

Second Orthogonality Relations

conjugacy classes in G

		g_1	g_2	\dots	g_s
character table of G	χ_1	$\chi_1(g_1)$	$\chi_1(g_2)$	\dots	$\chi_1(g_s)$
	χ_2	$\chi_2(g_1)$	$\chi_2(g_2)$	\dots	$\chi_2(g_s)$
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
	χ_s	$\chi_s(g_1)$	$\chi_s(g_2)$	\dots	$\chi_s(g_s)$
	Irreducible characters				

$U \in \text{Mat}_{s \times s}(\mathbb{C})$ is unitary if

- rows of U are an O.N.B. of \mathbb{C}^n
 - \Updownarrow
 - $UU^* = I$
 - \Updownarrow
 - $U^*U = I$
 - \Updownarrow
 - columns of U are an O.N.B. of \mathbb{C}^n
- $(U^* = \bar{U}^T)$

Lemma: Define $U \in \text{Mat}_{s \times s}(\mathbb{C})$
 (u_{ij})

$$\text{by } u_{ij} := \chi_i(g_j) / \sqrt{c_j}$$

$$\text{where } c_j = |\text{Cent}(g_j)| = |G| / |\mathcal{C}(g_j)|$$

Then U is unitary

Proof: $\langle i\text{th row of } U, j\text{th row of } U \rangle$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{k=1}^s u_{ik} \overline{u_{jk}} = \sum_{k=1}^s \frac{1}{c_k} \chi_i(g_k) \overline{\chi_j(g_k)} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^s \frac{|\mathcal{C}(g_k)|}{|G|} \chi_i(g_k) \overline{\chi_j(g_k)} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^s \sum_{g \in \mathcal{C}(g_k)} \frac{1}{|G|} \chi_i(g) \overline{\chi_j(g)} \\ &= \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_i(g) \overline{\chi_j(g)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \langle \chi_i, \chi_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$$

$\Rightarrow U$ is unitary

Theorem (Second Orthogonality Relations):

χ_1, \dots, χ_s - irreducible characters

(1) $\forall g \in G$

$$\sum_{k=1}^s \chi_k(g) \overline{\chi_k(g)} = |\text{Cent}(g)| = \frac{|G|}{|C_G(g)|}$$

(2) $\forall g, h \in G$, g and h not conjugate

$$\sum_{k=1}^s \chi_k(g) \overline{\chi_k(h)} = 0$$

\hookrightarrow columns of character table are pairwise orthogonal

Proof:

$$U = (u_{ij}) = (\chi_i(g_j) / \sqrt{|G_j|})$$

unitary \Rightarrow columns are O.N.B of \mathbb{C}^n

Example: Character table of S_4 $|G|$

	1	6	3	6	8
24	e	(12)	$(12)(34)$	(1234)	(123)
χ_1	1	1	1	1	1
χ_2	1	-1	1	-1	1
χ_3	2	0	2	0	-1
χ_4	3	1	-1	-1	0
χ_5	3	-1	-1	1	0
	24	4	8	4	3 G