

Finite Prüfer rank of G and its Product

B. Razaghmaneshi*

Department of Mathematics and Computer science, Islamic Azad University Talesh Branch, Talesh, Iran

Corresponding author. B. Razaghmaneshi

ABSTRACT: A group G has finite Prüfer rank $r=r(G)$ if every finitly generated subgroup of G can be generated by at most r elements, and r is the least positive integer with this property. In this paper we show that if the locally soluble group $G=AB$ with finite Prüfer rank is the product of two subgroups A and B, then the Prüfer rank of G is bounded by a function of the Prüfer ranks of A and B.

Keywords: finite Prüfer rank, locally soluble group, product .

INTRODUCTION

In 1968 N.F. Sesekin (see [19]) proved that a product of two abelian subgroups with minimal condition satisfies also the minimal condition . He and Amberg independently obtained a similar result for the maximal condition around 1972. Moreover, a little later he proved that a soluble product of two nilpotent subgroups with maximal condition likewise satisfies the maximal condition, and its Fitting subgroups inherits the factorization. Subsequently in his Habilitationsschrift (1973) he started a more systematic investigation of the following general question. Given a (soluble) product G of two subgroups A and B satisfying a certain finiteness condition \mathfrak{X} , when does G have the same finiteness condition \mathfrak{X} ?(see 20)

For almost all finiteness conditions this question has meanwhile been solved. Roughly speaking, the answer is 'yes' for soluble (and even for soluble-by-finite) groups. This combines theorems of B. Amberg (see [1], [2],[3],[4] and [6]) , N.S. Chernikov (see [5]), S. Franciosi, F. de Giovanni (see [3],[6]), O.H.Kegel (see [8]), J.C.Lennox (see [12]) , D.J.S. Robinson(see [9] and [12]), J.E. Roseblade(see [13]), Y.P.Sysak(see [19] and[20]), J.S. Wilson(see [23]), and D.I.Zaitsev(see [11] and [18]).

Now, in this paper, we study the finite Prüfer rank of locally soluble group G and its relations, and the end we prove that if the locally soluble group $G=AB$ with finite Prüfer rank is the product of two subgroups A and B, then the Prüfer rank of G is bounded by a function of the Prüfer ranks of A and B.

2. Preliminaries : (elementary properties and theorems.)

2.1. Lemma: Let the finite group $G=AB$ be the product of two subgroups A and B. If A,B, and G are D_π -group, for a set π of primes, then there exist Hall π -subgroups A_0 of A and B_0 of B such that A_0B_0 is a Hall π -subgroups of G.

Proof. Let $A_1, B_1,$ and G_1 be Hall π -subgroups of A, B, and G, respectively. Since G is a D_π -group, there exist elements x and y such that A_1^x and B_1^y are both contained in G_1 . It follows from Lemma 2.4 that $A^x = A^z$ and $B^y = B^z$ for some z in G. Thus $A_0 = A_1^{xz^{-1}}$ and $B_0 = B_1^{yz^{-1}}$ are Hall π -subgroups of A and B, respectively, which are both contained in $G_0 = G_1^{yz^{-1}}$. Clearly the order of $A_0 \cap B_0$ is bounded by the maximum π -divisor n of the order of $A \cap B$ since $|G| = \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|A \cap B|}$, It follows that $|G_0| = \frac{|A_0| \cdot |B_0|}{n} \leq \frac{|A_0| \cdot |B_0|}{|A_0 \cap B_0|} = |A_0 B_0|$. Therefore $A_0 B_0 = G_0$ is a Hall π -subgroup of G.

2.2. Corollary: Let the finite group $G=AB$ be the product of two subgroups A and B . Then for each prime p there exist Sylow p -subgroups A_0 of A and B_0 of B such that A_0B_0 is a Sylow p -subgroup of G .

Proof: See [5].

2.3. Lemma: (See [13]) If N is a maximal abelian normal subgroup of a finite p -group G , then $r(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}r(N)(5r(N)+1)$.

Proof : Since $C_G(N)=N$, the factor group G/N is isomorphic with a p -group of automorphism of N . Thus G/N has perufer rank at most $\frac{1}{2}r(N)(5r(N)-1)$ (See [15], part 2, lemma 7.44), and hence $r(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}r(N)(5r(N)+1)$.

2.4. Lemma : Clearly subgroups and homomorphic images of groups with finite Prüfer rank also have finite Prüfer rank.

Proof : See [5].

2.5. Main Theorem: If the locally soluble group $G=AB$ with finite Prüfer rank is the product of two subgroups A and B , then the Prüfer rank of G is bounded by a function of the Prüfer ranks of A and B .

Proof : First, let G be a finite p -group for some prime p . If N is a maximal abelian normal subgroup of G , by Lemma 2.3 we have $r(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}r(N)(5r(N)+1)$. Hence it is enough to prove that $r=r(N)$ is bounded by a function of the maximum s of $r(A)$ and $r(B)$. The socle S of N is an elementary abelian group of order p^s . Clearly it is sufficient to prove the theorem for the factorizer $X(S)$ of S . Therefore we may suppose that the group G has a triple factorization $G=AB=AK=BK$, where K is an elementary abelian normal subgroup of G of order p^s .

Let e be the least positive integer such that A^{p^e} is contained in B . By Lemma 4.3.3 of [4], we have $|A : A \cap B| \leq |A : A^{p^e}| \leq p^{eg(s)-s^2}$ Where $g(s) = \frac{1}{2}s(3s+1)$. Since

$$|G| = \frac{|A| \cdot |B|}{|A \cap B|} = \frac{|B| \cdot |K|}{|B \cap K|},$$

It follows that $|K| = |A : A \cap B| \cdot |B \cap K| \leq p^{eg(s)-s^2} p^s = p^{eg(s)-s^2+s}$. Hence $r \leq eg(s) - s^2 + s \leq eg(s)$. Therefore it is enough to show that $e \leq g(s) + 3$. Therefore it is enough to show that $e \leq g(s) + 3$.

Clearly we may suppose that $e > 1$. Let a be an element of A such that $a^{p^{e-1}}$ is not in B , and write $a^{p^{e-1}} = xb$, with x in K and b in B . Then $[x, a^{p^{e-2}}] \neq 1$, because otherwise

$$b^p = (x^{-1}a^{p^{e-2}})^p = x^{-p}a^{p^{e-1}} = a^{p^{e-1}},$$

contrary to the choice of a . As K has exponent p , it follows from the usual commutator laws that .

$$[x, a^{p^{e-2}}] = \prod_{i=1}^{p^{e-2}} [x, a]^{(p^{e-i-2})} = [x, p^e \cdot 2a].$$

Thus

$$[K, G, \dots, G] \neq 1, \quad \leftarrow p^{e-2} \rightarrow$$

and so $|K| > p^{p^{e-2}}$ since G is a finite p -group. Therefore $p^{p^{e-2}} < r \leq eg(s)$. If $e \geq g(s) + 4$, then $p^{p^{e-2}} \geq 2^{e-2} > (e+1)(e-4) \geq (e+1)g(s) > eg(s)$.

This contradiction shows that $e \leq g(s) + 3$.

Suppose now that $G=AB$ is an arbitrary finite soluble group. For each prime p , by Corollary 2.2 there exist Sylow p -subgroups A_p of A and B_p of B such that $G_p=A_pB_p$ is a Sylow p -subgroup of G . As was shown above, $r(G_p)$ is bounded by a function $f(s)$ of the maximum s of $r(A)$ and $r(B)$, and this does not depend on p . Thus every subgroup of prime-power order of G can be generated by a function $f(s)$ of the maximum s of $r(A)$ and $r(B)$, and this does not depend on p . Thus every subgroup of prime-power order of G can be generated by at most $f(s)$ elements. Application of Theorem 4.2.1 of [4] yields that every subgroup of G can be generated by at most $f(s)+1$ elements, and hence the Prüfer rank of G is bounded by $f(s)+1$. This proves the theorem in the finite case.

Let $G=AB$ be an arbitrary locally soluble group with finite Prüfer rank. If N is a finite normal subgroup of G , and $X=X(N)$ is its factorizer, then the index $|X : A \cap B|$ is finite by Lemma 1.1.5. Let Y be the core of $A \cap B$ in X . Since the factorized group X/Y is finite, it follows from the first part of the proof that the Prüfer rank of X/Y is bounded by a function of the Prüfer ranks of A and B . As $r(N) \leq r(X) \leq r(Y) + r(X/Y) \leq r(A) + r(X/Y)$ (e.g. see Robinson 1972, Part 1, Lemma 1.44) we obtain that there exists a function h such that $r(N) \leq h(r(A), r(B)) = k$, for every finite normal subgroup N of G . Clearly the same holds for every finite normal section of G .

Let T be the maximum periodic normal subgroup of G . If p is a prime, the group $\bar{T} = T/O_{p'}(T)$ is Chernikov by Lemma 3.2.5 of [4] (See also [16]). Let \bar{J} be the finite residual of \bar{T} , and \bar{S} the socle of \bar{J} . Since \bar{S} and \bar{T}/\bar{J} are finite, it follows that $r(\bar{T}) \leq r(\bar{J}) + r(\bar{T}/\bar{J}) = r(\bar{S}) + r(\bar{T}/\bar{J}) \leq 2k$.

As the Sylow p -subgroups of T can be embedded in \bar{T} , they have Prüfer rank at most $2k$. Application of Theorem 4.2.1 of [4] (See also [14]) yields that every finite subgroup of T can be generated by at most $2k+1$ elements. Hence $r(T) \leq 2k + 1$.

The group G/T is soluble (Robinson 1972, Part 2, Lemma 10.39), and so the set of primes $\pi(G/T)$ is finite by Lemma 4.1.5 of [5] (See also [15]). It follows from Lemma 4.1.4 of [4] (See also [15]) that there exists in G a normal series of finite length $T \leq G_1 \leq G_2 \leq G$, where G_1/T is torsion-free nilpotent, G_2/G_1 is torsion-free abelian, and G/G_2 is finite. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} r(G) &\leq r(T) + r(G_1/T) + r(G_2/G_1) + r(G/G_2) \\ &\leq r(T) + r_0(G) + r(G/G_2) \\ &\leq r_0(G) + 3k + 1. \end{aligned}$$

By theorem 4.1.8 of [4] (See also [3]) we have that $r_0(G) \leq r_0(A) + r_0(B)$.

Moreover, $r_0(A) \leq r(A)$ and $r_0(B) \leq r(B)$ by Lemma 4.3.4 of [4] (See also [9]). Therefore $r(G) \leq r(A) + r(B) + 3k + 1$. The theorem is proved.

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