

# The irreducible soluble subgroup of $GL(2, p^k)$

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**ABSTRACT:** this paper we complete and irredundant list of  $GL(2, p^k)$ -conjugacy class representatives for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$  of the primitive soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, p^k)$ , for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$ , whose guardian is  $M_3$  or  $M_4$  of  $GL(2, p^k)$ .

**Keywords:** JS-maximale, Soluable, Transitive.

## INTRODUCTION

Let  $F$  be the field of  $p^k$  elements. Since  $GL(1, F)$  and  $S_2$  are soluble, there is exactly one **JS**-imprimitive of  $GL(2, F)$ , namely  $M_1 := GL(1, F) \wr S_2, (p^k \neq 2)$

Theorem  $C$  provides a complete and irredundant list  $l'_1$  of  $GL(2, F)$ -conjugacy class representatives of the non-cyclic irreducible subgroups of  $M_1$ .

Now consider the **JS**-primitives of  $GL(2, F)$ . The unique maximal abelian normal subgroup of such a group has order either  $p^{2k} - 1$  or  $p^k - 1$ . There is just one **JS**-primitive of the first kind, namely

$$M_2 := C_{p^{2k}-1} \rtimes C_2,$$

The normaliser of a singer cycle. Theorem  $E$  provides a complete and irredundant list  $l'_2$  of  $GL(2, F)$ -conjugacy class representatives of the primitive subgroups and imprimitive cyclic subgroups of  $M_2$ .

There are **JS**-primitives whose unique maximal abelian normal subgroup has order  $p^k - 1$  if and only if  $p$  is odd. By remark 2.36, they can be written as

$$M_3 := (C_{p^k-1} Y Q_8) \text{ N } O^-(2, 2), p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{4},$$

$$M_4 := (C_{p^k-1} Y Q_8) \text{ N } Sp(2, 2), p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

In this chapter we give theorems which provide complete and irredundant lists  $l'_i, i=3, 4$  of  $GL(2, F)$ -conjugacy class representatives of the primitive soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, F)$  whose guardian is  $M_i$ .

Then the combination of  $l'_1, l'_2$  and  $l'_i$  gives us a complete and irredundant list of  $GL(2, F)$ -conjugacy class representatives of the irreducible soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, F)$ .

We mention in passing which of the above **JS**-maximals are maximal soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, F)$ . Both Jordan (1871a, table A, p.288) and Suprunenko (1976, footnote on p.165) knew the following result: It is easily proved using elementary number theory and some basic structural properties of the group concerned.

**1.1-Proposition :**

- (a)  $M_1$  is a maximal soluble subgroup of  $GL(2, F)$  except when  $p^k = 3$  (in which case  $M_1$  is conjugate to subgroups of both  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ ) and when  $p^k = 5$  (in which case  $M_1$  is conjugate to a subgroup of  $M_4$ ).
- (b)  $M_2$  is a maximal soluble subgroup of  $GL(2, F)$  except when  $p^k = 3$  (in which case  $M_2$  is subgroup of  $M_3$ ).
- (c)  $M_3$  is a maximal soluble subgroup of  $GL(2, F)$ .
- (d)  $M_4$  is a maximal soluble subgroup of  $GL(2, F)$ .

**1.2-Proposition :**

Let  $V$  be a vector space, and  $A$  be the scalar subgroup of  $GL(V)$ . Let  $G$  be a subgroup of  $GL(V)$  containing  $A$ , and suppose that  $G = NA$  for some subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ . Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  containing  $N \cap A$ . Then

- (a)  $H$  is irreducible if and only if  $N \cap HA$  is irreducible;
- (b)  $H$  is primitive if and only if  $N \cap HA$  is primitive.

**Proof :**

By Dedekind's modular law we have that  $HA = (N \cap HA)A$ . Since multiplication by scalars does not effect the reducibility or primitivity of a group, the result now follows.

**1.3-Definition:**

The Burnside poset  $P$ , of a group  $G$  is a poset with the following properties.

- (i) Each element of  $P$  represents a conjugacy class of subgroups of  $G$  and each conjugacy class is represented exactly once in  $P$ .
- (ii) If  $C$  and  $D$  are elements of  $P$ , then we write  $C \leq D$  if and only if at least one group in the conjugacy class represented by  $C$  is a subgroup of at least one group in the conjugacy class represented by  $D$ .

**1.4-Definition:**

We draw the Burnside inclusion diagram of the Burnside poset  $P$  of a group  $G$  according to the following rules

- (i) We represent elements of  $P$  by small black discs.
- (ii) If an element of  $P$  represents a conjugacy class containing a single group (which is therefore normal in  $G$ ), we draw a circle around the disc representing that element.
- (iii) We label each disc with either the isomorphism type or the order of the groups in the conjugacy class it represents.
- (iv) We represent the relation  $C \leq D$  by placing the disc representing  $C$  lower on the page than the disc representing  $D$  and by drawing a line between those two discs. However, we suppress inclusion that are implied by the reflexivity and transitivity of  $\leq$ .

**2-Generating sets for  $M_3$  and  $M_4$ .**

In this section we derive polycyclic presentations for  $M_3$  and  $M_4$ .

**2.1-A generating set for  $M_3$ .**

Recall that  $M_3$  only defined when  $p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . We construct a generating set for  $M_3$  (by the methods and theorems described in chapter 2). Let  $z$  be a generator for the scalar group, and define  $u$  and  $v$  by  $u := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\text{and } v := \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \beta & -\alpha \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  belong to the prime subfield of  $F$ , and  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = -1$ .

Then  $\{u, v, z\}$  generates the Fitting subgroup of  $M_3$ . To extend this set to a generating set for  $M_3$ , we first require

a generating set for  $O(2,2)$ . The set we use comprises the two elements  $a\rho := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $c\rho := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , these

matrices satisfy the conditions,  $(a\rho)^2 = I_2, (a\rho c\rho)^3 = I_2, (a\rho c\rho)^{a\rho} = (a\rho c\rho)^2$ . By the theory in chapter 2

there exist matrices  $a$  and  $c$  of  $GL(2, F)$  satisfying the conditions

$$u^a = \lambda_1 v,$$

$$v^a = \mu_1 u,$$

$$u^c = \lambda_2 uv,$$

$$v^c = \mu_2 v, \quad \text{for some scalars } \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \mu_1 \text{ and } \mu_2.$$

$$\delta^2 = \begin{cases} -2 & \text{if } p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ 2 & \text{if } p^k \equiv 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

Let  $\delta$  be an element of  $F$  such that

Setting  $\lambda_1 = \mu_1 = -1$ , we find that one solution for  $a$  is

$$a := \delta^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta+1 \\ \beta-1 & -\alpha \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $a$  has determinant  $-1$  or  $1$ , and its square is  $I_2$  or  $-I_2$ , according as  $p^k$  is congruent to 3 or 7 modulo 8, respectively. Setting  $\lambda_2 = \mu_2 = -1$ , we find that one solution for  $c$  is

$$c := \pm \delta^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -\beta & \alpha+1 \\ \alpha-1 & \beta \end{bmatrix},$$

the minus or plus being chosen according as  $p^k$  is congruent to 3 or 7 modulo 8, respectively, then  $c$  has determinant  $-1$  or  $1$ , and its square is  $I_2$  or  $-I_2$ , according as  $p^k$  is congruent to 3 or 7 modulo 8, respectively. Set  $b := ac$ . Then

$$b = 2^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha - \beta - 1 & \alpha + \beta - 1 \\ \alpha + \beta - 1 & -\alpha - \beta - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

And  $b$  has determinant 1 and order 3. Furthermore,  $b^a = b^2$ . We then have the following presentation for  $M_3$ :

$$\{a, b, u, v, z \mid a^2 = \pm I_2,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^a &= b^2, \quad b^3 = I_2, \\
 u^a &= -v, \quad u^b = v, \quad u^2 = -I_2, \\
 v^a &= -u, \quad v^b = uv, \quad v^u = -v, \quad v^2 = -I_2, \\
 z^a &= z, \quad z^b = z, \quad z^u = z, \quad z^v = z, \quad z^{p^k-1} = I_2 \}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The plus or minus being present in the first relation according as  $P^k$  is congruent to **3** or **7** modulo **8** respectively. This is clearly a polycyclic presentation after replacing  $I_2$  by  $z^{(p^k-1)/2}$ . From this presentation we see that

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_3 &= \langle z \rangle Y \langle a, b, u, v \rangle \\
 &= \langle z^2 \rangle \times \langle a, b, u, v \rangle \\
 &\cong \begin{cases} C_{(p^k-1)/2} \times GL(2,3) & \text{if } p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ C_{(p^k-1)/2} \times BO & \text{if } p^k \equiv 7 \pmod{8} \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that Wilson (1972 ' theorem 3.2 ' p.36) also observed that  $M_3$  splits over its Fitting subgroup when  $F$  has a square root of  $-2$  (that is ' when  $P^k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$  ).

It is easy to show that  $\langle a, b, u, v \rangle$  is the unique minimal supplement to the scalar group ' and that

$$\begin{aligned}
 M \cap SL(2, F) &= \begin{cases} \langle b, u, v \rangle & \text{if } p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ \langle a, b, u, v \rangle & \text{if } p^k \equiv 7 \pmod{8} \end{cases} \\
 &\cong \begin{cases} SL(2,3) & \text{if } p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{8}, \\ BO & \text{if } p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

Finally ' we investigate action of field automorphisms on  $M_3$ .

**2.2-Theorem:**

Every automorphism of  $F$ , acting entry-wise on the elements of  $M_3$ , normalises  $M_3$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $\theta$  be an automorphism of  $F$ . By looking at the entries of the matrices in our generating set for  $M_3$ , it is clear that the effect of  $\theta$  on  $M_3$  is determined by  $\theta$  (remember that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  belong to the prime subfield of  $F$ ) clearly  $b, u$  and  $v$  are fixed by  $\theta$  and  $a\theta$  is  $a$  or  $-a$ . And of course  $z\theta$  is some power of itself. Therefore  $\theta$  normalises  $M_3$ .

**3-A generating set for  $M_4$  :**

Recall that  $M_4$  is only defined when  $p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . We construct a generating set for  $M_4$  in this section by use of preceding methods. Let  $z$  be a generator for the scalar group ' and define  $u$  and  $v$  by

$$u := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } v := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

then  $\{u, v, z\}$  generates the Fitting subgroup of  $M_4$ . To extend this set to a generating set for  $M_4$ . We first require a generating set for  $SP(2,2)$ . We choose this set to consist of the two elements

$$a\rho := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } b\rho := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

these matrices satisfy the relations

$$(a\rho)^2 = I_2, (b\rho)^3 = I_2, (b\rho)^{a\rho} = (b\rho)^2.$$

By use from chapter 2 there exist matrices  $a$  and  $b$  of  $GL(2, F)$  satisfying the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} u^a &= \lambda_1 v, \\ v^a &= \mu_1 u, \\ u^b &= \lambda_2 v, \\ v^b &= \mu_2 u v. \end{aligned}$$

For some scalars  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ .

Let  $\omega$  be a primitive 4-th-root of unity in  $F$ , and let  $\delta$  be an element of  $F$  such that

$$\delta^2 := \begin{cases} -2 & \text{if } p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ 2 & \text{if } p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

Setting  $\lambda_1 = \mu_1 = -1$ , we find that one solution for  $a$  is

$$a := \delta^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , then  $a$  has determinat 1 and its square is  $-I_2$ .

If  $p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ , then  $a$  has determinat  $-\omega$  and its square is  $\omega I_2$ .

Setting  $\lambda_2 = 1$  and  $\mu_2 = \omega$ ,

$$b := 2^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \omega - 1 & \omega + 1 \\ \omega - 1 & -\omega - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We find that on solution for  $b$  is

Then  $b$  has determinat 1 and order 3, and  $b^a = b^2$ .

We then the following presentation for  $M_4$ :

$$\{a, b, u, v, z \mid a^2 = \sigma I_2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} b^a &= b^2, b^3 = I_2, \\ u^a &= -v, u^b = v, u^2 = I_2, \\ v &= -u, v^b = \omega uv, v^u = -v, v^2 = I_2, \\ z^a &= z, z^b = z, z^u = z, z^v = z, z^{p^k-1} = I_2 \}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma$  is  $-1$  or  $\omega$ , according as  $p^k$  is congruent to  $1$  or  $5$  modulo  $8$ , respectively. Since  $b$  does not normalise  $\langle u, v \rangle$ , it is more convenient to work  $\langle \omega u, \omega v \rangle$ . Setting  $x := \omega u$   $y := \omega v$ , then we have

$$\{a, b, x, y, z \mid a^2 = \sigma I_2,$$

$$\begin{aligned} b^a &= b^2, b^3 = I_2, \\ x^a &= -y, x^b = y, x^2 = -I_2, \\ y^a &= -x, y^b = xy, y^x = -y, y^2 = -I_2, \\ z^a &= z, z^b = z, z^x = z, z^y = z, z^{p^k-1} = I_2 \}, \end{aligned}$$

which is clearly a polycyclic presentation for  $M_4$  (after replacing  $-I_2$  by  $z^{\frac{(p^k-1)}{2}}$  and, if necessary,  $\omega I_2$  by  $z^{\frac{(p^k-1)}{4}}$ ). From this representation we see that

$$M_4 = \langle z \rangle Y \langle a, b, x, y \rangle$$

$$= \begin{cases} \langle z \rangle Y \langle a, b, x, y \rangle, & \text{if } p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ \langle z^4 \rangle \times \langle a, b, x, y \rangle, & \text{if } p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

$$\cong \begin{cases} C_{p^k-1} Y BO & \text{if } p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}, \\ C_{\frac{(p^k-1)}{4}} \times NS & \text{if } p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

It is easy to show that  $\langle a, b, x, y \rangle$  is a minimal supplement to the scalar group. If  $p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}$ , then it is the unique such supplement.

If  $p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , then there is just one other minimal supplement to the scalar group; it is  $\langle \omega a, b, x, y \rangle$ , which is isomorphic to  $GL(2, 3)$ .

Note that Wilson (1972, theorem 3.2, p.36) also observed that  $M_4$

splits over its Fitting subgroup when  $F$  has a square root of  $-2$  (that is, when  $p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ ). Also, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} M_4 \cap SL(2, F) &= \begin{cases} \langle a, b, x, y \rangle & \text{if } p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ ,} \\ \langle b, x, y \rangle & \text{if } p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8}. \end{cases} \\ &\cong \begin{cases} BO & \text{if } p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ ,} \\ SL(2, 3) & \text{if } p^k \equiv 5 \pmod{8} \text{ .} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we investigate the action of field automorphism on  $M_4$ .

**3.1-Theorem:**

Every automorphism of  $F$ , acting entry-wise on the elements of  $M_4$ , normalises  $M_4$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $\theta$  be an automorphism of  $F$ . By looking at the entries of the matrices in our generating set for  $M_4$ , it is clear that the effect of  $\theta$  on  $M_4$  is determined by  $\omega\theta$  and  $\delta\theta$ . It is easy to check that in any case,  $x\theta$  is  $\pm x$ ,  $y\theta$  is  $\pm y$ ,  $a\theta$  is  $\pm \omega\theta$  and  $b\theta$  is  $b$  or  $by$ . (and of course  $z\theta$  is some power of itself). Therefore  $\theta$  normalises  $M_4$ .

**4.5-soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, p^k)$  for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$ .**

We knew that the JS-maximals of  $GL(2, p^k)$  as follows

$$M_1(2, F) := GL(1, p^k) \text{ wr } S_2, p^k \neq 2;$$

$$M_2(2, F) := C_{p^{2k-1}} \succ C_2;$$

$$M_3(2, F) := (C_{p^{k-1}} Y Q_8 \text{ N } \bar{O}(2, 2), p^k \equiv 3 \pmod{4});$$

$$M_4(2, F) := (C_{p^{k-1}} Y Q_8) \text{ N } Sp(2, 2), p^k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

Therefore for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$ , we will have a following table.

$GL(2, 2)$	$M_2$		
$GL(2, 3)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2, 4)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 5)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2, 6)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 7)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2, 8)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 9)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2, 10)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 11)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2, 12)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 13)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2, 14)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 15)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2, 16)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 17)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2, 18)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 19)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2, 20)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2, 21)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2, 22)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	

$GL(2,23)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2,24)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2,25)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2,26)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2,27)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_3$
$GL(2,28)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	
$GL(2,29)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	$M_4$
$GL(2,30)$	$M_1$	$M_2$	

Now we can obtain by use Theorems  $A, B, C$  and  $D, a$  complete and irredundant list of  $GL(2, p^k)$  conjugacy class representatives for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$  of the primitive soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, p^k)$ , for  $p^k = 1, \dots, 30$ , whose guardian is  $M_3$  or  $M_4$ . Or

We can obtain a form of complete and irredundant set of  $GL(2, p^k)$ -conjugacy class representatives of the primitive subgroups and cyclic imprimitive subgroups of  $M_2$  and for odd  $p$ , complete and irredundant set of  $GL(2, p^k)$ -conjugacy class representative of the non-abelian imprimitive soluble subgroups of  $GL(2, p^k)$ .

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