

# Lecture 11: Applications of Schur's lemma

13 October 2021  
10:02

Schur's lemma: Let  $V$  &  $W$  be two irred  $G$ -representations

Let  $f: V \rightarrow W$  be a  $G$ -equivariant map.

Then  $f=0$  or  $f$  is an isom. Moreover  
if  $W=V$  then  $f$  is a scalar multiple of identity

Cor: Let  $V$  be  $G$ -repr then  $V \cong V_1^{r_1} \oplus \dots \oplus V_m^{r_m}$  where  $V_i$ 's  
are irred reprs of  $G$  and  $r_i > 0$ . This is unique in the sense  
that if  $V \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{m'} W_i^{r'_i}$  then  $m'=m$  & after a permutation  
of  $\{1, \dots, m\}$   $V_i \cong W_i$  as  $G$ -reprs &  $r_i = r'_i$ .

Cor: Let  $V_1$  &  $V_2$  be irred  $G$ -reprs &  $h: V_1 \rightarrow V_2$   
be any linear map. Let

$$h_0 = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho_{V_2}^{-1}(g) h \rho_{V_1}(g) : V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \quad (*)$$

Then 1) If  $V_1$  &  $V_2$  are not isom then  $h_0 = 0$

2) If  $V_1 = V_2$  &  $\rho_{V_1} = \rho_{V_2}$  then  $h_0 = \frac{1}{n} \text{Tr}(h)$   
where  $n = \dim V$

Pf: Claim:  $h_0$  is  $G$ -equivariant. ( $h_0(g \cdot v) = g \cdot h_0(v)$ )

$$h_0 \circ \rho_{V_1}(g) = \rho_{V_2}(g) \circ h_0 \quad \forall g \in G. \quad (**)$$

This follows by plugging in the formula for  $h_0$ .

By Schur's lemma ① is immediate.

And ② we know that  $h_0 = \lambda \text{Id}_{V_1}$  where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(h_0) = \lambda n$ . By  $(*)$ ,

$$\text{Tr}(h_0) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \text{Tr}(\rho_{V_1}(g)^{-1} h \rho_{V_1}(g))$$

$$= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \text{Tr}(h)$$

$$= \text{Tr}(h)$$

$$\lambda n = \text{Tr}(h) \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{\text{Tr}(h)}{n}$$



Def<sup>n</sup>: Let  $V_1$  &  $V_2$  be two reps of a group  $G$ . Let  $\chi_1, \chi_2$  be corresponding characters.

$$(\chi_1 | \chi_2) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_1(g) \overline{\chi_2(g)} \in \mathbb{C}$$

Note that  $(|)$  is linear in first variable & conjugate linear in 2<sup>nd</sup> var.

Prop: If  $V_1$  &  $V_2$  are irred then

$$(\chi_1 | \chi_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } V_1 \cong V_2 \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

Pf:

next class

Pf of Cor 1:

Existence ✓

Let  $V_1$  be an irred repr.

of  $G$ .

$$(\chi_{W_1}, \chi_V) = r_1 \quad \left( \because \chi_V = r_1 \chi_{V_1} + r_2 \chi_{V_2} + \dots + r_m \chi_{V_m} \right)$$

$$\parallel$$
$$\left( \chi_{V_1}, \chi_{W_1^{r'_1} \oplus \dots \oplus W_{m'}^{r'_{m'}}} \right)$$

one of  $W_1, \dots, W_{m'}$  is isom to

$V_1$ , say  $W_1$  and then  $r'_1 = r_1$ .

Now use induction on dim repr.

to conclude that  $m' = m$  &  
 $r'_i = r_i$  after reordering.

