

- (i)  $R$  is semisimple
- (ii)  $G$  is finite
- (iii)  $|G|$  is invertible in  $R$ .

**Corollary 4.5** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $K$  a field. Then  $KG$  is semisimple if and only if  $G$  is finite and the characteristic  $K \nmid |G|$ .*

**Proof.** First note that any field  $K$  is semisimple ( $K = M_1(K)$  and use a previous lemma).

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Let  $|G| < \infty$  and  $\text{char} K \nmid |G|$ . So  $|G| \in K \setminus \{0\}$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ )  $|G|$  is invertible in  $K$ . Now apply maschke's theorem  $\implies$  let  $KG$  be semisimple.  $G$  is finite by maschke's and also  $|G|$  is invertible in  $K$  so  $|G| \in K \setminus \{0\}$ . So  $|G|$  is not a multiple of  $\text{char} K \in K$ .  $\therefore K \nmid |G|$ . ■

**Theorem 4.6** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $K$  a finite field such that  $\text{char} K \nmid |G|$ . Then  $KG \cong \oplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(D_i)$  where  $D_i$  is a division ring containing  $K$  in its center and*

$$|G| = \sum_{i=1}^s (n_i^2 \cdot \dim_K(D_i))$$

**Definition 4.7** *A field  $K$  is **algebraically closed** if it contains all of the roots of the polynomials in  $K[x]$ .*

**Example 4.8**  $\mathbb{C}$  is algebraically closed, while  $\mathbb{H}$  is not.

**Corollary 4.9** *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $K$  an algebraically closed field, where  $\text{char} K \nmid |G|$ . Then*

$$KG \cong \oplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(K) \quad \text{and} \quad |G| = \sum_{i=1}^s n_i^2$$

**Example 4.10**  $CC_3$ . Note that  $C_3$  is finite and  $\text{char} \mathbb{C} = 0 \nmid 3$  so maschke's theorem does apply and

$$CC_3 \cong \oplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(D_i) = \oplus_{i=1}^s M_{n_i}(\mathbb{C}) \quad \text{by the corollary above}$$