

# Representation Theory Summary

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# Representations of Finite Groups

A **representation** of a finite group  $G$  on a  $\mathbb{C}$  vector space  $V$  is a group homomorphism

$$G \rightarrow \text{Aut}(V)$$

The dimension of  $V$  is known as the **degree** of the representation.

A **morphism** of representations,  $(\rho_1, V_1)$  and  $(\rho_2, V_2)$ , is a linear function  $\phi : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  such that

$$\forall g \in G \quad \rho_2(g)\phi = \phi\rho_1(g)$$

A **subrepresentation** of  $(\rho, V)$  is a vector subspace  $W \leq V$  such that  $\forall g \in G \quad \rho(g)(W) \subseteq W$

Recall that for  $W \leq V$  a projection of  $V \rightarrow W$  is a linear map that restricted to  $W$  is the identity.

**Lemma.** *There is a bijection*

$$\{\text{projections } V \rightarrow W\} \leftrightarrow \{\text{compliments of } W \text{ in } V\}$$

sending a projection to its kernel and a decomposition to the projection.

**Lemma.** *If  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$  is a rep and  $W \leq V$  is a subrep then there exists a complimentary subrep  $W' \leq V$  such that  $V = W \oplus W'$ .*

Note that there is always a complimentary subspace but it might not be stable under the  $G$  action.

A representation is **irreducible** if it is non-trivial and has no non-trivial strict subreps.

**Theorem.** *Every representation decomposes into a direct sum of irreducible reps.*

Note that this is not true in general if we consider representations on non- $\mathbb{C}$  vector spaces, or infinite groups etc. This property is known as **complete reducibility**.

**Theorem (Schurs Lemma).** *If  $(\rho_1, V_1)$  and  $(\rho_2, V_2)$  are ir-reps and  $f \in \text{Hom}_G(V_1, V_2)$  then  $f = \lambda I$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ . In particular  $f$  is either an iso or the zero map.*

## Making New Reps

Let  $(\rho, V), (\rho', V')$  be two representations of  $G$ .

**Direct Sum**

$$\tau : G \rightarrow GL(V \oplus V')$$

$$\tau(g)(v + v') = \rho(g)(v) + \rho'(g)(v')$$

**Tensor** If  $V$  and  $V'$  have a basis  $\{v_i\}, \{v'_j\}$  respectively then  $V \otimes V'$  has a basis  $\{v_i \otimes v'_j\}$  and we get a new representation via

$$\tau : G \rightarrow GL(V \otimes V')$$

$$\tau(g)(v \otimes v') = \rho(g)(v) \otimes \rho'(g)(v')$$

**Symmetric and Alternating Square** A subcase is where we want to only use the first representation on  $V \otimes V$ . If we define

$$\theta : V \otimes V \rightarrow V \otimes V$$

$$v \otimes w \mapsto w \otimes v$$

Then we can write

$$V \otimes V = \text{Sym}^2(V) \oplus \Lambda^2(V)$$

where

$$\text{Sym}^2(V) = \{x \in V \otimes V : \theta(x) = x\}$$

$$\Lambda^2(V) = \{x \in V \otimes V : \theta(x) = -x\}$$

These spaces have respective bases  $\{e_i \otimes e_j + e_j \otimes e_i\}$  and  $\{e_i \otimes e_j - e_j \otimes e_i\}$ . Then these are both subrepresentations on  $V \otimes V$ .

**Dual Rep** Given a vector space we can take its linear dual  $V^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(V, \mathbb{C})$ .

$$\pi : G \rightarrow GL(V^*)$$

$$\pi(g)(f) = g.f$$

$$g.f(v) = f(\rho_{g^{-1}}(v))$$

**Hom Rep**

$$\pi : G \rightarrow GL(\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(V, V'))$$

$$\pi(g)(f)(v) = \rho'_g(f(\rho_{g^{-1}}(v)))$$

## Characters

The **character** of a rep  $(\rho, V)$  is the map

$$\chi_\rho = \chi_V : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

$$\chi(g) = \text{Tr}(\rho(g))$$

or equally the sum of eigenvalues with multiplicity.

**Lemma.** *The character has the following properties*

- $\chi(1) = \dim V = \text{deg } \rho$
- $\chi(g^{-1}) = \overline{\chi(g)}$  the complex conjugate
- $\chi(hgh^{-1}) = \chi(g)$ , it is a class function
- $\chi_{\rho \oplus \rho'} = \chi_\rho + \chi_{\rho'}$
- $\chi_{\rho \otimes \rho'} = \chi_\rho \cdot \chi_{\rho'}$
- $\chi_{\rho^*} = \overline{\chi_\rho}$
- $\chi_{\text{Hom}(V, V')} = \overline{\chi_V} \cdot \chi_{V'}$
- $\chi_{\text{Sym}^2 V}(g) = \frac{1}{2}[\chi_V(g)^2 + \chi_V(g^2)]$
- $\chi_{\Lambda^2 V}(g) = \frac{1}{2}[\chi_V(g)^2 - \chi_V(g^2)]$

**Lemma.**

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(V, V') \cong V^* \otimes V'$$

as representations.

A function  $G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a **class function** if  $\forall g, h \in G$  we have  $f(hgh^{-1}) = f(g)$ , it is constant on conjugacy classes.

We define the following inner product on classfunction  $\phi, \psi :: G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$

$$\langle \phi, \psi \rangle = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \phi(g)\psi(g^{-1})$$

**Theorem.**

$$\langle \chi, \chi \rangle = 1$$

iff  $\chi$  is an irreducible character.

**Lemma.** If  $\chi, \chi'$  are two non-isomorphic irreducible characters then

$$\langle \chi, \chi' \rangle = 0$$

**Lemma.** If  $(\rho, V)$  is a  $G$  rep and  $V^G$  are the fixed points then

$$\dim V^G = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_\rho(g)$$

**Theorem.**  $V$  a rep of  $G$  and  $W_i$  an irrep of  $G$ . The number of  $W_i$ 's contained in  $V$  as subrepresentations is then

$$\langle \chi_V, \chi_{W_i} \rangle$$

**Theorem.** Two representations have the same character iff they are isomorphic.

## Counting Irreps

**Theorem.** The number of irreducible representations of  $G$  is the same as the number of conjugacy classes.

If  $W_i$  are all the irreps of  $G$  and they have respective dimensions  $n_i$  then

**Lemma.**

$$\sum_i n_i^2 = |G|$$

and

$$\sum_i n_i \chi_{W_i}(g) = 0 \quad \forall g \neq 1$$

**Lemma.** If  $g \in G$  we denote  $c(g) :=$  size of the conjugacy class of  $g$ . Then

$$\sum_i \chi_i(g) \overline{\chi_i(g)} = \frac{|G|}{c(g)}$$

and for  $h$  not in the conjugacy class of  $g$

$$\sum_i \chi_i(h) \overline{\chi_i(g)} = 0$$

**Lemma.** The degrees of irreps of  $G$  divide  $|G|/|\text{cent}(G)|$

**Theorem.**  $H \leq G$  normal subgroup and  $(\rho, V)$  an irrep of  $G$  then either

- $\rho|_H$  is isotypic (has only one irred component)
- OR;  $\exists H \leq K < G$  and an irrep of  $K$ ,  $\sigma$ , such that  $\rho = \text{Ind}_K^G \sigma$

**Lemma.** The degrees of irreps of  $G$  divide  $|G|/|A|$  where  $A$  is any abelian normal subgroup of  $G$ .

## Canonical Decomposition

Ignoring

## Regular Rep

The **regular representation** of  $G$  is the  $\mathbb{C}$  vector space  $\text{span}\{e_g : g \in G\}$  with the action that  $h.e_g = e_{hg}$  which gets extended linearly to the rest of the vector space. This has the character

$$r_G(g) = \begin{cases} |G|, & g = 1 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Moreover it decomposes into

$$R_G = \oplus_i W_i^{\dim W_i}$$

where  $W_i$  runs over all the irreps of  $G$ .

# Special Cases

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## Abelian Group

In an abelian group each conjugacy class has exactly one element.

**Theorem.**  $G$  is abelian iff all irreducible reps have degree one.

**Lemma.** If  $A$  is an abelian subgroup of  $G$  then every irreducible rep of  $G$  has degree  $\leq \frac{|G|}{|A|}$

## Products of Groups

Let  $G_1, G_2$  be two groups with respective representations  $(\rho_1, V_1), (\rho_2, V_2)$ . We get a representation

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2 : G_1 \times G_2 &\rightarrow GL(V_1 \otimes V_2) \\ (g_1, g_2) &\mapsto \rho_1(g_1) \otimes \rho_2(g_2) \end{aligned}$$

This has character the product of the two other characters as before.

**Theorem.**

- If  $\rho_i$  are both irreps then  $\rho_1 \otimes \rho_2$  is irrep
- Every irrep of  $G_1 \times G_2$  is iso to something of this form.

## Semi-Direct Product

Let  $G = H \ltimes A$  where  $A$  is normal and abelian. All irreps of  $A$  are one dimensional, hence they form a group namely  $X = \text{Hom}(A, \mathbb{C}^*)$ . There is a  $G$  action on  $X$  via

$$g \cdot \chi(a) = \chi(g^{-1}ag)$$

Then for each character we get a subgroup of  $H$ ,

$$H_i := \{h \in H : h \cdot \chi_i = \chi_i\}$$

Note that if  $\chi_i$  is in the same  $H$  orbit as  $\chi_j$  then  $H_i = H_j$ . Let  $G_i = H_i \ltimes A$  the characters of  $A$  extend to characters of  $G_i$  by just ignoring the  $H_i$ ,  $\chi_i(ha) = \chi_i(a)$ . Irreps of  $H_i$  extend in the same way to irreps of  $G_i$ . Then if  $\rho$  is such an irrep of  $G_i$

- $\text{Ind}_{G_i}^G(\chi_i \otimes \rho)$  is irreducible
- Every irrep of  $G$  arises in this way.

## Solvable and Sylow Groups

Recall that a **solvable** group  $G$  has a finite derived series i.e.

$$\{1\} \leq G_0 \leq \dots \leq G_n = G$$

such that  $G_{i-1} \leq G_i$  normal and  $G_i/G_{i-1}$  is abelian.

A **supersolvable** group moreover has that  $G_i/G_{i-1}$  is cyclic. Finally a **nilpotent** group is one that is solvable and  $G_i/G_{i-1} \leq \text{Cent}(G_i/G_{i-1})$ .

**Lemma.** Nilpotent  $\implies$  Supersolvable  $\implies$  Solvable

A **p-group** is a group whose order is a power of  $p$ , for  $p$  prime.

**Theorem.** Every  $p$ -group is nilpotent

**Lemma.** If a  $p$ -group  $G$  acts on a finite set  $X$  then

$$|X| \equiv |X^G| \pmod{p}$$

**Lemma.** Let  $V$  be a non-zero  $k$ -vector space, where characteristic of  $k$  is  $p$ . Let  $(\rho, V)$  be a rep of  $G$ . If  $G$  is a  $p$ -group then there exists a  $v \in V - \{0\}$  that is fixed by  $\rho(g)$  for all  $g \in G$  i.e.

$$\forall g \in G \quad \rho(g)v = v$$

**Theorem.** The only irreducible rep of a  $p$ -group in characteristic  $p$  is the trivial rep.

Recall that for a group  $G$  a Sylow- $p$  subgroup is a maximal  $p$ -subgroup.

**Theorem.** If  $p$  is prime and  $|G| = mp^n$  for some  $m$  coprime to  $p$ . Then

- There exists a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup (of order  $n$ )
- All Sylow- $p$  subgroups are conjugate i.e. For any two Sylow- $p$  subgroups  $P, Q$  there exists a  $g \in G$  such that

$$gPg^{-1} = Q$$

- Each  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  is contained in a Sylow- $p$  subgroup

**Lemma.**  $G$  non-abelian and supersolvable then there is a normal abelian subgroup that is not contained in the center of  $G$ .

**Lemma.** Every irreducible representation of a supersolvable group is induced by a degree one representation of a subgroup.

# Induction & Restriction

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Let  $H \leq G$  a subgroup and  $R = G/H$  a collection of representatives of cosets. Let  $W$  be a  $\mathbb{C}[H]$  module. We define the **induction** of  $W$  to  $G$  to be the representation

$$\text{Ind}_H^G W = \mathbb{C}[G] \otimes_{\mathbb{C}[H]} W$$

with  $\mathbb{C}[G]$  action

$$g.(x \otimes w) = (gx) \otimes w$$

which has the following properties

- $\dim \text{Ind}_H^G W = [G : H] \dim W$
- $\chi_{\text{Ind}_H^G W}(g) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{s \in G, s^{-1}gs \in H} \chi_W(s^{-1}gs)$
- $\text{Ind}_H^G \cong \text{Hom}_H(\mathbb{C}[G], W)$  as representations.
- $\text{Hom}_H(W, \text{Res}_H^G E) \cong \text{Hom}_G(\text{Ind}_H^G W, E)$
- $V \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Ind}_H^G W \cong \text{Ind}_H^G(\text{Res}_H^G V \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} W)$
- If  $H \leq K \leq G$  then  $\text{Ind}_K^G \text{Ind}_H^K W \cong \text{Ind}_H^G W$

Induction is a functor: If  $f : H \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a class function then  $\text{Ind}_H^G f : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  defined by

$$\text{Ind}_H^G f(g) = \frac{1}{|H|} \sum_{s \in G, s^{-1}gs \in H} f(s^{-1}gs)$$

is a class function. Moreover if  $f$  is a character of  $W$  then

$$\text{Ind}_H^G \chi_W = \chi_{\text{Ind}_H^G W}$$

**Lemma.**

$$\dim \text{Hom}_H(V_1, V_2) = \langle \chi_{V_1}, \chi_{V_2} \rangle$$

**Lemma.**

$$\langle \psi, \text{Res } \phi \rangle_H = \langle \text{Ind}_H^G \psi, \phi \rangle_G$$

**Lemma.**  $W$  irrep of  $H$ ,  $E$  irrep of  $G$ . Then the number of times that  $W$  appears in  $\text{Res}_H^G E$  is the number of times  $E$  occurs in  $\text{Ind}_H^G W$

## Restriction

Let  $H \leq G$  and  $K \leq G$  be two subgroups. We are going to induce one of the subgroups and restrict down to the other. Let  $(\rho, W)$  be a  $H$  rep. Consider the double cosets  $K \backslash G/H := \{KgH : g \in G\}$  where  $KgH = \{kgh : k \in K, h \in H\}$ . For  $s \in G$  we define  $H_s := sHs^{-1} \cap K$  and  $\rho^s : H_s \rightarrow GL(W)$  sending  $x \mapsto \rho(s^{-1}xs)$ .

**Theorem.**

$$\text{Res}_K^G \text{Ind}_H^G(W) = \bigoplus_{s \in K \backslash G/H} \text{Ind}_{H_s}^K(\rho^s)$$

$s$  some representatives

## Mackey's Irreducibility

Let  $H \leq G$  and  $s \in G$ , we define  $H_s := sHs^{-1} \cap H$ . If  $\rho : H \rightarrow GL(W)$  is a rep then so is  $\text{Res}_{H_s}^H \rho$  and

$$\rho^s : H_s \rightarrow GL(W)$$

$$x \mapsto \rho(s^{-1}xs)$$

**Theorem.**  $\text{Ind}_H^G W$  is irreducible iff  $W$  is irreducible and  $\forall s \in G - H$

$$\langle \rho^s, \text{Res}_{H_s}^H \rho \rangle = 0$$

**Lemma.** If  $H$  is normal in  $G$  then  $\text{Ind}_H^G W$  is irreducible iff  $W$  is irreducible and  $\forall s \in G - H \rho \neq \rho^s$

# Group Algebra

We now work with  $G$  a finite group and  $K$  a commutative ring of characteristic zero. We make  $K[G] := \text{span}_K\{g : g \in G\} \cong K^{|G|}$  the formal span of  $G$  as a  $K$  module into a ring and therefore a  $K$  algebra by defining multiplication as

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g g\right) \left(\sum_{h \in G} b_h h\right) = \sum_{g, h \in G} a_g b_h gh$$

This is called the **group algebra**

If  $k$  is a field,  $V$  is a  $k$  vector space and  $\rho : G \rightarrow GL(V)$  is a rep then  $V$  can be made into a left  $k[G]$  module via

$$\left(\sum_{g \in G} a_g g\right) \cdot v = \sum_{g \in G} a_g \rho(g)(v)$$

If  $V$  is a left  $k[G]$  module then the following is a rep

$$g \mapsto (v \mapsto g \cdot v)$$

**Theorem.** *In characteristic 0 we have complete reducibility. Every  $k[G]$  module decomposes into the direct sum of irreducible submodules.*

## Decomp of $\mathbb{C}[G]$

Consider the irreps of  $G$ ,  $(\rho_i, W_i)$ .

**Theorem.**

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong \prod_i M_{\dim W_i}(\mathbb{C})$$

$$g \mapsto (\rho_1(g), \dots, \rho_m(g))$$

extended linearly to all of  $\mathbb{C}[G]$

**Lemma.** *Let  $(u_1, \dots, u_m) \in \prod_i \text{End}(W_i)$  and  $u = \sum_{g \in G} u(g)g$  its preimage under the above iso. Then*

$$u(g) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_i \dim(W_i) \text{Tr}(\rho_i(g^{-1})u_i)$$

## Center

If  $c$  is a conjugacy class of  $G$  then we denote  $z_c = \sum_{g \in c} g$ .

**Lemma.**  $\{z_c\}_c$  forms a basis of the center of  $\mathbb{C}[G]$ .

**Theorem.** *From the decomposition of  $\mathbb{C}[G]$  we have homomorphisms (that when collected give an isomorphism)  $\rho_i : \mathbb{C}[G] \rightarrow \text{End}(W_i) = \text{Mat}_{\dim W_i}(\mathbb{C})$  which restricts to the center  $\omega_i = \rho_i|_{\text{cent}(\mathbb{C}[G])}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .*

$$(\omega_i)_i : \text{cent}(\mathbb{C}[G]) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^k$$

Is an isomorphism. Explicitly

$$\omega_i \left( \sum u(g)g \right) = \frac{1}{\dim W_i} \sum_{g \in G} u(g) \chi_i(g)$$

Ignoring algebraic integer stuff... Lecture 15

# Symmetric Groups

Conjugacy classes of  $S_n$  are in bijection with partitions of  $n$ .

## Young Subgroups

Fix a tableau  $t_\lambda$  of shape  $\lambda$ . Then the young subgroups associated are

$$P = P_{t_\lambda} = \{g \in S_n : g \text{ preserves each row}\}$$

$$Q = Q_{t_\lambda} = \{g \in S_n : g \text{ preserves each column}\}$$

Note that  $S_n$  acts on the tableaux by permuting the numbers. By preserve the rows / columns we are saying the same numbers are in there, we don't care about the order (otherwise both groups would be trivial).

**Lemma.** If  $\lambda = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_m$  with transpose  $\lambda' = \mu_1 + \dots + \mu_m$ , then the young subgroups are

$$P \cong S_{\lambda_1} \times \dots \times S_{\lambda_m}$$

$$Q \cong S_{\mu_1} \times \dots \times S_{\mu_m}$$

There are three distinguished elements of  $\mathbb{C}[S_n]$  associated to the young subgroups

$$a_\lambda = \sum_{g \in P} e_g, \quad b_\lambda = \sum_{g \in Q} \text{sgn}(g)e_g, \quad c_\lambda = a_\lambda b_\lambda$$

## Classification of Irreps

**Theorem.** • Some scalar multiple of  $c_\lambda$  is idempotent i.e.

$$\exists n_\lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad c_\lambda^2 = n_\lambda c_\lambda$$

- For every  $\lambda$ ,  $\mathbb{C}[S_n]c_\lambda$  is an irreducible representation of  $S_n$
- Every irreducible representation of  $S_n$  is given by  $\mathbb{C}[S_n]c_\lambda$  for some  $\lambda$

We will need several lemmas to prove this result which we now develop.

First notice that  $P \cap Q = \{1\}$ , thus  $\forall g \in S_n$  we can write it in at most one way as  $g = pq$  where  $p \in P, q \in Q$  (it

might be not expressible in this form). Applying these to our distinguished element

$$c_\lambda = \sum_{pq \in PQ} \text{sgn}(q)e_{pq}$$

Ignoring lectures 22, 23; have the lemmas for the proof etc

## Applications

**Lemma.** For any  $\lambda$  we have that  $c_\lambda^2 = n_\lambda c_\lambda$

$$n_\lambda = \frac{n!}{\dim(\mathbb{C}[S_n]c_\lambda)}$$

### 5.3.1 Frobenius Formula

We set up some notation. Let  $V_\lambda = \mathbb{C}[S_n]c_\lambda$  and  $\chi_\lambda$  the associated character. We can write a partition multiplicatively

$$\lambda = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_m \rightsquigarrow \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_m$$

which if we have repeated entries we can collapse to be something of the form

$$\lambda_i = n^{i_1} (n-1)^{i_2} \dots 1^{i_n}$$

so to a tuple of non-negative integers  $i = (i_1, \dots, i_n)$  we can associate a partition  $\lambda_i$  above.

Fix a  $k \geq$  the number of rows in  $\lambda_i$  and let

$$p_j(x) = x_1^j + \dots + x_k^j$$

and

$$\Delta(x) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq k} (x_i - x_j)$$

Finally if  $f(x) = f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is a formal power series and  $(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^k$  then we denote

$$[f(x)]_{(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k)} = \text{the coefficient of } x_1^{\ell_1} \dots x_k^{\ell_k} \text{ in } f$$

**Theorem.**

$$\chi_\lambda(C_i) = \left[ \Delta(x) \prod_{j=1}^n p_j(x)^{i_j} \right]_{(\ell_1, \dots, \ell_k)}$$

As a corollary we know that

$$\dim V_\lambda = \frac{n!}{\ell_1! \dots \ell_k!} \prod_{i < j} (\ell_i - \ell_j) = \frac{n!}{\prod \text{hook lengths in } \lambda}$$

and this is further independent of our choice of  $k$ .

**Lemma.** The dimension of  $\mathbb{C}[S_n]c_\lambda$  is equal to the number of tableaux on  $\lambda$  such that the rows and columns are increasing

Slide 153 remarks, Schur-Weyl duality

## Alternating Groups

$A_n \leq S_n$  is the commutator subgroup of  $S_n$ , it has index two. For a general subgroup of index two  $H \leq G$  we have the permutation representation of  $G \cup G/H = \{1, r\}$  which decomposes into a direct sum  $\mathbb{C}_{\text{triv}} \oplus \mathbb{C}_{\text{non-triv}}$

**Lemma.** Let  $V$  be an irrep of  $G$ , and let  $W = \text{Res}_H^G V$  where  $H \leq G$  an index two subgroup. Let  $V' = V \otimes \mathbb{C}_{\text{non-triv}}$  for the permutation representation. Then one of the following holds

- $V \not\cong V'$ : Then  $W$  is irreducible and  $\text{Ind}_H^G W \cong V \oplus V'$
- $V \cong V'$ : Then  $W \cong W' \oplus W''$  for two non-isomorphic irreps  $W', W''$ . Moreover

$$V \cong \text{Ind}_H^G W' = \text{Ind}_H^G W''$$

# General Representations of Algebras

We set  $k$  to be an algebraically closed field. A  **$k$  algebra** is a  $k$  vector space with a bilinear multiplication. A left  **$A$ -module** is a  $k$ -vector space  $V$  with a homomorphism  $\rho : A \rightarrow \text{End}_k(V)$ , a linear map preserving multiplication and unit.

A **submodule** is a subspace  $U \leq V$  such that  $\rho(a)U \leq U$  for all  $a \in A$ .

A non-zero rep  $V$  of  $A$  is **irreducible** if its only subrepresentations are  $V$  and  $\{0\}$ . It is **indecomposable** if it cannot be written as a direct sum of two non-zero subrepresentations.

If  $V_1, V_2$  are reps of  $A$  then  $V_1 \oplus V_2$  is too via

$$a(v_1 + v_2) = av_1 + av_2$$

A **homomorphism** is a map  $\phi : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  such that  $\phi(a.v) = a.\phi(v)$ .

**Theorem (Schur's Lemma).** *If  $V_1, V_2$  are  $A$  reps and  $\phi : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  is a non-zero hom then*

- If  $V_1$  is irreducible, then  $\phi$  is injective
- If  $V_2$  is irreducible, then  $\phi$  is surjective
- If  $V_1, V_2$  is irreducible, then  $\phi$  is an isomorphism

moreover if  $V_1 = V_2$  and  $\phi$  is an iso then it acts by a scalar.

**Lemma.** *If  $A$  is commutative algebra then every finite dim rep of  $A$  is one dimensional*

A left (right) **ideal** of a  $k$ -algebra  $A$  is a subspace  $I \leq A$  that is closed under left (right) multiplication by  $A$ . We call a space that is both a left and right ideal a **two sided ideal**.

An algebra  $A$  is **simple** if  $0$  and  $A$  are its only two sided ideals.

A representation of an algebra is called **faithful** if it is injective.

A rep of  $A$  is called **semi-simple** if it is the direct sum of irreducible representations.

**Lemma.**  *$V_i$  finite dimensional irreps of  $A$ . If*

$$W \leq V = \sum_i V_i^{n_i}$$

then for some  $r_i \leq n_i$

$$W \cong \oplus_i V_i^{r_i}$$

and there is a morphism of representations  $\phi : W \rightarrow V$  given on components  $V_i^{r_i} \rightarrow V_i^{n_i}$  by multiplying on the right by  $X_i$  an  $r_i \times n_i$  matrix with linearly independent rows.

**Lemma.** *If  $V = \oplus_{i \in I} V_i$  where each  $V_i$  is irreducible and  $f : V \rightarrow U$  is surjective then there exists a subset  $J \subseteq I$  such that  $f$  maps  $\oplus_{i \in J} V_i$  isomorphically onto  $U$ .*

**Lemma.**  *$V$  irrep of finite dimension and  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in V$  linearly independent. Then for every other collection  $w_1, \dots, w_n \in V$  there exists an  $a \in A$  such that for every  $i$*

$$av_i = w_i$$

**Theorem (Density Theorem).** *If  $(\rho, V)$  is a finite dimensional irrep of  $A$  then  $\rho$  is a surjection.*

Given a rep of  $A$ ,  $V$  then  $V^* := \text{Hom}_k(V, k)$  is a right  $A$  module via

$$(f.a)(v) = f(a.v)$$

**Lemma.** *If  $A = \prod_i \text{Mat}_{d_i}(k)$  then the irreps of  $A$  are  $V_1 = k^{d_1}, \dots, V_r = k^{d_r}$ , moreover any finite dimensional rep of  $A$  is isomorphic to  $\oplus V_i^{n_i}$*

## Filtrations

A finite **filtration** of  $V$  is a sequence of subreps  $0 = V_0 < V_1 < \dots < V_n = V$

**Lemma.** *Every finite dimensional rep  $V$  of  $A$  admits a finite filtration such that  $V_i/V_{i-1}$  is irreducible for all  $i$ .*

Such a filtration is called a **composition series**.

**Theorem.** *Any two composition series of  $V$  are the same length and the quotients are isomorphic (up to reordering).*

The collection of irreps  $\{V_i/V_{i-1} : i = 1, \dots, n\}$  is called the **Jordan-Holder series** of  $V$ .

**Theorem (Krull-Schmidt).** *Any finite dimensional rep  $V$  of  $A$  can be uniquely decomposed into a direct sum of indecomposable subreps*

**Lemma.** *If  $W$  is a finite dimensional indecomposable rep of  $A$  then a hom  $W \rightarrow W$  is either nilpotent or an isomorphism. Moreover the sum of nilpotent maps is nilpotent.*

If  $\theta : W \rightarrow W$  is a homomorphism of  $A$  reps then for  $\lambda \in k$  we have  $W_\lambda = \{w \in W : (\theta - \lambda)^n w = 0 \text{ some } n\}$ , this is the **generalised eigenspace**.

## Finite Dimensional

Let  $A$  be a finite dimensional  $k$  algebra. The **radical** of  $A$  is the set

$$\text{Rad}(A) = \{a \in A : aV_i = 0 \quad \forall V_i \text{ irreducible reps}\}$$

**Lemma.**  *$\text{Rad}(A)$  is a two sided ideal.*

**Lemma.** *Let  $I$  be a nilpotent two sided ideal, then it is contained in the radical. Moreover the radical is the largest nilpotent two sided ideal.*

**Theorem.**  *$A$  has only finitely many irreps up to isomorphism. Moreover*

$$A/\text{Rad}(A) \cong \prod_i \text{End}_k(V_i)$$

where  $V_i$  are the irreps of  $A$ .

**Lemma.** *For the irreps of  $A$ ,  $V_i$  we have that*

$$\sum_i (\dim V_i)^2 \leq \dim A$$

A finite dimensional algebra is **semisimple** if its radical is zero.

**Theorem.** *For a finite dimensional algebra  $A$  the following are equivalent*

- $A$  is semisimple
- $\sum_i (\dim V_i)^2 = \dim A$
- $A \cong \prod_i \text{Mat}_{d_i}(k)$
- Every finite dim rep of  $A$  is completely reducible
- Every subrep of a finite dim rep of  $A$  admits a complementary subrep.
- $A$  is completely reducible as an  $A$  module.



## Characters

Characters are defined in the same way.

**Lemma.** Characters of irreps of  $A$  are linearly independent.

**Lemma.** If  $A$  is finite dimensional semisimple algebra then the characters form a basis of  $(A/[A, A])^*$

## Weyl Algebra

The **Weyl algebra** is

$$k[x, y]/\langle yx - xy - 1 \rangle$$

**Theorem.** The Weyl algebra has a basis  $\{x^i y^j : i, j \geq 0\}$

## Tensor Product

If  $A, B$  are  $k$ -algebras then we can make the tensor

$$A \otimes_k B$$

with the multiplication

$$(a \otimes b)(\alpha \otimes \beta) = a\alpha \otimes b\beta$$

If  $V$  is a rep of  $A$  and  $W$  is a rep of  $B$  then  $V \otimes_k W$  is a rep of  $A \otimes_k B$  via the action

$$(a \otimes b)(v \otimes w) = av \otimes bw$$

**Lemma.**  $V$  irrep of  $A$ ,  $W$  irrep of  $B$  then  $V \otimes W$  is irrep of  $A \otimes B$ . Moreover every irrep of  $A \otimes B$  is of this form.

**Theorem.**  $A, B$  subalgebras of  $\text{End}(E)$ , where  $E$  is a finite dimensional  $k$ -vector space, such that  $A$  is semisimple and  $B = \text{End}_A(E)$ . Then

- $A = \text{End}_B(E)$
- $B$  is semi-simple
- As a rep of  $A \otimes B$   $E$  decomposes as a direct sum over the tensor of irreps of  $A$  and  $B$

$$E = \bigoplus_i V_i \otimes W_i$$

for some ordering on the irreps of  $A$  and  $B$ .

## Structure of Finite Dimensional Algebras

Let  $A$  be a  $k$ -algebra and  $I \leq A$  a nilpotent two sided ideal. Recall that an element of an algebra is called **idempotent** when  $e^2 = e$ .

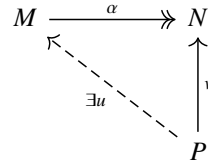
**Lemma.** Let  $e \in A/I$  be idempotent then there exists idempotent  $f \in A$  such that  $\pi(f) = e$ , moreover this lift is unique up to conjugacy by an element of  $1 + I$ .

A **complete system of orthogonal idempotents** in a  $k$ -algebra  $A$  is a collection of idempotents  $e_1, \dots, e_m \in A$  such that  $e_i e_j = 0$  for each  $i \neq j$  and  $e_1 + \dots + e_m = 1$ .

**Lemma.** If  $e_1, \dots, e_m$  is a complete system of idempotents of  $A/I$  then there exists a complete system of idempotents in  $A$ ,  $f_1, \dots, f_m$  such that  $\pi(f_i) = e_i$ .

**Theorem.** If  $P, M, N$  are representaitons of  $A$  (Left  $A$  modules) then the following are equivalent

- If  $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$  is a surjection and  $P \rightarrow N$  then there exists a  $u : P \rightarrow M$  such that  $\alpha \circ u = v$ .



- If  $\alpha : M \rightarrow N$  is a surjection then there exists a  $u : P \rightarrow M$  such that  $\alpha \circ u = id$  i.e.  $\alpha$  splits.
- There exists an  $A$  module  $Q$  such that  $P \oplus Q$  is a free  $A$  module
- The functor  $\text{Hom}_A(P, -)$  is exact

A module satisfying one of the above conditions is called **projective**.

**Theorem.** A finite dimensional with irreps  $M_1, \dots, M_n$  we have

- For each  $i = 1, \dots, n$  there exists a unique indecomposable finitely generated projective  $A$  module  $P_i$  such that  $\dim \text{Hom}_A(P_i, M_j) = \delta_{ij}$
- $A \cong \bigoplus_i P_i^{\dim M_i}$

- Any indecomposable finitely generated projective  $A$  module is isomorphic to  $P_i$  for some  $i$

The  $P_i$  is called the **projective cover** of  $M_i$ .

**Lemma.** If  $N$  is a finite dimensional rep of  $A$  then  $\dim \text{Hom}_A(P_i, N) = [N : M_i]$  which is the multiplicity of the occurrence of  $M_i$  in the Jordan-Holder series.

If  $A$  has irreps  $M_i$  with projective covers  $P_i$  then the matrix

$$C_{ij} := \dim \text{Hom}_A(P_i, P_j) = [P_j : M_i]$$

is called the **Cartan matrix** of  $A$ .