

# Central nilpotency of skew braces

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Faculty of  
Engineering



# Expanded group

## Definition

An algebra  $(A, \Omega)$  is called an *expanded group*, if there exist a binary operation  $+$ , a unary operation  $-$  and a constant  $0$  such that the retract  $(A, +, -, 0)$  is a group.

## Definition

Let  $A$  be an expanded group. A polynomial  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$ , with  $k > 1$ , is called *absorbing*, if, for all  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , and for all  $a_j \in A$ , with  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ,

$$f(a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, 0, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_k) = 0.$$

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# Absorbing polynomials

## Groups:

$$-x - y + x + y = [x, y]$$
$$[[x, y], z]$$

## Rings:

$$x \cdot y$$

## Vector spaces:

$$0x + 0y + 0z$$

## Lie algebras:

$$[x, y]$$

## Loops:

$$((x + y) + z) - (x + (y + z))$$

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# Center

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Let  $A$  be an expanded group. An element  $c \in A$  is called *central* if, for all binary absorbing polynomial  $f$  and for all  $a \in A$ ,

$$f(a, c) = f(c, a) = 0.$$

The *center*  $Z(A)$  of  $A$  is the subset of all central elements of  $A$ .

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# Examples of centers

## Groups:

$$Z(A) = \{c \mid \forall a \in A : a + c = c + a\}$$

## Rings:

$$Z(A) = \{c \mid \forall a \in A : a \cdot c = c \cdot a = 0\} = \text{Ann}_R(R)$$

## Vector spaces:

$$Z(A) = A$$

## Lie algebras:

$$Z(A) = \{c \mid \forall a \in A : [a, c] = 0\} = \text{Rad}([\cdot, \cdot])$$

## Loops:

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A subalgebra  $I$  an expanded group  $A$  is called an *ideal* if there exists an endomorphism  $\varphi$  of  $A$  such that  $\varphi(a) = 0$  if and only if  $a \in I$ .

## Definition

An expanded group  $A$  is *nilpotent of class  $n$*  if there exists a chain of ideals

$$0 = I_0 \leq I_1 \leq \cdots \leq I_n = A,$$

such that  $I_{j+1}/I_j \leq Z(A/I_j)$ , for every  $0 \leq j < n$ .

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# Nilpotent commutative rings

## Proposition

*A commutative ring  $R$  is nilpotent of class  $n$  if and only if  $R^{n+1} = 0$ .*

## Proof.

Let  $I_{j+1} = \{c \in R \mid \forall a \quad a \cdot c \in I_j\}$ ; then  $I_{j+1}/I_j = \text{Ann}(R/I_j)$ .  
 Moreover  $I_j = \{c \mid \forall a_1, \dots, a_j \in A \quad c \cdot a_1 \cdots a_j = 0\}$ . □

Here  $0 \leq I_1 \leq \dots \leq I_n$  is the *upper central series*.  
 The *lower central series* is  $R \geq R^2 \geq R^3 \geq \dots \geq R^n \geq 0$ .

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An algebra  $(A, +, \circ, 0)$  is called a *skew brace* if

- $(A, +, 0)$  is a group
- $(A, \circ, 0)$  is a group
- $a \circ (b + c) = a \circ b - a + a \circ c$ , for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

## Examples

- Let  $(A, +, 0)$  be a group and let  $a \circ b = b + a$ .
- Let  $(A, +, 0)$  be  $(\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}, +, 0)$ , for some prime  $p$  and  $n > 1$ . Let  $0 < k < n$  and let  $a \circ b = a + abp^k + p \bmod p^n$ .
- Let  $(R, +, *, 0)$  be a radical ring. If we define  $a \circ b = a + a * b + b$  then  $(R, +, \circ, 0)$  is a brace.



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# Absorbing polynomials of a skew brace

We denote

$$x * y = -x + (x \circ y) - y$$

## Observation

*Absorbing polynomials for a skew brace are*

- $[x, y]_+$ ,
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- $x * y$ ,
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# Center of a skew brace

## Theorem (M. B. & P. J.)

Let  $B$  be a skew brace. Then

$$Z(B) = \{c \mid \forall a \in B : c + a = a + c = c \circ a = a \circ c\}.$$

## Corollary

*A skew brace  $B$  is abelian if and only if  $(B, +)$  is an abelian group and  $a + b = a \circ b$ , for all  $a, b \in B$ .*

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# (Central) nilpotency of skew braces

## Upper central series:

$$\zeta_0(B) = 0$$

$$\zeta_n(B) = \{c \mid \forall a \in A : c * a, a * c, [a, c]_+ \in \zeta_{n-1}(B)\}$$

## Lower central series:

$$\Gamma_0(B) = B$$

$$\Gamma_n(B) = \langle \Gamma_{n-1}(B) * B, B * \Gamma_{n-1}(B), [\Gamma_{n-1}(B), B]_+ \rangle_+$$



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# Other notions of nilpotency

## Definitions (W. Rump; Ag. Smoktunowicz)

Let  $B$  be a skew brace. We define

$$\begin{aligned}
 B^1 &= B, & B^{n+1} &= B * B^n, \\
 B^{(1)} &= B, & B^{(n+1)} &= B^{(n)} * B, \\
 B^{[1]} &= B, & B^{[n+1]} &= \left\langle \bigcup_{i=1}^n B^{[i]} * B^{[n+1-i]} \right\rangle_+.
 \end{aligned}$$

We say that  $B$  is

- *left nilpotent* if  $B^n = 0$ ,
- *right nilpotent* if  $B^{(n)} = 0$ ,
- *nilpotent* if  $B^{[n]} = 0$ ,

for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

# Relations among nilpotencies

**Theorem (F. Cedó, T. Gateva-Ivanova, Ag. Smoktunowicz)**

*A brace is right nilpotent of class  $n$  if and only if its associated set-theoretic solution of Yang-Baxter equation is multipermutational of level  $n$ .*

**Proposition (M. B. & P. J.)**

*Let  $B$  be a skew brace. Then the following properties are equivalent:*

- *$B$  is centrally nilpotent,*
- *$B$  is a nilpotent brace and  $(B, \circ)$  is a nilpotent group,*
- *$B$  is a right nilpotent brace and both  $(B, \circ)$  and  $(B, +)$  are nilpotent groups.*

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# Commutator of ideals

## Definition

Let  $A$  be an expanded group and let  $I, J$  be two ideals. We define the *commutator* of  $I, J$  as the ideal

$$\llbracket I, J \rrbracket = \langle f(a, b) \mid a \in I, b \in J, f \text{ absorbing} \rangle.$$

**Groups:**

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## Commutator of ideals 2

In general, absorbing polynomials may contain constants from  $A \setminus (I \cup J)$ .

**Loops:**

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If there exists  $n$  such that  $A_n = 0$  then  $A$  is *nilpotent of class  $n$* .

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# Abelianess

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An expanded group  $A$  is called *abelian* if  $\llbracket A, A \rrbracket = 0$ .

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Let  $A$  be an expanded group and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $A$ . Then we say that  $I$  is *abelian in  $A$*  if  $\llbracket I, I \rrbracket = 0$ .

## Definition

An expanded group  $A$  is *solvable of class  $n$*  if there exists a chain of ideals

$$0 = I_0 \leq I_1 \leq \cdots \leq I_n = A,$$

such that  $I_{j+1}/I_j$  is an abelian ideal in  $A/I_j$ , for every  $0 \leq j < n$ .

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# Supernilpotency

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An expanded group  $A$  is called *supernilpotent of class  $n$*  if every  $(n + 1)$ -ary absorbing polynomial is constant.

Theorem (E. Aichinger & J. Ecker)

*A group is supernilpotent of class  $n$  if and only if it is nilpotent of class  $n$ .*

Theorem (E. Aichinger & N. Mudrinski)

*Every supernilpotent expanded group is nilpotent.*

Theorem

*Every finite supernilpotent expanded group is a product of expanded  $p$ -groups.*

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