

# INTEGRAL AND $p$ -MODULAR SEMISIMPLE DEFORMATIONS FOR $p$ -SOLVABLE GROUPS OF FINITE REPRESENTATION TYPE

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(Received 4 April 1989)

Communicated by H. Lausch

## Abstract

We prove that the split integral group ring of a finite  $p$ -solvable group of finite representation type has a structure analogous to that of the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation. The split integral deformation can be put in the same form as the  $p$ -modular deformation by an appropriate substitution for the parameter  $T$ . As an application we derive a simple formula for the matrix units in the semisimple group algebra over a nonmodular prime.

1980 *Mathematics subject classification (Amer. Math. Soc.)* (1985 Revision): 16 A 58, 20 C 05.

## 1. Introduction

In [2] Donald and Flanigan conjectured a modular version of Maschke's theorem, namely that for every finite group and every sufficiently large field  $k$ , the group algebra  $kG$  has a deformation to a semisimple algebra with the same Wedderburn components as the group algebra over a field of characteristic 0. We will call such a deformation a  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation. This conjecture is only of interest in the  $p$ -modular case, when the characteristic  $p$  of  $k$  divides  $|G|$ . In the nonmodular case, Maschke's theorem tells us that  $kG$  is already semisimple and no deformation is needed.

Donald and Flanigan [2] proved the original conjecture for commutative groups twenty years ago. The author [10] just recently proved the conjecture for groups of finite representation type, that is, groups with cyclic  $p$ -Sylow subgroup.

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The current paper addresses the motivation for conjecturing the existence of a  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation, and consequences of finding such a deformation, in one case of finite representation type for which the theory is particularly simple and elegant: the  $p$ -solvable groups with cyclic  $p$ -Sylow subgroup. One of the primary reasons for conjecturing the existence of a unicharacteristic  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation is that the split integral group ring provides a “multicharacteristic” semisimple deformation. We show in this paper that in the  $p$ -solvable case the two deformations are entirely analogous.

### 2. Background and notation

Let  $|G| = me$ , with  $m = p^c$  and  $(e, p) = 1$ . A  $p$ -number is a power of  $p$ , and a  $p'$ -number is a number relatively prime to  $p$ . Let  $O_{p'}(G)$  be the maximal normal  $p'$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $P = S_p(G)$  be a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $Z(G)$  be the center of  $G$ . Let  $G'$  be the commutator subgroup and let  $C_n$  be the cyclic group of order  $n$ .

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring, and  $R^*$  its group of units. A Hochschild cocycle  $\alpha$  is a function  $\alpha : G \times G \rightarrow R^*$  satisfying the identities

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(x, 1) &= \alpha(1, x) = 1, \\ \alpha(x, y)\alpha(xy, z) &= \alpha(y, z)\alpha(x, yz) \quad \text{for } x, y, z \in G. \end{aligned}$$

We denote the set of cocycles by  $Z^2(G, R^*)$ . The coboundaries  $B^2(G, R^*)$  are the cocycles determined by a map  $\beta : G \rightarrow R^*$  according to the formula

$$\alpha(x, y) = \beta(x)\beta(y)(\beta(xy))^{-1}.$$

Define  $H^2(G, R^*) = Z^2(G, R^*)/B^2(G, R^*)$ . We denote by  $RG$  the standard group algebra with the elements of the group as basis and multiplication determined by the group multiplication. We denote by  $R^\alpha G$  the twisted group algebra on the same basis with multiplication induced by  $g \cdot h = \alpha(g, h)gh$ .

**DEFINITION.** A group is  $p$ -solvable if it has a composition series  $G \triangleright G_1 \triangleright G_2 \triangleright \dots \triangleright 0$  in which every factor group is either a  $p$ -group or a  $p'$ -group.

**DEFINITION.** A  $k$ -algebra deformation  $A$  of an  $n$  dimensional  $k$ -algebra  $A_0$  over a commutative  $k$ -algebra  $R$  is an associative unitary multiplication structure, on a basis  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of the form

$$x_i \cdot x_j = \sum_{q=1}^n a_{ij}^q x_q,$$

with structure constants  $a_{ij}^q \in R$  such that the residues of the  $a_{ij}^q$  modulo some maximal ideal  $m_0$  of  $R$  give structure constants for the algebra  $A_0$ .

In the current case it suffices to take  $R = k[T]$  for an indeterminate  $T$ , and let the special point be given by setting  $T = 0$ . If all the algebras  $A_s$  obtained by setting  $T = s$  for  $s \neq 0$  are isomorphic to  $A_1$ , then we also say that  $A_1$  is a deformation of  $A_0$ .

**EXAMPLE 1.** If  $m = p^c$ , with  $\text{char } k = p$ , then let  $G$  be the cyclic group of order  $m$ , and take  $A_0$  to be the group algebra  $kG$ , which is isomorphic to  $k[z]/(z)^m$ . Define a deformation  $A$  of  $A_0$  to be the  $k[T]$ -algebra with basis  $1, z, z^2, \dots, z^{m-1}$  and multiplication

$$z^i z^j = \begin{cases} z^{i+j} & \text{if } i + j < m, \\ T^{m-1} z^{i+j-m+1} & \text{if } i + j \geq m. \end{cases}$$

For  $T = 0$  this is  $A_0$  and for all nonzero values  $s$  of  $T$  it is the semisimple commutative algebra  $k^m \simeq k[Z]/(Z^m - s^{m-1}Z)$ .

**DEFINITION.** A multicharacteristic deformation  $A$  of a  $k$ -algebra  $A_0$  over a parameter ring  $R$  is a multiplication structure as above, except that  $R$  is a multicharacteristic ring.

**DEFINITION.** Let  $K$  be a finite extension of the rational numbers containing all roots of unity of order at most  $|G|$ . Let  $O$  be the ring of integers in  $K$ , that is, the integral closure of  $\mathbb{Z}$  in  $K$ . Let  $S$  be the set of all primes dividing  $|G|$  which don't divide  $p$ , and let  $O_S$  be the subring of  $K$  containing  $O$  in which elements of  $S$  are inverted. The group ring  $O_S[G]$  will be called the split integral group ring.

**REMARK.** Over every prime not dividing  $|G|$  it splits into a semisimple group algebra, since  $O_S$  will contain the necessary roots of unity all of which are integral over  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

### 3. The $p$ -modular semisimple deformation for $p$ - $p'$ metacyclic groups

We now construct the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation for one important special case.

**DEFINITION.** A  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic group is a group with a cyclic normal  $p$ -Sylow subgroup and a cyclic quotient.

We fix a presentation for such a group. Let  $a$  be a generator for a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup  $P = S_p(G)$ , of order  $m = p^c$ . Let  $e = |G/P|$ , so that  $(e, p) = 1$ . Let  $b$  be an element of  $G$  which induces a generator of  $G/P$ . Since conjugation by  $b$  is an automorphism of  $P$ ,  $bab^{-1} = a^r$  with  $a^r$  another generator of  $P$ , that is, with  $(r, p) = 1$ . Furthermore, since  $b^e \in P$ ,

which is abelian,  $a = b^e ab^{-e} = a^{r^e}$ . Thus  $r^e \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ , and  $G$  is nonabelian if  $r \not\equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . By the Schur-Zassenhaus Theorem [1, 8.35],  $G$  is a semidirect product, so  $b^e = 1$ . In summary we have a presentation

$$G = \langle a, b \mid a^m = 1, b^e = 1, ba = a^r b, r^e \equiv 1 \pmod{m} \rangle.$$

We collect together the results which we will need about such groups. Since the proofs are mostly elementary number theory, we include them instead of referring the reader to general theorems.

**LEMMA 1.** *Let  $G$  be a nonabelian  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic group.*

- (1)  $|Z(G)|$  is prime to  $p$ .
- (2) If  $Z(G)$  is trivial, then  $e$  divides  $p - 1$  (and thus also  $m - 1$ ).
- (3) If  $Z(G)$  is trivial, then every subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is a  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic group with trivial center, or is cyclic of  $p$  or  $p'$  order.
- (4) If  $k$  is an algebraically closed field of characteristic not equal  $p$ , then  $H^2(G, k^*)$  is trivial, i.e. every cocycle is a coboundary.

**PROOF.** Recall that  $|G| = me$ , with  $m = p^c$ .

(1) Suppose  $a^{m''} \in Z(G)$ , for  $m'' = p^d$ ,  $d \leq c$ . Then  $a^{m''} b = ba^{m''} = a^{m''r} b$ , so  $m''(r - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . If  $m \neq m''$ , then  $p \mid r - 1$ , so  $r = up^{c'} + 1$  with  $(u, p) = 1$ . Since  $G$  is nonabelian,  $c' < c$ . However, since  $1 \equiv r^e = (up^{c'} + 1)^e$ , and  $(e, p) = 1$ , we have  $0 \equiv e \cdot up^{c'} \pmod{p^{c'+1}}$ , or  $e \cdot u \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . This is a contradiction, since  $(e, p) = 1$  and  $(u, p) = 1$ .

(2) If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then every power of  $b$  induces a nontrivial automorphism of  $\langle a \rangle$ , so we have a monomorphism of  $\langle b \rangle$  into  $\text{Aut}(S_p(G))$ . Since  $|\text{Aut}(S_p(G))| = p^{c-1}(p - 1)$ , and  $(e, p) = 1$ , we conclude that  $e$  divides  $p - 1$ .

(3) Assume  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , and let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . If  $H$  is of  $p$ -order it is a subgroup of a cyclic group. If it is of  $p'$ -order there is an automorphism of the group carrying it into  $\langle b \rangle$ , so it is also a subgroup of a cyclic group. If  $H$  is of mixed order, then we may assume that it has a  $p'$ -element  $b'$  of maximal order and a  $p$ -element  $a^{m''}$  of maximal order. Then  $H$  is a semidirect product of  $\langle a^{m''} \rangle$  by  $\langle b' \rangle$ . The center is trivial because there is an automorphism of  $G$  carrying  $b'$  into a power of  $b$ , and every element of  $\langle b \rangle$  induces a nontrivial automorphism of  $\langle a \rangle$ , as in the proof of (2).

(4) It was shown in Curtis and Reiner [1, page 301], for  $k = \mathbb{C}$ , that  $H^2(G, k^*) \cong C_q$ , with  $q = \gcd(m, r - 1) \gcd(m, (r^e - 1)/(r - 1))/m$ . Since we showed in the proof of (1) that  $r - 1$  is not divisible by  $p$ , we conclude

that  $\gcd(m, r - 1) = 1$  and  $\gcd(m, (r^e - 1)/(r - 1)) = m$ , so  $q = 1$ , and  $H^2(G, k^*)$  is trivial. The proof in [1] actually holds true for any algebraically closed field of characteristic not equal to  $p$ .

**DEFINITION.** A field  $k$  of characteristic  $p$  will be called *p-sufficiently large* if it contains all  $|G|_{p'}$ -roots of unity and all  $s$  roots of unity for  $s < |G|_p$ ,  $(s, p) = 1$ .

**REMARK.** If  $\pi$  is any prime in  $O_S$  lying over  $p$ , then  $O_S/(\pi)$  will be *p-sufficiently large*.

Let  $F$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic prime to  $|G|$ .

**DEFINITION.** For a finite group  $G$ , a *p-modular semisimple deformation* over a field  $k$  is a deformation of  $kG$  to a semisimple algebra  $\bigoplus M_d(k)$ , where the degrees  $d$  of the various matrix blocks are the same as those of  $FG$ .

In [10], we proved that any group with cyclic *p*-Sylow group has a *p-modular semisimple deformation* for any *p-sufficiently large* field. However, in the case of *p-p'* metacyclic groups with trivial center, the deformation can be constructed explicitly without reference to sophisticated block theory, and we now make this construction.

We first describe  $FG$  for  $\text{char } F$  relatively prime to  $p$ . This is a standard textbook exercise in character theory. The commutator subgroup  $G'$  of  $G$  is  $P$  because  $Z(G) = 1$ . Since  $|G/G'| = e$ ,  $G$  has  $e$  linear characters. In addition, if we let  $n = (m - 1)/e$ , there are  $n$  conjugacy classes of nontrivial characters of  $P$ , each of which induces an irreducible character of degree  $e$ . Summing degrees we have

$$e + n \cdot e^2 = e(1 + ne) = e \cdot m = |G|,$$

so these are all irreducible characters. The group algebra is thus

$$FG \simeq F^e \times \prod^n M_e(k).$$

The structure of  $kG$  for  $\text{char } k = p$  was determined by Morita in 1951 in [8], but we give a different presentation which is a preparation for the remainder of the proof.

By a theorem of Wallace [11], we have (Karpilovsky [6, page 193]) that  $\dim J(kG) = \dim G - e = e^2 n$ . Also  $J(kG)$  is principally generated by  $(1 - a)$  for any generator  $a$  of the *p*-Sylow subgroup (Karpilovsky [6, page 299]). We can define  $e$  orthogonal idempotents

$$e_i = (1/e) \sum_{j=0}^{e-1} r^{ij} b^j, \quad i = 0, \dots, e - 1.$$

Here  $r$  is the integer appearing in the presentation of the metacyclic group. Note that  $r$  is an  $e$ th root of unity, modulo  $p$ , since  $r^e \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ . We showed in (3) of Lemma 1 that  $r$  is a primitive root of unity modulo  $m = p^c$ . Thus,  $r$  is a primitive  $e$ th root of unity modulo  $p$ , for if  $r^{e'} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  for  $e'$  properly dividing  $e$ , then we could write  $r^{e'} = up^{c'} + 1$  for  $u$  with  $\gcd(u, p) = 1$  and  $c' < c$ . Let  $e'' = e/e'$ . Then  $1 \equiv r^{e'e''} = (up^{c'} + 1)^{e''} \pmod{p^c}$ . Since  $c' < c$ ,  $1 \equiv ue''p^{c'} + 1 \pmod{p^{c'+1}}$ , so  $ue'' \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Since  $(u, p) = 1$  and  $(e'', p) = 1$ , this is a contradiction.

The idempotents  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_{e-1}$  form a basis for  $kG/J(kG)$  and a basis for  $J(kG)$  is given by powers of any generator times elements of a basis of  $kG/J(kG)$ . Therefore if  $x$  is any generator of  $J(kG)$ , the elements  $\varepsilon_i \cdot x^j$  form a basis for  $J(kG)$ .

CLAIM. Put  $z = (1/e)(\sum_{i=0}^{e-1} r^{-i}(1 - a^i))$ . Then  $z$  is a generator of  $J(kG)$ .

PROOF OF CLAIM. We first note that in fact  $z = (1/e)\sum_{i=0}^{e-1} (-r^{-i})a^{ri}$ , since the sum of all distinct powers of a root of unity is zero. Let  $P = S_p(G)$ . It suffices to prove that  $z$  is a generator of  $J(kP)$  [6, page 299]. For any integer  $q$ ,  $(1 - a^q) \equiv q(1 - a) \pmod{J(kP)^2}$ , since

$$a^q = (1 - (1 - a))^q \equiv 1 - q(1 - a) \pmod{(JP)^2}.$$

Thus

$$q(1 - a) \equiv 1 - a^q \pmod{J(kP)^2}.$$

If  $q \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ , then

$$(1 - a) \equiv q^{-1}(1 - a^q) \pmod{(JP)^2}.$$

Taking an average over all  $q$  of the form  $q = r^j$ , we have

$$z = (1/e)\sum(r^{-j})(1 - a^{r^j}) \equiv (1 - a) \pmod{J(kP)^2}.$$

Since  $(1 - a)$  is a generator for  $J(kP)$ , so is  $z$ . This proves the claim.

We now use *z* to construct an easily deformable multiplication table for *kG*. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_0(1 - a)\varepsilon_1 &= \varepsilon_0 \cdot \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_0 a \varepsilon_1 = -\varepsilon_0 a \varepsilon_1 \\ &= (1/e)(1 + b + \dots + b^{e-1})(-a)(1/e)(1 + rb + \dots + r^{e-1}b^{e-1}) \\ &= -(1/e^2)(a + a^r b + \dots + a^{r^{e-1}}b^{e-1})(1 + rb + \dots + r^{e-1}b^{e-1}) \\ &= -(1/e^2)(a + r^{-1}a^r + r^{-2}a^{r^2} + \dots + r^{-e+1}a^{r^{e-1}}) \\ &\quad \cdot (1 + rb + \dots + r^{e-1}b^{e-1}) \\ &= -(1/e) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{e-1} r^{-i} a^{r^i} \right) \varepsilon_1 \\ &= z\varepsilon_1 - (1/e) \left( \sum_{i=0}^{e-1} r^{-i} \right) \varepsilon_1 \\ &= z\varepsilon_1. \end{aligned}$$

A slight generalization of the calculation done above will show that for any *i*,

$$\varepsilon_i(1 - a)\varepsilon_{i+1} = z\varepsilon_{i+1}.$$

Dually, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_i(1 - a)\varepsilon_{i+1} &= \varepsilon_i \cdot \varepsilon_{i+1} - \varepsilon_i a \varepsilon_{i+1} = -\varepsilon_i a \varepsilon_{i+1} \\ &= (1/e)(1 + r^i b + \dots + r^{i(e-1)}b^{e-1})(-a) \\ &\quad \cdot (1/e)(1 + r^{i+1}b + \dots + r^{(i+1)(e-1)}b^{e-1}) \\ &= -(1/e^2)(1 + r^i b + \dots + r^{i(e-1)}b^{e-1}) \\ &\quad \cdot (a + r^{i+1}b a^{r^{-1}} + \dots + r^{(e-1)(i+1)}b^{e-1}a^{r^{-(e-1)}}) \\ &= -(1/e)\varepsilon_i \left( \sum r^i a^{r^{-i}} \right) \\ &= \varepsilon_i z. \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, since  $1 = \varepsilon_0 + \dots + \varepsilon_{e-1}$ , we have

$$z = \varepsilon_0(1 - a)\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_1(1 - a)\varepsilon_2 + \dots + \varepsilon_{e-1}(1 - a)\varepsilon_0,$$

and more generally,

$$z^j = \varepsilon_0 z^j \varepsilon_j + \dots + \varepsilon_{e-1} z^j \varepsilon_{e-1+j}.$$

Since  $J(kP)^m = 0$ , we know that  $z^m = 0$ . Thus we have a basis  $\{\varepsilon_i z^j\}$  for  $J(kG)$  such that each basis element lies in a single component of the Pierce decomposition  $\bigoplus \varepsilon_i kG \varepsilon_j$  of  $kG$  with respect to the orthogonal idempotent

set  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_{e-1}$ . The multiplication table of the algebra is given by

$$(\varepsilon_i z^j)(\varepsilon_{i'} z^{j'}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i + j \not\equiv i' \pmod e \text{ or } j + j' \geq m, \\ \varepsilon_i z^{j+j'}, & \text{if } i + j \equiv i' \pmod e \text{ and } j + j' < m. \end{cases}$$

REMARK. The quiver  $Q$  of  $kG$  is the directed graph with  $e$  points  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_{e-1}$  and  $e$  arrows  $\omega_0, \dots, \omega_{e-1}$  with each  $\omega_i$  going from  $\varepsilon_i$  to  $\varepsilon_{i+1}$ , and  $kG$  is the quotient of the path algebra  $k[Q]$  of the quiver  $Q$  by the ideal generated by

$$(\omega_i \omega_{i+1} \cdots \omega_{e-1} \omega_0 \cdots \omega_{i-1})^n \omega_i = 0, \quad \text{for } i = 0, \dots, e - 1.$$

DEFINITION. For  $q \in \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ , define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  by  $q \sim l$  if and only if there is a number  $s$  such that  $l \equiv qr^s \pmod m$ . The equivalence class of  $q$  is

$$[q] = \{q, qr, \dots, qr^{e-1}\},$$

since  $r^e \equiv 1 \pmod m$ . Also  $a^q$  is a conjugate to  $a^l$  if and only if  $q \sim l$ .

Having described the structure of  $kG$ , we now exhibit the deformation of  $kG$  to  $k^e \times \prod^n M_e(k)$ . We begin with a standard basis  $E_0, \dots, E_{e-1}, \{E_{ij}^{[q]}\}$ ,  $i, j = 0, \dots, e$ , for the semisimple algebra. The primitive idempotents are  $E_0, \dots, E_{e-1}$ , and  $\{E_{ii}^{[q]}\}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, e$ . Let  $\xi$  be a primitive  $n$ th root of unity. Choose an arbitrary representative  $q$  of each equivalence class  $[q]$ . For each representative  $q$ , choose  $\xi_q$  to be a power of  $\xi$ , in such a way that  $\{\xi_q^e\}_{[q]}$  are distinct. Define the elements

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{e}_i &= E_i + \sum_{[q]} E_{ii}^{[q]}, \\ \tilde{\omega}_i &= T \left( \sum_{[q]} \xi_q E_{ii+1}^{[q]} \right), \\ \tilde{z} &= \tilde{\omega}_0 + \cdots + \tilde{\omega}_{e-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $T$  is an indeterminate. The  $\tilde{e}_i$ , being sums of orthogonal idempotents, are also idempotents. When  $T \neq 0$ , we get  $|kG|$  elements  $\{\tilde{e}_i \tilde{z}^j\}$ , for  $j = 0, \dots, en$ . We claim that these elements are in fact linearly independent, and therefore form a basis of  $kG$  since in any given Pierce component  $\tilde{e}_i \tilde{A} \tilde{e}_j$  we get  $n$  radical elements of the form

$$\tilde{e}_i \tilde{z}^{j-i+le} = T^{j-i+le} \sum_{[q]} \xi_q^{(j-i+le)} E_{ij}^{[q]}, \quad \text{for } l = 0, \dots, n - 1.$$

Consider the matrix of coefficients  $[T^{(j-i+le)} \xi_q^{j-i+le}]$ . After dividing each column  $q$  by  $T^{j-i} \xi_q^{j-i}$ , and each row  $l$  by  $T^{le}$ , we are left with a Vandermonde matrix  $[(\xi_q^e)^l]$ , whose determinant is nonzero because the elements  $\xi_q^e$



are distinct. Thus for  $T \neq 0$  the given elements form a basis. Furthermore

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}^{en} = T^{en} \sum_{[q]} \xi_q^{en} E_{ii}^{[q]} = T^{en} \sum_{[q]} E_{ii}^{[q]},$$

since  $\xi_q^{en} = 1$ . Therefore  $(\tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}^{en})(\tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}) = T^{en} \tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}$ .

The multiplication table is given by

$$(\tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}^j)(\tilde{\varepsilon}_{i'} \tilde{z}^l) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i + j \not\equiv i', \\ T^{en} \tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}^{j+l-en}, & \text{if } i + j \equiv i' \text{ and } j + l \geq m, \\ \tilde{\varepsilon}_i \tilde{z}^{j+l}, & \text{if } i + j \equiv i' \text{ and } j + l < m. \end{cases}$$

When  $T = 0$  this reduces to the multiplication table of  $kG$ .

Before continuing to describe the analogy between the split integral group ring and the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation, we present in considerable detail the elementary example which served as motivation for the calculations in the theory.

**EXAMPLE 2.** Consider the symmetric group

$$S_3 = \langle a, b \mid a^3 = 1, b^2 = 1, bab = a^2 \rangle.$$

This is the simplest example of a metacyclic  $3 \cdot 3'$  group. Over a sufficiently large field of characteristic other than 2 or 3, there are two isolated idempotents and one  $2 \times 2$  matrix block.

The idempotents  $\varepsilon_0$  and  $\varepsilon_1$  defined above are given by

$$\varepsilon_0 = (1 + b)/2, \quad \varepsilon_1 = (1 - b)/2.$$

The element  $z$  is given by  $z = (a - a^2)/2$ . The basis for the 3-modular algebra is given by  $B = \{\varepsilon_0, \varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_0 z, \varepsilon_1 z_1, \varepsilon_0 z^2, \varepsilon_1 z_2\}$  where

$$\varepsilon_0 z^2 = (1 + b)(a + a^2 - 2)/8, \quad \varepsilon_1 z^2 = (1 - b)(a + a^2 - 2)/8.$$

The same formulae, with coefficients from  $O_S$  instead of from a modular field  $k$ , determine well-defined elements of  $O_S[S_3]$ . Since the elements of the basis  $B$  are linearly independent at the special prime  $\pi$  lying over  $p$ , they must be linearly independent at almost all primes of  $O_S$ .

At primes which do not divide 3, we have two orthogonal idempotents  $f_0 = (1 + a + a^2)/3$  and  $f_1 = (2 - a - a^2)/3$ , where  $f_1$  is the central idempotent of the  $2 \times 2$  matrix block. Direct computation gives

$$z^2 = (-3/4)f_1.$$

Taking the square root of the constant, we have  $\sqrt{-3/4} = \pm i\sqrt{3}/2 = \pm(\omega - \omega^2)/2$ . Set  $T_1 = (\omega - \omega^2)/2$ . Then  $z^2 = T_1^2 \cdot f_1$ . Furthermore, since  $f_0 z = 0$  and  $f_1 z = z$ , we have

$$z^3 = T_1^2 z,$$

which is exactly the equation that appears in the 3-modular semisimple deformation. Since

$$z = (a - a^2)/2 \quad \text{and} \quad T_1 = (\omega - \omega^2)/2,$$

the number  $T_1$  (which we will later call a “pseudoparameter”) is obtained from  $z$  by substituting the cubed root of unity  $\omega$  for the cubed root  $a$  of the identity in the group.

The quiver  $Q$  of  $k[G]$  is given by two points,  $\varepsilon_0$  and  $\varepsilon_1$ , and two arrows  $x_{01}$  from  $\varepsilon_0$  to  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $x_{10}$  from  $\varepsilon_1$  to  $\varepsilon_0$ . The path algebra  $k(Q)$  of  $Q$  is generated by  $x_{01}$  and  $x_{10}$ . The modular group algebra is the quotient of this path algebra by the ideal generated by  $x_{10}x_{01}x_{10}$  and  $x_{01}x_{10}x_{01}$ .

The  $k$ -modular semisimple deformation is the quotient of  $K[T](Q)$  by the ideal generated by relations

$$x_{01}x_{10}x_{01} - T^2x_{01} = 0, \quad x_{10}x_{01}x_{10} - T^2x_{10} = 0.$$

The split integral group ring is isomorphic to the quotient of the path algebra  $O_S(Q)$  by the relations

$$x_{01}x_{10}x_{01} - T_1^2x_{01} = 0, \quad x_{10}x_{01}x_{10} - T_1^2x_{10} = 0.$$

We can obtain matrix units for the  $2 \times 2$  block by setting

$$\begin{aligned} E_{00} &= \varepsilon_0 f_1, & E_{01} &= \varepsilon_0(z/T_1), \\ E_{10} &= \varepsilon_1(z/T_1), & E_{11} &= \varepsilon_1 f_1. \end{aligned}$$

Over the prime  $\pi$ , the cubed roots of unity all become equal:  $\omega = \omega^2 = 1$ . Thus over the prime  $\pi$ ,  $T_1$  reduces to zero, so  $E_{10}$  and  $E_{01}$  are not well defined. Also  $E_{00}$  and  $E_{11}$  are not well-defined over  $\pi$  because  $f_1$  has denominator 3.

#### 4. The metacyclic function

Combining the results on the structure of metacyclic  $p$ -groups with Example 2 above, we are led to the following function.

DEFINITION. Let  $G$  be a metacyclic group with presentation

$$\langle a, b \mid a^m = 1, b^e = 1, bab^{-1} = a^r \rangle,$$

for  $m = p^c$ . Let  $\pi$  be a prime lying over  $p$  in  $O_S$ . Let  $\eta$  be the primitive  $e$ th root of unity in  $O_S$  which is congruent to  $r$  modulo the distinguished prime  $\pi$ . The metacyclic function is

$$\psi(y, x) = (1/e) \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} y^{-s} x^{r^s},$$

where  $y$  is a power of  $\eta$ , and  $x$  is a power either of  $a$  or of  $\omega$ , for a primitive  $m$ th root of unity  $\omega$  in  $O_S$ .

We now consider the relationship between the metacyclic function and the block idempotents of  $G$  for nonmodular primes. Recall the equivalence relation on  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$  defined earlier by multiplication by powers of  $r$ .

Let  $P = \langle a \rangle$  be the  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $G$ . Two characters  $a \mapsto \omega^q$  and  $a \mapsto \omega^l$  are conjugate if and only if  $q \sim l$ , so the induced characters in  $G$  are indexed by the equivalence classes  $[q]$ . Let  $f^{[q]}$  be the central idempotent corresponding to the class  $q$ . Now  $f^{[q]}$  is the sum of the idempotents in  $P$  corresponding to the various linear characters, so

$$\begin{aligned} f^{[q]} &= (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \omega^{-qr^s j} a^j \\ &= (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \psi(1, \omega^{-qj}) a^j. \end{aligned}$$

Define  $f^0 = (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} a^j$  to be the principal block idempotent of  $P$ , so that

$$f^0 = 1 - \sum_{[q]} f^{[q]}.$$

We now calculate those properties of the metacyclic function which will be needed to put the split integral deformation into the same form as the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation. We first define  $\epsilon_s$  in  $O_S G$  by

$$\epsilon_s = 1 + \eta^s b + \dots + \eta^{s(e-1)} b^{e-1}, \quad s = 0, \dots, e - 1.$$

**PROPOSITION 1.** *The metacyclic function  $\psi(y, x)$  satisfies the following properties:*

- (1)  $\epsilon_s \psi(y, a^j) = \psi(y, a^j) \epsilon_{s+1} = \epsilon_s \psi(y, a^j) \epsilon_{s+1}$ ;
- (2)  $\psi(y, x^{r^s}) = y^s \psi(y, x)$ ;
- (3)  $f_0 \psi(\eta, a) = 0$ ;
- (4)  $f^{[q]} \psi(\eta, a) = \psi(\eta, \omega^q) (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{e-1} \psi(\eta^{-1}, \omega^{-qj}) a^j$ .

**PROOF.** (1) This is just the calculation made above for  $\epsilon_s$  and  $z$ , with  $\eta$  substituted for  $r$  where appropriate.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2) \quad \psi(y, x^{r^s}) &= (1/e) \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} y^{-l} x^{r^s r^l} \\
 &= (1/e) y^s \sum_{l=0}^{m-1} y^{-(s+l)} x^{r^{s+l}} \\
 &= y^s \psi(y, x).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3) \quad f^0 \cdot \psi(\eta, a) &= \left[ (1/m) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} a^i \right] \left[ (1/e) \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} a^{r^s} \right] \\
 &= (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} \right) a^j = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (4) \quad f^{[q]} \psi(\eta, a) &= \left[ (e/m) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \psi(i, \omega^{qi}) a^i \right] \left[ (1/e) \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} a^{r^s} \right] \\
 &= (1/m) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} (1/e) \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} \omega^{-qr^l i} \right) a^{i+r^s} \\
 &= (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} (1/e) \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} \omega^{qr^{s+l}} \omega^{-qr^l j} \right) a^j \\
 &\hspace{20em} (\text{where } j = i + r^s) \\
 &= (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \psi(\eta, \omega^{qr^l}) \omega^{-qr^l j} \right) a^j \\
 &= (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \eta^l \psi(\eta, \omega^q) \omega^{-qr^l j} \right) a^j \\
 &= \psi(\eta, \omega^q) (1/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \left( \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} (\eta^l \omega^{-qr^l j}) \right) a^j \\
 &= \psi(\eta, \omega^q) (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta^{-1}, \omega^{-qj}) a^j.
 \end{aligned}$$

In order to make our notation compatible with that of the  $p$ -modular deformation, we now introduce the following notation:

DEFINITION. Set

$$\widehat{Z} = \psi(\eta, a), \quad \widehat{T} = \psi(\eta, \omega), \quad \widehat{\xi}_q = \psi(\eta, \omega^q)/\psi(\eta, \omega),$$

$$y_q = (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta^{-1}, \omega^{-qj}) a^j.$$

We now come to our main result:

PROPOSITION 2. (a) *The elements*

$$E_{ij}^q = \varepsilon_i y_q^s \varepsilon_j, \quad i \neq j, \quad i + s \equiv j \pmod{e}$$

and

$$E_{ii}^q = \varepsilon_i f^{[q]}$$

form a set of matrix units for the block with idempotent  $f^{[q]}$  over nonmodular primes.

(b) *The elements  $\varepsilon_i \widehat{Z}^s$  for  $i = 0, \dots, e - 1, s = 0, \dots, en$  form a basis for the group algebra, for almost all primes.*

(c) *For nonmodular primes the basis element can be written in the form*

$$\varepsilon_i Z^s = \sum_{[q]} \widehat{\xi}_q^s \widehat{T}^s E_{ii+s}^q, \quad s = 0, \dots, en, \quad i = 0, \dots, e - 1.$$

PROOF. Since  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_{e-1}$  is a set of orthogonal idempotents, in order to verify the relations among the matrix units it suffices to prove that  $y_q^e = f^{[q]}$ .

We prove by injunction that for  $h \geq 1$ ,

$$y_q^h = (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta^h, \omega^{-qj}) a^j.$$

For  $h = 1$  this is the definition of  $y_q$ . Suppose it has been proven for  $h - 1$ . Then

$$y_q^h = y_q \cdot y_q^{h-1} = \left[ (e/m) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta, \omega^{-qi}) a^i \right] \left[ (e/m) \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta^{h-1}, \omega^{-qj}) a^j \right]$$

$$= (1/m^2) \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-l} \omega^{-qir'} \eta^{-(h-1)s} \omega^{-qjr^s} a^{i+j}$$

$$= (1/m^2) \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \sum_{j'=0}^{m-1} \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-l} \eta^{-(h-1)s} \omega^{-qj'r^l} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \omega^{-qj(r^s-r^l)} \right) a^{j'}.$$

Now  $\sum^{m-1} \omega^{-qj(r^s-r^l)}$  equals 0 if  $r^s \neq r^l$  and equals  $m$  if  $r^s = r^l$ . Thus all terms except those with  $l = s$  drop out, and we cancel  $m/m^2 = 1/m$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} y_q^h &= (1/m) \sum_{j'=0}^{m-1} \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-s} \eta^{-(h-1)s} \omega^{-qj'r^s} a^{j'} \\ &= (1/m) \sum_{j'=0}^{m-1} \sum_{s=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-hs} \omega^{-qj'r^s} a^{j'} \\ &= (e/m) \sum_{j'=0}^{m-1} \psi(\eta^h, \omega^{-qj'}) a^{j'} \end{aligned}$$

as required.

The elements  $\varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s$  are linearly independent at the prime  $\pi = 0$ , and therefore almost everywhere. Now  $f^0 \hat{Z} = 0$  implies that  $(\sum f^{[q1]} \hat{Z}) = \hat{Z}$ , and thus

$$\left(\sum f^{[q1]}\right) \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s = \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s.$$

However

$$\begin{aligned} f^{[q1]} \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s &= \varepsilon_i f^{[q1]} \hat{Z}^s = \varepsilon_i (f^{[q1]} \hat{Z})^s = \varepsilon_i (\psi(\eta, \omega^q) y_q)^s \\ &= \varepsilon_i \psi(\eta, \omega^q)^s y_q^s = (\psi(\eta, \omega^q))^s n^s (\varepsilon_i y_q^s) \\ &= ((\psi(\eta, \omega^q) / \psi(\eta, \omega))^s \cdot \psi(\eta, \omega)^s) \varepsilon_i y_q^s \\ &= \hat{\xi}_q^s \cdot \hat{T}^s \cdot E_{ii+s}^q. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s &= \left(\sum f^{[q1]}\right) \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s = \sum_{[q]} f^{[q1]} \varepsilon_i \hat{Z}^s \\ &= \sum_{[q]} \hat{\xi}_q^s \cdot \hat{T}^s E_{ii+s}^q. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the choice of a representative  $q$  of the class  $[q]$  causes differences in the values of  $\hat{\xi}_q^s$  and  $E_{ii+s}^q$  which cancel out in the product.

DEFINITION. A nonzero element  $T$  of  $O_S$  which is zero modulo the distinguished prime  $\pi$  will be called a pseudo-parameter.

The elements  $T_q = \psi(\eta, \omega^q) \equiv (1/e) \sum_{l=0}^{e-1} \eta^{-l} = 0 \pmod{\pi}$ , so all these elements  $T_q$  are pseudo-parameters. The theory is particularly simple in the case  $m = p$ , and  $e = p - 1$ . In that case there is only one matrix block, and  $r$  is a generator for the multiplicative group of  $\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$ , so that there is a single equivalence class [1]. If we choose a representative  $q = r^s$ , then

$$\psi(\eta, \omega^q) = \psi(\eta, \omega^{r^s}) = \eta^s \psi(\eta, \omega).$$

Thus in this case,

$$\xi_q = \psi(\eta, \omega^q) / \psi(\eta, \omega) = \eta^s.$$

In this case the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation and the split integral group ring are entirely analogous.

At the other extreme, consider the case of a cyclic  $p$ -group, with  $e = 1$ , in which each equivalence class  $[q]$  contains only  $q$ . The elements  $\psi(\eta, \omega^q)$  for  $\eta = 1, e = 1$  are just  $m$ th roots of unity  $\omega^q$ , so

$$\xi_q = \psi(\eta, \omega^q) / \psi(\eta, \omega) = \omega^{q-1}, \quad q = 0, \dots, m - 1.$$

This shows that we cannot in general expect the  $\xi_q$  to be  $(m - 1)$ th roots of unity.

We want to be able to describe the relations on the path algebra  $O_S(Q)$  in the general case when the  $\xi_q$  are not  $(m - 1)$ th roots of unity. We must therefore introduce the following notation:

**DEFINITION.** Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. Let  $Q$  be a quiver which is a cycle of length  $e$  with vertices  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_{e-1}$  and arrows  $x_{01}, \dots, x_{(e-1)0}$ . *Standard circuit relations* of weight  $n$  on the path algebra  $R[Q]$  are given by setting

$$x = x_{01} + \dots + x_{(e-1)0},$$

fixing elements  $\zeta \in R^n, T \in R$ , and giving  $e$  relations

$$\varepsilon_i x \prod_{j=1}^n (x^e - \zeta_j T^e) = 0.$$

**PROPOSITION 3.** *Let  $G$  be a metacyclic  $p$ - $p'$  group,*

$$G = \langle a, b \mid a^m = 1, b^e = 1, bab^{-1} = a^r \rangle,$$

*with  $m = p^c$  and  $n = (m - 1)/e$ . Both the split integral group ring and the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation are given by standard circuit relations on a quiver  $Q$  which is a cycle of length  $e$ . For the split integral group ring the parameter ring is  $O_S$  and the element  $t$  is  $\hat{T}$ . For the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation the parameter ring is  $k[T]$  and the element  $t$  is just the indeterminate  $T$ .*

**PROOF.** For the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation, the deformation is given by standard circuit relations of the form

$$\varepsilon_i z \prod_{[q]} (z^e - \hat{\xi}_q^e T^e) = 0,$$

where the  $q$  range over a set of representations of the equivalence classes  $[q]$ , and the  $\hat{\xi}_q$  is a primitive  $e$ th root of unity.

For the split integral group ring, we have

$$(\varepsilon_i z^e \varepsilon_i)^l = \varepsilon_i z^{le} = \sum \hat{\xi}_q^{el} \cdot \hat{T}^{el} E_{ii}^{[q]}, \quad l = 1, \dots, n.$$

The coefficients of the  $E_{ii}^{[q]}$  form an  $n \times n$  matrix

$$[\hat{\xi}_q^{el} \hat{T}^{el}].$$

Let us add a row of ones at the beginning. Each column  $[1, \hat{\xi}_q^e T^e, \hat{\xi}_q^{2e} T^{2e}, \dots, \hat{\xi}_q^{ne} T^{ne}]$  of the resulting matrix satisfies the equation

$$h_0 T^{ne} (1) + \dots + h_1 T^{e(n-1)} (\hat{\xi}_q^e T^e) + \dots + h_n (\hat{\xi}_q^{ne} T^{ne}) = 0,$$

where  $h_0 T^{ne}, \dots, h_n T^0$  are the coefficients of the polynomial  $\prod_{[q]} (Y - \hat{\xi}_q^e T^e)$ . Thus the coefficients give a linear dependence among the rows, implying that

$$h_0 T^{ne} \left( \sum E_{ii}^q \right) + h_1 T^{(n-1)e} (\varepsilon_i z^e) + \dots + h_n T^0 \varepsilon_i z^{ne} = 0.$$

Multiplying by  $\varepsilon_i z$  and using the fact that  $\varepsilon_i z (\sum E_{ii}^q) = \varepsilon_i z$ , we get

$$h_0 T^{ne} (\varepsilon_i z) + h_1 T^{(n-1)e} \varepsilon_i z^{e+1} + \dots + h_n T^0 \varepsilon_i z^{ne+1} = 0.$$

In view of the source of the numbers  $h_i$ , we then have the standard circuit relation  $\varepsilon_i z \prod_{[q]} (z^e - \xi_q^e T^e) = 0$ .

**COROLLARY 3.1.** *Both the split integral group ring and the  $p$ -modular semi-simple deformation are restrictions to subvarieties of  $\text{Spec}(O_S[T])$  of a single unified deformation given by the following standard circuit relations on the path algebra  $O_S[T][Q]$ :*

$$z \prod_{[q]} (z^e - \hat{\xi}_q \hat{T} - \xi_q T)^e.$$

**PROOF.** Over the subscheme with ideal  $\pi O_S[T], \hat{T} = 0$ ; and over the subscheme with ideal  $(T)O_S[T], T = 0$ .

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *Let  $R = k[T]$ . If  $m = p$  and  $e = p - 1$ , both the split integral group ring and the  $p$ -modular semisimple definition can be obtained from the respective path algebras  $O_S[Q]$  and  $R[Q]$  by relations*

$$\varepsilon_i z^p = \varepsilon_i t^{p-1} z,$$

where in the integral case  $t = (1/e) \sum \eta^{-i} \omega^{r^i} = \psi(\eta, \omega)$ , and in the  $p$ -modular case  $t = T$ .

**EXAMPLE 3.** Consider the group of order 20 which is the semidirect product of  $C_5$  by  $C_4$ , with  $m = 5, e = 4$  and  $r = 2$ . Note that, as required,



$2^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ . We calculate that  $n = (m - 1)/e = 1$ . Let  $k$  have characteristic 5. The Cartan matrix, whose  $ij$  entry is the number  $\dim \varepsilon_i(kG)\varepsilon_j$ , is then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The modular group algebra  $kG$  deforms to a semisimple algebra whose Cartan matrix is the direct sum of four  $1 \times 1$  matrices and one  $4 \times 4$  matrix. The four primitive idempotents in the group algebra decompose in pairs to give the eight idempotents of the semisimple algebra.

We now consider the split integral group ring. Since  $O_S$  contains a fourth root of unity  $i$ , the prime  $p = 5$  splits into  $\pi = (2 - i)$  and  $\pi' = (2 + i)$ . We will work at the prime  $\pi$ , so that  $\eta = i \equiv 2 \pmod{\pi}$ .

The four orthogonal idempotents are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_0 &= (1/4)(1 + b + b^2 + b^3), & \varepsilon_1 &= (1/4)(1 + ib - b^2 - ib^3), \\ \varepsilon_2 &= (1/4)(1 - b + b^2 - b^3), & \varepsilon_3 &= (1/4)(1 - ib - b^2 + ib^3). \end{aligned}$$

The element  $\widehat{Z}$  is given by

$$\widehat{Z} = (1/4)(a - ia^2 - a^4 + ia^3).$$

Direct computation shows that

$$\widehat{Z}^2 = ((2i - 1)/16)(a + a^4 - a^2 - a^3) = ((-2 - i)/16i)(a + a^4 - a^2 - a^3)$$

and

$$\widehat{Z}^4 = -((2 - i)^2/256)(5 - (1 + a^2 + a^3 + a^4 + a^5)) = -((2 - i)^2/256) \cdot 5 \cdot f^{[1]}.$$

Let  $\omega$  be a primitive fifth root of unity.

Since  $\widehat{T} = (1/4)(\omega - i\omega^2 - \omega^4 + i\omega^3)$  is obtained from substituting  $\omega$  for  $a$ , and  $1 + \omega + \omega^2 + \omega^3 + \omega^4 = 0$ , we have

$$\widehat{T}^4 = -((2 + i)^2/256)5.$$

Thus

$$\widehat{Z}^4 = \widehat{T}^4 \cdot f^{[1]} \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{Z}^5 = \widehat{T}^4 \cdot \widehat{Z}.$$

The matrix units are generated by

$$\begin{aligned} E_{jj+1} &= \varepsilon_i(\widehat{Z}/\widehat{T}) \\ &= \frac{1}{4}(1 + i^j b + i^{2j} b^2 + i^{3j} b^3)(a - ia^2 - a^4 + ia^3)/(\omega - i\omega^2 - \omega^4 - i\omega^3). \end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 4.** If we let  $G$  be the group of order 100 which is the semidirect product of  $C_{25}$  by  $C_4$ , then the deformed algebra will be isomorphic to  $k^4 \times M_4(k)^6$ . The Cartan matrix for  $kG$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7 & 6 & 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 7 & 6 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 & 7 & 6 \\ 6 & 6 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the Cartan matrix of the corresponding semisimple algebra is the direct sum of four  $1 \times 1$  matrices and six  $4 \times 4$  matrices, we see that again the Cartan matrix of the modular group algebra is obtained by stacking up the Cartan matrices of the nonmodular group algebra.

In this case we may take  $r = 7$ . Once again  $7 \equiv i \pmod{2 - i}$ . The idempotents  $\varepsilon_0, \dots, \varepsilon_s$  are just as in Example 3 above. Taking  $\omega$  to be a primitive 25th root of unity, we now have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{Z} &= (1/4)(a + ia^7 - a^{-1} + ia^{-7}), \\ \widehat{T} &= (1/4)(\omega - i\omega^7 - \omega^{-1} + i\omega^{-7}), \\ \widehat{\xi}_q &= (\omega^q - i\omega^{7q} - \omega^{-q} + i\omega^{-7q})/(\omega - i\omega^7 - \omega^{-1} + i\omega^{-7}). \end{aligned}$$

The six equivalence classes can be represented by  $q = 1, 2, 3, 5, 6,$  and  $9$ . The relations on the path algebra are then

$$\widehat{Z} \prod_{|q|} (\widehat{Z}^4 - \widehat{\xi}_q \widehat{T}^4).$$

At the prime  $\pi$ , where  $\omega \equiv 1$  and  $\widehat{T} \equiv 0$ , the relations reduce to  $\widehat{Z}^{25} = 0$ .

The matrix units of the matrix blocks are generated by

$$E_{ss+1}^q = (1/25)\varepsilon_s \sum_{j=0}^{24} \psi(-i, \omega^{-qj}) a^j, \quad q = 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 9.$$

The remaining 4 idempotents are  $\varepsilon_0 f^0, \varepsilon_1 f^0, \varepsilon_2 f^0, \varepsilon_3 f^0$ , where

$$f^0 = (1/25) \left( \sum_{j=0}^{24} a^j \right).$$

### 5. General $p$ -solvable groups of finite representation type

We now turn to the general case of  $p$ -solvable groups of finite representation type.

**THEOREM.** *If  $G$  is a  $p$ -solvable group of finite representation type, then for each  $p$ -block, the split integral group ring and the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation are given by standard circuit relations.*

**PROOF.** We wish to reduce the general case to the  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic case dealt with above. We first note that if  $G$  is  $p$ -solvable of finite representation type, then  $G/O_{p'}(G)$  is  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic with trivial center.

In order to decompose into blocks, we follow the proof of a theorem of Morita [6, page 240]. We let  $N = O_{p'}(G)$  and let  $e_1, \dots, e_s$  be a set of representatives of  $G$ -conjugacy classes of block idempotents of  $N$ . For any idempotent  $e_i$ , suppose  $kNe_i$  is isomorphic to  $M_{n_i}(K)$ . The set of matrix units in  $kNe_i$  is well defined at  $\pi$  and therefore at almost every prime of  $O_S$ .

Let  $e_{11}$  be one of the idempotents in this set of matrix units. Let  $G_i$  be the inertia subgroup of  $e_i$ , that is, the centralizer of  $e_i$ , and let  $n'_i$  be the index  $(G; G_i)$ . Let  $e_i^*$  be the sum of the  $n'_i G$ -conjugates of  $e_i$ . Then  $e_i^*$  is a central idempotent in  $G$ .

At the prime  $\pi$ , we have

$$kGe_i^* \simeq M_{n_i}(M_{n'_i}(e_{11}kG_i e_{11})) \simeq M_{n'_i n_i}(e_{11}kG_i e_{11}).$$

Since the matrix units are well-defined at  $\pi$ , they are well-defined at almost every prime of  $O_S$ . Enlarging  $O_S$  to  $O_{S'}$  if necessary to eliminate the bad primes, but with  $O_{S'}/\pi O_{S'} \simeq O_S/\pi = k$ , we will have

$$O_{S'}G_i e_i^* \simeq M_{n'_i n_i}(e_{11}O_{S'}G_i e_{11}).$$

In Schaps [9] it was shown that unicharacteristic deformation is independent of Morita equivalence class. The matrix units are rigid, and the deformation of the blocks depend on the deformations of  $e_{11}kGe_{11}$ . Since we have essentially the same matrix units for  $O_{S'}G_i e_i^*$ , it suffices to show that the algebra  $e_{11}kG_i e_{11}$  has a unicharacteristic deformation to a semisimple algebra which is analogous to  $e_{11}O_{S'}G_i e_{11}$ .

In the proof of Morita's theorem (see Karpilovsky [6, page 240]) it is shown that for an algebraically closed field  $\bar{k}$  of characteristic 0,  $e_{11}\bar{k}G_i e_{11}$  is isomorphic to  $\bar{k}^\alpha(G_i/N)$ , for some factor set  $\alpha$ . This part of the proof is actually independent of the hypothesis about characteristic or algebraic closure, so we in fact obtain such a factor set for  $k$ .

Carrying through the same analysis for the quotient field of  $O_{S'}$ , and enlarging  $O_{S'}$  slightly if necessary, we may assume that we have a cocycle  $\alpha'$  such that

$$e_{11}O_{S'}G_i e_{11} \simeq O_{S'}^{\alpha'}(G_i/N)$$

and that  $\alpha'$  reduces to  $\alpha \pmod{\pi}$ .

Now  $G_i/N$  is a subgroup of  $G/N$ . Since  $G/N$  is  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic with trivial center, so is  $G_i/N$ , by Lemma 1(4). The analysis on page 301 of Curtis and Reiner [1] shows that the cocycle  $\alpha'$  has finite order which is a power of  $p$  in the cohomology group. Furthermore, if we attach a finite number of  $p$ -power roots to  $O_{S'}$ , we may assume that  $\alpha'$  is given by roots of unity, and that  $\alpha'$ , raised to its order, is actually 1. The maximal possible order for  $\alpha'$  can then be calculated by the method on page 301 in Curtis and Reiner [1]. As shown in Lemma 1(4), for a  $p$ - $p'$  metacyclic group,  $\alpha'$  must actually be of order 1, and thus identically equal to 1. Thus we have in fact that

$$e_{11}O_{S'}G_i e_{11} \simeq O_{S'}(G_i/N) \quad \text{and} \quad e_{11}kG_i e_{11} \simeq k(G_i/N).$$

The analogy between the  $p$ -modular semisimple deformation and the integral group ring is then given by Propositions 2 and 3 in Section 4.

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