

FINITE GROUPS CONSISTING OF JUST TWO SIZE INDEPENDENT GENERATING SETS

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Abstract:

In according to this work, A generating set S for a group G is independent if and only if ,for every $s \in S$, the subgroup created by $S \setminus \{s\}$ is correctly contained in G . We characterize the structure of finite groups G such that the cardinalities of independent generating sets for G appear as exactly two integers.

Keywords:

Simple groups, generating sets, Engel elements, Soluble groups.

1- Introduction

The lowest number of generators of a finite group G is denoted by $d(G)$. A generating set S for a group G is independent (also known called irredundant) if

$$\langle S \setminus \{s\} \rangle < G \text{ for all } s \in S.$$

Let $m(G)$ represent the largest independent generating set size for G . By Apisa and Klopsch, the finite groups with $m(G) = d(G)$ are categorized.

1.1 Theorem:(Apisa – Klopsch , [Theorem 1.6]). G is soluble if $d(G) = m(G)$. Additionally, either

- For a prime p , $G/\text{Frat}(G)$ is an elementary abelian p -group; or
- $G/\text{Frat}(G) = PQ$, where Q is a nontrivial cyclic q -group for distinct primes p and q , and P is an elementary abelian p -group. Q acts faithfully on P via conjugation, and P (as a module for Q) is the direct sum of $m(G)-1$ isomorphic copies of a single simple Q -module.

Given this outcome, Apisa and Klopsch propose a straight forward "classification problem": identify all finite groups G that satisfy $m(G)-d(G) \leq c$, given a nonnegative integer c . Glasby has lately drawn attention to the specific instance $c = 1$ (see[7,Problem 2.3]).

For every positive integer k with $d(G) \leq k \leq m(G)$, G contains an independent generating set of cardinality k , according to a nice result in universal algebra known as the Tarski irredundant basis theorem (see, for example, [3,Theorem 4.4]). Therefore, the condition $m(G) - d(G) = 1$ is equivalent to the fact that there are only two possible cardinalities for an independent generating set of G .

Consider a finite group, G . Remember that the subgroup created by G 's minimal normal subgroups is called the socle of G , or $\text{soc}(G)$. Additionally, G is considered monolithic primitive if it has a single minimal normal subgroup, and the identity of G 's Frattini subgroup $\text{Frat}(G)$ is G . We establish the two primary outcomes listed below in this work.

1.2 Theorem: Assume that G is a finite group with $m(G) = d(G) + 1$ and $\text{Frat}(G) = 1$. G is a monolithic primitive group and $G/\text{soc}(G)$ is cyclic of prime power order if G is not soluble, as shown by $d(G) = 2$. Whiston and Sax[15] demonstrated that for any prime p that is not congruent to ± 1 modulo 8 or 10, $m(\text{PSL}(2,p))=3$. Specifically, we infer that there are an unlimited number of nonabelian simple groups G with $m(G) = d(G)+1$ since $d(S) = 2$ for every non abelian simple group. In Section 4, we additionally provide examples of non simple groups G such that $m(G) = d(G)+1$.

1.3 Theorem: Assume that G is a finite group with $m(G) = d(G) + 1$ and $\text{Frat}(G) = 1$. In the event that G is soluble, one of the following happens:

- (i) $G \cong V \rtimes P$, where V is an irreducible P -module that is not a p -group and P is a finite non cyclic p -group; in this instance, $d(G) = d(P)$;
- (ii) $G \cong V \rtimes H$, where V is an irreducible faithful H -module, $m(H) = 2$, and either $t = 1$ or H is abelian; in this instance, $d(G) = t+1$;
- (iii) Let $N_2/N_1 \leq \text{Frat}(G/N_2)$ and $G/N_2 \cong v^t \rtimes H$ be two normal subgroups of G such that $1 \leq N_1 \leq N_2$, N_1 is an abelian minimum normal subgroup of G ; in this case, $d(G) = t+1$. Let V be an irreducible H -module and H be a nontrivial cyclic group of prime power order. Examples of finite soluble groups G with $m(G) = d(G) + 1$ for each of the three scenarios emerging from theorem 1.3 are provided in Section 4.

2 – Preliminary results

Let A be the unique minimal normal subgroup of monolithic primitive group L . Suppose that L^k is the k -fold direct product of L for any positive integer k . The subgroup L_k of L^k , defined by, is the crown-based power of L of size k .

$$L_1 := \{(l_1, \dots, l_k) \in L^k \mid l_1 \equiv \dots \equiv l_k \pmod{A}\}.$$

[4] establishes that for each finite group G , there is a homomorphic image L_k of G and a monolithic group L such that

- (1) $d(L/\text{soc}L) < d(G)$; and
- (2) $d(L_k) = d(G)$.

This kind of group L_k is known as a generating crown-based power for G .

The explicit computation of $d(L_k)$ in terms of k and the structure of L is discussed in [4]. Evaluating the maximal k for each monolithic group L such that L_k is a homomorphic image of G is a crucial step in determining $d(G)$ from the behavior of the crown-based power homomorphic images of (G) . The primary factors of G have an equivalency relation that gives birth to this number, k . Here we provide some information.

If groups G and A act on each other via automorphisms, then A is a G -group. Furthermore, if G does not stabilize any nontrivial proper subgroups of A , then A is irreducible. If there is a group isomorphism $\phi: A \rightarrow B$ such that $\phi(g(a)) = g(\phi(a))$ for all $a \in A$ and $g \in G$, then two G -groups, A and B , are G -isomorphic. In accordance with [8], we declare that two irreducible G -groups, A and B , designated as $A \sim_G B$, are G -equivalent if an isomorphism $\Phi: A \rtimes G \rightarrow B \rtimes G$ exists, which confines to a G -isomorphism $\phi: A \rightarrow B$ and generates the identity $G \cong AG/A \rightarrow BG/B \cong G$. Put another way, this implies that the diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \rightarrow & A & \rightarrow & A \rtimes G & \rightarrow & G \rightarrow 1 \\ & & \downarrow \phi & & \downarrow \Phi & & \parallel \rightarrow 1 \\ 1 & \rightarrow & B & \rightarrow & B \rtimes G & \rightarrow & G \rightarrow 1 \end{array}$$

Observe that two G -isomorphic G -groups are G -equivalent, and the converse holds if A and B are abelian.

Let $A = X/Y$ is a Frattini chief factor if X/Y is contained in the Frattini subgroup of G/Y ; this is equivalent to saying that A is abelian and there is no complement to A in G . The number $\delta_G(A)$ of non-Frattini chief factors that are G -equivalent to A , in any chief series of G , does not depend on the particular choice of such a series.

Now, we denote by $L_G(A)$ the monolithic primitive group associated to A , that is,

$$L_G(A) := \begin{cases} A \rtimes (G/C_G(A)) & \text{if } A \text{ is abelian,} \\ G/C_G(A) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

If A is a non-Frattini chief factor of G , then $L_G(A)$ is a homomorphic image of G . More precisely, there exists a normal subgroup N such that $G/N \cong L_G(A)$ and $\text{soc}(G/N) \sim_G A$. We identify $\text{soc}(L_G(A))$ with A , as G -groups.

Consider now all the normal subgroups N of G with the property that $G/N \cong L_G(A)$ and $\text{soc}(G/N) \sim_G A$. The intersection $R_G(A)$ of all these subgroups has the property that $G/R_G(A)$ is isomorphic to the crown-based power $(L_G(A))_{\delta_G(A)}$. The socle $I_G(A)/R_G(A)$ of $G/R_G(A)$ is called the A -crown of G and it is a direct product of $\delta_G(A)$ minimal normal subgroups G -equivalent to A .

Note that if L is monolithic primitive and L_K is a homomorphic image of G for some $k \geq 1$, then $L \cong L_G(A)$ for some non-Frattini chief factor A of G and $k \leq \delta_G(A)$ for some non-Frattini chief factor A of G and $k \leq \delta_G(A)$. Furthermore, if $(L_G(A))_k$ is a generating crown-based power, then so is $(L_G(A))_{\delta_G(A)}$; in this case, we say that A is a generating chief factor for G .

For an irreducible G -module M , set

$$\begin{aligned} r_G(M) &:= \dim_{\text{End}_G(M)} M, \\ S_G(M) &:= \dim_{\text{End}_G(M)} H^1(G, M), \\ t_G(M) &:= \dim_{\text{End}_G(M)} H^1(G/C_G(M), M). \end{aligned}$$

It can be seen that

$$S_G(M) = t_G(M) + \delta_G(M)$$

(see for example [10, 1.2]). Now, define

$$h_G(M) := \begin{cases} \delta_G(M) & \text{if } M \text{ is a trivial } G\text{-module,} \\ \left\lfloor \frac{S_G(M) - 1}{r_G(M)} \right\rfloor + 2 = \left\lfloor \frac{\delta_G(M) + t_G(M) - 1}{r_G(M)} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By [2, Theorem A], $t_G(M) < r_G(M)$ for any irreducible G -module M , and therefore

$$h_G(M) \leq \delta_G(M) + 1 \quad (2.1)$$

The importance of $h_G(M)$ is clarified by the following proposition.

Proposition 2.1 [6, Proposition 2.1]. If there exists an abelian generating chief factor A of G , then $dd(G) = h_G(A)$.

When G admits a non-abelian generating chief factor A , a relation between $\delta_G(A)$ and $d(G)$ is provided by the following result.

Proposition 2.2. If $d(G) \geq 3$ and there exists a nonabelian generating chief factor A of G , then

$$\delta_G(A) > \frac{|A|^{d(G)-1}}{2|C_{\text{Aut } A}(L_G(A)/A)|} \geq \frac{|A|^{d(G)-2}}{2 \log_2 |A|}.$$

Proof: Let A be a non-abelian generating main factor of G and assume that $d(G) \geq 3$. Let $\emptyset_X(m)$ represent the number of ordered m -tuples (x_1, \dots, x_n) of elements of X that generate X for a finite group X . Describe

$$\begin{aligned} L &:= L_G(A), \\ \gamma &:= |C_{\text{Aut } A}(L/A)|, \\ \delta &:= \delta_G(A), \\ d &:= d(G). \end{aligned}$$

In [4], it is proved that if $m \geq d(L)$, then

$$d(L_k) \leq m \text{ if and only if } k \leq \frac{\emptyset_{L/A}(m)}{\emptyset_L(m)\gamma}. \quad (2.2)$$

By the main result in [13], $d(L) = \max(2, d(L/A))$. Since A is a generating chief factor, from the definition, we have $d(L/A) < d(L_{\delta_G(A)}) = d(G)$. As $2 < d(G)$, it follows $d(L) < d(G)$. Now, by applying (2.2) with $k = \delta_G(A)$ and $m = d(G) - 1$, we deduce that

$$\delta_G(A) > \frac{\emptyset_{L/A}(d(G)-1)}{\emptyset_L(d(G)-1)\gamma} \quad (2.3)$$

By [6, Corollary 1.2]

$$\frac{\emptyset_{L/A}(d(G)-1)}{\emptyset_L(d(G)-1)} \geq \frac{|A|^{d(G)-1}}{2}. \quad (2.4)$$

Moreover, $A \cong S^n$, where n is a positive integer and S is a nonabelian simple group.

In the proof of Lemma 1 in [5], it is shown that

$$\gamma \leq n|S|^{n-1}|\text{Aut}(S)|.$$

Now, [9] shows that $|\text{Out}(S)| \leq \log_2(|S|)$ and hence

$$\gamma \leq n|S|^n \log_2(|S|) \leq |S|^n \log_2(|S|^n) = |A| \log_2(|A|). \quad (2.5)$$

From (2.3), (2.4) and (2.5), we obtain

$$\delta_G(A) > \frac{\emptyset_{L/A}(d(G)-1)}{\emptyset_L(d(G)-1)\gamma} \geq \frac{|A|^{d(G)-1}}{2|A| \log_2 |A|} = \frac{|A|^{d(G)-2}}{2 \log_2 |A|}.$$

Recall that $m(G)$ is the largest cardinality of an independent generating set of G .

Theorem 2.3 [14, Theorem 1.3]. Consider a finite group, G . Then, for every primary series of G , $m(G) = a+b$, where a and b denote the number of non-Frattini and nonabelian components, respectively. Moreover, $m(G) = a$ if G is soluble.

3- Proof of the main results

Given a finite group G , let $d := d(G)$ and let $m := m(G)$. Suppose that $m = d+1$. Let A be a generating chief factor of G and let $\delta := \delta_G(A)$, $L := L_G(A)$.

3.1 A is nonabelian: First, suppose that $\delta \geq 2$. By Theorem 2.3, $m \geq 2\delta$ and therefore $d \geq 2\delta - 1 \geq 3$. By Proposition 2.2,

$$\delta > \frac{|A|^{d-2}}{2 \log_2 |A|} \geq \frac{|A|^{2\delta-3}}{2 \log_2 |A|} \geq \frac{60^{2\delta-3}}{2 \log_2 60},$$

But this is never true.

Suppose now that $\delta = 1$. In this case, by the main theorem in [13], $d = d(L) = \max(2, d(L/A)) = 2$ and therefore $m = 3$. Since L is an epimorphic image of G , we must have $m(L) \leq 3$. However, $m(L) \geq 3$ by Corollary 2.4. Hence, $m(L) = m = 3$ and therefore it follows from [11, Lemma 1.1] that $G/\text{Frat}(G) \cong L$. Finally, by Theorem 2.3, $m(L) = 3$ implies $m(L/A) \leq 1$, and this is possible only if L/A is a cyclic p -group. This concludes the proof of Theorem 1.2.

3.2 A is abelian: It follows from Proposition 2.1 and (2.1) that

$$\delta - 1 \leq m - 1 = d = h_G(A) \leq \delta + 1.$$

If $d = \delta - 1$, then $m = \delta$ and this is possible if $G/\text{Frat}(G) \cong A^\delta$. However, in this case, A would be a trivial G -module and therefore $d = h_G(A) = \delta = m$, which is a contradiction.

Now suppose that $d = \delta$. By Theorem 2.3, G is soluble and contains only one non-Frattini chief factor which is not G -isomorphic to A . If A is noncentral in G , then $G/\text{Frat}(G) \cong L_\delta$ and L/A is a cyclic p -group. However, this implies $r_G(A) = 1$, $t_G(A) = 0$ and $d = h_G(A) = \delta + 1$, which is a contradiction. If A is central, then $G/\text{Frat}(G) \cong V \rtimes P$, where P is a finite p -group, V is an irreducible P -module and $d(P) = d$. In particular, we obtain item (1) in Theorem 1.3.

Finally assume $d = \delta + 1$. Notice that in this case, $L = A \rtimes H$, where A is a faithful, nontrivial, irreducible H -module, and

$$m(H) \leq m - \delta = \delta + 2 - \delta = 2.$$

In particular, by Corollary 2.4, H is soluble.

If $m(H) = 2$, then $G/\text{Frat}(G) \cong L_\delta$. In particular, we obtain item (2) in Theorem 1.3. If $m(H) = 1$, then there exist two normal subgroups N_1 and N_2 of G such that $1 \leq N_1 \leq N_2$, $G/N_2 \cong L_\delta$, $N_2/N_1 \leq \text{Frat}(G/N_1)$ and $N_1/\text{Frat}(G)$ is an abelian minimal normal subgroup of $G/\text{Frat}(G)$. As $m(H) = 1$, H is cyclic of prime power order. In particular, we obtain item (3) in Theorem 1.3.

4- Examples for Theorems 1.2 and 1.3

4.1 Monolithic groups: Examples for Theorem: 1.2. Let G be a monolithic primitive, $S \cong S_i$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$, and a nonabelian socle $N = S_1 \times \dots \times S_n$. A study on the number $\mu(G) = m(G) - m(G/N)$ may be found in [12]. Using conjugation, the group G operates on the set $\{S_1, \dots, S_n\}$ of N 's simple components. A group homomorphism $G \rightarrow \text{Sym}(n)$ is thus produced. Additionally, the subgroup $X \leq \text{Aut } S$ that results from $N_G(S_1)$'s conjugation action on the factor S_1 is a nearly simple group with socle S .

By [12, Proposition 4], $\mu(G) \geq \mu(X) = m(X) - m(X/S)$. Assume $m(G) = 3$. Observe that by Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, G/N is cyclic of prime power order. If $X = S$, then

$$\begin{aligned} 3 = m(G) &= m(G/N) + \mu(G) \geq m(G/N) + \mu(X) = m(G/N) + m(S) \\ &\geq m(G/N) + 3. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that $G/N = 1$ and $G = S$ is a simple group. If $X \neq S$, then $G \neq N$ and

$$3 = m(G) \geq m(G/N) + \mu(G) \geq 1 + \mu(X).$$

Furthermore, X/S is a prime power order nontrivial cyclic group, so

$$m(X) = m(X/S) + \mu(X) \leq 1 + \mu(X) \leq 1 + 2 = 3$$

By Corollary 2.4, $m(X) = 3$.

The groups

$$P\sum L_2(9), M_{10}, \text{Aut}(PSL_2(7))$$

Currently, to the best of the authors' knowledge, these are the only instances of nearly simple groups X with $X \neq \text{soc}(X)$ and $m(X) = 3$. We think there are more situations like this, but the efficiency of our existing computer codes prevents us from conducting a thorough analysis.

Let $S := \text{PSL}_2(7)$ and $H := \text{Aut}(\text{PSL}_2(7))$, or let $S := \text{PSL}_2(9)$ and $H \in \{P \Sigma L_2(9)M_{10}\}$. Consider the wreath product $W := H \wr \text{Sym}(n)$. Any element $w \in W$ can be written as $w = \pi(a_1, \dots, a_n)$, with $\pi \in \text{Sym}(n)$ and $a_i \in H$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$. In particular, $N = \text{soc}(W) = S_1 \times \dots \times S_n = \{(s_1, \dots, s_n) | s_i \in S\}$.

4.2 –Soluble groups: Examples for Theorem 1.3: We provide three simple examples, but one can create more complex instances using the same concepts. Let C_n be the cyclic group of order n and S_n the symmetric group of degree n .

The group $G := S_3 \times C_2^t = C_3 : C_2^{t+1}$ with $t \geq 1$ satisfies $d(G) = t+1$ and $m(G) = t+2$. This provides instances of groups that meet Theorem 1.3 item (1). $M(G) = d(G)+1$ is also satisfied by the groups $G := (C_3^t \times C_2) \times C_2$ with C_2 acting on C_3^t via inversion and $G := S_4 = K : S_3$, where K is the Klein subgroup of S_4 . Groups satisfying item (2) in Theorem 1.3 are produced by these two cases, whereby H is abelian in the second case and $m(H) = 2$ in the first.

Let K be the Klein subgroup of S_4 as mentioned before and let $G := K : (S_3 \times C_2^{t-1})$. This gives examples of groups satisfying item (3) in Theorem 1.3.

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