

## 94. On Osima's Blocks of Group Characters

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Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a group of finite order  $g$  and  $p$  be a fixed rational prime. M. Osima, in his earlier paper [4], introduced a concept of blocks of characters with regard to a subgroup  $\mathfrak{H}$  of  $\mathcal{G}$  (" $\mathfrak{H}$ -blocks"). Let  $\mathfrak{H}_0$  be the maximal normal subgroup of  $\mathcal{G}$  contained in  $\mathfrak{H}$ . It is well known that the irreducible characters<sup>1)</sup>  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k$  of  $\mathfrak{H}_0$  are distributed into the classes  $\mathfrak{B}_1, \mathfrak{B}_2, \dots, \mathfrak{B}_s$  of associated characters in  $\mathcal{G}$ . If  $\mathfrak{B}'_1, \mathfrak{B}'_2, \dots, \mathfrak{B}'_s$  are the classes of associated irreducible characters of  $\mathfrak{H}_0$  in  $\mathfrak{H}$ , then each class  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  is a collection of classes  $\mathfrak{B}'_\rho$ . Let  $\chi_1, \chi_2, \dots, \chi_n$  be the irreducible characters of  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_h$  be those of  $\mathfrak{H}$ . As is well known, there corresponds to each character  $\chi_i$  exactly one class  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  such that

$$\chi_i(H_0) = s_{i\sigma} \sum_{\phi_\mu \in \mathfrak{B}_\sigma} \phi_\mu(H_0) \quad (H_0 \in \mathfrak{H}_0)$$

where  $s_{i\sigma}$  is a positive rational integer. If a class  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  corresponds to a character  $\chi_i$  in this sense, we say that  $\chi_i$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  by counting  $\chi_i$  in  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$ . We also say that  $\theta_\lambda$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  if  $\theta_\lambda$  belongs to  $\mathfrak{B}'_\rho$  contained in  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$ . Then the classes  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  are the  $\mathfrak{H}$ -blocks of  $\mathcal{G}$  in Osima's sense. From the definition, we see that  $\chi_i$  and  $\chi_j$  belong to the same  $\mathfrak{H}$ -block of  $\mathcal{G}$  if and only if  $\chi_i(H_0)/\chi_i(1) = \chi_j(H_0)/\chi_j(1)$  for all elements  $H_0$  of  $\mathfrak{H}_0$  [4], where 1 denotes the identity of  $\mathcal{G}$ .

In the following, "block" of a group will always mean block with regard to a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of the group. While Brauer's blocks for a rational prime  $q$  will be referred always as  $q$ -blocks. The purpose of this paper is to consider a connection between blocks of  $\mathcal{G}$  and the blocks of the normalizer  $\mathfrak{N}(R)$  of a  $p$ -regular element  $R$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ .

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1. Let  $\mathfrak{P}$  be a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup of  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathfrak{P}_0$  be the maximal normal  $p$ -subgroup of  $\mathcal{G}$ . We shall denote by  $\mathfrak{B}_1, \mathfrak{B}_2, \dots, \mathfrak{B}_s$  the blocks of  $\mathcal{G}$  with regard to  $\mathfrak{P}$ . For each  $\mathfrak{B}_\sigma$  we set

$$(1.1) \quad A_\sigma = \sum_{\chi_i \in \mathfrak{B}_\sigma} e_i,$$

where  $e_i$  is the primitive idempotent of the center  $Z$  of the group ring of  $\mathcal{G}$  over the field  $\Omega$  of  $g$ -th roots of unity which belongs to  $\chi_i$ . Let  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_n$  be the classes of conjugate elements in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $G_1,$

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1) The term "irreducible character" will always mean absolutely irreducible ordinary character.