

## ON THE ARITHMETIC OF TUBE DOMAINS (BLOWING-UP OF THE POINT AT INFINITY)

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The purpose of this talk is to construct, in a certain canonical manner, a “blow-up” of the isolated singularity which appears as a point at infinity of an arithmetic quotient of a symmetric tube domain. Similar (but slightly different) blowing-ups have already appeared in some special cases in the works of Pyatetskii-Shapiro, Igusa [4] (Siegel modular case) and Hirzebruch [3] (Hilbert modular case). It should be possible to extend our construction to the case of general symmetric domains via their realizations as “Siegel domains of the third kind” (cf. [1], [6], [7b]). But, for the sake of simplicity, we shall here restrict ourselves to the simplest case.<sup>1</sup>

1. Let  $U$  be an  $n$ -dimensional real vector space endowed with a (positive-definite) inner product  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  and  $\Omega$  a (nonempty) open convex cone in  $U$  with its vertex at the origin of  $U$ . We assume that  $\Omega$  does not contain any straight line (not necessarily passing through the origin). Let  $G_0$  be the identity connected component of the (linear) automorphism group

$$\text{Aut}(\Omega) = \{g \in \text{GL}(U) \mid g\Omega = \Omega\}.$$

In the following, we assume  $\Omega$  to be “homogeneous” and “self-dual”; these mean that  $G_0$  is transitive on  $\Omega$  and that  $\Omega$  coincides with its dual

$$\Omega^* = \{u \in U \mid \langle u, u' \rangle > 0 \text{ for all } u' \in \bar{\Omega} - \{0\}\},$$

where  $\bar{\Omega}$  denotes the closure of  $\Omega$ . It is known [9] that the latter condition is equivalent to saying that  ${}^tG_0 = G_0$ ,  ${}^t$  denoting the adjoint with respect to the inner product  $\langle \cdot \rangle$ , and this implies that  $G_0$  is the identity connected

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<sup>1</sup> After the talk I have learned, by a written communication with Mumford, that a closely related theory has been developed by Demazure, Mumford and others; compare his recent seminar notes at Harvard [5]; cf. also M. Demazure, *Sous-groupes algébriques de rang maximum du groupe de Cremona*, Ann. Sci. Ecole Norm. Sup 3 (1970), and M. Hochster, *Rings of invariants of tori, Cohen-Macaulay rings generated by monomials and polytopes*, Ann. of Math. 96 (1972). It seems that a fair part of our results overlaps with theirs obtained in a much wider framework. Some connections with their theory are alluded to in §4 and §9 of the text.