

# 485 REPRESENTATION THEORY BIG QUIZ

March 1, 2017

Name: KEY

By printing my name I pledge to uphold the honor code.

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Unless otherwise stated, assume that  $G$  is a group,  $X$  is a set with a  $G$  action,  $F$  is a field, and  $V$  is a  $n$ -dimensional vector space over  $F$  with a  $G$  action.

I. True/False, circle T or F as appropriate. After you have finished the rest of the quiz, please explain your answer by citing specific theorems/definitions/computations/etc.

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1. a) T F The action of  $G$  on a set  $X$  is faithful if and only if all of the stabilizers are the identity subgroup.  
FAITHFUL  $\Leftrightarrow \cap(\text{STABILIZERS}) = \{1\}$
- b) T F The size of an orbit always divides the size of the group.  
SIZE OF ORBIT IS  $\frac{|G|}{|\text{STABILIZER}|}$   $\hat{=}$  STABILIZER IS A SUBGP
- c) T F  $GL_n F$  is a vector space over  $F$ .  
NOT CLOSED UNDER VECTOR ADDITION - THOUGH  $M_n F$  IS A VS.
- d) T F There always exists a positive definite inner product on  $V$ .  
F MUST BE  $\mathbb{R}$  OR HAVE A NORM ON IT, OTHERWISE THERE'S NO WAY TO SAY  $> 0$ .
- e) T F Given a representation  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  then  $\rho(g)$  is uniquely determined, but  $R_g$  is not.  
 $R_g$  DEPENDS ON CHOICE OF BASIS, BUT  $\rho(g) \in GL(V)$  IS A LIN. TRANSF.
- f) T F The permutation representation isn't technically a representation.  
IT'S AN ACTION OF  $G$  ON ITSELF,  $\hat{=}$   $G$  IS NOT ~~FINITE~~ A V.S.
- g) T F  $SL_2$  is a compact continuous group.  
IT'S NOT COMPACT (THOUGH IT IS CONTINUOUS) ex  $(\frac{1}{k} \ \alpha) \in SL_2 \ \forall \alpha$ , SO ISN'T IN ANY CLOSED RECTANGLE
- h) T F To produce a Haar measure for  $GL_2 \mathbb{R}$ , we need merely divide the ordinary measure on  $\mathbb{R}^4$  by the determinant.  
IT'S BY  $\det^2$  (FROM HW) (CLOSED NOT BOUNDED)
- i) T F Every finite subgroup of  $SL_2 \mathbb{R}$  is cyclic.  
DEFINE A  $G$ -INV. INNER PRODUCT. THIS GIVES AN O.N. BASIS  $\hat{=}$  WRT THAT BASIS,  $R_g \in SO(2) \cong S^1$
- j) T F Taking the trace of a matrix is really stupid thing to do because out of  $n^2$  entries of a matrix, it only depends on  $n$  of them.  
TRACE IS INDEPENDENT OF CHOICE OF BASIS!

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## II. Definitions/Fill in the blank Please define/state the following.

1. A form is *positive definite* if what holds? Why do we care about positive definite forms?  
 $\forall \vec{v} \in V, \langle \vec{v}, \vec{v} \rangle > 0$  POSITIVE DEFINITE  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  O.N. BASIS!

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2. A representation of  $G$  on  $V$  is defined to be what? Please give the diagram that expresses the representation both as linear transformations and as matrices ( $R_g$ s and  $\rho_g$ s).  
ACTION OF  $G$  ON THE VS  $V$  COMPATIBLE W/ VECTOR ADDITION & SCALAR MULT.  $\Rightarrow$  MAP  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$  ANY CHOICE OF BASIS FOR  $V$  GIVES  $GL(V) \cong GL_n F$   $R_g$  IS IMAGE OF  $\rho(g)$  UNDER THIS  $\cong$   $R_g \in GL_n F$

(1-7)=0

3. What is a Haar measure? Why do we care about them?  
 IT'S A TRANSLATION INVARIANT MEASURE. IF  $S \subset X$  IS A SUB-  
 THEN  $\mu(s) = \mu(a+s) \forall a$ . IT'S WHAT WE USE FOR INFINITE (CPT) 49
4. Huge new theorem GRAPS INSTEAD OF  $\sum_{g \in G}$  IT'S  $\int d\mu$
- a) Define the character  $\chi$  of a representation.  
 $\chi: G \rightarrow F$  FOR  $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(V)$   $\chi(g) = \text{tr}(\rho_g)$
- b) A class function from  $G$  to  $F$  is what?  
 IT'S A FUNCTION THAT IS CONSTANT ON CONJUGACY CLASSES.
- c) How are representations related to class functions? THE CHARACTER OF A REP. IS A CLASS FCN.
- d) Define our hermitian form on the set of class functions. Is it positive definite? YES!!  
 $\psi, \phi \in \mathbb{C}, \langle \psi, \phi \rangle = \left( \sum_{g \in G} \overline{\psi(g)} \phi(g) \right) \frac{1}{|G|}$
- e) Please state our new huge theorem.  
 THE SET OF CHARACTERS OF IRRED. REPS FORM AN O.N. BASIS FOR  $\mathbb{C}$ !
5. Basis change preserves which of the following things? (Please circle the things that are preserved. If something is not preserved, write how change of basis effects the quantity in question)

PAP-1  
 a matrix, a linear transformation, the eigenvalues of a matrix, the determinate of a matrix, the trace of a matrix, a Hermitian form  $(, )$ , the hermitian form  $(, )_A$   
~~the~~  $(, )_{PAP^{-1}}$

III. Short answer

1. Give four different ways that a finite group  $G$  can act on itself (as a set). Which of your actions are faithful?  
 $G$  CAN ACT TRIVIAALLY WHERE  $g \cdot h \rightarrow h$  (NOT FAITHFUL)  
 $G$  CAN ACT BY LEFT MULT RIGHT MULT ALL FAITHFUL AND ACT TRIVIAALLY  
 CONJUGATION NOT NECESSARILY! BY (SAY IF  $G$  IS ABELIAN)  $g \cdot h \rightarrow 1$  (ALSO NOT FAITHFUL)
2. Extend the action of  $\Sigma_3$  on an equilateral triangle to a representation of  $\Sigma_3$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (hint: your matrices will be a lot nicer if you choose a basis whose angles are  $2\pi/3$  angle apart):  
 $r \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad r^2 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   
 $v \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad d_1 \Delta \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad d_2 \Delta \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

3. Go through the process of constructing a positive definite inner product for your representation of  $\Sigma_3$  above and use this to get a unitary representation.  
 $\langle v, w \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} \langle g v, g w \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} v^+ g^t g w \Rightarrow v^+ \left( \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} g^t g \right) w$   
 MATRIX IS  $\frac{1}{6} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 & -2/3 \\ -2/3 & 4/3 \end{pmatrix}$  SO  $G$ -INV. FORM IS  $\langle v, w \rangle = v^+ \begin{pmatrix} 4/3 & -2/3 \\ -2/3 & 4/3 \end{pmatrix} w$

4. Let  $F = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ . Why does the existence of a  $G$ -invariant subspace in  $V$  give us a pair of lower dimensional representations?  
 IF  $W$  IS  $G$ -INVARIANT, THEN THE FACT THAT DOT PRODUCT IS POSITIVE DEFINITE TELLS US THAT  $V = W \oplus W^\perp$  WHERE  $W^\perp = \{ v \in V \mid \langle v, w \rangle = 0 \forall w \in W \}$   
 AND  $W^\perp$  IS ALSO  $G$ -INVARIANT, SO WE GET 2 CHOICES OF BASIS FOR  $V$  FOR WHICH  $R_g = \begin{pmatrix} R_g^1 & 0 \\ 0 & R_g^2 \end{pmatrix}$  WHERE  $\{R_g^1\}$  AND  $\{R_g^2\}$  ARE REPS OF  $G$  ON  $W^\perp$  &  $W$ .

5. How many one dimensional representations of  $\Sigma_3$  are there? Please construct them!  
 GROUP  $\Sigma_3 = \langle r, v \rangle$ , SO CONJUGACY, TO GET A 1-DIM REP WE LOOK AT GENERATORS  $\rightarrow 2$ , SO MORE REAL  
 COULD BE UP TO 4 OF THEM. HOWEVER  $r^3 = 1$ , SO  $r \rightarrow -1$  ISN'T A REP, SO WE HAVE TRIV. REP  $\xi$

6. Demonstrate explicitly the orthonormal basis portion of our huge new theorem for the representations of  $\Sigma_3$  you have constructed above.  
 LET  $\rho_1 = \text{TRIV. REP}$ ,  $\rho_2 = \text{NON-TRIV. 1-DIM REP (SIGN REP)}$ ,  $\rho_3 = 2\text{-DIM REP}$ .  
 (WHICH IS IT CAUSE  $\Sigma_3$  HAS 3 CONJ. CLASSES)  $\langle \chi_1, \chi_1 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_1(g)^2 = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 6 = 1$   
 $\langle \chi_2, \chi_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_2(g)^2 = 1$   
 $\langle \chi_3, \chi_3 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{g \in G} \chi_3(g)^2 = \frac{1}{6} \cdot 6 = 1$   
 $\langle \chi_1, \chi_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 1) = 1$   
 $\langle \chi_1, \chi_3 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot (-1) + 0 + 0 + 0) = 0$

$\langle \chi_2, \chi_3 \rangle = \frac{1}{6} (1 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot (-1) + 0 + 0 + 0) = 0$   
 YAY!