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# MATHEMATICS

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**Abstract**

**Full Text**

## MATHEMATICS

**B. I. PLOTKIN**

### RADICALS IN GROUP PAIRS

*(Presented by Academician A. I. Mal' tsev on 22 V 1961)*

1. Let  $\mathfrak{G}$  and  $\Gamma$  be two groups. Suppose, in addition, that an operation  $\circ$  is given which assigns to each pair of elements  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  and  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  an element of  $\mathfrak{G}$ , denoted by  $g \circ \sigma$ , and such that the mapping  $g \rightarrow g \circ \sigma$  is an automorphism of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ , and

$$g \circ (\sigma_1 \sigma_2) = (g \circ \sigma_1) \circ \sigma_2$$

for all  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  and  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \Gamma$ . The pair of groups  $\mathfrak{G}$  and  $\Gamma$ , with respect to the operation  $\circ$ , forms a group pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$ . Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair and let  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ . Denote by  $\sigma^f$  the automorphism of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  defined by the equality  $\sigma^f(g) = g \circ \sigma$ . The mapping  $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma^f$  is a homomorphism of the group  $\Gamma$  into the group  $A(\mathfrak{G})$  of all automorphisms of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ , so that the operation  $\circ$  defines a representation of the group  $\Gamma$  by automorphisms of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ —a representation with respect to  $\mathfrak{G}$ . In defining a group pair one could likewise have started from a representation of  $\Gamma$  with respect to  $\mathfrak{G}$ . A group pair is called **faithful** if the kernel of the corresponding representation coincides with the identity of the group  $\Gamma$ . The operation  $\circ$  will be called an **action**,  $\Gamma$  the **acting group**, and  $\mathfrak{G}$  the **domain of action**.

A pair  $(H, \Sigma)$  is called a **subpair** of the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  if  $H$  and  $\Sigma$  are respectively subgroups in  $\mathfrak{G}$  and  $\Gamma$  and if they form a group pair with respect to the action defined in  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$ . In the obvious way one defines the notion of a local system of subpairs of a given group pair.

Let, further,  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  and  $(\bar{\mathfrak{G}}, \bar{\Gamma})$  be two group pairs, and let  $\varphi$  be a certain single-valued mapping of  $\mathfrak{G}$  onto  $\bar{\mathfrak{G}}$  and of  $\Gamma$  onto  $\bar{\Gamma}$ . The mapping  $\varphi$  is called a homomorphism if the mappings

$$\mathfrak{G} \xrightarrow{\varphi} \bar{\mathfrak{G}} \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{\varphi} \bar{\Gamma}$$

are homomorphisms and if the relation

$$(g \circ \sigma)^\varphi = g^\varphi \circ \sigma^\varphi$$

holds for all  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  and  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ . If  $\varphi$  is a one-to-one mapping, then the homomorphism is an isomorphism of group pairs.

A property  $\theta$  of a group pair is called **abstract** if, from the validity of  $\theta$  for some pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$ , it follows that  $\theta$  is valid for every group pair isomorphic to  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$ . If  $\theta$  is an abstract property of group pairs, then  $L\theta$  (locally  $\theta$ ) denotes the property of a pair to possess a local system of subpairs having the property  $\theta$ . We shall call the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$   **$\theta$ -triangular** if in  $\mathfrak{G}$  there is an ascending normal series  $[H_\alpha]$  of  $\Gamma$ -admissible subgroups (a  $\Gamma$ -series) such that all the induced pairs  $(H_{\alpha+1}/H_\alpha, \Gamma)$  have property  $\theta$ . If for the property  $\theta$  one takes the property of a pair being trivial (which means that every element of  $\Gamma$  induces in  $\mathfrak{G}$  the identity automorphism), then a  $\theta$ -triangular pair with such  $\theta$  is called a stable pair.

**2.** Let  $\theta$  be an abstract property of group pairs, and let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a certain group pair. A  **$\theta$ -subgroup** of the group  $\Gamma$  is any subgroup  $\Sigma$  of it such that the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Sigma)$  has property  $\theta$ . Dually,  $\theta$ -subgroups in  $\mathfrak{G}$  are defined: a subgroup  $H \subset \mathfrak{G}$  is called a  **$\theta$ -subgroup** if  $H$  is  $\Gamma$ -admissible and the pair  $(H, \Gamma)$  has property  $\theta$ . The  **$\theta$ -radical** of the acting group  $\Gamma$  is the subgroup of  $\Gamma$  generated by all invariant  $\theta$ -subgroups of  $\Gamma$ . Analogously, the  $\theta$ -radical in the domain of action  $\mathfrak{G}$  is defined.

We shall now present some results on  $\theta$ -radicals of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ .

**Theorem 1.** *The locally stable radical of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a locally stable subgroup.*

Indeed, let  $H$  be the locally stable radical of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ . It is not hard to see that in  $H$  there is a  $\Gamma$ -series in each factor of which  $\Gamma$  induces a locally stable group of automorphisms. By Theorem 2.2 from [1] one may conclude that the pair  $(H, \Gamma)$  is locally stable, as required.

Next, let  $\theta$  be an abstract group-theoretic property. We shall simultaneously regard  $\theta$ , in the following way, as a property of group pairs. A pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  has property  $\theta$  if  $\Gamma$  induces in  $\mathfrak{G}$  a group of automorphisms which is a  $\theta$ -group. Under this interpretation of the property  $\theta$  we shall denote it by  $\tilde{\theta}$ .  $\tilde{\theta}$  is an abstract property of group pairs.

We shall conventionally say that a group-theoretic property  $\theta$  satisfies condition  $(\alpha)$  if: a) the complete direct product of  $\theta$ -groups is again a  $\theta$ -group; b) subgroups and homomorphic images of  $\theta$ -groups are also  $\theta$ -groups. If in condition a) the word “complete” is omitted, then we shall call the property  $\theta$  a  $(\beta)$ -property.

Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair and let  $\theta$  be some abstract group-theoretic property. An element  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  will be called a  $\theta$ -element if the  $\Gamma$ -centralizer of the element  $g$  contains such a normal divisor  $\Phi$  of the group  $\Gamma$  that  $\Gamma/\Phi$  is a  $\theta$ -group. In the case when  $\theta$  is a  $(\beta)$ -property, the notion of a  $\theta$ -element can also be defined in the following, more convenient way. Let  $A$  be a subgroup of some group  $B$ . By  $\bar{A}$  we shall denote the intersection of all subgroups of the group  $B$  conjugate in  $B$  to  $A$ . If  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  is a group pair and  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$ , then the properties of the group  $\Gamma/\bar{\mathfrak{Z}}_\Gamma(g)^*$  characterize, to a certain extent, the actions of the whole group  $\Gamma$  on the element  $g$ . The element  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  is a  $\theta$ -element relative to  $\Gamma$  if the group  $\Gamma/\bar{\mathfrak{Z}}_\Gamma(g)$  is a  $\theta$ -group.

The following theorem is easily proved.

**Theorem 2.** *If the property  $\theta$  satisfies condition  $(\alpha)$ , then the set of all  $\theta$ -elements of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a  $\tilde{\theta}$ -subgroup and contains the  $\tilde{\theta}$ -radical of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ .*

The simplest example of an  $(\alpha)$ -property is commutativity. An element  $g \in \mathfrak{G}$  is called a **locally  $\theta$ -element** (relative to  $\Gamma$ ) if it is a  $\theta$ -element relative to every subgroup of  $\Gamma$  having a finite number of generators.

**Theorem 3.** *Let the property  $\theta$  be an abstract group-theoretic property satisfying condition  $(\beta)$ , and let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be an arbitrary group pair. Then the set of all locally  $\theta$ -elements of  $\mathfrak{G}$  is an  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -subgroup containing the  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -radical of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ .*

**Proof.** Denote the set in question in the theorem by  $F$ . It is easily checked that  $F$  is a  $\Gamma$ -admissible subgroup. It is necessary to show that the pair  $(F, \Gamma)$  has property  $L\tilde{\theta}$ . We shall use the following notation. If  $A$  is a subgroup in  $\mathfrak{G}$  and  $S$  is a subgroup in  $\Gamma$ , then by  $A^S$  we denote the minimal  $S$ -admissible subgroup in  $\mathfrak{G}$  among those containing  $A$ . The pair  $(H, \Sigma)$  has a finite number of generators if  $\Sigma$  has a finite number of generators and if in  $H$  there is a subgroup with a finite number of generators  $A$  such that  $A^\Sigma = H$ . In an arbitrary group pair, the set of all subpairs with a finite number of generators forms a local system. Now let  $(H, \Sigma)$  be a subpair in  $(F, \Gamma)$  having a finite system of generators. We shall show that  $\Sigma$  induces in  $H$  a group of automorphisms which is a  $\theta$ -group. Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  be a finite set of elements of  $H$  such that  $\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}^\Sigma = H$ . Taking into account that

\*  $\mathfrak{Z}_\Gamma(g)$  is the  $\Gamma$ -centralizer of the element  $g$ , i.e. the set of all  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  for which  $g \circ \sigma = g$ .

that the elements of  $H$  are  $\theta$ -elements relative to  $\Sigma$ , choose, for each  $a_i$  in  $\Sigma$ , a normal divisor  $\Phi_i$  of  $\Sigma$ , contained in  $\mathfrak{Z}_\Sigma(a_i)$  and such that  $\Sigma/\Phi_i$  is a  $\theta$ -group. Let  $\Phi$  be the intersection of all these  $\Phi_i$ . Then  $\Phi$  is a normal divisor in  $\Sigma$ , and  $\Sigma/\Phi$  is a  $\theta$ -group. Since  $\Phi$  is a normal divisor in  $\Sigma$ , the  $\Phi$ -center  $H$  (the totality of all elements  $h \in H$  for which, for every  $\sigma \in \Phi$ , one has  $h \circ \sigma = h$ ) is a  $\Sigma$ -admissible subgroup. Since this  $\Phi$ -center contains all  $a_i$ , it coincides with  $H$ . It is now clear that the kernel of the representation of  $\Sigma$  relative to  $H$  contains  $\Phi$ , and therefore  $\Sigma$  induces in  $H$  a group of automorphisms which is a  $\theta$ -group. Thus  $(F, \Gamma)$  is an  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -pair. If  $(H, \Gamma)$  is a subpair in  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  possessing the property  $L\tilde{\theta}$ , then every element of  $H$  is locally a  $\theta$ -element. Consequently,  $H \subset F$ , which proves the theorem.

At the same time it has been proved that, under the conditions considered, the  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -radical of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  is itself an  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -subgroup.

Examples of  $(\beta)$ -properties are, for instance, finiteness and nilpotency of a group. If finiteness of a group is taken for  $\theta$ , then  $L\tilde{\theta}$  is equivalent to saying that the group  $\Gamma$  is locally periodic relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$  in the sense of the definition in <sup>(1)</sup>. If

$\theta$  is nilpotency of a group and the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  is an  $L\tilde{\theta}$ -pair, then we shall say that  $\Gamma$  is **generalized locally nilpotent relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$** .

Starting from the  $\theta$ -radicals of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ , one can, just as in group theory, define the corresponding upper  $\theta$ -radicals. In a number of cases the upper  $\theta$ -radicals coincide with radicals defined by the property of  $\theta$ -triangularity.

3. Here we shall consider some facts connected with the locally stable radical of the group  $\Gamma$ .

Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair. An element  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  is called **locally stable** if it induces in  $\mathfrak{G}$  a locally stable automorphism  $(^1, ^2)$ .

**Theorem 4.** *If  $\Gamma$  is generalized locally nilpotent relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$ , then the totality of all locally stable elements of  $\Gamma$  is a locally stable invariant subgroup.*

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair, and let the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  be an LM-group (locally satisfies the maximality condition). The group  $\Gamma$  is locally stable if and only if it is generalized locally nilpotent relative to  $\mathfrak{g}$  and is generated by locally stable elements.*

Whether in this theorem one can dispense with the restrictions on the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  is unknown to us.

In the note  $(^2)$ , for the case of exact group pairs, the concept of the external radical of an acting group  $\Gamma$  was defined. We generalize this concept and define the external radical of the acting group of an arbitrary group pair. Let  $f$  be the homomorphism, defining the group pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$ , of the group  $\Gamma$  into the group  $A(\mathfrak{G})$ , and let  $R(\Gamma^f)$  be the abstract locally nilpotent radical of the group  $\Gamma^f$ . Denote by  $R^f(\Gamma)$  the full inverse image in  $\Gamma$  of the radical  $R(\Gamma^f)$ . The **external radical of the group  $\Gamma$  relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$**  will mean the totality of all locally stable elements of  $R^f(\Gamma)$ . Since the group  $R^f(\Gamma)$  is generalized locally nilpotent relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$ , the external radical  $\Gamma$ , which we shall denote by  $R_{\mathfrak{G}}(\Gamma)$ , is a locally stable normal divisor in  $\Gamma$ . It is easy to verify that if  $H$  is a  $\Gamma$ -admissible subgroup in  $\mathfrak{G}$ , then  $R_{\mathfrak{G}}(\Gamma) \subset R_H(\Gamma)$ .

A group pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  is called **regular** if the normalizer of the subgroup  $\Gamma^f$  in the group  $A(\mathfrak{G})$  contains the group of inner automorphisms  $I(\mathfrak{G})$ .

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a regular group pair, and let  $Z$  be the center of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ . Then*

$$R_{\mathfrak{G}}(\Gamma) = R_Z(\Gamma) \cap R^f(\Gamma).$$

**Proof.** The inclusion  $R_{\mathfrak{G}}(\Gamma) \leq R_Z(\Gamma) \cap R^f(\Gamma)$  is obvious. It remains to prove the reverse inclusion. We first prove that the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}/Z, R^f(\Gamma))$  is locally stable. This pair is isomorphic to the pair  $(I(\mathfrak{G}), R^f(\Gamma))$ , defined by the action  $x \circ \sigma = (\sigma^f)^{-1}x\sigma^f$  for all  $x \in I(\mathfrak{G})$  and  $\sigma \in R^f(\Gamma)$ , so that it suffices to prove the local stability of the latter pair. Taking into account that  $(R^f(\Gamma))^f = R(\Gamma^f)$ , we see that the local stability of the pair  $(I(\mathfrak{G}), R^f(\Gamma))$  is equivalent to the local stability of the pair  $(I(\mathfrak{G}), R(\Gamma^f))$ . From the hypotheses of the theorem

it follows that the subgroup  $R(\Gamma^f)$  is invariant relative to  $I(\mathfrak{G})$ . Noting that  $R(\Gamma^f)$  is a locally nilpotent group, we now prove the local stability of the pair  $(I(\mathfrak{G}), R(\Gamma^f))$  by referring to the following obvious proposition.

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two normal divisors of some group  $C$ , and let  $B$  be locally nilpotent. Then  $B$  induces in  $A$  (by inner automorphisms) a locally stable group of automorphisms.

Thus it has been proved that the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}/Z, R^f(\Gamma))$  is locally stable. Hence it follows that the group  $R_Z(\Gamma) \cap R^f(\Gamma)$  is locally stable both relative to  $Z$  and relative to  $\mathfrak{G}/Z$ . By the already mentioned Theorem 2.2 of <sup>(1)</sup>, this group is locally stable relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$ . We have proved the reverse inclusion, and consequently the theorem as well.

This theorem shows that the problem of finding the exterior radical of the group  $\Gamma$  relative to the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ , in the case of a regular pair, reduces to finding the exterior radical of  $\Gamma$  relative to the center of  $\mathfrak{G}$ . The following theorem for the locally stable radical has a similar character.

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair and let  $\mathfrak{G}$  be a nilpotent group. Then the locally stable radical of the group  $\Gamma$  coincides with the locally stable radical of  $\Gamma$  determined by the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}/\mathfrak{G}', \Gamma)$ .*

Here  $\mathfrak{G}'$  denotes the commutator subgroup of the group  $\mathfrak{G}$ . The proof of the theorem follows directly from the results of the paper <sup>(3)</sup>.

In note <sup>(2)</sup> it was proved that, if in the group pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  satisfies the maximality condition, then the locally stable radical of the group  $\Gamma$  coincides with the intersection of all maximal locally stable subgroups of  $\Gamma$ . On the other hand, as V. G. Vilyatser showed, this will not always be the case. We now note the following theorem.

We shall say that the pair  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  is an  $r$ -pair if the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  has finite special rank.

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair and let the subpair  $(R(\mathfrak{G}), \Gamma)$  be a local  $r$ -pair. Then: a) the locally stable radical of the group  $\Gamma$  is a locally stable subgroup and coincides with the intersection of all maximal locally stable subgroups of  $\Gamma$ ; b) a subgroup  $\Sigma$  of  $\Gamma$  is locally stable if and only if each element of  $\Sigma$  is a locally stable element.*

It is not yet known whether the locally stable radical of an acting group will always itself be a locally stable subgroup. In this connection we note that from Theorem 2.2 of <sup>(1)</sup> the following proposition follows directly:

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $(\mathfrak{G}, \Gamma)$  be a group pair, and suppose that in the group  $\mathfrak{G}$  there is a  $\Gamma$ -series  $[H_\alpha]$  such that the locally stable radicals of  $\Gamma$  relative to all  $H_{\alpha+1}/H_\alpha$  are locally stable. Then the locally stable radical of  $\Gamma$  relative to  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a locally stable subgroup and coincides with the intersection of all locally stable radicals of  $\Gamma$  determined by the pairs  $(H_{\alpha+1}/H_\alpha, \Gamma)$ .*

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*Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.*

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