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Modeling Rooted in-Trees by Finite p -Groups

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Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.5772/intechopen.68703>

Abstract

Graph theoretic foundations for a kind of infinite rooted in-trees $T(R) = (V, E)$ with root R , weighted vertices $v \in V$, and weighted directed edges $e \in E \subset V \times V$ are described. Vertex degrees $\deg(v)$ are always finite but the trees contain infinite paths $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$. A concrete group theoretic model of the rooted in-trees $T(R)$ is introduced by representing vertices by isomorphism classes of finite p -groups G , for a fixed prime p , and directed edges by epimorphisms $\pi: G \rightarrow \pi G$ of finite p -groups with characteristic kernels $\ker(\pi)$. The weight of a vertex G is realized by its nuclear rank $n(G)$ and the weight of a directed edge π is realized by its step size $s(\pi) = \log_p(\#\ker(\pi))$. These invariants are essential for understanding the phenomenon of *multifurcation*. Pattern recognition methods are used for finding finite subgraphs which repeat indefinitely. Several periodicities admit the reduction of the complete infinite graph to finite patterns. The proof is based on infinite limit groups and successive group extensions. It is underpinned by several explicit algorithms. As a final application, it is shown that *fork topologies*, arising from repeated multifurcations, provide a convenient description of complex navigation paths through the trees, which are of the greatest importance for recent progress in determining p -class field towers of algebraic number fields.

Keywords: rooted directed in-trees, descendant trees, infinite paths, vertex distance, weighted edges, pattern recognition methods, pattern classification, independent component analysis, graph dissection, finite p -groups, projective limits, periodicity, group extensions, nuclear rank, multifurcation, presentations, commutators, central series

1. Introduction

In Section 2, we describe the abstract graph theoretic foundations for a kind of infinite rooted in-trees $T(R) = (V, E)$ with root R , weighted vertices $v \in V$, and weighted directed edges

$e \in E \subset V \times V$, which are suited perfectly for describing the crucial phenomenon of *multifurcation* in Section 2.3. The vertex degrees $\deg(v)$ are always finite, but the trees contain infinite paths $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$. In Section 3, we introduce a group theoretic model of the rooted in-trees $\mathcal{T}(R)$. Vertices are represented by isomorphism classes of finite p -groups G , for a fixed prime number p . Directed edges are represented by epimorphisms $\pi : G \rightarrow \pi G$ of finite p -groups with characteristic kernels $\ker(\pi)$. The weight of a vertex G is realized by its *nuclear rank* $n(G)$, and the weight of a directed edge π is realized by its *step size* $s(\pi) = \log_p(\#\ker(\pi))$. Since the structure of our rooted in-trees is rather complex, we use *pattern recognition* methods in Section 3.1 for finding finite subgraphs which repeat indefinitely as branches of coclass subtrees, thus giving rise to a *first periodicity*. Additionally, we employ *independent component analysis* for obtaining a graph dissection into pruned subtrees, either by Galois action in Section 3.2.1 or by Artin transfers in Section 3.2.2. A *second periodicity* of pruned coclass subtrees eventually admits the reduction of the complete infinite graph $\mathcal{T}(R)$ to finite patterns. Evidence of these newly discovered *periodic bifurcations* is provided by a mixture of bottom up techniques, using successive extensions by means of p -covering groups in the *p -group generation algorithm* and top down techniques using *infinite limits* and their *finite quotients* in Sections 3.4 and 3.5. As a coronation of this chapter, we show in Sections 3.6 and 4 that *fork topologies* provide a convenient description of very complex navigation paths through the trees, arising from repeated multifurcations, which are of the greatest importance for recent progress in determining *p -class field towers* $F_p^{(\infty)}$ of algebraic number fields F .

2. Underlying abstract graph theory

Let $\mathcal{G} = (V, E)$ be a *graph* with set of *vertices* V and set of *edges* E . We expressly admit infinite sets V and E , but we assume that the in and out degree of each vertex is finite.

2.1. Directed edges and paths

In this chapter, we shall be concerned with *directed graphs* (digraphs) whose edges are rather ordered pairs $(v_1, v_2) \in V \times V$ than only subsets $\{v_1, v_2\} \subset V$ with two elements. Such a *directed edge* $e = (v_1, v_2)$ is also denoted by an arrow $v_1 \rightarrow v_2$ with starting vertex v_1 and ending vertex v_2 . Thus, we have $E \subset V \times V$. Now, infinitude comes in.

Definition 2.1. (Finite and infinite paths.)

A *finite path* of length $\ell \geq 0$ in \mathcal{G} is a finite sequence $(v_i)_{0 \leq i \leq \ell}$ of vertices $v_i \in V$ such that $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E$ for $0 \leq i \leq \ell - 1$. We call v_0 , respectively, v_ℓ , the starting vertex, respectively, ending vertex, of the path. The degenerate case of a single vertex (v_0) is called a *point path* of length $\ell = 0$.

An *infinite path* in \mathcal{G} is an infinite sequence $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$ of vertices $v_i \in V$ such that $(v_{i+1}, v_i) \in E$ for all $i \geq 0$. In this case, v_0 is the ending vertex of the path, and there is no starting vertex.

2.2. Rooted in-trees with parent operator

Our attention will even be restricted to *rooted in-trees* $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{T}(R)$, that is, connected digraphs without cycles such that the *root vertex* R has out-degree 0, whereas any other vertex $v \in V \setminus \{R\}$ has out-degree 1. A vertex with in-degree at least 1 is called *capable*, whereas a vertex with in-degree 0 is called a *leaf*. For a rooted in-tree, we can define the parent operator as follows.

Definition 2.2. Let $\mathcal{T}(R) = (V, E)$ be a rooted in-tree. Then, the mapping $\pi : V \setminus \{R\} \rightarrow V$, $v \mapsto \pi v$, where $(v, \pi v) \in E$ is the unique edge with starting vertex v , is called the *parent operator* of $\mathcal{T}(R)$. For each vertex $v \in V$, there exists a unique finite *root path* from v to the root R ,

$$v = \pi^0 v \rightarrow \pi^1 v \rightarrow \pi^2 v \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \pi^{\ell-1} v \rightarrow \pi^\ell v = R,$$

expressed by iterated applications of the parent operator and with some *length* $\ell \geq 0$. Each vertex in the root path of v is called an *ancestor* of v .

The *descendant tree* $\mathcal{T}(a) = (V(a), E(a))$ of a vertex $a \in V$ is the subtree of $\mathcal{T}(R) = (V, E)$ consisting of vertices v with ancestor a , that is $v \in V(a) := \{u \in V \mid (\exists j \geq 0) \pi^j u = a\}$, and edges $e \in E(a) := E \cap (V(a) \times V(a))$.

A vertex $u \in V$ is called an *immediate descendant* (or *child*) of a vertex $a \in V$, if there exists a directed edge $(u, a) \in E$. In this case, $a = \pi u$ is necessarily the *parent* of u .

We can define a *partial order* on the vertices $u, a \in V$ of the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ by putting $u \geq a$ if $u \in \mathcal{T}(a)$, that is, if u is descendant of a and a is ancestor of u . The root R is the minimum.

The root R is always a common ancestor of two vertices $u, v \in V$. By the *fork* of u and v , we understand their biggest common ancestor, denoted by $\text{Fork}(u, v)$, which admits a measure.

Definition 2.3. (Vertex distance.) The sum $\ell_u + \ell_v$ of the path lengths from two vertices $u, v \in V$ to their fork is called the *distance* $d(u, v)$ of the vertices.

2.3. Mainlines and multifurcation

We shall also need *weight functions* with nonnegative integer values for vertices $w_V : V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$, and with positive integer values for edges $w_E : E \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$. In particular, the sets of vertices and edges have disjoint partitions

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \dot{\bigcup}_{n \geq 0} V_n \text{ with } V_n := \{v \in V \mid w_V(v) = n\} \text{ for } n \geq 0, \\ E &= \dot{\bigcup}_{s \geq 1} E_s \text{ with } E_s := \{e \in E \mid w_E(e) = s\} \text{ for } s \geq 1, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

such that V_0 is precisely the *set of leaves* of the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$. Thus, there arise weighted measures.

Definition 2.4. (Path weight and weighted distance.)

By the *path weight* of a finite path $(v_i)_{0 \leq i \leq \ell}$ with length $\ell \geq 0$ in $\mathcal{T}(R)$ such that $(v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E_{s_i}$ for $0 \leq i \leq \ell - 1$, we understand the sum $\sum_{i=0}^{\ell-1} s_i$. The sum $w_u + w_v$ of the path weights from two vertices $u, v \in V$ to their fork is called the *weighted distance* $w(u, v)$ of the vertices.

In Definitions 2.5 and 2.6, some concepts are introduced using the minimal possible weight.

Definition 2.5. (Mainlines and minimal trees.) An infinite path $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$ in $\mathcal{T}(R)$ with edges of weight 1, that is, such that $(v_{i+1}, v_i) \in E_1$ for all $i \geq 0$, is called a *mainline* in $\mathcal{T}(R)$.

The *minimal tree* $\mathcal{T}_1(a) = (V_1(a), E_1(a))$ of a vertex $a \in V$ is the subtree of the descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(a) = (V(a), E(a))$ consisting of vertices v , whose root path in $\mathcal{T}(a)$ possesses edges e of weight 1 only, that is $v \in V_1(a) := \{u \in V(a) | (\forall 0 \leq j < \ell) (\pi^j u, \pi^{j+1} u) \in E_1\}$, and edges $e \in E_1(a) := E(a) \cap (V_1(a) \times V_1(a))$.

Definition 2.6. (Branches.) Let $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$ be a mainline in $\mathcal{T}(R)$. For $i \geq 0$, the difference set $\mathcal{B}(v_i) := \mathcal{T}_1(v_i) \setminus \mathcal{T}_1(v_{i+1})$ of minimal trees is called the *branch* with root v_i of the minimal tree $\mathcal{T}_1(v_0)$. The branches give rise to a disjoint partition $\mathcal{T}_1(v_0) = \bigcup_{i \geq 0} \mathcal{B}(v_i)$.

Finally, we complete our abstract graph theoretic language by considering arbitrary weights.

Definition 2.7. (Multifurcation.)

Let $n \geq 2$ be a positive integer. A vertex $a \in V_n$ has an *n-fold multifurcation* if its in-degree is an *n-fold sum* $N_1 + N_2 + \dots + N_n$ due to $N_s \geq 1$ incoming edges of weight s , for each $1 \leq s \leq n$. That is, we define counters N_s of all incoming edges of weight s , and additionally, we have counters C_s of all incoming edges of weight s with capable starting vertex

$$\begin{aligned} N_s &:= N_s(a) := \#\{e \in E_s | e = (u, a) \text{ for some } u \in V\}, \\ C_s &:= C_s(a) := \#\{e \in E_s | e = (u, a) \text{ for some } u \in V \text{ with } w_V(u) \geq 1\}. \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

We also define an ordering and a notation [1] for immediate descendants of a by writing $a - \#s; i$ for the i th immediate descendant with edge of weight s , where $1 \leq s \leq n$ and $1 \leq i \leq N_s$.

3. Concrete model in *p*-group theory

Now, we introduce a group theoretic model of the rooted in-trees $\mathcal{T}(R) = (V, E)$ in Section 2. Vertices $v \in V$ are represented by isomorphism classes of finite *p*-groups G , for a fixed prime number p . Directed edges $e \in E$ are represented by epimorphisms $\pi : G \rightarrow \pi G$ of finite *p*-groups with characteristic kernels $\ker(\pi) = \gamma_c G$, where $c := \text{cl}(G)$ denotes the nilpotency class of G and $(\gamma_i G)_{i \geq 1}$ is the lower central series of G .

We emphasize that the symbol π is used now intentionally for two distinct mappings, the abstract parent operator $\pi : V \setminus \{R\} \rightarrow V, v \mapsto \pi v$, in Definition 2.2, and the concrete natural projection onto the quotient $\pi : G \rightarrow \pi G \simeq G/\gamma_c G, g \mapsto \pi(g) = g \cdot \gamma_c G$, for each individual vertex $G = v \in V \setminus \{R\}$, which should precisely be denoted by $\pi = \pi_G$, but we omit the subscript, since there is no danger of misinterpretation. In both views, πG is the parent of G .

The weight of a vertex G is realized by its *nuclear rank* $n(G)$ ([2], section 14, eqn. (28), p. 178) and the weight of a directed edge $\pi : G \rightarrow \pi G$ is realized by its *step size* $s(\pi) = \log_p(\#\gamma_c G)$ ([2], section 17, eqn. (33), p. 179). These invariants are essential for understanding the phenomenon of *multifurcation* in Definition 2.7. In particular, we can hide multifurcation by restricting all edges π to step size $s(\pi) = 1$, that is, by considering the minimal tree $\mathcal{T}_1(v)$ instead of the entire descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(v)$ of a vertex $v \in V$. In our concrete p -group theoretic model, all vertices G of a minimal tree share a common *coclass*, which is the additive complement $cc(G) := \text{lo}(G) - \text{cl}(G)$ of the (nilpotency) class $c = \text{cl}(G)$ with respect to the *logarithmic order* $\text{lo}(G) := \log_p(\text{ord}(G))$ of G . Generally, the logarithmic order of an immediate descendant G with parent πG increases by the step size, $\text{lo}(G) = \text{lo}(\pi G) + s(\pi)$, since $\log_p(\#\pi G) = \log_p(\#(G/\ker\pi)) = \log_p(\#G) - \log_p(\#\ker\pi)$. Consequently, the coclass remains fixed in a minimal tree with $s(\pi) = 1$, since

$$cc(G) = \text{lo}(G) - \text{cl}(G) = \text{lo}(\pi G) + 1 - (\text{cl}(\pi G) + 1) = \text{lo}(\pi G) - \text{cl}(\pi G) = cc(\pi G).$$

A minimal tree $\mathcal{T}_1(G)$ which contains a unique infinite mainline is called a *coclass tree*. It is denoted by $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}(G) := \mathcal{T}_1(G)$ when its root G is of coclass $r := cc(G)$. For further details, see ([2], section 5, p. 164).

In view of the principal goals of this chapter, we must specify our intended situation even more concretely. We put $p := 3$, the smallest odd prime number, and we select as the root either $R := \langle 243, 6 \rangle$ or $R := \langle 243, 8 \rangle$, characterized by its SmallGroup identifier [3]. These are metabelian 3-groups of order $\#R = 243 = 3^5$, logarithmic order $\text{lo}(R) = 5$, class $c = 3$, and coclass $r = 2$.

3.1. Periodicity of finite patterns

Within the frame of the above-mentioned model with $p = 3$ for the theory of rooted in-trees as developed in Section 2, the following finiteness and periodicity statement becomes provable.

The *virtual periodicity* of depth-pruned branches of coclass trees has been proven rigorously with analytic methods (using zeta functions and cone integrals) by du Sautoy [4] in 2000, and with algebraic methods (using cohomology groups) by Eick and Leedham-Green [5] in 2008. We recall that a coclass tree contains a unique infinite path of edges π with uniform step size $s(\pi) = 1$, the so-called mainline. Pattern recognition and pattern classification concern the branches.

Theorem 3.1. (A finite periodically repeating pattern.)

Among the vertices of any mainline $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$ in $\mathcal{T}(R)$, there exists a **periodic root** v_q with $q \geq 0$ and a **period length** $\lambda \geq 1$ such that the branches

$$\mathcal{B}(v_{i+\lambda}) \simeq \mathcal{B}(v_i)$$

are isomorphic **finite** graphs, for all $i \geq q$. Up to a finite preperiodic component, the minimal tree $\mathcal{T}_1(v_0)$ consists of periodically repeating copies of the finite pattern $\bigcup_{i=0}^{\lambda-1} \mathcal{B}(v_{q+i})$.

Proof. According to [4, 5], the claims are true for pruned branches with any fixed depth. However, for $p = 3$ and under the pruning operation on $\mathcal{T}(R)$ described in Section 3.2.2, the virtual periodicity becomes a strict periodicity, since the depth is bounded uniformly for all branches. \square

Before we visualize a particular instance of Theorem 3.1 in the diagram of **Figure 1**, we have to establish techniques for disentangling dense branches of high complexity.

3.2. Graph dissection by independent component analysis

3.2.1. Dissection by Galois action

Figure 1 visualizes a graph dissection of the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ by independent component analysis. This technique drastically reduces the complexity of visual representations and avoids overlaps of dense subgraphs. The left hand scale gives the order of groups whose isomorphism classes are represented by vertices of the graph. The mainline skeleton (black) connects branches of non σ -groups (red) in the left subfigure and branches of σ -groups (green) in the right subfigure. This terminology has its origin in the action of the Galois group $\text{Gal}(F/\mathbb{Q})$ on the abelianization $\mathfrak{M}/\mathfrak{M}'$, when a vertex of $\mathcal{T}(R)$ is realized as second 3-class group $\mathfrak{M} := \text{Gal}(F_3^{(2)}/F)$ of an algebraic number field F . For quadratic fields F , we obtain σ -groups.

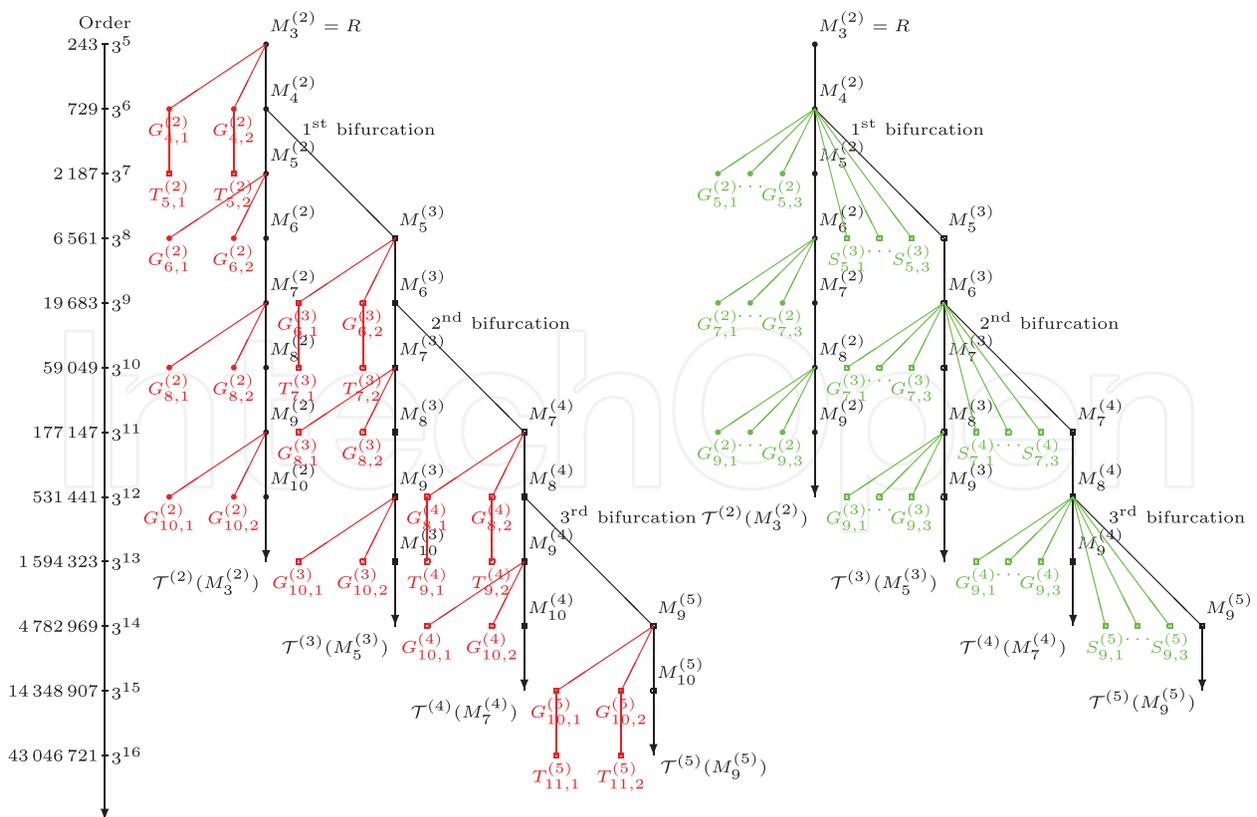


Figure 1. Graph dissection into pruned branches connected by the mainline skeleton.

Definition 3.1. A σ -group G admits an automorphism $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$ acting as inversion $\sigma(x) = x^{-1}$ on the commutator quotient G/G' .

The actual graph $\mathcal{T}(R)$ consists of the overlay (superposition) of both subfigures in **Figure 1**. Infinite mainlines are indicated by arrows. The periodic bifurcations form an infinite path with edges of alternating step sizes 1 and 2, according to Theorem 3.2. We call it the *maintrunk*.

With the aid of **Figure 1**, a particular instance of Theorem 3.1 can be expressed in a more concrete and ostensive way by taking the tree root as the ending vertex $v_0 := R$ of the mainline $(v_i)_{i \geq 0}$, and by using the variable class $c \geq 3$ and the fixed coclass $r = 2$ as parameters describing all mainline vertices $M_c^{(r)} := v_{c-3}$. The periodic root is $M_5^{(2)} = v_2$ with $\varrho = 2$ and the period length is $\lambda = 2$. The finite periodic pattern consists of the two branches $\mathcal{B}(M_5^{(2)}) = \{M_5^{(2)}, G_{6,1}^{(2)}, G_{6,2}^{(2)}\}$ (red) and $\mathcal{B}(M_6^{(2)}) = \{M_6^{(2)}, G_{7,1}^{(2)}, G_{7,2}^{(2)}, G_{7,3}^{(2)}\}$ (green). The preperiod is irregular and consists of the two branches $\mathcal{B}(M_3^{(2)}) = \{M_3^{(2)}, G_{4,1}^{(2)}, G_{4,2}^{(2)}, T_{5,1}^{(2)}, T_{5,2}^{(2)}\}$ (red) and $\mathcal{B}(M_4^{(2)}) = \{M_4^{(2)}, G_{5,1}^{(2)}, G_{5,2}^{(2)}, G_{5,3}^{(2)}\}$ (green). But $M_4^{(2)}$ is not coclass-settled, has nuclear rank $n = 2$ and gives rise to a bifurcation with immediate descendants $S_{5,1}^{(3)}, S_{5,2}^{(3)}, S_{5,3}^{(3)}, M_5^{(3)}$ (green) of step size $s = 2$.

3.2.2. Dissection by Artin transfers

In **Figure 1**, we have tacitly used a second technique of graph dissection by independent component analysis. **Figure 2** is restricted to the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(R)$ with exemplary root $R = \langle 243, 8 \rangle$, which is the leftmost coclass tree in both subfigures of **Figure 1**. However, now this coclass tree is drawn completely up to logarithmic order 15, containing both, non- σ -branches and σ -branches. The tree is embedded in a kind of coordinate system having the transfer kernel type (TKT) κ as its horizontal axis and the first component $\tau(1)$ of the transfer target type (TTT) τ as its vertical axis ([6], Dfn. 4.2, p. 27). It is convenient to employ a second graph dissection, according to three fundamental types of transfer kernels

- the vertices with *simple* types E.8, $\kappa = (1231)$, and E.9, $\kappa = (2231)$, which are leaves (left of the mainline), except those of order 3^6 ,
- the vertices with *scaffold* (or *skeleton*) type c.21, $\kappa = (0231)$, which are either infinitely capable mainline vertices or nonmetabelian leaves (immediately right of the mainline),
- the vertices with *complex* type G.16, $\kappa = (4231)$, which are capable at depth 1 and give rise to a complicated brushwood of various descendants (right of the mainline).

The tacit omission in **Figure 1** concerns all vertices with complex type and the leaves with scaffold type. Our main results in this chapter will shed complete light on all mainline vertices and the vertices with simple types. Underlined boldface integers in **Figure 2** indicate the minimal discriminants d of (real and imaginary) quadratic fields $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ whose second 3-class group $G_3^{(2)}F := \text{Gal}(F_3^{(2)}/F)$ realizes the vertex surrounded by the adjacent oval. Three leaves of type E.8 are drawn with red color, because they will be referred to in Theorem 4.1 on 3-class towers.

3.3. Periodicity of infinite patterns

With the aid of a combination of top down and bottom up techniques, we are now going to provide evidence of a new kind of *periodic bifurcations* in pruned descendant trees which contain a unique infinite path of edges π with strictly alternating step sizes $s(\pi) = 1$ and $s(\pi) = 2$, the so-called *maintrunk*. It is very important that the trees are *pruned* in the sense explained at the end of the preceding Section 3.2.2; for otherwise, the maintrunk will not be unique. In fact, each of our pruned descendant trees $\mathcal{T}(R)$ is a countable disjoint union of pruned coclass trees $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}$, $r \geq 2$, which are isomorphic as infinite graphs and connected by edges of weight 2, and finite batches $\mathcal{T}_0^{(r)}$, $r \geq 3$, of sporadic vertices outside of coclass trees. The top down and bottom up techniques are implemented simultaneously in two recursive Algorithms 3.1 and 3.2.

The first Algorithm 3.1 recursively constructs the mainline vertices $M_c^{(r)}$, with class $c \geq 2r - 1$, of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r)} \subset \mathcal{T}(R)$, for an assigned value $r \geq 2$, by means of the *bottom up* technique. In each recursion step, the *top down* technique is used for constructing the class- c quotient $\mathcal{L}_c^{(r)}$ of an infinite limit group $\mathcal{L}^{(r)}$. Finally, the isomorphism $M_c^{(r)} \simeq \mathcal{L}_c^{(r)}$ is proved.

Theorem 3.2 (*An infinite periodically repeating pattern.*) Let $u_r = 30$ be an upper bound. An infinite path is generated recursively, since for each $2 \leq r < u_r$, the immediate descendant $M_{2r+1}^{(r+1)} = M_{2r}^{(r)} - \#2; 1$ of step size 2 of the second mainline vertex $M_{2r}^{(r)}$ of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}(M_{2r-1}^{(r)})$ is root of a new coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r+1)}(M_{2(r+1)-1}^{(r+1)})$. The pruned coclass trees

$$\mathcal{T}^{(r)}(M_{2r-1}^{(r)}) \simeq \mathcal{T}^{(2)}(M_3^{(2)})$$

are isomorphic **infinite** graphs, for each $2 \leq r \leq u_r$. Note that the nuclear rank $n(M_{2r}^{(r)}) = 2$.

This is the first main theorem of the present chapter. The proof will be conducted with the aid of an infinite limit group \mathcal{L}_\pm , due to M. F. Newman. Certain quotients of \mathcal{L}_\pm give precisely the mainline vertices $M_c^{(r)}$ with $r \geq 2$ and $c \geq 2r - 1$ as will be shown in Theorem 3.3 and Remark 3.2.

Conjecture 3.1. Theorem 3.2 remains true for any upper bound $u_r > 30$.

3.4. Mainlines of the pruned descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$

Definition 3.2. The complete theory of the mainlines in $\mathcal{T}(R)$ is based on the group

$$\mathcal{L}_\pm := \langle a, t \mid (at)^3 = a^3, [[t, a], t] = a^{\pm 3} \rangle. \quad (3)$$

For each $r \geq 2$, quotients of \mathcal{L}_\pm are defined by

$$\mathcal{L}_\pm^{(r)} := \mathcal{L}_\pm / \langle a^{3^r} \rangle. \quad (4)$$

For each $r \geq 2$, and for each $c \geq 2r - 1$, quotients of $\mathcal{L}_{\pm}^{(r)}$ are defined by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pm, c}^{(r)} := \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_{\pm}^{(r)} / \langle [t, a]^{3^{\ell}} \rangle & \text{if } c = 2\ell + 1 \text{ odd, } \ell \geq r - 1, \\ \mathcal{L}_{\pm}^{(r)} / \langle t^{3^{\ell}} \rangle & \text{if } c = 2\ell \text{ even, } \ell \geq r. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

The following Algorithm 3.1 is based on iterated applications of the p -group generation algorithm by Newman [7] and O'Brien [8]. It starts with the root R , given by its compact presentation, and constructs an initial section of the unique infinite maintrunk with strictly alternating step sizes 1 and 2 in the pruned descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$. In each step, the required selection of the child with appropriate transfer kernel type (TKT) is achieved with the aid of our own subroutine `IsAdmissible()`, which is an elaborate version of ([9], section 4.1, p. 76). After reaching an assigned coclass $r = \text{hb} + 2$, our algorithm navigates along the mainline of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r)} \subset \mathcal{T}(R)$ and tests each vertex for isomorphism to the corresponding quotient $\mathcal{L}_{\pm, c}^{(r)}$ of class $c \leq 2r - 1 + \text{vb}$.

Algorithm 3.1. (Mainline vertices.)

Input: prime p , compact presentation cp of the root, bounds hb , vb , sign s .

Code: uses the subroutine `IsAdmissible()`.

```

r := 2; // initial coclass
Root := PCGroup(cp);
for i in [1..hb] do // bottom up in double steps along the maintrunk
  Des := Descendants(Root, NilpotencyClass(Root)+1: StepSizes:=[1]);
  for j in [1..#Des] do
    if IsAdmissible(Des[j], p, 0) then
      Root := Des[j];
    end if;
  end for;
  r := r + 1; // coclass recursion
  Des := Descendants(Root, NilpotencyClass(Root)+1: StepSizes:=[2]);
  for j in [1..#Des] do
    if IsAdmissible(Des[j], p, 0) then
      Root := Des[j];
    end if;
  end for;
end for;
c := 2*r - 1; // starting class c in dependence on the coclass r
er := p^r; l := (c - 1) div 2; ec := p^l;
M<a, t> := Group<a, t | (a*t)^p = a^p, ((t, a), t) = a^(s*p), a^er = 1, (t, a)^ec = 1>;
QM, pM := pQuotient(M, p, c); // top down construction
if IsIsomorphic(Root, QM) then // identification
  printf "Isomorphism for cc=%o, cl=%o.\n", r, c;
end if;

```

```

for i in[ 1..vb] do // bottom up in single steps along a mainline
  c := c + 1; // nilpotency class recursion
  if (0 eq c mod 2) then // even nilpotency class
    l := c div 2; ec := p^l;
    M<a, t> := Group<a, t | (a*t)^p=a^p, ((t, a), t)=a^(s*p), a^er=1, t^ec=1>;
  else // odd nilpotency class
    l := (c - 1) div 2; ec := p^l;
    M<a, t>:= Group<a, t | (a*t)^p=a^p, ((t, a), t)=a^(s*p), a^er=1, (t, a)^ec=1>;
  end if;
  QM, pM := pQuotient (M, p, c); // top down construction
  Des := Descendants (Root, NilpotencyClass (Root)+1: StepSizes:=[ 1] );
  for j in[ 1..#Des] do
    if IsAdmissible (Des[ j], p, 0) then
      Root := Des[ j];
    end if;
  end for;
  if IsIsomorphic (Root, QM) then // identification
    printf "Isomorphism for cc=%o, cl=%o.\n", r, c;
  end if;
end for;

```

Output: coclass r and class c in each case of an isomorphism.

Remark 3.1. Algorithm 3.1 is designed to be called with input parameters the prime $p=3$ and cp the compact presentation of either the root $\langle 243, 6 \rangle$ with sign $s=-1$ or the root $\langle 243, 8 \rangle$ with sign $s=+1$. In the current version V2.22-7 of the computational algebra system MAGMA [10], the bounds are restricted to $r=hb+2 \leq 8$ and $c=vb+2r-1 \leq 35$, since otherwise the maximal possible internal word length of relators in MAGMA is surpassed. Close to these limits, the required random access memory increases to a considerable value of approximately 8 GB RAM.

Theorem 3.3. (Mainline vertices as quotients of the limit group \mathcal{L}_{\pm} .) Let $u_r := 8, u_c := 35$.

1. For each $2 \leq r \leq u_r$, and for each $2r - 1 \leq c \leq u_c$, the mainline vertex $M_c^{(r)}$ of coclass r and nilpotency class c in the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{L}_{\pm, c}^{(r)}$.
2. For each $2 \leq r \leq u_r$, the projective limit of the mainline $\left(M_c^{(r)} \right)_{c \geq 2r-1}$ with vertices of coclass r in the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{L}_{\pm}^{(r)}$.
3. \mathcal{L}_{\pm} is an infinite nonnilpotent profinite limit group.

Proof. (1) The repeated execution of Algorithm 3.1 for successive values from $hb:=0$ to $hb:=6$, with input data $p:=3, cp:=\text{CompactPresentation}(\text{SmallGroup}(243, i)), i \in \{6, 8\}, s \in \{-1, +1\}$, and $vb:=32$, proves the isomorphisms $M_c^{(r)} \simeq \mathcal{L}_{\pm, c}^{(r)}$ for $2 \leq r \leq u_r = 8$ and $2r - 1 \leq c \leq u_c = 35$. The algorithm is initialized by the starting group $R = M_3^{(2)} = \langle 243, i \rangle$ of coclass $r:=2$. The first loop moves along the maintrunk recursively with strictly alternating step sizes 1

and 2 until the root $M_{2r-1}^{(r)}$ of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}$ with $r = 2 + \text{hb}$ is reached. The second loop iterates through the mainline vertices $M_c^{(r)}$, $c \geq 2r - 1$, of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}(M_{2r-1}^{(r)})$, always checking for isomorphism to the appropriate quotient $\mathcal{L}_{\pm, c}^{(r)}$. The subroutine `IsAdmissible()` tests the transfer kernel type of all descendants and selects the unique capable descendant with type c.18, respectively, c.21. (2) Since periodicity sets in for $2u_r - 1 = 17 \leq c \leq u_c = 35$, the claim is a consequence of Theorem 3.1. (3) The quotient $\mathcal{L}_{\pm}^{(1)}$ is already infinite and nonnilpotent. Adding the relation $[t, t^a, t] = 1$ suffices to give $[t, a, t]$ central and \mathcal{L}_{\pm} profinite. \square

Conjecture 3.2. Theorem 3.3 remains true for arbitrary upper bounds $u_r > 8$, $u_c > 35$.

Remark 3.2. When the top down constructions in Algorithm 3.1 are cancelled, the bottom up operations are still able to establish much bigger initial sections of the infinite maintrunk and of the infinite coclass tree with fixed coclass $r \geq 2$. Admitting an increasing amount of CPU time, we can easily reach astronomic values of the coclass, $r = 32$, and the nilpotency class, $c = 63$, that is a logarithmic order of $r + c = 95$, without surpassing any internal limitations of MAGMA, and the required storage capacity remains quite modest, i.e., clearly below 1 GB RAM. This remarkable stability underpins Conjecture 3.2 with additional support from the bottom up point of view.

3.5. Covers of metabelian 3-groups

Only one of the coclass subtrees $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}$, $r \geq 2$, of the entire rooted in-tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ contains metabelian vertices, namely the first subtree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}$. The following theorem shows how transfer kernel types are distributed among metabelian vertices G of depth $\text{dp}(G) \leq 1$ on the tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}$, as partially illustrated by the **Figures 1** and **2**.

Theorem 3.4. (Metabelian vertices of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}R$.)

For each finite 3-group G , we denote by $c := \text{cl}(G)$ the nilpotency class, by $r := \text{cc}(G)$ the coclass, and by κ the transfer kernel type of G . More explicitly, such a group is also denoted by $G = G_c^{(r)}$. The following statements describe the structure of the metabelian skeleton of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}R$ with root $R := \langle 243, 6 \rangle$, respectively, $R := \langle 243, 8 \rangle$, down to depth 1.

1. For each $c \geq 3$, the mainline vertex $M_c^{(2)}$ of the coclass tree possesses type c.18, $\kappa = (0122)$, respectively, c.21, $\kappa = (0231)$.
2. For each $c \geq 4$, there exists a unique child $G_{c,1}^{(2)}$ of $M_{c-1}^{(2)}$ with type E.6, $\kappa = (1122)$, respectively, E.8, $\kappa = (1231)$.
3. For even $c \geq 4$, there exists a unique child $G_{c,2}^{(2)}$ of $M_{c-1}^{(2)}$ with type E.14, $\kappa = (3122)$, respectively, E.9, $\kappa = (2231)$. Thus, $N_1(M_{c-1}^{(2)}) = 3$ and $C_1(M_{c-1}^{(2)}) = 1$, in the pruned tree.
4. For odd $c \geq 5$, there exist two children $G_{c,2}^{(2)}$, $G_{c,3}^{(2)}$ of $M_{c-1}^{(2)}$ with type E.14, $\kappa = (3122) \sim (4122)$, respectively, E.9, $\kappa = (2231) \sim (3231)$. Thus, $N_1(M_{c-1}^{(2)}) = 4$ and $C_1(M_{c-1}^{(2)}) = 1$.

5. For even $c \geq 4$, there exists a unique child $G_{c,4}^{(2)}$ of $M_{c-1}^{(2)}$ with type H.4, $\kappa = (2122)$, respectively, G.16, $\kappa = (4231)$. It is removed from the pruned tree.
6. For odd $c \geq 5$, there exist two children $G_{c,4}^{(2)}, G_{c,5}^{(2)}$ of $M_{c-1}^{(2)}$ with type H.4, $\kappa = (2122)$, respectively, G.16, $\kappa = (4231)$. They are removed from the pruned tree.

Proof. See Nebelung ([11], Lemma 5.2.6, p. 183, Figures, p. 189 f., Satz 6.14, p. 208). □

Definition 3.3. For $e \in \{0, 1\}$, we define the *cover limit*, due to M. F. Newman, to be the group

$$\mathcal{C}^{(e)} := \langle a, t, u, y, z \mid t^a = u, u^a t u y = [u, t]^e, a^3 [t, a, t] = z, [u, t, t] = [u, t, u] = 1, y^3 = 1, [a, y] = [t, y] = [u, y] = [z, y] = 1, z^3 = 1, [t, z] = [u, z] = 1 \rangle, \quad (6)$$

which was introduced in [12]. For each $k \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ and for each integer $c \geq 4$, let

$$\mathcal{Q}_c^{(e,k)} := \mathcal{C}^{(e)} / \langle y w_c^k v_c, z w_c \rangle \quad (7)$$

be the *class- c quotient with parameter k* of $\mathcal{C}^{(e)}$, where $w_c := [t, \overbrace{a, \dots, a}^{(c-1)\text{times}}]$ and $v_c := [w_{c-2}, [t, a]]$.

In each step, $i \geq 1$, of the second Algorithm 3.2, the *top down* technique constructs a certain class- c quotient \mathcal{Q}_c , $c = i + 3$, of a fixed infinite pro-3 group \mathcal{C} , the *cover limit*, and the *bottom up* technique constructs all metabelian children of a certain vertex M_{i-1} on the mainline of the first coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(R)$, and selects, firstly, the next vertex M_i of depth $\text{dp}(M_i) = 0$ on the mainline of $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(R)$ for continuing the recursion, secondly, a vertex G_i of depth $\text{dp}(G_i) = 1$ with assigned transfer kernel type $\kappa(G_i)$. Each recursion step is completed by proving that G_i is isomorphic to the second derived quotient $\mathcal{Q}_c / \mathcal{Q}''_c$, that is, $\mathcal{Q}_c \in \text{cov}(G_i)$ belongs to the *cover* of G_i in the sense of ([13], section 1.3, Dfn. 1.1, p. 75). More precisely, we have $M_i = M_{i+3}^{(2)}$ and $G_i = G_{i+3,j}^{(2)}$ with some j .

Algorithm 3.2. (Shafarevich cover.)

Input: prime p , compact presentation cp of the root, bound vb , parameters e and k .

Code: uses the subroutine `IsAdmissible()`.

```

C<a, t, u, y, z> := Group< a, t, u, y, z |
    y^p, (a, y), (t, y), (u, y), (y, z), (t, z), (u, z), z^p,
    (u, t, t), (u, t, u), t^a = u, u^a * t * u * y * (u, t) ^ -e, a^p * (t, a, t) = z >;
Root := PCGroup(cp);
Leaf := Root;
for i in [ 1..vb] do // bottom up along the mainline of coclass 2
    c := i + 3; // nilpotency class
    w := [ t ];
    for j in [ 1..c] do // construction of iterated commutator
        s := (w[ j ], a);
    
```

```

    Append (~w, s);
end for;
w1 := w[ c-2] ^-1*(a, t)*w[ c-2] *(t, a);
H := quo<C | y*w[ c] ^k*w1, z*w[ c]>;
Q, pQ := pQuotient(H, p, c); // top down construction of Shafarevich cover
Des := Descendants(Root, NilpotencyClass(Root)+1);
m := 0;
for cnt in[ 1..#Des] do
    if IsAdmissible(Des[ cnt], p, 0) then
        Root := Des[ cnt]; // next mainline vertex
    elif IsAdmissible(Des[ cnt], p, 2) then
        m := m + 1;
        if (1 eq m) then
            Leaf := Des[ cnt]; // first leaf with assigned TKT
        end if;
    end if;
end for;
DQ := DerivedSubgroup(Q);
D2Q := DerivedSubgroup(DQ);
Q2Q := Q/D2Q; // metabelianization
if IsIsomorphic(Leaf, Q2Q) then // identification
    printf "Dsc.cl.%o isomorphic to 2nd drv.qtn. of Cov.cl.%o.\n", c, c;
end if;
end for;

```

Output: nilpotency class c in each case of an isomorphism.

The next theorem is the second main result of this chapter, establishing the finiteness and structure of the *cover* for each metabelian 3-group with transfer kernel of type E.

Theorem 3.5. (Explicit covers of metabelian 3-groups.) Let $u := 8$ be an upper bound and $G_{c,j}^{(2)}$ in $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(M_3^{(2)})$ be the metabelian 3-group of nilpotency class $c \geq 4$ with transfer kernel type

$$\kappa = \begin{cases} (1122), \text{ E.6, resp. } (1231), \text{ E.8} & \text{if } j = 1, \\ (3122), \text{ E.14, resp. } (2231), \text{ E.9} & \text{if } j = 2 \text{ or } (j = 3 \text{ and } c \text{ odd}). \end{cases}$$

1. The **cover** of $G_{c,j}^{(2)}$ is given by

$$\text{cov}(G_{c,j}^{(2)}) = \begin{cases} \{G_{c,j}^{(2)}, G_{c,j}^{(3)}, \dots, G_{c,j}^{(\ell+1)}, G_{c,j}^{(\ell+2)}, T_{c+1,j}^{(\ell+2)}\} & \text{if } c = 2\ell + 4, 1 \leq j \leq 2, \\ \{G_{c,j}^{(2)}, G_{c,j}^{(3)}, \dots, G_{c,j}^{(\ell+1)}, G_{c,j}^{(\ell+2)}, S_{c,j}^{(\ell+3)}\} & \text{if } c = 2\ell + 5, 1 \leq j \leq 3. \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

where $0 \leq \ell \leq u$. In particular, the cover is a finite set with $\ell + 2$ elements ($\ell + 1$ of them nontrivial), which are non- σ -groups for even $c \geq 4$, and σ -groups for odd $c \geq 5$.

2. The **Shafarevich cover** of $G_{c,j}^{(2)}$ with respect to imaginary quadratic fields F is given by

$$\text{cov}\left(G_{c,j}^{(2)}, F\right) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, 1 \leq j \leq 2, \\ \left\{ S_{c,j}^{(\ell+3)} \right\} & \text{if } c = 2\ell + 5, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, 1 \leq j \leq 3. \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

In particular, the Shafarevich cover contains a unique Schur σ -group, if $c \geq 5$ is odd.

3. The class- c quotient with parameter k of the cover limit $C^{(e)}$ is isomorphic to a Schur σ -group $Q_c^{(e,k)} \simeq S_{c,j}^{(\ell+3)}$, for $c = 2\ell + 5$ or to a non σ -group $Q_c^{(e,k)} \simeq G_{c,j}^{(\ell+2)}$, for $c = 2\ell + 4$. The precise correspondence between the parameters k and j is given in the following way.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Types E.6,E.8 : } Q_c^{(e,0)} &\simeq \begin{cases} S_{c,1}^{(\ell+3)} & \text{for odd class } c = 2\ell + 5, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \\ G_{c,1}^{(\ell+2)} & \text{for even class } c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \end{cases} \\ \text{type E.9 : } Q_c^{(+1,-1)} &\simeq \begin{cases} S_{c,2}^{(\ell+3)} & \text{for odd class } c = 2\ell + 5, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \\ G_{c,2}^{(\ell+2)} & \text{for even class } c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \end{cases} \\ \text{type E.9 : } Q_c^{(+1,+1)} &\simeq \begin{cases} S_{c,3}^{(\ell+3)} & \text{for odd class } c = 2\ell + 5, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \\ G_{c,2}^{(\ell+2)} & \text{for even class } c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u. \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

In particular, $Q_c^{(+1,-1)} \simeq Q_c^{(+1,+1)}$ for even class $c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u$.

The variant $e = 0$, respectively, $e = 1$, is associated to the root $R = \langle 243, 6 \rangle$, respectively, $R = \langle 243, 8 \rangle$.

4. A parameterized family of **fork topologies** for second 3-class groups $\text{Gal}\left(F_3^{(2)}/F\right)$ of imaginary quadratic fields F is given uniformly for the states \uparrow^ℓ (ground state for $\ell = 0$, excited state for $1 \leq \ell \leq u$) of transfer kernels with type E by the symmetric topology symbol

$$P = \overbrace{E \xrightarrow{1}}^{\text{Leaf}} \overbrace{\left\{ c \xrightarrow{1} \right\}^{2\ell}}^{\text{Mainline}} \overbrace{c}^{\text{Fork}} \overbrace{\left\{ \xleftarrow{2} c \xleftarrow{1} c \right\}^\ell}^{\text{Maintrunk}} \overbrace{\xleftarrow{2} E}^{\text{Leaf}} \quad (11)$$

with scaffold type c and the following invariants:

distance $d = 4\ell + 2$ (Definition 2.3), weighted distance $w = 5\ell + 3$ (Definition 2.4),

class increment $\Delta \text{cl} = (2\ell + 5) - (2\ell + 5) = 0$, coclass increment $\Delta \text{cc} = (\ell + 3) - 2 = \ell + 1$,

logarithmic order increment $\Delta \text{lo} = (3\ell + 8) - (2\ell + 7) = \ell + 1$ ([13], Dfn. 5.1, p. 89).

Proof. We compare the uniform generator rank $d_1 = 2$ of all involved groups $G_{c,j}^{(r)}$, $c \geq 4$, $r \geq 2$, $1 \leq j \leq 3$, with their relation rank d_2 . Since $d_2 = \mu$ and the p -multiplier rank is $\mu = 2$ for $S_{c,j}^{(r)}$

with odd $c = 2\ell + 5 \geq 5$ and $r = \ell + 3 \geq 3$, but $\mu = 3$ otherwise, only the groups $S_{c,j}^{(r)}$ are Schur σ -groups with balanced presentation $d_2 = 2 = d_1$, and are therefore admissible as 3-tower groups of imaginary quadratic fields F , according to our corrected version ([6], section 5, Thm. 5.1, pp. 28–29) of the Shafarevich Theorem ([14], Thm. 6, (18')). Finally, we remark that the nuclear rank is $\nu = 1$ for $G_{c,j}^{(r)}$ with even $c = 2\ell + 4$, $r = \ell + 2$, and child $T_{c+1,j'}^{(r)}$, but $\nu = 0$ otherwise.

The execution of Algorithm 3.2 with input data $p:=3$, $vb:=25$, either $i:=6$, $e:=0$, or $i:=8$, $e:=1$, and $cp:=\text{CompactPresentation}(\text{SmallGroup}(243, i))$, proves the isomorphisms $Q_c^{(e,k)} \simeq S_{c,j}^{(\ell+3)}$, $c = 2\ell + 5$, respectively, $Q_c^{(e,k)} \simeq G_{c,j}^{(\ell+2)}$, $c = 2\ell + 4$, for $4 \leq c \leq 20$, that is, $0 \leq \ell \leq u = 8$. The algorithm is initialized by the starting group $R = M_3^{(2)}$ of coclass 2. The loop navigates through the mainline vertices $M_c^{(2)}$, $c \geq 3$, of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(M_3^{(2)})$. The subroutine `IsAdmissible()` tests the transfer kernel type of all descendants and selects either the unique capable descendant with type c.18, respectively, c.21, for the flag 0 or the unique descendant with type E.6, respectively, E.8, for the flag 1, or the first or second descendant with type E.9, for the flag 2. The selected nonmainline vertex is always checked for isomorphism to the metabelianization of the appropriate quotient $Q_c^{(e,k)}$. See also ([2], section 21.2, pp. 189–193), ([15], pp. 751–756), the proof of Theorem 4.1, and **Figures 5–7**.

Here again, a pure bottom up approach without top down constructions, instead of using Algorithm 3.2, is able to reach coclass $r = 32$, nilpotency class $c = 63$, and logarithmic order $r + c = 95$, without surpassing internal limits of MAGMA, and strongly supports Conjecture 3.3.

Conjecture 3.3. Theorem 3.5 remains true for any upper bound $u > 8$.

Figure 3 shows exactly the same situation as **Figure 1**, supplemented by blue arrows indicating the projections of the quotients $Q_c^{(e,k)}$ onto their metabelianizations, that is, $S_{c,j}^{(\ell+3)} \rightarrow G_{c,j}^{(2)}$, for odd class $c = 2\ell + 5$, in the right diagram with green branches, and $G_{c,j}^{(\ell+2)} \rightarrow G_{c,j}^{(2)}$, for even class $c = 2\ell + 4$, in the left diagram with red branches. For $c = 4$, a degeneration occurs, since $Q_4^{(e,k)}$ is metabelian already, indicated by surrounding blue circles.

Strictly speaking, the caption of **Figure 3**, in its full generality, is valid for $e = 1$, $M_3^{(2)} = \langle 243, 8 \rangle$ only. For $e = 0$, $M_3^{(2)} = \langle 243, 6 \rangle$, all blue arrows have the same meaning as before but the interpretation of the covers as quotients $Q_c^{(e,k)}$ is slightly restricted. Whereas we have the following supplement to Eq. (10):

$$\text{type E.14 : } Q_c^{(0,-1)} \simeq \begin{cases} S_{c,3}^{(\ell+3)} & \text{for odd class } c = 2\ell + 5, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \\ G_{c,2}^{(\ell+2)} & \text{for even class } c = 2\ell + 4, 0 \leq \ell \leq u, \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

the quotients $Q_c^{(0,+1)}$ lead into a completely different realm, namely the complicated brushwood of the complex transfer kernel type H.4.

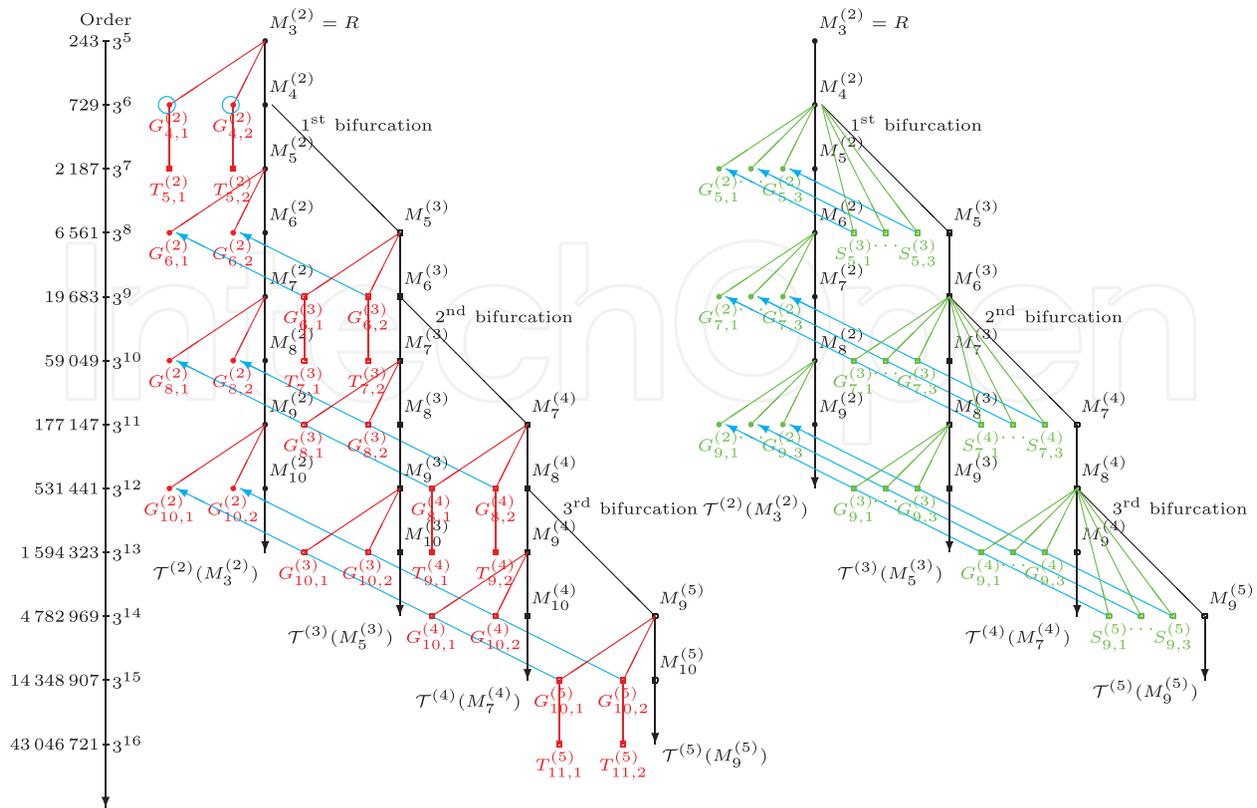


Figure 3. Projections $Q_c^{(e,k)} \rightarrow Q_c^{(e,k)} / (Q_c^{(e,k)})''$ of the covers onto their metabelianizations.

Figure 4 shows three pruned descendant trees $\mathcal{T}_*(\mathfrak{R})$ with roots $\mathfrak{R} = \langle 243, 4 \rangle$, $\mathfrak{R} = \langle 6561, 614 \rangle$, and $\mathfrak{R} = \langle 6561, 613 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#2; 1$, all of whose vertices are of type H.4 exclusively. We restrict the trees to σ -groups indicated by green color. The top vertex $\langle 27, 3 \rangle$ is intentionally drawn twice to avoid an overlap of the dense trees and to admit a uniform representation of periodic bifurcations.

The tree with root $\langle 243, 4 \rangle$ is not concerned by the quotients $Q_c^{(0,+1)}$. It is sporadic and consists of periodically repeating finite saplings of depth 2 and increasing coclass 2, 3, ... Connected by the maintrunk with vertices of type c.18 (red color) in the descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(\langle 243, 6 \rangle)$, the trees with roots $\langle 6561, 614 \rangle$ and $\langle 6561, 613 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#2; 1$ form the beginning of an infinite sequence of similar trees, which are, however, not isomorphic as graphs, since the depth of the constituting saplings increases in steps of 2. The projections of the quotients $Q_c^{(0,+1)}$ with odd class $c \in \{5, 7\}$ onto their metabelianizations are indicated by blue arrows.

3.6. Topologies in descendant trees

Tree topologies describe the mutual location of distinct higher p -class groups $G_p^{(m)}F$ and $G_p^{(n)}F$, with $n > m \geq 1$, of an algebraic number field F . The case $(m, n) = (3, 4)$ will be crucial for finding the first examples of *four-stage towers* of p -class fields with length $\ell_p F := \text{dl}(G_p^{(\infty)}F) = 4$, which are unknown up to now, for any prime $p \geq 2$. Fork topologies with $(m, n) = (2, 3)$ have proved to be essential for discovering p -class towers with length $\ell_p F = 3$, for odd primes $p \geq 3$.

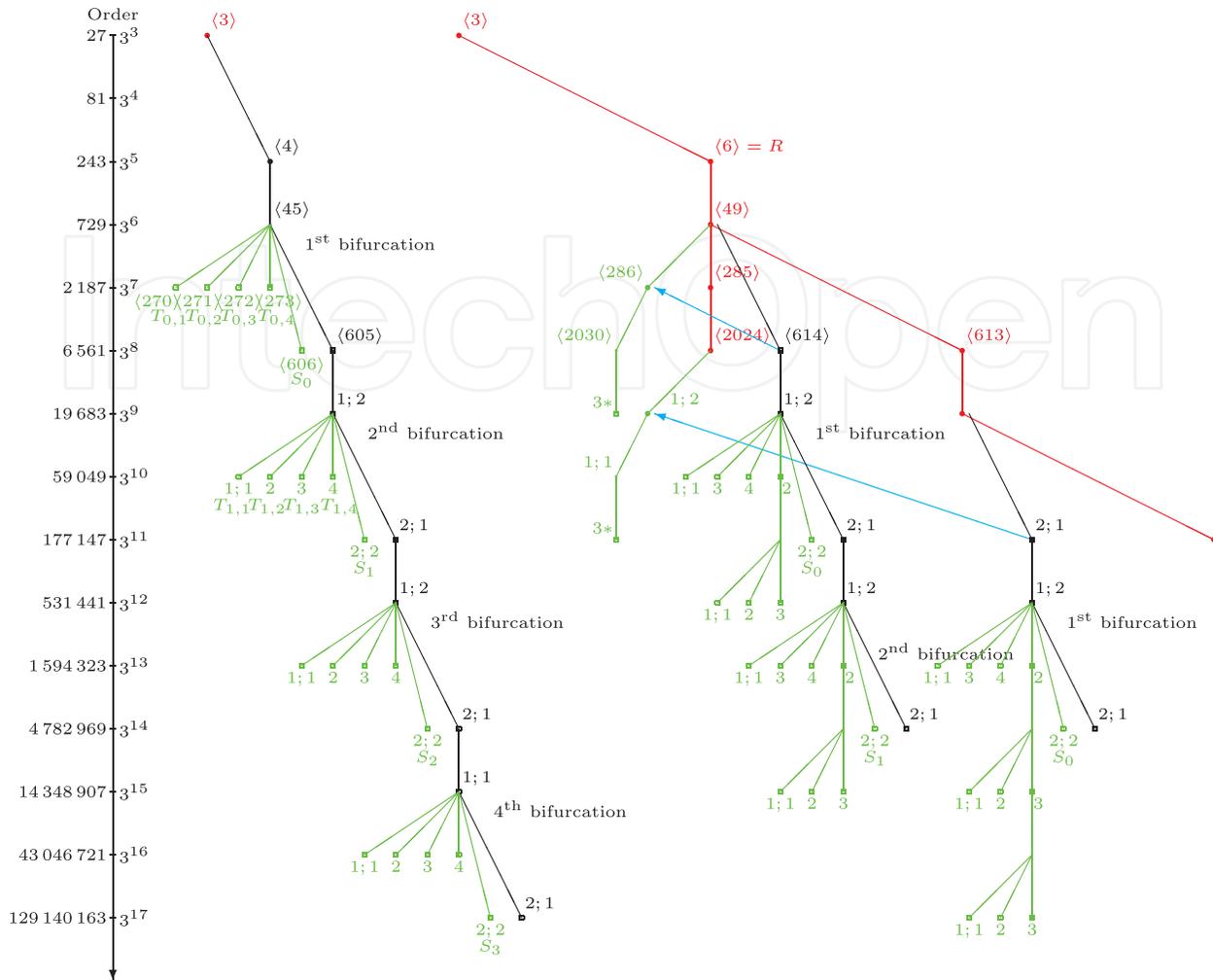


Figure 4. Branches of σ -groups with complex type H.4 connected by the maintrunk.

In ([13], Prp. 5.3, p. 89), we have pointed out that the *qualitative* topology problem for $(m, n) = (1, 2)$ is trivial, since the fork of $G_p^{(1)}F$ and $G_p^{(2)}F$ is simply the abelian root $G_p^{(1)}F \simeq Cl_pF$ of the entire relevant descendant tree. However, the *quantitative* structure of the root path between $G_p^{(2)}F$ and $G_p^{(1)}F$ is not at all trivial and can be given in a general theorem for $Cl_pF \simeq (p, p)$ and $p \in \{2, 3\}$ only. In the following Theorem 3.6, we establish a purely group theoretic version of this result by replacing $G_p^{(2)}F$ with an arbitrary *metabelian* 3-group \mathfrak{M} having abelianization $\mathfrak{M}/\mathfrak{M}'$ of type $(3, 3)$. Any attempt to determine the group $G := Gal(F_p^{(\infty)}/F)$ of the p -class tower $F_p^{(\infty)}$ of an algebraic number field F begins with a search for the metabelianization $\mathfrak{M} := G/G''$, i.e., the second derived quotient, of the p -tower group G . \mathfrak{M} is also called the *second p -class group* $Gal(F_p^{(2)}/F)$ of F , and $F_p^{(2)}$ can be viewed as a metabelian approximation of the p -class tower $F_p^{(\infty)}$. In the case of the smallest odd prime $p = 3$ and a number field F with 3-class group Cl_3F of type $(3, 3)$, the structure of the root path from \mathfrak{M} to the root $\langle 9, 2 \rangle$ is known explicitly. For its description, it suffices to use the set of possible transfer kernel types

$$X \in \{A, D, E, F, G, H, a, b, c, d\}$$

of the ancestors $\pi^j \mathfrak{M}$, $0 \leq j \leq \ell$, and the symbol \xrightarrow{s} for a weighted edge of step size $s \geq 1$ with formal exponents denoting iteration. A capable vertex is indicated by an asterisk X^* .

Theorem 3.6. (Periodic root paths.)

There exist basically three kinds of root paths $P := (\pi^j \mathfrak{M})_{0 \leq j \leq \ell}$ of metabelian 3-groups \mathfrak{M} with abelianization $\mathfrak{M}/\mathfrak{M}'$ of type $(3, 3)$, which are located on coclass trees. Let c denote the nilpotency class $\text{cl}(\mathfrak{M})$ and r the coclass $\text{cc}(\mathfrak{M})$ of \mathfrak{M} .

1. If $r = 1$ and $c \geq 1$, then $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} a^* \right\}^{c-1}$, where $X \in \{A, a, a^*\}$.
2. If $r = 2$ and $c \geq 3$, then either $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} b^* \right\}^{c-3} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{d, b, b^*\}$, or $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} c^* \right\}^{c-3} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{E, G^*, H^*, c^*\}$. An additional variant arises for $r = 2$, $c \geq 5$, with $P = X \xrightarrow{1} X^* \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} c^* \right\}^{c-4} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{G, H\}$.
3. If $r \geq 3$ and $c \geq r + 1$, then either $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} b^* \right\}^{c-(r+1)} \left\{ \xrightarrow{2} b^* \right\}^{r-2} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{d, b, b^*\}$, or $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} d^* \right\}^{c-(r+1)} \left\{ \xrightarrow{2} b^* \right\}^{r-2} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{F, G^*, H^*, d^*\}$. An additional variant arises for $r \geq 3$, $c \geq r + 3$, with $P = X \xrightarrow{1} X^* \left\{ \xrightarrow{1} d^* \right\}^{c-(r+2)} \left\{ \xrightarrow{2} b^* \right\}^{r-2} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{G, H\}$.

In particular, the maximal possible step size is $s = 2$, and the $r - 1$ edges with step size $s = 2$ arise successively without gaps at the end of the path, except the trailing edge of step size $s = 1$.

Proof. X always denotes the type of the starting vertex \mathfrak{M} . The remaining vertices of the root path form the *scaffold*, which connects the starting vertex with the ending vertex (the root $R = \langle 9, 2 \rangle$). The unique coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(1)} \langle 9, 2 \rangle$ with $r = 1$ has a mainline of type a^* . Two of the coclass trees $\mathcal{T}^{(2)} \langle 243, n \rangle$ with $r = 2$, those with $n \in \{6, 8\}$, have mainlines of type c^* and an additional scaffold of type a^* . For $n = 3$, the mainline is of type b^* . The coclass trees $\mathcal{T}^{(r)}$ with $r \geq 3$ behave uniformly with mainlines of type b^* or d^* and scaffold types b^*, a^* . For details, see Nebelung ([11], Satz 3.3.7, p. 70, Lemma 5.2.6, p. 183, Satz 6.9, p. 202, Satz 6.14, p. 208).

Remark 3.3. The final statement of Theorem 3.6 is a graph theoretic reformulation of the quotient structure of the lower central series $(\gamma_j \mathfrak{M})_{j \geq 1}$ of a metabelian 3-group \mathfrak{M} , observing that the root $R = \langle 9, 2 \rangle$ corresponds to the bicyclic quotient $\gamma_1 / \gamma_2 \simeq (3, 3)$ and the conspicuous trailing edge $\xrightarrow{1} a^*$ corresponds to the cyclic bottleneck $\gamma_2 / \gamma_3 \simeq (3)$. The structure is drawn ostensibly in eqn. (2.12) of ([16], section 2.2), using the CF-invariant $e = r + 1$ instead of the coclass r .

Theorem 3.6 concerns periodic vertices on coclass trees. Sporadic vertices outside of coclass trees must be treated separately in Corollary 3.1.

Corollary 3.1. (Sporadic root paths.)

As before, let \mathfrak{M} be a metabelian 3-group with abelianization $\mathfrak{M}/\mathfrak{M}' \simeq (3, 3)$, nilpotency class $c := \text{cl}(\mathfrak{M})$, and coclass $r := \text{cc}(\mathfrak{M})$. Assume that \mathfrak{M} is located outside of coclass trees.

1. If $r = 2$ and $c = 3$, then $P = X \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{D, G^*, H^*\}$.
2. If $r = 2$ and $c = 4$, then $P = X \xrightarrow{1} X^* \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{G, H\}$.
3. If $r \geq 3$ and $c = r + 1$, then $P = X \left\{ \xrightarrow{2} b^* \right\}^{r-2} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{F, G^*, H^*\}$.
4. If $r \geq 3$ and $c = r + 2$, then $P = X \xrightarrow{1} X^* \left\{ \xrightarrow{2} b^* \right\}^{r-2} \xrightarrow{2} a^* \xrightarrow{1} a^*$, where $X \in \{G, H\}$.

Proof. As in the proof of Theorem 3.6, see the dissertation of Nebelung [11]. □

3.7. Computing Artin patterns of p-groups

In both Algorithms 3.1 and 3.2, we made use of a subroutine `IsAdmissible()` which filters p -groups G with abelianization $G/G' \simeq (p, p)$ having a prescribed transfer kernel type (TKT). Since an algorithm of this kind is not implemented in MAGMA, we briefly communicate a succinct form of the code for this subroutine.

Algorithm 3.3. (Transfer kernel type.)

Input: a prime number p and a finite p -group G .

Code:

```

if ([ p, p] eq AbelianQuotientInvariants(G)) then
  x := G.1; y := G.2; // main generators
  A := []; B := []; // generators and transversal
  Append(~A, y);
  Append(~B, x);
  for e in [ 0..p-1] do
    Append(~A, x*y^e);
    Append(~B, y);
  end for;
  DG := DerivedSubgroup(G);
  nTotal := 0; nFixed := 0;
  TKT := [];
  for i in [ 1..p+1] do
    M := sub<G|A[ i], DG>;
    DM := DerivedSubgroup(M);
    AQM, pr := M/DM;
    ImA := (A[ i] * B[ i] ^-1) ^p * B[ i] ^p; // inner transfer
    ImB := B[ i] ^p; // outer transfer
    T := hom<G->AQM|<A[ i], (ImA) @pr>, <B[ i], (ImB) @pr>>;

```

```

KT := sub<G|DG, Kernel (T)>;
if KT eq G then // total kernel
    Append (~TKT, 0);
    nTotal := nTotal+1;
else
    for j in [1..p+1] do
        if A[j] in KT then
            Append (~TKT, j);
            if (i eq j) then // fixed point
                nFixed := nFixed+1;
            end if;
        end if;
    end for;
end if;
image := [];
for i in [1..p+1] do
    if not (TKT[i] in image) then
        Append (~image, TKT[i]);
    end if;
end for;
occupation := #image;
repetitions := 0; // maximal occupation number
intersection := 0; // meet of repetitions and fixed points
doublet := 0;
for digit in [1..p+1] do
    counter := 0;
    for j in [1..#TKT] do
        if (digit eq TKT[j]) then
            counter := counter + 1;
        end if;
    end for;
    if (counter ge 2) then
        doublet := digit;
    end if;
    if (counter gt repetitions) then
        repetitions := counter;
    end if;
end for;
if (doublet ge 1) then
    if (doublet eq TKT[doublet]) then
        intersection := 1;
    end if;
end if;
end if;

```

Output: transfer kernel type TKT, number nTotal of total kernels, number nFixed of fixed points, and further invariants occupation, repetitions, intersection describing the orbit of the TKT.

The output of Algorithm 3.3 is used for the subroutine IsAdmissible(G, p, t) in dependence on the parameter flag t . When the root $R = \langle 243, 8 \rangle$ is selected for the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$ the return value is determined in the following manner

```

if (0 eq t) then
    return ((1 eq nTotal) and (2 eq nFixed)); // type c.21
elif (1 eq t) then
    return ((0 eq nTotal) and (3 eq nFixed)); // type E.8
elif (2 eq t) then
    return ((0 eq nTotal) and (2 eq nFixed) and (3 eq occupation)); // type E.9
end if;

```

For the root $R = \langle 243, 6 \rangle$, we have

```

if (0 eq t) then
    return ((1 eq nTotal) and (0 eq nFixed)); // type c.18
elif (1 eq t) then
    return ((0 eq nTotal) and (1 eq nFixed)); // type E.6
elif (2 eq t) then
    return ((0 eq nTotal) and (0 eq nFixed) and (3 eq occupation)); // type E.14
end if;

```

3.8. Benefits and drawbacks of bottom up and top down techniques

In this chapter, we have presented several convenient ways of expressing information about *infinite sequences* of finite p -groups. Each of them has its benefits and drawbacks.

The *bottom up strategy* of constructing finite p -groups as successive extensions of a (metabelian or even abelian) starting group R , called the *root*, by recursive applications of the p -group algorithm by Newman [7] and O'Brien [8] has the benefit of visualizing the graph theoretic *root path* in the descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$. Its implementation in MAGMA is incredibly stable and robust without surpassing any internal limits up to logarithmic orders of 95 and even more. Only the consumption of CPU time becomes considerable in such extreme regions.

The *top down strategy* of expressing finite p -groups as quotients of an infinite pro- p group with given pro- p presentation has the benefit of including nonmetabelian groups with arbitrary coclass $r \geq 3$, periodic mainline vertices in Algorithm 3.1, and sporadic Schur σ -leaves in Algorithm 3.2. The drawback is that the evaluation of the pro- p presentation in MAGMA exceeds the maximal permitted word length for nilpotency class $c \geq 36$.

Up to this point, we have not yet touched upon *parameterized polycyclic power-commutator presentations* [17]. For the root $R = \langle 243, 6 \rangle$, the metabelian vertices G of the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(R)$ with class $c = \text{cl}(G) \geq 5$, down to depth $\text{dp}(G) \leq 1$, can be presented in the form

$$G_c(\alpha, \beta) = \langle x, y, s_2, t_3, s_3, \dots, s_c \mid \begin{aligned} & s_2 = [y, x], t_3 = [s_2, y], s_i = [s_{i-1}, x] \text{ for } 3 \leq i \leq c, \\ & x^3 = s_c^\alpha, y^3 s_3^{-2} s_4^{-1} = s_c^\beta, s_i^3 = s_{i+2}^2 s_{i+3} \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq c-3, s_{c-2}^3 = s_c^2 \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where the parameters α and β depend on the transfer kernel type $\kappa(G)$,

$$(\alpha, \beta) = \begin{cases} (0, 0) & \text{for } \kappa(G) \sim (0122), \text{ c.18,} \\ (1, 0) & \text{for } \kappa(G) \sim (1122), \text{ E.6,} \\ (0, 1) \text{ or } (0, 2) & \text{for } \kappa(G) \sim (2122), \text{ H.4,} \\ (1, 1) \text{ or } (1, 2) & \text{for } \kappa(G) \sim (3122) \sim (4122), \text{ E.14.} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

This presentation has the benefit of including six periodic sequences with distinct transfer kernel types, and the drawback of being restricted to the fixed coclass 2.

4. The first 3-class towers of length 3

In our long desired disproof of the claim by Scholz and Taussky ([18], p. 41) concerning the 3-class tower of the imaginary quadratic field $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-9748})$, we presented the first p -class towers with exactly three stages, for an odd prime p , in cooperation with Bush ([19], Cor. 4.1.1, p. 775). The underlying fields F were of type E.9 in its ground state, which admits two possibilities for the second 3-class group, $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 2187, 302 \rangle$ or $\langle 2187, 306 \rangle$. Now we want to illustrate the way which led to the *fork topologies* in Theorem 3.5 by using the more convenient type E.8, where the group \mathfrak{M} is unique for every state, in particular, $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 2187, 304 \rangle$ for the ground state.

Remark 4.1. Concerning the notation, we are going to use *logarithmic type invariants* of abelian 3-groups, for instance $(21) \hat{=} (9, 3)$, $(32) \hat{=} (27, 9)$, $(43) \hat{=} (81, 27)$, and $(54) \hat{=} (243, 81)$.

Let $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ be an *imaginary* quadratic number field with 3-class group $\text{Cl}_3 F \simeq (3, 3)$, and let E_1, \dots, E_4 be the unramified cyclic cubic extensions of F .

Theorem 4.1. (First towers of type E.8.) *Let the capitulation of 3-classes of F in E_1, \dots, E_4 be of type $\kappa_1 F \sim (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}, \mathbf{3}, \mathbf{1})$, which is called type E.8. Assume further that the 3-class groups of E_1, \dots, E_4 possess the abelian type invariants $\tau_1 F \sim [T_1, 21, 21, 21]$, where $T_1 \in \{32, 43, 54\}$.*

Then, the length of the 3-class tower of F is precisely $\ell_3 F = 3$.

Proof. We employ the p -group generation algorithm [7, 8] for searching the Artin pattern $\text{AP}(F) = (\tau_1 F, \kappa_1 F)$ among the descendants of the root $R := C_3 \times C_3 = \langle 9, 2 \rangle$ in the tree $\mathcal{T}(R)$. After two steps, $\langle 9, 2 \rangle \leftarrow \langle 27, 3 \rangle \leftarrow \langle 243, 8 \rangle$, we find the next root $U_5 := \langle 243, 8 \rangle$ of the unique relevant coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(U_5)$, using the assigned simple TKT E.8, $\kappa_3 = (1231)$, and its associated scaffold TKT c.21, $\kappa_0 = (0231)$. Finally, the first component $T_1 = \tau_1(1) \in \{32, 43, 54\}$ of the

TTT provides the break-off condition, according to ([13], Thm. 1.21, p. 79), respectively, Theorem M in ([20], p. 14), and we get $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 2187, 304 \rangle = \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#1; 4$ for the ground state $T_1 = (32)$, $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 6561, 2050 \rangle - \#1; 2$ for the first excited state $T_1 = (43)$, and $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 6561, 2050 \rangle (-\#1; 1)^2 - \#1; 2$ for the second excited state $T_1 = (54)$, where $\langle 2187, 303 \rangle = \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#1; 3$ and $\langle 6561, 2050 \rangle = \langle 2187, 303 \rangle - \#1; 1$. The situation is visualized by **Figure 2**, where the three metabelianizations $\mathfrak{M} \simeq G/G''$ of the 3-tower group G , for the ground state and two excited states, are emphasized with red color. **Figure 2**, showing the second 3-class groups \mathfrak{M} , was essentially known to Ascione in 1979 [21, 22], and to Nebelung in 1989 [11]. Compare the historical remarks ([2], section 3, p. 163).

In the next three **Figures 5–7**, which were unknown until 2012, we present the decisive breakthrough establishing the first rigorous proof for three-stage towers of 3-class fields. The key ingredient is the discovery of periodic bifurcations ([2], section 3, p. 163) in the complete descendant tree $\mathcal{T}(U_5)$ which is of considerably higher complexity than the coclass tree $\mathcal{T}^{(2)}(U_5)$.

For the ground state $T_1 = (32)$, the first bifurcation yields the cover

$$\text{cov}(\mathfrak{M}) = \{\mathfrak{M}, \langle 6561, 622 \rangle\}$$

of $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 2187, 304 \rangle$. The relation $\text{rank } d_2 \mathfrak{M} = 3$ eliminates \mathfrak{M} as a candidate for the 3-tower group G , according to the Corollary ([20], p. 7) of the Shafarevich Theorem ([13], Thm. 1.3, pp. 75–76), and we end up getting $G \simeq \langle 6561, 622 \rangle = \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 4$ with a siblings topology

$$E \xrightarrow{1} c \xleftarrow{2} E$$

which describes the relative location of \mathfrak{M} and G .

For the first excited state $T_1 = (43)$, the second bifurcation yields the cover

$$\text{cov}(\mathfrak{M}) = \{\mathfrak{M}, \langle 6561, 621 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#1; 2, \langle 6561, 621 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#2; 2\}$$

of $\mathfrak{M} \simeq \langle 6561, 2050 \rangle - \#1; 2$, where $\langle 6561, 621 \rangle = \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3$. The relation $\text{rank } d_2 = 3$ eliminates \mathfrak{M} and $\langle 6561, 621 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#1; 2$ as candidates for the 3-tower group G , according to Shafarevich, and we get the unique $G \simeq \langle 6561, 621 \rangle - \#1; 1 - \#2; 2$ with fork topology

$$E \xrightarrow{1} \left\{ c \xrightarrow{1} \right\}^2 c \left\{ \xleftarrow{2} c \xleftarrow{1} c \right\}^2 \xleftarrow{2} E.$$

Similarly, the second excited state $T_1 = (54)$ yields a more complex advanced fork topology

$$E \xrightarrow{1} \left\{ c \xrightarrow{1} \right\}^4 c \left\{ \xleftarrow{2} c \xleftarrow{1} c \right\}^2 \xleftarrow{2} E.$$

Figure 5 impressively shows that entering the unnoticed secret door, which is provided by the bifurcation at the vertex $\langle 729, 54 \rangle$, immediately leads to the long desired 3-tower group $G \simeq \langle 6561, 622 \rangle = \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 4$ of the imaginary quadratic field $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-34\,867})$. The siblings topology is emphasized with red color, and the projection $G \rightarrow \mathfrak{M} \simeq G/G''$ is drawn in blue color.

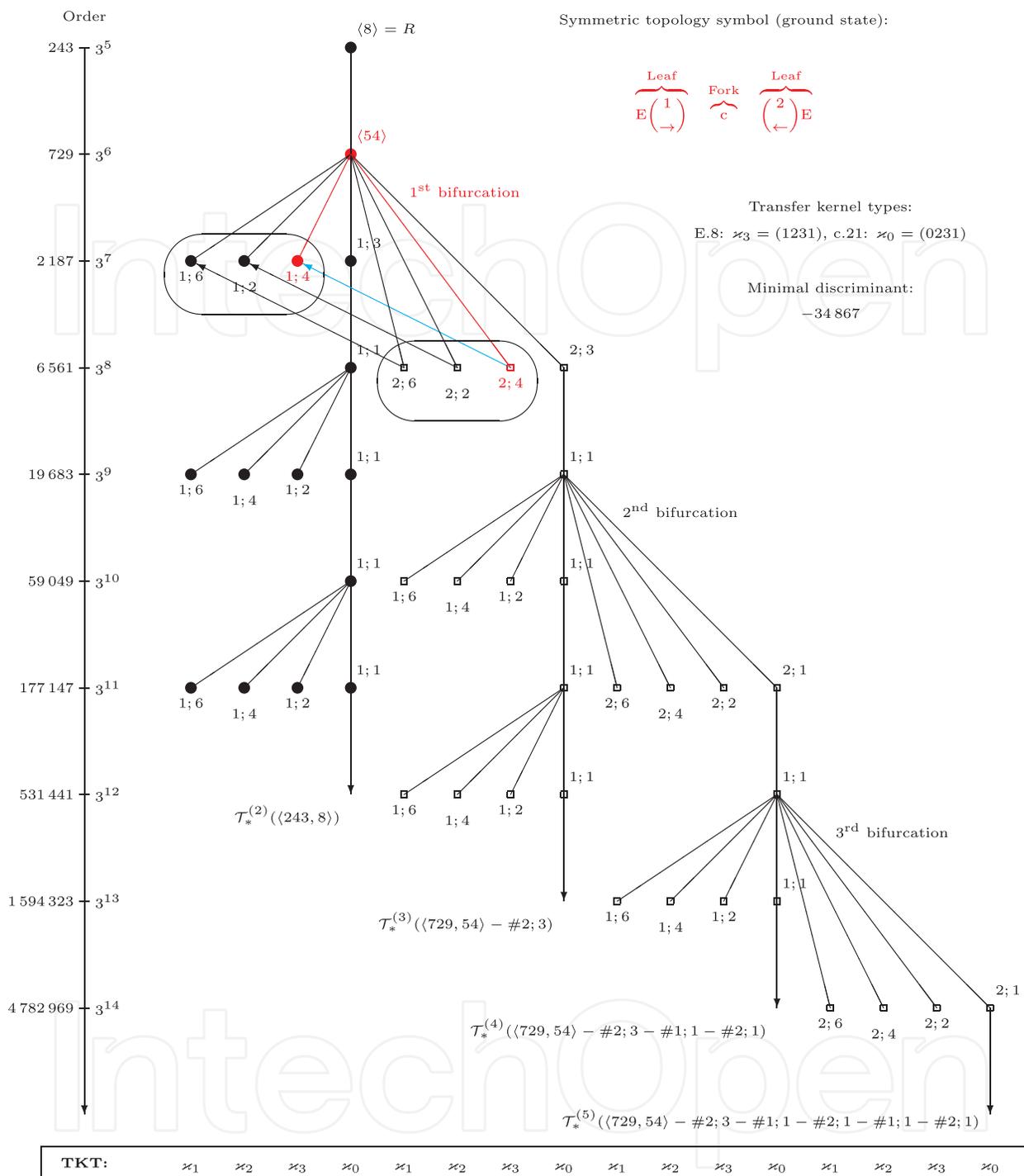


Figure 5. Tree topology of type E in the ground state.

In Figure 6, we see that the path to the 3-tower group $G \simeq \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3 - \#1; 1 - \#2; 2$ of the imaginary quadratic field $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-370740})$ contains two bifurcations at $\langle 729, 54 \rangle$ and $\langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3 - \#1; 1$. As before, the fork topology is emphasized with red color, and the projection $G \rightarrow \mathfrak{M} \simeq G/G''$ is drawn in blue color. Two projection arrows of type E.9 are black.

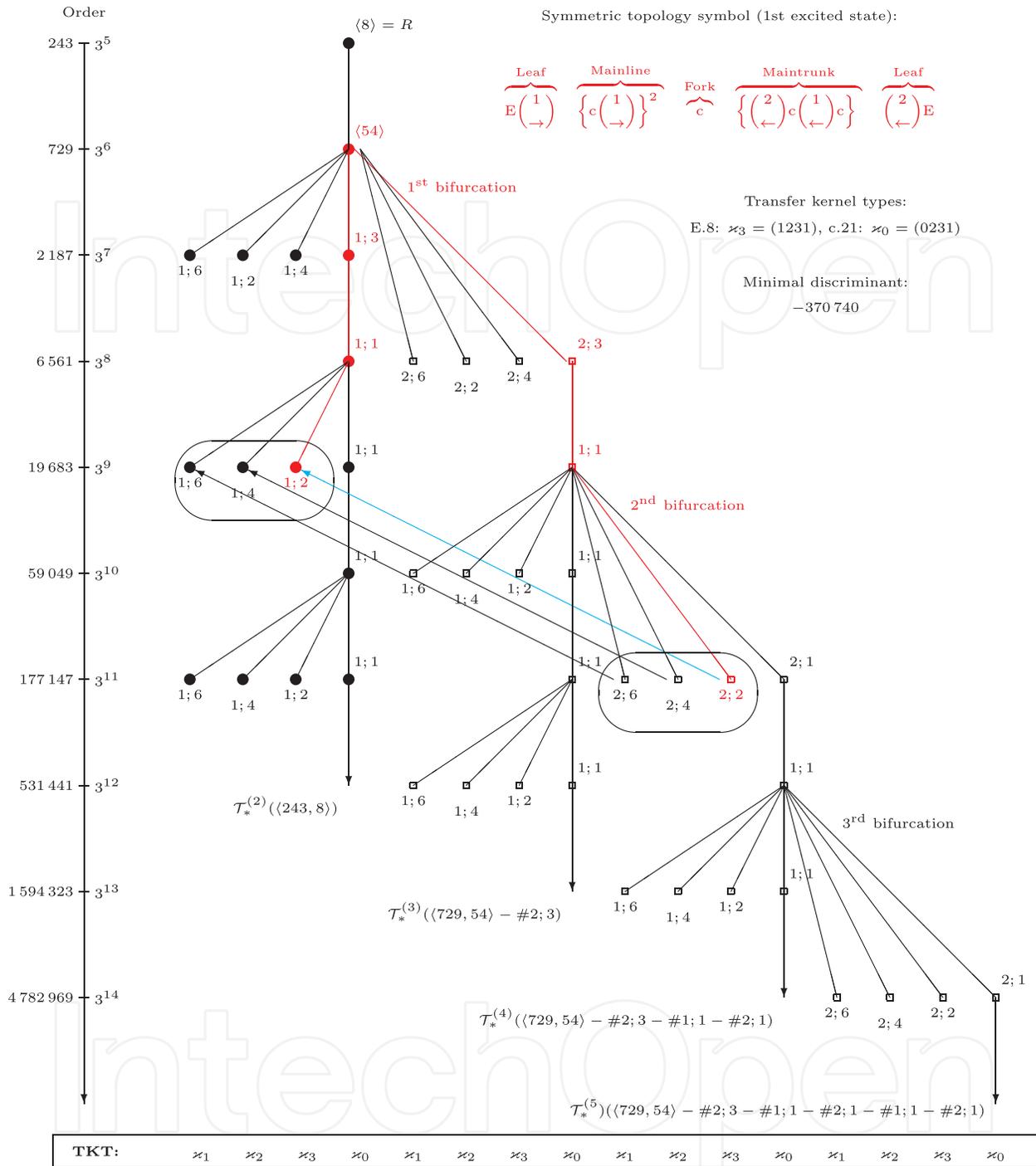


Figure 6. Tree topology of type E in the first excited state.

Figure 7 shows the path to the 3-tower group $G \simeq \langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3 - \#1; 1 - \#2; 1 - \#1; 1 - \#2; 2$ of the imaginary quadratic field $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-4087295})$. It requires three bifurcations at $\langle 729, 54 \rangle$, $\langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3 - \#1; 1$, and $\langle 729, 54 \rangle - \#2; 3 - \#1; 1 - \#2; 1 - \#1; 1$. Again, the fork topology is emphasized with red color, and the projection $G \rightarrow \mathfrak{M} \simeq G/G''$ is drawn in blue color.

Acknowledgements

The author gratefully acknowledges support from the Austrian Science Fund (FWF): P 26008-N25. Indebtedness is expressed to M. F. Newman from the Australian National University, Canberra, for valuable help in providing evidence of Theorems 3.2, 3.3 and 3.5.

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