

Nilpotent groups

$$C = \subseteq$$

Recall: G is a group, a sequence of subgroups

$(e) = N_0 \subseteq N_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq N_d = G$ is an ascending central

sequence if

$$\bullet N_i \trianglelefteq G$$

$$\bullet N_{i+1}/N_i \subseteq Z(G/N_i)$$

Remark: $xN_i \in Z(G/N_i)$ means $xyx^{-1}y^{-1} \in N_i$ if $y \in G$.

Def $Z_0(G) = (e)$, $Z_{i+1}(G)/Z_i(G) = Z(G/Z_i(G))$

i.e. $Z_{i+1}(G)$ is the full preimage of the center of $G/Z_i(G)$

$Z_0(G) \subseteq Z_1(G) \subseteq \dots$ is called the ascending central series of G .

Def G is nilpotent if G has an ascending central sequence.

Lem G is nilpotent iff $Z_d(G) = G$ some d .

Pf: \Leftarrow clear.

\Rightarrow suppose $(e) = N_0 \leq \dots \leq N_d = G$ is an asc. centr. seq.

Claim: $N_i \subseteq Z_i(G)$ all i .

Pf of claim: $i=0$ ✓

if true for i , then want $N_{i+1} \subseteq Z_{i+1}(G)$

let $x \in N_{i+1}$, then $xyx^{-1}y^{-1} \in N_i$ all $y \in G$.

$$N_i \subseteq Z_i \Rightarrow xyx^{-1}y^{-1} \in Z_i(G)$$

$$\Rightarrow xZ_i(G)x^{-1} \subseteq Z(G/Z_i(G))$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in Z_{i+1}(G).$$

Proposition If G is a finite group, the following are equivalent (TFAE)

1) G is nilpotent

2) $\forall H \leq G$, $N_G(H) \supseteq H$.

3) $P \in \text{Syl}_p G \Rightarrow P \trianglelefteq G$

4) $G = P_1 \times \dots \times P_r$ P_i 's are distinct Sylow subgroups.

Pf: $1 \Rightarrow 2$ ✓ (done before)

$2 \Rightarrow 3$ $P \in \text{Syl}_p G, P \text{ char } N_G(P) \triangleleft N_G(N_G(P))$

Sublemma: $K \text{ char } N \triangleleft G \Rightarrow K \triangleleft G$

$$P \triangleleft N_G(N_G(P)) \Rightarrow N_G(N_G(P)) \subset N_G(P)$$

$$\Rightarrow N_G(N_G(P))$$

$$\overset{\text{N}_G(P)}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$\Rightarrow G = N_G(P)$$

$$\Rightarrow P \triangleleft G. \quad \square$$

$3 \Rightarrow 4$

If $P_i \triangleleft G$ then char $P_1 \dots P_l = P_1 \times \dots \times P_l \triangleleft G$

with induction. char($P_1 \dots P_{l-1} P_l = (P_1 \dots P_{l-1}) \times P_l$)

need $\overset{\nearrow}{P_1 \dots P_{l-1} \triangleleft P_1 \dots P_l}$
 $P_l \triangleleft P_1 \dots P_l$

$$(P_1 \dots P_{l-1}) P_l = P_1 \dots P_l$$

$$(P_1 \dots P_{l-1}) \cap P_l = \{e\}.$$

\nearrow since a product by induction, orders
are relatively prime. \square .

Remark p-groups are Nilpotent!

If $Z_i(G) \neq G$ then $G/Z_i(G)$ is a non-trivial p-group

$\Rightarrow Z(G/Z_i(G)) \neq \{e\}$ so $Z_{i+1}(G) \supsetneq Z_i(G)$

Enough to show: products of Nilpotent is Nilpotent.

Lem $Z_i(G_1 \times G_2) = Z_i(G_1) \times Z_i(G_2)$

Pf: induction i. $Z(G_1 \times G_2) = Z(G_1) \times Z(G_2)$

$$Z_i(G_1 \times G_2)/Z_{i-1}(G_1 \times G_2) = Z\left(\frac{G_1 \times G_2}{Z_{i-1}(G_1 \times G_2)}\right)$$

$$= Z\left(\frac{G_1}{Z_{i-1}(G_1)} \times \frac{G_2}{Z_{i-1}(G_2)}\right)$$

$$= Z\left(\frac{G_1}{Z_{i-1}(G_1)}\right) \times Z\left(\frac{G_2}{Z_{i-1}(G_2)}\right)$$

$$= Z_i(G_1)/Z_{i-1}(G_1) \times Z_i(G_2)/Z_{i-1}(G_2)$$

□

Solvable groups

Def A group G is solvable if \exists subgroups

$$(e) = H_n \subset H_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset H_0 = G \text{ such that}$$

1) $H_{i+1} \triangleleft H_i$

2) H_i/H_{i+1} is Abelian.

"a descending central series"

Lem G solvable, $H \triangleleft G \Rightarrow H$ solvable,
if $N \triangleleft G$, G/N solvable.

Pf to see H is solvable consider $H_i = H \cap G_i$

where $(e) = G_n \subset \dots \subset G_0 = G$

$$H_i \rightarrow G_i \rightarrow G_i / G_{i+1}$$

ker is $H_i \cap G_{i+1}$ \hookrightarrow Abelian

$$\sim (H \cap G_i) \cap G_{i+1} \xrightarrow{H \triangleleft} H_i$$

$$= H \cap G_i \cap G_{i+1} = H \cap G_{i+1}$$

$\hookrightarrow H_i/H_{i+1} \subset G_i/G_{i+1}$ abelian
 and $H_{i+1} = \text{kernel } \hookrightarrow H_{i+1} \triangleleft H_i$

Prop G solvable, finite $\Leftrightarrow \exists (\ell) = H_n \subset \dots \subset H_0 = G$
 w/ $H_{i+1} \triangleleft H_i$ H_i/H_{i+1} cyclic

Pf: corresp. theorem \nmid same fact for Abelian gp's.
 i.e. given H 's that has only H_i/H_{i+1} Abelian,

and if can find $(\ell) = \overline{K}_{i, \ell_i} \subset \overline{K}_{i, \ell_i+1} \subset \dots \subset \overline{K}_{i, 0} = H_i/H_{i+1}$
 w/ $\overline{K}_{i,j}/\overline{K}_{i,j+1}$ cyclic

by corresp thm: get $K_{i,j}$'s w/

$$H_{i+1} = K_{i, \ell_i} \subset K_{i, \ell_i+1} \subset \dots \subset K_{i, 0} = H_i$$

$$K_{i,j}/K_{i,j+1} \cong \overline{K}_{i,j}/\overline{K}_{i,j+1}$$

then: $K_{n, \ell_n} \subset K_{n, \ell_{n-1}} \subset \dots \subset K_{n, 0} = K_{n-1, \ell_{n-1}} \subset K_{n-1, \ell_{n-2}} \subset \dots \subset G$
 $(\ell) = K_{n, \ell_n} \subset K_{n, \ell_{n-1}} \subset \dots \subset K_{n, 0} = K_{n-1, \ell_{n-1}} \subset K_{n-1, \ell_{n-2}} \subset \dots \subset G$

Why can we do this?

i.e. if G is an Abelian gp, want to find subgps

$$(e) = H_n \subset H_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset H_0 = G \text{ s.t. } H_i / H_{i+1} \text{ cyclic.}$$

(Induct on $|G|$).

Let $g \in G$, consider $G/\langle g \rangle$ the thre.

$$\Rightarrow (e) = \overline{H_{n-1}} \subset \dots \subset \overline{H_0} = G/\langle g \rangle \text{ s.t. } \\ H_i / \overline{H_{i+1}} \text{ cyclic.}$$

by comesp them, since $H_{n-1} = \langle g \rangle$ we have

$$(e) = H_n \subset H_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset H_0 = G$$

H_i / H_{i+1} cyclic for $i \neq n-1$

$H_{n-1} / H_n = \langle g \rangle$ is cyclic.

Def $[G, G]$ is the smallest (normal) subgp containing all commutators $[g, h] = g^{-1}h^{-1}gh$

Note: $hg [g, h] = gh$

Note: $\{G, G\} = \text{smallest subgroup containing commutators}$
 $\Rightarrow \{G, G\} \text{ char } G.$

$$\varphi[\{g, h\}] = [\varphi(g), \varphi(h)]$$

Rmk: If $N \triangleleft G$, then G/N Abelian \Rightarrow
 $[G, G] \subset N$.

Def $G^{(0)} = G$, $G^{(i)} = [G^{(i-1)}, G^{(i-1)}]$
 $i^{\text{th}} \text{ derived subgroup.}$

$$G^{(0)} \triangleleft \dots \triangleleft G^{(2)} \triangleleft G^{(1)} \triangleleft G^{(0)} = G$$

"the descending central series"

Prop G is solvable $\Leftrightarrow G^{(n)} = \{e\}$ some n .

Pf: if $\{e\} = H_n \subset H_{n-1} \subset \dots \subset H_0 = G$

$H_{i+1} \triangleleft H_i \quad H_i/H_{i+1}$ Abelian

Claim: $G^{(i)} \subset H_i$
 Induct: $i=0$ assume true for up to i

want $G^{(i+1)} \subset H_{i+1}$

$$\begin{array}{c} G^{(i)} \longrightarrow H_i \longrightarrow H_i / H_{i+1} \text{ Abelian} \\ [x,y] \longrightarrow 0 \\ x, y \in G^{(i)} \Rightarrow G^{(i+1)} \subset H_{i+1} \end{array}$$