

0.1. Projective representations. Let G be a group V a vector space. A map $A : G \rightarrow GL(V), g \rightarrow A_g$ is a *projective representation* if there exist a function $c : G \times G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $A_{g'}A_{g''} = c(g', g'')A_{g'g''}$ for all $g', g'' \in G$. Why would anybody consider projective representations?

Let H, G be groups, and G acts on H by automorphisms $h \rightarrow h^g, h \in H, g \in G$. Let $\pi : H \rightarrow GL(V)$ be an irreducible representation of the group H . For any $g \in G$ the map $\pi^g : H \rightarrow GL(V), \pi^g(h) := \pi(h^g)$ is also a representation of H . Assume that for any $g \in G$ the representation π^g of H is equivalent to the representation π . Then there exists $A_g \in GL(V)$ such that $\pi(h)A_g = A_g\pi^g(h)$ for all $h \in H$.

Lemma 0.1. *The map $A : G \rightarrow GL(V), g \rightarrow A_g$ is a projective representation.*

Proof. Then for any $g', g'' \in G$ we have

$$\pi(h)A_{g'}A_{g''} = A_{g'}\pi^{g'}(h)A_{g''} = A_{g'}\pi(h^{g'})A_{g''} = A_{g'}A_{g''}\pi(h^{g'g''}) = A_{g'}A_{g''}\pi(h^{g'g''})$$

Define $C(g', g'') := A_{g'g''}^{-1}A_{g'}A_{g''} \in GL(V)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} C(g', g'')\pi(h) &= A_{g'g''}^{-1}A_{g'}A_{g''}\pi(h) = A_{g'g''}^{-1}\pi(h^{g'g''})A_{g'}A_{g''} = \\ &= \pi(h)A_{g'g''}^{-1}A_{g'}A_{g''} = \pi(h)C(g', g'') \end{aligned}$$

Since π is an irreducible representation it follows from the Schur lemma that $C(g', g'') = c(g', g'')Id_V, c(g', g'') \in \mathbb{C}^*$. In other words the map $g \rightarrow A(g)$ defines a *projective representation* of the group G . \square

Given a projective representation $A : G \rightarrow GL(V), g \rightarrow A_g$ one can ask whether one can correct a choice of operators $A_g \in GL(V)$ to obtain an honest representation of the group G . In other way could one find a function $d : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ such that the map $g \rightarrow d(g)A_g$ is representation of group G . It is clear that this is possible iff one can find $d_g \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $c(g', g'') = d_{g'g''}^{-1}d_{g'}d_{g''}$ for all $g', g'' \in G$.

How to see an obstruction to an existence of $d_g \in \mathbb{C}^*$ such that $c(g', g'') = d_{g'g''}^{-1}d_{g'}d_{g''}$ for all $g', g'' \in G$? For any pair $g', g'' \in G$ the commutator $q(g', g'') := A_{g'}A_{g''}A_{g'}^{-1}A_{g''}^{-1}$ does not change if you replace A_g by $d(g)A_g$. So if there exist two pairs $(g', g''), ((s', s''))$ of elements of the group G such that $g'g''g'^{-1}g''^{-1} = s's''s'^{-1}s''^{-1}$ but $q(g', g'') \neq q(s', s'')$ the projective representation $g \rightarrow A_g$ can not be corrected to obtain an honest representation $g \rightarrow d(g)A_g$. In particular if there exists a pair $g', g'' \in G$ of commuting elements such that $q(g', g'') \neq Id$ then there is no way to correct the projective representation $A : g \rightarrow A_g$.

Example 0.2. Since the subgroup $Z = \{(0, 0; a)\} \subset H$ is in the center of the group H the group $L = H/Z$ acts on H by the conjugation. In this case we can choose $A_l = \pi(l; 0)$. It is clear that for any $l', l'' \in L$ we have $q(l', l'') = \psi(\langle l', l'' \rangle)$. Since the group L is commutative we see that there exists no representation $A : L \rightarrow GL(V)$ such that $A(l)\pi(h) = \pi^l(h)A(l)$ for all $h \in H$.

Remark 0.3. R:pr a) Let $A : G \rightarrow GL(V), g \rightarrow A_g$ be a projective representation which could be corrected to an honest representation $g \rightarrow B(g)$. That is there exists a function $d : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ such that the map $g \rightarrow B(g) := d(g)A_g$ is representation of group G . Then $B(g'g''g'^{-1}g''^{-1}) = q(g', g'')$ for any pair $g', g'' \in G$.

b) If $G = [G, G]$ then a correction $B(g) := d(g)A_g$ is unique if it exists.

0.2. Weil representations. We choose a basis e_1, e_2 in L such that $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle = 1$ and identify L with \mathbb{F}_q^2 . The group $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ acts on L and preserves the form \langle, \rangle . Therefore the map $h \rightarrow h^g, (l, a) \rightarrow (gl, a), (l, a) \in H, g \in SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ is an automorphism of a group H which acts trivially on Z . Let $\pi : H \rightarrow GL(V)$ be an irreducible representation such that $\pi(0, a) = \psi(a)Id$ for any $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$. As follows from Proposition 21 c) in *examples* the representation π^g is equivalent to the representation π for any $g \in SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$.

Let $\pi : H \rightarrow GL(V)$ be the realization of π as in Example 1.22 in *examples*. How to find a map $A : G \rightarrow GL(V), g \rightarrow A_g$ such that $A_g\pi(h) = \pi^g(h)A_g$ for all $h \in H$? Consider elements $u_a, t_\lambda, w \in SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$ where

$$u_a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ a & 1 \end{pmatrix}, t_\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{pmatrix}, w = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where $a \in \mathbb{F}_q, \lambda \in \mathbb{F}_q^*$.

How to find A_{u_a} ? Let $h = (x, y; a)$. By the definition $h^{u_a} = (x + ay, y; a)$. We want to find an operator A_{u_a} such that $\pi(x, y; 0)A_{u_a} = A_{u_a}\pi(x, y + ax; 0)$ for all $x, y \in \mathbb{F}_q$. In particular we have $\pi(0, y; 0)A_{u_a} = A_{u_a}\pi(0, y; 0)$ for all $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$. So we see that the operator A_{u_a} commutes with operators $\pi(0, y; 0)$ for all $y \in \mathbb{F}_q$. In other word the operator $A_{u_a} : \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{F}_q] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{F}_q]$ commutes with the multiplication by functions $\psi(az/2), z \in \mathbb{F}_q$ for all $a \in \mathbb{F}_q$. Since the span of functions $\psi(az/2), \in \mathbb{F}_q$ is equal to the set of all functions on \mathbb{F}_q we see that an operator A_{u_a} commutes with the multiplication by any function on \mathbb{F}_q . Therefore A_{u_a} has a form $f(z) \rightarrow r_a(z)$ where $r_a(z)$ is a function on \mathbb{F}_q .

To find the function $r_a(z)$ we use the equation $\pi(x, 0; 0)A_{u_a}(\phi) = A_{u_a}\pi(x, ax; 0)(\phi)$, $\phi \in \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{F}_q]$. In other words

$$r_a(x+z)\phi(x+z) = \psi(ax^2/2 + axz)r_a(z)\phi(z) \forall \phi \in \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{F}_q]$$

In other words we have $r_a(x+z) = \psi(ax^2/2 + axz)r_a(z)$. If we put $z = 0$ we see that $r_a(x) = c_a\psi(ax^2/2)$, $c_a \in \mathbb{C}^*$. In other words $A_{u_a}(\phi)(x) = c_a\psi(ax^2/2)\phi(x)$, $\phi \in \mathbb{C}[\mathbb{F}_q]$.

Problem 0.4. Show that $A_{t_\lambda}(\phi)(x) = c_\lambda\phi(\lambda x)$ and $A_{t_\lambda}(\phi)(x) = c\mathcal{F}(\phi)(x)$.

Theorem 0.5. *T:W* There exists a representation $\omega : SL_2(\mathbb{F}_q) \rightarrow GL(V)$ such that $\omega(g)\pi(h) = \pi^g(h)\omega(g)$ for all $h \in H$ and

$$a) \omega(u_a)(\phi)(x) = \psi(ax^2/2)\phi(x).$$

b) $\omega(t_\lambda)(\phi)(x) = \epsilon(\lambda)\phi(\lambda x)$ where $\epsilon : \mathbb{F}_q^* \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$ is the unique non-trivial character of \mathbb{F}_q^* of order 2.

$$c) \omega(w) = 1/\sqrt{q}\mathcal{F}$$