

## On $p$ -subnormal subgroups of finite $p$ -soluble groups

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**Abstract.** In this paper we present some results for  $p$ -subnormal subgroups (concept introduced by KEGEL in [6]). These statements are analogous to some well-known results for subnormal subgroups, mainly due to Wielandt, and they hold in all  $p$ -soluble groups.

Nevertheless, since the set of all  $p$ -subnormal subgroups of a group fails to be a lattice new arguments have to be used.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, we will denote with  $p$  a fixed prime number. All groups considered will be finite.

O. KEGEL, in a celebrated paper in 1962, [6], introduced the concept of  $\pi$ -subnormal subgroups, with  $\pi$  a set of prime numbers, as the subgroups whose intersections with all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of the group are Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of the subgroup, for all  $p \in \pi$ . In this paper he stated a famous conjecture that was proved almost 30 years later: a subgroup  $H$  is subnormal in a group  $G$  if and only if every Sylow subgroup of  $G$  meets  $H$  in a Sylow subgroup of  $H$ , i.e. a subgroup  $H$  is subnormal in  $G$  if and only if  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$  for all primes  $p$ . H. WIELANDT, in [9], when the classification of finite simple groups was almost achieved, included this conjecture as one of the important research areas after the classification (cf. [9]). He called it the Kegel's Problem and, since then, this question

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was called the Kegel–Wielandt conjecture. Finally in [7], P. B. KLEIDMAN published a proof of this conjecture (cf. [7]) which depends upon the classification of finite simple groups. This paper focused the attention on the systematic study of  $p$ -subnormality as an embedding property. In this line, the first contribution, after Kegel’s paper, came again from Kleidman himself together with R. GURALNIK and R. LYONS in [4] (cf. [4]).

All subnormal subgroups of a group form a lattice with the usual join and meet of subgroups. Lattice properties are crucial in the study of subnormal subgroups (cf. [8]) and most of the theorems about subnormality make a strong use of lattice properties in their proofs. However, it is easy to find examples showing that the set of all  $p$ -subnormal subgroups of a group is not a lattice. In [2], the class of groups in which all  $p$ -subnormal subgroups form a lattice is characterized as the class of  $p$ -soluble groups whose  $p$ -length and  $p'$ -length are both less or equal to 1. In this class it is not difficult to prove for  $p$ -subnormality analogous properties to those of subnormality. The aim of this paper is to present some results for  $p$ -subnormal subgroups which are analogous to some others for subnormal subgroups (mainly due to Wielandt) and whose validity holds in all  $p$ -soluble groups. This is not an empty exercise in generalization since, by the above remarks, we cannot use lattice properties. So we have to build new proofs.

*Definition.* A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is said to be a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  if  $P \cap H$  is a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup of  $H$ , for any  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ .

We collect some basic results from  $p$ -subnormality.

**Proposition 1.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ .*

- i) *If  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN/N$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G/N$ .*
- ii) *If  $HN/N$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G/N$ , then  $HN$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ . Moreover if  $N$  is a  $p$ -group, then  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ .*
- iii) *If  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  and  $K$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $H$ , then  $K$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ .*
- iv) *If  $H$  and  $K$  are  $p$ -subnormal subgroups of  $G$  and  $HK = KH$ , then  $HK$  and  $H \cap K$  are  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ .*
- v) *If  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , then  $O_p(H) \leq O_p(G)$ .*

PROOF. These are straightforward consequences of the definition.  $\square$

An important property of  $p$ -subnormal subgroups is the following (cf. Lemma 2.6 of [4], and 2.4, 2.5 of [7]).

**Lemma.** *Let  $h$  be a  $p$ -element of a group  $G$  and write*

$$\Theta_G(h) = \frac{|\text{Syl}_p(G)|}{|\{P \in \text{Syl}_p(G) : h \in P\}|}$$

*Then, if  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ , we have that  $\Theta_G(h) = \Theta_H(h)$  for any  $p$ -element  $h$  of  $H$ .*

Subnormality is the embedding property which arise when we extend the pro-property of being normal by transitivity. In our first result we obtain that in the class of  $p$ -soluble groups,  $p$ -subnormality is the transitive extension of  $p$ -quasinormality.

*Definition.* A subgroup  $H$  of a group  $G$  is said to be  $p$ -quasinormal in  $G$  if for every Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$ , the product  $HP$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .

An easy order consideration proves that  $p$ -quasinormal subgroups are  $p$ -subnormal.

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -soluble group and  $H$  a maximal  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  (i.e.  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$  and if  $K$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  with  $H \leq K \leq G$ , then either  $H = K$  or  $K = G$ ). Then one of the following holds:*

- i) *if  $p$  does not divide the index  $|G : H|$ , then  $O^{p'}(G) \leq H$ ,*
- ii) *if  $p$  divides  $|G : H|$ , then  $|G : H| = p^\alpha$ .*

In particular, in both cases,  $H$  is a  $p$ -quasinormal subgroup of  $G$  and  $H$  is indeed a maximal subgroup of  $G$ .

PROOF. Part (i) is clear. To prove (ii) we can assume without loss of generality that  $H$  contains no nontrivial normal subgroup of  $G$ . Therefore, maximality of  $H$  as  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  forces  $G = HN$  for every minimal normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ . In this case  $p$  divides the order of  $N$ . Since  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble,  $N$  is a  $p$ -group and the conclusion follows.  $\square$

In the alternating group of degree 5,  $G = \text{Alt}(5)$ , the normalizer  $H$  in  $G$  of each Sylow 5-subgroup of  $G$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  which is 2-subnormal. Nevertheless the index  $|G : H| = 6$ . Therefore the above proposition fails in non  $p$ -soluble groups.

**Corollary.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -soluble group. A subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  if and only if there exists a chain of subgroups*

$$H = H_0 \leq H_1 \leq \dots \leq H_n = G$$

*such that  $H_i$  is a  $p$ -quasinormal subgroup of  $H_{i+1}$  for every  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ .*

## 2. Theorems like Wielandt's

Our first result is a version of the famous “Wielandt’s first maximizer lemma” (see [8] Lemma 7.3.1) for  $p$ -subnormal subgroups in  $p$ -soluble groups.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -soluble group and let  $A$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . Suppose that  $A$  is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , but  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $H$  for all proper subgroups  $H$  of  $G$  containing  $A$ . Then*

- i)  $A$  is contained in a unique maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ , and
- ii) if  $g \in G$ , then  $A^g \leq M$  if and only if  $g \in M$ .

PROOF. (i) Suppose the claim is not true and let  $G$  be a minimal counterexample. We choose a subgroup  $A$  of  $G$  of minimal order such that  $A$  is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ ,  $A$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of every proper subgroup of  $G$  containing  $A$  and  $A$  is contained in at least two different maximal subgroups, say  $M$  and  $L$ , of  $G$ .

We take a normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  and consider  $C = AN$ . Assume that  $C$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $C$ . Moreover,  $C$  is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ . This implies that  $C/N$  is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G/N$ . On the other hand, it is clear that if  $K$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$  such that  $C \leq K$ , then  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $K$ . Therefore  $C/N = AN/N$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $K/N$ . By minimality of  $G$ , the subgroup  $C/N$  is contained in a unique maximal subgroup of  $G/N$ . From here we deduce that either  $N \not\leq L$  or  $N \not\leq M$ . Suppose that  $N \not\leq M$  then  $G = MN$ . From the  $p$ -subnormality of  $A$  in  $M$ , we deduce the  $p$ -subnormality of  $AN/N$  in  $G/N = MN/N$ , and then  $C$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $G = AN$  for any normal subgroup of  $G$ . In particular,  $\text{core}_G(A) = 1$ . Moreover,  $\text{core}_G(M) = \text{core}_G(L) = 1$  and then  $G$  is a primitive group. Since  $A$  is not a maximal subgroup of  $G$ , the Socle of  $G$  is non-abelian.

Suppose that  $N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . Now  $N$  is a  $p'$ -group and the index  $|M : A|$  is a  $p'$ -number. Since  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $M$ , the subgroup  $O^{p'}(A) = O^{p'}(M)$  is normal in  $M$ . Analogously we deduce that  $O^{p'}(A)$  is a normal subgroup of  $L$ . Therefore  $O^{p'}(A)$  is normal in  $\langle L, M \rangle = G$ . This implies that  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , a contradiction.

(ii) This is an immediate consequence of (i). If  $A^g \leq M$ , then  $A \leq M^{g^{-1}}$  and by (i), we deduce that  $g \in N_G(M)$ . If  $M$  were a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $A$  would be  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , a contradiction. Hence  $M = N_G(M)$  and  $g \in M$ .  $\square$

*Example.* The  $p$ -solubility restriction in the above result is necessary. Let  $G = \text{Alt}(6)$  be the alternating group of degree 6 and consider in  $G$  the following subgroups:

$$A = \langle t_1 = (123), t_2 = (12)(34), t_3 = (12)(45) \rangle,$$

and

$$B = \langle s_1 = (124)(653), s_2 = (16)(25), s_3 = (14)(53) \rangle.$$

It is clear that  $A$  is the stabilizer of the point 6 and then  $A \cong \text{Alt}(5)$ . We see also that  $t_1^3 = 1 = s_1^3, t_2^2 = s_2^2 = 2 = t_3^2 = s_3^2, (t_1 t_2)^3 = (t_2 t_3)^3 = 1 = (s_1 s_2)^3 = (s_2 s_3)^3, (t_3 t_1)^2 = (t_1 t_3)^2 = 1 = (s_3 s_1)^2 = (s_1 s_3)^2$ . This implies that the mapping  $\theta$  defined by  $t_i^\theta = s_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , can be extended to an isomorphism from  $A$  to  $B$  and then  $B \cong \text{Alt}(5)$ .

Now  $a = s_2^{s_1} = (25)(43)$  and  $b = s_3 s = (14523)$ . Then  $b^a = b^{-1}$ . This implies that the subgroup  $H = \langle b, a \rangle \cong \text{Dih}(5)$  and  $H \leq A \cap B$ . In fact  $P = \langle b \rangle$  is a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $A$  and  $B$  and  $H = N_A(P) = N_B(P)$ . At least, there are two different maximal subgroups of  $G$  containing  $H$ .

In fact if  $K$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H \leq K$ , then either  $H = K$  or  $K \cong \text{Alt}(5)$  and then  $H = N_K(P)$ . Therefore  $H$  is 2-subnormal in every proper subgroup of  $G$  containing  $H$ .

On the other hand, for any involution  $x \in H$  we have  $\Theta_H(x) = 5$ .  $G$  possesses 45 involutions all conjugate. Each Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Dih}(4)$  and contains 5 involutions. Then  $\Theta_G(x) = \frac{45}{5} = 9$ . Then  $H$  is not 2-subnormal in  $G$ .

After the above theorem it is not difficult to deduce a criterion for  $p$ -subnormality in  $p$ -soluble groups analogous to Wielandt's (see [8] Theorem 7.3.3).

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -soluble group and a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ . The following statements are pairwise equivalent:*

- i)  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ ;
- ii) for every  $g \in G$ ,  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $\langle H, g \rangle$ ;
- iii) for every  $g \in G$ ,  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $\langle H, H^g \rangle$ .

PROOF. The only non-obvious implication is (iii)  $\implies$  (i). To prove it, we assume that there exists a counterexample  $G$  of minimal order: there exists a proper subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  which is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$  despite  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $\langle H, H^g \rangle$  for all  $g \in G$ .

By minimality of  $G$ , we deduce that the subgroup  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in every proper subgroup of  $G$  containing  $H$  and no proper  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  contains  $H$ . We apply the Theorem 1a and we deduce that there exists a unique maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $H \leq M$ . Take an element  $g \in G \setminus M$  and consider the subgroup  $K = \langle H, H^g \rangle$ . Clearly  $K$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$  and then  $K$  is contained in some maximal subgroup of  $G$ . This maximal subgroup contains also  $H$ . The uniqueness of  $M$  forces  $H^g \leq M$ . But by Theorem 1b, we have  $g \in M$ . This is the final contradiction. The minimal counterexample does not exist and the claim is true.  $\square$

Notice that in the last theorem, taking all the primes that divide the order of the group  $G$ , we obtain a proof of the criterion of subnormality, due to Wielandt, for subgroups of a soluble group.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $G$  be a  $p$ -soluble group and  $H, K \leq G$  such that  $G = HK$ . Let  $A$  be a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $H$  and of  $K$ . Then  $A$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ .*

PROOF. Let  $G$  be a counterexample of minimal order to the theorem. Consider a triple of subgroups  $H, K, A$  such that  $G = HK$ ,  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in both  $H$  and  $K$  but  $A$  is not  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$  and  $|H| + |K|$  is of maximal order with these requirements.

If  $M$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H$  is a proper subgroup of  $M$ , then  $M = H(K \cap M)$ , by Dedekind's law. Since  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal subgroup in  $H$  and in  $K \cap M$ , the subgroup  $A$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $M$  by minimality of  $G$ . Now  $G = MK$  and  $|M| + |K| > |H| + |K|$ . Maximality of  $|H| + |K|$  forces  $A$  to be  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $H$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$ .

Suppose that  $N$  is a proper normal subgroup of  $G$ . The triple  $HN/N, KN/N, AN/N$  satisfy the hypotheses of the theorem in the group  $G/N$ . By minimality of  $G$  the subgroup  $AN/N$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G/N$ . Then  $AN$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$ .

Suppose now that  $N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  and  $N \leq H$ . Since  $AN \leq H$ , we have that  $A$  is a  $p$ -subnormal in  $AN$  and then in  $G$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\text{core}_G(H) = 1$ .

Analogously it can be deduced that  $K$  is a core-free maximal subgroup of  $G$ .

So,  $G$  is a soluble primitive group and both  $H$  and  $K$  complement the unique minimal normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ . Hence  $H$  and  $K$  are conjugate in  $G$ . But in this case  $G \neq HK$  by Ore's Theorem (cf. [3] Th. A.16.2). This is the final contradiction.  $\square$

In the above example, notice that  $G = AB$  and  $H = A \cap B$ . Therefore  $H$  is 2-subnormal in  $A$  and  $B$  but  $H$  is not 2-subnormal in  $AB = G$ , i.e. the solubility hypothesis is necessary in the Theorem 3.

### 3. On $p$ -subnormalizers

The classical Wielandt's criteria of subnormality allow the introduction of the subnormalizer of a subgroup in a group (cf. [8], 7.7). Here, the criteria of  $p$ -subnormality in Theorem 2 allow us to introduce a similar concept.

*Definition.* Given a group  $G$  and  $H \leq G$  we consider the subset

$$S_G^p(H) = \{g \in G : H \text{ is } p\text{-subnormal in } \langle H, g \rangle\}.$$

This subset will be called the  $p$ -subnormalizer of  $H$  in  $G$ .

*Remarks.* Let  $G$  be a group and  $H \leq G$ .

- 1) If  $G$  is  $p$ -soluble, it is clear, by Theorem 2, that a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $G$  if and only if  $S_G^p(H) = G$ .
- 2) If  $H \leq K \leq G$ , then  $S_K^p(H) = S_G^p(H) \cap K$ .
- 3)  $S_G^p(H) = \bigcup \{K \leq G : H \text{ is } p\text{-subnormal in } K\}$ . In particular, if  $S_G^p(H)$  is a subgroup, then  $S_G^p(H)$  is the largest subgroup of  $G$  in which  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal.
- 4) If  $T$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $H$ , then  $S_G^p(H) \subseteq S_G^p(T)$ .
- 5) If  $H$  is a  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ , then  $S_G^p(H) = S_G(H)$ , the subnormalizer of  $H$  in  $G$ .
- 6) If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $S_G^p(H)N/N \subseteq S_{G/N}^p(HN/N)$ . If moreover  $N \leq H$ , then  $S_G^p(H)/N = S_{G/N}^p(H/N)$ .
- 7)  $S_G^p(H) \subseteq S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$ . Moreover, if  $S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$  is a  $p$ -soluble subgroup, then  $S_G^p(H) = S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$ .

PROOF. If  $S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$  is a  $p$ -soluble subgroup of  $G$ , then  $O^{p'}(H)$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$  and  $H \leq S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$ . Hence  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $S_G^p(O^{p'}(H))$ .  $\square$

8) If  $G$  is a  $p$ -soluble group, then  $S_G^p(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$  if and only if for every pair of subgroups  $A, B$  of  $G$  such that  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in both of them, we have that  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle A, B \rangle$ .

PROOF. If  $S_G^p(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , it is easy to see, by Remark 3, that the claim is true. To prove the sufficiency, we suppose that  $x_1, x_2 \in S_G^p(H)$ . Then, for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle H, x_i \rangle = A_i$ . Hence  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle A_1, A_2 \rangle$ . Since  $x_1x_2 \in \langle A_1, A_2 \rangle$  we conclude that  $x_1x_2 \in S_G^p(H)$ ; i.e.  $S_G^p(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ .  $\square$

9) If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$  and  $p$  does not divide to  $|G : H|$ , then  $S_G^p(H) = N_G(O^{p'}(H))$ .

PROOF. Obviously  $S_G^p(H) \subseteq N_G(O^{p'}(H))$ . Now, we suppose that  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle H, g \rangle = K$ . Since  $p$  does not divide to  $|G : H|$  we can deduce that  $O^{p'}(H) = O^{p'}(K)$ . Then  $K$  is a subgroup of  $N_G(O^{p'}(H))$  and therefore  $N_G(O^{p'}(H)) \subseteq S_G^p(H)$ .  $\square$

Now we turn our attention to the study of the class of  $p$ -soluble groups in which the  $p$ -subnormalizers of all their subgroups are subgroups too. We denote this class of groups by  $\mathfrak{X}$ . CASOLO obtained important results about the class of finite groups, which he call sn-groups, in which the subnormalizers of all subgroups are subgroups too (cf. [1]). This results will be helpful in study of the class  $\mathfrak{X}$ .

CASOLO (see [1] Lemma 1.2) shows that if  $H$  is a subnormal subgroup of  $G$  and  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ , then  $G = H\langle S_G(Q) \rangle$ . In the case of  $p$ -subnormal subgroups of a  $p$ -soluble group we obtain the following result.

**Proposition 5.** *If  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of a  $p$ -soluble group  $G$  and  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ , then  $G = H\langle S_G^p(Q) \rangle$ .*

PROOF. First we suppose that  $H$  is a maximal  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  and we apply Proposition 2. If  $p$  does not divide the index  $|G : H|$ , then  $\text{Syl}_p(H) = \text{Syl}_p(G)$ . An easy Frattini argument proves that  $G = HN_G(Q)$ . If  $p^\alpha = |G : H|$ , then  $G = HP$  for any Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $G$ . Moreover,  $Q = P \cap H \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$  and  $Q$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $P$ , i.e.  $P \subseteq \langle S_G^p(Q) \rangle$ . Hence the result follows clearly in both cases.



In the general case, let  $K$  be a maximal  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H \leq K$ . We can assume that  $H < K < G$  and by induction  $K = H\langle S_K^p(Q) \rangle$  with  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ . Now, we take a Sylow  $p$ -subgroup  $P$  of  $K$  such that  $Q \leq P$ . Since  $Q$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $P$ , we have  $S_G^p(P) \subseteq \langle S_G^p(Q) \rangle$ . Hence,  $G = K\langle S_G^p(P) \rangle = H\langle S_K^p(Q) \rangle\langle S_G^p(Q) \rangle = H\langle S_G^p(Q) \rangle$ .  $\square$

Proposition 5 suggests that if  $G$  is a  $p$ -soluble group in  $\mathfrak{X}$  and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $S_G^p(H) = HS_G^p(Q)$ , where  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ . Nevertheless this is not true in general. Some others conditions are needed as we see next.

**Proposition 6.** *If  $G$  is a  $p$ -soluble group and  $H \leq G$  is a subgroup of  $G$  then:*

- i)  $S_G^p(H) \subseteq H\langle S_G(Q) \rangle$ , for any  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ ;
- ii) if  $G$  is a sn-group and  $HS_G(Q)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , for some  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ , then  $S_G^p(H) = HS_G(Q)$

PROOF. (i) Let  $K$  be a subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $K$ . By Proposition 5, for any  $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ , we have  $K = H\langle S_K(Q) \rangle$ . Notice that  $\langle S_K(Q) \rangle \leq \langle S_G(Q) \rangle \cap K$ . This implies that  $K = H\langle S_K(Q) \rangle \leq H(\langle S_G(Q) \rangle \cap K) = H\langle S_G(Q) \rangle \cap K$ . Hence  $K \leq H\langle S_G(Q) \rangle$ . Finally, we obtain  $S_G^p(H) \subseteq H\langle S_G(Q) \rangle$ , by Remark 3.

(ii) We denote by  $K$  the subgroup  $HS_G(Q)$ . We prove that  $K \subseteq S_G^p(H)$ . By an easy order consideration we have,  $|K|_p = |S_G(Q)|_p$ , i.e.  $\text{Syl}_p(S_G(Q)) \subseteq \text{Syl}_p(K)$ . Choose  $P \in \text{Syl}_p(K)$ . It is clear that  $P^k \in S_G(Q)$ , for some  $k \in K$ . Moreover if  $k = hx$ , with  $h \in H$  and  $x \in S_G(Q)$ , we deduce that  $P^h \leq S_G(Q)$ . Since  $G$  is a sn-group, by [1] Proposition 1.4, we have that  $S_G(Q) = N_G(R)$ , where  $R$  is the intersection of all Sylow  $p$ -subgroups of  $G$  containing  $Q$ . In particular,  $Q \leq R \leq O_p(S_G(Q)) \leq P^h$  and then  $Q^{h^{-1}} = P \cap H$ . Then  $P \cap H \in \text{Syl}_p(H)$ , i.e.  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $K$  and  $K \subseteq S_G^p(H)$ . Therefore, we conclude that  $K = S_G^p(H)$ .  $\square$

In the next example we consider a soluble group  $G$  in  $\mathfrak{X}$ ,  $p = 3$ , and we see that there exists a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ , such that  $S_G^3(H) \neq \langle HS_G(Q) \rangle$ .

*Example.* Let  $C$  be the cyclic group of order 6. Denote  $C = \langle a, b \rangle$  with  $a^3 = 1$  and  $b^2 = 1$ . The group  $C$  acts on a two dimensional  $GF(7)$ -vector space  $V$  in such a way that there exists a basis  $\{w_1, w_2\}$  of  $G$  in which the action of  $a$  has matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  and the action of  $b$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Consider the semidirect product  $G = [V]C$ .

Since  $|G| = 7^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2$ , each proper subgroup of  $G$  is either a  $3'$ -group (and therefore is 3-subnormal in  $G$ , i.e.  $S_G^3(H) = G$ ) or its index is prime to 3. Hence, by Remark 9, we deduce that the 3-subnormalizer of each subgroup is a subgroup of  $G$ .

Consider in  $G$  the subgroup  $H = [\langle w_1 \rangle] \langle a \rangle$ . The subgroup  $H$  is isomorphic to the Frobenius group of order 21. For  $Q = \langle a \rangle$ , a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $H$ , we have  $S_G(Q) = N_G(Q) = C$ . Notice that the subset  $HC = HS_G(Q)$  is not a subgroup of  $G$ . On the other hand, if  $K < G$  and  $H$  is 3-subnormal in  $K$  then, using the above argument,  $|G : K| = 7$ . Therefore  $K \leq N_G(H) \leq N_G(\langle w_1 \rangle) = V \langle a \rangle$ , a contradiction. Hence  $S_G^3(H) = H$ .

Consequently  $S_G^3(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ ,  $G$  is a soluble group in  $\mathfrak{X}$  and  $HS_G(Q)$  is not a subgroup of  $G$ ; moreover  $H = S_G^3(H) \neq \langle HS_G(Q) \rangle = G$

The class  $\mathfrak{X}$ , as the class of the sn-groups, verifies the following properties:

**Proposition 7.** *The class  $\mathfrak{X}$  verifies the following properties:*

- i) *if  $G \in \mathfrak{X}$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/N \in \mathfrak{X}$ ; in other words,  $\mathfrak{X}$  is an homomorph;*
- ii) *if  $G \in \mathfrak{X}$  and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $H \in \mathfrak{X}$ ; this is to say that  $\mathfrak{X}$  is a  $S$ -closed homomorph;*
- iii) *if  $N$  is a normal  $p$ -subgroup of a group  $G$  such that  $G/N \in \mathfrak{X}$ , then  $G \in \mathfrak{X}$ ; in the notation of [3], this is  $\mathfrak{S}_p \mathfrak{X} = \mathfrak{X}$ .*

PROOF. (i) Let  $G$  be a group in  $\mathfrak{X}$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . For any subgroup  $H/N$  of  $G/N$  we have, by Remark 6, that  $S_{G/N}^p(H/N) = S_G^p(H)/N$ . Therefore  $S_{G/N}^p(H/N)$  is a subgroup of  $G/N$ . Hence  $G/N \in \mathfrak{X}$ .

(ii) Let  $G$  be a group in  $\mathfrak{X}$  and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ . If  $A$  is a subgroup of  $H$ , then  $S_H^p(A) = S_G^p(A) \cap H$ . In particular  $S_H^p(A)$  is a subgroup of  $H$ . Hence  $H \in \mathfrak{X}$ .

(iii) Let  $G$  be a group and  $N$  a normal  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/N \in \mathfrak{X}$ . If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $HN$ . Suppose that  $H$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of two subgroups  $A$  and  $B$  of  $G$ . Since the  $p$ -subnormalizers in  $G/N$  are subgroups, we have that  $HN/N$  is a  $p$ -subnormal subgroup of  $\langle A, B \rangle N/N$ . Then  $HN$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle A, B \rangle N$ . Hence  $H$  is  $p$ -subnormal in  $\langle A, B \rangle$ ; this implies that  $S_G^p(H)$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Therefore  $G \in \mathfrak{X}$ .  $\square$

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