

## CHARACTERIZATIONS OF BLOCKS BY LOEWY LENGTHS OF THEIR CENTERS

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ABSTRACT. We study a block  $B$  of a finite group with respect to an algebraically closed field of prime characteristic through the Loewy length  $\text{ll}ZB$  of the center  $ZB$ . In this paper, we give some upper bounds for  $\text{ll}ZB$  in terms of characters, subsections and defect groups associated to  $B$ . As a corollary to these results, we characterize some blocks by  $\text{ll}ZB$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The present paper deals with the Loewy length of the center of a block of a finite group with respect to an algebraically closed field of prime characteristic.

Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $\mathcal{O}$  a complete discrete valuation ring with quotient field  $K$  of characteristic 0 and  $F = \mathcal{O}/\text{rad}(\mathcal{O})$  the residue field of characteristic  $p > 0$ . We assume that  $K$  contains all  $|G|$ -th roots of unity and  $F$  is algebraically closed. For a block  $B$  of the group algebra  $FG$  with defect  $d$ , we denote by  $\text{ll}ZB$  the Loewy length of the center  $ZB$ . Okuyama [11] has proved that  $\text{ll}ZB$  is bounded above by  $p^d$  with equality if and only if  $B$  is a nilpotent block with cyclic defect group. Our purpose is to develop this result.

The paper is organized as follows. In the next section we show fundamental properties of  $\text{ll}ZB$  and compute them for some blocks with abelian defect groups. In the third section we give a new upper bound for  $\text{ll}ZB$  using two parameters. This is a generalization of the preceding result and its proof is influenced by Okuyama [11]. Finally, we characterize some blocks by  $\text{ll}ZB$ . Our main theorems in the last section indicate that we can classify all blocks with  $p^d - 3 \leq \text{ll}ZB \leq p^d$  into 9 types.

At the end of this section, we note some notation in this paper. Let  $b_D$  be a root of  $B$ , that is, a block of  $F[DC_G(D)]$  such that  $(b_D)^G = B$  where  $D$  is a defect group of  $B$ . We denote by  $N_G(D, b_D)$  the inertial group of  $b_D$  in  $N_G(D)$ , by  $I(B)$  the inertial quotient  $N_G(D, b_D)/DC_G(D)$  and by  $e(B) = |I(B)|$  the inertial index of  $B$ . For integers  $m, n \geq 1$ ,  $Z_m$  and  $Z_m \times Z_n$  denote a cyclic group of order  $m$  and a direct product of two cyclic groups, respectively. Moreover, we write  $N \rtimes H$  to denote a non-trivial semi-direct product of  $N$  with  $H$ .

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## 2. SOME FUNDAMENTAL PROPERTIES

In this section, we denote by  $k(B)$  and  $l(B)$  the numbers of irreducible ordinary and Brauer characters associated to  $B$ , respectively. The next proposition is clear by the fact that  $\mathbf{Z}B$  is local.

**Proposition 2.1.** *The following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $D$  is trivial.
- (2)  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = 1$ .

Moreover, we give an upper bound using  $k(B)$  and  $l(B)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.**

$$\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B \leq k(B) - l(B) + 1.$$

*Proof.* Let us denote by  $\mathbf{S}B$  and  $\mathbf{SZ}B$  the socle of  $B$  and  $\mathbf{Z}B$ , respectively. Then  $k(B) = \dim \mathbf{Z}B, l(B) = \dim \mathbf{S}B \cap \mathbf{Z}B$  and  $\mathbf{S}B \cap \mathbf{Z}B \subseteq \mathbf{SZ}B$  are known to hold. Thus we have  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B - 1 \leq \dim \mathbf{Z}B - \dim \mathbf{SZ}B \leq \dim \mathbf{Z}B - \dim \mathbf{S}B \cap \mathbf{Z}B = k(B) - l(B)$  as required.  $\square$

In the case  $D$  is cyclic, the Loewy length is given in Koshitani-Külshammer-Sambale [7].

**Proposition 2.3** (Corollary 2.8 in [7]). *If  $D$  is cyclic, then*

$$\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = \frac{p^d - 1}{e(B)} + 1.$$

In the following,  $\mathbf{J}A$  and  $\mathrm{ll}A$  denote the Jacobson radical and the Loewy length of any algebra  $A$  over  $F$ , respectively. The remainder of this section is devoted to some blocks with  $D \simeq Z_{p^m} \times Z_{p^n}$  for some  $m, n \geq 1$ . These results are applied in the last section. First of all, we show the next lemma.

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $D$  is normal in  $G$ , then  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B \leq \mathrm{ll}FD$ . In particular,  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B \leq p^m + p^n - 1$  in case of  $D \simeq Z_{p^m} \times Z_{p^n}$ .*

*Proof.* By a result of Külshammer [8],  $B$  is Morita equivalent to  $F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)]$  for some 2-cocycle  $\alpha$  of  $D \rtimes I(B)$ . Hence  $\mathbf{Z}B \simeq \mathbf{Z}F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)]$  as algebras and  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = \mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)] \leq \mathrm{ll}F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)]$ . By Lemmas 1.2, 2.1 and Proposition 1.5 in Passman [12],  $\mathbf{J}F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)] = \mathbf{J}FD \cdot F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)] = F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)] \cdot \mathbf{J}FD$  and thus  $\mathrm{ll}F^\alpha[D \rtimes I(B)] = \mathrm{ll}FD$ . Moreover, by Theorem (3) in Motose [9], we have  $\mathrm{ll}FD = p^m + p^n - 1$ .  $\square$

Now we consider the case  $p = 2$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** *If  $D \simeq Z_{2^m} \times Z_{2^n}$  for some  $m, n \geq 1$  and  $d = m + n$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $B$  is nilpotent; in this case,  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = \mathrm{ll}FD = 2^m + 2^n - 1$ .
- (2)  $m = n$ , and  $B$  is Morita equivalent to  $F[D \rtimes Z_3]$ ; in this case,  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B \leq \mathrm{ll}FD = 2^{m+1} - 1$ . In particular,  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = 2$  in case of  $m = n = 1$ .
- (3)  $m = n = 1$ , and  $B$  is Morita equivalent to the principal block of  $FA_5$  where  $A_5$  is the five degree alternating group; in this case,  $\mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B = 2$ .

Furthermore, if  $2^d - 3 \leq \mathrm{ll}\mathbf{Z}B \leq 2^d - 1$ , then  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_2$  or  $Z_4 \times Z_2$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality, we may assume  $m \geq n$ . We first calculate the order of automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(D)$  of  $D$  as follows:

$$|\text{Aut}(D)| = \begin{cases} 3 \cdot 2^{4m-3} & \text{if } m = n, \\ 2^{m+3n-2} & \text{if } m > n. \end{cases}$$

We remark that  $e(B)$  divides the odd part of  $|\text{Aut}(D)|$ .

*Case 1* ( $e(B) = 1$ ). By Broué-Puig [2] and Puig [13],  $B$  is nilpotent and Morita equivalent to  $FD$ . Therefore  $\text{llZ}B = \text{ll}FD = 2^m + 2^n - 1$ .

In the following we may assume  $e(B) = 3$  and  $m = n$ .

*Case 2* ( $m = n = 1$  and  $e(B) = 3$ ). By a result of Erdmann [4],  $B$  is Morita equivalent to  $FA_4$  or the principal block of  $FA_5$ . In each case  $\text{llZ}B = 2$  by Proposition 2.2 since  $k(B) - l(B) = 1$ .

*Case 3* ( $m = n \geq 2$  and  $e(B) = 3$ ).  $B$  is Morita equivalent to  $F[D \rtimes Z_3]$  by Eaton-Kessar-Külshammer-Sambale [3]. Thus (2) follows by Lemma 2.4.

The last part of the proposition is clear by the first part.  $\square$

Finally, we study the case that  $p = 3$  and  $D \simeq Z_{3^n} \times Z_3$  for some  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** *If  $D \simeq Z_{3^n} \times Z_3$  for some  $n \geq 1$  and  $d = n + 1$ , then  $\text{llZ}B \leq 3^n + 2$ . In particular,  $\text{llZ}B \leq p^d - 4$ .*

*Proof.* We first obtain

$$|\text{Aut}(D)| = \begin{cases} 16 \cdot 3 & \text{if } n = 1, \\ 4 \cdot 3^{n+1} & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

*Case 1* ( $e(B) \leq 4$ ). If  $e(B) = 1$ , then  $\text{llZ}B = 3^n + 2$  by the same way as in Case 1 in the proof of Proposition 2.5. If  $2 \leq e(B) \leq 4$ , then  $B$  is perfectly isometric to its Brauer correspondent  $\tilde{B}$  in  $N_G(D)$  by Usami [16] and Puig-Usami [14], [15]. Hence  $\text{llZ}B = \text{llZ}\tilde{B} \leq 3^n + 2$  by Lemma 2.4.

Since  $e(B)$  divides the  $3'$ -part of  $|\text{Aut}(D)|$ , we may assume  $n = 1$  in the following.

*Case 2* ( $n = 1$  and  $5 \leq e(B)$ ).  $I(B)$  is isomorphic to one of the following groups:

$$\begin{aligned} & Z_8, D_8 (\text{dihedral group of order 8}), Q_8 (\text{quaternion group of order 8}), \\ & SD_{16} (\text{semi-dihedral group of order 16}). \end{aligned}$$

We first suppose  $I(B)$  is isomorphic to  $D_8$  or  $SD_{16}$ . By the results of Kiyota [6] and Watanabe [17],  $k(B) - l(B)$  is at most 4 and thus  $\text{llZ}B \leq 5$  by Proposition 2.2. Finally, suppose  $I(B)$  is isomorphic to  $Z_8$  or  $Q_8$ . Kiyota [6] has not determined the invariants  $k(B)$  and  $l(B)$  in general. However, we can compute  $k(B) - l(B)$  as follows. Since  $I(B)$  acts on  $D \setminus \{1\}$  regularly, the conjugacy classes of  $B$ -subsections are  $(1, B)$  and  $(u, b_u)$  for some  $u \in D \setminus \{1\}$  where  $b_u$  is a Brauer correspondent of  $B$  in  $C_G(u)$ . Moreover  $I(b_u) \simeq C_{I(B)}(u)$  is trivial and thus  $b_u$  is nilpotent,  $k(B) - l(B) = l(b_u) = 1$ . Hence  $\text{llZ}B = 2$  as claimed.

The last part of the proposition is clear.  $\square$

### 3. NEW UPPER BOUND

We first mention the result of Okuyama [11], the motivation of this paper.

**Theorem 3.1** (Okuyama [11]). *Let  $d$  be the defect of  $B$ . Then*

$$(3.1) \quad \text{llZ}B \leq p^d.$$

*Equality occurs in (3.1) if and only if  $B$  is a nilpotent block with cyclic defect group.*

We improve Theorem 3.1 in this section. Here we use a set  $S(B)$  of representatives for the  $G$ -conjugacy classes of  $B$ -subsections. Namely, for each  $(u, b) \in S(B)$ ,  $u$  is a  $p$ -element in  $G$  and  $b$  is a Brauer correspondent of  $B$  in  $C_G(u)$ . In the following,  $|u|$  denotes the order of  $u$  and  $\bar{b}$  denotes the unique block of  $F[C_G(u)/\langle u \rangle]$  dominated by  $b$ . Now we give an upper bound of  $\text{llZ}B$  by using  $S(B)$ . The proof below is influenced by Okuyama [11].

**Theorem 3.2.**

$$(3.2) \quad \text{llZ}B \leq \max\{|u|-1)\text{llZ}\bar{b} \mid (u, b) \in S(B)\} + 1.$$

*Proof.* We denote by  $\lambda$  the first part of the right side of (3.2). Note that  $\mathbf{JZ}B = \mathbf{JZFG} \cdot 1_B$  where  $1_B$  is the block idempotent of  $B$ . We follow three steps.

*Step 1.* For each  $(u, b) \in S(B)$ ,  $(u-1)(\mathbf{JZ}b)^\lambda = 0$ .

Let  $\tau : FC_G(u) \rightarrow F[C_G(u)/\langle u \rangle]$  be the natural epimorphism. Then  $\tau((\mathbf{JZ}b)^{\text{llZ}\bar{b}}) \subseteq (\mathbf{JZ}\bar{b})^{\text{llZ}\bar{b}} = 0$  and thus  $(\mathbf{JZ}b)^{\text{llZ}\bar{b}} \subseteq \text{Ker } \tau = (u-1)FC_G(u)$ . Thereby  $(\mathbf{JZ}b)^\lambda \subseteq (\mathbf{JZ}b)^{(|u|-1)\text{llZ}\bar{b}} \subseteq \{(u-1)FC_G(u)\}^{|u|-1} = (u-1)^{|u|-1}FC_G(u)$ . Hence the claim follows.

*Step 2.* Take an element  $a = \sum a_g g$  in  $(\mathbf{JZ}B)^\lambda$ . Then  $a_{xy} = a_y$  for all  $p$ -elements  $x$  in  $G$  and  $p'$ -elements  $y$  in  $C_G(x)$ .

Let us denote by  $\text{Br}_{\langle x \rangle} : \mathbf{ZFG} \rightarrow \mathbf{ZFC}_G(x)$  the Brauer homomorphism. If  $\text{Br}_{\langle x \rangle}(1_B) = 0$ , then  $\text{Br}_{\langle x \rangle}(a) = 0$  and hence  $a_{xy} = a_y = 0$  as required. So we may assume  $\text{Br}_{\langle x \rangle}(1_B) \neq 0$ . Then there exists a  $B$ -subsection  $(u, b) \in S(B)$  and  $t \in G$  such that  $x = t^{-1}ut$ . Since  $a \in \mathbf{ZFG}$ ,  $a_{xy} = a_{t^{-1}uty} = a_{utyt^{-1}}$  and  $a_y = a_{tyt^{-1}}$ . Therefore we need only prove the claim above for  $u$  and  $p'$ -element  $v$  in  $C_G(u)$ . Since  $\text{Br}_{\langle u \rangle}$  maps nilpotent elements to nilpotent elements, we have  $\text{Br}_{\langle u \rangle}(\mathbf{JZFG}) \subseteq \mathbf{JZFC}_G(u)$  and thus  $\text{Br}_{\langle u \rangle}((\mathbf{JZ}B)^\lambda) \subseteq \sum (\mathbf{JZ}b)^\lambda$  where  $\text{Br}_{\langle u \rangle}(1_B)1_b \neq 0$ . Hence it follows from Step 1 that  $(u-1)\text{Br}_{\langle u \rangle}(a) = 0$ . This implies  $a_{uv} = a_v$  as asserted.

*Step 3* (Completion of the proof). We denote by  $Z_{p'}$  the  $F$ -subspace of  $\mathbf{ZFG}$  spanned by all  $p'$ -section sums. It suffices to prove that  $(\mathbf{JZ}B)^\lambda \subseteq Z_{p'}$  since  $\mathbf{JZFG} \cdot Z_{p'} = 0$  (see Brauer [1] or Okuyama [10]). Take an element  $a = \sum a_g g \in (\mathbf{JZ}B)^\lambda$ . We want to show that  $a_g = a_h$  for all  $g, h \in G$  if the  $p'$ -parts of them are  $G$ -conjugate. However, it is an immediate consequence of the claim in Step 2 since  $a \in \mathbf{ZFG}$ . Thus the theorem is completely proved. □

In addition we give an upper bound of the right side of (3.2) in terms of the defect groups of  $B$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $p^d$  and  $p^\varepsilon$  be the order and the exponent of a defect group  $D$  of  $B$ , respectively. Then*

$$(3.3) \quad \max\{|u|-1)\text{llZ}\bar{b} \mid (u, b) \in S(B)\} \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon}.$$

If equality occurs in (3.3), then  $D \simeq Z_{p^\varepsilon} \times Z_{p^{d-\varepsilon}}$ .

As a consequence, we have

$$(3.4) \quad \text{llZ}B \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1.$$

*Proof.* We may assume  $D$  is not trivial. Fix  $(u, b) \in S(B)$  associated to the left side of (3.3). We let  $D'$  be a defect group of  $b$  of order  $p^{d'}$  and put  $|u| = p^{\varepsilon'}$ . Then  $D'$  is contained in  $D$  up to  $G$ -conjugacy since  $b^G = B$ ,  $\varepsilon' \leq \varepsilon$  and we may assume that a defect group of  $\bar{b}$  is  $\bar{D}' = D'/\langle u \rangle$  (see Chapter V, Lemma 4.5, in Feit [5]). Hence we obtain from (3.1) that  $(|u| - 1)\text{llZ}\bar{b} \leq (p^{\varepsilon'} - 1)p^{d'-\varepsilon'} \leq (p^{\varepsilon'} - 1)p^{d-\varepsilon'} = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon'} \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon}$  as claimed. We next suppose equality holds in (3.3). Then we have  $d = d'$ ,  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon'$  and  $\bar{D}$  is cyclic. Since  $\langle u \rangle$  is contained in the center of  $D'$ ,  $D'$  is abelian. Therefore we deduce  $D \simeq D' = \langle u \rangle \times H$  where  $H \simeq \bar{D}'$ .  $\square$

#### 4. CHARACTERIZATIONS OF BLOCKS

In this last section, we determine all blocks with  $p^d - 3 \leq \text{llZ}B \leq p^d$ . We remark that the notation given in Corollary 3.3 will be used throughout this section. The case of  $\text{llZ}B = p^d$  is due to Theorem 3.1. We next study the case of  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 1$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $D$  be a defect group of  $B$  of order  $p^d$ . If  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 1$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $D \simeq Z_3$  and  $I(B) \simeq Z_2$ .
- (2)  $B$  is nilpotent and  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_2$ .

*Proof.* In the case  $D$  is cyclic, (1) follows by Proposition 2.3. So we may assume that  $\varepsilon < d$ . Then, since  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 1 \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 < p^d$ , we have  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_{2^{d-1}}$  by Corollary 3.3. Furthermore, we deduce  $d = 2$  and (2) holds by Proposition 2.5.  $\square$

The next problem is the case of  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 2$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $D$  be a defect group of  $B$  of order  $p^d$ . If  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 2$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $D \simeq Z_5$  and  $I(B) \simeq Z_2$ .
- (2)  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_2$  and  $B$  is Morita equivalent to  $FA_4$ .
- (3)  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_2$  and  $B$  is Morita equivalent to the principal block of  $FA_5$ , where  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  are four and five degree alternating groups, respectively.

*Proof.* For the same reason as in the proof of Theorem 4.1, we may assume  $\varepsilon < d$  and  $\text{llZ}B = p^d - 2 \leq \text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 \leq p^d - 1$ .

*Case 1* ( $\text{llZ}B = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1$ ). By Corollary 3.3,  $D \simeq Z_3 \times Z_{3^{d-1}}$ . However,  $\text{llZ}B \neq p^d - 2$ , in this case by Proposition 2.6.

*Case 2* ( $\text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 1$ ). We have  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_{2^{d-1}}$  and thus (2) or (3) holds by Proposition 2.5.

*Case 3* ( $\text{llZ}B = \text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1$  and  $p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 1$ ). We obtain  $p = 2$ ,  $d - \varepsilon = 1$  and  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = \frac{2^d - 3}{2^{\varepsilon'} - 1}$ . Since  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} \leq |\bar{D}'| = 2^{d'-\varepsilon'} \leq 2^{d-\varepsilon'}, d - \varepsilon' = 1$  (remark that  $0 < d - \varepsilon \leq d - \varepsilon'$ ), and so  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = 1$  or 2. Thus we have  $\varepsilon' = 1$  and  $d = 2$ . In this case, (2) or (3) holds by Proposition 2.5.  $\square$

Finally, we consider the case of  $\text{llZB} = p^d - 3$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $D$  be a defect group of  $B$  of order  $p^d$ . If  $\text{llZB} = p^d - 3$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $D \simeq Z_5$  and  $I(B) \simeq Z_4$ .
- (2)  $D \simeq Z_7$  and  $I(B) \simeq Z_2$ .
- (3)  $B$  is nilpotent and  $D \simeq Z_4 \times Z_2$ .

*Proof.* We may assume  $D$  is not cyclic,  $\varepsilon < d$  and  $\text{llZB} = p^d - 3 \leq \text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 \leq p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 \leq p^d - 1$ .

*Case 1* ( $\text{llZB} = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1$ ). By Corollary 3.3, we have  $D \simeq Z_4 \times Z_{2^{d-2}}$  and hence we obtain  $d = 3$  by using Proposition 2.5.

*Case 2* ( $\text{llZB} = \text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1, p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 2$ ). Clearly,  $p = 3, d - \varepsilon = 1$  and  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = \frac{3^d - 4}{3^{\varepsilon'} - 1}$ . However, this case cannot occur since  $\text{llZ}\bar{b}$  is not an integer.

*Case 3* ( $\text{llZB} = \text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1, p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 1$ ). We first obtain  $p = 2, d - \varepsilon = 1$  and  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = \frac{2^d - 4}{2^{\varepsilon'} - 1}$ . Since  $2^{\varepsilon'} - 1$  is odd, we have  $\varepsilon' = 1$ . Hence  $2^d - 4 = \text{llZ}\bar{b} \leq |\bar{D}'| \leq 2^{d-1}$  and thus  $d = 3$  (remark that  $\text{llZB} \geq 2$ ). Moreover, since we have  $\bar{D}' \simeq Z_4$  and  $d = d'$ ,  $D'$  is abelian by the same reason as in Corollary 3.3 and thus  $D \simeq D' = Z_4 \times Z_2$ .

*Case 4* ( $\text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 2$ ). In this case,  $D \simeq Z_3 \times Z_{3^{d-1}}$ . However,  $\text{llZB} \neq p^d - 3$  by Proposition 2.6.

*Case 5* ( $\text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 = p^d - 2, p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 1$ ). We have  $p = 2, d - \varepsilon = 1$  and  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = \frac{2^d - 3}{2^{\varepsilon'} - 1}$ . Since  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} \leq |\bar{D}'| = 2^{d'-\varepsilon'} \leq 2^{d-\varepsilon'}$ , we deduce that  $d - \varepsilon' = 1$  and  $\text{llZ}\bar{b} = 1$  or 2. Thus we obtain  $d = 2$ , but this case cannot occur.

*Case 6* ( $\text{llZ}\bar{b}(p^{\varepsilon'} - 1) + 1 = p^d - p^{d-\varepsilon} + 1 = p^d - 1$ ). We have  $D \simeq Z_2 \times Z_{2^{d-1}}$  by Corollary 3.3 and hence  $d = 3$  in this case using Proposition 2.5.

□

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