

# Further Results On The Multiplier Conjecture For The Case $n = 2n_1$ (I)\*

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**ABSTRACT.** In this paper we obtain further results on the Multiplier Conjecture for the case  $n = 2n_1$  using our method.

**First Multiplier Theorem.** *Let  $D$  be an abelian  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set, and let  $p$  be a prime dividing  $n = k - \lambda$  but not  $v$ . If  $p > \lambda$ , then  $p$  is a numerical multiplier of  $D$ .*

**Multiplier Conjecture.** *The First Multiplier Theorem holds without the assumption that  $p > \lambda$ .*

**Second Multiplier Theorem.** *Let  $D$  be a  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set in an abelian group  $G$ , and let  $v_0$  be the exponent of  $G$ . Let  $n_1$  be a divisor of  $n$  such that  $(n_1, v) = 1$ , and  $n_1 > \lambda$ . Suppose that  $t$  is an integer such that for every prime divisor  $p$  of  $n_1$ , there exists a nonnegative integer  $j$  with  $t \equiv p^j \pmod{v_0}$ . Then  $t$  is a numerical multiplier of  $D$ .*

Virtually all further multiplier theorems have arisen in an attempt to weaken the condition  $p > \lambda$  or  $n_1 > \lambda$ .

In 1992 We [11] presented a method of studying the Multiplier Conjecture, where one of the main theorems is the following:

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $D$  be a  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set in an abelian group  $G$ , and let  $v_0$  be the exponent of  $G$ . Set  $n = k - \lambda$ . Let  $n = dn_1$  ( $n_1 > 1$ ) and  $(n_1, v) = 1$ . Suppose that  $t$  is an integer such that for every prime divisor  $p$  of  $n_1$ , there exists a nonnegative integer  $j$  such that  $p^j \equiv t \pmod{v_0}$ .*

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Then  $t$  is a numerical multiplier of  $D$  if and only if no nontrivial solution  $\xi$  of the CH-equations of  $d$  for  $G$  satisfies

$$D^{(t)}D^{(-1)} = n_1\xi + \lambda G. \quad (1)$$

The CH-equations of  $d$  for  $G$  are

$$\sum_{g \in G} c_g = d, \quad (2)$$

$$\xi \xi^{(-1)} = d^2 \cdot 1, \quad (3)$$

where  $\xi = \sum_{g \in G} c_g g \in ZG$ . Obviously  $\xi = dg$  ( $\forall g \in G$ ) are solutions, they are called trivial. The other solutions are called nontrivial.

The equation (1) is well-known. However, our method not only finds the conditions such that the equations (2) and (3) have *only trivial* solutions, but also further finds *nontrivial* solutions, and studies the conditions under which *no nontrivial solutions satisfies the equation* (1). Hence we are able to weaken some assumptions under which  $t$  is a numerical multiplier.

In this paper we prove the following theorem 2:

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $n = 2n_1$ . If  $7^2|v$ , then the Second Multiplier Theorem holds without the assumption  $n_1 > \lambda$ .*

**Proof:** The case  $2|n_1$  is trivial (replace  $n_1$  by  $n$ ). Now assume that  $n_1$  is odd, thus  $v$  must be odd.

We [11] have found only possible nontrivial solutions of CH-equations of 2 for  $G$  which have the form:

$$\xi = g_r(-1 + g_u + g_u^2 + g_u^4),$$

where  $g_u$  is any element of order 7, and  $g_r$  is any element in  $G$ .

Now assume that  $7^2|v$ . We denote the order of 2 modulo  $7^e$  by  $Ord_{7^e}(2)$ . It is easy to see that  $Ord_{7^e}(2) = 3 \cdot 7^{e-1}$ , and  $\frac{\phi(7^e)}{Ord_{7^e}(2)} = 2$ , where  $e \geq 1$ .

Let

$$G = \langle g_{i_1} \rangle \times \langle g_{i_2} \rangle \times \cdots \times \langle g_{i_s} \rangle, \quad (4)$$

where the order of  $g_{i_i}$  is  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , and  $p_1 = 7$ , and  $g_u = g_{i_1}^{7^{\alpha_1-1}}$ . Let  $\omega_i$  be a primitive  $p_i^{\alpha_i}$ -th root of unity,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . Let  $g_i \mapsto \chi_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq v-1$ ) be an isomorphism of  $G$  onto its complex character group  $\hat{G}$ , where  $\chi_0$  is the principal character of  $G$ .

Since  $7^2|v$ , there are only two possible cases:  $\alpha_1 \geq 2$ , or  $\alpha_1 = 1$  and  $p_2 = 7$ .

Case 1.  $\alpha_1 \geq 2$ . We have  $\chi_{i_1}(g_u) = \omega_1^{7^{\alpha_1-1}}$ , and  $\chi_u(g_u) = 1$ .

Set  $\varepsilon = \omega_1^{7^{\alpha_1-1}}$ , and  $\zeta = \omega_1$ . Let  $B$  denote the ring of algebraic integers in  $Q(\zeta)$ .

We have  $(\chi_u(\xi)) = (2)$ . It is not difficult to show that  $(\chi_{i_1}(\xi)) \neq (2)$ .

Since the ideal  $(2)$  is unramified in  $Q(\zeta)$  and  $\frac{\phi(7^{\alpha_1})}{\text{Ord}_{7^{\alpha_1}}(2)} = 2$ , we have  $(2) = E_1 E_2$ , where the  $E_i$ 's are distinct prime ideals of  $B$ .

It is not difficult to show that for  $\chi_i \in \langle \chi_{i_1} \rangle$  and  $i \neq 0$  we have

$$(\chi_i(D^{(t)}))(\chi_i(D^{(-1)})) = \sigma_i(E_{i_1})E_{i_2}(n_1), \quad (5)$$

where  $\{E_{i_1}, E_{i_2}\} = \{E_1, E_2\}$ .

Since  $\text{Gal}(Q(\zeta)/Q)$  transitively acts on  $\Omega = \{E_1, E_2\}$ , thus there is a homomorphism of  $\text{Gal}(Q(\zeta)/Q)$  into the symmetric group  $S_2$ . We denote the homomorphic image of  $\sigma_i$  by  $\bar{\sigma}_i$ . Then there are only two possible cases:  $\bar{\sigma}_i = 1$ , or  $\bar{\sigma}_i = (12)$ .

Suppose that  $\bar{\sigma}_i = 1$ . If  $\xi$  satisfies the equation (1), then we have

$$(\chi_{i_1}(D^{(t)}))(\chi_{i_1}(D^{(-1)})) = (n_1)(\chi_{i_1}(\xi)) \neq (n_1)(2).$$

This contradicts the equation (5).

Suppose that  $\bar{\sigma}_i = (12)$ . If  $\xi$  satisfies the equation (1), then we have

$$(\chi_u(D^{(t)}))(\chi_u(D^{(-1)})) = (n_1)(\chi_u(\xi)) = (n_1)(2).$$

This contradicts the equation (5).

Hence in case 1  $\xi$  does not satisfy (1).

**Case 2.**  $\alpha_1 = 1$  and  $p_2 = 7$ .

Set  $g_{i_2}' = g_{i_2}^{7^{\alpha_2-1}}$ . We have  $\chi_u(g_u) = \omega_1$ , and  $\chi_{i_2}'(g_u) = 1$ .

It is similar to the case 1 that  $\xi$  does not satisfy (1).

By theorem 1  $t$  is a numerical multiplier of  $D$ . □

**Remark.**

- (1) Theorem 2 improves Newman, and McFarland's results which required  $(v, 7) = 1$ ; Theorem 2 also improves Turyn's result which required that  $t$  is a quadratic residue modulo 7 for  $7|v$ .
- (2) Suppose that there exists an abelian  $(v, k, \lambda)$ -difference set with  $n = 2n_1$  and  $n_1$  is odd and  $(n_1, v) = 1$ , then we have the following results:
  - (i) let  $p$  be any prime divisor of  $v$ . Then  $\text{Ord}_p(2)$  must be odd. It follows that  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  or  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$ . If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , then  $\text{Ord}_p(2) | \frac{p-1}{2^e}$ , where  $2^e || p-1$ .
  - (ii) If  $7|v$ , and  $v$  has a prime divisor  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  or  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{8}$  ( $p \neq 7$ ) such that  $\text{Ord}_p(t)$  is even, then  $\xi$  does not satisfy (1). Thus  $t$  is a numerical multiplier of  $D$ .

If  $t$  is a quadratic nonresidue modulo 7, then under the assumptions of (ii) no difference set exists by theorem 3 of [7].

#### Application.

Using theorem 2 we can show that there is no (1519, 507, 169)-difference set  $D$ . Since the Sylow 7-subgroup and Sylow 31-subgroup of a group of order 1519 must be normal subgroups, thus a group  $G$  of order 1519 must be abelian. Here  $n = 2n_1$  and  $n_1 = 13^2$ . By theorem 2, 13 is a numerical multiplier of  $D$  since  $7^2|v$ . Since  $Ord_{7^2 \cdot 31}(13) = 210$  and  $Ord_{7 \cdot 31}(13) = 30$ , by Corollary 7.4 of [3] we get that there is no (1519, 507, 169)-difference set in  $G = Z_{7^2} \times Z_{31}$  or  $G = Z_7 \times Z_7 \times Z_{31}$ .

Using Second Multiplier Theorem one can not rule out the existence of above difference set since from it we only know that 8 is a multiplier of  $D$ , however,  $Ord_{7^2 \cdot 31}(8) = 35$ , and  $Ord_{7 \cdot 31}(8) = 5$ , these are odd.

Using Turyn's result one can not rule out the existence of above difference set since 13 is a quadratic nonresidue modulo 7.

Using Mann test or Lander's theorem 4.4 one can not rule out the existence of above difference set since  $Ord_7(2) = 3$  and  $Ord_{31}(2) = 5$  and  $13^2||n$ .

Using Lander's theorem 4.5 one also can rule out the existence of above difference set since  $13^{105} \equiv -1 \pmod{7^2 \cdot 31}$  and  $13^{15} \equiv -1 \pmod{7 \cdot 31}$  but  $13|n$ .

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