

Restriction of characters to Sylow p -subgroups

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Introduction

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Conjecture (McKay; 1972)

Let G be a finite group, p prime. Then $|\text{Irr}_{p'}(G)| = |\text{Irr}_{p'}(\mathbf{N}_G(P))|$.

Theorem (Malle, Spaeth; 2015)

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Let S_n be the symmetric group and let $P_n \in \text{Syl}_2(S_n)$.

Goal (2016)

Find a canonical bijection $\Phi : \text{Irr}_{2'}(S_n) \longrightarrow \text{Irr}_{2'}(\mathbf{N}_{S_n}(P_n))$

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Fact: $\mathbf{N}_{S_n}(P_n) = P_n$. Hence $\text{Irr}_{2'}(\mathbf{N}_{S_n}(P_n)) = \text{Lin}(P_n)$.

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Theorem A (G, 2016)

Let $\chi \in \text{Irr}_{2'}(S_{2^k})$ then:

- (i) There exists a unique $\chi^* \in \text{Lin}(P_{2^k})$ such that $\chi \downarrow_{P_{2^k}} = \chi^* + \Delta$.
(Here Δ is a sum of irreducible characters of even degree).
- (ii) Moreover, $\star : \text{Irr}_{2'}(S_{2^k}) \longrightarrow \text{Irr}_{2'}(\mathbf{N}_{S_{2^k}}(P_{2^k}))$ is a bijection.

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Theorem B (G, 2016)

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\chi \in \text{Irr}(S_n)$, then:

- (i) There always exists a $\lambda \in \text{Lin}(P_n)$ such that $\lambda \mid \chi \downarrow_{P_n}$.
- (ii) λ is unique if and only if $n = 2^k$ and $\chi \in \text{Irr}_{2'}(S_{2^k})$.

Theorem C (G, Kleshchev, Navarro, Tiep 2016)

There exists a combinatorially defined canonical bijection

$\Phi : \text{Irr}_{2'}(S_n) \longrightarrow \text{Irr}_{2'}(\mathbf{N}_{S_n}(P_n))$. Moreover $\Phi(\chi) \downarrow_{P_n} \chi$, for all $\chi \in \text{Irr}(S_n)$.

Restriction to Sylow p -subgroups

This is joint work with Gabriel Navarro.

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• If $\chi \in \text{Irr}_{p'}(G)$ then $|L_\chi| \neq 0$.

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- If $p \mid \chi(1)$ then $|L_\chi|$ could in principle take any value $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.
- If $G = S_n$ and $p = 2$ then $|L_\chi| \neq 0$ for all χ .

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- $P_{p^k} \cong C_p \wr \cdots \wr C_p \wr C_p = P_{p^{k-1}} \wr C_p = B \rtimes C_p$,
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Remark

Let $\lambda \in \text{Irr}(P_{p^k})$. Then $\lambda(1) = 1$ if and only if there exists $\varphi \in \text{Lin}(P_{p^{k-1}})$ such that $\varphi \times \varphi \times \cdots \times \varphi \mid \lambda \downarrow_B$.

...blackboard...

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Theorem B (The q -section of a character/partition)

Let $\chi \in \text{Irr}(S_n)$. Then, there exists $\Delta(\chi) \in \text{Irr}(S_m)$ such that

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What about arbitrary groups?

Conjecture C

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- Symmetric and Alternating groups. (Strong form).
- p -solvable groups.
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Groups with abelian Sylow p -subgroups

Roughly speaking, **the same as above holds.**

- If B is the p -block of χ then $D \leq P$ is a *defect group* of B .
(Key tool: Green's theory of vertices and sources).

Future work: Prove Conjecture C, for all finite groups.....

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Suspect

Let $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ be such that $p \mid \chi(1)$. If $|L_\chi| \neq 0$ then there exists a subgroup $D \leq P$ and $\lambda \in \text{Lin}(D)$ such that $(\lambda) \uparrow^P$ is a constituent of $\chi \downarrow_P$.

Permutation characters and Sylow p -subgroups

(A question of Alex Zaleski)

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Equivalent Question

Given $\lambda \vdash n$, is 1_{P_n} an irreducible constituent of $(\chi^\lambda) \downarrow_{P_n}$?

Theorem (G, Law; 2017)

Let p be an odd prime and let $n > 10$ be a natural number. Then the trivial character 1_{P_n} is a constituent of $(\chi^\lambda) \downarrow_{P_n}$ for all $\lambda \vdash n$, unless $n = p^k$ and $\lambda \in \{(p^k - 1, 1), (2, 1^{p^k - 2})\}$.

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- We obtain a similar characterization for Alternating groups.
- The situation is completely different, and more chaotic when $p = 2$.

Thank you very much!!