

Two Types of conjugacy classes:

Conjugacy classes in $GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ are in bijective correspondence with functions:

$$f: \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t]) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

such that $f(t) = \emptyset$ and

$$\sum_{p \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t])} (\deg p) |f(p)| = n.$$

This correspondence is realized by taking f to the $\mathbb{F}_q[t]$ -module

$$\bigoplus_{p \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t])} M_{p, f(p)} \quad \text{where,}$$

for $p(t) \in \mathbb{F}_q[t]$, $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_\ell) \in \mathbb{N}^\ell$,

$$M_{p, \lambda} = \mathbb{F}_q[t]/p(t)^{\lambda_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}_q[t]/p(t)^{\lambda_\ell}.$$

Defn: f_1 & f_2 have the same type if

$\exists$ a degree-preserving bijection $\alpha: \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t]) \rightarrow \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t])$ such that $f_2 = f_1 \circ \alpha$.

This leads to a partition of conjugacy classes into "types".

Example: For $n=2$ there are four types.

Note: define $\mathbb{F}_q[u]/p(u)$ as $\mathbb{F}_q[t]/p(t)$

Now suppose we have found $u_j(t)$ such that

$$p(u_j(t)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^j}$$

Can we find $u_{j+1}(t) = u_j(t) + p(t)^j \alpha(t) \ni$

$$p(u_{j+1}(t)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^{j+1}}?$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(u_j(t) + p(t)^j \alpha(t)) &\equiv p(u_j(t)) + p(t)^j \alpha(t) p'(u_j(t)) \\ &\equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^{j+1}} \end{aligned}$$

But $p'(u_j(t)) \equiv p'(t) \pmod{p(t)}$, hence is a unit modulo $p(t)$.

$\therefore$ we can solve for $\alpha(t)$. (take $v = p(t)$) Q.E.D.

Corollary. If f_1 and f_2 are of the same type then their centralizers are conjugate.

Proof: Enough to show that if p_1 and p_2 are irreducible polynomials of the same degree, then $\exists$ lin. iso. $M_{p_1, \lambda} \xrightarrow{T} M_{p_2, \lambda} \oplus$

$$\text{taking } \exists \text{ End}_{\mathbb{F}_q[t]} M_{p_2, \lambda} = T \circ^{-1} (\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q[t]} M_{p_1, \lambda}) \circ T.$$

$$\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_q[t]} \mathbb{F}_q[t]/p_1(t)^{\lambda_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}_q[t]/p_1(t)^{\lambda_e}$$

$$\text{End}_{\left(\mathbb{F}_q[u]/p_1(u)\right)[v]} \left(\mathbb{F}_q[u]/p_1(u) \right)_{/u^{\lambda_1}} \oplus \dots$$

$$\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_{q^d}[v]} \left(\mathbb{F}_{q^d}[v] / v^{\lambda_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \mathbb{F}_{q^d}[v] / v^{\lambda_e} \right)$$

Note: This will also help you to calculate $|Z_{GL_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}^{\lambda}|$

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Lemma: Let k be a separable field $\forall p(t) \in \text{Irr}(\mathbb{F}_q[t])$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\mathbb{F}_q[t] / p(t)^k \cong \left(\mathbb{F}_q[t] / p(t) \right) [v] / (v^k)$$

Proof: We need to find, in $\mathbb{F}_q[t] / p(t)$ a polynomial $u(t)$ such that $p(u(t)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^k}$.

Take $u_1(t) = t$. Then $p(u_1(t)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)}$.

Strategy (Hensel): we will try to find

$$u_2(t) = u_1(t) + \alpha(t)p(t)$$

such that $p(u_2(t)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^2}$.

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$$p(u_1(t) + \alpha(t)p(t))$$

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$$p(u_1(t)) + \alpha(t)p(t)p'(u_1(t)) \pmod{(p(t))^2}$$

So we have to solve

$$p(u_1(t) + \alpha(t)p(t)) (p'(u_1(t))) \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^2}$$

$$p(t) [1 + \alpha(t)p'(t)] \equiv 0 \pmod{p(t)^2}$$

$$\text{or } \alpha(t) \equiv -p'(t)^{-1} \pmod{p(t)}.$$

We can solve this if we know that $p'(t)$ is a unit modulo $p(t)$. Since $\deg p'(t) < \deg p(t)$ & $p(t)$ is irreducible, the only problem may be that $p'(t) \equiv 0$.

$$\Rightarrow p(t) = a_0 + a_1 x^p + a_2 x^{2p} + \dots + a_n x^{np}$$

$$= (a_0^{1/p} + a_1^{1/p} x + \dots + a_n^{1/p} x^n)^p \text{ is not irreducible!}$$

Block Jordan canonical form:

If $p(t)$ is ^{monic} any polynomial $\mathbb{F}_p[t]/p(t)$ has basis $1, t, \dots, t^{d-1}$, where d is the degree of $p(t)$.

With respect to this basis, the matrix of t is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -a_{d-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad t^{d-1} \mapsto t^d = -a_0 - a_1 t - \dots - a_{d-1} t^{d-1}$$

$=: C_p$ companion matrix of p .

Suppose we take, as basis of $\mathbb{F}_p[t]/p(t)^k \cong (\mathbb{F}_p[t]/p(t)) [u]/u^k$

$$u = t \bar{p} \alpha p \quad t = u + \alpha p = u + \alpha \sigma$$

$$v = p$$

Take as basis

~~$$1, u, u^2, \dots, u^{d-1}, \alpha v, \alpha^2 v, \dots, \alpha^{k-1} v, \alpha^2 u, \alpha^3 u, \dots, \alpha^2 u^{d-1}, \dots, \alpha^{k-1} u, \alpha^{k-1} u^2, \dots, \alpha^{k-1} u^{d-1}$$~~

$$\begin{aligned} t \cdot 1 &= u + \alpha v & 1, u, u^2, \dots, u^{d-1} \\ t u &= u^2 + \alpha v u & \alpha v, \alpha^2 v, \dots, \alpha^{k-1} v \\ &\vdots & (\alpha v)^2, (\alpha v)^3 u, \dots, (\alpha v)^{k-2} u^{d-1} \\ t u^{d-1} &= u^d + \alpha v u^{d-1} & \vdots \\ &= -a_0 - a_1 u - \dots - a_{d-1} u^{d-1} & (\alpha v)^{k-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} t \alpha v &= \alpha v u + (\alpha v)^2 \\ &\vdots \\ t (\alpha v)^{k-1} &= u (\alpha v)^{k-1} + (\alpha v)^k = 0 \\ t (\alpha v)^{k-1} u &= u^2 (\alpha v)^{k-1} + 0 \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_p & & & \\ & I & C_p & \\ & & I & \ddots \\ & & & \ddots & I & C_p \end{pmatrix}$$

Block J.C.F. !!

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Note: Enumerating classes using RCF:

Similarity classes $\leftrightarrow p_1 | p_2 | \dots | p_e \quad \sum \deg p_i = n$
(no irreducibility condition)

So $\lambda = (\deg p_1, \dots, \deg p_e)$ is a partition of n .
(written in increasing order)

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