

CENTERS OF CENTRALIZER NEARRINGS  
DETERMINED BY INNER AUTOMORPHISMS OF  
SYMMETRIC GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. The question of identifying the elements of the center of a nearring and of determining when that center is a subnearring is an area of continued research. We consider the centers of centralizer nearrings,  $M_I(S_n)$ , determined by the symmetric groups  $S_n$  with  $n \geq 3$  and the inner automorphisms  $I = \text{Inn } S_n$ . General tools for determining elements of the center of  $M_I(S_n)$  are developed, and we use these to list the specific elements in the centers of  $M_I(S_4)$ ,  $M_I(S_5)$ , and  $M_I(S_6)$ .

1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $N$  be a right nearring. The center of  $N$  is  $C(N) = \{c \in N \mid cn = nc \text{ for all } n \in N\}$ . For a ring  $R$ ,  $C(R)$  is always a subring of  $R$ . In the nearring case, however,  $C(N)$  is not always a subnearring of  $N$ . Several papers have investigated when  $C(N)$  is a subnearring of  $N$ . Foundational papers on the subject are [1], [3], and [8]. More recent papers include [4], [5], [6], and [9]. Here, we continue the study of centers of nearrings on a classical structure in nearring theory, the centralizer nearring. For more information on nearrings see [7], [10], and [11].

Let  $(G, +)$  be a group, written additively, but not necessarily abelian, with identity 0. Let  $S$  be a semigroup of endomorphisms of  $G$  and define

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MSC(2010): Primary: 16Y30

Keywords: centralizer nearring, center, inner automorphisms, symmetric groups.

Received: 17 October 2019, Accepted: 26 July 2020.

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$M_S(G) = \{f : G \rightarrow G \mid f(0) = 0 \text{ and } f \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ f \text{ for all } \varphi \in S\}$ . Under function addition and composition,  $(M_S(G), +, \circ)$  is a right nearring, called the centralizer nearring determined by  $G$  and  $S$ . Centralizer nearrings are fundamental in nearring theory since every nearring with identity is isomorphic to a centralizer nearring for some  $G$  and  $S$  ([7], Theorem 14.3). Therefore, restrictions are often placed on  $G$  and  $S$  to develop theory for certain subclasses of centralizer nearrings.

We consider the problem of determining centers of centralizer nearrings determined by the symmetric groups  $S_n$  with  $n \geq 3$  and the set of all inner automorphisms  $I = \text{Inn } S_n$ . We first develop theory for functions in  $M_A(G)$  and  $C(M_A(G))$  for arbitrary finite groups  $G$  and automorphism groups  $A$ . Then we determine a method for constructing all functions in  $M_I(S_n)$ . General properties of centers of  $M_I(S_n)$  are investigated and then the centers of  $M_I(S_n)$  are completely determined for  $n = 4, 5$ , and  $6$ .

Throughout the paper we adopt the following notation. We let  $Ag$  denote the orbit of  $g \in G$  determined by  $A$ . For a subset  $M$  of  $G$ , we let  $Z(M) = \{c \in G \mid c + m = m + c \text{ for all } m \in M\}$  be the centralizer of  $M$  in  $G$ . For  $g \in G$ , we denote the inner automorphism determined by  $g$  by  $\varphi_g(x) = -g + x + g$ . The identity function is denoted by  $id$ . We often use juxtaposition to denote multiplication (composition) of functions in  $M_A(G)$ .

## 2. PROPERTIES OF FUNCTIONS IN $M_A(G)$

Throughout this section, we let  $G$  be a finite group,  $A$  be a group of automorphisms of  $G$ , and  $N = M_A(G)$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  be a group of automorphisms of  $G$ , and let  $g \in G$ . The stabilizer of  $g$  in  $A$  is  $\text{Stab}_A(g) = \{\varphi \in A \mid \varphi(g) = g\}$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** ([10], Lemma 3.30) (*Betsch's Lemma*) Let  $0 \neq g_1 \in G$  and  $g_2 \in G$ . Then there exists  $f \in N$  such that  $f(g_1) = g_2$  if and only if  $\text{Stab}_A(g_1) \subseteq \text{Stab}_A(g_2)$ .

**Lemma 2.3.** Let  $f \in N$  and  $g \in G$ . Let  $h \in G$  such that  $\varphi(g) = h$  for some  $\varphi \in A$ . Then  $f(h) = \varphi f(g)$ , and  $f(h)$  is completely determined by  $f(g)$ . Also, if  $f(g) = kg$  for some integer  $k$ , then  $f(h) = kh$ . In addition,  $f(g) = 0$  if and only if  $f(h) = 0$ .

*Proof.* For  $f \in N$ ,  $g \in G$ , and  $\varphi(g) = h$ , we get  $f(h) = f\varphi(g) = \varphi f(g)$ , and  $f(h)$  is completely determined by  $f(g)$ . If  $f(g) = kg$ , then  $f(h) = \varphi f(g) = \varphi(kg) = k\varphi(g) = kh$ . For the last statement, assume  $f(g) = 0$ . Then  $f(h) = 0$  by the previous sentence. If  $f(h) = 0$ , then  $0 = f(h) = \varphi f(g)$ . Thus  $f(g)$  is in the kernel of  $\varphi$ . Since  $\varphi$

is an automorphism, we conclude that  $f(g) = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

For  $f \in N$ , once a single value  $f(g)$  is known, the values of the function for elements in the orbit determined by  $g$  are known as well. Hence, defining function values on a set of orbit representatives and then extending the function to values in orbits creates a function in  $N$ . The stabilizer containment condition in Betsch's Lemma guarantees that a function created in this way is well-defined.

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $c \in C(N)$  and  $g \in G$ . Then  $c(g) = 0$  or  $c(g) \in Ag$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G$ . Define  $f : G \rightarrow G$  by  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \in Ag \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin Ag \end{cases}$ . Let  $\varphi \in A$ . Consider  $x \in Ag$ . Then  $\varphi(x) \in Ag$  as well. So  $\varphi f(x) = \varphi(x) = f\varphi(x)$ . Now let  $x \notin Ag$ . Then  $\varphi(x) \notin Ag$  and  $\varphi f(x) = \varphi(0) = 0 = f\varphi(x)$ . It follows that  $f \in N$ .

Thus,  $fc(g) = cf(g) = c(g)$  and  $c(g)$  is fixed by  $f$ . Thus  $c(g) = 0$  or  $c(g) \in Ag$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $c \in C(N)$  and  $0 \neq g \in G$ . Let  $f \in N$  with  $f(g) = h \neq 0$ . Then  $c(h) = fc(g)$ , and  $c(h)$  is completely determined by  $c(g)$ . In particular, if  $c(g) = g$ , then  $c(h) = h$ . Also,  $c(g) = 0$  if and only if  $c(h) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* For  $c \in C(N)$ ,  $g \in G$ , and  $f(g) = h \neq 0$ , we get  $c(h) = cf(g) = fc(g)$ . Thus,  $c(h)$  is completely determined by  $c(g)$ . If  $c(g) = g$ , then  $c(h) = fc(g) = f(g) = h$ .

For the last statement, assume  $c(g) = 0$ . Then  $c(h) = fc(g) = f(0) = 0$ . Now assume  $c(h) = 0$ . Then  $0 = c(h) = fc(g)$ . Assume  $c(g) \neq 0$ . By Theorem 2.4,  $c(g)$  and  $g$  are in the same orbit. Since  $fc(g) = 0$ , it follows from Lemma 2.3 that  $h = f(g) = 0$ , a contradiction. Hence  $c(g) = 0$ , and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Definition 2.6.** A subset  $\mathcal{A} = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  of a set of orbit representatives  $\mathcal{V}$  is a set of atoms if: (i) for each  $a_i, a_j \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $a_i \neq a_j$ , there is no  $f \in N$  such that  $f(a_i) = a_j$ ; and (ii) for each  $v_i \in \mathcal{V} \setminus \mathcal{A}$ , there exists  $f_i \in N$  and  $a_i \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $f_i(a_i) = v_i$ .

Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  be a set of atoms in a group  $G$ . Note that every nonzero element of  $G$  is either an atom or the image of an atom under a function in  $A$  or  $N$ . By Lemmas 2.3 and 2.5, every function  $c \in C(N)$  is completely determined by the values  $c(a_i)$  where  $a_i \in \mathcal{A}$ .

To show an arbitrary function  $\alpha \in N$  is in the center, we use the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $\alpha \in N$ . Assume  $\alpha f(a) = f\alpha(a)$  for all  $f \in N$  and all atoms  $a \in \mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\alpha \in C(N)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a set of orbit representatives and  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ , a set of atoms. For each  $g_i \in \mathcal{V} \setminus \mathcal{A}$ , there exists  $f_i \in N$  and  $a_j \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $f_i(a_j) = g_i$ . So  $\alpha f(g_i) = \alpha f(f_i(a_j)) = \alpha((f f_i)(a_j)) = (f f_i)(\alpha(a_j)) = f(f_i \alpha)(a_j) = f(\alpha f_i)(a_j) = f\alpha(f_i(a_j)) = f\alpha(g_i)$ .

Since  $\alpha$  and  $f$  are zero-preserving, we conclude that  $\alpha f(0) = f\alpha(0)$ . Now let  $0 \neq h \in G$ . Then there exist  $g_i \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $\varphi \in A$  such that  $\varphi(g_i) = h$ . From above, we get  $\alpha f(h) = (\alpha f)(\varphi(g_i)) = \varphi(\alpha f)(g_i) = \varphi(f\alpha)(g_i) = (f\alpha)(\varphi(g_i)) = f\alpha(h)$ . Since  $h \in G$  is arbitrary, we have  $\alpha \in C(N)$ .  $\square$

### 3. FUNCTIONS IN $M_I(S_n)$

Now we consider  $M_I(G)$  where  $I$  is the set of all inner automorphisms of an arbitrary finite group  $G$ . The next theorem is Betsch's Lemma applied to  $I$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** [2] *For  $g_1, g_2 \in G$ , the following are equivalent:*

- (i) *There exists  $f \in M_I(G)$  such that  $f(g_1) = g_2$ ;*
- (ii)  *$Z(g_1) \subseteq Z(g_2)$ ;*
- (iii)  *$g_2 \in Z(Z(g_1))$ .*

Next, we focus our attention on the group  $(S_n, +)$ , where addition represents the usual composition of permutations in  $S_n$ . Throughout the remainder of the paper, we mix the standard juxtaposition of elements in  $S_n$  and the new addition symbolism. We use the former when representing elements in  $S_n$  and the latter when combining such elements.

In light of the above theorem, to identify elements in  $M_I(S_n)$  we first need to determine  $Z(Z(g))$  for all  $g \in S_n$ .

**Definition 3.2.** For  $g \in S_n$ , let  $Move\ g = \{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \mid g(i) \neq i\}$ .

**Definition 3.3.** Let  $g_1, g_2, \dots, g_r \in S_n$ . We say this collection of elements is pairwise disjoint if for every distinct pair  $g_i$  and  $g_k$ ,  $Move\ g_i \cap Move\ g_k = \emptyset$ . We call a sum of pairwise disjoint elements a pairwise disjoint sum.

**Lemma 3.4.** [2] *Let  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \dots + g_r$  be a pairwise disjoint sum in  $S_n$  where each  $g_i$  is a pairwise disjoint sum of  $k_i$  cycles and  $k_i \neq k_j$  for all  $i \neq j$ .*

- (i) *If  $|Move\ g| \neq n - 2$ , then  $Z(Z(g)) = \langle g_1 \rangle + \langle g_2 \rangle + \dots + \langle g_r \rangle$ .*
- (ii) *If  $|Move\ g| = n - 2$ , then  $Z(Z(g)) = \langle g_1 \rangle + \langle g_2 \rangle + \dots + \langle g_r \rangle + \langle (a\ b) \rangle$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are the two distinct elements not in  $Move\ g$ .*

**Example 3.5.** Consider the group  $S_{10}$ . Then

- (i)  $Z(Z(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)) = \langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\rangle$ ;
- (ii)  $Z(Z((1\ 2)(3\ 4)(5\ 6\ 7)(8\ 9\ 10))) = \langle(1\ 2)(3\ 4)\rangle + \langle(5\ 6\ 7)(8\ 9\ 10)\rangle$ ;
- (iii)  $Z(Z((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5\ 6)(7\ 8))) = \langle(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5\ 6)\rangle + \langle(7\ 8)\rangle + \langle(9\ 10)\rangle$ .

Note that in describing centers of centralizer subgroups, we cannot separate cycles of the same length. For example,  $g = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6)$ ,  $(1\ 3\ 5)$ , and  $(2\ 4\ 6)$  commute with  $g^2 = (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4\ 6)$ . Therefore  $g, (1\ 3\ 5), (2\ 4\ 6) \in Z(g^2)$ . However neither  $(1\ 3\ 5)$  nor  $(2\ 4\ 6)$  commute with  $g$ . Thus  $(1\ 3\ 5), (2\ 4\ 6) \notin Z(Z(g^2))$ .

In  $S_n$ , an orbit determined by all inner automorphisms consists of all permutations having the same cycle structure. So to define a function  $f \in M_I(G)$ , we choose one element  $g_i$  of each cycle structure, define  $f$  on these elements so that  $f(g_i) \in Z(Z(g_i))$ , then extend to all other elements of  $G$  via Lemma 2.3.

**Theorem 3.6.** [2] *The nearring  $M_I(S_3)$  is a commutative ring. In particular,  $M_I(S_3) = \langle id \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_6$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $f \in M_I(S_3)$ . Then  $f(1\ 2) \in \langle(1\ 2)\rangle$  and  $f(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$ . Since  $f$  is completely determined by the values  $f(1\ 2)$  and  $f(1\ 2\ 3)$ , we conclude that there are at most six functions in  $M_I(S_3)$ . Also, with  $id \in M_I(S_3)$ , we see that  $\langle id \rangle \subseteq M_I(S_3)$ , and there are at least six functions in  $M_I(S_3)$ . It follows that  $M_I(S_3) = \langle id \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_6$ , a commutative ring.  $\square$

Defining functions in the manner described above, we identify the functions in  $M_I(S_n)$  for  $n = 4, 5, 6$  in the table below. For each cycle structure representative  $x \in S_n$ , the function  $f \in M_I(S_n)$ , maps  $x$  into the sets listed in the adjacent columns. For example, in  $S_5$ ,  $f(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle + \langle(4\ 5)\rangle$ .

TABLE 1. All functions  $f \in M_I(S_n)$  for  $n = 4, 5, 6$

$x \in S_n$	$f \in M_I(S_4)$	$f \in M_I(S_5)$	$f \in M_I(S_6)$
(12)	$\langle(1\ 2)\rangle + \langle(3\ 4)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2)\rangle$
(123)	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle + \langle(4\ 5)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$
(12)(34)	$\langle(1\ 2)(3\ 4)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2)(3\ 4)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2)(3\ 4)\rangle + \langle(5\ 6)\rangle$
(1234)	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\rangle + \langle(5\ 6)\rangle$
(123)(45)		$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle + \langle(4\ 5)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle + \langle(4\ 5)\rangle$
(12345)		$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)\rangle$
(12)(34)(56)			$\langle(1\ 2)(3\ 4)(5\ 6)\rangle$
(123)(456)			$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5\ 6)\rangle$
(1234)(56)			$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\rangle + \langle(5\ 6)\rangle$
(123456)			$\langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5\ 6)\rangle$

**Corollary 3.7.** *The orders of  $M_I(S_n)$  for  $n = 4, 5, 6$  are:*

- (i)  $|M_I(S_4)| = 96$ ;
- (ii)  $|M_I(S_5)| = 2880$ ;
- (iii)  $|M_I(S_6)| = 1,658,880$ .

*Proof.* Since functions in  $M_I(S_n)$  are completely determined by their values on cycle structure representatives, we need only count the number of possibilities of function values on these representatives. For  $f \in M_I(S_4)$ , there are four possible values for  $f(1\ 2)$ , three possible values for  $f(1\ 2\ 3)$ , two possible values for  $f((1\ 2)(3\ 4))$ , and four possible values for  $f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$ . Thus  $|M_I(S_4)| = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 4 = 96$ . A similar method of counting gives the results for  $M_I(S_5)$  and  $M_I(S_6)$ .  $\square$

#### 4. FUNCTIONS IN $C(M_I(S_n))$

In general  $C(N)$  is not a subnearring of  $N$  (see [3]). It may be that  $C(N)$  is not even additively closed. Thus the question of when  $C(N)$  is a subnearring of  $N$  is of particular interest. The first theorem determines when  $C(M_I(S_N))$  is a subnearring of  $M_I(S_n)$  for  $n \geq 3$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *The following are equivalent for  $n \geq 3$ :*

- (i)  $M_I(S_n)$  is a commutative ring;
- (ii)  $C(M_I(S_n))$  is a subnearring of  $M_I(S_n)$ ;
- (iii)  $n = 3$ .

*Proof.* If  $M_I(S_n)$  is a ring, it follows that  $C(M_I(S_n))$  is a subnearring of  $M_I(S_n)$ . So (i) implies (ii). Assume  $n \geq 4$ . We know that  $id \in C(M_I(S_n))$ . Consider the function  $id + id \in M_I(S_n)$ . Then  $(id + id)(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4) + (1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . Thus the function  $id + id$  does not preserve cycle structure and  $id + id \notin C(M_I(S_n))$  by Theorem 2.4. Hence if  $n \geq 4$ , then  $C(M_S(S_n))$  is not a subnearring of  $M_I(S_n)$ , and (ii) implies (iii). We have (iii) implies (i) by Theorem 3.6, and the proof is complete.  $\square$

The next lemma gives information about function values of elements in the same orbit of  $S_n$  under the action of  $I$ .

**Lemma 4.2.** *Let  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_r$  be a pairwise disjoint sum in  $S_n$  where each  $g_w$  is a pairwise disjoint sum of  $k_w$  cycles and  $k_w \neq k_y$  for all  $w \neq y$ . Let  $f \in M_I(S_n)$ , and assume  $f(g) = i_1g_1 + i_2g_2 + \cdots + i_rg_r$  for some integers  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r$ . Let  $h \in Ig$ , say  $\varphi(g) = h = j_1g_1 + j_2g_2 + \cdots + j_rg_r$  for some integers  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r$  where  $j_w$  is relatively prime to  $|g_w|$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . Then  $f(h) = (i_1j_1)g_1 + (i_2j_2)g_2 + \cdots + (i_rj_r)g_r$ .*

*Proof.* First note that since  $\varphi(g) = \varphi(g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_r) = \varphi(g_1) + \cdots + \varphi(g_r) = h = j_1g_1 + j_2g_2 + \cdots + j_rg_r$  with  $k_w \neq k_y$  for all  $w \neq y$

and the cycle structure of  $g$  is the same as the cycle structure of  $h$ , it follows that  $\varphi(g_w) = j_w g_w$  for all  $w$ . Thus,  $f(h) = f\varphi(g) = \varphi f(g) = \varphi(i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_r g_r) = i_1 \varphi(g_1) + \cdots + i_r \varphi(g_r) = i_1 j_1 g_1 + \cdots + i_r j_r g_r$ , and the result follows.  $\square$

Now we consider functions  $c \in C(M_I(S_n))$  and their function values on elements in different orbits.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_r$  be a pairwise disjoint sum in  $S_n$  where each  $g_w$  is a pairwise disjoint sum of  $k_w$  cycles and  $k_w \neq k_y$  for all  $w \neq y$ . Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_n))$  and assume  $c(g) \in Ig$ , say  $c(g) = \varphi(g) = i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_r g_r$  for some integers  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r$  where  $i_w$  is relatively prime to  $|g_w|$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . Let  $f \in M_I(S_n)$  and assume  $h = f(g) = j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_r g_r$  for some integers  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r$ . Then  $c(h) = (i_1 j_1) g_1 + (i_2 j_2) g_2 + \cdots + (i_r j_r) g_r$ .*

*Proof.* As described in the proof of Lemma 4.2,  $\varphi(g_w) = i_w g_w$  for all  $w$ . Therefore  $c(h) = cf(g) = fc(g) = f\varphi(g) = \varphi f(g) = \varphi(j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_r g_r) = j_1 \varphi(g_1) + \cdots + j_r \varphi(g_r) = j_1 i_1 g_1 + \cdots + j_r i_r g_r$ , and the result follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_r$  be a pairwise disjoint sum in  $S_n$  where each  $g_i$  is a pairwise disjoint sum of  $k_w$  cycles and  $k_w \neq k_y$  for all  $w \neq y$ . Let  $f, \alpha \in M_I(S_n)$  such that  $f(g), \alpha(g) \in Ig$ . Then  $\alpha f(g) = f\alpha(g)$ .*

*Proof.* We consider two cases. First assume  $|Move\ g| \neq n - 2$ . By Lemma 3.4,  $Z(Z(g)) = \langle g_1 \rangle + \langle g_2 \rangle + \cdots + \langle g_r \rangle$ . Since  $f(g), \alpha(g) \in Ig$ , it follows that  $f(g) = i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_r g_r$  and  $\alpha(g) = j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_r g_r$ , for integers  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r, j_1, j_2, \dots, j_r$  where  $i_w$  and  $j_w$  are relatively prime to  $|g_w|$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . We also observe that there exist  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in I$  such that  $\varphi_1(g) = f(g)$  and  $\varphi_2(g) = \alpha(g)$ .

As in the previous two lemmas, we get that  $\varphi_1(g_w) = i_w g_w$  and  $\varphi_2(g_w) = j_w g_w$  for all  $w$ . Thus  $\alpha f(g) = \alpha \varphi_1(g) = \varphi_1 \alpha(g) = \varphi_1(j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_r g_r) = j_1 \varphi_1(g_1) + j_2 \varphi_1(g_2) + \cdots + j_r \varphi_1(g_r) = j_1(i_1 g_1) + j_2(i_2 g_2) + \cdots + j_r(i_r g_r) = i_1(j_1 g_1) + i_2(j_2 g_2) + \cdots + i_r(j_r g_r) = i_1 \varphi_2(g_1) + i_2 \varphi_2(g_2) + \cdots + i_r \varphi_2(g_r) = \varphi_2(i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_r g_r) = \varphi_2 f(g) = f\varphi_2(g) = f\alpha(g)$ . So  $\alpha f(g) = f\alpha(g)$ .

For the second case, assume  $|Move\ g| = n - 2$ . By Lemma 3.4,  $Z(Z(g)) = \langle g_1 \rangle + \langle g_2 \rangle + \cdots + \langle g_r \rangle + \langle (c\ d) \rangle$ , where  $c$  and  $d$  are the two distinct elements not in  $Move\ g$ . If  $f(g), \alpha(g) \in \langle g_1 \rangle + \langle g_2 \rangle + \cdots + \langle g_r \rangle$ , then  $\alpha f(g) = f\alpha(g)$  from the previous case. So we assume at least one of  $f(g)$  or  $\alpha(g)$  includes the element  $(c\ d)$  as a summand.

Assume both  $f(g)$  and  $\alpha(g)$  include  $(c\ d)$  as a summand. Since  $f(g), \alpha(g) \in Ig$ , without a loss of generality it follows that  $g_r = (a\ b)$

with  $a, b \in \text{Move } g$ , no other  $g_w$  consists solely of two-cycles, and  $a, b \notin \text{Move } (g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1})$ . Thus,  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1} + (a b)$ ,  $f(g) = i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (c d)$  and  $\alpha(g) = j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (c d)$ , for integers  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{r-1}, j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1}$  where  $i_w$  and  $j_w$  are relatively prime to  $|g_w|$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$ .

Since  $g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1}$ ,  $i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_{r-1} g_{r-1}$ , and  $j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_{r-1} g_{r-1}$  are in the same orbit, there exist  $\tau_1, \tau_2 \in S_n$  with  $\text{Move } \tau_1 \cup \text{Move } \tau_2 \subseteq \text{Move } (g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1})$  such that  $\varphi_{\tau_1}(g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1}) = i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_{r-1} g_{r-1}$  and  $\varphi_{\tau_2}(g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1}) = j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_{r-1} g_{r-1}$ . Thus  $\varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g) = f(g)$  and  $\varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(g) = \alpha(g)$ . Note that  $\varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(c d) = (a b) = \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(c d)$ . Also, as in the case where  $|\text{Move } g| \neq n-2$ ,  $\varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g_w) = i_w g_w$  and  $\varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(g_w) = j_w g_w$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$ .

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha f(g) &= \alpha \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g) \\
&= \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)} \alpha(g) \\
&= \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(j_1 g_1 + \cdots + j_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (c d)) \\
&= j_1 \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g_1) + \cdots + j_{r-1} \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g_{r-1}) \\
&\quad + \varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(c d) \\
&= j_1(i_1 g_1) + \cdots + j_{r-1}(i_{r-1} g_{r-1}) + (a b) \\
&= i_1(j_1 g_1) + \cdots + i_{r-1}(j_{r-1} g_{r-1}) + (a b) \\
&= i_1 \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(g_1) + \cdots + i_{r-1} \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(g_{r-1}) \\
&\quad + \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(c d) \\
&= \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(i_1 g_1 + \cdots + i_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (c d)) \\
&= \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)} f(g) \\
&= f \varphi_{\tau_2+(a c b d)}(g) \\
&= f \alpha(g).
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, assume  $g = g_1 + g_2 + \cdots + g_{r-1} + (a b)$ ,  $f(g) = i_1 g_1 + i_2 g_2 + \cdots + i_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (c d)$  and  $\alpha(g) = j_1 g_1 + j_2 g_2 + \cdots + j_{r-1} g_{r-1} + (a b)$ , for integers  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{r-1}, j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{r-1}$  where  $i_w$  and  $j_w$  are relatively prime to  $|g_w|$  for all  $w = 1, 2, \dots, r-1$ . As in the previous situation, we find  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$  which give  $\varphi_{\tau_1+(a c b d)}(g) = f(g)$  and  $\varphi_{\tau_2}(g) = \alpha(g)$ . Computations as above yield  $\alpha f(g) = f \alpha(g)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $\alpha \in M_I(S_n)$ . Then  $\alpha \in C(M_I(S_n))$  if and only if the following three conditions are satisfied:*

- (i) *For every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  or  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ .*



(ii) For every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha f(a) = (1)$  for all  $f \in M_I(S_n)$  with  $f(a) \neq (1)$ .

(iii) For every atom  $a$  with  $\alpha(a) \neq (1)$ ,  $\alpha f(a) = f\alpha(a)$  for every  $f \in M_I(S_n)$  such that  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $\alpha \in C(M_I(S_n))$ . Condition (i) follows from Theorem 2.4, and condition (ii) follows from Lemma 2.5. Condition (iii) follows from the definition of center.

For the converse, let  $a$  be an atom and  $f \in M_I(S_n)$ . We consider various cases.

Assume  $f(a) = (1)$ . Then either  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  or  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$  by condition (i). If  $\alpha(a) = (1)$ , then  $\alpha f(a) = \alpha(1) = (1) = f(1) = f\alpha(a)$ . If  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ , then  $f\alpha(a) = (1)$  by Lemma 2.3. Thus  $\alpha f(a) = \alpha(1) = (1) = f\alpha(a)$ .

Assume  $f(a) \in Ia$ . Again, either  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  or  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ . If  $\alpha(a) = (1)$ , then  $f\alpha(a) = f(1) = (1) = \alpha f(a)$  by Lemma 2.3. If  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ , then  $f\alpha(a) = \alpha f(a)$  by the previous lemma.

Now assume  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ . If  $\alpha(a) = (1)$ , then  $\alpha f(a) = (1)$  by condition (ii). Thus,  $\alpha f(a) = (1) = f(1) = f\alpha(a)$ . If  $\alpha(a) \neq (1)$ , by condition (iii),  $\alpha f(a) = f\alpha(a)$ . Thus  $\alpha \in C(M_I(S_n))$  by Lemma 2.7.  $\square$

## 5. CENTERS OF $M_I(S_4)$ , $M_I(S_5)$ , AND $M_I(S_6)$

In this section, we completely determine the functions in  $C(M_I(S_n))$  for  $n = 4, 5$ , and  $6$ . We begin by finding functions in  $C(M_I(S_4))$ .

Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_4))$ . By Table 1 and Theorem 2.4,  $c(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)\}$ ,  $c(1\ 3) \in \{(1), (1\ 3), (2\ 4)\}$ , and  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) \in \langle (1\ 3)(2\ 4) \rangle$ .

We note that  $\{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3)\}$  is a set of atoms for  $S_4$  since by Table 1, there exist functions  $f_1, f_2 \in M_I(S_4)$  such that  $f_1(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4) = f_2(1\ 3)$ . Assume  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1)$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1) = c(1\ 3)$  as well. Now assume  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \neq (1)$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $c(1\ 3) \neq (1)$  and  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) \neq (1)$ . Thus  $c(1\ 3) \in \{(1\ 3), (2\ 4)\}$  and  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ .

By considering all combinations described above, we get the following lemma describing necessary conditions for functions  $c \in C(M_I(S_4))$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_4))$ . Then  $c$  is one of the functions  $f$  or  $g$  whose images are given in the columns of the following table. The remaining values for  $c$  are obtained by extending to the other elements in each orbit via Lemma 2.3.*

$x \in S_4$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$
(1 2 3)	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$	$\langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$
(1 2 3 4)	(1)	(1 2 3 4) or (1 4 3 2)
(1 3)	(1)	(1 3) or (2 4)
(1 3)(2 4)	(1)	(1 3)(2 4)

For example, the function  $g \in C(M_I(S_4))$  given by  $g(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 2\ 3)$ ,  $g(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$ ,  $g(1\ 3) = (2\ 4)$ , and  $g((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$  is described by the second column of the table.

**Theorem 5.2.** *The set  $C(M_I(S_4))$  consists of all functions described by the table above. Thus  $|C(M_I(S_4))| = 15$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha$  be a function represented by one of the columns given in the table above. Then  $\alpha \in M_I(S_4)$  by Table 1. For a set of atoms for  $S_4$  we use  $\{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3)\}$ . From the table we see that for every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  or  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ .

Note that  $\alpha(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha(1\ 3) = (1)$ . Thus, for every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha f(a) = (1)$  for all  $(1) \neq f(a)$  with  $f \in M_I(S_4)$ .

Now we consider atoms  $a$  with  $\alpha(a) \neq (1)$  and functions  $f \in M_I(S_4)$  such that  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ . Since  $f(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle(1\ 2\ 3)\rangle$ , the atom  $(1\ 2\ 3)$  does not satisfy the condition. Thus there are only two cases to consider.

For the first case, let  $f \in M_I(S_4)$  with  $f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = 2(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $f(1\ 4\ 3\ 2) = 2(1\ 4\ 3\ 2) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ .

Assume  $\alpha(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \in \{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)\}$ . Then  $\alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . So  $\alpha f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = \alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4) = f\alpha(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$ .

For the second case, let  $f \in M_I(S_4)$  with  $f(1\ 3) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . Note that  $\varphi_{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)}(1\ 3) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2) + (1\ 3) + (1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (2\ 4)$ . So  $f(2\ 4) = f\varphi_{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)}(1\ 3) = \varphi_{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)}f(1\ 3) = \varphi_{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)}((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2) + (1\ 3)(2\ 4) + (1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ .

Assume  $\alpha(1\ 3) \in \{(1\ 3), (2\ 4)\}$ . Then  $\alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . So  $\alpha f(1\ 3) = \alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4) = f\alpha(1\ 3)$ .

Thus, for all atoms  $a$  with  $\alpha(a) \neq (1)$  and all functions  $f \in M_I(S_4)$  such that  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ , we have  $\alpha f(a) = f\alpha(a)$ . Hence, by Theorem 4.5,  $\alpha \in C(M_I(S_4))$ .

The first column of the table accounts for 3 different functions. The second column of the table yields  $3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 12$  different functions. Hence  $|C(M_I(S_4))| = 15$ .  $\square$

Next, we determine the functions in  $C(M_I(S_5))$ . Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_5))$ . By Table 1 and Theorem 2.4,  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \in \langle(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)\rangle$ ,  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) \in$

$\{(1), (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5), (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)\}$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)\}$ ,  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) \in \langle (1\ 3)(2\ 4) \rangle$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle$ , and  $c(4\ 5) \in \langle (4\ 5) \rangle$ .

Note that  $\{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5), (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\}$  is a set of atoms for  $S_5$  since by Table 1, there exist functions  $f_1, f_2, f_3 \in M_I(S_5)$  such that  $f_1((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 2\ 3)$ ,  $f_2((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (4\ 5)$ , and  $f_3(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . Assume  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1)$ . Then  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = (1) = c(4\ 5)$  by Lemma 2.5. If  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) \neq (1)$ , then  $c(4\ 5) = (4\ 5)$ .

Likewise, if  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1)$ , then  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1)$ . If  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \neq (1)$ , then  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . Also, if  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)$ , then  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 2\ 3)$  by Lemma 2.5.

Now assume  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ . Since  $f_1((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 1(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(4\ 5) = (1\ 2\ 3)$ , by Lemma 4.3,  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)$ .

By considering all combinations described above, we get the following lemma describing necessary conditions for functions  $c \in C(M_I(S_5))$ . In the table, note that superscripts designate corresponding function values that must be used in tandem. For example, if  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ , then  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 3\ 2)$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** *Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_5))$ . Then  $c$  is one of the functions  $f, g, h, \text{ or } k$  whose images are given in the columns of the following table. The remaining values for  $c$  are obtained by extending to the other elements in each orbit via Lemma 2.3.*

$x \in S_5$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$h(x)$	$k(x)$
$(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)$	$\langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$	$\langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$	$\langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$	$\langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$
$(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)$	(1)	(1)	$(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)^a$ or $(1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)^b$	$(1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)^c$ or $(1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)^d$
$(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$	(1)	$(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$ or $(1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$	(1)	$(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$ or $(1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$
$(1\ 3)(2\ 4)$	(1)	$(1\ 3)(2\ 4)$	(1)	$(1\ 3)(2\ 4)$
$(1\ 2\ 3)$	(1)	(1)	$(1\ 2\ 3)^a$ or $(1\ 3\ 2)^b$	$(1\ 2\ 3)^c$ or $(1\ 3\ 2)^d$
$(4\ 5)$	(1)	(1)	$(4\ 5)$	$(4\ 5)$

**Theorem 5.4.** *The set  $C(M_I(S_5))$  consists of all functions described by the table above. Thus  $|C(M_I(S_5))| = 45$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha$  be a function represented by one of the columns given in the table above. Then  $\alpha \in M_I(S_5)$  by Table 1. For a set of atoms for

$S_5$  we use  $\{(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5), (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)\}$ . From the table we see that for every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  or  $\alpha(a) \in Ia$ .

Note that  $\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha(1\ 2\ 3) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha(4\ 5) = (1)$ . Also,  $\alpha(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) = (1)$ . Thus, for every atom  $a$ ,  $\alpha(a) = (1)$  if and only if  $\alpha f(a) = (1)$  for all  $(1) \neq f(a)$  with  $f \in M_I(S_5)$ .

Now we consider atoms  $a$  with  $\alpha(a) \neq (1)$  and functions  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  such that  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ . Since  $f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \in \langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$ , the atom  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5)$  does not satisfy the condition. Thus there are four cases to consider.

For the first case, let  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  with  $f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 1(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(4\ 5) = (1\ 2\ 3)$ . Note that there exists  $\varphi \in I$  with  $\varphi((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ . By Lemma 4.2,  $f((1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)$ . Assume  $\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)$ . Then  $\alpha f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = \alpha(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 2\ 3) = f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = f\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5))$ . Next we assume  $\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ . Then  $\alpha f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = \alpha(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 3\ 2) = f((1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)) = f\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5))$ .

For the second case, let  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  with  $f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)$ . The remainder of the proof is similar to the first case.

For the third case, let  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  with  $f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 0(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(4\ 5) = (4\ 5)$ . Using  $\varphi((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(4\ 5) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ , by Lemma 4.2 we get  $f((1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)) = 0(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(4\ 5) = (4\ 5)$ . Assume  $\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)$ . Then  $\alpha f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = \alpha(4\ 5) = (4\ 5) = f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = f\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5))$ . Now assume  $\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)$ . Then  $\alpha f((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5)) = \alpha(4\ 5) = (4\ 5) = f((1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5)) = f\alpha((1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5))$ .

Finally, for the fourth case, let  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  with  $f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ . Then  $\alpha f(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = f\alpha(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$  from the first case in the corresponding proof for  $M_I(S_4)$ .

Thus, for all atoms  $a$  and all functions  $f \in M_I(S_5)$  such that  $f(a) \notin Ia$  and  $f(a) \neq (1)$ , we have  $\alpha f(a) = f\alpha(a)$ . Hence, by Theorem 4.5,  $\alpha \in C(M_I(S_5))$ .

The first column of the table accounts for 5 different functions. The second and third columns of the table each yield  $5 \cdot 2 = 10$  different functions. The fourth column gives  $5 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 20$  different functions. Hence  $|C(M_I(S_5))| = 5 + 10 + 10 + 20 = 45$  total functions.  $\square$

To determine functions in  $C(M_I(S_6))$ , let  $c \in C(M_I(S_6))$ . Using Table 1 and Theorem 2.4, we conclude that  $c(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6), (1\ 6\ 4\ 3\ 5\ 2)\}$ ,  $c((1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)) \in \langle (1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6) \rangle$ ,  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 6)) \in \langle (1\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 6) \rangle$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \in \langle (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5) \rangle$ ,

$c((1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6), (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)(5\ 6)\}$ ,  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6), (1\ 3\ 2)(5\ 6)\}$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) \in \{(1), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4), (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)\}$ ,  $c((1\ 3)(2\ 4)) \in \langle (1\ 3)(2\ 4) \rangle$ ,  $c(1\ 2\ 3) \in \langle (1\ 2\ 3) \rangle$ , and  $c(5\ 6) \in \langle (5\ 6) \rangle$ .

Note that by Table 1, we can create functions in  $M_I(S_6)$  mapping  $(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6)$  to  $(1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)$  or  $(1\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 6)$ . We can also create functions in  $M_I(S_6)$  mapping  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)$  to  $(1\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 6)$ ,  $(1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$ ,  $(1\ 3)(2\ 4)$ , or  $(5\ 6)$ . Finally, we can create functions in  $M_I(S_6)$  mapping  $(1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)$  to  $(1\ 2\ 3)$  or  $(5\ 6)$ . From this, we can see that  $\{(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6), (1\ 2\ 3\ 4\ 5), (1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)\}$  is a set of atoms for  $S_6$ .

By Lemma 2.5,  $c(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = (1)$  if and only if  $c(x) = (1)$  for all  $(1) \neq x \in S_6$  such that  $x$  is not a five cycle. Thus if  $c(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) \neq (1)$ , then for all  $g \in \{(1\ 3)(2\ 4)(5\ 6), (1\ 3)(2\ 4), (5\ 6)\}$ ,  $c(g) \neq (1)$ ; so  $c(g) = g$  for every element  $g$  of order two.

If  $c(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = (1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6)$ , then  $c((1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)) = (1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)$  by Lemma 2.5. If  $c(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = 5(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = (1\ 6\ 4\ 3\ 5\ 2)$ , then consider  $f_1 \in M_I(S_6)$  with  $f_1(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = 2(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = (1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)$ . Then  $c((1\ 5\ 4)(2\ 3\ 6)) = 10(1\ 2\ 5\ 3\ 4\ 6) = (1\ 4\ 5)(2\ 6\ 3)$  by Lemma 4.3.

If  $c((1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)) = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)$ , then  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 2\ 3\ 4)$  by Lemma 2.5. If  $c((1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)) = 3(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) + 1(5\ 6) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)(5\ 6)$ , then consider  $f_1 \in M_I(S_6)$  with  $f_1((1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)) = 1(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) + 0(5\ 6)$ . We conclude that  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = 3(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) + 0(5\ 6) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$  by Lemma 4.3.

If  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)) = (1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)$ , then  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = (1\ 2\ 3)$  by Lemma 2.5. If  $c((1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 1(5\ 6) = (1\ 3\ 2)(5\ 6)$ , then consider  $f_2 \in M_I(S_6)$  with  $f_2((1\ 2\ 3)(5\ 6)) = 1(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(5\ 6) = (1\ 2\ 3)$ . Then  $c(1\ 2\ 3) = 2(1\ 2\ 3) + 0(5\ 6) = (1\ 3\ 2)$  by Lemma 4.3.

By considering all combinations described above, we get the following lemma describing necessary conditions for functions  $c \in C(M_I(S_6))$ . As with the table for  $C(M_I(S_5))$ , superscripts designate corresponding function values that must be used in tandem. For example, if  $c((1\ 2\ 3\ 4)(5\ 6)) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)(5\ 6)$ , then  $c(1\ 2\ 3\ 4) = (1\ 4\ 3\ 2)$ .

**Lemma 5.5.** *Let  $c \in C(M_I(S_6))$ . Then  $c$  is one of the functions  $f$  or  $g$  whose images are given in the columns of the following table. The remaining values for  $c$  are obtained by extending to the other elements in each orbit via Lemma 2.3.*

$x \in S_6$	$f(x)$	$g(x)$
(1 2 5 3 4 6)	(1)	(1 2 5 3 4 6) <sup>a</sup> or (1 6 4 3 5 2) <sup>b</sup>
(1 5 4)(2 3 6)	(1)	(1 5 4)(2 3 6) <sup>a</sup> or (1 4 5)(2 6 3) <sup>b</sup>
(1 3)(2 4)(5 6)	(1)	(1 3)(2 4)(5 6)
(1 2 3 4)(5 6)	(1)	(1 2 3 4)(5 6) <sup>c</sup> or (1 4 3 2)(5 6) <sup>d</sup>
(1 2 3 4 5)	$\langle(1 2 3 4 5)\rangle$	$\langle(1 2 3 4 5)\rangle$
(1 2 3)(5 6)	(1)	(1 2 3)(5 6) <sup>e</sup> or (1 3 2)(5 6) <sup>f</sup>
(1 2 3 4)	(1)	(1 2 3 4) <sup>c</sup> or (1 4 3 2) <sup>d</sup>
(1 3)(2 4)	(1)	(1 3)(2 4)
(1 2 3)	(1)	(1 2 3) <sup>e</sup> or (1 3 2) <sup>f</sup>
(5 6)	(1)	(5 6)

**Theorem 5.6.** *The set  $C(M_I(S_6))$  consists of all functions described by the table above. Thus  $|C(M_I(S_6))| = 45$ .*

The proof follows the same conventions as those for  $C(M_I(S_4))$  and  $C(M_I(S_5))$  and is left to the reader.

The techniques developed in this paper can be used to describe all functions in  $C(M_I(S_n))$  for  $n \geq 7$ . Further research may be done to describe the structure of these sets.

### Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank the referee for suggestions that improved the presentation of the paper.

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