

## FINITE GROUPS WITH FIVE NON-CENTRAL CONJUGACY CLASSES

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ABSTRACT. Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $Z(G)$  be the center of  $G$ . For a subset  $A$  of  $G$ , we define  $k_G(A)$ , the number of conjugacy classes of  $G$  that intersect  $A$  non-trivially. In this paper, we verify the structure of all finite groups  $G$  which satisfy the property  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ , and classify them.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $M$  be a normal subgroup of a finite group  $G$ . The influence of the arithmetic structure of conjugacy classes of  $G$ , like conjugacy class sizes, the number of conjugacy classes or the number of conjugacy class sizes, on the structure of  $G$  is an extensively studied question in group theory. Shi [5], Shahryari and Shahabi [4] and Riese and Shahabi [3] determined the structure of  $M$ , when  $M$  is the union of 2, 3 or 4 conjugacy classes of  $G$ , respectively. Qian et al. [2] considered the opposite extreme situation that contains almost all conjugacy classes of  $G$ , and determined the structure of the whole group, when there are at most 3 conjugacy classes outside  $M$ . In particular, You et al. [7] classified all finite groups  $G$ , when there are at most 4 conjugacy classes of  $G$  outside the center of  $G$ . In this paper, we continue the work in [7] and verify the structure of finite groups  $G$ , when there are 5 conjugacy classes outside the center of  $G$ . Let  $Z(G)$  be the center of  $G$ . For an element  $x$  of  $G$ , we will let  $o(x)$  to denote the order of  $x$  and  $x^G$

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to denote the conjugacy class of  $x$  in  $G$ . For  $A \subseteq G$ , let  $k_G(A)$  be the number of conjugacy classes of  $G$  that intersect  $A$  non-trivially. Recall that  $K \rtimes H$  is a semidirect product of  $K$  and  $H$  with normal subgroup  $K$ . In particular, the Frobenius group with kernel  $K$  and complement  $H$  is denoted by  $K \times_f H$ . Also, the semi-dihedral group of order  $2^n$  is denoted by  $SD_{2^n} = \langle a, b \mid a^{2^{n-1}} = b^2 = 1, bab = a^{2^{n-2}-1} \rangle$ . All further unexplained notations are standard. The purpose of this paper is to classify all finite groups in which there are five non-central conjugacy classes.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $G$  be a non-abelian finite group. Then  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$  if and only if  $G$  is isomorphic to one of the following groups:*

- (1)  $PSL(2, 7)$ ;
- (2)  $SL(2, 3)$ ;
- (3)  $D_{16}$ ,  $Q_{16}$  or  $SD_{16}$ ;
- (4)  $D_{18}$ ;
- (5)  $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_2$ ;
- (6)  $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ ;
- (7)  $(\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f Q_8$ ;
- (8)  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ .

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we present some preliminary results that will be used in the proof of the Theorem 1.1.

**Lemma 2.1.** (See [1]) *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $k_G(G)$  be the number of conjugacy classes of  $G$ . Then*

- (1) *If  $k_G(G) = 1$ , then  $G \cong \{1\}$ ;*
- (2) *If  $k_G(G) = 2$ , then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ ;*
- (3) *If  $k_G(G) = 3$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_3$  or  $S_3$ ;*
- (4) *If  $k_G(G) = 4$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_4, \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2, D_{10}$  or  $A_4$ ;*
- (5) *If  $k_G(G) = 5$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_5, D_8, Q_8, D_{14}, S_4, A_5, \mathbb{Z}_7 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_3$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_5 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ ;*
- (6) *If  $k_G(G) = 6$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_6, D_{12}, \mathbb{Z}_4 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3, D_{18}, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_2, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f Q_8$  or  $PSL(2, 7)$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** [2, Lemma 1.3] *If  $G$  possesses an element  $x$  with  $|C_G(x)| = 4$ , then a Sylow 2-subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is the dihedral, semi-dihedral or generalized quaternion group. In particular,  $|P/P'| = 4$  and  $P$  has a cyclic subgroup of order  $|P|/2$ .*

**Proposition 2.3.** [2, Proposition 2.1] *If  $N$  is a normal subgroup of a finite non-abelian group  $G$ , then  $k_G(G - N) = 1$  if and only if  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $N$  and  $|N| = |G|/2$ .*

**Lemma 2.4.** [7, Lemma 6], *Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $K, N$  be two normal subgroups of  $G$  with  $|K/N| = p$ , where  $p$  is prime. If  $|C_G(x)| = p$  for any  $x \in K - N$ , then  $K$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $N$ .*

### 3. THE PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1.

To prove our main result, Theorem 1.1, we first state the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.1.** *There is no finite non-abelian group  $G$  such that  $G/Z(G)$  is abelian and  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G - Z(G) = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . Since  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - Z(G)/Z(G)) \leq k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ , we have  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) \leq 6$ . It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $G/Z(G)$  is an elementary abelian 2-group of order 4. Hence,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - Z(G)/Z(G)) = 3$ . We may assume that  $xZ(G) = x^G, yZ(G) = y^G, zZ(G) = wZ(G) = tZ(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . It then implies that  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4, |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 12$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4, |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 16, |C_G(t)| = 8$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4, |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 24, |C_G(t)| = 6$ . In the first two cases, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$  or  $4$  and hence  $|G| = 8$  or  $16$ . It follows from Lemma 2.2 that  $|Z(G)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 8$  and  $G$  is isomorphic to  $D_8$  or  $Q_8$ , which forces  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 3$ , a contradiction. In the third case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$ , and get the same contradiction.  $\square$

By Theorem 3.1, since there is no group  $G$  with abelian central factor and  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ , we are ready to prove our main result, Theorem 1.1, and note that  $G/Z(G)$  is not abelian.

Let  $G - Z(G) = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . We consider the following two cases:

**Case 1.** If  $G$  is non-solvable, then  $G/Z(G)$  is non-solvable too. Since  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - Z(G)/Z(G)) \leq k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ , we conclude that  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) \leq 6$ . It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $G/Z(G)$  is isomorphic to  $PSL(2, 7)$  or  $A_5$ . If  $G/Z(G) \cong PSL(2, 7)$ , then  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - Z(G)/Z(G)) = 5$ , and we have  $k_G(xZ(G)) = k_G(yZ(G)) = k_G(zZ(G)) = k_G(wZ(G)) = k_G(tZ(G)) = 1$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(x)| = |C_{G/Z(G)}(xZ(G))|, |C_G(y)| = |C_{G/Z(G)}(yZ(G))|, |C_G(z)| = |C_{G/Z(G)}(zZ(G))|, |C_G(w)| = |C_{G/Z(G)}(wZ(G))|$  and  $|C_G(t)| = |C_{G/Z(G)}(tZ(G))|$ . We may assume that  $o(xZ(G)) = 3, o(yZ(G)) =$

7,  $o(zZ(G)) = 7$ ,  $o(wZ(G)) = 2$  and  $o(tZ(G)) = 4$ . Then we have  $|C_{G/Z(G)}(xZ(G))| = 3$ ,  $|C_{G/Z(G)}(yZ(G))| = 7$ ,  $|C_{G/Z(G)}(zZ(G))| = 7$ ,  $|C_{G/Z(G)}(wZ(G))| = 8$  and  $|C_{G/Z(G)}(tZ(G))| = 4$ . Hence,  $|C_G(x)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 7$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 8$  and  $|C_G(t)| = 4$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and  $G \cong PSL(2, 7)$ .

Now, let  $G/Z(G) \cong A_5$ . Then,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$ . Since  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ ,  $G/Z(G)$  has three non-trivial conjugacy classes as the same as three conjugacy classes of  $G - Z(G)$ . Moreover,  $G/Z(G)$  has one non-trivial conjugacy class, that is the union of two remaining conjugacy classes of  $G - Z(G)$ . Since the order of the centralizer of representative of each of three conjugacy classes of  $G - Z(G)$  in  $G$  is 3, 4 or 5, we conclude that  $|Z(G)| = 1$ . Therefore,  $G \cong A_5$ , a contradiction.

**Case 2.** If  $G$  is solvable, then we have  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) \leq 6$ . It then implies that  $G/Z(G)$  is isomorphic to one of the following groups:  $S_3, D_{10}, A_4, Q_8, D_8, D_{14}, S_4, \mathbb{Z}_7 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_5 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4, D_{12}, D_{18}, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_2, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4, (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f Q_8$  or  $\mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_3$ . Hence, we consider the following subcases:

**Subcase 2.1.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong S_3$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then,  $K \triangleleft G$ ,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 3$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ . Therefore  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and hence  $G \cong S_3$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . It then implies that  $|x^G| + |y^G| = |G - K| = |G|/2$  and  $|z^G| + |w^G| + |t^G| = |K - Z(G)| = |G|/3$ . Thus, we have either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 9$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 12$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and so  $G \cong S_3$ , a contradiction. In the second case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 12$ , and by [6], we get a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$  or  $k_G(G - K) = 4$ , then by a similar argument, we get a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.2.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong D_{10}$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then,  $K \triangleleft G$ ,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 4$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ . Therefore  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and  $G \cong D_{10}$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So we have  $|x^G| + |y^G| = |G - K| = |G|/2$  and  $|z^G| + |w^G| + |t^G| = |K - Z(G)| = 2|G|/5$ . Hence  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ .

Since  $|K/Z(G)| = 5$ , we have  $|C_G(z)| = 5$  and  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 10$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and  $G \cong D_{10}$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $|x^G| + |y^G| + |z^G| = |G-K| = |G|/2$  and  $|w^G| + |t^G| = |K-Z(G)| = 2|G|/5$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 5$  and by Lemma 2.4,  $K$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $Z(G)$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore, we have  $|C_G(t)| = 5/2$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.3.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong A_4$ . Then,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 4$ . Let  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . We conclude that  $K \triangleleft G$ ,  $|G/K| = 3$  and  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - K/Z(G)) = 2$ . Hence,  $k_G(G-K) \geq 2$ .

If  $k_G(G-K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $|x^G| + |y^G| = |G-K| = 2|G|/3$  and  $|z^G| + |w^G| + |t^G| = |K-Z(G)| = |G|/4$ . It then implies that  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 3$  and by Lemma 2.4,  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and  $G \cong A_4$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So we have  $|x^G| + |y^G| + |z^G| = |G-K| = 2|G|/3$  and  $|w^G| + |t^G| = |K-Z(G)| = |G|/4$ . Hence we have either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 8$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 12$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and so  $G \cong A_4$ , a contradiction. In the second case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 3$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 36$  and by [6], we get a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Hence, we have  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 12$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and so  $G \cong SL(2, 3)$ . For the other two cases,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.4.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong Q_8$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong Q_8$ , which forces  $k_G(G-Z(G)) = 3$ , a contradiction. Now suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$ . Let  $K/Z(G)$  be a cyclic subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$  of order 4. Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$ ,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G) - K/Z(G)) = 2$  and  $k_{G/Z(G)}(K/Z(G) - Z(G)/Z(G)) = 3$ . It follows that  $k_G(G-K) = 2$  and  $k_G(K-Z(G)) = 3$ . We may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . It then implies that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 8$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 16$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$ . In the both cases, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$  or 4 and so  $|G| = 16$  or 32. Now,

Lemma 2.2 implies that  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and  $|G| = 16$ . Therefore,  $G$  is isomorphic to  $D_{16}$ ,  $Q_{16}$  or  $SD_{16}$ .

**Subcase 2.5.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong D_8$ . Using the same argument as in Subcase 2.4, we conclude that  $G$  is isomorphic to  $D_{16}$ ,  $Q_{16}$  or  $SD_{16}$ .

**Subcase 2.6.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong D_{14}$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then,  $K \triangleleft G$ ,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$  and  $G \cong D_{14}$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $|x^G| + |y^G| = |G - K| = |G|/2$  and  $|z^G| + |w^G| + |t^G| = |K - Z(G)| = 3|G|/7$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 7$  and by Lemma 2.4, we have  $K$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $Z(G)$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{3}{7}$ . Suppose that  $|C_G(w)| = 7a$  and  $|C_G(t)| = 7b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ . Then,  $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} = 3$ , which has no solution, a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore, we have  $|C_G(t)| = \frac{7}{3}$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.7.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong S_4$ . Then,  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$ . Since  $k_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$ ,  $G/Z(G)$  has three non-trivial conjugacy classes as the same as three conjugacy classes of  $G - Z(G)$ . Also  $G/Z(G)$  has one non-trivial conjugacy class that is the union of two remaining conjugacy classes of  $G - Z(G)$ . Since the order of the centralizer of representative of each of four non-trivial conjugacy classes of  $G/Z(G)$  is 3, 4 or 8, we have the following two cases:

(1) The order of the centralizer of representative of one of five non-central conjugacy classes of  $G$  is 3. In this case, using a similar argument mentioned before, we conclude that  $|Z(G)| = 1$ . Therefore,  $G \cong S_4$ , a contradiction.

(2) The order of the centralizer of representative of none of five non-central conjugacy classes of  $G$  is 3. So,  $G$  has three non-central conjugacy classes, in which the orders of the centralizers of representatives of them are 4, 4 and 8. Thus, we have  $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{24} = 1$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are the orders of the centralizers of representatives of two other conjugacy classes. This equality holds if  $a = b = 6$  or  $a = 4$ ,  $b = 12$ . In the first case, we get  $|Z(G)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 48$  and by [6], we have a contradiction. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  or 4.

Therefore,  $|G| = 48$  or  $96$  and by [6], we have a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.8.** Assume that  $G/Z(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_7 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_3$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_7 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_3$ , a contradiction. Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$ . Let  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 7-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 3$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{2}{3}$ . Let  $|C_G(x)| = 3a$  and  $|C_G(y)| = 3b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ . Then  $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} = 2$  and so  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 3$ . Now, by Lemma 2.4,  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{2}{7}$ . Let  $|C_G(w)| = 7a$  and  $|C_G(t)| = 7b$ , for some integers  $a$  and  $b$ . Then  $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} = 2$  and so  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 7$ . Now, by Lemma 2.4,  $K$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $Z(G)$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = t^G$ . Then, we have  $|C_G(t)| = 7/2$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.9.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_5 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 5$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_5 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ , a contradiction. Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 5-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 4$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . It then implies that  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{5}$ . Thus, either  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 15$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 20$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 10$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 2$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 40$  and by [6], we get a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{5}$ . Then we conclude that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 10$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 10$ . In the both cases,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and so  $|G| = 40$ , which is not possible.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(t)| = 5$  and by Lemma 2.4,  $K$  is

a Frobenius group with kernel  $Z(G)$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.10.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong D_{12}$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong D_{12}$ , a contradiction. Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 4$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{1}{6}$ . Then, we conclude that either  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 18$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 24$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 12$ . In the both cases,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and  $|G| = 24$ , which is not possible.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{6}$ . It then implies that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 12$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 12$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$  or 4 and so  $|G| = 24$  or 48, which is not possible. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and hence  $|G| = 24$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = t^G$ . Thus, we have  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 6$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 12$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 6$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 6$ . In each case,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and so  $|G| = 24$ , which is not possible.

**Subcase 2.11.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong D_{18}$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong D_{18}$ . Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ .

If  $k_G(G - K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{4}{9}$ . It then implies that  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 9$  and  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 6$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G - K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G - K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K - Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{4}{9}$ . Hence, we have either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| =$



$|C_G(z)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 3$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 3$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 3$ . Therefore,  $|G| = 54$  and by [6], we get a contradiction. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(t)| = \frac{9}{4}$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.12.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_2$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_2$ . Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 2$ .

If  $k_G(G-K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{4}{9}$ . Thus  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 6$ . Therefore  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{4}{9}$ . It then implies that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 3$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 3$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 3$  and so  $|G| = 54$ , which is not possible. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(t)| = \frac{9}{4}$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.13.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f \mathbb{Z}_4$ . Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 4$ .

If  $k_G(G-K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{2}{9}$ . Thus, we conclude that  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 18$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{2}{9}$ . It then implies that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 9$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 2$ ,

$|C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 9$ . In the both cases,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Therefore,  $|C_G(t)| = \frac{9}{2}$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.14.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f Q_8$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong (\mathbb{Z}_3)^2 \times_f Q_8$ . Now suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 3-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then, we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 8$ .

If  $k_G(G-K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{7}{8}$ , which has no integer solution, a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{7}{8}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{9}$ . It then implies that  $|C_G(x)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 18$ . Therefore,  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and  $|G| = 144$ . Hence, by [6], we get a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . Then, we conclude that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 2$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 9$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = 4$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 9$ . In the both cases,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

**Subcase 2.15.** Suppose that  $G/Z(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . In this case  $k_{G/Z(G)}(G/Z(G)) = 6$ . If  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , then  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_4 \rtimes \mathbb{Z}_3$ . Now, suppose that  $|Z(G)| > 1$  and  $K/Z(G)$  be a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $G/Z(G)$ . Then we have  $K \triangleleft G$  and  $|G/K| = 3$ .

If  $k_G(G-K) = 1$ , then it follows from Proposition 2.3 that  $G$  is a Frobenius group with kernel  $K$ . Hence,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 2$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = z^G \cup w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{4}$ . Thus, we conclude that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 12$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 8$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 16$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 3$  and so  $|G| = 36$ , which is not possible. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 3$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = w^G \cup t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{4}$ . It then implies that either  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = |C_G(t)| = 8$  or  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = 6$ ,

$|C_G(z)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(w)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 12$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction. In the second case,  $|Z(G)| = 3$  and hence  $|G| = 36$ , which is not possible.

If  $k_G(G-K) = 4$ , then we may assume that  $G-K = x^G \cup y^G \cup z^G \cup w^G$  and  $K-Z(G) = t^G$ . So, we have  $\frac{1}{|C_G(x)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(y)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(z)|} + \frac{1}{|C_G(w)|} = \frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{|C_G(t)|} = \frac{1}{4}$ . Thus,  $|C_G(x)| = |C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = |C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 9$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$  or  $|C_G(x)| = 3$ ,  $|C_G(y)| = 6$ ,  $|C_G(z)| = |C_G(w)| = 12$ ,  $|C_G(t)| = 4$ . In the first case, we have  $|Z(G)| = 2$  and so  $|G| = 24$ . Therefore,  $G \cong SL(2, 3)$ . In the other two cases, we have  $|Z(G)| = 1$ , a contradiction.

Now the proof of Theorem 1.1 is complete.

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## FINITE GROUPS WITH FIVE NON-CENTRAL CONJUGACY CLASSES

M. REZAEI AND Z. FORUZANFAR

### گروه‌های متناهی با پنج کلاس تزویج نامرکزی

مهدی رضائی و زینب فروزان فر  
مرکز آموزش عالی فنی و مهندسی بوئین زهرا

فرض کنید  $G$  یک گروه متناهی باشد و  $Z(G)$  مرکز  $G$  باشد. برای یک زیرمجموعه  $A$  از  $G$ ،  $K_G(A)$  را برابر تعداد کلاس‌های تزویج  $G$  که اشتراکشان با  $A$  غیربدهی است، تعریف می‌کنیم. در این مقاله، ما ساختار تمامی گروه‌های متناهی  $G$  که در خاصیت  $K_G(G - Z(G)) = 5$  صدق می‌کنند را بررسی کرده و آنها را رده‌بندی می‌کنیم.

کلمات کلیدی: گروه متناهی، گروه فروبنیوس، کلاس تزویج.