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# Integral non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension $p^2q^2$

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## Abstract

We construct all integral non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct prime numbers, establishing that a necessary and sufficient condition for their existence is that  $p \mid q + 1$ , and their rank is  $p^2 + \frac{q^2-1}{p}$ .

## 1 Introduction

While integral non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $4q^2$  with  $q$  an odd prime were constructed in [13], a sign error in [3] led to the mistaken conclusion that for odd primes  $p, q$  there were no non-group-theoretical categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$ . Recently this error was pointed out to us by Palcoux, with a potential rank 17 counterexample for  $p = 3, q = 5$  described in [1].

We correct this oversight here by explicitly constructing all non-group theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$  for  $q$  an odd prime with  $p$  a prime dividing  $q + 1$ . The case where  $p$  divides  $q - 1$  was already handled in [3], but here we deal with all cases simultaneously. Therefore, our construction covers all integral non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$  including dimension  $4q^2$  for any odd  $q$ , and  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{sl}_2, q, 6)$  and their zestings, [8].

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we recall some basic definitions necessary for the general construction of modular categories associated with

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faithful actions of cyclic groups on metric groups. In Section 3, for each quadratic extension of a finite field, we construct an anisotropic metric group whose orthogonal group is a dihedral group. With this we define  $\left(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}\right)^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  the family of integral non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$ . In Section 4, we parameterize the simple objects of  $\left(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}\right)^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  and prove that it is non-group-theoretical. Finally, in Section 5, we show that group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$  are either the representations of a twisted Drinfeld double of a non-abelian group of order  $pq$  or pointed, providing a complete description of them.

## 2 Preliminaries

By a *fusion category*, we mean a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear rigid semisimple tensor category with finitely many isomorphism classes of simple objects and simple unit object  $\mathbf{1}$ . For basic definitions, including those of braided fusion categories, modular categories, and the 2-category of (bi)module categories over a fusion category, along with their properties and examples, we refer the reader to [10].

An object  $X$  in a fusion category is called *invertible* if  $X \otimes X^* \cong X^* \otimes X \cong \mathbf{1}$ . A fusion category  $\mathcal{B}$  is called *pointed* if every simple object is invertible. Up to tensor equivalence, every pointed fusion category is equivalent to  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$ , the category of finite-dimensional  $G$ -graded vector spaces, where  $G$  is a finite group and the associativity constraint is given by a 3-cocycle  $\omega \in Z^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$ . A fusion category  $\mathcal{C}$  is called *group-theoretical* if it is Morita equivalent to a pointed fusion category, this means if there exists a  $\mathcal{C}$ -module category  $\mathcal{M}$  such that  $\text{End}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathcal{M})$  is a pointed fusion category, see [11].

For a braided fusion category  $\mathcal{D}$  and a braided inclusion  $\text{Rep}(G) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{D}$ , let  $\mathcal{D}_G$  be the braided  $G$ -crossed category constructed through *de-equivariantization*, as described in [7]. Additionally,  $G$  acts on  $\mathcal{B} := (\mathcal{D}_G)_e$ —the trivial component of the associated  $G$ -crossed braided category—via braided tensor autoequivalences. This action establishes a group homomorphism  $G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_\otimes^{\text{br}}(\mathcal{B})$ .

Conversely, if we start with a non-degenerate braided fusion category  $\mathcal{B}$  and a group homomorphism  $G \rightarrow \text{Aut}_\otimes^{\text{br}}(\mathcal{B})$ , the method known as *gauging* (see [6], [21]) enables us to build a braided  $G$ -crossed category called  $\mathcal{B}^{\times, G}$ . Following this, a non-degenerate braided category  $\mathcal{D}$ , obtained through the  $G$ -equivariantization of  $\mathcal{B}^{\times, G}$  contains  $\text{Rep}(G)$ . The categories  $\mathcal{B}^{\times, G}$  are classified by pairs  $(M, \alpha)$ , where  $M$  and  $\alpha$  are elements of torsors over  $H^2(G, \text{Inv}(\mathcal{B}))$  and  $H^3(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$ , respectively. This classification relies on the vanishing of some cohomological obstructions,  $o_3(\rho) \in H^3(G, \text{Inv}(\mathcal{B}))$  and  $o_4(\rho, M) \in H^4(G, \mathbb{C}^\times)$  [12].

In the case where  $G = \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$  with  $n$  coprime to the size of  $\text{Inv}(\mathcal{B})$ , the corresponding non-degenerate modular categories are uniquely characterized by  $H^3(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . Their existence is guaranteed as  $H^n(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \text{Inv}(\mathcal{C})) = 0$  and  $H^4(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^\times) = 0$ .

Based on the preceding discussion and in order to establish notation, we introduce the following definition, which precisely corresponds to the type of modular categories we are interested in constructing.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a non-degenerate braided fusion category. For a cyclic subgroup  $\langle T \rangle \subseteq \text{Aut}_{\otimes}^{\text{br}}(\mathcal{B})$  of order  $n$ , coprime to  $|\text{Inv}(\mathcal{B})|$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{B}^{(\langle T \rangle, \alpha)}$  the corresponding braided  $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -crossed extension of  $\mathcal{B}$ , where  $\alpha$  is an element of  $H^3(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ . Additionally, we denote by  $(\mathcal{B}^{(\langle T \rangle, \alpha)})^{\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}}$  the associated non-degenerate braided fusion category.

Recall that a metric group is a pair  $(A, t)$ , where  $A$  is a finite abelian group and  $t : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is a non-degenerate quadratic form. This means that the map defined by  $(a, b) \mapsto \frac{t(a+b)}{t(a)t(b)}$  is a non-degenerate bicharacter and  $t(a) = t(-a)$ . A pointed modular category  $\mathcal{B}$  gives rise to a metric group by taking  $A = \text{Inv}(\mathcal{B})$ , the set of isomorphism classes of invertible objects, and  $t : A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  given by  $c_{a,a} = t(a) \text{id}_{a \otimes a}$ . Conversely, every metric group has an associated pointed modular category (see [7] for details).

A key example of a metric group, and consequently of a pointed modular category, is constructed as follows: let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}$  of characteristic  $p$ , and let  $Q : V \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  be an ordinary non-degenerate quadratic form. We then define the metric group  $(V, t)$  where

$$t(v) = e^{\frac{2\pi i N(Q(v))}{p}},$$

with  $N : \mathbb{F}_p \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p$  being the field norm. This construction provides an associated metric group and, consequently, a pointed modular category.

The group of braided tensor autoequivalences of a pointed modular category with associated metric group  $(A, t)$  is naturally isomorphic to  $\text{Aut}(A, t)$ , the group of automorphisms of  $A$  that fix  $t$ . In the case of a non-degenerate quadratic  $\mathbb{F}$ -linear space  $(V, Q)$ , it holds that  $O(V, Q) \subset \text{Aut}(V, t)$ . Therefore, given a cyclic subgroup of  $O(V, Q)$  of order relatively prime to  $p$ , we can construct a modular category via gauging, as in Definition 2.1. This method constructs the family of non-group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$ .

### 3 Definition of modular categories $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$

Let  $q$  be a prime and let  $\mathbb{F}_q \subset \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$  denote a finite Galois extension, where  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}$  are fields with  $q$  and  $q^2$  elements, respectively. We denote the generator of the Galois group by  $\sigma : \mathbb{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ , so  $\sigma(v) = v^q$ , for  $v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$ . The field norm  $N : \mathbb{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$  is defined by

$$N(v) = v\sigma(v) = v^{q+1},$$

which establishes an anisotropic plane, that is a 2-dimensional  $\mathbf{F}_q$ -vector space equipped with the quadratic form  $N$  satisfying  $N(v) = 0$  if and only if  $v = 0$ . This norm induces a group epimorphism  $N : \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_q^*$ , with  $\ker(N)$  being a cyclic group of order  $q^2$ . The assignment

$$\rho : \ker(N) \rightarrow SO(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N), \quad c \mapsto [\rho_c : v \mapsto cv],$$

defines a group isomorphism. Now, since  $\sigma \in O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)$  with  $\det(\sigma) = -1$  (for  $q = 2$  Dickson's pseudodeterminant is non-trivial) and  $\sigma^2 = \text{Id}$ , it follows that  $O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N) = SO(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N) \rtimes \langle \sigma \rangle$ . Consequently,  $O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)$  is isomorphic to the dihedral group of order  $2(q+1)$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $p$  and  $q$  be primes with  $p \mid q+1$ . Given  $1 \neq c \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$  such that  $N(c) = 1$  and  $c^p = 1$ , we define  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$ , where  $\alpha \in H^3(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , as the associated braided  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -crossed modular category. We denote by  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  the corresponding modular category obtained by  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -equivariantization.

**Remark 3.2.**

1. As we will see in Proposition 4.1, the fusion category  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is integral. Consequently, its equivariantization, the modular category  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$ , is also integral. Given that every integral fusion category has a unique spherical structure with quantum dimensions matching the Frobenius-Perron dimensions, this category is indeed modular.
2. Since the orthogonal group of  $(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)$  is a dihedral group, every odd cyclic subgroup is completely determined by its order and for order two they correspond to reflections. Hence,  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  does not depend on the choice of  $c$  in the case of  $p$  odd and for  $p = 2$  the category  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  corresponds to a Tambara-Yamagami category.
3. The modular category  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -graded, with trivial component  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}}$ . The trivial component can be realized simply as the category of representations of the semi-direct product  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \rtimes_c \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , where  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2}$  is considered only as an abelian group and thus  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^2$ .
4. The modular category  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  is a minimal modular extension of  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z}}$ , and this minimal modular extensions are unique up to twisting by elements in  $H^3(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^\times) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ , see [15].

**Example 3.3.** 1. If  $q = 2$ , then  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \mathbb{F}_2[\alpha]$ , with  $\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 = 0$ . In this case,  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \langle 1, \alpha \rangle$  as an abelian group and  $t(1) = t(\alpha) = -1$ . Taking  $c = \alpha$ , we have that  $\rho(c)$  has order three. Consequently,  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_4, N)}^{\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}}$  is equivalent to the representation category of  $\mathbb{F}_4 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{S}_3$  with a non-symmetric braiding. Hence,  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_4, N)}^{3, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}}$  is braided equivalent to  $\mathcal{C}(\mathfrak{sl}_2, q, 6)$  or one of their zesting, [8].

2. If  $q$  is an odd prime and  $p = 2$ , the braided  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -crossed category  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_q, N)}^{2, \alpha}$  is a Tambara-Yamagami category. The associated modular category corresponds to the elliptic case of [13, Example 5.3].

## 4 Properties of $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$

From now on, we will assume that  $p$  and  $q$  are odd primes, since the even cases were already discussed in Example 3.3 and correspond to well-known examples of integral non-group-theoretical modular categories.

We denote by  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2}^* = \text{Hom}_{\mathbf{F}_q}(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, \mathbf{F}_q)$  and  $O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q)$  the *split orthogonal group*, where  $Q : \mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_q$  is given by  $Q(v, \alpha) = \alpha(v)$ .

Let  $B(v, w) = \frac{1}{2}[N(v + w) - N(v) - N(w)]$  be the associated bilinear form of  $(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)$ . Since  $B$  is non-degenerate, it defines a map  $\widehat{(-)} : \mathbf{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*$ , with  $\widehat{v}(w) = B(v, w)$  for all  $w \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ .

Then, we have orthogonal injections

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N) &\rightarrow (\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q), & v &\mapsto (v, \widehat{v}), \\ (\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, -N) &\rightarrow (\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q), & v &\mapsto (v, -\widehat{v}). \end{aligned}$$

There exists a unique injective group homomorphism

$$\alpha : O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N) \rightarrow O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q),$$

characterized by  $\alpha_g(v, \widehat{v}) = (v, \widehat{v})$  and  $\alpha_g(v, -\widehat{v}) = (g(v), -\widehat{g(v)})$ , see [9]. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_g(v, \widehat{w}) &= \alpha_g\left(\frac{1}{2}[(v + w, \widehat{v} + \widehat{w}) + (v - w, -(\widehat{v} - \widehat{w}))]\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}[(v + w, \widehat{v} + \widehat{w}) + (g(v) - g(w), -(\widehat{g(v)} - \widehat{g(w)}))] \\ &= \frac{1}{2}[((\text{Id} + g)(v), \widehat{(\text{Id} - g)(v)}) + ((\text{Id} - g)(w), \widehat{(\text{Id} + g)(w)})]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can write

$$\alpha_g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q), \quad (4.1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= \frac{1}{2}(\text{Id} + g), & \beta(\widehat{w}) &= \frac{1}{2}(\text{Id} - g)(w), \\ \gamma(v) &= \frac{1}{2}\widehat{\text{Id} - g(v)}, & \delta(\widehat{w}) &= \frac{1}{2}\widehat{\text{Id} + g(w)},\end{aligned}$$

and  $\alpha : \mathbf{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ ,  $\beta : \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ ,  $\gamma : \mathbf{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*$ , and  $\delta : \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^* \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*$ .

**Proposition 4.1.** *The simple objects in the fusion category  $\mathcal{B} := \text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  are given by  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ , which correspond to the group of (isomorphism classes of) invertibles in  $\mathcal{B}$ , and non-invertibles  $X_1, \dots, X_{p-1}$ , which are  $q$ -dimensional. The fusion rules are given by*

$$a \otimes b = a + b, \quad a \otimes X_i = X_i \otimes a = X_i, \quad X_i^* = X_{p-i},$$

and

$$X_i \otimes X_j = \begin{cases} qX_{i+j} & \text{if } i + j \neq p, \\ \sum_{a \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}} a & \text{if } i + j = p, \end{cases}$$

for all  $a, b \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{B}$  has dimension  $pq^2$ , by [14, Prop. 3.1], we only need to verify that  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}(\text{Id} - g)$ , as defined in (4.1), is invertible. In our case,

$$(\text{Id} - g)(v) = (1 - c^m)v,$$

for all  $v \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$  and  $0 \leq m < p$ . Since  $c$  has order  $p$  and the operator  $\frac{1}{2}(\text{Id} - g)$  is invertible, the criteria are satisfied.  $\blacksquare$

**Proposition 4.2.** *The modular category  $\left(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}\right)^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  has rank  $p^2 + \frac{q+1}{p}$ . The following is a complete list of simple objects and their dimensions:*

- (1) *There are exactly  $p$  invertible objects  $(\mathbf{1}, \chi)$ , indexed by  $\chi \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$ . The corresponding object to  $(\mathbf{1}, \chi)$  is the unit object  $\mathbf{1}$  with equivariant structure  $\chi(a) \text{id}_{\mathbf{1}} : \mathbf{1} \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$ .*
- (2) *There are exactly  $\frac{q^2-1}{p}$  simple objects of dimension  $p$ , parameterized by the  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ -orbits of  $\mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ . The corresponding object to an orbit  $\mathcal{O}$  is the object  $X_{\mathcal{O}} = \bigoplus_{a \in \mathcal{O}} a$  with equivariant structure  $\text{id}_{X_{\mathcal{O}}}$ .*
- (3) *There are exactly  $(p-1)p$  simple objects of dimension  $q$ , parameterized by pairs  $(X_i, \chi)$ , where  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}^*$  and  $\chi \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$ . The corresponding object to the pair  $(X_i, \chi)$  is the object  $X_i$  with equivariant structure  $\chi(a) \text{id}_{X_i} : X_i \rightarrow X_i$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is a braided  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -crossed category, the  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -action respects the grading. Therefore, at the level of objects, it acts trivially on  $X_i$ , and in the trivial component, the action is given by  $\rho_c : \mathbf{F}_{q^2} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{q^2}$ . Then, the description of the simple objects follows from straightforward computations, see [5].  $\blacksquare$

The following criterion will be useful in determining whether  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is non-group-theoretical.

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes such that  $p \mid q + 1$ . Let  $A = (\mathbb{Z}/q\mathbb{Z})^2$  and*

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in O(A \oplus A^*, Q), \quad (\text{the split orthogonal group})$$

*a matrix of order  $p$ , where  $\alpha : A \rightarrow A$ ,  $\beta : A^* \rightarrow A$ ,  $\gamma : A \rightarrow A^*$ , and  $\delta : A^* \rightarrow A^*$ , and  $\beta$  is invertible. Then the  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -graded extensions of  $\text{Vec}_A$  associated with  $M$  are group-theoretical if and only if  $\mu_1/\mu_2 \in \mathbf{F}_q$ , where  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*$  are the eigenvalues of  $\alpha + \beta\delta\beta^{-1}$ .*

*Proof.* By [14, Theorem 3.2], we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Id} & 0 \\ -\delta\beta^{-1} & \text{Id} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Id} & 0 \\ \delta\beta^{-1} & \text{Id} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha - \beta\delta\beta^{-1} & \beta \\ \beta^{-1*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in O(A \oplus A^*, Q).$$

Now consider

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{Id} & 0 \\ 0 & \beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha - \beta\delta\beta^{-1} & \beta \\ \beta^{-1*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{Id} & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha - \beta\delta\beta^{-1} & \text{Id} \\ \beta\beta^{-1*} & 0 \end{pmatrix} := S.$$

The matrix  $S$  has the form required for applying the criterion in the proof of [14, Theorem 1.1], meaning that  $S_{11}$  and  $S_{21}$  are simultaneously diagonalizable. If we denote the eigenvalues of  $S_{21}$  as  $\mu_1 = -\lambda, \mu_2 = -\lambda^{-1}$ , then  $\lambda_2/\lambda_1 = \lambda$ . Then by [14, Claim 4.2], the associated  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -extension is group-theoretical if and only if  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}_q$ , that is, if the quotient (in any order) of the eigenvalues of  $S_{11}$  lies in  $\mathbf{F}_q$ . ■

**Theorem 4.4.** *The fusion category  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is non-group theoretical.*

*Proof.* We will apply the criterion of Proposition 4.3 to the matrix

$$\alpha_g = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{pmatrix} \in O(\mathbf{F}_{q^2} \oplus \mathbf{F}_{q^2}^*, Q),$$

where  $g(v) = cv$ . Note that in our specific situation,  $\alpha + \beta\delta\beta^{-1} = \text{Id} + g$ . Hence, we need to ascertain whether  $\frac{\mu_1}{\mu_2} \notin \mathbf{F}_q$ , where  $\mu_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $\text{Id} + g$ .

As  $g$  is orthogonal, its eigenvalues have the form  $\beta$  and  $\beta^{-1}$ , where  $\beta \notin \mathbf{F}_q$  since  $g$  is not diagonalizable over  $\mathbf{F}_q$ . Note that the action of the Galois group permutes the eigenvalues of  $g$ , thus  $\sigma(\beta) = \beta^{-1}$ . Now, as the eigenvalues of  $\text{Id} + g$  are  $1 + \beta$  and  $1 + \beta^{-1}$ , the criterion is based on checking whether  $\lambda = \frac{1+\beta}{1+\beta^{-1}}$  (or equivalently  $\lambda = \frac{1+\beta^{-1}}{1+\beta}$ ) is fixed by the action of the Galois group. Assume that  $\sigma(\lambda) = \lambda$ , meaning  $\frac{1+\beta}{1+\beta^{-1}} = \frac{1+\beta^{-1}}{1+\beta}$ , which is equivalent to

$$\beta^4 + 2\beta^3 - 2\beta - 1 = 0. \tag{4.2}$$

However,

$$x^4 + 2x^3 - 2x - 1 = (x+1)^3(x-1),$$

then (4.2) implies that  $\beta = 1$  or  $\beta = -1$ , which is a contradiction. The contradiction arose from assuming that  $\lambda \in \mathbf{F}_q$ .

Therefore, by Proposition 4.3, the category  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is non-group-theoretical. ■

**Corollary 4.5.** *The modular category  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  is non-group-theoretical.*

*Proof.* The de-equivariantization functor defines a surjective tensor functor

$$(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}.$$

Hence, if  $(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}$  is group-theoretical, it follows from [11, Prop. 8.44] that  $\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha}$  is also group-theoretical, which contradicts Theorem 4.4. ■

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $p$  and  $q$  be odd primes with  $p < q$ . If there exists a non-group-theoretical modular category of dimension  $p^2q^2$ , then  $p \mid (q+1)$ , and the non-group-theoretical modular categories are of the form*

$$(\text{Vec}_{(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)}^{p, \alpha})^{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}, \text{ for some } \alpha \in H^3(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{C}^*) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{B}$  a non-group-theoretical modular category of dimension  $p^2q^2$ . Using the same ideas of [3, Theorem 4.2] we have that the item (c) is corrected as:  $p \mid (q^2 - 1)$  and  $\text{FPdim}(\mathcal{B}_{pt}) = p$ .

Now  $\mathcal{B}_{pt}$  cannot be modular, since then  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}_{pt} \boxtimes \mathcal{B}_{ad}$  as braided fusion categories and then group-theoretical. Hence,  $\mathcal{B}_{pt}$  is Tannakian and we have that the  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -condensation  $[\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}}]_e$  is a modular category of dimension  $q^2$ , which must be pointed, i.e. a metric group category of the form  $\mathcal{C}(\mathbb{Z}/q^2\mathbb{Z}, Q)$  or  $\mathcal{C}((\mathbb{Z}/q)^2, P)$  where  $Q, P$  are non-degenerate quadratic forms [10, Section 8.4].

Thus  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -gauging of one of the above metric group categories. Since  $O(\mathbb{Z}/q^2\mathbb{Z}, Q) = \langle \pm \text{id} \rangle$ , it admits only the trivial  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -action, resulting in a group-theoretical modular category. Consequently,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -gauging of  $\mathcal{C}((\mathbb{Z}/q)^2, P)$ . Here, we encounter two distinct quadratic forms up to equivalence: an anisotropic (or elliptic) quadratic form corresponding to  $(\mathbf{F}_{q^2}, N)$  and an isotropic (or hyperbolic) form of the form  $t(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$ . The isotropic orthogonal group is a dihedral group of order  $2(q-1)$ , explicitly given by

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & a^{-1} \end{pmatrix} (\text{rotations}), \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a^{-1} \\ a & 0 \end{pmatrix} (\text{reflections}) : a \in \mathbb{F}_q^* \right\}.$$

Therefore, in order to have a non-trivial  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -action,  $p$  must divide  $q-1$ . However, according to [3, Theorem 4.8] (with the additional condition  $p \mid q-1$ ),  $\mathcal{B}$  would be group-theoretical. Consequently, since  $\mathcal{B}$  is non-group-theoretical, it follows that  $p$  divides  $q+1$ . Therefore, we only need to consider the anisotropic

case where the orthogonal group is a dihedral group of order  $2(q+1)$ . Since every cyclic subgroup of odd order in a dihedral group is unique, there is basically a unique  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ -action, which corresponds to the modular categories described in Definition 3.1. ■

## 5 Group-theoretical modular categories

The canonical example of a group-theoretical modular category is the Drinfeld center of a pointed fusion category  $\text{Vec}_G^\omega$ . These categories correspond to the category of representations of the twisted Drinfeld double. However, there are several examples of group-theoretical modular categories that are not Drinfeld centers. The simplest example corresponds to pointed modular categories of prime dimension. Yet, it is also possible to construct non-pointed, group-theoretical modular categories that are not Drinfeld centers. For example,  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ -extensions associated with fermions of Drinfeld centers can be considered, since they change the central charge, [4].

The next result shows that in the case of group-theoretical modular categories of dimension  $p^2q^2$ , we only have the pointed ones and the twisted Drinfeld centers of non-abelian groups of order  $pq$ , studied in detail in [16].

**Proposition 5.1.** *If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a group-theoretical modular category of dimension  $p^2q^2$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes, then  $\mathcal{B}$  is either pointed or is the twisted Drinfeld double of a non-abelian group.*

*Proof.* By [6, Proposition 10], it is known that every group-theoretical modular category  $\mathcal{B}$  can be obtained as a gauging of a pointed modular category  $\mathcal{P}$  by the trivial homomorphisms  $G \rightarrow \text{Pic}(\mathcal{P})$ , and the dimension of  $\mathcal{B}$  is  $|\mathcal{P}||G|^2$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}$  has dimension  $p^2q^2$  where  $p < q$ , then  $(|G|, |\mathcal{P}|) = 1$  so  $H^2(G, A) = 0$ , and then  $\mathcal{B} \cong \mathcal{P} \boxtimes \mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)$  as braided tensor categories. Now, if  $\mathcal{P} \neq \text{Vec}$ , then the order of  $G$  is trivial or prime, hence  $G$  is either the trivial group or a cyclic group, and  $\mathcal{Z}(\text{Vec}_G^\omega)$  is pointed. Therefore,  $\mathcal{B}$  is pointed. ■

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