# MOTIVIC SERRE INVARIANTS MODULO THE SQUARE OF $\mathbb{L} - 1$

## TAKEHIKO YASUDA

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ABSTRACT. Motivic Serre invariants defined by Loeser and Sebag are elements of the Grothendieck ring of varieties modulo  $\mathbb{L} - 1$ . In this paper, we show that we can lift these invariants to modulo the square of  $\mathbb{L} - 1$  after tensoring the Grothendieck ring with  $\mathbb{Q}$  under certain assumptions.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let K be a complete discrete valuation field with a perfect residue field k. For a smooth projective irreducible K-variety X, Loeser and Sebag [9] defined the motivic Serre invariant S(X). This invariant belongs to the ring  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)/(\mathbb{L}-1)$ , where  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)$  is the Grothendieck ring of k-varieties and  $\mathbb{L} := [\mathbb{A}_k^1]$ , the class of an affine line in this ring. Let  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}} := K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$ . In this paper, we construct, under a certain assumption, an invariant

$$\tilde{S}(X) \in K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{O}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)^2$$

which coincides with S(X) in  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)$ .

Remark 1.1. Loeser and Sebag defined the motivic Serre invariant more generally for smooth quasi-compact separated rigid K-spaces. For the sake of simplicity, we consider only the case where X is a projective variety.

Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be the valuation ring of K. The assumption we will make is that the desingularization theorem and the weak factorization theorem hold; their precise statements are as follows:

## Assumption 1.2.

- (1) (Desingularization) There exists a regular projective flat  $\mathcal{O}$ -scheme  $\mathcal{X}$  with the generic fiber  $\mathcal{X}_K := \mathcal{X} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} K = X$  such that the special fiber  $\mathcal{X}_k := \mathcal{X} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} k$ is a simple normal crossing divisor in  $\mathcal{X}$ . (We call such an  $\mathcal{X}$  a regular snc model of X.)
- (2) (Weak factorization) Let X and X' be regular snc models of X. Then there exist finitely many regular snc models of X,

$$\mathcal{X}_0 = \mathcal{X}, \, \mathcal{X}_1, \dots, \mathcal{X}_n = \mathcal{X}',$$

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such that for every *i*, either the birational map  $\mathcal{X}_i \dashrightarrow \mathcal{X}_{i+1}$  is the blowup along a regular center  $Z \subset \mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$  which has normal crossings<sup>1</sup> with  $\mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$ or its inverse  $\mathcal{X}_{i+1} \dashrightarrow \mathcal{X}_i$  has the same description with  $\mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$  replaced with  $\mathcal{X}_{i,k}$ .

When X has dimension one, this assumption holds, as is well-known. Indeed the above desingularization theorem in this case follows from the desingularization theorem for excellent surfaces by Abhyankar, Hironaka and Lipman (see [8]), while the weak factorization follows from the fact that every proper birational morphism of regular integral noetherian schemes of dimension two factors into a sequence of finitely many blowups at closed points. The last fact is well-known in the case of varieties over an algebraically closed field (for instance, [5, V, Cor. 5.4]) and is valid even in our situation as proved in [7, Th. 4.1] in a more general context. Assumption 1.2 holds also when k has characteristic zero. This follows from the recent generalizations to excellent schemes respectively by Temkin [12, 13] and by Abramovich and Temkin [2] of the Hironaka desingularization theorem and the weak factorization theorem of Abramovich, Karu, Matsuki and Włodarczyk [1].

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a regular snc model of X, let  $\mathcal{X}_{sm}$  be its  $\mathcal{O}$ -smooth locus and let  $\mathcal{X}_{sm,k} := \mathcal{X}_{sm} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} k$ . Then  $\mathcal{X}_{sm}$  is a weak Neron model of X in the sense of [3] and by definition,

$$S(X) = [\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{sm},k}] \in K_0(\mathrm{Var}_k)/(\mathbb{L}-1).$$

To define our invariant  $\hat{S}(X)$ , we also need information on the non-smooth locus of  $\mathcal{X}$ . Regard  $\mathcal{X}_k$  as a divisor and write it as  $\mathcal{X}_k = \sum_{i \in I} a_i D_i$ , where  $D_i$  are the irreducible components of  $\mathcal{X}_k$  and  $a_i$  are the multiplicities of  $D_i$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  respectively. For a subset  $H \subset I$ , we define

$$D_H^\circ := \bigcap_{h \in H} D_h \setminus \bigcup_{i \in I \setminus H} D_i.$$

When  $H = \{i\}$ , we abbreviate it to  $D_i^{\circ}$ , and when  $H = \{i, j\}$ , to  $D_{ij}^{\circ}$ . These locally closed subsets give the stratification

$$\mathcal{X}_k = \bigsqcup_{\emptyset \neq H \subset I} D_H^{\circ}$$

and the stratification

$$\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{sm},k} = \bigcup_{i \in I: a_i = 1} D_i^{\circ}.$$

From the second stratification, we see that

$$S(X) = \sum_{i \in I: a_i=1} [D_i^\circ] \in K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)/(\mathbb{L}-1).$$

Loeser and Sebag proved in the paper cited above that this is independent of the model  $\mathcal{X}$  and depends only on X.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>That Z has normal crossings with  $\mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$  means that for every closed point  $x \in \mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$ , there exists a regular system of parameters  $x_1, \ldots, x_d \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}_{i+1}, x}$  such that in an open neighborhood of x, the support of the special fiber  $\mathcal{X}_{i+1,k}$  is the zero locus of  $\prod_{v \in V} x_v$  for some subset  $V \subset \{1, \ldots, d\}$  and Z is the common zero locus of  $x_w, w \in W$ , for some  $W \subset \{1, \ldots, d\}$ .

**Definition 1.3.** For a regular snc model  $\mathcal{X}$  of X, we define

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}) := \sum_{i \in I: a_i = 1} [D_i^{\circ}] + \sum_{\substack{\{i, j\} \subset I: \\ (a_i, a_j) = 1}} \frac{1}{a_i a_j} [D_{ij}^{\circ}](1 - \mathbb{L})$$

as an element of  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)^2$ . Here (a,b) denotes the greatest common divisor of a and b.

Obviously, the two invariants S(X) and  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X})$  coincide when they are sent to  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)$  by the natural maps.

The following is our main theorem:

**Theorem 1.4.** Let X be a smooth projective K-variety. Under Assumption 1.2, the invariant  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X})$  is independent of the chosen regular snc model  $\mathcal{X}$  and depends only on X.

The theorem allows us to think of  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X})$  as an invariant of X and denote it by  $\tilde{S}(X)$ , which is what was mentioned at the beginning of this Introduction.

# 2. Preparatory reductions

We generalize the invariant  $S(\mathcal{X})$  as follows. Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a regular flat  $\mathcal{O}$ -scheme of finite type such that  $\mathcal{X}_K$  is smooth and  $\mathcal{X}_k = \bigcup_{i \in I} D_i$  is a simple normal crossing divisor in  $\mathcal{X}$ . (We no longer suppose that  $\mathcal{X}$  or  $\mathcal{X}_K$  is projective.) For a constructible subset  $C \subset \mathcal{X}_k$ , we define

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) := \sum_{\substack{i \in I: \\ a_i = 1}} [D_i^{\circ} \cap C] + \sum_{\substack{\{i, j\} \subset I: \\ (a_i, a_j) = 1}} \frac{1}{a_i a_j} [D_{ij}^{\circ} \cap C] (1 - \mathbb{L})$$

as an element of  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)^2$ .

Let  $f: \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{X}$  be the blowup along a smooth irreducible center  $Z \subset \mathcal{X}_k$  which has normal crossings with  $\mathcal{X}_k$ . Then,  $\mathcal{Y}$  is an  $\mathcal{O}$ -scheme satisfying the same conditions as  $\mathcal{X}$  does, and we can similarly define  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, C')$  for a constructible subset  $C' \subset \mathcal{Y}_k$ .

Theorem 1.4 follows from:

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be as above. For any constructible subset  $C \subset \mathcal{X}_k$ , we have

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C)).$$

Indeed, Theorem 1.4 is a direct consequence of this proposition with  $C = \mathcal{X}_k$ and Assumption 1.2.

In what follows, we will prove this proposition. First we will reduce it to the local situation by using:

# Lemma 2.2.

(1) If C is the disjoint union  $\bigsqcup_{s=1}^{l} C_s$  of constructible subsets  $C_s$ , then

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \sum_{s=1}^{l} \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C_s).$$

(2) Let  $\mathcal{X} = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} U_{\lambda}$  be an open covering. Suppose that for every constructible subset  $C \subset \mathcal{X}_k$  and for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C \cap U_{\lambda}) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C \cap U_{\lambda})).$$

Then, for every constructible subset  $C \subset \mathcal{X}_k$ , we have

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C)).$$

*Proof.* The first assertion is obvious. To show the second one, we first claim that there exists a stratification  $C = \bigsqcup_{s=0}^{n} C_s$  with  $C_s$  constructible such that each  $C_s$  is contained in some  $U_{\lambda}$ . Indeed we can take  $C_0$  as  $C \cap U_{\lambda}$  such that C and  $C_0$  have equal dimension, then construct  $C_1$  applying the same procedure to  $C \setminus U_{\lambda}$  and so on.

By the assumption, for every s,  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C_s) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C_s))$ . Now, from the first assertion, we get

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \sum_{s} \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C_{s}) = \sum_{s} \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C_{s})) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C)).$$

Let  $x \in \mathcal{X}_k$  be a closed point and take a local coordinate system  $x_1, \ldots, x_d \in \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X},x}$ . By shrinking  $\mathcal{X}$  if necessary, we may suppose that  $x_1, \ldots, x_d$  are global sections of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}$  and that the special fiber  $\mathcal{X}_k$  is the zero locus of  $\prod_{i=1}^{d'} x_i, d' \leq d$  (thus we identify I with  $\{1, \ldots, d'\}$ ) and Z is the common zero locus of  $x_j, j \in J$ , for some subset  $J \subset \{1, \ldots, d\}$ . From the first assertion of the above lemma, since we obviously have

$$S(\mathcal{X}, C \setminus Z) = S(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C \setminus Z)),$$

we may also assume that

 $(2.1) C \subset Z.$ 

In a few following sections, we will prove Proposition 2.1 in this situation, discussing separately in the cases  $(\sharp I =)d' = 1$ , d' = 2 and  $d' \geq 3$ . Before that, we prepare some notation and a lemma.

Notation 2.3. For  $i \in I$ , let  $D_i$  be the prime divisor of  $\mathcal{X}$  given by  $x_i = 0$  and let  $E_i \subset \mathcal{Y}_k$  be its strict transform. Let  $E_0 \subset \mathcal{Y}_k$  be the exceptional divisor of the blowup  $f: \mathcal{Y} \to \mathcal{X}$ . We denote  $f^{-1}(C)$  by  $\tilde{C}$ .

The multiplicity of  $E_i$  in  $\mathcal{Y}_k$  is  $a_i$  for  $i \in I$  and

for i = 0. We will use the following lemma several times.

**Lemma 2.4.** For  $i \in I \setminus J$ , if  $C \subset Z \cap D_i$ , then we have  $\tilde{C} \subset E_i$ .

*Proof.* The morphism  $\tilde{C} \to C$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}$ -bundle. The divisor  $E_i$  is the blowup of  $D_i$  along  $Z \cap D_i$ , which has codimension  $\sharp J$  in  $D_i$ . It follows that  $E_i \cap \tilde{C} \to C$  is also a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}$ -bundle. Hence  $\tilde{C}$  and  $E_i \cap \tilde{C}$  coincide and the lemma follows.  $\Box$ 

3. The case d' = 1

We now begin the proof of Proposition 2.1 in the situation described just before Notation 2.3. In this section, we consider the case d' = 1.

Since  $Z \subset \mathcal{X}_k$ , recalling  $I = \{1, \ldots, d'\}$ , we see that  $1 \in J$ . Then

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \begin{cases} [C] & (a_1 = 1), \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$$

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From (2.2),  $a_0 = a_1$ , and  $(a_0, a_1) = a_1$ . Hence, if  $a_1 \neq 1$ , then

$$\widetilde{S}(\mathcal{Y},\widetilde{C})=0=\widetilde{S}(\mathcal{X},C)$$
 .

If  $a_1 = 1$ , then recalling that  $C \subset Z$ , we see that  $\tilde{C} \subset E_0 = f^{-1}(Z)$  and that

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = [\tilde{C} \setminus E_1] + [E_1 \cap \tilde{C}](1 - \mathbb{L}).$$

To compute the right hand side of this equality, we first observe that  $\tilde{C}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}$ bundle over C. The divisor  $E_1$  is the blowup of  $D_1$  along Z. Therefore  $E_1 \cap \tilde{C}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}$ -bundle over C. Hence

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = [C]([\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}] - [\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}]) + [C][\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}](1 - \mathbb{L}) = [C] (\mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-1} + (1 + \mathbb{L} + \dots + \mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-2})(1 - \mathbb{L})) = [C](\mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-1} + 1 - \mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-1}) = [C] = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C).$$

We conclude that if d' = 1, then  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C})$ .

4. The case d' = 2

Next we consider the case d' = 2. We have

$$C = (C \cap D_1^{\circ}) \sqcup (C \cap D_2^{\circ}) \sqcup (C \cap D_{12}^{\circ}).$$

From the case  $\sharp I = 1$  treated in the last section, we have

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C \cap D_i^\circ) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, f^{-1}(C \cap D_i^\circ)) \quad (i = 1, 2).$$

Therefore, from Lemma 2.2, replacing C with  $C \cap D_{12}^{\circ}$ , we may suppose that

$$(4.1) C \subset D_{12}^{\circ} = D_1 \cap D_2.$$

Then we have

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C](1 - \mathbb{L}) & ((a_1, a_2) = 1), \\ 0 & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$$

We next compute  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C})$  separately in the case  $Z \subset D_1 \cap D_2$  and in the case  $Z \not\subset D_1 \cap D_2$ .

In the former case, we have  $a_0 = a_1 + a_2 \neq 1$  and

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = \sum_{\substack{i \in \{1,2\}:\\(a_0, a_i) = 1}} \frac{1}{a_0 a_i} [\tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^\circ] (1 - \mathbb{L}).$$

If  $(a_1, a_2) \neq 1$ , then  $(a_0, a_1) \neq 1$  and  $(a_0, a_2) \neq 1$ , which show that  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = 0 = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C)$ . If  $(a_1, a_2) = 1$ , then we have  $(a_0, a_1) = (a_0, a_2) = 1$ , and

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y},\tilde{C}) = \sum_{i=1}^{2} \frac{1}{a_0 a_i} [\tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^\circ] (1 - \mathbb{L}).$$

Since  $E_1 \cap \tilde{C} = E_0 \cap E_1 \cap \tilde{C} \to C$  is a trivial  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}$ -bundle and  $E_1 \cap E_2 \cap \tilde{C} \to C$  is a hyperplane in it,  $E_{01}^\circ \cap \tilde{C} \to C$  is a trivial  $\mathbb{A}^{\sharp J-2}$ -bundle. (Note that if  $\sharp J = 2$ ,

then  $E_1 \cap E_2 = \emptyset$  and  $E_1 \cap \tilde{C} = E_{01}^{\circ} \cap \tilde{C} \to C$  is an isomorphism and still a trivial  $\mathbb{A}^{\sharp J-2}$ -bundle.) Similarly for  $E_{02}^{\circ} \cap \tilde{C} \to C$ . Hence

$$\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = \left(\frac{1}{(a_1 + a_2)a_1} + \frac{1}{(a_1 + a_2)a_2}\right) [C] \mathbb{L}^{\sharp J - 2} (1 - \mathbb{L})$$
$$= \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C] \mathbb{L}^{\sharp J - 2} (1 - \mathbb{L})$$
$$\stackrel{\bigstar}{=} \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C] (1 - \mathbb{L})$$
$$= \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C).$$

Here the equality marked with  $\bigstar$  follows from

$$\mathbb{L}(1-\mathbb{L}) = (\mathbb{L}-1)(1-\mathbb{L}) + 1 - \mathbb{L} = 1 - \mathbb{L} \mod (\mathbb{L}-1)^2.$$

In the case  $Z \not\subset D_1 \cap D_2$ , we have either  $Z \subset D_1$  or  $Z \subset D_2$ . Since the two cases are similar, we only discuss the former case. Since  $2 \in I \setminus J$ , from assumptions (2.1) and (4.1) and Lemma 2.4, we have  $\tilde{C} \subset E_0 \cap E_2$ . Since  $a_0 = a_1$ ,  $\tilde{C} \to C$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}$ -bundle and  $\tilde{C} \cap E_1 \to C$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}$ -bundle, we have

$$\begin{split} \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y},\tilde{C}) &= \frac{1}{a_0 a_2} [\tilde{C} \cap E_{0,2}^\circ] (1-\mathbb{L}) \\ &= \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [\tilde{C} \setminus E_1] (1-\mathbb{L}) \\ &= \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C] [\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1} \setminus \mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-2}] (1-\mathbb{L}) \\ &= \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C] \mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-1} (1-\mathbb{L}) \\ &= \frac{1}{a_1 a_2} [C] (1-\mathbb{L}) \\ &= \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X},C). \end{split}$$

We have completed the proof that  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C)$ , when d' = 2.

5. The case  $d' \geq 3$ 

As in the last section, by induction on  $\sharp I$ , we may suppose that

$$(5.1) C \subset \bigcap_{i \in I} D_i$$

Then  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = 0$ . On the other hand,  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C})$  is a Q-linear combination of

$$A_i := \left[ \tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^{\circ} \right] (1 - \mathbb{L}), \quad i \in I,$$

and

$$B := \delta_{1,a_0} \left[ \tilde{C} \cap E_0^\circ \right],$$

with  $\delta_{1,a_0}$  being the Kronecker delta. Thus it suffices to show that  $A_i = 0, i \in I$ , and that B = 0.

We first show that B = 0. If  $\sharp(I \cap J) \ge 2$ , then

$$a_0 = \sum_{i \in I \cap J} a_i > 1.$$

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Hence B = 0. If  $\sharp(I \cap J) < 2$ , then  $I \setminus J$  is non-empty. Assumptions (2.1) and (5.1) and Lemma 2.4 show that  $\tilde{C} \cap E_0^{\circ}$  is empty, hence B = 0.

Next we show that  $A_i = 0$ . If  $\sharp(I \setminus J) \geq 2$ , then from Lemma 2.4, for every  $i \in I$ , there exists  $i' \in I \setminus \{i\}$  such that  $\tilde{C} \subset E_{i'}$ . Hence  $\tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^{\circ} = \emptyset$  and  $A_i = 0$ .

If  $\sharp(I \setminus J) = 1$ , then by the same reasoning as above,  $A_i = 0$  for  $i \in I \cap J$ . For  $i \in I \setminus J$ ,

$$\tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^{\circ} = \mathbb{P}_{C}^{\sharp J-1} \setminus \bigcup_{j \in I \cap J} H_{j}$$

where  $\mathbb{P}_{C}^{\sharp J-1}$  denotes the trivial  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1}$ -bundle  $\mathbb{P}^{\sharp J-1} \times C$  over C and  $H_j$  are coordinate hyperplanes of  $\mathbb{P}_{C}^{\sharp J-1}$ . Since  $\sharp(I \cap J) \geq 2$ ,

$$A_{i} = [C][\mathbb{G}_{m}^{\sharp(I\cap J)-1} \times \mathbb{A}^{\sharp J-\sharp(I\cap J)}](1-\mathbb{L})$$
  
=  $-[C]\mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-\sharp(I\cap J)}(\mathbb{L}-1)^{\sharp(I\cap J)} = 0 \mod (\mathbb{L}-1)^{2}.$ 

If  $\sharp(I \setminus J) = 0$ , equivalently if  $Z \subset D_i$  for every  $i \in I$ , then for every  $i \in I$ ,

$$\tilde{C} \cap E_{0i}^{\circ} = \mathbb{P}_{C}^{\sharp J-2} \setminus \bigcup_{j \in I \setminus \{i\}} H_{j},$$

where  $H_j$  are coordinate hyperplanes of  $\mathbb{P}_C^{\sharp J-2}$ . We have

$$A_{i} = [C][\mathbb{G}_{m}^{\sharp I-2} \times \mathbb{A}^{\sharp J-\sharp I}](1-\mathbb{L}) = -[C]\mathbb{L}^{\sharp J-\sharp I}(\mathbb{L}-1)^{\sharp I-1} = 0 \mod (\mathbb{L}-1)^{2}.$$

We thus have proved that  $\tilde{S}(\mathcal{X}, C) = \tilde{S}(\mathcal{Y}, \tilde{C}) = 0$  also when  $d' \geq 3$ , which completes the proofs of Proposition 2.1 and Theorem 1.4.

# 6. Closing comments

It is natural to try to refine  $\tilde{S}(X)$  further by lifting it to  $K_0(\operatorname{Var}_k)_{\mathbb{Q}}/(\mathbb{L}-1)^n$  for n > 2 and by adding extra terms of the form

$$c[D_H^\circ](1-\mathbb{L})^{\sharp H-1}$$

with  $c \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $H \subset I$ ,  $\sharp H \geq 3$ . However the author did not manage to find such a refinement.

The original invariant considered by Serre [11] and denoted by i(X) was defined for a K-analytic manifold when the residue field k is finite and lives in  $\mathbb{Z}/(\sharp k - 1)$ . There seems to be no counterpart of  $\tilde{S}(X)$  in this context, at least in a naive way, because  $\mathbb{Z} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} = \mathbb{Q}$  is a field and the ideal generated by  $(\sharp k - 1)^2$  in it is the entire field.

The author has no convincing explanation of the meaning of fractional coefficients appearing in the definition of  $\tilde{S}(X)$ . However, as a possibly related work, we note that Denef and Loeser [4] previously also considered motivic invariants with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

Nicaise and Sebag [10, Th. 5.4] gave a nice interpretation of the Euler characteristic representation of S(X) in terms of cohomology of the generic fiber (see also [6] for another proof). It would be interesting to look for a similar interpretation of representations of  $\tilde{S}(X)$  or  $\tilde{S}(X)$  itself.

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE, OSAKA UNIVERSITY, TOY-ONAKA, OSAKA 560-0043, JAPAN

E-mail address: takehikoyasuda@math.sci.osaka-u.ac.jp