Linear characters of Sylow subgroups of the symmetric group

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Representations in Lie Theory and Interactions, CIRM

5 November 2018

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, $GL_n(q)$, all p ;

- Isaacs–Malle–Navarro (2007): reduction to simple groups;
- ♦ Malle–Späth (2016): all G, p = 2.

The McKay Conjecture

Conjecture (McKay, 1972)

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Theorem (Navarro–Tiep–Vallejo, 2014)

Let p be odd, $P \in Syl_p(G)$. Suppose $P = N_G(P)$. There is a bijection

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where χ^* is the unique irred. constituent of $\chi \downarrow_P$ of degree coprime to p.

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Let p be odd, $P \in Syl_p(G)$. Suppose $P = N_G(P)$. There is a bijection

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- Naturality of bijection: restriction of characters.
- $Irr_{p'}(P) = Lin(P) := \{linear characters of P\}$

- Navarro-Tiep-Vallejo false for p = 2, e.g. $G = S_5$.
- Symmetric groups: p = 2, $P_n \in Syl_2(S_n)$. Then $P_n = N_{S_n}(P_n)$.

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Theorem (Giannelli, 2017)

For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $P_n \in Syl_2(S_n)$. When $n = 2^k$, there is a bijection

$$\operatorname{Irr}_{2'}(S_{2^k}) \longrightarrow \operatorname{Irr}_{2'}(P_{2^k}) = \operatorname{Lin}(P_{2^k}), \qquad \chi \mapsto \chi^*$$

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where χ^* is the unique irreducible constituent of $\chi \downarrow_{P_{2^k}}$ of odd degree. Moreover, for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and all $\chi \in \operatorname{Irr}(S_n)$, $\chi \downarrow_{P_2}$ has a linear constituent.

• If $\chi(1) > 1$, then $\chi \downarrow_{P_n}$ has a *unique* linear constituent if and only if $n = 2^k$ and $\chi(1)$ is odd.

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Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, p any prime, $P_n \in \text{Syl}_p(S_n)$. Let $\chi \in \text{Irr}(S_n)$. Suppose $p|\chi(1)$. Then $\chi \downarrow_{P_n}$ contains at least p different linear constituents.

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 So for <u>all</u> n, p and <u>all</u> x ∈ Irr(S_n), x↓_{P_n} has a linear constituent. (Not true for general G.)

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• So for all *n*, *p* and all $\chi \in Irr(S_n)$, $\chi \downarrow_{P_n}$ has a linear constituent.

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Question

Given $\chi \in Irr(S_n)$, what are the linear constituents of $\chi \downarrow_{P_n}$?



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Theorem (Giannelli, L.)

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}_{>10}$, p odd. Let $\chi^{\lambda} \in \operatorname{Irr}(S_n)$. Then $\mathbb{1}_{P_n} \nmid \chi^{\lambda} \downarrow_{P_n}$ if and only if $n = p^k$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\lambda \in \{(p^k - 1, 1), (2, 1^{p^k - 2})\}$.

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♦ So almost all $\chi \downarrow_{P_n}$ contain the trivial $\mathbb{1}_{P_n}$ as a constituent.

- ♦ **Corollary**: determined Irr(\mathcal{H}) for Hecke algebra \mathcal{H} associated with permutation character $\mathbb{1}_{P_n} \uparrow^{S_n}$.
 - $[\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(S_n, P_n, \mathbb{1}_{P_n}) = e\mathbb{C}S_n e, \ e = \frac{1}{|P_n|}\sum_{h \in P_n} h]$

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- Question: is there a combinatorial description of the multiplicity map $f: \{\lambda : \lambda \vdash n\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, \quad f(\lambda) = \langle \chi^{\lambda} \downarrow_{P_n}, \mathbb{1}_{P_n} \rangle$?

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Theorem (L.)

Determined precisely which $\chi \in Irr(S_n)$ satisfy $\langle \chi \downarrow_{P_n}, \mathbb{1}_{P_n} \rangle = 1$, and hence determined the linear characters of \mathcal{H} , for p odd.

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- p = 2 much more chaotic:

e.g. p = 2, $\mathbb{1}_{P_n} \nmid sign \downarrow_{P_n}$ vs. p odd, $\mathbb{1}_{P_n} \mid \chi \downarrow_{P_n} \forall \chi \in Irr(S_n)$ if $n \neq p^k$.

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Let p be prime, G be p-solvable, $P \in Syl_p(G)$, $N = N_G(P)$. Let $\phi, \psi \in Lin(P)$. If $\phi \uparrow^G = \psi \uparrow^G$, then ϕ and ψ are N-conjugate.

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Theorem (Giannelli, L., Long)

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Theorem (Giannelli, L., Long)

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $p \text{ odd} \ge 5$ and $\phi \in \text{Lin}(P_n)$. We determine $m(\phi)$ and $M(\phi)$, where $m(\phi) = \max\{t : B_n(t) \subseteq \Omega(\phi)\}$ and $M(\phi) = \min\{t : \Omega(\phi) \subseteq B_n(t)\}$.

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• Clearly
$$\phi^{\uparrow S_n} = \psi^{\uparrow S_n} \Longrightarrow \Omega(\phi) = \Omega(\psi)$$
, and $\not\Leftarrow$ in general.

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Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $p \text{ odd} \ge 5$ and $\phi \in \text{Lin}(P_n)$. We determine $m(\phi)$ and $M(\phi)$, where $m(\phi) = \max\{t : \mathcal{B}_n(t) \subseteq \Omega(\phi)\}$ and $M(\phi) = \min\{t : \Omega(\phi) \subseteq \mathcal{B}_n(t)\}.$

• Clearly
$$\phi \uparrow^{S_n} = \psi \uparrow^{S_n} \Longrightarrow \Omega(\phi) = \Omega(\psi)$$
, and $\not\models$ in general. . . but!

Proposition

When
$$n = p^k$$
, $\Omega(\phi) = \Omega(\psi) \Longrightarrow \phi \uparrow^{S_n} = \psi \uparrow^{S_n}$.