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# On blocks with trivial source simple modules

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#### Abstract

Motivated by an observation in Danz and Külshammer (2009) [3], we determine the *source algebra*, and therefore all the structure, of the blocks without *essential Brauer pairs* where the simple modules of all the *Brauer corespondents* have trivial sources.

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#### 1. Introduction

**1.1.** In [3] Danz and Külshammer, investigating the simple modules for the large Mathieu groups, have found two blocks with noncyclic defect groups of order 9 where all the simple modules have trivial sources and whose source algebras are isomorphic to the source algebras of the corresponding blocks of their *inertial subgroups* [3, Theorems 4.3 and 4.4].<sup>1</sup>

**1.2.** In their Introduction they note that, in general, any simple module with a trivial source determines an Alperin *weight* [1] — for instance, this follows from [8, Proposition 1.6] — and therefore, in a block with Abelian defect groups and all the simple modules with trivial sources, Alperin's conjecture in [1] forces a canonical bijection between the sets of isomorphism classes of simple modules of the block and of the corresponding block of its *inertial subgroup*. From

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As a matter of fact, from [12, Corollary 3.6] one easily may find infinitely many examples of such blocks.

this remark, they raise the question whether, behind this bijection, it should be a true Morita equivalence between both blocks.

**1.3.** Recently, Zhou proved that, in a suitable inductive context, the answer is in the affirmative [18, Theorem B]; our purpose here is to prove the same fact without any hypothesis on the defect group. In order to explicit our result we need some notation; let p be a prime number, k an algebraically closed field of characteristic p, G a finite group, b a primitive idempotent of the center Z(kG) of the group algebra of G — for short, a *block* of G — and  $P_{\gamma}$  a *defect pointed group* of b; that is to say, P is a *defect group* of this block in Brauer's terms and  $\gamma$  is a conjugacy class of primitive idempotents i in  $(kGb)^P$  such that  $Br_P(i) \neq 0$ ; here,  $Br_P$  denotes the usual *Brauer homomorphism* 

$$\operatorname{Br}_{P}: (kG)^{P} \to (kG)(P) = (kG)^{P} / \sum_{Q} (kG)^{P}_{Q} \cong kC_{G}(P)$$
(1.3.1)

where Q runs over the set of proper subgroups of P. Recall that the P-interior algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma} = i(kG)i$  is called a *source algebra* of b and that its underlying k-algebra is Morita equivalent to kGb [8, Definition 3.2 and Corollary 3.5].

**1.4.** If G' is a second finite group and b' a block of G' admitting the same defect group P, it follows from [13, Corollary 7.4 and Remark 7.5] that the source algebras of b and b' are isomorphic — as P-interior algebras — if and only if the categories of finitely generated kGb- and kG'b'-modules are equivalent to each other via a  $kGb \otimes_k kG'b'$ -module admitting a  $P \times P$ -stable basis, a fact firstly proved by Leonard Scott [17, Lemma]<sup>2</sup>; in this case, we simply say that the blocks b and b' are identical. More generally, we say that the blocks b and b' are stably identical if the categories of finitely generated kGb- and kG'b'-modules are stably equivalent to each other up to projective modules — throughout a  $kGb \otimes_k kG'b'$ -module admitting a  $P \times P$ -stable basis.

**1.5.** Set  $N = N_G(P_\gamma)$  — often called the *inertial subgroup* of b — and denote by e the block of  $C_G(P)$  determined by *the local point*  $\gamma$  (cf. (1.3.1)). Recall that e is also a block of N and that  $k\bar{C}_G(P)\bar{e}$  is a simple k-algebra, where we set  $\bar{C}_G(P) = C_G(P)/Z(P)$  and denote by  $\bar{e}$  the image of e in  $k\bar{C}_G(P)$ ; then, the action of N on the simple k-algebra  $k\bar{C}_G(P)\bar{e}$  determines a central  $k^*$ -extension  $\hat{E}$  of  $E = N/P \cdot C_G(P)$  — often called the *inertial quotient* of b. Setting  $\hat{L} = P \rtimes \hat{E}^\circ$  for a lifting of the canonical homomorphism  $\hat{E} \rightarrow \text{Out}(P)$  to Aut(P), it follows from [11, Proposition 14.6] that the corresponding *twisted* group algebra  $k_*\hat{L}$  is isomorphic to a source algebra of the block e of N.

**1.6.** Recall that a *Brauer* (b, G)-*pair* (Q, f) is formed by a *p*-subgroup Q of G such that  $\operatorname{Br}_Q(b) \neq 0$  and by a block f of  $C_G(Q)$  fulfilling  $\operatorname{Br}_Q(b)f = f$  [2, Definition 1.6]; note that f is also a block for any subgroup H of  $N_G(Q, f)$  containing  $C_G(Q)$ . Thus, (P, e) is a Brauer (b, G)-pair and, as a matter of fact, there is  $x \in G$  such that [2, Theorem 1.14]

$$(Q, f) \subset (P, e)^{\chi}. \tag{1.6.1}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Strictly speaking, in [17, Lemma] Scott only considers the case where the *block algebras* kGb and kG'b' are isomorphic.

Then, the *Frobenius category*  $\mathcal{F}_{(b,G)}$  of *b* [16, 3.1] is the category where the objects are the Brauer (b, G)-pairs (Q, f) and the morphisms are the homomorphisms between the corresponding *p*-groups induced by the *inclusion* between Brauer (b, G)-pairs and the *G*-conjugation.

**1.7.** For short, let us say that the block *b* is *inertially controlled* whenever the Frobenius categories  $\mathcal{F}_{(b,G)}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{L}}$  are equivalent to each other — note that the unity element is the unique block of  $\hat{L}$  and we omit it, writing  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{L}}$  instead of  $\mathcal{F}_{(1,\hat{L})}$ ; moreover, since  $k_*\hat{L}$  is isomorphic to a source algebra of the block *e* of *N*, the Frobenius categories  $\mathcal{F}_{(e,N)}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{\hat{L}}$  are always equivalent to each other, so that *e* is always *inertially controlled*. Similarly, let us say that *b* is a *block of G with trivial source simple modules* if all the simple *kGb*-modules have trivial sources.

**Theorem 1.8.** With the notation above, the source algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  of the block b of G is isomorphic to  $k_*\hat{L}$  if and only if the block b of G is inertially controlled and, for any Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), f is a block of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  with trivial source simple modules.

**1.9.** The main tools in proving this result are Linckelmann's Equivalence Criterion on *stable equivalences* [7, Proposition 2.5], the *strict semicovering* homomorphisms that we recall in Section 3 below, and the general criterion on *stable equivalences* in [13, Theorem 6.9], which in our context is summarized by the following result.

**Theorem 1.10.** With the notation above, the blocks b of G and e of N are stably identical if and only if, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  admits  $C_P(Q)$  as a defect p-subgroup and a source algebra isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{f}}(Q))$ .

**1.11.** Note that  $C_{\hat{E}}(Q)$  acts faithfully on  $C_P(Q)$  since any (p')-subgroup of  $C_{\hat{E}}(Q)$  acting trivially on  $C_P(Q)$  still acts trivially on P [5, Ch. 5, Theorem 3.4], and that we actually have

$$C_{\hat{L}}(Q) \cong C_P(Q) \rtimes C_{\hat{F}^{\circ}}(Q). \tag{1.11.1}$$

Moreover, if the defect group P is Abelian then, for any Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), P is clearly a defect group of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$ . Finally, although we only work over k, Lemma 7.8 in [10] allows us to lift all the isomorphisms between *block source algebras* over k above to the corresponding block source algebras over a complete discrete valuation ring O of characteristic zero having the *residue field* k.

# 2. Notation and quoted results

**2.1.** Let A be a finitely dimensional k-algebra; we denote by  $1_A$  the unity element of A and by  $A^*$  the multiplicative group of A. An algebra homomorphism f from A to another finitely dimensional k-algebra A' is not necessarily unitary and we say that f is an *embedding* whenever

$$Ker(f) = \{0\} \text{ and } Im(f) = f(1_A)A'f(1_A).$$
(2.1.1)

Following Green, a *G*-algebra is a finitely dimensional *k*-algebra *A* endowed with a *G*-action; recall that, for any subgroup *H* of *G*, a point  $\alpha$  of *H* on *A* is an  $(A^H)^*$ -conjugacy class of primitive idempotents of  $A^H$  and the pair  $H_{\alpha}$  is called a pointed group on *A* [8, 1.1]; we denote

by  $A(H_{\alpha})$  the *simple quotient* of  $A^H$  determined by  $\alpha$ . A second pointed group  $K_{\beta}$  on A is *contained* in  $H_{\alpha}$  if  $K \subset H$  and, for any  $i \in \alpha$ , there is  $j \in \beta$  such that [8, 1.1]

$$ij = j = ji. \tag{2.1.2}$$

**2.2.** Following Broué, for any *p*-subgroup P of G we consider the *Brauer quotient* and the *Brauer homomorphism* 

$$\operatorname{Br}_{P}^{A}: A^{P} \to A(P) = A^{P} / \sum_{Q} A_{Q}^{P}, \qquad (2.2.1)$$

where Q runs over the set of proper subgroups of P and  $A_Q^P$  is the ideal formed by the sums  $\sum_u a^u$  where a runs over  $A^Q$  and  $u \in P$  over a set of representatives for P/Q; we call *local* any point  $\gamma$  of P on A not contained in Ker(Br\_P^A) [8, 1.1]. Let us say that A is a *p*-permutation *G*-algebra if a Sylow *p*-subgroup of G stabilizes a basis of A; in this case, recall that if P is a *p*-subgroup of G and Q a normal subgroup of P then the corresponding Brauer homomorphisms induce a *k*-algebra isomorphism [2, Proposition 1.5]

$$(A(Q))(P/Q) \cong A(Q). \tag{2.2.2}$$

Obviously, the group algebra A = kG is a *p*-permutation *G*-algebra and the composition of the inclusion  $kC_G(Q) \subset A^Q$  with  $\operatorname{Br}_Q^A$  is an isomorphism which allows us to identify  $kC_G(Q)$  with A(Q); then any local point  $\delta$  of Q on kG determines a block  $b_{\delta}$  of  $kC_G(Q)$  such that  $b_{\delta} \operatorname{Br}_Q^{KG}(\delta) = \operatorname{Br}_Q^{KG}(\delta)$ .

**2.3.** We are specially interested in the *G*-algebras *A* endowed with a group homomorphism  $\rho$ :  $G \to A^*$  inducing the action of *G* on *A* — called *G*-interior algebras. In this case, for any pointed group  $H_{\alpha}$  on *A* and any  $i \in \alpha$ , the subalgebra  $A_{\alpha} = iAi$  has a structure of *H*-interior algebra mapping  $y \in H$  on  $\rho(y)i = i\rho(y)$ ; moreover, setting  $x \cdot a \cdot y = \rho(x)a\rho(y)$  for any  $a \in A$ and any  $x, y \in G$ , a *G*-interior algebra homomorphism from *A* to another *G*-interior algebra A'is a *G*-algebra homomorphism  $f : A \to A'$  fulfilling

$$f(x \cdot a \cdot y) = x \cdot f(a) \cdot y. \tag{2.3.1}$$

We also consider the *mixed* situation of an *H*-interior *G*-algebra *B* where *H* is a subgroup of *G* and *B* is a *G*-algebra endowed with a *compatible H*-interior algebra structure, in such a way that the kG-module  $B \otimes_{kH} kG$  endowed with the product

$$(a \otimes x).(b \otimes y) = ab^{x^{-1}} \otimes xy, \qquad (2.3.2)$$

for any  $a, b \in B$  and any  $x, y \in G$ , and with the group homomorphism mapping  $x \in G$  on  $1_B \otimes x$ becomes a *G*-interior algebra — simply noted  $B \otimes_H G$ . For instance, for any *p*-subgroup *P* of *G*, A(P) is a  $C_G(P)$ -interior  $N_G(P)$ -algebra.

**2.4.** In particular, if  $H_{\alpha}$  and  $K_{\beta}$  are two pointed groups on A, we say that an injective group homomorphism  $\varphi: K \to H$  is an A-fusion from  $K_{\beta}$  to  $H_{\alpha}$  whenever there is a K-interior algebra *embedding* 

$$f_{\varphi}: A_{\beta} \to \operatorname{Res}_{K}^{H}(A_{\alpha}) \tag{2.4.1}$$

such that the inclusion  $A_{\beta} \subset A$  and the composition of  $f_{\varphi}$  with the inclusion  $A_{\alpha} \subset A$  are  $A^*$ -conjugate; we denote by  $F_A(K_{\beta}, H_{\alpha})$  the set of *H*-conjugacy classes of *A*-fusions from  $K_{\beta}$  to  $H_{\alpha}$  and we write  $F_A(H_{\alpha})$  instead of  $F_A(H_{\alpha}, H_{\alpha})$ . If  $A_{\alpha} = iAi$  for  $i \in \alpha$ , it follows from [9, Corollary 2.13] that we have a group homomorphism

$$F_A(H_\alpha) \to N_{A^*_\alpha}(H \cdot i)/H \cdot \left(A^H_\alpha\right)^*. \tag{2.4.2}$$

**2.5.** Let *b* be a block of *G*; then  $\alpha = \{b\}$  is a *point* of *G* on *kG* and we let  $P_{\gamma}$  be a local pointed group contained in  $G_{\alpha}$  which is maximal with respect to the inclusion of pointed groups; namely  $P_{\gamma}$  is a *defect pointed group* of *b*. Note that, for any *p*-subgroup *Q* of *G* and any subgroup *H* of  $N_G(Q)$  containing *Q*, we have

$$\operatorname{Br}_{Q}((kG)^{H}) = (kC_{G}(Q))^{H}; \qquad (2.5.1)$$

thus, we have an injection from the set of points of H on  $kC_G(Q)$  to the set of points of H on kG such that the corresponding points  $\beta^\circ$  and  $\beta$  fulfill  $\operatorname{Br}_Q^{kG}(\beta) = \operatorname{Br}_Q^{kC_G(Q)}(\beta^\circ)$ ; moreover, this injection preserves the localness and the inclusion of pointed groups [16, 1.19]. In particular, if P is Abelian and  $Q_\delta$  is a local pointed group on kG contained in  $P_\gamma$ , a point  $\mu$  of  $C_G(Q)$  on kG fulfilling

$$Q_{\delta} \subset P_{\gamma} \subset C_G(Q)_{\mu} \tag{2.5.2}$$

is the *unique* point determined by the block  $b_{\delta}$  of  $C_G(Q)$  and therefore P is a defect group of this block (cf. 1.8).

**2.6.** Set  $e = b_{\gamma}$  and  $N = N_G(P_{\gamma})$ ; thus, *e* is a block of *N*, it determines a point  $\nu$  of *N* on *kG* (cf. 2.5) and *P* is a defect group of this block; moreover, we have (cf. (1.3.1))

$$(kN)(P) \cong kC_N(P) = kC_G(P) \cong (kG)(P), \qquad (2.6.1)$$

there is a local point  $\hat{\gamma}$  of P on  $kN \subset kG$  such that  $\operatorname{Br}_P(\hat{\gamma}) = \operatorname{Br}_P(\gamma)$  and it follows from [4, Proposition 4.10] that, for any  $\hat{\iota} \in \hat{\gamma}$  and any  $\ell \in \nu$ , the idempotent  $\hat{\iota}\ell$  belongs to  $\gamma$  and that the multiplication by  $\ell$  defines a unitary P-interior algebra homomorphism (cf. 1.5)

$$k_* \hat{L} \cong (kN)_{\hat{\gamma}} \to (kG)_{\gamma} \tag{2.6.2}$$

which is actually a *direct injection* of  $k(P \times P)$ -modules.

**2.7.** For any pair of *local pointed groups*  $Q_{\delta}$  and  $R_{\varepsilon}$  on kG, we denote by  $E_G(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta})$  the set of Q-conjugacy classes of group homomorphisms  $\varphi : R \to Q$  induced by conjugation with some  $x \in G$  fulfilling  $R_{\varepsilon} \subset (Q_{\delta})^x$ , and write  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$  instead of  $E_G(Q_{\delta}, Q_{\delta})$ ; it follows from [9, Theorem 3.1] that

$$E_G(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta}) = F_{kG}(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta})$$
(2.7.1)

and if  $P_{\gamma}$  contains  $Q_{\delta}$  and  $R_{\varepsilon}$  then they can be considered as local pointed groups on  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  and it follows from [9, Proposition 2.14] that

$$E_G(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta}) = F_{kG}(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta}) = F_{(kG)_{\nu}}(R_{\varepsilon}, Q_{\delta}).$$
(2.7.2)

In particular, it is clear that  $N_G(Q_\gamma)/Q \cdot C_G(Q) \cong E_G(Q_\delta)$  and the action of  $N_G(Q_\delta)$  on the simple k-algebra  $(kG)(Q_\delta)$  (cf. 2.1) determines a central  $k^*$ -extension  $\hat{E}_G(Q_\delta)$  of  $E_G(Q_\delta)$ .

**2.8.** Recall that a Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) is called *selfcentralizing* if, setting  $\overline{C}_G(Q) = C_G(Q)/Z(Q)$  and denoting by  $\overline{f}$  the image of f in  $k\overline{C}_G(Q_{\delta})$ , the k-algebra  $k\overline{C}_G(Q)\overline{f}$  is simple [14, 1.6], so that  $k\overline{C}_G(Q)\overline{f} \cong (kG)(Q_{\delta})$  for a local point  $\delta$  of Q on kG clearly determined by f; we also say that  $Q_{\delta}$  is a *selfcentralizing pointed group* on kG; thus we have a bijection, which preserves *inclusion* and *G*-conjugacy, between the sets of selfcentralizing pointed groups on kGb and of selfcentralizing Brauer (b, G)-pairs. Moreover, according to [14, Theorem A.9], an *essential pointed group* on kG is a selfcentralizing pointed group  $Q_{\delta}$  on kG fulfilling the following condition.

**2.8.1.**  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$  admits a proper subgroup M such that p divides |M| and does not divide  $|M \cap M^{\sigma}|$  for any  $\sigma \in E_G(Q_{\delta}) - M$ .

Then, from [14, Corollary A.12] and [16, Corollary 5.14], it is not difficult to prove that the block *b* of *G* is *inertially controlled* (cf. 1.7) if and only if there are *no essential pointed groups* on kGb; thus, if the defect group *P* is Abelian the block *b* of *G* is inertially controlled.

**Lemma 2.9.** With the notation above, the block b of G is inertially controlled if and only if, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  admits  $C_P(Q)$  as a defect group and it is inertially controlled.

**Proof.** Firstly assume that *b* is inertially controlled; let (Q, f) be a Brauer (b, G)-pair contained in (P, e) and choose a maximal Brauer  $(f, Q \cdot C_G(Q))$ -pair (R, g); since (Q, f) is also a Brauer  $(f, Q \cdot C_G(Q))$ -pair, (R, g) necessarily contains (Q, f) (cf. (1.6.1)) and therefore it is also a Brauer (b, G)-pair; hence, there is  $x \in G$  such that (cf. (1.6.1))

$$(Q, f)^{x} \subset (R, g)^{x} \subset (P, e)$$

$$(2.9.1)$$

and therefore we get x = zn for suitable  $z \in C_G(Q)$  and  $n \in N$ ; so that the maximal Brauer  $(f, Q \cdot C_G(Q))$ -pair  $(R, g)^z$  is contained in (P, e).

Moreover, if (T, h) is a Brauer  $(f, C_G(Q))$ -pair, it is clear that  $(Q \cdot T, h)$  is a Brauer (b, G)-pair; conversely, by the argument above,  $(C_P(Q), g^x)$  is a maximal Brauer  $(f, C_G(Q))$ -pair; then, if  $(C_P(Q), g^x)$  contains (T, h) and  $(T, h)^z$  with  $z \in C_G(Q)$ , it is easily checked that (P, e) contains  $(Q \cdot T, h)$  and  $(Q \cdot T, h)^z$  and therefore we still get z = wm for suitable  $w \in C_G(Q \cdot T)$  and  $m \in N$ , so that m actually belongs to  $C_N(Q)$ ; consequently, since we have  $N/C_G(P) \cong L/C_L(P)$ , the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  is inertially controlled.

Conversely, arguing by contradiction, assume that  $Q_{\delta}$  is an essential pointed group contained in  $P_{\gamma}$ . According to [10, Lemma 3.10], we may assume that the image of  $N_P(Q)$  is a Sylow *p*-subgroup of  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$  and, since a proper subgroup *M* of  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$  fulfilling condition 2.8.1 above contains a Sylow *p*-subgroup of  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$ , we still may assume that *M* contains the image of  $N_P(Q)$ . Moreover, it follows again from [10, Lemma 3.10] that there is a local pointed group  $R_{\varepsilon}$  containing and normalizing  $Q_{\delta}$  such that its image in  $E_G(Q_{\delta})$  is not contained in M; then, R centralizes some nontrivial subgroup Z of Z(Q) and, denoting by f the unique block of  $H = C_G(Z)$  such that (P, e) contains (Z, f), it follows from our hypothesis that  $H \cap P$  is a defect group of this block.

Consequently, denoting by *h* the block of  $C_G(H \cap P)$  such that (P, e) contains  $(H \cap P, h)$ , this pair is a maximal Brauer (f, H)-pair; moreover, *H* contains *R* and  $C_G(Q)$ , and in particular we have

$$(kH)(Q) \cong (kG)(Q), \tag{2.9.2}$$

so that  $\operatorname{Br}_O(\delta)$  determines a local point  $\hat{\delta}$  of Q on kH fulfilling

$$E_H(Q_{\hat{\lambda}}) \subset E_G(Q_{\delta}); \tag{2.9.3}$$

then, applying again [10, Lemma 3.10], we may assume that the image of  $N_{H\cap P}(Q)$  in the intersection  $E_H(Q_{\hat{\delta}}) \cap M$  is a Sylow *p*-subgroup of  $E_H(Q_{\hat{\delta}})$ , whereas this intersection does not contain the image of *R*; hence,  $Q_{\hat{\delta}}$  is an essential pointed group on kHf, which contradicts our hypothesis. We are done.  $\Box$ 

#### 3. Strict semicovering homomorphism

**3.1.** Let *P* be a finite *p*-group, *B* and  $\hat{B}$  two *P*-algebras and  $g: B \to \hat{B}$  a unitary *P*-algebra homomorphism; we say that *g* is a *strict semicovering* if, for any subgroup *Q* of *P*, we have  $\text{Ker}(g)^Q \subset J(B^Q)$  and the image g(j) of a primitive idempotent *j* of  $B^Q$  is still primitive in  $\hat{B}^Q$  [6, 3.10]; namely if *g* induces a homomorphism from the maximal semisimple quotient of  $B^Q$  to the maximal semisimple quotient of  $\hat{B}^Q$ , mapping primitive idempotents on primitive idempotents.

**3.2.** In other words, g is a strict semicovering if and only if, for any subgroup Q of P, it induces a surjective map from the set of points of Q on B to the set of points of Q on  $\hat{B}$  and, for any pair of mutually corresponding such points  $\delta$  and  $\hat{\delta}$ , it induces a k-algebra embedding [6, 3.10]

$$g(Q_{\delta}): B(Q_{\delta}) \to \hat{B}(Q_{\hat{\delta}}). \tag{3.2.1}$$

**3.3.** Explicitly, if g is a strict semicovering then, for any pointed group  $Q_{\delta}$  on B, there is a unique point  $\hat{\delta}$  of Q on  $\hat{B}$  fulfilling  $g(\delta) \subset \hat{\delta}$ ; moreover, this correspondence preserves *inclusion* and *localness* [6, Proposition 3.15]. The composition of strict semicoverings is clearly a strict semicovering but, more precisely, the *strictness* provides a converse [6, Proposition 3.6].

**Proposition 3.4.** With the notation above, let  $\hat{g} : \hat{B} \to \hat{B}$  a second unitary *P*-algebra homomorphism. Then,  $\hat{g} \circ g$  is a strict semicovering if and only if  $\hat{g}$  and g are so.

**3.5.** The fact for a *P*-algebra homomorphism of being a strict semicovering is essentially of "local" nature as it shows the following result [6, Theorem 3.16].

**Theorem 3.6.** With the notation above, the unitary P-algebra homomorphism g is a strict semicovering if and only if, for any p-subgroup Q of P, the {1}-algebra homomorphism

$$g(Q): B(Q) \to \hat{B}(Q) \tag{3.6.1}$$

induced by g is a strict semicovering.

**3.7.** Here, we may restrict ourselves to consider the following situation. Let G be a finite group, H a normal subgroup of G such that G/H is a p-group, P a p-subgroup of G and Z a subgroup of  $H \cap P$  normal in G and central in H; set  $\overline{G} = G/Z$  and  $\overline{P} = P/Z$ .

**Proposition 3.8.** With the notation above, the canonical  $\overline{P}$ -algebra homomorphism  $kH \rightarrow k\overline{G}$  is a semicovering.

**Proof.** For any subgroup  $\overline{Q} = Q/Z$  of  $\overline{P}$ , we have (cf. (1.3.1))

$$(kH)(\bar{Q}) \cong kC_H(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad (k\bar{G})(\bar{Q}) \cong kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q});$$

$$(3.8.1)$$

thus, a p'-subgroup K of the converse image of  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$  centralizes Q [5, Ch. 5, Theorem 3.2] and therefore it is contained in  $C_H(Q)$ ; that is to say, setting  $\overline{C_H(Q)} = C_H(Q)/Z$ , the quotient  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})/\overline{C_H(Q)}$  is a p-group.

Then, it follows from Lemma 3.9 below that any simple  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$ -module M has the form

$$M \cong \operatorname{Ind}_{kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})_{N}}^{kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})}(\hat{N})$$
(3.8.2)

where N is a simple  $k\overline{C_H(Q)}$ -module,  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})_N$  the stabilizer in  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$  of the isomorphism class of N and  $\hat{N}$  the extended  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})_N$ -module. Moreover, any simple  $kC_H(Q)$ -module is also a simple  $k\overline{C_H(Q)}$ -module and it appears in some simple  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$ -module. All this amounts to saying that the canonical {1}-algebra homomorphism

$$kC_H(Q) \to kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$$
 (3.8.3)

induces a homomorphism between the corresponding semisimple quotients preserving primitivity and then it suffices to apply Theorem 3.6.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 3.9.** Let X be a finite group and Y a normal subgroup of X such that X/Y is a p-group. Then, any simple kY-module N can be extended to the stabilizer  $X_N$  in X of the isomorphism class of N and, denoting by  $\hat{N}$  the extended  $kX_N$ -module,  $\operatorname{Ind}_{X_N}^X(\hat{N})$  is a simple kX-module. Moreover, all the simple kX-modules have this form.

**Proof.** Straightforward.

**Corollary 3.10.** With the same notation, let  $\alpha = \{b\}$  be a point of G on kH and assume that  $P_{\gamma}$  is a defect pointed group of  $G_{\alpha}$ ; denote by  $\bar{b}$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  the respective images in  $k\bar{G}$  of b and  $\gamma$ . Then, b and  $\bar{b}$  are respective blocks of G and  $\bar{G}$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  are respectively contained in local points  $\tilde{\gamma}$  and  $\tilde{\bar{\gamma}}$  of P and  $\bar{P}$  on kG and  $k\bar{G}$ , and moreover  $P_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  and  $P_{\tilde{\chi}}$  are respective defect pointed groups

of these blocks. In particular, setting  $Q = H \cap P$ ,  $\overline{H} = H/Z$  and  $\overline{Q} = Q/Z$ , the respective *P*and  $\overline{P}$ -interior algebras

$$(kH)_{\gamma} \otimes_{\bar{Q}} P = \bigoplus_{u} (kH)_{\gamma} \cdot u \quad and \quad (k\bar{H})_{\bar{\gamma}} \otimes_{\bar{Q}} \bar{P} = \bigoplus_{\bar{u}} (k\bar{H})_{\bar{\gamma}} \cdot \bar{u}, \qquad (3.10.1)$$

where  $u \in P$  runs over a set of representatives for P/Q and  $\overline{u}$  is the image in  $\overline{P}$  of u, are respective source algebras of these blocks.

**Proof.** Since any block of *G* is a *k*-linear combination of *p'*-elements of *G*, *kH* contains all the blocks of *G* and therefore *b* is primitive in Z(kG); moreover, it is easily checked that  $(kH)^G$  maps surjectively onto  $(k\bar{H})^{\bar{G}}$  and therefore  $\bar{\alpha} = \{\bar{b}\}$  is also a point of  $\bar{G}$  on  $k\bar{H}$ , so that  $\bar{b}$  is a block of  $\bar{G}$ .

Moreover, it follows from Propositions 3.4 and 3.8 that the canonical  $\bar{P}$ -algebra homomorphisms

$$kH \to kG$$
 and  $kH \to kG$  (3.10.2)

are strict semicovering; hence,  $\gamma$  is contained in a local point  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of P on kG and  $\bar{\gamma}$  in a local point  $\tilde{\bar{\gamma}}$  of  $\bar{P}$  on  $k\bar{G}$ ; we claim that  $P_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  and  $\bar{P}_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  are maximal local pointed groups on kG and  $k\bar{G}$  respectively.

Indeed, since the canonical homomorphism  $kH \to kG$  is a semicovering, a local pointed group  $P'_{\tilde{\gamma}'}$  on kG containing  $P_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  comes from a local pointed group  $P'_{\gamma'}$  on kH and it is easily checked that  $P'_{\gamma'} \subset G_{\alpha}$ , so that we have  $P'_{\gamma'} \subset (P_{\gamma})^x$  for a suitable  $x \in G$ , which forces  $P'_{\gamma'} = P_{\gamma}$ ; since  $\bar{\alpha}$  is a point of  $\bar{G}$  on  $k\bar{H}$ , the same argument proves that  $\bar{P}_{\bar{\gamma}}$  is a maximal local pointed group on  $k\bar{G}$ .

The proof of the last statement is straightforward. We are done.  $\Box$ 

# 4. Stable embeddings: the proof of Theorem 1.10

**4.1.** Let G be a finite group and A a G-interior algebra; we say that a point  $\beta$  of H on A is *projective* if it is contained in  $A_1^H$  or, equivalently, if it has a trivial defect group. Let  $\hat{A}$  be a second G-interior algebra and  $f: \hat{A} \to A$  a G-interior algebra homomorphism; following [13, 6.4], we say that f is a *stable embedding* if Ker(f) and  $f(1_{\hat{A}})Af(1_{\hat{A}})/f(\hat{A})$  are projective  $k(G \times G)$ -modules or, equivalently, if the class of the  $k(G \times G)$ -module homomorphism

$$f:\hat{A} \to f(1_{\hat{A}})Af(1_{\hat{A}}) \tag{4.1.1}$$

in the *stable category* of  $k(G \times G)$ -modules is an isomorphism.

**4.2.** In this case, if f is unitary, the exact sequence of  $k(G \times G)$ -modules

$$0 \to \operatorname{Ker}(f) \to \hat{A} \xrightarrow{f} A \to A/f(\hat{A}) \to 0$$
(4.2.1)

is split [13, 6.4.1] and therefore, for any subgroup H of G, f induces a  $C_G(H)$ -interior  $N_G(H)$ -algebra isomorphism

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$$\hat{A}^{H}/\hat{A}_{1}^{H} \cong A^{H}/A_{1}^{H};$$
 (4.2.2)

in particular, f induces a bijection between the sets of *nonprojective points* of H on  $\hat{A}$  and on A and, for any pair of corresponding nonprojective points  $\hat{\beta}$  and  $\beta$ , we have  $N_G(H_{\hat{\beta}}) = N_G(H_{\beta})$ , f induces a  $C_G(H)$ -interior  $N_G(H_{\beta})$ -algebra isomorphism [13, 4.6.2]

$$f(H_{\beta}): \hat{A}(H_{\hat{\beta}}) \cong A(H_{\beta}) \tag{4.2.3}$$

and this isomorphism determines a central  $k^*$ -extension isomorphism

$$\hat{f}(H_{\beta}):\hat{\bar{N}}_G(H_{\hat{\beta}})\cong\hat{\bar{N}}_G(H_{\beta}).$$
(4.2.4)

Moreover, this correspondence preserves *inclusion*, *localness* and *fusions*.

**4.3.** We are ready to prove Theorem 1.10; thus, *b* is a block of *G*,  $P_{\gamma}$  is a defect pointed group of *b*, we set  $N = N_G(P_{\gamma})$ , *e* is the corresponding block of *N*,  $\nu$  is the point of *N* on *kG* determined by *e*,  $\hat{\gamma}$  is the local point of *P* on *kN* fulfilling  $\text{Br}_P(\hat{\gamma}) = \text{Br}_P(\gamma)$  and we denote by (cf. (2.6.2))

$$g:(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}} \to (kG)_{\gamma} \tag{4.3.1}$$

the unitary *P*-interior algebra homomorphism determined as above by the multiplication by  $\ell \in \nu$ ; note that the restriction throughout *g* induces a functor from the category of *kGb*-modules to the category of *kNe*-modules which actually coincides with the functor determined by the  $k(N \times G)$ -module  $\ell(kG)$ . Firstly, we prove a stronger form of the converse part.

**Proposition 4.4.** With the notation above, assume that the blocks b of G and e of N are stably identical. Then, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e),  $N_P(Q)$  is a defect group of the block f of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  and a source algebra of this block is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{L}}(Q) \cdot N_P(Q))$  via an isomorphism inducing a  $C_P(Q)$ -interior algebra isomorphism from a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  onto  $k_*C_{\hat{L}}(Q)$ .

**Proof.** We can apply Theorem 6.9 and Corollary 7.4 in [13] to the Morita stable equivalences between *b* and *e*, and between *e* and *b*; in our present situation, *b* and *e* have the same defect group *P* and, with the notation in [13], we may assume that  $\ddot{P} = P$  and then  $\ddot{S} = k$  is the trivial *P*-interior algebra and  $\sigma = \sigma' = id_P$ . Consequently, it follows from [13, 7.6.6] that the block *b* of *G* is *inertially controlled* and, for any nontrivial subgroup *Q* of *P*, from [13, 6.9.1] we get  $C_P(Q)$ -interior  $N_P(Q)$ -algebra embeddings

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \to (kN)_{\hat{\nu}}(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad (kN)_{\hat{\nu}}(Q) \to (kG)_{\gamma}(Q),$$

$$(4.4.1)$$

so that both are isomorphisms.

Now, we have  $C_P(Q)$ -interior  $N_P(Q)$ -algebra isomorphisms

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \cong (kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(Q) \cong k_* C_{\hat{I}}(Q) \tag{4.4.2}$$

and therefore the unity element is primitive in the k-algebra

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$$(kG)_{\nu}(Q)^{C_P(Q)} \cong (kN)_{\hat{\nu}}(Q)^{C_P(Q)};$$
(4.4.3)

thus, denoting by f the block of  $C_G(Q)$  such that  $(Q, f) \subset (P, e)$  [2, Theorem 1.8], it is quite clear that the  $C_P(Q)$ -interior algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)$  is a source algebra of this block and it is indeed isomorphic to  $k_*C_{\hat{f}}(Q)$ .

Moreover, it follows from Corollary 3.10 above, applied to the groups  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$ and  $C_G(Q)$ , that  $N_P(Q)$  is a defect group of the block f of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  and that the  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \otimes_{C_P(Q)} N_P(Q) = \bigoplus_u (kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \cdot u, \qquad (4.4.4)$$

where  $u \in N_P(Q)$  runs over a set of representatives for  $N_P(Q)/C_P(Q)$ , is a source algebra of this block; thus, according to isomorphisms (4.4.2), this  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{I}}(Q) \cdot N_P(Q))$ . We are done.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 4.5.** With the notation above, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), assume that  $C_P(Q)$  is a defect group of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  and that a source algebra of this block is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{L}}(Q))$ . Then, g is a stable embedding.

**Proof.** Since g is a *direct injection* of  $k(P \times P)$ -modules (cf. 2.6), we have  $\text{Ker}(g) = \{0\}$  and the quotient

$$M = (kG)_{\gamma} / g\left((kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}\right) \tag{4.5.1}$$

is a direct summand of  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  as  $k(P \times P)$ -modules; hence, since  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  is a permutation  $k(P \times P)$ -module, it suffices to prove that  $M(W) = \{0\}$  for any nontrivial subgroup W of  $P \times P$ . Actually, we have  $(kG)(W) = \{0\}$  unless

$$W = \Delta_{\varphi}(Q) = \left\{ \left( u, \varphi(u) \right) \right\}_{u \in Q}$$

$$(4.5.2)$$

for some subgroup Q of P and some group homomorphism  $\varphi : Q \to P$  induced by the conjugation by some  $x \in G$ .

More precisely, choosing  $i \in \gamma$ , the multiplication by x on the right determines a k-linear isomorphism

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) \cong (i(kG)ix)(Q); \tag{4.5.3}$$

thus, denoting by f the block of  $C_G(Q)$  such that (P, e) contains (Q, f) or, equivalently, such that  $f \operatorname{Br}_Q(i) \neq 0$ , if we have  $(kG)_{\gamma}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) \neq \{0\}$ , we still have  $f \operatorname{Br}_Q(i^{\chi}) \neq 0$  or, equivalently,  $(P, e)^{\chi}$  contains (Q, f) which amounts to saying that  $\varphi : Q \to P$  is an  $\mathcal{F}_{(b,G)}$ -morphism (cf. 2.9). Hence, it suffices to prove that, for any nontrivial subgroup Q of P and any  $\mathcal{F}_{(b,G)}$ -morphism  $\varphi : Q \to P$ , we have  $M(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) = \{0\}$ ; but, always since g is a *direct injection* of  $k(P \times P)$ -modules, g induces an injective homomorphism

$$g\left(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)\right):(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}\left(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)\right)\to (kG)_{\gamma}\left(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)\right);\tag{4.5.4}$$

consequently, it suffices to prove that

$$\dim((kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q))) = \dim((kG)_{\gamma}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)))$$
(4.5.5)

and we argue by induction on |P:Q|.

Since we have a *P*-interior algebra isomorphism  $k_* \hat{L} \cong (kN)_{\hat{\nu}}$ , we still have

$$(k_*\hat{L})(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) \cong (kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)); \qquad (4.5.6)$$

moreover, it is clear that  $N_P(Q)$  centralizes a nontrivial subgroup Z of Z(Q) and then, according to our hypothesis, the  $C_P(Z)$ -interior algebra  $k_*C_{\hat{L}}(Z)$  is isomorphic to a source algebra of the block h of  $C_G(Z)$  such that (P, e) contains (Z, h); in particular, setting  $H = C_G(Z)$ , (Q, f) is also a Brauer (h, H)-pair, we have  $C_H(Q) = C_G(Q)$  and  $N_P(Q)$  remains a defect group of the block f of  $C_H(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$ . Consequently, it easily follows from Proposition 4.4 above, applied to the block h of H, that a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{L}}(Q) \cdot N_P(Q))$ .

At this point, we claim that in  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)^{N_P(Q)}$  the unity element is primitive; since the point  $\gamma$  is local, it follows from isomorphism (2.2.2) that there is a primitive idempotent  $\bar{\ell}$  of  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)^{N_P(Q)}$  determining a local point of  $N_P(Q)$  on  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)$ ; but, according to our induction hypothesis, for any subgroup R of  $N_P(Q)$  strictly containing Q we may assume that  $(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(R) \cong (kG)_{\gamma}(R)$  (cf. (4.5.4)) and, since  $\operatorname{Br}_{\bar{R}}^{(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)}(\bar{\ell}) \neq 0$  where we set  $\bar{R} = R/Q$  (cf. isomorphism (2.2.2)), we necessarily have

$$\operatorname{Br}_{\bar{R}}^{(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)}(1_{(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)} - \bar{\ell}) = 0; \qquad (4.5.7)$$

thus, the idempotent  $1_{(kG)_{\mathcal{V}}(Q)} - \bar{\ell}$  belongs to [2, Lemmas 1.11 and 1.12]

$$\bigcap_{R} \operatorname{Ker} \left( \operatorname{Br}_{\bar{R}}^{(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)} \right) = \left( (kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \right)_{Q}^{N_{P}(Q)} = \operatorname{Br}_{Q} \left( \left( (kG)_{\gamma} \right)_{Q}^{P} \right)$$
(4.5.8)

where *R* runs over the set of subgroups of  $N_P(Q)$  strictly containing *Q*; but 0 is the unique idempotent in  $((kG)_{\gamma})_Q^P$ ; hence, we get  $1_{(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)} = \overline{\ell}$ , proving the claim.

Consequently, it follows from Corollary 3.10 above, applied to the groups  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$ and  $C_G(Q)$ , that the  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra (cf. 2.3)

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \otimes_{C_{P}(Q)} N_{P}(Q) = \bigoplus_{u} (kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \cdot u, \qquad (4.5.9)$$

where  $u \in N_P(Q)$  runs over a set of representatives for  $N_P(Q)/C_P(Q)$ , is a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$ ; hence, according to our hypothesis, we have an  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra isomorphism

$$k_*(C_{\hat{L}}(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)) \cong (kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \otimes_{C_P(Q)} N_P(Q); \tag{4.5.10}$$

now, according to isomorphism (4.5.6) and equality (4.5.9), we actually get

$$\dim\left((kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(Q)\right) = \dim\left(k_*C_{\hat{L}}(Q)\right) = \dim\left((kG)_{\gamma}(Q)\right) \tag{4.5.11}$$

and therefore g(Q) is an isomorphism.

In particular, the interior  $C_P(Q)$ -algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \cong k_*C_{\hat{L}}(Q)$  is actually a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  and therefore, since we have (cf. (1.11.1))

$$C_{\hat{L}}(Q) \cong C_P(Q) \rtimes C_{\hat{E}}(Q), \tag{4.5.12}$$

it follows from equalities (2.7.2) that there is *no* essential pointed groups on  $kC_G(Q)f$ , so that the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  is *inertially controlled* (cf. 2.9); hence, it follows from Lemma 2.9 and from our hypothesis that the block b of G is also *inertially controlled*.

Consequently, the  $\mathcal{F}_{(b,G)}$ -morphism  $\varphi : Q \to P$  above is induced by some element  $n \in N$  and therefore there is an invertible element  $a \in (kG)^P$  fulfilling  $i^n = i^a$ , so that the multiplication by  $na^{-1}$  on the right still determines a k-linear isomorphism

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) \cong (kG)_{\gamma}(Q); \tag{4.5.13}$$

similarly, we also get

$$(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(\Delta_{\varphi}(Q)) \cong (kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}(Q); \qquad (4.5.14)$$

finally, equality (4.5.5) follows from these isomorphisms and equality (4.5.11).

**Corollary 4.6.** With the notation above, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), assume that  $C_P(Q)$  is a defect group of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$  and that a source algebra of this block is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{L}}(Q))$ . Then, the restriction throughout g induces a stable equivalence between the categories of  $(kG)_{\gamma}$ - and  $(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}}$ -modules. In particular, the blocks b of G and e of N are stably identical.

**Proof.** With the notation in 4.3 above, the indecomposable  $k(N \times G)$ -module  $\ell(kG)$  defined by the left-hand and the right-hand multiplication has the *p*-group  $\Delta(P) = \{(u, u) | u \in P\}$  as a vertex and the trivial  $k\Delta(P)$ -module *k* as a source. Then this corollary follows from Theorem 4.5 above and [13, Theorem 6.9] applied to the case where  $\ddot{M} = \ell(kG)$ , b = e, b' = b,  $P_{\gamma} = P_{\hat{\gamma}}$ ,  $P'_{\gamma'} = P_{\gamma}$  and  $\ddot{S} = k$ .  $\Box$ 

#### 5. An inductive context: the proof of Theorem 1.8

**5.1.** Let G be a finite group, b a block of G and  $P_{\gamma}$  a defect pointed group of b; with the notation in 1.5 above, consider the following condition

**5.1.1.** The block b of G is inertially controlled and, for any Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), f is a block of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  with trivial source simple modules.

First of all, we claim that if the block *b* of *G* fulfills this condition then, for any Brauer (b, G)-pair (R, h) contained in (P, e), the block *h* of the group  $H = C_G(R)$  fulfills the corresponding condition.

**5.2.** Indeed, it follows from Lemma 2.9 that the block *h* of *H* is inertially controlled and that  $T = C_P(R)$  is a defect group of the block *h* of *H*; thus, denoting by  $\ell$  the block of  $C_G(R \cdot T)$  such that  $(R \cdot T, \ell) \subset (P, e)$  [2, Theorem 1.8],  $(T, \ell)$  is a maximal Brauer (h, H)-pair and, if (Q, f) is a Brauer (h, H)-pair contained in  $(T, \ell)$ ,  $(R \cdot Q, f)$  is a Brauer (b, G)-pair still contained in  $(R \cdot T, \ell) \subset (P, e)$  and therefore *f* is a block of  $C_G(R \cdot Q) \cdot N_P(R \cdot Q)$  with trivial source simple modules. Then, since  $C_H(Q) \cdot N_T(Q)$  is clearly subnormal in  $C_G(R \cdot Q) \cdot N_P(R \cdot Q)$ , it follows from Lemma 3.9, possibly applied more than once, that *f* is still a block of  $C_H(Q) \cdot N_{C_P(R)}(Q)$  with trivial source simple modules.

**5.3.** At this point, assuming that the block *b* of *G* fulfills condition 5.1.1 and that, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), we have  $C_G(Q) \neq G$ , it suffices to argue by induction on |G| to get the hypothesis of Theorem 4.5, namely to get that, for any nontrivial Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e),  $C_P(Q)$  is a defect group of the block *f* of  $C_G(Q)$ (cf. Lemma 2.9) and that a source algebra of this block is isomorphic to  $k_*(C_{\hat{f}}(Q))$ .

**5.4.** In this situation, it follows from this theorem and from [13, Theorem 6.9] that the blocks b of G and e of N are *stably identical* (cf. 1.4); more precisely, if M is a simple kGb-module of vertex  $Q \subset P$  and f is the block of  $C_G(Q)$  such that (P, e) contains (Q, f), on the one hand it follows from [8, Proposition 1.6] that the Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) is selfcentralizing, so that  $C_P(Q) = Z(Q)$  [16, 4.8 and Corollary 7.3] and, on the other hand, it easily follows from Theorem 4.5 that the kNe-module  $\ell \cdot M$ , which is actually indecomposable [7, Theorem 2.1], has also vertex Q; moreover, since we are assuming that the trivial kQ-module k is a source of M, it is clear that the trivial kQ-module k is also a source of  $\ell \cdot M$ .

**5.5.** Then, it follows again from [8, Proposition 1.6] applied to the *N*-interior algebra  $\operatorname{End}_k(\ell \cdot M)$ , that the quotient  $N_N(Q)/Q$ , and therefore the quotient  $N_N(Q)/Q \cdot C_N(Q)$  [15, Theorem 3.6], admit blocks of *defect zero* — namely, with trivial defect groups — which forces [16, 1.19]

$$\mathbb{O}_p(N_N(Q)/Q \cdot C_N(Q)) = \{1\};$$
(5.5.1)

but we have [11, Proposition 14.6]

$$C_P(Q) = Z(Q)$$
 and  $(kN)_{\hat{\gamma}} \cong k_* \hat{L} = k_* (P \rtimes \hat{E}^\circ);$  (5.5.2)

hence, denoting by  $\hat{\delta}$  the unique local point of Q on kNe such that  $P_{\hat{\gamma}}$  contains  $Q_{\hat{\delta}}$  (cf. 2.8), it follows from (2.7.2) and from the isomorphism in (5.5.2) that, as in (1.11.1), we get [5, Ch. 5, Theorem 3.4]

$$N_N(Q)/Q \cdot C_N(Q) \cong E_N(Q_{\hat{\lambda}}) = F_{(kN)_{\hat{\nu}}}(Q_{\hat{\lambda}}) \cong \left(N_P(Q)/Q\right) \rtimes N_{\hat{F}^{\diamond}}(Q)$$
(5.5.3)

and, since  $\mathbb{O}_p(N_N(Q)/Q \cdot C_N(Q)) = \{1\}$ , we still get  $N_P(Q) = Q$  which forces P = Q. In conclusion,  $\ell \cdot M$  admits P as a vertex and it has a trivial source, so that it is a simple kNe-module according again to isomorphism (5.5.2).

**5.6.** Finally, since the *stable equivalence* induced by the restriction throughout g (cf. (4.3.1)) sends any simple kGb-module to a simple kNe-module, it follows from [7, Proposition 2.5] that

the restriction throughout g actually induces an equivalence of categories; moreover, since this equivalence is defined by a  $k(G \times N)$ -module admitting a  $P \times P$ -stable basis (cf. 4.3), it follows from [13, Corollary 7.4 and Remark 7.5] that the source algebras of the blocks b of G and e of N are isomorphic.

**5.7.** Assume now that the block *b* of *G* fulfills condition 5.1.1 and that there is an Abelian subgroup *Z* of *P* such that  $G = C_G(Z)$ ; we are in the situation considered in 3.7 above with H = G; hence, it follows from Corollary 3.10 that  $\bar{b}$  is a block of  $\bar{G}$  and that  $\bar{\gamma}$  is contained in a local point  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of  $\bar{P}$  on  $k\bar{G}$  such that  $P_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  is a defect pointed group of  $\bar{b}$ ; denote by  $\bar{e}$  the block of  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{P})$  determined by the point  $\tilde{\gamma}$ .

**5.8.** We claim that the block  $\bar{b}$  of  $\bar{G}$  fulfills the corresponding condition 5.1.1. Indeed, if  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{f})$  is a Brauer  $(\bar{b}, \bar{G})$ -pair contained in  $(\bar{P}, \bar{e})$  and Q is the inverse image of  $\bar{Q}$  in G, the image of  $C_G(Q)$  in  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$  is a normal subgroup and, once again, the corresponding quotient is a p-group [5, Ch. 5, Theorem 3.4]; hence, it follows again from Corollary 3.10 that  $\bar{f}$  is the image in  $kC_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$  of a block f of the inverse image C of  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q})$  in G and then, since  $C_G(Q)$  is normal in C, it is quite clear that  $f = \text{Tr}_{C_{\bar{f}}}^C(\tilde{f})$  for a suitable block  $\tilde{f}$  of  $C_G(Q)$  where  $C_{\bar{f}}$  denotes the stabilizer of  $\tilde{f}$  in C.

**5.9.** More precisely, we claim that we can choose  $\tilde{f}$  in such a way that (P, e) contains  $(Q, \tilde{f})$ ; indeed, since  $(\bar{P}, \bar{e})$  contains  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{f})$ , there is a local point  $\tilde{\delta}$  of  $\bar{Q}$  on  $k\bar{G}$  such that we have  $b_{\tilde{\delta}} = \bar{f}$  and that  $\bar{P}_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  contains  $Q_{\tilde{\delta}}$ ; then, it follows easily from Proposition 3.8 and from the obvious commutative diagram

that there is a point  $\delta$  of Q on kG such that  $P_{\gamma}$  contains  $Q_{\delta}$  and that the image  $\bar{\delta}$  of  $\delta$  in  $k\bar{G}$  is contained in  $\tilde{\delta}$ , which forces  $\delta$  to be local; at this point, it is easily checked that we can choose  $\tilde{f} = b_{\delta}$ .

**5.10.** Now, for any  $\bar{x} \in \bar{G}$  such that  $(\bar{Q}, \bar{f})^{\bar{x}} \subset (\bar{P}, \bar{e})$ , the same argument proves that we have  $(Q, \tilde{f})^{cx} \subset (P, e)$  for some  $x \in G$  lifting  $\bar{x}$  and a suitable element c of C; then, since the block b of G is inertially controlled, there are  $n \in N$  and  $z \in C_G(Q)$  fulfilling cx = zn (cf. 1.7) and therefore we get  $\bar{x} = \bar{c}^{-1}\bar{z}\bar{n}$  where  $\bar{c}, \bar{z}$  and  $\bar{n}$  denote the respective images of c, z and n in  $\bar{G}$ ,  $\bar{c}^{-1}\bar{z}$  centralizes  $\bar{Q}$  and  $\bar{n}$  normalizes  $(\bar{P}, \bar{e})$ . This proves that the block  $\bar{b}$  of  $\bar{G}$  is also inertially controlled.

**5.11.** Moreover, since  $(Q, \tilde{f})$  is a Brauer (b, G)-pair contained in (P, e), according to our hypothesis  $\tilde{f}$  is a block of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  with trivial source simple modules; but, since the block *b* of *G* is inertially controlled, we have

$$E_G(Q, \tilde{f}) \cong \left( N_P(Q)/Q \right) \rtimes N_{\hat{F}^\circ}(Q) \tag{5.11.1}$$

and therefore  $C_{\tilde{f}}$  is contained in  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$ ; hence, since we have [2, Theorem 1.8]

$$C_{\tilde{f}} \cdot N_P(Q) = C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q) \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\tilde{f}} \cap N_P(Q) = C \cap N_P(Q), \tag{5.11.2}$$

we clearly have [13, 2.6.4]

$$k(C \cdot N_P(Q))f \cong \operatorname{Ind}_{C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)}^{C \cdot N_P(Q)}(k(C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q))\tilde{f})$$
(5.11.3)

and therefore f is also a block of  $C \cdot N_P(Q)$  with trivial source simple modules. Finally, since the k-algebra  $k(C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q}) \cdot N_{\bar{P}}(\bar{Q}))\bar{f}$  is the image of  $k(C \cdot N_P(Q))f$ ,  $\bar{f}$  is a block of  $C_{\bar{G}}(\bar{Q}) \cdot N_{\bar{P}}(\bar{Q})$  with trivial source simple modules too.

**5.12.** Consequently, setting  $\hat{L} = \hat{L}/Z$ , it follows from our induction hypothesis that the source algebra of the block  $\bar{b}$  of  $\bar{G}$  is isomorphic to  $k_*\hat{L}$  and, in particular, we have

$$\dim\left((k\bar{G})_{\tilde{\nu}}\right) = |L|/|Z|; \tag{5.12.1}$$

but, since the point  $\tilde{\bar{\gamma}}$  contains the image of  $\gamma$ , we may assume that  $(k\bar{G})_{\tilde{\gamma}}$  is the image of  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  or, equivalently, that

$$(k\bar{G})_{\tilde{\gamma}} \cong k \otimes_{kZ} (kG)_{\gamma} \tag{5.12.2}$$

and, in particular, we get

$$\dim((kG)_{\gamma}) = |Z|\dim((k\bar{G})_{\tilde{\nu}}) = |L|; \qquad (5.12.3)$$

hence, the unitary P-interior algebra homomorphism (2.6.2) is actually an isomorphism

$$k_* \hat{L} \cong (kN)_{\hat{\mathcal{V}}} \cong (kG)_{\mathcal{V}}. \tag{5.12.4}$$

**5.13.** Conversely, assume that the source algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma}$  is isomorphic to  $k_*\hat{L}$ , so that the unitary *P*-interior algebra homomorphism (2.6.2) is an isomorphism; then, it follows from equalities (2.7.2) applied to the blocks *b* of *G* and {1} of  $\hat{L}$  that there are no essential pointed groups on *kGb* (cf. 2.8) and therefore the block *b* of *G* is inertially controlled (cf. 2.9).

**5.14.** For any Brauer (b, G)-pair (Q, f) contained in (P, e), since we have (cf. (1.3.1) and (1.11.1))

$$(kG)(Q) \cong kC_G(Q)$$
 and  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \cong (k_*\hat{L})(Q) \cong k_*C_{\hat{L}}(Q)$   
=  $k_*(C_P(Q) \rtimes C_{\hat{E}}(Q)),$  (5.14.1)

the  $C_P(Q)$ -interior algebra  $(kG)_{\gamma}(Q)$  is a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q)$ ; then, it follows from Corollary 3.10 that a source algebra of the block f of  $C_G(Q) \cdot N_P(Q)$  is isomorphic to the  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra

$$(kG)_{\gamma}(Q) \otimes_{C_P(Q)} N_P(Q); \tag{5.14.2}$$

finally, according to isomorphisms (5.14.1), this  $N_P(Q)$ -interior algebra is isomorphic to

$$(k_*\hat{L})(Q) \otimes_{C_P(Q)} N_P(Q) \cong k_*N_{\hat{L}}(Q) = k_*(N_P(Q) \rtimes N_{\hat{F}}(Q))$$
(5.14.3)

which clearly has trivial source simple modules. We are done.  $\Box$ 

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