\dagger}$, so $\Gamma(T)^{\dagger}$ does not form a representation of G.

- (b) $\Gamma(T)^t$ does **not** form a representation of G. Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $\Gamma(T_1)^t\Gamma(T_2)^t=[\Gamma(T_2)\Gamma(T_1)]^t=\Gamma(T_2T_1)^t$. Because G is a non-Abelian group, T_2T_1 is not necessarily equal to T_1T_2 . As a result, $\Gamma(T_1)^t\Gamma(T_2)^t=\Gamma(T_2T_1)^t\neq\Gamma(T_1T_2)^t$, so $\Gamma(T)^t$ does not form a representation of G.
- (c) $\Gamma(T)^{-1}$ does **not** form a representation of G. Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $\Gamma(T_1)^{-1}\Gamma^{-1}(T_2) = [\Gamma(T_2)\Gamma(T_1)]^{-1} = \Gamma(T_2T_1)^{-1}$. Because G is a non-Abelian group, T_2T_1 is not necessarily equal to T_1T_2 . As a result, $\Gamma(T_1)^{-1}\Gamma(T_2)^{-1} \neq \Gamma(T_2T_1)^{-1} \neq \Gamma(T_1T_2)^{-2}$, so $\Gamma(T)^{-1}$ does not form a representation of G.
- (d) $\Gamma(T)^*$ forms a representation of G. Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $\Gamma(T_1)^*\Gamma(T_2)^*[\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2)]^* = \Gamma(T_1T_2)^*$, so $\Gamma(T)^*$ forms a representation of G.
- (e) $(\Gamma(T)^{-1})^{\dagger}$ forms a representation of G. For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $(\Gamma(T_1)^{-1})^{\dagger}(\Gamma(T_2)^{-1})^{\dagger} = (\Gamma(T_2)^{-1}\Gamma(T_1)^{-1})^{\dagger} = ((\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2))^{-1})^{\dagger} = (\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2)^{-1})^{\dagger} = (\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_1)^{-1})^{\dagger} = (\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_1)^{\dagger})^{\dagger} = (\Gamma(T_1)$ $[\Gamma(T_1T_2)^{-1}]^{\dagger}$, so $(\Gamma(T)^{-1})^{\dagger}$ forms a representation of G.
- (f) $\det \Gamma(T)$ forms a representation of G. Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $\det(\Gamma(T_1))\det(\Gamma(T_2)) = \det(\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2)) = \det(\Gamma(T_1T_2))$, so $\det \Gamma(T)$ forms a representation of G.
- (g) Tr $\Gamma(T)$ does **not** form a representation of G. Proof: For two arbitrary elements T_1 and T_2 in G, $Tr(\Gamma(T_1T_2)) = Tr(\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2))$. Since the trace of the product is not necessarily equal to the product of the traces, $\operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma(T_1T_2)) = \operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma(T_1)\Gamma(T_2)) \neq \operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma(T_1)\operatorname{Tr}(\Gamma(T_2))$. As a result, Tr $\Gamma(T)$ does not form a representation of G.

Problem 2 Score: _____. A two-dimensional representation of $C_2 = \{E, a\}$ is given by

$$\Gamma(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find the similarity transformation that reduces the above two-dimensional representation of C_2 into the direct sum of two irreducible one-dimensional representation.

Solution: To find the similarity transformation that reduce Γ into the direct sum of two irreducible one-dimensional representation is to diagonalize Γ : $\Gamma'' = S^{-1}\Gamma(T)S$. Since for any invertible matrix S, $S^{-1}\Gamma(E)S = S^{-1}S = S^{-1}S = 1_2$, which is already a diagonal matrix, we only need to find S that diagonalize $\Gamma(a)$. The characteristic equation of $\Gamma(a)$ is

$$\det[\Gamma(a) - \lambda \mathbf{1}_2] = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1\\ 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 1 = 0. \tag{1}$$

Solving the above characteristic equation, we get the two eigenvalues of $\Gamma(a)$:

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = -1. \tag{2}$$

Suppose the eigenvector is $(x \ y)^T$. For eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = 1$, we have

$$\Gamma(a) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_1 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}. \tag{3}$$

Solving the above eigenfunction and normalizing the solution, we get the eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_1 = 1$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (4)

For eigenvalue $\lambda_2 = -1$, we have

$$\Gamma(a) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}. \tag{5}$$

Solving the above eigenfunction and normalizing the solution, we get the eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_2 = -1$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (6)

We choose the transformation matrix as

$$S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix},\tag{7}$$

which is equal to its inverse:

$$S^{-1} = S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{8}$$

Now we make the following similarity transformation to reduce the original representation of C_2 into the direct sum of two irreducible one-dimensional representation:

$$\Gamma''(E) = S^{-1}\Gamma(E)S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma''_{11}(E) \oplus \Gamma''_{22}(E), \tag{9}$$

$$\Gamma''(a) = S^{-1}\Gamma(a)S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma''_{11}(a) \oplus \Gamma''_{22}(a). \tag{10}$$

where

$$\Gamma_{11}(E) = 1, \qquad \Gamma_{11}(a) = 1, \tag{11}$$

$$\Gamma_{22}(E) = 1,$$
 $\Gamma_{22}(a) = -1.$ (12)

Problem 3 Score: _____. Consider the following two-dimensional representation Γ of the group $G = \{E, a, b\}$ of order g = 3.

$$\Gamma(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma(a) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \sqrt{3} \\ -\sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma(b) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a) Check the orthogonality relation

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{jk}^* \Gamma(T)_{st} = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{js} \delta_{kt}$$
(13)

for all the possible combinations of j, k, s, and t. Note that j, k, s, t = 1, 2 and that d = 2.

(b) Is the representation Γ reducible?

Solution: (a)

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{11}^* \Gamma(T)_{11} = \frac{1}{3} [1 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1) + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1)] = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{11} \delta_{11}, \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{11}^* \Gamma(T)_{12} = \frac{1}{3} [1 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3} + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-\sqrt{3})] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{11} \delta_{12}, \tag{15}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{11}^* \Gamma(T)_{21} = \frac{1}{3} [1 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3}] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{12} \delta_{11}, \tag{16}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{11}^* \Gamma(T)_{22} = \frac{1}{3} \left[1 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{1}{d} \delta_{12} \delta_{12} = 0, \tag{17}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{12}^* \Gamma(T)_{11} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1)] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{11} \delta_{21}, \tag{18}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{12}^* \Gamma(T)_{12} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3})] = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{11} \delta_{22}, \tag{19}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{12}^* \Gamma(T)_{21} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3}] = -\frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{1}{d} \delta_{12} \delta_{21} = 0, \tag{20}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{12}^* \Gamma(T)_{22} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1)] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{12} \delta_{22}, \tag{21}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{21}^* \Gamma(T)_{11} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-1)] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{21} \delta_{11}, \tag{22}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{21}^* \Gamma(T)_{12} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3})] = -\frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{1}{d} \delta_{21} \delta_{12} = 0, \tag{23}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{21}^* \Gamma(T)_{21} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3}] = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{22} \delta_{11}, \tag{24}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{21}^* \Gamma(T)_{22} = \frac{1}{3} [0 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \times \frac{1}{2} (-1) + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \times \frac{1}{2} (-1)] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{22} \delta_{12}, \tag{25}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{22}^* \Gamma(T)_{11} = \frac{1}{3} [1 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1) + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1)] = \frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{1}{d} \delta_{21} \delta_{21} = 0, \tag{26}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{22}^* \Gamma(T)_{12} = \frac{1}{g} \left[1 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) \right] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{21} \delta_{22}, \tag{27}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{22}^* \Gamma(T)_{21} = \frac{1}{g} \left[1 \times 0 + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} (-\sqrt{3}) + \frac{1}{2} (-1) \times \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{3} \right] = 0 = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{22} \delta_{21}, \tag{28}$$

$$\frac{1}{g} \sum_{T \in G} \Gamma(T)_{22}^* \Gamma(T)_{22} = \frac{1}{g} [1 \times 1 + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1) + \frac{1}{2}(-1) \times \frac{1}{2}(-1)] = \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{d} \delta_{22} \delta_{22}. \tag{29}$$

Therefore, the orthogonality relation does **not** holds for all the combinations of j, k, s, and t.

(b) Since

$$\Gamma(E)\Gamma(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{30}$$

$$\Gamma(a)\Gamma(a)^{\dagger} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \sqrt{3} \\ -\sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \tag{31}$$

$$\Gamma(b)\Gamma(b)^{\dagger} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \sqrt{3} \\ -\sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (32)

 Γ is a unitary representation of G. Because the orthogonality relation does not holds for all the combinations of j, k, s, and t, the representation Γ is reducible.

Actually, we can choose transformation matrix

$$S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1\\ i & -i \end{pmatrix},\tag{33}$$

whose inverse is

$$S^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 1 & i \end{pmatrix}, \tag{34}$$

so that Γ can be transformed into a completely reducible representation

$$\Gamma''(E) = S^{-1}\Gamma(E)S = 1_2 = \Gamma''_{11}(E) \oplus \Gamma''_{22}(E), \tag{35}$$

$$\Gamma''(a) = S^{-1}\Gamma(a)S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 1 & i \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \sqrt{3} \\ -\sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ i & -i \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 + \sqrt{3}i & 0 \\ 0 & -1 - \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma''_{11}(a) \oplus \Gamma''_{22}(a),$$
(36)

$$\Gamma''(b) = S^{-1}\Gamma(a)S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 1 & i \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{3} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ i & -i \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 - \sqrt{3}i & 0 \\ 0 & -1 + \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} = \Gamma''_{11}(b) \oplus \Gamma''_{22}(b). \tag{37}$$

where

$$\Gamma_{11}^{"}(E) = 1, \qquad \Gamma_{11}^{"}(a) = -1 + \sqrt{3}i, \qquad \Gamma_{22}^{"}(b) = -1 - \sqrt{3}i, \qquad (38)$$

$$\Gamma_{22}^{"}(E) = 1,$$
 $\Gamma_{22}^{"}(a) = -1 - \sqrt{3}i,$ $\Gamma_{22}^{"}(b) = -1 + \sqrt{3}i.$ (39)

Problem 4 Score: _____. Show that the sum of the characters of all the elements of a finite group in an irreducible representation except the identity representation is zero.

Solution: Notations:

- G: a finite group of order g.
- Γ^1 : the identity representation of G.
- Γ^p , $p \neq 1$: an arbitrary irreducible representation of G that is not equivalent to the identity representation.
- $\chi^p(T)$: the character of an element T of G in Γ^p .

The sum of the characters of all the elements of a finite group in an irreducible representation except the identity representation is

$$\sum_{T \in G} \chi^p(T) = \sum_{T \in G} \chi^p(T) \cdot 1$$

$$= \sum_{T \in G} \chi^p(T) \chi^1(T)$$
(using orthogonality relation for characters)
$$= g \delta_{p1}$$

$$= 0. \tag{40}$$

____. Consider the group $G = \{E, a, b, b^2, b^3, b^4, b^5, ab, ab^2, ab, ab^2, ab^3, ab^4, ab^5\}$ with $a^2 =$ Problem 5 Score: _ $b^6 = E \text{ and } a^{-1}ba = b^{-1}$.

- (a) Find all the elements in each class of G.
- (b) Γ^1 and Γ^2 are two representation of G. In the representation Γ^1 , $\Gamma^1(a)$ and $\Gamma^1(b)$ are respectively given by

$$\Gamma^1(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma^1(b) = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

with $\omega = e^{i2\pi/3}$. In the representation Γ^2 , $\Gamma^2(a)$ and $\Gamma^2(b)$ are respectively given by

$$\Gamma^2(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \Gamma^2(b) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the partial character table of G with entries only for the representation Γ^1 and Γ^2 .

(c) Are the representation Γ^1 and Γ^2 equivalent?

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	Table 1: Multiplication table of G .											
	$\mid E \mid$	a	b	b^2	b^3	b^4	b^5	ab	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5
\overline{E}	E	a	b	b^2	b^3	b^4	b^5	ab	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5
a	a	E	ab	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5	b	b^2	b^3	b^4	b^5
b	b	ab^5	b^2	b^3	b^4	b^5	E	a	ab	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4
b^2	b^2	ab^4	b^3	b^4	b^5	E	b	ab^5	a	ab	ab^2	ab^3
b^3	b^3	ab^3	b^4	b^5	E	b	b^2	ab^4	ab^5	a	ab	ab^2
b^4	b^4	ab^2	b^5	E	b	b^2	b^3	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5	a	ab
b^5	b^5	ab	E	b	b^2	b^3	b^4	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5	a
ab	ab	b^5	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5	a	E	b	b^2	b^3	b^4
ab^2	ab^2	b^4	ab^3	ab^4	ab^5	a	ab	b^5	E	b	b^2	b^3
ab^3	ab^3	b^3	ab^4	ab^5	a	ab	ab^2	b^4	b^5	E	b	b^2
ab^4	ab^4	b^2	ab^5	a	ab	ab^2	ab^3	b^3	b^4	b^5	E	b
ab^5	ab^5	b	a	ab	ab^2	ab^3	ab^4	b^2	b^3	b^4	b^5	E

- (d) Is the representation Γ^1 reducible?
- (e) Is the representation Γ^2 reducible?

Solution: (a) Construct the multiplication table of G, as shown in table 1. The inverse of every element in G are shown as following:

$$E^{-1} = E, a^{-1} = a, b^{-1} = b^{5}, (b^{2})^{-1} = b^{4}, (b^{3})^{-1} = b^{3}, (b^{4})^{-1} = b^{2}, (41)$$

$$(b^{5})^{-1} = b, (ab)^{-1} = ab, (ab^{2}) = ab^{2}, (ab^{3})^{-1} = ab^{3}, (ab^{4})^{-1} = ab^{4}, (ab^{5})^{-1} = ab^{5}. (42)$$

$$(b^5)^{-1} = b,$$
 $(ab)^{-1} = ab,$ $(ab^2) = ab^2,$ $(ab^3)^{-1} = ab^3,$ $(ab^4)^{-1} = ab^4,$ $(ab^5)^{-1} = ab^5.$ (42)

Constructing a class from a: For $X = E, a, b^3, ab^3$,

$$XaX^{-1} = a. (43)$$

For $X = b, b^4, ab^2, ab^5$,

$$XaX^{-1} = ab^4. (44)$$

For
$$X = b^2, b^5, ab, ab^4$$
,

$$XaX^{-1} = ab^2. (45)$$

The class of G constructed from a is $\{a, ab^2, ab^4\}$.

Using the similar method, we construct all the classes of G:

$$C_1 = \{E\}, \quad C_2 = \{a, ab^2, ab^4\}, \quad C_3 = \{b, b^5\}, \quad C_4 = \{b^2, b^4\}, \quad C_5 = \{b^3\}, \quad C_6 = \{ab, ab^3, ab^5\}.$$

(b) In the representation Γ^1 ,

$$\Gamma^{1}(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(E) = 2, \tag{46}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(a) = 0, \tag{47}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(b) = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(b) = -1, \tag{48}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(b^{2}) = \Gamma^{1}(b)^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega^{2} & 0\\ 0 & \omega^{-2} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(b^{2}) = -1, \tag{49}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(b^{3}) = \Gamma^{1}(b)^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(b^{3}) = 2, \qquad (50)$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(b^{4}) = \Gamma^{1}(b)^{4} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(b^{4}) = -1, \tag{51}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(b^{5}) = \Gamma^{1}(b)^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} \omega^{2} & 0\\ 0 & \omega^{-2} \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(b^{5}) = -1, \tag{52}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(ab) = \Gamma^{1}(a)\Gamma^{1}(b) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega^{-1} \\ \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(ab) = 0, \tag{53}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(ab^{2}) = \Gamma^{1}(a)\Gamma^{1}(b)^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega^{-2} \\ \omega^{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(ab^{2}) = 0, \tag{54}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(ab^{3}) = \Gamma^{1}(a)\Gamma^{1}(b)^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1\\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(ab^{3}) = 0, \tag{55}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(ab^{4}) = \Gamma^{1}(a)\Gamma^{1}(b)^{4} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega^{-1} \\ \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(ab^{2}) = 0, \tag{56}$$

$$\Gamma^{1}(ab^{5}) = \Gamma^{1}(a)\Gamma^{1}(b)^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega^{-2} \\ \omega^{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{1}(ab^{2}) = 0.$$
 (57)

In the representation Γ^2 ,

$$\Gamma^2(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^2(E) = 2, \qquad (58)$$

$$\Gamma^2(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^2(a) = 0, \tag{59}$$

$$\Gamma^2(b) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^2(b) = 0, \tag{60}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(b^{2}) = \Gamma^{2}(b)^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(b^{2}) = 2, \tag{61}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(b^{3}) = \Gamma^{2}(b)^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(b^{3}) = 0, \tag{62}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(b^{4}) = \Gamma^{2}(b)^{4} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(b^{4}) = 2, \tag{63}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(b^{5}) = \Gamma^{2}(b)^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(b^{5}) = 0, \tag{64}$$

$$\Gamma^2(ab) = \Gamma^2(a)\Gamma^2(b) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^2(ab) = -2, \tag{65}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(ab^{2}) = \Gamma^{2}(a)\Gamma^{2}(b)^{2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(ab^{2}) = 0, \tag{66}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(ab^{3}) = \Gamma^{2}(a)\Gamma^{2}(b)^{3} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(ab^{3}) = -2, \tag{67}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(ab^{4}) = \Gamma^{2}(a)\Gamma^{2}(b)^{4} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(ab^{2}) = 0, \tag{68}$$

$$\Gamma^{2}(ab^{5}) = \Gamma^{2}(a)\Gamma^{2}(b)^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0\\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \chi^{2}(ab^{2}) = -2.$$
 (69)

The partial character table of G with entries only for the representation Γ^1 and Γ^2 is shown in table 2.

(c) As shown above, $\Gamma^2(T)$'s are all diagonal matrices, so Γ is a completely reducible representation of G. Let's try diagonalizing Γ^1 and see if it is the same with Γ^2 . The characteristic equation of $\Gamma^1(a)$ is

$$\det(\Gamma^1(a) - \lambda 1_2) = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1\\ 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 1 = 0. \tag{70}$$

Solving the above characteristic equation, we get the two eigenvalues of $\Gamma^1(a)$:

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = -1. \tag{71}$$

Suppose the eigenvector is $\begin{pmatrix} x & y \end{pmatrix}^T$. For eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = 1$, we have

$$\Gamma^{1}(a) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_{1} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}. \tag{72}$$

Solving the above eigenfunction and normalizing the solution, we get the eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_1 = 1$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (73)

For eigenvalue $\lambda_2 = -1$, we have

$$\Gamma^{1}(a) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_{2} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x \\ -y \end{pmatrix}. \tag{74}$$

Solving the above eigenfunction and normalizing the solution, we get the eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_2 = -1$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$
 (75)

We choose the transformation matrices as

$$S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix},\tag{76}$$

which is equal to its inverse:

$$S^{-1} = S = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{77}$$

By making the following transformation

$$\Gamma^{1''}(a) = S^{-1}\Gamma^{1}(a)S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
 (78)

$$\Gamma^{1''}(b) = S^{-1}\Gamma^{1}(b)S = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0\\ 0 & \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, \tag{79}$$

$$\Gamma^{1''}(ab) = S^{-1}\Gamma^{1}(b)S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \omega^{-1} \\ \omega & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
(80)

we find that $\Gamma^{1''}(b) \neq \Gamma^2(b)$ and $\Gamma^1(ab)$ can even not be transformed in the form of a reducible representation, so the representation Γ^1 and Γ^2 is **not** equivalent.

- (d) As shown in (c), Γ^1 is **not** reducible.
- (e) As mentioned in (c), Γ^2 is a completely reducible representation of G.