

1046-20-1844

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Université de Toulouse III, 31062 Toulouse, France. *Palindromes and orderings in Artin groups.*

The braid group  $B_n$ , endowed with Artin's presentation, admits one distinguished involution, the anti-automorphism  $\text{rev} : B_n \rightarrow B_n$ ,  $v \mapsto \bar{v}$ , defined by reading braids in the reverse order (from right to left instead of left to right). More generally, this involution is defined for all Artin groups. Elements invariant under this involution are palindromes. We study palindromes in Artin groups of finite type using orderings. In particular, we show that "pure palindromes can always be cut into halves". (Received September 16, 2008)