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# ON HEREDITARY RADICALS OF TORSION-FREE LOCALLY NILPOTENT GROUPS

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**Artemovych O.D. On hereditary radicals of torsion-free locally nilpotent groups.** We studied the hereditary radicals of torsion-free locally nilpotent groups. It was proved that any hyperabelian torsion-free locally nilpotent (respectively torsion-free Baer) group  $G$  has only the trivial hereditary proper radical (in the sense of Kurosh). Any Baer (in particular, a Fitting) torsion-free group  $G$  has only the trivial hereditary proper radical (in the sense of Plotkin). Moreover, the Baer radical  $BG$  (respectively the Fitting radical  $\mathcal{F}G$ ) of  $G$  is isolated in a torsion-free locally nilpotent group  $G$ .

**0.** Let  $\mathfrak{X}$  be an abstractive group theoretical property. A group  $G$  (respectively subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ) is said to be an  $\mathfrak{X}$ -group (respectively  $\mathfrak{X}$ -subgroup) if it has the property  $\mathfrak{X}$ .

Throughout this paper  $\mathfrak{N}$  be a class of groups closed under homomorphic images and normal subgroups. A mapping  $\mathfrak{X} : \mathfrak{N} \rightarrow \mathfrak{N}$  is called a radical (in the sense of Kurosh) if it assigns to each group  $G$  of  $\mathfrak{N}$  the subgroup  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  which contains all normal  $\mathfrak{X}$ -subgroups of  $G$  and satisfies the following properties:

(R1)  $\mathfrak{X}(\mathfrak{X}(G)) = \mathfrak{X}(G)$  for each group  $G \in \mathfrak{N}$ ;

(R2) if  $\phi : G \rightarrow F$  is an epimorphism of groups  $G, F$  of  $\mathfrak{N}$  then  $\phi(\mathfrak{X}(G)) \leq \mathfrak{X}(F)$ ;

(R3)  $\mathfrak{X}(G/\mathfrak{X}(G)) = E$  is the identity group for each  $G \in \mathfrak{N}$ .

The subgroup  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  of  $G$  is a radical of  $G$  (in the sense of Kurosh) if it satisfies the properties (R1) – (R3). Moreover, say that the radical  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  of  $G$  is hereditary if

(R4)  $H \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$  implies  $\mathfrak{X}(H) = H$  for each normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ,  $G \in \mathfrak{N}$ .

Recall that a subgroup  $H$  of torsion-free group  $G$  which coincides with their isolator

$$I_G(H) = \{x \in G \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N} : x^n \in H\}$$

in  $G$  is said to be isolated in  $G$ .

Recall the following theorem, which we'll use later (see A.G. Kurosh [1], Yu.M. Ryabuhin [2], S.E. Dickson [3]; and Proposition 2.17 [4]).

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**Proposition 0.1.** *A radical  $\mathfrak{X}$  is hereditary (in the sense of Kurosh) in the class of all Abelian groups  $\mathfrak{A}$  if and only if it is one of the following types:*

- (1)  $R$ , i.e.  $R(G) = G$  for each  $G \in \mathfrak{A}$ ;
- (2)  $R_\pi$ , i.e. for each  $G \in \mathfrak{A}$   $R_\pi(G)$  is the maximal  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$  where  $\pi$  is some set of primes;
- (3)  $R_0$ , i.e.  $R_0(G) = E$  for each  $G \in \mathfrak{A}$ .

Most of our notation is standard; in particular we refer to [4–7]. Throughout this paper we shall use the following notation:  $\mathcal{B}(G)$  denotes the Baer radical of  $G$ ,  $\mathcal{F}(G)$  the Fitting radical of  $G$ .

1. In this section we shall study the hereditary radicals (in the sense of Kurosh) of torsion-free locally nilpotent groups.

The following theorem is an extension of Proposition 0.1 to the class of all hypercentral groups  $\mathfrak{H}$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *A radical  $\mathfrak{X}$  is hereditary (in the sense of Kurosh) in the class of all hypercentral groups  $\mathfrak{H}$  if and only if it is of one of the following types:*

- (1)  $R_0$ , i.e.  $R_0(G) = E$  for each  $G \in \mathfrak{H}$ ;
- (2)  $R_\pi$ , i.e.  $R_\pi(G)$  is the maximal  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$  for each  $G \in \mathfrak{H}$  where  $\pi$  is some set of primes;
- (3)  $R$ , i.e.  $R(G) = G$  for each  $G \in \mathfrak{H}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  is any nontrivial hereditary radical of hypercentral group  $G$ ,  $Z = Z(G)$  is the centre of  $G$ . Then  $Z \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) \neq E$  [5, Proposition 1.6] and therefore  $Z \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) = \mathfrak{X}(Z)$ . Without restricting generality, we can assume that  $\mathfrak{X}(Z) \neq Z$ . Then in view of Proposition 0.1  $\mathfrak{X}(Z)$  is the maximal  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $Z$  for some set  $\pi$  of primes. It is easy to see that  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  is a periodic group. If further  $\mathfrak{X}(G) = \mathfrak{X}_1 \times \mathfrak{X}_2$  is a decomposition in a direct product of Sylow  $\pi$ -subgroup  $\mathfrak{X}_1$  and  $\pi'$ -subgroup  $\mathfrak{X}_2$  then from  $\mathfrak{X}_2 \cap Z = E$  in view of Proposition 1.6 [5] we obtain that  $\mathfrak{X}_2 = E$ . Finally, since  $\mathfrak{X}(Z)$  is the maximal  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $Z$ , we conclude that  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  is the maximal  $\pi$ -subgroup of  $G$ ; this completes the proof.

A sketch of proof allows us to obtain, for any radical (in the sense of Kurosh) in the class of all Abelian groups  $\mathfrak{A}$ , its extension in the class of hypercentral groups. For example, an extension of Theorem 12 [1] is the following

**Proposition 1.2.** *In the class of all hypercentral  $p$ -groups there exists only one nontrivial proper radical  $\mathfrak{D}$ , i.e. for each hypercentral  $p$ -group  $G$  the subgroup  $\mathfrak{D}(G)$  is the divisible part of  $G$ .*

Now we consider hereditary radicals in torsion-free groups. From Theorem 1.1 it follows

**Corollary 1.3.** *For any radical (in the sense of Kurosh)  $\mathfrak{X}$  all infinite cyclic groups are either  $\mathfrak{X}$ -radical or  $\mathfrak{X}$ -semiprime.*

**Lemma 1.4.** *Let  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  be a nontrivial hereditary radical (in the sense of Kurosh) of torsion-free group  $G$ . Then for all subnormal cyclic subgroups  $A$  of  $G$  either  $A \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$  or  $A \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) = E$ .*

*Proof.* In consequence of subnormality of  $A$  in  $G$  we have  $\mathfrak{X}(A) = A \cap \mathfrak{X}(G)$  whence by Corollary 1.3 either  $A \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$  or  $A \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) = E$ , as desired.

**Corollary 1.5.** *Let  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  be a nontrivial hereditary radical (in the sense of Kurosh) of torsion-free group  $G$ . Then either  $\mathcal{B}(G) \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$  or  $\mathcal{B}(G) \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) = E$ .*

In fact, if  $b$  is an arbitrary element of  $\mathcal{B}(G) \cap \mathfrak{X}(G)$  then

$$\mathfrak{X}(\langle b \rangle) = \langle b \rangle \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) = \langle b \rangle.$$

Therefore, for any element  $a$  of  $\mathcal{B}(G) \setminus \mathfrak{X}(G)$  we have

$$\mathfrak{X}(\langle a \rangle) = \langle a \rangle \cap \mathfrak{X}(G) \neq \langle a \rangle,$$

a contradiction with Corollary 1.3.

**Proposition 1.6.** *Any hyperabelian torsion-free locally nilpotent (respectively torsion-free Baer) group  $G$  has only the trivial hereditary proper radical (in the sense of Kurosh).*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a hyperabelian torsion-free locally nilpotent group with normal series

$$E = A_0 \leq A_1 \leq \dots A_\alpha \leq A_{\alpha+1} \leq \dots \leq A_\gamma = G \quad (1)$$

such that  $A_\beta = \bigcap_{\delta < \beta} A_\delta$  if  $\beta$  is a limit ordinal, the quotient  $A_{\alpha+1}/A_\alpha$  is an Abelian torsion-free group for all  $\alpha < \gamma$  and any term of the series (1) is a normal subgroups of  $G$ . Let  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  be an arbitrary nontrivial hereditary radical (in the sense of Kurosh) of  $G$  and  $A$  an arbitrary nontrivial subnormal cyclic subgroup of  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$ . Then for every nontrivial element  $b$  of  $A_1$  in view of isomorphism  $A \cong \langle b \rangle$  and  $\langle b \rangle \triangleleft G$  we have  $\langle b \rangle \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$  and consequently  $A_1 \leq \mathfrak{X}(G)$ . By induction it can be readily verified that  $\mathfrak{X}(G) = G$ .

**Corollary 1.7.** *Let  $G$  be a torsion-free locally nilpotent group,  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  a hereditary radical (in the sense of Kurosh) of  $G$ . If*

$$I_{\mathfrak{X}(G)}(\mathfrak{X}(G)') \neq \mathfrak{X}(G)$$

*then the subgroup  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  is isolated in  $G$ .*

**Corollary 1.8.** *Let  $G$  be a torsion-free group,  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  a hereditary radical (in the sense of Kurosh) of  $G$ . If the Baer radical  $\mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{X}(G))$  of  $G$  is nontrivial then  $\mathfrak{X}(G)$  is isolated in  $G$ .*

2. In accord with [8] a mapping  $\theta : \mathfrak{N} \longrightarrow \mathfrak{N}$  is called a functorial if it assigns to each group  $G$  of  $\mathfrak{N}$  some subgroup  $\theta(G)$  of  $G$  and

$$\theta(\phi(G)) = \phi(\theta(G))$$

for every isomorphism  $\phi : G \longrightarrow \phi(G)$ . A functorial  $\theta$  is hereditary radical in the class  $\mathfrak{N}$  (in the sense of Plotkin) if it satisfies the following condition:

- (P1)  $\theta(\theta(G)) = \theta(G)$  for all  $G \in \mathfrak{N}$ ;
- (P2)  $\theta(H) = H \cap \theta(G)$  for every normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ ,  $G \in \mathfrak{N}$ ;
- (P3)  $\pi(\theta(G)) \leq \theta(D)$  for all epimorphisms  $\pi : G \longrightarrow D$  with  $G, D \in \mathfrak{N}$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $\theta(G)$  be a hereditary radical (in the sense of Plotkin) of torsion-free group  $G$ . Then either  $\mathcal{B}(G) \leq \theta(G)$  or  $\mathcal{B}(G) \cap \theta(G) = E$ .*

**Corollary 2.2.** *Any Baer (in particular a Fitting) torsion-free group  $G$  has only the trivial hereditary proper radical (in the sense of Plotkin).*

**Corollary 2.3.** *Any torsion-free hypercentral group of length at most  $\omega$  has only the trivial proper hereditary radicals (in the sense of Plotkin).*

**Proposition 2.4.** *The Baer radical  $\mathcal{B}(G)$  (respectively the Fitting radical  $\mathcal{F}(G)$ ) of  $G$  is isolated in a torsion-free locally nilpotent group  $G$ .*

*Proof.* If  $a^n \in \mathcal{B}(G)$  for some nontrivial element  $a$  of  $G \setminus \mathcal{B}(G)$  and some integer  $n$  then  $G$  has a normal series

$$\langle a^n \rangle \leq I_1 \leq \dots I_n = G$$

and consequently  $G$  has a normal series

$$I_G(\langle a^n \rangle) \leq I_G(I_1) \leq \dots \leq G.$$

Since the isolator  $I_G(\langle a^n \rangle)$  is Abelian [6, p.413], we conclude that the subgroup  $\langle a \rangle$  is subnormal in  $G$ , and consequently  $a \in \mathcal{B}(G)$ .

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