BIRATIONAL MAPS OF SEVERI-BRAUER SURFACES, WITH APPLICATIONS TO CREMONA GROUPS OF HIGHER RANK

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The group of birational transformations of the projective n-space over a field K is called 'Cremona group of rank n over K'. We show that any group (of cardinality at most the cardinality of the complex numbers) is a quotient of any Cremona group of rank at least four over the complex numbers. This result is obtained via birational geometry of Severi-Brauer surfaces over perfect fields.