

# The Scaling Site

## Le Site des Fréquences

Alain Connes<sup>a</sup>, Caterina Consani<sup>b,1</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Collège de France, 3 rue d'Ulm, Paris F-75005 France; I.H.E.S. and Ohio State University

<sup>b</sup>The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218 USA

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### Abstract

We investigate the semi-ringed topos obtained by extension of scalars from the arithmetic site  $\mathcal{A}$  of [3,4], by replacing the smallest Boolean semifield  $\mathbb{B}$  by the tropical semifield  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ . The obtained site  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  is the semi-direct product of the Euclidean half-line by the action of the monoid  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  of positive integers by multiplication. Its points are the same as the points  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R}_+^{\max})$  over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  and coincide with the quotient of the adèle class space of  $\mathbb{Q}$  by the action of the maximal compact subgroup  $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}^*$  of the idele class group. The structure sheaf of the scaling topos endows it with a natural structure of tropical curve over the topos  $\widehat{\mathbb{N}}^\times$ . The restriction of this structure to the periodic orbits of the scaling flow gives, for each prime  $p$ , an analogue  $C_p$  of an elliptic curve whose Jacobian is  $\mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$ . The Riemann-Roch formula holds on  $C_p$  and involves real valued dimensions and real degrees for divisors.

### Résumé

Le Site des Fréquences  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  est obtenu à partir du site arithmétique  $\mathcal{A}$  de [3,4] par extension des scalaires du semicorps booléen  $\mathbb{B}$  au semicorps tropical  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ . C'est le produit semi-direct de la demi-droite Euclidienne  $[0, \infty)$  par l'action du semi-groupe  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  des entiers positifs par multiplication. Ses points sont les mêmes que ceux du site arithmétique définis sur  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  et forment le quotient de l'espace des classes d'adèles de  $\mathbb{Q}$  par l'action du sous-groupe compact maximal du groupe des classes d'idèles. Le faisceau structural du site des fréquences en fait une courbe tropicale dans le topos  $\widehat{\mathbb{N}}^\times$ . La restriction de cette structure aux orbites périodiques donne, pour chaque nombre premier  $p$ , un analogue  $C_p$  d'une courbe elliptique dont la Jacobienne est  $\mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$ . La formule de Riemann-Roch pour  $C_p$  fait apparaître des dimensions à valeurs réelles et les degrés des diviseurs sont des nombres réels.

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### 1. Introduction

This note describes the Scaling Site as the algebraic geometric space obtained from the arithmetic site  $\mathcal{A}$  of [3,4] by extension of scalars from the Boolean semifield  $\mathbb{B}$  to the tropical semifield  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ . The

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*Email addresses:* [alain@connes.org](mailto:alain@connes.org) (Alain Connes), [kc@math.jhu.edu](mailto:kc@math.jhu.edu) (Caterina Consani).

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underlying site  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  inherits from its structural sheaf a natural structure of tropical curve allowing one to define the sheaf of rational functions and to investigate an adequate version of the Riemann-Roch theorem in characteristic 1. We test this structure by restricting it to the periodic orbits of the scaling flow, *i.e.* the points over the image of  $\text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}$  (*cf.* [4], §5.1). We find that for each prime  $p$  the corresponding circle of length  $\log p$  is endowed with a quasi-tropical structure which turns this orbit into the analogue  $C_p = \mathbb{R}_+^*/p^{\mathbb{Z}}$  of a classical elliptic curve  $\mathbb{C}^*/q^{\mathbb{Z}}$ . In particular rational functions, divisors, etc all make sense. A new feature is that the degree of a divisor can now be any real number. We determine the Jacobian of  $C_p$  *i.e.* the quotient  $J(C_p)$  of the group of divisors of degree 0 by principal divisors and show in Theorem 6.5 that it is a cyclic group of order  $p - 1$ . For each divisor  $D$  we define the corresponding Riemann-Roch problem with solution space  $H^0(D)$ . We introduce the continuous dimension  $\text{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(D))$  of this  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -module using a limit of normalized topological dimensions and find that  $\text{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(D))$  is a real number. Finally, we prove in Theorem 6.7 that the Riemann-Roch formula holds true for  $C_p$ . The appearance of arbitrary positive real numbers as continuous dimensions in the Riemann-Roch formula is due to the density in  $\mathbb{R}$  of the subgroup  $H_p \subset \mathbb{Q}$  of fractions with denominators a power of  $p$  and the fact that continuous dimensions are obtained as limits of normalized dimensions  $p^{-n} \dim_{\text{top}}(H^0(D)^{p^n})$ . This outcome is the analogue in characteristic 1 of what happens for matroid  $C^*$ -algebras and the type II normalized traces as in [5].

### 1.1. Notations

For any abelian ordered group  $H$  we let  $H_{\max} = H \cup \{-\infty\}$  be the semifield obtained from  $H$  by the max-plus construction, *i.e.* the addition is given by the max, and the multiplication by  $+$ . In particular  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  by the exponential map (*cf.* [7]).

## 2. The scaling site

The scaling site  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  is, as a site, given by a small category  $C$  endowed with a Grothendieck topology  $J$ . The objects of  $C$  are the (possibly empty) bounded open intervals  $\Omega \subset [0, \infty)$ . The morphisms between two objects are defined by  $\text{Hom}_C(\Omega, \Omega') = \{n \in \mathbb{N}^\times \mid n\Omega \subset \Omega'\}$ , if  $\Omega \neq \emptyset$  while the empty set is the initial object, *i.e.*  $\text{Hom}_C(\emptyset, \Omega')$  is the one point set for any object of  $C$ . The category  $C$  admits pullbacks. Indeed, let  $\Omega_j \neq \emptyset$  and two morphisms  $\phi_j : \Omega_j \rightarrow \Omega$ , given by  $n_j \in \mathbb{N}^\times$ . Let  $n = \text{lcm}(n_j)$  be their lowest common multiple, write  $n = a_j n_j$  and let  $\Omega' := \{\lambda \in [0, \infty) \mid a_j \lambda \in \Omega_j, j = 1, 2\}$ . If  $\Omega' = \emptyset$  the initial object is the pullback. Otherwise this gives an object  $\Omega'$  of  $C$  and morphisms  $a_j \in \text{Hom}_C(\Omega', \Omega_j)$  such that  $\phi_1 \circ a_1 = \phi_2 \circ a_2$ . One sees that  $(\Omega', a_j)$  is the pullback of the pair  $\phi_j : \Omega_j \rightarrow \Omega$ . Since the category  $C$  has pullbacks we can describe a Grothendieck topology  $J$  on  $C$  by providing a basis (*cf.* [8], Definition III.2).

**Proposition 2.1** (i) For each object  $\Omega$  of  $C$ , let  $K(C)$  be the collection of all ordinary covers  $\{\Omega_i \subset \Omega, i \in I \mid \cup \Omega_i = \Omega\}$ . Then  $K$  defines a Grothendieck topology  $J$  on  $C$ .

(ii) The category  $\mathfrak{Sh}(C, J)$  of sheaves is canonically isomorphic to the category of  $\mathbb{N}^\times$ -equivariant sheaves on  $[0, \infty)$ .

**Definition 2.2** The scaling site  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  is the small category  $C$  endowed with the Grothendieck topology  $J$ . The scaling topos is  $\mathfrak{Sh}(C, J)$ .

## 3. The points of the scaling topos

We recall from [4] that the space  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R}_+^{\max})$  of points of the arithmetic site over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  is the disjoint union of the following two spaces:

(i) The points which are defined over  $\mathbb{B}$ : they correspond to the points of  $\widehat{\mathbb{N}}^\times$  and are in canonical bijection with the space  $\mathbb{Q}_+^\times \backslash \mathbb{A}^f / \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^*$  of adèle classes whose archimedean component vanishes.

(ii) The points of  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}) \setminus \mathcal{A}(\mathbb{B})$  are in canonical bijection with the space  $\mathbb{Q}_+^\times \backslash ((\mathbb{A}^f / \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^*) \times \mathbb{R}_+^*)$  of adèle classes whose archimedean component does not vanish. Equivalently, these points correspond to the space  $\mathfrak{R}$  of rank one subgroups of  $\mathbb{R}$  through the map

$$(a, \lambda) \mapsto \lambda H_a, \quad \forall a \in \mathbb{A}_f / \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}^*, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^*, \quad H_a := \{q \in \mathbb{Q} \mid qa \in \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}\}.$$

The next statement shows that the points of the scaling topos  $\mathfrak{Sh}(C, J)$  are in canonical bijection with  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbb{R}_+^{\max})$ . We recall that the points of a topos of the form  $\mathfrak{Sh}(C, J)$  are equivalently described as flat, continuous functors  $F : C \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  (cf. [8] VII.6 Corollary 4). In our context, we define the support of such a functor as the complement of the union of the open intervals  $I$  such that  $F(I) = \emptyset$ .

**Theorem 3.1** (i) *The category of points of the scaling topos with support  $\{0\}$  is the same as the category of points of  $\widehat{\mathbb{N}}^\times$ .*

(ii) *The category of points of the scaling topos with support different from  $\{0\}$  is canonically equivalent to the category of rank one subgroups of  $\mathbb{R}$ .*

The proof of the above theorem follows from the next four lemmas.

**Lemma 3.2** (i) *Let  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a rank one subgroup, then  $F_H(V) := V \cap H_+$  defines a flat, continuous functor  $F_H : C \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$ .*

(ii) *The map  $H \mapsto \mathfrak{p}_H$  which associates to a rank one subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$  the point of  $\mathfrak{Sh}(C, J)$  represented by the flat continuous functor  $F_H$  is an injection of  $\mathfrak{R}$  in the space of points of the scaling topos up to isomorphism.*

**Proof.** (i) One verifies that the category  $\int_C F_H$  is filtering, i.e. fulfills the three conditions of [8] Definition VII.6.2. The fact that  $H$  is of rank 1 yields the second filtering condition. The third condition is automatic since two morphisms  $u, v \in \text{Hom}(I, J)$  which fulfill  $F_H(u)x = F_H(v)x$  for some  $x \in F_H(I)$  are necessarily equal. Moreover the functor  $F_H$  is continuous in the sense that its maps each covering to an epimorphic family (cf. [8] Lemma VII. 5.3).

(ii) Given a point  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$  let  $\{V_j\}$  be open intervals forming a basis of neighborhoods of  $\lambda$ . Then one has  $\cap F_H(V_j) \neq \emptyset \iff \lambda \in H$  and this shows that one can recover the subgroup  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  from the continuous flat functor. This construction only depends upon the isomorphism class of the point  $\mathfrak{p}_H$ .  $\square$

The next lemma shows that the category of points of the scaling topos with support  $\{0\}$  is the same as the category of points of  $\widehat{\mathbb{N}}^\times$ .

**Lemma 3.3** *Let  $F : C \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  be a flat continuous functor. Assume that  $F(V) = \emptyset$  when  $0 \notin V$ . Then there exists a unique flat functor  $X : \mathbb{N}^\times \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  such that  $F(V) = X$  for any object  $V$  of  $C$  containing 0.*

**Proof.** Let  $X := \varprojlim F(J)$  where  $J$  runs through the open intervals containing 0. For any such interval  $J$  one has a natural map  $i_J : X \rightarrow F(J)$  and the continuity of  $F$  shows that this map is bijective. Moreover  $X$  inherits an action of  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  which is uniquely specified by requiring  $i_J(n.x) = F(n)(i_{J/n}(x))$ ,  $\forall x \in X, n \in \mathbb{N}^\times$ . One checks that this construction makes sense independently of the choice of  $J, 0 \in J$ . Finally, the flatness of  $F$  shows that the functor  $\mathbb{N}^\times \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  obtained from the action of  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  on  $X$  is flat.  $\square$

The next two lemmas show that the category of points of the scaling topos with support  $\neq \{0\}$  is the same as the category of rank one subgroups of  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Lemma 3.4** *Let  $F : C \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  be a flat continuous functor. Let  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$  and  $F_\lambda := \varprojlim_{\lambda \in J} F(J)$  be the co-stalk of  $F$  at  $\lambda$ . Then there exists at most one element in the set  $F_\lambda$  and for any bounded open interval  $V \subset (0, \infty)$ ,  $F(V)$  is the disjoint union  $\cup_{\lambda \in V} F_\lambda$ .*

**Proof.** We first show that  $F(V) = \cup_{\lambda \in V} F_\lambda$ . Let  $z \in F(V)$  then, by continuity of  $F$ , for any cover  $V = \cup V_j$  one has  $z \in F(V_j)$  for some  $j$ . One first writes  $V = \cup W_j$  with  $W_j$  an increasing family of open intervals such that  $\overline{W_j} \subset W_{j+1}$ . Then one gets an interval  $W$ , with  $\overline{W} \subset V$  such that  $z \in F(W)$ . Using a family of

covers  $\mathcal{U}_k$  of  $W$  such that the maximal diameter of the open sets in  $\mathcal{U}_k$  tends to 0, and is less than the Lebesgue number of  $\mathcal{U}_{k-1}$  one obtains a decreasing sequence of intervals  $I_k \subset W$  such that  $z \in F(I_k)$  for all  $k$ , and the unique element  $\lambda \in \bigcap I_k \subset \overline{W} \subset V$  is such that  $z \in F_\lambda$ . Next we show that  $F(V) = \cup_{\lambda \in V} F_\lambda$  is a disjoint union. Indeed if  $U, U'$  are disjoint open intervals contained in  $V$  one has  $F(U) \cap F(U') = \emptyset$  inside  $F(V)$ . Assume on the contrary that there exists  $z \in F(U)$ ,  $z' \in F(U')$  such that  $F(\iota)z = F(\iota')z'$  where  $\iota : U \rightarrow V$  and  $\iota' : U' \rightarrow V$  are the inclusions. By flatness of  $F$  let  $W$  an object of  $C$ ,  $u \in F(W)$ ,  $n, n' \in \mathbb{N}^\times$  be such that  $nW \subset U$ ,  $n'W \subset U'$  and  $F(j)(u) = z$  for  $j = (n : W \rightarrow U)$ ,  $F(j')(u) = z'$  for  $j' = (n' : W \rightarrow U')$ . The two morphisms  $\iota \circ j$  and  $\iota' \circ j'$ ,  $W \rightarrow V$  fulfill  $F(\iota \circ j)u = F(\iota' \circ j')(u)$ . Then the third property of a flat functor shows that there exists a morphism in  $C$  which equalizes  $\iota \circ j$  with  $\iota' \circ j'$  thus  $n = n'$  and one gets a contradiction since  $U \cap U' = \emptyset$ . Next we show that  $F_\lambda$  contains at most one element. Let  $z, z' \in F_\lambda$ . Then by flatness of  $F$ , there exists for any open interval  $I \ni \lambda$  an object  $W$  of  $C$ , a  $u \in F(W)$  and integers  $n, n' \in \mathbb{N}^\times$  such that  $nW \subset I$ ,  $n'W \subset I$  and  $F(j)(u) = z$  for  $j = (n : W \rightarrow I)$ ,  $F(j')(u) = z'$  for  $j' = (n' : W \rightarrow I)$ . Let  $\mu \in W$  be the unique element such that  $u \in F_\mu$ . Then one has  $F(j)u \in F_{n\mu}$  and thus by uniqueness one gets  $n\mu = \lambda$ . Similarly  $n'\mu = \lambda$  and thus, since  $\lambda \neq 0$ ,  $j = j'$  and  $z' = z$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5** *Let  $F : C \rightarrow \mathfrak{Sets}$  be a flat continuous functor. Assume that  $F(V) \neq \emptyset$  for some open interval  $V$  not containing 0. Then the set  $H_F^+ := \{\lambda \in (0, \infty) \mid F_\lambda \neq \emptyset\}$  is the positive part of a rank one subgroup  $H_F$  of  $\mathbb{R}$ .*

**Proof.** By Lemma 3.4, the subset  $H_F^+$  is non-empty. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}^\times$  the multiplication by  $n$  maps  $H_F^+$  to itself using the morphism in  $C$  given by  $n : I \rightarrow nI$  in a small neighborhood of  $\lambda$ ,  $F_\lambda \neq \emptyset$ . Moreover the flatness of  $F$  shows that given two elements  $\lambda, \lambda' \in H_F^+$ , there exists  $\mu \in H_F^+$  and  $n, n' \in \mathbb{N}^\times$  such that  $n\mu = \lambda$  and  $n'\mu = \lambda'$ . It follows that  $H_F^+$  is an increasing union of subsets of the form  $h_n\mathbb{Z} \cap (0, \infty)$  and one gets  $H_F^+ = H_F \cap (0, \infty)$  where  $H_F$  is the increasing union of the subgroups  $h_n\mathbb{Z}$ .  $\square$

#### 4. The structure sheaf $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}_{\max} \hat{\otimes}_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ and its stalks

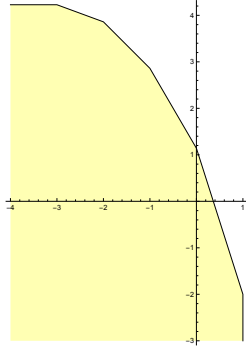
The Legendre transform allows one to describe the reduced semiring  $\mathbb{Z}_{\max} \hat{\otimes}_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  involved in the extension of scalars of the arithmetic site from  $\mathbb{B}$  to  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  in terms of  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -valued functions on  $[0, \infty)$  which are convex, piecewise affine functions with integral slopes. We first discuss an analogous result that holds when  $\mathbb{Z}_{\max}$  is replaced by the semiring  $H_{\max}$  associated by the max-plus construction to a rank one subgroup  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

##### 4.1. The Legendre transform

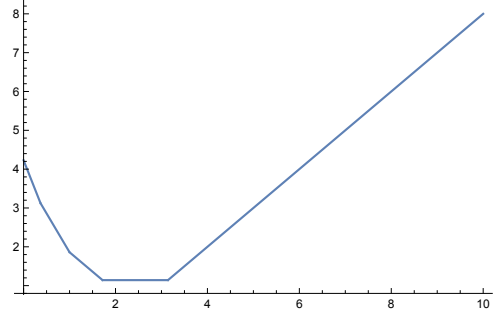
Let us fix a rank one subgroup  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  and consider the tensor product  $H_{\max} \otimes_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_{\max}$  and the associated multiplicatively cancellative semiring  $R = H_{\max} \hat{\otimes}_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_{\max}$  whose elements are viewed as Newton polygons with vertices pairs  $(x, y) \in H \times \mathbb{R}$  ([4]). Let  $Q = H_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+$ . Any element of  $R$  is given by the convex hull  $N$  of the union of finitely many quadrants  $(x_j, y_j) - Q$ . This convex hull is the intersection of half planes  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  of the form  $P_{\lambda, u} := \{(x, y) \mid \lambda x + y \leq u\}$ ,  $P^v := \{(x, y) \mid x \leq v\}$ , where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$  and  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}$ . This description shows that  $N$  is uniquely determined by the function  $\ell_N(\lambda) := \min\{u \in \mathbb{R} \mid N \subset P_{\lambda, u}\}$  and that this function is given in terms of the finitely many vertices  $(x_j, y_j)$  of the Newton polygon  $N$  by the formula

$$\ell_N(\lambda) = \max_j \lambda x_j + y_j. \quad (1)$$

**Proposition 4.1** *Let  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a subgroup of rank one. The map  $N \mapsto \ell_N$  is an isomorphism of the multiplicatively cancellative semiring  $R = H_{\max} \hat{\otimes}_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_{\max}$  with the semiring  $\mathcal{R}(H)$  of convex, piecewise affine continuous functions on  $[0, \infty)$  with slopes in  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  and only finitely many singularities, endowed with the pointwise operations.*



(a) Element  $C$  of  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbb{Z})$



(b) The Legendre transform  $\ell_C(\lambda)$

#### 4.2. The stalks of $\mathcal{O}$

Proposition 4.1 gives the relation between the reduced semiring  $\mathbb{Z}_{\max} \hat{\otimes}_{\mathbb{B}} \mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  involved in the extension of scalars of the arithmetic site from  $\mathbb{B}$  to  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ , and the semiring  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbb{Z})$ . The structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  of  $[0, \infty) \times \mathbb{N}^\times$  is defined by localizing the semiring  $\mathcal{R}(\mathbb{Z})$ . The sections  $\xi \in \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$  on an open set  $\Omega \subset [0, \infty)$  are convex, piecewise affine continuous functions on  $\Omega$  with slopes in  $\mathbb{Z} \subset \mathbb{R}$  and only finitely many singularities. The action of  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  on  $\mathcal{O}$  is given by the morphisms

$$\gamma_n : \mathcal{O}(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n}\Omega\right), \quad \gamma_n(\xi)(\lambda) := \xi(n\lambda), \quad \forall \lambda \in [0, \infty), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}^\times. \quad (2)$$

For  $\xi(\lambda) = \max\{\lambda h_j + s_j\}$  as in (1) one has  $\xi(n\lambda) = \max\{\lambda n h_j + s_j\}$  so that  $\gamma_n(\xi) \in \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{n}\Omega\right)$ . Note that these maps are not invertible.

**Theorem 4.2** (i) Let  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a rank one subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  be the associated point of the scaling topos. The stalk of the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  at  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  is the semiring  $\mathcal{O}_H$  of germs of  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -valued, piecewise affine, convex continuous functions with slope in  $H$ .

(ii) Let  $H$  be an abstract rank one ordered group and  $\mathfrak{p}_H^0$  the point with support  $\{0\}$  of the scaling topos associated to  $H$ . The stalk of the structure sheaf at  $\mathfrak{p}_H^0$  is the semiring  $\mathcal{Z}_H = (\mathbb{R} \times H)_{\max}$  associated by the max-plus construction to the totally ordered group  $\mathbb{R} \times H$  endowed with the lexicographic order.

**Proof.** (i) To evaluate the stalk of the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  at the point  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  we use the description  $\mathfrak{p}_H = \varinjlim y_{I_j}$  of  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  as a filtered colimit of the Yoneda functors  $y_{I_j}(V) := \text{Hom}(I_j, V)$  where the elements  $h_j \in H$ , the objects  $I_j$  and integers  $n_j \in \mathbb{N}^\times$  fulfill the conditions, ( $|I|$  denotes the diameter of the interval  $I$ )

$$H = \cup h_j \mathbb{Z}, \quad n_j h_{j+1} = h_j, \quad h_j \in I_j, \quad n_j \bar{I}_{j+1} \subset I_j, \quad \forall j \geq 1, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left( \prod_1^{k-1} n_i \right) |I_k| = 0$$

Then, the stalk of  $\mathcal{O}$  at the point  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  is  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H} = \varinjlim \mathcal{O}(I_j)$ . We define a map  $\rho : \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_H$  by associating to  $(j, f)$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{O}(I_j)$  the germ of the function  $\lambda \mapsto f(\lambda h_j)$  at  $\lambda = 1$ . This function is defined in the neighborhood  $\{\lambda \mid h_j \lambda \in I_j\}$  of  $\lambda = 1$ . It is a piecewise affine convex continuous function with slopes in  $h_j \mathbb{Z} \subset H$ . Thus its germ at  $\lambda = 1$  is an element  $\rho(j, f) \in \mathcal{R}_H$ . This construction is compatible with the colimit, *i.e.* that  $\rho(j, f) = \rho(j+1, \gamma_{n_j}(f))$  where  $\gamma_n$  is defined in (2). Indeed one has  $\gamma_{n_j}(f)(\lambda) = f(n_j \lambda)$ ,  $\forall \lambda \in [0, \infty)$ . Thus, using  $n_j h_{j+1} = h_j$ , one obtains

$$\rho(j+1, \gamma_{n_j}(f))(\lambda) = \gamma_{n_j}(f)(\lambda h_{j+1}) = f(n_j \lambda h_{j+1}) = f(\lambda h_j) = \rho(j, f)(\lambda)$$

This construction gives a map  $\rho : \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_H$  which is an isomorphism of semirings.

(ii) Let  $H := \varinjlim \mathbb{Z}$  where we use the  $n_j$  to organize the inductive system. We denote by  $\iota(j, k)$  the element of  $H$  associated to the image of  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$  by the canonical map  $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow H$  associated to the  $j$ -th copy of  $\mathbb{Z}$  in the colimit. One has by construction the equality  $\iota(j, k) = \iota(j+1, n_j k)$ ,  $\forall j, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then the stalk of the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  at the point  $\mathfrak{p}_H^o$  is the colimit  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o} = \varinjlim \mathcal{O}(I_j)$ . We define a map  $\delta : \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o} \rightarrow H$  as follows. We associate to  $(j, f)$ ,  $f \in \mathcal{O}(I_j)$ , the element  $\delta(j, f) := \iota(j, k)$  where  $k = f'(0) \in \mathbb{Z}$  is the derivative of  $f$  at  $0 \in I_j$ . One then has

$$\delta(j+1, \gamma_{n_j}(f)) = \iota(j+1, \gamma_{n_j}(f)'(0)) = \iota(j+1, n_j f'(0)) = \iota(j, f'(0)) = \delta(j, f).$$

This shows that  $\delta : \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o} \rightarrow H$  is well defined. Similarly  $\alpha(j, f) := f(0)$  defines a map  $\alpha : \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\max}$  and the pair  $\rho = (\alpha, \delta)$  gives a map  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}_H$  which is both injective and surjective. One checks that this map is an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_H^o}$  for the semiring structure whose multiplication corresponds to  $(x, h) \bullet (x', h') = (x + x', h + h')$  and addition to

$$(x, h) \vee (x', h') := \begin{cases} (x, h) & \text{if } x > x' \\ (x', h') & \text{if } x' > x \\ (x, h \vee h') & \text{if } x = x' \end{cases}$$

□

The germs at  $\lambda = 1$  of  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -valued, piecewise affine, convex continuous functions  $f(\lambda)$  with slopes in  $H$  are characterized by a triple  $(x, h_+, h_-)$ , such that  $f(1 \pm \epsilon) = x \pm h_{\pm} \epsilon$  for  $\epsilon \geq 0$  small enough. Here, one has  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $h_{\pm} \in H$ ,  $h_+ \geq h_-$ . The only additional element of the semiring  $\mathcal{R}_H$  corresponds to the germ of the constant function  $-\infty$ . This function is the “zero” of the semiring. The algebraic rules for non-zero elements in  $\mathcal{R}_H$  are as follows. The “addition”  $\vee$  is given by the max of the two germs:

$$(x, h_+, h_-) \vee (x', h'_+, h'_-) := \begin{cases} (x, h_+, h_-) & \text{if } x > x' \\ (x', h'_+, h'_-) & \text{if } x' > x \\ (x, h_+ \vee h'_+, h_- \wedge h'_-) & \text{if } x = x' \end{cases}$$

The “product” is given by the sum of the two germs  $(x, h_+, h_-) \bullet (x', h'_+, h'_-) := (x + x', h_+ + h'_+, h_- + h'_-)$ .

We shall denote by  $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$  the semi-ringed topos  $([0, \infty) \times \mathbb{N}^{\times}, \mathcal{O})$ . We view it as a relative topos over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  in the sense that the structure semirings are over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ . Likewise for the arithmetic site the structure sheaf has no non-constant global sections.

## 5. The points of $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$ over $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$

The next statement shows that extension of scalars from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$  does not affect the points over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ .

**Theorem 5.1** *The canonical projection from points of  $\hat{\mathcal{A}}$  defined over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$  to points of the scaling topos is bijective.*

The proof of this theorem follows from Theorem 4.2 and the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.2** (i) *The map  $(x, h_+, h_-) \mapsto x$  is the only element of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}_{\max}}(\mathcal{R}_H, \mathbb{R}_{\max})$ .*  
(ii) *The map  $(x, h_+) \mapsto x$  is the only element of  $\text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}_{\max}}(\mathcal{Z}_H, \mathbb{R}_{\max})$ .*

## 6. The real valued Riemann-Roch Theorem on periodic orbits

To realize the notion of rational functions in our context we proceed as in the definition of Cartier divisors and consider the sheaf obtained from the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  by passing to the semifield of fractions.

**Proposition 6.1** *For any object  $\Omega$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  the semiring  $\mathcal{O}(\Omega)$  is multiplicatively cancellative and the canonical morphism to its semifield of fractions  $\mathcal{K}(\Omega)$  is the inclusion of convex, piecewise affine, continuous functions among continuous, piecewise affine functions, endowed with the two operations of max and plus.*

The natural action of  $\mathbb{N}^\times$  on  $\mathcal{K}$  defines a sheaf of semifields in the scaling topos. One determines its stalks in the same way as for the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$ . The local convexity no longer holds, *i.e.* the difference  $h_+ - h_- \in H \subset \mathbb{R}$  is no longer required to be positive.

**Definition 6.2** *Let  $\mathfrak{p}_H$  be the point of the scaling topos associated to the rank one subgroup  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  and let  $f$  be an element of the stalk of  $\mathcal{K}$  at  $\mathfrak{p}_H$ . The order of  $f$  is defined as  $\text{ord}(f) = h_+ - h_- \in H \subset \mathbb{R}$ .*

Let  $p$  be a prime and consider the subspace  $C_p$  of points of  $[0, \infty) \rtimes \mathbb{N}^\times$  corresponding to subgroups  $H \subset \mathbb{R}$  which are abstractly isomorphic to the subgroup  $H_p \subset \mathbb{Q}$  of fractions with denominator a power of  $p$ .

**Lemma 6.3** *The map  $\mathbb{R}_+^* \rightarrow C_p$ ,  $\lambda \mapsto \lambda H_p$  induces an isomorphism  $\eta_p : \mathbb{R}_+^*/p^\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow C_p$ . The pullback by  $\eta_p$  of the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}$  is the sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_p$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+^*/p^\mathbb{Z}$  of piecewise affine, continuous convex functions, with slopes in  $H_p$ .*

We now apply the notion of order as in Definition 6.2 to the global sections of the sheaf of quotients of the sheaf of semirings  $\mathcal{O}_p$ .

**Lemma 6.4** (i) *The sheaf of quotients  $\mathcal{K}_p$  of the sheaf of semirings  $\mathcal{O}_p$  is the sheaf (on  $\mathbb{R}_+^*/p^\mathbb{Z}$ ) of piecewise affine, continuous functions with slopes in  $H_p$ , endowed with the two operations of max and plus.*

(ii) *The sheaf  $\mathcal{K}_p$  admits global sections and for any  $f \in H^0(\mathbb{R}_+^*/p^\mathbb{Z}, \mathcal{K}_p)$  one has:*

$$\sum_{\mathbb{R}_+^*/p^\mathbb{Z}} \text{Order}(f)(\lambda) = 0.$$

Next, we define an invariant of divisors with values in the group  $H_p/(p-1)H_p \simeq \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$ . Note that given  $H \in C_p$ , the elements  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$  such that  $H = \lambda H_p$  determine maps  $\lambda^{-1} : H \rightarrow H_p$  differing from each other by multiplication by a power of  $p$ , thus the corresponding map  $\chi : H \rightarrow H_p/(p-1)H_p \simeq \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$  is canonical. For any divisor  $D$  on  $C_p$  we define

$$\chi(D) := \sum \chi(D(H)) \in \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}.$$

Then, we obtain the following

**Theorem 6.5** *The map  $\chi : H \rightarrow H_p/(p-1)H_p$  vanishes on principal divisors and it induces an isomorphism  $\chi : J(C_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$  of the quotient  $J(C_p) = \text{Div}(C_p)^0/\mathcal{P}$  of the group of divisors of degree 0 by the subgroup  $\mathcal{P}$  of principal divisors.*

Since the group law on divisors is given by pointwise addition of sections, both the maps  $\text{deg} : \text{Div}(C_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $\chi : \text{Div}(C_p) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}$  are group homomorphisms and one obtains the isomorphism of groups

$$(\text{deg}, \chi) : \text{Div}(C_p)/\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \times (\mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z}). \quad (3)$$

Given a divisor  $D \in \text{Div}(C_p)$  one defines the following module over  $\mathbb{R}_+^{\max}$ :

$$H^0(D) = \Gamma(C_p, \mathcal{O}_D) = \{f \in \mathcal{K}(C_p) \mid D + (f) \geq 0\}.$$

**Definition 6.6** *Let  $f \in \Gamma(C_p, \mathcal{K}_p)$ . One sets*

$$\|f\|_p := \max\{|h(\lambda)|_p/\lambda \mid \lambda \in C_p\} \quad (4)$$

where  $h(\lambda) \in H_p$  is the slope<sup>2</sup> of  $f$  at  $\lambda$ .

Let  $D \in \text{Div}(C_p)$  be a divisor. We introduce the following increasing filtration of  $H^0(D)$  by  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -submodules:

$$H^0(D)^\rho := \{f \in H^0(D) \mid \|f\|_p \leq \rho\}.$$

We denote by  $\text{dim}_{\text{top}}(\mathcal{E})$  the topological covering dimension (*cf.* [10]) of an  $\mathbb{R}_{\max}$ -module  $\mathcal{E}$  and define

2. at a point of discontinuity of the slopes one takes the max of the two values  $|h_\pm(\lambda)|_p/\lambda$  in (4)

$$\mathrm{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(D)) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p^{-n} \dim_{\mathrm{top}}(H^0(D)^{p^n}). \quad (5)$$

One shows that the above limit exists: indeed, one has the following

**Theorem 6.7** (i) *Let  $D \in \mathrm{Div}(C_p)$  be a divisor with  $\deg(D) \geq 0$ . Then the limit in (5) converges and one has  $\mathrm{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(D)) = \deg(D)$ .*

(ii) *The following Riemann-Roch formula holds*

$$\mathrm{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(D)) - \mathrm{Dim}_{\mathbb{R}}(H^0(-D)) = \deg(D), \quad \forall D \in \mathrm{Div}(C_p).$$

One can compare the above Riemann-Roch theorem with the tropical Riemann-Roch theorem of [2, 6, 9] and its variants. More precisely, let us consider an elliptic tropical curve  $C$ , given by a circle of length  $L$ . In this case, the structure of the group  $\mathrm{Div}(C)/\mathcal{P}$  of divisor classes is inserted into an exact sequence of the form  $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/L\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathrm{Div}(C)/\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{\deg} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$  (cf. [9]). This sequence is very different from the split exact sequence associated to  $C_p$  and deduced from (3), i.e.  $0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/(p-1)\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathrm{Div}(C_p)/\mathcal{P} \xrightarrow{\deg} \mathbb{R} \rightarrow 0$ . The reason for this difference is due to the nature of the structure sheaf of  $C_p$ , when this sheaf is written in terms of the variable  $u = \log \lambda$ . This choice is dictated by the requirement that the periodicity condition  $f(px) = f(x)$  becomes translation invariance by  $\log p$ . The condition for  $f$  of being piecewise affine in the parameter  $\lambda$  (is expressed in the variable  $u$  by the piecewise vanishing of  $\Delta' f$ , where  $\Delta'$  is the elliptic translation invariant operator  $\Delta'(f) := \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u}\right)^2 f - \frac{\partial}{\partial u} f$ . In terms of the variable  $\lambda = e^u$ , this operator takes the form  $\lambda^2 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda}\right)^2$  and this fact explains why the structure sheaf of  $C_p$  is considered as tropical (in terms of the variable  $\lambda$ ).

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