# SOME REMARKS ON THE GHARAGTERS OF THE SYMMETRIC GROUP, II 

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Introduction. Let $p$ be a fixed prime number. We denote by $k(n)$ the number of partitions of $n$. As is well known, the number of ordinary irreducible characters of the symmetric group $S_{n}$ is $k(n)$. We set $k(0)=1$ and

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
l(b)=\sum_{b_{0}, \ldots, b_{p-1}} k\left(b_{0}\right) k\left(b_{1}\right) \ldots k\left(b_{p-1}\right) & \left(\sum_{i=0}^{p-1} b_{i}=b, 0 \leqslant b_{i} \leqslant b\right), \\
l^{*}(b)=\sum_{b_{1}, \ldots, b_{p-1}} k\left(b_{1}\right) k\left(b_{2}\right) \ldots k\left(b_{p-1}\right) & \left(\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} b_{i}=b, 0 \leqslant b_{i} \leqslant b\right) .
\end{array}
$$

Two ordinary irreducible representations of $S_{n}$ belong to the same $p$-block if and only if they have the same $p$-core ( $\mathbf{1 0} ; \mathbf{2} ; \mathbf{1 1})$. The number of ordinary irreducible characters belonging to a $p$-block of weight $b$ is independent of the $p$-core and is equal to $l(b)(\mathbf{1 6} ; \mathbf{1 2}$; also $\mathbf{1 1} ; \mathbf{1 5})$. This may be also easily proved by applying the theory of $p$-quotients ( $6 ; 4$ ). Moreover we have the following theorem ( 13 ; also $4 \mathrm{a} ; 8 ; 15 ; 16$ ).

Theorem 1. The number of modular irreducible characters belonging to a $p$-block of weight $b$ is $l^{*}(b)$.

In the present paper we shall give a simple proof for this theorem. We shall then derive some new properties of decomposition numbers of $S_{n}$.

1. We denote by $\chi_{\alpha}$ the character of the irreducible representation $[\alpha]$ corresponding to a Young diagram $[\alpha]$. We set $r\left(\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}\right)=(-1)^{s}$ if a diagram [ $\alpha^{\prime}$ ] of $S_{n-g}$ is obtained from $[\alpha]$ by removing a $g$-hook of leg length $s$. Otherwise we set $r\left(\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}\right)=0$. Then the Murnaghan-Nakayama recursion formula (7;9) is expressed as follows:
If $G$ is an element of $S_{n}$ containing a g-cycle $P$ and $\bar{G}$ is the permutation of $n-g$ symbols arising from $G$ by removing this cycle, then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\alpha}(G)=\sum_{\alpha^{\prime}} r\left(\alpha, \alpha^{\prime}\right) \chi_{\alpha^{\prime}}(\bar{G}), \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\left[\alpha^{\prime}\right]$ ranges over all diagrams of $S_{n-\sigma}$.
If $[\alpha]$ is a diagram with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right.$ ] then the summation in (3) may be limited to those $\left[\alpha^{\prime}\right]$ with the same $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$.

We set $n=n^{\prime}+t p\left(0 \leqslant n^{\prime}<p\right)$ and consider an element $G$ of $S_{n}$ such that

$$
G=W \cdot Q_{1} \cdot Q_{2} \ldots Q_{s}
$$

where no two of $Q_{i}$ have common symbols and each $Q_{i}$ is a cycle of length
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$a_{i} p\left(a_{1} \geqslant a_{2} \geqslant \ldots \geqslant a_{s}\right)$ and where $W$ is any permutation on the fixed symbols of $P=Q_{1} \cdot Q_{2} \ldots Q_{s}$. We set

$$
a=\sum_{i} a_{i} \quad(0 \leqslant a \leqslant t)
$$

Then $P$ is called an element of type ( $a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{s}$ ) and of weight $a$. The number of elements of weight $a$ such that they all lie in different conjugate classes of $S_{n}$ is $k(a)$. If we set

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{a=0}^{t} k(a)=r \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

then we have a system of elements of weight $a(a=0,1,2, \ldots, t)$

$$
P_{0}=1, P_{1}, \ldots, P_{r-1}
$$

such that they all lie in different conjugate classes of $S_{n}$ and every element of weight $a(0 \leqslant a \leqslant t)$ is conjugate to one of them. Every conjugate class contains an element of the form $V P_{i}$, where $i$ is uniquely determined by the class and where $V$ is a $p$-regular element of $S_{n-a p}$, if $P_{i}$ is of weight $a$. Since the number $k^{*}(n)$ of modular irreducible representations of $S_{n}$ is equal to the number of $p$-regular classes of $S_{n}$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
k(n)=\sum_{a=0}^{t} k^{*}(n-a p) k(a) \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let $P_{i}$ be an element of type $\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{s}\right)$ and of weight $a$. Let [ $\alpha_{0}$ ] be a $p$-core with $m$ nodes and $n=m+b p$. Then the number of diagrams of $S_{m+j p}$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$ is $l(j)$. We denote by $\chi_{\beta}{ }^{(a)}$ the character of the irreducible representation [ $\beta$ ] of $S_{n-a p}$ corresponding to a diagram [ $\beta$ ]. Let us denote by $B$ the block of $S_{n}$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$. Applying the Murnaghan-Nakayama recursion formula iterated $s$ times to $[\alpha] \subset B$, we obtain

$$
\chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right)= \begin{cases}\sum_{\beta} h(\alpha, \beta) \chi_{\beta}^{(a)}(V),[\beta] \subset B^{(a)} & (\text { for } a \leqslant b)  \tag{6}\\ 0 & (\text { for } b<a)\end{cases}
$$

where the $h(\alpha, \beta)$ are rational integers and $B^{(a)}$ denotes the block of $S_{n-a p}$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$. If $a \leqslant b$ then $B^{(a)}$ is of weight $b-a$. Let $\phi_{\lambda}{ }^{(a)}$ be the character of $S_{n-a p}$ in the modular ${ }_{-}$irreducible representation $\lambda$. We then have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\beta}^{(a)}(V)=\sum_{\lambda} d_{\beta \lambda}^{(a)} \phi_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V) \quad\left(V \text { in } S_{n-a p}, p \text {-regular }\right) \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the $d_{\beta \lambda}{ }^{(a)}$ are the decomposition numbers (1) of $S_{n-a p}$. Hence (6), combined with (7), yields

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right)=\sum_{\lambda} u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i} \phi_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V), \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the $u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i}$ are rational integers. If $b<a$ then $u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i}=0$ for every $\lambda$, and if $a \leqslant b$ then $u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i}=0$ for $\lambda \not \subset \not \subset B^{(a)}$. Let $D=\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)$ be the decomposition matrix of $S_{n}$. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\alpha}(V)=\sum_{\lambda} d_{\alpha \lambda} \phi_{\lambda}(V) \quad\left(V \text { in } S_{n}, p \text {-regular }\right) \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence, for $P_{0}=1$, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{0}=d_{\alpha \lambda} . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

We arrange these numbers $u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i}$ for a fixed $i$ in the form of a matrix

$$
\begin{equation*}
U^{i}=\left(u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i}\right) \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

with $\alpha$ as row index and $\lambda$ as column index, and set

$$
\begin{equation*}
U=\left(U^{0}, U^{1}, \ldots, U^{r-1}\right) \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

Each column of $U$ is given by a pair ( $i, \lambda$ ). It follows from (5) that the number of such columns is $k(n)$ (note that the number of elements $P_{i}$ of weight $a$ is $k(a)$ ), whence $U$ is a square matrix of the same degree as the matrix $Z=\left(\chi_{\alpha}(G)\right)$ of the group characters $\chi_{\alpha}$ of $S_{n}$. According to (8) we have the formula

$$
\begin{equation*}
Z=U A \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $A$ is a square matrix such that

$$
A=\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
\Phi^{(0)} & & 0  \tag{14}\\
& \Phi^{(1)} & \\
\\
& \cdot & \\
& & \\
0 & & \\
0 & & \\
\Phi^{(t)}
\end{array}\right]
$$

where, for each $a$, the matrix $\Phi^{(a)}=\left({ }_{\phi_{\lambda}}{ }^{(a)}(V)\right)$ of the modular group characters of $S_{n-a p}$ appears in the main diagonal with multiplicity $k(a)$ if the rows and columns are arranged suitably. Since $Z$ is non-singular, so is $U$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
|U| \neq 0 \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof of Theorem 1. It follows from (8) that, if the rows and columns of $U$ are taken in a suitable order, $U$ breaks up completely into $q$ matrices $U_{1}, U_{2}, \ldots, U_{q}$, each $U_{k}$ corresponding to a block $B_{k}$ of $S_{n}$. Denote by $x_{k}$ the number of ordinary irreducible characters in $B_{k}$. It follows from $|U| \neq 0$ that each $U$-matrix $U_{k}$ of $B_{k}$ must necessarily be a square matrix of degree $x_{k}$ and $\left|U_{k}\right| \neq 0$. Let $B_{k}$ be a block of weight $b$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$. We then have $x_{k}=l(b)$. Denote by $f(a)$ the number of modular irreducible characters in a block of weight $a$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$. Since $U_{k}$ is a square matrix of degree $l(b)$ we have by (8)

$$
\begin{equation*}
l(b)=\sum_{a=0}^{b} f(a) k(b-a) \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $l^{*}(0)=f(0)=1$ and $l^{*}(1)=f(1)=p-1$, we shall assume that $l^{*}(a)=f(a)$ for $a<b$. We then have by (12; Lemma 1)

$$
\begin{aligned}
f(b) & =l(b)-\sum_{a=0}^{b-1} f(a) k(b-a) \\
& =l(b)-\sum_{a=0}^{b-1} l^{*}(a) k(b-a)=l^{*}(b)
\end{aligned}
$$

This completes the proof.
2. In what follows we shall be concerned with representations belonging to a fixed block $B_{k}$ of weight $b$, so we may drop the subscript $k$. Applying (8) to the orthogonality relations

$$
\sum_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right) \chi_{\alpha}\left(V^{\prime} P_{j}\right)=0 \quad(i \neq j)
$$

we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right) \chi_{\alpha}\left(V^{\prime} P_{j}\right)=0 \quad[\alpha] \subset B, \quad(i \neq j) \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

whence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V^{\prime} P_{j}\right)=0 \quad[\alpha] \subset B, \quad(i \neq j) \tag{18}
\end{equation*}
$$

We then have

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}{ }^{i} u_{\alpha \kappa}^{j}=0 \tag{19}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
[\alpha] \subset B, \quad(i \neq j)
$$

For $P_{j}=P_{0}=1$, it follows from (18) that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} \chi_{\alpha}(V)=0 \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

$[\alpha] \subset B, \quad(i \neq 0)$,
where $V$ is any $p$-regular element of $S_{n}$. Hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} d_{\alpha \kappa}=0 \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

$$
[\alpha] \subset B, \quad(i \neq 0)
$$

Since the $U$-matrix $U_{k}$ of $B$ is non-singular the identities (21) are linearly independent. Moreover the number of identities (21) is $l(b)-l^{*}(b)$ and hence the system of linearly independent identities (21) satisfied by the rows of the decomposition matrix $D_{k}$ of $B$ is complete.

We shall denote by $n(G)$ the order of the normalizer $N(G)$ of $G$ in $S_{n}$. Applying (8) to the orthogonality relations

$$
\sum_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right) \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right)=n\left(V P_{i}\right)
$$

we have

$$
\sum_{\lambda}\left(\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right)\right) \phi_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V)=n\left(V P_{i}\right) .
$$

Let $\eta_{\lambda}{ }^{(a)}$ be the character of the indecomposable constituent of the regular representation of $S_{n-a p}$ which corresponds to $\phi_{\lambda}{ }^{(a)}$. Then we have the character relation

$$
\sum_{\lambda} \eta_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V) \phi_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V)=n^{(a)}(V)
$$

where $n^{(a)}(V)$ denotes the order of the normalizer of $V$ in $S_{n-a p}$. Hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} \chi_{\alpha}\left(V P_{i}\right)=\frac{n\left(V P_{i}\right)}{n^{(a)}(V)} \eta_{\lambda}^{(a)}(V), \quad[\alpha] \subset B . \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

If $P_{i}$ is an element of weight $a$ with $n-a p 1$-cycles, $k_{1} p$-cycles, $k_{2} 2 p$-cycles, $\ldots, k_{m} m p$-cycles, then (22) yields

$$
\begin{align*}
\sum_{\alpha} u_{\alpha \lambda}^{i} u_{\alpha \kappa}^{i} & =\frac{n\left(V P_{i}\right)}{n^{(a)}(V)} c_{\lambda \kappa}^{(a)}  \tag{23}\\
& =c_{\lambda \kappa}^{(a)} \prod_{i}\left(k_{i}!(i p)^{k_{i}}\right)
\end{align*}
$$

where the $c_{\lambda \kappa}{ }^{(a)}$ denote the Cartan invariants of $S_{n-a p}$.
3. Let $[\alpha]$ with $p$-core $\left[\alpha_{0}\right]$ belong to a block $B$ of weight $b$ and let $[\alpha]^{*}$ be its star diagram (14; also $4 ; 11 ; 17$ ). We shall write

$$
[\alpha]^{*}=\left[\nu_{0}\right] \cdot\left[\nu_{1}\right] \cdot \ldots \cdot\left[\nu_{p-1}\right]
$$

where the $\left[\nu_{r}\right]$ are the disjoint right constituents of $[\alpha]^{*}$. We assume that [ $\nu_{r}$ ] contains $b_{r}$ nodes, where

$$
\begin{equation*}
b=b_{0}+b_{1}+\ldots+b_{p-1} \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $r$ is the leg length of the $p$-hook represented by its upper left-hand corner node. We denote by $\chi_{\alpha}{ }^{*}$ the character of (reducible) representation [ $\left.\alpha\right]^{*}$ of $S_{b}$ corresponding to the star diagram $[\alpha]^{*}$ and by $f_{\alpha}{ }^{*}$ its degree. Then

$$
\begin{equation*}
f_{\alpha}^{*}=\frac{b!}{b_{0}!b_{1}!\ldots b_{p-1}!} f_{v_{0}} f_{v_{1}} \ldots f_{v_{p-1}} \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f_{\nu_{r}}$ denotes the degree of the ordinary irreducible representation $\left[\nu_{r}\right]$ of $S_{b_{r}}$ (14).

If $P_{b}$ represents the product of $b$ cycles, each of length $p$, on the last $b p$ of $n$ symbols, then $P_{b}$ is of weight $b$ and of type ( $1,1, \ldots, 1$ ). Denote by $N\left(P_{b}\right)$ the normalizer of $P_{b}$ in $S_{n}$. We then have $N\left(P_{b}\right)=\mathfrak{F}_{1} \times \mathfrak{F}_{2}$, where $\mathfrak{H}_{1}$ is the subgroup of $S_{n}$ which permutes only the first $n-b p$ symbols and which may be identified with $S_{n-b p}$. On the other hand

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathfrak{H}_{2}=S_{b}^{*} \mathfrak{Q}, \quad S_{b}^{*} \cap \mathfrak{Q}=1 \tag{26}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathfrak{Q}$ is the subgroup generated by the $b$ individual cycles of length $p$ of $P_{b}$ and is the normal subgroup of $\mathrm{G}_{2}$, and $S_{b}{ }^{*}$ is the subgroup of permutations which permute the cycles of $P_{b}$ amongst themselves. We see that $S_{b}{ }^{*}$ is isomorphic to the symmetric group $S_{b}$ of $b$ symbols. We denote by $W$ the element of $S_{b}$ which corresponds to $W^{*}$ of $S_{b}{ }^{*}$. The transitive subgroup $\mathbb{F H}_{2}$ of $S_{n}$ is called the generalized symmetric group and is denoted by $S(b, p)$. The order of $S(b, p)$ is $b!p^{b}$. It may be verified that there are $l(b)$ conjugate classes of $S(b, p)$. For example we shall determine the conjugate classes of $S(2,3)$. We set

$$
Q_{1}=(123), \quad Q_{2}=(456) .
$$

Then there exist two conjugate classes which are represented by

$$
W_{0}^{*}=1, \quad W_{1}^{*}=(14)(25)(36)
$$

A complete system of representatives for the conjugate classes of $S(2,3)$ is given by

$$
W_{0}^{*}, W_{1}^{*}, Q_{1}, Q_{1}^{2}, Q_{1} Q_{2}, Q_{1} Q_{2}^{2}, Q_{1}^{2} Q_{2}^{2}, W_{1}^{*} Q_{1}, W_{1}^{*} Q_{1}^{2}
$$

Each element is associated with a star diagram with 2 nodes by the following way:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& W_{0}^{*}=1 \quad\left[1^{2}\right] \cdot[0] \cdot[0] \\
& W_{1}^{*}=(14)(25)(36) \quad[2] \cdot[0] \cdot[0] \\
& Q_{1} Q_{2}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 2
\end{array}\right)(456) \quad[0] \cdot\left[1^{2}\right] \cdot[0] \\
& W_{1}^{*} Q_{1}=(142536) \quad[0] \cdot[2] \cdot[0] \\
& Q_{1}^{2} Q_{2}^{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 3 & 2
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{ll}
4 & 6
\end{array}\right) \quad[0] \cdot[0] \cdot\left[1^{2}\right] \\
& W_{1}^{*} Q_{1}^{2}=(143625) \quad[0] \cdot[0] \cdot[2] \\
& Q_{1}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 2 & 3
\end{array}\right) \quad[1] \cdot[1] \cdot[0] \\
& Q_{1}^{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 3 & 2
\end{array}\right) \quad[1] \cdot[0] \cdot[1] \\
& Q_{1} Q_{2}^{2}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 2 & 3
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{ll}
4 & 6
\end{array}\right) \quad[0] \cdot[1] \cdot[1] .
\end{aligned}
$$

By the same way each conjugate class of $S(b, p)$ is uniquely associated with a star diagram with $b$ nodes. Every conjugate class of $S(b, p)$ associated with $[\alpha]^{*}$ such that $\left[\nu_{0}\right]=[0]$ contains the elements of weight $b$. But the converse is not valid generally.

Theorem 2. The number of ordinary irreducible representations of $S(b, p)$ is $l(b)$ and there is a (1-1) correspondence between ordinary irreducible representations of $S(b, p)$ and star diagrams $[\alpha]^{*}$ containing $b$ nodes.

This, together with related theorems, will be proved in a forthcoming paper (13a).
We denote by $\zeta_{\alpha^{*}}$ the ordinary irreducible characters of $S(b, p)$ corresponding to a star diagram $[\alpha]^{*}$. Let $V P$ be an element of $S_{n}$ such that $P$ is an element of type $\left(a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{s}\right)$ and of weight $b\left(b=\sum a_{i}\right)$ and $V$ is any permutation on the fixed symbols of $P$, and let $W$ be an element of $S_{b}$ with $a_{1}$-cycle, $a_{2}$-cycle, . . , $a_{s}$-cycle. We have by (6)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\alpha}(V P)=h\left(\alpha, \alpha_{0}\right) \chi_{\alpha_{0}}(V) . \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

Since $h\left(\alpha, \alpha_{0}\right)$ is determined by ( $a_{1}, a_{2}, \ldots, a_{s}$ ), we may set $h\left(\alpha, \alpha_{0}\right)=u(W)$. We then have by Thrall and Robinson (18; 14; also cf. 6)

$$
\begin{equation*}
u(W)=\sigma_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha} *(W) \tag{28}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\sigma_{\alpha}= \pm 1$ is the product of the parities of the $b$ hooks of length $p$ of $[\alpha]$. On the other hand we can prove that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\chi_{\alpha^{*}}(W)=\zeta_{\alpha^{*}}\left(W^{*}\right), \quad W^{*} \in S_{b}^{*} \tag{29}
\end{equation*}
$$

Thus we may denote without confusion by $\chi_{\alpha}{ }^{*}\left(G^{*}\right), G^{*} \in S(b, p)$, the character of the ordinary irreducible representation of $S(b, p)$ corresponding to $[\alpha]^{*}$.

Let $W_{i}(i=0,1,2, \ldots, k(b)-1)$ be a complete system of representatives for conjugate classes of $S_{b}$. If we denote by $n^{*}\left(W_{i}^{*}\right)$ the order of the normalizer $N^{*}\left(W_{i}^{*}\right)$ of $W_{i}^{*}$ in $S(b, p)$ then it follows from (19) and (23) that

$$
\sum_{\alpha *} \chi_{\alpha^{*}}\left(W_{i}^{*}\right) \chi_{\alpha} *\left(W_{j}^{*}\right)=\delta_{i j} n^{*}\left(W_{i}^{*}\right) .
$$

Evidently these relations are the orthogonality relations for the characters of $S(b, p)$.
4. Let $V$ be any $p$-regular element of $S_{n}$ and let $W^{*}$ be any element of $S_{b}{ }^{*}$. We have by (20)

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha} *\left(W^{*}\right) \chi_{\alpha}(V)=0, \quad[\alpha] \subset B \tag{30}
\end{equation*}
$$

It was shown in (2) that $S(b, p)$ possesses only one $p$-block. If we denote by

$$
D^{*}=\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}^{*}\right)
$$

the decomposition matrix of $S(b, p)$, then (30) yields:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} d_{\alpha \star} \chi_{\alpha} *\left(W^{*}\right)=0, & {[\alpha] \subset B} \\
\sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} d_{\alpha \lambda}^{*} \chi_{\alpha}(V)=0, & {[\alpha] \subset B}
\end{array}
$$

and hence

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} d_{\alpha \kappa} d_{\alpha \lambda}^{*}=0 \tag{33}
\end{equation*}
$$

$[\alpha] \subset B$.
Moreover we have the following
Theorem 3. Let $B$ be a p-block of weight $b$ and let $G=V P$ be an element of $S_{n}$ such that $P$ is any element of weight a different from $b$ and $V$ is any $p$-regular permutation on the fixed symbols of $P$. Then for any element $W^{*} \in S_{b}{ }^{*}$,

$$
\sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}(G) \chi_{\alpha^{*}}\left(W^{*}\right)=0
$$

$[\alpha] \subset B$.
This follows immediately from (19).
We obtain the generalization of the Murnaghan-Nakayama recursion formula for the character $\chi_{\alpha} *$ of $S(b, p)$ and this yields

Theorem 4. Let $B$ be a $p$-block of weight $b$ and let $S$ be any element of $S(b, p)$ associated with a star diagram $[\beta]^{*}=\left[\lambda_{0}\right] \cdot\left[\lambda_{1}\right] \cdot \ldots \cdot\left[\lambda_{p-1}\right]$ such that $\left[\lambda_{0}\right] \neq[0]$. Then

$$
\sum_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}(V) \chi_{\alpha} *(S)=0 \quad\left(V \text { in } S_{n}, p \text {-regular }\right)
$$

Let $R$ be any element of $S(b, p)$ associated with a star diagram $[\beta]^{*}$ such that $\left[\lambda_{0}\right]=[0]$. The number of conjugate classes of $S(b, p)$ which contain the element $R$ defined above is $l^{*}(b)$. We denote by $R_{1}, R_{2}, \ldots, R_{l^{*}(b)}$ the representatives for these classes.

Theorem 5. Let $D=\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)$ be the decomposition matrix of a p-block $B$ of weight $b$. Then

$$
d_{\alpha \lambda}=\sigma_{\alpha} \sum_{\kappa=1}^{i^{*}(b)} v_{\kappa \lambda} \chi_{\alpha^{*}}\left(R_{\kappa}\right), \quad \text { for }[\alpha] \subset B,
$$

where the $v_{\mathrm{\kappa} \mathrm{\lambda}}$ are complex numbers and are independent of $\alpha$.
Corollary. Let $D=\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)$ and $D^{\prime}=\left(d_{\alpha^{\prime} \lambda}^{\prime}\right)$ with $[\alpha]^{*}=\left[\alpha^{\prime}\right]^{*}$ be the decomposition matrices of $p$-blocks $B$ and $B^{\prime}$ of same weight respectively. Then

$$
d_{\alpha^{\prime} \nu}^{\prime}=\sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha^{\prime}} \sum_{\lambda=1}^{\iota^{*}(b)} w_{\nu \lambda} d_{\alpha \lambda}, \quad \text { for }\left[\alpha^{\prime}\right] \subset B^{\prime}
$$

where the $w_{\nu \lambda}$ are rational integers and $\left|w_{\nu \lambda}\right|= \pm 1$.
Consequently we have
Theorem 6. Two matrices of Cartan invariants corresponding to the p-blocks of same weight have the same elementary divisors.

Example. The following is the $U$-matrix for the 2-block $B$ of $S_{6}$ with 2-core [0].
$[6]$
$[5,1]$
$[4,2]$
$\left[4,1^{2}\right]$
$\left[3^{2}\right]$
$\left[2^{3}\right]$
$\left[3,1^{3}\right]$
$\left[2^{2}, 1^{2}\right]$
$\left[2,1^{4}\right]$
$\left[1^{6}\right]$$\left[\begin{array}{lllllrrrrr}1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -3 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1\end{array}\right]$

The matrix occupying the first three columns of this $U$-matrix is the decomposition matrix of $B$ and the matrix occupying the last three columns is the matrix ( $\sigma_{\alpha} \chi_{\alpha}{ }^{*}\left(W_{i}^{*}\right)$ ) of $S(3,2)$. We set

$$
Q_{1}=(12), \quad Q_{2}=(34), \quad Q_{3}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
5 & 6
\end{array}\right), \quad P=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 2
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{ll}
3 & 4
\end{array}\right)(56) .
$$

Then

$$
\begin{gathered}
W_{0}^{*}=1, \quad W_{1}^{*}=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 3
\end{array}\right)(24), \quad W_{2}^{*}=\left(\begin{array}{lll}
1 & 3 & 5
\end{array}\right)\left(\begin{array}{ll}
2 & 4
\end{array}\right), \\
Q_{1}, \quad W_{1}^{*} Q_{3}, \quad Q_{1} Q_{2}, \quad W_{1}^{*} Q_{1}, \quad P, \quad W_{1}^{*} Q_{1} Q_{3}, \quad W_{2}^{*} Q_{1}
\end{gathered}
$$

form a complete system of representatives for conjugate classes of $S(3,2)$. We then obtain easily Table I, showing the group characters $\chi_{\alpha} *$ of $S(3,2)$ (cf. 5, p. 275).
TABLE I

| class | $\left[1^{3}\right] \cdot[0]$ | $[2,1] \cdot[0]$ | $[3] \cdot[0]$ | $\left[1^{2}\right] \cdot[1]$ | $[2] \cdot[1]$ | $[1] \cdot\left[1^{2}\right]$ | $[1] \cdot[2]$ | $[0] \cdot\left[1^{3}\right]$ | $[0] \cdot[2,1]$ | $[0] \cdot[3]$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| element | 1 | $(13)(24)$ | $(135)(246)$ | $(12)$ | $(13)(24)(56)$ | $(12)(34)$ | $(1324)$ | $(12)(34)(56)$ | $(1324)(56)$ | $(135246)$ |
| order | 1 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| $[3] \cdot[0]$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $[0] \cdot[3]$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | -1 |
| $[2] \cdot[1]$ | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | -3 | -1 | 0 |
| $[2,1] \cdot[0]$ | 2 | 0 | -1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | -1 |
| $[1] \cdot[2]$ | 3 | 1 | 0 | -1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | 3 | -1 | 0 |
| $\left[1^{2}\right] \cdot[1]$ | 3 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | -3 | 1 | 0 |
| $[0] \cdot[2,1]$ | 2 | 0 | -1 | -2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | -2 | 0 | 1 |
| $[1] \cdot\left[1^{2}\right]$ | 3 | -1 | 0 | -1 | -1 | -1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| $\left[1^{3}\right] \cdot[0]$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 |
| $[0] \cdot\left[1^{3}\right]$ | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -1 | -1 | -1 |

The decomposition matrix $D^{*}$ and the matrix $C^{*}$ of Cartan invariants of $S(3,2)$ are given by

$$
D^{*}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 \\
1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 \\
1 & 1 \\
0 & 1 \\
1 & 1 \\
1 & 0 \\
1 & 0
\end{array}\right] \quad, \quad C^{*}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
8 & 4 \\
4 & 6
\end{array}\right]
$$

The following are the $D$-matrices $\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)$ and ( $d_{\alpha^{\prime} \lambda}^{\prime}$ ) for the 2 -block of $S_{6_{-}}{ }^{7}$ with 2 -core [0] and the 2 -block of $S_{7}$ with 2 -core [1] respectively:
$[6]$
$[5,1]$
$[4,2]$
$\left[4,1^{2}\right]$
$\left[3^{2}\right]$
$\left[2^{3}\right]$
$\left[3,1^{3}\right]$
$\left[2^{2}, 1^{2}\right]$
$\left[2,1^{4}\right]$
$\left[1^{6}\right]$$\left[\begin{array}{lll}1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$
$[7]$
$[4,2,1]$
$\left[5,1^{2}\right]$
$[5,2]$
$\left[3^{2}, 1\right]$
$\left[3,2^{2}\right]$
$\left[2^{2}, 1^{3}\right]$
$\left[3,1^{4}\right]$
$\left[3,2,1^{2}\right]$
$\left[1^{7}\right]$$\quad\left[\begin{array}{lll}1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right]$

We see from the table of the group characters $\chi_{\alpha} *$ of $S(3,2)$ that

$$
\left(d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)=\left[\begin{array}{rrr}
1 & 1 & 1 \\
1 & -1 & 1 \\
-3 & -1 & 0 \\
-2 & 0 & 1 \\
-3 & 1 & 0 \\
-3 & 1 & 0 \\
-2 & 0 & 1 \\
-3 & -1 & 0 \\
1 & -1 & 1 \\
1 & 1 & 1
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{rrr}
-\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{3} \\
0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\
\frac{4}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3}
\end{array}\right]
$$

There exists the following relation between $\left(d^{\prime}{ }_{\alpha^{\prime} \lambda}\right)$ and $\left(\sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_{\alpha^{\prime}} d_{\alpha \lambda}\right)$ :

$$
\left(d_{\alpha^{\prime} \lambda}^{\prime}\right)=\left[\begin{array}{rrr}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
-1 & -1 & 0 \\
-1 & -1 & -1 \\
-2 & -1 & -1 \\
1 & 0 & 1 \\
1 & 0 & 1 \\
-2 & -1 & -1 \\
-1 & -1 & -1 \\
-1 & -1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{rrr}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
-3 & -1 & -1 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}\right]
$$

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