# On Loewy lengths of blocks (joint work with S. Koshitani and B. Külshammer)

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March 26, 2013

Benjamin Sambale On Loewy lengths of blocks

• *G* – finite group

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- Let  $LL(B) := \min\{n \ge 0 : J(B)^n = 0\}$  be the Loewy length of B
- Let *D* be a defect group of *B*. This is *p*-subgroup of *G*, unique up to conjugation.

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3 LL(B) = 3 iff one of the following holds:

(a)  $p = \delta = 2$  and B is Morita equivalent to  $F[C_2 \times C_2]$  or to  $FA_4$ .

(b) p > 2,  $\delta = 1$ , the inertial index of B is  $e(B) \in \{p - 1, (p-1)/2\}$ , and the Brauer tree of B is a straight line with exceptional vertex at the end (if it exists).

If B has defect  $\delta$  and LL(B) > 1, then

$$\delta \leq \binom{LL(B)}{2} (2\lfloor \log_p(LL(B) - 1) \rfloor + 1).$$

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### Sketch of the proof.

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- By elementary group theory we have  $\delta \leq {\rho+1 \choose 2}(2\epsilon-1).$
- Combine these equations.

### Remarks

### Brauer's Problem 21

Does there exist a function  $f : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\lim_{n \to \infty} f(n) = \infty$ and  $f(\delta) \leq \dim_F Z(B)$ .

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### Proposition

Let B be a block with cyclic defect group D and inertial index e(B). Then

$$LL(B) \geq \frac{|D|-1}{e(B)}+1.$$

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### Proposition

Let B be a p-block with defect  $\delta$ , defect group D and LL(B) = 4. Then

$$\delta \leq \begin{cases} 18 & \text{if } p \leq 3, \\ 5 & \text{if } p = 5, \\ 6 & \text{if } p \geq 7. \end{cases}$$

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Let B be a p-block with defect  $\delta$ , defect group D and LL(B) = 4. Then

$$5 \le \begin{cases} 18 & \text{if } p \le 3, \\ 5 & \text{if } p = 5, \\ 6 & \text{if } p \ge 7. \end{cases}$$

In case p = 5 (resp. p = 7) there are at most 10 (resp. 12) isomorphism types for D. These can be given by generators and relations. All these groups have exponent p and rank at most 3.

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#### Theorem

Let  $G = S_n$  and LL(B) = 4. Then n = 4 and B is the principal 2-block.

We denote the principal block of G by  $B_0(G)$ .

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#### Theorem

Suppose  $p \ge 5$  and  $LL(B_0(G)) = 4$ . Then  $H := O^{p'}(G/O_{p'}(G))$  is simple and  $LL(B_0(H)) = 4$ .

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- PGL(2, q) for  $q \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$ .

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## Proposition

If G is simple of Lie type in defining characteristic p > 2, then  $LL(B_0(G)) \neq 4$ .

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If G is sporadic, p > 2 and  $LL(B_0(G)) = 4$ , then G = M and p = 11.

We do not know if  $LL(B_0(M)) = 4$  for p = 11 (probably not).

• Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , n := (p-1)/3 and G := PSL(n,q) where q has order n modulo p, but not modulo  $p^2$  (q always exists). Then  $LL(B_0(G)) = 4$ .

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• However, all these blocks have defect 1.

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- There are (not necessarily principal) blocks of Loewy length 4 of the following groups:

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• G = 3.0'N for p = 5,

- Let  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , n := (p-1)/3 and  $G := \mathsf{PSL}(n,q)$  where q has order n modulo p, but not modulo  $p^2$  (q always exists). Then  $LL(B_0(G)) = 4$ .
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- G = 3.0'N for p = 5,
- G = Ru and G = 2.Ru for p = 7.

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- $G = 6.A_7$  for  $p \in \{5,7\}$ ,
- G = 3.0'N for p = 5,
- G = Ru and G = 2.Ru for p = 7.
- We do not have any examples for p = 3.