



THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
A U S T R A L I A

OPTIMIZING PERFORMANCE
IN GAUSSIAN PROCESSES

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INTRODUCTION

Origins of group theory. The mathematical field of group theory has its origins in the early 19th century. At the time, mathematicians were investigating the solutions to polynomial equations. That is, solutions to equations of the form

$$a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0.$$

Full solutions to polynomial equations of low degrees (i.e. $n \leq 4$) had already been formulated [Rig96]. These include the familiar *quadratic formula*, which has been known since antiquity. The formula tells us that the solutions to a general quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are given by

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}.$$

The full solutions to any cubic ($n = 3$) or quartic ($n = 4$) polynomial equation were also known. These are given by the lesser-known Cardano's formula and Ferrari's method, respectively. We say that a polynomial is *solvable by radicals* if one can write all of its solutions in terms of its coefficients combined with the algebraic operations; addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, powers and radicals (i.e. k^{th} roots).

In the 1830s, the mathematician Évariste Galois provided an elegant method to prove that a general polynomial of degree $n \geq 5$ is not solvable by radicals. Galois understood that to every polynomial one could associate a *Galois group*, a new mathematical object at the time. The Galois group was the first object in a class of mathematical objects that we call *groups* today. We say that the pair (G, \circ) is a group, where G is a set and $\circ: G \times G \rightarrow G$ is a binary operation on G , when three conditions are satisfied:

- Associativity: $g \circ (h \circ k) = (g \circ h) \circ k$ for all $g, h, k \in G$.
- Existence of an identity: there exists some $1_G \in G$ such that $1_G \circ g = g \circ 1_G = g$ for all $g \in G$.
- Existence of inverses: for every $g \in G$, there exists some $g^{-1} \in G$ such that $g \circ g^{-1} = g^{-1} \circ g = 1_G$.

Examples of groups that are likely familiar to the reader include $(\mathbb{Z}, +)$, the integers under addition, (\mathbb{R}^+, \times) , the positive real numbers under multiplication, and $(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +)$, the integers modulo n under addition. Some geometric examples of groups are the *dihedral groups*. These groups are generated by the m symmetries associated to the regular m -sided polygon (i.e. a polygon with all interior angles and all side lengths the same). Then each dihedral group contains $2m$ elements (m reflections and m rotations) with the group operation of composition of reflections and rotations.

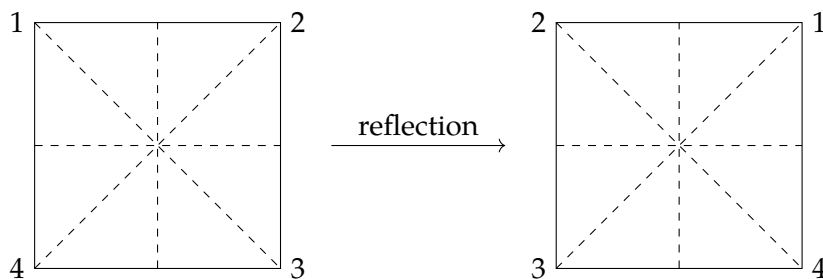


FIGURE 1. The symmetries of a square and a reflection about the vertical line of symmetry.

This gives us an intuitive understanding of groups: they encode the symmetries of mathematical objects.

What is representation theory? The study of groups yields insight into geometric objects. The action of the dihedral group on the m -gon serves as example of a group acting on a geometric object. More generally, we can consider the action of a group on some object. Specifically, we say that a group G *acts* on a set X if, for each $g \in G$, there is a map $\cdot : G \times X \rightarrow X$ satisfying $1_G \cdot x = x$ and $g \cdot (h \cdot x) = (gh) \cdot x$ for all $x \in X$. Alternatively, one can view this as a group homomorphism $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{Sym}(X)$, where $\text{Sym}(X)$ is the symmetric group associated to X , i.e. the group of permutations of elements of X .

Now we linearise the setting above by requiring that $X = V$ is a *vector space*. Then we say that G acts *linearly* on V if there exists a group homomorphism $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$. We call (V, ρ) a *representation* of G , and ρ is often suppressed from notation. We see that G acts on V in the sense that $\rho(g) : V \rightarrow V$ is a linear invertible map on V . We may denote $\rho(g)(v)$ by $g \cdot v$ as before.

Representation theory is concerned with understanding and classifying linear actions of groups. The general situation of representation theory is as follows. If the group G acts on a vector space V , then we say that a vector subspace $W \subseteq V$ is a *subrepresentation* of V if it is invariant under the action of G . A representation is called *irreducible* if its only proper subrepresentation is the trivial representation $W = \{0\}$. The primary goals of representation theory are finding all irreducible representations of G , and to decompose a given representation into its irreducible components.

We can think of irreducible representations as the building blocks of all other representations. This is a common idea in mathematics, seen in other areas. For instance, in number theory, the building blocks of integers are primes and, in group theory, the building blocks of groups are simple groups.

Writing a general representation in terms of irreducible components is not always possible. We call a representation *decomposable* if we can write it as the direct sum of irreducible representations. A lot can be said about the case where the representation of a finite group is over a field whose characteristic not dividing the order of the group. In this case, *Maschke's theorem* tells us that these representations are always decomposable [Lan02]. In particular, complex representations of a finite group are always decomposable.

Gelfand Pairs. Henceforth, we assume some knowledge of abstract algebra from the reader. Let G be a finite group and $K \leq G$ a subgroup. The pair (G, K) is called a *Gelfand pair* if the induced representation $\text{Ind}_K^G \mathbf{1}$ is multiplicity-free. Here $\mathbf{1}$ denotes the trivial (1-dimensional) complex representation of K , and multiplicity-free means that any irreducible representation appears in the decomposition of $\text{Ind}_K^G \mathbf{1}$ at most once (up to isomorphism).

Gelfand pairs play an important role in representation theory [Mus93], analysis [Kor80, Mor18], combinatorics [BI84], number theory [Gro91, Ter99] and probability [CSST20, Dia88]. One of our objectives is to give a detailed study of Gelfand pairs of finite groups. A main theorem of this thesis is the following:

Theorem 1. (*Gelfand's Trick*) Let G be a finite group and K a subgroup of G . Suppose $\varphi : G \rightarrow G$ is an involutive anti-automorphism (i.e. a bijective anti-homomorphism) such that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$. Then (G, K) is a Gelfand pair.

The theorem above is proved using the *Hecke algebra*. There are multiple constructions of Hecke algebras in the literature [CMHL03, CSST20].

Types of Hecke algebras. Another objective of this thesis is to present these a priori different Hecke algebras and resolve their apparent discrepancies. For instance, one way to define the Hecke algebra is as a convolution algebra of K -bi-invariant complex-valued functions $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ on a group. Another way to define the Hecke algebra is as the algebra generated by $n - 1$ variables T_1, \dots, T_{n-1} subject to a *quadratic relation* $T_i^2 = (q - 1)T_i + q$ and a *braid relation*

$$\underbrace{T_i T_j T_i \dots}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}} = \underbrace{T_j T_i T_j \dots}_{m_{ij} \text{ terms}}$$

Here m_{ij} is the ij^{th} entry in the *Coxeter matrix* associated to the *Weyl group* of G . The name ‘braid relation’ is due to a method of visualising the *symmetric group* S_n . If n is a positive integer then the group S_n is the collection of bijections on the set $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ to itself, with the group operation of composing functions. A natural method of visualising elements and multiplication in this group is via *braid diagrams*. For instance, if $\sigma = (1\ 2)(3\ 5\ 4)$ and $\pi = (1\ 2\ 4\ 6\ 5\ 3)$ are permutations in S_6 (written in cycle notation), then we may visualise these elements and their product $\pi\sigma = (1\ 4)(5\ 6)$ in the following manner:

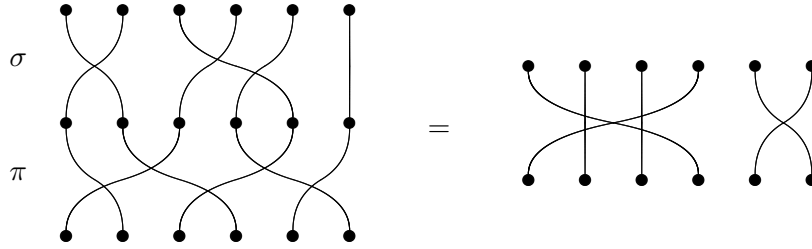


FIGURE 2. A braid diagram visualising the multiplication $\pi\sigma = (1\ 4)(5\ 6)$.

Why study Hecke algebras? The Hecke algebra arises naturally when one wishes to compute certain irreducible representations of a group [RW21, CMHL03]. Consider a finite group G and a normal subgroup $N \triangleleft G$. If G acts linearly on a vector space V (i.e. V is a representation of G), then there is a natural action of G on the subrepresentation V^N , the space of vectors in V that are fixed by N . Under this action, N will clearly act trivially on V^N . This yields a representation of the quotient group G/N . After some representation theoretic arguments, one arrives at the conclusion that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Irreducible representations} \\ \text{of } G \text{ with } N\text{-fixed vectors} \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Irreducible representations} \\ \text{of } G/N \end{array} \right\}.$$

It is a straightforward exercise that a complex representation of the group G/N is the same as a representation of the algebra $\mathbb{C}[G/N]$, the *group algebra* of G/N .

What happens when we do not require a normal subgroup of G ? Consider an arbitrary subgroup K of a finite group G . Now G/K is no longer necessarily a group, so G/K and $\mathbb{C}[G/K]$ no longer necessarily make sense. We ask ourselves: what acts on V^K ? The action of G on V is not well-defined on V^K since K is no longer normal. It is not obvious how we could study irreducible G -representations with K -fixed vectors. We are able to salvage the situation with the help of the Hecke algebra.

For $g \in G$, define the Hecke operator $[KgK] := \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{x \in KgK} x \in \mathbb{C}[G]$, which acts on V^K by

$$[KgK] \cdot v := \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{x \in KgK} x \cdot v.$$

Now define the Hecke algebra $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ to be the space of functions $f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ that are constant on K -double cosets. The indicator functions χ_{KgK} form a basis of this space and we can uniquely associate the indicator functions χ_{KgK} to the Hecke operators $[KgK]$. We see that, through the Hecke operators, we have defined an action of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ on V^K . This answers our question of what acts on V^K . Through another representation-theoretic exercise, one can conclude that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Irreducible representations} \\ \text{of } G \text{ with } K\text{-fixed vectors} \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Irreducible representations} \\ \text{of } \mathcal{H}(G, K) \end{array} \right\}.$$

An immediate example of the utility of this result is as follows. It is easy to show that if $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ is commutative, then all of its irreducible finite-dimensional representations are one-dimensional [EGH⁺11]. The commutativity of the Hecke algebra turns out to be an important property which will be investigated throughout this thesis.

Contents of this thesis. In Chapter 1, we begin our study of the Hecke algebra. First, we investigate the convolution algebra of all complex-valued functions on G and its ideal of K -right-invariant complex-valued functions. This is followed by results describing the relationship between the induced representation and its associated Hecke algebra. We use these results to prove Theorem 1. This allows us to write down simple proofs that $\text{Ind}_K^G \mathbf{1}$ is multiplicity-free for certain choices of G and K . Namely, (G, K) with G commutative, (G, K) with $[G:K] = 2$, $(S_{n+m}, S_n \times S_m)$, and $(O_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q), O_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$ for q odd.

In Chapter 2, we generalise the discussion of Chapter 1 to the case of a non-trivial character $\sigma: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$. Here our goal is to obtain a twisted analogue of Theorem 1. To this end, we describe the basis of the Hecke algebra using the idea of *relevant orbits*. We state and prove the generalisation of Theorem 1. We apply the new theorem to a particular representation, the *Gelfand–Graev representation* of $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, to show that it is multiplicity-free.

In Chapter ??, we investigate the Hecke algebra of Chapter 1 under the particular choice of $G = \text{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ and $K = B(\mathbb{F}_q)$, the *Borel subgroup* of G , i.e. the subgroup of upper-triangular matrices. The *Weyl group* associated to G is introduced and shown to be isomorphic to S_n . Next, we perform some elementary matrix calculations which yields the surprising result above: the Hecke algebra may be written in terms of $n - 1$ generators subject to the quadratic relation and the braid relations associated to W . This leads to a concluding discussion of Hecke algebras generated by any finite *Coxeter group*.

In Chapter ??, we generalise the results of earlier chapters to the case where G is no longer finite, but instead a locally compact topological group. This allows for an extension of the theory we have developed to more general groups and their Hecke algebras. To do this, we discuss how one can impose a topological structure on a group and supply examples to give some intuition for these types of groups. To define Hecke algebras of these groups, we require some measure theory. In particular, the convolution product on the Hecke algebra is defined in terms of an integral with respect to the *Haar measure*. We spend some time developing the theory of Haar measures for this purpose. We conclude with a discussion of how to

recover the Hecke algebra of a finite group from this new definition. In this chapter, we shall denote the Hecke algebra by $C_c(K \backslash G / K)$ to emphasise the non-finiteness of G .

In Chapter ??, we take a look at some specific Hecke algebras of locally compact topological groups. In particular, we restrict our attention to the general linear group over a non-archimedean local field k and its ring of integers \mathcal{O} . We look at the *Spherical Hecke algebra*, formed when one considers $G = \mathrm{GL}_n(k)$ and $K = K^\circ := \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathcal{O})$, and the *Iwahori–Hecke algebra*, formed when one considers $G = \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathcal{O})$ and $K = I$, the *Iwahori subgroup*. In order to investigate these algebras, we must develop an understanding of these fields. We detail their definition, classification and structure.

The contents of this thesis may be visualised with the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \text{Ch. 2} & & \text{Ch. 1} & & \text{Ch. ??} \\
 \mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma) & \xrightarrow{\sigma=1} & \mathcal{H}(G, K) & \xleftarrow{G \text{ finite}} & C_c(K \backslash G / K) & \xrightarrow{K=I} & C_c(I \backslash G / I) \\
 & & \downarrow \begin{array}{c} G \text{ Lie type} \\ \text{over } \mathbb{F}_q \end{array} & & \downarrow K=K^\circ & & \\
 & & \mathcal{H}_q(W, S) & & C_c(K^\circ \backslash G / K^\circ) & & \\
 & & \text{Ch. ??} & & \text{Ch. ??} & &
 \end{array}$$

FIGURE 3. The relationship diagram of this thesis.

Directions for future research. We assume the reader is familiar with the contents of this thesis. The modern study of Hecke algebras is largely focused on the *Iwahori–Hecke algebra*, which is also known as the *affine Hecke algebra*. This algebra is central to the study of representations of *reductive groups* over non-archimedean local fields (e.g. groups such as GL_n , SL_n , Sp_{2n} over fields such as \mathbb{Q}_p or $\mathbb{F}_q((t))$).

Some topics relevant to the Iwahori–Hecke algebra include *Bernstein’s presentation*, the *Iwahori–Matsumoto presentation* and the *Satake isomorphism* [HKP09]. Properties of the Iwahori–Hecke algebra such as these presentations may be viewed as a consequence of the *universal unramified principal series module*, which we now describe.

Fix a “nice” (i.e. split and connected) reductive group G (e.g. SL_n) over a non-archimedean local field k with ring of integers \mathcal{O} . Then write A to mean a *split maximal torus* of G and write N to mean the *unipotent radical* of a Borel subgroup of G that contains A . Also recall I is the Iwahori subgroup of G given in Chapter ??.

The universal unramified principal series module M is given by $C_c(A(\mathcal{O})N \backslash G / I)$. It is a right module over the Iwahori–Hecke algebra under convolution. Furthermore, a basis of the Iwahori–Hecke algebra is parameterised by the *affine Weyl group* \widetilde{W} . We may write $\widetilde{W} \cong W \ltimes \Lambda^\vee$, where Λ^\vee is the *coroot lattice* of G . Then $\mathbb{C}[\Lambda^\vee]$ is the corresponding group algebra over \mathbb{C} . Then M is also a left module over $\mathbb{C}[\Lambda^\vee]$.

1. A REVIEW OF GAUSSIAN PROCESSES AND RELATED TOPICS

The aim of this chapter is to review some essential mathematical machinery required for us to understand the core concepts of Gaussian Processes.

1.1. Krylov Subspace Methods. In this section we will focus on how iterative methods, in particular a class of iterative methods called Krylov Subspace methods, may be used to solve a linear system $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$. While non-iterative methods exist to solve such systems virtually all of them carry an unwieldy runtime of $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ for a system of n parameters. Even for current computer systems, this renders many common matrix problems untractable. Consequently the focus of solving linear systems has shifted towards iterative methods. While iterative methods typically demand certain structural properties of the matrices, such as symmetry and positive definiteness, this generally is not a problem since the majority of large matrix problems that, by mature, endow these systems with the desired properties. For example, in the context of this paper the Gram matrices used to solve linear systems in Gaussian Processes possess both symmetry and positive definiteness. There are also a number of other properties of iterative methods which make them rather attractive to users. To start, iterative Krylov subspace methods are guaranteed to converge to an exact solution within a finite number of iterations and even if the method is prematurely stopped before reaching an exact solution, the approximation obtained on the final iteration will in some sense be a good enough estimate of our exact solution. Furthermore, unlike most non-iterative methods, Krylov subspace methods do not require an explicit form of the matrix \mathbf{A} and instead only requires some routine or process for computing \mathbf{Ax} .

1.1.1. Krylov Subspaces. We will motivate the Krylov subspaces by observing their usefulness in solving linear systems. To this end, consider the problem of solving the linear system

$$(1) \quad \mathbf{Ax}^* = \mathbf{b}$$

where no explicit form of \mathbf{A} is available and instead one must draw information from \mathbf{A} solely through a routine that can evaluate \mathbf{Av} for any \mathbf{v} . How could this routine be utilized in such a manner to provide with a solution to equation 1? Before answering this, consider the following theorem

Theorem 2. For $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ if $\|\mathbf{A}\| = q < 1$ then $\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A}$ is invertible and its inverse admits the following representation

$$(\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}^k.$$

[Ber96]

Consider a matrix for which $\|\mathbf{A}\| < 2$, it follows that $\|\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A}\| < 1$ meaning $\mathbb{1} - (\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A})$ is invertible and $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = (\mathbb{1} - (\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A}))^{-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A})^k$. Thinking back to equation 1 for any $\mathbf{x}_0 \in \mathbb{K}^n$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^* &= \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}(\mathbf{Ax}^* - \mathbf{Ax}_0 + \mathbf{Ax}_0) \\ &= \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{r}_0 \\ &= \mathbf{x}_0 + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A})^k \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{r}_0 = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}^* - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_0$. A natural question that arises is that can we find a closed form solution of the above equation? To answer this question we need to enlist the help of the Cayley-Hamilton theorem.

Theorem 3 (Cayley-Hamilton). *Let $p_n(\lambda) = \sum_{i=0}^n c_i \lambda^i$ be the characteristic polynomial of the matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$, then $p_n(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{0}$. **THIS NEEDS A CITATION***

The Cayley-Hamilton theorem implies that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= c_0 + c_1 \mathbf{A} + \dots + c_{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-1} + c_n \mathbf{A}^n \\ 0 &= \mathbf{A}^{-1} c_0 + c_1 + \dots + c_{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-2} + c_n \mathbf{A}^{n-1} \\ \mathbf{A}^{-1} &= \alpha_0 + c_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-2} + \alpha_n \mathbf{A}^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha_i = -c_i/c_0$. This demonstrates that \mathbf{A}^{-1} can be represented as a matrix polynomial of degree $n - 1$. This means that $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (\mathbb{1} - \mathbf{A})^k$ indeed possess a closed form solution namely

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{r}_0 = \alpha_0 + c_1 + \dots + \alpha_{n-1} \mathbf{A}^{n-2} + \alpha_n \mathbf{A}^{n-1}.$$

This also shows that $\mathbf{x}^* \in \text{l.s} \{ \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{n-1} \mathbf{r}_0 \}$. One idea for finding a solution to equation 1 is to use our routine for evaluating $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}$ to iteratively compute new basis elements for the space generated by $\{ \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{n-1} \mathbf{r}_0 \}$ and at each step carefully choosing a \mathbf{x}_k such that \mathbf{x}_k approaches \mathbf{x}^* , in some form. The subspace constructed using this technique is so important that it has its own name.

Definition 4 (Krylov Subspace). *The Krylov Subspace of order k generated by the matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ and the vector $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{K}$ is defined as*

$$\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) = \text{l.s} \{ \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{r}_0, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{k-1} \mathbf{r}_0 \}$$

for $k \geq 1$ and $\mathcal{K}_0(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) = \{ \mathbf{0} \}$.

For the purposes of solving equation 1 it is of much interest to understand how $\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$ grows for larger and larger k since a solution for equation 1 will be present in a Krylov Subspace that cannot be grown any larger. In other words, an exact solution can be constructed once we have extracted all the information from \mathbf{A} through multiplication of \mathbf{r}_0 . The following theorem provides information on how exactly the Krylov Subspace grows as k increases.

Theorem 5. *There is a positive called the grade of \mathbf{v} with respect to \mathbf{A} , denoted $t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$, where*

$$\dim(\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})) = \begin{cases} k, & k \leq t \\ t, & k \geq t \end{cases}$$

Theorem 5 essentially tells us that for $k \leq t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$ that $\mathbf{A}^k \mathbf{v}$ is linearly independent to $\mathbf{A}^i \mathbf{v}$ for $0 \leq i \leq k - 1$ meaning $\{ \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{v}, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{k-1} \mathbf{v} \}$ serves as a basis for $\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$ and that $\mathcal{K}_{k-1}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) \subsetneq \mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$. Conversely, any new vectors formed beyond $t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$ will be linearly independent meaning $\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) \subsetneq \mathcal{K}_{k+1}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$ for $k \geq t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$. While $t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$ clearly plays a role in determining a suitable basis for which $\mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$ lies in its importance is made abundantly clear in the following corollary.

Corollary 6.

$$t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}} = \min \{ k \mid \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) \}$$

Proof. Recall from Cayley-Hamilton (theorem 3) that

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \alpha_i \mathbf{A}^i \mathbf{v}$$

But since $\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v}) = \mathcal{K}_{k+1}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$ for $k \geq t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \beta_i \mathbf{A}^i \mathbf{v}$$

meaning $\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{v} \in \mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})$ for $k \geq t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}}$. Suppose for the sake of contradiction that this also holds for $k = t_{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}} - 1$, that is, $\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{t-2} \gamma_i \mathbf{A}^i \mathbf{v}$. However, this gives

$$\mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{t-2} \gamma_i \mathbf{A}^{i+1} \mathbf{v} = \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} \gamma_{i-1} \mathbf{A}^i \mathbf{v}$$

implying $\{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{A}^2\mathbf{v}, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{t-1}\mathbf{v}\}$ are linearly dependent which means that $\dim(\mathcal{K}_k(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{v})) < t$, which provides us with our contradiction. \square

This machinery allows us to make a much stronger statement on the whereabouts of \mathbf{x}^\star in relation to the Krylov Subspaces.

Corollary 7. *For any \mathbf{x}_0 , we have*

$$\mathbf{x}^\star \in \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathcal{K}_{t_{\mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{A}}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{r}_0)$$

where $\mathbf{r}_0 = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_0$.

1.1.2. Gram-Schmidt Process and QR factorisations. Many areas of linear algebra involving studying the column space of matrices. The QR factorisation provides us with a powerful tool to better understand the column space of a matrix as well as serving as an important factorisation mechanism for many numerical methods. Suppose that a matrix $\mathbf{A} = [\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n] \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ has full rank. The idea of a QR factorisation is to find an alternative orthonormal basis for $(\mathbf{a}_i)_{i=1}^n$, say $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$, and to somehow relate the original matrix \mathbf{A} to a new matrix whose columns are $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$. Consider the following procedure that allows us to find an orthonormal basis $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$ for which $\text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{a}_i)_{i=1}^n\} = \text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n\}$. First set $\mathbf{q}_1 = \frac{\mathbf{a}_1}{\|\mathbf{a}_1\|}$, clearly $\text{l.s}\{\mathbf{a}_1\} = \text{l.s}\{\mathbf{q}_1\}$. Next, construct a vector $\mathbf{q}'_2 = \mathbf{a}_2 - r_{1,2} \cdot \mathbf{q}_1$ so that $\mathbf{q}'_2 \perp \mathbf{q}_1$. This means

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}'_2 \rangle \\ 0 &= \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 - r_{1,2} \cdot \mathbf{q}_1 \rangle \\ 0 &= \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 \rangle - r_{1,2} \cdot \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_1 \rangle \\ r_{1,2} &= \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Since \mathbf{q}'_2 may not be a unit vector we set $\mathbf{q}_2 = \frac{\mathbf{q}'_2}{\|\mathbf{q}'_2\|}$ where $\text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2)\} = \text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2)\}$. Continuing the vector \mathbf{q}'_3 is constructed so that

$$\mathbf{q}'_3 = \mathbf{a}_3 - r_{1,3}\mathbf{q}_1 - r_{2,3}\mathbf{q}_2$$

are chosen so that \mathbf{q}'_3 is orthogonal to both \mathbf{q}_2 and \mathbf{q}_1 . This amounts to setting $r_{1,3} = \langle \mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{a}_3 \rangle$ and $r_{2,3} = \langle \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{a}_3 \rangle$. Similarly, \mathbf{q}'_3 is normalized so that $\mathbf{q}_3 = \frac{\mathbf{q}'_3}{\|\mathbf{q}'_3\|}$ and $\text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)\} = \text{l.s}\{(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{q}_3)\}$.

Continuing in this fashion the k^{th} vector in our orthonormal basis is computed as

$$(2) \quad \mathbf{q}_k = \frac{\mathbf{a}_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} r_{i,k} \cdot \mathbf{q}_i}{r_{k,k}}$$

where $r_{i,k} = \langle \mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{a}_k \rangle$, $r_{k,k} = \|\mathbf{a}_k - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} r_{i,k} \cdot \mathbf{q}_i\|$ and $\text{l.s}(\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_k\}) = \text{l.s}(\{\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_k\})$. This procedure is famously known as the Gram-Schmidt process and is summarized in the following algorithm.

Algorithm 1: Classical Gram-Schmidt

input : A basis $(\mathbf{a}_i)_{i=1}^n$.

output: An orthonormal basis $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$ such that $\text{l.s}(\{\mathbf{a}_i\}_{i=1}^n) = \text{l.s}(\{\mathbf{q}_i\}_{i=1}^n)$

for $k = 1$ **to** n **do**

$\mathbf{q}'_k = \mathbf{a}_k$

for $i = 1$ **to** $k - 1$ **do**

$r_{i,k} = \langle \mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{a}_k \rangle$

$\mathbf{q}'_k = \mathbf{q}'_k - r_{i,k} \mathbf{q}_i$

end

$r_{k,k} = \|\mathbf{q}'_k\|$

$\mathbf{q}_k = \mathbf{q}'_k / r_{k,k}$

end

return $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$

Relating the column space of \mathbf{A} to the orthonormal basis $(\mathbf{q}_i)_{i=1}^n$ in a matrix form

$$[\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n] = [\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n] \begin{bmatrix} r_{1,1} & r_{1,2} & \cdots & r_{1,n} \\ & r_{2,2} & & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & r_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}$$

or more succinctly

$$(3) \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}$$

where $\mathbf{Q} = [\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_n]$ and $(\mathbf{R})_{i,j} = r_{i,j}$ for $i \leq j$ and $(\mathbf{R})_{i,j} = 0$ for $i > j$. This is exactly the QR factorisation for a full rank matrix. Note that $\text{Range}(\mathbf{A}) = \text{Range}(\mathbf{Q})$. In general, any square matrix $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$ may be decomposed as $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R}$ where $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times m}$ is an orthogonal matrix and $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$ is an upper triangular matrix. This is known as a full QR factorisation. Since bottom $(m - n)$ rows of this \mathbf{R} consists entirely of zeros, it is often useful to partition the full QR factorisation in the following manner to shed vacuous entries

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-n) \times n} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{Q}} & \mathbf{Q}' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{R}} \\ \mathbf{0}_{(m-n) \times n} \end{bmatrix} = \hat{\mathbf{Q}}\hat{\mathbf{R}}.$$

This alternate decomposition is called the reduced (or sometimes the thin) QR factorization. We shall state the following two theorems on the QR factorization are stated without proof.

Theorem 8. Every $A \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$, ($m \geq n$) has a full QR factorisation, hence also a reduced QR factorisation. [Tre97]

Theorem 9. Each $A \in \mathbb{K}^{m \times n}$, ($m \geq n$) of full rank has a unique reduced QR factorisation $A = \hat{Q}\hat{R}$ with $r_{k,k} > 0$. [Tre97]

In practice the classical Gram-Schmidt process described in algorithm 1 is rarely used as the procedure becomes numerically unstable if $(a_i)_{i=1}^n$ are almost linearly dependent. Before looking for ways to resolve these numerical instabilities a quick recap of projectors has been devised. A square matrix P_G acting on a Hilbert space H that sends $x \in H$ to its projection onto a subspace G is called the projector onto G . If $(q_k)_{k=1}^m$ is an orthonormal basis in G then

$$P_G = QQ^*$$

where $Q = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m, 0, \dots, 0] \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$. A special class of projectors which isolates the components of a given vector onto a one dimensional subspace spanned by a single unit vector q called a rank one orthogonal projector, denoted as P_q . Each k in the classical Gram-Schmidt process q'_k using the following orthogonal projection

$$(4) \quad q'_k = P_{A_k^\perp} a_k$$

where $A_k = \text{l.s}\{a_i\}_{i=1}^k$ and $P_{A_1^\perp} = \mathbb{1}$ for convenience. A modified version of the Gram-Schmidt process performs the same orthogonal projection broken up as $k-1$ orthogonal projections of rank $n-1$ as so

$$\begin{aligned} q'_k &= P_{A_k^\perp} a_k \\ &= (\mathbb{1} - Q_k Q_k^*) a_k \\ &= \left(\prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (\mathbb{1} - q_i q_i^*) \right) a_k \\ &= (\mathbb{1} - q_1 q_1^*) (\mathbb{1} - q_2 q_2^*) \cdots (\mathbb{1} - q_{k-1} q_{k-1}^*) a_k \\ &= P_{q_k^\perp} \cdots P_{q_1^\perp} a_k \end{aligned}$$

While its clear that $P_{A_k^\perp} a$ and $P_{q_k^\perp} \cdots P_{q_1^\perp} a_k$ used for computing q'_k are algebraically, they differ arithmetically as the latter expression evaluates q'_k using the follow procedure

$$\begin{aligned} q_k^{(1)} &= a_k \\ q_k^{(2)} &= P_{q_1^\perp} q_k^{(1)} \\ q_k^{(3)} &= P_{q_2^\perp} q_k^{(2)} \\ &\vdots \\ q'_k &= q_k^{(k)} = P_{q_{k-1}^\perp} q_k^{(k-1)} \end{aligned}$$

Applying projections sequentially in this manner produces smaller numerical errors. The modified Gram-Schmidt process is summarized in the following algorithm.

Algorithm 2: Modified Gram-Schmidt

input : A basis $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^n$.
output: An orthonormal basis $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^n$ such that $\text{l.s}\{a_i\}_{i=1}^n = \text{l.s}\{q_i\}_{i=1}^n$
for $k = 1$ **to** n **do**
 $q'_k = a_k$
end
for $k = 1$ **to** n **do**
 $r_{k,k} = \|q'_k\|$
 $q_k = q'_k / r_{k,k}$
 for $i = k + 1$ **to** n **do**
 $r_{i,k} = \langle q_k, q'_i \rangle$
 $q_i = q_i - r_{i,k} q_k$
 end
end
return $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^n$

1.1.3. *Arnoldi and Lanczos Algorithm.* As a quick reminder, we are in search of an iterative process to solve the linear system $Ax^* = b$ where no explicit form of A is available and we may only rely on a routine that computes Av for any v to extract information on A . In section 1.1.1 we discovered that $x^* \in \mathcal{K}_{t_{r_0,A}}(A, r_0)$. With many iterative methods, computing an exact value for x^* is out the question with the view that $t_{r_0,A}$ is impractically large. We must instead resort to approximating x^* by x_k for which $x^k \in \mathcal{K}_k(A, r_0)$ where $k \ll t_{r_0,A}$. To find an appropriate value for x_k , a good start would be to find a basis $\mathcal{K}_k(A, r_0)$. Definition 4 showed us that $\{A^{i-1}r_0\}_{i=1}^k$ serves as a basis for $\mathcal{K}_k(A, r_0)$. However, for numericcal reasons this is a poor choice of basis since this each consecutive term becomes closer and closer to being linearly dependent. To search for a more approporate basis, set $n = t_{r_0,A}$ so that $x^* \in \mathcal{K}_n(A, r_0)$. Let $K \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ be the invertible matrix

$$K = [r_0, Ar_0, \dots, A^{n-1}r_0].$$

Since K is invertible we can compute $c = -K^{-1}A^n r_0$ so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 AK &= [Ar_0, A^2r_0, \dots, A^n r_0] \\
 AK &= K \cdot [e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n, -c] \triangleq KC
 \end{aligned}$$

or, in a more verbose form

$$K^{-1}AK = C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -c_1 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -c_2 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & 1 & -c_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note here that C is upper Hessenberg. While this form is simple, it is of little practical use since the matrix K is very likely to be ill-conditioned. To remedy this we can replace K with an orthogonal matrix which

spans the same space. These are exactly the properties that the Q matrix offers in the QR -factorisation of K . With this in mind let $K = QR$ be the full QR -factorisation of K . Then

$$\begin{aligned} AQR &= AK \\ AQ &= AKR^{-1} \\ AQ &= KCR^{-1} \\ AQ &= QRCR^{-1} \\ AQ &\triangleq QH. \end{aligned}$$

Since R and R^{-1} and both upper triangular and C is upper Hessenberg, H is also upper Hessenberg. This form provides us with a Q such that the range of Q is $\mathcal{K}_n(A, r_0)$ and

$$(5) \quad Q^\top AQ = H.$$

Again, in practice, it may be very difficult to compute this entire expression forcing us to search for approximative alternatives. Consider equation 5 for which the only first k columns of Q have been computed. Let $Q_k = [q_1, q_2, \dots, q_k]$ and $Q_u = [q_{k+1}, q_{k+2}, \dots, q_n]$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} Q^\top AQ &= H \\ [Q_k, Q_u]^\top A [Q_k, Q_u] &= \begin{bmatrix} H_k & H_{u,k} \\ H_{k,u} & H_u \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} Q_k^\top AQ_k & Q_k^\top AQ_u \\ Q_u^\top AQ_k & Q_u^\top AQ_u \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} H_k & H_{u,k} \\ H_{k,u} & H_u \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where H_k , $H_{u,k}$, $H_{k,u}$ and H_u are the relevant sub matrices. This provides us with the equality

$$(6) \quad Q_k^\top AQ_k = H_k$$

noting that H_k is upper Hessenberg for the same reason that H is. We know that when $n = t_{r_0, A}$ we can find a $Q \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ and $H \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times n}$ that satisfies $AQ = QH$. However, in general, we may not be so fortunate in finding a $Q_k \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times k}$ and $H_k \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times k}$ so satisfy $AQ_k = Q_k H_k$ for any $k < n$. Instead we can adjust this equality by adding an error $E_k \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times k}$ so that we do get equality. Our expression now becomes

$$(7) \quad Q_k^\top AQ_k = H_k + E_k \in \mathbb{K}^{n \times k}.$$

A careful choice of E_k must be made to also retain equality in equation 6, meaning $Q_k^\top E_k = 0$. Since $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^k$ forms an orthonormal basis for $\mathcal{K}_n(A, r_0)$, consider the following choice of E_k ,

$$E_k = q_{k+1} h_k^\top$$

where h_k is any vector in \mathbb{K}^k . Notice that

$$Q_k^\top E = Q_k^\top (q_{k+1} h_k) = (Q_k^\top q_{k+1}) h_k^\top = 0.$$

Since this holds for any $h_k \in \mathbb{K}^k$, to retain sparsity and to keep this form as simple as possible we can set $h_k = [0, 0, \dots, h_{k+1,k}]^\top$. This means AQ_k can be written as

$$(8) \quad AQ_k = Q_k H_k + q_{k+1} h_k^\top$$

where

$$\mathbf{Q}_k \mathbf{H}_k = [\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{q}_2, \dots, \mathbf{q}_k] \begin{bmatrix} h_{1,1} & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & h_{1,k} \\ h_{2,1} & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & h_{k,k-1} & h_{k,k} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & h_{k+1,k} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Equating the j^{th} columns of equation 8 yields

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{q}_j = \sum_{i=1}^{j+1} h_{i,j} \mathbf{q}_i.$$

Again since $\{\mathbf{q}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ form an orthonormal basis, multiplying both sides by \mathbf{q}_m for $1 \leq m \leq j$ gives

$$\mathbf{q}_m^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{q}_j = \sum_{i=1}^{j+1} h_{i,j} \mathbf{q}_m^T \mathbf{q}_i = h_{m,j}$$

and so

$$(9) \quad h_{j+1,j} \mathbf{q}_{j+1} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{q}_j - \sum_{i=1}^j h_{i,j} \mathbf{q}_i.$$

From equation 9 we find that \mathbf{q}_{j+1} can be computed using a recurrence involving its previous Krylov factors. Notice this bears a striking resemblance to equation 2 having a virtually an identical setup to computing an orthonormal basis using the modified Gram-Schmidt process (algorithm 2). As such, values for \mathbf{q}_{j+1} and $h_{j+1,j}$ can be evaluated using a procedure very similar to the modified Gram-Schmidt process better known as the Arnoldi algorithm, presented in algorithm 3.

Algorithm 3: Arnoldi Algorithm

input : A, r_0 and k , the number of columns of Q to compute.

output: Q_k, H_k .

$q_1 = r_0 / \|r_0\|$

for $j = 1$ **to** k **do**

$z = Aq_j$

for $i = 1$ **to** j **do**

$h_{i,j} = \langle q_i, z \rangle$

$z = z - h_{i,j}q_i$

end

$h_{j+1,j} = \|z\|$

if $h_{j+1,j} = 0$ **then**

return Q_k, H_k

end

$q_{j+1} = z / h_{j+1,j}$

end

return Q_k, H_k

When A is symmetric then $H = T$ becomes a tridiagonal matrix, simplifying a large amount of the Arnoldi algorithm since a considerably large number of matrix elements from T can be written as

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & \beta_1 & & & \\ \beta_1 & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \beta_{n-1} \\ & & & \beta_{n-1} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

As before, equating the j^{th} columns of $AQ = QT$ yields

$$(10) \quad Aq_j = \beta_{j-1}q_{j-1} + \alpha_jq_j + \beta_jq_{j+1}.$$

Again since $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^n$ form an orthonormal basis, multiplying both sides of equation 10 by q_j gives $q_j = Aq_j = \alpha_j$. A simplified version of the Arnoldi algorithm can be devised can be used to compute $\{q_i\}_{i=1}^n$ and T for symmetric matrices known as the Lanczos algorithm. The Lanczos algorithm is presented in algorithm 4.

Algorithm 4: Lanczos Algorithm

input : A, r_0 and k , the number of columns of Q to compute.

output: Q_k, T_k .

$q_1 = r_0 / \|r_0\|, \beta_0 = 0, q_0 = 0$

for $j = 1$ **to** k **do**

$z = Aq_j$

$\alpha_j = \langle q_j, z \rangle$

$z = z - \alpha_j q_j - \beta_{j-1} q_{j-1}$

$\beta_j = \|z\|$

if $\beta_j = 0$ **then**

 | **return** Q_k, T_k

end

$q_{j+1} = z / \beta_j$

end

return Q_k, T_k

1.2. Gaussian Processes. A *Gaussian Process* (GP) is a collection of random variables with index set I , such that every finite subset of random variables has a joint Gaussian distribution [Ras06, Mur12].

A GP is completely characterised by a mean function $m(\mathbf{x})$ and a covariance function $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ on a real process as

$$m(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}[f(\mathbf{x})]$$

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbb{E}[(f(\mathbf{x}) - m(\mathbf{x}))(f(\mathbf{x}') - m(\mathbf{x}'))]$$

A function $f(\mathbf{x})$ sampled from a GP with mean $m(\mathbf{x})$ and covariance $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is written as

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(m(\mathbf{x}), k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$$

Since a GP is a collection of random variables it must satisfy the consistency requirement, that is, an observation of a set of variables should not the distribution of any small sub set of the observed values. More specifically if

$$(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2) \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

then

$$\mathbf{y}_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1})$$

$$\mathbf{y}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_2, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2})$$

where $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1}$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2}$ are the relevant sub matrices.

1.2.1. Noise-free observations. Typically when using GP we would like to incorporate data from observations, or training data, into our predictions on unobserved values. Let us suppose there is some observed data $D = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{f}_i) \mid i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$ which is (unrealistically) noise-free that we would like to model as

a GP. In other words, for any sample in our dataset we can be certain that the observed value is the true value of the underlying function we wish to model. Then for the observed data

$$\mathbf{f} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}_{XX}).$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{XX} = k(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$. We would then like to make a prediction for unobserved values say $\mathbf{X}^* = [\mathbf{x}_1^*, \mathbf{x}_2^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n_*}^*]$ with value \mathbf{f}_* as has a distribution of

$$\mathbf{f}_* \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*}).$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} = k(\mathbf{X}^*, \mathbf{X}^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{n_* \times n_*}$. Here \mathbf{f} and \mathbf{f}_* are independent but we would like to give them some sort of correlation. We can do this by having them originate from the same joint distribution. According to the prior, we can write the joint distribution of the training points \mathbf{f} and the test points \mathbf{f}_* as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{f}_* \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{XX} & \mathbf{K}_{XX^*} \\ \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top & \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{XX^*} = k(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n_*}$.

While the above does give us some information on \mathbf{f}_* is related to the observed data and the test inputs, it does not provide any method to evaluate \mathbf{f}_* . To do this we shall need the assistance of the following lemma

Theorem 10. (Marginals and conditionals of an MVN [Mur12]) Suppose $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$ is jointly Gaussian with parameters

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}$$

then the posterior conditional is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_2 \mid \mathbf{x}_1 &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_2 \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}_{2|1}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2|1}) \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{2|1} &= \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1) \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2|1} &= \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,2} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{2,1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,1}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{1,2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus finding a mean and covariance for \mathbf{f}_* requires a direct application of Theorem 10 which gives

$$\mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}, \mathbf{K}_{XX}, \mathbf{f} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}^*, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^*)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}^* &= \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top \mathbf{K}_{XX}^{-1} (\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{0}) \\ &= \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top \mathbf{K}_{XX}^{-1} \mathbf{f} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* = \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} - \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top \mathbf{K}_{XX}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}$$

meaning we can write a distribution for \mathbf{f}_* as

$$(11) \quad \mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}, \mathbf{K}_{XX}, \mathbf{f} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top \mathbf{K}_{XX}^{-1} \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} - \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top \mathbf{K}_{XX}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{XX^*})$$

Function values from the unobserved inputs \mathbf{X}^* can be estimated using the mean of \mathbf{f}_* evaluated in 11.

1.2.2. *Prediction with Noisy observations.* When attempting to model our value function we usually do not have access to the value function itself but a noisy version thereof, $y = f(x) + \varepsilon$ where $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_n^2)$ meaning the prior on the noisy values becomes

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{K}_{XX} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I}$$

The reason why noise is only added along the diagonal follows from the assumption of independence in our data. We can write out the new distribution of the observed noisy values along the points at which we wish to test the underlying function as

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{f}_* \end{pmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\mathbf{0}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{XX} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{K}_{XX^*} \\ \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top & \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Using a similar we arrive at a similar condition distribution of $\mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}, \mathbf{K}_{XX}, \mathbf{f}$ we arrive at one of the most fundamental equations for GP regression tasks

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}, \mathbf{K}_{XX}, \mathbf{y} &\sim \mathcal{N}(\bar{\mathbf{f}}_*, \text{cov}(\mathbf{f}_*)) \\ \bar{\mathbf{f}}_* &:= \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top [\mathbf{K}_{XX} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{y} \\ \text{cov}(\mathbf{f}_*) &= \mathbf{K}_{X^*X^*} - \mathbf{K}_{XX^*}^\top [\mathbf{K}_{XX} + \sigma_n^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{XX^*} \end{aligned}$$

1.3. **The induced representation $\text{Ind}_K^G \mathbf{1}$.** Consider the space of functions in $\text{Fun}(G)$ that are invariant under right-multiplication by elements of K . Explicitly, this space is defined by

$$W := \{f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(gk) = f(g), \forall g \in G, \forall k \in K\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(G).$$

Note that the action of G on $\text{Fun}(G)$ leaves W invariant. The resulting action of G on W is called the *induced representation* and denoted $\text{Ind}_K^G \mathbf{1}$. When $K = \{1\}$, the representation $\text{Ind}_{\{1\}}^G \mathbf{1} = \text{Fun}(G)$ is the *left regular* representation of G . For future use, we prove the following lemma.

Lemma 11. *The space W is a left ideal of $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$.*

Proof. We verify that $f \star w \in W$ whenever $w \in W$ and $f \in \text{Fun}(G)$. Let $g \in G$ and $k \in K$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (f \star w)(gk) &= \sum_{xy=gk} f(x)w(y) = \sum_{x \in G} f(x)w(x^{-1}gk) \\ &= \sum_{x \in G} f(x)w(x^{-1}g) = \sum_{xy=g} f(x)w(y) = (f \star w)(g). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

1.4. **The Hecke algebra of a finite group $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$.** Consider the space of functions in $\text{Fun}(G)$ that are invariant under right- and left-multiplication by elements of K . Explicitly, this space is defined by

$$\mathcal{H}(G, K) := \{f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(k_1 g k_2) = f(g), \forall g \in G, \forall k_1, k_2 \in K\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(G).$$

This is the *Hecke algebra* associated to G and K and we will write \mathcal{H} to mean $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ when there is no ambiguity. The proof of Lemma 11 can be adapted to show that \mathcal{H} is a two-sided ideal in $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$.

Notice that the identity of $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$ does not lie in \mathcal{H} . Nevertheless, \mathcal{H} does have an identity of its own. It is easy to verify that the identity is ι_K , which we define below.

$$\iota_K : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad \iota_K(g) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|K|}, & \text{if } g \in K, \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

We see that ι_K is an idempotent element, since $(\iota_K \star \iota_K)(g) = 0$ for $g \notin K$, and

$$(\iota_K \star \iota_K)(k) = \sum_{x \in G} \iota_K(kx) \iota_K(x^{-1}) = \sum_{x \in K} \frac{1}{|K|^2} = \frac{1}{|K|}$$

for $k \in K$.

This is a special case of a more general situation: if R is a ring and e is an idempotent, then eRe will be a ring in which e serves as a unit. This is clear since $ere = ere = eere$ for all $ere \in eRe$. The ring eRe is sometimes called an *idempotent ring* or a *Pierce corner* [Bum10, Lam03].

We present a basis for \mathcal{H} . For $KxK \in K \backslash G / K$, the K -double cosets in G , we define

$$\chi_{KxK}(y) := \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y \in KxK, \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Recall that double cosets partition G so there is no ambiguity in this definition. We call χ_{KxK} the *characteristic function* of the K -double coset KxK . As an abuse of notation for the sake of brevity, we will denote this family by $\{\chi_x\}_{x \in G}$, where x ranges over the K -double coset representatives as written above.

It is not hard to see that the characteristic functions form a basis of \mathcal{H} . By the definition of \mathcal{H} , we see characteristic functions span the space. To see that they're linearly independent, assume that

$$\alpha_1 \chi_{x_1} + \cdots + \alpha_n \chi_{x_n} = 0,$$

for some complete collection of K -double coset representatives $x_i \in G$ and scalars $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{C}$. Here 0 denotes the zero function $g \mapsto 0$ for all $g \in G$. Evaluating both sides at x_i tells us that $\alpha_i = 0$, so the only solution is the trivial solution and we have linear independence.

1.5. The group algebra $\mathbb{C}[G]$. We can associate to G another algebra, $\mathbb{C}[G]$, called the *group algebra* of G over \mathbb{C} . This algebra is defined by

$$\mathbb{C}[G] := \left\{ \sum_{g \in G} a_g e_g \mid a_g \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

Clearly, the set $\{e_g\}_{g \in G}$ serves as a basis of this space. We endow the space with a multiplication defined on basis elements by $e_g e_h := e_{gh}$. The following lemma illustrates the relevance of the group algebra.

Lemma 12. *The map $\Phi: \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[G]$ defined on basis elements by $\delta_g \mapsto e_g$ and extended linearly is an algebra isomorphism.*

Proof. By construction, Φ is a linear map of vector spaces. It is also clear that this map is bijective since it is a bijection on basis elements. Thus Φ is a vector space isomorphism.

We need to check that Φ respects the algebra multiplication. This amounts to verifying that $\delta_g \star \delta_h = \delta_{gh}$. Notice that $(\delta_g \star \delta_h)(x) = \sum_{ab=x} \delta_g(a)\delta_h(b)$ is equal to 1 when $g = a$ and $h = b$, and 0 otherwise. This is exactly $\delta_{gh}(x)$. \square

We may ask ourselves: what is the image of the induced representation and the Hecke algebra inside of the group algebra? To answer this, we define the group algebra element

$$e := \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} e_k.$$

Note that e is an idempotent element. Then the following proposition answers our question.

Proposition 13. (i) $\Phi(W) = \mathbb{C}[G]e$.

(ii) $\Phi(\mathcal{H}) = e\mathbb{C}[G]e$.

Proof. (i) We begin by showing that $\mathbb{C}[G]e \subseteq \Phi(W)$. To see this, take an arbitrary element $(\sum_{g \in G} a_g e_g)e$ in $\mathbb{C}[G]e$. Then notice

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g e_g \right) e = \frac{1}{|K|} \left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g e_g \right) \left(\sum_{k \in K} e_k \right) = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g e_g e_k = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g e_{gk}.$$

Then we apply Φ^{-1} to see that

$$\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g e_{gk} \mapsto \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g \delta_{gk}.$$

We wish to show that this lies in W , so we wish to check that this map is invariant under right-multiplication by an element of K . To this end, let $g' \in G$, $k' \in K$ and apply $\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g \delta_{gk}$ to $g'k'$.

Note that $\delta_{gk}(g'k') = 1$ if and only if $gk = g'k'$ (and 0 otherwise). This is equivalent to $g = g'k'k^{-1}$.

Thus

$$\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g \delta_{gk}(g'k') = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} a_{g'k'k^{-1}} \delta_{g'k'}(g'k') = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} a_{g'k'k^{-1}}.$$

Similarly, we apply the map $\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g \delta_{gk}$ to g' . This yields

$$\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g \delta_{gk}(g') = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} a_{g'k^{-1}}$$

Since right-multiplication by any element of K is an automorphism of G , we see that

$$\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} a_{g'k'k^{-1}} = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} a_{g'k^{-1}},$$

which shows that $\mathbb{C}[G]e \subseteq \Phi(W)$. Conversely, take $f = \sum_{g \in G} a_g \delta_g \in W$. Let $g' \in G$, $k' \in K$ and notice that

$$a_{g'k'} = \sum_{g \in G} a_g \delta_g(g'k') = f(g'k') = f(g') = \sum_{g \in G} a_g \delta_g(g') = a_{g'}.$$

Then $a_{g'k'} = a_{g'}$ for any $g' \in G$ and $k' \in K$. Then observe

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(f)e &= \left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g \delta_g \right) \left(\frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} e_k \right) = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g e_{gk} = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_{gk^{-1}} e_g \\
&= \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{\substack{g \in G \\ k \in K}} a_g e_g = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} \sum_{g \in G} a_g e_g = \frac{1}{|K|} \sum_{k \in K} \Phi(f) = \Phi(f).
\end{aligned}$$

Then $\varphi(f) = \varphi(f)e \in \mathbb{C}[G]e$, so $\Phi(W) \subseteq \mathbb{C}[G]e$ as required.

(ii) The proof is similar to that of (i). □

1.6. Identifying $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ with the endomorphism algebra $\text{End}_G(W)$. For any representation V of G , define the space of G -intertwining endomorphisms on V by

$$\text{End}_G(V) := \{f \in \text{End}(V) \mid g \cdot f(v) = f(g \cdot v), \forall v \in V, g \in G\} \subseteq \text{End}(V).$$

These are the endomorphisms of V that respect the action of G on V . It is easy to see that this is a vector space. It has the additional structure of a unital associative algebra when endowed with the product of endomorphism composition.

Now set V to be W , the induced representation of the trivial character from K to G , and define the linear map

$$\Psi: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \text{End}(W), \quad \alpha \mapsto (w \mapsto w \star \alpha).$$

Lemma 11 tells us that $w \star \alpha$ is indeed an element of W so the image of Ψ is indeed $\text{End}(W)$. The following proposition highlights the significance of this map.

Proposition 14. *The map Ψ defines an algebra isomorphism $\mathcal{H} \cong \text{End}_G(W)$.*

Proof. First we observe that $\Psi(\alpha)$ is indeed a G -intertwiner. Given $g, h \in G$ and $w \in W$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(\Psi(\alpha)(g \cdot w))(h) &= ((g \cdot w) \star \alpha)(h) = \sum_{xy=h} w(g^{-1}x) \alpha(y) = \sum_{x \in G} w(g^{-1}x) \alpha(x^{-1}h) \\
&= \sum_{ab=g^{-1}h} w(a) \alpha(b) = (g \cdot (w \star \alpha))(h) = (g \cdot \Psi(\alpha)(w))(h).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the image of Ψ lies in $\text{End}_G(W)$. Next, we check that Ψ is an algebra isomorphism. Let $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathcal{H}$ and observe

$$\Psi(\alpha_1 \star \alpha_2)(w) = w \star (\alpha_1 \star \alpha_2) = (w \star \alpha_1) \star \alpha_2 = \Psi(\alpha_1)(w) \star \alpha_2 = (\Psi(\alpha_1) \circ \Psi(\alpha_2))(w).$$

Thus Ψ is an algebra homomorphism. To see that Ψ is injective, we compute

$$\ker \Psi = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{H} \mid \Psi(\alpha)(w) = w\} = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{H} \mid w \star \alpha = w\} = \{\delta_{1_G}\}.$$

We see that Ψ has trivial kernel so it is injective. It is easy to see that surjectivity is a consequence of Theorem 13 in [Mur05] which also contains its proof. □

1.7. Consequences for representation theory. We prove a general property of representations. Namely, the decomposition of a representation is linked to its corresponding algebra of G -intertwining endomorphisms. We apply this to the induced representation W and Proposition 14 lets us conclude that W is multiplicity-free if and only if \mathcal{H} is commutative.

First, suppose that V is a complex representation of G . Write $V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n V_i$ as the decomposition of V into irreducible constituents, using Maschke's theorem. Notice that some of these V_i may be isomorphic to each other as G -representations. We group these mutually isomorphic irreducible representations together by writing

$$V = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n V_i = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n U_i^{\oplus m_i},$$

where m_i is the number of times U_i appears in the decomposition of V , henceforth referred to as the *multiplicity* of U_i in V . We say V is *multiplicity-free* if $m_i = 1$ for all i . The $U_i^{\oplus m_i}$ are called the *isotypical components* of V . We now prove the main proposition of this section.

Proposition 15. (i) If V is a representation of G with the decomposition into isotypical components as above, then $\text{End}_G(V) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \text{Mat}_{m_i}(\mathbb{C})$.
(ii) V is multiplicity-free if and only if $\text{End}_G(V)$ is commutative.

Proof. (i) Observe that

$$\text{End}_G(V) = \text{Hom}_G(V_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_n, V_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus V_n) \cong \bigoplus_{i,j=1,\dots,n} \text{Hom}_G(V_i, V_j).$$

Then we compute

$$\text{Hom}_G(V_i, V_j) = \text{Hom}_G(U_i^{\oplus m_i}, U_j^{\oplus m_j}) \cong \text{Hom}_G(U_i, U_j)^{\oplus m_i m_j}.$$

Schur's lemma tells us that

$$\text{Hom}_G(U_i, U_j) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{C}, & \text{if } U_i \cong U_j, \\ \{0\}, & \text{if } U_i \not\cong U_j. \end{cases}$$

Then $\text{Hom}_G(U_i, U_j)^{\oplus m_i m_j} = \{0\}$ if $i \neq j$ and

$$\text{Hom}_G(U_i, U_i)^{\oplus m_i^2} \cong \mathbb{C}^{m_i^2} \cong \text{Mat}_{m_i}(\mathbb{C}).$$

Thus $\text{End}_G(V) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \text{Mat}_{m_i}(\mathbb{C})$.

(ii) We know from (i) that we can identify $\text{End}_G(V)$ with an algebra of block-diagonal matrices over \mathbb{C} . The sizes of the blocks correspond to m_i , the multiplicity of U_i in V . Composing two $f, g \in \text{End}_G(V)$ corresponds to multiplying their associated matrices. Then $\text{End}_G(V)$ is commutative if and only if the block sizes are all 1. That is, if $m_i = 1$ for all i . \square

Corollary 16. (i) The induced representation W is multiplicity-free if and only if its associated Hecke algebra \mathcal{H} is commutative.

(ii) W is irreducible if and only if $\mathcal{H} \cong \mathbb{C}$.

- Proof.* (i) Apply Proposition 15 with $V = W$. Then W is multiplicity-free if and only if $\text{End}_G(W)$ is commutative. Proposition 14 tells us that $\text{End}_G(W) \cong \mathcal{H}$. Thus W is multiplicity-free if and only if \mathcal{H} is commutative.
- (ii) Suppose that W is irreducible. Schur's Lemma tells us that $\text{End}_G(W) \cong \mathbb{C}$, so $\mathcal{H} \cong \mathbb{C}$. Conversely, suppose that $\mathcal{H} \cong \mathbb{C}$. Write the decomposition of W into irreducible constituents

$$W = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n W_i.$$

Schur's lemma tells us that $\text{End}_G(W_i) \cong \mathbb{C}$ for each i . Then

$$\text{End}_G(W) = \text{End}_G\left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^n W_i\right) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \text{End}_G(W_i) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C}^n.$$

However $\mathbb{C} \cong \mathcal{H} \cong \text{End}_G(W) \cong \mathbb{C}^n$. Thus $n = 1$ and W is irreducible. \square

1.8. Gelfand's Trick. Our goal in this section is to prove the following theorem.

Theorem 17 (Gelfand's Trick). *Suppose that G is a finite group and $K \leq G$ is a subgroup. Let $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ be an anti-automorphism with*

- (i) $\varphi^2 = 1$, and
- (ii) $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$.

Then $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ is commutative.

The key idea of this theorem is the following lemma.

Lemma 18. *Let A be an algebra and $B \subseteq A$ be a subalgebra with basis $\{b_i\}_{i \in I}$. Suppose $F: A \rightarrow A$ is an anti-homomorphism (i.e. $F(a_1 a_2) = F(a_2)F(a_1)$) and $F(b_i) = b_i$. Then B is commutative.*

Proof. Since F is the identity on basis elements of B , there holds $F|_B = \mathbb{1}_B$. Let $b_i, b_j \in B$ be basis elements and notice

$$b_i b_j = F(b_i b_j) = F(b_j) F(b_i) = b_j b_i.$$

Then basis elements of B commute as desired. \square

We employ Lemma 18 by applying it to the case where $A = \text{Fun}(G)$ and $B = \mathcal{H}(G, K)$. Recall from Section 1.4 that the characteristic functions $\{\chi_x\}_{x \in G}$ form a basis of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$.

Corollary 19. *Suppose $F: \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(G)$ is an anti-homomorphism such that $F(\chi_x) = \chi_x$ for all $x \in X$. Then $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ is commutative.*

This gives us a clear direction going forward: we want to find such a map F .

Given an anti-homomorphism of groups $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$, we can consider the map $\varphi^*: \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(G)$ defined by $\varphi^* f := f \circ \varphi$. This is the *pullback* of f by φ . In general, φ^* is not an anti-homomorphism of convolution algebras. For instance, consider $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$ and the map $\varphi(x) = x + x = 0$. Clearly φ

is an anti-homomorphism. However, consider the maps $f, g \in \text{Fun}(G)$ given by $f(x) = g(x) = 0$ if $x = 0$ and $f(x) = g(x) = 1$ if $x = 1$. Then

$$(\varphi^*(f \star g))(0) = \sum_{x+y=\varphi(0)} f(x)g(y) = \sum_{x+y=0} f(x)g(y) = f(0)g(0) + f(1)g(1) = 1,$$

$$((\varphi^*g) \star (\varphi^*f))(0) = \sum_{x+y=0} g(\varphi(x))f(\varphi(y)) = \sum_{x+y=0} g(0)f(0) = 2g(0)f(0) = 0.$$

Thus φ^* is not an anti-homomorphism. However, when φ has the stronger anti-automorphism property, we can say the same for φ^* . More precisely, we have the following lemma.

Lemma 20. *Suppose $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ is a group anti-automorphism. Then $\varphi^*: \text{Fun}(G) \rightarrow \text{Fun}(G)$ is an algebra anti-automorphism.*

Proof. Let φ be a group anti-automorphism. Thus φ is a bijection and an anti-homomorphism. This lets us write $yz = x \iff \varphi(yz) = \varphi(x)$ since φ is a bijection. We can also write $\varphi(yz) = \varphi(x) \iff \varphi(z)\varphi(y) = \varphi(x)$ since φ is an anti-homomorphism. Then we compute

$$\begin{aligned} ((\varphi^*f) \star (\varphi^*g))(x) &= \sum_{yz=x} (\varphi^*f)(y)(\varphi^*g)(z) = \sum_{yz=x} f(\varphi(y))g(\varphi(z)) = \\ &= \sum_{\varphi(z)\varphi(y)=\varphi(x)} g(\varphi(z))f(\varphi(y)) = \sum_{z'y'=\varphi(x)} g(z')f(y') = (\varphi^*(g \star f))(x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\varphi^*(g \star f) = (\varphi^*f) \star (\varphi^*g)$. We also need to check that φ^* is a bijection. We check this on the basis elements $\{\delta_g\}_{g \in G}$ of $\text{Fun}(G)$. Let $g, h \in G$ and we compute

$$(\varphi^*\delta_g)(h) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } g = \varphi(h), \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } h = \varphi^{-1}(g), \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases} = \delta_{\varphi^{-1}(g)}(h).$$

We see that φ^* sends δ_g to $\delta_{\varphi^{-1}(g)}$. We know φ and φ^{-1} are bijections on G , so φ^* acts bijectively on the basis of $\text{Fun}(G)$. \square

Now we know that an anti-automorphism φ of G induces an anti-automorphism φ^* of $\text{Fun}(G)$. We ask ourselves: when does this anti-automorphism restrict to an anti-automorphism of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$? That is, when is φ^* also an anti-automorphism of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$? The following lemma provides an answer.

Lemma 21. *Suppose that $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ is an anti-automorphism. If $\varphi(K) = K$ then φ^* restricts to an anti-automorphism of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$.*

Proof. Suppose $f \in \mathcal{H}$. Then notice

$$(\varphi^*f)(k_1 g k_2) = f(\varphi(k_1 g k_2)) = f(\varphi(k_2)\varphi(g)\varphi(k_1)) = f(k'_2 \varphi(g) k'_1) = f(\varphi(g)) = (\varphi^*f)(g).$$

Thus $\varphi^*f \in \mathcal{H}$ since it's constant on K -double cosets. \square

Now we explore the effect of φ^* on the basis elements $\{\chi_x\}_{x \in G}$ of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$.

Lemma 22. *Suppose $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ is an anti-automorphism. If $\varphi^2 = 1$ and $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$, then $\varphi^*\chi_x = \chi_x$.*

Before we present the proof, notice that $\varphi(K) = K$ is a consequence of the assumption that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$. This assumption implies that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in K$, which in turn implies that $\varphi(K) = K$.

Proof. First, if $g \in KxK$, then

$$\varphi(g) \in \varphi(KxK) = \varphi(K)\varphi(x)\varphi(K) = K\varphi(x)K = KxK.$$

On the other hand, if $\varphi(g) \in KxK$, then

$$g = \varphi(\varphi(g)) \in \varphi(KxK) = \varphi(K)\varphi(x)\varphi(K) = K\varphi(x)K = KxK.$$

We see that $g \in KxK$ if and only if $\varphi(g) \in KxK$. Then we compute

$$(\varphi^* \chi_x)(g) = \chi_x(\varphi(g)) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \varphi(g) \in KxK, \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } g \in KxK, \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases} = \chi_x(g). \quad \square$$

We are now ready to prove Theorem 17.

Proof of Theorem 17. Lemma 22 tells us that φ^* is the identity on the characteristic functions χ_x . These are the basis elements of $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$. Since φ is an anti-automorphism, φ^* will be too. We apply Corollary 19 with $F = \varphi^*$ to see that the basis elements commute. Thus $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$ is commutative. \square

When applying Gelfand's Trick, we will often consider $\varphi(x) = x^{-1}$ or $\varphi(x) = x^t$ (the latter of which is understood as the transpose map when G is a matrix group). It is easy to see that they are both involutive anti-automorphisms, so the condition $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$ will be the only condition left to verify.

1.9. Gelfand pairs. We say that a pair of groups (G, K) with $K \leq G$ is a *Gelfand pair* if $\text{Ind}_K^G 1$ is multiplicity-free. To be a Gelfand pair, it is sufficient to find an anti-automorphism satisfying the conditions of Theorem 17. We present some examples of applications of this technique.

1.9.1. Example: (G, K) with G abelian. For any abelian group G , the identity map $\varphi(g) = g$ is an anti-automorphism. This map clearly satisfies $\varphi^2 = 1$ and $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ for all $x \in G$.

1.9.2. Example: (G, K) with $[G : K] = 2$. The condition $[G : K] = 2$ tells us that K is a normal subgroup of G . Thus, the quotient group G/K is defined and contains two cosets, K and $G - K$. Consider the involutive anti-automorphism $\varphi(g) = g^{-1}$. We verify that double cosets are preserved. If $x \in K$, then $K\varphi(x)K = Kx^{-1}K = K = KxK$. On the other hand, if $x \in G - K$, then $K\varphi(x)K = Kx^{-1}K = G \setminus K = KxK$. We see that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ in all cases.

1.9.3. *Example: $(G \times G, G)$.* We can embed the group G inside $G \times G$ by the injective map $g \mapsto (g, g)$. Then it makes sense to consider G as a subgroup of $G \times G$. We apply Gelfand's Trick with the involutive anti-automorphism $\varphi(g_1, g_2) = (g_1, g_2)^{-1} = (g_1^{-1}, g_2^{-1})$. There holds

$$\begin{aligned} G\varphi(g_1, g_2)G &= \{(hg_1^{-1}k, hg_2^{-1}k) \mid h, k \in G\} \\ &= \{(k^{-1}g_1h^{-1}, k^{-1}g_2h^{-1})^{-1} \mid h, k \in G\} = \{(xg_1y, xg_2y) \mid x, y \in G\} = G(g_1, g_2)G. \end{aligned}$$

We see that φ preserves double cosets and we have a Gelfand pair.

1.9.4. *Example: $(S_{n+m}, S_n \times S_m)$.* We present an original proof, but one may also see [Bum13] for an alternate proof. The group $S_n \times S_m$ can be embedded inside S_{n+m} by taking $w = (w_1, w_2) \in S_n \times S_m$ and forming an element of S_{n+m} by having w_1 act on the first n elements of $\{1, 2, \dots, n+m\}$ and having w_2 act on the last m elements of $\{1, 2, \dots, n+m\}$.

Consider the involutive anti-automorphism $\varphi(w) = w^{-1}$. We must verify that $K\varphi(w)K = KwK$ for each double coset. If $w \in K$, then $K\varphi(w)K = Kw^{-1}K = K = KwK$ so all that is left is to verify double cosets are preserved for $w \in G - K$.

We wish to show that $Kw^{-1}K \subseteq KwK$ and $KwK \subseteq Kw^{-1}K$. Note that it suffices to show only one of these. We will show that $Kw^{-1}K \subseteq KwK$. Again, note that it suffices to show that $w^{-1} \in KwK$. This is equivalent to showing that $w^{-1} = k_1wk_2$ for some $k_1, k_2 \in K$. This equation is equivalent to $k_2^{-1} = wk_1w$. Then it suffices to show that $wkw \in K$ for some $k \in K$.

We call $i \in \{1, \dots, n+m\}$ a *crossing point* of w if one of two mutually exclusive conditions hold: $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $w(i) \in \{n+1, \dots, n+m\}$, or $i \in \{n+1, \dots, n+m\}$ and $w(i) \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Notice that the number of crossing points in $\{1, \dots, n\}$ must equal the number of crossing points in $\{n+1, \dots, n+m\}$ since w is a bijection. Then there is a bijection $f: \{\text{crossing points} \leq n\} \rightarrow \{\text{crossing points} > n\}$. This yields two other bijections $g: \{1, \dots, n\} - \{\text{crossing points} \leq n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\} - w(\{\text{crossing points} > n\})$ and $h: \{n+1, \dots, n+m\} - \{\text{crossing points} > n\} \rightarrow \{n+1, \dots, n+m\} - w(\{\text{crossing points} \leq n\})$. Define $k \in S_{n+m}$ by

$$k(w(i)) := \begin{cases} f(i), & \text{if } i \leq n \text{ is a crossing point,} \\ f^{-1}(i), & \text{if } i > n \text{ is a crossing point,} \\ g(i), & \text{if } i \leq n \text{ is not a crossing point,} \\ h(i), & \text{if } i > n \text{ is not a crossing point.} \end{cases}$$

It is easy to check that k and wkw lie in K as desired.

1.9.5. *Example: $(O_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q), O_n(\mathbb{F}_q))$ with $q \neq 2^k$.* We can embed the group $O_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ inside $O_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ by the injection

$$O_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \hookrightarrow O_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q), \quad A \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Consider the involutive anti-automorphism $\varphi(x) = x^t = x^{-1}$. We verify that φ preserves double cosets. First note, for any group G and subgroup H , the action of G on G/H by left translation gives rise to an action of G on $G/H \times G/H$. The orbits of this action are the double cosets $H \backslash G/H$. This yields an

identification of $H \backslash G / H$ with $G \backslash (G / H \times G / H)$. Explicitly, the identification is given by $(g_1 H, g_2 H) \mapsto H g_1 g_2^{-1} H$.

Notice that $G / H := O_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) / O_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is isomorphic to the unit sphere. Given the previous discussion, it suffices to show that, given two unit vectors $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$, there exists $g \in O_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ with $g(u) = v$ and $g(v) = u$, since the transpose map sends (u, v) to (v, u) . If $u - v$ is not orthogonal to itself, take g to be the reflection relative to the hyperplane orthogonal to $u - v$. More specifically, set $g(x) := x - \frac{2\langle u-v, x \rangle}{\langle u-v, u-v \rangle} (u - v)$. Then

$$g(u) = u - \frac{2\langle u - v, u \rangle}{\langle u - v, u - v \rangle} (u - v) = u - \frac{2\|u\|^2 - 2\langle u, v \rangle}{\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 - 2\langle u, v \rangle} (u - v) = u - (u - v) = v,$$

$$g(v) = v - \frac{2\langle u - v, v \rangle}{\langle u - v, u - v \rangle} (u - v) = v - \frac{2\langle u, v \rangle - 2\|v\|^2}{\|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 - 2\langle u, v \rangle} (u - v) = v + (u - v) = u.$$

If $u - v$ is orthogonal to itself, this tells us that $0 = \langle u - v, u - v \rangle = \|u\|^2 + \|v\|^2 - \langle u, v \rangle = 2 - 2\langle u, v \rangle$ so $\langle u, v \rangle = 1$. Then $\langle u + v, u + v \rangle = 4$ so $u + v$ is not orthogonal to itself, and we take g to be the reflection relative to $u + v$. That is, $g(x) := \frac{2\langle u+v, x \rangle}{\langle u+v, u+v \rangle} (u + v) - x$. Then

$$g(u) = \frac{2\langle u + v, u \rangle}{\langle u + v, u + v \rangle} (u + v) - u = \frac{2\langle u, v \rangle + 2\|u\|^2}{4} (u + v) - u = (u + v) - u = v,$$

$$g(v) = \frac{2\langle u + v, v \rangle}{\langle u + v, u + v \rangle} (u + v) - v = \frac{2\langle u, v \rangle + 2\|v\|^2}{4} (u + v) - v = (u + v) - v = u.$$

2. TWISTED HECKE ALGEBRAS OF FINITE GROUPS

We have now completed our investigation of the Hecke algebra $\mathcal{H}(G, K)$. The aim of this section is to generalise the results of Chapter 1 to the case of a non-trivial character $\sigma: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$. Here the Hecke algebra $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$ is the convolution algebra of (K, σ) -bi-invariant functions on G . In Section 2.1, we discuss the theory of the induced representation $\text{Ind}_K^G \sigma$. In Section 2.2, we revisit the Hecke algebra, identify its identity and describe its basis. Notice that the results of Section 1.5 and Section 1.6 were independent of the choice $\sigma = 1$, so they still apply now that we are considering a non-trivial character.

In Section 2.3, we generalise Gelfand's Trick from Section 1.8 to the case of a non-trivial character σ . Naturally, we will need to reconsider the conditions that the anti-automorphism $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ must satisfy. As in Section 1.8, we will investigate these conditions and conclude with a natural statement and proof of Gelfand's Trick in the twisted case. We conclude with Section 2.4, in which we investigate the Gelfand–Graev representation and use the results of this chapter to prove that it is multiplicity-free.

2.1. The induced representation $\text{Ind}_K^G \sigma$. Suppose that $\sigma: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ is a character, i.e. a group homomorphism. Consider the space

$$W := \{f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(gk) = f(g)\sigma(k), \forall g \in G, \forall k \in K\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(G).$$

As in the previous section, W is called the induced representation and denoted $\text{Ind}_K^G \sigma$. We state and prove a lemma analogous to Lemma 11.

Lemma 23. *W is a left ideal of $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$.*

Proof. We verify that $f \star w \in W$ whenever $w \in W$ and $f \in \text{Fun}(G)$. Let $g \in G$ and $k \in K$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} (f \star w)(gk) &= \sum_{xy=gk} f(x)w(y) = \sum_{x \in G} f(x)w(x^{-1}gk) = \sum_{x \in G} f(x)w(x^{-1}g)\sigma(k) \\ &= \left[\sum_{x \in G} f(x)w(x^{-1}g) \right] \sigma(k) = \left[\sum_{xy=g} f(x)w(y) \right] \sigma(k) = (f \star w)(g)\sigma(k). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

2.2. The twisted Hecke algebra of a finite group $\mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$. The Hecke algebra $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$ is the space

$$\mathcal{H} := \{f: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(k_1 g k_2) = \sigma(k_1) f(g) \sigma(k_2), \forall g \in G, \forall k_1, k_2 \in K\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(G).$$

The proof of Lemma 23 can be adapted to show that \mathcal{H} is a two-sided ideal in $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$. As before, the identity of $(\text{Fun}(G), \star)$ does not lie in \mathcal{H} . Nevertheless, \mathcal{H} does have an identity of its own. It is easy to verify that the identity is ι_K^σ , which we define below.

$$\iota_K^\sigma: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad \iota_K^\sigma(g) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|K|} \sigma(g), & \text{if } g \in K, \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Thus, (\mathcal{H}, \star) is a unital associative algebra in its own right.

We now construct a basis for \mathcal{H} . Recall that when $\sigma = 1$, the basis of \mathcal{H} was described by the characteristic functions of K -double cosets. To treat the case when $\sigma \neq 1$, we need a lemma about group actions.

Consider the finite group K acting on a set X . For each $x \in X$, let $\mathcal{O}_x := \{g \cdot x \mid g \in G\}$ be the orbit containing x and let $K_x := \{k \in K \mid k \cdot x = x\}$ be the stabiliser subgroup of x in K (also denoted as $\text{stab}_K(x)$). Consider the vector space

$$V := \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(k \cdot x) = \sigma(k)f(x), \forall k \in K, \forall x \in X\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(X).$$

An orbit \mathcal{O}_x is called (K, σ) -*relevant* if there exists $f \in V$ such that $f|_{\mathcal{O}_x}$ is non-zero. Otherwise, we say \mathcal{O}_x is (K, σ) -*irrelevant*. We omit mention of (K, σ) if it is clear from the context.

Lemma 24. *An orbit \mathcal{O}_x is (K, σ) -relevant if and only if $\sigma(K_x) = \{1\}$.*

Proof. Assume that $\sigma(K_x) \neq \{1\}$. Then there exists $k \in K_x$ such that $\sigma(k) \neq 1$. Now recall that for $f \in V$ we have $f(x) = f(k \cdot x) = \sigma(k)f(x)$. However $\sigma(k) \neq 1$, so $f(x) = 0$. Then f must be zero on \mathcal{O}_x and \mathcal{O}_x is irrelevant.

Conversely, the fact that σ is trivial on K_x implies that it factors through a well-defined function $\sigma_x: \mathcal{O}_x \simeq K/K_x \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ given by $\sigma_x(kK_x) := \sigma(k)$. To see that this function is well-defined, suppose that $k_1K_x = k_2K_x$. Then $k_1k_2^{-1} \in K_x$. Since σ is trivial on K_x , we know $1 = \sigma(k_1k_2^{-1}) = \sigma(k_1)\sigma(k_2)^{-1}$. Then $\sigma(k_1) = \sigma(k_2)$ so $\sigma_x(k_1K_x) = \sigma_x(k_2K_x)$. It is easy to check that $\sigma_x \in V$. Thus, \mathcal{O}_x is relevant. \square

Now suppose K is a subgroup of G acting on $X = G$ from the left and right by translation. Then the orbit \mathcal{O}_x is nothing but the double coset KxK and V becomes the Hecke algebra \mathcal{H} . Explicitly, we have

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f(k_1 \cdot x \cdot k_2) = \sigma(k_1)f(x)\sigma(k_2), \forall k_1, k_2 \in K, \forall x \in X\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(X).$$

We can re-write this data by considering the left action of $K \times K^{\text{op}}$ on X , where K^{op} is the group opposite to K . Then

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid f((k_1, k_2) \cdot x) = \sigma(k_1)\sigma(k_2)f(x), \forall k_1, k_2 \in K, \forall x \in X\} \subseteq \text{Fun}(X).$$

A double coset KxK is relevant if it supports a non-zero function from \mathcal{H} . Let X_{rel} be a family of relevant coset representatives. Define the family of functions $\{\chi_x\}_{x \in X_{\text{rel}}}$ by

$$\chi_x(y) := \begin{cases} \sigma(k)\sigma(k'), & \text{if } y \in KxK \text{ with } y = kxk', \\ 0, & \text{if } y \notin KxK. \end{cases}$$

One easily checks that χ_x is well-defined. We call χ_x a *twisted characteristic function* associated to the relevant orbit KxK . When $\sigma = 1$, every orbit is relevant and $\sigma(k)\sigma(k') = 1$, so we obtain the original characteristic functions described in Section 1.4. Define the map

$$\sigma \boxtimes \sigma: K \times K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times, \quad (\sigma \boxtimes \sigma)(k_1, k_2) := (\sigma(k_1), \sigma(k_2)).$$

As a result of Lemma 24, we see that an orbit under the left action of $K \times K^{\text{op}}$ is relevant if and only if $(\sigma \boxtimes \sigma)(\text{stab}_{K \times K}(x)) = \{1\}$. As in Section 1.4, it is not difficult to see that the twisted characteristic functions of relevant orbits form a basis of $\mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$.

2.3. Twisted Gelfand's Trick. Our goal in this section is to prove the twisted analogue of Gelfand's Trick.

Theorem 25 (Twisted Gelfand's Trick). *Suppose that G is a finite group with $K \leq G$ as a subgroup and character $\sigma: K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$. Let $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ be an anti-automorphism such that*

- (i) $\varphi^2 = 1$,
- (ii) $\varphi(K) = K$,
- (iii) $\sigma(\varphi(k)) = \sigma(k)$ for all $k \in K$, and
- (iv) $\varphi(x) = x$ for all $x \in X_{\text{rel}}$, a family of representatives for the (K, σ) -relevant K -double cosets.

Then $\mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$ is commutative.

This is a true generalisation of Theorem 17. Indeed, if we consider the trivial representation $\sigma = 1$, condition (iii) is trivially satisfied, condition (iv) corresponds to the requirement that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$ in Theorem 17, and condition (ii) is contained in the requirement that $K\varphi(x)K = KxK$.

As in Section 2.1, the proof of Theorem 25 relies on the observation that an anti-homomorphism of an algebra that acts as the identity on basis elements of the subalgebra is sufficient to conclude that the subalgebra is commutative (c.f. Lemma 18 and Corollary 16). This leaves us with a question: can we rewrite the condition $\varphi^* \chi_x = \chi_x$?

Recall that X_{rel} denotes a family of representatives for the relevant double cosets. Recall the twisted characteristic functions $\{\chi_x\}_{x \in X_{\text{rel}}}$ defined in Section 2.2 given by

$$\chi_x(y) = \begin{cases} \sigma(k)\sigma(k'), & \text{if } y \in KxK \text{ with } y = kxk', \\ 0, & \text{if } y \notin KxK. \end{cases}$$

Thus,

$$(\varphi^* \chi_x)(g) = \begin{cases} \sigma(k)\sigma(k'), & \text{if } \varphi(g) \in KxK \text{ with } \varphi(g) = kxk', \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

If $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ is an involutive homomorphism, then $\varphi(g) = kxk'$ is equivalent to $g = \varphi(k')\varphi(x)\varphi(k)$. If we further suppose that $\varphi(x) = x$ for all $x \in X_{\text{rel}}$ and $\varphi(K) = K$, then $g = \varphi(k')\varphi(x)\varphi(k)$ is equivalent to $g = \varphi(k')x\varphi(k)$. Thus,

$$(\varphi^* \chi_x)(g) = \begin{cases} \sigma(\varphi(k'))\sigma(\varphi(k)), & \text{if } g \in KxK \text{ with } g = \varphi(k')x\varphi(k), \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

This tells us that $\varphi^* \chi_x$ is also supported (i.e. non-zero) on KxK . Now let's also assume that $\sigma(\varphi(k)) = \sigma(k)$ for all $k \in K$. Then we can easily verify that $\varphi^* \chi_x \in \mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$. So $\varphi^* \chi_x$ must be a multiple of χ_x . In fact, this multiple is 1, since

$$(\varphi^* \chi_x)(x) = \chi_x(\varphi(x)) = \chi_x(x) = 1.$$

We are now ready to prove Theorem 25.

Proof of Theorem 25. Suppose that $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ is an anti-automorphism. Also suppose that $\varphi^2 = 1$, $\varphi(K) = K$, $\sigma(\varphi(k)) = \sigma(k)$ for all $k \in K$, and $\varphi(x) = x$ for all $x \in X_{\text{rel}}$. The above discussion tells us that $\varphi^* \chi_x =$

χ_x . These are the basis elements of $\mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$. We apply Corollary 19 to conclude that $\mathcal{H}(G, K, \sigma)$ is commutative. \square

2.4. The Gelfand–Graev representation. We construct the *Gelfand–Graev representation* of $G = \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$. First, consider the *unipotent radical* of G , given by

$$U(\mathbb{F}_q) := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \mathbb{F}_q & \cdots & \mathbb{F}_q \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & 1 & \mathbb{F}_q \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Next, fix a non-trivial additive character $\psi: \mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ (i.e. $\psi(a+b) = \psi(a)\psi(b)$). Then define a character $\pi: U(\mathbb{F}_q) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ by

$$\pi(x) := \psi(x_{12} + x_{23} + \cdots + x_{n-1,n}).$$

To see that π is a character, observe

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(xy) &= \psi((xy)_{12} + (xy)_{23} + \cdots + (xy)_{n-1,n}) \\ &= \psi\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{1k}y_{k2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{2k}y_{k3} + \cdots + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{n-1,k}y_{kn}\right) \\ &= \psi\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{1k}y_{k2}\right) \psi\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{2k}y_{k3}\right) \cdots \psi\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} x_{n-1,k}y_{kn}\right) \\ &= \psi(x_{12} + y_{12})\psi(x_{23} + y_{23}) \cdots \psi(x_{n-1,n} + y_{n-1,n}) \\ &= \psi(x_{12})\psi(y_{12})\psi(x_{23})\psi(y_{23}) \cdots \psi(x_{n-1,n})\psi(y_{n-1,n}) \\ &= \psi(x_{12})\psi(x_{23}) \cdots \psi(x_{n-1,n})\psi(y_{12})\psi(y_{23}) \cdots \psi(y_{n-1,n}) \\ &= \psi(x_{12} + \cdots + x_{n-1,n})\psi(y_{12} + \cdots + y_{n-1,n}) \\ &= \pi(x)\pi(y). \end{aligned}$$

The *Gelfand–Graev representation* of G is $\mathrm{Ind}_U^G \pi$. In [Bum13], Bump explains, “this Gelfand–Graev representation is important because it contains *most* irreducible representations of the group; those it contains are therefore called *generic*.” Furthermore, we have the following theorem.

Theorem 26. *The Gelfand–Graev representation is multiplicity-free. That is, $(\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q), U(\mathbb{F}_q), \pi)$ is a twisted Gelfand pair.*

This theorem will be proven in two parts. We begin with a lemma.

Lemma 27. (i) *We have the Bruhat decomposition*

$$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) = \bigsqcup_{w \in W} BwB,$$

where W is the group of all $n \times n$ permutation matrices and B is the subgroup of all $n \times n$ upper-triangular matrices.

(ii) We can modify the Bruhat decomposition and write

$$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) = \bigsqcup_{m \in M} UmU,$$

where M is the group of all $n \times n$ monomial matrices. A monomial matrix is a matrix with exactly one non-zero element in each row and column.

Before we prove Lemma 27, we recall a simple fact about matrices. Define $x_{ij}(t) := I_{n \times n} + tE_{ij}$, where $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ and E_{ij} is the matrix of 0's except for a 1 in the i^{th} row and j^{th} column. Notice that $x_{ij}(t) \in B$ since $i \leq j$. We can achieve the usual row and column operations on a matrix A by multiplying on the left or the right by some $x_{ij}(t)$. The following makes this statement precise.

Right-multiplying A by $x_{ij}(t)$ corresponds to the column operation of $C_j \mapsto C_j + tC_i$, where C_k is column k of A . Similarly, left-multiplying A by $x_{ij}(t)$ corresponds to the row operation of $R_i \mapsto R_i + tR_j$, where R_k is row k of A . Right-multiplying A by $x_{ii}(\lambda - 1)$ corresponds to the column operation $C_i \mapsto \lambda C_i$, for some scalar λ . Similarly, left-multiplying A by $x_{ii}(\lambda - 1)$ corresponds to the row operation $R_i \mapsto \lambda R_i$. We see that we can perform the usual row and column operations by right- and left-multiplying by elements of B .

Proof of Lemma 27. We begin by proving that $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) = \bigcup_{w \in W} BwB$ and will prove disjointness of the union later. We proceed by induction. The $n = 1$ case is clearly true since all matrices in $\mathrm{GL}_1(\mathbb{F}_q)$ are upper-triangular. Now let $n > 1$ and $g \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$. We wish to find a permutation matrix w in BgB . We have two cases: $g_{n,1} \neq 0$ and $g_{n,1} = 0$.

In the first case, the previous discussion tells us that we can multiply g on the left and the right by appropriate elements of B so that the resulting matrix has zeros in the left column and bottom row, except for the bottom left entry, which is $g_{n,1}$. This is non-zero so we can normalise this resulting matrix by $g_{n,1}$ to yield $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & g' \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Here g' lies in $\mathrm{GL}_{n-1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$. The inductive hypothesis that the $n - 1$ is true tells us that g' lies in a double coset $Bw'B$ for some $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$ permutation matrix w' . Then the desired w is obtained by setting $w = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & w' \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

In the second case, choose $g_{i1} \neq 0$ and $g_{nj} \neq 0$ so that i is as large as possible and j is as small as possible. This amounts to choosing the two non-zero entries in the left column and bottom row that are closest to the bottom left entry. Left- and right-multiplication by appropriate elements of B yields a matrix whose first and j^{th} columns and i^{th} and last rows are empty, except the entries g_{i1} and g_{nj} . Since these entries are non-zero, we can normalise these to 1 as well. Now we apply the inductive hypothesis to the matrix obtained by removing these two rows and two columns. We are left with a permutation matrix and this completes the induction.

We verify that the union is disjoint. Let $w_1, w_2 \in W$ be representatives for the same double coset. Then $Bw_1B = Bw_2B$ and, given any $b \in B$, there exists $b' \in B$ with $w_1bw_2^{-1} = b'$. In particular, $w_1w_2^{-1} \in B \cap W = \{1\}$. Thus $w_1 = w_2$.

We now prove the modified decomposition. Consider the subgroup T of diagonal matrices in $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$. Notice that $B = TU = UT$ and $M = TW = WT$ so the result follows from the regular Bruhat decomposition. Disjointness is proven as before. \square

Proof of Theorem 26. Consider the involutive anti-automorphism $\varphi: G \rightarrow G$ defined by

$$\varphi(g) := w_0 g^t w_0, \quad \text{where } w_0 = \begin{pmatrix} & & 1 \\ & \ddots & \\ 1 & & \end{pmatrix}.$$

We verify that $U\varphi(g)U = UgU$ for all $g \in G$. For each double coset UgU , we will show that UgU has a certain coset representative g' with $\varphi(g') = g'$, or $f(g) = 0$ for all $f \in \mathcal{H}$.

The modification of the Bruhat decomposition in Lemma 27 tells us that $UgU = UmU$ for some monomial matrix m . Let $f \in \mathcal{H}$ be non-vanishing on UmU . That is, $f(m) \neq 0$. We show that m has the form

$$m = \begin{pmatrix} & & D_1 \\ & D_2 & \\ & \ddots & \\ D_r & & \end{pmatrix},$$

for some diagonal matrices D_1, \dots, D_r . Equivalently, we show that if m_{ij} and $m_{i+1,k}$ are non-zero, then we must have $k \leq j + 1$.

To see this, assume that $m_{ij}, m_{i+1,k} \neq 0$ and $k > j + 1$. Then define $x := I_n + m_{ij}E_{i,i+1} \in U$ and $y := I_n + m_{i+1,k}E_{jk} \in U$. Simple computations tell us that $xm = m + m_{ij}m_{i+1,k}e_{ik} = my$, $\pi(x) = \psi(m_{ij}) \neq 1$ and $\pi(y) = \pi(0) = 1$. Then, since $f \in \mathcal{H}$, there holds $\pi(x)f(m) = f(xm) = f(my) = f(m)\pi(y)$. Thus $(\pi(x) - \pi(y))f(m) = 0$, so $f(m) = 0$ since $\pi(x) \neq \pi(y)$.

Now we show that each diagonal matrix D_i is actually a matrix of scalars. In particular, we show that if $m_{i,j}$ and $m_{i+1,j+1}$ are non-zero then they are equal. Consider x and y as given above, with $k = j + 1$. Then $xm = my$, $\pi(x) = \psi(m_{ij})$, $\pi(y) = \psi(m_{i+1,j+1})$ and $(\pi(x) - \pi(y))f(m) = 0$. Recall that f doesn't vanish on UmU so $f(m) \neq 0$. Thus $\pi(x) = \pi(y)$, which tells us that $\psi(m_{ij}) = \psi(m_{i+1,j+1})$ and $m_{ij} = m_{i+1,j+1}$ by injectivity of ψ .

Finally, notice $\varphi(m) = m$. This is easy to see, since m^t is simply m with the elements on the opposite diagonal reversed, and left- and right-multiplying by w_0 also reverses the opposite diagonal. This completes the proof. \square

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