



The solvable subgroups of large order of $L_2(p)$, $p \geq 5$

By

A. Abduh and Abeer A. AlGhawazi

Department of Mathematics, Umm Al-Qura University Makkah, P.O.Box 56199, Saudi Arabia

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Abstract

By using the following theoretical and computational algorithms, we determined the solvable subgroups of large order of the finite non-abelian simple linear groups $G = L_2(p) = \text{PSL}(2,p)$, for $p \geq 5$ and p is a prime number, also their presentations and permutation representations have been found.

Theoretical algorithm

In this section we study theoretically the following:

- Determining the solvable subgroups of large order S of $L_2(p)$, $p \geq 5$ and finding their structures up to isomorphisms.
- Finding the presentation of S , also we find its generators from its character table.
- Finding the permutation representations of S .

Determining S

Since any solvable subgroup of large order S of G is either one of the maximal subgroups of G or it is contained in one of them, so we have to deal with the maximal subgroups of G . We begin by stating Dickson's results [8] about the maximal subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2,p) = L_2(p)$, p is an odd prime number. The result is divided according to p .

Theorem [8]

Let $p = 2^f \geq 4$. Then the maximal subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2,p)$ are:

- (1) $C_2^f \rtimes C_{p-1}$, that is, the stabilizer of a point of the projective line,
- (2) $D_{2(p-1)}$,
- (3) $D_{2(p+1)}$,
- (4) $\text{PGL}(2,p_0)$, where $p = p_0^r$ for some prime r and $p_0 \neq 2$.

Theorem [8]

Let $q = p^f \geq 5$ with p an odd prime. Then the maximal subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2,q)$ are:

- (1) $C_p^f \rtimes C_{(q-1)/2}$, that is, the stabiliser of a point of a projective line,
- (2) D_{q-1} , for $q \geq 13$,
- (3) D_{q+1} , for $q \neq 7, 9$,
- (4) $\text{PGL}(2, q_0)$ for $q = q_0^2$ (2 conjugacy classes),
- (5) $\text{PSL}(2, q_0)$, for $q = q_0^r$ where r an odd prime,
- (6) A_5 , for $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{10}$, where either $q = p$ or $q = p^2$ and $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{10}$ (2 conjugacy classes),
- (7) A_4 , for $q = p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ and $q \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{10}$,
- (8) S_4 , for $q = p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ (2 conjugacy classes).

Now, if we put $q = p^1 \geq 5$, we get the following corollary as a result of the above theorem:

Corollary.

Let $p \geq 5$, p is a prime number. Then the maximal subgroups of $L_2(p)$ are:

- (1) $C_p \rtimes C_{(p-1)/2}$
- (2) D_{p-1} , for $p \geq 13$
- (3) D_{p+1} , for $p \neq 7, 9$.
- (4) A_5 , for $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{10}$
- (5) A_5 , for $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{10}$ (2 conjugacy classes)



- (6) A_4 , for $p \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$ and $p \not\equiv \pm 1 \pmod{10}$
- (7) S_4 , for $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ (2 conjugacy classes)

Proposition.

- (1) The dihedral groups D_{2n} of order $2n$ are solvable .
- (2) The symmetric group S_4 is solvable
- (3) A_5 is not solvable
- (4) S_3 and A_4 are solvable
- (5) If $H \triangleleft G$ and both H and G / H are solvable then G is solvable .
- (6) The semi direct product $C_p \rtimes C_q$, where p and q are odd primes , is solvable

Theorem. Let H be the solvable subgroup of large order of $L_2(p)$. Then

- (1) $H \cong A_4$, for $p=5$
- (2) $H \cong S_4$, for $p=7$
- (3) $H \cong C_p \rtimes C_{(p-1)/2}$, for $p \geq 11$

Proof :

(1) For $p=5$, the maximal subgroups of $L_2(5)$ are A_4 of order 12 , D_{10} of order 10 and S_3 of order 6 and all are solvable . But 12 is the largest order , so A_4 is the solvable subgroup of large order in $L_2(5)$.

(2) For $p=7$, the maximal subgroups of $L_2(7)$ are S_4 of order 24 and $C_7 \rtimes C_3$ of order 21 and both are solvable . But $24 > 21$, S_4 is the solvable subgroup of large order in $L_2(7)$.

(3) For $p \geq 11$, by Corollary 4.1.1.3 , the orders of the maximal subgroups of $L_2(p)$ are as follows:

$$| C_p \rtimes C_{(p-1)/2} | = \frac{p(p-1)}{2} \text{ (solvable)}$$

$$| D_{p-1} | = p - 1 \text{ (solvable)}$$

$$| D_{p+1} | = p + 1 \text{ (solvable)}$$

$| A_5 | = 60$ (A_5 is not solvable and also it does not contain a subgroup of order large than 12)

$$| A_4 | = 12 \text{ (solvable)}$$

$$| S_4 | = 24 \text{ (solvable)}$$

Now , it is clear that $\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$ is greater than both $(p-1)$ and $(p+1)$. Also for the smallest $p=11$, we

$$\text{have } \frac{p(p-1)}{2} = \frac{11(11-1)}{2} = \frac{11 \times 10}{2} = 55 \text{ and } 55 > 12 \text{ and } 55 > 24$$

So , the largest order is $\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$ and then $C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ is the solvable subgroup of large order of $L_2(p)$, where $p \geq 11$.

presentation of S .

The finite non-abelian simple group $L_2(p)$, $p \geq 5$ and p is a prime number , of order $\frac{p(p-1)(p+1)}{2}$ can be presented as, [2] :

$$L_2(p) = \langle a, b : a^2 = b^3 = (ab)^p = 1 \rangle , \text{ for } p \geq 5$$

The presentations of the solvable subgroup of large order S of $L_2(p)$, $p \geq 5$ are as follows :(By using theorem 4.1.1.5 and [11])

p	G	S	S	[G : S]	Presentation of S
5	$L_2(5)$	A_4	12	5	$\langle a, b : a^2 = b^5 = (ab)^2 = 1 \rangle [2]$
7	$L_2(7)$	S_4	24	7	$\langle a, b : a^2 = b^7 = (ab)^2 = 1 \rangle [2]$
$p \geq 11$	$L_2(p)$,	$C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$	$\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$	$P+1$	$S = \langle a, b \mid a^p = b^{\frac{p-1}{2}} = e, aba^{-1} = b^k \rangle$ with $\left(\frac{p-1}{2}, k\right) = 1$ And it is a $(p, \frac{p-1}{2}, \frac{p-1}{2})$-subgroup in $L_2(p)$

The permutation representations of S :

Let $G=L_2(5)$ and $S \cong A_4$

From the Character table of G and S



The character table of $A_5 \cong L_2(5)$

	2	2	2	.	.	.
	3	1	.	1	.	.
	5	1	.	.	1	1
		1a	2a	3a	5a	5b
2P	1a	1a	3a	5b	5a	
3P	1a	2a	1a	5b	5a	
5P	1a	2a	3a	1a	1a	
X.1	1	1	1	1	1	
X.2	3	-1	.	A	*A	
X.3	3	-1	.	*A	A	
X.4	4	.	1	-1	-1	
X.5	5	1	-1	.	.	

$$A = (1 - \sqrt{5})/2$$

The character table of A_4

	2	1	1	.	.
	3	1	.	1	1
		1a	2a	3a	3b
2P	1a	1a	3b	3a	
3P	1a	2a	1a	1a	
X.1	1	1	1	1	
X.2	1	1	A	/A	
X.3	1	1	/A	A	
X.4	3	-1	.	.	

$$A = (-1 - \sqrt{-3})/2$$

We have $L_2(5)$ have 5 conjugacy classes of elements : 1a,2a,3a,5a,5b (of order 1,2,3,5,5 respectively) and A_4 have 4 conjugacy classes of elements 1a,2a,3a,3b (of orders 1,2,3,3 respectively) . So, we have :

$ C_G(a) $	60	4	3	5	5
CL(G)	1a	2a	3a	5a	5b
CL(S) fused up to CL(G)	1a	2a	3a 3b		
$ C_S(a) $	12	4	3 3		
Permutation character $\chi = 1_S \uparrow^G = \frac{ C_G(a) }{ C_S(a) }$ (reducible character)	5	1	1+1=2	0	0
χ splits to 2 irreducible characters	1	1	1	1	1
	4	.	1	-1	-1

And so , the induced Character is : $1_S \uparrow^G = 1a + 4a$

Let $G = L_2(7)$ and $S=S_4$: From the Character table of G and S :

The character table of S_4

	2	3	2	3	.	2
	3	1	.	.	1	.
		1a	2a	2b	3a	4a
2P	1a	1a	1a	3a	2b	
3P	1a	2a	2b	1a	4a	
X.1	1	-1	1	1	-1	
X.2	3	-1	-1	.	1	
X.3	2	.	2	-1	.	
X.4	3	1	-1	.	-1	
X.5	1	1	1	1	1	

We have $L_2(7)$ have 6 conjugacy classes of elements : 1a ,2a ,3a ,4a, have 5 conjugacy classes of elements 1a,2a,2b,3a,4a (of orders 1,2,2,3

The character table of $L_2(7)$

	2	3	.	.	.	3	2
	3	1	1
	7	1	.	1	1	.	.
		1a	3a	7a	7b	2a	4a
2P	1a	3a	7a	7b	1a	2a	
3P	1a	1a	7b	7a	2a	4a	
5P	1a	3a	7b	7a	2a	4a	
7P	1a	3a	1a	1a	2a	4a	
X.1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
X.2	3	.	A	/A	-1	1	
X.3	3	.	/A	A	-1	1	
X.4	6	.	-1	-1	2	.	
X.5	7	1	.	.	-1	-1	
X.6	8	-1	1	1	.	.	nd S_4

$$A = (-1 - \sqrt{-7})/2$$



$ C_G(a) $	168	8	3	4	7	7
CL(G)	1a	2a	3a	4a	7a	7b
CL(S) fused up to CL(G)	1a	2a 2b	3a	4a		
$ C_S(a) $	24	4 8	3	4		
Permutation character $\chi = 1_S \uparrow^G = \frac{ C_G(a) }{ C_S(a) }$ (reducible)	7	2+1=3	1	1	0	0
χ splits to 2 irreducible characters of G	1	1	1	1	1	1
	6	2	0	0	-1	-1

And So , the induced Character is : $1_S \uparrow^G = 1a + 6a$

G=L₂(p),and S= C_p × C_{(p-1)/2} (where p ≥ 11).

The conjugacy classes , representations and the character tables of G have been found by adams [2] , as follows :

Conjugacy Classes of G	Representations of G
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I 2. $c_2(\epsilon, \gamma) = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon & \gamma \\ 0 & \epsilon \end{pmatrix} (\epsilon = \pm 1, \gamma \in \{1, \Delta\})$ 3. $c_3(x) (x \neq \pm 1), c_3(x) = c_3(-x) = c_3\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = c_3\left(-\frac{1}{x}\right)$ 4. $c_4(z) (z \in \mathbb{E}^1, z \neq \pm 1), c_4(z) = c_4(\bar{z}) = c_4(-z) = c_4(-\bar{z})$ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. $\rho(\alpha) (\alpha^2 \neq 1), \rho(\alpha) \simeq \rho(\alpha^{-1})$ 2. $\bar{\rho}(1)$ 3. $\rho'(1)$ 4. $\pi(\chi) (\chi^2 \neq 1, \chi \neq \bar{\chi}), \pi(\chi) \simeq \pi(\bar{\chi})$ 5. ω_e^\pm if $\zeta(-1) = 1$ 6. ω_o^\pm if $\zeta(-1) = -1$

Character Table of $PSL(2, q), q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$							
		Number :	1	2	$\frac{q-5}{4}$	1	$\frac{q-1}{4}$
		Size :	1	$(q^2-1)/2$	$q(q+1)$	$\frac{q(q+1)}{2}$	$q(q-1)$
Rep	Dimension	Number	1	$c_2(\gamma)$	$c_3(x)$	$c_3(\sqrt{-1})$	$c_4(z)$
$\rho(\alpha)$	$q+1$	$\frac{q-5}{4}$	$(q+1)$	1	$\alpha(x) + \alpha(x^{-1})$	$2\alpha(\sqrt{-1})$	0
$\bar{\rho}(1)$	q	1	q	0	1	1	-1
$\rho'(1)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\pi(\chi)$	$q-1$	$\frac{q-1}{4}$	$(q-1)$	-1	0	0	$-\chi(z)$ $-\chi(z^{-1})$
ω_e^\pm	$\frac{q+1}{2}$	2	$\frac{q+1}{2}$	$\omega_e^\pm(1, \gamma)$	$\zeta(x)$	$\zeta(\sqrt{-1})$	0

Character Table of $PSL(2, q), q \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$							
		Number :	1	2	$\frac{q-3}{4}$	$\frac{q-7}{4}$	1
		Size :	1	$(q^2-1)/2$	$q(q+1)$	$q(q-1)$	$\frac{q(q-1)}{2}$
Rep	Dimension	Number	1	$c_2(\gamma)$	$c_3(x)$	$c_4(z)$	$c_4(\delta)$



$\rho(\alpha)$	$q + 1$	$\frac{q-3}{4}$	$(q+1)$	1	$\alpha(x) + \alpha(x^{-1})$	0	0
$\bar{\rho}(1)$	q	1	q	0	1	-1	1
$\rho'(1)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$\pi(\chi)$	$q-1$	$\frac{q-3}{4}$	$(q-1)$	-1	0	$-\chi(\varepsilon)$ $-\chi(\varepsilon^{-1})$	$-2\chi(\delta)$
ω_o^\pm	$\frac{q-1}{2}$	2	$\frac{q-1}{2}$	$\omega_o^\pm(1, \gamma)$	0	$-\chi_o(\varepsilon)$	$-\chi_o(\delta)$

Property [10]

Let A be a normal subgroup of G such that A is the centralizer of every non-trivial element in A . If further G/A is abelian, than G has $|G:A|$ linear characters, and $(|A| - 1)/|G:A|$ non-linear irreducible characters of degree $=|G:A|$.

Theorem

Let $G = L_2(p), p \geq 11$, and let $S = C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$. Then S has $\frac{p+3}{2}$ conjugacy classes of elements .

Proof:

Since $S = C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}} \Rightarrow$ (from the definition), $C_p \trianglelefteq S \Rightarrow$ every non-trivial element of C_p has centralizer of order p and isomorphic to C_p . Now, $S/C_p \cong C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ is cyclic, and so it is abelian. So, by applying theorem 4.1.3.4 \Rightarrow S has $[S : C_p] = \frac{(p-1)}{2}$ linear characters and $(|C_p| - 1)/[S : C_p] = \frac{p-1}{\frac{p-1}{2}} = 2$ non-linear irreducible characters of degree $\frac{p-1}{2}$. Then, totally, S has $\frac{p-1}{2} + 2 = \frac{p+3}{2}$ irreducible characters and so by corollary 1.9.7. (The number of conjugacy classes is equal to the number of irreducible characters), \Rightarrow The number of conjugacy classes of S $= \frac{p+3}{2}, p \geq 11$.

Theorem. Let $S = C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}, p \geq 11$. Then S has the following conjugacy classes of elements:

- 1- The identity .
- 2- 2 classes of order p .
- 3- If $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is a prime number, then S has $\frac{p-3}{2}$ classes of elements order $\frac{p-1}{2}$
- 4- If $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is not a prime number, then S has $\frac{p-3}{2}$ classes of elements of order $m \mid \frac{p-1}{2}$

Proof :

- 1- Since S is a group then it has an identity element which is unique .
- 2- From the character tables of G mentioned above with respect to both cases $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$, we find that G has only 2 conjugate classes of types $C_2(\gamma)$ and $\overline{C_2(\gamma\tau)}$ and each class is of size $\frac{p^2-1}{2}$, and the centralizer of an element in each class is of order p. Now the sylow p-subgroup of $S = C_p \rtimes C_{\frac{p-1}{2}}$ is isomorphic to C_p and so S has conjugacy classes of elements of order p and they are must be only two conjugate classes, for, if they are $> 2 \Rightarrow$ they must be at least 4 conjugacy classes and 2 of them are fused to $C_2(\gamma) \in G$ and the remaining are fused to $\overline{C_2(\gamma\tau)}$



G: 1a $C_2(\gamma)$ $\overline{C_2(\gamma)}$

1 1 From character tables of G \rightarrow

if S has at least 4 conjugacy classes a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b} , they will be fused to :

	a	\bar{a}	
}	\bar{b}	b	
	2	2	

which means the perm. Character is : \Rightarrow S has only 2 conjugacy classes of e therefore each class is of size $= \frac{|S|}{p} = \frac{p-1}{2}$ which is impossible because the value must be equal 1 order p, and

3- If $p \geq 11$ and $q = \frac{p-1}{2}$ is also a prime number $\Rightarrow S = C_p \times C_q \Rightarrow$ S has elements of only orders 1, p, q and it has no elements of order pq because S is not cyclic. Now, we have the numbers of conjugacy classes of type $\frac{p-1}{2} = \frac{p+3}{2} - 1 - 2 = \frac{p+3-2-4}{2} = \frac{p-3}{2}$ and since $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is prime \Rightarrow the centralizers of elements of order $\frac{p-1}{2}$ have the same order and so each of these classes contains p elements, and all are lying in $C_3(x) \in G$ and then we have :

	Number $ \mathcal{L}(a) C_S(a) $ of classes	Order of elements	Classes Fusions
Any prime $p \geq 11$	1 $ S $ 2 p	1 p	1 $C_2(\gamma)$ For $ C_S(a) = p$ Which divides only $ C_G(C_2(\gamma)) $
When $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is a prime number	$\frac{p-3}{2} \frac{p-1}{2}$	p $\frac{p-1}{2}$	$C_3(x)$ For $ C_S(a) = \frac{p-1}{2}$ Which divides only $ C_G(C_3(x)) $
S	$\frac{p+3}{2}$ and $ S = 1 + \frac{p-1}{2} \times 2 + \left(\frac{p-3}{2}\right) \times p = \frac{p(p-1)}{2}$		

4- If $p \geq 11$ and $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is not a prime number, then S has elements of order 1, p and $m \mid \frac{p-1}{2}$. We can easily show that S has $\frac{p-3}{2}$ conjugacy classes of order m and each class consist of p elements and has centralizers of order $\frac{p-1}{2}$ and all subgroups of order m in G have been determined in [7], and we have :

	Number of Classes	Order of element a	Size of $ \mathcal{L}(a) $	$C_S(a)$	Classes Fusions up to G
Any prime $p \geq 11$	1 2	1 p	1 $\frac{p-1}{2}$	$ S $ p	1 $C_2(\gamma)$ For $ C_S(a) = p$ Which divides only $ C_G(C_2(\gamma)) $
When $\frac{p-1}{2}$ is not a prime number	$\frac{p-3}{2} d \mid \frac{p-1}{2}$	total=p	$\frac{p-1}{2}$		$C_3(x)$ For $ C_S(a) = \frac{p-1}{2}$ Which divides only $ C_G(C_3(x)) $
S	$\frac{p+3}{2}$ and $ S = 1 + \frac{p-1}{2} \times 2 + \left(\frac{p-3}{2}\right) \times p = \frac{p(p-1)}{2}$				

The permutation representations of S into G, $1_S \uparrow^G$ can be obtained from the following two tables as follows :



1- When $G = L_2(p)$, $p \geq 11$ and $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

Number of conjugacy classes:	1	2	$\frac{p-5}{4}$	1	$\frac{p-1}{4}$
Size of each class :	1	$(p^2-1)/2$	$p(p+1)$	$\frac{p(p+1)}{2}$	$p(p-1)$
Order of centralizers $C_G(a)$	$ G $	P	$\frac{(p-1)}{2}$	$(p-1)$	$\frac{(p+1)}{2}$
Order of centralizers $C_S(a)$	$ S $	P	$\frac{(p-1)}{2}$	No element in S has centralizer of order divides $(p-1)$	No element in S has centralizer of order divides $\frac{(p+1)}{2}$
Type of classes [a]	1	$c_2(\gamma)$	$c_3(x)$	$c_3(\sqrt{-1})$	$c_4(z)$
Irreducible characters {	$(1+q)$	1	$\alpha(x) + \alpha(x^{-1})$	$2\alpha(\sqrt{-1})$	0
Reducible character (induced character $1_S \uparrow^G = \frac{ C_G(a) }{ C_S(a) }$)	q	0	1	1	-1
	1	1	1	-1	1
	$(1+q)$	1	2	0	0

2-When $G = L_2(p)$, $p \geq 11$ and $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$

Number of conjugacy classes:	1	2	$\frac{p-3}{4}$	1	$\frac{p-7}{4}$
Size of each class :	1	$(p^2-1)/2$	$p(p+1)$	$\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$	$p(p-1)$
Order of centralizers $C_G(a)$	$ G $	p	$\frac{(p-1)}{2}$	$(p+1)$	$\frac{(p+1)}{2}$
Order of centralizers $C_S(a)$	$ S $	P	$\frac{(p-1)}{2}$	No element in S has centralizer of order divides $(p-1)$	No element in S has centralizer of order divides $\frac{(p+1)}{2}$
Type of classes [a]	1	$c_2(\gamma)$	$c_3(x)$	$c_4(\delta)$	$c_4(z)$
Irreducible characters {	$(q+1)$	1	$\alpha(x) + \alpha(x^{-1})$	0	0
Reducible character (induced character $1_S \uparrow^G = \frac{ C_G(a) }{ C_S(a) }$)	q	0	1	1	-1
	1	1	1	-1	1
	$(1+q)$	1	2	0	0

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