

Augmentation Quotients for Complex Representation Rings of Generalized Quaternion Groups*

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Abstract Denote by \mathcal{Q}_m the generalized quaternion group of order $4m$. Let $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ be its complex representation ring, and $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ its augmentation ideal. In this paper, the author gives an explicit \mathbb{Z} -basis for the $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ and determines the isomorphism class of the n -th augmentation quotient $\frac{\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)}{\Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m)}$ for each positive integer n .

Keywords Generalized quaternion groups, Representation ring, Augmentation quotients

2000 MR Subject Classification 16S34, 20C05

1 Introduction

Let G be a finite group. A complex matrix representation (for convenience, we use “representation” in the sequel) of G is a group homomorphism

$$\rho : G \rightarrow GL_d(\mathbb{C}), \quad (1.1)$$

where $GL_d(\mathbb{C})$ is the complex general linear group of rank d ($d \in \mathbb{N}$). We also say that d is the degree of ρ (here we set $GL_0(\mathbb{C})$ to be the trivial group consisting of the empty matrix). Two representations ρ and η are said to be similar (denoted by $\rho \sim \eta$), if there exists an invertible square matrix P such that

$$\eta(g) = P^{-1}\rho(g)P, \quad \forall g \in G. \quad (1.2)$$

It is easy to see that similarity of representations is an equivalence relation. The equivalence classes are called similarity classes. The similarity class of ρ is denoted by $\bar{\rho}$. The direct sum $\bar{\rho} \oplus \bar{\eta}$ of two similarity classes $\bar{\rho}$ and $\bar{\eta}$ is defined by $\bar{\rho} \oplus \bar{\eta} = \overline{\rho \oplus \eta}$, where

$$\rho \oplus \eta : G \rightarrow GL_d(\mathbb{C}) \times GL_{d'}(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow GL_{d+d'}(\mathbb{C}). \quad (1.3)$$

The complex representation ring $\mathcal{R}(G)$ is the group completion of the monoid (under direct sum \oplus) of similarity classes of representations of G . Its addition and multiplication are induced by the direct sum and the tensor product of matrices, respectively. By [1], $\mathcal{R}(G)$ is a commutative ring with an identity element. Its underlying group is a finitely generated free abelian

Manuscript received August 10, 2014. Revised September 2, 2015.

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*This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Nos.11226066, 11401155) and Anhui Provincial Natural Science Foundation (No.1308085QA01).

group with a basis consists of the similarity classes of irreducible representations. Hence, by [2], its free rank is equal to the number of conjugacy classes of G .

The notion of degree of a representation induces a ring homomorphism

$$\phi : \mathcal{R}(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}. \quad (1.4)$$

This homomorphism is called the augmentation map. Its kernel $\Delta(G)$ is called the augmentation ideal of $\mathcal{R}(G)$. Let $\Delta^n(G)$ and $Q_n(G)$ denote the n -th power of $\Delta(G)$ and the n -th consecutive quotient group $\frac{\Delta^n(G)}{\Delta^{n+1}(G)}$, respectively.

It is an interesting problem to determine the structures of $\Delta^n(G)$ and $Q_n(G)$ since they have many connections with other algebraic branches. The problem has been tackled in some papers [3–5]. In particular, the author and the collaborators proved in [3] that, for any finite abelian group G ,

$$Q_n(G) \cong \frac{I^n}{I^{n+1}}, \quad (1.5)$$

where I is the augmentation ideal of the integral group ring $\mathbb{Z}G$. Karpilovsky raised the problem of determining the isomorphism type of the groups $\frac{I^n}{I^{n+1}}$ in [6]. The author and Tang Guoping solved it in [7] and thereby solved the problem for the groups $Q_n(G)$.

The goal of this article is to give an explicit \mathbb{Z} -basis for each $\Delta^n(Q_m)$ and determine the isomorphism class of each $Q_n(Q_m)$ for each positive integer n , where Q_m is the generalized quaternion group of order $4m$, $m \geq 2$.

The result also computes $\text{Tor}_1^{\mathcal{R}(Q_m)}\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}(Q_m)}{\Delta^n(Q_m)}, \frac{\mathcal{R}(Q_m)}{\Delta(Q_m)}\right)$ because for any finite group G , $Q_n(G) \cong \text{Tor}_1^{\mathcal{R}(G)}\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}(G)}{\Delta^n(G)}, \frac{\mathcal{R}(G)}{\Delta(G)}\right)$.

2 Preliminaries

In this section, we provide some useful results about $Q_n(G)$ and the finite generated free abelian groups.

The following theorem and corollary (proved in [3]) are simple but useful.

Theorem 2.1 (cf. [3]) *For any natural number n , $Q_n(G)$ is a finite abelian $|G|$ -torsion group.*

Corollary 2.1 (cf. [3]) *For each positive integer n , $\Delta^n(G)$ has free rank $c(G) - 1$, where $c(G)$ is the number of conjugacy classes of G .*

It is well known that any two representations with the same character are similar. Moreover, there is an injective ring homomorphism

$$\chi : \mathcal{R}(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^G, \quad (2.1)$$

which sends $\bar{\rho}$ to its character χ_ρ for each representation ρ of G .

At last, we recall a classical result about the finite generated free abelian groups.

Lemma 2.1 *Let H be a finite generated free abelian group of rank N . If the N elements g_1, \dots, g_N generate H , then they form a basis of H .*

3 Necessary Tools

In this section, we construct some tools which are needed to prove the main results of this paper. They include some basic properties of $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ and $Q_n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$. Recall that the generalized quaternion group of order $4m$ is defined as

$$\mathcal{Q}_m = \langle g, h \mid g^{2m} = h^4 = 1, g^m = h^2, h^{-1}gh = g^{-1} \rangle. \quad (3.1)$$

Hence, each representation ρ of \mathcal{Q}_m depends only on its values at g and h . Therefore, we use

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho(g) & 0 \\ 0 & \rho(h) \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.2)$$

to denote ρ .

The following theorem found in [1] classifies the similarity classes of all irreducible representations of \mathcal{Q}_m

Theorem 3.1 *Let*

$$\rho_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \rho_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.3)$$

$$\begin{cases} \rho_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}, \quad \rho_4 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, & \text{if } m \text{ is odd,} \\ \rho_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \rho_4 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}, & \text{if } m \text{ is even,} \end{cases} \quad (3.4)$$

$$\eta_k = \begin{pmatrix} \xi^k & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \xi^{-k} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (-1)^k \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (3.5)$$

where $\xi = e^{\pi \frac{1}{m}}$. Then all distinct similarity classes of irreducible representations of \mathcal{Q}_m are $\bar{\rho}_1, \bar{\rho}_2, \bar{\rho}_3, \bar{\rho}_4, \bar{\eta}_k, 1 \leq k \leq m-1$.

For later use, we remind the readers that by Corollary 2.1 and Theorem 3.1, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has free rank $m+2$ for each natural number n .

In the rest of this section, we construct a basis of $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ and show some of its basic properties. For convenience, we fix the following notation. Throughout, n and N are natural numbers.

- (1) $E = \bar{\rho}_1 - \bar{\rho}_2, F = \bar{\rho}_1 - \bar{\rho}_3, Y_k = \bar{\eta}_k - \bar{\eta}_{k-1}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$.
- (2) $\mathcal{S}_{n,j}(N) = \{F^j Y_k Y_1^{n-j-1} \mid 1 \leq k \leq N\}, n \geq 2, 0 \leq j \leq n-1$.
- (3) For any subset $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Q}_m)$, denote by $\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}$ the set of all \mathbb{Z} -linear combinations of elements of \mathcal{S} .

- (4) Denote by C_d the cyclic group of order d .

It is easy to see that $E, F, Y_k \in \Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$. Hence $\mathcal{S}_{n,j}(N) \subset \Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$.

Lemma 3.1 $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is the free abelian group based on

$$\mathcal{B}_m = \{E, F, Y_1, \dots, Y_m\}. \quad (3.6)$$

Proof Note that the cardinality of \mathcal{B}_m is $m+2$. So by Lemma 2.1, we only need to show that it generates $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$. Let

$$\omega = a_1\bar{\rho}_1 + a_2\bar{\rho}_2 + a_3\bar{\rho}_3 + a_4\bar{\rho}_4 + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} c_k\bar{\eta}_k \in \Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m). \quad (3.7)$$

Then $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} c_k = 0$. Short calculations show that $\bar{\eta}_0 = \bar{\rho}_1 + \bar{\rho}_2$, $\bar{\eta}_m = \bar{\rho}_3 + \bar{\rho}_4$. So

$$\begin{aligned} \omega &= a_1\bar{\rho}_1 + a_2\bar{\rho}_2 - (a_4 - a_3)\bar{\rho}_3 + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} c_k\bar{\eta}_k + a_4\bar{\eta}_m \\ &= a_1\bar{\rho}_1 + a_2\bar{\rho}_2 - (a_4 - a_3)\bar{\rho}_3 + \left(a_4 + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} c_j\right)\bar{\eta}_0 + X \\ &= \left(a_1 + a_3 + \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} c_j\right)\bar{\rho}_1 + \left(a_2 + a_4 + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} c_j\right)\bar{\rho}_2 + (a_4 - a_3)F + X \\ &= \left(a_1 + a_3 + \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} c_j\right)E + (a_4 - a_3)F + X \\ &\in \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{B}_m, \end{aligned} \quad (3.8)$$

where $X = \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \left(a_4 + \sum_{j=k}^{m-1} c_j\right)Y_k + a_4Y_m$.

Proposition 3.1 *Regarding elements of $\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{Q}_m)$, we have the following assertions:*

(1) Y_k depends only on the residue class of k modulo $2m$, and $Y_k = -Y_{2m+1-k}$. Thus the set $\{Y_k \mid k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ is equal to $\{Y_1, \dots, Y_m\}$.

(2) $E^2 = 2E$, $EF = 2F + \sum_{k=1}^m Y_k$ and $F^2 = \begin{cases} 2F - E, & \text{if } m \text{ is odd,} \\ 2F, & \text{if } m \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$

(3) $EY_k = 0$ and $FY_k = Y_k - Y_{m+k} = Y_k + Y_{m+1-k}$.

(4) $Y_k Y_l = (Y_{k+l} - Y_{k+l-1}) - (Y_{k-l+1} - Y_{k-l}) = \sum_{j=-l+1}^{l-1} Y_{k+j} Y_1$.

(5) $\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,j}(N) = \mathbb{Z}\{F^j(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-j-2} \mid 2 \leq k \leq N+1\}$, when $0 \leq j \leq n-2$.

Proof One can easily verify (1)–(3) by calculating the characters of relative representations.

For (4), a short calculation shows that $\chi_{\eta_k} \chi_{\eta_l} = \chi_{\eta_{k+l}} + \chi_{\eta_{k-l}}$. So

$$\bar{\eta}_k \bar{\eta}_l = \bar{\eta}_{k+l} + \bar{\eta}_{k-l}. \quad (3.9)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} Y_k Y_l &= (\bar{\eta}_k - \bar{\eta}_{k-1})(\bar{\eta}_l - \bar{\eta}_{l-1}) \\ &= \bar{\eta}_{k+l} + 2\bar{\eta}_{k-l} - 2\bar{\eta}_{k+l-1} - \bar{\eta}_{k-l+1} - \bar{\eta}_{k-l-1} + \bar{\eta}_{k+l-2} \\ &= (Y_{k+l} - Y_{k+l-1}) - (Y_{k-l+1} - Y_{k-l}) \\ &= \sum_{j=-l+1}^{l-1} [(Y_{k+j+1} - Y_{k+j}) - (Y_{k+j} - Y_{k+j-1})] \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{j=-l+1}^{l-1} Y_{k+j} Y_1. \quad (3.10)$$

We now consider (5). Due to (4), we get

$$Y_k Y_1 = (Y_{k+1} - Y_k) - (Y_k - Y_{k-1}). \quad (3.11)$$

Recall that $Y_0 = -Y_1$. So for each natural number N ,

$$O_N^2 \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 Y_1 \\ Y_2 Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_N Y_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Y_2 - 3Y_1 \\ Y_3 - 5Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_{N+1} - (2N+1)Y_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.12)$$

where

$$O_N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{N \times N} \in GL_N(\mathbb{Z}). \quad (3.13)$$

Therefore

$$\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,0}(N) = \mathbb{Z}\{Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq N+1\}. \quad (3.14)$$

From this, (5) follows.

4 Structure of $\mathcal{Q}_n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$

This section is divided into two subsections, according to when m is even or odd.

4.1 m is an even number

We first give a basis of $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ as a free abelian group. The following lemma is simple but useful.

Lemma 4.1 *For any $1 \leq j \leq n-2$, $\mathcal{S}_{n,j+1}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m)$.*

Proof It is easy to see that we only need to show $\mathcal{S}_{3,2}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{3,1}(m)$. By Proposition 3.1, we get

$$F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) \in \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{3,1}(m), \quad 2 \leq k \leq m+1. \quad (4.1)$$

Note that $FY_{\frac{m}{2}} = FY_{\frac{m}{2}+1}$, so

$$2FY_1 = F(Y_{\frac{m}{2}} - (m-1)Y_1) - F(Y_{\frac{m}{2}+1} - (m+1)Y_1) \quad (4.2)$$

lies in $\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{3,1}(m)$. So does $2FY_k$ ($2 \leq k \leq m$), since it equals

$$2F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) + 2(2k-1)FY_1. \quad (4.3)$$

From this, the lemma follows since $F^2 = 2F$.

Theorem 4.1 For any $n \geq 2$, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is the free abelian group based on

$$\{2^{n-1}E, 2^{n-1}F\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right). \quad (4.4)$$

Proof Note that (4.4) has cardinality $m+2$. So by Lemma 2.1, we only need to show that it generates $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$. Due to Lemma 3.1 and the fact that $EY_k = 0$, we get, for any $n \geq 2$, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{E^j F^{n-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq n\} \quad (4.5)$$

and all products

$$F^j \underbrace{Y_* \cdots Y_*}_{n-j}, \quad 0 \leq j \leq n-1. \quad (4.6)$$

A short calculation shows that (4.5) equals $\{2^{n-1}E, 2^{n-1}F, 2^{n-2}EF\}$. In addition, the generator $2^{n-2}EF$ can be omitted since

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{n-2}EF &= 2^{n-2}\left(2F + \sum_{k=1}^m Y_k\right) \\ &= 2^{n-1}F + 2^{n-2} \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m}{2}} FY_k \\ &= 2^{n-1}F + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m}{2}} F^{n-1}Y_k. \end{aligned} \quad (4.7)$$

By Proposition 3.1, $Y_k Y_l \in \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,0}(m)$. Hence, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{2^{n-1}E, 2^{n-1}F\} \cup \left(\bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} \mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m)\right). \quad (4.8)$$

Moreover, Lemma 4.1 implies that $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{2^{n-1}E, 2^{n-1}F\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,0}(m) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m). \quad (4.9)$$

Recall that

$$FY_k = Y_k + Y_{\frac{m}{2}+1-k}. \quad (4.10)$$

So

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,0}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right). \quad (4.11)$$

In addition, one can easily verify that

$$\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m), \quad \mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m) = \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right). \quad (4.12)$$

It follows that $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by (4.4).

Now we come to the main result of this subsection.

Theorem 4.2 When m is an even number, we have

$$Q_n(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \begin{cases} C_2^2 \oplus C_{2m}, & \text{if } n = 1, \\ C_2^3 \oplus C_{2m}, & \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{cases} \quad (4.13)$$

Proof By Proposition 3.1 and Theorem 4.1, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= 2^n \mathbb{Z}E + 2^n \mathbb{Z}F + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,0}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \\ &= 2^n \mathbb{Z}E + 2^n \mathbb{Z}F + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2} + 1\right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.14)$$

Note that

$$(Y_{\frac{m}{2}} - (m-1)Y_1) + (Y_{\frac{m}{2}+1} - (m+1)Y_1) = FY_{\frac{m}{2}} - 2mY_1. \quad (4.15)$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= 2^n \mathbb{Z}E + 2^n \mathbb{Z}F + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) + 2m\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

We consider the case $Q_1(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ first. It is easy to see that $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has the basis

$$\{E, F, Y_1\} \cup \left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{2,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right). \quad (4.17)$$

Thus

$$Q_1(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}E}{2\mathbb{Z}E} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}F}{2\mathbb{Z}F} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}Y_1}{2m\mathbb{Z}Y_1} \cong C_2^2 \oplus C_{2m}. \quad (4.18)$$

Secondly, by Proposition 3.1, for any $n \geq 2$,

$$\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) = \mathbb{Z}\left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-2} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2} + 1\right\}. \quad (4.19)$$

Applying (4.2), we get that (4.19) equals

$$2\mathbb{Z}FY_1^{n-1} + \mathbb{Z}\left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-2} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\}. \quad (4.20)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= 2^n \mathbb{Z}E + 2^n \mathbb{Z}F + 2m\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n + 2\mathbb{Z}FY_1^{n-1} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-2} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

Like in (4.17), $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has the basis

$$\begin{aligned} &\{2^{n-1}E, 2^{n-1}F, Y_1^n, FY_1^{n-1}\} \cup \left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\} \\ &\cup \left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-2} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m}{2}\right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.22)$$

Thus

$$Q_n(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \frac{2^{n-1}\mathbb{Z}E}{2^n\mathbb{Z}E} \oplus \frac{2^{n-1}\mathbb{Z}F}{2^n\mathbb{Z}F} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n}{2m\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}FY_1^{n-1}}{2\mathbb{Z}FY_1^{n-1}} \cong C_2^3 \oplus C_{2m}. \quad (4.23)$$

(4.18) and (4.23) together finish the proof.

4.2 m is an odd number

We study this case by using the same method as in the above subsection.

Lemma 4.2 For any $n \geq 2$,

$$\bigcup_{j=0}^{n-1} \mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right). \quad (4.24)$$

Proof Recall that $EF = 2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} FY_k$, $F^2 = 2F - E$. So

$$\begin{aligned} FY_k &= FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + FY_k - FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ &= FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + Y_k + Y_{m+1-k} - 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ &= FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + (\bar{\eta}_{\frac{m+1}{2}-k} - \bar{\eta}_0)Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ &= (F + \bar{\eta}_{\frac{m+1}{2}-k} - \bar{\eta}_0)\left(EF - F^2 - E - \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} FY_k\right) \\ &\in F(EF - F^2 - E) + \mathbb{Z}(\mathcal{S}_{3,1}(m) \cup \mathcal{S}_{3,2}(m)). \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

Short calculations show that

$$\begin{aligned} \bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m) &\subset \mathbb{Z}F^{n-1}(EF - F^2 - E) + \mathbb{Z}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^n \mathcal{S}_{n+1,j}(m)\right) \\ &= \mathbb{Z}F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \mathbb{Z}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^n \mathcal{S}_{n+1,j}(m)\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.26)$$

Hence, by the fact that $FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} = 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}$, we get

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \mathbb{Z}\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^{2n-3} \mathcal{S}_{2n-2,j}(m)\right). \quad (4.27)$$

Note that $F^2Y_k = (2F - E)Y_k = 2FY_k$. From this, it follows that

$$\mathcal{S}_{2n-2,j}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m), \quad 1 \leq j \leq n-1. \quad (4.28)$$

For $n \leq j \leq 2n-3$, we have

$$\mathcal{S}_{2n-2,j}(m) = 2^{n-2}\mathcal{S}_{n,j-n+2}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m), \quad (4.29)$$

since $2\mathcal{S}_{n,*+1}(m) \subset \mathcal{S}_{n,*}(m)$ in this case (as Lemma 4.1). So

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{n-1} \mathcal{S}_{n,j}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m). \quad (4.30)$$

Now consider $\mathcal{S}_{n,0}(m)$. Since $Y_k = FY_k - Y_{\frac{m}{2}+1-k}$ and

$$Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}Y_1 = FY_{\frac{m-1}{2}} - FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \in \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,1}(m), \quad (4.31)$$

we have

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,0}(m) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m). \quad (4.32)$$

Then the lemma follows from the fact that $\mathcal{S}_{n,1}(m) = \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right)$.

Lemma 4.3 For any $n \geq 2$,

$$\{E^j F^{n-j} \mid 0 \leq j \leq n\} \subset \mathbb{Z}\{E^2 F^{n-2}, EF^{n-1}, F^n\}. \quad (4.33)$$

Proof The lemma is trivial for $n = 2$. Assume $n \geq 3$ in the sequel. Then for any $2 \leq j \leq n-1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E^j F^{n-j} - E^{j-1} F^{n-j+1} &= E^{j-1} F^{n-j-1} (EF - F^2) \\ &= E^{j-1} F^{n-j-1} \left(2F + \sum_{k=1}^m Y_k - 2F + E \right) \\ &= E^j F^{n-j-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.34)$$

Hence the lemma follows from $E^{j+1} F^{n-j-1} = 2E^j F^{n-j-1}$ since $E^2 = 2E$.

Lemma 4.4 For any $n \geq 2$, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{EF^{n-1}, F^n, F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \quad (4.35)$$

as an abelian group.

Proof Due to Lemmas 4.2–4.3, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{E^2 F^{n-2}, EF^{n-1}, F^n\} \cup \{F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right). \quad (4.36)$$

So we only need to show that (4.35) generates $E^2 F^{n-2}$. Short calculations show

$$\begin{aligned} EF^{n-1} - F^n &= F^{n-2}(EF - F^2) \\ &= F^{n-2} \left(E + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} FY_k \right) \\ &= EF^{n-2} + F^{n-2}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} F^{n-1}Y_k. \end{aligned} \quad (4.37)$$

Hence, by the identities $E^2 = 2E$ and $FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} = 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} E^2 F^{n-2} &= 2(EF^{n-2} + F^{n-2}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}) - F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ &= 2 \left(EF^{n-1} - F^n - \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} F^{n-1}Y_k \right) - F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (4.38)$$

as required.

Corollary 4.1 For any $n \geq 3$, $\Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is generated by

$$\{EF^n, F^{n+1}, F^n Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n+1,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \quad (4.39)$$

as an abelian group.

Proof It is easy to see that

$$\mathcal{S}_{n+1,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \subset \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right). \quad (4.40)$$

So by Lemma 4.4, we just need to show

$$\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \subset \Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m). \quad (4.41)$$

Due to (4.25), we get

$$EF + FY_k \in \Delta^3(\mathcal{Q}_m). \quad (4.42)$$

Hence

$$FY_k Y_1 = (EF + FY_k)Y_1 \in \Delta^4(\mathcal{Q}_m). \quad (4.43)$$

From this, the corollary follows.

Theorem 4.3 For any $n \geq 2$, there exist three integers a_n, b_n, d_n with $2^{n-2}b_n + a_nd_n = 1$ such that $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ is the free abelian group based on

$$\{EF^{n-1}, F^n\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \cup \{X_n\}, \quad (4.44)$$

where $X_n = a_n F^{n-1} Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + b_n F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1^{n-2}$.

Proof Note that (4.44) has cardinality $m+2$. So we just need to show that (4.44) generates $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$. Moreover, we only need to show that it generates $F^{n-1} Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}$ and $F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1^{n-2}$ by comparing it with (4.35). The theorem is trivial for $n = 2$ by setting $b_2 = 0$, $a_2 = d_2 = 1$.

Assume $n \geq 3$. By (3.12) and a short calculation, we get

$$2 \begin{pmatrix} F^2 Y_1 \\ F^2 Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ F^2 Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \end{pmatrix} = A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2 \begin{pmatrix} F Y_1 Y_1 \\ F Y_2 Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.45)$$

where

$$A_m = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}, & \text{if } m = 3, \\ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 4I_{\frac{m-1}{2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \cdots 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 \cdots 0 & 3 & 0 & -3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 \cdots 0 & m & 0 & -m \end{pmatrix}, & \text{if } m \geq 5. \end{cases} \quad (4.46)$$

From this, it follows that

$$2^{n-2} \begin{pmatrix} F^{n-1}Y_1 \\ F^{n-1}Y_2 \\ \vdots \\ F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \end{pmatrix} = (A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2)^{n-2} \begin{pmatrix} FY_1 Y_1^{n-2} \\ FY_2 Y_1^{n-2} \\ \vdots \\ FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1^{n-2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.47)$$

Consider the matrix $A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2$. By direct calculation, we get

$$A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2 \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{M_{\frac{m+1}{2}}(2\mathbb{Z})}. \quad (4.48)$$

Hence

$$(A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2)^{n-2} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{M_{\frac{m+1}{2}}(2\mathbb{Z})}. \quad (4.49)$$

Denote by d_n the integer in the lower right-hand corner of $(A_m O_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^2)^{n-2}$. Set

$$Z_n = 2^{n-2} F^{n-1} Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - d_n F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1^{n-2}.$$

Then

- (1) d_n is odd, so there exist two integers a_n, b_n such that $2^{n-2}b_n + a_nd_n = 1$,
- (2) $Z_n \in \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right)$.

Therefore, either

$$F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} = d_n X_n + b_n Z_n \quad (4.50)$$

or

$$F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} Y_1^{n-2} = 2^{n-2} X_n - a_n Z_n \quad (4.51)$$

is generated by (4.44), as required.

Theorem 4.4 *When m is an odd number, we have, for any natural number n ,*

$$Q_n(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong C_4 \oplus C_m. \quad (4.52)$$

Proof We compute $Q_1(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ first. By Lemma 4.4,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^2(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= \mathbb{Z}\{EF, F^2, F Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \\ &= \mathbb{Z}\left\{2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} F Y_k, 2F - E, 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\right\} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\{Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m+1}{2}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \mathbb{Z}\{2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2F - E, 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - mY_1\} \\
&\quad + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{2,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\left\{Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2}\right\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.53}$$

The first part of the right-hand side of (4.53) equals

$$\mathbb{Z}\{2F - E, 2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 4F, m(2F + Y_1)\} \tag{4.54}$$

since

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2F - E \\ 2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 4F \\ m(2F + Y_1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ m & 0 & \frac{1-m}{2} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2F - E \\ 2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - mY_1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.55}$$

and the square matrix lies in $GL_4(\mathbb{Z})$. It is easy to verify that $\Delta(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has the basis

$$\begin{aligned}
&\{2F - E, 2F + Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, F, 2F + Y_1\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{2,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) \\
&\cup \left\{Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2}\right\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.56}$$

So

$$\mathcal{Q}_1(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}F}{4\mathbb{Z}F} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}(2F + Y_1)}{m\mathbb{Z}(2F + Y_1)} \cong C_4 \oplus C_m. \tag{4.57}$$

Secondly, by (4.31), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta^3(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= \mathbb{Z}\{EF^2, F^3, F^2Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{3,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{3,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \\
&= \mathbb{Z}\{2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2F^2 - EF, 2FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}Y_1 - mY_1^2, 4FY_1\} \\
&\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2}\right\} \\
&\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m+1}{2}\right\} \\
&= \mathbb{Z}\{2F^2 - EF, 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2FY_1 + mY_1^2, 4FY_1, \\
&\quad FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - mFY_1\} + \mathbb{Z}\left\{(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2}\right\} \\
&\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2}\right\}.
\end{aligned} \tag{4.58}$$

The first part of the right-hand side of (4.58) equals

$$\mathbb{Z}\{2F^2 - EF, 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2F^2 + FY_1, 4F^2, mY_1^2\} \tag{4.59}$$

since

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2F^2 + FY_1 \\ 4F^2 \\ mY_1^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -\frac{m-1}{2} & 0 & \frac{(m-1)^2}{4} & m-2 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & \frac{m-1}{2} & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2FY_1 + mY_1^2 \\ 4FY_1 \\ FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - mFY_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (4.60)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2FY_1 + mY_1^2 \\ 4FY_1 \\ FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} - mFY_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & -m & \frac{m-1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}} \\ 2F^2 + FY_1^2 \\ 4F^2 \\ mY_1^2 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.61)$$

Due to Theorem 4.3, one can easily verify that $\Delta^2(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has the basis

$$\begin{aligned} & \{2F^2 - EF, 2F^2 + FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2F^2 + FY_1, F^2, Y_1^2\} \\ & \cup \left\{ (Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1 \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2} \right\} \\ & \cup \left\{ F(Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1) \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2} \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.62)$$

Thus

$$Q_2(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}F^2}{4\mathbb{Z}F^2} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}Y_1^2}{m\mathbb{Z}Y_1^2} \cong C_4 \oplus C_m. \quad (4.63)$$

Finally, by Corollary 4.1 and (4.31), we get, for any $n \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{n+1}(\mathcal{Q}_m) &= \mathbb{Z}\{EF^n, F^{n+1}, F^n Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}\} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n+1,0}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m+1}{2}\right) \\ &= \mathbb{Z}\{2F^n - F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, 2F^n - EF^{n-1}, 2F^{n-1}Y_{\frac{m+1}{2}}, mY_1^n, FY_{\frac{m+1}{2}}Y_1^{n-2}\} \\ &\quad + \mathbb{Z}\left\{ (Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2} \right\} + \mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.64)$$

Thanks to (4.50)–(4.51) and the fact that Z_n lies in $\mathbb{Z}\mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right)$, the first part of the right-hand side of (4.64) can be replaced by

$$\mathbb{Z}\{2F^n - d_n X_n, 2F^n - EF^{n-1}, 2d_n X_n, mY_1^n, 2^{n-2}X_n\}. \quad (4.65)$$

Recall that d_n is an odd number, which implies $\gcd(2d_n, 2^{n-2}) = 2$. From this, it follows that (4.65) equals

$$\mathbb{Z}\{2F^n - d_n X_n, 2F^n - EF^{n-1}, 2X_n, mY_1^n\}, \quad (4.66)$$

and hence it equals

$$\mathbb{Z}\{2F^n - EF^{n-1}, 2F^n - X_n, 4F^n, mY_1^n\}, \quad (4.67)$$

since

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2F^n - EF^{n-1} \\ 2F^n - X_n \\ 4F^n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & \frac{d_n-1}{2} \\ 2 & 0 & d_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2F^n - d_n X_n \\ 2F^n - EF^{n-1} \\ 2X_n \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.68)$$

and the square matrix lies in $GL_3(\mathbb{Z})$. Due to Theorem 4.3, $\Delta^n(\mathcal{Q}_m)$ has the basis

$$\begin{aligned} & \{2F^n - EF^{n-1}, 2F^n - X_n, F^n, Y_1^n\} \\ & \cup \left\{ (Y_k - (2k-1)Y_1)Y_1^{n-1} \mid 2 \leq k \leq \frac{m-1}{2} \right\} \cup \mathcal{S}_{n,1}\left(\frac{m-1}{2}\right). \end{aligned} \quad (4.69)$$

Therefore, for any $n \geq 3$,

$$Q_n(\mathcal{Q}_m) \cong \frac{\mathbb{Z}F^n}{4\mathbb{Z}F^n} \oplus \frac{\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n}{m\mathbb{Z}Y_1^n} \cong C_4 \oplus C_m. \quad (4.70)$$

(4.57), (4.63) and (4.70) together finish the proof.

Acknowledgement The author wants to express his sincere gratitude to Prof. Tang Guoping for his encouragement and support.

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