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# Manuscript accepted for publication

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# A NOTE ON BOUNDARY COMPONENTS OF ARITHMETIC QUOTIENTS OF THE GROUP $SL_2$ OVER AN ALGEBRAIC NUMBER FIELD

### JOACHIM SCHWERMER

Dedicated to M. Tadić on the occasion of his 70th birthday

ABSTRACT. Given an algebraic number field k, we consider quotients  $X_G/\Gamma$  associated with arithmetic subgroups  $\Gamma$  of the special linear algebraic k-group  $G=SL_2$ . The group G is k-simple, of k-rank one, and split over k. The Lie group  $G_{\infty}$  of real points of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group  $\mathrm{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(G)$ , obtained by restriction of scalars, is the finite direct product  $G_{\infty}=\prod_{v\in V_{k,\infty}}G_v=SL_2(\mathbb{R})^s\times SL_2(\mathbb{C})^t$ , where the product ranges over the set  $V_{k,\infty}$  of all archimedean places of k, and s (resp. t) denotes the number of real (resp. complex) places of k. The corresponding symmetric space is denoted by  $X_G$ .

Using reduction theory, one can construct an open subset  $Y_\Gamma\subset X_G/\Gamma$  such that its closure  $\overline{Y}_\Gamma$  is a compact manifold with boundary  $\partial\overline{Y}_\Gamma$ , and the inclusion  $\overline{Y}_\Gamma\longrightarrow X_G/\Gamma$  is a homotopy equivalence. The connected components  $Y^{[P]}$  of the boundary  $\partial\overline{Y}_\Gamma$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the finite set of  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G. We are concerned with the geometric structure of the boundary components. Each component carries the natural structure of a fibre bundle. We prove that the basis of this bundle is homeomorphic to the torus  $T^{s+t-1}$  of dimension s+t-1, has the compact fibre  $T^m$  of dimension  $m=s+2t=[k:\mathbb{Q}]$ , and its structure group is  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . Finally, we determine the cohomology of  $Y^{[P]}$ .

# 1. Introduction

Given an algebraic number field k, we consider quotients  $X_G/\Gamma$  associated with arithmetic subgroups  $\Gamma$  of the special linear algebraic k-group  $G = SL_2$ .

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. Primary 11F75, 57N65, 11R52. Key words and phrases. cohomology of arithmetic groups, Hilbert modular varieties.

This group is k-simple, k-split, and of k-rank one. The Lie group  $G_{\infty}$  of real points of the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group  $\mathrm{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(G)$ , obtained by restriction of scalars, is the finite direct product  $G_{\infty} = \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} G_v = SL_2(\mathbb{R})^s \times SL_2(\mathbb{C})^t$ , where the product ranges over the set  $V_{k,\infty}$  of all archimedean places of k, and s (resp. t) denotes the number of real (resp. complex) places of k. The corresponding symmetric space is denoted by  $X_G$ . In fact, there is a  $G_{\infty}$ -invariant Riemannian metric on  $X_G$ , and, if  $\Gamma$  is torsion-free, the homogenous space  $X_G/\Gamma$  carries the structure of a Riemannian manifold of finite volume.

Via reduction theory there exists an open subset  $Y_{\Gamma} \subset X_G/\Gamma$  such that its closure  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  is a compact manifold with boundary  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$ , and the inclusion  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma} \longrightarrow X_G/\Gamma$  is a homotopy equivalence. The connected components  $Y^{[P]}$  of the boundary  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  are parametrised by the finite set of  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G. We are concerned with the geometric structure of the boundary components. Induced by a Levi decomposition P = LN (with N the unipotent radical of P), each component carries the structure of a fibre bundle  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty}\cap\Gamma) \longrightarrow Y^{[P]} \longrightarrow Z_L/\Gamma_L$  where the basis is a locally symmetric space originating with the Levi subgroup L. We prove that the basis of this bundle is homeomorphic to the torus  $T^{s+t-1}$  of dimension s+t-1, has the compact fibre  $T^m$  of dimension  $m=[k:\mathbb{Q}]$ , and its structure group is  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . Finally, we determine the cohomology of  $Y^{[P]}$ , thereby giving a proof of Proposition 1.1 in [4]. The action of the fundamental group  $\Gamma_L$  on  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  extends to a natural action on the cohomology  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty}\cap\Gamma),\mathbb{C})$  of the fibre. This gives rise to a local coefficient system, to be denoted  $H^*(F_b, \mathbb{C})$ , on the pathwise connected base space  $B = Z_L/\Gamma_L$ . Here  $F_b \cong N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  denotes the fibre over  $b \in B$ . We obtain

$$H^*(Y^{[P]}, \mathbb{C}) \cong H^*(Z_L/\Gamma_L, \mathsf{H}^*(F_b, \mathbb{C})) \cong$$

$$H^*(Z_L/\Gamma_L, \mathbb{C}) \otimes H^*(N_\infty/(N_\infty \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})^{\Gamma_L},$$

where the term  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})^{\Gamma_L}$  denotes the space of elements in  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})$  which are invariant under the action of  $\Gamma_L$ . If k has a real embedding, that is, s > 0, the only  $\Gamma_L$ -invariant subspaces in  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})$  are in degree 0 and m. If s = 0, it may happen that one finds  $\Gamma_L$ -invariant classes in degree t as well.

# NOTATION AND CONVENTIONS

Let k be an algebraic number field, and let  $\mathcal{O}_k$  denote its ring of integers. The set of places of k will be denoted by  $V_k$ , and  $V_{k,\infty}$  (resp.  $V_{k,f}$ ) refers to the subsets of archimedean (resp. non-archimedean) places of k. Given a place  $v \in V_k$ , the completion of k with respect to v is denoted by  $k_v$ . For a finite place  $v \in V_{k,f}$  we write  $\mathcal{O}_{k,v}$  for the valuation ring in  $k_v$ . If the field k is fixed, we write  $V = V_k$  etc.

Suppose the extension  $k/\mathbb{Q}$  has degree  $m=[k:\mathbb{Q}]$ . Let  $\Sigma$  be the set of distinct embeddings  $\sigma_i:k\to\mathbb{C},\ 1\leq i\leq m$ . Among these embeddings some factor through  $k\to\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\sigma_1,...,\sigma_s$  denote these real embeddings  $k\to\mathbb{R}$ . Given one of the remaining embeddings  $\sigma:k\to\mathbb{C},\sigma(k)\not\subset\mathbb{R}$ , to be called imaginary, there is the conjugate one  $\bar{\sigma}:k\to\mathbb{C}$ , defined by  $x\mapsto\overline{\sigma(x)}$ , where  $\bar{z}$  denotes the usual complex conjugation of the complex number z. Then the number of imaginary embeddings is an even number, which we denote by 2t. We number the m=s+2t embeddings  $\sigma_i:k\to\mathbb{C}$ , i=1,...,m in such a way that, as above,  $\sigma_i$  is real for  $1\leq i\leq s$ , and  $\bar{\sigma}_{s+i}=\sigma_{s+i+t}$  for  $1\leq i\leq t$ .

The set  $V_{\infty}$  of archimedean places of F is naturally identified with the set of embeddings  $\{\sigma_i\}_{1\leq i\leq s+t}\subset \Sigma$ . We denote by  $\sigma_v$  the embedding which corresponds to  $v\in V_{k,\infty}$ .

Let  $\mathbb{A}_k$  (resp.  $\mathbb{I}_k$ ) be the ring of adèles (resp. the group of idèles) of k. We denote by  $\mathbb{A}_{k,\infty} = \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} k_v$  the archimedean component of the ring  $\mathbb{A}_k$ , and by  $\mathbb{A}_{k,f}$  the finite adèles of k. There is the usual decomposition of  $\mathbb{A}_k$  into the archimedean and the non-archimedean part  $\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{A}_{k,\infty} \times \mathbb{A}_{k,f}$ .

# 2. Reduction theory for the algebraic k-group $SL_2$

2.1. The group  $SL_2$ . Given an algebraic number field k, the group of k-rational points of the connected reductive k-algebraic group  $GL_2$  coincides with the group GL(2,k) of  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrices with entries in k. The group Z(k) of k-rational points of the centre Z of  $GL_2$  is given by the group  $Z(k) = \{g = \operatorname{diag}(\lambda, \lambda) \mid \lambda \in k^{\times}\}$  of scalar diagonal matrices. We fix the maximal k-split torus S in  $GL_2$  given by

$$S(k) = \left\{ g = \left( \begin{smallmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{smallmatrix} \right) \mid \lambda, \mu \in k^{\times} \right\}.$$

Let  $\Phi_k = \Phi(GL_2, S) \subset X^*(S)$  be the set of roots of  $GL_2$  with respect to S. A basis of  $\Phi_k$  is given by the non-trivial character  $\alpha : S/k \to \mathbb{G}_m/k$ , defined by the assignment  $\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \lambda \mu^{-1}$ . We denote by  $Q_0$  the minimal parabolic k-subgroup of  $GL_2$  which is determined by  $\{\alpha\}$ . We have a Levi decomposition of  $Q_0$  into the semi-direct product  $Q_0 = SN_0$  of its unipotent radical  $N_0$  by S

The derived group of the general linear group  $GL_2$  over k is the special linear k-group  $SL_2$ ; it is a k-simple simply connected algebraic group of k-rank one. We fix the maximal k-split torus  $L_0$  of  $SL_2$ , whose k-rational points are given by  $L_0(k) = SL_2(k) \cap S(k)$ , hence,

$$L_0(k) = \left\{ g = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mid \lambda \in k^{\times} \right\}.$$

A basis for the set of roots for  $SL_2$  with respect to  $L_0$  is given by the restriction of  $\alpha$  on  $L_0$ , denoted by the same letter. The minimal parabolic k-subgroup which corresponds to  $\alpha$  is denoted by  $P_0$  with Levi decomposition  $P_0 = L_0 N_0$ 

of its unipotent radical  $N_0$  by  $L_0$ . We call  $P_0$  the standard minimal parabolic subgroup of  $SL_2$ . Any minimal parabolic k-subgroup of  $SL_2$  is k-conjugate under  $SL_2$  to  $P_0$ , and we have a Levi decomposition P = LN.

2.2. Reduction theory. Given an algebraic number field k, we write G for the algebraic k-group  $SL_2$ . For every archimedean place  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$ , together with the corresponding embedding  $\sigma_v : k \longrightarrow \overline{k}$ , there are given a field  $k_v = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  and a real Lie group  $G_v = G^{\sigma_v}(k_v)$ . The group

$$(2.1) G_{\infty} = \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} G_v,$$

viewed as the topological product of the groups  $G_v$ ,  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$ , is isomorphic to the group of real points  $(\operatorname{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}G)(\mathbb{R})$  of the algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group  $\operatorname{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}G$  obtained from G by restriction of scalars. In  $G_{\infty}$ , we identify G(k) with the set of elements  $(g^{\sigma_v})_{v \in V_{k,\infty}}$  where  $g \in G(k)$ . In an analogous way, if H is an algebraic k-subgroup of G, we denote by  $H_{\infty}$  the group of real points  $(\operatorname{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}H)(\mathbb{R})$  of the algebraic  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group  $\operatorname{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}H$ .

We denote by s (resp. t) the number of real (resp. complex) places of k. Thus, the degree m of the extension  $k/\mathbb{Q}$  equals m = s + 2t. Then the real Lie group  $G_{\infty}$  is given as the finite direct product

$$(2.2) G_{\infty} \cong SL_2(\mathbb{R})^s \times SL_2(\mathbb{C})^t.$$

For each place  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$ , let  $X_v$  be the symmetric space associated with  $G_v$ , described as the space of maximal compact subgroups of  $G_v$ . In fact, all of these are conjugate to one another, thus, we may write  $X_v = K_v \backslash G_v$  for any maximal compact subgroup  $K_v \subset G_v$ . If  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$  is a real place,  $X_v$  is the hyperbolic 2-plane  $H^2$ , and, if  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$  is a complex place,  $X_v$  is the hyperbolic 3-space  $H^3$ . Since  $X_v$  is diffeomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}^{d(G_v)}$  where  $d(G_v) = \dim G_v - \dim K_v$ , the space  $X_v$  is contractible. We define

$$X_G := \prod_{v \in V_k} X_v \cong (\mathrm{H}^2)^s \times (\mathrm{H}^3)^t$$

as the product of the symmetric spaces  $X_v$ , and we let  $d(G) = \sum_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} d(G_v)$ . Since the real Lie group  $G_{\infty}$  acts properly from the right on  $X_G$ , a given arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$  of G(k), being viewed as a discrete, thus closed subgroup of  $G_{\infty}$ , acts properly on  $X_G$  as well. If  $\Gamma$  is torsion-free, the action of  $\Gamma$  on  $X_G$  is free, and the quotient  $X_G/\Gamma$  is a smooth manifold of dimension d(G). There is a  $G_{\infty}$ -invariant Riemannian metric on  $X_G$ . Given an arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$  of G(k), we are interested in the homogenous space  $X_G/\Gamma$ . If  $\Gamma$  is torsion-free, the space  $X_G/\Gamma$  carries the structure of a Riemannian manifold of finite volume

Since  $G_{\infty}$  is not compact and the k-group G is k-simple simply connected, the group G has the strong approximation property (see [7]). Therefore, G(k)

is dense in the locally compact group  $G(\mathbb{A}_{k,f})$ , or, equivalently,  $G_{\infty}G(k)$  is dense in  $G(\mathbb{A}_k)$ .

Given any proper ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{O}_k$  the corresponding principal congruence subgroup of level  $\mathfrak{a}$  is defined by

(2.3) 
$$\Gamma(\mathfrak{a}) := \ker(SL_2(\mathcal{O}_k) \longrightarrow SL_2(\mathcal{O}_k/\mathfrak{a})).$$

Using [12, Prop. 4.4.4], if for every prime number p, the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}^{p-1}$  does not divide the principal ideal  $p\mathcal{O}_k$  in  $\mathcal{O}_k$ , the arithmetic group  $\Gamma(\mathfrak{a})$  is torsion-free. Therefore, for almost all choices of the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  the group  $\Gamma(\mathfrak{a})$  is torsion-free.

Let  $\mathfrak{p}$  be a prime ideal in  $\mathcal{O}_k$ , and let  $v_0 \in V_{k,f}$  be the corresponding non-archimedean place of k. Given a proper ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{O}_k$  let  $\nu_{\mathfrak{p}}(\mathfrak{a})$  be the maximal exponent e such that  $\mathfrak{p}^e$  divides the ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Thus, we have  $\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_{v_0} = \mathfrak{p}^{\nu_{\mathfrak{p}}(\mathfrak{a})}\mathcal{O}_{v_0}$ . For each  $v \in V_{k,f}$ , the kernel  $K_v(\mathfrak{a})$  of the natural homomorphism  $G(\mathcal{O}_v) \longrightarrow G(\mathcal{O}_v/\mathfrak{a}\mathcal{O}_v)$  is an open compact subgroup of  $G(\mathcal{O}_v)$ . This implies that the direct product  $K(\mathfrak{a}) := \prod_{v \in V_{k,f}} K_v(\mathfrak{a})$  is an open compact subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{A}_{k,f})$ , and we have  $\Gamma(\mathfrak{a}) = G(k) \cap K(\mathfrak{a})$ . Using the strong approximation property of the algebraic k-group G, we have the continuous map  $G_{\infty} \longrightarrow K(\mathfrak{a}) \backslash G(\mathbb{A}_k) / G(k)$ , defined by  $g \mapsto K(\mathfrak{a}) g G(k)$ . It gives rise to a homeomorphism  $K(\mathfrak{a}) \backslash G(\mathbb{A}_k) / G(k) - \mathcal{O}_{\infty} / \Gamma(\mathfrak{a})$  which is equivariant under the action of  $G_{\infty}$ .

2.3. Reduction theory - the boundary components. Since the k-rank of the algebraic k-group  $G = SL_2$  is one, all proper parabolic k-subgroups of G are minimal, all of these are conjugate under G(k). Given any arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma \subset G(k)$ , this conjugacy class falls into finitely many  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes (see [1, Prop. 15.6]). In the case of the group  $\Gamma = SL_2(\mathcal{O}_k)$ , the cardinality of this set is equal to the class number  $h_k$  of k (see [14, Prop. 20]).

We consider the standard minimal parabolic k-subgroup  $P_0 = L_0 N_0$  of G. Any k-character  $\chi: L_0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$  induces a homomorphism

$$\chi_{\infty}: L_{0,\infty} \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}_{m,\infty} \cong (\mathbb{R}^{\times})^s \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^t.$$

Given an archimedean place  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$ , we denote by  $|\cdot|_v$  the absolute value on  $k_v = \mathbb{R}$  if v is real resp. the square of the absolute value on  $k_v = \mathbb{C}$  if v is complex. The norm homomorphism is defined by

$$|\cdot|: \mathbb{G}_{m,\infty} \cong \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} k_v^\times = (\mathbb{R}^\times)^s \times (\mathbb{C}^\times)^t \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}^\times, \quad (g_v)_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \mapsto \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} |g_v|_v.$$

The compositum  $|\cdot| \circ \chi$  can be canonically extended to a homomorphism  $|\chi|: P_{0,\infty} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times}$ . We apply this construction to the positive simple root  $\alpha: L_0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$ , and, we define  $P_{0,\infty}^{(1)} := \{p \in P_{0,\infty} \mid |\alpha|(p) = 1\}$ . Given any point  $x \in X_G$ , let  $K_x \subset G_\infty$  be the corresponding maximal compact subgroup of the Lie group  $G_\infty$ , then  $P_{0,\infty}^{(1)} \cap K_x = P_{0,\infty} \cap K_x$ . Moreover, since the image of the arithmetic group  $\Gamma$  under  $\alpha$  is an arithmetic subgroup of  $\mathbb{G}_m(k)$ , thus,

contained in  $\mathcal{O}_{\lambda}^{\times}$ , we have  $|\alpha|(\gamma) = 1$  for every  $\gamma \in P_{0,\infty} \cap \Gamma$ . It follows that  $P_{0,\infty} \cap \Gamma = P_{0,\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma$ . Given any other minimal parabolic subgroup P of G, there is a  $g \in G(k)$  such that  $gP(k)g^{-1} = P_0(k)$ . Therefore, we can define  $P_{\infty}^{(1)}$  via conjugation.

In the specific case of the algebraic k-group G of k-rank one, the general results in [5, Sect. 1.2] in reduction theory take the following form; a different approach is carried through in [1, Thm. 17.10].

Theorem 2.1. Given a torsion-free arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma \subset G(k)$ , there exists an open subset  $Y_{\Gamma} \subset X_G/\Gamma$  such that its closure  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  is a compact manifold with boundary  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$ , and the inclusion  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma} \longrightarrow X_G/\Gamma$  is a homotopy equivalence. The connected components of the boundary  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  are in one-to-one correspondence with the finite set, to be denoted  $\mathcal{P}/\Gamma$ , of  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy classes of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G. If P is a representative for a  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy class of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G, we denote the corresponding connected component in  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  by  $Y^{[P]}$ . Then we have as a disjoint union

$$\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma} = \coprod_{[P] \in \mathcal{P}/\Gamma} Y^{[P]}.$$

and the boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$  is diffeomorphic to the double coset space  $(K \cap P_{\infty}^{(1)}) \setminus P_{\infty}^{(1)} / (P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma)$  where  $K \subset G_{\infty}$  is a maximal compact subgroup.

We are interested in the geometric structure of such a boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$ . The canonical morphism  $P \longrightarrow P/N = L$  onto the maximal k-split torus L gives rise to a surjective morphism  $p: P_{\infty}^{(1)} \longrightarrow L_{\infty}^{(1)}$ . The image  $K_L := p(K \cap P_{\infty}^{(1)})$  of  $K \cap P_{\infty}^{(1)}$  under this projection is a maximal compact subgroup in  $L_{\infty}^{(1)}$ . We write  $Z_L := K_L \setminus L_{\infty}^{(1)}$  for the associated manifold of right cosets. The preimage of a point in  $L_{\infty}^{(1)}$  is diffeomorphic to  $N_{\infty}$ .

The image  $\Gamma_L$  of  $P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma$  under p is a discrete torsion-free subgroup of  $L_{\infty}^{(1)}$ . The group  $\Gamma_L$  acts properly and freely on  $Z_L$ , and the double coset space  $Z_L/\Gamma_L$  is a manifold with universal cover  $Z_L$ . The projection  $p:P_{\infty}^{(1)} \longrightarrow L_{\infty}^{(1)}$  induces a surjection

(2.4) 
$$\pi: (K \cap \Gamma) \backslash P_{\infty}^{(1)} / (P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma) \longrightarrow Z_L / \Gamma_L;$$

it is a locally trivial fibration whose fibre is  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ . This fibre is compact (see, e.g. [12, Sect. 9.3]).

Proposition 2.2. Given a representative P for a  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy class of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G, the corresponding boundary component  $Y^{[P]} \cong (K \cap P_{\infty}^{(1)}) \setminus P_{\infty}^{(1)} / (P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma)$  admits the structure of a fibre bundle which is equivalent to the fibre bundle

$$(2.5) (Z_L \times_{\Gamma_L} N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), Z_L, N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)).$$

This bundle is associated by the natural action of  $\Gamma_L$  on the compact fibre  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty}\cap\Gamma)$ , induced by inner automorphisms, to the universal covering  $Z_L\longrightarrow Z_L/\Gamma_L$ .

PROOF. The action of the group  $P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma$  on  $K_L \setminus P_{\infty}^{(1)}$  is proper and free. Since P is the normaliser of N in G, the group  $N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma$  is a normal subgroup in  $P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma$ . Therefore, the quotient group  $\Gamma_{P/N} := (P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma)/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  acts properly and freely on  $K_L \setminus P_{\infty}^{(1)}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ . In view of the decomposition  $P_{\infty}^{(1)} = L_{\infty}^{(1)} N_{\infty}$  as a semi-direct product, induced by the semi-direct product P = LN, this space can be viewed as the product space

$$(2.6) K_L \backslash P_{\infty}^{(1)} / (N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma) \xrightarrow{\sim} K_L \backslash L_{\infty}^{(1)} / (N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma) \times N_{\infty} / (N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma).$$

We have that P is the normaliser of N, thus, the group  $P_{\infty}^{(1)} \cap \Gamma$  acts via inner automorphisms on  $N_{\infty}$ . It follows, since N is commutative, that there is an induced action of the quotient group  $\Gamma_{P/N}$  via diffeomorphisms on the space  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ . The group  $\Gamma_{P/N}$  is isomorphic to  $\Gamma_L$ . In view of (2.6), the fibration in question is equivalent to the fibre bundle

$$(2.7) (Z_L \times_{\Gamma_L} N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), Z_L, N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma))$$

which is associated by the natural action of  $\Gamma_L$  on  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ , induced by inner automorphisms, to the universal covering  $Z_L \longrightarrow Z_L/\Gamma_L$ .

2.4. The geometric structure of the boundary components. Let  $\Gamma$  be a torsion-free arithmetic subgroup of  $G(k) = SL_2(k)$ . Given a representative P for a  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy class of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G we seek to understand the base space and the fibre of the fibre bundle structure of the boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$  of  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$ . For any natural number n > 0, we denote by  $T^n = (S^1)^n$  the n-dimensional torus.

THEOREM 2.3. The boundary component  $Y^{[P]} = Z_L \times_{\Gamma_L} N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  is the total space of a fibre bundle with fibre  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)) \cong T^m$ , base space  $Z_L/\Gamma_L \cong T^{s+t-1}$ , and structure group  $\Gamma_L$ . Hence it is a torus bundle over a torus. The structure group  $\Gamma_L$  of the fibre bundle is a totally disconnected commutative group.

PROOF. First, with regard to the fibre  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ , we may assume that P is the standard minimal parabolic k-subgroup  $P_0 = L_0 N_0$  whose group of k-points is  $P_0(k) = \left\{g = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & x^{-1} \end{smallmatrix}\right) \mid x \in k^{\times}, y \in k\right\}$ . The group of k-points of its unipotent radical is commutative, and, since m = s + 2t we obtain as additive groups

$$N_{0,\infty} \cong \operatorname{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(k_a)(\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{R}^m$$

The group  $N_{0,\infty} \cap \Gamma$  as a discrete subgroup of  $N_{0,\infty}$  forms a complete lattice in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ , thus the claim follows.

Second, we deal with the universal cover  $Z_L := K_L \setminus L_{\infty}^{(1)}$  of the base space  $Z_L/\Gamma_L$  of the fibration (2.4). We may assume that  $P = P_0$  is the standard minimal parabolic k-subgroup of G. We have the identification

$$L_{0,\infty} = \left\{ (g_v)_v = \begin{pmatrix} (t_v)_v & 0 \\ 0 & (t_v)_v^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mid t_v \in \mathbb{R}^\times \text{ if } v \text{ real, } t_v \in \mathbb{C}^\times \text{ if } v \text{ complex} \right\}$$
$$\stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} (\mathbb{R}^\times)^s \times (\mathbb{C}^\times)^t.$$

where  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$  ranges over the archimedean places of k. Passing over to the group  $L_{0,\infty}^{(1)}$ , we obtain a diffeomorphism

$$L_{0,\infty}^{(1)} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ (g_v)_v = \begin{pmatrix} (t_v)_v & 0 \\ 0 & (t_v)_v^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \mid t_v \in k_v^{\times}, \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} |t_v|_v = 1 \right\}.$$

Recall that, given an archimedean place  $v \in V_{k,\infty}$ , we denote by  $|\cdot|_v$  the absolute value on  $k_v = \mathbb{R}$  if v is real resp. the square of the absolute value on  $k_v = \mathbb{C}$  if v is complex.

The assignment  $(x_1, \ldots, x_s, z_1, \ldots, z_t) \mapsto (|x_1|, \ldots, |x_s|, |z_1|^2, \ldots, |z_t|^2)$  defines a surjective homomorphism  $L_{0,\infty} = (\mathbb{R}^{\times})^s \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^t \longrightarrow (\mathbb{R}^{\times}_{>0})^{s+t}$ . It gives rise to a surjective homomorphism

$$\psi^{(1)}: L_{0,\infty}^{(1)} \cong ((\mathbb{R}^{\times})^s \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^t)^{(1)} \longrightarrow ((\mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^{s+t})^{(1)}$$

where

$$((\mathbb{R}^{\times})^{s} \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^{t})^{(1)} := \{(h_{v})_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \in ((\mathbb{R}^{\times})^{s} \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^{t}) | \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} |h_{v}|_{v} = 1\},$$

and  $((\mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^s)^{(1)}$  is accordingly defined as

$$((\mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^s)^{(1)} := \{(x_v)_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \in (\mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^{s+t} | \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} x_v = 1\}$$

We summarise the aforesaid considerations in the diagram

$$L_{\infty}^{(1)} \longrightarrow (\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} k_v^{\times})^{(1)} \xrightarrow{\psi^{(1)}} (\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^{(1)} \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Log}^{(1)}} \mathcal{H}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$L_{\infty} \longrightarrow (\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} k_v^{\times}) \xrightarrow{\psi} (\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times}) \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Log}} \mathbb{R}^{s+t}$$

where the map Log:  $(\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^{s+t}$  is defined by the assignment  $(x_1, \ldots, x_{s+t}) \mapsto (\log x_1, \ldots, \log x_{s+t})$ , where  $\mathcal{H}$  denotes the hypersurface  $\mathcal{H} := \{r = (r_i) \in \mathbb{R}^{s+t} \mid \sum_i r_i = 0\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^{s+t}$ , and where the vertical arrows are the natural inclusions. The map  $\psi^{(1)}$  resp. Log<sup>(1)</sup> is obtained via

restriction from the map  $\psi$  resp. Log. The horizontal arrows in both exterior squares of the diagram are isomorphisms. The kernel of  $\psi^{(1)}$  is the unique maximal compact subgroup in  $((\mathbb{R}^{\times})^s \times (\mathbb{C}^{\times})^t)^{(1)}$ , given as the product of s copies of  $\{\pm 1\}$  and t copies of  $S^1$ . We obtain  $\ker(\psi^{(1)}) = K_L$ . It follows that  $Z_L = K_L \setminus L_{0,\infty}^{(1)} \cong \mathbb{R}^{s+t-1}$ .

By assumption the arithmetic group  $\Gamma \subset SL_2(\mathcal{O}_k)$  is torsion-free. It follows, since  $\ker \psi^{(1)}$  is compact,  $\Gamma_L \cap \ker \psi^{(1)} = \{0\}$ . Therefore,  $\psi^{(1)}$  maps  $\Gamma_L$  isomorphically onto a discrete torsion-free subgroup of  $(\prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{\times})^{(1)}$ . The arithmetic group  $\Gamma_L$  may be viewed as a sugbroup of  $\mathcal{O}_k^{\times}$ . As worked out in the usual proof of the Dirichlet theorem on the unit groups of number fields (see, e.g., [3]), in our context of the diagram, the map induced by the inclusion  $\mathcal{O}_k^{\times} \longrightarrow L_0(k)$ , maps  $\mathcal{O}_k^{\times}$  isomorphically onto a complete lattice in the hyperplane  $\mathcal{H}$ . Therefore,  $(\operatorname{Log}^{(1)} \circ \psi^{(1)})(\Gamma_L)$  is a complete lattice in  $\mathcal{H}$ . It follows that the base space  $Z_L/\Gamma_L$  of the fibre bundle is the torus  $T^{s+t-1}$ .

Remark 2.4. Given a totally real quadratic number field, we are concerned with Hilbert modular surfaces as dealt with in [6]. In this case the boundary components  $Y^{[P]}$  occur in the disguise of boundaries of neighbourhoods of cusp singularities.

### 3. Torus bundles over tori

In order to determine the cohomology of a boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$  it is useful to describe an inductive construction of fibre bundles whose fibre is a torus  $T^m$  and whose basis is a torus  $T^r$ , and whose structure group is the group  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$  of automorphisms of the free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}^m$  of determinant one.

First, using [16, Chap. 18], in particular, the notions and notations introduced there, we recall the classification of fibre bundles over the 1-sphere. Let  $(E, S^1, F, \pi)$  be a fibre bundle over  $S^1$  with totally disconnected structure group G. Up to equivalence, this bundle is in normal form. Thus we can describe it in the following way: we cut the 1-sphere  $S^1$  into two (closed) hemispheres  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  whose intersection consists of exactly two antipodal points  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  in  $S^1$ . Then we can choose two open neighbourhoods  $V_1, V_2 \subset S^1$  such that  $E_i \subset V_i, i = 1, 2$ , and such that the change of coordinates  $g_{12}$  satisfies  $g_{12}(x_0) = e \in G$ . Then the group element  $g_{12}(x_1) \in G$  describes the gluing process of the fibre over the point  $x_1$ ; this element is called the characteristic homeomorphism of the given bundle. By [16, 18.3], two fibre bundles  $(E, S^1, F, \pi)$  and  $(E', S^1, F, \pi')$  over  $S^1$  with characteristic homeomorphisms A and A' whose fibre F and structure group G coincide are equivalent if and only if there are an element  $g \in G$  and a path  $\omega : I \longrightarrow G$ 

in G such that  $\omega(0)=A$  and  $\omega(1)=gA'g^{-1}$ . Since G is totally disconnected the characteristic homeomorphism is determined by a suitable chosen generator of the fundamental group  $\pi_1(S^1)$ . The bundle is equivalent to the bundle  $((I\times F)/\sim,S^1,F,p)$  where the equivalence relation  $\sim$  is given by  $(1,x)\sim(0,Ax),x\in F$ , and the projection map  $p:(I\times F)/\sim\longrightarrow I/(1\sim 0)$  is defined by the assignment  $(t,x)\mapsto t,t\in I,x\in F$ .

Second, let  $A := \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_r\}$  be a subset of elements in  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$  which commute with one another. We inductively construct, following [9], fibre bundles  $T(A_1, \dots, A_i)$ ,  $1 \le i \le r$ , over  $T^i = \mathbb{R}^i/\mathbb{Z}^i$  with fibre  $T^m$  and structure group  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . The matrices  $A_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le r$ , induce homeomorphisms of  $T^m$  which will also be denoted by  $A_i$ .

We set  $T(A_1) = (I \times T^m) / \sim$ , where  $(1, x) \sim (0, A_1 x)$ ,  $x \in T^m$ , and the projection  $\pi : T(A_1) \longrightarrow S^1$  is given by  $(t, x) \mapsto t$ . The matrices  $A_i, 1 < i \le r$ , act on  $T(A_1)$  via  $(t, x) \mapsto (t, A_i x)$  in a natural way.

Suppose that the torus bundle  $(T(A_1, \ldots, A_k), T^k, T^m, \pi_k)$  is constructed, and the matrices  $A_i$  with  $k+1 \le i \le r$  act on  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_k)$ . We define

$$T(A_1,\ldots,A_{k+1}) = (I \times T(A_1,\ldots,A_k))/\sim$$

where  $(1, y) \sim (0, A_{k+1}y), y \in T(A_1, \dots, A_k)$ , and the projection

$$\pi_{k+1}: T(A_1,\ldots,A_{k+1}) \longrightarrow S^1 \times T^k = T^{k+1}$$

is given by the assignment  $(t,y) \mapsto (t, \pi_k(y))$ . The matrices  $A_{k+2}, \ldots, A_r$  act on  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_{k+1})$  via  $(t,y) \mapsto (t, A_i y)$ ,  $k+2 \le i \le r$ . Since the matrices  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$  commute with one another, this is well defined. The total space is endowed with the orientations induced by the canonical orientations on  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mathbb{R}^j$ . One checks by induction that the induced action of the matrix  $A_j, j > k$ , on the bundle is fibrewise.

For the sake of completeness we note the fact that this construction exhausts up to equivalence all torus bundles over tori  $T^r$  with structure group  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . Via induction one proves (see [9, Thm. 4.3]) the following result.

PROPOSITION 3.1. Let  $(E, T^r, T^m, \rho)$  be a torus bundle over the torus  $T^r$  with structure group  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . Then this bundle is equivalent to the bundle

$$(\mathbb{R}^r \times_{\pi_1(T^r)} T^m, T^r, T^m, \pi)$$

associated to the universal covering  $\mathbb{R}^r \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^r/\mathbb{Z}^r$  by the natural action of the fundamental group of the basis on the fibre  $T^m$  where  $\pi_1(T^r) = \mathbb{Z}^r$  acts on  $\mathbb{R}^r$  via right translations. If we denote by  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$  elements in  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$  which correspond to the action of suitably chosen generators of the fundamental group  $\pi_1(T^r)$  then the bundle  $T(A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r)$  is equivalent to the bundle  $(\mathbb{R}^r \times_{\pi_1(T^r)} T^m, T^r, T^m, \pi)$ . The matrices  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$  are uniquely determined up to conjugation in  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ .

### 4. Digression: Semi-Simple endomorphisms

We review some basic facts regarding semi-simple endomorphisms of finitedimensional vector spaces over a field K. This notion plays a conclusive role in the actual computation of the cohomology of torus bundles over tori. This allows us to determine the cohomology of a boundary component.

DEFINITION 4.1. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over a field K. We call an endomorphism  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  semi-simple if every  $\alpha$ -stable subspace  $U \subset V$ , that is,  $\alpha U \subset U$ , has a complementary  $\alpha$ -stable subspace. In other words, equivalently, V viewed as a K[X]-module, with X acting as  $\alpha$ , is semi-simple.

By the classification of finitely generated modules over the polynomial ring K[X], such a V is isomorphic to a direct sum of modules of the form  $k[X]/(f^m)$  where  $f \in K[X]$  is some irreducible polynomial. Therefore V is semi-simple if and only if each of these direct summands is semi-simple, that is, m=1. It follows that an endomorphism  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  is semi-simple if and only if its minimum polynomial is the product of relatively prime irreducible polynomials.

The semi-simplicity of an endomorphism  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  is preserved by passage to an  $\alpha$ -invariant K-subspace  $W \subset V$ , as well as to the quotient space V/W.

The following technical observation is useful. Let V, W be two finite-dimensional vector spaces over a field K. In view of the isomorphism

$$\operatorname{End}_K(V) \otimes_K \operatorname{End}_K(W) \xrightarrow{\sim} \operatorname{End}_K(V \otimes_K W),$$

given an endomorphism  $\omega \in \operatorname{End}_K(V \otimes_K W)$ , there exist  $\phi_i \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$ ,  $\psi_j \in \operatorname{End}_K(W)$  such that  $\omega = \sum \phi_i \otimes \psi_j$ . A straightforward argument shows: if  $\phi \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$ ,  $\psi \in \operatorname{End}_K(W)$  are semi-simple endomorphisms, then the endomorphism  $\omega = \phi \otimes \psi \in \operatorname{End}_K(V \otimes_K W)$  is semi-simple.

Let L/K be a field extension. Given  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$ , let  $\alpha_L := \operatorname{id} \otimes \alpha \in \operatorname{End}_L(V_L)$  be the endomorphism of  $V_L := L \otimes_K V$  induced by extension of scalars. If  $\alpha_L$  is semi-simple, then  $\alpha$  is also semi-simple, and if L/K is separable, then the converse is correct.

We observe the following result (see [2, Chap. VII, §5, No. 8, Prop. 15]):

PROPOSITION 4.2. Given an endomoprhism  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  with minimum polynomial  $m_{\alpha} \in K[X]$ , the following assertions are equivalent:

- For every field extension L/K, the endomorphism  $\alpha_L$  is semi-simple.
- There exists a field extension L/K such that the endomorphism  $\alpha_L$  is diagonalisable.
- The minimum polynomial  $m_{\alpha}$  is separable over K.

Definition 4.3. An endomorphism  $\alpha \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  is called absolutely semi-simple if one of the equivalent conditions in Proposition 4.2 is valid.

Clearly, a necessary and sufficient condition for  $\alpha$  to be absolutely semisimple is that the irreducible factors of the minimum polynomial  $m_{\alpha}$  have no multiple roots in the algebraic closure  $\bar{K}$  of K.

More generally, we consider a family  $\mathcal{A}$  of K-endomorphisms of a given finite-dimensional K-vector space V. We say that the family  $\mathcal{A}$  is diagonalisable if there exists a basis  $\mathsf{v} = \{v_i\}_{i \in I}$  of V such that the matrix  $M_{\alpha,\mathsf{v}}$  for each  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}$  with respect to  $\mathsf{v}$  has diagonal form. If  $\mathcal{A} = \{\alpha\}$  consists of a single element, we say that  $\alpha$  is diagonalisable.

The following observation is decisive for the subsequent result: Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  be two endomorphisms of V which commute with one another, and let  $V_{\lambda}$  be any eigenspace for  $\alpha$ . Then, for all  $v \in V_{\lambda}$ , we have  $\alpha(\beta(v)) = \beta(\alpha(v)) = \beta(\lambda v) = \lambda \beta(v)$ . Thus,  $V_{\lambda}$  is stable under  $\beta$ .

PROPOSITION 4.4. Let A be a family of K-endomorphisms of a given finite-dimensional K-vector space V. Then A is diagonalisable if and only if all elements in A are diagonalisable and commute with one another.

Combining this result with the characterisations of an absolutely semisimple endomorphism in Proposition 4.2 we obtain

PROPOSITION 4.5. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a family of K-endomorphisms of a given finite-dimensional K-vector space V. There exists a field extension L/K such that the set  $\mathcal{A}_L := \{\alpha_L \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{A}\} \subset \operatorname{End}_L(V_L)$  is diagonalisable if and only if the endomorphisms in  $\mathcal{A}$  are absolutely semi-simple and commute with one another.

PROPOSITION 4.6. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over a field K. Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{\phi_a\}$  be a finite family of semi-simple endomorphisms  $\phi_a \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$  which commute pairwise with one another. We denote by A the subalgebra of the endomorphism algebra  $\operatorname{End}_K(V)$  generated by A and the identity  $\operatorname{Id}_V$ . Then V decomposes as a direct sum  $V = V^A \oplus U$  into the subspace  $V^A = \{v \in V \mid \phi(v) = v \text{ for all } \phi \in A\}$  and a complementary subspace U.

PROOF. The proof proceeds by induction over the number of generators of A. The case of a single generator is taken care by the very definition of a semi-simple endomorphism. Let A be generated by the set  $\{\phi_1,\ldots,\phi_n,\operatorname{Id}_V\}\subset \mathcal{A}$ , and let A' be the subalgebra of  $\operatorname{End}_K(V)$  generated by  $\phi_1,\ldots,\phi_{n-1}$  and  $\operatorname{Id}_V$ . By induction hypothesis, the subspace  $V^{A'}$  admits a direct complement U' such that  $V=V^{A'}\oplus U'$ . Since for all  $1\leq i\leq n-1,\ \phi_n\circ\phi_i=\phi_i\circ\phi_n$ , the restriction of  $\phi_n$  to  $V^{A'}$  is well defined and  $(\phi_n)_{|V^{A'}}$  is semi-simple. Thus, there exists a direct complement U'' of  $V^A$  in  $V^{A'}$ . We put  $U:=U''\oplus U'$ . Then we have  $V=V^A\oplus U$ .

COROLLARY 4.7. Let V be a finite-dimensional vector space over a field K. Given an absolutely semi-simple endomorphism  $\phi \in \operatorname{End}_K(V)$ , there is a canonical identification  $\ker(\phi - \operatorname{Id}) \stackrel{\sim}{\longrightarrow} \operatorname{coker}(\phi - \operatorname{Id})$ .

PROOF. Setting  $V^{\phi} = \{v \in V \mid \phi(v) = v\}$ , since  $\phi$  is absolutely semi-simple, we have the direct sum decomposition  $V = V^{\phi} \oplus U$  where  $U = \operatorname{im}(\phi - \operatorname{Id})$ . This implies the assertion.

To be in the position to determine the cohomology of torus bundles over tori as constructed above we determine the cohomology ring of an n-torus.

Let R be a commutative ring with identity element, and let  $\{a_1,\ldots,a_n\}$  be a finite set of n symbols. We write  $\mathsf{I}=\{1,\ldots,n\}$ . Then the exterior algebra  $\bigwedge_R[a_1,\ldots,a_n]$  is defined as the free R-module with generators  $a_{i_1}\cdots a_{i_k}$ , for all k-tuples  $(i_1,\ldots,i_k)$  of indices in  $\mathsf{I}$  with  $i_1<\ldots< i_k,\ 1\le k\le n$ , endowed with the associative and distributive multiplication determined by the rules  $a_i^2=0, i=1,\ldots,n$ , and  $a_ia_j-a_ja_i=0$  if  $i\ne j,\ i,j=1,\ldots,n$ . If we put  $\bigwedge_R^0[a_1,\ldots,a_n]:=R$ , then  $\bigwedge_R^*[a_1,\ldots,a_n]$  becomes a graded commutative ring with the scalar 1 as unit element. For a fixed index  $p,\ 1\le p\le n$ ,  $\bigwedge_R^p[a_1,\ldots,a_n]$  denotes the free R-submodule with basis  $a_{i_1}\cdots a_{i_p}$  for all  $i_1<\ldots< i_p$ . The generators  $a_1,\ldots,a_n$  have degree one. The R-rank of  $\bigwedge_R^p[a_1,\ldots,a_n]$  is  $\binom{n}{p}$ .

If  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ , we identify the elements  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$  with the standard basis  $e_1, \ldots, e_n$  of the free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ , and we write  $\Lambda^*(\mathbb{Z}^n)$  for the corresponding exterior algebra.

PROPOSITION 4.8. Given the n-dimensional torus  $T^n$  its cohomology ring with coefficients in any commutative field R is given as the exterior algebra  $H^*(T^n, R) = \bigwedge_R [a_1, \ldots, a_n]$ .

PROOF. The cohomology of the sphere  $S^1$  is  $R[a]/(a^2)$  as a ring, and the underlying cohomology group is free. We view the *n*-torus  $T^n$  as the *n*-fold product of the sphere  $S^1$ . Then the Künneth formula [15, VI, 12.16] yields that the cohomology of  $T^n$  is the graded tensor product of *n* copies of  $R[a]/(a^2)$ . Therefore we obtain  $H^*(T^n, R) = \bigwedge_R [a_1, \ldots, a_n]$ .

COROLLARY 4.9. An endomorphism  $A \in End_{\mathbb{Z}}(\mathbb{Z}^n)$  of the free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  induces a unique map  $A: T^n = \mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n \longrightarrow T^n = \mathbb{R}^n/\mathbb{Z}^n$ . Then the ring homomorphism  $A^*: H^*(T^n, R) \longrightarrow H^*(T^n, R)$  induced on the cohomology ring  $H^*(T^n, R)$  coincides with the unique extension of A to a homomorphism  $\Lambda^*(A)$  on the exterior algebra  $\Lambda^*(R^n)$  with  $\Lambda^*(A)(1) = 1$ .

# 5. The cohomology of a boundary component

The boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$  in  $X_G/\Gamma$  attached to a  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy class of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G has, up to equivalence, the structure

of the fibre bundle

$$(5.8) (Z_L \times_{\Gamma_L} N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), Z_L/\Gamma_L, N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma))$$

associated by the natural action of  $\Gamma_L$  on the compact fibre  $N_\infty/(N_\infty \cap \Gamma)$ , induced by inner automorphisms, to the universal covering  $Z_L \longrightarrow Z_L/\Gamma_L$ . This fibre bundle with fibre  $N_\infty/(N_\infty \cap \Gamma) \cong T^m$ , where m = s + 2t is the degree of the extension  $k/\mathbb{Q}$ , and base space  $Z_L/\Gamma_L \cong T^r$ , where r = s + t - 1 is the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -rank of the unit group  $\mathcal{O}_k^\times$  of the underlying algebraic number field k. We will see that this fibre bundle falls into the realm of torus bundles over tori with structure group  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$  discussed in Section 3.

The action of the fundamental group  $\Gamma_L$  on  $N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  extends to an action on the cohomology  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})$  of the fibre. This gives rise to a local coefficient system, to be denoted  $H^*(F_b, \mathbb{C})$  on the pathwise connected base space  $B = Z_L/\Gamma_L$ . Here  $F_b \cong N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma)$  denotes the fibre over  $b \in B$ .

Theorem 5.1. Let P be a representative for a  $\Gamma$ -conjugacy class of minimal parabolic k-subgroups of G. The cohomology of the corresponding boundary component  $Y^{[P]}$  is given as

$$(5.9) \quad H^*(Y^{[P]}, \mathbb{C}) \cong H^*(Z_L/\Gamma_L, \mathsf{H}^*(F_b, \mathbb{C})) \cong H^*(Z_L/\Gamma_L, \mathbb{C}) \otimes H^*(N_\infty/(N_\infty \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})^{\Gamma_L},$$

where  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty}\cap\Gamma),\mathbb{C})^{\Gamma_L}$  denotes the space of elements in the cohomology  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty}\cap\Gamma),\mathbb{C})$  which are invariant under  $\Gamma_L$ .

PROOF. We may assume that  $P=P_0$  is the standard minimal parabolic k-subgroup. The k-rational points of its unipotent radical are given by  $N_0(k)=\left\{g=\left(\begin{smallmatrix}0&x\\0&0\end{smallmatrix}\right)\mid x\in k\right\}$ . Moreover, upon identifying  $N_0(k)$  with k, we see that  $N_0(k)\cap\Gamma=\Delta$  is a complete  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice in k. Passing over to the real points of the group  $\mathrm{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(N_0)$ , we obtain  $N_{0,\infty}\cong\prod_{v\in V_{k,\infty}}k_v$ . Therefore, the underlying structure as a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ , endowed with the Euclidean topology, is  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cong\prod_{v\in V_{k,\infty}}k_v\cong\mathbb{R}^m$ . The group  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cap\Gamma$  is a discrete subgroup of maximal rank in  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cong\mathbb{R}^m$ . It follows that  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cap\Gamma$  is freely generated over  $\mathbb{Z}$  by m vectors  $u_1,\ldots,u_m$  which are linearly independent over  $\mathbb{R}$ . We fix such a basis  $\mathbf{u}=\{u_1,\ldots,u_m\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . With regard to the basis  $\mathbf{u}$ , the action of  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cap\Gamma$  on  $N_{0,\infty}^+\cong\mathbb{R}^m$  is the standard action of  $\mathbb{Z}^m$  on  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

It follows that we can describe the action of the fundamental group  $\Gamma_L$  on the fibre  $N_{0,\infty}/(N_{0,\infty}\cap\Gamma)$  in terms of matrices with integral entries. It is induced by the operation of  $\Gamma_L$  on  $N_{0,\infty}$  via inner automorphisms. The group  $\Gamma_L$  is a subgroup of the unit group  $\mathcal{O}_k^{\times}$ , hence, viewed as a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module, it is of rank s+t-1. Given a set  $\{\alpha_1,\ldots,\alpha_{s+t-1}\}$  of generators, each of them acts on  $N_{0,\infty}\cong\mathbb{R}^m$  with respect to the basis u by an integral

matrix  $A_i \in GL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ , i = 1, ..., s + t - 1, since  $\alpha_i$  leaves  $N_{0,\infty} \cap \Gamma$  invariant. Since  $\Gamma_L$  is commutative, the matrices  $A_i$ , i = 1, ..., s + t - 1,, commute with one another

We view  $\Gamma_L$  via the diagonal embedding  $\mathcal{O}_k^{\times} \longrightarrow \prod_{v \in V_{k,\infty}} k_v^{\times}$  as a subgroup of  $k_{\infty}^{\times}$ . Then the action of an element  $\epsilon \in \Gamma_L$  is given as a matrix over  $\mathbb C$  with respect to a suitable basis by a diagonal form  $\operatorname{diag}(\epsilon_{(1)}^2, \ldots, \epsilon_{(m)}^2)$  where  $\epsilon_{(j)}$  denotes the j-th component of  $\epsilon \in k_{\infty}^{\times}$ . Since  $\epsilon \in \Gamma_L \subset \mathcal{O}_k^{\times}$  is a unit, the determinant of this matrix is one. Therefore,  $\epsilon$  acts orientation-preserving on the fibre  $N_{0,\infty}/(N_{0,\infty} \cap \Gamma)$ . In addition, the endomorphisms induced by generators of  $\Gamma_L$  are semi-simple endomorphisms.

Following the construction (and notation) introduced in Section 3, we have to determine the cohomology of a torus bundle  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_r)$ , where r := s + t - 1, with fibre  $T^m$  and basis  $T^r$ , determined by integral matrices  $A_i \in SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, r$ . We proceed by induction over the dimension r of the basis.

A decisive tool in the argument is the Wang sequence in cohomology for fibre bundles over the 1-sphere (see [8, Lemma 8.4.] or [15, Chap. 8, Sect. 5, Cor. 6]). It relates the cohomology of the total space to the cohomology of the fibre, accentuating the role of the characteristic homeomorphism.

PROPOSITION 5.2. Let  $(E, S^1, F, \pi)$  be a fibre bundle over  $S^1$  with totally disconnected structure group G and characteristic homeomorphism  $A \in G$ . Then there is an exact sequence (5.10)

$$\longrightarrow H^q(E,R) \xrightarrow{j^*} H^q(F,R) \xrightarrow{A^*-\operatorname{Id}} H^q(F,R) \xrightarrow{\delta^*} H^{q+1}(E,R) \longrightarrow$$

of cohomology groups where the coefficients are in any field R. The map  $j: F \longrightarrow E$  is the natural inclusion, and  $\delta^*$  is induced by the boundary operator in a Mayer-Vietoris Sequence attached to a suitable excisive couple of subsets of E. The endomorphism  $H^q(F,R) \longrightarrow H^q(F,R)$  is given by  $A^*$ -Id.

As an application to our case of interest this result has the following consequence:

COROLLARY 5.3. Let  $(E, S^1, F, \pi)$  be a fibre bundle over  $S^1$  with totally disconnected structure group G and characteristic homeomorphism  $A \in G$ . Suppose that the endomorphism  $H^*(A) = A^* : H^*(F, \mathbb{Q}) \longrightarrow H^*(F, \mathbb{Q})$  induced by A is semi-simple, then we have

(5.11) 
$$H^{n}(E,\mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{p+q=n} H^{p}(S^{1},\mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{q}(F,\mathbb{Q})^{A^{*}}$$

where  $H^q(F,\mathbb{Q})^{A^*}$  denotes the subspace of elements in  $H^q(F,\mathbb{Q})$  invariant under the endomorphism  $A^*$ .

Choose a prime  $\ell$  so that the endomorphism  $A^*: H^*(F, \mathbb{Z}_{\ell}) \longrightarrow H^*(F, \mathbb{Z}_{\ell})$ induced by A is semi-simple. Then the analogous result is correct for the cohomology  $H^n(E, \mathbb{Z}_{\ell})$  with coefficients in the finite field  $\mathbb{Z}_{\ell}$ .

PROOF. We simultaneously prove both results, and we accordingly write R for the field of coefficients. We may assume that the given bundle is of the form  $((I \times F)/\sim, S^1, F, p)$  where the equivalence relation  $\sim$  is given by  $(1,x) \sim (0,Ax), x \in F$ , and the projection  $p': (I \times F)/\sim \to I/(1\sim 0)$  is defined by the assignment  $(t,x) \mapsto t, t \in I, x \in F$ . The Wang sequence in Proposition 5.2 gives a short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \operatorname{coker}(H^{q-1}(A) - Id) \longrightarrow H^q(E, R) \longrightarrow \ker(H^q(A) - Id) \longrightarrow 0.$$

This sequence splits, and one gets a direct sum decomposition

$$H^q(E,R) = \ker(H^q(A) - Id) \oplus \operatorname{coker}(H^{q-1}(A) - Id).$$

This isomorphism is not canonical but depends on the choice of a basis. However, the endomorphism  $A^*$  is semi-simple, thus there is a canonical identification  $\operatorname{coker}(H^{q-1}(A) - Id) = \ker(H^{q-1}(A) - Id)$ . Taking into account that

$$\ker(H^{q-1}(A) - Id) \cong \ker(H^{q-1}(A) - Id) \otimes H^1(S^1, R)$$

resp.

$$\ker(H^q(A) - Id) \cong \ker(H^q(A) - Id) \otimes H^0(S^1, R),$$

together with the identity  $\ker(H^q(A) - Id) = H^*(F)^A$ , brings the final result.

The bundle  $T(A_1)$  is obtained by the action of  $A_1$  on the fibre  $T^m$ . The induced endomorphism  $\Lambda^*(A_1) =: A_1^*$  on the cohomology of the fibre  $H^*(T^m, \mathbb{Q}) = \Lambda^*(\mathbb{Q}^m)$  is semi-simple. Therefore, by Corollary 5.3, we have

$$H^{n}(T(A_{1}),\mathbb{Q})=\bigoplus_{p+q=n}H^{p}(S^{1},\mathbb{Q})\otimes H^{q}(T^{m},\mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}}.$$

The matrices  $A_j, j > 1$ , act on  $T(A_1)$  via  $(t, x) \mapsto (t, A_j x), x \in T^m$ . Since the action is fibrewise the induced homomorphism in cohomology is of the form

$$\alpha_i : s \otimes y \mapsto s \otimes ((A_i)^* y),$$

where  $s \in H^p(S^1, \mathbb{Q})$  and  $y \in H^q(T^m, \mathbb{Q})^{A_1^*}$ . We observe that the restriction of the semi-simple endomorphism  $A_j^*$  on  $H^q(T^m, \mathbb{Q})^{A_1^*}$  is semi-simple. Note that the endomorphisms  $\alpha_j, j > 1$  are semi-simple.

We have the following induction hypothesis:

$$H^{n}(T(A_{1}, A_{2}, \dots, A_{i-1}), \mathbb{Q}) = \bigoplus_{q+r=n} H^{q}(T^{i-1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{r}(T^{m}, \mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}, A_{2}^{*}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{*}},$$

and the endomorphism induced by  $A_j$ , j > i-1, on  $H^n(T(A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{i-1}), \mathbb{Q})$  is given by the assignment  $\alpha_j : s \otimes y \mapsto s \otimes ((A_j)^*y)$ , where  $s \in H^q(T^{i-1}, \mathbb{Q})$ 

and  $y \in H^r(T^m, \mathbb{Q})^{A_1^*A_2^*, \dots, A_{i-1}^*}$ . The endomorphisms  $\alpha_j, j > i-1$ , are semi-simple.

By construction  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_i) = (I \times T(A_1, \ldots, A_{i-1})) / \sim$  where  $(1, y) \sim (0, A_i y)$ . We obtain by assigning  $(t, x) \mapsto t$  a locally trivial fibration

$$\pi: T(A_1,\ldots,A_i) \longrightarrow S^1$$

over  $S^1$  with fibre  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_{i-1})$ . The characteristic homeomorphism of this bundle over  $S^1$  is the morphism induced by the action of  $A_i$  on  $T(A_1, \ldots, A_{i-1})$ . By induction hypothesis the corresponding homomorphism in cohomology is semi-simple, thus the cohomology result for bundles over  $S^1$  yields eventually the assertion. Indeed, using the induction hypothesis and the compatibility of the tensor product with direct sums, we have

$$H^{n}(T(A_{1}, A_{2}, \dots, A_{i}), \mathbb{Q}) \cong$$

$$\cong \bigoplus_{q+p=n} (H^{q}(S^{1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{p}(T(A_{1}, A_{2}, \dots, A_{i-1}), \mathbb{Q})^{A_{i}^{*}})$$

$$\cong \bigoplus_{q+p=n} (H^{q}(S^{1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes \bigoplus_{a+b=p} (H^{a}(T^{i-1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{b}(T^{m}, \mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}, A_{2}^{*}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{*}})^{A_{i}^{*}})$$

$$= \bigoplus_{q+p=n} (H^{q}(S^{1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes \bigoplus_{a+b=p} (H^{a}(T^{i-1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{b}(T^{m}, \mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}, A_{2}^{*}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{*}, A_{i}^{*}}))$$

$$= \bigoplus_{q+p=n} (\bigoplus_{a+b=p} (H^{q}(S^{1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{a}(T^{i-1}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{b}(T^{m}, \mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}, A_{2}^{*}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{*}, A_{i}^{*}}))$$

$$\cong \bigoplus_{q+b=n} (H^{u}(T^{i}, \mathbb{Q}) \otimes H^{b}(T^{m}, \mathbb{Q})^{A_{1}^{*}, A_{2}^{*}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{*}, A_{i}^{*}}).$$

One verifies that the endomorphism induced by  $A_j$ , j > i, on a single summand of the cohomology  $H^n(T(A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_i), \mathbb{Q})$  is given by the assignment  $\alpha_j : z \otimes y \mapsto z \otimes ((A_j)^* y)$ , where  $z \in H^u(T^i, \mathbb{Q})$  and  $y \in H^b(T^m, \mathbb{Q})^{A_1^*, A_2^*, \ldots, A_i^*}$ . The endomorphisms  $\alpha_j$ , j > i, are semi-simple.

REMARK 5.4. The same result is correct if we replace the coefficient system  $\mathbb{Q}$  by a finite field  $\mathbb{Z}_{\ell} = \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z}$  where we have to suppose that the prime number  $\ell$  is admissible with regard to the integral matrices  $A_1, A_2, \ldots, A_r$ , that is, the endomorphisms  $A_{j,\ell} \in \operatorname{End}_{\mathbb{Z}_{\ell}}(\mathbb{Z}_{\ell}^m)$  induced by  $A_j$  are absolutely semi-simple. This is the case for almost all prime numbers.

It is not difficult to describe the space  $H^*(N_\infty/(N_\infty\cap\Gamma),\mathbb{C})^{\Gamma_L}$  of elements in the cohomology of the fibre which are invariant under the action of  $\Gamma_L$ . Recall that  $H^*(N_\infty/(N_\infty\cap\Gamma),\mathbb{C})\cong \Lambda^*(\mathbb{C}^m)$ . Let  $\Sigma=\{\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_m\}$  be the set of embeddings  $k\longrightarrow\mathbb{C}$ . For each subset  $J\subset\Sigma$ , we find a one-dimensional subspace  $U_J\subset\Lambda^{m-|J|}(\mathbb{C}^m)$  such that  $u\in\Gamma_L$  acts on  $U_J$  via multiplication by  $\prod_{\sigma\in J}\sigma(u^2)$ . The direct sum of these subspaces exhaust  $\Lambda^*(\mathbb{C}^m)$ . Since the elements u in  $\Gamma_L\subset\mathcal{O}_k^*$  are units, and u acts via  $u^2$ , we have that the product

 $\prod_{\sigma \in \Sigma} \sigma(u^2)$  over all embeddings in  $\Sigma$  is equal to 1. Therefore, in order to identify the subsets  $J \subset \Sigma$  with  $\prod_{\sigma \in J} \sigma(u^2) = 1$ , we have to ensure that also  $\prod_{\sigma \in J^c} \sigma(u^2) = 1$  where  $\sigma$  ranges over all elements in the complement  $J^c$  of J in  $\Sigma$ . Clearly the empty set  $J = \emptyset$  and the set  $J = \Sigma$  fulfil these requirements, and the corresponding  $\Gamma_L$ -invariant spaces are equal to  $U_\emptyset = \Lambda^m(\mathbb{C}^m)$  respectively  $U_\Sigma = \Lambda^0(\mathbb{C}^m)$ , thus, one-dimensional.

If k has a real embedding, that is, s > 0, these subspaces are the only  $\Gamma_L$ -invariant subspaces in  $H^*(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})$ . If s = 0, it may happen that one finds  $\Gamma_L$ -invariant classes in  $H^t(N_{\infty}/(N_{\infty} \cap \Gamma), \mathbb{C})$ .

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# Opaska o komponentama ruba aritmetikih kvocijenata grupe $SL_2$ nad poljem algebarskih brojeva

### Joachim Schwermer

Sažetak. Za polje algebarskih brojeva k, promatramo kvocijente  $X_G/\Gamma$  pridružene aritmetičkim podgrupama  $\Gamma$  specijalne linearne algebarske grupe  $G=SL_2$  definirane nad k. Grupa G je prosta, ranga jedan i rascjepiva nad k. Liejeva grupa  $G_\infty$  realnih točaka  $\mathbb{Q}$ -grupe  $\mathrm{Res}_{k/\mathbb{Q}}(G)$ , dobivene restrikcijom skalara, je konačni direktni produkt  $G_\infty=\prod_{v\in V_{k,\infty}}G_v=SL_2(\mathbb{R})^s\times SL_2(\mathbb{C})^t$ , gdje produkt prolazi po skupu  $V_{k,\infty}$  svih arhimedskih mjesta od k, a s (resp. t) označava broj realnih (resp. kompleksnih) mjesta od t. Odgovarajući simetrični prostor je označen st0.

Koristei teoriju redukcije, može se konstruirati otvoreni podskup  $Y_{\Gamma} \subset X_G/\Gamma$  čiji zatvarač  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  je kompaktna mnogostrukost s rubom  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$ , pri čemu je ulaganje  $\overline{Y}_{\Gamma} \longrightarrow X_G/\Gamma$  homotopska ekvivalencija. Komponente povezanosti  $Y^{[P]}$  ruba  $\partial \overline{Y}_{\Gamma}$  su u bijekciji sa skupom klasa  $\Gamma$ -konjugiranosti minimalnih paraboličkih k-podgrupa od G koji je konačan. Zanima nas geometrijska struktura komponenata ruba. Svaka komponenta ima prirodnu strukturu svežnja vlakana. U radu je dokazano da je taj svežanj homeomorfan torusu  $T^{s+t-1}$  dimenzije s+t-1, ima kompaktna vlakna  $T^m$  dimenzije  $m=s+2t=[k:\mathbb{Q}]$  te strukturnu grupu  $SL_m(\mathbb{Z})$ . Na kraju, određena je kohomologija komponenti  $Y^{[P]}$ .

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