

УДК 519.41/47

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## A GENERALIZATION OF COMPLETELY FACTORIZABLE GROUPS

N. S. Chernikov, V. A. Kreknin, O. O. Trebenko. *A generalization of completely factorizable groups*, Matematychni Studii, **23** (2005) 129–135.

The locally graded  $p$ -groups  $G$  in which for some fixed cyclic subgroup  $A$  each subgroup  $H \supseteq A$  has a complement are investigated.

Н. С. Черников, В. А. Крекнин, О. О. Требенко. *Обобщение вполне факторизуемых групп* // Математичні Студії. – 2005. – Т.23, №2. – С.129–135.

Исследуются локально ступенчатые  $p$ -группы  $G$ , в которых для некоторой фиксированной циклической подгруппы  $A$  каждая подгруппа  $H \supseteq A$  имеет дополнение.

**1. Introduction.** Recall that a group  $G$  is said to be completely factorizable if for its every subgroup  $H$  there exists some subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $G = HK$  and  $H \cap K = 1$  [1]. Such an arbitrary  $K$  is called a complement to  $H$  in  $G$ . The complete constructive description of completely factorizable groups was obtained by N. V. Chernikova [1,2]. (For instance, by N. V. Chernikova's Theorem a  $p$ -group is completely factorizable iff it is elementary abelian). Remark that finite completely factorizable groups were first considered by Ph. Hall [3] who has given the known criterion for a finite group to belong to the class of completely factorizable groups.

It is reasonable to consider groups in which every subgroup containing a certain subgroup has a complement. It is known that in the case of arbitrary odd prime  $p$  every subgroup of a finite  $p$ -group  $G$  containing the fixed cyclic subgroup  $A$  has a complement in  $G$  iff  $A$  has an elementary abelian complement in  $G$  (V. A. Kreknin, A. V. Spivakovskii, V. F. Malik [4]).

We recall that a group is said to be locally graded if its every nonidentity finitely generated subgroup has a proper subgroup of finite index [5]. The class of locally graded groups is very wide. It is known to include the classes of all locally finite, residually finite, locally soluble, linear groups, RN-groups (and, at the same time, all Kurosh-S. N. Chernikov's classes of groups belong to the class of locally graded groups).

The main results of the present paper are the following theorems.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $G$  be a locally graded  $p$ -group such that each its subgroup containing fixed subgroup  $A = \langle a \rangle$  has a complement in  $G$ . Then:*

- (i)  $G$  is locally finite.
- (ii)  $G$  contains an elementary abelian normal subgroup  $K$  of finite index dividing  $|\langle a \rangle|!$  such that  $N \cap \langle a \rangle = 1$ .

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: 20F50, 20F18, 20E34.

**Keywords**: completely factorizable group, cyclic subgroup, complement

doi:10.30970/ms.23.2.129-135

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- (iii)  $G$  has a finite exponent.
- (iv)  $G$  is nilpotent.

The following Theorem 2 extends Theorem [4] mentioned above to the case of locally graded  $p$ -groups.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $G$  be a group,  $a \in G$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $p \neq 2$ . Then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- (i) *Every subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\langle a \rangle$  has a complement in  $G$  and  $G$  is a locally graded  $p$ -group.*
- (ii)  *$\langle a \rangle$  is a  $p$ -subgroup and has an elementary abelian  $p$ -complement in  $G$ .*
- (iii)  *$\langle a \rangle$  is a  $p$ -subgroup and there exists an elementary abelian  $p$ -subgroup  $B$  of  $G$  such that  $G = \langle a \rangle B$ .*
- (iv) *Every subgroup of  $G$  containing  $\langle a \rangle$  has a complement in  $G$  and  $G$  is a nilpotent metabelian locally finite  $p$ -group which has a normal elementary abelian subgroup of finite index.*

In connection with Theorems 1 and 2 we remark that the class of locally graded  $p$ -groups is wider than the class of locally finite  $p$ -groups as the classical E.S.Golod's examples [6] of infinite finitely generated residually finite  $p$ -groups show.

In virtue of the following theorem the condition  $p \neq 2$  in Theorem 2 is essential.

**Theorem 3.** *For an arbitrary  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a finite 2-group  $G$  with  $G^{(3)} = 1$  such that every subgroup of  $G$  containing its some fixed cyclic subgroup has a complement in  $G$  and  $G'$  is nilpotent of class  $l$ .*

In what follows,  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{P}$  denote the sets of all positive integers and primes respectively. The symbols  $\times$ ,  $\rtimes$ ,  $\oplus$  are used to denote the direct and semidirect products and direct sum respectively. Let  $G$  be a group and  $\emptyset \neq H \subseteq G$ . Then  $H_G = \bigcap_{g \in G} H^g$ . The notations  $H \leq G$  and  $H < G$  mean that  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  different from  $G$  respectively. Then  $G'$  is the derived subgroup of  $G$ ,  $G^{(0)} = G$  and  $G^{(n)} = (G^{(n-1)})'$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Phi(G)$  means the Frattini subgroup.  $J(G)$  is the intersection of all subgroups of finite index in  $G$ . (In consequence of Poincaré's Theorem  $J(G)$  coincides with the intersection of all normal subgroups of finite index of  $G$ ). The other notation is standard.

## 2. Preliminary results.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $G = AB$  and  $A, B \leq G$ ,  $B$  is completely factorizable (in particular, elementary abelian) group and  $A \leq H \leq G$ . Then  $H$  has some complement  $D \leq B$  in  $G$ .*

*Proof.* Indeed, by (S.N.Chernikov's) Lemma 1.8 [7]  $H = A(H \cap B)$ . Further,  $H \cap B$  has some complement  $D$  in  $B$ . It is easy to see that  $D$  is a complement to  $H$  in  $G$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $A \leq H \leq G$  and let  $\phi$  be a homomorphism of  $H$ . If every subgroup of  $G$  containing  $A$  has a complement in  $G$  then every subgroup of  $H^\phi$  containing  $A^\phi$  has a complement in  $H^\phi$ .*

*Proof.* Indeed in consequence of Lemma 1.8 [7] each subgroup  $L$  of  $H$  containing  $A$  has a complement in  $H$ . Further, let  $A^\phi \leq L^\phi$  for some  $K \leq H$  and let  $D$  be a complement to  $L \text{Ker } \phi$  in  $H$ . Then  $H^\phi = K^\phi D^\phi$  and, obviously,  $K^\phi \cap D^\phi = 1$ . Thus  $D^\phi$  is a complement to  $K^\phi$  in  $H^\phi$ .  $\square$

The following proposition is of independent interest.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and let the group  $G$  possess some local system of finitely generated subgroups  $H$  such that:*

- (i)  $H/J(H)$  is periodic.
- (ii) If  $K \trianglelefteq H$  and  $|H : K| < \infty$  then  $H/K$  is soluble and the derived length of  $H/K$  does not exceed  $n$ .
- (iii) If  $K \neq 1$  and  $|H : K| < \infty$  then there exists  $L < K$  such that  $|K : L| < \infty$ .

Then  $G$  is soluble locally finite and  $G^{(n)} = 1$ .

*Proof.* In view of property (ii), obviously,  $(H/J(H))^{(n)} = 1$ . Thus  $H/J(H)$  is a finitely generated periodic soluble group. Therefore by S.N. Chernikov's Theorem (see, for instance, [8], Proposition 1.1)  $H/J(H)$  is finite.

Assume that  $J(H) \neq 1$ . By property (iii) there exists some subgroup  $L \subset J(H)$  with  $|J(H) : L| < \infty$ . But then  $|H : L| < \infty$  and  $J(H) \subseteq L$ . Contradiction.

Thus  $J(H) = 1$ . Consequently  $H$  is finite soluble with  $H^{(n)} = 1$ . Then in view of the arbitrariness of  $H$ , obviously,  $G$  is locally finite and  $G^{(n)} = 1$ . The lemma is proven.  $\square$

### 3. Proofs of theorems.

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let  $G_\iota$ ,  $\iota \in I$ , be all finitely generated subgroups of  $G$  containing  $\langle a \rangle$ ,  $H = G_\iota^\phi$  be a finite homomorphic image of  $G_\iota$ ,  $A = \langle a \rangle^\phi$ ,  $N = \{g \in Z(H) | g^p = 1\}$ , and  $F = A \cap N$ .

Evidently  $AN = A \times D$  for some  $D \leq N$ . By Lemma 2,  $AN$  has some complement  $S$  in  $H$ . Since  $H$  is a finite  $p$ -group,  $S_H \trianglelefteq H$  and moreover  $N \cap S_H = 1$ , obviously,  $S_H = 1$ . Further, it is clear that  $L = D \times S$  is a complement to  $A$  in  $H$  and  $D \subseteq L_H$ . By Lemma 1.8 [7],  $L_H = D \times (S \cap L_H)$ . Since  $D$  is elementary abelian, it is easy to see that  $\Phi(L_H) \subseteq S \cap L_H$ . Further, obviously,  $\Phi(L_H) \trianglelefteq H$ . Therefore

$$\Phi(L_H) \subseteq (S \cap L_H)_H \subseteq S_H = 1.$$

Consequently,  $L_H$  is elementary abelian. Since  $|H : L| = |A|$  it follows by [6, Theorem 12.2.2] that  $|H : L_H|$  divides  $|A|!$ . So  $|H : L_H|$  divides  $|\langle a \rangle|!$ . Therefore  $H^{(m)} = 1$  for  $m = |\langle a \rangle|! + 1$ . Then in consequence of Lemma 3  $G_\iota$  is finite. Therefore (i) holds.

As it was proved  $G_\iota$  has a normal elementary abelian subgroup of index dividing  $|\langle a \rangle|!$ . Let  $M_\iota$  be a set of all such subgroups of  $G_\iota$ . Let  $M_\alpha \leq M_\iota$  iff  $G_\alpha \subseteq G_\iota$ . In the case  $M_\alpha \leq M_\iota$  we define the projection  $\pi_{\iota\alpha}$  from  $M_\iota$  into  $M_\alpha$  as follows: for an arbitrary  $K \subseteq M_\iota$   $K^{\pi_{\iota\alpha}} = K \cap G_\alpha$ . Obviously, the following holds:

- 1) for each  $M_\alpha$  and  $M_\beta$  there exists  $M_\gamma$  such that  $M_\alpha, M_\beta \leq M_\gamma$ ;
- 2) if  $M_\alpha \leq M_\beta$ ,  $M_\beta \leq M_\gamma$  then  $\pi_{\gamma\alpha} = \pi_{\gamma\beta}\pi_{\beta\alpha}$ ;
- 3)  $\pi_{\iota\iota}$  is the identity mapping of  $M_\iota$  onto itself.

Consequently in view of [9] or [10, p.351-353] there exist  $K_\iota \in M_\iota$ ,  $\iota \in I$ , such that  $K_\alpha = K_\iota \cap G_\alpha$  whenever  $G_\alpha \subseteq G_\iota$ . Obviously,  $K = \bigcup_{\iota \in I} K_\iota$  is an elementary abelian subgroup of  $G$ .

Let  $g \in G$  and  $a \in K$ . Then  $g \in G_\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in I$  and  $a \in K_\alpha \trianglelefteq G_\alpha$ . Therefore  $a^g \in K_\alpha \subseteq K$ . Thus  $K \trianglelefteq G$ . Let  $n = \max_{\iota \in I} |G_\iota : K_\iota|$  and let  $|G_\gamma : K_\gamma| = n$  for  $\gamma \in I$  and  $G_\gamma = \bigcup_{i=1}^n a_i K_\gamma$ . Then  $g \in G_\beta \supseteq G_\gamma$  for some  $\beta \in I$ . Since  $K_\gamma \subseteq K_\beta$  and  $|G_\beta : K_\beta| \leq |G_\gamma : K_\gamma|$ , obviously,  $G_\beta = \bigcup_{i=1}^n a_i K_\beta$ . Consequently  $g \in \bigcup_{i=1}^n a_i K$ . Thus  $G = \bigcup_{i=1}^n a_i K$ . Since  $K_\gamma = K_\alpha \cap G_\gamma$  whenever  $G_\gamma \subseteq G_\alpha$  and, obviously, for  $K = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} K_\alpha$   $\Lambda = \{\alpha \in I \mid G_\alpha \subseteq G_\alpha\}$ , we have  $K_\gamma = K \cap G_\gamma$ . Then, clearly, for distinct naturals  $i, j \leq n$  we have  $a_i K \neq a_j K$ . Consequently  $|G : K| = |G_\gamma : K_\gamma|$ . Therefore  $|G : K|$  divides  $|\langle a \rangle|!$ .

It is clear that (ii) implies (iii).

Finally, Baumslag's Theorem [10] asserts that a  $p$ -group is nilpotent iff it has a normal subgroup of finite index and finite exponent. In view of this theorem and (ii)  $G$  is nilpotent.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Let (i) hold. Then by Theorem 1  $G$  is locally finite. Let  $G_\iota$ ,  $\iota \in I$ , be all finite subgroups of  $G$  containing  $a$ . In virtue of Theorem [4] mentioned above there exists some elementary abelian complement to  $\langle a \rangle$  in  $G_\iota$ . Let  $M_\iota$  be a set of all such complements. Let  $M_\alpha \leq M_\iota$  whenever  $G_\alpha \subseteq G_\iota$ . Presuppose that  $M_\alpha \leq M_\iota$  and  $B \in M_\iota$ . In view of [7, Lemma 1.8],  $B \cap G_\alpha \in M_\alpha$ . Define the projection  $\pi_{\iota\alpha}$  from  $M_\iota$  into  $M_\alpha$  by setting  $B^{\pi_{\iota\alpha}} = B \cap G_\alpha$  for each  $B \in M_\iota$ . It is easy to see that conditions 1)-3) from the proof of Theorem 1 are fulfilled. Therefore, as in the case of mentioned proof, there exist corresponding  $B_\iota$ ,  $\iota \in I$ , such that  $B_\alpha \subseteq B_\iota$  if  $G_\alpha \subseteq G_\iota$ . Evidently  $\bigcup_{\iota \in I} B_\iota$  is an elementary abelian complement to  $\langle a \rangle$  in  $G$ . Thus (i) implies (ii).

Obviously, (ii) implies (iii) and in view of Lemma 1 (iii) implies (ii). That is, assertions (iii) and (ii) are equivalent.

Let (ii) hold. Then in virtue of Lemma 1 the first part of assertion (iv) is valid. Further since  $G = \langle a \rangle B$  and  $|\langle a \rangle| < \infty$  we obtain  $|G : B| < \infty$ . Therefore in consequence of Poincaré's Theorem  $G/B_G$  is finite. Since  $G/B_G = (\langle a \rangle B_G/B_G)(B/B_G)$  and  $\langle a \rangle B_G/B_G$ ,  $B/B_G$  are  $p$ -groups, it follows  $G/B_G$  is a finite  $p$ -group. Therefore, obviously,  $G$  is a soluble  $p$ -group. Then by S.N.Chernikov's Theorem [8] mentioned above  $G$  is locally finite (and at the same time locally graded, of course). Therefore in view of Theorem 1 and N.Itô's Theorem [11] the second part of (iv) is valid too. (Recall that according to the last theorem for arbitrary group  $G = AB$   $G^{(2)} = 1$  if  $A' = B' = 1$ ). Thus (ii) implies (iv).

It is clear that (iv) implies (i).

The theorem is proven.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 3.* Let  $A$  be an  $n$ -dimensional vector space over a field consisting of two elements:  $A = \langle a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \rangle = \langle a_1 \rangle \oplus \langle a_2 \rangle \oplus \dots \oplus \langle a_n \rangle$ ,  $n > 1$ , and let  $t$  be a linear operator acting in  $A$ , which is represented by the equations:  $t(a_i) = a_i + a_{i+1}$  if  $i < n$ ;  $t(a_i) = a_i$  if  $i = n$  relative to the given basis  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$ . It is easy to see that the order of  $t$  equals  $2^m$  where  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $u$  be a linear operator relative to the basis  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  of  $A$  given by the equations:  $u(a_1) = a_1$ ,  $u(a_i) = t^{1-i}(a_i)$  for  $i > 1$ .

(i) We shall now prove some relations between  $t$  and  $u$ .

$$tut = u. \quad (1)$$

For if  $i < n$  then  $tut(a_i) = tu(a_i + a_{i+1}) = t(u(a_i) + u(a_{i+1})) = t(t^{1-i}(a_i) + t^{-i}(a_{i+1})) = t^{1-i}(t(a_i) + a_{i+1}) = t^{1-i}(a_i + a_{i+1} + a_{i+1}) = t^{1-i}(a_i) = u(a_i)$ . If  $i = n$  then  $tut(a_n) = tu(a_n) = t(t^{1-n}(a_n)) = t^{1-n}(t(a_n)) = t^{1-n}(a_n) = u(a_n)$ , as required.

It is easily seen that

$$t^{-1}ut^{-1} = u, \quad (2)$$

$$t^j ut^j = u, j \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (3)$$

$$utu = t^{-1}. \quad (4)$$

For if  $1 < i \leq n$ , then  $utu(a_i) = ut(t^{1-i}(a_i)) = ut^{2-i}(a_i) = t^{i-2}(t^{2-i}ut^{2-i})(a_i) = t^{i-2}u(a_i) = t^{i-2}(t^{1-i}(a_i)) = t^{-1}(a_i)$ . If  $i = 1$  then  $utu(a_1) = ut(a_1) = t^{-1}(tut(a_1)) = t^{-1}(u(a_1)) = t^{-1}(a_1)$ .

Also

$$u^2 = 1 \quad (5)$$

For on one hand  $utut = u(tut) = uu = u^2$ . On the other hand  $utut = (utu)t = t^{-1}t = 1$ .

(ii) Let  $T = \langle t \rangle$  and let  $U = \langle u \rangle$ ,  $F = T \rtimes U$ . The group  $F$  is isomorphic to the dihedral group and is a subgroup of a full linear group of non-singular operators acting in space  $A$ .

(iii) Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , and let  $A_k$  be a span of  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$ . We show next that if  $r, i \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $r + i < n$ , then  $t^r(a_i) \in A_{r+i}$ . We proceed by induction on  $r$ . If  $r = 1$ ,  $i + 1 < n$  then  $t(a_i) = a_i + a_{i+1} \in A_{i+1}$ . Now suppose  $t^r(a_i) \in A_{r+i}$ , that is  $t^r(a_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{r+i} i_j a_j$ . Hence  $t^{r+1}(a_i) = t(t^r(a_i)) = t(\sum_{j=1}^{r+i} i_j a_j) = \sum_{j=1}^{r+i} i_j t(a_j)$ . Since  $t(a_j) \in A_{j+1}$  and  $1 \leq j \leq r + i < n$ , for any  $j$ ,  $t(a_j) = a_j + a_{j+1} \in A_{r+j+1}$ ,  $1 < j + 1 \leq r + j + 1$ . This implies  $t^{r+1}(a_i) = \sum_{j=1}^{r+i} i_j t(a_j) \in A_{r+i+1}$ , as required.

(iv) Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $k < n$ . The subspace  $A_k$  is invariant relative to linear operator  $t^{k-1}u$ . For if  $k = 1$  the result is evident since  $t^{k-1}u = u$ ,  $A_1 = \langle a_1 \rangle$ ,  $u(a_1) = a_1$ . Let  $k > 1$ ;  $i \leq k$ . Then  $t^{k-1}u(a_i) = t^{k-1}(t^{1-i}(a_i)) = t^{k-i}(a_i)$ . Because of (iii)  $t^{k-i}(a_i) \in A_{k-i+i} = A_k$ . Thus  $t^{k-1}u(a_i) \in A_k$  and therefore the images of all basis vectors  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k\}$  of  $A_k$  belong to  $A_k$  and hence  $A_k$  is invariant relative to the operator  $t^{k-1}u$ .

(v) In what follows we shall construct an example of a group with the nonabelian derived subgroup such that every subgroup containing the given cyclic subgroup has a complement in the group.

Let  $A$  be an elementary abelian group of rank  $n$ :  $A = \langle a_1 \rangle \times \langle a_2 \rangle \times \dots \times \langle a_n \rangle$  and let  $G = A \rtimes F$  where  $F$  is a dihedral group defined in (ii). The group  $G$  is generated by  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, t, u$  with the following relations:  $a_i^2 = 1$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ;  $u^2 = 1$ ,  $t^{s(m)} = 1$ ,  $s(m) = 2^m$ ,  $a_i a_j = a_j a_i$ ;  $t^{-1} a_n t = a_n$ ,  $t^{-1} a_i t = a_i a_{i+1}$ ,  $i < n$ ;  $u a_1 u = a_1$ ,  $u a_i u = t^{i-1} a_i t^{1-i}$ ,  $i > 1$ ;  $utu = t^{-1}$ . The subgroup  $A$  corresponds to the vector space  $A$  considered above while the action of the linear operators  $t$  and  $u$  on the vector space corresponds to the conjugation of elements of  $A$  by  $t$  and  $u$ . Obviously,  $|G| = |A||F| = 2^n |T||U| = 2^n 2^m 2 = 2^{m+n+1}$ .

Let  $D = A \rtimes U$ . Then it is clear that  $G = TD$  and  $T \cap D = 1$ .

(vi) We show next that every  $H \leq G$  such that  $H \supseteq T$  has a complement in  $G$ . If  $u \in H$  then since  $t \in H$ , we obtain  $F \subseteq H$ , hence by Lemma 1  $H$  has a complement in  $G$ . If  $u \notin H$ ,  $H \cap D \not\subseteq A$  then since  $|D : A| = 2$ , obviously,  $D = A(H \cap D)$ . Since  $A$  is elementary abelian, evidently, for some  $C \leq A$ ,  $D = C(H \cap D)$  and  $C \cap (H \cap D) = 1$ . Consequently, because of  $G = HD$  it is clear that  $C$  is a complement to  $H$  in  $G$ . The consideration of  $u \notin H$ ,  $H \cap D \subseteq A$  requires to establish the following previous result.

(vii) Let  $V_k \leq A$  be generated by  $\{a_{k+1}, a_{k+2}, \dots, a_n\}$ . In particular  $V_0 = A$ ,  $V_n = \{1\}$ . If  $B$  is invariant relative to  $t$  subgroup of  $A$  then  $B = V_k$  for some  $k$ .

Show first that  $[B, t] = \{[b, t] \mid b \in B\}$  is an invariant relative to the element  $t$  subgroup of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is abelian and invariant relative to  $t$  for arbitrary  $b_1, b_2 \in B \subset A$ , it follows  $[b_1, t][b_2, t] = [b_1 b_2, t] \in [B, t]$ . If  $b \in B$  then  $[b, t][b, t] = [b^2, t] = [1, t] = 1$ . Consequently  $[b, t]^{-1} \in [B, t]$ . Hence  $[B, t] \leq A$ . If  $b_3 \in [B, t]$  then  $b_3 \in B$ ,  $[b_3, t] \in [B, t]$  and  $[B, t]$  is invariant relative to  $t$ .

Suppose there exists invariant relative to the element  $t$   $B \leq A$  such that  $B \neq V_k$ . Let  $B$  be such a group of the least order. Since  $B \neq V_n, B \neq V_{n-1}$  there exists  $x \in B$ ,  $x = a_i \prod_{j>i} a_j^{\varepsilon(j)}$ ,  $\varepsilon(j) \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $i < n$ , where  $i$  is the least index of all possible indices for elements in  $B$ . As we have already proved  $[B, t]$  is invariant relative to  $t$  and since  $G$  is nilpotent,  $[B, t] < B$ . By choice of  $B$ ,  $[B, t] = V_k$  for some  $k$ . Consider  $[x, t] = [a_i \prod_{j>i} a_j^{\varepsilon(j)}] = [a_i, t] \prod_{j>i} [a_j^{\varepsilon(j)}, t] = a_{i+1} \prod_{j>i} a_{j+1}^{\varepsilon(j)} \in [B, t]$ . Therefore  $[B, t] \not\subseteq V_k$  for  $k > i$ . Hence  $[B, t] = V_r$  for  $r \leq i$ . Since the index  $i$  is the least,  $B \subset V_{i-1}$  and by the identity obtained  $[B, t] \subset V_i$ . Since  $[B, t] = V_r$  when  $r \leq i$ , we have  $[B, t] = V_i$ . Hence it follows that  $\prod_{j>i} a_j^{\varepsilon(j)} \in [B, t] \subset B$  and therefore  $a_i = x(\prod_{j>i} a_j^{\varepsilon(j)})^{-1} \in B$ . Thus  $B \supset [B, t] = V_i$  and  $a_i \in B$ . Consequently  $B \supset V_{i-1}$ . Therefore  $B = V_{i-1}$ . Thus any invariant relative to  $t$  subgroup of  $A$  coincides with some  $V_k$ .

(viii) Consider the case  $H \cap D \subseteq A$ . Let  $H \cap D = H \cap A = B$ . Since  $A \triangleleft G$  by [7, Lemma 1.8]  $H = B \rtimes T$ . By (vii)  $B = V_k$  for some  $k$ .

Consider  $L = A_k \rtimes \langle t^{k-1}u \rangle$  and show that  $L$  is complementary to  $H$  in  $G$ . Indeed this is so, for if  $y \in H \cap L$  then  $y = (t^{k-1}u)^\sigma b$ ,  $b \in A_k$ . If  $\sigma = 0$  then  $y \in H \cap A = B = V_k$ . On the other hand  $y \in L = A_k \rtimes \langle t^{k-1}u \rangle$ . Consequently  $y \in V_k \cap L = 1$ ,  $y = 1$ . If  $\sigma = 1$  then  $y = t^{k-1}ub \in H$ . Since  $t \in H$ , we have  $ub \in H \cap D \subseteq A$ . Therefore  $u \in A$ . Contradiction. This implies in any case  $H \cap L = 1$ . Furthermore  $|HL| = |H||L| = |BT||A_k \langle t^{k-1}u \rangle| = |B||T||A_k||\langle t^{k-1}u \rangle| = 2^{n-k}2^m2^k2 = 2^{n+m+1} = |G|$ . Thus  $G = HL$  and  $H \cap L = 1$ . Thus in any case the subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  does have a complement in  $G$ .

(ix) Let  $W = G'$ . Since  $[u, t] = ut^{-1}ut = (utu)^{-1}t = (t^{-1})^{-1}t = t^2$ , it follows that  $t^2 \in W$ . Furthermore  $[t, a_i] = a_{i+1}$  when  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Therefore  $V_1 \subset W$  which implies  $W = V_1 \rtimes \langle t^2 \rangle$ . Consider the lower central series of  $W$ :  $W = W_0 \supset W_1 \supset W_2 \supset \dots \supset W_s \supset W_{s+1} = 1$ . Since  $t^2 \in W$  and  $[t^2, a_i] = t^{-2}a_i t^2 a_i = t^{-1}(t^{-1}a_i t)ta_i = t^{-1}a_i a_{i+1}ta_i = a_i a_{i+1} a_{i+1} a_{i+2} a_i = a_{i+2}$ ;  $2 \leq i \leq n-2$  we have  $a_j \in W_1$ ,  $j \geq 4$ . Thus  $V_3 \subset W_1$ . Similarly  $V_5 \subset W_2$ ,  $V_7 \subset W_3$ , ...,  $V_{2k+1} \subset W_k$ . Hence for  $k < \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$   $W_k \neq 1$ . Therefore  $G'$  can be nilpotent of an arbitrary large class.  $\square$

**Remark.** In fact, in the proof of Theorem 3 for an arbitrary  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have constructed the concrete group  $G$  such that for some its subgroup  $T = \langle t \rangle$  every subgroup  $H \supseteq T$  has a complement in  $G$  and  $G'$  is nilpotent of class  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ .

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*Received 18.06.2004*