

# On the symmetry classes of tensors associated with certain frobenius groups

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we study the symmetry classes of tensors associated with some Frobenius groups of order  $pq$ , where  $q|p-1$  as a subgroups of the full symmetric group on  $p$  letters. We calculate the dimension of the symmetry classes of tensor associated with some Frobenius groups and some irreducible complex characters and we obtain two useful corollary with an example.

**Keywords:** Symmetry Classes of Tensors, Frobenius Groups

## 1. Introduction

Let  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \geq 2$  be positive integer numbers. Denote by  $S_n$  the full symmetric group on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $V$  be a unitary complex vector space of dimension  $m$  over the complex numbers field. 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 decomposable 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

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

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])

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

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  $\{T(G, \chi) \mid \chi \in I(G)\}$  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:

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

which is an orthogonal direct sum. Let  $\Gamma_m^n$  be the set of all sequences

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n), \quad 1 \leq \alpha_i \leq m, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then the group  $G$  acts on  $\Gamma_m^n$  by

$$\sigma \cdot \alpha := \alpha \circ \sigma^{-1} = (\alpha_{\sigma^{-1}(1)}, \alpha_{\sigma^{-1}(2)}, \dots, \alpha_{\sigma^{-1}(n)})$$

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:

$$\bar{\Delta} = \left\{ \alpha \in \Delta \mid \sum_{\sigma \in G_\alpha} \chi(\sigma) \neq 0 \right\},$$

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

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

### 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  $n$ -symmetrized tensor for  $V_\chi^n(G)$ , in this case we say that  $V_\chi^n(G)$  has an O-basis.

$$V_\chi^n(G) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Delta} V_\gamma^\chi$$

Since  $V_\chi^n(G)$  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 [9, 1, 2, 4]. Some parts of this paper was presented as a talk in the 43rd Annual Iranian Mathematics Conference [8]. In this paper we study the symmetry classes of tensors associated with some Frobenius groups of order  $pq$ , where  $q \mid p-1$ . We calculate the dimension of the symmetry classes of tensor associated with some groups and we obtain two usefull corollary with an example.

## 2. The Group $F_{p,q}$

Let  $G$  be a group and let  $T$  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  $T$  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  $q \mid p-1$ , then we write  $F_{p,q}$  for the group of order  $pq$  with presentation:

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

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

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

$$\{1\}, \{a^{v_i s} \mid s \in S\}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, \frac{p-1}{q},$$

$$\{a^h b^l \mid h = 0, 1, \dots, p-1\}, \quad l = 1, 2, \dots, q-1,$$

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

$\sigma$	1	$a^{v_i}$	$b^l$
$\chi_k$	1	1	$\omega^{lk}$
$\phi_j$	$q$	$\sum_{s \in S} \omega^{p \frac{q}{s} v_i v_j}$	0

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

$$1 \leq i, j \leq \frac{p-1}{q}.$$

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

$$\phi_j, 1 \leq j \leq \frac{p-1}{q} \text{ of degree } q.$$

Now we will embed this group in a suitable full symmetric group. We can consider

$$(1 \ 2 \ 3 \ \dots \ p)$$

is a cyclic permutation in  $S_p$ , it can be verified that the mapping

$$a \mapsto (1 \ 2 \ 3 \ \dots \ p),$$

since  $b^{-1}ab = a^u \mapsto (1 \ 1+u \ 1+2u \ \dots \ 1+(p-1)u)$ , so  $b$  can be map to the following permutation

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

where for  $k=1,2,\dots,p-1$ ,

$$\overline{1+ku} \equiv 1+ku \pmod{p}, 1 \leq \overline{1+ku} \leq p,$$

in  $S_p$ . Note that

$$\{1, \overline{1+u}, \overline{1+2u}, \dots, \overline{1+(p-1)u}\} = \{1, 2, \dots, p\}.$$

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

### Theorem 2.2.

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

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

Proof. We know

$$\dim V_{\phi}^p(F_{p,p-1}) = \frac{\phi(1)}{|G|} \sum_{\sigma \in F_{p,p-1}} \phi(\sigma) m^{c(\sigma)}$$

where  $c(\sigma)$  is the number of cycles, including cycles of length one, in the disjoint cycle decomposition of  $\sigma$ . Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim V_{\phi}^p(F_{p,p-1}) &= \frac{p-1}{p(p-1)} \left[ \phi(1)m^p + \sum_{1 \neq \sigma \in \langle (12 \dots p) \rangle} -1 \times m^1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{p} [(p-1)m^p - (p-1)m] \\ &= \frac{(p-1)}{p} (m^p - m). \end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete.

### Corollary 2.3. (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 the above Theorem 2.2, since

$\frac{(p-1)}{p} (m^p - m)$  is an integer number and the greatest common divided of  $p$  and  $(p-1)$  is 1, so  $p$  must divided  $m^p - m$ , then  $m^p \equiv m \pmod{p}$ .

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 2.4.

If  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)$  and  $(2\ 3\ 5\ 4)$  are cyclic permutations of order 5 and 4, respectively in  $S_5$ , then it can be verified that the mapping

$$\begin{aligned} a &\mapsto (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5), \\ b &\mapsto (2\ 3\ 5\ 4), \end{aligned}$$

embeds  $F_{5,4}$  in  $S_5$ . Now considering  $F_{5,4}$  as a subgroup of  $S_5$ . By use the character table of  $F_{5,4}$ , we find the dimensions of the symmetry classes of tensors associated with this group as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

### Corollary 2.5.

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 2.3., since the dimension of a vector space is an integer number, so the number 20 must divide the numbers  $[m^5 + 5m^3 + 10m^2 + 4m]$ ,  $[m^5 + 5m^3 - 10m^2 + 4m]$  and  $[m^5 - 5m^3 + 4m]$  and the proof is complete.

In continue we try to calculate the dimension of  $V_{\phi_j}^p(F_{p,q})$ . By use conjugacy classes of  $F_{p,q} \leq S_p$ , we

have  $c(1)=p$  and  $c(a^{v_i^s}) = 1, i=1,\dots, \frac{p}{q-1}, s \in S$ .

If we consider  $\omega = \exp\left(\frac{2\pi i}{q}\right)$ , we have:

$$\dim V_{\phi_j}^p(F_{p,q}) = \frac{\phi_j(1)}{pq} \left[ qm^p + \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{p-1}{q}} \sum_{s \in S} \omega^{\frac{p}{q} s v_i v_j} m^1 \right]$$

On the other hand, we know the set

$$\left\{ S v_i : i = 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{q} \right\}$$

and for  $j = 1, \dots, \frac{p}{q-1}$  the set

$$\left\{ S v_i v_j : i = 1, \dots, \frac{p-1}{q} \right\}$$

are partitions of  $Z_p^*$ , therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{p-1}{q}} \sum_{s \in S} \omega^{\frac{p}{q} s v_i v_j} &= \sum_{r \in Z_p^*} \omega^{\frac{p}{q} r} = \left( \omega^{\frac{p}{q}} + \omega^{\frac{2p}{q}} + \dots + \omega^{\frac{(p-1)p}{q}} \right) \\ &= \frac{1 - \omega^{\frac{p^2}{q}}}{1 - \omega^{\frac{p}{q}}} - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\dim V_{\phi_j}^p(F_{p,q}) = \frac{1}{p} \left[ qm^p + \frac{1 - \omega^{\frac{p^2}{q}}}{1 - \omega^{\frac{p}{q}}} m - m \right].$$

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