

# FROM STABLE EQUIVALENCES TO RICKARD EQUIVALENCES FOR BLOCKS WITH CYCLIC DEFECT

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two finite groups,  $p$  a prime number. Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be a complete discrete valuation ring with residue field  $k$  of characteristic  $p$  and with field of fractions  $K$  of characteristic 0, “big enough” for  $G$  and  $H$ . Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two blocks of  $G$  and  $H$  over  $\mathcal{O}$ .

Let  $M$  be a  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module, projective as  $A$ -module and as  $B^\circ$ -module, where  $B^\circ$  denotes the opposite algebra of  $B$ . We denote by  $M^*$  the  $(B \otimes A^\circ)$ -module  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{O}}(M, \mathcal{O})$ .

We say that  $M$  induces a *stable equivalence* between  $A$  and  $B$  if

$$M \otimes_B M^* \simeq A \oplus \text{projectives as } (A \otimes A^\circ) \text{ -- modules and}$$

$$M^* \otimes_A M \simeq B \oplus \text{projectives as } (B \otimes B^\circ) \text{ -- modules.}$$

Let  $C$  be a complex of  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules, all of which are projective as  $A$ -modules and as  $B^\circ$ -modules.

Denoting by  $C^*$  the  $\mathcal{O}$ -dual of  $C$ , we say that  $C$  induces a *Rickard equivalence* between  $A$  and  $B$  if

$C \otimes_B C^*$  is homotopy equivalent to  $A$  as complexes of  $(A \otimes A^\circ)$  – modules and

$C^* \otimes_A C$  is homotopy equivalent to  $B$  as complexes of  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$  – modules.

By [Ri4, 5.5], from a complex  $C$  inducing a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ , one can construct a module  $M$  inducing a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$  as follows : In the derived bounded category of  $A \otimes B^\circ$ , the complex  $C$  is isomorphic to a complex with only one term which is not projective as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module,  $V$  in degree  $-n$  and then the  $n$ -th Heller translate (syzygy)  $M = \Omega^n(V)$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .

The main result of this note is a partial converse under very special assumptions (theorem 6). Since there are well-known situations where a module  $M$  induces a stable equivalence between two blocks (remark 9), for example when the Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  are TI,  $H$  is the normalizer of a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  and  $A, B$  are principal blocks, it is tempting to try to construct a complex with two terms,  $M$  in degree 0 and a projective module in degree  $-1$ , inducing a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ . Using theorem 6, we prove that it is indeed

possible when the Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  are cyclic or when  $G = A_5$  or  $SL_2(8)$  and  $p = 2$ .

## 2. A CRITERION FOR DERIVED EQUIVALENCES BETWEEN BLOCKS

**2.1. Some lemmas.** Let  $A'$  be an  $\mathcal{O}$ -free  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra, finitely generated as an  $\mathcal{O}$ -module.

If  $V$  is an  $A'$ -module, let  $P_V$  be an  $A'$ -module which is a projective cover of  $V$ . We will denote by  $\text{Rad}(V)$  the radical of  $V$  and by  $\text{hd}(V)$  the head  $V/\text{Rad}(V)$  of  $V$ , *i.e.*, its largest semi-simple quotient.

If  $M$  and  $N$  are two  $A'$ -modules, we say that  $M$  and  $N$  are *disjoint* if they have no non-zero isomorphic direct summands. If  $M$  and  $N$  are projective, they are disjoint if and only if  $\text{Hom}_{A'}(M, \text{hd}(N)) = 0$  or equivalently,  $\text{Hom}_{A'}(N, \text{hd}(M)) = 0$ .

If  $X$  is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -module, we define  $\bar{X} = X \otimes k$ .

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $P, Q$  and  $R$  be three projective  $A'$ -modules and  $\varphi : P \oplus Q \rightarrow R$  a surjective morphism. Assume that  $Q$  and  $R$  are disjoint. Then, the restriction  $\varphi|_P$  of  $\varphi$  to  $P$  is surjective.*

*Let  $U, V$  and  $W$  be three injective  $\bar{A}'$ -modules and  $\varphi : W \hookrightarrow U \oplus V$  an injective morphism. Assume that  $V$  and  $W$  are disjoint. Then, denoting by  $p_U$  the projection of  $U \oplus V$  onto  $U$ , the map  $p_U \varphi$  is injective.*

*Proof.* Let  $h : R \rightarrow \text{hd}(R)$  be the canonical projection. Since  $h\varphi : P \oplus Q \rightarrow \text{hd}(R)$  is surjective and  $\text{Hom}_{A'}(Q, \text{hd}(R)) = 0$  by assumption,  $h\varphi|_P$  is surjective. Hence,  $\varphi(P) + \text{Rad}(R) = R$  and by Nakayama's lemma,  $\varphi(P) = R$ . The second assertion follows immediately by duality since  $V$  and  $W$  are disjoint implies that  $V^*$  and  $W^*$  are disjoint.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $M$  be an  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module, projective as  $A$ -module and as  $B^\circ$ -module. A projective cover of  $M$  is*

$$\bigoplus_W P_{M \otimes_B W} \otimes P_W^*$$

*where  $W$  runs over a complete set of representatives of isomorphism classes of simple  $B$ -modules. This module is isomorphic to*

$$\bigoplus_V P_V \otimes P_{M^* \otimes_A V}^*$$

*where  $V$  runs over a complete set of representatives of isomorphism classes of simple  $A$ -modules.*

*Proof.* Let  $V$  be an  $\bar{A}$ -module and  $W$  a  $\bar{B}$ -module. We have

$$\text{Hom}_{\bar{B}^\circ}(\bar{M}, V \otimes W^*) \simeq \text{Hom}_{\bar{B}^\circ}(\bar{M}, V \otimes W^*) \simeq \bar{M}^* \otimes_{\bar{B}^\circ} (V \otimes W^*)$$

since  $\bar{M}$  is projective as  $\bar{B}^\circ$ -module. Hence,

$$\text{Hom}_{\bar{B}^\circ}(\bar{M}, V \otimes W^*) \simeq (\bar{M} \otimes_{\bar{B}} W)^* \otimes V \simeq \text{Hom}_k(\bar{M} \otimes_{\bar{B}} W, V)$$

and finally

$$\mathrm{Hom}_{\bar{A} \otimes \bar{B}^\circ}(\bar{M}, V \otimes W^*) \simeq \mathrm{Hom}_{\bar{A}}(\bar{M} \otimes_{\bar{B}} W, V).$$

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{hd}(M) &\simeq \bigoplus_{V, W} \dim \mathrm{Hom}_{A \otimes B^\circ}(M, V \otimes W^*)(V \otimes W^*) \\ &\simeq \bigoplus_W \left( \bigoplus_V \dim \mathrm{Hom}_A(M \otimes_B W, V) V \right) \otimes W^* \end{aligned}$$

where  $V$  (resp.  $W$ ) runs over the simple  $A$ -modules (resp.  $B$ -modules) up to isomorphism, hence

$$\mathrm{hd}(M) \simeq \bigoplus_W \mathrm{hd}(M \otimes_B W) \otimes W^*,$$

so a projective cover of  $M$  is  $\bigoplus_W P_{M \otimes_B W} \otimes P_W^*$ .

To get the second description, replace  $A$  by  $B^\circ$  and  $B$  by  $A^\circ$  in the first description : a projective cover of  $M$  as  $B^\circ \otimes (A^\circ)^\circ$ -module is  $\bigoplus_V P_{M \otimes_{A^\circ} V} \otimes P_{V^*}$  where  $V$  runs over the simple  $A^\circ$ -modules. This module is isomorphic to  $\bigoplus_V P_{M \otimes_{A^\circ} V^*} \otimes P_V$  where  $V$  runs over the simple  $A$ -modules, hence a projective cover of  $M$  as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module is  $\bigoplus_V P_V \otimes P_{V^* \otimes_A M}$  where  $V$  runs over the simple  $A$ -modules.  $\square$

**Lemma 3 (Linckelmann, [Li2, 6.8]).** *Let  $M$  be an  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module inducing a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ . Then,  $M$  has a unique non-projective direct summand, up to isomorphism.*

*Proof.* Let  $M = M_1 \oplus M_2$ . Since  $M^* \otimes_A M \simeq B \oplus$  projectives, we have  $M^* \otimes_A M_1 \oplus M^* \otimes_A M_2 \simeq B \oplus$  projectives as  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules. As  $B$  is indecomposable as  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -module, there exists  $i \in \{1, 2\}$  such that  $M^* \otimes_A M_i$  is projective as  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -module, so  $M \otimes_B M^* \otimes_A M_i$  is projective as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module. Now,  $(M \otimes_B M^*) \otimes_A M_i \simeq M_i \oplus$  projectives as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules, hence  $M_i$  is projective as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module.  $\square$

**Remark 4.** A similar proof shows that a complex of  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules  $C$  inducing a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$  has a unique non-homotopy equivalent to zero direct summand, up to isomorphism.

**Lemma 5 (Linckelmann, [Li2, 6.3]).** *Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module inducing a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ . For any simple  $B$ -module  $V$ , the  $A$ -module  $M \otimes_B V$  is indecomposable.*

*Proof. (Linckelmann)* Denote by  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{A})$  the largest semi-simple  $\bar{A}$ -submodule of  $\bar{A}$ . Recall that an  $\bar{A}$ -module  $V$  has no projective direct summand if and only if  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{A})V = 0$ . We have  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{A} \otimes \bar{B}^\circ) = \mathrm{soc}(\bar{A}) \otimes \mathrm{soc}(\bar{B}^\circ)$ . Since  $M$  has no projective direct summand,  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{A} \otimes \bar{B}^\circ)M = 0$ , hence  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{A})(M \otimes_B \mathrm{soc}(\bar{B})) = 0$ , which means that  $M \otimes_B \mathrm{soc}(\bar{B})$  has no projective direct summand. But, if  $V$  is a simple  $B$ -module, it is a direct summand of  $\mathrm{soc}(\bar{B})$ , so  $M \otimes_B V$  has no projective

direct summand : as  $M$  induces a stable equivalence,  $M \otimes_B V$  has a unique indecomposable non projective direct summand and the lemma follows.  $\square$

**2.2. The criterion.** We denote by  $R_K(A)$  (resp.  $R_K(B)$ ) the group of characters of  $KA = K \otimes A$  (resp.  $KB$ ).

Let us now state the main result :

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $M$  be an  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module, projective as  $A$ -module and as  $B^\circ$ -module. Let  $\delta' : P' \rightarrow M$  be a projective cover of  $M$ . Let  $P$  be a direct summand of  $P'$ ,  $\delta = \delta'_P$  and  $C = (0 \rightarrow P \xrightarrow{\delta} M \rightarrow 0)$  ( $M$  is in degree 0). Assume*

- (a<sub>1</sub>)  $M^* \otimes_A M \simeq B \oplus Q$  where  $Q$  is a projective  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -module,
- (a<sub>2</sub>)  $M \otimes_B M^* \simeq A \oplus R$  where  $R$  is a projective  $(A \otimes A^\circ)$ -module,
- (b<sub>1</sub>)  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}$  and  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}'/\bar{P}$  are disjoint,
- (b<sub>2</sub>)  $\text{Res}_A^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}$  and  $\text{Res}_A^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}'/\bar{P}$  are disjoint,
- (c)  $KC$  induces an isometry between  $R_K(A)$  and  $R_K(B)$ .

Then,  $C$  induces a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .

*Proof.*<sup>1</sup> Remark first that (b<sub>1</sub>) implies that

$$(b') \quad \text{Res}_B^{B \otimes A^\circ} \bar{P}^* \text{ and } \text{Res}_B^{B \otimes A^\circ} (\bar{P}'/\bar{P})^* \text{ are disjoint.}$$

We have

$$C^* \otimes_A C = (0 \rightarrow M^* \otimes_A P \xrightarrow{(\delta^* \otimes id, id \otimes \delta)} P^* \otimes_A P \oplus M^* \otimes_A M \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} id \otimes \delta \\ -\delta^* \otimes id \end{pmatrix}} P^* \otimes_A M \rightarrow 0).$$

Since  $KC$  induces an isometry between  $R_K(A)$  and  $R_K(B)$ , the character of  $K(C^* \otimes_A C)$  as  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -module is equal to the character of  $B$ . Hence,

$$K(M^* \otimes_A P \oplus P^* \otimes_A M) \simeq K(P^* \otimes_A P \oplus Q).$$

We know that  $P$  is a projective  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module and  $\text{Res}_B^{B \otimes A^\circ} M^*$  is projective, so  $M^* \otimes_A P$  is projective as  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -module. Similarly,  $P^* \otimes_A M$ ,  $P^* \otimes_A P$  and  $Q$  are projective  $(B \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules. Hence

$$M^* \otimes_A P \oplus P^* \otimes_A M \simeq P^* \otimes_A P \oplus Q, \text{ and}$$

$$(1) \quad \bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M} \simeq \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P} \oplus \bar{Q}.$$

Let  $\bar{Q} = \bar{Q}_1 \oplus \bar{Q}_2$  where

$$(2) \quad \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{Q}_2 \text{ and } \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P} \text{ are disjoint,}$$

$$(3) \quad \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{Q}_1 \text{ and } \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}'/\bar{P} \text{ are disjoint.}$$

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<sup>1</sup>Using an unpublished result of J. Rickard, one can actually prove the theorem without the assumptions (a<sub>2</sub>) and (b<sub>2</sub>).

(Since the map  $p_{\bar{Q}}(id \otimes \bar{\delta}') : \bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}' \rightarrow \bar{Q}$  is surjective, every indecomposable direct summand of  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{Q}$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{P}'$ , so  $\bar{Q}_1$  and  $\bar{Q}_2$  are unique up to isomorphism).

The map  $p_{\bar{Q}_1}(id \otimes \bar{\delta}') : \bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}' \rightarrow \bar{Q}_1$  is surjective and using (3),

$$\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{Q}_1 \text{ and } \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} (\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}') / (\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}) \text{ are disjoint,}$$

$$\text{hence } \bar{Q}_1 \text{ and } (\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}') / (\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}) \text{ are disjoint}$$

and it follows from lemma 1 that the map

$$p_{\bar{Q}_1}(id \otimes \bar{\delta}) : \bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P} \rightarrow \bar{Q}_1$$

is surjective.

From (1),  $\bar{Q}$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P} \oplus \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M}$ , hence  $\bar{Q}_2$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M}$  using (2). By (b'),

$$\text{Res}_B^{B \otimes B^\circ} (\bar{P}^* \otimes \bar{M}) \text{ and } \text{Res}_B^{B \otimes B^\circ} (\bar{P}'^* \otimes \bar{M} / \bar{P}^* \otimes \bar{M}) \text{ are disjoint}$$

$$\text{hence } \text{Res}_B^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{Q}_2 \text{ and } \text{Res}_B^{B \otimes B^\circ} (\bar{P}'^* \otimes \bar{M} / \bar{P}^* \otimes \bar{M}) \text{ are disjoint.}$$

Now, since  $(\bar{\delta}'^* \otimes id)|_{\bar{Q}_2} : \bar{Q}_2 \rightarrow \bar{P}'^* \otimes_A \bar{M}$  is injective, lemma 1 implies that

$$(\bar{\delta}^* \otimes id)|_{\bar{Q}_2} : \bar{Q}_2 \rightarrow \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M}$$

is injective.

Let  $\bar{R}_2$  be a submodule of  $\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M}$  such that  $\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M} = \bar{R}_2 \oplus \text{Im}(\bar{\delta}^* \otimes id)|_{\bar{Q}_2}$ . We introduce

$$f_2 = p_{\bar{R}_2}(id \otimes \bar{\delta}) : \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P} \rightarrow \bar{R}_2$$

$$\text{and } f'_2 = p_{\bar{R}_2}(id \otimes \bar{\delta}') : \bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}' \rightarrow \bar{R}_2$$

We have  $\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{M} \simeq \bar{Q}_2 \oplus \bar{R}_2$ , so, by (1), as  $\bar{Q}_1$  is isomorphic to a direct summand of  $\bar{M}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}$ , the module  $\bar{R}_1$  is a direct summand of  $\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}$ , hence, by (b<sub>1</sub>),

$$\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} \bar{R}_2 \text{ and } \text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{B \otimes B^\circ} ((\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P}') / (\bar{P}^* \otimes_A \bar{P})) \text{ are disjoint.}$$

Since  $f'_2$  is surjective, lemma 1 implies that  $f_2$  is surjective.

It follows that the map  $id \otimes \bar{\delta} - \bar{\delta}^* \otimes id$  is surjective. By Nakayama's lemma, the map  $id \otimes \bar{\delta} - \bar{\delta}^* \otimes id$  is also surjective and hence splits. By duality, the map  $\bar{\delta}^* \otimes id + id \otimes \bar{\delta}$  is injective and splits. Hence, the complex  $C^* \otimes_A C$  is homotopy equivalent to  $B$ .

Similarly, the complex  $C \otimes_B C^*$  is homotopy equivalent to  $A$ . Hence, the complex  $C$  induces a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .  $\square$

**2.3. An application.** Let  $M$  be an indecomposable  $(A \otimes B)^\circ$ -module inducing a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .

Assume that for every simple  $A$ -module  $V$ , the head of  $M^* \otimes_A V$  is simple.

**Theorem 7.** *If there exists a direct summand  $P$  of*

$$\bigoplus_V P_V \otimes P_{M^* \otimes_A V}^* \simeq \bigoplus_W P_{M \otimes_B W} \otimes P_W^*$$

( $V$  runs over the simple  $A$ -modules and  $W$  over the simple  $B$ -modules) such that  $0 \rightarrow P \xrightarrow{0} M \rightarrow 0$  induces an isometry between  $R_K(KA)$  and  $R_K(KB)$ , then there is a complex  $C = 0 \rightarrow P \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$  inducing a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .

*Proof.* The modules  $P$  and  $M$  being projective as  $A$ -modules and as  $B^\circ$ -modules, the isometry induced by  $0 \rightarrow P \xrightarrow{0} M \rightarrow 0$  is perfect [Br3, 1.2] and it follows that the algebras  $A$  and  $B$  have the same number  $s$  of isomorphism classes of simple modules [Br3, 1.5].

If  $V$  is a simple  $A$ -module, the modules  $P_V$  and  $P_{M^* \otimes_A V}^*$  are indecomposable. Hence, a projective cover of  $M$  is a sum of  $s$  indecomposable  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules, which are mutually non-isomorphic when restricted to  $A$  or when restricted to  $B^\circ$ . Hence, if  $P$  is a direct summand of  $P'$  then  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} P$  and  $\text{Res}_{B^\circ}^{A \otimes B^\circ} P'/P$  are disjoint and  $\text{Res}_A^{A \otimes B^\circ} P$  and  $\text{Res}_A^{A \otimes B^\circ} P'/P$  are disjoint. Now, theorem 6 gives the conclusion.  $\square$

Let us denote by  $\text{CF}(G, K)$  the space of class functions  $G \rightarrow K$ , by  $\text{CF}(A, K)$  the subspace generated by  $R_K(A)$ . We denote by  $\text{CF}_p(G, K)$  (resp.  $\text{CF}_{p'}(G, K)$ ) the subspace of  $\text{CF}(G, K)$  consisting of class functions which vanish on  $p$ -regular (resp.  $p$ -singular) elements and  $\text{CF}_p(A, K)$  (resp.  $\text{CF}_{p'}(A, K)$ ) the intersection  $\text{CF}_p(G, K) \cap \text{CF}(A, K)$  (resp.  $\text{CF}_{p'}(G, K) \cap \text{CF}(A, K)$ ).

As the next lemma shows, in the situation of theorem 7, if the map induced by  $0 \rightarrow P \xrightarrow{0} M \rightarrow 0$  is an isometry on a subspace of  $\text{CF}(A, K)$  which contains a complement of  $\text{CF}_p(A, K)$ , then it is an isometry :

**Lemma 8.** *Let  $P_1, P_2$  be two projective  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules and  $C = 0 \rightarrow P_1 \xrightarrow{0} M \oplus P_2 \rightarrow 0$ . Let  $I$  be the map between  $R_K(A)$  and  $R_K(B)$  induced by  $C$ . Let  $X$  be a subspace of  $\text{CF}(A, K)$  such that  $\text{CF}(A, K) = X + \text{CF}_p(A, K)$ .*

*If the restriction of  $I$  to  $X$  is an isometry, then  $I$  is an isometry.*

*Proof.* Let  $f, g \in \text{CF}(A, K)$ . We decompose  $f$  and  $g$  as  $f = f_p + f_{p'}$  and  $g = g_p + g_{p'}$  where  $f_p, g_p \in \text{CF}_p(A, K)$  and  $f_{p'}, g_{p'} \in \text{CF}_{p'}(A, K)$ . Since  $I$  is perfect [Br3, 1.2],  $I(f_p), I(g_p) \in \text{CF}_p(B, K)$  and  $I(f_{p'}), I(g_{p'}) \in \text{CF}_{p'}(B, K)$ . Hence, the scalar product of  $I(f)$  and  $I(g)$  is  $\langle I(f), I(g) \rangle = \langle I(f_p), I(g_p) \rangle + \langle I(f_{p'}), I(g_{p'}) \rangle$ .

Furthermore, the restriction of  $I$  to  $\text{CF}_p(A, K)$  is an isometry because  $M$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$  and as  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are projective, the map induced by  $M$  between  $R_K(A)$  and  $R_K(B)$  is equal to  $I$  on  $\text{CF}_p(A, K)$  [Br2, 5.3]. It follows that  $\langle I(f_p), I(g_p) \rangle = \langle f_p, g_p \rangle$  and we have now to prove that

$\langle I(f_{p'}), I(g_{p'}) \rangle = \langle f_{p'}, g_{p'} \rangle$ . But, as  $\text{CF}(A, K) = X + \text{CF}_p(A, K)$ , we can decompose  $f_{p'}$  and  $g_{p'}$  as  $f_{p'} = f_1 + f_2$  and  $g_{p'} = g_1 + g_2$  where  $f_1, g_1 \in X$  and  $f_2, g_2 \in \text{CF}_p(A, K)$ . Now,  $\langle f_1, g_1 \rangle = \langle f_{p'}, g_{p'} \rangle - \langle f_2, g_2 \rangle$  and  $\langle I(f_1), I(g_1) \rangle = \langle I(f_{p'}), I(g_{p'}) \rangle - \langle I(f_2), I(g_2) \rangle$ . Finally, we know that  $\langle I(f_1), I(g_1) \rangle = \langle f_1, g_1 \rangle$  and  $\langle I(f_2), I(g_2) \rangle = \langle f_2, g_2 \rangle$ , hence  $\langle I(f_{p'}), I(g_{p'}) \rangle = \langle f_{p'}, g_{p'} \rangle$ .  $\square$

**Remark 9.** Stable equivalences induced by bimodules arise for example in the following situation [Br2, 6.4] :

Assume that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  with index prime to  $p$  and  $e, f$  are the units of  $A$  and  $B$ . Following Broué, let us assume that for every non trivial  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $H$ , we have  $N_G(P) = N_H(P)O_{p'}C_G(P)$ . Then, the  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module  $e\mathcal{O}Gf$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ . Let  $M$  be an indecomposable non-projective direct summand of  $e\mathcal{O}Gf$  ; by lemma 3, such a module is unique up to isomorphism ; we have  $e\mathcal{O}Gf = M \oplus$  projectives, so  $M$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Example 1.** Let  $G = SL_2(4) = A_5$  and  $H = A_4 = 2^2 \rtimes 3$  a Borel subgroup,  $p = 2$ . The principal block  $ekG$  of  $G$  has three simple modules :  $k, S_1$  and  $S_2$  of dimension 2. The module  $\text{Res}_H^G(S_1)$  is a non-split extension of  $V_2$  by  $V_1$ , where  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are the two non-trivial non-isomorphic simple  $kH$ -modules and  $\text{Res}_H^G(S_2)$  is a non-split extension of  $V_1$  by  $V_2$ . An immediate character calculation shows that

$$0 \rightarrow P_{S_1} \otimes P_{V_1}^* \oplus P_{S_2} \otimes P_{V_2}^* \xrightarrow{0} e\mathcal{O}G \rightarrow 0$$

induces an isometry between  $R_K(ekG)$  and  $R_K(KH)$ . Hence, by remark 9 and theorem 7, there exists a complex  $0 \rightarrow P_{S_1} \otimes P_{V_1} \oplus P_{S_2} \otimes P_{V_2} \rightarrow e\mathcal{O}G \rightarrow 0$  inducing a Rickard equivalence between the principal blocks of  $G$  and  $H$ , result due to J. Rickard [Ri3].

**Example 2.** Let  $G = SL_2(8)$  and  $H = 2^3 \rtimes 7$  a Borel subgroup,  $p = 2$ . Then, theorem 7 applies also to construct a complex inducing a Rickard equivalence between the principal blocks of  $G$  and  $H$  : The  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -bimodule  $e\mathcal{O}G$  is indecomposable. We leave to the reader to check that a projective cover of this module is :

$$P_1 \otimes Q_1^* \oplus P_{2_1} \otimes Q_{2_1}^* \oplus P_{2_2} \otimes Q_{2_2}^* \oplus P_{2_3} \otimes Q_{2_3}^* \oplus P_{4_1} \otimes Q_{4_1}^* \oplus P_{4_2} \otimes Q_{4_2}^* \oplus P_{4_3} \otimes Q_{4_3}^*$$

(where  $P_1$  (resp.  $Q_1$ ) is a projective cover of the trivial  $A$ -module (resp.  $B$ -module),  $P_{2_1}, P_{2_2}$  and  $P_{2_3}$  (resp.  $P_{4_1}, P_{4_2}$  and  $P_{4_3}$ ) are projective covers of the three non-isomorphic 2-dimensional (resp. 4-dimensional) simple  $A$ -modules and  $Q_{2_1}, Q_{2_2}, Q_{2_3}, Q_{4_1}, Q_{4_2}, Q_{4_3}$  are projective covers of the six non-isomorphic non-trivial simple  $B$ -modules) and that the complex

$$0 \rightarrow \oplus P_{4_1} \otimes Q_{4_1}^* \oplus P_{4_2} \otimes Q_{4_2}^* \oplus P_{4_3} \otimes Q_{4_3}^* \xrightarrow{0} e\mathcal{O}G \rightarrow 0$$

induces an isometry between  $R_K(A)$  and  $R_K(B)$ , so that by remark 9 and theorem 7, there exists a complex  $0 \rightarrow \oplus P_{4_1} \otimes Q_{4_1}^* \oplus P_{4_2} \otimes Q_{4_2}^* \oplus P_{4_3} \otimes Q_{4_3}^* \rightarrow e\mathcal{O}G \rightarrow 0$  inducing a Rickard equivalence between the principal blocks of  $G$  and  $H$ .

## 3. APPLICATION TO PRINCIPAL BLOCKS WITH CYCLIC DEFECT

Let  $G$  be a finite group with a cyclic Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  and let  $H = N_G(P)$ . As before,  $A = \mathcal{O}Ge$  and  $B = \mathcal{O}Hf$  are the principal blocks of  $G$  and  $H$ , where  $e$  and  $f$  are primitive idempotents of the centers of  $\mathcal{O}G$  and  $\mathcal{O}H$ .

The functor  $e \operatorname{Ind}_H^G$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$  with inverse functor  $f \operatorname{Res}_H^G$  (remark 9).

As conjectured by J. Rickard (cf [Ri2]), a slight modification of these functors leads to a derived equivalence, and this proves in particular the conjecture of Broué and Rickard on abelian defect, for principal blocks with cyclic defect (cf [Br1]) :

**Theorem 10.** *There exists a projective  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -module  $Y$  and a map  $\phi : Y \rightarrow e\mathcal{O}Gf$  such that, if  $C = 0 \rightarrow Y \xrightarrow{\phi} e\mathcal{O}Gf \rightarrow 0$ , then  $C$  induces a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ . In particular,  $C$  is a Rickard tilting complex of  $p$ -permutation modules.*

Note that the fact that  $A$  and  $B$  are derived-equivalent was already known by the work of Rickard and Linckelmann (cf [Ri1] and [Li1]).

3.1. Construction of  $C$ .

Let us quote some classical results about  $A$  (cf [Gr]).

The set of irreducible characters of  $KA$  is  $\operatorname{Irr}(A) = \{\chi_1, \dots, \chi_e\} \cup \{\chi_\lambda\}_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  where  $\chi_1, \dots, \chi_e$  are the non-exceptional characters and the  $\chi_\lambda, \lambda \in \Lambda$ , are the exceptional characters. (In the case there is only one exceptional character, one can choose it different from the character  $1_G$ .)

Define  $\chi_{e+1} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda} \chi_\lambda$  and  $\Gamma = \{\chi_1, \dots, \chi_{e+1}\}$ .

The Brauer tree  $\mathcal{T}_A$  is then defined as follows :

- the set of its vertices is  $\Gamma$ ,
- two vertices  $v$  and  $v'$  are incident if and only if  $v + v'$  is the character of a projective indecomposable  $A$ -module. We denote by  $\{v, v'\}$  the corresponding edge.

The vertex  $\chi_{e+1}$  is called the exceptional vertex of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ . Every character of a projective indecomposable  $A$ -module is an edge of  $\mathcal{T}_A$  and we have a bijection between the set of edges of  $\mathcal{T}_A$  and the set of characters of projective indecomposable  $A$ -modules. If  $v$  and  $v'$  are two vertices of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ , we denote by  $d(v, v')$  the distance between  $v$  and  $v'$ .

There is a “walk” on  $\mathcal{T}_A$  starting from  $1_G$ , the trivial character of  $G$ , *i.e.*, a sequence  $v_0 = 1_G, v_1, \dots, v_{2e}$  of vertices of  $\mathcal{T}_A$  such that  $v_i$  is incident with  $v_{i+1}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 2e - 1$ , with the following properties :

- Each edge is traversed twice, *i.e.*, denoting by  $l_i$  the edge  $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ , then for every edge  $l$  of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ , there exists  $i$  and  $j$  two distinct integers,  $0 \leq i, j \leq 2e - 1$ , such that  $l = l_i = l_j$  ;

- denote by  $P_i$  a projective indecomposable module with character  $l_i$ . Then, we have a minimal projective resolution of the  $A$ -module  $\mathcal{O}$ , periodic of period  $2e$  :

$$(4) \quad \cdots \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow P_{2e-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow P_1 \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \rightarrow 0.$$

We have  $v_{2e} = v_0$ . Given three vertices  $v, v', v''$  of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ , we have  $d(v, v') + d(v', v'') \equiv d(v, v'') \pmod{2}$ , hence  $d(v_i, v_0) \equiv i \pmod{2}$ . Suppose  $l_i = l_j$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}_A$  is a tree, we have  $v_i = v_{j+1}$  and  $v_j = v_{i+1}$ , hence  $i \equiv j + 1 \pmod{2}$ . It follows that  $\{l_{2i}\}_{0 \leq i \leq e-1}$  is the set of all edges of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ .

If  $X$  is an  $A$ -module (resp. a  $B$ -module) and  $i$  an integer, we define  $\Omega_A^i(X)$  (resp.  $\Omega_B^i(X)$ ) to be the  $i$ -th Heller translate of  $X$ .

The character of  $\Omega_A^i \mathcal{O}$  is  $v_i$ .

The block  $B$  has a similar description which is a particular case of the previous one :

The Brauer tree of  $B$ ,  $\mathcal{T}_B$ , is a star whose center is the exceptional vertex, *i.e.*, every edge of  $\mathcal{T}_B$  is of the form  $\{w, w'\}$  where  $w'$  is the exceptional vertex. There is a walk  $w_0 = 1_H, w_1, \dots, w_{2e}$  on  $\mathcal{T}_B$  such that :

- Every edge is traversed twice ;
- denote by  $Q_i$  a projective indecomposable module with character  $w_i + w_{i+1}$ . Then, we have a minimal projective resolution of the  $B$ -module  $\mathcal{O}$ , periodic of period  $2e$  :

$$\cdots \rightarrow Q_0 \rightarrow Q_{2e-1} \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow Q_1 \rightarrow Q_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{O} \rightarrow 0.$$

Note that for any  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq e-1$ ,  $w_{2i+1}$  is the exceptional vertex and  $\{w_{2i}\}_{0 \leq i \leq e-1}$  is the set of all non-exceptional characters of  $KB$ . The module  $\Omega_B^{2i} \mathcal{O}$  remains irreducible modulo  $p$  and its character is  $w_{2i}$ .

Since  $e\mathcal{O}Gf$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ , we have  $e\mathcal{O}Gf = M \oplus U$  as  $(A \otimes B^\circ)$ -modules, where  $M$  is indecomposable – and then  $\bar{M}$  is also indecomposable since  $M$  is a  $p$ -permutation module – and  $U$  is projective (cf lemma 3). We still have

$$M \otimes_B M^* \simeq A \oplus \text{projectives} \quad \text{and} \quad M^* \otimes_A M \simeq B \oplus \text{projectives}.$$

Since  $M$  induces a stable equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ , tensoring by  $M$  commutes with Heller translates, up to projectives, hence  $M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i} \mathcal{O} \simeq \Omega_A^{2i} \mathcal{O} \oplus \text{projectives}$ . Since  $\bar{M}$  is indecomposable and  $\Omega_B^{2i} k$  is simple,  $\bar{M} \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i} k$  is indecomposable (cf lemma 5), so that

$$(5) \quad M \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i} \mathcal{O} \simeq \Omega_A^{2i} \mathcal{O}.$$

Now, since a projective cover of  $\Omega_A^{2i}\mathcal{O}$  is  $P_{2i}$  and a projective cover of  $\Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O}$  is  $Q_{2i}$ , it follows from lemma 2 that a projective cover of  $M$  is :

$$\bigoplus_{0 \leq i \leq e-1} P_{2i} \otimes Q_{2i}^* \xrightarrow{\psi} M.$$

For  $l = \{v', v''\}$  an edge and  $v$  a vertex of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ , define  $\delta(l, v) = \inf(d(v', v), d(v'', v))$ . Let  $x$  be an integer,  $0 \leq x \leq 2e$ , such that  $v_x$  is the exceptional vertex of  $\mathcal{T}_A$ .

Let

$$X = \bigoplus_{\delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2}} P_{2i} \otimes Q_{2i}^*$$

and  $\phi$  be the restriction of  $\psi$  to  $X$ . We then define  $D$  to be  $0 \longrightarrow X \xrightarrow{\phi} M \longrightarrow 0$  (where  $M$  is in degree 0).

### 3.2. Proof of theorem 10.

Let  $i$  and  $j$  be two integers,  $0 \leq i, j \leq e-1$ . We have  $Q_{2j}^* \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O} \simeq \text{Hom}_B(Q_{2j}, \Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O})$ . Since  $Q_{2j}$  is a projective cover of  $\Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O}$  if and only if  $i = j$ , we have

$$Q_{2j}^* \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O} \simeq \begin{cases} \mathcal{O} & \text{if } i = j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Hence, we have

$$X \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O} \simeq \begin{cases} P_{2i} & \text{if } \delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It follows from (5) that

$$D \otimes_B \Omega_B^{2i}\mathcal{O} \simeq \begin{cases} 0 \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \Omega_A^{2i}\mathcal{O} \rightarrow 0 & \text{if } \delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \not\equiv x \pmod{2}, \\ 0 \rightarrow P_{2i} \rightarrow \Omega_A^{2i}\mathcal{O} \rightarrow 0 & \text{if } \delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2} \end{cases}$$

where in both cases,  $\Omega_A^{2i}\mathcal{O}$  is in degree 0. Let  $I$  be the map between the group of characters of  $B$ ,  $R_K(B)$ , and the ring of characters of  $A$ ,  $R_K(A)$ , induced by  $D$ . By (4), we have :

$$I(w_{2i}) = \begin{cases} v_{2i} & \text{if } \delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \not\equiv x \pmod{2}, \\ -v_{2i+1} & \text{if } \delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 11.** *The restriction of the map  $I$  to the submodule of  $R_K(B)$  with basis  $\{w_0, w_2, \dots, w_{2(e-1)}\}$  is an isometry.*

*Proof.* We have  $\delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2}$  if and only if  $\delta(l_{2i}, v_x) = d(v_{2i}, v_x)$ , since  $d(v_{2i+1}, v_x) \equiv x + 1 \pmod{2}$ . Hence,  $\delta(l_{2i}, v_x) \equiv x \pmod{2}$  if and only if  $d(v_{2i}, v_x) < d(v_{2i+1}, v_x)$ . So,  $I(w_{2i})$  is, up to sign, the furthest vertex of  $l_{2i}$  from  $v_x$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}_A$  is a tree, the vertices corresponding to  $I(w_{2i})$  and  $I(w_{2j})$  are equal if

and only if  $w_{2i} = w_{2j}$ . Note furthermore that  $I(w_{2i})$  is, up to sign, an irreducible character. Hence, the lemma follows.  $\square$

**Corollaire 12.** *The map  $I$  is an isometry.*

*Proof.* Indeed, we have  $CF(B, K) = K \langle w_0, w_2, \dots, w_{2(e-1)} \rangle \oplus CF_p(B, K)$  and the result is given by lemma 8 and lemma 11.  $\square$

The following is now a direct consequence of theorem 7 :

**Theorem 13.** *The complex  $D$  induces a Rickard equivalence between  $A$  and  $B$ .*

We obtain the exact formulation of theorem 10 by replacing  $D$  by  $0 \longrightarrow X \oplus U \xrightarrow{\delta+id} M \oplus U \longrightarrow 0$ , which is homotopy equivalent to  $D$ .

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