



CHAPTER 1: LINEAR REPRESENTATIONS

Throughout this chapter we let:

- G be a finite group
- K be a field (of arbitrary characteristic)
- V be a K -vector space with $\dim_K V < \infty$.

1. Definitions and Examples:

Definition 1.1: • A representation of G (or a representation of G over K , or a K -representation of G) is a group homomorphism $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$, where V is a K -vector space. The degree of ρ is $\dim_K V$.

(• We also say that G acts linearly on V , and that V is a G -vector space.)

Definition 1.2: A matrix representation of G over K is a group homomorphism $R: G \rightarrow GL_n(K)$ $g \mapsto R(g) = (r_{ij}(g))_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ for a certain $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$, called the degree of R .

Remark: • Each representation $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ and each choice of a K -basis B of V induces a matrix representation

$$G \xrightarrow{\rho} GL(V) \xrightarrow{\cong} GL_n(K)$$

$$g \mapsto \rho(g) \qquad \alpha \mapsto (\alpha)_B = \text{"matrix of } \alpha \text{ in the basis } B"$$

where $n = \dim_K V$.

△ Two different K -bases of V give rise to two different matrix representations.

• Conversely, each matrix representation $R: G \rightarrow GL_n(K)$ induces a representation $G \xrightarrow{R} GL_n(K) \xrightarrow{\cong} GL(K^n)$

$$(a_{ij})_{i,j} \mapsto \alpha: K^n \rightarrow K^n$$

$$e_j \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} e_i \qquad \text{where } e_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow j\text{-th line}$$

Example 1: (a) G arbitrary, $V = K$:

$$\rho: G \longrightarrow GL(K) \quad \text{is a representation called the "trivial representation"}$$
$$g \longmapsto \rho(g) = Id_K$$

Choosing $B = \{1_K\}$ as K -basis of K induces the matrix representation $R: G \longrightarrow GL_1(K) \cong K^\times$

$$g \longmapsto 1_K$$

(b) If $G \leq GL(V)$ is a subgroup, then the canonical inclusion $G \hookrightarrow GL(V)$ is a representation of G called the tautological representation of G .

(c) $G = S_n$ ($n \geq 1$), $V = K^n$ with its canonical ordered basis (e_1, \dots, e_n) :

$$\rho: G \longrightarrow GL(K^n)$$
$$g \longmapsto \rho(g): K^n \longrightarrow K^n$$
$$e_i \longmapsto \rho(g)e_i := e_{g(i)}$$

is a representation called the natural representation of S_n .

(d) More generally, if X is a G -set, i.e. X is a set endowed with a left action $\cdot: G \times X \rightarrow X$, s.t. $|X| < \infty$, and V is a K -vector space with basis $\{e_x \mid x \in X\}$, then

$$\rho_x: G \longrightarrow GL(V)$$
$$g \longmapsto \rho(g): V \longrightarrow V$$
$$e_x \longmapsto e_{g \cdot x}$$

is a representation of G , called permutation representation.

\rightarrow (c) is a particular case of (d) with $G = S_n$, $X = \{1, \dots, n\}$

Moreover, if $X = G$ and $\cdot: G \times G \rightarrow G$ is left multiplication in G , then the representation

$$\rho_{\text{reg}}: G \longrightarrow GL(V)$$
$$g \longmapsto \rho(g): V \longrightarrow V \quad (\{e_h \mid h \in G\} \text{ Basis of } V)$$
$$e_h \longmapsto e_{g \cdot h}$$

is called the regular representation of G .

7 Remark: • A representation $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ gives rise to a left action of G on V :

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore G \times V &\rightarrow V \\ (g, v) &\mapsto g \cdot v := \rho(g) \cdot v := \rho(g)(v) \end{aligned}$$

such that $\forall g \in G, \forall x, y \in V$ and $\forall \lambda \in K$: (i) $g \cdot (x+y) = g \cdot x + g \cdot y$; and (ii) $g \cdot (\lambda x) = \lambda(g \cdot x)$.

• Conversely an action $\cdot: G \times V \rightarrow V$ satisfying (i) and (ii) gives rise to a representation $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$
 $g \mapsto \rho(g): V \rightarrow V$
 $v \mapsto \rho(g)(v) = g \cdot v$

See Exercise 1, Sheet 1. Therefore the data of a K -representation of G is equivalent to the data of a G -vector space.

• This together with the previous Remark allows us to use terminology defined for representations for matrix representations and G -vector spaces as well, and conversely

Definition 1.3: Let V be a G -vector space with corresponding representation ρ .

(a) $V' \leq V$ is called a G -invariant subspace of V

$$\Leftrightarrow g \cdot V' := \rho(g)(V') \subseteq V' \quad \forall g \in G.$$

(in fact then $\rho(g)(V') = V'$ since $\rho(g)$ is bijective)

(b) If there exists a G -invariant subspace $0 \neq V' \neq V$, then ρ is called reducible; else irreducible.
(or V itself)

Remark: If $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is a representation and $V' \leq V$ is G -invariant, then $\rho_{V'}: G \rightarrow GL(V')$

$$g \mapsto (\rho_{V'}(g) = \rho(g)|_{V'}: V' \rightarrow V')$$

is clearly a representation of G . We say that $\rho_{V'}$ is a subrepresentation of ρ .

Now if we choose a K -basis $B_{V'}$ of V' , which we complete to a K -basis B of V , then the corresponding matrix representation is of the form

$$\left(\rho(g) \right)_B = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} \left(\rho(g) \right)_{V'} \Big|_{B_{V'}} & * \\ \hline 0 & * \end{array} \right) \quad \forall g \in G$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{B'} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{5em}}_{B \setminus B'}$





Example 2: (a) V G -vector space with $\dim_K V = 1$
 \Rightarrow corresponding representation $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V) \cong K^\times$
 is irreducible

(since $0 \neq V' \neq V$ G -invariant subspace $\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dim_K V' > 0 \text{ and} \\ \dim_K V' < 1 \end{cases}$ \downarrow)

(b) Let $\rho: S_n \rightarrow GL(K^n)$ be the natural representation of S_n ($n \geq 1$) as in Exp. 1.

$$\Rightarrow \rho(g) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n e_i \right) = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \quad \forall g \in S_n$$

$\Rightarrow V' := \langle \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \rangle_K$ is an S_n -invariant subspace of K^n

$\Rightarrow \rho$ is reducible if $n > 1$.

Definition 1.4: (a) A K -homomorphism $\varphi: V \rightarrow V'$ between two G -vector spaces is called a G -homomorphism \Leftrightarrow the corresponding representations ρ, ρ' satisfy the condition:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{\rho(g)} & V \\ \varphi \downarrow & G \curvearrowright & \downarrow \varphi \\ V' & \xrightarrow{\rho'(g)} & V' \end{array}$$

$$\rho'(g) \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ \rho(g) \quad \forall g \in G.$$

(b) If, moreover, φ is an isomorphism, then ρ and ρ' are called equivalent (or isomorphic). Nota: $\rho \sim \rho'$

(c) Two matrix representations $R, R': G \rightarrow GL_n(K)$ are called equivalent $\Leftrightarrow \exists T \in GL_n(K)$ such that $R'(g) = T R(g) T^{-1} \quad \forall g \in G.$

Nota: $R \sim R'$.

Definition 1.5: An injective representation $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is termed faithful.

week 1 '19

Proposition 1.6: Let V, V' be G -vector spaces and $\varphi: V \rightarrow V'$ be a G -homomorphism

(a) $V_1 \leq V$ G -invariant $\Rightarrow \varphi(V_1) \leq V'$ G -invariant

(b) $V'_1 \leq V'$ G -invariant $\Rightarrow \varphi^{-1}(V'_1) \leq V$ G -invariant

(c) in particular, $\text{Ker}(\varphi), \text{Im}(\varphi)$ are G -invariant subspaces

(d) V irreducible $\Rightarrow \text{Im}(\varphi)$ irreducible.



Proof: Write $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$, $\rho': G \rightarrow GL(V')$ for the corresponding representations

(a) $x' \in \varphi(V_1) \Rightarrow \exists x \in V_1$ s.t. $x' = \varphi(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \forall g \in G: \rho'(g) \cdot x' &= \rho'(g) \cdot \varphi(x) = (\rho'(g) \circ \varphi)(x) \\ &= (\varphi \circ \rho(g))(x) = \varphi(\underbrace{\rho(g) \cdot x}_{\in V_1}) \in \varphi(V_1) \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\varphi(V_1)$ is G -invariant.

(b) $x \in \varphi^{-1}(V_1') \Rightarrow \varphi(\rho(g) \cdot x) = (\varphi \circ \rho(g))(x) = (\rho'(g) \circ \varphi)(x)$
 $= \rho'(g) \cdot \underbrace{\varphi(x)}_{\in V_1'} \in \rho'(g) \cdot V_1' = V_1' \quad \forall g \in G$

hence $\rho(g) \cdot x \in \varphi^{-1}(V_1') \quad \forall g \in G$, i.e. $\varphi^{-1}(V_1')$ is G -invariant.

(c) Obvious from (a) and (b) since $\ker(\varphi) = \varphi^{-1}(\{0\})$ and $\text{Im } \varphi = \varphi(V)$.

(d) If $0 \neq V' \neq \varphi(V)$ is G -invariant, then $0 \neq \varphi^{-1}(V') \neq V$ is also G -invariant by (b). Therefore: $\text{Im}(\varphi)$ reducible $\Rightarrow V$ reducible. #

Exercise 3, Sheet 1

$p \in \mathbb{P}$, $G := C_p = \langle g \mid g^p = 1 \rangle$, $K := \mathbb{F}_p$, $V := \mathbb{F}_p^2$ with canonical basis $B = (e_1, e_2)$
 Consider the matrix representation

$$\begin{aligned} R: G &\rightarrow GL_2(K) \\ g^b &\mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Prove that: (a) $\ker R$ is G -invariant ($\Rightarrow R$ is reducible)
 (b) there is no direct sum decomposition of V into G -invariant subspaces.

Week 17

2. Maschke's Theorem and Schur's Lemma

Definition 1.7 Let $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a K -representation, and let $W_1, W_2 \leq V$ be two G -invariant subspaces. If $V = W_1 \oplus W_2$, then we say that ρ is the direct sum of ρ_{W_1} and ρ_{W_2} and we write $\rho = \rho_{W_1} \oplus \rho_{W_2}$.

Notice that if we choose K -bases B_i of W_i ($i=1,2$) and consider the K -basis $B_1 \cup B_2$ of V , the corresponding matrix representation is of the form

$$\left(\rho(g) \right)_{B_1 \cup B_2} = \left(\begin{array}{c|c} (\rho_{W_1}(g))_{B_1} & 0 \\ \hline 0 & (\rho_{W_2}(g))_{B_2} \end{array} \right) \quad \forall g \in G.$$

⌊ Theorem 1.8 [Maschke's Theorem]

Let G be a finite group, and let V be a G -vector space over a field K such that $\text{char}(K) \nmid |G|$.

If $W \leq V$ is a G -invariant subspace, then there exists a G -invariant complement $U \leq V$ to W , i.e. $V = W \oplus U$ and $\rho_V = \rho_W \oplus \rho_U$.

Proof: • Note that $\text{char}(K) \nmid |G| \Rightarrow |G|^{-1} \cdot 1_K$ is invertible in K .

• Let $U_0 \leq V$ be a complement to W , i.e. $V = W \oplus U_0$ as K -vector spaces. (U_0 is possibly not G -invariant!)

Let $\pi: V = W \oplus U_0 \rightarrow W$ be the projection onto W along U_0 .

$$\begin{matrix} v = \begin{matrix} w \\ u \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{\pi} \\ \xrightarrow{\rho} \end{matrix} & w \\ \begin{matrix} W \\ U_0 \end{matrix} & & \end{matrix}$$
 ($\text{Im } \pi = W$ and $\text{ker } \pi = U_0$)

Define $\tilde{\pi}: V \rightarrow V$

$$v \mapsto \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g \cdot (\pi(g^{-1} \cdot v)) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \rho(g) (\pi(\rho(g)^{-1}(v)))$$

Clearly $\tilde{\pi} \in \text{End}_K(V)$, as g, g^{-1} act linearly $\forall g \in G$ and $\pi \in \text{End}_K(V)$.

$\text{Im } \tilde{\pi} = W$: $v \in V \Rightarrow \tilde{\pi}(v) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g \cdot (\underbrace{\pi(g^{-1} \cdot v)}_{\in W}) \in W$ /

$$\underbrace{\in W}_{\in W (G\text{-invariant})}$$

$\tilde{\pi}|_W = \text{Id}_W$: $w \in W \Rightarrow \tilde{\pi}(w) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g \cdot (\underbrace{\pi(g^{-1} \cdot w)}_{\in W (G\text{-invariant})}) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g \cdot w = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} (g g^{-1}) \cdot w = w$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\pi}$ is a projection onto W

$\Rightarrow V = W \oplus \text{ker}(\tilde{\pi})$ (Grundlagen)

$\text{ker } \tilde{\pi}$ is G -invariant:

first $\forall h \in G$ and $v \in V$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\tilde{\pi} \circ \rho(h))(v) &= \tilde{\pi}(\rho(h) \cdot v) = \tilde{\pi}(h \cdot v) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} g \cdot \pi(g^{-1} \cdot (h \cdot v)) \\ &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} h \cdot (\pi(h^{-1} g \cdot v)) = h \cdot \left(\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} (h^{-1} g) \cdot (\pi((h^{-1} g)^{-1} \cdot v)) \right) \\ &\stackrel{s=h^{-1}g}{=} h \cdot \sum_{s \in G} s \cdot (\pi(s^{-1} \cdot v)) = h \cdot \tilde{\pi}(v) = (\rho(h) \circ \tilde{\pi})(v) \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \tilde{\pi}$ is a G -homomorphism

Therefore $\ker \tilde{\pi}$ is G -invariant by Prop. 1.6.

\Rightarrow Set $U := \ker \tilde{\pi}$.

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Sheet 2, Ex 1: 2nd proof of Maschke for $K = \mathbb{C}$ using a G -invariant product.

Corollary 1.9: If G is a finite group and K a field s.t. $\text{char}(K) \nmid |G|$, then every K -representation of G decomposes into a direct sum of irreducible subrepresentations.

Proof: Let $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a K -representation, with $\dim_K V \geq 1$.

• Case 1: ρ is irreducible: nothing to do ✓

• Case 2: ρ is reducible. In part. $\dim_K V \geq 2$ and (since we assume that $\dim_K V < \infty$), $\exists V_1 \subsetneq V$ irreducible G -invariant subspace. (Note: $\dim_K V_1 \geq 1$)

Maschke
 $\Rightarrow \exists U \leq V$ G -invariant s.t. $V = V_1 \oplus U$

Now $\dim_K U \neq \dim_K V$, therefore an induction argument yields:

$$V = V_1 \oplus V_2 \oplus \dots \oplus V_r \quad (r \geq 2),$$

where $V_2, \dots, V_r \leq U$ are $\overset{\text{irred.}}{G}$ -invariant subspaces. #

Remark: The converse to Maschke's Theorem holds as well.

See Lecture "Representation Theory"

[You can also try to figure out a proof by yourself: consider the regular reps. of G and a subrep. of $\dim |G| - 1$...]

Next we investigate morphisms between irreducible G -vector spaces:

Theorem 1.10 (Schur's Lemma)

Let V, V' be irreducible G -vector spaces and let $\varphi: V \rightarrow V'$ be a G -homomorphism. Then either $\varphi = 0$, or φ is an isomorphism (and hence the corresponding representations are equivalent).

Proof: If $\varphi = 0$, we are done. Else $\varphi \neq 0 \Rightarrow \varphi(V) \neq 0$ and is a G -invariant subspace of V' by Prop. 1.6. But V' is

irreducible, hence $\varphi(V) = V' \Rightarrow \varphi$ is surjective
 Now $\ker(\varphi) \neq V$ is a G -invariant subspace by Prop. 1.6 again
 $\Rightarrow \ker(\varphi) = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi$ is injective $\Rightarrow \varphi$ is bijective. #

Corollary 1.11: Let V be a G -vector space over K . If V is irreducible, then:

(a) $\text{End}_G(V) := \{ \varphi \in \text{End}_K(V) \mid \varphi \text{ is a } G\text{-homomorphism} \}$ is a skew-field.

(b) If K is algebraically closed, then $\text{End}_G(V) \cong K$ (as rings!)

Proof: (a) 1st notice that $\text{End}_G(V)$ is a subring of $\text{End}_K(V)$ (check it!)
 Now let $\varphi \in \text{End}_G(V) \setminus \{0\} \xrightarrow{\text{Thm 1.10}} \varphi$ is invertible, as V is irred.
 $\Rightarrow \text{End}_G(V)$ is a skew-field. /

(b) Let $\varphi \in \text{End}_G(V)$

K alg. closed \Rightarrow characteristic polynomial of φ has a root in $K \Rightarrow \exists$ an eigenvalue $\lambda \in K$ of φ

$\Rightarrow \{0\} \neq \ker(\underbrace{\varphi - \lambda \text{Id}_V}_{\in \text{End}_G(V)}) \leq V$

$\underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{G\text{-invariant by Prop. 1.6}} \Rightarrow \ker(\varphi - \lambda \text{Id}_V) = V$.

$\Rightarrow \varphi - \lambda \text{Id}_V = 0 \Rightarrow \varphi = \lambda \text{Id}_V$

and we get an isomorphism $\text{End}_G(V) \xrightarrow{\cong} K$
 $\varphi = \lambda \text{Id}_V \mapsto \lambda$ #

Week 2

Corollary 1.12 If G is a finite abelian group, then every irreducible G -representation of G has degree one.

Proof: [Exercise 2, Sheet 2] Hint: use Cor. 1.11(b).

Corollary 1.13 [Schur's Lemma, matrix version]

Let R, R' be two ^{irreducible} matrix representations of G of degree n, n' resp.
 If there is $0 \neq F \in M_{n \times n'}(K)$ such that $R'(g)F = FR(g) \forall g \in G$,

then:

- (i) $n = n'$
- (ii) $\det F \neq 0$
- (iii) $R \sim R'$

Note that when g runs of G , so does g^{-1} , therefore we also have the equality

$$\sum_{g \in G} R(g)_{ke} R(g)_{ij} = \lambda_{ei} \delta_{kj} \quad (\text{which equals the 1st sum as well})$$

Now if $i \neq l, k = j \Rightarrow$ the 1st equation is 0 and the 2nd λ_{ei}

$$(\delta_{il} = 0) (\delta_{kj} = 1) \Rightarrow \lambda_{ei} = 0$$

\Rightarrow we can write $\lambda_{ei} = \delta_{il} \lambda_i$ for some $\lambda_i \in K$

$\Rightarrow \sum_{g \in G} R(g)_{ij} R(g)_{ke} = \delta_{il} \delta_{kj} \lambda_i$ and it remains to determine the coefficient λ_i .

For this choose $l = i$ and sum over all $j = k$ as follows:

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i \delta_{ii} \delta_{jj} = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{j=1}^n R(g)_{ij} R(g)_{ji} = \sum_{g \in G} \underbrace{R(gg)_{ii}}_{=1} = \sum_{g \in G} 1 = |G|,$$

hence $\lambda_i = \frac{|G|}{n}$ and we are done.

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Corollary 1.15: Assume $\text{char}(K) = 0$ and $K = \bar{K}$.

If $R^i: G \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n_i}(K)$ are pairwise non-equivalent irreducible matrix representations of G ($1 \leq i \leq r$), then

$$\sum_{g \in G} R^i(g)_{kl} R^j(g)_{st} = \frac{|G|}{n_i} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kt} \delta_{ls} \quad (\forall i, j, k, l, s, t)$$

$\forall 1 \leq i, j \leq r, \forall 1 \leq k, l \leq n_i, \forall 1 \leq s, t \leq n_j$.

Proof: Apply Thm 1.14 with $R = R^i, R' = R^j$.

Theorem 1.16: Assume $\text{char}(K) = 0$ and $K = \bar{K}$.

Let $R^i: G \rightarrow \text{GL}_{n_i}(K)$ ($1 \leq i \leq r$) be pairwise non-equivalent irreducible matrix representations of G .

Then the $\sum_{i=1}^r n_i^2$ functions $R_{ke}^i: G \rightarrow K$
 $g \mapsto R^i(g)_{ke}$

are K -linearly independent.

Proof: Assume $\sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k,l=1}^{n_i} c_{kl}^i R_{kl}^i = 0$ for coefficients $c_{kl}^i \in K$. To see: $c_{kl}^i = 0$ $\forall i, k, l$.

$$\Rightarrow \forall g \in G, \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k,l=1}^{n_i} c_{kl}^i R_{kl}^i(g) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow \forall 1 \leq j \leq r, \forall 1 \leq t, s \leq n_j$, we have

$$0 = \sum_{g \in G} \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k,l=1}^{n_i} c_{kl}^i R_{kl}^i(g) R_{st}^j(g^{-1})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k,l=1}^{n_i} c_{kl}^i \sum_{g \in G} R_{kl}^i(g) R_{st}^j(g^{-1})$$

$$\stackrel{\text{Cor. 1.15}}{=} \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{k,l=1}^{n_i} c_{kl}^i \frac{|G|}{n_i} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kt} \delta_{ls} \stackrel{\text{Cor. 1.15}}{=} \frac{|G|}{n_j} c_{ts}^j$$

$\Rightarrow c_{ts}^j = 0 \quad \forall 1 \leq j \leq r, \forall 1 \leq t, s \leq n_j \Rightarrow$ the R_{kl}^i are K -linearly independent. #

Corollary 1.17: With the hypotheses of Thm. 1.16, we have:

(a) $\sum_{i=1}^r n_i^2 \leq |G|$;

(b) $r \leq |G|$.

("There are at most $|G|$ pairwise non-equivalent irreducible representations of G ")

Proof: The space $K^G = \{f: G \rightarrow K \mid f \text{ function}\}$ of K -valued functions of G has K -dimension $|G|$, since $\{\delta_g: G \rightarrow K \mid g \in G\}$ is a K -basis of K^G (see GDM).

Now Thm 1.16 says that the $R_{kl}^i \in K^G$ are K -lin. indep and there are $\sum_{i=1}^r n_i^2$ of them $\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^r n_i^2 \leq |G| \rightarrow$ (a)

$$\Rightarrow r \leq |G| \rightarrow$$
 (b)

Theorem 1.18: [Diagonalisation Theorem]

Let $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ be a \mathbb{C} -representation of G . Fix $g \in G$.

Then, there exists a \mathbb{C} -basis B of V w.r.t. which $(\rho(g))_B$ has the form

$\begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \epsilon_n \end{pmatrix}$, where each ϵ_i ($1 \leq i \leq n$) is an $\alpha(g)$ -th root of unity in \mathbb{C} .

Proof: Let $m := o(g)$. Consider the restriction $\rho|_{\langle g \rangle} : \langle g \rangle \rightarrow GL(V)$ of ρ to the cyclic subgroup generated by g .

By the corollary to Maschke's Theorem, we can decompose $\rho|_{\langle g \rangle}$ as a direct sum of irreducible \mathbb{C} -representations, say $\rho|_{\langle g \rangle} = \rho_{V_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \rho_{V_n}$, where $V_1, \dots, V_n \subseteq V$ are $\langle g \rangle$ -invariant.

Now $\langle g \rangle$ is abelian $\stackrel{\text{Cor. 1.12}}{\implies} \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_1 = \dots = \dim_{\mathbb{C}} V_n = 1$

Choose a \mathbb{C} -basis $\{x_i\}$ of $V_i \ \forall 1 \leq i \leq n$

$\implies B := (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is a basis of V s.t.,

$$(\rho(g))_B = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \epsilon_n \end{pmatrix}$$

for some coeff's $\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n \in \mathbb{C}$.

But $g^m = 1_g \implies \epsilon_i^m = \rho_{V_i}(g)^m = \rho_{V_i}(g^m) = \rho_{V_i}(1_g) = 1_{\mathbb{C}}$

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Corollary 1.19: If $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is a \mathbb{C} -representation of an abelian group G , then the linear transformations $\{\rho(g)\}_{g \in G}$ are simultaneously diagonalisable.

Proof: Same argument as in the previous proof for G instead of $\langle g \rangle$.

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