

EVALUATING THE SWAN FINITENESS OBSTRUCTION  
FOR PERIODIC GROUPS

by

R. James Milgram\*

In [17] R. Swan introduced the finiteness obstruction  $\sigma_n(G)$  for free actions of a periodic group  $G$  on finite complexes having the homotopy type of the sphere  $S^{n-1}$ . It takes its value in a certain quotient of  $\tilde{K}_0(Z(G))$ ,  $\tilde{K}_0(Z(G))/T$ , and was one of the main motivations in the development of algebraic K-theory.

More recently Ib Madsen, C. Thomas, and C.T.C. Wall [22], [20], [10] proved a sharpened version of one of Swan's theorems, roughly that if  $G$  has period  $n$  then  $G$  acts freely on a homotopy  $S^{n-1}$  or  $S^{2n-1}$ , and no examples were known for which  $2n-1$  was actually necessary. Indeed it was somewhat hesitantly suggested that  $n-1$  is always correct.

In [4], [5], [6], [8], [14], [15], a subgroup  $D(G) \subset \tilde{K}_0(Z(G))$  was studied and shown to be computable in terms of determinants or reduced norms and the structure of units in certain algebraic number fields.  $D(G)$  contains  $T$  and we prove

Theorem 2.B.1:  $\sigma_n(G) \in D(G)/T$ .

In particular, we relate  $\sigma_n(G)$  to the behaviour of these groups  $\text{Tor}_{Z(G)}^i(M, Z)$  where  $M$  is a maximal order containing  $Z(G)$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(G)$ . In §3 we calculate these Tor groups for hyperelementary groups (this section may have independent interest), and in §4 we study  $D(G)$  for a class of periodic groups of period 4,  $Q(4p, q, 1)$ .

The Swan obstructions for these groups are written down in Theorem 4.B.6, and we have

Theorem A (4.C.2, 4.C.5, and 4.C.8): The Swan obstruction  $\sigma_4(G) \neq 0$  for  $G = Q(12, 5, 1)$ ,  $Q(12, 7, 1)$ , or  $Q(12, 11, 1)$ . (The groups  $Q(a, b, c)$  are defined in §3.B, but the notation is standard.)

In fact we have

Theorem B: Among periodic groups of period  $n$  and order  $< 280$  only one group of each order 120, 168, 240, and 264 fails to act freely on a

\* Research supported in part by NSF MCS76-0146-A01

finite complex having the homotopy type of  $S^{n-1}$ .

However, for the next group in the series of theorem A we have

Proposition 4.C.1:  $\sigma_3(Q(12,13,1)) = 0$ .

Hence there is a 3-complex homotopic to  $S^3$  on which  $Q(12,13,1)$  acts freely.

The number theory involved in these questions is subtle since Theorem A shows that  $Q(12,5,1)$ ,  $Q(12,7,1)$  and  $Q(12,11,1)$  can't even act freely on a homology 3-sphere.

Remark D: The proof that  $\sigma_n(G) \in D(G)/T$  came out of several conversations with R. Oliver, and I<sup>n</sup> also profited from a conversation with H. Bass. The initial question which led to this work came up in discussions with I. Hambleton.

This paper was originally written in 1978. For various reasons it has not been previously published but it has been circulated privately. It initiated a vigorous attack on the space form problem for the last and demonstrably most interesting class of groups, the  $Q(8a,b,c)$  with  $a,b,c$  odd coprime integers.

The initial theorem A and B above were quickly extended in [25] by constructing large numbers of odd index subgroups of the units in the cyclotomic fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\lambda_p)$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\lambda_{4p})$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\lambda_p, \lambda_q)$  studied here. Indeed the proofs of the result in [25] are direct extensions of the proofs here. The only thing preventing their being given in this original paper was the fact that the unit theorems had not yet been proved.

The main result of [25] as slightly extended in [26] is

Theorem C: Let  $K_n$  be the maximal 2-abelian extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  contained in the cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$ . If  $K$  is  $K_p$ ,  $K_{pq}$  with the quadratic symbol  $\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = -1$ , or the maximal 2 extension in  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{2^n + \zeta_{2^{n-1}}}, \zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})$   $p \neq 1(8)$ , then the cyclotomic units have odd index in the units of  $K$ .

Next, by the techniques developed here and in [25] we obtain

Theorem D: Let  $p$  be a prime and

- a) suppose  $p \equiv 3(4)$  then  $\sigma_4(q(8p,q,1)) = 0$   
for  $q$  prime if and only if  
 (i)  $q \equiv 1(8)$  or

- (ii)  $q \equiv 5(8)$  but  $p^v \equiv \pm 1(q)$  for some odd  $v$ .  
 b)  $\sigma_4(Q(8p, q, 1)) = 0$  if  $p \equiv q \equiv 1(4)$   
but  $\left[ \frac{p}{q} \right] = -1$ .

Using this as a starting place a spirited attack by the author and Ib Madsen on the actual surgery problems took place. (Preliminary results had already been indicated in [25]).

Again the results depended on finding sufficient units, hence had to be restricted to the cases covered by theorem C. The results [26] are

Theorem E: Let  $p, q$  be distinct odd primes and suppose  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$ ; then

- a)  $Q(8p, q, 1)$  acts freely on  $\mathbb{R}^{8k+4} - (pt)$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) if  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $p$  has odd order  $\pmod{q}$ .  
 b)  $Q(8p, q, 1)$  acts freely on  $\mathbb{R}^{8k+4} - (pt)$  but not on  $S^{8k+3}$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) if  $q \equiv 5(8)$  and  $p$  has odd order  $\pmod{q}$ .  
 c)  $Q(8p, q, 1)$  acts freely on  $S^{8k+3}$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) if  $q \equiv 1(8)$  and  $p$  has odd order  $\pmod{q}$ .

For special classes of numbers there are further results [27]. But all these results rest on the idea of identifying the Swan obstruction studied here as the image under  $\partial$  of an element  $\theta$  where

$$\theta \in \prod_{v=2, p, q} \text{im} (K_1(\hat{Q}_v(G)) \xrightarrow{\partial} \tilde{K}_0(Z(G)))$$

which is developed here. This class  $\theta$  rather than its image is shown to correspond to the surgery obstruction for certain surgery problems over the Poincaré complex constructed here, and using recent results on the calculation of these groups, if (as usual) one has sufficient information about units, Theorem E follows.

I would like to thank A. Ranicki and the other editors of this Proceedings for giving me the opportunity to finally publish this work.

Edinburgh  
 September, 1984

§1.  $K_0(Z(G))$  and  $D(G)$  for  $G$  a finite group.

A. Preliminary remarks on  $K_0(Z(G))$

Let  $M_n(D)$  be a matrix ring over a division algebra  $D$  whose center  $F$  is a finite extension of the rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$  or the complete local field  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p$ . The reduced norm homomorphism

$$\tilde{N}: GL_n(D) \rightarrow F$$

is given by linear embedding  $M_n(D) \subset M_n(K)$  for some extension  $K$  of  $F$  and taking the determinants of the images. Then Wang's theorem [21] identifies

$$1.A.1: \quad K_1(M_n(D)) = K_1(D) \xrightarrow[\tilde{N}]{} F$$

where  $\text{im}(K_1(D))$  is all those elements of  $F$  which are positive at all  $\bullet$  places at which  $D$  is a quaternion algebra.

$$0 \rightarrow D(G) \rightarrow \tilde{K}_0(Z(G)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}_0(M) \rightarrow 0.$$

A second group  $E(G)$  can be introduced which depends only on reduced norms. Let  $M_p$  be a maximal order in  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p(G)$  containing  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)$ , and define

$$1.B.3: \quad \mathcal{U}_p \subset K_1(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p(G))$$

as the image of  $K_1(M_p)$ . Writing

$$\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p(G) = \prod_i M_{n_i}(D_i)$$

we have

$$M_p = \prod_i M_{n_i}(N_i)$$

and  $K_1(\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p(G)) = \prod_i (F_i)$  where  $F_i$  is the center of  $D_i$ . Thus (one could use for example Quillen's localization sequence [12] to show this)

$$1.B.4: \quad \mathcal{U}_p = \prod_i \mathcal{U}(F_i)$$

the product of the units of the  $F_i$ 's.

The composite maps

$$\alpha_p: K_1(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)) \rightarrow K_1(M_p) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_p$$

1.B.5:

$$\beta_p: K_1(M) \rightarrow K_1(M_p) \rightarrow \mathcal{U}_p$$

then give

Definition 1.B.6: The local defect  $E_p(G)$  at  $p$  is  $\mathcal{U}_p / \text{im}(\alpha_p)$ .

Remark 1.B.7: If  $p \nmid |G|$  then  $M_p = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)$  so  $E_p(G) = 1$ . In any case  $E_p(G)$  is a partial measure of the deviation of  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)$  from  $M_p$  and is finite for every finite group  $G$ .

$E_p(G)$  consists of a  $p$  primary part which is difficult to analyze and a somewhat easier part of order prime to  $p$ . To obtain this second part we can use the map

$$1.B.8: \quad K_1(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)/J) \rightarrow \prod_i \mathcal{U}(F_i) / (1 + \mathfrak{m}_i)$$

where  $J$  is the Jacobson radical in  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(G)$  and  $\mathfrak{m}_i$  is the maximal ideal in  $\mathcal{O}(F_i)$ .

Returning to 1.B.5 the map,

$$1.B.9: \quad \beta = \prod_{p| |G|} \beta_p : K_1(M) \rightarrow \prod_{p| |G|} E_p(G)$$

defines the quotient

$$1.B.10: \quad E(G) = \prod_{p| |G|} E_p(G) / \text{im}(\beta).$$

Thus  $E(G)$  is the product of the local defects factored out by the image of global units coming from  $K_1(M)$ . Its calculation is difficult but in specific cases presents no insuperable obstacles.

Theorem 1.B.11:  $E(G) = D(G)$   
 (See for example [5].)

Remark 1.B.12: When the author initiated this work he was unaware of 1.B.11 and so derived his own proof, which we present in outline from here, as it may be easier for some people to reconstruct. Note, to begin, that there is a  $k$  so  $|G|^k \cdot M \subset Z(G)$ . So set  $L_s(G) = \text{im}(Z(G) \cap M / |G|^{ks} M)$ , and we have the pullback diagram

$$1.B.13: \quad \begin{array}{ccc} Z(G) & \longrightarrow & M \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_s \\ L_s(G) & \longrightarrow & M / |G|^{ks} M \end{array}$$

Moreover,  $\pi_s$  is onto so Milnor's Mayer-Vietoris sequence can be applied obtaining

$$1.B.14: \quad K_1(Z(G)) \rightarrow K_1(L_s(G)) \oplus K_1(M) \rightarrow K_1(M / |G|^{ks} M) \xrightarrow{\partial_s} \tilde{K}_0(Z(G)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}_0(M) \rightarrow 0$$

so  $\text{im } \partial_s = D(G)$ . Now let  $s$  become large and pass to limits. In the limit we need some information about  $K_1(M)$ ,  $K_1(M_p)$ . This may be supplied using Quillen's exact sequence of a localization to show that the kernels of the local reduced norm maps are in the image of the elements in  $K_1(M)$ .

§2. Swan's finiteness obstruction.

A. The definition and basic properties

Let  $T(G) \subset D(G) \subset \tilde{K}_0(Z(G))$  be defined as the image of  $\prod_{p| |G|} U(\hat{Z}_p^+)$

where  $\hat{Z}_p^+ \subset M_p$  corresponds to the trivial representation. Now suppose  $G$  is periodic of period  $n$ . That is, there is an exact sequence

$$2.A.1: \quad 0 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow C_{n-2} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow Z(G) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} Z \rightarrow 0$$

where the  $C_j$  are projective  $Z(G)$  modules. In [17] Swan defined an invariant  $\sigma_n(G) \in \tilde{K}_0(Z(G))/T$  which is zero if and only if  $G$  acts freely on an  $n-1$  dimensional complex having the homology type of  $S^{n-1}$ . In fact,  $\sigma_n(G)$  is the Euler class in  $\tilde{K}_0(Z(G))/T$  of 2.A.1.

$$2.A.2: \quad \sigma_n(G) = [C_0] - [C_1] + [C_2] \dots \pm [C_{n-1}].$$

If  $n$  is even then sequences 2.A.1 may be spliced either together to give  $\sigma_{2n}(G) = \sigma_n(G)$ . Also if  $H \subset G$  is a subgroup then by restriction  $Z(G)$  projectives become  $Z(H)$  projective so  $r_H: \tilde{K}_0(Z(G)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}_0(Z(H))$  induces  $\bar{r}_H: \tilde{K}_0(Z(G))/T \rightarrow \tilde{K}_0(Z(H))/T$  and

$$2.A.3: \quad \bar{r}_H(\sigma_n(G)) = \sigma_n(H)$$

Proof: It suffices to consider hyperelementary subgroups since  $\coprod r_H$  in 2.B.2 is injective.

2.B.2:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T(G) & \longrightarrow & \coprod_H T(H) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 D(G) & \longrightarrow & \coprod_H D(H) \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \tilde{K}_0(Z(G)) & \xrightarrow{\coprod r_H} & \coprod_H \tilde{K}_0(Z(H)) \\
 \downarrow P_G & & \downarrow \coprod P_H \\
 \tilde{K}_0(\mathcal{M}) & \xrightarrow{\coprod r_H} & \coprod_H \tilde{K}_0(\mathcal{M}_H)
 \end{array}$$

Let  $N$  be a finitely generated torsion  $M$  module. By [13]  $N$  has projective length 1 so there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow 0$$

with  $P_0, P_1$  finitely generated projective, and

$$\chi(N) = [P_0] - [P_1] \in \tilde{K}_0(M)$$

is well defined. We now have (and this is the heart of the matter)

Lemma 2.B.3:  $P_G(\sigma_n(G)) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (-1)^i \chi(\text{Tor}_{Z(G)}^i(M(G), Z)).$

Proof: Tensor 2.A.1 over  $Z(G)$  with  $M$  obtaining

2.B.4:  $0 \rightarrow C_{n-1} \otimes M \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M \xrightarrow{\epsilon} Z \rightarrow 0.$

The homology of 2.B.4 is  $\sum_0^{n-1} \tilde{\text{Tor}}_{Z(G)}^i(M, Z)$  which differs from the



usual Tor group only in the part of involving  $Z^+$  which is, in any case, a P.I.D. Clearly,  $P_G(\sigma_n(G)) = \sum (-1)^j (C_j \otimes M)$ , but this is given by the Tor formula in 2.B.3.

By results in [22],  $\sigma_n(H)$  is zero except for  $H$  a 2-hyerelementary subgroup with 2-Sylow subgroup a generalized quaternion group.

For this group write  $M = \coprod_i M_i$  where the  $M_i$  correspond to the irreducible representations of  $M_i$  so  $\text{Tor}_Z^j(G)(M, Z) = \coprod_i \text{Tor}_Z^j(G)(M_i, Z)$ .

In §3.6 we prove

- Lemma 2.B.5
- $\text{Tor}_Z^j(M_i, Z)$  is a  $q$ -torsion abelian group with  $q \mid |G|$ .
  - If  $q$  is not prime then  $M_i = Z$ .
  - If  $q$  is an odd prime then  $M_i = M_2(\sigma_{q^j})$  with  $\sigma_{q^j}$   
 $= Z(\rho_{q^j} + \rho_{q^j}^{-1})$  or  $M_i = \hat{Z}_q(\rho_{q^j})$ .
  - If  $q$  is 2 then  $M_i = M_2(\sigma_{2^j})$  or  $L$  where  $L$  is the maximal order in the usual quaternion algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}(\rho_{2^j} + \rho_{2^j}^{-1})$ .

(Here  $\rho_\ell$  is a primitive  $\ell^{\text{th}}$  root of unity, and (a) is well known.)

Now the proof of 2.B.1 follows directly since  $\tilde{K}_0(Z) = 0$  and the prime ideal over  $p$  in  $\mathbb{Q}(\rho_{p^j} + \rho_{p^j}^{-1})$  is principal. The only remaining case is 2.B.5 (d), but there the results of [18] identify  $K_0(L)$  with  $K_0(\mathbb{Q}(\rho_{2^j} + \rho_{2^j}^{-1}))$  (using Weber's theorem see e.g. [7]). This completes the proof of 2.B.1.

### C. The value of $\sigma_n(G)$ in $D(G)/T(G)$

We suppose the groups  $\text{Tor}_Z^j(G)(M, Z)$  are known for the periodic group  $G$ , and local solutions

$$2.C.1: \quad 0 \rightarrow \hat{Z}_p \rightarrow C_{p, n-1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{p, n-1}} C_{p, n-2} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C_{p, 1} \xrightarrow{\partial_{p, 1}} Z_p(G) \xrightarrow{\xi} \hat{Z}_p \rightarrow 0.$$

of 2.A.1, with the  $C_{p, j}$  free are also given.

Next, let the complex of free  $M$ -modules

$$2.C.2: \quad 0 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow M_{n-1} \rightarrow M_{n-2} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow M \rightarrow Z \rightarrow 0$$

be given with homology the  $\text{Tor}_Z^j(G)(M, Z)$ . Localizing we have

Lemma 2.C.3: Let  $N_p$  be a maximal order in a simple algebra over  $\hat{Z}_p$ . Then an isomorphism classification of finite chain complexes of free  $N_p$  modules  $C = \{C_i \rightarrow C_{i-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow C_0 \rightarrow 0\}$  is given by the groups  $H_*(C)$

12

and the ranks  $\dim_N(C_j)$ .

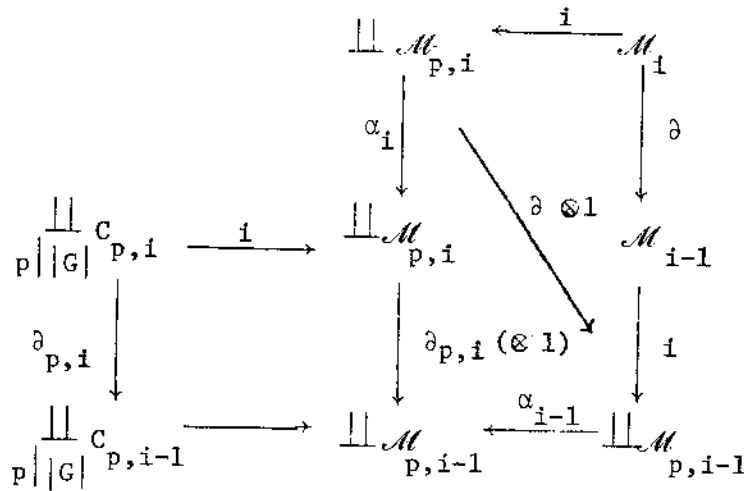
Proof: This follows in the same way as the analogous theorem for free Z-chain complexes proved using the diagonalization theorem for

matrices with coefficients in  $N_p$ . (See e.g. [13], p. 173, Theorem 17.7)

In particular, we assume 2.C.2 is a direct sum of complexes one for each simple order in  $M$ , and  $\text{rank } M_j = \text{rank}_{\mathbb{Z}_p}^{\wedge} (C_{p,j}) = k_j$  for all  $p \mid |G|$ . Then we have

Lemma 2.C.4: There are elements  $\alpha_i \in \prod_{p \mid |G|} \text{GL}_{k_i}(M_p)$  which make 2.C.5 commute for each  $i$

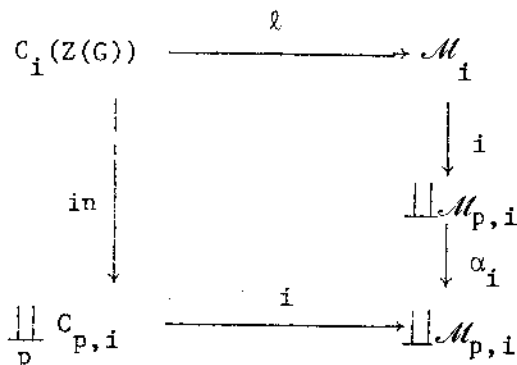
2.C.5:



and

$$\sigma_n(G) = \{ \alpha_1 \alpha_2^{-1} \alpha_3 \alpha_4^{-1} \dots \alpha_{n-1} \}^{-1}$$

Proof: The existence of the  $\alpha_i$  is given by 2.C.3. Now let  $C_i(\mathbb{Z}(G))$  be obtained as the pullback diagram



Then  $C_i(Z(G))$  is projective and represented by  $\{\alpha_i\}$  in  $D(G)$ . Moreover the following sequence of complexes is exact

$$0 \rightarrow C_*(Z(G)) \xrightarrow{(\ell, -in)} M_* \oplus \coprod (C_{p,*}) \xrightarrow{\alpha_{*i} \oplus \bar{i}} \coprod M_{p,*} \rightarrow 0$$

and passing to homology, since  $\alpha_{*i}$  induces isomorphisms (as  $\text{Tor}_{Z(G)}^i(M, Z)$  is torsion) in positive degrees, and in  $0$   $H_0(C_*(Z(G))) = Z$  we have  $H_j(C_*(Z(G))) = 0$   $j > 0$  and the sequence obtained is a periodic resolution

Remark 2.C.6: We should be more explicit about the classes  $\alpha_i \in \coprod \text{Aut}(M_{p,i})$ . Note that since  $M_i = M \oplus \dots \oplus M$  we have an evident map  $C_{p,i} = \hat{Z}_p(G) \oplus \dots \oplus \hat{Z}_p(G) \rightarrow M_{p,i}$ . This identifies  $M_{p,i}$  with  $C_{p,i} \otimes M_p$ .

It is with respect to this that  $\alpha_i$  is defined.

#### D. Wall's finiteness obstruction.

In [23, especially pp. 64-68] a finiteness obstruction  $f_n(X)$  for complexes in a homotopy type satisfying " $D_n: H_i(\tilde{X}) = 0$   $i > n$ ,  $H^{n+1}(X, B) = 0$  for all abelian coefficient bundles  $B(n > 2)$ ", was defined which generalizes Swan's obstruction. It makes its values in  $\tilde{K}_0(Z(\pi_1(X)))$ , and for  $\pi_1(X)$  finite we have the result corresponding to 2.B.3.

Lemma 2.D.1:  $P_{\pi_1(X)}(f_n(X)) = \sum_{i=0}^n (-1)^i \chi(H_i(X, M))$ .

(The proof is completely analogous to 2.B.3.)

Similarly, in case  $P_{\pi_1(X)}(f_n(X)) = 0$ , analysis of the Wall obstruction in terms of local piecing analogous to that in 2.C. may be carried through.

### §3. Calculations of $\text{Tor}_{Z(H)}^i(M(H), Z)$ for $H$ a Hyperelementary Periodic Group.

#### A. Reduction to local cases.

The formal reduction

$$3.A.1: \quad \text{Tor}_{\hat{Z}_p(H)}^i(M \otimes_{\hat{Z}_p} \hat{Z}_p) = \text{Tor}_{Z(H)}^i(M, Z) \otimes_{\hat{Z}_p}$$

allows us to calculate the  $\text{Tor}^i$  locally. Thus, to begin we study the structure of the local group rings.

Lemma 3.A.2 Suppose p prime and (p, l) = 1, then

$$\hat{Z}_p(Z/l) = \hat{Z}_p \otimes \prod_{j|l} \prod_{i=1}^{r_j} \hat{Z}_p(\rho_j), \text{ where}$$

$r_j = l-1/\varphi_j(p)$  and  $\varphi_j(p)$  is the least positive integer for which  
 $p^{\varphi_j(p)} \equiv 1(j).$

Proof: This is standard. Indeed since  $(l,p) = 1$   $\hat{Z}_p(Z/l)$  is a maximal  $\hat{Z}_p$  order. Also, the global maximal order is  $\prod_{j|l} \hat{Z}_p(\rho_j)$  and

$$3.A.3: \quad \hat{Z}_p \otimes Z(\rho_j) = \prod_{i=1}^{r_j} \hat{Z}_p(\rho_j).$$

Compare with [9, p. 39].

More generally

Corollary 3.A.4: Write  $n = p^m l$  with  $(l,p) = 1$  then

$$\hat{Z}_p(Z/n) = \hat{Z}_p(Z/p^m) \otimes \prod_{j|l} \prod_{i=1}^{r_j} \hat{Z}_p(\rho_j)(Z/p^m).$$

and

$$3.A.8: \quad \hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{H}) = \hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{Z}/p^m) [\text{im}\lambda] \oplus N$$

Factoring still further, we have the restriction map

$$r_p: \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/n) \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{Z}/p^n)$$

and applying the above argument to the first factor in 3.A.8 (which is  $\hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{Z}/p^m \times_{\mathbb{T}}(\text{im}\lambda))$ ) we obtain

$$3.A.9: \quad \hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{H}) = \hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{Z}/p^m \times_{\mathbb{T}r_p}(\text{im}\lambda)) \oplus N_1 \oplus N.$$

Of course, when  $p = q$ , 3.A.8 takes the form

$$3.A.10: \quad \hat{Z}_q(\mathbb{H}) = \hat{Z}_q(\mathbb{H}_q) \oplus N.$$

We call the various summands in 3.A.9, respectively 3.A.10, the  $p$ -blocks, respectively  $q$ -blocks of  $\mathbb{H}$ . Further, on tensoring with  $\hat{Q}_p$  the  $p$ -blocks each become direct sums of simple algebras, and we distinguish the block containing the trivial representation (the left-most block in 3.A.9 or 3.A.10) and write it

$$B_p(\mathbb{H}).$$

Proposition 3.A.10:  $\text{Tor}^*_{\mathbb{Z}(\mathbb{H})}(M_i, \mathbb{Z})$  contains  $p$ -torsion only if

$$M_i \cap B_p(\mathbb{H}) \neq 0$$

Proof: We check locally. Now  $B_p(\mathbb{H})$  is a direct summand of  $\hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{H})$ , hence projective. Moreover, the augmentation factors as

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \hat{Z}_p(\mathbb{H}) & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \hat{Z}_p \\ & \searrow & \uparrow \varepsilon| \\ & & B_p(\mathbb{H}). \end{array}$$

Thus, a suitable resolution of the augmentation is obtained by resolving  $\varepsilon|$  over  $B_p(\mathbb{H})$ . Finally, tensoring this resolution with  $M_i$  gives zero identically unless  $M_i \cap B_p(\mathbb{H}) \neq 0$ .

Corollary 3.A.11:  $\text{Tor}_{Z(H)}^i(M_i, Z)_p = \text{Tor}_{B_p(H)}^i(M_i \otimes \hat{Z}_p, \hat{Z}_p)$ .

This reduces tor calculations for these  $\mathbb{H}$  to those for  $Z/p^m \times_{\mathbb{T}} V$   $V \subset \text{Aut}(Z/p)$ , for which calculations are easy, or in case  $p = q$ , for  $\mathbb{H}_p$ .

B. Calculations for  $B_p(\mathbb{H})$  where  $\mathbb{H}$  is a 2-hyerelementary group with  $H_2$  generalized quaternion,  $p \neq 2$ .

In Milnor's notation  $\mathbb{H} = Z/m \times \mathbb{Q}(2^i n, k, \ell)$ . This means  $\mathbb{Q}(2^i n, k, \ell)$  has a presentation  $\{x, y, z, w, v \mid x^2 = y^{2^{i-1}}, y^{2^i} = 1, xyx^{-1} = y^{-1}, z^n = w^k = v^{\ell} = 1, xzvz^{-1} = z^{-1}v^{-1}, y(wv)y^{-1} = w^{-1}v^{-1}, yzy^{-1} = z, xwx^{-1} = w \text{ and } z, w, v \text{ commute}\}$ . Moreover, in order that  $\mathbb{H}$  be periodic,  $m, n, k, \ell$  must be coprime odd integers.

$$\text{The block } B_p(\mathbb{H}) = \begin{cases} \hat{Z}_p(Z/p^{\ell}) & \text{if } p/m \\ \hat{Z}_p(Z/p^{\ell} \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2) & \text{if } p \nmid m. \end{cases}$$

The first case is well understood so we concentrate on the second case.

$$r_j(g) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda_{p^j} \end{pmatrix}$$

3.B.3

$$r_j(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Similarly

$$r_{\pm} : B_p(\mathbb{H}) \longrightarrow \hat{Z}_p^{\pm}$$

is given by  $r_{\pm}(g) = 1$ ,  $r_{\pm}(t) = \pm 1$ . These representations define actions of  $Z/p^{\ell} \times \mathbb{T}^{Z/2}$  on  $M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))$  or  $\hat{Z}_p^{\pm}$ , and we have

$$\text{Lemma 3.B.4: } H_i^{r_j}(Z/p^{\ell}, M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))) = \begin{cases} (Z/p)^2 & i \text{ even} \\ 0 & i \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

Moreover the action of  $t$  on the groups above is via  $t(x) = (-1)^{i/2}x$ .

Proof: Take the usual resolution of  $Z(Z/p^{\ell})$  with one copy of  $Z(Z/p^{\ell})$  in

each degree,  $\partial_{2i+1} = g^{-1}, \partial_{2i} = 1+g+g^2+\dots+g^{p^{\ell}-1} = \Sigma_g$ .

Then, tensor with  $M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))$  over  $r_j$  and we have

$$\tilde{\partial}_{2i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda-1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{\partial}_{2i} = 0$$

This means

$$\tilde{\partial}_{2i+1}(\alpha) = \alpha \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda-1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a, -a+b(\lambda-2) \\ c, -c+d(\lambda-2) \end{pmatrix}$$

and the cokernel is  $Z/p \times Z/p$  since  $\lambda-2$  is a uniformizing parameter for  $\hat{Z}_p(\lambda)$ .

Representing generators can be chosen as  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

and  $A \rightarrow A(t) = A \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  fixes these generators mod  $\text{im}(\partial_{2i+1})$ .

Next note that the periodicity is given by capping with a generator

$$e \text{ of } H^2(Z/p^\ell, \hat{Z}_p) = \hat{Z}/p \quad [1, p. 115]. \text{ Then } e \cap H^{(r_j)}_{i+2}(Z/p^\ell, M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))) \\ = H^{(r_j)}_i(Z/p^\ell, M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))), \quad t(\alpha \cap \beta) = t(\alpha) \cap t(\beta) \text{ and } t(e) = -1(e),$$

so 3.B.4. follows.

Corollary 3.B.5:  $\text{Tor}^i_{B_p}(\mathbb{H}(M_2(Z/p^\ell(\lambda_{p^j})), \hat{Z}_p)) = \begin{cases} (Z/p)^2 & i \equiv 0(4) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Proof: In the Hochschild-Serre spectral sequence

$$E^2_{i,k} = H_i(Z/2, H_k^{(r_j)}(Z/p^j; M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))))$$

which collapses to  $E^2_0$  \* since  $p \neq 2$ . But

$$E^2_{0,k} = H_k(Z/p^j, M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\lambda_{p^j}))) / \text{im}(t-1)$$

and  $\text{im}(t-1) = 0$ ,  $k \equiv 0(4)$  but  $\text{im}(t-1) = \text{im}(-2)$  if  $k \equiv 2(4)$  so 3.B.5. follows.

Similarly, for  $r_{\pm}$  we have

Corollary 3.B.6: (a)  $\text{Tor}^i_{B_p}(\mathbb{H}(\hat{Z}_p^+, \hat{Z}_p^+)) = \begin{cases} \hat{Z}_p & i = 0 \\ Z/p^\ell & i \equiv 3(4) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

(b)  $\text{Tor}^i_{B_p}(\mathbb{H}(\hat{Z}_p^-, \hat{Z}_p^+)) = \begin{cases} Z/p^\ell & i \equiv 1(4) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Remark 3.B.7: Exactly the same chain of ideas works to calculate the Tor's in the case of  $Z/p^\ell \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/q^s$  where  $q^s \mid (p-1)$ . Here

3.B.8:  $M_p = \prod_{1 \leq j \leq \ell} M_{q^s}(\hat{Z}_p(\rho_{p^j})^{(inv)}) \oplus \prod_1^{q^s} \hat{Z}_p$



the latter terms corresponding to embeddings  $\mathbb{Z}/q^s \hookrightarrow (\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p)$ ; taking the generator to the various  $q^s$ 'th roots of unity.

C. The situation at 2 and the completion of the proof of 2.B.5

$$B_2(\mathbb{H}) = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\mathbb{H}_2) = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\{x, y \mid x^2 = y^{2^i}, xyx^{-1} = y^{-1}\})$$

and we have

Lemma 3.C.1: The maximal order of  $B_2(\mathbb{H})$  is

$$(a) \quad \prod_{i \geq j \geq 2} M_2(\mathbb{Z}_2(\rho_{2^j}^{\rho_{2^j}^{-1}})) \oplus \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2^{(4)}$$

if  $i > 2$

(b)  $\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathbb{Z}_2^{(4)}$ , where  $\mathcal{O}$  is the maximal order  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\rho_3) \oplus \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\rho_3)\pi$ ,  $\pi^2 = -2$ , and  $\pi\lambda = \Psi(\lambda)\pi$  for  $\lambda \in \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\rho_3)$  where  $\Psi$  is the Galois automorphism of  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_2(\rho_3)$ .

(This follows from the results of [11]. However, for  $i > 2$  the explicit representations are given easily. In particular the faithful representation ( $i=j$ ) is given by

$$3.C.2: \quad g \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & \lambda_{2^i} \end{pmatrix}, \quad t \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & C-\lambda \\ c & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $C$  is a root of

$$3.C.3: \quad C^2 - \lambda_{2^i} C + 2 = 0.$$

Indeed 3.C.3 splits inside  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_2(\lambda_{2^i})$  for  $i > 2$  since its discriminant

$$d = \lambda^2 - 8 \equiv \lambda^2 (4\pi)$$

and is thus a square. The remaining representations are given by the same formulae as 3.B.3.)

This completes the proof of 2.B.5 since the only representations which restrict non-trivially at both 2 and at least one other prime

are the 4 copies of  $Z$ .

#### D. Calculations for $B_2(\mathbb{H})$

A minimal resolution of  $\mathbb{H}$  can be found on page 253 of [2]. It is periodic and has the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \partial & & \partial_3 & & \partial_2 & & \partial_1 & \varepsilon \\ \rightarrow & Z(\mathbb{H}_2)e & \longrightarrow & Z(\mathbb{H}_2)c \oplus Z(\mathbb{H}_2)c' & \longrightarrow & Z(\mathbb{H}_2)b \oplus Z(\mathbb{H}_2)b' & \longrightarrow & Z(\mathbb{H}_2)a \rightarrow Z \end{array}$$

where

$$\partial_3(e) = (y-1)c - (yx-1)c'$$

$$\partial_2(c') = (yx+1)b + (y-1)b'$$

3.D.1:

$$\partial_2(c) = (1+y+y^2+\dots+y^2+\dots+y^{2^{i-1}-1})b - (x+1)b'$$

$$\partial_1(b') = (x-1)a$$

$$\partial_1(b) = (y-1)a.$$

We can use 3.D.1 to calculate Tor groups explicitly in this case. The only ones we need are for the group of order 8 where the results are given by the table.

	Tor <sup>0</sup>	Tor <sup>1</sup>	Tor <sup>2</sup>	Tor <sup>3</sup>
3.D.2: $Z^{++}$	$\hat{Z}_2$	$Z/2 + Z/2$	0	$Z/8$
$Z^{+-}$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	0
$Z^{-+}$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	0
$Z^{--}$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	$Z/2$	0
$\mathcal{Q}$	$F_4$	$F_4$	$F_4$	0

#### §4. Evaluating the Swan obstruction for the groups $Q(4p,q,1)$ , $p,q$ odd primes.

In this section we calculate the Swan obstruction for some of the

groups  $Q(4p, q, 1)$ . We begin in 4.A. with partial calculations of the local defects. The method is to do it separately for each  $p$ -block and the maximal orders associated with it. As the methods and the results are rather technical they are summarized in Table 4.A.11. Using 4.A.11 the reader can skip to 4.B. where the Swan obstruction is calculated for these groups. Finally, in 4.C we give examples of specific calculations chosen mainly to illustrate the types of complexities encountered. In particular, these examples imply all the results mentioned in the introduction.

#### A. The local defects.

The  $p$ -blocks have the form

$$4.A.1: \quad (a) \quad C(Z/p) \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2 \times Z/2$$

$$(b) \quad L(Z/p) \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2$$

where  $C = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p, \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(\rho_q)$  or  $(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(\rho_q))^2$  and  $t^2 = -1$ , while  $L = \hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p,$

$$M_2(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})) \quad \text{or} \quad M_2(\hat{\mathbb{Z}}_p(\rho_q)).$$

The second case occurs in  $C$  and  $L$  if  $p^v \equiv -1(q)$  for some  $v$ , and the third case occurs otherwise.

Lemma 4.A.2: The non  $p$ -primary part of the local defect of a block of type 4.A.1. is

$$\dot{F}_p(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})$$

in cases 2 and 3 in  $C$  or  $L$  and  $\dot{F}_p$  in the first case.

Proof: Let  $R$  be the maximal order for 4.A.1 in  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p \otimes ( )$ . Then  $R$  contains  $N = C \otimes_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2 \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2$  or  $L(Z/2)$  as a direct summand, and

$$R = N \oplus M$$

where  $M$  is the maximal order in  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p \otimes C(\rho_p) \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2 \times Z/2$  or  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}_p \otimes L(\rho_p) \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2$ .

Let  $J$  be the Jacobson radical of the block  $B$ , then

$$B|J \cong N/J$$

and hence the local defect  $C$  away from  $(p)$  for  $B$  is obtained from the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 4.A.3: & \mathcal{A}/J' \xrightarrow{i} B/J \xrightarrow{\ell} (\mathcal{A} \oplus \mathcal{M})/J'' & \\
 & \downarrow \cong & \downarrow p_2 \\
 & \mathcal{A}/J' \xrightarrow{p_2 \circ \ell \circ i} \mathcal{M}/J''' & 
 \end{array}$$

Thus, factoring out by  $\text{im} B/J$  simply identifies  $N/J$  with its image under  $p_2 \circ \ell \circ i$  in  $M/J$ . Finally, observe that any element in one of the Jacobson radicals is  $p$ -adic so contributes only  $p$ -torsion to the local defect.

At 2 the situation is slightly more involved. There are 3 types of blocks.

- (a)  $C_{p,q} \times_T \mathbb{H}_2$
- (b)  $C_p \times_T \mathbb{H}_2$
- (c)  $\hat{Z}_2(\mathbb{H}_2)$

Here  $C_{p,q}$  is 2 or 4 copies of  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q)$  and  $C_p$  is one or two copies of  $\hat{Z}_p(\rho_p)$ .

Lemma 4.A.5: The local defect for the block  $\hat{Z}_2(\mathbb{H}_2)$  is  $Z/2$  and the generator corresponds to  $\langle 3 \rangle$  at the trivial representation (hence is in the image of  $T$ ).

(This may be directly obtained from the calculations of [6], [8].)

Lemma 4.A.6: The 2 primary part of the local defect for a block of type 4.A.4 (a) is zero.

Proof: A block of type 4.A.4 (a) has a maximal order  $M_4(\sigma) \oplus M_4(\sigma)$  where  $\sigma$  is one of  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q)$ ,  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}, \rho_q)$ ,  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})$  or  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_{pq} + \rho_{pq}^{-1})$ . The two idempotents for these representations are

$\frac{1}{2} (y^2 - 1) = e_-$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} (y^2 + 1) = e_+$ . Suppose  $C_{p,q} = (\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q))$ , and take  $\alpha = (a, 0)$ , then

$$2e_- \alpha + 1 \mapsto \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 2a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 + 2\bar{a} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, I \right)$$

which has the image  $(N(1 + 2a), 1)$ . But since the 4 possible extensions of  $\hat{Z}_2$  which form the centers are all unramified, the units of the center are all obtained as norms of units in  $\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q)$ , and 4.A.6 follows. A similar argument holds in case  $C = (\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q))^4$ .

Finally we evaluate the local defect for 4.A.4(b).

Lemma 4.A.7: The 2 primary part of the defect for 4.A.4(b) is

$(\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})/m)^+$ . The generators come from the representation

$C_p \times_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbb{Z}/2$  ( $t^2 = 1$ ), and are represented by units of the form  $1 + 2v$ .

The relation with the maximal representation in the block is, in case

$$C = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p)$$

$$1 + (\alpha + \bar{\alpha})(1 - 1) \longleftrightarrow 1 + 2(\alpha + \bar{\alpha})$$

and in case

$$C = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p)^2,$$

$$1 + (\alpha + i\beta)(1 - 1) \longleftrightarrow 1 + 2(\alpha + i\beta).$$

Remark 4.A.8: The non-triviality of the local defect in this case is crucial to the calculations, as without it it would be routine to evaluate the Swan obstruction. Thus the reader is advised to check the proof of 4.A.7 most carefully.

Proof: The maximal order for 4.A.4(b) is

$$4.A.9: \quad M_2(\mathcal{O})^+ \oplus M_2(\mathcal{O})^- \oplus M_2(\mathcal{O})$$

when, in case  $C_p = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p)$ ,  $\mathcal{V} = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})$

$$\mathcal{V}' = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_{4p} + \rho_{4p}^{-1})$$

while if  $C_p = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p)^2$   $\sigma = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_p)$ .

$$\sigma = \hat{Z}_2(\rho_{4p}).$$

Also

$$C_p \times_T (\mathbb{H}_2)/J = M_2(Z/2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})) \text{ or } M_2(Z/2(\rho_p)).$$

Thus

$$C_p \times_T \mathbb{H}_2 = M_2(F) \oplus M_2(F) [(y-1), 2] \oplus M_2(F) [(g-1)^2, 4, 2(y-1)] \oplus \dots$$

writing it in filtered form.

The 2 primary component of  $SL_2(F) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = W$  and since we are

only interested in 2 torsion it suffices to analyze the image of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} [1 + \theta(y-1) + \theta'_2 + \theta''(y-1)^2 + \theta'''2(y-1) + \theta^{(iv)}_4 + \dots].$$

Next, using the idempotents  $\frac{1}{2}(y^2-1)$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}(y^2-1)$  we find that

$$4.A.10 \quad (\dot{\sigma}/_m \times \dot{\sigma}/_m \times \dot{\sigma}/_m)$$

subjects only the 2 primary defect. Then we use in turn each of the 5 remaining generators  $(y-1), 2$ , etc., to obtain all the relations in 4.A.10 and complete the proof of 4.A.7.

We summarize the results of §4.A in the following table

4.A.11: TABLE

<u>Block</u>	<u>Defect</u>	<u>Representations</u>
$\hat{Z}_p(Z/p \times_T Z/2)^+$	$\dot{Z}/p$	$Z^{++}, Z^{-+}, M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^+$
$\hat{Z}_p(Z/p \times_T Z/2)^-$	$\dot{Z}/p$	$Z^{+-}, Z^{--}, M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^-$
$\hat{Z}_q(Z/q \times_T Z/2)^+$	$\dot{Z}/q$	$Z^{++}, Z^{-+}, M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^+$
$\hat{Z}_q(Z/q \times_T Z/2)^-$	$\dot{Z}/q$	$Z^{-+}, Z^{--}, M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^-$
$M_2(\hat{Z}_p(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))(Z/p \times_T Z/2)$	$\dot{F}_p(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})$	$M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^+ M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^-$ $M_4(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}, \rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))$
$M_2(\hat{Z}_q(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))(Z/q \times_T Z/2)$	$\dot{F}_q(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})$	$M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^+$ $M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^-$ $M_4(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}, \rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))$
$\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p) \times_T H_8$	$\dot{F}_2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}) \times F_2(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})^+$	$M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^+$ $M_2(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}))^- W_p$
$\hat{Z}_2(\rho_q) \times_T H_8$	$\dot{F}_2(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}) \times F_2(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})^+$	$M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^+$ $M_2(Z(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))^- W_q$
$\hat{Z}_2(H_8)$	$Z/2$	$Z^{++}, Z^{+-}, Z^{-+}, Z^{--}, \mathcal{Q}$
$\hat{Z}_p(\rho_q)(Z/p) \times_T H_8$	$\dot{F}_p(\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})$	$W_q$ $W_{p,q}$
$\hat{Z}_q(\rho_p)(Z/q) \times_T H_8$	$\dot{F}_q(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})$	$W_p$ $W_{p,q}$
$\hat{Z}_2(\rho_p, \rho_q) \times_T H_8$	0	$M_4(Z(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}, \rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}))$  $W_{p,q}$

Remark 4.A.12:  $W_r$  is the maximal order in

$$\mathbb{Q}(\rho_r) \times_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbb{H}_{8_2} \quad t^2 = -1$$

and  $W_{p,q}$  is the maximal order in

$$\mathbb{Q}(\rho_{pq}) \times_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbb{H}_{8_2} \quad t^2 = -1$$

B The Swan Obstruction.

Let us consider  $\mathbb{Q}(12,5,1)$ . The local defects may be presented in an array as follows

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 4.B.1: & \dot{Z}/3 = E(B_3(\mathbb{H})) & \dot{Z}/2 = E(B_2(\mathbb{H})) & \dot{Z}/5 = E(B_5(\mathbb{H})) \\
 & \dot{Z}/3 = E(B_3(\mathbb{H})^-) & & \dot{Z}/5 = E(B_5(\mathbb{H})^-) \\
 & & Z/2 = E(B_2(\hat{Z}_2(\rho_3)(\mathbb{H}_2)) & \\
 & & \dot{F}_4 \times (Z/2)^2 = E(\hat{Z}_2(\rho_5)(\mathbb{H}_2)) & \\
 & \dot{F}_9 & & \dot{Z}/5 \\
 & \dot{Z}/3(y^2 = -1) & & \dot{Z}/5(t^2 = -1) \\
 & \dot{F}_9(y^2 = -1) & & \dot{Z}/5(t^2 = -1)
 \end{array}$$

The last 2 rows correspond to the blocks of type 4.A.4(b) and 4.A.4(a) respectively, which at odd primes are obtained from the blocks of type 4.A.1(b) with  $Y^2 = -1$  or 4.A.1(a) respectively.

Remark 4.B.2: Lemmas 4.A.2 and 4.A.5 together imply that  $\text{im } T$  is precisely the first row of 4.B.1, and we have

Lemma 4.B.3 : The units in row 2 of 4.B.1 may be identified with the corresponding units in row 1 on factoring out by global units.

Proof: Take the global representation

$$M_2(Z(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1}))^- . \text{ Its units go to the generators of } \dot{Z}/5 \text{ in row 2,}$$

to some elements in  $\dot{F}_4 \times (Z/2)^2$  and to  $\dot{F}_9$ . But the corresponding units of  $M_2(Z(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1}))^+$  hit  $F_5$  on row one and are identified with the images



of  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1}))^-$  in rows 3 and 4. The same argument works for  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}(\rho_3 + \rho_3^{-1}))$ .

Thus, since the Swan obstruction is in  $D(\mathbb{H})/T$ , we may ignore the first two rows in 4.B.1. But these rows contain all the information from the 4 copies of  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Now, by 2.B.5, the only remaining  $M_i$  which give torsion give it only for 2,3, or 5 separately.

We now describe the Swan obstruction. Choose periodic resolutions of  $B_3(\mathbb{H}), B_5(\mathbb{H}), B_2(\mathbb{H})$ , which can all be chosen of the form  $\mathbb{Z}_p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \Lambda \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \Lambda^2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \Lambda^2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \Lambda \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \mathbb{Z}_p$  and otherwise, on the higher blocks the resolution locally are

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & B \\ & \oplus & \\ & \text{id} & \oplus \\ & B & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & B \end{array} .$$

Now, the complex of maximal order is

4.B.4 (a)  $\mathcal{Q} \xrightarrow{(i-1)} \mathcal{Q} \xrightarrow{(i-1)} \mathcal{Q} \xrightarrow{(i-1)} \mathcal{Q}$

(b)  $M_2(\mathbb{Z}(\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})) = \Lambda, \theta = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - (\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\text{id}} & \Lambda \\ & \oplus & \\ & \text{id} & \oplus \\ & \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\theta} & \Lambda \end{array} .$$

Then, using §2.C. we have  $\sigma_4(\mathcal{Q}(12,5,1))$  given by

4.B.5

*	*	*
*		*
$2 - \rho_5 - \rho_5^{-1}$		$2 - \rho_3 - \rho_3^{-1}$
	$2 - \rho_3 - \rho_3^{-1}$	
	$2 - \rho_5 - \rho_5^{-1}$	
2		2
1		1

Additionally,  $\rho_3 + \rho_3^{-1} = -1$  and on  $F_3$ ,  $2 = -1$  so  $2 - \rho_5 - \rho_5^{-1} = -\rho_5^{-1}(\rho_5^3 - 1)/(\rho_5 - 1)$ .

Also, at level 4,  $\rho_5^2 + \rho_5^{-2}$  at  $Z(\rho_{20}) \times_{\mathbb{T}} Z/2 \mid t^2 = -1$  has norm

$$2 + \rho_5 - \rho_5^{-1}$$

which is congruent to 2 mod the maximal ideal over 5.

At level 5 note that  $\rho_5^2 + \rho_5^{-2}$  is the image of  $z^2 + yz^{-2}$  (in the notation of 3.B) which, at the maximal representation goes to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho_5^2 & 0 & \rho_5^{-2} & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_5^{-2} & 0 & \rho_5^2 \\ -\rho_5^{-2} & 0 & \rho_5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & -\rho_5^2 & 0 & \rho_5^{-2} \end{pmatrix}$$

and the determinant of this is  $(\rho_5^2 + \rho_5^{-2})^2 = 2 + \rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1}$ .

At level 3 and in the 2 local part

$$z^2 + yz^{-2} \rightarrow \left( \begin{pmatrix} \rho_5^2 + \rho_5^{-2} & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_5^{-2} + \rho_5^2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \rho_5^2 - \rho_5^{-2} & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_5^{-2} - \rho_5^2 \end{pmatrix}, * \right)$$

and so using  $(\rho_5^2 + \rho_5^{-2})$  we change the obstruction to

$$\begin{array}{ccc} * & * & * \\ * & & * \\ -2 + \rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1} & & -3 \\ & 1 & \\ & 1 & \\ 1 & & 1 \\ (\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})^2 & & 1 \end{array}$$

Actually, the procedure outlined above is general and we have

Theorem 4.B.6: In  $E_p \otimes E_q \otimes E_2$  the lift of the Swan obstruction  $(\sigma_4)$  for  $\mathbb{Q}(4q, p, 1)$  can be chosen to be

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 * & * & * \\
 * & & * \\
 \text{im}(-2 + \rho_q + \rho_q^{-1}) & \text{im}(-2 + \rho_p + \rho_p^{-1}) & \\
 & 1 & \\
 & 1 & \\
 & & \\
 1 & & 1 \\
 (\rho_q + \rho_q^{-1})^2 & (\rho_p + \rho_p^{-1})^2 & .
 \end{array}$$

C. Examples.

Proposition 4.C.1: The Swan obstruction  $\sigma_4(\mathbb{H})$  for  $\mathbb{H} = \mathbb{Q}(12, 13, 1)$  is zero.

Proof: In  $Z(\rho_{13})$  the ideal  $(3)$  splits as  $(3) = P_1 P_2 P_3 P_4$  and these are interchanged in pairs by conjugation. Hence the image of  $-2 + \rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1}$  at the 2 primes over  $(3)$  in  $Z(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1})$  are respectively

$$-2 + \rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1} \quad \text{and} \quad -2 + \rho_{13}^2 + \rho_{13}^{-2}$$

but  $Z(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1})/P_1 = \mathbb{F}_{27}$  and we have

$$N(1 + \rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1}) = \rho_{13} \left( \frac{\rho_{13}^3 - 1}{\rho_{13} - 1} \right) \left( \frac{\rho_{13}^9 - 1}{\rho_{13}^3 - 1} \right) \left( \frac{\rho_{13}^{-1} - 1}{\rho_{13}^9 - 1} \right) = 1 ,$$

hence  $1 + \rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1}$  is a square in  $\mathbb{F}_{27}$  and similarly for  $1 + \rho_{13}^2 + \rho_{13}^{-2}$ .

Again  $3^3 \equiv -3(13)$  so  $-3$  is a square but not a 4<sup>th</sup> power mod  $(13)$ . Note in particular that 2 is a primitive generator mod  $(13)$  and

20

$(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1})^{10} \equiv -3(\rho_{13} - 1)$ . Now use the unit  $(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1})^2$  at

$M_2(\mathbb{Z}(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1}))$ . Since it is a square it leaves  $(1 + \rho_{13}^\varepsilon + \rho_{13}^{-\varepsilon})$  equal to a square and sets  $-3 \equiv 1$ . The only remaining obstruction is  $(\rho_{13} + \rho_{13}^{-1})^{-2}$  at level 5. But this is a square in each  $F_{27}$ .

Hence, an odd multiple of  $\sigma_3(\mathbb{H})$  is trivial. But there is an orthogonal, free representation of  $\mathcal{O}(2^i a, b, c)$  in  $O(8)$  (see e.g. [22]), hence  $2\sigma_3(\mathbb{H}) = 0$  and 4.C.1 follows.

In marked contrast to 4.C.1 we have

Proposition 4.C.2: The Swan obstruction  $\sigma_3(\mathbb{H})$  for the group  $\mathcal{O}(12, 5, 1)$  is non-zero.

Proof: We begin by noting that all global representations at levels 4 and 5 are quaternionic at  $\infty$ . This is evident for  $\mathcal{O}(\rho_{4p}) \times_{\mathbb{T}} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{A}^2 = -1$ , and proved in [11] for the faithful representation. Hence, the global units which occur for them must be positive at all infinite places.

The centers in question are

$$K_1 = \mathcal{O}(\rho_{12} + \rho_{12}^{-1}), K_2 = \mathcal{O}(\rho_{20} + \rho_{20}^{-1}), K_3 = \mathcal{O}(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})$$

$$\mathbf{U}(K_1) = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2, \quad \mathbf{U}(K_2) = \mathbb{Z}^3 \times \mathbb{Z}/2, \quad \mathbf{U}(K_3) = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2.$$

Lemma 4.C.3: a. The generating unit of  $\mathbf{U}(K_1)$  is positive at all infinite places, and  $N(\rho_3 + \rho_3^{-1})$  is an odd power of this generator.

b. The positive elements of  $\mathbf{U}(K_2)$  are generated by  $\mathbf{U}(K_2)^2$ ,  $N(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})$ .

c. The positive elements of  $\mathbf{U}(K_3)$  are  $\mathbf{U}(K_3)^2$ .

Proof: Consider the units of  $\mathcal{O}(\rho_n)$  as compared with those in the maximal real subfield  $\mathcal{O}(\rho_n + \rho_n^{-1})$ . By the Dirichlet unit theorem the ranks of the torsion free parts are equal, and H. Hasse [7] has proved index (torsion free part  $\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{O}(\rho_n + \rho_n^{-1}))$ ) in (torsion free part  $\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{O}(\rho_n))$ ) is 2 if  $n$  is composite, and one if  $n$  is a prime power. In particular, for  $n = 4p$  the extra unit  $v$  has the property  $\bar{v} = iv$ . Hence,  $\rho_p + i\rho_p^{-1}$  represents this extra unit. Clearly, its norm is positive, and evidently, a non-square. This proves (a).

To show (b) we check the signs of the quotients  $\rho_p + 1\rho_p^{-1}/\rho_p^j + 1\rho_p^{-j} = \lambda_j$ . These are invariant under conjugation, so contained in the real subfield, and we easily check that the signs are independent for a suitable subclass of them. Thus, the  $\lambda_j$  and  $N(v)$  generate  $\mathbf{U}(K_2)$  up to odd index, so (b) follows.

(c) is similar, but easier.  $\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1} = \frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  has norm  $-1$ . Hence, the signs of its infinite embeddings are  $(+,-)$ .

We now return to the proof of 4.C.2. Look at the level 4 and 5 part of 4.B.6. An element  $\lambda_j^2$  changes

$$(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})^{-2} \text{ to } (\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})^{-2} (\lambda)^4.$$

But in  $\mathbb{F}_9$   $(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})$  has order 8 since taking norms gives

$$4.C.4: \quad N(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1}) = N \left( \rho_5^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \rho_5^{-1} \\ \rho_5^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \right) = -1$$

Thus, the only possible element for removing  $(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})^{-2}$  is  $(\rho_5 + \rho_5^{-1})^2$  in  $\mathbf{U}(K_3)$ . But at 5 this is  $4 \equiv -1(5)$  and these are no remaining global units to convert this  $-1$  to a 1. 4.C.2. follows.

For  $\mathcal{O}(12,5,1)$  the Swan obstruction was non-zero in level 5. Our next example shows the obstruction can also be non-trivial in level 3.

Proposition 4.C.5: The Swan obstruction  $\sigma_3(\mathbf{H})$  for  $\mathcal{O}(12,7,1)$  is non-zero.

Proof: Referring to 4.B.6, and noting that  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_3(\rho_7)$  has degree 6 over  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}_3$ , we apply a calculation analogous to 4.C.4 to show that an odd multiple of  $\sigma_3(\mathbf{H})$  is represented by

$$4.C.6: \quad \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * \\ * & & * \\ -1 & & 1 \\ & 1 & \\ & 1 & \\ 1 & & 1 \\ 1 & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We must, as before, study units, this time for  $K_4 = \mathbb{Q}(\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1})$  and  $K_5 = \mathbb{Q}(\rho_{28} + \rho_{28}^{-1})$ . We have

Lemma 4.C.7: a. The units of  $K_4$  are generated up to odd order by  
 $\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1}$ ,  $\rho_7^3 + \rho_7^{-3}$ ,  $-1$ .

b. The positive units in  $K_5$  are generated by  $(\mathcal{U}(K_5)^2)$ ,  $N(\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1})$   
 (a) is well known, see e.g. [3], and (b) follows as in 4.C.3.

Now, we cannot use  $-1$  to cancel the  $-1$  in 4.C.6, as we easily check. Moreover, the effect of  $N(\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1})$  at  $E_2$  has already been noted, and the remaining positive units of  $K_5$ , being squares, have no effect. Hence, the only remaining candidates are  $\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1}$ ,  $\rho_7^3 + \rho_7^{-3}$ . However, a calculation analogous to 4.C.4 shows

$$N(\rho_7 + \rho_7^{-1}) = N(\rho_7^3 + \rho_7^{-3}) = 1$$

from  $F_{27}$  to  $F_3$  and 4.C.5 follows.

but these appear to be very difficult problems.

Stanford University

---

Bibliography

- [1] J.W. Cassels - A. Fröhlich, Algebraic Number Theory, Academic Press (1967)
- [2] Cartan-Eilenberg, Homological Algebra, Princeton U. Press (1956)
- [3] H. M. Edwards, Fermat's Last Theorem, A Geometric Introduction to Algebraic Number Theory, Springer Verlag (1977).
- [4] A. Fröhlich, "On the classgroup of integral group rings of finite Abelian groups", *Mathematika* 16 (1969), 143-152.
- [5] \_\_\_\_\_, "Locally free modules over arithmetic orders", *J. Reine Angew. Math.* 274/75 (1975) 112-138.
- [6] A. Fröhlich, M. E. Keating, and S. M. J. Wilson "The classgroup of quaternion and dihedral 2-groups", *Mathematika* 21 (1974) 64-71.
- [7] H. Hasse, Über die Klassenzahl abelscher Zahlkörper, Berlin, Akademie-Verlag. (1952).
- [8] M. E. Keating, "On the K-theory of the quaternion group", *Mathematika* 20 (1973) 59-62.
- [9] S. Lang, Algebraic Number Theory, Addison-Wesley (1968).
- [10] Ib Madsen, C. B. Thomas, and C. T. C. Wall, "The topological spherical space form problem II, existence of free actions", *Topology* 15 (1976) 375-382.
- [11] R. J. Milgram, "Determination of the Schur subgroup", mimeo Stanford (1977).
- [12] D. Quillen, "Higher algebraic K-theory I", Algebraic K-theory-I, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Vol. 341, Springer-Verlag (1973) 85-147.
- [13] I. Reiner, Maximal Orders, Academic Press (1975).
- [14] I. Reiner, S. Ullom, "A Mayer-Vietoris sequence for class groups", *J. Alg.* 31 (1974), 305-342.
- [15] \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, "Class groups of integral group rings", *Trans. A. M. S.* 170 (1962) 1-30.
- [16] R. G. Swan, "Induced representations and projective modules", *Ann. of Math.* (2) 71 (1960) 552-578.

- [7] \_\_\_\_\_, "Periodic resolutions for finite groups", Ann. of Math. (2) 72 (1960) 267-291.
- [8] \_\_\_\_\_, K-theory of finite groups and orders, Notes by E. G. Evans, Lecture Notes in Mathematics #149, Springer-Verlag (1970).
- [19] C. B. Thomas, "Free actions by finite groups on  $S^3$ ", Proceedings of Symposia in Pure Mathematics, Vol. 32 (1977) A. M. S.
- [20] C. B. Thomas and C. T. C. Wall, "The topological space form problem I", Compositio Math 23 (1971) 101-114.
- [21] S. Wang, "On the commutator group of a simple algebra", Amer. J. of Math 72 (1950) 323-334.
- [22] C.T.C. Wall, "Free actions of finite groups on spheres", Proceedings of Symposia in Pure Mathematics", Vol. 32 (1977) A.M.S.
- [23] \_\_\_\_\_, "Finiteness conditions for CW-complexes", Ann. of Math. 81 (1965) 56-69.
- [24] \_\_\_\_\_, "Periodic projective resolutions", Proc. L. M. S. 39 (1979), 509-553.
- [25] R. J. Milgram, "Odd-index subgroups of units in cyclotomic fields and applications", Lecture Notes in Mathematics, vol. 854, 269-298.
- [26] J. F. Davis and R. J. Milgram, "The spherical space form problem", Harwood (1984).
- [27] S. Bentzen, Thesis, Aarhus (1983)

Department of Mathematics  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305, USA