

# EXAMPLE

## THE CHARACTER TABLE OF $S_4$

USING INFLATION FROM  $S_3 \cong S_4/V_4$

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$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r = |C(G)| = |\text{Irr}(G)| = 5}$$

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And  $|C_1| = 1$ ,  $|C_2| = 6$ ,  $|C_3| = 8$ ,  $|C_4| = 3$ ,  $|C_5| = 6$ ,  
so by the orbit-stabiliser theorem the **centraliser orders** are

$$\boxed{|C_G(g_1)| = 24, |C_G(g_2)| = 4, |C_G(g_3)| = 3, |C_G(g_4)| = 8, |C_G(g_5)| = 4}$$

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## Step 2. Inflation from $S_4/V_4 \cong S_3$

Last week, we calculated  $\chi(S_3)$ :

	Id	(12)	(123)	
$\chi_1^{S_3}$	1	1	1	(trivial character)
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By Theorem 14.6 we can "inflate" the irreducible characters of  $S_3$  to  $S_4$ . We obtain

$$\chi_1 = \text{Inf}_{S_4/V_4}^{S_4}(\chi_1^{S_3}) = 1_{S_4}, \quad \chi_2 := \text{Inf}_{S_4/V_4}^{S_4}(\chi_2^{S_3}), \quad \chi_3 := \text{Inf}_{S_4/V_4}^{S_4}(\chi_3^{S_3}) \in \text{Irr}(S_4)$$

More precisely, we have a part of  $X(S_4)$  as follows:

	Id	(12)	(123)	(12)(34)	(1234)
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This is because the isomorphism between  $S_4/V_4$  and  $S_3$  maps:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 S_4/V_4 & \xleftrightarrow{\cong} & S_3 \\
 \text{Id } V_4 & \longmapsto & \text{Id} \\
 (12)V_4 & \longmapsto & \text{2-cycle} \\
 (123)V_4 & \longmapsto & \text{3-cycle} \\
 \text{Id } V_4 = (12)(34)V_4 & \longmapsto & \text{Id} \\
 (12)V_4 = (1234)V_4 & \longmapsto & \text{2-cycle}
 \end{array}$$

(group isomorphisms preserve the orders of elements!)

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$$\Rightarrow \chi_4(\text{Id})^2 + \chi_5(\text{Id})^2 = 18$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \chi_i((123)) \overbrace{\chi_i((123))}^{= \chi_i((123)) \text{ (since in } \mathbb{R})} = |C_G((123))| = 3$$

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$$\begin{aligned} & \parallel \\ & 1+1+1 + \chi_4((123))^2 + \chi_5((123))^2 \Rightarrow \chi_4((123)) = \chi_5((123)) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

③ 2<sup>nd</sup> Orthogonality Relations with  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 4^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \\ 5^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \end{array} \right\}$  and  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 4^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \\ 5^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \end{array} \right\}$  yield:

$$\dots \left. \begin{array}{l} \chi_4((12)(34))^2 = \chi_5((12)(34))^2 = 1 \\ \chi_4((1234))^2 = \chi_5((1234))^2 = 1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{all these entries are } \pm 1$$

④ 2<sup>nd</sup> Orthogonality Relations with 1<sup>st</sup> column and 2<sup>nd</sup> column yield:

$$\chi_4((12)) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \chi_5((12)) = -1$$

③ 2<sup>nd</sup> Orthogonality Relations with  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 4^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \\ 5^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \end{array} \right\}$  and  $\left. \begin{array}{l} 4^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \\ 5^{\text{th}} \text{ column} \end{array} \right\}$  yield:

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$$\chi_4((12)) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \chi_5((12)) = -1$$

⑤ 1<sup>st</sup> Orthogonality Relations with 3<sup>rd</sup> row and 4<sup>th</sup> row yield:

$$0 = \sum_{k=1}^5 \frac{1}{|C_G(g_k)|} \chi_3(g_k) \overline{\chi_4(g_k)} = \frac{6}{24} + \frac{1}{4} \chi_4((12)(34))$$

$$\Rightarrow \chi_4((12)(34)) = -1$$

3<sup>rd</sup> row and 5<sup>th</sup> row yield:  $\chi_5((1234)) = -1$

⑥ 1st Orthogonality Relations with  $\begin{array}{l} | \text{1st row} \\ | \text{1st row} \end{array}$  and  $\begin{array}{l} | \text{4}^{\text{th}} \text{ row} \\ | \text{5}^{\text{th}} \text{ row} \end{array}$  yield:

$$\chi_5((12)(34)) = -1, \quad \chi_4((1234)) = 1$$

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$$\chi_5((12)(34)) = -1, \quad \chi_4((1234)) = 1$$

⑦ Conclusion:

	Id	(12)	(123)	(12)(34)	(1234)
$\chi_1 = 1_{S_4}$	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi_2$	1	-1	1	1	-1
$\chi_3$	2	0	-1	2	0
$\chi_4$	3	1	0	-1	-1
$\chi_5$	3	-1	0	-1	1

$\chi(S_4) =$