

## $n$ -torsion Groups

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Received February 27, 2019; revised April 17, 2019; accepted April 25, 2019

**Abstract**—A group is called an  $n$ -torsion group if it has a system of defining relations of the form  $r^n = 1$  for some elements  $r$ , and for any of its finite order element  $a$  the defining relation  $a^n = 1$  holds. It is assumed that the group can contain elements of infinite order. In this paper, we show that for every odd  $n \geq 665$  for each  $n$ -torsion group can be constructed a theory similar to that of constructed in S. I. Adian's well-known monograph on the free Burnside groups. This allows us to explore the  $n$ -torsion groups by methods developed in that work. We prove that every  $n$ -torsion group can be specified by some independent system of defining relations; the center of any non-cyclic  $n$ -torsion group is trivial; the  $n$ -periodic product of an arbitrary family of  $n$ -torsion groups is an  $n$ -torsion group; in any recursively presented  $n$ -torsion group the word and conjugacy problems are solvable.

**MSC2010 numbers** : 20F50; 20F05; 20E06

**DOI**: 10.3103/S1068362319060013

**Keywords**: Torsion group; free Burnside group; periodic group; relatively free group; infinitely based variety.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

If in a group  $G$  the identity  $x^n = 1$  is satisfied, then  $G$  is said to be a periodic group of exponent  $n$ , or an  $n$ -periodic group. All similar groups form a variety, called a Burnside variety of exponent  $n$ . The free groups of rank  $m$  of a variety of exponent  $n$  is denoted by  $B(m, n)$ . One of the most well-known problems in algebra and group theory, posed by W. Burnside in 1902 has a simple statement: *is any finitely generated group  $B(m, n)$  finite?* Currently, the free groups  $B(m, n)$  are also called free Burnside groups in honor of W. Burnside.

A negative answer to the Burnside problem was first obtained in a series of classical works by S. I. Adian and P. S. Novikov. A few years later, in the monograph [1], S. I. Adian has modified and strengthened the constructed theory and proved his celebrated theorem stating that: *for all odd  $n \geq 665$  and  $m > 1$  the Burnside groups  $B(m, n)$  are infinite.* In addition to the study of groups  $B(m, n)$ , in the monograph [1] were constructed and studied a number of other groups possessing new unusual properties. The structures and ideas of construction of these groups became a starting point for solution of a series of well-known old and difficult problems of the group theory. Here we mention two important classes of groups from [1].

The first important class of the groups, constructed in [1] by means of generating and defining relations, is denoted by  $B(m, n, \alpha)$ , where  $m$  is the number of the generators of the group,  $n \geq 665$  is an arbitrary odd number, and  $\alpha$  is a natural parameter. In [1] it was proved that the free Burnside group  $B(m, n)$  is the direct limit in  $\alpha$  of the group  $B(m, n, \alpha)$ .

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<sup>3</sup>The research was supported by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (Project 18-01-00822 A) in Steklov Mathematical Institute.

<sup>4</sup>The research was supported by the RA MES State Committee of Science, the project 18T-1A306.

<sup>5</sup>Sections 1, 4 are written by S. Adian; sections 2, 3 are written by V. Atabekyan.

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The next important class of groups is connected with the known finite bases problem of group theory, which was posed by B. Neumann in 1937. In [1] it was proved that for any odd  $n \geq 1003$  the following family of identities in two variables  $\{(x^{pn}y^{pn}x^{-pn}y^{-pn})^n = 1\}$ , where the parameter  $p$  runs over the set of all prime numbers, is irreducible, that is none of these identities follows from the others. From this it follows that for any odd  $n \geq 1003$  there exists continuum of distinct varieties  $\mathcal{A}_n(\Pi)$  corresponding to distinct sets of prime numbers  $\Pi$ . Besides, for any fixed  $m > 1$  there exists *continuum* of nonisomorphic groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$ , where  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  is a relatively free group of rank  $m$  of the variety  $\mathcal{A}_n(\Pi)$ .

Observe that for fixed  $m$  and  $n$ , there is a natural homomorphism from each of the groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  and  $B(m, n, \alpha)$  onto  $B(m, n)$ . Moreover, the groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  and  $B(m, n, \alpha)$  possess the following two properties:

1. each of these ( $m$ -generated) groups has a system of defining relations of the form  $A^n = 1$  for some elements  $A$ ;
2. in each of these groups, for every element  $Y$  of finite order, the defining relation  $Y^n = 1$  is satisfied.

Let  $X$  be an arbitrary group alphabet,  $\mathcal{R}$  be some set of words, written in this alphabet,  $n > 1$  be a fixed natural number, and

$$G = \langle X | R^n = 1, R \in \mathcal{R} \rangle \quad (1.1)$$

be the presentation of some group  $G$ .

**Definition 1.1.** *The group (2.2) is said to be an  $n$ -torsion group if for every element  $Y \in G$ , either  $Y^n = 1$ , or  $Y$  is of infinite order.*

A cyclic group of order  $n$  and an infinite cyclic group are simple examples of  $n$ -torsion groups. Also, it is clear that free groups of arbitrary rank  $n$  are  $n$ -torsion groups for any natural  $n$ . In [2], A. Karrass, W. Magnus and D. Solitar proved that in any group  $G = \langle X | A^n = 1 \rangle$ , where  $A$  is a simple word (that is, a word which is not a proper power of another word), the element  $A$  has order  $n$  in  $G$ , and each element of finite order in  $G$  conjugate to some power of the element  $A$ . This means that any group with a single defining relation of the form  $A^n = 1$  is an  $n$ -torsion group. From the result of work [3] by S. I. Adian (see also [4]) it follows that in any finitely presented  $n$ -torsion group the algorithmic word and conjugacy problems are solvable for all odd  $n \geq 665$ . Besides the absolute free groups and the above mentioned groups  $B(m, n)$ ,  $B(m, n, \alpha)$ ,  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , studied in [1], [3]–[5], in the work [6], S. I. Adian has investigated free groups of a variety, satisfying the identity  $[x, y]^n = 1$ . Based on the result of [6], it is not difficult to deduce that these free groups also are  $n$ -torsion groups. Some other groups that essentially are  $n$ -torsion groups have been constructed and studied in the works by A. Yu. Olshanskii, S. V. Ivanov, I. G. Lysenok, V. S. Atabekyan and others (see [7]–[12]).

Denote by  $B(X, n)$  the free Burnside group of period  $n$  with the same as in  $G$  system of generators  $X$ :

$$B(X, n) = \langle X | A^n = 1 \text{ for all words } A \text{ in the group alphabet } X \rangle.$$

Observe that the identical on the set of generators  $X$  mapping from  $G$  into  $B(X, n)$  can be extended to surjective homomorphism, because by the definition of  $n$ -torsion group (2.2) all its defining relations have the form  $R^n = 1$ , where  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ . Hence, the following proposition holds.

**Proposition 1.1.** *Every  $n$ -torsion group  $G = \langle X | R^n = 1, R \in \mathcal{R} \rangle$  is homomorphically mapped onto  $B(X, n)$ . In particular, every noncyclic  $n$ -torsion group is infinite, provided that  $n$  has an odd divisor  $k \geq 665$  or a divisor of the form  $k = 16m \geq 8000$ .*

The second part of Proposition 1.1 follows from the above stated theorem by S. I. Adian and a theorem by I. G. Lysenok from [9] (see also [8]).

We show that for odd  $n \geq 665$ , for each  $n$ -torsion group can be constructed a theory similar to that of constructed in monograph [1], which will allow us to investigate  $n$ -torsion groups by methods developed in [1], and to study their key properties. Some of these properties we will prove in the present paper. For exponents of the form  $n = 16m \geq 8000$  a similar theory can be constructed basing on the results of [8] and [9].

We first introduce one more broad class of  $n$ -torsion groups, which is obtained by means of the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** *The  $n$ -periodic product of any family of  $n$ -torsion groups is also an  $n$ -torsion group for any odd  $n \geq 665$ .*

Recall that the notion of  $n$ -periodic product of groups was introduced by S. I. Adian [13] in 1976. It was proved that periodic products are associative, exact, hereditary by subgroups and also possess important properties such as the Hopf property, the  $C^*$ -simplicity, the uniform non-amenable, the SQ-universality, etc. (see [13]-[18]).

In what follows, we will assume that  $n \geq 665$  is an arbitrary fixed odd number.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Every  $n$ -torsion group can be presented by some independent system of defining relations  $\{A^n = 1 : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is some set of words in the alphabet  $X$ . Besides, each element of a finite order from  $G$  will be conjugate to some power of an element  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ .*

It is well-known that the centralizer of any nontrivial element of an absolutely free group is cyclic. According to Adian's theorem, the centers of the groups  $B(m, n)$  and  $B(m, n, \alpha)$  are trivial for all odd  $n \geq 665$ . Moreover, the centralizer of any nontrivial element of these groups is also cyclic (see [1], Chapter 6, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2). In 2015, the authors have proved that the centralizers of any nontrivial elements of a relatively free groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  also are cyclic for all odd  $n \geq 1003$  (see [19]). Based on the independent system of defining relations in Theorem 1.2, we show that these properties possess any  $n$ -torsion group.

**Theorem 1.3.** *The centralizer of any nontrivial element of every  $n$ -torsion group is a cyclic group.*

**Corollary 1.1.** *The center of every noncyclic  $n$ -torsion group is trivial.*

**Corollary 1.2.** *Every Abelian subgroup of each  $n$ -torsion group is a cyclic group.*

The next result is true for all groups, which have only cyclic centralizers for nontrivial elements (see [20], Lemma 2.3).

**Corollary 1.3.** *Each nontrivial normal subgroup of every noncyclic  $n$ -torsion group is infinite.*

The next result concerns algorithmic problems.

**Theorem 1.4.** *If the presentation (2.2) of an  $n$ -torsion group  $G$  is recursive, then in  $G$  the word and conjugacy problems are solvable.*

**Corollary 1.4.** *In every finitely defined  $n$ -torsion group the word and conjugacy problems are solvable.*

In [21] were considered relatively free groups  $K$ , having only cyclic centralizers for nontrivial elements, and it was proved that every automorphism of the semigroup of endomorphisms  $End(K)$  of the group  $K$  from the mentioned class is uniquely determined by its action on the subgroup of inner automorphisms  $Inn(K)$ . Putting together this result and Theorem 1.3, we obtain the following result.

**Corollary 1.5.** *If an automorphism of the semigroup  $End(K)$  of a relatively free  $n$ -torsion group  $K$  acts identically on the subgroup of inner automorphisms  $Inn(K)$ , then it acts identically on the whole semigroup  $End(K)$ .*

**Corollary 1.6.** *For any relatively free  $n$ -torsion group  $K$ , the group of automorphisms  $Aut(End(K))$  is canonically embedded into the group  $Aut(Aut(K))$*

Corollaries 1.5 and 1.6 generalize Theorem 1.2 and Corollary 4 from [19], respectively, proved for the groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  for odd  $n \geq 1003$ .

Theorem 1.1 we prove in Section 2. In Section 3, for each  $n$ -torsion group, we construct a special independent system of defining relations, which will be used to prove Theorems 1.2 and 1.3 in Sections 4 and 5, respectively.

In what follows, we will frequently cite the monograph [1]. To cite the results from [1] we will use standard notation, for instance, the notation II.5.3 [1] means item 3, section 5, chapter II of [1].

2. PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1

We prove that the *n*-periodic product of every family of *n*-torsion groups is an *n*-torsion group.

Recall that the periodic product of exponent *n* (or the *n*-periodic product) of a family of groups  $\{G_i\}_{i \in I}$  is defined to be the group that is obtained by adding to the relations of free product  $F = \prod_{i \in I} *G_i$

all the defining relations of the form  $A^n = 1$ , where *A* is an elementary period of some rank  $\alpha$  for a specified classification of periodic words of the free product *F* (see the definition in item 8 of [13]).

By Theorem 2 of [13] the equality  $X^n = 1$  in the group  $\prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  is satisfied for any word *X* from the free product *F*, which in the group  $G = \prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  is not conjugate to any element of subgroups  $G_i, i \in I$ .

Besides, by Theorem 3 of [13], each factor  $G_i, i \in I$  is identically embedded into the *n*-periodic product *G* (see also [16] and [18]).

Assume that all the factors  $G_i$  of a given *n*-periodic product  $G = \prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  are *n*-torsion groups. Then each of the groups  $G_i$  will have a presentation of the form  $G_i = \langle a_{ik}, k \in S_i | g_{il}^n, l \in J_i \rangle$  for some sets of indices  $S_i, J_i, i \in I$ , and hence, the free product *F* will have the presentation:

$$\prod_{i \in I} *G_i = \langle a_{ik}, k \in S_i, i \in I | g_{il}^n, l \in J_i, i \in I \rangle.$$

As it was mentioned above, the *n*-periodic product of a family of groups  $\{G_i\}_{i \in I}$  is obtained by adding to the relations of free product  $\prod_{i \in I} *G_i$  all the defining relations of the form  $A^n = 1$ , where each element *A* is

an elementary period of some rank  $\alpha$  for a specified classification of periodic words in the group alphabet  $\{a_{ik}\}_{k \in S_i, i \in I}$  of the free product  $\prod_{i \in I} *G_i$ . Thus, the *n*-periodic product *G* has a presentation, in which all the defining relations have the form  $r^n = 1$  (where  $r = g_{il}, l \in J_i, i \in I$  or  $r = A$ , and *A* is an elementary period).

Further, by Theorem 2 of [13], the equality  $X^n = 1$  in the group  $\prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  is satisfied for each word *X* from the free product  $\prod_{i \in I} *G_i$ , which in the group  $\prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  is not conjugate to any element of subgroups  $G_i, i \in I$ . And, if *X* in the group  $\prod_{i \in I} {}^nG_i$  is conjugate to some element of one of the subgroups  $G_i, i \in I$ , then either *X* has infinite order, or  $X^n = 1$ , because, by assumption, each group  $G_i, i \in I$ , is an *n*-torsion group, and in addition, by Theorem 3 of [13], each factor  $G_i, i \in I$  is identically embedded into the *n*-periodic product *G*. Theorem 1.1 is proved.

3. INDEPENDENT SYSTEMS OF DEFINING RELATIONS FOR *n*-TORSION GROUPS

Let the group *G* with presentation (2.2) be an arbitrary *n*-torsion group. For each such group, by induction on natural parameter  $\alpha$ , we construct some presentation by means of generators of *X* and a new system of defining relations  $\{A^n = 1; A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_\alpha\}$ . We use the notation and the system of references adopted in [1]. The presented in sections I.4 and VII.2 of the monograph [1] system of definitions by complicated simultaneous induction on natural parameter, called rank, was based on the notion of (signed) elementary words of the form  $A^n$ , where *n* is a fixed odd number  $\geq 1003$ . To prove Theorem 1.2, we construct a similar system of notions, using a given set of words  $\mathcal{R}$ .

We first can assume that all the words  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  in the presentation (2.2) are cyclically uncancellable and simple, that is, any word  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  is not a proper power of some other word. Indeed, if, for instance,  $R_1^k = R \in \mathcal{R}$ , then  $R_1$  in *G* will have a finite order, and since *G* is an *n*-torsion group, then  $R_1^n = 1$  in *G*. Then, the relation  $R^n = 1$  can be replaced by the relation  $R_1^n = 1$ .

For rank 0, all the notions remain the same. In particular, all the uncancellable words are called reduced at the rank 0, and any cyclically uncancellable word is a period of rank 1.

All the words  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  are *minimal* periods of rank 1, by their cyclically uncancellability and simplicity (see Definition I.4.9 [1]). Among all reduced at the rank 0 words (the set of which is denoted by  $\mathcal{R}_0$ ) we can extract all *elementary periods* of rank 1, according to Definition I.4.10 from [1]. An elementary

period  $E$  of rank 1 is called *signed* (at the rank 0), if some cyclic shift of the word  $E$  or of its inverse belongs to the set  $\mathcal{R}$ . Otherwise, an elementary period  $E$  of rank 1 is called *unsigned*. Next, we introduce reversals of rank 1 for all periodic words, the periods of which are signed at rank 0 elementary periods of rank 1. These reversals have usual form:

$$PA^t A_1 Q \rightarrow P(A^{-1})^{n-t-1} A_2^{-1} Q, \tag{3.1}$$

where either  $A$  or  $A^{-1}$  is a signed elementary period of rank 1 or some its cyclic shift,  $A \equiv A_1 A_2$ , and the words  $A^t A_1$  and  $(A^{-1})^{n-t-1} A_2^{-1}$  contain at least  $p = 9$  sections, that is, are  $p$ -powers.

In a natural manner we define the *real reversals* of rank 1. Based on real reversals we define the notion of a *kernel* of rank 1 for the words  $W \in \mathcal{N}_1$ , where the set of words  $\mathcal{N}_1$  is defined according to I.4.21 from [1]. Further, according to I.4.26 from [1] we define the sets  $\mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{K}_1, \mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{M}_1$ , the equivalence relation of rank 1, denoted by  $\overset{1}{\sim}$ , as well as all other notions of rank 1. The proofs of all necessary properties introduced in I.4 of [1] of notions of rank 1 remain the same. New is only the restriction of the class of elementary words by signed elementary words of period 1. Finally, for any words  $B, C \in \mathcal{R}_1$  we define the binary operation  $[B, C]_1$  of *coupling* of rank 1 similar to Definition I.4.36 [1]:

$$[B, C]_1 = PQ \leftrightarrow \exists T(B \overset{1}{\sim} PT \ \& \ C \overset{1}{\sim} T^{-1}Q \ \& \ PQ \in \mathcal{R}_1).$$

Further, using simultaneous induction on rank  $\alpha$ , all the introduced notions can be defined for all natural ranks. Let the *signed* periods of rank  $\alpha$  and the analogs of all notions, that were defined in I.4 of [1], be already defined for all ranks  $\leq \alpha$ . Then we define them at rank  $\alpha + 1$ .

If  $W \in \mathcal{R}_0$  and  $W \equiv x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \cdots x_{i_k}$ , where  $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_k}$  belong to the set of generators  $X$  (the symbol  $\equiv$  stands for graphic equality), then by  $[W]_\alpha$  we denote the result of the following sequence of couplings of rank  $\alpha$ :

$$[[\cdots [[x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}]_\alpha, \cdots]_\alpha, x_{i_k}]_\alpha.$$

Thus, we have

$$[W]_\alpha \equiv [[\cdots [[x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}]_\alpha, \cdots]_\alpha, x_{i_k}]_\alpha \in \mathcal{R}_\alpha. \tag{3.2}$$

An elementary period  $A$  of rank  $\alpha + 1$  is called a *signed elementary period* (at the rank  $\alpha$ ), if words  $B$  and  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  can be found to satisfy

$$[R]_\alpha \overset{\alpha}{\sim} [BA^j B^{-1}]_\alpha \tag{3.3}$$

for some integer  $j$ . Otherwise, an elementary period of rank  $\alpha + 1$  is called a *unsigned elementary period* of rank  $\alpha + 1$ . It is easy to check that for  $\alpha = 1$  the definition of signed elementary period of rank  $\alpha$  coincides with the above given definition of signed elementary period of rank 1, because if  $BE^j B^{-1} \overset{0}{\sim} R \in \mathcal{R}$ , then  $BE^j B^{-1} = R$  in the free group. Then we have  $|j| = 1$ , since the word  $R$  is simple. Therefore, one of the words  $E$  or  $E^{-1}$  is a cyclic shift of the word  $R$ , by cyclically uncancellability of elements from  $\mathcal{R}$  and elementary period  $E$ .

Using the definition of signed elementary period, by analogy with VII.2 of [1], we make some changes in the definitions of some notions given in I.4 of [1]. Namely, in all places where the phrase "normalized occurrence of elementary words of rank  $\alpha$ " appears, it should be understood as "marked elementary periods of rank  $\alpha$ ". All the remaining definitions formally remain without any change. All the assertions of the chapters II-V of [1], as well as all the assertions from items 2.3, 2.4 and 2.7-2.10 of chapter VII [1], and Lemma 2.6 of [22] (which are true not only for odd  $n \geq 1003$ , but also for odd  $n \geq 665$ ) and their proofs formally remain the same and are true within the above given correction on the notion of marked elementary period. Notice, in particular, that according to Lemma V.1.8 [1] the binary operation of coupling of rank  $\alpha$  is an associative operation for any  $\alpha \geq 0$ .

Based on the above introduced notions we construct a new presentation for the group  $G$ . Let  $\Gamma_G(X, 0)$  be a free group with generators  $X$ . We first construct auxiliary groups  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ , using induction on the rank  $\alpha$  (by analogy with Definition VI.2.2 of groups  $B(m, n, \alpha)$  from [1]).

Assume that  $\alpha > 0$  and that all the groups  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma)$  are already constructed for all  $\gamma \leq \alpha - 1$ . By  $\mathcal{E}_\alpha$  we denote the set consisting of those marked elementary periods  $A$  of rank  $\alpha$ , for which the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) for every marked elementary period  $E$  of rank  $\alpha$  there is one and only one word  $A \in \mathcal{E}_\alpha$  such that in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  the period  $E$  is conjugate with the period  $A$ , or with the period  $A^{-1}$ .

(b) if  $A \in \mathcal{E}_\alpha$ , then for some words  $P$  and  $Q$  the inclusion  $PA^nQ \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\alpha-1}$  holds.

**Remark.** *The existence of elementary periods  $A$  with the above properties (a) and (b) is proved in Lemma 3.5 below.*

Denote by  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  the group with the same generators  $X$  and the system of defining relations  $A^n = 1$ , where  $A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^n \mathcal{E}_\alpha$ :

$$\Gamma_G(X, \alpha) = \langle X \mid A^n = 1, A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^n \mathcal{E}_\alpha \rangle.$$

Also, denote

$$\mathcal{E} = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_\alpha. \tag{3.4}$$

By the definition, the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$  is generated by generators  $X$  and has the system of defining relations  $A^n = 1$ , where  $A \in \mathcal{E}$ :

$$\Gamma_G(X) = \langle X \mid A^n = 1, A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_\alpha \rangle. \tag{3.5}$$

**Proposition 3.1.** *The groups  $G$  and  $\Gamma_G(X)$  coincide:*

$$G = \Gamma_G(X) = \langle X \mid A^n = 1, A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_\alpha \rangle. \tag{3.6}$$

To prove Proposition 3.1 we need some lemmas. The proof of the next lemma is similar to that of Lemma VI.2.8 of [1], with the only difference that the group  $B(m, n, \alpha)$  should be replaced by the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *For any two words  $C, D \in \mathcal{R}_\alpha$  ( $\alpha \geq 0$ ) the following relation holds:*

$$C \overset{\alpha}{\sim} D \Leftrightarrow C = D \text{ in } \Gamma_G(X, \alpha).$$

**Lemma 3.2.** *For any rank  $\alpha$  and any word  $C$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  we have  $C = [C]_\alpha$ .*

**Proof.** We use induction on the length  $\partial(C)$  of the word  $C$ . For  $\partial(C) = 0$  the assertion is obvious. Let  $C \equiv C_1 x_k$ , where  $x_k \in X$ . By the definition we have  $[C]_\alpha = [[C_1]_\alpha, x_k]_\alpha$ . By induction assumption we have  $[C_1]_\alpha = C_1$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ . Next, by Lemma V.1.4 of [1], a word  $C_2 \in \mathcal{K}_\alpha$  can be found such that  $[C_1]_\alpha \overset{\alpha}{\sim} C_2$  and  $[[C_1]_\alpha, x_k]_\alpha = [C_2, x_k]_0$ . Then by Lemma 2.10 we have  $[C_1]_\alpha = C_2$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ , and hence in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  we have

$$C = C_1 x_k = [C_1]_\alpha x_k = C_2 x_k = [[C_1]_\alpha, x_k]_\alpha = [C]_\alpha.$$

**Lemma 3.3.** *For any rank  $\alpha$  and any word  $C$ , a word  $D \in \mathcal{K}_\alpha$  can be found to satisfy  $C = D$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ . If  $\alpha \geq \partial(C)$ , then such  $D$  can be found in  $\mathcal{A}_{\alpha+1}$ .*

**Proof.** The proof is similar to that of Lemma VI.2.4 of [1], by using induction on the length  $\partial(C)$  of the word  $C$ .

**Lemma 3.4.** *A period  $E$  is a marked elementary period of rank  $\alpha$  if and only if words  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $B$  can be found, such that  $R = BA^j B^{-1}$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  for some integer  $j$ .*

**Proof.** The result follows from the definition of marked elementary period, the equivalence (3.3), and Lemmas 2.10 and 3.2.

**Lemma 3.5.** *Each marked elementary period  $E$  of rank  $\alpha \geq 1$  is conjugate in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  to some elementary period  $A$  of rank  $\alpha$  such that for some words  $P$  and  $Q$  the inclusion  $PA^nQ \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\alpha-1}$  holds. In addition, if  $E$  is a marked (unmarked) elementary period of rank  $\alpha$ , then  $A$  is a marked (unmarked) elementary period of rank  $\alpha$  as well.*

**Proof.** Let  $E$  be an arbitrary elementary period of rank  $\alpha \geq 1$  and  $P * F * Q$  be a normal generating occurrence into some word  $Y \in \text{Integ}(X, \alpha, E)$ . By Lemma IV.3.12 of [1] one can find a word  $Z \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\alpha-1}$  such that  $Z \overset{\alpha-1}{\sim} Y$ . According to II.2.16 [1], to within a cyclic shift of the period  $E$ , we can assume that the occurrence  $P * F * Q$  has the form  $P_1 * E^k E_1 * Q_1$ , where  $E_1$  is the beginning of  $E$ . By II.4.1 [1], the occurrence  $f_{\alpha-1}(P * F * Q; Y, Z)$  has the form  $P_2 * A^k A_1 * Q_2$ , where  $A$  is the image of the period  $E$  in  $f_{\alpha-1}(P * F * Q; Y, Z)$ . Then, by II.4.3 [1] the word  $A$  is a period of rank  $\alpha$ , and a generating occurrence  $P' * F * Q'$  into some word  $Y' \in \text{Per}(\alpha, E)$  can be found such that  $\rho_{\alpha, E}(X) = \rho_{\alpha, A}(Y')$  and  $\text{MutNorm}_{\alpha-1}(P * F * Q, P' * F * Q')$ .

By Lemma 2.6 of [22] (which is a strengthening of Lemma II.7.15 [1]), the periods  $E$  and  $A$  are conjugate in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$ . In view of  $Z \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\alpha-1}$  and II.7.10 [1] it follows that the period  $A^n$  occurs in some word from  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\alpha-1}$ . This proves the first assertion of the lemma.

Let  $E = TAT^{-1}$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  and  $E$  be a marked elementary period of rank  $\alpha$ . By Lemma 3.4, can be found words  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $B$ , such that  $R = BE^jB^{-1}$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  for some integer  $j$ . Then  $R = (BT)A^j(BT)^{-1}$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$ , and  $A$  is marked by Lemma 3.4.

**Lemma 3.6.** *If  $E$  is a marked elementary period of some rank  $\gamma \geq 1$  (or if  $E \in \mathcal{E}_\gamma$ ), then  $E$  has order  $n$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma)$  (and in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ ).*

**Proof.** By definition, every marked elementary period  $E$  of some rank  $\gamma \geq 1$  is conjugate in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma - 1)$  to some elementary period  $A \in \mathcal{E}_\gamma$  or to its inverse. Since  $A^n = 1$  is one of the defining relations of the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma)$ , then  $E^n = 1$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma)$  as well.

The fact that the order of the elementary period  $A \in \mathcal{E}_\gamma$  is not less than  $n$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , follows in standard manner from Lemma IV.2.16 [1].

**Lemma 3.7.** *If  $E$  is an unmarked elementary period of some rank  $\gamma$ , then  $E$  has an infinite order in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ .*

**Proof.** By Lemma 3.5, an elementary period  $E$  of rank  $\gamma \geq 1$  is conjugate in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  to some elementary period  $A$  of rank  $\gamma$ , such that for some words  $P$  and  $Q$  the inclusion  $PA^nQ \in \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\gamma-1}$  holds. By Lemma IV.2.1 of [1] we have the inclusion  $A^q \in \mathcal{K}_{\gamma-1}$ . If  $E$  is an unmarked elementary period of rank  $\gamma$ , then by Lemma VII.2.9 of [1] for every  $i > 10$  and  $\alpha \geq \gamma$  we have  $A^i \in \mathcal{R}_\alpha$ . Then, by Lemma IV.2.16 of [1] and Lemma 2.10 we obtain that the period  $A$  has an infinite order in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  for every  $\alpha \geq \gamma$ .

**Lemma 3.8.** *For every word  $C$ , which is not equal to 1 in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , can be found words  $T$  and  $E$ , such that  $C = TE^rT^{-1}$  in  $\Gamma_G(X)$  for some integer  $r$ , where either  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , or  $E$  is an unmarked elementary period of some rank  $\gamma$ , and the word  $E^q$  occurs in some word from the class  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\gamma-1}$ .*

**Proof.** The proof is similar to that of Lemma VI.2.5 of [1], the only difference is that instead of the group  $B(m, n)$  should be considered the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , and instead of Lemmas 1.2, 2.3 and 2.4 of chapter VI of [1] should be applied Lemma VII.2.7 of [1] and Lemmas 2.10 and 3.3, respectively.

**Lemma 3.9.** *The group  $\Gamma_G(X)$  is an  $n$ -torsion group.*

**Proof.** The result is an immediate consequence of Lemmas 3.8, 3.6 and 3.7.

Now we are in position to prove Proposition 1.1. We prove that in the groups  $G$  and  $\Gamma_G(X)$  are satisfied the same defining relations.

Let  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ . According to Lemma 3.8, if the word  $R$  is not equal to 1 in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , then some words  $T$  and  $E$  can be found to satisfy  $C = TE^rT^{-1}$  in  $\Gamma_G(X)$  for some integer  $r$ , where either  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , or  $E$  is a unmarked elementary period of some rank  $\gamma$ , and the word  $E^q$  occurs in some word from the class  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\gamma-1}$ . The equality  $R = TE^rT^{-1}$  in  $\Gamma_G(X)$  implies the equality  $T^{-1}RT = E^r$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \geq \gamma$ . According to Lemma 3.3, we can assume that  $T^{-1}RT, E^r \in \mathcal{A} = \bigcup_{\beta=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{A}_{\beta} = \bigcap_{\beta=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{R}_{\beta}$ . Then, by Lemma 2.10, we get  $T^{-1}RT \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} E^r$ .

The period  $E$  is an elementary period of rank  $\gamma \leq \alpha$ . Therefore in  $E^r$  do not occur active kernels of ranks  $\geq \gamma$ . Hence, by Lemma IV.2.13 of [1] and the equivalence  $T^{-1}RT \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} E^r$  it follows that  $T^{-1}RT \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} E^r$ . By Lemma 2.10 we obtain  $T^{-1}RT = E^r$  in  $\Gamma_G(X, \gamma - 1)$ . Therefore, by Lemma 3.4, the period  $E$  is a marked elementary period of rank  $\gamma$ . By Lemma 3.6 in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$  the relation  $E^n = 1$  holds, and hence, by the equality  $R = TE^rT^{-1}$ , in the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$  the relation  $R^n = 1$  is satisfied as well.

Now we prove the inverse assertion. We use induction on rank  $\alpha \geq 1$  to show that if  $A^n = 1$  is an arbitrary defining relation of the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , then the relation  $A^n = 1$  is also satisfied in the group  $G$ . Since  $A \in \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$ , then  $A$  is a marked elementary period of rank  $\alpha$ . According to Lemma 3.4, a word  $R \in \mathcal{R}$  can be found such that  $R = BA^jB^{-1}$  in the group  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  for some word  $B$  and an integer  $j$ .

For  $\alpha = 1$  we have  $R = BA^{\pm 1}B^{-1}$  in the free group  $\Gamma_G(X, 0)$  due to the simplicity of the word  $R$ . Since  $R^n = 1$  in  $G$ , we get  $A^n = 1$  in  $G$  as well.

Let  $\alpha \geq 2$  and the assertion be true for all defining relations of the form  $A_1^n = 1$  with elementary periods  $A_1 \in \mathcal{E}$  of rank  $\leq \alpha - 1$ . Since in  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha - 1)$  the equality  $R = BA^jB^{-1}$  holds, then by the induction assumption it holds also in the group  $G$ . By the relation  $R^n = 1$  in  $G$  we have  $A^{jn} = 1$ . Therefore the period  $A$  has a finite order in  $G$ . Since  $G$  is an  $n$ -torsion group, then  $A^n = 1$  in  $G$ . Proposition 3.1 is proved.

**Proposition 3.2.** *The system of defining relations  $\{A^n = 1, A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}\}$  of the group  $G$  in (3.6) is an independent system of relations, that is, any of these relations does not follow from the others.*

**Proof.** To prove that the system of defining relations of the  $n$ -torsion group  $G$  from the presentation (3.6) is an independent system, we use the proof of independence constructed in VI.2.2. of [1] of the system of defining relations of the group  $B(m, n)$ . This proof is given in [23]. So, to prove the proposition, we can repeat the arguments of the proof from [23] with the only difference that the group  $B(m, n)$  should be replaced by the group  $\Gamma_G(X)$ , and the set  $\mathcal{E} = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$  in VI.2.1 [1] should be replaced by the set  $\mathcal{E}$  defined by the equality (3.4).

#### 4. PROOF OF THEOREMS

**Proof of Theorem 1.2.** We prove that every  $n$ -torsion group can be specified by means of some independent system of defining relations  $\{A^n = 1 : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$ , such that each element of a finite order from  $G$  will be conjugate to some power of certain element  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ .

By Proposition 3.1, every  $n$ -torsion group has a presentation of the form (3.6). According to Proposition 3.2, the system of defining relations  $\{A^n = 1, A \in \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}\}$  of the group  $G$  from (3.6) is an independent system of defining relations. By Lemma 3.8, for each nontrivial element  $C$  from  $G$ , some words  $T$  and  $E$  can be found such that  $C = TE^rT^{-1}$  in  $G$  for some integer  $r$ , where either  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ , or  $E$  is an unmarked elementary period of some rank  $\gamma$ , and the word  $E^q$  occurs in some word from the class  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{\gamma-1}$ . In addition, by Lemmas 3.6 and 3.7, if  $C$  has a finite order, then  $E \in \mathcal{E} = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$ . Choosing the set  $\mathcal{E}$  to be the mentioned in the theorem set of words  $\mathcal{A}$ , we complete the proof of Theorem 1.2.

**Proof of Theorem 1.3.** To prove Theorem 1.3, it is enough to repeat the arguments of the proof of Theorem 1 of [19], in which it is stated that the centralizer of every non-identity element of a relatively

free group  $\Gamma = \Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  is a cyclic group. It should only be applied the corresponding lemmas from §3 of this paper instead of lemmas from §2 of [19], and the groups  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi)$  and  $\Gamma(m, n, \Pi, \alpha)$  should be replaced by the groups  $\Gamma_G(X)$  and  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$ , respectively. Theorem 1.3 is proved.

**Proof of Theorem 1.4** Observe first that the solvability of the problem of recognition of equality of words in all the constructed intermediate groups  $\Gamma_G(X, \alpha)$  and in  $G = \Gamma_G(X)$  naturally follows from the recursivity of the sets of relations in the presentation (3.6) and the algorithmic efficiency (see the efficiency principle in I.5.4 [1]) of all the definitions similar to that of as it was obtained in [1] for the groups  $B(X, n, \alpha)$ .

The solvability of the conjugacy problem for the group  $G$ , we obtain basing on the obtained presentation (3.6) of the group  $G$  exactly in the same way as in VI.3.5 from [1], where was proved the solvability of the conjugacy problem for the free Burnside group  $B(m, n)$ . Theorem 1.4 is proved.

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