

THE STRUCTURE OF DEITMAR SCHEMES, II. ZETA FUNCTIONS AND AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. We provide a coherent overview of a number of recent results obtained by the authors in the theory of schemes defined over the field with one element. Essentially, this theory encompasses the study of a functor which maps certain geometries including graphs to Deitmar constructible sets with additional structure, as such introducing a new zeta function for graphs. The functor is then used to determine automorphism groups of the Deitmar constructible sets and base extensions to fields.

RÉSUMÉ. Nous donnons un vue d'ensemble d'un nombre de résultats récents qui ont été obtenu par les auteurs dans le domaine de la théorie des schémas sur le corps à un élément. Principalement, cette théorie concerne l'étude d'un foncteur qui envoie certaines géométries (y compris les graphes) sur une partie constructible de Deitmar avec une structure additionnelle. De cette manière on introduit aussi une nouvelle fonction zeta pour les graphes. Le foncteur est après utilisé pour déterminer les groupes d'automorphismes des parties constructibles de Deitmar et de ceux obtenus après une extension de base dans autres corps.

1. INTRODUCTION

In “The structure of Deitmar schemes, I” [7] by the second author (Proc. Japan Acad. Ser. A Math. Sci. **90**, 2014), the author has studied a certain class of Deitmar schemes — which are schemes defined over the field with one element \mathbb{F}_1 (cf. §2) — which are naturally associated to what the author called *loose graphs*. Loose graphs relax the definition of graph in that edges with 0 or 1 vertices are allowed. A simple edge without vertices is a loose graph, for example. One of the main motivations of [7] was the fact that affine and projective space Deitmar schemes naturally correspond to loose stars and complete graphs respectively, and hence a natural generalization might lead to a combinatorial, graph theoretical way to study Deitmar schemes and their base extensions to fields. A property that was lacking in [7] was that if x is a vertex of degree m in a loose graph Γ , then at x , $\mathcal{S}(\Gamma)$ locally looks like an affine space of dimension m ; here, \mathcal{S} denotes the aforementioned association. This makes the association less natural to study (the notion of local dimension is not suited).

Recently, the authors of the present paper have taken a different turn, and re-defined the map \mathcal{S} (and called it \mathcal{F}) in order to meet the local dimension property. More details can be found in §4. The \mathbb{Z} -schemes and \mathbb{Z} -constructible sets arising

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from loose graphs through application of the map $\mathcal{F}(\cdot) \otimes_{\mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_1)} \mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})$ are of “ \mathbb{F}_1 -type” following Kurokawa [3], and thus are provided with a Kurokawa zeta function, as in [3]. As such, we can define a new zeta function for (loose) graphs. In [4], this association is studied in much detail, and we summarize the results in a first part of this paper. Emphasis is put on the mere *calculation* of the zeta function through a process called “surgery,” which is a stepwise procedure such that in each step an edge with 2 vertices from a prescribed set of edges, is replaced by two edges with only one vertex. The local dimension rises, but in each step the number of cycles in the corresponding loose graph decreases, and at the end of the process one winds up with a tree. Using precise results for trees, one can then recover the original zeta function.

Although the map \mathcal{F} is mentioned as a functor in [4], it is not proven in that paper that it is one. This is done in much details in a second work [6]. Using functoriality, in *loc. cit.* we start a study of automorphism groups of the Deitmar constructible sets coming from \mathcal{F} (a more general definition for Deitmar constructible set has to be taken into account, as we will explain below). Note that there are several candidates for automorphism groups: one could study combinatorial groups (acting on the underlying incidence geometry), topological ones (acting on the Zariski topological space) and projective groups (coming from automorphisms of the ambient projective space). Again, we find precise results for trees which suggest a general approach.

In this paper, which should be seen as the natural successor of [7], we want to present the main results of the theory mentioned above. Proofs will be published elsewhere.

2. DEITMAR (CONGRUENCE) SCHEMES

We consider an “ \mathbb{F}_1 -ring” A to be a multiplicative commutative monoid with an extra absorbing element 0. Let $\mathrm{Spec}(A)$ be the set of all *prime ideals* of A together with the Zariski topology. We refer to [1] for the definition of prime ideals of a monoid. This topological space endowed with a structure sheaf of \mathbb{F}_1 -rings is called an *affine Deitmar scheme*. We define a *monoidal space* to be a pair (X, \mathcal{O}_X) where X is a topological space and \mathcal{O}_X is a sheaf of \mathbb{F}_1 -rings defined over X . A *Deitmar scheme* is then a monoidal space such that for every point $x \in X$ there exists an open subset $U \subseteq X$ such that $(U, \mathcal{O}_X|_U)$ is isomorphic to an affine Deitmar scheme.

For a more detailed definition of Deitmar schemes and the structure sheaf of \mathbb{F}_1 -rings, we refer to [1].

2.1. Constructible sets. Constructible sets are sets inside schemes that have a particular interest of study.

Definition 2.1. Let X be a scheme. A set E is a *locally closed* set of X if it is the intersection of an open set and a closed set of the underlying topological space of X . We say that a set E is a *constructible set* of X if it is a finite union of locally closed sets. We define *Deitmar constructible sets* to be constructible sets inside Deitmar schemes.

Constructible sets are closed under finite unions, finite intersections and complements.

2.2. Affine space. In this paper, $\mathbb{F}_1[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ denotes the *monoidal ring* in n variables X_1, \dots, X_n ; it is the free abelian monoid generated by X_1, \dots, X_n , containing a multiplicative identity 1 and an absorbing element $0 \neq 1$.

Write $A := \mathbb{F}_1[X_1, \dots, X_n]$; then the n -dimensional *affine space* over \mathbb{F}_1 is defined as the monoidal space $\mathbf{Spec}(A)$ and denoted by $\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{F}_1}^n$. All its prime ideals are finite unions of ideals of the form (X_i) , where $(X_i) = \{X_i a \mid a \in A\}$.

2.3. Congruence schemes. A more general version of Deitmar scheme is a so-called *congruence scheme* (one can find a more detailed definition in [2]), which is defined in terms of *sesquiads*. A sesquiad is a monoid A endowed with an *addition* or $+$ -*structure*; this $+$ -structure allows addition for a *certain* set of elements in the monoid A . The category of monoids is a full subcategory of the category of sesquiads.

A sesquiad is said to be *integral* if $1 \neq 0$, and if from $af = bf$ follows that $(a = b \text{ or } f = 0)$.

A *congruence* on a sesquiad A is an equivalence relation $\mathcal{C} \subseteq A \times A$ such that there is a sesquiad structure on A/\mathcal{C} that makes the projection $A \rightarrow A/\mathcal{C}$ a morphism of sesquiads. If A/\mathcal{C} is integral, the congruence \mathcal{C} is called *prime*. We denote by $\mathbf{Spec}_c(A)$ the set of all prime congruences on the sesquiad A with the topology generated by all sets of the form

$$D(a, b) = \{\mathcal{C} \in \mathbf{Spec}_c(A) \mid (a, b) \notin \mathcal{C}\}, \quad a, b \in A.$$

In a similar way as for monoids, one can now define a *structure sheaf of sesquiads* and a *sesquiated space*. An *affine congruence scheme* is a sesquiated space that is of the form $(\mathbf{Spec}_c(A), \mathcal{O}_A)$, for A a sesquiad and \mathcal{O}_A its corresponding structure sheaf, and a *congruence scheme* is a sesquiated space X that locally looks like an affine one.

2.4. The \mathbf{Proj}_c -construction. Consider the monoid $\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, X_1, \dots, X_m]$, where $m \in \mathbb{N}$, as a sesquiad together with the *trivial addition*. Since any polynomial is trivially homogeneous in this sesquiad, we have a natural grading

$$\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m] = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} R_i = \coprod_{i \geq 0} R_i,$$

where R_i consists of the elements of $\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m]$ of total degree i , for $i \in \mathbb{N}$. The *irrelevant congruence* is given by

$$\mathrm{Irr}_c := \langle X_0 \sim 0, \dots, X_m \sim 0 \rangle.$$

Now we can proceed with the usual \mathbf{Proj} -construction of projective schemes. We define

$\mathbf{Proj}_c(\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m])$ as the set of prime congruences of the sesquiad $\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m]$ which do not contain Irr_c . The closed sets of the topology are generated by

$$V(a, b) := \{\mathcal{C} \mid \mathcal{C} \in \mathbf{Proj}_c(\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m]), \ a \sim_{\mathcal{C}} b\},$$

for any (a, b) pair of elements of $\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m]$. Defining the structure sheaf similarly as in [2], one obtains that $\mathbf{Proj}_c(\mathbb{F}_1[X_0, \dots, X_m])$ is a *projective* congruence scheme. Its closed points naturally correspond to the \mathbb{F}_2 -rational points of the projective space $\mathbb{P}^m(\mathbb{F}_2)$, i.e., elements of

$$(1) \quad \mathrm{hom}(\mathbf{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_2), \mathbb{P}^m(\mathbb{F}_2)).$$

The space $\mathbb{P}^m(\mathbb{F}_2)$ has a finer subspace structure though, and also a different algebraic structure.

3. LOOSE GRAPHS

A *loose graph* is a point-line geometry in which each line has at most two different points. Through the analogy with graphs, we call points “vertices” and lines “edges.” Usually we will consider connected loose graphs, we do not allow loops, and the geometry is undirected. (In some occasions, we invoke the existence of one “empty edge,” but this is not important for the present note.)

Note that any graph is a loose graph.

3.1. Embedding theorem. Let Γ be a loose graph. The embedding theorem of [7] observes that Γ can be seen as a subgeometry of the combinatorial projective \mathbb{F}_1 -space $\mathbf{P}(\Gamma)$, called the *ambient space*, by simply adding the vertices on each edge which does not contain two vertices, so as to obtain its graph completion, and then constructing the complete graph on the total set of vertices. We will use the same notation $\mathbf{P}(\Gamma)$ for the associated projective space scheme.

4. FUNCTORIALITY PROPERTY

In this section we will briefly describe how one can associate a Deitmar constructible set to a *loose graph* Γ through a functor, which we call \mathcal{F} . This functor must obey a set of rules, namely:

- COV If $\Gamma \subset \tilde{\Gamma}$ is a strict inclusion of loose graphs, $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ also is a proper constructible subset of $\mathcal{F}(\tilde{\Gamma})$.
- LOC-DIM If x is a vertex of degree $m \in \mathbb{N}^\times$ in Γ , then there is an affine space of dimension m contained in $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ which contains x . Moreover, this affine space is generated by the edges on x .
- CO If K_m is a sub complete graph on m vertices in Γ , then $\mathcal{F}(K_m)$ is a closed projective subspace of dimension $m - 1$ in $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$.
- MG An edge without vertices should correspond to a multiplicative group.

Rule (MG) implies that we have to work with a more general version of Deitmar constructible sets since the multiplicative group \mathbb{G}_m over \mathbb{F}_1 is defined to be isomorphic to

$$\mathrm{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_1[X, Y]/(XY = 1)),$$

where the last equation generates a congruence on the free abelian monoid $\mathbb{F}_1[X, Y]$. (The equation $XY = 1$ is not defined in Deitmar scheme theory.) The reader can find a more detailed explanation of this association in [4].

Theorem 4.1. *The map \mathcal{F} is indeed a functor from the category of loose graphs to the category of Deitmar congruence constructible sets. Moreover, for any finite field k (or \mathbb{Z}), the lifting map $\mathcal{F}_k(\cdot) = \mathcal{F}(\cdot) \otimes k$ is also a functor.*

The proof of this result can be found in [6, section 5].

Let Γ be a loose graph and $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ be the Deitmar constructible set associated to it. By definition of the functor \mathcal{F} , every vertex v of Γ defines an affine space over \mathbb{F}_1 defined from the “loose star” corresponding to v . Let us call v_1, \dots, v_k the vertices of Γ and $\mathrm{Spec}(E_i)$ the affine schemes associated to v_i , $1 \leq i \leq k$.

Lemma 4.2. *For all $1 \leq r, s, \leq k$, $\text{Spec}(E_r) \cap \text{Spec}(E_s) \neq \emptyset$ if and only if v_r and v_s are adjacent vertices in Γ .*

Corollary 4.3. *Let Γ be a loose graph and $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ its constructible set. Then, $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ is connected if and only if Γ is connected.*

The proofs of the last two results can be found in [4, section 8].

5. GROTHENDIECK RING OF SCHEMES OF FINITE TYPE OVER \mathbb{F}_1

The **Spec**-construction on sesquiads (or particularly on monoids with trivial addition) allows us to have a scheme theory over \mathbb{F}_1 defined in an analogous way to the classical scheme theory over \mathbb{Z} . This also allows us to define the *Grothendieck ring of schemes over \mathbb{F}_1* .

Definition 5.1. The *Grothendieck ring of schemes of finite type over \mathbb{F}_1* , denoted as $K_0(\text{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$, is generated by the isomorphism classes of schemes X of finite type over \mathbb{F}_1 , $[X]_{\mathbb{F}_1}$, with the relation

$$(2) \quad [X]_{\mathbb{F}_1} = [X \setminus Y]_{\mathbb{F}_1} + [Y]_{\mathbb{F}_1}$$

for any closed subscheme Y of X and with the product structure given by

$$(3) \quad [X]_{\mathbb{F}_1} \cdot [Y]_{\mathbb{F}_1} = [X \times_{\mathbb{F}_1} Y]_{\mathbb{F}_1}.$$

We will later on use the notation $K_0(\text{Sch}_k)$ for the Grothendieck ring of schemes of finite type over the field k , and we will also use the obvious notation $[\cdot]_k$. We denote by $\underline{\mathbb{L}} = [\mathbb{A}_{\mathbb{F}_1}^1]_{\mathbb{F}_1}$ the class of the affine line over \mathbb{F}_1 ; in $K_0(\text{Sch}_k)$, the class of the affine line is denoted by \mathbb{L} . Notice that the multiplicative group \mathbb{G}_m satisfies $[\mathbb{G}_m]_{\mathbb{F}_1} = \underline{\mathbb{L}} - 1$, since it can be identified with the affine line minus one point.

Definition 5.2. Elements of $\mathbb{Z}[\underline{\mathbb{L}}]$, respectively $\mathbb{Z}[\mathbb{L}]$, are called “virtual mixed Tate motives.”

By the defining relations in the Grothendieck ring, one can show that constructible sets have well-defined classes in $K_0(\text{Sch}_k)$.

6. COUNTING POLYNOMIAL

Let Γ be a loose tree and $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ its corresponding Deitmar (congruence) constructible set. The next result, whose proof can be found in [4, section 10], gives us information about the class of $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ in the Grothendieck ring of Deitmar schemes of finite type, $K_0(\text{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$. We will use the notation $[\Gamma]_{\mathbb{F}_1}$ for the class of $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ in $K_0(\text{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$ (also when Γ is a general loose graph). We adopt the same notation over fields k .

Theorem 6.1. *Let Γ be a loose tree. Let D be the set of degrees $\{d_1, \dots, d_k\}$ of $V(\Gamma)$ such that $1 < d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_k$ and let n_i be the number of vertices of Γ with degree d_i , $1 \leq i \leq k$. We call E the number of vertices of Γ with degree 1 and $I = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i - 1$. Then the following equality holds:*

$$(4) \quad [\Gamma]_{\mathbb{F}_1} = \sum_{i=1}^k n_i \underline{\mathbb{L}}^{d_i} - I \cdot \underline{\mathbb{L}} + I + E.$$

7. SURGERY

In order to inductively calculate the Grothendieck polynomial of a \mathbb{Z} -constructible set coming from a general loose graph, we introduce a procedure called *surgery*. In each step of the procedure we will “resolve” an edge, so as to eventually end up with a tree in much higher dimension. One will have to keep track of how the Grothendieck polynomial scheme changes in each step.

7.1. Resolution of edges. Let $\Omega = (V, E)$ be a loose graph, and let $e \in E$ have two distinct vertices v_1, v_2 . The *resolution* of Ω *along* e , denoted Ω_e , is the loose graph which is obtained from Ω by deleting e , and adding two new loose edges (each with one vertex) e_1 and e_2 , where $v_i \in e_i$, $i = 1, 2$.

One observes that

$$(5) \quad \dim(\mathbf{P}(\Omega_e)) = \dim(\mathbf{P}(\Omega)) + 2.$$

The following theorem reduces the computation of the alteration of the number of k -rational points after resolving an edge, to a local problem. The reader can find the proofs of all the results in this section in [4, section 12].

Theorem 7.1 (Affection Principle). *Let Γ be a finite connected loose graph, let xy be an edge on the vertices x and y , and let S be a subset of the vertex set. Let k be any finite field, and consider the k -constructible set $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$. Then $\cap_{s \in S} \mathbb{A}_s$, where \mathbb{A}_s is the local affine space corresponding to the vertex $s \in S$, changes when one resolves the edge xy only if $\cap_{s \in S} \mathbb{A}_s$ is contained in $\mathbf{P}_{x,y}$, the projective subspace of $\mathbf{P}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$ generated by $\overline{\mathbf{B}}(x, 1) \cup \overline{\mathbf{B}}(y, 1)$, where $\overline{\mathbf{B}}(x, 1) = \{v \in V(\Gamma) \mid d(v, x) \leq 1\}$.*

In terms of counting polynomials, we have the following theorem, in which $\left| \cdot \right|_k$ denotes the number of k -rational points.

Corollary 7.2 (Polynomial Affection Principle). *Let Γ be a finite connected loose graph, let Γ_{xy} be the loose graph after resolving the edge xy and let k be any finite field. Then in $K_0(\text{Sch}_k)$ we have*

$$(6) \quad \left| \Gamma \right|_k - \left| \Gamma_{xy} \right|_k = \left| \Gamma|_{\mathbf{P}_{x,y}} \right|_k - \left| \Gamma_{xy}|_{\mathbf{P}_{x,y}} \right|_k.$$

7.2. Counting polynomial for general loose graphs. To compute the counting polynomial of a constructible set coming from a loose graph Γ , we proceed as follows: we choose a spanning loose tree T of Γ and resolve in Γ all edges not belonging to T . This yields a loose tree \overline{T} in which we apply the map defined in Theorem 6.1 to obtain a counting polynomial for \overline{T} . Take an edge e now that was resolved and consider the loose graph \overline{T}_e in which all other edges except e are resolved, i.e., \overline{T}_e is the next-to-last step in the procedure of obtaining \overline{T} . Thanks to Corollary 7.2, we can compute the counting polynomial for \overline{T}_e by restricting it to the changes that occur in \mathbf{P}_e (for the concrete formulas of the Affection Principle we refer to [4, section 11]). By repeating this process as many times as edges were resolved, we can inductively obtain the Grothendieck polynomial of the constructible set associated to Γ . The validity of this process relies on the next theorem.

Proposition 7.3. *Let Γ be a loose graph and let T and \overline{T} be defined as above. Then the Grothendieck polynomial in $K_0(\text{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$ of $\mathcal{F}(\overline{T})$ is independent of the choice of the spanning loose tree T of Γ and the chosen order of edge resolution.*

7.3. Lifting $K_0(\mathbf{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$. In [1], Deitmar explained how one can extend a scheme over \mathbb{F}_1 to a scheme over \mathbb{Z} by lifting affine schemes $\mathbf{Spec}(A)$ to $\mathbf{Spec}(A) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} \mathbb{Z} := \mathbf{Spec}(\mathbb{Z}[A])$, the gluing being defined by the scheme on the \mathbb{F}_1 -level. The same base extension is also defined for any finite field k . Thanks to the naturality of the base change functor, this lifting is also compatible on the level of the Grothendieck ring of schemes of finite type.

We define Ω as a linear map from $K_0(\mathbf{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$ to $K_0(\mathbf{Sch}_k)$, the Grothendieck ring of schemes of finite type over any field k , sending the class $\underline{\mathbb{L}}$ to \mathbb{L} , the class of the affine line over k .

Notice that the function Ω is then well defined on the subring $\mathbb{Z}[\underline{\mathbb{L}}]$ of $K_0(\mathbf{Sch}_{\mathbb{F}_1})$.

We denote, from now on, by $[\Gamma]_k$ the class of its lifting $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$ in the Grothendieck ring of schemes of finite type over k .

Theorem 7.4. *Let Γ be a loose graph. Then $\Omega([\Gamma]_{\mathbb{F}_1}) = [\Gamma]_k$.*

7.4. Mixed Tate motives. In the recent note [5], the following result is obtained. It implies a much stronger version of Corollary 7.2.

Theorem 7.5. *Let Γ be any loose graph, and let $k \neq \mathbb{F}_1$ be any finite field. Then the class $[\mathcal{F}_k(\Gamma)] \in K_0(\mathbf{Sch}_k)$ is a virtual mixed Tate motive.*

8. A NEW ZETA FUNCTION FOR (LOOSE) GRAPHS

Following [3], we say that a \mathbb{Z} -scheme \mathcal{Y} is of \mathbb{F}_1 -type if its arithmetic zeta function is of the form

$$(7) \quad \zeta_{\mathcal{Y}}(s) = \prod_{k=0}^m \zeta(s - k)^{\ell_k},$$

where s is in \mathbb{C} , $m \in \mathbb{N}$, and the ℓ_j in \mathbb{Z} . (The zeta functions in the right-hand side are Riemann zeta functions.) In [3] it is shown that (7) is equivalent to the fact that for each prime power q , we have that

$$(8) \quad \left| \mathcal{Y} \otimes_{\mathbf{Spec}(\mathbb{Z})} \mathbf{Spec}(\mathbb{F}_q) \right|_{\mathbb{F}_q} = \sum_{k=0}^m \ell_k q^m.$$

This equivalent definition is the right one for us.

Kurokawa then defines the \mathbb{F}_1 -zeta function of \mathcal{Y} to be

$$(9) \quad \zeta_{\mathcal{Y}}^{\mathbb{F}_1}(s) = \prod_{k=0}^m (s - k)^{-\ell_k}.$$

Theorem 8.1 ([4]). *For any loose graph Γ , the \mathbb{Z} -constructible set $\chi := \mathcal{F}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} \mathbb{Z}$ is of \mathbb{F}_1 -type.*

Definition 8.2 (Zeta function for (loose) graphs). Let Γ be a loose graph, and let $\chi := \mathcal{F}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} \mathbb{Z}$. Let $P_{\chi}(X) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i X^i \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ be the zeta polynomial obtained after the surgery process (replacing the class \mathbb{L} by X). We define the \mathbb{F}_1 -zeta function of Γ as:

$$(10) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}^{\mathbb{F}_1}(t) := \prod_{k=0}^m (t - k)^{-a_k}.$$

Example. In the case of a tree, using the notation from Theorem 6.1, the zeta function is given by

$$(11) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}^{\mathbb{F}_1}(t) = \frac{(t-1)^I}{t^{E+I}} \cdot \prod_{k=1}^m (t-d_k)^{-n_k}.$$

9. AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS OF $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$

Let Γ be a loose graph, $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ be its \mathbb{F}_1 -constructible set and $\mathcal{X}_k = \mathcal{F}(\Gamma) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$ its extension to a field k .

9.1. Projective automorphism group. We define the *projective automorphism group* of the constructible set \mathcal{X}_k , denoted by $\text{Aut}^{\text{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k)$, as the group of automorphisms of the ambient projective space of \mathcal{X}_k stabilizing \mathcal{X}_k setwise, modulo the group of such automorphisms acting trivially on \mathcal{X}_k .

9.2. Combinatorial automorphism group. We now consider the constructible set \mathcal{X}_k as a point-line geometry, where the set of points \mathcal{P} is the set of k -rational points of \mathcal{X}_k and the set of lines \mathcal{L} consists of both projective lines (over k) and *complete affine lines*. A *complete affine line* l of \mathcal{X}_k is a line whose projective completion \bar{l} intersects the constructible set \mathcal{X}_k in the whole projective line \bar{l} minus one point. We define the *combinatorial automorphism group* of \mathcal{X}_k , denoted by $\text{Aut}^{\text{comb}}(\mathcal{X}_k)$, as the group of bijective maps $\mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{L}$ that preserve incidence.

9.3. Topological automorphism group. We define the *topological automorphism group* of the constructible set \mathcal{X}_k , denoted by $\text{Aut}^{\text{top}}(\mathcal{X}_k)$, as the group of homeomorphisms of its underlying topological space.

Proposition 9.1 ([6]). *The combinatorial group of a constructible set \mathcal{X}_k is a subgroup of the topological automorphism group of \mathcal{X}_k .*

10. AUTOMORPHISMS OF GENERAL LOOSE TREES

For the proofs of all the results of this last section, the reader is invited to look at [6, section 9]. Let $T = (V, E)$ be a finite loose tree, and assume its number of vertices is at least 3. Let \bar{T} be the graph theoretical completion of T — that is, as before, the tree obtained by adding all end points to the edges of T . Define the *boundary* of T , denoted $\partial(T)$, as the set of vertices of degree 1 in \bar{T} . Let x be a vertex which is at distance 1 from $\partial(T)$ (i.e., is adjacent with at least one vertex of $\partial(T)$). As $|V| \geq 3$, x is an inner vertex of degree at least 2.

Define k and \mathcal{X}_k as before. Let $\mathbf{PG}(m-1, k)$ be the ambient projective space of \mathcal{X}_k . Remember that by the embedding theorem, T can be seen as a subgeometry of a projective \mathbb{F}_1 -space.

Let I be the set of inner vertices of \bar{T} , and for any $w \in I$, let $S(w)$ be the subgroup of $\text{Aut}^{\text{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k)$ which fixes the k -rational points of \mathcal{X}_k inside all affine subspaces $\widehat{\mathbb{A}}_v$ (over k) which are generated (over \mathbb{F}_1) by a vertex v different from w and all directions on v which are not incident with w . For instance, if the distance of v to w is at least 2, the local space at v is fixed pointwise, and if the distance is 1, $\widehat{\mathbb{A}}_v$ is an affine space of dimension one less than the dimension of \mathbb{A}_v . (In particular, the points in $I \cap \mathbf{B}(w, 1)$ are fixed.)

In the next theorem, one recalls that \mathcal{X}_k comes with an embedding

$$(12) \quad T \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_k \hookrightarrow \mathbf{PG}(m-1, k),$$

so that it makes sense to consider stabilizers of substructures of T in, e.g., $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{X}_k)$.

If S is a set of points in $\mathbf{PG}(m-1, k)$, $\mathbf{PTL}_m(k)_{[S]}$ denotes its pointwise stabilizer.

Theorem 10.1. *Let $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{X}_k)_{[I]}$ be defined as*

$$(13) \quad \text{Aut}^{\text{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k)_{[I]} \cap \mathbf{PGL}_m(k).$$

Then $\mathbf{PGL}(\mathcal{X}_k)_{[I]}$ is isomorphic to the central product

$$(14) \quad \prod_{w \in I}^{\text{centr}} S(w).$$

The following lemma about toric actions is used in the proof of Theorem 10.1:

Lemma 10.2. *Let $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^r(k)$ be a (combinatorial) projective space over a field k , of dimension $r \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$, and let \mathcal{B} be a base of \mathbb{P} . Suppose $P = \{B_1, \dots, B_{\ell+1}\}$ is a partition of \mathcal{B} , and let $\alpha_i := \langle B_i \rangle$ for all $i = 1, \dots, \ell+1$. Define \mathbb{T}_P as the subgroup of $\mathbf{PGL}_{r+1}(k)_{[\mathcal{B}]}$ that fixes each space α_i with $i \neq \ell+1$ pointwise, and which fixes the elements of $B_{\ell+1}$. Put $|B_{\ell+1}| = \tilde{\ell}$. Then we have that*

$$(15) \quad \mathbb{T}_P \cong (k^\times)^{\ell-1} \times (k^\times)^{\tilde{\ell}-1} \times k^\times.$$

In particular, \mathbb{T}_P is an abelian group.

10.0.1. *Inner Tree Theorem.* The following theorem is a crucial ingredient in the proof of our main theorem for trees.

Theorem 10.3 (Inner Tree Theorem). *Let T be a loose tree, and let k be any field. Put $\mathcal{X}_k = \mathcal{F}(T) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$, and consider the embedding*

$$(16) \quad \iota : T \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_k.$$

Let $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{X}_k)$ be any of the automorphism groups which are considered in this note (i.e., combinatorial, induced by projective space or topological). Let I be the set of inner vertices of T , and let $T(I)$ be the subtree (not loose) of T induced on I . Then if $|I| \geq 2$, we have that $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{X}_k)$ stabilizes $\iota(T(I))$. Moreover, $\text{Aut}(\iota(T(I)))$ is induced by $\text{Aut}(\mathcal{X}_k)$.

10.0.2. *The general group.* Before proceeding, we need another lemma. We use the notation of the previous subsection.

Lemma 10.4 (Field automorphisms). *Let $\mathbf{PG}(m-1, k)$ be the ambient space of \mathcal{X}_k . We have that*

$$(17) \quad \mathbf{PTL}_m(k)_{\mathcal{X}_k} / \mathbf{PGL}_m(k)_{\mathcal{X}_k} \cong \text{Aut}(k).$$

Using Lemma 10.4, the next theorem determines the complete projective automorphism group.

Theorem 10.5 (Projective automorphism group). *Let T be a loose tree, and let k be any field. Put $\mathcal{X}_k = \mathcal{F}(T) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$, and consider the embedding*

$$(18) \quad \iota : T \hookrightarrow \mathcal{X}_k.$$

Let I be the set of inner vertices of T , and let $T(I)$ be the subtree of T induced on I . We have $\mathbf{PTL}(\mathcal{X}_k) = \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k)$ is isomorphic to

$$(19) \quad \left(\left(\prod_{w \in I}^{\mathrm{centr}} S(w) \right) \rtimes \mathrm{Aut}(T(I)) \right) \rtimes \mathrm{Aut}(k).$$

The condition $|I| \geq 2$ is essential, as the following discussion shows.

10.0.3. *The combinatorial automorphism group.* By Theorem 10.5, we can now determine the combinatorial group as well.

Theorem 10.6 (Combinatorial automorphism group). *Let T be a loose tree, and let k be any field. Put $\mathcal{X}_k = \mathcal{F}(T) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_1} k$, let I be the set of inner vertices, and suppose that $|I| \geq 2$. Let ι be as in Theorem 10.5. Then*

$$(20) \quad \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{comb}}(\mathcal{X}_k) \cong \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k).$$

We have seen in Proposition 9.1 that for each \mathcal{X}_k , the combinatorial automorphism group is a subgroup of the topological automorphism group. One observes that any projectively induced automorphism is combinatorial, but the other direction is in general *not* true. For example, let Γ be an edge with two different vertices, so that for all k , \mathcal{X}_k is a projective k -line. Then each permutation of the k -points yields a combinatorial automorphism, but not all of these come from projective automorphisms for all k . So, in general,

$$(21) \quad \begin{cases} \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{top}}(\mathcal{X}_k) \geq \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{comb}}(\mathcal{X}_k) \\ \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{comb}}(\mathcal{X}_k), \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{top}}(\mathcal{X}_k) \geq \mathrm{Aut}^{\mathrm{proj}}(\mathcal{X}_k). \end{cases}$$

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