ON THE TOPOLOGY OF FREE PARATOPOLOGICAL GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. The result often known as Joiner's lemma is fundamental in understanding the topology of the free topological group F(X) on a Tychonoff space X. In this paper, an analogue of Joiner's lemma for the free paratopological group FP(X) on a T_1 space X is proved. Using this, it is shown that the following conditions are equivalent for a space X: (1) X is T_1 ; (2) FP(X)is T_1 ; (3) the subspace X of FP(X) is closed; (4) the subspace X^{-1} of FP(X) is discrete; (5) the subspace X^{-1} is T_1 ; (6) the subspace X^{-1} is closed; and (7) the subspace $FP_n(X)$ is closed for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, where $FP_n(X)$ denotes the subspace of FP(X) consisting of all words of length at most n.

1. INTRODUCTION

The notions of the free topological group on a Tychonoff space Xand a pointed Tychonoff space (X, e) were introduced in the 1940s by Markov [11, 12, 13] and Graev [5, 6], respectively. In both cases, the groups are Hausdorff. In 1976 Joiner [8] provided a complete description of a neighbourhood basis at any word of length exactly n in the subspace $F_n(X)$ of the Graev free topological group on X, where $F_n(X)$ denotes the set of all words in the group of length at most n. Already in 1968 Arhangel'skii [2] had proved essentially the same result as Joiner, though as noted in [3] his result did not at the time attract much attention. Joiner's argument, though much more complex than that of Arhangel'skii (see [3]), gives information not only about the topology of the free topological group but also about the topology induced on the free group by certain pseudometrics defined by Graev, and the result of Arhangel'skii and Joiner is commonly referred to as Joiner's lemma.

In 2003 Romaguera, Sanchis and Tkachenko [18] proved the existence of the free paratopological group $FP(X, \mathcal{U})$ on a quasi-uniform space (X, \mathcal{U}) and investigated its separation properties. In 2006 Pyrch and

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Ravsky [14] investigated some of the topological properties of the free paratopological group FP(X) on a topological space X.

All of the authors above also discuss the corresponding free abelian topological or paratopological groups, and indeed some of the results of [14] are proved in the abelian case only. For further background, the reader is referred to the introduction of [18], to Ravsky [15, 16] and to Marin and Romaguera [10].

The main result of this paper, Theorem 4.6, is an analogue of Joiner's lemma for free paratopological groups. The result takes the following form. Let X be a T_1 space and denote by $FP_n(X)$ the subspace of FP(X) consisting of all words of length at most n. Suppose that $w = x_1^{\epsilon_1} x_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots x_n^{\epsilon_n}$ is a reduced word in $FP_n(X)$. Then a base at w in $FP_n(X)$ is given by the collection of all sets of the form $U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_n^{\epsilon_n}$, where for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ the set U_i is a neighbourhood of x_i in X when $\epsilon_i = 1$ and $U_i = \{x_i\}$ when $\epsilon_i = -1$.

Using the above result and other ideas, we strengthen and generalise some results from Pyrch and Ravsky [14] on the topological properties of FP(X) (see Theorems 4.2, 4.10 and 4.11).

2. Definitions and preliminaries

We recall that a paratopological group is a pair (G, \mathcal{T}) where G is a group and \mathcal{T} is a topology on G such that the mapping $(x, y) \mapsto xy$ of $G \times G$ into G is continuous. If in addition the mapping $x \mapsto x^{-1}$ of G into G is continuous then (G, \mathcal{T}) is a topological group.

We call $d: X \times X \to [0, \infty)$ a quasi-pseudometric on X if d(x, y) = 0whenever x = y and $d(x, y) \leq d(x, z) + d(z, y)$, for all $x, y, z \in X$. If d is a quasi-pseudometric on a group G and d(ax, ay) = d(x, y)for all $a, x, y \in G$, then we say that d is *left invariant*; similarly, if d(xa, ya) = d(x, y) for all a, x, y, then d is *right invariant*. If d is both left and right invariant, then we say it is *two-sided invariant*. It is easy to check that d is two-sided invariant if and only if

$$d(x_1 \dots x_n, y_1 \dots y_n) \le d(x_1, y_1) + \dots + d(x_n, y_n)$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_n, y_1, \ldots, y_n \in G$.

Given a group G with identity element e, a function $N: G \to [0, \infty)$ is called a *quasi-prenorm* on G if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) N(e) = 0; and
- (2) $N(gh) \leq N(g) + N(h)$ for all $g, h \in G$.

If N in addition satisfies

(3) $N(h^{-1}gh) = N(g)$ for all $g, h \in G$,

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then we say that N is *invariant*.

Let G be a group. If d is a left invariant quasi-pseudometric on G then the function $N_d: G \to [0, \infty)$ defined by $N_d(x) = d(e, x)$ for all $x \in$ G is a quasi-prenorm on G, and conversely if N is a quasi-prenorm on G then the function $d_N: G \times G \to [0, \infty)$ defined by $d_N(x, y) = N(x^{-1}y)$ for all $x, y \in G$ is a left invariant quasi-pseudometric on G. Clearly, the mappings $d \mapsto N_d$ and $N \mapsto d_N$ define a one-to-one correspondence between the family of left invariant quasi-pseudometrics (resp., twosided invariant quasi-pseudometrics) on G and the family of quasiprenorms (resp., invariant quasi-prenorms) on G.

Definition 2.1. Let X be a subspace of a paratopological group G. Suppose that

- (1) the set X generates G algebraically, that is, $\langle X \rangle = G$ and
- (2) every continuous mapping $f : X \to H$ of X to an arbitrary paratopological group H extends to a continuous homomorphism $\hat{f} : G \to H$.

Then G is called the Markov free paratopological group on X, and is denoted by FP(X).

By substituting "abelian paratopological group" for each occurrence of "paratopological group" above we obtain the definition of the *Markov* free abelian paratopological group on X, which is denoted by AP(X).

Definition 2.2. Let X be a subspace of a paratopological group G and let $e \in X$ be the identity of G. Suppose that

- (1) X algebraically generates G, that is, $\langle X \rangle = G$ and
- (2) every continuous mapping $f : X \to H$ of X to an arbitrary paratopological group H satisfying $f(e) = e_H$ extends to a continuous homomorphism $\hat{f} : G \to H$.

Then G is called the Graev free paratopological group on (X, e), and is denoted by $FP_G(X, e)$.

By substituting "abelian paratopological group" for each occurrence of "paratopological group" above we obtain the definition of the *Graev* free abelian paratopological group on (X, e), which is denoted by $AP_G(X, e)$.

3. EXTENSION OF QUASI-PSEUDOMETRICS

In [5, 6], Graev developed a method for extending a pseudometric d from a set X containing an element e to a two-sided invariant pseudometric on the abstract free group $F_a(X \setminus \{e\})$ on $X \setminus \{e\}$ (with $e \in X$ identified with the identity element e of the group), and then employed the method in various applications to Graev free topological groups. A major part of [18] is devoted to the development and application of

an analogous process for the extension of a quasi-pseudometric from X to $F_a(X \setminus \{e\})$. We make substantial use here of ideas and results from [18] relating to this extension process.

Since our applications are to Markov free paratopological groups rather than to Graev free paratopological groups, some changes are required. The changes, however, are fairly minor, and essentially centre around the simple observation that for a topological space X the groups FP(X) and $FP_G(X \oplus \{e\})$ (where ' \oplus ' denotes the topological sum) are topologically isomorphic in a natural way.

We now outline some of the ideas of [18] in a form suitable for our applications. For most of the remainder of this section, we consider a fixed set X and a fixed quasi-pseudometric d on X which is bounded by 1.

Let e be the identity of the abstract free group $F_a(X)$ on X. Extend d from X to a quasi-pseudometric d_e on $X \cup \{e\}$ by setting

$$d_e(x,y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y, \\ d(x,y) & \text{if } x, y \in X, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for $x, y \in X \cup \{e\}$. As in [18], extend d_e to a quasi-pseudometric d^* on $\tilde{X} = X \cup \{e\} \cup X^{-1}$ defined by

$$d^{*}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = y, \\ d_{e}(x,y) & \text{if } x, y \in X \cup \{e\}, \\ d_{e}(y^{-1}, x^{-1}) & \text{if } x, y \in X^{-1} \cup \{e\}, \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for $x, y \in X$ (this definition of d^* is expressed differently from that of [18], but is easily seen to be equivalent).

Definition 3.1. Let H be a subset of the set \mathbb{N} of natural numbers such that |H| = 2n for some $n \ge 1$. Then a *scheme* [18] on H is a bijection $\varphi : H \to H$ satisfying the following conditions:

(1) if $i \in H$ and $j = \varphi(i)$, then $j \neq i$ and $\varphi(j) = i$; and

(2) there are no $i, j \in H$ such that $i < j < \varphi(i) < \varphi(j)$.

We say that φ is a *nested scheme* on a set $H = \{i_1, i_2, \cdots, i_{2n}\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ where $i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_{2n}$ if $\varphi(i_k) = i_{2n-k+1}$ for all $k = 1, 2, \ldots, 2n$.

If \mathcal{X} is a word in the alphabet X, then we denote the reduced form of \mathcal{X} by $[\mathcal{X}]$. We denote the length of \mathcal{X} as a string over \tilde{X} by $\ell(\mathcal{X})$.

Let $g \in F_a(X)$ be a reduced word and let \mathcal{X} be a word in the alphabet \tilde{X} of length $\ell(\mathcal{X}) = 2n$ such that $[\mathcal{X}] = g$. Let \mathcal{S}_n be the family of

all schemes φ on $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$. Following [18] we define

$$\Gamma_d(\mathcal{X},\varphi) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} d^*(x_i^{-1}, x_{\varphi(i)})$$

and then we define $N_d: F_a(X) \to [0, \infty)$ by setting $N_d(g) = 0$ if g = eand

$$N_d(g) = \inf\{\Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}, \varphi) : [\mathcal{X}] = g, \ \ell(\mathcal{X}) = 2n, \ \varphi \in \mathcal{S}_n, \ n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

for $g \in F_a(X)$ with $g \neq e$. By [18], Claim 3, N_d is an invariant quasi-prenorm on $F_a(X)$. Now let \hat{d} be the two-sided invariant quasipseudometric on $F_a(X)$ corresponding to the invariant quasi-prenorm N_d (see section 2); thus $\hat{d}(g,h) = N_d(g^{-1}h)$ for all $g,h \in F_a(X)$. We refer to \hat{d} as the *Graev extension* of d to $F_a(X)$.

Definition 3.2. If \mathcal{X} is a word in the alphabet \hat{X} , then we say that \mathcal{X} is *almost irreducible* [18] if \mathcal{X} does not contain two adjacent symbols x and x^{-1} for any $x \in \tilde{X}$.

Remark 3.3. We note that if \mathcal{X} is an almost irreducible word of length 2n, then \mathcal{X} may contain at most n letters equal to e. Also, an almost irreducible word that contains no occurrence of e is reduced.

The following result is essentially Claim 2 of [18].

Theorem 3.4. If g is a reduced word in $F_a(X)$ distinct from e, then there exists an almost irreducible word $\mathcal{X}_g = x_1 x_2 \dots x_{2n}$ of length $2n \ge 2$ in the alphabet \tilde{X} and a scheme $\varphi_g \in S_n$ that satisfy the following conditions:

(1) for i = 1, 2, ..., 2n, either x_i is e or x_i is a letter in g; (2) $[\mathcal{X}_g] = g$ and $n \leq \ell(g)$; and (3) $N_d(g) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}_g, \varphi_g)$.

The next result is probably known, at least in the context of free topological groups, but since we have not found a proof in the literature, we sketch one here. We use the following notation. If $\mathcal{X} = x_1 \dots x_n$, where $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \tilde{X}$, then we write $S(\mathcal{X}) = \{x_1, \dots, x_n, x_1^{-1}, \dots, x_n^{-1}\}$.

Theorem 3.5. Let $g \in F_a(X)$, let \mathcal{X} be a representation of g in the alphabet \tilde{X} of length 2n for some $n \geq 1$ and let φ be a scheme on the set $\{1, 2, \ldots, 2n\}$. Then there exist a representation \mathcal{X}' of g of length 2m for some m such that $S(\mathcal{X}') = S(\mathcal{X})$ and a nested scheme φ' on $\{1, 2, \ldots, 2m\}$ such that $\Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}, \varphi) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}', \varphi')$.

Proof outline. Fix $n \geq 1$ and assume inductively that the desired statement holds for every word in $F_a(X)$, every representation of the word of even length less than 2n and every scheme on the corresponding index set. Consider g, \mathcal{X} and φ as above, and suppose that $\mathcal{X} = x_1 \dots x_{2n}$.

If $\varphi(1) = 2n$, write $\mathcal{X} = x_1 \mathcal{X}_1 x_{2n}$ and apply the inductive assumption to \mathcal{X}_1 and the restriction φ_1 of the scheme φ to $\{2, \ldots, 2n - 1\}$ (strictly, we should first re-index \mathcal{X}_1 by $\{1, \ldots, 2n - 2\}$ and adjust φ_1 accordingly). This gives us a word \mathcal{X}'_1 and a nested scheme φ'_1 on a suitable set $\{1, \ldots, 2n'\}$ as in the theorem, and it is clear that we may then construct the desired representation \mathcal{X}' and nested scheme φ' .

Otherwise, there exists p with $1 \leq p \leq n-1$ such that the restriction of φ to each of the sets $\{1, \ldots, 2p\}$ and $\{2p+1, \ldots, 2n\}$ is a scheme. Write $\mathcal{X} = \mathcal{YZ}$, where $\mathcal{Y} = x_1 \ldots x_{2p}$ and $\mathcal{Z} = x_{2p+1} \ldots x_{2n}$, and apply the inductive assumption to each of \mathcal{Y} and \mathcal{Z} . This gives us respective representations \mathcal{Y}' and \mathcal{Z}' of lengths 2q and 2r, say, and corresponding nested schemes with the properties in the theorem. Then $\mathcal{Y}'\mathcal{Z}' = x'_1 \ldots x'_{2q}y'_1 \ldots y'_{2r}$ and a scheme ψ can obviously be constructed from those for \mathcal{Y}' and \mathcal{Z}' in such a way that the restriction of ψ to each of $\{1, \ldots, 2q\}$ and $\{2q+1, \ldots, 2q+2r\}$ is nested. Finally, if we define

$$\mathcal{X}' = x'_1 \dots x'_{2q} y'_1 \dots y'_{2r} (x'_{2q})^{-1} \dots (x'_{q+1})^{-1} x'_{q+1} \dots x'_{2q}$$

and let φ' be the (unique) nested scheme on $\{1, \ldots, 4q + 2r\}$, then it is clear that \mathcal{X}' and φ' have the desired properties. The result follows by induction.

Theorem 3.6. The Graev extension \hat{d} is the maximal two-sided invariant extension of d^* from $X \cup \{e\} \cup X^{-1}$ to $F_a(X)$.

Proof. Fix $g, h \in F_a(X)$. Then there exists an almost irreducible representation \mathcal{X} of $g^{-1}h$, where $\ell(\mathcal{X}) = 2n$ for some n, and a scheme φ on the set $\{1, 2, \ldots, 2n\}$ such that $\hat{d}(g, h) = \hat{d}(e, g^{-1}h) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}, \varphi)$. By Theorem 3.5 there exists a representation $\mathcal{X}' = x_1 x_2 \dots x_{2m}$ of $g^{-1}h$ of length 2m for some m and a nested scheme φ' on the set $\{1, 2, \ldots, 2m\}$ such that $\Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}, \varphi) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{X}', \varphi')$.

Let σ be any two-sided invariant quasi-pseudometric on $F_a(X)$ such that $\sigma|_{\tilde{X}} = d^*$ and write $a = x_1 x_2 \dots x_m$ and $b = x_{m+1} x_{m+2} \dots x_{2m}$. Then

$$\sigma(g,h) = \sigma(e,g^{-1}h)$$
$$= \sigma(e,ab)$$
$$= \sigma(a^{-1},b)$$

$$\leq \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sigma(x_{i}^{-1}, x_{2m-i+1})$$

= $\sum_{i=1}^{m} d^{*}(x_{i}^{-1}, x_{2m-i+1})$
= $\Gamma_{d}(\mathcal{X}', \varphi')$
= $\hat{d}(g, h),$

and the result follows.

For $x \in X$ and $\epsilon > 0$ we denote the ball $\{y : d(x, y) < \epsilon\}$ of radius ϵ with centre x by $B_d(x, \epsilon)$.

The next result is Claim 6 of [18].

Theorem 3.7. The family $\{B_{\hat{d}}(e, \epsilon) : \epsilon > 0\}$ is a base at the identity e for a paratopological group topology \mathcal{T}_d on the free group $F_a(X)$ and the restriction of \mathcal{T}_d to X coincides with the topology on X generated by d.

We recall that a real-valued function f on a topological space X is said to be *upper semi-continuous* if the set $\{x \in X : f(x) < a\}$ is an open set in X for every $a \in \mathbb{R}$. The *upper topology* τ_u for the set \mathbb{R} has a base of sets of the form $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x < a\}$ for all $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Clearly, f is upper semi-continuous if and only if $f : X \to (\mathbb{R}, \tau_u)$ is continuous.

If d is a quasi-pseudometric on a space X, then for each $x \in X$ we define $d_x(y) = d(x, y)$ for all $y \in X$. It is easy to see that d_x is upper semi-continuous for all $x \in X$ if and only if the set $B_d(x, \epsilon)$ is open in X for all $\epsilon > 0$.

Let \mathcal{Q} be a family of quasi-pseudometrics on a set X and let

 $\mathscr{B} = \{B_{\rho}(x,\epsilon) : x \in X, \ \rho \in \mathcal{Q} \text{ and } \epsilon > 0\}.$

Then we call the topology on X which has \mathscr{B} as a subbase the topology generated by the family \mathcal{Q} .

Every topological space X is generated by a family of quasi-pseudometrics ρ such that ρ_x is upper semi-continuous for all $x \in X$ (see [17] and [4, page 28]). Specifically, for every open set U in X and for all $x, y \in X$ define ρ_U by

$$\rho_U(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in U, y \notin U, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then it is obvious that ρ_U is a quasi-pseudometric on X, that $(\rho_U)_x$ is upper semi-continuous for each $x \in X$ and that the family $\mathcal{Q} = \{\rho_U : U$ open in $X\}$ generates the topology of X.

Let X be a topological space and let \mathcal{D}_1 be the family of all quasipseudometrics d on X which are bounded by 1 and are such that d_x

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is upper semi-continuous for all $x \in X$. Clearly, the family \mathcal{D}_1 generates the original topology on X. For every $d \in \mathcal{D}_1$ let \hat{d} be the Graev extension of d to $F_a(X)$. For each d, Theorem 3.7 shows that \mathcal{T}_d is a paratopological group topology on $F_a(X)$ which induces on X the topology induced by d. It follows that the supremum of all the topologies \mathcal{T}_d for $d \in \mathcal{D}_1$ is a paratopological group topology on $F_a(X)$ which induces the original topology on X. We refer to this topology as the *Graev topology* and denote it by \mathcal{T}_G .

Since each topology \mathcal{T}_d is locally invariant, it follows that the Graev topology is also locally invariant. Now using Proposition 3.1 of [15], it is easy to see that if U is an open neighbourhood of e in any locally invariant paratopological group G, then there exists a two-sided invariant quasi-pseudometric d bounded by 1 on G such that d_x is upper semi-continuous for all $x \in G$ and $B_d(e, 1) \subseteq U$. A straightforward argument using Theorem 3.6 then yields the following result.

Theorem 3.8. The Graev topology is the finest locally invariant paratopological group topology on $F_a(X)$ which induces the original topology on X. The corresponding topology on the free abelian group $A_a(X)$ is the free topology.

4. Results

If Y is a subspace of a space X and $y \in Y$, we write $cl_Y(y)$ to denote the closure of the singleton $\{y\}$ in the subspace Y.

Lemma 4.1. If G is a paratopological group, A is a subset of G and $a, b \in A$, then $a \in cl_A(b)$ if and only if $b^{-1} \in cl_{A^{-1}}(a^{-1})$.

A theorem of Reznichenko (see Theorem 2.4 of Pyrch and Ravsky [14]) states that if X is an arbitrary topological space and A is a closed subset of X, then A^{-1} is an open subset of the subspace X^{-1} of FP(X).

Consider the topology \mathcal{T}_A on X^{-1} which has as a base the collection $\{A^{-1} : A \text{ closed in } X\}$; equivalently, \mathcal{T}_A has the collection $\{(\operatorname{cl}_X(x))^{-1} : x \in X\}$ as a base. Clearly, \mathcal{T}_A is closed under arbitrary intersections and each point $x^{-1} \in X^{-1}$ has a smallest open neighbourhood, namely $(\operatorname{cl}_X(x))^{-1}$, and hence (X^{-1}, \mathcal{T}_A) is an Alexandroff space (see [1]). Moreover, the topology \mathcal{T}_A is the group-theoretical inverse of the so-called Alexandroff dual of the original topology of X (see Kopperman [9]).

Let \mathcal{B} be the collection of sets of the form $\{n, n+1, \ldots\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then \mathcal{B} is a base for a paratopological group topology on the group \mathbb{Z} of integers under addition, and we denote the corresponding paratopological group by \mathbb{Z}^* .

We answer some obvious questions raised by Reznichenko's result as follows.

Theorem 4.2. Let X be a topological space. Then \mathcal{T}_A , the induced Graev topology $\mathcal{T}_G|_{X^{-1}}$ and the induced free topology $\mathcal{T}_F|_{X^{-1}}$ are equal on X^{-1} .

Proof. We show first that $\mathcal{T}_A \subseteq \mathcal{T}_G|_{X^{-1}}$. Let A be a closed subset of Xand, following [14], define $f: X \to \mathbb{Z}^*$ by mapping all elements of A to 0 and all other elements of X to 1. Clearly, f is continuous. Extend fto a homomorphism $\hat{f}: F_a(X) \to \mathbb{Z}^*$. Since \mathbb{Z}^* is an abelian and hence locally invariant paratopological group, Theorem 3.8 implies that \hat{f} is continuous with respect to \mathcal{T}_G . Therefore, $A^{-1} = \hat{f}^{-1}(\{0, 1, \ldots\}) \cap X^{-1}$ is open in X^{-1} with the topology $\mathcal{T}_G|_{X^{-1}}$, and it follows that $\mathcal{T}_A \subseteq \mathcal{T}_G|_{X^{-1}}$.

Clearly, we have $\mathcal{T}_G|_{X^{-1}} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_F|_{X^{-1}}$.

To show that $\mathcal{T}_F|_{X^{-1}} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_A$, consider any fixed $x \in X$. For any $y^{-1} \in (\mathrm{cl}_X(x))^{-1}$ we have $y \in \mathrm{cl}_X(x)$, and Lemma 4.1 implies that $x^{-1} \in \mathrm{cl}_{X^{-1}}(y^{-1})$. If U is a neighbourhood of x^{-1} in $\mathcal{T}_F|_{X^{-1}}$, we therefore have $y^{-1} \in U$, and it follows that $(\mathrm{cl}_X(x))^{-1} \subseteq U$. Thus $\mathcal{T}_F|_{X^{-1}} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_A$, and the proof is complete.

The following result was noted, in the case of the free topology, in [14].

Corollary 4.3. If X is a T_1 space then the Graev topology and the free topology on X^{-1} are discrete.

Clearly if X is a T_1 space and x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n are distinct points in X, then there exist open sets U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n in X containing x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n , respectively, such that $x_i \notin U_j$ whenever $i \neq j$, for $i, j = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.

Lemma 4.4. Let X be a T_1 space, let x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n be distinct points of X and suppose that open sets U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n are chosen as above. Then for $i, j = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ with $i \neq j$ the function $d_{i,j}$ defined by setting

$$d_{i,j}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x \neq x_j \text{ and } y = x_j) \\ & \text{or } (x \in U_i \text{ and } y \notin U_i), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all $x, y \in X$ is a quasi-pseudometric, and $(d_{i,j})_x$ is upper semicontinuous for all $x \in X$. *Proof.* It is straightforward to check that $d_{i,j}$ may be represented equivalently by the formula

$$d_{i,j}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x, y \in U_i \\ & \text{or } x = x_j \\ & \text{or } (x \notin U_i, x \neq x_j \text{ and } y \neq x_j), \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

for all $x, y \in X$; we also observe that the three disjuncts in the first part of this alternative expression are mutually exclusive. Fix *i* and *j* with $i \neq j$. We show first that $d_{i,j}$ is a quasi-pseudometric on *X*. Clearly, $d_{i,j}(x,y) \geq 0$ for all $x, y \in X$. To show that $d_{i,j}(x,y) \leq$ $d_{i,j}(x,z) + d_{i,j}(z,y)$ for $x, y, z \in X$, it obviously suffices to consider the case when $d_{i,j}(x,y) = 1$. There are two sub-cases. First, suppose that $x \neq x_j$ and $y = x_j$. If $d_{i,j}(x,z) = 0$ then either $x, z \in U_i$, which gives $d_{i,j}(z,y) = 1$, or $x \notin U_i$ and $z \neq x_j$, again giving $d_{i,j}(z,y) = 1$. Second, suppose that $x \in U_i$ and $y \notin U_i$. If $d_{i,j}(x,z) = 0$ it follows that $z \in U_i$, which gives $d_{i,j}(z,y) = 1$. Therefore the triangle inequality holds.

To show that $(d_{i,j})_x$ is upper semi-continuous, consider $x \in X$ and $\epsilon > 0$. If $x \in U_i$, then $B_{d_{i,j}}(x, \epsilon) = \{y : d_{i,j}(x, y) < \epsilon\} = U_i$ when $\epsilon \le 1$ and $B_{d_{i,j}}(x, \epsilon) = X$ when $\epsilon > 1$. If $x \notin U_i$ and $x \neq x_j$, then $B_{d_{i,j}}(x, \epsilon) = X \setminus \{x_j\}$ when $\epsilon \le 1$ and $B_{d_{i,j}}(x, \epsilon) = X$ when $\epsilon > 1$. If $x = x_j$, then $B_{d_{i,j}}(x, \epsilon) = X$. Therefore, $d_{i,j}$ is upper semi-continuous.

Lemma 4.5. With hypotheses and notation as above, we have the following for $i \neq j$.

- (1) $d_{i,i}(x_i, x) = 0$ if and only if $x \in U_i$.
- (2) $d_{i,j}(x, x_j) = 0$ if and only if $x = x_j$.
- (3) $d_{i,j}(x_i, x_j) = 1.$

Now we state and prove our main theorem.

Theorem 4.6. Let X be a T_1 space and let $w = x_1^{\epsilon_1} x_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots x_n^{\epsilon_n}$ be a reduced word in $FP_n(X)$, where $x_i \in X$ and $\epsilon_i = \pm 1$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and if $x_i = x_{i+1}$ for some $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ then $\epsilon_i = \epsilon_{i+1}$. Let \mathscr{B} denote the collection of all sets of the form $U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_n^{\epsilon_n}$, where for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ the set U_i is a neighbourhood of x_i in X when $\epsilon_i = 1$ and $U_i = \{x_i\}$ when $\epsilon_i = -1$. Then \mathscr{B} is a base for the neighbourhood system at w in the subspace $FP_n(X)$ of FP(X).

Proof. (1) We show that every neighbourhood of w in $FP_n(X)$ contains an element of the collection \mathscr{B} . Let W be a such neighbourhood, so that $W = V \cap FP_n(X)$ for some neighbourhood V of w in FP(X). Since FP(X) is a paratopological group, there exist in

FP(X) neighbourhoods V_1, V_2, \ldots, V_n of $x_1^{\epsilon_1}, x_2^{\epsilon_2}, \ldots, x_n^{\epsilon_n}$, respectively, such that $w \in V_1 V_2 \ldots V_n \subseteq V$. When $\epsilon_i = 1$ let $U_i = V_i \cap X$ and when $\epsilon_i = -1$ let $U_i = \{x_i\}$. Then $U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \ldots U_n^{\epsilon_n} \subseteq V_1 V_2 \ldots V_n$, and so, setting $B = U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \ldots U_n^{\epsilon_n}$, we have $B \in \mathscr{B}$ and $w \in B \subseteq W$, as required.

(2) We show that every element of \mathscr{B} is a neighbourhood of w in $FP_n(X)$. Thus, for i = 1, 2, ..., n we suppose that U_i is a fixed neighbourhood of x_i if $\epsilon_i = 1$ and that $U_i = \{x_i\}$ when $\epsilon_i = -1$, and we consider $B = U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_n^{\epsilon_n} \in \mathscr{B}$.

Choose indices $i_1, i_2, \ldots, i_{n_1}$ for some $n_1 \leq n$ such that $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \ldots, x_{i_{n_1}}$ are the distinct letters among x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n , and write $A = \{1, 2, \ldots, n_1\}$. For each $j \in A$, define

$$I_j = \{i : 1 \le i \le n, x_i = x_{i_j} \text{ and } \epsilon_i = 1\}$$

Now pick open neighbourhoods $V_1, V_2, \ldots, V_{n_1}$ of $x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \ldots, x_{i_{n_1}}$ in X, respectively, such that

(i) for all $j \in A$, we have $V_j \subseteq U_i$ for all $i \in I_j$, and

(ii) for all $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$, we have $x_{i_k} \notin V_j$.

For each $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$, define

$$d_{j,k}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } (x \neq x_{i_k} \text{ and } y = x_{i_k}) \\ & \text{or } (x \in V_j \text{ and } y \notin V_j), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

By Lemma 4.4, each $d_{j,k}$ is a quasi-pseudometric on X such that $(d_{j,k})_x$ is upper semi-continuous for each $x \in X$. Hence, if we define

$$d(x,y) = \max\{d_{j,k}(x,y) : j,k \in A \text{ and } j \neq k\},\$$

then d is also a quasi-pseudometric on X such that d_x is upper semicontinuous for each $x \in X$. Let \hat{d} be the Graev extension of d to $F_a(X)$. We will show that B is a neighbourhood of w in $FP_n(X)$ by showing that $B_{\hat{d}}(e, 1)w \cap FP_n(X) \subseteq B$.

Let

$$h = y_1^{\delta_1} y_2^{\delta_2} \dots y_p^{\delta_p} \in B_{\hat{d}}(e, 1) w \cap FP_n(X)$$

be a reduced word of length $\ell(h) = p \leq n$. Then

$$hw^{-1} = y_1^{\delta_1} y_2^{\delta_2} \dots y_p^{\delta_p} x_n^{-\epsilon_n} x_{n-1}^{-\epsilon_{n-1}} \dots x_1^{-\epsilon_1} \in B_{\hat{d}}(e, 1).$$

Although h and w are reduced, cancellation may occur in the product hw^{-1} . Assume that the number of cancelling pairs in hw^{-1} is α , where $0 \leq \alpha \leq p$, so that $y_{p-\beta+1} = x_{n-\beta+1}$ and $\delta_{p-\beta+1} = \epsilon_{n-\beta+1}$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \ldots, \alpha$. Write $g = hw^{-1}$, so that in reduced form we have

$$g = y_1^{\delta_1} y_2^{\delta_2} \dots y_l^{\delta_l} x_m^{-\epsilon_m} x_{m-1}^{-\epsilon_{m-1}} \dots x_1^{-\epsilon_1},$$

where $l = p - \alpha$ and $m = n - \alpha$. Since $\hat{d}(e, g) < 1$, we have $\hat{d}(e, g) = N_d(g) = 0$.

If g = e then $h = w \in B$ and there is nothing to prove, so let us assume that $g \neq e$. Then by Theorem 3.4, there exist an almost irreducible word $\mathcal{Z}_g = z_1 z_2 \dots z_{2m_1}$ for some $m_1 \geq 1$ and a scheme φ_g on the set $H_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, 2m_1\}$ such that

- (i) each z_i is either e or a letter in g,
- (ii) $[\mathcal{Z}_q] = g$ and $\ell(\mathcal{Z}_q) = 2m_1 \leq 2\ell(g) = 2(l+m)$, and
- (iii) $N_d(g) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{Z}_g, \varphi_g) = 0.$

From (iii), we have

$$\Gamma_d(\mathcal{Z}_g, \varphi_g) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2m_1} d^*(z_i^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(i)}) = 0,$$

and so

(1)
$$d^*(z_i^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(i)}) = 0 \text{ for all } i \in H_1.$$

Now if $z_i = e$ for any $i \in H_1$ then also $z_{\varphi_g(i)} = e$, because if $z_{\varphi_g(i)} \neq e$ then $d^*(z_i^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(i)}) = 1$ by definition of d^* , which is impossible by (1).

If all occurrences of e are removed from \mathcal{Z}_g , then by Remark 3.3 the resulting word \mathcal{Z}'_g is reduced, so that $\mathcal{Z}'_g = g$ and \mathcal{Z}'_g in particular has length l + m. Let us write

$$\mathcal{Z}'_g = z'_1 z'_2 \dots z'_{l+m}.$$

Moreover, since $d^*(e, e) = 0$, we may use the scheme φ_g on $H_1 = \{1, 2, \ldots, 2m_1\}$ to define a scheme φ'_g on $H_2 = \{1, 2, \ldots, l+m\}$ with the property that $N_d(g) = \Gamma_d(\mathcal{Z}'_g, \varphi'_g) = 0$. Formally, suppose that when the indices among the elements of H_1 corresponding to occurrences of e in \mathcal{Z}_g are removed, the indices remaining form the set $J = \{j_1, j_2, \ldots, j_{l+m}\}$, where $j_1 < j_2 < \cdots < j_{l+m}$. Now let $H_2 =$ $\{1, 2, \ldots, l+m\}$ and let $f: J \to H_2$ be the bijection given by $f(j_k) = k$ for $k = 1, 2, \ldots, l+m$. Then it is easy to check that the map $\varphi'_g: H_2 \to$ H_2 defined by $\varphi'_g(k) = f(\varphi_g(f^{-1}(k)))$ for $k \in H_2$ is a scheme on H_2 and has the properties claimed.

Let us now for convenience suppress the prime superscripts used above, so that we have

$$\mathcal{Z}_{g} = z_{1} z_{2} \dots z_{l+m} = y_{1}^{\delta_{1}} y_{2}^{\delta_{2}} \dots y_{l}^{\delta_{l}} x_{m}^{-\epsilon_{m}} x_{m-1}^{-\epsilon_{m-1}} \dots x_{1}^{-\epsilon_{1}} = g$$

and φ_g is a scheme on H_2 such that $\Gamma_d(\mathcal{Z}_g, \varphi_g) = 0$. From the last equation, we have

(2)
$$d^*(z_i^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(i)}) = 0 \text{ for all } i \in H_2.$$

We claim now that l = m and hence that p = n. Assume that l < m. Then there exist $q \ge 1$ and distinct $k_1, \ldots, k_q, l_1, \ldots, l_q \in H_2$ such that $l_r = \varphi_g(k_r)$ and $l + 1 \le k_r, l_r \le l + m$ for $r = 1, 2, \ldots, q$. For any $r = 1, 2, \ldots, q$, set $s \equiv s(r) = l + m + 1 - k_r$ and $t \equiv t(r) = l + m + 1 - l_r$, so that

$$z_{k_r} = x_s^{-\epsilon_s}$$
 and $z_{l_r} = x_t^{-\epsilon_t}$.

This gives

(3)
$$d^*(z_{k_r}^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(k_r)}) = d^*(z_{k_r}^{-1}, z_{l_r}) = d^*(x_s^{\epsilon_s}, x_t^{-\epsilon_t}).$$

If $\epsilon_s = \epsilon_t$, then either $\epsilon_s = \epsilon_t = 1$, and we have

$$d^*(x_s^{\epsilon_s}, x_t^{-\epsilon_t}) = d^*(x_s, x_t^{-1}) > 0,$$

or $\epsilon_s = \epsilon_t = -1$, and we have

$$d^*(x_s^{\epsilon_s}, x_t^{-\epsilon_t}) = d^*(x_s^{-1}, x_t) > 0$$

and in both cases we conclude from (3) that $d^*(z_{k_r}^{-1}, z_{\varphi_g(k_r)}) > 0$, which contradicts (2). Therefore, for $r = 1, 2, \ldots, q$, we have $\epsilon_s = -\epsilon_t$.

For any r such that $\epsilon_s \equiv \epsilon_{s(r)} = 1$ and $\epsilon_t \equiv \epsilon_{t(r)} = -1$, we find from (2) and (3) that

$$d^*(x_s^{\epsilon_s}, x_t^{-\epsilon_t}) = d^*(x_s, x_t) = 0$$

and hence that $d_{j,k}(x_s, x_t) = 0$ for all $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$, while if $\epsilon_s = -1$ and $\epsilon_t = 1$, we find that

$$d^*(x_s^{\epsilon_s}, x_t^{-\epsilon_t}) = d^*(x_s^{-1}, x_t^{-1}) = d^*(x_t, x_s) = 0$$

and hence that $d_{j,k}(x_t, x_s) = 0$ for all $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$. Therefore, in either case, Lemma 4.5 part (3) shows that $x_s = x_t$.

Pick r so that $|s - t| \equiv |s(r) - t(r)| = |k_r - l_r|$ is minimal. Now |s - t| cannot equal 1, since the fact that $x_s = x_t$ and $\epsilon_s = -\epsilon_t$ would then contradict the hypothesis that the word w is reduced. Therefore, by the definition of a scheme, there exists r' such that $k_r < k_{r'}, l_{r'} < l_r$ or $l_r < k_{r'}, l_{r'} < k_r$, and this contradicts the minimality of |s - t|.

This contradiction implies that l = m, from which it follows immediately that p = n. Furthermore, the argument above shows that if $m + 1 \leq i \leq 2m$ then $1 \leq \varphi_g(i) \leq m$ and if $1 \leq i \leq m$ then $m+1 \leq \varphi_g(i) \leq 2m$, for all $i \in H_2$. It follows that $\varphi_g(1) = 2m$, because if $\varphi_g(1) < 2m$ then the fact that φ_g is a scheme on $H_2 = \{1, 2, \ldots, 2m\}$ would imply that there exist $i, j \in H_2$ with $\varphi_g(1) < i, j \leq 2m$ such that $\varphi_g(i) = j$ and $\varphi_g(j) = i$, contradicting what we have just shown. Continuing similarly, we find that $\varphi_g(i) = 2m - i + 1$ for all $i \in H_2$, that is, that φ_g is a nested scheme on H_2 . Therefore,

$$\Gamma_d(\mathcal{Z}_g,\varphi_g) = \sum_{i=1}^m d^*(y_i^{-\delta_i}, x_i^{-\epsilon_i}) = 0,$$

and so $d^*(y_i^{-\delta_i}, x_i^{-\epsilon_i}) = 0$ for i = 1, 2, ..., m. It follows that $\delta_i = \epsilon_i$ for all i = 1, 2, ..., m. If $\epsilon_i = 1$ for any i, then $d^*(y_i^{-\delta_i}, x_i^{-\epsilon_i}) = d^*(x_i, y_i) = 0$ and hence $d_{j,k}(x_i, y_i) = 0$ for all $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$. But there exists $j_0 \in A$ such that $x_{i_{j_0}} = x_i$, so it follows by Lemma 4.5 part (1) that $y_i \in V_{j_0} \subseteq U_i$. If $\epsilon_i = -1$ for any i, then $d^*(y_i^{-\delta_i}, x_i^{-\epsilon_i}) = d^*(y_i, x_i) = 0$ and hence $d_{j,k}(y_i, x_i) = 0$ for all $j, k \in A$ with $j \neq k$. But there exists $k_0 \in A$ such that $x_{i_{k_0}} = x_i$, so it follows by Lemma 4.5 part (2) that $y_i = x_{i_{k_0}} = x_i$.

Finally,

$$\begin{split} h &= y_1^{\delta_1} y_2^{\delta_2} \dots y_p^{\delta_p} \\ &= y_1^{\delta_1} y_2^{\delta_2} \dots y_n^{\delta_n} \\ &= y_1^{\epsilon_1} y_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots y_m^{\epsilon_m} y_{m+1}^{\delta_{m+1}} \dots y_n^{\delta_n} \\ &\in U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_m^{\epsilon_m} y_{m+1}^{\delta_{m+1}} \dots y_n^{\delta_n} \\ &= U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_m^{\epsilon_m} x_{m+1}^{\epsilon_{m+1}} \dots x_n^{\epsilon_n} \\ &\subseteq U_1^{\epsilon_1} U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_n^{\epsilon_n}. \end{split}$$

Therefore, $B_{\hat{d}}(e, 1)w \cap FP_n(X) \subseteq U_1^{\epsilon_1}U_2^{\epsilon_2} \dots U_n^{\epsilon_n} = B$, and so B is a neighbourhood of w in $FP_n(X)$, as required.

Remark 4.7. Part (1) of the proof of Theorem 4.6 remains valid for any paratopological group topology on $F_a(X)$ that induces the original topology on X, so it follows that \mathscr{B} is a base for the neighbourhood system at w in the subspace $FP_n(X)$ of $F_a(X)$ when the latter is equipped with the Graev topology \mathcal{T}_G .

Remark 4.8. It is clear from the proof of Theorem 4.6 that for each $B \in \mathscr{B}$ there exists $B' \in \mathscr{B}$ such that $B' \subseteq B$ and every element of B' is of reduced length exactly n.

The analogue of Theorem 4.6 for the free abelian paratopological group takes the following form; the proof is similar to the proof above, and is omitted.

Theorem 4.9. Let X be a T_1 space and let $w = \epsilon_1 x_1 + \epsilon_2 x_2 + \dots + \epsilon_n x_n$ be a reduced word in $AP_n(X)$, where $x_i \in X$ and $\epsilon_i = \pm 1$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and if $x_i = x_j$ for some $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ then $\epsilon_i = \epsilon_j$. Then the collection \mathscr{B} of all sets of the form $\epsilon_1 U_1 + \epsilon_2 U_2 + \dots + \epsilon_n U_n$, where for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ the set U_i is a neighbourhood of x_i in X when

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 $\epsilon_i = 1$ and $U_i = \{x_i\}$ when $\epsilon_i = -1$, is a base for the neighbourhood system at w in $AP_n(X)$.

The following result was proved in Proposition 3.9 in [14] under the stronger hypothesis that X is Tychonoff. Given Theorem 4.6, the proof is essentially identical to the proof of the corresponding result for free topological groups given in [7].

Theorem 4.10. Let X be a T_1 space. Then the free paratopological group FP(X) contains as a closed subspace a homeomorphic copy of the product space X^n for each $n \ge 1$.

A result similar to the following was given in [14] for the case of the free abelian paratopological group AP(X).

Theorem 4.11. The following conditions are equivalent for a topological space X.

- (1) The space X is T_1 .
- (2) The space FP(X) is T_1 .
- (3) The subspace X of FP(X) is closed.
- (4) The subspace X^{-1} of FP(X) is discrete.
- (5) The subspace X^{-1} of FP(X) is T_1 .
- (6) The subspace X^{-1} of FP(X) is closed.
- (7) The subspace $FP_n(X)$ of FP(X) is closed for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
- (8) The subspace $FP_n(X)$ of FP(X) is closed for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof. A convenient scheme of proof is to show that $(1) \Rightarrow (3) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (1), (1) \Rightarrow (4) \Rightarrow (5) \Rightarrow (1), (1) \Rightarrow (6) \Rightarrow (2)$ and $(1) \Rightarrow (7) \Rightarrow (8) \Rightarrow (2)$. However, the only implications here that are not either trivial or given by rewriting arguments from the corresponding proof in [14] in non-abelian notation are those for $(1) \Rightarrow (3), (1) \Rightarrow (6)$ and $(1) \Rightarrow (7)$, so we prove only these (the argument from [14] can also be adapted to show that $(1) \Rightarrow (6)$, but we give a simpler proof).

First, for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let Z_n be the subset of FP(X) consisting of the words of exponent sum n. Then Z_n is open, since $Z_n = \hat{f}^{-1}(\{n\})$ where $\hat{f}: FP(X) \to \mathbb{Z}$ is the continuous homomorphism extending the continuous function $f: X \to \mathbb{Z}$ defined by f(x) = 1 for all $x \in X$.

Now assume that X is T_1 .

 $(1) \Rightarrow (3)$: To show that X is closed in FP(X), let w be a reduced word in FP(X) such that $w \notin X$. If $w \in FP_1(X)$, then either $w \in$ $X^{-1} \subseteq Z_{-1}$ or $w = e \in Z_0$, and Z_{-1} and Z_0 are open and disjoint from $X \subseteq Z_1$. If $w \notin FP_1(X)$, let $n \ge 1$ be the smallest natural number such that $w \notin FP_n(X)$. Then $w \in FP_{n+1}(X) \setminus FP_n(X)$ and w has length exactly n + 1. By Theorem 4.6 and Remark 4.8 there exists a neighbourhood U of w in $FP_{n+1}(X)$ such that $U \subseteq FP_{n+1}(X) \setminus FP_n(X)$. Hence there exists a neighbourhood V of w in FP(X) such that $U = V \cap FP_{n+1}(X)$ and $V \cap FP_n(X) = \emptyset$. In particular, $V \cap X = \emptyset$. Therefore, X is closed in FP(X).

 $(1) \Rightarrow (7)$: Fix $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $w \notin FP_n(X)$ and suppose that w has reduced length k > n. By Theorem 4.6 and Remark 4.8 there exists a neighbourhood U of w in $FP_k(X)$ such that $U \subseteq FP_k(X) \setminus FP_{k-1}(X) \subseteq$ $FP_k(X) \setminus FP_n(X)$. Hence there exists a neighbourhood V of w in FP(X) such that $U = V \cap FP_k(X)$ and $V \cap FP_n(X) = \emptyset$. Therefore, $FP_n(X)$ is closed in FP(X).

(1) \Rightarrow (6): Since (7) holds, $FP_1(X)$ is closed in FP(X). But $X^{-1} = Z_{-1} \cap FP_1(X)$, so X^{-1} is closed in $FP_1(X)$. Therefore, X^{-1} is closed in FP(X).

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