

## Abelian $p$ -groups of not limit length

by

L. FUCHS and L. SALCE\*

(Received January 11, 1977)

In this note we consider additively written abelian  $p$ -groups.  $p$ -groups  $A$  of lengths  $\lambda+n$  (where  $\lambda$  is a limit ordinal and  $n$  a positive integer) are best understood if they are considered as elongations of  $p^n$ -bounded groups  $p^\lambda A$  by  $p$ -groups  $A/p^\lambda A$  of limit lengths (we use the term "elongation" in the sense of Nunke [8]). Our principal aim is to point out that these groups can also be viewed from the opposite angle, viz. as quotients of  $p$ -groups  $T$  of lengths  $\lambda$  modulo  $p^n$ -bounded subgroups  $U$  (see Theorem 1). In several important cases,  $T$  can be chosen from the same class of  $p$ -groups to which  $A/p^\lambda A$  belongs. Moreover, we show that it is always possible to find  $A \cong T/U$  such that  $U$  is dense in  $T[p^n]$  in the generalized  $p$ -adic topology; here  $T[p^n] = \{a \in T \mid p^n a = 0\}$ .

As an application of our results, we prove a theorem on totally injective  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\omega+n$ . We show that they are uniquely determined, up to isomorphism, by their  $p^n$ -socles regarded as abelian groups furnished with the height function as valuation (Theorem 5). This result generalizes a theorem by Richman [9].

We follow the notations and terminology of [3]. In particular,  $p^\sigma A$  is defined for all ordinals  $\sigma$  inductively by  $p^{\sigma+1}A = \{pa \mid a \in p^\sigma A\}$  and  $p^\rho A = \bigcap_{\sigma < \rho} p^\sigma A$  for limit ordinals  $\rho$ . The smallest  $\lambda$  with  $p^{\lambda+1}A = p^\lambda A$  is the length of  $A$ ;  $p^\lambda A = 0$  whenever  $A$  is reduced.

1. Let  $\lambda$  be a limit ordinal, and  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  a non-empty class of reduced  $p$ -groups. It will be called a  $p^\lambda$ -class if it satisfies

- P1.  $X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  and  $Y \cong X$  imply  $Y \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ ;
- P2.  $p^\lambda X = 0$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ ;
- P3.  $X \oplus Y \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  if and only if  $X, Y \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ ;
- P4.  $X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  if and only if  $pX \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ .

We call  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  a *full*  $p^\lambda$ -class if, in addition, the following holds:

- P5. if  $p^\lambda X = 0$  and if  $X/P \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  for some  $P \leq X[p]$ , then  $X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ .

Examples for such classes are abundant.

---

\* This paper was written while the first author held a National Science Foundation grant, number 66072, and the second author held a N.A.T.O. fellowship from Italian C.N.R. at Tulane University, New Orleans.

E1. The class of all reduced  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\leq \lambda$  is a full  $p^2$ -class.

E2. The class of direct sums of cyclic  $p$ -groups is a  $p^0$ -class. It is not a full  $p^0$ -class, since a proper  $p^{0+1}$ -projective separable  $p$ -group is not in this class, though it contains a subocle  $P$  satisfying the hypotheses of P5 (see [5]).

E3. The class of torsion-complete  $p$ -groups is a full  $p^0$ -class. Note that if  $X, P$  are as in P5, then from the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), P) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), X) \rightarrow \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), X/P) \rightarrow 0$$

we obtain  $p^0 \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), X) \leq \text{Im } \alpha$  (since  $X/P$  torsion-complete means  $p^0 \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), X/P)$  vanishes [3, 68.5]). In this inclusion, the smaller group is torsion-free (because of  $p^0 X = 0$  and [3, 56.3]), while the second group is  $p$ -bounded. Thus the first group vanishes, and  $X$  is torsion-complete.

E4. The class  $\mathcal{D}_\lambda$  of  $p^2$ -high injective (reduced)  $p$ -groups (Megibben [7] defined them as  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\leq \lambda$  which are direct summands of every  $p$ -group containing them as  $p^2$ -high subgroups; for an alternative characterization, see Dubois [2]) is a full  $p^2$ -class. This follows easily from the fact that a  $p$ -group  $A$  is  $p^2$ -high injective if and only if  $p^2 \text{Ext}(\mathbf{Z}(p^\infty), A) = 0$ .

E5. The smallest (full)  $p^0$ -class is readily seen to coincide with the class of all bounded  $p$ -groups. In fact, by P3, 0 is contained in every class, and by P4 the same holds for all bounded  $p$ -groups.

Let  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  be a  $p^2$ -class and  $n$  a positive integer. We define a new class to consist of "elongations" of  $p^n$ -bounded groups by groups in  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ , i.e.

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(n) = \{A \mid p^{\lambda+n}A = 0 \text{ and } A/p^2A \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda\}.$$

E6. In view of Proposition 1 in [7], a  $p$ -group  $A$  of length  $\leq \lambda + n$  is  $p^{\lambda+n}$ -high injective exactly if  $A/p^2A$  is  $p^2$ -high injective. Hence  $\mathcal{D}_\lambda(n)$  is the class of  $p^{\lambda+n}$ -high injectives.

Our next objective is to show that for full  $p^2$ -classes  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ , the class  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda(n)$  is the same as the class of all quotients of groups in  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  modulo  $p^n$ -bounded subgroups. We phrase our theorem in a slightly more general form, so as to include the so-called Switch Lemma [1] as a special case.

**THEOREM 1.** *For a reduced  $p$ -group  $A$ , integer  $n$  and a  $p^2$ -class  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$ , the following conditions are equivalent;*

- (a) *there is a subgroup  $P \leq A[p^n]$  such that  $A/P \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$ ;*
- (b) *there exist a group  $T \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  and a subgroup  $U$  of  $T[p^n]$  such that  $T/U \cong A$ .*

Both are consequences of the following condition:

(c)  $A \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(n)$ .

All three conditions are equivalent for a full  $p^2$ -class  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$ .

(a) $\Rightarrow$ (b). There is no difficulty in constructing an exact sequence  $0 \rightarrow X[p^n] \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{\pi} A/P \rightarrow 0$  where  $\pi$  is multiplication by  $p^n$ , i.e.  $\pi(x) = p^n x$  ( $x \in X$ ). By induction on  $n$ , P4 implies  $X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ . Starting with the bottom row and the last column, we can get a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X[p^n] & = & X[p^n] \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ E_1: & P & \rightarrow & T & \rightarrow & X \\ & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ E_2: & P & \rightarrow & A & \rightarrow & A/P \end{array}$$

The map  $\text{Ext}(A/P, P) \xrightarrow{\pi^*} \text{Ext}(X, P)$  induced by  $\pi$  is likewise a multiplication by  $p^n$  [3, 52.1]. From  $E_1 = \pi^*(E_2) = p^n E_2$  and  $p^n \text{Ext}(A/P, P) = 0$  we infer that  $E_1$  is splitting. Thus  $P, X \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  implies  $T \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ , proving (b). ( $U$  is the image of  $X[p^n]$  in  $T$ .)

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (a). In view of P4,  $T \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  implies  $T/T[p^n] \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ . The choice  $T = T[p^n]/U$  proves the assertion.

(c) $\Rightarrow$ (a) is clear, since  $p^2 A \leq A[p^n]$  whenever  $p^{\lambda+n} A = 0$ .

Assuming P5, (a) $\Rightarrow$ (c).  $A/P \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  implies  $p^\lambda(A/P) = 0$ , thus  $p^2 A \leq P$ , and  $P/p^2 A \leq (A/p^2 A)[p^n]$ . By induction on  $n$ , P5 leads to (c).

Consequently, the  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\lambda + n$  are quotients of  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\lambda \pmod{p^n}$ -bounded subgroups.

2. In order to improve on theorem 1, we want to show that  $U$  can be chosen in some special way. We consider a topology which is essentially a generalized  $p$ -adic topology.

Given the limit ordinal  $\lambda$ , consider the linear topology of  $A$  where  $\{p^\sigma A\}_{\sigma < \lambda}$  is a base of neighborhoods of 0. We follow Megibben [7] in referring to this topology as the  $\lambda$ -topology of  $A$ .

If  $T$  is a  $p$ -group of limit length  $\lambda$ , the  $\lambda$ -topology of  $T$  induces a topology on  $T[p^n]$ . When we say a subgroup of  $T[p^n]$  is *closed* or *dense*, we always refer to this induced topology.

The following lemma is easily verified.

LEMMA 1. *If  $T$  is a  $p$ -group and  $U \leq T[p^n]$ , then for every  $a \in T$ ,*

$$h_{T/U}(a+U) \leq \sup_{u \in U} [h_T(a+u) + 1] + n - 1$$

where the index indicates the group where the heights are computed.

First, assume  $U \leq T[p]$ . We induct on  $\rho = h_{T/U}(a+U)$ . If  $\rho = 0$ ,

there is nothing to prove. Let  $\rho \geq 1$ , and observe that by the definition of height and induction hypothesis,

$$\rho = \sup_{pb \in a+U} [h_{T/U}(b+U)+1] \leq \sup_{pb \in a+U} \{ \sup_{u \in U} [h_T(b+u)+1] + 1 \}.$$

Here  $h_T(b+u)+1 \leq h_T(pb+pu) = h_T(pb)$  whence the assertion follows at once for  $n=1$ . Next assume that  $n \geq 2$  and that lemma has been established for  $n-1$ . Set  $U' = U \cap T[p^{n-1}]$ ; then  $U/U'$  is contained in the socle of  $T/U'$ . By induction hypothesis,

$$h_{T/U'}(a+U') = \sup_{u' \in U'} [h_T(a+u')+1] + (n-2)$$

for each  $a \in T$ . Thus, by what has been proved we infer that for every  $a \in T$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} h_{T/U}(a+U) &= h_{(T/U')/(U/U')}(a+u) \leq \sup_{u \in U} [h_{T/U'}(a+u+U')+1] \\ &\leq \sup_{u \in U} \{ \sup_{u' \in U'} [h_T(a+u+u')+1] + n-1 \} \\ &\leq \sup_{u \in U} [h_T(a+u)+1] + n-1. \end{aligned}$$

We shall require the following simple lemma.

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $T$  be a  $p$ -group of limit length  $\lambda$ , and  $U$  a subgroup of  $T[p^n]$  for some integer  $n$ . Then  $T/U$  is at most of length  $\lambda+n$ . If  $U$  is closed, then  $T/U$  has length exactly  $\lambda$ .*

The first assertion follows at once from Theorem 1. Evidently,  $T/U$  has length  $\geq \lambda$ . Let  $a+U$  (for some  $a \in T$ ) be of height  $\lambda$  in  $T/U$ . In view of the preceding lemma, there exists an increasing chain of ordinals  $\{\sigma_i\}_{i \in I}$  with  $\sup \sigma_i = \lambda$ , together with elements  $u_i \in U$  ( $i \in I$ ), such that  $h_T(a-u_i) = \sigma_i$  (where  $h_T$  denotes height in  $T$ ). Since

$$p^\lambda(T/T[p^n]) \cong p^\lambda(p^n T) = p^\lambda T = 0,$$

from  $T/T[p^n] \cong (T/U)/(T[p^n]/U)$  we deduce  $p^\lambda(T/U) \leq T[p^n]/U$  whence  $a \in T[p^n]$  follows. Thus  $a$  is the limit in  $T[p^n]$  of elements in  $U$ . If  $U$  is closed, then  $a \in U$ , and consequently,  $p^\lambda(T/U) = 0$ .

3. Let  $T$  be a  $p$ -group whose length is a limit ordinal  $\lambda$ , and let  $U$  be a subgroup of  $T[p^n]$ . We are mainly interested in the case when  $U$  is dense in  $T[p^n]$ . For the sake of brevity, we then say that  $T/U$  is a *dense representation* of the group  $A = T/U$ .

From Lemma 2 we know that the length of  $A$  is then at most  $\lambda+n$ . A more precise information is given by

**LEMMA 3.** *If  $T$  and  $U$  are as above, and if  $A = T/U$  is a dense representation of  $A$ , then  $p^\lambda A = T[p^n]/U$ .*

From  $p^\lambda(T/T[p^n]) \cong p^\lambda(p^n T) = p^\lambda T = 0$  we obtain  $p^\lambda A \leq T[p^n]/U$ . On the

other hand, by the density of  $U$ , for each ordinal  $\sigma < \lambda$ , every  $t \in T[p^n]$  can be written in the form  $t = t_\sigma + u_\sigma$  with  $t_\sigma \in p^\sigma T[p^n]$ ,  $u_\sigma \in U$ . Hence  $t + U = t_\sigma + U \in (p^\sigma T[p^n] + U)/A \leq p^\sigma A$ , and the assertion follows.

The following lemma is of technical character.

**LEMMA 4.** *If  $A$  has a dense representation  $T/U$  with  $p^n$ -bounded  $U$ , then it has also one where  $T$  does not contain any  $p^n$ -bounded summand  $\neq 0$ .*

In fact,  $A = T/U$  is any dense representation with  $U \leq T[p^n]$ , then select a maximal  $p^n$ -bounded direct summand  $V$  of  $T$  that is contained in  $U$ . Thus  $T = V \oplus T'$  and  $U = V \oplus (T' \cap U)$ , so that  $A \cong T'/(T' \cap U)$  will be a dense representation of  $A$ . Suppose that  $T' = \langle a \rangle \oplus T''$  where  $\langle a \rangle$  is of order  $p^m$  ( $m \leq n$ ). By the density of  $T' \cap U$  in  $T'[p^n]$ , we can write  $a = u + b$  with  $u \in T' \cap U$  and  $b \in (pT')[p^n]$ . Manifestly, neither  $u$  nor  $b$  vanishes, and  $h_r(p^r a) = h_r(p^r u)$  for all  $r \geq 0$ . But then  $\langle u \rangle$  is likewise a summand of  $T'$ , a contradiction to the choice of  $V$ . Hence  $T'$  does not have  $p^n$ -bounded summands  $\neq 0$ .

Next we establish one of our main results: the existence of dense representations.

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  be a  $p^\lambda$ -class of  $p$ -groups and  $A \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda(n)$ . Then  $A$  has a dense representation  $T^*/U^*$  with  $U^* \leq T^*[p^n]$ .*

*Here  $T^* \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  can be chosen whenever  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  is a full  $p^\lambda$ -class.*

By Theorem 1,  $A \cong T/U$  for some  $T \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$  and subgroup  $U$  of  $T[p^n]$ . Let  $T'$  be a  $p$ -group satisfying  $p^n T' = T$ ; then by P4, also  $T' \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ . Let  $\bar{U}$  be the closure of  $U$ , and let  $U' = p^{-n} U \leq T'$ . Then clearly,  $\bar{U} \leq T'[p^n] \leq U'$ , and we can define

$$T^* = T'/\bar{U} \quad \text{and} \quad U^* = U'/\bar{U}.$$

The  $\lambda$ -topology of  $T$  coincides with the topology induced on  $T$  by the  $\lambda$ -topology of  $T'$ , so  $\bar{U}$  is closed in  $T'$ , too. From Lemma 2 we infer that  $T^*$  is of length  $\lambda$ . If  $\mathcal{C}_\lambda$  is a full  $p^\lambda$ -class, then  $T^*$  has a  $p^n$ -bounded subgroup  $T'[p^n]/\bar{U}$  modulo which the quotient is  $T'/T'[p^n] \cong T$ , thus  $T^* \in \mathcal{C}_\lambda$ . In view of  $T^*/U^* \cong T'/U' \cong T/U \cong A$ , only the density of  $U^*$  in  $T^*[p^n]$  remains to be verified, i.e. that

$$T^*[p^n] = U^* + p^\sigma T^*[p^n] \quad \text{for all } \sigma < \lambda.$$

Since  $p^\sigma(T'/\bar{U})[p^n] \supseteq ((p^\sigma T' + \bar{U})/\bar{U})[p^n]$ , it suffices to establish the inclusion

$$p^{-n} \bar{U} \leq p^{-n} U + [(p^\sigma T' + \bar{U}) \cap p^{-n} \bar{U}].$$

The last group is equal to  $(p^{-n} U + p^\sigma T') \cap p^{-n} \bar{U}$ , so the proof can be completed by showing that  $p^{-n} \bar{U} \leq p^{-n} U + p^\sigma T'$  for all  $\sigma < \lambda$ . If  $t \in p^{-n} \bar{U}$ , then  $p^n t \in \bar{U}$ , so there are  $u \in U$  and  $s \in p^{n+\sigma} T = p^\sigma T'$  such that  $p^n t =$

$u + p^n s$ . Hence  $t - s \in p^{-n}U$  and  $t = (t - s) + s \in p^{-n}U + p^n T'$  completes the proof.

Consequently, every  $p$ -group  $A$  of length  $\lambda + n$  ( $\lambda$  a limit ordinal) can be written as  $A = T/U$  where  $T$  is of length  $\lambda$  and  $U$  is a  $p^n$ -bounded dense subgroup of  $T$ .

4. As an application of our theorem on the existence of dense representations, we show how isomorphisms of  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\lambda + n$  can be related to isomorphisms of  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\lambda$ .

**THEOREM 3.** *Two  $p$ -groups,  $A$  and  $A'$ , of lengths  $\lambda + n$  are isomorphic if and only if there is an isomorphism*

$$\phi: A/p^\lambda A \rightarrow A'/p^\lambda A'$$

such that  $\phi(A[p^n]/p^\lambda A) = A'[p^n]/p^\lambda A'$ .

Necessity is clear. To verify sufficiency, we appeal to Theorem 2 and start with dense representations  $A = T/U$  and  $A' = T'/U'$ . By Lemma 4, without loss of generality, we may assume that neither  $T$  nor  $T'$  contains  $p^n$ -bounded summands. From Lemma 3 we obtain

$$A/p^\lambda A = (T/U)/(T[p^n]/U) \cong T/T[p^n] \cong p^n T.$$

Under the obvious isomorphisms,  $A[p^n]/p^\lambda A$  maps upon  $U \cap p^n T$ . Arguing analogously for  $A'$ , we can establish from the given  $\phi$  an isomorphism  $\psi: p^n T \rightarrow p^n T'$  such that  $\psi(U \cap p^n T) = U' \cap p^n T'$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} p^n A &\cong (p^n T + U)/U \cong p^n T/(U \cap p^n T) \cong p^n T'/(U' \cap p^n T') \\ &\cong (p^n T' + U')/U' \cong p^n A'. \end{aligned}$$

From [10] it follows that apart from  $p^n$ -bounded direct summands,  $A$  and  $A'$  are isomorphic. It suffices to note that  $\phi$  induces an isomorphism between the maximal  $p^n$ -bounded summands of  $A$  and  $A'$  in order to conclude that  $A \cong A'$ , in fact.

In the special case when  $n=1$ , Theorem 3 reduces to Lemma 2 of [9].

The next result states that in certain cases the  $p^n$ -socles of groups in  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda(n)$  determine the groups up to isomorphism. Here we use the term "isometry" to mean height-preserving isomorphism (cf. e.g. [4]).

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda$  be a full  $p^\lambda$ -class and  $n > 0$  an integer such that if  $T, T' \in \mathcal{E}_\lambda$  and if  $U, U'$  are isometric dense subgroups of  $T[p^n]$  and  $T'[p^n]$ , respectively, then there is an isomorphism  $T \rightarrow T'$  carrying  $U$  onto  $U'$ .*

Then two groups,  $A$  and  $A'$ , in  $\mathcal{E}_\lambda(n)$  are isomorphic if and only if there is an isometry

$$\phi: A[p^n] \rightarrow A'[p^n].$$

Assume  $\phi$  is an isometry for  $A, A' \in \mathcal{C}_i(n)$ . Let  $T, T' \in \mathcal{C}_i$ , and let  $T/U=A, T'/U'=A'$  be dense representations where neither  $T$  nor  $T'$  contains  $p^n$ -bounded summands. From Lemma 3 we infer  $A/p^2A \cong T/T[p^n] \cong p^nT$  and  $A'/p^2A' \cong p^nT'$  where both  $p^nT$  and  $p^nT'$  belong to  $\mathcal{C}_i$ . Manifestly, the map  $A[p^n]/p^2A \rightarrow A'[p^n]/p^2A'$  induced by  $\phi$  is an isometry between dense subgroups of the  $p^n$ -socles of  $A/p^2A$  and  $A'/p^2A'$ . From hypothesis we conclude that there is an isomorphism  $A/p^2A \rightarrow A'/p^2A'$  mapping  $A[p^n]/p^2A$  onto  $A'[p^n]/p^2A'$ . A simple appeal to Theorem 3 completes the proof.

5. We now specialize  $\mathcal{C}_i = \mathcal{D}_\omega$ , the class of torsion-complete  $p$ -groups which is in view of E3, a full  $p^\omega$ -class. In order to show that the class  $\mathcal{D}_\omega$  satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 4 for every  $n$ , note that a dense subgroup  $U$  of  $T[p^n]$  ( $T \in \mathcal{D}_\omega$ ) necessarily contains  $B[p^n]$  for some basic subgroup  $B$  of  $T$ . Therefore, every isometry between dense subgroups  $\psi: U \rightarrow U' \leq T'[p^n]$  ( $T' \in \mathcal{D}_\omega$ ) induces an isomorphism  $B \rightarrow B'$  between basic subgroups of  $T$  and  $T'$ . By torsion-completeness, this extends uniquely to an isomorphism  $\phi: T \rightarrow T'$ . It is easy to check that  $\phi|U = \psi$ , since they are identical on a dense subgroup  $U \cap B$  of  $U$ . Hence, by virtue of Theorem 4, we obtain:

**THEOREM 5.** *Two groups in  $\mathcal{D}_\omega(n)$  are isomorphic if and only if there is an isometry between their  $p^n$ -socles.*

From Theorem 1 we know that the class  $\mathcal{D}_\omega(n)$  is exactly the class of  $p$ -groups  $A$  such that  $A/p^\omega A$  is torsion-complete and  $p^\omega A$  is  $p^n$ -bounded. These groups are the totally injective  $p$ -groups of lengths  $\leq \omega + n$  (see [6]). For  $n=1$ , these groups were discussed by Richman [9]; he proved that they are uniquely determined, up to isomorphism, by their socles as valued vector spaces. Our Theorem 5 is a generalization of Richman's result for arbitrary  $n$ .

We wish to give an alternative proof of Theorem 5. This is a direct approach based on immediate generalizations of Richman's ideas. For the proof we need the following lemma.

**LEMMA 5.** *Let  $A_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) be  $p$ -groups,  $B_i$  pure and dense subgroups of  $A_i$ , and  $P_i$  subgroups of  $A_i[p^n]$ . Suppose there exist isomorphisms  $\beta: B_1 \rightarrow B_2$  and  $\gamma: A_1/P_1 \rightarrow A_2/P_2$  with the following properties:*

- (i)  $\gamma(A_1[p^n]/P_1) = A_2[p^n]/P_2$ ,
- (ii) *the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B_1 & \xrightarrow{\beta} & B_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A_1/P_1 & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & A_2/P_2 \end{array}$$

commutes where the vertical maps are the injections followed by the canonical maps.

Then there exists an isomorphism  $\alpha: A_1 \rightarrow A_2$  such that  $\alpha|_{B_1} = \beta$  and the following square commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & A_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A_1/P_1 & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & A_2/P_2 \end{array}$$

(the vertical maps are the canonical maps).

First we define  $\alpha$  on  $p^n A_1$  as follows. Given  $a_1 \in p^n A_1$ , choose  $c_1 \in A_1$  so as to satisfy  $p^n c_1 = a_1$ . If  $\gamma: c_1 + P_1 \mapsto c_2 + P_2$  ( $c_2 \in A_2$ ), then we let  $\alpha: a_1 \mapsto a_2 = p^n c_2$ . If we select  $c_1 + x_1$  ( $x_1 \in A[p^n]$ ) rather than  $c_1$ , then because of (i),  $\gamma(x_1 + P_1) \in A_2[p^n]/P_1$ , so  $a_2$  will be independent of the selections of  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ . That  $\alpha$  is a homomorphism on  $p^n A_1$  is quite clear. Now, if  $a_1 \in B_1 \cap p^n A = p^n B_1$ , then to this  $a_1$  we can choose  $c_1 \in B_1$  and  $c_2 \in B_2$ , thus  $\alpha(a_1) = \beta(a_1)$  which shows that the homomorphisms  $\beta: B_1 \rightarrow B_2$  and  $\alpha: p^n A_1 \rightarrow p^n A_2$  agree on the intersection of their domains. Hence they can be uniquely extended to a homomorphism  $\alpha: B_1 + p^n A = A_1 \rightarrow A_2$ . In the same way, an inverse  $A_2 \rightarrow A_1$  can be constructed showing that  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism. The commutativity of the square above follows at once from (ii) and the definitions.

We can now verify the sufficiency statement of Theorem 5. Suppose  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are in  $\mathcal{S}_\omega(n)$  and  $\phi: A_1[p^n] \rightarrow A_2[p^n]$  is an isometry.

We set  $P_i = p^\omega A_i$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) and notice that  $P_i \leq A_i[p^n]$ . Pick a basic subgroup  $B_1$  of  $A_1$ ,  $B_1 = \bigoplus_{i \in I} \langle b_{1i} \rangle$  where, say,  $b_{1i}$  is of order  $p^{n_i}$ . For  $n_i \leq n$ , set  $b_{2i} = \phi b_{1i}$ , and for  $n_i > n$ , let  $b_{2i} \in A_2$  satisfy  $p^{n_i - n} b_{2i} = \phi(p^{n_i - n} b_{1i})$ ; since  $\phi$  is height-preserving, such  $b_{2i}$ 's exist. As in  $p$ -groups, direct sums, purity and density can be recognized in the socles, it is clear that  $B_2 = \bigoplus_{i \in I} \langle b_{2i} \rangle$  will be a basic subgroup of  $A_2$ . The map  $\phi|_{B_1[p^n]}$  can be extended via  $b_{1i} \mapsto b_{2i}$  to an isomorphism  $\beta: B_1 \rightarrow B_2$ . From  $B_i \cap P_i = 0$  ( $i=1, 2$ ) we infer that  $\beta$  induces an isomorphism  $\beta_0: (B_1 + P_1)/P_1 \rightarrow (B_2 + P_2)/P_2$  between basic subgroups of  $A_1/P_1$  and  $A_2/P_2$ . The latter groups are torsion-complete, thus  $\beta_0$  can be extended to an isomorphism  $\gamma: A_1/P_1 \rightarrow A_2/P_2$ .

The isomorphism  $\phi$  induces an isomorphism  $A_1[p^n]/P_1 \rightarrow A_2[p^n]/P_2$  which must act as  $\gamma$ . In fact, given  $a_1 \in A_1[p^n]$ , for every  $m > 0$  there is a  $b_m \in B_1$  such that  $h(a_1 - b_m) \geq m$ ; it is easy to check that  $b_m \in B_1[p^n]$  can be assumed without loss of generality. Application of  $\phi$  yields  $h(\phi a_1 - \phi b_m) \geq m$ . Hence  $\phi b_m$  ( $m=1, 2, \dots$ ) is a bounded Cauchy sequence in  $A_2$ , and  $\phi b_m + P_2$  ( $m=1, 2, \dots$ ) is one in  $A_2/P_2$ ; clearly,  $\phi a_1 + P_2$  is its limit. But  $\phi$  and  $\beta$  are identical on  $B_1[p^n]$ , and  $\gamma(a_1 + P_1)$  is precisely



the limit of  $\beta b_m + P_2(m=1, 2, \dots)$ .

Thus we have constructed isomorphisms  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ , satisfying the hypotheses of Lemma 5. This completes the second proof of Theorem 5.

### References

- [1] BENABDALLAH, K. IRWIN, J. M., and RAFIQ, M.; A core class of abelian  $p$ -groups, *Symposia Math.*, **13** (1974), 195-206.
- [2] DUBOIS, D. F.; Generally  $p^\alpha$ -torsion-complete abelian groups, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.*, **159** (1971), 245-255.
- [3] FUCHS, L.; *Infinite Abelian Groups*, Vol. 1 and 2, Academic Press (New York, 1970 and 1973).
- [4] FUCHS, L.; Vector spaces with valuations, *J. Algebra*, **35** (1975), 23-38.
- [5] FUCHS, L. and IRWIN, J. M.; On  $p^{\alpha+1}$ -projective  $p$ -groups, *Proc. London Math. Soc.*, **30** (1975), 459-470.
- [6] FUCHS, L., and SALCE, L.; Almost totally injective  $p$ -groups, *Quaestiones Math.*, **1** (1967), 225-234.
- [7] MEGIBBEN, C.; On  $p^\alpha$ -high injectives, *Math. Z.*, **122** (1971), 104-110.
- [8] NUNKE, R. J.; Uniquely elongating modules, *Symposia Math.*, **13** (1974), 315-330.
- [9] RICHMAN, F.; Extensions of  $p$ -bounded groups, *Archiv. d. Math.*, **21** (1970), 449-454.
- [10] WALKER, E. A.; On  $n$ -extensions of abelian groups, *Annales Univ. Sci. Budapest*, **8** (1965), 71-74.

Tulane University,  
New Orleans, La. USA  
  
Universita di Padova  
Padova, Italy