

# GALOIS STRATIFICATION OVER $e$ -FOLD ORDERED FROBENIUS FIELDS

BY

DAN HARAN\*

*School of Mathematical Sciences*

*Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences*

*Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel; e-mail: haran@math.tau.ac.il*

AND

LUC LAUWERS\*\*

*Monitoraat Economie, K.U. Leuven*

*Van Evenstraat 2B, 3000 Leuven, Belgium*

ABSTRACT

An  $e$ -fold ordered field is said to be Frobenius if it is a  $\text{PRC}_e$  field which has the embedding property. By means of a Galois stratification procedure we prove that the theory of  $e$ -fold ordered Frobenius fields is decidable.

## Introduction

A field  $M$  is said to be **pseudo algebraically closed** (PAC) if every absolutely irreducible variety over  $M$  has an  $M$ -rational point. A **Frobenius** field is a PAC field with the embedding property. Developing the method of Galois stratification introduced in [FS], M. Fried, M. Jarden, and the first author established a decision procedure for Frobenius fields [FHJ1].

The analogue of PAC, in the case of ordered fields, is **pseudo real closed** (**PRC**). A field  $M$  is PRC if every absolutely irreducible variety over  $M$  has an  $M$ -rational point provided it has an  $\overline{M}$ -rational simple point for each real

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\* Research conducted at the Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik, Bonn.

\*\* This work constitutes a part of the Ph.D. dissertation done at the K.U. Leuven under the supervision of Prof. Moshe Jarden and Prof. Jan Denef.

Received May 24, 1990 and in revised form April 27, 1993

closure  $\overline{M}$  of  $M$  [P2, Theorem 1.2]. A **PRC $e$**  field is a PRC field with exactly  $e$  orderings.

The main goal of this paper is to establish an equivalent of Frobenius fields in the class of PRC $e$  fields. To achieve this we use a technical tool: “ $e$ -structures”. An  $e$ -**structure** is an  $(e + 1)$ -tuple  $\mathbf{G} = (G; \mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_e)$ , where  $G$  is a profinite group and the  $\mathcal{E}_j$  are conjugacy classes of involutions. A typical example is  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}(\widetilde{M}/M, \mathbf{P})$ , where  $G$  is the absolute Galois group of an  $e$ -fold ordered field  $(M, \mathbf{P}) = (M, P_1, \dots, P_e)$ , and  $\mathcal{E}_j$  is the set of the involutions in  $G$  such that  $P_j$  extends to their fixed fields.

A PRC $e$  field  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is said to be **Frobenius** if  $\mathbf{G}(\widetilde{M}/M, \mathbf{P})$  has the embedding property (in the category of  $e$ -structures). Geyer fields and v.d. Dries fields are shown to be Frobenius. Along the lines of treatment in [FHJ1] we find a decision procedure for the theory of Frobenius fields in the language of  $e$ -fold ordered fields.

A theorem of M. Knebusch allows us to extend the notion of decomposition group to the case of  $e$ -fold ordered fields. This, together with the use of non-singular basic sets are the main new ingredients to obtain this result.

We shall assume, for simplicity, that all our fields are of characteristic 0. This partly excludes the case  $e = 0$ , dealt with in [FHJ1].

We thank M. Jarden for helpful remarks.

**1. Ordered fields and effectiveness**

An **ordering** on a field  $F$  is a set  $P \subseteq F$  such that  $P + P \subseteq P$ ,  $P \cdot P \subseteq P$ ,  $P \cap -P = \{0\}$  and  $P \cup -P = F$ . Let  $X_F$  denote the set of orderings of  $F$ . The **Harrison topology** on  $X_F$  is defined by the basis  $\{H_F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \mid \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in F\}$ , where the **Harrison set**  $H_F(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$  is  $\{P \in X_F \mid \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \in P\}$ . This topology makes  $X_F$  a Boolean space [P1, Theorem 6.5]. Let  $K/F$  be an arbitrary field extension. The map  $\text{res}_F: X_K \rightarrow X_F$  defined by  $\text{res}_F(P) = P \cap F$  is continuous. If the extension  $K/F$  is finitely generated, then  $\text{res}_F$  is also open [ELW, 4.bis]. We call  $K/F$  **totally real** if  $\text{res}_F$  is surjective.

The **real closure**  $(\overline{K}, \overline{P})$  of an ordered field  $(K, P)$  is a maximal ordered algebraic extension of  $(K, P)$ . It exists, is unique up to a  $K$ -isomorphism, and  $\overline{P} = \overline{K}^2$ .

*Definition 1.1:* Let  $\varphi: R \rightarrow K$  be a homomorphism from a domain  $R$  into a field  $K$ . Let  $P$  be an ordering on  $K$ . An ordering  $Q$  on the quotient field of  $R$  is

$\varphi$ -compatible with  $P$  if  $a \in R \cap Q$  implies  $\varphi(a) \in P$ . ■

The following theorem guarantees the extension of compatible orderings.

**PROPOSITION 1.2 (Knebusch):** *Let  $R \subseteq S$  be regular domains, and let  $E \subseteq F$  be their quotient fields. Let  $(K, P)$  be an ordered field, and let  $\varphi: R \rightarrow K$  be a homomorphism that extends to a homomorphism  $\psi: S \rightarrow K$ . Then every ordering on  $R$  that is  $\varphi$ -compatible with  $P$  extends to an ordering on  $S$  that is  $\psi$ -compatible with  $P$ . In particular, there exists an ordering on  $S$  that is  $\psi$ -compatible with  $P$ .*

*Proof:* We may assume that  $(K, P)$  is real closed, otherwise replace it by its real closure. As  $S$  is regular (i.e., its localization at each prime is a regular local ring),  $\psi$  extends to a place  $\psi': F \rightarrow K \cup \{\infty\}$  [JR, Appendix A]. Its restriction to  $E$  is a place  $\varphi': E \rightarrow K \cup \{\infty\}$  that extends  $\varphi$ . By [K, Theorem 2.6] every  $\varphi'$ -compatible ordering on  $E$  extends to a  $\psi'$ -compatible ordering on  $F$ .

The last assertion of the theorem follows by replacing  $\varphi$  by its restriction  $\varphi_0: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow K$ , since the unique ordering on  $\mathbb{Q}$  is  $\varphi_0$ -compatible with  $P$ . ■

*Remark 1.3:* Note that if  $R$  is a finitely generated ring over a field  $K$  then there is  $0 \neq d \in R$  such that  $R[d^{-1}]$  is regular. Indeed, write  $R$  as  $K[\mathbf{x}, g(\mathbf{x})^{-1}]$ , where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a generic point of a  $K$ -irreducible set  $V$  over  $K$ , and let  $A = V \setminus V(g)$ . Put  $k = n - \dim_K V$ . Since  $\mathbf{x}$  is a non-singular point of  $V$ , there exists a  $(k \times k)$ -submatrix of the Jacobian matrix  $(\partial f_i / \partial X_j)$  with determinant  $d(\mathbf{x}) \neq 0$ . The open subset  $A' = A \setminus V(d)$  of  $A$  is non-singular, and hence  $K[A'] = K[\mathbf{x}, (gd)(\mathbf{x})^{-1}] = R[d^{-1}]$  is a regular ring [N, Theorem 46.3, Corollary 14.6]. ■

The primitive recursiveness of a decision procedure for fields requires that all operations involved are computable in a primitive recursive way. We supplement the extensive treatment of [FJ, §17] by discussion of orderings and inequalities.

Let  $K$  be a presented field [FJ, Definition 17.1]. An ordering  $P$  on  $K$  is **presented** if “ $\in P$ ” or, equivalently, “ $>_P 0$ ” is a primitive recursive relation. An  $e$ -fold ordered field  $(K, P_1, \dots, P_e)$  is **presented** if  $K$  is a presented field and  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are presented orderings.

A **polynomial relation** (or a quantifier free formula in the language of ordered fields) is a Boolean combination of relations of the form  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n) > 0$ , where  $p$  is a polynomial with integral coefficients.

P.J. Cohen [C, §1, Theorems  $A_n, B_n$ ] proves the following version of Tarski's Principle:

PROPOSITION 1.4: *Let  $n \geq 1$ . For each polynomial relation  $A(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  we can find by a primitive recursive procedure a polynomial relation  $B(X_2, \dots, X_n)$  such that*

$$(\exists X_1) A(X_1, \dots, X_n) \iff B(X_2, \dots, X_n)$$

*holds over every real closed field.*

We will need the following criterion (cf. [P2, (0.4)] and [L, XI, §3]).

COROLLARY 1.5: *Let  $(K, P)$  be an ordered field and let  $(\overline{K}, \overline{P})$  be its real closure. Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine  $K$ -variety with generic point  $\mathbf{x}$  over  $K$  and let  $F = K(\mathbf{x})$  be its function field. Let  $h_1, \dots, h_r \in K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be polynomials not vanishing on  $V$ . Then  $P$  extends to an ordering on  $F$  contained in  $H_F = H_F(h_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, h_r(\mathbf{x}))$  if and only if there is a nonsingular point  $\mathbf{a} \in V(\overline{K})$  such that  $h_1(\mathbf{a}), \dots, h_r(\mathbf{a}) > 0$  with respect to  $\overline{P}$ .*

*Proof:* Write  $V$  as  $V(f_1, \dots, f_m)$ , with  $f_i \in K[\mathbf{X}]$ . If  $P$  extends to an ordering  $Q$  on  $F$  contained in  $H_F$ , then the substitution  $\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$  shows that the sentence

$$(\exists \mathbf{X}) \bigwedge_{i=1}^m f_i(\mathbf{X}) = 0 \wedge \bigwedge_{\nu=1}^r h_\nu(\mathbf{X}) > 0 \wedge \text{rank}(\partial f_i / \partial X_j) = n - \dim V$$

holds in  $(F, Q)$ , and hence also in its real closure. It immediately follows from Proposition 1.4 that the sentence also holds in  $(\overline{K}, \overline{P})$ . This produces the desired nonsingular point  $\mathbf{a} \in V(\overline{K})$ .

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{a} \in V(\overline{K})$  be a nonsingular point with  $h_1(\mathbf{a}), \dots, h_r(\mathbf{a}) > 0$ . The local ring  $S$  of  $\mathbf{a}$  on  $V$  is regular and  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}$  defines a  $K$ -homomorphism  $\psi: S \rightarrow \overline{K}$ . Proposition 1.2, applied to the rings  $K \subseteq S$ , produces an extension  $Q \in X_F$  of  $P$  that is  $\psi$ -compatible with  $\overline{P}$ . We have  $h_\nu(\mathbf{x}) \in Q$  for each  $\nu$ , otherwise  $-h_\nu(\mathbf{x}) \in Q$ , and hence the  $\psi$ -compatibility gives  $-h_\nu(\mathbf{a}) = \psi(h_\nu(\mathbf{x})) \geq 0$ , a contradiction. ■

Let  $K$  be a presented field. A union  $\bigcup_{i=1}^k H_K(h_{i1}, \dots, h_{ir_i})$  of Harrison sets is **presented** if all the  $h_{ij} \in K$  and the numbers  $k, r_1, \dots, r_k$  are explicitly given.

The intersection, union, and complement are effective operations on the Harrison topology, i.e., the result of the operation on presented sets is presented. Furthermore:

LEMMA 1.6: *Let  $K$  be a presented field, and let  $F$  be a field finitely generated and presented over  $K$ . Let  $H_F$  be a presented Harrison set. Then  $H_K = \text{res}_K H_F$  can be effectively computed.*

Moreover, let  $R$  be a presented subring of  $K$ , and let  $f_1, \dots, f_m, h_1, \dots, h_r \in R[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  be given polynomials such that  $F$  is the function field of the  $K$ -variety  $V = V(f_1, \dots, f_m)$ . Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be the generic point of  $V$  over  $K$ . Then we can compute a finite subset  $\{q_{ij} \mid i \in I, j \in J(i)\}$  of  $R$  and  $0 \neq p \in R$  such that

- (a)  $\text{res}_K H_F(h_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, h_r(\mathbf{x})) = \bigcup_{i \in I} \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_K(q_{ij})$ .
- (b) Let  $\varphi: R \rightarrow K'$  be a homomorphism into a field  $K'$  (write  $\varphi$  as  $a \mapsto a'$  and extend it to polynomials) such that  $p' \neq 0$  and  $V' = V(f'_1, \dots, f'_m)$  is a  $K'$ -variety. Let  $\mathbf{x}'$  be the generic point of  $V'$  over  $K'$  and let  $F' = K'(\mathbf{x}')$ . Then  $\text{res}_{K'} H_{F'}(h'_1(\mathbf{x}'), \dots, h'_r(\mathbf{x}')) = \bigcup_{i \in I} \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_{K'}(q'_{ij})$ .

*Proof:* Let  $N$  be a bound on the total degrees of the  $f_i$  and  $h_j$ . It follows from Corollary 1.5 that there is a formula  $\theta(\mathbf{Y})$  in the language of rings with the predicate  $>$ , that depends only on  $n, N, m,$  and  $r$ , with the following property. Let  $(\overline{K}', \overline{P}')$  be the real closure of an ordered field  $(K', P')$ . Let  $f'_1, \dots, f'_m, h'_1, \dots, h'_r \in K'[\mathbf{X}]$  be of total degree  $\leq N$ , and let  $\mathbf{c}'$  be the sequence of their coefficients. Assume that  $V' = V(f'_1, \dots, f'_m)$  is a  $K'$ -variety, let  $\mathbf{x}'$  be its generic point over  $K'$ , and let  $F' = K'(V')$ . Then  $P' \in \text{res}_{K'} H_{F'}(h'_1, \dots, h'_r)$  if and only if  $(\overline{K}', \overline{P}') \models \theta(\mathbf{c}')$ .

By Proposition 1.4 we may assume that  $\theta$  is quantifier free. After some trivial identifications we can write it as  $\bigvee_{i=1}^k p_i(\mathbf{Y}) \neq 0 \wedge \bigwedge_{j \in J(i)} q_{ij}(\mathbf{Y}) \geq 0$ , for suitable  $p_i, q_{ij} \in \mathbb{Z}[\mathbf{Y}]$ . Furthermore,  $(K', P') \models \theta(\mathbf{c}')$  if and only if  $(\overline{K}', \overline{P}') \models \theta(\mathbf{c}')$ . Finally, the clause ' $p_i(\mathbf{c}') \neq 0$ ' does not depend on  $P'$ . Therefore

$$(1.7) \quad P' \in \text{res}_{K'} H_{F'}(h'_1(\mathbf{x}'), \dots, h'_r(\mathbf{x}')) \iff P' \in \bigcup_{i \in I(\mathbf{c}')} \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_K(q_{ij}(\mathbf{c}')),$$

where  $I(\mathbf{c}') = \{1 \leq i \leq k \mid p_i(\mathbf{c}') \neq 0\}$ .

Let  $\mathbf{c}$  be the sequence of coefficients of the  $f_i$  and  $h_j$ . Assertion (a) follows from (1.7) with  $I = I(\mathbf{c})$  and  $q_{ij} = q_{ij}(\mathbf{c})$ .

Furthermore, put  $p = \prod_{i \in I} p_i(\mathbf{c})$ . Let  $\varphi: R \rightarrow K'$  be as in (b). Then  $\mathbf{c}' = \varphi(\mathbf{c})$  is the sequence of coefficients of the  $f'_i$  and  $h'_j$ . If  $p' \neq 0$ , then  $I(\mathbf{c}') = I(\mathbf{c})$ . Therefore assertion (b) follows from (1.7). ■

**2.  $e$ -Structures**

*Definition 2.1:* An  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  is a system  $\mathbf{G} = (G; \mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_e)$ , where  $G$  is a profinite group and  $\mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_e$  are conjugacy classes of involutions in  $G$ . If  $G$  is a pro-2 group, then  $\mathbf{G}$  is said to be a **pro-2**  $e$ -structure. For an  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  we refer to  $\mathcal{E}_j$  as  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$ , and to the underlying group as  $G$ . We put  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G}) = \bigcup_{j=1}^e \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$ . A **morphism (epimorphism)**  $\varphi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  between two  $e$ -structures is a morphism (epimorphism)  $\varphi: G \rightarrow H$  that maps  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  into (onto, a fortiori)  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$ .

We say that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a **substructure** of  $\mathbf{H}$  if  $G \leq H$  and  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G}) \subseteq \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$  for each  $j$ .

Let  $n \geq 0$ . For a sequence  $(\varepsilon; x) = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_e; x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of elements of  $G$  we write  $(\varepsilon; x) \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$ , if  $\varepsilon_j \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  for  $j = 1, \dots, e$ . We say that  $(\varepsilon; x) \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  **generates**  $\mathbf{G}$  if  $G = \langle \varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_e, x_1, \dots, x_n \rangle$ . ■

*Example 2.2:* Let  $(E, \mathbf{Q}) = (E, Q_1, \dots, Q_e)$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered field, and let  $F/E$  be a Galois extension such that  $F$  is not formally real. Let  $G = G(F/E)$  be the Galois group of  $F/E$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{E}_j = \mathcal{E}_j(F/E, \mathbf{Q})$  the set of involutions  $\varepsilon$  in  $G$  such that  $Q_j$  extends to an ordering of  $F(\varepsilon)$ . This is a conjugacy class in  $G$  [HJ1, Proposition 2.1]. The  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}(F/E, \mathbf{Q}) = (G; \mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_e)$  is called a **Galois**  $e$ -structure.

The **absolute** Galois  $e$ -structure of  $(K, \mathbf{Q})$  is  $\mathbf{G}(K, \mathbf{Q}) = \mathbf{G}(\tilde{K}/K, \mathbf{Q})$ , where  $\tilde{K}$  is the algebraic closure of  $K$ .

Let  $\mathbf{G}(L/K, \mathbf{P})$  be another Galois  $e$ -structure such that  $(K, \mathbf{P}) \subseteq (E, \mathbf{Q})$ ,  $E$  and  $L$  are linearly disjoint over  $K$ , and  $L \subseteq F$ . Then the restriction map  $\text{res}: \mathbf{G}(F/E, \mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(L/K, \mathbf{P})$  is an epimorphism [HJ1, Lemma 3.5]. ■

*Definition 2.3:* Let  $(K, \mathbf{P})$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered field, and let  $F/E$  be a Galois extension with  $K \subseteq E$  and  $F$  not formally real. Denote

$$\text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}] = \{ \mathbf{G}(F/E', \mathbf{Q}') \mid E \subseteq E' \subseteq F, (K, \mathbf{P}) \subseteq (E', \mathbf{Q}') \}$$

This is the collection of all  $e$ -structures  $\mathbf{H}$  such that  $H \leq G(F/E)$  and  $P_j$  extends to the fixed field of  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$ , for each  $1 \leq j \leq e$ . ■

*Definition 2.4:* A (a pro-2)  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  is **free** if there is  $n \geq 0$  and  $(\varepsilon; x) \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  with the following property. Given a (pro-2)  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $(\delta; a) \in \mathbf{A}^{(e;n)}$ , there exists a unique morphism  $\varphi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$  that maps  $(\varepsilon; x)$  on  $(\delta; a)$ . We then call  $(\varepsilon; x)$  a **basis** of the structure  $\mathbf{G}$ . ■

*Example 2.5:* Let  $\widehat{D}_{e,n}$  be the real free group with basis  $(\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_e; x_1, \dots, x_n)$  [HJ2, p. 157]. Let  $\mathcal{E}_j$  be the conjugacy class of the involution  $\varepsilon_j$  in  $\widehat{D}_{e,n}$ . Then the  $e$ -structure  $\widehat{D}_{e,n} = (\widehat{D}_{e,n}; \mathcal{E}_1, \dots, \mathcal{E}_e)$  is free.

The corresponding example in the category of pro-2  $e$ -structures will be denoted  $\widehat{D}_{e,n}(2)$ . ■

### 3. Projective and superprojective $e$ -structures

An **embedding problem** for an  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  is a diagram

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & & \mathbf{G} \\ & & \downarrow \rho \\ \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{\pi} & \mathbf{A} \end{array}$$

in which  $\pi$  is an epimorphism and  $\rho$  is a morphism of  $e$ -structures. The problem is **finite** if  $\mathbf{B}$  is finite. The problem is **proper** if  $\rho$  is an epimorphism. A morphism (epimorphism)  $\lambda: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$  such that  $\pi \circ \lambda = \rho$  is called a **solution (proper solution)** to the embedding problem (proper embedding problem).

Let  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G}$  be the set of finite  $e$ -structures  $\mathbf{B}$  for which there exists an epimorphism  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$ .

*Definition 3.2:* An  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  is **superprojective** if

- (i)  $\mathbf{G}$  is **projective**, i.e., every finite embedding problem (3.1) for  $\mathbf{G}$  is solvable. (Replacing  $\mathbf{A}$  by  $\rho(\mathbf{G})$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  by  $\pi^{-1}(\mathbf{A})$  we may assume that (3.1) is proper.)
- (ii)  $\mathbf{G}$  has the **embedding property**, i.e., every finite proper embedding problem (3.1) with  $\mathbf{B} \in \text{Im } \mathbf{G}$  has a proper solution. ■

To prove that free  $e$ -structures are superprojective we need the following analogue of Gaschütz' lemma [FJ, Lemma 15.30 and J1, Lemma 5.3].

**LEMMA 3.3:** *Let  $\rho: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$  be an epimorphism of  $e$ -structures. Assume that  $(\varepsilon; a_n) \in \mathbf{A}^{(e;n)}$  generates  $\mathbf{A}$  and that an element of  $\mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  generates  $\mathbf{G}$ . Then there exists a system of generators  $(\delta; g) \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  such that  $\rho(\delta; g) = (\varepsilon; a_n)$ .*

*Proof:* Since the epimorphism  $\rho$  can be represented by an inverse limit of epimorphisms between finite structures and since an inverse limit of finite nonempty sets is not empty, we may assume that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a finite  $e$ -structure.

Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be an  $e$ -substructure of  $\mathbf{G}$  such that  $\rho(\mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{A}$ . For every  $(\varepsilon; a) \in \mathbf{A}^{(e;n)}$  that generates  $\mathbf{A}$  let  $\Psi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)$  be the set of  $(\delta; g) \in \mathbf{C}^{(e;n)}$  that satisfy  $\rho(\delta; g) =$

$(\varepsilon; a)$ , and let  $\Phi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)$  be the set of those  $(\delta; g) \in \Psi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)$  that generate  $\mathbf{C}$ . We show by induction on  $|C|$  that  $|\Phi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)|$  is independent of  $(\varepsilon; a)$ .

First notice that  $|\Psi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)|$  is independent of  $(\varepsilon; a)$ . Indeed,

$$|\{g_j \in C \mid \rho(g_j) = a_j\}| = |\ker \text{res}_C \rho|,$$

and if  $\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon'_i \in \mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{A})$  then  $\{\delta_i \in \mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{C}) \mid \rho(\delta_i) = \varepsilon_i\}$  and  $\{\delta_i \in \mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{C}) \mid \rho(\delta_i) = \varepsilon'_i\}$  are conjugate in  $C$ , and hence have the same number of elements. Since every  $(\delta; g) \in \Psi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)$  generates an  $e$ -substructure  $\mathbf{B}$  of  $\mathbf{C}$  with  $\rho(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A}$ , we have

$$|\Psi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)| = |\Phi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)| + \sum_{\substack{\mathbf{B} < \mathbf{C} \\ \rho(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A}}} |\Phi_{\mathbf{B}}(\varepsilon; a)|.$$

By the induction hypothesis the  $|\Phi_{\mathbf{B}}(\varepsilon; a)|$  are independent of  $(\varepsilon; a)$ . Therefore so is  $|\Phi_{\mathbf{C}}(\varepsilon; a)|$ .

Let  $(\delta'; g') \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  generate  $\mathbf{G}$ . Then  $(\rho(\delta'); \rho(g'))$  generates  $\mathbf{A}$ , and hence  $|\Phi_{\mathbf{G}}(\varepsilon; a)| = |\Phi_{\mathbf{G}}(\rho(\delta'); \rho(g'))| \geq 1$ . ■

**COROLLARY 3.4:**

- (i) *The free  $e$ -structure  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}$  is superprojective.*
- (ii) *The free pro-2  $e$ -structure  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}(2)$  is superprojective.*

*Proof:* Consider an embedding problem (3.1) for  $\mathbf{G} = \hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}$ . Let  $(\varepsilon; a) \in \mathbf{G}^{(e;n)}$  be a basis for  $\mathbf{G}$ . As  $\pi(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A}$ , there is  $(\delta; g) \in \mathbf{B}^{(e;n)}$  such that  $\pi(\delta; g) = \rho(\varepsilon; a)$ . The map  $(\varepsilon; a) \rightarrow (\delta; g)$  extends to a solution  $\lambda: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$  of (3.1).

Assume that (3.1) is proper and that  $\mathbf{B} \in \text{Im } \hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}$ . Then  $\rho(\varepsilon; a)$  generates  $\mathbf{A}$ . By Lemma 3.3 we may assume that  $(\delta; g)$  generates  $\mathbf{B}$ . Therefore  $\lambda$  is an epimorphism.

The superprojectivity of  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}(2)$  is proved analogously. We only remark that in the embedding problem (3.1) for  $\mathbf{G} = \hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}(2)$  we may replace  $A$  and  $B$  by their 2-Sylow subgroups to assume that  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are pro-2  $e$ -structures. ■

We conclude this section with some results on projective  $e$ -structures.

**LEMMA 3.5:** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be an  $e$ -structure.*

- (a) *If  $\mathbf{G}$  is projective, then  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$  is the set of all involutions in  $G$ , the  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  are disjoint (i.e., pairwise distinct), and there is an open subgroup  $G'$  of  $G$  of index  $\leq 2$  that does not meet  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$ .*



(b) Let  $N$  be an open subgroup of  $G$ . Assume that every finite proper embedding problem (3.1) for  $G$  with  $\ker(\rho) \leq N$  is solvable. Then  $G$  is projective.

*Proof:* (a) Let  $\varepsilon \in G$  be an involution. If  $\varepsilon \notin \mathcal{E}(G)$ , then there is an epimorphism  $\rho: G \rightarrow A$  onto a finite quotient of  $G$  such that  $\rho(\varepsilon) \notin \mathcal{E}(A)$ . By [HJ1, Corollary 6.2 with  $I = \mathcal{E}(A)$ ] there is an epimorphism  $\pi: B \rightarrow A$  of finite  $e$ -structures that maps the involutions of  $B$  into  $\{1\} \cup \mathcal{E}(A)$ . Let  $\lambda: G \rightarrow B$  be a solution to this embedding problem. Then  $\pi$  maps the involution  $\lambda(\varepsilon)$  onto  $\rho(\varepsilon)$ , and hence  $\rho(\varepsilon) \in \mathcal{E}(A)$ . Thus  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}(G)$ .

Again, let  $\rho: G \rightarrow A$  be an epimorphism onto a finite quotient of  $G$ . There is another finite  $e$ -structure  $B$  and another epimorphism  $\pi: B \rightarrow A$  such that the  $\mathcal{E}_j(B)$  are disjoint and there is an open subgroup  $B'$  of  $B$  of index  $\leq 2$  that does not meet  $\mathcal{E}(B)$ . (E.g., let  $B$  be a sufficiently large quotient of  $\hat{D}_{e,n}$  with a homomorphism  $\beta: B \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  that maps  $\mathcal{E}(B)$  on the generator of  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and let  $B' = \ker(\beta)$ .) The existence of a solution  $\lambda: G \rightarrow B$  to this embedding problem shows that the  $\mathcal{E}_j(G)$  are disjoint and  $\lambda^{-1}(B')$  does not meet  $\mathcal{E}(G)$ .

(b) Let (3.1) be a finite proper embedding problem for  $G$ . Let  $\rho_1: G \rightarrow A_1$  be an epimorphism onto a finite quotient  $A_1$  of  $G$  with  $\ker(\rho_1) \leq N \cap \ker(\rho)$ . Then  $\rho$  factors into  $\rho_1$  and a morphism  $\rho_2: A_1 \rightarrow A$ . For each  $j$  choose  $\varepsilon_j \in \mathcal{E}_j(G)$  and  $\delta_j \in \mathcal{E}(B)$  such that  $\pi(\delta_j) = \rho(\varepsilon_j)$ . This yields a commutative diagram of epimorphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & G & \\
 & \downarrow \rho_1 & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{\pi_1} & A_1 \\
 p \downarrow & & \downarrow \rho_2 \\
 B & \xrightarrow{\pi} & A
 \end{array}$$

in which  $B_1 = B \times_A A_1$ , and  $\mathcal{E}_j(B_1)$  is the conjugacy class of  $(\delta_j, \varepsilon_j)$ . By assumption there is  $\lambda_1: G \rightarrow B_1$  such that  $\pi_1 \circ \lambda_1 = \rho_1$ . Clearly,  $p \circ \lambda_1$  solves (3.1). ■

The  $e$ -structures are closely related to Artin-Schreier structures of [HJ1]. To explain and use this, we first introduce a convenient link between them.

A **weak structure** is a system  $\mathfrak{G} = \langle G, G', X \rangle$ , where  $G$  is a profinite group,  $G'$  is a subgroup of index  $\leq 2$  in  $G$ , and  $X \subseteq G \setminus G'$  is a closed set of involutions, closed under conjugation in  $G$ . The canonical example is  $\mathfrak{G}(L/K) =$

$\langle G(L/K), G(L/K(\sqrt{-1})), X(L/K) \rangle$ , where  $L/K$  is a Galois extension of fields with  $\sqrt{-1} \in L$ , and  $X(L/K)$  the set of real involutions in  $G(L/K)$ . We usually write the underlying group, the underlying subgroup, and the set of involutions of a weak structure  $\mathfrak{A}$  as  $A, A',$  and  $X(\mathfrak{A})$ . Analogously for  $\mathfrak{B}, \mathfrak{C}, \mathfrak{H}$ , etc. A **morphism** of weak structures  $\varphi: \mathfrak{H} \rightarrow \mathfrak{C}$  is a continuous homomorphism  $\varphi: H \rightarrow G$  with  $\varphi^{-1}(G') = H'$  that maps  $X(\mathfrak{H})$  into  $X(\mathfrak{C})$ . It is an **epimorphism** if  $\varphi(H) = G$  and  $\varphi(X(\mathfrak{H})) = X(\mathfrak{C})$ .

In the language of [HJ1, Definition 3.1] our weak structure is a ‘weak Artin-Schreier structure in which the forgetful map is the inclusion’. In fact,  $\mathfrak{C}$  is an Artin-Schreier structure if and only if for each  $x \in X$  the centralizer of  $x$  in  $G$  is  $\{1, x\}$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{C}(K) = \mathfrak{C}(\tilde{K}/K)$  is an Artin-Schreier structure [HJ1, Remark b) on p. 470].

More precisely, an **Artin-Schreier structure** is a system  $\langle G, G', X, d \rangle$ , where  $G$  and  $G'$  are as above,  $X$  is a Boolean space on which  $G$  continuously acts from the right, and  $d: X \rightarrow G$  is a continuous map into the set of involutions in  $G \setminus G'$  such that  $\{\sigma \in G \mid x^\sigma = x\} = \{1, d(x)\}$  for all  $x \in X$ . The standard example is  $\langle G(L/K), G(L/K(\sqrt{-1})), X(L/K), d \rangle$ , where  $L/K$  is a Galois extension of fields with  $\sqrt{-1} \in L$ , and  $X(L/K)$  the space of maximal ordered subfields of  $L$  containing  $K$ ; each  $(L', Q) \in X(L/K)$  is the fixed field of an involution  $\varepsilon \in G(L/K)$ , and  $d$  is the map  $(L', Q) \mapsto \varepsilon$  [HJ1, Example 3.2].

A **morphism** of Artin-Schreier structures  $\langle H, H', Y, d \rangle \rightarrow \langle G, G', X, d \rangle$  consists of a group homomorphism  $\varphi: H \rightarrow G$  and a continuous map  $\varphi: Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $\varphi^{-1}(G') = H', d \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ d$ , and  $\varphi(y^\sigma) = \varphi(y)^{\varphi(\sigma)}$ , for all  $y \in Y$  and  $\sigma \in H$ . It is an **epimorphism** if  $\varphi(H) = G$  and  $\varphi(Y) = X$ .

It follows that  $\langle G, G', X, d \rangle \mapsto \langle G, G', d(X) \rangle$  is a functor from the category of Artin-Schreier structures into the category of weak structures that maps epimorphisms onto epimorphisms. This functor translates the results about Artin-Schreier structures to results about the corresponding weak structures.

[HJ1, Lemma 7.5] states – and we may take it here as the definition – that a **projective Artin-Schreier structure** is a weak (!) structure  $\mathfrak{C}$  that satisfies the following condition. Let  $\pi: \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$  be an epimorphism of finite weak structures, and let  $\rho: \mathfrak{C} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$  be a morphism. Then there exists a morphism  $\lambda: \mathfrak{C} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\pi \circ \lambda = \rho$ .

LEMMA 3.6: *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be an  $e$ -structure, and let  $G' \leq G$  be an open subgroup of index  $\leq 2$  that does not meet  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$ . Then  $\mathbf{G}$  is a projective  $e$ -structure if and*

only if  $\mathfrak{G} = \langle G, G', \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G}) \rangle$  is a projective Artin-Schreier structure with the  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  disjoint.

*Proof:* Assume that  $\mathfrak{G}$  is a projective Artin-Schreier structure with the  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  disjoint. We have to solve a finite proper embedding problem (3.1) for  $\mathbf{G}$ . Put  $A' = \rho(G')$  and  $B' = \pi^{-1}(A')$ . We have  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{A}) = \rho(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G}))$ . By Lemma 3.5(b) we may assume that  $\ker(\rho)$  is so small that  $A', \mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{A}), \dots, \mathcal{E}_e(\mathbf{A})$  are disjoint. Then also  $B', \mathcal{E}_1(\mathbf{B}), \dots, \mathcal{E}_e(\mathbf{B})$  are disjoint.

Let  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle A, A', \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{A}) \rangle$ , and  $\mathfrak{B} = \langle B, B', \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{B}) \rangle$ . These are weak structures, and  $\rho$  and  $\pi$  induce in an obvious way a morphism  $\rho: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$  and an epimorphism  $\pi: \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$ . By assumption there is a morphism  $\lambda: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $\pi \circ \lambda = \rho$ . Thus the group homomorphism  $\lambda: G \rightarrow B$  maps  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$  into  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{B})$ . But  $\lambda(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G}))$  does not meet  $\mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{B})$  for  $i \neq j$ , because  $\pi(\lambda(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})) \cap \mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{B})) \subseteq \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{A}) \cap \mathcal{E}_i(\mathbf{A}) = \emptyset$ . Therefore  $\lambda(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})) \subseteq \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{B})$ , and hence  $\lambda$  solves (3.1).

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{G}$  be a projective  $e$ -structure. Let  $\pi: \mathfrak{B} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$  be an epimorphism of finite weak structures, and let  $\rho: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{A}$  be a morphism. Extend the groups  $A$  of  $\mathfrak{A}$  and  $B$  of  $\mathfrak{B}$  to finite  $e$ -structures  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  by letting  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{A})$  be the conjugacy class of  $\rho(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G}))$  in  $A$  and  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{B}) \subseteq X(\mathfrak{B})$  be a conjugacy class in  $B$  mapped by  $\pi$  onto  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{A})$ . Then there is  $\lambda: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$  such that  $\pi \circ \lambda = \rho$ . In particular, the group homomorphism  $\lambda: G \rightarrow B$  satisfies  $\lambda(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})) \subseteq \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{B})$  for each  $j$ , and hence it maps  $X(\mathfrak{G}) = \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$  into  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{B}) \subseteq X(\mathfrak{B})$ . Thus  $\lambda$  is a morphism of weak structures. ■

**4. Galois covers and decomposition structures**

Let  $S/R$  be a **Galois ring cover** and let  $F/E$  be the corresponding field cover.

This means [FJ, p. 57] that  $R \subseteq S$  are integrally closed domains with  $E \subseteq F$  their respective quotient fields,  $F/E$  is a finite Galois extension, and  $S = R[z]$ , where  $z$ , a **primitive element** for the cover, is integral over  $R$  and its discriminant over  $E$  is a unit of  $R$ . Thus  $S/R$  is étale (actually, “standard étale” [R]).

*Remark 4.1:* [FHJ2, Section 1]. Let  $M$  be a field, and let  $\varphi_0: R \rightarrow M$  be a homomorphism. Then  $\varphi_0$  extends to a homomorphism  $\varphi: S \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$ . Furthermore,  $M(\varphi(S))$  is a finite Galois extension of  $M$ .

(a) Let  $N/M$  be a Galois extension such that  $\varphi(S) \subseteq N$ . Then  $\varphi$  induces a

homomorphism  $\varphi^*: G(N/M) \rightarrow G(F/E)$  implicitly defined by the formula

$$\varphi(\varphi^*(\sigma)(s)) = \sigma(\varphi(s)), \quad \text{for } \sigma \in G(N/M) \quad \text{and} \quad s \in S.$$

(b) If  $N_1/M$  is a Galois extension such that  $N \subseteq N_1$ , and  $\varphi_1^*: G(N_1/M) \rightarrow G(F/E)$  is the induced homomorphism by  $\varphi_1$ , then, by (a),  $\varphi^* = \varphi_1^* \circ \text{res}_N$ . Therefore, unless stated otherwise, we will take  $N$  to be  $\widetilde{M}$ .

(c) If  $N = M(\varphi(S))$ , then  $\varphi^*$  is injective.

(d) If  $\varphi$  is an inclusion of rings, then  $\varphi^*$  is the restriction to  $F$ .

(e) Let  $S'/R'$  be another Galois cover and let  $F'/E'$  be the corresponding extension of quotient fields. Let  $\rho: S \rightarrow S'$  and  $\varphi': S' \rightarrow N$  be homomorphisms such that  $\rho(R) \subseteq R'$  and  $\varphi'(R') \subseteq M$ . Consider the induced homomorphisms  $\varphi^*: G(M) \rightarrow G(F/E)$ ,  $\varphi'^*: G(M) \rightarrow G(F'/E')$ , and  $\rho^*: G(F'/E') \rightarrow G(F/E)$ . If  $\varphi = \varphi' \circ \rho$ , then  $\varphi^* = \rho^* \circ \varphi'^*$ . In particular, if  $R \subseteq R'$  and  $S \subseteq S'$  and  $\varphi'$  extends  $\varphi$  then  $\varphi^* = \text{res}_F \varphi'^*$ .

(f) Let  $\tau \in \mathcal{G}(F/E)$ . Then  $\varphi \circ \tau: S \rightarrow N$  also extends  $\varphi_0$ , and every extension of  $\varphi_0$  to  $S$  is of this form. Furthermore,  $(\varphi \circ \tau)^*(\sigma) = \tau^{-1} \varphi^*(\sigma) \tau$  for all  $\sigma \in \mathcal{G}(N/M)$ .

■

Let  $K$  be a subfield of  $R$  and  $L$  the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $F$ .

**Definition 4.2:** (a)  $S/R$  is **regular over  $K$** , if the extension  $E/K$  is regular. In that case  $L/K$  is a finite Galois extension.

(b)  $S/R$  is **finitely generated over  $K$** , if  $R$  and  $S$  are finitely generated rings over  $K$ .

(c)  $S/R$  is **real** if  $R$  is a regular ring and  $F$  is not formally real. (In this case  $S$  and the integral closures of  $R$  in the intermediate fields of  $F/E$  are also regular rings [R, p. 75].)

(d)  $F/E$  is **amply real over  $K$**  if  $E/K$  is a regular extension, the algebraic closure  $L$  of  $K$  in  $F$  is not formally real, and the extension  $F(\varepsilon)/L(\varepsilon)$  is totally real for every real involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$ . ■

Assume for the rest of this section that  $S/R$  is real. Add to the preceding discussion  $e$ -tuples  $\mathbf{P}_0$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  of orderings on  $K$  and  $M$ , respectively, such that  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0) \subseteq (M, \mathbf{P})$ . Let  $\varphi^*: G(M) \rightarrow G(F/E)$  be the induced homomorphism.

**Definition 4.3:** The  $e$ -structure  $\varphi^*(G(\widetilde{M}/M, \mathbf{P}))$  is called the **decomposition structure** of  $\varphi$ . We denote it by  $\mathbf{Ar}(S/R, M, \mathbf{P}, \varphi)$ , or, by abuse of notation,  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi$ . It satisfies  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi \in \text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}_0]$ . ■

We explain the last assertion. Fix  $\varepsilon_j \in \mathcal{E}_j(\widetilde{M}/M, \mathbf{P})$ . Then  $\widetilde{M}(\varepsilon_j)$  is a real closure of  $(M, P_j)$ . It follows from the formula of Remark 4.1(a) that  $\varphi$  maps  $S \cap F(\varphi^*(\varepsilon_j))$  into  $\widetilde{M}(\varepsilon_j)$ . Knebusch' Proposition 1.2, applied to the ring extension  $K \subseteq S \cap F(\varphi^*(\varepsilon_j))$ , asserts that  $P_{0_j}$  extends to a  $\varphi$ -compatible ordering on  $F(\varphi^*(\varepsilon_j))$ . ■

The following lemma shows how to make field covers amply real.

LEMMA 4.4: *Let  $F/E$  be real, regular, and finitely generated over  $K$ . Assume that the algebraic closure  $L$  of  $K$  in  $F$  is not formally real.*

- (a) *For each real involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  there are finitely many  $a_{\varepsilon ik} \in L(\varepsilon)$  such that  $\text{res}_{L(\varepsilon)} X_{F(\varepsilon)} = \bigcup_i (\bigcap_k H(a_{\varepsilon ik}))$ .*
- (b) *Let  $L'$  be a finite Galois extension of  $K$  that contains  $L$  and all  $\sqrt{a_{\varepsilon ik}}$ . Put  $F' = FL'$ . Then  $F'/E$  is amply real over  $K$ . Moreover, an involution  $\varepsilon' \in G(F'/E)$  is real if and only if  $\text{res}_{F'} \varepsilon'$  and  $\text{res}_{L'} \varepsilon'$  are real and there is  $i$  such that*

$$(4.6) \quad \sqrt{a_{\varepsilon ik}} \in L'(\varepsilon') \quad \text{for all } k.$$

*Proof:* (a) merely says that  $\text{res}_{L(\varepsilon)} X_{F(\varepsilon)}$  is clopen in  $X_{L(\varepsilon)}$  (Section 1).

(b) Let  $\varepsilon = \text{res}_{F'} \varepsilon'$ . If  $\varepsilon'$  is real, there is an ordering on  $F'(\varepsilon')$ . Its restriction  $P_0$  to  $L(\varepsilon)$  is in  $\text{res}_{L(\varepsilon)} X_{F(\varepsilon)}$  and extends to  $L'(\varepsilon')$ . By (a) there is  $i$  such that  $a_{\varepsilon ik} \in P_0$  for all  $k$ . Put  $L_i = L(\varepsilon)(\sqrt{a_{\varepsilon ik}} | k)$ . Then  $P_0$  extends to  $L_i$ , and therefore  $L_i \subseteq L'(\varepsilon')$  for some real involution  $\varepsilon''$  of  $G(L'/L(\varepsilon))$ , which is conjugate to  $\varepsilon'$  over  $L(\varepsilon)$ . As  $L_i/L(\varepsilon)$  is Galois, we have  $L_i \subseteq L'(\varepsilon')$ . This gives (4.6).

Conversely, assume that  $\varepsilon$  and  $\text{res}_{L'} \varepsilon'$  are real and (4.6) holds with some  $i$ . Clearly  $L'$  is the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $F'$ . It remains to show that  $F'(\varepsilon')/L'(\varepsilon')$  is totally real. Let  $P'$  be an ordering on  $L'(\varepsilon')$ . By (4.6),  $a_{\varepsilon ik} \in P'$  for all  $k$ . By (a),  $\text{res}_{L(\varepsilon)} P'$  extends to an ordering of  $F(\varepsilon)$ , say  $Q$ . As  $L' \cap F = L$ , the fields  $L'(\varepsilon')$  and  $F(\varepsilon)$  are linearly disjoint over  $L(\varepsilon)$ , and  $F'(\varepsilon')$  is their compositum. Therefore  $P'$  and  $Q$  extend to an ordering of  $F'(\varepsilon')$  [J1, p. 241]. ■

### 5. $e$ -fold ordered Frobenius fields

We extend the definition of Frobenius field [FJ, §1 and FJ, Definition 23.1] to the class of  $e$ -fold ordered fields. The results of this section generalize [FJ, Theorem 1.2 and FJ, Propositions 23.2-3].

**Definition 5.1:** An  $e$ -fold ordered field  $(M, \mathbf{P}) = (M, P_1, \dots, P_e)$  is a **PRCe** field if  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are distinct and every absolutely irreducible variety  $V$  over  $M$  has an  $M$ -rational point, provided that  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  extend to the function field of  $V$  over  $M$ .

For such a field condition  $C_M^Z$  of [P2, p.136] holds with  $Z = \{P_1, \dots, P_e\}$ . By [P2, Proposition 1.6],  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are all the orderings on  $M$  and they induce different topologies on  $M$ . Therefore  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is PRCe if and only if  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is existentially closed (in the language of fields augmented by  $e$  predicates for the orderings) in an extension  $(F, \mathbf{Q})$  such that  $F/M$  is regular [P2, Theorem 1.7].

■

**Example 5.2:** (a) Let  $K$  be a countable Hilbertian field, and let  $\overline{K}_1, \dots, \overline{K}_e$  be fixed real closures of  $K$ . For  $\sigma \in G(K)^{e+n}$  let

$$(K_\sigma, \mathbf{P}_\sigma) = (\overline{K}_1^{\sigma_1} \cap \dots \cap \overline{K}_e^{\sigma_e} \cap \widetilde{K}(\sigma_{e+1}) \cap \dots \cap \widetilde{K}(\sigma_{e+n}); P_{\sigma_1}, \dots, P_{\sigma_e}),$$

where  $P_{\sigma_j}$  is the ordering induced by  $\overline{K}_j^{\sigma_j}$ . Then, for almost all (in the sense of the Haar measure)  $\sigma \in G(K)^{e+n}$  the field  $(K_\sigma, \mathbf{P}_\sigma)$  is PRCe and  $\mathbf{G}(K_\sigma, \mathbf{P}_\sigma) \cong \hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}$  [HJ1, Proposition 5.6]. For  $n = 0$  these fields are called **Geyer fields** of corank  $e$  [J1, Theorem 6.7] and  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,0}$  is denoted by  $\hat{\mathbf{D}}_e$ .

(b) A maximal algebraic extension  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  of a Geyer field is a PRCe field, and  $G(M, \mathbf{P}) \cong \hat{\mathbf{D}}_e(2)$  [J2, Lemma 2.3 and Proposition 4.1]. Such a field is called a **v.d. Dries field** of corank  $e$ .

The absolute Galois structures of Geyer and v.d. Dries fields have the embedding property (Corollary 3.4). ■

**Definition 5.3:** An  $e$ -fold ordered field  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  with  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  distinct is said to be **Frobenius** if it satisfies the following condition. Let  $S/R$  be a real Galois ring cover, regular and finitely generated over  $M$ . Let the corresponding field cover  $F/E$  be amply real over  $M$ , and let  $N$  be the algebraic closure of  $M$  in  $F$ . Let  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}]$  such that  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$ , and  $\text{res}_N \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})$ . Then there exists an  $M$ -homomorphism  $\varphi: S \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  with  $\varphi(R) \subseteq M$  such that  $\text{Ar } \varphi = \mathbf{H}$ . ■

**LEMMA 5.4:** Let  $L/K$  be a finite Galois extension,  $L$  not formally real, and let  $\pi: G \rightarrow G(L/K)$  be an epimorphism of finite groups. There exists a totally real finitely generated regular extension  $E$  of  $K$ , a Galois extension  $F/E$  such that  $L$  is the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $F$  and  $F(\varepsilon)/L(\varepsilon)$  is totally real for every

involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  with  $\text{res}_L \varepsilon$  real, and an isomorphism  $\theta: G \rightarrow G(F/E)$  such that the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G & \xrightarrow{\theta} & G(F/E) \\
 \searrow \pi & & \swarrow \text{res}_L \\
 & & G(L/K)
 \end{array}$$

*Proof:* If  $\sqrt{-1} \in L$ , this is shown in Parts I and II of the proof of [HJ1, Lemma 9.4]. (In fact, the extension  $F/L$  constructed there is purely transcendental, and so is  $F(\varepsilon)/L(\varepsilon)$ , for each involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  with  $\text{res}_L \varepsilon$  real.)

In the general case let  $L' = L(\sqrt{-1})$ . Let  $G' = G \times_G G(L'/K)$ , and let  $\pi': G' \rightarrow G(L'/K)$  and  $\rho: G' \rightarrow G$  be the coordinate projections. Assume that we have constructed a Galois cover  $F'/E$  of fields, regular and finitely generated over  $K$  such that  $L'$  is the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $F'$  and  $F'(\varepsilon')/L'(\varepsilon')$  is totally real for every involution  $\varepsilon' \in G(F'/E)$  with  $\text{res}_{L'} \varepsilon'$  real, and an isomorphism  $\theta': G' \rightarrow G(F'/E)$  such that  $\text{res}_{L'} \circ \theta' = \pi'$ . Let  $F$  be the fixed field of  $\theta'(\ker(\rho))$  in  $F'$ . Then  $\theta'$  induces an isomorphism  $\theta: G \rightarrow G(F/E)$  that satisfies the requirements of the Lemma.

Indeed,  $G(F'/E) = G(F/E) \times_{G(L/K)} G(L'/K)$ , and hence  $F$  and  $L'$  are linearly disjoint over  $L$ , and  $F' = FL'$ , whence  $L'$  is the algebraic closure of  $K$  in  $F'$ . If  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  is an involution with  $\text{res}_L \varepsilon$  real, and  $P$  is an ordering on  $L(\varepsilon)$ , there is an involution  $\varepsilon' \in G(L'/K)$  such that  $\text{res}_L \varepsilon = \text{res}_L \varepsilon'$  and  $P$  extends to an ordering  $P'$  on  $L'(\varepsilon')$ . Let  $\varepsilon'' = (\varepsilon, \varepsilon') \in G(F'/E)$ . By assumption  $P'$  extends to an ordering  $Q'$  on  $F(\varepsilon'')$ , and so  $\text{res}_{F(\varepsilon)} Q'$  extends  $P$ . ■

**LEMMA 5.5:** *Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered Frobenius field. Then  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is PRCe and  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$  is superprojective.*

*Proof:* We first show that  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is PRCe. Let  $V$  be an absolutely irreducible variety over  $M$ , and let  $E = M(V)$  be its function field. Then  $E/M$  is a regular extension. Put  $F = E(\sqrt{-1})$ . Assume that  $\mathbf{P}$  extends to an  $e$ -tuple of orderings  $\mathbf{Q}$  on  $E$ . Thus  $E/M$  is totally real and therefore  $F/E$  is amply real. Let  $R$  be a regular ring with quotient field  $E$  that contains the coordinate ring  $M[V]$  (Remark 1.3), and let  $S = R[\sqrt{-1}]$ . Apply Definition 5.3 to  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{G}(F/E, \mathbf{Q})$ , and find an  $M$ -homomorphism  $\varphi: S \rightarrow \tilde{M}$  such that  $\varphi(R) \subseteq M$ . This gives an  $M$ -rational point on  $V$ .

Secondly, we show that each finite proper embedding problem (3.1) for  $\mathbf{G}$  is (properly) solvable. We may identify  $\rho: G \rightarrow A$  with the restriction map

$G \rightarrow G(N/M)$ , where  $N$  is a finite Galois extension of  $M$ . Then  $\text{res}_N \varepsilon \neq 1$  for each  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$ , and hence  $P_j$  does not extend to  $N$ . As  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is a PRCe field,  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are all its (distinct) orderings, and hence  $N$  is not formally real. Thus the Galois  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})$  is well defined, and  $\rho: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{A}$  identifies with the restriction map  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})$ .

By Lemma 5.4 we may identify the epimorphism  $\pi: B \rightarrow G(N/M)$  with the restriction map  $\text{res}_N: G(F/E) \rightarrow G(N/M)$ , where  $F/E$  is a Galois extension such that  $N$  is the algebraic closure of  $M$  in  $F$  and  $F(\varepsilon)/N(\varepsilon)$  is totally real for every involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  with  $\text{res}_N \varepsilon$  real. As  $\text{res}_N \mathbf{B} = \pi(\mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})$ , the latter is in particular true for every  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{B})$ , and hence  $\mathbf{B} \in \text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}]$ .

Assume that  $\mathbf{B} \in \text{Im } \mathbf{G}$ . There is a real Galois ring cover  $S/R$ , finitely generated over  $M$ , such that  $F/E$  is the corresponding field cover. As  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is Frobenius, there exists an  $M$ -map  $\varphi: S \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  with  $\varphi(R) = M$  such that  $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{r} \varphi = \mathbf{B}$ . Thus  $\varphi^*: G(M) \rightarrow B$  maps  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$  onto  $\mathbf{B}$ . The restriction of  $\varphi$  to  $N$  is an  $M$ -automorphism, so there is  $\tau \in G(F/E)$  such that  $\text{res}_N \varphi = \text{res}_N \tau^{-1}$ . By Remark 4.1(f),  $\varphi^*(\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})) = (\varphi \circ \tau)^*(\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}))$ , and hence we may assume that  $\text{res}_N \varphi$  is the identity. It follows from the equation of Remark 4.1(a) that  $\pi \circ \varphi^* = \rho$ .

It remains to show that  $\mathbf{G}$  is projective. We have already remarked that  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are all the distinct orderings on  $M$ . Therefore  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G})$  is the set of all involutions in  $G$ , and the  $\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G})$  are distinct. By [HJ1, Theorem 10.1(b)] the Artin-Schreier structure  $\mathfrak{G}(M) = \langle G(M), G(M(\sqrt{-1})), \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G}) \rangle$  is projective. By Lemma 3.6,  $\mathbf{G}$  is projective. ■

**PROPOSITION 5.6:** *Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be a PRCe field with  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$  superprojective. Then  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is Frobenius.*

*Proof:* Let  $S/R, F/E, N$ , and  $\mathbf{H}$  be as in Definition 5.3.

The superprojectivity of  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$  yields a Galois extension  $N'$  of  $M$  that contains  $N$  and an isomorphism  $h: \mathbf{G}(N'/M, \mathbf{P}) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbf{G}(N'/M, \mathbf{P}) & \xrightarrow{h} & \mathbf{H} \\
 \text{res}_N \swarrow & & \swarrow \text{res}_N \\
 & & \mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})
 \end{array}$$

commutes. Let  $F' = N'F$ . Then

$$G(F'/E) = G(N'/M) \times_{G(N/M)} G(F/E).$$



Let  $\Delta = \{(\delta, h(\delta)) \mid \delta \in G(N'/M)\}$ . The fixed field  $D$  of  $\Delta$  in  $F'$  is regular over  $M$  [FJ, p. 354]. Furthermore,  $\mathbf{P}$  extends to  $D$ . Indeed, let  $\varepsilon' \in \mathcal{E}_j(N'/M, \mathbf{P})$ , and put  $\varepsilon'' = (\varepsilon', h(\varepsilon')) \in G(F'/E)$ . Then  $P_j$  extends to an ordering  $P'_j$  on  $N'(\varepsilon')$ . Let  $\varepsilon = \text{res}_F \varepsilon'' = h(\varepsilon')$ . Since  $F/E$  is amply real over  $M$ , we may take  $a_{\varepsilon j k} = \{1\}$  in Lemma 4.4. Furthermore,  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$  and  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}]$ , and hence  $\varepsilon$  is real. It follows that  $F'/E$  is amply real over  $M$  and  $\varepsilon''$  is a real involution. Thus  $F'(\varepsilon'')/N'(\varepsilon')$  is totally real. In particular,  $P'_j$  extends to an ordering on  $F'(\varepsilon'')$ . Its restriction to  $D$  extends  $P_j$ .

The integral closure  $U$  of  $R$  in  $D$  is finitely generated over  $M$  [FJ, p. 354], and hence  $U$  is the coordinate ring of an absolutely irreducible variety  $V$  defined over  $M$ . As  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is PRCe, there exists an  $M$ -homomorphism  $\psi_0: U \rightarrow M$ . It extends to the integral closure of  $U$  in  $F'$ , and its restriction  $\varphi$  to  $S$  satisfies  $\varphi(R) \subseteq M$ . In fact, we may assume that  $\varphi^* = h$  [FJH1, Remark on p. 9]. Hence  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi = \mathbf{H}$ . ■

*Example 5.7:* Both Geyer fields and v.d. Dries fields (Example 5.2) are Frobenius fields. ■

### 6. The Artin symbol

Let  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered field. Recall [FJ, p. 244] that a **basic set over**  $K$  is a set of the form  $A = V \setminus V(g)$ , where  $V$  is a closed  $K$ -irreducible subset of an affine space  $\mathbb{A}^n$  and  $g \in K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  does not vanish on  $V$ . Let  $x_i$  be the restriction to  $V$  of the projection on the  $i$ -th coordinate. Then  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a generic point of  $V$  over  $K$ . We put  $K[A] = K[\mathbf{x}, g(\mathbf{x})^{-1}]$  and  $K(A) = K(\mathbf{x})$ . The **dimension**  $\dim A$  of  $A$  is the transcendence degree of  $K(A)$  over  $K$ . There is  $0 \neq d \in K[\mathbf{X}]$  such that  $A' = A \setminus V(d)$  is non-singular, that is,  $K[A]$  is regular (Remark 1.3).

A Galois ring cover  $C/K[A]$  is called a **Galois (ring/set) cover**, and is denoted by  $C/A$ . We write  $C/A$  for  $C/K[A]$ , let  $K(C)$  be the quotient field of  $C$ , and write  $G(C/A)$  for  $G(K(C)/K(A))$ . Thus  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$  stands for  $\text{Sub}[K(C)/K(A), \mathbf{P}_0]$  (Definition 2.3).

Let  $C/A$  be a real Galois ring/set cover over  $K$  (Definition 4.2).

Notice that  $G(C/A)$  acts by conjugation on  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ . A **conjugacy domain** in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$  is a subset of  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$  closed under conjugation. A **conjugacy class** in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$  is a minimal nonempty conjugacy domain. It is necessarily of the form  $\{\mathbf{H}^\sigma \mid \sigma \in G(C/A)\}$ , where  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ .

Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered extension of  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ . Each  $M$ -rational point  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_n) \in A$  defines a  $K$ -homomorphism  $\varphi_0: K[A] \rightarrow M$  (by  $x_i \mapsto a_i$ ), which extends to  $\varphi: K[C] \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$ . As  $\varphi$  ranges over all possible extensions of  $\varphi_0$  to  $K[C]$ , by Remark 4.1(f) the structure  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi$  ranges over a conjugacy class in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ . Denote this conjugacy class by  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, M, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{a})$ , or  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, \mathbf{a})$ , for short, and call it the **Artin symbol** of  $\mathbf{a}$ .

This symbol is an enrichment of the Artin symbol  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, M, \mathbf{a})$  of [FJ, Section 25.1], and therefore it has properties similar to those proved there:

*Property 6.1:* If  $D/A$  is another real Galois cover, with  $C \subseteq D$ , and  $\mathbf{a} \in A(M)$ , then, by Remark 4.1(e),  $\text{res}_{K(C)} \mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{Ar}(C/A, \mathbf{a})$ . Thus we usually omit the reference to the cover and write  $\mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a})$ .

Furthermore, let  $\text{Con}(C/A)$  be a conjugacy domain in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ , and let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of (isomorphism types of)  $e$ -structures. Define

$$(6.2) \quad \text{Con}(D/A) = \{\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[D/A, \mathbf{P}_0] \mid \mathbf{H} \in \mathcal{S}, \text{res}_{K(C)} \mathbf{H} \in \text{Con}(C/A)\}.$$

Assume that

$$(*) \quad \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \text{Sub}[D/A, \mathbf{P}_0] = \mathcal{S}.$$

Then  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(C/A)$  if and only if  $\mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(D/A)$ .

Indeed, if  $\mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(D/A)$ , then definition (6.2) gives  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, \mathbf{a}) = \text{res}_{K(C)} \mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(C/A)$ . Conversely, let  $\mathbf{Ar}(C/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(C/A)$ . As  $\mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$ , it follows from (\*) that  $\mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ . Therefore  $\mathbf{Ar}(D/A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(D/A)$ . ■

*Property 6.3:* Replacing  $A$  by an open subset  $A'$  does not affect the Artin symbol, that is,  $\mathbf{Ar}(A', \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a})$ , for each  $\mathbf{a} \in A'(M)$ . ■

*Property 6.4:* Let  $C'/A'$  be a real Galois cover **induced** by  $C/A$ . I.e.,  $A'$  is a nonsingular basic set contained in  $A$ , and the homomorphism  $K[A] \rightarrow K[A']$  induced from the inclusion  $A' \subseteq A$  extends to a homomorphism  $\rho: C \rightarrow C'$  that maps a primitive element  $z$  of  $C/A$  onto a primitive element  $z'$  of  $C'/A'$ . Thus  $C = K[A][z]$  and  $C' = K[A'][z']$ .

By Remark 4.1(c),  $\rho$  induces an embedding  $\rho^*: G(C'/A') \rightarrow G(C/A)$ . For each  $\mathbf{a} \in A'(M)$  we have, by Remark 4.1(e),  $\rho^* \mathbf{Ar}(A', \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a})$ .

For a conjugacy domain  $\text{Con}(A)$  in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$  let

$$\text{Con}(A') = \{\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[C'/A', \mathbf{P}_0] \mid \rho^*(\mathbf{H}) \in \text{Con}(A)\}$$

be the **induced conjugacy domain** in  $\text{Sub}[C'/A', \mathbf{P}_0]$ . For  $\mathbf{a} \in A'(M)$  we have  $\text{Ar}(A', \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A')$  if and only if  $\text{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A)$ . ■

**7. Projections of conjugacy domains**

For  $n \geq 0$  let  $\pi: \mathbb{A}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n$  be the projection on the first  $n$  coordinates. Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{A}^{n+1}$  and  $B \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be two non-singular basic sets such that  $\pi(A) = B$ . Then  $K[B] \subseteq K[A]$ . Let  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $(\mathbf{x}, y)$  be generic points of  $B$  and  $A$ , respectively. Then  $K(A) = K(B)(y)$ . Furthermore, let  $C/A$  and  $D/B$  be real Galois covers such that  $K(D)$  contains the algebraic closure of  $K(B)$  in  $K(C)$ .

Under these assumptions we define the projection of conjugacy domains associated with  $C/A$ . There are two cases:  $\dim A = \dim B + 1$  (Lemma 7.2) and  $\dim A = \dim B$  (Lemma 7.4).

*Definition 7.1:* Let  $M$  be an extension of  $K$ . An  $M$ -**specialization** of the pair  $(C/A, D/B)$  is a  $K$ -homomorphism  $\varphi$  from  $C$  into an overfield of  $M$  such that  $\varphi(K[B]) \subseteq M$  and, if  $y$  is transcendental over  $K(B)$ , then  $\varphi(y)$  is transcendental over  $M$ .

For such a specialization put  $y' = \varphi(y)$ ,  $N = M[\varphi(D)]$ ,  $R = M[\varphi(K[A])]$ ,  $E = M(y')$  (the quotient field of  $R$ ),  $S = M[\varphi(C)]$ , and  $F = E[\varphi(C)]$  (the quotient field of  $S$ ). Then  $\varphi$  induces an embedding  $\varphi^*: G(F/E) \rightarrow G(C/A)$  (Remark 4.1(c)).

Assume that  $\dim A = \dim B + 1$ . The pair  $(C/A, D/B)$  is said to be **specialization compatible** if

- (i)  $K(D)$  is the algebraic closure of  $K(B)$  in  $K(C)$ ,
- and for every  $M$  and each  $M$ -specialization  $\varphi$  as above
- (ii)  $[K(C) : K(D)(y)] = [F : N(y')]$ ,
- (iii) the cover  $K(C)/K(A)$  is amply real over  $K(B)$ , and
- (iv) for each involution  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  with  $\varphi^*(\varepsilon)$  real the extension  $F(\varepsilon)/N(\varepsilon)$  is totally real.

Assume that  $\dim A = \dim B$ . The pair  $(C/A, D/B)$  is said to be **specialization compatible** if  $K[A]$  is integral over  $K[B]$  and  $C = D$ . ■

*LEMMA 7.2:* Assume that  $\dim A = \dim B + 1$  and that  $(C/A, D/B)$  is specialization compatible. Let  $\text{Con}(A)$  be a conjugacy domain in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ , and let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of (isomorphism types of)  $e$ -structures. Define  $\text{Con}(B) = \text{Con}(B, \mathcal{S}) =$

$\text{res}_{K(D)}(\mathcal{S} \cap \text{Con}(A))$ . Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be a Frobenius field that contains  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ , and assume that

$$(*) \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0] = \mathcal{S}.$$

Then each  $\mathbf{b} \in B(M)$  satisfies:

$$(7.3) \text{Ar}(B, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(B) \text{ if and only if there exists } \mathbf{a} \in A(M) \text{ such that } \pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b} \text{ and } \text{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A).$$

*Proof:* Let  $\mathbf{b} \in B(M)$ . Extend  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{b}$  to an  $M$ -specialization  $\varphi$  of  $(C/A, D/B)$ , and let  $\varphi_0$  be its restriction to  $D$ .

Assume that  $\text{Ar}(B, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(B)$ . Then  $\text{Ar } \varphi_0 \in \text{Con}(B)$ , and hence there is  $\mathbf{H} \in \mathcal{S} \cap \text{Con}(A)$  such that  $\text{res}_{K(D)}\mathbf{H} = \text{Ar } \varphi_0$ . In particular,  $\text{res}_{K(D)}H = \varphi_0^*(G(N/M))$ . By  $(*)$ ,  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$ . A diagram chasing on the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & G(K(C)/K(D)(y)) & \longrightarrow & G(C/A) & \longrightarrow & G(D/B) \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \uparrow \varphi^* & & \uparrow \varphi^* & & \uparrow \varphi_0^* \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & G(F/NE) & \longrightarrow & G(F/E) & \longrightarrow & G(N/M) \longrightarrow 1, \end{array}$$

in which the left vertical arrow is an isomorphism by (ii), shows that the subgroup  $H_0 = \{\sigma \in G(F/E) \mid \varphi^*(\sigma) \in H\}$  of  $G(F/E)$  satisfies  $\varphi^*(H_0) = H$  and  $\text{res}_N H_0 = G(N/M)$ .

Expand  $H_0$  to an  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{H}_0$  such that the isomorphism  $\varphi^*: H_0 \rightarrow H$  of groups extends to an isomorphism  $\varphi^*: \mathbf{H}_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  of  $e$ -structures. As the embedding  $\varphi_0^*$  maps  $\text{res}_N \mathbf{H}_0$  onto  $\text{res}_{K(D)}\mathbf{H} = \text{Ar } \varphi_0 = \varphi_0^*(\mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P}))$ , we have  $\text{res}_N \mathbf{H}_0 = \mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P})$ . Moreover, let  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H}_0)$ . As  $\text{res}_N \varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(N/M, \mathbf{P})$ , the ordering  $P_j$  extends to an ordering  $P'_j$  on  $N(\varepsilon)$ . But  $\varphi^*(\varepsilon) \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$  and  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ , hence  $\varphi^*(\varepsilon)$  is real. By (iv),  $P'_j$  extends to  $F(\varepsilon)$ . This shows that  $\mathbf{H}_0 \in \text{Sub}[F/E, \mathbf{P}]$ .

Since  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is Frobenius, there exists an  $M$ -homomorphism  $\psi: S \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  such that  $\psi(R) = M$  and  $\text{Ar } \psi = \mathbf{H}_0$ . Let  $\mathbf{a} = \psi \circ \varphi(\mathbf{x}, y)$ . Then  $\mathbf{a} \in A(M)$  and  $\pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}$ . Furthermore, by Remark 4.1(e),

$$\text{Ar}(\psi \circ \varphi) = \varphi^*(\text{Ar } \psi) = \varphi^*(\mathbf{H}_0) = \mathbf{H} \in \text{Con}(A).$$

Therefore  $\text{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A)$ .

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{a} \in A(M)$  such that  $\pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}$  and  $\text{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A)$ . By  $(*)$ ,  $\text{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ . Let  $\rho: C \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  be an extension of  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \rightarrow \mathbf{a}$ , and let  $\varphi_0$  be

the restriction of  $\rho$  to  $D$ . By Remark 4.1(e),  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi_0 = \text{res}_{K(D)} \mathbf{Ar} \rho$ , whence

$$\mathbf{Ar}(B, \mathbf{b}) = \text{res}_{G(D/B)} \mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{res}_{G(D/B)} (\mathcal{S} \cap \text{Con}(A)) = \text{Con}(B). \quad \blacksquare$$

LEMMA 7.4: Assume that  $\dim A = \dim B$  and that  $(C/A, D/B)$  is specialization compatible. Let  $\text{Con}(A)$  be a conjugacy domain in  $\text{Sub}[C/A, \mathbf{P}_0]$ . Define

$$\text{Con}(B) = \{\mathbf{G}^\sigma \mid \mathbf{G} \in \text{Con}(A), \sigma \in G(C/B)\}$$

Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be an extension of  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ . Then each  $\mathbf{b} \in B(M)$  satisfies (7.3).

*Proof:* Assume that  $\mathbf{Ar}(B, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(B)$ . Extend  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{b}$  to a  $K$ -homomorphism  $\varphi: C \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  and put  $c = \varphi(y)$ . Then  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi \in \text{Con}(B)$ , so there are  $\sigma \in G(C/B)$  and  $\mathbf{G} \in \text{Con}(A)$  such that  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi = \mathbf{G}^\sigma$ . Replacing  $\varphi$  by  $\varphi \circ \sigma^{-1}$  (Remark 4.1(f)) we may assume that  $\sigma = 1$ . In particular,  $G \leq G(C/A)$ , and hence  $\varphi$  maps  $K[A]$  into  $M$ . Thus  $\mathbf{a} = (\mathbf{b}, c) \in A(M)$ , and, by the above,  $G = \mathbf{Ar} \varphi \in \mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a})$ , whence  $\mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A)$ .

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{a} \in A(M)$  such that  $\pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A)$ . Extend  $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}$  to a  $K$ -homomorphism  $\varphi: C \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$ . It maps  $K[B]$  into  $M$ . As  $\mathbf{Ar} \varphi \in \text{Con}(A) \subseteq \text{Con}(B)$ , we have  $\mathbf{Ar}(A, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(B)$ .  $\blacksquare$

Let us show how to make  $(C/A, D/B)$  specialization compatible.

LEMMA 7.5 (cf. [FJ, Lemma 25.1]): Let  $K_1$  be a finite extension of  $K(D)$ . There are Zariski open subsets  $A' \subseteq A$ ,  $B' \subseteq B$  and a specialization compatible pair  $(C'/A', D'/B')$  such that  $K(C) \subseteq K(C')$  and  $K_1 \subseteq K(D')$ .

*Proof:* Assume first that  $\dim A = \dim B + 1$ . Let  $K'_1$  be a finite Galois extension of  $K(B)$  that contains both  $K_1$  and the algebraic closure of  $K(B)$  in  $K(C)$ . Let  $h \in K[\mathbf{X}, Y]$  be a polynomial that does not vanish on  $A$ . Put  $A' = A \setminus V(h)$ , and let  $C'$  be the integral closure of  $K[A']$  in  $K'_1 \cdot K(C)$ . We may choose  $h$  so that for each intermediate field  $L$  of  $K(C')/K(A')$  there is a generator  $\zeta_L \in C'$  of  $L$  over  $K(A')$  such that  $\text{discr}_{L/K(A')} \zeta_L \in (K[A'])^\times$ . By [FJ, Lemma 5.3],  $K[A'][\sqrt{-1}, \zeta_L]$  is the integral closure of  $K[A'][\sqrt{-1}]$  in  $K(C')$ , that is,  $K[A'][\sqrt{-1}, \zeta_L] = C'$ . Furthermore,  $C'/A'$  is a cover.

Let  $g \in K[\mathbf{X}]$  be a polynomial that does not vanish on  $B$ , but  $g(\mathbf{b}) = 0$  for all  $\mathbf{b} \in B$  with  $h(\mathbf{b}, y) = 0$ . Put  $B' = B \setminus V(g)$ , and let  $D'$  be the integral closure of  $K[B']$  in  $K'_1$ . We may choose  $g$  so that  $D'/B'$  is a cover. Replacing  $h$  by  $gh$  we may assume that  $\pi(A') = B'$ . Use [FJ, Lemma 25.1] to achieve conditions (i)

and (ii) for  $(C'/A', D'/B')$ . By Lemma 4.4 we may choose the field  $K'_1 = K(D')$  so that (iii) holds.

Let now  $\varphi$  be a specialization of  $(C'/A', D'/B')$ . Using the notation of Definition 7.1, let  $\varepsilon \in G(F/E)$  be an involution such that  $\delta = \varphi^*(\varepsilon)$  is real, and let  $P$  be an ordering on  $N(\varepsilon)$ . To show (iv), we have to verify that  $P$  extends to  $F(\varepsilon)$ . We need some preparations. Let  $L = K(C')(\delta)$  and  $L_0 = K(D')(\delta)$ . As  $\delta(\zeta_L) = \zeta_L$  and  $\delta = \varphi^*(\varepsilon)$ , we have  $E(\varphi(\zeta_L)) \subseteq F(\varepsilon)$ , by Remark 4.1(a). But since  $[F: F(\varepsilon)] = 2$  and  $C' = K[A'][\sqrt{-1}, \zeta_L]$ , we get  $F = E[\varphi(C')] \subseteq E(\sqrt{-1}, \varphi(\zeta_L))$ , and hence  $F(\varepsilon) = E(\varphi(\zeta_L))$ . In particular,  $F(\varepsilon) = N(\varepsilon)(y', \varphi(\zeta_L))$ . Furthermore,  $L = L_0(y, \zeta_L)$ . By (ii),  $[L : L_0(y)] = [F(\varepsilon) : N(\varepsilon)(y')]$ , and hence  $\varphi$  maps  $\text{irr}(\zeta_L, L_0(y))$  onto  $\text{irr}(\varphi(\zeta_L), N(\varepsilon)(y'))$ .

Let  $R_0$  be the integral closure of  $K[B']$  in  $L_0$ , and let  $f(Y, Z) \in R_0[Y, Z]$  such that  $f(y, Z) = \text{irr}(\zeta_L, L_0(y))$ . Then  $\varphi$  maps  $R_0$  into  $N(\varepsilon)$ , the field  $L$  is the function field of  $V(f)$  over  $L_0$ , and  $F(\varepsilon)$  is the function field of  $V(\varphi(f))$  over  $N(\varepsilon)$ .

Lemma 1.6 gives  $0 \neq p \in R_0$  and a finite subset  $\{q_{ij} \mid i \in I, j \in J(i)\}$  of  $R_0$  such that  $\text{res}_{L_0} X_L = \bigcup_{i \in I} \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_{L_0}(q_{ij})$  and, if  $\varphi(p) \neq 0$ , then  $\text{res}_{N(\varepsilon)} X_{F(\varepsilon)} = \bigcup_{i \in I} \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_{N(\varepsilon)}(\varphi(q_{ij}))$ . We may assume that  $g$  has been chosen so that  $p \in R_0^*$ , and hence  $\varphi(p) \neq 0$ .

By Knebusch' Proposition 1.2 (applied to the ring  $R_0$ ) there is an ordering  $Q$  on  $L_0$  that is  $\varphi$ -compatible with  $P$ . By (iii) it extends to  $L$ , that is,  $Q \in \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_{L_0}(q_{ij})$  for some  $i \in I$ . Hence  $P \in \bigcap_{j \in J(i)} H_{N(\varepsilon)}(\varphi(q_{ij})) \subseteq \text{res}_{N(\varepsilon)} X_{F(\varepsilon)}$ . This shows (iv).

Now assume that  $\dim A = \dim B$ . Let  $K'_1$  be a finite Galois extension of  $K(B)$  that contains both  $K_1$  and  $K(C)$ . Let  $g \in K[\mathbf{X}]$  be a polynomial that does not vanish on  $B$ , Put  $A' = A \setminus V(g)$ ,  $B' = B \setminus V(g)$ , and let  $D'$  be the integral closure of  $K[B']$  in  $K'_1$ . We may choose  $g$  so that  $K[A']/K[B']$  is integral and  $D'/B'$  is a cover. Then  $D'/A'$  is also a Galois cover. ■

### 8. Real Galois stratification

*Definition 8.1:* Let  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered field. A normal stratification  $\mathcal{A}_0 = \langle \mathbb{A}^n, C_i/A_i \mid i \in I \rangle$  of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  over  $K$  [FJ, p. 410] is **real** if the covers  $C_i/A_i$  are real. It can be **augmented** to a **real Galois stratification**

$$(8.2) \quad \mathcal{A} = \langle \mathbb{A}^n, C_i/A_i, \text{Con}(A_i) \mid i \in I \rangle,$$

where each  $\text{Con}(A_i)$  is a conjugacy domain in  $\text{Sub}[C_i/A_i, \mathbf{P}_0]$ .

Put  $\text{Sub } \mathcal{A} = \text{Sub } \mathcal{A}_0 = \bigcup_{i \in I} \text{Sub}[C_i/A_i, \mathbf{P}_0]$ .

Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be an extension of  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  and let  $\mathbf{a} \in M^n$ . Write  $\mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{A}, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{A})$  if  $\mathbf{Ar}(A_i, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(A_i)$  for the unique  $i$  such that  $\mathbf{a} \in A_i$ . ■

We have the following analogue of [FJ, Lemma 25.5].

LEMMA 8.3: *Let  $n \geq 0$ . For each real normal stratification  $\mathcal{A}_0$  of  $\mathbb{A}^{n+1}$  over  $K$  we can find a real normal stratification  $\mathcal{B}_0$  of  $\mathbb{A}^n$  over  $K$  and a finite family  $\mathcal{H} \supseteq \text{Sub } \mathcal{B}_0$  of (isomorphism types of) finite  $e$ -structures with the following property. Let  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \mathbb{A}^{n+1}, C_i/A_i, \text{Con}(A_i) \mid i \in I \rangle$  be an augmentation of  $\mathcal{A}_0$  to a real Galois stratification, and let  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ . Then we can find an augmentation  $\mathcal{B} = \langle \mathbb{A}^n, D_j/B_j, \text{Con}(B_j) \mid j \in J \rangle$  of  $\mathcal{B}_0$  with  $\bigcup_j \text{Con}(B_j) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ , that depends on  $\mathcal{S}$ , such that for each Frobenius field  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  that contains  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  and satisfies  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{S}$ , and for each  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{A}^n(M)$  we have:  $\mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{B}, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{B})$  if and only if*

(\*) *there exists  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{A}^{n+1}(M)$  such that  $\pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}$  and  $\mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{A}, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{A})$ .*

*Proof:* Use Remark 1.3, the stratification lemma [FJ, Lemma 17.26], and Lemma 7.5 to construct real normal stratifications

$$\mathcal{A}'_0 = \langle \mathbb{A}^{n+1}, C_{jk}/A_{jk}, \mid j \in J, k \in K(j) \rangle, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B}_0 = \langle \mathbb{A}^n, D_j/B_j, \mid j \in J \rangle$$

over  $K$  with the following properties (see [FJ, Lemma 25.5]).

- (a) For each  $j \in J$  and  $k \in K(j)$  there is a unique  $i \in I$ , denoted  $i(j, k)$ , such that  $A_{jk} \subseteq A_i$ .
- (b) Let  $i = i(j, k)$ . The Galois cover  $C'_{jk}/A_{jk}$  induced from  $C_i/A_i$  satisfies  $K(C'_{jk}) \subseteq K(C_{jk})$ ,
- (c)  $\pi^{-1}(B_j) = \bigcup_{k \in K(j)} A_{jk}$  and  $\pi(A_{jk}) = B_j$ ,
- (d)  $(C_{jk}/A_{jk}, D_j/B_j)$  is specialization compatible.

Choose  $\mathcal{H}$  so that  $\mathcal{H} \supseteq \text{Sub } \mathcal{A}_0 \cup \text{Sub } \mathcal{A}'_0 \cup \text{Sub } \mathcal{B}_0$ , and let  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ .

Let  $i = i(j, k)$ . Then  $\text{Con}(A_i)$  induces a conjugacy domain  $\text{Con}(C'_{jk}/A_{jk}, \mathcal{S})$  in  $\text{Sub}[C'_{jk}/A_{jk}, \mathbf{P}_0]$  (Property 6.4). Use Property 6.1 to define a conjugacy domain  $\text{Con}(A_{jk}, \mathcal{S})$  in  $\text{Sub}[C_{jk}/A_{jk}, \mathbf{P}_0]$  that belongs to  $\mathcal{S}$ . The two properties ensure that the real Galois stratification

$$\mathcal{A}' = \langle \mathbb{A}^{n+1}, C_{jk}/A_{jk}, \text{Con}(A_{jk}, \mathcal{S}) \mid j \in J, k \in K(j) \rangle,$$

satisfies for every extension  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  of  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  and each  $\mathbf{a} \in M^{n+1}$

$$\mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{A}, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{A}) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{A}', \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{A}').$$

Thus we may assume that  $\mathcal{A}' = \mathcal{A}$ . Apply Lemmas 7.2 and 7.4 to augment  $\mathcal{B}_0$  to the desired real Galois stratification. ■

*Remark 8.4:* For  $\mathcal{B}_0, \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{S}$  as in Lemma 8.3 we can also find another augmentation  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\mathcal{B}_0$ , with  $\bigcup_j \text{Con}(\mathcal{B}_j) \subseteq \mathcal{S}$ , such that for each Frobenius field  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  that contains  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  and satisfies  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{S}$ , and for each  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{A}^n(M)$  we have:  $\mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{B}, \mathbf{b}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{B})$  if and only if

$$(*) \quad \mathbf{Ar}(\mathcal{A}, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{A}) \text{ for each } \mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{A}^{n+1}(M) \text{ such that } \pi(\mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}.$$

This can be deduced using the complementary real Galois stratification, analogously to [FJ, Lemma 25.7]. ■

### 9. Applications

Let  $m, n \geq 0$ . Put  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_m), \mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$ , and let  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m$  be quantifiers. The following expression  $\vartheta(\mathbf{Y})$

$$(Q_1 X_1) \cdots (Q_m X_m) [\mathbf{Ar}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) \subseteq \text{Con } \mathcal{A}],$$

where  $\mathcal{A}$  is a real Galois stratification of  $\mathbb{A}^{n+m}$ , is called a **real Galois formula** in the free variables  $\mathbf{Y}$ . Its interpretation is clear from Definition 8.1.

Let  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$  be the first order predicate calculus language of  $e$ -fold ordered fields augmented by constant symbols for the elements of the field  $K$ .

**LEMMA 9.1:** *Every formula  $\vartheta(\mathbf{Y}) = \vartheta(Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$  in the language  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$  is equivalent to a Galois formula over  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ .*

*Proof:* Write  $\vartheta(\mathbf{Y})$  in the prenex normal form. Without loss of generality it is quantifier free, i.e. of the form

$$\bigvee_{i \in I} \left[ \vartheta_i(\mathbf{Y}) \wedge \bigwedge_{j=1}^e \bigwedge_{k=1}^{r_j} h_{ijk}(\mathbf{Y}) \geq_j 0 \right],$$

where  $\vartheta_i(\mathbf{Y})$  defines a  $K$ -constructible set  $A_i$  in  $\mathbb{A}^n$ , and  $h_{ijk}(\mathbf{Y}) \in K[\mathbf{Y}]$ . We may assume that  $\bigcup_i A_i = \mathbb{A}^n$ , otherwise add  $\vartheta_0$  that defines the complement of  $\bigcup_i A_i$ , and put  $h_{0jk} = -1$ . Replacing the  $A_i$  by appropriate constructible subsets



we may assume that they are disjoint. Finally, we may stratify each of the  $A_i$  into smaller sets, and thus assume that each  $A_i$  is a nonsingular basic sets over  $K$ , say, with generic point  $\mathbf{y}_i$  over  $K$ , and  $C_i = K[A_i][\sqrt{-1}, \sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)} \mid j, k]$  is a real Galois cover of  $K[A_i]$ .

Augment the normal stratification  $\langle \mathbb{A}^n, C_i/A_i \mid i \in I \rangle$  to a real Galois stratification  $\mathcal{A}$  by letting  $\text{Con}(A_i)$  be the collection of all  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[C_i/A_i, \mathbf{P}_0]$  with  $\varepsilon(\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}) = \sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}$  for all  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{H})$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, e$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, r_j$ .

Let  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  be an  $e$ -ordered field that extends  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ , and let  $\mathbf{a} \in A_i(M)$ . Let  $\varphi: K[C_i] \rightarrow \widetilde{M}$  be an extension of  $\mathbf{y}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{a}$ , let  $\delta \in \mathcal{E}_j(\widetilde{M}/M, \mathbf{P})$  and  $\varepsilon = \varphi^*(\delta)$ . Then  $\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{a})} = \varphi(\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}) \in \widetilde{M}$ , and, from the equation of Remark 4.1(a),  $\varepsilon$  fixes  $\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}$  if and only if  $\delta$  fixes  $\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{a})}$ . Therefore

$$h_{ijk}(\mathbf{a}) \in P_j \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{a})} \in \widetilde{M}(\delta) \Leftrightarrow \varepsilon(\sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}) = \sqrt{h_{ijk}(\mathbf{y}_i)}.$$

Thus  $\text{Ar}(A_i, \mathbf{a}) \subseteq \text{Con}_i(A_i)$  if and only if  $\bigwedge_j \bigwedge_k h_{ijk}(\mathbf{a}) \geq_j 0$ . Therefore the Galois formula  $\text{Ar}(\mathbf{Y}) \subseteq \text{Con } \mathcal{A}$  is equivalent to  $\vartheta(\mathbf{Y})$  over  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ . ■

Let  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  be an  $e$ -fold ordered field, and let  $\Pi$  be a class of (isomorphism types of) superprojective  $e$ -structures. Denote by  $\text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi)$  the class of  $e$ -fold ordered Frobenius fields  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  with  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \in \Pi$  that contain  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ .

**THEOREM 9.2:** *Let  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  be a presented  $e$ -fold ordered field with elimination theory, and let  $\vartheta$  be a sentence in  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$ .*

- (a) *We can effectively find a finite Galois extension  $L/K$  with  $\sqrt{-1} \in L$ , a finite family  $\mathcal{H} \supseteq \text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0]$  of (isomorphism types of) finite  $e$ -structures, and for each  $S \subseteq \mathcal{H}$  a conjugacy domain  $\text{Con}(S)$  in  $\text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0]$  contained in  $S$  such that for every Frobenius field  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  that contains  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  and satisfies  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \mathcal{H} = S$  we have:  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \models \vartheta$  if and only if*

(9.3)  $\mathbf{G}(L/L \cap M, \text{res}_{L \cap M} \mathbf{P}) \in \text{Con}(S)$ .

- (b) *We have  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \models \vartheta$  for all  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \in \text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi)$  if and only if  $\text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0] \cap S = \text{Con}(S)$  for all  $S \subseteq \mathcal{H}$  that satisfy*

(9.4) *there is  $\mathbf{G} \in \Pi$  such that  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G} \cap \mathcal{H} = S$ .*

*Proof:* (a) By Lemma 9.1,  $\vartheta$  is equivalent to a real Galois sentence  $\vartheta'$ . Inductively apply Lemma 8.3 and Remark 8.4 to assume that  $\vartheta'$  is quantifier free. Then  $\vartheta'$  is associated with a real Galois stratification  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \mathbb{A}^0, L/\mathbb{A}^0, \text{Con}(S) \rangle$  of  $\mathbb{A}^0$ , with  $\text{Con}(S)$  depending on  $S \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ . By Property 6.1 we may assume

that  $\sqrt{-1} \in L$ . Let  $0$  be the unique point of  $\mathbb{A}^0$ . Then  $\mathbf{Ar}(L/\mathbb{A}^0, M, \mathbf{P}, 0) = \mathbf{G}(L/L \cap M, \text{res}_{L \cap M} \mathbf{P})$ . Hence (9.3) is the interpretation of  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \models \vartheta'$ .

(b) Fix  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$ . Observe that

$$(9.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & \{ \mathbf{G}(L/L \cap M, \text{res}_{L \cap M} \mathbf{P}) \mid (M, \mathbf{P}) \in \text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi), \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cap \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{S} \} \\ &= \begin{cases} \text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0] \cap \mathcal{S}, & \text{if } \mathcal{S} \text{ satisfies (9.4);} \\ \emptyset, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Indeed, if  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \in \text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi)$ , then

$$\mathbf{G}(L/L \cap M, \text{res}_{L \cap M} \mathbf{P}) = \mathbf{Ar}(L/\mathbb{A}^0, M, \mathbf{P}, 0) \subseteq \text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0] \cap \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$$

and  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \in \Pi$ . This gives the inclusion “ $\subseteq$ ” in (9.5).

Conversely, let  $\mathbf{G} \in \Pi$  such that  $\text{Im } \mathbf{G} \cap \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{S}$ , and let  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0] \cap \mathcal{S}$ . Then  $\mathbf{H} \in \text{Im } \mathbf{G}$ , so there is an epimorphism  $\pi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$ . Put  $H' = H \cap \mathbf{G}(L/K(\sqrt{-1}))$ , let  $G' = \pi^{-1}(H')$ , and  $\mathfrak{H} = \langle H, H', \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{H}) \rangle$ . By Lemma 3.6,  $\mathfrak{G} = \langle G, G', \mathcal{E}(\mathbf{G}) \rangle$  is a projective Artin-Schreier structure. Let  $\pi: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H}$  be the epimorphism of weak structures induced by  $\pi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$ .

There exists a PRC field  $M$  containing  $K$  and an isomorphism  $\theta: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{G}(M)$  such that  $\text{res}_L \circ \theta = \pi: \mathfrak{G} \rightarrow \mathfrak{H} \subseteq \mathfrak{G}(L/K)$  [HJ1, Theorem 10.2]. Then  $\theta$  induces an isomorphism  $\theta: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P})$ , where the ordering  $P_j$  is induced by the real closure  $\widetilde{M}(\varepsilon)$  for  $\varepsilon \in \theta(\mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{G}))$ . Moreover,  $\text{res}_L \circ \theta = \pi: \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}$ . Thus  $\mathbf{H} = \pi(\mathbf{G}) = \text{res}_L \mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) = \mathbf{G}(L/L \cap M, \text{res}_{L \cap M} \mathbf{P})$ . By Lemma 3.5(a) the orderings  $P_1, \dots, P_e$  are distinct and they are all the orderings on  $M$ . So  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is PRCe. As  $\mathbf{G}(M, \mathbf{P}) \cong \mathbf{G} \in \Pi$  is superprojective,  $(M, \mathbf{P})$  is Frobenius (Proposition 5.6), whence  $(M, \mathbf{P}) \in \text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi)$ .

Assertion (b) follows immediately from (a) and (9.5). ■

Condition  $\text{Sub}[L/K, \mathbf{P}_0] \cap \mathcal{S} \subseteq \text{Con}(\mathcal{S})$  can be effectively checked for each subfamily  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\mathcal{H}$ . The only difficulty is to decide which  $\mathcal{S}$  satisfy (9.4). We list a few interesting cases in which this is possible:

**COROLLARY 9.6:** *The theory of  $\text{Frob}(K, \mathbf{P}_0; \Pi)$  in  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$  is primitive recursive*

- (a) *for  $\Pi = \{\mathbf{H}\}$ , where  $\mathbf{H}$  is superprojective and  $\text{Im } \mathbf{H}$  is a primitive recursive family of finite  $e$ -structures,*
- (b) *for  $\Pi = \{\hat{\mathbf{D}}_{e,n}\}$ ,*
- (c) *for  $\Pi = \{\hat{\mathbf{D}}(2)_{e,n}\}$ ,*

(d) for  $\Pi =$  the class of all superprojective  $e$ -structures.

*Proof:* (a) Condition (9.4) is  $\text{Im } \mathbf{H} \cap \mathcal{H} = \mathcal{S}$ . It can be effectively checked.

(b) and (c) are special cases of (a).

(d) Let  $\mathcal{H} = \{\mathbf{A}_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}_m, \mathbf{B}_1, \dots, \mathbf{B}_n\}$  and  $\mathcal{S} = \{\mathbf{B}_1, \dots, \mathbf{B}_n\} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$  be given families of finite  $e$ -structures. By (9.4) it suffices to decide, whether there exists a superprojective  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{G}$  such that the  $\mathbf{A}_i$  are quotients of  $\mathbf{G}$  and the  $\mathbf{B}_j$  are not. This is done by a straightforward translation of the notion of embedding covers to the category of  $e$ -structures [FJ, §23]. We refer the reader to [La, §2] for the details. ■

It follows that the elementary theory of Geyer and v.d. Dries fields is primitive recursive.

LEMMA 9.7: *The expression “the  $e$ -structure  $\mathbf{B}$  is realizable over  $(M, \mathbf{P})$ ” is an elementary statement.*

*Proof:* This expression is equivalent to “there exists a Galois extension  $N$  of  $M$  such that  $\mathbf{G}(N/M, \mathbf{P}) \cong \mathbf{B}$ ”.

Let  $B$  be given as a subgroup of  $S_{2n}$  by its action on  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$ . For a polynomial  $f(Z)$  of degree  $2n$ , the statement “ $f$  is irreducible, normal and there exists an isomorphism of permutation groups  $\beta: G(f, M) \rightarrow B$ ” is elementary [FJ, p. 256]. In particular, it asserts that there are polynomials  $p_1 = Z, p_2, \dots, p_{2n}$  of degree  $< 2n$  such that  $p_i(z)$  is the  $i$ th root of  $f$ , and hence  $p_{\sigma(i)}(z) = p_i(z_{\sigma(i)})$ , for each  $i$ .

Let  $z$  be a root of  $f$ , and let  $N = M(z)$  be the splitting field of  $f$  over  $M$ . Condition  $\sqrt{-1} \in N$  is equivalent to the statement “there exists a polynomial  $q$  of degree  $< 2n$  such that  $q(z)^2 + 1 = 0$ ”. Finally, fix  $1 \leq j \leq e$  and  $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{E}_j(\mathbf{B})$ , and let  $\delta = \beta^{-1}(\varepsilon)$ . The condition “ $P_j$  extends to  $N(\delta)$ ” can be expressed as follows. There is an irreducible polynomial  $h$  of degree  $n$  and a polynomial  $g$  of degree  $< 2n$ , such that  $h(g(z)) = 0$  and  $g(p_{\varepsilon(1)}(z)) = g(z)$ , and  $h$  changes sign in the real closure of  $(M, P_j)$ . Use Tarski’s Principle 1.4 to express this in  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$ . ■

PROPOSITION 9.8: *Let  $(M_1, \mathbf{P}_1)$  and  $(M_2, \mathbf{P}_2)$  be two  $e$ -fold ordered Frobenius extensions of  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$ . Then  $(M_1, \mathbf{P}_1) \equiv (M_2, \mathbf{P}_2)$  in  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$  if and only if*

$$(9.9) \quad \tilde{K} \cap (M_1, \mathbf{P}_1) \cong \tilde{K} \cap (M_2, \mathbf{P}_2) \text{ and } \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M_1, \mathbf{P}_1) = \text{Im } \mathbf{G}(M_2, \mathbf{P}_2).$$

*Proof:* Assume (9.9). Theorem 9.2(a) implies that  $(M_1, \mathbf{P}_1)$  and  $(M_2, \mathbf{P}_2)$  satisfy the same sentences in  $\mathcal{L}_e(K)$ . Conversely, let  $(M_1, \mathbf{P}_1) \equiv (M_2, \mathbf{P}_2)$ . The first part of (9.9) follows from [J1, Lemma 5.1] and the second part from Lemma 9.7. ■

Let  $(K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  be a fixed  $e$ -fold ordered field with  $K$  a countable Hilbertian field. For a sentence  $\vartheta \in \mathcal{L}_e(K)$  denote  $A(\vartheta) = \{\sigma \in G(K)^e \mid \mathcal{K}_\sigma \models \vartheta\}$ , where  $\mathcal{K}_\sigma$  is the field defined in Example 5.2. Then  $A(\vartheta)$  is a measurable set and the measure  $\mu(A(\vartheta))$  is a rational number [J1, Theorem 8.1].

**THEOREM 9.10:** *The function that assigns to a sentence  $\vartheta \in \mathcal{L}_e(K)$  the rational number  $\mu(A(\vartheta))$  is primitive recursive.*

*Proof:* Put  $\mathcal{H} = \text{Im } \hat{\mathbf{D}}_e$ , and let  $L$  and  $\text{Con}$  be as in Theorem 9.2. For each  $1 \leq j \leq e$  let  $\varepsilon_j$  be the generator of  $G(L/L \cap \overline{K}_j)$ . Then  $\mu(A(\vartheta))$  is equal to the number of  $e$ -tuples  $\sigma \in G(L/K)^e$  such that  $(\varepsilon_1^{\sigma_1}, \dots, \varepsilon_e^{\sigma_e}) \in \mathbf{G}(L/K, \mathbf{P}_0)$  generates an  $e$ -structure in  $\text{Con}$  divided by  $[L : K]^e$ . ■

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