

Throughout, unless otherwise stated, $K = \mathbb{C}$ is the field of complex numbers and (G, \cdot) a finite group with neutral element 1_G . Each Exercise is worth 4 points.

EXERCISE 1 (On the Orthogonality Relations)

(a) Prove that the degree formula can be read off from the 2nd Orthogonality Relations.

(b) Use the degree formula to prove again that if G is a finite abelian group, then

$$\text{Irr}(G) = \text{Lin}(G).$$

(c) Set $X := X(G)$ and

$$C := \begin{bmatrix} |C_G(g_1)| & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & |C_G(g_2)| & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & |C_G(g_r)| \end{bmatrix} \in M_r(\mathbb{C}).$$

Prove that the 1st Orthogonality Relations can be rewritten under the form

$$XC^{-1}\overline{X}^{\text{Tr}} = I_r$$

where \overline{X}^{Tr} denotes the transpose of the complex-conjugate \overline{X} of the character table X of G .

(d) Prove that the character table is invertible.

EXERCISE 2

Let G and H be two finite groups. Prove that:

(a) if $\lambda, \chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ and $\lambda(1) = 1$, then $\lambda \cdot \chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$;

(b) the set $\text{Lin}(G)$ of linear characters of G forms a group for the product of characters;

(c) $\text{Irr}(G \times H) = \{\chi \cdot \psi \mid \chi \in \text{Irr}(G), \psi \in \text{Irr}(H)\}$.

[Hint: Use Corollary 9.8(d) and the degree formula.]

EXERCISE 3 (Faithful representations and simplicity)

(a) Let $N \trianglelefteq G$ and let $\rho : G/N \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ be a \mathbb{C} -representation of G/N with character χ . Compute the kernel of $\text{Inf}_{G/N}^G(\rho)$ provided that ρ is faithful.

(b) Let $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}(V)$ be a \mathbb{C} -representation of G with character χ . Prove that

$$\ker(\chi) = \ker(\rho),$$

thus is a normal subgroup of G .

(c) Prove that if $N \trianglelefteq G$, then

$$N = \bigcap_{\substack{\chi \in \text{Irr}(G) \\ N \subseteq \ker(\chi)}} \ker(\chi).$$

(d) Prove that G is simple if and only if $\chi(g) \neq \chi(1)$ for each $g \in G \setminus \{1\}$ and each $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G) \setminus \{1_G\}$.

EXERCISE 4 (Does the character table determine the group?)

(a) Compute the character tables of the dihedral group D_8 of order 8 and of the quaternion group Q_8 .

[Hint: In each case, determine the commutator subgroup and deduce that there are 4 linear characters.]

(b) If $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$ is a \mathbb{C} -representation of G and $\det : GL(V) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ denotes the determinant homomorphism, then we define a linear character of G through

$$\det_\rho := \det \circ \rho : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*,$$

called the **determinant of ρ** . Prove that, although the finite groups D_8 and Q_8 have the "same" character table, they can be distinguished by considering the determinants of their irreducible \mathbb{C} -representations.