

Interpreting Random Hypergraphs in Pseudofinite Fields

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1 Introduction

This article gives a positive answer to a question posed by D. Macpherson (Ravello 2002 [B.et al], Question 14):

“Can we interpret the random n -ary hypergraph in a pseudofinite field?”

A *pseudofinite field* is an infinite field that satisfies all first-order sentences that hold in **every** finite field. An example of a pseudofinite field is an infinite ultraproduct of finite fields. The theory of pseudofinite fields was first studied by J. Ax in his 1968 article “The elementary theory of finite fields”. In this article, among other results, Ax proves that a field F is pseudofinite if and only if it is perfect, has a unique extension of degree n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}^{>0}$ and is pseudo algebraically closed (PAC), that is, every absolutely irreducible variety defined over F has an F -rational point.

In 1980 J. L. Duret showed [Du] that the theory of pseudofinite fields is unstable, as the random graph is definable: given a pseudofinite field F of characteristic different from 2, put an edge between any two distinct points in F in case their sum is a square in F .

During the early 1990’s Hrushovski [H] showed that the theory of pseudofinite fields, although unstable, is not so “bad” in the sense that, some of the methods from stability theory can still be applied here.

An *n -hypergraph* is a graph whose edges, instead of connecting just two vertices, connect n distinct vertices. A *random n -hypergraph* on a set A is a tuple (A, H) where H is a subset of $A^{[n]}$ satisfying the following sentence for every m and k : for all a_1, \dots, a_m and b_1, \dots, b_k in $A^{[n-1]}$, distinct, there is an element $c \in A$, such that $a_1 \cup \{c\}, \dots, a_m \cup \{c\} \in H$ and $b_1 \cup \{c\}, \dots, b_k \cup \{c\} \notin H$.

Hrushovski proved in [H] that it is not possible to interpret a random $(n + 1)$ -ary hypergraph in a random n -ary hypergraph. This proves that the complexity of the random n -ary graphs strictly increases with n .

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2 Preliminaries

Throughout the article all the fields we will consider will be contained in a fixed algebraically closed field Ω and K will stand for a field contained in Ω .

Let \tilde{K} denote the algebraic closure of K in Ω and we will denote $\text{Aut}(\tilde{K}/K)$ as $\text{Gal}(K)$. We call a field extension L of K a *regular extension* if K is algebraically closed in L , i.e. if $\tilde{K} \cap L = K$.

By a *valuation* we will mean a real discrete valuation. A valuation of a function field $K(x)$ whose maximal ideal is generated by $f(x)$ will be denoted by v_f . In addition to the valuations on $K(x)$ given by the maximal ideals of $K[x]$, there is one more valuation v_∞ of $K(x)$ which is defined by: $v_\infty(f/g) = \deg(g) - \deg(f)$ for f and g in $K[t]$ where $\deg(f)$ denotes the degree of the polynomial f . We will denote valuations by the letters v and w .

Let K' be a finite algebraic field extension of K and \hat{v} be an extension of v to K' , i.e. \hat{v} is a valuation of K' whose valuation ring intersected with K gives the valuation ring of v . By $r(\hat{v} : v)$ we denote the *ramification index* of \hat{v} over v i.e. $r(\hat{v} : v)$ is the unique positive integer such that for all $a \in K$ we have $\hat{v}(a) = r(\hat{v} : v)v(a)$. The residue degree of \hat{v} over v is the field degree of the residue field of \hat{v} over the residue field of v and it is denoted by $d(\hat{v} : v)$. Note that if the residue field of v is algebraically closed $d(\hat{v} : v) = 1$ for every extension \hat{v} of v .

Let \hat{v} be one of the (finitely many) valuations on K' that extend v . Then \hat{v} is said to be *ramified* over v (or over K) if $r(\hat{v} : v) > 1$ and v is *ramified* in K' if it has at least one ramified extension \hat{v} to K' .

For a polynomial $f(X) \in K[X]$ and one of its roots $x \in \Omega$, we will call the field extension $K(x)$ of K a *root field* of $f(X)$.

We call an element σ of the absolute Galois group $\text{Gal}(K)$, a *topological generator* of $\text{Gal}(K)$ if σ satisfies one of the following equivalent conditions: (i) For any finite Galois extension L of K , $\sigma|_L$ generates $\text{Gal}(L/K)$. (ii) The subfield of \tilde{K} fixed by σ is K . (iii) $\langle \sigma \rangle$ is dense in $\text{Gal}(K)$.

It is easy to prove that K has a unique extension of degree n for every n if and only if $\text{Gal}(K) \simeq \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$, the profinite completion of \mathbb{Z} , and hence $\text{Gal}(K)$ has a topological generator. In particular the absolute Galois group of a pseudofinite field is the profinite cyclic group $\hat{\mathbb{Z}}$.

Proposition 1. *Suppose K is a perfect field with exactly one extension of degree n for every positive integer n . Let σ be a topological generator of $\text{Gal}(K) \simeq \hat{\mathbb{Z}}$. Suppose L is a regular extension of K . Let $\tau \in \text{Gal}(L)$ be an automorphism of \tilde{L} extending σ . Let M be*

the subfield of \tilde{L} fixed by τ . Then τ is a topological generator of $\text{Gal}(M) \simeq \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}$ and K is algebraically closed in M .

Proof: Since τ extends σ , K is algebraically closed in M . From this it follows that if K_n is the unique field extension of K of degree n then MK_n , the join of the fields M and K_n is the unique field extension of M of degree n . This proves the proposition. \square

The next theorem characterizes the concept of elementary equivalence of pseudofinite fields. (For model theoretical concepts we refer to [Ma]).

Theorem 2 ([Ax]). *Let E and F be two pseudofinite fields containing a common subfield K . Then E and F are elementarily equivalent over K if and only if the algebraic closures of K in E and F are isomorphic over K . In particular, if E is algebraically closed in F then E is an elementary extension of F .*

The following proposition follows from Lemma 20.2.2 of [FJ].

Theorem 3 ([FJ]). *Let E be a perfect field with at most one extension of degree n for every n . Then there exists a pseudofinite field F containing E in which E is algebraically closed.*

2.1 Linearly Disjoint Extensions

Let E and F be two field extensions of K . The fields E and F are said to be *linearly disjoint over K* if any $e_1, \dots, e_n \in E$ which are linearly independent over K are also linearly independent over F . Although not obvious from the definition, this concept is symmetric in E and F [FJ, Lemma 2.5.1].

Fact 4 (Lemma 2.5.2 of [FJ]). *Let E and F be two field extensions of K with F/K Galois. Then E and F are linearly disjoint over K if and only if $E \cap F \neq K$.*

Corollary 5. *Let E and F be two nontrivial finite extensions of K with F/K Galois and $\text{Gal}(F/K)$ simple. Then F and E are linearly disjoint over K if and only if F is not contained in the Galois closure of E over K .*

Proof: Suppose E and F are not linearly disjoint over K . Then by Fact 4, $E \cap F > K$. Let F_1 be the Galois closure over K of $E \cap F$. Clearly F_1 is contained in the Galois closure of E over K . Also, since F is Galois over K , $F_1 \leq F$. Then $\text{Gal}(F/F_1)$ is a proper normal subgroup of G . Since G is simple, $\text{Gal}(F/F_1) = \{\text{Id}\}$ and so $F = F_1$. That is, $F = F_1$ is contained in the Galois closure of E over K .

The other direction is clear from Fact 4. \square

Field extensions E_1, \dots, E_n of K are said to be *linearly disjoint over K* if each E_i is linearly disjoint over K from the join of the others, equivalently if E_i is linearly disjoint from $E_1 \cdots E_{i-1}$ over K for every $i = 2, \dots, n$.

Fact 6 (Lemma 2.5.6 of [FJ]). *Let L_1, \dots, L_n be a linearly disjoint family of Galois extensions of K . Then $\text{Gal}(L_1 \dots L_n / K) \simeq \prod_{i=1}^n \text{Gal}(L_i / K)$.*

Lemma 7. *Finitely many distinct Galois extensions of K whose Galois groups over K are nonabelian finite simple groups are linearly disjoint over K .*

Proof: Let E_i ($i = 1, \dots, n$) be the Galois extensions as in the statement of the Lemma and let $\text{Gal}(E_i / K) = S_i$. It is enough to show that E_i is linearly disjoint from $E_1 \dots E_{i-1}$ for $1 < i \leq n$. The claim for $i = 2$ follows from Fact 4. Assuming that the claim holds for $i = n - 1$, we will show that it holds for $i = n$.

$\text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / K) = S_1 \times \dots \times S_{n-1}$ by induction hypothesis and Fact 6. Suppose for a contradiction that $E_1 \dots E_{n-1}$ and E_n are not linearly disjoint over K . Since $\text{Gal}(E_n / K)$ is simple, by Corollary 5, E_n is contained in $E_1 \dots E_{n-1}$.

Now consider $\text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / E_n)$, which is a normal subgroup of $S_1 \times \dots \times S_{n-1}$. By an elementary lemma on the product of simple groups,

$$\text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / E_n) = T_1 \times \dots \times T_{n-1},$$

where T_i is either $\{1\}$ or S_i for all $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$. Then

$$S_1 / T_1 \times \dots \times S_{n-1} / T_{n-1} \simeq \text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / K) / \text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / E_n) \simeq \text{Gal}(E_n / K) = S_n.$$

Simplicity of S_n implies that $S_k \simeq S_n$, $T_k = 1$ for some $k = 1, \dots, n - 1$ and that $S_i = T_i$ for all $i \neq k, n$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / E_n) &= T_1 \times \dots \times T_{n-1} = S_1 \times \dots \times S_{k-1} \times \{1\} \times S_{k+1} \times \dots \times S_{n-1} \\ &= \text{Gal}(E_1 \dots E_{n-1} / E_k). \end{aligned}$$

and therefore, by the fundamental theorem of Galois theory, $E_n = E_k$, contradicting the assumption. \square

The lemma above still holds (with the same proof) if one of the extensions is still simple but abelian. Observe that the only abelian quotients of a non-abelian simple group are trivial.

2.2 Regular Extensions

Notation: Let $f(X)$ be a polynomial in $K[X]$. For a field F containing K , let L be the splitting field of the polynomial $f(X)$ over F , the Galois group $\text{Gal}(L/F)$ is sometimes denoted as $\text{Gal}(f(X), F)$.

Lemma 8 (2.6.11 of [FJ]). *Let $f(X, T) \in K[X, T]$ be a polynomial over K and $\text{Gal}(f(X, T), K(X))$ be its Galois group over $K(X)$. Then the polynomial $f(X, T)$ is absolutely irreducible over K if and only if L is a regular extension of K , and in this case $\text{Gal}(L/K(X))$ acts transitively on the roots of $f(X, T)$ over $K(X)$.*

Lemma 9. *Let G be a finite group acting transitively on a finite set A , $|A| \geq 2$. Then there is an element $g \in G$ such that $g(x) \neq x$ for every $x \in A$.*

Proof: For $x \in A$ let G_x be the stabilizer of x . Since G acts transitively on A , $[G : G_x] = |A|$ and all stabilizers are conjugate. Any two subgroups of G contain at least the identity in their intersection, hence the cardinality of $\bigsqcup_{x \in A} G_x$ is less than $|G|$. Any $g \in G \setminus \bigsqcup_{x \in A} G_x$ will satisfy the desired condition. \square

By Lemma 9 and Fact 8 we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary 10. *Let $f(X, T)$ be absolutely irreducible over K . Let L be the splitting field of $f(X, T)$ over $K(X)$. Then there is an element μ in the Galois group $\text{Gal}(L/K(X))$ that moves all the roots of $f(X, T)$.*

Fact 11 (2.3.11 of [FJ]). *Let $g(T) \in K[T]$ be a polynomial and X an indeterminate. Then $h(X, T) = g(T) - X \in K(X)[T]$ is absolutely irreducible over K . Therefore a root field of $h(X, T)$ over $K(X)$ is a regular extension of K .*

Fact 12 ([FJ]). *Let $f(X, T)$ be a polynomial in $K[X, T]$, separable in T . Suppose $\text{Gal}(f(X, T), K(X)) \simeq \text{Gal}(f(X, T), K_s(X))$ where K_s is the separable closure of K . Then for any field extension F of K we have $\text{Gal}(f(X, T), K(X)) \simeq \text{Gal}(f(X, T), F(X))$ and the splitting field L of $f(X, T)$ over $F(X)$ is regular over F .*

Lemma 13 (Ch.III Corr.6, p.58 [La2]). *Let $X \in \Omega$ be transcendental over K . Let L_1 and L_2 be two algebraic extensions of $K(X)$ which are linearly disjoint over $K(X)$ and which are regular extensions of K . Then $L_1 L_2$ is also a regular extension of K .*

2.3 Random Graphs and Hypergraphs

The theory of the random graph is axiomatized by the statements that express the following for all natural numbers n and m : “for all distinct $(n+m)$ elements $x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_m$ there is a z such that $R(z, x_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $\neg R(z, y_j)$ for $j = 1, \dots, m$. This theory is ω -categorical and has quantifier elimination.

For any set X , let $X^{[n]}$ denote the set of subsets of X whose elements have precisely n members. Then an n -hypergraph over X is a tuple (X, R) where R is a subset of $X^{[n]}$. A n -hypergraph (X, R) is called *random* if for every distinct $a^1, \dots, a^m \in X^{[n-1]}$ and for every subset I of $\{1, \dots, m\}$ there is an element $c \in X$ such that $a^i \cup \{c\} \in R$ if and only if $i \in I$.

The countable random n -hypergraph can be constructed as the Fraissé limit of finite n -hypergraphs, hence its first order theory is ω -categorical and has quantifier elimination by [Ho, Thm 7.4.1].

Note that one can define a random m -hypergraph in a random n -hypergraph by setting the first $n - m$ entries of the random n -hypergraph to be equal to a constant c . On the contrary, it was proved in [H] that if (ω, R) is isomorphic to the random n -hypergraph,

then R is not a finite Boolean combination of $(n - 1)$ -ary relations. This, together with the elimination of quantifiers, implies that we cannot interpret a random n -hypergraph in a random $(n - 1)$ -hypergraph.

2.4 Symmetric Polynomials

Throughout this subsection we let A denote a commutative ring with identity and t_1, \dots, t_n algebraically independent elements over A . Let $s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,n}$ be the elementary symmetric polynomials in t_1, \dots, t_n of degree $1, \dots, n$ respectively. Thus

$$(1) \quad \prod_{i=1}^n (X - t_i) = X^n - s_{n,1}X^{n-1} + s_{n,2}X^{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^n s_{n,n}.$$

It is well known that $s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,n}$ form an algebraically independent basis for the ring of symmetric polynomials in $A[t_1, \dots, t_n]$.

We now define $S_{n,i}$ to be the sum of all monomials of degree i over the variables t_1, \dots, t_n :

$$S_{n,i}(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \sum_{r_1 + \dots + r_n = i} t_1^{r_1} \dots t_n^{r_n}.$$

The polynomials $S_{n,i}$ are called the *complete symmetric polynomials* in t_1, \dots, t_n . The next fact is from [Fu, Section 6.1].

Fact 14. For every $k \leq n$, $t = (t_1, \dots, t_n)$,

$$S_{n,k}(t) - s_{n,1}(t)S_{n,k-1}(t) + s_{n,2}(t)S_{n,k-2}(t) - \dots + (-1)^k s_{n,k}(t) = 0.$$

Lemma 15. The polynomials $S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,n}$ form a basis for the ring of symmetric polynomials in $A[t_1, \dots, t_n]$, that is $A[s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,n}] = A[S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,n}]$.

Proof: Obviously $A[S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,n}] \leq A[s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,n}]$. To prove the converse we will show that for every $k < n$, $A[s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,k}] \leq A[S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,k}]$ by induction on k . For $k = 1$ there is nothing to prove. Assume $A[s_{n,1}, \dots, s_{n,k-1}] \leq A[S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,k-1}]$. It is enough to show that $s_{n,k} \in A[S_{n,1}, \dots, S_{n,k}]$. By Fact 14 we see that $s_{n,k}(t)$ can be written in terms of $S_{n,1}(t), \dots, S_{n,k}(t)$ and $s_{n,1}(t), \dots, s_{n,k-1}(t)$. The desired result follows by the induction hypothesis. \square

Notation: Since the polynomial $S_{n,n-1}(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \sum_{r_1 + \dots + r_n = n-1} t_1^{r_1} \dots t_n^{r_n}$ will be used several times, we will shorten it as S .

Lemma 16. If $a = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\}$, $b = \{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}\}$ are in $F^{[n-1]}$, then

$$S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) = S(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}, X)$$

if and only if $a = b$.

Proof: Note that $S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} S_{n-1,i}(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})X^{n-1-i}$. Therefore $S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) = S(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}, X)$ if and only if $S_{n-1,i}(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = S_{n-1,i}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ for all $i \leq n-1$. By Lemma 15, each of $s_{n-1,1}, \dots, s_{n-1,n-1}$ can be expressed uniquely in terms of the basis $S_{n-1,1}, \dots, S_{n-1,n-1}$. This implies that $s_{n-1,i}(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) = s_{n-1,i}(b_1, \dots, b_{n-1})$ for all $i \leq n-1$. Hence by the fundamental equality for the symmetric functions given in (1) above, we conclude that $\{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\} = \{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}\}$. \square

Notation: Let $f(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a symmetric polynomial in $k[X_1, \dots, X_n]$. Let $a = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\}$ be in $K^{[n]}$. Since $f(a_1, \dots, a_n) = f(a_{\sigma(1)}, \dots, a_{\sigma(n)})$ for any $\sigma \in \text{Sym}(n)$, we are allowed to denote $f(a_1, \dots, a_n)$ by $f(a)$.

3 Main Theorem

Theorem 17. *Let F be a pseudofinite field, $F(x)$ a field extension of F with x transcendental over F and H a nonabelian simple group. Let*

$$g(T, Y_1, \dots, Y_{n-1}, Y_n) \in F[T, Y_1, \dots, Y_{n-1}, Y_n]$$

be a polynomial over F symmetric in the indeterminates Y_1, \dots, Y_n . For every $a = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\} \in F^{[n-1]}$, let L_a denote the splitting field of $g(T, a, x) \in F(x)[T]$. Suppose that for every a, b in $F^{[n-1]}$ the following properties are satisfied:

- i. $\text{Gal}(L_a/F(x)) \cong H$.*
- ii. L_a is a regular extension of F .*
- iii. $L_a \neq L_b$ for $a \neq b$.*

If $R \subset F^{[n]}$ is defined by the condition

$$(1) \quad \text{“}\{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \in R \text{ if and only if } g(T, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n) \text{ has a root in } F\text{”}$$

then (F, R) is a random n -hypergraph.

We will construct polynomials satisfying the conditions stated in the hypothesis after giving the proof of the theorem. This will allow us to conclude that we can realize a random n -hypergraph in a pseudofinite field F .

Proof: Let $a^1 = \{a_1^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1\}, \dots, a^m = \{a_1^m, \dots, a_{n-1}^m\}$ be in $F^{[n-1]}$ for $1 \leq i \leq m$ and let $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, m\}$ and $J = \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus I$. To prove that R is a random n -hypergraph we need to find $c \in F$ such that $\{a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, c\} \in R$ for every $i \in I$, and $\{a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, c\} \notin R$ for every $j \in J$.

Unwinding the definition (1), this says that we need to find an element c of F such that the polynomial $g(T, a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, c)$ will have a root in F for $i \in I$ and the polynomial $g(T, b_1^j, \dots, b_{n-1}^j, c)$ will have no roots in F for $j \in J$.

The strategy of the proof is as follows: we will construct an elementary extension of F containing an element x satisfying the conditions required for c . We can then conclude that such an element exists in F as well.

Let L_1, \dots, L_m be the splitting fields of the polynomials

$$g(T, a_1^1, \dots, a_{n-1}^1, x), \dots, g(T, a_1^m, \dots, a_{n-1}^m, x) \in F(x)[T]$$

over $F(x)$ respectively. These splitting fields are distinct extensions with non abelian simple Galois groups by hypothesis, therefore they are linearly disjoint by lemma 7. Denote by $L = L_1 \dots L_m$ the join of the extensions L_1, \dots, L_m . By Fact 6,

$$\text{Gal}(L/F(x)) \simeq H \times H \times \dots \times H$$

is the product of m copies of H .

By Lemma 9 there is an element μ_j of $\text{Gal}(L_j/F(x))$ which moves all the roots of $g(T, a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, x)$ for every $j \in J$. Take μ in $\text{Gal}(L/F(x))$ so that $\mu|_{L_i} = \text{Id}$ for every $i \in I$ and $\mu|_{L_j} = \mu_j$ for every $j \in J$.

Let σ be a topological generator of the absolute Galois group $\text{Gal}(\tilde{F}/F) \simeq \widehat{\mathbb{Z}}$ of the pseudofinite field F . By the hypothesis of the theorem, the fields L_i are regular extensions of F . Since L_1, \dots, L_m are linearly disjoint over $F(x)$, this implies that L is a regular extension of F by Lemma 13. Therefore there is an automorphism $\tau \in \text{Gal}(\widetilde{F(x)}/F(x))$ extending both σ and μ . Denote the fixed field of τ by M .

Proposition 1 implies that M is a regular extension of F and that it has a unique extension of degree n for every $n \in \mathbb{N}$. This condition with Theorem 3 imply that there is a pseudofinite field E containing M which is a regular extension of M , i.e. $\tilde{M} \cap E = M$. Therefore E is a regular extension of F and so, by Theorem 2, E is an elementary extension of the pseudofinite field F containing x .

Now we claim that

$$E \models \exists c \left(\bigwedge_{i \in I} \exists T g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, c, T) = 0 \right) \wedge \left[\bigwedge_{j \in J} \forall T g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, c, T) \neq 0 \right].$$

Taking $x \in F(x) < E$ for the variable c in the above sentence, we will prove,

$$\left[\bigwedge_{i \in I} \exists T g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, x, T) = 0 \right] \wedge \left[\bigwedge_{j \in J} \forall T g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, x, T) \neq 0 \right]$$

holds in the pseudofinite field E .

Let $i \in I$, L_i contains all roots of $g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, x, T)$. μ is the identity on L_i and τ extends μ , therefore M the fixed field of μ , contains all the roots of $g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, x, T)$. The pseudofinite field E contains M , so

$$E \models \bigwedge_{i \in I} \exists T g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, x, T) = 0.$$

We will show that $c = x$ satisfies the second part of the conjunction. Suppose for a contradiction that for some $j \in J$ there exists a $t \in E$ such that $g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, x, t) = 0$. Since t is a root of the polynomial $g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, x, T)$, t is in $L_j < L$, an algebraic extension of $F(x)$, t is also in E . Hence $t \in E \cap \overline{F(x)} = M$ therefore $t \in M \cap L_j = \text{Fix}(\mu)$.

But we chose μ so that it does not fix any root of $g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, x, T)$, a contradiction. We conclude that $g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, x, T)$ does not have any root in E for all $j \in J$. This proves our claim.

Hence,

$$E \models \exists c([\bigwedge_{i \in I} \exists T g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, c, T) = 0] \wedge [\bigwedge_{j \in J} \forall T g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, c, T) \neq 0]).$$

The formula above has parameters from F . Since E is an elementary extension of F it is also true that

$$F \models \exists c([\bigwedge_{i \in I} \exists T g(a_1^i, \dots, a_{n-1}^i, c, T) = 0] \wedge [\bigwedge_{j \in J} \forall T g(a_1^j, \dots, a_{n-1}^j, c, T) \neq 0]).$$

And this proves the theorem. □

4 Construction of Extensions

In Section 3 we proved Theorem 17 which states that, if there exists a polynomial $g(T, X_1, \dots, X_n)$ over a pseudofinite field F satisfying certain conditions, then using this polynomial we can define a random n -hypergraph on F . Here in this section we will construct polynomials satisfying the conditions of Theorem 17 which will allow us to define a random n -hypergraph on F .

The methods of constructing polynomials satisfying the conditions of the Theorem 17 vary with the characteristic of the given pseudofinite field. We have two cases to consider separately: characteristic 0, and positive characteristic. In both cases we will use tools from the ramification theory of the function fields.

The following lemma describes the extensions of a valuation of a function field $K(y)$ in an integral extension. It is an easy consequence of [St, Theorem III.3.7].

Lemma 18. [St, MM] *Let $K(y)$ be a function field, $f(X) \in K[X]$ a separable monic polynomial and $g(X) = f(X) - y \in K(y)[X]$. Let $\beta \in K$ and $f(X) - \beta = \prod \gamma_i(X)^{r_i}$ where γ_i are distinct irreducible polynomials in $K[X]$. Let x be a root of $g(X) = f(X) - y$ and $L = K(y)(x)$ be a root field of $g(X) = f(X) - y$ over $K(y)$. Then the extensions of the valuation $v_{y-\beta}$ of $K(y)$ to L are the valuations $v_{\gamma_i(x)}$ and we have $r_i = r(v_{\gamma_i(x)} : v_{y-\beta})$.*

The next lemma is an important result in the theory of valuations, it can be found in [St, Proposition III.8.9] stated in the language of places instead of valuations.

Fact 19 (Abhyankar’s Lemma). *Let $L = L_1L_2$ be the join of two finite algebraic extension fields L_i of K . Let v be a valuation of L , whose restriction to L_i is ramified over K with ramification index r_i . If at least one of r_i is not equal to 0 modulo the characteristic of the field L , then the ramification index of v in L/K is $\text{lcm}(r_1, r_2)$.*

4.1 Characteristic 0 Case

We will work in characteristic 0 throughout this section.

In [Se] (p. 44) it is shown that the polynomial

$$h(T, Y) = (m - 1)T^m - mT^{m-1} + 1 + (m - 1)Y^2$$

gives rise to a regular Galois extension of $\mathbb{Q}(Y)$ with Galois group equal to the alternating group on m elements, $\text{Alt}(m)$ when m is divisible by 4. Let us denote the splitting field of the polynomial $h(T, Y)$ over $\mathbb{Q}(Y)$ by L . There are two valuations of $\mathbb{Q}(Y)$ which ramify in the extension L : valuation v_∞ of ramification index $m/2$ and the valuation $v_{1+(m-1)Y^2}$ with ramification index $m - 1$. Over $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(Y)$ the valuation $v_{1+(m-1)Y^2}$ gives rise to two valuations each with ramification index $m - 1$.

We apply the linear transformation $Y \rightarrow 1/Y$ to the polynomial $h(T, Y)$. This is a fractional linear transformation of the base field hence $\text{Gal}(h(T, Y), \mathbb{Q}(Y)) = \text{Gal}(h(T, 1/Y), \mathbb{Q}(Y))$. Moreover we can multiply the resulting polynomial by Y^2 to eliminate the denominators, this does not effect the Galois group nor the ramification indices of the valuations. Therefore we obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 20. *Let m be a natural number divisible by 4. Let y be transcendental over \mathbb{Q} . The Galois group of the polynomial*

$$f(T, y) = (m - 1)y^2T^m - my^2T^{m-1} + y^2 + (m - 1)$$

over $\mathbb{Q}(y)$ is the alternating group $\text{Alt}(m)$. The polynomial $f(T, y)$ is absolutely irreducible over \mathbb{Q} . There are two valuations of $\mathbb{Q}(y)$ which ramify in the splitting field of $f(T, y)$, the valuation v_y with ramification index $m/2$ and the valuation $v_{y^2+(m-1)}$ with ramification index $m - 1$.

We fix a pseudofinite field F of characteristic 0 and let $n \geq 3$ be a natural number and x transcendental element over F . For each $a \in F^{[n-1]}$ define $y_a = S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, x)$, where $S(t_1, \dots, t_n) = \sum_{r_1+\dots+r_n=n-1} t_1^{r_1} \dots t_n^{r_n}$ is the $(n - 1)^{\text{st}}$ complete elementary symmetric polynomial defined in section 2.4. Then y_a is transcendental over F , x is a root of the polynomial

$$(1) \quad S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) - y_a \in F(y_a)[X]$$

and $F(x)$ is a degree $n - 1$ extension of $F(y_a)$. By Fact 11, $F(x)$ is a regular extension of F . We call $F(x)$ the “small” extension of $F(y_a)$.

Now we will build a Galois extension of $F(y_a)$ with Galois group $\text{Alt}(m)$. Let $m = 4(n-1)!$ and K_a be the splitting field of the polynomial

$$(2) \quad f(T, y_a) = (m-1)y_a^2 T^m - m y_a^2 T^{m-1} + y_a^2 + (m-1)$$

over $F(y_a)$. By Lemma 20 the polynomial $f(T, y_a) \in \mathbb{Q}(y_a)[T]$ is absolutely irreducible over \mathbb{Q} and its Galois group over $\mathbb{Q}(y_a)$ is $\text{Alt}(m)$. Hence by Fact 12, the Galois group of $f(T, y_a)$ over $F(y_a)$ is $\text{Alt}(m)$ and K_a is a regular extension of F . We call K_a the “large” extension of $F(y_a)$.

Note that if $m \geq 5$, $\text{Gal}(K_a/F(y_a)) = \text{Alt}(m)$ is a simple group. Since $m = 4(n-1)!$, the degree of the extension $[K_a : F(y_a)] = m!/2$, is larger than $(n-1)!$ hence K_a cannot be contained in the Galois closure of $F(x)$ over $F(y_a)$ which is of degree at most $(n-1)!$. Then by Corollary 5, we conclude that K_a and $F(x)$ are linearly disjoint over F .

Now let L_a be the join of K_a and $F(x)$, the small and the large extensions of $F(y_a)$. Since K_a and $F(x)$ are linearly disjoint over $F(y_a)$, $\text{Gal}(L_a/F(x)) \cong \text{Gal}(K_a/F(y_a)) = \text{Alt}(m)$. Also, since both K_a and $F(x)$ are regular extensions of $F(y_a)$, and since they are linearly disjoint over $F(y_a)$, their join L_a is a regular extension of F by Lemma 13.

Now consider the extension $L_a/F(x)$. Since $y_a = S(a, x) \in F(x)$ we see that L_a is the splitting field of the polynomial

$$f(T, S(a, x)) = (m-1)S(a, x)^2 T^m - m S(a, x)^2 T^{m-1} + S(a, x)^2 + (m-1)$$

over $F(x)$.

Note that $f(T, S(a, x)) = g(T, a, x)$ where $g(T, X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is a symmetric polynomial in X_1, \dots, X_n which is the desired polynomial. Note that for every $a \in F^{n-1}$, the splitting field L_a of $g(T, a, x)$ over $F(x)$ (the field constructed above) satisfies the following conditions of the Theorem 17: (i) $\text{Gal}(L_a/F(x)) \cong \text{Alt}(m)$, a simple non-abelian group since $m = 4(n-1)! > 5$ for $n \geq 3$ (ii) L_a is a regular extension of F . Now we will prove condition (iii):

Claim: (iii) For every a, b in $F^{[n-1]}$ $L_a \neq L_b$ if $a \neq b$.

Proof: First note that K_a and L_a are regular extensions of F for every a in $F^{[n-1]}$. Hence, working over the algebraic closure \tilde{F} of F instead of F will not change the Galois groups we have constructed. We denote the extensions of $\tilde{F}(x)$ that corresponds to the extensions K_a and L_a of $F(x)$ by \tilde{K}_a and \tilde{L}_a for every a in $F^{[n-1]}$. To show that L_a and L_b are distinct extensions of $F(x)$, it is enough to show that \tilde{L}_a and \tilde{L}_b are distinct extensions of $\tilde{F}(x)$.

We will find a valuation of the field $\tilde{F}(x)$ which has different ramification indices in the Galois extensions \tilde{L}_a and \tilde{L}_b hence conclude that $\tilde{L}_a \neq \tilde{L}_b$ for $a \neq b$.

Let $a \neq b$ be in $F^{[n-1]}$, we know by Lemma 2.4 that $S(a, X) \neq S(b, X)$. Then there exists a factor $(X - \alpha)$ of the polynomial $S(a, X) \in \tilde{F}[X]$ such that the multiplicity of $(X - \alpha)$ in $S(a, X)$ is $e_1 > 0$ and the multiplicity of $(X - \alpha)$ in the polynomial $S(b, X)$ is $e_2 \geq 0$ where $e_1 \neq e_2$.

Recall that by Lemma 20 the valuations of $\mathbb{Q}(y)$ that ramify in the splitting field of $f(T, y) = (m-1)y_a^2 T^m - my_a^2 T^{m-1} + y_a^2 + (m-1)$ are v_y and $v_{y^2+(m-1)}$. Also recall that we denote the splitting field of $f(T, y_a)$ over $\tilde{F}(y_a)$ by \tilde{K}_a . Since the constant field \tilde{F} of $\tilde{F}(y_a)$ is algebraically closed, as a consequence of Lemma 20 the valuations of $\tilde{F}(y_a)$ that ramify in the extension $\tilde{K}_a/\tilde{F}(y_a)$ are v_{y_a} , $v_{y_a-\gamma}$ and $v_{y_a+\gamma}$ where γ is $(1-m)^{1/2}$. Moreover, since we obtained the extension $\tilde{L}_a/\tilde{F}(x)$ by setting $y_a = S(a, x)$ the valuations of $\tilde{F}(x)$ which ramify in \tilde{L}_a are exactly the valuations $v_{x-\beta}$, where β is a root of $S(a, X) = 0$, or of $S(a, X) = \pm\gamma$.

Now we will calculate the ramification index of the valuation $v_{x-\alpha}$ of $\tilde{F}(x)$ in \tilde{L}_a and \tilde{L}_b .

By Theorem 18, the valuation $v_{x-\alpha}$ of $\tilde{F}(x)$ extends the valuation v_{y_a} of $\tilde{F}(y_a)$ with ramification index $r(v_{x-\alpha} : v_{y_a}) = e_1$ since the multiplicity of $X - \alpha$ in $S(a, X)$ is $e_1 > 0$. Also any extension of the valuation v_{y_a} to K_a has ramification index $m/2$.

Since $e_1 \leq n-1$, it divides $m/2 = 2(n-1)!$ and therefore $r(w : v_{x-\alpha}) = m/2e_1 > 1$ for any valuation w on \tilde{L}_a which extends $v_{x-\alpha}$.

Now we will calculate the ramification index of the valuation $v_{x-\alpha}$ in the extension $L_b/F(x)$.

If $e_2 > 0$, the same argument shows that $v_{x-\alpha}$ ramifies in \tilde{L}_b with ramification index $m/2e_2 \neq m/2e_1$.

If $e_2 = 0$, then either $v_{x-\alpha}$ does not ramify in \tilde{L}_b , or else $S(b, \alpha) = \pm\gamma$, in which case, using Abhyankar's Lemma, we obtain that the index of ramification of $v_{x-\alpha}$ in \tilde{L}_b divides $m-1$. In that case, since m and $m-1$ are relatively prime, and $m/2e_i > 1$ divides m , we also obtain that the indices of ramification of $v_{x-\alpha}$ in L_a and in L_b are distinct. Since \tilde{L}_a and \tilde{L}_b are Galois extensions of $\tilde{F}(x)$, this implies that $\tilde{L}_a \neq \tilde{L}_b$. Hence $L_a \neq L_b$, and the claim is proved. \square

We showed that conditions (i),(ii),(iii) of Theorem 17 hold for the polynomial $g(T, X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n)$ for $n \geq 3$. Hence, we conclude that one can define a random n -hypergraph in a pseudofinite field of characteristic 0 for $n \geq 3$. For $n = 2$ the same method of constructions can be applied by choosing $m = 8$ to satisfy the condition that $\text{Alt}(m)$ is simple. This gives formula defining a random graph in a pseudofinite field different from the one given by Duret.

4.2 Positive Characteristic p : Enlarging the Ramification Locus

We will use Abhyankar's polynomials to build Galois extensions of function fields with Galois group $\text{Alt}(m)$ in positive characteristic. The following theorem gives us polynomials over $K(y)$ with Galois group $\text{Alt}(m)$ in case the characteristic of the field is greater than 2.

Theorem 21 ([Ab], [Ab1]). *Let K be a field of characteristic $p > 2$, y transcendental over K and L the splitting field of the polynomial $f_{t,p}(T, y) = T^m - yT^t + 1$ over $K(y)$ where $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ and $m = t + p$. Then $\text{Gal}(f_{p,t}(T, y), K(y)) \simeq \text{Alt}(m)$. Additionally*

the valuation v_∞ of $K(y)$ splits into the valuations \hat{v}_s and \hat{v}_∞ with ramification indices t and p in the extension $K(s)$ of $K(y)$ where s is a root of $f_{p,t}(T, y) = 0$ over $K(y)$.

The following theorem is extracted from [Ab2] where the above result is extended for fields of characteristic two.

Theorem 22 ([Ab], [Ab2]). *Let K be a field of characteristic $p = 2$, y transcendental over K and L the splitting field of the polynomial $f_{t,q}(T, y) = T^m - yT^t + 1$ over $K(y)$ where $m = t + q$ and t and q satisfy the following conditions:*

- i. $q = p^l$ for some l*
- ii. $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$*
- iii. $t > q > p$*
- iv. $t + q \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ or $t + q \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$*

Then $\text{Gal}(f_{t,q}(T, y), K(y)) \simeq \text{Alt}(m)$. Additionally the valuation v_∞ of $K(y)$ splits into the valuations \hat{v}_0 and \hat{v}_∞ with ramification indices t and q in the extension $K(s)$ of $K(y)$ where s is a root of $f_{p,t}(T, y) = 0$ over $K(y)$.

Next, we apply the fractional linear transformation $y \mapsto 1/y$ of $K(y)$ to the polynomial $f_{t,q}(T, y) = T^m - yT^t + 1$ to get the polynomial $h_{t,q}(T, y) = yT^m - T^t + y$. Under this transformation the valuation v_∞ is sent to the valuation v_0 . Combining Theorems 21 and 22 with this transformation we have the following corollary.

Corollary 23. *Let K be a field of characteristic $p > 0$, y transcendental over K and L the splitting field of the polynomial $h_{t,q}(T, y) = yT^m - T^t + y$ over $K(y)$ where $t \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ and $m = t + q$. Take $q = p$ in case the characteristic of the field K is $p > 2$ and take $q = p^l$, $t > q > p$ and $m \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ or $m \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ if the characteristic is $p = 2$. Then $\text{Gal}(h_{t,q}(T, y), K(y)) \simeq \text{Alt}(m)$. Additionally, v_y is the only valuation of $K(y)$ which ramifies in L and the ramification index of any extension of the the valuation v_y of $K(y)$ to L is divisible by t .*

Let F be a pseudofinite field of positive characteristic p . Let $n > 1$ be such that $p \nmid n - 1$. Let $x \in \Omega$ be transcendental over F . We will construct polynomials satisfying the conditions of Theorem17.

For every $a = \{a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}\} \in F^{[n-1]}$, let z_a be equal to $S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, x)$ where x is the transcendental element we fixed at the beginning. Then $F(x)$ is the field extension of $F(z_a)$ given by the polynomial $S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) - z_a$ of degree $n - 1$ and $z_a \in \Omega$ is transcendental over F .

For $k > n - 1$, let p_1, \dots, p_k be k distinct primes greater than $n - 1$, not equal to the characteristic of F , each of which is congruent to 1 or 7 modulo 8. This condition is possible by Dirichlet's theorem on arithmetic progression of primes. Also choose p_1, \dots, p_k such that $p_1 + \dots + p_k$ is not congruent to 0 modulo the characteristic of the field.

Fix distinct $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k \in F$, we set $u_a = \prod_{i=1}^k (z_a - \beta_i)^{p_i}$. Then $F(z_a)$ is a separable extension of $F(u_a)$ of degree $p_1 + \dots + p_k$ and z_a is a root of

$$\prod_{i=1}^k (Z - \beta_i)^{p_i} - u_a \in F(u_a).$$

Now take t to be $t = p_1 \dots p_k$. Since p_i 's were chosen to be congruent to 1 or 7 modulo 8, the product $t = p_1 \dots p_k$ is congruent to 1 or 7 modulo 8. Define q by:

- i. $q = p$ if characteristic of F is $p > 2$,
- ii. $q = 8$ if the characteristic of F is 2.

Let $m = q+t$ and M_a be the splitting field of the polynomial $f_{t,q}(T, u_a) = u_a T^m - T^t + u_a$ over $F(u_a)$. Note that, if $\text{char}(F) = 2$ then $m = 8 + t$ so m is congruent to 1 or 7 modulo 8 and if $\text{char}(F) = p \neq 2$ then $m = p + t$. Hence by Theorem 23, we have $\text{Gal}(M_a/F(u_a)) \simeq \text{Alt}(m)$ for both cases, $\text{char}(F) = 2$ and $\text{char}(F) > 2$. Also by Lemma 8, M_a is a regular extension of F since $f_{t,q}(T, u_a)$ is absolutely irreducible over F .

Note that M_a is not contained in the Galois closure of $F(z_a)$ over $F(u_a)$ because $(t+q)!/2 = (p_1 \dots p_k + q)!/2 > (p_1 + \dots + p_k)!$ and $\text{Gal}(M_a/F(u_a))$ is a simple group. Thus, by Corollary 5, M_a is linearly disjoint from $F(z_a)$ over $F(u_a)$.

Let K_a be the join of the extensions M_a and $F(z_a)$. Then $\text{Gal}(K_a/F(z_a)) = \text{Alt}(m)$ since M_a and $F(z_a)$ are linearly disjoint over $F(u_a)$. Note that K_a is the splitting field of the polynomial

$$f_{t,q}(T, \left(\prod_{i=1}^k (z_a - \beta_i)^{p_i}\right)) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^k (z_a - \beta_i)^{p_i}\right) T^m - T^t + \prod_{i=1}^k (z_a - \beta_i)^{p_i} \in F(z_a)[T]$$

over $F(z_a)$. And K_a is a regular extension of F by Fact 11.

So far we have constructed two extensions K_a and $F(x)$ of $F(z_a)$; $K_a/F(z_a)$ Galois with Galois group $\text{Alt}(m)$ and $F(x)$ a finite algebraic extension of $F(z_a)$ given by the polynomial $\prod_{i=1}^k (Z - \beta_i)^{p_i} - u_a$. Let L_a be the join of $F(x)$ with M_a . Note that L_a is the splitting field of

$$f_{t,q}(T, \prod_{i=1}^k (S(a, x) - \beta_i)^{p_i}) = \prod_{i=1}^k (S(a, x) - \beta_i)^{p_i} T^m - T^t + \prod_{i=1}^k (S(a, x) - \beta_i)^{p_i}$$

over $F(x)$.

Now let $g_1(T, a, x) = f_{t,q}(T, \prod_{i=1}^k (S(a, x) - \beta_i)^{p_i})$. Then $g_1(T, X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n)$ is a symmetric polynomial in X_1, \dots, X_n . Note that (i) for every $a \in F^{[n-1]}$, the Galois group of the polynomial $g_1(T, a, x)$ over $F(x)$ is the simple group $\text{Alt}(m)$, (ii) L_a is a regular extension of F . That is, the first two conditions for the main theorem are satisfied. We also need to prove that

(iii) $L_a \neq L_b$ if $a \neq b$.

Proof: The valuation v_{u_a} of $F(u_a)$ extends to the valuations $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ of $F(z_a)$ with ramification indices $r(w_{z_a-\beta_i} : v_{u_a}) = p_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$ by Lemma 18. Also the ramification index of the valuation v_{u_a} in the Galois extension M_a is s where $t|s$. Since p_i divides t , and p_i is not divisible by the characteristic of the field F , the valuations $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ of $F(z_a)$ have extensions in M_a which ramify with index s/p_i over $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ for $i = 1, \dots, k$ by Abhyankar's Lemma.

Again by Lemma 18, the valuation $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ of $F(z_a)$ extends to the valuations $v_{\gamma_1}, \dots, v_{\gamma_h}$ of $F(x)$ according to the decomposition of the polynomial $S(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}, X) - \beta_i = \prod_{i=1}^h \gamma_i(X)$ in $F[X]$.

Since the characteristic of the pseudofinite field F does not divide $n-1$, the extension $F(x)/F(z_a)$ has at most $n-1$ ramification points. Therefore one of the valuations $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ does not ramify in $F(x)$ as k was chosen to be greater than $n-1$, fix one such β_i and let $\gamma_1(x), \dots, \gamma_h(x)$ be the irreducible factors of $S(a, X) - \beta_i$ over F . Then the valuations $v_{\gamma_j(x)}$ for $1 \leq j \leq h$ are the only valuations of $F(x)$ extending $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ and they do not ramify over $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ by our assumption on β_i .

The ramification indices of the extensions $v_{\gamma_j(x)}$ of $w_{z_a-\beta_i}$ in L_a are s/p_i , by Abhyankar's Lemma. If $j \neq i$, then the ramification indices over $F(x)$ of the extensions of $v_{z_a-\beta_j}$ to L_a divide s/p_j and are therefore different from s/p_i . It follows that we can retrieve the polynomial $S(a, X)$ from the ramification locus of L_a over $F(x)$: choose i such that the valuations of $F(x)$ ramifying with index s/p_i in L_a are precisely $v_{\gamma_1(x)}, \dots, v_{\gamma_r(x)}$, and $\prod_{j=1}^r \gamma_j(X)$ has degree $n-1$ (such an i exists by the discussion above). Then $S(a, X) = \prod_{j=1}^k \gamma_j(X) - \beta_i$.

From this it follows that if $S(a, X) \neq S(b, X)$, then $L_a \neq L_b$. This gives us the conclusion. \square

We have showed the conditions of the main theorem are satisfied in a pseudofinite field of characteristic p where p does not divide $n-1$. Therefore we can interpret a random n -ary hypergraph in F when the characteristic p of F is positive and $p \nmid n-1$. But if we can realize a random m -hypergraph, by restricting it to $n < m$ many parameters, then we can realize random n -hypergraph as well. Thus we can realize a random n -hypergraphs for every n .

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