

Semi-direct products.

Let A be a finite abelian group, operation $+$

Let H be a finite group with a given homomorphism

$$H \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{isomorphisms } A \xrightarrow{\sim} A \\ \text{of groups} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$h \rightarrow [a \rightarrow h(a)].$$

Let $G = H \times A$ with product defined by
 $(h, a)(h', a') = (hh', h'^{-1}(a) + a')$.

Associativity

$$\begin{aligned} (h, a)(h', a')(h'', a'') &= \\ (hh', h'^{-1}(a) + a')(h'', a'') &= \\ (hh'h'', h''^{-1}(h'^{-1}(a) + h'^{-1}(a') + a'') &= \\ (h, a)(h'h'', h''^{-1}(a') + a'') &= \\ (hh'h'', (h'h'')^{-1}(a) + h''^{-1}(a') + a'') \end{aligned}$$

G is called the semidirect product of H, A with A normal; we have

$$(h, a)(1, a') = (1, a'')(h, a) \text{ with}$$

$$(h, a+a') = h, h^{-1}(a'') + a, \text{ with } a' = h^{-1}(a'').$$

2) Let A^* be the set of homomorphisms $\chi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$. Now H acts on A^* by

$$(h\chi)(a) = \chi(h^{-1}(a)), \quad h \in H, a \in A, \chi \in A^*$$

(we have $(h(h'\chi))(a) = h'(\chi)(h^{-1}(a)) = \chi(h'^{-1}h^{-1}(a)) = \chi((hh')^{-1}(a)) = ((hh')\chi)(a)$.)

For any $\chi \in A^*$ let $H_\chi = \{h \in H \mid h\chi = \chi\}$.

For any $\chi \in A^*$ and any irr rep. ρ of H_χ we define a repres. ρ_χ of $H_\chi \times A$ by

$$\rho_\chi(h, a) = \chi(a) \rho(h). \quad \text{We have}$$

$$\rho_\chi(hh', h'^{-1}(a) + a') \stackrel{?}{=} \rho_\chi(h, a) \rho_\chi(h', a')$$

$$\chi(h'^{-1}(a) + a') \rho(hh') \stackrel{?}{=} \chi(a) \rho(h) \chi(a') \rho(h')$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \chi(h'^{-1}(a)) \stackrel{?}{=} \chi(a) \quad (\text{holds since } h' \in H_\chi).$$

We form $\tilde{\rho}_\chi = \text{Ind}_{H_\chi \times A}^G (\rho_\chi)$ a repres. of G with character

$$\chi_{\chi, \rho}(h, a) = \frac{1}{|A(H_\chi \times A)|} \sum_{\substack{(h', a') \in H_\chi \times A \\ (h_0, a_0) \in H_\chi \times A \\ (h', a')(h, a) = (h_0, a_0)(h', a')}} \chi(a_0) \tau_\rho(h_0, \rho)$$

3) The equation $(h'a')/(1a) = (h_0 a_0)(h'a')$ is
 $(h'h, h^{-1}(a') + a) = (h_0 h', h'^{-1}(a_0) + a')$ that is
 $h_0 = h'h h'^{-1}, a_0 = h'h^{-1}(a') + h'(a) - h'(a')$ and
 $\chi(a_0) = \underbrace{\chi(h'h^{-1}a')}_{\chi(h_0^{-1}h'a')} \chi(h'(a)) \chi(h'(a'))^{-1} = \chi(h'(a))$
 $= \chi(h'(a'))$

Thus our character is

$$(h, a) \rightarrow \frac{1}{\#(H_X A)} \sum_{\substack{(h', a') \in H_X A \\ h'h h'^{-1} \in H_X}} \chi(h'(a)) \tau(h'h h'^{-1}, \rho).$$

We compute the inner product (1) of this character with the analogous character attached to χ', ρ' . Using Frobenius reciprocity this is

$$\sum_{(h, a) \in H_{X'} \times A} \frac{1}{\#(H_X A)} \sum_{\substack{(h', a') \in H_X A \\ h'h h'^{-1} \in H_X}} \chi(h'(a)) \overline{\chi'(a)} \frac{\tau(h'h h'^{-1}, \rho)}{\tau(h, \rho')}$$

4) we have
$$\sum_{a \in A} \chi(h'(a)) \overline{\chi'(a)} =$$

$$= \begin{cases} \#A & \text{if } \tau^{-1}(\chi) = \chi' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad \text{for some } h' \in H,$$

Thus the entire sum is zero unless $\chi' = \tau^{-1}(\chi)$ which we now assume. We obtain

$$\frac{\#(A)^2}{\#(H_\chi)^2 \#(A)^2} \sum_{h' \in H} \sum_{h \in H_{\chi'}} \text{tr}(h' h h'^{-1}, \rho) \overline{\text{tr}(h, \rho')}$$

$h'(\chi') = \chi$

We choose $h'_0 \in H$ such that $h'_0(\chi') = \chi$ and we define a representation $\tilde{\rho}$ of $H_{\chi'}$ by $h \mapsto \rho(h'_0 h h'_0{}^{-1})$. The sum becomes

$$\frac{1}{\#(H_\chi)^2} \#(H_\chi) \sum_{h \in H_{\chi'}} \text{tr}(h, \tilde{\rho}) \overline{\text{tr}(h, \rho')}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \tilde{\rho} \cong \rho' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have thus a family of irreducible repres. of H indexed by (χ, ρ) , where $\chi \in A^*$ is a representative of any H -orbit and ρ is an irred rep of H_χ (up to iso.). The sum of

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squares of degrees of these representations is

$$\sum_{\substack{\chi \in A^* \\ \text{one in} \\ \text{each} \\ H\text{-orbit}}} \frac{\#(H \times A)^2}{\#(H_\chi \times A)^2} \quad \sum_{\substack{\rho \\ \# H_\chi}} \dim(\rho)^2 =$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{\chi \\ \text{one in} \\ \text{each } H\text{-orb}}} \frac{\#(H)^2}{\#(H_\chi)} = \#A \cdot \#H$$

Hence all irred. reps. of $H \times A$ are obtained.

The Weyl group of type B_n . ($n \geq 1$)

Let W_n be the group of all permutations of $\{1, 2, \dots, n, n', \dots, 2', 1'\}$ which commute with the involution $i \rightarrow i', i' \rightarrow i$ ($1 \leq i \leq n$).

For each j , $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ let $s_j \in W_n$ be the permutation which interchanges $j, j+1$ and also $j', j'+1$ and leaves all other

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elements unchanged. Let $s_n \in W_n$ be the permutation which interchanges n with n' and leaves the other elements unchanged. Then $S = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ generate W_n .

Let $\chi: W \rightarrow \pm 1$ be the homomorphism defined by $\chi(s_i) = 1$ $1 \leq i \leq n-1$, $\chi(s_n) = -1$. (Show that χ is well defined.)

A permutation in W_n defines a permutation of the n element set consisting of the unordered pairs $(1, 1'), (2, 2'), \dots, (n, n')$. Thus we have a natural homomorphism of W_n onto the symmetric group S .

Let r, \tilde{r} be integers ≥ 0 such that $r + \tilde{r} = n$. Let $W_{r, \tilde{r}}$ be the subgroup of W_n consisting of all permutations which map $\{1, 2, \dots, r, r', \dots, 2', 1'\}$ into itself and hence also map $\{r+1, \dots, n, n', \dots, (r+1)'\}$ into itself. This can be regarded as $W_r \times W_{\tilde{r}}$ (convention: $W_0 = \{1\}$).

7) Hence $W_{n,\tilde{n}}$ has a natural map (as above) onto the product $S_n \times S_{\tilde{n}}$ of two symmetric groups. Let E_1 be an irreducible rep. of S_n and let E_2 be an irred. rep. of $S_{\tilde{n}}$. We can regard $E_1 \otimes E_2$ as a $W_{n,\tilde{n}}$ representation via the projection $W_{n,\tilde{n}} \rightarrow S_n \times S_{\tilde{n}}$. We tensor $E_1 \otimes E_2$ with the 1-dimensional character of $W_{n,\tilde{n}}$ which is 1 on the W_n -factor and is the restriction of χ on the $W_{\tilde{n}}$ -factor. We induce the resulting repres. from $W_{n,\tilde{n}}$ to W_n . We obtain thus an irreducible repres. of W_n . (In fact all irred. reps.).

This is a special case of a semidirect product. Let $A =$ all permutations in W_n which preserve each pair $(1,1'), (2,2') \dots (n,n')$ an abelian group of order 2^n . Let H be the group of all perm. in W_n which preserve $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ hence also $\{1', 2', \dots, n'\}$. Then W_n is the semidirect product of A, H with A normal.