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## Connected transversals to subnormal subgroups

TOMÁŠ KEPKA, JON D. PHILLIPS

*Abstract.* Subnormal subgroups possessing connected transversals are briefly discussed.

*Keywords:* subgroup, transversal

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In [8] J.D.H. Smith introduced the notion of a stably nilpotent quasigroup, showing that a quasigroup  $Q$  is stably nilpotent if and only if the inner permutation groups of  $Q$  are subnormal in the multiplication group of  $Q$ . Generalizing this for abstract groups, we come by groups which are, in a certain sense, relatively nilpotent with respect to a subgroup. The present short note collects some basic information on such groups.

### 1. Preliminaries

**1.1.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then  $L_G(H)$  denotes the core and  $N_G(H)$  the normalizer of  $H$  in  $G$ . Further,  $N_{G,0}(H) = H$  and  $N_{G,n+1}(H) = N_G(N_{G,n}(H))$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .

The subgroup  $H$  is said to be subnormal of depth at most  $n \geq 0$  in  $G$  if there are subgroups  $H_0, H_1, \dots, H_n$  of  $G$  such that  $H_0 = H$ , and  $H_n = G$  and  $H_i$  is normal in  $H_{i+1}$  for every  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ .

**1.2.** Let  $G$  be a group. For  $n \geq 0$ ,  $Z_n(G)$  denotes the  $n$ th member of the usual central series. That is,  $Z_0(G) = 1$ , and  $Z_{n+1}(G)/Z_n(G) = Z(G/Z_n(G))$ .

Now, let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$ . We define two series of normal subgroups of  $G$ :  $Z_{H,0}(G) = Z_{H,0}^*(G) = L_G(H)$ ,  $Z_{H,n}(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n+1}^*(G)$  and  $Z_{H,n+1}^*(G)/Z_{H,n}(G) = Z(G/Z_{H,n}(G))$ ,  $Z_{H,n+1}(G) = L_G(H \cdot Z_{H,n+1}^*(G))$ .

**1.3 Remark.** (i) A subgroup  $H$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n \geq 0$  in a group  $G$ , provided that  $N_{G,n}(H) = G$ . The converse is not true in general (see, e.g., 4.1).

(ii) If  $G$  is a finite group, then subnormal subgroups form a sublattice in the lattice of all subgroups of  $G$  (see, e.g., [6, Theorem 6.5]). This is not true in general ([7, §13.1, p. 375]), albeit subnormal subgroups of arbitrary (i.e., even infinite) groups are closed under finite intersections.

**2. Technical results**

**2.1 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then:*

- (i)  $L_G(H) = Z_{H,0}(G) \subseteq Z_{H,1}(G) \subseteq Z_{H,2}(G) \subseteq \dots$  ;
- (ii)  $L_G(H) = Z_{H,0}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{H,1}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{H,2}^*(G) \subseteq \dots$  ;
- (iii)  $Z_{H,n}(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n+1}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n+1}(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n+2}^*(G) \subseteq \dots$  for every  $n \geq 0$ ;
- (iv)  $Z_{H,n}(G) \subseteq L_G(N_{G,n}(H))$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .

PROOF: The first three assertions are clear from definition 1.2, (iv) is clear for  $n = 0$ , and we shall proceed further by induction.

Let  $f : G \rightarrow \overline{G} = G/Z_{H,n}(G)$ ,  $g : G \rightarrow \tilde{G} = G/L_G(N_{G,n}(H))$  and  $h : \overline{G} \rightarrow \tilde{G}$  denote the natural projections,  $g = hf$ . Then  $Z_{H,n+1}^*(G) = f^{-1}(Z(\overline{G})) \subseteq g^{-1}(Z(\tilde{G})) = K$ ,  $HK \subseteq N_{G,n}(H)K \subseteq N_G(N_{G,n}(H)) = N_{G,n+1}(H)$  and  $Z_{H,n+1}(G) = L_G(H \cdot Z_{H,n+1}^*(G)) \subseteq L_G(HK) \subseteq L_G(N_{G,n+1}(H))$ . □

**2.2 Lemma.** *Let  $H \subseteq K \subseteq G$  be subgroups of a group  $G$ . Then  $Z_{H,n}(G) \subseteq Z_{K,n}(G)$  and  $Z_{H,n}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{K,n}^*(G)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .*

PROOF: By induction on  $n$  (see the proof of 2.1 (iv)). □

**2.3 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then  $Z_n(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{H,n}(G)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .*

PROOF: Clearly,  $Z_n(G) \subseteq Z_{1,n}^*(G) \subseteq Z_{1,n}(G)$  and we can use 2.2. □

**2.4 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then:*

- (i)  $Z_{H,0}(G) = G$  iff  $H = G$ ;
- (ii)  $Z_{H,1}(G) = G$  iff  $G' \subseteq H$ ;
- (iii)  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$  for  $n \geq 0$  iff  $G = H \cdot Z_{H,n}^*(G)$ ;
- (iv) if  $G$  is nilpotent of class at most  $n \geq 0$ , then  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$ ;
- (v) if  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$  for  $n \geq 0$ , then  $N_{G,n}(H) = G$  (and hence  $H$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n$  in  $G$ ).

PROOF: The first assertions are easy, (iv) follows from 2.3, and (v) follows from 2.1 (iv). □

**2.5 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such the  $L_G(H) = 1$ . Then:*

- (i)  $Z_{H,1}^*(G) = Z(G)$  and  $Z_{H,1}(G) = L_G(HZ(G))$ ;
- (ii)  $Z_{H,1}(G) = G$  iff  $G$  is abelian;
- (iii)  $Z_{H,2}(G) = G$  iff  $G' \subseteq HZ(G)$ .

PROOF: Obvious. □

**2.6 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Then:*

- (i)  $HZ_{H,n}(G) = HZ_{H,n}^*(G)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ ;
- (ii) if  $K$  is a subgroup conjugate to  $H$ , then  $Z_{H,n}(G) = Z_{K,n}(G)$  and  $Z_{H,n}^* = Z_{K,n}^*(G)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .

PROOF: The assertions follow easily from definition 1.2. □

**2.7 Proposition.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . The following conditions are equivalent for  $n \geq 1$ :*

- (i)  $Z_{H,n}^*(G) = G$ ;
- (ii)  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$ ;
- (iii)  $HZ_{H,n}(G) = G$ ;
- (iv)  $HZ_{H,n}^*(G) = G$ ;
- (v)  $G' \subseteq Z_{H,n-1}(G)$ ;
- (vi)  $G' \subseteq HZ_{H,n-1}(G)$ ;
- (vii)  $G' \subseteq HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)$ .

PROOF: (i) implies (ii) by 2.1 (iii); (ii) implies (iii) and (v) implies (vi) trivially; (iii) implies (iv) and (vi) implies (vii) by 2.6 (i).

We now show (iv) implies (v). Put  $N = Z_{H,n-1}(G)$ . We have  $\overline{G} = G/N = HZ_{H,n}^*(G)/N = \overline{H}Z(\overline{G})$ , and hence  $(\overline{G})' \subseteq \overline{H}$ ,  $G' \subseteq HN = HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)$  and  $N = L_G(HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)) = HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)$ . Consequently  $G' \subseteq N$ . Finally, we show (vii) implies (i). Since  $G' \subseteq HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)$ , we have  $Z_{H,n-1}(G) = HZ_{H,n-1}(G)$ ,  $G' \subseteq Z_{H,n-1}(G)$  and  $Z_{H,n}^*(G) = G$  (see 1.2). □

**2.8.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ ,  $n \geq 0$ ,  $N = Z_{H,n}(G)$ ,  $N^* = Z_{H,n}^*(G)$ ,  $\overline{G} = G/N$ , and  $\overline{H} = HN/N \subseteq \overline{G}$ .

- (i)  $HN = HN^*$ ,  $N = L_G(HN^*) = L_G(HN)$  and this implies that  $L_{\overline{G}}(\overline{H}) = 1$  and  $\overline{H} \cong H/H \cap N$ .
- (ii)  $Z_{H,n+1}^*(G)/N = Z(\overline{G}) = Z_{\overline{H},1}^*(\overline{G})$ ,  $Z_{H,n+1}(G) = L_G(H \cdot Z_{H,n+1}^*(G))$  and  $Z_{H,n+1}(G)/N = L_{\overline{G}}(\overline{H}Z(\overline{G})) = Z_{\overline{H},1}(\overline{G})$ .
- (iii)  $Z_{H,n+m}^*(G)/N = Z_{\overline{H},m}^*(\overline{G})$  and  $Z_{H,n+m}(G)/N = Z_{\overline{H},m}(\overline{G})$  for every  $m \geq 1$ .

**2.9.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$ . Put  $H_n = H \cap Z_{H,n}(G)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ . Then  $L_G(H) = H_0 \subseteq H_1 \subseteq H_2 \subseteq \dots$  and  $H_n$  is normal in  $G$ .

**2.10 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such that  $L_G(H) = 1$  and let  $\alpha = [G : HZ(G)]$ . Then:*

- (i)  $Z_{H,1}(G) = L_G(HZ(G))$  can be embedded into the Cartesian product of  $\alpha$  copies of  $Z(G)$ ;
- (ii)  $Z_{H,1}(G)$  is an abelian group;
- (iii)  $H_1$  (see 2.9) can be embedded into the Cartesian product of  $\alpha - 1$  copies of  $Z(G)$  ( $\alpha - 1 = \alpha$  for  $\alpha$  infinite).

PROOF: Put  $N = Z_{H,1}(G)$ . For every  $x \in G$ ,  $N = N^x = L_G(H^x \cdot Z(G))$ ,  $H^x \cap Z(G) \subseteq L_G(H^x) = L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $H^x \cdot Z(G)$  is the direct product of  $H^x$  and  $Z(G)$  and consequently the restriction  $f_x$  of the natural projection  $H^x \cdot Z(G) \rightarrow Z(G)$  to  $N$  is a homomorphism of  $N$  onto  $Z(G)$  (we have  $Z(G) \subseteq N$ ).

Now, let  $A$  be a right transversal to  $HZ(G)$  in  $G$  such that  $1 \in A$ . Define a homomorphism  $f : N \rightarrow \prod_{\alpha} Z(G)$  by  $f(u) = \prod_{a \in A} f_a(u)$ ,  $u \in N$ . If  $u \in \text{Ker}(f)$ , then  $aua^{-1} \in H$  for every  $a \in A$ . Consequently,  $u \in H$  and if  $x \in G$ ,  $x = zva$ ,  $a \in A$ ,  $v \in H$ ,  $z \in Z(G)$ , then  $xux^{-1} = zvaua^{-1}v^{-1}z^{-1} = vaua^{-1}v^{-1} \in H$ . Thus  $u \in L_G(H) = 1$  and we have proved that  $f$  is injective. Finally, for  $g = \prod_{a \neq 1} f_a$  we get  $\text{Ker}(g) \cap H = 1$ , and hence  $g|H_1$  is injective. □

**2.11 Proposition.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  and let  $\alpha_n = [G : H \cdot Z_{H,n+1}(G)]$  for every  $n \geq 0$ . Then  $Z_{H,n+1}(G)/Z_{H,n}(G)$  is an abelian group which can be embedded into the Cartesian product of  $\alpha_n$  copies of  $Z(G/Z_{H,n}(G)) = Z_{H,n+1}^*(G)/Z_{H,n}(G)$ .*

PROOF: The result follows by an easy combination of 2.10 and 2.8 (i),(ii). □

**2.12 Corollary.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such that  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$  for some  $n \geq 0$ . If  $H$  is soluble of derived length  $m \geq 0$ , then  $G$  is also soluble and its derived length is at most  $n + m$ .*

**2.13 Lemma.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such that  $Z_{H,2}(G) = G$ . Then  $H \subseteq L_G(H)$ .*

PROOF: By 2.10,  $H/L_G(H)$  is abelian. □

**2.14 Proposition.** *Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a finite group  $G$  such that  $[G : H]$  is a power of a prime  $p$  and  $L_G(H)$  is a  $p$ -group. Then  $G = Z_{H,n}(G)$  for some  $n \geq 0$  iff  $G$  is a  $p$ -group.*

PROOF: If  $G$  is a  $p$ -group, then  $G$  is nilpotent and our result follows from 2.3. Now assume that  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$ . We shall proceed by induction on  $\text{card}(G)$ . Further, considering the factor  $G/L_G(H)$ , we can restrict ourselves to the case  $L_G(H) = 1$ . Then  $H \cap Z(G) = 1$ ,  $[HZ(G) : H] = \text{card}(Z(G))$ , and hence  $Z(G)$  is a  $p$ -group. From this,  $N = Z_{H,1}(G)$  is a  $p$ -group by 2.10 (i). Since  $N \neq 1$  (otherwise  $G = 1$ ),  $G/N$  is a  $p$ -group by induction. □

**2.15.** Let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such that  $G/Z_{H,n}(G)$  is a two element group for some  $n \geq 0$ .

- (i) If  $n = 0$ , then  $G/L_G(H)$  is a two element group, which means that  $H$  is normal and of index 2 in  $G$ .
- (ii) Assume that  $n \geq 1$ . Clearly,  $Z_{H,n+1}(G) = Z_{H,n+1}^*(G) = G$  and  $G' \subseteq Z_{H,n}(G) = H \cdot Z_{H,n}^*(G)$ . Put  $N = Z_{H,n-1}(G)$ ,  $\overline{G} = G/N$  and  $\overline{G} = HN/N = HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G)/L_G(HZ_{H,n-1}^*(G))$ . We have  $L_{\overline{G}}(\overline{H})=1$ ,  $Z(\overline{G}) =$

$Z_{H,n}^*(G)/N, (\overline{G})' \subseteq Z_{H,n}(G)/N = \overline{H} \cdot Z(\overline{G})$  and  $\overline{G}/\overline{H}Z(\overline{G}) \cong G/Z_{H,n}(G)$ , so that  $\overline{G}/\overline{H}Z(\overline{G})$  is a two element group.

- (iii) Assume that  $n = 1$  and that  $L_G(H) = 1$  (cf. (ii)). Then  $Z_{H,2}(G) = Z_{H,2}^*(G)$  and  $G' \subseteq Z_{H,1}(G) = HZ(G)$ . Take  $w \in G - HZ(G)$  and put  $W = Z(G) \cup wZ(G)$ . Then  $w^2 = uz$  for suitable  $u \in H, z \in Z$  and  $w^{-1}uw = w^{-1}w^2z^{-1}w = u$ . This implies that  $u \in L_G(H) = 1$ , so that  $w^2 \in Z(G)$  and we see that  $W$  is an abelian subgroup of  $G, W \cap H = 1$  and  $G = HW$ .

### 3. Connected transversals to subnormal subgroups

**3.1.** In this section, let  $H$  be a subgroup of a group  $G$  such that there exist  $H$ -connected transversals  $A, B$  to  $H$  in  $G$  (i.e.,  $A, B$  are left transversals and  $[A, B] \subseteq H$ ).

#### 3.2 Lemma.

- (i)  $HZ_{H,n}(G) = HZ_{H,n}^*(G) = N_{G,n}(H)$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .
- (ii)  $Z_{H,n}(G) = L_G(N_{G,n}(H))$  for every  $n \geq 0$ .

PROOF: This is clear for  $n = 0$  and we shall proceed by induction on  $n$ .

Put  $N = Z_{H,n}(G)$  and consider the factors  $\overline{G} = G/N$  and  $\overline{H} = HN/N$ . Then  $L_{\overline{G}}(\overline{H}) = 1$ , and so  $N_{\overline{G}}(\overline{H}) = \overline{H}Z(\overline{G})$  by [3, Proposition 2.7]. This implies that  $N_G(HN) = HZ_{H,n+1}^*(G)$ . However,  $HN = N_{G,n}(H)$  by the induction and we have  $N_{G,n+1}(H) = HZ_{H,n}^*(G) = HZ_{H,n}(G)$  (2.6 (ii)). The rest is clear.  $\square$

**3.3 Proposition.** *The following conditions are equivalent for  $n \geq 1$ :*

- (i)  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$ ;
- (ii)  $HZ_{H,n-1}(G)$  is normal in  $G$ ;
- (iii)  $H \subseteq Z_{H,n-1}(G)$ ;
- (iv)  $H_{n-1} = H$  (see 2.9);
- (v)  $H$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n$  in  $G$ ;
- (vi)  $N_{G,n}(H) = G$ ;
- (vii)  $N_G(H)$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n - 1$  in  $G$ .

PROOF: (i) implies (ii) by 2.7 (ii),(vi) (in fact,  $G' \subseteq HZ_{H,n-1}(G)$ ); (ii) implies (iii), since  $Z_{H,n-1}(G) = L_G(HZ_{H,n-1}(G))$ ; (iii) implies (iv) trivially; (iv) implies (ii), since  $Z_{H,n-1}(G) = L_G(HZ_{H,n-1}(G))$ ; (i) implies (vi) by 2.1 (iv); (vi) implies (vii) and (vii) implies (v) trivially; (vi) implies (i) by 3.2 (ii).

We now show (ii) implies (i). The existence of  $H$ -connected transversals easily yields that  $G' \subseteq HZ_{H,n-1}(G)$  (consider the factor  $G/Z_{H,n-1}(G)$ ), and the result follows from 2.7.

We proceed by induction on  $n$  to show (v) implies (vi). If  $n = 1$ , then  $H$  is normal in  $G$  and (vi) is clear. Let  $n \geq 2$  and let  $L_G(H) = 1$  (considering the factor  $G/L_G(H)$ , we can restrict ourselves to this case). There is a subgroup  $K$  of  $G$  such

that  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $K$  and  $K$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n-1$  in  $G$ . Put  $L = L_G(K)$ ,  $\overline{G} = G/L$  and  $\overline{K} = K/L$ . Then  $L_{\overline{G}}(\overline{K}) = 1$  and  $\overline{K}$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n-1$  in  $\overline{G}$ . Consequently,  $N_{\overline{G},n-1}(\overline{K}) = \overline{G}$  and  $N_{G,n-1}(K) = G$ . On the other hand,  $K \subseteq N_G(H) = HZ(G)$  ([3, Proposition 2.7]), and hence  $N_G(H) = KZ(G)$  is normal in  $N_G(K)$ . We have proved that  $N_G(H)$  is subnormal of depth at most  $n-1$  in  $G$ . Using the induction hypothesis again (for  $N_G(H)$ ), we get  $N_{G,n}(H) = N_{G,n-1}(N_G(H)) = G$ .  $\square$

**3.4 Proposition.** *Suppose that  $G = \langle A, B \rangle$  and that  $G/Z_{H,n}(G)$  is a two element group for some  $n \geq 0$ . Then  $n = 0$  and  $H$  is a normal subgroup of index 2 in  $G$ .*

PROOF: Assume on the contrary,  $n \geq 1$ . With respect to 2.15, we can in fact assume that  $n = 1$  and  $L_G(H) = 1$ . Then  $Z_{H,1}(G) = HZ(G)$  and  $H \cap Z(G) = 1$ . By [1, Lemma 1.4],  $Z(G) \subseteq A \cap B$ . Now, let  $a \in A$  and  $z \in Z(G)$ . Then  $az = bu$  for some  $b \in A$  and  $u \in H$ . We have  $u = b^{-1}az$  and  $c^{-1}uc = c^{-1}b^{-1}cb \cdot b^{-1}c^{-1}ac \cdot z = c^{-1}b^{-1}cb \cdot b^{-1}az \cdot a^{-1}c^{-1}ac \in H$  for every  $c \in B$ . This shows that  $u \in L_G(H) = 1$  and  $az = b \in A$ . Now, since  $[G : HZ(G)] = 2$ , it is clear that  $A = Z(G) \cup aZ(G)$  for each  $a \in A - Z(G)$ . Quite similarly,  $B = Z(G) \cup bZ(G)$  for each  $b \in B - Z(G)$ . In particular, both  $A$  and  $B$  are abelian subgroups of  $G$  (see 2.15 (iii)).

Finally, let  $a \in A$ . Then  $a^{-1}b \in H$  for some  $b \in B$  and, for every  $c \in B$ ,  $c^{-1}a^{-1}bc = c^{-1}a^{-1}ca \cdot a^{-1}b \in H$ . Thus  $a^{-1}b \in L_G(H) = 1$  and  $a = b \in B$ . We have proved that  $A = B$  and consequently  $G = \langle A, B \rangle = A$  is an abelian group,  $H = 1$ ,  $Z_{H,1}(G) = G$  and  $G/Z_{H,1}(G)$  is trivial, a contradiction.  $\square$

**3.5 Lemma.** *Suppose that  $L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $H$  is not abelian, every proper factor group of  $H$  is cyclic and that  $G = \langle A, B \rangle$ . Then  $Z_{H,n}(G) \neq G$  for every  $n \geq 0$ , i.e.,  $H$  is not subnormal in  $G$  (see 3.3).*

PROOF: Put  $N = Z_{H,1}(G) (= L_G(HZ(G)))$ ,  $\overline{G} = G/N$  and  $\overline{H} = HN/N \cong H/H_1$ ,  $H_1 = H \cap N$ . If  $H_1 \neq 1$ , then  $\overline{H}$  is cyclic, and so  $\overline{A} = \overline{B}$  is an abelian subgroup of  $\overline{G}$  by [1, Corollary 2.3]. However, this implies that  $\overline{G} = \overline{A}$  is an abelian group,  $\overline{H} = 1$ ,  $H \subseteq N = HZ(G)$  and  $H = H_1$  is abelian by 2.10 (iii), which is a contradiction.

We have proved that  $H_1 = 1$ , so that  $N = H_1Z(G) = Z(G)$  and  $\overline{H} \cong H$ . Proceeding by induction, we get  $Z_{H,m}(G) = Z_m(G)$  for every  $m \geq 0$ . Now, if  $Z_{H,n}(G) = G$  for some  $n \geq 0$ , then  $G$  (and hence  $H$ ) is nilpotent. But in such a case,  $Z(H) \neq 1$ ,  $H/Z(H)$  is cyclic and this implies that  $H$  is abelian a contradiction.  $\square$

**3.6 Proposition.** *Suppose that every proper factorgroup of  $H$  is cyclic, that  $H$  is subnormal in  $G$  and that  $G = \langle A, B \rangle$ . Then  $G' \subseteq N_G(H)$  and  $H$  is subnormal depth at most 2 in  $G$ . Moreover, if  $H$  is not abelian, then  $G' \subseteq H$  and  $H$  is normal in  $G$ .*

PROOF: First, assume that  $L_G(H) \neq 1$ . Then  $\overline{H} = H/L_G(H)$  is a cyclic subgroup of  $\overline{G} = G/L_G(H)$  and  $G' \subseteq H$  by [1, Theorem 2.2].

Next, let  $L_G(H) = 1$ . Then  $H$  is abelian by 3.5 and if  $H$  is cyclic, then we can use [1, Theorem 2.2] again to show that  $H = 1$  and  $G$  is abelian. Finally, if  $H$  is not cyclic, then  $H \cong Z_p^{(2)}$  for a prime  $p$  and the result follows from [5, Lemma 4.2].  $\square$

**3.7 Remark.** According to [2],  $G$  is soluble, provided that  $G$  is finite and  $H \cong S_3$ . On the other hand, by 3.5, if  $L_G(H) = 1$  and  $G = \langle A, B \rangle$ , then  $H$  is not subnormal in  $G$ .

**3.8 Proposition.** Suppose that  $L_G(H) = 1$  and  $G$  is nilpotent of class at most 2. Then  $[A, B] = 1$  and  $A, B$  are isomorphic subgroups of  $G$ .

PROOF:  $[A, B] \subseteq H \cap G' \subseteq H \cap Z(G) \subseteq L_G(H) = 1$ . The rest follows from [4, Lemma 2.3].  $\square$

### 4. Examples

**4.1.** Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $S_6$  (the symmetric group on  $\{1, 2, \dots, 6\}$ ) generated by the following permutations:  $(1\ 2), (3\ 4), (5\ 6), (1\ 3)(2\ 4), (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4\ 6)$ . Further, let  $K = \langle (1\ 2), (3\ 4), (5\ 6) \rangle \subseteq G$  and  $H = \langle (1\ 2) \rangle \subseteq K$ . Then  $H$  is normal in  $K$ ,  $K$  is normal in  $G$ ,  $\text{card}(G) = 48$ ,  $K \cong Z_2^{(3)}$ ,  $H \cong Z_2$ ,  $L_G(H) = 1$  and  $H$  is subnormal of depth 2 in  $G$ . On the other hand,  $N_G(H) = \langle K, (3\ 5)(4\ 6) \rangle$ ,  $\text{card}(N_G(H)) = 16$ ,  $K = L_G(N_G(H))$ ,  $N_{G,2}(H) = N_G(N_G(H)) = N_G(H)$ ,  $G/K \cong S_3$  and  $Z(G) = 1$ . Now,  $Z_{H,n}(G) \neq G$  for every  $n \geq 0$  and there exist no  $H$ -connected transversals to  $H$  in  $G$  (see 2.4(v) and 3.3).

**4.2.** Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $S_{18}$  generated by  $A = \{\text{id}, (1\ 2)(3\ 10\ 15\ 4\ 9\ 16)(5\ 12\ 17\ 6\ 11\ 18)(7\ 8)(13\ 14), (1\ 3\ 11\ 7\ 9\ 17\ 13\ 15\ 5)(2\ 10\ 18)(4\ 12\ 14)(6\ 8\ 16), (1\ 4\ 11\ 14\ 3\ 12\ 7\ 10\ 17\ 2\ 9\ 18\ 13\ 16\ 5\ 8\ 15\ 6), (1\ 5\ 10\ 14\ 6\ 9\ 7\ 11\ 16\ 2\ 12\ 15\ 13\ 17\ 4\ 8\ 18\ 3), (1\ 6\ 10\ 7\ 12\ 16\ 13\ 18\ 4)(2\ 11\ 15)(3\ 8\ 17)(5\ 9\ 14), (1\ 7\ 13)(2\ 8\ 14)(3\ 9\ 15)(4\ 10\ 16)(5\ 11\ 17)(6\ 12\ 18), (1\ 8\ 13\ 2\ 7\ 14)(3\ 16\ 9\ 4\ 15\ 10)(5\ 18\ 11\ 6\ 17\ 12), (1\ 9\ 5\ 7\ 15\ 11\ 13\ 3\ 17)(2\ 16\ 12)(4\ 18\ 8)(6\ 14\ 10), (1\ 10\ 5\ 14\ 9\ 6\ 7\ 16\ 11\ 2\ 15\ 12\ 13\ 4\ 17\ 8\ 3\ 18), (1\ 11\ 4\ 14\ 12\ 3\ 7\ 17\ 10\ 2\ 18\ 9\ 13\ 5\ 16\ 8\ 6\ 15), (1\ 12\ 4\ 7\ 18\ 10\ 13\ 6\ 16)(2\ 17\ 9)(3\ 19\ 11)(5\ 15\ 8), (1\ 13\ 7)(2\ 14\ 8)(3\ 15\ 9)(4\ 16\ 10)(5\ 17\ 11)(6\ 18\ 12), (1\ 14\ 7\ 2\ 13\ 8)(3\ 4)(5\ 6)(9\ 10)(11\ 12)(15\ 16)(17\ 18), (1\ 15\ 17\ 7\ 3\ 5\ 13\ 9\ 11)(2\ 4\ 6)(8\ 10\ 12)(14\ 16\ 18), (1\ 16\ 17\ 14\ 15\ 18\ 7\ 4\ 5\ 2\ 3\ 6\ 13\ 10\ 11\ 8\ 9\ 12), (1\ 17\ 16\ 14\ 18\ 15\ 7\ 5\ 4\ 2\ 6\ 3\ 13\ 11\ 10\ 8\ 12\ 9), (1\ 18\ 16\ 7\ 6\ 4\ 13\ 12\ 10)(2\ 5\ 3)(8\ 11\ 9)(14\ 17\ 15)\}$  and let  $H$  be the stabilizer of 1 in  $G$ . Then  $L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $\text{card}(H) = 972 = 2^2 3^5$ ,  $H$  is not nilpotent,  $A$  is an  $H$ -selfconnected transversal to  $H$  in  $G = \langle A \rangle$ ,  $\text{card}(G) = 17496 = 2^3 3^7$ , and  $Z_{H,3}(G) = G$  (cf. 2.13).

**4.3.** Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $S_6$  generated by  $A = \{\text{id}, (1\ 2)(3\ 4)(5\ 6), (1\ 3\ 5)(2\ 4\ 6), (1\ 4\ 5\ 2\ 3\ 6), (1\ 5\ 4\ 2\ 6\ 3), (1\ 6\ 4)(2\ 5\ 3)\}$  and let  $H$  be the stabilizer of 1 in  $G$ . Then  $L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $H \cong Z_2^{(2)}$ ,  $A$  is an  $H$ -selfconnected transversal to  $H$  in  $G = \langle A \rangle$ ,  $\text{card}(G) = 24$ ,  $Z_{H,2}(G) = G$ ,  $\text{card}(Z(G)) = 2$ ,  $G$  is not nilpotent,  $\text{card}(N_G(H)) = 8$ ,  $N_G(H) = HZ(G) = Z_{H,1}(G) \cong Z_2^{(3)}$  and  $G/Z_{H,1}(G) \cong Z_3$  (cf. 2.4(iv) and 3.4).



**4.4.** Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $S_6$  generated by  $A = \{\text{id}, (1\ 2\ 3)(4\ 5\ 6), (1\ 3\ 2)(4\ 5\ 6), (1\ 4)(2\ 6\ 3\ 5), (1\ 5\ 3\ 6)(2\ 4), (1\ 6\ 2\ 5)(3\ 4)\}$  and let  $H$  be the stabilizer of 1 in  $G$ . Then  $L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $H \cong S_3$  is soluble,  $A$  is an H-selfconnected transversal to  $H$  in  $G = \langle A \rangle$ ,  $\text{card}(G) = 36$ ,  $G \neq Z_{H,n}(G)$  for every  $n \leq 0$  and  $H$  is not subnormal in  $G$  (see 3.5).

**4.5.** Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $S_4$  generated by  $(1\ 2)$ ,  $(3\ 4)$ ,  $(1\ 3\ 2\ 4)$ ,  $(1\ 4\ 2\ 3)$ , let  $H$  be the stabilizer of 1 in  $G$  and let  $A = \{\text{id}, (1\ 2)(3\ 4), (1\ 3)(2\ 4), (1\ 4)(2\ 3)\}$ . Then  $L_G(H) = 1$ ,  $H \cong Z_2$ ,  $A$  is an H-selfconnected transversal to  $H$  in  $G$ ,  $A \cong Z_2^{(2)}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ ,  $G$  is a dihedral eight-element group,  $Z_{H,1}(G) \cong Z_2^{(2)}$  and  $G/Z_{H,1}(G) \cong Z_2$  (cf. 3.4).

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