

## HYPERBOLICITY OF QUADRATIC FIELDS, SEMIGROUP ALGEBRAS AND $RA$ -LOOPS

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**ABSTRACT.** For the rational extension  $K = \mathbb{Q}\sqrt{-d}$  with  $d$  a square free integer and  $R$  the ring of algebraic integers of  $K$ , we classify  $R$  and  $G$  such that  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is a hyperbolic group. In particular, the unit group  $\mathcal{U}_1(RK_8)$  is hyperbolic if and only if  $d > 0$  and  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . In this case, the hyperbolic boundary  $\partial(U_1(RK_8))$  is isomorphic to  $S^2$ , the two-dimensional sphere. Thus,  $\mathcal{U}_1(RK_8)$  is a hyperbolic group of one end. Also, for a given division algebra of the quaternions, we construct two types of units of its  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orders: Pell's units and Gauss' units. Next, we classify the finite semigroups  $S$  such that for all  $\mathbb{Z}$ -orders  $\Gamma$  of the algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$ , the unit group  $\mathcal{U}(\Gamma)$  is hyperbolic. Finally, we classify the  $RA$ -loops  $L$  for which the unit loop of its integral loop ring does not contain a free abelian subgroup of rank two.

**RÉSUMÉ.** Nous classifions les anneaux d'entiers des extensions quadratiques rationnelles, que nous noterons  $R$ , tel que le groupe d'unités  $\mathcal{U}(RG)$  sur ces anneaux est hyperbolique pour un certain groupe  $G$  fixé. En particulier, le groupe  $\mathcal{U}_1(RK_8)$  est hyperbolique si et seulement si  $d > 0$  et  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . Dans ce cas, la frontière hyperbolique  $\partial(U_1(RK_8))$  est isomorphe à la sphère  $S^2$  de dimension 2. Nous considérons une algèbre de quaternions qui est aussi une algèbre de division. Pour un  $\mathbb{Z}$ -ordre de cette algèbre, nous présentons des constructions de deux types d'unités: les unités de Gauss et les unités de Pell. Par la suite, nous classifions les semi-groupes finis  $S$  dont l'algèbre unitaire  $\mathbb{Q}S$  vérifie la propriété suivante: pour tout  $\mathbb{Z}$ -ordre  $\Gamma$  de  $\mathbb{Q}S$  le groupe d'unités  $\mathcal{U}(\Gamma)$  est hyperbolique. Dans le même contexte, nous classifions les  $RA$ -loops  $L$  dont le loop d'unités ne contient aucun sous-groupe abélien libre de rang 2.

**1. Introduction.** Hyperbolic groups were first defined and studied by Gromov [5]. If  $G$  is a finitely generated group with a symmetric system of generators  $S$  and  $\mathcal{G}(G, S)$  is its Cayley graph with the length metric, then  $G$  is said to be hyperbolic if  $\mathcal{G}(G, S)$  is a hyperbolic metric space.

Gromov showed (the flat plane theorem), that if  $\Gamma$  is a hyperbolic group, then it does not contain a free abelian group of rank 2,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \not\hookrightarrow \Gamma$  say. If  $G$  is a finite group such that  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbb{Z}G)$  is hyperbolic, then  $\mathbb{Q}G$  has at most one simple epimorphic image that is not a division ring, and it is isomorphic to  $M_2(\mathbb{Q})$ . This was first proved by Jespers [8], who also classified the finite groups  $G$  with non abelian free normal complement in  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbb{Z}G)$ , the group of normalized units of  $\mathbb{Z}G$ .

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Recently, Juriaans, Passi and Prasad [10] have classified the finite groups  $G$  for which the unit group  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbb{Z}G)$  is hyperbolic. In Section 2, we extend this result, classifying, for the rational quadratic extensions  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ , the ring of algebraic integers  $R$  of  $K$  and the finite groups  $G$  such that  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is hyperbolic.

In Section 3, for a division ring  $\mathbf{H}(K)$ , we construct some units of the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -order  $\mathbf{H}(R) \subset \mathbf{H}(K)$  as follows: for a given Pell equation, each of its solutions over  $\mathbb{Z}(\sqrt{d})$  generates units  $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$  of norm 1, which we define as *Pell units*. Furthermore, we construct units  $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$  of norm  $-1$  which give rise to what we call *Gauss units*. Using these units we show that  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  has a free subgroup of rank 2 when  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .

In Section 4, we give the structure of the finite dimensional algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that for every  $\mathbb{Z}$ -order  $\Gamma \subset \mathcal{A}$ , the group  $\mathcal{U}(\Gamma)$  is hyperbolic, and we say that such algebras have the *hyperbolic property*. We also classify the finite semigroups  $S$  for which the unitary algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$  has the hyperbolic property; an example of such an algebra is when  $\mathcal{U}(\Gamma)$  is a torsion group. Jespers and Wang [9] classified the finite semigroups  $\Sigma$  for which  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}\Sigma)$  is finite. Therefore, such semigroup algebras  $\mathbb{Q}\Sigma$  are examples of algebras that have the hyperbolic property. We extend this class of semigroups  $\Sigma$  and describe the finite semigroups  $S$  whose rational semigroup algebra has the hyperbolic property. Finally, we give some properties of the idempotents of the maximal subgroups of  $S$ . In the last section we classify the  $RA$ -loops  $L$ , such that,  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \leftrightarrow \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$ .

**2. The rings  $R$  with  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  hyperbolic.** We define the set of *square-free integers* to be  $\mathcal{D} = \{d \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{-1, 0\} : c^2 \nmid d \text{ for all integers } c \text{ with } c^2 \neq 1\}$ . We let  $K$  be the quadratic extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  and  $R := I_K$  its ring of algebraic integers. The cyclic group of order  $n$  is denoted by  $C_n$  and the quaternion group of order 8 is denoted  $K_8 := \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ .

If  $G$  is a finite abelian group, then the unit group  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is a hyperbolic group if and only if its free rank is at most 1. In [13], it is shown that it is sufficient to consider the cyclic groups of order 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 8. Thus, for the abelian groups  $G$  of [10, Theorem 3] which classify the finite groups  $G$  such that  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbb{Z}G)$  is a hyperbolic group, the free rank of  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is calculated. When  $G$  is one of the non-abelian groups of [10, Theorem 3], we show that in case  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is hyperbolic,  $K$  is an imaginary quadratic extension and  $G = K_8$ . To prove the converse, we use a geometric approach.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Let  $K$  be an algebraic number field and  $R$  its ring of algebraic integers. For  $a, b \in K$ , we denote by  $\mathbf{H}(K) = \left(\frac{a, b}{K}\right)$  the *generalized quaternion algebra*, i.e.,  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  is the  $K$ -algebra

$$\mathbf{H}(K) = K[i, j : i^2 = a, j^2 = b, -ji = ij =: k].$$

The set  $\{1, i, j, k\}$  is a  $K$ -basis of  $\mathbf{H}(K)$ . If  $a, b \in R$ , then

$$\mathbf{H}(R) = R[i, j : i^2 = a, j^2 = b, -ji = ij =: k].$$

The *norm* of  $x = x_1 + x_i i + x_j j + x_k k \in \mathbf{H}(K)$  is  $\eta(x) = x_1^2 - ax_i^2 - bx_j^2 + abx_k^2$ . In what follows, we consider  $\mathbf{H}(K) = K[i, j : i^2 = -1, j^2 = -1, -ji = ij =: k]$ .

DEFINITION 2.2. ([11]) The least natural number  $s$  for which the equation

$$-1 = a_1^2 + a_2^2 + \dots + a_s^2, a_j \in K, \quad 1 \leq j \leq s$$

is soluble is called the *stufe* of  $K$ , denoted  $s(K)$ . When this equation admits no solution, we set  $s := \infty$  and  $K$  is called *formally real*.

Rajwade [11] proved that if the quadratic extension  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d}), d \in \mathcal{D} \cap \mathbb{Z}^+$  has  $s(K) = 4$ , then  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . Using this we prove in [13] that the quaternion algebra  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  over  $K$  is a division ring if and only if  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , and as a corollary we obtain that if  $d \not\equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , then  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  is not hyperbolic. Defining a proper action of the group  $SL_1(\mathbf{H}(R)) := \{x \in \mathbf{H} : \eta(x) = 1\}$  over the three-dimensional hyperbolic space  $\mathbb{H}$ , and using a result of Gromov about the fundamental group of a closed  $n$ -dimension riemannian manifold of constant negative sectional curvature, we prove that if  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , then the group  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  is hyperbolic.

THEOREM 2.3. ([13, Theorem 1.7.5]) *Let  $R$  be the ring of algebraic integers of a rational quadratic extension  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d}), d \in \mathcal{D}$ . The unit group  $\mathcal{U}_1(RG)$  is hyperbolic if and only if  $G$  is one of the groups listed below and  $R$  (or  $K$ ) is determined by the respective value of  $d$ .*

- (i)  $G \in \{C_2, C_3\}$  and any  $d$ .
- (ii)  $G$  is an abelian group of exponent dividing  $n$ , for  $n = 2$  and  $d > 0$ , or  $n = 6$  and  $d = 3$ , or  $n = 4$  and  $d = 1$ .
- (iii)  $G = C_4$  and  $d > 0$ .
- (iv)  $G = C_8$  and  $d = 1$ .
- (v)  $G = K_8$  and  $s(K) = 4$ , that is,  $d > 0$  and  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .

For a metric space  $X$ , let the maps  $r_1, r_2: [0, \infty[ \rightarrow X$  be proper, that is,  $r_i^{-1}(C)$  is compact for each compact  $C \subseteq X$ . Two rays are *equivalent* if for each compact set  $C \subset X$  there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $r_i([N, \infty[), i = 1, 2$ , are in the same path connected component of  $X \setminus C$ . The equivalence class of  $r$  is denoted by  $\text{end}(r)$ ;  $\text{End}(X)$  denotes the set of equivalence classes and  $|\text{End}(X)|$  is the number of ends of  $X$ . For a finitely generated group  $\Gamma$  and  $\mathcal{G}$  its Cayley graph, we define  $\text{Ends}(\Gamma) := \text{Ends}(\mathcal{G})$  [1, 5].

COROLLARY 2.4. *The group  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  is hyperbolic if and only if  $d > 0$  and  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . Furthermore, the hyperbolic boundary  $\partial(\mathcal{U}(RK_8)) \cong S^2$ , the two dimensional euclidean sphere, and  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  has one end.*

COROLLARY 2.5. *Let  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ ; if  $u_1 \dots u_n \in \mathcal{U}(RK_8)$ , then there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\langle u_1^m, \dots, u_n^m \rangle$  is a free group of rank less than or equal to  $n$ .*

**3. The Pell and Gauss units.** Corrales *et al.* [2] determined generators of a subgroup of finite index of  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(\mathbb{Z}(\frac{1+\sqrt{-7}}{2})))$ , whose units all have norm 1. In our classification we obtain the groups  $\mathcal{U}(RK_8)$  for which  $R$  is the ring of algebraic integers of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  such that  $d > 0$ ,  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ , and these groups are commensurable to the groups  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$ , that is, they have isomorphic subgroups of finite index. Thus, it is natural to consider the unit groups  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(\mathbb{Z}(\frac{1+\sqrt{-d}}{2})))$ ,  $d \in \mathcal{D} \cap \mathbb{Z}^+$  when  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $G$  be a group. For a unit  $u \in \mathcal{U}(RG)$ , writing  $u = \sum_{g \in G} u_g g$ , the set  $\text{supp}(u) := \{g \in G : u_g \neq 0\}$  is called the *support* of the unit  $u$ . For  $u = u_1 + u_i i + u_j j + u_k k \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$ , the set  $\text{supp}(u)$  is defined similarly according to the  $K$ -basis  $\{1, i, j, k\}$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.1.** *Let  $u = u_1 + u_i i + u_j j + u_k k \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$  with norm  $\eta(u)$ . The following conditions hold:*

- (i)  $u^2 = 2u_1 u - \eta(u)$ .
- (ii) If  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and  $\eta(u) = 1$ , then  $u$  is torsion if and only if  $u_1 \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ . Thus, the order  $o(u)$  is either  $o(u) = 4, 2$  or  $1$ .
- (iii) If  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$  and  $\eta(u) = -1$ , then  $o(u) = \infty$ .

Let  $\mathbb{L} := \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  and  $\xi \neq \psi \in \{1, i, j, k\}$ . For  $\epsilon = x + y\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{L}})$ , we denote  $u_{(\epsilon)} := y\sqrt{-d}\xi + x\psi \in \mathbf{H}(K)$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.2.** *Let  $d \equiv i \pmod{4}$ ,  $i \in \{2, 3\}$  and  $\xi \neq \psi \in \{1, i, j, k\}$ . The following conditions hold:*

- (i)  $u_{(\epsilon)} \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$  if and only if  $\epsilon = p + m\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{L}})$ .
- (ii) If  $1 \notin \text{supp}(u)$ , then  $u_{(\epsilon)}$  is torsion.
- (iii) If  $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{L}})$  and  $1 \in \text{supp}(u_{(\mu)}) = \text{supp}(u_{(\nu)})$ , then  $u_{(\mu)} u_{(\nu)} = u_{(\mu\nu)}$ .
- (iv) If  $1 \in \text{supp}(u_{(\epsilon)})$ , then  $\langle u_{(\epsilon)} \rangle = \{u_{(\epsilon^n)}, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ .
- (v) For  $d \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $\mathbb{F} := \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2d})$ ,

$$u := m\sqrt{-d}\xi + p\psi + (1-p)\phi \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R)) \Leftrightarrow \epsilon = (2p-1) + m\sqrt{2d} \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{F}}).$$

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  be a division ring. If  $x + y\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{L}})$ , then*

$$u = \begin{cases} \frac{y}{2}\sqrt{-d} + (\frac{y}{2}\sqrt{-d})i + (\frac{1 \pm x}{2})j + (\frac{1 \mp x}{2})k & \text{if } y \equiv 0 \pmod{2}, \\ xy\sqrt{-d} + (xy\sqrt{-d})i + (\frac{1 \pm (x^2 + y^2 d)}{2})j + (\frac{1 \mp (x^2 + y^2 d)}{2})k & \text{if } y \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

is a unit in  $\mathbf{H}(R)$ .

We observe that  $\epsilon := x + y\sqrt{d} \in \mathcal{U}(I_{\mathbb{L}})$  if and only if  $\epsilon \cdot \bar{\epsilon} = 1 = x^2 - y^2 d$ ,  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ , since  $d \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $d$  is a positive integer. This equation is called the Pell equation, and it is well known that it has a solution, (see [3, VI.§19]). According to the definition of the unit  $u$ , as in the last theorem, the solution of the Pell equation determines the coefficients of  $u$ . Also, as in Proposition

3.2(v), due to the unit  $u$  definition, the associated *invertible*  $\epsilon$  has  $\{1, \sqrt{2d}\}$  as its integral basis. The units constructed by the proper Pell equation are defined as follows.

DEFINITION 3.4. The units given above are called *Pell units*. For  $l \in \{2, 3\}$ , a *Pell  $l$ -unit* is a unit whose support has cardinality  $l$ , and the unique non-integer coefficient is of the form  $m\sqrt{-d}$ .

We note that the set  $\{u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R)) : u \text{ is a Pell unit}\}$  is not a group. For instance, when  $d \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  or  $d \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  is the quaternion algebra over  $K$ , if  $u$  is a Pell unit with  $|\text{supp}(u)| = 4$ , then  $u^2$  is not a Pell unit. We remark, however, that item (iv) of Proposition 3.2 shows that if  $u$  is a Pell 2-unit, then all powers of  $u$  are Pell 2-units.

Next we construct units  $u := m\sqrt{-d} + pi + qj + rk \in \mathbf{H}(R) \subset \mathbf{H}(K)$  of norm  $\eta(u) = -1$ . Thus  $p^2 + q^2 + r^2 = m^2d - 1 = n$  is a sum of three integer squares. Writing  $n = 4^a n'$  so that  $4 \nmid n'$  and  $a \geq 0$ , by [12, Theorem 1] (quoted as Gauss' Theorem),  $n$  is a sum of three integer squares if and only if  $n' \not\equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . This leads to the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.5. Let  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  be a division ring. If  $m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then there exist integers  $p, q, r$ , such that,  $u = m\sqrt{-d} + pi + qj + rk \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$ .

DEFINITION 3.6. Let  $u$  be unit of  $\mathbf{H}(R)$  whose support has cardinality  $l > 1$ . If the unique non-integer coefficient of  $u$  is of the form  $m\sqrt{-d}$  where  $m^2 \pm 1$  is a sum of three square integers, then we call  $u$  a *Gauss unit*, or a *Gauss  $l$ -unit*.

PROPOSITION 3.7. Let  $u$  be a unit of norm  $\eta(u) = 1$ ,  $l \in \{2, 3\}$ , and  $\mathbf{H}(K)$  a division ring. Then  $u$  is a Pell  $l$ -unit if and only if  $u$  is a Gauss  $l$ -unit.

THEOREM 3.8. Let  $d \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . If  $u, v \in \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{H}(R))$  are Gauss 2-units, and  $\text{supp}(u) \cap \text{supp}(v) = \{1\}$ , then there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\langle u^m, v^m \rangle$  is a free group of rank 2.

**4. Semigroup algebras.** We will consider  $\mathcal{A}$  a unitary finitely generated  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra and denote by  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})$ , respectively  $J(\mathcal{A})$ , the semisimple subalgebra, respectively the Jacobson radical, of  $\mathcal{A}$  and by  $E(\mathcal{A}) := \{E_1, \dots, E_N\}$ ,  $N \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , the set of the central primitive idempotents of the semisimple algebra  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A})$ . A classical result of Wedderburn–Mal'cev states that  $\mathcal{A} \cong \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{A}) \oplus J(\mathcal{A})$ , as a vector space. As a result, we have that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an artinian algebra and thus its radical is a nilpotent ideal. We denote  $T_2(\mathbb{Q}) := \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{Q} & \mathbb{Q} \\ 0 & \mathbb{Q} \end{pmatrix}$  the algebra of  $2 \times 2$  upper triangular matrices over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , with the usual matrix multiplication.

DEFINITION 4.1. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite dimensional algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and let  $\Gamma$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -order of  $\mathcal{A}$ . If  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \curvearrowright \mathcal{U}(\Gamma)$ , we say  $\mathcal{A}$  has the *hyperbolic property*.

If the algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has the hyperbolic property and it is non-semisimple with radical  $J$ , then we prove that  $J^2 = 0$ . In this condition we can consider  $J$  as vector subspace of  $\mathcal{A}$  such that there exists  $j_0 \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $J = \langle j_0, j_0^2 = 0 \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}$ , the space generated by  $j_0$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Furthermore,  $1 + J \cong \mathbb{Q}$  as a multiplicative group. For an idempotent  $E \in E(\mathcal{A})$ , since  $J = \langle j_0 \rangle$  is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ , we have  $j_0 \cdot E \in J$ . Thus there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $j_0 \cdot E = \lambda j_0$ . Likewise  $E \cdot j_0 = \mu j_0, \mu \in \mathbb{Q}$ . The following proposition shows that the left or right action of  $\{j_0\}$  over  $E(\mathcal{A})$  is non-trivial for a unique idempotent  $E_i \in E(\mathcal{A})$ .

**PROPOSITION 4.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite dimensional non-semisimple  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra with  $J(\mathcal{A}) = \langle j_0 \rangle_{\mathbb{Q}}$  and  $N = |E(\mathcal{A})|$ . The following conditions hold.*

- (i) *For all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , there exist  $\lambda_x, \mu_x \in \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $xj_0 = \lambda_x j_0$  and  $j_0 x = \mu_x j_0$ .*
- (ii) *If  $x$  is an idempotent, then  $\lambda_x, \mu_x \in \{0, 1\}$ .*
- (iii) *There exist unique  $E, F \in E(\mathcal{A})$  such that  $Ej_0 \neq 0$  and  $j_0 F \neq 0$ .*
- (iv) *If  $E = F$ , then  $J$  is central.*
- (v) *If  $J$  is non-central, then, up to an index reordering, we can suppose that  $E = E_1, F = E_N$ , and  $E_1 j_0 = j_0 E_N = j_0$ .*

This enables us to give a structure for the algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  with the hyperbolic property.

**THEOREM 4.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a finite dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. If  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is a simple epimorphic image of  $\mathcal{A}$ , denote by  $F_i$  a maximal subfield of  $\mathcal{A}_i$  and  $\Gamma_i \subset \mathcal{A}_i$  a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -order. The following conditions hold.*

- (i) *The algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has the hyperbolic property and is semisimple with no nonzero nilpotent elements if and only if  $\mathcal{A} = \bigoplus \mathcal{A}_i$ , where  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is a division ring and there exists at most one index  $i_0$  such that  $\mathcal{U}(\Gamma_{i_0})$  is hyperbolic and infinite.*
- (ii) *The algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has the hyperbolic property and is semisimple with nonzero nilpotent elements if and only if  $\mathcal{A} = (\bigoplus \mathcal{A}_i) \oplus M_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .*
- (iii) *The algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has the hyperbolic property and is non-semisimple with central radical  $J$  if and only if  $\mathcal{A} = (\bigoplus \mathcal{A}_i) \oplus J$ .*
- (iv) *The algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  has the hyperbolic property and is non-semisimple with non-central radical if and only if  $\mathcal{A} = (\bigoplus \mathcal{A}_i) \oplus T_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .*

For each item above,  $F_i$  is an imaginary quadratic field and  $\mathcal{A}_i$  is either an imaginary quadratic field or a totally definite quaternion algebra. Furthermore, every simple epimorphic image of  $\mathcal{A}$  in the direct sum is an ideal of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

In what follows,  $S$  denotes a finite semigroup,  $\mathbb{Q}S$  denotes a unitary semigroup algebra over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathcal{M}^0(G; n, n; P)$  denotes the Rees semigroup with structural group  $G$ , and  $P$  denotes an  $n \times n$  sandwich matrix. The groups  $S_3$  and  $D_4$  are the dihedral groups of order 6 and 8, respectively, and  $\mathbb{Q}_{12} \cong C_3 \rtimes C_4$ .

**THEOREM 4.4.** *The algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$  has no nonzero nilpotent element and has the hyperbolic property if and only if  $S$  is an inverse semigroup admitting a*

principal series whose principal factors are isomorphic to groups  $G$  and  $K$ , listed below, with at most one occurrence of  $K$ :

- (i)  $G$  is an abelian group of exponent dividing 4 or 6;
- (ii)  $G$  is a Hamiltonian 2-group;
- (iii)  $K \in \{C_5, C_8, C_{12}\}$ .

**THEOREM 4.5.** *Let  $\mathbb{Q}S$  be an algebra with nonzero nilpotent elements. The algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$  is semisimple with the hyperbolic property if and only if  $S$  admits a principal series whose principal factors are isomorphic to groups  $G$  and a semigroup  $K$  as listed below, with exactly one occurrence of  $K$ .*

- (i)  $G$  is an abelian group of exponent dividing 4 or 6;
- (ii)  $G$  is a Hamiltonian 2-group;
- (iii)  $K$  is a group of the set  $\{S_3, D_4, Q_{12}, C_4 \rtimes C_4\}$ ;
- (iv)  $K$  is one of the Rees semigroups:

$$\mathcal{M}^0(\{1\}; 2, 2; I_d) = M \quad \text{or} \quad \mathcal{M}^0(\{1\}; 2, 2; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}) = M_{12},$$

which is an ideal of  $S$ .

In particular,  $S$  is the disjoint union of the groups  $G$  and the semigroup  $K$ .

We proved that a finite dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra with the hyperbolic property has a nice Wedderburn–Mal’cev decomposition. We recall the idempotent decomposition of Proposition 4.2, for a non-semisimple algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$  with the hyperbolic condition:  $1 = \sum_{1 < i < N} E_i + E$ , since  $E = E_1 + E_N$ . Now let  $e \in \mathbb{Q}S$  be any idempotent; then  $e = \sum_{1 < i < N} eE_i + eE$ , where  $(eE_i)^2 = eE_i \in \mathcal{A}_i$ , a division ring, for all  $1 \leq i \leq N - 1$ . Therefore,  $eE_i \in \{E_i, 0\}$ , and hence  $e = \sum E_{i_i} + eE$ . Giving a more explicit description of certain idempotents, we shall describe some subsemigroups appearing naturally in a finite semigroup whose rational semigroup algebra has the hyperbolic property.

**PROPOSITION 4.6.** *Let  $S = \bigcup G_i \cup \{\theta, j_0\}$  be a semigroup. If  $e_i \in G_i$  is the group identity element of the group  $G_i$ , then  $e_i$  has one of the following expressions:*

$$\sum E_{i_i} + E_1 + \lambda j_0, \quad \sum E_{i_i} + E_N + \mu j_0, \quad \sum E_{i_i} + E_1 + E_N, \quad \sum E_{i_i}$$

with  $1 < i_i < N$ . Moreover, the last two expressions are central idempotents.

**THEOREM 4.7.** *The algebra  $\mathbb{Q}S$  is non-semisimple with the hyperbolic property if and only if there exists a unique nonzero nilpotent element  $j_0 \in S$  such that the subsemigroup  $\mathfrak{J} = \{\theta, j_0\}$  is an ideal of  $S$  and  $S \setminus \mathfrak{J}$  admits a principal series whose principal factors are isomorphic to abelian groups of exponent dividing 4 or 6, or a Hamiltonian 2-group. In particular,  $S/\mathfrak{J}$  is the disjoint union*

of its maximal subgroups such that if  $e_1 \in G_1$  and  $e_N \in G_N$  are the respective group identity elements, then  $e_1 j_0 = j_0 e_N = j_0$ . Writing

$$e_1 = \sum_{1 < i_1 < N} E_{1_{i_1}} + E_1 + \lambda j_0, \lambda \in \mathbb{Q},$$

$$e_N = \sum_{1 < N_i < N} E_{N_i} + E_N + \mu j_0, \mu \in \mathbb{Q},$$

then exactly one of the following holds:

- (i)  $e_1 e_N = 0 \Leftrightarrow e_N e_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda + \mu = 0$ ;  $T_2 \cong \{e_1, e_N, j_0, \theta\}$  is such that  $\mathbb{Q}T_2 \cong T_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .
- (ii) If  $e_N e_1 \neq 0$ , then  $e_1 e_N = e_N e_1 =: e_3$  and  $\lambda + \mu = 0$ ;  $T'_2 = \{e_1, e_N, e_3, j_0, \theta\}$  is a subsemigroup of  $S$  and  $\mathbb{Q}T'_2 \cong \mathbb{Q} \oplus \mathbb{Q} \oplus T_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .
- (iii)  $e_N e_1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow e_1 e_N = j_0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda + \mu = 1$ ;  $\hat{T}_2 = \{e_1, e_N, j_0, \theta\}$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}\hat{T}_2 \cong T_2(\mathbb{Q})$ .

The semigroups  $T_2, T'_2$  and  $\hat{T}_2$  are non isomorphic.

**5. The quasi-hyperbolic unit loop  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$  of an  $RA$ -loop  $L$ .** A loop  $L$  is a nonempty set, with a closed binary operation  $\cdot$ , such that the equation  $a \cdot b = c$  has a unique solution  $b \in L$  when  $a, c \in L$  are known, and a unique solution  $a \in L$  when  $b, c \in L$  are known, and with a two-sided identity element 1. We say that a loop  $L$  is quasi-hyperbolic if  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \curvearrowright L$ . Defining  $[x, y, z] := (xy)z - x(yz)$ , recall that a ring  $A$  is *alternative* if  $[x, x, y] = [y, x, x] = 0$  for every  $x, y \in A$ . An  $RA$ -loop is a loop whose loop ring  $RL$  over some commutative, associative and unitary ring  $R$  of characteristic not equal to 2 is alternative, but not associative. The basic reference is [4].

In this section we classify the  $RA$ -loops  $L$  such that the loop of units of  $\mathbb{Z}L$ , say  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$ , is quasi-hyperbolic.

**LEMMA 5.1.** *Let  $L$  be a finite  $RA$ -loop. The loop  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$  is quasi-hyperbolic if and only if  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$  is trivial.*

For a theoretical group property  $\mathcal{P}$ , a group  $G$  is virtually  $\mathcal{P}$  if it has a subgroup of finite index, say  $H$ , with property  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**THEOREM 5.2.** *Let  $L$  be an  $RA$ -loop. Then  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbb{Z}L)$  is quasi-hyperbolic if and only if*

- (i)  $L$  is a finite loop or a loop whose center is virtually cyclic,
- (ii) the torsion subloop  $T(L)$  of  $L$  is such that if  $T(L)$  is a group, then it is an abelian group of exponent dividing 4 or 6 or a Hamiltonian 2-group whose subgroups are all normal in  $L$ , and
- (iii) if  $T(L)$  is a loop, then it is a Hamiltonian Moufang 2-loop whose subloops are all normal in  $L$ .

Under these conditions we also have that  $\mathcal{U}_1(\mathbb{Z}L) = L$ .



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