

# On the ring of inertial endomorphisms of an abelian $p$ -group \*

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**Abstract.** An endomorphisms  $\varphi$  of a group  $G$  is said inertial if  $\forall H \leq G$   $|\varphi(H) : (H \cap \varphi(H))| < \infty$ . Here we study the ring of inertial endomorphisms of an abelian torsion group and the group of its units. Also the case of vector spaces is considered.

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## 1 Introduction and statement of main results

Recently there has been interest for inert subgroups of groups (see [9], [4], [5], for example). A subgroup is said inert if it is commensurable to each conjugate of its. Here we consider *inertial endomorphisms*, that is endomorphisms mapping setwise subgroups to commensurable ones.

More precisely, if  $\varphi$  is an endomorphism of an abelian group  $A$  (from now on always in additive notation) we say:

(RIN)  $\varphi$  is right-inertial iff  $\forall H \leq A$   $|\varphi(H) : (H \cap \varphi(H))| < \infty$ ,

(LIN)  $\varphi$  is left-inertial iff  $\forall H \leq A$   $|H : (H \cap \varphi(H))| < \infty$ .

In [2] we considered automorphisms of abelian group  $A$  and showed that in this case (RIN) and (LIN) are equivalent, when  $A$  is periodic. This generalized previous results from [1] and [6]. On the other hand, in [5] authors consider (RIN) only, which seems to be more adequate for non-invertible

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maps. Moreover, if  $A$  is periodic (LIN) implies (RIN), see Theorem 1. Let us call RIN-endomorphisms *inertial*.

**Fact** *Inertial endomorphisms of any abelian group  $A$  fill a subring  $\mathcal{I}End(A)$  of the full ring  $End(A)$  of endomorphisms of  $A$ .*

Clearly  $\mathcal{I}End(A)$  contains the ideal  $FEnd(A)$  of endomorphisms with finite image and the subring  $PEnd(A)$  of power endomorphisms (say *multiplications*) of  $A$ .

Here we have a characterization of inertial endomorphisms of torsion abelian groups.

**Theorem 1** *Let  $A$  be an abelian periodic group and  $\varphi \in End(A)$ . Then  $\varphi$  is inertial iff there is a finite index subgroup  $B = D \oplus E \oplus L$  of  $A$  such that:*

- i)  $D \oplus E$  and  $L$  are coprime,*
- ii)  $D$  is divisible with finite total rank and  $E$  has finite exponent,*
- iii)  $\varphi$  is power on  $D$ ,  $E$  and  $L$ .*

*Thus  $\varphi$  is inertial iff :*

$$(FS) \quad \exists n \forall H \leq A \ |H^{(\varphi)}/H_{(\varphi)}| \leq n.$$

*Moreover,  $\varphi$  is LIN iff it is inertial and there are subgroups  $B$ ,  $D$ ,  $E$ ,  $L$  as above such that  $\varphi$  is non-zero on  $D$  and invertible on  $E$  and  $L$*

Thus the picture of  $\mathcal{I}End(A)$ , when  $A$  is periodic, can be described in Corollary 1. Note that *an endomorphism of an abelian torsion group is inertial iff it is such on all primary components and multiplication on all but finitely many of them.* Notice also that from Theorem 1 it follows that inertial endomorphisms of an abelian  $p$ -group are *elementary*, in the sense they act as a multiplication on a finite index subgroup (they are close to be multiplications, see later), unless *the maximum divisible subgroup  $D := div(A)$  of  $A$  is non-trivial and has finite rank while  $A/D$  has infinite rank and finite exponent.* For short, say that such an  $A$  is *critical*. To describe the ring  $\mathcal{I}End(A)$  we also need consideration of the, say, *essential exponent  $eexp(A)$*  of an infinite  $p$ -group  $A$  (with finite exponent), that is the smallest power  $p^e$  such that  $p^e A$  is finite or, equivalently, the maximum  $p^e$  such that  $A[p^e]/A[p^{e-1}]$  is infinite. Clearly, the above  $e$  is the least finite Ulm-Kaplansky invariant of  $A$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{J}_p$  the ring of  $p$ -adics. For terminology and elementary facts see [7] and [8].

**Corollary 1** *Let  $A$  be an abelian  $p$ -group and  $D := \text{div}(A)$ . Then*  
1) *If  $A$  is non-critical:*

$$\mathcal{I}End(A) = PEnd(A) + FEnd(A)$$

*and, according to  $\exp(A) = \infty$  or  $\exp(A) = p^m$  and  $p^e = e\exp(A)$ , we have*

$$PEnd(A) \cap FEnd(A) = 0 \text{ or } = p^e PEnd(A) \simeq p^e \mathbb{Z}/p^m \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\frac{\mathcal{I}End(A)}{FEnd(A)} \simeq \mathcal{J}_p \text{ or } \mathbb{Z}/p^e \mathbb{Z}.$$

2) *If  $A$  is critical,  $p^m := \exp(A/D)$  and  $p^e := e\exp(A/D)$ :*

$$\mathcal{I}End(A) = PEnd(A) \oplus (FEnd(A) + R)$$

*where  $R \simeq PEnd(A/D) \simeq \mathbb{Z}(p^m)$  and  $FEnd(A) \cap R = p^e R$ . Moreover*

$$\frac{\mathcal{I}End(A)}{FEnd(A)} \simeq \mathbb{Z}(p^e) \oplus \mathcal{J}_p.$$

Concerning invertible inertial endomorphisms of a periodic abelian group, note that these fill a group  $\mathcal{I}Aut(A)$ . Theorem 1 lead us to the consideration of the normal subgroup filled by the so called *finitary* automorphisms, that is  $FAut(A) := \{\gamma \in Aut(A) \mid [A, \gamma] \text{ is finite}\}$ , and the group  $PAut(A)$  of invertible multiplications.

**Corollary 2** *Let  $A$  be an abelian  $p$ -group and  $D := \text{div}(A)$ . Then*  
1) *If  $A$  is non-critical,*

$$\mathcal{I}Aut(A) = PAut(A) \cdot FAut(A)$$

*where  $PAut(A) \cap FAut(A) = 1$  if  $\exp(A) = \infty$ .*

*Otherwise, if  $p^m := \exp(A)$  and  $p^e := e\exp(A)$ , we have*

$$PAut(A) \cap FAut(A) = \{x \mapsto rx \mid r \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e}\} \simeq \{\bar{r} \in \mathbb{Z}(p^m) \mid r \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e}\}.$$

2) *If  $A$  is critical,  $p^m := \exp(A/D)$  and  $p^e := e\exp(A/D)$ ,*

$$\mathcal{I}Aut(A) = PAut(A) \times (FAutA \cdot \Gamma)$$

*with  $FAutA \cdot \Gamma = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{I}Aut(A) \mid \varphi|_D = 1\}$ ,  $\Gamma \simeq \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}(p^m))$  and*

$$FAut(A) \cap \Gamma \simeq \{\bar{r} \in \mathbb{Z}(p^m) \mid r \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e}\}.$$

One may ask a similar question about vector spaces and get a similar picture, without critical case. Let  $V$  be a  $K$ -vector space and denote by  $FEnd(V)$  the ring of  $K$ -linear maps which are finitary, that is have image with finite dim. Note that these are precisely the linear maps acting as the zero-map on a finite codimension subspace.

**Theorem 2** *Let  $\varphi$  be an endomorphism of an infinite dimension  $K$ -vector space  $A$ . Then  $\dim(\varphi(H)/(\varphi(H) \cap H)) < \infty$  for each  $K$ -subspace  $H$  of  $V$  iff  $\varphi$  acts as a scalar multiplication on a finite codimension subspace.*

*Therefore the above endomorphisms fill the following subring of  $End(V)$ :*

$$\bar{K} \oplus FEnd(V)$$

*where  $\bar{K}$  is the field of scalar multiplication and  $FEnd(V)$  is the ideal of endomorphisms whose image has finite dimension.*

*On the other hand,  $H \cap \varphi(H)$  has finite codimension in  $H$  for each  $K$ -subspace  $H$  of  $V$  it iff  $\varphi$  acts as a scalar non-zero multiplication on a finite codimension subspace. Thus such a  $\varphi$  has the above property as well.*

## 2 Proofs

We first prove the above stated Fact. The corresponding statement for vector spaces has a similar proof and we omit it.

**Proposition 1** *1) If  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are LIN-endomorphism (resp. RIN) of any group  $G$ . Then  $\varphi\psi$  is LIN (resp. RIN).*

*2) RIN-endomorphism of an abelian group  $A$  fill a subring  $\mathcal{I}End(A)$  of  $End(A)$ , containing the ideal  $FEnd(A)$  of endomorphism with finite image.*

**Proof.** 1) If  $H$  is any subgroup of  $G$  then from  $|H/(H \cap \varphi(H))| < \infty$  it follows  $|(H \cap \psi(H))/(H \cap \psi(H) \cap \varphi\psi(H))| \leq |\psi(H)/(\psi(H) \cap \varphi\psi(H))| < \infty$ .

2) If  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  both have RIN, then  $|(H + \varphi(H))/H| < \infty$  and  $|(H + \varphi(H) + \psi(H) + \varphi\psi(H))/(H + \varphi(H))| < \infty$ .  $\square$

Now we prove Theorem 2, which will serve also for the proof of Theorem 1 in the case  $A$  of prime exponent. For a subset  $X$  of  $V$  and  $\varphi \in End(V)$ , we denote respectively by  $\langle X \rangle = KX$  and  $X^{(\varphi)} = K[\varphi]X$  the  $K$ -subspace and the  $K[\varphi]$ -submodule of  $V$  spanned by  $X$ .

**Proof.** By contradiction, assume  $\varphi$  is multiplication on no quotient space. We claim that: for all finite dimension subspaces  $X \leq A$  such that  $X \cap \varphi(X) = 0$  there exists a subspace  $X' > X$  with finite dim such that

$$X' \cap \varphi(X') = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(X') > \varphi(X).$$

Therefore, starting at  $X_0 = 0$ , by transfinite recursion we define  $X_{i+1} := X'_i$  and  $X_\omega := \cup_i X_i$ . We get that both  $X_\omega$  and  $\varphi(X_\omega)$  have infinite dimension and  $X_\omega \cap \varphi(X_\omega) = 0$ , a contradiction.

To prove the claim, we first prove that if  $a \in V$ , then

$$\dim(Ka^{(\varphi)}) < \infty.$$

This is true as we can consider the natural epimorphism

$$F : K[x] \mapsto Ka^{(\varphi)}$$

mapping 1 to  $a$  and  $x$  to  $\varphi(a)$ . If  $F$  is injective, we can replace  $V$  by  $K[x]$  and  $\varphi$  by multiplication by  $x$ . If  $H := K[x^2]$ , then both  $H$  and  $\varphi(H) = xH$  are infinite dim, while  $H \cap xH = 0$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $(Ka)^{(\varphi)} = \text{im}(F)$  has finite dim and the same holds for  $Z = X^{(\varphi)}$ .

Since  $\varphi$  does not act as a scalar multiplication on  $A/Z$ , we can choose  $a \in V$  such that  $\varphi(a) \notin \langle a, Z \rangle$  and define  $X' := \langle a \rangle + X$ . If now  $y \in X' \cap \varphi(X')$ , then  $\exists n, s \in K, \exists x, x_0 \in X$  such that  $y = na + x = s\varphi(a) + \varphi(x_0)$ . Thus  $s\varphi(a) \in \langle a \rangle + Z$  while  $\varphi(a) \notin \langle a \rangle + Z$ . Therefore  $s = 0$  and  $na = 0$  as well. It follows  $y = x = \varphi(x_0) \in X \cap \varphi(X) = 0$ , as claimed.

Finally, we have seen that if for each  $K$ -subspace  $H$ ,  $H \cap \varphi(H)$  has finite codimension in  $H$  then  $\varphi$  is multiplication on a finite codim subspace  $B$  of  $A$ . In particular  $\varphi(B) \neq 0$ .  $\square$

Recall that  $\varphi \in \text{End}(A)$  is said to be power or multiplication iff

$$(PW) \quad \forall H \leq A \quad \varphi(H) \subseteq H,$$

and that PW endomorphisms of an abelian  $p$ -group are *locally universal* that is have form  $x \mapsto \alpha_p x$  for a  $p$ -adic  $\alpha_p$ , when  $A$  is a  $p$ -group. Also, if  $C \leq B \leq A$ , we say that  $\varphi$  is PW on  $B/C$  iff  $C \leq H \leq B$  implies  $H^\varphi \subseteq H$ .

We say that endomorphisms  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2 \in \text{End}(A)$  are **close** iff the image of  $\varphi_1 - \varphi_2$  is finite, that is they act the same way on a finite index subgroup or -equivalently- modulo a finite order subgroup. This is the congruence in  $\text{End}(A)$  whose kernel is the ideal  $F\text{End}(A)$  of endomorphisms with finite

image. An endomorphism which is close to a (RIN) (resp. LIN) one remains such, clearly. We say that an endomorphism is PF iff it is close to a multiplication. Let us sum up basic facts.

**Proposition 2** *PF-endomorphisms of an abelian group  $A$  fill a subring of  $\text{End}(A)$ ,*

$$P\text{End}(A) + F\text{End}(A)$$

where the sum is direct, provided  $\exp(A) = \infty$ . Otherwise, if  $A$  is a  $p$ -group with  $p^m = \exp(A) < \infty$  and  $p^e = e\exp(A)$ , there is a natural ring isomorphism

$$P\text{End}(A) \cap F\text{End}(A) \simeq p^e\mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}.$$

Moreover, if  $\varphi$  is PF, then

$$(FS) \quad \exists n \forall X \leq A \quad |X^{(\varphi)}/X_{(\varphi)}| \leq n. \quad \square$$

Here by  $X^{(\varphi)}$  (resp.  $X_{(\varphi)}$ ) we mean the smallest (resp. largest)  $\varphi$ -invariant subgroup of  $A$  containing  $X$  (resp. contained in  $X$ ).

**Proof.** This is quite elementary. If  $\varphi$  acts as  $\alpha \in P\text{End}(A)$  on  $B \leq A$  with  $|A : B| < \infty$ , then  $\varphi - \alpha \in F\text{End}(A)$ . Moreover if  $C := \ker(\varphi - \alpha)$ , we have that for each  $X \leq A$  it holds  $(X \cap B) \leq X_{(\varphi)}$  and  $X^{(\varphi)} \leq (X + C)$ . Thus  $|X^{(\varphi)}/X_{(\varphi)}| \leq |A/B| \cdot |C| \leq |A/B|^2$ .

If  $0 \neq \alpha \in P\text{End}(A) \cap F\text{End}(A)$  we have that exists  $i$  such that  $\ker \alpha = A[p^i]$  (clearly  $p^i$  is the maximal power of  $p$  dividing  $\alpha$ ). If  $A[p^i]$  has finite index in  $A$ , then  $\exp(A) < \infty$  and  $e \geq i$ . Conversely, if  $p^e$  divides  $\alpha$  it is plain that  $\alpha \in F\text{End}(A)$ .  $\square$

Let us now have a look at PW-endomorphisms which are LIN too. Recall that an abelian group  $A$  with the *minimal condition* (Min) is just a group with shape  $A = F \oplus D$ , where  $F$  is finite and  $D$  is divisible with finite total rank.

**Proposition 3** *Let  $\varphi$  be a PW endomorphism of an abelian periodic group. Then  $\varphi$  is LIN iff  $A = A_\pi \oplus A_{\pi'}$  coprime summands where  $A_\pi$  has Min and  $\varphi|_{A_\pi}$  is invertible.*

**Proof.** Assume  $\varphi$  is PW and LIN and let  $\pi$  be the set of primes  $p$  such that  $\varphi$  is not invertible on  $A_p$ . Then  $\pi$  is finite. Now  $p$  divides  $\varphi_p$  for any  $p \in \pi$ , and hence  $\varphi(A[p]) = 0$ . It follows that  $A_p$  has Min and so  $A_\pi$  has Min as

well. Conversely, if  $A = A_\pi \oplus A_{\pi'}$  coprime summands where  $A_\pi$  has Min and  $\varphi|_{A_\pi}$  is invertible, then for any  $H \leq A$  the quotient  $H/\varphi(H)$  is finite, as it has finite rank and exponent, and  $\varphi$  is LIN.  $\square$

We prove now a Lemma which extends a result due to D.Robinson [9].

**Lemma 1** *Let  $a \in A$  be an abelian  $p$ -group and  $\varphi \in \text{End}(A)$ .*

(1) *If  $\varphi$  either LIN or RIN, then the torsion subgroup of the  $\varphi$ -submodule  $\langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}$  of  $A$  generated by  $a$  is finite.*

(2) *If  $|X/X_{(\varphi)}| < \infty$  for all  $X \leq A$ , then  $|X^{(\varphi)}/X| < \infty$  for all  $X \leq A$ .*

(3) *If  $|X/X_{(\varphi)}| \leq p^m$  for all  $X \leq A$ , then  $|X^{(\varphi)}/X| \leq p^{m^2}$  for all  $X \leq A$ .*

**Proof.** (1) We may assume  $A = \langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}$ . Suppose first  $a$  has order prime  $p$  and regard  $A$  as  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$ -module (where  $x$  acts as  $\varphi$ ) and consider the natural epimorphism mapping 1 to  $a$  and  $x$  to  $\varphi(a)$ :

$$F : \mathbb{Z}_p[x] \mapsto A.$$

If  $F$  is injective, we can replace  $A$  by  $\mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  and  $\varphi$  by multiplication by  $x$ . If  $H := \mathbb{Z}_p[x^2]$ , then  $\varphi(H) = xH$  is infinite, while  $H \cap xH = 0$ , a contradiction. If now  $a$  has order  $p^\epsilon$ , then  $A/pA$  is finite, by the above. Moreover,  $pA$  is finite by induction on  $\epsilon$ .

(2) This can be proved in a similar way as case (3)

(3) We claim that *if  $a \in A$  has order  $p^\epsilon$ , then  $|\langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}| \leq p^{(m+1)\epsilon}$ .*

Assume first  $\epsilon = 1$ , that is  $a$  has order  $p$  and  $A_0 := \langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}$  is elementary abelian. Suppose, by contradiction, the above  $F$  is injective. As above, let  $H := \mathbb{Z}_p[x^2]$ . Then  $H_{(\varphi)} = (g(x^2))$  for some polynomial  $g$ . Since  $|H/H_{(\varphi)}| = p^m < \infty$ , we have  $g \neq 0$ . Then  $(g(x^2)) \not\subseteq H$ , a contradiction. Therefore, for some  $f \in \mathbb{Z}_p[x]$  with degree say  $n$ , we have

$$\frac{\mathbb{Z}_p[x]}{(f)} \simeq_\gamma \langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)} = A_0$$

Thus the minimal  $\varphi$ -invariant subgroups of  $A_0$  correspond 1 – 1 to the irreducible monic factors of  $f$ , which are at most  $n$ . Consider a  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -basis  $X$  of  $A$  containing an element in each subgroup of them. The the hyperplane  $H$  of equation  $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n = 0$  has index  $p$  in  $\langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}$  and  $H_{(\varphi)} = 0$  as  $H \cap X = \emptyset$ . Therefore  $|\langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}| \leq p^{m+1}$ .

If  $\epsilon > 1$ , by induction  $B := \langle p^{\epsilon-1}a \rangle^{(\varphi)}$  has order at most  $p^{(m+1)(\epsilon-1)}$  and  $\langle a \rangle^{(\varphi)}/B$  has order at most  $p^{m+1}$  by case  $\epsilon = 1$ . Therefore  $|a^{(\varphi)}| \leq p^{(m+1)\epsilon}$ , as claimed.

In the general case let  $X$  be any subgroup of  $A$  and  $X_{(\varphi)} = 0$ . Thus  $|X| =: p^\epsilon \leq p^m$ . Write  $X = \langle a_1 \rangle \oplus \cdots \oplus \langle a_r \rangle$  with  $a_i$  of order  $p^{\epsilon_i}$  and  $\epsilon_1 + \cdots + \epsilon_r = \epsilon$ . Since  $|\langle a_i \rangle^{(\varphi)}| \leq p^{(m+1)\epsilon_i}$  by the above, we have  $|X^{(\varphi)}| \leq p^{(m+1)\epsilon}$ . So that  $|X^{(\varphi)}/X| \leq p^{(m+1)\epsilon-\epsilon} \leq p^{m^2}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2** *Let  $\varphi \in \text{End}(A)$  and  $D \leq A$  divisible and primary. If  $\varphi$  is either LIN or RIN, then  $\varphi$  is PW on  $D$ , that is there is a  $p$ -adic  $\alpha$  that is  $\varphi(a) = \alpha a \quad \forall a \in D$ .*

**Proof.** Without loss of generality, let  $D$  have rank 1. If  $\varphi$  is LIN, then  $D \leq \varphi(D)$  and thus  $D = \varphi(D)$ . Therefore in both cases LIN or RIN, we have  $\varphi(D) \leq D$ . Thus  $\varphi$  is PW on  $D$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1** We may assume  $A$  is a  $p$ -group with  $D := \text{div}(A)$  and note that if  $A$  is an elementary abelian, the statement follows from Theorem 2.

We claim that for any RIN or LIN-endomorphism  $\varphi$  of any  $p$ -group  $A$ :

(fs)  $\forall H \leq A \quad |H^{(\varphi)}/H_{(\varphi)}| < \infty$ . Therefore (LIN)  $\Rightarrow$  (RIN).

To this aim we may suppose  $H_{(\varphi)} = 0$ . Thus, since  $\varphi$  is PW on the divisible radical  $D$  of  $A$ , (see Lemma 2), we have  $D \cap H = 0$  and  $H$  is reduced. Moreover, by the elementary abelian case,  $\varphi$  is PW on a subgroup of finite index of  $A[p]$ , we get that  $H[p]$  is finite. It follows that  $H$  is finite. Then (fs) holds by Lemma 1.

Let now  $A$  be any residually finite abelian  $p$ -group and assume, by contradiction, that  $\varphi$  acts as a multiplication on no quotient with finite kernel. As in the proof argument of Theorem 2, we note that if  $\varphi$  is LIN (resp. RIN), then there is no sequence of subgroups  $X_i$  with the property that if we denote  $Y_i := X_i \cap \varphi(X_i)$  then we have:

(1)  $Y_{i+1} \cap X_i = Y_i$

(2) the sequence  $|X_i/Y_i|$  (resp.  $|\varphi(X_i)/Y_i|$ ) is strictly increasing.

This is true since otherwise there would exist a subgroup  $X_\omega := \cup_i X_i$  with the properties that  $|X_\omega/X_\omega \cap \varphi(X_\omega)| \geq |X_i/Y_i| \geq i$  (resp.  $|\varphi(X_\omega)/X_\omega \cap \varphi(X_\omega)| \geq |\varphi(X_i)/Y_i| \geq i$ ) for each  $i$ . On the other hand, we will construct now a prohibited sequence  $X_i$ , a contradiction. Let  $X$  be any finite subgroup

of  $A$ . As above the subgroup  $K := X^{(\varphi)}$  is finite by Lemma 1. By (fs) there is a  $\varphi$ -subgroup  $B$  with finite index such that  $B \cap K = 0$ . Now, as  $\varphi$  is not PW on  $(B + K)/K$ , there is  $a \in B$  such that  $\varphi(a) \notin \langle a, K \rangle$ . Let  $X' := \langle a \rangle + X$  and  $Y' := X' \cap \varphi(X')$ . Let us check that

- (1)  $X \cap Y' = Y$ ;
- (2')  $X' > X + Y'$  and  $\varphi(X') > \varphi(X) + Y'$ .

In fact, on one hand we have  $X \cap Y' = Y$ , as if  $x \in X \cap Y'$  then  $x = s\varphi(a) + \varphi(x_0)$  with  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $x_0 \in X$  and  $s\varphi(a) = x - \varphi(x_0) \in B \cap K = 0$ , hence  $x = \varphi(x_0) \in Y$  and (1) holds. On the other hand  $Y' \leq \langle pa \rangle + Y \not\cong a$  and  $Y' \leq \langle p\varphi(a) \rangle + Y \not\cong \varphi(a)$ . Indeed if  $y' \in Y' = X' \cap \varphi(X')$ , then  $\exists n, s \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\exists x, x_0 \in X$  such that  $y' = na + x = s\varphi(a) + \varphi(x_0)$  where  $na = s\varphi(a)$  and  $x = \varphi(x_0) \in Y := X \cap \varphi(X)$ . It follows that  $p$  divides  $s$ , hence  $p$  divides  $n$  as well. Then (2') holds.

Thus we can define by induction a prohibited sequence as above, since from (1) and (2') it follows  $|X'/Y'| > |X/Y|$  and  $|\varphi(X')/Y'| > |\varphi(X)/Y|$ .

Let now  $A$  be any reduced  $p$ -group and let  $R$  be a basic subgroup. By (fs),  $R^{(\varphi)}/R$  is finite and so  $H := R^{(\varphi)}$  is residually finite as well. Also,  $A/H$  is divisible. By the above there are a  $p$ -adic  $\alpha \in \mathcal{J}_p$  and a finite  $\varphi$ -invariant subgroup  $C$  of  $H$  such that  $\varphi = \alpha$  on  $H/C$ . As the kernel  $K/C$  of  $(\varphi - \alpha)|_{A/C}$  contains  $H/C$  and its image is reduced, while  $A/H$  is divisible, it is clear that  $K = A$  and  $\varphi$  is close to  $\alpha$ , as wished.

Finally, assume  $A$  is any  $p$ -group and  $\varphi$  is not close to any multiplication. As (fs) holds, at the expense of substituting  $A$  with a finite index  $\varphi$ -subgroup we have  $A = D \oplus E$  with  $D$  divisible and  $E$  reduced and both  $\varphi$ -invariant. Now  $\varphi$  is multiplication on both  $D$  (see Lemma 2) and a finite index subgroup of  $E$  (see above). So we may also assume  $\varphi$  is power on  $E$ . Say  $\varphi|_D = \alpha_1$  and  $\varphi|_E = \alpha_2$ , where  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$  are  $p$ -adics.

If  $E$  has finite exponent, we may substitute it by  $E[p^e]$  where  $p^e = \text{exp}(E)$ . By the reduced case,  $\varphi$  is power on a subgroup  $A'$  of finite index of  $A[p^e]$ . Then if  $D$  has infinite rank,  $\alpha_1 \equiv \alpha_2 \pmod{p^e}$  and  $\varphi$  is multiplication on  $D \oplus (E \cap A')$  which has finite index in  $A$ , a contradiction. Thus  $D$  has finite rank.

If by contradiction  $E$  has infinite exponent (and by our assumption  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$ ), then there is a quotient  $E/S$  of its which is a Prüfer group (and infinite). By (fs) we can assume  $S$  to be  $\varphi$ -invariant and consider  $\bar{A} := A/S$ . This a divisible group on which  $\varphi$  acts as a (universal) multiplication by Lemma 2, contradicting  $\alpha_1 \neq \alpha_2$ .

Finally let us show that (FS) holds. If  $\varphi$  is a multiplication on some  $B \leq A$  take  $n = |A/B|^2$ . In the other (critical) case, observe that  $H_0 := (D \cap H) + (E \cap H)$  is  $\varphi$ -invariant and the group  $(H \cap B)/H_0$  has exponent  $\leq \exp(E) =: p^m$  and finite rank  $r < \text{rank of } D$ . Thus  $|H/H_{(\varphi)}| \leq np^{mr}$ . Then apply Lemma 1. Conversely, it is plain that (FS) implies that  $\varphi$  is inertial.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 1.** Let  $\varphi \in \mathcal{I}End(A)$ . If  $A$  is non-critical, apply Theorem 1 and Proposition 2.

If  $A = D \oplus E$  is critical, there is a  $\varphi$ -invariant finite index subgroup  $E_1 \leq E$ . Let  $E_2 := E_1[p^e]$ . By the above  $\varphi$  acts as multiplication by  $r$  on a finite index subgroup of  $E_2$ . For each  $r$  we may consider  $\bar{r} \in PEnd(A)$  acting as the zero map on  $D$  and multiplication by  $r$  on  $E$ . Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{J}_p$  represent the action of  $\varphi$  in  $D$  (which is power by Lemma 2). Thus  $\varphi - \alpha - \overline{r - \alpha} \in FEnd(A)$  and so  $\mathcal{I}End(A) = PEnd(A) + (FEnd(A) + R)$ , where  $R = \{\bar{r} \mid r \in \mathbb{Z}\} \simeq \mathbb{Z}(p^m)$ . Further, if  $\alpha = \varphi_0 + \bar{r} \in PEnd(A) \cap (FEnd(A) + R)$ , then  $\alpha$  act as  $\bar{r}$  on a subgroup with finite index and therefore on  $D$ . Thus  $\alpha = 0$ . To prove  $FEnd(A) \cap R = p^e R$  apply Proposition 2 to  $E$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 2.** Let  $\gamma \in \mathcal{I}Aut(A)$ . Suppose  $A$  non-critical. Then, according to Theorem 1, there exists  $\alpha \in PEnd(A)$  and a finite index subgroup  $B \leq A$  such that  $\gamma_B = \alpha$  and  $\gamma^{-1}\alpha$  acts on  $B$  as the identity map. This guarantees that  $p$  does not divide  $\alpha$ , which is therefore invertible. Further if  $\alpha \in PAut(A) \cap FAut(A)$  then  $\alpha_B = 1$  on a finite index subgroup  $B \leq A$ . Then  $\alpha = 1$ , provided  $\exp(A) = \infty$ . Otherwise, if  $\alpha$  acts as the identity map on a finite index  $B$  subgroup of  $A$ , then  $B \geq A[p^e]$  and  $\alpha \equiv 1 \pmod{p^e}$  (see Proposition 2).

Suppose now  $A$  is critical. Fix  $E$  with finite exponent such that  $A = D \oplus E$ . Consider  $\Gamma := \{\zeta \in \mathcal{I}Aut(A) \mid \zeta_D = 1 \text{ and } \zeta = \zeta_r \text{ is power } r \text{ on } E\}$ . By Theorem 1, there exists an invertible  $p$ -adic  $\alpha$  such that  $\gamma_D = \alpha$  and  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $\gamma\alpha^{-1}$  acts by means of power  $r$  on a finite index subgroup of  $E$ . Also  $\bar{r} \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}(p^m))$ , as  $p$  does not divide  $r$ . Thus  $\gamma\alpha^{-1}\zeta_r^{-1} \in FAut(A)$ , as wished. The final part of the statement follows from the above argument.  $\square$

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