

Self-similar abelian groups.**

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Abstract

A self-similar group is a group G acting on a one-rooted m -regular tree \mathcal{T}_m in such a way that the states of its elements are themselves elements of G . The permutation group induced on the first level of the tree has $s \geq 1$ orbits; when $s = 1$ the group is said to be transitive. Famous examples of transitive self-similar groups include the infinite torsion 2-group of Grigorchuk and the Gupta-Sidki p -groups.

Nekrashevych and Sidki characterized all transitive self-similar free abelian subgroups of finite rank of the group of automorphisms of the binary tree \mathcal{T}_2 , [3]. Later Brunner and Sidki [2] conducted the most complete study of transitive abelian self-similar groups showing for example that the closure of such groups under the full diagonal operations, $\alpha \mapsto (\alpha, \alpha, \dots, \alpha)$, of the group of automorphisms of \mathcal{T}_m is again abelian. This lead to an important translation of transitive self-similar abelian groups to modules of the m -adic algebra $\mathbb{Z}_m[[x]]$. The generalization to the intransitive case, where the group has $s > 1$ orbits, requires a careful study of a free monoid Δ of rank s , of partial diagonal operations acting on the group of automorphisms of \mathcal{T}_m . We show that in this setting, if A is a self-similar abelian group in \mathcal{A}_m then the centralizer of $\Delta(A)$ in \mathcal{A}_m is additively a finitely generated $\mathbb{Z}_n[[\Delta]]$ module and derive as consequence, the torsion subgroup of A is also a self-similar group of finite exponent, a divisor of n . Furthermore, we extend recent constructions of self-similar free abelian groups of infinite enumerable rank to examples of such groups which are also Δ -invariant.

This is a work in progress.

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References

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