



On the Inner Automorphisms and Central Automorphisms of Nilpotent Group of Class 2 Which Fix the Centre Elementwise

Sunday Adesina Adebisi

ORCID: 0000-0003-3766-0910

1. Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, University of Lagos, Akoka, Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria

Abstract:

Suppose that G is a finite p -group. It was shown (see [2]) that C^* the set of all central automorphisms of G which elementarily fixes the centre of G elementwise, is isomorphic to the group of all Inner automorphisms of G if and only if G is abelian or G is nilpotent of class 2 for which the centre of G is cyclic. More so, if G is finitely generated then G can be represented in a particular simple form (see [3]). Moreover, suppose that G is a finite p -group such that $\text{Aut}(G) \cong E_p^m$. Then, $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G)) = G/Z(G)$.

Keywords: Homomorphism, central automorphism, exponent, nilpotent group, finite p -group. *AMS Mathematics Subject Classification (2020):* Primary: 20D15, 20F18, 20F28, Secondary: 08A35, 16W20, 20B25, 20D45

INTRODUCTION

We assume that p denotes a prime number. Suppose that G_1 and G_2 are two groups. Denote the set of all group homomorphisms from G_1 to G_2 by $\text{Hom}(G_1, G_2)$. It is noteworthy that if G_2 is abelian, then it induces commutativity on $\text{Hom}(G_1, G_2)$ and we define the binary operation by $(f_1 f_2)x = f_1(x)f_2(x) \forall f_1, f_2 \in \text{Hom}(G_1, G_2)$ and all $x \in G$. By definition: An automorphism ϕ of G is known as a central automorphism if $x^{-1}\phi(x) \in Z(G)$ for each $x \in G$. A normal subgroup $\text{Aut}_c(G)$ of the full automorphism group of G is formed by the central automorphisms of G . Various other contributions have been made through a quite appreciable number of algebraists (see [1], [4]). The finite p -groups G for which the central automorphisms of G equals the Inner automorphisms were discussed and generally characterised at length by Curran M.J. and McCaughan D.J. (see [4]). It was shown that if G is a finite p -group, then $\text{Aut}_c(G) = \text{Inn}(G)$ iff $G' = Z(G)$ and $Z(G)$ is cyclic. Mehdi Shabani Attar (see [2]) has proved that: if G is a finite p -group, then $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G)) = \text{Inn}(G)$ iff G is abelian or G is nilpotent of class 2 and $Z(G)$ is cyclic.

Proof

First of all, it may be shown that $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G)) \cong \text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$ Consider that every element of $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G))$ fixes each element of $Z(G)$, for each $g \in C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G))$ the map $\alpha g: G/Z(G) \rightarrow Z(G)$ defined by $\alpha g(bZ(G)) = b^{-1}g(b)$. This is a well-defined mapping and hence a homomorphism Consider that $\alpha: g \rightarrow \alpha g$ is a monomorphism. Thus, for each $t \in \text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$, the map g defined by $g(b) = bt(bZ(G)) \forall b \in G$, is a central automorphism which fixes $Z(G)$ elementwise, and $\alpha(g) = t$. Hence α is a group isomorphism and $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G))$ is isomorphic to $\text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$ Now, if $C_{\text{Aut}_c}(G)(Z(G)) = \text{Inn}(G)$ and G is nonabelian. Suppose that $b \in G$

Then $\beta_b \in \text{Inn}(G)$ induced by b is a central automorphism. Thus, $[x, b] = x^{-1}\beta_b(x) \in Z(G) \forall x \in G$. By this, G is nilpotent and of class 2.

Thus, $\exp(G/Z(G)) = \exp(G') = p^k$, $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Now, let $G/Z(G)$ and $Z(G)$ have rank u and v respectively. Since G is of class 2 and nilpotent, we have that $|G/Z(G)| = |\text{Inn}(G)| = |C_{\text{Aut}_C(G)}(Z(G))| = |\text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))| \geq |G/Z(G)| p^{u(v-1)}$. Now, $u \geq 2$, $v = 1$, then $Z(G)$ is cyclic. On the other hand, if G is abelian, then $C_{\text{Aut}_C(G)}(Z(G)) = \text{Inn}(G) = 1$. Now, since $G/Z(G)$ is abelian and of exponent G' , where G' is cyclic then by [2], $\text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$ is isomorphic to $G/Z(G)$.

Thus, $C_{\text{Aut}_C(G)}(Z(G)) \approx \text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$. But then, $G/Z(G)$ is isomorphic to $\text{Inn}(G)$. Thus, for the fact that G is of class 2 and a nilpotent group, $\text{Inn}(G) \leq C_{\text{Aut}_C(G)}(Z(G)) = \text{Inn}(G)$

Theorem

(See [3]) Let G be a finitely generated nilpotent group of class 2. Then $C^* \cong \text{Inn}(G)$ iff $Z(G)$ is cyclic or $Z(G) \cong C_m \times Z^r$ where $G/Z(G)$ has exponent dividing m and r is torsion-free rank of $Z(G)$.

Lemma A

Let X, Y , and Z be abelian groups. Then,

1. $\text{Hom}(X \times Y, Z) \cong \text{Hom}(X, Z) \times \text{Hom}(Y, Z)$
2. $\text{Hom}(X, Y \times Z) \cong \text{Hom}(X, Y) \times \text{Hom}(X, Z)$.
3. $\text{Hom}(C_m, C_n) \cong C_d$, where $d = \text{gcd}(m, n)$.
4. $\text{Hom}(Z, X) \cong X$.

Proposition

Suppose that X and Y are 2 finite abelian p -groups and $\exp(Y)$ is divisible by $\exp(X)$. Then $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \cong X$ iff Y is cyclic.

Proof

If Y is a cyclic group, then $\exp(Y) = |Y|$. By lemma A (i) & (iii), $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \cong X$. Conversely, let $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \cong X$. In order to obtain a contradiction, suppose that Y is not cyclic, then we have $Y \cong C_{p^i} \times Z$, where $\exp(Y) = p^i$ and Z is a nontrivial abelian group. By lemma A (i) & (iii), $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \cong X \times \text{Hom}(X, Z)$. By assumption, we have $X \cong X \times \text{Hom}(X, Z)$. Thus, $\text{Hom}(X, Z) = 1 \Rightarrow \Leftarrow, \therefore Y$ is cyclic.

Corollary

Let X and Y be 2 finite abelian groups and $\exp(Y)$ is divisible by $\exp(X)$. Then, $\text{Hom}(X, Y) \cong X$ iff Y is a cyclic group.

Proposition

Let G be a group. Then,

- (a) If $Z(G) \leq G'$, then $\text{Aut}_C(G) \cong \text{Hom}(G/G', Z(G)) \times \text{Hom}(G, Z(G))$
- (b) $C^* \cong \text{Hom}(G/G'Z(G), Z(G)) \cong \text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))$.

Theorem

Let G be a finitely generated nilpotent group of class 2. Then, $\text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G)) \cong G/Z(G)$ iff $Z(G)$ is cyclic or $Z(G) \cong C_m \times Z^r$ where $G/Z(G)$ has exponent dividing m and r is torsion-free rank of $Z(G)$.

Lemma

Let G be a finitely generated nilpotent group of class 2 and $G/Z(G) = \langle g_1Z(G) \rangle \times \cdots \times \langle g_tZ(G) \rangle$, for some $g_1, \dots, g_t \in G$. Then,

- (a) $G' = \langle [g_i, g_j] : 1 \leq i < j \leq t \rangle$.
- (b) If $G/Z(G)$ is torsion-free, then G' is torsion and $\exp(G/Z(G)) = \exp(G')$.
- (c) $T(G/Z(G))$ has exponent dividing exponent of $T(Z(G))$, where $T(G)$ is the torsion subgroup of G .

Suppose that G is not torsion-free, then the following corollary expresses a satisfactory classification.

Corollary B

Let G be a finitely generated group which is not torsion-free. Then $C^* = \text{Inn}(G)$ iff G is nilpotent of class 2. and $Z(G)$ is cyclic or $Z(G) \cong C_v \times Z^t$ where $G/Z(G)$ has exponent dividing v and t is the torsion-free rank of $Z(G)$

Corollary

Let G be a finitely generated nilpotent group of class 2. Then, G' is torsion-free and $C^* \cong \text{Inn}(G)$ iff $Z(G)$ is infinitely cyclic.

Attar and McCaughan (see [2] and [4]) presented some very useful results as follows:

Corollary

Suppose that G is a finite p -group. Then,

- (a) $C^* = \text{Inn}(G)$ iff G is abelian or G is nilpotent of class 2 and $Z(G)$ is cyclic.
- (b) $\text{Aut}_c(G) = \text{Inn}(G)$ iff $G' = Z(G)$ and $Z(G)$ is cyclic.

Proof

- (a) If $C^* = \text{Inn}(G)$ and G is non-abelian, then G is finite nilpotent group of class 2 and by corollary (B) $Z(G)$ is finitely cyclic. On the other hand, if G is nilpotent of class 2 and $Z(G)$ is cyclic, then the result follows by corollary (B)
- (b) Assume that $\text{Aut}_c(G) = \text{Inn}(G) \therefore C^* = \text{Inn}(G)$ and so, by (a), $Z(G)$ is cyclic. And since $\text{Aut}_c(G) = C^*$, then $|\text{Hom}(G/G', Z(G))| = |\text{Hom}(G/Z(G), Z(G))|$. Hence, $G/G' \cong G/Z(G)$, satisfying the assertion that: $G' = Z(G)$. If $G' = Z(G)$ and $Z(G)$ is cyclic, then $\text{Aut}_c(G) = C^*$. But $C^* = \text{Inn}(G)$, since $Z(G)$ is cyclic. ■

MAIN RESULT

Suppose that G is a finite p -group such that $\text{Aut}(G) \cong E_p^m$. Then, $C_{\text{Aut}_c(G)}(Z(G)) = G/Z(G)$.

STATEMENT OF PROOF OF MAIN RESULT

Definition

Metacyclic Group: This is a group G such that both the derived subgroup G' and the quotient group G/G' are cyclic. Such group has a cyclic normal subgroup L such that G/L is also cyclic.

By the question posed by Y. Berkovich, (See [6]) on whether it is possible to put some general structure on the group G in which $\text{Aut}(G) = E_p^m$, we have that in such a case, $\text{Inn}(G) \cong G/Z(G)$ is also elementary abelian.

Theorem

Jafary(See [6]) Let G be a finite purely non-abelian p -group where p is odd . Then, $Aut_c(G)$ is an elementary abelian p -group iff $exp(Z(G)) = p$ or $exp(G/G') = p$. By this we have further, the following theorem.

Theorem

Suppose that G is a finite p -group such that $Aut(G) = E_p^m$.

Then, one of the following holds.

- (a) $Z(G) = \Phi(G) = E_p^m$.
- (b) $G' = \Phi(G)$.

Applying these theorems, we have that if G is abelian or G is nilpotent of class 2 and $Z(G)$ is cyclic (whence $Z(G) \cong G'$) then, as we have before by Mehdi Shabani Attar that this condition implies that $C_{Aut_C}(G)(Z(G)) = Inn(G)$, we have that:

1. $C_{Aut_C}(G)(Z(G)) = G/Z(G)$ and
2. $C_{Aut_C}(G)(Z(G))$ is metacyclic if $Z(G)$ is cyclic.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Adney J.E.& Yen T. (1965), Automorphisms of Finite Groups. Illinois J.Math . 9, (137 - 143).
- [2]. Attar M.S. (2007), On Central Automorphisms that fix the centre elementwise. Arch. Math. 89, (296 - 297).
- [3]. Azhdari Z. & A. Mehri (2011), On Inner Automorphisms and Central Automorphisms on Nilpotent Group of Class 2
- [4]. Curran J. M. & McCaughan D.J. (2001), Central automorphisms that are almost Inner., Comm. Algebra, 29 (5), 2081 - 2087.
- [5]. Robinson D. J.S. (1996) A Course in The Theory of Groups (Springer - Verlag).
- [6]. Yadav M.K. (2011), Central automorphisms of finite p-groups, Harish-Chandra Research Institute, India.