

Preliminary talk

Pure math seminar
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The symmetric group

$$S_3 = \{ \equiv, \cong, \overline{\cong}, \times, \overline{\times}, \overline{\overline{\times}} \}$$

with product $\boxed{a} \cdot \boxed{b} = \boxed{ab}$ acts on

$$V = \text{span} \{ v_{123}, v_{213}, v_{132}, v_{321}, v_{312}, v_{231} \}.$$

For example,

$$\overline{\times} \cdot (5v_{123} + 7v_{321} + \sqrt{10}v_{231}) = 5v_{321} + 7v_{123} + \sqrt{10}v_{213}.$$

In matrix form

$$M_1 = \equiv = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_2 = \overline{\times} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\times = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\overline{\overline{\times}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_3 = \bar{\times} + \times = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Amazing theorem

M_1, M_2, M_3 commute.

Can you prove it?

Problem Find simultaneous eigenvectors

$e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6$ for M_1, M_2, M_3

Example Let $e_1 = v_1 + v_2 + v_3 + v_4 + v_5 + v_6$

Then

$$M_1 e_1 = e_1, \quad M_2 e_1 = e_1 \quad \text{and} \quad M_3 e_1 = 2e_1$$

Example Let $e_6 = v_1 - v_2 - v_3 - v_4 + v_5 + v_6$

Then

$$M_1 e_6 = e_6, \quad M_2 e_6 = -e_6, \quad M_3 e_6 = -2e_6.$$