

INTERSECTIONS OF NORMALLY CONTAINED

FITTING CLASSES

by

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ABSTRACT

A theorem of Blessenohl and Gaschütz is generalized to show that the intersection of a family of Fitting classes, each of which is normal in some Fischer class  $\mathcal{Y}$ , is normal in  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

All groups considered in this paper will be finite and solvable. We will let the class all finite solvable groups be denoted by  $\mathcal{S}$ . A class  $\mathcal{F}$  of groups is a Fitting class if:

(i)  $G \in F$ ,  $N \triangleleft G$  implies  $N \in F$ , and

(ii)  $N, M \triangleleft G$ ,  $N, M \in F$  implies  $NM \in F$ .

A Fischer class is a Fitting class  $F$ , which also satisfies:

(iii) if  $G \in F$ ,  $H \leq G$  and  $H/\text{core}_G(H) \in N$ , the class of nilpotent groups, then  $H \in F$ .

It follows from (ii) that in any group  $G$ , there exists a unique normal subgroup which is maximal with respect to belonging to a Fitting class  $F$ . We call this subgroup the  $F$ -radical of  $G$  and denote it  $G_F$ . We note that  $G_F$  contains every subnormal  $F$ -subgroup of  $G$ . A subgroup  $V$  of  $G$  is called an  $F$ -injector of  $G$  if  $V \cap M$  is  $F$ -maximal in  $M$  for every subnormal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ . In [3], it is shown that for an arbitrary Fitting class  $F$ , each group  $G$  has a unique conjugacy class of  $F$ -injectors. Basic properties of Fitting classes and  $F$ -injectors are found in [3] and [4].

In [1], Blessenohl and Gaschütz defined a normal Fitting class to be one for which the  $F$ -radical is  $F$ -maximal in  $G$  for every  $G$  in  $S$ . Since the  $F$ -radical is contained in each  $F$ -injector for an arbitrary Fitting class  $F$ , when  $F$  is a normal Fitting class there is only one  $F$ -injector, namely the  $F$ -radical. The following theorem is proved in [1].

Theorem 1. The intersection of any collection of normal Fitting classes is again a normal Fitting class.

Cossey, in [2], extends the definition of normal Fitting classes as follows:

Definition 2. Let  $F$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  be two Fitting classes such that  $F \subseteq \mathcal{Y}$ . We say that  $F$  is normal in  $\mathcal{Y}$  if  $G_F$  is  $F$ -maximal in  $G$  for every  $G \in \mathcal{Y}$ . We denote this  $F \triangleleft \mathcal{Y}$ , and remark that if  $\mathcal{Y}$  is  $S$  then we have the usual definition of a normal Fitting class. The following well known proposition gives an example of definition 2.

Proposition 3. If  $F$  is a Fitting class then  $F \triangleleft FN$ , where

$$FN = \{G \mid G/G_F \in N\}.$$

Proof: Let  $G \in FN$ , then  $G/G_F \in N$ . Let  $V$  be an  $F$ -injector of  $G$ , then  $V/G_F$  is subnormal in  $G/G_F$ . Hence  $V$  is subnormal in  $G$  and so  $V$  must be in  $G_F$ .

In this note we generalize Theorem 1 to include Cossey's definition of normality within a given Fitting class  $\mathcal{Y}$ . For this we need the following:

Lemma 4. [5, p. 568] Let  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  be subgroups of  $G$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:

$$(a) \quad A \cap BC = (A \cap B) (A \cap C).$$

$$(b) \quad AB \cap AC = A(B \cap C).$$

**Theorem 5.** Let  $I$  be an indexing set. If for each  $i \in I$ ,  $F_i$  is a Fitting class such that  $F_i \triangleleft Y$ ,  $Y$  a Fischer class, then  $\bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = F \triangleleft Y$ .

**Proof:** The proof is by induction on the order of groups in  $Y$ . Let  $G$  be a group of minimal order in  $Y$  such that there exists an  $F$ -injector, say  $V$ , which is not normal in  $G$ . Let  $V_i$  be the  $F_i$ -injectors of  $G$  for each  $i \in I$ . Then  $V_i \triangleleft G$  for each  $i \in I$ , by hypothesis. Hence  $\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i \triangleleft G$  and  $\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i \in F$ . Therefore  $\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i \leq G_F$ . But  $G_F \leq G_{F_i} = V_i$  for each  $i \in I$ , so  $G_F = \bigcap_{i \in I} V_i$ . Since  $V$  is not normal in  $G$ , we have  $\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i \not\leq V$ . Let  $M$  be a maximal normal subgroup of  $G$ .

(a)  $V \cap M = (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M$ . For by induction  $V \cap M \in M$ , since  $M \in Y$  and  $V \cap M$  is an  $F$ -injector of  $M$ . Hence  $V \cap M = M_F = G_F \cap M = (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M$ .

(b)  $V$  is not contained in any proper normal subgroup of  $G$ . For if  $V \leq N \triangleleft G$ , then by the induction hypothesis  $V \triangleleft N$ . Hence  $V$  is subnormal in  $G$  and  $V = G_F$  a contradiction.

(c)  $G = NV$  where  $N$  is any normal subgroup of  $G$ , such that  $G/N \in N$ . For suppose  $NV \neq G$ , then  $NV/N$

would be subnormal in  $G/N$ , hence  $NV$  would be subnormal in  $G$ . But then there would exist a proper normal subgroup  $H$  of  $G$ , such that  $V \leq H$  a contradiction of (b).

(d)  $M$  is the unique maximal normal subgroup of  $G$ . For, if not, let  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be two maximal normal subgroups of  $G$ . We have  $G/M_1 \in N$  and  $G/M_2 \in N$  since maximal normal subgroups have prime index. By [5, Satz 2.5, p. 261], we have  $G/M_1 \cap M_2 \in N$ . So, by (c) we have  $G = M_1V = M_2V = (M_1 \cap M_2)V$ . Thus  $G = M_1V \cap M_2V = (M_1 \cap M_2)V$  and we can apply Lemma 4 to obtain  $V = V \cap (M_1 M_2) = (V \cap M_1)(V \cap M_2)$ . However, by part (a) of this proof  $(V \cap M_1) = (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M_1$  and  $(V \cap M_2) = (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M_2$ . So  $V = ((\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M_1)((\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M_2) \leq (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i)$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $V_i \leq M$  for all  $i \in I$  and  $V \cap M = (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i) \cap M = \bigcap_{i \in I} V_i$ . So  $G/M = MV/M \cong V/V \cap M = V/(\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i)$ . Hence  $|V : (\bigcap_{i \in I} V_i)| = p$ , for some prime  $p$ .

(e)  $V_iV$  is properly contained in  $G$  for some  $i \in I$ . For if not, there then exists some  $j \in I$  such that  $V_j \not\leq G$ , otherwise  $G \in F$  a contradiction. But then  $G/V_j = V_j V/V_j = V/V_j \cap V$  and so  $V_j$  must have index  $p$  in  $G$ . Hence  $V_j = M$  by (d). We now claim that  $V_j \in F = \bigcap_{i \in I} F_i$ . If  $i \in I$  is such that  $V_i \not\leq G$ , then by the above argument  $V_i = M = V_j$ , so  $V_j \in F_i$ . If  $i \in I$  is

such that  $V_i = G$  then  $V_j \triangleleft G$  implies  $V_j \in F_i$ . Hence  $V_j \in \bigcap_{i \in I} F_i = F$ . But then  $V_j \leq G_F < V$ , which implies  $M \leq V$  a contradiction. Thus there exist some  $i \in I$  such that  $V_i V \not\leq G$ .

(f) If  $V_i V \not\leq G$  then  $V_i V \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Here we utilize the fact that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a Fischer class. We have  $V_i V / V_i \cong V / V_1 \cap V \in S_p$  the class of finite solvable  $p$ -groups. Also  $V_i \triangleleft G$  implies  $V_i \in \mathcal{Y}$  and  $V_i \leq \text{core}_G(V_i V)$ . Hence  $V_i V / \text{core}_G(V_i V) \in S_p \subseteq N$  implies  $V_i V \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

Finally, since  $V$  is an  $F$ -injector of  $V_i V$  and by the induction hypothesis, we have  $V$  normal in  $V_i V$ . But  $V \in F_i$  and  $V_i$  is the  $F_i$ -injector of  $V_i V$ , so  $V \leq V_i$  a contradiction of (b) and the theorem is proven.

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