

# Group Representation 7

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2023 年 11 月 10 日

**PROBLEM I** Find all of irreducible representation of  $C_4 = \{e, a, a^2, a^3\}$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  by give the irreducible decomposition of it's regular representation.

**SOLUTION.** Assume  $\varphi : C_4 \rightarrow M_4(\mathbb{C})$  is the regular representation, and

$$\varphi(a) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $V_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^4 : x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = x_4\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^4 : x_1 = x_3 = -x_2 = -x_4\}$ ,  $V_3 = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^4 : x_1 = -x_3, x_2 = -x_4\}$ . Easily we get  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  are invariant subspace over  $\varphi$ . Now we prove they are irreducible. Obviously  $\dim V_1 = \dim V_2 = 1$ , so they are irreducible. Only need to prove  $V_3$  is irreducible. Consider  $W \subset V_3$  is a subspace and  $W \neq \{0\}$ , to prove  $W = V_3$ . Let  $x \in W$  and

$x \neq 0$ . Then  $\varphi(a)x = (x_2, x_3, x_4, x_1) \in W$ . Consider the equation  $\begin{cases} ax_1 + bx_2 = 1 \\ ax_2 - bx_1 = 0 \end{cases}$ , Since  $x_1, x_2$

can't be all 0, we know this equation has a solution  $(a, b)$ . Then  $(1, 0, -1, 0) = ax + b\varphi(x) \in W$ . For the same reason we get  $(0, 1, 0, -1) \in W$ , too. So  $W = V_3$ . So  $V_3$  is irreducible. Easily we find  $\varphi|_{V_1}$  is ordinary representation,  $\varphi|_{V_2}$  is isomorphic to  $\psi : C_4 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, a \mapsto -1$ , and  $\varphi|_{V_3}$  is isomorphic to  $\tau : C_4 \rightarrow M_2(\mathbb{C}), a \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . They are all of irreducible representation of  $C_4$  over  $\mathbb{C}$ .  $\square$