

Small generators for  
S-arithmetic groups IV

Ted Chinburg and Matthew Stover

Setup:  $B = k \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} B''$ ,  $B_{\mathbb{R}} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R}) \times M_2(\mathbb{R})$ ,  
 $B''_{\mathbb{R}} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R})$

(\*)  $\text{Ram}_f(B) \neq \emptyset$

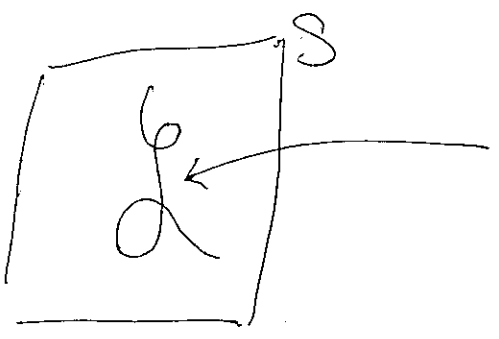
$\Rightarrow$  Shimura curves on a Shimura surface  $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H} \supseteq \Gamma'' \backslash \mathbb{H}$

~~$\Gamma''$~~   $\mathcal{D}'(3) = \text{level 3 congruence subgroup (Borel)}$

$\Gamma = \text{torsion-free subgroup of } \mathcal{D}' \subset B'$ ,  $\Gamma'' = \Gamma \cap B''$ .

Fact:  $S = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$  is compact by (\*). (Smooth by t.f.)

$\Rightarrow$  base changes  $B'' \rightarrow B$  determine curves on  $S$ , possibly with self-intersections.



$C = \Gamma'' \backslash \mathbb{H}$

Smooth, projective  
 genus  $\geq 2$ .

(2)

Question 1: Can we understand  $\mathcal{D}^i$  by the unit groups of orders of the subalgebras  $B'' \subset B$  so  $B = k \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} B''$ ?

Question 2: Can we understand  $S = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$  via the geometry of the Shimura curves on  $\mathcal{S}$ ?

Note: All our results also hold for  $U(2,1)$  Shimura varieties containing  $U(1,1)$  Shimura curves.

This is where the Albanese application is most interesting because  $\text{Alb}(\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}) = \text{pt}$ .

Theorem There exists a finite collection of Shimura curves  $C_1, \dots, C_r = \Gamma_j \backslash \mathbb{H}$  on the surface  $S = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$  or  $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  such that

① if  $\pi_j: C_j \rightarrow S$  is the inclusion, the effective divisor

$$D = \sum_1^r \pi_j(C_j) \text{ is } \underline{\text{connected}}$$

~~open subvarieties of  $S$ , if  $\pi_j(C_j) \cap \pi_k(C_k) \neq \emptyset$~~

② for all open neighborhoods  $U$  of  $D$ , the map  $\pi_1(U) \rightarrow \pi_1(S)$  has finite index in  $\pi_1(S)$ .  
(i.e.,  $\pi_1(U)$  generates a finite étale covering of  $S$ ).

• Proof is by weak Lefschetz theory (goes back to Nori's resolution of Zariski's conjecture).

• We will see that in the case of  $\mathbb{A}^1 \times \mathbb{A}^1$ , the number of curves is explicitly computable!

(This, in a sense, uses the fact that  $\text{Alb}(S) = \emptyset$ .)

• Analogy with 2D class field theory, understanding a 2D scheme by ~~patching~~ patching 1D ~~schemes~~ schemes.

Lemma Shimura curves  $C$  that are embedded on  $S$  are negative.

Idea of proof: Want degree of normal bundle.

Can conjugate  $B''$  in  $B$  so it is Galois stable /  $\mathbb{Q}$

$\Rightarrow B'' \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow B \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R}) \times M_2(\mathbb{R})$  is the

diagonal map  $\Rightarrow \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$  is diagonal  $\Rightarrow$  normal

bundle is  $\{(v, -v) : v \in T\mathbb{H}\} \Rightarrow \Gamma'' = B'' \cap \Gamma$  ~~action~~

on  ~~$N_{\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}}$~~   $N_{\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}}$  (diagonal)  $\cong \Gamma''$ -action on  $T\mathbb{H}$

$\Rightarrow$  negative of degree  $\chi(C) = 2 - 2g(C)$ .  $\square$

Theorem (Nagata-Ramachandran / Campana) Let  $\hat{S} \xrightarrow{\hat{\pi}} S$  be an étale cover. If  $\hat{S}$  supports a compact, connected, effective divisor of positive self-intersection, then  $\hat{\pi}$  is finite.

Recall: If  $C_1, C_2$  distinct irreducible,  $(C_1, C_2) = \#(C_1 \cap C_2)$  and  $(C_i, C_i) = \text{deg}(N_S(C_i))$ . Extend linearly to all divisors.

Fact:  $(,)$  only depends on the class in  $H^2(S, \mathbb{Q})$ .

Corollary: Let  $D$  be a connected, effective divisor on  $S$  of positive self-intersection. Then if  $U$  is any neighborhood of  $D$  in  $S$ , then  $\pi_1(U) \rightarrow \pi_1(S)$  has finite index.

Proof: Let  $\hat{S} \rightarrow S$  be the étale cover associated with the image of  $\pi_1(U)$  in  $\pi_1(S)$ . Then  $U$  lifts to  $\hat{S}$ , so  $D$  also lifts, and  $(D, D)$  is the same. Thus  $D$  is a compact, connected, effective divisor on  $\hat{S}$  of positive self-intersection. Theorem  $\Rightarrow \hat{S} \rightarrow S$  is finite  $\Rightarrow \pi_1(U) \rightarrow \pi_1(S)$  finite index.  $\square$

(6)

Theorem: Let  $S$  be a smooth projective surface,  $\hat{S} \xrightarrow{f} S$  an étale covering with  $\hat{S}$  noncompact,  $\hat{C} = \sum \hat{C}_j \subset \hat{S}$  effective, compact, connected,  $\hat{C}_j$  irreducible.

Then either

①  $(\hat{C}, \hat{C}) < 0$

② there exists  $\hat{C}_1$  precisely supported on  $\hat{C}$  ( $\Rightarrow$  each  $\hat{C}_j$  appears with positive multiplicity) with  $(\hat{C}_1)^2 = 0$  and for any other  $\hat{C}'$  with support on  $\hat{C}$ ,  $(\hat{C}')^2 \leq 0$ ,  $(\hat{C}', \hat{C}_1) = 0$ , and for all compact connected curves  $\hat{D}$  on  $\hat{S}$ , ~~if  $\hat{D} \cap \hat{C} \neq \emptyset$~~

$|\hat{D} \cap \hat{C}| \neq \emptyset$  or  $(\hat{D}, \hat{C}) = 0$ .

( $\Rightarrow \hat{C}$  irreducible)

Note: This immediately implies the previous theorem, since  $(\hat{C}, \hat{C}) > 0$  is not a possibility.

Divisor connected  $\Rightarrow$  ( , ) restricted to the subspace of  $H^2(S, \mathbb{Q})$  generated by the irreducible components is indecomposable.

(2) is a geometric consequence of a lemma about indefinite indecomposable quadratic forms due to Coxeter.

Proposition: Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be an ample line bundle on  $S$ ,  $f: \hat{S} \rightarrow S$  étale,  $\hat{S}$  noncompact. ~~Then for  $N \gg 0$ ,~~ Then for  $N \gg 0$ ,

$$H_{(2)}^0(\hat{S}, f^*(K_S \otimes \mathcal{L}^N))$$

(2)  $\Rightarrow$   $L^2$ -sections) is infinite dimensional.

This is an infinite version of the fact that if  $f$  is finite of degree  $d$ ,  $\dim H_{(2)}^0(\hat{S}, f^*(K_S \otimes \mathcal{L}^N)) = d \cdot \dim H_{(2)}^0(S, K_S \otimes \mathcal{L}^N)$  by Kodaira Vanishing.



(8)

Lemma Let  $U$  be an open neighborhood of a connected compact effective divisor  $\hat{D}$  on  $\hat{S}$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  a line bundle on  $U$ . Then  $\dim H^0(U, \mathcal{L}) < \infty$ .

To prove the theorem, apply the Prop<sup>n</sup> & Lemma to the inverse image of  $D \subset S$  in  $\hat{S}$  = the étale covering of  $S$  determined by the image of  $\pi_1(U) \rightarrow \pi_1(S)$ .

---

Back to Shimura curves.

Infinitely many  $\Rightarrow$  can find a relation

$$X = \sum_i m_i C_i = Y = \sum_j n_j C'_j \quad \text{in } H^2(S, \mathbb{Q})$$

where  $\{C_i\} \cap \{C'_j\} = \emptyset$

$$\Rightarrow (X, X) = (X, Y) \geq 0.$$

Prove ~~4~~ using Hecke operators that we can find another curve  $C_0$  so  $(C_0, X) > 0$ , so  $\nexists (X, X) = 0$ , then there exists  $N > 0$  so  $C_0 + NX$  is a positive effective curve made entirely from Shimura curves.

~~is not a Shimura curve~~

The number of curves necessary is computable!

$$\chi(\mathcal{D}' \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}) = \frac{-\chi(-1)}{2} \prod_{v \in \text{Ram}_f(B)} (N(v) - 1) \quad (\text{Shimizu})$$

$$= 2 - \underbrace{4 h^{1,0}(\mathcal{D}' \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})}_{\frac{1}{2} b_1} + \underbrace{2 h^{2,0}(\mathcal{D}' \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}) + h^{1,1}(\mathcal{D}' \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})}_{b_2}$$

(10)

Matsushima-Shimura:  $h^{1,0}(S) = 0$  for all  $S = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$

arising from quaternion algebras.

$$\Rightarrow \chi = 2 + 2h^{2,0} + h^{1,1}$$

Also  $\chi(\mathcal{O}_S) = 1 - h^{1,0} + h^{2,0} = \frac{1}{12} (\text{~~scribble~~ } c_1^2 + c_2)$

$\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H} \Rightarrow c_1^2 = 2c_2 \Rightarrow 1 + h^{2,0} = \frac{3}{12} (2 + 2h^{2,0} + h^{1,1})$   
(Noether)

~~scribble~~

$$\Rightarrow 4 + 4h^{2,0} = 2 + 2h^{2,0} + h^{1,1}$$

$$\Rightarrow h^{1,1} = 2 + 2h^{2,0}$$

$$\Rightarrow h^{1,1} = \frac{1}{2} \chi \quad [\mathcal{O}^1 : \Gamma]$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{take } \frac{-5(-1)}{4} \prod_{v \in \text{Ram}_f(B)} (N(v) - 1) + 1 \text{ curves.}$$

$\Rightarrow \Gamma$  is generated (up to finite index) by

a neighborhood of  $-\frac{J_2(-1)}{4} \prod_{v \in \text{Ram}_p(B)} (N(v)-1) + 1$

~~arithmetic~~ arithmetic Fuchsian subgroups. [D', \Gamma]

Question: Can we remove the neighborhood assumption and conclude that  $\mathcal{D}'$  has a subgroup of finite index generated by  $\mathcal{D}'_1, \dots, \mathcal{D}'_M$ , where

$\mathcal{D}'_j = \mathcal{D}' \cap B_j$ ,  $B_j/\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $B \cong k \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} B_j$ ,  ~~$\mathbb{R} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} B_j \cong M_2(\mathbb{R})$~~ ?

# Final questions:

• Lenstra for algebras over characteristic  $p$  fields?

- Can make sense of Mikowski.

- May be related to questions about  $FP_m$  for algebraic groups over function fields.

A group  $\Gamma$  is  $FP_m/R$ ,  $R$  a ring ( $\mathbb{Z}$ )  $\Leftrightarrow$

there exists a projective resolution

$$P_m \rightarrow P_{m-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P_i \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow R \rightarrow 0$$

of finitely generated  $R\Gamma$ -modules.

•  $FP_1/\mathbb{Z} \Leftrightarrow \Gamma$  finitely generated

•  $FP_2/\mathbb{Z} \Leftrightarrow \Gamma$  finitely presented.

Theorem (Nagao)  $SL_2(\mathbb{F}_p[t])$  is not  $FP_1$ .

~~13~~  
13

Question: What is  $\sup_{m>0} (\Gamma \text{ is } FP_m)$  where  $\Gamma$  is the  $S$ -unit group of a division algebra over a function field?

Remark Serre  $\Rightarrow$  units are  $FP_\infty$ .

---

- Do our results on generating Shimura surfaces by Shimura curves generalize to
  - Surfaces in characteristic  $p$ ?
  - $U(n,1)$  Shimura varieties defined by hermitian forms / CM fields ( $\Rightarrow$  further Albanese structure thms)
  - Unitary Shimura varieties containing subvarieties of Kottwitz type ( $\Rightarrow$  strong new vanishing theorems for these varieties)