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# A REPRESENTATION THEOREM FOR ABELIAN GROUPS WITH NO ELEMENTS OF INFINITE *p*-HEIGHT

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# A REPRESENTATION THEOREM FOR ABELIAN GROUPS WITH NO ELEMENTS OF INFINITE P-HEIGHT

### D. L. BOYER AND A. MADER

The purpose of this note is to give a generalization of the representation Theorems 33.1 and 33.2 of [2]. Let G be an arbitrary abelian group and  $B = [\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} \langle x_{\lambda} \rangle] \oplus [\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} B_i]$  be a p-basic subgroup of G, cf. [3], where  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} \langle x_{\lambda} \rangle$  is the torsion-free part. For all  $\lambda \in A$  let  $(F_p^*)_{\lambda}$  be a copy of the group of p-adic integers, and let  $(F_p)_{\lambda}$  denote the infinite cyclic group of finite p-adic integers in  $(F_p^*)_{\lambda}$ . Then G can be mapped homomorphically into the complete direct sum  $[\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A}^* (F_p^*)_{\lambda}] \oplus [\bigoplus_{i \geq 1}^* B_i]$  with kernel  $p^{\omega}G$ . Furthermore, the image of G is a p-pure subgroup which contains  $[\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} (F_p)_{\lambda}] \oplus [\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} B_i]$  as a p-basic subgroup and is in turn contained in the p-adic completion of this subgroup (See Section 1 for definitions). This representation is completely analogous to the representation theorem for p-groups which is contained as a special case, and hopefully it is of similar use.

Definitions and facts concerning p-adic and n-adic topologies. In this article we list the definitions and facts concerning p-adic and n-adic topologies that are needed in this paper. For references see [2], [3], and [5].

DEFINITION 1.1. The *p*-adic topology for an abelian group is the topology with the subgroups  $p^nG$ ,  $n=1, 2, \cdots$  as a basis for the neighborhoods of 0.

DEFINITION 1.2. The *n*-adic topology for an abelian group G is the topology with the subgroups n!G,  $n=1,2,\cdots$  as a basis for the neighborhoods of 0.

DEFINITION 1.3. The completion of an abelian group in the p-adic (resp. n-adic) topology is its metric space completion with respect to the metric  $d(x, y) = 10^{-m}$ , where m is the largest integer such that  $x - y \varepsilon p^m G(\text{resp. } m!G)$ .

PROPOSITION 1.4. If H is a p-pure (resp. pure) subgroup of the abelian group G, then the p-adic (resp. n-adic) topology of the subgroup is the same as the induced p-adic (resp. n-adic) topology.

THEOREM 1.5. If an abelian group is complete in the n-adic topology, then it is a direct summand of every abelian group that

contains it as a pure subgroup.

PROPOSITION 1.6. A subgroup H of an abelian group G is dense in the p-adic (resp. n-adic) topology if and only if the quotient group G/H is p-divisible (respectively divisible).

- 2. The representation theorems. Let G be an abelian group, let B be a p-basic subgroup, cf. Fuchs [3], of G, and we write  $B = \bigoplus_{n\geq 0} B_n$  and  $B_0 = \bigoplus_{\lambda\in A} \langle x_\lambda \rangle$ . As in [1 p. 325], for each  $g\in G$  and each natural n, we can write
- 2.1.  $g = b_0^{(n)} + b_1 + \cdots + b_n + b_n^* + p^n g_n$  where  $b_0^{(n)} \in B_0$ ,  $b_i \in B_i$  for  $1 \le i \le n$ ,  $b_n^* \in \bigoplus_{i>n} B_i$ , and  $g_n \in G$ . It is proved in [1] p. 326 that the  $b_i$ ,  $i \ge 1$ , are unique in any such representation, and that, given two such representations, one for n and one for m, we have

$$b_0^{(n)} - b_0^{(m)} \in p^{\min(m,n)}G$$
.

For each  $\lambda$ , let  $(F_p^*)_{\lambda}$  be the group of p-adic integers, and let  $(F_p)_{\lambda}$  be the infinite cyclic subgroup of finite p-adic integers. We introduce the notation  $P_1 = \bigoplus_{\lambda \in A}^* (F_p^*)_{\lambda}$ , and  $P_2 = \bigoplus_{i \geq 1}^* B_i$ .  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are complete groups in the n-adic topology, and the n-adic topology coincides with the p-adic topology.  $\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} (F_p^*)_{\lambda}$  and  $\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} B_i$  are pure subgroups of  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , hence they possess completions in  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  for the coinciding n-adic and p-adic topologies. Let  $C_1 = [\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} (F_p^*)_{\lambda}]^*$  and  $C_2 = [\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} B_i]^*$ , where the \*indicates the completion. Notice that  $C_i$  is a direct summand of  $P_i$ , i = 1, 2.

We define a map  $\sigma: G \to P_1 \bigoplus P_2$  as follows. Let g have the representation 2.1 for each n. Write  $b_0^{(n)} = \sum_{\lambda \in A} m_\lambda^{(n)} x_\lambda$ , and write  $m_\lambda^{(n)}$  in its p-adic expansion

2.3 
$$m_{\lambda}^{\scriptscriptstyle (n)} = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{\lambda,k}^{\scriptscriptstyle (n)} p^k, \, 0 \leq a_{\lambda,k}^{\scriptscriptstyle (n)} \leq p-1$$
.

It follows from 2.2 that  $a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)}$  is independent of n for k < n. Now define

$$g\sigma=(\cdots,\sum_{k\geq 0}a_{\lambda,k}^{(k+1)}p^k,\cdots;b_{\scriptscriptstyle 1},b_{\scriptscriptstyle 2},\cdots)$$
 .

THEOREM 2.5. The map  $\sigma$  is a homomorphism, and ker  $\sigma = p^{\omega}G$ , the subgroup of elements of infinite p-height. The p-basic subgroup B of G is mapped onto the group  $[\bigoplus_{\lambda \in A} (F_p)_{\lambda}] \bigoplus [\bigoplus_{i \geq 1} B_i]$  which is a p-basic subgroup of  $C_1 \bigoplus C_2$ .

*Proof.* It is easy to see that  $\sigma$  is a homomorphism. Let  $g \in p^{\omega}G$ , and write g as in 2.1. Then by the p-purity of B, each of  $b_0^{(n)}$ ,  $b_1 \cdots, b_n, b_n^*$  is divisible by  $p^n$  in the summand of B to which it belongs. Hence  $b_1 = \cdots = b_n = 0$ . Since  $b_0^{(n)}$  is divisible by  $p^n$  in

in  $B_0$ , it follows that in  $m_{\lambda}^{(n)} = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)} p^k$  the coefficient  $a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)} = 0$  for  $k \leq n-1$ . Thus  $g\sigma = 0$ . Conversely, assume  $g\sigma = 0$ . Then in the representation 2.1,  $b_1 = b_2 = \cdots = b_n = 0$ , and in the equation  $m_{\lambda}^{(n)} = \sum_{k \geq 0} a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)} p^k$ ,  $0 \leq a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)} \leq p-1$ , we have  $a_{\lambda,k}^{(k+1)} = 0$  for each k. The uniqueness of the  $a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)}$  for k < n implies  $a_{\lambda,k}^{(n)} = 0$  for  $0 \leq k < n$ , i.e.  $m_{\lambda}^{(n)}$  is divisible by  $p^n$ . Thus  $b_0^{(n)}$  is divisible in  $B_0$  by  $p^n$ . The remainder of this part of the proof is exactly as in the proof of Theorem 3 in [1] pp. 326-7. It is obvious from 2.1 that B is mapped onto

$$\left[igoplus_{\lambda \in \varLambda} \left(F_{p}
ight)_{\lambda}
ight] \oplus \left[igoplus_{i \geq 1} B_{i}
ight]$$
 ,

and it is easy to check that this is a p-basic subgroup of  $C_1 \oplus C_2$ 

THEOREM 2.6. Go is p-pure in  $P_1 \oplus P_2$ , and  $(G\sigma)^* = C_1 \oplus C_2$ , where \*indicates the completion in the p-adic topology.

*Proof.* By 2.5  $B\sigma$  is a p-pure subgroup of  $P_1 \oplus P_2$ . Since  $G\sigma/B\sigma$  is a p-divisible (hence p-pure) subgroup of  $(P_1 \oplus P_2)/B\sigma$ , it follows that  $G\sigma$  is a p-pure subgroup of  $P_1 \oplus P_2$ . Since  $G\sigma$  is p-pure in  $P_1 \oplus P_2$  it possesses a p-adic completion in  $P_1 \oplus P_2$ .  $B\sigma \subseteq G\sigma$  implies  $C_1 \oplus C_2 = (B\sigma)^* \subseteq (G\sigma)^*$ , and since  $B\sigma$  is dense in  $G\sigma$  in the p-adic topology,  $G\sigma \subseteq (B\sigma)^* = C_1 \oplus C_2$ , thus  $(G\sigma)^* \subseteq C_1 \oplus C_2$ .

COROLLARY 2.7. Every abelian group G with no elements of infinite p-height may be considered to be a p-pure subgroup of some group  $[\bigoplus_{\lambda\in\Lambda}^*(F_p^*)_{\lambda}]\bigoplus[\bigoplus_{i\geq1}^*B_i]$  and containing  $[\bigoplus_{\lambda\in\Lambda}(F_p)_{\lambda}]\bigoplus[\bigoplus_{i\geq1}B_i]$  as a p-basic subgroup.

If G is a p-group, then  $P_1 = 0$ , and  $G\sigma \leq (C_2)_t$ , the torsion subgroup of  $C_2$ . Thus in this case our theorems are exactly the important and useful Theorems 33.1 and 33.2 of [2].

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