

## A note on the structure of $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))$

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**Abstract** A complete characterization of the unit group  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  of the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_q G$  of non-abelian group  $G$  of order 27 with exponent 3 over any finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is obtained.

### 1 Introduction

Let  $\mathbb{F}G$  denotes the group algebra of the group  $G$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}G)$  denote the unit group of the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}G$ . It is well known that by using Wedderburn-Malcev theorem ([1], p.491), we have

$$\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}G) \cong (1 + J(\mathbb{F}G)) \rtimes \mathcal{U}\left(\frac{\mathbb{F}G}{J(\mathbb{F}G)}\right).$$

Thus a nice description of Wedderburn decomposition of  $\frac{\mathbb{F}G}{J(\mathbb{F}G)}$  is always very helpful to determine unit group of  $\mathbb{F}G$ . See [2] for further details of the group algebras.

Determination of the unit group of group algebras has been always very fascinating and challenging. A lot of work has been done in finding the algebraic structure of the unit group of the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}G$  ([3]–[21]). In 2010, Gildea [22] determined the unit group of group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_{3^k}(C_3 \times D_6)$ . Again in 2011, Gildea ([23]– [24]) determined unit group of group algebras  $\mathbb{F}_{2^k}(C_2 \times D_8)$  and  $\mathbb{F}_{3^k}(C_3^2 \rtimes C_2)$ . In [25], we have characterized a possible unit group of group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}S_5$ , if  $p > 5$ . In this paper, we have characterized completely the unit group of the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$  for any finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is the multiplicative group of integral modulo  $n$  and  $H \rtimes K$  denotes the semidirect product with  $H$  normal.

There are certain techniques to find the decomposition of group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_q G$ , when field characteristic does not divide the order of the group. In this paper we use Ferraz [26] techniques. Sandling [27] completely solved the problem to determine the unit group of group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_q G$ , in case group  $G$  is finite abelian  $p$ -group. When group  $G$  is non-abelian, there are many papers in the literature devoted to particular  $p$ -groups  $G$ , but the problem is not understood in full generality. Even if  $\mathbb{F}$  be finite field, having  $p$  elements for some prime  $p$ , and  $G$  is a  $p$ -group, it is certainly not easy to describe the unit group of the modular group algebra  $\mathbb{F}G$ . The Modular Isomorphism Problem which asks whether non-isomorphic  $p$ -groups have always non-isomorphic  $p$ -modular group algebras is still open problem.

Units of group rings are of paramount importance from an application point of view. Hurley [28] establishes a relationship between the ring of matrices and group rings. Additionally, Hurley [29] and Dholakia [30] provide a method for constructing convolution codes using units from group rings. To obtain the derivation of rings, refer to the references [31] through [33].

We compute the disjoint conjugacy classes of  $(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . There are 11 of them. For this, we have used the presentation of  $(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$  given by

$$(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3 = \{a, b, c : a^3 = b^3 = c^3 = e, ab = ba, ac = ca, cb = abc\}.$$

The 11 conjugacy classes of the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$  are given as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 [e], [a], [a^2], \\
 [b] &= \{b, ab, a^2b\}, \\
 [b^2] &= \{b^2, ab^2, a^2b^2\}, \\
 [c] &= \{c, ac, a^2c\}, \\
 [bc] &= \{bc, cb, acb\}, \\
 [c^2] &= \{c^2, ac^2, a^2c^2\}, \\
 [b^2c] &= \{b^2c, ab^2c, cb^2\}, \\
 [bc^2] &= \{bc^2, abc^2, c^2b\}, \\
 [b^2c^2] &= \{b^2c^2, c^2b^2, ac^2b^2\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

## 2 Preliminaries

Throughout this paper, we denote a finite field with  $q = p^n$  elements as  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$ , and  $G$  represents a finite group.

We utilize results from Ferraz’s work [26].

An element  $x \in G$  is termed as  $p$ -regular if  $p \nmid o(x)$ , where  $o(x)$  denotes the order of the element  $x$ . Let  $s$  be the least common multiple (l.c.m.) of the orders of the  $p$ -regular elements of  $G$ , and  $\theta$  be a primitive  $s$ -th root of unity over  $\mathbb{F}$ . We define the multiplicative group  $T_{G,\mathbb{F}}$  as:

$$T_{G,\mathbb{F}} = \{t \mid \theta \rightarrow \theta^t \text{ is an automorphism of } \mathbb{F}(\theta) \text{ over } \mathbb{F}\}.$$

For  $p$ -regular elements  $g$ , which we denote as  $\gamma_g$ , we consider the sum of all conjugates of  $g$  in  $G$ . The cyclotomic  $\mathbb{F}$ -class of  $\gamma_g$  will be denoted by the set:

$$S_{\mathbb{F}}(\gamma_g) = \{\gamma_{g^t} \mid t \in T_{G,\mathbb{F}}\}.$$

The following will be necessary for our discussion.

**Proposition 2.1.** [26] The number of simple components of  $\frac{\mathbb{F}G}{J(\mathbb{F}G)}$  is equal to the number of cyclotomic  $\mathbb{F}$ -classes in  $G$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** [26] Suppose the Galois group  $\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}(\theta) : \mathbb{F})$  is cyclic and  $t$  be the number of cyclotomic  $\mathbb{F}$ -classes in  $G$ . If  $K_1, K_2, \dots, K_t$  are the simple components of  $\mathcal{Z}(\frac{\mathbb{F}G}{J(\mathbb{F}G)})$  and  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_t$  are the cyclotomic  $\mathbb{F}$ -classes of  $G$ , then  $|S_i| = [K_i : \mathbb{F}]$  with a suitable ordering of the indices.

**Proposition 2.3.** [2] (Perlis Walker) Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group of order  $n$ , and  $K$  be a field such that  $\text{char}(K) \nmid n$ . Then

$$KG \cong \bigoplus_{d|n} a_d K(\zeta_d)$$

where  $\zeta_d$  denotes a primitive root of unity of order  $d$ ,  $a_d = \frac{n_d}{[K(\zeta_d):K]}$ , and  $n_d$  denotes the number of elements of order  $d$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** ([34], p.110) Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/N$  is  $p$ -solvable. If  $|G/N| = np^a$  where  $(p, n) = 1$  then

$$J(\mathbb{F}G)^{p^a} \subseteq FG \cdot J(FN) \subseteq J(\mathbb{F}G)$$

In particular, if  $G$  is  $p$ -solvable of order  $np^a$  where  $(p, n) = 1$ , then

$$J(\mathbb{F}G)^{p^a} = 0.$$

**Proposition 2.5.** ([2], Proposition 3.6.11) Let  $\mathbb{F}G$  be a semisimple group algebra. If  $G'$  denotes the commutator subgroup of  $G$ , then we can write

$$\mathbb{F}G \cong \mathbb{F}G_{e_{G'}} \oplus \Delta(G, G'),$$

where  $\mathbb{F}G_{e_{G'}} \cong \mathbb{F}(\frac{G}{G'})$  is the sum of all commutative simple components of  $\mathbb{F}G$  and  $\Delta(G, G')$  is the sum of all the others. Here  $e_{G'} = \frac{\widehat{G'}}{|G'|}$  where  $\widehat{G'}$  is the sum of all elements of  $G'$ .

### 3 The Structure of $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))$ , $p \neq 3$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** Let  $q = p^n$ , where  $p \neq 3$  is a prime. The Wedderburn decomposition of  $\mathbb{F}_q(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3)$  is given as follows:

**Table 1.**

Condition on $n$	Wedderburn decomposition of $\mathbb{F}_q(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3)$
$n$ is even	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$

*Proof.* When  $n$  is even,  $p^n \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ , i.e.,  $3 \mid (p^n - 1)$ . This implies that the field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  has a primitive third root of unity. Therefore, by Proposition 2.3, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q$$

Now, let  $n$  be odd. We divide this case into two subcases:

(1)  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$  and (2)  $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$ .

**Subcase 1.** If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$  and  $n$  is odd, then  $p^n \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ . This implies that the field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  has a primitive third root of unity, and hence, by Proposition 2.3, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q.$$

**Subcase 2.** If  $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$  and  $n$  is odd, then  $p^n \not\equiv 1 \pmod 3$ . In this case, the field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  doesn't have a primitive third root of unity, and hence, again by Proposition 2.3, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_q(\omega)$$

where  $\omega \notin \mathbb{F}_q$  is a third root of unity. Now, by using the simple fact that  $\mathbb{F}_q(\omega) \cong \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ , we have the lemma. □

**Theorem 3.2.** Let  $q = p^n$ ,  $p \neq 3$  be a prime. The Wedderburn decomposition of  $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$  is given as follows:

**Table 2.**

condition on $n$	Wedderburn decomposition of $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$
$n$ is even	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$

*Proof.* Observe that  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)}{\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)'} \cong \mathbb{F}_q(C_3 \times C_3)$ , as  $((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)' \cong C_3 \times C_3$ , where  $C_3$  denotes a cyclic group of order 3. Also,  $|(\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3| = 27 = 3^3$ . Hence, the group algebra  $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$  is semi-simple, as  $p \nmid |G|$ . Here,  $q = p^n$ , with  $p \neq 3$ . By Proposition 2.5, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) = \mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)e_{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)'} \oplus \mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)' - 1))$$

where  $e_{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)'} = e_{(C_3 \times C_3)} = \frac{(\widehat{C_3 \times C_3})'}{|C_3 \times C_3|} = \frac{\sum_{\sigma \in (C_3 \times C_3)} \sigma}{9}$ , and

$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)e_{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)'}$  = sum of all commutative simple components of  $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$

However,

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)e_{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)' } \cong \mathbb{F}_q\left(\frac{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)}{((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)'}\right) \cong \mathbb{F}_q(C_3 \times C_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \text{ or } \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2}.$$

This gives the Wedderburn decomposition

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \sum_{i=1}^2 \mathbb{M}_{n_i}(\mathbb{F}_{q^{k_i}})$$

or

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2} \oplus \sum_{i=1}^2 \mathbb{M}_{n_i}(\mathbb{F}_{q^{k_i}})$$

for  $n_i \geq 2$ .

We divide the proof in two cases.

**Case 1:** When  $n$  is even and  $p^n \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ , i.e., the field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  contains a primitive third root of unity. In this case, we have

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_g)} = \{\gamma_g\} \quad \text{for each group element } g,$$

which means

$$|S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_g)}| = 1$$

for each  $g \in (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . This leads to the conclusion

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \sum_{i=1}^2 \mathbb{M}_{n_i}(\mathbb{F}_q),$$

by Lemma 3.1. By dimension constraints, we have

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)) = 1 + 8 + n_1^2 + n_2^2,$$

$$27 = 1 + 8 + n_1^2 + n_2^2,$$

$$18 = n_1^2 + n_2^2.$$

This equation has only one solution, namely,  $n_1 = 3$  and  $n_2 = 3$ . Hence, in this case, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

**Case 2:** Let  $n$  be odd. We further divide this case into two subcases:

(i)  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ .

(ii)  $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$ .

**Subcase 1:** If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ , and  $n$  is odd, observe that

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_g)} = \{\gamma_g\} \quad \text{for each group element } g,$$

which means

$$|S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_g)}| = 1$$

for each  $g \in (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . Again, as  $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$  and  $n$  is odd, we have  $p^n \equiv 1 \pmod 3$ , indicating that the field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  contains a primitive third root of unity. Thus, as in Case 1 when  $n$  is even, by the above lemma, we obtain

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 8\mathbb{F}_q \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_q).$$

**Subcase 2:** When  $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$  and  $n$  is odd, we have

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_e)} = \{\gamma_e\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_e)}| = 1,$$

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_a)} = \{\gamma_a, \gamma_{a^2}\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_a)}| = 2,$$

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_b)} = \{\gamma_b, \gamma_{b^2}\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_b)}| = 2,$$

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_c)} = \{\gamma_c, \gamma_{c^2}\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_c)}| = 2,$$

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_{bc})} = \{\gamma_{bc}, \gamma_{b^2c^2}\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_{bc})}| = 2,$$

$$S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_{b^2c})} = \{\gamma_{b^2c}, \gamma_{bc^2}\} \text{ i.e. } |S_{\mathbb{F}_q(\gamma_{b^2c})}| = 2,$$

That is, in this subcase, we have  $2 = |S_i| = |K_i : \mathbb{F}|$  in Proposition 2.2 for  $i \neq 1$ . Again, since  $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$  and  $n$  is odd, so  $p^n \not\equiv 1 \pmod 3$ . By using the above lemma, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbb{M}_{n_1}(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}).$$

Equating dimensions on both sides, we have

$$\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)) = 1 + 4 \cdot 2 + 2n_1^2,$$

$$27 = 9 + 2n_1^2,$$

$$18 = 2n_1^2.$$

The only possible solution to the equation is  $n_1 = 3$ .

Hence, in this subcase, we have

$$\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3) \cong \mathbb{F}_q \oplus 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbb{M}_3(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}).$$

□

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $q = p^n$ , where  $p > 3$  be a prime, then  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))$  i.e. unit group of the group ring  $\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)$  is given as follows :

**Table 3.**

condition on $n$	$\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))$
$n$ is even	$\mathbb{F}_q^* \times 8\mathbb{F}_q^* \times GL_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \times GL_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv 1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q^* \times 8\mathbb{F}_q^* \times GL_3(\mathbb{F}_q) \times GL_3(\mathbb{F}_q)$
$n$ is odd with $p \equiv -1 \pmod 3$	$\mathbb{F}_q^* \times 4\mathbb{F}_{q^2}^* \times GL_3(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$

*Proof.* Proof is simple application of the fact that for any two ring  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ,  $\mathcal{U}(R_1 \oplus R_2) = \mathcal{U}(R_1) \times \mathcal{U}(R_2)$ . □

### 4 The Structure of $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)), q = 3^n$ .

If  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is a finite field of characteristic  $p$ , and  $G$  is a finite  $p$ -group, then the Jacobson radical,  $\dim_{\mathbb{F}_q} J(\mathbb{F}_q G) = |G| - 1$ . We have the following results.

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $q = 3^n$ , then  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)}{J(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))} \cong \mathbb{F}_q$ .

*Proof.* An element  $x \in (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$  is 3-regular if  $3 \nmid o(x)$ . In our group under consideration, the only 3-regular element is the identity element, denoted as  $e$ . Hence by Proposition 2.1, we have  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3)}{J(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3))} \cong \mathbb{F}_q$ . □

**Lemma 4.2.** ([34], p.321) If the group  $M(p)$  is defined as

$$M(p) = \langle a, b, c \mid a^p = b^p = c^p = 1, ab = ba, ac = ca, cb = abc \rangle,$$

then the index of nilpotency of  $J(\mathbb{F}_{p^m} M(p))$  is  $4p - 3$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $q = 3^n$  and  $G = (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_3) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . Then  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q G) \cong (1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)) \rtimes \mathbb{F}_q^*$ , where  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is a non-abelian group of exponent 9.

*Proof.* By Theorem 4.1, we have  $\mathcal{U}(\frac{\mathbb{F}_q G}{J(\mathbb{F}_q G)}) \cong \mathbb{F}_q^*$ . As  $G$  is non-abelian,  $bc \neq cb$  for some  $b, c \in G$ . Then,  $b - 1$  and  $c - 1$  are elements of the augmentation ideal  $\Delta(G) \subseteq J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ . Therefore,  $b = b - 1 + 1$  and  $c = c - 1 + 1$  are two non-commuting elements of  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ . This proves that  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is non-abelian.

Since the group  $G$  is 3-solvable, by Proposition 2.4, we have  $(1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G))^{27} = 1$ , which means that the exponent of  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is 3, 9, or 27. Now, using Lemma 4.2, we find that the index of nilpotency of  $J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ ,  $4p - 3 = 9$ , and hence the group  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is of exponent 3 or 9.

Observe that  $b - 1 \in J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ , so  $cb - c \in J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} (cb - c)^2 &= (cb)^2 - cbc - c^2b + c^2 \\ (cb - c)^3 &= 1 - (cb)^2c - cbc^2b + cbc^2 - c^2ccb + c^2bc + b - 1 \\ &= -b^2 - ab^2 + ab - a^2b^2 + a^2b + b \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

This shows that  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is a non-abelian subgroup of  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  with an exponent of 9. □

### 5 The Structure of $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q((\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_p)), q = p^n$ .

In this section, we generalize the result from the previous section to the group  $(\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_p$ . This group is a semidirect product of the groups  $\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ , where  $p$  is an arbitrary odd prime. It has the following presentation:

$$(\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_p = \langle a, b, c \mid a^p = b^p = c^p = e, ab = ba, ac = ca, cb = abc \rangle.$$

**Theorem 5.1.** Let  $q = p^n$  and  $G = (\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_p$  for an odd prime  $p$ . Then  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q G}{J(\mathbb{F}_q G)} \cong \mathbb{F}_q$ .

*Proof.* An element  $x \in G$  is  $p$ -regular if  $p \nmid o(x)$ . Such an element is the identity element  $e$  only, as each non-identity element of  $G$  is of order  $p$ . Therefore,  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q G}{J(\mathbb{F}_q G)}$  has only one simple component with dimension 1, i.e.,  $\frac{\mathbb{F}_q G}{J(\mathbb{F}_q G)} \cong \mathbb{F}_q$  as  $\dim \mathbb{F}_q G = p^3 - 1$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . □

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $q = p^n$  and  $G = (\mathbb{Z}_p \times \mathbb{Z}_p) \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_p$  for an odd prime  $p$ . Then  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q G) \cong (1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)) \rtimes \mathbb{F}_q^*$ , where  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is a non-abelian subgroup of  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{F}_q(G))$  with exponent  $p$  or  $p^2$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 5.1, we have  $U\left(\frac{\mathbb{F}_q G}{J(\mathbb{F}_q G)}\right) \cong \mathbb{F}_q^*$ . As  $G$  is non-abelian,  $bc \neq cb$  for some  $b, c \in G$ . Now,  $b - 1$  and  $c - 1$  are elements of the augmentation ideal  $\Delta(G) \subseteq J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ . Therefore,  $b = b - 1 + 1$  and  $c = c - 1 + 1$  are two non-commuting elements of  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$ . This proves that  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is non-abelian.

Since the group  $G$  is  $p$ -solvable, by Proposition 2.4, we have  $(1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G))^{p^3} = 1$ . This implies that the exponent of  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is  $p^i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ . However, Lemma 4.2 states that the index of nilpotency of  $J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is equal to  $4p - 3$ , and since  $p < 4p - 3 \leq p^2$  for an odd prime  $p$ , the exponent of  $1 + J(\mathbb{F}_q G)$  is equal to  $p$  or  $p^2$ . This proves the theorem.  $\square$

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