

## ON THE CARTAN INVARIANTS OF $p$ -SOLVABLE GROUPS

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Throughout the present paper,  $k$  will represent an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ . Let  $G$  be a finite  $p$ -solvable group, and  $B$  a block ideal of defect  $d$  of the group algebra  $kG$ . In [3], Fong proved that each Cartan invariant of  $B$  is always bounded above by  $p^d$ . On the other hand, Koshitani [6] proved that the nilpotency index of the Jacobson radical of  $B$  is bounded above by  $p^d$ , that is, the Loewy length of each projective indecomposable  $B$ -module is not greater than  $p^d$ . In this paper, we consider the possibility that the composition length of each projective indecomposable  $B$ -module is not greater than  $p^d$ . In other words, we consider the possibility that

(\*) each row-sum of the Cartan matrix of  $B$  is bounded above by  $p^d$ .

In §1, we consider the case that  $G$  has  $p$ -length 1, and prove that the Cartan matrix of every block ideal of  $kG$  has property (\*) if and only if  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is abelian. Furthermore, we prove that if every irreducible  $B$ -module has  $k$ -dimension a power of  $p$ , then the Cartan matrix of  $B$  has property (\*). Now, let  $G$  be an arbitrary finite group, and  $H$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $B$  and  $b$  be block ideals of  $kG$  and  $kH$ , respectively, such that  $B$  covers  $b$ . In §2 (resp. §3), we consider the case that  $[G:H] = p$  (resp.  $[G:H] = q$ , a prime number different from  $p$ ), and the relationship between the Cartan invariants of  $B$  and those of  $b$  will be investigated. As a consequence, we show that if  $[G:H]$  is a power of  $p$  and the Cartan matrix of  $b$  has property (\*), then the Cartan matrix of  $B$  also has property (\*). However, in general, the converse need not be true; a counterexample will be given in §4.

Throughout this paper, all modules are assumed to be finitely generated right modules. We denote by  $P_G(M)$  the projective cover of a  $kG$ -module  $M$ . If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $M|_H$  is a  $kH$ -module obtained from  $M$  by restricting the domain of operators to  $kH$ . Given a  $kH$ -module  $L$ , we denote by  $L^G$  the induced module  $L \otimes_{kH} kG$ . The Jacobson radical of  $kG$  is denoted by  $J_G$ . Given a block ideal  $B$  of  $kG$ , we denote by  $C_B$  and  $\delta(B)$  the Cartan matrix of  $B$  and a defect group of  $B$ , respectively.

1. Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -solvable group, and  $B$  an arbitrary block ideal of

$kG$ . In [9], Schwarz proved that if  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is abelian then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is equal to  $|\delta(B)|$ . Furthermore, the converse of this fact has been proved in [8]. First, by making use of these results, we prove the following

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -solvable group of order  $p^a m$  ( $a \geq 1$ ,  $p \nmid m$ ). If  $G$  has  $p$ -length 1, then the following are equivalent :*

- (1)  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is abelian.
- (2) If  $B$  is an arbitrary block ideal of  $kG$ , then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .
- (3) If  $B$  is an arbitrary block ideal of  $kG$ , then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is equal to  $|\delta(B)|$ .
- (4) If  $B_0$  is the principal block ideal of  $kG$ , then each row-sum of  $C_{B_0}$  is bounded above by  $p^a$ .
- (5) If  $B_0$  is the principal block ideal of  $kG$ , then each row-sum of  $C_{B_0}$  is equal to  $p^a$ .

*Proof.* In view of [9, Satz 6.3] and [8, Theorem 5], it suffices to show that (4) implies (1).

Suppose that (4) holds. Since  $G$  has  $p$ -length 1,  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  has a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup. As is well known,  $B_0$  is isomorphic to  $kG/O_{p'}(G)$ . Hence, we may assume that  $O_{p'}(G) = 1$  and  $G$  has a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup. Then  $kG$  itself is the principal block ideal of  $kG$ . Now, let  $\{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_s\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $kG$ -modules, where  $F_1$  is a trivial  $kG$ -module. We put  $f_i = \dim_k F_i$  and  $u_i = \dim_k P_G(F_i)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). Then  $p$  does not divide  $f_i$  because  $G$  has a normal Sylow  $p$ -subgroup. As is well known,  $P_G(F_i)$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $F_i \otimes_k P_G(F_1)$ . Hence, by [4, Theorem 2B], we have  $u_i = p^a f_i$  for all  $i$ . Now, we may assume that  $f_s$  is a maximal one among  $f_i$ 's, and that  $f_i = f_{i+1} = \dots = f_s$ . Suppose that  $f_s > 1$ , and so  $t > 1$ . Let  $c_{ij}$  be the  $(i, j)$ -entry of the Cartan matrix  $C$  of  $kG$  (the multiplicity of  $F_j$  as a composition factor of  $P_G(F_i)$ ). Then, by our assumption, there holds that

$$p^a f_l = u_l = \sum_{i=1}^s c_{li} f_i \leq (\sum_{i=1}^s c_{li}) f_l \leq p^a f_l \quad (t \leq l \leq s).$$

This implies that if  $c_{li} \neq 0$  then  $f_i = f_l$ . Hence we have  $c_{ij} = 0$  provided  $t \leq i \leq s$  and  $1 \leq j \leq t-1$ . However, this is impossible, because  $C$  is indecomposable. Hence  $f_s = 1$ . This implies that every irreducible  $kG$ -module has  $k$ -dimension 1, and hence  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is abelian, proving (1).

Next, we prove the following

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -solvable group, and  $B$  a block ideal of  $kG$ . If every irreducible  $B$ -module has  $k$ -dimension a power of  $p$ , then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_s\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $B$ -modules. Then, by assumption,  $\dim_k P_G(F_i) = p^a$  for all  $i$ , where  $p^a$  is the order of a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  ([4, Theorem 2B]). Now, we put  $\dim_k F_i = p^{e_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). We may assume that  $e_1$  is minimal among  $e_i$ 's. Let  $c_{ij}$  be the  $(i, j)$ -entry of  $C_B$ . Then we have

$$p^a = \dim_k P_G(F_i) = \sum_{j=1}^s c_{ij} \dim_k F_j \geq (\sum_{j=1}^s c_{ij}) p^{e_1}.$$

Since  $|\delta(B)| = p^{a-e_1}$ , the above implies that

$$|\delta(B)| = p^a / p^{e_1} \geq \sum_{j=1}^s c_{ij} \quad \text{for all } i,$$

proving the assertion.

2. Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of a finite group  $G$ , and  $b$  a block ideal of  $kH$ . We denote by  $T_G(b)$  the inertial subgroup of  $b$ :

$$T_G(b) = \{g \in G \mid g^{-1}fg = f\},$$

where  $f$  is a central primitive idempotent of  $kH$  such that  $b = fkH$ . Given an irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$ , we denote by  $T_G(L)$  the inertial subgroup of  $L$ :

$$T_G(L) = \{g \in G \mid L \otimes_{kH} g \cong L \text{ as } kH\text{-modules}\}.$$

One may remark that  $T_G(L)$  is contained in  $T_G(b)$ . Now, let  $\{g_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq t\}$  be a right transversal of  $T_G(b)$  in  $G$ . Then  $e = \sum_{i=1}^t g_i^{-1}fg_i$  is a central idempotent of  $kG$ . If  $e = e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_m$  is the decomposition of  $e$  into (orthogonal) central primitive idempotents of  $kG$ , then we say that each block ideal  $e_i kG$  covers  $b$ .

Throughout the subsequent study in this section, we suppose that  $[G:H] = p$ . Our objective is to find some relationship between Cartan invariants of  $b$  and those of a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ . We notice here that if  $L$  is an irreducible  $kH$ -module then  $T_G(L)$  is either  $H$  or  $G$ .

At first, we prove the following

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $L$  be an irreducible  $kH$ -module. Then there holds the following :*

(1) *If  $T_G(L) = H$ , then  $L^G$  is an irreducible  $kG$ -module and  $P_G(L^G) \cong P_H(L)^G$ .*

(2) *If  $T_G(L) = G$ , then there exists a unique (up to isomorphism) irreducible  $kG$ -module  $W$  such that  $W|_H \cong L$ ; and then  $P_G(W) \cong P_H(L)^G$ .*

*Proof.* (1) It is well known that  $L^G$  is an irreducible  $kG$ -module ([2, Chap. III, (2.11)]). Since  $P_H(L)^G$  is a projective  $kG$ -module and

$$P_H(L)^G/(P_H(L)J_H)^G \cong (P_H(L)/P_H(L)J_H)^G \cong L^G,$$

we see that  $P_G(L^G) \cong P_H(L)^G$ .

(2) It is well known that there exists a unique irreducible  $kG$ -module  $W$  such that  $W|_H \cong L$  ([2, Chap. III, (3.16)]) and that  $P_H(L)^G$  is a projective indecomposable  $kG$ -module ([2, Chap. III, (3.13)]). Since  $W$  is isomorphic to an irreducible submodule of  $L^G$  and  $L^G$  is isomorphic to a submodule of  $P_H(L)^G$ ,  $W$  is isomorphic to the socle of  $P_H(L)^G$ . This implies that  $P_G(W) \cong P_H(L)^G$ .

Now, let  $L_1, L_2, V_1$  and  $V_2$  be irreducible  $kH$ -modules such that  $T_G(L_i) = H$  and  $T_G(V_i) = G$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). We put  $M_i = L_i^G$ . Further, we denote by  $W_i$  an irreducible  $kG$ -module such that  $W_i|_H \cong V_i$ . Let  $\sigma$  be an element of  $G$  such that  $\{1, \sigma, \dots, \sigma^{p-1}\}$  is a right transversal of  $H$  in  $G$ . Given a  $k$ -space  $X$  and a positive integer  $n$ , we denote by  $nX$  a direct sum of  $n$  copies of  $X$ . Then, in virtue of Frobenius reciprocity theorem and the preceding lemma, we can easily see the next

- Lemma 4.** (1)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(M_1), P_G(M_2)) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1), P_H(L_2) \otimes_{kH} \sigma^i) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1) \otimes_{kH} \sigma^i, P_H(L_2))$ .  
 (2)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(M_1), P_G(W_1)) \cong p \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1), P_H(V_1)) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1) \otimes_{kH} \sigma^i, P_H(V_1))$ .  
 (3)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(W_1), P_G(M_1)) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(L_1) \otimes_{kH} \sigma^i) \cong p \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(L_1))$ .  
 (4)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(W_1), P_G(W_2)) \cong p \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(V_2))$ .

By [1, Theorem 54.16], we see that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are irreducible  $kG$ -modules, then  $\dim_k \text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(X), P_G(Y))$  is equal to the multiplicity of  $X$  as a composition factor of  $P_G(Y)$ . Hence, the above gives a linkage between the Cartan invariants of  $kG$  and those of  $kH$ .

The next can be proved by [2, Chap.V, (3.5)], [5, Proposition 4.2] and [7, Theorem 6.11].

**Lemma 5.** If  $b$  is a block ideal of  $kH$ , then  $b$  is covered by a unique block ideal  $B$  of  $kG$ , and there holds the following :

- (1) If  $T_G(b) = H$  then  $\delta(B) \cong \delta(b)$ .  
 (2) If  $T_G(b) = G$  then  $\delta(B) \cap H \cong \delta(b)$  and  $|\delta(B)| = p|\delta(b)|$ .

Now, let  $b$  be a block ideal of  $kH$  such that  $T_G(b) = H$ . Then  $T_G(L)$

$= H$  for every irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$ . Let  $B$  be a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ , and  $M$  an irreducible  $B$ -module. Then  $M|_H$  is a completely reducible  $kH$ -module by Clifford's theorem, and there exists a composition factor  $L$  of  $M|_H$  belonging to  $b$ . Since  $L^G$  is an irreducible  $kG$ -module (Lemma 3 (1)) and  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(L^G, M) \cong \text{Hom}_{kH}(L, M|_H) \neq 0$ , we have  $L^G \cong M$ . Now, let  $\{L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b$ -modules. We put  $b_i = \sigma^{-(i-1)}b\sigma^{i-1}$ ,  $L_{ji} = L_j \otimes_{kH} \sigma^{i-1}$  and  $M_j = L_j^G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq p$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq s$ ). Then, Lemmas 4 and 5 together with the above fact imply the following result which is a special case of [2, Chap. V, (2.5)].

**Proposition 6.** (1)  $\{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_s\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $B$ -modules, and  $\{L_{1i}, L_{2i}, \dots, L_{si}\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b_i$ -modules ( $1 \leq i \leq p$ ).

(2)  $B$  and  $b$  have the same Cartan matrix, and have a defect group in common.

Next, suppose that  $b$  is a block ideal of  $kH$  with  $T_G(b) = G$ . Then the inertial subgroup  $T_G(L)$  of any irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$  is either  $H$  or  $G$ . Let  $B$  be a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ . If  $M$  is an irreducible  $B$ -module, then there exists a composition factor  $L$  of a completely reducible  $kH$ -module  $M|_H$  belonging to  $b$ . If  $T_G(L) = H$  then, as stated just before Proposition 6,  $L^G$  is isomorphic to  $M$ . On the other hand, if  $T_G(L) = G$  then  $M|_H \cong L$  by Lemma 3 (2). Now, let  $\{L_{11}, \dots, L_{1p}; \dots; L_{r1}, \dots, L_{rp}; V_1, V_2, \dots, V_t\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b$ -modules, where  $T_G(L_{i1}) = H$ ,  $L_{ij} = L_{i1} \otimes_{kH} \sigma^{j-1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq p$ ) and  $T_G(V_l) = G$  ( $1 \leq l \leq t$ ). Put  $M_i = L_{i1}^G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ), and choose an irreducible  $kG$ -module  $W_l$  such that  $W_l|_H \cong V_l$  ( $1 \leq l \leq t$ ). Then  $\{M_1, \dots, M_r; W_1, \dots, W_t\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $B$ -modules. Given irreducible  $kG$ -modules  $X, Y$  (resp. irreducible  $kH$ -modules  $A, B$ ), we denote by  $c_{XY}$  (resp.  $\tilde{c}_{AB}$ ) the multiplicity of  $Y$  (resp.  $B$ ) as a composition factor of  $P_G(X)$  (resp.  $P_H(A)$ ). Then, by Lemma 4, we have the following

**Proposition 7.** (1)  $c_{M_i M_j} = \sum_{l=1}^p \tilde{c}_{L_{i1} L_{jl}} = \sum_{l=1}^p \tilde{c}_{L_{i2} L_{jl}} = \dots = \sum_{l=1}^p \tilde{c}_{L_{il} L_{jl}}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq r$ ).

(2)  $c_{W_i M_j} = \sum_{l=1}^p \tilde{c}_{V_l L_{jl}}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq t$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq r$ ).

(3)  $c_{M_i W_j} = p \tilde{c}_{L_{i1} V_j} = p \tilde{c}_{L_{i2} V_j} = \dots = p \tilde{c}_{L_{ip} V_j}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq t$ ).

(4)  $c_{W_i W_j} = p \tilde{c}_{V_i V_j}$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq t$ ).

We are now in a position to state the following

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/N$  is a  $p$ -group. Let  $b$  be a block ideal of  $kN$ . If  $B$  is a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ , then there holds the following :*

(1) *If each row-sum of  $C_b$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(b)|$ , then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .*

(2) *The converse of (1) is true, provided one of the following conditions holds :*

(i)  $T_G(b) = H$ .

(ii)  $T_G(L) = G$  for every irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$ .

*Proof.* (1) By Propositions 6, 7 and Lemma 5 (2).

(2) If (i) holds, then the converse is true by Proposition 6. On the other hand, if (ii) holds then  $C_B = [G:N]C_b$  by Proposition 7. Since  $|\delta(B)| = [G:N]|\delta(b)|$  (Lemma 5 (2)), the converse of (1) is also true.

The next is a combination of Theorems 1 and 8.

**Corollary 9.** *Let  $G$  be a group such that  $G = O_{p'p'p'}(G)$  and  $O_{p'p'p'}(G)/O_{p'}(G)$  is abelian, and let  $B$  be a block ideal of  $kG$ . Then each row-sum of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .*

**3.** Throughout this section, we assume that  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  with  $[G:H] = q$ , a prime different from  $p$ . We notice here that if  $L$  is an irreducible  $kH$ -module and  $T_G(L) \neq H$  then  $T_G(L) = G$ . We establish first three lemmas which correspond to Lemmas 3, 4 and 5, respectively.

**Lemma 10.** *Let  $L$  be an irreducible  $kH$ -module. Then there holds the following :*

(1) *If  $T_G(L) = H$ , then  $L^G$  is an irreducible  $kG$ -module and  $P_G(L^G) \cong P_H(L)^G$ .*

(2) *If  $T_G(L) = G$ , then there exist  $q$  non-isomorphic irreducible  $kG$ -modules  $W_1, W_2, \dots, W_q$  such that  $W_i|_H \cong L$ ; and then  $P_G(W_i)|_H \cong P_H(L)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) It is well known that  $L^G$  is an irreducible  $kG$ -module ([2, Chap. III, (2.11)]). It is also clear that  $P_H(L)^G$  is a projective  $kG$ -module. Noting that  $J_G = J_H kG$ , we get

$$P_H(L)^G/P_H(L)^G J_G \cong (P_H(L)/P_H(L)J_H)^G \cong L^G.$$

Hence,  $P_H(L)^G \cong P_G(L^G)$ .

(2) The existence of such  $W_i$ 's is well known ([10, Lemma 1]). Observing  $J_G = J_H kG$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} P_G(W_i)|_H &\cong P_H(P_G(W_i)|_H) \cong P_H(P_G(W_i)|_H/(P_G(W_i)|_H)J_H) \\ &\cong P_H(P_G(W_i)|_H/(P_G(W_i)J_G)|_H) \cong P_H(W_i|_H) \cong P_H(L). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $L_1, L_2, V_1$  and  $V_2$  be irreducible  $kH$ -modules such that  $T_G(L_i) = H$  and  $T_G(V_i) = G$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). We put  $M_i = L_i^G$ , and choose an irreducible  $kG$ -module  $W_1$  such that  $W_1|_H \cong V_1$ . Let  $\tau$  be an element of  $G$  such that  $\{1, \tau, \dots, \tau^{q-1}\}$  is a right transversal of  $H$  in  $G$ .

**Lemma 11.** (1)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(M_1), P_G(M_2)) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{q-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1), P_H(L_2) \otimes_{kH} \tau^i) \cong \bigoplus_{i=0}^{q-1} \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1) \otimes_{kH} \tau^i, P_H(L_2))$ .  
 (2)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(M_1), P_G(W_1)) \cong \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L_1), P_H(V_1))$ .  
 (3)  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(W_1), P_G(M_1)) \cong \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(L_1))$ .  
 (4) If  $W_{11}, \dots, W_{1q}$  (resp.  $W_{21}, \dots, W_{2q}$ ) are non-isomorphic irreducible  $kG$ -modules such that  $W_{1i}|_H \cong V_1$  (resp.  $W_{2i}|_H \cong V_2$ ), and if  $1 \leq l \leq q$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^q \dim_k \text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(W_{1i}), P_G(W_{2l})) = \dim_k \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(V_2))$ .

*Proof.* (1), (2) and (3) are clear by Frobenius reciprocity theorem and Lemma 10.

(4) Observing that  $J_G = J_H kG$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} P_H(V_2)J_H^r/P_H(V_2)J_H^{r+1} &\cong (P_G(W_{2l})|_H)J_H^r/(P_G(W_{2l})|_H)J_H^{r+1} \\ &\cong (P_G(W_{2l})J_G^r/P_G(W_{2l})J_G^{r+1})|_H, \end{aligned}$$

where  $r$  is an arbitrary non-negative integer and  $1 \leq l \leq q$ . This shows that the multiplicity of  $V_1$  as a composition factor of  $P_H(V_2)J_H^r/P_H(V_2)J_H^{r+1}$  coincides with that of  $W_{1i}$  as a composition factor of  $P_G(W_{2l})J_G^r/P_G(W_{2l})J_G^{r+1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq q$ ). Since  $\dim_k \text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(V_1), P_H(V_2))$  (resp.  $\dim_k \text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(W_{1i}), P_G(W_{2l}))$ ) is equal to the multiplicity of  $V_1$  (resp.  $W_{1i}$ ) as a composition factor of  $P_H(V_2)$  (resp.  $P_G(W_{2l})$ ), the assertion (4) follows immediately.

The next is obvious by [5, Proposition 4.2].

**Lemma 12.** Let  $B$  and  $b$  be block ideals of  $kG$  and  $kH$ , respectively. If  $B$  covers  $b$ , then  $B$  and  $b$  have a defect group in common.

Now, we consider the case that the inertial subgroup  $T_G(b)$  of a block ideal  $b$  of  $kH$  coincides with  $H$ .

**Lemma 13.** Let  $b$  be a block ideal of  $kH$ . If  $T_G(b) = H$  then  $b$  is covered by a uniquely determined block ideal of  $kG$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that more than one block ideal of  $kG$  covers  $b$ , and

let  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m$  be all such block ideals of  $kG$ . By an argument similar to that employed in the paragraph preceding Proposition 6, we see that if  $M$  is an irreducible  $B$ -module then there exists an irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$  such that  $M \cong L^G$ . So, we let  $L_1, L_2, \dots, L_m$  be irreducible  $b$ -modules such that  $L_i^G$  belongs to  $B_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq m$ ). Now, if  $L$  and  $L'$  are irreducible  $b$ -modules such that  $L^G$  and  $L'^G$  belong to different block ideals of  $kG$ , then  $\text{Hom}_{kG}(P_G(L^G), P_G(L'^G)) = 0$ , and so  $\text{Hom}_{kH}(P_H(L), P_H(L')) = 0$  by Lemma 11 (1). Thus, we see that  $\tilde{c}_{L_i L_j} = 0$  for  $i \neq j$ , where  $\tilde{c}_{L_i L_j}$  is the multiplicity of  $L_j$  as a composition factor of  $P_H(L_i)$ . But this is impossible, because  $C_b$  is indecomposable. Hence  $b$  is covered by a uniquely determined block ideal of  $kG$ .

Let  $b$  be a block ideal of  $kH$  such that  $T_G(b) = H$ , and  $B$  a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ . Let  $\{L_1, L_2, \dots, L_s\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b$ -modules. Now, putting  $b_i = \tau^{-(i-1)} b \tau^{i-1}$ ,  $L_{ji} = L_j \otimes_{kH} \tau^{i-1}$  and  $M_j = L_j^G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq q$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq s$ ), by Lemmas 10–13 we get the following which is a special case of [2, Chap. V, (2.5)].

**Proposition 14.** (1)  $\{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_s\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $B$ -modules, and  $\{L_{1i}, L_{2i}, \dots, L_{si}\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b_i$ -modules ( $1 \leq i \leq q$ ).

(2)  $B$  and  $b$  have the same Cartan matrix and have a defect group in common.

Next, suppose that  $b$  is a block ideal of  $kH$  with  $T_G(b) = G$ . Then, for any irreducible  $b$ -module  $L$ ,  $T_G(L)$  is either  $H$  or  $G$ . Let  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_m\}$  be a full set of block ideals of  $kG$  covering  $b$ . We put  $B = B_1 \oplus B_2 \oplus \dots \oplus B_m$ . If  $M$  is an irreducible  $B$ -module, then there exists a composition factor  $L$  of a completely reducible  $kH$ -module  $M|_H$  belonging to  $b$ . If  $T_G(L) = H$  then, as in the paragraph preceding Proposition 6, we see that  $M \cong L^G$ ; and if  $T_G(L) = G$  then  $M|_H \cong L$  by Lemma 10 (2). Now, let  $\{L_{11}, \dots, L_{1q}; \dots; L_{r1}, \dots, L_{rq}; V_1, V_2, \dots, V_t\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $b$ -modules, where  $T_G(L_{i1}) = H$ ,  $L_{ij} = L_{i1} \otimes_{kH} \tau^{j-1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ;  $1 \leq j \leq q$ ) and  $T_G(V_l) = G$  ( $1 \leq l \leq t$ ). We put  $M_i = L_{i1}^G$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ), and we let  $\{W_{i1}, \dots, W_{iq}\}$  be a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $kG$ -modules such that  $W_{ij}|_H \cong V_l$  ( $1 \leq l \leq t$ ). Then  $\{M_1, M_2, \dots, M_r; W_{11}, \dots, W_{1q}; \dots; W_{r1}, \dots, W_{rq}\}$  is a full set of non-isomorphic irreducible  $B$ -modules. Further, according to Lemma 11, we can prove the following proposition which corresponds to Proposition 7.



- Proposition 15.** (1)  $c_{M_i M_j} = \sum_{l=1}^q \tilde{c}_{L_{i1} L_{jl}} = \sum_{l=1}^q \tilde{c}_{L_{i2} L_{jl}} = \dots = \sum_{l=1}^q \tilde{c}_{L_{iq} L_{jl}}$   
 $(1 \leq i, j \leq r)$ .  
 (2)  $c_{W_{i1} M_j} = c_{W_{i2} M_j} = \dots = c_{W_{iq} M_j} = \tilde{c}_{V_i L_{j1}} = \tilde{c}_{V_i L_{j2}} = \dots = \tilde{c}_{V_i L_{jq}}$   $(1 \leq i \leq t; 1 \leq j \leq r)$ .  
 (3)  $c_{M_i W_{j1}} = c_{M_i W_{j2}} = \dots = c_{M_i W_{jq}} = \tilde{c}_{L_{i1} V_j} = \tilde{c}_{L_{i2} V_j} = \dots = \tilde{c}_{L_{iq} V_j}$   $(1 \leq i \leq r; 1 \leq j \leq t)$ .  
 (4)  $\sum_{l=1}^q c_{W_{i1} W_{jl}} = \sum_{l=1}^q c_{W_{i2} W_{jl}} = \dots = \sum_{l=1}^q c_{W_{iq} W_{jl}} = \tilde{c}_{V_i V_j}$   $(1 \leq i, j \leq t)$ .

We are now in a position to state the following

**Theorem 16.** *Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  with  $[G:H] = q$ . Let  $b$  be a block ideal of  $kH$ , and  $B$  a block ideal of  $kG$  which covers  $b$ . Then there holds the following:*

(1) *Suppose that, for every irreducible  $b$ -module, its inertial subgroup coincides with  $G$ . If each row-sum of  $C_b$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(b)|$ , then that of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .*

(2) *Suppose that, for every irreducible  $b$ -module, its inertial subgroup coincides with  $H$ . Then,  $B$  is the unique block ideal covering  $b$ , and the following statements are equivalent:*

- (i) *Each row-sum of  $C_b$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(b)|$ .*
- (ii) *Each row-sum of  $C_B$  is bounded above by  $|\delta(B)|$ .*

*Proof.* (1) By Proposition 15.

(2) In the same way as in the proof of Lemma 13, we can see that  $b$  is covered uniquely by a block ideal of  $kG$ , even if  $T_G(b)$  is different from  $H$ . The rest of the assertion follows from Propositions 14 and 15.

4. In this section, we assume  $p = 3$  and give a counterexample which shows that the converse of Theorem 8 (1) need not be true.

Let  $U = \langle u \rangle \times \langle v \rangle$  be an elementary abelian group of order  $3^2$ . We look upon  $U$  as a vector space over  $\text{GF}(3)$ . Then  $\text{SL}(2,3)$  acts naturally on  $U$ . We denote by  $G$  a semi-direct product of  $U$  by  $\text{SL}(2,3)$  with respect to this action. We notice that  $|\text{SL}(2,3)| = 24$  and a Sylow 2-subgroup  $Q$  of  $\text{SL}(2,3)$  is a quaternion group. We let  $Q = \langle a, b \mid a^4 = 1, a^2 = b^2, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$ , and denote by  $\langle s \rangle$  a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $\text{SL}(2,3)$ . Then we may, and shall assume that  $G = \langle u, v, a, b, s \rangle$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a^{-1}ua &= u^2v, & b^{-1}ub &= uv, & a^{-1}va &= uv, & b^{-1}vb &= uv^2, \\ s^{-1}us &= uv, & s^{-1}vs &= v, & s^{-1}as &= b, & s^{-1}bs &= ba. \end{aligned}$$

In what follows, we put  $X = U\langle a^2 \rangle$ ,  $Y = U\langle a \rangle$  and  $H = UQ$ . Now, by

making use of Propositions 7 and 15, we shall determine the Cartan matrices of  $kH$  and  $kG$ .

To begin with, we shall determine the Cartan matrix of  $kX$ . Put  $\varepsilon_1 = -(1+a^2)$  and  $\varepsilon_2 = -1+a^2$ . Then  $1 = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2$  is a decomposition of 1 into orthogonal primitive idempotents in  $kX$ . By a brief computation, we can see that  $\{\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i u \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i v \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i u v \varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_i u^2 v \varepsilon_i\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $\varepsilon_i k X \varepsilon_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and that  $\{\varepsilon_1 u \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_1 v \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_1 u v \varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_1 u^2 v \varepsilon_2\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $\varepsilon_1 k X \varepsilon_2$ . Hence, we have

**Lemma 17.** *The Cartan matrix of  $kX$  is given by  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ .*

Next, we shall determine the Cartan matrix of  $kY$ . Put  $e_1 = 1+a+a^2+a^3$ ,  $e_2 = 1-a+a^2-a^3$ ,  $e_3 = 1+\xi a-a^2-\xi a^3$  and  $e_4 = 1-\xi a-a^2+\xi a^3$ , where  $\xi$  is a primitive 4-th root of 1 in  $k$ . Then  $1 = e_1 + e_2 + e_3 + e_4$  is a decomposition of 1 into orthogonal primitive idempotents in  $kY$ . Put  $L_i = \varepsilon_i k X / \varepsilon_i J_X$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) and  $M_j = e_j k Y / e_j J_Y$  ( $1 \leq j \leq 4$ ). Then it is easy to see that  $T_Y(L_1) = T_Y(L_2) = Y$ ,  $M_1|_X \cong M_2|_X \cong L_1$  and  $M_3|_X \cong M_4|_X \cong L_2$ . By Lemma 17 and Proposition 15, we get the following:

$$\begin{aligned} c_{M_1 M_1} + c_{M_1 M_2} &= c_{M_2 M_1} + c_{M_2 M_2} = 5, \\ c_{M_1 M_3} + c_{M_1 M_4} &= c_{M_2 M_3} + c_{M_2 M_4} = 4, \\ c_{M_3 M_1} + c_{M_3 M_2} &= c_{M_4 M_1} + c_{M_4 M_2} = 4, \\ c_{M_3 M_3} + c_{M_3 M_4} &= c_{M_4 M_3} + c_{M_4 M_4} = 5. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we can see that  $\{e_i, e_i u e_i, e_i v e_i\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $e_i k Y e_i$  ( $i = 1, 3$ ) and  $\{e_1 u e_3, e_1 v e_3\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $e_1 k Y e_3$ . Thus,  $c_{M_1 M_1} = c_{M_3 M_3} = 3$  and  $c_{M_1 M_3} = 2$ . Noting here that the Cartan matrix is symmetric, we get  $c_{M_i M_i} = 3$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 4$ ) and  $c_{M_i M_j} = 2$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 4$ ).

**Lemma 18.** *The Cartan matrix of  $kY$  is given by  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .*

Now, we determine the Cartan matrix of  $kH$ . Put

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= -(1+a+a^2+a^3)(1+b), \\ f_2 &= -(1+a+a^2+a^3)(1-b), \\ f_3 &= -(1-a+a^2-a^3)(1+b), \\ f_4 &= -(1-a+a^2-a^3)(1-b), \\ f &= -(1-a^2). \end{aligned}$$

Noting that  $kH/U \cong kQ$ , we see that  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  and  $f_4$  are orthogonal primitive idempotents of  $kH$  and  $f$  can be decomposed into two orthogonal primitive idempotents of  $kH$ , say  $f_5$  and  $f_6$ . Thus,  $1 = f_1 + f_2 + f_3 + f_4 + f_5 + f_6$  is a decomposition of 1 into orthogonal primitive idempotents in  $kH$ . Let  $N_i = f_i kH / f_i J_H$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 6$ ). Then, it is easy to see that  $T_H(M_1) = T_H(M_2) = H$ ,  $T_H(M_3) = T_H(M_4) = Y$ ,  $N_1|_Y \cong N_2|_Y \cong M_1$ ,  $N_3|_Y \cong N_4|_Y \cong M_2$  and that  $N_5 \cong N_6 \cong M_3^H \cong M_4^H$ . Now, Proposition 15 together with Lemma 18 yields the following :

$$\begin{aligned} c_{N_1 N_1} + c_{N_1 N_2} &= c_{N_2 N_1} + c_{N_2 N_2} = 3, \\ c_{N_1 N_3} + c_{N_1 N_4} &= c_{N_2 N_3} + c_{N_2 N_4} = 2, \\ c_{N_3 N_1} + c_{N_3 N_2} &= c_{N_4 N_1} + c_{N_4 N_2} = 2, \\ c_{N_3 N_3} + c_{N_3 N_4} &= c_{N_4 N_3} + c_{N_4 N_4} = 3, \\ c_{N_5 N_1} &= c_{N_5 N_2} = c_{N_5 N_3} = c_{N_5 N_4} = 2, \\ c_{N_5 N_5} &= 5. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, we can see that  $\{f_i, f_i u f_i\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $f_i kH f_i$  ( $i = 1, 3$ ) and  $\{f_1 u f_3\}$  is a  $k$ -basis of  $f_1 kH f_3$ . Hence,  $c_{N_1 N_1} = c_{N_3 N_3} = 2$  and  $c_{N_1 N_3} = 1$ . Now, we can find all the Cartan invariants of  $kH$  as in the next lemma.

**Lemma 19.** *The Cartan matrix of  $kH$  is given by* 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In conclusion, we determine the Cartan matrix of  $kG$ . It is easy to see that  $T_G(N_1) = G$  and  $T_G(N_2) = T_G(N_3) = T_G(N_4) = H$ . Now, suppose that  $T_G(N_5) = H$ . Then  $N_5, N_5 \otimes_{kHS}$  and  $N_5 \otimes_{kHS}^2$  are non-isomorphic irreducible  $kH$ -modules. But this is impossible, because  $N_5$  is the only one (up to isomorphism) irreducible  $kH$ -module with  $k$ -dimension 2. Hence  $T_G(N_5) = G$ . Thus, we see that  $f_1 kG, f_2 kG$  and  $f_5 kG$  are non-isomorphic projective indecomposable  $kG$ -modules (Lemma 3). Putting  $F_1 = f_1 kG / f_1 J_G, F_2 = f_2 kG / f_2 J_G$  and  $F_3 = f_5 kG / f_5 J_G$ , we see that  $F_1|_H \cong N_1, F_3|_H \cong N_5$  and  $F_2 \cong N_2^G \cong N_3^G \cong N_4^G$ . Hence, by Lemma 19 and Proposition 7, we can get the Cartan matrix of  $kG$ .

**Theorem 20.** *The Cartan matrix of  $kG$  is given by* 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 & 15 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Obviously, each row-sum of the Cartan matrix of  $kG$  is not greater than 27, the order of a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G$ . However, the 5-th row-sum of the Cartan matrix of  $kH$  exceeds 9, the order of a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ .

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*(Received December 2, 1982)*