

On Representations of Cyclic Groups over the Ring of Gaussian Integers

by

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper to determine and classify the indecomposable RG -lattices, where R is the ring of Gaussian integers, and G is a cyclic group of prime order.

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1. Introduction

Let G be a finite group, and R a ring of integers. By RG , we denote the group ring consisting of all formal combinations of the elements of G with coefficients in R . We shall be concerned here with representations of G by matrices with entries in R , or equivalently, with left RG -modules having a free finite R -basis. However, it is useful to work with a slightly larger class of modules, namely RG -lattices (that is left RG -modules which are finitely generated and projective as R -modules).

The fundamental problem in integral representation theory is to determine and classify the RG -lattices. Every RG -lattice is expressible as a direct sum of indecomposable lattices, though not a unique manner. If there are only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable RG -lattices, we say that RG has finite representation type.

In particular, in the case where G is a cyclic group of prime order p , the following results are known: Diederichsen [1], Heller-Reiner [2], Kida [3],[4], and Reiner [5].

In this paper, in the case where R is the ring of Gaussian integers, we shall determine all RG -indecomposable lattices up to isomorphism. The method of the proof is based on the treatment given by Heller-Reiner [2]. Besides we shall show that calculations of Ext modules play an important role in this discussion.

2. Representation of cyclic group of order p

Throughout this section, let G be a cyclic group generated by an element σ of prime order p . We set

$$R = A = \mathbf{Z}[i], \quad B = R[\zeta_p] = \mathbf{Z}[\zeta_{4p}],$$

where ζ_s is a primitive s -th root of 1 over \mathbf{Q} , and p is odd prime. We have ring isomorphisms

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{RG}{(\sigma - 1)RG} \cong R = A,$$

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{RG}{(\Phi_p(\sigma))RG} \cong B,$$

given by $\sigma \mapsto 1$, and $\sigma \mapsto \zeta_p$, respectively, where $\Phi_p(x)$ is the cyclotomic polynomial of order p (and degree $p - 1$). By (2.1) and (2.2), we may view both A and B as left RG -modules.

Let M be arbitrary RG -lattice, and put

$$N = \{m \in M; (\sigma - 1)m = 0\}.$$

Then N is an RG -submodule of M annihilated by $(\sigma - 1)$. Thus we may consider that N is R -torsion-free.

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Because R is a principal ideal domain, we obtain

$$N \cong \overbrace{R \oplus R \oplus \cdots \oplus R}^t.$$

We may view N both as R -module and RG -module.

Furthermore M/N is annihilated by $\Phi_p(\sigma)$, so that it may be viewed as B -module. Also M/N is B -torsion-free. Consequently there exist ideals I_1, I_2, \dots, I_u of B such that

$$M/N \cong I_1 \oplus I_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I_u.$$

From the preceding discussion, we obtain that M/N is considered both as B -module and RG -module. By the following exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow M \longrightarrow M/N \longrightarrow 0,$$

the problem of classifying the RG -lattices is reduced to that of determining extensions of $I_1 \oplus I_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus I_u$ by $\overbrace{R \oplus R \oplus \cdots \oplus R}^t$.

For the rest of this section, we write Ext instead of Ext_{RG}^1 . Since RG is a commutative ring, we may view Ext itself as RG -module.

Suppose that integral ideals B_1, \dots, B_h are representatives of the h distinct ideal classes of $\mathbf{Q}(\zeta_{4p})$.

The following discussion is similar to that of [3]. By (2.2), the following sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG \xrightarrow{\iota} RG \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. Then for every B_j , there exists an ideal S_j of RG such that the sequence

$$(2.3) \quad 0 \longrightarrow \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG \xrightarrow{\iota} S_j \longrightarrow B_j \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact. From (2.3), we get the following long exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{RG}(B_j, A) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}_{RG}(S_j, A) \xrightarrow{\iota^*} \text{Hom}_{RG}(\Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG, A) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(B_j, A) \longrightarrow \text{Ext}(S_j, A) \longrightarrow \cdots.$$

The mapping ι^* is induced from ι as follows: for any $f \in \text{Hom}_{RG}(S_j, A)$, we have

$$(\iota^* f)x = f(\iota x), \quad x \in \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG.$$

Since S_j is RG -projective, we obtain $\text{Ext}(S_j, A) = 0$.

For this reason, we get

$$(2.4) \quad \text{Ext}(B_j, A) \cong \text{Hom}_{RG}(Y, A) / \iota^* \text{Hom}_{RG}(S_j, A),$$

where $Y = \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG$.

Now set $y = \Phi_p(\sigma) \in Y$, then each $F \in \text{Hom}_{RG}(Y, A)$ is explicitly determined by the value $F(y) \in A$, and each $a \in A$ is of the form $F(y)$ for some such F . Thereby

$$\text{Hom}_{RG}(Y, A) \cong A$$

as RG -modules. Let us determine which elements in A correspond to elements in the image of ι^* . Since ι is the inclusion mapping, the image of ι^* in A is exactly $\Phi_p(\sigma)A$, and by using (2.4) we have

$$\text{Ext}(B_j, A) \cong A / \Phi_p(\sigma)A.$$

Because

$$\Phi_p(\sigma)a = (\sigma^{p-1} + \cdots + \sigma + 1)a = pa, \quad a \in A,$$

we get

$$(2.5) \quad \text{Ext}(B_j, A) \cong A/pA.$$

Further we suppose

$$N = \overbrace{A \oplus A \oplus \cdots \oplus A}^t$$

and

$$M/N = B_{k_1} \oplus B_{k_2} \oplus \cdots \oplus B_{k_u},$$

where $1 \leq k_1, k_2, \dots, k_u \leq h$. Since

$$\text{Ext}(B_j, R) \cong R/pR =: \bar{R}$$

by (2.5), it is easily shown that $\text{Ext}(M/N, N)$ is isomorphic to the module of the $u \times t$ matrices with entries in \bar{R} . In order to

calculate the effect of basis changes, it will be convenient to exhibit this isomorphism explicitly. Let $\sum_{i=1}^u S_{k_i} \cdot x_i$ be a free module with basis x_1, x_2, \dots, x_u . Adding u -copies of the exact sequences (2.3), we obtain the exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \sum \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot RG \cdot x_i \xrightarrow{\tau} \sum S_{k_i} \cdot x_i \longrightarrow \sum B_{k_i} \cdot \bar{x}_i \longrightarrow 0$$

where $\overline{x_i}$ annihilated by $\Phi_p(\sigma)$. Set $y_i = \Phi_p(\sigma) \cdot x_i$. Then as above we obtain

$$\text{Ext}(M/N, N) \cong \text{Hom}_{RG}\left(\sum RG \cdot y_i, N\right)/\text{Im}\tau^*.$$

Let $N = Aa_1 \oplus Aa_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus Aa_t$. Then each

$$F \in \text{Hom}_{RG}\left(\sum RG \cdot y_i, N\right),$$

we may write

$$F(y_i) = \sum_{j=1}^t \alpha_{ij} a_j, \quad \alpha_{ij} \in A_j, \quad 1 \leq i \leq u.$$

The class $[F]$ which F determines in $\text{Ext}(M/N, N)$ then corresponds to the $u \times t$ matrix $\mathbf{F} = (\overline{\alpha_{ij}})$ with entries in \overline{R} .

Suppose that we make a basis change in M/N by leaving $\overline{x_1}, \overline{x_3}, \dots, \overline{x_u}$ unchanged, but replacing $\overline{x_2}$ by $\overline{x_2} - \lambda \overline{x_1}$ for some λ in RG . Then y_1, y_3, \dots, y_u are changed, but y_2 becomes $y_2 - \lambda y_1$, and α_{2j} is replaced by $\alpha_{2j} - \lambda \alpha_{1j}$, $1 \leq j \leq t$.

On the other hand, if $a'_1 = a_1 + \lambda a_2, a'_2 = a_2, \dots, a'_t = a_t$ is a basis change in N , then α_{i2} is replaced by $\alpha_{i2} - \lambda \alpha_{i1}$, $1 \leq i \leq u$. Note that p is unramified in R . Let

$$pR = P_1 P_2 \cdots P_g$$

be the factorization of pR into distinct prime ideals of R . So we have

$$\begin{aligned} R/pR &\cong R/P_1 \oplus R/P_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus R/P_g \\ &\cong \overbrace{F \oplus F \oplus \cdots \oplus F}^g, \end{aligned}$$

where F is the finite field of characteristic p . By (2.5) and (2.6), we get that $\text{Ext}(B_j, A)$ is isomorphic to the direct sum of g -copies of the finite fields.

In addition, by the following pullback diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} RG & \longrightarrow & R \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \longrightarrow & R/pR \end{array}$$

we define the group homomorphism

$$\varphi_j : u(A) \times u(B_j) \longrightarrow u(R/pR).$$

Moreover, the group homomorphism $\pi_{s_1 s_2 \dots s_k}^{(k)}$ from

$$\overbrace{F^{1*} \oplus F^{2*} \oplus \cdots \oplus F^{g*}}^g \cong u(R/pR)$$

to

$$\overbrace{F^{*} \oplus \cdots \oplus F^{*}}^k \quad (F^* = F - \{0\})$$

is defined by

$$\pi_{s_1 s_2 \dots s_k}^{(k)}(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_g) = (u_{s_1}, \dots, u_{s_k}) \quad 1 \leq s_1 < \cdots < s_k \leq g$$

for every $k = 1, 2, \dots, g$, and set

$$l_j = \sum_{k=1}^g \sum_{1 \leq s_1 < \cdots < s_k \leq g} \left| \frac{\text{Im}\pi_{s_1 \dots s_k}^{(k)}}{\text{Im}\pi_{s_1 \dots s_k}^{(k)} \circ \varphi_j} \right|$$

Let C_p be a cyclic group of prime order p . Now we are ready to prove the following result.

Theorem.

$\mathbf{Z}[i]C_p$ has finite representation type.

Proof. Let M be an indecomposable RG -lattice. By the discussion at the beginning of this section, we know that M must be

an extension of $B_{k_1} \oplus B_{k_2} \oplus \cdots \oplus B_{k_u}$ by $\overbrace{A \oplus A \oplus \cdots \oplus A}^t$ for some t and u . If $t = 0$, then we must have $M \cong B_j$ for some j . While if $u = 0$, then $M \cong A_i$ for some i . Therefore, for the rest of the proof, we assume that both t and u are positive. Let $\mathbf{F} = (\overline{\alpha_{ij}})$ be the $u \times t$ matrix with entries in \overline{R} corresponding to the extension M of M/N by N . If every entry of \mathbf{F} is zero, then the extension splits, and M is decomposable. Thus, assume that \mathbf{F} has a non-zero entry, and in fact, after re-numbering basis elements, that $\overline{\alpha_{11}} \neq 0$. However, there exist elements $\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_u$ of RG such that $\overline{\alpha_{i1}} - \lambda_i \overline{\alpha_{11}} = 0$, $2 \leq i \leq u$. Consequently by a basis change in M/N , we may make all of the elements in the first column of \mathbf{F} below $\overline{\alpha_{11}}$ equal to zero. Similarly, a basis change in N permits us to the $(1, 2), \dots, (1, t)$ entries of \mathbf{F} equal to zero. Hence the submodule $Aa_1 \oplus_R B_{k_1} \overline{x_1}$ is a direct summand of M . Because M is indecomposable, we must obtain that $M \cong Aa_i \oplus_R B_{k_j} \overline{x_j}$, that is, M must be an extension of B_j by A .

Now we consider the extensions of B_j by A ; each extension determines an extension class in $\text{Ext}(B_j, A)$, which is represented by an element $\bar{\alpha}$ in $\bar{A} = A/pA$. If $\bar{\alpha} = \bar{0}$, we have a split extension, which is clearly decomposable. On the other hand, the isomorphism classes of extensions of B_j by A are in bijection with the orbits of $\text{Ext}(B_j, A)$ under the action of $(\text{Aut}A) \times (\text{Aut}B_j)$. Because φ_j is not an epimorphism, in general, there are l_j -isomorphism classes of non-splitting extensions of B_j by A . Up to RG -isomorphism, there are exactly $1 + h + \sum_{1 \leq j \leq h} l_j$ -indecomposable RG -lattices, given by

$$A, B_j, (B_j, A)_{n_j} \quad (1 \leq j \leq h, \quad 1 \leq n_j \leq l_j)$$

where $(B_j, A)_{n_j}$ are isomorphism classes of non-splitting extensions of B_j by A . This completes the proof.

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