

# Generalized projectors and the saturated closure of a $\pi$ -homomorph of finite $\pi$ -solvable groups

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**Abstract.** The paper introduces and studies the notion of *generalized projector*, which generalizes the well-known notion of *projector* defined by W. Gaschütz in [8] as a generalization of the *covering subgroups* introduced by the same author in [7]. Let  $\pi$  be an arbitrary set of primes. A new definition for the *saturated closure* of a  $\pi$ -homomorph of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups, equivalent to that in [3], is given. A property connected with the notion of generalized projector on a class  $X$  of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups, called the *GP-property*, is also introduced. The main results of the paper are the following: 1) a characterization theorem for the saturated closure of the  $\pi$ -homomorphs of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property by means of the generalized projectors; 2) a theorem showing that if  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property and  $\bar{X}$  is its saturated closure, then  $X$  is a Schunck class if and only if  $X = \bar{X}$ . These results prove that theorems similar to those obtained by J. Weidner in [10] for finite solvable groups can be also obtained in the more general case of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups.

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## 1. Preliminaries

In [3], we generalized in the more general case of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups the results established by J. Weidner in [10] for finite solvable groups, obtaining a characterization of the saturated closure of a homomorph of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups by means of the semicovering subgroups (introduced by J. Weidner in [10] as a generalization of the covering subgroups defined by W. Gaschütz in

[7]). Following the ideas from [10] and [3], the present paper introduces and studies the notion of *generalized projector*, which generalizes the well-known notion of *projector* defined by W. Gaschütz in [8] as a generalization of the covering subgroups. Using the projectors, a new definition for the *saturated closure* of a  $\pi$ -homomorph of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups, equivalent to that in [3], is given. We define for a class  $X$  of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups the *GP-property*, which is connected with the generalized projectors. A characterization theorem for the saturated closure of the  $\pi$ -homomorphs of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property and an important consequence of this characterization are the main results of the paper.

All groups considered in the paper are finite. Denote by  $\pi$  an arbitrary set of primes and by  $\pi'$  the complement to  $\pi$  in the set of all primes.

We remind some definitions and theorems which will be useful for our considerations.

**Definition 1.1.** a) ([9]) A class  $X$  of groups is a **homomorph** if  $X$  is closed under homomorphisms, i.e. if  $G \in X$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/N \in X$ .

b) A group  $G$  is said to be **primitive** if there exists a stabilizer  $W$  of  $G$ , i.e.  $W$  is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  and  $\text{core}_G W = 1$ , where

$$\text{core}_G W = \bigcap \{W^g \mid g \in G\}.$$

c) ([9]) A homomorph  $X$  is a **Schunck class** if  $X$  is primitively closed, i.e. if any group  $G$ , all of whose primitive factor groups are in  $X$ , is itself in  $X$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $X$  be a class of groups,  $G$  a group and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ .

a) ([8])  $H$  is an  **$X$ -maximal subgroup** of  $G$  if:

(i)  $H \in X$ ;

(ii)  $H \leq H^* \leq G$ ,  $H^* \in X \Rightarrow H = H^*$ .

b) ([8])  $H$  is an  **$X$ -projector** of  $G$  if for any normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ ,  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ .

c) ([7])  $H$  is an  **$X$ -covering subgroup** of  $G$  if:

(i)  $H \in X$ ;

(ii)  $H \leq K \leq G$ ,  $K_0 \trianglelefteq K$ ,  $K/K_0 \in X \Rightarrow K = HK_0$ .

**Remark 1.3.** a) Let  $X$  be a class of groups and  $G$  a group. Then: i)  $G \in X$  if and only if  $G$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G$ ; ii) if  $G$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , then  $G \in X$ .

b) Let  $X$  be a homomorph and  $G$  a group. Then  $G$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$  if and only if  $G \in X$ .

**Theorem 1.4.** ([8]) Let  $X$  be a class of groups,  $G$  a group and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ .

a) If  $H$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN/N$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ .

b)  $H$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$  if and only if:

(i)  $H$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G$ ;

(ii)  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for all minimal normal subgroups  $M$  of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.5.** Let  $X$  be a class of groups,  $G$  a group and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ .

a) If  $H$  is an  $X$ -covering subgroup or an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , then  $H$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G$ .

b) ([4]) If  $X$  is a homomorph, then  $H$  is an  $X$ -covering subgroup of  $G$  if and only if  $H$  is an  $X$ -projector in any subgroup  $K$  with  $H \leq K \leq G$ . In particular, any  $X$ -covering subgroup of  $G$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.6.** ([1]) A solvable minimal normal subgroup of a finite group is abelian.

Introduced by S.A. Čuniĥin in [6], the  $\pi$ -solvable groups are more general than the solvable groups.

**Definition 1.7.** a) ([6]) A group  $G$  is  $\pi$ -solvable if every chief factor  $M/N$  of  $G$  (i.e.  $M/N$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G/N$ ) is either a solvable  $\pi$ -group or a  $\pi'$ -group. In particular, if  $\pi$  is the set of all primes, we obtain the notion of **solvable group**.

b) ([2]) A class  $X$  of groups is said to be  $\pi$ -closed if

$$G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X \Rightarrow G \in X,$$

where  $O_{\pi'}(G)$  denotes the largest normal  $\pi'$ -subgroup of  $G$ .

c) We say that  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph (respectively a  $\pi$ -Schunck class) if  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -closed homomorph (respectively  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -closed Schunck class).

**Theorem 1.8.** ([6]) a) If  $G$  is a  $\pi$ -solvable group and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $G/N$  is  $\pi$ -solvable.

b) If  $G$  is a group and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , such that  $N$  and  $G/N$  are  $\pi$ -solvable, then  $G$  is  $\pi$ -solvable.

**Theorem 1.9.** ([5]) Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $X$  is a Schunck class;
- (ii) if  $G$  is a  $\pi$ -solvable group,  $G \notin X$  and  $M$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/M \in X$ , then  $M$  has a complement in  $G$ ;
- (iii) any  $\pi$ -solvable group  $G$  has  $X$ -covering subgroups;
- (iv) any  $\pi$ -solvable group  $G$  has  $X$ -projectors.

## 2. Generalized projectors

In [10], J. Weidner generalizes the notion of covering subgroup given in Definition 1.2.c) by renouncing to the condition (i). In [3], this generalized covering subgroup is called *semicovering subgroup*. Similarly, we will introduce a notion which generalizes the notion of projector.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $X$  be a class of groups,  $G$  a group and  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ .  $H$  is called a **generalized  $X$ -projector** of  $G$  if for any normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ ,  $N \neq 1$ ,  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ .

It is the aim of this section to prove some properties of the generalized projectors.

Everywhere in this section we denote by  $X$  a class of groups, by  $G$  an arbitrary finite group and by  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$ .

**Remark 2.2.** *If  $H$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , then  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .*

**Theorem 2.3.**  *$H$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$  if and only if the following two conditions hold:*

- (i)  $H$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G$ ;
- (ii)  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . By Definition 1.2.b), for any normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$  we have that  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ . In particular, for  $N = 1$  we obtain that  $H$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G$ , and so condition (i) holds. If we take  $N \neq 1$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ , and, by Definition 2.1,  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , which mean that condition (ii) also holds.

Conversely, suppose that conditions (i) and (ii) hold. From (i) follows that for  $N = 1$  we have  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ . Let now  $N \neq 1$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . By (ii) and Definition 2.1,  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ . So  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$  for any normal subgroup  $N$  of  $G$ . This means by Definition 1.2.b) that  $H$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** *If  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $HN/N$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $N$  a normal subgroup of  $G$ . We distinguish two cases:

1°  $N = 1$ . Since  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , we have for  $N = 1$  that  $HN/N$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ .

2°  $N \neq 1$ . In order to prove that  $HN/N$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ , by Definition 2.1 we have to prove that for any normal subgroup  $L/N$  of  $G/N$ ,  $L/N \neq 1$ ,  $(HN/N \cdot L/N)/(L/N)$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $(G/N)/(L/N)$ . But

$$(HN/N \cdot L/N)/(L/N) = (HNL/N)/(L/N) = (HL/N)/(L/N) \simeq HL/L$$

and

$$(G/N)/(L/N) \simeq G/L,$$

and so we have to prove that

$$HL/L \text{ is } X\text{-maximal in } G/L.$$

Indeed, from the hypothesis that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , by using Definition 2.1 for the normal subgroup  $L$  of  $G$ , where  $L \neq 1$  (since  $1 \neq N < L$ ), we obtain that  $HL/L$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/L$ .  $\square$

Our last theorem concerning some properties of the generalized projectors is a characterization theorem for the generalized projectors.

**Theorem 2.5.**  *$H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  if and only if  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and let  $M$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . In order to prove that  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ , we use Theorem 2.3 and verify conditions (i) and (ii) from this theorem.

(i)  $HM/M$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/M$ . Indeed,  $H$  being a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $M$  being normal in  $G$  with  $M \neq 1$ , Definition 2.1 leads to the conclusion that  $HM/M$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/M$ .

(ii)  $HM/M$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ . Indeed, from the facts that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $M$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , Theorem 2.4 leads to the conclusion that  $HM/M$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ . In order to prove that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , we use Definition 2.1. Let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $N \neq 1$ . Then there exists a minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $M \subseteq N$ . By our hypothesis,  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ . From this and from  $N/M \trianglelefteq G/M$ , we obtain by applying Theorem 1.4.a) that  $(HM/M \cdot N/M)/(N/M)$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $(G/M)/(N/M)$ . But

$$(HM/M \cdot N/M)/(N/M) = (HMN/M)/(N/M) = (HN/M)/(N/M) \simeq HN/N$$

and

$$(G/M)/(N/M) \simeq G/N,$$

and so  $HN/N$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ , which leads by Theorem 1.5.a) to the conclusion that  $HN/N$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/N$ . This means, by Definition 2.1, that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .  $\square$

Finally in this section, two remarks.

From Theorem 1.5.b) and Remark 2.2, we obtain:

**Remark 2.6.** *If  $X$  is a homomorph,  $G$  is a group and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then the following implications hold:*

$$H \text{ is an } X\text{-covering subgroup of } G \Rightarrow H \text{ is an } X\text{-projector of } G \Rightarrow$$

$$H \text{ is a generalized } X\text{-projector of } G.$$

*This shows that if  $X$  is a homomorph, then the notion of generalized projector generalizes both the projectors and the covering subgroups.*

From the Remarks 1.3.b) and 2.2, follows immediately:

**Remark 2.7.** *If  $X$  is a homomorph and  $G$  is a group, then:*

$$(i) G \in X \iff G \text{ is an } X\text{-projector of } G;$$

$$(ii) G \in X \Rightarrow G \text{ is a generalized } X\text{-projector of } G.$$

### 3. The saturated closure of a $\pi$ -homomorph

Let  $\pi$  be an arbitrary set of primes. From now on, all groups used in our considerations will be finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups.

**Definition 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph. We call the saturated closure of  $X$  the smallest  $\pi$ -homomorph  $\overline{X}$  of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups such that the following two conditions hold:*

- (i)  $X \subseteq \overline{X}$  ;
- (ii) any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $\overline{X}$ -projectors.

**Remark 3.2.** a) *Theorem 1.9 shows that Definition 3.1 is equivalent with that given in [3].*

b) *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph and  $\overline{X}$  is its saturated closure, then  $\overline{X}$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph and any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $\overline{X}$ -projectors. It follows by Theorem 1.9 that the saturated closure  $\overline{X}$  is a Schunck class. Since  $\overline{X}$  is  $\pi$ -closed, we conclude that  $\overline{X}$  is a  $\pi$ -Schunck class.*

**Notation 3.3.** *Let  $X$  be a class of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups. We denote by  $X^*$  the class of all finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups  $G$  such that  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .*

Let us give some properties of the class  $X^*$ , which will be used to prove the main results of the paper. Everywhere  $X$  will denote a class of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups.

**Theorem 3.4.** *If  $X$  is a homomorph, then  $X \subseteq X^*$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G \in X$ . By Remark 2.7.(ii),  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . It follows that  $G \in X^*$ . □

**Theorem 3.5.** *If  $X$  is a class of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups, then  $X^*$  is a homomorph.*

*Proof.* Let  $G \in X^*$  and let  $N$  be a normal subgroup of  $G$ . We show that  $G/N \in X^*$ . Indeed, from  $G \in X^*$  we have that  $G$  is a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group and  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ .  $G$  being a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group and  $N$  being normal in  $G$ , it follows by Theorem 1.8.a) that  $G/N$  is also a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group. Furthermore, from the facts that  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $N$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , Theorem 2.4 leads to the conclusion that  $G/N$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/N$ . It follows that  $G/N \in X^*$ . □

The property of a class  $X$  of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups we define below is connected with the generalized projectors introduced in Definition 2.1 and will be called therefore the *GP-property*.

**Definition 3.6.** *A class  $X$  of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups is said to have the **GP-property** if  $X$  satisfies the following two conditions:*

- (i) every finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has generalized  $X$ -projectors;

(ii) if  $G$  is a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group, then for any generalized  $X$ -projector  $H$  of  $G$  there exists a minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $M \subseteq H$ .

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $X$  be a class of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property and  $G$  a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group. The following two conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $G \in X^*$ ;
- (ii) if  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , then  $H = G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a class with the GP-property and  $G$  a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) : Let  $G \in X^*$  and  $H$  be a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . From  $G \in X^*$  follows that  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , which implies by Theorem 2.5 that  $G/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ . By Theorem 1.5.a), we deduce that  $G/M$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/M$ , hence  $G/M \in X$ . On the other side, by applying Theorem 2.5 for the generalized  $X$ -projector  $H$  of  $G$ , we obtain that  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ , hence  $HM/M$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/M$ . From this, since  $G/M \in X$ , we deduce that  $HM/M = G/M$ . It follows that  $HM = G$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ . But  $X$  is a class with the GP-property and so for the generalized  $X$ -projector  $H$  of  $G$ , there exists a minimal normal subgroup  $M_0$  of  $G$  such that  $M_0 \subseteq H$ . Then  $H = HM_0$ . But, as we saw above,  $HM_0 = G$ . It follows that  $H = G$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) : Let  $H$  be an arbitrary generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . Then, by (ii),  $H = G$ . Hence  $G$  is its own generalized  $X$ -projector and so  $G \in X^*$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.8.** If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property, then  $X^*$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph.

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property. By Theorem 3.5,  $X^*$  is a homomorph. It remains to prove that  $X^*$  is  $\pi$ -closed, i.e. that  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X^*$  implies  $G \in X^*$ . Let  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X^*$ . We first notice that from  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X^*$  follows that  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$  is a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group. Now,  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$  and  $O_{\pi'}(G)$  being  $\pi$ -solvable groups, we deduce by Theorem 1.8.b) that  $G$  is also a  $\pi$ -solvable group. In order to prove that  $G \in X^*$ , we use Theorem 3.7. Let  $H$  be a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . Since  $O_{\pi'}(G) \trianglelefteq G$ , Theorem 2.4 leads to the conclusion that  $HO_{\pi'}(G)/O_{\pi'}(G)$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$ . But the class  $X$  has the GP-property and  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X^*$ . By Theorem 3.7, it follows that

$$HO_{\pi'}(G)/O_{\pi'}(G) = G/O_{\pi'}(G).$$

Hence

$$HO_{\pi'}(G) = G. \tag{3.1}$$

We consider two cases:

1 $^\circ$   $O_{\pi'}(G) = 1$ . In this case, (3.1) gives that  $H = G$ . But  $H$  being a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ , it follows that  $G$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . Hence  $G \in X^*$ .

2°  $O_{\pi'}(G) \neq 1$ . Then  $H$  being a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $O_{\pi'}(G) \trianglelefteq G$ ,  $O_{\pi'}(G) \neq 1$ , Definition 2.1 leads to the conclusion that  $HO_{\pi'}(G)/O_{\pi'}(G)$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$ , which means by applying (3.1) that  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/O_{\pi'}(G)$ . Hence  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X$ . But the class  $X$  being  $\pi$ -closed, it follows that  $G \in X$ . By Theorem 3.4, the homomorph  $X$  has the property that  $X \subseteq X^*$ . So  $G \in X^*$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.9.** *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property, then any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X^*$ -projectors.*

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property. Then, by Theorem 3.8,  $X^*$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph. We apply Theorem 1.9 for the  $\pi$ -homomorph  $X^*$  and conclude that instead of proving that any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X^*$ -projectors we can prove the equivalent condition (ii) from Theorem 1.9, which becomes in our case: if  $G$  is a  $\pi$ -solvable group,  $G \notin X^*$  and  $M$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/M \in X^*$ , then  $M$  has a complement in  $G$ . Let  $G$  be a  $\pi$ -solvable group,  $G \notin X^*$  and  $M$  a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$  such that  $G/M \in X^*$ . We first observe that there exists a subgroup  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $H \neq G$ . Indeed, if we suppose the contrary, then every generalized  $X$ -projector  $H$  of  $G$  is equal to  $G$ , which means by Theorem 3.7 that  $G \in X^*$ , a contradiction with the hypothesis  $G \notin X^*$ . We complete the proof of the present theorem by showing that  $H$  is a complement of  $M$  in  $G$ , i.e.  $HM = G$  and  $H \cap M = 1$ . Indeed, since  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$  and  $M$  is normal in  $G$ , we conclude by Theorem 2.4 that  $HM/M$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ . This and  $G/M \in X^*$  imply by Theorem 3.7 that  $HM/M = G/M$ . Hence  $HM = G$ . It remains to prove that  $H \cap M = 1$ . Since  $M$  is a minimal normal subgroup of the  $\pi$ -solvable group  $G$ ,  $M$  is either a solvable  $\pi$ -group or a  $\pi'$ -group. Suppose that  $M$  is a  $\pi'$ -group. Then  $M \leq O_{\pi'}(G)$  and so

$$G/O_{\pi'}(G) \simeq (G/M)/(O_{\pi'}(G)/M). \quad (3.2)$$

Since  $G/M \in X^*$  and  $X^*$  is a homomorph, (3.2) leads to  $G/O_{\pi'}(G) \in X^*$ , which implies by the  $\pi$ -closure of  $X^*$  that  $G \in X^*$ , a contradiction with the hypothesis  $G \notin X^*$ . It follows that  $M$  is a solvable  $\pi$ -group. Then, by Theorem 1.6,  $M$  is abelian. Let us prove that  $H \cap M$  is normal in  $G$ . We know that  $H \leq G$  and  $M \trianglelefteq G$  imply  $H \cap M \trianglelefteq H$ . Let now  $g \in G = HM$  and  $x \in H \cap M$ . Then  $g = hm$ , with  $h \in H$  and  $m \in M$ , and we have

$$g^{-1}xg = (hm)^{-1}x(hm) = (m^{-1}h^{-1})x(hm) = m^{-1}(h^{-1}xh)m. \quad (3.3)$$

From  $H \cap M \trianglelefteq H$ , we conclude that  $h^{-1}xh \in H \cap M$ . Furthermore,  $M$  being abelian, we can commute in (3.3) the elements  $h^{-1}xh$  and  $m$ , both in  $M$ , and obtain

$$g^{-1}xg = m^{-1}(h^{-1}xh)m = m^{-1}m(h^{-1}xh) = h^{-1}xh \in H \cap M.$$

We proved that  $H \cap M$  is normal in  $G$ . From this and from  $H \cap M \subseteq M$ , by using that  $M$  is a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ , it follows that  $H \cap M = 1$  or  $H \cap M = M$ . But  $H \cap M = M$  leads to  $M \subseteq H$ , hence  $G = HM = H$ ,



a contradiction with  $H \neq G$ . It follows that  $H \cap M = 1$ , and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property, then  $X^*$  is a  $\pi$ -Schunck class.*

*Proof.* Since  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property, Theorem 3.8 shows that  $X^*$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph and Theorem 3.9 shows that any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X^*$ -projectors. By applying Theorem 1.9, we conclude that  $X^*$  is a  $\pi$ -Schunck class.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property. If  $Y$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph satisfying the conditions*

(i)  $X \subseteq Y$ ;

(ii) *any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $Y$ -projectors, then  $X^* \subseteq Y$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G \in X^*$ . Then  $G$  is a finite  $\pi$ -solvable group and so, by (ii), there exists an  $Y$ -projector  $H$  of  $G$ . We will prove that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . For this, we use Theorem 2.5. and prove that  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$  for any minimal normal subgroup  $M$  of  $G$ . Let  $M$  be a minimal normal subgroup of  $G$ . From  $G \in X^*$  follows that  $G$  is its own generalized  $X$ -projector, and by Theorem 2.5 we have that  $G/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ , hence by Theorem 1.5.a)  $G/M$  is  $X$ -maximal in  $G/M$ , and so  $G/M \in X$ . But (i) claims that  $X \subseteq Y$ . It follows that  $G/M \in Y$ . Now,  $H$  being an  $Y$ -projector of  $G$  and  $M$  being normal in  $G$ , Definition 1.2.b) leads to the conclusion that  $HM/M$  is  $Y$ -maximal in  $G/M$ . This and  $G/M \in Y$  imply  $HM/M = G/M$ , hence  $HM = G$ . But we saw that  $G/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ , which together with  $HM = G$  gives that  $HM/M$  is an  $X$ -projector of  $G/M$ , what we had to prove. It follows that  $H$  is a generalized  $X$ -projector of  $G$ . But  $G \in X^*$  and the class  $X$  has the GP-property. So we can apply Theorem 3.7 and obtain that  $H = G$ . From the choice of  $H$  as an  $Y$ -projector of  $G$ , we deduce by Theorem 1.5.a) that  $H$  is  $Y$ -maximal in  $G$ , which implies that  $H \in Y$ . This and  $H = G$  lead to  $G \in Y$ . The inclusion  $X^* \subseteq Y$  is proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.12.** *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  is its saturated closure, then*

$$X^* \subseteq \overline{X} .$$

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  its saturated closure. We can take in Theorem 3.11:  $Y = \overline{X}$ . Indeed, by Definition 3.1, the saturated closure  $\overline{X}$  satisfies conditions (i) and (ii) claimed in Theorem 3.11. By applying Theorem 3.11, we conclude that  $X^* \subseteq \overline{X}$ .  $\square$

From Theorems 3.4 and 3.12 immediately follows:

**Corollary 3.13.** *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  is its saturated closure, then*

$$X \subseteq X^* \subseteq \overline{X} .$$

#### 4. The main results

The main results of this paper, which we prove below, are the following: 1) a characterization theorem for the saturated closure of the  $\pi$ -homomorphs of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property by means of the generalized projectors; 2) a characterization theorem for Schunck classes of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups by means of the saturated closure of  $\pi$ -homomorphs of finite  $\pi$ -solvable groups with the GP-property.

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $X$  is a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  is its saturated closure, then*

$$\overline{X} = X^*.$$

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  its saturated closure. By applying Theorem 3.12, we obtain that  $X^* \subseteq \overline{X}$ . In order to prove that  $\overline{X} \subseteq X^*$ , we use the Definition 3.1 of the saturated closure of  $X$ . If we show that  $X^*$  verifies conditions (i) and (ii) given in Definition 3.1, then,  $\overline{X}$  being the smallest  $\pi$ -homomorph which verifies (i) and (ii), we conclude that  $\overline{X} \subseteq X^*$ . It is easy to see that  $X^*$  verifies condition (i), namely  $X \subseteq X^*$ , because  $X$  is a homomorph and we apply Theorem 3.4. Furthermore,  $X^*$  verifies condition (ii), namely any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X^*$ -projectors, as Theorem 3.9 shows.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  its saturated closure. The following two conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $X$  is a Schunck class;
- (ii)  $X = \overline{X}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be a  $\pi$ -homomorph with the GP-property and  $\overline{X}$  its saturated closure.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) : Let  $X$  be a Schunck class. We first prove that  $X = X^*$ . Indeed,  $X$  being a homomorph, Theorem 3.4 leads to  $X \subseteq X^*$ . Furthermore, by applying Theorem 1.9 for the  $\pi$ -homomorph  $X$  which is a Schunck class, we conclude that any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X$ -projectors. Let us take in Theorem 3.11  $Y = X$ , which is a  $\pi$ -homomorph satisfying the two conditions claimed in this theorem, namely:  $X \subseteq X$  and any finite  $\pi$ -solvable group has  $X$ -projectors. By applying Theorem 3.11, we obtain that  $X^* \subseteq X$ . From  $X \subseteq X^*$  and  $X^* \subseteq X$  follows that

$$X = X^*. \tag{4.1}$$

On the other side, we are in the hypotheses of Theorem 4.1 and so we conclude that

$$\overline{X} = X^*. \tag{4.2}$$

From (4.1) and (4.2) follows that  $X = \overline{X}$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) : Let  $X = \overline{X}$ . By the Definition 3.1 of the saturated closure  $\overline{X}$ , any  $\pi$ -solvable group  $G$  has  $\overline{X}$ -projectors. But  $X = \overline{X}$ . Then any  $\pi$ -solvable group  $G$  has  $X$ -projectors. We can now apply Theorem 1.9 for the  $\pi$ -homomorph  $X$ , and it follows that  $X$  is a Schunck class.  $\square$

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