

# Groups with many self-centralizing or self-normalizing subgroups

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## References

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Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$

- $C_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid gh = hg \ \forall h \in H\}$  centralizer of  $H$  in  $G$
- $N_G(H) = \{g \in G \mid H^g = H\}$  normalizer of  $H$  in  $G$

Of course  $C_G(H) \subseteq N_G(H)$ ,  $H \subseteq N_G(H)$

### Definition

A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is **self-centralizing** if  $C_G(H) \subseteq H$

*A non-abelian group  $G$  has always proper self-centralizing subgroups*

*The subgroup  $\{1\}$  is self-centralizing iff  $G = \{1\}$*

*The following subgroups of a group  $G$  are self-centralizing:*

- *maximal abelian subgroups*
- *the Fitting subgroup  $F(G)$  of a soluble group*
- *the generalized Fitting subgroup  $F^*(G)$  of a group  $G$*

## Definition

A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is **self-normalizing** if  $N_G(H) = H$

*If  $H$  is self-normalizing, then it is self-centralizing since  $C_G(H) \subseteq N_G(H)$*

## Remark

Every self-normalizing subgroup is self-centralizing. For a finite group  $G$ , the converse holds if and only if  $G$  is abelian (M. Hassanzadeh, Z. Mostaghim 2018)

*The following subgroups of a finite group  $G$  are self-normalizing:*

- *the normalizer  $N_G(P)$  of any  $p$ -Sylow subgroup*
- *Carter subgroups*
- *the complement of any Frobenius group*

Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be a class of groups and consider

- $\mathfrak{C}_{\mathfrak{X}}$  groups in which every non- $\mathfrak{X}$  subgroup is self-centralizing
- $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathfrak{X}}$  groups in which every non- $\mathfrak{X}$  subgroup is self-normalizing

of course  $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathfrak{X}} \subseteq \mathfrak{C}_{\mathfrak{X}}$

### The "smallest" class

If  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{tr}$  is a group in which every non-trivial subgroup is self-normalizing, then

- $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{\mathfrak{X}}$  for every  $\mathfrak{X}$  class of groups.
- $G \in \mathfrak{C}_{tr}$  is a group in which every non-trivial subgroup is self-centralizing, then  $G \in \mathfrak{C}_{\mathfrak{X}}$  for every  $\mathfrak{X}$  class of groups.

*Every Tarski  $p$ -group lies in the class  $\mathfrak{N}_{tr}$  and so such groups belong to each class  $\mathfrak{N}_{\mathfrak{X}}, \mathfrak{C}_{\mathfrak{X}}$ .*

### Notice

We restrict our investigation to locally graded groups

## The classes $\mathfrak{C}_{tr}$ and $\mathfrak{N}_{tr}$

Groups in which every **non-trivial** subgroup is self-centralizing, groups in which every **non-trivial** subgroup is self-normalizing

### Remark

$\mathfrak{N}_{tr} \subset \mathfrak{C}_{tr}$  the inclusion is proper:  $S_3 \in \mathfrak{C}_{tr} \setminus \mathfrak{N}_{tr}$

### Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a locally graded  $\mathfrak{C}_{tr}$ -group. Then  $G$  is finite.*

### Theorem

*A finite group  $G$  lies in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_{tr}$  iff one of the following holds:*

- 1  $G \cong C_p$
- 2  $G$  is non-abelian of order  $pq$  where  $p \neq q$  are primes

### Corollary

*A locally graded group  $G$  lies in the class  $\mathfrak{N}_{tr}$  iff  $G \cong C_p$ .*

## The classes $\mathfrak{C}_c$ and $\mathfrak{N}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing, groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-normalizing

### Remark

$\mathfrak{N}_c \subset \mathfrak{C}_c$  the inclusion is proper:  $D_8 \in \mathfrak{C}_c \setminus \mathfrak{N}_c$

*Every cyclic group lies in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_c$*

$$\mathfrak{C}_{tr} \subset \mathfrak{C}_c$$

### Theorem

*Classification of all finite groups in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_c$*

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## The classification of all finite groups in the class $\mathcal{C}_c$

1/5

Let  $G$  be a finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -group. Then one of the following holds:

- (1) If  $G$  is nilpotent, then either
  - (1.1)  $G$  is cyclic;
  - (1.2)  $G$  is elementary abelian of order  $p^2$  for some prime  $p$ ;
  - (1.3)  $G$  is an extraspecial  $p$ -group of order  $p^3$  for some odd prime  $p$ ; or
  - (1.4)  $G$  is a dihedral, semidihedral or quaternion 2-group.



# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## The classification of all finite groups in the class $\mathcal{C}_c$

2/5

- (2) If  $G$  is supersoluble but not nilpotent, then, letting  $p$  denote the largest prime divisor of  $|G|$  and  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ , we have that  $P$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and one of the following holds:
- (2.1)  $P$  is cyclic and either
- (2.1.1)  $G = C \rtimes D$ , where  $C$  is cyclic,  $D$  is cyclic and  $D$  acts fixed point freely on  $C$  (so  $G$  is a Frobenius group);
  - (2.1.2)  $G = C \rtimes D$ , where  $C$  is a cyclic group of odd order,  $D$  is a quaternion group, and  $C_G(C) = C \times D_0$  where  $D_0$  is a cyclic subgroup of index 2 in  $D$ ; or
  - (2.1.3)  $G = C \rtimes D$ , where  $D$  is a cyclic  $q$ -group,  $C$  is a cyclic  $q'$ -group (here  $q$  denotes the smallest prime dividing the order of  $G$ ) and  $1 < Z(G) < D$ ;
- (2.2)  $P$  is extraspecial and  $G$  is a Frobenius group with cyclic Frobenius complement of odd order dividing  $p - 1$ .

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## The classification of all finite groups in the class $\mathcal{C}_c$

3/5

- (3) If  $G$  is not supersoluble and  $F^*(G)$  is elementary abelian of order  $p^2$ , then  $F^*(G)$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  and one of the following holds:
- (3.1)  $G \cong \text{Sym}(4)$  or  $G \cong \text{Alt}(4)$ ; or
  - (3.2)  $p$  is odd and  $G = N \rtimes G_0$  is a Frobenius group with Frobenius kernel  $N$  and Frobenius complement  $G_0$ . Furthermore, either
    - (3.2.1)  $G_0$  is cyclic of order dividing  $p^2 - 1$  but not dividing  $p - 1$ ;
    - (3.2.2)  $G_0$  is quaternion;
    - (3.2.3)  $G_0$  is supersoluble as in (2.1.2) with  $|C|$  dividing  $p - \epsilon$  if  $p \equiv \epsilon \pmod{4}$ ;
    - (3.2.4)  $G_0$  is supersoluble as in (2.1.3) with  $D$  a 2-group,  $C_D(C)$  a non-trivial maximal subgroup of  $D$  and  $|C|$  odd dividing  $p^2 - 1$ ;
    - (3.2.5)  $G_0 \cong \text{SL}_2(3)$ ;
    - (3.2.6)  $G_0 \cong \text{SL}_2(3) \cdot 2$  if  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ ; or
    - (3.2.7)  $G_0 \cong \text{SL}_2(5)$  if 60 divides  $p^2 - 1$ .

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## The classification of all finite groups in the class $\mathcal{C}_c$

4/5

- (4) If  $G$  is not supersoluble and  $F^*(G)$  is extraspecial of order  $p^3$ , then one of the following holds:
- (4.1)  $G \cong \mathrm{SL}_2(3)$  or  $G \cong \mathrm{SL}_2(3) \cdot 2$  (with quaternion Sylow 2-subgroups of order 16); or
  - (4.2)  $G = N \rtimes K$  where  $N$  is extraspecial of order  $p^3$  and exponent  $p$  with  $p$  an odd prime,  $K$  centralizes  $Z(N)$  and is cyclic of odd order dividing  $p + 1$ . Furthermore,  $G/Z(N)$  is a Frobenius group.

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## The classification of all finite groups in the class $\mathcal{C}_c$

5/5

(5) If  $F^*(G)$  is not nilpotent, then either

(5.1)  $F^*(G) \cong \mathrm{SL}_2(p)$  where  $p$  is a Fermat prime,  $|G/F^*(G)| \leq 2$  and  $G$  has quaternion Sylow 2-subgroups; or

(5.2)  $G \cong \mathrm{PSL}_2(9)$ ,  $\mathrm{Mat}(10)$  or  $\mathrm{PSL}_2(p)$  where  $p$  is a Fermat or Mersenne prime.

**Furthermore, all the groups listed above are  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups.**

# The class $\mathfrak{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## Theorem

- *An infinite abelian group lies in  $\mathfrak{C}_c$  iff it is either cyclic or isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}$  for some prime  $p$ .*
- *Every infinite nilpotent group in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_c$  is abelian.*
- *An infinite polycyclic group lies in  $\mathfrak{C}_c$  if and only if it is either cyclic or dihedral.*

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be an infinite soluble group. Then  $G$  is a  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -group if and only if one of the following holds:

- 1  $G$  is cyclic;
- 2  $G$  is dihedral;
- 3  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}$  for some prime  $p$ ;
- 4  $G = A\langle y \rangle$  where  $A \cong \mathbb{Z}_{2^\infty}$  and  $\langle y \rangle$  has order 2 or 4, with  $y^2 \in A$  and  $a^y = a^{-1}$ , for all  $a \in A$ ;
- 5  $G \cong A \rtimes D$ , where  $A \cong \mathbb{Z}_{p^\infty}$  and  $\{1\} \neq D \leq C_{p-1}$  for some odd prime  $p$ .

Infinite locally finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups are precisely groups in 3 – 4 – 5 above

Infinite locally nilpotent  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups are precisely groups in 1 – 3 – 4 above

# The class $\mathcal{C}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-centralizing

## Residually finite $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups

- Free groups are examples of torsion-free residually finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups
- $D_\infty$  is an example of infinite residually finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -group having periodic elements
- Do exist infinite periodic residually finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -groups?

## C. Delizia, C.N. 2019

Let  $G$  be an infinite periodic, residually finite  $\mathcal{C}_c$ -group. Then:

- the centralizer  $C_G(a)$  is finite for all  $1 \neq a \in G$ ;
- every non trivial normal subgroup of  $G$  is infinite;
- the centre  $Z(G) = \{1\}$ ;
- the Fitting subgroup  $F(G) = \{1\}$ ;
- if  $H$  is an infinite subgroup of  $G$ , then  $C_G(H) = \{1\}$ ;
- $G$  has no element of order 2.

# The class $\mathfrak{N}_c$

Groups in which every **non-cyclic** subgroup is self-normalizing

## Theorem (C. Delizia, C.N. 2019)

*A finite group  $G$  lies in the class  $\mathfrak{N}_c$  if and only if one of the following holds:*

- $G$  is cyclic ;
- $G \cong C_p \times C_p$
- $G \cong Q_8$ ;
- $G$  is a Frobenius group with cyclic kernel of odd order and complement of prime order;
- $G \cong D \rtimes C$ , where  $D$  is a cyclic  $q$ -group ( $q$  being the smallest prime dividing the order of  $G$ ),  $C$  is a cyclic  $q'$ -group,  $\{1\} < Z(G) < D$ ,  $|\frac{D}{Z(G)}| = q$  and  $\frac{G}{Z(G)}$  is a Frobenius group.

## Theorem (C. Delizia, C.N. 2019)

*Every infinite locally graded  $\mathfrak{N}_c$ -group is abelian.*



## The classes $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ and $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-centralizing, groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-normalizing

### Remark

$\mathfrak{N}_{ab} \subset \mathfrak{C}_{ab}$  the inclusion is proper:  $S_4 \in \mathfrak{C}_{ab} \setminus \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

## The class $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-centralizing

*Every abelian group lies in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$*

$\mathfrak{C}_{tr} \subset \mathfrak{C}_c \subset \mathfrak{C}_{ab}$  the wreath product  $C_3 \wr C_3 \in \mathfrak{C}_{ab}$  but  $C_3 \wr C_3 \notin \mathfrak{C}_c$

*The class  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$  also contains:*

- 1 **minimal non-abelian groups** (*non-abelian groups in which every proper subgroup is abelian*)
- 2 **commutative-transitive groups** (*groups in which the centralizer of each non-trivial element is abelian*)

# The class $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-centralizing

## Theorem

*Every nilpotent  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ -group  $G$  is either abelian or a finite  $p$ -group.*

## Open Problem (Y. Berkovich, 2008)

Determine all finite  $p$ -groups lying in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$

## Theorem

*Every finite metacyclic  $p$ -group lies in the class  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$*

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -group of maximal class having order  $p^n$ .*

- 1 If  $p \in \{2, 3\}$  or  $n \leq 3$ , then  $G \in \mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ ;*
- 2 If  $p \geq 5$  and  $n \geq 4$ , then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ -group if and only if  $C_G(\gamma_2(G)/\gamma_4(G))$  is abelian.*

# The class $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-centralizing

## Theorem

*Let  $G \in \mathfrak{C}_{ab}$  be a finite  $p$ -group of exponent  $p$ . If  $|G| > p^p$ , then  $G$  is elementary abelian. Otherwise, either  $G$  is elementary abelian or  $G$  has maximal class and an elementary abelian subgroup of index  $p$ .*

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be an infinite supersoluble group.*

- If  $G$  has no elements of even order and it is a  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ -group, then  $G$  is abelian.*
- If  $G$  is not abelian, then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{C}_{ab}$ -group if and only if  $G = A\langle x \rangle$  where  $A$  is abelian,  $a^x = a^{-1}$  for all  $a \in A$ ,  $|x| = 2^n$ ,  $A = \langle a_1 \rangle \times \cdots \times \langle a_t \rangle \times \langle d \rangle$ ,  $a_i$  of infinite or odd order for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ ,  $|d| = 2^h$ ,  $d^{2^{h-1}} = x^{2^{n-1}}$  if  $h > 0$ .*

## The class $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-normalizing

*Minimal non-abelian groups lie in the class  $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$*

$\mathfrak{N}_{tr} \subset \mathfrak{N}_c \subset \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  the elementary abelian 2-group  $C_2 \times C_2 \times C_2 \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab} \setminus \mathfrak{N}_c$

## Theorem

*Every nilpotent  $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$ -group is either abelian or a finite minimal non-abelian  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ .*

# The class $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-normalizing

## Proposition

Let  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  be a finite group; then  $G$  is either soluble or simple.

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a finite group.

- If  $G$  is a non-abelian simple group, then  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  iff  $G \simeq \text{Alt}(5)$  or  $G \simeq \text{PSL}_2(2^{2n+1})$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .
- If  $G$  is a soluble non-nilpotent group, then  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  iff  $G = A \rtimes \langle x \rangle$ , where  $\langle x \rangle$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ ,  $A$  is an abelian  $p'$ -group,  $x^p$  is central and  $x$  acts fixed point freely on  $A$ .
- If  $G$  is a nilpotent group, then  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  iff  $G$  is either abelian or minimal non-abelian  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$

# The class $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

Groups in which every **non-abelian** subgroup is self-normalizing

## Theorem

*Let  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  if  $G$  is non-periodic and soluble, then  $G$  is abelian.*

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be an infinite periodic group and suppose that  $G$  is soluble and  $dl(G) > 1$ . Then  $G \in \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$  iff  $G = \langle x \rangle \rtimes G'$ , where  $x$  is an element of prime power order  $p^n$ ,  $x^p \in C_G(G')$  and  $G'$  is an abelian group with no elements of order  $p$ .*

## Theorem

*If  $G$  is a locally finite  $\mathfrak{N}_{ab}$ -group, then it is either finite or soluble.*

## The class $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$

Groups in which every **non-nilpotent** subgroup is self-normalizing

*Nilpotent groups belong to  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$  and minimal non-nilpotent groups lie in the class  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$*

$\mathfrak{N}_{tr} \subset \mathfrak{N}_c \subset \mathfrak{N}_{ab} \subset \mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ , also the last inclusion is proper since  $SL_2(5) \in \mathfrak{N}_{nil} \setminus \mathfrak{N}_{ab}$

## Remark

Let  $G$  be a  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group; then

- either  $G = G'$
- or  $G'$  is nilpotent (and so  $G$  is soluble)

# Soluble $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -groups

Soluble groups in which every **non-nilpotent** subgroup is self-normalizing

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a soluble non-periodic group; then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group iff  $G$  is nilpotent*

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a periodic soluble group, and suppose  $G$  is not locally nilpotent; then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group iff*

- $G = H \rtimes \langle x \rangle$ , where  $\langle x \rangle$  is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ ,  $H$  is a nilpotent  $p'$ -group and  $x^p$  acts trivially on  $H$ ;
- put  $\rho_x : h \in H \rightarrow h^{-x}h \in H$ , for every  $\langle x \rangle$ -invariant subgroup  $K$  of  $H$  either there exists  $n \geq 1$  such that  $\rho_x^n(K) = 1$ , or  $\langle \rho_x(K) \rangle = K$ .

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a soluble, locally nilpotent group; then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group iff either it is nilpotent or it is minimal non-nilpotent and it is a  $p$ -group for some prime  $p$ .*



# Perfect $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -groups

Perfect groups in which every **non-nilpotent** subgroup is self-normalizing

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be a finite perfect group; then  $G$  is a  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group iff

- either  $G \simeq PSL_2(2^n)$ , where  $2^n - 1$  is a prime
- or  $G \simeq SL_2(5)$

## Lemma

If  $G$  is a perfect  $\mathfrak{N}_{nil}$ -group and  $F := F(G)$  is its Fitting subgroup, then  $G/F$  is a non-abelian simple group.

