

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 $e_i e_j = 0$ ($i \neq j$), $e_i e_i = e_i$.

$$(iv) \quad (\psi^\tau)^\sigma(g) = \sum_{j=1}^n \psi^\tau(g_j g g_j^{-1}) = \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n \psi(g_j g g_j^{-1}) \right\}^\tau = (\psi^\sigma)^\tau(g), \quad g \in G.$$

Theorem 1. *Let H be a subgroup of G whose index in G is n . Let ψ be an irreducible character of H such that the induced character ψ^σ is irreducible. Assume that $K(\psi) = K(\psi^\sigma)$. If the simple component $a(\psi)KH$ of KH is isomorphic to D_r for a division algebra D over K and for an integer r , then the simple component $a(\psi^\sigma)KG$ of KG is isomorphic to D_{rn} . In particular, $m_K(\psi^\sigma) = m_K(\psi)$.*

Proof. Let Hg_1, \dots, Hg_n ($g_i=1$) be all the distinct right cosets of H in G . From Lemma and the assumption $K(\psi) = K(\psi^\sigma)$, it follows that $a(\psi^\sigma) = \sum_{\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi^\sigma)/K)} e((\psi^\sigma)^\tau) = \sum_{\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)} e((\psi^\tau)^\sigma) = \sum_{\tau} \sum_{i=1}^n g_i^{-1} e(\psi^\tau) g_i = \sum_{i=1}^n g_i^{-1} a(\psi) g_i$. By Lemma, $g_i^{-1} e(\psi^\tau) g_i \cdot g_j^{-1} e(\psi^\tau) g_j = 0$ ($i \neq j$). If $\tau, \tau' \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi^\sigma)/K)$, $\tau \neq \tau'$, then $(\psi^\tau)^\sigma \neq (\psi^{\tau'})^\sigma$, and so $e((\psi^\tau)^\sigma) \Omega G \cdot e((\psi^{\tau'})^\sigma) \Omega G = 0$. Hence, $g_i^{-1} e(\psi^\tau) g_i \cdot g_j^{-1} e(\psi^{\tau'}) g_j = 0$. Thus, $g_i^{-1} a(\psi) g_i \cdot g_j^{-1} a(\psi) g_j = \sum_{\tau, \tau'} g_i^{-1} e(\psi^\tau) g_i \cdot g_j^{-1} e(\psi^{\tau'}) g_j = 0$, and so $g_i^{-1} a(\psi) KH g_i \cdot g_j^{-1} a(\psi) KH g_j = 0$ ($i \neq j$). Let $\delta \in a(\psi)KH$ be an idempotent of KH such that δKH is an irreducible right KH -module. Then the ring of KH -endomorphisms of δKH is isomorphic to the division algebra $\delta KH \delta$, which is anti-isomorphic to D . Denote by \mathcal{E} the ring of KG -endomorphisms of the right KG -module δKG . For $\xi \in \mathcal{E}$, $\xi(z) = \xi(\delta z) = \xi(\delta)z$, $z \in \delta KG$, where $\xi(\delta) \in \delta KG$. Hence for $\xi, \xi' \in \mathcal{E}$, $\xi = \xi'$ if and only if $\xi(\delta) = \xi'(\delta)$. Meanwhile, if $\xi(\delta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta s_i g_i$, $s_i \in KH$, then $\xi(\delta) = \xi(\delta^2) = \xi(\delta)\delta = \sum_{i=1}^n \delta s_i g_i \delta = \sum_{i=1}^n g_i \cdot g_i^{-1} \delta s_i g_i \cdot \delta = \delta s_i \delta \in \delta KH \delta$, because $g_i^{-1} \delta s_i g_i \in g_i^{-1} a(\psi) KH g_i$, $\delta \in a(\psi)KH$, and $g_i^{-1} a(\psi) KH g_i \cdot a(\psi) KH = 0$ ($i \neq 1$). It follows readily that the ring \mathcal{E} is isomorphic to the division algebra $\delta KH \delta$, so that δKG is an irreducible right KG -module contained in $a(\psi)KG$. From the fact that $g_i^{-1} a(\psi) g_i$ ($i=1, \dots, n$) are orthogonal idempotents and $a(\psi^\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^n g_i^{-1} a(\psi) g_i$, it follows easily that $a(\psi^\sigma)KG = g_1^{-1} a(\psi) g_1 KG + \dots + g_n^{-1} a(\psi) g_n KG$. Hence $a(\psi^\sigma)KG$ contains δKG whose KG -endomorphism ring is anti-isomorphic to D . So we have $a(\psi^\sigma)KG \simeq D_x$ for some integer x . As $g_i^{-1} a(\psi) g_i KG$ is isomorphic to $a(\psi)KG$ as right KG -modules and $\dim_K a(\psi)KG = n \cdot \dim_K a(\psi)KH = n \cdot \dim_K D_r = nr^2(D:K)$, we have $\dim_K a(\psi^\sigma)KG = n^2 r^2(D:K)$. Thus, $a(\psi^\sigma)KG \simeq D_{rn}$.

Theorem 2. *Let H be a normal subgroup of G and ψ a linear character of H such that ψ^σ is irreducible. Set $F = \{g \in G; \psi^\sigma = \psi^{\tau(g)}\}$ for some $\tau(g) \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)$, where ψ^σ is defined by $\psi^\sigma(h) = \psi(hg h^{-1})$, $h \in H$. Let Hf_1, \dots, Hf_n be all the distinct cosets of H in F , and $f_i f_j = h_{i,j} f_{\nu(i,j)}$, $h_{i,j} \in H$. Set $\tau(f_i) = \tau_i$ and $\beta(\tau_i, \tau_j) = \psi(h_{i,j})$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$.*

Then we have (i) $F/H \simeq \{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n\} \simeq \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K(\psi^F))$, (ii) β is a factor set of $\mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K(\psi^F))$ consisting of roots of unity and the simple algebra $a(\psi^F)KF$ is isomorphic to the crossed product $(\beta(\tau_i, \tau_j), K(\psi)/K(\psi^F))$, (iii) $m_K(\psi^G) = m_K(\psi^F)$. In fact, if $a(\psi^F)KF \simeq D_r$ for a division algebra over K and for an integer r , then $a(\psi^G)KG \simeq D_{rt}$, $t = (G:F)$.

Proof. As ψ^F is irreducible, $\psi^f = \psi$ if and only if $f \in H$. So the mapping: $f \mapsto \tau(f)$, $f \in F$ is a homomorphism from F into $\mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)$ whose kernel is H . Hence $F/H \simeq \{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n\}$. For any $f \in F$, $(\psi^F)^{\tau_i}(f)$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \psi(f_j f f_j^{-1})^{\tau_i} = \sum_{j=1}^n \psi^{\tau_j \tau_i}(f) = \psi^F(f),$$

and so $(\psi^F)^{\tau_i} = \psi^F$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$).

Conversely, if $\psi^F = (\psi^F)^\tau = (\psi^\tau)^F$ for some $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)$, there exists $f \in F$ such that $\psi^\tau = \psi^f$ [1, 45.6]. Hence τ is in $\{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n\}$. Therefore, $\mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K(\psi^F)) \simeq \{\tau_1, \dots, \tau_n\}$. Remark that $K(\psi) \supset K(\psi^F) \supset K(\psi^G)$. If $\psi^G = (\psi^G)^\tau = (\psi^\tau)^G$ for $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K)$, there exists $g \in G$ such that $\psi^g = \psi^\tau$. Hence $g \in F$ and $\tau \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K(\psi^F))$. This shows that $K(\psi^F) = K(\psi^G)$. Then the assertion (iii) is an immediate consequence of Theorem 1. If U is the matrix representation of F with the character ψ^F , $a(\psi^F)KF$ is isomorphic to the enveloping algebra $\text{env}_K U = \{\sum_{f \in F} \alpha_f U(f); \alpha_f \in K\}$ of U over K . For $h \in H$, $U(h)$ is the diagonal matrix $[\psi^{\tau_1}(h), \dots, \psi^{\tau_n}(h)]$ with the diagonal elements $\psi^{\tau_1}(h), \dots, \psi^{\tau_n}(h)$, and so $\text{env}_K U' = \{[\theta^{\tau_1}, \dots, \theta^{\tau_n}]; \theta \in K(\psi)\} \simeq K(\psi)$, where U' denotes the restriction of U to H . It is easily seen that $\text{env } U = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{env } U' \cdot U(f_i)$

and that the mapping $\bar{\tau}_i: T \mapsto U(f_i) T U(f_i)^{-1}$, $T \in \text{env}(U')$ is the automorphism of the field $\text{env } U'$ corresponding to $\tau_i \in \mathfrak{G}(K(\psi)/K(\psi^F))$ and that $\{\bar{\tau}_1, \dots, \bar{\tau}_n\}$ is the Galois group of the extension $\text{env } U' / K(\psi^F) \cdot 1_n$, 1_n being the identity of Ω_n . Now it is well known that $K(\psi^F) \cdot 1_n$ is the center of $\text{env } U$ and $(\text{env } U : K(\psi^F) \cdot 1_n) = n^2$. Thus, we have the expres-

sion of $\text{env}_K U$ as crossed product: $\text{env}_K(U) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{env}_K U' \cdot U(f_i) = (\tilde{\beta}(\bar{\tau}_i, \bar{\tau}_j), \text{env}_K U' / K(\psi^F) \cdot 1_n)$ with relations $U(f_i) T U(f_i)^{-1} = T^{\bar{\tau}_i}$, $T \in \text{env}_K U'$, $U(f_i) U(f_j) = U(h_{ij}) U(f_{\nu(i,j)})$, $\tilde{\beta}(\bar{\tau}_i, \bar{\tau}_j) = U(h_{ij})$, $1 \leq i, j \leq n$. Clearly, this crossed product is isomorphic to the crossed product $(\beta(\tau_i, \tau_j), K(\psi) / K(\psi^F))$.

As for the crossed product $A = (\beta(\tau_i, \tau_j), K(\psi) / K(\psi^F))$ in Theorem 2, we recall that if K is a finite extension of the rational p -adic number field \mathbb{Q}_p for a prime p , then the \mathfrak{P} -invariant of A equals $\rho \cdot (K(\psi^F) : \mathbb{Q}_p(\psi^F))$ where ρ is the \mathfrak{p} -invariant of $B = (\beta(\tau_i, \tau_j), \mathbb{Q}_p(\psi) / \mathbb{Q}_p(\psi^F))$. Here \mathfrak{P} and \mathfrak{p} are the prime ideals of $K(\psi^F)$ and $\mathbb{Q}_p(\psi^F)$ respectively, that divide p . Now B is a ‘‘Kreisalgebra’’ and its \mathfrak{p} -invariant was calculated by Witt [3].

References

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