## Semi-Rational Groups

## David Chillag and Silvio Dolfi

Groups Ischia 2010

## April 2010 Dedicated to the memory of Silvia Lucido

David Chillag and Silvio Dolfi (Groups Ischia

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- Proved for solvable groups by Zhang (1994), and independently by Knörr,Lempken and Thielke (1995).
- Assume  $|C| \neq |D|$  for all  $C \neq D \in Class(G)$ . Let  $x \in G$  and m with (m, o(x)) = 1. Then  $C_G(x) = C_G(x^m)$  so  $|cl_G(x)| = |cl_G(x^m)|$ . So x and  $x^m$  must be conjugate.

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• So no restriction on  $\pi(G)$ , the set of prime divisors of |G|.



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(Hegedűs 2005). Sylow 5-subgroup is normal & elementary abelian. Structure of G if  $\pi(G) = \{2, 5\}$ .

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## Definition

 $x \in G$  is inverse-semirational if every generator of  $\langle x \rangle$  is conjugate to either x or  $x^{-1}$ . G itself is inverse semi-rational if all elements of G are inverse semi-rational.

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Image: A matrix and a matrix

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  - All cases occur. ∃ inverse semi-rational 3 groups with any exponent and derived length
  - The notion of inverse semirational makes sense for even order groups as well. Is a Gow's like theorem exists ? That is: is π(G) restricted?

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• A Frobenius group of order 6 · 13 is semi-rational but not inverse semi-rational.

#### Theorem

(C&D 2010). Let G be a finite semi-rational supersolvable group (G' nilpotent suffices). Then  $\pi(G) \subset \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13\}.$ 

Each prime p ∈ {2, 3, 5, 7, 13} divides the order of a semi-rational supersolvable group. E.g.: Frobenius group of order ½p(p-1).

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(C&D 2010). Let G be a finite semi-rational solvable group Then  $\pi(G) \subset \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13, 17\}$ . Furthermore, if G is inverse semi-rational then  $17 \notin \pi(G)$ .

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 We do not have an example of a semi-rational solvable G with 17 ∈ π(G).

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Furthermore: x ∈ G semi-rational ⇒ (but not equivalent to) χ(x) lies in a quadratic extension of Q for all χ ∈ Irr(G).

Characterization of semi-rational groups in terms of their "characters field of value", would be helpful. We do not have such. If G is rational then so is G/N for N ⊂ G, because Irr(G/N) ⊂ Irr(G). The same is true for "semi-rational", except that we do not have immediate "character reason", maybe because the lack of a "field of values" characterization.

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#### Lemma

If G is semi-rational, then so is G/N.

 PROOF.Let xN ∈ G/N and x<sub>0</sub> ∈ xN of minimal order. Semi-rationality ⇒ ∃m<sub>0</sub> such that if ⟨z⟩ = ⟨x<sub>0</sub>⟩ then z is congugate to eiher x<sub>0</sub> or x<sub>0</sub><sup>m<sub>0</sub></sup>.

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- Assume  $\langle xN \rangle = \langle yN \rangle$  (=  $\langle x_0N \rangle$ ). Then  $\exists a, b$  with  $(xN)^a = yN$  and  $(yN)^b = xN$ . So

$$(x_0)^a \in yN$$
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• Minimality of  $|x_0| \Rightarrow |x_0^{ab}| = |x_0| \Rightarrow \langle x_0^a \rangle = \langle x_0 \rangle$ . • So  $\exists g$  such that  $(x_0^a)^g = x_0$  or  $(x_0)^{m_0}$  $\Rightarrow (yN)^g = (x_0^a N)^g = \begin{cases} x_0 N = xN \\ x_0^{m_0} N = x^{m_0} N \end{cases}$ .

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- Let G be semi-rational solvable group. We induct on |G|.
- INITIAL REDUCTION. Let V ⊲ G be minimal normal ⇒ V is an elementary abelian p group, p a prime. Induction ⇒ π(G/V) ⊂ {2,3,5,7,13,17}. May assume: p ∉ {2,3,5,7,13,17} and that V is the unique minimal normal subgroup of G. So G = HV a semi-direct product, and V is an irreducible faithfull H module.

• We illustrate the proof for p = 19. The proof for  $p = 1 + 2^a 3^b$  with b > 1 is similar. Will not talk on how to show that  $p = 1 + 2^a 3^b$  (follows as an indirect application of Soares' main reault). Will not on how to proof that  $b \le 4$ .

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- Let  $v \in V \{1\}$ . Then  $|Aut \langle v \rangle| = 18$ . Semirationality  $\Leftrightarrow \frac{N_G(\langle v \rangle)}{C_G(v)}$  is (isomorphic to) a subgroup of index 1 or 2 of  $Aut \langle v \rangle$ .

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- Identify  $Aut \langle v \rangle$  with  $\mathbb{F} = GF(19)$ . Let  $\mu \in \mathbb{F}$  be of order 9.

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- Semirationality  $\Rightarrow$  elements of ordr 9 of  $Aut \langle v \rangle$ must lie in  $\frac{N_G(\langle v \rangle)}{C_G(v)}$ , and some  $g \in N_G(\langle v \rangle)$  of order 9 mod  $C_G(v)$ , satisfies  $vg = \mu v$  (using additive notation: vg for  $v^g$ ).

As G = VH and V abelian, may assume g ∈ H. So the action of H on V has the following property:
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- SECOND REDUCTION By a method devised by E. Farias Soares (1986), H and V can be replaced by "new" ones such that H now acts on V with no fixed points , and most of relevant properties of the original H and V are unchanged. In particular (\*), and "χ(x) belongs to some quadratic extension of the rationals, for all χ ∈ Irr(G)" remsin true.

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- We do however, lose semi-rationality.



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• (\*) 
$$\Rightarrow$$
  $V = \bigcup_{x \in X} W_x \Rightarrow 19^n \leq \sum_{x \in X} |W_x|$  .

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    Bounding |X|. H as Frobenius complement has a well known structure. Recall that

 $\pi(|H|) \subset \{2, 3, 5, 7, 13, 17\}$ . Not hard to show that X lies in some normal subgroup M whose  $\{7, 13\}$ -Hall subgroup D is cyclic. Then it can be shown that  $|X| \leq 24d$  where d = |D|.

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- Counting argumnets.
  - Using "χ(x) belongs to some quadratic extension of the rationals, for all x ∈ Irr(G)" and an application of another result of Soares, we get that n = 3f and dim(W<sub>x</sub>) ≤ f for all x ∈ X. So 19<sup>n</sup> ≤ ∑<sub>x∈X</sub> |W<sub>x</sub>| ⇒ 19<sup>3f</sup> ≤ 19<sup>f</sup> |X| ⇒ 19<sup>2f</sup> ≤ |X|.
  - Bounding |X|. H as Frobenius complement has a well known structure. Recall that π (|H|) ⊂ {2, 3, 5, 7, 13, 17}. Not hard to show that X lies in some normal subgroup M whose {7, 13}-Hall subgroup D is cyclic. Then it can be shown that |X| ≤ 24d where d = |D|.
    φ(d) divides 12f.

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# • $19^n \le \sum_{x \in X} |W_x| \Rightarrow 19^{3f} \le 19^f |X| \Rightarrow 19^{2f} \le |X|$ $\Rightarrow 19^{2f} \le 24d.$ • $d \ge \frac{19^2}{24} = 15.04 \Rightarrow d \ge 16$ . So $\pi(d) = \{7, 13\}$

 $\Rightarrow d > 49$ 

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- Set  $d = 7^{\alpha} \cdot 13^{\beta}$ . Then  $\phi(d) = \frac{7^{\alpha} \cdot 13^{\beta}}{7 \cdot 13} \cdot 6 \cdot 12$ =  $d \cdot \frac{72}{91} \ge \frac{7}{9}d$ .  $\left(\frac{72}{91} - \frac{7}{9} = 0.0134\right)$ .

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- $\phi(d)$  divides  $12f \Rightarrow 2f \ge \frac{\phi(d)}{6} \ge \frac{7}{9\cdot 6}d$ .

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- $24d \ge 19^{2f} \ge 19^{\frac{7}{54}d}$ . Impossible for  $d \ge 49$ .

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