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OSAKA UNIVERSITY AND
NAGOYA UNIVERSITY

THE NUMBER OF SUBGROUPS OF GIVEN INDEX IN NONDENumerable ABELIAN GROUPS

W. R. SCOTT

Let G be an Abelian group of order $A > \aleph_0$. It has been shown [4, Theorem 9] that there exist 2^A subgroups of G of order A , and that the intersection of all such subgroups is 0. In this paper, this result is improved to the following: If $\aleph_0 \leq B \leq A$ and $A > \aleph_0$, then an Abelian group of order A has 2^A subgroups of index B , and the intersection of all such subgroups is 0. In addition, it is shown that there is a set of 2^A subgroups H_α of index B such that $G/H_\alpha \cong G/H_{\alpha'}$ for all α, α' .

Baer [1, p. 124] showed that if G is an Abelian p -group which is the direct sum of A cyclic groups of bounded order, then G has 2^A subgroups of index p (here A may equal \aleph_0). The proof in the present paper is accomplished by extending Baer's result in an obvious manner to a wider class of p -groups, and then reducing all other cases to this one.

We shall use $+$ and \sum to denote direct sums, and $o(S)$ to denote the number of elements in S .

LEMMA. *Let $H \neq 0$ be an Abelian group, and let $G = \sum H_\alpha$, $\alpha \in S$, $H_\alpha \cong H$ for all $\alpha \in S$, $o(S) = A \geq \aleph_0$. Then there are at least 2^A subgroups K_β of G such that $G/K_\beta \cong H$.*

PROOF. (This proof is the same as Baer's, and is included only for the sake of completeness.) Identify H_α with H . Let ϵ_α be 0 or 1 for each $\alpha, \alpha \in S$. Let K be the set of elements of G such that $h_{\alpha_0} = \sum \epsilon_\alpha h_\alpha$, $\alpha \neq \alpha_0$. Then it is easy to verify that K is a subgroup of G and $G = H_{\alpha_0} + K$. If $\epsilon_{\alpha_0} = 0$, then $H_{\alpha_0} \subset K$, but if $\epsilon_{\alpha_0} = 1$, then $H_{\alpha_0} \cap K = 0$. Thus all of the K 's are distinct, and the lemma is proved.

THEOREM. *Let G be an Abelian group of order $A > \aleph_0$, and let $\aleph_0 \leq B \leq A$. Then*

- (i) *there are exactly 2^A subgroups H_α of index B and order A ,*
- (ii) *the intersection of the subgroups in (i) is 0,*
- (iii) *there exist 2^A subgroups K_β , of index B and order A , such that $G/K_\beta \cong G/K_{\beta'} \cong \sum C_\gamma$ where either*
 - (a) *all C_γ are cyclic of prime order, or*
 - (b) *all C_γ are p^∞ groups (p not necessarily fixed).*

REMARKS. The condition that $o(H_\alpha) = A$ or $o(K_\beta) = A$ is automatically satisfied by subgroups of index B unless $B = A$. If (ii) is true, then it is clear that there is a set of A subgroups, each of index B and order A , whose intersection is 0. Finally, since there are at most 2^A subgroups of G , (iii) implies (i), hence only (ii) and (iii) need be proved.

PROOF. Case 1. $G = \sum C_\gamma, \gamma \in S, o(C_\gamma) = p, p$ a fixed prime. Then $o(S) = A$. By omitting B and retaining A summands, one obtains a subgroup K of index B and order A . By the lemma, K has 2^A subgroups K_β of index p in K . The K_β are thus of order A and of index B in G , and (iii) is satisfied. Since any given summand could have been omitted in obtaining K , (ii) is satisfied.

Case 2. $G = \sum C_\gamma, \gamma \in S$, where C_γ is cyclic of order p^{n_γ} . Again $o(S) = A$, and G/pG is of the type considered in Case 1. Hence there are 2^A subgroups K_β^* of G/pG as in (iii). Therefore there are 2^A subgroups K_β of G satisfying (iii). To obtain (ii), first omit from G one summand containing a nonzero component of a given nonzero element g . Since the group G^* thus obtained has finite index in G , one may then proceed as above.

Case 3. $G = \sum C_\gamma, \gamma \in S$, where C_γ is a p^∞ group, p fixed. The proof is nearly identical to that in Case 1.

Case 4. G is a p -group. Then [3, Theorem 6] there exists a pure (=servant) subgroup M of G such that $(\alpha) M = \sum C_\gamma, \gamma \in S$, where C_γ is cyclic, and $(\beta) G/M = \sum D_\delta$, where the D_δ are p^∞ groups. If $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n \in S$, then $C_{\gamma_1} + \dots + C_{\gamma_n}$ is a pure subgroup of M since it is a direct summand thereof, consequently $C_{\gamma_1} + \dots + C_{\gamma_n}$ is a pure subgroup of G . But since it is also of bounded order, we have [2, Theorem 5] $(\gamma) C_{\gamma_1} + \dots + C_{\gamma_n}$ is a direct summand of G for all $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n \in S$.

If $o(G/M) = A$, then by (β) and Case 3, (iii) is satisfied for G/M , hence also for G .

If $o(G/M) < A$, then $o(M) = A$, and if V is a set of representatives of the cosets of M , then the subgroup L generated by V has order less than A , and $M \cup L = G$. The summands C_γ containing any com-

ponent of any element of $M \cap L$ are fewer than A in number. Hence there exists a subgroup N of M such that $N \supset M \cap L$, $o(M/N) = A$, and M/N is isomorphic to a direct sum of some of the C_γ . Therefore by Case 2, (iii) is true for M/N , and therefore there are 2^A subgroups K_β^* of M containing N , and therefore $M \cap L$, such that the factor groups M/K_β^* are as in (iii). It then follows from the isomorphism theorem that (iii) is satisfied for G .

To prove (ii), note that by (γ) , any element of M may be omitted by a subgroup of finite index in G , hence from the above, by a subgroup H_α of index B and order A . If $o(G/M) > B$, then by (β) and Case 3 (perhaps for a cardinal smaller than A), any nonzero element of G/M may be omitted by a subgroup of order $o(G/M)$ and of index B in G/M , hence any element of G outside of M may be omitted by a subgroup of order $o(G/M)o(M) = A$ and of index B in G . The same is true if $o(G/M) = B = A$. If $o(G/M) < B$ or $o(G/M) = B < A$, then any subgroup of M of order A and index B in M (omit B and keep A summands C_γ in (α)) has the property of omitting all elements outside M and of having the right order and index in G .

Case 5. G is periodic. Then $G = \sum G_p$, where G_p is the p -component of G , and $A = \sum o(G_p)$. Let

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \{p \mid o(G_p) \leq \aleph_0\}, \\ S_2 &= \{p \mid o(G_p) > \aleph_0, \text{ and (iii)(a) holds for } G_p\}, \\ S_3 &= \{p \mid o(G_p) > \aleph_0, \text{ and (iii)(a) does not hold for } G_p\}, \\ N_i &= \sum_{p \in S_i} G_p, \qquad i = 1, 2, 3. \end{aligned}$$

Then either $o(N_2) = A$ or $o(N_3) = A$. Now if $p \in S_2$, then by Case 4, G_p has $2^{o(G_p)}$ subgroups $K_{p,\gamma}$ of order $o(G_p)$ and index $\min(o(G_p), B)$ such that the $G_p/K_{p,\gamma}$ are as in (iii)(a). Hence if $K = N_1 + N_3 + \sum K_{p,\gamma}$, $p \in S_2$, then G/K is isomorphic to a fixed product of type (a) for all choices of K , and K is of order A and of index $\min(o(N_2), B)$ in G . There are

$$\prod_{p \in S_2} 2^{o(G_p)} = 2^{\sum_{p \in S_2} o(G_p)} = 2^{o(N_2)}$$

such K . Similarly there are (at least) $2^{o(N_3)}$ K_β such that K_β is of order A , of index $\min(o(N_3), B)$ in G , and such that G/K_β is of type (b). Hence (iii) is satisfied, since either $o(N_2)$ or $o(N_3)$ equals A .

To prove (ii), let $g \in G$ have component $g_{p_0} \neq 0$. If $o(G_{p_0}) < B$, or $o(G_{p_0}) = B < A$, then omit the summand G_{p_0} from G , and find a subgroup of order A and of index B in the resulting G^* . If $o(G_{p_0}) > B$ or $o(G_{p_0}) = B = A$, then by Case 4, there exists a subgroup K_{p_0} of G_{p_0}

of index B in G_{p_0} and, in case $B = A$, of order A , which omits g_{p_0} . Then $K_{p_0} + \sum G_p$, $p \neq p_0$, omits g and has the required properties. Thus (ii) holds.

Case 6. G is not periodic. Let $F = \{f_\alpha\}$ be a maximal independent set of elements of G . Let L_k , $k = 2, 3, \dots$, be the subgroup generated by the maximal independent set of elements $\{kf_\alpha\}$. If $o(F) < A$, then $o(L_k) < A$ and $o(G/L_k) = A$. If $o(F) = A$, then the f_α lie in distinct cosets of L_k , so again $o(G/L_k) = A$. But G/L_k is periodic, and therefore by Case 5, (iii) is true, and in (ii), $\cap H_\alpha \subseteq L_k$. Since $\cap L_k = 0$, $k = 2, 3, \dots$, (ii) also holds.

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UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS