

# ON TERNARY QUOTIENTS OF CUBIC HECKE ALGEBRAS

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**Abstract.** We prove that the quotient of the group algebra of the braid group introduced by L. Funar in [F1] collapses in characteristic distinct from 2. In characteristic 2 we define several quotients of it, which are connected to the classical Hecke and Birman-Wenzl-Murakami quotients, but which admit in addition a symmetry of order 3. We also establish conditions on the possible Markov traces factorizing through it.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $B_n$  be the braid group on  $n$  strings ( $n \geq 2$ ), that is the group defined by  $n-1$  generators  $s_1, \dots, s_{n-1}$  submitted to the relations  $s_i s_j = s_j s_i$  whenever  $i - j \geq 2$ , and  $s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, n-2$  (see e.g. [Bi] or [KM] for basic results on these groups).

This paper grew out as an attempt to understand the mysterious ‘cubic Hecke algebras’ defined by L. Funar and used in [F1] and [BF]. In [F1], an algebra  $K_n(\gamma)$  for  $\gamma \in k$  is defined over a commutative ring  $k$  as the quotient of the group algebra  $kB_n$  of the braid group  $B_n$  on  $n$  strands, by the relations  $s_i^3 = \gamma$ , and  $s_{i+1} s_i^2 s_{i+1} + s_i s_{i+1}^2 s_i + s_i^2 s_{i+1} s_i + s_i s_i s_{i+1} s_i^2 + s_i^2 s_{i+1}^2 + s_{i+1}^2 s_i^2 + \gamma s_i + \gamma s_{i+1} = 0$ . Notice that the relations are equivalent to  $s_1^3 = \gamma$ ,  $s_2 s_1^2 s_2 + s_1 s_2^2 s_1 + s_1^2 s_2 s_1 + s_1 s_2 s_1^2 + s_1^2 s_2^2 + s_2^2 s_1^2 + \gamma s_1 + \gamma s_2 = 0$ . The striking property of this algebra is that the latter relation involves only  $s_1, s_2$  and that, as proved in [F1], it is a finitely generated  $k$ -module (hence finite dimensional over  $k$  if  $k$  is a field). Although many finite-dimensional cubic quotients of the (group algebra of the) braid groups have been defined, to our knowledge it is the only one which is not a quotient of the classical Birman-Wenzl-Murakami algebra and which can be defined from relations in  $kB_3$ . Notice that, whenever  $\gamma$  admits an invertible third root  $\alpha \in k$  with  $\alpha^3 = \gamma$ , we have  $K_n(\gamma) \simeq K_n(1)$  under  $s_i \mapsto \alpha^{-1} s_i$  – and in particular always  $K_n(-1) \simeq K_n(1)$ . Moreover,  $K_n(1)$  is a quotient of the group algebra  $k\Gamma_n$ , for  $\Gamma_n = B_n / \langle s_1^3 \rangle$ . This group  $\Gamma_n$  is a semidirect product  $\Gamma_n^0 \rtimes C_3$ , with  $C_k$  denoting the cyclic group of order  $k$ , and the defining ideal of  $K_n(1)$  has the remarkable property to be generated by a  $C_3$ -invariant ideal in  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_3^0$  – thus deserving the name ternary used in the title.

By a theorem of Coxeter,  $\Gamma_n$  is finite if and only if  $n \leq 5$ . Moreover, in this case it is a finite complex reflection group, and, as was conjectured by Broué, Malle and Rouquier,  $k\Gamma_n$  for  $n \leq 5$  admits a flat deformation similar to the presentation of the ordinary Hecke algebra as a deformation of  $k\mathfrak{S}_n$ . This has been proved in [BM], Satz 4.7 for  $n = 3, 4$ , and recently in [M] for  $n = 5$ . Partly stimulated by this conjecture, the authors of [BF] constructed a deformation of  $K_n(\gamma)$  (still finitely generated).

The main motivation in [F1] and [BF] is to construct link invariants. In [F1] it is claimed that  $K_n(-1)$  admits a Markov trace with values in  $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ . A more general statement is claimed in [BF], that the constructed deformation provides a link invariant with values in

some extended ring. Around 2004-2005, S. Orevkov pointed out a gap in a part of [BF] devoted to the proof of the invariance of the trace under Markov moves, which originates in [F1]. In 2008, the second author of the present paper noticed that, when  $k$  is a field of characteristic 0, the 'tower of algebras'  $K_n(1)$  collapsed, more precisely that  $K_n(1) = 0$  for  $n \geq 5$  (see theorem 4.8 below). However, when  $k = \mathbb{Z}$ , this tower does not collapse. This can be seen from the fact that the natural group morphisms  $\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow C_3$  induce morphisms  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}C_3 \twoheadrightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z})C_3$  which factorize through  $K_n(1)$ .

**1.1. Statement of the main results.** Letting  $K_n = K_n(1)$  we prove (see corollary 4.3 and theorems 4.8 and 4.9)

**Theorem.** *When  $k = \mathbb{Z}$ ,*

- (i)  *$K_n$  is a finite  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module for  $n \geq 5$ .*
- (ii) *The exponent (as an abelian group) of  $K_n$  has the form  $2^r 3^s$  for some  $r, s$  (depending on  $n$ ) when  $n \geq 5$ .*
- (iii) *The exponent of  $K_n$  is a power of 2 (not depending on  $n$ ) when  $n \geq 7$ .*

When  $k$  is a field, in order to get a stably nontrivial structure, we thus need to assume that  $k$  has characteristic 2.

**Theorem.** *Assume  $k$  is a field of characteristic 2. For all  $n$ , there exists a quotient  $\mathcal{H}_n$  of  $K_n$ , which has dimension  $3(n! - 1)$  and which embeds inside a product of three Hecke algebras. This algebra  $\mathcal{H}_n$  is the quotient of  $k\Gamma_n$  by the relation  $s_1 s_2^{-1} + s_2 s_1^{-1} + s_1^{-1} s_2 + s_2^{-1} s_1 = 0$ .*

We call this algebra the ternary Hecke algebra, as it can be defined as the quotient of  $k\Gamma_n$  by the intersection of the three ideals whose corresponding quotients define the three possible Hecke algebras at third roots of 1.

Taking  $k = \mathbb{Z}$ , we let  $K_\infty$  denote the direct limit of the  $K_n$  under the natural morphisms  $K_n \rightarrow K_{n+1}$ , and we similarly define  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ . Using the second definition above,  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  can be defined over  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ .

We recall that a Markov trace on  $K_\infty$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module morphism  $t : K_\infty \rightarrow M$ , where  $M$  is some  $\mathbb{Z}[u, v]$ -module, which satisfies  $t(xy) = t(yx)$  for all  $x, y \in K_\infty$ ,  $t(xs_n) = ut(x)$  and  $t(xs_n^{-1}) = vt(x)$  for all  $x$  in (the image of)  $K_n$ . It can be shown that such a Markov trace, if it exists, is uniquely determined by the value  $t(1)$ , and takes values in  $\mathbb{Z}[u, v]t(1) \subset M$ .

**Theorem.** (i) *If  $t : K_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[u, v]t(1)$  is a Markov trace, then  $16t(1) = 0$ ,  $4uv.t(1) = 4t(1)$ ,  $4u^3.t(1) = 4v^3.t(1) = -4t(1)$  and  $(3u^3 + 3v^3 - 3uv + 1)t(1) = 0$ .*  
(ii) *If  $4t(1) = 0$ , then  $t$  factors through  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  (defined over  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ )*  
(iii) *There exists a Markov trace  $\bar{t} : \mathcal{H}_\infty \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[u, v]$  with  $\bar{t}(1) = \bar{1} \in \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ , which originates from the Markov traces on ordinary Hecke algebras.*

Modulo 4, the most general link invariant that can be defined this way is thus given by the following operation : take the Homfly polynomial, consider the three possible specialisations 'at third roots of 1', and reduce these three values modulo 4.

Finally, we investigate another quotient of  $K_n$ , that we denote  $\mathcal{BMW}_n$  and which is obtained from the usual Birman-Wenzl-Murakami algebras by a similar 'ternary' operation. Computer calculations seems to indicate that this quotient is asymptotically very close to  $K_n$ . However, the study of this quotient is more delicate, and we get only partial results on it. This nevertheless shows that, over a field of characteristic 2,  $K_n$  is actually *larger* than all the quotients of  $k\Gamma_n$  by relations on 3 strands that have been defined so far.

**1.2. Open problems.** The work leaves for now the following questions open :

- (i) Over  $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ , and even over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , does  $\mathcal{H}_n$  coincide with the quotient of the group algebra of  $\Gamma_n$  by the ideal generated by  $s_1 s_2^{-1} - s_1^{-1} s_2 + s_2 s_1^{-1} - s_2^{-1} s_1$  ?
- (ii) Which are the Markov traces on  $K_n(1)$  with  $4t(1) \neq 0$  ? Are there non-obvious ones ? (Notice that the natural projection  $\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow C_3 = \langle s \rangle$  obviously induces a Markov trace  $t : K_n \twoheadrightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/8)C_3$  with  $u = s$  and  $v = s^2$ .)
- (iii) What is the minimal  $r$  ( $r \geq 3$ ) such that  $2^r K_\infty = 0$  ? Note that  $2^5 K_\infty = 0$  by proposition 4.17.
- (iv) We lack a nice description of the intersection of the defining ideals of the ‘two Temperley-Lieb algebras’, at third roots of 1 and in characteristic 2. This would help understanding  $\mathcal{BMW}_n$  (see Definition 6.4).
- (v) Do we have  $\mathcal{BMW}_\infty = K_\infty(1)$ , over a field of characteristic 2 ?
- (vi) Are there ‘nice generators’ for the defining ideal of  $\mathcal{BMW}_n$  ?
- (vii) We did not study here the deformation of  $K_n$  proposed in [BF], although we hope our work now provides a firmer ground for it. See [M] for the characteristic 0 case.
- (viii) Does  $\mathcal{H}_n$  admit a ‘nice’ deformation, and a related Markov trace ?
- (ix) Is there a nice description of the algebra  $K_4(1)$  in characteristic 3 ?
- (x) What are  $K_5, K_6$  as modules over the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  of 3-adic integers ?
- (xi) Are the natural morphisms  $\Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma_m$  injective for  $6 \leq n \leq m$  ?

**1.3. Notations.** Let  $G$  be a group. We denote by  $Z(G)$ , resp.  $(G, G)$ , the center, resp. derived subgroup of  $G$ , and we denote by  $G^{\text{ab}}$  the quotient  $G/(G, G)$ . If  $H$  is a group on which  $G$  acts by group automorphisms, we denote by  $H \rtimes G$  the associated semi-direct product.

If  $A$  is a ring and  $G$  acts on  $A$  by ring automorphisms, we denote by  $A \rtimes G$  the semi-direct product ring, that is the free  $A$ -module  $\bigoplus_{g \in G} Ag$  endowed with multiplication  $(ag).(a'g') = a(g.a')gg'$  for  $a, a' \in A, g, g' \in G$ .

If  $n \geq 1$  is an integer, one denotes by  $C_n$  the cyclic group with  $n$  elements.

For  $k$  a field we let  $\bar{k}$  denote an algebraic closure of  $k$ .

If  $G$  is a finite group, we denote by  $\text{Irr}(G)$  the set of irreducible characters of  $G$ , that is trace characters of simple  $\mathbb{C}G$ -modules.

If  $A$  is a ring and  $n \geq 1$  is an integer, one denotes by  $\text{Mat}_n(A)$  the ring of  $n \times n$  matrices with coefficients in  $A$ . We will also use the more general notation  $\text{Mat}_I(A)$  for  $I$  an arbitrary finite set. One denotes by  $\text{Id}_n$  the identity matrix. One denotes matrix transposition by  $M \mapsto {}^t M$ .

Let  $q$  be a power of a prime. We denote by  $\mathbb{F}_q$  the field with  $q$  elements. We denote by  $\text{GL}_n(q) = \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ , resp.  $\text{SL}_n(q) = \text{SL}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  the general and special linear groups in  $\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . One denotes by  $\text{Sp}_{2n}(q) = \text{Sp}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  the multiplicative group of matrices  $M \in \text{Mat}_{2n}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  satisfying

$${}^t M \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{Id}_n \\ -\text{Id}_n & 0 \end{pmatrix} M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{Id}_n \\ -\text{Id}_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let us denote by  $a \mapsto \bar{a} = a^q$  the field automorphism of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$  order 2, which extends as a ring automorphism of  $\text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$  denoted in the same fashion. One denotes by  $\text{GU}_n(q)$  the subgroup of matrices  $M \in \text{GL}_n(q^2)$  such that

$${}^t \bar{M} M = \text{Id}_n.$$

Denote  $\mathrm{SU}_n(q) = \mathrm{GU}_n(q) \cap \mathrm{SL}_n(q^2)$ . When  $m \leq n$  we always consider  $\mathrm{GU}_m(q)$  as the subgroup of  $\mathrm{GU}_n(q)$  fixing the last  $n - m$  elements of the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^n$ .

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## 2. GROUPS

**2.1. The groups  $\Gamma_n$ .** Let  $\Gamma_n$  be the quotient of  $B_n$  obtained by adding the extra relations  $s_i^3 = 1$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ .

The following is due to Coxeter [Co] (see also [As2]).

**Theorem 2.1.**  $\Gamma_2, \Gamma_3, \Gamma_4, \Gamma_5$  are finite (complex) reflection groups, respectively denoted by  $G(3, 1, 1) \simeq C_3$ ,  $G_4 \simeq Q \rtimes C_3$  where  $Q$  is the quaternion of order 8 and  $C_3$  acts by any automorphism of order 3,  $G_{25} \simeq \mathrm{GU}_3(2)$ ,  $G_{32} \simeq C_3 \times \mathrm{Sp}_4(3)$  in the Shephard-Todd classification. Their orders are respectively 3, 24, 648 and  $155,520 = 2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5$ . For  $n \geq 6$ ,  $\Gamma_n$  is infinite.

The following is due to Assion [As1].

**Theorem 2.2.** (i) Every non-trivial normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_5$  contains either  $((s_1 s_2)^3 \cdot (s_3 s_4)^3)^3$  or  $s_3 \cdot s_1 \cdot s_1^{(s_2 s_3)^3} \cdot s_1^{(s_2 s_3)^3 (s_3 s_4)^3}$ .  
(ii) Let  $U(m)$  be the quotient of  $\Gamma_{m+1}$  obtained by imposing the extra relation  $((s_1 s_2)^3 \cdot (s_3 s_4)^3)^3 = 1$ . Then it is isomorphic with  $\mathrm{GU}_m(2)$  except when  $m = 2 \bmod 3$  in which case

$$U(m) = Y_{m-1} \rtimes \mathrm{GU}_{m-1}(2)$$

where  $Y_{m-1} = \{(x, V) \mid x \in \mathbb{F}_4, V \in \mathbb{F}_4^{m-1} x + \bar{x} + {}^t \bar{V} \cdot V = 0\}$  is endowed with the multiplication  $(x, V) \cdot (x', V') = (x + x' + {}^t \bar{V} \cdot V', V + V')$  and the action of  $\mathrm{GU}_{m-1}$  is by  $(x, V)^A = (x, A^{-1} V)$ .

(iii) For  $n \geq 5$ , the quotient of  $\Gamma_n$  by the relation  $s_3 \cdot s_1 \cdot s_1^{(s_2 s_3)^3} \cdot s_1^{(s_2 s_3)^3 (s_3 s_4)^3} = 1$  is a finite group, isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Sp}_{n-1}(\mathbb{F}_3)$  if  $n$  is odd, and to the stabilizer of one vector in  $\mathrm{Sp}_{n+1}(\mathbb{F}_3)$  if  $n$  is even.

**Remark 2.3.** In [As1], the group  $U(m)$  for  $m = 2 \bmod 3$  is defined in the projective unitary group  $\mathrm{PGU}_{m+1}(2)$  as the centralizer of  $\mathrm{Id}_{m+1} + E_{m+1}$  with  $E_{m+1}$  the matrix  $E = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  in dimensions  $m, m + 1$  (zeros elsewhere). This clearly amounts to the subgroup of  $\mathrm{GU}_{3k}(2)$  of elements fixing the sum  $e_{3k-1} + e_{3k}$  of the two last elements of an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{F}_4^{3k}$ .

For  $n \leq m$ , the classical embeddings  $B_n \hookrightarrow B_m$  induce morphisms  $\varphi_{n,m} : \Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma_m$ . The length function  $B_n \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  defined by  $s_i \mapsto 1$  induces morphisms  $l_n : \Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow C_3$  such that  $l_m \circ \varphi_{n,m} = l_n$ . In particular, the finite index subgroup  $\Gamma_n^0 = \mathrm{Ker} l_n$  of  $\Gamma_n$  is mapped to  $\Gamma_{n+1}^0$  under  $\varphi_{n,n+1}$ .

Recall from [Bi, KM] that  $Z(B_n)$  is infinite cyclic, and generated for  $n \geq 3$  by

$$z_n = (s_1 s_2 \dots s_{n-1})^n.$$

We gather here a few additional results on these groups. For explicit computations in the finite groups  $\Gamma_n$  for  $n \leq 5$ , we used the development version of the CHEVIE package for

**GAP3** : in this package, the finite complex reflection groups  $G_4, G_{25}, G_{32}$  are represented as permutation groups on a set of ‘complex roots’, which makes some computations easy to do. This development version can be found at <http://www.math.jussieu.fr/~jmichel/chevie/index.html>.

- Theorem 2.4.** (i) *The image of  $z_5$  in  $\Gamma_5$  has order 6 and generates  $Z(\Gamma_5)$ . Under the isomorphism  $\Gamma_5 \simeq C_3 \times \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ ,  $C_3$  is generated by  $z_5^3$ , while  $z_5^2 \in Z(\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3))$ .*
- (ii) *Under  $B_5 \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma_5$ ,  $z_5^2$  is identified with  $s_3.s_1.s_1^{(s_2s_3)^3}.s_1^{(s_2s_3)^3(s_3s_4)^3}$  and  $z_5^3$  with  $((s_1s_2)^3.(s_3s_4)^3)^3$ .*
- (iii) *The natural morphisms  $\Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma_m$  are injective for  $n \leq 5$ .*
- (iv) *The morphism  $\Gamma_5 \rightarrow \Gamma_6$  admits a retraction, i.e. there exists a morphism  $p : \Gamma_6 \rightarrow \Gamma_5$  with  $p \circ \varphi_{5,6} = \mathrm{Id}_{\Gamma_5}$ . In particular,  $\Gamma_6 = \Gamma_5 \rtimes \mathrm{Ker} p$ . It is given by  $p(s_5) = z_4^2 z_5^2$ .*
- (v) *For every  $n$ ,  $\Gamma_n$  is a semidirect product  $\Gamma_n^0 \rtimes C_3$ , and  $\Gamma_n^0$  is the commutator subgroup of  $\Gamma_n$ .*
- (vi) *For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\Gamma_{n+1}$  is normally generated by  $\varphi_{n,n+1}(\Gamma_n)$  ; For  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\Gamma_{n+1}^0$  is normally generated by  $\varphi_{n,n+1}(\Gamma_n^0)$ .*

*Proof.* Parts (i) and (ii) are easily checked by direct computations in  $\Gamma_5 = G_{32}$  using **CHEVIE** (and in addition part (i) consists in well-known properties of the group  $G_{32}$ , also denoted  $3 \times 2.S_4(3)$  in Atlas notation, see [Atlas] p. 26). For part (iii), the case  $m \leq 5$  follows from the identification of  $\Gamma_2, \Gamma_3, \Gamma_4$  with parabolic subgroups of  $G_{32}$  (see e.g. [BMR]). We thus can assume  $n = 5$ . Let  $K = \mathrm{Ker} \varphi_{5,m}$ . We have  $K \subset \mathrm{Ker} l_5$  since  $l_m \circ \varphi_{5,m} = l_5$ . Since  $l_5(z_5) = 5 \times (5-1) \bmod 3$  we get  $\mathrm{Ker} l_5 = \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  and  $K \triangleleft \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . Since  $\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  is quasisimple we have  $K = \{e\}$  or  $K = Z(\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)) = \langle z_5^3 \rangle$  or  $K = \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . The third case is excluded because  $\Gamma_m$  is nontrivial and generated by conjugates of  $\varphi_{2,m}(s_1)$ , the case  $K = Z(\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3))$  would imply the finiteness of  $\Gamma_m \simeq \mathrm{Sp}_{m-1}(\mathbb{F}_3)$  by Assion’s theorem, contradicting Coxeter’s theorem. This proves (iii). Proving (iv) amounts to saying that  $z_4^2 z_5^2 \in \Gamma_5$  has order 3, commutes with the  $s_i$  for  $i \leq 3$ , that is with  $\Gamma_4$ , which is clear, and that  $s_4(z_4^2 z_5^2)s_4 = (z_4^2 z_5^2)s_4(z_4^2 z_5^2)$ , which is easily checked using **CHEVIE**; this proves (iv). The first statement of part (v) is trivial, as the subgroup  $\langle s_1 \rangle$  generated by  $s_1$  provides a complement to  $\Gamma_n^0$  in  $\Gamma_n$  ; then, clearly  $(\Gamma_n, \Gamma_n) \subset \mathrm{Ker} l_n = \Gamma_n^0$ , as  $C_3$  is abelian. In order to prove that  $\Gamma_n^0 \subset (\Gamma_n, \Gamma_n)$ , we consider the abelianization morphism  $\pi_{\mathrm{ab}} : \Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma_n^{\mathrm{ab}}$ . From the braid relations we have  $\pi(s_i) = \pi(s_{i+1})$  for all  $i$ , hence  $\pi(g) = \pi(s_1^{l_n(g)})$  for all  $g \in \Gamma_n$  ; this proves  $\pi(\Gamma_n^0) = \{1\}$  hence (v). Rewriting the braid relation  $s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$  as  $s_{i+1} = (s_i s_{i+1}) s_i (s_i s_{i+1})^{-1}$  we get that  $\varphi_{n,n+1}(\Gamma_n)$  normally generates  $\Gamma_{n+1}$ . Now recall that, when  $G$  is a group generated by elements  $a_1, \dots, a_r$ ,  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$  and  $S \subset G$  a set of representatives of  $G/H$  with set-theoretic section  $G/H \rightarrow S$  denoted  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$ , then  $H$  is generated by the  $y a_i \bar{y} a_i^{-1}$  for  $i \in [1, r]$  and  $y \in S$  (see e.g. [MKS]). It follows that  $\Gamma_n^0$  is generated by the  $s_i s_1^{-1}$ ,  $s_1 s_i s_1^{-2} = s_1 s_i s_1$ ,  $s_1^2 s_i = s_1^{-1} s_i$ , by taking  $S = \{1, s_1, s_1^2\}$  as a set of representatives of  $\Gamma_n / \Gamma_n^0 \simeq C_3$ . Using  $s_{i+1} = (s_i s_{i+1}) s_i (s_i s_{i+1})^{-1}$  we get that, for  $i \geq 3$ ,  $s_{i+1} s_1^{-1} = (s_i s_{i+1}) s_i s_1^{-1} (s_i s_{i+1})^{-1}$ ,  $s_1 s_{i+1} s_1 = (s_i s_{i+1}) s_1 s_i s_1 (s_i s_{i+1})^{-1}$  and  $s_1^{-1} s_{i+1} = (s_i s_{i+1}) s_1^{-1} s_i (s_i s_{i+1})^{-1}$ . Thus, for  $n \geq 4$ , the generators of  $\Gamma_{n+1}$  involving  $s_n$  are conjugates of elements in  $\varphi_{n,n+1}(\Gamma_n)$ , and this proves (vi) for  $n \geq 4$ . The case  $n = 3$  is easily checked by hand. ■

**Remark 2.5.** *Part (iii) of Assion’s theorem has been generalized by Wajnryb in [Wa] ; the question of whether the natural morphisms  $\Gamma_n \rightarrow \Gamma_m$  are injective for  $n \geq 6$  seems to be open ; part (vi) is clearly false for  $n = 2$ , as  $\Gamma_2^0 = \{1\}$ .*

**2.2. Additional preliminaries on the groups  $\Gamma_n, n \leq 5$ .** The group  $\Gamma_3 \simeq G_4$  is a semi-direct product  $Q \rtimes C_3$  where  $Q$  is the quaternion group of order 8,  $C_3$  is the cyclic group of order 3, and the semi-direct product is associated to any automorphism of  $Q$  of order 3. Writing classically  $Q = \langle \mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j} \rangle$  with  $\mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2 = z$  the central element of order 2,  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{ij}$  and  $C = \langle s \rangle$  with  $s$  acting on  $Q$  by the permutation  $(\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{k})$ , an isomorphism is obtained by  $s_1 \mapsto s$  and  $s_2 \mapsto \mathbf{i}^3 s$  (so that  $s_1 s_2^2 \mapsto \mathbf{i}$ ).

Using the above morphisms we identify  $\Gamma_3$  and therefore  $Q$  to subgroups of  $\Gamma_5$ . In the sequel we will need to use the Atlas character tables on elements of  $Q$ . For this we need to identify a few conjugacy classes in  $\Gamma_5 = C_3 \times \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . In Atlas notations,  $\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3) = 2.U_4(2)$  contains 2 classes of order 2. One of the two being central (hence corresponding to  $z_5^3$ ), the value of the other one on any Brauer character in characteristic not 2 lies in the column labelled 2a of [AtMod]. Among the three classes of order 4 in  $\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , two are deduced one from the other by multiplication by  $z_5^3$ . It is easily checked that, if  $x \in \Gamma_3 \subset \Gamma_5$  has order 4, then it is not conjugated to  $xz_5^3$ . It follows that the column of the ordinary or Brauer character table corresponding to  $x$  is the one labelled 4a in [AtMod]. We can thus read on the tables the values taken by elements of  $Q$  on ordinary and Brauer characters in characteristic prime to 2.

The group  $\Gamma_5 \simeq C_3 \times \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  and therefore  $\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  contains another useful quaternion subgroup  $Q_0$ , characterized up to  $\Gamma_5$ -conjugacy by  $Z(Q_0) = \langle z_5^3 \rangle$ . For later computations, an explicit description of this subgroup in terms of the generators will turn out useful. A 2-Sylow subgroup of  $\Gamma_5$  is generated by the elements  $a_1 = s_2^{-1} s_3 s_1 s_2^{-1} s_3 s_1 s_2^{-1} s_1^{-1}$ ,  $a_2 = s_3^{-1} s_2 s_3^{-1} s_1 s_2 s_3 s_1$ ,  $a_3 = s_4^{-1} s_3 s_4^{-1} s_3$ ,  $a_4 = s_4 s_3^{-1} s_4 s_2 s_3 s_1 s_2^{-1} s_1 s_3 s_1$ . Two generators of such a  $Q_0$  are then given by  $\mathbf{i}_0 = a_4^{-1} a_2 a_3 a_2$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_0 = a_4^2 a_1$ .

**2.3. The groups  $Y_m$ .** For  $1 \leq r \leq m-1$  we let  $e_r$  denote the  $r$ -th vector of the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{F}_4^{m-1}$ , and we let  $\pi : Y_m \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_4^{m-1}$  denote the canonical projection  $(x, V) \mapsto V$ . We choose  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_4 \setminus \mathbb{F}_2$ , and let  $i_r = (e_r, \alpha)$ ,  $j_r = (\alpha e_r, \alpha)$ . Then  $i_r, j_r$  have order 4 and generate a quaternion subgroup  $Q_r$  of  $Y_m$ . It is easily checked that  $Y_m$  is a central product of the  $Q_r$ , namely the quotient of  $Q_1 \times \cdots \times Q_{m-1}$  by the identification of the centers of  $Q_1, \dots, Q_{m-1}$ . If  $z$  denotes the generator of  $Z(Y_m)$ , the elements of  $Y_m$  can be uniquely written in the form  $i_{r_1} i_{r_2} \cdots i_{r_u} j_{s_1} \cdots j_{s_v} z^\epsilon$  with  $\epsilon \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $r_1, \dots, r_u, s_1, \dots, s_v$  distinct indices.

In particular, the group  $Y_m$  is an extra-special group of type  $2^{1+2(m-1)}$  (see [Go] § 5.5). In characteristic distinct from 2, such a group admits  $m-1$  linear characters and a  $2^{m-1}$ -dimensional irreducible representation, afforded by the tensor product of the 2-dimensional irreducible representations of the  $Q_r$ .

We need to recall some basic facts on the representations of the quaternion group. When  $k$  is a field of characteristic  $p \neq 2$ , the 1-dimensional representations are clearly defined over  $k$ . When  $k$  contains a primitive fourth root of unity  $\omega$ , then the 2-dimensional representation can be defined over  $k$ , through  $\mathbf{i} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{j} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega \end{pmatrix}$ . It is also defined over  $k = \mathbb{F}_3$ , through  $\mathbf{i} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{j} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . It follows that, under these conditions on  $k$ , the  $2^{m-1}$ -dimensional representation of  $Y_m$  can be explicitly defined over  $k$ .

## 3. REMINDER ON PROJECTIVE REPRESENTATIONS

Let  $G$  be a group and  $k$  a field. An action of  $G$  as algebra automorphisms of  $\text{Mat}_n(k)$  yields a projective representation  $\bar{\rho} : G \rightarrow \text{PGL}_n(k)$  by the Skolem-Noether theorem, hence a 2-cocycle  $c : G \times G \rightarrow k^\times$  defined by  $c(g_1, g_2) = \tilde{\rho}(g_1 g_2) \tilde{\rho}(g_2)^{-1} \tilde{\rho}(g_1)^{-1}$  where  $\tilde{\rho} : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(k)$  is a set-theoretic lifting of  $\bar{\rho}$ . It is always possible to choose  $\tilde{\rho}(e) = \text{Id}_n$ , which we always assume from now on. Then the cocycle satisfies  $c(e, g) = 1$  for all  $g \in G$ ; we say that such a cocycle is *normalized*. The corresponding class  $[c] \in H^2(G, k^\times)$  is trivial if and only if we can lift  $\bar{\rho}$  to a linear representation  $\rho : G \rightarrow \text{GL}_n(k)$ . In that case, if  $c = d\alpha$  for some  $\alpha : G \rightarrow k^\times$ , i.e.  $c(g_1, g_2) = \alpha(g_1 g_2) \alpha(g_2)^{-1} \alpha(g_1)^{-1}$ , then  $\rho(g) = \alpha(g)^{-1} \tilde{\rho}(g)$  provides such a lifting. Under our assumption, such an  $\alpha$  satisfies  $\alpha(e) = 1$ .

We recall the short exact sequences in low-dimensional group cohomology, provided by

- (i) the universal coefficients exact sequence :

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(H_1 G, k^\times) \rightarrow H^2(G, k^\times) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(H_2 G, k^\times) \rightarrow 0.$$

- (ii) the Künneth exact sequence :

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Tor}(H_0 G, H_1 K) \oplus \text{Tor}(H_1 G, H_0 K) \rightarrow H_2(G \times K) \rightarrow H_2 K \oplus (H_1 G \otimes H_1 K) \oplus H_2 G \rightarrow 0$$

We recall that, when  $G$  is finite, then  $H_2 G$  is the so-called Schur multiplier of  $G$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** (i)  $H^2(\Gamma_3, k^\times) \simeq \text{Ext}(C_3, k^\times)$  hence  $H^2(\Gamma_3, k^\times) = 0$  when  $\text{char}.k = 3$ .

- (ii) We have a short exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(C_3, k^\times) \rightarrow H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), k^\times) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(C_2, k^\times) \rightarrow 0$ . If  $k$  is a finite field of characteristic 3, then  $H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), k) = C_2$ .

- (iii) Let  $C_0 \simeq C_2 \times C_2$  denote the image of  $Q_0 \subset \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  inside  $\text{SU}(4, 2) \simeq \text{PSU}(4, 2) \simeq \text{PSp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , and assume  $k$  is a finite field of characteristic 3. Then the restriction morphism  $H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), k^\times) \rightarrow H^2(C_0, k^\times)$  is injective.

*Proof.* It is known that  $H_2 \Gamma_3 = 0$  (see [K] table 8.3), whence (i). We have  $\text{GU}(4, 2) = C_3 \times \text{SU}(4, 2)$ , and it is known that  $H_2 \text{SU}(4, 2) \simeq C_2$  (see [K] table 8.5) hence  $H_2 \text{GU}(4, 2) = C_2$  by Künneth, since  $\text{SU}(4, 2)$  is perfect and  $H_2 C_3 = 0$ . Then the short exact sequence is the universal coefficients exact sequence. When  $k$  has characteristic 3,  $\text{Hom}(C_2, k^\times) \simeq C_2$  since  $-1 \neq 1$  in  $k$ , and  $k^\times$  is 3-divisible hence  $\text{Ext}(C_3, k^\times) = 0$ , which proves (ii). The group  $\Gamma_5 = C_3 \times \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  provides a nonsplit central extension of  $\text{GU}(4, 2)$ , hence the nontrivial element of  $H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), C_2) \simeq H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), k^\times)$ . For  $g_1, g_2 \in \text{GU}(4, 2)$  and arbitrary preimages  $\tilde{g}_1, \tilde{g}_2, \widetilde{g_1 g_2}$  in  $\Gamma_5 = C_3 \times \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , it can be defined by  $c(g_1, g_2) = 1$  if  $\widetilde{g_1 g_2} = \tilde{g}_1 \tilde{g}_2$  and  $c(g_1, g_2) = -1$  otherwise. Restricting it to  $C_0$  yields the cocycle associated to the extension  $1 \rightarrow Z(Q_0) \rightarrow Q_0 \rightarrow C_0 \rightarrow 1$  which is not split, hence (iii). ■

**Lemma 3.2.** (i) Let  $x, y$  be generators of  $C_2^2$  and let  $c : (C_2^2)^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_3^\times$  be a normalized 2-cocycle. Its class  $[c]$  is trivial in  $H^2(C_2^2, \mathbb{F}_3^\times)$  if and only if  $c(x, y) = c(y, x)$  and  $c(x, x) = c(y, y) = 1$ .

- (ii) Let  $g$  be a generator of  $C_3$  and let  $c : C_3^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_4^\times$  be a normalized 2-cocycle. Its class  $[c]$  is trivial in  $H^2(C_3, \mathbb{F}_4^\times)$  if and only if  $c(g, g)c(g, g^{-1}) = 1$ .

*Proof.* The group  $H^2(C_2^2, \mathbb{F}_3^\times) \simeq H^2(C_2^2, C_2)$  is an extension of  $\text{Hom}(H_2 C_2, \mathbb{F}_3^\times) = \text{Hom}(C_2, \mathbb{F}_3^\times)$  by  $\text{Ext}((C_2^2)^2, \mathbb{F}_3^\times) = \text{Ext}((C_2^2)^2, C_2) \simeq (C_2^2)^2$ . We check that the normalized cocycles associated to the nonsplit extensions of  $C_2$  by  $C_2 \times C_2$  satisfy  $c(x, y) = -c(y, x)$  when the extension is not abelian, and  $|\{c(x, x), c(y, y)\}| = 2$  when it is. Conversely, all coboundaries satisfy  $c(x, y) = c(y, x)$  and  $c(x, x) = c(y, y)$ , which proves (i). The proof of (ii) is similar and left to the reader. ■

We will use the following in several instances.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group,  $k$  a commutative ring and  $A$  a  $k$ -algebra. Let  $f: G \rightarrow A^\times$  be a group morphism. This induces an action of  $G$  on  $A$  by conjugacy. Then the associated semi-direct product  $A \rtimes G$  (defined by multiplication  $ag.a'g' = af(g)a'f(g)^{-1}gg'$ ) is isomorphic with the (commutative) tensor product  $A \otimes kG$ .*

*Proof.* The map is  $a \otimes g \mapsto af(g^{-1}).g$  since  $(af(g^{-1}).g).bf(h^{-1}).h = af(g^{-1})f(g)bf(g^{-1})f(h^{-1}).gh = abf((gh)^{-1}).gh$  which is the image of  $ab \otimes gh$ . A reverse map is clearly afforded by  $a.g \mapsto af(g) \otimes g$ .  $\blacksquare$

The following essentially consists in making explicit a Morita equivalence summing up Mackey-Wigner's method of "little groups" (see [S] § 8.2 and [CE] ex. 18.6).

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $G$  a finite group (left) acting transitively on a set  $X$ . Let  $k$  be a commutative ring, and let  $A$  be the  $k$ -algebra  $G \ltimes k^X$  where  $k^X = \bigoplus_{x \in X} k\epsilon_x$  is endowed with the product law  $(\epsilon_x \epsilon_{x'}) = \delta_{x,x'} \epsilon_x$  and the action of  $G$  is induced by the one on  $X$ . Then any choice of  $x_0 \in X$  with stabilizer  $G_0 \subseteq G$  and any choice of a "section"  $s: X \rightarrow G$  such that  $s(x).x_0 = x$  for all  $x \in X$ , define a unique isomorphism*

$$A \longrightarrow \text{Mat}_X(kG_0)$$

sending each  $\epsilon_x \in k^X$  ( $x \in X$ ) to  $\theta(\epsilon_x) := E_{x,x}$ , and each  $g \in G$  to

$$\theta(g) := \sum_{x \in X} s(gx)^{-1} g.s(x) E_{gx,x}$$

(where  $E_{x,y} \in \text{Mat}_X(k)$  is the elementary matrix corresponding to  $x, y \in X$ ).

*Proof.* Note that indeed  $s(gx)^{-1} g.s(x) \in G_0$  since  $s(gx).x_0 = gx = g.s(x).x_0$ .

We assume  $k = \mathbb{Z}$ . The general case is deduced by tensor product  $- \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} k$ .

Note that we are below actually checking explicitly that, denoting  $i = \epsilon_{x_0}$ , one has  $A \simeq \text{End}_{iAi}(Ai)^{\text{opp}}$  where  $Ai$  is a  $A$ -bimodule- $iAi$  isomorphic with  $(iAi)^X$  as right  $iAi$ -module, with moreover  $iAi = kG_0$  and  $AiA = A$ .

To check that the proposed formulae define a morphism between our algebras and in view of the law on  $A$ , it suffices to check that  $\theta(g)\theta(g') = \theta(gg')$ ,  $\theta(g)\theta(\epsilon_x) = \theta(\epsilon_{gx})\theta(g)$  and  $\theta(\epsilon_x)\theta(\epsilon_{x'}) = \delta_{x,x'}\theta(\epsilon_x)$  for each  $g, g' \in G$  and  $x, x' \in X$ .

We have  $\theta(g)\theta(g') = \sum_{x,x' \in X} s(gx)^{-1} g.s(x).s(g'x')^{-1} g'.s(x') E_{gx,x} E_{g'x',x'}$ . The product  $E_{gx,x} E_{g'x',x'}$  is  $E_{gx,x'}$  whenever  $x = g'x'$ , and is zero otherwise. When  $x = g'x'$ , we also have  $s(x).s(g'x')^{-1} = 1$ , so that  $\theta(g)\theta(g') = \sum_{x' \in X} s(gg'x')^{-1} gg'.s(x') E_{gg'x',x'} = \theta(gg')$ .

Samely,  $\theta(g)\theta(\epsilon_x) = \sum_{x' \in X} s(gx')^{-1} g.s(x') E_{gx',x'} E_{x,x} = s(gx)^{-1} g.s(x) E_{gx,x}$ , while  $\theta(\epsilon_{gx})\theta(g) = \sum_{x' \in X} s(gx')^{-1} g.s(x') E_{gx',x'} E_{gx',x'} = s(gx)^{-1} g.s(x) E_{gx,x}$  since  $gx = gx'$  if and only if  $x = x'$ .

The morphism is now clearly surjective by the equation above (with  $x = x_0$ ) since any elementary matrix is then reached up to an element of  $G_0$ , and the elements of  $G_0 \epsilon_{x_0} \subseteq A$  surject on  $\mathbb{Z} G_0.E_{x_0,x_0}$ .

Isomorphism follows by noting that we have a surjective morphism between free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules of equal rank. Since it has to be split, it is an isomorphism.  $\blacksquare$

#### 4. ALGEBRAS

We define and study a quotient of the group algebra of the groups  $\Gamma_n$ .



**Definition 4.1.** We define  $\mathbf{q}$  to be the sum of elements in  $Q$ , and  $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{q}s_1$  (or equivalently  $s_1s_2\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{q}$ ), that is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{q} &= 1 + s_1s_2^2 + s_2s_1^2 + s_1^2s_2 + s_2^2s_1 + s_1s_2s_1 + s_1^2s_2^2s_1^2 + s_1s_2^2s_1s_2^2 \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma_3 \\ \mathbf{c} &= s_2s_1^2s_2 + s_1s_2^2s_1 + s_1^2s_2s_1 + s_1s_2s_1^2 + s_1^2s_2^2 + s_2^2s_1^2 + s_1 + s_2\end{aligned}$$

and  $I_n = \mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n \cdot \mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n = (\mathbf{q}) = (\mathbf{c})$  be the two-sided ideal it generates in  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n$  for any  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $K_n = \mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n / I_n$ .

Note that  $K_n$  is the algebra  $K_n(1)$  of the introduction.

If  $R$  denotes a (unital) commutative ring, we let  $RK_n$  denote the quotient of  $R\Gamma_n$  by  $RI_n = R\Gamma_n \cdot q \cdot R\Gamma_n \subset R\Gamma_n$ . We have  $RK_n \simeq K_n \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R$ .

**4.1. First results.** As proved by L. Funar, for every  $n$  this algebra is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module. For the convenience of the reader, we provide another (shorter) proof of the following result of [F1].

**Proposition 4.2.** (Funar) Let  $\overline{A}_n$  denote the image of the natural morphism  $K_n \rightarrow K_{n+1}$ . One has  $K_{n+1} = \overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_ns_n\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_ns_n^2\overline{A}_n$ .

*Proof.* The case  $n = 2$  is trivial, so we can proceed by induction. Let  $C_n = \overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_ns_n\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_ns_n^2\overline{A}_n$ . We have  $1 \in C_n$  so we only need to prove that  $C_n$  is a left ideal. Since  $\overline{A}_nC_n \subset C_n$  this amounts to saying  $s_nC_n \subset C_n$ , that is  $s_n\overline{A}_ns_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n \subset C_n$  for  $\varepsilon \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . By the induction assumption  $\overline{A}_ns_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n = \overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n$ . Since  $s_n$  commutes with  $\overline{A}_{n-1}$  we get  $\overline{A}_ns_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n = s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n + \overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n$ . Now  $s_ns_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n = s_n^{\varepsilon+1}\overline{A}_n \subset C_n$ ,  $s_n\overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n = \overline{A}_{n-1}s_ns_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n$  and  $s_n\overline{A}_{n-1}s_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n = \overline{A}_{n-1}s_ns_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_n$ . It is thus sufficient to show that  $s_ns_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon \in C_n$  and  $s_ns_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon \in C_n$  for  $\varepsilon \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . The case  $\varepsilon = 0$  is obvious,  $s_ns_{n-1}s_n = s_{n-1}s_ns_{n-1} \in C_n$ ,  $s_ns_{n-1}s_n^2 = s_{n-1}^2s_ns_{n-1} \in C_n$ ,  $s_ns_{n-1}^2s_n^2 = s_{n-1}^2s_n^2s_{n-1} \in C_n$ , and there only remains to show that  $s_ns_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon \in C_n$ . But  $c \equiv 0$  in  $\overline{A}_{n+1}$  implies, under conjugation by  $\Gamma_{n+1}$ , that  $s_ns_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon + s_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon + s_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon s_n = 0$  in  $\overline{A}_{n+1}$ , hence  $s_ns_{n-1}^\varepsilon\overline{A}_{n-1}s_n^\varepsilon \in C_n$ , and this concludes the proof. ■

**Corollary 4.3.** For all  $n$ ,  $K_n$  is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

The following lemma will be useful.

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $p$  be a prime,  $H$  a finite group,  $S$  is a simple  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p H$ -module, and  $\phi$  is its Brauer character. Let  $Q$  is a  $p'$ -subgroup, that is a subgroup whose order is not divisible by  $p$ , then  $q := \sum_{t \in Q} t$  annihilates  $S$  if and only if  $\phi(q) = 0$ . The same holds in characteristic 0 for arbitrary  $H$  and  $Q$  and  $\phi$  the ordinary character of a simple  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} H$ -module.

*Proof.* We may replace  $H$  by  $Q$  itself and assume  $\phi$  is the Brauer character of an arbitrary finite dimensional  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p Q$ -module  $S$ . Since  $Q$  is a  $p'$ -group, this module lifts to an  $\mathcal{O}Q$ -module  $\widehat{S}$  where  $\mathcal{O}$  is a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ . Then  $\phi$  is the ordinary character of  $\widehat{S}$ . Since  $q$  is an idempotent up to an invertible scalar of  $\mathcal{O}$ , we have  $\phi(q) = 0$  if and only if  $q\widehat{S} = 0$ , and this is equivalent to  $qS = 0$ . The characteristic zero case is included in the above reasoning. ■

The structure of  $K_3$  and  $K_4$  as  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules can be obtained by computer means, as  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_4$  are small enough :  $K_n$  is the quotient of  $\mathbb{Z}\Gamma_n \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{|\Gamma_n|}$  by the submodule spanned by the

elements  $g_1 \mathbf{q} g_2$  for  $g_1, g_2 \in \Gamma_n$ . Using the algorithms implemented in **GAP4** for computing the Smith normal form, we get the following.

**Theorem 4.5.** *As  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules,  $K_3 \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{21}$  and*

$$K_4 \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{183} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{54} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{48} \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z})^{18}$$

The size of  $\Gamma_5$  is too large for the same kind of computations to settle the case of  $K_5$ . However, we manage to get the following

**Proposition 4.6.** *The algebra  $\mathbb{F}_2 K_5$  has dimension  $3 \times 863 = 2589$ .*

*Proof.* For computing this dimension we cannot rely on usual high-level mathematical software, and needed instead to write our own code. The computation is done as follows. Since  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{F}_2 \Gamma_5^0$ , we can content ourselves with computing the subspace spanned by the  $g_1 \mathbf{q} g_2$  for  $g_1, g_2 \in \Gamma_5^0 = \mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . We can assume  $g_1 \in \Gamma_5^0 / N_{\Gamma_5^0}(Q_8)$  and  $g_2 \in Q_8 \setminus \Gamma_5^0$ . Taking representatives in  $\Gamma_5^0$  of these cosets, this leaves 90 possibilities for  $g_1$  and 6480 for  $g_2$ . Encoding each entry on one bit, each vector in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \Gamma_5^0$  occupies 6480 bytes, and a basis of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \Gamma_5^0$  occupies about 330 MBytes. The encoding of elements of  $\Gamma_5^0$  as matrices in  $\mathrm{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  is more economic than encoding them as permutations, and the time-consuming procedures such as finding  $90 \times 6480 \times 8$  times the position of an element in the list of the 51840 elements of  $\Gamma_5^0$  can be optimized by using a numerical key and ordering these elements. Each time a new sequence of 8 elements is computed and converted into a new line vector, a Gauss elimination is performed (using **xor** operations on 4-bytes words) with respect to the precedingly obtained free family. We wrote a **C** program based on these ideas and computed the dimension of this submodule (this lasts a few hours on today's PCs). One gets 50977, hence  $\dim \mathbb{F}_2 K_5 = 3 \times (51840 - 50977) = 3 \times 863$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Theorem 4.7.** *If  $k$  is an algebraically closed field with  $k = 2k = 3k$  (i.e. its characteristic is  $\neq 2, 3$ ), then  $kK_3 \simeq \mathrm{Mat}_2(k) \times \mathrm{Mat}_2(k) \times \mathrm{Mat}_2(k) \times \mathrm{Mat}_3(k)$ ,  $kK_4 \simeq \mathrm{Mat}_2(k)^3 \times \mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \times \mathrm{Mat}_9(k)^2$*

*Proof.* For the case  $n = 3$ , we first just assume  $2k = k$  and  $k$  contains a primitive fourth root of unity  $\omega$ . Then one has  $kQ = k \times k \times k \times k \times \mathrm{Mat}_2(k)$  by the only  $k$ -algebra map such that

$$\mathbf{i} \mapsto (1, -1, 1, -1, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}), \quad \mathbf{j} \mapsto (1, 1, -1, -1, \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega \end{pmatrix}).$$

In  $kQ$ ,  $e_Q = \mathbf{q}/8$  is a central idempotent acting by 1 on the first coordinate above and by 0 on the others. So  $kQ/kQe_Q \simeq k^3 \times \mathrm{Mat}_2(k)$  by the same map as above deleting the first coordinate, and  $k\Gamma_3/k\Gamma_3e_Q$  is a semi-direct product  $[k^3 \times \mathrm{Mat}_2(k)] \rtimes C_3$  where the generator of  $C_3$  permutes cyclically the first three coordinates and acts on the summand  $\mathrm{Mat}_2(k)$  according to  $\mathbf{i} \mapsto \mathbf{j} \mapsto \mathbf{ij} \mapsto \mathbf{i}$ , that is  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & -\omega \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\omega \\ -\omega & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . This last action is by conjugacy by  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & \omega \\ 1 & \omega \end{pmatrix}$ , so Proposition 3.3 implies that the corresponding semi-direct product is isomorphic with  $\mathrm{Mat}_2(k) \otimes kC_3 = \mathrm{Mat}_2(kC_3)$ .

Note that when moreover  $3k = k$  and  $k$  contains a third root of unity, then  $kC_3 \simeq k^3$  and  $\mathrm{Mat}_2(kC_3) \simeq \mathrm{Mat}_2(k)^3$ .

The other semi-direct product  $k^3 \rtimes C_3$  is isomorphic with  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k)$  by identifying  $k^3$  with diagonal matrices and sending the generator of  $C_3$  to the permutation matrix of the appropriate cycle of order 3.

This gives the claim about  $kK_3$ .

We notice that the primes dividing the orders of  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_4$  are 2, 3. It follows that  $k\Gamma_4$  is semisimple and that  $kK_4$  is a direct sum of  $B_\chi = \text{Mat}_{\chi(1)}(k)$  among all irreducible Brauer characters  $\chi$  corresponding to modules  $S$  with  $\mathbf{q}S \neq 0$ , that is  $\chi(\mathbf{q}) \neq 0$  by Lemma 4.4. Equivalently,  $\chi(\mathbf{q}) \neq 0$  means that the restriction of  $S$  to  $\Gamma_3$  does not contain any 1-dimensional component. The ordinary character and induction tables of  $\Gamma_3 = G_4$  and  $\Gamma_4 = G_{25}$  are easily accessible using CHEVIE, so this readily provides the set of such characters and the conclusion.  $\blacksquare$

#### 4.2. Characteristic distinct from 2 and 3.

**Theorem 4.8.** *If  $k$  is a field with  $k = 2k = 3k$  (i.e. its characteristic is  $\neq 2, 3$ ), then  $kK_n = 0$  for  $n \geq 5$ .*

*Proof.* In order to prove  $kK_n = 0$  for  $n \geq 5$ , it is sufficient to show that  $kK_5 = 0$ , as  $kK_n$  is generated by conjugates of the image of the natural morphism  $K_5 \rightarrow K_n$ . Since  $kK_5$  is a quotient of  $k\Gamma_5$  it is finite dimensional, so we can assume  $k = \bar{k}$ , as  $\bar{k}K_5 = kK_5 \otimes_k \bar{k}$ . The ordinary character table and elements of the complex reflection group  $G_{32} = \Gamma_5$  are easy to deal with using CHEVIE. We get that no irreducible character of  $\Gamma_5$  vanishes on  $\mathbf{q}$ , hence proving that  $kK_5$  has no simple module by Lemma 4.4, hence  $kK_5 = 0$ , provided that the characteristic of  $k$  is not 2, 3 or 5. For  $p = 5$  we use that  $\Gamma_5 = C_3 \times \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , with  $Q \subset \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3) \subset \Gamma_5$ , hence  $kK_5 = kC_3 \otimes (k\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)/(\mathbf{q}))$ . We check that no 5-modular Brauer character of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  vanishes on  $\mathbf{q}$  by using the table of Brauer characters provided by [AtMod], and the conclusion follows again from Lemma 4.4.  $\blacksquare$

#### 4.3. Characteristic 3. This section is devoted to the proof of the following.

**Theorem 4.9.** *If  $k$  is a field of characteristic 3, then*

- (i)  $kK_3 \simeq \text{Mat}_3(k) \times \text{Mat}_2(kC_3)$ .
- (ii)  $kK_5 \simeq kK_6 \simeq \text{Mat}_{25}(kC_3)$ ,
- (iii)  $kK_n = 0$  for  $n \geq 7$ .

4.3.1. The case  $n = 3$  has been treated at the start of the proof of Theorem 7 provided that  $k$  contains a 4-th root of 1. In the case  $\text{char}.k = 3$  we remove that assumption. The irreducible representations of  $Q$  are defined over  $k$ . This is clear for the 1-dimensional ones, and the 2-dimensional one is given by  $\mathbf{i} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{j} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . The rest of the argument remains valid, provided that the cocycle given by the projective representation  $C_3 \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\text{Mat}_2(k)) = \text{PGL}_2(k)$  is zero in  $H^2(C_3, k^\times)$ . Since  $H^2(C_3, k^\times) \simeq \text{Ext}(C_3, k^\times) = 0$  when  $\text{char}.k = 3$  this concludes the proof.

4.3.2. Case  $n = 5$ . Let us look at  $\Gamma_5^0 = \text{Sp}_4(3)$  whose group algebra contains  $q$  since  $\Gamma_5^0$  contains all 2-elements of  $\Gamma_5$ . We have  $K_5 = kC_3 \otimes A'_5$  where  $A'_5 = k\Gamma_5^0/I'_5$  and  $I'_5$  is the two-sided ideal of  $k\Gamma_5^0$  generated by  $\mathbf{q}$ . In order to show that  $kK_5 \simeq \text{Mat}_{25}(kC_3)$ , it suffices to check that  $k\Gamma_5^0/I'_5 \simeq \text{Mat}_{25}(k)$ . We first assume that  $k$  is algebraically closed.

A first step is to check that all simple  $k\Gamma_5^0$ -modules except one are annihilated by  $I'_5$ . Using the table of Brauer characters of  $\text{Sp}_4(3) = 2.S_4(3)$ , it is easy to check that only the simple  $k\Gamma_5^0$ -module  $M$  of dimension 25 is such that its Brauer character (with values in  $k$ )  $\tau_M$  satisfies  $\tau_M(\mathbf{q}) = 0$ . So we have  $\mathbf{q}M = 0$ , by Lemma 4.4,  $A'_5 \neq 0$ , and the only simple  $k\Gamma_5^0$ -module

which gives rise to a  $A'_5$ -module is this module  $M$  of dimension 25. Moreover, this module has no self-extension as  $k\Gamma_5^0$ -module by [B1] 12.2 (vi). So this unique simple  $A'_5$ -module has no selfextension, so is projective, hence  $A'_5 \simeq \text{Mat}_{25}(k)$  as claimed.

In case  $k \neq \bar{k}$ , we get from the above that  $\bar{k}A'_5 \simeq \text{Mat}_{25}(\bar{k})$ . We prove that the 25-dimensional irreducible representation of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , which provides a non-trivial surjective morphism  $kA'_5 \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{25}(k)$ , hence an isomorphism (e.g. by equality of dimensions). The proof goes as follows. We let  $k = \mathbb{F}_3$ . The 4-dimensional reflection representation of  $G_{32}$  is defined over  $\mathbb{Z}[j]$ , where  $j = \exp(2i\pi/3)$ , hence defines, after tensorisation by a suitable linear character, a 4-dimensional irreducible representation  $\rho_0$  of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  over  $\mathbb{Z}[j]$ . We let  $\bar{\rho}_0 : \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3) \rightarrow \text{GL}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  denote its reduction modulo the ideal  $(3, j+1)$  (which is isomorphic to the standard representation of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$  over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ ). We use the character table and the decomposition matrix of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , as provided by [B1] (or by the package CTbLib of GAP4) to show the following :

- $S^2\rho_0, \Lambda^2\rho_0, \Lambda^2(S^2\rho_0)$  are absolutely irreducible, as well as  $S^2\bar{\rho}_0$ .
- The composition factors over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_3$  of the 45-dimensional representation  $\Lambda^2(S^2\bar{\rho}_0)$  are  $S^2\bar{\rho}_0$  (twice) and the 25-dimensional irreducible (once).

Since  $S^2(\Lambda^2\bar{\rho}_0)$  and  $\Lambda^2\bar{\rho}$  are defined over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , the same thus holds for our 25-dimensional representation.

Let us extract from the above the following proposition for future reference.

**Proposition 4.10.** *Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic 3. Under the isomorphism  $\Gamma_5 \simeq C_3 \times \text{Sp}_4(3)$ , one has  $\mathbf{q} \in k\text{Sp}_4(3)$  and the only simple  $k\text{Sp}_4(3)$  annihilated by  $\mathbf{q}$  is the only simple  $k\text{Sp}_4(3)/Z(\text{Sp}_4(3)) = k\text{SU}_4(2)$ -module of dimension 25.*

4.3.3. Case  $n = 6$ . From the above, note that  $z_5^3 - 1 \in I'_5$ , since the isomorphism  $kA'_5/I'_5 \rightarrow \text{Mat}_{25}(k)$  is given by the 25-dimensional simple representation of  $\Gamma'_5 = 2.S_4(3)$ , which factorizes through  $S_4(3)$  (see [AtMod]) hence has the center  $\langle z_5^3 \rangle$  of  $\Gamma'_5$  in its kernel.

Therefore, by Theorem 2.2 (and Theorem 2.4 (ii)),

$kK_6$  is a quotient of the group algebra of  $U(5) = Y_4 \rtimes \text{GU}_4(2)$ , the  $\text{GU}_4(2)$  term corresponding to  $\Gamma_5/Z(\Gamma_5^0)$ . Note that  $\mathbf{q}$  is a sum of elements of that group. Let us show that the simple  $kK_6$ -modules are all annihilated by  $\mathbf{q}$  except the one which corresponds with the 25-dimensional Brauer character of  $\text{SU}_4(2)$ . By Proposition 4.10, we are looking for the simple  $kU(5)$ -modules whose restriction to  $\text{SU}_4(2)$  annihilates  $\mathbf{q}$ , hence has all its composition factors isomorphic to the 25-dimensional representation singled out above.

From the description of  $U(5)$  recalled in Theorem 2.2 (ii), we have  $kU(5) = kY_4.\text{GU}_4(2)$  where  $Y_4$  is clearly an extra-special group of type  $2^{1+8}$  (notation of [Atlas]). We have  $\text{Irr}(Y_4) = \text{Irr}(kY_4) = \text{Irr}(Y_4^{\text{ab}}) \cup \{\chi_0\}$  where  $\chi_0$  is the irreducible character of degree 16 (see [Go] §5.5 on the characters of the extra-special groups).

If  $\lambda \in \text{Irr}(Y_4^{\text{ab}})$ , let  $e_\lambda$  be the sum of idempotents of  $kY_4$  associated with elements of the orbit  $U.\lambda \subset \text{Irr}(Y_4^{\text{ab}})$ . Let us abbreviate  $U = \text{GU}_4(2)$  and let  $U_\lambda$  denote the stabilizer of  $\lambda$  in  $U$  by conjugacy.

By Proposition 3.4,  $kY_4U.e_\lambda \simeq \text{Mat}_{(U:U_\lambda)}(kU_\lambda)$ , so the simple  $kY_4U.e_\lambda$ -modules are of dimensions  $(U : U_\lambda)$  times the dimension of some simple  $kU_\lambda$ -module.

If  $\lambda = 1$ , then  $U_\lambda = U$ , so we find a block isomorphic to  $kU$  and the quotient by the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{q}$  is  $\text{Mat}_{25}(k)$ .

To study other stabilizers, note that  $Y_4^{\text{ab}} \simeq \text{Irr}(Y_4^{\text{ab}})$  by the hermitian form. This is  $U$ -equivariant, so we may consider those subgroups  $U_\lambda$  as stabilizers of non trivial elements  $V$  in the natural representation space  $\mathbb{F}_4^4$ .

If  ${}^t\bar{V}V \neq 0$ , then  $\mathbb{F}_4^4 = \mathbb{F}_4.V \oplus V^\perp$  and  $U_\lambda$  then identifies with the unitary group on  $V^\perp$ , isomorphic with  $\text{GU}_3(2)$ . By computing its Brauer character table (e.g. using **GAP4**), we get that its simple modules over  $k$  have dimensions 1,2,3, so we get dimensions  $1,2,3 \times (\text{GU}_4(2) : \text{GU}_3(2))$  which is never a multiple of 25.

If  ${}^t\bar{V}V = 0$ , then  $V$  can be taken as the sum of last two vectors of an orthonormal basis, so that the computation of its stabilizer is similar to the one of Remark 2.3. Then  $U_\lambda$  identifies with a semi-direct product  $Y_2 \rtimes \text{GU}_2(2)$ . By the discussion used above for  $Y_4 \rtimes \text{GU}_4(2)$ , one can sort out the dimensions of the simple  $k[Y_2 \rtimes \text{GU}_2(2)]$ -modules as follows. We first have  $\text{GU}_2(2) \simeq (C_3 \times C_3) \rtimes C_2$  with trivial Schur multiplier. So the simple projective representations of this group and the simple representations of its subgroups are of degree 1, hence the simple  $k[Y_2 \rtimes \text{GU}_2(2)]$ -modules are of dimensions dividing 18. They are prime to 5, so that once multiplied with  $(\text{GU}_4(2) : \text{GU}_2(2)) = 1440$  they give dimensions not a multiple of 25.

Let now  $e_0$  be the idempotent of  $kY_4$  corresponding to the only non linear character of the extra-special group  $Y_4$ . It is central in  $kY_4U$ ,  $e_0.kY_4 \simeq \text{Mat}_{16}(k)$  by semi-simplicity and we have an action of  $U$  on the latter.

The following shows that  $e_0kK_6 = 0$ , thus establishing our claim.

**Proposition 4.11.** (i) *The above action of  $\text{GU}_4(2)$  on  $\text{Mat}_{16}(k)$  is induced by a morphism  $\text{GU}_4(2) \rightarrow \text{GL}_{16}(k)$  and conjugacy.*  
(ii) One has  $e_0 \in kY_4U.\mathbf{q}.kY_4U$ .

*Proof.* This action defines a projective representation  $\text{GU}(4, 2) \rightarrow \text{PGL}_{16}(k)$ , and we need to show that it is linearizable, meaning that the induced element of  $H^2(\text{GU}(4, 2), k^\times)$  is zero. By Lemma 3.1 it is sufficient to compute its image in  $H^2(C_0, k^\times)$  where  $C_0 \simeq (C_2)^2$  is the image of the quaternion group  $Q_0 \subset \Gamma_5$  in  $\text{GU}(4, 2) \simeq C_3 \times \text{PSp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . We compute it explicitly as follows. Since  $k$  has characteristic 3, we can assume that  $k = \mathbb{F}_3$  and that the 16-dimensional representation  $\psi$  of  $Y_4$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_3$  by the matrix models given in Section 2.3. For  $x, y$  two generators of  $C_0 \subset \text{GU}(4, 2)$ , their actions on  $Y_4$  define twisted representations  $\psi_x = \psi \circ \text{Ad } x$ ,  $\psi_y = \psi \circ \text{Ad } y$  of  $Y_4$ , which provides intertwinners  $P_x, P_y \in \text{GL}_{16}(k)$  and a normalized cocycle. We check that they satisfy  $P_x P_y = P_y P_x$  and  $P_x^2 = P_y^2 = \text{Id}_{16}$ . From Lemma 3.2 it follows that this cocycle is a coboundary, which concludes (i).

We let  $U' = \text{SU}(4, 2) \subset \text{GU}(4, 2) = U$ . From the above and Proposition 3.3 we get that  $e_0kY_4 \rtimes U' \simeq \text{Mat}_{16}(k) \rtimes U'$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Mat}_{16}(k) \otimes kU'$ . If  $\rho : Q \rightarrow \text{GL}_{16}(k)$  denotes the restriction to  $Q \subset \text{GU}(4, 2)$  of the representation defined above,  $\mathbf{q}$  is mapped to  $M = \sum_{g \in Q} \rho(g) \otimes g \in \text{Mat}_{16}(k) \otimes kU'$  under this isomorphism. Then the ideal  $e_0kY_4U'\mathbf{q}Y_4U'$  of  $e_0kY_4U'$  is mapped to the ideal generated by  $M$  inside  $\text{Mat}_{16}(k) \otimes kU' \simeq \text{Mat}_{16}(kU')$ . Every ideal of  $\text{Mat}_{16}(kU')$  being isomorphic to  $\text{Mat}_{16}(I)$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $kU'$ , we get that this ideal is  $\text{Mat}_{16}(I)$  for  $I$  generated by the entries  $(m_{ij})$  of the matrix  $M$ . In order to compute it we need to explicitly lift the representation  $\bar{\rho} : Q \rightarrow \text{PGL}_{16}(k)$  afforded by the intertwinners to a linear representation  $\rho$ . It is clearly sufficient to lift the generators  $\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}$  of  $Q$ . Although any lifting will do, as  $k^\times = \{-1, 1\}$  hence the set of the  $\rho \otimes \chi$  for  $\chi$  a linear character of  $Q$  covers all the possible liftings of the generators, we find that the four possible liftings are not equivalent as representations of  $Q$ , hence only one is the restriction of the linear representation of  $U'$  providing the isomorphism. Nevertheless, computing the entries

of  $M$  in the four cases, we find that  $\mathbf{ij}(z - 1)$  belongs to all four possible vector subspaces of  $kQ$  spanned by the entries of  $M$ , where  $z = \mathbf{i}^2 = \mathbf{j}^2$ . It follows that  $z - 1$  belongs to  $I$ . Since  $U' = \mathrm{SU}(4, 2)$  is simple, the conjugates of  $z \in Q \subset U'$  generate  $U'$  hence  $I$  contains the augmentation ideal of  $kU'$ . As a consequence the quotient of  $e_0 kY_4 \rtimes U'$  by  $\mathbf{q}$  is either zero or isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Mat}_{16}(k)$ . Since the image of  $kU' \subset e_0 kY_4 \rtimes U'$  factorize through  $\mathrm{Mat}_{25}(k)$  it has to be 0. Since it generates  $(e_0 kY_4 \rtimes U')/(\mathbf{q})$  we get  $e_0 kY_4 U' = e_0 kY_4 U' \mathbf{q} Y_4 U'$ .  $\blacksquare$

**4.3.4. Case  $n \geq 7$ .** It suffices to show that  $\mathbf{q}$  generates  $k\Gamma_7$  as a two-sided ideal, to get the same in any  $k\Gamma_n$  for any  $n \geq 7$ . By the argument at the start of 4.3.3 above,  $z_5^3 - 1$  belong to the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{q}$  in  $k\Gamma_5$ , hence to the ideal generated by  $(\mathbf{q})$  in  $k\Gamma_7$ , and Theorem 2.2 (ii) then implies that  $kK_7$  is a quotient of  $k\mathrm{GU}_6(2)$  by the two-sided ideal generated by  $\mathbf{q} \in k\mathrm{SU}_4(2)$ .

Assume that  $kK_7 \neq 0$  and let  $S$  be a simple  $kK_7$ -module. We see it as a simple  $k\mathrm{GU}_6(2)$ -module such that  $\mathbf{q}S = 0$ . Since the restriction of  $S$  to  $\mathrm{SU}_4(2)$  is a module annihilated by  $\mathbf{q}$ , all its composition factors are isomorphic to the same 25-dimensional simple  $k\mathrm{SU}_4(2)$ -module. Its Brauer character  $\phi_S$  then satisfies  $\mathrm{Res}_{\mathrm{SU}_4(2)}^{\mathrm{GU}_6(2)} \phi_S = m \cdot \phi_{25}$  where  $m \geq 1$  is an integer and  $\phi_{25}$  is a Brauer 3-modular character of degree 25.

In the table of Brauer characters of  $\mathrm{GU}_6(2)$  (denoted by  $3.U_6(2).3$  in the notations of [AtMod]), it should then appear as a character of degree  $25m$  and with values in  $m\mathcal{O}$  for the classes of elements of  $\mathrm{SU}_4(2) \subset \mathrm{GU}_6(2)$  ( $\mathcal{O}$  denotes the ring of integers of the 3-adic ring of a splitting field of  $\mathrm{GU}_6(2)$ ).

Since the publication of [AtMod], this table has been computed and made available in GAP4 (package CTblLib 1.1.3), so we can check that only two characters match the condition on degree, and it is for  $m = 111$  and 154. But the condition on values is satisfied in neither case. (see table 1).

**4.4. Even characteristic.** Here we choose another equivalent description of  $K_n$  and introduce a new element  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{Z}\Gamma_3$  that will prove important to our study of characteristic 2.

**Definition 4.12.** *Let*

$$\mathbf{b} = s_1 s_2^{-1} + s_2^{-1} s_1 + s_1^{-1} s_2 + s_2 s_1^{-1}$$

Note that  $\mathbf{b} + s_1 s_2^{-1} \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{q}$ , and in particular  $(\mathbf{q}) \subset (\mathbf{b})$ .

In characteristic 2, we will not get a complete description of  $kK_n$ . This section is devoted to the description of  $kK_n$  for  $n \in \{3, 4\}$ , and to preliminary results on the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{b}$ . We will prove the following, letting  $z \mapsto \bar{z}$  denote the element  $z \mapsto z^2$  of  $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}_2}/\mathbb{F}_2)$ .

**Theorem 4.13.** *If  $k$  is a field of characteristic 2, then*

- (i)  $kK_3 \simeq k\Gamma_3/J(k\Gamma_3)^4 \simeq (kQ/J(kQ)^4) \rtimes C_3$ .
- (ii) *When  $k \supset \mathbb{F}_4$ ,  $kK_4 \simeq kK_3 \oplus \mathrm{Mat}_3(k\Gamma_3/I_q) \oplus \mathrm{Mat}_3(k\Gamma_3/\bar{I}_q)$  with  $I_q = M_q C_3 \subset k\Gamma_3$ ,  $M_q$  a 4-dimensional ideal of  $kQ$  with  $J(kQ)^3 \subset M_q \subset J(kQ)^2$ ,  $M_q + \bar{M}_q = J(kQ)^2$ .*

For  $n = 3$  this is a consequence of the following.

**Proposition 4.14.** *Keep  $k$  of characteristic 2. Then  $J(k\Gamma_3)^4 = (\mathbf{q}) \subset (\mathbf{b}) = J(k\Gamma_3)^3$ .*

```
gap> Display(CharacterTableFromLibrary("3.U6(2).3") mod 3);
3.U6(2).3mod3
```

	2	15	15	14	12	11	11	9	8	8	1	.	6	5	1	.	.
	3	8	6	4	4	5	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2
	5	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.
	7	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
	11	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
		1a	2a	2b	2c	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	5a	7a	8a	8b	10a	11a	11b
2P		1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	2a	2b	2b	2b	5a	7a	4b	4c	5a	11b	11a
3P		1a	2a	2b	2c	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	5a	7a	8a	8b	10a	11a	11b
5P		1a	2a	2b	2c	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	1a	7a	8a	8b	2a	11a	11b
7P		1a	2a	2b	2c	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	5a	1a	8a	8b	10a	11b	11a
11P		1a	2a	2b	2c	4a	4b	4c	4d	4e	5a	7a	8a	8b	10a	1a	1a
X.1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
X.2		21	-11	5	-3	5	-3	1	-3	1	1	.	1	-1	-1	-1	-1
X.3		210	50	2	-6	18	10	-2	2	-2	.	.	2	.	.	1	1
X.4		229	69	21	13	5	-3	1	5	1	-1	-2	-3	-1	-1	-2	-2
X.5		364	-84	12	-4	-4	12	4	-4	-4	-1	.	.	.	1	1	1
X.6		560	-80	-16	16	16	-16	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	-1	-1
X.7		2775	375	39	15	-57	15	-5	-9	3	.	3	3	1	.	3	3
X.8		1365	-235	53	-27	-11	5	-3	-3	5	.	.	-3	1	.	1	1
X.9		1540	260	4	-28	-12	-12	4	4	-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
X.10		10395	-1125	27	27	-69	27	-5	3	3	.	.	3	-1	.	.	.
X.11		3850	170	-38	2	26	34	-2	-6	6	.	.	-2	.	.	.	.
X.12		18711	-1161	-57	63	-9	15	3	-1	-5	1	.	-1	1	-1	.	.
X.13		18711	1431	87	-9	-9	-9	-9	-1	-1	1	.	-1	-1	1	.	.
X.14		25515	-405	-117	27	27	-21	3	3	3	.	.	-1	-1	.	A	/A
X.15		25515	-405	-117	27	27	-21	3	3	3	.	.	-1	-1	.	/A	A
X.16		40095	1215	-81	-9	-81	-9	3	-9	3	.	-1	3	1	.	.	.

A = -E(11)-E(11)^3-E(11)^4-E(11)^5-E(11)^9  
= (1-ER(-11))/2 = -b11

TABLE 1. Brauer character table for  $3.U_6(3).3$ , after GAP4

*Proof.* As before, we let  $z = (s_1 s_2)^3$ ,  $\mathbf{i} = s_2 s_1^{-1} z^{-1}$ ,  $s_2^2 s_1 = \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{ij} \in Q$ . We have  $\mathbf{b} = [s_1, s_2^2] + [s_1^2, s_2] = (\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{ij})(1 + z)$ , hence  $\sigma_{\mathbf{j}} = \sum_{x \in \langle \mathbf{j} \rangle} x = \mathbf{ib} \in (\mathbf{b})$  and similarly  $\sigma_{\mathbf{i}} = (\mathbf{ib})^{s_1^2}$ ,  $\sigma_{\mathbf{ij}} = (\mathbf{ib})^{s_1} \in (\mathbf{b})$ . Let  $K = k\sigma_{\mathbf{i}} \oplus k\sigma_{\mathbf{j}} \oplus k\sigma_{\mathbf{ij}} \subset kQ$ . It is easily checked to be a 2-sided ideal, stable under  $s_1$ -conjugation. Since  $Q$  is a 2-group, the Jacobson radical  $J(kQ)$  is the 7-dimensional augmentation ideal, and in particular  $1 + \mathbf{i} \in J(kQ)$ . By Jennings theorem (see [B2] thm. 3.14.6) one easily gets that  $\sum_{r \geq 0} t^r \dim_k J(kQ)^r / J(kQ)^{r+1} = 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 2t^3 + t^4$  hence  $J(kQ)^5 = 0$ ,  $\dim J(kQ)^4 = 1$ ,  $\dim J(kQ)^3 = 3$  and  $\dim J(kQ)^2 = 5$ . In particular  $J(kQ)^4$  coincides with the simple submodule  $k\mathbf{q}$ . We have  $\sigma_x = (1 + x)^3$  for  $x \in \{\mathbf{i}, \mathbf{j}, \mathbf{ij}\}$ , so  $K \subset J(kQ)^3$  hence  $K = J(kQ)^3$  by equality of dimensions. The ideal  $J(kQ)$  of  $kQ$  being stable under  $s_1$ -conjugation, we get that  $J(kQ)C_3 = C_3 J(kQ)$  is an ideal of  $k\Gamma_3 = kQ \rtimes C_3$  with  $(J(kQ)C_3)^5 = 0$  hence  $J(kQ)C_3 \subset J(k\Gamma_3)$ . We have  $\dim J(kQ)C_3 = 21$  and

$\dim J(k\Gamma_3) = 24 - 3 = 21$  because  $k\Gamma_3$  admits 3 simple 1-dimensional modules (when  $k \supset \mathbb{F}_4$ ), hence  $J(kQ)C_3 = J(k\Gamma_3)$ .

From  $J(kQ)C_3 = C_3J(kQ)$  and  $C_3C_3 = C_3$  we get that  $J(k\Gamma_3)^n = J(kQ)^nC_3$ . It follows that the ideal  $(\mathbf{b})$  in  $k\Gamma_3$  is  $KC_3 = J(kQ)^3C_3 = J(k\Gamma_3)^3$ , and the one generated by  $\mathbf{q}$  is  $k\mathbf{q}.C_3 = J(kQ)^4C_3 = J(k\Gamma_3)^4$ .  $\blacksquare$

We now consider the case  $n = 4$ . We let  $K$  denote the kernel of the natural morphism  $\Gamma_4 \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma_3$ . It is the extra-special group  $3^{1+2}$  with exponent 3. Generators are given by  $a = s_1s_3^{-1}, u = (s_1s_2^2s_1)^{-1}(s_3s_2^2s_3), \zeta = (s_1s_2s_3)^4 \in Z(\Gamma_4)$ , and we have  $(a, u) = auu^{-1}a^{-1} = \zeta$ . The action of  $\Gamma_3$  on  $K$  is given by  $s_1us_1^{-1} = au, s_2as_2^{-1} = u^{-1}\zeta a, (s_1, a) = (s_2, u) = (s_1, \zeta) = (s_2, \zeta) = 1$ .

We assume  $k \supset \mathbb{F}_4$ . The irreducible representations of  $K$  are defined over  $k$ . Choosing  $j \in \mathbb{F}_4 \setminus \mathbb{F}_2$ , an irreducible 3-dimensional representation  $R : K \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_3(\mathbb{F}_4)$  is given by

$$a \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ j & j^2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & j \end{pmatrix} \quad u \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \zeta \mapsto j^2$$

and another one is afforded by its Galois conjugate  $\bar{R}$ . Then  $kK = k^9 \oplus \mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \oplus \mathrm{Mat}_3(k)$ , and  $k\Gamma_4 = (k^9 \rtimes \Gamma_3) \oplus (\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes_R \Gamma_3) \oplus (\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes_{\bar{R}} \Gamma_3)$ . We will prove that  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3 \simeq \mathrm{Mat}_3(k\Gamma_3)$  and describe an explicit isomorphism. For  $g \in \Gamma_3$  we denote  $R^g : x \mapsto R(gxg^{-1})$ . From  $R^g \simeq R$  for every  $g \in \Gamma_3$  we get a projective representation  $\rho : \Gamma_3 \rightarrow \mathrm{PGL}_3(k)$ ; by explicit computations we check that this  $\rho$  can be lifted to a linear representation  $\tilde{\rho} : \Gamma_3 \rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_3(k)$  given by

$$s_1 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ j & j^2 & 0 \\ j & j & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad s_2 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} j^2 & 0 & j \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then, an explicit isomorphism  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3 \rightarrow \mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \otimes k\Gamma_3$  is given by  $1 \otimes g \mapsto \tilde{\rho}(g) \otimes g$ . The ideal generated by  $\mathbf{q} \in k\Gamma_3$  in  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3$  then corresponds to  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(I_q)$  with  $I_q$  the ideal generated in  $k\Gamma_3$  by the entries of  $\sum_{x \in Q} \rho(x)$ . By computer we find that  $I_q$  has dimension 12, and is generated by  $s_1^{-1}s_2s_1 + j^2s_1s_2^{-1}s_1 + j^2s_2s_1^{-1}s_2 + js_2^{-1}s_1^{-1} + j^2s_1^{-1}s_2^{-1}$ . We also check that  $I_q = M_qC_3$  with  $M_q$  the 4-dimensional ideal of  $kQ$  generated by  $1 + js_1s_2s_1 + j^2(s_1s_2)^3 + js_1s_2^{-1} + js_2^{-1}s_1$ , that  $J(kQ)^3 \subset M_q \subset J(kQ)^2$ .

Similarly, we get that the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3$  corresponds to  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(I_b)$  with  $I_b$  an ideal of dimension 21 that contains  $s_1^{-1}s_2 + 1$ . since  $(k\Gamma_3)/(s_1^{-1}s_2 + 1) = k(\Gamma_3/s_1^{-1}s_2) \simeq kC_3$  we get  $I_b = (s_1^{-1}s_2 + 1)$  and  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k\Gamma_3)/\mathrm{Mat}_3(I_b) \simeq \mathrm{Mat}_3(kC_3)$ .

**Lemma 4.15.** *The images of the elements  $r_1 = s_2s_3^2 + s_1^2s_2 + s_1s_2^2 + s_3s_1^2 + s_2^2s_3 + s_1s_3^2$  and  $r_2 = s_2^2s_3 + s_1 + s_2 + s_2s_3s_1^2 + s_2^2s_3s_1 + s_1^2s_3^2$  of  $k\Gamma_4$  inside  $\mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3$  lie inside the image of  $(\mathbf{b})$ .*

*Proof.* We first write  $r_1, r_2$  inside  $kK \rtimes \Gamma_3$ . We get  $r_1 = u^{-1}\zeta as_2s_1^2 + s_1^2s_2 + s_1s_2^2 + a^{-1} + au^{-1}as_2^2s_1 + a$  and  $r_2 = \zeta^{-1}uas_2^2s_1^2 + s_1 + s_2 + auas_2 + au^{-1}as_2^2s_1^2 + as_1$ . We need to prove that they map to 0 through the composite of the morphisms  $kK \rtimes \Gamma_3 \rightarrow \mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \rtimes \Gamma_3 \rightarrow \mathrm{Mat}_3(k) \otimes k\Gamma_3 \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{Mat}_3(kC_3)$ , that is that  $R(u^{-1}\zeta a)\tilde{\rho}(s_2s_1^2) + \tilde{\rho}(s_1^2s_2) + \tilde{\rho}(s_1s_2^2) + R(a^{-1}) + R(au^{-1}a)\tilde{\rho}(s_2^2s_1) + R(a) = 0$  and  $R(\zeta^{-1}ua)\tilde{\rho}(s_2^2s_1^2) + \tilde{\rho}(s_1) + \tilde{\rho}(s_2) + R(aua)\tilde{\rho}(s_2) + R(au^{-1}a)\tilde{\rho}(s_2^2s_1^2) + R(a)\tilde{\rho}(s_1) = 0$ . This follows from a straightforward computation.  $\blacksquare$



The case of the other 3-dimensional representations is similar and can moreover be deduced from the first one by Galois action : letting  $x \mapsto \bar{x}$  denote the nontrivial element of  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_4/\mathbb{F}_2)$ ,  $(\mathbf{q})$  corresponds to the ideal  $\overline{I_q} = \overline{M_q}C_3$ , and we check  $M_q + \overline{M_q} = J(kQ)^2$ .

We now turn to the 1-dimensional representations  $\rho_{\alpha,\beta} : K \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_4^\times$  defined by  $a \mapsto j^\alpha, u \mapsto j^\beta, \zeta \mapsto 1$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . We have  $\rho_{\alpha,\beta}^{s_1}(a) = j^\alpha, \rho_{\alpha,\beta}^{s_1}(u) = j^{\alpha+\beta}, \rho_{\alpha,\beta}^{s_2}(a) = j^{\alpha-\beta}, \rho_{\alpha,\beta}^{s_2}(u) = j^\beta$ . Identifying the possible  $(\alpha, \beta)$  with  $\mathbb{F}_3^2$ , the  $\Gamma_3$ -action on the classes of representations thus corresponds to the identification of  $\Gamma_3$  with  $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{F}_3)$  given by

$$s_1 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad s_2 \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

It follows that there are two orbits, of cardinalities 1 and 8. We have  $k^9 \rtimes \Gamma_3 = k\Gamma_3 \oplus k^{\Gamma_3/C} \rtimes \Gamma_3$  with  $C$  the stabilizer of a nonzero vector in  $\mathbb{F}_3^2$ .

We apply Proposition 3.4 with  $C = \langle s_1 \rangle$  and  $Q$  making a representative system of  $\Gamma_3/C$ . Then, under the isomorphism  $k^{\Gamma_3/C} \rtimes \Gamma_3 \simeq \text{Mat}_Q(kC_3)$ ,  $g \in Q$  is mapped to  $\sum_{u \in Q} E_{gu,u}$ . In particular,  $\mathbf{q} \in kQ$  is mapped to

$$\sum_{v \in Q} \sum_{u \in Q} E_{vu,u} = \sum_{u,v \in Q} E_{u,v}.$$

The ideal of  $k^{\Gamma_3/C} \rtimes \Gamma_3$  generated by  $\mathbf{q}$  is then mapped to  $\text{Mat}_8(I)$  for  $I$  the ideal of  $kC_3$  generated by 1, hence is the full block  $k^{\Gamma_3/C} \rtimes \Gamma_3$ . Since  $\mathbf{q} \in (\mathbf{b})$ , the same holds for the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{b}$ .

**Proposition 4.16.** *The elements  $r_1, r_2 \in k\Gamma_4$  of Lemma 4.15 belong to the 2-sided ideal generated by  $\mathbf{b}$ .*

*Proof.* We showed that  $k\Gamma_4/(\mathbf{b})$  is isomorphic to  $(k\Gamma_3/(\mathbf{b})) \oplus \text{Mat}_3(kC_3) \oplus \text{Mat}_3(kC_3)$ . The images of  $r_1, r_2$  in both  $\text{Mat}_3(kC_3)$  is 0 by Lemma 4.15, and it is readily checked that  $r_1 \mapsto \mathbf{b}$  and  $r_2 \mapsto 0$  through  $k\Gamma_4 \twoheadrightarrow k\Gamma_3$ . The conclusion follows.  $\blacksquare$

**4.5. A finer description of  $K_5$  as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.** Similar algorithms as the ones used in the proof of proposition 4.6 enabled us, using several months of CPU time, to determine the structure of  $(\mathbb{Z}/32\mathbb{Z})K_5$  as a  $(\mathbb{Z}/32\mathbb{Z})$ -module. Combined with our study of odd characteristic, this implies the following.

**Proposition 4.17.** *As a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module,  $K_5 \simeq (K_5^0)^3$  with*

$$K_5^0 \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{744} \times (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})^{38} \times (\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z})^{80} \times (\mathbb{Z}/16\mathbb{Z}) \times G$$

where  $G$  is an abelian 3-group with  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_3} G \otimes \mathbb{F}_3 = 25^2 = 625$ .

## 5. A TERNARY HECKE ALGEBRA IN CHARACTERISTIC 2

We assume that  $k$  is a field of characteristic 2 with  $k \supset \mathbb{F}_4 = \{0, 1, j, j^2\}$ . Recall that  $\mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{q}$  are defined in Definitions 4.12 and 4.1.

**Definition 5.1.** *For  $\alpha, \beta \in k$ , and  $n \geq 3$ , we define the following.*

*Let  $J_n(\alpha, \beta) = k\Gamma_n \cdot (s_1 - \alpha)(s_1 - \beta) \cdot k\Gamma_n$*

*Let  $H_n(\alpha, \beta) = k\Gamma_n / J_n(\alpha, \beta)$ .*

*Let  $J_n = J_n(1, j) \cap J_n(1, j^2) \cap J_n(j, j^2)$ .*

The aim of this section is essentially to prove the following. In particular, we see that  $kK_n$  never collapses and actually has dimension  $\geq 3(n! - 1)$ . Recall that  $\mathbf{q} \in k\Gamma_n \cdot \mathbf{b} \cdot k\Gamma_n$  (see Proposition 4.14)

**Theorem 5.2.** *Let  $n \geq 3$ . Then  $J_n = k\Gamma_n \cdot \mathbf{b} \cdot k\Gamma_n$  as a 2-sided ideal of  $k\Gamma_n$  and  $k\Gamma_n/J_n$  has dimension  $3(n! - 1)$ .*

Notice that  $J_n(\alpha, \beta)$  contains  $(s_i - \alpha)(s_i - \beta)$  for arbitrary  $1 \leq i < n$ .

**Lemma 5.3.** *Assume  $n \geq 3$ . We have  $I_n \subset J_n(\alpha, \beta)$  whenever  $\alpha^3 = \beta^3 = 1$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ .*

*Proof.* We need to show that  $\mathbf{c} \equiv 0$  modulo  $J_n(\alpha, \beta)$ . From  $s_1^2 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_1 - \alpha\beta$  we get  $s_2s_1^2s_2 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_2s_1s_2 - \alpha\beta s_2^2 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_2s_1s_2 - \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)s_2 + (\alpha\beta)^2$  and symmetrically  $s_1s_2^2s_1 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)s_1 + (\alpha\beta)^2$ , thus  $s_1s_2^2s_1 + s_2s_1^2s_2 = 2(\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)(s_1 + s_2) + 2\alpha^2\beta^2$ . From the same equation we get  $s_1^2s_2s_1 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta s_2s_1$  and  $s_1s_2s_1^2 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta s_1s_2$  hence  $s_1^2s_2s_1 + s_1s_2s_1^2 \equiv 2\alpha\beta s_1s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta(s_1s_2 + s_2s_1)$ . Finally  $s_1^2s_2^2 \equiv ((\alpha + \beta)s_1 - \alpha\beta)((\alpha + \beta)s_2 - \alpha\beta) \equiv (\alpha + \beta)^2s_1s_2 - \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)(s_1 + s_2) + (\alpha\beta)^2$  and symmetrically  $s_2^2s_1^2 \equiv (\alpha + \beta)^2s_2s_1 - \alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)(s_1 + s_2) + (\alpha\beta)^2$ . Altogether this yields

$$\mathbf{c} \equiv 4(\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 + ((\alpha + \beta)^2 - \alpha\beta)(s_2s_1 + s_1s_2) + (1 - 3\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta))(s_1 + s_2) + 4\alpha^2\beta^2.$$

Since  $(\alpha + \beta)^2 - \alpha\beta = \alpha^2 + \alpha\beta + \beta^2 = 0$  and  $\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta) = (\beta/\alpha) + (\alpha/\beta) = -1$  we get  $\mathbf{c} \equiv 4(\alpha + \beta)s_1s_2s_1 + 4(s_1 + s_2) + 4\alpha^2\beta^2$ . Since  $4 = 0$  this concludes the proof.  $\blacksquare$

Recall  $J_n = J_n(1, j) \cap J_n(1, j^2) \cap J_n(j, j^2)$ . From the above lemma,  $J_n \supset I_n$  and obviously  $kK_n$  surjects onto  $k\Gamma_n/J_n$ , while  $k\Gamma_n/J_n$  embeds into  $H_n(1, j) \times H_n(1, j^2) \times H_n(j, j^2)$ .

In order to deal with quotients of an intersection of three ideals we will need, here and later on, the following two lemmas.

**Lemma 5.4.** *Let  $A$  be a (possibly non-commutative) unital ring,  $I_1, I_2, I_3$  three 2-sided ideals, such that  $A = I_1 + I_2 + I_3$ . Then  $I_1 + I_2 \cap I_3 = (I_1 + I_2) \cap (I_1 + I_3)$ .*

*Proof.* Denote  $I = (I_1 + I_2) \cap (I_1 + I_3)$ . Then the inclusion  $I_1 + (I_2 \cap I_3) \subseteq I$  is trivial. On the other hand, we have  $I = I(I_1 + I_2 + I_3) = I(I_1 + I_2) + I.I_3 \subseteq (I_1 + I_3).(I_1 + I_2) + (I_1 + I_2).I_3 \subseteq I_1 + I_3I_2 + I_2I_3 \subseteq I_1 + (I_2 \cap I_3)$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 5.5.** *Let  $A$  be an abelian group,  $I, J, K$  subgroups of  $A$  with  $I + J + K = A$ . We define morphisms*

$$A/I \cap J \cap K \xrightarrow{d_1} A/I \times A/J \times A/K \xrightarrow{d_2} A/(J + K) \times A/(I + K) \times A/(I + J)$$

where  $d_2$  is induced by  $(a, b, c) \mapsto (b - c, a - c, a - b)$  and  $d_1$  is the natural (injective) map. Then  $d_2 \circ d_1 = 0$ ,  $d_2$  is surjective and  $\text{Ker } d_2 / \text{Im } d_1 \simeq (K + I) \cap (K + J) / K + I \cap J$ .

*Proof.*  $d_2 \circ d_1 = 0$  is clear.  $\text{Im } d_2$  contains  $A/(I + J) = 0 \times 0 \times A/(I + J)$ , as  $A/(I + J) = (I + J + K)/(I + J)$  is clearly  $d_2(K/I \times 0 \times 0)$ , where  $K/I$  denotes the image of  $K$  in  $A/I$ , hence  $d_2$  is surjective by symmetry. An element of  $\text{Ker } d_2$  is the class of a triple  $(a, b, c) \in A^3$  with  $a - b = i + j$ ,  $b - c = j' + k$ ,  $a - c = i' + k'$  for some  $i, i' \in I$ ,  $j, j' \in J$ ,  $k, k' \in K$ , hence of a  $(a - i, b + j, c) = (a', a', c)$  with  $a' = a - i = b + j$ . One has  $a' - c = b - c + j = a - i - c \in (K + I) \cap (K + J)$ . Conversely, the class of any  $(a, a, c)$  with  $a - c \in (K + I) \cap (K + J)$  belongs to  $\text{Ker } d_2$ .

On the other hand, such a triple  $(a, a, c)$  originates from  $A$  iff there exists  $i \in I$ ,  $j \in J$ ,  $k \in K$  such that  $a + i = a + j = c + k$ , which means  $c \in K + I \cap J$ . This proves  $\text{Ker } d_2 / \text{Im } d_1 \simeq (K + I) \cap (K + J) / (K + I \cap J)$  under  $(a, a, c) \mapsto a - c$ .  $\blacksquare$



$$(iv) \ U_{n+1} = U_n + U_n s_n U_n + U_2 s_n^2$$

*Proof.* Item (i) is a consequence of  $\mathbf{q} \in (\mathbf{b})$  by Proposition 4.2.

We now prove (ii). One has  $s_2^2 s_1 = s_1 s_2^2 + s_1^2 s_2 + s_2 s_1^2 + \mathbf{b}$ . By (1),  $U_{n+1}$  is spanned by  $U_n$ ,  $U_n s_n U_n$  and the  $w_1 s_n^2 w_2$  for  $w_1, w_2$  positive words in the  $s_i$  for  $i \leq n-1$ . We let  $l(w_2)$  denote the length of  $w_2$  with respect to these generators. If, as a word,  $w_2 = s_r w'_2$  with  $r \leq n-2$ , then  $w_1 s_n^2 w_2 = w_1 s_n^2 s_r w'_2 = w_1 s_r s_n^2 w'_2$  with  $l(w'_2) < l(w_2)$ . If  $w_2 = 1$  is the empty word, then  $w_1 s_n^2 w_2 \in U_n s_n^2$ . Otherwise, we have  $w_2 = s_{n-1} w'_2$ . By conjugating  $\mathbf{b}$ , we get  $s_n^2 s_{n-1} \equiv s_{n-1} s_n^2 + s_{n-1}^2 s_n + s_n s_{n-1}^2 \pmod{(\mathbf{b})}$  hence

$$w_1 s_n^2 s_{n-1} w'_2 \equiv w_1 s_{n-1} s_n^2 w'_2 + w_1 s_{n-1}^2 s_n w'_2 + w_1 s_n s_{n-1}^2 w'_2 \pmod{(\mathbf{b})}$$

On the other hand,  $l(w'_2) < l(w_2)$  and  $w_1 s_{n-1}^2 s_n w'_2 + w_1 s_n s_{n-1}^2 w'_2 \in U_n s_n U_n$ , so we can conclude by induction on the length of  $w_2$ .

We first note that (iii) is trivial for  $n = 2$ , so we assume  $n \geq 3$ . It is also trivial for  $r = 0$ , so we can assume  $r \in \{1, 2\}$ . We first deal with the case  $t = 0$ . We let  $V_n = U_n + U_n s_n$  and we use that, in  $k\Gamma_4/(\mathbf{b})$ ,  $s_2 s_3^2 = (s_1^2 s_2 + s_1 s_2^2) + (s_1^2 s_3 + s_2^2 s_3) + s_1 s_3^2$  and  $s_2^2 s_3^2 = (s_1 + s_2) + (s_2 s_1^2 s_3 + s_2^2 s_1 s_3) + s_1^2 s_3^2$  (see Proposition 4.16). Here and in the following, all congruences are modulo additive subgroups. By conjugation we thus get  $s_{n-1} s_n^2 \equiv (s_{n-2}^2 s_{n-1} + s_{n-2} s_{n-1}^2) + (s_n s_{n-2}^2 + s_{n-1}^2 s_n) + s_{n-2} s_n^2 \pmod{(\mathbf{b})}$  whenever  $n \geq 3$ , and in particular  $s_{n-1} s_n^2 \equiv s_{n-2} s_n^2$  modulo  $V_n$  and also  $s_{n-1}^2 s_n^2 \equiv s_{n-2}^2 s_n^2$  modulo  $V_n$ . We need to prove that  $s_k^r s_n^2 \equiv s_1^r s_n^2 \pmod{V_n}$  for all  $k < n$  and  $r \in \{1, 2\}$ , or, equivalently, that  $s_k^r s_n^2 \equiv s_{k+1}^r s_n^2 \pmod{V_n}$  for all  $k < n-1$  and  $r \in \{1, 2\}$ . We prove this by decreasing induction, the case  $k = n-2$  being already known. Let now  $k < n-2$ . Notice that  $V_n$  is both a left  $U_n$ -module and a  $U_{n-1}$ -bimodule. Modulo  $V_n$ , we have by the induction hypothesis and the commutation relations that  $s_{k+1}^a s_k^b s_n^2 \equiv s_{k+1}^a s_n^2 s_k^b \equiv s_{k+2}^a s_n^2 s_k^b \equiv s_k^b s_{k+2}^a s_n^2 \equiv s_k^b s_{k+1}^a s_n^2$  for all  $a, b \in \{1, 2\}$ . On the other hand,  $s_k s_{k+1} s_k = s_{k+1} s_k s_{k+1}$  hence  $s_k s_{k+1} s_k s_n^2 \equiv s_k^2 s_{k+1} s_n^2 \equiv s_{k+1} s_k^2 s_n^2$  is equal modulo  $V_n$  to  $s_{k+1} s_k s_{k+1} s_n^2 \equiv s_{k+1}^2 s_k s_n^2$ . Multiplying on the left by  $s_k^{-1} s_{k+1}^{-1}$  we thus get  $s_k s_n^2 \equiv s_k^{-1} s_{k+1} s_k s_n^2 \equiv s_k^{-1} s_k s_{k+1} s_n^2 \equiv s_{k+1} s_n^2$  hence the conclusion for  $t = 0$ . For arbitrary  $t$ , we then have  $s_k^r s_1^t s_n^2 \equiv s_k^r s_k^t s_n^2 \equiv s_k^{r+t} s_n^2 \equiv s_1^{r+t} s_n^2$ .

Notice that (ii) and (iv) are the same statement for  $n = 2$ , so we can again assume  $n \geq 3$ . Since  $U_n + U_n s_n \subset U_n + U_n s_n U_n$ , (iii) implies  $U_n s_n^2 \subset U_2 s_n^2 + U_n + U_n s_n U_n$  hence (iv) follows from (ii). ■

For  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , we let  $s_{n,k} = s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{n-k+1}$  with the convention that  $s_{n,0} = 1$  and  $s_{n,1} = s_n$ . We let  $U_n^k = U_n s_{n,k}$  (hence  $U_n^0 = U_n$ ). Similarly, we let  $x_{n,k} = s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{n-k+2} s_{n-k+1}^2$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , with the convention  $x_{n,1} = s_n^2$ .

**Lemma 5.12.** (i) *If  $r \leq n-1$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $c \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , then  $s_r s_1^c x_{n,k} \in s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k} + U_n^0 + \dots + U_n^k$ .*

(ii) *For  $w \in \Gamma_n$ ,  $w x_{n,k} \in s_1^{l(w)} x_{n,k} + U_n^0 + \dots + U_n^n$ , where  $l : \Gamma_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$  is  $s_i \mapsto 1$ .*

*Proof.* We first deal with (i). Notice that the statement is trivial for  $n \leq 2$ , so we can assume  $n \geq 3$  and in particular  $s_1 s_n = s_n s_1$ . We prove the statement by induction on  $k$ , for all  $n$ . The case  $k = 1$  being known by the previous lemma, we can assume  $k \geq 2$ . Let  $r \leq n-1$ . We first consider the case  $r \leq n-2$ . Then  $s_r s_1^c x_{n,k} = s_r s_1^c s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{n-k+1}^2 = s_n s_r s_1^c s_{n-1} \dots s_{n-k+1}^2 = s_n s_r s_1^c x_{n-1,k-1}$ . By the induction hypothesis we have  $s_r s_1^c x_{n-1,k-1} \equiv s_1^{c+1} x_{n-1,k-1}$  modulo

$U_{n-1}^0 + \dots + U_{n-1}^{k-1}$  hence  $s_n s_r s_1^c x_{n-1,k-1} \equiv s_n s_1^{c+1} x_{n-1,k-1}$  modulo  $s_n U_{n-1}^0 + \dots + s_n U_{n-1}^{k-1}$ . Noticing that  $s_n U_{n-1}^j = s_n U_{n-1} s_{n-1,j} = U_{n-1} s_n s_{n-1,j} = U_{n-1} s_{n,j+1} \subset U_n s_{n,j+1}$  we get that  $s_n s_r s_1^c x_{n-1,k-1} \equiv s_n s_1^{c+1} x_{n-1,k-1} \equiv s_1^{c+1} s_n x_{n-1,k-1} \equiv s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k}$  modulo  $U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^k$ .

We now consider the case  $r = n - 1$ . For clarity, we let  $b = n - k + 1$ . Then, using  $s_{b+1} s_b^2 = s_{b+1}^2 s_b + s_b s_{b+1}^2 + s_b^2 s_{b+1}$ , we get that  $s_{n-1} s_1^c x_{n,k} = A + B + C$  with

$$\begin{cases} A &= s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_{b+1}^2 s_b \\ B &= s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_b s_{b+1}^2 \\ C &= s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_b^2 s_{b+1} \end{cases}$$

First note that  $C = s_{n-1} s_1^c s_b^2 s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_{b+1} \in U_n s_{n,k-1} = U_n^{k-1}$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $A = (s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_{b+1}^2) s_b$  is congruent to  $(s_1^{c+1} s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_{b+1}^2) s_b = s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k-1} s_b$  modulo  $(U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^{k-1}) s_b \subset U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^{k-2} + U_n^k$ . Now  $s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k-1} s_b = s_1^{c+1} s_{n,k-2} s_{b+1}^2 s_b$  and using again  $s_{b+1}^2 s_b = s_{b+1} s_b^2 + s_b s_{b+1}^2 + s_b^2 s_{b+1}$  we get that

$$s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k-1} s_b = s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k} + s_1^{c+1} s_n \dots s_{b+2} s_b s_{b+1}^2 + s_1^{c+1} s_n \dots s_{b+2} s_b^2 s_{b+1}.$$

We have  $s_1^{c+1} s_n \dots s_{b+2} s_b^2 s_{b+1} = s_1^{c+1} s_b^2 s_n s_{n-1} \dots s_{b+2} s_{b+1} \in U_n^{k-1}$ . Moreover,  $s_1^{c+1} s_n \dots s_{b+2} s_b s_{b+1}^2 = s_1^{c+1} s_b x_{n,k-1}$ , and by the induction hypothesis, we have  $s_b x_{n,k-1} \in s_1 x_{n,k-1} + U_n + \dots + U_n^{k-1}$ . Hence  $A \in s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k} + s_1^{c+2} x_{n,k-1} + U_n + \dots + U_n^k$ .

We now consider  $B$ . We have  $s_b s_{b+1}^2 \in s_1 s_{b+1}^2 + U_{b+1} + U_{b+1} s_{b+1}$  by Lemma 5.11. Moreover  $s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n \dots s_{b+2} U_{b+1} = s_{n-1} U_{b+1} s_n \dots s_{b+2} \subset U_n s_n \dots s_{b+2}$  and similarly  $s_{n-1} s_1^c s_n \dots s_{b+2} U_{b+1} s_{b+1} \subset U_n s_n \dots s_{b+1}$ , hence  $B \in s_{n-1} s_1^c \dots s_{b+2} s_1 s_{b+1}^2 + U_n^{k-2} + U_n^{k-1}$  i.e.  $B \in s_{n-1} s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k-1} + U_n^{k-2} + U_n^{k-1} \subset s_1^{c+2} x_{n,k-1} + U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^{k-1}$  by the induction hypothesis. Altogether this yields  $A + B + C \in s_1^{c+1} x_{n,k} + U_n + \dots + U_n^k$  and the conclusion for (i).

Part (ii) is an immediate consequence of (i), as we have  $s_r x_{n,k} \equiv s_1 x_{n,k}$  and  $s_r^2 x_{n,k} \equiv s_r s_r x_{n,k} \equiv s_r s_1 x_{n,k} \equiv s_1^2 x_{n,k}$  modulo  $U_n^0 + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^n$  whenever  $r < n$ , and the  $s_r$  for  $r < n$  generate  $\Gamma_n$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Proposition 5.13.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $\dim U_n = 3(n! - 1)$  and*

$$U_{n+1} = U_n \oplus U_n^1 \oplus \dots \oplus U_n^n \oplus U_2 x_{n,1} \oplus \dots \oplus U_2 x_{n,n}$$

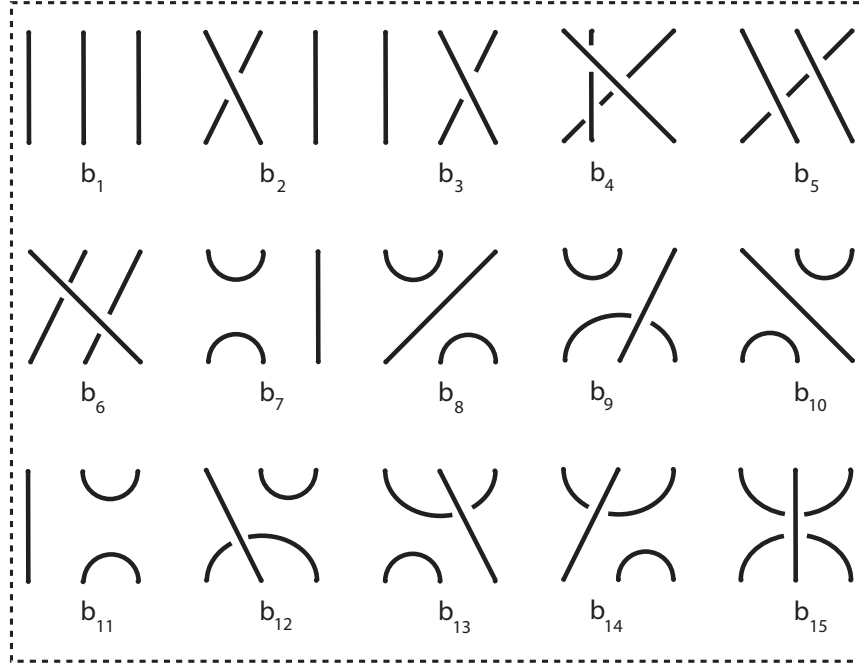
*Proof.* We first prove that  $U_{n+1} = U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^n + U_2 x_{n,1} + \dots + U_2 x_{n,n}$  by induction on  $n$ . Assuming this to be true for  $n$ , we have  $U_{n+2} = U_{n+1} + U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_{n+1} + U_2 x_{n+1,1}$  by Lemma 5.11, and

$$U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_{n+1} \subset U_{n+1} s_{n+1} (U_n + \dots + U_n^n) + U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_2 x_{n,1} + \dots + U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_2 x_{n,n}.$$

But, for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_n^k = U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_n s_{n,k} = U_{n+1} U_n s_{n+1} s_{n,k} = U_{n+1}^{k+1}$  and  $U_{n+1} s_{n+1} U_2 x_{n,k} \subset U_{n+1} s_{n+1} x_{n,k} = U_{n+1} x_{n+1,k+1}$ . Therefore  $U_{n+2} \subset \sum_{k=1}^n U_{n+1} x_{n+1,k+1} + \sum_{k=1}^n U_2 x_{n+1,k}$ . On the other hand,  $U_{n+1} x_{n+1,k+1} \subset U_2 x_{n+1,k+1} + U_{n+1} + \dots + U_{n+1}^{n+1}$  by Lemma 5.12. It follows that  $U_{n+2} \subset U_{n+1} + U_{n+1}^1 + \dots + U_{n+1}^{n+1} + U_2 x_{n+1,1} + \dots + U_2 x_{n+1,n+1}$  and we conclude by induction.

We then prove that  $\dim U_n \leq 3(n! - 1)$ , again by induction on  $n$ . Since  $U_{n+1} = U_n + U_n^1 + \dots + U_n^n + U_2 x_{n,1} + \dots + U_2 x_{n,n}$ , we get  $\dim U_{n+1} \leq (n+1) \dim U_n + 3n \leq 3(n+1)! - 3(n+1) + 3n = 3((n+1)! - 1)$ .

Finally, since  $U_n$  maps onto  $\mathcal{H}_n$  we know  $\dim U_n \geq 3(n! - 1)$  hence  $\dim U_n = 3(n! - 1)$ . It follows that all inequalities above are equalities and the sum is direct, which concludes the proof.  $\blacksquare$

FIGURE 1. Basis for  $BW_3$ 

$1 \mapsto b_1$	$s_1 s_2^{-1} \mapsto b_2 + b_6 + b_8 + b_{11} + b_{14}$
$s_1^{-1} s_2 \mapsto b_3 + b_6 + b_7 + b_8 + b_9$	$s_2 s_1^{-1} \mapsto b_3 + b_5 + b_{13}$
$s_2^{-1} s_1 \mapsto b_2 + b_5 + b_{12}$	$s_1 s_2 s_1 \mapsto b_4$
$s_1^{-1} s_2^{-1} s_1^{-1} \mapsto b_2 + b_3 + b_4 + b_5 + b_6 + b_9 + b_{10} + b_{14} + b_{15}$	
$s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2^{-1} s_1 \mapsto b_1 + b_2 + b_3 + b_5 + b_6 + b_7 + b_{10} + b_{11} + b_{12} + b_{13} + b_{15}$	

TABLE 2. The map  $\mathbb{F}_4 Q_8 \twoheadrightarrow BW_3$ 

$b_1 s = b_2$	$b_2 s = b_1 + b_2 + b_7$	$b_3 s = b_5$
$b_4 s = b_4 + b_6 + b_{10}$	$b_5 s = b_3 + b_5 + b_{13}$	$b_6 s = b_4$
$b_7 s = b_7$	$b_8 s = b_9$	$b_9 s = b_7 + b_8 + b_9$
$b_{10} s = b_{10}$	$b_{11} s = b_{12}$	$b_{12} s = b_{10} + b_{11} + b_{12}$
$b_{13} s = b_{13}$	$b_{14} s = b_{15}$	$b_{15} s = b_{13} + b_{14} + b_{15}$

TABLE 3. Multiplication by  $s$  in  $BW_3$ 

## 6. A TERNARY BIRMAN-WENZL ALGEBRA

**6.1. Birman-Wenzl algebras.** If  $k$  is a ring and  $x, \lambda, q \in k^\times$ ,  $\delta \in k$  with  $\delta = q - q^{-1}$ , and  $x\delta = \delta - \lambda + \lambda^{-1}$  the Birman-Wenzl algebra  $BW_n$  is defined by generators  $s_1^\pm, \dots, s_{n-1}^\pm$ ,  $e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}$  and relations

(i)  $s_i s_{i+1} s_i = s_{i+1} s_i s_{i+1}$

- (ii)  $s_i s_j = s_j s_i$  for  $|j - i| \geq 2$
- (iii)  $e_i s_{i-1}^{\pm 1} e_i = \lambda^{\mp 1} e_i$
- (iv)  $s_i - s_i^{-1} = \delta(1 - e_i)$
- (v)  $s_i e_j = e_j s_i$  for  $|j - i| \geq 2$
- (vi)  $e_i e_j = e_j e_i$  for  $|j - i| \geq 2$
- (vii)  $s_i e_i = e_i s_i = \lambda e_i$
- (viii)  $s_i s_j e_i = e_j e_i = e_j s_i s_j$  for  $|j - i| = 1$
- (ix)  $e_i^2 = x e_i$
- (x)  $e_i e_{i \pm 1} e_i = e_i$ .

It is a free  $k$ -module of dimension  $(2n - 1)(2n - 3) \dots 3 \cdot 1$ , isomorphic to Kaufmann's tangle algebra (see [MW]). In case  $\delta$  is invertible, the  $e_i$  can be expressed in terms of the  $s_i$ . This algebra can then be described as the quotient of the group algebra  $kB_n$  with relations (3), (7), (8), (9), (10) where  $e_i$  is defined as  $1 - \delta^{-1}(s_i - s_i^{-1})$ . Relation (7) is then equivalent to (7') :  $(s_i - \lambda)(s_i + q^{-1})(s_i - q) = 0$ , and a straightforward calculation shows that it implies (9). Now notice that the pair  $(s_i, s_{i+1})$  is conjugated in  $B_n$  to the pair  $(s_{i+1}, s_i)$ , hence (3) can be rewritten as  $e_i s_j^{\pm 1} e_i = \lambda^{\mp 1} e_i$  whenever  $|j - i| = 1$ . Then (10) is easily seen to be a consequence of (3) and (9), hence of (3) and (7). The relation (8) can be shown to be implied by (3) and (7') (see [We] §3). Finally, note that conjugation in the braid groups shows that (3) is equivalent to (3') :  $e_1 s_2^{\pm 1} e_1 = \lambda^{\mp 1} e_1$ .

A natural quotient of  $BW_n$  is obtained by adding the relation  $e_i = 0$ , or equivalently  $s_i - s_i^{-1} = \delta$ . This quotient is naturally isomorphic to the Hecke algebra  $kB_n / (s_i - q)(s_i + q^{-1})$ .

We now specialize to the specific instance we are interested in, by taking  $k = \mathbb{F}_4$ ,  $q = j \in \mathbb{F}_4 \setminus \mathbb{F}_2$  hence  $\delta = 1$ , and  $x = 1$ . Then relation (7') is  $s_i^3 = 1$ , which means that  $BW_n$  is the quotient of  $k\Gamma_n$  by the relations (3'), which we split as the two relations  $(3'_\pm) : e_1 s_2^{\pm 1} e_1 = e_1$ . It can be checked (e.g. by computer) that the ideals generated by  $(3'_+)$  and  $(3'_-)$  have dimension 8 in  $k\Gamma_3$ , while their sum has dimension 9, as is known by  $\dim BW_3 = 15$ . Note that the relations  $(3'_\pm)$  can also be rewritten in our case  $e_1(s_2^{\pm 1} + 1)e_1 = 0$ .

**Definition 6.1.** Let  $r_w^{\pm} = e_1(s_2^{\pm 1} + 1)e_1 \in k\Gamma_3$ , that is, writing  $\Gamma_3 = Q_8 \rtimes C_3$ ,

$$\begin{cases} r_w^+ &= (1 + \mathbf{i}z + \mathbf{j}z + \mathbf{k}z)(1 + s + s^2) \\ r_w^- &= (1 + \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})(1 + s + s^2) \end{cases}$$

We notice for future use that the three 1-dimensional representations of  $k\Gamma_n$  factor through  $BW_n$ . Indeed, the two non-trivial ones factor through the Hecke algebra  $H_n(j, j^2)$ , which is a quotient of  $BW_n$ , while  $BW_n$  admits the representation  $s_i \mapsto 1$ ,  $e_i \mapsto 1$ , which induces the trivial representation of  $\Gamma_n$ .

**6.2. Another quotient of  $K_n$  in characteristic 2.** We use the representation of  $BW_n$  in terms of tangles, taking for convention that the product  $xy$  of the tangles  $x$  and  $y$  is obtained by putting  $y$  below  $x$ . Following [MW], a basis for  $BW_n$  is given by a basis of the algebra of Brauer diagrams and an arbitrary choice of over and under crossings. The basis chosen for  $BW_3$  is pictured in figure 1, with  $s_1 = s = b_2$ ; the morphism  $kQ_8 \rightarrow BW_3$  and the multiplication on the right by  $s = b_2$  are tabulated in tables 2 and 3, respectively.

Let  $\varphi \in \text{Aut}(kB_n)$  be defined by  $\varphi(s_i) = js_i$ . It induces an automorphism of  $k\Gamma_n$  of order 3, and  $\varphi^3 = \text{Id}$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}_1^n$  be the kernel of  $k\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow BW_n$ , namely the ideal  $(3'_+) + (3'_-)$ . We have  $\varphi(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q}$ , and we let  $\mathcal{B}_j^n = \varphi(\mathcal{B}_1^n)$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_{j^2}^n = \varphi^2(\mathcal{B}_1^n)$ ,

**Proposition 6.2.** (i) The natural morphism  $k\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow BW_n$  factors through  $K_n$

- (ii) When  $n = 3$ , its kernel is contained in  $J(k\Gamma_3)$
- (iii) We have  $\mathbf{q} \in \mathcal{B}^n = \mathcal{B}_1^n \cap \mathcal{B}_j^n \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}^n$
- (iv)  $(\mathbf{q}) = \mathcal{B}^3$
- (v)  $1 + z_3 \in \mathcal{B}_+ = \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}$
- (vi)  $k\Gamma_n/\mathcal{B}_+ = kC_3$  for  $n \geq 5$ .
- (vii) For  $n = 3$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_+ = J(kQ_8)^2 C_3 = J(k\Gamma_3)^2$ .

*Proof.* Part (i) means that  $q$  is mapped to 0, which can be checked on table 2. Part (ii) is because  $k\Gamma_3$  has only 3 simple representations, all coming from  $BW_n$ , hence all annihilated by the kernel. Part (iii) follows from  $\varphi(\mathbf{q}) = \mathbf{q}$ . For part (iv), notice that  $\mathcal{B}^3$  is stabilized by  $\varphi$ , hence  $\mathcal{B}^3 = I_1 \oplus I_j \oplus I_{j^2}$  with  $I_\alpha = \text{Ker}(\varphi - \alpha)$ , as  $\text{char}.k \neq 3$ . On the other hand,  $k\Gamma_3 = \bigoplus_{i=0}^2 (kQ_8)s^i$  and  $\varphi(s^i) = j^i s^i$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}^3$  is an ideal,  $I_j = I_1 s, I_{j^2} = I_1 s^2$ , hence  $\mathcal{B}_3 = I_1 \rtimes C_3$  with  $I_1$  an ideal of  $kQ_8$ . This ideal is the kernel of the natural map  $kQ_8 \rightarrow BW_3$ , and it is easy to determine from table 2. We find  $I_1 = k\mathbf{q}$ , hence (iv). In  $Q_8$ , we have  $1 + z = (1 + z\mathbf{i} + z\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k}) + z(1 + \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k})$ , hence  $(1 + z)S \in \mathcal{B}_0$  with  $S = 1 + s + s^2$ . Since  $S, \varphi(S), \varphi^2(S)$  span  $kC_3$ , we have  $1 + z \in \mathcal{B}_+$ , which proves (v). We have  $\Gamma_5 = \Gamma_5^0 \rtimes C_3$ , with  $\Gamma_5^0$  the normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_5$  generated by  $z_3$ . Since  $\mathcal{B}_+$  is invariant under  $\varphi$ , we have  $\mathcal{B}_+ = I \rtimes C_3$  with  $I \subset k\Gamma_5^0$ . Now  $1 + z_3 \in \mathcal{B}_+$  hence  $1 + z_3 \in I$ , and  $k\Gamma_5^0/I = k(\Gamma_5^0 / \langle\langle z_3 \rangle\rangle) = k$ . The ideal  $I$  is then the augmentation ideal of  $k\Gamma_5^0$ ,  $k\Gamma_5^0/\mathcal{B}_+ = kC_3$ . This implies  $k\Gamma_n/\mathcal{B}_+ = kC_3$  for all  $n \geq 5$ , hence (vi). For  $n = 3$ , we have similarly  $\mathcal{B}_+ = IC_3$  for some ideal  $I$  of  $kQ_8$ . We have  $(1 + \mathbf{i})(1 + \mathbf{j}) = 1 + \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ , and  $1 + z\mathbf{i} + z\mathbf{j} + z\mathbf{k} = z(1 + \mathbf{i})(1 + \mathbf{j}) + (1 + \mathbf{i})^2$  hence  $I \subset J(kQ_8)^2$ . We know that  $\dim J(kQ_8)^2 = 5$  and we compute that  $\dim \mathcal{B}_+ = 15$ , which proves (vii). ■

**Remark 6.3.** For  $n = 4$ ,  $\mathcal{B}_+$  has dimension 639.

The proposition above enables us to define the following quotient of  $K_n$ .

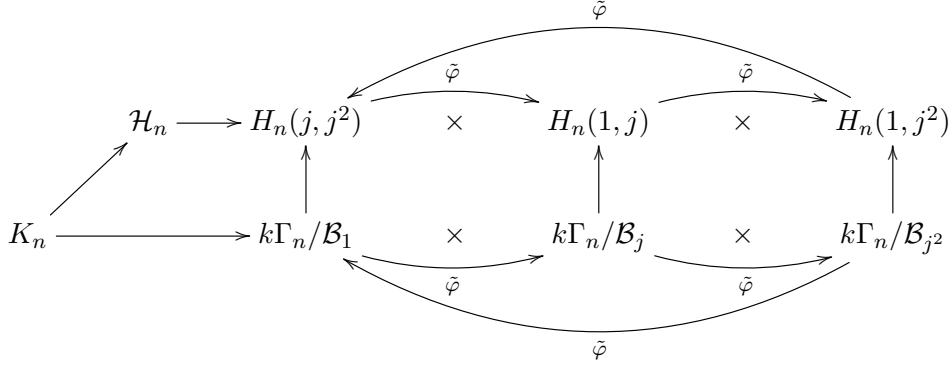
**Definition 6.4.** We define the algebra  $\mathcal{BMW}_n$  as  $k\Gamma_n/\mathcal{B} = k\Gamma_n/(\mathcal{B}_1 \cap \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2})$ . It is a quotient of  $K_n$ .

**6.3. A natural embedding.** Let  $(T_w, w \in \mathfrak{S}_n)$  denote the standard basis of the Hecke algebra under consideration (see [Hu]) and  $\ell : \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  the Coxeter length. For  $\alpha \in \mu_3(k)$ , we let  $E_n(\alpha) = \sum_{w \in \mathfrak{S}_n} \alpha^{\ell(w)} T_w$ . In particular  $E_3(\alpha) = \alpha^3 s_1 s_2 s_1 + \alpha^2 s_1 s_2 + \alpha^2 s_2 s_1 + \alpha s_1 + \alpha s_2 + 1 = s_1 s_2 s_1 + \alpha^2 s_1 s_2 + \alpha^2 s_2 s_1 + \alpha s_1 + \alpha s_2 + 1$ . We recall from ([GL], §4.3) that the Temperley-Lieb algebra  $TL_n(1, j)$  is  $H_n(1, j)/E_3(j^2) = H_n(1, j)/E_3(j^{-1})$  (notice that a slight renormalization of the Artin generators is needed from the original formulations there). It has dimension the  $n$ -th Catalan number  $C_n = \frac{1}{n+1} \binom{2n}{n}$ .

Let  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\} = \mu_3$ . We introduce the involutive automorphism  $\tau_\gamma$  of  $k\Gamma_n$  defined by  $s_i \mapsto \gamma^2 s_i^{-1}$ . It maps  $(s_i + \alpha)(s_i + \beta)$  to  $s\alpha\beta(s + \beta)(s + \alpha)$ , hence induces an involutive automorphism  $\tau_{\alpha, \beta}$  of  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$ . The automorphism  $\varphi$  induces isomorphisms  $\tilde{\varphi} : H_n(\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow H_n(j^2\alpha, j^2\beta)$  making the natural diagram commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 k\Gamma_n & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & k\Gamma_n \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 H_n(\alpha, \beta) & \xrightarrow{\tilde{\varphi}} & H_n(j^2\alpha, j^2\beta)
 \end{array}$$





Let  $ITL_n^j(1, j)$  denote the ideal of  $H_n(1, j)$  generated by  $E_3(j^2) = E_3(j^{-1})$ . Then  $ITL_n^1(1, j) = \tau_{1,j}ITL_n^+(1, j)$  is the ideal generated by  $\tau_{1,j}E_3(j^{-1}) = E_3(1)$ . A straightforward computation shows more generally that  $\tau_\gamma E_3(\alpha^{-1}) = E_3(\beta^{-1})$ . We define more generally

**Definition 6.5.** For  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\} = \mu_3(k)$ , we define  $ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) = ITL_n^\alpha(\beta, \alpha)$  as the 2-sided ideal of  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$  generated by  $E_3(\alpha^{-1})$ .

With this definition, we have  $\tau_{\alpha,\beta}(ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta)) = ITL_n^\beta(\beta, \alpha)$ . Moreover, we have  $\varphi(E_3(x)) = E_3(jx)$ , hence  $\tilde{\varphi}$  maps  $ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) \subset H_n(\alpha, \beta)$  to the ideal of  $H_n(j^2\alpha, j^2\beta)$  generated by  $E_3(j\alpha^{-1}) = E_3((j^2\alpha)^{-1})$ , that is  $ITL_n^{j^2\alpha}(j^2\alpha, j^2\beta)$ .

**Lemma 6.6.** In  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$ , let  $M_n(\alpha)$  and  $M_n(\beta)$  denote the kernels of the natural morphisms  $H_n(\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow k$  defined by  $s_i \mapsto \alpha$  and  $s_i \mapsto \beta$ , respectively. We have

- (i)  $ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) \subset M_n(\alpha) \cap M_n(\beta)$
- (ii)  $ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) + ITL_n^\beta(\alpha, \beta) = M_n(\alpha) \cap M_n(\beta)$  for  $n \geq 5$ .
- (iii) For all  $n$ ,  $M_n(\alpha) \cap M_n(\beta)$  is generated by  $s_1s_2 + s_2s_1$ .

*Proof.* Part (i) comes from the fact that  $E_3(\alpha^{-1})$  is mapped to 0 under both  $s_i \mapsto \alpha$  and  $s_i \mapsto \beta$ , as is easily checked. We now deal with part (ii). For  $n = 5$  We check by computer that  $s_1s_2s_4 + 1 \in I = ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) + ITL_n^\beta(\alpha, \beta)$  when  $n = 5$ , hence for  $n \geq 5$ . It follows that  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)/I$  is a quotient of  $k\Gamma_n/N$ , where  $N$  is the normal subgroup of  $\Gamma_n$  generated by  $w = s_1s_2s_4$ . Note that  $w \in \Gamma_n^0 = \text{Ker}(\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow C_3)$ . In particular, for  $n = 5$ ,  $w$  belongs to  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ , and one easily check that  $N = \text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3) = \Gamma_n^0$  in this case, by quasi-simplicity of  $\text{Sp}_4(\mathbb{F}_3)$ . By Theorem 2.4 (vi) it follows that  $N = \Gamma_n^0$  for all  $n \geq 5$ . Thus  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)/I$  is a quotient of  $kC_3 = k[s]/(s^3 - 1)$  of dimension at least 2, and even of  $k[s]/(s + \alpha)(s + \beta)$ , which has dimension 2. It follows that  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)/I$  has dimension 2 hence  $I = M_n(\alpha) \cap M_n(\beta)$  hence (ii). In order to prove (iii), we first note that  $x = s_1s_2 + s_2s_1$  is mapped to 0 under the maps  $s_i \mapsto \alpha$  and  $s_i \mapsto \beta$ , hence  $(x) \subset K = M_n(\alpha) \cap M_n(\beta)$ . It is then sufficient to show that  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)/(x)$  has dimension 2. From the presentation of  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$  one gets that adding  $s_1s_2 = s_2s_1$  implies  $s_i = s_j$  for all  $i, j$  hence  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)/(x) = k[s]/(s + \alpha)(s + \beta)$  has dimension 2. This proves (iii). ■

**Remark 6.7.** In the characteristic 0 (semisimple) case with generic parameters, the sum of the two copies of the Temperley-Lieb ideals is the whole Hecke algebra for  $n \geq 5$ , as the corresponding quotient has irreducible representations labelled by the Young diagrams with at most 2 rows and 2 columns, and there are clearly no such diagram of size more than 4.

**Lemma 6.8.** *In  $H_n(1, j)$ , we have  $r_w^+ \equiv j^2 E_3(j^2), r_w^- \equiv j E_3(j^2), \varphi(r_w^+) \equiv 0, \varphi(r_w^-) \equiv 0, \varphi^2(r_w^+) \equiv j E_3(1)$  and  $\varphi^2(r_w^-) \equiv j^2 E_3(1)$ .*

*Proof.* Straightforward computation from the equations  $s_i^2 + j^2 s_i + j = 0$  and  $s_i^{-1} = j^2 s_i + j$ . ■

**Lemma 6.9.** *Let  $n \geq 3$  and  $\pi : k\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{H}_n \hookrightarrow H_n(j, j^2) \times H_n(1, j) \times H_n(1, j^2)$ . Then  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1) \subset 0 \times ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^{j^2}$ ,  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_j) \subset ITL_n^j \times 0 \times ITL_n^1$ ,  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \subset ITL_n^{j^2} \times ITL_n^1 \times 0$*

*Proof.* Let  $p_\gamma : \mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow H_n(\alpha, \beta)$ , for  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\} = \mu_3$ . The induced map from  $K_n$ , also denoted by  $p_\gamma$ , factors through  $k\Gamma_n/\mathcal{B}_{\gamma^{-1}}$ . We have  $p_1(\mathcal{B}_1) = 0$ ,  $p_{j^2}(\mathcal{B}_1) = ITL_n^j(1, j)$  by the lemma. We have  $p_\gamma \circ \varphi = \tilde{\varphi} \circ p_{\gamma j}$  hence  $p_\gamma \circ \varphi^2 = \tilde{\varphi}^2 \circ p_{\gamma j^{-2}}$  and, using the lemma and the commutative diagrams above,  $p_j(\mathcal{B}_1) = \tilde{\varphi}(p_{j^2}(\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_1))) = \tilde{\varphi}(p_{j^2}(\mathcal{B}_{j^2})) = \tilde{\varphi}(ITL_n^1(1, j)) = ITL_n^{j^2}(1, j^2)$ . ■

**Proposition 6.10.** *Recall  $\mathbf{b} = s_1 s_2^{-1} + s_2 s_1^{-1} + s_1^{-1} s_2 + s_2^{-1} s_1$ .*

- (i)  $\mathbf{b} \in (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap (\mathcal{B}_j + \mathcal{B}_{j^2})$  for  $n \geq 4$
- (ii) In  $H_4(1, j)$ , one has  $ITL_4^1 \cap ITL_4^j = \{0\}$
- (iii) For  $n \geq 4$ , the inclusions of Lemma 6.9 are equalities.
- (iv) For  $n \geq 5$ ,  $\dim k\Gamma_n/(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = 2 \dim TL_n - 1$ .
- (v)  $\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2} = (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2})$  for  $n = 4$ .
- (vi) For  $n \geq 4$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}$ .

*Proof.* For proving (i) one needs to check that  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j$ , as  $\varphi(\mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{b}$ , and one needs to do it only for  $n = 4$ , which follows from a computer check. (ii) also follows from a computer check. As a consequence of (b)  $\subset \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j$ ,  $k\Gamma_n/\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j$  is a quotient of  $k\Gamma_n/(\mathbf{b})$ , that is of the ternary Hecke algebra. Letting again  $\pi : k\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{H}_n \subset H_n(1, j) \times H_n(1, j^2) \times H_n(j, j^2)$  denote the natural map, we have  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = \pi(\mathcal{B}_1) + \pi(\mathcal{B}_j) \subset ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^j \times (ITL_n^1 + ITL_n^{j^2})$ . When  $n = 4$  a computer check shows that the two sides of this inclusion have the same dimension (which is 40). Since  $ITL_4^1 \cap ITL_4^{j^2} = \{0\}$  by (ii), this implies that the inclusions of Lemma 6.9 are equalities for  $n = 4$ , say for  $\mathcal{B}_1$ . This means that  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1)$  contains, for  $n = 4$  hence for all  $n \geq 4$ , the elements  $(0, E_3(j^{-1}), 0)$  and  $(0, 0, E_3(j^{-2}))$ ; it follows that, for  $n \geq 4$ ,  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1)$  contains  $0 \times ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^{j^2}$ , hence is equal to it. Since  $\pi$  commutes with  $\varphi$  this implies (iii) also for all the  $\mathcal{B}_\gamma$ . For (iv), let  $\pi : k\Gamma_n \twoheadrightarrow k\Gamma_n/(\mathbf{b}) = \mathcal{H}_n$  denote the natural projection. Since  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j$ , the dimension of  $k\Gamma_n/(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j)$  is

$$\dim \mathcal{H}_n/\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = -3 + \dim \frac{H_n(j, j^2) \times H_n(1, j) \times H_n(1, j^2)}{ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^j \times (ITL_n^1 + ITL_n^{j^2})} = -3 + 2 \dim TL_n + 2$$

for  $n \geq 5$  by Lemma 6.6, which proves (iv). (v) is proved by a direct computer check, and (vi) is a trivial consequence of (v) and (i). ■

**Remark 6.11.** 1)  $\mathbf{b} \notin \mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j$  for  $n = 3$ . 2) Using a computer one can prove that the natural map  $K_3 \rightarrow K_4$  is injective.

It follows from the proposition that  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^j \times (ITL_n^1 + ITL_n^{j^2})$  for all  $n \geq 4$ . By Lemma 6.6, for  $n \geq 5$  this is  $ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^j \times M_n(1) \cap M_n(j^2)$ , and likewise  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) = ITL_n^{j^2} \times (ITL_n^1 + ITL_n^j) \times ITL_n^{j^2}$ . Letting  $\cap ITL$  denote  $ITL_n^\alpha(\alpha, \beta) \cap ITL_n^\beta(\alpha, \beta)$ , we have  $\pi((\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j)) = \pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap \pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = \cap ITL_n \times ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^{j^2}$ , because

$(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j)$  contains  $\text{Ker } \pi$  for  $n \geq 4$  by (1). Also,  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_j) \cap \pi(\mathcal{B}_{j^2}) = \cap ITL_n \times 0 \times 0$ , hence  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1) + \pi(\mathcal{B}_j) \cap \pi(\mathcal{B}_{j^2}) = \pi((\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j))$ . This implies  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \subset \cap ITL_n \times ITL_n^j \times ITL_n^{j^2}$ . We check by computer that the dimensions on both sides are equal for  $n = 4$ . This proves that  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2})$  contains  $(0, E_3(j^{-1}), 0), (0, 0, E_3(j^{-2}))$ .

In order to have the property that  $\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2} = (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j)$  it would be sufficient to control  $\cap ITL_n$  in the sense that, if  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) = \cap ITL_n$  for some  $n$ , and  $ITL_m$  for  $m \geq n$  is generated by elements in  $\cap ITL_n$ , this would prove  $\pi(\mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}) = \cap ITL_m$  for all  $m \geq n$ . This at first seems not be such an obstacle as, in the semisimple case,  $\cap ITL$  is generated by  $ab \in \cap ITL_5$  (or  $ba$ ) with  $a = E_3(1)$  and  $b = 1 + j^2 s_3 + j^2 s_4 + j s_3 s_4 + j s_4 s_3 + s_3 s_4 s_3$  a conjugate of  $E_3(j^2)$ , and  $ab$  is clearly in the image of  $\mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}$ . However, by computer calculation, we get that the situation is much more complicated in our case, as shown by the next lemma, which gathers the result of computer calculations.

**Lemma 6.12.** *Inside  $H_n(1, j)$ , we have*

- (i)  $\dim \cap ITL_5 = 38$ .
- (ii) For  $n = 5$ ,  $(ab) = (ba)$  and  $\dim(ab) = 36$ .
- (iii)  $\cap ITL_5 = (ab) \oplus kE_5(1) \oplus kE_5(j^2)$
- (iv)  $\dim \cap ITL_6 = 458$
- (v) For  $n = 6$ ,  $\dim(ab) = 454$ , the ideal generated by  $\cap ITL_5 \subset \cap ITL_6$  has dimension 456 and contains  $E_6(1), E_6(j^2)$ .
- (vi)  $\dim \cap ITL_7 = 4184$
- (vii) For  $n = 7$ ,  $\dim(ab) = 4180$ , and  $\cap ITL_7$  is generated by  $\cap ITL_6 \subset \cap ITL_7$ .

The fact that  $\cap ITL_7$  is generated by  $\cap ITL_6$  is checked as follows : we find randomly a (complicated) element in  $\cap ITL_6$  which it generates as an ideal, and check that this element also generates  $\cap ITL_7$ . Note that the following always holds true.

**Lemma 6.13.** *For all  $n \geq 3$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mu_3(k)$ , we have  $E_n(\alpha^{-1}) \in H_n(\alpha, \beta)E_3(\alpha^{-1})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $h = \sum_{w \in D} \alpha^{-\ell(w)} T_w$  with  $\ell : \mathfrak{S}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  the Coxeter length and  $D$  the representative system of  $\mathfrak{S}_n / \mathfrak{S}_3$  consisting of  $\mathfrak{S}_3$ -reduced elements on the right so that any element  $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_n$  writes uniquely  $\sigma = w\sigma'$  with  $w \in D, \sigma' \in \mathfrak{S}_3$  and  $\ell(\sigma) = \ell(w) + \ell(\sigma')$  (see [Hu] §1.10). Then clearly  $E_n(\alpha^{-1}) = hE_3(\alpha^{-1})$ . ■

**Lemma 6.14.** *Let  $n \geq 5$ . Then*

$$\dim \mathcal{BMW}_n = 3(\dim BW_n - 2 \dim TL_n + 2) - \dim \frac{(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2})}{\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}}$$

*Proof.* Recall from Proposition 6.10 that  $\dim k\Gamma_n / (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = 2 \dim TL_n - 1$ . We apply Lemma 5.5 with  $A = \mathcal{B}_+$ ,  $I = \mathcal{B}_1$ ,  $J = \mathcal{B}_j$ ,  $K = \mathcal{B}_{j^2}$ . We get  $\dim A / (I \cap J \cap K) = \dim \text{Im } d_1 = \dim \text{Ker } d_2 - \dim (K + I) \cap (K + J) / (K + I \cap J)$ , and, since  $d_2$  is onto,  $\dim \text{Ker } d_2 = 3 \dim \mathcal{B}_+ / \mathcal{B}_1 - \dim \mathcal{B}_+ / (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) = 3 \dim k\Gamma_n / \mathcal{B}_1 - 3 \dim k\Gamma_n / (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j)$ .

Since  $\dim k\Gamma_n / \mathcal{B}_+ = 3$ , we get  $\dim \mathcal{BMW}_n = \dim k\Gamma_n / I \cap J \cap K = 3 + \dim \mathcal{B}_+ / (I \cap J \cap K) = 3 + 3 \dim \mathcal{BMW}_n - 3(2 \dim TL_n - 1) - \dim \frac{(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2})}{\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}}$  whence the conclusion. ■

**Remark 6.15.** *In particular, since  $\dim TL_5 = 42$  and  $\dim BMW_5 = 945$  one gets  $\dim \mathcal{BMW}_5 = 3 \times 863 - \dim \frac{(\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j) \cap (\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_{j^2})}{\mathcal{B}_1 + \mathcal{B}_j \cap \mathcal{B}_{j^2}}$ , to be compared with  $\dim \mathbb{F}_2 K_5 = 3 \times 863$  (see proposition 4.6).*

## 7. MARKOV TRACES

**7.1. Definitions and conditions for  $n = 3$ .** In this section we deal with Markov traces. We let  $K_n = K_n(1)$ , and denote  $K_\infty$  the direct limit of the  $K_n$  under the natural morphisms  $K_n \rightarrow K_{n+1}$ . Letting  $A = \mathbb{Z}[u, v]$ , we denote  $AB_\infty$ ,  $A\Gamma_\infty$  the direct limits of the group algebras  $AB_n$ ,  $A\Gamma_n$ , respectively.

**Definition 7.1.** A Markov trace is a pair  $(t, R)$ , where  $R$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[u, v]$ -module and  $t \in \text{Hom}_A(AB_\infty, R)$  satisfying

- $t(xy) = t(yx)$  for all  $x, y \in AB_\infty$
- $t(xs_n) = ut(x)$  for all  $x, y \in AB_{n-1}$
- $t(xs_n^{-1}) = vt(x)$  for all  $x, y \in AB_{n-1}$

A Markov trace is said to factorize through a quotient  $H$  of the  $A$ -algebra  $AB_\infty$  if it lies in the image of  $\text{Hom}_A(H, R) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_A(AB_\infty, R)$ .

We now assume that  $t$  is a Markov trace that factors through  $K_\infty$ . This means that it factors through  $A\Gamma_\infty$ , and that  $t(g_1 \mathbf{q} g_2) = 0$  for all  $g_1, g_2 \in \Gamma_\infty$ , or equivalently that  $t(\mathbf{q} g) = 0$  for all  $g \in \Gamma_\infty$ , and finally these conditions for  $g \in \Gamma_3$  reduce to  $t(\mathbf{q}) = t(\mathbf{q}s_1) = t(\mathbf{q}s_1^2) = 0$ . A direct computation shows that these equations imply the following.

**Lemma 7.2.** If  $t$  is a Markov trace that factors through  $K_\infty$ , then  $4(u^2 + v)t(1) = 4(v^2 + u)t(1) = 0$  and  $t(z_3) = -(1 + 6uv)t(1)$

Notice that a Markov trace factorizing through  $K_\infty$  takes values in  $At(1) \subset R$ , and that, as a consequence of Proposition 4.2, it is uniquely determined by the value of  $t(1) \in R$ .

It should be noted that  $\{z_3\}$  is the only conjugacy class in  $\Gamma_3$  that does not meet any  $gs_2^\varepsilon$  for  $g \in \Gamma_2$  and  $\varepsilon \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ . Let  $A\Gamma_\infty$  denote the direct limit of the  $A\Gamma_n$ . Of course a Markov trace on  $K_\infty$  induces a Markov trace on  $A\Gamma_\infty$ . A Markov trace on  $A\Gamma_\infty$  then induces elements  $\tau_n \in \text{Hom}_A(A\Gamma_n, R)$  for all  $n$  (recall from Theorem 2.4 that  $A\Gamma_\infty$  contains the  $A\Gamma_n$  for  $n \leq 5$ ). The condition  $\tau_n(xy) = \tau_n(yx)$  means that  $\tau_n$  is actually a function on the conjugacy classes of  $\Gamma_n$ . For instance, a consequence of the special property of  $\{z_3\}$  mentioned above is that any such  $\tau_3$  is defined uniquely by the values  $\tau_3(1)$  and  $\tau_3(z_3)$ . In the following section we looked at the conjugacy classes of  $\Gamma_4$  and  $\Gamma_5$ , and checked whether one could define functions  $\tau_4, \tau_5$  such that  $\tau_4, \tau_5$  vanish on the ideal generated by  $\mathbf{q}$ .

**7.2. Conditions for  $n = 4$ .** In order to shorten computations with words in the  $s_i$ 's, we will use when convenient the notation  $ijk\dots$  for  $s_i s_j s_k \dots$ , with  $-i$  meaning  $s_i^{-1}$  (for instance  $s_1 s_2^{-1} s_3 = 1-23$ ).

**Lemma 7.3.** If  $t$  is a Markov trace that factors through  $K_\infty$ , then  $(3u^3 + 3v^3 - 5uv - 1)t(1) = 0$ .

*Proof.* We consider  $x = s_2 s_1^{-1} s_3 s_2^{-1}$  and  $y = s_2^{-1} s_1 s_3 s_2^2 s_3 s_2 s_1$  in  $\Gamma_4$ . In  $K_\infty$  we have  $-s_3 s_2^2 s_3 \equiv s_2 s_3^{-1} s_2 + s_2^{-1} s_3 s_2 + s_2 s_3 s_2^{-1} + s_2^{-1} s_3^{-1} + s_3^{-1} s_2^{-1} + s_2 + s_3$ . Then  $t(y) = -t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2 s_3^{-1} s_2 s_2 s_1) - t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2^{-1} s_3 s_2 s_2 s_1) - t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2 s_3 s_2^{-1} s_2 s_1) - t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2^{-1} s_3^{-1} s_2 s_1) - t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_3^{-1} s_2^{-1} s_2 s_1) - t(s_2^{-1} s_1 s_2 s_2 s_1) -$

$t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_3s_2s_1)$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2s_3^{-1}s_2s_2s_1) &= t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2s_3^{-1}) = vt(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2) = vt(s_1s_2s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}) \\
&= vt(s_1^{-1}s_2^{-1}) = v^3t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_3s_2s_2s_1) &= t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_3) = ut(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}) = ut(s_1s_2^{-1}s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}) \\
&= ut(s_1s_2s_1s_2^{-1}) = ut(s_2s_1s_2s_2^{-1}) = ut(s_1s_2) \\
&= u^3t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2s_3s_2^{-1}s_2s_1) &= t(s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2s_3) = ut(s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2) = ut(s_1s_2s_1s_2^{-1}) \\
&= ut(s_2s_1s_2s_2^{-1}) = ut(s_1s_2) = u^3t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_3^{-1}s_2s_1) &= t(s_2s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}s_3^{-1}) = vt(s_2s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_2^{-1}) = vt(s_1s_2^{-1}s_2s_1s_2^{-1}) \\
&= vt(s_1^{-1}s_2^{-1}) = v^3t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_3^{-1}s_2^{-1}s_2s_1) &= t(s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_3^{-1}) = vt(s_1s_2^{-1}s_1) = vt(s_1^{-1}s_2^{-1}) \\
&= v^3t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_2s_2s_1) &= t(s_2^2s_1s_2^2s_1) = t(z_3) = (-1 - 6uv)t(1) \\
t(s_2^{-1}s_1s_3s_2s_1) &= t(s_2s_1s_2^{-1}s_1s_3) = ut(s_2s_1s_2^{-1}s_1) = ut(s_1s_2s_1s_2^{-1}) \\
&= ut(s_2s_1s_2s_2^{-1}) = ut(s_1s_2) = u^3t(1)
\end{aligned}$$

hence  $t(y) = (-3u^3 - 3v^3 + 1 + 6uv)t(1)$ . One has  $t(x) = t(s_1^{-1}s_3) = uv t(1)$ . It is easily checked that  $x$  and  $y$  belong to  $G = \text{Ker}(\Gamma_4 \twoheadrightarrow \Gamma_3)$ , which is an extra-special group  $3^{1+2}$  which contains  $z_4 = (s_1s_2s_3)^4$ , hence  $(G, G) = Z(G) = Z(\Gamma_4) = \langle z_4 \rangle$ . We prove that  $y = xz_4$ . From the braid relations we get  $(s_1s_2s_3)^3 = 123123123 = 121121321 = s_1s_2s_1^2s_2s_1s_3s_2s_1$ , hence  $y = xz_4$  means that  $s_2^2s_1s_3s_2^2 = s_2s_1^2s_3s_2^2s_1s_2s_3s_1s_2s_1^2s_2s_1$ ; this comes from the equalities  $211322123121121 = 211322121321121 = 211322212321121 = 21312321121 = 211132321121 = 223221121 = 223221212 = 223222122 = 223122 = 221322$ . Clearly  $x \notin Z(\Gamma_4) = Z(G)$ . For an extra-special group, the conjugacy classes not lying in  $Z(G)$  are determined by their images in  $G/(G, G) = G/Z(G)$ , hence  $x, y$  are conjugated in  $G$  hence in  $\Gamma_4$ . This proves  $t(x) = t(y)$  hence  $(3u^3 + 3v^3 - 5uv - 1)t(1) = 0$  in  $R$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 7.4.** *If  $t$  is a Markov trace that factors through  $K_\infty$ , then  $16t(1) = 0$ ,  $4uv t(1) = 4t(1)$ ,  $4u^3t(1) = 4v^3t(1) = -4t(1)$ .*

*Proof.* We recall  $(32-3) = (-232)$  and  $(3-23) = -(2-32) - (-232) - (23-2) - (-2-3) - (-3-2) - (2)-(3)$  and note that  $t(z_3) = (-1 - 6uv)t(1)$ ,  $t(12121) = t(11211) = t(11112) = t(12) = u^2t(1)$ . We will compute  $t(a)$  and  $t(b)$  with  $a = (2-312-3121)$  and  $b = (-3231-2312)$ . It can be checked by hand that, in  $\Gamma_4$ , we have  $ac = cb$  with  $c = (2-13-2)$ , hence  $t(a) = t(b)$ .

We first compute  $t(a) = t(2-312-3121)$ . We have  $t(2-312-3121) = t(21-32-3121) = t(21332-3121) = t(213-232121) = -t(212-322121) - t(21-2322121) - t(2123-22121) - t(21-2-32121) - t(21-3-22121) - t(2122121) - t(2132121)$

- $t(212-322121) = t(22121212-3) = vt(22121212) = vt(22212121) = vt(12121) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(21-2322121) = t(2212121-23) = ut(2212121-2) = ut(-22212121) = ut(212121) = ut(121212) = ut(z_3)$
- $t(2123-22121) = t(2123121) = t(1212123) = ut(121212) = ut(z_3)$
- $t(21-2-32121) = t(212121-2-3) = vt(212121-2) = vt(-2212121) = vt(12121) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(21-3-22121) = t(21-3121) = t(12121-3) = vt(12121) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(2122121) = t(2122212) = t(2112) = t(1122) = v^2t(1)$
- $t(2132121) = t(2121213) = ut(212121) = ut(121212) = ut(z_3)$

hence  $t(2-312-3121) = (-3u^2v - 3ut(z_3) - v^2)t(1) = (-3u^2v + 3u(1 + 6uv) - v^2)t(1) = (3u + 15u^2v - v^2)t(1)$ .

We now compute  $t(b) = t(-3231-2312)$ . We have  $t(-3231-2312) = t(-3213-2312) = -t(-3212-3212) - t(-321-23212) - t(-32123-212) - t(-321-2-312) - t(-321-3-212) - t(-321212) - t(-321312)$  and

- $t(-3212-3212) = t(-3121-3212) = t(1-32-31212) = t(1332-31212) = t(13-2321212)$
- $t(-321-23212) = t(-3-1213212) = t(-1-3231212) = t(-133231212) = t(-132321212) = t(-123221212) = t(221212-123) = ut(221212-12) = ut(-12221212) = ut(212) = ut(122) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(-32123-212) = t(-31213-212) = t(1-3231-212) = t(133231-212) = t(132321-212) = t(123221-212) = t(221-212123) = ut(221-21212) = ut(2221-2121) = ut(1-2121) = ut(1-2212) = ut(112) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(-321-2-312) = t(-3-121-312) = t(-1-32-3112) = t(-1332-3112) = t(-13-232112)$
- $t(-321-3-212) = t(-32-31-212) = t(332-31-212) = t(3-2321-212)$
- $t(-321212) = t(21212-3) = vt(21212) = vt(22122) = vt(22221) = vt(21) = vt(12) = u^2vt(1)$
- $t(-321312) = t(-323112) = t(3323112) = t(3232112) = t(2322112) = t(2211223) = ut(221122) = ut(112222) = ut(112) = u^2vt(1)$

We have  $t(21212) = t(22122) = t(12222) = t(12) = u^2t(1)$ ,  $t(221212-12) = t(221212112) = t(112221212) = t(111212) = t(212) = t(122) = uvt(1)$ ,  $t(13-2321212) = t(213-232121) = (3u + 15u^2v - v^2)t(1)$  as we already computed, hence  $t(-13-232112) = t(113-232112) = t(13-2321121) = t(13-2321212) = (3u + 15u^2v - v^2)t(1)$ ,  $t(3-2321-212) = t(3-23212212) = t(3-23212121) = t(13-2321212) = (3u + 15u^2v - v^2)t(1)$ . We thus get  $t(-3231-2312) = (-3(3u + 15u^2v - v^2) - 4u^2v)t(1) = (-9u + 3v^2 - 49u^2v)t(1)$ . We have that  $(-3231-2312)$  is conjugated to  $(2-312-3121)$  hence  $t(b) = (3u + 15u^2v - v^2)t(1) = (-9u + 3v^2 - 49u^2v)t(1)$ . Therefore  $t(a) = t(b)$  means  $(64u^2v + 12u - 4v^2)t(1) = 0$ . Since  $4v^2t(1) = -4ut(1)$  and  $4u^2vt(1) = (4u^2)v t(1) = -4v^2t(1) = 4ut(1)$ , this means  $(64u + 12u + 4u)t(1) = 0$ , i.e.  $80ut(1) = 0$ . Since  $80 = 16 \times 5$  and we know  $2^r t(1) = 0$  for some  $r$ , there exists  $g, h \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $2^r g + 5h = 1$  hence  $80hut(1) = 16ut(1) = 0$ . From  $4vt(1) = -4u^2t(1)$  we then get  $16vt(1) = 0$ . By Lemma 7.3 we have  $(3u^3 + 3v^3 - 5uv - 1)t(1) = 0$ , whence  $16ut(1) = 16vt(1) = 0$  implies  $16t(1) = 0$ . Moreover,  $0 = 4 \times (3u^3 + 3v^3 - 5uv - 1)t(1) = (12u^3 + 12v^3 - 20uv - 4)t(1) = (-12uv - 12uv - 20uv - 4)t(1) = (-44uv - 4)t(1)$  because  $4u^3t(1) = -4uv t(1) = 4v^3t(1)$ . Since  $-44t(1) = 4t(1)$ . This proves  $4uv t(1) = 4t(1)$ , and  $4u^3t(1) = 4v^3t(1) = -4t(1)$ . ■

**Remark 7.5.** Over  $A = \mathbb{Z}[u, v]/(16, 4(u^2 + v), 4(v^2 + u), 3u^3 + 3v^3 - 5uv - 1)$ , one can define a ‘Markov trace’ for  $n = 4$  extending a given  $\tau_3$  originating from  $MT(K_\infty, R)$ , namely a linear map  $\tau_4 : A\Gamma_4 \rightarrow A$  with  $\tau_4(xy) = \tau_4(yx)$  and, when  $x \in A\Gamma_3$ ,  $\tau_4(xs_3) = u\tau_3(x)$ ,  $\tau_4(xs_3^{-1}) = v\tau_3(x)$ . This can be checked as follows : for each one of the 24 conjugacy classes of  $\Gamma_4$ , one takes an element in it and find a word in  $s_1, s_2, s_3$  representing it ; we then get a value for the Markov trace by the implicit algorithm used to prove Proposition 4.2. This class function naturally extends to a trace  $\tau_4 : A\Gamma_4 \rightarrow A$ , and we check that, for each  $g_0 \in \Gamma_3$ , we have  $\tau_4(g_0s_3) = u\tau_3(g_0)$ ,  $\tau_4(g_0s_3^{-1}) = v\tau_3(g_0)$ . Finally, we check that this  $\tau_4$  factorizes through  $K_4$ , that is that  $\tau_4(g_1\mathbf{q}g_2) = 0$  for each  $g_1, g_2 \in \Gamma_4$  and, as before,  $\mathbf{q}$  is the sum of the elements of  $Q_8 \subset \Gamma_3$ . Since  $g_1$  can be taken in  $\Gamma_4/N_{\Gamma_4}(Q_8)$  and  $g_2$  can be taken in  $Q_8 \setminus \Gamma_4$ , there is only 729 conditions  $\tau_4(g_1\mathbf{q}g_2) = 0$  to check. Since  $\tau_4$  is already a class function this number of equations reduces drastically to 18, so we can check that  $\tau_4$  indeed factors through  $K_4$ .

When  $n = 5$ , we check similarly that there is a linear map  $\tau_5 : A\Gamma_5 \rightarrow A$  with  $\tau_5(xy) = \tau_5(yx)$  and, when  $x \in A\Gamma_4$ ,  $\tau_5(xs_4) = u\tau_4(x)$ ,  $\tau_5(xs_4^{-1}) = v\tau_4(x)$  : the computations in **GAP** take only a lot more time, and we use the software **Macaulay 2** in order to automatize equality checking inside  $A$ . The conditions for  $t$  to factorize through  $K_5$  amount to 243 equalities in  $A$ , which we check to be true using **Macaulay 2**.

The two lemmas above can be combined to show the following.

**Lemma 7.6.** *If  $t$  is a Markov trace that factors through  $K_\infty$ , then  $(u+v+1)(u+jv+j^2)(u+j^2v+j)t(1) = (u^3+v^3-3uv+1)t(1) = 0$ .*

*Proof.*  $(u+v+1)(u+jv+j^2)(u+j^2v+j) = u^3+v^3-3uv+1$  holds true in  $\mathbb{Z}[j]$ , and  $(u^3+v^3-3uv+1)t(1) = 0$  because  $u^3+v^3-3uv+1 = (4u^3+4) + (4v^3+4) - 2 \times (4uv-4) - (3u^3+3v^3-5uv-1) - 16$ .  $\blacksquare$

**7.3. Markov traces modulo 4.** In this section we prove that Markov traces exist modulo 4. We let  $R = (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[j]$ , that is  $(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[x]/(x^2+x+1)$ , and consider the reduction  $\bar{t} : K_\infty \rightarrow R[u, v]\bar{t}(1)$ , with values in  $R \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}} (\mathbb{Z}[u, v]t(1)/4t(1))$ . Here we let  $\mu_3 = \{1, j, j^2\}$ . Since  $4\bar{t}(1) = 0$ , we have  $0 = (3u^3+3v^3-5uv-1)\bar{t}(1) = -(u^3+uv+v^3+1)\bar{t}(1) = -(u+v+1)(u+jv+j^2)(u+j^2v+j)\bar{t}(1)$  hence a natural map

$$R[u, v]/(u^3+v^3+uv+1) \rightarrow \tilde{M} = \prod_{\gamma \in \mu_3} R[u, v]/(v+\gamma u+\gamma^2) \simeq R[u]^3.$$

It can be checked (e.g. using **Macaulay 2**) that the intersection of the ideals  $(v+\gamma u+\gamma^2)$  in  $R[u, v]$  is equal to their product  $(u^3+v^3+uv+1)$ , so the above map is injective. Now consider the Hecke algebras  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$  over  $R = (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[j]$ , their direct limit  $H_\infty(\alpha, \beta)$ , and introduce their Markov trace  $tr_\gamma : H_\infty(\alpha, \beta) \rightarrow R[u] \simeq R[u, v]/(v+\gamma u+\gamma^2)$  for  $\{\alpha, \beta, \gamma\} = \mu_3$ , such that  $tr_\gamma(g s_n) = u tr_\gamma(g)$  and  $tr_\gamma(g s_n^{-1}) = (\gamma u + \gamma^{-1}) tr_\gamma(g) = v tr_\gamma(g)$  for  $g \in H_n(\alpha, \beta)$ .

They extend to Markov traces  $K_\infty \rightarrow R[u, v]/(v+\gamma u+\gamma^2)$ . Then a convenient Markov trace  $\bar{t} : K_\infty \rightarrow R[u, v]/(u^3+uv+v^3+1)$  can be defined by  $\bar{t}(g) = (tr_\gamma(g))_{\gamma \in \mu_3}$ ; indeed, this defines at first a map to the cyclic  $R[u, v]/(u^3+uv+v^3+1)$ -module generated by  $\bar{t}(1) \in \tilde{M}$ , which is free of rank 1 as  $R[u, v]/(u^3+uv+v^3+1) \hookrightarrow \tilde{M}$ . In particular,  $\bar{t}(g) = 0$  for  $g$  in the ideal  $J_n(\alpha, \beta)$  of  $R\Gamma_n$  defining  $H_n(\alpha, \beta)$ , for every  $\alpha, \beta$ . It follows that  $\bar{t}$  vanishes on  $J$ , hence factorizes through the direct limit  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$  of the  $\mathcal{H}_n = R\Gamma_n/J$ . Finally the proof of Lemma 5.3 says that  $\mathbf{c} \in J$  not only modulo 2 but modulo 4, hence  $\bar{t}$  factorizes also through  $K_n(1)$ , so this  $\bar{t}$  is indeed a Markov trace on  $K_\infty$ .

**Proposition 7.7.** *Any Markov trace  $t$  on  $K_\infty$  with  $4t(1) = 0$  factorizes through  $\mathcal{H}_\infty$ , and is induced by the Markov traces of the Hecke algebras  $H_\infty(\alpha, \beta)$ .*

**Remark 7.8.** (i) Over  $(\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[j]$ , and even over  $\mathbb{Z}[j]$ , denoting  $\mathbf{b} = s_1 s_2^{-1} - s_1^{-1} s_2 + s_2 s_1^{-1} - s_2^{-1} s_1$ , one still gets that  $\mathbf{b}$  belongs to the intersection of the ideals  $J_n(\alpha, \beta)$ . Do we still have  $\mathcal{H}_n = R\Gamma_n/(\mathbf{b})$ , for  $R = (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[j]$  or even  $R = \mathbb{Z}[j]$  ?  
(ii) A natural question is whether the Birman-Wenzl algebra is still a quotient of  $R\Gamma_n/(\mathbf{q})$  when  $R = (\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z})[j]$  ( $\lambda = 1$ ,  $\delta = j - j^2 = 1 + 2j$ ). The answer is no, as a straightforward though tedious calculation shows that, over  $\mathbb{Z}[j]$ ,  $\mathbf{q}$  is mapped inside  $BW_3$  to  $(1 - \delta + \delta^2 - \delta^3)b_1 + (-2\delta + \delta^2 - \delta^3)b_2 + (\delta^2 - 3\delta)b_3 + 2b_4 + (2 - \delta - \delta^2)b_5 + (3 - \delta)b_6 + (\delta^2 - \delta^3)b_7 + (\delta - 2\delta^2 - \delta^3)b_8 + (2\delta + \delta^2 + \delta^3)b_9 + (\delta - \delta^3)b_{10} + 2\delta^3 b_{11} + (\delta - \delta^2 - 2\delta^3)b_{12} + (\delta^2 + \delta)b_{13} + (\delta - \delta^2)b_{14} + (\delta - \delta^2)b_{15}$ , which is nonzero modulo 4.

**7.4. Comparison with the claims of [F1].** In order to make the comparison with [F1] easier, we switch our notations to the ones there. We first briefly review the setting used in [F1]. In [F1], elements  $z, z' \in \mathbb{C}^\times$  are chosen,  $A = A(z, z')$  is defined to be the subring of  $\mathbb{C}$  generated by  $z, z'$ , the  $K_n(\gamma)$  are defined over  $A$  with  $\gamma \in A$ , and the direct limit  $K_\infty = K_\infty(\gamma)$  of the  $K_n = K_n(\gamma)$  is introduced. Let  $K_n^{\text{ab}}$  be quotient of the module  $K_n$  by the submodule  $[K_n, K_n]$  spanned by the  $xy - yx$  for  $x, y \in K_n$ , and  $K_\infty^{\text{ab}}$  be the direct limit of the  $K_n^{\text{ab}}$ .

For  $R$  some fixed  $A$ -module, the following  $A$ -modules are defined :

$$\begin{aligned} AF(K_\infty, R) &= \{t \in \text{Hom}_A(K_\infty, R) \mid t(xs_n y) = zt(xy), t(xs_n^{-1}y) = z't(xy), x, y \in K_n\} \\ MT(K_\infty, R) &= \{t \in \text{Hom}_A(K_\infty^{\text{ab}}, R) \mid t(xs_n y) = zt(xy), t(xs_n^{-1}y) = z't(xy), x, y \in K_n^{\text{ab}}\} \end{aligned}$$

Since, for  $a, b \in K_{n+1}^{\text{ab}}$ ,  $ab = ba$ , we have  $t(xs_n y) - zt(xy) = t(yxs_n - zyx)$  and  $t(xs_n^{-1}y) - z't(xy) = t(yxs_n^{-1} - z'yx)$ . It follows that  $MT(K_\infty, R) = \text{Hom}_A(L(K_\infty), R)$  with  $L(K_\infty)$  the quotient of  $K_\infty^{\text{ab}}$  by the  $A$ -submodule spanned by the  $xs_n - zx, xs_n^{-1} - z'x$  for  $x \in K_n$ .

Then is introduced an  $A$ -module  $M$  defined as the quotient of  $K_n$  by the  $A$ -submodule spanned by the  $as_i b - zab, as_i^2 b - tab$  for  $a, b \in K_i$  and  $i < n$  (by abusing notations, here  $K_i$  means the image of  $K_i$  in  $K_n$ ), and with  $t = \gamma z'$ . Since  $K_{n+1}$  is the sum of the  $K_n s_n^\varepsilon K_n$  for  $\varepsilon \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  we have  $AF(K_n, R) = \text{Hom}_A(M, R)$ . The author of [F1] incorrectly identifies this space with  $R \otimes_A M$ . More generally, most of the arguments in [F1] implicitly assume that the  $A$ -modules involved are free, which is incorrect in view of our results. In particular, for a nontrivial  $t \in MT(K_\infty, R)$  to exist, it is claimed that  $z, z'$  have to be related by the relations  $(z')^2 = -z, z^2 = -z'$ , these coming from  $t(\mathbf{q}s_1) = 0, t(\mathbf{q}s_1^2) = 0$  (in the notations of [F1],  $\mathbf{q}s_1 = R_0, \mathbf{q}s_1^2 = R_1$  and  $\mathbf{q} = R_2$ ). Actually, one finds that, if  $t$  is such a Markov trace, then  $t(\mathbf{q}s_1^2) = 4(z^2 + z')t(1)$ ,  $t(\mathbf{q}s_1) = 4((z')^2 + z)t(1)$  and  $t(\mathbf{q}) = t(z_3) + 6zz't(1) + t(1)$ , with  $z_3 = (s_1 s_2)^3$ . Of course division by 4 is not licit in general.

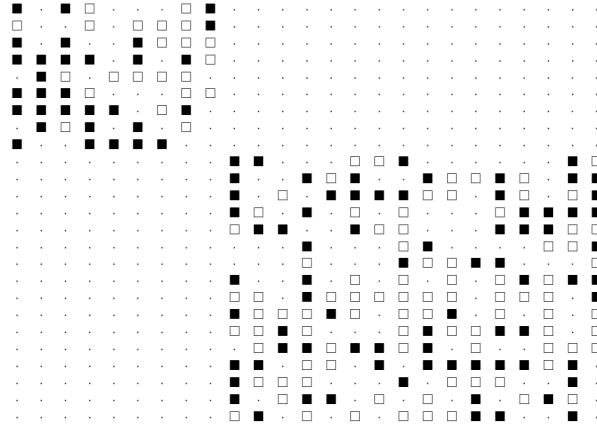
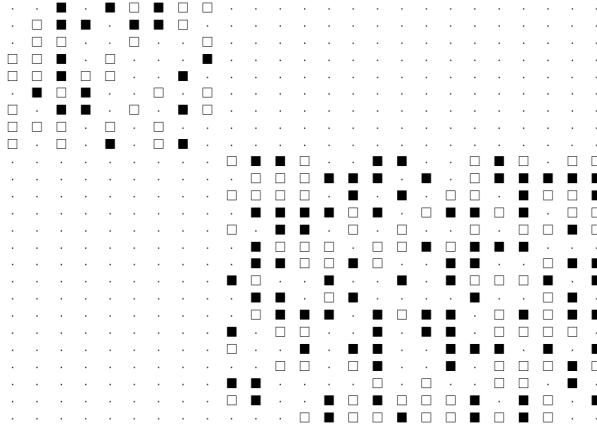
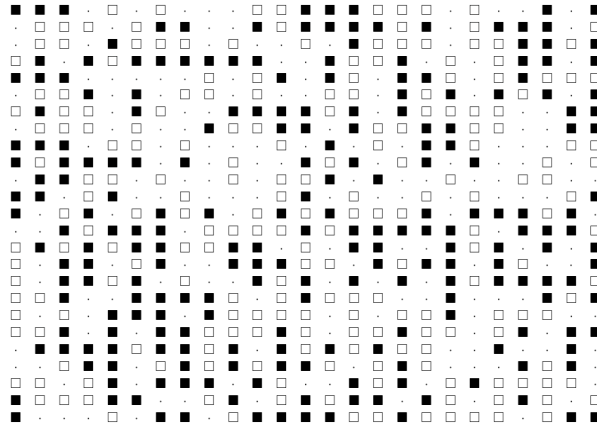
## 8. APPENDIX : THE 25-DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATION OF $S_4(3)$

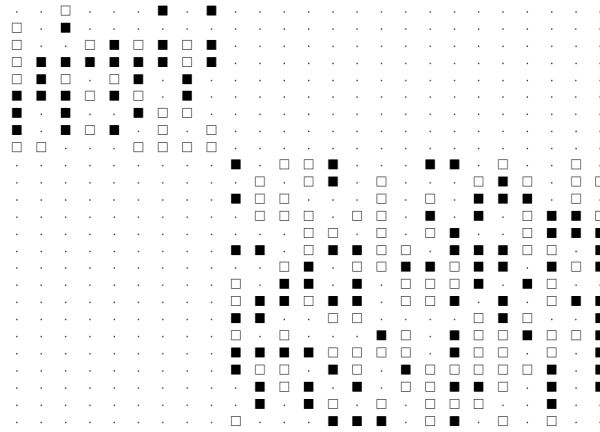
A crucial tool for investigating  $K_n$  in characteristic 3 has been the 25-dimensional irreducible representation of  $S_4(3)$ , denoted  $\varphi_5$  in [AtMod] (see section 4.3.2). We proved and used that it is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_3$ , and we computed an explicit matrix model for it. We provide in figures 2 to 5 the images of the Artin generators in such a model, so that the reader have the possibility to check some of the computations of this paper. In order to save space, the following convention has been adopted for representing elements in  $\mathbb{F}_3$  : a dot  $\cdot$  represents 0, a black square  $\blacksquare$  represents  $-1$  and an empty square  $\square$  represents 1.

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FIGURE 2.  $\varphi_5(s_1)$ FIGURE 3.  $\varphi_5(s_2)$ FIGURE 4.  $\varphi_5(s_3)$

FIGURE 5.  $\varphi_5(s_4)$ 

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