

# Finite conjugacy classes of tensors

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This is a joint work<sup>1</sup> with **Raimundo Bastos**.



R. Bastos, C. Monetta,

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<sup>1</sup>Funded by GNSAGA

# Non-abelian Tensor Square of a Group

Let  $G$  be a group.

The **non-abelian tensor square** of  $G$ , is the group  $G \otimes G$  generated by the symbols  $g \otimes h$ , with  $g, h \in G$ , which satisfy the following conditions:

- $gh \otimes x = (g^h \otimes x^h)(h \otimes x)$
- $g \otimes hx = (g \otimes x)(g^x \otimes h^x)$

for every  $g, h, x \in G$ . The generators  $g \otimes h$  are called **tensors**.

These relations remind the commutator relations

- $[gh, x] = [g, x]^h [h, x]$ ;
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**Brown** and **Loday** presented a topological significance for the non-abelian tensor square.



R. Brown, J.-L. Loday,

*Van Kampen theorems for diagrams of spaces*, *Topology*, **26** (1987), 311-335.

They showed that the third homotopy group of the suspension of an Eilenberg-MacLane space  $K(G,1)$  satisfies

$$\pi_3 SK(G, 1) \simeq \mu(G)$$

where  $\mu(G)$  is the kernel of the derived map

$$k : G \otimes G \rightarrow G',$$

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In this presentation we will deal with the **similarities** between **commutators** and **tensors**.

Given a group  $G$ , let  $G^\varphi$  be an isomorphic copy of  $G$  ( $g \mapsto g^\varphi$ ).

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# Non-abelian tensor square as a subgroup

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is the **commutator connection**:

## Proposition (Rocco, 1991)

*The map  $\Phi : G \otimes G \rightarrow [G, G^\varphi]$ , defined by  $g \otimes h \mapsto [g, h^\varphi]$ , for every  $g, h \in G$ , is an **isomorphism**.*

Since  $[G, G^\varphi] \leq \nu(G)'$ , to investigate properties of  $G \otimes G$ , one can look at the commutators in the group  $\nu(G)$ .



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# Advantages of studying $\nu(G)$

**Donadze, Ladra and Thomas**, proved that if a group  $G$  belongs to some class of groups, then so  $G \otimes G$  does.



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Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be a class of groups “closed” under taking **subgroups**, **direct products** and **central extensions** of its elements.

If  $G \in \mathfrak{X}$ , then  $\nu(G) \in \mathfrak{X}$ .

One can consider the homomorphism  $\rho : \nu(G) \rightarrow G$  defined by  $g \mapsto g$  and  $g^\varphi \mapsto g$ . The **kernel** of this map is denoted by  $\Theta(G)$ . Then we have

$$\frac{\nu(G)}{\Theta(G)} \simeq G \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\nu(G)}{[G, G^\varphi]} \simeq G \times G^\varphi$$

and  $\mu(G) := [G, G^\varphi] \cap \Theta(G) \leq Z(\nu(G))$ , is a central subgroup.

Then  $\nu(G)/\mu(G)$  is isomorphic to a subgroup of  $G \times G \times G$ . It follows that  $\nu(G) \in \mathfrak{X}$ .

**Examples of classes:** nilpotent, supersoluble, soluble, locally nilpotent, locally soluble, Engel, ...

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# Elements with finitely many conjugates

Given a group  $G$ , we use the following notation:

$$\Gamma(G) := \{[g, h] \mid g, h \in G\} \quad \text{and} \quad x^G := \{x^g \mid g \in G\}$$

A group  $G$  is said to be a **BFC-group** if there exists a positive integer  $n$  such that  $|x^G| \leq n$  for every  $x \in G$ .

If  $n$  is the least upper bound of the size of the conjugacy classes, then we say that  $G$  is a  **$n$ -BFC-group**.

## Remark

*If  $|\Gamma(G)| = n$  is finite, then  $G$  is a  $k$ -BFC-group for some  $k \leq n$ .*

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## Theorem (Neumann, 1951)

A group  $G$  is a BFC-group  $\iff G'$  is finite  $\iff \Gamma(G)$  is finite



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*Groups with Finite Classes of Conjugate Elements*, Proc. Lond. Math. Soc.,  
**1** (1951), 178-187.

Wiegold obtained a quantitative version of the previous theorem.

## Theorem (Wiegold, 1958)

If  $G$  is an  $n$ -BFC-group, then  $|G'| \leq n^{\frac{1}{2}} n^4 (\log_2 n)^3$ .



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# Conjecture and best bound

In the same paper, Wiegold conjecture for following bound.

## Conjecture (Wiegold 1958)

If  $G$  is an  $n$ -BFC-group, then  $|G'| \leq n^{\frac{1}{2}(1+\log_2 n)}$ .

The best bound known is due to Guralnick and Maróti.

## Theorem (Guralnick, Maróti, 2011)

Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -BFC-group with  $n > 1$ . Then  $|G'| < n^{\frac{1}{2}(7+\log_2 n)}$ .



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# Commutators with finitely many conjugates

Recently, **Dierings** and **Shumyatsky** coped with a similar problem for commutators.

## Theorem (Dierings, Shumyatsky, 2018)

Let  $n$  be a positive integer and assume that  $G$  is a group such that  $|x^G| \leq n$  for every commutator  $x \in \Gamma(G)$ .

Then the second derived subgroup  $G''$  is finite with  $n$ -bounded order.



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# What about tensors?

## Question

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Assume that  $|\alpha^{\nu(G)}| \leq n$  for any  $\alpha \in T_{\otimes}(G)$ .  
Is then  $([G, G^{\varphi}]')'$  finite?

Since  $[G, G^{\varphi}] \leq \nu(G)'$ , then  $([G, G^{\varphi}]')' \leq \nu(G)''$ .

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Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Suppose that  $|\alpha^{\nu(G)}| \leq n$  for every  $\alpha \in T_{\otimes}(G)$ . Then  $\nu(G)''$  is finite with  $n$ -bounded order.



If  $[G, G^\varphi]$  is finite  $\not\Rightarrow$   $G$  is a finite group.

For instance, the Prüfer group  $C_{p^\infty}$  is an example of an infinite group such that the non-abelian tensor square  $[C_{p^\infty}, (C_{p^\infty})^\varphi]$  is trivial (and so, finite).

However, **Parvizi** and **Niroomand** provides a sufficient condition for a group to be finite.

### Theorem (Parvizi, Niroomand, 2012)

*Let  $G$  be a finitely generated group. Suppose that the non-abelian tensor square  $[G, G^\varphi]$  is finite. Then  $G$  is finite.*



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## Corollary

Let  $n$  be a positive integer. If  $G$  is a group such that

- ① the derived subgroup  $G'$  is *finitely generated*
- ② the size of the conjugacy class  $|\alpha^{\nu(G)}| \leq n$  for every  $\alpha \in T_{\otimes}(G)$

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# Some remarks

## Remark (1)

If we get rid of **hypothesis 1** of course  $G$  is not a BFC-group.

**Example 1.** Let  $p$  be a prime. We define the semi-direct product  $G = A \rtimes C_2$ , where  $C_2 = \langle d \mid d^2 = 1 \rangle$ ,  $A = C_{p^\infty}$  is the Prüfer group and

$$a^d = a^{-1},$$

for every  $a \in A$ .

Then we have:

- $G' = A$  is not finitely generated
- $|\alpha^{\nu(G)}| \leq 4$  for every  $\alpha \in T_{\otimes}(G)$
- $G$  is not a BFC-group



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## Remark (2)

We cannot replace the **hypothesis 2** by “ $|x^G| \leq n$  for every  $x \in \Gamma(G)$ ”.

**Example 2.** Let  $G = \langle a, d \mid d^2 = 1, a^d = a^{-1} \rangle$  be the **infinite dihedral group**.

Then we have:

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Thank you

