

# Finite *p* –Groups With Small Normal Abelian Subgroups. S. Umaru and O. Babarinsa

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

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Let  $p^{a(X)}$  be the maximal order of a minimal non-abelian subgroup X of a finite p-group G. We classify the p-groups G all of whose abelian subgroups of order  $\leq p^{a(X)-3}$  are normal..

*Keywords:* Minimal nonabelian groups, Normal subgroups, Dedekindian group.

### 1. Introduction

An important topic in group theory is the analysis of the structural characteristics of a group *G*'s subgroups. If every subgroup in group *G* is normal, then group *G* is said to be Dedekindian. Dedekind asserts that all abelian groups in this situation are Dedekindian. A Hamiltonian group is a non-abelian Dedekindian group. Every Hamiltonian group *G* is a direct product of the form  $G = Q \times A \times E$ , where *A* is an elementary abelian of odd order,  $Q \cong Q_8$ , the ordinary quaternion group, and *E* is an elementary abelian 2-group, as shown by Dedekind and Baer in both the finite and infinite order instances [1]. A group's normal subgroups are crucial in establishing the group's structure. Studying groups with the structure of their normal subgroups is natural. For instance, Y. Berkovich classified the finite *p*-groups in [1] all of whose noncyclic subgroups are normal. [2] identified the finite *p*-groups that have few nonnormal subgroups. In [3], the small normal closure of all cyclic subgroups for finite *p*-groups was characterized.

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The *p*-groups with extra special normal subgroups and the finite *p*-groups, all of whose noncyclic abelian subgroups are normal, were characterized by Y. Berkovich and Z. Janko [4]. The finite *p*-groups, all of whose subgroups of order > *p* are normal, were categorized by D.S. Passman in [5]. In [6], it was studied how to construct finite *p*-groups of nilpotency class 2 with few normal subgroups. Unlike [6], [7] determined the finite *p*-groups with numerous normal subgroups. Frontiers of Mathematics in China provided a characterisation of the finite *p*-groups whose nonnormal subgroups have small orders in [8]. Furthermore, X. Guo, Q. Lui, and L. Feng identified the finite *p*-groups in [9] that have numerous normal subgroups. P. Bai and X. Guo studied finite *p*-groups with few normal subgroups was presented by Y. Berkovich in [11], where he categorized the finite *p*-groups into those whose small subgroups are all normal.

A group's normal subgroups play a critical role in defining the group's structure. We categorize the finite p-groups in this article, all of whose small abelian subgroups are normal. Terms are defined and some known findings are provided in section 2. The structure of finite p-groups, all of whose small abelian subgroups are normal, is determined in section 3.

# 2. Preliminaries

Some group theoretic definitions and well-known results on finite groups and finite *p*-groups that are used in the main work are provided in this preparatory part. We study just finite groups, and our notations are common to theory of finite groups.

**Definition 2.1.[12].** Let *p* be a prime. A finite group *G* is called a *p*-group if the order of *G* is a power of *p*.

**Definition 2.2.[12].** A subgroup *H* of a group *G* is called a maximal subgroup of *G* if H < G and for any K < G, such that  $H \le K < G, H = K$ .

**Definition 2.3.[1].** Let *G* be a group. For  $a, x \in G$ ,  $a^x = x^{-1}ax$ .

**Definition 2.4.[1].** Let *G* be a group. An element  $x \in G$  is said to invert a subgroup  $H \leq G$  if  $h^x = h^{-1}$  for all  $h \in H$ .

**Definition 2.5.[12].** Let *G* be a group. If  $H \subseteq G$ , then  $\langle H \rangle = \langle x | x \in H \rangle$  is the subgroup generated by *H*.

**Definition 2.6.[12].** Let *G* be a group. For  $a, b \in G$ ,  $[a, b] = a^{-1}b^{-1}ab$  is called the commutator of the elements a, b of *G*.

**Definition 2.7.[13].** The center, Z(G), of a group *G* is the set of all elements in *G* that commute with every element of *G*. In symbols,  $Z(G) = \{x \in G | xg = gx \forall g \in G \}$ . The centre of a group *G* is a normal subgroup.

**Definition 2.8.[13].** Let *A* and *B* be a groups. Then  $A \times B$  is a group called the direct product of *A* and *B*.

**Definition 2.9.[1].** Let *G* be a group and let *A* and *B* be subgroups of *G*. Then  $G = A \cdot B$  is a semidirect product with kernel *B* and Complement *A*.

**Definition 2.10.[13].** Let G be a group and let H be subgroup of G. Then H is called a normal subgroup of G if aH = Ha for all  $a \in G$ . The fact that H is a normal subgroup of G is denoted by  $H \leq G$ .

**Definition 2.11.[11].** A group *G* is called a Dedekind group if all its subgroups are normal.

**Definition 2.12.[11].** A nonabelian Dedekind group is called a Hamiltonian group.

**Definition 2.13.[11].** A group *G* splits over  $N \leq G$  if  $G = H \cdot N$  with  $H \leq G$  and  $H \cap N = \{1\}$ . (In this case, *G* semidirect product of *H* and *N* with kernel *N*.

**Definition 2.14.[11].** A group *G* is an extension of  $N \leq G$  by a group *H* if  $G/N \cong H$ . semidirect product with kernel *B* and Complement *A*.

**Definition 2.15.[13].** Let *a* be a fixed element of a group *G*. The centralizer of *a* in *G*,  $C_G(a)$ , is the set of all elements in *G* that commute with *a*. In symbols,  $C_G(a) = \{g \in G | ga = ag \}$ .

**Definition 2.16.[1].** Let G be a group. Then  $G^m$  is the direct product of m copies of G.

**Definition 2.17.[1].** A *p*-group *G* is called an elementary abelian *p*-group if every element has order *p*. An elementary abelian group of order  $p^m$  is denoted by  $E_{p^m}$  or  $C_m^p$ .

**Definition 2.18.[1].** A special *p*-group is a non-abelian *p*-group *G* such that  $G' = \Phi(G) = Z(G)$ .

**Definition 2.19.[1].** A *p*-group *G* is called extra special if Z(G) is a cyclic group of order *p* and  $\frac{G}{Z(G)}$  is a nontrivial elementary abelian *p*-group.

**Definition 2.20.[12].** Let *G* be a group. The subgroup [G, G] of *G* generated by all commutators in *G* is called the derived subgroup of *G* or the commutator subgroup of *G*, and is denoted by G'.

**Definition 2.21.[11].** A minimal non-abelian *p*-group *G* is said to be metacyclic if it has a cyclic normal subgroup *C* such that the quotient G/C is cyclic.

**Lemma 2.1.** [1]. If G is a nilpotent minimal non-abelian group, then G is a *p*-group, |G'| = p,  $Z(G) = \Phi(G)$  is of order  $p^2$  in G and one of the following holds:

- (i) p = 2 and *G* is the ordinary quaternion group;
- (ii)  $G = \langle a, b | a^{p^m} = b^{p^n} = 1, a^b = a^{1+p^{m-1}}, m > 1 \rangle$  is metacyclic of order  $p^{m+n}$ ;

(iii) 
$$G = \langle a, b, c | a^{p^m} = b^{p^n} = c^p = 1$$
,  $[a, b] = c$ ,  $[a, c] = [b, c] = 1 \rangle$  is

non-metacyclic of order  $p^{m+n+1}$ .

Corollary 2.2. [11]. Let G be a *p*-group, then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) G is minimal non-abelian;
- (2) d(G) = 2 and |G'| = p;
- (3) d(G) = 2 and  $Z(G) = \Phi(G)$ .

**Definition 2.22.[11].** Let G be a minimal non-abelian *p*-group. If G is non-metacyclic and such that  $G/_{G'}$  is abelian of the type  $(p^m, p^n)$ , then G is called an -group. A metacyclic group G is said to be an  $M_p(m, n)$ -group if G = AB,  $A \triangleleft G$ ,  $A \cong C_{p^m}$  and  $B \cong C_{p^n}$  (here,  $C_t$  is a cyclic group of order t).

One has that  $|M_p(m, n, 1)| = p^{m+n+1}$  and  $|M_p(m, n)| = p^{m+n}$ . The groups  $M_p(m, n, 1)$  and  $M_p(m, n)$  are determined up to isomorphism by the parameters m, n. Thus, if G is a minimal non-abelian *p*-group, then d(G) = 2,  $|G:Z(G)| = p^2$ , |G'| = p and  $G \in \{M_p(m, n, 1), M_p(m, n), Q_8\}$ . [11].

Given a nonabelian *p*-group *G*, let  $p^{v(G)}$  be the maximal order of an abelian subgroup of *G*.

**Theorem 2.3.** [11]. Let *G* be a non-Dedekindian *p*-group with  $v = v(G) \ge 3$ . If all abelian subgroups of *G* of order  $p^{v(G)-2}$  are normal, then  $G \in \{M_p(2,2), Q_{2^4}\}$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** [11]. Suppose that all subgroups of index  $\ge p^3$  of a minimal nonabelian *p*-group *G* are normal. Then either  $|G| = p^3$  or  $G = M_p(2,2)$ .

Given a nonabelian *p*-group *G*, let  $p^{a(G)}$  be the maximal order of a minimal nonabelian subgroup of *G*. If H < G is nonabelian, then  $p^{a(H)} \le p^{a(G)}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** [11]. The following conditions for a nonabelian *p*-group *G* are equivalent:

(a) All abelian subgroups of G of order  $p^{a(G)-2}$  are normal.

(b)  $G = Q \times E$ , where Q is a generalized quaternion group and exp  $(E) \le 2$ .

## **3.** Finite *p* – Groups With Small Normal Abelian Subgroups

In Theorem 3.0, we characterize the finite *p*-groups with small normal abelian subgroups. Let  $p^{a(G)}$  be the maximal order of a minimal nonabelian subgroup of a nonabelian *p*-group, *G*.

**Theorem 3.0.** Let *G* be a finite non-abelian *p*-group. If all abelian subgroups of *G* of order  $p^{a(G)-3}$  are normal subgroups of *G*, then  $G = C_p \times (C_{p^2} \ltimes C_{p^2})$ 

#### **Proof:**

Since the maximal order of a minimal nonabelian subgroup of *G* is  $p^{a(G)}$ , then we have  $a(G) = 4 \Rightarrow a(G) - 3 = 1$ . Thus, all subgroups of *G* of order *p* are *G*-invariant. This means  $\Omega_1(G) \leq Z(G)$ . Now, let  $M \leq G$  be a maximal nonabelian subgroup of *G*. If *M* is of order  $p^{a(G)}$ , then  $v(M) = a(G) - 1 \leq v(G)$ . Let A < M be of index  $p^3$ . Then  $|A| = p^{v(M)-2} \leq p^{v(G)-2}$ . Therefore,  $A \lhd G$ , and hence  $A \lhd M$ . Thus,  $M \cong M_p(2,2) (= C_{p^2} \ltimes C_{p^2})$ .

Next, we assume that M < G (otherwise, there will be nothing to prove); Then  $G \ge p|M|$ . Note also that  $\exp(Z(M)) = p$ . Now, supposing a metacyclic minimal nonabelian subgroup of G,  $M_p(2, 2) \cong M = A \cdot B$ , a semidirect product of the cyclic subgroups  $A = \langle a | a^{p^2} = 1 \rangle$  and  $B = \langle b | b^{p^2} = 1 \rangle$  with kernel A. Then  $G \ge p|M| = p^5$ . In that case, M contains a nonnormal subgroup B of order  $p^2$ . Therefore, G has no abelian subgroup of order  $> p^3$ . Thus, every abelian subgroup of G is of order p,  $p^2$  or  $p^3$ . Since [G:M] = p, then G must be a product of one of its abelian subgroups of index  $p^4$  (a cyclic group,  $C_p$ , of order p) and M. Now, G cannot be a semidirect product of  $C_p$  and M because M is a normal subgroup of G (index p) and  $C_p$  is also normal in G (from the hypothesis). Thus, G must be a direct product of  $C_p$  and M. That is,  $G = C_p \times M$  $= C_p \times (C_{p^2} \ltimes C_{p^2})$ .

**Corollary 3.1.** Let *G* be a finite non-abelian *p*-group. If all abelian subgroups of *G* of order  $p^{a(G)-3}$  are normal subgroups of *G*, then  $exp(G) = p^2$ .

#### **Proof:**

Since  $G = C_p \times M = C_p \times (C_{p^2} \ltimes C_{p^2})$ , then dl(G) = 3. That is, *G* has 3 generators. Let the generators be *a*, *b*, and *c* respectively such that  $C_p = \langle a \rangle = \langle a | a^p = 1 \rangle$ ,  $C_{p^2} = \langle b \rangle = \langle b | b^{p^2} = 1 \rangle$ And  $C_{p^2} = \langle c \rangle = \langle c | c^{p^2} = 1 \rangle$ . Then Now, every element of *G* is of the form  $(a^i, b^j c^k)$  and will take either  $|a^i| = p$  or  $|b^j c^k| = p^2$ . Thus,  $exp(G) = p^2$ .

### Conclusion

Finally, we have shown that G is a direct product of one of its cyclic subgroups of index p and its  $M_p(2,2)$  subgroup if G is a p-group whose small abelian subgroups are all normal.

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