

## On A Group with a Faithful Ordinary Representation

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**Abstract:** This communication provides an Improvement on an established result which has been proven earlier by Brauer in [1]. Brauer proved that, for a solvable (soluble) group  $G$  with a faithful ordinary representation of degree  $m < P-1$  for a Prime  $p$ ,  $G$  has a normal, abelian sylow  $p$ -subgroup say  $Q$ .

In this paper, the assumption that  $G$  is solvable is dropped and the existence of such an abelian, normal sylow- $p$  subgroup is established with the provision that the degree of such a faithful ordinary representation is reduced from  $m < (p-1)$  to  $m < \frac{1}{2}(p-1)$ . The prove of our claim is obtained by a series of lemmas using the method of contradiction.

**Key Words:** A solvable group, sylow- $P$ -group, faithful representation, irreducible representation, group character.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Brauer had early in 1943 [1] proved that for a solvable group  $G$ , which has a faithful ordinary representation of degree say “ $m$ ” less than  $P-1$ ,  $G$  has a normal abelian sylow  $p$ -subgroup. We observe that if  $G$  is a faithful  $KG$ -module  $V$  of dimension  $m \leq P-1$ , then its sylow- $P$ -subgroups are always abelian. Indeed, if  $Q$  is a sylow  $p$ -subgroup then the restriction irreducible constituents of  $V_Q$  divides  $|Q|$ . since  $m < P$ , this means that the irreducible constituents of  $V_Q$  all have dimension 1. Moreover, since  $V$  is faithful, this shows that  $Q$  is abelian. Obviously  $Q$  is also normal.

#### LEMMA 1.1

Let  $H$  be a normal subgroup of the group  $G$ . let  $\chi$  be an irreducible ordinary character of  $G$  such that  $H \subseteq \text{Ker } \chi$  and suppose that some  $x \in G$  satisfy  $C_H(x) = 1$  then  $\chi(x) = 0$

**Proof:** We enumerate the irreducible ordinary characters of  $G$  so that  $\chi_1, \chi_2, \dots, \chi_r$  has  $H$  in their kernels and  $\chi_{r+1}, \dots, \chi_s$  does not contain  $H$  in their kernels. The condition that  $C_H(x) = 1$  shows that  $|C_G(x)| = |C_{G/H}^{(Hx)}|$ . Indeed each  $H_x$  centralizing  $Hx$  in  $G/H$  contains exactly one element of  $C_G(x)$ . The characters  $\chi_1, \dots, \chi_r$  correspond to a complete set  $G$  of irreducible characters for  $G/H$ . So the usual orthogonality relations give

$$\sum_{i=1}^r |\chi_i(x)|^2 = |C_{G/H}(Hx)| = |C_G(x)| = \sum_{i=1}^s |\chi_i(x)|^2$$

Hence  $\chi_{r+1}(x) = \dots = \chi_s(x) = 0$ .

#### MAIN RESULT

Our main result which does not assume that  $G$  is solvable is given in the theorem 1.2 below.

#### THEOREM 1.2:

Let  $G$  be a group with a faithful ordinary representation of degree  $m < \frac{1}{2}(P-1)$ , then  $G$  has a normal abelian sylow  $P$ - subgroup say  $Q$ .

**Proof:** To prove the theorem, we shall suppose that the theorem is false and then obtain a contradiction. To achieve this, we now assume that  $G$  is a minimal counter example. Thus  $G$  has a faithful ordinary character  $\chi$  of degree  $m < \frac{1}{2}(P-1)$  and clearly  $G$  is not abelian so  $m > 1$

Let  $Q$  be a sylow  $P$ -subgroup of  $G$ , it implies that  $Q$  is abelian. We now proceed on the proof in a series of lemmas;

#### LEMMA 1.3

For each normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  with  $H \neq G$ ,  $H \cap Q \leq Z(G)$

**Proof:** Since  $G$  is a minimal counter example,  $Q_P(H)$  is the sylow  $P$ -subgroup of  $H$ .

Put  $L = C_G(O_P(H)) \Delta G$ . Since  $Q$  is abelian,  $Q \leq L$ . if  $L = G$ , then  $Q = O_P(L)$  by minimalism of  $G$  and so  $Q \Delta G$  since  $L \Delta G$ . this is contrary to the hypothesis, so  $L = G$ , hence  $H \cap Q \leq O_P(H) \leq Z(G)$  and this implies that  $H \cap Q \leq Z(G)$ .  $\diamond$

#### LEMMA 1.4

Let  $G^1$  be the derived group of  $G$ , then  $G = G^1$

**Proof:** Since  $Q \leq Z(G)$ , it follows from Lemma 1.3 that  $QG^1 = G$ . Suppose that  $G^1 \neq G$ , then  $G^1 \cap Q = 1$ . Since  $Q$  is not normal in  $G$ , we can choose a prime  $q$  so that  $q$  divides  $|G:N_G(Q)|$

Let  $T$  be a sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G$  for each  $x \in G$ ,  $x^{-1}Tx$  is also a sylow  $q$ -subgroup of  $G^1$  so  $x^{-1}Tx = y^{-1}Ty$  for some  $y \in G^1$ .

This shows that  $x \in N_G(T) \leq N_G(T)G^1$ , this holds for all  $x \in G$

So  $G = N_G(T)G^1$ . Hence  $N_G(T)$  contains a sylow  $P$ -subgroup  $T_1$ , say of  $G$ . consider now the subgroup  $TT_1$ , then  $T \Delta TT_1$ , so  $TT_1$  is solvable on the other hand, since  $T_1$  is conjugate to  $Q$ , the choice of  $Q$  shows that  $T \leq N_G(T_1)$ . So  $T_1$  is not normal in  $TT_1$ , which contradicts Brauer's theorem.

Thus  $G = G^1$  as claimed.

**LEMMA 1.5**

$\chi$  is irreducible.

Proof: Suppose  $\chi$  is not irreducible, then we can write  $\chi = \chi_1 + \chi_2$  as a sum of characters. By this choice  $\chi, \chi_1, \chi_2$  are not faithful and so by the choice of  $G$ ,  $O_Q(G/\text{Ker}\chi_i)$  is the sylow  $P$ -subgroup of  $G/\text{ker}\chi_i$  ( $i=1,2,3,\dots$ )

Then  $O_Q(G/\text{Ker}\chi_1 \times G/\text{Ker}\chi_2)$  is the sylow  $P$ -subgroup of  $(G/\text{Ker}\chi_1 \times G/\text{Ker}\chi_2)$  since  $\text{Ker}\chi_1 \cap \text{Ker}\chi_2 = \text{Ker}\chi = 1$ . There is an injection homeomorphism of  $G$  into this latter group given by  $\chi \rightarrow (\chi/\text{Ker}\chi_1, \chi/\text{Ker}\chi_2)$ . But that implies that  $O_Q(G)$  is the sylow  $P$ -subgroup of  $G$  contrary to the hypothesis i.e  $G$  is minimal. Thus  $\chi$  is irreducible.  $\diamond$

**LEMMA 1.6**

$Z(G)$  is the unique maximal normal subgroup of  $G$ . It is a  $P$ -group and  $G/Z(G)$  is simple and non-cyclic.

**Proof:** Let  $H$  be a maximal normal subgroup of  $G$ , then the subgroup  $QH \neq G$ ; for otherwise  $G/H \cong Q/Q \cap H$  is abelian and so  $H = G$  by lemma 1.4. But by Lemma 1.3,  $Q \cap H \leq Z(G) = Z(G) \cap G^1$ ; so we have that  $Q \cap H = 1$ , since  $QH$  is a proper subgroup of  $G$ .

The minimalism of  $G$  shows that  $Q \triangleleft QH$ . But  $H \triangleleft QH$ , so  $QH = QXH$ . This shows that  $Q \leq C_G(H) \triangleleft G$ . Since  $Q \not\leq Z(G)$ , Lemma 1.3 now shows that  $C_G(H) = G$ , so  $H \leq Z(G)$ . Since  $G$  is non-abelian and  $H$  is maximal subgroup,  $H = Z(G)$ . Since  $H \cap Q = 1$ , we have that  $Z(G)$  is a  $P$ -group. Since  $H$  is a maximal normal subgroup,  $G/Z(G)$  is simple. Finally  $G/Z(G)$  is non-cyclic since otherwise  $G$  would be abelian  $\diamond$

**LEMMA 1.7**

Let  $N = N_G(Q)$  and  $N_0 := \{x \in N / C_Q(x) \neq 1\}$  then

$$(a) \quad x^{-1}Qx \cap Q = 1 \text{ for all } x \in G/N$$

$$(b) \quad x^{-1}N_0x \cap N_0 = \begin{cases} N_0 & \text{if } x \in N \\ Z(G) & \text{if } x \in G/N \end{cases}$$

**REMARK:** Before we continue, we introduce the following notations. Let  $|G| = P^e$ ,  $|Z(G)| = P^e$  and  $|N| = P^e h$ .

Let  $\chi_i = \chi_{i1}, \dots, \chi_{i2}, \dots, \chi_{is}$  be the irreducible ordinary characters of  $G$  and write

$(\chi_i)_N = \alpha_i + \beta_i$ , ( $i=1,2,3,\dots$ ) where  $\alpha_i$  is the sum of the remaining irreducible constituents of  $(\chi_i)_N$ , none of which contain  $Q$  in their kernels and  $\beta_i$  is the sum of the remaining irreducible constituents. Since the representation affording  $\chi_i$  is scalar on  $Z(G)$ , then  $|\beta_i(x)| = \beta_i(1)$  for all  $x \in QZ(G)$ .

**LEMMA 1.8**

For each  $i > 1$  we have that,  $\beta_i(1)^2 P^e < \chi_i(1)^2$ .

Proof: It follows from (b) of lemma 1.7 that  $N_0/Z(G)$  has  $|G:N|$  distinct conjugates that are mutually disjoint. Therefore for  $i > 1$ ,

$$\langle \chi_i, \chi_i \rangle = \frac{1}{g} \sum_{x \in G} |\chi_i(x)|^2 \geq \frac{|G:N|}{g} \left| \sum_{x \in N_0/Z(G)} |\chi_i(x)|^2 + \frac{1}{g} \chi_i(1)^2 \right|$$

For each irreducible character  $\chi_i$ ,  $|\chi_i(x)| = \chi_i(1)$

whenever  $x \in Z(G)$

$$\text{therefore } 1 > \frac{1}{|N|} \left\{ \sum_{x \in N_0} |\chi_i(x)|^2 - |Z(G)| \chi_i(1)^2 \right\}$$

$$\frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{x \in N_0} \left\{ |\alpha_i(x)|^2 + |\alpha_i(x)\beta_i(x) + \alpha_i(x)\beta_i(x) + |\beta_i(x)|^2 \right\} - \frac{1}{hp1/2^e} \chi_i(1)^2$$

$$\geq \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle + 2 \langle \alpha_i, \beta_i \rangle + \frac{1}{h} \beta_i(1)^2 - \frac{1}{hp1/2^e} \chi_i(1)^2$$

Since  $\alpha_i = 0$  on  $N/N_0$  by lemma 1.1 and  $|\beta_i(x)| = \beta_i(1)$

On  $QZ(G)$  by the definition of  $\beta_i$ . However, the definition of  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_i$  shows that

$\langle \alpha_i, \beta_i \rangle = 0$ . Moreover since  $\chi_i \neq \chi_1 = I_G$ , lemma 1.6 shows that  $Q \leq \text{ker}\chi_i$ . So  $\alpha_i \neq 0$ .

Therefore we conclude that;

$$\chi_i(1)^2 = P^e \{ \beta_i(1)^2 + h \langle \alpha_i, \alpha_i \rangle - h \}$$

$$\geq P^e \{ \beta_i(1)^2 \}$$

**LEMMA 1.9**  $(I_Q)^G = \sum_{i=1}^e \beta_i(1)^2 \chi_i$ 

**Proof:** By Frobenius reciprocity,

$$\langle I_Q^G, \chi_i \rangle = \langle I_Q, (\chi_i)_Q \rangle = \langle I_Q, (\alpha_i)_Q + (\beta_i)_Q \rangle$$

By the definition of  $\alpha_i$  and  $\beta_i$ ,

we have that;  $\langle I_Q, (\alpha_i)_Q \rangle = 0$  and  $\langle I_Q, (\beta_i)_Q \rangle = \beta_i(1)$  and so the result follows.

**PROOF OF MAIN RESULT (THEOREM 1.2)**

We first show that  $m \leq 1 + \sum_{i=2}^s \langle \chi_i, \chi\chi \rangle (\beta_i)(1)$ . Now by lemma 1.9 we have that;

$$\sum_{i=2}^s \langle \chi_i, \chi\chi \rangle (\beta_i)(1) = \langle (I_Q)^G, \chi\chi \rangle$$

$$= \langle I_Q, (\chi\chi)_Q \rangle$$

$$= \langle \chi_Q, \chi_Q \rangle = \chi(1) = m$$

Since  $\chi_Q$  is a sum of  $\chi(1)$  characters of degree 1. Since  $\langle \chi_i, \chi\chi \rangle (\beta_i)(1) = \langle \chi, \chi \rangle = 1$ . The assertion follows. Therefore from lemma 1.8, it follows that;

$$m \leq 1 + \frac{1}{p^{1/2^s}} \sum_{i=2}^s \langle \chi_i, \chi\chi \rangle (\chi_i)(1)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{p^{1/2^s}} \{ \langle I^G, \chi\chi \rangle - 1 \}$$

$$\text{Because } I^G = \sum_{i=2}^s \chi_i(1) \chi_i$$

$$\text{Since } \langle I^G, \chi\chi \rangle = \chi(1)^2 = m^2. \text{ This shows that } p^{1/2^s} \leq \frac{m^2-1}{m-1} = m+1.$$

But  $m+1 < \frac{1}{2}(p+1)$  by hypothesis and so  $m=1$ .

However by Lemma 1.4 this means that the hypothesis of Brauer's theorem is satisfied, and that shows our counter example is impossible. This completes the proof of our main results (Theorem 1.2).

**II. CONCLUSION**

We have been able to establish through a series of Lemmas that if the condition on Brauer's theorem that the group G be soluble is dropped, then the condition that G be of degree say  $m < (p-1)$  for a prime P, would now be that G is of degree  $m < \frac{1}{2}(p-1)$  and the result would still hold i.e there would exist a normal abelian Sylow P-subgroup say Q for G provided G has an ordinary faithful representation.

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