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# SPIEGELUNGSSATZ: A COMBINATORIAL PROOF FOR THE 4-RANK

LAURENT HABSIEGER AND EMMANUEL ROYER

**ABSTRACT.** The Spiegelungssatz is an inequality between the 4-ranks of the narrow ideal class groups of the quadratic fields  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ . We provide a combinatorial proof of this inequality. Our interpretation gives an affine system of equations that allows to describe precisely some equality cases.

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## INTRODUCTION

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a quadratic field. Let  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathbb{K}}$  be the multiplicative group of fractional nonzero ideals of the ring of integers of  $\mathbb{K}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbb{K}}$  be the subgroup of principal fractional ideals. We consider the subgroup  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$  of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathbb{K}}$ , whose elements are the ones generated by an element with positive norm. The narrow class group  $\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$  of  $\mathbb{K}$  is the quotient  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathbb{K}}/\mathcal{P}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$ . If  $\mathbb{K}$  is imaginary, this is the usual class group  $\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}} := \mathcal{I}_{\mathbb{K}}/\mathcal{P}_{\mathbb{K}}$  whereas if  $\mathbb{K}$  is real, the group  $\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$  is isomorphic to the product  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$ . The narrow class-group being finite, we can define its  $p^k$ -rank for any power of a prime number  $p^k$  by

$$\text{Rank}_{p^k}(\mathbb{K}) := \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p} \frac{(\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+)^{p^{k-1}}}{(\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+)^{p^k}}.$$

In other words,  $\text{Rank}_{p^k}(\mathbb{K})$  is the number of elementary divisors of  $\mathcal{Cl}_{\mathbb{K}}^+$  divisible by  $p^k$ .

If  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{\Delta})$ , the *reflection* of  $\mathbb{K}$  is the quadratic field  $\mathbb{K}^\# := \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-\Delta})$ . Assume that  $\mathbb{K}$  is totally real, in [DP70, Théorèmes II.9 and II.10], Damey

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& Payan proved the following inequality (the so called *Spiegelungssatz* for the 4-rank, see [Leo58]):

$$\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) \leq \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) \leq \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) + 1.$$

In this article, we provide a combinatorial proof of this *Spiegelungssatz* using expressions involving character sums due to Fouvry & Kluners [FK07]. The letter D will always denote a positive, odd, squarefree integer.

Let  $d_{\mathbb{K}}$  be the discriminant of the real quadratic field  $\mathbb{K}$  and  $d_{\mathbb{K}}^\#$  be the discriminant of the imaginary quadratic field  $\mathbb{K}^\#$ . The usual computation of the discriminant allows to consider three families of quadratic fields. These families are described table 1.

$d_{\mathbb{K}}$	1 (mod 4)	0 (mod 8)	4 (mod 8)
$d_{\mathbb{K}}$	D	8D	4D
$d_{\mathbb{K}}^\#$	-4D	-8D	-D
$d_{\mathbb{K}}^\#$	4 (mod 8)	0 (mod 8)	1 (mod 4)
D	1 (mod 4)		-1 (mod 4)
$\mathbb{K}$	$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$	$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2D})$	$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$

TABLE 1. Link between D,  $d_{\mathbb{K}}$  and their reflections.

We introduce for any integers  $u$  and  $v$  coprime with D the cardinality  $\mathcal{E}_D(u, v) := \#\{(a, b) \in \mathbb{N}^2 : D = ab, ua \equiv \square \pmod{b}, vb \equiv \square \pmod{a}\}$  where  $x \equiv \square \pmod{y}$  means that  $x$  is the square of an integer modulo  $y$ . Using table 1, we find in [FK07] (where what the authors note D is what we note  $d_{\mathbb{K}}$  or  $d_{\mathbb{K}}^\#$ ) the following expressions for the 4-rank of  $\mathbb{K}$  and  $\mathbb{K}^\#$ .

1) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_D(-1, 1)$$

[FK07, Lemma 27] and

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#)} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{E}_D(1, 1) + \mathcal{E}_D(2, 2))$$

[FK07, Lemma 40] with  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

2) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{E}_D(-2, 1) + \mathcal{E}_D(-1, 2))$$

[FK07, Lemma 38] and

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#)} = \mathcal{E}_D(2, 1)$$

[FK07, Lemma 33].

3) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{E}_D(-1, 1) + \mathcal{E}_D(-2, 2))$$

[FK07, Lemma 42] and

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#)} = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_D(1, 1)$$

[FK07, Lemma 16] with  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

*Remark--* These expressions of  $2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})}$  and  $2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#)}$  either have one term or are a sum of two terms. In case they have one term, it can not be zero and this term is a power of 2. In case they are sum of two terms, we will show that each of these terms is either zero or a power of two ; then considering the solutions of the equation  $2^a = 2^b + 2^c$ , we see that either one term (and only one) is zero or the two terms are equal.

To prove Damey & Payan *Spiegelungssatz*, we have then to prove the three following inequalities.

1) If  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{E}_D(-1,1) \leq \mathcal{E}_D(1,1) + \mathcal{E}_D(2,2) \leq 2\mathcal{E}_D(-1,1).$$

2) For any  $D$ ,

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{E}_D(-2,1) + \mathcal{E}_D(-1,2) \leq 2\mathcal{E}_D(2,1) \leq 2\mathcal{E}_D(-2,1) + 2\mathcal{E}_D(-1,2).$$

3) If  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{E}_D(-1,1) + \mathcal{E}_D(-2,2) \leq \mathcal{E}_D(1,1) \leq 2\mathcal{E}_D(-1,1) + 2\mathcal{E}_D(-2,2).$$

In section 1, we establish a formula for  $\mathcal{E}_D(u,v)$  involving Jacobi characters. We average this formula over a group of order 8 generated by three permutations. We deduce properties for  $\mathcal{E}_D(u,v)$  from this formula. In section 2, we give an interpretation of  $\mathcal{E}_D(u,v)$  in terms of the cardinality of an affine space. In particular, this shows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(u,v)$  is either 0 or a power of 2. Finally, in section 3, we combine the character sum interpretation with the affine interpretation to deduce the *Spiegelungssatz*. We also prove the equality cases found by Uehara [Ueh89, Theorem 2] and give a new one.

### 1. A CHARACTER SUM

Denote by  $(\frac{m}{n})$  the Jacobi symbol of  $m$  and  $n$ , for any coprime odd integers  $m$  and  $n$ . The letter  $p$  will always denote a prime number. For any integers  $s, t, u$  and  $v$  coprime with  $D$ , we introduce the sum

$$\sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sum_{ab=D} \prod_{p|b} \left( \left( \frac{s}{p} \right) + \left( \frac{ua}{p} \right) \right) \prod_{p|a} \left( \left( \frac{t}{p} \right) + \left( \frac{vb}{p} \right) \right).$$

We have

$$\sigma_D(1, 1, u, v) = \sum_{ab=D} \prod_{p|b} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{ua}{p} \right) \right) \prod_{p|a} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{vb}{p} \right) \right) =: S_D(u, v).$$

This last sum is nonnegative and related to our problem by the easy equality

$$(4) \quad \mathcal{E}_D(u, v) = 2^{-\omega(D)} S_D(u, v)$$

where  $\omega(D)$  stands for the number of prime divisors of  $D$ . The aim of this section is to establish some properties of  $\sigma_D$ .

We note the symmetry relation

$$\sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sigma_D(t, s, v, u)$$

which gives  $S_D(u, v) = S_D(v, u)$ . The factorisation

$$(5) \quad \sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sum_{ab=D} \left( \frac{s}{b} \right) \left( \frac{t}{a} \right) \prod_{p|b} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{su}{p} \right) \right) \prod_{p|a} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{tv}{p} \right) \right)$$

implies the upper bound

$$(6) \quad |\sigma_D(s, t, u, v)| \leq S_D(su, tv).$$

Finally, we shall use the elementary formula

$$(7) \quad 2(-1)^{xy+yz+zx} = (-1)^x + (-1)^y + (-1)^z - (-1)^{x+y+z}$$

valid for any integers  $x, y$  and  $z$ .

We introduce the element  $\beta(n) \in \mathbb{F}_2$  by

$$\left( \frac{-1}{n} \right) = (-1)^{\beta(n)}.$$

If  $m$  and  $n$  are coprime, the multiplicativity of the Jacobi symbol gives  $\beta(m) + \beta(n) = \beta(mn)$ . With this notation the quadratic reciprocity law reads

$$(8) \quad \left( \frac{m}{n} \right) \left( \frac{n}{m} \right) = (-1)^{\beta(m)\beta(n)}.$$

We shall combine (7) and (8) to get the linearisation formula

$$2 \left( \frac{x}{y} \right) \left( \frac{y}{z} \right) \left( \frac{z}{x} \right) \left( \frac{x}{z} \right) \left( \frac{z}{y} \right) \left( \frac{y}{x} \right) = \left( \frac{-1}{x} \right) + \left( \frac{-1}{y} \right) + \left( \frac{-1}{z} \right) - \left( \frac{-1}{xyz} \right).$$

**Lemma 1–** *For any integers  $s, t, u, v$  coprime with  $D$ , the following equality*

$$\sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left( \frac{a}{d} \right) \left( \frac{b}{c} \right) \left( \frac{s}{b} \right) \left( \frac{t}{a} \right) \left( \frac{u}{d} \right) \left( \frac{v}{c} \right)$$

holds.

*Proof.* By bimultiplicativity of the Jacobi symbol, equation (5) gives

$$\sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sum_{ab=D} \left( \frac{s}{b} \right) \left( \frac{t}{a} \right) \sum_{d|b} \left( \frac{usa}{d} \right) \sum_{c|a} \left( \frac{tvb}{c} \right).$$

By the change of variables  $(a, b, c, d) = (\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta, \gamma, \delta)$ , we get

$$\sigma_D(s, t, u, v) = \sum_{D=\alpha\beta\gamma\delta} \left( \frac{s}{\beta} \right) \left( \frac{u}{\delta} \right) \left( \frac{v}{\gamma} \right) \left( \frac{t}{\alpha} \right) \left( \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \right) \left( \frac{\delta}{\gamma} \right) \left( \frac{\alpha}{\delta} \right) \left( \frac{\beta}{\gamma} \right)$$

and we conclude using the quadratic reciprocity law (8) to  $\left( \frac{\gamma}{\delta} \right) \left( \frac{\delta}{\gamma} \right)$ .  $\square$

To build symmetry, we average the formula in lemma 1 over an order 8 group, namely the group generated by three permutations: the permutation  $(a, d)$ , the permutation  $(b, c)$  and the permutation  $((a, b), (d, c))$ . The quadratic reciprocity law allows to factorise the term  $(-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left( \frac{a}{d} \right) \left( \frac{b}{c} \right)$  in every transformed sum and then to see  $u$  and  $v$  as describing the action of each permutation.

**Proposition 2–** For any integers  $s, t, u, v$  coprime with  $D$ , the following equality

$$\begin{aligned} 8S_D(u, v) = & \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \times \\ & [2 \left(\frac{u}{d}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \left( \left(\frac{-1}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{acd}\right) \right) \\ & + \left(\frac{u}{d}\right) \left(\frac{v}{b}\right) \left( \left(\frac{-1}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{bcd}\right) \right) \\ & + \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{b}\right) \left( 1 + \left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bd}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right) \right)]. \end{aligned}$$

holds.

*Proof.* From lemma 1 follows

$$(9) \quad S_D(u, v) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{d}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right).$$

We permute  $a$  and  $d$  and use the quadratic reciprocity law (8) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} S_D(u, v) = & \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \\ & \times (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)+\beta(d)\beta(a)+\beta(a)\beta(c)}. \end{aligned}$$

Formula (7) gives

$$\begin{aligned} (10) \quad 2S_D(u, v) = & \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{c}\right) \\ & \times \left( \left(\frac{-1}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{acd}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Similary, we permute  $b$  and  $c$ , then use the quadratic reciprocity law (8) and formula (7) to get

$$\begin{aligned} (11) \quad 2S_D(u, v) = & \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{d}\right) \left(\frac{v}{b}\right) \\ & \times \left( \left(\frac{-1}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{bcd}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we permute  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, c)$ , apply twice the quadratic reciprocity law (8) to get

$$\begin{aligned} 2S_D(u, v) = & \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{b}\right) \\ & \times (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)+\beta(b)\beta(a)+\beta(a)\beta(d)+\beta(b)\beta(c)}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\beta(c)\beta(d) + \beta(b)\beta(a) + \beta(a)\beta(d) + \beta(b)\beta(c) = \beta(ac)\beta(bd)$ , using formula (7) with  $z = 0$  we get

$$(12) \quad 2S_D(u, v) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(\frac{v}{b}\right) \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bd}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right).$$

We obtain the result by adding twice (9) with the sum of (10), (11) and (12).  $\square$

When two expressions are equivalent under the action of the symmetry group, we get an identity. We give two such formulas in the next two corollaries.

**Corollary 3–** If  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then  $S_D(-1, 1) = S_D(1, 1)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $D$ , we obtain from proposition 2 the formula

$$(13) \quad 8(S_D(1, 1) - S_D(-1, 1)) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \times \left(1 - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{b}\right)\right) \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right)\right).$$

This gives the result since  $\left(\frac{-1}{D}\right) = 1$  if  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4–** If  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  then  $S_D(1, 1) = 2S_D(-1, 1)$ .

*Proof.* For any  $D$ , proposition 2 gives

$$8S_D(1, -1) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) [2 + \left(\frac{-1}{b}\right) + 2\left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bd}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bc}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{ad}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{abc}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{acd}\right)].$$

Thanks to (13), we deduce for any  $D$  the equality

$$-8(S_D(1, 1) - S_D(-1, 1) - S_D(1, -1)) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \times \left[1 + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bd}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{abc}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{abd}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right].$$

It follows that

$$-8(S_D(1, 1) - S_D(-1, 1) - S_D(1, -1)) = \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right)\right).$$

This finishes the proof since  $\left(\frac{-1}{D}\right) = -1$  if  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .  $\square$

Finally, after having dealt with equalities, we shall need the following inequalities.

**Lemma 5–** For any  $D$ , for any  $u$  coprime with  $D$ , the following inequalities

$$S_D(u, 1) \leq S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) \leq 2S_D(u, 1)$$

hold.

*Proof.* We prove first the inequality

$$(14) \quad S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) \leq 2S_D(u, 1).$$

With proposition 2, we write

$$\begin{aligned} 8(S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1)) &= \sum_{abcd=D} (-1)^{\beta(c)\beta(d)} \left(\frac{a}{d}\right) \left(\frac{b}{c}\right) \times \\ &\quad \left[ 2\left(\frac{u}{d}\right) \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{bd}\right)\right) \right. \\ &\quad + \left(\frac{u}{a}\right) \left(2 + \left(\frac{-1}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{c}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{d}\right) + 2\left(\frac{-1}{ac}\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \left(\frac{-1}{abd}\right) + \left(\frac{-1}{abc}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{acd}\right) - \left(\frac{-1}{bcd}\right)\right] \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Using

$$(15) \quad \left(\frac{-1}{xyz}\right) = \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right) \left(\frac{-1}{t}\right)$$

for any  $\{x, y, z, t\} = \{a, b, c, d\}$  together with (9) and lemma 1 we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} 8(S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1)) &= 2(S_D(u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) + S_D(-u, 1)) \\ &\quad + 2(\sigma_D(-1, 1, -u, 1) + \sigma_D(1, u, 1, 1) + \sigma_D(1, -u, 1, -1)) \\ &\quad + \left(1 - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) (\sigma_D(1, -u, 1, 1) + \sigma_D(-1, u, 1, 1)) \\ &\quad + \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) (\sigma_D(1, u, 1, -1) + \sigma_D(1, u, -1, 1)). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $1 - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)$  and  $1 + \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)$  are nonnegative, the upper bound (6) gives

$$8(S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1)) \leq 4(2S_D(u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) + S_D(-u, 1))$$

hence (14). We prove next the inequality

$$(16) \quad S_D(u, 1) \leq S_D(-u, 1) + S_D(u, -1).$$

As for (14), we use equation (15), proposition 2, equation (9) and lemma 1 to get

$$\begin{aligned} 8S_D(u, 1) &= 2S_D(u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) + S_D(-u, 1) \\ &\quad + \sigma_D(1, -u, 1, 1) + \sigma_D(1, u, 1, -1) + \sigma_D(1, u, -1, 1) + \sigma_D(-1, 1, u, 1) \\ &\quad + \left(1 + \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) \sigma_D(1, -u, 1, -1) + \left(1 - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right)\right) \sigma_D(1, u, 1, 1) \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{-1}{D}\right) (\sigma_D(-1, u, 1, 1) + \sigma_D(1, -1, u, 1)). \end{aligned}$$

Then (6) leads to

$$8S_D(u, 1) \leq 4(S_D(u, 1) + S_D(u, -1) + S_D(-u, 1))$$

hence (16).  $\square$

## 2. AN AFFINE INTERPRETATION

We write  $p_1 < \dots < p_{\omega(D)}$  for the prime divisors of  $D$  and define a bijection between the set of divisors  $a$  of  $D$  and the set of sequences  $(x_i)_{1 \leq i \leq \omega(D)}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2^{\omega(D)}$  by

$$x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p_i \mid a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $a$  and  $b$  satisfy  $D = ab$  and  $u$  and  $v$  two integers coprime with  $D$ . We extend the notation of the previous section writing

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) = (-1)^{\alpha(a, b)} = (-1)^{\beta_a(b)}$$

with  $\alpha(a, b) = \beta_a(b) \in \mathbb{F}_2$ . The condition that  $vb$  is a square modulo  $a$  is equivalent to  $\left(\frac{vb}{p}\right) = 1$  for any prime divisor  $p$  of  $a$ , that is

$$\left(\frac{v}{p_i}\right) \prod_{j: x_j=0} \left(\frac{p_j}{p_i}\right) = 1$$

for any  $i$  such that  $x_i = 1$ . With our notation, this gives

$$\forall i, x_i = 1 \implies (-1)^{\beta_v(p_i)} (-1)^{\sum_{j: x_j=0} \alpha(p_j, p_i)} = 1.$$

We rewrite it

$$\forall i, x_i = 1 \implies (-1)^{\beta_v(p_i)} (-1)^{\sum_{j \neq i} (1-x_j) \alpha(p_j, p_i)} = 1$$

and so

$$(17) \quad \forall i, x_i \beta_v(p_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} x_i (1-x_j) \alpha(p_j, p_i) = 0.$$

Similary, the condition that  $ua$  is a square modulo  $b$  is equivalent to

$$(18) \quad \forall i, (1-x_i) \beta_u(p_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} (1-x_i) x_j \alpha(p_j, p_i) = 0.$$

Since  $x_i$  is either 0 or 1, equations (17) et (18) are equivalent to their sum. We deduce the following lemma.

**Lemma 6-** *The cardinality  $\mathcal{E}_D(u, v)$  is the cardinality of the affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(u, v)$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2^{\omega(D)}$  of equations*

$$\left( \beta_u(p_i) + \beta_v(p_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) \right) x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) x_j = \beta_u(p_i)$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, \omega(D)\}$ .

*Remark--* In particular, lemma 6 shows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(u, v)$  if not zero is a power of 2, the power being the dimension of the direction of  $\mathcal{F}_D(u, v)$ . This is not *a priori* obvious.

*Remark--* This interpretation slightly differs from the one found by Redei [Red34, Ger84]. The matrix with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_2$  associated to our affine space is  $(a_{ij})_{1 \leq i,j \leq \omega(D)}$  with

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} \alpha(p_j, p_i) & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \beta_u(p_i) + \beta_v(p_i) + \sum_{\ell \neq i} \alpha(p_\ell, p_i) & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

whereas the matrix considered by Redei is  $(\tilde{a}_{ij})_{1 \leq i,j \leq \omega(D)}$  with

$$\tilde{a}_{ij} = \begin{cases} \alpha(p_j, p_i) & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \omega(D) + 1 + \sum_{\ell \neq i} \alpha(p_\ell, p_i) & \text{if } i = j. \end{cases}$$

**Corollary 7-** For any  $D$ , we have  $S_D(1,1) \neq 0$  and, either  $S_D(2,2) = 0$  or  $S_D(2,2) = S_D(1,1)$ .

*Proof.* The affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(2,2)$  has equations

$$\left( \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) \right) x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) x_j = \beta_2(p_i)$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, \omega(D)\}$ . The affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(1,1)$  has equations

$$\left( \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) \right) x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) x_j = 0$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, \omega(D)\}$ . Hence, both spaces have the same direction, and same dimension. The space  $\mathcal{F}_D(1,1)$  is not empty: it contains  $(1, \dots, 1)$ . Its cardinality is then  $2^{\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \mathcal{F}_D(1,1)}$ . The affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(2,2)$  might be empty and, if it is not, then its cardinality is  $2^{\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \mathcal{F}_D(2,2)} = 2^{\dim_{\mathbb{F}_2} \mathcal{F}_D(1,1)}$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(1,1) \neq 0$  and, either  $\mathcal{E}_D(2,2) = 0$  or  $\mathcal{E}_D(2,2) = \mathcal{E}_D(1,1)$ . We finish the proof thanks to (4).  $\square$

**Corollary 8-** For any  $D$ , we have  $S_D(-1,1) \neq 0$  and, either  $S_D(-2,2) = 0$  or  $S_D(-2,2) = S_D(-1,1)$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\beta_{-2}(p_i) + \beta_2(p_i) = \beta_{-1}(p_i)$ , the affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(-2,2)$  has equations

$$\left( \beta_{-1}(p_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) \right) x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) x_j = \beta_{-2}(p_i)$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, \omega(D)\}$ . The affine space  $\mathcal{F}_D(-1,1)$  has equations

$$\left( \beta_{-1}(p_i) + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) \right) x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i) x_j = \beta_{-1}(p_i)$$

for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, \omega(D)\}$ . Hence, both spaces have the same direction, and same dimension. The space  $\mathcal{F}_D(-1,1)$  is not empty: it contains  $(1, \dots, 1)$ . It follows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(-1,1) \neq 0$  and, either  $\mathcal{E}_D(-2,2) = 0$  or  $\mathcal{E}_D(-2,2) = \mathcal{E}_D(-1,1)$ . We finish the proof thanks to (4).  $\square$

### 3. DAMEY-PAYAN SPIEGELUNGSSATZ

**3.1. Proof of the Spiegelungssatz.** We have to prove (1), (2) and (3).

Consider the case  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Recall that  $D = d_{\mathbb{K}}$ . Thanks to (4), equation (1) is

$$S_D(-1, 1) \leq S_D(1, 1) + S_D(2, 2) \leq 2S_D(-1, 1)$$

for any  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . By corollary 3, this inequality is equivalent to  $S_D(2, 2) \leq S_D(1, 1)$  and this last inequality is implied by corollary 7.

Consider the case  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ . Recall that  $D = d_{\mathbb{K}}/8$ . Thanks to (4), equation (2) is

$$S_D(2, 1) \leq S_D(-2, 1) + S_D(2, -1) \leq 2S_D(2, 1)$$

for any  $D$ . This is implied by lemma 5 with  $u = 2$ .

Finally, consider the case  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ . Recall that  $D = d_{\mathbb{K}}/4$ . Thanks to (4), equation (3) is

$$S_D(-1, 1) + S_D(-2, 2) \leq S_D(1, 1) \leq 2S_D(-1, 1) + 2S_D(-2, 2)$$

for any  $D \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ . By corollary 4, this inequality is equivalent to  $S_D(-2, 2) \leq S_D(-1, 1)$  and this last inequality is implied by corollary 8.

**3.2. Some equality cases.** It is clear from our previous computations that

- if  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  then

$$\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = \begin{cases} \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) & \text{if } \mathcal{E}_D(2, 2) = 0 \\ \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) + 1 & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

- if  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$  then

$$\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = \begin{cases} \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) + 1 & \text{if } \mathcal{E}_D(-2, 2) = 0 \\ \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We do not have such clear criterium in the case  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ . The reason is that our study of the cases  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$  rests on equalities (corollaries 3, 4, 7 and 8) whereas, our study of the case  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  rests on inequalities (lemma 5 and mainly equation (6)). We study more explicitly special cases in proving the following proposition due to Uehara [Ueh89, Theorem 2] (the case c seems to be new).

**Theorem 9-** Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be a real quadratic field of discriminant  $d_{\mathbb{K}}$  and  $D$  be described in table 1. Suppose that every prime divisors of  $D$  is congruent to  $\pm 1$  modulo 8. Then

- a) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) + 1$ .
- b) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  and  $D \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) + 1$ .
- c) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$  and  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})$ .
- d) If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ , then  $\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) = \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#)$ .

*Proof.* Since every prime divisors of  $D$  is congruent to  $\pm 1$  modulo 8, we have  $\beta_2(p_i) = 0$  for any  $i$ .

- If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . By lemma 6, we know that  $\mathcal{E}_D(2, 2)$  is the cardinality of an affine space having equations

$$\sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i)(x_i + x_j) = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq \omega(D))$$

hence it is non zero ( $x_i = 1$  for any  $i$  gives a solution).

- If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) - \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = \frac{2\mathcal{E}_D(2, 1)}{\mathcal{E}_D(-2, 1) + \mathcal{E}_D(-1, 2)}.$$

Since  $\beta_{-2}(p_i) = \beta_{-1}(p_i)$  for any  $i$ , lemma 6 shows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(-2, 1) = \mathcal{E}_D(-1, 2) = \mathcal{E}_D(-1, 1)$ . Lemma 6 also shows that  $\mathcal{E}_D(2, 1) = \mathcal{E}_D(1, 1)$ , hence

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) - \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = \frac{\mathcal{E}_D(1, 1)}{\mathcal{E}_D(-1, 1)}.$$

If  $D \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , corollary 4 implies that

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) - \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = 2$$

whereas, if  $D \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , corollary 3 implies that

$$2^{\text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) - \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K})} = 1.$$

- If  $d_{\mathbb{K}} \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ , then  $D \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ . By lemma 6, we know that  $\mathcal{E}_D(-2, 2)$  is the cardinality of an affine space having equations

$$\beta_{-1}(p_i)x_i + \sum_{j \neq i} \alpha(p_j, p_i)(x_i + x_j) = \beta_{-1}(p_i) \quad (1 \leq i \leq \omega(D))$$

hence it is non zero ( $x_i = 1$  for any  $i$  gives a solution).

□

*Remark--* Probabilistic results have been given by Gerth [Ger01] and, for a more natural probability by Fouvry & Kluners in [FK10]. Among other results, Fouvry & Kluners prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{X \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\#\{d_{\mathbb{K}} \in \mathcal{D}(X) : \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}^\#) = s \mid \text{Rank}_4(\mathbb{K}) = r\}}{\#\mathcal{D}(X)} \\ = \begin{cases} 1 - 2^{-r-1} & \text{if } r = s \\ 2^{-r-1} & \text{if } r = s - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{D}(X)$  is the set of fundamental discriminants in  $]0, X]$ .

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