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ON THE IWAHORI WEYL GROUP

BY TIMO RICHARZ

ABSTRACT. — Let F be a discretely valued complete field with valuation ring \mathcal{O}_F and perfect residue field k of cohomological dimension ≤ 1 . In this paper, we generalize the Bruhat decomposition in Bruhat and Tits [3] from the case of simply connected F -groups to the case of arbitrary connected reductive F -groups. If k is algebraically closed, Haines and Rapoport [4] define the Iwahori-Weyl group, and use it to solve this problem. Here we define the Iwahori-Weyl group in general, and relate our definition of the Iwahori-Weyl group to that of [4].

Let F be a discretely valued complete field with valuation ring \mathcal{O}_F and perfect residue field k of cohomological dimension ≤ 1 . In this paper, we generalize the Bruhat decomposition in Bruhat and Tits [3] from the case of simply connected F -groups to the case of arbitrary connected reductive F -groups. If k is algebraically closed, Haines and Rapoport [4] define the Iwahori-Weyl group, and use it to solve this problem. Here we define the Iwahori-Weyl group in general, and relate our definition of the Iwahori-Weyl group to that of [4]. Furthermore, we study the length function on the Iwahori-Weyl group, and use it to determine the number of points in a Bruhat cell, when k is a finite field. Except for Lemma 1.3 below, the results are independent of [4], and are directly based on the work of Bruhat and Tits [2], [3].

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Let \bar{F} be the completion of a separable closure of F . Let \check{F} be the completion of the maximal unramified subextension with valuation ring $\mathcal{O}_{\check{F}}$ and residue field \bar{k} . Let $I = \text{Gal}(\bar{F}/\check{F})$ be the inertia group of \check{F} , and let $\Sigma = \text{Gal}(\check{F}/F)$.

Let G be a connected reductive group over F , and denote by $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}(G, F)$ the enlarged Bruhat-Tits building. Fix a maximal F -split torus A . Let $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(G, A, F)$ be the apartment of \mathcal{B} corresponding to A .

1.1. Definition of the Iwahori-Weyl group. — Let $M = Z_G(A)$ be the centralizer of A , an anisotropic group, and let $N = N_G(A)$ be the normalizer of A . Denote by $W_0 = N(F)/M(F)$ the relative Weyl group.

DEFINITION 1.1. — i) The *Iwahori-Weyl group* $W = W(G, A, F)$ is the group

$$W \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} N(F)/M_1,$$

where M_1 is the unique parahoric subgroup of $M(F)$.

ii) Let $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{A}$ be a facet and $P_{\mathfrak{a}}$ the associated parahoric subgroup. The subgroup $W_{\mathfrak{a}}$ of the Iwahori-Weyl group corresponding to \mathfrak{a} is the group

$$W_{\mathfrak{a}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} P_{\mathfrak{a}} \cap N(F)/M_1.$$

The group $N(F)$ operates on \mathcal{A} by affine transformations

$$(1.1) \quad \nu : N(F) \longrightarrow \text{Aff}(\mathcal{A}).$$

The kernel $\ker(\nu)$ is the unique maximal compact subgroup of $M(F)$ and contains the compact group M_1 . Hence, the morphism (1.1) induces an action of W on \mathcal{A} .

Let G_1 be the subgroup of $G(F)$ generated by all parahoric subgroups, and define $N_1 = G_1 \cap N(F)$. Fix an alcove $\mathfrak{a}_C \subset \mathcal{A}$, and denote by B the associated Iwahori subgroup. Let \mathbb{S} be the set of simple reflections at the walls of \mathfrak{a}_C . By Bruhat and Tits [3, Prop. 5.2.12], the quadruple

$$(1.2) \quad (G_1, B, N_1, \mathbb{S})$$

is a (double) Tits system with affine Weyl group $W_{\text{af}} = N_1/N_1 \cap B$, and the inclusion $G_1 \subset G(K)$ is B - N -adapted of connected type.

LEMMA 1.2. — i) *There is an equality $N_1 \cap B = M_1$.*

ii) *The inclusion $N(F) \subset G(F)$ induces a group isomorphism $N(F)/N_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} G(F)/G_1$.*

Proof. — The group $N_1 \cap B$ operates trivially on \mathcal{A} and so is contained in $\ker(\nu) \subset M(F)$. In particular, $N_1 \cap B = M(F) \cap B$. But $M(F) \cap B$ is a parahoric subgroup of $M(F)$ and therefore equal to M_1 .

The group morphism $N(F)/N_1 \rightarrow G(F)/G_1$ is injective by definition. We have to show that $G(F) = N(F) \cdot G_1$. This follows from the fact that the inclusion $G_1 \subset G(F)$ is B - N -adapted, cf. [2, 4.1.2]. \square

Kottwitz defines in [5, §7] a surjective group morphism

$$(1.3) \quad \kappa_G : G(F) \longrightarrow X^*(Z(\hat{G})^I)^\Sigma.$$

Note that in [loc. cit.] the residue field k is assumed to be finite, but the arguments extend to the general case.

LEMMA 1.3. — *There is an equality $G_1 = \ker(\kappa_G)$ as subgroups of $G(F)$.*

Proof. — For any facet \mathfrak{a} , let $\text{Fix}(\mathfrak{a})$ be the subgroup of $G(F)$ which fixes \mathfrak{a} pointwise. The intersection $\text{Fix}(\mathfrak{a}) \cap \ker(\kappa_G)$ is the parahoric subgroup associated to \mathfrak{a} , cf. [4, Proposition 3]. This implies $G_1 \subset \ker(\kappa_G)$. For any facet \mathfrak{a} , let $\text{Stab}(\mathfrak{a})$ be the subgroup of $G(F)$ which stabilizes \mathfrak{a} . Fix an alcove \mathfrak{a}_C . There is an equality

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Fix}(\mathfrak{a}_C) \cap G_1 = \text{Stab}(\mathfrak{a}_C) \cap G_1,$$

and (1.4) holds with G_1 replaced by $\ker(\kappa_G)$, cf. [4, Lemma 17]. Assume that the inclusion $G_1 \subset \ker(\kappa_G)$ is strict, and let $\tau \in \ker(\kappa_G) \setminus G_1$. By Lemma 1.2 ii), there exists $g \in G_1$ such that $\tau' = \tau \cdot g$ stabilizes \mathfrak{a}_C , and hence τ' is an element of the Iwahori subgroup $\text{Stab}(\mathfrak{a}_C) \cap \ker(\kappa_G)$. This is a contradiction, and proves the lemma. \square

By Lemma 1.2, there is an exact sequence

$$(1.5) \quad 1 \longrightarrow W_{\text{af}} \longrightarrow W \xrightarrow{\kappa_G} X^*(Z(\hat{G})^I)^\Sigma \longrightarrow 1.$$

The stabilizer of the alcove \mathfrak{a}_C in W maps isomorphically onto $X^*(Z(\hat{G})^I)^\Sigma$ and presents W as a semidirect product

$$(1.6) \quad W = X^*(Z(\hat{G})^I)^\Sigma \ltimes W_{\text{af}}.$$

For a facet \mathfrak{a} contained in the closure of \mathfrak{a}_C , the group $W_{\mathfrak{a}}$ is the parabolic subgroup of W_{af} generated by the reflections at the walls of \mathfrak{a}_C which contain \mathfrak{a} .

THEOREM 1.4. — *Let \mathfrak{a} (resp. \mathfrak{a}') be a facet contained in the closure of \mathfrak{a}_C , and let $P_{\mathfrak{a}}$ (resp. $P_{\mathfrak{a}'}$) be the associated parahoric subgroup. There is a bijection*

$$\begin{aligned} W_{\mathfrak{a}} \backslash W / W_{\mathfrak{a}'} &\xrightarrow{\cong} P_{\mathfrak{a}} \backslash G(F) / P_{\mathfrak{a}'} \\ W_{\mathfrak{a}} w W_{\mathfrak{a}'} &\longmapsto P_{\mathfrak{a}} n_w P_{\mathfrak{a}'}, \end{aligned}$$

where n_w denotes a representative of w in $N(F)$.

Proof. — Conjugating with elements of $N(F)$ which stabilize the alcove \mathfrak{a}_C , we are reduced to proving that

$$(1.7) \quad W_{\mathfrak{a}} \backslash W_{\text{af}} / W_{\mathfrak{a}'} \longrightarrow P_{\mathfrak{a}} \backslash G_1 / P_{\mathfrak{a}'}$$

is a bijection. But (1.7) is a consequence of the fact that the quadruple (1.2) is a Tits system, cf. [1, Chap. IV, §2, n° 5, Remark. 2)]. \square

REMARK 1.5. — Let $G_{\text{sc}} \rightarrow G_{\text{der}}$ be the simply connected cover of the derived group G_{der} of G , and denote by A_{sc} the preimage of the connected component $(A \cap G_{\text{der}})^0$ in G_{sc} . Then A_{sc} is a maximal F -split torus of G_{sc} . Let $W_{\text{sc}} = W(G_{\text{sc}}, A_{\text{sc}})$ be the associated Iwahori-Weyl group. Consider the group morphism $\varphi : G_{\text{sc}}(F) \rightarrow G_{\text{der}}(F) \subset G(F)$. Then $G_1 = \varphi(G_{\text{sc}}(F)) \cdot M_1$ by the discussion above [3, Proposition 5.2.12], and this yields an injective morphism of groups

$$W_{\text{sc}} \longrightarrow W$$

which identifies W_{sc} with W_{af} .

1.2. Passage to \check{F} . — Let S be a maximal \check{F} -split torus which is defined over F and contains A , cf. [3]. Denote by $\mathcal{A}^{\text{nr}} = \mathcal{A}(G, S, \check{F})$ the apartment corresponding to S over \check{F} . The group Σ acts on \mathcal{A}^{nr} , and there is a natural Σ -equivariant embedding

$$(1.8) \quad \mathcal{A} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}^{\text{nr}},$$

which identifies \mathcal{A} with the Σ -fixpoints $(\mathcal{A}^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma}$, cf. [3, 5.1.20]. The facets of \mathcal{A} correspond to the Σ -invariant facets of \mathcal{A}^{nr} .

Let $T = Z_G(S)$ (a maximal torus) be the centralizer of S , and let $N_S = N_G(S)$ be the normalizer of S . Let T_1^{nr} be the unique parahoric subgroup of $T(\check{F})$. Denote by $W^{\text{nr}} = W(G, S, \check{F})$ the Iwahori-Weyl group

$$W^{\text{nr}} = N_S(\check{F}) / T_1^{\text{nr}}$$

over \check{F} . The group Σ acts on W^{nr} , and the group of fixed points $(W^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma}$ acts on \mathcal{A} by (1.8). We have

$$(W^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma} = N_S(F) / T_1,$$

since $H^1(\Sigma, T_1^{\text{nr}})$ is trivial. For an element $n \in N_S(F)$ the tori A and nAn^{-1} are both maximal F -split tori of S and hence are equal. This shows $N_S(F) \subset N(F)$, and we obtain a group morphism

$$(1.9) \quad (W^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma} = N_S(F) / T_1 \longrightarrow N(F) / M_1 = W,$$

which is compatible with the actions on \mathcal{A} .

LEMMA 1.6. — *The morphism (1.9) is an isomorphism, i.e., $(W^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma} \xrightarrow{\cong} W$.*

Proof. — Let \mathfrak{a}_C be a Σ -invariant alcove of \mathcal{A}^{nr} . The morphism (1.9) is compatible with the semidirect product decomposition (1.6) given by \mathfrak{a}_C . We are reduced to proving that the morphism

$$(W_{\text{af}}^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma} \longrightarrow W_{\text{af}}$$

is an isomorphism. It is enough to show that $(W_{\text{af}}^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma}$ acts simply transitively on the set of alcoves of \mathcal{A} . Let $\mathfrak{a}_{C'}$ another Σ -invariant alcove of \mathcal{A}^{nr} . Then there is a unique $w \in W_{\text{af}}^{\text{nr}}$ such that $w \cdot \mathfrak{a}_C = \mathfrak{a}_{C'}$. The uniqueness implies $w \in (W_{\text{af}}^{\text{nr}})^{\Sigma}$. \square

COROLLARY 1.7. — *Let $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{A}$ be a facet, and denote by $\mathfrak{a}^{\text{nr}} \subset \mathcal{A}^{\text{nr}}$ the unique facet containing \mathfrak{a} . Then $W_{\mathfrak{a}} = (W_{\mathfrak{a}^{\text{nr}}})^{\Sigma}$ under the inclusion $W \hookrightarrow W^{\text{nr}}$.* \square

1.3. The length function on W . — Let $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}(G, A, F)$ be the set of affine roots. We regard \mathcal{R} as a subset of the affine functions on \mathcal{A} . The Iwahori-Weyl group W acts on \mathcal{R} by the formula

$$(1.10) \quad (w \cdot \alpha)(x) = \alpha(w^{-1} \cdot x)$$

for $w \in W$, $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$ and $x \in \mathcal{A}$. This action preserves non-divisible⁽¹⁾ roots.

Fix an alcove \mathfrak{a}_C in \mathcal{A} . By (1.6), W is the semidirect product of W_{af} with the stabilizer of the alcove \mathfrak{a}_C in W . Hence, W is a quasi-Coxeter system and is thus equipped with a Bruhat-Chevalley partial order \leq and a length function l .

For $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$, we write $\alpha > 0$ (resp. $\alpha < 0$), if α takes positive (resp. negative) values on \mathfrak{a}_C . For $w \in W$, define

$$(1.11) \quad \mathcal{R}(w) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \mid \alpha > 0 \text{ and } w\alpha < 0\}.$$

We have $\mathcal{R}(w) = \mathcal{R}(\tau w)$ for any τ in the stabilizer of \mathfrak{a}_C . Let \mathbb{S} be the reflections at the walls of \mathfrak{a}_C . These are exactly the elements in W_{af} of length 1. For any $s \in \mathbb{S}$, there exists a unique non-divisible root $\alpha_s \in \mathcal{R}(s)$. In particular, $\mathcal{R}(s)$ has cardinality ≤ 2 .

LEMMA 1.8. — *Let $w \in W$ and $s \in \mathbb{S}$. If $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}(s)$, then $w\alpha > 0$ if and only if $w \leq ws$.*

Proof. — We may assume that $w \in W_{\text{af}}$ and that $\alpha_s = \alpha$ is non-divisible. We show that $w\alpha_s < 0$ if and only if $ws \leq w$. If $w\alpha_s < 0$, then fix a reduced decomposition $w = s_1 \cdots s_n$ with $s_i \in \mathbb{S}$. There exists an index i such that

$$s_{i+1} \cdots s_n \alpha_s > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad s_i \cdot s_{i+1} \cdots s_n \alpha_s < 0,$$

⁽¹⁾ An element $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$ is called non-divisible, if $\frac{1}{2}\alpha \notin \mathcal{R}$.

i.e., $s_{i+1} \cdots s_n \alpha_s = \alpha_{s_i}$ is the unique non-divisible root in $\mathcal{R}(s_i)$. Hence,

$$s_{i+1} \cdots s_n \cdot s \cdot s_n \cdots s_{i+1} = s_i,$$

and $ws \leq w$ holds true. Conversely, if $ws \leq w$, then $ws \leq (ws)s$. This implies that $(ws)\alpha_s > 0$ by what we have already shown. But $s\alpha_s = -\alpha_s$, and $w\alpha_s < 0$ holds true. \square

LEMMA 1.9. — *Let $w, v \in W$. Then*

$$\mathcal{R}(wv) \subset \mathcal{R}(v) \sqcup v^{-1}\mathcal{R}(w),$$

and equality holds if and only if $l(wv) = l(w) + l(v)$.

Proof. — We may assume that $w, v \in W_{\text{af}}$. Assume that $s = v \in \mathbb{S}$, which will imply the general case by induction on $l(v)$. The inclusion

$$(1.12) \quad \mathcal{R}(ws) \subset \mathcal{R}(s) \sqcup s\mathcal{R}(w)$$

is easy to see. If in (1.12) equality holds, then we have to show that $l(ws) = l(w) + 1$, i.e., $w \leq ws$. In view of Lemma 1.8, it is enough to show that $w\alpha > 0$ for $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}(s)$. But this is equivalent to $\mathcal{R}(s) \subset \mathcal{R}(ws)$, and we are done. Conversely, if $w \leq ws$, then equality in (1.12) also follows from Lemma 1.8. \square

COROLLARY 1.10. — *If every root in \mathcal{R} is non-divisible, then $l(w) = |\mathcal{R}(w)|$ for every $w \in W$.*

1.4. The length function on W^{nr} . — In this section, the residue field k is finite of cardinality q . Let $\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}} = \mathcal{R}(G, S, \check{F})$ be the set of affine roots over \check{F} . Note that every root of \mathcal{R}^{nr} is non-divisible, since $G \otimes \check{F}$ is residually split. Let W^{nr} be the Iwahori-Weyl group over F^{nr} . Denote by $\mathfrak{a}_C^{\text{nr}}$ the unique Σ -invariant facet of \mathcal{A}^{nr} containing \mathfrak{a}_C . Let \leq^{nr} be the corresponding Bruhat order and l^{nr} the corresponding length function on W^{nr} . By Lemma 1.6, we may regard W as the subgroup of W^{nr} whose elements are fixed by Σ .

Let $w \in W$. If $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(w)$, then its restriction to \mathcal{A} is non-constant, and hence $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$ by [7, 1.10.1]. We obtain a restriction map

$$(1.13) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(w) &\longrightarrow \mathcal{R}(w) \\ \alpha &\longmapsto \alpha|_{\mathcal{A}}. \end{aligned}$$

PROPOSITION 1.11. — *The inclusion $W \subset W^{\text{nr}}$ is compatible with the Bruhat orders in the sense that for $w, w' \in W$ we have $w \leq w'$ if and only if $w \leq^{\text{nr}} w'$, and $l(w) = 0$ if and only if $l^{\text{nr}}(w) = 0$. For $w \in W$, there is the equality*

$$|BwB/B| = q^{l^{\text{nr}}(w)},$$

where B is the Iwahori subgroup in $G(F)$ attached to \mathfrak{a}_C .

Proof. — We need some preparation. Let $w \in W$, $s \in \mathbb{S}$ with $w \leq ws$.

SUBLEMMA 1.12. — *There is an equality*

$$\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(ws) = \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(s) \sqcup s\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(w).$$

In particular, $l^{\text{nr}}(ws) = l^{\text{nr}}(w) + l^{\text{nr}}(s)$.

Proof. — By Lemma 1.9 applied to \mathcal{R}^{nr} , the inclusion ‘ \subset ’ holds for general $w, s \in W^{\text{nr}}$.

There is the inclusion $\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(s) \subset \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(ws)$: If $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(s)$, then $\alpha|_{\mathcal{A}} \in \mathcal{R}(s)$ by (1.13). Since $w \leq ws$, we have $w \cdot \alpha|_{\mathcal{A}} > 0$ by Lemma 1.8. So $ws \cdot \alpha|_{\mathcal{A}} < 0$ which shows that $ws \cdot \alpha < 0$.

The inclusion $s\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(w) \subset \mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(ws)$ follows similarly. \square

SubLemma 1.12 implies that the inclusion $W \subset W^{\text{nr}}$ is compatible with the Bruhat orders. To show the rest of the proposition, we may assume that $w \in W_{\text{af}}$. Fix a reduced decomposition $w = s_1 \cdots s_n$ with $s_i \in \mathbb{S}$. By standard facts on Tits systems, the multiplication map

$$(1.14) \quad Bs_1B \times^B \cdots \times^B Bs_nB/B \longrightarrow BwB/B$$

is bijective. In view of SubLemma 1.12, we reduce to the case that $n = 1$, i.e., $s = w \in \mathbb{S}$ is a simple reflection. Let \mathcal{B} be the Iwahori group scheme over \mathcal{O}_F corresponding to the Iwahori subgroup B , and denote by \mathcal{P} the parahoric group scheme corresponding to the parahoric subgroup $B \cup BsB$. Let $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}$ be the maximal reductive quotient of $\mathcal{P} \otimes k$. This is a connected reductive group over k of semisimple k -rank 1. The image of the natural morphism

$$\mathcal{B} \otimes k \longrightarrow \mathcal{P} \otimes k \longrightarrow \bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}},$$

is a Borel subgroup $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ of $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}$. This induces a bijection

$$(1.15) \quad P/B \longrightarrow \bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}(k)/\bar{\mathcal{B}}(k).$$

By Lang’s Lemma, we have $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}(k)/\bar{\mathcal{B}}(k) = (\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}/\bar{\mathcal{B}})(k)$. Let \bar{s} be the image of s under (1.15), and denote by $C_{\bar{s}}$ the $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ -orbit of \bar{s} in the flag variety $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}/\bar{\mathcal{B}}$. It follows that the image of BsB/B under (1.15) identifies with the k -points $C_{\bar{s}}(k)$. Note that $\langle \bar{s} \rangle$ is the relative Weyl group of $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}}$ with respect to the reduction to k of the natural \mathcal{O}_F -structure on A . Then $C_{\bar{s}} \simeq \bar{U}$ where \bar{U} denotes the unipotent radical of $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$. But \bar{U} is an affine space and hence $|C_{\bar{s}}(k)| = q^{\dim(\bar{U})}$. On the other hand,

$$l^{\text{nr}}(s) = |\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(s)| = \dim(\bar{U}),$$

where the last equality holds because $\mathcal{R}^{\text{nr}}(s)$ may be identified with the positive roots of $\bar{\mathcal{P}}_{\text{red}} \otimes \bar{k}$ with respect to $\bar{\mathcal{B}} \otimes \bar{k}$. \square

REMARK 1.13. — i) If G is residually split, then $l(w) = l^{\text{nr}}(w)$ for all $w \in W$.

ii) Tits attaches in [7, 1.8] to every vertex v of the local Dynkin diagram a positive integer $d(v)$. To the vertex v , there corresponds a non-divisible affine root $\alpha_v \in \mathcal{R}$, and a simple reflection $s_v \in \mathbb{S}$. Then Proposition 1.11 shows that $d(v) = l^{\text{nr}}(s_v)$, cf. [7, 3.3.1].

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