

## SOME PROPERTIES OF UNISERIAL EMBEDDING OF SUBGROUPS OF $p$ -GROUPS

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**ABSTRACT.** This paper focuses attention on the study of the Question 3.1. of [1] and it can be considered as a continuation of the previously mentioned paper. A subgroup  $H$  of a  $p$ -group  $G$  is  $n$ -uniserial if for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , there is a unique subgroup  $K_i$  such that  $H \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : H| = p^i$ . In case the subgroups of  $G$  containing  $H$  form a chain we say that  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ . We prove that if  $H$  is an  $n$ -uniserial subgroup of a cyclic  $p$ -group  $G$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ . We also show that if  $H$  is an  $n$ -uniserial subgroup of the  $p$ -group  $G$  such that  $|G| \leq p^5$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$  and we determine that if  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup of order  $p^2$  in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^5$  and  $C_G(H) = H$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper focuses attention on the study of the Question 3.1. of [1]: what are the conditions on an  $n$ -uniserial subgroup for it to be uniserially embedded and it can be considered as a continuation of the previously mentioned paper. Let us say that a subgroup  $H$  of a  $p$ -group  $G$  is  $n$ -uniserial if for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , there is a unique subgroup  $K_i$  such that  $H \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : H| = p^i$ . Thus  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $K_n$ . When does  $n$ -uniseriality imply uniserially embedded. The condition that  $H$  is 1-uniserial is equivalent to  $N_G(H)/H$  being cyclic ( $p$  odd). If  $|H| = p$  and  $G$  is not cyclic, this condition is equivalent to  $N_G(H) = H \times T$  for a cyclic subgroup  $T$  of  $G$ . This situation was studied in [2], from which it follows that  $H$  is uniserially embedded if and only if  $|T| = p$ . Blackburn and He'thelyi in [1] discuss on the conditions of a 2-uniserial subgroup in the  $p$ -group  $G$  which it to be uniserially embedded in  $G$ . They proved the following theorems :

**Theorem 1.1.** [1] *Suppose that  $p$  is odd and that  $K$  is a 2-uniserial subgroup of order  $p$  in the  $p$ -group  $G$ . Then  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.2.** [1] *For  $p > 3$ , let  $K$  be a 2-uniserial cyclic subgroup of the  $p$ -group  $G$ . Then  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Theorem 1.3.** [1] *For  $p$  odd let  $K$  be a 2-uniserial elementary Abelian subgroup of order at most  $p^{p-1}$  of a  $p$ -group  $G$ . Then  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

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In this paper, we study the conditions on an  $n$ -uniserial subgroup which it to be uniserially embedded. We also study the conditions on a 1-uniserial subgroup in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^5$  which it to be uniserially embedded in  $G$ .

Whenever possible we follow the notation and terminology of [5, 6]

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

A subgroup  $H$  of a  $p$ -group  $G$  is  $n$ -uniserial if for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , there is a unique subgroup  $K_i$  such that  $H \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : H| = p^i$ . Thus  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $K_n$ .

**Definition 2.1.** [3]. *Let  $G$  be a finite  $p$ -group, where  $p$  is a prime number. A proper subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  is called soft if  $H$  is a maximal Abelian subgroup of  $G$  and is of index  $p$  in its normalizer. The chief properties of soft subgroups are given in [3] and [4].*

**Theorem 2.2.** [2]. *Suppose that  $p$  is odd and that  $G$  is a  $p$ -group. Then  $H$  is 1-uniserial if and only if  $N_G(H)/H$  is cyclic.*

**Theorem 2.3.** [1]. *Suppose that  $p$  is odd and that  $K$  is a 2-uniserial subgroup of order  $p$  in the  $p$ -group  $G$ . Then  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Theorem 2.4.** [3]. *Let  $H$  be a soft subgroup in  $G$ . Then there is a unique maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  which contains  $H$ .*

## 3. UNISERIAL EMBEDDING OF SUBGROUP

**Lemma 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a finite cyclic  $p$ -group. Then every subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  of order  $n$  is unique.*

**Proof.** Straight forward.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime number, then any subgroup of a finite cyclic  $p$ -group  $G$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $K$  be an  $n$ -uniserial subgroup of  $G$ . Hence for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , there is a unique subgroup  $K_i$  such that  $K \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : K| = p^i$ . Let  $K \leq T_1 \leq \dots \leq T_m \leq G$  be a chain of subgroups  $G$  containing  $K$  and  $|T_i : K| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ . By Lemma 3.1,  $K$  is a  $m$ -uniserial subgroup in  $G$ . Since  $G$  is a cyclic  $p$ -group, therefore  $m \leq n$  and for each  $i=1, \dots, m$ ,  $T_i = K_i$ . Thus  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime number and  $K$  is a 2-uniserial subgroup of order  $p^\alpha$  in  $p$ -group  $G$  of order at most  $p^5$ . Then  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** If  $\alpha = 1$ , then by Theorem 1.1, the proof is complete. Let  $\alpha \geq 2$  and  $H_1, H_2$  be the unique subgroups of orders  $p^{\alpha+1}, p^{\alpha+2}$  respectively containing  $K$ . So  $|H_1| = p^{\alpha+1}$  and  $|H_2| = p^{\alpha+2}$ . Thus  $p^{\alpha+2} \leq |G| \leq p^5$ , so  $4 \leq \alpha + 2 \leq 5$ . If  $\alpha + 2 = 5$ , then  $\alpha = 3$  and  $H_2 = G$ . In this case, let  $K \leq T_1 \leq \dots \leq T_m \leq G$  be a chain of subgroups of  $G$  such that  $|T_i : H| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ . Therefore  $m \leq 2$ . Thus  $T_1 = H_1$  and  $T_2 = H_2 = G$ ,

that is,  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ . If  $\alpha + 2 = 4$ , then  $|K| = p^2$ ,  $|H_1| = p^3$  and  $|H_2| = p^4$ . Let  $K \leq K_1 \leq K_2 \leq \dots \leq K_m \leq G$  be a chain of subgroups of  $G$  containing  $K$  and  $|K_i : K| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ . So  $|K_m| = p^{m+2}$ . Thus  $m \leq 3$ , and  $G = K_3$ . So  $K \leq K_1 \leq K_2 \leq K_3 = G$  such that  $|K_i : K| = p^i (i=1, 2, 3)$ . Since  $K$  is a 2-uniserial, then  $K_1 = H_1$  and  $K_2 = H_2$ , that is,  $K$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$  and the proof is completed.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime number and that  $n > 1$ . If  $H$  is a non-trivial  $n$ -uniserial subgroup in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order at most  $p^5$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $|G| \leq p^5$ ,  $n \leq 4$ . If  $n = 2$ , by Theorem 3.3, the proof is complete. Let  $n \geq 3$  and  $|H| = p^\alpha$  such that  $\alpha \geq 1$ . If  $n=3$ , then there are unique subgroups  $K_1, K_2$  and  $K_3$  such that  $H \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : H| = p^i (i=1, 2, 3)$ , so  $|K_3| = p^{\alpha+3}$ . Thus  $1 \leq \alpha \leq 2$  and  $|G| \geq p^4$ . If  $\alpha = 1$ , then  $|K_3| = p^4$ . If  $|G| = p^4$ , then the proof is complete. Let  $|G| = p^5$  and  $H \leq T_1 \leq T_2 \leq \dots \leq T_m \leq G$  be a chain of subgroups of  $G$  such that  $|T_i : H| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ . So  $|T_m| = p^{m+1}$ . Thus  $m \leq 4$  and  $|T_4| = p^5$ , that is,  $T_4 = G$ . Since  $H$  is a 3-uniserial, hence  $T_i = K_i, i = 1, 2, 3$ . Thus  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ . If  $\alpha = 2$ , then  $|K_3| = p^5$ ,  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ , clearly. Let  $n=4$ . Thus for each  $i=1, \dots, 4$ , there is a subgroup  $K_i$  such that  $H \leq K_i$  and  $|K_i : H| = p^i$ . So  $|K_4| = p^{\alpha+4}$ , hence  $\alpha = 1$ , clearly,  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** *Suppose that  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^\alpha$ . If  $|H| = p^\beta$  and  $\alpha - 2 \leq \beta \leq \alpha - 1$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\beta = \alpha - 1$ . Since  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup in  $G$ , hence there is a unique subgroup  $K$  such that  $H \leq K$  and  $|K : H| = p$ . So  $|H| = p^{\alpha-1}$  and  $|K| = p^\alpha$ , thus  $G=K$ . Let  $\beta = \alpha - 2$ . Since  $K$  is unique and the only subgroup containing  $K$  is  $G$  itself, so  $H < K < G$  and hence  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$  and the proof is completed.

**Theorem 3.6.** *Suppose that  $p$  is odd and  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup of order  $p^{\alpha-3}$  in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^\alpha$ . Assume that one of the following conditions is satisfied:*

- (a)  $G$  is Abelian.
- (b) *There is a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $H \leq K$ ,  $K$  is not normal in  $G$  and  $|K : H| = p$ . Then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $G$  be Abelian group. Since  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup in  $G$ , there is a unique subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such that  $H \leq K$  and  $|K : H| = p$ . So  $|K| = p^{\alpha-2}$ , thus  $H, K \trianglelefteq G$ . By Theorem 2.2,  $G/H$  is cyclic. So  $G/K$  is cyclic and by Lemma 3.1,  $G/K$  has a unique subgroup of order  $p$ . Let  $M/K \leq G/K$  and  $|M/K| = p$ . So  $|M| = p^{\alpha-1}$ , and thus  $G$  has a unique subgroup of order  $p^{\alpha-1}$ . Therefore  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ . Let (b) hold. Thus there is a unique subgroup  $T$  such that  $H \leq T$  and  $|T : H| = p$ , hence  $T=K$ , and therefore  $T$  is not normal subgroup in  $G$ . Since  $T < N_G(T) < G$ , hence  $|N_G(K)| = p^{\alpha-1}$ , so  $N_G(K)$  is maximal in  $G$ . Let  $H \leq S_1 \leq \dots \leq S_m \leq G$  be a chain of subgroups of  $G$  such that  $|S_i : H| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ , therefore  $|S_m| = p^{m+\alpha-3}$ , and thus  $m \leq 3$ . Therefore  $|S_3| = p^\alpha$ , that is,  $G = S_3$ . Since  $H$  is a 1-uniserial, hence  $S_1 = T$ .

$T$  is a maximal subgroup in the nilpotent group  $S_2$ . Thus  $T \supseteq S_2$ . So  $S_2 \leq N_G(T)$ . Since  $|N_G(T)| = |S_2| = p^{\alpha-1}$ ,  $S_2 = N_G(T)$ , therefore for any chain of subgroups of  $G$ ,  $H \leq S_1 \leq \dots \leq S_m \leq G$  such that  $|S_i : H| = p^i (i=1, \dots, m)$ ,  $m = 3$ ,  $S_1 = T$  and  $S_2 = N_G(T)$ , that is,  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** *Suppose that  $p$  is a prime number and  $H$  is a 1-uniserial subgroup of order  $p^2$  in the  $p$ -group  $G$  of order  $p^5$ . If  $C_G(H) = H$ , then  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $H \cong Z_{p^2}$  or  $H \cong Z_p \times Z_p$  and  $H < N_G(H)$ ,  $|N_G(H)/H| = p^\alpha$  such that  $1 \leq \alpha \leq 3$ . We know that  $N_G(H)/C_G(H) \hookrightarrow \text{Aut}(H)$ , so  $|N_G(H)/C_G(H)| = p$ . Since  $H$  is Abelian, self-centralizer and  $|N_G(H) : H| = p$ , hence  $H$  is soft subgroup of  $G$ , by Theorem 2.4, there is a unique maximal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  containing  $H$ . Let  $H \leq T \leq S \leq G$  be a chain of  $G$  such that  $|T| = p^3$  and  $|S| = p^4$ . Since  $H$  is a 1-uniserial in  $G$ , then  $T$  is unique. Also  $S$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  containing  $H$ . Thus  $S=M$ , that is,  $H$  is uniserially embedded in  $G$  and the proof is completed.

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