2-ELEMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE DRESS SUBGROUP OF TYPE 2

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1. Introduction

Let $G$ be a finite group. We denote by $\pi(G)$ the set of prime divisors of the order of $G$. For a prime $p$, we denote by the symbol $O^p(G)$, called the Dress subgroup of $G$ of type $p$, the smallest normal subgroup of $G$ such that $\pi(G/O^p(G)) \subseteq \{p\}$. We denote by $P(G)$ the set of subgroups $P$ of $G$ of prime power order, possibly 1 and by $L(G)$ the set of subgroups $H$ of $G$ containing the Dress subgroup $O^p(G)$ of type $p$ for some prime $p$.

We say that a $G$-module $V$ is $L(G)$-free if $\dim V^{O^p(G)} = 0$ holds for any prime $p$. Here a $G$-module means a $\mathbb{R}[G]$-module which is finite dimensional over $\mathbb{R}$. We denote by $D(G)$ the set of all pairs $(P, H)$ of subgroups of $G$ such that $P < H \leq G$ and $P$ is of prime power order. A $G$-module $V$ is called a gap $G$-module if $V$ is $L(G)$-free and the number

$$\dim V^P - 2 \dim V^H$$

is positive for any pair $(P, H) \in D(G)$. A finite group $G$ is called a gap group if there exists a gap $G$-module and is called a nongap group otherwise.

A finite group $G$ is an Oliver group, if $G$ has no isthmus series of subgroups of the form

$$P < H < G$$

where $|\pi(P)| \leq 1$, $|\pi(G/H)| \leq 1$ and $H/P$ is cyclic. A finite group $G$ has a fixed point free smooth action on a disk if and only if $G$ is an Oliver group ([5]). Furthermore, Oliver has completely decided which a smooth compact manifold is the fixed point set of a smooth action on a disk ([6]). On the other hand, Laitinen and Morimoto ([2]) has shown that a finite group $G$ has a smooth one fixed point action of a sphere.

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if and only if $G$ is an Oliver group. We do not know which a smooth manifold of positive dimension is the fixed point set of a smooth action on a sphere. For an Oliver group $G$ which is a gap group, one can apply equivariant surgery to convert an appropriate smooth action of $G$ on a disk $D$ into a smooth action of $G$ on a sphere $S$ with $S^G = M = D^G$, where $\dim M > 0$ (cf. [3, Corollary 0.3]). Thus it is important to ask whether a given group $G$ is a gap group.

2. Centralizers of 2-elements outside of the Dress subgroup of type 2

Let $G$ be a finite group. An element $x$ of $G$ is a 2-element if the order of $x$ is a power of 2 or equals to 1. Let $K$ be a normal subgroup of $G$ with $K \geq O^2(G)$. For an element $x$ of $G$, we denote by $\psi(x)$ the set of odd primes $q$ such that there exists a subgroup $N$ of $G$ satisfying $x \in N$ and $O^q(N) \neq N$. We define a subset $E_2(G, K)$ of $G \setminus K$ as the set of involutions (elements of order 2) $x$ such that either $|\psi(x)| > 1$ or $|\pi(C_G(x))| = |\pi(O^2(C_G(x)))| = 2$ holds, and define $E_4(G, K)$ as the subset of 2-elements $x$ of $G \setminus K$ of order $\geq 4$ with $|\psi(x)| > 0$. Set $E(G, K) = E_2(G, K) \cup E_4(G, K)$ (cf. [8]). Note that $E_2(G, K) = \emptyset$ if $K \neq O^2(G)$. We define sets $E_2^g(G, K)$, $E_4^g(G, K)$ and $E^g(G, K)$ as follows. The set $E_2^g(G, K)$ consists of 2-elements $x$ of $G \setminus K$ of order $> 2$ such that $C_G(x)$ is not a 2-group. The set $E_4^g(G, K)$ consists of involutions $x$ of $G \setminus K$ such that $|\pi(O^2(C_G(x)))| \geq 2$ holds. Set $E^g(G, K) = E_2^g(G, K) \cup E_4^g(G, K)$. Note that the sets $E_2^g(G, K)$, $E_4^g(G, K)$ and $E^g(G, K)$ are subsets of $E_2(G, K)$, $E_4(G, K)$ and $E(G, K)$ respectively.

We set

$$D^2(G) = \{ (P, H) \in D(G) \mid [H : P] = [O^2(G)H : O^2(G)P] = 2 \text{ and } O^q(G)P = G \text{ for all odd primes } q \}.$$ (cf. [4]) and set

$$D^2(G, K) = \{ (P, H) \in D^2(G) \mid H \not\leq K \}.$$

According to Laitinen and Morimoto [2], we denote by $V(G)$ the $G$-module

$$(\mathbb{R}[G] - \mathbb{R}) - \bigoplus_{p \in \pi(G)} (\mathbb{R}[G/O^p(G)] - \mathbb{R}).$$
If $G$ is a group of prime power order, then $V(G) = \{0\}$ holds. Laitinen and Morimoto [2, Theorems 2.3 and B] have shown that $V(G)$ is an $\mathcal{L}(G)$-free $G$-module such that
\[
\dim V(G)^P - 2 \dim V(G)^H
\]
is nonnegative for any pair $(P, H) \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ and is zero only if either $(P, H) \in \mathcal{D}^2(G, \emptyset)$ or $P \in \mathcal{L}(G)$. Note that $P \notin \mathcal{L}(G)$ for $(P, H) \in \mathcal{D}(G)$ if $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint.

**Theorem 1.** Let $G$ be a finite group such that $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint. Let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ with index 2. Then the following claims are equivalent.

1. $E^*(G, K)$ is empty.
2. $E(G, K)$ is empty.
3. There exist pairs $(P_j, H_j) \in \mathcal{D}^2(G, K)$ such that
\[
\sum_j (\dim V^{P_j} - 2 \dim V^{H_j}) = 0
\]
for any $\mathcal{L}(G)$-free $G$-module $V$.

**Corollary 2.** If $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint, then either sets $E(G, O^2(G))$ and $E^*(G, O^2(G))$ are both empty or both nonempty.

### 3. Nongap groups

Let $G$ be a finite group such that $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint. The group $G$ is a gap group if and only if any subgroup $K$ of $G$ with $K > O^2(G)$ is a gap group. Therefore it is easy to see the following result by Theorem 1.

**Theorem 3.** Let $G$ be a finite group and let $K$ be a gap subgroup of $G$ with index 2. Then the following claims are equivalent.

1. $E^4(G, K)$ is empty.
2. $E(G, K)$ is empty.
3. $G$ is a nongap group.

Now, assume that $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$. Recall that if $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) \neq \emptyset$, then $G$ is a nongap group.
Proposition 4. Let $G$ be a finite group such that $O^2(G) \neq G$ and $P(G) \cap L(G) = \emptyset$, and let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ such that $[G, K] = 2$. Suppose that $E^2(G, K) = \emptyset$. Let $G_2$ be a Sylow 2-subgroup of $G$. Then it holds the followings.

(1) If two elements $x$ and $y$ of $G_2$ outside of $K$ are conjugate in $G$, then they are conjugate in $G_2$.

(2) $\sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} = 1$, where $(x)_G$ runs over conjugacy classes in $G$ represented by elements of $G_2$ outside of $K$.

(3) $\sum_{(C) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{|C|}{|N_G(C)|} = 1$, where $(C)_G$ runs over conjugacy classes in $G$ represented by cyclic groups $C$ of $G_2$ with $CK = G$.

Proof. For an element $x$ of $G \backslash K$, we denote by $x_2$ the involution of the cyclic subgroup generated by $x$. As $E^2_2(G)$ is empty, $x_2$ is an element outside of $K$. Recall that if two elements $x$ and $y$ of $G \backslash K$ are conjugate in $G$, namely $x = g^{-1}yg$, for some $g \in G$, then $x_2 = g^{-1}y_2g$ and thus $g \in C_G(x_2)$. Since $E^2_2(G, K)$ is empty and

$$\sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{|G|}{|C_G(x)|} = |G| - |K| = \frac{|G|}{2},$$

we have

$$1 = \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right) = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right) = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right) = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right) = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right) = \left( \sum_{(x) \sigma G \backslash K} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right).$$

Set $L(\sigma) = O^2(C_G(\sigma))(\sigma) \cong O^2(C_G(\sigma)) \times (\sigma)$. Let $B(\sigma)$ (resp. $C(\sigma)$) be the set of conjugacy classes in $C_G(\sigma)$ which are represented by elements of $L(\sigma) \setminus O^2(C_G(\sigma))$ (resp. $O^2(C_G(\sigma))$). Note that if two elements $x$ and $x'$ of $G$ outside of $K$ with $x_2 = x'_2$...
are conjugate in $G$, then they are conjugate in $C_G(x_2)$. Therefore we obtain that

$$1 = \sum_{(y \in G \setminus (G_2 \cap K))} \left\{ \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(y)(x)|} + \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right\}$$

$$= \sum_{(y \in G \setminus (G_2 \cap K))} \left\{ \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(y)(x^2)|} + \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right\}$$

Let $\mathcal{A}$ be the set of conjugacy classes $(x)_{G_2}$ in $G_2$ represented by elements of $G_2 \setminus (G_2 \cap K)$. As $E_2^k(G, K)$ is empty, we have $C_G(x)$ for $x \in G \setminus K$ with $|x| = 2^* > 2$ is a 2-group. Furthermore by using the assumption that $E_2^k(G, K)$ is empty again, the last number at (5) equals to

$$\sum_{(y \in G \setminus (G_2 \cap K))} \left\{ \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(y)(x)|} + \sum_{(x \in [G_2, G_2])} \frac{2}{|C_G(x)|} \right\} = 1,$$

where $C_G(x_2)$ (resp. $C_G(y_2)$) is a Sylow 2-subgroup of $C_G(x)$ (resp. $C_G(y)$). Therefore any inequality or equality in (6) must be equality and thus if $x, y \in G_2$ are conjugate in $G$, then they are conjugate in $G_2$.

**Theorem 7.** Let $G$ be a nongap group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$ and that $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$. Let $G_2$ be a Sylow 2-subgroup of $G$. Suppose the order of $G$ is divisible by 4. Then it holds the followings.

1. If $x$ and $y$ are involutions of $G_2 \setminus K$, then $xy \in [G_2, G_2]$.
2. There exists an element $x$ of $G_2 \setminus K$ such that $|x| > 2$.
3. The group generated by all involutions of $G_2$ outside of $K$ is a proper subgroup of $G_2$.

**Theorem 8.** Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$ and that $G/[G, G]$ is not a 2-group. If $G$ is a nongap group, then $O^2(G)$ is of odd odd order.

**Proof.** If $G$ is perfect, then $G$ is a gap group. Suppose that $G/[G, G]$ is of even order. Let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ such that $K > O^2(G)$, $[K : O^2(G)] = 2$ and $O^2(K/O^2(K))$ is isomorphic to $O^2(G/O^2(G))$. If $G$ is a nongap group, then $K$ is
also a nongap group. There exist no 2-elements, not involutions, of $K$ outside of $O^2(K)$. If there might exist such an element $x$, then $x$ lies in $E(K, O^2(K))$ which implies that $K$ is a gap group by Theorem 1. Therefore, the group generated by all involutions of $K_2$ outside of $K$ is just $K_2$, where $K_2$ is a Sylow 2-subgroup of $K$. By Theorem 7 (3), the order of $K$ is not divisible by 4. Since $[K : O^2(K)] = 2$, the order of $O^2(K) = O^2(G)$ is odd.

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**Corollary 9.** Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $P(G) \cap L(G) = \emptyset$ and that $G/[G, G]$ is not a 2-group. If $G$ is a nongap group, then $G$ is solvable.

**Proof.** By Theorem 8, the Dress group $O^2(G)$ of type 2 is of odd order. Recall that $G/O^2(G)$ is a 2-group. By Burnside's theorem, $O^2(G)$ and $G/O^2(G)$ are both solvable. Thus $G$ is solvable.

\[
\]

Note that a finite group $G$ such that $P(G) \cap L(G) \neq \emptyset$ is solvable.

4. Direct product

**Lemma 10.** Let $G$ be a finite group such that $O^2(G) \neq G$ and $P(G) \cap L(G) = \emptyset$, and let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ such that $[G, K] = 2$. If all elements of $H$ outside of $K$ are 2-elements, then

\[
\sum_{(C)_G} |N_G(C)/C|^{-1} |(H \backslash G)^C| = 1
\]

where $(C)_G$ runs over conjugacy classes in $G$ represented by cyclic groups $C$ of $G$ with $CK = G$.

We define $E^d(G, K)$ as the set of 2-elements $x$ of $G$ outside of $K$ such that $C_G(x)$ is not a 2-group. Note that $E^d(G, K)$ is a subset of $E^d(G, K)$. There exist finite groups $G$ so that $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$ and $E^d(G, O^2(G))$ is empty. A solvable group $\text{SmallGroup}(1920, 239651)$ and a nonsolvable group $\text{SmallGroup}(1344, 11427)$ both satisfy such conditions. (cf. [1])

**Proposition 11.** Let $G$ be a finite group such that $O^2(G) \neq G$ and $P(G) \cap L(G) = \emptyset$, and let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ such that $[G, K] = 2$. Suppose that $E^d(G, K) = \emptyset$. Let $G_2$ be a Sylow 2-subgroup of $G$ and let $C$ be a cyclic subgroup of $G$ with $CK = G$. Then it holds the followings.
(1) If a subgroup of $G_2$ intersects with any conjugacy class $(x)_G$ represented by elements of $G_2$ outside of $K$, then it is just $G_2$.

(2) $\left| \left( G_2 \setminus G \right)^C / N_G(C) \right| = 1$ holds. In particular, $(G_2 \setminus G)^C = G_2 \setminus G N_G(C)$, if $C < G_2$.

**Proof.** Let $C$ be a cyclic subgroup of $G$ with $CK = G$. By assumption, $(H \setminus G)^C$ is nonempty. By Proposition 4 (3), we obtain that

$$\sum_{(C)_G} \left| N_G(C) / C \right|^{-1} \left| (H \setminus G)^C \right| \geq \sum_{(C)_G} \frac{|C|}{|N_{G_2}(C)|} = 1,$$

where $(C)_G$ runs over conjugacy classes in $G$ represented by cyclic groups $C$ of $G_2$ with $CK = G$. Furthermore as $C$ is a 2-group, we obtain that

$$\sum_{(C)_G} \left| N_G(C) / C \right|^{-1} \left| (H \setminus G)^C \right| = \sum_{(C)_G} \frac{|C|}{|N_{G_2}(C)|} = 1$$

by Lemma 10 and thus

$$\left| (H \setminus G)^C \right| = 1.$$

Take an element $a \in G$ such that $a Ca^{-1} \leq H$. Then we have

$$(H \setminus G)^C \supseteq H \setminus N_G(H)a.$$

Supposing that $H \neq G_2$, it holds $N_G(H) \neq H$, which implies $\left| (H \setminus G)^C \right| \geq 2$. \qed

**Theorem 12.** Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint, $|O^2(G)|$ is even and $G/O^2(G)$ is cyclic. Let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ with index 2. Then the following claims are equivalent.

1. $E^d(G, K)$ is nonempty.
2. $G \times G$ is a gap group.
3. $G^k = \underbrace{G \times \cdots \times G}_{k \text{ times}}$ is a gap group for $k \geq 2$.

Note that $G^k$ is a nongap group for any $k \geq 1$ if $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are not disjoint, since $\mathcal{P}(G^k)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G^k)$ are not disjoint. The assumption that $|O^2(G)|$ is even is need.

**Remark 13.** Let $p$, $q$ and $r$ be odd primes with $p \neq q$. Let $G = D_{2pq} \times C_r$ be the direct product group of a dihedral group $D_{2pq}$ of order $2pq$ and a cyclic group $C_r$ of order $r$. Then it holds that $E^d(G, O^2(G))$ is nonempty, $O^2(G)$ is of order odd and $G^k$ is a nongap group for any $k \geq 1$. 
Corollary 14. Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$, $|O^2(G)|$ is even and $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$. Let $k > 1$ be an integer. Then we have the following claims:

1. $G$ and $G^k$ are gap groups $\iff E^d(G, O^2(G)) \neq \emptyset$.
2. $G^k$ is a gap group and $G$ is a nongap group $\iff E^d(G, O^2(G)) = \emptyset$.
3. $G^k$ (and $G$) are nongap groups $\iff E^d(G, O^2(G)) = \emptyset$.

5. Wreath product

Let $K$ and $L$ be finite groups. We denote by $K \wr L$ the semidirect product group $K^{[L]} \rtimes L$ such that $L$ acts on $K^{[L]}$ by permutation:

$1 \to K^{[L]} \to K \wr L \to L \to 1$

Proposition 15. Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$ and that $G/O^2(G)$ is cyclic. Let $K$ be a subgroup of $G$ with index 2. If $G \wr C_n$ is a gap group for a 2-power integer $n$, then $E^d(G, K)$ is nonempty, where $C_n$ is a cyclic group of order $n$.

Let $G = \text{SmallGroup}(1344, 11427)$. It is a nonsolvable group satisfying that $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$ and $E^d(G, O^2(G)) = \emptyset$. By Corollary 9, $G \wr C_n$ is a gap group for any integer $n > 1$, not a 2-power.

Theorem 16. Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint. For any subgroup $K$, $O^2(G) \trianglelefteq K \leq G$, possessing a cyclic quotient $K/O^2(G)$, the set $E(K, K_0)$ is nonempty, if and only if $G$ is a gap group, where $K_0$ is a subgroup of $K$ with index 2.

Corollary 17. Let $G$ be a finite group satisfying that $\mathcal{P}(G)$ and $\mathcal{L}(G)$ are disjoint and $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$. The set $E(G, O^2(G))$ is nonempty if and only if $G$ is a gap group.

Before closing this section, we show the following theorem:
Theorem 18. Let G be a finite group satisfying that $G/O^2(G)$ is cyclic, $\mathcal{P}(G) \cap \mathcal{L}(G) = \emptyset$, $E^d(G, K) \neq \emptyset$ and that $O^2(G)$ is of even order, where K is a subgroup of G with index 2. For any nontrivial finite group L, the wreath product group $G \wr L$ is a gap group.

First we show the assertion in the case where $L = C_2$:

Lemma 19. Let G and K be finite groups as in Theorem 18. For a cyclic subgroup $C = C_2$ of order 2, the wreath product group $G \wr C$ is a gap group.

Proof. Let $\pi: G \to (G \wr C) / O^2(G \wr C) \cong (G/O^2(G)) \wr C$ be an epimorphism. If $\pi^{-1}(\pi(\langle x \rangle))$ is a gap group for any nontrivial 2-element $x$ of $(G/O^2(G)) \wr C$, then $G \wr C$ is a gap group. Note that $O^2(G \wr C) = O^2(G)^2 = O^2(G) \times O^2(G)$. Let $f$ be a generator of $C$. Let $h$ be a 2-element of G outside of K such that $C_G(h)$ is not a 2-group. Recall that $G \times G$ is a gap group by Theorem 12. It suffices to show that $N := \langle O^2(G)^2, (h_1, h_2)f \rangle$ is a gap group for any elements $h_1$ and $h_2$ of $\langle h \rangle$. Note that $((h_1, h_2)f)^2 = (h_1h_2, h_2h_1)$.

We obtain that $C_{G_2}((h_1, h_2)f) = \langle (h_1, h_2)f, (a, h_1^{-1}ah_1) \mid a \in C_{O^2(G)}(h_1h_2) \rangle$. As $[G : O^2(G)] = 2$, the group $C_{O^2(G)}(h)$ is not a 2-group. Thus $C_{G_2}((h_1, h_2)f)$ is not a 2-group by $C_{O^2(G)}(h_1h_2) \geq C_{O^2(G)}(h)$. Let $N_0 := \langle O^2(G)^2, (h_1h_2, h_2h_1) \rangle$ be a subgroup of $N$ with index 2. We show that $E^d(N, N_0)$ is nonempty. If $(h_1, h_2)f$ is not an involution, then $(h_1, h_2)f$ lies in $E^d_2(N, N_0)$. Suppose that $(h_1, h_2)f$ is an involution. Then it follows $h_1 = h_2$ which is an involution. In this case, $C_{G_2}((h_1, h_2)f)$ is isomorphic to $O^2(G)$ and thus $(h_1, h_2)f$ lies in $E^d_2(N, N_0)$. Therefore $E^d(N, N_0)$ is nonempty. Since $N_0$ is a subgroup of $G \times G$ with 2-power index, $N_0$ is a gap group. Then $N$ is a gap group by combining Theorems 1 and 16. \qed

Proof of Theorem 18. Let $\pi: G \wr L \to L$ be an epimorphism. If $\pi^{-1}(\pi(\langle x \rangle))$ is a gap group for any 2-element $x$ of $G \wr L$ outside of $O^2(G \wr L)$, then $G \wr L$ is a gap group.
group. As $G^{[L]}$ is a gap group by Theorem 12, it suffices to show that $\pi^{-1}(C)$ is a gap group for any nontrivial cyclic group $C$. Let $C = C_n$ be a cyclic subgroup of $L$ of order $n > 1$. Note that $|O^2(G \backslash C)|$ is even and $P(G \backslash C) \cap L(G \backslash C) = \emptyset$ since there is a subgroup of $G \backslash C$ isomorphic to $G$. Thus if $n$ is not a 2-power integer, then $G \backslash C$ is a gap group by Corollary 9.

Assume that $n$ is a 2-power integer, say $2^k$. We show that $G \backslash C$ is a gap group by induction on $k$. In the case where $n = 2$, the assertion follows from Lemma 19. Let $m = 2^{k-1} \geq 2$ and let $C_m$ be a cyclic subgroup of $C$ with index 2.

Suppose that $G \backslash C_m$ is a gap group for any $G$ as in Theorem 18. Note that $\rho^{-1}(C_m) = G^2 \backslash C_m$, where $\rho: G \backslash C \rightarrow C$ is an epimorphism. $\rho^{-1}(C_m)$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of the gap group $(G \backslash C_m)^2$ with 2-power index and thus is a gap group.

Let $h$ be a 2-element of $G$ outside of $K$ such that $C_G(h)$ is not a 2-group. Let $h_j$ be an element of $\langle h \rangle$ for each $j = 1, \ldots, n$ and let $f$ be a generator of $C$. Consider the subgroup

$$N := \langle O^2(G)^n, (h_1, \ldots, h_n)f \rangle.$$

Let $N_0$ be a subgroup of $N$ with index 2. As $N_0$ is a subgroup of $\rho^{-1}(C_m)$ with 2-power index, it is a gap group. Thus it suffices to show that $E^\sharp(N, N_0)$ is nonempty. We show that $\langle h_1, \ldots, h_n \rangle f$ lies in $E^\sharp(N, N_0)$. We have

$$C_{O^2(G)^n}(\langle h_1, \ldots, h_n \rangle f)$$

$$= \langle \langle a, h_1^{-1}ah_1, (h_1h_2)^{-1}a(h_1h_2), \ldots, (h_1 \ldots h_{n-1})^{-1}a(h_1 \ldots h_{n-1}) \rangle$$

$$| a \in C_{O^2(G)}(h_1h_2 \ldots h_n) \rangle. $$

The group $C_{O^2(G)}(h_1h_2 \ldots h_n)$ contains the group $C_{O^2(G)}(h)$ and thus it is not a 2-group. As the element $\langle h_1, \ldots, h_n \rangle f$ is not an involution, it lies in $E^\sharp(N, N_0)$ and thus $N$ is a gap group.

The group $G \backslash C$ is a gap group, since any subgroup $N$, $O^2(G)^n \triangleleft N \leq G \backslash C$, possessing a cyclic quotient $N/O^2(G)^n$ is a gap group.

References


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