

On Periodic Groups with a Regular Automorphism of Order 4

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Abstract—We study periodic groups of the form $G = F \rtimes \langle a \rangle$ with the conditions $C_F(a) = 1$ and $|a| = 4$. The mapping $a : F \rightarrow F$ defined by the rule $t \rightarrow t^a = a^{-1}ta$ is a fixed-point-free (regular) automorphism of the group F . In this case, a finite group F is solvable and its commutator subgroup is nilpotent (Gorenstein and Herstein, 1961), and a locally finite group F is solvable and its second commutator subgroup is contained in the center $Z(F)$ (Kovács, 1961). It is unknown whether a periodic group F is always locally finite (Shumyatsky's Question 12.100 from *The Kourovka Notebook*). We establish the following properties of groups. For $\pi = \pi(F) \setminus \pi(C_F(a^2))$, the group F is π -closed and the subgroup $O_\pi(F)$ is abelian and is contained in $Z([a^2, F])$ (Theorem 1). A group F without infinite elementary abelian a^2 -admissible subgroups is locally finite (Theorem 2). In a nonlocally finite group F , there is a nonlocally finite a -admissible subgroup factorizable by two locally finite a -admissible subgroups (Theorem 3). For any positive integer n divisible by an odd prime, we give examples of nonlocally finite periodic groups with a regular automorphism of order n .

Keywords: periodic group, regular (fixed-point-free) automorphism, solvability, local finiteness, nilpotency.

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