

# Characters for the Permutation Group of Degree n using Specht Module and Semi Standard Young Tableaux

A. Ganapathi Rao  
Dept. of Mathematics,  
GMRIT, Rajam, Srikakulam

N. Ravi Shankar  
Dept of Applied Mathematics,  
GIS, GITAM University,  
Visakhapatnam

## ABSTRACT

For any partition, the corresponding Specht module is the sub module of permutation module spanned by the poly-tabloids. The Specht modules for a partition of a positive integer n form a complete list of irreducible representations of permutation group of degree n. The Semi-Standard Young Tableau (SSYT), on n -symbols are one type of combinatorial objects occur naturally in many computational problems in Science, Engineering and Technology, which have one-to-one correspondence with Gelfand–Tsetlin bases set of the Unitary group  $U(n)$ . In this paper, we propose a method to construct character table of permutation group of degree n using Specht module and Semi Standard Young Tableaux. This method is illustrated with an example using a partition of degree 5 in permutation group  $S_5$ .

## Keywords

Permutation group ; Partition ; Young Tableaux; Semi Standard Young Tableaux ; Permutation Module; Specht Module

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Specht[1] introduced set of polynomials using standard tableau to generate rational representation of permutation group of degree n. The polynomials and modules are Specht Polynomials and Specht modules corresponding to the partition respectively. The set of polynomials forms a basis (i.e., they are linearly independent and spans the vector space). He proved the irreducibility and in equivalence of the modules without the use of characters of the permutation group representation. In the paper, [2] Garnir constructed irreducible integral matrix representations of the permutation groups and derived relations between the Specht polynomials and also showed that Specht polynomial is an integral linear combination of standard Specht polynomials.

One of the essential objectives of the representation theory of finite groups is in computation of characters of irreducible representations. For permutation group, the irreducible characters can be computed using either Frobenius formula, or the determinantal formula, or the Murnaghan-Nakayama rule [7,8,9,10].

This procedure is to explicate on how to construct character tables of symmetric groups.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

### 2.1 Young diagram or Ferrer's diagram

Since the number of nonequivalent irreducible representation of a group is equal to its classes, the non-equivalent irreducible representations of  $S_n$  are defined, as are the classes, by the different partitions of the number n into the positive integral components. The partitions are usually denoted by  $[\lambda] = [\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \dots \lambda_k]$  where  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \dots + \lambda_k = n$  is  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k \geq 0$  and of the  $\lambda_i$ 's may

coincide. It is clear that k cannot exceed n. These partitions can be represented graphically by means of a diagram known as Young diagram. In which  $\lambda_i$  is represented by a row of  $\lambda_i$  cells. Young diagrams can be represented by a symbol

$$[\lambda] = [\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \dots \lambda_k]$$

### 2.2 Self-conjugate diagram

For each  $[\lambda] = [\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \dots \lambda_k]$  in the diagram, interchange the rows into the columns and the columns into the rows then the resultant diagram is known as conjugate to the given

diagram and denoted by  $[\tilde{\lambda}]$ . A Young diagram  $[\lambda]$  is said to

be self-conjugate diagram if  $[\lambda] = [\tilde{\lambda}]$ ,

### 2.3 Young Tableau

Let n be a positive number. A partition of n is a vector  $\lambda = [\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 \dots \lambda_k]$  of positive integers, where  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_k \geq 0$  and  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \dots + \lambda_k = n$ . A Young diagram of shape  $\lambda$  is a subset of a rectangular table such that the ith row contains  $\lambda_i$  cells, with all rows starting at the first column. A Young tableau of shape  $\lambda$  is obtained by inserting the integers 1, 2, 3, . . . n as entries in the cells of the Young diagram of shape  $\lambda$  without repetitions. The Young tableau is called standard (SYT) if its entries increase along all rows and columns.

### 2.4 Method to find dimension of a representation of SYT by using hook lengths

The dimension of a representation is equal to the number of different Young tableau that can be obtained from the diagram of the representation this number can be calculated by hook-length formula. By the hook length formula, the dimension of an irreducible representation is  $n!$  divided by the product of the hook lengths of all the boxes in the diagram of the representation.

$$f_{\lambda} = \frac{n!}{\prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda} h_{i,j}}$$

The dimension

The hook length of cell (i, j) is the number  $h_{i,j} = \lambda_i + \lambda_j - i - j + 1$ , in this formula  $\lambda_i$  is the length of the ith row and  $\lambda_j$  denotes the length of the jth column.

## 3 TABLOIDS & PERMUTATION MODULE

In this section, tabloids and permutation module are discussed.

### 3.1 Tabloids

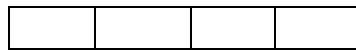
Consider certain permutation representations of  $S_n$  on the elements  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , which extends to the defining representation. In this merits, construct other representation of  $S_n$  using equivalence classes of tableaux, known as tabloids. Tabloids are used and used to construct a representation of  $S_n$  known as the permutation module  $M^\lambda$ , however, permutation modules are generally reducible.

Two  $\lambda$ - tableaux  $t^1$  and  $t^2$  are row-equivalent denoted  $t^1 \sim t^2$ . If the corresponding rows of the tableaux contain the same elements.

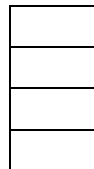
A tabloid of shape  $\lambda$ , or  $\lambda$ -tabloid is such an equivalence class, denoted by  $\{t\} = \{t^1/t^1 \sim t^2\}$  where  $t$  is a  $\lambda$ - tableau. The tabloid  $\{t\}$  is drawn as the tableaux  $t$  without vertical bars separating the entries within each row.

For instance, if

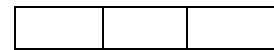
$$t = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Trivial



Sign



Standard

Fig.1 Familiar Representations

#### Case 1

In  $\lambda = [n]$ ,  $M^\lambda$  is the vector space generated by the single tabloid

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & n \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Since this tabloid is fixed by  $S_n$ ,  $M[n]$  is one-dimensional trivial representation

#### Case 2

For  $\lambda = [1n] = [1, 1, \dots, 1]$  then a  $\lambda$ - tabloid is simply a permutation of  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  into  $n$  rows it follows that

For example for  $n=5$ , the representation  $M^{(4,1)}$  has the following basis

$$t_1 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 1 & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad t_2 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 2 & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad t_3 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 \\ \hline 3 & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$t_4 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ \hline 4 & & & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad t_5 = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ \hline 5 & & & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

### 3.3 Dimension of the permutation Module

$M^\lambda$

If  $\lambda = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k]$  then

$$\dim M^\lambda = \frac{n!}{\lambda_1! \lambda_2! \dots \lambda_k!}$$

**Example :** The dimension of  $M^{[2,2]}$  at  $e \in S_4$  is  $\dim M^{[2,2]} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} = 6$

Then  $\{t\}$  is the tabloid drawn as

$$\{t\} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

This represents the equivalence class containing the following two tableaux

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 1 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & \\ \hline \end{array}$$

The notation is suggestive as it emphasizes that the order of the entries within each row is irrelevant, so that each row may be shuffled arbitrary.

### 3.2 Permutation module

Suppose  $\lambda \vdash n$ . Let  $M^\lambda$  denote the vector space whose basis is the set of

$\lambda$ - Tabloids. Then  $M^\lambda$  is a representation of  $S_n$  known as the permutation module corresponding to  $\lambda$ . The  $M^\lambda$  corresponding to the Young diagrams (Fig.1) are in fact familiar representations.

$M[1^n]$  is isomorphic to the regular representation  $C[S_n]$ .

#### Case 3

Consider  $\lambda = [n-1, 1]$ .

Let  $\{t_i\}$  be the  $\lambda$ -tabloid with  $i$  on the second row. Then  $M^\lambda$  has basis  $\{t_1\}, \{t_2\}, \dots, \{t_n\}$ . Also, note that the action of  $\pi \in S_n$  sends  $t_i$  to  $t_{\pi(i)}$ .  $M[n-1, 1]$  is isomorphic to the representation  $C\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

### 3.4 Characters of the permutation module

$M^\lambda$

Suppose  $\lambda = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k]$  and

$$\mu = [\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n]$$

are partition of  $n$ .

The characters of  $M^\lambda$  evaluated at an element of  $S_n$  with cycle type  $\mu$  is equal to the coefficient of

$$x_1^{\lambda_1} x_2^{\lambda_2} \dots x_k^{\lambda_k} \text{ in } \prod_{i=1}^m (x_1^{\mu_i} + x_2^{\mu_i} + \dots + x_i^{\mu_i})$$

the permutation module  $M^\lambda$  can be realized as a permutation representation on the  $\lambda$ -tabloids, its character at an element  $\pi \in S_n$  is equal to the number of tabloids fixed by  $\pi$ .

The dimension of a representation is simply the value of the character at the identity element, which has cycle type  $\mu=[1n]$ .

So above equation tells us that dimension of  $M^\lambda$  is the coefficient of

$$x_1^{\lambda_1} x_2^{\lambda_2} \dots x_k^{\lambda_k} \text{ in } (x_1+x_2+\dots+x_n)^n. \text{ Which is equal to } \frac{n!}{\lambda_1! \lambda_2! \dots \lambda_k!}$$

to  $\text{Dim } M^\lambda = \frac{n!}{\lambda_1! \lambda_2! \dots \lambda_k!}$

Other characters can be similarly computed, and the result is shown in the Table 1.

**Table 1 : Characters of the representation**

	$\mu_{(1^5)}$	$\mu_{(2,1^3)}$	$\mu_{(3,1^2)}$	$\mu_{(4,1)}$	$\mu_{(2^2,1)}$	$\mu_{(3,2)}$	$\mu_{(5)}$
$M^{\lambda=(5)}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$M^{\lambda=(4,1)}$	5	3	2	1	1	0	0
$M^{\lambda=(3,2)}$	10	4	1	0	2	1	0
$M^{\lambda=(3,1,1)}$	20	6	2	0	0	0	0
$M^{\lambda=(2,2,1)}$	30	6	0	0	2	0	0
$M^{\lambda=(2,1,1,1)}$	60	6	0	0	0	0	0
$M^{\lambda=(1,1,1,1,1)}$	120	0	0	0	0	0	0

Note that in the above example, It is not possible to construct the character table  $S_5$ , as all the  $M^\lambda$  are in fact reducible with the exception of  $M^{(5)}$ . In the next, we take a step further and construct the irreducible representation of  $S_n$ .

The table which was constructed in the table 1 is done depending on the [3.4], and a compound character biodegradable to irreducible characters are constructed by using the method of subtraction. The establishment of such a table 1 to the higher degree of group of the clique is very complex and not easy to get him so the item will show another way to, calculating the irreducible characters.

**Main procedure to compute characters**

This method depended on the inner product formula [3, 4, 5, 6], to inference irreducible

Character indicator in the example below. The trivial representation [6], is already irreducible, so the top row is an Since we know the copies of  $\chi_5$  occur in the lower representations, we can subtract them of and construct a table 2

Let us compute the full list of the characters of the permutation modules for  $S_5$ , the character at the identity element is same to the dimension, and it can found through [3,3], For instance ,

the character of  $M(2,2,1) = \frac{5!}{2!2!1!} = 30$ .

To compute the character of  $M^{\lambda=(3,2)}$  at the permutation  $\mu_{(2,2,1)}$  which has cycle type (2, 2, 1), by using [3, 4], we see that the character is equal to the coefficient of  $(x_1^3 x_2^2)$  in:  $(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^2 (x_1 + x_2 + x_3)$

irreducible character; let it be  $\chi_5 = M^{(5)}$ . Find out many copies of  $\chi_5$  each of the lower characters contains by taking inner products.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \chi_5, M^{(4,1)} \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \chi_5, M^{(3,2)} \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \chi_5, M^{(3,1,1)} \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \chi_5, M^{(2,2,1)} \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \chi_5, M^{(2,1,1,1)} \rangle &= 1 \\ \langle \chi_5, M^{(1,1,1,1,1)} \rangle &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Then it is to find the copies of  $\chi_1$  occur in the lower representation and subtract them and construct the table 3.

**Table 2 : Characters**

Cycle type	(1,1,1,1,1)	(2,1,1,1)	(3,1,1)	(4,1)	(2,2,1)	(3,2)	(5)
$\chi_5$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi_{(4,1)}$	4	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
$M^{\lambda=(3,2)}$	9	3	0	-1	1	0	-1
$M^{\lambda=(3,1,1)}$	19	5	1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$M^{\lambda=(2,2,1)}$	29	5	-1	-1	1	-1	-1
$M^{\lambda=(2,1,1,1)}$	59	5	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
$M^{\lambda=(1,1,1,1,1)}$	119	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1

Now row 2 is an irreducible character  $\chi_{(4,1)}$ ; you can see this by taking its inner product with itself. We can now repeat by taking the inner product of  $\chi_{(4,1)}$  with the characters and subtracting them off.

$$\langle \chi_{(4,1)}, M^{(3,2)} \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle \chi_{(4,1)}, M^{(3,1,1)} \rangle = 2$$

$$\langle \chi_{(4,1)}, M^{(2,2,1)} \rangle = 2$$

$$\langle \chi_{(4,1)}, M^{(2,1,1,1)} \rangle = 3$$

$$\langle \chi_{(4,1)}, M^{(1,1,1,1,1)} \rangle = 4$$

**Table 3 : Characters for different cycles -I**

Cycle type	(1,1,1,1,1)	(2,1,1,1)	(3,1,1)	(4,1)	(2,2,1)	(3,2)	(5)
$\chi_5$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi_{(4,1)}$	4	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
$\chi_{(3,2)}$	5	1	-1	-1	1	1	0
$M^{\lambda=(3,1,1)}$	11	1	-1	-1	-1	1	1
$M^{\lambda=(2,2,1)}$	21	1	-3	-1	1	1	1
$M^{\lambda=(2,1,1,1)}$	37	-1	-4	-1	-1	2	2
$M^{\lambda=(1,1,1,1,1)}$	107	-7	-4	-1	-1	2	2

Row 3 is irreducible and let it be  $\chi_{(3,1,1)}$ , and subtract it off from the lower rows and represented in table 4.

$$\langle \chi_{(3,2)}, M^{(3,1,1)} \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle \chi_{(3,2)}, M^{(2,2,1)} \rangle = 2$$

$$\langle \chi_{(3,2)}, M^{(2,1,1,1)} \rangle = 1$$

$$\langle \chi_{(3,2)}, M^{(1,1,1,1,1)} \rangle = 1$$

**Table 4 : Characters for different cycles II**

Cycle type	(1,1,1,1,1)	(2,1,1,1)	(3,1,1)	(4,1)	(2,2,1)	(3,2)	(5)
$\chi_5$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi_{(4,1)}$	4	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
$\chi_{(3,2)}$	5	1	-1	-1	1	1	0
$M^{\lambda=(3,1,1)}$	6	0	0	0	-2	0	1
$M^{\lambda=(2,2,1)}$	11	-1	-1	1	-1	-1	1
$M^{\lambda=(2,1,1,1)}$							
$M^{\lambda=(1,1,1,1,1)}$							

If we proceed further we can construct the table 5. It gives character table for  $S_4$

**Table 5 : Characters for  $S_4$**

Cycle type	(1,1,1,1,1)	(2,1,1,1)	(3,1,1)	(4,1)	(2,2,1)	(3,2)	(5)
$\chi_5$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\chi_{(4,1)}$	4	2	1	0	0	-1	-1
$\chi_{(3,2)}$	5	1	-1	-1	1	1	0
$\chi_{(3,1,1)}$	6	0	0	0	-2	0	1
$\chi_{(2,2,1)}$	5	-1	-1	1	1	-1	0
$\chi_{(2,1,1,1)}$	4	-2	1	0	0	1	-1
$\chi_{(1,1,1,1,1)}$	1	-1	1	-1	1	-1	1

#### **4 CONCLUSION**

In this paper, Character table of permutation group of degree  $n$  using Specht module and Semi Standard Young Tableaux has been proposed. This method is explained with an example using a partition of degree 5 in permutation group  $S_5$ .

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