

## I-Groups and some basic properties

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### Abstract

Here we generalize abstract group structure by introducing an idempotent unary operation, called I-group, and study some of its basic properties.

**1. Introduction:** Group theory has broad applications in various fields of sciences. Also, various types of extensions and generalizations have been done on it. The motivation for the introduction of I-groups comes from these observations. To introduce the concept of I-groups and some basic results, we have gone through [1-6].

### 2. Main results

Here we shall introduce I-group and study some of its basic properties.

**Definition 2.1** Let  $G$  be a nonempty set on which 'o' is a binary operation and  $f$  is an idempotent unary operation, i.e.,  $f: G \rightarrow G$ ,  $f^2 = f$ . The algebraic structure  $(G, o, f)$  is said to be an I-group if

(i)  $(G, o)$  is a semi-group.

(ii) there exists  $e \in G$  such that  $aoe = eoa = f(a)$ ,  $\forall a \in G$ .

(iii) for every  $a \in G$ , there exists  $b \in G$  such that  $aob = boa = f(e)$ .

**Remarks 2.1** In Definition 1.1, such an element  $e$  is called an I-identity in  $G$ , and  $b$  is called an I-inverse of  $a$  in  $G$ . Clearly every group  $(G, o)$  is an I-group  $(G, o, I_G)$ .

**Example 2.1** Consider the set  $G$  of all nonzero real numbers. Let  $f: G \rightarrow G$  is given by  $f(x) = |x|$ ,  $\forall x \in G$ . Then  $f^2 = f$  so that  $f$  is an idempotent unary operation on  $G$ . Define a binary operation 'o' on  $G$  by  $xoy = |xy|$ ,  $\forall x, y \in G$ . Then  $(G, o, f)$  is an I-group with I-identities 1 and -1.

**Example 2.2** Let  $n$  be a given positive integer and  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is given by  $f(x) = r_x$  = the remainder after dividing  $x$  by  $n$ . Define a binary operation  $*$  on  $\mathbb{Z}$  by  $x * y = f(x + y)$ ,  $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then  $(\mathbb{Z}, *, f)$  is an I-group with I-identities  $0, \pm n, \pm 2n, \pm 3n$ , etc. and I-inverses  $-x, -x \pm n, -x \pm 2n, -x \pm 3n$ , etc. of an element  $x$ .

**Example 2.3** Let  $G$  be a nonempty set and  $f: G \rightarrow G$  be a constant mapping given by  $f(x) = c$ ,  $\forall x \in G$ , where  $c$  is some fixed element of  $G$ . Define a binary operation  $*$  on  $G$  by  $x * y = c$ ,  $\forall x, y \in G$ .

Then  $(G, *, f)$  is an I-group.

**Example 2.4** Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(x) = [x]$  = the largest integer  $\leq x$ ,  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ . Define a binary operation  $*$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  by  $a * b = f(a + b)$ ,  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then  $(\mathbb{R}, *, f)$  is an I-group.

**Example 2.5** Let  $(G, o)$  be a group and  $f: G \rightarrow G$  be an idempotent group homomorphism.

Then  $(G, *, f)$  is an I-group, where  $a * b = f(ab)$ ,  $\forall a, b \in G$ .

**Definition 2.2** Two elements  $a, b$  in an I-group  $(G, o, f)$  are said to be I-unique or I-equal if  $f(a) = f(b)$ ; otherwise, they are called I-distinct elements.

**Theorem 2.1** In an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ , if  $e$  be an I-identity, then

- (i)  $e^n = f(e)$ , for all positive integers  $n \geq 2$ .
- (ii)  $af(e) = f(e)a = f(e)f(a) = f(a)f(e) - f(a)e = ef(a) = f(a), \forall a \in G$ .
- (iii)  $f(ab) = af(b) = f(a)b = f(a)f(b), \forall a, b \in G$ .
- (iv)  $e$  is I-unique.
- (v) I-inverse of every element is I-unique.

**Proof:** (i), (ii), (iv) and (v) are trivial.

$$(iii) f(ab) = (ab)e = a(be) = af(b).$$

Again,  $f(ab) = e(ab) = (ea)b = f(a)b$ .

$$\text{Also, } f(ab) = f^2(ab) = ef(ab) = e((ab)e) = (ea)(be) = f(a)f(b).$$

Hence the result.

**Theorem 2.2** In an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ , for any  $a, b, c \in G$ ,

- (i)  $ab = ac \Rightarrow f(b) = f(c)$  (called left I-cancellation law)
- (ii)  $ba = ca \Rightarrow f(b) = f(c)$  (called right I-cancellation law)

**Proof:** (i) Let  $a'$  be an I-inverse of  $a$ .

$$\text{Now } ab = ac \Rightarrow (a'a)b = (a'a)c \Rightarrow f(e)b = f(e)c \text{ (} e \text{ being I-identity in } G) \\ \Rightarrow f(b) = f(c).$$

- (ii) Similar to (i).

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group and  $\rho$  be any congruence equivalence relation on  $G$  such that  $\rho \subseteq \rho_f = \{(x, y) \in G \times G : f(x) = f(y)\}$ . Then  $(\frac{G}{\rho}, *, h)$  is an I-group under the binary operation  $*$  on  $G/\rho$ , given by  $[x] * [y] = [xy], \forall [x], [y] \in G/\rho$ , and the unary operation  $h$  on  $G/\rho$ , given by  $h([x]) = [f(x)], \forall [x] \in G/\rho$ .

**Proof:** Firstly, we shall show that the binary operation  $*$  is well-defined on  $G/\rho$ .

Let  $[x], [y], [a], [b] \in G/\rho$  be arbitrary such that  $[x] = [a], [y] = [b]$ . Then  $(x, a), (y, b) \in \rho$ .

This implies that  $(xy, ab) \in \rho$  (since  $\rho$  is a congruence) so that  $[xy] = [ab]$ ,

i. e.,  $[x] * [y] = [a] * [b]$ . Therefore  $*$  is well-defined on  $G/\rho$ .

Obviously,  $h^2 = h$  (since  $f^2 = f$ ).

Again  $(G/\rho, *)$  is a semigroup (since  $(G, o)$  is a semigroup).

Let  $e$  be I-identity in  $G$ . Then  $[e] \in G/\rho$ . Now for all  $[x] \in G/\rho$ , we have

$$[e] * [x] = [ex] = [f(x)] = h([x]) \text{ and } [x] * [e] = [xe] = [f(x)] = h([x]).$$

Let  $[x] \in G/\rho$  be arbitrary. Then  $x \in G$ , and hence there exists  $x' \in G$  such that

$$xx' = x'x = f(e)$$

Now  $[x'] \in G/\rho$  and  $[x] * [x'] = [xx'] = [f(e)] = h([e])$  and  $[x'] * [x] = [x'x] = [f(e)] = h([e])$ .

Therefore  $(G/\rho, *, h)$  is an I-group.

**Theorem 2.4** In an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ , if  $a'$  be an I-inverse of  $a \in G$ , then  $f(ab)' = f((ab)') = f(b'a'), \forall a, b \in G$ .

**Proof:** Trivial.

**Definition 2.3** An I-group  $(G, o, f)$  is said to be

- (i) I-commutative if  $f(ab) = f(ba), \forall a, b \in G$
- (ii) commutative if  $ab = ba, \forall a, b \in G$ .
- (iii) strongly I-commutative if  $ab = f(ba), \forall a, b \in G$ .

**Remarks 2.2** From Definition 2.3, it is obvious that  $(iii) \Rightarrow (ii) \Rightarrow (i)$ .

**Example 2.6** In addition, if the group  $(G, o)$  be commutative in Example 2.5, then the I-group  $(G, *, f)$  is also commutative.

Now we have an open problem for I-groups, stated as “Let  $(G, o)$  be a semigroup and  $f: G \rightarrow G$  be an idempotent mapping. Let there exists  $e \in G$  such that  $ea = f(a), \forall a \in G$ , and for every  $a \in G$ , there exists  $a' \in G$  such that  $a'a = f(e)$ . Then  $(G, o, f)$  is an I-group.”

Now we have some more results given below.

**Theorem 2.5** Let  $(G, o)$  be a semigroup and  $f: G \rightarrow G$  be such that  $f^2 = f$ . Let there exists  $e \in G$  such that  $ea = ae = f(a), \forall a \in G$ , and for every  $a \in G$ , there exists  $a' \in G$  such that  $a'a = f(e)$ . Then  $(G, o, f)$  is an I-group.

**Proof:** Let  $a \in G$  be arbitrary. Then  $a'a = f(e)$  for some  $a' \in G$  (1)

Now  $f(a')a = (ea')a = e(a'a) = ef(e)$  (by (1)) =  $f^2(e) = f(e)$  (2)

Again  $f(a)f(e) = f(a)(ee) = (f(a)e)e = f^2(a)e = f(a)e = f^2(a) = f(a)$  (3)

And  $f(e)f(a) = (ee)f(a) = e(ef(a)) = ef^2(a) = ef(a) = f^2(a) = f(a)$  (4)

Now  $af(a') = af^2(a') = a(ef(a')) = (ae)f(a') = f(a)f(a')$  (5)

$= (ea)f(a') = e(af(a')) = f(af(a'))$  (6)

Therefore  $af(a') = f(a)f(a') = f(af(a'))$  (by (5), (6)) (7)

Now, by the given condition, there exists  $a'' \in G$  such that  $a''a' = f(e)$  (8)

Therefore,  $f(a'')f(a') = (ea'')(a'e) = e(a''a')e = (ef(e))e$  (by (8))  
 $= f^2(e)e = f(e)e = f^2(e) = f(e)$  (9)

Therefore  $af(a') = f(a)f(a')$  (by (5)) =  $(f(e)f(a))f(a')$  (by (4))

$= f(e)(f(a)f(a')) = (f(a'')f(a'))(f(a)f(a'))$  (by (9))

$= f(a'')(f(a')f(a))f(a')$  (10)

Now  $f(a')f(a) = (ea')(ae) = e(a'a)e = (ef(e))e = f^2(e)e = f(e)e = f^2(e) = f(e)$  (11)

Using (11) in (10) we get

$af(a') = f(a)f(a') = f(a'')(f(e)f(a')) = f(a'')(e(ef(a')))) = f(a'')(ef^2(a'))$   
 $= f(a'')(ef(a')) = f(a'')f^2(a') = f(a'')f(a') = f(e)$ , by (9). (12)

Therefore  $f(a')a = af(a') = f(e)$ , by (2) and (12)

Therefore  $(G, o, f)$  is an I-group.

**Definition 2.4** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group and  $H$  be a nonempty subset of  $G$ . If  $H$  forms an I-group under the induced operations ‘ $o$ ’ and  $f$ , we say that  $(H, o, f)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$ .

**Example 2.7** Consider the I-group  $(G, o, f)$  of Example 2.1 and consider the set  $H$  of all nonzero rational numbers. Then  $(H, o, f)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.6** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group and  $H$  be a nonempty subset of  $G$ . Then  $(H, o, f)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$  if and only if

(i)  $f(H) \subseteq H$ ,

(ii)  $ab \in H, \forall a, b \in H$ ,

(iii) for every  $a \in H$ , there exists  $a' \in H$  such that  $aa' = a'a = f(e)$ ,  $e$  being I-identity in  $G$ .

**Proof:** Let  $(H, o, f)$  be an I-subgroup of  $G$ . Then clearly (i), (ii) and (iii) hold.

Conversely let  $H$  be a nonempty subset of  $G$  such that (i), (ii) and (iii) hold.

Now (i) implies that the restriction of  $f$  from  $G$  to  $H$  is an idempotent mapping from  $H$  to  $H$ .

Again (ii) implies that  $(H, o)$  is a subsemigroup of the semigroup  $(G, o)$ .

From (ii) and (iii) we get  $f(e) \in H$ .

Now for all  $a \in H$  we have  $af(e) = a(ee) = (ae)e = f(a)e = f^2(a) = f(a)$ ,

and  $f(e)a = (ee)a = e(ea) = ef(a) = f^2(a) = f(a)$ .

Therefore  $f(e)$  is I-identity in  $H$ . Therefore  $(H, o, f)$  is itself an I-group so that it is an I-subgroup of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.5** An I-subgroup  $H$  of an I-group  $(G, o, f)$  is said to be an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G$  if  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G$ , where  $xH = \{xh : h \in H\}$  is a left coset of  $H$  in  $G$  and  $Hx = \{hx : h \in H\}$  is a right coset of  $H$  in  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.7** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group. Then the centre  $Z(G) = \{x \in G : xg = gx, \forall g \in G\}$  is an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Trivial.

**Theorem 2.8** Let  $H$  be an I-subgroup of an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ . Then

(i)  $f(e) \in H$ ,  $e$  being I-identity in  $G$ ,

(ii)  $f(aH) \subseteq aH, \forall a \in G$ ,

(iii)  $aH = bH \Rightarrow f(b'a) \in H \Rightarrow f(aH) = f(bH)$ , where  $b'$  is an I-inverse of  $b$ .

**Proof:** (i) Let  $x \in H$ . Then there exists an I-inverse  $x'$  of  $x$  in  $H$  so that  $f(e) = xx' \in H$ .

(ii) Firstly, we shall show that  $f(H) \subseteq H$ . Let  $f(x) \in f(H)$  be arbitrary, where  $x \in H$ .

Now  $f(e) \in H$ . Therefore  $f(x) = f^2(x) = f(x)e = (xe)e = x(ee) = xf(e) \in H$ .

Therefore  $f(H) \subseteq H$

(13)

Let  $f(ah) \in f(aH)$  be arbitrary. Then  $h \in H$ .

Now  $f(ah) = (ah)e = a(he) = af(h) \in af(H) \subseteq aH$ , by (13),

Therefore  $f(aH) \subseteq aH, \forall a \in G$ .

(iii) Let  $aH = bH$ .

Now  $f(a) = f^2(a) = f(a)e = (ae)e = a(ee) = af(e) \in aH (= bH)$ .

Therefore  $f(a) = bh$  for some  $h \in H$ .

$\Rightarrow b'f(a) = (b'b)h \Rightarrow f(b'a) = f(e)h = f(h) \in f(H)$ .

Now let  $f(b'a) \in f(H)$ . Then  $f(b'a) = f(h)$  for some  $h \in H$

(14)

Let  $x = f(ah_1) \in f(aH)$  be arbitrary. Then  $h_1 \in H$ .

From (14) we get  $b'a \in f^{-1}(f(h))$  so that  $b'a = p$  for some  $p \in G$  such that  $f(p) = f(h)$ .

This implies that  $bb'a = bp$ .

$\Rightarrow f(e)a = f(a) = bp \Rightarrow f(a)h_1 = bph_1 \Rightarrow f(ah_1) = bph_1 \Rightarrow f(ah_1) = f(bph_1)$

$\Rightarrow f(ah_1) = f(b)f(p)f(h_1) = f(b)f(h)f(h_1) = f(b(fh_1)) \in f(bH)$ .

Therefore  $f(aH) \subseteq f(bH)$ .

Similarly, we can prove that  $f(bH) \subseteq f(aH)$ .

Therefore  $f(aH) = f(bH)$ .

**Definition 2.6** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group. An element  $a \in G$  is said to be of finite order if there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(a^k) = f(e)$ ,  $e$  being I-identity in  $G$ . In this case, the smallest positive integer  $n$  for which  $f(a^n) = f(e)$ , is called the I-order of  $a$ . If for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $f(a^n) \neq f(e)$ , then  $a$  is said to be of infinite I-order. I-order of  $a$  is denoted by  $o(a)$ .

**Example 2.8** In Example 2.2  $o(n) = 1, o(n - 1) = n$ .

**Definition 2.7** Let  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  be two I-groups. A mapping  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is said to be

- (i) I-injective if for all  $x, y \in G_1, (h\phi)(x) = (h\phi)(y) \Rightarrow f(x) = f(y)$ .
- (ii) a homomorphism if  $\phi(aob) = \phi(a) * \phi(b), \forall a, b \in G_1$ .
- (iii) an I-monomorphism if  $\phi$  is a homomorphism and I-injective.
- (iv) an epimorphism if  $\phi$  is a homomorphism and surjective.
- (v) an I-isomorphism if  $\phi$  is a homomorphism, I-injective and surjective.

**Theorem 2.9** Let  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  be two I-groups and  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a homomorphism. Then

- (i)  $(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$ , where  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are I-identities in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively.
- (ii)  $(h\phi)(a')$  is an I-inverse of  $(h\phi)(a)$ , where  $a'$  is an I-inverse of  $a$ , for all  $a \in G_1$ .
- (iii) for all  $a \in G_1, \phi(a^n) = (\phi(a))^n, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (iv) for  $a \in G_1$ , if  $o(a)$  is finite, then  $o((h\phi f)(a))$  divides  $o(a)$ .

**Proof:** (i)  $f(e_1)of(e_1) = f(e_1) \Rightarrow (\phi f)(e_1) * (\phi f)(e_1) = (\phi f)(e_1)$   
 $\Rightarrow (h\phi f)(e_1) * (h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi f)(e_1) * e_2 \Rightarrow (h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$ .

(ii)  $aa' = f(e_1) \Rightarrow (\phi f)(e_1) = \phi(a)\phi(a') \Rightarrow (h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi)(a)(h\phi)(a') = h(e_2)$ , by (i).  
 Again  $a'a = f(e_1) \Rightarrow (\phi f)(e_1) = \phi(a')\phi(a) \Rightarrow (h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi)(a')(h\phi)(a) = h(e_2)$ , by (i).  
 $\Rightarrow (h\phi)(a')$  is an I-inverse of  $(h\phi)(a)$  in  $G_2$ .

(iii) Trivial.

(iv) Let  $o(a) = n$  be finite so that  $f(a^n) = f(e_1)$ .  
 Now  $((h\phi f)(a))^n = (h\phi f)(a^n) = (h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$  which is an I-identity in  $G_2$ .

This implies that  $h(((h\phi f)(a))^n) = h(e_2)$ .

Therefore  $o((h\phi f)(a))$  is finite and  $o((h\phi f)(a)) \leq n$ . Let  $o((h\phi f)(a)) = k$ .

Then  $h(((h\phi f)(a))^k) = ((h\phi f)(a))^k = h(e_2)$ .

Let  $n = pk + r$ , where  $p$  is a nonnegative integer and  $0 \leq r < k$ .

Now  $h(((h\phi f)(a))^r) = ((h\phi f)(a))^r = ((h\phi f)(a))^n * (((h\phi f)(a))^k)^{-p} = h(e_2) * (h(e_2))^{-p} = h(e_2)$ .

This implies that  $r = 0$  so that  $k$  divides  $n$ .

**Theorem 2.10** Let  $(G, o, f)$  be an I-group and  $H$  be an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $f(H), f^{-1}(H)$  are I-normal I-subgroups of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Here  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G$ . Clearly  $f(H)$  is a nonempty subset of  $G$  and  $f(f(H)) = f(H) \subseteq f(H)$ . Let  $x = f(a), y = f(b) \in f(H)$  be arbitrary, where  $a, b \in H$ .

Then  $xy = f(a)f(b) = f(ab) \in f(H)$ , since  $a, b \in H \Rightarrow ab \in H$ .

Now there exists  $a' \in H$  such that  $aa' = a'a = f(e), e$  being I-identity in  $G$  so that  $f(e)$  is I-identity in  $H$ .

This implies that  $xa' = f(a)a' = f(aa') = f(e) = f(a'a) = a'f(a) = a'x$ .

Therefore  $f(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$ .

Now it can be easily proved that  $x(f(H)) = f(xH)$  and  $(f(H))x = f(Hx), \forall x \in G$ .

Therefore  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G \Rightarrow x(f(H)) = (f(H))x, \forall x \in G$ .

Therefore  $f(H)$  is an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G$ .

Since  $f(e) \in H$ , hence  $e \in f^{-1}(H)$  so that  $f^{-1}(H)$  is a nonempty subset of  $G$ .

Since  $f(H) \subseteq H$ , hence  $H \subseteq f^{-1}(H)$ . Therefore  $f(f^{-1}(H)) \subseteq H \subseteq f^{-1}(H)$ .

Let  $x, y \in f^{-1}(H)$  be arbitrary. Then  $f(x), f(y) \in H$ . This implies that  $f(xy) = f(x)f(y) \in H$ , so that  $xy \in f^{-1}(H)$ .

Now  $f(x) \in H \Rightarrow f(x) = f^2(x) \in f(H)$ . Also  $f(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$ . Therefore, there exists  $x' = f(x'') \in f(H)$ , where  $x'' \in H$ , such that  $f(x)x' = x'f(x) = f(e)$  (15)

Now  $xx' = xf(x'') = f(x)f(x'') = f(x)x' = f(e)$  (by (15)),

and  $x'x = f(x'')x = f(x'')f(x) = x'f(x) = f(e)$  (by (15)).

Therefore  $xx' = x'x = f(e)$ . Now  $x' \in f(H) \subseteq H \subseteq f^{-1}(H)$ .

Therefore  $f^{-1}(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G$ .

Now we shall show that  $f(xf^{-1}(H)) = f(f^{-1}(H)x), \forall x \in G$ .

Let  $p = f(xa) \in f(xf^{-1}(H))$  be arbitrary, where  $a \in f^{-1}(H)$  so that  $f(a) \in H$ .

Now  $p = f(xa)f(x)f(a) \in f(x)H = f(xH) = f(Hx)$ .

Therefore  $p = f(hx)$  for some  $h \in H$ .

Therefore  $p = f(hx) \in f(f^{-1}(H)x)$ , since  $h \in H \subseteq f^{-1}(H)$ .

Therefore  $f(xf^{-1}(H)) \subseteq f(f^{-1}(H)x)$ .

Similarly, we can prove that  $f(f^{-1}(H)x) \subseteq f(xf^{-1}(H))$ .

Therefore  $f(xf^{-1}(H)) = f(f^{-1}(H)x), \forall x \in G$ .

Therefore  $f^{-1}(H)$  is an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.11** Let  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  be two I-groups and  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  is a homomorphism.

(i) If  $H$  be an I-subgroup of  $G_1$  then  $\phi(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ , provided  $(h\phi)(H) \subseteq \phi(H)$ .

In addition, if  $H$  is I-normal in  $G_1$  and  $\phi$  is surjective, then  $\phi(H)$  is normal in  $G_2$ .

(ii) If  $H$  be an I-subgroup of  $G_1$  then  $(h\phi)(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ .

In addition, if  $H$  is I-normal in  $G_1$  and  $\phi$  is surjective, then  $(h\phi)(H)$  is normal in  $G_2$ .

(iii) If  $K$  be an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G_2$  then  $(\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)$  is an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G_1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are I-identities in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively.

(i) Let  $h(\phi(H)) \subseteq \phi(H)$  (16)

Clearly,  $\phi(H)$  is a nonempty subset of  $G_2$ . Let  $x = \phi(a), y = \phi(b) \in \phi(H)$  be arbitrary, where  $a, b \in H$ . Then  $ab \in H$  so that  $xy = \phi(a)\phi(b) = \phi(ab) \in \phi(H)$ .

Now  $a \in H \Rightarrow$  there exists  $a' \in H$  such that  $aa' = a'a = f(e_1)$

(17)

Now  $x * (h\phi)(a') = \phi(a) * (h\phi)(a') = h(\phi(a) * \phi(a')) = (h\phi)(aa') = (h\phi)(e_1)$  (by (17)).

Therefore  $x * (h\phi)(a') = h(e_2)$ .

Again  $(h\phi)(a') * x = (h\phi)(a') * \phi(a) = h(\phi(a') * \phi(a)) = (h\phi)(a'a) = (h\phi)(e_1)$  (by (17)).

Therefore  $(h\phi)(a') * x = h(e_2)$ .

Therefore  $x * (h\phi)(a') = (h\phi)(a') * x = h(e_2)$ , and  $(h\phi)(a') \in (h\phi)(H) \subseteq \phi(H)$ .

Therefore  $\phi(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ .

Now let  $H$  be I-normal in  $G_1$  and  $\phi$  is surjective. Then  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G_1$

(18)

We shall show that  $h(y\phi(H)) = h(\phi(H)y), \forall y \in G_2$ . Let  $y \in G_2$  be arbitrary. Since  $\phi$  is surjective, there exists  $x \in G_1$  such that  $y = \phi(x)$ .

Let  $p = h(y\phi(a)) \in h(y\phi(H))$  be arbitrary. Then  $a \in H$ .

Now  $p = h(\phi(x)\phi(a)) = h(\phi(xa)) = \phi(xa)h(e_2) = \phi(xa)(h\phi)(e_1) = h(\phi(xa)(\phi f)(e_1))$

$= (h\phi)(xaf(e_1)) = (h\phi)(f(xa)) = (h\phi)(f(bx))$  (by (18)  $f(xa) = f(bx)$  for some  $b \in H$ )

$= (h\phi)(bxf(e_1)) = h(\phi(bx)(\phi f)(e_1)) = \phi(bx)(h\phi)(e_1) = \phi(bx)h(e_2) = (h\phi)(bx)$

$= (h\phi)(b)(h\phi)(x) = (h\phi)(b)h(y) = h(\phi(b)y) \in h(\phi(H)y)$ .

Therefore  $h(y\phi(H)) \subseteq h(\phi(H)y)$ .

Similarly, we shall get  $h(\phi(H)y) \subseteq h(y\phi(H))$ .

Therefore  $h(\phi(H)y) = h(y\phi(H))$ , so that  $\phi(H)$  is I-normal in  $G_2$ .

(ii) Here  $h\phi$  is a homomorphism from  $G_1$  to  $G_2$  and  $h((h\phi)(H)) = (h\phi)(H)$ . Therefore, by the first part of (i) of this theorem, we can say that  $(h\phi)(H)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ .

Second part is similar to that of (i) of this theorem.

(iii) Let  $K$  be an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ . Since  $h(e_2) \in K$  and  $(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$ , hence  $(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2) = h^2(e_2) \in h(K) \subseteq K$ . This implies that  $f(e_1) \in (\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)$  so that  $(\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K) \neq \Phi$ .

Now we shall show that  $f(\phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)) \subseteq \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$ .

Let  $p = f(x) \in f(\phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K))$  be arbitrary, where  $x \in \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$ . Then  $(h\phi)(x) \in K$ .

(19)

Now  $(h\phi)(x) = \phi(x)h(e_2) = \phi(x)(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(\phi(x)(\phi f)(e_1)) = (h\phi)(\phi f(e_1)) = (h\phi f)(x)$

Therefore  $(h\phi f)(x) = (h\phi)(x) \in K$ , by (19). This implies that  $p = f(x) \in \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$ .

Therefore  $f(\phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)) \subseteq \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$ .

Let  $x, y \in \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$  be arbitrary. Then  $\phi(x), \phi(y) \in h^{-1}(K)$  so that

$\phi(xy) = \phi(x)\phi(y) \in h^{-1}(K)$  (by Theorem 2.10  $h^{-1}(K)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ ).

Therefore  $xy \in \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$ .

Let  $x \in \phi^{-1}h^{-1}(K)$  be arbitrary. Then  $\phi(x) \in h^{-1}(K)$ . Since  $h^{-1}(K)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$  hence an I-inverse of  $\phi(x)$  exists in  $h^{-1}(K)$ .

Now  $\phi(x)\phi(x') = \phi(xx') = (\phi f)(e_1)$ ,  $\phi(x')\phi(x) = \phi(x'x) = (\phi f)(e_1)$ , and  $(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$  imply that  $(\phi f)(e_1)$  is an I-identity in  $G_2$ .

Again,  $(h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2) \in K$  (Since  $K$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$ ) implies that  $(\phi f)(e_1) \in h^{-1}(K)$ .

Therefore  $h(z) = (h\phi)(x')$

(20)

Now  $(h\phi)(x) \in K$  and  $K$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_2$  implies that  $(h\phi)(x') \in K$ , by (20).

Therefore  $x' \in (\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)$ . Therefore,  $(\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_1$ .

Now let  $K$  be I-normal in  $G_2$  so that  $h(aK) = h(Ka), \forall a \in G_2$

(21)

We shall show that  $f(x((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))) = f(((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))x), \forall x \in G_1$ .

Let  $p = f(xy) \in f(x((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)))$  be arbitrary, where  $y \in (\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)$  so that

$(h\phi)(y) \in K$

(22)

Now  $f(xy) = xyf(e_1)$ .

Therefore  $(h\phi f)(xy) = (h\phi)(xy)(h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi)(xy)h(e_2) = (h\phi)(xy) = h(\phi(x)\phi(y))$

$= (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(y) = (h\phi)(x)k_1$ , where  $(h\phi)(y) = k_1 \in K$ , by (22)

$= h(\phi(x)k_1) = h(k_2\phi(x))$ , taking  $a = \phi(x)$  in (21).

$= k_2(h\phi)(x) \in K(h\phi)(x)$

$\Rightarrow f(xy) \in (\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)x \Rightarrow f(xy) = f^2(xy) \in f(((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))x)$ .

Therefore  $f(x((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))) \subseteq f(((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))x)$ .

Similarly,  $f(((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))x) \subseteq f(x((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K)))$ .

Therefore  $f(x((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))) = f(((\phi^{-1}h^{-1})(K))x), \forall x \in G_1$ .

This completes the proof.

**Definition 2.8** Let  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  be a homomorphism, where  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  are two I-groups. The Kernel of  $\phi$  is defined by  $\text{Ker}\phi = \{a \in G_1 : (h\phi)(a) = h(e_2)\}$ , where  $e_2$  is I-identity in  $G_2$ .

**Theorem 2.12** Let  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  be a homomorphism, where  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  are two I-groups. Then  $\text{Ker}\phi$  is an I-normal I-subgroup of  $G_1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  be I-identities in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively. Since  $f(e_1) \in G_1$  and  $(h\phi)(e_1) = h(e_2)$ , hence  $f(e_1) \in \text{Ker}\phi$  so that  $\text{Ker}\phi$  is a nonempty subset of  $G_1$ .

Now we shall show that  $f(\text{Ker}\phi) \subseteq \text{Ker}\phi$ . Let  $y = f(x) \in f(\text{Ker}\phi)$  be arbitrary, where  $x \in \text{Ker}\phi$ . Clearly  $y = f(x) \in G_1$  and  $(h\phi)(x) = h(e_2)$ .

Now  $(h\phi)(y) = (h\phi)(f(x)) = (h\phi)(xf(e_1)) = (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(e_1) = h(e_2)h(e_2) = h(e_2)$  so that  $y \in \text{Ker}\phi$ . Therefore  $f(\text{Ker}\phi) \subseteq \text{Ker}\phi$ .

Let  $x, y \in \text{Ker}\phi$  be arbitrary. Then  $(h\phi)(x) = h(e_2), (h\phi)(y) = h(e_2)$   
(23)

Clearly  $xy \in G_1$ . Now  $(h\phi)(xy) = (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(y) = h(e_2)h(e_2) = h(e_2)$ . (by (23))  
Therefore  $xy \in \text{Ker}\phi$ .

Let  $x \in \text{Ker}\phi$  be arbitrary. Then  $(h\phi)(x) = h(e_2)$  (24)

Now  $x' \in G_1$  such that  $xx' = f(e_1)$ . This implies that  $(h\phi)(xx') = (h\phi)(f(e_1))$ .

Therefore  $(h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(x') = h(e_2)$ .

$\Rightarrow h(e_2)(h\phi)(x') = h(e_2)$ , by (24)  $\Rightarrow (h\phi)(x') = h(e_2) \Rightarrow x' \in \text{Ker}\phi$ .

Therefore  $\text{Ker}\phi$  is an I-subgroup of  $G_1$ .

Let  $H = \text{Ker}\phi$ . Now we shall show that  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G_1$ .

Let  $p = f(xy) \in f(xH)$  be arbitrary, where  $y \in H$  so that  $(h\phi)(y) = h(e_2)$  (25)

Now  $p = f(xy) = xyf(e_1) = xyf^2(e_1) = xyf(x'x) = f((xyx')x) \in f(Hx)$ , since

$(h\phi)(xyx') = (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(y)(h\phi)(x') = (h\phi)(x)h(e_2)(h\phi)(x')$ , by (25)

$= (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(x') = (h\phi)(xx') = (h\phi)(f(e_1)) = h(e_2) \Rightarrow xyx' \in H$ .

Therefore  $f(xH) \subseteq f(Hx)$ .

Similarly,  $f(Hx) = f(xH)$ .

Therefore  $f(xH) = f(Hx), \forall x \in G_1$ .

Hence the result.

**Theorem 2.13** Let  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  be a homomorphism, where  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  are two I-groups.  $\phi$  is I-injective iff  $\text{Ker}\phi \subseteq \text{Ker}f = \{x \in G_1 : f(x) = f(e_1)\}$ , where  $e_1$  is I-identity in  $G_1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  be I-identities in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively. Let  $\phi$  be I-injective. Let  $x \in \text{Ker}\phi$ .

Then  $(h\phi)(x) = h(e_2) = (h\phi)(f(e_1))$ . This implies that  $f(x) = f(e_1)$  (Since  $\phi$  is I-injective).

Therefore  $x \in \text{Ker}f$ , so that  $\text{Ker}\phi \subseteq \text{Ker}f$ .

Conversely, let  $\text{Ker}\phi \subseteq \text{Ker}f$ . Let  $x, y \in G_1$  be arbitrary such that  $(h\phi)(x) = (h\phi)(y)$   
(26)

Now,  $(h\phi)(xy') = (h\phi)(x)(h\phi)(y') = (h\phi)(y)(h\phi)(y')$ , by (26)

$= (h\phi)(yy') = (h\phi)(f(e_1)) = h(e_2)$ .

Therefore  $xy' \in \text{Ker}\phi \subseteq \text{Ker}f$ .

This implies that  $f(xy') = f(e_1)$ .

$\Rightarrow f(xy')f(y) = f(e_1)f(y) \Rightarrow f(xy'y) = f(y) \Rightarrow f(xf(e_1)) = f(f(x)) = f(x) = f(y)$ .

Therefore  $\phi$  is I-injective.

**Theorem 2.14** Let  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  be an I-isomorphism, where  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  are two I-groups.

(i)  $o(a) = o((\phi f)(a))$ , for every  $a \in G_1$ .

(ii) If  $G_2$  is strongly I-commutative then  $G_1$  is I-commutative.

(iii) If  $G_2$  is commutative then  $G_1$  is I-commutative.

(iv) If  $G_2$  is I-commutative then  $G_1$  is I-commutative.

**Proof:** (i) Let  $o(a) = n$  be finite. Then  $f(a^n) = f(e_1)$ .

Now  $h(((\phi f)(a))^n) = (h\phi)(f(a^n)) = (h\phi)(f(e_1)) = h(e_2)$ .

This implies that  $o((\phi f)(a))$  is finite. Let  $o((\phi f)(a)) = m$ . Then  $m \leq n$ .

Now  $h(((\phi f)(a))^m) = h(e_2) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(f(a^m)) = (h\phi)(f(e_1)) \Rightarrow f(a^m) = f(e_1)$ , since  $\phi$  is I-injective.

Therefore  $n \leq m$ . Hence  $m = n$ .

Let  $o(a)$  be infinite. If possible, let  $o((\phi f)(a))$  be finite. Then by the second part of the proof of this theorem we shall get  $o(a)$  is finite which is a contradiction.

Therefore  $o((\phi f)(a))$  is infinite.

(ii) Let  $G_2$  be strongly I-commutative.

Now,  $a, b \in G_1 \Rightarrow \phi(a), \phi(b) \in G_2 \Rightarrow \phi(a)\phi(b) = h(\phi(b)\phi(a)) \Rightarrow \phi(ab) = (h\phi)(ba) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(ab) = (h\phi)(ba) \Rightarrow f(ab) = f(ba)$ , since  $\phi$  is I-injective.

Therefore  $G_1$  is I-commutative.

(iii) and (iv) are similar to (ii).

**Theorem 2.15** Let  $H$  be an I-subgroup of an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ . Then for any two left cosets  $xH$  and  $yH$  of  $H$  in  $G$

(i) there is an I-bijection, i.e., an I-injection and surjection between  $xH$  and  $yH$ .

(ii) either  $f(xH) = f(yH)$  or  $xH \cap yH = \Phi$ .

**Proof:** (i) Define  $g: xH \rightarrow yH$  by  $g(xh) = yh, \forall h \in H$ . Let  $xa, xb \in xH$  be arbitrary such that  $(fg)(xa) = (fg)(xb)$ .

This implies that  $f(ya) = f(yb)$ .

$\Rightarrow yf(a) = yf(b) \Rightarrow f(a) = f(b) \Rightarrow xf(a) = xf(b) \Rightarrow f(xa) = f(xb)$ .

Therefore  $g$  is I-injective. Clearly,  $g$  is surjective. Therefore  $g$  is an I-bijection.

(ii) We can say that either  $xH \cap yH = \Phi$  or  $xH \cap yH \neq \Phi$ . Let  $xH \cap yH \neq \Phi$ . Let  $z \in xH \cap yH$ . Then  $z = xa = yb$  for some  $a, b \in H$ .

This implies that  $y'xaa' = y' yba'$

$\Rightarrow y'xf(e) = f(e)ba', e$  being I-identity in  $G$ .

$\Rightarrow f(y'x) = f(ba') \in f(H) \Rightarrow f(xH) = f(yH)$ .

**Note 2.1** Let  $H$  be an I-normal I-subgroup of an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ . Define a binary relation  $\rho$  on  $G$  as:  $\rho = \{(a, b) \in G \times G : f(aH) = f(bH)\}$ . Then  $\rho$  is an equivalence relation on  $G$ , so that we have the quotient set  $G/\rho$ . Now for any  $\bar{x} \in G/\rho$ , it can be shown that  $\bar{x} = f(\bar{x}) = \overline{f(x)} = f(xH) \subseteq xH$ .

Define  $\bar{x} * \bar{y} = \overline{xoy}, \forall \bar{x}, \bar{y} \in G/\rho$ . Let  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{a}, \bar{b} \in G/\rho$  such that  $\bar{x} = \bar{a}, \bar{y} = \bar{b}$ .

Then  $f(xH) = f(aH), f(yH) = f(bH)$ . This implies that  $f(x) \in aH, f(y) \in bH$ , so that  $f(x) = ah_1, f(y) = bh_2$  for some  $h_1, h_2 \in H$ .

We claim that  $\bar{x} * \bar{y} = \bar{a} * \bar{b}$ , i.e.,  $\overline{xoy} = \overline{aob}$ , i.e.,  $f((xy)H) = f((ab)H)$ .

For any  $xyh \in (xy)H$ , we have

$f(xyh) = f(ab)f((ab)')xyh = f(a)f(b)f(b')f(a')f(x)f(y)h$   
 $= f(a)f(b)f(b')f(a')ah_1f(y)h = f(a)f(b)f(b')h_1f(y)h = f(a)f(b)f(b')f(y)h_3h$ , since  $H$  is I-normal,  $h_1f(y) = f(h_1y) \in f(Hy) = f(yH)$  so that  $h_1f(y) = f(yh_3) = f(y)h_3$  for some  $h_3 \in H$ .

Therefore  $f(xyh) = f(a)f(b)f(b')bh_2h_3h = f(ab)h_2h_3h = f(abh_2h_3h) \in f((ab)H)$ .

Therefore  $f((xy)H) \subseteq f((ab)H)$ .

Similarly,  $f((ab)H) \subseteq f((xy)H)$ . Therefore  $f((xy)H) = f((ab)H)$ , so that  $*$  is well-defined.

Clearly,  $G/\rho$  is closed with respect to  $*$ .

Now for all  $\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z} \in G/\rho$ , we have

$$(\bar{x} * \bar{y}) * \bar{z} = \overline{xy} * \bar{z} = \overline{(xy)z} = \overline{x(yz)} = \bar{x} * \overline{yz} = \bar{x} * (\bar{y} * \bar{z}) \text{ so that } * \text{ is associative.}$$

We see that I-identity  $e \in G$  so that  $\bar{e} \in G/\rho$ . Now for all  $\bar{x} \in G/\rho$ , we have

$$\bar{x} * \bar{e} = \overline{x e} = \overline{f(x)} = f(\bar{x}) = \bar{x} \text{ and } \bar{e} * \bar{x} = \overline{e x} = \overline{f(x)} = f(\bar{x}) = \bar{x}.$$

Therefore  $\bar{e}$  is identity in  $G/\rho$ .

Let  $\bar{x} \in G/\rho$  be arbitrary. Then  $\bar{x}' \in G/\rho$  and  $x x' = x' x = f(e)$ .

$$\text{Now } \bar{x} * \bar{x}' = \overline{x x'} = \overline{f(e)} = f(\bar{e}) = \bar{e} \text{ and } \bar{x}' * \bar{x} = \overline{x' x} = \overline{f(e)} = f(\bar{e}) = \bar{e}.$$

Therefore  $(G/\rho, *)$  is a group so that  $(G/\rho, *, I)$  is an I-group, where  $I$  is the identity mapping on  $G/\rho$ .  $G/\rho$  is denoted by  $G/H$ .

**Theorem 2.16** Let  $H$  be an I-normal I-subgroup of an I-group  $(G, o, f)$ . Define

$\theta: (G, o, f) \rightarrow (G/\rho, *, I)$  by  $\theta(x) = \bar{x}, \forall x \in G$ . Then  $\theta$  is an epimorphism.

**Proof:** Trivial.

**Theorem 2.17** Let  $\phi: G_1 \rightarrow G_2$  be an epimorphism, where  $(G_1, o, f)$  and  $(G_2, *, h)$  are two I-groups.

Let  $H = \text{Ker}\phi$ . Consider the epimorphism  $\theta: (G_1, o, f) \rightarrow (G_1/H, *, I)$ , given by  $\theta(x) = \bar{x}, \forall x \in G_1$ . Then there exists an I-isomorphism  $\psi: G_1/H \rightarrow G_2$  such that  $\phi = \psi\theta$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  be I-identities in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  respectively.

For any  $a \in G_1$ ,  $\theta(a) = \bar{a} = \{b \in G_1 : f(aH) = f(bH)\}$ .

Define  $\psi: G_1/H \rightarrow G_2$  by  $\psi(\bar{a}) = (h\phi)(a), \forall \bar{a} \in G_1/H$ .

Let  $a, b \in G_1$  be arbitrary such that  $\bar{a} = \bar{b}$ . Then  $f(aH) = f(bH)$ .

This implies that  $f(a)H = f(b)H$ , since  $f(aH) = f(a)H$ .

$\Rightarrow f(b' a) \in f(H) \subseteq H = \text{Ker}\phi$ , where  $b'$  is an I-inverse of  $b$ .

$$\Rightarrow (h\phi)(f(b' a)) = h(e_2) = (h\phi f)(e_1) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(b' a)(h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi f)(e_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow (h\phi)(b' a)h(e_2) = h(e_2) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(b' a) = h(e_2) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(bb' a) = (h\phi)(b)$$

$$\Rightarrow (h\phi)(f(e_1)a) = (h\phi)(b) \Rightarrow (h\phi f)(e_1)(h\phi)(a) = (h\phi)(b) \Rightarrow h(e_2)(h\phi)(a) = (h\phi)(b)$$

$$\Rightarrow (h\phi)(a) = (h\phi)(b) \Rightarrow \psi(\bar{a}) = \psi(\bar{b}) \Rightarrow \psi \text{ is well-defined.}$$

Clearly,  $\psi$  is a homomorphism.

Let  $\bar{a}, \bar{b} \in G/H$  be such that  $(h\psi)(\bar{a}) = (h\psi)(\bar{b})$ .

This implies that  $(h\phi)(a) = (h\phi)(b) \Rightarrow (h\phi)(b' a) = (h\phi)(b' b)$

$$\Rightarrow (h\phi)(b' a)(h\phi f)(e_1) = (h\phi f)(e_1) \Rightarrow (h\phi f)(b' a) = (h\phi f)(e_1) = h(e_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(b' a) \in \text{Ker}\phi = H \Rightarrow f(aH) = f(bH) \Rightarrow \bar{a} = \bar{b}.$$

Therefore  $\psi$  is injective.

Since  $\phi$  is surjective, hence  $\psi$  is surjective.

Therefore  $\psi$  is an isomorphism.

Now for all  $a \in G_1$ , we have  $(\psi\theta)(a) = \psi(\bar{a}) = (h\phi)(a) \Rightarrow \psi\theta = h\phi$ .

### Conclusion

In this paper, we have studied some basic properties of I-groups. A lot of opportunity is there for further studies.

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