

# CHAPTER 2

## Fuzzy Cosets and Homomorphisms of N-groups

In this chapter we consider the fuzzy ideals of N-group  $G$  where  $N$  is a zero-symmetric right near-ring.

In section-1 of this chapter we proved several new results on fuzzy ideals and fuzzy cosets of N-groups, which are used in the sequel.

In section-2 of this chapter, we introduce fuzzy ideal  $\theta_\mu$  of the quotient N-group  $G/\mu$  with respect to a fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  of  $G$ . If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  and  $\theta$  a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$  such that  $\theta_\mu \subseteq \theta$  and  $\theta_\mu(0) = \theta(0)$ , then the corresponding  $\sigma_\theta: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is defined and proved that it is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \sigma_\theta$  and  $\mu(0) = \sigma_\theta(0)$ .

In section-3 of this chapter, we prove some results on homomorphisms and fuzzy ideals of N-groups. The image and preimage of fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  under N-group homomorphism were studied. Finally it is obtained that if  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is an epimorphism of N-groups, then there is an order preserving bijection between the fuzzy ideals of  $G^1$  and the fuzzy ideals of  $G$  that are constant on  $\ker f$ . Some examples related to these concepts were illustrated.

## Section-2.1: Fuzzy Ideals

In this section we provide some preliminary results on fuzzy ideals of N-groups. We start this section by recollecting the definition: fuzzy ideal of N-group G.

**2.1.1. Definition:** (Saikia H.K & Bhattachakur L.K [19]) Let  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a mapping.

$\mu$  is said to be a *fuzzy ideal of G* if the following conditions hold:

- (i)  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$
- (ii)  $\mu(y + x - y) = \mu(x)$
- (iii)  $\mu(-x) = \mu(x)$
- (iv)  $\mu(n(g + x) - ng) \geq \mu(x)$  for all  $x, y, g, g^1 \in G, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

If  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a constant function, then  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of G.

Now we present a non-trivial example for fuzzy ideal of an N-group with detailed verification.

**2.1.2 Example:** Write  $N = \mathbb{Z}$ , the set of integers under the usual operations '+' and '.',

$(\mathbb{N}, +, \cdot)$  form a near-ring.

Write  $G = \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then  $(G, +)$  where + is usual addition of integers is a group.

Now consider G as N-group.

Define  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by 
$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 4n \text{ for some } n \in Z \\ 0.5 & \text{if } x = 2n \text{ for some } n \in Z \text{ and } x \neq 4m \text{ for any } m \in Z \\ 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Since  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , we have that  $\mu$  is a fuzzy set.

Now we verify that  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

**Step1:** First we verify the condition:  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ .

Let  $g, g^1 \in G$ .

**Case (i):** Suppose  $g = 4n$  and  $g^1 = 4m$  for some  $m, n \in G$ .

Then  $\mu(g + g^1) = \mu(4n + 4m)$

$$= \mu(4(n + m))$$

$$= 1 \quad (\text{by def of } \mu).$$

$$\geq 1$$

$$= \min\{1, 1\} = \min\{\mu(4n), \mu(4m)\}$$

$$= \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Case(ii):** Suppose that one of the  $g, g^1$  is of the form  $4n$  and other is not in  $4m$  form but  $2m$  form.

Without loss of generality, we assume that  $g = 4n, g^1 = 2m$  but  $g^1 \neq 4k$  for any  $k \in Z$ .

Now it is clear that  $g + g^1 \neq 4k$  for any  $k \in Z$  and

$$g + g^1 = 4n + 2m = 2(2n + m).$$

So  $\mu(g + g^1) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$\mu(g) = 1 \text{ and } \mu(g^1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\text{Hence } \mu(g + g^1) = \frac{1}{2} \geq \min\{1, \frac{1}{2}\} = \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Case (iii):** Suppose one of  $g, g^1$  is of the form  $4n$  and the other is not of the form  $2k$  with  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Without loss of generality assume that  $g = 4n$  and  $g^1$  is odd.

Now  $g + g^1 \neq 2k$  for any  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\text{So } \mu(g + g^1) = 0, \mu(g) = 1, \mu(g^1) = 0.$$

$$\text{Hence } \mu(g + g^1) = 0 \geq \min\{1, 0\} = \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Case-(iv):** Suppose both  $g, g^1$  are of the form  $2n$  but no one of  $g, g^1$  can be written in the form  $4k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

$$\text{Then } \mu(g) = \mu(g^1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\mu(g + g^1) = 1 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\text{So } \mu(g + g^1) \geq \frac{1}{2} = \min\{1/2, 1/2\} = \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Case-(v):** Suppose that one of the  $g, g^1$  are of the form  $2n$  and the other is an odd integer.

Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $g = 2n$  and  $g^1$  is odd.

$$\text{Now } \mu(g) = 1/2 \text{ and } \mu(g^1) = 0.$$

Since  $g + g^1 \neq 2k$  for any  $k$ , it follows that  $\mu(g + g^1) = 0$ .

$$\text{So } \mu(g + g^1) = 0 \geq \min\{1/2, 0\} = \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Case-(vi):** Suppose  $g, g^1$  both odd numbers.

Then  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq 0$ ,  $\mu(g) = 0 = \mu(g^1)$ .

So  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min \{0, 0\} = \min \{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ .

From the above six cases, we conclude that

$\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min \{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$  for all  $g, g^1 \in Z$ .

**Step-2:** Since  $(G, +)$  is abelian it is clear that  $\mu(g + x - g) = \mu(g - g + x) = \mu(x)$ .

**Step-3:** By the definition of  $\mu$ , we get that  $\mu(-g) = \mu(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ ; and

$\mu(n(g + x) - ng) \geq \mu(x)$  for all  $x, g \in G$  and  $n \in N$ .

**Step-4:** Now we verify that  $\mu(kg) \geq \mu(g)$  for  $k \in N$  and  $g \in G$ .

Let  $k \in N$  and  $g \in G$ .

**Case-(i):** Suppose  $k = 4n$  and  $g = 4m$  for some  $m, n \in G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \mu(kg) &= \mu(4n \cdot 4m) = \mu(16mn) = \mu(4(4mn)) = 1 \quad (\text{by def of } \mu) \\ &\geq 1 = \mu(g) \end{aligned}$$

**Case-(ii):** Suppose that one of the  $k, g$  is of the form  $4n$  and other is not in  $4m$  form but

$2m$  form. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $k = 4n, g = 2m$  but  $g \neq 4s$  for any

$s \in Z$ . Now it is clear that  $kg = 8mn = 4(2t)$  for some  $t \in Z$ .

So  $\mu(kg) = 1 \geq \mu(g)$ .

**Case-(iii):** Suppose one of  $k, g$  is of the form  $4n$  and the other is not of the form  $2s$  with  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Without loss of generality we assume that  $k = 4n$  and  $g$  is odd.

Now  $kg = 4t$  for some  $t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So  $\mu(kg) = 1 \geq \mu(g)$ .

**Case-(iv):** Suppose both  $k, g$  are of the form  $2n$  but no one of  $k, g$  can be written in the form  $4s$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Then  $\mu(k) = \mu(g) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$\mu(kg) = 1 \geq \mu(g)$ .

**Case-(v):** Suppose one of the  $k, g$  are of the form  $2n$  and the other is an odd integer.

Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $k = 2n$  and  $g$  is odd.

Now  $\mu(k) = 1/2$  and  $\mu(g) = 0$ .

Now  $kg = 2s$  for some  $s \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

So  $\mu(kg) = 0.5 \geq \mu(g)$

**Case-(vi):** Suppose  $k, g$  both odd numbers.

Then  $\mu(kg) \geq 0, \mu(k) = 0 = \mu(g)$ .

So  $\mu(kg) \geq \mu(g)$ .

**Step 5:** Take  $k \in \mathbb{N}, g, x \in G$ .

Consider  $\mu(k(g+x) - kg) = \mu((kg + kx) - kg)$

$$= \mu(kg - kg + kx) \quad (\text{since } (\mathbb{Z}, +) \text{ is abelian})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \mu(kx) \\
&\geq \mu(x) \text{ (by Step 4).}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

The proof is complete.

**2.1.3 Proposition:** Let  $G$  be  $N$ -group, where  $N$  is a near-ring with unity and  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy set with  $\mu(ng) \geq \mu(g)$  for all  $g \in G, n \in N$ . Then the following two conditions are true.

- (i). For all  $0 \neq n \in N$ ,  $\mu(ng) = \mu(g)$  if  $n$  is left invertible; and
- (ii).  $\mu(-g) = \mu(g)$ .

**Proof:** (i) Let  $n^1$  be a left inverse of  $n$ .

Then  $n^1n = 1$ .

Given that  $\mu(ng) \geq \mu(g)$ .

Now  $\mu(g) = \mu(1.g) = \mu(n^1ng) \geq \mu(ng)$  (by the given condition)

$\Rightarrow \mu(g) \geq \mu(ng)$ .

Hence  $\mu(ng) = \mu(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ , and for all left invertible elements  $0 \neq n \in N$ .

(ii) Follows from (i) by taking  $n = -1$ .

**2.1.4 Corollary:** If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  and  $g, g^1 \in G$ , then

$$\mu(g - g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}.$$

**Proof:** Given  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .



Now  $\mu(g - g^1) = \mu(g + (-g^1)) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(-g^1)\}$  (since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal)  
 $\geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$  (by the Proposition 2.1.3).

Therefore  $\mu(g - g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$  for all  $g, g^1 \in G$ .

**2.1.5 Proposition:** If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ , and  $g, g^1 \in G$  with  $\mu(g) > \mu(g^1)$ , then  $\mu(g + g^1) = \mu(g^1)$ . In other words, if  $\mu(g) \neq \mu(g^1)$ , then  $\mu(g + g^1) = \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $\mu(g) > \mu(g^1)$ .

By definition,  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$   
 $= \mu(g^1)$  (since  $\mu(g) > \mu(g^1)$ ) ..... (i)

Take  $\mu(g^1) = \mu(g^1 + g - g) \geq \min\{\mu(g^1 + g), \mu(-g)\}$   
 $= \min\{\mu(g^1 + g), \mu(g)\}$ ..... (ii)

If  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \mu(g)$ , then  $\mu(g^1) \geq \mu(g)$  by (ii)  
 $> \mu(g^1)$  (by given condition)

and so  $\mu(g^1) > \mu(g^1)$ , a contradiction.

Therefore  $\mu(g + g^1) < \mu(g)$  ..... (iii)

Now  $\mu(g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g^1 + g), \mu(g)\}$  (by (ii))  
 $= \mu(g^1 + g)$  (by (iii)) ..... (iv)

From (i) and (iv), we can conclude that

$$\mu(g + g^1) = \mu(g^1).$$

The rest follows by using similar steps.

The proof is complete.

**2.1.6 Corollary:** If  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a mapping satisfies the condition  $\mu(ng) \geq \mu(g)$  for all  $g \in G$  and  $n \in N$ , then the following two conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mu(g - g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ ; and
- (ii)  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ .

**Proof:** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Suppose (i).

Now  $\mu(g + g^1) = \mu(g - (-g^1)) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(-g^1)\}$  (by supposition)

$$\geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\} \text{ (by the given condition with } n = -1).$$

Therefore  $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): follows from Corollary 2.1.4

**2.1.7 Note:** Since  $N$  is a zero symmetric near-ring, by taking  $g = 0 \in G$ , the condition (iv) of Definition 2.1.1 gives that  $\mu(nx) = \mu(nx + 0) = \mu(n(0 + x) + n.0) \geq \mu(x)$ .

Thus  $\mu(nx) \geq \mu(x)$  for all  $n \in N$  and  $x \in G$ .

**2.1.8 Remark:** From the above Note 2.1.7 and the Corollary 2.1.6, we can conclude that the condition " $\mu(g + g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ " in the Definition 2.1.1, may be replaced by " $\mu(g - g^1) \geq \min\{\mu(g), \mu(g^1)\}$ ".

**2.1.9 Proposition:** If  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal, then (i)  $\mu(0) \geq \mu(g)$  for all  $g \in G$ ; and

(ii)  $\mu(0) = \sup_{g \in G} \mu(g)$ .

**Proof:** (i)  $\mu(0) = \mu(x - x) \geq \min \{\mu(x), \mu(-x)\} = \mu(x)$  for all  $x$  in  $G$ .

(ii) Follows from (i).

**2.1.10 Remark** [Lemma 1.7 of Saikia and Barthakur [20]: A fuzzy subset  $\mu$  of  $G$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G \Leftrightarrow$  the level set  $\mu_t$  is an ideal of  $G$  for all  $t \in [0, \mu(0)]$ .

**2.1.11 Definition:** Let  $\mu$  be any fuzzy ideal of  $G$ . The ideals  $\mu_t$ ,  $t \in [0, \mu(0)]$  where  $\mu_t = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq t\}$  are called *level ideals* of  $\mu$ . In particular, the level set denoted by  $G_\mu = \{x \in G / \mu(x) = \mu(0)\} = \mu_s$  where  $s = \mu(0)$  is an ideal of  $G$ .

**2.1.12 Examples:** (i) Consider  $N$ ,  $G$  and  $\mu$  as in Example 2.1.2.

In this example,  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal defined by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 4n \text{ for some } n \in Z \\ 0.5 & \text{if } x = 2n \text{ for some } n \in Z \text{ and } x \neq 4m \text{ for any } m \in Z \\ 0 & \text{if } x \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Some level ideals of  $\mu$  are listed below

$$\mu_0 = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq 0\} = G$$

$$\mu_{0.25} = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq 0.25\} = 2Z$$

$$\mu_{0.5} = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq 0.5\} = 2Z$$

$$\mu_{0.75} = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq 0.75\} = 4Z$$

$$\mu_1 = \{x \in G / \mu(x) \geq 1\} = 4Z$$

(ii) Consider  $Z_8 = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ , the set of integers modulo 8. Then  $Z_8$  is a N-group over  $Z$  (here  $N = Z$ ), the near-ring of integers. Define  $\mu: Z_8 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 3/4 & \text{if } x = 4 \\ 1/2 & \text{if } x \in \{2, 6\} \\ 1/4 & \text{if } x \in \{1, 3, 5, 7\} \end{cases} . \text{ This } \mu \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G.$$

The level ideals of  $\mu$  are given below:

$$\mu_1 = \{0\}, \mu_{3/4} = \{0, 4\}, \mu_{1/2} = \{0, 2, 4, 6\}, \mu_{1/4} = Z_8.$$

**2.1.13 Definition:** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two sets such that  $A \subseteq B$ . Suppose that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two numbers in  $[0, 1]$  such that  $\alpha > \beta$ . Define a function  $\mu$  from  $A$  to  $B$  by

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in A \\ \beta & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

Then the function  $\mu$  is called as the *generalized characteristic function* of  $A$ .

**2.1.14 Example:** Every characteristic function is a generalized characteristic function.

**2.1.15 Theorem:** Let  $I \subseteq G$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are two numbers in  $[0, 1]$  such that  $\alpha > \beta$ . Define

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in I \\ \beta & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} .$$

Then the following two conditions are equivalent:

(i)  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal; and (ii)  $I$  is a ideal of  $G$ .

**Proof:** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii): Let  $x, y \in I$ . Now  $\mu(x) = \mu(y) = \alpha$ .

Now  $\mu(x - y) \geq \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}$  (since  $\mu$  is fuzzy ideal)

$$= \min\{\alpha, \alpha\} = \alpha \Rightarrow \mu(x - y) \geq \alpha \Rightarrow x - y \in I.$$

Let  $x \in I$ .

Since  $\mu$  is fuzzy normal, it follows that

$$\mu(y + x - y) = \mu(x) = \alpha, \text{ for all } y \in G.$$

Therefore  $y + x - y \in I$  for all  $y \in G$ .

Take  $x \in I, g \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ , we have that

$$\mu(n(g + x) - ng) \geq \mu(x) = \alpha \text{ and so } n(g + x) - ng \in I.$$

Hence  $I$  is an ideal of  $G$ .

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i): Let  $x, y \in G$ .

If  $x, y \in I$ , then  $x - y \in I$  and so

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(x - y) &= \alpha \geq \min\{\alpha, \alpha\} \\ &= \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $x \in I$  and  $y \notin I$ , then  $x - y \notin I$  and

$$\text{so } \mu(x - y) = \beta \geq \min\{\alpha, \beta\} = \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}.$$

$$\text{If } x \notin I, y \notin I, \text{ then } \mu(x - y) \geq \beta = \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\}.$$

Take  $x \in I$ .

Since  $I$  is an ideal of  $G$ , we have that  $y + x - y \in I$  and so  $\mu(y + x - y) = \alpha = \mu(x)$ .

If  $\mu(y + x - y) = \beta$ , then  $y + x - y \notin I$  and so  $x \notin I$ .

This shows that  $\mu(y + x - y) = \beta = \mu(x)$ .

Take  $x \in I$ ,  $g \in G$  and  $n \in N$ .

Since  $I$  is an ideal  $G$ , we have  $n(g + x) - ng \in I$ .

Therefore  $\mu(n(g + x) - ng) = \alpha = \mu(x)$ .

If  $x \notin I$ , then  $\mu(n(g + x) - ng) \geq \beta = \mu(x)$ .

Thus (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i).

The proof is complete.

**2.1.16 Corollary** (Saikia & Bhattachakur [19]): Let  $I \subseteq G$ . Define

$$\mu(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in I \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}. \text{ Then the following conditions are equivalent:}$$

(i)  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal; and

(ii)  $I$  is an ideal of  $G$ .

**2.1.17 Corollary:** Suppose  $I \subseteq G$ . Then the following three conditions are equivalent:

(i)  $I$  is an ideal of  $G$ ;

(ii) The generalized characteristic function  $\mu : M \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \beta & \text{if } x \in N \\ \alpha & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$  for

some  $\beta > \alpha$ , is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ ; and

(iii) The characteristic function  $\chi_I$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Follows from Theorem 2.1.15 and Corollary 2.1.16.

In the statement of 2.1.15, the condition  $\alpha > \beta$  is necessary. For this observe the following remarks.

**2.1.18 Remark:** If we replace the condition “ $\alpha > \beta$ ” of the statement of 2.1.15 by “ $\alpha = \beta$ ”, then the new statement is not true.

If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then  $\mu(x) = \alpha$  for all  $x \in G$  and so  $\mu$  is a constant fuzzy set. We know that every constant function  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal. Thus  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal.

Let  $G = Z_5$ , the additive group of integers modulo 5 and  $N = Z$ , the near-ring of integers.

Then  $G$  is an  $N$ -group.

Write  $I = \{1, 2, 3\} \subseteq G$ .

Define  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in I \\ \beta & \text{if } x \notin I \end{cases}$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal but  $I$  is not an ideal of  $G$ .

Thus if  $\alpha = \beta$  then the statement of 2.1.15 is not true.

**2.1.19 Remark:** If we replace the condition “ $\alpha > \beta$ ” of the statement of 2.1.15 by “ $\beta > \alpha$ ”, then the new statement is not true.

Suppose  $\beta > \alpha$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal of a given  $N$ -group  $G$  with  $I \neq G$ .

Define  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\mu(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } x \in I \\ \beta & \text{if } x \notin I \end{cases}$ .

If possible suppose  $\mu$  is an ideal.

Then by Proposition 2.1.9, it follows that  $\mu(0) \geq \mu(x) \forall x \in G$ .

Let  $y \in G \setminus I$ . Now  $\alpha = \mu(0)$  (since  $0 \in I$ )

$$\geq \mu(y) \text{ (by Proposition 2.1.9)}$$

$$= \beta \text{ (by definition of } \mu)$$

$\Rightarrow \alpha \geq \beta$ , a contradiction to the fact  $\beta > \alpha$ .

This shows that  $\mu$  is not a fuzzy ideal.

Now  $I$  is an ideal but  $\mu$  is not a fuzzy ideal.

So if  $\beta > \alpha$ , the statement of 2.1.15 is not true.

**2.1.20 Proposition:** Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  and  $\mu_t, \mu_s$  (with  $t < s$ ) be two level ideals of  $\mu$ . Then the following two conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mu_t = \mu_s$ ; and
- (ii) there is no  $x \in G$  such that  $t \leq \mu(x) < s$ .

**Proof: (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii):** In a contrary way, suppose that there exists an element  $x \in G$  such that  $t \leq \mu(x) < s$ .

Then  $x \in \mu_t$  and  $x \notin \mu_s$  and so  $\mu_t \neq \mu_s$ , a contradiction.

Hence we get (ii).

**(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i):** Since  $t < s$  we have  $\mu_t \geq \mu_s$ .

Let  $x \in \mu_t \Rightarrow \mu(x) \geq t$ .

By given condition (ii), there is no  $y$  such that  $s > \mu(y) \geq t$  and so  $\mu(x) \geq s$  which implies  $x \in \mu_s$ . Thus  $\mu_t \leq \mu_s$ .

**2.1.21 Theorem:** Suppose  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal. Then  $\mu(g - g^1) = \mu(0)$  implies  $\mu(g) = \mu(g^1)$  for all  $g, g^1 \in G$ . Converse is not true [For this, observe the

Example 2.1.12(ii). Here  $\mu(1) = \mu(3)$  but  $\mu(3 - 1) = \mu(2) = \frac{1}{2} \neq \mu(0)$ ].



**2.1.22 Definition:** Let  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a fuzzy ideal and  $x \in G$ . Then the fuzzy subset  $x + \mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by  $(x + \mu)(y) = \mu(y - x)$  is called a *fuzzy coset* of the fuzzy ideal  $\mu$ .

**2.1.23 Proposition:** Suppose  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0,1]$  is a fuzzy ideal and  $x, y \in G$ . Then  $x + \mu = y + \mu \Leftrightarrow \mu(x - y) = \mu(0)$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $x + \mu = y + \mu$ .

This implies  $(x + \mu)(a) = (y + \mu)(a)$  for all  $a \in M$

$$\Rightarrow (x + \mu)(x) = (y + \mu)(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(x - x) = \mu(x - y) \text{ (by the definition of fuzzy coset of fuzzy submodule } \mu)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(0) = \mu(x - y).$$

**Converse:** Suppose that  $\mu(x - y) = \mu(0)$ .

Now we prove that  $x + \mu = y + \mu$ .

Let  $z \in M$ .

$$\text{Now } (x + \mu)(z) = \mu(z - x)$$

$$= \mu(z - y + y - x)$$

$$\geq \min\{\mu(z - y), \mu(y - x)\}$$

$$= \min\{\mu(z - y), \mu(0)\} \text{ (Since } \mu(y - x) = \mu(0))$$

$$= \mu(z - y) \text{ (by Proposition 2.1.9)}$$

$$= (y + \mu)(z).$$

Therefore  $(x + \mu)(z) \geq (y + \mu)(z)$  for all  $z \in M$ .

Similarly, we can show that  $(y + \mu)(z) \geq (x + \mu)(z)$ .

Hence  $x + \mu = y + \mu$ .

The proof is complete.

**2.1.24 Note:** We write  $G/\mu = \{x + \mu / x \in G\}$ . Define  $(x + \mu) + (y + \mu) = (x + y) + \mu$

and  $n(x + \mu) = nx + \mu$  for  $x, y \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Saikia and Bhattachakur [19] proved that  $G/\mu$  is an  $\mathbb{N}$ -group with respect to the operations defined above.

## Section - 2.2: Fuzzy ideals of $G/\mu$

In this section, we introduce fuzzy ideal  $\theta_\mu$  of the quotient  $\mathbb{N}$ -group  $G/\mu$  with respect to a fuzzy ideal  $\mu$  of  $G$ . If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  and  $\theta$  a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$  such that  $\theta_\mu \subseteq \theta$  and  $\theta_\mu(0) = \theta(0)$ , then the corresponding  $\sigma_\theta: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is defined and proved that it is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \sigma_\theta$  and  $\mu(0) = \sigma_\theta(0)$ .

**2.2.1 Definitions:** (i) If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ , then we define a *fuzzy set*  $\theta_\mu$  on  $G/\mu$  corresponding to  $\mu$  by  $\theta_\mu(x + \mu) = \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ .

(ii) If  $\theta$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ , then we define a fuzzy set  $\sigma_\theta$  on  $G$  by  $\sigma_\theta(x) = \theta(x + \mu)$  for all  $x \in G$ .

**2.2.2 Theorem:** If  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ , then the fuzzy set  $\theta_\mu: G/\mu \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined above is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

Now we verify that  $\theta_\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ .

Let  $x + \mu, y + \mu \in G/\mu$ .

Now  $\theta_\mu((x + \mu) - (y + \mu)) = \theta_\mu((x - y) + \mu)$

$$= \mu(x - y) \text{ (by definition of } \theta_\mu)$$

$$\geq \min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} \text{ (since } \mu \text{ is a fuzzy ideal)}$$

$$= \min\{\theta_\mu(x + \mu), \theta_\mu(y + \mu)\}$$

Let  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x + \mu, g + \mu \in G/\mu$ .

Now,  $\theta_\mu(n((g + \mu) + (x + \mu)) - n(g + \mu)) = \theta_\mu((n(g + x) + \mu) - (ng + \mu))$

$$= \theta_\mu((n(g + x) - ng) + \mu)$$

$$= \mu(n(g + x) - ng) \text{ ( by the definition of } \theta_\mu)$$

$$\geq \mu(x) \quad \text{(since } \mu \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G)$$

$$= \theta_\mu(x + \mu).$$

Therefore  $\theta_\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ .

**2.2.3 Corollary:** If  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  are two fuzzy ideals of  $G$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \sigma$  and  $\sigma(0) = \mu(0)$ , then the mapping  $h_\sigma: G/\mu \rightarrow [0, 1]$  defined by  $h_\sigma(x + \mu) = \sigma(x)$  for all  $x + \mu \in G/\mu$ , is a fuzzy ideal. Also  $\theta_\mu \subseteq h_\sigma$  on  $G/\mu$  and  $\theta_\mu(0) = h_\sigma(0)$ .

**Proof:** First we verify that  $h_\sigma$  is well defined.

Let  $x + \mu, y + \mu \in G/\mu$  and  $x + \mu = y + \mu$ .

This implies  $\mu(0) = \mu(x - y)$  (by Proposition 2.1.23)

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(0) \geq \sigma(x - y)$$

$$\geq \mu(x - y) \quad (\text{since } \sigma \geq \mu)$$

$$= \mu(0)$$

$$= \sigma(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(0) = \sigma(x - y)$$

$$\Rightarrow x + \sigma = y + \sigma \quad (\text{by Proposition 2.1.23})$$

$$\Rightarrow (x + \sigma)(0) = (y + \sigma)(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(0 - x) = \sigma(0 - y) \quad (\text{by Definition 2.1.22})$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(-x) = \sigma(-y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(x) = \sigma(y) \quad (\text{since } \sigma \text{ is a fuzzy ideal})$$

$$\Rightarrow h_\sigma(x + \mu) = h_\sigma(y + \mu) \quad (\text{by the definition of } h_\sigma \text{ in Corollary 2.2.3})$$

Therefore  $h_\sigma$  is well defined.

Now we verify that  $h_\sigma$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ .

Let  $x + \mu, y + \mu \in G/\mu$ .

$$\text{Now } h_\sigma((x + \mu) - (y + \mu)) = h_\sigma((x - y) + \mu)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sigma(x - y) && \text{(by definition of } h_\sigma) \\
&\geq \min\{\sigma(x), \sigma(y)\} \\
&= \min\{h_\sigma(x + \mu), h_\sigma(y + \mu)\} && \text{(by the definition of } h_\sigma)
\end{aligned}$$

Let  $x + \mu, g + \mu \in G/\mu$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Now } h_\sigma(n((g + \mu) + (x + \mu)) - n(g + \mu)) \\
&= h_\sigma(n(g + x) + \mu) - (ng + \mu) \\
&= h_\sigma((n(g + x) - ng) + \mu) \\
&= \sigma(n(g + x) - ng) && \text{(by the definition of } h_\sigma) \\
&\geq \sigma(x) && \text{(since } \sigma \text{ is a fuzzy ideal)} \\
&= h_\sigma(x + \mu) && \text{(by the definition of } h_\sigma)
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $h_\sigma$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$ .

Let  $x \in G$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Now } h_\sigma(x + \mu) &= \sigma(x) && \text{(by the definition of } h_\sigma) \\
&\geq \mu(x) \\
&= \theta_\mu(x + \mu) && \text{(by the definition of } \theta_\mu)
\end{aligned}$$

This true for all  $x \in G$ . So  $\theta_\mu \subseteq h_\sigma$ .

Also  $\theta_\mu(0) = \mu(0) = \sigma(0) = h_\sigma(0)$ .

**2.2.4 Theorem:** Let  $\mu$  be a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  and  $\theta$  a fuzzy ideal of  $G/\mu$  such that  $\theta_\mu \subseteq \theta$  and  $\theta_\mu(0) = \theta(0)$ . Then  $\sigma_\theta: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  ( please refer Definition 2.2.1 (ii)),  $\sigma_\theta$  is defined by  $\sigma_\theta(x) = \theta(x + \mu)$ , is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  such that  $\mu \subseteq \sigma_\theta$  and  $\mu(0) = \sigma_\theta(0)$ .

**Proof: Part (i):** First we show that  $\sigma_\theta$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

Let  $x, y \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \sigma_\theta(x - y) &= \theta((x - y) + \mu) \text{ (by the definition of } \sigma_\theta) \\ &= \theta((x + \mu) - (y + \mu)) \text{ (by the definition of '+' on } G/\mu) \\ &\geq \min\{\theta(x + \mu), \theta(y + \mu)\} \text{ (since } \theta \text{ is a fuzzy ideal)} \\ &= \min\{\sigma_\theta(x), \sigma_\theta(y)\} \text{ (by the definition of } \sigma_\theta) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\sigma_\theta(x - y) \geq \min\{\sigma_\theta(x), \sigma_\theta(y)\}$ .

Let  $g \in G$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } \sigma_\theta(n(g + x) - ng) &= \theta(n(g + x) - ng) + \mu \quad \text{(by the definition of } \sigma_\theta) \\ &= \theta(n((g + \mu) + (x + \mu)) - n(g + \mu)) \\ &\geq \theta(x + \mu) \quad \text{(since } \theta \text{ is a fuzzy ideal)} \\ &= \sigma_\theta(x) \quad \text{(by the definition of } \sigma_\theta). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\sigma_\theta$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

**Part (ii):** For any  $x \in G$ , we have that  $\sigma_\theta(x) = \theta(x + \mu) \geq \theta_\mu(x + \mu)$  (since  $\theta \supseteq \theta_\mu$ )  
 $= \mu(x)$  (by the definition of  $\theta_\mu$ )

This shows that  $\mu \subseteq \sigma_\theta$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } \sigma_\theta(0) &= \theta(0 + \mu) \text{ (by the definition of } \sigma_\theta) \\ &= \theta(0) = \theta_\mu(0) = \theta_\mu(0 + \mu) = \mu(0). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\sigma_\theta(0) = \mu(0)$ .

### Section-2.3: Homomorphisms and Fuzzy ideals of N-groups

In this section, we proved some important results related to homomorphisms and fuzzy ideals of N-groups. We start this section with the following proposition.

**2.3.1 Proposition:** Suppose  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

(i) The mapping  $\Phi: G \rightarrow G/\mu$  defined by  $\Phi(x) = x + \mu$  is an onto homomorphism with  $\ker \Phi = G_\mu$ . Hence the N-group  $G/\mu$  is isomorphic to the N-group  $G/G_\mu$  under the mapping  $f: G/G_\mu \rightarrow G/\mu$  defined by  $f(x + G_\mu) = x + \mu$ , where

$$G_\mu = \{x \in G / \mu(x) = \mu(0)\}.$$

(ii) Suppose  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  are two fuzzy ideals of  $G$  such that  $G_\mu = G_\sigma$ . Then the mapping  $g: G/\mu \rightarrow G/\sigma$  defined by  $g(x + \mu) = x + \sigma$  is an isomorphism.

(iii) If  $G/\mu \cong G/\sigma$  under the isomorphism  $g(x + \mu) = x + \sigma$ , then  $G_\mu = G_\sigma$ .

**Proof:** (i) Define  $\Phi: G \rightarrow G/\mu$  by  $\Phi(x) = x + \mu$  for all  $x \in G$ .

Clearly  $\Phi$  is well defined.

Let  $x_1, x_2 \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Then  $\Phi(x_1 + x_2) = (x_1 + x_2) + \mu$  (by the definition of  $\Phi$ )

$$= (x_1 + \mu) + (x_2 + \mu) = \Phi(x_1) + \Phi(x_2).$$

$\Phi(nx_1) = nx_1 + \mu$  (by the definition of  $\Phi$ )

$$= n(x_1 + \mu)$$

$$= n\Phi(x_1) \quad (\text{by the definition of } \Phi)$$

Therefore  $\Phi$  is a N-group homomorphism.

To verify that  $\Phi$  is onto, let us consider an element  $x + \mu \in G/\mu$ .

Now  $x \in G$  and by the definition of  $\Phi$ , we have that  $\Phi(x) = x + \mu$ .

This shows that  $\Phi$  is onto.

Hence  $\Phi$  is a N-group epimorphism.

So by the Fundamental Theorem of homomorphisms,

$G/\ker \Phi \cong \Phi(G)$  and so  $G/\ker \Phi \cong G/\mu$ .

It remains to show that  $\ker \Phi = G_\mu$ .

Now  $x \in \ker \Phi \Leftrightarrow \Phi(x) = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow x + \mu = 0 + \mu \text{ (by the definition of } \Phi)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mu(x) = \mu(0) \text{ (by Proposition 2.1.23)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in G_\mu.$$

This shows that  $G/G_\mu \cong G/\mu$ .

(ii) Given that  $G_\mu = G_\sigma$

$$\Rightarrow G/G_\mu = G/G_\sigma$$

By above Part (i), we get that  $G/\mu \cong G/G_\mu = G/G_\sigma \cong G/\sigma$ .

So  $G/\mu \cong G/\sigma$  under the isomorphism  $g$ .

(iii) Suppose  $G/\mu \cong G/\sigma$  under the isomorphism  $g$  defined by  $g(x + \mu) = x + \sigma$ .

Now we have to show that  $G_\mu = G_\sigma$ .

Let  $x \in G_\mu$ .

Then  $\mu(x) = \mu(0)$



$$\Rightarrow \mu(x - 0) = \mu(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow x + \mu = 0 + \mu \quad (\text{by Proposition 2.1.23})$$

$$\Rightarrow g(x + \mu) = g(0 + \mu)$$

$$\Rightarrow x + \sigma = 0 + \sigma \quad (\text{by the definition of } g)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(x) = \sigma(0) \quad (\text{by proposition 2.1.23})$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in G_\sigma \quad (\text{by the definition of } G_\sigma)$$

Therefore  $G_\mu \subseteq G_\sigma$ .

Similarly it can be verified easily that  $G_\sigma \subseteq G_\mu$ .

Thus we can conclude that  $G_\mu = G_\sigma$ .

### 2.3.2 Example: Write $G = Z$ and $G^1 = Z_6$ .

Then  $G$  and  $G^1$  are N-groups over  $Z$ , the near-ring of integers. Let  $f: Z \rightarrow Z_6$  be the canonical epimorphism.

Define  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\mu(x) = \chi_{2Z}(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ .

Note that  $\chi_{2Z}$  is the characteristic function of  $2Z$ .

By Corollary 2.1.17, we have that,  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

Now we verify that  $f(\mu)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } f(\mu)(0) &= \sup \{ \mu(x) / x \in f^{-1}(0) \} \\ &= \sup \{ \mu(x) / x \in 6Z \} \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } f(\mu)(0) = 1.$$

Similarly, we have  $f(\mu)(2) = 1$ ,  $f(\mu)(4) = 1$ ,  $f(\mu)(1) = 0$ ,  $f(\mu)(3) = 0$ ,  $f(\mu)(5) = 0$ .

The level sets of  $f(\mu)$  are given by  $(f(\mu))_0 = G$  and  $(f(\mu))_1 = \{0, 2, 4\}$ , each of which is an ideal of  $G = \mathbb{Z}_6$ .

Therefore by Remark 2.1.10,  $f(\mu)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_6$ .

**2.3.3 Proposition:** Suppose that  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is a  $N$ -group epimorphism; and  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ . Then  $f(\mu)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is an epimorphism.

Now we verify that  $f(\mu)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ .

Let  $u, v \in G^1$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Since  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is onto, there exist  $x, y \in G$  such that  $f(x) = u, f(y) = v$ .

Now  $f(x - y) = f(x) - f(y) = u - v$

$\Rightarrow x - y \in f^{-1}(u - v)$  and so  $f^{-1}(u - v) \neq \emptyset$ .

Now  $f(\mu)(u - v) = \sup\{\mu(z) / z \in f^{-1}(u - v)\}$

$$\geq \sup\{\mu(x - y) / x \in f^{-1}(u), y \in f^{-1}(v)\}$$

$$\geq \sup\{\min\{\mu(x), \mu(y)\} / x \in f^{-1}(u), y \in f^{-1}(v)\}$$

$$= \min\{\sup\{\mu(x) / x \in f^{-1}(u)\}, \sup\{\mu(y) / y \in f^{-1}(v)\}\}$$

$$= \min\{f(\mu)(u), f(\mu)(v)\}$$

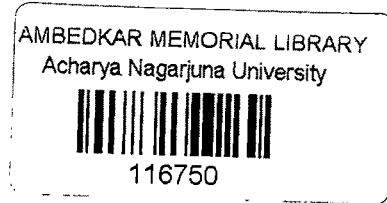
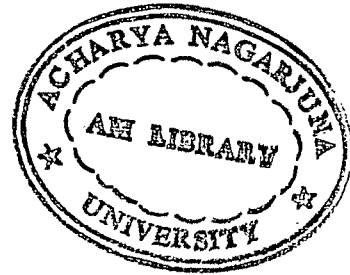
Therefore  $f(\mu)(u - v) \geq \min\{f(\mu)(u), f(\mu)(v)\}$ .

Let  $g^1, x^1 \in G^1$ .

Since  $f$  is onto,  $f(g) = g^1$  and  $f(x) = x^1$  for some  $g, x \in G$ .

Now  $(f(\mu))(n(g^1 + x^1) - ng^1)$

$$= \sup\{\mu(z) / z \in f^{-1}(n(g^1 + x^1) - ng^1)\}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&\geq \sup\{\mu(n(g+x) - ng) / nx \in f^{-1}(n(g^1+x^1) - ng^1)\} \text{ where } f(g) = g^1 \text{ and } f(x) = x^1\} \\
&\geq \sup\{\mu(x) / x \in f^{-1}(n(g^1+x^1) - ng^1)\} \text{ (since } \mu \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G) \\
&= f(\mu)(x^1).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $f(\mu)(n(g^1+x^1) - ng^1) \geq f(\mu)(x^1)$ .

This is true for all  $x^1, g^1 \in G$ .

Hence  $f(\mu)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ .

**2.3.4 Example:** Write  $G = \mathbb{Z}$  and  $G^1 = \mathbb{Z}_6$ . Then  $G$  and  $G^1$  are N-groups over  $\mathbb{Z}$ , the near-ring of integers. Let  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  be the canonical homomorphism.

Define  $\mu^1: G^1 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  by  $\mu^1(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in \{0, 2, 4\} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Note that  $\mu^1$  is the characteristic function of the ideal  $\{0, 2, 4\}$ .

So by Corollary 2.1.17, it follows that  $\mu^1$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ .

We know that  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) = \mu^1(f(x))$  for all  $x \in G$ .

If  $x$  is even, then  $f(x) \in \{0, 2, 4\}$ .

So  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) = \mu^1(f(x)) = 1$ .

If  $x$  is odd, then  $f(x) \in \{1, 3, 5\}$

So  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) = \mu^1(f(x)) = 0$ .

Therefore the level sets of  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  are  $(f^{-1}(\mu^1))_0 = G$  and  $(f^{-1}(\mu^1))_1 = 2\mathbb{Z}$ , each of which is an ideal of  $G = \mathbb{Z}$ .

Therefore by Theorem 2.1.10, we have that  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

**2.3.5 Proposition:** Suppose that  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is a N-group homomorphism; and  $\mu^1: G^1 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G^1$ . Then  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ , which is constant on  $\ker f$ .

**Proof: Part (i):** First we show that  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

Let  $x, y \in G$  and  $n \in N$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x - y) &= \mu^1(f(x - y)) && \text{(by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1)\text{).} \\ &= \mu^1(f(x) - f(y)) && \text{(since } f \text{ is a N-group homomorphism)} \\ &\geq \min\{\mu^1(f(x)), \mu^1(f(y))\} && \text{(since } \mu^1 \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G^1\text{)} \\ &= \min\{f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x), f^{-1}(\mu^1)(y)\} && \text{(by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1)\text{)} \end{aligned}$$

and  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)(n(g + x) - ng)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mu^1(f(n(g + x) - ng)) && \text{(by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1)\text{)} \\ &= \mu^1(n(f(g) + f(x)) - nf(g)) && \text{(since } f \text{ is a N-group homomorphism)} \\ &\geq \mu^1(f(x)) && \text{(since } \mu^1 \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G^1\text{)} \\ &= f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) && \text{(by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1)\text{)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$ .

**Part (ii):** For any  $x \in \ker f$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) &= \mu^1(f(x)) && \text{(by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1)\text{)} \\ &= \mu^1(0^1) && \text{(since } x \in \ker f\text{).} \end{aligned}$$

This is true for all  $x \in \ker f$ .

This shows that  $f^{-1}(\mu^1)$  is constant on  $\ker f$ .

The proof is complete.

**2.3.6 Proposition:** Suppose that  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is a N-group homomorphism; and  $\mu: G \rightarrow [0, 1]$  and  $\mu^1: G^1 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  are fuzzy ideals of  $G$  and  $G^1$  respectively. Then the following statements (i) - (v) are true.

- (i)  $f(\mu)(0^1) = \mu(0)$ ;
- (ii) If  $\mu$  is constant on  $\ker f$ , then  $(f(\mu))(f(x)) = \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ ;
- (iii)  $f^{-1}(M^1_{\mu^1}) = M_{f^{-1}(\mu^1)}$ ;
- (iv) If  $f$  is an epimorphism, then  $f f^{-1}(\mu^1) = \mu^1$ ; and
- (v) If  $\mu$  is constant on  $\ker f$ , then  $f^{-1}f(\mu) = \mu$ .

**Proof:** (i) Now  $f(\mu)(0^1) = \sup\{\mu(x) / x \in f^{-1}(0^1)\}$   
 $= \mu(0)$  (since  $0 \in f^{-1}(0^1)$  and  $\mu(0) \geq \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ )

Therefore  $f(\mu)(0^1) = \mu(0)$ .

(ii) Suppose  $\mu$  is constant on  $\ker f$ .

Now we verify that  $(f(\mu))(f(x)) = \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ .

Let  $x \in G$ . Write  $f(x) = x^1$ .

For any  $z \in f^{-1}(x^1)$ , we have  $f(z) = x^1 = f(x)$

$$\Rightarrow f(z - x) = 0^1 \quad (\text{since } f \text{ is a homomorphism})$$

$$\Rightarrow z - x \in \ker f \quad (\text{by the definition of } \ker f)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(z - x) = \mu(0) \quad (\text{since } \mu \text{ is constant on } \ker f)$$

$$\Rightarrow z + \mu = x + \mu \quad (\text{by Proposition 2.1.23})$$

$$\Rightarrow (z + \mu)(0) = (x + \mu)(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(0 - z) = \mu(0 - x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(-z) = \mu(-x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(z) = \mu(x).$$

Now  $(f(\mu))(f(x)) = f(\mu)(x^1)$

$$= \sup \{ \mu(z) / z \in f^{-1}(x^1) \}$$

$$= \sup \{ \mu(x) \} = \mu(x).$$

This shows that  $(f(\mu))(f(x)) = \mu(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ .

(iii) Now we show that  $f^{-1}(M_{\mu^1}^1) = M_{f^{-1}(\mu^1)}$

Now  $x \in f^{-1}(M_{\mu^1}^1)$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(x) \in M_{\mu^1}^1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mu^1(f(x)) = \mu^1(0^1) \quad (\text{by the definition of } M_{\mu^1}^1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mu^1(f(x)) = \mu^1(f(0)) \quad (\text{since } f(0) = 0^1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (f^{-1}\mu^1)(x) = (f^{-1}\mu^1)(0) \quad (\text{by the definition of } f^{-1}(\mu^1))$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x \in M_{f^{-1}(\mu^1)}$$

(iv) Suppose  $f$  is an epimorphism

Now we verify that  $f(f^{-1}(\mu^1)) = \mu^1$

Let  $x^1 \in G^1$ .

Then  $x^1 = f(x)$  for some  $x \in G$ .

Now  $(f(f^{-1}(\mu^1)))(x^1)$

$$= (f(f^{-1}(\mu^1)))(f(x))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (f(\beta))(f(x)) \text{ where } \beta = f^{-1}(\mu^1) \text{ which is constant on } \ker f \text{ (by Proposition 2.3.5)} \\
&= \beta(x) \quad (\text{by (ii)}) \\
&= f^{-1}(\mu^1)(x) \quad (\text{since } \beta = f^{-1}(\mu^1)) \\
&= \mu^1(f(x)) = \mu^1(x^1) \text{ (since } f(x) = x^1)
\end{aligned}$$

This is true for all  $x^1 \in G^1$ .

Hence  $f(f^{-1}(\mu^1)) = \mu^1$ .

(v) Suppose  $\mu$  is constant on  $\ker f$ .

Now we verify that  $f^{-1}(f(\mu)) = \mu$ .

Let  $x \in G$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Now } (f^{-1}(f(\mu)))(x) &= (f^{-1}(\beta))(x) \text{ where } \beta = f(\mu) \\
&= \beta(f(x)) \\
&= (f(\mu))(f(x)) = \mu(x) \text{ (by (ii))}
\end{aligned}$$

This is true for all  $x \in G$ .

Hence  $(f^{-1}f)(\mu) = \mu$

**2.3.7 Proposition:** If  $f: G \rightarrow G^1$  is an epimorphism of N-groups, then there is an order preserving bijection between the fuzzy ideals of  $G^1$  and the fuzzy ideals of  $G$  that are constant on  $\ker f$ .

**Proof: Part (i):** Let  $F(G) = \{\mu / \mu \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G \text{ such that } \mu \text{ is constant on } \ker f\}$ , and  $F(G^1) = \{\mu^1 / \mu^1 \text{ is a fuzzy ideal of } G^1\}$ .

Define  $\phi: F(G) \rightarrow F(G^1)$  by  $\phi(\mu) = f(\mu)$  for all  $\mu \in F(G)$ .

Since  $f$  is well defined, it follows that  $\phi$  is well defined.

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in F(G)$  and  $\phi(\mu_1) = \phi(\mu_2)$

$\Rightarrow f(\mu_1) = f(\mu_2)$  (by the definition of  $\phi$ )

$\Rightarrow f^{-1}(f(\mu_1)) = f^{-1}(f(\mu_2))$

$\Rightarrow \mu_1 = \mu_2$  (by Proposition 2.3.6 (v)).

Therefore  $\phi$  is one-one.

To verify that  $\phi$  is onto, take  $\mu^1 \in F(G^1)$ .

Write  $\mu = f^{-1}(\mu^1)$

By Proposition 2.3.5,  $\mu$  is a fuzzy ideal of  $G$  which is constant on  $\ker f$ .

So  $\mu \in F(G)$ .

Now  $\phi(\mu) = f(\mu) = f(f^{-1}(\mu^1)) = \mu^1$  (by Proposition 2.3.6(v)).

This shows that  $\phi$  is onto.

Hence  $\phi$  is a bijection from  $F(G)$  to  $F(G^1)$ .

**Part (ii):** Now we verify that  $\phi$  is order preserving.

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2 \in F(G)$  satisfying the property  $\mu_1 \leq \mu_2$ .

Let  $x^1 \in G^1$ .

Since  $f$  is onto, there exists  $x \in G$  such that  $f(x) = x^1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } f(\mu_1)(x^1) &= \sup\{\mu_1(t) / t \in f^{-1}(x^1)\} \\ &\leq \sup\{\mu_2(t) / t \in f^{-1}(x^1)\} \quad (\text{since } \mu_1 \leq \mu_2) \\ &= f(\mu_2)(x^1). \end{aligned}$$

So  $(f(\mu_1))(x^1) \leq (f(\mu_2))(x^1)$ . This is true for all  $x^1 \in G^1$ .



This shows that  $f(\mu_1) \leq f(\mu_2)$ .

Now  $\mu_1 \leq \mu_2 \Rightarrow \phi(\mu_1) = f(\mu_1) \leq f(\mu_2) = \phi(\mu_2)$ .

Thus we can get that there exists an order preserving bijection between the fuzzy ideals of  $G^1$  and the fuzzy ideals of  $G$  that are constant on  $\ker f$ .