Math 533: Homework 7

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Problem 1. Write the character table for S_4 .

Proof. First, we know that the trivial and the signed representation have to be in there. Next, we know that there is only one way to write 4! = 24 as a sum of five squares, namely 1 + 1 + 4 + 9 + 9.

	(1,1,1,1)	(2, 1, 1)	(2, 2)	(3, 1)	(4)
$\chi^{(1,1,1,1)}$	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi^{(2,1,1)}$	3	?	?	?	?
$\chi^{(2,2)}$	2	?	?	?	?
$\chi^{(3,1)}$	3	?	?	?	?
$\chi^{(4)}$	1	-1	1	1	-1

We know that the defining representation has

$$\chi^{\text{def}}((1)(2)(3)(4)) = 4$$

$$\chi^{\text{def}}((12)(3)(4)) = 2$$

$$\chi^{\text{def}}((12)(34)) = 0$$

$$\chi^{\text{def}}((123)(4)) = 1$$

$$\chi^{\text{def}}((1234)) = 0$$

And by taking the inner products with the two known characters gives

$$\begin{split} \frac{1}{4!} \langle \chi^{\mathrm{def}}, \chi^{(1,1,1,1)} \rangle &= \frac{1 \cdot 4 + 6 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 0 + 8 \cdot 1 + 6 \cdot 0}{4!} = 1 \\ \frac{1}{4!} \langle \chi^{\mathrm{def}}, \chi^{(4)} \rangle &= \frac{1 \cdot 4 - 6 \cdot 2 + 3 \cdot 0 + 8 \cdot 1 - 6 \cdot 0}{4!} = 0 \end{split}$$

Problem 3.

Proof.

(a)