



## CHAPTER 5: INDUCTION AND RESTRICTION

Notation: Same as in chap. 4.

In part throughout this chapter  $G$  denotes a finite group.

We present here a fundamental method to construct characters of  $G$  from characters of subgroups  $H \leq G$ .

Note: From now on we work only in terms of characters. For the corresponding operations in terms of representations/ $G$ -vector spaces see Representation Theory.

### 1. Induced Characters

Definition 5.1: Let  $H \leq G$  and let  $\varphi \in \text{Cl}(H)$  be a class function on  $H$ . Then the induced class function from  $\varphi$  to  $G$  or the induction of  $\varphi$  from  $H$  to  $G$  is the function

$$\text{Ind}_H^G(\varphi) := \varphi \uparrow_H^G : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$g \mapsto \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o(xgx^{-1})$$

where  $\varphi^o(g) = \begin{cases} \varphi(g) & \text{if } g \in H \\ 0 & \text{if } g \in G \setminus H \end{cases}$

Note  
 $\{H \leq G\}$  w.l.o.g.  
 $\Rightarrow \varphi^o(g)$   
 right  $G$ -act  
 space give  
 $\varphi^o(g)$

Lemma 5.2: With the notation of Def<sup>n</sup> 5.1,  $\varphi \uparrow_H^G$  is again a class function.

Proof: Clean since  $G$  is a transitive  $G$ -set for its left action on itself:

$\forall y, g \in G$  we have

$$\varphi \uparrow_H^G(ygy^{-1}) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o((xyg)y^{-1}) \stackrel{s=xy}{=} \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{s \in G} \varphi^o(sgs^{-1}) = \varphi \uparrow_H^G(g)$$

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Definition 5.3: If  $H \leq G$  and  $\varphi \in \text{Cl}(G)$ , the restricted class function from  $\varphi$  to  $H$  or the restriction of  $\varphi$  from  $G$  to  $H$  is the function  $\text{Res}_H^G(\varphi) := \varphi \downarrow_H = \text{I}_H$ . This is obviously a class function.

## L Proposition 5.4 : (Frobenius Reciprocity)

Let  $H \leq G$  and let  $\varphi \in \text{Cl}(H)$  be a class function on  $H$ , and  $\psi$  a class function on  $G$ . Then

$$\langle \varphi \uparrow_H^G, \psi \rangle_G = \langle \varphi, \psi \downarrow_H^G \rangle_H.$$

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \varphi \uparrow_H^G, \psi \rangle_G &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \varphi \uparrow_H^G(g) \psi(g^{-1}) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o(xg^{-1}) \psi(g^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|G||H|} \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o(g) \psi(xg^{-1}) \\ &\stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{g \in G} \varphi^o(g) \psi(g^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{g \in H} \underbrace{\varphi^o(g)}_{=\varphi(g)} \psi(g^{-1}) \\ &= \langle \varphi, \psi \downarrow_H^G \rangle_H \end{aligned}$$

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Example :  $G = S_3$ ,  $H = \langle (12) \rangle$   $\varphi = \text{sgn character}$

$$\varphi \uparrow_H^G : S_3 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$g \mapsto \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o(xgx^{-1})$$

Since  $\varphi \uparrow_H^G$  is a class function we compute it on the representative of each conj. class.

$$\bullet \quad \varphi \uparrow_H^G(\text{id}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in G} \underbrace{\varphi^o(\text{id})}_{=\varphi(\text{id})=1} = \frac{1}{2} |G| = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 = 3$$

$$\bullet \quad \varphi \uparrow_H^G((12)) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi^o(x(12)x^{-1}) - \frac{1}{2} |C_{S_3}((12))| \varphi(12) \\ = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot (-1) = -1$$

$$\bullet \quad \varphi \uparrow_H^G((123)) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{x \in G} \underbrace{\varphi^o(x(123)x^{-1})}_{\notin H} = 0$$

Corollary 5.5: Let  $\chi$  be a character of  $H \leq G$  with  $\chi(1) = n$ .

Then  $\chi \uparrow_H^G(1) = n|G:H|$  and  $\chi \uparrow_H^G$  is a character of  $G$ .

Proof: For  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ , set  $m_\psi := \langle \chi \uparrow_H^G, \psi \rangle_G$

$$\stackrel{5.4}{=} \langle \chi, \psi \downarrow_H^G \rangle_H$$

$$= \langle \chi, \sum_{i=1}^s \psi_i \rangle_H$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^s \langle \chi, \psi_i \rangle_H \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$$

where  $\psi \downarrow_H^G = \sum_{i=1}^s \psi_i$  is  
a decomp into irred  $H$ -characters.

$\Rightarrow \chi \uparrow_H^G = \sum_{\psi \in \text{Irr}(G)} m_\psi \psi$  is a character

$$\text{with } \chi \uparrow_H^G(1) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \chi^o(1) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \chi(1)$$

$$= \frac{|G|}{|H|} = |G:H|\chi(1). \#$$

Lemma 5.6:  $\chi_{\text{reg}} = \mathbf{1}_{\Sigma^H} \uparrow_H^G$ .

Proof: Let  $g \in G$ . Then  $\mathbf{1}_{\Sigma^H} \uparrow_H^G(g) = \frac{1}{|\Sigma^H|} \sum_{x \in G} \underbrace{\mathbf{1}_{\Sigma^H}(xgx^{-1})}_{=0 \text{ unless } g=x} = \delta_{gg}|\Sigma^H|$

$$= \chi_{\text{reg}}(g).$$

Theorem 5: Let  $K, H \leq G$ .

(a) (Transitivity): If  $K \leq H$  and  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(K)$ , then

$$(\chi \uparrow_K^H) \uparrow_H^G = \chi \uparrow_K^G$$

(b) (Frobenius Formula): If  $\varphi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  and  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(H)$  we have

$$\varphi \cdot \psi \uparrow_H^G = (\varphi \downarrow_H^G \cdot \psi) \uparrow_H^G$$

Proof: (a) Let  $g \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (\chi \uparrow_K^H) \uparrow_H^G(g) &= \frac{1}{|H||K|} \sum_{x \in G} \sum_{y \in H} \chi^0(x y g y^{-1} x^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|H||K|} \sum_{y \in H} \sum_{x \in G} \chi^0(x y g y^{-1} x^{-1}) \\ &\stackrel{z:=xy}{=} \frac{1}{|H||K|} \sum_{y \in H} \sum_{z \in G} \chi^0(z g z^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|H||K|} \cdot |H| \cdot \sum_{z \in G} \chi^0(z g z^{-1}) = (\chi \uparrow_K^G)(g) \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let  $g \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(g) \cdot \psi \uparrow_H^G(g) &= \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi(g) \psi^0(x g z^{-1}) \\ &\stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{x \in G} \varphi(x g z^{-1}) \psi^0(x g z^{-1}) \\ &= (\varphi \downarrow_H^G \cdot \psi) \uparrow_H^G(g) \end{aligned}$$

Example: (The character table of the simple group  $A_5$ .)

Set  $G := A_5$ . Conj. classes:  $C_1 = \{\text{id}\}$ ,  $C_2 = [(12)(34)]$   $|C_1| = 1$ ,  $|C_2| = 15$

$C_3 = [(123)]$   $|C_3| = 20$

$C_4 \cup C_5 = \{5\text{-cycles}\}$  (324 of them.)

Easy to check  $g \in C_4 \Leftrightarrow g^5 \in C_4$  as well  
but  $g^2$  and  $g^3 \in C_5$

$$|C_4| = |C_5| = 2$$

- $|\text{Irr}(A_5)| = 5$
- $A_5$  simple  $\Rightarrow A_5/[A_5, A_5] = 1 \Rightarrow$  there is only one linear character:  $\chi_1 := 1_{A_5}$

- $A_5$  simple also mean that we cannot use inflation as in the case of  $S_4$
- But we can use induction:

let  $H = A_4 \leq A_5$ . In part  $|G:H| = 5$

We can induce  $1_H$  to  $G$ :  $1_H^{\uparrow H}(\text{id}) \stackrel{(6.5)}{=} 1 \cdot |G:H| = 5$

$$1_H^{\uparrow H}((12)(34)) = \frac{1}{12} \cdot 12 = 1$$

$$1_H^{\uparrow H}((123)) = \frac{1}{12} \cdot 24 = 2$$

$$1_H^{\uparrow H}(\text{5-cycle}) = \frac{1}{12} \cdot 0 = 0$$

Compute:  $\langle 1_H^{\uparrow H}, 1_G \rangle = 1$

$$\text{and } \langle 1_H^{\uparrow H} - 1_G, 1_H^{\uparrow H} - 1_G \rangle = 1 \\ \Rightarrow 1_H^{\uparrow H} - 1_G \in \text{Irr}(G).$$

so we set  $\chi_4 := 1_H^{\uparrow H} - 1_G = (4, 0, 1, -1, -1)$   
of degree 4

$$\text{Now by the degree formula } GO = |A_5| = \chi_2(1)^2 + \chi_3(1)^2 + \chi_5(1)^2 + 1 + 16 \\ = 43 + 17$$

Claim: wlog  $\chi_5(1) = 5$

Recall:  $\chi_5(1), \chi_2(1), \chi_3(1) \notin \{1, 2\}$  as  $A_5$  simple

Moreover  $\chi_5(1), \chi_2(1), \chi_3(1) \mid |A_5| = 60$

$$\Rightarrow \chi_5(1), \chi_2(1), \chi_3(1) \in \{3, 5, 6\} \quad \begin{array}{l} 10^2 = 100 > 60 \\ 12^2 = 144 > 60 \end{array}$$

•  $n_5=6$  not possible as  $36 + 7 = 43$ .

•  $n_5 < 5$  not possible

• Only possibility  $n_5 = 5, n_2 = n_3 = 3$

- Burnside's vanishing Thm  $\Rightarrow$   $\exists$  at least one zero per non-trivial column.  
With Gr 4.10 we get

	$id$	$[(12)(34)]$	$[(123)]$	$c_4$	$c_5$	rec: $ G_2 =15$
$x_1$	1	1	1	1	1	$ G_3 =20$
$x_2$	3	$a_2 = -1$	0	$c_2$	$d_2$	$ G_4 = G_5 =12$
$x_3$	3	$a_3$	0	$c_3$	$d_3$	
$x_4$	4	0	1	-1	-1	
$x_5$	5	$a_5 = 1$	$b_5 = -1$	0	0	

- Orthog. relations yield:

$$1\text{st \& 3rd coll's: } 0 = 1 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 0 + 3 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 + 5 \cdot b_5 \Rightarrow \boxed{b_5 = -1}$$

$$1\text{st \& 2nd coll's: } 0 = 1 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot a_2 + 3 \cdot a_3 + 4 \cdot 0 + 5 \cdot a_5 \Rightarrow$$

$$2\text{nd \& 3rd coll's: } 0 = 1 \cdot 1 + a_5 \cdot (-1) \Rightarrow \boxed{a_5 = 1}$$

- Inducing from  $H = \langle (12345) \rangle \cong G_5$  a non-trivial character  $\chi_H = "x_2"$  see Example 4 yields

$$\chi_H^G = (12, 0, 0, \varphi^2 \varphi^3, \varphi + \varphi^4) \quad (|G:H|=12)$$

where  $\varphi$  primitive 5-th root of unity

$$\text{get } \langle \chi_H^G, x_4 \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle \chi_H^G, x_5 \rangle = 1$$

$$\underbrace{\langle \chi_H^G - x_4 - x_5, \chi_H^G - x_4 - x_5 \rangle}_{(3, -1, 0, -\varphi - \varphi^4, -\varphi^2 - \varphi^3)} = 1 \Rightarrow \text{irreducible}$$

$$(3, -1, 0, -\varphi - \varphi^4, -\varphi^2 - \varphi^3) =: x_2$$

- Orthog. relations:

$$\text{Coll's 1 \& 2} \Rightarrow \boxed{a_3 = -1}$$

$$\text{Coll's 3 \& 4} \Rightarrow \boxed{c_3 = -\varphi^2 - \varphi^3}$$

$$\text{Coll's 3 \& 5} \Rightarrow \boxed{d_3 = -\varphi - \varphi^4}$$



## 2. Clifford Theory

We now want to investigate induction from normal subgroups.

Lemma 5.8 Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and let  $g \in G$ .

- (a) If  $R: N \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$  is a matrix representation of  $N$ , then so is the map  ${}^g R: N \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$   
 $n \mapsto R(gng^{-1})$
- (b) If  $R$  affords the character  $\psi$ , then  ${}^g R$  affords the character  ${}^g\psi: N \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$   
 $n \mapsto \psi(gng^{-1})$
- (c) The map  $G \times \text{Cl}(N) \rightarrow \text{Cl}(N)$  is a (left) action of  $G$  on  $\text{Cl}(N)$ .  
 $(g, \varphi) \mapsto {}^g\varphi$

Proof: easy check !

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Definition 5.9: If  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $\psi$  is a character of  $N$ , then we denote by

$$I_G(\psi) := \{g \in G \mid {}^g\psi = \psi\}$$

the stabiliser of  $\psi$  in  $G$  and call this group the inertial group of  $\psi$  in  $G$ .

Lemma 5.10: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ ,  $\psi$  be a character of  $N$ . Then:

- (a)  $\forall x \in G$ , we have :  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N) \iff {}^x\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$
- (b)  $(\psi \uparrow_N^G) \downarrow_N^G = |I_G(\psi):N| \sum_{x \in [G:I_G(\psi)]} {}^x\psi$

Proof: (a)  $\langle {}^x\psi, {}^x\psi \rangle = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{n \in N} {}^x\psi(n) {}^x\psi(n) = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{n \in N} \psi(xnx^{-1}) \psi(xn^{-1}x) = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{h=xn^{-1}}^{h=xn^{-1}} \psi(h) \psi(h^{-1}) = \langle \psi, \psi \rangle$

Hence  $\langle {}^x\psi, {}^x\psi \rangle = 1 \iff \langle \psi, \psi \rangle = 1$

and  ${}^x\psi \in \text{Irr}(N) \iff \psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  by 2.8(d), (a)



(b) Let  $n \in N$ . Compute.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\psi \uparrow_N^G) \downarrow_N^G (n) &= (\psi \uparrow_N^G)(n) = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{x \in G} \psi(x n \bar{x}^{-1}) = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{x \in G} \psi(x n \bar{x}^{-1}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{x \in G} x \psi(n) \quad x = \text{fix}_G(a) \\
 &= \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{\tilde{x} \in [G/I_G(\psi)]} |I_G(\psi)| \tilde{x} \psi(n) \\
 &= |I_G(\psi)| \sum_{\tilde{x} \in [G/I_G(\psi)]} \tilde{x} \psi(n)
 \end{aligned}$$

(b)  
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Notation: Given  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  we let

$$\text{Irr}(G|\psi) := \{x \in \text{Irr}(G) \mid \langle x \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle \neq 0\}$$

i.e.  $\psi$  is a constituent of  $x \downarrow_N^G$ .

### Theorem 5.11 ("Clifford Theory")

Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$ . Let  $x \in \text{Irr}(G)$  and let  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$ .

(a) If  $\psi$  is a constituent of  $x \downarrow_N^G$ , then

$$x \downarrow_N^G = e \sum_{g \in [G/I_G(\psi)]} g \psi$$

where  $e = \langle x \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle \neq 0$  is the ramification index of  $x$  in  $N$

(b) All the constituents of  $x \downarrow_N^G$  have the same degree.

(c) If  $\eta \in \text{Irr}(I_G(\psi)|\psi)$ , then  $\eta \uparrow_{I_G(\psi)}^G \in \text{Irr}(G)$ .

(d) If  $x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)$ , then  $\exists! \eta \in \text{Irr}(I_G(\psi)|\psi)$  s.t.  
 $\langle x \downarrow_{I_G(\psi)}^G, \eta \rangle_{I_G(\psi)} \neq 0$

(e) Induction from  $I_G(\psi)$  to  $G$  induces a bijection

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Ind}_{I_G(\psi)}^G : \text{Irr}(I_G(\psi)|\psi) &\longrightarrow \text{Irr}(G|\psi) \\
 \eta &\longmapsto \eta \uparrow_{I_G(\psi)}^G
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof: (a) We have  $0 \neq \langle x \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle \stackrel{\text{Frob}}{=} \langle x, \psi \uparrow_N^G \rangle_G$   
 $\Rightarrow x$  is a constituent of  $\psi \uparrow_N^G \Rightarrow x \downarrow_N^G \mid (\psi \uparrow_N^G) \downarrow_N^G$

Now if  $\eta \in \text{Irr}(N)$  is a constituent of  $\chi \downarrow_N^G$  ( $\Rightarrow \chi \downarrow_N^G = \eta + \gamma$ )  
 then  $0 \neq \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \eta \rangle$  and  $\langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \eta \rangle \leq \langle \gamma \uparrow_N^G, \eta \rangle$ .  
 Moreover  $\eta$  must be of the form  ${}^x\psi$  for some  $x \in G$ , since

by Lemma 5.10, the constituents of  $(\gamma \uparrow_N^G) \downarrow_N^G$  are  $\{{}^{x\gamma}\psi \mid x \in [G : I_G(\gamma)]\}$ ?  
 Furthermore,  $\forall g \in G$ :

$$\begin{aligned} e = \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \gamma \rangle_N &= \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{h \in N} \chi(h) \gamma(h^{-1}) \stackrel{N \trianglelefteq G}{=} \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{h \in N} \chi(ghg^{-1}) \gamma(ghg^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{h \in N} \chi(h) {}^g\psi(h) = \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, {}^g\psi \rangle_N \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, every conjugate  ${}^g\psi$  of  $\psi$  occurs as a constituent of  
 $\text{Res}_N^G(\chi) = \chi \downarrow_N^G$  with the same multiplicity  $e$ .

Hence the formula. (a)

(b) follows from (a) since  ${}^x\psi(1_N) = \psi(x \gamma_N x^{-1}) = \psi(1_N) \quad \forall x \in G$ .

(c) Since  $I_G(\psi) = I_{I_G(\psi)}(\psi)$ , by (a) we have  $\eta \downarrow_N^{I_G(\psi)} = e^{\psi} \eta$   
 for some  $e^{\psi} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ .  $(e^{\psi} = \frac{\eta(1)}{\psi(1)})$

Let  $\tilde{\chi} \in \text{Irr}(G)$  with  $0 \neq \langle \tilde{\chi}, \eta \uparrow_N^{I_G(\psi)} \rangle_G \stackrel{\text{Frobenius}}{=} \langle \tilde{\chi} \downarrow_{I_G(\psi)}^G, \eta \rangle_{I_G(\psi)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } e := \langle \tilde{\chi} \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle_N &= \langle \tilde{\chi} \downarrow_{I_G(\psi)}^G \downarrow_N^{I_G(\psi)}, \psi \rangle_N \\ &\geq \langle \eta \downarrow_N^{I_G(\psi)}, \psi \rangle_N = e^{\psi} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\chi} \in \text{Irr}(G | \psi)$

Moreover by (a),  $e = \langle \tilde{\chi} \downarrow_N^G, {}^g\psi \rangle_N \geq e^{\psi} \quad \forall g \in G$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\chi}(1) &= e \sum_{g \in [G : I_G(\psi)]} {}^g\psi(1) \stackrel{(b)}{=} e |G : I_G(\psi)| |\psi(1)| \\ &\geq e^{\psi} |G : I_G(\psi)| |\psi(1)| \\ &= e^{\psi} |G : I_G(\psi)| \eta(1) \\ &= |\eta \uparrow_N^{I_G(\psi)}|(1) \\ &\geq \tilde{\chi}(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \eta \uparrow_N^{I_G(\psi)} = \tilde{\chi} \in \text{Irr}(G).$$

(f)

(d) Let  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G|\gamma)$ , s.t.  $\chi|_N^G = e \sum_{g \in [G/\text{Irr}(\gamma)]} g\gamma$  for some  $e \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(e) Since  $\chi|_N^G = \chi|_{\text{Irr}(\gamma)}^G \downarrow_N^{I_G(\gamma)}$ ,  $\exists \eta \in \text{Irr}(I_G(\gamma))$  s.t.

$$\langle \chi|_{I_G(\gamma)}, h \rangle_{I_G(\gamma)} \neq 0 \neq \langle \eta|_N^{I_G(\gamma)}, \gamma \rangle_N$$

In part.  $\eta \in \text{Irr}(I_G(\gamma) |\gamma)$

and by Frobenius reciprocity,  $0 \neq \langle \chi, \eta|_{I_G(\gamma)}^G \rangle_G$

$\Leftrightarrow \chi = \eta|_{I_G(\gamma)}^G$  and  $\eta|_N^{I_G(\gamma)} = e\gamma$ , so  $e$  is the ram. index of  $\gamma$  in  $I$ .

We have  $\chi|_{I_G(\gamma)}^G = \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(I_G(\gamma))} a_\lambda \lambda$  for coefficients  $a_\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  with  $a_\gamma > 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Moreover } (a_\gamma - 1) \text{Res}_N^{I_G(\gamma)}(\eta) + \sum_{\lambda \neq \gamma} a_\lambda \lambda|_N^{I_G(\gamma)} &= \chi|_N^G - \eta|_N^{I_G(\gamma)} \\ &= e \sum_{\substack{g \neq 1 \\ g \in [G/I_G(\gamma)]}} g\gamma \end{aligned}$$

so  $\gamma$  does not occur in this sum, but in  $\eta|_N^{I_G(\gamma)}$ , so that we must have  $a_\gamma = 1$  and  $\lambda \notin \text{Irr}(I_G(\gamma) |\gamma)$   $\forall \lambda \neq \gamma$ .

$\Rightarrow \eta$  is uniquely determined as the only constituent of  $\chi|_{I_G(\gamma)}^G$  in  $\text{Irr}(I_G(\gamma) |\gamma)$

The bijection of (e) follows.  $\checkmark$

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### 3. Subgroups of index 2

Let  $N \leq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$   $\Rightarrow N \trianglelefteq G$  as  $G = N \sqcup gN = N \sqcup Ng \quad \forall g \in N$

In this case the character tables of  $G$  and  $N$  are closely related.

typical examples:  $N=A_n$ ,  $G=S_n$

- $N=PSL_2(q)$ ,  $G=SL_2(q)$  with  $q$  odd.
- $D_{2m}$ ,  $D_{4m}$



## Lemma 5.12

If  $N \trianglelefteq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$  and  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ , then either

- (1)  $\chi \downarrow_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$ , or
- (2)  $\chi \downarrow_N^G = \psi + {}^g\psi$  for a  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  and a  $g \in G \setminus N$ .

Proof: Let  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  be a constituent of  $\chi \downarrow_N^G$ .

Since  $|G:N|=2$ , we have two possibilities for  $I_G(\psi)$ :

- Case 1:  $I_G(\psi)=N$ .  $\Rightarrow \text{Irr}(I_G(\psi)|\psi)=\{\psi\}$

so that by Thm 5.11(e), we have

$$\chi = \psi \uparrow_N^G \Rightarrow \chi(1) = 2\psi(1)$$

and Thm 5.11(a) yields  $\chi \downarrow_N^G = \psi + {}^g\psi$  with  $g \in G \setminus N$ .

- Case 2:  $I_G(\psi)=G$ .  $\Rightarrow [G/I_G(\psi)] = \{1\}$

so that by Thm 5.11(a) we have

$$\chi \downarrow_N^G = e\psi \quad \text{with } e = \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle_N = \langle \chi, \psi \uparrow_N^G \rangle_G$$

Moreover by Lemma 5.10(b)

$$\psi \uparrow_N^G \downarrow_N^G = 2\psi$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\psi(1) = \psi \uparrow_N^G(1) = \psi \uparrow_N^G \downarrow_N^G(1)$$

$$\geq \chi \downarrow_N^G(1) (= \chi(1)) = e\psi(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow e \leq 2$$

Were  $e=2$ , then we would have  $\psi \uparrow_N^G(1) = 2\psi(1)$

hence  $\chi = \psi \uparrow_N^G$  and then

$$1 = \langle \chi, \psi \uparrow_N^G \rangle_G = \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle_N = e = 2 \quad \square$$

Whence  $e=1 \Rightarrow \chi \downarrow_N^G = \psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$

and  $\psi \uparrow_N^G = \chi + \chi'$  for some  $\chi' \in \text{Irr}(G)$  with  $\chi' \neq \chi$ .  $\#$

Since  $G/N \cong (C_2, \cdot)$  and  $\text{Irr}(C_2) = \{1_{C_2}, \text{sgn}\}$  where  $\text{sgn}: G \xrightarrow[g]{} \mathbb{C}^\times$   
 $\langle g | g^2=1 \rangle$

we may inflate the sign character  $\text{sgn}$  to  $G$  and set

$$\lambda := \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\text{sgn}) : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$g \mapsto \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g \in N \\ -1 & \text{if } g \notin N \end{cases}$$



Recall from Cor. 2.25, that  $\forall \chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ ,  $\chi\lambda_{\text{syn}} \in \text{Irr}(G)$

and  $\chi, \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}}$  have the same degree.

In addition  $\chi|_N^G$  and  $(\chi\lambda_{\text{syn}})|_N^G$  are equal by defn.

Lemma 5.13 Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$  and let  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ . TFAE:

- (1)  $\chi|_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$  ;
- (2)  $\exists g \in G \setminus N$  s.t.  $\chi(g) \neq 0$ ;
- (3)  $\chi \neq \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}}$ .

Proof: (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2):  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G) \Rightarrow 1 = \langle \chi, \chi \rangle$

$$= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})$$

$$= \frac{1}{|G|} \underbrace{\sum_{g \in H} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})}_{|H| \cdot \langle \chi|_N^G, \chi|_N^G \rangle} + \frac{1}{|G|} \underbrace{\sum_{g \in G \setminus N} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})}_{\geq 0}$$

$$= \frac{|H|}{|G|} + 1 + \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G \setminus N} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})$$

$$\stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \frac{1}{2} + 1 + \underbrace{\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G \setminus N} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})}_{\stackrel{\text{defn}}{=} \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$\Rightarrow \exists g \in G \setminus N$  s.t.  $\chi(g) \neq 0$ . ✓

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3): Let  $g \in G \setminus N$  s.t.  $\chi(g) \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}}(g) = \chi(g)\lambda_{\text{syn}}(g) = -\chi(g)$$

Hence  $\chi \neq \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}}$ . ✓

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1):  $\chi \neq \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}} \Rightarrow \exists g \in G \setminus N$  s.t.  $\chi(g) \neq \chi\lambda_{\text{syn}}(g) = -\chi(g)$

$$\Rightarrow \chi(g) \neq 0$$

so  $1 = \langle \chi, \chi \rangle \stackrel{\text{see above}}{=} \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\langle \chi|_N^G, \chi|_N^G \rangle}_{\geq 1} + \frac{1}{|G|} \underbrace{\sum_{g \in G \setminus N} \chi(g)\chi(\bar{g})}_{\neq 0}$

This forces  $\langle \chi|_N^G, \chi|_N^G \rangle = 1$

$$\Rightarrow \chi|_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$$

#



Lemma 5.14: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$ .

Assume  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  is s.t.  $\chi|_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$ .  
If  $\varphi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  satisfies  $\varphi|_N^G = \chi|_N^G$ , then  
 $\varphi \in \{\chi, \chi\lambda_{\text{sgn}}\}$ .

Proof: We have

$$(\chi + \chi\lambda_{\text{sgn}})(g) = \begin{cases} 2\chi(g) & \text{if } g \in N \\ 0 & \text{if } g \notin G \setminus N \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \chi + \chi\lambda_{\text{sgn}}, \varphi \rangle_G &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} (\chi(g)\varphi(g)) \\ &= \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{g \in N} \chi(g)\varphi(g) = \langle \chi|_N^G, \varphi|_N^G \rangle \\ &\stackrel{\text{hypothesis}}{=} 1 \end{aligned}$$

As  $\chi, \chi\lambda_{\text{sgn}} \in \text{Irr}(G)$  this forces  $\varphi \in \{\chi, \chi\lambda_{\text{sgn}}\}$ . #

Lemma 5.15: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$ .

Assume  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  is s.t.  $\chi|_N^G = \psi + {}^g\psi$  with

$\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  and  $g \in G \setminus N$  as in Lemma 5.12.

If  $\varphi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  satisfies  $\varphi|_N^G$  has  $\psi$  or  ${}^g\psi$  as a constituent, then  $\varphi = \chi$ .

Proof: Lemma 5.13  $\Rightarrow \chi(g) = 0 \quad \forall g \in G \setminus N$  as  $\chi|_N^G$  is reducible.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \langle \varphi, \chi \rangle_G &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \varphi(g)\chi(g) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in N} \varphi(g)\chi(g) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \varphi|_N^G, \chi|_N^G \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \varphi|_N^G, \psi + {}^g\psi \rangle \neq 0 \\ &\stackrel{\text{def. } \psi + {}^g\psi}{=} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \varphi, \chi \rangle_G \neq 0 \Rightarrow \langle \varphi, \chi \rangle_G = 1 \Rightarrow \varphi = \chi. \#$$

Conclusion:

If  $N \trianglelefteq G$  with  $|G:N|=2$  and the character table of  $G$  is known, then we can list the irreducible characters of  $N$  as follows



- Step 1: Each  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  which is non-zero somewhere outside  $N$  restricts to  $N$  irreducibly : i.e.  $\chi|_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$ . Such characters of  $G$  occur in pairs  $\chi, \chi \lambda_{\text{sgn}}$  s.t.  $\chi|_N^G = (\chi \lambda_{\text{sgn}})|_N^G$
- Step 2: Each  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  which vanishes outside  $N$  restricts to  $N$  as a sum of two conjugate irreducible characters of  $N$  :  $\chi|_N^G = \gamma + \gamma'$  ( $\gamma, \gamma' \in \text{Irr}(N)$ )  $\gamma$  and  $\gamma'$  do not occur as constituents of  $\chi|_N^G$  for  $\chi \neq \chi' \in \text{Irr}(G)$
- Every irred. character of  $N$  occurs as a constituent of  $\chi|_N^G$  for some  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ , hence we are done.

Exercise: Compute the character table of  $A_5$  from that of  $S_5$  using the above method.

#### 4. Extending characters

Using Clifford Theory we understand that irreducibility of characters is preserved between  $I_G(\gamma)$  and  $G$  under induction.

We need to understand the step  $\gamma \uparrow_N^{I_G(\gamma)}$ . In particular, what happens when  $I_G(\gamma) = G$  itself? Can we say sth. about  $\text{Irr}(G|\gamma)$ ?

Lemma 5.16: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $\gamma \in \text{Irr}(N)$  s.t.  $I_G(\gamma) = G$ . Then : (a)  $\gamma \uparrow_N^G = \sum_{\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)} e_\chi \chi$  where  $e_\chi = \langle \chi|_N^G, \gamma \rangle$ , and

$$(b) \sum_{\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)} e_\chi^2 = |G:N|.$$



Proof: Write  $\psi \uparrow_N^G = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G)} a_x x$  with  $\sum a_x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$

Frob. reciprocity:  $a_x \neq 0 \iff x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)$

$$\begin{aligned} a_x &= \langle \psi \uparrow_N^G, x \rangle \\ &= \langle \psi, x|_N \rangle \end{aligned}$$

But by Clifford theory: if  $x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)$ , then  $x|_N = e_x \psi$

$$\Rightarrow a_x = e_x \quad \forall x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore } |G:N| \psi(1) &= \psi \uparrow_N^G(1) = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)} e_x x(1) \\ &= \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)} e_x^2 \psi(1) \\ &= \psi(1) \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G|\psi)} e_x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence } |G:N| = \sum_{x \in \text{Irr}(G)} e_x^2.$$

#

Therefore the multiplicities  $\{e_x\}_{x \in \text{Irr}(G)}$  behave like the degrees of the irreducible characters of  $G/N$ .

This is not a coincidence in many cases.

Definition 5.17:

Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and let  $x \in \text{Irr}(G)$ . If  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  is such that  $x|_N = \psi$ , then we say that  $x$  is an extension of  $\psi$  or that  $\psi$  extends to  $G$ .

Proposition 5.18: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $x \in \text{Irr}(G)$ . Then

$$x|_N^G \uparrow_N^G = \text{Inf}_N^G(x|_N) \cdot x$$

Proof: Exercise, Sheet 7.

Theorem 5.19 [Gallagher] (1962)

Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and  $x \in \text{Irr}(G)$  s.t.  $\psi := x|_N^G \in \text{Irr}(N)$ . Then the characters  $\{\text{Inf}_N^G(\lambda) \cdot x \mid \lambda \in \text{Irr}(G_N)\}$  of  $G$  are pairwise distinct



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and irreducible. Moreover

$$\chi \uparrow_N^G = \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} \lambda(1) \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \chi$$

Proof: Let  $\chi_{\text{reg}}$  be the regular character of  $G/N$ .

Prop 5.18

$$\chi \uparrow_N^G = \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\chi_{\text{reg}}) \chi .$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Defn}}{=} \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G \left( \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} \lambda(1) \lambda \right) \cdot \chi$$

$$= \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} \lambda(1) \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \cdot \chi$$

$$\bullet \text{ Now } |G:N| = \sum_{\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)} e_\chi^2 \stackrel{5.16}{=} \langle \chi \uparrow_N^G, \chi \uparrow_N^G \rangle_G$$

$$= \sum_{\lambda, \mu \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} \lambda(1) \mu(1) \langle \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \chi, \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\mu) \chi \rangle_G$$

$$\geq \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} \lambda(1)^2 = |G:N|$$

hence equality throughout.

$$\Rightarrow \langle \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \chi, \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\mu) \chi \rangle = \delta_{\lambda \mu}$$

(the  $\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \chi$  are characters by Cor. 7.25)

$\Rightarrow \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  and they are distinct  
as claimed. #

Example :

(a) See § on normal subgroups of index 2

We saw that if  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(N)$  extends to  $\overline{\chi}$  then

$\chi \uparrow_N^G = \chi + \chi'$  with  $\chi' = \chi \lambda_{\text{sgn}}$ , where in fact  $\lambda_{\text{sgn}} = \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\text{sgn})$  where sgn is the sgn character of  $G/N \cong C_2$ .

(b)  $G = D_8$  : See Ex Sheet 5.

$N := Z(G) \cong C_2$  But we see from the character table of  $D_8$

that the sgn character of  $C_2$  does not extend to  $D_8$ .  
(there is no linear character of  $D_8$  taking value -1 on the central involution)



Proposition 5.20: Let  $N \trianglelefteq G$  and let  $\psi \in \text{Irr}(N)$ . If  $I_G^G(\psi)/N$  has prime order, then  $\psi$  extends to  $I_G^G(\psi)$ .

Proof: W.l.o.g. we may assume that  $G = I_G^G(\psi)$ .

Set  $|G/N| = p$ . Then  $p \in P$  by  $\textcircled{H}$ .

$$\Rightarrow G/N \cong C_p$$

To show:  $e=1$

Let  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G/\psi)$   $\xrightarrow{\text{Prop. 5.11}} \chi \downarrow_N^G = e\psi$  for some  $e \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$

- Now because  $G/N$  is abelian, any  $\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)$  is linear and

$$\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi \in \text{Irr}(G) \text{ by Cor. 2.25.}$$

Moreover, if  $\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi = \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\mu)\chi$  for two characters  $\lambda \neq \mu \in \text{Irr}(G/N)$ , then consider

$$U/N = \ker(\lambda \bar{\mu}) \quad , \quad \text{for } N \leq U \lneq G$$

which forces  $N = U$  as  $|G/N| = p \in P$

$$\Rightarrow \chi(g) = 0 \quad \forall g \in G \setminus U = G \setminus N$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow e^2 &= \langle e\psi, e\psi \rangle = \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \chi \downarrow_N^G \rangle_N \\ &= |G:N| \underbrace{\langle \chi, \chi \rangle_G}_e = |G:N| = p \in P \end{aligned}$$

Hence:  $\lambda \neq \mu \in \text{Irr}(G/N) \Rightarrow \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi \neq \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\mu)\chi$

$$(\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda) \downarrow_N^G = 1_N)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{with } \langle \text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi, \psi \uparrow_N^G \rangle_{\overline{G}/\overline{N}} &\stackrel{\text{Frab}}{=} \langle (\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi) \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle_N \\ &= \langle \chi \downarrow_N^G, \psi \rangle_N = e \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow |G:N| \psi(1) = \psi \uparrow_N^G(1) \geq e \cdot \sum_{\lambda \in \text{Irr}(G/N)} (\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\lambda)\chi)(1)$$

$$= e \cdot |G:N| \chi(1)$$

$$\geq e |G:N| \psi(1)$$

$\Rightarrow e=1$  and  $\chi$  extends to  $\psi$ .



