

PSEUDOREPRESENTATIONS WITH SMALL DEFECT THAT ARE TRIVIAL ON A NORMAL SUBGROUP

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ABSTRACT. A sufficient condition for the triviality of the restriction of a pseudorepresentation of a group to a normal subgroup is given.

§ 1. INTRODUCTION

Recall that a mapping π of a given group G into the family of invertible operators on a Hilbert space E is said to be a *quasirepresentation* of G on E if $\pi(e_G) = 1_E$, where e_G stands for the identity element of G and 1_E for the identity operator on the space E , and

$$\|\pi(g_1 g_2) - \pi(g_1)\pi(g_2)\| \leq \varepsilon, \quad g_1, g_2 \in G,$$

for some ε , which is usually assumed to be sufficiently small and (its greatest lower bound for π) is referred to as a *defect* of π , and a quasirepresentation π of G is said to be a *pseudorepresentation* of G if $\pi(g^n)$ is conjugate to $\pi(g)^n$, $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, with the help of an operator sufficiently close to the identity operator. For the generalities concerning pseudorepresentations and quasirepresentations of groups, see [1–6].

§ 2. PRELIMINARIES

If a pseudorepresentation π of G is one-dimensional and has a sufficiently small defect (less than 0.24) and if π is trivial on a normal subgroup N of G (i.e., $\pi(n) = 1_E$ for every $n \in N$, where 1_E stands for the identity operator

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on E), then, as was shown in [7], the one-dimensional pseudorepresentation π is completely determined by some pseudorepresentation of the quotient group G/N . It is unclear whether or not a similar assertion holds for general pseudorepresentations. However, the conditions under which the restriction of a given pseudorepresentation to a given normal subgroup is trivial in the above sense are of interest. In the note, we give a sufficient condition for the triviality of such a restriction of a pseudorepresentation of a group to a normal subgroup.

§ 3. MAIN THEOREM

The following theorem is a triviality theorem, i.e., establishes conditions under which a given pseudorepresentation is the identity representation on the corresponding Hilbert space. The theorem uses qualitative results of [2].

Theorem. *Let G be a group, let π be a pseudorepresentation of G on a Hilbert space E with a defect ε , let $\|\pi(g)\| \leq C$ and $\|(\pi(g))^{-1}\| \leq C$ for all $g \in G$, and let $\varepsilon < (C + \varepsilon)^{-2}/2$. Let $\|\pi(g) - 1_E\| \leq \delta$ and $\|(\pi(g))^{-1} - 1_E\| \leq \delta$ for all $g \in G$ and some δ such that $\varepsilon < (1 + \delta + \varepsilon)^{-2}/2$, $\delta < 1$, and*

$$(1) \quad (1 + 2\varepsilon((1 - \delta)^{-1} + \varepsilon)^2)\varepsilon(1 - 2\varepsilon((1 - \delta)^{-1} + \varepsilon)^2)^{-1} < \sqrt{3} - \varepsilon.$$

Then $\pi(g) = 1_E$ for all $g \in G$.

Proof. Recall that, by Theorem 5.3 of [2], if $\|\pi(g)\| \leq C$ and $\|(\pi(g))^{-1}\| \leq C$ for all $g \in G$, then the operator Q implementing the conjugacy of $\pi(g^n)$ and $(\pi(g))^n$ can be chosen to satisfy the inequality

$$\|Q - 1_E\| \leq 2\varepsilon(C + \varepsilon)^2,$$

where ε stands for the defect of π . Since, in our case, the inequality

$$C \leq \max((1 + \delta), (1 - \delta)^{-1}) = (1 - \delta)^{-1}$$

holds, it follows from what was said above that the norm of $Q\pi(g^n)Q^{-1} - 1_E$ does not exceed the left-hand side of (1). Therefore, $\|\pi(g)^n - 1_E\|$ does not exceed the left-hand side of (1) increased by ε , and hence is less than $\sqrt{3}$. The representation $\{\pi(g)^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ of the cyclic subgroup generated by $\pi(g)$, $g \in G$ (the group $G(g)$ is commutative and hence amenable), turns out to be bounded. Therefore, this representation is conjugate to a unitary representation. It follows from the inequality

$$\|\pi(g)^n - 1_E\| < \sqrt{3}, \quad g \in G, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z},$$

that there are no spectral points of $\pi(g^n)$ outside the arc on the unit circle formed by the complex numbers z , $|z| = 1$, with $|z - 1| < \sqrt{3}$. This arc contains no subgroups of the unit circle except for the identity subgroup $\{1\}$. Hence, the unitary operators of the representation

$$g^n \mapsto \pi(g)^n, \quad g \in G, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z},$$

are identity operators, and the corresponding representation of the cyclic group $\{g^n, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ takes all elements to the identity operator 1_E . Since $g \in G$ is arbitrary, it follows that $\pi(g) = 1_E$ for all $g \in G$, as was to be proved.

§ 4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The above theorem implies immediately the following corollary which gives sufficient conditions under which a given pseudorepresentation of a group is trivial on a given normal subgroup of the group.

Corollary. *Let G be a group, let π be a pseudorepresentation of G on a Hilbert space E with a defect ε , let N be a normal subgroup of G , let $\|\pi(n)\| \leq C$ and $\|(\pi(n))^{-1}\| \leq C$ for all $n \in N$, and let $\varepsilon < (C + \varepsilon)^{-2}/2$. Let*

$$\|\pi(n) - 1_E\| \leq \delta \quad \text{and} \quad \|(\pi(n))^{-1} - 1_E\| \leq \delta$$

for all $n \in G$ and some δ such that

$$\varepsilon < (1 + \delta + \varepsilon)^{-2}/2, \quad \delta < 1,$$

and, as in (1),

$$(1 + 2\varepsilon((1 - \delta)^{-1} + \varepsilon)^2)\varepsilon(1 - 2\varepsilon((1 - \delta)^{-1} + \varepsilon)^2)^{-1} < \sqrt{3} - \varepsilon.$$

Then $\pi(n) = 1_E$ for all $n \in N$.

In contrast to the case of one-dimensional pseudorepresentations (see [7]), it is unclear whether or not a pseudorepresentation trivial on a normal subgroup is determined by a pseudorepresentation of the corresponding quotient group.

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