

# THE MINIMAL DEGREE OF A FAITHFUL QUASI-PERMUTATION REPRESENTATION OF AN ABELIAN GROUP

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**1. Introduction.** Let  $G$  be a finite linear group of degree  $n$ ; that is, a finite group of automorphisms of an  $n$ -dimensional complex vector space (or, equivalently, a finite group of non-singular matrices of order  $n$  with complex coefficients). We shall say that  $G$  is a *quasi-permutation group* if the trace of every element of  $G$  is a non-negative rational integer. The reason for this terminology is that, if  $G$  is a permutation group of degree  $n$ , its elements, considered as acting on the elements of a basis of an  $n$ -dimensional complex vector space  $V$ , induce automorphisms of  $V$  forming a group isomorphic to  $G$ . The trace of the automorphism corresponding to an element  $x$  of  $G$  is equal to the number of letters left fixed by  $x$ , and so is a non-negative integer. Thus, a permutation group of degree  $n$  has a representation as a quasi-permutation group of degree  $n$ . See [5].

By a *quasi-permutation matrix* we mean a square matrix over the complex field  $\mathbb{C}$  with non-negative integral trace. Thus every permutation matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$  is a quasi-permutation matrix. For a given finite group  $G$ , let  $p(G)$  denote the minimal degree of a faithful permutation representation of  $G$  (or of a faithful representation of  $G$  by permutation matrices); let  $q(G)$  denote the minimal degree of a faithful representation of  $G$  by quasi-permutation matrices over the rational field  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and let  $c(G)$  be the minimal degree of a faithful representation of  $G$  by complex quasi-permutation matrices. See [1].

Let  $G \cong \prod_{i=1}^r C_{m_i}$  where  $m_i$  is a prime power. As in [2], define  $T(G) = \sum_{i=1}^r m_i$ ; when  $G = 1$  let  $T(G) = 0$ . In [1] it is proved that  $c(G) = q(G) = p(G) = T(G)$  if and only if  $G \neq 1$  and  $G$  has no direct factor of order 6.

The quantity  $p(G)$  for any abelian group depends on the decomposition of  $G$  into a direct product of its cyclic subgroups [2]. In fact, if  $G \neq 1$  is a finite abelian group, then  $p(G) = T(G)$ .

In this paper  $G = \prod_{i=1}^n G_i$  will denote the direct product of the subgroups  $G_i$  of  $G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ).

For an abelian group  $G$ , the invariants  $c(G)$  and  $p(G)$  coincide because the Schur indices for abelian groups are trivial. We shall calculate these invariants for an arbitrary abelian group  $G$ . In view of [1], we need only resolve the case of an abelian group having the cyclic group  $C_6$  as direct factor. Nevertheless our proof applies to an arbitrary finite abelian group.

The main result is that  $c(G) = q(G) = T(G) - n$  for an abelian group  $G$ , where  $n$  is the largest integer such that  $C_6^n$  is a direct summand of  $G$ .

**LEMMA 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group and let  $G$  be the direct product of its subgroups  $L$  and  $H$ . Then  $T(G) = T(L) + T(H)$ .*

*Proof.* See [2].

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**2. The minimal degree of a faithful quasi-permutation representation of an abelian group.** Let  $\chi$  be an irreducible character of  $G$ . Let  $m_{\mathbb{Q}}(\chi)$  denote the Schur index of  $\chi$  in  $G$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ . Then  $m_{\mathbb{Q}}(\chi) \mid \chi(1)$ . Moreover when  $\chi$  is linear, we have  $m_{\mathbb{Q}}(\chi) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* See [3, Corollary 10.2].

COROLLARY 2.2. *Let  $G$  be a finite group and let  $m_{\mathbb{Q}}(\chi) = 1$ , for all  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$ . Then  $c(G) = q(G)$ . In particular if  $G$  is a finite abelian group, then  $c(G) = q(G)$ .*

*Proof.* This follows from the definitions of  $c(G)$  and  $q(G)$  together with Lemma 2.1.

LEMMA 2.3. *Let  $\chi$  be a character of  $G$ . Then  $\ker \chi = \ker \sum_{\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)} \chi^\alpha$ , where  $\Gamma(\chi) = \Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\chi) : \mathbb{Q})$ . Moreover  $\chi$  is faithful if and only if  $\sum_{\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)} \chi^\alpha$  is faithful.*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $\ker(\chi) = \ker(\chi^\alpha)$ , for  $\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)$ . However

$$\ker \sum_{\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)} \chi^\alpha = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)} \ker \chi^\alpha = \ker \chi.$$

Here are some well known facts about irreducible representations of finite abelian groups over  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$ . See [4].

Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group, let  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  and let  $K = \ker \chi$ . Then  $G/K$  is isomorphic to a finite subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}$ . Therefore  $G/K$  is cyclic.

Let  $V$  be an irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module and let  $K_1 = C_G(V)$  be the kernel of the representation of  $G$  on  $V$ . Let  $\xi$  be the corresponding character of  $V$ . Then there exists  $\chi \in \text{Irr}(G)$  such that  $\xi = \sum_{\alpha \in \Gamma(\chi)} \chi^\alpha$ , where  $\Gamma(\chi) = \Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\chi) : \mathbb{Q})$ . From Lemma 2.3 we know that  $K_1 = \ker \chi$ , and so  $G/K_1$  is cyclic.

As in [1, p. 303], let  $A = \langle a \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order  $m$ . Then for each  $d \mid m$ , there is an irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}A$ -module  $V(d)$  of dimension  $\phi(d)$ , where  $\phi$  is the Euler totient function. We can take  $V(d)$  to be  $\mathbb{Q}(\xi_d)$ , where  $\xi_d$  is a primitive  $d$ -th root of unity, and  $a$  acts on  $V(d)$  as multiplication by  $\xi_d$ . Since  $\sum_{d \mid m} \phi(d) = m$ , the modules  $V(d)$  are, up to isomorphism, all the irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}A$ -modules. Thus, there is exactly one for each divisor  $d$  of  $m$ .

LEMMA 2.4. *Let  $A = \langle a \rangle$  be cyclic of order  $m$  and let  $d \mid m$ . Let  $\chi_d$  denote the character of  $\mathbb{Q}A$ -module  $V(d)$ . Then  $\chi_d(a)$  is the sum of the primitive  $d$ -th roots of unity, and so is equal to  $\mu(d)$ , where  $\mu$  is the Möbius function.*

*Proof.* Let  $S(d) = \chi_d(a)$ . We have  $S(1) = 1$ . Let  $f(n) = \sum_{d \mid n} S(d)$ . This is the sum of all  $n$ -th roots of unity. Therefore

$$\sum_{d \mid n} S(d) = 1 + \varepsilon + \dots + \varepsilon^{n-1} = \frac{\varepsilon^n - 1}{\varepsilon - 1},$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity. Hence

$$\sum_{d \mid n} S(d) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

Then, by the Möbius inversion formula, we have  $S(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mu\left(\frac{n}{d}\right)f(d) = \mu(n)$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

LEMMA 2.5. *Let  $A$  be cyclic of order  $m$  and let  $b$  be an element of  $A$  of order  $d \mid m$ . Then  $\chi_m(b) = \frac{\phi(m)}{\phi(d)}\mu(d)$ . In particular,  $\chi_m$  is faithful and is the only faithful character of an irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}$ -representation of  $A$ .*

*Proof.* See [1, Lemma 3.4].

COROLLARY 2.6. *Let  $A = \langle a \rangle$  be cyclic of order  $p^s$ . Let  $\chi_{p^s}$  be the character of the  $\mathbb{Q}A$ -module  $V(p^s)$ . Then  $\chi_{p^s}$  is faithful and*

$$\chi_{p^s}(a^i) = \begin{cases} -p^{s-1}, & \text{if } (i, p^s) = p^{s-1}, \\ p^{s-1}(p-1), & \text{if } i = 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* This follows from Lemma 2.5.

If  $n > 1$  is a natural number and  $n = p_1^{i_1} \dots p_r^{i_r}$ , where the  $p_i$  are distinct primes, we define  $n^* = \sum_{i=1}^r p_i^{i_i}$ ; define  $1^* = 0$ . Note that, if  $m \mid n$ , then  $m^* \leq n^*$ . Thus, if  $G \neq 1$  is a finite cyclic group, then  $|G|^* = T(G)$ .

LEMMA 2.7. (1) *Let  $m$  be a positive integer. Then  $2\phi(m) \geq m^*$ , unless  $m = 6$  when  $2\phi(m) = 4$ .*

(2) *Let  $m = 2^\alpha n$ , where  $\alpha \geq 0$  and  $n$  is odd. Then  $\frac{p}{p-1}\phi(m) \geq n^*$ , for each prime divisor  $p$  of  $n$ .*

*Proof.* See [1, Lemma 3.5].

Let  $G_p$  denote the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . We define  $\Omega_1(G_p)$  to be  $\{z \in G_p : z^p = 1\}$ .

LEMMA 2.8. *Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group,  $p$  a prime and  $K_1, \dots, K_s$  subgroups of index  $p$  in  $G$ . Let*

$$J = \left\{ j : 1 \leq j \leq s, \bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K_i \cap \Omega_1(G_p) \not\subseteq K_j \right\}.$$

*Then for each  $j \in J$  there is a subgroup  $W_j$ , cyclic of order  $p$ , such that  $G$  is the direct product of the subgroups  $W_j$  and the subgroup  $\bigcap_{j \in J} K_j$ .*

*Proof.* We may assume that  $J \neq \emptyset$ . Our proof is by induction on  $s$ . If  $s = 1$ ,  $J = \{1\}$  and  $\bigcap_{i=1}^0 K_i = G$ , so that the hypothesis implies that there is an element  $w$  of order  $p$  in  $K_1$ . As  $|G : K_1| = p$ ,  $G$  is a direct product of  $W = \langle w \rangle$  and  $K_1$ .

For  $s > 1$ , let  $J' = J \cap \{1, \dots, s-1\}$ . By the induction hypothesis, for each  $j \in J'$  there is a subgroup  $W_j$  of order  $p$  such that  $g$  is the direct product of the subgroups  $W_j$  and the subgroup  $H = \bigcap_{j \in J'} K_j$ . If  $s \notin J$ , we are done. So we assume that  $s \in J$ . It then suffices to show that  $H$  is the direct product of a subgroup of order  $p$  and the subgroup

$\bigcap_{j \in J} K_j = K_i \cap H$ . As  $s \in J$ ,  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{s-1} K_i \cap \Omega_1(G_p) \not\leq K_s$  so that  $H \cap \Omega_1(G_p) \not\leq K_s$ , and there is an element  $w$  of order  $p$  in  $H$  but not in  $K_s$ . As  $|G : K_s| = p$  we have  $HK_s = G$ . It follows that  $|H : K_s \cap H| = |HK_s : K_s| = |G : K_s| = p$ , so that  $H$  is the direct product of  $\langle w \rangle$  and  $K_s \cap H$ , as required.

**COROLLARY 2.9.** *Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group and  $K_1, \dots, K_s$  subgroups of index 6 in  $G$ . Let  $J = \{j : 1 \leq j \leq s, \bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K_i \cap \Omega_1(G_p) \not\leq K_j \text{ for } p = 2, 3\}$ . Let  $n$  be maximal such that  $G$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $C_6^n$ . Then  $n \geq |J|$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $n_p$  be maximal such that  $G$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $C_p^{n_p}$ . By the Fundamental Theorem of Finitely Generated Abelian Groups, it suffices to show that  $n_2 \geq |J|$  and  $n_3 \geq |J|$  as  $n = \min\{n_2, n_3\}$ .

Let  $p = 2$ . For each  $j$ , with  $1 \leq j \leq s$ , there is an element  $x_j$  of order 3 not in  $K_j$ ; put  $K'_j = K_j \langle x_j \rangle$ , a subgroup of index 2 in  $G$ . It is clear that  $K'_j \cap \Omega_1(G_2) = K_j \cap \Omega_1(G_2)$ . Thus we have

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K'_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} (K'_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2)) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} (K_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2)) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2).$$

If  $j \in J$ , then  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K'_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2) \not\leq K_j$  and so

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K'_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2) \not\leq K_j \cap \Omega_1(G_2) = K'_j \cap \Omega_1(G_2),$$

whence

$$\bigcap_{i=1}^{j-1} K'_i \cap \Omega_1(G_2) \not\leq K'_j.$$

The previous lemma implies that  $G$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $C_2^{|J|}$ , so that  $|J| \leq n_2$ .

It follows similarly that  $|J| \leq n_3$ .

**LEMMA 2.10.** *Let  $G \neq 1$  be a finite abelian group and let  $n$  be maximal such that  $G$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $C_6^n$ . Also let  $V$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module. Suppose that  $V$  is faithful for  $G$ , but no proper submodule of  $V$  is faithful for  $G$ . Then  $G$  contains an element  $g$  such that  $\chi_V(g) < 0$  and*

$$\dim V - \chi_V(g) \geq T(G) - n.$$

*Proof.* Let  $V = V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_s$ , where each  $V_i$  is an irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module; let  $K_i = C_G(V_i)$  and  $K_i^* = \bigcap_{j \neq i} K_j$ . Since  $V$  is faithful,  $\bigcap_{i=1}^s K_i = 1$ ; also, as  $V$  has no proper faithful submodule,  $K_i^* \neq 1$  if  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . Let  $K_{i,p} = K_i \cap G_p$ . Choose a subset  $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, s\}$  minimal such that  $\bigcap_{i \in I} K_{i,2} = 1$ . Renumbering if necessary, we may assume that  $I = \{1, \dots, t\}$  for some  $t$ . We interpret the case  $t = 0$  as corresponding to  $G_2 = 1$ .

Let  $|G/K_i| = n_i$ . Then  $\dim V_i = \phi(n_i)$  since  $V_i$  is the unique faithful module over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for the cyclic group  $G/K_i$ ; namely,  $V_i$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega)$ , where  $\omega$  is a primitive  $n_i$ -th root of unity and the generator of  $G/K_i$  acts as multiplication by  $\omega$ .

For each  $j$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq t$ , let  $x_j$  be an involution in  $\bigcap_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq j}}^t K_{i,2}$ , and  $x = x_1 \dots x_t$ . Then  $x$  is an involution and acts as an involution on each of  $V_1, \dots, V_t$ ; therefore, it acts as  $-1$  on each of these modules. [See Note (3) in Chapter 1.] Now renumber the  $V_i$  so that  $V_1, \dots, V_u$  are precisely those on which  $x$  acts as  $-1$ . Then  $x$  acts trivially on  $V_{u+1}, \dots, V_s$ . For  $j = u + 1, \dots, s$ , choose  $x_j$  of prime order in  $K_j^*$ , and let  $g = xx_{u+1} \dots x_s = x_1 \dots x_t x_{u+1} \dots x_s$ . Thus,  $g$  acts as  $-1$  on each of  $V_1, \dots, V_u$  and as an element of order  $p_j$  on  $V_j$  if  $u + 1 \leq j \leq s$ . By Lemma 2.5 we have  $\chi_{V_j}(g) = -\dim V_j$  if  $1 \leq j \leq u$ , and  $\chi_{V_j}(g) = -\frac{1}{p_j - 1} \dim V_j$  if  $u + 1 \leq j \leq s$ . Hence we have  $\chi_V(g) < 0$  and

$$\dim V - \chi_V(g) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^u \dim V_j + \sum_{j=u+1}^s \left(1 + \frac{1}{p_j - 1}\right) \dim V_j. \tag{1}$$

For  $0 \leq j \leq s$ , define  $I_j = \bigcap_{i=1}^j K_i$ , so that  $I_0 = G$ . Let

- $J_0 = \{j : u + 1 \leq j \leq s\}$ ,
- $J_1 = \{j : 1 \leq j \leq u, |G : K_j| = 6, I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_p) \not\leq K_j \text{ for } p = 2, 3\}$ ,
- $J_2 = \{j : 1 \leq j \leq u, |G : K_j| = 6, I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_2) \leq K_j\}$ ,
- $J_3 = \{j : 1 \leq j \leq u, |G : K_j| = 6, I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_3) \leq K_j, I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_2) \not\leq K_j\}$ ,
- and  $J_4 = \{j : 1 \leq j \leq u, |G : K_j| \neq 6\}$ .

Define subgroups  $M_j$  of  $G$  as follows:

$$M_j = \begin{cases} K_j, & \text{if } j \in J_1 \cup J_4, \\ G_2 K_j, & \text{if } j \in J_0 \cup J_2, \\ G_3 K_j, & \text{if } j \in J_3. \end{cases}$$

Let  $m_j = |G : M_j|$  so that:

- (a) for  $j \in J_0$ ,  $m_j$  is the maximal odd divisor of  $n_j$  and so, by Lemma 2.7(2),  $\frac{p_j}{p_j - 1} \dim V_j \geq m_j^*$ ;
- (b) for  $j \in J_1$ ,  $m_j = n_j = 6$  so that  $\dim V_j = \phi(6) = 2$  while  $m_j^* = 5$ ;
- (c) for  $j \in J_2$ ,  $m_j = 3$ ,  $n_j = 6$  so that  $\dim V_j = 2$  while  $m_j^* = 3$ ;
- (d) for  $j \in J_3$ ,  $m_j = 2$ ,  $n_j = 6$  so that  $\dim V_j = 2$  while  $m_j^* = 2$ ;
- (e) for  $j \in J_4$ ,  $m_j = n_j \neq 6$  so that  $\dim V_j = \phi(n_j)$  and so, by Lemma 2.7(1),  $2 \dim V_j \geq m_j^*$ .

It follows that

$$2 \sum_{j=1}^u \dim V_j + \sum_{j=u+1}^s \left(1 + \frac{1}{p_j - 1}\right) \dim V_j \geq \sum_{j \in J_1} m_j^* - |J_1| + \sum_{j \in J_4} m_j^*.$$

It follows from Corollary 2.9 that  $n \geq |J_1|$ , so that we have

$$\dim V - \chi_V(g) \geq \sum_{j=1}^s m_j^* - n. \tag{2}$$

We next show that  $\prod_{j=1}^s M_j = 1$ . Suppose that this is not the case and that  $m$  is an

element of prime order  $p$  in this intersection. As  $\bigcap_{j=1}^s K_j = 1$ , there is a minimal index  $j$  for which  $m \notin K_j$ .

Suppose that  $p = 2$ . Then  $j \notin J_1 \cup J_4$  as here  $M_j = K_j$ . Also  $j \notin J_3$  as here  $M_j = G_3 K_j$  and so  $M_j/K_j \cong G_3/G_3 K_j$ , a 3-group. If  $j \in J_0$ , then  $m \in K_i$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq t$ , so that  $m \in I_t \cap G_2$  which is trivial; this is a contradiction. If  $j \in J_2$ , then by the minimality of  $j$ ,  $m \in I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_2)$  so that  $m \in K_j$ , by the definition of  $J_2$ , again a contradiction.

Suppose that  $p = 3$ . As before  $j \notin J_0 \cup J_1 \cup J_2 \cup J_4$ . If  $j \in J_3$ , then  $m \in I_{j-1} \cap \Omega_1(G_3) \leq K_j$ , a contradiction.

The case  $o(m) \geq 5$  also leads to a contradiction as the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $M_j$  is contained in  $K_j$  for each  $p \neq 2, 3$  and for all  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq s$ .

As  $\bigcap_{j=1}^s M_j = 1$ ,  $G$  can be embedded as a subgroup of the direct product  $\text{Dr}_{j=1}^s G/M_j$ . However from [2],

$$T(G) \leq T(\text{Dr}_{j=1}^s G/M_j) = \sum_{j=1}^s T(G/M_j) = \sum_{j=1}^s m_j^*.$$

From (2), we deduce the inequality

$$\dim V - \chi_V(g) \geq T(G) - n,$$

as required.

**THEOREM 2.11.** *Let  $G \neq 1$  be a finite abelian group and let  $n$  be maximal such that  $G$  has a direct summand isomorphic to  $C_6^n$ . Then*

$$c(G) = q(G) = T(G) - n.$$

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.2 we have  $c(G) = q(G)$ .

Now let  $V$  be a faithful quasi-permutation representation of  $G$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of minimal degree. Then  $q(G) = \dim V$ . Write  $V = V_1 \oplus W$ , where  $V_1$  is a faithful  $\mathbb{Q}G$ -module with no proper faithful submodules for  $G$ . By Lemma 2.10, there is  $g \in G$  such that

$$\dim V_1 - \chi_{V_1}(g) \geq T(G) - n$$

and  $\chi_V(g) < 0$ . Since  $\chi_V(g) \geq 0$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \chi_V(g) &= \chi_{V_1}(g) + \chi_W(g) \leq \dim V_1 - (T(G) - n) + \chi_W(g) \\ &\leq \dim V_1 - (T(G) - n) + \dim W. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\dim V = q(G) \geq T(G) - n. \tag{4}$$

Now we show that there exists a quasi-permutation module  $U$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  for  $G$  such that  $\dim U = T(G) - n$  and, since  $T(G) - n$  is the minimal value, we have  $q(G) = T(G) - n$ .

Let  $G = \prod_{i=1}^s G_i$ . Here  $G_i \cong C_6$ , where  $p_i$  is a prime,  $m_i$  is a positive integer for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , and  $G_i \cong C_{p_i^{m_i}}$  for  $i = n + 1, \dots, s$ . Let  $K_i = \prod_{j \neq i} G_j$  for  $i = 1, \dots, s$ . Then

$\bigcap_{i=1}^s K_i = 1$  and  $G/K_i$  is cyclic. Let  $\chi_i$  be the faithful irreducible  $\mathbb{Q}$ -character of  $G/K_i \cong G_i$ ; (see Lemma 2.5). Let  $V_i$  be its module and let  $U_1 = \bigoplus_{i=1}^s V_i$ . Then, by Lemma 2.5 and Corollary 2.6, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \dim V_i &= 2 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n, \text{ and } \min\{\chi_i(g) : g \in G\} = -2 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n; \\ \dim V_i &= p_i^{m_i-1}(p_i - 1) \text{ for } i = n + 1, \dots, s, \text{ and } \min\{\chi_i(g) : g \in G\} = -p_i^{m_i-1} \end{aligned}$$

for  $i = n + 1, \dots, s$ . Hence  $\dim U_1 = \sum_{i=1}^s \dim V_i$  and

$$A = \min\{\chi_{U_1}(g) : g \in G\} \geq \sum_{i=1}^s \min\{\chi_i(g) : g \in G\}.$$

Let  $l = -A$  and let  $l\mathbb{Q}$  denote the direct sum of  $l$  copies of the trivial module. Let  $U = U_1 + l\mathbb{Q}$ , so that  $U$  is a faithful quasi-permutation module over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Hence by (4) we have  $T(G) - n \leq q(G)$  and, by the definition of  $q(G)$ , we have  $q(G) \leq \dim U$ . It follows that

$$T(G) - n \leq \dim U = \dim(U_1 \oplus l\mathbb{Q}) \leq \dim U_1 - \sum_{i=1}^s \min\{\chi_i(g) : g \in G\} = T(G) - n.$$

Hence  $\dim U = T(G) - n$ , as required.

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