Shawn T Burkett* (sburket1@kent.edu) and Mark L Lewis (lewis@math.kent.edu). Nested groups and nested GVZ-groups.

A finite group is called nested if the centers of the irreducible characters form a chain with respect to inclusion. We determine several new characterizations of nested groups, including character-free characterizations. We then use a character-free description of GVZ-groups (groups where every irreducible character vanishes off of its center) to determine similar characterizations of nested GVZ-groups. We also show that nested groups and nested GVZ-groups can be defined in terms of the existence of certain normal series. (Received August 10, 2019)