

# under Graduate Homework In Mathematics

## GroupRepresentation 4

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**PROBLEM I** Find all of 1-dimensional complex representation of the alternating group  $A_4$ .

**SOLUTION.** Consider the conjugacy classes of  $A_4$ . They are:  $T_1 = \{(1)\}$ ,  $T_2 = \{(1\ 2)(3\ 4), (1\ 3)(2\ 4), (1\ 4)(2\ 3)\}$ ,  $T_3 = \{(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 4\ 2), (1\ 3\ 4), (2\ 4\ 3)\}$ ,  $T_4 = \{(1\ 3\ 2), (1\ 2\ 4), (1\ 4\ 3), (2\ 3\ 4)\}$ . Assume  $\varphi$  is the representation, then for  $a \sim b$  we obtain  $\varphi(a) = \varphi(g^{-1}bg) = \varphi(g)^{-1}\varphi(b)\varphi(g) = \varphi(b)$ . So  $\tau : G/\sim \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, [a] \mapsto \varphi(a)$  is well-defined. Since  $T_2 \subset A'_4$  we get  $\tau(T_2) = 1$ . And easily  $\tau(T_3)\tau(T_4) = 1, \tau(T_3)^3 = 1$ . So  $\tau(T_3) = 1, \omega, \bar{\omega}$ , where  $\omega = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}i}{2}$ .

1.  $\tau(T_3) = 1$ , we get  $\varphi(a) = 1, \forall a \in A_4$ .

2.  $\tau(T_3) = \omega$ , we get  $\varphi(a) = \begin{cases} \omega & a \in T_3 \\ \bar{\omega} & a \in T_4 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

3.  $\tau(T_3) = \bar{\omega}$ , we get  $\varphi(a) = \begin{cases} \bar{\omega} & a \in T_3 \\ \omega & a \in T_4 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$ .

□

**PROBLEM II** Consider  $N \trianglelefteq S_4$  and  $N = \{(1), (12)(34), (13)(24), (14)(23)\}$ .

1. Prove:  $S_4/N \cong S_3$ .

2. Find a 2-dimensional irreducible complex matrix representation of  $S_4$ .

**SOLUTION.** 1. Since  $|S_4/N| = 6$  and obviously  $S_4/N \not\cong C_6$ , because  $[(1\ 2)][(1\ 3)] \neq [(1\ 3)][(1\ 2)]$ , we get  $S_4/N \cong S_3$ .

2. Consider  $\varphi : S_3 \rightarrow \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{C}), (2\ 3) \mapsto \bar{\cdot}, (1\ 2\ 3) \mapsto A$ , where  $A$  is the rotation of  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ . Then easily  $\varphi$  is a group representation. Obviously  $\varphi$  is irreducible, so  $\bar{\varphi}$  is irreducible. So  $\bar{\varphi}$  satisfy the requirement.

□

**PROBLEM III** Assume  $K$  is a field and  $m \in \mathbb{N}^*$ . Let  $\varphi_m(t) := t^m, \forall t \in K^*$ , then  $\varphi_m$  is a 1-dimensional  $K$ -representation of  $(K^*, \cdot)$ . Use  $\varphi_m$  to find a 1-dimensional  $K$ -representation of  $\text{GL}_n(K)$ .

**SOLUTION.** Consider  $f : \text{GL}_n(K) \rightarrow K, f(A) = |A|$ . Since  $\varphi_m$  is group representation,  $\varphi_m \circ f$  is group representation of  $\text{GL}_n(K)$ . So  $\bar{\varphi}_m : \text{GL}_n(K) \rightarrow K^*, A \mapsto |A|^m$  satisfy the requirement. □

**PROBLEM IV** Prove that if  $\varphi$  is 1-dimensional complex representation of finite group  $G$ , then  $G/\ker \varphi$  is a cyclic group.

**SOLUTION.** Let  $\varphi(G) =: T \subset \mathbb{C}$ . Since  $G$  is finite we get  $\forall x \in T, |x| = 1$ . Let  $a \in T$  and  $\arg a \in [0, 2\pi)$  is minimum. For  $b \in T$ , if  $\arg a \nmid \arg b$ , then assume  $\arg b = \arg a \cdot n + \theta$ , where  $\theta \in (0, \arg a)$ . Then we get  $e^\theta = ba^{-n} \in T$  since  $T$  is subgroup. Contridiction to  $\arg a$  is minimum. So  $\forall b \in T, \arg a \mid \arg b$ . That means  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}, b = a^n$ . So  $T$  is cyclic group. Noting  $G/\ker f \cong \text{ran}(f) = T$ , we get  $G/\ker f$  is cyclic group.  $\square$

**PROBLEM V** Prove: If  $G$  is a non-cyclic finite group, then there is no faithful 1–dimensional complex representation of  $G$ .

**SOLUTION.** Assume there is a faithful  $\varphi$ .

If  $G$  is not Abel, then exists  $a, b \in G$  such that  $aba^{-1}b^{-1} \neq e$ .

But  $\varphi(aba^{-1}b^{-1}) = \varphi(a)\varphi(b)\varphi(a)^{-1}\varphi(b)^{-1} = 1 = \varphi(e)$ , contridiction!

If  $G$  is Abel, then assume  $G = \bigoplus_{k=1}^n G_k$ , where  $G_k$  is cyclic, and  $|G_k| = p_k^{\alpha_k}$ . If  $\forall i \neq j, p_i \neq p_j$ , then  $G$  is cyclic, contridiction! So exists  $i \neq j$  such that  $p_i = p_j$ . Assume  $p_1 = p_2$ . Let  $f_i : G \rightarrow G_i$  is projection, then  $\varphi_i := \varphi \circ f_i$  is group representation of  $G_i$ . Assume  $G_1 = \langle x \rangle, G_2 = \langle y \rangle$ , then  $\varphi_1(x^{\alpha_1-1}) = p_1 = p_2$ . So  $\exists z \in G_2$  such that  $\varphi_2(z) = \varphi_1(\varphi_1(x^{\alpha_1-1}))$ . Contridiction to  $\varphi$  is faithful!  $\square$

**PROBLEM VI** Assume  $(\varphi, V)$  and  $(\psi, W)$  are two  $K$ –representation of group  $G$ . Prove:  $(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)^* \approx \varphi^* \dot{+} \psi^*$ .

**SOLUTION.** First we prove  $V^* \oplus W^* \cong (V \oplus W)^*$ . Consider  $\theta : V^* \oplus W^* \rightarrow (V \oplus W)^*, \theta(f, g)(u, v) := (f(u), g(v))$ . Then obviously  $\theta$  is a bijection. And  $\theta(a(f, g) + b(h, l))(u, v) = \theta(af + bh, ag + bl)(u, v) = ((af + bh)(u), (ag + bl)(v)) = (af(u) + bh(u), ag(u) + bl(u)) = a\theta(f, g)(u, v) + b\theta(h, l)(u, v)$ , so  $\theta$  is isomorphism.

Now we only need to prove  $(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)^*(a)\theta = \theta(\varphi^* \dot{+} \psi^*)(a), \forall a \in G$ . For all  $f \in V^*, g \in W^*$ , we have  $(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)^*(a)\theta(f, g) = \theta(f, g)(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)(a)$ . And  $\theta(\varphi^* \dot{+} \psi^*)(a)(f, g) = \theta(\varphi^*(a)(f), \psi^*(a)(g)) = \theta(f\varphi(a), g\psi(a))$ . Easily  $\theta(f\varphi(a), g\psi(a)) = \theta(f, g)(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)(a)$ , so  $\theta$  is isomorphism of  $(\varphi \dot{+} \psi)^*$  and  $\varphi^* \dot{+} \psi^*$ .  $\square$