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## ON THE JANKO'S SIMPLE GROUP OF ORDER 175560

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathfrak{S}(11)$  be the Janko's simple group of order 175560 presented in [1] and  $\mathfrak{A}_m$  be the alternating group of degree  $m$ . In his papers [1], [2] Janko characterized the non-solvable group having the centralizer of an involution in the center of a Sylow 2-subgroup isomorphic to the splitting central extension of a group of order 2 by  $\mathfrak{A}_4$  or  $\mathfrak{A}_5$ . His result is that such a non-solvable group containing no normal subgroup of index 2 must be isomorphic to  $P\Gamma L(2,8)$  or  $\mathfrak{S}(11)$ . The purpose of this note is to sharpen his results [1], [2]. Namely we want to prove the following theorem.

**Theorem.** *Let  $\mathfrak{G}$  be a finite non-solvable group with the following two properties:*

- a)  $\mathfrak{G}$  has no normal subgroup of index 2,
- b)  $\mathfrak{G}$  contains an involution  $J$  in the center of a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $\mathfrak{G}$  such that the centralizer  $C_{\mathfrak{G}}(J) = \langle J \rangle \times \mathfrak{X}_m$ , where  $\mathfrak{X}_m$  is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{A}_m$ .

*Then one of the following holds:*

- 1)  $m=4$  and  $\mathfrak{G}$  is isomorphic to  $P\Gamma L(2, 8)$ ,
- 2)  $m=5$  and  $\mathfrak{G}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{S}(11)$ .

REMARK. Our proof depends on Janko's theorems [1], [2] and by his results it is sufficient to prove that  $m=4$  or 5.

### 2. Proof of the Theorem

Put  $m=4n+r$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 3$ . Assume that  $n$  is greater than 1. Then the group  $\mathfrak{A}_m$  contains involutions  $\tilde{X}_i, \tilde{X}'_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and  $\tilde{Y}_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ ) with the cycle decompositions

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{X}_i &= (4i-3, 4i-2) (4i-1, 4i) \\ \tilde{X}'_i &= (4i-3, 4i-1) (4i-2, 4i) \\ \tilde{Y}_j &= (4j-3, 4j-2) (4j+1, 4j+2).\end{aligned}$$

In the isomorphism from  $\mathfrak{A}_m$  to  $\mathfrak{X}_m$ , let the images of the elements  $\tilde{X}_i, \tilde{X}'_i$  and

$\tilde{Y}_j$  be  $X_i$ ,  $X'_i$  and  $Y_j$ , respectively. Put  $\mathfrak{X} = \langle X_i, X'_j \mid 1 \leq i, j \leq n \rangle$  and  $\mathfrak{Y} = \langle Y_j \mid 1 \leq j \leq n-1 \rangle$ . Then  $\mathfrak{X}$  and  $\mathfrak{Y}$  are 2-groups and  $\mathfrak{Y}$  normalizes  $\mathfrak{X}$ . Hence  $\mathfrak{X}\mathfrak{Y}$  is a 2-group. By the definition we have  $Y_j^{-1}X'_jY_j = X_jX'_j$  and  $Y_j^{-1}X'_{j+1}Y_j = X_{j+1}X'_{j+1}$ , and then  $\langle X_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n \rangle$  is the commutator subgroup  $(\mathfrak{X}\mathfrak{Y})'$  of  $\mathfrak{X}\mathfrak{Y}$ . Put  $C_i = X_1X_2 \cdots X_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Then we may assume that  $\{C_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  is the set of the representatives of the conjugacy classes of involutions in  $\mathfrak{X}_m$ . Let  $\mathfrak{D}$  be a Sylow 2-subgroup of  $\mathfrak{G}$  contained in  $C_{\mathfrak{G}}(J)$  and containing  $\langle J \rangle \times \mathfrak{X}\mathfrak{Y}$ . Hence the group  $\mathfrak{D}'$  contains  $C_n$  and the center  $Z(\mathfrak{D})$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$  contains  $J$  and  $C_n$ . These facts are also true if  $n=1$  and  $r=2$  or 3.

Assume by way of contradiction that  $n$  is greater than 1, or  $n=1$  and  $r=2$  or 3. For  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ ,  $C_i$  is the square of an element of order 4 in  $\mathfrak{X}_m$ . Since  $\mathfrak{G}$  has no normal subgroup of index 2, it follows from a transfer lemma of Thompson [3] that  $J$  must fuse with  $C_n$  in  $\mathfrak{G}$ . Note that  $J$  is not a square of an element of order 4. Therefore Burnside's argument implies that  $J$  must fuse with  $C_n$  in the normalizer  $N_{\mathfrak{G}}(\mathfrak{D})$  of  $\mathfrak{D}$ . This is impossible because  $\mathfrak{D}'$  contains  $C_n$  but does not  $J$ . Thus we get a contradiction and hence  $n=1$  and  $r=0$  or 1, that is,  $m=4$  or 5. Applying the results of Janko [1], [2],  $\mathfrak{G}$  is isomorphic to  $PFL(2,8)$  or  $\mathfrak{F}(11)$ , respectively.

The proof of our theorem is complete.

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