

COROLLARY. If $k=1$ and $*e_0xe_0^2=x$, then $*axe_0b=*ae_0xb$ for any a and b .

PROOF.

$$\begin{aligned} *axe_0b &= *a*e_0e_{\nu}e_{\nu-1}^2xe_0b && \text{(by (2) with } m=1) \\ &= *ae_0*e_{\nu}e_{\nu-1}^2xe_0b \\ &= *ae_0xb && \text{(by Theorem Q with } m=1). \end{aligned}$$

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

TWO THEOREMS ON FINITELY GENERATED GROUPS

EUGENE SCHENKMAN

Let G be a group generated by a finite subgroup H and an element b of finite order. If H commutes elementwise with b (for this we shall write $[h, b]=e$ for every $h \in H$ where $[h, b]$ designates $hbh^{-1}b^{-1}$), then clearly G is finite and b is in the center of G .

We consider here the case where, for every $h \in H$, $[[h, b]b]=e$, and prove the following theorem:

THEOREM. *Let G be generated by the finite subgroup H and the element b of finite order and, for every $h \in H$, let $[[h, b]b]=e$. Then G is finite and b is in the nil radical of G .*

PROOF. For $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ let h_i be the elements of H . Then $h_i^{-1}bh_i$ are all the conjugates of b ; for $bh^{-1}bh^{-1}=h^{-1}bh$ by virtue of the hypothesis $[[h, b]b]=e$.

It follows from the fact that a finite set of conjugates generate a finite normal subgroup (cf. [1]) that b is contained in a finite normal subgroup K of G . But H is finite and hence so also is G/K ; and then finally G is finite.

Furthermore since b is in the center of K , b is in the nil radical of G as was asserted.

We can deduce another result from the fact that $[[g, b]b]=e$ for every $g \in G$ implies that b is in the center of a normal subgroup of G .

THEOREM. *Let G be a finitely generated group with the property that if b_1, \dots, b_n are the generators of G , then $[[g, b_i]b_i]=e$ for every $g \in G$ and for $i=1, 2, \dots, n$. Then G is nilpotent of class at most n . If furthermore the b_i are of finite order then G is finite.*

PROOF. For $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ let B_i be the normal subgroup of G in which b_i is central. Since the B_i are normal subgroups of G , so is each of the intersections $B_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{i_r}$ normal in G . For $j=1, \dots, n$ let A_j represent the subgroup of G generated by the product of all possible intersections of j of the B_i at a time; i.e., $A_1 = B_1 B_2 \dots B_n$, $A_2 = (B_1 \cap B_2)(B_1 \cap B_3) \dots (B_{n-1} \cap B_n)$, etc., and $A_n = B_1 \cap B_2 \cap \dots \cap B_n$.

Then A_n is in the center of G ; for A_n commutes elementwise with all the generators of G . And for each $r=1, \dots, n$, A_{r-1}/A_r is in the center of G/A_r . For each component $B_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{i_{r-1}}$ commutes elementwise with $b_{i_1}, \dots, b_{i_{r-1}}$ and $(B_{i_1} \cap \dots \cap B_{i_{r-1}}) \cap B_{i_r} \subset A_r$; hence modulo A_r each component of A_{r-1} is in the center of G/A_r and consequently A_{r-1}/A_r is in the center of G/A_r as asserted. Hence G is nilpotent of class at most n . The finiteness of G follows immediately from this if the b_i are of finite order.

COROLLARY. *If G is a finitely generated group all of whose elements have order 3, then G is finite (cf. [2]).*

For let a and b be any two elements of G . Then $[[b, a]a] = bab^2aba^2b^2a^2 = (bab)(bab)(bab)(b^2a^2)(b^2a^2)(b^2a^2) = e$.

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LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY