

115. On the Schur Index of a Monomial Representation

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In this note we give a method of determining the Schur index of a monomial representation of a finite group which is induced from a linear character of its normal subgroup. At the same time we obtain some other results which are useful in the theory of Schur index.

Notation and Terminology. G denotes a finite group whose unit element is 1. $|G|$ is the order of G . K is any given field of characteristic 0 and Ω the algebraic closure of K . An irreducible character χ of G always means an absolute one afforded by a representation of the group algebra ΩG over Ω . $m_K(\chi)$ is the Schur index of χ over K . $K(\chi)$ is the field obtained from K by adjunction of all values $\chi(g)$, $g \in G$. $\mathfrak{G}(K(\chi)/K)$ is the Galois group of $K(\chi)$ over K . For $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\chi)/K)$, χ^τ is the character of G defined by $\chi^\tau(g) = \chi(g)^\tau$. $e(\chi) = |G|^{-1} \chi(1) \sum_{g \in G} \chi(g^{-1})g$ is the minimal central idempotent of ΩG corresponding to χ . $a(\chi) = \sum_{\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\chi)/K)} e(\chi^\tau)$ is the identity of the simple component A of KG with the property $\chi(A) \neq 0$ [2, V, 14. 12]. If H is a subgroup of G and ψ a character of H , ψ^G denotes the character of G induced from ψ . For a ring R and an integer n , R_n is the total matrix algebra of degree n over R .

Lemma. *Let H be a subgroup of G and Hg_1, \dots, Hg_n all the distinct right cosets of H in G . Let ψ be an irreducible character of H such that ψ^G is irreducible. For simplicity, set $e_i = g_i^{-1}e(\psi)g_i$ ($i=1, \dots, n$). Then we have (i) $e(\psi^G) = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i$, (ii) $e(\psi^G)\Omega G = e_1\Omega G + \dots + e_n\Omega G$, (iii) $e_i e_j = 0$ ($i \neq j$), $e_i e_i = e_i$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$, (iv) $(\psi^\tau)^G = (\psi^G)^\tau$ for any $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)$.*

Proof. (i) $e(\psi^G) = |G|^{-1} \psi^G(1) \sum_{g \in G} \psi^G(g^{-1})g = |H|^{-1} \psi(1) \sum_{g \in G} \psi(g^{-1})g$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \psi(g_i g^{-1} g_i^{-1})g = \sum_{i=1}^n g_i^{-1} \{ |H|^{-1} \psi(1) \sum_{h \in H} \psi(h^{-1})h \} g_i = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i,$$

where $\psi(g) = 0$ for $g \notin H$. (ii) It can be easily seen that $e(\psi)\Omega G \simeq e_i\Omega G$ ($i=1, \dots, n$) as right ΩG -modules and that $\dim_{\Omega} e(\psi)\Omega G = n \psi(1)^2$ and that $e(\psi^G)\Omega G \subset e_1\Omega G + \dots + e_n\Omega G$. Hence, $(n \psi(1))^2 = \dim_{\Omega} e(\psi^G)\Omega G \leq \dim_{\Omega} \{e_1\Omega G + \dots + e_n\Omega G\} \leq n^2 \psi(1)^2$. This proves (ii). (iii) We observe that $e_i = e(\psi^G)e_i = e_1 e_i + \dots + e_i e_i + \dots + e_n e_i$. Since $e_1\Omega G + \dots + e_n\Omega G$ is a direct sum, it follows that $e_i e_j = 0$ ($i \neq j$), $e_i e_i = e_i$.