

# FUSION SYSTEMS OF BLOCKS OF FINITE GROUPS OVER ARBITRARY FIELDS

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- Reviewing block theory and related notions
- Fusion systems, saturated fusion systems, block fusion systems
- Our observations

Throughout:

- $G$  is a finite group,
- $p$  is a prime dividing the order of  $G$ ,
- $k$  is a field of characteristic  $p$ ,
- $kG$  is the group algebra ( $k$ -vector space with  $G$  as its basis)
- $Z(kG)$  is the center of  $kG$

## Definition

- An **idempotent** of any ring  $R$ , is a non-zero element  $e \in R$  such that  $e^2 = e$ .
- Two idempotents  $e, f \in R$  are called **orthogonal** if  $ef = 0 = fe$ .
- An idempotent  $e \in R$  is called **primitive** if it cannot be written as  $e = e_1 + e_2$  with  $e_1, e_2$  orthogonal idempotents of  $R$ .
- A **primitive decomposition** of  $1_R$  is a set  $I = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  of pairwise orthogonal and primitive idempotents with  $e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_n = 1_R$ .

## Definition

- A **block idempotent**  $b$  of  $kG$  is a primitive idempotent of  $Z(kG)$ .
- The algebra  $B := kGb$  is called a **block** of  $kG$  and it is an indecomposable as  $k$ -algebra and similarly  $(kG, kG)$ -bimodule.
- Let  $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  be a primitive decomposition of 1 in  $Z(kG)$ . Denote  $kGb_i := B_i$ . Then,  $kG = B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus \dots \oplus B_n$  is called the **block decomposition** of  $kG$ .

( $G$ -algebra is a  $k$ -algebra with a  $G$ -action.)

## Relative Trace Map

- Let  $A$  be a  $G$ -algebra over  $k$ , a field of characteristic  $p$ . For  $H \leq G$ , let  $A^H := \{a \in A \mid {}^h a = a \text{ for all } h \in H\}$ .
- Note that if  $L \leq H \leq G$ , we have  $A^H \subseteq A^L$ .
- The **relative trace map**  $\mathrm{Tr}_L^H : A^L \rightarrow A^H$  is defined by  $a \mapsto \sum_{h \in [H/L]} {}^h a$ .
- $A_L^H := \mathrm{Im}(\mathrm{Tr}_L^H)$ .

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## Brauer homomorphism

- Let  $A$  be a  $G$ -algebra over  $k$ , a field of characteristic  $p$ . For  $H \leq G$ , let  $A_{<H}^H$  be the sum of all relative traces  $A_L^H$  with  $L < H$ .
- The **Brauer quotient** is  $A(H) := A^H / A_{<H}^H$ .
- The **Brauer homomorphism** is the canonical surjection  $\text{Br}_H^A : A^H \twoheadrightarrow A(H)$ .

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## Remark

If  $A$  is the group algebra  $kG$ , then the Brauer map is just the  $k$ -linear projection  $\text{Br}_P^{kG} : (kG)^P \twoheadrightarrow kC_G(P)$ ,

$$\sum_{g \in G} a_g g \mapsto \sum_{g \in C_G(P)} a_g g.$$

## Definition (Brauer Pair)

- A  **$kG$ -Brauer pair** is a pair  $(P, e)$  where  $P$  is a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $e$  is a block idempotent of  $kC_G(P)$ .
- If  $i$  is an idempotent of  $(kG)^P$ , we say  $i$  is **associated** to  $(P, e)$  if  $e\text{Br}_P^{kG}(i) = \text{Br}_P^{kG}(i)e = \text{Br}_P^{kG}(i) \neq 0$ .

## Definition

Let  $(Q, f)$  and  $(P, e)$  be  $kG$ -Brauer pairs. We say that  $(Q, f)$  is **contained** in  $(P, e)$  and write  $(Q, f) \leq (P, e)$  if  $Q \leq P$  and if any primitive idempotent  $i$  of  $(kG)^P$  which is associated to  $(P, e)$  is also associated to  $(Q, f)$ .

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## Theorem

Let  $(P, e)$  be a  $kG$ -Brauer pair and let  $Q \leq P$ .

- (a) There exists a unique block idempotent  $f$  of  $kC_G(Q)$  such that  $(Q, f) \leq (P, e)$ .
- (b) Inclusion of  $kG$ -Brauer pairs is a transitive relation.

## Remark

The set of  $kG$ -Brauer pairs is a  $G$ -poset via the map sending an  $kG$ -Brauer pair  $(P, e)$  and  $x \in G$  to the  $kG$ -Brauer pair  ${}^x(P, e) = ({}^xP, {}^xe)$ .



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## Definition ( $b$ -Brauer pair)

Let  $b$  be a block idempotent of  $kG$ . A  **$b$ -Brauer pair** is an  $kG$ -Brauer pair  $(P, e)$  such that  $\text{Br}_P^{kG}(b)e \neq 0$ .

## Remark

Let  $(Q, f) \leq (P, e)$  be  $kG$ -Brauer pairs. If  $(P, e)$  is a  $b$ -Brauer pair, then so are  $(Q, f)$  and  ${}^x(P, e)$  for any  $x \in G$ .

## Notation

We denote by  $\mathcal{BP}(kG)$  the set of  $kG$ -Brauer pairs and by  $\mathcal{BP}(kG, b)$  the set of  $b$ -Brauer pairs.

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## Definition

Let  $b$  a block idempotent of  $kG$ . A subgroup  $P$  of  $G$ , minimal with the property that  $b \in \text{Tr}_P^G((kG)^P)$  is called a **defect group** of the block idempotent  $b$  and of the block algebra  $kGb$ .

- The defect groups of  $kGb$  form a single  $G$ -conjugacy class of  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$ .

## Theorem

- (a) The maximal elements in  $\mathcal{BP}(kG, b)$  with respect to  $\leq$  form a single  $G$ -orbit.
- (b) For  $(P, e) \in \mathcal{BP}(kG, b)$  the following are equivalent:
  - (i)  $(P, e)$  is a maximal element in  $\mathcal{BP}(kG, b)$ .
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  - (iii)  $P$  is a maximal among all  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  with the property  $\text{Br}_P(b) \neq 0$ .

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For subgroups  $Q$  and  $R$  of  $G$ ,

- $\text{Hom}_G(Q, R)$  denotes the set of all group homomorphisms  $\phi : Q \rightarrow R$  with the property that there exists  $g \in G$  with  $\phi(x) = c_g(x)$  for all  $x \in Q$ .
- We set  $\text{Aut}_G(Q) := \text{Hom}_G(Q, Q)$ .

## Definition

Fix a finite group  $G$ . Let  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ . The **fusion category** of  $G$  over  $P$  is the category  $\mathcal{F}_P(G)$  whose objects are the subgroups of  $P$ , and the morphism sets are, for all subgroups  $Q$  and  $R$  of  $P$ ,  $\text{Hom}_G(Q, R)$ .



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# The (abstract) fusion system

## Definition

Let  $P$  be a finite  $p$ -group. A **fusion system over  $P$**  is a category  $\mathcal{F}$  whose objects are the subgroups of  $P$ , and for any  $Q, R \leq P$ , the set  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, R)$  has the following properties:

- $\text{Hom}_P(Q, R) \subseteq \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, R) \subseteq \text{Inj}(Q, R)$
- For each  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, R)$ , the group isomorphism  $Q \rightarrow \varphi(Q)$ ,  $u \mapsto \varphi(u)$ , and its inverse are morphisms in  $\mathcal{F}$ .

## Example

- $\mathcal{F}_P(G)$  where  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ .
- $\mathcal{F}_{(P, e_P)}(kGb)$ , fusion system of a block  $b$  of  $kG$  over a  $p$ -group  $P$ , where  $k$  is an arbitrary field of prime characteristic  $p$ .

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## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a fusion system over a finite  $p$ -group  $P$ .

- A subgroup  $Q$  of  $P$  is called **fully  $\mathcal{F}$ -centralized** if  $|C_P(Q)| \geq |C_P(R)|$  for any subgroup  $R$  of  $P$  which is  $\mathcal{F}$ -isomorphic to  $Q$ .
- A subgroup  $Q$  of  $P$  is called **fully  $\mathcal{F}$ -normalized** if  $|N_P(Q)| \geq |N_P(R)|$  for any subgroup  $R$  of  $P$  which is  $\mathcal{F}$ -isomorphic to  $Q$ .

## Definition

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a fusion system over a  $p$ -group  $P$  and  $\varphi : Q \rightarrow R$  be an isomorphism in  $\mathcal{F}$ . We define

$$N_\varphi := \{y \in N_P(Q) \mid \exists z \in N_P(R) \text{ s.t. } \varphi \circ c_y = c_z \circ \varphi : Q \rightarrow R\}.$$

Note that  $QC_P(Q) \leq N_\varphi \leq N_P(Q)$ .

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## Definition

A fusion system  $\mathcal{F}$  over a  $p$ -group  $P$  is called **saturated** if the following two conditions hold:

- (i) **Sylow axiom:**  $\text{Aut}_P(P)$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $\text{Aut}_{\mathcal{F}}(P)$ .
- (ii) **Extension axiom:** For every  $Q \leq P$ , and  $\varphi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(Q, P)$  such that  $\varphi(Q)$  is fully  $\mathcal{F}$ -normalized, there exists a morphism  $\psi \in \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{F}}(N_{\varphi}, P)$  whose restriction to  $Q$  equals to  $\varphi$ .

## Example

$\mathcal{F}_P(G)$  is saturated where  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ .

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## Example

$\mathcal{F}_P(G)$  is saturated where  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ .

# Why are the saturated fusion systems nice?

## Alperin's Fusion Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a saturated fusion system over a  $p$ -group  $P$ . Then,

$$\mathcal{F} = \langle \text{Aut}_{\mathcal{F}}(Q) \mid Q = P \text{ or } Q \text{ is } \mathcal{F}\text{-centric} \rangle_P.$$

## Definition

A subgroup  $Q \leq P$  is  **$\mathcal{F}$ -centric** if  $C_P(R) = Z(R)$  for all  $R$  which are  $\mathcal{F}$ -isomorphic to  $Q$ .



**Notation:** Let  $b$  be a block of  $kG$  and  $(P, e_P)$  be a maximal  $b$ -Brauer pair. For each  $Q \leq P$ , let  $e_Q$  denote the unique block of  $kC_G(Q)$  such that  $(Q, e_Q) \leq (P, e_P)$ .

## Definition

**The fusion system of a block  $kGb$  over  $(P, e_P)$**  is the category  $\mathcal{F}_{(P, e_P)}(kGb)$  whose objects are the subgroups of  $P$  and which has morphism sets, for subgroups  $Q$  and  $R$  of  $P$ ,

$$\{\varphi \in \text{Hom}(Q, R) : \varphi = c_g \text{ for some } g \in G \text{ s.t. } {}^g(Q, e_Q) \leq (R, e_R)\}.$$

## Theorem

*Let  $(P, e_P)$  be a maximal  $b$ -Brauer pair and suppose that  $k$  is a splitting field for  $kC_G(P)e_P$ , i.e. for every simple  $kC_G(P)e_P$ -module  $V$  one has a  $k$ -algebra isomorphism  $\text{End}_{kC_G(P)e_P}(V) \cong k$ . Then, the category  $\mathcal{F}_{(P, e_P)}(kGb)$  is saturated.*

## Remark

If  $k$  is not a splitting field for  $kC_G(P)e_P$ , there are examples in which the corresponding block fusion system **fails** to be saturated.

## Example

Let  $p = 2$ ,  $k = \mathbb{F}_2$  and  $G = D_{24} = (C_3 \times C_4) \rtimes C_2$ . Let  $g$  be the generator of  $C_3$ .

- $b := g + g^2$  is a block idempotent of  $\mathbb{F}_2 G$ ,
- $(P, e) := (C_4, b)$  is a maximal  $(\mathbb{F}_2 G, b)$ -Brauer pair,
- One has  $\text{Aut}_P(P) = \{1\}$ ,
- $\text{Aut}_{\mathcal{F}_{(P,e)}(\mathbb{F}_2 G b)}(P) \cong C_2$ .
- Then  $\text{Aut}_P(P) \notin \text{Syl}_p(\text{Aut}_{\mathcal{F}_{(P,e)}(\mathbb{F}_2 G b)}(P))$ . Hence Sylow axiom fails and the block fusion system  $\mathcal{F}_{(P,e)}(\mathbb{F}_2 G b)$  is **not** saturated.

**Throughout:** Let  $L/K$  be a Galois extension of finite fields of characteristic  $p$ , prime and  $\Gamma := \text{Gal}(L/K)$ .

- $\Gamma$  acts via  $K$ -algebra automorphism on  $LG$  and also on  $Z(LG)$  by applying  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  to the coefficients of an element in  $LG$ .
- $\Gamma$  permutes the block idempotents of  $LG$ .
- Brauer homomorphism commutes with  $\Gamma$ -action.

## Proposition

- (i) If  $b$  is a block of  $LG$ , then  ${}^{\Gamma}b := \text{tr}(b) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma/\text{stab}_{\Gamma}(b)} \gamma(b)$  is a block of  $KG$ .
- (ii) There is a bijective correspondence between  $\text{Bl}(LG)/\Gamma \longleftrightarrow \text{Bl}(KG)$  induced by  $b \mapsto {}^{\Gamma}b$ .
- (iii) If  ${}^{\Gamma}b$  and  $b$  are corresponding blocks of  $KG$  and  $LG$ , then they have the same defect groups.

**Notation:**  $\leq_K$  and  $\leq_L$  denote the poset structures of  $\mathcal{BP}(KG)$  and  $\mathcal{BP}(LG)$ , respectively.

### Proposition

For  $(Q, f), (P, e) \in \mathcal{BP}(LG)$  with  $Q \leq P$ , the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $(Q, f) \leq_L (P, e)$  in  $\mathcal{BP}(LG)$ .
- (ii)  $(Q, {}^\Gamma f) \leq_K (P, {}^\Gamma e)$  in  $\mathcal{BP}(KG)$ .

## Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{BP}(LG, b)$  denote the set of  $(LG, b)$ -Brauer pairs and similarly  $\mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$  for  $(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$ -Brauer pairs. Then, we have surjective  $G$ -poset map

$$\mathcal{BP}(LG, b) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b) \text{ given by } (Q, f) \mapsto (Q, {}^\Gamma f).$$

## Lemma

Let  $(P, e)$  be maximal in  $\mathcal{BP}(LG, b)$  then  $(P, {}^\Gamma e)$  be maximal in  $\mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$ . There exists an embedding

$$\mathcal{I} : \mathcal{F}_{(P, e)}(LGb) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{(P, {}^\Gamma e)}(KG{}^\Gamma b).$$

## Lemma

Let  $\mathcal{BP}(LG, b)$  denote the set of  $(LG, b)$ -Brauer pairs and similarly  $\mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$  for  $(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$ -Brauer pairs. Then, we have surjective  $G$ -poset map

$$\mathcal{BP}(LG, b) \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b) \text{ given by } (Q, f) \mapsto (Q, {}^\Gamma f).$$

## Lemma

Let  $(P, e)$  be maximal in  $\mathcal{BP}(LG, b)$  then  $(P, {}^\Gamma e)$  be maximal in  $\mathcal{BP}(KG, {}^\Gamma b)$ . There exists an embedding

$$\mathcal{I} : \mathcal{F}_{(P, e)}(LGb) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{F}_{(P, {}^\Gamma e)}(KG{}^\Gamma b).$$



## Theorem

*Let  $b$  be a block of  $LG$ , and  $(P, e)$  a maximal  $(LG, b)$ -Brauer pair. Let  $g_0 \in N_G(P, {}^\Gamma e)$  be such that  $\langle g_0 N_G(P, e) \rangle = N_G(P, {}^\Gamma e)/N_G(P, e)$  and set  $\sigma := c_{g_0} \in \text{Aut}(P)$ . Then,*

$$\mathcal{F}_{(P, {}^\Gamma e)}(KG^\Gamma b) = \langle \mathcal{F}_{(P, e)}(LGb), \sigma \rangle.$$

## Proposition

Using the same notation as before.

- (i)  $Q \leq P$  is fully  $\mathcal{F}_{(P,e)}(LGb)$ -centralized(normalized) if and only if  $Q$  is fully  $\mathcal{F}_{(P,\Gamma_e)}(KG^{\Gamma}b)$ -centralized(normalized).
- (ii)  $Q \leq P$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{(P,e)}(LGb)$ -centric if and only if  $Q$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{(P,\Gamma_e)}(KG^{\Gamma}b)$ -centric.

## Theorem

*Using the same notation as before,  $\mathcal{F}_{(P, \Gamma_e)}(KG^\Gamma b)$  is saturated if and only if  $\mathcal{F}_{(P, e)}(LGb)$  is saturated and  $[\text{stab}_\Gamma(b) : \text{stab}_\Gamma(e)]$  is not divisible by  $p$ .*



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*Thank You*