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## RECONSTRUCTION OF INERTIA GROUPS ASSOCIATED TO LOG DIVISORS FROM A CONFIGURATION SPACE GROUP EQUIPPED WITH ITS COLLECTION OF LOG-FULL SUBGROUPS

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ABSTRACT. In the present paper, we study configuration space groups. The goal of this paper is to reconstruct group-theoretically the inertia groups associated to various types of log divisors of a log configuration space of a smooth log curve from the associated configuration space group equipped with its collection of log-full subgroups.

### 0. INTRODUCTION

Let  $l$  be a prime number;  $k$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l$ ;  $S \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k)$ ;  $(g, r)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g - 2 + r > 0$ ;  $X^{\log} \rightarrow S$  a smooth log curve of type  $(g, r)$  (cf. Notation 1.3, (iv));  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ . In the present paper, we study the  $n$ -th log configuration space  $X_n^{\log}$  associated to  $X^{\log} \rightarrow S$  (cf. Definition 2.1). Write  $U_X$  for the interior of the log scheme  $X^{\log}$  (cf. Notation 1.2, (vi)). The log scheme  $X_n^{\log}$  may be thought of as a certain compactification of the usual  $n$ -th configuration space  $U_{X_n}$  associated to the smooth curve  $U_X$ . Write  $\Pi_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(X_n^{\log})$  for the pro- $l$  configuration space group determined by  $X_n^{\log}$  (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.3, (i)), i.e., the maximal pro- $l$  quotient of the fundamental group of the log scheme  $X_n^{\log}$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint). We shall refer to an irreducible divisor of the underlying scheme of  $X_n^{\log}$  contained in the complement of  $U_{X_n}$  as a *log divisor* of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Each log divisor  $V$  determines, up to  $\Pi_n$ -conjugacy, an inertia group  $I_V (\simeq \mathbb{Z}_l) \subseteq \Pi_n$ , which plays a central role in the present paper. Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  be distinct log divisors of  $X_n^{\log}$  such that  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n \neq \emptyset$ . Then we shall refer to  $P \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  as a *log-full point* (cf. Definition 2.2, (ii), and Proposition 2.10). The log-full point  $P = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  determines, up to  $\Pi_n$ -conjugacy, a *log-full subgroup*  $A (\simeq I_{V_1} \times \dots \times I_{V_n} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_l^{\oplus n}) \subseteq \Pi_n$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (iii)). It is known that the log-full subgroups of a configuration space group may be characterized group-theoretically whenever the configuration space group is equipped with the action of a profinite group that satisfies certain properties (cf. [HMM],

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Theorem D). In the present paper, we reconstruct group-theoretically the inertia groups associated to the log divisors from a configuration space group equipped with its collection of log-full subgroups. Moreover, we reconstruct group-theoretically the inertia groups associated to the tripodal divisors (cf. Definition 3.1, (ii)) and the drift diagonals (cf. Definition 3.1, (iv)), as well as the drift collections of  $\Pi_n$  (cf. Definition 8.13) and the generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi_n$  (cf. Definition 9.1).

Our main result is as follows:

**Theorem 0.1.** *For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;*

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

(cf. Notation 1.2, (vi)) a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$  (cf. the discussion below);  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then the following hold:

- (i)  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to log divisors of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to log divisors of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$  (cf. Theorem 5.2). This bijection is compatible with the geometry/intersection theory of log divisors (cf. Propositions 2.10, 3.7, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5; Lemma 8.4).
- (ii)  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to tripodal divisors of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to tripodal divisors of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$  (cf. Theorem 6.6).
- (iii)  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to drift diagonals of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to drift diagonals of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$  (cf. Theorem 7.3).
- (iv)  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of drift collections of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of drift collections of  $\Pi^\bullet$  (cf. Theorem 8.14).
- (v)  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  (cf. Theorem 9.3).

Note that, roughly speaking, Theorem 0.1, (i), asserts that we may extract group-theoretically a “geometric direct summand  $\mathbb{Z}_l$ ” (i.e., an inertia group associated to a log divisor) from “ $\mathbb{Z}_l^{\oplus n}$ ” (i.e., a log-full subgroup).

Note that one may define the notion of a log-full point even if  $r = 0$  (cf. [HMM], Definition 1.1). On the other hand, since log-full points do not exist when  $r = 0$ , we suppose that  $r > 0$  in the present paper.

In the proof of Theorem 0.1, (ii), we use the fact that, in the notation of Theorem 0.1, in fact  $(g^\circ, r^\circ, n^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet, n^\bullet)$  (cf. Theorem 3.10, (i)), which is proven in [HMM], Theorem A, (i).

This paper is organized as follows: In §1, we explain some notations. In §2, we define log configuration spaces, log-full points, and log divisors. In §3, we define tripodal divisors and drift diagonals and then proceed to study the geometry of various types of log divisors. In §4, we give a group-theoretic reconstruction of the scheme-theoretically non-degenerate elements (cf. Definition 4.6, (i)) of a log-full subgroup. In §5, we reconstruct the inertia groups associated to the log divisors. In §6, we reconstruct the inertia groups associated to the tripodal divisors. In §7, we reconstruct the inertia groups associated to the drift diagonals. In §8, we reconstruct the drift collections of a configuration space group. In §9, we reconstruct the generalized fiber subgroups of a configuration space group.

## 1. NOTATIONS

**Notation 1.1.** (i) Let  $G$  be a group. Then we shall write “ $1_G \in G$ ” for the identity element of  $G$ .

(ii) Let  $G$  be a group,  $H \subseteq G$  a subgroup, and  $\alpha \in G$ . Then we shall write

$$Z_G(H) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{g \in G \mid gh = hg \text{ for any } h \in H\}$$

for the centralizer of  $H$  in  $G$ ;

$$Z_G(\alpha) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Z_G(\langle \alpha \rangle) = \{g \in G \mid g\alpha = \alpha g\}$$

for the centralizer of  $\alpha$  in  $G$ ;

$$N_G(H) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{g \in G \mid gHg^{-1} = H\}$$

for the normalizer of  $H$  in  $G$ .

**Notation 1.2.** Let  $S^{\text{log}}$  be an fs log scheme (cf. [Naka], Definition 1.7).

(i) Write  $S$  for the underlying scheme of  $S^{\text{log}}$ .

(ii) Write  $\mathcal{M}_S$  for the sheaf of monoids that defines the log structure of  $S^{\text{log}}$ .

(iii) Let  $\bar{s}$  be a geometric point of  $S$ . Then we shall denote by  $I(\bar{s}, \mathcal{M}_S)$  the ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{S, \bar{s}}$  generated by the image of  $\mathcal{M}_{S, \bar{s}} \setminus \mathcal{O}_{S, \bar{s}}^\times$  via the homomorphism of monoids  $\mathcal{M}_{S, \bar{s}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{S, \bar{s}}$  induced by the morphism  $\mathcal{M}_S \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_S$  which defines the log structure of  $S^{\text{log}}$ .

- (iv) Let  $s \in S$  and  $\bar{s}$  a geometric point of  $S$  which lies over  $s$ . Write  $(\mathcal{M}_{S,\bar{s}}/\mathcal{O}_{S,\bar{s}}^\times)^{\text{gp}}$  for the groupification of  $\mathcal{M}_{S,\bar{s}}/\mathcal{O}_{S,\bar{s}}^\times$ . Then we shall refer to the rank of the finitely generated free abelian group  $(\mathcal{M}_{S,\bar{s}}/\mathcal{O}_{S,\bar{s}}^\times)^{\text{gp}}$  as the log rank at  $s$ . Note that one verifies easily that this rank is independent of the choice of  $\bar{s}$ , i.e., depends only on  $s$ .
- (v) Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Then we shall write

$$S^{\log \leq m} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{s \in S \mid \text{the log rank at } s \text{ is } \leq m\}.$$

Note that since  $S^{\log \leq m}$  is open in  $S$  (cf. [MzTa], Proposition 5.2, (i)), we shall also regard (by abuse of notation)  $S^{\log \leq m}$  as an open subscheme of  $S$ .

- (vi) We shall write  $U_S \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} S^{\log \leq 0}$  and refer to  $U_S$  as the interior of  $S^{\log}$ . When  $U_S = S$ , we shall often use the notation  $S$  to denote the log scheme  $S^{\log}$ .

**Notation 1.3.** Let  $(g, r)$  be a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g - 2 + r > 0$ .

- (i) Write  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}$  for the moduli stack (over  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) of pointed stable curves of type  $(g, r)$  and  $\mathcal{M}_{g,r} \subseteq \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}$  for the open substack corresponding to the smooth curves. Here, we assume the marked points to be ordered.
- (ii) Write

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}$$

for the tautological curve over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}$ ;  $\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{g,r} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r} \setminus \mathcal{M}_{g,r}$  for the divisor at infinity.

- (iii) Write  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$  for the log stack obtained by equipping the moduli stack  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}$  with the log structure determined by the divisors with normal crossings  $\overline{\mathcal{D}}_{g,r}$ .
- (iv) The divisor of  $\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r}$  given by the union of  $\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r} \times_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}} \overline{\mathcal{D}}_{g,r}$  with the divisor of  $\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r}$  determined by the marked points determines a log structure on  $\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r}$ ; we denote the resulting log stack by  $\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r}^{\log}$ . Thus, we obtain a morphism of log stacks

$$\overline{\mathcal{C}}_{g,r}^{\log} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$$

which we refer to as the tautological log curve over  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$ . If  $S^{\log}$  is an arbitrary log scheme, then we shall refer to a morphism

$$C^{\log} \rightarrow S^{\log}$$

whose pull-back to some finite étale covering  $T \rightarrow S$  is isomorphic to the pull-back of the tautological log curve via some morphism  $T^{\log} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} T$

$S^{\log} \times_S T \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$  as a stable log curve (of type  $(g, r)$ ). If  $C \rightarrow S$  is smooth, i.e., every geometric fiber of  $C \rightarrow S$  is free of nodes, then we shall refer to  $C^{\log} \rightarrow S^{\log}$  as a smooth log curve (of type  $(g, r)$ ).

- (v) A smooth log curve of type  $(0, 3)$  will be referred to as a tripod. A vertex of a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type (cf. [CmbGC], Definition 1.1, (i)) of type  $(0, 3)$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.3, (iii)) will also be referred to as a tripod.

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type (cf. [CmbGC], Definition 1.1, (i)) and  $\mathbb{G}$  the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Write

$$\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}) \text{ (resp. } \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}), \text{ Vert}(\mathbb{G}), \text{ Edge}(\mathbb{G}))$$

for the set of cusps (resp. nodes, vertices, edges) of  $\mathbb{G}$  and

$$\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}), \text{ Node}(\mathcal{G}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}),$$

$$\text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}), \text{ Edge}(\mathcal{G}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Edge}(\mathbb{G}).$$

## 2. LOG CONFIGURATION SPACES AND LOG DIVISORS

Let  $l$  be a prime number;  $k$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l$ ;  $S \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k)$ ;  $(g, r)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g - 2 + r > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log} \rightarrow S$$

(cf. Notation 1.2, (vi)) a smooth log curve of type  $(g, r)$ ;  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . We suppose that the marked points of  $X^{\log}$  are equipped with an ordering, and that

$$r > 0$$

(cf. the discussion at the end of the Introduction). In the present §2, we define log configuration spaces, log-full points, and log divisors.

**Definition 2.1.** The smooth log curve  $X^{\log}$  over  $S$  determines, up to a choice of ordering of the marked points (which will in fact not affect the following construction), a classifying morphism  $S \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$ . Thus, by pulling back the morphism  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r+n}^{\log} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$  given by forgetting the last  $n$  marked points via this morphism  $S \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,r}^{\log}$ , we obtain a morphism of log schemes

$$X_n^{\log} \rightarrow S.$$

We shall refer to  $X_n^{\log}$  as the  $n$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log} \rightarrow S$ . Note that  $X_1^{\log} = X^{\log}$ . Write  $X_0^{\log} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} S$ .

**Definition 2.2.** (i) Write

$$\Pi_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(X_n^{\log})$$

for the maximal pro- $l$  quotient of the fundamental group of the log scheme  $X_n^{\log}$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint). We refer to [Hsh], Theorems B.1, B.2, for more details on fundamental groups of log schemes.

- (ii) Let  $P$  be a closed point of  $X_n$ . By abuse of notation, we shall use the notation “ $P$ ” both for the corresponding point of the scheme  $X_n$  and for the reduced closed subscheme of  $X_n$  determined by this point. Then we shall say that  $P$  is a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  if

$$\dim(\mathcal{O}_{X_n, P}/I(P, \mathcal{M}_{X_n})) = 0$$

(cf. Notation 1.2, (iii)).

- (iii) Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $P^{\log}$  the log scheme obtained by restricting the log structure of  $X_n^{\log}$  to the reduced closed subscheme of  $X_n$  determined by  $P$ . Then we obtain an outer homomorphism  $\pi_1(P^{\log}) \rightarrow \Pi_n$  (for suitable choices of basepoints). We shall refer to the subgroup  $\text{Im}(\pi_1(P^{\log}) \rightarrow \Pi_n)$ , which is well-defined up to  $\Pi_n$ -conjugation, as a log-full subgroup at  $P$ .
- (iv) We shall often refer to a point of the scheme  $X_n$  as a point of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Let  $P$  be a point of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then  $P$  parametrizes a pointed stable curve of type  $(g, r+n)$  (cf. Definition 2.1). Thus, any geometric point of  $X_n^{\log}$  lying over  $P$  determines a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type, which is in fact easily verified to be independent of the choice of geometric point lying over  $P$ . We shall write  $\mathcal{G}_P$  for this semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type.
- (v) Let us fix an ordered set

$$C_{r,n} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{c_1, \dots, c_r, x_1 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} c_{r+1}, \dots, x_n \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} c_{r+n}\}.$$

Thus, by definition, for each point  $P$  of  $X_n^{\log}$ , we have a natural bijection  $C_{r,n} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_P)$ . In the following, let us identify the set  $\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  with  $C_{r,n}$ .

- (vi) We shall refer to an irreducible divisor of  $X_n$  contained in the complement  $X_n \setminus U_{X_n}$  of the interior  $U_{X_n}$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  as a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . That is to say, a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$  is an irreducible divisor of  $X_n$  whose generic point parametrizes a pointed stable curve with precisely two irreducible components (cf. Definition 2.1).
- (vii) Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then we shall write  $\mathcal{G}_V$  for “ $\mathcal{G}_P$ ” in the case where we take “ $P$ ” to be the generic point of  $V$ .

(viii) For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , write  $p_i: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  for the projection morphism of co-profile  $\{i\}$  (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.1, (ii)). Write  $\iota \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (p_1, \dots, p_n): X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log} \times_S \dots \times_S X^{\log}$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $m \geq 2$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_m \in C_{r,n}$  distinct elements such that  $\#\{y_1, \dots, y_m\} \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\} \leq 1$ . Then one verifies immediately — by considering clutching morphisms (cf. [Knu], Definition 3.8) — that there exists a unique log divisor  $V$  of  $X_n^{\log}$ , which we shall denote by  $V(\{y_1, \dots, y_m\})$ , that satisfies the following condition:  $\mathcal{G}_V$  has precisely two vertices  $v_1, v_2$  such that  $v_1$  is of type  $(0, m+1)$ ,  $v_2$  is of type  $(g, n+r-m+1)$ , and  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  are cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_V|_{v_1}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.1, (iii)).

**Remark 2.4.** Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then let us observe that there exists a unique collection of distinct elements  $y_1, \dots, y_m \in C_{r,n}$  such that  $\#\{y_1, \dots, y_m\} \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\} \leq 1$  and  $V = V(\{y_1, \dots, y_m\})$ . (Note that uniqueness holds even in the case where  $g = 0$  (in which case  $r \geq 3$ ), as a consequence of the condition that  $\#\{y_1, \dots, y_m\} \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\} \leq 1$ .) This observation is essentially a special case of Proposition 2.6, (iii), below.

**Definition 2.5.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type and  $\mathbb{G}$  the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{G}$  is a tree. Let  $e \in \text{Edge}(\mathcal{G})$ ,  $v \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G})$  be such that  $e$  abuts to  $v$ . Write  $b$  for the branch of  $e$  that abuts to  $v$ . By replacing  $e$  by open edges  $e_1, e_2$  such that  $e_1$  abuts to  $v$ , and  $e_2$  abuts to the vertex  $\neq v$  to which  $e$  abuts (resp.  $e_1$  abuts to  $v$ , and  $e_2$  is an edge which abuts to no vertex) if  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  (resp.  $e \in \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G})$ ), we obtain two connected semi-graphs. Write  $\mathbb{G}_{\not\supset b}$  for the semi-graph (among these two connected semi-graphs) that does not contain  $b$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}_{\supset b}$  for the semi-graph (among these two connected semi-graphs) that contains  $b$ . Observe that

- for arbitrary  $e \in \text{Edge}(\mathcal{G})$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  determines a natural semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type  $\mathcal{G}_{\supset b}$  whose underlying semi-graph may be identified with  $\mathbb{G}_{\supset b}$ ;
- if  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$ , then  $\mathcal{G}$  also determines a natural semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type  $\mathcal{G}_{\not\supset b}$  whose underlying semi-graph may be identified with  $\mathbb{G}_{\not\supset b}$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** Let  $P$  be a point of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (iv)). Then the following hold:

- $\mathbb{G}$  is a tree.
- $\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \{c_1, \dots, c_r, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .
- There exists a unique vertex  $v_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  that satisfies the following properties:

- (a) The genus of  $\mathcal{G}_P|_{v_g}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definitions 2.1, (iii); 2.3, (ii)) is  $g$ .
- (b) Let  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  that abuts to  $v_g$  and  $b_g$  the branch of  $e$  that abuts to  $v_g$ . Then  $\sharp(\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_g}) \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \geq r - 1$ .
- (c) For each  $v \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}_P) \setminus \{v_g\}$ , the genus of  $\mathcal{G}_P|_v$  is 0.

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows immediately from the definition of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ . Assertion (ii) follows from Definition 2.2, (v). Finally, we verify assertion (iii). Existence is immediate. If  $g \neq 0$ , uniqueness is immediate. If  $g = 0$ , it follows that  $r \geq 3$ . Now assume that there exists a vertex  $v'_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  such that  $v'_g \neq v_g$ , and  $v'_g$  satisfies conditions (a), (b). It follows immediately from the connectedness of  $\mathbb{G}$  that there exists a node  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  such that  $e$  abuts to  $v_g$ , and  $v'_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_g})$ , where we write  $b_g$  for the branch of  $e$  that abuts to  $v_g$ . By condition (b) in the case of  $v_g$ ,  $b_g$ , it holds that  $\sharp(\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_g}) \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \geq r - 1 \geq 2$ . On the other hand, it follows immediately from the connectedness of  $\mathbb{G}$  that there exists a node  $e' \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  such that  $e'$  abuts to  $v'_g$ , and  $v_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b'_g})$ , where we write  $b'_g$  for the branch of  $e'$  that abuts to  $v'_g$ . Next observe that it follows immediately from the fact that  $\mathbb{G}$  is a tree that  $\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_g}$  is a sub-semi-graph of  $\mathbb{G}_{\ni b'_g}$ , which implies that  $\sharp(\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b'_g}) \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \leq r - 2$ . Thus, by condition (b) in the case of  $v'_g$ ,  $b'_g$ , we obtain a contradiction.  $\square$

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $P$  be a point of  $X_n^{\text{log}}$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ ,  $v_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  for the vertex of Proposition 2.6, (iii). For  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$ , write  $b_e$  for the branch of  $e$  such that  $v_g \in \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_e})$ . Then we shall write

$$I_{\mathbb{G}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_e}) \cap C_{r,n} \mid e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)\} \subseteq 2^{C_{r,n}},$$

where we write  $2^{(-)}$  for the set of subsets of  $(-)$ . Note that it follows immediately from Proposition 2.6, (iii), that for each  $I \in I_{\mathbb{G}}$ ,  $\sharp I \geq 2$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** Let  $P, P'$  be points of  $X_n^{\text{log}}$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}, \mathbb{G}'$  for the respective underlying semi-graphs of  $\mathcal{G}_P, \mathcal{G}_{P'}$ ;  $v_g, v'_g$  for the respective vertices characterized in Proposition 2.6, (iii). If  $I_{\mathbb{G}} = I_{\mathbb{G}'} \subseteq 2^{C_{r,n}}$ , then there exists a unique isomorphism of semi-graphs  $\mathbb{G} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{G}'$  that maps  $v_g \mapsto v'_g$  and is compatible with the labels of cusps  $\in C_{r,n}$ . Moreover,  $\sharp \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}} + 1$ ,  $\sharp \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}) = \sharp \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $J \in I_{\mathbb{G}}$ . Write  $J_{\subseteq} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{I \in I_{\mathbb{G}} \mid I \subseteq J \subseteq C_{r,n}\}$ . Then one verifies immediately that one may construct a (well-defined) semi-graph  $\mathbb{G}_J$  satisfying the following properties:

- (i) The elements of  $\text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_J)$  are equipped with labels  $\in J_{\subseteq}$  that determine a bijection  $\text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_J) \xrightarrow{\sim} J_{\subseteq}$ .



- (ii) Let us call a subset  $\{J_1, J_2\} \subseteq J_{\subseteq}$  of cardinality  $\leq 2$  an *adjacent pair* of  $J_{\subseteq}$  if  $J_1 \subsetneq J_2$ , and there does not exist an element  $I \in I_{\mathbb{G}}$  such that  $J_1 \subsetneq I \subsetneq J_2$ . For  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}_J)$ , write  $\text{Vert}(e) \subseteq \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_J) \xrightarrow{\sim} J_{\subseteq}$  for the subset (of cardinality  $\leq 2$ ) of vertices to which  $e$  abuts. Then the assignment

$$\text{Node}(\mathbb{G}_J) \ni e \mapsto \text{Vert}(e) \in 2^{\text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_J)} \xrightarrow{\sim} 2^{J_{\subseteq}}$$

determines a bijection of  $\text{Node}(\mathbb{G}_J)$  onto the set of adjacent pairs of  $J_{\subseteq}$ .

- (iii) The cusps of  $\mathbb{G}_J$  are equipped with labels  $\in C_{r,n}$  in such a way that, for each  $I \in J_{\subseteq}$ , these labels determine a bijection from the set of cusps of the vertex labeled by  $I$  onto the subset  $I \setminus (\bigcup_{I_{\mathbb{G}} \ni J^* \subsetneq I} J^*) \subseteq C_{r,n}$ . Moreover, these labels determine a bijection  $\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_J) \xrightarrow{\sim} J (\subseteq C_{r,n})$ .

Next, one verifies immediately that one may construct a (well-defined) *semi-graph*  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  satisfying the following properties:

- (I) There exists a unique vertex of  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  equipped with a label  $v_g$ . The set of cusps of this vertex  $v_g$  are equipped with labels  $\in C_{r,n}$  which determine a bijection from the set of cusps of this vertex  $v_g$  to the subset  $C_{r,n} \setminus (\bigcup_{I \in I_{\mathbb{G}}} I) \subseteq C_{r,n}$ .
- (II) The semi-graph  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  is obtained from  $v_g$  (together with its associated cusps) by *gluing*  $v_g$  to  $\mathbb{G}_J$ , where  $J \in I_{\mathbb{G}}$  ranges over the elements of  $I_{\mathbb{G}}$  that are *maximal* with respect to the relation of inclusion, along a node  $e_J \in \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}})$  that abuts to  $v_g$  and the vertex of  $\mathbb{G}_J$  labeled  $J$  (cf. (i)).
- (III) The cusps of  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  are equipped with labels  $\in C_{r,n}$  that are compatible with the labels of (I) (in the case of the cusps associated to the vertex labeled  $v_g$ ) and (i) (in the case of the cusps associated to vertices  $\in \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_J)$ , for  $J$  as in (II)). These labels determine a bijection  $\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}) \xrightarrow{\sim} C_{r,n}$ .

Then it follows immediately from Definition 2.7 that there exists a unique isomorphism of semi-graphs  $\mathbb{G} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  that is compatible with the label “ $v_g$ ”, as well as with the labels of cusps  $\in C_{r,n}$ . Since  $\mathbb{G}$  is a tree, it follows that  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}} \xleftarrow{\sim} \mathbb{G}$  is also a tree. On the other hand, observe that it follows immediately from the construction of  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  (cf. (i), (I), (II)), together with the definition of  $I_{\mathbb{G}}$  (cf. Definition 2.7), that  $\sharp \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}} + 1$ . Since  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  is a tree, we thus conclude that  $\sharp \text{Node}(\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}}$ . Finally, since  $\mathbb{G}_{I_{\mathbb{G}}}$  is *completely determined* by the subset  $I_{\mathbb{G}} \subseteq 2^{C_{r,n}}$ , the remainder of Proposition 2.8 follows immediately.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.9.** *Let  $P$  be a point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $I \subseteq C_{r,n}$  such that  $\sharp(I \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \leq 1$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (i)  $P \in V(I)$  (cf. Definition 2.3).
- (ii)  $I \in I_{\mathbb{G}}$ .
- (iii)  $\mathcal{G}_{V(I)}$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{G}_P$  by generization (with respect to some subset of  $\text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.8)).

*Proof.* The equivalence (i)  $\iff$  (iii) follows immediately — by considering *clutching morphisms* (cf. [Knu], Definition 3.8) — from the latter portion of Definition 2.2, (vi). The equivalence (ii)  $\iff$  (iii) follows immediately from Definition 2.7.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.10.** *Let  $m \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ;  $V_1, \dots, V_m$  a collection of distinct log divisors of  $X_n^{\log}$  such that  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exist nonnegative integers  $i_0, \dots, i_m$  such that*

$$i_0 + \dots + i_m = n - m,$$

and the intersection  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$  is isomorphic, over  $S$ , to

$$X_{i_0} \times_S (\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_1+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \dots \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_m+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} S).$$

In particular, the intersection  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$  is irreducible of dimension  $n - m$ ; if  $m = n$ , then  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  is (the reduced closed subscheme determined by) a log-full point.

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a generic point of  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}_P$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ . Recall from Proposition 2.8 that  $\sharp \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_P) - 1 = \sharp \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}_P}$ . Thus, we conclude from Remark 2.4, together with the equivalence (i)  $\iff$  (ii) of Proposition 2.9, that

$$\sharp \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \sharp I_{\mathbb{G}_P} = \sharp \{V \mid V \text{ is a log divisor of } X_n^{\log} \text{ such that } P \in V\} \geq m.$$

Since the divisor that determines the log structure of  $X_n^{\log}$  is a divisor with normal crossings, we thus conclude that  $\sharp \text{Vert}(\mathbb{G}_P) - 1 = \sharp \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = m$ , and hence that

$$\{V \mid V \text{ is a log divisor of } X_n^{\log} \text{ such that } P \in V\} = \{V_1, \dots, V_m\}.$$

Thus, it follows from Proposition 2.6, (ii), that

$$\sharp \{\text{branches of edges (i.e., cusps and nodes) of } \mathcal{G}_P\} = n + r + 2m.$$

Next, observe that it follows from Proposition 2.6, (iii), that there exists a *clutching morphism*

$$\rho_P: X_{i_0} \times_S (\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_1+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \dots \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_m+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} S) \rightarrow X_n$$

(cf. [Knu], Definition 3.8) such that  $P$  lies in the image of this morphism  $\rho_P$ . Since the morphism  $\rho_P$  is a proper monomorphism (cf. Propositions 2.6, (iii); 2.8), it follows that the morphism  $\rho_P$  is a closed immersion. Thus, if we write  $X_P$  for the scheme-theoretic closure of  $P$  in  $X_n$  and  $X_{\rho_P}$  for the image of  $\rho_P$  in  $X_n$ , then  $X_P \subseteq X_{\rho_P}$ .

Next, observe that since the sum of the cardinalities of the sets of cusps of the pointed stable curves parametrized by the moduli stack factors of the domain of  $\rho_P$  is equal to

$$(i_0 + r) + \sum_{j=1}^m (i_j + 3),$$

it holds that

$$(i_0 + r) + \sum_{j=1}^m (i_j + 3) = \#\{\text{branches of edges of } \mathcal{G}_P\} = n + r + 2m,$$

and hence that

$$i_0 + \sum_{j=1}^m i_j = n - m.$$

Since

$$\dim(X_{\rho_P}) = \dim(X_{i_0} \times_S (\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_1+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \cdots \times_{\mathbb{Z}} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,i_m+3} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} S)) = i_0 + \sum_{j=1}^m i_j,$$

and  $V_1 \cup \cdots \cup V_m$  is a divisor with normal crossings (which implies that  $\dim(X_P) = \dim(V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_m) = n - m$ ), we thus conclude that

$$\dim(X_{\rho_P}) = \dim(X_P),$$

and hence that  $X_{\rho_P} = X_P$ . Moreover, since

$$\{V \mid V \text{ is a log divisor of } X_n^{\log} \text{ such that } P \in V\} = \{V_1, \dots, V_m\},$$

we thus conclude from Remark 2.4, together with the equivalence (i)  $\iff$  (ii) of Proposition 2.9, that  $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\}$  determines  $I_{\mathbb{G}_P}$ , hence, by Proposition 2.8, that  $\{V_1, \dots, V_m\}$  determines  $\mathcal{G}_P$ . But this implies that every generic point of  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_m$  lies in  $X_{\rho_P}$ , for some fixed  $P$ , and hence that  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_m$  is irreducible. This completes the proof of Proposition 2.10.  $\square$

### 3. VARIOUS TYPES OF LOG DIVISORS

We continue with the notation introduced at the beginning of §2. In addition, we suppose that  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ . In the present §3, we define various types of log divisors and study their geometry.

**Definition 3.1.** (i) For positive integers  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ ,  $j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}$ , write

$$\pi_{i,j}: X \times_S \cdots \times_S X \rightarrow X \times_S X$$

for the projection of the fiber product of  $n$  copies of  $X \rightarrow S$  to the  $i$ -th and  $j$ -th factors. Write  $\delta'_{i,j}$  for the inverse image via  $\pi_{i,j}$  of the image of the diagonal embedding  $X \hookrightarrow X \times_S X$ . Write  $\delta_{i,j}$  for the uniquely determined log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$  whose generic point maps to the generic point of  $\delta'_{i,j}$  via the natural morphism  $X_n \rightarrow X \times_S \cdots \times_S X$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (viii)). We shall refer to the log divisor  $\delta_{i,j}$  as a naive diagonal of  $X_n^{\log}$ .

- (ii) Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . We shall say that  $V$  is a tripodal divisor if one of the vertices of  $\mathcal{G}_V$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (vii)) is a tripod (cf. Notation 1.3, (v)).
- (iii) Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . We shall say that  $V$  is a  $(g, r)$ -divisor if one of the vertices of  $\mathcal{G}_V$  is of type  $(g, r)$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.3, (iii)).
- (iv) Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . We shall say that  $V$  is a drift diagonal if there exist a naive diagonal  $\delta$  and an automorphism  $\alpha$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$  such that  $V = \alpha(\delta)$ .

**Remark 3.2.** Recall (cf. [NaTa], Theorem D) that:

- when  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$  or  $(1, 1)$ , any automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$  necessarily arises as the composite of an automorphism (of  $X_n^{\log}$  that arises from an automorphism) of  $X^{\log}$  over  $S$  with an automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  that arises from a permutation of the  $r+n$  marked points of the stable log curve  $X_{n+1}^{\log} \rightarrow X_n^{\log}$ ;
- when  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ , any automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$  necessarily arises as the composite of an automorphism (of  $X_n^{\log}$  that arises from an automorphism) of  $X^{\log}$  over  $S$  with an automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  that arises from a permutation of the  $n$  factors of  $X_n^{\log}$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** The following hold:

(i) It holds that

$$\{\text{naive diagonals}\} = \{V(\{x_i, x_j\}) \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}, j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}\}$$

(cf. Definition 2.3).

(ii) If  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{tripodal divisors}\} \\ = & \{V(\{y_1, y_2\}) \mid y_1, y_2 \in C_{r,n} \text{ are distinct elements, } \{y_1, y_2\} \not\subseteq \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}\} \end{aligned}$$

(cf. Definition 2.3).

(iii) If  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{tripodal divisors}\} &= \{V(\{y_1, y_2\}) \mid C_{r,n} \supseteq \{y_1, y_2\} \not\subseteq \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}\} \\ &\cup \{V(\{y_1, y_2\}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} V(C_{r,n} \setminus \{y_1, y_2\}) \mid \{y_1, y_2\} \subseteq \{c_1, c_2, c_3\}\} \end{aligned}$$

(cf. Definition 2.3).

(iv) Let  $V$  be a tripodal divisor and  $\alpha$  an automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$ . Then  $\alpha(V)$  is a tripodal divisor.

*Proof.* First, assertion (i) follows immediately from the various definitions involved. Next, assertions (ii), (iii) follow immediately from Remark 2.4, together with the definition of tripodal divisors. Finally, we consider assertion (iv). It follows from Remark 3.2 that  $\alpha$  lifts to an automorphism of  $X_{n+1}^{\log}$  relative to the natural morphism  $X_{n+1}^{\log} \rightarrow X_n^{\log}$ , hence induces an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{G}_V$  with  $\mathcal{G}_{\alpha(V)}$ . This completes the proof of assertion (iv).  $\square$

**Proposition 3.4.** *The following hold:*

(i) It holds that

$$\{\text{naive diagonals}\} \subseteq \{\text{drift diagonals}\} \subseteq \{\text{tripodal divisors}\} \subseteq \{\text{log divisors}\}.$$

(ii) If  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ , then

$$\{\text{naive diagonals}\} = \{\text{drift diagonals}\}.$$

(iii) If  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$  or  $(1, 1)$ , then

$$\{\text{drift diagonals}\} = \{\text{tripodal divisors}\}.$$

*Proof.* First, we verify assertion (i). The first and third inclusions follow immediately from the various definitions involved. The second inclusion follows from Proposition 3.3, (i), (iv). This completes the proof of assertion (i). Assertion (ii) follows immediately from Remark 3.2.

Finally, we consider assertion (iii). Let  $V$  be a tripodal divisor. Let us first suppose that  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$ . Then  $X_n^{\log}$  is naturally isomorphic to the moduli stack  $(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,n+3}^{\log})_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,n+3}^{\log} \times_{\mathbb{Z}} S$  over  $S$ , on which the symmetric group on  $n+3$  letters acts naturally. Moreover, it follows from Proposition 3.3, (iii), that  $V = V(\{y_1, y_2\})$ , where  $y_1, y_2 \in C_{r,n}$  are distinct elements. Thus, there exists a permutation  $\alpha \in S_{n+3}$  such that  $\alpha(V(\{x_1, x_2\})) = V(\{y_1, y_2\})$ . Assertion (iii) in the case where  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$  now follows immediately.

Next, let us suppose that  $(g, r) = (1, 1)$ . Then  $X_n^{\log}$  is naturally isomorphic to the fiber product  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,n+1}^{\log} \times_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1}^{\log}} S$  over  $S$ , where the arrow  $S \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1}^{\log}$  is taken to be the classifying morphism  $S \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,1}^{\log}$  determined by  $X^{\log}$  (cf. Definition 2.1). Thus, one verifies easily, by considering the automorphisms

of an elliptic curve given by translation by a rational point, that the action of the symmetric group on  $n + 1$  letters on  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{1,n+1}^{\log}$  induces an action of the symmetric group on  $n + 1$  letters on  $X_n^{\log}$ . Moreover, it follows from Proposition 3.3, (ii), that  $V = V(\{y_1, y_2\})$ , where  $y_1, y_2 \in C_{r,n}$  are *arbitrary* distinct elements (cf. Definition 2.3). Thus, there exists a permutation  $\alpha \in S_{n+1}$  such that  $\alpha(V(\{x_1, x_2\})) = V(\{y_1, y_2\})$ . Assertion (iii) in the case where  $(g, r) = (1, 1)$  now follows immediately.  $\square$

**Definition 3.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type.*

- (i) *We shall say that a vertex of  $\mathcal{G}$  is a terminal vertex if precisely one node abuts to it.*
- (ii) *We shall say that a node of  $\mathcal{G}$  is a terminal node if it abuts to a terminal vertex.*
- (iii) *Write*

$$\text{TerNode}(\mathcal{G}) \subseteq \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$$

*for the set of terminal nodes of  $\mathcal{G}$ .*

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $P$  be a closed point of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then it holds that*

$$P \text{ is a log-full point} \iff \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = n.$$

*Proof.* This equivalence follows immediately from Definitions 2.1, 2.2, (ii), together with the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  (where we recall that the log structure of this log stack arises from a divisor with normal crossings).  $\square$

**Proposition 3.7.** *Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $A$  a log-full subgroup at  $P$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (iii)). Then the following hold:*

- (i) *It holds that  $\sharp\text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = n$ . The underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  is a tree that has precisely  $n + 1$  vertices, one of which is of type  $(g, r)$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.3, (iii)); the other vertices are tripods (cf. Notation 1.3, (v)).*
- (ii) *Write  $\text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  (cf. (i)). Then for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , there exists a unique log divisor  $V_i$  such that there exists an isomorphism of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_i}$  with  $(\mathcal{G}_P)_{\rightsquigarrow \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P) \setminus \{e_i\}}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.8) which preserves the respective orderings of cusps. In this situation, we shall say that  $V_i$  is the log divisor associated to  $e_i \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$ .*
- (iii) *In the situation of (ii),*

$$P = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n \text{ and } A = I_{V_1} \times \dots \times I_{V_n},$$

*where  $I_{V_i} \subseteq \Pi_n$  is a suitable inertia group associated to  $V_i$  contained in  $A$ . Moreover, for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , it holds that  $I_{V_i} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_l$  and  $A \simeq \mathbb{Z}_l^{\oplus n}$ .*

(iv) Let  $m$  be a positive integer;  $W_1, \dots, W_m$  distinct log divisors such that  $P = W_1 \cap \dots \cap W_m$ . Then  $m = n$ , and  $\{W_1, \dots, W_m\} = \{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$  (cf. (iii)).

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows immediately from Propositions 2.6, 2.8, and 3.6, together with the *observation* that a *log-full point* (cf. Definition 2.2, (ii)) corresponds to an *intersection* of the sort considered in Proposition 2.10, in the case where  $n = m$ , and  $i_j = 0$ , for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m$ . Assertion (ii) follows immediately from Proposition 2.9. Assertion (iii) follows from Propositions 2.9 and 2.10, and [CbTpI], Lemma 5.4, (ii). Assertion (iv) follows immediately from Propositions 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, together with assertion (iii).  $\square$

**Definition 3.8.** Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  the log divisors such that  $P = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iv)). We shall say that  $V_i$  is a *terminal divisor* of  $P$  if there exists a terminal node  $e \in \text{TerNode}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  such that  $V_i$  is the log divisor associated to  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (ii)).

**Lemma 3.9.** Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  the log divisors such that  $P = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iv)). Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i)  $V_i$  is a terminal divisor of  $P$ .
- (ii)  $V_i$  is a tripodal divisor or a  $(g, r)$ -divisor.

*Proof.* The implication (i)  $\implies$  (ii) follows from Proposition 3.7, (i), (ii). The implication (ii)  $\implies$  (i) follows immediately from the various definitions involved.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. Then the following hold:

- (i)  $(g^\circ, r^\circ, n^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet, n^\bullet)$ .
- (ii) If  $(g^\square, r^\square) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ , then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of fiber subgroups of a given co-length (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.3, (iii)) of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of fiber subgroups of the same co-length of  $\Pi^\bullet$ .

(iii) Suppose that  $(g^\square, r^\square) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ . Write  $\iota_\Pi^\square: \Pi^\square \rightarrow \Pi_1^\square \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\square$  for the outer homomorphism induced by  $\iota^\square: X_{n^\square}^{\log \square} \rightarrow X^{\log \square} \times_{S^\square} \cdots \times_{S^\square} X^{\log \square}$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (viii)), where  $\Pi_1^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(X^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint). Then  $\phi$  induces a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Pi^\circ & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \Pi^\bullet \\ \iota_\Pi^\circ \downarrow & & \iota_\Pi^\bullet \downarrow \\ \Pi_1^\circ \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\circ & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \Pi_1^\bullet \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\bullet, \end{array}$$

where the lower horizontal isomorphism preserves the respective direct product decompositions (but possibly permutes the factors).

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows from [HMM], Theorem A, (i). Assertion (ii) follows from [MzTa], Corollary 6.3. Assertion (iii) follows from assertion (ii).  $\square$

#### 4. RECONSTRUCTION OF NON-DEGENERATE ELEMENTS OF LOG-FULL SUBGROUPS

We continue with the notation of §3. In the present §4, we reconstruct the subset of scheme-theoretically non-degenerate elements (cf. Definition 4.6, (i), below) of a log-full subgroup (cf. Theorem 4.15 below).

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $m < n$  be an integer,  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_m^{\log}$  a projection,  $V$  a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Write  $q: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_m$  for the outer homomorphism induced by  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_m^{\log}$ . Suppose that  $q(V) \subsetneq X_m$ . Then the following hold:*

- (i)  $q(V)$  is a log divisor of  $X_m^{\log}$ .
- (ii) Let  $I_V \subseteq \Pi_n$  be an inertia group associated to  $V$ . Then  $q(I_V) (\simeq I_V)$  is an inertia group associated to  $q(V)$ .

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows immediately from the latter portion of Definition 2.2, (vi), together with the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $X_m^{\log}$ . Assertion (ii) follows from [NodNon], Remark 2.4.2, together with the *surjectivity* portion of [NodNon], Lemma 2.7, (ii).  $\square$

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$ ;  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  the log divisors such that  $P = V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_n$ ;  $A = I_{V_1} \times \cdots \times I_{V_n}$  the log-full subgroup at  $P$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv)). Then the following hold:*

- (i) There exists a tripodal divisor in  $\{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$ . Suppose that  $V_1$  is a tripodal divisor. Thus,  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}$  has precisely two vertices  $v_1, v'_1$ , one of which is a tripod. Suppose that  $v_1$  is a tripod.



- (ii) If  $r = 1$ , then there exists a unique  $(g, r)$ -divisor in  $\{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$ . Suppose that  $V_n$  is this unique  $(g, r)$ -divisor.
- (iii) In the situation of (i), if  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3)$ , then there exists an  $i_0 \in \{1 + r, \dots, n + r\}$  such that  $c_{i_0}$  is a cusp of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}|_{v_1}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.1, (iii)). In this case, write  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  for the projection morphism of profile  $\{i_0 - r\}$  (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.1, (ii)).
- (iv) In the situation of (i), if  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$ , then there exists an  $i_0 \in \{1, \dots, 3 + n\}$  such that  $c_{i_0}$  is a cusp of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}|_{v_1}$ . In this case, write  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  for the morphism determined by the morphism

$$(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,n+3}^{\log})_k \rightarrow (\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,n+2}^{\log})_k$$

obtained by forgetting the  $i_0$ -th marked point (cf. the proof of Proposition 3.4, (iii)).

- (v) In the situation of (iii) or (iv), it holds that  $V_1' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(V_1) = X_{n-1}$  and  $V_i' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(V_i)$  is a log divisor of  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , for all  $i \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ .
- (vi) In the situation of (v), it holds that  $V_i' \neq V_j'$ , for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}, j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}$ .
- (vii) In the situation of (v), it holds that  $p(P)$  is a log-full point of  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ .
- (viii) In the situation of (iii) or (iv), for arbitrary  $(g, r)$ , we write, by abuse of notation,  $p: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_{n-1}$  for the (outer) homomorphism induced by  $p$ . Then  $A' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(A)$  is a log-full subgroup of  $\Pi_{n-1}$ , and we have exact sequences

$$1 \longrightarrow \Pi_{n/n-1} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Ker}(p) \longrightarrow \Pi_n \xrightarrow{p} \Pi_{n-1} \longrightarrow 1,$$

$$1 \longrightarrow I_{V_1} \longrightarrow A \xrightarrow{p} A' \longrightarrow 1.$$

*Proof.* Assertions (i), (ii) follow from Proposition 3.7, (i), (ii) (cf. also Lemma 3.9). Assertion (iii) follows from Proposition 3.3, (ii). Assertion (iv) is immediate. Assertion (v) follows from our choice of  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , together with the *terminality* of  $v_1$  (cf. also Proposition 4.1, (i)). Next, we verify assertion (vi). By assertion (v), it holds that  $V_i' \neq V_j'$ , for all  $j \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ . Thus, we may assume without loss of generality that  $1 < i < j$ , and that  $\mathcal{G}_{V_i}$  has precisely two vertices  $v_i, w_i$  such that  $c_{i_0}$  is a cusp of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_i}|_{v_i}$ . Let us recall that we have identified  $\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}), \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j})$  with  $C_{r,n}$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (v)). Suppose that  $V_i' = V_j'$ . Observe that  $c_{i_0}$  does not belong to the set of cusps of any tripod (vertex) of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_i}, \mathcal{G}_{V_j}$ . Thus, one verifies easily that

$\mathcal{G}_{V_j}$  has precisely two vertices  $v_j, w_j$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} (\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j}|_{v_j}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j})) \cup \{c_{i_0}\} &= \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}|_{v_i}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}); \\ \#\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j}|_{v_j}) + 1 &= \#\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}|_{v_i}); \\ (\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}|_{w_i}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i})) \cup \{c_{i_0}\} &= \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j}|_{w_j}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j}); \\ \#\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_i}|_{w_i}) + 1 &= \#\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_{V_j}|_{w_j}); \\ g(v_i) = g(v_j), \quad g(w_i) = g(w_j), \end{aligned}$$

where we write  $g(v_{(-)}), g(w_{(-)})$  for the “genus” of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_{(-)}}|_{v_{(-)}}, \mathcal{G}_{V_{(-)}}|_{w_{(-)}}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.3, (ii)). But one verifies easily from the correspondence between *log divisors* and *subsets* of  $C_{r,n}$  (cf. Remark 2.4), together with the definition of  $c_{i_0}$  in the statements of assertions (iii), (iv), that this implies that there exists a *tripod* (vertex)  $v_P$  of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  such that

$$\text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_P|_{v_P}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathcal{G}_P) = \{c_{i_0}\}.$$

On the other hand, this contradicts the *terminality* of the tripodal divisor  $V_1$  (cf. Lemma 3.9). In particular, we conclude that  $V_i' \neq V_j'$ . Assertion (vii) follows from assertion (vi). Finally, assertion (viii) follows from assertions (v), (vii), together with [MzTa], Proposition 2.2, (i).  $\square$

**Proposition 4.3.** *Let  $P$  be a log-full point of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $I_V$  an inertia group associated to a log divisor  $V$ . Then it holds that*

$$P \in V \iff \text{there exists a log-full subgroup } A \text{ at } P \text{ such that } I_V \subseteq A.$$

*Proof.* The implication  $\implies$  follows immediately from Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv). Thus, it suffices to consider the implication  $\impliedby$ . Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  be log divisors such that  $P = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv)). We may assume without loss of generality that  $V_1$  is a tripodal divisor (cf. Proposition 4.2, (i)). In the following, we consider a projection  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  as in Proposition 4.2, (iii) or (iv), and the corresponding (outer) homomorphism  $p: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_{n-1}$  of Proposition 4.2, (viii).

Let us first suppose that  $p(V) = X_{n-1}$ . Then since the generic point of  $V$  maps via  $p$  to the generic point of  $X_{n-1}$ ,  $I_V \subseteq \text{Ker}(p) \cap A = I_{V_1}$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (viii)). Now observe that since  $p(V) = p(V_1) = X_{n-1}$ ,  $I_V$  and  $I_{V_1}$  may be regarded as cuspidal inertia groups of the smooth log curve determined by the geometric generic fiber of  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$ . In particular, the inclusion  $I_V \subseteq I_{V_1}$  of profinite groups isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_l$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii)) implies, by [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i), that  $P \in V_1 = V$ .

Thus, it suffices to consider the case where  $p(V) \neq X_{n-1}$ . Then by Proposition 4.1, (i), (ii),  $V' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(V)$  is a log divisor of  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , and  $p$  induces an isomorphism  $I_V \xrightarrow{\sim} I_{V'}$ . Now we apply induction on  $n$ . Here, we note that

although we have assumed that  $n > 1$ , the assertion corresponding to the implication  $\Leftarrow$  for  $n = 1$  follows immediately from [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i). Since  $A' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(A)$  is a log-full subgroup at  $P' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(P)$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (viii)) that contains  $I_{V'}$ , it follows from the induction hypothesis that  $P' = V'_2 \cap \cdots \cap V'_n \in V'$ , where  $V'_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(V_i)$  and  $i \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ . By Proposition 3.7, (iv), it holds that  $V' \in \{V'_2, \dots, V'_n\}$ , so we may assume without loss of generality that  $V' = V'_2$ . It follows immediately from the latter portion of Definition 2.2, (vi), together with the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , that there exists a log divisor  $W \neq V_2$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  such that  $p(W) = V'_2$  and  $(V \subseteq) p^{-1}(V'_2) = V_2 \cup W$ . Note that  $V \in \{V_2, W\}$ . Suppose that  $V = W$ . Then

$$I_W = I_V \subseteq p^{-1}p(I_V) = p^{-1}(I_{V'}) = p^{-1}(I_{V'_2}) = I_{V_1} \oplus I_{V_2},$$

where the last equality follows from Proposition 4.2, (viii). Now let us consider the stable log curve obtained by restricting  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  to the generic point of  $V'_2$ . This stable log curve has precisely two irreducible components, corresponding to  $V_2$  and  $W$ , whose intersection consists of precisely one node, which we denote by  $e_{V_2 \cap W}$ ; moreover,  $V_1$  may be regarded as a cusp of this stable log curve which, since  $V_1 \cap V_2 \neq \emptyset$ , is contained in the irreducible component of the stable log curve corresponding to  $V_2$ . Write  $I_{V_2 \cap W}$  for the inertia group of  $e_{V_2 \cap W}$  such that

$$I_{V_2 \cap W} \subseteq I_{V_2} \oplus I_W = I_{V_2} \oplus I_V.$$

Since  $(I_V \subset) I_{V_1} \oplus I_{V_2}$  is an abelian group, it holds that (the cuspidal inertia group)  $I_{V_1}$  commutes with  $I_{V_2}$  and  $I_V = I_W$ , hence with (the nodal inertia group)  $I_{V_2 \cap W}$ . In particular, by [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i), (ii), we obtain a contradiction to our assumption that  $V = W$ . Thus,  $V = V_2$ , and  $P \in V_2 = V$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.4.** *Let  $V, W$  be log divisors and  $I_V$  an inertia group associated to  $V$ . Then it holds that*

$$W = V \iff \text{there exists an inertia group } I_W \\ \text{associated to } W \text{ such that } I_W = I_V.$$

*Proof.* The implication  $\implies$  follows immediately from the various definitions involved. Thus, it suffices to consider the implication  $\impliedby$ . Recall that it follows from the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  that there exists a log-full point  $P$  such that  $P \in V$ . Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  be the distinct log divisors such that  $P = V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_n$ ,  $V \in \{V_1, \dots, V_n\}$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv)). Thus, we may assume without loss of generality that  $I_V = I_{V_i} \subseteq A$  for some

$i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . In the following, we assume that there exists an inertia group  $I_W$  associated to the log divisor  $W$  such that  $I_W = I_V$  and consider a projection  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  as in Proposition 4.2, (iii) or (iv), and the corresponding (outer) homomorphism  $p: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_{n-1}$  of Proposition 4.2, (viii).

Let us first suppose that  $p(V) = X_{n-1}$ . Then since the generic point of  $V$  maps via  $p$  to the generic point of  $X_{n-1}$ ,  $I_V \subseteq \text{Ker}(p) \cap A = I_{V_1}$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (viii)). Since  $I_W = I_V \subseteq \text{Ker}(p)$ , it follows from Propositions 3.7, (iii); 4.1, (i), (ii), that  $p(W) = X_{n-1}$ . Now observe that since  $p(V) = p(W) = p(V_1) = X_{n-1}$ ,  $I_V$ ,  $I_W$ , and  $I_{V_1}$  may be regarded as cuspidal inertia groups of the smooth log curve determined by the geometric generic fiber of  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$ . In particular, the equality and inclusion  $I_W = I_V \subseteq I_{V_1}$  of profinite groups isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}_l$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii)) implies, by [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i), that  $W = V = V_1$ .

Thus, it suffices to consider the case where  $p(V) \neq X_{n-1}$ . By Proposition 4.1, (i), (ii),  $V' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(V)$  is a log divisor of  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , and  $p$  induces an isomorphism  $I_V \xrightarrow{\sim} I_{V'}$ . If  $p(W) = X_{n-1}$ , then since the generic point of  $W$  maps via  $p$  to the generic point of  $X_{n-1}$ , it follows that  $I_W = I_V \subseteq \text{Ker}(p)$ , in contradiction to the existence of the isomorphism  $I_V \xrightarrow{\sim} I_{V'}$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii)). Thus, we conclude that  $p(W) \neq X_{n-1}$  and hence, by Proposition 4.1, (i), (ii), that  $W' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} p(W)$  is a log divisor of  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , and  $I_W \xrightarrow{\sim} I_{W'}$ . Now we apply induction on  $n$ . Here, we note that although we have assumed that  $n > 1$ , the assertion corresponding to the implication  $\Leftarrow$  for  $n = 1$  follows immediately from [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i). Then since  $I_{W'} = I_{V'}$ , it follows from the induction hypothesis that  $W' = V'$ . Now suppose that  $W \neq V$ . Then it follows immediately from the latter portion of Definition 2.2, (vi), together with the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $X_{n-1}^{\log}$ , that the stable log curve obtained by restricting  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  to the generic point of  $W' = V'$  has precisely two irreducible components, corresponding to  $W$  and  $V$ , whose intersection consists of precisely one node. Thus, since  $I_W = I_V$ , we conclude from [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (i), that  $W = V$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5.** *Let  $P^\dagger, P^\ddagger$  be log-full points of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $A^\dagger$  a log-full subgroup at  $P^\dagger$ . Then it holds that*

$$P^\dagger = P^\ddagger \iff \text{there exists a log-full subgroup } A^\ddagger \text{ at } P^\ddagger \text{ such that } A^\dagger = A^\ddagger.$$

*In particular, the assignment  $P^\dagger \mapsto [A^\dagger]$  (where “[(-) ]” denotes the  $\Pi_n$ -conjugacy class of “(-)”) determines a natural bijection*

$$\{\text{log-full points}\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{\Pi_n\text{-conjugacy classes of log-full subgroups}\}.$$

*Proof.* The assertion of the second display follows from the assertion of the first display. Let us prove the assertion of the first display. The implication  $\implies$  is immediate. Thus, it suffices to prove the implication  $\impliedby$ . Suppose that  $A^\dagger = A^\ddagger$ . Let  $V_1, \dots, V_n$  be log divisors such that  $P^\dagger = V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n$ ; write  $A^\dagger = I_{V_1} \times \dots \times I_{V_n}$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv)). In particular, for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $I_{V_j} \subseteq A^\dagger = A^\ddagger$ . In particular, it follows from Proposition 4.3 that  $P^\ddagger \in V_j$ . Thus,  $P^\ddagger \in V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_n = P^\dagger$  (cf. the notational conventions of Definition 2.2, (ii)), i.e.,  $P^\dagger = P^\ddagger$ , as desired.  $\square$

In the remainder of the present §4, we shall apply the notational conventions introduced in the statement of Proposition 4.2 (cf, especially, Proposition 4.2, (i), (ii)).

**Definition 4.6.** *Let  $\alpha \in A$  and*

$$A = I_{V_1} \times \dots \times I_{V_n} : \alpha \mapsto (a_1, \dots, a_n).$$

- (i) *We shall say that  $\alpha$  is scheme-theoretically non-degenerate if  $a_i \neq 1_A$  for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .*
- (ii) *We shall say that  $\alpha$  is group-theoretically non-degenerate if  $Z_{\Pi_n}(\alpha)$  is an abelian group.*

**Theorem 4.7.** *It holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\text{scheme-theoretically non-degenerate elements of } A\} \\ &= \{\text{group-theoretically non-degenerate elements of } A\}. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* When  $r \neq 1$ , this follows from Propositions 4.9, 4.12, below. When  $r = 1$ , this follows from Propositions 4.9, 4.12, and 4.14, below.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.8.** *It holds that*

$$N_{\Pi_n}(A) = A,$$

*i.e., every log-full subgroup of  $\Pi_n$  is normally terminal in  $\Pi_n$ .*

*Proof.* In the following, we consider the projection  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  of Proposition 4.2, (iii) or (iv), and the associated (outer) homomorphism  $p: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_{n-1}$  of Proposition 4.2, (viii).

We apply induction on  $n$ . Here, we note that although we have assumed that  $n > 1$ , the analogous assertion for  $n = 1$  follows immediately from [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (ii). By definition,  $N_{\Pi_n}(A) \supseteq A$ . Let  $\alpha \in N_{\Pi_n}(A)$ . Since  $\alpha A \alpha^{-1} = A$ , it follows that  $p(\alpha) A' p(\alpha)^{-1} = A'$ , where we recall the log-full subgroup  $A' = p(A)$  of  $\Pi_{n-1}$  discussed in Proposition 4.2, (viii). Then it follows from the induction hypothesis that  $A'$  is normally terminal. Thus,  $p(\alpha) \in A'$ , i.e.,  $p(N_{\Pi_n}(A)) \subseteq A'$ . Since  $p(N_{\Pi_n}(A)) \supseteq p(A) = A'$ , it follows that  $p(N_{\Pi_n}(A)) = A'$ .

Next, we observe that by Proposition 4.2, (viii),  $N_{\Pi_n}(A) \cap \Pi_{n/n-1} \supseteq A \cap \Pi_{n/n-1} = I_{V_1}$ . Let  $\alpha \in N_{\Pi_n}(A) \cap \Pi_{n/n-1}$ . Since  $\alpha A \alpha^{-1} = A$ , and  $\Pi_{n/n-1}$  is normal in  $\Pi_n$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (viii)), it follows that  $\alpha I_{V_1} \alpha^{-1} = I_{V_1} \subseteq A$ . On the other hand, let us observe that  $V_1$  determines a cusp of the smooth log curve obtained by restricting  $p: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X_{n-1}^{\log}$  to the generic point of  $X_{n-1}$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (v)). Thus, we conclude from [CmbGC], Proposition 1.2, (ii), that  $\alpha \in N_{\Pi_{n/n-1}}(I_{V_1}) = I_{V_1}$ , i.e., that  $N_{\Pi_n}(A) \cap \Pi_{n/n-1} = I_{V_1}$ .

It follows from the above discussion that we have an exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow I_{V_1} \longrightarrow N_{\Pi_n}(A) \xrightarrow{p} A' \longrightarrow 1.$$

By the five lemma (cf. Proposition 4.2, (viii)), it thus follows that  $N_{\Pi_n}(A) = A$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.9.** *Let  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in I_{V_1} \times \dots \times I_{V_n} = A$ . If  $a_1, \dots, a_n \neq 1_A$ , then  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n) = A$ , hence, in particular, is an abelian group.*

*Proof.* Let  $X_{n+1}^{\log} \rightarrow X_n^{\log}$  be the projection morphism of profile  $\{n+1\}$ . This projection induces an exact sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow \Pi_{n+1/n} \longrightarrow \Pi_{n+1} \longrightarrow \Pi_n \longrightarrow 1,$$

which gives rise to an outer representation  $\rho: \Pi_n \rightarrow \text{Out}(\Pi_{n+1/n})$ . Recall that  $\rho$  is injective (cf. [Asd], the Remark following the proof of Theorem 1). Moreover, recall that there exists an isomorphism  $\Pi_{\mathcal{G}_P} \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi_{n+1/n}$  such that  $\rho$  determines an isomorphism

$$A \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Dehn}(\mathcal{G}_P)$$

(cf. [CbTpI], Definition 4.4; [CbTpI], Proposition 5.6, (ii)), and, moreover, it holds that

$$\text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}_P) = N_{\text{Out}^c(\Pi_{n+1/n})}(\text{Dehn}(\mathcal{G}_P))$$

(cf. [CbTpI], Theorem 5.14, (iii)).

Since  $A \simeq \mathbb{Z}_l^{\oplus n}$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii)) is an abelian group, it suffices to verify that  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n) = A$ . Since  $A$  is an abelian group, and  $a_1 \cdots a_n \in A \subseteq \Pi_n$ , it follows that  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n) \supseteq A$ . By [NodNon], Theorem A (cf. also [NodNon], Remark 2.4.2), and [CbTpI], Corollary 5.9, (ii), it follows that  $\rho(Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n)) \subseteq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}_P)$ . Thus, we conclude that

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n)) &\subseteq \text{Aut}(\mathcal{G}_P) \cap \rho(\Pi_n) = N_{\text{Out}^c(\Pi_{n+1/n})}(\text{Dehn}(\mathcal{G}_P)) \cap \rho(\Pi_n) \\ &= N_{\rho(\Pi_n)}(\text{Dehn}(\mathcal{G}_P)) = N_{\rho(\Pi_n)}(\rho(A)) = \rho(N_{\Pi_n}(A)). \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_n) \subseteq N_{\Pi_n}(A) = A$  (cf. Lemma 4.8).  $\square$

**Definition 4.10.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type. Write  $\mathbb{G}$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{G}$  is a tree. Let  $e_1, e_2 \in \text{Edge}(\mathcal{G})$ ;  $b_1, b'_1$  the two branches of  $e_1$ ;  $b_2, b'_2$  the two branches of  $e_2$ . We suppose that  $\mathbb{G}_{\neq b_1} \cap \mathbb{G}_{\neq b_2} = \emptyset$  (cf. Definition 2.5). Write  $\mathbb{H}$  for the semi-graph obtained by considering the “intersection” (in the evident sense) of  $\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_1}$  and  $\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_2}$ . Then we define the semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type

$$\mathcal{G}_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$$

(obtained by “switching”  $b_1$  and  $b_2$ ) as follows. We take the underlying semi-graph  $\mathbb{G}_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$  of  $\mathcal{G}_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$  to be the semi-graph obtained by “gluing”  $\mathbb{H}$  to  $\mathbb{G}_{\neq b_1}$  and  $\mathbb{G}_{\neq b_2}$  in the following way:

- we glue the branch of  $\mathbb{H}$  corresponding to  $b_1$  and the branch of  $\mathbb{G}_{\neq b_2}$  corresponding to  $b'_2$  along a single edge (whose branches correspond to the two branches that are glued to one another);
- we glue the branch of  $\mathbb{H}$  corresponding to  $b_2$  and the branch of  $\mathbb{G}_{\neq b_1}$  corresponding to  $b'_1$  along a single edge (whose branches correspond to the two branches that are glued to one another).

Then the various connected anabelioids that constitute  $\mathcal{G}$  naturally determine a semi-graph of anabelioids of pro- $l$  PSC-type  $\mathcal{G}_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$  whose underlying semi-graph is the semi-graph  $\mathbb{G}_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$ .

**Proposition 4.11.** Suppose that  $r \neq 1$  (resp.  $r = 1$ ). Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  (resp.  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ ). Then there exists a log divisor  $H \neq V_i$  such that

$$V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_{i-1} \cap H \cap V_{i+1} \cap \dots \cap V_n$$

is a log-full point ( $\neq P$ ).

*Proof.* Write  $\mathbb{G}$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathcal{G}_P$ . It follows from Proposition 3.7, (ii), that there exists a node  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  such that  $V_i$  is the log divisor associated to  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$ . Let  $w_1, w_2 \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G})$  be distinct vertices such that  $e$  abuts to  $w_1, w_2$ .

First, let us suppose that  $w_1, w_2$  are tripods. Then let us observe that there exist distinct elements

$$y_1, z_1, y_2, z_2 \in (C_{r,n} \coprod \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})) \setminus \{e\}$$

such that (suitable branches of)  $e, y_1, z_1$  give rise to the three cusps of  $\mathcal{G}|_{w_1}$ , and (suitable branches of)  $e, y_2, z_2$  give rise to the three cusps of  $\mathcal{G}|_{w_2}$ .

Let  $b_1$  be the branch of  $y_1$  that abuts to  $w_1$ ;  $b_2$  the branch of  $y_2$  that abuts to  $w_2$ ;  $\mathcal{G}' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathcal{G})_{b_1 \nabla b_2}$  (cf. Definition 4.10). Then it follows immediately from the definitions (Definitions 2.3, 4.10), together with the fact that

$$(\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_1}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\ni b_2}) \cap C_{r,n}) \subsetneq C_{r,n}$$

(cf. Definition 2.3, Remark 2.4), that there exists a log divisor  $H \neq V_i$  such that  $H$  is the log divisor associated to the element  $e' \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}')$  corresponding to  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  and  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{i-1} \cap H \cap V_{i+1} \cap \cdots \cap V_n$  is a log-full point  $P' \neq P$  such that  $\mathcal{G}_{P'} = \mathcal{G}'$ . (Here, we observe that for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i\}$ ,  $V_j$  may be regarded as the log divisor associated to a suitable choice of element  $e'_j \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}')$  corresponding to the element  $e_j \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  to which the log divisor  $V_j$  is associated.) This completes the proof of Proposition 4.11 in the case where  $w_1, w_2$  are tripods.

Thus, we may assume without loss of generality that  $w_2$  is *not* a tripod. Then it follows from Proposition 3.7, (i), that  $w_1$  is a tripod, and  $w_2$  is of type  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3)$ . Next, let us observe that  $r \neq 1$ . Indeed, if  $r = 1$ , then it follows immediately from the fact that  $w_2$  is of type  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3)$ , together with the definition of  $V_n$  (cf. Proposition 4.2, (ii)), that  $V_i = V_n$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $i \leq n - 1$  if  $r = 1$ . Thus, in summary, we may assume that  $w_1$  is a tripod,  $w_2$  is of type  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3)$ , and  $r \neq 1$ .

Next, let us observe that there exist distinct elements

$$y^\dagger, y^\ddagger, y^*, y_1, \dots, y_{r-2} \in (C_{r,n} \coprod \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})) \setminus \{e\}$$

such that (suitable branches of)  $e, y^\dagger, y^\ddagger$  give rise to the three cusps of  $\mathcal{G}|_{w_1}$ , and (suitable branches of)  $e, y^*, y_1, \dots, y_{r-2}$  give rise to the  $r$  cusps of  $\mathcal{G}|_{w_2}$ . (Here, we remark that since  $r \neq 0, 1$ , it follows that  $r + 1 \geq 3$ .)

Let  $b^\dagger$  be the branch of  $y^\dagger$  that abuts to  $w_1$ ;  $b^\ddagger$  the branch of  $y^\ddagger$  that abuts to  $w_1$ ;  $b^*$  the branch of  $y^*$  that abuts to  $w_2$ . Then observe that, after possibly permuting the superscripts “ $\dagger$ ” and “ $\ddagger$ ”, we may assume that  $\text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G})_{\supseteq b^\dagger}) \supseteq \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{G}' \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (\mathcal{G})_{b^\dagger \vee b^*}$ . Then it follows immediately from the definitions (cf. the choice of  $b_1$ ; Definitions 2.3, 4.10), together with the fact that

$$(\text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\supseteq b^\dagger}) \cap \text{Cusp}(\mathbb{G}_{\supseteq b^*}) \cap C_{r,n}) \subsetneq C_{r,n}$$

(cf. Definition 2.3, Remark 2.4), that there exists a log divisor  $H \neq V_i$  such that  $H$  is the log divisor associated to the element  $e' \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}')$  corresponding to  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  and  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{i-1} \cap H \cap V_{i+1} \cap \cdots \cap V_n$  is a log-full point  $P' \neq P$  such that  $\mathcal{G}_{P'} = \mathcal{G}'$ . (Here, we observe that for  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{i\}$ ,  $V_j$  may be regarded as the log divisor associated to a suitable choice of element  $e'_j \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}')$  corresponding to the element  $e_j \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G})$  to which the log divisor  $V_j$  is associated.)  $\square$

**Proposition 4.12.** *Suppose that  $r \neq 1$  (resp.  $r = 1$ ). Let  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  (resp.  $i \in \{1, \dots, n - 1\}$ ) and  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in I_{V_1} \times \cdots \times I_{V_n} = A$ . Then  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{i-1} a_{i+1} \cdots a_n)$  is a non-abelian group.*



*Proof.* By Proposition 4.11, there exists a log divisor  $H \neq V_i$  such that  $P' = V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{i-1} \cap H \cap V_{i+1} \cap \cdots \cap V_n$  is a log-full point. Write  $A' = I_{V_1} \times \cdots \times I_{V_{i-1}} \times I_H \times I_{V_{i+1}} \times \cdots \times I_{V_n}$ . Since

$$a_1 \cdots a_{i-1} a_{i+1} \cdots a_n \in A \cap A',$$

and  $A, A'$  are abelian groups, it follows that

$$A, A' \subseteq Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{i-1} a_{i+1} \cdots a_n).$$

Since  $A, A'$  are distinct log-full subgroups (cf. Proposition 4.5) and contained in  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{i-1} a_{i+1} \cdots a_n)$ , by Lemma 4.8, it follows that

$$Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{i-1} a_{i+1} \cdots a_n)$$

is a non-abelian group.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.13.** *If  $r = 1$ , then there exists an element  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that the projection morphism  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  of co-profile  $\{i\}$  (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.1, (ii)) induces an isomorphism  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $w$  be the unique vertex of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  of genus  $g$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (i)). (Note that since  $r = 1$ , it holds that  $g \neq 0$ .) Then since  $r = 1$ , it follows immediately from Propositions 3.7, (i); 4.2, (ii), that there exist a unique vertex  $u \in \text{Vert}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  and a unique node  $e \in \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)$  (corresponding to  $V_n$ ) such that  $e$  abuts to  $w, u$ , and, moreover,  $u$  is a tripod. Next, let us observe that there exist distinct elements  $y^\dagger, y^\ddagger \in (C_{r,n} \amalg \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_P)) \setminus \{e\}$  such that (suitable branches of)  $e, y^\dagger, y^\ddagger$  give rise to the three cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_P|_u$ . Let  $b^\dagger$  be the branch of  $y^\dagger$  that abuts to  $u$ ,  $b^\ddagger$  the branch of  $y^\ddagger$  that abuts to  $u$ . Write  $\mathbb{G}_P$  for the underlying semi-graph of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ . Thus,  $y^\dagger \in \text{Edge}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger})$ ,  $y^\ddagger \in \text{Edge}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\ddagger})$ . Then observe that, after possibly permuting the superscripts “ $\dagger$ ” and “ $\ddagger$ ”, we may assume that  $c_1 \in \text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger}) \setminus \{y^\ddagger\}$ .

Note that since, whenever  $y^\ddagger \notin C_{r,n}$ , the genus portion of the type (i.e., “ $(g, r)$ ”) of the semi-graph of anabelioids of PSC-type  $(\mathcal{G}_P)_{\not\ni b^\ddagger}$  is  $= 0$  (cf. Proposition 3.7, (i)), the fact that  $c_1 \in \text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger}) \setminus \{y^\ddagger\}$  implies that

$$\text{either } y^\ddagger \in (\text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger}) \cap C_{r,n}) \setminus \{c_1\} \text{ or } \text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\not\ni b^\ddagger}) \cap C_{r,n} \neq \emptyset.$$

In particular, since  $y^\dagger \neq y^\ddagger$  and, whenever  $y^\ddagger \notin C_{r,n}$ ,  $\text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\not\ni b^\ddagger}) \cap C_{r,n} \subseteq \text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger}) \setminus \{y^\dagger\}$ , there exists an element  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $x_i \in \text{Cusp}((\mathbb{G}_P)_{\ni b^\dagger}) \setminus \{y^\dagger\}$ . Now it follows immediately from our choice of  $i$ , together with the fact that the divisor  $V_n$  corresponds to the node  $e$  (cf. Propositions 3.7, (ii); 4.2, (ii)), that the projection morphism  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  of co-profile  $\{i\}$  induces an isomorphism  $q: V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X$ , as desired.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.14.** *Let  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in I_{V_1} \times \cdots \times I_{V_n} = A$ . If  $r = 1$ , then  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{n-1})$  is a non-abelian group.*

*Proof.* By Proposition 4.13, there exists an element  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that the projection morphism  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  of co-profile  $\{i\}$  induces an isomorphism  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X$ . By abuse of notation, we write  $q: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1$  for the outer homomorphism induced by  $q$ . Write  $V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log}$  for the log scheme obtained by restricting the log structure of  $X_n^{\log}$  to the reduced closed subscheme of  $X_n$  determined by  $V_1 \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}$ ;  $V_j^{\log}$ , where  $j \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ , for the log scheme obtained by restricting the log structure of  $X_n^{\log}$  to the reduced closed subscheme of  $X_n$  determined by  $V_j$ . Then it follows immediately that the morphism  $V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log} \rightarrow V_j^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  induced by  $q: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  determines (for suitable choices of basepoints) homomorphisms of profinite groups

$$\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log}) \rightarrow \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_j^{\log}) \rightarrow \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1.$$

Note that it follows immediately from the definition of  $I_{V_j}$  as an inertia group (cf. Proposition 3.7, (iii)) that, for suitable choices of basepoints in the  $\pi_1(-)$ 's of the above display, the image of  $\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_j^{\log})$  in  $\Pi_n$ , hence also the image of  $\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log})$  in  $\Pi_n$ , is contained in  $Z_{\Pi_n}(I_{V_j}) \subset \Pi_n$ . In particular, we obtain homomorphisms of profinite groups

$$\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log}) \rightarrow D_{V_1} \cap \cdots \cap D_{V_{n-1}} \hookrightarrow \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1,$$

where  $D_{V_j} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} Z_{\Pi_n}(I_{V_j})$  is the decomposition group associated to  $V_j$  determined by  $I_{V_j}$  (cf. [Hsh], Corollary 2). Next, observe that it follows from the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks involved (cf. Definition 2.2, (vi)) that  $V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  is of type  $\mathbb{N}^{\oplus n-1}$  (cf. [Hsh], Definition 6). Since  $V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  is of type  $\mathbb{N}^{\oplus n-1}$ , one verifies immediately that the composite  $\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V_1^{\log} \cap \cdots \cap V_{n-1}^{\log}) \rightarrow \Pi_1$  is a surjection. In particular, the composite  $D_{V_1} \cap \cdots \cap D_{V_{n-1}} \hookrightarrow \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1$  is a surjection, i.e.,  $q(D_{V_1} \cap \cdots \cap D_{V_{n-1}}) = \Pi_1$ . Thus, it follows immediately from the definitions that

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi_1 &= q(D_{V_1} \cap \cdots \cap D_{V_{n-1}}) = q(Z_{\Pi_n}(I_{V_1}) \cap \cdots \cap Z_{\Pi_n}(I_{V_{n-1}})) \\ &\subseteq q(Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1) \cap \cdots \cap Z_{\Pi_n}(a_{n-1})) \subseteq q(Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{n-1})) \subseteq \Pi_1. \end{aligned}$$

In particular,  $q(Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{n-1})) = \Pi_1$ , hence also  $Z_{\Pi_n}(a_1 \cdots a_{n-1})$ , is a non-abelian group.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.15.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups;  $A^\circ$  a log-full subgroup of  $\Pi^\circ$ . We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $A^\bullet \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \phi(A^\circ)$  is a log-full subgroup of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of scheme-theoretically non-degenerate elements (cf. Definition 4.6, (i)) of  $A^\circ$  and the set of scheme-theoretically non-degenerate elements of  $A^\bullet$ .

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Theorem 4.7.  $\square$

## 5. RECONSTRUCTION OF LOG DIVISORS

We continue with the notation of §4. In the present §5, we reconstruct the set of inertia groups associated to log divisors (cf. Theorem 5.2 below).

**Lemma 5.1.** *The following hold:*

- (i) *There exists a unique collection of subgroups  $B_1^\dagger, \dots, B_n^\dagger \subseteq A$  such that the following hold:*
  - (a)  $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}_l}(B_i^\dagger \otimes \mathbb{Q}_l) = n - 1$ , for each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .
  - (b) For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ , no element of  $B_i^\dagger$  is (group-theoretically) non-degenerate.
  - (c)  $B_i^\dagger = A \cap (B_i^\dagger \otimes \mathbb{Q}_l) \subset A \otimes \mathbb{Q}_l$ , for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .
- (ii) *In the situation of (i),  $\{B_i^\dagger \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n\}\} = \{B_j \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \prod_{m \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{j\}} I_{V_m} \mid j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$ .*
- (iii) *In the situation of (i),  $\{I_{V_1}, \dots, I_{V_n}\} = \{\bigcap_{m \in \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus \{j\}} B_m^\dagger \mid j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$ .*

*Proof.* For  $a \in A$ , we shall write

$$J(a) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{m \in \{1, \dots, n\} \mid a \notin B_j\}.$$

Observe that if  $a_1, a_2 \in A$  are such that  $J(a_1), J(a_2) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $J(a_1) \cap J(a_2) = \emptyset$ , then there exists an element  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}_l$  such that  $a_1 a_2^\lambda$  is non-degenerate. Now assertions (i), (ii) follow the definitions, together with this observation. Assertion (iii) follows immediately from assertion (ii).  $\square$

**Theorem 5.2.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to log divisors of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to log divisors of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$ .

*Proof.* Recall that it follows from the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  that, for each log divisor  $V^\dagger$  of  $X_n^{\log}$ , there exists a log-full point  $P^\dagger$  such that  $P^\dagger \in V^\dagger$ . Thus, Theorem 5.2 follows from Proposition 3.7, (iii), (iv); Theorem 4.15; Lemma 5.1.  $\square$

## 6. RECONSTRUCTION OF TRIPODAL DIVISORS

We continue with the notation of §5. In the present §6, we reconstruct the set of inertia groups associated to tripodal divisors (cf. Theorem 6.6 below).

**Lemma 6.1.** Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Write  $V^{\log}$  for the log scheme obtained by equipping  $V$  with the log structure induced by the log structure of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Let  $Y^{\log} \rightarrow S$  be a smooth log curve of type  $(0, 3)$ . For  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ , write  $Y_m^{\log}$  for the  $m$ -th log configuration space associated to  $Y^{\log} \rightarrow S$ .

- (i) If  $V$  is a tripodal divisor, then  $V^{\log \leq 1}$  is isomorphic to  $U_{X_{n-1}}$ .
- (ii) If  $V$  is a  $(g, r)$ -divisor, then  $V^{\log \leq 1}$  is isomorphic to  $U_{Y_{n-1}}$ .
- (iii) If  $V$  is neither a tripodal divisor nor a  $(g, r)$ -divisor, then there exists an element  $m \in \{1, \dots, n-2\}$  such that  $V^{\log \leq 1}$  is isomorphic to  $U_{Y_m} \times_S U_{X_{n-1-m}}$ .

*Proof.* These assertions follow by considering the objects parametrized by the various schemes which appear in the assertions.  $\square$

**Definition 6.2.** We shall say that a profinite group  $G$  is indecomposable if, for any isomorphism of profinite groups  $G \simeq G_1 \times G_2$ , where  $G_1, G_2$  are profinite groups, either  $G_1$  or  $G_2$  is the trivial group (cf. [Ind], Definition

1.1). We shall say that a profinite group  $G$  is decomposable if  $G$  is not indecomposable.

**Remark 6.3.** Let  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ . Then we recall from [Ind], Theorem 3.5 (cf. also [MzTa], Remark 1.2.2; [MzTa], Proposition 2.2, (i)), that  $\Pi_m$  is indecomposable and nontrivial. If, moreover  $m > 1$ , then  $(g, r, m)$  is completely determined by the isomorphism class of  $\Pi_m$  (cf. Theorem 3.10, (i)). If  $m = 1$ , then the isomorphism class of  $\Pi_m$  is completely determined by  $2g - 2 + r$  (cf. [CmbGC], Remark 1.1.3; [MzTa], Remark 1.2.2).

**Remark 6.4.** Let  $V, V^{\log}$  be as in Lemma 6.1;  $I_V$  an inertia group associated to  $V$ . Then we observe that, for suitable choices of basepoints, there is a natural homomorphism  $\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V^{\log}) \rightarrow Z_{\Pi_n}(I_V)$  (cf. [Hsh], Corollary 2). Moreover, this natural homomorphism is, in fact, injective (cf. (the evident pro- $l$  version of) [SemiAn], Proposition 2.5, (i); [CmbGC], Remark 1.1.3; [MzTa], Proposition 2.2, (i); [AbsTpII], Remark 1.5.1) and surjective (cf. [AbsTpII], Remark 1.5.2; [AbsTpII], Proposition 1.6, (v)), hence yields an isomorphism

$$\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(V^{\log}) \xrightarrow{\sim} Z_{\Pi_n}(I_V).$$

**Lemma 6.5.** Let  $V$  be a log divisor of  $X_n^{\log}$  and  $I_V$  an inertia group associated to  $V$ . Then the following hold:

- (i)  $Z_{\Pi_n}(I_V)/I_V$  is either decomposable, isomorphic to  $\Pi_{n-1}$ , or (in the notation of Lemma 6.1) isomorphic to  $\Pi_{n-1}^{\text{tripod}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(Y_{n-1}^{\log})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint).
- (ii) If  $(g, r) \neq (1, 1)$  or  $n \geq 3$ , then it holds that  $V$  is a tripodal divisor if and only if  $Z_{\Pi_n}(I_V)/I_V$  is isomorphic to  $\Pi_{n-1}$ .
- (iii) If  $(g, r) = (1, 1)$  and  $n = 2$ , then there exist distinct log divisors  $E, W_1, W_2, W_3$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  such that

$$\{\text{log divisors of } X_n^{\log}\} = \{E, W_1, W_2, W_3\},$$

$$\{\text{tripodal divisors of } X_n^{\log}\} = \{W_1, W_2, W_3\},$$

$$\{\text{log-full points of } X_n^{\log}\} = \{E \cap W_1, E \cap W_2, E \cap W_3\}.$$

- (iv) If  $(g, r) = (1, 1)$  and  $n = 2$ , then it holds that  $V$  is a tripodal divisor if and only if there exists a log-full subgroup  $A$  of  $\Pi_n$  such that  $A$  does not contain any inertia group associated to  $V$ .

*Proof.* Assertions (i), (ii) follow from Lemma 6.1; Remarks 6.3, 6.4; [Hsh], Corollary 2. Assertion (iii) follows immediately from the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Assertion (iv) follows from assertion (iii) and Proposition 4.3.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.6.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to tripodal divisors of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to tripodal divisors of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$ .

*Proof.* Theorem 6.6 follows from Remark 6.3; Theorem 5.2; Lemma 6.5, (ii), (iv).  $\square$

## 7. RECONSTRUCTION OF DRIFT DIAGONALS

We continue with the notation of §6. In the present §7, we reconstruct the set of inertia groups associated to drift diagonals (cf. Theorem 7.3 below).

**Lemma 7.1.** The outer homomorphism  $\iota_\Pi: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1$  induced by  $\iota: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log} \times_S \cdots \times_S X^{\log}$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (viii)) is a surjection whose kernel is topologically generated by the inertia groups associated to the naive diagonals.

*Proof.* It follows from [Hsh], Remark B.2, that we have a natural commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_n}) & \longrightarrow & \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_1}) \times \cdots \times \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_1}) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Pi_n & \xrightarrow{\iota_\Pi} & \Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1, \end{array}$$

where  $\pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_n}) \rightarrow \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_1}) \times \cdots \times \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l}(U_{X_1})$  denotes the outer surjective homomorphism induced by the open immersion  $U_{X_n} \hookrightarrow U_{X_1} \times_S \cdots \times_S U_{X_1}$ ; the two vertical arrows are isomorphisms. Thus, it follows from the definition of the notion of an inertia group that  $\iota_\Pi: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1$  is a surjection whose kernel is topologically generated by the inertia groups associated to the naive diagonals. This completes the proof of Lemma 7.1.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.2.** *Let  $V$  be a tripodal divisor and  $I_V$  an inertia group associated to  $V$ . Write  $\iota_\Pi: \Pi_n \rightarrow \Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1$  for the outer homomorphism induced by  $\iota: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log} \times_S \cdots \times_S X^{\log}$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (viii)). Then the following hold:*

- (i) *If  $V$  is a naive diagonal, then  $\iota_\Pi(I_V) = \{1_{\Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1}\}$ .*
- (ii) *If  $V$  is not a naive diagonal, then  $\iota_\Pi(I_V) \neq \{1_{\Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1}\}$ .*

*Proof.* Assertion (i) follows from Lemma 7.1. Assertion (ii) follows immediately the easily verified fact (i.e., by applying induction on  $n$ , together with Proposition 4.1, (i)) that if  $V$  is not a naive diagonal, then there exists an  $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  such that the projection  $p_i: X_n^{\log} \rightarrow X^{\log}$  maps  $V$  to a cusp of  $X^{\log}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 7.3.** *For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;*

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

*a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);*

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

*an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\circ$  associated to drift diagonals of  $X_{n^\circ}^{\log \circ}$  and the set of inertia groups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  associated to drift diagonals of  $X_{n^\bullet}^{\log \bullet}$ .*

*Proof.* First, let us observe that  $(g^\circ, r^\circ, n^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet, n^\bullet)$  (cf. Theorem 3.10, (i)). Next, let us observe that when  $(g^\circ, r^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet) = (0, 3)$  or  $(1, 1)$ , Theorem 7.3 follow formally from Theorem 6.6 and Proposition 3.4, (iii).

Thus, in the remainder of the proof of Theorem 7.3, we suppose that  $(g^\circ, r^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ . Write  $\Pi_1^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X^{\log \square})$ . Then it follows from Theorem 3.10, (iii), that  $\phi$  induces a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Pi^\circ & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \Pi^\bullet \\ \iota_\Pi^\circ \downarrow & & \downarrow \iota_\Pi^\bullet \\ \Pi_1^\circ \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\circ & \xrightarrow{\sim} & \Pi_1^\bullet \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\bullet \end{array}$$

where  $\iota_\Pi^\square: \Pi^\square \rightarrow \Pi_1^\square \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\square$  is the outer homomorphism induced by  $\iota^\square: X_{n^\square}^{\log \square} \rightarrow X^{\log \square} \times_{S^\square} \cdots \times_{S^\square} X^{\log \square}$  (cf. Definition 2.2, (viii)). Thus,

the proof of Theorem 7.3 in the case where  $(g^\circ, r^\circ) = (g^\bullet, r^\bullet) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$  follows formally from Theorem 6.6; Lemma 7.2; Proposition 3.4, (i), (ii).  $\square$

## 8. RECONSTRUCTION OF DRIFT COLLECTIONS

We continue with the notation of §7. In the present §8, we reconstruct the drift collections of  $\Pi_n$  (cf. Theorem 8.14 below).

**Definition 8.1.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a set of drift diagonals of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then we shall say that  $\Lambda$  is a drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$  if there exists an automorphism  $\alpha$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$  such that  $\Lambda = \{\alpha(V) \mid V \text{ is a naive diagonal}\}$ .*

**Definition 8.2.** *Let  $V_1, V_2$  be distinct drift diagonals and  $I_{V_1}, I_{V_2}$  inertia groups associated to  $V_1, V_2$ , respectively.*

- (i) *Since  $V_1, V_2$  are tripodal divisors (cf. Proposition 3.4, (i)), and  $n > 1$ , there exists a unique vertex  $v_1$  (resp.  $v_2$ ) of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}$ ) such that  $v_1, v_2$  are tripods. We shall say that  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair if there exists a cusp  $y \in C_{r,n}$  which is a cusp of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}|_{v_1}, \mathcal{G}_{V_2}|_{v_2}$ .*
- (ii) *We shall say that  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is a group-theoretically co-cuspidal pair if there is no log-full subgroup  $A$  such that there exist conjugates of  $I_{V_1}, I_{V_2}$  that are contained in  $A$ .*
- (iii) *We shall say that  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is a non-intersecting drift pair if  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ .*

**Lemma 8.3.** *Let  $V_1, V_2$  be distinct drift diagonals. Then it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} \{V_1, V_2\} \text{ is a group-theoretically co-cuspidal pair} \\ \iff \text{there is no log-full point contained in } V_1 \cap V_2. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Proposition 4.3.  $\square$

**Lemma 8.4.** *Let  $m$  be a positive integer and  $V_1, \dots, V_m$  log divisors. Then it holds that*

$$V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m \neq \emptyset \iff \text{there is a log-full point contained in } V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m.$$

*Proof.* The implication  $\Leftarrow$  is immediate. Thus, it suffices to verify the implication  $\Rightarrow$ . Suppose that  $V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $P \in V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$  be a point and  $Q \in X_n^{\log}$  such that  $\sharp \text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_Q) = n$  and  $\mathcal{G}_P$  is obtained from  $\mathcal{G}_Q$  by generization (with respect to some subset of  $\text{Node}(\mathcal{G}_Q)$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.8)). Then it follows from the equivalence (i)  $\iff$  (ii) of Proposition 2.9 that  $Q \in V_1 \cap \dots \cap V_m$ . On the other hand, by Proposition 3.6, it holds that  $Q$  is a log-full point. This completes the proof of the implication  $\Rightarrow$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 8.5.** *Every scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair is group-theoretically co-cuspidal.*



*Proof.* Let  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  be a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair,  $v_1$  the unique vertex of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}$  which is a tripod, and  $y_1, y_2 \in C_{r,n}$  the two cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}|_{v_1}$ . By Lemma 8.3, to complete the proof of Lemma 8.5, it suffices to derive a contradiction under the assumption that  $V_1 \cap V_2$  contains a log-full point  $P$ . Thus, suppose that this assumption holds. Then  $v_1$  determines a unique vertex  $v_1^P$  of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ , which is necessarily a tripod (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.8, (iii)). In particular, since  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}$  may be regarded as a generalization of  $\mathcal{G}_P$ , the vertex  $v_1^P$  of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  determines a vertex  $w_2$  of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}$  such that  $y_1, y_2$  are cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}|_{w_2}$  (cf. [CbTpI], Definition 2.8, (iii)). Since  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair, it thus follows from Remark 2.4 that  $V_1 = V_2$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

**Lemma 8.6.** *Every non-intersecting drift pair is scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  be a pair of distinct drift diagonals which is not a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair. Then since  $n > 1$ , there exists a unique vertex  $v_1$  (resp.  $v_2$ ) of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}$  (resp.  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}$ ) such that  $v_1, v_2$  are tripods (cf. Proposition 3.4, (i)). Since  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is not a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair, there exist cusps  $y_1, z_1$  of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_1}|_{v_1}$  and cusps  $y_2, z_2$  of  $\mathcal{G}_{V_2}|_{v_2}$  such that  $y_1, z_1, y_2, z_2 \in C_{r,n}$  are distinct elements,  $\#(\{y_1, z_1\} \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \leq 1$ ,  $\#(\{y_2, z_2\} \cap \{c_1, \dots, c_r\}) \leq 1$  (cf. Definition 2.3). Thus, it follows from the well-known modular interpretation of the log moduli stacks that appear in the definition of  $X_n^{\log}$  that there exist a point  $P$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  and terminal vertices  $t_1, t_2$  of  $\mathcal{G}_P$  such that  $t_1, t_2$  are tripods,  $y_1, z_1$  are cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_P|_{t_1}$ , and  $y_2, z_2$  are cusps of  $\mathcal{G}_P|_{t_2}$ . In particular, by the equivalence (i)  $\iff$  (iii) of Proposition 2.9, it holds that  $P \in V_1 \cap V_2$ . Thus,  $\{V_1, V_2\}$  is not a non-intersecting drift pair.  $\square$

**Proposition 8.7.** *Let  $V_1, V_2$  be distinct drift diagonals. Then it holds that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \{V_1, V_2\} \text{ is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair} \\ \iff & \{V_1, V_2\} \text{ is a group-theoretically co-cuspidal pair} \\ \iff & \{V_1, V_2\} \text{ is a non-intersecting drift pair.} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Lemmas 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6.  $\square$

**Definition 8.8.** *Let  $V_1, V_2, V_3$  be distinct drift diagonals. Then we shall say that  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3\}$  is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal triple if  $\{V_1, V_2\}$ ,  $\{V_2, V_3\}$ , and  $\{V_3, V_1\}$  are scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pairs.*

**Definition 8.9.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a set of drift diagonals such that  $\#\Lambda = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ . We shall say that  $\Lambda$  is a scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$  if there exist distinct drift diagonals  $V_{i,j}$ , where  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ ,  $j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}$ , such*

that  $\Lambda = \{V_{i,j} \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}, j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}\}$ , and, moreover, the following hold:

- (a) For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-2\}$ ,  $\{V_{i,i+1}, V_{i+1,i+2}\}$  is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair.
- (b) For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-2\}, j \in \{i+2, \dots, n-1\}$ , then  $\{V_{i,i+1}, V_{j,j+1}\}$  is not a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal pair.
- (c) For any  $i \in \{1, \dots, n-2\}, j \in \{i+2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\{V_{i,j}, V_{i,i+1}, V_{i+1,j}\}$  is a scheme-theoretically co-cuspidal triple.

**Lemma 8.10.** *Every drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$  is a scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\Lambda$  be a drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then it follows from Proposition 3.3, (i) (cf. also Remark 3.2), that there exist distinct elements  $y_1, \dots, y_n \in C_{r,n}$  such that

$$\Lambda = \{V(\{y_i, y_j\}) \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}, j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}\}.$$

Then one verifies easily that if we write  $V_{i,j} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} V(y_i, y_j)$ , then the  $V_{i,j}$ 's satisfy the conditions of Definition 8.9, and hence that  $\Lambda$  is a scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 8.11.** *Every scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$  is a drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ .*

*Proof.* By Proposition 3.4, (ii), we may assume without loss of generality that  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$  or  $(1, 1)$ . Let  $\Lambda$  be a scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ . By Definitions 2.3; 8.2, (i); 8.9, (a), there exist elements  $y_1, y_2, y_3 \in C_{r,n}$  such that  $V_{1,2} = V(\{y_1, y_2\}), V_{2,3} = V(\{y_2, y_3\})$ . By Definitions 2.3; 8.2, (i); 8.9, (a), (b), there exist elements  $y_4, \dots, y_n \in C_{r,n}$  such that  $V_{i,i+1} = V(\{y_i, y_{i+1}\})$ . Thus, by Definitions 2.3; 8.8; 8.9, (c), it holds that  $V_{i,j} = V(\{y_i, y_j\})$ . Finally, since  $(g, r) = (0, 3)$  or  $(1, 1)$ , by applying a suitable automorphism of  $X_n^{\log}$  that arises from a permutation of the  $r+n$  marked points of the stable log curve  $X_{n+1}^{\log} \rightarrow X_n^{\log}$ , it follows that  $\Lambda = \{V(\{y_i, y_j\}) \mid i \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}, j \in \{i+1, \dots, n\}\}$  is a drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 8.12.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a set of drift diagonals of  $X_n^{\log}$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is a drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$  if and only if  $\Lambda$  is a scheme-theoretic drift collection of  $X_n^{\log}$ .*

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Lemmas 8.10, 8.11.  $\square$

**Definition 8.13.** *We shall refer to as a drift collection of  $\Pi_n$  any collection*

$$\{I_V \mid V \in \Lambda\}$$

of subgroups of  $\Pi_n$  associated to some drift collection  $\Lambda$  of  $X_n^{\log}$ , where  $I_V$  denotes an inertia group of  $\Pi_n$  associated to  $V \in \Lambda$ .

**Theorem 8.14.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of drift collections of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of drift collections of  $\Pi^\bullet$  (cf. Definition 8.13).

*Proof.* This follows from Theorem 7.3 and Propositions 8.7, 8.12.  $\square$

## 9. RECONSTRUCTION OF GENERALIZED FIBER SUBGROUPS

We continue with the notation of §8. In the present §9, we reconstruct the generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi_n$  (cf. Theorem 9.3 below).

**Definition 9.1.** Let  $H$  be a closed subgroup of  $\Pi_n$ . We shall say that  $H$  is a generalized fiber subgroup if there exist an automorphism  $\alpha$  of  $X_n^{\log}$  over  $S$  and a fiber subgroup  $F \subseteq \Pi_n$  (cf. [MzTa], Definition 2.3, (iii)) such that  $H = \beta(F)$ , where  $\beta$  is an automorphism of  $\Pi_n$  which arises from  $\alpha$  (cf. Remark 3.2; [HMM], Definition 2.1, (ii); [HMM], Remark 2.1.1).

**Proposition 9.2.** If  $(g, r) \neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ , then

$$\{\text{generalized fiber subgroups}\} = \{\text{fiber subgroups}\}.$$

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Remark 3.2.  $\square$

**Theorem 9.3.** For  $\square \in \{\circ, \bullet\}$ , let  $l^\square$  be a prime number;  $k^\square$  an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $\neq l^\square$ ;  $S^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Spec}(k^\square)$ ;  $(g^\square, r^\square)$  a pair of nonnegative integers such that  $2g^\square - 2 + r^\square > 0$ ;

$$X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$$

a smooth log curve of type  $(g^\square, r^\square)$ ;  $n^\square \in \mathbb{Z}_{>1}$ ;  $X_{n^\square}^{\log \square}$  the  $n^\square$ -th log configuration space associated to  $X^{\log \square} \rightarrow S^\square$ ;  $\Pi^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X_{n^\square}^{\log \square})$  (for a suitable choice of basepoint);

$$\phi: \Pi^\circ \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi^\bullet$$

an isomorphism of profinite groups. We suppose that  $r^\square > 0$ , and that  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of log-full subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$ . Then  $\phi$  induces a bijection between the set of generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi^\circ$  and the set of generalized fiber subgroups of  $\Pi^\bullet$  (cf. Definition 9.1).

*Proof.* Write  $\Pi_1^\square \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \pi_1^{\text{pro-}l^\square}(X^{\log \square})$ . For any drift collection  $\Lambda^\square$  of  $\Pi^\square$ , write  $\iota^\square: \Pi^\square \rightarrow Q_{\Lambda^\square}^\square$  for the surjection obtained by forming the quotient by the normal closed subgroup generated by the subgroups  $\subseteq \Pi^\square$  that constitute the drift collection  $\Lambda^\square$ . Recall that it follows from Lemma 7.1 that there exist  $n^\square$  surjections  $Q_{\Lambda^\square}^\square \rightarrow \Pi_1^\square$ , which we shall refer to as  $\Lambda^\square$ -projections, such that the resulting product homomorphism determines an isomorphism  $Q_{\Lambda^\square}^\square \xrightarrow{\sim} \Pi_1^\square \times \cdots \times \Pi_1^\square$ .

Let  $F^\circ \subseteq \Pi^\circ$  be a generalized fiber subgroup of  $\Pi^\circ$ . Then one verifies immediately that there exists a drift collection  $\Lambda^\circ$  of  $\Pi^\circ$  such that  $F^\circ$  is contained in the kernel  $\text{Ker}(p^\circ)$  of some  $\Lambda^\circ$ -projection  $p^\circ$ . Write  $\Lambda^\bullet$  for the drift collection of  $\Pi^\bullet$  determined by applying  $\phi$  to  $\Lambda^\circ$  (cf. Theorem 8.14).

Next, observe that since each factor “ $\Pi_1$ ” of the  $n$  factors of the product “ $\Pi_1 \times \cdots \times \Pi_1$ ” of Lemma 7.1 is *slim* (cf., e.g., [MzTa], Proposition 1.4), it follows that each such factor “ $\Pi_1$ ” may be reconstructed as the *centralizer* of any product of open subgroups of the remaining  $n - 1$  factors. In particular, it follows immediately from [MzTa], Corollary 3.4, that there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Pi^\circ & \xrightarrow{\phi} & \Pi^\bullet \\ p^\circ \downarrow & & \downarrow p^\bullet \\ \Pi_1^\circ & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad} & \Pi_1^\bullet \end{array}$$

where  $p^\bullet$  is a  $\Lambda^\bullet$ -projection, and the horizontal arrows are isomorphisms. On the other hand, it follows immediately from the definition of  $p^\square$  that  $\text{Ker}(p^\square)$  has a natural structure of configuration space group (whose “ $(g, r)$ ” is  $\neq (0, 3), (1, 1)$ !), and that  $F^\circ$  is a fiber subgroup of  $\text{Ker}(p^\circ)$  (cf. [MzTa], Proposition 2.4, (i), (ii)). Thus, by [MzTa], Corollary 6.3,  $F^\bullet \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \phi(F^\circ)$  is a fiber subgroup of  $\text{Ker}(p^\bullet)$ , hence also of  $\Pi^\bullet$ .  $\square$

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