

**PHY 745 Group Theory**  
**11-11:50 AM MWF Olin 102**

**Plan for Lecture 4:**

**The “great” orthogonality theorem**

**Reading: Chapter 2 in DDJ**

- 1. Schur’s lemmas**
- 2. Prove the “Great Orthogonality Theorem”**

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**PHY 745 Group Theory**

MWF 11-11:50 AM | OPL 102 | <http://www.wfu.edu/~natalie/phy745/>

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**Course schedule for Spring 2017**  
(Preliminary schedule -- subject to frequent adjustment.)

Lecture date	DDJ Reading	Topic	HW	Due date
1 Wed: 01/11/2017	Chap. 1	Definition and properties of groups	#1	01/20/2017
2 Fri: 01/13/2017	Chap. 1	Theory of representations		
Mon: 01/16/2017		MLK Holiday - no class		
3 Wed: 01/18/2017	Chap. 2	Theory of representations		
4 Fri: 01/20/2017	Chap. 2	Proof of the Great Orthogonality Theorem	#2	01/23/2017
5 Mon: 01/23/2017				
6 Wed: 01/25/2017				
7 Fri: 01/27/2017				

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The great orthogonality theorem on unitary irreducible representations

Notation:  $h \equiv$  order of the group  
 $R \equiv$  element of the group  
 $\Gamma^i(R)_{\alpha\beta} \equiv$   $i$ th representation of  $R$   
 $\mu\nu\alpha\beta$  denote matrix indices  
 $l_i \equiv$  dimension of the representation

$$\sum_R \left( \Gamma^i(R)_{\mu\nu} \right)^* \Gamma^j(R)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{h}{l_i} \delta_{ij} \delta_{\mu\alpha} \delta_{\nu\beta}$$

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## Proof of the great orthogonality theorem

- Prove that all representations can be unitary matrices
- Prove Schur's lemma part 1 – any matrix which commutes with all matrices of an irreducible representation must be a constant matrix
- Prove Schur's lemma part 2
- Put all parts together

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## Proof of the great orthogonality theorem

- Prove that all representations can be unitary matrices
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- Prove Schur's lemma part 2
- Put all parts together

## Schur's lemma part 1:

A matrix  $M$  which commutes with all of the matrices of an irreducible representation must be a constant matrix:  $M=sI$  where  $s$  is a scalar constant and  $I$  is the identity matrix.

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## Schur's lemmas part 1:

A matrix  $M$  which commutes with all of the matrices of an irreducible representation must be a constant matrix:  $M=sI$  where  $s$  is a scalar constant and  $I$  is the identity matrix.

Proof:

Suppose  $M$  is a diagonal matrix  $d$ , the premise becomes

$d\Gamma^i(R) = \Gamma^i(R)d$  for all elements of the group  $R$

$$\Rightarrow (d\Gamma^i(R))_{kl} = (\Gamma^i(R)d)_{kl}$$

$$d_{kk}(\Gamma^i(R))_{kl} = (\Gamma^i(R))_{kl}d_{ll}$$

$$(d_{kk} - d_{ll})(\Gamma^i(R))_{kl} = 0 \quad \text{for all } k, l \text{ and for all } R$$

$$\Rightarrow d_{kk} = d_{ll} \quad \text{if } \Gamma^i(R) \text{ is irreducible}$$

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Example irreducible representation:

$$\Gamma^3(E) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma^3(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma^3(B) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Gamma^3(C) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma^3(D) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma^3(F) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Extension of proof to more general matrix  $M$  :

Note that  $M = H_1 + iH_2$

$$\text{where } H_1 = M + M^\dagger$$

$$H_2 = -i(M - M^\dagger)$$

In these terms, the premise is:

$$(H_1 + iH_2)\Gamma^3(R) = \Gamma^3(R)(H_1 + iH_2) \text{ for all elements of the group } R$$

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$$(H_1 + iH_2)\Gamma^3(R) = \Gamma^3(R)(H_1 + iH_2) \text{ for all elements of the group } R$$

$$\Rightarrow H_1\Gamma^3(R) = \Gamma^3(R)H_1 \quad \text{and} \quad H_2\Gamma^3(R) = \Gamma^3(R)H_2$$

Hermitian matrices can be diagonalized by a unitary transformation  $U$

$$UH_1\Gamma^3(R)U^\dagger = U\Gamma^3(R)H_1U^\dagger \quad \text{for all } R$$

$$UH_2\Gamma^3(R)U^\dagger = U\Gamma^3(R)H_2U^\dagger$$

$$d\Gamma^u(R) = \Gamma^u(R)d \quad \text{for all } R$$

where  $\Gamma^u(R)$  is an equivalent representation of the group

The same construction holds for  $H_2$ ,

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Proof of the great orthogonality theorem

- Prove that all representations can be unitary matrices
- Prove Schur's lemma part 1 – any matrix which commutes with all matrices of an irreducible representation must be a constant matrix
- **Prove Schur's lemma part 2**
- Put all parts together

Schur's lemma part 2

Consider two irreducible representations of the same group

$\Gamma^1(R)$  with dimension  $\ell_1$  and  $\Gamma^2(R)$  with dimensions  $\ell_2$ .

Suppose there exists a rectangular  $\ell_1 \times \ell_2$  matrix  $M$  such that

$$M\Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^2(R)M \text{ for all } R. \text{ It follows that either } M \equiv 0$$

or  $\Gamma^1(R)$  and  $\Gamma^2(R)$  are equivalent.

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**Schur's lemma part 2**  
 Consider two irreducible representations of the same group  $\Gamma^1(R)$  with dimension  $\ell_1$  and  $\Gamma^2(R)$  with dimensions  $\ell_2$ .  
 Suppose there exists a rectangular  $\ell_1 \times \ell_2$  matrix  $M$  such that  $M\Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^2(R)M$  for all  $R$ . It follows that either  $M \equiv 0$  or  $\Gamma^1(R)$  and  $\Gamma^2(R)$  are equivalent.

Suppose  $M\Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^2(R)M$  for all  $R$

$$(M\Gamma^1(R))^\dagger = (\Gamma^2(R)M)^\dagger$$

$$(\Gamma^1(R))^\dagger M^\dagger = M^\dagger (\Gamma^2(R))^\dagger$$

$$\Gamma^1(R^{-1})M^\dagger = M^\dagger \Gamma^2(R^{-1}) \quad \text{for all } R$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma^1(R)M^\dagger = M^\dagger \Gamma^2(R) \quad \text{for all } R$$

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**Schur's lemma part 2 -- continued**  
 $M\Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^2(R)M$  for all  $R$   
 $\Gamma^1(R)M^\dagger = M^\dagger \Gamma^2(R)$  for all  $R$   
 $M\Gamma^1(R)M^\dagger = MM^\dagger \Gamma^2(R) = \Gamma^2(R)MM^\dagger$  for all  $R$   
 $M^\dagger \Gamma^2(R)M = M^\dagger M \Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^1(R)M^\dagger M$  for all  $R$

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**Schur's lemma part 2 -- continued**  
 $MM^\dagger \Gamma^2(R) = \Gamma^2(R)MM^\dagger$  for all  $R$   
 $M^\dagger M \Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^1(R)M^\dagger M$  for all  $R$

From Schur's first lemma:  $MM^\dagger = s_2 I \quad (\ell_2 \times \ell_2)$   
 $M^\dagger M = s_1 I \quad (\ell_1 \times \ell_1)$

Consider the case where  $\ell_1 \neq \ell_2$ , it follows that  $s_1 = s_2 = 0$   
 otherwise there is an inconsistency  $(MM^\dagger)^\dagger \neq M^\dagger M$   
 Consider the case where  $\ell_1 = \ell_2$ , it follows that  $s_1 = s_2 = s$   
 For the case that  $s_1 \neq 0$ :  
 $M\Gamma^1(R) = \Gamma^2(R)M \Rightarrow \Gamma^1(R) = M^{-1}\Gamma^2(R)M$  for all  $R$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Representations are equivalent

For the case that  $s_1 = 0$ :  
 $MM^\dagger = 0 \Rightarrow M \equiv 0$

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Proof of the great orthogonality theorem

- Prove that all representations can be unitary matrices
- Prove Schur's lemma part 1 – any matrix which commutes with all matrices of an irreducible representation must be a constant matrix
- Prove Schur's lemma part 2
- Put all parts together

$$\sum_R \left( \Gamma^i(R)_{\mu\nu} \right)^* \Gamma^j(R)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{h}{l_i} \delta_{ij} \delta_{\mu\alpha} \delta_{\nu\beta}$$

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Construct a  $\ell_2 \times \ell_1$  matrix

$$M \equiv \sum_R \Gamma^2(R) X \Gamma^1(R^{-1})$$

Note that:  $\Gamma^2(S)M = M\Gamma^1(S)$  where  $S$  is a member of the group

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Details: } \Gamma^2(S)M &= \sum_R \Gamma^2(S)\Gamma^2(R)X\Gamma^1(R^{-1}) \\ &= \sum_R \Gamma^2(SR)X\Gamma^1(R^{-1}) \\ &= \sum_R \Gamma^2(SR)X\Gamma^1(R^{-1})\Gamma^1(S^{-1})\Gamma^1(S) \\ &= \sum_R \Gamma^2(SR)X\Gamma^1((SR)^{-1})\Gamma^1(S) \\ &= M\Gamma^1(S) \end{aligned}$$

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Proof continued:

$$\sum_R \left( \Gamma^i(R)_{\mu\nu} \right)^* \Gamma^j(R)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{h}{l_i} \delta_{ij} \delta_{\mu\alpha} \delta_{\nu\beta}$$

Construct a  $\ell_2 \times \ell_1$  matrix

$$M \equiv \sum_R \Gamma^2(R) X \Gamma^1(R^{-1})$$

Since:  $\Gamma^2(S)M = M\Gamma^1(S)$  where  $S$  is a member of the group, for  $\ell_2 \neq \ell_1$   $M = 0$  for arbitrary  $X$ . Choosing particular indices:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \sum_R \Gamma^2(R) X \Gamma^1(R^{-1}) \right)_{\alpha\beta} &= \sum_R \left( \Gamma^2(R) \right)_{\alpha\mu} \left( \Gamma^1(R^{-1}) \right)_{\nu\beta} \\ &= \sum_R \left( \Gamma^2(R) \right)_{\alpha\mu} \left( \Gamma^1(R) \right)_{\nu\beta}^* = 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Proof continued:  $\sum_R \left( \Gamma^i(R)_{\mu\nu} \right)^* \Gamma^j(R)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\hbar}{l_1} \delta_{ij} \delta_{\mu\alpha} \delta_{\nu\beta}$

Construct a  $\ell_2 \times \ell_1$  matrix

$$M \equiv \sum_R \Gamma^2(R) X \Gamma^1(R^{-1})$$

Since:  $\Gamma^2(S)M = M\Gamma^1(S)$  where  $S$  is a member of the group,  
for  $2=1$   $M = sI$  for arbitrary  $X$ . Choosing particular indices:

$$\left( \sum_R \Gamma^1(R) X \Gamma^1(R^{-1}) \right)_{\alpha\beta} = s \delta_{\alpha\beta} \quad *$$

For particular choice of  $X$ :  $\sum_{R\mu} \Gamma^1_{\alpha\mu}(R) \Gamma^1_{\mu\beta}(R^{-1}) = s \delta_{\alpha\beta} \sum_{\mu} = s \ell_1 \delta_{\alpha\beta}$

$$\sum_R \Gamma^1_{\alpha\beta}(RR^{-1}) = \hbar \Gamma^1_{\alpha\beta}(E) = \hbar \delta_{\alpha\beta} = s \ell_1 \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

$$\Rightarrow s = \frac{\hbar}{\ell_1}$$

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