

# CI-property for decomposable Schur rings over an abelian group

Based on joint work with István Kovács

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# S-rings

$G$  is a finite group,  $e$  is the identity of  $G$

A partition  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $G$  is called a **Schur partition** if  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfies the following properties:

- $\{e\} \in \mathcal{S}$ ,
- $X \in \mathcal{S} \Rightarrow X^{-1} \in \mathcal{S}$ ,
- for every  $X, Y, Z \in \mathcal{S}$  the number  $c_{X,Y}^Z = |Y \cap X^{-1}z|$  does not depend on  $z \in Z$ .

A subring  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}G$  is called an **S-ring (Schur ring)** over  $G$  if there exists a Schur partition  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})$  such that

$\mathcal{A} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}}\{\underline{X} : X \in \mathcal{S}\}$ , where  $\underline{X} = \sum_{x \in X} x$ .

- The elements of  $\mathcal{S}$  are called the **basic sets** of  $\mathcal{A}$
- $\text{rk}(\mathcal{A}) = |\mathcal{S}|$  is called the **rank** of  $\mathcal{A}$

## Schurian S-rings

- $G$  is a finite group,  $e$  is the identity of  $G$
- $G_{right} = \{x \mapsto xg, x \in G : g \in G\} \leq \text{Sym}(G)$
- $\text{Orb}(K, G)$  is the set of all orbits of  $K \leq \text{Sym}(G)$  on  $G$

### Theorem (Schur, 1933)

Let  $K \leq \text{Sym}(G)$  and  $K \geq G_{right}$ . Then  $\text{Orb}(K_e, G)$  is a Schur partition.

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- An  $S$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  over  $G$  is called **schurian** if  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Orb}(K_e, G)$  for some  $K \leq \text{Sym}(G)$  such that  $K \geq G_{right}$ .
- There exist non-schurian  $S$ -rings. The first example of a non-schurian  $S$ -ring was found by Wielandt in 1964.
- A finite group  $G$  is called a **Schur** group if every  $S$ -ring over  $G$  is schurian (Pöschel, 1974).

# Isomorphisms and automorphisms of $S$ -rings

$\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}'$  are  $S$ -rings over groups  $G$  and  $G'$  respectively.

- A **(combinatorial) isomorphism** from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{A}'$  is defined to be a bijection  $f : G \rightarrow G'$  such that
$$\{\text{Cay}(G, X) : X \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})\}^f = \{\text{Cay}(G', X') : X' \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}')\}.$$
- $\text{Iso}(\mathcal{A})$  is the set of all  $f \in \text{Sym}(G)$  such that  $f$  is an isomorphism from  $\mathcal{A}$  to an  $S$ -ring over  $G$ .
- $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) = \bigcap_{X \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})} \text{Aut}(\text{Cay}(G, X)).$

## CI-S-rings

Definition (Hirasaka-Muzychuk, 2001)

An  $S$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  over  $G$  is called a **CI-S-ring** if  $\text{Iso}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) \text{Aut}(G)$ .

Proposition (Hirasaka-Muzychuk, 2001)

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a schurian  $S$ -ring over  $G$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI-S-ring;
- Every two regular subgroups of  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$ , which are isomorphic to  $G$ , are conjugate in  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$ .

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- $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI-S-ring;
- Every two regular subgroups of  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$ , which are isomorphic to  $G$ , are conjugate in  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})$ .
- If  $\text{rk}(\mathcal{A}) = 2$  then  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Sym}(G)$  and hence  $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI-S-ring.
- If  $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{Z}G$  then  $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) = G_{\text{right}}$  and hence  $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI-S-ring.

## CI-graphs and (D)CI-groups

- If  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$  then  $\text{Cay}(G, S) \cong \text{Cay}(G, S^\sigma)$ .
- A Cayley graph  $\text{Cay}(G, S)$  is defined to be a **CI-graph** if  $\text{Cay}(G, S) \cong \text{Cay}(G, T)$  implies that  $T = S^\sigma$  for some  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$ .
- A finite group  $G$  is defined to be a **DCI-group (CI-group)** if every (undirected) Cayley graph over  $G$  is a CI-graph.



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- A finite group  $G$  is defined to be a **DCI-group (CI-group)** if every (undirected) Cayley graph over  $G$  is a CI-graph.

## Problem (Babai)

Determine all DCI- and CI-groups.

- C.H. Li, On isomorphisms of finite Cayley graphs - survey, DM 256 (2002).
- C.H. Li, Z.P. Lu, P. Pálffy, Further restrictions on the structure of finite CI-groups, JACO 26 (2007).

# Abelian DCI-groups

$C_n$  is the cyclic group of order  $n$ .

$\mathcal{E}$  is the class of abelian groups whose every Sylow subgroup is elementary abelian.

- If  $G$  is abelian DCI-group then  $G \in \mathcal{E}$  or Sylow 2-subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is isomorphic to  $C_4$  and  $G/P \in \mathcal{E}$  (follows from the Li-Praeger-Xu's result).

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- The following groups are DCI-groups:
  - $C_n, C_{2n}, C_{4n}$ , where  $n$  is a square-free odd (Muzychuk);
  - $C_p^e$ , where  $p$  is a prime and  $e \leq 5$  (Elspas-Turner; Godsil; Alspah-Nowitz; Dobson; Hirasaka-Muzychuk, Morris, Feng-Kovács);
  - $C_p^2 \times C_q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes (Kovács-Muzychuk);
  - $C_p^3 \times C_q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes and  $q > p^3$  (Somlai).

# Abelian non-DCI-groups

- The following groups are non-DCI-groups:
  - $C_2^e$ , where  $e \geq 6$  (Nowitz);
  - $C_3^e$ , where  $e \geq 8$  (Spiga);
  - $C_p^e$ , where  $e \geq 2p + 3$  (Somlai).

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## Question

Is there a function  $f(p)$  such that  $C_p^e$  is a DCI-group for  $e < f(p)$  and a non-DCI-group for  $e \geq f(p)$ ?

## DCI-groups and $S$ -rings

Proposition (Hirasaka-Muzychuk, 2001)

A finite group  $G$  is a DCI-group if and only if every schurian  $S$ -ring over  $G$  is a CI- $S$ -ring.

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- To prove that given group  $G$  is a DCI-group it is sufficient to check that every schurian  $S$ -ring over  $G$  is a CI- $S$ -ring.
- This approach was used to prove that the following groups are DCI-groups (here  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes):
  - $C_p^4$  (Hirasaka-Muzychuk,2001);
  - $C_p^2 \times C_q$  (Kovács-Muzychuk, 2009);
  - $C_p^5$  (Feng-Kovács, 2017).
- One of the main difficulties in this approach is to check that every decomposable schurian  $S$ -ring over given group is a CI- $S$ -ring.

## Decomposable $S$ -rings

$G$  is a finite group and  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $S$ -ring over  $G$

- A subgroup  $H \leq G$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -subgroup if  $\underline{H} \in \mathcal{A}$ .
- Let  $L \trianglelefteq U \leq G$ . A section  $U/L$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -section if  $U$  and  $L$  are  $\mathcal{A}$ -subgroups.
- If  $U/L$  is an  $\mathcal{A}$ -section then the module  $\mathcal{A}_{U/L} = \text{Span}_{\mathbb{Z}} \{ \underline{X}^\pi : X \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}), X \subseteq U \}$ , where  $\pi : U \rightarrow U/L$  is the canonical epimorphism, is an  $S$ -ring over  $U/L$ .

Definition (Evdokimov-Ponomarenko, 2001)

Let  $U/L$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$ -section. The  $S$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  is called the  $U/L$ -wreath product or the generalized wreath product of  $\mathcal{A}_U$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{G/L}$  if  $L \trianglelefteq G$  and every basic set of  $\mathcal{A}$  outside  $U$  is a union of  $L$ -cosets.

- The  $U/L$ -wreath product is called nontrivial if  $e \notin L$  and  $U \neq G$ .
- The  $S$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be decomposable if  $\mathcal{A}$  is the nontrivial  $U/L$ -wreath product for some  $\mathcal{A}$ -section  $U/L$ .



## CI-property for decomposable $S$ -rings

- In general case the generalize wreath product of two CI- $S$ -rings can be non-CI- $S$ -ring.

### Example

Let  $G = C_8$  and  $L \leq U \leq G$  with  $|L| = 2$  and  $|U| = 4$ . Then  $\mathbb{Z}U$  and  $\mathbb{Z}(G/L)$  are CI- $S$ -rings, however the  $U/L$ -wreath product of  $\mathbb{Z}U$  and  $\mathbb{Z}(G/L)$  is not CI- $S$ -ring.

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### Question

- When the generalized wreath product of two CI- $S$ -rings is a CI- $S$ -ring?
- When the generalized wreath product of two CI- $S$ -rings over a group from  $\mathcal{E}$  is a CI- $S$ -ring?

## Main result

- If  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $S$ -ring over  $G$  then put  $\text{Aut}_G(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}) \cap \text{Aut}(G)$ .
- For a set  $\Delta \subseteq \text{Sym}(G)$  and a section  $S$  of  $G$  we set  $\Delta^S = \{f^S : f \in \Delta, S^f = S\}$ .

### Theorem (Kovács-R., 2018)

Let  $G \in \mathcal{E}$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  an  $S$ -ring over  $G$ , and  $U/L$  an  $\mathcal{A}$ -section. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is the nontrivial  $U/L$ -wreath product and the  $S$ -rings  $\mathcal{A}_U$  and  $\mathcal{A}_{G/L}$  are CI- $S$ -rings. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI- $S$ -ring whenever

$$\text{Aut}_{U/L}(\mathcal{A}_{U/L}) = \text{Aut}_U(\mathcal{A}_U)^{U/L} \text{Aut}_{G/L}(\mathcal{A}_{G/L})^{U/L}.$$

In particular,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI- $S$ -ring if  $\text{Aut}_{U/L}(\mathcal{A}_{U/L}) = \text{Aut}_U(\mathcal{A}_U)^{U/L}$  or  $\text{Aut}_{U/L}(\mathcal{A}_{U/L}) = \text{Aut}_{G/L}(\mathcal{A}_{G/L})^{U/L}$ .

## Corollary of Theorem

$\mathcal{A}$  is an  $S$ -ring over a group  $G$

- $\mathcal{A}$  is called **cyclotomic** if  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{Orb}(K, G)$  for some  $K \leq \text{Aut}(G)$ .
- $K_1, K_2 \leq \text{Sym}(G)$  are **2-equivalent** if  $\text{Orb}(K_1, G^2) = \text{Orb}(K_2, G^2)$ . In this case we write  $K_1 \approx_2 K_2$ .
- $\mathcal{A}$  is **2-minimal** if  $\{K \leq \text{Sym}(G) : K \geq G_{\text{right}} \text{ and } K \approx_2 \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})\} = \{\text{Aut}(\mathcal{A})\}$ .
- $K_1, K_2 \leq \text{Aut}(G)$  are **Cayley equivalent** if  $\text{Orb}(K_1, G) = \text{Orb}(K_2, G)$ . In this case we write  $K_1 \approx_{\text{Cay}} K_2$ .
- $\mathcal{A}$  is **Cayley minimal** if  $\mathcal{A}$  is cyclotomic and  $\{K \leq \text{Aut}(G) : K \approx_{\text{Cay}} \text{Aut}_G(\mathcal{A})\} = \{\text{Aut}_G(\mathcal{A})\}$ .
- $\mathbb{Z}G$  is 2- and Cayley minimal.

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- $\mathcal{A}$  is **Cayley minimal** if  $\mathcal{A}$  is cyclotomic and  $\{K \leq \text{Aut}(G) : K \approx_{\text{Cay}} \text{Aut}_G(\mathcal{A})\} = \{\text{Aut}_G(\mathcal{A})\}$ .
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### Corollary

Under assumption of Theorem suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is cyclotomic and  $\mathcal{A}_{U/L}$  is 2-minimal or Cayley minimal. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a CI- $S$ -ring.

# Application of Theorem to decomposable $S$ -rings over an elementary abelian group

$G = C_p^e$ , where  $p$  is a prime and  $e \geq 1$

- An  $S$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  over  $G$  is called a  **$p$ - $S$ -ring** if  $|X| = p^k$  for every  $X \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})$ .
- To prove that  $G$  is a DCI-group it is sufficient to prove that every cyclotomic  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $G$  is a CI- $S$ -ring (follows from Kovács-Feng's result).

## Application of Theorem to decomposable $S$ -rings over an elementary abelian group

- The proof that every decomposable  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $C_p^e$ , where  $e \leq 4$ , is a CI- $S$ -ring **not using Theorem** takes approximately **5 pages**.
- The proof that every decomposable  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $C_p^e$ , where  $e \leq 4$ , is a CI- $S$ -ring **using Theorem** takes **few lines**.
- The proof that every decomposable cyclotomic  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $C_p^5$  is a CI- $S$ -ring **not using Theorem** takes approximately **9 pages**.
- The proof that every decomposable  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $C_p^e$ , where  $e \leq 4$ , is a CI- $S$ -ring **using Theorem** takes **1 page**.
- Using Theorem it is possible to prove that in most cases decomposable cyclotomic  $p$ - $S$ -ring over  $C_p^6$  is a CI- $S$ -ring.

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### Question

Let  $p$  be an odd prime. Is  $C_p^6$  a DCI-group?