

Group Representations

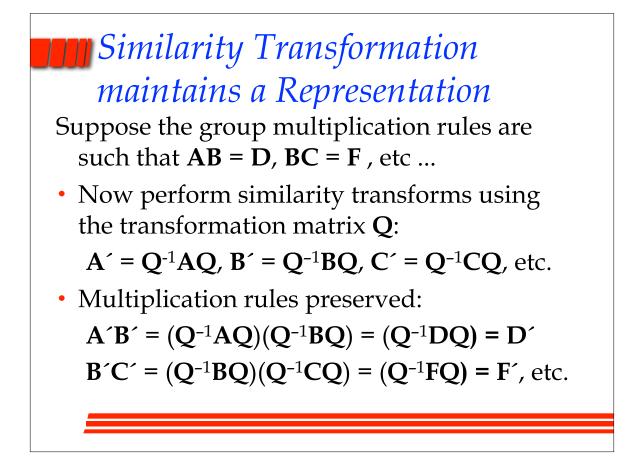
- Representation: A set of matrices that "represent" the group. That is, they behave in the same way as group elements when products are taken.
- A representation is in correspondence with the group multiplication table.
- Many representations are in general possible.
- The order (rank) of the matrices of a representation can vary.

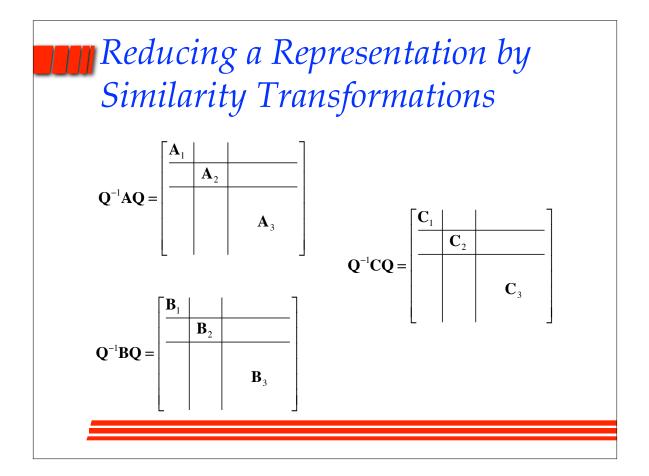
Example - show that the matrices found earlier are a representation

$$eg., \ C_{3}C_{3}^{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = E$$
$$(\sigma_{v1})^{-1}C_{3}\sigma_{v1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = C_{3}^{2}$$

Reducible and Irreducible Reps.

If we have a set of matrices, {A, B, C, ...}, that form a representation of a group and we can find a transformation matrix, say Q, that serves to "block factor" <u>all</u> the matrices of this representation <u>in the same block form</u> by similarity transformations, then {A, B, C, ...} is a <u>reducible</u> representation. If no such similarity transformation is possible then {A, B, C, ...} is an <u>irreducible</u> representation.

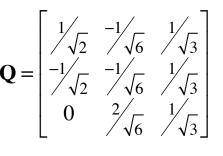


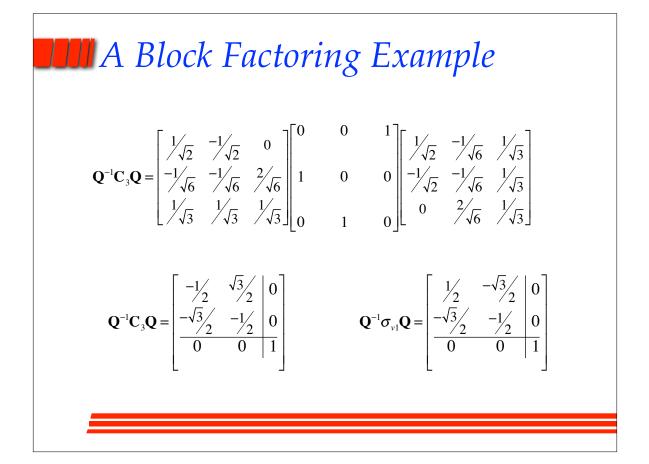


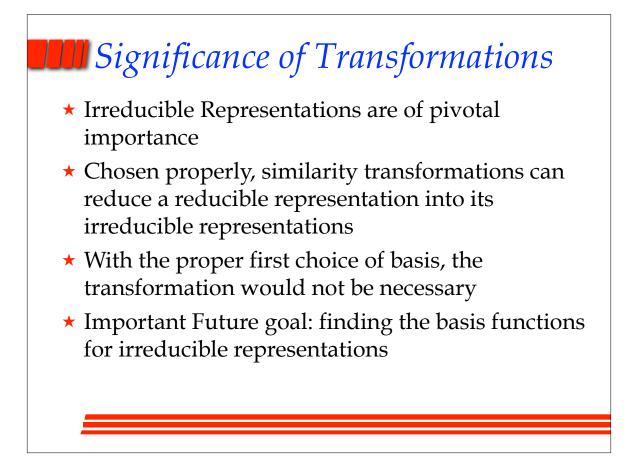
"Blocks" of a Reduced Rep. are also Representations

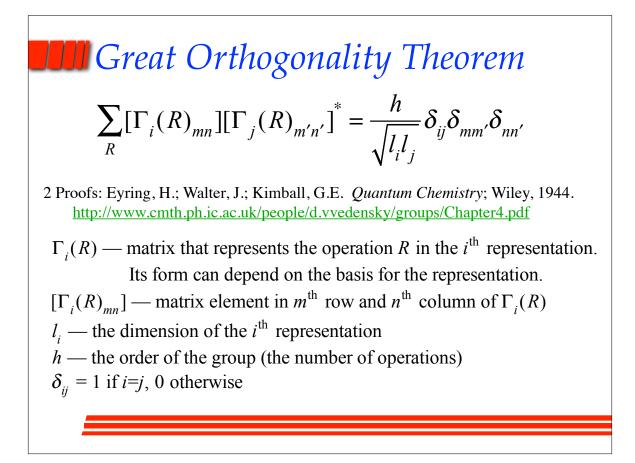
This must be true because any group multiplication property is obeyed by the subblocks. If, for example, **AB** = **C**, then $\mathbf{A}_1\mathbf{B}_1 = \mathbf{C}_1, \mathbf{A}_2\mathbf{B}_2 = \mathbf{C}_2$ and $\mathbf{A}_3\mathbf{B}_3 = \mathbf{C}_3$.

Example: Show that the matrix at left, **Q**, can reduce the matrices we found for the representation given earlier. $\mathbf{Q} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ 0 & \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{bmatrix}$ Example: Show that the









• Vectors formed from matrix elements from the
mth rows and nth columns of different irreducible
representations are orthogonal:
$$\sum_{R} [\Gamma_i(R)_{mn}] [\Gamma_j(R)_{mn}]^* = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j$$
• Such vectors formed from different row-column
sets of the same irreducible representation are
orthogonal and have magnitude h/l_i :
$$\sum_{R} [\Gamma_i(R)_{mn}] [\Gamma_i(R)_{m'n'}]^* = (h/l_i) \delta_{mm'} \delta_{nn'}$$

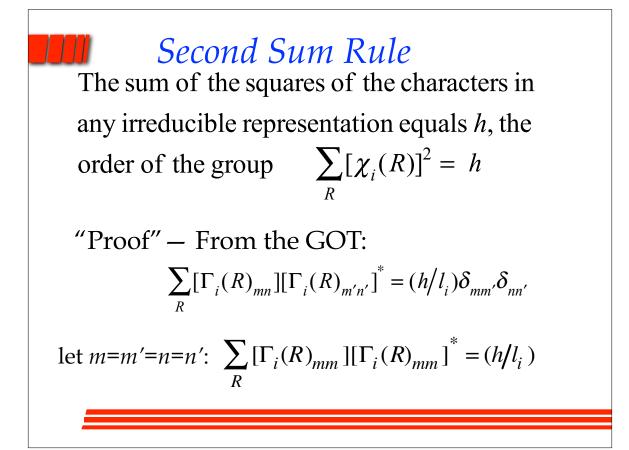
The First Sum Rule

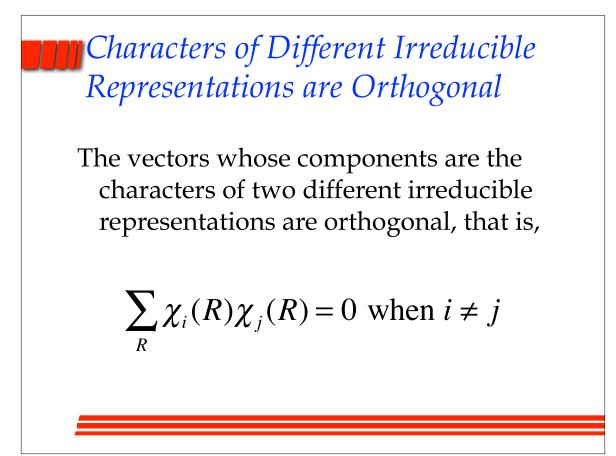
The sum of the squares of the dimensions of the irreducible representations of a group is equal to the order of the group, that is,

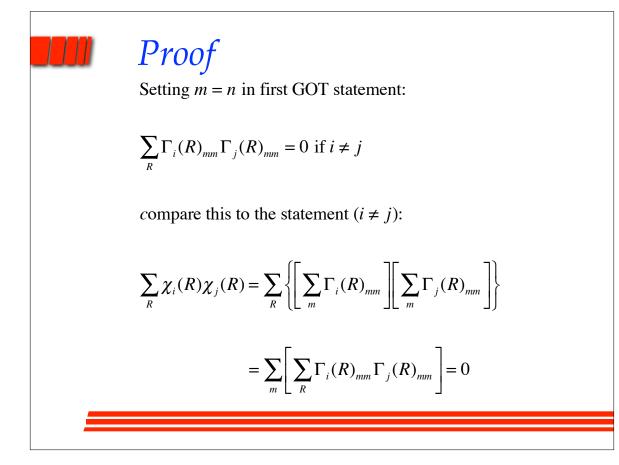
$$\sum_{i} l_i^2 = l_1^2 + l_2^2 + l_3^2 + \dots = h$$

this is equivalent to:

 $\sum_{i} \left[\chi_i(E) \right]^2 = h$







Matrices in the Same Class have Equal Characters

- This statement is true whether the representation is reducible or irreducible
- This follows from the fact that all elements in the same class are conjugate and conjugate matrices have equal characters.

of Classes = # of Irred. Reps. The number of irreducible representations of a group is equal to the number of classes in the group. $\sum_{R} \chi_i(R)\chi_j(R) = h\delta_{ij}$ if the number of elements in the *m*th class is g_m and there are *k* classes, $\sum_{p=1}^k \chi_i(R_p)\chi_j(R_p)g_p = h\delta_{ij}$