

Some Combinatorial Results on the Factor Group $K(G)$

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character matrix $= (\chi_p)$ from the character table of Z_p and finding the invariant factors of this matrix, the primary decomposition of the factor group $K(G)$, where $p \geq 2$ is determined. Also, we found the general form of this decomposition for $p \geq 2$.

Keywords: factor group, character table, rational valued character matrix.

1. Introduction

Let G be a finite group, two elements of G are said to be Γ -conjugate if the cyclic subgroups they generate are conjugate in G , and this defines an equivalence relation on G . Its classes are called Γ -classes.

The Z -valued class function on the group G , which is constant on the Γ -classes forms a finitely generated abelian group $cf(G, Z)$ of a rank equal to the number of Γ -classes.

The intersection of $cf(G, Z)$ with the group of all generalized characters of G , is a normal subgroup of $cf(G, Z)$ denoted by $R(G)$, then $cf(G, Z)/R(G)$ is a finite abelian factor group which is denoted by $K(G)$.

Each element in $R(G)$ can be written as $v_1\phi_1 + v_2\phi_2 + \dots + v_s\phi_s$, where l is the

rows correspond to the ϕ_i 's and its columns correspond to the Γ -classes of G .

The matrix expressing $R(G)$ basis in terms of the $cf(G, Z)$ basis is $\equiv^*(G)$. We can use the theory of invariant factors to obtain the direct sum of the cyclic Z -module of orders the distinct invariant factors of $\equiv^*(G)$ to find the primary decomposition of $K(G)$.

M.S. Kirdar [6] studied the factor group $cf(G, Z)/\bar{R}(G)$ for the group of type $Z_2^{(n)}$. M.N.AL-Harere[1] studied the factor group $cf(G, Z)/\bar{R}(G)$ for the group of type $Z_3^{(n)}$. M.N.AL-Harere and Fuad A.AL-Heety[2] studied the factor group $cf(G, Z)/\bar{R}(G)$ for the group of type $Z_5^{(n)}$.

Here, we determine the primary decomposition of the group $K(Z_p^{(n)})$ and find a general solution for it when $p \geq 2$.

2. Basic Concepts

In this section, we will present an introduction to concepts, representation, characters and characters table of finite group.

2.1 Matrix representation of characters

Definition 2.1.1,[4]

A matrix representation of a group G is a homomorphism $A: G \rightarrow GL(n, F)$

n is called the degree of the matrix representation A .

Definition 2.1.2,[4]

Two matrix representations $A_{1(X)}$ and $A_{2(X)}$ are said to be equivalent, if they have the same

degree, and if there exists a fixed invertible matrix $T \in GL(n, F)$ such that:

$$A_{1(x)} = T^{-1}A_{2(x)}T \quad \forall x \in G.$$

Definition 2.1.3,[7]

A matrix representation A of a group G is a reducible representation if it is equivalent to a matrix representation of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{1(x)} & T(x) \\ 0 & A_{2(x)} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ for all } x \in G,$$

where $A_1(x)$ and $A_2(x)$ are representations of G their degree is less than the degree of A .

A reducible representation A is called completely reducible if it is equivalent to a matrix representation of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{1(x)} & 0 \\ 0 & A_{2(x)} \end{bmatrix}, \text{ For all } x \in G$$

If A is not reducible, then A is said to be an irreducible representation.

Definition 2.1.4,[5]

Let G be a finite group and let $\rho: G \rightarrow GL(n, C)$ be a matrix representation of G of degree n given by $\rho(x) = A(x) \quad \forall x \in G$, associated with ρ there is a function $\chi_\rho: G \rightarrow C$ defined by

C_α	1	x	x^2	...	x^{n-1}
$ C_\alpha $	1	1	1	...	1
χ_1	1	1	1		1
χ_2	1	χ_2^1	χ_2^2		χ_2^{n-1}
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	...	$\vdots$
χ_n	1	χ_n^1	χ_n^2	...	χ_n^{n-1}

$\chi_\rho(x) = \text{tr}(A(x))$. We call the function χ_ρ the character of the representation ρ .

Proposition 2.1.5,[8]

The characters of G are class functions on G , that is, conjugate elements have the same character.

Definition 2.1.6,[4]

Characters associated with irreducible representations are called irreducible (or simple) characters, and those of reducible representations are compound.

Definition 2.1.7,[4]

A class functions on G of the form $\phi = v_1\chi_1 + v_2\chi_2 + \dots + v_k\chi_k$ where $\{\chi_1, \chi_2, \dots, \chi_k\}$ is the complete set of irreducible characters of G , and $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$ are integers, which is called the generalized characters of G .

Theorem 2.1.8,[4]

The number k of distinct irreducible characters of G is equal to the number of its conjugacy classes.

2.2 Character of finite Abelian group: [4]

For a finite group G of order n , complete information about the irreducible characters of G is displayed in a table called the character table of G .

We list the elements of G in the 1st row, we put $\chi_i(x^j) = \chi_i^j$, $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n-1$. Denoting the number of elements in C_α by $|C_\alpha|$ ($\alpha=1, \dots, n$), we have the class equation $|C_1| + \dots + |C_n| = |G|$.

$$\equiv G =$$

Table (1)

If $G = Z_n$ the cyclic group of order n , and $\omega = e^{2\pi i/n}$ is a primitive n -th root of unity, then

the general formula of the character table of Z_n is :

$$\equiv Z_n =$$

C_α	1	z	z^2	...	z^{n-1}
$ C_\alpha $	1	1	1	...	1
χ_1	1	1	1		1
χ_2	1	ω	ω^2	...	ω^{n-1}
χ_3	1	ω^2	ω^4	...	ω^{n-2}
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
χ_n	1	ω^{n-1}	ω^{n-2}	...	ω

Table (2)

3. The factor group $K(G)$

In this section we study the factor group $K(G)$, for a finite group G .

Definition 3.1,[3]

A rational valued character θ of G is a character whose values are in Z , that is $\theta(x) \in Z$, for all $x \in G$.

Definition 3.2,[6]

Two elements of G are said to be Γ -conjugate if the cyclic subgroups they generate are conjugate in G . This defines an equivalence relation on G , its classes are called Γ -classes of G .

Let G be a finite group and let $\chi_1, \chi_2, \dots, \chi_k$ be its distinct irreducible characters. A class function on G is a character if and only if it is a linear combination of the χ_i with non-negative integer coefficients. We will denote $R^+(G)$ the set of these functions, the group generated by $R^+(G)$ is called the group of the generalized characters of G and is denoted by $R(G)$, we have:

$$R(G) = Z\chi_1 \oplus Z\chi_2 \oplus Z\chi_3 \oplus \dots \oplus Z\chi_k.$$

An element of $R(G)$ is called a virtual character. Since the product of two characters is

a character, $R(G)$ is a subring of the ring $cf(G)$ of C -valued class functions on G .

Let $cf(G, Z)$ be the group of all Z -valued class functions of G which are constant on Γ -classes and let $\bar{R}(G)$ be the intersection of $cf(G, Z)$ with $R(G)$, $\bar{R}(G)$ be a ring of Z -valued generalized characters of G .

Let ε_m be a complex primitive m -th root of unity. We know that the Galois group

$\text{Gal}(F(\varepsilon_m)/F)$ is a subgroup of the multiplicative group $(Z/mZ)^*$ of invertible elements of Z/mZ .

More precisely, if $\sigma \in \text{Gal}(F(\varepsilon_m)/F)$, there exists a unique element $t \in (Z/mZ)^*$ such that $\sigma(\varepsilon_m) = \varepsilon_m^t$ if $\varepsilon_m = 1$.

We denote by Γ_F for the image of $\text{Gal}(F(\varepsilon_m)/F)$ in $(Z/mZ)^*$, and if $t \in \Gamma_F$, we let σ_t denote the corresponding element of $\text{Gal}(F(\varepsilon_m)/F)$.

Take as a ground field F the field Q of rational numbers, the Galois group of $Q(\varepsilon_m)$ over Q is the group denoted by Γ .

Proposition 3.3.,[7]

The characters $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_m$ form a basis of $\bar{R}(G)$ and their number is equal to the number of conjugate classes of cyclic subgroups of G , where

$\phi_i = \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Gal}(Q(\chi_i))} \chi_i^\sigma$, and χ_i are irreducible C -characters of G , for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$.

Theorem 3.4,[8]

Let M, X, Y be matrices with entries in a principal domain R . Let P and Q be invertible matrices. Then $D_k(QMP) = D_k(M)$.

Theorem 3.5,[8]

Let M be an $m \times n$ matrix with entries in a principal domain R .

Then there exist matrices X, Y, D such that:

1. X and Y are invertible.
2. $YMX = D$.
3. D is diagonal matrix.
4. If we denote D_{ii} by d_i , then there exists a natural number r , $0 \leq r \leq \min(m, n)$ such that $j > r$ implies $d_j = 0$ and $j \leq r$ implies $d_j \neq 0$ and $1 \leq j < r$ implies d_j divides d_{j+1} .

Definition 3.6,[6]

Let M , be a matrix with entries in a principal R , equivalent to a matrix

$D = \text{diag}\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r, 0, \dots, 0\}$ such that d_j/d_{j+1} for $1 \leq j < r$, we call D the invariant factor matrix of M and $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_r$ the invariant factors of M .

Theorem 3.7.,[6]

Let M be a finitely generated module over a principal domain R , then M is the direct sum of cyclic submodules with annihilating ideals

$\langle d_1 \rangle, \langle d_2 \rangle, \dots, \langle d_r \rangle, d_j/d_{j+1}$ for $j = 1, 2, \dots, m - 1$.

Theorem 3.8,[6]

$$K(G) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^r Z_{d_i}$$

$$d_{i=\pm} D_i(\equiv^* G) / D_{i-1}(\equiv^* G).$$

Lemma 3.9, [8]

Let P and Q be two non-singular matrices of degree n and m respectively, over a principal domain R , and let

$$X_1 P Y_1 = D(P) = \text{diag}\{d_1(P), d_2(P), \dots, d_n(P)\},$$

$X_2 Q Y_2 = D(Q) = \text{diag}\{d_1(Q), d_2(Q), \dots, d_n(Q)\}$, be the invariant factor matrices of P and Q . Then $(X_1 \otimes X)(P \otimes Q)(Y_1 \otimes Y_2) = D(P) \otimes D(Q)$, from this lemma, the invariant factor matrix of $P \otimes Q$ can be written as follows:

Let H and L be p_1 and p_2 groups respectively, where p_1 and p_2 are distinct primes, we know that

$$\equiv (H \times L) = \equiv (H) \otimes \equiv (L)$$

Since $\gcd(p_1, p_2) = 1$, we have the next proposition.

Proposition 3.10, [6]

$$\equiv^* (H \times L) = \equiv^* (H) \otimes \equiv^* (L).$$

We consider the case when the order of G is prime; the number of rational valued characters are two which is equal to the number of Γ -classes.

We have

$$\equiv^* G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ p-1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Theorem 3.11,[6]

Let G be a cyclic p -group, then $K(G) = Z_p$.

4. $K(G)$, For G cyclic & elementary abelian group

This section is dedicated to study the rational valued characters table of the group Z_p and to determine the primary decomposition of the finite abelian group $K(G)$ where G is cyclic group and the case when G is elementary abelian group.

4.1 The primary decomposition of $K(Z_p^{(n)})$:

In this section we will determine the primary decomposition of $K(Z_p^{(n)})$ according to Lemma 3.9 and the Theorem 3.5 when $n = 1$.

Let $X = \begin{bmatrix} 1-p & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, $Y = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and according to Proposition 3.10, [6]

$$\equiv^* G = \begin{array}{c|cc} \Gamma\text{-classes} & [1] & [z] \\ \hline \theta_1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline \theta_2 & p-1 & -1 \end{array}$$

and

$$\equiv^* Z_p = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ p-1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so}$$

$$X \equiv^* Z_p Y = \begin{bmatrix} -p & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

, by Theorem 3.11 $K(Z_p) = Z_p$.

When $n = 2$

$$X \otimes X = \begin{bmatrix} (1-p)^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1 \\ 1-p & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1-p & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Y \otimes Y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\equiv^* (Z_p^2) =$$

$$\equiv^* Z_p \otimes \equiv^* Z_p =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ p-1 & -1 & p-1 & -1 \\ p-1 & p-1 & -1 & -1 \\ (p-1)^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

According to Lemma 3.9 we get

$$X \otimes X \equiv (Z_p^2) Y \otimes Y = \begin{bmatrix} p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -p & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\equiv (Z_p^2) \sim \text{diag} \{p^2, -p, -p, 1\}$$

Therefore, $K(Z_p^2) = Z_{p^2} \oplus Z_p^2$

When $n = 3$

Let

$$X \otimes X \otimes X = \begin{bmatrix} -p^3 & p^2 & p^2 & -p & p^2 & -p & -p & 1 \\ p^2 & 0 & -p & 0 & -p & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ p^2 & -p & 0 & 0 & -p & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -p & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ p^2 & -p & -p & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -p & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -p & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Y \otimes Y \otimes Y = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\equiv^* (Z_p^3) =$$

$$\equiv^* Z_p \otimes \equiv^* Z_p \otimes \equiv^* Z_p =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ p-1 & -1 & p-1 & -1 & p-1 & -1 & p-1 & -1 \\ p-1 & p-1 & -1 & -1 & p-1 & p-1 & -1 & -1 \\ (p-1)^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1 & p^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1 \\ p-1 & p-1 & p-1 & p-1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ (p-1)^2 & 1-p & (p-1)^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1 & 1-p & 1 \\ (p-1)^2 & (p-1)^2 & 1-p & 1-p & 1-p & 1-p & 1 & 1 \\ (p-1)^3 & -(p-1)^2 & -(p-1)^2 & p-1 & -(p-1)^2 & p-1 & p-1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

And we obtain

$$X \otimes X \otimes X \equiv^* (Z_p^3) Y \otimes Y \otimes Y =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\equiv^* (Z_p^3) \sim \text{diag} \{p^3, -p^2, -p^2, p, -p^2, p, p, -1\}$$

Hence

$$K(Z_p^3) = Z_{p^3} \oplus Z_{p^2} \oplus Z_p^3.$$

When $n = 4$, we repeat the same method, we get

$$X \otimes X \otimes X \otimes X \equiv^* (Z_p^4) Y \otimes Y \otimes Y \otimes Y =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p^4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -p^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -p^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p^3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & p^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence,

$$K(Z_p^4) = Z_{p^4} \oplus Z_{p^3} \oplus Z_{p^2}^6 \oplus Z_p^4.$$

The general case for p is given by the following.

Theorem 4.1. The primary decomposition of the factor group $K(G)$ for the Z_p^n , where p is a prime number is

$$K(Z_p^n) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{(n-1)} Z_{p^{n-i}}^{\binom{n}{i}},$$

Where p is a prime number, $\binom{n}{i} = \frac{n!}{i!(n-i)!}$.

Proof: By induction method assume the statement holds for r factors then,

$$\begin{aligned} &\equiv^* (Z_p^r) \sim \\ &\text{diag} \{ \pm p^r; \underbrace{\pm p^{r-1}, \dots, \pm p^{r-1}}_{\binom{r}{r-1}}; \underbrace{\pm p^{r-2}, \dots, \pm p^{r-2}}_{\binom{r}{r-2}}; \\ &\dots; \underbrace{\pm p^2, \dots, \pm p^2}_{\binom{r}{2}}; \underbrace{\pm p, \dots, \pm p}_{\binom{r}{1}}; \mp 1 \}. \end{aligned}$$

And according to Proposition 3.10

$$\equiv^* (Z_p^{r+1}) = \equiv^* (Z_p^r) \otimes \equiv^* (Z_p).$$

Hence, by Lemma 3.9 we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\equiv^* (Z_p^{r+1}) \sim \\ &\text{diag} \{ \pm p^{r+1}; \underbrace{\pm p^r, \dots, \pm p^r}_{\binom{r}{r-1}}; \underbrace{\pm p^{r-1}, \dots, \pm p^{r-1}}_{\binom{r}{r-2}}; \\ &\dots; \underbrace{\pm p^3, \dots, \pm p^3}_{\binom{r}{2}}; \underbrace{\pm p^2, \dots, \pm p^2}_{\binom{r}{1}}; \pm p; \pm p^r; \\ &\underbrace{\pm p^{r-1}, \dots, \pm p^{r-1}}_{\binom{r}{r-1}}; \dots; \underbrace{\pm p^2, \dots, \pm p^2}_{\binom{r}{2}}; \\ &\underbrace{\pm p, \dots, \pm p}_{\binom{r}{1}}; \mp 1 \} \end{aligned}$$

$\binom{r}{i} + \binom{r}{i-1} = \binom{r+1}{i}$ when, $0 \leq i \leq r$, which means p^i appears $\binom{r+1}{i}$ times in the matrix above.

Therefore, $K(Z_p^{r+1}) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{(r+1)} Z_{p^i}^{\binom{r+1}{i}}$.

Example 4.2.

For $n = 4$, $K(Z_7^4) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^3 Z_{7^{4-i}}^{\binom{4}{i}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= Z_{7^4}^{\binom{4}{0}} \oplus Z_{7^3}^{\binom{4}{1}} \oplus Z_{7^2}^{\binom{4}{2}} \oplus Z_7^{\binom{4}{3}} \\ &= Z_{2401} \oplus Z_{343}^4 \oplus Z_{49}^6 \oplus Z_7^4 \end{aligned}$$

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