On groups with finite conjugacy classes in a verbal subgroup

Antonio Tortora (joint work with C. Delizia and P. Shumyatsky)

Università degli Studi di Salerno Dipartimento di Matematica

Advances in Group Theory and Applications 2017 September 5, 2017

To the organizers



Ancora Grazie, Thanks Again!

Antonio Tortora On groups with finite conjugacy classes in a verbal subgroup

Let G be a group.

Let G be a group.

Definition

A subgroup H of G is said to be FC-embedded in G if the set of conjugates

$$x^H = \{x^h \mid h \in H\}$$

is finite for all $x \in G$.

Let G be a group.

Definition

A subgroup H of G is said to be FC-embedded in G if the set of conjugates

$$x^H = \{x^h \mid h \in H\}$$

is finite for all $x \in G$. The subgroup H is *BFC*-embedded in G if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{H}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Let G be a group.

Definition

A subgroup H of G is said to be FC-embedded in G if the set of conjugates

$$x^H = \{x^h \mid h \in H\}$$

is finite for all $x \in G$. The subgroup H is *BFC*-embedded in G if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{H}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

• Of course, when H = G,

G is FC-embedded in itself if and only if G is an FC-group;

Let G be a group.

Definition

A subgroup H of G is said to be FC-embedded in G if the set of conjugates

$$x^H = \{x^h \mid h \in H\}$$

is finite for all $x \in G$. The subgroup H is *BFC*-embedded in G if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{H}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

• Of course, when H = G,

G is FC-embedded in itself if and only if G is an FC-group; G is BFC-embedded in itself if and only if G is a BFC-group.

Let G be a group.

Definition

A subgroup H of G is said to be FC-embedded in G if the set of conjugates

$$x^H = \{x^h \mid h \in H\}$$

is finite for all $x \in G$. The subgroup H is *BFC*-embedded in G if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{H}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

• Of course, when H = G,

G is FC-embedded in itself if and only if G is an FC-group;

G is BFC-embedded in itself if and only if G is a BFC-group.

We are interested in the cases H = w(G) or w(G)', for a group word w = w(x₁,...,x_n).

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \,|\, g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \,|\, g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is *FC*-embedded in *G* then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$;

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \,|\, g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is FC-embedded in G then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$; and if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G then $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \mid g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is FC-embedded in G then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$; and if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G then $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Definition

A group G is an FC(w)-group if x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \mid g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is FC-embedded in G then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$; and if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G then $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Definition

A group G is an FC(w)-group if x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$, and a BFC(w)-group if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \mid g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is FC-embedded in G then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$; and if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G then $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Definition

A group G is an FC(w)-group if x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$, and a BFC(w)-group if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

• If G is an FC(w)-group, is w(G) FC-embedded in G?

Recall that w(G) is the verbal subgroup corresponding to w, that is, the subgroup generated by the set

$$G_w = \{w(g_1,\ldots,g_n) \mid g_i \in G\}$$

of all w-values in G.

If w(G) is *FC*-embedded in *G* then x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$; and if w(G) is *BFC*-embedded in *G* then $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

Definition

A group G is an FC(w)-group if x^{G_w} is finite for all $x \in G$, and a BFC(w)-group if there exists a positive integer m such that $|x^{G_w}| \leq m$ for all $x \in G$.

- If G is an FC(w)-group, is w(G) FC-embedded in G?
- If G is a BFC(w)-group, is w(G) BFC-embedded in G?

Franciosi, de Giovanni, Shumyatsky - 2002

Let w be a concise word. Then G is an FC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is FC-embedded in G.

Franciosi, de Giovanni, Shumyatsky - 2002

Let w be a concise word. Then G is an FC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is FC-embedded in G.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let w be a concise word. Then G is a BFC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G.

Franciosi, de Giovanni, Shumyatsky - 2002

Let w be a concise word. Then G is an FC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is FC-embedded in G.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let w be a concise word. Then G is a BFC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G.

A group-word w is called *concise* if the finiteness of G_w for a group G always implies the finiteness of w(G).

Franciosi, de Giovanni, Shumyatsky - 2002

Let w be a concise word. Then G is an FC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is FC-embedded in G.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let w be a concise word. Then G is a BFC(w)-group if and only if w(G) is BFC-embedded in G.

A group-word w is called *concise* if the finiteness of G_w for a group G always implies the finiteness of w(G).

P. Hall - '60s

Is every word concise?

Concise words:

• Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);

Concise words:

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);

Concise words:

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

The *multilinear commutators words* are constructed by nesting commutators but using always different variables

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

The *multilinear commutators words* are constructed by nesting commutators but using always different variables: the word

$$[[x_1, x_2], x_3, [x_4, x_5, x_6]]$$

is a multilinear commutator

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

The *multilinear commutators words* are constructed by nesting commutators but using always different variables: the word

$$[[x_1, x_2], x_3, [x_4, x_5, x_6]]$$

is a multilinear commutator, but the *n*-Engel word $[x,_n y] = [x, \underbrace{y, \ldots, y}_n]$ is not for any $n \ge 2$.

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

The *multilinear commutators words* are constructed by nesting commutators but using always different variables: the word

$$[[x_1, x_2], x_3, [x_4, x_5, x_6]]$$

is a multilinear commutator, but the *n*-Engel word $[x,_n y] = [x, \underbrace{y, \ldots, y}_n]$ is not for any $n \ge 2$.

Open questions

• Is every word concise in the class of residually finite groups?

- Lower central words γ_k (P. Hall);
- Derived words δ_k (Turner-Smith 1966);
- Multilinear commutator words (Jeremy Wilson 1974).

The *multilinear commutators words* are constructed by nesting commutators but using always different variables: the word

$$[[x_1, x_2], x_3, [x_4, x_5, x_6]]$$

is a multilinear commutator, but the *n*-Engel word $[x,_n y] = [x, \underbrace{y, \ldots, y}_n]$ is not for any $n \ge 2$.

Open questions

- Is every word concise in the class of residually finite groups?
- Is every *n*-Engel word concise?

Let w(x, y) = [x, y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*.

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Notice that, for an arbitrary group-word w and any group G such that $|G_w| = m$, then w(G)' = [w(G), w(G)] has finite *m*-bounded order.

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Notice that, for an arbitrary group-word w and any group G such that $|G_w| = m$, then w(G)' = [w(G), w(G)] has finite *m*-bounded order.

Let w be a group-word and G an FC(w)-group.

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Notice that, for an arbitrary group-word w and any group G such that $|G_w| = m$, then w(G)' = [w(G), w(G)] has finite *m*-bounded order.

Let w be a group-word and G an FC(w)-group.

• Is the subgroup [w(G), G] FC-embedded in G?

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Notice that, for an arbitrary group-word w and any group G such that $|G_w| = m$, then w(G)' = [w(G), w(G)] has finite *m*-bounded order.

Let w be a group-word and G an FC(w)-group.

- Is the subgroup [w(G), G] FC-embedded in G?
- Is the subgroup w(G)' FC-embedded in G?

Let w(x, y) = [x, n y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* a group such that G_w has order *m*. Then [w(G), G] is finite of (m, n)-bounded order.

Notice that, for an arbitrary group-word w and any group G such that $|G_w| = m$, then w(G)' = [w(G), w(G)] has finite *m*-bounded order.

Let w be a group-word and G an FC(w)-group.

- Is the subgroup [w(G), G] FC-embedded in G?
- Is the subgroup w(G)' FC-embedded in G?

Similar questions arise when G is a BFC(w)-group.

Ivanov - 1984

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n .

Ivanov - 1984

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n . Furthermore, taking

$$v(x,y) = [[x^{pn}, y^{pn}]^n, y^{pn}]^n,$$

then $H_v = \{v_1 = 1, v_2\}$ and $Z(H) = \langle v_2 \rangle = v(H)$ is infinite.

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n . Furthermore, taking

$$v(x, y) = [[x^{pn}, y^{pn}]^n, y^{pn}]^n,$$

then
$$H_v = \{v_1 = 1, v_2\}$$
 and $Z(H) = \langle v_2 \rangle = v(H)$ is infinite.
Hence, v is not concise.

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n . Furthermore, taking

$$v(x,y) = [[x^{pn}, y^{pn}]^n, y^{pn}]^n,$$

then
$$H_v = \{v_1 = 1, v_2\}$$
 and $Z(H) = \langle v_2 \rangle = v(H)$ is infinite.
Hence, v is not concise.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let G = H wr K where $K = \langle k \rangle$ is a cyclic group of order 2.

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n . Furthermore, taking

$$v(x, y) = [[x^{pn}, y^{pn}]^n, y^{pn}]^n,$$

then
$$H_v = \{v_1 = 1, v_2\}$$
 and $Z(H) = \langle v_2 \rangle = v(H)$ is infinite.
Hence, v is not concise.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let G = H wr K where $K = \langle k \rangle$ is a cyclic group of order 2. Taking $w(x, y) = v(x^2, y^2)$, then $|x^{G_w}| \le 4$ for all $x \in G$ and $k^{w(G)}$ is infinite.

Let $n > 10^{10}$ be an odd integer and p > 5000 a prime. There exists a 2-generator torsion-free group H such that Z(H) is cyclic and H/Z(H) is an infinite group of exponent p^2n . Furthermore, taking

$$v(x, y) = [[x^{pn}, y^{pn}]^n, y^{pn}]^n,$$

then
$$H_v = \{v_1 = 1, v_2\}$$
 and $Z(H) = \langle v_2 \rangle = v(H)$ is infinite.
Hence, v is not concise.

Brazil, Krasilnikov, Shumyatsky - 2006

Let G = H wr K where $K = \langle k \rangle$ is a cyclic group of order 2. Taking $w(x, y) = v(x^2, y^2)$, then $|x^{G_w}| \le 4$ for all $x \in G$ and $k^{w(G)}$ is infinite. Thus G is a BFC(w)-group but w(G) is not FC-embedded in G.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Delizia, Shumyatsky, T. - 2017

Let $w = w(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be a group-word.

• If G is an FC(w)-group then w(G)' is FC-embedded in G.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Delizia, Shumyatsky, T. - 2017

Let $w = w(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be a group-word.

- If G is an FC(w)-group then w(G)' is FC-embedded in G.
- If G is a BFC(w)-group then w(G)' is BFC-embedded in G.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Delizia, Shumyatsky, T. - 2017

Let $w = w(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be a group-word.

- If G is an FC(w)-group then w(G)' is FC-embedded in G.
- If G is a BFC(w)-group then w(G)' is BFC-embedded in G. In particular, if |x^{Gw}| ≤ m for all x ∈ G, then x^{w(G)'} is finite of (m, n)-bounded order for all x ∈ G.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Delizia, Shumyatsky, T. - 2017

Let $w = w(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be a group-word.

- If G is an FC(w)-group then w(G)' is FC-embedded in G.
- If G is a BFC(w)-group then w(G)' is BFC-embedded in G. In particular, if |x^{Gw}| ≤ m for all x ∈ G, then x^{w(G)'} is finite of (m, n)-bounded order for all x ∈ G.

Conjecture

Let w(x, y) = [x, y] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* an FC(w)-group.

Taking G and w as before, one can check that [w(G), G] is not FC-embedded in G. On the other hand, w(G)' is (trivially) FC-embedded since $w(G)' = \{1\}$.

Delizia, Shumyatsky, T. - 2017

Let $w = w(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ be a group-word.

- If G is an FC(w)-group then w(G)' is FC-embedded in G.
- If G is a BFC(w)-group then w(G)' is BFC-embedded in G. In particular, if |x^{Gw}| ≤ m for all x ∈ G, then x^{w(G)'} is finite of (m, n)-bounded order for all x ∈ G.

Conjecture

Let w(x, y) = [x, ny] be the *n*-Engel word and *G* an FC(w)-group. Then [w(G), G] is *FC*-embedded in *G*.

To all of you

Thanks for your attention!