

Notw.  $G$ : finite group

$(\pi, V), (\pi', V'), \dots$ : reps. of  $G$

Comparison of reps.

Def, an intertwiner (or  $G$ -homomorphism)

from  $(\pi, V)$  to  $(\pi', V')$ :

or linear map  $T: V \rightarrow V'$  s.t.

$$T \pi g v = \pi' g T v \quad (v \in V, g \in G)$$

-  $(\pi, V)$  and  $(\pi', V')$  are isomorphic

when there is an invertible intertwiner

write  $(\pi, V) \simeq (\pi', V')$ ,  $\pi = \pi'$ ,  $V \simeq V'$ .

-  $(\pi, V)$  is a subrepresentation of  $(\pi', V')$

when  $\exists$  injective intertwiner  $T: V \rightarrow V'$

Rem. up to isom. a subrep of  $(\pi', V')$

is the same thing as a  $G$ -invariant

subspace of  $V'$ : i.e. a subsp.  $W \subset V'$

s.t.  $g \in G, w \in W \Rightarrow gw \in W$ .

Example  $G = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  as before

$V' = \langle e_1, \dots, e_n \rangle$ ,  $\pi'_{[j]} e_k = e_{k+j \pmod n}$ .

i.e. restrict perm. rep of  $S_n$  to subgroup

$$G \simeq \langle (1\ 2 \dots n) \rangle$$

fix  $m \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$ .

$$W_m = \left\langle \sum_{k=1}^n \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i m k}{n}\right) e_k = \omega_m \right\rangle \subset V'$$

then we have  $\pi'_{[j]} \omega_m = \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i m j}{n}\right) \omega_m$

So  $W_m$  is  $G$ -inv.,  $(\pi', W_m) \simeq (\rho^{(m)}, \mathbb{C})$



how to combine representations

Def.  $(\pi, V), (\pi', V')$  reps of  $G$ .

$\rightarrow$  their direct sum is given by

- underlying vec. sp.  $V \oplus V'$

-  $\pi \oplus \pi' : G \rightarrow GL(V \oplus V'), g \mapsto \pi_g \oplus \pi'_g$ .

so  $g(v \oplus v') = gv \oplus gv'$ .

in matrix form  $(X_{i,j}^g)_{i,j=1}^m, (Y_{k,l}^g)_{k,l=1}^n$ .

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} X^g & 0 \\ 0 & Y^g \end{bmatrix} \in M_{m+n}(\mathbb{C})$$

Ex. in the prev. example, we have

$$(\pi'; V') \cong (\pi', W_0) \oplus \dots \oplus (\pi', W_{n-1})$$

from  $V' = W_0 \oplus \dots \oplus W_{n-1}$

i.e. any  $v' = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j e_j$  has unique

expression  $v' = \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \beta_m w_m$

(try this for  $n=2, 3$ ; this is related to discrete Fourier analysis)

decomposition of representations

suppose  $W$  is an invar. subsp. of  $(\pi, V)$

$\rightarrow$  can we find another invar. subsp.  $W'$

st.  $V = W \oplus W'$ ? i.e.  $(\pi, V) \cong (\pi, W) \oplus (\pi, W')$ ?

warning: for general rings & modules

this is not guaranteed

$\therefore$  but for lin reps of fin. grps this is possible:

Th'm  $(\pi, V)$  rep of  $G$ ,  $W \subset V$  invar. subsp.

then  $\exists W' \subset V$  invar.,  $V = W \oplus W'$

(any invar. subsp. has an invar. complement;

we can split off subrepresentations as direct summands)

recall: Hermitian inner product:

$(v, v') \in \mathbb{C}$  for  $v, v' \in V$  s.t.

- linear in  $v$ , conjugate lin. in  $v'$
- $(v', v) = \overline{(v, v')}$
- $(v, v) \geq 0$  for  $v \in V$ ,  $(v, v) = 0 \Leftrightarrow v = 0$

key part of the proof of Th'm:

$V$  has an invariant Hermitian inn. prod.:

$$(gv, gv') = (v, v') \quad (v, v' \in V, g \in G)$$

$\therefore$  take any inn. prod.  $(v, v')_0$

$$\text{put } (v, v') = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{h \in G} (hv, hv')_0$$

i.e. average  $(\cdot, \cdot)_0$  by the action of  $G$ .

then  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  is invariant:

$$(gv, gv') = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_h (hgv, hgv')_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{h' \in G} (h'v, h'v')_0 = (v, v')$$

$h' = hg$

(cont.) rest of the proof of Thm.

take  $W' = \{ m' \in V : \forall m \in W \ (m, m') = 0 \}$   
orthogonal complement of  $W$ .

-  $V = W \oplus W'$  (standard lin. alg.)

-  $W'$  is invariant under  $G$

we need to check  $g m' \in W'$  (or  $(m' \in W')$ )

i.e.  $(m, g m') = 0$  for all  $m \in W$

by the invariance of  $(\cdot, \cdot)$

$$(m, g m') = (g^{-1} m, \underbrace{g^{-1} g m'}_e) = (g^{-1} m, m')$$

$$g^{-1} m \in W \Rightarrow (g^{-1} m, m') = 0 \quad \square$$

Def.  $(\pi, V)$  is simple (or irreducible) if

$0$  and  $V$  are the only invariant subspaces

Cor. of Thm. any rep  $(\pi, V)$  is isom. to

a direct sum of irred. reps

$$(\pi, V) \simeq (\pi_1, V_1) \oplus \dots \oplus (\pi_m, V_m)$$

$(\pi_i, V_i)$  irred.

∴ take  $0 \subsetneq W \subsetneq V$  invariant (if any)

$\Rightarrow$   $V = W \oplus W'$  with invar.  $W'$

by induction on dimension

$W$  and  $W'$  are dir. sums of irred. reps

$\Rightarrow$  so is  $V$ .  $\square$