



## A CHARACTERIZATION OF SOME SIMPLE UNITARY GROUPS VIA ORDER AND DEGREE PATTERN OF SOLVABLE GRAPH

B. AKBARI

ABSTRACT. The solvable graph associated with a finite group  $G$ , denoted by  $\Gamma_s(G)$ , is a simple graph whose vertices are the prime divisors of  $|G|$  and two distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$  are joined by an edge if and only if there exists a solvable subgroup of  $G$  whose order is divisible by  $pq$ . In this paper, we give a characterization for projective special unitary groups  $U_3(q)$  with some certain conditions by the solvable graph.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

All groups appearing here are assumed to be finite. For a finite group  $G$ , we denote by  $\pi(G)$  the set of all prime divisors of  $|G|$ . There are a lot of ways for studying a finite group. One of the most interesting approaches is to consider some properties of the graphs associated with it. In fact, one of the graphs associated with a finite group  $G$  is the *solvable graph* which was introduced by Abe and Iiyori in [2]. This graph is a simple and undirected graph that constructs as follows. The vertex set is  $\pi(G)$ , and two distinct primes  $p$  and  $q$  are adjacent

DOI: 10.29252/as.2019.1614

MSC(2010): 20D05, 20D06, 20D08, 20D10, 05C25

Keywords: solvable graph, degree pattern of solvable graph, simple group,  $OD_s$ -characterization of a finite group.

Received: 20 March 2019, Accepted: 28 Sept 2019.

\*Corresponding author

(we write  $p \approx q$ ) if and only if  $G$  has a solvable subgroup whose order is divisible by  $pq$ . We denote this graph by  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .

The set of orders of all elements in a finite group  $G$  is denoted by  $\text{Spec}(G)$  and called the spectrum of  $G$ . This set is closed and partially ordered by the divisibility relation; therefore, it is determined uniquely from the subset  $\mu(G)$  of all maximal elements of  $\text{Spec}(G)$  with respect to divisibility. According to the definition of solvable graph, for the element  $a$  in  $\mu(G)$ , any two primes  $p$  and  $q$  such that  $pq \mid a$ , are joined by an edge.

Let  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_k$  be all primes in  $\pi(G)$ . We define

$$D_s(G) = (d_s(p_1), d_s(p_2), \dots, d_s(p_k)),$$

as the *degree pattern of the solvable graph of  $G$* , where  $d_s(p)$  signifies the degree of the vertex  $p$  in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .

We will give more attention to a prime in  $\Gamma_s(G)$  which is joined to any other primes in the graph that is called a *regular prime*. In other words, a prime  $p$  is a regular prime if  $d_s(p) = k - 1$  where  $|\pi(G)| = k$ . We denote the set of regular primes by  $\text{Reg}(G)$ .

Given a finite group  $G$ , denote by  $h_{\text{OD}_s}(G)$  the number of isomorphism classes of finite groups  $H$  such that  $|H| = |G|$  and  $D_s(H) = D_s(G)$ . In terms of the function  $h_{\text{OD}_s}(\cdot)$ , we have the following definition.

**Definition 1.1.** A finite group  $G$  is said to be  $n$ -fold  $\text{OD}_s$ -characterizable if  $h_{\text{OD}_s}(G) = n$ . The group  $G$  is  $\text{OD}_s$ -characterizable if  $h_{\text{OD}_s}(G) = 1$ . Moreover, we will simply say that  $H$  is  $\text{OD}_s$ -characterizable if  $H \cong G$  for every finite group  $G$  such that  $|G| = |H|$  and  $D_s(G) = D_s(H)$ .

In this paper, we are interested in characterizing groups by order and degree pattern of solvable graph. In [3, 4], some simple groups were considered and shown that the following groups are  $\text{OD}_s$ -characterizable.

- All sporadic simple groups;
- Projective special linear groups  $L_2(q)$  with the following conditions:
  - (a)  $p = 2$ ,  $|\pi(q + 1)| = 1$  or  $|\pi(q - 1)| = 1$ ,
  - (b)  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $|\pi(q + 1)| = 2$  or  $|\pi(q - 1)| \leq 2$ ,
  - (c)  $q \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .
- Projective special linear groups  $L_3(q)$  with the following conditions:
  - (a)  $q$  is odd and  $9 \nmid q - 1$ ;
  - (b)  $q$  is even and  $3 \parallel q - 1$ ;
  - (c)  $9 \mid q - 1$  and  $|\pi(\frac{q^2+q+1}{3})| = 1$ ;
  - (d)  $q$  is even,  $3 \mid q + 1$  and  $|\pi(q^2 + q + 1)| = 1$ .
- A finite group  $H$  such that  $|\pi(H)| \geq 3$ ,  $H \notin \{B_n(q), C_n(q)\}$  ( $n \geq 3$  and  $q$  is odd), and  $\text{Reg}(H) = \emptyset$ .

We will show that the projective special unitary groups  $U_3(q)$  defined over a field of characteristic 3 with certain conditions, are  $OD_s$ -characterizable. In fact, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem.** *The simple groups  $U_3(q)$  where  $q = 3^f$  ( $f \geq 2$ ), such that  $|\pi(q^2 - q + 1)| = 1$  are  $OD_s$ -characterizable.*

## 2. Preliminaries

We begin this section with some obtained results on solvable graphs of finite groups which will be used for further studies.

**Lemma 2.1.** ([2, Lemma 3]) *The solvable graph of a finite group is always a connected graph.*

**Lemma 2.2.** ([2]) *Let  $G$  be a non-abelian simple group. Then  $\Gamma_s(G)$  is an incomplete graph.*

**Lemma 2.3.** ([1, Lemma 3]) *Let  $G$  be a finite group such that  $\text{Reg}(G) = \emptyset$ . Then  $G$  is a non-abelian simple group.*

**Lemma 2.4.** ([2, Lemma 2]) *Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . Then*

- (1) *If  $p$  and  $q$  are joined in  $\Gamma_s(H)$  for  $p, q \in \pi(H)$ , then  $p$  and  $q$  are joined in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ , that is,  $\Gamma_s(H)$  is a subgraph of  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .*
- (2) *If  $p$  and  $q$  are joined in  $\Gamma_s(G/N)$  for  $p, q \in \pi(G/N)$ , then  $p$  and  $q$  are joined in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ , that is,  $\Gamma_s(G/N)$  is a subgraph of  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .*
- (3) *For  $p \in \pi(N)$  and  $q \in \pi(G) \setminus \pi(N)$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  are joined in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .*

**Lemma 2.5.** ([3, Corollary 1]) *Let  $N$  be a normal Hall subgroup of a finite group  $G$ . Then  $\Gamma_s(G)$  is complete if and only if  $\Gamma_s(N)$  and  $\Gamma_s(G/N)$  are complete, too.*

**Lemma 2.6.** *Let  $K$  be a finite group and  $G$  a subgroup of  $K$  which is a simple group with  $|K : G| = 2$ . Then we have:*

$$\Gamma_s(K) - \{2\} = \Gamma_s(G) - \{2\}.$$

*In particular, if  $r \in \pi(G) - \{2\}$ , then  $d_{s_G}(r) \leq d_{s_K}(r) \leq d_{s_G}(r) + 1$ , and moreover; if 2 is a regular prime in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ , then  $d_{s_K}(r) = d_{s_G}(r)$ .*

*Proof.* We first claim that every subgroup of  $K$  of odd order is a subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose that the claim is false and there exists a subgroup  $H \leq K$  of odd order such that  $H \not\leq G$ . Thus there is an element  $x \in K \setminus G$  such that  $o(x) = m$  where  $m$  is an odd number. Then we have  $x^{-1} = x^{m-1} \in G$  since  $|K : G| = 2$  and  $m - 1$  is even. It follows that  $x \in G$ , which is a contradiction.

Note that  $\pi(K) = \pi(G)$ . In what follows, we will show that, if  $p$  and  $q$  are two odd primes such that  $p \approx q$  in  $\Gamma_s(K)$ , then  $p \approx q$  in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ . Assume that  $p \approx q$  in  $\Gamma_s(K)$ . Hence, there is a solvable subgroup  $L \leq K$  such that  $pq \mid |L|$ . We consider Hall  $\{p, q\}$ -subgroup  $H$  of  $L$ . Now from the previous paragraph of the proof,  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and so  $p \approx q$  in  $\Gamma_s(G)$ .  $\square$

The following lemma is a fundamental result which is gained in [2].

**Lemma 2.7.** ([2, Lemma 1]) *The solvable graph of a solvable group is complete.*

We are not sure if the converse of Lemma 2.7 holds. It can be shown that it is true in some special cases. So we can state the following conjecture.

**Conjecture.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group. Then  $\Gamma_s(G)$  is complete if and only if  $G$  is a solvable group.*

In the following lemma, we prove that if the group  $G$  has a normal Hall subgroup, the conjecture above is true.

**Lemma 2.8.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group possessing a normal Hall subgroup. Then  $\Gamma_s(G)$  is complete if and only if  $G$  is a solvable group.*

*Proof.* It is enough to consider the necessity. Suppose that  $G$  is a counterexample of minimal order to this statement which means that  $\Gamma_s(G)$  is complete while  $G$  is not solvable. Assume that  $N$  is the normal Hall subgroup of  $G$ . Now we obtain from Lemma 2.5 that  $\Gamma_s(N)$  and  $\Gamma_s(G/N)$  are complete. Thus we have by the hypothesis that  $N$  and  $G/N$  are solvable. Consequently,  $G$  is solvable which contradicts our assumption.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.9.** ([2, Theorem 3]) *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $\{p, q\} \subseteq \pi(G)$ . Then  $p$  and  $q$  are not joined in  $\Gamma_s(G)$  if and only if there exists a series of normal subgroups of  $G$ , say*

$$1 \trianglelefteq M \triangleleft N \trianglelefteq G,$$

*such that  $M$  and  $G/N$  are  $\{p, q\}'$ -groups and  $N/M$  is a non-abelian simple group such that  $p$  and  $q$  are not joined in  $\Gamma_s(N/M)$ .*

Using the notation taken from [1] and [2], such a series as in Lemma 2.9 is called a *GKS-series of  $G$*  and we will say  $p$  and  $q$  are expressed to be disjoint by this *GKS-series*.

**Lemma 2.10.** ([1, Lemma 4]) *Let  $G$  be a finite group with  $|\pi(G)| = k$ . If the number of connected components of*

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(G) = (\Gamma_s(G) - \text{Reg}(G))^c$$

*equals to  $n$ , then at most  $n$  GKS-series of  $G$  is necessary to express any pair of vertices of  $\Gamma_s(G)$  to be disjoint.*

The following lemma is a result of Lemma 2.10.

**Lemma 2.11.** [3, Lemma 6] *Let  $G$  be a finite group with  $|\pi(G)| = k \geq 4$ . Moreover, let  $\text{Reg}(G) \neq \emptyset$  and*

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(G) := (\Gamma_s(G) - \text{Reg}(G))^c.$$

*If there is a prime  $p \in \pi(G)$  such that  $d_s(p) = 1$  or  $2$ , then any disjointed pair of vertices of  $\Gamma_s(G)$  can be expressed by only one GKS-series.*

We now present a lemma which will be used in Section 3.

**Lemma 2.12.** [10, Lemma 2] *Let  $q = p^f$ , where  $p$  is a prime and  $f$  a natural number. If*

$$|\pi((q - 1)/(2, q - 1))| \leq 2 \geq \pi((q + 1)/(2, q - 1)),$$

*then  $q = 4, 9, 16, 81$  or  $q = p^f$ ,  $f = 1$  or an odd prime.*

In the sequel, we are going to construct the solvable graph of projective special unitary groups  $U_3(q)$  where  $q = 3^f$  and  $f$  is a natural number. We draw this graph in a compact form. The compact form of a graph is a graph whose vertices are displayed with disjoint subsets of the vertex set in the graph. Actually, a vertex labeled  $U$  represents the complete subgraph of the graph on  $U$ . An edge connecting  $U$  and  $W$  represents the set of edges in the graph which connect each vertex in  $U$  with each vertex in  $W$ .

- The set of maximal elements in the spectrum of  $U_3(q)$  is as follows:

$$\mu(U_3(q)) = \{p(q + 1), q^2 - 1, q^2 - q + 1\}.$$

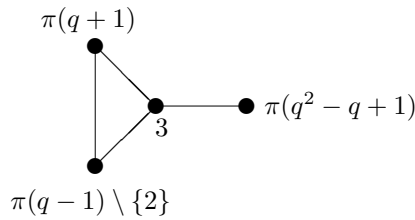
- The maximal subgroups of  $SU_3(q)$  collected in [6] (Table 8. 5) are listed as follows.

Subgroup	Conditions	Subgroup	Conditions
$E_q^{1+2} : (q^2 - 1)$		$SU_3(q_0) \cdot (\frac{q+1}{q_0+1}, 3)$	$q = q_0^r, r$ is an odd prime
$GU_2(q)$		$d \times SO_3(q)$	$q$ is odd, $q \geq 7$
$(q + 1)^2 : S_3$	$q \neq 5$	$3_+^{1+2} : Q_8 \cdot \frac{(q+1,9)}{3}$	$p = q \equiv 2 \pmod{3}, q \geq 11$
$(q^2 - q + 1) : 3$	$q \neq 3, 5$		

According to the notation of [6],  $d = |Z(SU_3(q))| = (3, q + 1)$ . The cyclic group of order  $n$  is denoted by  $n$ . An elementary abelian group of order  $p^n$  is denoted by  $E_{p^n}$  or just by  $p^n$ . For a prime  $p$ ,  $p_+^{1+2n}$  or  $p_-^{1+2n}$  is used for the particular case of an extraspecial group. For each prime number  $p$  and positive  $n$ , there are just two types of extraspecial group, which are central products of  $n$  non-abelian groups of order  $p^3$ . For an odd prime  $p$ , the subscript is  $+$  or  $-$  according as the group has exponent  $p$

or  $p^2$ . For elementary abelian groups  $A$ , we write  $A^{m+n}$  to mean a group with an elementary abelian normal subgroup  $A^m$  such that the quotient is isomorphic to  $A^n$ . For two groups  $A$  and  $B$ , a split extension (resp. a non-split extension) is denoted by  $A : B$  (resp.  $A.B$ ). Moreover,  $A \times B$  denotes the direct product of  $A$  and  $B$ . (See [8])

Using the information above, the compact form of  $\Gamma_s(U_3(q))$  with  $q = 3^f$  is found in Figure 1.



**Fig. 1.**  $\Gamma_s(U_3(q))$ ,  $q = 3^f$

### 3. Characterization of Some Projective Special Unitary Groups

In this section, we will show that the projective special unitary groups  $U_3(q)$  defined over a field of characteristic 3 with some conditions, are completely characterized by their orders and degree pattern of solvable graphs.

First of all, we give a terminology which was introduced in [1]. Let  $m$  be a positive integer with the following factorization into distinct prime power factors  $m = p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} \cdots p_k^{n_k}$  for some positive integers  $n_i$  and  $k$ . Then we set

$$\text{mpf}(m) := \max\{p_i^{n_i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq k\}.$$

For convenience, we bring  $\text{mpf}(|S|)$  in Tables 1 and 2 where  $S$  is a sporadic simple group or a simple group of Lie type.

**Theorem 3.1.** *All simple groups  $U_3(q)$  where  $q = 3^f$  ( $f \geq 2$ ), such that  $|\pi(q^2 - q + 1)| = 1$  are  $\text{OD}_s$ -characterizable.*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a finite group satisfying

$$|G| = |U_3(q)| = q^3(q^2 - 1)(q^3 + 1),$$

and  $D_s(G) = D_s(U_3(q))$ , where  $q = 3^f$  and  $|\pi(q^2 - q + 1)| = 1$ . In what follows, we prove that  $G \cong U_3(q)$ .

The solvable graph of  $U_3(q)$  with  $q = 3^f$  is shown in Figure 1. Considering Figure 1, we observe that

$$d_s(3) = |\pi(G)| - 1.$$

Assume that  $\pi(q^2 - q + 1) = \{p\}$  where  $p$  is a prime. According to the degree pattern of solvable graph of  $G$ ,  $d_s(p) = 1$ . Hence it is seen from Lemma 2.11 that  $\tilde{\Gamma}(G) = (\Gamma_s(G) - \{3\})^c$  is connected and any disjoint pair of vertices of  $\Gamma_s(G)$  can be expressed by only one GKS-series, say  $1 \trianglelefteq M \triangleleft N \trianglelefteq G$ , such that  $M$  and  $G/N$  are 3-groups. Furthermore, using the structure of the degree pattern of the solvable graph of  $G$ , we can get that 3 is adjacent to  $p$ . It is also found from Lemma 2.9 that  $p \in \pi(N/M)$ . Let  $|M| = 3^m$  and  $|G/N| = 3^n$ . Thus we can conclude that

$$|N/M| = 3^{3f-m-n-1}(q^2 - 1)(q^3 + 1),$$

where  $N/M$  is a non-abelian simple group.

So by the classification of finite simple groups, the possibilities for  $N/M$  are as follows:

- an alternating group  $A_k$  on  $k \geq 5$  letters;
- one of the 26 sporadic simple groups;
- a simple group of Lie type.

If  $N/M \cong U_3(q)$ , then  $M = 1$ ,  $N = G$  and thus  $G \cong U_3(q)$ , as required. Therefore, we may suppose that  $N/M$  is isomorphic to the non-abelian simple group  $S \not\cong U_3(q)$  and try to get a contradiction.

In the rest of proof we will use the following facts. The solvable graph of  $N/M$  is a subgraph of the solvable graph of  $G$  which follows that  $d_s(p) = 1$  in the solvable graph of  $N/M$  because  $\Gamma_s(N/M)$  is connected.

Moreover, we have

$$\text{mpf}(|S|) = \text{mpf}(|N/M|).$$

Hence we first compute the value  $\text{mpf}(3^{3f-m-n-1}(3^{2f} - 1)(3^{3f} + 1))$ .

It is good to note that  $3^f - 1 < 3^f$ ,  $\text{mpf}((3^f + 1)^2) < 3^{2f}$  and  $3^f < 3^{2f} - 3^f + 1 = p$ . So we can conclude that  $\text{mpf}(|N/M|) = p$  or  $3^l$  where  $l$  is a natural number.

(1)  $S$  is not isomorphic to an alternating group  $A_k$ ,  $k \geq 5$ .

Suppose that  $S$  is isomorphic to an alternating group  $A_k$ ,  $k \geq 5$ . Since  $d_s(p) = 1$ , thus it is seen from the spectrum of alternating groups obtained in [11] that  $k \leq p + 3$ . On the other hand, we have

$$\frac{k!}{2} = |A_k| = |S| = |N/M| = 3^{3f-m-n-1}(3^{2f} - 1)(3^{3f} + 1) = 3^{2f-m-n-1}(p - 1)p(p + 3^{f+1}),$$

which is a contradiction.

(2)  $S$  is not isomorphic to one of the 26 sporadic simple groups.

Assume that  $S$  is isomorphic to one of the 26 sporadic simple groups. As mentioned before,  $\text{mpf}(|S|) = \text{mpf}(|N/M|) = p$  or  $3^l$  where  $l$  is a natural number. Hence, according to Table

1, the possibilities for  $S$  are:  $M^cL, J_1, J_3, Co_3, Fi_{23}, Fi'_{24}, Th$ . For convenience, we collect the orders and degree pattern of solvable graphs of these groups in Table 3. (see Table 1 in [3])

We recall that the solvable graph of  $N/M$  has a vertex of degree 1. Therefore,  $S \neq J_1$ . Assume that  $S \cong M^cL$ . It is seen that  $p = 11$  and so  $3^f(3^f - 1) = 10$  that is impossible. Other groups may be verified similarly.

(3)  $S$  is not isomorphic to a simple group of Lie type, except  $U_3(q)$ .

Let  ${}^dL_n(q)$  be a finite simple group of Lie type of rank  $n$ , defined over the finite field  $K$  of order  $q = p^f$ . We can observe that  ${}^dL_m(q)$  contains an isomorphic copy of  ${}^dL_n(q)$  where  $m \geq n$ . So we conclude that  $\Gamma_s({}^dL_n(q))$  is a subgraph of  $\Gamma_s({}^dL_m(q))$ . It follows that in the case when  $d_s(r) \geq 2$  in  $\Gamma_s({}^dL_n(q))$  for any prime  $r \in \pi({}^dL_n(q))$ , then  $S$  is not isomorphic to  ${}^dL_m(q)$  where  $m \geq n$ .

We only discuss on some of these cases, for example, we consider the cases  $L_n(q_0), C_n(q_0), {}^2G_2(q_0)$ . Other cases are similar, thus we omit them.

- Suppose that  $S$  is isomorphic to  $L_n(q_0)$  for some integer  $n \geq 2$  and a power  $q_0$  of a prime  $p_0$ . Then, we have

$$|S| = |L_n(q_0)| = (n, q_0 - 1)^{-1} \cdot q_0^{n(n-1)/2} \prod_{i=2}^n (q_0^i - 1).$$

Using Table 2,

$$\text{mpf}(|A_n(q_0)|) = q_0^{n(n-1)/2} \quad (n \geq 2),$$

and hence  $q_0^{n(n-1)/2} = \text{mpf}(|L_n(q_0)|) = \text{mpf}(|S|) = \text{mpf}(|N/M|)$ . If  $\text{mpf}(|N/M|) = p$ , then  $q_0 = p_0 = p$  and  $n(n-1)/2 = 1$ , which is a contradiction. So we may assume that  $\text{mpf}(|N/M|) = 3^l$  for a natural number  $l$ , which implies that  $q_0$  is a power of 3.

First consider  $L_2(q_0)$ . In [3],  $\Gamma_s(L_2(q_0))$  for the odd number  $q_0$ , was obtained as follows:

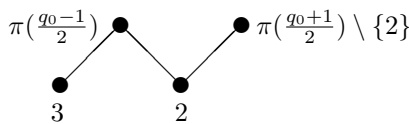


Fig. 2.  $\Gamma_s(L_2(q_0))$ ,  $5 < q_0 \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

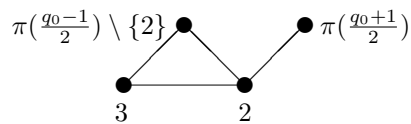


Fig. 3.  $\Gamma_s(L_2(q_0))$ ,  $5 \leq q_0 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

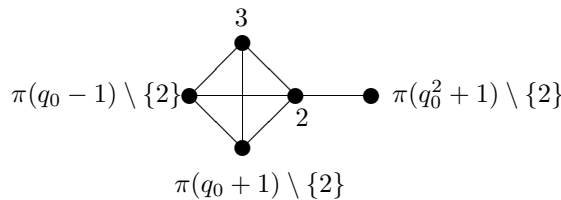
Let  $S$  be isomorphic to  $L_2(q_0)$ . Since  $\Gamma_s(S)$  has a vertex of degree 1, it forces that  $|\pi(\frac{q_0+1}{2})| \leq 2$ . Now, we can conclude from Lemma 2.12 that  $q_0 = 9$  or  $81$ . Then  $p = 5$  or  $41$  which is a contradiction because in these cases  $p \neq q^2 - q + 1$ .

Suppose now that  $S$  is isomorphic to  $L_3(9)$  or  $L_3(81)$ . Then according to the compact form of  $\Gamma_s(L_3(q_0))$  found in [4], we get that  $|\pi(q_0^2 + q_0 + 1)| = 1$  that is not true.



- Assume that  $S$  is isomorphic to  $C_n(q_0) = \text{PSp}_{2n}(q_0)$  for some integer  $n \geq 2$  and a power  $q_0$  of a prime  $p_0$ . As a similar argument to above, we may suppose that  $\text{mpf}(|N/M|) = 3^l$  for a natural number  $l$ , which implies that  $q_0$  is a power of 3.

According to the spectrum of symplectic groups obtained in [7] and the maximal subgroups  $\text{Sp}_4(q_0)$  (Table 8. 12 in [6]), we find that the solvable graph of  $\text{PSp}_4(q_0)$  where  $q_0$  is a power of 3 is as follows:



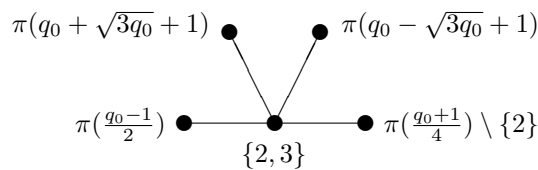
**Fig. 4.**  $\Gamma_s(\text{PSp}_4(q_0))$ ,  $q_0 = 3^k$ .

Since  $\Gamma_s(S)$  has a vertex of degree 1, it forces that  $|\pi(q_0^2 + 1)| = 2$ . It is enough to consider  $q_0^2$  instead of  $q$  in Lemma 2.12 and conclude that  $q_0 = 9$ . Then  $p = 41$  which is a contradiction because in this case  $p \neq q^2 - q + 1$ .

Let  $S$  be isomorphic to  $\text{PSp}_6(9)$ . We found from the spectrum of symplectic groups that for every prime  $r \in \pi(S) \setminus \{73\}$ ,  $d_s(r) \geq 1$ . Moreover, if  $73 = q^2 - q + 1$ , then  $q = 9$ . It follows that  $|\text{PSp}_6(9)| \mid |U_3(9)|$  which is a contradiction.

- Suppose that  $S$  is isomorphic to Ree groups  ${}^2G_2(q_0)$  where  $q_0 = 3^{2k+1}$ , for  $k \geq 1$ .

According to the spectrum of  ${}^2G_2(q_0)$  (see [5, Lemma 4]) and the list of maximal subgroups of  ${}^2G_2(q_0)$  in [9], we can obtain that the solvable graph of  ${}^2G_2(q_0)$  is as follows:



**Fig. 5.**  $\Gamma_s({}^2G_2(q_0))$ ,  $q = 3^{2k+1} > 3$ .

Assume that  $\Gamma_s({}^2G_2(q_0))$  has a vertex of degree 1. By an easy computation, we get from Lemma 2.12 that  $|\pi(\frac{q_0+1}{4})| \neq 2$  and  $|\pi(\frac{q_0-1}{2})| \neq 1$ . If  $|\pi(q_0 + \sqrt{3q_0} + 1)| = 1$ , then  $q_0 + \sqrt{3q_0} = q^2 - q$ . It implies that  $3^{k+1}(3^k + 1) = 3^f(3^f - 1)$  that is impossible. Using a similar argument,  $|\pi(q_0 - \sqrt{3q_0} + 1)| \neq 1$ .

This completes the proof of theorem.  $\square$

**Table 1.** The order and mpf of a sporadic simple group  $S$ .

$S$	$ S $	$\text{mpf}( S )$	$S$	$ S $	$\text{mpf}( S )$
$J_2$	$2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7$	$2^7$	$Co_2$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	$2^{18}$
$M_{11}$	$2^4 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$	$2^4$	$Fi_{23}$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23$	$3^{13}$
$M_{12}$	$2^6 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11$	$2^6$	$Co_1$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^4 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 23$	$2^{21}$
$M_{22}$	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	$2^7$	$Ru$	$2^{14} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 29$	$2^{14}$
$HS$	$2^9 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	$2^9$	$Fi'_{24}$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot$ $23 \cdot 29$	$3^{16}$
$M^cL$	$2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	$3^6$	$O'N$	$2^9 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$	$2^9$
$Suz$	$2^{13} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$	$2^{13}$	$Th$	$2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$	$3^{10}$
$Fi_{22}$	$2^{17} \cdot 3^9 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13$	$2^{17}$	$J_4$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11^3 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot$ $31 \cdot 37 \cdot 43$	$2^{21}$
$He$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 17$	$2^{10}$	$B$	$2^{41} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot$ $19 \cdot 23 \cdot 31 \cdot 47$	$2^{41}$
$J_1$	$2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$	19	$Ly$	$2^8 \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 31 \cdot 37 \cdot 67$	$5^6$
$J_3$	$2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$	$3^5$	$M$	$2^{46} \cdot 3^{20} \cdot 5^9 \cdot 7^6 \cdot 11^2 \cdot 13^3 \cdot 17 \cdot$ $19 \cdot 23 \cdot 29 \cdot 31 \cdot 41 \cdot 47 \cdot 59 \cdot 71$	$2^{46}$
$HN$	$2^{14} \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$	$2^{14}$			
$M_{23}$	$2^7 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	$2^7$			
$M_{24}$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	$2^{10}$			
$Co_3$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	$3^7$			

**Table 2.** The order and mpf of a simple group of Lie type  $S$ .

$S$	Restrictions on $S$	$ S $	mpf( $ S $ )
$L_{n+1}(q)$	$n \geq 2$	$(n + 1, q - 1)^{-1} q^{n(n+1)/2} \prod_{i=2}^{n+1} (q^i - 1)$	$q^{n(n+1)/2}$
$L_2(q)$	$ \pi(q + 1)  = 1$	$(2, q - 1)^{-1} q(q - 1)(q + 1)$	$q + 1$
$L_2(q)$	$ \pi(q + 1)  \geq 2$	$(2, q - 1)^{-1} q(q - 1)(q + 1)$	$q$
$B_n(q)$	$n \geq 2$	$(2, q - 1)^{-1} q^{n^2} \prod_{i=1}^n (q^{2i} - 1)$	$q^{n^2}$
$C_n(q)$	$n \geq 2$	$(2, q - 1)^{-1} q^{n^2} \prod_{i=1}^n (q^{2i} - 1)$	$q^{n^2}$
$D_n(q)$	$n \geq 4$	$(4, q^n - 1)^{-1} q^{n(n-1)} (q^n - 1) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (q^{2i} - 1)$	$q^{n(n-1)}$
$G_2(q)$		$q^6 (q^6 - 1)(q^2 - 1)$	$q^6$
$F_4(q)$		$q^{24} (q^{12} - 1)(q^8 - 1)(q^6 - 1)(q^2 - 1)$	$q^{24}$
$E_6(q)$		$(3, q - 1)^{-1} q^{12} (q^9 - 1)(q^5 - 1)  F_4(q) $	$q^{36}$
$E_7(q)$		$(2, q - 1)^{-1} q^{39} (q^{18} - 1)(q^{14} - 1)(q^{10} - 1)  F_4(q) $	$q^{63}$
$E_8(q)$		$q^{96} (q^{30} - 1)(q^{12} + 1)(q^{20} - 1)(q^{18} - 1)(q^{14} - 1)(q^6 + 1)  F_4(q) $	$q^{120}$
$U_{n+1}(q)$	$(n, q) \neq (2, 3), (3, 2)$ $n \geq 2$	$(n + 1, q + 1)^{-1} q^{n(n+1)/2} \prod_{i=2}^{n+1} (q^i - (-1)^i)$	$q^{n(n+1)/2}$
$U_4(2)$		$2^6 \cdot 3^4 \cdot 5$	$3^4$
$U_3(3)$		$2^5 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 7$	$2^5$
${}^2B_2(q)$	$q = 2^{2m+1}$ $ \pi(q^2 + 1)  \geq 2$	$q^2 (q^2 + 1)(q - 1)$	$q^2$
${}^2B_2(q)$	$q = 2^{2m+1}$ $ \pi(q^2 + 1)  = 1$	$q^2 (q^2 + 1)(q - 1)$	$q^2 + 1$
${}^2D_n(q)$	$n \geq 4$	$(4, q^n + 1)^{-1} q^{n(n-1)} (q^n + 1) \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (q^{2i} - 1)$	$q^{n(n-1)}$
${}^3D_4(q)$		$q^{12} (q^8 + q^4 + 1)(q^6 - 1)(q^2 - 1)$	$q^{12}$
${}^2G_2(q)$	$q = 3^{2m+1}$	$q^3 (q^3 + 1)(q - 1)$	$q^3$
${}^2F_4(q)$	$q = 2^{2m+1}$	$q^{12} (q^6 + 1)(q^4 - 1)(q^3 + 1)(q - 1)$	$q^{12}$
${}^2E_6(q)$		$(3, q + 1)^{-1} q^{12} (q^9 + 1)(q^5 + 1)  F_4(q) $	$q^{36}$

**Table 3.**

$S$	$ S $	$D_s(S)$
$M^cL$	$2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11$	$(3, 3, 3, 2, 1)$
$J_1$	$2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 19$	$(5, 4, 3, 2, 2, 2)$
$J_3$	$2^7 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 17 \cdot 19$	$(3, 3, 2, 1, 1)$
$Co_3$	$2^{10} \cdot 3^7 \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 23$	$(4, 3, 3, 2, 3, 1)$
$Fi_{23}$	$2^{18} \cdot 3^{13} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23$	$(6, 4, 4, 3, 3, 2, 1, 1)$
$Fi'_{24}$	$2^{21} \cdot 3^{16} \cdot 5^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot 23 \cdot 29$	$(7, 5, 4, 4, 4, 2, 1, 1, 2)$
$Th$	$2^{15} \cdot 3^{10} \cdot 5^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 19 \cdot 31$	$(4, 5, 3, 2, 2, 1, 1)$

#### 4. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author wish to sincerely thank the referees for several useful comments.

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**B. Akbari**

Department of Mathematics, Sahand University of Technology  
Tabriz, Iran.

`b.akbari@sut.ac.ir` and `b.akbari@dena.kntu.ac.ir`