

Representation theory of finite groups

Formalization project

Raphael Gaedtke, Paul Neumann

University of Bonn

January 10, 2025

Outline

- 1 Representation Theory
- 2 Finite abelian groups
- 3 Formalization
- 4 Mathlib
- 5 Future work

Representations of finite groups

Definition

For a group G and a field k , a **representation** of G over k is a pair (V, ρ) where V is a vector space over k and $\rho : G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)$ is an action of G on V .

Representations of finite groups

Definition

For a group G and a field k , a **representation** of G over k is a pair (V, ρ) where V is a vector space over k and $\rho : G \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}(V)$ is an action of G on V .

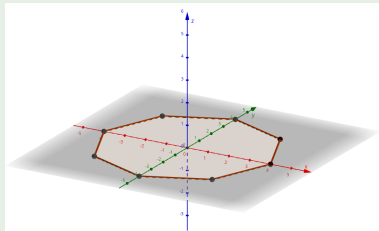
Convention: V has finite dimension, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Definition

$\dim(V)$ is the **dimension** or **degree** of (V, ρ) .

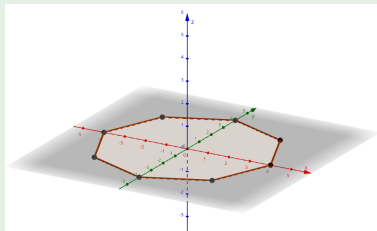
Example

$$D_{2n} = \langle a, b \mid a^n = b^2 = 1, bab = a^{-1} \rangle$$



Example

$$D_{2n} = \langle a, b \mid a^n = b^2 = 1, bab = a^{-1} \rangle$$



Representation $\rho : D_{2n} \rightarrow GL(\mathbb{R}^3)$ with

- $\rho(a)$ as rotation about the Z-axis
- $\rho(b)$ as a rotation about a suitable axis in the XY-plane

Invariant subspaces, Irreducibility

Definition

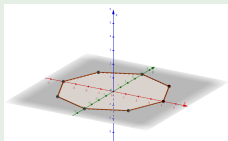
Let V be a representation and $U \subseteq V$ a subspace. U is an **invariant subspace** if $gu \in U$ for $\forall u \in U, g \in G$.

Invariant subspaces, Irreducibility

Definition

Let V be a representation and $U \subseteq V$ a subspace. U is an **invariant subspace** if $gu \in U$ for $\forall u \in U, g \in G$.

Example

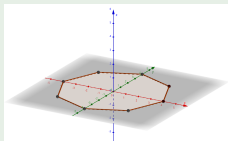


Invariant subspaces, Irreducibility

Definition

Let V be a representation and $U \subseteq V$ a subspace. U is an **invariant subspace** if $gu \in U$ for $\forall u \in U, g \in G$.

Example



The XY -Plane is an invariant subspace.

Irreducibility, Representation Homomorphisms

Definition

A representation V is **irreducible** provided $V \neq 0$ and the only invariant subspaces are 0 and V .

Irreducibility, Representation Homomorphisms

Definition

A representation V is **irreducible** provided $V \neq 0$ and the only invariant subspaces are 0 and V .

Definition

For representations V and W , a **homomorphism** is a linear map $\theta : V \rightarrow W$ with $\theta(gv) = g\theta(v)$ for $\forall g \in G, v \in V$.

Irreducibility, Representation Homomorphisms

Definition

A representation V is **irreducible** provided $V \neq 0$ and the only invariant subspaces are 0 and V .

Definition

For representations V and W , a **homomorphism** is a linear map $\theta : V \rightarrow W$ with $\theta(gv) = g\theta(v)$ for $\forall g \in G, v \in V$.

- $\text{Im}(\theta)$ and $\text{Ker}(\theta)$ are invariant subspaces
- If V and W are irreducible, then $\theta : V \rightarrow W$ is 0 or bijective.

Main theorem formalized in this project

This theorem is listed on the “Missing undergraduate mathematics in mathlib”-page.

Main theorem formalized in this project

This theorem is listed on the “Missing undergraduate mathematics in mathlib”-page.

Theorem

Let G be a finite abelian group.

Let V be a non-null vector space over an algebraically closed field k .

Let $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a representation.

Main theorem formalized in this project

This theorem is listed on the “Missing undergraduate mathematics in mathlib”-page.

Theorem

Let G be a finite abelian group.

Let V be a non-null vector space over an algebraically closed field k .

Let $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a representation.

Then ρ is irreducible if and only if $\dim_k(V) = 1$.

Proof of the theorem

Theorem

ρ is irreducible if and only if $\dim_k(V) = 1$.

Proof of the theorem

Theorem

ρ is irreducible if and only if $\dim_k(V) = 1$.

“ \Leftarrow ” is trivial.

Proof of the theorem

Theorem

ρ is irreducible if and only if $\dim_k(V) = 1$.

“ \Leftarrow ” is trivial.

For “ \Rightarrow ”, we use the following two lemmas:

Lemma

For all $g \in G$, $\rho(g)$ is a Representation Endomorphism.

Proof of the theorem

Theorem

ρ is irreducible if and only if $\dim_k(V) = 1$.

“ \Leftarrow ” is trivial.

For “ \Rightarrow ”, we use the following two lemmas:

Lemma

For all $g \in G$, $\rho(g)$ is a Representation Endomorphism.

Lemma

Every Representation Endomorphism is given by multiplication with a scalar.

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Now, we can use proof by contradiction:

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Now, we can use proof by contradiction:

- 1 Assume $\dim(V) > 1$.

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Now, we can use proof by contradiction:

- 1 Assume $\dim(V) > 1$.
- 2 Then, V has a proper subspace with dimension 1.

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Now, we can use proof by contradiction:

- 1 Assume $\dim(V) > 1$.
- 2 Then, V has a proper subspace with dimension 1.
- 3 So V has a proper invariant subspace.

Proof of the theorem

With these two lemmas, we can prove the following fact:

Lemma

Every one-dimensional subspace of V is an invariant subspace.

Now, we can use proof by contradiction:

- 1 Assume $\dim(V) > 1$.
- 2 Then, V has a proper subspace with dimension 1.
- 3 So V has a proper invariant subspace.
- 4 This is a contradiction to the irreducibility of V .

Representations in Mathlib

Representations are already defined in Mathlib:

```
abbrev Representation :=  
  G →* V →1[k] V  
  
end
```

Representations in Mathlib

Representations are already defined in Mathlib:

```
abbrev Representation :=  
  G →* V →1[k] V  
  
end
```

Apart from that, the definitions introduced in the beginning of this presentation are missing in Mathlib.

Definitions

```
/-- A predicate for a subspace being invariant -/
def IsInvariantSubspace {k G V : Type*} [CommSemiring k]
  [Monoid G] [AddCommMonoid V] [Module k V]
  (U : Submodule k V) (ρ : Representation k G V) :=
  ∀ g : G, ∀ u : U, ρ g u ∈ U

/-- defines degree of a representation as rank of its
    module -/
def degree {k G V : Type*} [CommSemiring k] [Monoid G]
  [AddCommMonoid V] [Module k V]
  (ρ : Representation k G V) : Cardinal := (Module.rank k
  V)
```

Representation Homomorphisms

```
/-- Definition of Homomorphisms between Representations -/  
@[ext] class RepresentationHom {k G V W : Type*}  
  [CommSemiring k] [Monoid G] [AddCommMonoid V] [Module  
    k V] [AddCommMonoid W] [Module k W]  
  ( $\rho$  : Representation k G V) ( $\psi$  : Representation k G W)  
  extends LinearMap (RingHom.id k) V W where  
  reprStructure :  $\forall$  g : G,  $\forall$  v : V, toLinearMap ( $\rho$  g v) =  
     $\psi$  g (toLinearMap v)
```

Coercions

```
/-- Coercions of RepresentationHom to Function and Linear
Map -/
instance {k G V W : Type*} [CommSemiring k] [Monoid G]
  [AddCommMonoid V] [Module k V] [AddCommMonoid W]
  [Module k W] {ρ : Representation k G V} {ψ :
    Representation k G W} : CoeFun (RepresentationHom ρ ψ
  ) (fun _ ↦ V →1 [k] W) where
coe := by
  intro θ
  use ⟨θ.toFun, ?_⟩
  simp; intro x y; simp
```

Registering Instances

Lemma

For all $g \in G$, $\rho(g)$ is a Representation Endomorphism.

```
instance repr_yields_reprHom_commMonoid {k G V : Type*}
  [CommSemiring k] [CommMonoid G] [AddCommMonoid V]
  [Module k V]
  (ρ : Representation k G V) (g : G) : (RepresentationHom
    ρ ρ) where
toFun := ρ g
map_add' := by intro x y; simp
map_smul' := by intro m x; simp
reprStructure := sorry
```

Representation Theory in Mathlib

Things already contained in Mathlib:

- Definition of Representations, basic properties, duality
- Category Theory
- Characters

Representation Theory in Mathlib

Things already contained in Mathlib:

- Definition of Representations, basic properties, duality
- Category Theory
- Characters

Things not contained in Mathlib:

- Subrepresentations, Homomorphisms, Irreducibility
- Direct sums, reducibility, Maschke for Representations
- ...

Two views on Representations

A representation (V, ρ) can be “translated” to a k -algebra kG :

Two views on Representations

A representation (V, ρ) can be “translated” to a k -algebra kG :
Take a k -module with basis $\{g | g \in G\}$ and multiplication

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g g \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{h \in G} \mu_h h \right) = \sum_{g, h \in G} \lambda_g \mu_h (gh)$$

Two views on Representations

A representation (V, ρ) can be “translated” to a k -algebra kG :
Take a k -module with basis $\{g | g \in G\}$ and multiplication

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g g \right) \cdot \left(\sum_{h \in G} \mu_h h \right) = \sum_{g, h \in G} \lambda_g \mu_h (gh)$$

with action

$$kG \times V \rightarrow V, \left(\sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g g, v \right) \mapsto \sum_{g \in G} \lambda_g (gv)$$

on V .

The translation in Mathlib

Irreducibility of representations translates to irreducibility of modules.

The translation in Mathlib

Irreducibility of representations translates to irreducibility of modules.

Things like the theorem of Maschke are not formulated for Representations, but for algebras.

The translation in Mathlib

Irreducibility of representations translates to irreducibility of modules.

Things like the theorem of Maschke are not formulated for Representations, but for algebras.

- `Representation.asModule` translates `Representation` to algebra
- `Representation.ofModule` translates algebra to `Representation`

Future work

Future work

- Connect Algebras and Representations: Irreducibility, ...

Future work

- Connect Algebras and Representations: Irreducibility, ...
- Formulate theorem of Maschke for Representations

Future work

- Connect Algebras and Representations: Irreducibility, ...
- Formulate theorem of Maschke for Representations
- Add additional theorems about Representation Theory of finite groups
- ...

Questions?