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On the Relative n -Tensor Nilpotent Degree of Finite Groups

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Abstract. In this paper, we generalize the concepts of the relative commutativity degree $d(G, N)$ of a subgroup N of a finite group G and also the tensor degree of a finite group. We introduce the relative n -tensor nilpotent degree of a finite group G with respect to a subgroup H of G and some bounds on this topic are given.

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1 Introduction and Preliminaries

All groups considered in this paper are finite. Let G be a group with a normal subgroup N . Then (G, N) is said to be a pair of groups. Let G and N act on each other and on themselves by conjugation. The nonabelian tensor product $G \otimes N$ is the group generated by the symbols $g \otimes n$ subject to the relations

$$gg' \otimes n = ({}^g g' \otimes {}^g n)(g \otimes n)$$

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$$g \otimes nn' = (g \otimes n)({}^n g \otimes {}^n n')$$

for all g, g' in G and n, n' in N , where for example ${}^n g'$ is the conjugate of g' by g . For an element $x \in G$, we consider the tensor centralizer of x as

$$C_G^\otimes(x) = \{a \in G : a \otimes x = 1_{G \otimes G}\}$$

which is a subgroup of G . The intersection of all tensor centralizers of elements of G is called the tensor center of G and it is denoted by $Z^\otimes(G)$. The commutator map $\kappa : G \otimes N \rightarrow [G, N]$ which is given by $g \otimes n \rightarrow [g, n]$ for all $g \in G$ and $n \in N$, is an epimorphism of groups and we denote $\ker \kappa$ by $J_2(G)$. We define the tensor upper central series of G as $Z_1^\otimes(G) = Z^\otimes(G)$ and

$$Z_n^\otimes(G) = \{a \in G : [a, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}] \otimes x_n = 1; \text{ for all } x_1, \dots, x_n \in G\}$$

for all $n \geq 2$. In fact $Z_n^\otimes(G)/Z^\otimes(G) = Z_{n-1}(G/Z^\otimes(G))$ for all $n \geq 1$. Hence we have the ascending tensor central series as

$$1 \leq Z_1^\otimes(G) = Z^\otimes(G) \leq Z_2^\otimes(G) \leq Z_3^\otimes(G) \leq \dots$$

In [1], the concept of the tensor degree of a group is introduced as

$$d^\otimes(G) = \frac{|\{(x, y) \in G \times G : x \otimes y = 1_\otimes\}|}{|G|^2}$$

which may be considered as the distance of G from being equal to $Z^\otimes(G)$, because $d^\otimes(G) = 1$ if and only if $Z^\otimes(G) = G$. On the other hand, one may easily check that $d^\otimes(G) = 1$ if and only if G is abelian.

One of the most important concepts in probabilistic group theory is the commutativity degree $d(G)$ of a finite group G (See [4]). Erfanian et. al. in [3] generalized the notation of $d(G)$ by defining the relative commutativity degree of a pair of groups (G, N) . Let N be a subgroup of G . The relative commutativity degree $d(G, N)$ is the probability of commuting an element of N with an element of G . It is obviously seen that $d(G) = d(G, G)$ and $d(G, N) = 1$ if and only if N is contained in the center of G . They also proved the following theorem:

Theorem 1.1. (See [3] Theorem 3.9) Let H and N be two subgroups of G such that $N \trianglelefteq G$ and $N \subseteq H$. Then

$$d(H, G) \leq d(H/N, G/N)d(N),$$

equality holds if $N \cap [H, G] = 1$.

Theorem 1.2. [7] Let G be a group and p be the smallest prime divisor of the order of G and $d = d(G)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{|J_2(G)|} + \frac{|Z^\otimes(G)|}{|G|} \left(1 - \frac{1}{|J_2(G)|}\right) &\leq d^\otimes(G) \\ &\leq d - \frac{(p-1)(|Z(G)| - |Z^\otimes(G)|)}{p|G|} \end{aligned}$$

The special case when $Z^\otimes(G) = 1$ is described by the next result and has analogies with Theorem 2.8 in [6]. There are analogous to the commutativity degree of groups in [1, 2, 7, 8].

Theorem 1.3. [7] Let G be a nonabelian group with $Z^\otimes(G) = 1$ and p be the smallest prime dividing $|G|$. Then $d^\otimes(G) \leq \frac{1}{p}$.

2 Relative n -Tensor Nilpotent Degree

This section is devoted to define the concept of relative n -tensor nilpotent degree of a finite group G and a subgroup H . Then we obtain some results on this concept.

Definition 2.1. Let H be a subgroup of a finite group G . We define $d_n^\otimes(H, G)$, the relative n -tensor nilpotent degree of H in G , as

$$\frac{|\{(h_1, \dots, h_n, g) : [h_1, \dots, h_n] \otimes g = 1_{H \otimes G}, h_i \in H, g \in G\}|}{|H|^n |G|}.$$

In the special case when $H = G$, it is called the n -tensor nilpotent degree of G is denoted by $d_n^\otimes(G)$.

We begin with two following elementary results.

Lemma 2.2. Let G be a group, $x \in G$ and $H \leq G$, then

$$(i) [H : C_G^\otimes(x) \cap H] \leq [G : C_G^\otimes(x)];$$

(ii) Equality holds in (i), if $G = HZ^\otimes(G)$. The converse is not true.

Proof. (i) Since $C_G^\otimes(x) \leq G$, we have $HC_G^\otimes(x) \subseteq G$ and hence

$$|HC_G^\otimes(x)| = \frac{|H||C_G^\otimes(x)|}{|H \cap C_G^\otimes(x)|} \leq |G|.$$

Therefore

$$\frac{|H|}{|H \cap C_G^\otimes(x)|} \leq \frac{|G|}{|C_G^\otimes(x)|}.$$

(ii) We know that $Z^\otimes(G) = \bigcap_{x \in G} C_G^\otimes(x)$. So, if $G = HZ^\otimes(G)$, then $G = HC_G^\otimes(x)$, for all $x \in G$. Thus,

$$|HC_G^\otimes(x)| = \frac{|H||C_G^\otimes(x)|}{|H \cap C_G^\otimes(x)|} = |G|.$$

Therefore

$$[H : C_G^\otimes(x) \cap H] = [G : C_G^\otimes(x)], \quad (1)$$

as required. For the converse, let equation (1) holds. Then obviously we have

$$|HC_G^\otimes(x)| = |G|.$$

This does not require to imply $G = HZ^\otimes(G)$. For example, let $G = Q_8 = \langle a, b | b^2 = a^4 = 1, b^{-1}ab = a^{-1} \rangle$ and $H = \langle b \rangle$. By Lemma 4.2. of ([7]) we have $Z^\otimes(G) = 1$ and hence $G \neq HZ^\otimes(G)$. However, by proof of Theorem 4.3. of ([7]) we have $C_G^\otimes(a^2) = \langle a \rangle$ and therefore $G = HC_G^\otimes(a^2)$. \square

Theorem 2.3. *Let $H \leq G$. Then $d_n^\otimes(H, G) \leq [G : H]^{n+1} d_n^\otimes(G)$ for all $n \geq 1$.*

Proof. Using Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_n^\otimes(H, G) &= \frac{1}{|H|^n |G|} \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_n \in H} |C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n])| \\
 &= \frac{1}{|H|^n} \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_n \in H} \frac{|C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n])|}{|G|} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{|H|^n} \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_n \in H} \frac{|C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n]) \cap H|}{|H|} \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{|H|^n} \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_n \in H} \frac{|C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n])|}{|H|} \\
 &\leq \frac{|G|^{n+1}}{|H|^{n+1} |G|^{n+1}} \sum_{x_1 \in G} \cdots \sum_{x_n \in G} |C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n])| \\
 &= [G : H]^{n+1} d_n^\otimes(G)
 \end{aligned}$$

□

The inequalities that we have here, are obtained with a series of inequalities. The equalities do not need to be true in general. Even in special cases, we cannot obtain a good condition. For example, in Theorem 2.3, if we want the equality to hold, we need to have

1. $[G : C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n])] = [H : C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n]) \cap H]$ and
2. $C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n]) \subseteq H$ and
3. If $x_i \in G - H$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n$, then $C_G^\otimes([x_1, \dots, x_n]) = \emptyset$.

Theorem 2.4. *Let $H \leq G$. Then*

$$d_{n+1}^\otimes(H, G) \leq \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + d_n^\otimes\left(\frac{H}{H \cap Z^\otimes(G)}\right) \right).$$

Proof. Put \bar{H} for $\frac{H}{H \cap Z^\otimes(G)}$ and for each $x \in H$ let \bar{x} stands for $x(H \cap Z^\otimes(G))$ as an element of \bar{H} . We know that

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{n+1}^\otimes(H, G) &= \\
 &= \frac{|\{(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y) : [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \otimes y = 1_{H \otimes G}, x_i \in H, y \in G\}|}{|H|^{n+1} |G|}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
& |H|^{n+1}|G|d_{n+1}^{\otimes}(H, G) \\
&= |\{(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}, y) : [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \otimes y = 1, x_i \in H, y \in G\}| \\
&= \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_{n+1} \in H} |C_G^{\otimes}([x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}])| \\
&= \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_{n+1} \in H, [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \in H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)} |C_G^{\otimes}([x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}])| \\
&+ \sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_{n+1} \in H, [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \notin H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)} |C_G^{\otimes}([x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}])|.
\end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned}
d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H}) &= \\
&\left(\frac{1}{|\overline{H}|}\right)^{n+1} |\{(\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_{n+1}) : [\overline{x}_1, \dots, \overline{x}_n] \otimes \overline{x}_{n+1} = 1, \overline{x}_i \in \overline{H}\}| = \\
&\left(\frac{|H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)|}{|H|}\right)^{n+1} \times \\
&\frac{|\{(x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}) : [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \in H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G), x_i \in H\}|}{|H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)|^{n+1}}
\end{aligned}$$

and we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{x_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{x_{n+1} \in H, [x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}] \in H \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)} |C_G^{\otimes}([x_1, \dots, x_{n+1}])| = \\
&|H|^{n+1}d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H})|G|.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
&|H|^{n+1}|G|d_{n+1}^{\otimes}(H, G) \leq \\
&|H|^{n+1}d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H})|G| + (|H|^{n+1} - |H|^{n+1}d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H}))\frac{|G|}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{|H|^{n+1}|G|}{2}d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H}) + \frac{|H|^{n+1}|G|}{2} = \frac{|H|^{n+1}|G|}{2}(1 + d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H})).$$

Hence we have

$$d_{n+1}^{\otimes}(H, G) \leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + d_n^{\otimes}(\overline{H})).$$

□

3 Tensor Nilpotent Groups

We are ready to define the concept of tensor nilpotency of a group.

Definition 3.1. *Let G be a group. Then G is called tensor nilpotent if $Z_n^{\otimes}(G) = G$ for some $n \geq 0$. For a tensor nilpotent group G , the smallest $c \geq 0$ in which $Z_c^{\otimes}(G) = G$ is called the tensor nilpotency class or briefly the tensor class of G .*

Theorem 3.2. *For a finite group G , we have*

$$d_{n+1}^{\otimes}(G) \leq \frac{1}{2^n}(2^n - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_n^{\otimes}(G)}))$$

for all $n \geq 1$.

Proof. We know that

$$Z_n^{\otimes}(G)/Z^{\otimes}(G) = Z_{n-1}(G/Z^{\otimes}(G))$$

for all $n \geq 1$. We proceed by induction on n . For $n = 1$, by using Theorem 2.4, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_2^{\otimes}(G) &\leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + d(\frac{G}{G \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)})) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(1 + d(\frac{G}{Z^{\otimes}(G)})). \end{aligned}$$

Using Theorem 2.4 and the induction, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
d_{n+1}^{\otimes}(G) &\leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + d_n^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{G \cap Z^{\otimes}(G)})) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{\frac{G}{Z^{\otimes}(G)}}{Z_{n-1}(\frac{G}{Z^{\otimes}(G)})})) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(1 + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_n^{\otimes}(G)}))) \\
&= \frac{1}{2}(\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} + 2^{n-1} - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_n^{\otimes}(G)}))) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^n}(2^n - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_n^{\otimes}(G)})),
\end{aligned}$$

as required. \square

Theorem 3.3. *If G is not a tensor nilpotent group of class at most n , then*

$$d_n^{\otimes}(G) \leq \frac{2^{n+2} - 3}{2^{n+2}}.$$

Proof. Since G is not a tensor nilpotent group of class at most n , $Z_n^{\otimes}(G) \neq G$ and $G/Z_{n-1}^{\otimes}(G)$ is a nonabelian group. We know that $d^{\otimes}(G) \leq d(G)$, therefore using Theorem 2.2 in [3] implies $d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_{n-1}^{\otimes}(G)}) \leq \frac{5}{8}$. So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
d_n^{\otimes}(G) &\leq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} - 1 + d^{\otimes}(\frac{G}{Z_{n-1}^{\otimes}(G)})) \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} - 1 + \frac{5}{8}) \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(2^{n-1} - \frac{3}{8}) \\
&= \frac{2^{n+2} - 3}{2^{n+2}},
\end{aligned}$$

as required. \square

Lemma 3.4. *If G is tensor nilpotent of class at most n , then G is nilpotent of class n .*

Proof. We know that $Z_n^\otimes(G) \leq Z_n(G)$, so the result follows. \square

Theorem 3.5. *If G is a nontrivial group and $Z(G) = 1$, then*

$$d_n^\otimes(G) \leq \frac{2^n - 1}{2^n}$$

Proof. We proceed by induction on n . Let $n = 1$ since $Z(G) = 1$, G is not nilpotent and Theorem 3 in [5] implies that $d(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}$. We know that $d^\otimes(G) \leq d(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}$. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} d_{n+1}^\otimes(G) &\leq \frac{1}{2^n}(2^n - 1 + d^\otimes(G)) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^n}(2^n - 1 + \frac{1}{2}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2^n}(2^n - \frac{1}{2}) \\ &= \frac{2^{n+1} - 1}{2^{n+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

\square

Theorem 3.6. *Let H be a proper subgroup of G . Then for all $n \geq 1$, we have*

- (i) *If $H \subseteq Z_n^\otimes(G)$, then $d_n^\otimes(H, G) = 1$.*
- (ii) *If $H \not\subseteq Z_n^\otimes(G)$ and $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$ is tensor nilpotent of class at most $n - 1$, then $d_n^\otimes(H, G) = 1$.*
- (iii) *If $H \not\subseteq Z_n^\otimes(G)$ and $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$ is not tensor nilpotent of class at most $n - 1$, then $d_n^\otimes(H, G) \leq \frac{2^{n+2}-3}{2^{n+2}}$.*

Proof. (i) If $H \subseteq Z_n^\otimes(G)$, then $[h_1, \dots, h_n] \otimes x = 1$ for all $h_1, \dots, h_n \in H$ and $x \in G$. So

$$d_n^\otimes(H, G) = \frac{1}{|H|^n |G|} \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_G^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| = 1.$$

(ii) Since $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$ is a tensor nilpotent group of class at most $n - 1$, for all $\bar{h}_1, \dots, \bar{h}_n$ in $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$ where $\bar{h}_i = h_i H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$,

$h_i \in H$, $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $[\overline{h_1}, \dots, \overline{h_{n-1}}] \otimes \overline{h_n} = 1$. We know that there exists homomorphism $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G) \otimes H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G) \rightarrow (H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G))'$ given $[\overline{h_1}, \dots, \overline{h_{n-1}}] \otimes \overline{h_n} \rightarrow [\overline{h_1}, \dots, \overline{h_n}]$. Since $[\overline{h_1}, \dots, \overline{h_{n-1}}] \otimes \overline{h_n} = 1$, then $[\overline{h_1}, \dots, \overline{h_n}] = 1$. Therefore there exist h_1, \dots, h_n in H such that $[h_1, \dots, h_n]H \cap Z^\otimes(G) = H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$, so $[h_1, \dots, h_n] \in H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$. Therefore for all x in G , we have $[h_1, \dots, h_n] \otimes x = 1$. Hence, $C_G^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n]) = G$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & |H^n||G|d_n^\otimes(H, G) \\ &= |\{(h_1, \dots, h_n, x) \in H^n \times G : [h_1, \dots, h_n] \otimes x = 1\}| \\ &= \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_G^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\ &= |H|^n|G|, \end{aligned}$$

and so, $d_n^\otimes(H, G) = 1$.

(iii) Since $H/H \cap Z^\otimes(G)$ is not tensor nilpotent of class at most $n - 1$, by Theorem 3.3 we have

$$d_{n-1}^\otimes\left(\frac{H}{H \cap Z^\otimes(G)}\right) \leq \frac{2^{n+1} - 3}{2^{n+1}}.$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} d_n^\otimes(H, G) &\leq \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + d_n^\otimes\left(\frac{H}{H \cap Z^\otimes(G)}\right)\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{2^{n+1} - 3}{2^{n+1}}\right) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{2^{n+1} + 2^{n+1} - 3}{2^{n+1}}\right) \\ &= \frac{2^{n+2} - 3}{2^{n+2}}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 3.7. *Let G be finite group, H and N be subgroups of G such that $N \trianglelefteq G$ and $N \subseteq H$. Then*

$$d_n^\otimes(H, G) \leq d_n^\otimes(H/N, G/N).$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & |H|^n |G| d_n^\otimes(H, G) \\
 &= |\{(h_1, \dots, h_n, y) : [h_1, \dots, h_n] \otimes y = 1, h_i \in H, y \in G\}| \\
 &= \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_G^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\
 &= \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} \frac{|C_G^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])N| |C_N^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])|}{|N|} \\
 &\leq \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_{G/N}^\otimes([h_1N, \dots, h_nN])| |C_N^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\
 &= \sum_{t_1 \in H/N} \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{t_n \in H/N} \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_{G/N}^\otimes([t_1, \dots, t_n])| |C_N^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\
 &= \sum_{t_1 \in H/N} \cdots \sum_{t_n \in H/N} |C_{G/N}^\otimes([t_1, \dots, t_n])| \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_N^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\
 &\leq |N|^{n+1} \sum_{t_1 \in H/N} \cdots \sum_{t_n \in H/N} |C_{G/N}^\otimes([t_1, \dots, t_n])| \\
 &= |H/N|^n |G/N| d_n^\otimes(H/N, G/N) |N|^{n+1} \\
 &= |H|^n |G| d_n^\otimes(H/N, G/N).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$d_n^\otimes(H, G) \leq d_n^\otimes(H/N, G/N).$$

□

Corollary 3.8. *If $N \trianglelefteq G$, then $d_n^\otimes(G) \leq d_n^\otimes(G/N)$*

Proof. Let $H = G$. Then by using Theorem 3.7, the result follows .

□

4 Some Examples

In this section, we compute the relative n -tensor nilpotent degree of some groups.

Example 4.1. Let $G = C_4$ and $H = 2C_4$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} d_2^\otimes(2C_4, C_4) &= \frac{1}{|2C_4|^2|C_4|} \sum_{h_1 \in 2C_4} \sum_{h_2 \in 2C_4} |C_{C_4}^\otimes([h_1, h_2])| \\ &= \frac{1}{2^2 \times 4} \times 16 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Example 4.2. Let $G = D_8 = \langle a, b | a^4 = b^2 = 1, ba = a^{-1}b \rangle$ be the dihedral group of order 8 and H the subgroup generated by $\{a^2, ab\}$. Let $n \geq 3$. Since G is a nilpotent group of class 2, we have $\gamma_n(G) = 1$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} d_n^\otimes(H, D_8) &= \frac{1}{|H|^n|D_8|} \sum_{h_1 \in H} \cdots \sum_{h_n \in H} |C_{D_8}^\otimes([h_1, \dots, h_n])| \\ &= \frac{1}{|H|^n \times 8} \times |H|^n = \frac{1}{8}. \end{aligned}$$

The same is true if $G = Q_8 = \langle a, b | a^4 = 1, a^2 = b^2, ba = a^{-1}b \rangle$, the quaternion group of order 8, and $H = \{a^2, ab\}$.

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