

Abstract: We will discuss the following analogue of the celebrated normal subgroup theorem of Margulis: Theorem: Let $G = G_1 \times G_2$ be a locally compact group. Assume any proper quotient group of each G_i is compact, and exclude the case $G_1 = G_2 = R$. Let $H < G$ be an irreducible lattice. Then any proper quotient of H is finite. The proof goes (like Margulis' proof) by showing that any quotient of H has both property (T) and amenability. These two parts of the proof are independent, yet there is a considerable formal similarity between them. It is this similarity that we will try to emphasize.