



(Knowledge for Development)

KIBABII UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER
MAIN EXAMINATION
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
PURE MATHEMATICS

COURSE CODE: MAT 830

COURSE TITLE: REPRESENTATION THEORY OF GROUPS

DATE: 8/10/21

TIME: 9 AM -12 AM

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer Any THREE Questions

TIME: 3 Hours

This Paper Consists of 3 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

MAT 843: REPRESENTATION THEORY EXAM

August 2021

Answer any Three questions neatly and precisely. Each question carries 20 marks

Question One

- (a) Define the term representation of a finite group G (2mks)
- (b) Let G be a group of permutations of $X = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$. For an ordered basis $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ basis of an n -dimensional vector space V over any field F , define $T(g)v_i = v_{g(i)}$. Show that T is a representation of G on V . (4mks)
- (c) Let S_3 be the Symmetric group on 3 points $\{1, 2, 3\}$ generated by two elements (12) and (123).
- (i) Find the permutation representation of the generators of S_3 . (6 mks)
- (ii) Write out permutation matrix representation of S_3 of degree 2. (It is enough to give the matrix representations of the generators.) (8 mks)

Question Two

- (a) Let G be a finite group. State the row and column orthogonality relations for a character table. (4 mks)
- (b) For the rest of the question, G will be a group of order 20 with 5 conjugacy classes. Here are the first two lines of its character table.

$$g = \begin{array}{c|ccccc} & g_1 = e & g_2 & g_3 & g_4 & g_5 \\ \hline |C_i| & 1 & 4 & 5 & 4 & 5 \\ \chi_1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \chi_2 & 1 & 1 & i & -1 & i \end{array}$$

- (i) What are the dimensions of the remaining representation of G . (4 mks)
- (ii) Find another 1-dimensional representation of G (4mks)
- (iii) Find the remaining entries of the character table. (8 mks)

Question Three

- (a) If T is a representation of G Define on V . Define what is meant by the following:
- (i) A T -invariant subspace. (2mks)

- (ii) T is irreducible (2mks)
- (iii) T is indecomposable (2mks)
- (iv) T is completely reducible (2 mks)
- (b) Suppose $F \subseteq \mathbb{C}$ and \hat{T} is a F -representation of a group G . Define \hat{T}^* , the contragredient representation of T via

$$\hat{T}^* = (\hat{T}(x^{-1}))^t$$

for every $x \in G$, where t represents the transpose of a matrix.

Show that \hat{T}^* is a matrix representation of G [i.e. $\hat{T}^*(xy) = \hat{T}^*(x)\hat{T}^*(y) \forall x, y \in G$] (4 mks)

- (c) Compute the character table of $G = C_2 \times C_2$ (8mks)

Question Four

- (a) Define what is meant by the following
 - (i) A character of a representation T of a group G . (2 mks)
 - (ii) An irreducible character χ of a representation. (2mks)
- (b) Let χ_1 and χ_2 be two F -characters of G . Give the equation of the inner product of the two characters $\langle \chi_1, \chi_2 \rangle$ (3 mks)
- (c) Show that characters are class functions i.e $\chi(y^{-1}xy) = \chi(x)$ (4mks)
- (d)(i) Compute the character table of the Quaternion group $G = Q_8 = \{\pm 1, \pm i \pm j, \pm k\}$ of order 8. (8 mks) (ii) State the order of the commutator subgroup of Q_8 (1mks)

Question Five

- (a) Let S and T be two representations of G .
 - (i) what is meant by saying S is equivalent to T (2 mks)
 - (ii) If S and T are equivalent F -representations of G with characters χ and ψ respectively. Show that $\chi = \psi$ (4mks)
- (b) Let G be the Alternating group A_4 .
 - (i) Write down the conjugacy classes of A_4 (4mks)
 - (ii) compute the character table of $G = A_4$ (10mks)