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## On Lie rings of torsion groups

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**Abstract** We prove that the Lie ring associated to the lower central series of a finitely generated residually-p torsion group is graded nil.

**Keywords** Torsion group · Nil Lie algebra

**Mathematics Subject Classification** 20F40 · 20F45 · 20F50

## 1 Introduction

Let G be a group. A descending sequence of normal subgroups  $G = G_1 > G_2 > \cdots$  is called a central series if  $[G_i, G_j] \subseteq G_{i+j}$  for all  $i, j \ge 1$ . The direct sum of abelian groups  $L(G) = \bigoplus_{i \ge 1} G_i / G_{i+1}$  is a graded Lie ring with Lie bracket  $[a_i G_{i+1}, b_j G_{j+1}] = [a_i, b_j] G_{i+j+1}$ ;  $a_i \in G_i, b_j \in G_j$ .

Of particular interest are the lower central series:  $G_1 = G$ ,  $G_{i+1} = [G_i, G]$ ,  $i \ge 1$ , and, for a fixed prime number p, the Zassenhaus series (see [7,8]).

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Let p be a prime number. We say that a group G is residually-p if the intersection of all normal subgroups of indices  $p^i$ , i > 1, is trivial.

A graded Lie ring  $L = L_1 + L_2 + \cdots$  is called graded nil if for an arbitrary homogeneous element  $a \in L_i$  the adjoint operator  $ad(a) : x \to [a, x]$  is nilpotent.

The main instrument in the study of the Burnside problem in the class of residually p-groups is the connection between torsion in the group G and graded nilness in the Lie algebra L(G) of the Zassenhaus series (see [6–9]).

In this paper we prove this connection for the lower central series and for an arbitrary central series of G.

**Theorem 1** Let  $\Gamma$  be a finitely generated residually-p torsion group. Let  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 > \Gamma_2 > \cdots$  be the lower central series of  $\Gamma$ . Then the Lie ring  $L(\Gamma) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \Gamma_i / \Gamma_{i+1}$  is graded nil.

Note that the known important classes of torsion groups: Golod–Shafarevich groups (see [2,3]), Grigorchuck groups [4] and Gupta–Sidki groups [5] are residually—p.

We say that a (possibly infinite) group  $\Gamma$  is a p-group if for an arbitrary element  $g \in \Gamma$  there exists  $k \ge 1$  such that  $g^{p^k} = 1$ . Clearly, for a residually p-group being torsion and being a p-group are equivalent.

**Theorem 2** Let  $\Gamma$  be a p-group. Let  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 > \Gamma_2 > \cdots$  be a central series. Then the Lie ring  $L(\Gamma) = \bigoplus_{i>1} \Gamma_i / \Gamma_{i+1}$  is locally graded nil.

In other words, we claim that an arbitrary finitely generated graded subalgebra of  $L(\Gamma)$  is graded nil.

## 2 Definitions and results

Let  $\Gamma$  be a residually-p group and let G be its pro-p completion (see [1]). For an element  $y \in G$  let  $\langle y^G \rangle$  denote the closed normal subgroup of G generated by y. Let  $[y^G, y^G]$  denote the closed commutator subgroup of  $\langle y^G \rangle$ .

For elements  $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_n \in G$  let  $[g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_n] = [g_1, [g_2, [\ldots, g_n]] \ldots]$  be their left-normed commutator.

We will need the following equalities which can be found in [1]:

(1) For an arbitrary integer  $k \ge 1$  we have  $[y, x]^k = [y^k, x] \mod [y^G, y^G]$ ;

(1) For an arotataly integer 
$$k \ge 1$$
, we have  $[y, x] = [y, x] \pmod{y}$ .  
(2)  $[y, x^k] = [y, x]^{\binom{k}{1}} [y, x, x]^{\binom{k}{2}} \dots [y, \underbrace{x, \dots x}_{k}]^{\binom{k}{k}} \pmod{[y^G, y^G]}$ .

Let p be a prime number. The equalities (1) and (2) imply that

(3) 
$$c = [y, x^p][y, \underbrace{x, \dots, x}_{p}]^{-1} = [y^{\binom{p}{1}}, x][y^{\binom{p}{2}}, x, x] \dots [y^{\binom{p}{p-1}}, \underbrace{x, \dots x}_{p-1}] \mod [y^G, y^G].$$

Hence 
$$[y^p, x] = c[[y^p, x], x]^{-\binom{p}{2}/p} \dots [[y^p, x], \underbrace{x, \dots x}_{p-2}]^{-\binom{p}{p-1}/p} \mod [y^G, y^G].$$

Iterating this process and the use of equalities (1) and (2) we conclude that there exists an infinite sequence of nonnegative integers  $k_i \ge 0$  such that



(4) 
$$[y^p, x] = c[c, x]^{k_1}[c, x, x]^{k_2} \dots \text{mod } [y^G, y^G].$$

Let  $\rho$  be a left-normed group commutator,  $\rho = [g_1, \dots g_m]$ , where each element  $g_i$  is either equal to y or to  $x^{p^k}$  for some  $k \ge 1$ . Let  $d_x(\rho)$  denote the sum of powers of x involved in  $\rho$  and  $d_y(\rho)$  the number of times the element y occurs in  $\rho$ .

**Lemma 1** Let  $\rho = [y, x^{p^{i_1}}, x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}], d_y(\rho) = 1, 0 \le i_1, \dots, i_k \le l-1$ . Then  $\rho$  is a converging product of commutators  $\sigma$  of types:

(i)  $\sigma = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, x^{p^{j_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_s}}]$ , where  $d_y(\sigma) = 1$ , no more than one integer of  $j_1, \dots, j_s$  is different from 0 and  $d_x(\sigma) \ge d_x(\rho)$ ;

(ii) 
$$\sigma = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, \dots, y, \dots]$$
, where  $d_y(\sigma) \ge 2$  and  $(d_y(\sigma) - 1)p^l + d_x(\sigma) \ge d_x(\rho)$ .

*Proof* Suppose that  $i_{\alpha}$ ,  $i_{\beta} \ge 1$ ,  $1 \le \alpha \ne \beta \le k$ . We will represent  $\rho$  as a product of commutators of types (i) and (ii) and of commutators of type

(iii) 
$$\rho' = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, x^{p^{j_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_s}}]$$
, where  $0 \le j_1, \dots, j_s \le l - 1$  and  $0 \le d_x(\rho') > d_x(\rho)$ 

and type

(iv) 
$$\rho'' = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, x^{p^{j_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_s}}]$$
, where  $0 \le j_1, \dots, j_s \le l-1$  and  $d_x(\rho'') = d_x(\rho)$ ,  $s > k$ .

Iterating we will get rid of commutators (iii) and (iv).

Without loss of generality we will assume that  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\beta = 2$  and  $1 \le i_1 \le i_2$ .

By (3) we have

$$[y, x^{p^{i_1}}] = [y^{\binom{p}{1}}, x^{p^{i_1-1}}] \dots [y^{\binom{p}{p-1}}, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{p-1}][y, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{p}]$$

 $mod [y^G, y^G].$ 

Now  $\rho$  is a product of commutators of the form

$$[y^{\binom{p}{t}}, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}, x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}], 1 \le t \le p-1;$$
 of the commutator

$$[y,\underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}},\ldots,x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{p},x^{p^{i_2}},\ldots,x^{p^{i_k}}]$$
 and of commutators that involve at least two

occurrences of y and the powers  $x^{p^{i_1-1}}, x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}$  (see [7]).

The latter commutators are commutators of type (ii). The commutator  $[y, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{p}, x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}]$  satisfies condition (iv). Hence it remains to con-

sider commutators of the form  $[y^{\binom{p}{i}}, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}, x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}].$ 

Since  $p|\binom{p}{t}$ ,  $1 \le t \le p-1$ , we will consider the commutator

$$[y^p,\underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}},\ldots,x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_t,x^{p^{i_2}},\ldots,x^{p^{i_k}}].$$

Modulo longer commutators we can move the power  $x^{p^{i_2}}$  to the left. By (4) we get

$$[y^p, x^{p^{i_2}}] = \sigma[\sigma, x]^{s_1}[\sigma, x, x]^{s_2} \dots$$

where 
$$\sigma = [y, x^{p^{i_2+1}}][y, \underline{x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_2}}}]^{-1} \mod [y^G, y^G].$$

where 
$$\sigma = [y, x^{p^{i_2+1}}][y, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_2}}}_{p}]^{-1} \mod [y^G, y^G].$$
The commutators  $[y, x^{p^{i_2+1}}, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{t}, \dots x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots x^{p^{i_k}}]$  and  $[y, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_2}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_2}}}_{p}, \underbrace{x^{p^{i_1-1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_1-1}}}_{t}, \dots x^{p^{i_k}}]$  are of type (iii) since  $i_2 \geq i_1$  and

therefore  $p^{i_2+1} + p^{i_1-1} > p^{i_2} + p^{i_1}$ 

This finishes the proof of the lemma.

Consider again the commutator  $\rho = [y, x^{p^{i_1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}]$ . Suppose that  $x^{p^l} = 1$ . Consider the *l*-tuple  $ind(\rho) = (k_{l-1}, \dots, k_0), k_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ , where  $k_i$  is the number of times i occurs among  $i_1, \ldots, i_k$ . Clearly,  $k_0 + k_1 + \cdots k_{l-1} = k$ .

Consider the length-lex order in  $Z^{l}_{\geq 0}$ :  $(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_l) > (\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_l)$  if either  $\sum \alpha_i > \sum \beta_i$  or  $\sum \alpha_i = \sum \beta_i$  and  $(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_l) > (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_l)$  lexicographically.

**Lemma 2** Let  $x, y \in G$ ,  $x^{p^l} = 1$ ,  $y^{p^s} = 1$ . A commutator  $\rho = [y, x^{p^{i_1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}]$ such that  $d_x(\rho) \geq (s+1)p^l$  can be represented as a product of commutators  $\sigma =$  $[y, x^{p^{j_1}}, \dots, y, \dots, x^{p^{j_q}}], \text{ where } d_y(\sigma) \ge 2 \text{ and } (d_y(\sigma) - 1)p^l + d_x(\sigma) \ge d_x(\rho).$ 

*Proof* We will show that  $\rho$  is a (converging) product of commutators of the form  $\sigma_1$ and  $\sigma_2$ , where  $d_v(\sigma_1) \geq 2$ ,  $(d_v(\sigma_1) - 1)p^l + d_x(\sigma_1) \geq d_x(\rho)$  for commutators of the form  $\sigma_1$ , whereas commutators of the form  $\sigma_2$  look as  $\sigma_2 = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_t}}]$ with  $d_x(\sigma_2) > d_x(\rho)$  or  $d_x(\sigma_2) = d_x(\rho)$  and  $ind(\sigma_2) > ind(\rho)$ . Then, applying this assertion to commutators of the form  $\sigma_2$  and iterating we will get rid of commutators  $\sigma_2$ .

We claim that at least one  $i, 0 \le i \le l-1$ , occurs in  $i_1, \ldots, i_k$  not less than p times. Indeed, otherwise  $d_x(\rho) \le (p-1)(1+p+\cdots+p^{l-1})$ , which contradicts our assumption that  $d_x(\rho) \ge (s+1)p^l$ .

Suppose that i occurs in  $i_1, \ldots, i_k$  not less than p times and i is the smallest in  $\{i_1,\ldots,i_k\}$  with this property. Moving the occurrences of i to the left, modulo longer commutators, we assume  $i_1 = \cdots = i_p = i$ .

By (2) we have

$$[y,\underbrace{x^{p^{i}},\ldots,x^{p^{i}}}_{p}] = [y,x^{p^{i+1}}][y^{\binom{p}{1}},x^{p^{i}}]^{-1}\ldots[y^{\binom{p}{p-1}},\underbrace{x^{p^{i}},\ldots,x^{p^{i}}}_{p-1}]^{-1}\tau_{1}\ldots\tau_{q},$$

where  $\tau_i$  are commutators that involve y at least twice.

The commutator  $\sigma' = [y, x^{p^{i+1}}, x^{p^{i_{p+1}}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}]$  has greater index than  $\rho$ . Indeed,  $d_x(\sigma') = d_x(\rho)$ , but  $ind(\sigma')$  is lexicographically greater than  $ind(\rho)$ .



For a commutator  $\tau'_i = [\tau_j, x^{p^{i_{p+1}}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}]$ , we have

$$d_{x}(\tau_{j}') \geq d_{x}(\rho) - (p-1)p^{i}.$$

Hence, 
$$p^l(d_y(\tau_i') - 1) + d_x(\tau_i') \ge p^l + d_x(\rho) - (p-1)p^i > d_x(\rho)$$
.

Consider now the commutator  $\rho' = [y^p, x^{p^i}, x^{p^{i_p+1}}, \dots, x^{p^{i_k}}].$ 

We claim that there exists  $j \in \{i_{p+1}, \ldots, i_k\}$  such that  $j \geq i$ . Indeed, otherwise all integers in  $\{i_{p+1}, \ldots, i_k\}$  are smaller than i and therefore occur  $\leq (p-1)$  times. Hence,

$$d_x(\rho) \le pp^i + (p-1)(1+p+\cdots+p^{i-1}) = p^{i+1}+p^i-1 < 2p^l \le (s+1)p^l,$$

which contradicts the assumption of the lemma.

Moving  $x^{p^j}$  to the right end in  $\rho'$  modulo longer commutators we will assume that  $i_k = j \ge i$ .

Consider the commutator  $\rho'' = [y^p, x^{p^i}, x^{p^i p+1}, \dots, x^{p^{ik+1}}]$ . We have  $d_x(\rho'') = d_x(\rho) - (p-1)p^i - p^j \ge sp^l$ . By the induction assumption on s the commutator  $\rho''$  is a product of commutators w in  $y^p$  and x, each commutator involves  $\mu = \mu(w) \ge 2$  elements  $y^p$  and  $(\mu-1)p^l + d_x(w) \ge d_x(\rho'')$ . We will assume that  $w = [w_1, \dots, w_{\mu}]$ ,  $w_j = [y^p, \dots]$ ,  $1 \le j \le \mu$ .

Remark Any commutator that has degree  $\geq \mu + 1$  in y and degree  $\geq d_x(w)$  in x fits the requirements of the lemma since  $\mu p^l + d_x(w) \geq d_x(\rho'') + p^l \geq d_x(\rho)$ .

The commutator  $[w_1, \ldots, w_{\mu}, x^{p^j}]$  is equal to a product

$$[[w_1, x^{p^j}], w_2, \dots, w_{\mu}][w_1, [w_2, x^{p^j}], \dots] \dots [w_1, \dots, [w_{\mu}, x^{p^j}]]$$

modulo longer commutators (see the Remark above).

Consider 
$$[w_1, ..., [w_{\nu}, x^{p^j}], ..., w_{\mu}].$$

In  $[w_v, x^{p^j}]$  move  $x^{p^j}$  to the left position next to  $y^p$  modulo longer commutators (see the Remark above).

By (4), 
$$[y^p, x^{p^j}] = c[c, x]^{k_1}[c, x, x]^{k_2} \dots \tau_1 \dots \tau_q$$
, where  $c = [y, x^{p^{j+1}}][y, \underbrace{x^{p^j}, \dots, x^{p^j}}_{p}]^{-1}; \tau_1, \dots \tau_q \in [y^G, y^G]; d_x(\tau_1), \dots, d_x(\tau_q) \ge p^j$ .

If the commutator  $[y^p, x^{p^j}]$  is replaced by one of  $\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_q$  then see the Remark. If  $[y^p, x^{p^j}]$  is replaced by c then

$$d_x([w_1, \dots, w_{\nu-1}, c, w_{\nu+1}, \dots, w_{\mu}]) \ge$$

$$d_x([w_1, \dots, w_{\mu}, x^{p^j}]) + (p-1)p^j d_x(w) + pj + 1.$$

Hence, 
$$(\mu - 1)p^l + d_x([w_1, \dots, w_\mu, x^{p^j}]) \ge (\mu - 1)p^l + d_x(\mu) + pj + 1 \ge d_x(\rho'') + p^{j+1} = d_x(\rho) - (p-1)p^i - p^j + p^{j+1} = d_x(\rho) + (p-1)(p^j - p^i) \ge d_x(\rho).$$

Since  $d_{\nu}([w_1, \dots, w_{\mu}, x^{p^i}]) \geq 2$ , this commutator satisfies the requirements of the lemma. If the commutators  $[y^p, x^{p^j}]$  is replaced by  $[c, \underbrace{x, \dots, x}]^{k_t}$ , then  $(\mu -$ 

1) 
$$p^l + d_x([w_1, \ldots, w_{\nu-1}, [c, \underbrace{x, \ldots, x}]^{k_1}, w_{\nu+1}, \ldots, w_{\mu}]) > d_x^l(\rho).$$

This finishes the proof of the lemma.

**Lemma 3** Let  $x \in G_i$ ,  $x^{p^l} = 1$ ,  $y \in G_j$ ,  $y^{p^s} = 1$ . Suppose that  $j \ge 2ip^l$ . Then  $(yG_{i+1})ad(xG_{i+1})^{(s+1)p^l} = 0$  in the Lie algebra  $L = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k/G_{k+1}$ .

*Proof* By Lemma 2 the group commutator  $\rho = [y, x, ..., x]$  can be represented as a

product of commutators  $w = [w_1, \dots, w_{\mu}], \mu \ge 2$ , where each  $w_k$  is a commutator of the type  $w_k = [y, x^{p^{j_1}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_r}}], (\mu - 1)p^l + d_x(w) \ge d_x(\rho) = (s + 1)p^l$ .

By Lemma 1 each  $w_k$  is a product of commutators of type (i) or (ii). A commutator of type (ii) just increases the degree in y. Let  $[y, x^{p^{j_1}}, \dots, x^{p^{j_r}}]$  be a commutator of type (i). So all  $j_1, \ldots, j_r$ , except possibly one, are equal to 0. This implies that

$$[y,x^{p^{j_1}},\dots,x^{p^{j_r}}]\in G_{j+i(p^{j_1}+\dots+p^{j_r}-(p^{l-1}-1))}.$$

Hence,  $w \in G_d$ , where  $d = \mu j + i d_x(w) - \mu i (p^{l-1} - 1) \ge j + (\mu - 1) i p^l + (\mu - 1) i p^l + i d_x(w) - \mu i (p^{l-1} - 1) \ge j + i d_x(\rho) + i [(\mu - 1) p^l - \mu (p^{l-1} - 1)].$ Now it remains to notice that  $(\mu - 1) p^l - \mu (p^{l-1} - 1) > 0$ . We showed that

 $d > j + i d_x(\rho)$ , which implies the lemma.

**Lemma 4** The Lie ring  $L(\Gamma)$  is weakly graded nil, i.e., for arbitrary homogeneous elements  $a, b \in L(\Gamma)$  there exists  $n(a, b) \ge 1$  such that  $bad(a)^{n(a,b)} = 0$ .

*Proof* Let  $a \in \Gamma_i$ ,  $a^{p^l} = 1$ . Let  $n(a) = 2ip^l$ . By Lemma 3, for an arbitrary element  $b \in \Gamma_j$ ,  $j \ge n(a)$ , there exists an integer  $n(a,b) \ge 1$  such that  $[b,\underline{a,a,\ldots,a}] \in$ 

 $G_{i+in(a,b)+1}$ .

Since  $\Gamma$  is a torsion group it follows that for an arbitrary  $k \geq 1$  the subgroup  $\Gamma_k$ has finite index in  $\Gamma$ , hence  $\Gamma_k$  is open in  $\Gamma$ . The subgroup  $G_k$  is the completion of  $\Gamma_k$ . Hence  $\Gamma \cap G_k = \Gamma_k$ .

We proved that  $bad(a)^{n(a,b)} = 0$  in  $L(\Gamma)$ . Now let b be an arbitrary homogeneous element from  $L(\Gamma)$ . Then the degree of the element  $b' = bad(a)^{n(a)}$  is greater than n(a). Hence,  $bad(a)^{n(a)+n(a,b')} = b'ad(a)^{n(a,b')} = 0$ , which finishes the proof of the lemma.

**Lemma 5** Let L be a Lie algebra over a field  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$  generated by elements  $x_1, \ldots, x_m$ . Let  $a \in L$  be an element such that  $x_i ad(a)^{p^k} = 0$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ . Then  $Lad(a)^{p^k} = (0)$ .

*Proof* The algebra L is embeddable in its universal associative enveloping algebra U(L). Let  $a^{p^k}$  be the power of the element a in U(L). For an arbitrary element  $b \in L$  we have  $bad(a)^{p^k} = [b, a^{p^k}]$ . If the element  $a^{p^k}$  commutes with all generators  $x_1, \ldots, x_m$  then  $[L, a^{p^k}] = Lad(a)^{p^k} = (0)$ , which finishes the proof of the lemma.



**Lemma 6** Let L be a Lie ring generated by elements  $x_1, \ldots, x_m$ . Suppose that  $p^l L = (0)$ . Let  $a \in L$  be an element such that  $x_i a d(a)^{p^k} = 0$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ . Then  $Lad(a)^{p^k l} = (0)$ .

*Proof* By Lemma 5 we have  $Lad(a)^{p^k} \subseteq pL$ . Hence  $L(ad(a)^{p^k})^l \subseteq p^lL = (0)$ , which proves the lemma.

*Proof of Theorem 1* Let  $x_1, \ldots, x_m$  be generators of the group  $\Gamma$ . Then the elements  $x_i \Gamma_2$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ , generate the Lie ring  $L(\Gamma)$ . Let  $p^l$  be the maximum of orders of the elements  $x_1, \ldots, x_m$ , so  $x_i^{p^l} = 1$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ . Then  $p^l(x_i \Gamma_2) = 0$  in the Lie ring  $L(\Gamma)$ . Hence  $p^l L(\Gamma) = (0)$ .

Let a be a homogeneous element of  $L(\Gamma)$ . By Lemma 4 there exists  $k \ge 1$  such that  $(x_i \Gamma_2) ad(a)^{p^k} = 0$  for i = 1, ..., m. Now Lemma 6 implies that  $L(\Gamma) ad(a)^{p^k \cdot l} = (0)$ , which finishes the proof of Theorem 1.

Proof of Theorem 2 Without loss of generality we assume that  $\cap_i \Gamma_i = (1)$ . We view the subgroups  $\{\Gamma_i | i \geq 1\}$  as a basis of neighborhoods of 1 thus making  $\Gamma$  a topological group. Let G be a completion of  $\Gamma$  in this topology. Let  $G_i$  be the closure of  $\Gamma_i$  in G. Then  $G_i \cap \Gamma = \Gamma_i$  and  $G = G_1 > G_2 > \cdots$  is a central series of the group G. Arguing as in Lemmas 3, 4 we conclude that the Lie ring  $L(\Gamma) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1} \Gamma_i / \Gamma_{i+1}$  is weakly graded nil. Choose homogeneous elements  $a_1, \ldots, a_m \in L(\Gamma)$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is a p-group it follows that there exists  $l \geq 1$  such that  $p^l a_i = 0, 1 \leq i \leq m$ . Consider the subring L' of  $L(\Gamma)$  generated by  $a_1, \ldots, a_m, p^l L' = (0)$ . If a is a homogeneous element from L' and  $a_i ad(a)^{p^k} = 0, 1 \leq i \leq m$ , then by Lemma 6 we have  $L'ad(a)^{p^k \cdot l} = (0)$ , which finishes the proof of Theorem 2.

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