

33. On Regular Elliptic Conjugacy Classes of the Siegel Modular Group

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1. **Introduction.** In this paper we announce two theorems on regular elliptic conjugacy classes of the Siegel modular group of degree $2n$. The detailed discussion with proof will appear elsewhere. For the general modular group $GL(n, \mathbf{Z})$, it was shown by C. G. Latimer and C. C. MacDuffee [3] and O. Taussky [4] that the number of conjugacy classes, which have an irreducible characteristic polynomial, is equal to the number of ideal classes of a subring in a certain algebraic number field. Especially, if the characteristic polynomial of a conjugacy class is a cyclotomic polynomial f , then that ring consists of all algebraic integers in the splitting field of f over \mathbf{Q} .

Let $\Gamma = Sp(2n, \mathbf{Z})$ be the Siegel modular group of degree $2n$. Concerning the conjugacy classes of Γ , we get some results analogous to the above mentioned result for $GL(n, \mathbf{Z})$. Our results in this paper are an existence proof of the "regular elliptic elements" in Γ and a formula in class number for the "regular elliptic elements" of Γ . We shall state our results more precisely after the preparations in § 2.

2. **Preliminaries.** Let $G = Sp(2n, \mathbf{R})$ be the real symplectic group of degree $2n$. The group G is defined by

$$(2.1) \quad G = \{g \in GL(2n, \mathbf{R}) ; {}^t g J g = J\}$$

where $J = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1_n \\ -1_n & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and 1_n is the identity matrix of degree n . Let \mathfrak{S} be the set of all positive definite symmetric matrices in G . Then \mathfrak{S} is identified with the Siegel upper half space. The group G acts on \mathfrak{S} by the rule $G \times \mathfrak{S} \ni (g, p) \rightarrow {}^t g p g \in \mathfrak{S}$.

Definition 1. An element g in G is called *elliptic* if g fixes an element in \mathfrak{S} .

Let $O(2n)$ be the orthogonal group of degree $2n$ and put $K = O(2n) \cap G$. Then K is a maximal compact subgroup of G . It is easily seen that an element h in G is elliptic if and only if h is conjugate to an element in K .

Let us define a regular element in G . We denote the Lie algebra of G by \mathfrak{g} . The adjoint action of G on \mathfrak{g} is defined by

$$Ad(g)X = gXg^{-1}, \quad g \in G, \quad X \in \mathfrak{g}.$$

The rank $r(G)$ of G is defined by the following formula :

$$r(G) = \text{Min}_{g \in G} \dim \text{Ker}(Ad(g) - 1).$$

The rank of $Sp(2n, \mathbf{R})$ is equal to n .

Definition 2. An element g in G is called *regular* if $\dim \text{Ker}(Ad(g) - 1) = r(G)$.

Let Γ be the Siegel modular group $Sp(2n, \mathbf{Z})$ of degree $2n$. Γ is the set of all integral matrices in G .

Lemma. *An element γ in Γ is regular (and) elliptic if and only if the characteristic polynomial f of γ is decomposed into mutually distinct cyclotomic polynomials over \mathbf{Q} and the degree of any irreducible factor of f over \mathbf{Q} is ≥ 2 .*

3. Main theorems. Our first result is the following.

Theorem I. *Let f be the m th cyclotomic polynomial with degree $2n = \phi(m)$ where ϕ is the Euler function. Then the Siegel modular group $Sp(2n, \mathbf{Z})$ has a regular elliptic element with the characteristic polynomial f .*

For a fixed cyclotomic polynomial f with degree $2n$, we put

$$\Gamma(f) = \{\gamma \in \Gamma; \text{the characteristic polynomial of } \gamma \text{ is } f\}.$$

Definition 3. Two elements γ and γ' in $\Gamma(f)$ are called Γ - (respectively G -)conjugate if there exists an element g in Γ (respectively in G) such that $g\gamma g^{-1} = \gamma'$.

The set $\Gamma(f)$ is divided into a certain number of the conjugate classes. We denote the sets of G -conjugacy classes and Γ -conjugacy classes in $\Gamma(f)$ by $\Gamma(f)/G$ and $\Gamma(f)/\Gamma$ respectively. Each class $\Gamma^g(f)$ in $\Gamma(f)/G$ is divided into Γ -conjugate classes. We denote the set of these classes by $\Gamma^g(f)/\Gamma$. $\Gamma^g(f)/\Gamma$ is a subset of $\Gamma(f)/\Gamma$.

Let A be the ideal class group of the splitting field k of the cyclotomic polynomial f over \mathbf{Q} .

Notations. k_0 : the real subfield of k with $[k : k_0] = 2$.

$C(\alpha)$: the class in A containing a given fractional ideal α in k .

H : the subgroup of A defined by $H = \{C(\alpha); N\alpha \text{ is principal in } k_0\}$, when N means the norm from k to k_0 .

H^+ : the subgroup of H defined by $H^+ = \{C(\alpha); N\alpha = (\omega), \omega \text{ is totally positive in } k_0\}$.

E (resp. E_0): the unit group of k (resp. k_0).

E_0^+ : the group of all totally positive units in k_0 .

$|S|$: the number of elements in a given finite set S .

$(L : M)$: the index of a subgroup M in L .

Under these notations we have the following theorem.

Theorem II. *Let Γ be the Siegel modular group of degree $2n$ and f be the m th cyclotomic polynomial with the degree $2n = \phi(m)$. Then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad & |\Gamma(f)/G| = (E_0 : E_0^+)(H : H^+), \\ (2) \quad & |\Gamma^g(f)/\Gamma| = (E_0^+ : NE) |H^+| \end{aligned}$$

for each class $\Gamma^\alpha(f)$ in $\Gamma(f)/G$ where $NE = \{N\varepsilon; \varepsilon \in E\}$.

Example. Let $f(t) = t^4 + t^3 + t^2 + t + 1$. Then f is the 5th cyclotomic polynomial over \mathbf{Q} . For the groups $\Gamma = Sp(4, \mathbf{Z})$ and $G = Sp(4, \mathbf{R})$, the number of conjugacy classes is as follows.

$$(1) \quad |\Gamma(f)/G| = 2^2, \quad (2) \quad |\Gamma^\alpha(f)/\Gamma| = 1.$$

4. Outline of the proofs of the theorems. Let f be a fixed cyclotomic polynomial with degree $2n$ and ζ is a root of $f=0$. By $k = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta)$ (resp. $k_0 = \mathbf{Q}(\zeta + \zeta^{-1})$), we denote the field generated by ζ (resp. $\zeta + \zeta^{-1}$) over \mathbf{Q} . It is known that the ring of algebraic integers \mathfrak{O} in k is generated by $1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \dots, \zeta^{2n-1}$ over \mathbf{Z} (cf. H. Hasse [2]).

Let γ be an element in Γ with the characteristic polynomial f and $x \in k^{2n}$ be an eigenvector of γ corresponding to the eigenvalue ζ . Since the ring \mathfrak{O} is generated by $1, \zeta, \zeta^2, \dots$ over \mathbf{Z} and f is irreducible, we have the following

(3.1) The entries of x generate a fractional ideal α in k .

(This fact is due to O. Taussky [4].) Let (x, y) be the canonical positive definite Hermitian form on $C^{2n} \times C^{2n}$ and $G(k/\mathbf{Q})$ be the Galois group of k over \mathbf{Q} . Then for each eigenvector x of γ corresponding to the eigenvalue ζ , there exists x^* in k^{2n} satisfying the following (3.2) for any σ in $G(k/\mathbf{Q})$.

$$(3.2) \quad (\sigma(x), x^*) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sigma = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } \sigma \neq 1. \end{cases}$$

Since x^* is an eigenvector of ${}^t\gamma^{-1}$ and ${}^t\gamma J \gamma = J$, we have the following

$$(3.3) \quad Jx = \lambda x^* \quad \text{for an element } \lambda \text{ in } k.$$

From these observations arises a question; what is an ideal α which has the system (x, x^*, λ) satisfying (3.1)–(3.3)? The answer to the question given below constitutes the fundamental lemma in this paper. Let α be a fractional ideal in k .

Lemma. *A fractional ideal α in k has the system (x, x^*, λ) satisfying (3.1)–(3.3) if and only if $N\alpha$ is a principal ideal in k_0 .*

Using the lemma, Theorem I can be proved as follows. Let α be a principal ideal in k . Then $N\alpha$ is principal in k_0 . Applying the above lemma to α , there exists a system (x, x^*, λ) satisfying (3.1)–(3.3). Following O. Taussky [4], we define a linear transformation γ on k^{2n} by $\gamma\sigma(x) = \sigma(\zeta x)$ for σ in $G(k/\mathbf{Q})$. Since the entries in x generate the ideal α , γ belongs to $GL(2n, \mathbf{Z})$. Furthermore since $Jx = \lambda x^*$, we have ${}^t\gamma J \gamma = J$. Thus γ belongs to $Sp(2n, \mathbf{Z})$ and f is the characteristic polynomial of γ . Hence γ is regular elliptic.

Remark. Let x and x^* be the same as above and put $\alpha =$ the ideal generated by x , $\alpha^* =$ the ideal generated by x^* . Then the complex conjugate of α^* is the so-called “complementary ideal of α ” (cf. R. Dedekind [1] or O. Taussky [5]).

The proof of Theorem II is also based on our fundamental lemma.

References

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