

On Vanishing Conjugacy Classes in Finite Groups

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Outline

- Preliminaries

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- Groups whose vanishing class sizes are prime powers

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Definition

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Solvability Criterion

Robati-Hafezieh, 2022

Proposition

Let S be a sporadic simple group or an alternating group $Alt(n)$ for some $n \geq 7$. Then S has an irreducible character θ which extends to $Aut(S)$ and a conjugacy class x^S of size divisible by $2q$ for some odd prime number q such that $\theta(x) = 0$.

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Bianchi-Chillag-Lewis-Pacifici, 2007

Lemma

Let G be a group, and $M = S_1 \times \dots \times S_k$ be a minimal normal subgroup of G , where every S_i is isomorphic to a non-abelian simple group S . If $\theta \in \text{Irr}(S)$ extends to $\text{Aut}(S)$, then $\theta \times \dots \times \theta \in \text{Irr}(M)$ extends to G .

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Let G be a finite group. If all vanishing class sizes of G are either odd or powers of 2, then G is solvable.

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Groups whose vanishing classes all have size p

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- $G = P \times H$, where P is a p -group whose conjugacy class sizes are 1 or p , and H is an abelian p' -group.

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- $G = P \times H$, where P is a p -group whose conjugacy class sizes are 1 or p , and H is an abelian p' -group.
- $\frac{G}{Z(G)}$ is a Frobenius group whose Frobenius kernel has order p .

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Theorem

Let G be a finite supersolvable group, and assume that $Vcs(G) = \{s\}$. If, denoting by π the set of prime divisors of s , we have $\pi = \pi(G/Z(G))$, then, up to an abelian direct factor of π' -order, one of the following occurs:

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- The integer s is power of a suitable prime p , G is a p -group and $cs(G) = \{1, s\}$.

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- The integer s is power of a suitable prime p , G is a p -group and $cs(G) = \{1, s\}$.
- For a suitable prime p we have $G = NP$, where N is a nontrivial, abelian, normal p -complement of G , and P is a Sylow p -subgroup of G such that $|cs(P)| = 2$, $Z(P) = C_P(N)$, and $P/Z(P)$ is an elementary abelian p -group. Also, $|N : C_N(x)|$ has the same value for every element $x \in P \setminus Z(P)$, $C_N(P) = N \cap Z(G)$, and N contains no vanishing elements of G .

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Characterization Theorem

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- (1) $G/F(G)$ is a nilpotent group with at most one non-abelian Sylow subgroup and $|\rho(cs(G/F(G)))| \leq 1$.

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- (1) $G/F(G)$ is a nilpotent group with at most one non-abelian Sylow subgroup and $|\rho(\text{cs}(G/F(G)))| \leq 1$.*
- (2) $G/F(G)$ is an A-group and there exist two distinct primes r and s such that $G/F(G) \cong K \times H$, where K is an abelian $\{r, s\}'$ -group and $H/Z(H)$ is a Frobenius $\{r, s\}$ -group. Moreover, $|\rho(\text{cs}(G/F(G)))| = d\ell(G/F(G)) = 2$.*

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Let G be a finite group whose vanishing class sizes are all prime powers. Then $G/F(G)$ is abelian.

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For every finite group G with exactly one vanishing class size, $G \setminus F(G) \subseteq \text{Van}(G)$.

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The above theorem implies that: If G is a finite group whose vanishing class sizes are all powers of a prime p , then $G = PH$, where P is the normal Sylow p -subgroup and H is an abelian p' -subgroup of G .

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Abelian or non-abelian normal Sylow p -subgroup

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Let G be a finite group whose vanishing class sizes are all powers of a prime p . Let P be the normal Sylow p -subgroup of G . If P is abelian, then G is either abelian or a quasi-Frobenius group.

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 - (d) $P \setminus \bigcup_{g \in P} C_p(H)^g \cap \text{Van}(G) = \emptyset$. In particular, all elements of G' are non-vanishing elements of G ;
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Vanishing class sizes of G and its associated prime graph

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As a corollary of the main theorem mentioned by **Dolfi, Pacifici, Sanus, in 2010** we have:

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Given a group G , if a prime p is not a vertex of the prime graph associated to $Vcs(G)$, then G has a normal p -complement and abelian Sylow p -subgroups.

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Given a finite group G with $F(G) = 1$, the prime graph associated to $V_{cs}(G)$ is a complete graph with vertex set $\pi(G)$.

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