



Some New Local Properties Defining Soluble PST-Groups

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Abstract

Let G be a group and p a prime number. G is said to be a Y_p -group if whenever K is a p -subgroup of G every subgroup of K is an S -permutable subgroup in $N_G(K)$. The group G is a soluble PST-group if and only if G is a Y_p -group for all primes p . It is our purpose here to define a number of local properties related to Y_p which lead to several new characterizations of soluble PST-groups.

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1 Introduction and Statement of Results

All groups considered in this article are finite.

A subgroup H of a group G is said to permute with a subgroup K of G if HK is a subgroup of G . H is said to be permutable (resp. S -permutable) if it permutes with all the subgroups (resp. Sylow subgroups) of G . Examples of permutable subgroups include the normal subgroups of G . However, if G is a modular, non-Dedekind p -group, p a prime, we see permutability is quite different from normality. For instance, letting C_n denote the cyclic group of order n , we see that C_2 is permutable but not normal in the group $C_8 \rtimes C_2$ where

the generator for C_2 maps a generator of C_8 to its fifth power. Kegel [12] proved that an S -permutable subgroup is always subnormal. In particular, a permutable subgroup of a group is subnormal. A group G is called a PST-group (resp. PT-group) if S -permutability (resp. permutability) is a transitive relation. By Kegel's result, a group G is a PST-group (resp. PT-group) if every subnormal subgroup of G is S -permutable (resp. permutable) in G .

A number of research papers have been written on these groups. See for example [1],[2],[3],[4],[5],[6],[7],[8],[9],[10],[16].

Another class of groups is the so called T -groups. A group G is a T -group if normality in G is transitive, that is, if $H \trianglelefteq K \trianglelefteq G$ then $H \trianglelefteq G$. There are several nice characterizations of T -groups in [15].

Soluble PST, PT and T -groups were characterized by Agrawal [1], Zacher [18] and Gaschütz [11], respectively.

Theorem 1.1

1. *A soluble group G is a PST-group if and only if the nilpotent residual L of G is an abelian Hall subgroup of G on which G acts by conjugation as power automorphisms.*
2. *A soluble PST-group G is a PT-group (respectively T -group) if and only if G/L is a modular (respectively Dedekind) group.*

Note that if G is a soluble T , PT or PST-group then every subgroup and every quotient of G inherits the same properties.

We mention that in [6, Chapter 2] many of the beautiful results on these classes of groups are presented.

Subgroup embedding properties closely related to permutability and S -permutability are semipermutability and S -semipermutability. A subgroup X of a group G is said to be *semipermutable* (respectively, *S -semipermutable*) in G provided that it permutes with every subgroup (respectively, Sylow subgroup) K of G such that $\gcd(|X|, |K|) = 1$. A semipermutable subgroup of a group need not be subnormal. For example a 2-Sylow subgroup of the non-abelian group of order 6 is semipermutable but not subnormal.

Note that a subnormal semipermutable (respectively, S -semipermutable) subgroup X of a group G must be normalised by every subgroup (respectively, Sylow subgroup) P of G such that $\gcd(|X|, |P|) = 1$.

This observation was the basis for Beidleman and Ragland [10] to introduce the following subgroup embedding properties.

A subgroup X of a group G is said to be *seminormal* (respectively, *S-seminormal*)¹ in G if it is normalised by every subgroup (respectively, Sylow subgroup) K of G such that $\gcd(|X|, |K|) = 1$.

By [10, Theorem 1.2], a subgroup of a group is seminormal if and only if it is *S-seminormal*. Furthermore, seminormal subgroups are not necessarily subnormal: it is enough to consider a non-subnormal subgroup H of a group G such that $\pi(H) = \pi(G)$. To see some of the properties of these subgroups see Examples 1, 2 and 3 in Section 3.

However, a p -subgroup of a group G , p a prime, which is also seminormal is subnormal [10, Theorem 1.3].

Semipermutable, *S*-semipermutable and seminormal subgroups have been investigated in [10],[17],[19],[20].

The following result is an interesting characterisation of soluble PST-groups.

Theorem 1.2 ([10, 1.5]) *Let G be a soluble group. Then the following statements are pairwise equivalent:*

1. G is a PST-group.
2. All the subnormal subgroups of G are seminormal in G .
3. All the subnormal subgroups of G are semipermutable in G .
4. All the subnormal subgroups of G are *S*-semipermutable in G .

The following beautiful result is due to H. Wielandt.

Theorem 1.3 ([13, 7.3.3]) *Let H be a subgroup of a group G . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

1. H is subnormal in G .
2. H is subnormal in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$ for all $g \in G$.
3. H is subnormal in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for all $g \in G$.

¹ Note that the term *seminormal* has several different meanings in the literature

Wielandt's result seems to have inspired the authors of [5] to introduce the concept of weakly S -permutable subgroups of a subgroup H of a group G . This concept led to several new characterizations of soluble PST-groups which are presented in the following theorem from [5].

Theorem 1.4 *Let G be a group. The following statements are pairwise equivalent:*

1. G is a soluble PST-group.
2. Every subgroup of G is weakly S -permutable in G .
3. For every prime number p , every p -subgroup of G is weakly S -permutable in G .

Theorems 1.3 and 1.4 motivate the following definition.

Definition 1.5 *Let H be a subgroup of a group G .*

1. H is said to be weakly S -permutable in G if whenever $g \in G$ and H is S -permutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$, then H is S -permutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$.
2. H is said to be weakly semipermutable in G if whenever $g \in G$ and H is semipermutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$, then H is semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$.
3. H is said to be weakly S -semipermutable in G if whenever $g \in G$ and H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$, then H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$.
4. H is said to be weakly seminormal in G if whenever $g \in G$ and H is seminormal in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$, then H is seminormal in $\langle H, g \rangle$.

The next theorem relates the concept of S -permutable subgroups of a group G with weakly S -permutable subgroups of G .

Theorem 1.6 ([5]) *A subgroup H of a group G is S -permutable in G if and only if H is S -permutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for every $g \in G$.*

Theorem 1.6 and its proof are used to establish the following result.

Theorem A *Let H be a subnormal subgroup of a group. Then:*

1. H is S -semipermutable in G if and only if H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for every $g \in G$.

2. H is seminormal in G if and only if H is seminormal in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for every $g \in G$.

A class of groups G is a PST-group if and only if Sylow permutability is a transitive relation in G .

Definition 1.7 *Let G be a group and p a prime. Then*

1. G is a \hat{Y}_p -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is S -permutable in $N_G(K)$.
2. G is a \hat{Y}_p -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is semipermutable in $N_G(K)$.
3. G is a \tilde{Y}_p -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$.
4. G is a $\tilde{\tilde{Y}}_p$ -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is seminormal in $N_G(K)$.
5. G is a \underline{Y}_p -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is weakly S -permutable in $N_G(K)$.
6. G is a $\tilde{\underline{Y}}_p$ -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is weakly S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$.
7. G is a $\tilde{\tilde{\underline{Y}}}_p$ -group if for every p -subgroup K of G every subgroup of K is weakly seminormal in $N_G(K)$.

The following result is a very nice local characterization of soluble PST-groups.

Theorem 1.8 ([6, 2.2.9] and [4, Theorem 4]) *A group G is a soluble PST-group if and only if it satisfies Y_p for all primes p .*

Our next result shows how some of the classes in Definition 1.7 are related to the class Y_p .

Theorem 1.9 ([6, 1.8]) *Let p be a prime and G a group. Then*

$$Y_p = \hat{Y}_p = \tilde{Y}_p = \tilde{\tilde{Y}}_p.$$

Using Theorems 1.8 and 1.9 we note that the next result shows that all of the classes \underline{Y}_p , $\tilde{\underline{Y}}_p$ and $\tilde{\tilde{\underline{Y}}}_p$ are just Y_p .

Theorem B *Let p be a prime and G a group. Then*

1. $G \in Y_p$ if and only if $G \in \underline{Y}_p$.
2. $G \in \tilde{Y}_p$ if and only if $G \in \underline{\tilde{Y}}_p$.
3. $G \in \tilde{\tilde{Y}}_p$ if and only if $G \in \underline{\tilde{\tilde{Y}}}_p$.

From Theorem 1.9 and Theorem B we obtain several results that yield new local characterizations of soluble PST-groups.

Corollary 1.10 *Let p be a prime. Then*

$$Y_p = \underline{Y}_p = \hat{Y}_p = \tilde{Y}_p = \underline{\tilde{Y}}_p = \tilde{\tilde{Y}}_p = \underline{\tilde{\tilde{Y}}}_p.$$

Using Theorem B and Corollary 1.10 we obtain the main result of this paper.

Theorem C *Let G be a group. Then the following statements are pairwise equivalent:*

1. G is a soluble PST-group.
2. G is a Y_p -group for all primes p .
3. G is a \underline{Y}_p -group for all primes p .
4. G is a \hat{Y}_p -group for all primes p .
5. G is a \tilde{Y}_p -group for all primes p .
6. G is a $\underline{\tilde{Y}}_p$ -group for all primes p .
7. G is a $\tilde{\tilde{Y}}_p$ -group for all primes p .
8. G is a $\underline{\tilde{\tilde{Y}}}_p$ -group for all primes p .

2 Preliminaries

The lemmas which follow are used in the proof of Theorems A – C.

The first lemma follows from the definitions of the terms given in parts 1 – 4 of Lemma 2.1.

Lemma 2.1 *Let H and K be subgroups of a group G . Then*

1. *If $H \leq K$ and H is S -permutable in G , then H is S -permutable in K .*
2. *If $H \leq K$ and H is semipermutable in G , then H is semipermutable in K .*
3. *If $H \leq K$ and H is S -semipermutable in G , then H is S -semipermutable in K .*
4. *If $H \leq K$ and H is seminormal in G , then H is seminormal in K .*

The next lemma is a result of H. Wielandt.

Lemma 2.2 ([14, 13.3.7]) *Let N be a minimal normal subgroup of a group G . Then N normalizes every subnormal subgroup of G .*

3 Examples

Example 3.1 *Let S_4 , A_4 and K_4 denote, respectively, the symmetric group of order 4, the alternating group of order 4, and the Klein 4-group. Let $G = S_4$ and let $H = \langle (123) \rangle$. Then H is S -semipermutable in G but it is not semipermutable in G since it does not permute with an element of order 2 in K_4 , the Sylow 2-subgroup of A_4 .*

An S -permutable subgroup of a group is subnormal. That this is not the case with S -semipermutable subgroups can be seen in the subgroup H in S_4 . Notice that H is not seminormal in S_4 .

Example 3.2 *Let*

$$D_{10} = \langle x, y \mid x^5 = y^2 = 1, xy = x^{-1} \rangle,$$

the dihedral group of order 10, and

$$C_{15} = \langle t, s \mid t^5 = s^3 = 1, ts = st \rangle,$$

the cyclic group of order 15. Let $G = D_{10} \times C_{15}$ and let $K = \langle t \rangle \times \langle y \rangle$. Since $\langle s \rangle$ centralizes K it follows that K is seminormal in G . Note that K is not subnormal in G .

Example 3.3 *Let $H = \langle x \rangle \rtimes \langle y \rangle$ be a semidirect product of a cyclic group, $\langle x \rangle$, of order 11 by a cyclic group, $\langle y \rangle$, of order 5. Let $G = H \times S_4$. Set $K = \langle x \rangle \times S_3$ where S_3 is a copy of the symmetric group on three elements in S_4 . Then K is a seminormal subgroup of G which is not subnormal.*

4 Proof of the Theorems

PROOF OF THEOREM A — Let H be a subnormal subgroup of G .

1. Assume H is S -semipermutable in G and let $g \in G$. Let p be a prime divisor of $|\langle H, g \rangle|$ such that $\gcd(p, |H|) = 1$. We are to show that H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$. Let $P \in \text{Syl}_p(\langle H, g \rangle)$ and let $Q \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$ be such that $P \leq Q$. Note that $HQ = QH$. Consider $HQ \cap P = HP$ so that H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$. Now assume that G is a group of minimal order such that H is not S -semipermutable in G . Note that $H \triangleleft \triangleleft G$. Let M be a maximal normal subgroup of G such that $H \leq M$.

There is a prime p such that $\gcd(p, |H|) = 1$ and a Sylow p -subgroup P of G such that HP is not a subgroup of G . Let M_1 be a maximal subgroup of G such that $H \leq M_1$ and $M \not\leq M_1$. Then $G = MM_1$ and H is S -semipermutable in both M_1 and M . So there exists a Sylow p -subgroup Q_1 of M_1 and a Sylow p -subgroup Q of M such that QQ_1 is a Sylow p -subgroup of G and H permutes with QQ_1 . Let $QQ_1 = P_0 \in \text{Syl}_p(G)$, so that there is an element $x \in G$ such that $P_0 = P^x$.

Let N be a minimal normal subgroup of G with $N \leq M$. Hence $HN \leq M$ and by a result due to Wielandt (Lemma 2.2) N normalizes H . Notice by the minimality of G , HN/N permutes with PN/N and hence P permutes with HN in G . Assume that $P(HN) = X$ is a proper subgroup of G . Then $H \triangleleft \triangleleft X$ and H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, t \rangle$ for all $t \in X$. By choice of G , we have $HP = PH$, a contradiction and so $P(HN) = X = G$.

Let $x = x_1x_2$ where $x_1 \in P$ and $x_2 \in HN$. It follows that

$$P_0 = P^x = P^{x_2} \quad \text{and} \quad H^{x_2^{-1}} = H.$$

This means that $HP = PH$ or H permutes with P . This is a contradiction, so that $H \leq M \leq M_1$.

Now $HN \leq M$ and $|G : M|$ is a power of p . Hence all the maximal subgroups of G/M are normal. This means that M is a maximal subgroup of G containing H . Therefore, if $t \in G \setminus M$, it follows that $G = \langle M, t \rangle$. From the hypothesis, H is S -semipermutable in $\langle M, t \rangle = G$, a final contradiction.

2. Assume that G is a group of minimal order such that H is seminormal in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for each $g \in G$ but H is not seminormal

in G . Let M be a maximal normal subgroup of G such that $H \leq M$. There is a prime p and a Sylow p -subgroup P of G such that $\gcd(p, |H|) = 1$ and P does not normalize H .

Let M_1 be a maximal subgroup of G such that $H \leq M_1$ but M is not contained in M_1 . Then $G = M_1 M$ and H is S -seminormal in both M and M_1 . Hence there exists a Sylow p -subgroup Q of M and a Sylow p -subgroup Q_1 of M_1 such that QQ_1 is a Sylow p -subgroup of G and QQ_1 normalizes H . Let $P_0 = QQ_1$ and note there is an element $x \in G$ such that $P_0 = P^x$.

For the next part of the proof consider the last part of the proof of 1. □

PROOF OF THEOREM B — Let G be a group and K a p -subgroup of G .

1. Assume that $G \in Y_p$ and let H be a subgroup of the p -subgroup K of G and consider $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$. Suppose that H is S -permutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$ where $g \in N_G(K)$. Since $G \in Y_p$, H is S -permutable in $N_G(K)$. But $\langle H, g \rangle \leq N_G(K)$ and hence H is S -permutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$, by part 1 of Lemma 2.1, for all $g \in N_G(K)$. Note that H is subnormal in $N_G(K)$ and H is weakly S -permutable in $N_G(K)$. Therefore $G \in \underline{Y}_p$.

Conversely, assume that $G \in \underline{Y}_p$ and let H be a subgroup of the p -subgroup K of G and note $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$. We are to show that H is S -permutable under the assumption that H is weakly S -permutable in $N_G(K)$. Let $g \in N_G(K)$ and assume that H is S -permutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$. Then

$$\langle H, H^g \rangle \leq \langle H, g \rangle \leq N_G(K)$$

and H is S -permutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$ for all $g \in N_G(K)$ and by Theorem 1.6 H is S -permutable in $N_G(K)$. Thus $G \in Y_p$.

2. Assume first that G is a \tilde{Y}_p -group and let H be a subgroup of the p -subgroup K of G such that $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$. Since $G \in \tilde{Y}_p$, H is S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$. Assume that H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$ where $g \in N_G(K)$. Now $\langle H, g \rangle \leq N_G(K)$ so that H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$, for all $g \in G$, by part 3 of Lemma 2.1. Therefore, H is weakly S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$ and so $G \in \tilde{\underline{Y}}_p$.

Conversely, assume that G is a $\tilde{\underline{Y}}_p$ -group and assume H is a subgroup of the p -subgroup K of G such that $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$.

Also let H be weakly S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$. We are to show that H is S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$. Let g be an element in $N_G(K)$ such that H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$. Then H is S -semipermutable in $\langle H, g \rangle$ and we note that this is true for all $g \in N_G(K)$. By part 1 of Theorem A G is S -semipermutable in $N_G(K)$. It follows that $G \in \tilde{Y}_p$.

3. Assume that G is in \tilde{Y}_p and let H be a subgroup of the p -subgroup K of G such that $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$. Let g be an element of $N_G(K)$ and assume H is seminormal in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$. Note, since G is seminormal in $N_G(K)$, H is seminormal in $\langle H, g \rangle \leq N_G(K)$, by part 4 of Lemma 2.1. This is true for all $g \in N_G(K)$ so that H is weakly seminormal in $N_G(K)$ and $G \in \tilde{Y}_p$.

Conversely, assume that G is contained in \tilde{Y}_p and let H be a subgroup of G such that $H \leq K \leq N_G(K)$ where K is a p -subgroup of G . Let g be an arbitrary element of $N_G(K)$. Note that H is weakly seminormal in $N_G(K)$ so that H is seminormal in $\langle H, H^g \rangle$ and hence in $\langle H, g \rangle$. But this is true for all $g \in N_G(K)$ so that H is seminormal in $N_G(K)$ by part (2) of Theorem A. Thus $G \in \tilde{Y}_p$.

This completes the proof of Theorem B. □

PROOF OF THEOREM C — The proof of Theorem C follows from Theorems 1.8, 1.9 and B. □

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