

1 Groups

1.8 Nilpotent groups and solvable groups

1. Consider the conjugation on G . $\forall x \in G$

$$|G \cdot x| = |\{axa^{-1} | a \in G\}| = |\{axa^{-1}x^{-1} | a \in G\}| \leq |G^{(1)}|.$$

But

$$G_x = \{a \in G | axa^{-1} = x\} = C_G(x),$$

so

$$|C_G(x)| = \frac{|G|}{|G \cdot x|} \geq \frac{|G|}{|G^{(1)}|} = [G : G^{(1)}].$$

2. $N = \langle (1 \ 2 \ 3) \rangle \triangleleft S_3$, $S_3/N \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2$ is nilpotent, so S_3 is not nilpotent.

3. Since G/N and G/K are nilpotent, $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$, s.t.,

$$\Gamma_n(G/N) = \Gamma_n(G/K) = \{\bar{e}\}.$$

So $\Gamma_n(G) \subset N \cap K$, hence $\Gamma_n(G/N \cap K) = \{\bar{e}\}$ and hence $G/N \cap K$ is nilpotent.

4. $\forall \{e\} \neq H \triangleleft G$, $\because G$ is nilpotent, $\therefore \exists k \in \mathbb{N}$, s.t.,
 $\Gamma_k(G) = e$. $\because H \triangleleft G$, $\therefore H \subset H_1 = [H, G] \subset [G, G] = \Gamma_1(G)$, $\therefore H_2 = [H, G] \subset \Gamma_2(G)$. Repeat this process, we see that

$$H_k = [H_{k-1}, G] \subset [\Gamma_{k-1}(G), G] = \Gamma_{k-1}(G) = \{e\}.$$

$\therefore H \supseteq H_{k-1} \subseteq C(G)$, hence $H \cap C(G) \neq \{e\}$.

5. Assume that G is any group with order $p^m q$, and has $np + 1 | q$ Sylow p -subgroups.

Since $p > q > 1$, $kp + 1 = 1$. That is to say Sylow p -subgroups is normal subgroup N . $|N| = p^m$. It is nilpotent and hence solvable. Since G/N is a cyclic group of order q , it is solvable, hence G is solvable.

6. Assume that G is any group with order pq .
 If $p > q > r$, H is Sylow p - subgroup of G . K is a Sylow q - subgroup, R is a Sylow r - subgroup.
 $\therefore (kp + 1) | qr \therefore (kp + 1)t = qr$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} qr | t & \Rightarrow kp + 1 = 1 \\ q | kp + 1 & \text{or} \quad r | kp + 1 \end{cases}$$

If $q | kp + 1, kp + 1 = qs \Rightarrow qst = qr \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} t = r & \Rightarrow kp + 1 = q \text{ impossible} \\ t = 1 & \Rightarrow kp + 1 = qr \end{cases}$$

For the second case, there are $(qr)(p - 1)$ elements with order p in G , and the number of the rest is qr . Hence there is only one normal subgroup with order q and one normal subgroup with order r , otherwise G has normal subgroup with order p . After the argument above, we see that G has normal subgroup N , s.t., the order of G/N is the product of two prime numbers. By 1.8.5, G/N is solvable, since N is cyclic, G is solvable.

7. (\Rightarrow)

$H \triangleleft G \Rightarrow G/H$ is nilpotent.

$\Gamma_k(G/H) = \{e\}, \Gamma_{k-1}(G/H) \neq \{e\} \Rightarrow \Gamma_{k-1}(G/H) \subseteq C(G/H)$.

(\Leftarrow)

Since $C(G) \neq \{e\}, C(G/C(G)) \neq \{e\} \Rightarrow C(G) \subsetneq C_1(G) \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow C_n(G) = G$, (since G is finite.) By proposition 1.8.2, G is nilpotent.

8. $G = UT(n, \mathbb{P}) \times D$. $\therefore UT(n, \mathbb{P})$ and D are nilpotent, $\therefore G$ is nilpotent. But D is not nilpotent.

9. Let k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4 denote the subgroups of S_4 generated by $(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 4), (1\ 3\ 4), (2\ 3\ 4)$ resp. $\forall \varphi \in \text{Aut}(S_4)$, since k_i is Sylow 3-subgroup, $\varphi(k_i)$ is also a Sylow 3-subgroup of $\varphi(\text{Aut}(S_4)) = S_4$. Hence we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : \text{Aut}(S_4) &\rightarrow S_4 \\ \varphi &\mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cdots & i & \cdots \\ \cdots & j & \cdots \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where $\varphi(k_i) = k_j$.

It is clear to see that ϕ is a group homomorphism.

If $\varphi \in \ker(\phi)$, since φ^2 preserves $(1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 4), (1\ 3\ 4)$ and $(2\ 3\ 4)$, it preserves all Sylow 3-subgroups, hence it preserves any elements of A_4 .

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : S_4/A_4 &\rightarrow S_4/A_4 \\ \sigma A_4 &\mapsto \varphi^2(\sigma)A_4 \end{aligned}$$

is group isomorphism, $S_4/A_4 \simeq \mathbb{Z}_2$, $\varphi = \text{id}$. $\forall \sigma \in S_4$, $\varphi^2(\sigma)A_4 = \sigma A_4$. $\tau \in A_4$,

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma &= \varphi^2(\sigma)\tau \\ &= \varphi^2(\varphi^2(\sigma)\tau)\tau \\ &= \varphi^4(\sigma)\tau^2 \\ &= \cdots \\ &= \varphi^{2k}(\sigma). \end{aligned}$$

10. Since G is nilpotent, $\exists n, s.t., \Gamma_n(G) = \{e\} \subset H$. Assume that k satisfies $\Gamma_k(G) \subset H, \Gamma_{k-1}(G) \not\subset H$. Let $a \in \Gamma_{k-1}(G)/H$, then $\forall h \in H, aha^{-1}h^{-1} \in H$. $\therefore aha^{-1} \in H, \therefore a \in N_G(H)$, hence $H \neq N_G(H)$.

11. (\Rightarrow)

If G is nilpotent, H is a maximum subgroup of G ,

then $N_G(H) \neq G$. Hence $H \triangleleft G$.

(\Leftarrow)

Any maximum subgroups of G is normal. \forall Sylow p -subgroup, P , if P is maximum, then it is normal. Since G is finite, if P is not normal, then $N_G(P) \neq G$, so there is a maximum subgroup H , s.t., $N_G(P) \subset H \subset G$. If $a \in N_G(H)$, then $aPa^{-1} \subset aHa^{-1} \subset H$. So $\exists h \in H$, s.t., $aPa^{-1} = hPh^{-1} \Rightarrow haP(ha)^{-1} = P \Rightarrow ha \in N_a(P) \Rightarrow a = h^{-1}(ha) \in H$, and $H \triangleleft G$ so $N_G(H) = G \neq H$. This is a contradiction. So far we have shown that all Sylow subgroups are normal, hence G is nilpotent.

12. We show this by induction on i .

If $i = 0$, then $G^{(0)} = G$, $\varphi(G) \subseteq G = G^{(0)}$.

Assume that $\varphi(G^{(k)}) = G^{(k)}$, then $\varphi(G^{(k+1)}) = \varphi([G^{(k)}, G^{(k)}]) = [\varphi(G^{(k)}), \varphi(G^{(k)})] \subseteq [G^{(k)}, G^{(k)}] \subseteq G^{(k+1)}$.

$\forall a \in G$, $I_a(G^{(i)}) = aG^{(i)}a^{-1} \subseteq G^{(i)}$, $\therefore G^{(i)} \triangleleft G$.

13. Since G is finite and solvable, $\exists G = G_0 \triangleright G_1 \triangleright G_2 \triangleright \dots \triangleright G_{n+1} = \{e\}$, s.t., G_i/G_{i+1} is cyclic group with order p .

If $H = G$, then we are done.

If $H \neq G$, consider G/H . $\forall aH, bH \in G/H$, $a^{-1}b^{-1}abH \subset [G, G]H$. $\therefore H$ is a maximum subgroup and $[G, G] \subsetneq G$, $\therefore [G, G] \subseteq H$, $\therefore abH = baH$, $\therefore \exists$ a subgroup containing H satisfies thm 1.8.1 and makes G_{i-1}/G_i a cyclic group with order p . Hence $H = G_1$. Hence $[G : H]$ is a prime.

14. For any $a \in G$ and $b \in N$, $aba^{-1}b^{-1} \in N \cap [G : G] =$

$\{e\}$, then $ab = ba$, thus $N \leq C(G)$.

15. Suppose $G = P_1 \times \cdots \times P_r$ where P_i is Sylow p_i -subgroup for $1 \leq i \leq r$. Since every normal subgroup of P_i is also a normal subgroup of G . We assume that $G = P$ is a p -group, N is a minimal normal subgroup of G . For any $a \in G$ and $c, d \in N$, $a[c, d]a^{-1} = [aca^{-1}, ada^{-1}] \in N^{(1)}$. Thus $N^{(1)}$ is a normal subgroup of G contained in N . Therefore $N^{(1)} = \{e\}$ as N is nilpotent and $N \neq N^{(1)}$. This means that N is abelian. According to Exercise 1.8.4, $N \cap C(G) \neq \{e\}$, since N is minimal, $N \subset C(G)$, while every subgroup of $C(G)$ is normal. N has no trivial subgroup for N is minimal, thus $|N| = p$.