

CHAPTER 1

Part 1. The group Γ and its ζ -function.

In Part 1 of this chapter, we shall define the ζ -function

$$\zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \prod_P (1 - u^{\deg P})^{-1}$$

of Γ , and prove that

$$(20) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^g (1 - \pi_i u)(1 - \pi'_i u)}{(1 - u)(1 - q^2 u)} \times (1 - u)^{(q-1)(g-1)};$$

$$q = N\mathfrak{p}, \quad g \geq 2, \quad \pi_i \pi'_i = q^2 \quad (1 \leq i \leq g)$$

holds, if G/Γ is compact and Γ is torsion-free. We shall also prove the inequality; $|\pi_i|, |\pi'_i| \leq q^2$, $\pi_i, \pi'_i \neq 1, q^2$, by applying Lemma 10 (M.Kuga), §21. These results, particularly the existence of the factor $(1 - u)^{(q-1)(g-1)}$, give a starting point of our problems described in the introduction. Our formula (20) is, modulo some group theory of $PL_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}})$, a consequence of Eichler-Selberg trace formula for the Hecke operators in the space of certain automorphic forms of weight 2. However, the proof, starting at Eichler-Selberg formula and ending at (20), is by no means simple, mainly because we do not have a simple proof of Lemma 3 (§13).¹ Finally, we point out that there is also a difference in the standpoint; Eichler-Selberg's left side of the formula comes to the right side of ours; (20). For us, the subject is the set of "elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes", and not the Hecke operator.

We shall begin with the definition of the group Γ .

Discrete subgroup Γ .

§1. Let

$$(1) \quad G = PSL_2(\mathbf{R}) \times PSL_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}})$$

be considered as a topological group, and for each subset S of G , we denote by $S_{\mathbf{R}}$ resp. $S_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the set-theoretical projections of S to \mathbf{R} -component (i.e. the first component) resp.

¹We can also prove (20) (for $\mathfrak{p} \nmid 2$) by using the spectral decomposition of $L^2(G/\Gamma)$.

k_p -component (i.e. the second component) of G . In particular, we have

$$(2) \quad G_{\mathbf{R}} = PSL_2(\mathbf{R}), \quad G_p = PSL_2(k_p),$$

and for any element x of G , $x_{\mathbf{R}}$ resp. x_p denote the \mathbf{R} -component resp. the k_p -component of x ;

$$(3) \quad x = x_{\mathbf{R}} \times x_p.$$

§2. *The subject of our study is a discrete subgroup Γ of $G = G_{\mathbf{R}} \times G_p$, for which $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ and Γ_p are dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ and G_p respectively. So, throughout the following, Γ will always denote such a discrete subgroup of G .*

EXAMPLE. Let p be a prime number, and let $\mathbf{Z}^{(p)}$ be the ring of rational numbers whose denominators are powers of p ;

$$(4) \quad \mathbf{Z}^{(p)} = \{a/p^n \mid a, n \in \mathbf{Z}\}.$$

Put

$$(5) \quad \Gamma = PSL_2(\mathbf{Z}^{(p)}) = SL_2(\mathbf{Z}^{(p)}) / \pm I.$$

Let \mathbf{Q}_p be the p -adic number field. Then, by the injections $\mathbf{Z}^{(p)} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}, \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}_p$, the group Γ can be regarded as a subgroup of $G = PSL_2(\mathbf{R}) \times PSL_2(\mathbf{Q}_p)$. It is discrete in G , since if $\gamma = \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \times \gamma_p \in \Gamma$, and if γ_p is contained in $PSL_2(\mathbf{Z}_p)$ (\mathbf{Z}_p : the ring of p -adic integers), which is a neighborhood of the identity of $PSL_2(\mathbf{Q}_p)$, then $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ is contained in $PSL_2(\mathbf{Z})$, which is discrete in $PSL_2(\mathbf{R})$. It is a simple exercise, in arithmetic of algebraic groups, to check that $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Gamma_p$ are dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}, G_p$ respectively.

Now, for this particular Γ , the projection maps $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \rightarrow \Gamma_p$ are injective, and the quotient G/Γ has a finite invariant volume. The former is true in general, as the following proposition shows; as for the latter, we do not know whether it is true in general, but, curious as it may look, we think that it is quite possible.

PROPOSITION 1. *Let Γ be a discrete subgroup of G , for which $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Gamma_p$ are dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}, G_p$ respectively. Then the projection maps $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \rightarrow \Gamma_p$ are injective.*

PROOF. Let Δ be the kernel of the projection $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$.

$$(6) \quad \Delta = \{\gamma = \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \times \gamma_p \in \Gamma \mid \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} = 1\}.$$

So $\Delta_p \cong \Delta$ is discrete in G_p , and normal in Γ_p ; hence normal in G_p , the closure of Γ_p . So, Δ_p is a discrete normal subgroup of G_p . On the other hand, it is well-known that if K is any infinite field, then the group $PSL_2(K) = SL_2(K) / \pm 1$ is simple (as an abstract group). So, G_p is simple, and hence $\Delta_p = \{1\}$; hence $\Delta = \{1\}$. The injectivity of $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_p$ follows exactly in the same manner, by using the simplicity of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. \square

So, we can identify the three canonically isomorphic groups:

$$\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cong \Gamma \cong \Gamma_p.$$

PROPOSITION 2. *Let Γ be a subgroup of G such that the projection maps $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \rightarrow \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}}$ are injective, and that $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}}$, are dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}, G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ respectively. Let $U_{\mathfrak{p}}$ be an open compact subgroup of $G_{\mathfrak{p}}$, and let $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ be the projection to \mathbf{R} -component of $\Gamma^0 = \Gamma \cap (G_{\mathbf{R}} \times U_{\mathfrak{p}})$. Then, (i) Γ is discrete in G if and only if $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is discrete in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Moreover, if (i) is satisfied, then, (ii) the quotient G/Γ is compact (resp. has a finite invariant volume) if and only if $G_{\mathbf{R}}/\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is compact (resp. has a finite invariant volume).*

PROOF. The first assertion (i) is immediate. The “if” part is because $U_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is open, and the “only if” part is because $U_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is compact. As for (ii), if $G_{\mathbf{R}}/\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is compact (resp. has a finite invariant volume), then, there is a subspace $K_{\mathbf{R}}$ of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ which is compact (resp. has a finite invariant volume) such that $G_{\mathbf{R}} = K_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$. Since we have $G_{\mathfrak{p}} = U_{\mathfrak{p}} \cdot \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}}$, it follows immediately that $G = (K_{\mathbf{R}} \times U_{\mathfrak{p}}) \cdot \Gamma$; which proves the “only if” part. Conversely, if $G_{\mathbf{R}}/\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is non-compact (resp. has an infinite volume), then there is an open subset $F_{\mathbf{R}}$ of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ such that the restriction to $F_{\mathbf{R}}$ of the natural map $\varphi_{\mathbf{R}} : G_{\mathbf{R}} \rightarrow G_{\mathbf{R}}/\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is injective, and that $F_{\mathbf{R}}$ is non-compact (resp. has an arbitrarily large volume). Put $F = F_{\mathbf{R}} \times U_{\mathfrak{p}}$. Then, the restriction to F of the natural map $\varphi : G \rightarrow G/\Gamma$ is injective, and F is non-compact (resp. has an arbitrarily large volume); which proves the “if” part of (ii). \square

§3. Now, $G_{\mathbf{R}} = PSL_2(\mathbf{R})$ acts on the complex upper half plane $\mathfrak{H} = \{z \in \mathbf{C} \mid \text{Im } z > 0\}$ as:

$$(7) \quad G_{\mathbf{R}} \ni g_{\mathbf{R}} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : \quad \mathfrak{H} \ni z \mapsto g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} \in \mathfrak{H}.$$

As is well-known, $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ acts transitively on \mathfrak{H} , and is identified with the group $\text{Aut}(\mathfrak{H})$ of all automorphisms of the complex Riemann surface \mathfrak{H} . Since Γ is identified with its projection $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \subset G_{\mathbf{R}}$, Γ also acts on \mathfrak{H} . Two points $z, z' \in \mathfrak{H}$ will be called *equivalent* (or, more precisely, Γ -equivalent), if there is an element $\gamma \in \Gamma$ such that $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z'$. We note that, since $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ is dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$, each equivalence class $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z$ is also dense on \mathfrak{H} . A point $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ will be called a Γ -fixed point, if its stabilizer in Γ is infinite. For each $z \in \mathfrak{H}$, we put

$$(8) \quad \begin{cases} G_{z,\mathbf{R}} &= \{g_{\mathbf{R}} \in G_{\mathbf{R}} \mid g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z\} \cong \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z} \\ \Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}} &= \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cap G_{z,\mathbf{R}} = \{\gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \in \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \mid \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z\}. \end{cases}$$

Let $\Gamma_z, \Gamma_{z,\mathfrak{p}}$ be the subgroup of $\Gamma, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}}$ respectively which correspond to $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}}$ by the canonical isomorphism: $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}} \cong \Gamma_z \cong \Gamma_{z,\mathfrak{p}}$.

$$(9) \quad \begin{cases} \Gamma_z &= \{\gamma \in \Gamma \mid \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z\} \\ \Gamma_{z,\mathfrak{p}} &= \{\gamma_{\mathfrak{p}} \in \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \gamma \in \Gamma_z\} = \{\gamma_{\mathfrak{p}} \in \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}} \mid \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z\}. \end{cases}$$

So, $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ is a Γ -fixed point if and only if $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}} \cong \Gamma_z \cong \Gamma_{z,\mathfrak{p}}$ are infinite. Let

$$(10) \quad \varphi(\Gamma)$$

be the set of all Γ -equivalence classes of all Γ -fixed points on \mathfrak{H} . We shall see later, that $\varphi(\Gamma)$ is analogous, in various sense, to the set of all prime divisors of an algebraic function field of one variable over the finite field \mathbf{F}_{q^2} , where $q = N\mathfrak{p}$.

An element $g_{\mathbf{R}} \in G_{\mathbf{R}}, g_{\mathbf{R}} \neq 1$ will be called *elliptic* if it has a fixed point on \mathfrak{H} . So, $g_{\mathbf{R}}$ is elliptic if and only if $g_{\mathbf{R}}$ has imaginary eigenvalues, and hence if and only if $|\text{tr } g_{\mathbf{R}}| < 2$.

If $g_{\mathbf{R}}$ is elliptic, then the fixed point $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ of $g_{\mathbf{R}}$ (i.e. z such that $g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z$) is unique, and the centralizer of $g_{\mathbf{R}}$ in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ coincides with $G_{z,\mathbf{R}}$. We shall call an element γ of Γ *elliptic*, if $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ is elliptic. Thus $\gamma \in \Gamma$ is elliptic if and only if $\gamma \neq 1$, and $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$ for some (unique) $z \in \mathfrak{H}$. In this case, by the preceding remark, it is clear that the centralizer of γ in Γ is Γ_z .

To show that $\varphi(\Gamma)$ is non-empty, we note the following. Let g_p be any element of G_p of finite order n . Then the eigenvalues of g_p are contained in some quadratic extension of k_p , and are primitive n -th or $2n$ -th root of unity. Since there exist at most finitely many quadratic extensions of k_p , and since each such field contains at most finitely many roots of unity, we see that n must be bounded. Since $\Gamma_p \cong \Gamma$ is a subgroup of G_p , this shows that there are only finitely many possibilities of orders n of elements γ of Γ . Therefore, the set

$$S = \{|\operatorname{tr} \gamma_{\mathbf{R}}|; \gamma \in \Gamma, \gamma \text{ is of finite order } \neq 1\}$$

is finite. Put $G' = \{g_{\mathbf{R}} \in G_{\mathbf{R}} \mid |\operatorname{tr} g_{\mathbf{R}}| < 2\}$. Then G' is open, and contains S , which is finite; and hence $G' - S$ is again an open subset of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Since $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ is dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$, there exists an element $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \in \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cap (G' - S)$. Then $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ has a fixed point $z \in \mathfrak{H}$, and $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}}$ is infinite, since it contains $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$. So, $\varphi(\Gamma)$ is non-empty.

§4.

PROPOSITION 3. *Let $z \in \mathfrak{H}$, and let Γ_z be infinite. Then, $\Gamma_{z,p}$ is a discrete abelian subgroup of G_p . Moreover, if we put*

$$T_p = \left\{ \left(\begin{array}{cc} t_p & 0 \\ 0 & t_p^{-1} \end{array} \right) \mid t_p \in k_p^\times \right\} / \{\pm 1\} \subset G_p,$$

then there is an element $x_p \in G_p$ such that $x_p^{-1} \Gamma_{z,p} x_p \subset T_p$.

PROOF. We have $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}} \cong \Gamma_z \cong \Gamma_{z,p}$ canonically, and $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}}$ is a subgroup of $G_{z,\mathbf{R}} \cong \mathbf{R}/\mathbf{Z}$ which is compact abelian. Therefore, Γ_z is abelian. Since $\Gamma_z \subset \Gamma$ is discrete in G , and since $\Gamma_{z,\mathbf{R}}$ is an infinite subgroup of a compact subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$, we see immediately that $\Gamma_{z,p}$ must be discrete in G_p .

Now let $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$ be of infinite order, and let $\pm\{\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}\}$ be the eigenvalues of γ_p .

We shall show that $\lambda_p^{-1} \neq \lambda_p$ and that $\lambda_p \in k_p$. In fact, if $\lambda_p^{-1} = \lambda_p$, then we can assume that $\lambda_p^{-1} = \lambda_p = 1$, and hence $\gamma_p = x_p^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x_p$ with some $x_p \in GL_2(k_p)$. If p is

the characteristic of the residue field O/\mathfrak{p} , then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & p^n \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1$; hence $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_p^{p^n} = 1$, which contradicts the discreteness of $\Gamma_{z,p}$ in G_p . Therefore, $\lambda_p^{-1}, \lambda_p$ must be distinct. Suppose now that $\lambda_p^{-1} \neq \lambda_p$, but $\lambda_p \notin k_p$. Put $K_p = k_p(\lambda_p)$. Then, since $\lambda_p^{-1}, \lambda_p$ are conjugate of each other over k_p , we have $\lambda_p \in K_p^1 = \{x \in K_p \mid N_{K_p/k_p}(x) = 1\}$. Since K_p^1 is a subgroup of the group of units of K_p , K_p^1 is compact. Now if we ignore the sign and consider γ_p as an element of $SL_2(k_p)$ (choose either one of two), there is a unique isomorphism φ over k_p of K_p into $M_2(k_p)$ which sends λ_p to γ_p . So, γ_p is contained in a compact subgroup $\varphi(K_p^1)$ of G_p . Since γ_p is of infinite order by assumption, this also contradicts the discreteness of $\Gamma_{z,p}$ in G_p . So we have shown that $\lambda_p^{-1} \neq \lambda_p$ and that $\lambda_p \in k_p$.

Take $\tilde{x}_p \in GL_2(k_p)$ such that $\tilde{x}_p^{-1}\gamma_p\tilde{x}_p = \pm \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_p & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$. By putting $x_p = \tilde{x}_p \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \det \tilde{x}_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$, we get $x_p^{-1}\gamma_p x_p = \pm \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_p & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ with $x_p \in G_p$. If γ'_p is any element of $\Gamma_{z,p}$, it commutes with γ_p , and hence $x_p^{-1}\gamma'_p x_p$ is of the form $\pm \begin{pmatrix} \lambda'_p & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda'^{-1}_p \end{pmatrix}$ with some $\lambda'_p \in k_p^\times$. So, we get $x_p^{-1}\Gamma_p x_p \subset T_p$, which proves our Proposition. \square

COROLLARY . *Let Γ_z be of infinite order. Then,*

$$\Gamma_z \cong (\text{a finite cyclic group}) \times (\text{infinite cyclic group}).$$

If $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$ is of infinite order, then the eigenvalues $\pm\{\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}\}$ of γ_p are contained in k_p , and not contained in \mathcal{U}_p , \mathcal{U}_p being the group of p -adic units of k_p .

PROOF. Take $x_p \in G_p$ such that $x_p^{-1}\Gamma_{z,p}x_p \subset T_p$. For each $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$, put $x_p^{-1}\gamma_p x_p = \pm \begin{pmatrix} t_p & 0 \\ 0 & t_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$, and put $t_p = \varphi(\gamma_p)$. Then φ gives an isomorphism of Γ_z into $k_p^\times / \pm 1$, and since $\Gamma_{z,p}$ is discrete in G_p , $\varphi(\Gamma_z)$ is discrete in $k_p^\times / \pm 1$. So, $\varphi(\Gamma_z) \cap \mathcal{U}_p / \pm 1$ must be finite, and $\varphi(\Gamma_z)$ is the direct product of $\varphi(\Gamma_z) \cap \mathcal{U}_p / \pm 1$ and an infinite cyclic subgroup. \square

§5. Let $P \in \varphi(\Gamma)$, and let $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ be a Γ -fixed point contained in the class P . By Proposition 3, the set of eigenvalues $\pm\lambda_p^{\pm 1}$ of all elements γ_p of $\Gamma_{z,p}$ forms a discrete subgroup $\varphi(\Gamma_z)$ of $k_p^\times / \pm 1$. Let ord_p be the normalized additive valuation of k_p , and put

$$(11) \quad \text{ord}_p \varphi(\Gamma_z) = \{\text{ord}_p(\lambda_p^{\pm 1}) \mid \gamma_p \in \Gamma_{z,p}\}.$$

Then, this is an infinite subgroup of \mathbf{Z} , and hence is of the form $a \cdot \mathbf{Z}$ with some positive integer a . If z is replaced by a Γ -equivalent point $z' = \gamma'_R \cdot z$ ($\gamma' \in \Gamma$), then $\Gamma_{z'} = \gamma' \cdot \Gamma_z \cdot \gamma'^{-1}$, and hence we have $\varphi(\Gamma_{z'}) = \varphi(\Gamma_z)$. So, this positive integer a is determined uniquely by P . We shall call this number a , the *degree* of P , and denote it by

$$(12) \quad \text{deg } P.$$

It is clear that if $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$ is such that, together with some finite group, γ generates Γ_z , and if $\pm\{\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}\}$ are the eigenvalues of γ_p , then

$$(13) \quad \text{deg } P = |\text{ord}_p(\lambda_p)|.$$

The ζ function of Γ .

§6. We shall define the ζ function $\zeta_\Gamma(u)$ of Γ to be the following formal infinite product;

$$(14) \quad \zeta_\Gamma(u) = \prod_{P \in \varphi(\Gamma)} (1 - u^{\text{deg } P})^{-1},$$

or, equivalently,

$$(15) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \exp \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{N_m}{m} u^m$$

with

$$(16) \quad N_m = \sum_{\substack{P \in \wp(\Gamma), \\ \deg P = m}} \deg P \quad (m \geq 1).$$

That N_m are finite will be shown later.

§7. Example.² Let $\Gamma = PSL_2(\mathbf{Z}^{(p)})$ (see §2). Then, we can compute $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$ directly, by using a full knowledge of complex multiplication theory. Thus, let $J(z) = 12^3 g_2(z)^3 / [g_2(z)^3 - 27g_3(z)^2]$ be the elliptic modular function, and let \mathfrak{p} be a divisor of p in the algebraic closure $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ of the field of rational numbers \mathbf{Q} . We consider $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$ as a subfield of the complex number field \mathbf{C} , and we denote by \mathcal{O} the ring of all algebraic integers of $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}$. Moreover, we denote by \mathbf{F}_p the finite field with p elements, and by $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$ its algebraic closure. We fix an isomorphism $\mathcal{O}/\mathfrak{p} \cong \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$ and identify them. Let S be the subset of $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$ formed of all $\bar{j} \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$ such that the elliptic curve with modulus \bar{j} has no points of order p , or equivalently, the elliptic curve with modulus \bar{j} has Hasse invariant 0. Then, it is well-known that S is finite, and that S is contained in \mathbf{F}_{p^2} . The number of elements of S is given by

$$(17) \quad H = 1 \quad (p = 2, 3), \quad H = \frac{p-1}{12}, \frac{p+7}{12}, \frac{p+5}{12}, \frac{p+13}{12}$$

($p \equiv 1, 5, 7, 11 \pmod{12}$ respectively).

We shall call two elements $x, y \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p$ equivalent, and denote it by $x \sim y$, if x, y are conjugate of each other over \mathbf{F}_{p^2} . So, the number of distinct y with $y \sim x$ (x : given) is equal to the degree of x over \mathbf{F}_{p^2} , which will be called the degree of the equivalence class. Since $S \subset \mathbf{F}_{p^2}$, we can consider S also as a subset of $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim$.

Now, for each $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$, let z_P be a Γ -fixed point contained in the class P , and let $J(z_P)$ be the value of J at $z = z_P$. Then, by using complex multiplication theory, we can check that $J(z_P) \in \mathcal{O}$, and that the map \mathcal{J} of $\wp(\Gamma)$ into $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim$ defined by

$$(18) \quad \mathcal{J} : \wp(\Gamma) \ni P \mapsto J(z_P) \pmod{\mathfrak{p}} \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim$$

is well-defined (the congruence relation!), injective, and degree preserving. Moreover, the image of \mathcal{J} coincides with $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim - S$. Thus, \mathcal{J} gives a degree-preserving one-to-one correspondence between $\wp(\Gamma)$ and $\overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim - S$. Since a straightforward computation shows that

$$\prod_{\bar{x} \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}_p/\sim - S} (1 - u^{\deg \bar{x}})^{-1} = \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-p^2u)} \times (1-u)^{1+H},$$

²See Chapter 5 for the proof.

we get

$$(19) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \frac{1}{(1-u)(1-p^2u)} \times (1-u)^{1+H},$$

where H is given by (17).

§8. Now let us compute $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$ for more general Γ . We shall restrict ourselves to the case where Γ is torsion-free (i.e. Γ has no elements of finite order) and where the quotient G/Γ is compact. Our purpose is to prove the following theorem.

THEOREM 1. *Let Γ be a torsion-free discrete subgroup of G with compact quotient, and with dense images of projections $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}}$ in $G_{\mathbf{R}}, G_{\mathfrak{p}}$ respectively. Then we have;*

$$(20) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^g (1 - \pi_i u)(1 - \pi'_i u)}{(1-u)(1-q^2u)} \times (1-u)^{(q-1)(g-1)},$$

where $q = N\mathfrak{p}$, and g is the genus of $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \backslash \mathfrak{S}$, with $\Gamma^0 = \Gamma \cap (G_{\mathbf{R}} \times U_{\mathfrak{p}})$, $U_{\mathfrak{p}} = PSL_2(O_{\mathfrak{p}})$. The numbers π_i, π'_i ($1 \leq i \leq g$) are algebraic integers satisfying $\pi_i \pi'_i = q^2$ ($1 \leq i \leq g$).

REMARK . Since $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ is a torsion-free discrete subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ with compact quotient (see §2, Proposition 2), we have $g \geq 2$. The formula (20) is equivalent to saying that N_m defined by (16) is finite and is given by:

$$(20') \quad N_m = q^{2m} + 1 - \sum_{i=1}^g (\pi_i^m + \pi_i'^m) - (q-1)(g-1) \quad (m \geq 1).$$

This formula for $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$ is one of the starting point of our study of Γ .

Lemmas for the proof of Theorem 1.

§9. The proof of Theorem 1 is based on three basic lemmas; Lemmas 1, 2 and 3. We shall begin by describing Lemma 1.

Let Δ be a torsion-free discrete subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}} = PSL_2(\mathbf{R})$ with compact quotient, and let $\tilde{\Delta}$ be a subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ containing Δ such that, for any $\gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}$, the subgroups $\Delta, \gamma\Delta\gamma^{-1}$ of $\tilde{\Delta}$ are commensurable with each other. Let $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$ be the Hecke ring³ defined with respect to $\tilde{\Delta}$ and Δ . For each double coset $\Delta\gamma\Delta \in \mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$, we put

$$(21) \quad d(\Delta\gamma\Delta) = (\Delta : \gamma^{-1}\Delta\gamma \cap \Delta) = |\Delta \backslash \Delta\gamma\Delta|,$$

and define $d(X)$ for arbitrary $X \in \mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$ by (21) and by linearity. Thus $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta) \ni X \mapsto d(X)$ gives a linear representation of the ring $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$.

On the other hand, let \mathfrak{M}_k be the space of all holomorphic automorphic forms of weight k ($k = 2, 4, 6, \dots$) with respect to Δ . For each $\Delta\gamma\Delta \in \mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$, put $\Delta\gamma\Delta = \sum_{i=1}^d \Delta\gamma_i$ ($d =$

³Defined with respect to the left Δ -cosets.

$d(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$), and let $\rho_k(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ be the Hecke operator; i.e. the linear endomorphism of \mathfrak{M}_k defined by:

$$(22) \quad \rho_k(\Delta\gamma\Delta) : \mathfrak{M}_k \ni f(z) \mapsto \sum_{i=1}^d f\left(\frac{a_i z + b_i}{c_i z + d_i}\right) (c_i z + d_i)^{-k} \in \mathfrak{M}_k,$$

where $\gamma_i = \pm \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_i \\ c_i & d_i \end{pmatrix}$ ($1 \leq i \leq d$). This is independent of the choice of representatives $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d$. Define $\rho_k(X)$ for arbitrary $X \in \mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$ by (22) and by linearity. Then, it is also easy to check (and is well-known) that ρ_k gives an representation of the ring $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$ in the ring of all linear endomorphisms of \mathfrak{M}_k . Now, by Petersson,

$$(f, g) = \int_{\Delta \backslash \mathfrak{H}} f(z) \overline{g(z)} y^{k-2} dx dy \quad (z = x + iy)$$

gives a positive hermitian form on \mathfrak{M}_k , and the adjoint of $\rho_k(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ with respect to this hermitian form is $\rho_k(\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta)$. Therefore, if $\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta = \Delta\gamma\Delta$ is satisfied for all $\gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}$, then the Hecke operators $\rho_k(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ are all hermitian. Moreover, $\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta = \Delta\gamma\Delta$ ($\forall \gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}$) implies the commutativity of the ring $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$. Therefore, under this condition, ρ_k is a direct sum of real *linear* representations of $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$.

Recall now that an element $g_{\mathbb{R}} \in G_{\mathbb{R}}$ is called elliptic if it has a fixed point on \mathfrak{H} . It is clear that if $g_{\mathbb{R}} \in \Delta\gamma\Delta$ ($\gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}$) is elliptic, and if $\delta \in \Delta$, then $\delta^{-1}g_{\mathbb{R}}\delta$ is also elliptic and contained in $\Delta\gamma\Delta$. Let $A(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ be the number of all elliptic Δ -conjugacy classes contained in $\Delta\gamma\Delta$. Then, if $\Delta\gamma\Delta \neq \Delta$, Eichler-Selberg's trace formula for the Hecke operators asserts that ⁴:

$$(23') \quad A(\Delta\gamma\Delta) = d(\Delta\gamma\Delta) + d(\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta) - \text{tr } \rho_2(\Delta\gamma\Delta) - \text{tr } \rho_2(\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta).$$

(cf. Eichler [12]). As a summary (for $k = 2$), we get:

LEMMA 1. *Let $\Delta, \tilde{\Delta}$ be as in the beginning of §9, and assume that we have $\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta = \Delta\gamma\Delta$ for all $\gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}$. Let $\rho = \rho_2$ be the representation (22) of $\mathcal{H}(\tilde{\Delta}, \Delta)$; the Hecke operators in the space of automorphic forms of weight 2 with respect to Δ . Then, ρ is a direct sum of g linear real representations χ_1, \dots, χ_g , where g is the genus of $\Delta \backslash \mathfrak{H}$. Moreover, if $\gamma \in \tilde{\Delta}, \gamma \notin \Delta$, then the number $A(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ of elliptic Δ -conjugacy classes contained in $\Delta\gamma\Delta$ is given by*

$$(23) \quad A(\Delta\gamma\Delta) = 2(d(\Delta\gamma\Delta) - \text{tr } \rho(\Delta\gamma\Delta)),$$

where $d(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ is defined by (21).

We remark that, in Eichler-Selberg, $\text{tr } \rho(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ comes on the left side; while in our point-view, $A(\Delta\gamma\Delta)$ is "wanted" and comes on the left side.

⁴This can also be proved by Lefschetz' fixed point Theorem.

§10. The second basic lemma is concerned with the Hecke ring $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$, where $G_p = PSL_2(k_p)$ and

$$(24) \quad U_p = PSL_2(O_p) = SL_2(O_p) / \pm 1.$$

It is clear that $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$ is defined, since $g_p^{-1}U_p g_p$ and U_p , for any $g_p \in G_p$, are commensurable with each other. Let p be a prime element of k_p (i.e. $pO_p = \mathfrak{p}$). Then, by elementary divisor theory, it is well-known that

$$(25) \quad Y_l = U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p \quad (l = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

gives all distinct U_p double cosets contained in G_p , and that we have

$$(26) \quad Y_l^{-1} = Y_l \quad (l = 0, 1, 2, \dots); \quad Y_0 = U_p.$$

LEMMA 2. *We have*

$$(27) \quad |Y_0 \setminus Y_l| = q^{2l} + q^{2l-1} \quad (l \geq 1),$$

and

$$(28) \quad \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} Y_l u^l = \frac{(1-u)(1+qu)}{1 - (Y_1 - q + 1)u + q^2 u^2},$$

where the second formula implies the identity between two power series of u with coefficients in $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$.

The proof of Lemma 2 will be given later, in §17.

Now, let Γ be a discrete subgroup of $G = G_{\mathbf{R}} \times G_p$ such that $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ and Γ_p are dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ and G_p respectively. For each $l = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, we put

$$(29) \quad \Gamma^l = \{\gamma \in \Gamma \mid \gamma_p \in Y_l\}.$$

In particular, $\Gamma^0 = \Gamma \cap (G_{\mathbf{R}} \times U_p)$ forms a subgroup of Γ ; and for any $\gamma \in \Gamma$, $\gamma^{-1}\Gamma^0\gamma$ and Γ^0 are commensurable with each other. It is obvious that we have $\Gamma^0 \cdot \Gamma^l \cdot \Gamma^0 = \Gamma^l$ for each $l \geq 0$, because $Y_0 Y_l Y_0 = Y_l$ ($l \geq 0$) holds; and moreover, each Γ^l consists of a single Γ^0 -double-coset. In fact, let $\gamma, \gamma' \in \Gamma^l$. Then $\gamma_p, \gamma'_p \in Y_l = U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p$; hence there exist $u_p, u'_p \in Y_0 = U_p$ such that $\gamma'_p = u_p \gamma_p u'_p$. Recall that Γ_p is dense in G_p , and take $\delta_p \in \Gamma_p^0$ which is sufficiently near u_p . Then $\delta'_p = \gamma'_p{}^{-1} \delta_p \gamma_p$ is sufficiently near $u'_p{}^{-1}$ and hence is contained in U_p . On the other hand, δ'_p is in Γ_p ; hence we have $\delta_p \gamma_p \delta'_p{}^{-1} = \gamma'_p$ with $\delta_p, \delta'_p \in \Gamma_p^0$. Therefore, each Γ^l consists of a single Γ^0 -double coset. Now, since we have $U_p \Gamma_p = G_p$ and $U_p \cap \Gamma_p = \Gamma_p^0$, it is now clear that the projection $\Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma_p \subset G_p$ induces a canonical isomorphism of $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$ and $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$, which sends to Γ^l to Y_l ($l \geq 0$). So, by Lemma 2, we get:

LEMMA 2'. *We have*

$$(30) \quad |\Gamma^0 \setminus \Gamma^l| = q^{2l} + q^{2l-1} \quad (l \geq 1),$$

and

$$(31) \quad \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \Gamma^l u^l = \frac{(1-u)(1+qu)}{1 - (\Gamma^1 - q + 1)u + q^2 u^2},$$

where the second formula implies the identity between two power series of u with coefficients in $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$. Moreover, each Γ^l is self-inverse (and hence $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$ is commutative).

§11. Before stating the third lemma, we need some alternative definition of $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$, which is simple in our case where Γ is torsion-free. Now, Γ being assumed torsion-free, each $\Gamma_z \neq \{1\}$ is isomorphic to the infinite cyclic group. We recall that $\gamma \in \Gamma$ is called elliptic if $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ is elliptic, and hence equivalently, if $\gamma \neq 1$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma_z$ for some z . Such z is unique; hence we may write $\gamma = \gamma_z$. An elliptic element $\gamma \in \Gamma$ will be called *primitive*, if $\gamma = \gamma_z$ generates Γ_z . Thus it is clear that an elliptic element can be expressed uniquely as a positive integral power of a primitive elliptic element of Γ . If $\gamma = \gamma_z$ is elliptic, and if $\delta \in \Gamma$, then $\delta\gamma\delta^{-1}$ is elliptic, being contained in $\Gamma_{\delta z}$. If moreover γ is primitive, then $\delta\gamma\delta^{-1}$ is also primitive, since it generates $\Gamma_{\delta z} = \delta\Gamma_z\delta^{-1}$. So, we shall call a Γ -conjugacy class $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$ *elliptic*, if γ is so, and *primitive*, if γ is moreover primitive. Since Γ is torsion-free, it is clear by Proposition 3 (§4) that, if γ is elliptic, then the eigenvalues $\pm\{\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}\}$ of γ_p are contained in k_p , and are not in \mathcal{U}_p .

PROPOSITION 4. *Let $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$ be an elliptic Γ -conjugacy class. Then, $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma} \neq \{\gamma^{-1}\}_{\Gamma}$.*

PROOF. It is enough to show that $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1}$ and $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ are not conjugate in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Suppose, on the contrary, that we had $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1} = g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot g_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1}$ with some $g_{\mathbf{R}} \in G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Let z be the fixed point of $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$, $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1}$. Then $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1}(g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z) = g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z$; hence $g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z$ is also fixed by $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1}$. Therefore we have $g_{\mathbf{R}} \cdot z = z$; hence $g_{\mathbf{R}} \in G_{z, \mathbf{R}}$. Since $G_{z, \mathbf{R}}$ is abelian, this implies $g_{\mathbf{R}} \gamma_{\mathbf{R}} g_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1} = \gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$, hence $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^{-1} = \gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$. But this is a contradiction, since $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \neq 1$ and, by assumption, Γ has no elements of finite order. \square

PROPOSITION 5. *$\wp(\Gamma)$ is in one-to-one correspondence with the set of all mutually inverse pairs $\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_{\Gamma}$ of primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes.*

PROOF. This is immediate, if we recall the definitions of $\wp(\Gamma)$ (§3) and of primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes. The one-to-one correspondence is defined as follows. Take any $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$ and a Γ -fixed point $z \in \mathfrak{H}$ contained in the Γ -equivalence class P . Then Γ_z is the infinite cyclic group. Let γ, γ^{-1} be its generators. Then $P \mapsto \{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_{\Gamma}$ gives the desired one-to-one correspondence. \square

§12. Let $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$ be any elliptic Γ -conjugacy class, and let $\pm\{\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}\}$ be the eigenvalues of γ_p . We know that $\lambda_p, \lambda_p^{-1}$ are in k_p and not in \mathcal{U}_p . Put

$$(32) \quad \deg\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma} = |\text{ord}_p \lambda_p|.$$

It is clear that this is a well-defined *positive* integer, and that for any $r \in \mathbf{Z}$, we have $\deg\{\gamma^r\}_{\Gamma} = |r| \deg\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$. Moreover, if a pair $\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_{\Gamma}$ of mutually inverse primitive elliptic

conjugacy classes corresponds to $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$, then, $\deg P = \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$ holds. (Recall the definition of $\deg P$ for $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$).

$$(33) \quad \wp(\Gamma) \ni P \leftrightarrow \{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_\Gamma: \text{primitive elliptic} \Rightarrow \deg P = \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma.$$

So, our ζ function $\zeta_\Gamma(u)$ can also be defined as

$$(34) \quad \zeta_\Gamma(u) = \prod_{\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_\Gamma} (1 - u^{\deg\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_\Gamma})^{-1},$$

where $\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_\Gamma$ runs over all pairs of mutually inverse primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes. We shall need the following alternative definition of $\deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$;

PROPOSITION 6. *For each $\gamma \in \Gamma^l$, we put $l(\gamma) = l$. Let $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$ be an elliptic Γ -conjugacy class. Then we have:*

$$(35) \quad \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma = \text{Min}_{x \in \{\gamma\}_\Gamma} l(x).$$

PROOF. Since γ is elliptic (and γ is of infinite order, since Γ is assumed torsion-free), by Proposition 3, there is an element $g_p \in G_p$ such that $g_p^{-1}\gamma_p g_p = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_p & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ with $\lambda_p \in k_p$; and we have $\deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma = |\text{ord}_p(\lambda_p)|$. Put $d = \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$. Then, $g_p^{-1}\gamma_p g_p = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_p & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_p^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \in U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^d & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-d} \end{pmatrix} U_p = Y_d$; where $U_p = PSL(O_p)$ and p is a prime element of k_p . Let $\delta_p \in \Gamma_p$ be sufficiently near g_p . Then $\delta_p^{-1}\gamma_p \delta_p \in Y_d$. So, if $\delta \in \Gamma$ corresponds to δ_p , we have $l(\delta^{-1}\gamma\delta) = d$; hence we have $d \geq \text{Min}_{x \in \{\gamma\}_\Gamma} l(x)$. Now let γ' be any element of $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$, and put $\gamma'_p = \pm \begin{pmatrix} a_p & b_p \\ c_p & d_p \end{pmatrix} \in G_p$. Put $l' = l(\gamma')$; hence $\gamma'_p \in Y_{l'}$. This implies that the entries of $p^{l'} \begin{pmatrix} a_p & b_p \\ c_p & d_p \end{pmatrix}$ are integers. Therefore, its eigenvalues $\pm\{p^{l'}\lambda_p, p^{l'}\lambda_p^{-1}\}$, must also be integers; which implies $l' \geq |\text{ord}_p \lambda_p| = d$; hence we get $d \leq \text{Min}_{x \in \{\gamma\}_\Gamma} l(x)$. \square

§13. Now, the third lemma is on a relation between Γ - and Γ^0 -conjugacy classes. By Proposition 6, if $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$ is elliptic, then $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^l = \emptyset$ for $l < \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$. We have:

LEMMA 3. *Let $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$ be a primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy class, put $d = \deg\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$, and let $r \geq 1$. Then, (i) $\{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr}$ consists of exactly d distinct Γ^0 -conjugacy classes. (ii) If $k \geq 1$, then $\{\gamma^k\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$ consists of exactly $dq^{k-1}(q-1)$ distinct Γ^0 -conjugacy classes.*

The proof, which requires some preliminary studies on the structure of $PL_2(k_p)$, will be given later, in §19.⁵

COROLLARY . *Let $A_m(m \geq 1)$ be the one-half of the number of elliptic Γ^0 -conjugacy classes contained in Γ^m , and let $N_m(m \geq 1)$ be, as in §6 (16), the sum of all $\deg P$ for all*

⁵An alternative and easier proof is given in Part 2, §30, in the proof of Corollary of Theorem 4.

$P \in \wp(\Gamma)$ with $\deg P \mid m$:

$$A_m = \frac{1}{2} \#\{\text{elliptic } \Gamma^0\text{-conjugacy classes in } \Gamma^m\}$$

$$N_m = \sum_{\substack{P \in \wp(\Gamma), \\ \deg P \mid m}} \deg P.$$

Then, they are both finite, and we have:

$$(36) \quad A_m = N_m + (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} q^{k-1} N_{m-k} \quad (m \geq 1)$$

$$(37) \quad N_m = A_m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} A_{m-k} \quad (m \geq 1).$$

PROOF. The finiteness of A_m is a special case of Lemma 1, applied to $\tilde{\Delta} = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Delta = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$. To show the finiteness of N_m , it is enough to show that there are at most finitely many elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$ with a given degree d . But, by Proposition 6, such $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma}$ intersects Γ^d and the intersection $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma} \cap \Gamma^d$ is a union of (several) elliptic Γ^0 -conjugacy classes. Therefore, the finiteness of N_m follows immediately from that of A_d for $d \mid m$.

Now, (36) is a direct consequence of Proposition 6 and Lemma 3. In fact, each elliptic Γ^0 -conjugacy class contained in Γ^m defines an elliptic Γ -conjugacy class, which can be written as $\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}$, where $\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}$ is primitive and $r \geq 1$. If we put $d = \deg\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}$, then, by Proposition 6, we have $rd \leq m$. So, fix k ($0 \leq k \leq m-1$), and for each $d \mid m-k$, consider all primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy classes $\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}$ of degree d . Put $rd = m-k$. Then, $\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma} \cap \Gamma^m = \{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma} \cap \Gamma^{rd+k}$ consists of d ($k=0$) or $dq^{k-1}(q-1)$ ($k>0$) distinct Γ^0 -conjugacy classes (Lemma 3). Therefore, we have:

$$2A_m = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \sum_{d \mid m-k} \#\{\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}; \text{ primitive, elliptic, degree } d\} \times \begin{cases} d & \dots k=0, \\ dq^{k-1}(q-1) & \dots k>0. \end{cases}$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \sum_{\substack{\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma}; \text{ primitive elliptic} \\ \deg\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma} \mid m-k}} \deg\{\gamma'\}_{\Gamma} \times \begin{cases} 1 & \dots k=0, \\ q^{k-1}(q-1) & \dots k>0. \end{cases}$$

So, by Proposition 5 and (33), we get

$$A_m = N_m + (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} q^{k-1} N_{m-k},$$

which settles (36). Now, (37) is a formal consequence of (36). In fact, it can be checked directly, by substituting (36) on the right side of (37). \square

The proof of Theorem 1 assuming Lemmas 2, 3.

§14. We have

$$(37) \quad N_m = A_m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} A_{m-k}.$$

Apply Lemma 1 for $\tilde{\Delta} = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Delta = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$. Since we can identify $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$ with $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}, \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0)$, we consider d, ρ as representations of $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$. Since, by (30), we have $d(\Gamma^m) = |\Gamma^0 \setminus \Gamma^m| = q^{2m} + q^{2m-1}$, we get

$$(38) \quad A_m = q^{2m} + q^{2m-1} - \text{tr } \rho(\Gamma^m) \quad (m \geq 1).$$

By substituting (38) in (37), we get

$$(39) \quad N_m = q^{2m} + q - \text{tr } \rho(\Gamma^m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \Gamma^{m-k}).$$

Since $\text{tr } \rho(I) = g$, the genus of $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \setminus \mathfrak{H}$, we get

$$(40) \quad N_m = q^{2m} + 1 - (q-1)(g-1) - \text{tr } \rho(\Gamma^m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma^{m-k}).$$

On the other hand, by (31) (Lemma 2') we get

$$(41) \quad \frac{1-qu}{1-u} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \Gamma^m u^m = \frac{1-q^2 u^2}{1-(\Gamma^1 - q + 1)u + q^2 u^2};$$

and by a simple computation, we see that the left side of (41) is equal to

$$(42) \quad \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left\{ \Gamma^m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma^{m-k} \right\} u^m.$$

Put

$$(43) \quad 1 - (\Gamma^1 - q + 1)u + q^2 u^2 = (1 - \pi u)(1 - \pi' u)$$

formally, with $\pi\pi' = \pi'\pi = q^2$. Then,

$$(44) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{(1-\pi u)(1-\pi' u)} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (\pi^m + \pi^{m-1}\pi' + \dots + \pi'^m) u^m \\ &= 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (\pi^m + \pi'^m) u^m + q^2 u^2 \frac{1}{(1-\pi u)(1-\pi' u)}; \end{aligned}$$

hence we get

$$(45) \quad \frac{1 - q^2 u^2}{(1-\pi u)(1-\pi' u)} = 1 + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (\pi^m + \pi'^m) u^m.$$

Therefore, by (41), we get

$$(46) \quad \Gamma^m - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma^{m-k} = \pi^m + \pi'^m \quad (m \geq 1).$$

This is a formal computation, but this shows that if χ is a linear representation of the ring $\mathcal{H}(\Gamma, \Gamma^0)$, and if we put

$$1 - (\chi(\Gamma^1) - q + 1)u + q^2u^2 = (1 - \pi u)(1 - \pi' u),$$

then

$$(47) \quad \chi(\Gamma^m) - (q - 1) \sum_{k=1}^m \chi(\Gamma^{m-k}) = \pi^m + \pi'^m \quad (m \geq 1)$$

holds. Now, by Lemma 1, ρ is a direct sum of g linear representations:

$$\rho = \chi_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \chi_g;$$

so, by putting

$$(48) \quad 1 - (\chi_i(\Gamma^1) - q + 1)u + q^2u^2 = (1 - \pi_i u)(1 - \pi'_i u) \quad (1 \leq i \leq g, \pi_i \pi'_i = q^2)$$

we get

$$(49) \quad \chi_i(\Gamma^m) - (q - 1) \sum_{k=1}^m \chi_i(\Gamma^{m-k}) = \pi_i^m + \pi_i'^m \quad (1 \leq i \leq g, m \geq 1).$$

So, by summing over i ($1 \leq i \leq g$), we obtain:

$$(50) \quad \text{tr} \rho \{ \Gamma^m - (q - 1) \sum_{k=1}^m \Gamma^{m-k} \} = \sum_{i=1}^g (\pi_i^m + \pi_i'^m);$$

and hence, by (40), we get

$$(51) \quad N_m = q^{2m} + 1 - (q - 1)(g - 1) - \sum_{i=1}^g (\pi_i^m + \pi_i'^m) \quad (m \geq 1);$$

and hence we get

$$(52) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \exp \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{N_m}{m} u^m = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^g (1 - \pi_i u)(1 - \pi'_i u)}{(1 - u)(1 - q^2 u)} \times (1 - u)^{(q-1)(g-1)}.$$

Since (48) are the eigenvalues of $1 - (\rho(\Gamma^1) - q + 1)u + q^2u^2$, we have

$$(53) \quad \zeta_{\Gamma}(u) = \frac{\det\{1 - (\rho(\Gamma^1) - q + 1)u + q^2u^2\}}{(1 - u)(1 - q^2u)} \times (1 - u)^{(q-1)(g-1)}.$$

That π_i, π'_i ($1 \leq i \leq g$) are algebraic integers follows immediately from (51) (for $m = 1, \dots, 2g$). \square

So, we have also shown:

A SUPPLEMENT TO THEOREM 1. *The numerator of the main factor of $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$ is given by:*

$$(54) \quad \prod_{i=1}^g (1 - \pi_i u)(1 - \pi'_i u) = \det\{1 - (\rho(\Gamma^1) - q + 1)u + q^2u^2\}.$$

Proofs of Lemmas 2, 3.

§15. Put

$$(55) \quad X = PL_2(k_p) = GL_2(k_p)/k_p^\times.$$

Then, for any element $x \in X$, we can take its representative $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \pmod{k_p^\times}$ such that a, b, c, d are all contained in O_p , but not all are in \mathfrak{p} . Put $(ad - bc)O_p = \mathfrak{p}^{l(x)}$. Then, $l(x)$ is a non-negative integer, well-defined by x . We shall call it the *length* of x . It is clear that we have

$$(56) \quad \begin{aligned} l(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n) &\leq l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_n) \\ &\equiv l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_n) \pmod{2}, \end{aligned}$$

for any $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$. Put

$$(57) \quad X_l = \{x \in X \mid l(x) = l\}.$$

In particular,

$$(58) \quad X_0 = PL_2(O_p) = GL_2(O_p)/\mathcal{U}_p$$

is an open compact subgroup of X ; and it is well-known by elementary divisor theory, that each X_l consists of a single X_0 -double-coset;

$$(59) \quad X_l = X_0 \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X_0, \text{ where } p \text{ is any prime element of } k_p.$$

Since X_0 is open compact, for any $x \in X$, the subgroups $x^{-1}X_0x$ and X_0 are commensurable with each other; hence $|X_0 \backslash X_l|$ for each $l \geq 0$ is finite, and the Hecke ring $\mathcal{H}(X, X_0)$ can be defined. Moreover, since $l(x^{-1}) = l(x)$ for each $x \in X$, each X_l is self-inverse, and hence $\mathcal{H}(X, X_0)$ is commutative. Now, the following lemma is a very well-known one:

LEMMA 4. *Let p be a prime element of k_p , and let $l \geq 1$. Then the following set of matrices mod k_p^\times forms a set of representatives of $X_0 \backslash X_l$:*

$$(60) \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p^m & \alpha \\ 0 & p^n \end{pmatrix}; \begin{array}{l} m, n \geq 0, m + n = l \\ \alpha : \text{representatives of } O_p \pmod{\mathfrak{p}^n} \\ \text{If } m, n \text{ are both } > 0, \text{ then } \alpha \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}} \end{array} \right\}.$$

In particular, we have

$$(61) \quad X_1 = X_0 \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + \sum_{\alpha \pmod{p}} X_0 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{disjoint});$$

hence we have $|X_0 \backslash X_1| = 1 + q$.

§16. Now we shall prove the following two equivalent lemmas; Lemmas 5, 5'.

LEMMA 5. Put $X_1 = \sum_{i=0}^q X_0 \pi_i$ (disjoint). Then,

- (i) For each i ($0 \leq i \leq q$), there exists a unique suffix j ($0 \leq j \leq q$) such that $\pi_j \pi_i \in X_0$.
We shall put $j = \rho(i)$ ($0 \leq i \leq q$).
- (ii) Any element $x \in X_l$ ($l \geq 0$) can be expressed uniquely in the form:

$$(62) \quad x = u \pi_{i_1} \pi_{i_2} \cdots \pi_{i_l}, \text{ with } u \in X_0, i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}) \ (1 \leq \forall n \leq l-1).$$

Conversely, an element $x \in X$ of the form (62) is contained in X_l . In short, we have

$$(63) \quad X_l = \sum' X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l},$$

where the disjoint union \sum' is over all $\{i_1, \dots, i_l\}$ such that $i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1})$ for all n ($1 \leq n \leq l$).

We note that (i) is trivial, since $j = \rho(i)$ is uniquely determined by $X_0 \pi_j = X_0 \pi_i^{-1}$. This is merely for a better understanding of (ii).

LEMMA 5'. As elements of $\mathcal{H}(X, X_0)$, we have

$$(64) \quad X_1^2 = X_2 + (q+1)X_0,$$

$$(65) \quad X_l X_l = X_l X_1 = X_{l+1} + qX_{l-1} \quad (l \geq 2).$$

This Lemma 5' is more or less well-known. We shall prove Lemma 5 (ii) and Lemma 5' in the following order;

Lemma 5 (ii) for a particular $\pi_0, \dots, \pi_q \Rightarrow$ Lemma 5' \Rightarrow Lemma 5 (ii) for any π_0, \dots, π_q .

PROOF. Let p be a prime element of k_p , and let $\alpha_1 = 0, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_q$ be a set of representatives of $\mathcal{O}_p \pmod p$. Put

$$(66) \quad \pi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \pi_i = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_i \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \quad (1 \leq i \leq q).$$

By (61), we have $X_1 = \sum_{i=0}^q X_0 \pi_i$ (disjoint). Since

$$\pi_0 \pi_i = \begin{pmatrix} p & p\alpha_i \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{k_p^\times},$$

we have $\pi_0 \pi_i \in X_0$ for $1 \leq i \leq q$, and hence $\rho(i) = 0$ ($1 \leq i \leq q$). Since

$$\pi_1 \pi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{pmatrix} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \pmod{k_p^\times},$$

we have $\pi_1 \pi_0 \in X_0$; hence $\rho(0) = 1$. So, to show Lemma 5 (ii), it is enough to show that:

$$(67) \quad X_l = \sum_{s=0}^l \sum_{\substack{i_1, \dots, i_{l-s} \geq 1, \\ i_{l-s} > 1 \text{ if } s > 0}} X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_{l-s}} \pi_0^s \quad (\text{disjoint}).$$

But we have

$$\pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_{l-s}} \pi_0^s = \begin{pmatrix} p^s & \alpha_{i_{l-s}} + \alpha_{i_{l-s-1}} p + \cdots + \alpha_{i_1} p^{l-s-1} \\ 0 & p^{l-s} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence, (67) follows immediately from Lemma 4. So, Lemma 5 (ii) is proved for the particular π_0, \dots, π_q given by (66). This also shows $|X_0 \setminus X_l| = q^l + q^{l-1}$ ($l \geq 1$).

Now let us prove Lemma 5'. Let π_0, \dots, π_q be as in (66). Then we have $X_1 = \sum_{i=0}^q X_0 \pi_i$; hence $X_1^2 = \sum_{i,j} X_0 \pi_j \pi_i$, multiplicity being taken into account. Hence

$$X_1^2 = \sum_{i,j} X_0 \pi_j \pi_i + \sum_{i,j} X_0 \pi_j \pi_i = X_2 + \sum_{j=\rho(i)} X_0 = X_2 + (q+1)X_0.$$

By Lemma 5 (ii) for these π_0, \dots, π_q , we have $X_l = \sum_{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}), \forall n} X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l}$. So,

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 X_l &= \sum_{i=0}^q \sum_{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1})} X_0 \pi_i \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}), \\ i \neq \rho(i_1)}} X_0 \pi_i \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} + \sum_{\substack{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}), \\ i = \rho(i_1)}} X_0 \pi_i \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} \\ &= X_{l+1} + \sum_{\substack{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}), \\ 1 \leq n \leq l-1}} X_0 \pi_{i_2} \cdots \pi_{i_l} \\ &= X_{l+1} + \sum_{i_1 \neq \rho(i_2)} \sum_{\substack{i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1}), \\ 2 \leq n \leq l-1}} X_0 \pi_{i_2} \cdots \pi_{i_l} \\ &= X_{l+1} + qX_{l-1} \quad (\geq 2). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\mathcal{H}(X, X_0)$ is commutative, we have $X_l X_1 = X_1 X_l = X_{l+1} + qX_{l-1}$; hence Lemma 5' is proved.

Finally, let us prove Lemma 5 (ii) for an arbitrary set $\pi_0, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_q$ of representatives of $X_0 \setminus X_1$; $X_1 = \sum_{i=0}^q X_0 \pi_i$. By (65), we obtain

$$(68) \quad X_l^l = X_l + cX_{l-2} + c'X_{l-4} + \cdots \quad (l \geq 1),$$

where c, c', \dots are non-negative integers. In fact, it is trivial for $l = 1$; so, assume that (68) is true for some $l \geq 1$, and multiply X_1 on both sides. Then from (65) follows directly that (68) is also true for $l + 1$. Now, the expression of X_l^l by the formal sum of left X_0 -cosets, multiplicities being taken into account, will be

$$(69) \quad \sum X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} = \sum' X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} + \text{lower length terms,}$$

where the first formal sum \sum is over all $0 \leq i_1, \dots, i_l \leq q$, and the second one, \sum' , is over all $0 \leq i_1, \dots, i_l \leq q$, with $i_n \neq \rho(i_{n+1})$ for all n ($1 \leq n \leq l-1$). On the other hand, the number of terms under \sum' in (69) is $q^l + q^{l-1}$, which is equal to $|X_0 \setminus X_l|$. Thus, by comparing (68) and (69), we see that all left X_0 cosets under \sum' in (69) must be mutually distinct, elements of such left X_0 cosets have length l , and that

$$X_l = \sum' X_0 \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l} \quad (\text{disjoint});$$

which proves Lemma 5 (ii). □

COROLLARY 1. *We have*

$$(70) \quad |X_0 \setminus X_l| = |X_l / X_0| = q^l + q^{l-1} \quad \text{for } l \geq 1.$$

REMARK. Since $X_l^{-1} = X_l$, we have $|X_l / X_0| = |X_0 \setminus X_l|$.

COROLLARY 2. *We have*

$$(71) \quad \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_l u^l = \frac{1 - u^2}{1 - X_1 u + q u^2},$$

as an identity between two formal power series of u with coefficients in $\mathcal{H}(X, X_0)$.

PROOF. That $(1 - X_1 u + q u^2) \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_l u^l = 1 - u^2$ follows directly from Lemma 5'. \square

§17. The proof of Lemma 2. Put

$$(72) \quad \begin{aligned} X' &= \{x \in X \mid l(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\} \\ &= \bigcup_{l=0}^{\infty} X_{2l}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, X' forms a subgroup of X with index 2. It is easy to see that if $X \ni x \mapsto \det x \in k_p^\times/k_p^{\times 2}$ is the homomorphism of X onto $k_p^\times/k_p^{\times 2}$ induced from the determinant map: $GL_2(k_p) \ni x \mapsto \det x \in k_p^\times$, then we have

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & X = PL_2(k_p) \\ & & \Big| \\ & & 2 \\ & & \Big| \\ & & X' = G_p X_0 \\ & \swarrow & \Big| \\ PSL_2(k_p) = G_p & & \\ & \searrow & \Big| \\ & & X_0 = PL_2(O_p) \\ & & \swarrow \\ PSL_2(O_p) = U_p & & \end{array}$$

$$(73) \quad \begin{aligned} X' &= \{x \in X \mid \det x \in k_p^{\times 2} \mathcal{U}_p / k_p^{\times 2}\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid \text{ord}_p(\det x) \equiv 0 \pmod{2}\} \\ &= PL_2(O_p) \cdot PSL_2(k_p) = X_0 \cdot G_p. \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, (71) gives rise to

$$2 \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_{2l} u^{2l} = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_l u^l + \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_l (-u)^l = \frac{2(1 - u^2)(1 + q u^2)}{(1 + q u^2)^2 - X_1^2 u^2},$$

hence we get

$$(74) \quad \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} X_{2l} u^l = \frac{(1 - u)(1 + q u)}{1 - (X_2 - q + 1)u + q^2 u^2}.$$

So, to prove Lemma 2, it is enough to show that $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$ and $\mathcal{H}(X', X_0)$ are canonically isomorphic, i.e. there is an isomorphism which maps Y_l on X_{2l} ($l \geq 1$). To see this, we remark that, in general, if $G_1 \supset G_2$, H_1 are three groups such that $G_1 = G_2 H_1$; $x^{-1} G_2 x \sim G_2$ (\sim : commensurability, $\forall x \in G_1$), $x^{-1} H_2 x \sim H_2$ ($\forall x \in H_1$; $H_2 = H_1 \cap G_2$), and that $G_2 h_1 G_2 \cap H_1 = H_2 h_1 H_2$ ($\forall h_1 \in H_1$), then the two Hecke rings $\mathcal{H}(G_1, G_2)$, $\mathcal{H}(H_1, H_2)$ defined with respect to (say) left coset decompositions are canonically isomorphic; i.e., $H_2 h_1 H_2 \in \mathcal{H}(H_1, H_2)$ corresponds to $G_2 h_1 G_2 \in \mathcal{H}(G_1, G_2)$. This follows immediately from the definition of the Hecke rings. Thus, to show that $\mathcal{H}(G_p, U_p)$ and $\mathcal{H}(X', X_0)$ are isomorphic by $Y_l \mapsto X_{2l}$ ($l \geq 0$), it is enough to check $X_{2l} \cap G_p = Y_l$ ($l \geq 0$), since we know that Y_l is a single U_p double coset. But $Y_l = U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p$ consists of all elements $g_p \in G_p = PSL_2(k_p)$ with elementary divisors p^{-l}, p^l ; i.e., all elements $g_p \in G_p \cap X_{2l}$; hence the Lemma 2 is proved. \square

§18. For the proof of Lemma 3, we need some more lemmas, which are direct consequences of Lemma 5.⁶

Let $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X = PL_2(k_p)$. We shall say that the product $x_1 \cdots x_n$ is *free*, if

$$(75) \quad l(x_1 \cdots x_n) = l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_n)$$

holds.

LEMMA 6. Let $x, y, z \in X, y \notin X_0$. If the two products $x \cdot y, y \cdot z$ are free, then the product $x \cdot y \cdot z$ is also free.

PROOF. Let π_0, \dots, π_q be as in Lemma 5, and factorize $z = u\pi_{\lambda_1} \cdots \pi_{\lambda_l}, yu = u'\pi_{\mu_1} \cdots \pi_{\mu_m}, xu' = u''\pi_{\nu_1} \cdots \pi_{\nu_n}$, where $u, u', u'' \in X_0, l = l(z), m = l(y) > 0, n = l(x)$ (see Lemma 5). By assumption, $y \cdot z, x \cdot y$ are free products; hence $\pi_{\mu_m}\pi_{\lambda_1} \notin X_0, \pi_{\nu_n}\pi_{\mu_1} \notin X_0$. Therefore, by Lemma 5, $xyz = u''\pi_{\nu_1} \cdots \pi_{\nu_n}\pi_{\mu_1} \cdots \pi_{\mu_m}\pi_{\lambda_1} \cdots \pi_{\lambda_l}$ has length $l + m + n$. \square

LEMMA 7. Let $x \cdot y$ be a free product, and let $xy = u\pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l}$ be the factorization (62) of xy . Then, $x = u\pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_m}u'^{-1}, y = u'\pi_{i_{m+1}} \cdots \pi_{i_l}$ with some $u' \in X_0$, and with $m = l(x)$.

PROOF. Let $y = u'\pi_{j_{m+1}} \cdots \pi_{j_l}$ be the factorization (62) for y . Since the factorization of xy can be obtained by factorizations of x and y , and then by carrying the elements of X_0 to the left (no influence to y -side!), we see directly by the uniqueness of factorization (62) for xy that $j_{m+1} = i_{m+1}, \dots, j_l = i_l$, and hence $y = u'\pi_{i_{m+1}} \cdots \pi_{i_l}$ for some $u' \in X_0$. \square

LEMMA 8. Let $x, y \in X$, and put $l(xy) = l(x) + l(y) - 2d$. Then $d \leq l(x), l(y)$; and if $x = x'' \cdot x', y = y' \cdot y''$ are free products with $d \leq l(x'), l(y')$, then $l(x'y') = l(x') + l(y') - 2d$.

PROOF. The first assertion is clear.⁷ Let

$$x = u\pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l}, \quad y = u'\pi_{j_1} \cdots \pi_{j_m}$$

be the factorizations (62) for x, y . By Lemma 7,

$$x' = u''\pi_{i_s} \cdots \pi_{i_l}, \quad y' = u'\pi_{j_1} \cdots \pi_{j_t}u'''$$

with $u'', u''' \in X_0, l(x') = l - s + 1 \geq d, l(y') = t \geq d$. It is enough to prove that

$$l(\pi_{i_s} \cdots \pi_{i_l}u'\pi_{j_1} \cdots \pi_{j_t}) = (l - s + 1) + t - 2d.$$

This can be seen easily from the process of obtaining the factorization (62) for xy from that of x and y given above. \square

LEMMA 9. Let x_1, \dots, x_n be any elements of X and put

$$l(x_i x_{i+1}) = l(x_i) + l(x_{i+1}) - 2d_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq n-1).$$

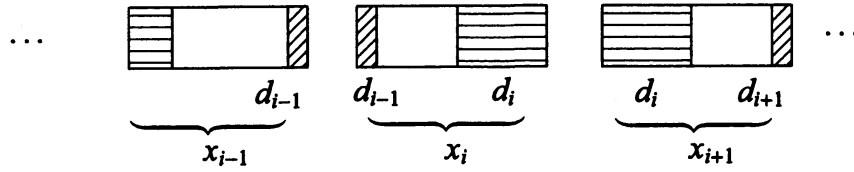
If $l(x_{i+1}) > d_i + d_{i+1}$ holds⁸ for all i ($1 \leq i \leq n-2$), then

$$(76) \quad l(x_1 \cdots x_n) = l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_n) - 2(d_1 + \cdots + d_{n-1}).$$

⁶They are given in Y. Ihara [16].

⁷Since $x = xy \cdot y^{-1}$, we have $l(x) \leq l(xy) + l(y)$; thus we get $l(xy) \geq |l(x) - l(y)|$.

⁸Where we put $d_n = 0$.



PROOF. Factorize each x_i into free product $x_i = a_i b_i c_i$ with $l(a_i) = d_{i-1}$, $l(b_i) = l(x_i) - d_i - d_{i-1} > 0$, $l(c_i) = d_i$ (here we understand $a_1 = c_n = 1$). Lemma 8 shows that $c_i a_{i+1} \in X_0$ ($1 \leq i \leq n-1$), and that $l(b_i c_i a_{i+1} b_{i+1}) = l(b_i) + l(b_{i+1})$, and hence the products $(b_i c_i a_{i+1}) \cdot b_{i+1}$, and hence also the product $(b_i c_i a_{i+1}) \cdot (b_{i+1} c_{i+1} a_{i+2})$ are free. Now our lemma follows directly from Lemma 6. \square

COROLLARY. Let $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ with $l(x_2), \dots, l(x_{n-1}) > 0$. Then, if the products $x_1 \cdot x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} \cdot x_n$ are all free, the product $x_1 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n$ is also free.

§19. The proof of Lemma 3. Recall the definitions;

$$\Gamma^l = \left\{ \gamma \in \Gamma \mid \gamma_p \in Y_l = U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p \right\} \quad (l \geq 0),$$

where $U_p = PSL_2(O_p)$, and p is a prime element of k_p . When $\gamma \in \Gamma$ belongs to Γ^l , we put $l = l(\gamma)$. To avoid unnecessary suffices, we shall not make distinction between Γ and Γ_p ; and consider Γ as a (dense) subgroup of G_p . Also, we consider $G_p = PSL_2(k_p)$ as a subgroup of $X = PL_2(k_p)$. We note here, that the definitions of the functions $l(x)$ are different on G_p and on X ; in fact, we have $Y_l = G_p \cap X_{2l}$. We shall use the symbol $l(x)$ exclusively in the sense that $l(x) = l$ for $x \in Y_l$. We shall further put $L(x) = l$ for $x \in X_l$. Thus, we have

$$(77) \quad l(x) = 2L(x) \quad \text{for } x \in G_p.$$

The product $\gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_n$ of $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n \in \Gamma$ is called *free*, if $l(\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_n) = l(\gamma_1) + \cdots + l(\gamma_n)$ holds. We shall show that any element $\gamma \in \Gamma$ with $l(\gamma) = l$ ($l = 1, 2, \dots$) is a free product of elements of Γ^1 ;

$$(78) \quad \gamma = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_l; \quad \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_l \in \Gamma^1.$$

In fact, it is trivial for $l = 1$. Assume that it is true for $l(\gamma) \leq l-1$, and prove it for $l(\gamma) = l$. By Lemma 5, we can put $\gamma = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_{2l}$ with $x_1, \dots, x_{2l} \in X_1$. Since $PL_2(O_p) \Gamma_p = PL_2(O_p) \cdot G_p = X'$, there is an element $\gamma_l \in \Gamma$ contained in $PL_2(O_p) x_{2l-1} x_{2l}$. Then we have $l(\gamma_l) = 1$, $l(\gamma \gamma_l^{-1}) = l-1$, and hence by the induction assumption, we have $\gamma \gamma_l^{-1} = \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{l-1}$ with $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_{l-1} \in \Gamma^1$; hence we get $\gamma = \gamma_1 \gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_l$.

Now let $\{\gamma\}_\Gamma$ be a primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy class of degree d . By Proposition 6, we can assume, without loss of generality, that $l(\gamma) = d$. Put $\gamma = \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_d$ with $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_d \in \Gamma^1$. Then the products $\gamma_1 \cdot \gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_{d-1} \cdot \gamma_d$ are free; but moreover, the product $\gamma_d \cdot \gamma_1$ must also be free. In fact, if not, then $l(\gamma_1^{-1} \gamma_d \gamma_1) = l(\gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_d \gamma_1) < d$, which is a contradiction, since by Lemma 6, we have $d = \text{Min}_{x \in \{\gamma\}_\Gamma} l(x)$. Therefore, the products $\gamma \cdot \gamma, \gamma \cdot \gamma \cdot \gamma, \dots$ etc. are also free, and we have $l(\gamma^r) = |r|l(\gamma) = |r|d$ for any $r \in \mathbf{Z}$. Another remark is that, if $\gamma_1^{-1} = u_1 \pi_a \pi_b$, $\gamma_d = u_2 \pi_e \pi_f$ are the factorizations (62) of γ_1^{-1} , γ_d , then,

since $\gamma_d \cdot \gamma_1$ is a free product, we have $\pi_b \neq \pi_f$. On the other hand, if $x = u\pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_l}$ is the factorization for $x \in \Gamma$, then the product $x \cdot \gamma_1$ is free if and only if $\pi_{i_l} \neq \pi_b$; $\gamma_d \cdot x^{-1}$ is free if and only if $\pi_{i_1} \neq \pi_f$. In particular, it shows that at least one of the two products $x \cdot \gamma_1, \gamma_d \cdot x^{-1}$ must be free. Since $\gamma_i \cdot \gamma_{i+1}$ is a free product for any i , where the index is considered mod d , we see that the above remark is also valid, if we replace γ_d, γ_1 by γ_i, γ_{i+1} respectively.

Now the proof of Lemma 3 requires a separate treatment for the cases k : even or k : odd.

The case k is even. Let S be a set of representatives of $\Gamma^0 \backslash \Gamma^{k/2}$. If $k = 0$, then we simply put $S = \{I\}$. If $k > 0$, then we have $|S| = q^{k-1}(q+1)$. In this case, for each $i \pmod{d}$, let S_i be a subset of S formed of all $x \in S$ such that $x \cdot \gamma_i$ and $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ are free products. Then, by the previous remark, S_i consists of $q^{k-1}(q-1)$ elements (see Lemma 5). If $k = 0$, we simply put $S_i = S = \{I\}$ ($1 \leq i \leq d$). We shall prove that the following set of $dq^{k-1}(q-1)$ ($k > 0$) or d ($k = 0$) elements of Γ forms a set of representatives of all Γ^0 -conjugacy classes contained in $\{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$;

$$(79) \quad \begin{cases} y_1(\gamma_1\gamma_2 \cdots \gamma_d)^r y_1^{-1}; & y_1 \in S_1 \\ y_2(\gamma_2\gamma_3 \cdots \gamma_1)^r y_2^{-1}; & y_2 \in S_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ y_d(\gamma_d\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{d-1})^r y_d^{-1}; & y_d \in S_d. \end{cases}$$

Since the products $y_i \cdot \gamma_i, \gamma_{i-1} \cdot y_i^{-1}$ are free, the product $y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} = y_i \cdot \gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1} \cdot y_i^{-1}$ is free (corollary of Lemma 9); hence they are contained in Γ^{dr+k} . On the other hand, since

$$(\gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r = (\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^{-1} \gamma^r (\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_{i-1}),$$

they are contained in $\{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma$.

First, let us prove that the distinct members of (79) are not Γ^0 -conjugate with each other. Suppose that

$$y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} = u y_j' (\gamma_j \cdots \gamma_{j-1})^r y_j'^{-1} u^{-1}$$

holds with $u \in \Gamma^0$, $1 \leq j \leq i \leq d$, and $y_i \in S_i, y_j' \in S_j$. Then, this implies that $y_i^{-1} u y_j' (\gamma_j \gamma_{j+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})$ commutes with $(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r$. Since $\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1}$ is primitive (it is Γ -conjugate to γ), its centralizer in Γ is the free cyclic group generated by itself. Hence, we get

$$y_i^{-1} u y_j' (\gamma_j \gamma_{j+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1}) = (\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^s$$

with some $s \in \mathbf{Z}$; hence we get

$$(80) \quad u y_j' (\gamma_j \gamma_{j+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1}) = y_i (\gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^s \quad (s \in \mathbf{Z}).$$

But the products $y_j' \cdot \gamma_j, y_i \cdot \gamma_i, y_i \cdot \gamma_{i-1}^{-1}$ (appears, if $s < 0$) are all free; hence by taking $l()$ of both sides, we get $\frac{k}{2} + i - j = \frac{k}{2} + |s| \cdot d$; hence $i - j = |s|d$; hence $i = j, s = 0$. So, by (80), we get $u y_j' = y_i$; hence, by the definition of S , we get $y_j' = y_i, u = 1$.

Now, we shall show that any element of $\{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$ is Γ^0 -conjugate to a member of (79). Take any $z \in \{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$, and put

$$(81) \quad z = x(\gamma_i \gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r x^{-1}, \quad x \in \Gamma, \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

We can assume, without loss of generality, that, among all expressions of the form (81) (where i can vary), we have chosen our particular (81) so that $l(x)$ is taken as small as possible. Now, by the previous remark, at least one of the two products $x \cdot \gamma_i, \gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ must be free. We shall show that the both must be free. In fact, if not, and say $x \cdot \gamma_i$ is free but $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is not, then we have either $L(\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}) = L(x)$ or $= L(x) - 2$ (by (56) and Lemma 8). But if $L(\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}) = L(x)$, then, by Lemma 9 applied to the product

$$\{x(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^{r-1} \gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-2}\} \cdot \gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1},$$

we get $L(z) = 2dr + 2L(x) - 2$; hence $k = L(x) - 1 = 2l(x) - 1$, which is a contradiction, since k is even. On the other hand, if $L(\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}) = L(x) - 2$, then if we put $y = x \cdot \gamma_{i-1}^{-1}$, then $l(y) = l(x \cdot \gamma_{i-1}^{-1}) = l(x) - 1 < l(x)$, and

$$z = z(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r x^{-1} = y(\gamma_{i-1} \gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-2}) y^{-1}$$

with $l(y) < l(x)$; which is a contradiction to our assumption on the expression (81) of z . Exactly in the same manner, we can show that an assumption that $x \cdot \gamma_i$ is not free leads to a contradiction.

Therefore, the both of the products $x \cdot \gamma_i, \gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ must be free. So, by the corollary of Lemma 9, the product $z = x \cdot \gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is free, hence $dr + k = l(z) = 2l(x) + rl(\gamma) = 2l(x) + rd$; hence $2l(x) = k$; hence $x \in \Gamma^{k/2}$. Since the products $x \cdot \gamma_i, \gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ are both free, we have $x = uy_i$ with $u \in \Gamma^0, y_i \in S_i$; hence $z = uy_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} u^{-1}$, and hence z is Γ^0 -conjugate to $y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1}$, $y_i \in S_i$.

The case k is odd. Let S' be a set of representatives of $\Gamma^0 \setminus \Gamma^{(k+1)/2}$, and let S'_i ($1 \leq i \leq d$) be a subset of S' formed of all $x \in S'$ such that $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x)$. If $\gamma_i^{-1} = u_i \pi_a \pi_b$ is the factorization (62) of γ_i^{-1} , and $x = u \pi_{i_1} \cdots \pi_{i_{k+1}}$ is that of x , then, the condition $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x)$ is equivalent to $\pi_{i_{k+1}} = \pi_b, \pi_{i_k} \neq \pi_a$. So, by consulting Lemma 5, we see directly that the cardinality of S' is $(q-1)q^{k-1}$. Now, we shall show that the following set of $dq^{k-1}(q-1)$ elements of Γ forms a set of representatives of all Γ^0 -conjugacy classes contained in $\{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$;

$$(82) \quad \begin{cases} y_1(\gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_d)^r y_1^{-1} & y_1 \in S'_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ y_d(\gamma_d \cdots \gamma_{d-1})^r y_d^{-1} & y_d \in S'_d. \end{cases}$$

Since $l(y_i \gamma_i) = l(y_i)$, and since $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot y_i^{-1}$ is free (recall that at least one of $y_i \cdot \gamma_i, \gamma_{i-1} \cdot y_i^{-1}$ must be free), Lemma 9 shows that

$$l(y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1}) = 2l(y_i) + dr - 1 = dr + k,$$

hence $y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} \in \Gamma^{dr+k} \cap \{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma$.

Let us show that the distinct members of (82) are not Γ^0 -conjugate with each other. If

$$y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} = uy'_j(\gamma_j \cdots \gamma_{j-1})^r y_j'^{-1} u^{-1}$$

with $u \in \Gamma^0$, $1 \leq j \leq i \leq d$, $y_i \in S'_i$, $y'_j \in S'_j$, then, by the same argument as in k : even case, we get

$$(83) \quad uy'_j(\gamma_j\gamma_{j+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1}) = y_i(\gamma_i\gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^s \quad (s \in \mathbf{Z}).$$

We shall show that $j = i$. Suppose on the contrary that we had $j < i$. Then, we have $l(uy'_j(\gamma_j\gamma_{j+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})) = l(y'_j) + (i - j) - 1$ (by Lemma 9). So, we get, by (83),

$$(84) \quad \frac{k+1}{2} + i - j - 1 = \begin{cases} \frac{k+1}{2} + sd - 1 & \text{if } s > 0 \\ \frac{k+1}{2} + |s| \cdot d & \text{if } s < 0 \quad (\because y_i \cdot \gamma_{i-1}^{-1} \text{ is free}) \\ \frac{k+1}{2} & \text{if } s = 0. \end{cases}$$

If $s \neq 0$, (84) implies $i - j \geq d$, which is a contradiction. If $s = 0$, then we get $i = j + 1$, and hence by (83), we get $uy'_j\gamma_j = y_i$; hence $uy'_j\gamma_j\gamma_{j+1} = y_i\gamma_i$. But we have $l(y_i\gamma_i) = l(y_i) = \frac{k+1}{2}$, while

$$l(uy'_j\gamma_j\gamma_{j+1}) = l(y'_j) + l(\gamma_j) + l(\gamma_{j+1}) - 1 = \frac{k+1}{2} + 1,$$

since $l(y'_j\gamma_j) = l(y'_j)$ and since the product $\gamma_j \cdot \gamma_{j+1}$ is free (use Lemma 9). So, we get a contradiction $l(uy'_j\gamma_j\gamma_{j+1}) \neq l(y_i\gamma_i)$. Therefore we get $j = i$. So, by (83), we get

$$(85) \quad uy'_j = y_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^s; \quad j = i,$$

hence

$$\frac{k+1}{2} = \begin{cases} \frac{k+1}{2} + sd - 1 & \text{(if } s > 0), \\ \frac{k+1}{2} + |s|d & \text{(if } s < 0). \end{cases}$$

But these are obviously contradictions; hence we get $s = 0$. Therefore $uy'_j = y_i \in S'_i = S'_j$. Therefore $u = 1$, $y_i = y'_j$.

Finally, to show that any element $z \in \{\gamma^r\}_\Gamma \cap \Gamma^{dr+k}$ is Γ^0 -conjugate to a member of (82), put

$$(86) \quad z = x(\gamma_i\gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r x^{-1}, \quad x \in \Gamma, \quad (1 \leq i \leq d).$$

As in the k : even case, we assume that among all expressions of the form (86) (where i can vary), we have chosen our particular expression (86) so that $l(x)$ is taken as small as possible. Now, at least one of the two products $x \cdot \gamma_i$, $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ must be free. We see that, in this case, both cannot be free. In fact, if it were so, we would have $dr+k = l(z) = 2l(x)+dr$, hence $2l(x) = k$; which is a contradiction, since k is odd. So, one of the two products $x \cdot \gamma_i$, $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is free and the other is not. If $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is free and $x \cdot \gamma_i$ is not, then either $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x)$ or $= l(x) - 1$. But if $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x) - 1$, then, if we put $y = x \cdot \gamma_i$, then $l(y) = l(x) - 1$ and we have $z = y(\gamma_{i+1} \cdots \gamma_i)^r y^{-1}$; which is a contradiction to our assumption. Therefore, $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x)$; hence, by Lemma 9, $l(z) = 2l(x) + dr - 1$; hence $l(x) = \frac{k+1}{2}$. Since $l(x \cdot \gamma_i) = l(x)$, we have $x = uy_i$ with $u \in \Gamma^0$, $y_i \in S'_i$; hence $z = uy_i(\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-1})^r y_i^{-1} u^{-1}$. If, on the other hand, $x \cdot \gamma_i$ is free but $\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}$ is not, again we get $l(\gamma_{i-1} \cdot x^{-1}) = l(x^{-1}) = l(x)$. Put $y'_{i-1} = x \cdot \gamma_{i-1}^{-1}$. Then, $z = y'_{i-1}(\gamma_{i-1}\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-2})^r y'_{i-1}{}^{-1}$, and we have $l(y'_{i-1}) = l(x) = \frac{k+1}{2}$, $l(y'_{i-1}\gamma_{i-1}) = l(x) = l(y'_{i-1})$; hence we have $y'_{i-1} = uy_{i-1}$ with $u \in \Gamma^0$, $y_{i-1} \in S'_{i-1}$; and we have $z = uy_{i-1}(\gamma_{i-1}\gamma_i \cdots \gamma_{i-2})^r y_{i-1}^{-1} u^{-1}$; which proves our Lemma 3 completely. \square

Regular cycles on $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \backslash \mathfrak{H}$.

§20. The situations being as in Theorem 1, let $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$, $\deg P = d$; and let $\{\gamma^{\pm 1}\}_{\Gamma}$ be the pair of mutually inverse primitive elliptic Γ -conjugacy class that corresponds to P . By Lemma 3, $\{\gamma\}_{\Gamma} \cap \Gamma^d$ consists of d distinct Γ^0 -conjugacy classes. Put

$$(87) \quad \{\gamma\}_{\Gamma} \cap \Gamma^d = \{\gamma_1\}_{\Gamma^0} \cup \cdots \cup \{\gamma_d\}_{\Gamma^0};$$

and let $z_1, \dots, z_d \in \mathfrak{H}$ be the fixed points of $(\gamma_1)_{\mathbf{R}}, \dots, (\gamma_d)_{\mathbf{R}}$ respectively. Then, as a set of points on $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \backslash \mathfrak{H}$, z_1, \dots, z_d are well-defined, and are distinct. So, to each $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$ with $\deg P = d$, we can correspond a set $\tilde{z}_1, \dots, \tilde{z}_d$ of d distinct points on $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \backslash \mathfrak{H}$. We call this $\{\tilde{z}_1, \dots, \tilde{z}_d\}$ the regular cycle on $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0 \backslash \mathfrak{H}$ which corresponds to $P \in \wp(\Gamma)$.

Estimation of the roots of $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$.

§21. Now we are going to give some estimation of the absolute values of the roots π_i, π'_i ($1 \leq i \leq g$) of $\zeta_{\Gamma}(u)$. It is a direct consequence of the following lemma by M. Kuga.

LEMMA 10 (Kuga⁹). *Let Δ be a discrete subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}} = \text{PSL}_2(\mathbf{R})$ with compact quotient, and let $\gamma \in G_{\mathbf{R}}$ be such that $\Delta, \gamma^{-1}\Delta\gamma$ are commensurable with each other, that $\Delta\gamma^{-1}\Delta = \Delta\gamma\Delta$, and that Δ and γ generate a dense subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Put*

$$\Delta\gamma\Delta = \sum_{i=1}^d \Delta\gamma_i \quad (d = (\Delta : \Delta \cap \gamma^{-1}\Delta\gamma)),$$

and let $f(z) \not\equiv 0$ be a holomorphic automorphic form of weight k ($k = 2, 4, 6, \dots$) with respect to Δ , which is an eigenfunction of the following Hecke operator with an eigenvalue λ :

$$(88) \quad \sum_{i=1}^d f(\gamma_i z) j(\gamma_i, z) = \lambda \cdot f(z),$$

where, in general, we put $j(g, z) = (c_{\mathbf{R}}z + d_{\mathbf{R}})^{-k}$ for $g = \pm \begin{pmatrix} a_{\mathbf{R}} & b_{\mathbf{R}} \\ c_{\mathbf{R}} & d_{\mathbf{R}} \end{pmatrix} \in G_{\mathbf{R}}$. Then, we have

$$(89) \quad |\lambda| < d.$$

PROOF. Let F be the continuous function on $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ defined by

$$(90) \quad F(g) = f(g\sqrt{-1}) \cdot j(g, \sqrt{-1}) \quad (g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}).$$

Since $f(z)$ is an automorphic form of weight k with respect to Δ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(\delta \cdot g) &= f(\delta g\sqrt{-1}) j(\delta g, \sqrt{-1}) = f(g\sqrt{-1}) j(\delta, g\sqrt{-1})^{-1} j(\delta g, \sqrt{-1}) \\ &= f(g\sqrt{-1}) j(g, \sqrt{-1}) = F(g) \end{aligned}$$

⁹Cf. M.Kuga [21]. The formulation and the method for proof are not exactly the same.

for any $\delta \in \Delta$. So, F is Δ -invariant from the left. Therefore, $|F|$, being a continuous function on the compact quotient $\Delta \backslash G_{\mathbf{R}}$, achieves the maximum value M

$$(91) \quad M = \text{Max}_{g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}} |F(g)|.$$

Let D be the set of all elements $g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}$ such that $|F(g)| = M$. Then, obviously, D is Δ -invariant from the left; $D = \Delta \cdot D$. Now, (88) implies

$$(92) \quad \sum_{i=1}^d F(\gamma_i g) = \lambda \cdot F(g) \quad (g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}).$$

So, if $g \in D$, we get $|\lambda| \cdot M \leq \sum_{i=1}^d |F(\gamma_i g)| \leq Md$; hence we get $|\lambda| \leq d$. Now, let us show that $|\lambda| \neq d$. Suppose, on the contrary, that we had $|\lambda| = d$. Then, in the above inequality, we must have $|F(\gamma_i g)| = M$ for all i ($1 \leq i \leq d$). So, we have $|F(\xi g)| = M$ for any $g \in D$ and $\xi \in \bigcup_{i=1}^d \Delta \gamma_i = \Delta \gamma \Delta$. By $\Delta \gamma^{-1} \Delta = \Delta \gamma \Delta$, we also have $|F(\xi^{-1} g)| = M$. So, if we denote by Δ' , the subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$ formed of all elements $g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}$ such that $gD = D$, then Δ' contains Δ and γ . So, by our assumption, Δ' is dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$; which implies that D is dense in $G_{\mathbf{R}}$. But since F is continuous, D is closed. Therefore $D = G_{\mathbf{R}}$; and hence we get

$$(93) \quad |F(g)| \equiv M \quad \text{for } g \in G_{\mathbf{R}}.$$

Now let us show that (93) is impossible. If $g = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{a} & \sqrt{a^{-1}}b \\ 0 & \sqrt{a^{-1}} \end{pmatrix}$, with $a, b \in \mathbf{R}, a > 0$, then $F(g) = f(a\sqrt{-1} + b)\alpha^{k/2}$. Therefore, by (93), we get

$$(94) \quad |f(z)| = M(\text{Im } z)^{-k/2} \quad \text{on } \mathfrak{H}.$$

Thus, $\text{Re}(\log f(z))$ depends only on the imaginary part of z , and hence the derivative of $\sqrt{-1} \log f(z)$ is always real; hence $\frac{d}{dz} \log f(z)$ must be a constant, and we get $f(z) = Ae^{Bz}$ with some constants A, B . But then (94) would be impossible. So, $|\lambda| = d$ is a contradiction; and we get $|\lambda| < d$. \square

§22. To make it possible to apply Lemma 10 to our group, we need verify the following simple lemma.

LEMMA 11. *The subgroup $U_p = \text{PSL}_2(\mathcal{O}_p)$ is maximal in $G_p = \text{PSL}_2(k_p)$.*

PROOF. Let H be a subgroup of G_p with $H \supsetneq U_p$. Let $x \in H, \notin U_p$. Then

$$H \supset U_p x U_p = U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p = Y_l \quad (l > 0),$$

p being a prime element of k_p . Since $\begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} p^l & p^{l-1} \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} \in Y_l \subset H$, we get

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & p^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p^{-l} & 0 \\ 0 & p^l \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} p^l & p^{l-1} \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} \in H.$$

Hence, $H \supset U_p \begin{pmatrix} 1 & p^{-1} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} U_p \ni \begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$. Hence, H contains $\begin{pmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-1} \end{pmatrix}^l$ for all $l \geq 0$; hence all $U_p \begin{pmatrix} p^l & 0 \\ 0 & p^{-l} \end{pmatrix} U_p$; hence G_p . Hence we get $H = G_p$. \square

COROLLARY. *The subgroup Γ^0 is maximal in Γ . If $\gamma \in \Gamma$, $\notin \Gamma^0$, then $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ and $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ generate a dense subgroup of $G_{\mathbf{R}}$.*

PROOF. In fact, $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ and $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ generate $\Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$. \square

§23. Now we shall prove:

THEOREM 2. *The notations being as in Theorem 1, we have*

$$(95) \quad |\pi_i|, |\pi'_i| \leq q^2,$$

and

$$(96) \quad \pi_i, \pi'_i \neq 1, q^2.$$

PROOF. Recall that we have $\rho = \chi_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus \chi_g$ and

$$(49) \quad \chi_i(\Gamma^m) - (q-1) \sum_{k=1}^m \chi_i(\Gamma^{m-k}) = \pi_i^m + \pi'_i{}^m \quad (1 \leq i \leq g, m \geq 1),$$

where ρ is as defined in §9 for $\Delta = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$, $\tilde{\Delta} = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$ (see also §14). By the corollary of Lemma 11, we can apply Lemma 10 for $\Delta = \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$ and for any $\gamma_{\mathbf{R}} \in \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}$, $\notin \Gamma_{\mathbf{R}}^0$, and we get

$$(97) \quad |\chi_i(\Gamma^m)| < q^{2m} + q^{2m-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq g, m \geq 1).$$

First, let us prove (95). Suppose that we had $|\pi_i| = q^a$, $a > 2$. Then, by $\pi_i \pi'_i = q^2$, we get $|\pi'_i| < 1$. By (49), we get

$$\begin{aligned} |\pi_i^m + \pi'_i{}^m| &\leq q^{2m} + q^{2m-1} + (q-1)(q^{2m-2} + q^{2m-3} + \cdots + 1) \\ &= q^{2m} + 2q^{2m-1} - 1 = O(q^{2m}). \end{aligned}$$

But this is impossible for $|\pi_i| = q^a$ ($a > 2$) and $|\pi'_i| < 1$. Hence, we get $|\pi_i| \leq q^2$. In the same manner, we get $|\pi'_i| \leq q^2$.

To prove (96), suppose, on the contrary, that we had $\pi_i, \pi'_i = 1, q^2$. Then, by (49), we get

$$(98) \quad \sigma_m - q\sigma_{m-1} = q^{2m} + 1; \quad \sigma_m = \sum_{l=0}^m \chi_i(\Gamma^l) \quad (m \geq 1).$$

But this implies $\sigma_m = q^{2m} + q^{2m-1} + \cdots + 1$ ($m \geq 1$); hence $\sigma_m - \sigma_{m-1} = q^{2m} + q^{2m-1}$ ($m \geq 1$). But this implies $\chi_i(\Gamma) = q^{2m} + q^{2m-1}$, which is a contradiction to (97). So, we cannot have $\pi_i, \pi'_i = 1, q^2$. \square

So far, Theorem 2, (95) (96) are the only estimation for the absolute values of π_i, π'_i which we could prove. Some application of Theorem 2 will be given later.

Concluding remarks on Chapter 1, Part 1.**§24.**

REMARK 1. All our results in this Chapter (Part 1) are valid also in the case where k_p is the field of power series over a finite field \mathbb{F}_q . However, we do not know whether Γ exists at all in such a case.

REMARK 2. In the computation of $\zeta_\Gamma(u)$, we assumed that Γ is torsion-free and G/Γ is compact. Among them, the former can be dropped easily, and we get a similar result. We plan to give its description in Part 2 of Chapter 1. Also, we are planning to give there a computation of “ L -functions” attached to Γ , which has an interesting application to an analogue of “Tschebotarev’s density Theorem” for the law of decomposition of elements of $\wp(\Gamma)$ in $\wp(\Gamma')$, where Γ' is a subgroup of finite index in Γ .