

# Automorphism actions over nonabelian nilpotent coefficient groups, constructed via cohomology

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# Hadamard matrices

## Definition

A complex Hadamard matrix is a square  $n \times n$  matrix  $H$  with entries  $H_{i,j}$  of modulus 1, such that

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- It is conjectured that real HM exist in all orders  $n = 4m$ .
- Complex HM exist in any order, e.g. the **Fourier matrix**.

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- Row permutations
- Column permutations
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All this can be summarized as a transformation

$$H \mapsto LHR^*, \quad L, R \text{ are monomial.}$$

We define the automorphism group

$$\text{Aut}(H) := \{(L, R) \text{ monomial} \mid LHR^* = H\}.$$

# Noncommutative Hadamard matrices

Hadamard matrices can be defined over noncommutative domains, e.g. if  $\mu$  is a group, we require

$$H \in \mu^{n \times n} \text{ satisfies } HH^* = nI,$$

in whatever ring  $R \supset \mu$ , and  $H_{i,j}^* = H_{j,i}^{-1}$ . For example  $\mu$  = the quaternion group.

Automorphisms are defined exactly the same way.

## Remark

The notion of an automorphism is independent of the matrix being Hadamard. It applies to the whole space  $\mu^{n \times n}$ .

# Motivation

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- The spaces in  $R^{n \times n}$  cut by these symmetries are nice. They have structures of algebras or (bi-)modules.
- The search space becomes smaller if there is more symmetry. Orthogonality interacts 'nicely' with the space.
- This construction is suitable for other types of combinatorial and quantum objects, like weighing matrices, symmetric t-designs, ETFs, MUBs, SICs and more.

# Outline of the talk

In this talk

- We will define the main problem: how to construct matrices with prescribed underlying group permutation action.
- We will set up a cohomological framework to interpret and solve this problem in the commutative case.
- We will see how to adapt this point of view to noncommutative nilpotent coefficients.

# $X \times Y$ -matrices

The basic setting:

- Let  $G$  be a finite group, and  $X, Y$  be **transitive**  $G$ -sets.
- Let  $\mu$  be the group of coefficients.
- We define the set of  $X \times Y$ -matrices:

$$M_{X \times Y} := \{f : X \times Y \rightarrow \mu\}.$$

- There is a natural action of  $G$  on  $M_{X \times Y}$ :

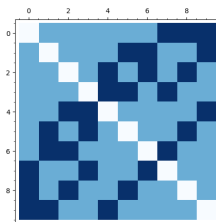
$$(gA)(x, y) := A(g^{-1}x, g^{-1}y).$$

## Lemma

The subset  $M_{X \times Y}^G := \{A \mid gA = A\}$  of  $G$ -invariants consists of matrices  $A$  with automorphism subgroup  $G$ .

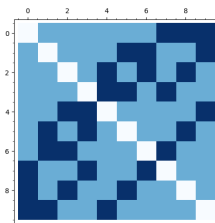
# Orbitals

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We are interested in the following problem:

## Automorphism lifting problem

Find all  $X \times Y$  matrices  $A$ , with automorphism subgroup  $G$  with the same underlying permutation action.

Our construction is related to

- Cocyclic development (de Launey and Horadam)
- Signed groups (R. Craygen)
- Representation theory: Centralizer algebras of monomial representations
- Weighted association schemes (D.G. Higman)



# $D$ -equivalence

## Definition

We say that  $X \times Y$ -matrices  $A, B$  are  $D$ -equivalent, if

$$B = D_1 A D_2^*, \quad D_1, D_2 \text{ are diagonal over } \mu.$$

Write  $A \sim_D B$ .

## Definition

We say that an  $X \times Y$ -matrix  $A$  is a **cohomology-developed-matrix** (CDM) if

$$\forall g \in G, \quad gA \sim_D A.$$

Cohomology-developed matrices are exactly what we are looking for.

# Cohomology development

For the next few slides, we will assume that  $\mu$  is commutative. Notice that  $M_{X \times Y}$  is a group w.r.t. **pointwise (Hadamard)** multiplication, and  $D := \{\text{rank 1 matrices} \in M_{X \times Y}\}$  a subgroup. We have

$$A \sim_D B \iff A \cong B \pmod{D}.$$

Dividing by  $D$ :

the elements of the invariant group  $(M_{X \times Y}/D)^G$   
are CDMs up to  $D$ -equivalence.

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Dividing by  $D$ :

the elements of the invariant group  $(M_{X \times Y}/D)^G = H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}/D)$  are CDMs up to  $D$ -equivalence.

# Linear algebra approach

- We may view the conditions

$$\forall g \in G, \quad gA = LAR^*$$

as a system of linear equations in the variables  $A_{i,j}, L_{i,i}, R_{i,i}$ .

- If e.g.  $\mu = \{\pm 1\}$ , this is a system over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .
- This system clearly has to do with the group structure of  $G$ .
- Cohomology gives us more insight, and many tools that approach directly to the structures of  $G$  and  $\mu$ .

# Resolution and cohomology

We need to compute

$$H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}/D).$$

The module  $M_{X \times Y}/D$  has the following resolution of  $G$ -modules:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mu \longrightarrow M_X \oplus M_Y \xrightarrow{\delta} M_{X \times Y} \longrightarrow M_{X \times Y}/D \longrightarrow 0.$$

where  $M_X = \{f : X \rightarrow \mu\}$  and the map  $\delta(f, g)(x, y) := f(x)g(y)^{-1}$ .

- This resolution implies that

$$H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}/D) \cong \mathbb{H}^0(0 \rightarrow \mu \cdots \rightarrow M_{X \times Y})$$

which leads to a spectral sequence.

# Long exact sequences

More simply put, there are two long exact sequences to compute this cohomology:

$$\cdots H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}) \longrightarrow H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}/D) \longrightarrow H^1(G; (M_X \oplus M_Y)/\mu) \cdots$$

and

$$\cdots H^1(G; M_X \oplus M_Y) \longrightarrow H^1(G; (M_X \oplus M_Y)/\mu) \longrightarrow H^2(G; \mu) \cdots$$

Thus our target group  $H^0(G; M_{X \times Y}/D)$  is constructed by (subquotients) of  $H^0(G; M_{X \times Y})$ ,  $H^1(G; M_X \oplus M_Y)$  and  $H^2(G; \mu)$ .

# The spectral sequence

The  $E^1$ -page of the spectral sequence is

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 H^2(G, \mu) & \xrightarrow{d_1^{2,-1}} & H^2(H_X, \mu) \oplus H^2(H_Y, \mu) \xrightarrow{d_1^{2,0}} \bigoplus_i H^2(T_i, \mu) \\
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 \end{array} \quad (1)$$

Here  $H_X, H_Y$  and  $H_{O_i}$  are the stabilizer groups of  $X, Y$  and the orbitals  $O_i$ .

## Theorem (AG and Giora Dula, 2023)

*The set CDM of all  $X \times Y$  CDMs is a group under the Hadamard product. It carries 3 step descending filtration, and the graded quotients are subquotients of  $M_{X \times Y}^G$ ,  $H^1(H_X; \mu) \oplus H^1(H_Y; \mu)$  and  $H^2(G; \mu)$ .*



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- We can also consider a  $G$  action on  $\mu$  (e.g. for complex conjugation or Galois).
- It can be extended to cubes and higher tensors.
- It gives an alternative description of the Brauer group of a field.
- There is a relationship with equivariant cohomology.

# Noncommutative coefficients

Extending our approach to noncommutative coefficients suffers from problems:

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If we restrict ourselves to nilpotent  $\mu$ , linear algebra can be done in stages. This will also allow us to use cohomology.

In the following we will restrict our attention to **nilpotent 2-step metabelian** group  $\mu$ . This covers the quaternions and the dihedrals.

For metabelian 2-step nilpotent  $\mu$ , we have the extension sequence

$$1 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow \bar{\mu} \rightarrow 1,$$

where  $Z$  is central and  $\bar{\mu}$  is abelian, leading to the exact sequence of groups

$$1 \rightarrow M_Z \rightarrow M_\mu \rightarrow M_{\bar{\mu}} \rightarrow 1.$$

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- Write  $M_A/D$  for the  $D$ -equivalence quotient of  $M_A$ . We have maps of sets:

$$1 \rightarrow M_Z/D \rightarrow M_\mu/D \rightarrow M_{\bar{\mu}}/D \rightarrow 1.$$

These are no longer groups !

$$1 \longrightarrow M_Z/D \xrightarrow{\iota} M_\mu/D \xrightarrow{\pi} M_{\bar{\mu}} \longrightarrow 1$$

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- Consider the fiber  $\pi^{-1}(\bar{A})$ . If  $A_1, A_2$  map to  $\bar{A}$ , then

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- But  $B$  is not unique in  $M_Z/D$  (!)
- Let

$$C(\bar{A}) := \{[a, \bar{A}] \mid a \in \bar{\mu}\} \leq M_Z,$$

( $[ , ]$  is the commutator map)

## Theorem (AG, 2027-)

*There is an sequence of maps*

$$1 \rightarrow (M_Z/D)^G \rightarrow (M_\mu/D)^G \xrightarrow{\pi} (M_{\bar{\mu}}/D)^G \xrightarrow{\delta} H^1(G; M_Z/D \cdot C(\bar{A})),$$

*which is exact at  $(M_{\bar{\mu}}/D)^G$  in the sense that  $\text{im}(\pi) = \ker(\delta)$ .*

- This shows how we can lift CDMs from  $\bar{\mu}$  to  $\mu$ .
- For the obstruction term we have an exact sequence

$$H^1\left(G, \frac{M_Z}{D}\right) \rightarrow H^1\left(G, \frac{M_Z}{D \cdot C(\bar{A})}\right) \rightarrow H^2\left(G, \frac{C(\bar{A})}{D \cap C(\bar{A})}\right).$$

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- The group  $H^1(G; M_Z/D)$  can be analyzed with the same resolution as for CDM, and involves  $H^3(G; \mu)$ .
- This construction generalizes step by step to all nilpotent  $\mu$ .
- Solvable  $\mu$ , general  $\mu$ ?



# Questions?