

## On the Existence of $p$ -Blocks with a Given $p$ -Group as Defect Group $G^*$

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we study some actions of a finite group  $G$  on the set of characters of its subgroups, and by using these actions we determine the existence of a  $p$ -block with given defect group in some cases.

**Key words:**  $p$ -block; defect group; conjugacy.

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It is important to study the action of a finite group  $G$  on the set of conjugacy classes or the set of irreducible characters of its subgroup. In this paper, we give a sufficient and necessary group condition for the property of this kind of action. We give also some group conditions of the existence of  $p$ -block with a given defect group  $D$  by using this kind of action.

We will give a sufficient condition of the existence of blocks by using the action of  $G$  on the set of conjugacy classes in its subgroup. We introduce some notations at first. Assume that  $G$  is a finite group,  $P \in S_p(G)$ ,  $D \leq P$ , that  $|P : D| = p^2$ ,  $N = N_G(D)$ ,  $H = DC_G(D)$  and that  $P \in S_p(N)$ ,  $P_0 \in S_p(H)$  and  $P_0$  is a maximal subgroup of  $P$ . Let  $\bar{N} = N/D$ ,  $\bar{H} = H/D$ . Define  $A(\bar{g}) = \{(v, w) | \bar{g} = vw; v, w \in \bar{N}; v^p = w^p = 1\}$ ,  $A_0(\bar{g}) = \{(x, y, z) | xyz = \bar{g}; v, w, z \in \bar{N}; v^p = w^p = z^p = 1\}$ .

Let  $C_1, \dots, C_s$  be all  $p$ -regular classes of  $\bar{H}$  with representative  $x_i$  for each  $C_i$ , and  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_r$  be all irreducible Brauer characters of defect zero. Let  $\bar{N}$  act on  $C_1, \dots, C_s$  and  $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_r$  by conjugation. Then we have

**Lemma 1**  $G$  has a block of defect  $D$  if and only if there exists  $\varphi_i, 1 \leq i \leq r$  such that  $p \mid |\varphi_i^{\bar{N}}|$ , where  $\varphi_i^{\bar{N}}$  is the orbit of  $\varphi_i$  under the action of  $\bar{N}$ .

**Proof** By [4], we have that  $G$  has block with defect  $D$  if and only if there exists a block of defect zero in  $\bar{H}$  which is covered only by blocks of defect zero in  $\bar{N}$ . By [2, Chart 5, Theorem 5.6], the lemma follows.

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Let  $\overline{N}$  acts on the multiple  $(C_1, \dots, C_s)$  by conjugation. Let  $F$  be the stabilizer of  $(C_1, \dots, C_s)$  in  $\overline{N}$ . Then we have

**Theorem 1** If  $p^2 \mid |F|$ , then  $G$  has no block with defect group  $D$ .

**Proof** For any  $x \in F$ , we have  $\varphi_i^x = \varphi_i, i = 1, \dots, r$ . Hence the theory follows from Lemma 1.

For any  $\varphi_i (i = 1, \dots, r)$ , we can define relation of equivalence among the elements of the set  $C = \{C_j\}_{j=1}^s$  as following:  $C_l \sim C_h$  if and only if  $\varphi_i(x_l) = \varphi_i(x_h)$ . Then  $C = \bigcup A_k^{\varphi_i}$  where  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$  is the equivalent class. It is obvious that for  $x \in \overline{N}$ ,  $\varphi_i^x = \varphi_i$  if and only if  $x$  fixes every equivalent class  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$ . Then from Lemma 1 we have the following:

**Proposition 1**  $G$  has a block of defect  $D$  if and only if there exists a fixed  $\varphi_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$  such that for any  $p$ -element  $x \in \overline{N} - \overline{H}$  there exists  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$  with  $(A_k^{\varphi_i})^x \neq A_k^{\varphi_i}$ .

**Proof** If  $G$  has block with defect group  $D$ , then there exists a block  $b$  of defect zero in  $\overline{H}$  is covered only by the blocks of defect zero in  $\overline{N}$ . Hence we have  $|T(b) : \overline{H}|$  is prime to  $p$ , where  $T(b)$  is the inertial group of  $b$ . Since there is only one irreducible Brauer character  $\varphi$  in  $b$ , the inertial group  $T(\varphi)$  of  $\varphi$  is the same as the inertial group  $T(b)$  of  $b$ . Hence there is no  $p$ -elements of  $\overline{N} - \overline{H}$  in the stabilizer of  $\varphi$ . Hence we have for any  $p$ -element  $x \in \overline{N} - \overline{H}$  there exists  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$  s.t.  $(A_k^{\varphi_i})^x \neq A_k^{\varphi_i}$ .

Next we show the converse. If there exists a irreducible Brauer character of defect zero  $\varphi$  in  $\overline{H}$  such that for any  $p$ -element  $x \in \overline{N} - \overline{H}$  there exists  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$  with  $(A_k^{\varphi_i})^x \neq A_k^{\varphi_i}$ . Then there is no  $p$ -elements of  $\overline{N} - \overline{H}$  in  $T(\varphi)$ , so is  $T(b)$ , where  $b$  is the block to which  $\varphi$  belongs. Hence  $b$  is covered only by the blocks of defect zero in  $\overline{N}$ . The proof is completed.

It is important to determine the properties of representation of a group by group conditions in representation theory. The following result is of this kind.

**Proposition 2** The following statements are equivalent:

- (i) There exists a fixed  $\varphi_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$  such that for any  $p$ -element  $x \in \overline{N} - \overline{H}$  there exists  $A_k^{\varphi_i}$  with  $(A_k^{\varphi_i})^x \neq A_k^{\varphi_i}$ .
- (ii) There exists a  $p$ -regular element  $x$  with defect group  $D$  such that  $(|A(\overline{g})|, p) = 1$  if  $p \geq 3$  and  $(|A_0(\overline{g})|, p) = 1$  if  $p = 2$ .

**Proof** The Proposition follows from Proposition 1 and [5, Theorem 4].

Next we will determine the existence of blocks by using the action of  $N$  on the set of irreducible characters of its subgroup. Let  $N \geq N_1 \geq N_2 \geq H \geq H_1 \geq H_2 \geq D$  be a normal series of  $N$ , and  $\overline{N}_1 = N_1/D$ ,  $\overline{H} = H/D$ . Assume that  $N_1 = \langle \eta \rangle H$  and that  $\overline{N}_1 = \overline{H} \langle \eta \rangle$ , where  $\langle \eta \rangle$  is a  $p$ -group of order  $p$ . Then  $\eta$  can acts on  $\overline{H}$  and  $N_{\overline{H}}(\overline{P}_0)$  by conjugacy.  $\eta$  can also acts on their blocks by conjugacy. Let  $F(H), F(N)$  be the sets of fixed points of  $\text{cl}(\overline{H})$  and  $\text{cl}(N_{\overline{H}}(\overline{P}_0))$  under the action of  $\eta$  respectively. Let  $z = |\text{cl}(\overline{H})| - |F(H)|, s = |\text{cl}(N_{\overline{H}}(\overline{P}_0))| - |F(N)|$ . Then we have

**Lemma 2** Let  $\bar{b} \in \text{Bl}(\overline{H}), \tilde{b} \in \text{Bl}(N_{\overline{H}}(\overline{P}_0))$  and  $\bar{b}^{\overline{H}} = \tilde{b}$ . Then we have

- (i)  $(\bar{b})^\eta = \tilde{b}$  if and only if  $(\tilde{b})^\eta = \bar{b}$ .
- (ii) If  $(\bar{b})^\eta = \tilde{b}$ , then  $|\text{Fix}(\bar{b})| = |\text{Irr}(\bar{b})| = |\text{Fix}(\tilde{b})| = |\text{Irr}(\tilde{b})|$ ; otherwise  $|\text{Fix}(\bar{b})| =$



$|F(\tilde{b})| = 0$ , where  $\text{Fix}(\bar{b}), \text{Fix}(\tilde{b})$  are the set of all irreducible characters fixed by  $\eta$  in  $\bar{b}, \tilde{b}$  respectively.

**Lemma 3**  $\overline{N_1}$  has a  $p$ -block of defect zero if and only if  $\overline{H}$  has a  $p$ -block of defect zero which is not fixed by  $\eta$ .

**Lemma 4**  $\overline{N_1}$  has a  $p$ -block of defect zero if and only if  $0 \leq z - s$ .

The proof of Lemma 2-4 is similar to the proof of Lemma 5-7 in [1]. We omit it here.

**Theorem 2**  $G$  has  $p$ -block with  $D$  as defect group if and only if  $z - s \leq 0$ .

**Proof** It suffice to show this for  $N$ . By [2 Chart 5, Theorem 5.15, Theorem 5.16], the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $N$  has a block with defect group  $D$ .
- (ii)  $N_1$  has a block with defect group  $D$ .
- (iii) There exists  $b \in \text{Bl}(H)$  such that  $b^\eta \neq b$  and  $\delta(b) = D$ .

By [2 Chart 5, Theorem 8.11], (iii) holds if and only if there exists a  $p$ -block of defect zero of  $\overline{H}$  which is not fixed by  $\eta$ . The theory follows from Lemma 3 and Lemma 4.

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## 给定亏群的 $p$ 块的存在性

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**摘要:** 在本文中, 主要研究了群  $G$  在其子群的指标上的一些作用, 并用这些作用得到了一些给定亏群的块的存在性.

**关键词:**  $p$ -块; 亏群; 共轭类.