

# ON THE SYMMETRY CLASSES OF TENSORS ASSOCIATED WITH CERTAIN FROBENIUS GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we discuss the existence of an orthogonal basis consisting of decomposable vectors for some symmetry classes of tensors associated with certain Frobenius subgroups of the full symmetric group.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $m$  be positive integer numbers. Denote by  $S_n$  the symmetric group on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $V$  be a unitary complex vector space of dimension  $m$ . Let  $\otimes^n V$  be the  $n$ -th tensor power of  $V$ , and write  $v^\otimes := v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n$  for the tensor product of the indicated vectors.

For  $\sigma \in S_n$ , there is a unique linear operator  $P(\sigma^{-1})$  on  $\otimes^n V$  which has the effect  $P(\sigma^{-1})(v_1 \otimes v_2 \otimes \dots \otimes v_n) := v_{\sigma(1)} \otimes v_{\sigma(2)} \otimes \dots \otimes v_{\sigma(n)}$ , for all  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in V$ . Let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $S_n$  and  $\chi$  be an irreducible complex character of  $G$  and  $I(G)$  be the set of all the irreducible complex characters of  $G$ . We define  $T(G, \chi)$  as a linear operator on  $\otimes^n V$  with the following definition

$$(1) \quad T(G, \chi) := \frac{\chi(1)}{|G|} \sum_{\sigma \in G} \chi(\sigma) P(\sigma).$$

With respect to the induced inner product in  $\otimes^n V$ ,  $T(G, \chi)$  is an orthogonal projection onto its range  $V_\chi^n(G)$ , which is called the symmetry class of tensors associated

with  $G$  and  $\chi$ , and the dimension of  $V_\chi^n(G)$  is (see [3], [7])

$$(2) \quad \dim V_\chi^n(G) = \frac{\chi(1)}{|G|} \sum_{\sigma \in G} \chi(\sigma) m^{c(\sigma)},$$

where  $c(\sigma)$  is the number of cycles, including cycles of length one, in the disjoint cycle decomposition of  $\sigma$ , (see [6]). It follows from the orthogonality relations for characters that  $\{T(G, \chi) | \chi \in I(G)\}$  is a set of annihilating idempotents which sum to the identity. With respect to the induced inner product in  $\otimes^n V$ , and the orthogonal relations for characters we have:

$$(3) \quad \otimes^n V = \sum_{\chi \in I(G)} V_\chi^n(G)$$

which is an orthogonal direct sum.

Let  $\Gamma_m^n$  be the set of all sequences  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ ,  $1 \leq \alpha_i \leq m$ . Then the group  $G$  acts on  $\Gamma_m^n$  by  $\sigma \cdot \alpha := \alpha \circ \sigma^{-1}$ ,  $\sigma \in G$ , which is a composition of two functions  $\sigma^{-1}$  and  $\alpha$ .

Let  $\Delta$  be a system of distinct representatives of the orbits of  $G$  acting on  $\Gamma_m^n$  and define:

$$(4) \quad \bar{\Delta} = \{\alpha \in \Delta | \sum_{\sigma \in G_\alpha} \chi(\sigma) \neq 0\},$$

which  $G_\alpha := \{\sigma \in G | \sigma \cdot \alpha = \alpha\}$  is the stabilizer of  $\alpha$ . Let  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  be an orthonormal basis of  $V$  and  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \Gamma_m^n$ , the image of  $e_\alpha^\otimes := e_{\alpha_1} \otimes e_{\alpha_2} \otimes \dots \otimes e_{\alpha_n}$  under  $T(G, \chi)$  is denoted by  $e_\alpha^\chi := e_{\alpha_1} * e_{\alpha_2} * \dots * e_{\alpha_n}$ . For  $\gamma \in \bar{\Delta}$ ,  $V_\gamma^\chi = \langle e_{\sigma \cdot \gamma}^\chi | \sigma \in G \rangle$  is called the orbital subspace of  $V_\chi^n(G)$ . In [3], prove that

$$(5) \quad \dim V_\gamma^\chi = \frac{\chi(1)}{|G_\gamma|} \sum_{\sigma \in G_\gamma} \chi(\sigma)$$

**Definition 1.1.** An orthogonal basis of the form  $\{e_\gamma^\chi | \gamma \in B\}$ , where  $B$  is a subset of  $\Gamma_m^n$ , is called an orthogonal basis of decomposable symmetrized tensor for  $V_\chi^n(G)$ , in this case we say that  $V_\chi^n(G)$  has an O-basis.

Since  $V_\chi^n(G) = \sum_{\gamma \in \bar{\Delta}} V_\gamma^\chi$ , so  $V_\chi^n(G)$  has an O-basis if and only if  $V_\gamma^\chi$  has an O-basis.

Several papers are devoted in investigation of the existence of an O-basis for  $V_\chi^n(G)$ , for example [8, 1, 2, 4]. In this paper we study the symmetry classes of

tensors associated with some Frobenius groups of order  $pq$ , where  $q|p-1$ . We investigate the problem of finding necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of an O-basis for the above mentioned groups.

## 2. THE GROUP $F_{p,q}$

Let  $S$  be a faithful transitive  $G$ -set with each nontrivial element  $g \in G$  having at most one fixed point. If no such  $g$  has a fixed point, then  $S$  is a regular  $G$ -set; if some  $g$  does have a fixed point, then  $G$  is called a Frobenius group.

**Definition 2.1.** [5] If  $p$  is a prime and  $q|p-1$ , then we write  $F_{p,q}$  for the group of order  $pq$  with presentation

$$(6) \quad F_{p,q} = \langle a, b : a^p = b^q = 1, b^{-1}ab = a^u \rangle,$$

where  $u$  is an element of order  $q$  in the product group the integer numbers modulo  $p$ ,  $Z_p^*$ .

The groups  $F_{p,q}$  belong to a wider class of Frobenius groups. This group is of order  $pq$  and its elements are of the form  $F_{p,q} = \{a^i b^j | 0 \leq i \leq p-1, 0 \leq j \leq q-1\}$ . It is not hard to see that  $F_{p,q}$  has  $\frac{p-1}{q} + q$  conjugacy classes which are

$$\{1\}, \{a^{v_i s} | s \in S\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{q}, \{a^m b^l | m = 0, 1, \dots, p-1\}, l = 1, 2, \dots, q-1,$$

where  $S$  is the subgroup of  $Z_p^*$  generated by  $u$ , an element of order  $q$  in  $Z_p^*$  and  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{\frac{p-1}{q}}\}$  is a transversal set of  $S$  in  $Z_p^*$ , and the irreducible complex characters table of  $F_{p,q}$  is:

$$(7) \quad \begin{array}{c|ccc} \sigma & 1 & a^{v_i} & b^l \\ \hline \chi_k & 1 & 1 & \omega^{lk} \\ \varphi_j & q & \sum_{s \in S} \omega^{\frac{q}{p} s v_i v_j} & 0, \\ \hline \end{array}$$

where  $\omega = \exp(\frac{2\pi i}{q})$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq q-1$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq q-1$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{q}$ .

From the above table we see that  $F_{p,q}$  has  $q$  linear characters  $\chi_k$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq q-1$ , and  $\frac{p-1}{q}$  non-linear  $\varphi_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq \frac{p-1}{q}$  of degree  $q$ . Now we will embed this group in a suitable symmetric group. We can consider  $(1 \ 2 \ 3 \ \dots \ p)$  is a permutation in  $S_p$ , it can be verified that the mapping  $a \mapsto (1 \ 2 \ 3 \ \dots \ p)$ , since  $b^{-1}ab = a^u \mapsto$

$(1 \ 1+u \ 1+2u \ \cdots \ 1+(p-1)u)$ , so  $b$  can be map to the following permutation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \cdots & p \\ 1 & 1+u & 1+2u & \cdots & 1+(p-1)u \end{pmatrix}$$

in  $S_p$ . So  $F_{p,q}$  can be consider as a permutation subgroup in  $S_p$ , i.e.,  $F_{p,q} \leq S_p$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $G = F_{p,p-1}$ . We have only one non-linear irreducible character  $\varphi$ , where  $\varphi(1) = p-1$ ,  $\varphi(a) = -1$  and  $\varphi(b^l) = 0$ ,  $l = 1, 2, \dots, p-2$ . Let  $V$  be an  $m$ -dimensional inner product space, then the dimension of the symmetry classes of tensor associated with  $G$  and  $\varphi$  is

$$\dim V_{\varphi}^p(G) = \frac{p-1}{p}(m^p - m)$$

**Corollary 2.1.** (little Fermat theorem) Let  $p$  be a prime and  $m$  be a positive integer number, then  $m^p \equiv m \pmod{p}$ .

*Proof.* By using Theorem 2.2, since  $\frac{p-1}{p}(m^p - m)$  is an integer number, so  $p|m^p - m$ .  $\square$

In general, the mapping from  $F_{p,q}$  to  $S_p$  is not known, therefore we can't calculate the dimension of the symmetry classes of tensor associated with  $F_{p,q}$  and linear irreducible character, in the next example we calculate these for  $F_{5,4}$ .

**Example 2.1.** If  $(1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5)$  and  $(2 \ 3 \ 5 \ 4)$  are permutations in  $S_5$ , then it can be verified that the mapping  $a \mapsto (1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5)$ ,  $b \mapsto (2 \ 3 \ 5 \ 4)$ , embeds  $F_{5,4}$  in  $S_5$ . Now considering  $F_{5,4}$  as a subgroup of  $S_5$ . By use (7) the character table of  $F_{5,4}$ , we find the dimensions of the symmetry classes of tensors associated with this group as follows:

$$\dim V_{\chi_0}^5 = \frac{1}{20}[m^5 + 5m^3 + 10m^2 + 4m]$$

$$\dim V_{\chi_1}^5 = \frac{1}{20}[m^5 - 5m^3 + 4m]$$

$$\dim V_{\chi_2}^5 = \frac{1}{20}[m^5 + 5m^3 - 10m^2 + 4m]$$

$$\dim V_{\chi_3}^5 = \frac{1}{20}[m^5 - 5m^3 + 4m]$$

$$\dim V_{\varphi}^5 = \frac{4}{5}[m^5 - m]$$

**Corollary 2.2.** Let  $m$  be a positive integer number, then the number 20 divided the numbers  $[m^5 + 5m^3 + 10m^2 + 4m]$ ,  $[m^5 + 5m^3 - 10m^2 + 4m]$  and  $[m^5 - 5m^3 + 4m]$ .

*Proof.* By using Example 1, since the dimension of a vector space is an integer number, so the proof is complete.  $\square$

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