

COMBINATORIAL FORMULAS, INVARIANTS AND STRUCTURES ASSOCIATED  
WITH PRIMITIVE PERMUTATION REPRESENTATIONS OF  $PSL(2,q)$  AND  
 $PGL(2,q)$

BY

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ABSTRACT

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICAL STUDIES

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COMBINATORIAL FORMULAS, INVARIANTS AND STRUCTURES ASSOCIATED WITH  
PRIMITIVE PERMUTATION REPRESENTATIONS OF  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  AND  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$

BY Ireri Nthiga Kamuti.

This thesis describes various aspects of primitive permutation representations of the groups  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$ . The disjoint cycle structures, ranks, cycle index formulas and the subdegrees of these representations are computed. A method is devised for constructing some suborbital graphs of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of their maximal dihedral subgroups of orders  $q-1$  and  $2(q-1)$  respectively. Some graph theoretic properties such as the girth and diameter are discussed for some of these graphs. A general form of the intersection matrix of  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of its maximal dihedral subgroup of order  $2(q-1)$  relative to the suborbit of length  $2(q-1)$  is given. The number of triangles on every edge of the suborbital graph corresponding to this intersection matrix is shown to be  $q-1$ .

## INTRODUCTION

In this thesis we exploit the knowledge of the well-known subgroup structure of the groups  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  to study some important combinatorial formulas, invariants and structures associated with their primitive permutation representations. Our discussion will be mainly on the disjoint cycle structures, ranks, cycle index formulas, suborbital graphs and intersection matrices associated with some of these representations.

This thesis is divided into four chapters.

In chapter 1 we compute the disjoint cycle structures, ranks and cycle index formulas for the primitive permutation representations of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$ .

In chapter 2 we compute the subdegrees of all primitive permutation representations of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  (confirming and extending the results in [3] and [7]). Though various methods are used here, the most prominent one is based on [14] which uses the table of marks. The ranks computed in chapter 1 are also confirmed in this chapter.

In chapter 3 we devise a method for constructing some of the suborbital graphs of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of their maximal dihedral subgroups of orders  $q-1$  and  $2(q-1)$

respectively. This method gives an alternative way of constructing the Coxeter graph given in [5]. Some graph theoretic properties such as the girth and diameter are found for some of the graphs discussed in this chapter.

In chapter 4 a general form of the intersection matrix of  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  on the cosets of its maximal dihedral subgroup of order  $2(q-1)$  relative to the suborbit of length  $2(q-1)$  is given. The number of triangles on every edge of the suborbital graph corresponding to this intersection matrix is shown to be  $q-1$ .

# CHAPTER 1

## PRIMITIVE PERMUTATION REPRESENTATIONS OF $PSL(2,q)$ AND $PGL(2,q)$ AND THEIR CORRESPONDING CYCLE INDICES

The only well-known cycle index formulas are for the following five groups:  $S_n$ ,  $A_n$ ,  $D_n$ ,  $C_n$  and  $I_n$  (the identity permutation on  $n$  elements) (see Harary [9], p.184). The main aim of this chapter is to derive the cycle index formulas for the primitive permutation representations of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$ ,  $q=p^f$  where  $p$  is prime.

In section 1.1 we give definitions and results needed in the rest of the chapter.

The disjoint cycle structures and ranks of all primitive permutation representations of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$  are computed in sections 1.2 and 1.3.

In section 1.4 we illustrate by giving examples how to compute the cycle index formulas of primitive permutation representations of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$  by using the results in sections 1.2 and 1.3.

### 1.1 Group actions and cycle indices

Definition 1.1.1 Let  $(G_1, X_1)$  and  $(G_2, X_2)$  be finite permutation

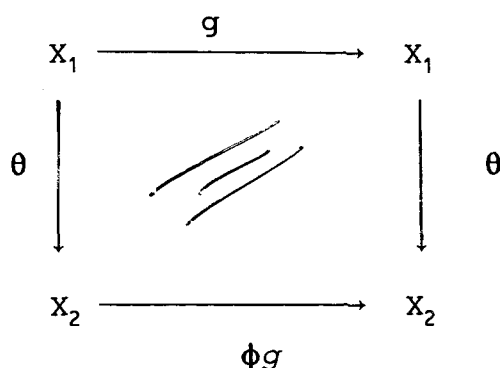


groups (i.e  $G_i$  acts on  $X_i$ ). To say that  $(G_1, X_1) \cong (G_2, X_2)$

(permutation isomorphism) means that there exists a group isomorphism  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  and a bijection  $\theta: X_1 \rightarrow X_2$  so that

$$\theta(gx) = \phi g(\theta x) \quad \text{for all } g \in G_1, x \in X_1 \quad \text{or} \quad \theta g = \phi g \theta \quad \text{for all } g \in G_1.$$

In other words the diagram



is commutative for all  $g \in G_1$ .

An important special case is when  $G_1 = G_2$  and  $\phi$  is the identity map. Then the condition is  $\theta g = g \theta$  for all  $g \in G$ , and the definition determines the notion of equivalent actions of  $G$  on the two sets  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ .

An important well known example follows:

Theorem 1.1.2 Let  $G$  act transitively on the set  $X$ . Let  $x \in X$

and let  $H = \text{stab}_G(x)$ . Then the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is equivalent to action by multiplication on the set of (right) cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ .

(See Rose [18], p.76)

### Notation

From now on,  $\pi(g)$  and  $C^g$  will denote the number of fixed points and the conjugacy class of  $g \in G$  respectively.

The following two results will be of great use later in the chapter.

Theorem 1.1.3 Let  $G$  be a finite transitive permutation group acting on the right cosets of its subgroup  $H$ . If  $g \in G$  and  $|G:H|=n$ ,  
then

$$\frac{\pi(g)}{n} = \frac{|C^g \cap H|}{|C^g|}.$$

Proof An element of  $g \in G$  fixes a coset

$$\begin{aligned} Hs &\Leftrightarrow Hsg = Hs \\ &\Leftrightarrow sgs^{-1} \in H \\ &\Leftrightarrow sgs^{-1} \in H \cap C^g. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $H$  is the subgroup of  $G$  which fixes one coset, that is  $H$  itself, then every subgroup of  $G$  fixing a coset is conjugate to  $H$ . Hence  $|H \cap C^g| = |yHy^{-1} \cap C^g|$ , for every  $g \in G$ . The number

of ordered pairs  $(y, z)$  with  $z \in yHy^{-1} \cap C^g$  is  $n|H||H \cap C^g|$ .

But if  $z \in C^g$ , then  $\pi(z) = \pi(g)$ , so that there are  $\pi(g)$  cosets for which  $z \in yHy^{-1}$ . Therefore, the number of ordered pairs  $(y, z)$  satisfying this condition is  $\pi(g)|H||C^g|$ .

Hence

$$\pi(g)|H||C^g| = n|H||H \cap C^g|. \quad \square$$

If a finite group  $G$  acts on a set  $X$  with  $n$  elements, each  $g \in G$  corresponds to a permutation  $\sigma$  of  $X$ , which can be written uniquely as a product of disjoint cycles. If  $\sigma$  has  $\alpha_1$  cycles of length 1,  $\alpha_2$  cycles of length 2, ...,  $\alpha_n$  cycles of length  $n$ , we will say that  $\sigma$  and hence  $g$  has cycle type  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ .

Lemma 1.1.4 Let  $g$  be a permutation with cycle type  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$ .

Then

(a) the number  $\pi(g^l)$  of 1-cycles in  $g^l$  is  $\sum_{i|l} i\alpha_i$ .

(b)  $\alpha_l = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i|l} \pi(g^{l/i}) \mu(i)$ , where  $\mu$  is the Mobius function

(see Hardy and Wright [10], p.234 for the definition of

$\mu$ ).

Proof (a) Suppose  $\theta_1 \theta_2 \dots$ , is a disjoint cycle decomposition of  $g$ , then

$$g^l = (\theta_1 \theta_2 \dots)^l = \theta_1^l \theta_2^l \dots$$

Let  $\theta$  be any  $i$ -cycle in  $g$ , then  $\theta^l$  is a product of

$(i, l)$   $\frac{i}{(i, l)}$ -cycles and it contains a 1-cycle if and only

if  $i | l$ . In this case we have  $i$  1-cycles. The result follows when we sum over all the cycles of various lengths  $i$  such that  $i | l$ .

(b) Let  $f(l) = \pi(g^l)$ .

From (a),  $f(l) = \sum_{i|l} i \alpha_i = \sum_{i|l} h(i)$ , where we define  $h(i) = i \alpha_i$ .

By using the Möbius Inversion Formula (see Hardy and Wright [10], Theorem 266),

we get

$$l \alpha_l = g(l) = \sum_{i|l} f(i) \mu(l/i) = \sum_{i|l} f\left(\frac{l}{i}\right) \mu(i) = \sum_{i|l} \pi(g^{l/i}) \mu(i) . \quad \square$$

Definition 1.1.5 If a finite group  $G$  acts on  $X$ ,  $|X|=n$  and  $g \in G$  has cycle type  $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n)$  we define the monomial of  $g$  to be

$$\text{mon}(g) = t_1^{\alpha_1} t_2^{\alpha_2} \dots t_n^{\alpha_n} ,$$

where  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$  are  $n$  distinct (commuting) indeterminates.

Definition 1.1.6 The cycle index of the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is the polynomial (say over the rational field  $\mathbb{Q}$ ) in  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$  given by

$$Z(G) = Z_{G,X}(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum \{ \text{mon}(g) : g \in G \} .$$

Note that if  $G$  has conjugacy classes  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_m$ , with  $g_i \in K_i$  for all  $i$ , then

$$Z(G) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{i=1}^m |K_i| \text{mon}(g_i) .$$

Definition 1.1.7 If  $G$  is a finite group acting on a finite set  $X$ , we define the orbit of  $x \in X$  to be

$$\text{Orb}_G(x) = \{gx \mid g \in G\} .$$

The number of  $G$ -orbits is normally found using the following well-known formula.

Theorem 1.1.8 (Cauchy - Frobenius Formula) Let  $G$  be a group acting on a finite set  $X$ . The number of  $G$ -orbits in  $X$  is

$$\frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \pi(g) .$$

(see Krishnamurthy [15], Theorem 1.4.)

If  $G_x$  is the stabilizer of  $x \in X$ , the number of  $G_x$ -orbits on  $X$  is called the rank  $r$  of  $G$ . Later in the chapter we shall use the Cauchy - Frobenius Formula to calculate the ranks of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$  on the cosets of their maximal subgroups.

Let  $(G,X)$  be a finite permutation group and we denote by  $X^{(2)}$  the set of 2-element subsets of  $X$ . If  $g$  is a permutation in  $(G,X)$ , we may want to know the disjoint cycle structure of the permutation  $g'$  induced by  $g$  on  $X^{(2)}$ .

We shall briefly sketch the technique (we call it the pair group action) for obtaining the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$ ;

for a detailed treatment and examples one can refer to Harary [8], chap. 5.

Let  $mon(g) = t_1^{a_1} t_2^{a_2} \dots t_n^{a_n}$ , our aim is to find  $mon(g')$

from which the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  can straightforwardly be obtained. To do this, there are two separate contributions from  $g$  to the corresponding term of  $mon(g')$  which we need to consider:

- (i) From pairs of points, both lying in a common cycle of  $g$ .
- (ii) From pairs of points, one in each of two different cycles of  $g$ .

It is convenient to divide the first contributions into:

(i) (a) Let  $\theta = (1\ 2\ 3\ \dots\ 2m+1)$  be an odd cycle in  $g$ , then the permutation  $\theta'$  in  $(G, X^{(2)})$  induced by  $\theta$  is as follows:

[illegible]

So if we have  $\alpha_{2m+1}$  cycles of length  $2m+1$  in  $g$ , the pairs of points lying in the common cycles contribute:

(i) (b) If  $\theta = (1\ 2\ 3\ \dots\ 2m)$ , then we get  $\theta'$  as follows:





number is therefore

$$\frac{ab}{[a,b]} = (a,b) ,$$

the gcd of a and b.

In particular when  $a = b = 1$ , the contribution by g on  $\theta_a \times \theta_b$  to  $g'$  is  $l$  cycles of length  $l$ . Thus when  $a \neq b$ , we have

$$t_a^{\alpha_a} t_b^{\alpha_b} \rightarrow S_{[a,b]}^{\alpha_a \alpha_b (a,b)} , \quad (1.1.3)$$

and when  $a = b = 1$ ,

$$t_1^{\alpha_1} \rightarrow S_1^{\binom{\alpha_1}{2}} , \quad (1.1.4)$$

Now we simply need to multiply the right-sides of (1.1.1) - (1.1.4) over all applicable cases. Collecting the like terms and simplifying gives  $\text{mon}(g')$  and hence the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$ .

Before we start discussing the next section, we first give some definitions and notation which we shall carry through to the other chapters.

The  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  group over the finite field  $\text{GF}(q)$  of prime power order  $q$  is a group consisting of linear fractional transformations of the form

$$x \rightarrow \frac{ax+b}{cx+d} ,$$

with  $x \in \text{PG}(1,q)$ ,  $a, b, c, d \in \text{GF}(q)$ , where  $ad-bc \neq 0$ .

$\text{PGL}(2,q)$  is 3-transitive on  $\text{PG}(1,q)$  of degree  $q+1$  and order  $q(q^2-1)$ .

The  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  is a subgroup of  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  with  $ad - bc = 1$ . It is simple for  $q > 3$ . It is also 2-transitive on  $\text{PG}(1,q)$  of degree  $q+1$  and order  $\frac{q(q^2-1)}{k}$ , where  $k=(q-1,2)$ .

If  $q$  is a power of 2, then

$$\text{PGL}(2,q) = \text{PSL}(2,q).$$

As we shall see later, in both  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  only the identity has more than two fixed points and both groups are partitioned by their non-identity elements into three parts (excluding the identity), namely;

- (i) those permutations with precisely one fixed point on  $\text{PG}(1,q)$  (the parabolic elements),
- (ii) those permutations with precisely two fixed points (the hyperbolic elements),
- (iii) those permutations with no fixed points (elliptic elements).

## Notation

We shall denote the sets of parabolic, hyperbolic and elliptic elements by the symbols  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$

respectively. The symbols  $C_n$ ,  $D_{2n}$  and  $P_q$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $q$  a prime power, will mean respectively the cyclic group of order  $n$ , the dihedral group of order  $2n$  and the elementary abelian group of order  $q$ .

The symbol  $q$  will always represent the prime  $p$  to the power  $f$ . For an arbitrary  $m|f$ , the symbol  $e$  will represent the prime  $p$  to the power  $m$ . Also merely for simplification, we introduce the following functions  $w, z: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  which are defined by:

$$\begin{aligned} w:n &\rightarrow \frac{1}{n} (p^f - 1), \\ z:n &\rightarrow \frac{1}{n} (p^f + 1). \end{aligned}$$

With the help of the above simplifications, we now give some more notation that will describe some subgroups of  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$ . From now onwards we shall take  $k$  to be  $(2, w(1))$ .

The  $z(1)$  Frobenius groups in  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  that are each the stabilizer of a point are semi-direct products of a  $P_q$  by a  $C_{w(k)}$  (see Dickson [6], § 250). Any subgroup of these which is a 'proper' semi-direct product will be denoted by  $S_{e,n}$ , (i.e.  $S_{e,n} = P_e \rtimes C_n$ , where  $1 \leq n | w(k)$ ) or by  $S_{q,n}$  if  $m=f$ .

Similarly  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  has Frobenius stabilizers  $P_q \rtimes C_{w(1)}$ . We

shall also denote subgroups of this by  $S_{e,n}$  (or  $S_{q,n}$  for  $m=f$ ) where  $n|w(1)$ .

### 1.2 Primitive permutation representations of $G = \text{PSL}(2,q)$

We shall first have a brief look at the subgroup structure of  $G$ ; for more details see Dickson [6], chap. 12 or Huppert [13], chap. 2, §8 for more modern and standard terminology.

Theorem 1.2.1 (a) The elementary abelian subgroup  $P_q$  of  $G$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup isomorphic to the additive group of  $\text{GF}(q)$ .

(b) The elements of  $P_q$  have a common fixed point, and each non-identity element of  $P_q$  has only this fixed point.

(c)  $G$  has precisely  $z(1)$  Sylow  $p$ -subgroups.

(d) Each pair of distinct conjugates of  $P_q$  intersect only at the identity.

(see Huppert [13], p.191.)

The normalizer of  $P_q$  is  $S_{q,w(k)}$ .

Theorem 1.2.2 (a) The subgroup of  $G$  which fixes 0 and  $\infty$  is a cyclic group  $C_{w(k)}$ .

(b) Each pair of distinct conjugates of  $C_{w(k)}$  intersect only at the identity.

(c) For each  $u$  with  $I \neq u \in C_{w(k)}$ ,  $N_G(\langle u \rangle)$  is a dihedral group of order  $2w(k)$ .

(see Huppert [13], p.192.)

Theorem 1.2.3 (a)  $G$  has a cyclic subgroup  $C_{z(k)}$ .

(b) If  $I \neq s \in C_{z(k)}$ , then  $N_G(\langle s \rangle)$  is a dihedral group of order  $2z(k)$ .

(c) Each pair of distinct conjugates of  $C_{z(k)}$  intersect only at the identity.

(d) If  $I \neq s \in C_{z(k)}$ , then  $s$  has no fixed points on  $PG(1, q)$ .

(see Huppert [13], p.192.)

By using the notation introduced earlier on, the normalizers of  $C_{w(k)}$  and  $C_{z(k)}$  become  $D_{2w(k)}$  and  $D_{2z(k)}$  respectively.

We now state a theorem which gives a partition of  $G$  into sets each of which contains elements with a precise number of fixed points. The notation used in the theorem should not be confused with the notation  $C^g$  introduced earlier on. By  $C_{w(k)}^g$  for example, we mean conjugation of  $C_{w(k)}$  by  $g \in G$ .

Theorem 1.2.4 Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the following set of subgroups of  $G$ ;

$$\mathcal{P} = \{P_q^g, C_{w(k)}^g, C_{z(k)}^g \mid g \in G\}.$$

Then each non-identity element of  $G$  is contained in exactly one group in  $\mathcal{P}$ . (Thus the set  $\mathcal{P}$  forms a partition of  $G$ ).

(b) Let  $\pi(g)$  be the number of fixed points of  $g \in G$  on  $PG(1, q)$ .

Now if we recall that

$$\tau_i = \{g | g \in G, \pi(g) = i\} ;$$

then

$$\tau_0 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (C_{z(k)} - I)^g, \tau_1 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (P_q - I)^g, \tau_2 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (C_{w(k)} - I)^g .$$

(see Huppert [13], p.193.)

Lemma 1.2.5 If  $g$  is elliptic or hyperbolic of order greater than 2, or if  $g$  is parabolic, then its centralizer in  $G$  consists of all elliptic (resp. hyperbolic, parabolic) elements with the same fixed point set, together with the identity element. On the other hand, if  $g$  is elliptic or hyperbolic of order 2, then its centralizer is a dihedral group of order  $2z(k)$  or  $2w(k)$  respectively.

(see Dickson [6], § 224.)

Lemma 1.2.6 Let  $d_\omega = \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & \omega^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \in C_{w(k)}$ ; if  $g^{-1}d_\omega g = d_\rho$  for some

$g \in G$  and  $\omega \neq \pm 1$ , then  $\rho = \omega$  or  $\rho = \omega^{-1}$  and  $g \in D_{2w(k)}$ .

(see Suzuki [20], Lemma 6.4.)

Lemma 1.2.7 The  $w(1)$  non-identity elements of the Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P_q$  of  $G$  are all conjugate if  $p=2$ , but are separated into two sets of  $w(2)$  conjugate elements if  $p > 2$ .

(see Dickson [6], § 241.)

Lemma 1.2.8 The  $p-1$  non-identity elements of a cyclic subgroup  $C_p$  of  $G$  belong half to one set of conjugacy classes and half to the other if  $p > 2$  and  $f$  is odd but all belong to the same set if

$p > 2$  and  $f$  is even or  $p=2$ .

(see Dickson [6], § 241.)

A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is maximal if it is isomorphic to one of the following types of groups satisfying the given conditions:

- 1)  $S_{q,w(k)}$ ;
- 2)  $D_{2w(k)}$  (exceptions occur when  $q=3,5,7,9,11$ );
- 3)  $D_{2z(k)}$  (exceptions occur when  $q=2,7,9$ );
- 4) Alternating group  $A_4$ , when  $q=p > 3$  and  $q \equiv 3,13,27,37 \pmod{40}$ ;
- 5) Alternating group  $A_5$ , when  $q=5^n$  or  $4^n$  where  $n$  is prime, or  $q=p$  and  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ , or  $q=p^2$  where  $p > 2$  and  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{5}$ ;
- 6) Symmetric group  $S_4$ , when  $q=p$  and  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ ;
- 7)  $PSL(2,e)$  when  $f/m$  is an odd prime number;
- 8)  $PGL(2,e)$  when  $f/m=2$ .

(see Suzuki [20], p.417.)

Furthermore we have one conjugacy class of subgroups isomorphic to  $H$  in 1), 2), 3), 4) (if  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ ), 5) (when  $q=4^n$  or  $5^n$  where  $n$  is prime), 7) and two conjugacy classes in 4) (if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ ), 5) (when  $q=p$  and  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$  or  $q=p^2$ ,  $p > 2$  and  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ ), 6) and 8), conjugate in  $PGL(2,q)$  (see Dickson [6], § 260). Hence we have (up to equivalence) one

permutation representation on the cosets of  $H$ .

Next we compute the disjoint cycle structures of  $G$  and its rank on the right cosets of  $H$  in the order given in the list above. (Although our main aim is to work with maximal subgroups  $H$  of  $G$ , where possible we shall generalize our results to include cases where  $H$  is not maximal.)

Our computations will be carried out by each time taking an element  $g$  of order  $d$  in  $G$  from  $\tau_1, \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  respectively.

(i.e  $d=p$ ,  $d|w(k)$  and  $d|z(k)$  respectively.)

**1) Representation on the cosets of  $H \cong S_{q,w(k)}$**

From Theorem 1.1.2, the action of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H$  is equivalent to its natural action on  $PG(1,q)$  of degree  $z(1)$ .

From Theorems 1.2.1 - 1.2.4, we have the following results:

Table 1.2.1

	(I)	(II)	(III)
	$\tau_1$	$\tau_2$	$\tau_0$
Cycle lengths of $g'$	1 $p$	1 $d$	$d$
No. of cycles	1 $p^{f-1}$	2 $w(d)$	$z(d)$

Where for example in the second column we mean  $g \in \tau_1$  induces a permutation  $g'$  with one 1-cycle and  $p^{f-1}$   $p$ -cycles.

Since  $G$  is 2-transitive on  $PG(1,q)$ , its rank in this case is 2.



## 2) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2w(k)}$

Since  $H$  is the stabilizer of an unordered pair  $\{\beta, \lambda\} \subseteq PG(1, q)$  and  $G$  is 2-transitive on  $PG(1, q)$ , by Theorem 1.1.2 we can obtain the disjoint cycle structures of the elements of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H$  by considering its action on unordered pairs of  $PG(1, q)$ .

The method we shall use here is based on the results on the pair group action introduced earlier. Before we start, it is important to specify the column (headed by  $\tau_i$ ,  $i=0,1,2$ ) in Table 1.2.1 in which permutations  $g'$  with even cycle lengths lie (any of the other two columns will have permutations of odd lengths only). Hence three cases must be distinguished:

(a)  $p=2$  (b)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  (c)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

If  $g \in \tau_2$  or  $\tau_0$ ; in cases (b) and (c) we have to differentiate between the cases  $2|d$  and  $2 \nmid d$ . We will work out case (b) with  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $2|d$  fully; for the other cases we only give the results.

Now if  $g \in \tau_2$ ,  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $2|d$ ; from the results in Table 1.2.1,  $g$  contains two 1-cycles and  $w(d)$   $d$ -cycles. By using the results on the pair group action, we get the contributions as follows:

By (1.1.1), the two trivial cycles contribute:

$$t_1^2 \rightarrow s_1^0. \quad (1.2.1)$$

By (1.1.2), the  $w(d)$  non-trivial cycles contribute:

$$t_d^{w(d)} \rightarrow S_{\frac{1}{2}d}^{w(d)} S_d^{w(2d)(d-2)}. \quad (1.2.2)$$

By (1.1.3), contributions from the non-trivial cycles are:

$$t_1^2 t_d^{w(d)} \rightarrow S_d^{2w(d)}. \quad (1.2.3)$$

By (1.1.4), the contribution from the two trivial cycles is:

$$t_1^2 \rightarrow S_1^1. \quad (1.2.4)$$

Again by (1.1.4), contributions from the non-trivial cycles are:

$$t_d^{w(d)} \rightarrow S_d^{w(2d)(w(1)-d)}. \quad (1.2.5)$$

Combining (1.2.1) - (1.2.5) we get

$$mon(g') = S_1 S_{\frac{1}{2}d}^{w(d)} S_d^{w(2d)z(1)}.$$

(i.e  $g'$  contains one 1-cycle,  $w(d)$   $\frac{1}{2}d$ -cycles and  $w(2d)z(1)$   $d$ -cycles). We can similarly obtain the results for the other cases.

Summary of the results.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

In case (a),  $g'$  contains  $2^{f-1}$  1-cycles and  $4^{f-1}$  p-cycles.

In case (b) and (c),  $g'$  contains  $z(2)p^{f-1}$  p-cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.2

	(II)			(III)	
	$\tau_2$			$\tau_0$	
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	1	$\frac{1}{2}d$	d	$\frac{1}{2}d$	d
NO. OF CYCLES: Case (a)	1	0	$w(2d)z(1)$	0	$qz(2d)$
Cases (b) and (c) with					
d even	1	$w(d)$	$w(2d)z(1)$	$z(d)$	$w(2d)z(1)$
d odd	1	0	$w(2d)(q+2)$	0	$qz(2d)$

Note that the above table has been compressed to save space. This though does not hinder us from getting the information the table was intended for (i.e the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  for the cases listed earlier). For example if we take case (c) where  $q \equiv -1 \pmod 4$  and  $g \in \tau_0$ , all we have to note is that  $d$  can either be even or odd. Now from column (III) we get; for  $d$  even,  $g'$  contains  $z(d)$   $d/2$ -cycles and  $w(2d)z(1)$   $d$ -cycles; and for  $d$  odd,  $g'$  contains  $qz(2d)$   $d$ -cycles.

By using the Cauchy - Frobenius formula, we calculate the rank  $r$  of  $G$  as follows:

Case (a)

From the results given above, elements of  $H$  have fixed points as follows:

The identity fixes  $qz(2)$  cosets. We also have  $w(1)$  elements of order two each fixing  $2^{f-1}$  cosets and  $q-2$  elements of order greater than two each fixing one coset. Hence

$$r = \frac{1}{2w(1)} [qz(2) + w(1)2^{f-1} + (q-2)] = 2^{f-1} + 1 .$$

Case (b)

$$r = \frac{1}{w(1)} [qz(2) + (z(2))^2 + \frac{q-5}{2}] = \frac{3}{4}(q+3) .$$

Case (c)

$$r = \frac{1}{w(1)} [qz(2) + w(2)z(2) + w(2)] = \frac{3q+7}{4} .$$

In parts 3) -8) we compute the cycle structure of  $g'$  using an approach different from the one used previously. Our first objective will be to determine  $|C^g|$  and  $|C^g \cap H|$ . We easily obtain  $|C^g|$  by using Theorems 1.2.1 - 1.2.3 and Lemmas 1.2.5 and 1.2.7. If no  $h \in H$  with  $|h|=d$  (order of  $g$ ) exists, then  $|C^g \cap H|=0$ ; if such an  $h$  exists, this intersection can be obtained using Theorems 1.2.1 - 1.2.3, Lemmas 1.2.5 - 1.2.8 and the knowledge of conjugacy classes of  $H$  which we shall discuss as we go along. We use Theorem 1.1.3 to calculate  $\pi(g)$ . Once  $\pi(g)$  is known, the numbers  $\alpha_i$  will be determined using Lemma 1.1.4(b) and some quite straightforward arguments.

Remark 1.2.1 We notice from Lemma 1.1.4(b) that  $g'$  contains a

cycle of length  $i$  if there exists  $h \in H$  with  $d/(d,i) = |h|$  (i.e if  $\pi(g^i)=0$ , then  $\alpha_i=0$ ).

The way we arrive at various cases in each of the parts needs a mention; bearing in mind conditions given earlier for  $H$  to be maximal, we search for the conditions on  $q$  giving all the possible distributions of non-identity elements of  $H$  over the three partitions  $(\tau_i, i=0,1,2)$  of  $G$ , then eliminate those possibilities where  $H$  does not exist or  $H$  is not maximal.

### 3) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2z(k)}$ .

Let  $C_{z(k)}$  be the maximal cyclic subgroup of  $H$ . The  $z(k)$  involutions in  $H \setminus C_{z(k)}$  are all conjugate in  $H$  if  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  or  $p=2$ . If  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$  these involutions lie in two conjugacy classes of  $z(4)$  elements.

Let  $\langle s \rangle = C_{z(k)}$ , then the conjugacy class of  $s^j$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  in  $H$  is  $\{s^j, s^{-j}\}$ . In particular  $H$  contains a singleton conjugacy class containing an involution in  $C_{z(k)}$  if and only if  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

Involutions in  $G$  form a single conjugacy class containing

$$\begin{cases} qz(2) & \text{if } q = 1 \pmod{4} \\ qw(2) & \text{if } q = -1 \pmod{4} \\ w(1)z(1) & \text{if } p = 2 \end{cases}$$

elements.

If  $d$  (order of  $g$ ) is 2, then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} z(k) & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ or } q \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{q+3}{2} & \text{if } q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

From Theorem 1.2.3 and the information given above, if  $d > 2$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } g \in \tau_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The involutions in  $H$  lie in one of the  $\tau_i$  ( $i=0,1,2$ ), giving us 3 cases to consider:

(a) when  $p=2$  (b) when  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  (c) when  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

The table below gives the values of  $\pi(g)$ .

Table 1.2.3

	$ C^g $	$ C^g \cap H $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$ : Case (a) Case (b) and (c)	$w(1)z(1)$ $w(2)z(1)$	$z(1)$ 0	$2^{f-1}$ 0
(II) $g \in \tau_2$ : Case (a) Case (b) with $d \neq 2$ Case (c) Case (b) with $d=2$	$qz(1)$ $qz(2)$	0 $z(2)$	0 $w(2)$
(III) $g \in \tau_0$ : Case (a) Case (c) with $d \neq 2$ Case (b) Case (c) with $d=2$	$qw(1)$ $qw(2)$	2 $(q+3)/2$	1 $(q+3)/2$

We may now proceed to calculate in detail the cycle lengths of the element  $g'$  corresponding to  $g$  in this representation.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

Case (a)

From Table 1.2.3,  $\pi(g) = 2^{f-1}$ . It is quite straightforward that the only non-trivial cycles  $g^l$  has are the  $2^{f-1}(2^{f-1}-1)$  2-cycles.

Case (b) and (c)

Here  $d=p$  and for  $1 \leq l < p$ ,  $|g^l| = p$ .

From Table 1.2.3,  $\pi(g^l) = 0$ . Hence from Remark 1.2.1,  $\alpha_l = 0$ .

We also have

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_p &= \frac{1}{p} \pi(g^p) \\ &= qw(2p) .\end{aligned}$$

(II)  $g \in \tau_2$

Case (a)

If  $1 \leq l < d$ , we deduce from Table 1.2.3 that  $\pi(g^l) = 0$ .

Hence from Remark 1.2.1,  $\alpha_l = 0$ .

Now

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} \pi(g^d) \\ &= 2w(2d) .\end{aligned}$$

Case (b)

(i) If  $1 \leq l < d$ ,  $2 \nmid d$ , from Table 1.2.3 we have

$$\pi(g^l) = \begin{cases} w(2) & \text{if } l = \frac{d}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence if  $l \neq d/2$ ,  $\alpha_l = 0$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{\frac{d}{2}} &= \frac{2}{d} \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) \\ &= w(d) . \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}})] \\ &= w(2d) (w(1)) . \end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $2 \nmid d$ , for  $1 \leq l < d$ ,  $\pi(g^l) = 0$  and therefore  $\alpha_l = 0$ .

If  $l = d$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} \pi(g^d) \\ &= qw(2d) . \end{aligned}$$

### Case (c)

As in b(ii) above,  $g'$  contains only the  $qw(2d)$   $d$ -cycles.



(III)  $g \in \tau_0$

Case (a)

From Table 1.2.3,  $\pi(g^l)=1$  for  $1 \leq l < d$ . Hence for  $1 < l < d$ ,

$$\alpha_l = \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i|l} \mu(i) \Bigg\}_{=0} \quad (1.2.6)$$

We also have

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) + \sum_{i|d} \mu(i) - \mu(1)] \\ &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \mu(1)] \\ &= (q-2)z(2d) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1.2.7)$$

Case (b)

Since  $\pi(g^l)=1$  for  $1 \leq l < d$ , then for  $1 < l < d$ ,  $\alpha_l=0$  (cf. (1.2.6)).

Now

$$\alpha_d = (q-2)z(2d) \quad (\text{cf. } (1.2.7)).$$

Case (c)

(i) For  $1 \leq l < d$ ,  $2|d$ , we have

$$\pi(g^l) = \begin{cases} \frac{q+3}{2} & \text{if } l = \frac{d}{2} \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

So if  $1 < l < d$  and  $l \neq d/2$ , then,  $\alpha_l = 0$  (cf. (1.2.6)).

If  $l = d/2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{d/2} &= \frac{2}{d} [\pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) + \sum_{i| \frac{d}{2}} \mu(i) - \mu(1)] \\ &= \frac{2}{d} [\frac{q+3}{2} - 1] \\ &= z(d) .\end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) + \sum_{i|d} \mu(i) - \mu(1) + 1] \\ &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}})] \\ &= (q-3) z(2d) .\end{aligned}$$

(ii) If  $2 \nmid d$ , then for  $1 \leq l < d$ ,  $\pi(g^l) = 1$ . Now  $g^l$  contains one 1-cycle and  $(q-2)z(2d)$   $d$ -cycles (cf. (1.2.6) and (1.2.7)).

### Summary of the results

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

In case (a),  $g^l$  contains  $2^{f-1}$  1-cycles and  $2^{f-1}(2^{f-1}-1)$   $p$ -cycles.

In cases (b) and (c),  $g^l$  contains  $p^{f-1}w(2)$   $p$ -cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.4

	(II)	(III)
	$\tau_2$	$\tau_0$
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	$\frac{1}{2}d$ $d$	1 $\frac{1}{2}d$ $d$
NO. OF CYCLES		
Case (a)	0 $qw(2d)$	1   0 $(q-2)z(2d)$
Case (b) and (c) with $d$ even	$w(d)$ $w(2d)w(1)$	1 $z(d)$ $(q-3)z(2d)$
$d$ odd	0 $qw(2d)$	1   0 $(q-2)z(2d)$

### Rank of G

Case (a)    
$$r = \frac{1}{2z(1)} [qw(2) + \frac{q}{2}z(1) + q]$$
  

$$= 2^{f-1}.$$

Case (b)    
$$r = \frac{1}{z(1)} [qw(2) + w(2)z(2) + w(2)]$$
  

$$= 3w(4).$$

Case (c)    
$$r = \frac{1}{z(1)} [qw(2) + (\frac{q+3}{2})^2 + \frac{q-3}{2}]$$
  

$$= 3z(4).$$

In parts 4) - 6) arguments similar to those used in part 3) continue to be used. But after having dealt with part 3) in detail, we will only deal with some isolated cases in the remaining parts before listing the results.

#### 4) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong A_4$

There are subgroups  $H$  isomorphic to  $A_4$  if and only if  $p > 2$  or  $p=2$  and  $f \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ . Together with the identity element,  $H$  contains 3 conjugate elements of order 2 and 8 elements of order 3 which lie in 2 mutually inverse conjugacy classes of 4 elements.

The conjugacy classes of involutions in  $G$  were discussed in the previous part. It is easily noticed that for  $d=2$ ,

$$|C^g \cap H| = 3.$$

If  $p=3$ ,  $G$  contains  $w(1)z(1)$  elements of order 3. By Lemma 1.2.7, these elements form two conjugacy classes of  $w(2)z(1)$  elements. These classes are self-inverse or mutually inverse as  $f$  is even or odd.

If  $p \neq 3$ , from Theorems 1.2.2, 1.2.3 and Lemma 1.2.5, there is a single conjugacy class of elements of order 3 in  $G$  containing  $q(q+\epsilon)$  elements, where

$$\epsilon = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ -1 & \text{if } q \equiv -1 \pmod{3} \end{cases}.$$

Therefore we have

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 8 & \text{if } p=3 \text{ and } f \text{ even} \\ 4 & \text{if } p=3 \text{ and } f \text{ odd} \\ 8 & \text{if } p \neq 3. \end{cases}$$

Now excluding the cases  $p=2$  or  $3$  when  $H$  is not maximal, we have the following four cases to consider:

- (a)  $q \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$
- (b)  $q \equiv 7 \pmod{12}$
- (c)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$
- (d)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{12}$ .

Values for  $\pi(g)$  in all the four cases are given in the table below.

Table 1.2.5

	$ c^g $	$ c^g \cap H $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$ Cases (a) - (d)	$w(2)w(1)$	0	0
(II) $g \in \tau_2$ Cases (a) and (c) with $d=2$ Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2, 3$ Cases (b) and (c), $d=3$	$qz(2)$ $qz(1)$ $qz(1)$	3 0 8	$w(4)$ 0 $w(3)$
(III) $g \in \tau_0$ Cases (a) and (d) with $d=3$ Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2, 3$ Cases (b) and (d), $d=2$	$qw(1)$ $qw(1)$ $qw(2)$	8 0 3	$z(3)$ 0 $z(4)$

Perhaps the best case to consider in order to illustrate how the numbers  $\alpha_i$  come about is case (c) with  $g \in \tau_2$ .

This case splits into the following four subcases:

- (i)  $2|d, 3 \nmid d$  (ii)  $3|d, 2 \nmid d$  (iii)  $2, 3|d$  (iv)  $2, 3 \nmid d$ .

We shall only work out subcase (iii).

If  $1 \leq l < d$ , then from Table 1.2.5,

$$\pi(g^l) = \begin{cases} w(4) & \text{if } l = \frac{d}{2} \\ w(3) & \text{if } l = \frac{d}{3}, \frac{2d}{3} \\ 0 & \text{if } l \neq \frac{d}{2}, \frac{d}{3}, \frac{2d}{3}. \end{cases}$$

Note that there are  $\phi(3)=2$  ( $\phi$  the Euler  $\phi$ -function) distinct  $l$ ,

$1 \leq l < d$  such that  $|g^l|=3$ , namely  $d/3$  and  $2d/3$ .

From Remark 1.2.1,  $e_l=0$  for  $l \neq d/2, d/3, 2d/3$ .

If  $l=d/2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\frac{d}{2}} &= \frac{2}{d} \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) \\ &= w(2d) .\end{aligned}$$

If  $l=d/3$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\frac{d}{3}} &= \frac{3}{d} \pi(g^{\frac{d}{3}}) \\ &= w(d) .\end{aligned}$$

If  $l=2d/3$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_{\frac{2d}{3}} &= \frac{3}{2d} [\pi(g^{\frac{2d}{3}}) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{3}})] \\ &= 0 .\end{aligned}$$

Lastly,

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{3}})] \\ &= (q^2 + q - 14) w(24d) .\end{aligned}$$

Summary of the results.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

In all the four cases  $g'$  contains  $qw(24p)z(1)$  p-cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.6

	(II)			(III)		
	$\tau_2$			$\tau_0$		
CYCLES LENGTHS OF $g'$	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$d$	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$d$
NO. OF CYCLES Cases (a)-(d) with						
2 d,3 d	0	$w(2d)$	$(q+3)(q-2)w(24d)$	0	$z(2d)$	$(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)$
3 d,2 d	$w(d)$	0	$(q^2+q-8)w(24d)$	$z(d)$	0	$(q^2-q-8)z(24d)$
2,3 d	$w(d)$	$w(2d)$	$(q^2+q-14)w(24d)$	$z(d)$	$z(2d)$	$(q^2-q-14)z(24d)$
2,3 d	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$

Rank of G

Case(a)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{12} [qw(24)z(1) + 3w(4) + 8z(3)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 81q + 46}{288} . \end{aligned}$$

### Case(b)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{12} [qw(24)z(1) + 8w(3) + 3z(4)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 81q - 46}{288}. \end{aligned}$$

### Case(c)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{12} [qw(24)z(1) + 3w(4) + 8w(3)] \\ &= (q^2 + q + 82)w(288). \end{aligned}$$

### Case(d)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{12} [qw(24)z(1) + 8z(3) + 3z(4)] \\ &= (q^2 - q + 82)z(288). \end{aligned}$$

## 5) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong A_5$

G contains subgroups H isomorphic to the alternating group  $A_5$  precisely when  $p=5$  or  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . Together with the identity element, H contains 24 elements of order 5 forming 2 conjugacy classes of 12 elements which are transposed by squaring, 20 conjugate elements of order 3 and 15 conjugate elements of order 2.

From the discussion we had in part 3) on the conjugacy



classes of elements of order 2 in  $G$ , it is readily noticed that

$$|H \cap C^g| = 15.$$

Conjugacy classes of elements of order 3 in  $G$  were discussed in part 4). If  $d=3$ , we can easily deduce that

$$|H \cap C^g| = \begin{cases} 20 & \text{if } p=3 \text{ and } f \text{ even} \\ 20 & \text{if } p \neq 3. \end{cases}$$

Note that the case when  $p=3$  and  $f$  odd does not occur because we can never have  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ .

There exists elements of order 5 in  $G$  if and only if  $p=5$  or  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . If  $p=5$ , there are  $w(1)z(1)$  elements of order 5. By Lemma 1.2.7, these elements form two self-inverse conjugacy classes containing  $w(2)z(1)$  elements. Squaring preserves or transposes these classes as  $f$  is even or odd. If  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ ; from Theorems 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 and Lemma 1.2.5, there are two self-inverse conjugacy classes of  $q(q+\delta)$  elements, where

$$\delta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{5} \\ -1 & \text{if } q \equiv -1 \pmod{5}; \end{cases}$$

squaring transposes the two classes.

From the information given above, the two conjugacy classes of elements of order 5 in  $H$  lie in the same conjugacy class in  $G$  if and only if  $p=5$  and  $f$  is even. Moreover, if  $d$  is 5, then

$$|H \cap C^g| = \begin{cases} 24 & \text{if } p=5, f \text{ even} \\ 12 & \text{if } p=5, f \text{ odd or } q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}. \end{cases}$$

We now have the following cases to consider:

(a)  $p=2, q \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$

(b)  $p=2, q \equiv 1 \pmod{15}$

(c)  $p=3, q \equiv 9 \pmod{20}$

(In fact here  $H$  is only maximal when  $f=2$ , but in this case we generalize to include  $f \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ )

(d)  $p=5, q \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$

(e)  $q \equiv 29 \pmod{60}$

(f)  $q \equiv 19 \pmod{60}$

(g)  $q \equiv 11 \pmod{60}$

(h)  $q \equiv 49 \pmod{60}$

(i)  $q \equiv 41 \pmod{60}$

(j)  $q \equiv 31 \pmod{60}$

(k)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{60}$

(l)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{60}.$

Values for  $\pi(g)$  are presented in the table below:

Table 1.2.7

	$ c^g $	$ c^{g_{nH}} $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$ Cases(a) and (b) Case (c) Case (d) Cases(e)-(l)	$w(1)z(1)$ $w(2)z(1)$ $w(2)z(1)$ $w(2)z(1)$	15 20 or 0 12 0	$2^{f-2}$ $3^{f-1}$ or 0 $5^{f-1}$ 0
(II) $g \in \tau_2$ Cases(a) and (b) with $d=3$ Case (a); $d=5$ Cases(a)-(l), $d \neq 2,3,5$ Cases (c),(d), (e),(h),(i), (k); $d=2$ Cases (f),(h) (j),(k); $d=3$ Cases (g),(i), (j),(k); $d=5$	$qz(1)$ $qz(1)$ $qz(1)$ $qz(2)$ $qz(1)$ $qz(1)$	20 12 0 15 20 12	$w(3)$ $w(5)$ 0 $w(4)$ $w(6)$ $w(10)$
(III) $g \in \tau_0$ Case (a); $d=5$ Cases(a)-(l), $d \neq 2,3,5$ Cases (f),(g), (j),(l); $d=2$ Cases (d),(e) (g),(i),(l); $d=3$ Cases (c),(e), (f),(h),(l); $d=5$	$qw(1)$ $qw(1)$ $qw(2)$ $qw(1)$ $qw(1)$	12 0 15 20 12	$z(5)$ 0 $z(4)$ $z(6)$ $z(10)$

Here we give case (k) with  $g \in \tau_2$  as an example of how we obtain the numbers  $\alpha_i$ . We have the following subcases:

- (i)  $2|d, (3,5 \nmid d)$  (ii)  $3|d, (2,5 \nmid d)$  (iii)  $5|d, (2,3 \nmid d)$   
 (iv)  $2,3|d (5 \nmid d)$  (v)  $2,5|d (3 \nmid d)$  (vi)  $3,5|d (2 \nmid d)$  (vii)  
 $2,3,5|d$   
 (viii)  $2,3,5 \nmid d$ .

We will only work out subcase (vii). Using the arguments similar to those in part 4), it can be shown that  $\alpha_{\frac{1}{2}d} = \alpha_{\frac{1}{5}d} = w(2d)$  and  $\alpha_{\frac{1}{10}d} = 0$ .

There are  $\Phi(5) = 4$  distinct  $l$ ,  $1 \leq l < d$  such that  $\pi(g^l) = 5$ , namely  $d/5$ ,  $2d/5$ ,  $3d/5$  and  $4d/5$ . Now by using arguments similar to those in part 4), the following results are immediate,

$$\alpha_{\frac{1}{5}d} = w(2d),$$

$$\alpha_{\frac{2}{5}d} = \alpha_{\frac{3}{5}d} = \alpha_{\frac{4}{5}d} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_d = (q^2 + q - 62)w(120d).$$

For any  $l$ ,  $1 \leq l < d$  different from the ones above,  $\alpha_l = 0$ .

### Summary of the results

#### (I) $g \in \tau_1$

In cases (a) and (b),  $g'$  contains  $2^{f-1}$  1-cycles and

$$\frac{1}{120}q(q^2-16) \quad p\text{-cycles. In case (c), } g' \text{ contains } 3^{f-1} \text{ 1-cycles}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{360}q(q^2-41) \quad p\text{-cycles or only } qw(360p)z(1) \quad p\text{-cycles.}$$

$$\text{In case (d), } g' \text{ contains } 5^{f-1} \text{ 1-cycles and } \frac{1}{600}q(q^2-25)$$

$p$ -cycles. In cases (e)-(f),  $g'$  contains  $qw(120p)z(1)$   $p$  cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.8

(II)

CYCLE LENGTH OF $g$	$\tau_2$			
	$d/5$	$d/3$	$d/2$	$d$
NO. OF CYCLES				
Case (a) and (b)				
$3 d, 5 d$	0	$w(d)$	0	$(q+5)(q-4)w(60d)$
$5 d, 3 d$	$w(2d)$	0	0	$(q+4)(q-3)w(60d)$
$3,5 d$	$w(2d)$	$w(d)$	0	$(q^2 - q - 32)w(60d)$
$3,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(60d)z(1)$
Case (c)				
$2 d, 5 d$	0	0	$w(2d)$	$(q+6)(q-5)w(120d)$
$5 d, 2 d$	0	0	0	0
$2,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$
Case (d)				
$2 d, 3 d$	0	0	$w(2d)$	$(q+6)(q-5)w(120d)$
$3 d, 2 d$	0	0	0	0
$2,3 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$
Cases (e)-(l)				
$2 d, 3,5 d$	0	0	$w(2d)$	$(q+6)(q-5)w(120d)$
$3 d, 2,5 d$	0	$w(2d)$	0	$(q+5)(q-4)w(120d)$
$5 d, 2,3 d$	$w(2d)$	0	0	$(q+4)(q-3)w(120d)$
$2,3 d, 5 d$	0	$w(2d)$	$w(2d)$	$(q^2 + q - 50)w(120d)$
$2,5 d, 3 d$	$w(2d)$	0	$w(2d)$	$(q+7)(q-6)w(120d)$
$3,5 d, 2 d$	$w(2d)$	$w(2d)$	0	$(q^2 + q - 32)w(120d)$
$2,3,5 d$	$w(2d)$	$w(2d)$	$w(2d)$	$(q^2 + q - 62)w(120d)$
$2,3,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$

(III)

CYCLE LENGTH OF $g'$	$\tau_0$			
	$d/5$	$d/3$	$d/2$	$d$
NO. OF CYCLES				
Case (a) and (b)				
$3 d, 5 d$	0	0	0	0
$5 d, 3 d$	0	0	0	$(q-4)(q+3)z(60d)$
$3,5 d$	0	0	0	0
$3,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(60d)z(1)$
Case (c)				
$2 d, 5 d$	0	0	0	0
$5 d, 2 d$	$z(2d)$	0	0	$(q+3)(q-4)z(120d)$
$2,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$
Case (d)				
$2 d, 3 d$	0	0	0	0
$3 d, 2 d$	0	$z(2d)$	0	$(q-5)(q+4)z(120d)$
$2,3 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$
Case (e)-(l)				
$2 d, 3,5 d$	0	0	$z(2d)$	$(q+5)(q-6)z(120d)$
$3 d, 2,5 d$	0	$z(2d)$	0	$(q-5)(q+4)z(120d)$
$5 d, 2,3 d$	$z(2d)$	0	0	$(q-4)(q+3)z(120d)$
$2,3 d, 5 d$	0	$z(2d)$	$z(2d)$	$(q^2 - q - 50)z(120d)$
$2,5 d, 3 d$	$z(2d)$	0	$z(2d)$	$(q+6)(q-7)z(120d)$
$3,5 d, 2 d$	$z(2d)$	$z(2d)$	0	$(q^2 - q - 32)z(120d)$
$2,3,5 d$	$z(2d)$	$z(2d)$	$z(2d)$	$(q^2 - q - 62)z(120d)$
$2,3,5 d$	0	0	0	$qw(120d)z(1)$

Rank of GCase (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(60)z(1) + 15\frac{q}{4} + 20w(3) + 24z(5)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 912q - 112}{3600}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case (b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(60)z(1) + 15\frac{q}{4} + 20w(3) + 24w(5)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 912q - 688}{3600}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case (c)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15w(4) + 203^{f-1} + 24z(10)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 1537q - 162}{7200}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case (d)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 24\frac{q}{5} + 15w(4) + 20z(6)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 1425q - 50}{7200}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case (e)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15w(4) + 20z(6) + 24z(10)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 238}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (f)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 20w(6) + 15z(4) + 24z(10)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 338}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (g)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 24w(10) + 15z(4) + 20z(6)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 562}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (h)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15w(4) + 20w(6) + 24z(10)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 562}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (i)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15w(4) + 24w(10) + 20z(6)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 338}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (j)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 20w(6) + 24w(10) + 15z(4)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 238}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (k)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15w(4) + 20w(6) + 24w(10)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 1138}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (l)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{60} [qw(120)z(1) + 15z(4) + 20z(6) + 24z(10)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 1138}{7200}. \end{aligned}$$



## 6) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong S_4$ .

$G$  contains subgroups  $H$  isomorphic to  $S_4$  if and only if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . Let us now examine the conjugacy classes of elements of  $H$ .

Cycle structure	Number of them	Order
(1)	1	1
(ab)	6	2
(ab)(cd)	3	2
(abc)	8	3
(abcd)	6	4

It is well known that two permutations are conjugate in the symmetric group  $S_n$  if and only if they have the same cycle structure. Hence the table above gives the conjugacy classes of  $H$ .

The conjugacy classes of elements of order 2 and 3 in  $G$  were described in the previous parts. There are nine involutions in  $H$ , so for  $d=2$  we have

$$|C^g \cap H| = 9.$$

If  $d=3$  we have

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 8 & \text{if } p=3 \\ 8 & \text{if } p>3. \end{cases}$$

$G$  contains elements of order 4 if and only if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . These elements form a single class of  $q(q+\delta)$  elements where

$$\delta = \begin{cases} 1 & q \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \\ -1 & q \equiv -1 \pmod{8}. \end{cases}$$

So we have, for  $d=4$ ,

$$|C^g n H| = 6.$$

Note that when  $p=3$ ,  $H$  is not maximal in  $PSL(2, q)$ . So this case will not be considered.

We have the following cases to consider:

- (a)  $q \equiv 17 \pmod{24}$
- (b)  $q \equiv 7 \pmod{24}$
- (c)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{24}$
- (d)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{24}$ .

Below is the table of values of  $\pi(g)$ :

Table 1.2.9.

	$ C^g $	$ C^g n H $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$ Case (a)-(d)	$w(2)z(1)$	0	0
(II) $g \in \tau_2$			
Cases (a) and (c) with $d=2$	$qz(2)$	9	$3w(8)$
Cases (a) and (c) with $d=4$	$qz(1)$	6	$w(8)$
Cases (b) and (c) with $d=3$	$qz(1)$	8	$w(6)$
Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2, 3, 4$	$qz(1)$	0	0
(III) $g \in \tau_0$			
Cases (a) and (d) with $d=3$	$qw(1)$	8	$z(6)$
Cases (b) and (d) with $d=2$	$qw(2)$	9	$3z(8)$
Cases (b) and (d) with $d=4$	$qw(1)$	6	$z(8)$
Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2, 3, 4$	$qz(1)$	0	0

We shall give case (c) with  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $3, 4 \mid d$  as an example of how we obtain the numbers  $\alpha_i$ . If  $1 \leq i < d$ , then from Table 1.2.9,

$$\pi(g^i) = \begin{cases} 3w(8) & \text{if } i = \frac{d}{2} \\ w(8) & \text{if } i = \frac{d}{4}, 3\frac{d}{4} \\ w(6) & \text{if } i = \frac{d}{3}, 2\frac{d}{3} \\ 0 & \text{Otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now it can be shown that

$$\alpha_{\frac{d}{2}} = \alpha_{\frac{d}{3}} = \alpha_{\frac{d}{4}} = w(2d) \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_{2\frac{d}{3}} = \alpha_{3\frac{d}{4}} = 0.$$

If  $\ell \neq \frac{d}{2}, \frac{d}{3}, 2\frac{d}{3}, 3\frac{d}{4}$ , then  $\alpha_{\ell} = 0$ .

Finally

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{2}}) - \pi(g^{\frac{d}{3}})] \\ &= (q^2 + q - 26)w(48d). \end{aligned}$$

### Summary of the results.

#### (I) $g \in \tau_1$

In all the four cases,  $g'$  contains  $qw(48p)z(1)$   $p$ -cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.10

	(II)				(III)			
	$\tau_2$				$\tau_0$			
CYCLE OF LENGTHS $g'$	d/4	d/3	d/2	d	d/4	d/3	d/2	d
No. OF CYCLES								
Cases (a) - (d)								
3 d, 2 d	0	w(2d)	0	$(q^2+q-8)w(48d)$	0	z(2d)	0	$(q^2-q-8)z(48d)$
2 d, 3, 4 d	0	0	3w(4d)	$(q^2+q-18)w(48d)$	0	0	3z(4d)	$(q^2-q-18)z(48d)$
4 d, 3 d	w(2d)	0	w(2d)	$(q^2+q-18)w(48d)$	z(2d)	0	z(2d)	$(q^2-q-18)z(48d)$
2, 3 d, 4 d	0	w(2d)	3w(4d)	$(q^2+q-26)w(48d)$	0	z(2d)	3z(4d)	$(q^2-q-26)z(48d)$
3, 4 d	w(2d)	w(2d)	w(2d)	$(q^2+q-26)w(48d)$	z(2d)	z(2d)	z(2d)	$(q^2-q-26)z(48d)$
3, 4 d	0	0	0	$qw(48d)z(1)$	0	0	0	$qw(48d)z(1)$

Rank of G.

Case (a)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(48)z(1) + 27w(8) + 6w(8) + 8z(6)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 261q - 134}{1152}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (b)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(48)z(1) + 8w(6) + 27z(8) + 6z(8)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 261q + 134}{1152}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (c)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(48)z(1) + 27w(8) + 6w(8) + 8w(6)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 261q - 262}{1152}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (d)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(48)z(1) + 27z(8) + 6z(8) + 8z(6)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 261q + 262}{1152}. \end{aligned}$$

7) Representation on the cosets of  $H \approx \text{PSL}(2, e)$ ,  $f/m$  an odd prime.

$G$  contains subgroups  $H$  isomorphic to  $\text{PSL}(2, e)$  where  $e = p^m$  if and only if  $m$  divides  $f$ . So far we know quite a lot about the structure of  $G$  and hence that of  $H$  to enable us to tackle the problem. Throughout this section, we take  $q = e^h$ , where  $h$  is an odd prime number.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

By Lemma 1.2.7,  $|C^g| = w(k)z(1)$ .

It is readily noticed that  $|C^g \cap H| = \frac{1}{k}(e^2 - 1)$ .

By Theorem 1.1.3,  $\pi(g) = e^{h-1}$ .

For  $1 \leq l < p$ ,  $|g^l| = p$  and hence  $\pi(g^l) = e^{h-1}$ .

Clearly  $\alpha_l = 0$  for  $1 < l < p$ .

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_p &= \frac{qw(e(e^2-1)) - e^{h-1}}{p} \\ &= \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

(II)  $g \in \tau_2$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of order  $w(k)$  and  $\frac{e-1}{k}$  in  $\tau_2$

respectively. Supposing both  $x$  and  $y$  have the same fixed point set, then  $C_{w(k)} = \langle x \rangle \supseteq \langle y \rangle = \langle x^{w(e-1)} \rangle = C_{\frac{1}{k}(e-1)}$ .

Now let  $g \in \tau_2$  with  $|g|=d$ . Up to conjugation by an element in  $G$ , we may assume that  $g \in C_{w(k)}$ . So  $g=x^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $\langle x^n \rangle = \langle x^u \rangle$ , where  $u$  is the least positive power of  $x$  in this cyclic group,  $x^n$  and  $x^u$  have the same cycle structure on  $PG(1, q)$ . Hence up to disjoint cycle decomposition we may assume  $g=x^u$ .

Now let  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle y \rangle = \langle x^j \rangle$ , where  $j$  is the least positive power of  $x$  in this cyclic group (i.e the lcm of  $u$  and  $w(e-1)$ ).

By Lemma 1.2.5  $|C^g| = \begin{cases} qz(2) & \text{if } d=2 \\ qz(1) & \text{if } d>2. \end{cases}$

We also have

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}e(e+1) & \text{if } u=j, d=2 \\ e(e+1) & \text{if } u=j, d>2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

So by Theorem 1.1.3,

$$\pi(g) = \begin{cases} w(e-1) & \text{if } u=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Now if  $j \neq w(k)$  and for  $1 < l < d$ ,  $\langle x^j \rangle \supseteq \langle g^l \rangle = \langle x^{ul} \rangle$  if and only if

$j|ul$ . Thus

$$\pi(g^l) = \begin{cases} w(e-1) & \text{if } j|ul \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and if  $i|l$ , then

$$\pi(g^{\frac{l}{i}}) = \begin{cases} w(e-1) & \text{if } j|\frac{ul}{i} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (1.2.8)$$

By the Remark 1.2.1,  $\alpha_l=0$  if  $j \nmid ul$ .

Now suppose  $j|ul$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_l &= \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i|l} \pi(g^{l|i}) \mu(i) \\ &= \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i|\frac{ul}{j}} \pi(g^{\frac{ul}{i}}) \mu(i) \quad \text{-- (by (1.2.8),} \\ &\quad \text{the fact that } j|\frac{ul}{i} \Rightarrow i|\frac{ul}{j}) \\ &= \frac{1}{l} w(e-1) \sum_{i|\frac{ul}{j}} \mu(i) \\ &= \begin{cases} w(l[e-1]), & \text{if } \frac{ul}{j}=1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

If  $j \neq w(k)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha_d &= \frac{1}{d} [\pi(g^d) + w(e-1) \sum_{i|\frac{ud}{j}} \mu(i) - w(e-1) \mu(1)] \\
&= \frac{1}{d} [e^{h-1} \frac{(e^{2h}-1)}{e^2-1} - w(e-1)] \\
&= w(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h} + e^h - e^2 - e).
\end{aligned}$$

If  $j=w(k)$ , then

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}.$$

(III)  $g \in \tau_0$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of order  $z(k)$  and  $\frac{e+1}{k}$  in  $\tau_0$

respectively. Suppose  $C_{z(k)} = \langle x \rangle \supseteq \langle y \rangle = \langle x^{z(e+1)} \rangle = C_{\frac{1}{k}(e+1)}.$

If  $g \in \tau_0$  with  $|g|=d$ , we may assume that  $g \in C_{z(k)}$ . So  $g=x^n$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now let  $u$  be the least positive power of  $x$  such that  $\langle x^n \rangle = \langle x^u \rangle$ , and as we had before, take  $g = x^u$ . Let  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle y \rangle = \langle x^j \rangle$ , where  $j=[u, z(e+1)]$ .

Now arguments same as those in (II) above give us:

$$\pi(g) = \begin{cases} z(e+1) & \text{if } u=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



For  $1 < l < d$ ,

$$e_l = \begin{cases} z(l(e+1)) & \text{if } \frac{ul}{j} = 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $j \neq z(k)$ , then

$$\alpha_d = z(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h}-e^h-e^2+e) .$$

If  $j=z(k)$ , then

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h-1})}{d(e^2-1)} .$$

### Summary of the results.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

In all cases  $g'$  contains  $e^{h-1}$  1-cycles and  $\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}$

$p$ -cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.2.11

	(II)	(III)
	$\tau_2$	$\tau_0$
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	$l$ $d$	$l$ $d$
No. OF CYCLES		
$j \neq w(k)$ or $z(k)$ , $ul/j=1$	$w(l(e-1))$ *	$z(l(e+1))$ **
$j=w(k)$ or $z(k)$	0                  ***	0                  ***

where, \* represents  $w(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h}+e^h-e^2-e)$ ;

\*\* represents  $z(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h}-e^h-e^2+e)$ ;

\*\*\* represents  $\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}$  ; and  $1 \leq d < d$ .

### Rank of G

(a) When  $e$  is even,

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{e(e^2-1)} \left[ e^{h-1} \frac{(e^{2h}-1)}{e^2-1} + (e^2-1)e^{h-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e(e-2)(e+1)w(2(e-1)) + e^2(e-1)z(2(e+1)) \right] \\ &= \frac{e^{3h-2} + e^{h+3} - e^{h+1} - 3e^h - e^2 + 2e + 1}{(e^2-1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) When  $e$  is odd,

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{2}{e(e^2-1)} \left[ e^{h-1} \frac{(e^{2h}-1)}{e^2-1} + (e^2-1)e^{h-1} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e(e-3)(e+1)w(4(e-1)) + e(e^2-1)z(4(e+1)) \right] \\ &= \frac{2e^{3h-2} + e^{h+3} - e^{h+1} - 6e^h - e^2 + 4e + 1}{(e^2-1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

### 8) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong \text{PGL}(2, e)$ , $f/m=2$

An important feature of  $H$  (as compared to the  $\text{PSL}(2, e)$ ) is that  $H$  contains maximal cyclic subgroups  $C_{e-1}$  and  $C_{e+1}$ , the former consisting of hyperbolic elements with the same fixed point set while the latter consists of fixed-points-free non-

identity elements. We refer to the latter as a Singer cycle in  $H$ . A fixed point-free element in  $H$  belongs to a unique Singer cycle; any two Singer cycles are conjugate under an element in  $H$ . The same can be said about maximal cyclic subgroups  $C_{e-1}$ , that is any hyperbolic element belongs to a unique maximal cyclic subgroup  $C_{e-1}$  in  $H$  and any two of these are conjugate.

Since 2 divides  $e \pm 1$  when  $p$  is odd,  $H$  has two conjugacy classes of involutions; one lying entirely in  $PSL(2, e)$ , the other in  $H \setminus PSL(2, e)$ .

We now have the following results:

Lemma 1.2.9

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{The number of } C_2 \text{ in } PSL(2, q) \text{ is } \frac{e(e \pm 1)}{2} \\ \text{The number of } C_2 \text{ in } H \setminus PSL(2, e) \text{ is } \frac{e(e \mp 1)}{2} \end{array} \right\} \text{ as } e \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{4} .$$

We now compute the disjoint cycle structures of elements of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H$ . Here we take  $q = e^2$ .

(I)  $g \in T_1$ .

(a) When  $e$  is even

By Lemma 1.2.7,  $|C^g| = W(1)z(1)$  and  $|C^g \cap H| = W(1)$ .

By Theorem 1.1.3,  $\pi(g) = e$ .

Clearly  $g$  has to be an involution. Now  $g'$  contains the 2-cycles as the only non-trivial cycles.

We easily obtain,  $\alpha_2 = \frac{e^3}{2}$ .

(b) When e is odd

$$|C^g| = w(2)z(1) \text{ and } |C^g \cap H| = w(1) \text{ or } 0.$$

Now

$$\pi(g) = e \text{ or } 0.$$

Clearly

$$\alpha_p = ew(2p) \text{ or } ez(2p).$$

(II)  $g \in \tau_2$

Since  $e+1 \mid w(1)$ , any elliptic element in  $H$  is hyperbolic in  $G$ . Elliptics in distinct maximal cyclic subgroups  $C_{e+1}$  in  $H$  are in distinct maximal cyclic subgroups  $C_{w(1)}$  in  $G$ . Hyperbolics in  $H$  remain Hyperbolics in  $G$ .

Now we have:

(a) When e is even

$|C^g| = qz(1)$  and  $|C^g \cap H| = e(e+1), e(e-1)$  or  $0$ . So that  $\pi(g) = e+1, e-1$  or  $0$ .

Now let  $x, y, s$  be elements of  $G$  with the same fixed point set such that  $\langle x \rangle = C_{w(1)}$ ,  $\langle y \rangle = C_{e-1}$  and  $\langle s \rangle = C_{e+1}$ . Up to conjugation by an element of  $G$ , we may assume that  $g = x^n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $u$  be the least positive power of  $x$  such that  $\langle x^n \rangle = \langle x^u \rangle$ . Now up to disjoint cycle decomposition, we may assume that  $g = x^u$ .

Now suppose  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle y \rangle = \langle x^j \rangle$  and  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle s \rangle = \langle x^v \rangle$ , where  $j = [u, e+1]$  and  $v = [u, e-1]$ . We have

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} e(e+1) & \text{if } u = j \\ e(e-1) & \text{if } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$\pi(g) = \begin{cases} e+1 & \text{if } u=j \\ e-1 & \text{if } u=v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $v=w(1)$  and  $j \neq w(1)$ , then as we had in part 7), there exists an  $l$ ,  $1 \leq l < d$  such that  $ul/j=1$  and

$$\alpha_l = \frac{e+1}{l} \\ \alpha_d = \frac{e^3-1}{d}.$$

If  $j=w(1)$  and  $v \neq w(1)$ , we find in the same way as before that there exists  $1 \leq h < d$  such that  $uh/v=1$  and

$$\alpha_h = \frac{e-1}{h}, \\ \alpha_d = \frac{e^3+1}{d}.$$

If  $v, j \neq w(1)$ , then there exists  $l$  and  $h$ ,  $1 \leq l, h < d$  such that

$$\frac{ul}{j} = \frac{h}{v} = 1 \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha_l &= \frac{e+1}{l}, \\ \alpha_h &= \frac{e-1}{h}, \\ \alpha_d &= ew(d).\end{aligned}$$

Note that the case  $v=j=w(1)$  does not occur since  $d|w(1)$  implies  $d$  has factors in one or both  $e-1$  and  $e+1$ .

(b) When  $e$  is odd

With  $u$  as we had in (a),  $j$  and  $v$  become  $[u, e+1/2]$  and  $[u, e-1/2]$  respectively. We now have

$$|C^g| = \begin{cases} qw(2) & \text{if } d=2 \\ qw(1) & \text{if } d>2 \end{cases}$$

and

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} e(e+1) & \text{if } d>2, u=j \\ e(e-1) & \text{if } d>2, u=v \\ 2q & \text{if } d=2, u=j=v=w(4) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$\pi(g) = \begin{cases} \frac{e+1}{2} & \text{if } d>2, u=j \\ \frac{e-1}{2} & \text{if } d>2, u=v \\ e & \text{if } d=2, u=j=v=w(4) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If  $d=2$ , then  $u=j=v=w(4)$ ,

$$\alpha_1 = e$$

and

$$\alpha_2 = ew(4).$$

If  $d>2$ ,  $j \neq w(2)$ ,  $v=w(2)$ , we have

$$\alpha_l = \frac{e+1}{2l}, \text{ where } \frac{ul}{j} = 1$$

and

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^3-1}{2d}.$$

Similarly if  $d>2$ ,  $v \neq w(2)$ ,  $j=w(2)$ , we have

$$\alpha_h = \frac{e-1}{2h}, \quad \frac{uh}{v} = 1$$

and

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^3+1}{2d}.$$

If  $d>2$ ,  $v, j \neq w(2)$ , we have the following 3 cases:

- (i)  $j < w(4)$ ,  $v = w(4)$  (ii)  $v < w(4)$ ,  $j = w(4)$ ,
- (iii)  $j, v < w(4)$ .

Now the cycle lengths of  $g'$  are as follows:

$$(i) \quad \alpha_l = \frac{e+1}{2l}, \text{ where } \frac{ul}{j} = 1; \quad \alpha_{d/2} = \frac{e-1}{d}; \text{ and } \alpha_d = ew(2d).$$

$$(ii) \quad \alpha_h = \frac{e-1}{2h}, \text{ where } \frac{uh}{v} = 1; \quad \alpha_{d/2} = \frac{e+1}{d}; \text{ and } \alpha_d = ew(2d).$$

$$(iii) \quad \begin{aligned} \alpha_l &= \frac{e+1}{2l}, \text{ where } \frac{ul}{j} = 1; \\ \alpha_h &= \frac{e-1}{2h}, \text{ where } \frac{uh}{v} = 1; \\ \alpha_{\frac{d}{2}} &= 0; \text{ and } \alpha_d = ew(2d). \end{aligned}$$

Again here the case  $v=j=w(2)$  does not arise.

### (III) $g \in \tau_0$

From the discussion we had in the opening pages of this part, we notice that  $|C^g \cap H| = 0$ . Clearly  $g'$  contains only the  $ez(2d)$   $d$ -cycles.

### Summary of the results.

#### (I) $g \in \tau_1$

If  $e$  is even,  $g'$  contains  $e$  1-cycles and  $\frac{e^3}{2}$  2-cycles.

If  $e$  is odd,  $g'$  contains  $e$  1-cycles and  $ew(2p)$   $p$ -cycles, or  $ez(2p)$   $p$ -cycles.



(II)  $g \in \tau_2$

If  $e$  is odd,  $d=2$ ,  $u=v=j=w(4)$ ,  $g'$  contains  $e$  1-cycles and  $ew(4)$  2-cycles.

Results for all the other cases are given in the table below.

(III)  $g \in \tau_0$

Always  $g'$  contains  $ez(2d)$   $d$ -cycles.

Table 1.2.12

CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	(II)			
	$\tau_2$			
	$l$	$h$	$d/2$	$d$
<b>No. OF CYCLES</b>				
<u><math>e</math> even</u>				
$v=w(1), j=w(1), ul/j=1$	$(e+1)/l$	0	0	$(e^3-1)/d$
$j=w(1), v=w(1), ul/v=1$	0	$(e-1)/h$	0	$(e^3+1)/d$
$v, j=w(1), ul/j=uh/v=1$	$(e+1)/l$	$(e-1)/h$	0	$ew(d)$
<u><math>e</math> odd</u>				
$d>2, j=w(2), v=w(2), ul/j=1$	$(e+1)/2l$	0	0	$(e^3-1)/2d$
$d>2, v=w(2), j=w(2), uh/v=1$	0	$(e-1)/2h$	0	$(e^3+1)/2d$
$d>2, j<d/2, v=d/2, ul/j=1$	$(e+1)/2l$	0	$(e-1)/d$	$ew(2d)$
$d>2, v<d/2, j=d/2, uh/v=1$	0	$(e-1)/2h$	$(e+1)/d$	$ew(2d)$
$d>2, v, j<d/2, ul/j=uh/v=1$	$(e+1)/2l$	$(e-1)/2h$	0	$ew(2d)$

Rank of  $G$

$e$  even

$$r = \frac{1}{ew(1)} [ew(1) + \frac{e}{2}(e+1)^2(e-2) + \frac{e}{2}(e-1)^2 + ez(1)]$$

$$= e+1.$$

$e$  odd

$$r = \frac{1}{ew(1)} [qz(2) + e^3 + ew(1) + e(\frac{e+1}{2})^2(e-3) + \frac{e}{4}(e-1)^3]$$

$$= \frac{e+3}{2}.$$

### 1.3 Primitive permutation representations of $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$

As we noted in section 1.1; when  $q$  is even,  $\text{PGL}(2, q) \cong \text{PSL}(2, q)$ . Since this case was dealt with in section 1.2, throughout this section  $q$  is taken to be odd.

We start by having a brief look at the Finite subgroups of  $G$ .

The structure of  $G$  can easily be deduced from that of its subgroup  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  of index 2 (and from that of the group  $\text{PSL}(2, q^2)$  in which  $G$  may be imbedded).  $G$  has the following types of finite subgroups (see [23]):

- (i) cyclic groups  $C_n$ , where  $n \mid q \pm 1$ ;
- (ii) elementary abelian  $p$ -groups,  $P_e$ ;
- (iii) dihedral groups  $D_{2n}$ , where  $n \mid q \pm 1$ ;
- (iv) semi-direct products  $S_{e,n} = P_e \rtimes C_n$ ,  $n \mid w(1)$ ;
- (v) the alternating groups  $A_4$  and  $A_5$ ;
- (vi) the symmetric groups  $S_4$ ;
- (vii)  $\text{PSL}(2, e)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2, e)$ .

The subgroups  $A_4$ ,  $A_5$ ,  $S_4$  all occur in  $G$  simply in their role of subgroups of  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  (see § 1.2), except if  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  when  $G$  contains a single conjugacy class of  $|G|/24$  subgroups of type  $S_4$  which does not lie in  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$ .

$G$  contains subgroups  $C_{w(1)}$  and  $C_{z(1)}$  (see part 8) of § 1.2) whose normalizers are  $D_{2w(1)}$  and  $D_{2z(1)}$  respectively.

The non-identity elements of a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P_q$  of  $G$  have a unique fixed point and each pair of distinct conjugates

of  $P_q$  intersect trivially. The normalizer of  $P_q$  in  $G$  is the stabilizer of a point  $S_{q,w(1)} = P_q \rtimes C_{w(1)}$ .

If we define  $\tau_i = \{g | g \in G, \pi(g)=i\}$ , each non-identity element of  $G$  is seen to lie in one set of the partition

$$\tau_0 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (C_{z(1)} - I)^g, \quad \tau_1 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (P_q - I)^g, \quad \tau_2 = \bigcup_{g \in G} (C_{w(1)} - I)^g$$

of  $G$ .

From the list of subgroups of  $G$  given above, a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is seen to be maximal if it is isomorphic to one of the following groups:

- 1) the stabilizer of a point  $S_{q,w(1)}$ ;
- 2) the dihedral group  $D_{2w(1)}$ ;
- 3) the dihedral group  $D_{2z(1)}$ ;
- 4) the symmetric group  $S_4$  when  $q=p \neq 3$ ,  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ ;
- 5)  $PSL(2, q)$ ;
- 6)  $PGL(2, e)$ ,  $f/m$  a prime number.

$G$  contains a single conjugacy class of each of the maximal subgroups given above. Except for the case when  $H = PSL(2, q)$  when the length of the conjugacy class of  $H$  is  $|G|/2|H|$ , all the other conjugacy classes are of length  $|G|/|H|$ .

We now compute the disjoint cycle structures of elements of  $G$  and the rank of  $G$  on the right cosets of each of its maximal subgroups  $H$ . As we did in section 1.2, we shall each time be taking an element  $g$  of order  $d$  in  $G$  from the sets  $\tau_1$ ,

$\tau_2$  and  $\tau_0$  respectively.

### 1) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong S_{q,w(1)}$

By Theorem 1.1.2, the action of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H$  is equivalent to its natural action on  $PG(1,q)$  of degree  $z(1)$ .

The disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  is as we have below:

Table 1.3.1

	$\tau_1$		$\tau_2$		$\tau_0$
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	1	$p$	1	$d$	$d$
NO. OF CYCLES	1	$p^{f-1}$	2	$w(d)$	$z(d)$

Since  $G$  is triply transitive on  $PG(1,q)$ , its rank is 2.

### 2) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2w(1)}$

By using the results on the pair group action in section 1.1, the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  is as follows:

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$ , In all cases  $g'$  contains  $z(2)p^{f-1}$   $p$ -cycles.

Table 1.3.2

	(II)			(III)	
	$\tau_2$			$\tau_0$	
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	1	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$d$	$\frac{1}{2}d$	$d$
NO. OF CYCLES					
$d$ even	1	$w(d)$	$w(2d)z(1)$	$z(d)$	$w(2d)z(1)$
$d$ odd	1	0	$w(2d)z(1)$	0	$qz(2d)$

By using the Cauchy-Frobenius Formula, we calculate the rank( $r$ ) of  $G$  as follows:

From Table 1.3.2, elements of  $H$  have fixed points as

follows:

The identity fixes  $qz(2)$  cosets.

There are  $q$  involutions each fixing  $z(2)$  cosets and  $q-3$  elements of order greater than two each fixing a single coset.

Hence

$$r = \frac{1}{2w(1)} [qz(2) + qz(2) + (q-3)] = \frac{q+3}{2}.$$

### 3) Representation on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2z(1)}$

Let  $C_{z(1)}$  be the maximal cyclic subgroup of  $H$ . The  $z(1)$  involutions in  $H \setminus C_{z(1)}$  lie in two conjugacy classes of  $z(2)$  elements in  $H$ ; one lying entirely in  $PSL(2, q)$ , the other entirely in  $G \setminus PSL(2, q)$ . If  $\langle s \rangle = C_{z(1)}$ , then the conjugacy class containing  $s^j$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  in  $H$  is  $\{s^j, s^{-j}\}$ . In particular  $H$  contains a singleton conjugacy class containing an involution in  $C_{z(1)}$ .

The conjugacy classes of involutions in  $G$  were discussed in part 8) of section 1.2. If  $d > 2$ , then  $|C^g|$  in  $G$  is

$$\begin{cases} qz(1) & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \\ qw(1) & \text{if } g \in \tau_0 \\ w(1)z(1) & \text{if } g \in \tau_1 \end{cases}$$

and  $|C^g n C_{z(1)}|$  is

$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \text{ or } \tau_1 \\ 2 & \text{if } g \in \tau_0. \end{cases}$$

Now from the information given above, we have:

If  $d=2$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} z(2) & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \\ \frac{q+3}{2} & \text{if } g \in \tau_0 \\ 0 & \text{if } g \in \tau_1. \end{cases}$$

If  $d > 2$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \text{ or } \tau_1 \\ 2 & \text{if } g \in \tau_0. \end{cases}$$

The table giving the values of  $\pi(g)$  is as follows:

Table 1.3.3

	$ C^g $	$ C^{g \cap H} $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$	$w(1)z(1)$	0	0
(II) $g \in \tau_1, d=2$ $d \neq 2$	$qz(2)$ $qz(1)$	$z(2)$ 0	$w(2)$ 0
(III) $g \in \tau_0, d=2$  $d \neq 2$	$qw(2)$  $qw(1)$	$\frac{q+3}{2}$  2	$\frac{q+3}{2}$  1

By using arguments similar to those in parts 3) - 8) of section 1.2, the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  is as follows:

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$  In all cases  $g'$  contains  $w(2)p^{f-1}$  p-cycles.

Table 1.3.4

	(II)	(III)
	$\tau_2$	$\tau_0$
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	d/2      d	1    d/2      d
NO. OF CYCLES d even d odd	w(d)    w(2d)w(1) 0            qw(2d)	1    z(d)    (q-3)z(2d) 1    0        (q-2)z(2d)

Rank of G

$$r = \frac{1}{2z(1)} [qw(2) + w(2)z(2) + (\frac{q+3}{2})^2 + w(1)]$$

$$= z(2).$$

4) Representation on the cosets of  $H \cong S_4$ 

G contains subgroups H isomorphic to  $S_4$  if and only if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod 8$  or  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod 8$ , in which case there is a single conjugacy class of length  $|G|/24$ . If  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod 8$ , this conjugacy class splits into two classes of equal lengths in  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  (see § 1.2). If  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod 8$ ,  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  does not contain a subgroup isomorphic  $S_4$ .

Since H is not maximal when  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod 8$ , our discussion will be on the case when  $p \neq 3$ ,  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod 8$ .

Conjugacy classes of elements of H were discussed in part 6) of section 1.2.

Conjugacy classes of involutions of G were discussed in part 8) of section 1.2.

If  $p=3$  there is a single conjugacy class of elements of

order 3 in  $G$  containing  $G/q$  elements. If  $p \neq 3$ , there is a single conjugacy class containing  $q(q+\delta)$  elements of order 3, where

$$\delta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ -1 & \text{if } q \equiv -1 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

$G$  contains elements of order 4 if and only if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{4}$ , in which case they form a single conjugacy class of  $q(q+\epsilon)$  elements, where

$$\epsilon = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ -1 & \text{if } q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

From the information given above, we have:

If  $d=2$  and  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \\ 6 & \text{if } g \in \tau_0. \end{cases}$$

If  $d=2$  and  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} 6 & \text{if } g \in \tau_2 \\ 3 & \text{if } g \in \tau_0. \end{cases}$$

If  $d=3$ , then

$$|C^g \cap H| = 8.$$

If  $d=4$ , then



$$|C^g \cap H| = 6.$$

Now the following are the cases to consider:

- (a)  $q \equiv 7 \pmod{12}$  and  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$
- (b)  $q \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$  and  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$
- (c)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$  and  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$
- (d)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{12}$  and  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ .

Values for  $\pi(g)$  are presented in the table below:

Table 1.3.5

	$ C^g $	$ C^g \cap H $	$\pi(g)$
(I) $g \in \tau_1$	$w(1)z(1)$	0	0
(II) $g \in \tau_2$			
Cases (a) and (d), $d=2$	$qz(2)$	6	$w(2)$
Cases (a) and (c), $d=3$	$qz(1)$	8	$w(3)$
Cases (b) and (c), $d=2$	$qz(2)$	3	$w(4)$
Cases (b) and (c), $d=4$	$qz(1)$	6	$w(4)$
Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2,3,4$	$qz(1)$	0	0
(III) $g \in \tau_0$			
Cases (a) and (d), $d=2$	$qw(2)$	3	$z(4)$
Cases (b) and (c), $d=2$	$qw(2)$	6	$z(2)$
Cases (b) and (d), $d=3$	$qw(1)$	8	$z(3)$
Cases (a) and (d), $d=4$	$qw(1)$	6	$z(4)$
Cases (a)-(d), $d \neq 2,3,4$	$qw(1)$	0	0

By using arguments similar to those in parts 3) - 8) of section 1.2, the disjoint cycle structure of  $g'$  is as follows:

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$ , In all cases  $g'$  contains  $qw(24p)z(1)$   $p$ -cycles.

Table 1.3.6

	(II)				(III)			
	$\tau_2$				$\tau_0$			
CYCLE LENGTHS OF $g'$	d/4	d/3	d/2	d	d/4	d/3	d/2	d
NO. OF CYCLES								
Cases (a) and (d)								
2 d, 3, 4 d	0	0	w(d)	$(q-3)(q+4)w(24d)$	0	0	z(2d)	$(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)$
3 d, 2 d	0	w(d)	0	$(q^2+q-8)w(24d)$	0	z(d)	0	$(q^2-q-8)z(24d)$
4 d, 3 d	0	0	0	0	z(d)	0	0	$(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)$
2, 3,  d, 4 d	0	w(d)	w(d)	$(q+5)(q-4)w(24d)$	0	z(d)	z(2d)	$(q^2-q-14)z(24d)$
3, 4 d	0	0	0	0	z(d)	z(d)	0	$(q^2-q-14)z(24d)$
2, 3 d	0	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$	0	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$
Cases (b) and (c)								
2 d, 3, 4 d	0	0	w(2d)	$(q-3)(q-2)w(24d)$	0	0	z(d)	$(q+3)(q-4)z(24d)$
3 d, 2 d	0	w(d)	0	$(q^2+q-8)w(24d)$	0	z(d)	0	$(q^2-q-8)z(24d)$
4 d, 3 d	w(d)	0	0	$(q-3)(q-2)w(24d)$	0	0	0	0
2, 3,  d, 4 d	0	w(d)	w(2d)	$(q^2+q-14)w(24d)$	0	z(d)	z(d)	$(q+4)(q-5)z(24d)$
3, 4 d	w(d)	w(d)	0	$(q^2+q-14)w(24d)$	0	0	0	0
2, 3 d	0	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$	0	0	0	$qw(24d)z(1)$

### Rank of $G$

#### Case (a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(24)z(1) + 6w(2) + 8w(3) + 3z(4) + 6z(4)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 189q - 82}{576}.
 \end{aligned}$$

#### Case (b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(24)z(1) + 3w(4) + 6w(4) + 6z(2) + 8z(3)] \\
 &= \frac{q^3 + 189q + 82}{576}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case (c)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(24)z(1) + 3w(4) + 6w(4) + 8w(3) + 6z(2)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 189q - 46}{576}. \end{aligned}$$

Case (d)

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{24} [qw(24)z(1) + 6w(2) + 3z(4) + 6z(4) + 8z(3)] \\ &= \frac{q^3 + 189q + 46}{576}. \end{aligned}$$

5) Representation on the cosets of  $H \cong \text{PSL}(2, q)$

Since  $|G:H|=2$ , then (i)  $g'$  is the identity if  $g \in H$  (ii)  $g'$  is a cycle of length 2 if  $g \in G \setminus H$ . The rank of  $G$  is 2.

6) Representation on the cosets of  $H \cong \text{PGL}(2, e)$ ,  $f/m$  an odd prime

$G$  contains subgroups  $H$  isomorphic to  $\text{PGL}(2, e)$  if and only if  $m|f$ . We shall take  $q = e^h$ , where  $h$  is a prime.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

We have  $|C^g| = w(1)z(1)$  and  $|C^g \cap H| = e^2 - 1$ .

Hence

$$\pi(g) = e^{h-1}.$$

Clearly a non-trivial cycle in  $g'$  is of length  $p$ .

Hence

$$\alpha_p = \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}.$$

(II)  $g \in \tau_2$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of  $\tau_2$  with the same fixed point set and orders  $w(1)$  and  $e-1$  respectively.

Let  $g = x^u$  and  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle y \rangle = \langle x^j \rangle$ , where  $u$  and  $j$  are taken as in the corresponding stage of part 7) of section 1.2.

We have

$$|C^g| = \begin{cases} qz(2) & \text{if } d=2 \\ qz(1) & \text{if } d>2 \end{cases}$$

and

$$|C^g \cap H| = \begin{cases} \frac{e(e+1)}{2} & \text{if } u=j, d=2 \\ e(e+1) & \text{if } u=j, d>2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$\pi(g) = \begin{cases} w(e-1) & \text{if } u=j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Arguments similar to the ones in part 7) of section 1.2 give us:

For  $1 \leq l < d$  and  $j \neq w(1)$ ,  $g'$  contains cycles of lengths  $l$  and  $d$  with,

$$\alpha_l = w(l(e-1)), \text{ where } ul/j=1$$

and

$$\alpha_d = w(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h}+e^h-e^2-e).$$

If  $j=w(1)$ , then  $g'$  contains only the  $d$ -cycles with,

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}.$$

### (III) $g \in \tau_0$

Let  $x$  and  $y$  be elements of order  $z(1)$  and  $e+1$  in  $\tau_0$  respectively. Suppose  $C_{z(1)} = \langle x \rangle \supseteq \langle y \rangle = C_{e+1}$ .

Let  $g = x^u$  and  $\langle x^u \rangle \cap \langle y \rangle = \langle x^j \rangle$ , where  $u$  and  $j$  are taken as in the corresponding stage of part 7) of section 1.2.

Now arguments similar to the ones in part 7) of section 1.2 give us:

For  $1 \leq l < d$  and  $j \neq z(1)$ ,  $g'$  contains cycles of lengths  $l$  and  $d$  with,

$$\alpha_l = z(l(e+1)), \text{ where } ul/j=1$$

and

$$\alpha_d = z(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h}-e^h-e^2+e).$$

If  $j=z(1)$ , then  $g'$  contains only the  $d$ -cycles with,

$$\alpha_d = \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}.$$

Summary of the results.

(I)  $g \in \tau_1$

Always  $g'$  contains  $e^{h-1}$  1-cycles and  $\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}$  p-

cycles.

Results for  $g \in \tau_2$  and  $g \in \tau_0$  are displayed in the table below:

Table 1.3.7

	(II)	(III)
	$\tau_2$	$\tau_0$
CYCLE OF LENGTHS OF $g'$	l      d	l      d
NO. OF CYCLES		
$j \neq w(1)$ or $z(1)$ , $ul/j=1$	$w(l(e-1))$ *	$z(l(e+1))$ **
$j=w(1)$ or $z(1)$	0            ***	0            ***

where, \* represents  $w(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h}+e^h-e^2-e)$ ,

\*\* represents  $z(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h}-e^h-e^2+e)$ ,

\*\*\* represents  $\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}$

and  $1 \leq l < d$ .

## Rank of G

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{1}{e(e^2-1)} \left[ \frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{e^2-1} + e^{h-1}(e^2-1) + e(e-2)(e+1)w(2(e-1)) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{e^2}{2}(e-1)z(e+1) \right] \\ &= \frac{e^{3h-2} + e^{h+3} - e^{h+1} - 3e^h - e^2 + 2e+1}{(e^2-1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

### 1.4 The explicit cycle index formulas for primitive permutation representations of $G = \text{PSL}(2,q)$ or $\text{PGL}(2,q)$ .

After having computed the disjoint cycle structures for elements of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  for any primitive permutation representation of these two groups (see sections 1.2 and 1.3), the problem of finding the cycle index formulas for these representations becomes quite straightforward.

In this section we shall sketch some general formulas for the cycle indices of these representations and then give the cycle indices of

- 1) representation of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of  $S_{q,w(k)}$  in part 1) of section 1.2,
- 2) representation of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of  $A_4$  in part 4) of section 1.2,
- 3) representation of  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of

PGL(2,e) in part 6) of section 1.3

as examples. Computation of cycle index formulas for the other representations is very similar.

We start by giving a simple result by Redfield [17].

Theorem 1.4.1 The cycle index of the regular representation of the cyclic group  $C_n$  is given by

$$\mathcal{Z}(C_n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{d|n} \phi(d) t_d^{n/d},$$

where  $\phi$  is the Euler  $\phi$ -function.

In what follows,  $t_1, t_2, \dots$  are distinct (commuting) indeterminates and as we had before, for any  $g \in G$ ,  $g'$  will represent the permutation induced by  $g$  in a given permutation representation of  $G$ .

Theorem 1.4.2 The cycle index of  $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$  on the cosets of its maximal subgroup  $H$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}(G) = \frac{1}{|G|} [ & t_1^{|G|/|H|} + (q^2-1) \text{mon}(x') + qz(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{w(1)} \setminus I] \\ & + qw(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{z(1)} \setminus I] ], \end{aligned}$$

where  $x \in \tau_1$ .

Proof

The identity contributes  $t_1^{|G|/|H|}$  to the sum of the



monomials.

All the  $q^2-1$  parabolics lie in the same conjugacy class. Hence they all have the same monomial. Thus the parabolics contribute  $(q^2-1)\text{mon}(x')$ ,  $x \in \tau_1$  to the sum of the monomials.

Each  $g \in \tau_2$  is contained in a unique cyclic group  $C_{w(1)}$  and there are in total  $qz(2)$  conjugates of  $C_{w(1)}$ . Hence the contribution by elements of  $\tau_2$  to the total sum of monomials is  $qz(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{w(1)} \setminus I]$ .

Each  $g \in \tau_0$  is contained in a unique cyclic group  $C_{z(1)}$  and there are in total  $qw(2)$  conjugates of  $C_{z(1)}$ . Hence the contribution by elements of  $\tau_0$  to sum of monomials is

$$qw(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{z(1)} \setminus I] .$$

Now adding all the contributions and dividing by the order of  $G$  we get the result.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.4.3** The cycle index of  $G = \text{PSL}(2, q)$ ,  $q$  odd, on the cosets of its maximal subgroup  $H$  is one of the following:

$$(a) \quad \mathcal{Z}^{(G)} = \frac{1}{|G|} [t_1^{|G|/|H|} + (q^2-1)\text{mon}(x') \\ + qz(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{w(2)} \setminus I] \\ + qw(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') \mid g \in C_{z(2)} \setminus I]] ,$$

if  $H$  has two conjugacy classes of elements of order  $p$  in  $G$ , or

if  $H$  contains no elements of order  $p$ ; where  $x \in \tau_1$ .

$$(b) \quad \mathcal{Z}(G) = \frac{1}{|G|} [t_1^{|G|/|H|} + \frac{1}{2}(q^2-1)\text{mon}(x'_1) + \frac{1}{2}(q^2-1)\text{mon}(x'_2) + \\ + qw(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') | g \in C_{z(2)} \setminus I] + qz(2) \sum [\text{mon}(g') | g \in C_{w(2)} \setminus I]]$$

if  $H$  has a single conjugacy class of elements of order  $p$  in  $G$ ; where  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are parabolics each from one of the two conjugacy classes containing the parabolics in  $G$ .

### Proof

In principle the proof is similar to that of Theorem 1.4.2 except that unlike in Theorem 1.4.2, the  $q^2-1$  parabolics lie in two conjugacy classes of the same length in  $G$ .

(a) If  $H$  has two conjugacy classes of elements of order  $p$  in  $G$ , these conjugacy classes are of equal lengths as is evident from section 1.2. Hence the  $q^2-1$  parabolics have the same number of fixed points in this representation. It can also be clearly noticed that the  $q^2-1$  parabolics have the same monomial. If  $H$  has no element of order  $p$ , then the  $q^2-1$  parabolics in  $G$  have no fixed points in this representation. It can also be shown that the parabolics have the same monomial. Hence in both cases we get formula (a).

(b) If  $H$  has a single conjugacy class of elements of order  $p$  in  $G$ , then all the elements of order  $p$  in  $H$  lie in one of the two conjugacy classes of parabolics in  $G$ . Hence in this representation half of the parabolic elements have fixed

points (same number), while the other half have none. Evidently we have two different types of monomials with half of the parabolics sharing each, hence formula (b).  $\square$

### Examples

#### 1) Cycle index of $G = \text{PSL}(2, q)$ on the cosets of $S_{q, w(k)}$

From Theorems 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.4.3(a) and the results in Table 1.2.1 we have:

Contribution to the sum of monomials by the identity element is  $t_1^{z(1)}$ .

Contribution by elements of  $\tau_1$  is  $(q^2-1)t_1 t_p^{p^{f-1}}$ .

Contribution by elements of  $\tau_2$  is  $qz(2) \sum_{1 \neq d | w(k)} \phi(d) t_1^2 t_d^{w(d)}$ .

Contribution by elements of  $\tau_0$  is  $qw(2) \sum_{1 \neq d | z(k)} \phi(d) t_d^{z(d)}$ .

Now adding all the above contributions and dividing by  $|G|$  we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z}(G) = \frac{1}{|G|} [ & t_1^{z(1)} + (q^2-1)t_1 t_p^{p^{f-1}} + qz(2) \sum_{1 \neq d | w(k)} \phi(d) t_1^2 t_d^{w(d)} \\ & + qw(2) \sum_{1 \neq d | z(k)} \phi(d) t_d^{z(d)} ]. \end{aligned}$$

2) Cycle index of  $G = \text{PSL}(2, q)$  on the cosets of  $A_4$  with  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$ .

From Theorems 1.4.1, 1.4.3(a) and the results in part 4) of section 1.2, we have:

Contribution to the sum of monomials by the identity element is  $t_1^{qw(24)z(1)}$ .

Contribution by elements of  $\tau_1$  is  $(q^2-1)t_p^{qw(24p)z(1)}$ .

We have four different types of monomials for elements of  $\tau_2$ ,

$$(i) \quad t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_d^{(q+3)(q-2)w(24d)} \quad \text{if } 3 \nmid d, 2 \mid d \mid w(2)$$

$$(ii) \quad t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-8)w(24d)} \quad \text{if } 2 \nmid d, 3 \mid d \mid w(2)$$

$$(iii) \quad t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-14)w(24d)} \quad \text{if } 2, 3 \mid d \mid w(2)$$

$$(iv) \quad t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)} \quad \text{if } 2, 3 \nmid d \mid w(2), d \neq 1$$

Hence elements of  $\tau_2$  contribute

$$\begin{aligned}
& qz(2) \left[ \sum_{\substack{2|d|w(2) \\ (3|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_d^{(q+3)(q-2)w(2d)} \right. \\
& + \sum_{\substack{3|d|w(2) \\ (2|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-8)w(24d)} \\
& \left. + \sum_{2,3|d|w(2)} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-14)w(24d)} + \sum_{\substack{2,3|d \\ d \neq 1}} \phi(d) t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)} \right].
\end{aligned}$$

We also have four different types of monomials for elements of

$\tau_0$

$$(i) \quad t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)} \quad \text{if } 3 \nmid d, 2|d|z(2)$$

$$(ii) \quad t_{d/3}^{z(d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-8)z(24d)} \quad \text{if } 2 \nmid d, 3|d|z(2)$$

$$(iii) \quad t_{d/3}^{z(2d)} t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-14)z(24d)} \quad \text{if } 2,3|d|z(2)$$

$$(iv) \quad t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)} \quad \text{if } 2,3 \nmid d|z(2), d \neq 1.$$

Hence elements of  $\tau_0$  contribute

$$\begin{aligned}
& qw(2) \left[ \sum_{\substack{2|d|z(2) \\ (3|z(2))}} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)} \right. \\
& + \sum_{\substack{3|d|z(2) \\ (2|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{z(d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-8)z(24d)} \\
& \left. + \sum_{2,3|d|z(2)} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{z(d)} t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-14)z(24d)} + \sum_{\substack{2,3|d \\ (d \neq 1)}} t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)} \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Adding all the above contributions and dividing by  $|G|$  we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
\zeta(G) = & \frac{1}{|G|} [qw(24)z(1) + (q^2-1)t_p^{qw(24p)z(1)} \\
& + qz(2) \sum_{\substack{2|d|w(2) \\ (3|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_d^{(q+3)(q-2)w(24d)} \\
& + qz(2) \sum_{\substack{3|d|w(2) \\ (2|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-8)w(24d)} \\
& + qz(2) \sum_{2,3|d|w(2)} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{w(2d)} t_{d/3}^{w(d)} t_d^{(q^2+q-14)w(24d)} \\
& + qz(2) \sum_{\substack{2,3|d|w(2) \\ (d \neq 1)}} \phi(d) t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)} \\
& + qw(2) \sum_{\substack{2|d|z(2) \\ (3|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q-3)(q+2)z(24d)} \\
& + qw(2) \sum_{\substack{3|d|z(2) \\ (2|d)}} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{z(d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-8)z(24d)} \\
& + \sum_{2,3|d|z(2)} \phi(d) t_{d/3}^{z(d)} t_{d/2}^{z(2d)} t_d^{(q^2-q-14)z(24d)} \\
& + \sum_{\substack{2,3|d \\ (d \neq 1)}} t_d^{qw(24d)z(1)}].
\end{aligned}$$

### 3) Cycle index of $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$ on the cosets of $\text{PGL}(2, e)$

From Theorems 1.4.1, 1.4.2 and the results in part 6) of section 1.3, we have:

Contribution to the sum of monomials by the identity element

is  $t_1^{\frac{|G|}{|H|}}$ .

Contribution by the elements of  $\tau_1$  is  $(q^2-1) t_1^{e^{h-1}} t_p^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}}$ .

With  $l, u, j$  and  $d$  as in part 6) (II) of section 1.3, we have two different types monomials for elements of  $\tau_2$ ,

$$(i) \quad t_l^{w(l(e-1))} t_d^{w(de(e^2-1))(e^{2h+e^{h-1}}-e^2-e)}, \quad \text{where } \frac{ul}{j}=1;$$

$$(ii) \quad t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}}, \quad j=w(1).$$

The hyperbolics with the first type of monomial have their orders divisible by a factor ( $\neq 1$ ) of  $e-1$ .

The contribution by elements of  $\tau_2$  is

$$qz(2) \left[ \sum_{\substack{j|d|w(1) \\ (u, j) = w(1)}} \Phi(d) t_{\mathbf{l}}^{w(\mathbf{l}(e-1))} t_d^{w(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h} + e^{h-e^2-e})} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{\substack{d|w(1) \\ (j=w(1))}} \Phi(d) t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h-1})}{d(e^2-1)}} \right].$$

With  $\mathbf{l}$ ,  $u$ ,  $j$  and  $d$  as in part 6) (III) of section 1.3, we have two different types of monomials for elements of  $\tau_0$ ,

$$(i) \quad t_{\mathbf{l}}^{z(\mathbf{l}(e+1))} t_d^{z(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h-e} + e^{h-e^2+e})}, \quad \text{where } \frac{u\mathbf{l}}{j} = 1;$$

$$(ii) \quad t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h-1})}{d(e^2-1)}}, \quad j = z(1).$$

The elliptics with the first type of monomial have their orders divisible by a factor ( $\neq 1$ ) of  $e+1$ .

The contribution by elements of  $\tau_0$  is

$$qw(2) \left[ \sum_{\substack{j|d|z(1) \\ (u, j) = w(1)}} \Phi(d) t_{\mathbf{l}}^{z(\mathbf{l}(e+1))} t_d^{z(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h-e} + e^{h-e^2+e})} \right. \\ \left. + \sum_{\substack{d|z(1) \\ (j=z(1))}} \Phi(d) t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h-1})}{d(e^2-1)}} \right].$$



Now adding all the above contributions and dividing by  $|G|$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{Z}(G) = & \frac{1}{|G|} \left[ t_1^{\frac{|G|}{|H|}} + (q^2-1) t_1^{e^{h-1}} t_p^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-e^2)}{p(e^2-1)}} \right. \\
 & + qz(2) \sum_{\substack{j|d|w(1) \\ (u, l=j+w(1))}} \Phi(d) t_l^{w(l(e-1))} t_d^{w(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h+e^h-e^2-e})} \\
 & + qz(2) \sum_{\substack{d|w(1) \\ (j=w(1))}} \Phi(d) t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}} \\
 & + qw(2) \sum_{\substack{j|d|z(1) \\ (u, l=j+z(1))}} \Phi(d) t_l^{z(l(e+1))} t_d^{z(de(e^2-1)) (e^{2h-e^h-e^2+e})} \\
 & \left. + qw(2) \sum_{\substack{d|z(1) \\ (j=z(1))}} \Phi(d) t_d^{\frac{e^{h-1}(e^{2h}-1)}{d(e^2-1)}} \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

## CHAPTER 2

### THE SUBDEGREES OF THE PRIMITIVE PERMUTATION REPRESENTATIONS OF PSL(2,q) AND PGL(2,q)

In this chapter we compute the subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  and confirm the results on the ranks computed in chapter 1. The subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  have previously been computed by Tchuda [21] in his Ph.D thesis (in Russian) as we learnt recently from Faradžev and Ivanov [7]. In [7], Faradžev and Ivanov have given the subdegrees of the representations of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of  $\text{PSL}(2,e)$ ,  $f/m$  an odd prime;  $\text{PGL}(2,e)$ ,  $f/m=2$  and (see also Bon and Cohen [3])  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of its maximal dihedral subgroups.

As the work by Tchuda [21] is not readily available, we shall work out the subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  in details except for the representations on the cosets of  $\text{PSL}(2,e)$ ,  $f/m$  an odd prime and  $\text{PGL}(2,e)$ ,  $f/m=2$  for which we shall only quote the results given by Faradžev and Ivanov [7]. We also extend these calculations to the primitive representations of  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$ .

The subdegrees of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of their maximal dihedral subgroups will be computed using the results in chapter 1. A full description of the suborbits of  $\text{PSL}(2,q)$  and  $\text{PGL}(2,q)$  on the cosets of their maximal subgroups  $D_{2w(k)}$  and  $D_{2w(1)}$  respectively will be given. In all the other

primitive representations of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$  (except  $PSL(2,q)$  on the cosets of  $A_4$ ) we shall use the method proposed in [14].

In section 2.1 we give some definitions and notation (which we shall carry through to other chapters), and review the results in [14] on the computation of the subdegrees of transitive permutation groups using the table of marks.

In sections 2.2 and 2.3 we compute the subdegrees of primitive permutation representations of  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$ . (However where possible we generalize our results to include some imprimitive permutation representations).

## 2.1 Computing the subdegrees of transitive permutation groups using the table of marks

Let  $G$  be transitive on  $X$  and let  $G_x$  be the stabilizer in  $G$  of a point  $x \in X$ . The orbits  $\Delta_0 = \{x\}, \Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_{r-1}$  of  $G_x$  on  $X$  are known as the suborbits of  $G$ . The rank of  $G$  in this case is  $r$ . The sizes  $n_i = |\Delta_i|$  ( $i=0,1,\dots,r-1$ ), often called the 'lengths' of the suborbits, are known as the subdegrees of  $G$ . It is worthwhile noting that both  $r$  and the cardinalities of the suborbits  $\Delta_i$  ( $i=0,1,\dots,r-1$ ) are independent of the choice of  $x \in X$ . We can choose the numbering so that  $n_0 = 1 \leq n_1 \leq \dots \leq n_{r-1}$ .

Definition 2.1.1 Let  $\Delta$  be an orbit of  $G_x$  on  $X$ .

Define  $\Delta^* = \{gx \mid g \in G, x \in g\Delta\}$ , then  $\Delta^*$  is also an orbit of

$G_x$  and is called the  $G_x$ -orbit (or the  $G$ -suborbit) paired with  $\Delta$ .

Clearly  $|\Delta| = |\Delta^*|$ . If  $\Delta^* = \Delta$ , then  $\Delta$  is called a self-paired orbit of  $G_x$ .

We now introduce the concept of the marks of a group; give some general properties of the table of marks and review the results in [14] on the computation of the subdegrees of transitive permutation groups using the table of marks.

Two definitions of the mark of a group appear in literature.

Burnside's definition of the mark (see Burnside [4], §180) translated into more familiar language states:

Definition 2.1.2 For any two subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of a group  $G$ , the mark of  $A$  in the representation of  $G$  on the cosets of  $B$  is the number  $m(A, B, G)$  of the cosets of  $B$  that are fixed by every permutation in  $A$ .

Whites's definition of the mark (see White [24]) is as follows:

Definition 2.1.3 For any two subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of a group  $G$ , the mark of  $A$  in the representation of  $G$  on the cosets of  $B$  is defined as the number

$$m(A, B, G) = \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi(g^{-1}Ag \subset B),$$

Where  $\chi(\text{statement}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if statement is true} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Before we prove the equivalence of the two definitions, we need the following:

Lemma 2.1.4 Let  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  be conjugate subgroups of  $G$ . The number of  $g \in G$  such that  $g^{-1}H_1g = H_2$  is  $|N_G(H_1)|$ .

Proof This is a trivial consequence of the fact that  $\{g | g^{-1}H_1g = H_2\}$  is a coset of  $N_G(H_1)$ .  $\square$

Theorem 2.1.5 Let  $A$  and  $B$  be subgroups of  $G$ . If  $\gamma(A)$  is the number of conjugates of  $A$  (by elements of  $G$ ) contained in  $B$ , then in the permutation representation of  $G$  on  $G/B$ ,

$$\pi(A) = \frac{|G:B|\gamma(A)}{|C^A|},$$

where  $\pi(A)$  = the number of cosets of  $B$  fixed by  $A$  and  $C^A = \{gAg^{-1} | g \in G\}$ .

Proof See the proof of Theorem 1.1.3.

$\square$

Lemma 2.1.6 Definitions 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 are equivalent.

Proof If we start with White's definition of the mark,

$$\begin{aligned}
m(A, B, G) &= \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_{g \in G} \chi(g^{-1}Ag \in B) \\
&= \frac{1}{|B|} |N_G(A)| \gamma(A) \text{ (by Lemma 2.1.4} \quad \text{Theorem 2.1.5)} \\
&= \frac{|G|}{|B|} \frac{|N_G(A)|}{|G|} \gamma(A) \\
&= \frac{|G: B| \gamma(A)}{|C^A|} \\
&= \pi(A) \text{ (by Theorem 2.1.5), } \square
\end{aligned}$$

One immediate fact we establish about marks is:

Lemma 2.1.7 If  $B \leq G$  and  $A_1, A_2$  are conjugate subgroups of  $G$ , then  $m(A_1, B, G) = m(A_2, B, G)$ .

By Theorem 1.1.2, the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is equivalent to its action on the cosets of  $H = G_x$ , while that of  $H$  on  $\Delta_i$  ( $i=0,1,\dots,r-1$ ) is equivalent to its action on the set of cosets of some subgroup  $F \leq H$ .

Let  $\{H_1, H_2, \dots, H_t\}$  be a complete set of representatives of all distinct conjugacy classes of subgroups of  $H$  in  $G$ , ordered such that  $|H_1| \leq |H_2| \leq \dots \leq |H_t| = |H|$ .

Form a matrix  $M = (m_{ij})$ , where  $m_{ij} = m(H_j, H_i, G)$ .

We call matrix  $M$  the table of marks of  $H$ . A useful fact about matrix  $M$  is the following:

Lemma 2.1.8 The matrix  $M$  is lower triangular with diagonal entries at least 1.

Proof Trivially  $m_{ij} = 0$  if  $i < j$  and  $\geq 1$  if  $i = j$ .

□

If we denote by  $Q_i$  the number of suborbits  $\Delta_j$  on which the action of  $H$  is equivalent to its action on the cosets of  $H_i$  ( $i=1,2,\dots,t$ ), by computing all the  $Q_i$  we get the subdegrees of  $(G,X)$ . Hence we have

Theorem 2.1.9 The numbers  $Q_j$  satisfy the system of linear equations

$$\sum_{i=j}^t Q_i m(H_j, H_i, H) = m(H_j, H, G) \quad \text{for each } j = 1, \dots, t.$$

(See [14].)

Lemma 2.1.10 If  $m(H_j, H, G) = 1$  for some  $j$ ,  $1 < j < t$ , then  $Q_j = 0$ .

(See [14].)

Lemma 2.1.11 Let  $F \leq H \leq G$  and  $\{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n\}$  be a complete set of conjugacy class representatives of subgroups of  $H$  that are conjugate to  $F$  in  $G$ , then

$$m(F, H, G) = \sum_{i=1}^n |N_G(F_i) : N_H(F_i)|.$$

In particular when  $n = 1$ , then  $F$  is conjugate in  $H$  to all subgroups  $F'$  that are contained in  $H$  and conjugate to  $F$  in  $G$ , and

$$m(F, H, G) = |N_G(F) : N_H(F)|.$$

(See [14].)

## 2.2 The subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations of $G = \text{PSL}(2, q)$

We shall work with maximal subgroups of  $G$  in the order given in Chap. 1, §1.2. But before we begin, we first

discuss the normalizers of some subgroups of  $G$ . For more details see Dickson [6], chap. 12.

The normalizers of some subgroups of  $G$  were given in Theorems 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3. From Lemma 1.2.5, the normalizer of an involution in  $G$  is  $D_{2(q \pm 1)}$ , when  $p$  is odd and  $p_q$  when  $p$  is even.

The subgroup  $\text{PSL}(2, e)$  of  $G$  is its own normalizer except when  $f/m$  is even, in which case  $N_G(\text{PSL}(2, e)) = \text{PGL}(2, e)$ .

Lemma 2.2.1 Let  $C_p$  be a cyclic subgroup of order  $p$  in  $G$ .  
Then



$$|N_G(C_p)| = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}q(p-1) & p \text{ odd, } f \text{ odd} \\ q(p-1) & p \text{ odd, } f \text{ even} \\ q & p=2. \end{cases}$$

(See Dickson[6], §249.)

Lemma 2.2.2 Let  $C_d$ , ( $d$  coprime to  $p$ ) be a cyclic subgroup of order  $d$  in  $G$ . Then

$$N_G(C_d) = \begin{cases} D_{q+1} & p \text{ odd} \\ D_{2(q+1)} & p=2, \end{cases}$$

$\pm$  sign as  $d|q\pm 1$ .

(See Dickson[6], §246.)

Lemma 2.2.3 Let  $d > 2$  be a divisor of  $\frac{1}{k}(q\pm 1)$  and  $\delta$  be

the quotient. Then

$$N_G(D_{2d}) = \begin{cases} D_{2d} & \text{if } \delta \text{ is odd} \\ D_{4d} & \text{if } \delta \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

(See Dickson[6], §246.)

Lemma 2.2.4  $N_G(S_{q,w(k)}) = S_{q,w(k)}$ .

Proof This is obvious since  $S_{q,w(k)}$  is maximal in  $G$  (See p.18).

□

We now proceed to compute the subdegrees of  $G$ .

1) The subdegrees of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H \cong S_{q,w(k)}$

since the rank of  $G$  is 2, its subdegrees are:

One suborbit of length 1 and one suborbit of length  $q$ .

2) The subdegrees of  $G$  on the cosets of  $H \cong D_{2w(k)}$

Here we take  $H$  to be the normalizer of the cyclic maximal subgroup  $\langle u \rangle$  fixing 0 and  $\infty$ . As in part 2) of section 1.2, we may view this representation as the action of  $G$  on unordered pairs of points of  $PG(1,q)$ .

Before we start computing the subdegrees of  $G$ , we give some simple results which we shall use later.

lemma 2.2.5 If  $-1$  is a square mod  $p$  ( $p \neq 2$ ), then

$p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

Proof Let  $x \in GF(p)$ .  $-1 = x^2 \Leftrightarrow x$  has order

$4 \Leftrightarrow |x| \mid |GF(p)^*| = p-1 \Leftrightarrow p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . □

Lemma 2.2.6 1 and  $-1$  lie in the same cycle in  $u$  if and only if  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

Proof Let  $\beta$  be a primitive root of  $GF(q)$  and take  $u$  to be

$\begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ . The cycle containing 1 in  $u$  consists of all even

powers of  $\beta$  that is all non-zero squares in  $GF(q)$ . Hence from Lemma 2.2.5, the lemma follows.  $\square$

Corollary 2.2.7 Let  $x \in GF(q)$  then  $x$  and  $-x$  belong to the same cycle in  $u$  if and only if  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .  $\square$

To get the  $\langle u \rangle$  orbits in this representation we shall use the results on the pair group action (see p.9). The subdegrees of  $G$  are the lengths of the  $H$ -Orbits in this representation. Each of these  $H$ -orbits is a union of  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits under some involution in  $H \setminus \langle u \rangle$ .

The following three cases must be distinguished:

(I)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  (II)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$  (III)  $p=2$

(I)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

In the natural action,  $u$  contains two 1-cycles (one containing 0 and the other  $\infty$ ) and two non-trivial cycles (one consisting of residues and the other consisting of non-residues). Any  $g \in H \setminus \langle u \rangle$  fixes two points both from a non-trivial common cycle in  $u$ . Evidently, non-trivial cycles in  $g$  are 2-cycles containing  $(0\infty)$  and pairs of points from a common cycle in  $u$ .

Now we classify  $H$ -orbits in this representation.

(a) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in a common

cycle in  $u$ .

- (i) No pairs can be formed from a trivial cycle in  $u$ .
- (ii) The pairs from non-trivial cycles give two  $\langle u \rangle$  - orbits each of length  $w(4)$  consisting of points  $\{x, -x\}$  in either of the two non - trivial cycles of  $u$  ( $x$  residue or non-residue), and  $\frac{q-5}{2}$   $\langle u \rangle$  - orbits each of length  $w(2)$  and

consisting of pairs

$\{x, y\}$  ( $y \neq x, -x$ ;  $x, y$  both residues or both non-residues).

Now to classify the above  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits into  $H$ -orbits, we simply have to note that for any  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbit  $\Delta$  with a representative  $\{x, y\}$ , there exists a reflection  $g$  with  $(xy)$  as one of its cycles and for  $1 \leq i \leq w(2)$ ,  $u^i g(\{x, y\}) \in \Delta$ . So any reflection  $g \in H \setminus \langle u \rangle$  preserves the  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits. Hence the  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits and the  $H$ -orbits are the same.

- (b) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in different cycles of  $u$  of equal lengths.

- (i) The two trivial cycles of  $u$  contribute a pair  $\{0, \infty\}$  and this forms a  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbit by itself. Since  $\{0, \infty\}$  is fixed by  $H$ ,  $\{0, \infty\}$  forms an  $H$ -orbit by itself.

- (ii) The  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits formed from pairs of points from different non-trivial cycles of  $u$  are  $w(2)$ , each of length  $w(2)$ .

We have  $(w(2))^2$  pairs in this category each with the identity as the stabilizer. Hence  $H$  permutes these pairs

semiregularly, so all H-orbits have length  $|H| = w(1)$ , and the number of them is  $\frac{(w(2))^2}{|H|} = w(4)$ . Hence there are  $w(4)$

H-orbits each of length  $w(1)$ .

(c) Orbits of H formed by pairs of points lying in different cycles of u of unequal lengths.

In this case we have four  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits each of length  $w(2)$ . Pairs of points in these  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits intersect with  $\{0, \infty\}$  in a singleton. If  $x \neq 0$  is a residue and  $y$  a non-residue in  $GF(q)$ , the pairs  $\{0, x\}$ ,  $\{\infty, x\}$ ,  $\{0, y\}$ ,  $\{\infty, y\}$  lie in different  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits.

The pairs  $\{0, x\}$  and  $\{\infty, x\}$  respectively  $\{0, y\}$  and  $\{\infty, y\}$  lie in the same H-orbit. Hence in this case we have two H-orbits each of length  $w(1)$ .

Now gathering all the above contributions together we find the rank of G to be  $\frac{3(q+3)}{4}$ . The subdegrees are:

Table 2.2.1

Suborbit length	1	$w(4)$	$w(2)$	$w(1)$
No. of suborbit	1	2	$\frac{q-5}{2}$	$\frac{q+7}{4}$

(II)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$

In this case also, in the natural action,  $u$  contains two 1-cycles (one containing 0 and the other  $\infty$ ) and two non-trivial cycles (one consisting of residues and the other consisting of non-residues).

Any  $g \in H \setminus \langle u \rangle$  has no fixed point in  $PG(1, q)$ . Cycles in  $g$  are involutions  $(0\infty)$  and pairs of points from different non-trivial cycles of  $u$ .

Now we classify  $H$ -orbits in this representation.

(a) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in a common cycle in  $u$ .

(i) No pairs can be formed from a trivial cycle in  $u$ .

(ii) From the two non-trivial cycles of  $u$  we get  $\frac{q-3}{2}$

$\langle u \rangle$ -orbits, each of length  $w(2)$ .

We have  $2 \binom{w(2)}{2} = w(4)(q-3)$  pairs in this category each

with the identity as the stabilizer. Hence there are

$$\frac{w(4)(q-3)}{|H|} = \frac{q-3}{4}$$

$H$ -orbits, each of length  $|H| = w(1)$ .

(b) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points in different cycles

of  $u$  of equal lengths.

(i) The two trivial  $u$  - cycles contribute a pair  $\{0, \infty\}$  which is both a  $\langle u \rangle$  and an H-orbit.

(ii) From two non-trivial cycles of  $u$  we get  $w(2)$   $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits, each of length  $w(2)$ .

An argument similar to that in case (I) (a) (ii) shows  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits and H-orbits to be the same.

(c) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in different cycles of  $u$  of unequal lengths.

For  $x \neq 0$  a residue and  $y$  a non-residue in  $GF(q)$ , the four pairs  $\{0, x\}$ ,  $\{\infty, x\}$ ,  $\{0, y\}$ ,  $\{\infty, y\}$  lie in different  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits.

It is easily noticed that  $\{0, x\}$  and  $\{\infty, y\}$ , respectively  $\{\infty, x\}$  and  $\{0, y\}$  lie in the same H-orbit.

Hence we have two H-orbits, each of length  $w(1)$ . Now gathering all the above contributions together we find the

rank of  $g$  to be  $\frac{3q+7}{4}$ . The subdegrees are:

Table 2.2.2

Suborbit length	1	$w(2)$	$w(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	$w(2)$	$\frac{q+5}{4}$

(III)  $p = 2$

Here  $u$  contains two 1-cycles and one  $w(1)$ -cycle. We now classify H-orbits in this representation.

(a) Orbits of H formed by pairs of points lying in a common cycle in  $u$ .

(i) No pairs can be formed from a trivial cycle.

(ii) From the single non-trivial cycle of  $u$  we get  $\frac{q-2}{2}$

$\langle u \rangle$ -orbits, each of length  $w(1)$ .

An argument similar to that in case (I) (a) (ii) shows  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits and H-orbits to be the same.

(b) Orbits of H formed by pairs of points lying in different cycles of  $u$  of equal lengths.

The two trivial cycles of  $u$  contribute a pair  $\{0, \infty\}$  which is an H-orbit by itself.

(c) Orbits of H formed by pairs of points in different cycles of  $u$  of unequal lengths.

Here we have two  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits, each of length  $w(1)$ . The pairs  $\{0, 1\}$  and  $\{\infty, 1\}$  are in different  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits but in the same H-orbit. Hence the contribution to the total number of H-orbits in this case is 1  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbit of length  $2(q-1)$ .

Now gathering all the above contributions together we find that G has rank  $\frac{q+2}{2}$ . The subdegrees are:



Table 2.2.3

suborbit length	1	$w(1)$	$2(q-1)$
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-2}{2}$	1

The results in (III) can also be got either by the method used by Faradžev and Ivanov [7] or by one used by Bon and Cohen [3].

**3) The Subdegrees of G on the cosets of  $H \cong D_{2z(k)}$**

In this part  $\langle s \rangle$  is the maximal cyclic subgroup of H with  $|\langle s \rangle| = z(k)$ .

We shall compute the subdegrees of G in this representation under the following three cases:

(I)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$     (II)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$     (III)  $p = 2$

(I)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

From Table 1.2.4,  $\langle s \rangle$  decomposes the cosets of H into one  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbit of length 1 and  $q-2$   $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits, each of length  $z(2)$ . So the total number of the  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits are  $1 + (q-2) = w(1) > 3w(4)$  (the rank of G on P.30).

Hence some H-orbits are a union of more than one  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbit. By the Orbit-Stabilizer Theorem, the maximum length an H-orbit can have is  $z(1)$ . So the maximum number of  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits an H-orbit can have is 2.

Now let  $x$  be the number of  $H$ -orbits of length  $z(1)$ .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + (q-2) - 2x + x &= 3w(4) \\ \Leftrightarrow q-1-x &= 3w(4) \\ \Leftrightarrow x &= w(4). \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.4

Suborbit length	1	$z(2)$	$z(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-3}{2}$	$w(4)$

(II)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$

From Table 1.2.4,  $\langle s \rangle$  decomposes the cosets of  $H$  into one  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbit of length 1, two  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits each of length  $z(4)$ , and  $q-3$   $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits each of length  $z(2)$ . So the total number of  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits are  $1+2+q-3 \geq 3z(4)$  (the rank of  $G$  on p.30).

The above inequality is strict if  $q > 3$ . Therefore some  $g \in H \setminus \langle s \rangle$  will transpose certain pairs of  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits of length  $z(2)$  when  $q > 3$ . Now let  $x$  be the number of  $H$ -orbits of length  $z(1)$ . Then

$$1 + 2 + (q-3) - 2x + x = 3z(4)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{4}(q-3),$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.5

Suborbit length	1	$z(4)$	$z(2)$	$z(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	2	$\frac{1}{2}(q-3)$	$\frac{1}{4}(q-3)$

(III)  $p = 2$

From Table 1.2.4,  $\langle s \rangle$  decomposes the cosets of  $H$  into one  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbit of length 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}(q-2)$   $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits of length  $z(1)$  each. On p.30 we found the rank of  $G$  to be  $q/2$ , which is equal to the sum of the  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits in this representation. Hence the  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits and the  $H$ -orbits are the same.

Hence we have

Table 2.2.6

Suborbit length	1	$z(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{1}{2}(q-2)$

We can also obtain the results in this part either by the method used by Faradžev and Ivanov [7] or by the one used by

Bon and Cohen [3].

#### 4) The subdegrees of $G$ on the cosets of $H \cong A_4$

Our computations will be carried under four cases as given in part 4) of section 1.2. Note that  $N_G(V_4)$  is  $A_4$  if  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  and  $S_4$  if  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . Since  $A_4 < S_4 < G$  in the latter case, it will not be considered in our calculations. Throughout this part, we denote  $g^{-1}Hg$  ( $g \in G$ ) by  $H^g$ .

##### a) $q \equiv 5 \pmod{12}$

When  $G$  acts on  $G/H$ , the stabilizer of a coset  $Hg$  ( $g \in G$ ) is  $H^g$ . If we restrict to the action of  $H$  on  $G/H$ , the stabilizer of a coset becomes  $H \cap H^g$ .

Let  $F = H \cap H^g$ , then  $F$  could be:  $H$ ,  $V_4$ ,  $C_3$  (4 subgroups),  $C_2$  (3 subgroups),  $1$ .

i)  $F = H \Leftrightarrow H \cap H^g = H \Leftrightarrow g \in N_G(H) = H$ , therefore there exist 12 such elements  $g$  forming the coset  $Hg = H$ . Thus 1 suborbit (trivial) has  $F = H$ .

ii)  $F \geq V_4 \Leftrightarrow H \cap H^g \geq V_4 \Leftrightarrow V_4^{g^{-1}} \leq H \Leftrightarrow g^{-1} \in N_G(V_4) = H$ .

Thus there exist 12 elements  $g$  with  $F \geq V_4$ ; these are the 12 elements  $g$  with  $F = H$ . Therefore no suborbit has  $F = V_4$ .

(iii) There exist 4 subgroups  $C_3$  in  $H$ , all conjugate in  $G$ .

For any  $C \leq H$  isomorphic to  $C_3$ ,  $F \geq C \Leftrightarrow C^{g^{-1}} \leq H$ . For a

particular  $C \cong C_3$ ,  $N_G(C) = |D_{q+1}| = q+1$ . So for any  $C \cong C_3$ , there

are  $4(q+1)$  elements  $g$  such that  $C^{g^{-1}} \leq H$ , therefore there are

$4(q+1)$  elements  $g$  with  $F \geq C$ . Of these 12 have  $F = H$ . Therefore for any  $C \cong C_3$ , there exist  $4(q-2)$  elements  $g$  with  $F \cong C$ . Hence for each  $C \cong C_3$  the  $4(q-2)$  elements  $g$  form  $\frac{1}{3}(q-2)$  cosets of  $H$ . Therefore for the 4 subgroups  $C_3$  there are

$\frac{4}{3}(q-2)$  cosets with  $F \cong C_3$ , forming  $\frac{1}{3}(q-2)$  suborbits,

each of length  $|H:C_3| = 4$ .

(iv) There exist 3 subgroups  $C_2$  in  $H$ , all conjugate in  $G$ . For any  $C \leq H$  isomorphic to  $C_2$ ,  $F \geq C \iff C^{g^{-1}} \leq H$ . For a particular

subgroup  $C \cong C_2$ , the number of elements  $g$  normalizing  $C$  is  $|N_G(C)| = |D_{q-1}| = q-1$ . So for any  $C \cong C_2$ , there exist  $3(q-1)$  elements  $g$  with  $H \geq C^{g^{-1}}$ , therefore there exist  $3(q-1)$

elements  $g$  with  $F \geq C$ . Of these, 12 have  $F = H$  or  $V_4$ . Therefore for any  $C \cong C_2$  there exist  $3(q-5)$  elements  $g$  with  $F \cong C$ . Hence for each  $C \cong C_2$  the  $3(q-5)$  elements  $g$  form  $\frac{3}{4}(q-5)$  cosets of  $H$ . Hence for the 3 subgroups  $C_2$ , there are

$\frac{3}{4}(q-5)$  cosets with  $F \cong C_2$  forming  $\frac{3}{4}(q-5)$  suborbits, each of

length  $|H:C_2| = 6$ .

All the other elements  $g$  must have  $F = 1$ , giving rise to regular suborbits of length  $|H| = 12$ . Cases (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) account for  $1$ ,  $0$ ,  $\frac{4}{3}(q-2)$  and  $\frac{3}{4}(q-5)$  cosets

respectively.

So the remaining

$$\frac{q(q^2-1)}{24} - \left(1 + \frac{4}{3}(q-2) + \frac{3}{4}(q-5)\right) = \frac{q^3-51q+130}{24}$$

Cosets form  $\frac{q^3-51q+130}{288}$  suborbits of length 12.

Thus we have:

Table 2.2.7

Suborbit length	1	4	6	12
No of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-2}{3}$	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	$\frac{q^3-51q+130}{288}$
No of cosets	1	$\frac{4(q-2)}{3}$	$\frac{3(q-5)}{4}$	$\frac{q^3-51q+130}{24}$

The rank (r) of  $G$  is  $\frac{q^3+81q+46}{288}$ .

Similarly for cases (b), (c) and (d) we get:

(b)  $q \equiv 7 \pmod{12}$

Table 2.2.8

F	$A_4$	$V_4$	$C_3$	$C_2$	I
$N_G(F)$	$A_4$	$A_4$	$D_{q-1}$	$D_{q+1}$	$C_4$
No. of cosets with stab =F	1	0	$\frac{4(q-4)}{3}$	$\frac{3(q-3)}{4}$	*
No. of suborbits	1	0	$\frac{q-4}{3}$	$\frac{q-3}{8}$	**
Suborbit length	1	-	4	6	12

where  $*$  =  $\frac{q^3-51q+158}{24}$  and  $**$  =  $\frac{q^3-51q+158}{288}$ .

$$r = \frac{q^3+81q-46}{288}.$$

(c)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{12}$

Table 2.2.9

F	$A_4$	$V_4$	$C_3$	$C_2$	I
$N_G(F)$	$A_4$	$A_4$	$D_{q-1}$	$D_{q-1}$	G
No. of cosets with $\text{stab}=F$	1	0	$\frac{4(q-4)}{3}$	$\frac{3(q-5)}{4}$	*
No. of suborbits	1	0	$\frac{q-4}{3}$	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	**
Suborbit length	1	-	4	6	12

where  $*$  =  $\frac{q^3-51q+194}{24}$  and  $**$  =  $\frac{q^3-51q+194}{288}$  .

$$r = \frac{(q-1)(q^2+q+82)}{288} ,$$



(d)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{12}$

Table 2.2.10

F	$A_4$	$V_4$	$C_3$	$C_2$	I
$N_G(F)$	$A_4$	$A_4$	$D_{q+1}$	$D_{q+1}$	G
No. of cosets with $\text{stab}=F$	1	0	$\frac{4(q-2)}{3}$	$\frac{3(q-3)}{4}$	*
No. of suborbits	1	0	$\frac{q-2}{3}$	$\frac{q-3}{8}$	**
Suborbit length	1	-	4	6	12

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 51q + 94}{24} \quad \text{and } ** = \frac{q^3 - 51q + 94}{288},$$

$$r = \frac{(q+1)(q^2 - q + 82)}{288},$$

5) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of  $H \cong A_5$

The following are all the subgroups of H: H, 5 conjugate subgroups isomorphic  $A_4$ , 6 conjugate subgroups isomorphic  $D_{10}$ , 10 conjugate subgroups isomorphic  $D_6$ , 6 conjugate subgroups isomorphic to  $C_5$ , 5 conjugate subgroups isomorphic to  $V_4$ , 10 conjugate subgroups isomorphic  $C_3$ , 15 conjugate subgroups isomorphic to  $C_2$ , 1.

Table of marks for H

Table 2.2.11

	1	$C_2$	$C_3$	$V_4$	$C_5$	$D_6$	$D_{10}$	$A_4$	H
1	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$C_2$	30	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$C_3$	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
$V_4$	15	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
$C_5$	12	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
$D_6$	10	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
$D_{10}$	6	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
$A_4$	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
H	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Our computations will be carried under cases (a) - (d) listed on p.37. But in cases (c) - (d) (where  $p$  is odd), we have to distinguish between the case (i) when  $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$  and case (ii) when  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . This is because  $N_G(V_4) = A_4$  and  $N_G(A_4) = A_4$  in the former case, while  $N_G(V_4) = S_4$  and  $N_G(A_4) = S_4$  in the latter case. Now after adding some extra conditions to the cases we had before, removing those which are either superfluous or impossible, then simplifying we get the following cases:

- (a)  $p = 2, q \equiv 4 \pmod{15}$
- (b)  $p = 2, q \equiv 1 \pmod{15}$
- (c)  $p = 3, q \equiv 9 \pmod{40}$
- (d)  $p = 5, f \text{ odd}$
- (e) (i)  $p \equiv 29 \pmod{120}, f \text{ odd}$

- (ii)  $p \equiv 89 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
- (f) (i)  $p \equiv 19 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 79 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
- (g) (i)  $p \equiv 11 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 71 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
- (h) (i)  $p \equiv 109 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 49 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd or  $p \equiv 23$  or  $47 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$
- (i) (i)  $p \equiv 101 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 41 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
- (j) (i)  $p \equiv 91 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 31 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
- (k) (i)  $p \equiv 61 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd or  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ ,  $f \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  or  $p \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$ ,  $f \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$
- (l) (i)  $p \equiv 59 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd
  - (ii)  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{120}$ ,  $f$  odd

From now on, if  $F \leq H$ , we shall use the abbreviation  $m(F)$  for  $m(F, H, G)$ . The table below gives the values of  $m(F)$  for all the cases (a) - (l) listed above.

Table 2.2.12

F	m(F)
1	$q(q^2-1)/_{60}$ in cases (a) and (b). $q(q^2-1)/_{120}$ in cases (c) - (l).
$c_2$	$q/4$ in cases (a) and (b). $\frac{q+1}{4}$ in cases (c) - (l), $\pm$ as $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{4}$ .
$c_3$	$(q-1)/3$ in case (a) and b. $q/3$ in case (c). $\frac{q+1}{6}$ in cases (d) - (l), $\pm$ as $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{6}$ .
$v_4$	$q/4$ in cases (a) and (b). 2 if $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ and 1 if $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ in cases (c) - (l).
$c_5$	$(q \pm 1)/5$ in cases (a) and (b), $\pm$ as $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . $q/5$ in case (d). $(q \pm 1)/_{10}$ in cases (c) and (e)-(l), $\pm$ as $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{10}$ .
$D_6$	1 in cases (a) - (f) and (i) - (j). 2 in cases (g), (h), (k) and (l).
$D_{10}$	1 in cases (a) - (e) and (g), (h), (i). 2 in cases (f), (j), (k), and (l).
$A_4$	1 in cases (a) and (b). 2 if $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ and 1 if $q \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ in cases (c) - (l).
H	1 in cases (a) - (l).



Now let

$\tilde{N} = (m(1), m(C_2), m(C_3), m(V_4), m(C_5), m(D_6), m(D_{10}), m(A_4), m(H))$ ,  
 $\tilde{Q} = (Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_9)$  and  $M$  the matrix of table of marks given  
 in Table 2.2.11. We now have  $M^T \tilde{Q}^T = \tilde{N}^T$ , ie

$$\begin{pmatrix} 60 & 30 & 20 & 15 & 12 & 10 & 6 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} Q_1 \\ Q_2 \\ Q_3 \\ Q_4 \\ Q_5 \\ Q_6 \\ Q_7 \\ Q_8 \\ Q_9 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} m(1) \\ m(C_2) \\ m(C_3) \\ m(V_4) \\ m(C_5) \\ m(D_6) \\ m(D_{10}) \\ m(A_4) \\ m(H) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{-----(2.2.13)}$$

Substituting the values of  $m(F)$  given in Table 2.2.12 on the right hand side of (2.2.13) for each of the cases (a) - (b) and solving for the system of linear equations (2.2.13) we obtain  $\tilde{Q}$  and hence the subdegrees of  $G$  in each of the cases as follows:

Case (a)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 348q + 1328}{3600}, 0, \frac{q-4}{6}, \frac{q-4}{12}, \frac{q-4}{10}, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.14

Suborbit length	No. of suborbits
1	1
12	$\frac{q-4}{10}$
15	$\frac{q-4}{12}$
20	$\frac{q-4}{6}$
60	$\frac{q^3-348q+1328}{3600}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 912q - 112}{3600}.$$

Case (b)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-348q+1472}{3600}, 0, \frac{q-4}{6}, \frac{q-4}{12}, \frac{q-6}{10}, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.15

Suborbit length	1	12	15	20	60
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-6}{10}$	$\frac{q-6}{12}$	$\frac{q-4}{6}$	$\frac{q^3-348q+1472}{3600}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 912q - 688}{3600}.$$

Case (c)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 923q + 7578}{7200}, \frac{q-9}{8}, \frac{q-9}{6}, 0, \frac{q-9}{20}, 0, 0, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.16

Suborbit length	1	5	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-9}{20}$	$\frac{q-9}{6}$	$\frac{q-9}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 923q + 7578}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1537q - 162}{7200}.$$

Case (d)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 795q + 3850}{7200}, \frac{q-5}{8}, \frac{q-5}{12}, 0, \frac{q-5}{10}, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.17

Suborbit length	1	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-5}{10}$	$\frac{q-5}{12}$	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 795q + 3850}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1425q - 50}{7200}.$$

Case (e) (i)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 3778}{7200}, \frac{q-5}{8}, \frac{q-5}{12}, 0, \frac{q-9}{20}, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.18

Suborbit length	1	12	20	30	60
No. of Suborbits	1	$\frac{q-9}{20}$	$\frac{q-5}{12}$	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 723q + 3778}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 238}{7200}.$$

Case (e) (ii)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7378}{7200}, \frac{q-9}{8}, \frac{q-17}{12}, 0, \frac{q-9}{20}, 0, 0, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.19

Suborbit length	1 5	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1 1	$\frac{q-9}{20}$	$\frac{q-17}{12}$	$\frac{q-9}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 723q + 7378}{7200}$



Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 238}{7200}.$$

Case (f)(i)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 6878}{7200}, \frac{q-11}{8}, \frac{q-7}{12}, 0, \frac{q-19}{20}, 0, 1, 0, 1 \right),$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.20

Suborbit length	1	6	12	20	30	60
No. of Suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-19}{20}$	$\frac{q-7}{12}$	$\frac{q-11}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 723q + 6878}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 338}{7200}.$$

Case (f)(ii)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 10478}{7200}, \frac{q-15}{8}, \frac{q-19}{12}, 0, \frac{q-19}{20}, 0, 1, 1, 1 \right),$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.21

Suborbit length	1	5	6	12	20	30	60
No. of Suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{q-19}{20}$	$\frac{q-19}{12}$	$\frac{q-15}{8}$	$\frac{q^3 - 723q + 10478}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 338}{7200}.$$

Case (g) (i)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 6622}{7200}, \frac{q-11}{8}, \frac{q-11}{12}, 0, \frac{q-11}{20}, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.22

Suborbits length	1	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-11}{20}$	$\frac{q-11}{12}$	$\frac{q-11}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 6622}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 562}{7200}.$$

Case (g) (ii)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 10222}{7200}, \frac{q-15}{8}, \frac{q-23}{12}, 0, \frac{q-11}{20}, 1, 0, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.23

Suborbit length	1	5	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{q-11}{20}$	$\frac{q-23}{12}$	$\frac{q-15}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 10222}{7200} .$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 562}{7200} .$$

Case (h) (i)

$$\mathcal{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7778}{7200}, \frac{q-13}{8}, \frac{q-13}{12}, 0, \frac{q-9}{20}, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right) .$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.24

Suborbit length	1	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-9}{20}$	$\frac{q-13}{12}$	$\frac{q-13}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7778}{7200} .$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 562}{7200} .$$

Case (h) (ii)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-723q+11378}{7200}, \frac{q-17}{8}, \frac{q-25}{12}, 0, \frac{q-9}{20}, 1, 0, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.25

Suborbits length	No. of suborbits
1	1
5	1
10	1
12	$\frac{q-9}{20}$
20	$\frac{q-25}{12}$
30	$\frac{q-17}{8}$
60	$\frac{q^3-723q+11378}{7200}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+1137q-562}{7200}.$$

Case (i) (i)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-723q+7522}{7200}, \frac{q-13}{8}, \frac{q-5}{12}, 0, \frac{q-21}{20}, 0, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.26

Suborbit length	1	6	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-21}{20}$	$\frac{q-5}{12}$	$\frac{q-13}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7522}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 338}{7200}.$$

Case (i) (ii)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 11122}{7200}, \frac{q-17}{8}, \frac{q-17}{12}, 0, \frac{q-21}{20}, 0, 1, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.27

Suborbit length	1	5	6	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{q-21}{20}$	$\frac{q-17}{12}$	$\frac{q-17}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 11122}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 338}{7200}.$$

Case (j) (i)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 3422}{7200}, \frac{q-3}{8}, \frac{q-7}{12}, 0, \frac{q-11}{20}, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.28

Suborbit length	1	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	$\frac{q-11}{20}$	$\frac{q-7}{12}$	$\frac{q-3}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 3422}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 238}{7200}.$$

Case (j) (ii)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7022}{7200}, \frac{q-7}{8}, \frac{q-19}{12}, 0, \frac{q-11}{20}, 0, 0, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.29

Suborbit length	1	5	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{q-11}{20}$	$\frac{q-19}{12}$	$\frac{q-7}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 7022}{7200}$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 238}{7200}.$$

Case (k) (i)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 1522}{7200}, \frac{q-21}{8}, \frac{q-13}{12}, 0, \frac{q-21}{20}, 1, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.30

Suborbit length	1	6	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{q-21}{20}$	$\frac{q-13}{12}$	$\frac{q-13}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 1522}{7200},$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 1138}{7200}.$$

Case (k) (ii)

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 15122}{7200}, \frac{q-25}{8}, \frac{q-25}{12}, 0, \frac{q-21}{20}, 1, 1, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.31

Suborbit length	1	5	6	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	1	$\frac{q-21}{20}$	$\frac{q-25}{12}$	$\frac{q-25}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 15122}{7200}$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q - 1138}{7200}.$$

Case (I) (i)

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 723q + 10078}{7200}, \frac{q-19}{8}, \frac{q-11}{12}, 0, \frac{q-19}{20}, 1, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.32

Suborbit length	1	6	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{q-19}{20}$	$\frac{q-11}{12}$	$\frac{q-19}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3 - 723q + 10078}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 1137q + 1138}{7200}.$$

Case I (ii)



$$Q = \left( \frac{q^3-723q+13678}{7200}, \frac{q-23}{8}, \frac{q-23}{12}, 0, \frac{q-19}{20}, 1, 1, 1, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.33

Suborbit length	1	5	6	10	12	20	30	60
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	1	$\frac{q-19}{20}$	$\frac{q-23}{12}$	$\frac{q-23}{8}$	*

$$\text{where } * = \frac{q^3-723q+13678}{7200}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+1137q+1138}{7200}.$$

#### 6) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of H $\cong S_4$

The following are all the subgroups of H:

- (i) H
- (ii)  $A_4$ , which is a normal subgroup.
- (iii) A conjugacy class of 3 subgroups of order 8, isomorphic to  $D_8$ .
- (iv) A conjugacy class of 4 subgroups of order 6, isomorphic to  $D_6$ .
- (v) A normal subgroup of order 4, isomorphic to  $C_2 \times C_2$  which we shall denote by  $V_4^{(1)}$ .

- (vi) A conjugacy class of 3 subgroups of order 4 isomorphic to  $C_2 \times C_2$ . We denote a subgroup of this type by  $V_4^{(3)}$ .

- (vii) A conjugacy class of 3 cyclic subgroups of order 4,  $C_4$ .
- (viii) A conjugacy class of 4 subgroups of order 3,  $C_3$ .
- (ix) A conjugacy class of 6 subgroups of order 2 not contained in  $A_4$ . We denote a subgroup of this type by  $C_2^{(6)}$ .
- (x) A conjugacy class of 3 subgroups of order 2 contained in  $A_4$ . We denote a subgroup of this type by  $C_2^{(3)}$ .
- (xi) I.

Table of marks of H

Table 2.2.34

	1	$c_2^{(6)}$	$c_2^{(3)}$	$c_3$	$c_4$	$v_4^{(1)}$	$v_4^{(3)}$	$D_6$	$D_8$	$A_4$	H
1	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$c_2^{(6)}$	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$c_2^{(3)}$	12	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$c_3$	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$c_4$	6	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
$v_4^{(1)}$	6	0	6	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0
$v_4^{(3)}$	6	2	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
$D_6$	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
$D_8$	3	1	3	0	1	3	1	0	1	0	0
$A_4$	2	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
H	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

By Theorem 2.2.3, the value of  $m(D_8)$  is either 1 or 2 depending on whether  $\delta = \frac{q+1}{8}$  is odd or even.

Each subgroup of type  $V_4^{(3)}$  is contained in a unique subgroup of type  $D_8$  in H and  $V_4^{(1)}$  is the intersection of the 3 subgroups of type  $D_8$  in H. For  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ , G contains two sets each of  $|G|_{/24}$  conjugate Klein 4-groups  $V_4$ . Now from

Theorem 2.2.3, it is easy to ascertain:

Lemma 2.2.8 The Klein 4-groups  $V_4$  in H are in the same conjugacy class in G if and only if  $\delta$  is even.

Our computations will be carried under the cases

(a) - (d) listed on p. 45. Let F be a representative of a

conjugacy class in  $H$ , the table below gives the values of  $m(F)$  for all the cases (a) - (d).

Table 2.2.35

F	$m(F)$
1	$\frac{q(q^2 - 1)}{48}$ in all the cases (a) - (d).
$C_2^{(6)}$	$\frac{3(q-1)}{8}$ in cases (a) and (c).
	$\frac{3(q+1)}{8}$ in cases (b) and (d).
$C_2^{(3)}$	$\frac{3(q-1)}{8}$ in cases (a) and (c).
	$\frac{3(q+1)}{8}$ in cases (b) and (d).
$C_3$	$\frac{q+1}{6}$ in cases (a) and (c).
	$\frac{q-1}{6}$ in cases (b) and (d).
$C_4$	$\frac{q-1}{8}$ in cases (a) and (c).
	$\frac{q+1}{8}$ in cases (b) and (d).
$V_4^{(1)}$	$\begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is even} \\ 3 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$
$V_4^{(3)}$	$\begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is even} \\ 1 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$
$D_6$	1 in cases (a) and (b). 2 in cases (c) and (d).
$D_8$	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is odd} \\ 2 & \text{if } \delta \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$
$A_4$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).
$H$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).

Now let

$$\underset{\sim}{N} = (m(1), m(C_2^{(6)}), m(C_2^{(3)}), m(C_3), m(C_4), m(V_4^{(1)}), \\ m(V_4^{(3)}), m(D_6), m(D_8), m(A_4), m(H)),$$

$\underset{\sim}{Q} = (Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_{11})$  and M the matrix of table of marks given

in Table 2.2.34. Solving for the values of  $Q_i$  in the system of linear equations  $\underset{\sim}{M}^T \underset{\sim}{Q}^T = \underset{\sim}{N}^T$ .

We get:

Case (a) (i) When  $\delta$  is even

$$\underset{\sim}{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 195q + 1858}{1152}, \frac{3q - 35}{16}, \frac{q - 17}{16}, \frac{q - 5}{12}, \frac{q - 17}{16}, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.36

F	H	D <sub>8</sub>	C	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	A	B	1
No. of suborbits with stab = F	1	1	1	$\frac{q-17}{16}$	$\frac{q-5}{12}$	$\frac{q-17}{16}$	*	**
Suborbit length	1	3	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$ ,  $C = V_4^{(1)}$ ,  $* = \frac{3q-35}{16}$  and

$$** = \frac{q^3 - 195q + 1858}{1152},$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 261q - 134}{1152}.$$

(ii) When  $\delta$  is odd

$$Q = \left( \frac{q^3 - 195q + 1282}{1152}, \frac{3(q-9)}{16}, \frac{q-9}{16}, \frac{q-5}{12}, \frac{q-9}{16}, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.37

F	H	C	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab = F	1	1	$\frac{q-9}{16}$	$\frac{q-5}{12}$	$\frac{q-9}{16}$	*	**
Suborbit length	1	6	6	8	12	12	24

$$\text{where } A = C_2^{(6)}, B = C_2^{(3)}, C = V_4^{(1)}, * = \frac{3(q-9)}{16}$$

$$\text{and } ** = \frac{q^3 - 195q + 1282}{1152}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 261q - 134}{1152}.$$

Case (b) (i)

When  $\delta$  is even

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-195q+1598}{1152}, \frac{3q-29}{16}, \frac{q-15}{16}, \frac{q-7}{12}, \frac{q-15}{16}, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.38

F	H	D <sub>8</sub>	C	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	1	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\sigma$	$\mu$
Suborbit length	1	3	6	6	8	12	12	24

$$\text{where } D = V_4^{(3)}, \quad B = C_2^{(3)}, \quad A = C_2^{(6)}, \quad \alpha = \frac{q-5}{16}, \quad \beta = \frac{q-7}{12},$$

$$\gamma = \frac{q-15}{16}, \quad \sigma = \frac{3q-29}{16}, \quad \mu = \frac{q^3-195q+1598}{1152}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+261q+134}{1152}.$$

(ii) When  $\delta$  is odd

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-195q+1022}{1152}, \frac{3(q-7)}{16}, \frac{q-7}{16}, \frac{q-7}{12}, \frac{q-7}{16}, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.39

F	H	D	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	B	A	1
No. of	1	1	$\frac{q-7}{16}$	$\frac{q-7}{12}$	$\frac{q-7}{16}$	*	**
suborbits with stab.=F							
Suborbit length	1	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $D = V_4^{(3)}$ ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$ ,  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $* = \frac{3(q-7)}{16}$  and

$$** = \frac{q^3 - 195q + 1022}{1152}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3 + 261q + 134}{1152}.$$

Case (c) (i)

When  $\delta$  is even

$$\mathcal{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3 - 195q + 2498}{1152}, \frac{3(q-17)}{16}, \frac{q-17}{16}, \frac{q-13}{12}, \frac{q-17}{16}, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$



Hence we have

Table 2.2.40

F	H	D <sub>8</sub>	D <sub>6</sub>	D	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	1	1	$\sigma$	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\mu$
Suborbit length	1	3	4	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $D = V_4^{(3)}$ ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$ ,  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\sigma = \frac{q-1}{8}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-13}{12}$ ,

$\beta = \frac{q-17}{16}$ ,  $\gamma = \frac{3(q-17)}{16}$  and  $\mu = \frac{q^3-195q+2498}{1152}$ .

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+261q-262}{1152}.$$

(ii) When  $\delta$  is odd

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-195q+1922}{1152}, \frac{3q-43}{16}, \frac{q-9}{16}, \frac{q-13}{12}, \frac{q-9}{16}, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.41

F	H	D <sub>6</sub>	D	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	1	$\frac{q-9}{16}$	$\frac{q-13}{12}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $D = V_4^{(3)}$  ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$  ,  $A = C_2^{(6)}$  ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-9}{16}$  ,  $\beta = \frac{3q-43}{16}$  and

$$\gamma = \frac{q^3-195q+1922}{1152}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+261q-262}{1152}.$$

Case (d) (i)

When  $\delta$  is even

$$Q = \left( \frac{q^3-195q+2110}{1152}, \frac{3(q-15)}{16}, \frac{q-15}{16}, \frac{q-11}{12}, \frac{q-15}{16}, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.42

F	H	$D_8$	$D_6$	D	$C_4$	$C_3$	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab.=F	1	1	1	1	$\alpha$	$\beta$	$\alpha$	$\bar{\sigma}$	$\mu$
Suborbit length	1	3	4	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $D = V_4^{(3)}$  ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$  ,  $A = C_2^{(6)}$  ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-15}{16}$  ,  $\beta = \frac{q-11}{12}$  ,

$$\bar{\sigma} = \frac{3(q-15)}{16} \text{ and } \mu = \frac{q^3-195q+2110}{1152}.$$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+261q+262}{1152}.$$

(ii) When  $\delta$  is odd

$$\tilde{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-195q+1534}{1152}, \frac{3q-37}{16}, \frac{q-7}{16}, \frac{q-11}{12}, \frac{q-7}{16}, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.2.43

F	H	$D_6$	D	$C_4$	$C_3$	B	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab.=F	1	1	1	$\sigma$	$\alpha$	$\sigma$	$\gamma$	$\mu$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	6	8	12	12	24

where  $D = V_4^{(3)}$ ,  $B = C_2^{(3)}$ ,  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\sigma = \frac{q-7}{16}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-11}{12}$ ,

$\gamma = \frac{3q-37}{16}$ , and  $\mu = \frac{q^3-195q+2110}{1152}$ .

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+261q+262}{1152}.$$

7) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of H = PSL(2,e), f/m an odd prime

Firstly let  $q = e^h$ . The subdegrees of the representation of G on the coset of H are given by Faradžev and Ivanov [7] as follows:

Table 2.2.44

Suborbit Length	1	$\frac{e^2-1}{\mu}$	$e(e-1)$	$e(e+1)$	$\frac{e(e^2-1)}{\mu}$
No. of suborbits	1	$\mu\alpha$	$\beta$	$\gamma$	$\mu\sigma$

Where

$$\begin{aligned}
\mu &= (2, e-1), \\
\alpha &= \frac{e^{h-1}-1}{e-1}, \\
\beta &= \frac{e^h-e}{2(e+1)}, \\
\gamma &= \frac{e^h-e}{2(e-1)}, \\
\sigma &= \frac{e^{3h-2}-e^{h-2}(e^4+e^3+2e^2-e)+(e^3+e^2+e-1)}{(e^2-1)^2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$r = \frac{e^{3h-2}+e^{h+3}-e^{h+1}-3e^h-e^2+2e+1}{(e^2-1)^2} \text{ if } p=2$$

$$\text{or } \frac{2e^{3h-2}+e^{h+3}-e^{h+1}-6e^h-e^2+4e+1}{(e^2-1)^2} \text{ if } p > 2.$$

### 8) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of H = PGL(2,e), f/m=2

Let  $q = e^2$ . The subdegrees of the representation of G on the cosets of H are given by Faradžev and Ivanov [7] as follows:

Table 2.2.45

When p=2.

Suborbit length	1	$e^2-1$	$e(e-1)$	$e(e+1)$
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}(e-2)$	$\frac{1}{2}e$

Table 2.2.46

When  $p > 2$

Suborbit length	1	$\frac{1}{2}e(e-\epsilon)$	$e^2-1$	$e(e-1)$	$e(e+1)$
No. of suborbits	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{4}(e-4-\epsilon)$	$\frac{1}{4}(e-2+\epsilon)$

Where  $e \equiv \epsilon \pmod{4}$ ,  $\epsilon = \pm 1$

Hence

$$r = e + 1 \text{ if } p = 2$$

$$\text{or } \frac{1}{2}(e + 3) \text{ if } p > 2.$$

### 2.3 The subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations of $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$

We start by briefly looking at normalizers of some subgroups of  $G$ .

By the fact that  $G$  is imbedded in  $\text{PSL}(2, q^2)$  and the review of subgroups of  $\text{PSL}(2, q)$  given by Dickson [6] §260,

we deduce:

(a) For every divisor  $m$  of  $f$ ,  $G$  has subgroups  $\text{PGL}(2, e)$  and  $\text{PSL}(2, e)$ , with  $N_G(\text{PSL}(2, e)) \cong \text{PGL}(2, e)$ ,  $N_G(\text{PGL}(2, e)) \cong \text{PGL}(2, e)$ .

(b) The subgroup  $S_{q, w(1)}$  is its own normalizer in  $G$ . In fact this is easily realized from the fact that  $S_{q, w(1)}$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  (see p. 62).

(c) For the subgroups  $S_4$ ,  $A_5$  and  $A_4$  (see p. 61 for the conditions of their existence);  $S_4$  and  $A_5$  are their own normalizers, while the normalizer of  $A_4$  in  $G$  is  $S_4$ .

(d) Denote by  ${}^aC_2$  and  ${}^bC_2$  a  $C_2$  in  $PSL(2, q)$  and a  $C_2 \nsubseteq PSL(2, q)$

respectively ( see Lemma 1.2.9). The presence of these two conjugacy classes of involutions leads us to the conclusion that there are two conjugacy classes of subgroups isomorphic to  $V_4$ . If  $V_4 < PSL(2, q)$  (we denote such by  ${}^aV_4$ ), it has  $S_4$  as its normalizer. However if  $V_4 \nsubseteq PSL(2, q)$  (we denote such by  ${}^bV_4$ ), its normalizer is  $D_8$ .

We now compute the subdegrees of  $G$  on the cosets of each of its maximal subgroup  $H$  given on p.62.

#### 1) The subdegrees of $G$ on the cosets of $H \cong S_{q, w(1)}$

This is the natural representation of  $G$  on  $PG(1, q)$  of degree  $z(1)$ . Since the rank is two, the subdegrees are: 1 suborbit of length 1 and 1 suborbit of length  $q$ .

#### 2) The subdegrees of $G$ on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2w(1)}$

Let  $\langle u \rangle$  be the cyclic maximal subgroup of order  $w(1)$  in the dihedral subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  fixing  $\{0, \infty\}$ . In the natural action,  $u$  contains two 1-cycles (one containing 0 and the other  $\infty$ ) and one  $w(1)$ -cycle.

In this representation, we obtain the  $H$ -orbits, hence the subdegrees of  $G$  as follows:

(a) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in a common cycle in  $u$ :

(i) No pairs can be formed from a trivial cycle in  $u$ .

(ii) The pairs from the non-trivial cycle of  $u$  give one  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbit of length  $w(2)$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(q-3)$   $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits of length  $w(1)$ . An argument similar to that in Case I (a) (ii) of part 2) of

§2.2 shows the  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits and the  $H$ -orbits to be the same.

(b) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points lying in different cycles of  $u$  of equal lengths:

The two trivial cycles of  $u$  contribute a pair  $\{0, \infty\}$  which is an  $H$ -orbit by itself.

(c) Orbits of  $H$  formed by pairs of points in different cycles of  $u$  of unequal lengths:

We have two  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits each of length  $w(1)$  with representatives  $\{0, 1\}$  and  $\{\infty, 1\}$ . Any involution in  $H$  with a cycle  $(0\infty)$  and fixing 1 and any other element in  $GF(q)$  unites the two  $\langle u \rangle$ -orbits to an  $H$ -orbit.

Gathering the above contributions together we find the rank of  $G$  to be  $\frac{1}{2}(q+3)$ .

The subdegrees are:

Table 2.3.1

Suborbit length	1	$w(2)$	$w(1)$	$2w(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}(q-3)$	1

We can also obtain the results in this part either by the method used by Faradzev and Ivanov [7] or by the one used by Bon and Cohen [3].

### 3) The subdegrees of $G$ on the cosets of $H \cong D_{2z(1)}$

Let  $\langle s \rangle$  be the cyclic maximal subgroup of order  $z(1)$  in  $H$ . In this representation  $\langle s \rangle$  decomposes the cosets of  $H$  into one

$\langle s \rangle$ -orbit of length 1, one  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbit of length  $z(2)$  and  $\frac{1}{2}(q-3)$   $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits of length  $z(1)$  (see Table 1.3.4). On p.66 we found the rank of  $G$  to be  $z(2)$ , which is equal to the number of  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits in this representation. Hence the  $\langle s \rangle$ -orbits and the  $H$ -orbits are the same.

The table below gives the subdegrees of  $G$ .

Table 2.3.2

Suborbit length	1	$z(2)$	$z(1)$
No. of suborbits	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}(q-3)$

We can also obtain the results in this part either by the method used by Faradžev and Ivanov [7] or by the one used by Bon and Cohen [3].

**4) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of  $H \cong S_4$**

Table 2.2.34 on p.126 is the table of marks for H. Our computations will be carried under the cases (a) - (d) listed on p.68. As before let F be a representative of a conjugacy class in H. The table below gives the values of  $m(F)$  for all the cases (a) - (d).



Table 2.3.3

F	m (F)
1	$q(q^2-1)/_{24}$ in all the cases (a) - (d).
$C_2^{(6)}$	$\frac{q-1}{2}$ in cases (a) and (d) $\frac{q+1}{2}$ in cases (b) and (c).
$C_2^{(3)}$	$\frac{q+1}{4}$ in cases (a) and (d). $\frac{q-1}{4}$ in cases (b) and (c).
$C_3$	$\frac{q-1}{3}$ in cases (a) and (c). $\frac{q+1}{3}$ in cases (b) and (d).
$C_4$	$\frac{q+1}{4}$ in cases (a) and (d). $\frac{q-1}{4}$ in cases (c) and (b).
$V_4^{(1)}$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).
$V_4^{(3)}$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).
$D_6$	2 in all the cases (a) - (d).
$D_8$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).
$A_4$	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).
H	1 in all the cases (a) - (d).

Now let  $\tilde{N}$  and  $\tilde{Q}$  be the vectors given on p. 128 and M the matrix of table of marks for H. As before, solving for the

values of  $Q_i$  in the system of linear equations

$$\underset{\sim}{M}^T \underset{\sim}{Q}^T = \underset{\sim}{N}^T ,$$

we get

Case (a)

$$\underset{\sim}{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-123q+662}{576}, \frac{q-7}{4}, 0, \frac{q-7}{6}, \frac{q-3}{8}, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.3.4

F	H	D <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	$\frac{q-3}{8}$	$\frac{q-7}{6}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	8	12	24

where  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-7}{4}$  and  $\beta = \frac{q^3-123q+662}{576}$ ,

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+189q-82}{576}.$$

Case (b)

$$\underset{\sim}{Q} = \left( \frac{q^3-123q+490}{576}, \frac{q-5}{4}, 0, \frac{q-5}{6}, \frac{q-5}{8}, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.3.5

F	H	D <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	$\frac{q-5}{6}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	8	12	24

where  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-5}{4}$  and  $\beta = \frac{q^3-123q+490}{576}$ .

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+189q+82}{576}.$$

Case (c)

$$Q = \left( \frac{q^3-123q+554}{576}, \frac{q-5}{4}, 0, \frac{q-7}{6}, \frac{q-5}{8}, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.3.6

F	H	D <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	$\frac{q-5}{8}$	$\frac{q-7}{6}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	8	12	24

where  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-5}{4}$  and  $\beta = \frac{q^3-123q+554}{576}$ ,

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+189q-46}{576}.$$

Case (d)

$$Q = \left( \frac{q^3-123q+598}{576}, \frac{q-7}{4}, 0, \frac{q-5}{6}, \frac{q-3}{8}, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1 \right).$$

Hence we have

Table 2.3.7

F	H	D <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	A	1
No. of suborbits with stab. = F	1	1	$\frac{q-3}{8}$	$\frac{q-5}{6}$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
Suborbit length	1	4	6	8	12	24

where  $A = C_2^{(6)}$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{q-7}{4}$  and  $\beta = \frac{q^3-123q+598}{576}$ .

Therefore

$$r = \frac{q^3+189q+46}{576}.$$

##### 5) The subdegrees of G on the cosets of H = PSL(2,q)

Since the degree of G is 2, its subdegrees are: two suborbits, each of length 1.

# 6) The subdegrees of $G$ on the cosets of $H \cong \text{PGL}(2, e)$ , $f/m$ an odd prime

Throughout this part  $q = e^h$ ,  $h$  an odd prime. Our first objective will be to determine those subgroups  $F$  of  $H$  which are isomorphic to  $H \cap H^g$  for some  $g \in G$ .

(a) Suppose that  $H \cap H^g$  is isomorphic to  $C_n$  with  $n \nmid e \pm 1$ . Then  $C_n$  must be the intersection of two maximal cyclic subgroups of  $H$  and  $H^g$  of the same order  $e \pm 1$ . In  $G$ , two cyclic subgroups of the same order are either equal or intersect trivially. Hence  $n = e \pm 1$  or  $1$ .

(b) Suppose  $H \cap H^g \cong D_{2n}(n \neq p)$ . Then  $D_{2n}$  is the intersection of maximal dihedral subgroups of  $H$  and  $H^g$  containing  $D_{2n}$ . Considering intersections of cyclic subgroups as in (a), we conclude that  $n = e \pm 1, 2$  or  $1$ .

(c) If  $H \cap H^g \cong P_{pl}(1|m)$ , then it is the intersection of maximal elementary abelian  $p$ -subgroups of  $H$  and  $H^g$ ; these intersect trivially in  $G$ , so  $P_{pl} = P_e$  or  $1$ .

(d) If  $H \cap H^g = S_{pl, n}$  then it is the intersection of maximal subgroups of type  $S_{e, e-1}$  in  $H$  and  $H^g$ .

From (a) and (c), we find that  $S_{pl, n} = S_{e, e-1}$  or  $1$ .

We are now left with the following list of representatives of distinct conjugacy classes of  $H$  which may possibly arise as intersections  $F = H \cap H^g (g \in G)$ :

- |                     |                    |                           |                            |               |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| (i) 1               | (ii) ${}^aC_2$     | (iii) ${}^bC_2$           | (iv) ${}^aV_4$             | (v) ${}^bV_4$ | (vi) $C_{e-1}$     |
| (vii) $C_{e+1}$     | (viii) $A_4$       | (ix) $A_5$                | (x) $S_4$                  | (xi) $P_e$    | (xii) $D_{2(e-1)}$ |
| (xiii) $D_{2(e+1)}$ | (xiv) $S_{e, e-1}$ | (xv) $\text{PSL}(2, p^l)$ | (xvi) $\text{PGL}(2, p^l)$ |               |                    |

Before doing a further elimination, we calculate  $m(F)$  for the subgroups in the list above.

In the remaining portion of this part,  $\alpha, \beta = \begin{cases} 0 \\ 2 \end{cases}$  and

$\theta = \begin{cases} 2 \\ 0 \end{cases}$  are read as  $e \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{4}$ .

Table 2.3.8

F	$ N_G(F) $	$ N_H(F) $	$m(F)$
1	$q(q^2-1)$	$e(e^2-1)$	$\frac{q(q^2-1)}{e(e^2-1)}$
$a_{C_2}$	$2(q+1)$	$2(e+1)$	$\frac{q+1}{e+1}$
$b_{C_2}$	$2(q-1)$	$2(e-1)$	$\frac{q-1}{e-1}$
$a_{V_4}$	24	24	1
$b_{V_4}$	8	8	1
$C_{e-1}$	$2(q-1)$	$2(e-1)$	$\frac{q-1}{e-1}$
$C_{e+1}$	$2(q+1)$	$2(e+1)$	$\frac{q+1}{e+1}$
$A_4$	24	24	1
$A_5$	60	60	1
$S_4$	24	24	1
$P_e$	$q(e-1)$	$e(e-1)$	$e^{h-1}$
$D_{2(e-1)}$	$2(e-1)$	$2(e-1)$	1
$D_{2(e+1)}$	$2(e+1)$	$2(e+1)$	1
$S_{e,e-1}$	$e(e-1)$	$e(e-1)$	1
$\text{PSL}(2, p^l)$	$p^l(p^{2l}-1)$	$p^l(p^{2l}-1)$	1
$\text{PGL}(2, p^l)$	$p^l(p^{2l}-1)$	$p^l(p^{2l}-1)$	1

By Lemma 2.1.10, we can eliminate all the subgroups F (except  $F = H$ ) with  $m(F) = 1$ . The conjugacy class representatives of the remaining subgroups are enough for the

purpose of computing the subdegrees of G.

Table 2.3.9

Table of marks

	1	A	B	C	D	E	H
1	$\alpha$	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	$\beta$	$\omega$	0	0	0	0	0
B	$\beta$	0	$\lambda$	0	0	0	0
C	$\sigma$	$\theta$	$\beta$	2	0	0	0
D	$\pi$	$\beta$	$\theta$	0	2	0	0
E	$\mu$	0	0	0	0	$\gamma$	0
H	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

where  $A = a_{C_2}$  ,  $B = b_{C_2}$  ,  $C = C_{e-1}$  ,  $D = C_{e+1}$  ,  $E = P_e$   $\alpha = e(e^2-1)$  ,  
 $\beta = e(e^2-1)/2$  ,  $\gamma = e-1$  ,  $\sigma = e(e+1)$  ,  $\pi = e(e-1)$  ,  
 $\mu = (e^2-1)$  ,  $\omega = (e+1)$  and  $\lambda = (e+1)$  .

Now let  $\underline{N} = (m(1), m({}^aC_2), m({}^bC_2), m(C_{e-1}), m(C_{e+1}), m(P_e), m(H))$

(for the entries of  $\underline{N}$ , see Table 2.3.8),

$\underline{Q} = (Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_7)$  and M the matrix of table of marks given in Table 2.3.9. Solving for the values of  $Q_i$  in the system of

linear equations  $\underline{M}^T \underline{Q}^T = \underline{N}^T$ ,

We get

$$\underline{Q} = \left( \frac{e^{3h-2} - e^{h+2} - e^{h+1} - 2e^h + e^{h-1} + e^3 + e^2 + e - 1}{(e^2-1)^2}, 0, 0, \right. \\ \left. \frac{e^{h-e}}{2(e-1)}, \frac{e^{h-e}}{2(e+1)}, \frac{e^{h-e}}{e(e-1)}, 1 \right).$$

for both  $e \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $e \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

Hence we have

Table 2.3.10

Suborbit length	1	$e^2-1$	$e(e-1)$	$e(e+1)$	$e(e^2-1)$
No. of Suborbits	1	$\frac{e^h-e}{e(e-1)}$	$\frac{e^h-e}{2(e+1)}$	$\frac{e^h-e}{2(e-1)}$	$\frac{e^{3h-2}-e^{h+2}-e^{h+1}-2e^h+e^{h-1}+e^3+e^2+e-1}{(e^2-1)^2}$

Therefore

$$r = \frac{e^{3h-2}+e^{h+3}-e^{h+1}-3e^h-e^2+2e+1}{(e^2-1)^2}.$$



## CHAPTER 3

### SUBORBITAL GRAPHS CORRESPONDING TO PRIMITIVE PERMUTATION REPRESENTATIONS OF $PSL(2,q)$ AND $PGL(2,q)$

After having calculated the subdegrees of the primitive permutation representations of the groups  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$  (see chap 2), the next natural and indeed quite an interesting problem is that of constructing and finding the properties of the suborbital graph corresponding to a given suborbit. This problem is obviously quite complicated and we cannot expect a straightforward answer which covers all the suborbits of a given group.

For groups  $PSL(2,q)$  and  $PGL(2,q)$ , Faradžev and Ivanov [7] have classified the suborbital graphs which are distance-transitive through the approach of determining the distance-transitive representations of these groups.

This chapter is divided into four sections. In section 3.1 we give some notation, definitions and results which will be used in the remainder of the chapter.

In section 3.2 we discuss the suborbits of  $PSL(2,q)$  formed by pairs of points of  $PG(1,q)$  intersecting  $\{0,\infty\}$  in a singleton and give a construction of their corresponding suborbital graphs when  $PSL(2,q)$  acts on the cosets of the

dihedral subgroup  $D_{w(1)}$  fixing  $\{0, \infty\}$ .

In section 3.3 we give a construction of the suborbital graph of  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  corresponding to the suborbit of length  $2w(1)$  when  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  acts on the cosets of the dihedral subgroup  $D_{2w(1)}$  fixing  $\{0, \infty\}$ .

In section 3.4 we discuss the suborbits of  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  of lengths less than  $2w(1)$  and give a construction of their corresponding suborbital graphs when  $\text{PGL}(2, q)$  acts on the cosets of the dihedral subgroup  $D_{2w(1)}$  fixing  $\{0, \infty\}$ .

### 3.1. Suborbital graphs

This section gives background material of the results to be proved later in the chapter. A detailed treatment of the results to be found in this section may be obtained from Sims [19] or Neumann [16].

Let  $G$  be a transitive permutation group acting on a set  $X$ . Then  $G$  acts on  $X \times X$  by  $g(x, y) = (gx, gy)$ ,  $g \in G$ ,  $x, y \in X$ .

If  $\Delta \subseteq X \times X$  is a  $G$ -orbit, then for any

$x \in X$ ,  $\Delta_x = \{y \in X \mid (x, y) \in \Delta\}$  is a  $G_x$ -orbit on  $X$ . Conversely if

$\Delta \subseteq X$  is a  $G_x$ -orbit, then  $\Delta = \{(gx, gy) \mid g \in G, y \in \Delta\}$  is a  $G$ -orbit on  $X \times X$ . We say  $\Delta$  corresponds to  $\Delta_x$ .

Lemma 3.1.1 Let  $G$  be a transitive permutation group acting on  $X$ .

Then there are bijections  $(\leftrightarrow)$  between:

- (a) the set of orbits of  $G_x$  on  $X$ , for fixed  $x \in X$ ;
- (b) the set of orbits of  $G$  on  $X \times X$ ;
- (c) the set of double cosets  $G_x g G_x$ ,  $g \in G$ , for fixed  $x \in X$ .

Proof Since  $G$  is transitive on  $X$ , by Theorem 1.1.2 the action of  $G$  on  $X$  is equivalent to action by right multiplication on the right cosets  $G_x g$ , the  $G_x$ -orbit containing  $G_x g$  has the form  $G_x g G_x$ , so  $(a) \leftrightarrow (c)$ .

Given a  $G$ -orbit  $\Delta \subseteq X \times X$ , let  $\Delta_x = \{y \in X \mid (x, y) \in \Delta\}$  for a fixed  $x \in X$ ; one easily checks that  $\Delta_x$  is a  $G_x$ -orbit. Conversely, given a  $G_x$ -orbit  $\Delta_x \subseteq X$ , define

$$\Delta = \{(gx, gy) \mid g \in G, y \in \Delta_x\}, \quad \text{a } G\text{-orbit in } X \times X.$$

Then  $\Delta \leftrightarrow \Delta_x$  gives  $(a) \leftrightarrow (b)$ .  $\square$

The  $G_x$ -orbits on  $X$  are called suborbits (see §2.1) and

$G$ -orbits on  $X \times X$  are called suborbitals.

Let  $\Delta_i \subseteq X \times X$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, r-1$ , be a suborbital. Then

we form a graph  $\Gamma_i$ , by taking  $X$  as the set of vertices of  $\Gamma_i$  and by including a directed edge from  $x$  to  $y$  ( $x, y \in X$ ) if and



only if  $(x,y) \in O_i$ . Thus each suborbital  $O_i$  determines a suborbital graph  $\Gamma_i$ .

Now  $O_i^* = \{(x,y) \mid (y,x) \in O_i\}$  is a  $G$ -orbit. Let  $\Gamma_i^*$  be the

suborbital graph corresponding to the suborbital  $O_i^*$ . Let the

suborbit  $\Delta_i$  ( $i=0,1,\dots,r-1$ ) correspond to the suborbital  $O_i$ .

Then  $\Gamma_i$  is undirected if  $\Delta_i$  is self-paired (because directed

edges arise in pairs , which are to be amalgamated into a single undirected edge , and  $\Gamma_i$  is directed if  $\Delta_i$  is not

self-paired.

Theorem 3.1.2 Let  $\Gamma$  be any suborbital graph for a transitive group  $G$  on  $X$ . Then  $G \leq \text{Aut } \Gamma$ , and  $G$  is transitive on the vertices of  $\Gamma$ . If  $\Gamma$  is directed then  $G$  is transitive on directed edges. If  $\Gamma$  is undirected then  $G$  is transitive on ordered pairs of adjacent vertices.

(See Sims [19].)

A graph is said to be connected if for any two points  $x$  and  $y$ , there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$ .

Theorem 3.1.3 Let  $G$  be transitive on  $X$ . Then  $G$  is primitive if and only if each suborbital graph  $\Gamma_i$ ,  $i=1,2,\dots,r-1$  is

connected.

(See Sims [19].)

**3.2 The suborbits of  $G = \text{PSL}(2, q)$  formed by pairs of points of  $\text{PG}(1, q)$  intersecting  $\{0, \infty\}$  in a singleton when  $G$  acts on the cosets of the dihedral subgroup  $D_{w(1)}$  and their corresponding suborbital graphs**

We recall from parts 2) of § 2.2 that these are the two suborbits of  $G$  formed by pairs of points of  $u$  (where  $\langle u \rangle$  is the maximal cyclic subgroup of the dihedral group  $D_{w(1)}$  lying in different cycles of unequal lengths in  $u$ ).

**Notation**

When  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  we shall denote by  $O_a$  the suborbital  $\{\{0, a\}, \{\infty, a\} \mid a \text{ is a square in } \text{GF}(q), a \neq 0\}$  and by  $O_b$  the suborbital  $\{\{0, b\}, \{\infty, b\} \mid b \text{ is not a square in } \text{GF}(q)\}$  and by  $\Delta_a$  and  $\Gamma_a$  and by  $\Delta_b$  and  $\Gamma_b$  their corresponding suborbits and suborbital graphs respectively.

When  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , we shall denote by  $O_a^b$  the suborbital  $\{\{0, a\}, \{\infty, b\} \mid a \text{ is a square in } \text{GF}(q), a \neq 0, b \text{ not a square in } \text{GF}(q)\}$ , by  $O_b^a$  the suborbital  $\{\{0, b\}, \{\infty, a\} \mid a \text{ is a square in } \text{GF}(q)\}$ .

$GF(q)$ ,  $a \neq 0$ ,  $b$  not a square in  $GF(q)$  and by  $\Delta_a^b$  and  $\Gamma_a^b$  and

by  $\Delta_b^a$  and  $\Gamma_b^a$  their corresponding suborbits and suborbital

graphs respectively.

Theorem 3.2.1 When  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\Gamma_a$  and  $\Gamma_b$  are self-paired.

Proof  $\Gamma_a$ : By Lemma 2.2.6,  $\{0, 1\}$  and  $\{0, -1\} \in \Delta_a$ .

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  maps  $\{0, \infty\}$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  and  $\{0, -1\}$  to  $\{0, \infty\}$ . Hence  $\Gamma_a$  is

self-paired.

$\Gamma_b$ : By corollary 2.2.7  $\{0, b\}$ ,  $\{0, -b^{-1}\} \in \Delta_b$ .

$\begin{pmatrix} b^{-1} & 0 \\ -1 & b \end{pmatrix}$  maps  $\{0, \infty\}$  to  $\{0, -b^{-1}\}$  and  $\{0, b\}$  to  $\{0, \infty\}$ .

Hence  $\Gamma_b$  is self-paired.  $\square$

Theorem 3.2.2 When  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $\Gamma_a^b$  and  $\Gamma_b^a$  are paired.

Proof Take  $\{\infty, 1\} \in \Delta_b^a$  and  $g = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $g(\{\infty, 1\}) = \{0, \infty\}$  and

$g(\{0, \infty\}) = \{0, 1\} \in \Delta_a^b$ .

Hence  $\Gamma_a^b$  and  $\Gamma_b^a$  are paired.  $\square$

Given a pair  $\{v, h\}$ ,  $v, h \in GF(q)$  ( $v \neq h$ ); since  $PSL(2, q)$  is doubly transitive, there exists a  $g \in PSL(2, q)$  such that  $g(\infty) = v$  and  $g(0) = h$ . Our aim here is to express  $g$  in terms of  $v$  and  $h$  and later give a construction for the graphs  $\Gamma_a, \Gamma_b, \Gamma_b^a$

and  $\Gamma_a^b$ .

We represent  $v$  as  $\frac{v}{1}$  and  $h$  as  $\frac{x}{y}$ , where

$$x = h(v-h)^{-1}$$

and

$$y = (v-h)^{-1}.$$

We immediately have,

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} v & h(v-h)^{-1} \\ 1 & (v-h)^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \in PSL(2, q) \text{ ----- (3.2.1) .}$$

If one of  $v, h$ , is  $\infty$ , put  $v = \infty$ . Now  $g$  becomes

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & h \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ ----- (3.2.2) .}$$

Asuming  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , the following theorem gives a construction for  $\Gamma_a$ .

Theorem 3.2.3  $(\{v, h\}, \{c, d\})$  is in  $\Gamma_a$  for each of the following cases, and only for these

- (a)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = v$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (va + h(v-h)^{-1})(a + (v-h)^{-1})^{-1}$ ,
- (b)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = h$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (va + h(v-h)^{-1})(a + (v-h)^{-1})^{-1}$ ,
- (c)  $c[\text{or } d] = v = \infty$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = a + h$
- (d)  $v = \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = h$ , and  $d[\text{or } c] = a + h$ .

Proof (a) Since  $(\{\infty, 0\}, \{\infty, a\})$  is in  $\Gamma_a$  if  $(\{v, h\}, \{c, d\})$  is in  $\Gamma_a$ , there exists  $g \in \text{PSL}(2, q)$  which sends  $\infty$  to  $v$  and  $0$  to  $h$ . From (3.2.1), we can choose  $g$  to be

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & h(v-h)^{-1} \\ 1 & (v-h)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now  $g(\{\infty, a\}) = (\{c, d\}) \Rightarrow g(\infty) = c \text{ [ or } d] \Rightarrow v = c \text{ [ or } d]$

and

$$\begin{pmatrix} v & h(v-h)^{-1} \\ 1 & (v-h)^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} va + h(v-h)^{-1} \\ a + (v-h)^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

$d[\text{or } c] = (va + h(v-h)^{-1})(a + (v-h)^{-1})^{-1}$ , so (a) holds. Since  $(\{\infty, 0\}, \{0, a\})$  is in  $\Gamma_a$ , we similarly obtain (b).



If one of  $v, h$  is  $\infty$  and taking  $v = \infty$ , by (3.2.2) we take  $g$  to

be 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & h \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now repeating the arguments in (a) we obtain (c) and (d).  $\square$ .

Replacing the  $a$  in Theorem 3.2.3 with  $b$  we get a construction for  $\Gamma_b$ .

Theorem 3.2.4

When  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $(\{v, h\}, \{c, d\})$  is in  $\Gamma_b^a$  for each of the

following cases, and only for these

(a)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = v$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (va + h(v-h)^{-1})(a + (v-h)^{-1})^{-1}$ ,

(b)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = h$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (vb + h(v-h)^{-1})(b + (v-h)^{-1})^{-1}$ ,

(c)  $c[\text{or } d] = v = \infty$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = a + h$

(d)  $v = \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = h$ , and  $d[\text{or } c] = b + h$ .

Proof We use arguments similar to those in Theorem 3.2.3.  $\square$

The construction for  $\Gamma_a^b$  follows from Theorem 3.2.4 after

interchanging  $a$  and  $b$ .

# Examples

## 1. $G = \text{PSL}(2,3)$

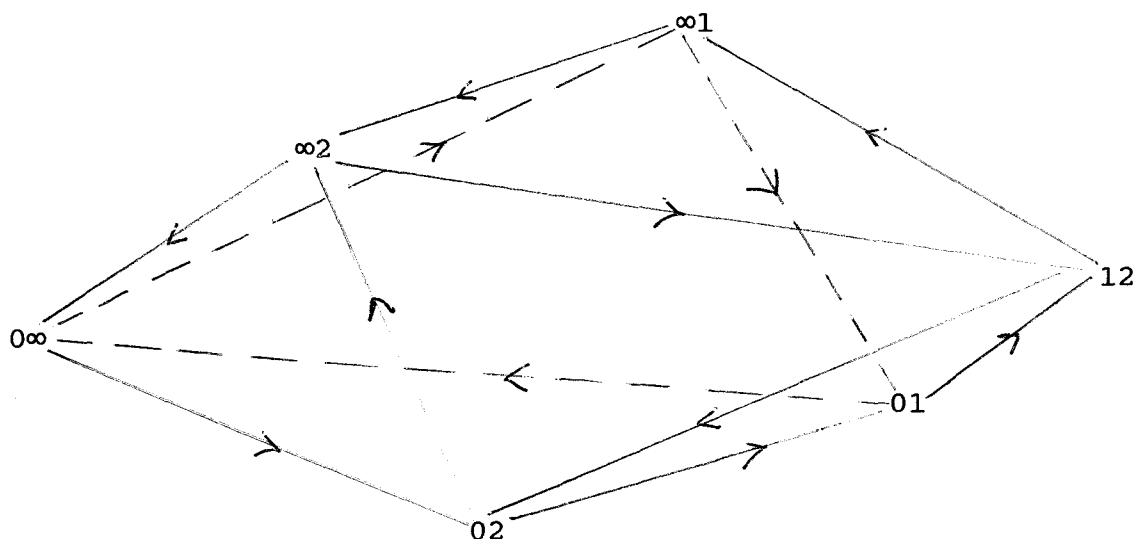
$$u = (0) (\infty) (1) (2)$$

The following are the suborbits of  $G$  with each column containing pair of points in the same suborbit.

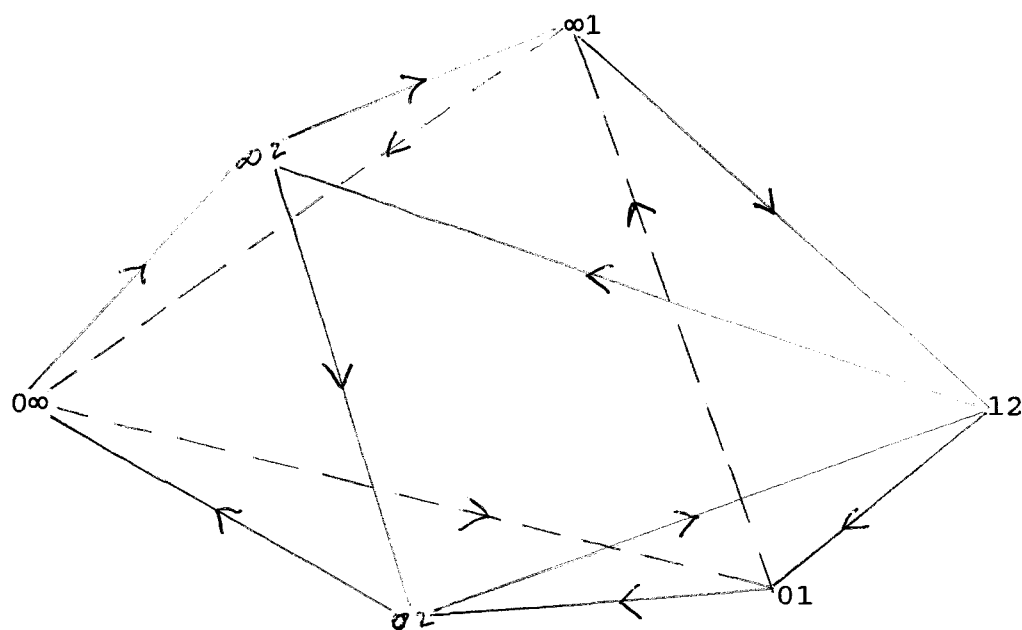
$$\begin{array}{cccc} \{\infty, 1\} & \{\infty, 2\} & & \\ \{0, \infty\} & \{0, 2\} & \{0, 1\} & \{1, 2\} \end{array}$$

We draw the graphs with unordered pairs  $\{a, b\}$  abbreviated to  $ab$ .

Suborbital graph  $\Gamma_b^a$



Suborbital graph  $\Gamma_a^b$



$\Gamma_b^a$  and  $\Gamma_a^b$  are octahedral graphs.

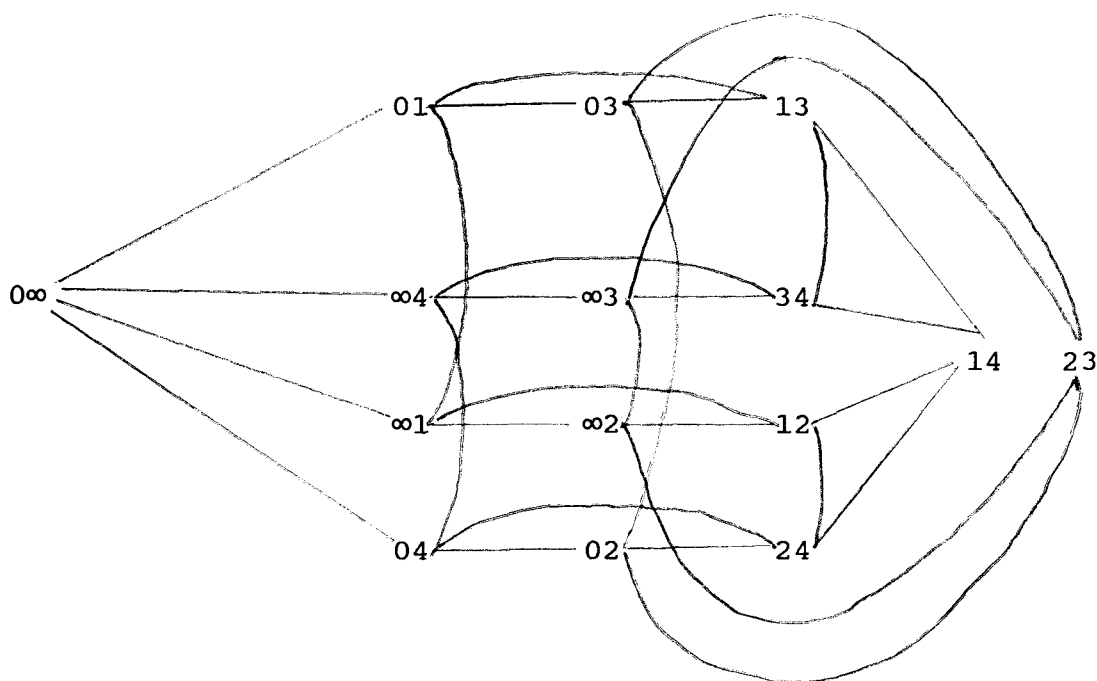
2.  $G = \text{PSL}(2,5)$

$$u = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = (0)(\infty)(14)(23)$$

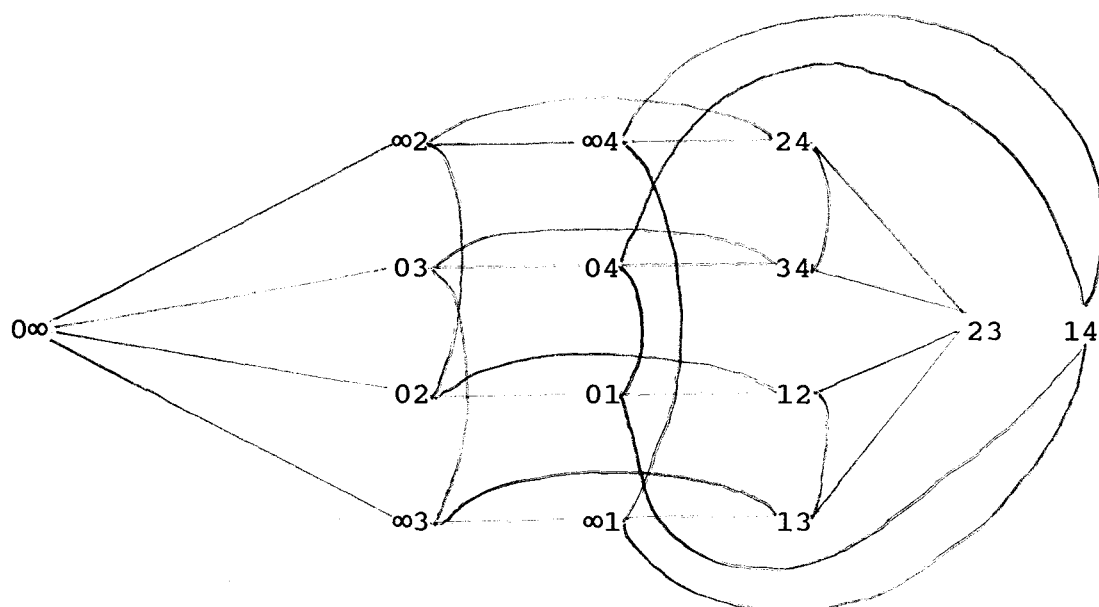
The following are the suborbits of  $G$ :

	$\{0,1\}$	$\{0,2\}$	$\{1,3\}$		
$\{0,\infty\}$	$\{0,4\}$	$\{0,3\}$	$\{3,4\}$	$\{1,4\}$	$\{2,3\}$
	$\{\infty,1\}$	$\{\infty,2\}$	$\{1,2\}$		
	$\{\infty,4\}$	$\{\infty,3\}$	$\{1,3\}$		

Suborbital graph  $\Gamma_u$



Suborbital graph  $\Gamma_b$



Lemma 3.2.5 The suborbital graphs  $\Gamma_a, \Gamma_b, \Gamma_b^a$  and  $\Gamma_a^b$  all have

girth 3.

Proof  $\Gamma_a$ : Since  $\{\infty, 1\}, \{0, 1\} \in \Delta_a$  in  $\Gamma_a$ ,  $\{0, \infty\}$  is adjacent to  $\{\infty, 1\}$  and  $\{0, 1\}$ . By Lemma 2.2.6 and Theorem 3.2.3 (d) and taking  $\{v, h\}$  to be  $\{\infty, 1\}$  and  $a$  to be  $-1$ , we find that  $(\{0, 1\}, \{\infty, 1\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma_a$ , giving a triangle.

$\Gamma_b$ : Since  $\{\infty, b\}, \{0, b\} \in \Delta_b$  in  $\Gamma_b$ ,  $\{0, \infty\}$  is adjacent to  $\{\infty, b\}$  and  $\{0, b\}$ . Taking  $\{v, h\}$  to be  $\{\infty, b\}$  and substituting  $-b$  for  $a$  in Theorem 3.2.3 (d); by Corollary 2.2.7 and Theorem 3.2.3 (d),  $(\{\infty, b\}, \{0, b\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma_b$ , giving a triangle.

$\Gamma_b^a$  :  $(\{0, \infty\}, \{\infty, 1\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma_b^a$ .

By Theorem 3.2.4 (d),  $(\{\infty, 1\}, \{0, 1\})$  is also an edge in  $\Gamma_b^a$ .

Since  $\{0, 1\}$  is in  $\Delta_a^b$ ,  $(\{0, \infty\}, \{0, 1\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma_a^b$ . Now we

know that  $\Gamma_b^a$  and  $\Gamma_a^b$  are paired and therefore  $(\{0, 1\}, \{0, \infty\})$

is an edge in  $\Gamma_b^a$ , giving us a triangle.

$\Gamma_a^b$  : Since  $\Gamma_b^a$  and  $\Gamma_a^b$  are paired,  $\Gamma_b^a$  has girth 3

$\Leftrightarrow \Gamma_a^b$  has girth 3.  $\square$

Theorem 3.2.6  $\Gamma_a \cup \Gamma_b$  has diameter 2.

Proof  $(\{a, b\}, \{c, d\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma_a \cup \Gamma_b$  if and only if  $|\{a, b\} \cap \{c, d\}| = 1$ . If  $\{x, y\}$  and  $\{v, h\}$  are any two vertices not forming an edge in  $\Gamma_a \cup \Gamma_b$ , then

$$d(\{x, y\}, \{v, h\}) \leq d(\{x, y\}, \{y, v\}) + d(\{y, v\}, \{v, h\}) = 2$$

Hence  $d(\{x, y\}, \{v, h\}) = 2$ .  $\square$

Let  $X$  be a finite set. The Johnson graph of the  $m$ -sets in  $X$

has vertex set  $\binom{X}{m}$ , the collection of  $m$ -subsets of  $X$ . Two

vertices  $x, y$  are adjacent whenever  $x \cap y$  has cardinality  $m-1$ .

When  $X$  is some unspecified  $n$ -set we denote the graph by  $J(n, m)$ .  $\Gamma_a \cup \Gamma_b$  is in the family of graphs  $J(n, 2)$ , usually called the triangular graphs ( see Higman [12]).

Theorem 3.2.7  $\Gamma_a$  and  $\Gamma_b$  are isomorphic.

Proof Let  $\beta$  be a generator of  $GF(q)^*$  and

$$\begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = (0) (\infty) (a_1 \ a_2 \ - \ - \ - \ a_{w(2)}) (b_1 \ b_2 \ - \ - \ - \ b_{w(2)}) , \text{ where } a_i$$

and  $b_i$  are squares and non-squares in  $GF(q)^*$  respectively.

$$\text{Let } \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (0) (\infty) (a_1 b_1 a_2 b_2 \ - \ - \ - \ a_{w(2)} \ b_{w(2)}) .$$

From Theorem 3.2.6, we have immediately

$$\gamma : \Gamma_a \rightarrow \Gamma_b \text{ is an isomorphism defined by } \gamma(a_i) = b_i. \quad \square$$

### 3.3 The suborbital graph $\Gamma$ of $G = PGL(2, q)$ corresponding to the suborbit of length $2w(1)$ when $G$ acts on the coset of the dihedral subgroup $D_{2w(1)}$ .

The suborbit under consideration is the only suborbit of length  $2w(1)$  and therefore it must be self-paired (see part 2) of

$$\oint 2.3).$$

Since  $G$  is doubly transitive; given a pair  $\{v, h\}$ ,  $v \neq h$ ,  $v, h \in PG(1, q)$ , there exists  $g \in G$  such that  $g(\infty) = v$  and  $g(0) = h$ .

For  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $g$  can be chosen to be  $\begin{pmatrix} v & h \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . If either  $v$

or  $h$  is  $\infty$ , then we can choose  $g$  to be  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & h \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  or  $\begin{pmatrix} v & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

respectively. Now let  $\beta$  be a generator of  $GF(q)^*$ ; using the ideas above, we construct the suborbital graph  $\Gamma$  as follows:

Theorem 3.3.1  $(\{v, h\}, \{c, d\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma$  for each of the following cases, and only for these

- (a)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $v = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= (v\beta^i + h)(\beta^i + 1)^{-1}$ ,
- (b)  $v, h \neq \infty$ ,  $h = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= (v\beta^i + h)(\beta^i + 1)^{-1}$ ,
- (c)  $v = \infty$ ,  $v = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= \beta^i + h$ ,
- (d)  $v = \infty$ ,  $h = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= \beta^i + h$ ,
- (e)  $h = \infty$ ,  $v = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= (v\beta^i + 1)\beta^{-i}$ ,
- (f)  $h = \infty$ ,  $h = c$  [or  $d$ ] and  $d$  [or  $c$ ]  $= (v\beta^i + 1)\beta^{-i}$ ,

where  $1 \leq i \leq w(1)$ .

Proof See the proof of Theorem 3.2.3.  $\square$

We note that  $\Gamma = \Gamma_a \cup \Gamma_b$  (see Theorem 3.2.6) is the Johnson graph  $J(n, 2)$ .

It was shown by Higman [12] that the full automorphism group of the Johnson graph  $J(n, 2)$  is  $S_n$  when  $n > 4$ .



From Lemma 3.2.5, the girth of  $\Gamma$  is 3; in fact it can straightforwardly be seen that if  $\{x,y\}, \{y,v\}$  and  $\{x,v\}$ ,  $v \neq x,y$  are vertices of  $\Gamma$ , they form a circuit of length 3.

3.4 Suborbital graphs  $\Gamma$  of  $G = \text{PGL}(2,q)$  corresponding to the suborbits of lengths less than  $2w(1)$  when  $G$  acts on the cosets of the dihedral subgroup  $D_{2w(1)}$

Let  $\Delta$  be a suborbit of length less than  $2w(1)$ . Then  $\Delta$  has a representative  $\{1,x\}$  for some  $x \in \text{GF}(q)^*$ .

Lemma 3.4.1 If  $\{1,x\} \in \Delta$ , then  $\{1,x^{-1}\} \in \Delta$ .

Proof  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in D_{2w(1)}$  maps  $\{1,x\}$  to  $\{1,x^{-1}\}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.4.2 If  $\{1,x\} \in \Delta$ , then  $\{-1,-x\} \in \Delta$ .

Proof  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in D_{2w(1)}$  maps  $\{1,x\}$  to  $\{-1,-x\}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 3.4.3  $\Delta$  is self-paired.

Proof The transformation  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & x \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  takes  $\{1,x\}$  to  $\{0,\infty\}$  and

$\{0,\infty\}$  to  $\{-x,-1\}$ . Hence by Lemma 3.4.2  $\Delta$  is self-paired.  $\square$

Let  $\beta$  be a generator of  $\text{GF}(q)^*$  and as before let  $\{1,x\}$  be a representative of the suborbit  $\Delta$ . The elements in this

suborbit are of the form  $\{\beta^i, x\beta^i\}$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq w(1)$ .

By arguments similar to those in Theorem 3.2.3, we have:

Theorem 3.4.4  $(\{v, h\}, \{c, d\})$  is an edge in  $\Gamma$  for each of the following cases, and only for these

(a)  $c[\text{or } d] = (v\beta^i + h)(\beta^i + 1)^{-1}$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (vx\beta^i + h)(x\beta^i + 1)^{-1}$ ,

(b)  $v = \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = \beta^i + h$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = x\beta^i + h$ ,

(c)  $h = \infty$ ,  $c[\text{or } d] = \beta^{-i}(v\beta^i + 1)$  and  $d[\text{or } c] = (x\beta^i)^{-1}(vx\beta^i + 1)$ .

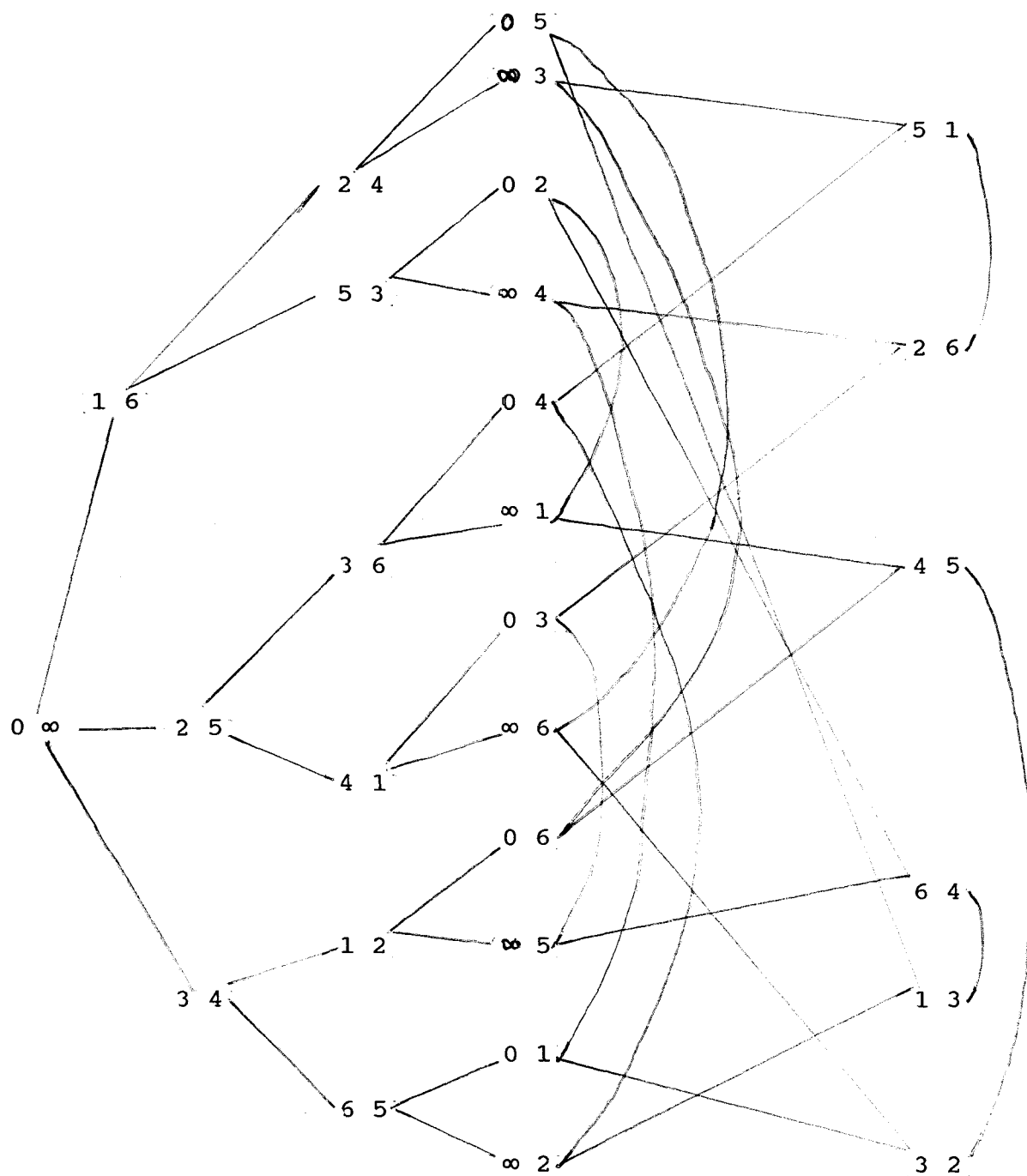
Theorem 3.4.5 If  $x \neq -1$ ,  $\text{diam } \Gamma \leq 4$  and if  $x = -1$ ,  $\text{diam } \Gamma \leq 6$ .

(See Bon and Cohen [3].)

As an example, we use Theorem 3.4.4 to construct the suborbital graph of  $\text{PGL}(2, 7)$  with  $\{1, -1\}$  as a representative of  $\Delta$ .

$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = (0)(\infty)(132645)$  generates the maximal cyclic subgroup

of  $D_{12}$ .



This graph was described by Tutte [22] and he ascribed it to H.S.M. Coxeter. The graph has been studied in details by Biggs [2]. For other description of this graph, one may refer to

Biggs and Smith [1]. This graph is among the twelve trivalent graphs whose automorphism groups act transitively on pairs of vertices at each particular distance apart (trivalent distance-transitive graphs) (see Biggs and Smith [1]). This graph is also among the list of the four trivalent distance-transitive graphs whose automorphism groups act primitively on their vertices (see Biggs [1]). In [1], Biggs has shown that like the famous Petersen graph, the Coxeter graph only just fails to be Hamiltonian.

Other suborbital graphs of projective linear groups which have been studied extensively are the Biggs-Smith graph and Perkel graph corresponding to a suborbit of  $\text{PSL}(2,17)$  and  $\text{PSL}(2,19)$  with  $S_4$  and  $A_5$  as the stabilizers respectively. Bon and Cohen [3] have shown these graphs to be distance-transitive.

## CHAPTER 4

### INTERSECTION MATRICES FOR $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$

This chapter is divided into two sections. In section 4.1 we give some notation, definitions and results to be used later in the chapter. In section 4.2 we find the general form of the intersection matrix of  $G$  relative to the suborbit of length  $2w(1)$  when  $G$  acts on the cosets of its dihedral subgroup  $D_{2w(1)}$  fixing  $\{0, \infty\}$ .

#### 4.1 intersection matrices for finite permutation groups

In this section we shall briefly consider the matrix  $M$  of intersection numbers of a suborbit  $\Delta$  of a group  $G$  on a finite set  $X$ . For detailed treatment we refer the reader to Higman [11]. For the most part we adhere to the notation of that paper. We also mention briefly the algebra spanned by the adjacency matrices corresponding to suborbital graphs of  $G$  on  $X$  and the connection between the intersection numbers and the multiplication constants defined by Neumann [16] p. 106.

Let  $G$  be a finite group acting on a finite set  $X$  and  $\Delta_{\mathbf{l}}^{(a)}$  be the  $\mathbf{l}^{\text{th}}$   $G_a$ -orbit for  $a \in X$  and for a given arrangement of the  $G_a$ -orbits. The  $G_b$ -orbits are also arranged such that if  $b \in X$  and  $g(a) = b$ , then  $g(\Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(a)) = \Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(g(a)) = \Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(b)$ .

The intersection numbers relative to a suborbit  $\Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(a)$  are defined by

$$\mu_{ij}^{\mathbf{l}} = |\Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(b) \cap \Delta_i(a)| \quad [b \in \Delta_j(a)].$$

If the rank of  $G$  is  $r$ , then the  $r \times r$  matrix  $M_{\mathbf{l}} = (\mu_{ij}^{\mathbf{l}})_{i,j}$  is

called the intersection matrix of  $\Delta_{\mathbf{l}}(a)$ . If  $|\Delta_i| = n_i$  and

as we had before  $\Delta_i^* = \Delta_{i^*}$  is the suborbit paired with  $\Delta_i$ ;

Higman [11] showed that

Theorem 4.1.1 (a)  $\mu_{io}^{(l)} = \begin{cases} n_i & \text{if } i = l, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq l. \end{cases}$

$$(b) \quad \mu_{oj}^{(l)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = l^*, \\ 0 & \text{if } j \neq l^*. \end{cases}$$

$$(c) \quad n_j \mu_{ij}^{(l)} = n_i \mu_{ji}^{(l^*)} \quad \text{and} \quad n_i \mu_{l^*i}^{(j)} = n_j \mu_{i^*j}^{(l)} = n_l \mu_{j^*l}^{(i)}.$$

Theorem 4.1.2  $M_l$  has column-sum  $n_l$ , and  $M_l L = n_l L$  where  $L$  is transpose of the vector  $(n_0, n_1, \dots, n_{r-1})$ .

Now let the orbits of a stabilizer

$G_a$  on  $X$  be  $\Delta_0, \Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_{r-1}$  and the corresponding orbits of  $G$  on

$X \times X$  be  $0_0, 0_1, 0_2, \dots, 0_{r-1}$ .

We define the corresponding adjacency matrices  $B_0, B_1, \dots, B_{r-1}$  to be  $n \times n$  matrices where  $n = |X|$  with rows and columns

indexed by  $X$ , where  $(B_i)_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x,y) \in 0_i, \\ 0 & \text{if } (x,y) \notin 0_i. \end{cases}$

If we identify  $G$  with a group of permutation matrices  $P_g$  in the usual way:

$P_g = (g_{x,y})$  where

$$g_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g(x) = y, \\ 0 & \text{if } g(x) \neq y, \end{cases}$$


we have

Lemma 4.1.3 The set  $\{B_0, B_1, \dots, B_{r-1}\}$  is a basis for the space  $V$  of all matrices over  $C$  commuting with every element of  $G$ .

(see Neumann [16], Lemma 5.)

Corollary 4.1.4 The space  $V$  spanned by the adjacency matrices  $B_0, B_1, \dots, B_{r-1}$  is an algebra. That is, there exist

integers  $a_{ijl} \geq 0$  such that  $B_i B_j = \sum_{l=0}^{r-1} a_{ijl} B_l$ .

If  $O_i, O_j$  are suborbitals, with suborbital graphs  $\Gamma_i, \Gamma_j$  and adjacency matrices  $B_i, B_j$ , the constant  $a_{ijl}$  (see corollary 4.1.4) is the number of triangles  based on a given pair  $(x, y) \in O_l$  where the edges labelled  $i, j, l$  belong to  $\Gamma_i, \Gamma_j, \Gamma_l$ . The non-negative integers  $a_{ijl}$  are called the multiplication constants. The multiplication constant  $a_{ijl}$  is the same as the intersection number  $\mu_{il}^{(j*)}$

(see Neumann 16, p.106).



#### 4.2 Intersection matrices for $G = \text{PGL}(2, q)$ on the cosets of $D_{2w(1)}$

In this section we shall find the general form of the intersection matrix of  $G$  on  $D_{2w(1)}$  relative to the suborbit of length  $2w(1)$  for  $q$  both odd and even. Some multiplication constants can easily be got from this intersection matrix according to the discussion we had in section 4.1. In particular the number of triangles on every edge of the suborbital graph corresponding to this intersection matrix is found.

The suborbits of  $G$  on  $D_{2w(1)}$  were discussed in length in section 2.3. In what follows we assume the knowledge of that section. In section 3.3 and 3.4 all these suborbits were shown to be self-paired.

We start by considering the case when  $q$  is odd.

Throughout the suborbits of  $G$  are assumed to have the following arrangement:-

$$\Delta_0 = \{0, \infty\}, \Delta_1, \Delta_2, \dots, \Delta_{\frac{q-3}{2}}, \Delta_{w(2)}, \Delta_{z(2)},$$

Where

$$|\Delta_1| = |\Delta_2| = \dots = |\Delta_{\frac{q-3}{2}}| = w(1),$$

$$|\Delta_{w(2)}| = w(2) \quad \text{and} \quad |\Delta_{z(2)}| = 2w(1).$$

Let  $\beta$  be a generator of  $GF(q)^*$ ; we can then take

$u = \begin{pmatrix} \beta & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , which in disjoint cycle decomposition form is

$(0)(\infty)(1 \beta \beta^2 \dots \beta^{q-2})$ , to be a generator of the maximal cyclic subgroup of  $D_{2w(1)}$ .

The suborbits  $\Delta_i, 1 \leq i \leq w(2)$  are arranged in such a way that  $\Delta_i$  has a representative  $\{1, \beta^i\}$ , while  $\{1, 0\}$  is a representative of  $\Delta_{z(2)}$ .

We now compute the intersection matrix  $M_{z(2)}$ . We compute the intersection numbers in several steps:

(i) The intersection numbers  $\mu_{i,l}^{z(2)}$  and  $\mu_{i,z(2)}^{z(2)}$ , where

$l \neq z(2), i \neq w(2), z(2)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_i \{0, \infty\} = & \{ \{1, \beta^i\}, \{\beta, \beta^{i+1}\}, \{\beta^2, \beta^{i+2}\}, \{\beta^3, \beta^{i+3}\}, \dots \\ & \dots, \{\beta^{q-2-i}, \beta^{q-2}\}, \{\beta^{q-1-i}, 1\}, \{\beta^{q-i}, \beta\}, \{\beta^{q-i+1}, \beta^2\} \dots \\ & \dots, \{\beta^{q-2}, \beta^{i-1}\} \} \end{aligned} \quad \text{----- (4.2.1)}$$

$$\Delta_{z(2)}\{1, \beta^l\} = \{\{1, 0\}, \{1, \infty\}, \{\beta^l, 0\}, \{\beta^l, \infty\}, \{\bigcup_{j \neq 0, l} \{1, \beta^j\}\}, \{\bigcup_{j \neq 0, l} \{\beta^l, \beta^j\}\}\}$$

----- (4.2.2)

$$\Delta_{z(2)}\{1, 0\} = \{\{\bigcup_{j \neq 0} \{1, \beta^j\}\}, \{\bigcup_{j \neq 0} \{0, \beta^j\}\}, \{0, \infty\}, \{1, \infty\}\} - (4.2.3).$$

(a) If  $i=l$ , (4.2.1) and (4.2.2) intersect at  $\{\beta^{q-1-i}, 1\}$  and  $\{\beta^l, \beta^{2l}\}$ .

Hence  $\mu_{i,i}^{(z(2))} = 2$ .

(b) If  $i \neq l$ , (4.21) and (4.22) intersect at

$$\left\{ \{1, \beta^i\}, \{\beta^{q-1-i}, 1\}, \{\beta^l, \beta^{i+l}\}, \{\beta^{q-i+l-1}, \beta^l\} \right\}.$$

Hence

$$\mu_{i,l}^{(z(2))} = 4.$$

(c) (4.2.1) and (4.2.3) intersect at  $\{1, \beta^i\}$  and  $\{\beta^{q-1-i}, 1\}$ .

Hence

$$\mu_{i,z(2)}^{(z(2))} = 2.$$

(ii) The intersection numbers  $\mu_{w(2), l}^{z(2)}$ ,  $l \neq z(2)$  and  $\mu_{w(2), z(2)}^{z(2)}$  .

$$\Delta_{w(2)}\{0, \infty\} = \left\{ \{1, \beta^{w(2)}\}, \{\beta, \beta^{z(2)}\}, \{\beta^2, \beta^{(q+3)/2}\}, \dots, \{\beta^{(q-3)/2}, \beta^{q-2}\} \right\}$$

----- (4.2.4) .

(d) If  $l=w(2)$ , (4.2.2) and (4.2.4) have empty intersection.

Hence

$$\mu_{w(2), w(2)}^{z(2)} = 0 .$$

(e) If  $l \neq w(2)$ , (4.2.2) and (4.2.4) intersect at  $\{1, \beta^{w(2)}\}$  and  $\{\beta^l, \beta^{(q-1+2l)/2}\}$  .

Hence

$$\mu_{w(2), l}^{z(2)} = 2 .$$

(f) (4.2.3) and (4.2.4) intersect at  $\{1, \beta^{w(2)}\}$  .

Hence  $\mu_{w(2), z(2)}^{z(2)} = 1$  .

(iii) intersection numbers  $\mu_{z(2), l}^{z(2)}$

$$\Delta_{z(2)}\{0, \infty\} = \left\{ \left\{ \bigcup \{0, \beta^i\} \right\}, \left\{ \bigcup \{\infty, \beta^j\} \right\} \right\} \text{ ---- (4.2.5)}$$

(g) If  $l=z(2)$ , then (4.2.2) and (4.2.5) intersect at  $\left\{ \{1, \infty\}, \left\{ \bigcup_{j \neq 0} \{0, \beta^j\} \right\} \right\}$  .

Hence  $\mu_{z(2), z(2)}^{z(2)} = w(1)$  .

(h) If  $\mathbb{L} \neq z(2)$ , then (4.2.2) and (4.2.5) intersect at  $\left\{ \{1, 0\}, \{1, \infty\}, \cup \beta^l, 0\}, \{ \beta^l, \infty\} \right\}$ .

Hence  $\mu_{z(2),1}^{(z(2))} = 4$ .

Combining Theorem 4.1.1 (a) and (b) with (a) - (h) above we have

Theorem 4.2.1 The intersection matrix  $M_{z(2)}$  when  $q$  is odd is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 & \dots & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 & 4 & \dots & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ . & . & . & . & \dots & . & . & . \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 4 & \dots & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 & \dots & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 2w(1) & 4 & 4 & 4 & \dots & 4 & 4 & w(1) \end{pmatrix}$$

### Examples

(1) When  $q=3$

$$M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(2) When q=5

$$M_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 8 & 4 & 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

(3) When q=7

$$M_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 12 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Next we consider the case when q is even.

The arrangements of the suborbits of G is taken as follows:-

$$\Delta_0 = \{0, \infty\}, \Delta_1, \dots, \Delta_{\frac{q-2}{2}}, \Delta_{\frac{q}{2}},$$

where  $|\Delta_1| = |\Delta_2| = \dots = |\Delta_{\frac{q-2}{2}}| = w(1)$  ,  $|\Delta_{\frac{q}{2}}| = 2w(1)$  and for

a generator  $\beta$  of  $GF(q)^*$ ,  $\Delta_i$  has a representative  $\{1, \beta^i\}$  for

$1 \leq i \leq \frac{q-2}{2}$  , while  $\{1, 0\}$  is a representative for the

suborbit  $\Delta_{\frac{q}{2}}$ .

We now compute the intersection matrix  $M_{\frac{q}{2}}$ .

As in the previous case,  $\Delta_i\{0, \infty\}$ ,  $\Delta_{\frac{q}{2}}\{1, \beta^q\}$ ,  $\Delta_{\frac{q}{2}}\{1, 0\}$ , and

$\Delta_{\frac{q}{2}}\{0, \infty\}$  can easily be found. Arguments similar to those used

before give us

Theorem 4.2.2 The intersecting Matrix  $M_{q/2}$

is of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots\dots\dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 & \dots\dots\dots & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 & 4 & \dots\dots\dots & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 2 & \dots\dots\dots & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots\dots\dots & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 4 & \dots\dots\dots & 4 & 2 & 2 \\ 2w(1) & 4 & 4 & 4 & \dots\dots\dots & 4 & 4 & w(1) \end{pmatrix}$$

Since in general the multiplication constant  $a_{ijl}$  is the

same as the intersection number  $\mu_{i\downarrow}^{(j^*)}$ , from Theorems 4.1.1

and 4.2.1 we can easily get the multiplication constants  $a_{iz(2)l}$ ,  $a_{z(2)jl}$  and  $a_{ijz(2)}$  for  $0 \leq i, j, l \leq z(2)$ . Similarly Theorems 4.1.1 and 4.2.2 give us multiplication constants  $a_{i\frac{q}{2}l}$ ,  $a_{\frac{q}{2}jl}$

and  $a_{ij\frac{q}{2}}$  for  $0 \leq i, j, l \leq \frac{q}{2}$ .

In particular if  $\tau_{z(2)}$  and  $\tau_{\frac{q}{2}}$  are the suborbital

graphs corresponding to the intersection matrices  $M_{z(2)}$  and  $M_{\frac{q}{2}}$

respectively, we have

Lemma 4.2.3 The number of triangles on every edge of  $\tau_{z(2)}$

and  $\tau_{\frac{q}{2}}$  is  $w(1)$ .

Proof

The number of triangles on each edge in the graphs  $\tau_{z(2)}$  and  $\tau_{\frac{q}{2}}$



are the multiplication constants  $a_{z(2)z(2)z(2)}$  and  $a_{\frac{q}{2}\frac{q}{2}\frac{q}{2}}$  which

we find from Theorems 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 to be  $w(1)$ .  $\square$

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