

Group Schemes with Additional Structures and Weyl Group Cosets

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1. Introduction

Let Y be an abelian variety of dimension g over an algebraically closed field k of characteristic $p > 0$. To Y we can associate its p -kernel $Y[p]$, which is a finite commutative k -group scheme of rank p^{2g} . In the unpublished manuscript [8], Kraft showed that, fixing g , there are only finitely many such group schemes, up to isomorphism. (As we shall discuss later, Kraft also gave a very nice description of all possible types.) About 20 years later, this result was re-obtained, independently, by Oort. Together with Ekedahl he used it to define and study a stratification of the moduli space $\mathcal{A}_{g,1} \otimes k$ of principally polarized abelian varieties over k . The strata correspond to the pairs (Y, μ) such that the p -kernel is of a fixed isomorphism type. Their results can be found in [11] and [12]; see also related work by van der Geer in [17].

The present paper is a first step in a programme to develop a similar stratification for (good reductions of) more general Shimura varieties. For Hilbert modular varieties this has been done by Goren and Oort in [4]. In general, such a Shimura variety (i.e., some p -adic model) should come from a $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -version of a Shimura datum, involving a reductive group G over $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ and a homogeneous space X under $G(\mathbb{R})$ such that $(G_{\mathbb{Q}}, X)$ is a Shimura datum in the usual sense. Let us suppose that there is some modular interpretation, say in terms of abelian varieties with certain prescribed Hodge/Tate classes. Now one might hope that from the data (G, X) one can cook up some finite set which is in natural bijection with the set of isomorphism classes of p -kernels with “additional structures” that occur on the special fibre. Further one may hope that this leads to a stratification of the special fibre and that some properties of the

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strata (say the dimensions, and which strata appear in the boundary of another one) can be described in a group theoretical way, i.e., starting from (G, X) .

To give meaning to such speculations, we study Shimura varieties of PEL-type. Here we have a modular interpretation that makes sense in arbitrary characteristics, and we may hope to see a general pattern—if there is one—emerging from this particular case. The programme outlined above leads us to study finite group schemes with an action of a semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra and/or a polarization form. The subject of this paper is the classification of such objects. This is a problem that can be stated without any reference to Shimura varieties, but as motivated above we shall try to obtain a description using a “Shimura-theoretic” language.

The first problem we consider, stated as problem (GE) in section 4, is the classification of BT_1 's \mathcal{G} with a given action $\iota: D \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{G})$ of a semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra D . Here we work over an algebraically closed field k of characteristic p , and by a BT_1 we mean a truncated Barsotti-Tate group of level 1. (See also section 2.)

To explain our result, write (N, F_N, V_N) for the Dieudonné module of such a group scheme \mathcal{G} . Consider the reductive k -group $G := \text{GL}_D(N)$. Some of the data involved, such as the structure of N as a D -module, can be viewed as discrete invariants of the pair (\mathcal{G}, ι) , and for the classification problem we may assume them to be fixed. Another discrete invariant, which we call the multiplication type of the pair (\mathcal{G}, ι) , is the structure of $\text{Ker}(F) \subset N$ as a D -module. This multiplication type corresponds to a conjugacy class X of parabolic subgroups of G . Now consider the Weyl group W_G of G . The conjugacy class X gives rise to a subgroup $W_X \subset W_G$; the coset space $W_X \backslash W_G$ is a finite set which can be described explicitly.

Given a pair (\mathcal{G}, ι) with discrete invariants N and X (formulation to be made more precise) we define an element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \iota) \in W_X \backslash W_G$. Our first main result is that this element classifies \mathcal{G} with its action by D :

Theorem. — *Notations and assumptions as above. Associating $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \iota)$ to the pair (\mathcal{G}, ι) gives a bijection*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of pairs} \\ (\mathcal{G}, \iota) \text{ with invariants } N, X \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \backslash W_G.$$

We refer to section 4 for a more precise statement of this result and for further details.

The second classification problem, formulated as problem (GPE) in section 5, is about triples $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$, where \mathcal{G} is a BT_1 over k , where $\lambda: \mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{G}^D$ is a principal quasi-polarization, and where again $\iota: D \rightarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{G})$ is an action of a semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra. We assume that on D we are given an involution $d \mapsto d^*$, and if $f \mapsto f^\dagger$ is the Rosati involution on $\text{End}(\mathcal{G})$ associated to λ then we require that $\iota(d^*) = \iota(d)^\dagger$ for all $d \in D$.

After some reduction steps, problem (GPE) splits up into three cases, labelled A (unitary), C (symplectic) and D (orthogonal). Each of these cases has its own features, but with suitable notations and definitions our main results can be stated uniformly. Our results are similar in shape to that in case (GE), provided that we work with the group $G := \mathrm{Sp}_D(N, \psi)$ in the place of $\mathrm{GL}_D(N)$. Here ψ is the symplectic form on the Dieudonné module N corresponding to the polarization λ . The chosen labels A, C and D correspond to the root system of G . Again we consider a multiplication type, and similar to what we did in case (GE) we can cook up a finite set $W_X \backslash W_G$. To a triple $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$ we associate an element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota) \in W_X \backslash W_G$. Further the inclusion $f: \mathrm{Sp}_D(N, \psi) \hookrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_D(N)$ induces an injective map $W(f): W_X \backslash W_G \hookrightarrow W_X \backslash W_{\mathrm{GL}_D(N)}$ which sends $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$ to $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \iota)$. Now we have:

Theorem. — Assume $k = \bar{k}$ with $\mathrm{char}(k) > 2$.

(i) Let \mathcal{G} be a BT_1 over k with an action ι of the semi-simple algebra D . Then there exists a principal quasi-polarization λ such that $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$ is a triple as in (GPE) if and only if $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \iota) \in W_X \backslash W_{\mathrm{GL}_D(N)}$ is in the image of the map $W(f)$.

(ii) If a form λ as in (i) exists then it is unique up to isomorphism (respecting the D -action). In other words: associating $\underline{w}(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota) \in W_X \backslash W_G$ to a triple $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$ gives a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of triples} \\ (\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota) \text{ with invariants } N, X \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \backslash W_G.$$

Again we refer to the text for a more precise statement of the result.

The present paper only deals with finite group schemes with additional structure. Results about the associated stratifications on PEL-type moduli spaces will appear in [9]. After that it should be investigated whether a similar group-theoretic description also applies to more general Shimura varieties. We hope to return to such questions in the near future. In response to the preprint version of this paper, Torsten Wedhorn informed me that he has also obtained results on the Ekedahl-Oort stratification for PEL-type Shimura varieties; see [18].

Acknowledgements. I have had many pleasant conversations about the subject of this paper with Frans Oort. He explained to me the basic ideas underlying the Ekedahl-Oort stratification; also he pointed out that my original proof of Lemma 4.5 was incomplete. The idea that a good “encoding” could be done using the Weyl group is due to Gerard van der Geer (cf. his paper [17]). On several questions about algebraic groups I received useful suggestions from Wilberd van der Kallen. I thank them all cordially.

Notations and conventions. If S is a set we write $\mathfrak{S}(S)$ for its group of permutations. In case $S = \{1, 2, \dots, q\}$ we simply write \mathfrak{S}_q . We shall write $\mathbb{H}_q \subset \mathfrak{S}_{2q}$ for the subgroup given by

$$\mathbb{H}_q := \{\rho \in \mathfrak{S}_{2q} \mid \rho(j) + \rho(2q+1-j) = 2q+1 \text{ for all } j\}.$$

This group, isomorphic to a semi-direct product $\{\pm 1\}^q \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_q$, is known under several names in the literature (e.g., the hyperoctahedral group, or the wreath product of \mathfrak{S}_q with $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$). In this paper it will occur as (a realization of) the Weyl group of type C_q .

By a symplectic form on a module N we mean a perfect alternating bilinear pairing. At various points in the paper we shall work with spaces equipped with a symmetric or skew-symmetric pairing. We shall use $\varepsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$ for the sign of the pairing. Given a symplectic or orthogonal space (N, ψ) of even dimension $2q$ we say that an ordered k -basis $\beta = e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{2q}$ is a symplectic, resp. orthogonal basis, if

$$\psi(e_i, e_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i + j \neq 2q + 1; \\ 1 & \text{if } i + j = 2q + 1 \text{ and } i < j; \\ \varepsilon & \text{if } i + j = 2q + 1 \text{ and } i > j. \end{cases}$$

If \mathcal{G} is a finite commutative group scheme we write \mathcal{G}^D for its Cartier dual. If M is the Dieudonné module of such a group scheme, we write M^D for the dual Dieudonné module, which is the Dieudonné module of \mathcal{G}^D . We write $\mathcal{G}[p]$ for the kernel of multiplication by p . Likewise, $\mathcal{G}[F]$ and $\mathcal{G}[V]$ denote the kernels of Frobenius and Verschiebung. Similar notations $M[F]$ and $M[V]$ are used for the Dieudonné module.

If R is a ring of characteristic $p > 0$ then we write $\text{Frob}_R: x \mapsto x^p$ for its Frobenius endomorphism. In the particular case that $R = k$ is a perfect field we shall occasionally write σ for Frob_k .

By an involution on a ring we mean what is sometimes called an anti-involution, i.e., an additive homomorphism $x \mapsto x^*$ such that $(xy)^* = y^*x^*$.

2. Review of results of Kraft

2.1. Let k be a perfect field of characteristic $p > 0$. Write $C(1)_k$ for the category of finite commutative k -group schemes which are killed by p . Dieudonné theory tells us that $C(1)_k$ is equivalent to the category of triples (M, F, V) , where

- M is a finite dimensional k -vector space,
- $F: M \rightarrow M$ is a Frob_k -linear map,
- $V: M \rightarrow M$ is a Frob_k^{-1} -linear map,

such that $F \circ V = 0 = V \circ F$. For the purpose of this paper it is not so important how this equivalence is defined. To fix ideas, let us say we will use contravariant Dieudonné theory. A reference is [3]. In the rest of this paper, whenever we discuss Dieudonné modules we always mean modules of the kind just described, i.e., corresponding to a group scheme in the category $C(1)_k$.

A necessary and sufficient condition for $\mathcal{G} \in C(1)_k$ to be the p -kernel of a Barsotti-Tate group is that the sequence

$$\mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{F_{\mathcal{G}}} \mathcal{G}^{(p)} \xrightarrow{V_{\mathcal{G}}} \mathcal{G}$$

is exact; see [5], Prop. 1.7. On the Dieudonné module this means that

$$\text{Ker}(F) = \text{Im}(V) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Im}(F) = \text{Ker}(V).$$

If these conditions are satisfied we shall say that \mathcal{G} is a BT_1 ; short for: \mathcal{G} is a truncated Barsotti-Tate group of level 1.

Let us now assume that k is algebraically closed. In the unpublished manuscript [8], Kraft showed that the objects of $C(1)_k$ admit a normal form. In the description of this, one distinguishes two types of group schemes.

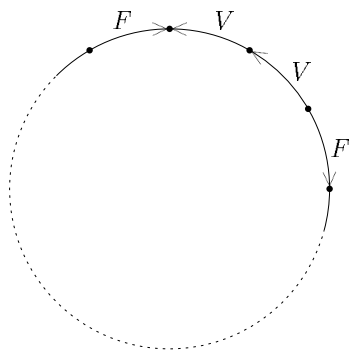
(a) *Linear type.* Consider a linear graph Γ , with all edges labelled either by F (in which case we draw it as \xrightarrow{F}) or by V (drawn as \xleftarrow{V}).



Let $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{V}(\Gamma)$ be the set of vertices of Γ . We associate to Γ a Dieudonné module (M, F, V) in the following way. As a vector space we take $M = k^{\mathcal{V}}$, that is, for each vertex v we have a base vector e_v . Then define F and V according to the arrows in the graph. So, $F(e_v) = e_w$ if there is an F -arrow from v to w , and $F(e_v) = 0$ if there is not an F -arrow starting at v . Similarly, $V(e_v) = e_w$ if there is a V -arrow from v to w and $V(e_v) = 0$ if v is not the source of a V -arrow.

One readily checks that this defines a Dieudonné module, for which we write $M_\Gamma = (M_\Gamma, F, V)$. Write \mathcal{G}_Γ for the corresponding group scheme (well-determined up to isomorphism, or well-determined once we choose a quasi-inverse to the Dieudonné functor $\mathcal{G} \mapsto M(\mathcal{G})$).

(b) *Circular type.* Consider a circular graph



where again all edges are labelled by F or V . We require that the F - V -pattern is not periodic (i.e., the diagram is not invariant under a non-trivial rotation). Two circular diagrams which differ by a rotation will be considered equivalent. By the same rules as in the linear case we obtain a Dieudonné module M_Γ , corresponding to a group scheme \mathcal{G}_Γ .

2.2. Examples. — (i) The category $C(1)_k$ has 3 simple objects: $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$, μ_p and α_p . The corresponding diagrams are:



(ii) The Cartier dual of \mathcal{G}_Γ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{G}_{\check{\Gamma}}$, where $\check{\Gamma}$ is the diagram obtained from Γ by changing all F -arrows into V -arrows and vice versa.

(iii) The group scheme \mathcal{G}_Γ is a BT_1 if and only if Γ is a circular diagram.

The category $C(1)_k$ is abelian, and all objects have finite length. It follows that every $\mathcal{G} \in C(1)_k$ is a direct sum of indecomposable objects. Up to isomorphism and permutation of the factors the indecomposables occurring in such a decomposition are uniquely determined. As the following theorem of Kraft [8] shows, the indecomposable objects are precisely the ones corresponding to the diagrams Γ as above.

2.3. Theorem. — (i) *If Γ is a diagram of the type described above then \mathcal{G}_Γ is indecomposable. If $\mathcal{G}_\Gamma \cong \mathcal{G}_{\Gamma'}$ then Γ and Γ' are equivalent, i.e., either $\Gamma = \Gamma'$ of linear type or Γ and Γ' are of circular type and differ by a rotation.*

(ii) *Every indecomposable object $\mathcal{G} \in C(1)_k$ is isomorphic to some \mathcal{G}_Γ .*

2.4. Remark. — Let us relate the above to the description of group schemes given by Raynaud in [13]. We assume that $k = \bar{k}$. Let κ be a finite field with $q = p^r$ elements. Write $\mathcal{S} := \text{Hom}(\kappa, k)$. We view this as a set with a cyclic ordering (see 4.1 below for a precise definition); given $i \in \mathcal{S}$ we write $i + 1$ for the embedding $\text{Frob}_k \circ i: \kappa \rightarrow k$. Consider pairs (\mathcal{G}, ι) , where $\mathcal{G} \in C(1)_k$, and where $\iota: \kappa \rightarrow \text{End}_k(\mathcal{G})$ gives \mathcal{G} the structure of a scheme in κ -vector spaces. Raynaud studies the pairs (\mathcal{G}, ι) with the property that the augmentation ideal of \mathcal{G} is free of rank 1 over the group ring $k[\kappa^\times]$. A (very) special case of loc. cit., Cor. 1.5.1. says that there is a bijection

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{sequences of pairs } (\gamma_i, \delta_i)_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \text{ with} \\ \gamma_i, \delta_i \in \{0, 1\} \text{ and } \gamma_i \cdot \delta_i = 0 \text{ for all } i \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{pairs } (\mathcal{G}, \iota) \text{ up} \\ \text{to isomorphism} \end{array} \right\}.$$

In the language of diagrams Γ , this bijection is obtained as follows. Suppose given a sequence of pairs (γ_i, δ_i) . Take \mathcal{S} as a vertex set, and draw

- an arrow $(i) \xleftarrow{V} (i + 1)$ if $(\gamma_i, \delta_i) = (1, 0)$;
- an arrow $(i) \xrightarrow{F} (i + 1)$ if $(\gamma_i, \delta_i) = (0, 1)$;
- no arrow between i and $i + 1$ if $(\gamma_i, \delta_i) = (0, 0)$.

This gives us a disjoint union of diagrams $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$ of the type described above. The Dieudonné module $M = M_{\Gamma_1} \oplus \dots \oplus M_{\Gamma_n}$ comes equipped with an action of κ (letting $x \in \kappa$ act as multiplication by $i(x)$ on the base vector corresponding to i), and this gives us the desired scheme in κ -vector spaces. We get a BT_1 if and only if there are no pairs $(\gamma_i, \delta_i) = (0, 0)$, in which case $n = 1$ and Γ_1 is circular. (Cf. [13], Rem. 1.5.4.)

2.5. The canonical filtration. — An important tool in Kraft's proof of Theorem 2.3 is a natural filtration on the Dieudonné module M of an object $\mathcal{G} \in C(1)_k$. This filtration is obtained, starting from $(0) \subset M$, by iterated application of the operators F and V^{-1} .

More formally, consider the monoid \mathcal{M} with 1 freely generated by the two symbols F and V^{-1} . On \mathcal{M} we have a total (lexicographic) ordering such that

- (i) $FZ_1 < 1 < V^{-1}Z_2$ for all $Z_1, Z_2 \in \mathcal{M}$, and
- (ii) if $Z_1 < Z_2$ then $Z_1W < Z_2W$ for all $W \in \mathcal{M}$.

If M is a Dieudonné module, $M' \subset M$ is a k -subspace and $Z \in \mathcal{M}$ then $Z(M')$ is a well-defined k -subspace of M . It is not difficult to show (see [8], p. 70) that for all $Z_1 < Z_2$ we have

$$Z_1 F(M) \subseteq Z_2 F(M) \subseteq Z_1 V^{-1}(0) \subseteq Z_2 V^{-1}(0).$$

It follows from this that there is a unique coarsest filtration

$$\mathcal{C}: \quad (0) = \mathcal{C}_0 \subsetneq \mathcal{C}_1 \subsetneq \mathcal{C}_2 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \mathcal{C}_r = M$$

of M which is stable under all $Z \in \mathcal{M}$, in the sense that for every term \mathcal{C}_i and every $Z \in \mathcal{M}$ there is an index j such that $Z(\mathcal{C}_i) = \mathcal{C}_j$. We call this filtration \mathcal{C} the *canonical filtration* of M . Every term \mathcal{C}_i is of the form $\mathcal{C}_i = ZF(M)$ or $\mathcal{C}_i = ZV^{-1}(0)$ for some $Z \in \mathcal{M}$. Note that each term \mathcal{C}_i is in fact a Dieudonné submodule of M .

2.6. Polarization forms. — Let \mathcal{G} be a BT_1 over k with Dieudonné module M . As the Cartier dual \mathcal{G}^D represents the functor $\mathcal{H}om(G, \mathbb{G}_{m,k})$, to give a homomorphism $\lambda: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^D$ is equivalent to giving a bilinear pairing $\varphi: \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mu_p$. On the other hand, λ induces a morphism of Dieudonné modules $\mu: M^D \rightarrow M$, and this is equivalent to a k -bilinear form $\psi: M \times M \rightarrow k$ with $\psi(Fm_1, m_2) = \psi(m_1, Vm_2)^p$ for all $m_1, m_2 \in M$.

We define λ (or the corresponding μ) to be a *pq-polarization* (short for: principal quasi-polarization) if the form ψ is a symplectic form, i.e., a perfect alternating pairing. If $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$ then this is equivalent to the requirement that λ is an anti-selfdual isomorphism, i.e., an isomorphism with $\lambda^D = -\lambda \circ \kappa: \mathcal{G}^{DD} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}^D$, where $\kappa: \mathcal{G}^{DD} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{G}$ is the canonical isomorphism. This, in turn, is equivalent to saying that the composition $\mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\Delta} \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G} \xrightarrow{\varphi} \mu_p$ is trivial, in which case we call φ alternating. Our motivation for using ψ in the definition of a pq-polarization is the fact that for $\text{char}(k) = 2$ we have an implication “ ψ is alternating” \Rightarrow “ φ is alternating”, but as Oort pointed out to us, the converse does *not* hold in general. (A counterexample can be obtained with \mathcal{G} the 2-kernel of the supersingular elliptic curve.) Notice that if $\mathcal{G} = \tilde{\mathcal{G}}[p]$, where $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ is a Barsotti-Tate group and if λ is induced from a quasi-polarization of $\tilde{\mathcal{G}}$ then ψ is necessarily alternating.

3. The relative position of two flags

In this section we discuss how the relative position of two flags in a vector space (possibly equipped with a bilinear form) can be measured by a coset in a Weyl group. In the next sections we will use this to associate a Weyl group coset to a BT_1 with additional structures. First we give some abstract definitions; after that we do some concrete examples. The basic case is that of partial flags in a vector space, without further structure (see Example 3.5 below). Once this is understood, the other examples are easy variations.

Not all formulas given in the examples are needed in this paper. However, in our applications to Shimura varieties Weyl group cosets will correspond to strata in certain moduli spaces, and one may ask whether properties of these strata can be read from the corresponding coset. For instance, the dimension of the strata corresponds to the length of the reduced representative of the coset, for which we can give simple explicit formulas. On the other hand, it should be realized that the explicit description of the Weyl groups as permutation groups depends on choices, whereas the actual Weyl group and the elements $w^\sharp(P, Q)$ we consider are canonical.

3.1. We begin by reproducing some terminology and results from Bourbaki [2], Chap. 4, §1, Exercise 3.

Let (W, S) be a Coxeter system. Let X and Y be two subsets of S , and write W_X , resp. W_Y for the subgroups of W they generate. In every double class $(W_X \cdot w \cdot W_Y) \in W_X \backslash W / W_Y$ there is a unique element of minimal length, for which we write \dot{w} . Every other element $w' \in W_X \cdot w \cdot W_Y$ can be written as $w' = x\dot{w}y$ with $\ell(w') = \ell(x) + \ell(\dot{w}) + \ell(y)$. An element $w \in W$ is said to be (X, Y) -reduced if it is the element of minimal length in its double class $W_X \cdot w \cdot W_Y$. The element w is (X, Y) -reduced if and only if it is both (X, \emptyset) -reduced and (\emptyset, Y) -reduced.

3.2. Let G be a connected linear algebraic group over an algebraically closed field. Fix a maximal torus and a Borel subgroup $T_0 \subset B_0 \subset G$. Write $W = W_G$ for the Weyl group, and let $S \subset W$ be the set of simple reflections corresponding to the chosen B_0 . For $X \subseteq S$, write $P_X \subset G$ for the corresponding standard parabolic subgroup. We call a parabolic P of type X if P is conjugate to P_X . Associating to P its type gives a bijection between the set of conjugacy classes of parabolic subgroups and the powerset $\mathfrak{P}(S)$ of S .

The variety \mathcal{B} of Borel subgroups of G is homogeneous under G . The choice of the base point B_0 gives rise to a bijection $\varphi: W \xrightarrow{\sim} G \backslash (\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B})$, sending $w \in W$ to the orbit of the pair $(B_0, {}^w B_0)$. Thus, given an ordered pair of Borel subgroups (B_1, B_2) we can define $w(B_1, B_2)$ as the unique Weyl group element whose image under φ is the orbit of (B_1, B_2) .

If P and Q are parabolic subgroups of types X and Y , respectively, then their relative position is measured by an element

$$w(P, Q) \in W_X \backslash W / W_Y.$$

To define this element, choose Borel subgroups $B_1 \subset P$ and $B_2 \subset Q$, and let $w(P, Q)$ be the double class containing $w(B_1, B_2)$. One easily checks that this class is independent of the choice of B_1 and B_2 . Alternatively, choose $g, h \in G$ such that ${}^g P = P_X$ and ${}^h Q = P_Y$, and let $v(P, Q) \in P_X \backslash G / P_Y$ be the class of the element gh^{-1} . Notice that $v(P, Q)$ is independent of the chosen elements g and h . Then $w(P, Q)$ is the image of $v(P, Q)$ under the natural bijection $P_X \backslash G / P_Y \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \backslash W / W_Y$ obtained from Bruhat decomposition.

Given parabolic groups P and $Q_1 \subset Q_2$, the element $w(P, Q_1)$ maps to $w(P, Q_2)$ under the natural map $W_X \backslash W/W_{Y_1} \rightarrow W_X \backslash W/W_{Y_2}$. If w represents $w(P, Q)$ then w^{-1} represents $w(Q, P)$.

3.3. Definition. — Notations as above. We say that a parabolic subgroup Q is in *optimal position* with respect to a parabolic subgroup P if for any two Borel subgroups $B, B' \subseteq Q$ we have $w(P, B) = w(P, B') \in W_X \backslash W$, that is, if the class $w(P, B)$ is independent of the chosen Borel subgroup $B \subseteq Q$. If Q is in optimal position we write $w^\sharp(P, Q)$ for this class $w(P, B) \in W_X \backslash W$.

3.4. Remark. — Consider the (X, Y) -reduced representative $\dot{w}(P, Q)$ of the double class $w(P, Q)$. Then $\dot{w}(P, Q)$ can be represented by a pair (B_1, B_2) with $B_1 \subseteq P$ and $B_2 \subseteq Q$. Hence there exists a Borel subgroup $B \subseteq Q$ (namely $B = B_2$) such that $\dot{w}(P, B) = \dot{w}(P, Q)$. In particular, if Q is in optimal position with respect to P then $\dot{w}(P, B) = \dot{w}(P, Q)$ for *every* $B \subseteq Q$. Conversely, if this last condition holds then Q is evidently in optimal position with respect to P .

3.5. Example A. — Let N be a k -vector space of finite dimension d . Set $G := \mathrm{GL}(N)$. Choose a basis e_1, \dots, e_d for N . Let $T_0 \subset G$ be the diagonal torus and $B_0 \subset G$ be the upper triangular Borel. We identify the Weyl group W with \mathfrak{S}_d in the usual way; the simple reflections form the set $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_{d-1}\}$ with s_i corresponding to the transposition $(i \ i+1)$.

Let

$$C_\bullet: \quad (0) \subsetneq C_0 \subsetneq C_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq C_{r-1} \subsetneq C_r = N$$

be a partial flag in N . The stabilizer of C_\bullet in $\mathrm{GL}(N)$ is a parabolic subgroup. Associating $\mathrm{Stab}(C_\bullet)$ to C_\bullet gives a bijective correspondence between partial flags in N and parabolic subgroups of G ; this allows us to apply the definitions in 3.2 and 3.3 directly to flags.

The type $Y \subseteq S$ of C_\bullet is given by the rule

$$s_i \notin Y \iff \exists j : \dim(C_j) = i. \tag{3.5.1}$$

We are interested in the relative position of a flag

$$L: \quad (0) \subseteq L \subseteq N$$

and a partial flag C_\bullet as above. If $e := \dim(L)$ then L has type $X = S \setminus \{s_e\}$ and W_X is the subgroup $\mathfrak{S}(\{1, \dots, e\}) \times \mathfrak{S}(\{e+1, \dots, d\})$ of \mathfrak{S}_d . (For $e = 0$ or $e = d$ this becomes $X = S$ and $W_X = W$.) The set W^{red} of (X, \emptyset) -reduced elements has $\binom{d}{e}$ elements, which can be described as follows. Choose indices $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_e \leq d$, and let $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{d-e} \leq d$ be the remaining ones. Given two such sequences j_\bullet and i_\bullet , define a permutation

$$w = w(j_\bullet, i_\bullet) \in \mathfrak{S}_d \quad \text{by} \quad w(j_m) = m, \quad w(i_m) = e + m. \tag{3.5.2}$$

Then $w(j_\bullet, i_\bullet)$ is an element of W^{red} and every element of W^{red} is of this form. The length of $w = w(j_\bullet, i_\bullet)$ is given by

$$\ell(w) = \sum_{m=1}^e (j_m - m) = \sum_{n=1}^{d-e} (e + n - i_n).$$

Suppose that C_\bullet is a full flag. Set $\eta(j) := \dim(C_j \cap L)$. The sequence η has the property that for all $j \geq 1$, either $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1)$ or $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1) + 1$. Let $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_e$ be the indices with $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1) + 1$, and let $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_{d-e}$ be the indices with $\eta(i) = \eta(i-1)$. Then $w(L, C_\bullet) \in \mathfrak{S}_d$ is the permutation $w(j_\bullet, i_\bullet)$ as defined above.

Now let C_\bullet be an arbitrary partial flag. To decide whether or not C_\bullet is in optimal position with respect to L we have to refine C_\bullet to a full flag \tilde{C}_\bullet and check whether the class $w(L, \tilde{C}_\bullet)$ depends on the choice of such a refinement. By Remark 3.4 we can check this on the reduced representatives, and combined with the previous computations we find:

$$\begin{array}{l} C_\bullet \text{ is in optimal position} \\ \text{with respect to } L \end{array} \iff \begin{array}{l} \forall j, \text{ either } C_j \subseteq \text{Span}(C_{j-1}, L) \\ \text{or } C_{j-1} \cap L = C_j \cap L. \end{array} \quad (3.5.3)$$

3.6. Example C. — Let N be a vector space of dimension $2q$ over k , equipped with a symplectic form $\psi: N \times N \rightarrow k$. Set $G := \text{Sp}(N, \psi)$. Let e_1, \dots, e_{2q} be a symplectic basis for N . Let $T_0 \subset G$ be the diagonal torus and $B_0 \subset G$ the upper triangular Borel. The Weyl group W can be identified with the group

$$\mathbb{H}_q := \{ \rho \in \mathfrak{S}_{2q} \mid \rho(j) + \rho(2q+1-j) = 2q+1 \text{ for all } j \}.$$

We have $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_q\}$ with

$$\begin{cases} s_i = (i \ i+1) \cdot (2q-i \ 2q+1-i) & \text{for } i \neq q; \\ s_q = (q \ q+1). \end{cases} \quad (3.6.1)$$

A partial flag

$$C_\bullet : \quad (0) = C_0 \subsetneq C_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq C_{r-1} \subsetneq C_r = N$$

is called a *partial symplectic flag* if $(C_j)^\perp = C_{r-j}$ for all j . Every parabolic subgroup $Q \subset G$ is the stabilizer of a unique partial symplectic flag; as in the previous example we can therefore phrase everything directly in terms of flags. The type $Y \subseteq \{s_1, \dots, s_q\}$ of a partial symplectic flag C_\bullet is given by (3.5.1).

Let $L \subset N$ be a maximal isotropic subspace. The flag $(0) \subset L \subset N$ has type $X := S \setminus \{s_q\}$. We have

$$W_X = \{ \rho \in \mathbb{H}_q \mid \rho(\{1, \dots, q\}) = \{1, \dots, q\} \} \cong \mathfrak{S}_q.$$

The set $W^{\text{red}} \subset W$ of (X, \emptyset) -reduced elements has 2^q elements, which can be described as follows. Of each pair $\{r, 2q+1-r\} \subset \{1, 2, \dots, 2q\}$, choose one. Let $1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_q \leq 2q$ be the chosen elements. Let $1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_q \leq 2q$ be the elements that were not chosen, and notice that $j_m + i_{q+1-m} = 2q+1$ for all m . Define the permutation $w = w(i_\bullet, j_\bullet)$ by $w(j_m) = m$ and $w(i_m) = q+m$. (Cf. (3.5.2), where we now have $d = 2q$ and $e = q$.) Then w is an element of W^{red} , and every element of W^{red} is of this form. A reduced expression of w as a word in the generators s_i is given by

$$w = t_{i_l} \cdot t_{i_{l-1}} \cdots t_{i_1},$$

where i_l is the largest among the i_m with $i_l \leq q$, and where we write $t_i = s_q \cdot s_{q-1} \cdots s_i$. In particular, we find

$$\ell(w) = \sum_{m=1}^l (q+1-i_m).$$

Consider a full symplectic flag C_\bullet . The reduced element $\dot{w}(L, C_\bullet)$ representing the class $w(L, C_\bullet) \in W_X \backslash W$ is computed in a similar way as in 3.5. More precisely, for $0 \leq i \leq 2q$, set $\eta(i) := \dim(C_i \cap L)$. The sequence η has the property that for every $j \in \{1, \dots, 2q\}$:

- (a) either $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1)$ or $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1) + 1$;
- (b) $\eta(j) = \eta(j-1)$ if and only if $\eta(2q+1-j) = \eta(2q-j) + 1$.

Let $j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_q$ be the indices where the sequence η jumps and $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_q$ (with $i_m = 2q+1-j_{q+1-m}$) the indices where η does not jump. Then $\dot{w}(L, C_\bullet)$ is precisely the permutation $w(i_\bullet, j_\bullet)$ defined above.

To make this concrete, take $q = 7$. Let $L = \langle e_1, e_2, \dots, e_7 \rangle$. Let C_\bullet be the flag $(0) \subset \langle e_{\pi(1)} \rangle \subset \langle e_{\pi(1)}, e_{\pi(2)} \rangle \subset \dots$, where $\pi \in \mathbb{H}_7$. Then π is a representative for $w(L, C_\bullet)$, and the element w as defined via the sequence η is the (X, \emptyset) -reduced representative for the class $W_X \cdot \pi$. For instance, if π is given by

$$\pi = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 \\ 2 & 11 & 12 & 7 & 9 & 5 & 1 & 14 & 10 & 6 & 8 & 3 & 4 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

then the sequence η is given by

$$\begin{array}{l} i : 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 \\ \eta(i) : 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 4 & 4 & 5 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 7 \end{array} ,$$

so that $j_1 = 1, j_2 = 4, j_3 = 6, j_4 = 7, j_5 = 10, j_6 = 12, j_7 = 13; i_1 = 2, i_2 = 3, i_3 = 5, i_4 = 8, i_5 = 9, i_6 = 11, i_7 = 14$. This gives

$$w = \dot{w}(L, C_\bullet) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 \\ 1 & 8 & 9 & 2 & 10 & 3 & 4 & 11 & 12 & 5 & 13 & 6 & 7 & 14 \end{bmatrix} ,$$

which is indeed a minimal representative (length=14) of the class $W_X \cdot \pi$.

Now let C_\bullet be a partial symplectic flag which has a maximal isotropic term (of dimension q). Combining the previous computations with Remark 3.4 we find that criterion (3.5.3) also holds in this case.

3.7. Buildings. — As preparation for the next example we need to extend the definitions in 3.2 and 3.3 to the setting of buildings. All we need from this can be found in [1] or [16]. We do not assume our buildings to be thick, that is, “building” here means “weak building” in the sense of [16].

Let Δ be a building with a strongly transitive, type-preserving action of a group G . Fix an apartment Σ and a chamber $C \in \Sigma$, and let (W, S) be the associated Coxeter system. (So W is the group of type-preserving automorphisms of Σ .) Let \mathfrak{p} and \mathfrak{q} be two elements of Δ , of types X and $Y \subseteq S$, respectively. Let \mathfrak{p}_X and \mathfrak{p}_Y be the faces of C of types X and Y , and write $P_X := \text{Stab}_G(\mathfrak{p}_X)$ and $P_Y := \text{Stab}_G(\mathfrak{p}_Y)$. Bruhat decomposition gives a bijection

$$W_X \backslash W / W_Y \xrightarrow{\sim} P_X \backslash G / P_Y. \quad (3.7.1)$$

Choose $g, h \in G$ with $g \cdot \mathfrak{p} = \mathfrak{p}_X$ and $h \cdot \mathfrak{q} = \mathfrak{p}_Y$. Define $w(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q}) \in W_X \backslash W / W_Y$ to be the element which, via (3.7.1), corresponds to the class of $g \cdot h^{-1}$, noting that this element does not depend on the chosen g and h .

If G is a connected reductive group and Δ is the building of (proper parabolic subgroups of) G then we recover the definition given in 3.2.

The generalization of 3.3 is immediate: we say that \mathfrak{q} is in optimal position with respect to \mathfrak{p} if for any two chambers C_1, C_2 having \mathfrak{q} as a face, $w(\mathfrak{p}, C_1) = w(\mathfrak{p}, C_2)$. If this holds we obtain a well-defined element $w^\sharp(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q}) \in W_X \backslash W$.

3.8. Example D. — Assume $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$. Let N be a vector space of dimension $2q$ over k , equipped with a non-degenerate symmetric k -bilinear form $\psi: N \times N \rightarrow k$. Set $G := \text{O}(N, \psi)$.

A partial flag

$$C_\bullet : \quad (0) = C_0 \subsetneq C_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq C_{r-1} \subsetneq C_r = N$$

is called a *partial orthogonal flag*, if $(C_j)^\perp = C_{r-j}$ for all j . Let $\Delta := \text{Flag}(N, \psi)$ be the building of all such flags, with its natural action of G .

Let e_1, \dots, e_{2q} be an orthogonal basis for N . Let $\Sigma \subset \text{Flag}(N, \psi)$ be the apartment of all flags C_\bullet with the property that each term C_i is of the form $C_i = \langle e_j; j \in J \rangle$ for some $J \subseteq \{1, 2, \dots, 2q\}$. The full flag $(0) \subset \langle e_1 \rangle \subset \langle e_1, e_2 \rangle \subset \cdots \subset N$ is a chamber of Σ . The Weyl group $W = W_\Delta$ can be identified with the group \mathbb{H}_q as in 3.6, and the set of simple reflections is the same set $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_q\}$ as given there. Notice that if $T \subset G$ is a maximal torus (e.g. the diagonal torus) then W_Δ can also be identified with $W_G := \mathcal{N}_G(T) / \mathcal{Z}_G(T)$.

Let $L \subset N$ be a maximal isotropic subspace. We are interested in the relative position of L and a partial flag C_\bullet as above with the property that $r =$

$2h$ is even; in other words, the flag C_\bullet is assumed to have a maximal isotropic term C_h . The flag $(0) \subset L \subset N$ has type $X := S \setminus \{s_q\}$. The computation of $\dot{w}(L, C_\bullet)$ is now precisely the same as in 3.6, and again we find that criterion (3.5.3) holds.

As G is non-connected, there is an alternative approach to the relative position of L and C_\bullet . Namely, set $G^0 := \mathrm{SO}(N, \psi) \subset G$. Let $T_0 \subset G^0$ be the diagonal maximal torus and $B_0 \subset G^0$ the upper triangular Borel (with respect to the chosen orthogonal basis). Define a subgroup $\mathbb{H}_{q, \text{even}}$ and a subset $\mathbb{H}_{q, \text{odd}} \subset \mathfrak{S}_{2q}$ by

$$\mathbb{H}_{q, \text{even/odd}} := \left\{ \rho \in \mathfrak{S}_{2q} \mid \begin{array}{l} \rho(j) + \rho(2q+1-j) = 2q+1 \text{ for all } j, \text{ and} \\ \text{the number of } i \leq q \text{ with } \rho(i) > q \text{ is even/odd} \end{array} \right\}.$$

The Weyl group W^0 of G^0 is $\mathbb{H}_{q, \text{even}}$. The set of simple reflections is $S^0 = \{s_1, \dots, s_{q-1}, \tilde{s}_q\}$, where s_1, \dots, s_{q-1} are as in (3.6.1) and

$$\tilde{s}_q = (q-1 \ q+2) \cdot (q \ q+1).$$

As before, let $L \subset N$ be a totally isotropic subspace. Without loss of generality we may assume that the dimension of $\langle e_1, \dots, e_q \rangle \cap L$ is congruent to q modulo 2, in which case the stabilizer $P \subset G^0$ of L is a parabolic subgroup of type $X^0 := S \setminus \{\tilde{s}_q\}$. (Otherwise it is of type $S \setminus \{s_{q-1}\}$.) The set $W^{0, \text{red}}$ of (X^0, \emptyset) -reduced elements in W^0 has 2^{q-1} elements, which can be described in the same spirit as in the previous examples.

Next consider a partial orthogonal flag

$$C_\bullet: \quad (0) = C_0 \subsetneq C_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq C_h \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq C_{2h-1} \subsetneq C_{2h} = N$$

with $\dim(C_h) = q$. Let $Q \subset G^0$ be its stabilizer. Recall that in general an orthogonal flag is not uniquely determined by its stabilizer. (For a parabolic $Q \subset G^0$ there is either a unique partial orthogonal flag with stabilizer Q or there are precisely 3 such flags.) A priori it is therefore not so obvious how the element $w(P, Q)$ is related to $w(L, C_\bullet)$.

To describe this relation, let $\delta = \delta(L, C_\bullet) \in (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ be the class of $\dim(L/L \cap C_h)$ modulo 2. The point we want to make is that if we know δ we can compute $w(P, Q) \in W_{X^0} \setminus W_{G^0}$ from $w(L, C_\bullet) \in W_X \setminus W_\Delta$ and vice versa. More precisely, suppose that C_\bullet is in optimal position with respect to L , working inside $\Delta = \text{Flag}(N, \psi)$. Notice that $\dot{w}(L, C_\bullet)$ is an element of $\mathbb{H}_{q, \delta} \subset \mathbb{H}_q = W_G$. Now one can show that also Q is in optimal position with respect to P (in the building of G^0), and that

$$w^\sharp(P, Q) = \begin{cases} w^\sharp(L, C_\bullet) & \text{if } \delta \text{ is even;} \\ w^\sharp(L, C_\bullet) \cdot s_q & \text{if } \delta \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

(Caution: the corresponding formula for reduced representatives \dot{w} does not hold in general.)

In later applications to Shimura varieties the invariant δ will be fixed, and it is the element $w^\sharp(P, Q)$ that we have to consider. With an eye toward such applications, let us describe how the length of the reduced representative $\dot{w}(P, Q)$ can be computed, assuming that C_\bullet is in optimal position with respect to L . Namely, refine C_\bullet to a full orthogonal flag Γ_\bullet , and set $\eta(i) = \dim(\Gamma_i \cap L)$. As usual, let the j_m 's be the indices where the sequence η jumps and let the i_m 's be the remaining ones. Then

$$\ell(\dot{w}(P, Q)) = \sum_{m=1}^l (q - i_m),$$

where $l = \dim(L/L \cap C_h)$ is the largest index such that $i_l \leq q$. To illustrate this, take the same data as in the example in 3.6. Then δ is odd, and

$$\dot{w}(P, Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 & 13 & 14 \\ 1 & 9 & 8 & 2 & 11 & 3 & 10 & 5 & 12 & 4 & 13 & 7 & 6 & 14 \end{bmatrix},$$

which is an element of length 11 in $\mathbb{H}_{7, \text{even}}$.

3.9. Some functoriality. — Let $G_1 \subset G_2$ be an inclusion of (possibly non-connected) reductive groups. Suppose G_i ($i = 1, 2$) acts in a strongly transitive, type-preserving way on a building Δ_i . Further suppose given an injective map $f: \Delta_1 \hookrightarrow \Delta_2$ which realizes Δ_1 as a sub-poset of Δ_2 and which is compatible with the actions of G_1 . (The map f will usually *not* be a morphism of complexes.) We assume that there are apartments $\Sigma_i \subset \Delta_i$ and a simplex C which is a chamber of both Σ_1 and Σ_2 . Write (W_i, S_i) for the Coxeter system associated to $C \in \Sigma_i \subset \Delta_i$.

Let \mathfrak{p}_0 and \mathfrak{q}_0 be two faces of C in Σ_1 . Write $X_i \subseteq S_i$ for the type of \mathfrak{p}_0 and $Y_i \subseteq S_i$ for the type of \mathfrak{q}_0 , working in Δ_i . Write P_{X_i} and P_{Y_i} for the stabilizer of \mathfrak{p}_0 and \mathfrak{q}_0 , respectively, in G_i . We have $P_{X_1} = G_1 \cap P_{X_2}$, and $P_{Y_1} = G_1 \cap P_{Y_2}$. This gives us a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_{X_1} \backslash G_1 / P_{Y_1} & \hookrightarrow & P_{X_2} \backslash G_2 / P_{Y_2} \\ \wr \downarrow & & \downarrow \wr \\ W_{X_1} \backslash W_1 / W_{Y_1} & & W_{X_2} \backslash W_2 / W_{Y_2} \end{array}$$

where the vertical bijections are obtained from Bruhat decomposition. Write

$$W(f): W_{X_1} \backslash W_1 / W_{Y_1} \hookrightarrow W_{X_2} \backslash W_2 / W_{Y_2}$$

for the injective map thus obtained.

Now let \mathfrak{p} be an element in the G_1 -orbit of \mathfrak{p}_0 and \mathfrak{q} in the G_1 -orbit of \mathfrak{q}_0 . Viewing \mathfrak{p} and \mathfrak{q} as elements of Δ_1 we obtain an element $w_1(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q}) \in W_{X_1} \backslash W_1 / W_{Y_1}$; viewing them as elements of Δ_2 gives $w_2(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q}) \in W_{X_2} \backslash W_2 / W_{Y_2}$.

Now it is immediate from the definitions that $w_2(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q})$ is the image of $w_1(\mathfrak{p}, \mathfrak{q})$ under the map $W(f)$.

As an example of this, let $G_1 = \mathrm{Sp}(N, \psi)$ as in 3.6 or $G_1 = \mathrm{O}(N, \psi)$ as in 3.8, and consider the natural inclusion map $G_1 \subset G_2 := \mathrm{GL}(N)$. There is a natural forgetful map $f: \Delta := \mathrm{Flag}(N, \psi) \hookrightarrow \Delta' := \mathrm{Flag}(N)$. Let L and C_\bullet as in 3.6 or 3.8. Write X' for the type of L in Δ' (=the building of $\mathrm{GL}(N)$). Then our computations show that, indeed, the answer for $w(L, C_\bullet)$ is the same whether we compute it in $W_X \backslash W_\Delta$ or in $W_{X'} \backslash W_{\Delta'}$. Even better, in both examples we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W_{G_1} & \hookrightarrow & W_{G_2} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ W_X \backslash W_\Delta & \xrightarrow{W(f)} & W_{X'} \backslash W_{\Delta'} \end{array}$$

and the reduced representative $\dot{w}(L, C_\bullet)$ is the same whether we compute it in W_{G_1} or in W_{G_2} . (Of course, the length of this element in general does depend on the group in which we work.)

3.10. Example A (continued). — Since Type A will occur as a unitary group, let us discuss what happens under duality. Let $\tilde{k} := k \times k$, with involution given by $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_2, x_1)$. Let N be a free \tilde{k} -module of rank q , equipped with a non-degenerate alternating hermitian form $\psi: N \times N \rightarrow \tilde{k}$. We have a natural decomposition $N = N_1 \oplus N_2$, where $(x_1, x_2) \in \tilde{k}$ acts on N_i as multiplication by x_i . The form ψ gives an identification of N_2 with the k -linear dual of N_1 . Given a subspace $L_1 \subset N_1$, we write

$$L_1^\perp := \{n_2 \in N_2 \mid \psi(n_1, n_2) = 0 \text{ for all } n_1 \in L\} \subset N_2.$$

More generally, if $C_{1,\bullet}$ is a partial flag in N_1 , we write $C_{1,\bullet}^\perp$ for the partial flag in N_2 whose terms are the spaces $C_{1,i}^\perp$ (with reversed numbering).

Let $G := \mathrm{U}_{\tilde{k}}(N, \psi)$. We have isomorphisms

$$\mathrm{GL}_k(N_1) \xrightarrow{\sim} G \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{GL}_k(N_2).$$

Under the identification $N_2 = N_1^\vee$ the composition of the two maps is given by $g \mapsto (g^\vee)^{-1}$.

Choose k -bases $e_{i,1}, \dots, e_{i,q}$ for N_i ($i = 1, 2$) such that $\psi(e_{1,\mu}, e_{2,\nu}) = 0$ whenever $\mu + \nu \neq q + 1$. Write $T_i \subset B_i \subset \mathrm{GL}(N_i)$ for the diagonal torus and the upper triangular Borel. As in Example 3.5 we identify the Weyl group W_i of $\mathrm{GL}(N_i)$ with \mathfrak{S}_q , and number the set $S_i \subset W_i$ of simple reflections such that (3.5.1) holds.

Let $w_0 \in \mathfrak{S}_q$ be the permutation of order 2 given by $w_0(\mu) = q + 1 - \mu$. For $\pi \in \mathfrak{S}_q$, define $\tilde{\pi} := w_0 \circ \pi \circ w_0$. We can describe the Weyl group of G as

$$W = \{(\pi_1, \pi_2) \in W_1 \times W_2 \mid \pi_2 = \tilde{\pi}_1\},$$

where the simple reflections are the elements $(s_\mu, s_\nu) \in S_1 \times S_2$ with $\mu + \nu = q+1$. For all computational purposes we can reduce to the case GL_q and proceed as in 3.5, but up to a duality $\pi \mapsto \tilde{\pi}$ the answers obtained depend on which of the two projections $\mathrm{pr}_i: G \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{GL}(N_i)$ we use.

More specifically, suppose $L \subset N$ is a maximal isotropic subspace, i.e., $L = L_1 \oplus L_2$ with $L_2 = L_1^\perp$. Let $C_{1,\bullet}$ be a partial flag in N_1 and $C_{2,\bullet} := C_{1,\bullet}^\perp$ the “dual” partial flag in N_2 . Let $\dim(L_1) = e$, so that the flag $(0) \subset L_1 \subset N_1$ has type $X_1 := S_1 \setminus \{s_e\}$ and the flag $(0) \subset L_2 \subset N_2$ has type $X_2 := S_2 \setminus \{s_{q-e}\}$. We have a well-defined bijection $\beta: W_{X_1} \setminus W_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} W_{X_2} \setminus W_2$ by $\pi \mapsto \tilde{\pi}$. Assume that $C_{i,\bullet}$ is in optimal position with respect to L_i ; if this holds for one i then also for the other. Then $\dot{w}(L_2, C_{2,\bullet}) = \dot{w}(L_1, C_{1,\bullet})^\vee$ and β sends the class $w(L_1, C_{1,\bullet})$ to the class $w(L_2, C_{2,\bullet})$.

4. BT_1 's with given endomorphisms

We now start working on the subject proper of this paper: classification of finite group schemes with additional structure. In this section we deal with BT_1 's equipped with an action of a finite dimensional semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra—see problem (GE) in 4.2 for a precise statement. Although it does not “correspond” to a Shimura variety (as we do not consider polarization forms), we may view (GE) as the basic classification problem. Understanding this case will make the polarized case (GPE) considered in the next section much more transparent.

After some reduction steps, a solution of problem (GE) is given in Theorem 4.7. The proof will occupy most of the rest of the section.

4.1. Definition. — Let \mathcal{S} be a finite set, say of cardinality m . By a *cyclic ordering* of \mathcal{S} we mean an equivalence class of bijections $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$, two such bijections being equivalent if they differ by a translation in $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})$. If m is even, say $m = 2n$ then by a *bi-cyclic ordering* of \mathcal{S} we mean an equivalence class of bijections $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$, where two such bijections are equivalent if they differ by a translation over an element $(0, a)$.

If m is even then a cyclic or bi-cyclic ordering of \mathcal{S} gives rise to an involution of \mathcal{S} , denoted $\tau \mapsto \tilde{\tau}$. Namely, if $m = 2n$ and if $\gamma: (\mathbb{Z}/2n\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ defines the cyclic ordering, resp. if $\gamma: (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \times (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ defines the bi-cyclic ordering, set

$$\widetilde{\gamma(a)} = \gamma(a+n) \quad (\text{cyclic case}), \quad \text{resp.} \quad \widetilde{\gamma(r,a)} = \gamma(r+1, a) \quad (\text{bi-cyclic case}).$$

This defines a map $\tau \mapsto \tilde{\tau}$, independent of the chosen representative γ and compatible with the (bi-)cyclic ordering.

4.2. The set-up. — Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 0$. Let D be a finite dimensional semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra. The first problem that we are interested in is the following:

(GE) Classification of pairs (\mathcal{G}, ι) , where \mathcal{G} is a BT_1 over k and $\iota: D \rightarrow \text{End}_k(\mathcal{G})$ defines an action of D on \mathcal{G} (with $\iota(1) = \text{id}_{\mathcal{G}}$).

As the Brauer group of a finite field is trivial we have $D \cong M_{r_1}(\kappa_1) \times \cdots \times M_{r_n}(\kappa_n)$, where the κ_i are finite fields and $r_1, \dots, r_n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$. Fixing such an isomorphism, every pair (\mathcal{G}, ι) as in (GE) is of the form

$$(\mathcal{G}, \iota) = (\mathcal{H}_1^{r_1}, \theta_1^{r_1}) \times \cdots \times (\mathcal{H}_n^{r_n}, \theta_n^{r_n})$$

where $(\mathcal{H}_i, \theta_i)$ is a BT_1 with an action of κ_i , and where we write θ^{r_i} for the induced action of $M_{r_i}(\kappa_i)$ on $\mathcal{H}_i^{r_i}$. Thus, in dealing with problem (GE) we may from now on assume that $D = \kappa$ is a finite field.

Let $\mathcal{I} := \text{Hom}(\kappa, k)$ be the set of embeddings of κ into k . This set comes naturally equipped with a cyclic ordering, where we take the successor of an embedding $i: \kappa \rightarrow k$ to be $\text{Frob}_k \circ i$. If there is no risk of confusion we simply write $i+1$ for the successor of the element $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

Write

$$k_i := \kappa \otimes_{\kappa, i} k \quad \text{and} \quad K := \kappa \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} k_i.$$

Of course, k_i is canonically isomorphic to k ; the index i just reminds us of how κ acts. We have a Frob_k -linear isomorphism

$$F_{k_i} := \text{id} \otimes \text{Frob}_k: k_i \rightarrow k_{i+1}.$$

4.3. Decomposition of the Dieudonné module. — Let (\mathcal{H}, θ) be a BT_1 with κ -action. Write N for the (contravariant) Dieudonné module of \mathcal{H} . We can view N as a module over K . There is a natural decomposition

$$N = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} N_i, \quad \text{with } N_i := \{n \in N \mid a(n) = i(a) \cdot n \text{ for all } a \in \kappa\}.$$

The Frobenius and Verschiebung F_N and V_N restrict to homomorphisms

$$F_{N_i}: N_i \rightarrow N_{i+1} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{N_i}: N_i \leftarrow N_{i+1},$$

equivariant with respect to $F_{k_i}: k_i \rightarrow k_{i+1}$, respectively its inverse. These maps F_{N_i} and V_{N_i} satisfy

$$\text{Ker}(F_{N_i}) = \text{Im}(V_{N_i}) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Ker}(V_{N_i}) = \text{Im}(F_{N_i}).$$

This last relation gives (simply writing F for F_N and V for V_N)

$$\begin{aligned} \dim_k(N_i) &= \dim_k(\text{Ker}(F|_{N_i})) + \dim_k(FN_i) \\ &= \dim_k(VN_{i+1}) + \dim_k(\text{Ker}(V|_{N_{i+1}})) = \dim_k(N_{i+1}). \end{aligned}$$

As the index set \mathcal{I} has a cyclic ordering we conclude that $d := \dim(N_i)$ is independent of $i \in \mathcal{I}$, so that N is free of rank d as a K -module.

4.4. Canonical filtrations. — Let

$$\mathcal{C}_\bullet: \quad (0) = \mathcal{C}_0 \subsetneq \mathcal{C}_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq \mathcal{C}_l = N$$

be the canonical filtration of N , introduced in 2.5. As each $\mathcal{C}_\nu \subset N$ is a K -submodule, it is of the form $\mathcal{C}_\nu = \bigoplus \Gamma_i$, where Γ_i is a k_i -submodule of N_i . Let

$$C_{i,\bullet}: \quad (0) = C_{i,0} \subsetneq C_{i,1} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq C_{i,\ell_i} = N_i$$

be the filtration by k_i -submodules of N_i thus obtained. Note that we take the inclusions in this filtration to be strict; hence the projection of \mathcal{C}_ν to N_i is of the form $C_{i,j}$ with in general $j \neq \nu$.

By construction, for each $i \in \mathcal{I}$ there is an index $h_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, \ell_i\}$ such that $C_{i,h_i} = \text{Im}(F_{N_{i-1}})$.

4.5. Lemma. — (i) For all $i \in \mathcal{I}$ and $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \ell_i\}$ there exist indices $r_i(j) \in \{0, 1, \dots, h_{i+1}\}$ and $s_i(j) \in \{h_{i+1}, \dots, \ell_{i+1}\}$ such that

$$F_{N_i}(C_{i,j}) = C_{i+1,r_i(j)} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{N_i}^{-1}(C_{i,j}) = C_{i+1,s_i(j)}.$$

(ii) If $j \geq 1$ then either $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1$ and $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1)$ or $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1)$ and $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1$. For all i and j we have $r_i(j) + s_i(j) = h_{i+1} + j$.

(iii) The maps $\rho_i: \{1, \dots, \ell_i\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, \ell_{i+1}\}$ given by

$$\rho_i(j) = \begin{cases} r_i(j) & \text{if } r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1; \\ s_i(j) & \text{if } s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1 \end{cases}$$

are bijections. In particular, the integer $\ell := \ell_i$ does not depend on $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

(iv) If $j \geq 1$ then either

$$C_{i,j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i}) = C_{i,j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i}),$$

or

$$C_{i,j} \subseteq \text{Span}(C_{i,j-1}, \text{Ker}(F_{N_i})).$$

In the first case we have $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1$ and $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1)$; in the second case $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1)$ and $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1$.

Proof. Statement (i) follows from the fact that the canonical filtration \mathcal{C}_\bullet is (by construction) stable under F_N and V_N^{-1} , using that F_N and V_N commute with the action of κ .

Next we prove that either $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1)$ or $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1$. Namely, suppose that $r_i(j) \geq r_i(j-1) + 2$. By construction of the canonical

filtration, the term $C_{i+1, r_i(j-1)+1}$ arises either as $F(C_{i, \nu})$ or as $V^{-1}(C_{i, \nu})$ for some index ν . But

$$\begin{aligned} F_{N_i}(C_{i, j-1}) &= C_{i+1, r_i(j-1)} \subsetneq C_{i+1, r_i(j-1)+1} \\ &\subsetneq C_{i+1, r_i(j)} = F_{N_i}(C_{i, j}) \subseteq \text{Im}(F_{N_i}) = \text{Ker}(V_{N_i}), \end{aligned}$$

so that neither of both is possible. A similar argument shows that $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1)$ or $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1$. Further, if $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1)$ then $C_{i, j}$ is contained in the span of $C_{i, j-1}$ and $\text{Ker}(F) = \text{Im}(V)$, so that necessarily $s_i(j) > s_i(j-1)$. Hence we have the implications

$$r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) \implies s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1$$

and

$$s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) \implies r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1.$$

Now we turn to (iii). Define $\rho'_i: \{1, \dots, \ell_i\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, \ell_{i+1}\}$ by

$$\rho'_i(j) = \begin{cases} r_i(j) & \text{if } r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1; \\ s_i(j) & \text{if } r_i(j) = r_i(j-1). \end{cases}$$

We claim that the maps ρ'_i are injective. In fact, this readily follows from the definitions, where we have to note that $\rho_i(j) \leq h_{i+1}$ if $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1$ and $\rho_i(j) > h_{i+1}$ if $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1)$. Using that we have a cyclic ordering on \mathcal{I} it now follows that all ρ'_i are bijections and that ℓ_i is independent of $i \in \mathcal{I}$.

Next remark that we cannot have simultaneously $r_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + 1$ and $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1) + 1$. Indeed, if this occurs then $s_i(j)$ is not in the image of ρ'_i , contradicting what we have just proved. Hence the first claim of (ii) follows, $\rho'_i = \rho_i$, and (iii) is proven. The first statement of (ii) implies that $r_i(j) + s_i(j) = r_i(j-1) + s_i(j-1) + 1$ for all i and j . As $r_i(0) = 0$ and $s_i(j) = h_{i+1}$ this gives $r_i(j) + s_i(j) = h_{i+1} + j$.

For (iv), finally, suppose that $C_{i, j}$ is not contained in the span of $C_{i, j-1}$ and $\text{Ker}(F_{N_i})$. This means that $r_i(j) > r_i(j-1)$, which, by (ii), implies that $s_i(j) = s_i(j-1)$. As $\text{Im}(V_{N_i}) = \text{Ker}(F_{N_i})$ this just means that $C_{i, j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i}) = C_{i, j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i})$. \square

4.6. *Definition of the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$.* — For $i \in \mathcal{I}$, let $f(i)$ be the k -dimension of $N[F]_i := \text{Ker}(F_{N_i})$. This defines a function

$$f: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, d\}$$

which (by analogy to the classical notion of a CM-type) we refer to as the *multiplication type* of the pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) .

The integer $d := \text{rk}_K(N)$ and the function f should be thought of as “discrete invariants” of the pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) , and for problem (GE) we may assume

them to be fixed. To state the theorem below we want to rigidify N , i.e., choose an isomorphism $\xi: N \xrightarrow{\sim} K^d$. Recall that $K = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} k_i$.

Let $G := \mathrm{GL}_{d,K} = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} G_i$, with $G_i = \mathrm{GL}_{d,k_i}$. The function f determines a conjugacy class $X = X_f$ of parabolic subgroups of G , viz., the conjugacy class containing the stabilizer of $N[F] \subset N \xrightarrow{\sim} K^d$. The type X decomposes as a ‘‘product’’ of types X_i in the factors G_i ; identifying the Weyl group of G_i with \mathfrak{S}_d as in 3.5 we have $X_i = S \setminus \{s_{f(i)}\}$.

Via the chosen isomorphism ξ we can view $N[F]_i$ and $C_{i,\bullet}$ as flags in k_i^d . Combining (iv) of the lemma with (3.5.3), we find that each $C_{i,\bullet}$ is in optimal position with respect to $N[F]_i$. This gives us a well-defined element $w^\sharp(N[F]_i, C_{i,\bullet}) \in W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$. Now define

$$\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta) \in W_X \setminus W_G = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$$

to be the element with $w_i(\mathcal{H}, \theta) = w^\sharp(N[F]_i, C_{i,\bullet})$. Alternatively, since each $C_{i,\bullet}$ is in optimal position, it follows that also $Q := \mathrm{Stab}_G(\mathcal{C}_\bullet)$ is in optimal position with respect to $P := \mathrm{Stab}_G(N[F])$, and $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ is just the element $w^\sharp(P, Q)$. One easily checks that this element does not depend on the choice of ξ . Further it is clear that isomorphic pairs (\mathcal{H}, θ) give the same element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$.

4.7. Theorem. — *Notations and assumptions as in 4.2 and 4.6. Sending the pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) to the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ gives a bijection*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of pairs} \\ (\mathcal{H}, \theta) \text{ of type } (d, f) \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \setminus W_G \cong \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \left[\mathfrak{S}_{f(i)} \times \mathfrak{S}_{d-f(i)} \setminus \mathfrak{S}_d \right].$$

(In the last formula, we have written $\mathfrak{S}_{f(i)} \times \mathfrak{S}_{d-f(i)}$ as an abbreviation for $\mathfrak{S}(\{1, \dots, f(i)\}) \times \mathfrak{S}(\{f(i)+1, \dots, d\})$.)

The proof of the theorem will occupy the rest of this section.

4.8. Remark. — Let (\mathcal{H}, θ) be a pair of type (d, f) . Write θ^D for the induced κ -action on the Cartier dual \mathcal{H}^D . Then $(\mathcal{H}^D, \theta^D)$ is of type (d, f') , where $f': \mathcal{I} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, d\}$ is the function such that $f(i) + f'(i) = d$ for all i . Write $X'_i := S \setminus \{s_{f'(i)}\}$. Just as in Example 3.10 we have an involution $\pi \mapsto \tilde{\pi} := w_0 \circ \pi \circ w_0$ on \mathfrak{S}_d , and this induced a bijection $W_X \setminus W_G \xrightarrow{\sim} W_{X'} \setminus W_G$. This maps $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ to $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}^D, \theta^D)$. See also Remark 6.8 below.

4.9. Standard objects. — We use the notations introduced in 4.6. Let $\underline{w} = \{w_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \in W_X \setminus W_G = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$. We shall define a pair $(\mathcal{H}, \theta) = (\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}})$ of type (d, f) such that $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta) = \underline{w}$. We shall refer to this pair as the standard object corresponding to \underline{w} .

For $i \in \mathcal{I}$, let $e_{i,1}, \dots, e_{i,d}$ be the standard basis of k_i^d . We use the explicit description of $W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$ given in 3.5; in particular we identify the Weyl group of G_i with \mathfrak{S}_d . Consider the (X_i, \emptyset) -reduced representatives $\dot{w}_i \in \mathfrak{S}_d$. Now

define $F_i: k_i^d \rightarrow k_{i+1}^d$ and $V_i: k_i^d \leftarrow k_{i+1}^d$ to be the Frob_k -linear, resp. Frob_k^{-1} -linear maps given on the base vectors $e_{i,j}$ by

$$F_i(e_{i,j}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \dot{w}_i(j) \leq \mathfrak{f}(i); \\ e_{i+1,m} & \text{if } \dot{w}_i(j) = \mathfrak{f}(i) + m. \end{cases}$$

and

$$V_i(e_{i+1,j}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j \leq d - \mathfrak{f}(i); \\ e_{i,n} & \text{if } j = d - \mathfrak{f}(i) + \dot{w}_i(n). \end{cases}$$

One readily checks that this gives K^d the structure of a Dieudonné module corresponding to a pair $(\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}})$ of type (d, \mathfrak{f}) . We shall write $N_{\underline{w}}$ for the Dieudonné module thus constructed. For each i the full flag

$$E_{i,\bullet}: \quad (0) \subset \langle e_{i,1} \rangle \subset \langle e_{i,1}, e_{i,2} \rangle \subset \cdots \subset k_i^d$$

is a refinement of the canonical filtration $C_{i,\bullet}$. Hence $w^\#(\text{Ker}(F_i), C_{i,\bullet}) = w(\text{Ker}(F_i), E_{i,\bullet})$. Computing $\dot{w}(\text{Ker}(F_i), E_{i,\bullet})$ following the recipe in 3.5 we precisely find back the element \underline{w} . Hence $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}}) = \underline{w}$, as desired.

4.10. The canonical blocks. — We shall freely use the notations introduced in Lemma 4.5. We refer to the k -vector spaces

$$B_{i,j} := C_{i,j}/C_{i,j-1} \quad (\text{for } i \in \mathcal{I} \text{ and } j \in \{1, \dots, \ell\})$$

as the *canonical blocks*. Recall that we have defined permutations $\rho_i \in \mathfrak{S}_\ell$ by

$$\rho_i(j) = \begin{cases} r_i(j) & \text{if } C_{i,j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i}) = C_{i,j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_i}); \\ s_i(j) & \text{if } C_{i,j} \subseteq \text{Span}(C_{i,j-1}, \text{Ker}(F_{N_i})). \end{cases}$$

For each $i \in \mathcal{I}$ and $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \ell\}$ we obtain a canonical Frob_k -linear isomorphism

$$t_{i,j}: B_{i,j} \xrightarrow{\sim} B_{i+1, \rho_i(j)},$$

induced by the Frobenius $F_{N_i}: C_{i,j} \rightarrow C_{i+1, r_i(j)}$ if $r_i(j) > r_i(j-1)$ or (inversely) by the Verschiebung $V_{N_i}: C_{i,j} \leftarrow C_{i+1, s_i(j)}$ if $s_i(j) > s_i(j-1)$. In the first case we refer to $t_{i,j}$ as an *F-arrow*, in the second case we call it a *V-arrow*.

In what follows it will be important to follow how the blocks $B_{i,j}$, thought of as the building blocks of the modules N_i , “migrate” through the circularly ordered system of modules N_i . (For an illustration of this, see 4.12 below.) We shall use the following notations and terminology.

Write $\mathcal{A} := \mathcal{I} \times \{1, \dots, \ell\}$. Let ρ be the permutation of \mathcal{A} given by $\rho(i, j) = (i+1, \rho_i(j))$. By an orbit in \mathcal{A} we simply mean an orbit under the permutation ρ . It will often be convenient to denote an element of \mathcal{A} by a single letter (usually a). Thus, if $a = (i, j) \in \mathcal{A}$, we shall write $t_a: B_a \rightarrow B_{\rho(a)}$ for the map $t_{i,j}$ above, etc.

4.11. Lemma. — For every $a \in \mathcal{A}$ we can choose an ordered basis β_a for B_a such that $\beta_{\rho(a)}$ is the image of β_a under $t_a: B_a \rightarrow B_{\rho(a)}$.

Proof. Clearly it suffices to find the desired bases for a running through one ρ -orbit $O \subset \mathcal{A}$. Notice that O is a finite set with a natural cyclic ordering. Let $m := \#O$ and choose $a(0) \in O$. Write $a(n) := \rho^n(a(0))$, so that $a(m) = a(0)$. The composition

$$\mathcal{T}: (B_{a(0)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(0)}} B_{a(1)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(1)}} \cdots \xrightarrow{t_{a(m-1)}} B_{a(m)} = B_{a(0)})$$

is a Frob_k^m -linear bijection. Then

$$\mathcal{B}_{a(0)} := \{b \in B_{a(0)} \mid \mathcal{T}(b) = b\}$$

is an \mathbb{F}_{p^m} -subspace of $B_{a(0)}$ such that the natural map $\mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_{p^m}} k \rightarrow B_{a(0)}$ is an isomorphism. Now choose an ordered \mathbb{F}_{p^m} -basis $\beta_{a(0)}$ for $\mathcal{B}_{a(0)}$, and define $\beta_{a(n)}$ to be the ρ^n -image of $\beta_{a(0)}$. \square

4.12. Remark. — Consider the K -module $L := \bigoplus_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{A}} B_{i,j}$, where $c \in \kappa$ acts on a summand $B_{i,j}$ as multiplication by $i(c)$. Let $b \in B_{i,j}$. Define

$$F(b) := \begin{cases} t_{i,j}(b) & \text{if } r_i(j) > r_i(j-1); \\ 0 & \text{if } r_i(j) = r_i(j-1). \end{cases}$$

Set $V_L(b) := 0$ if $C_{i,j} \subseteq \text{Im}(F_{N_{i-1}})$, that is, if $j \leq h_i$. If $j > h_i$ then there is a unique index $\nu \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$ such that $j = s_{i-1}(\nu)$, in which case we set $V_L(b) := t_{i-1,\nu}^{-1}(b) \in B_{i-1,\nu}$. With these definitions, L becomes a Dieudonné module of type (d, f) ; it should be thought of as the “associated graded” of N with respect to the canonical filtrations $C_{i,\bullet}$.

We claim that a choice of bases β_a as in the lemma gives an isomorphism of L with the standard Dieudonné module $N_{\underline{w}}$. To see this we have to investigate the relation between the permutations ρ_i and the \dot{w}_i , writing $\underline{w} = \underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta) = \{w_i\}_{i \in \mathcal{S}}$.

In order to describe this relation, we first have to “stretch” the permutations ρ_i to become elements of \mathfrak{S}_d ; the stretching factors are precisely the dimensions of the blocks $B_{i,j}$. More formally, for $i \in \mathcal{S}$, consider the subset $V_i \subset \{1, \dots, \ell\} \times \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$ consisting of all pairs (j, n) with $n \leq \dim(B_{i,j})$. Define a total ordering of this set by

$$(j, n) < (j', n') \quad \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} \quad j < j' \quad \text{or} \quad j = j' \quad \text{and} \quad n < n'.$$

Write $\zeta_i: \{1, \dots, d\} \xrightarrow{\sim} V_i$ for the unique order-preserving bijection. Now we “stretch” ρ_i to a bijection $\rho_i^\sharp: V_i \rightarrow V_{i+1}$ by $\rho_i^\sharp(j, n) = (\rho_i(j), n)$. Via the bijections ζ_i and ζ_{i+1} we can view ρ_i^\sharp as an element of \mathfrak{S}_d .

Next define $\pi_i \in \mathfrak{S}_d$ by

$$\pi_i(\nu) = \begin{cases} f(i) + \nu & \text{if } \nu \leq d - f(i); \\ \nu - (d - f(i)) & \text{if } \nu > d - f(i). \end{cases}$$

Then the permutations ρ_i^\sharp and \dot{w}_i are related by the formula $\dot{w}_i = \pi_i \circ \rho_i^\sharp$. Using this, one now easily verifies that, indeed, a choice of bases β_a as in the lemma gives an isomorphism of Dieudonné modules with κ -action $L \xrightarrow{\sim} N_{\underline{w}}$.

To make this concrete in an example, suppose that κ has p^3 elements. Identify $\mathcal{S} = \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$, take $d = 6$ and $f(1) = 2, f(2) = 1, f(3) = 5$. Consider the standard object $(\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}})$, with \underline{w} given by

$$\dot{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \dot{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\dot{w}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The reader is invited to check that in this case the canonical blocks, and the way they are permuted, look as illustrated in Figure 1.

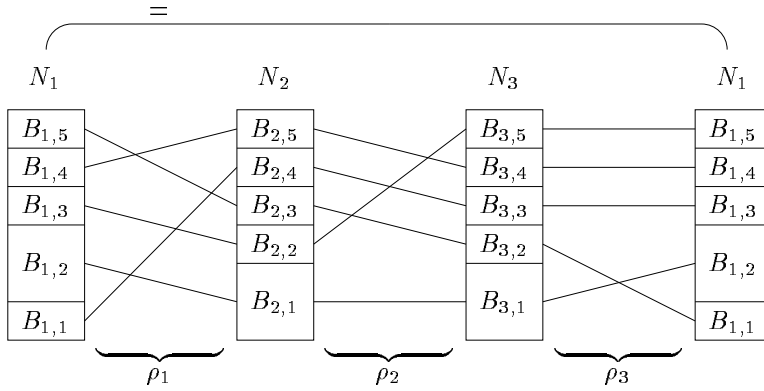


Figure 1.

In each N_i there are four blocks of dimension 1 and one 2-dimensional block. The permutations ρ_i are given by

$$\rho_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rho_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 5 & 2 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rho_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix};$$

their stretched versions are

$$\rho_1^\sharp = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \rho_2^\sharp = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\rho_3^\sharp = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

4.13. F - V -compatible liftings. — Recall that for $a \in \mathcal{A}$, we call $t_a: B_a \rightarrow B_{\rho(a)}$ an F -arrow or V -arrow according to whether it is induced by Frobenius or (inversely) by Verschiebung.

Fix bases β_a as in Lemma 4.11. We are going to lift each β_a to an ordered subset $\gamma_a \subset C_a$. (Here $a = (i, j) \in \mathcal{A}$ and $C_a := C_{i,j}$.) For every $i \in \mathcal{I}$ this will give us an ordered basis γ_i of N_i with the property that each $C_{i,j}$ is spanned by the first $\dim(C_{i,j})$ base vectors. (To get the correct indexing for the basis γ_i we use the bijections ζ_i of 4.12.) We want to find liftings γ_a that satisfy the following two conditions:

- (i) If t_a is an F -arrow then $\gamma_{\rho(a)}$ is the image of γ_a under $F_N: C_a \rightarrow C_{\rho(a)}$;
- (ii) If t_a is a V -arrow then γ_a is the image of $\gamma_{\rho(a)}$ under $V_N: C_a \leftarrow C_{\rho(a)}$.

If these two conditions are satisfied we shall say that $\{\gamma_a\}_{a \in \mathcal{A}}$ is an F - V -compatible collection of liftings. If such a collection of liftings exists then it induces an isomorphism of N with the Dieudonné module L as in the above remark, and it follows from that remark that $(\mathcal{H}, \theta) \cong (\mathcal{H}_w, \theta_w)$.

4.14. Tops, bottoms, and chains. — Let $a(-1)$, $a(0) = \rho(a(-1))$ and $a(1) = \rho(a(0))$ be three consecutive elements of \mathcal{A} . We say that $a(0)$ is a *top* if $t_{a(0)}$ is an F -arrow and $t_{a(-1)}$ is a V -arrow, i.e., if both Frobenius and Verschiebung are injective on $B_{a(0)}$. We say that $a(0)$ is a *bottom* if $t_{a(0)}$ is a V -arrow and $t_{a(-1)}$ is an F -arrow, i.e., if Frobenius and Verschiebung are both zero on $B_{a(0)}$.

$$\text{top: } \quad \xleftarrow{V} \bullet \xrightarrow{F} \quad \quad \quad \text{bottom: } \quad \xrightarrow{F} \bullet \xleftarrow{V}$$

Write $\mathcal{A}^t \subset \mathcal{A}$ for the set of tops, $\mathcal{A}^b \subset \mathcal{A}$ for the set of bottom elements.

By an F -chain in \mathcal{A} we mean a sequence $a(0), a(1), \dots, a(n)$ such that $a(0)$ is a top, $a(n)$ is a bottom, and each of the maps $t_{a(\nu)}$ ($0 \leq \nu < n$) is an F -arrow. Similarly, by a V -chain in \mathcal{A} we mean a sequence $a(-n), a(-n+1), \dots, a(0)$ such that $a(0)$ is a top, $a(-n)$ is a bottom, and each of the maps $t_{a(\nu)}$ ($-n \leq \nu < 0$) is a V -arrow. With this terminology, the orbits in \mathcal{A} can be pictured as in Figure 2. (Going round, the orbit will in general cross itself; this has not been illustrated.)

4.15. Pairs of marked orbits. — For the arguments that follow we need some observations about the mutual position of two orbits. We begin with some terminology. Let $a = (i, j)$ and $a' = (i', j')$ be two elements of \mathcal{A} . We say that a and a' are *comparable* if $i = i'$. We write $a' \prec a$ if $i' = i$ and $j' < j$.

If $O \subseteq \mathcal{A}$ is an orbit then by a *marking* of O we mean a map $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow O$, written $n \mapsto a(n)$, such that $a(n+1) = \rho(a(n))$ for all n . Clearly such a marking is fully determined if we specify one $a(n)$. Let $n \mapsto a(n)$ and $n \mapsto a'(n)$ be markings of orbits O and O' , respectively. We assume that $a(n)$ and $a'(n)$ are comparable for all (equivalently: some) n . Given integers $n_1 < n_2$ we say that O and O' are *parallel in the interval* $[n_1, n_2]$ if for all ν with $n_1 \leq \nu < n_2$ the two arrows $t_{a(n)}$ and $t_{a'(n)}$ are of the same kind, i.e., they are either both

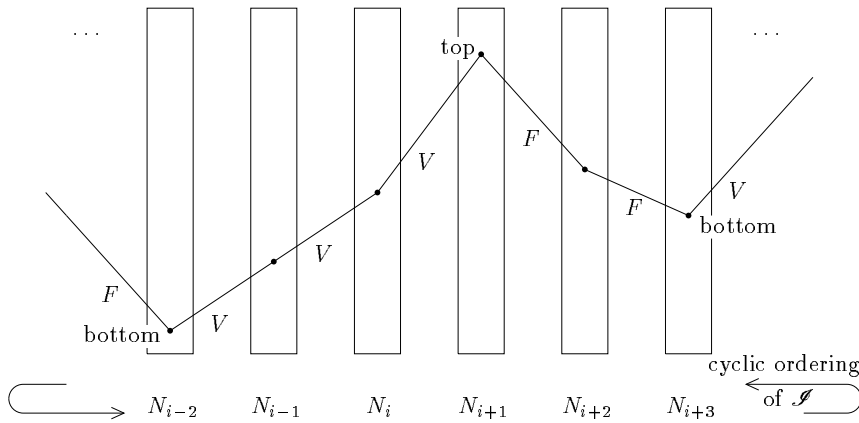


Figure 2.

F -arrows or both V -arrows. We say that the (ordered) pair of orbits O and O' is *up-down* at index n if $t_{a(n)}$ is a V -arrow, $t_{a'(n)}$ is an F -arrow, and that they are *down-up* at n if it is the other way around.

Suppose that $a'(0) = (i'_0, j'_0) \prec a(0) = (i_0, j_0)$. Let us first follow O and O' backwards in time. We know that $t_{a(-1)}: B_{a(-1)} \rightarrow B_{a(0)}$ is an F -arrow if and only if $j_0 \leq h_{i_0}$. (This is really the definition of h_{i_0} ; see 4.4.) In particular, if $t_{a(-1)}$ is an F -arrow then so is $t_{a'(-1)}$, and in this case it is immediate from the definitions that also $a'(-1) \prec a(-1)$. Similarly, if $t_{a'(-1)}$ is a V -arrow then so is $t_{a(-1)}$, in which case we again have $a'(-1) \prec a(-1)$. Thus, if O and O' are parallel in the interval $[n_1, 0]$ and $a'(0) \prec a(0)$ then $a'(\nu) \prec a(\nu)$ for all $\nu \in [n_1, 0]$. Note that if O and O' are no longer parallel in $[n_1 - 1, 0]$ then we may still have that $a'(n_1 - 1) \prec a(n_1 - 1)$. (Configurations c. and d. in Figure 3.)

Still assuming that $a'(0) \prec a(0)$, let us now follow O and O' forward in time. Suppose they are parallel in the interval $[0, n_2]$ but not in $[0, n_2 + 1]$. We find that $a'(\nu) \prec a(\nu)$ for all positive $\nu \leq n$. At index n the pair (O, O') may be either down-up or up-down. In the down-up case we necessarily have $a'(n_2 + 1) \succ a(n_2 + 1)$.

To summarize, if O and O' are marked orbits with $a'(0) \prec a(0)$ then the possible configurations are as illustrated in Figure 3.

4.16. Lemma. — *Let O and O' be marked orbits as above.*

(i) *If $O \neq O'$ (as marked orbits) then there is no infinite interval in which O and O' are parallel.*

(ii) *Suppose that $a'(0) \prec a(0)$. Let $e := \#O$ and suppose that O and O' are parallel in the interval $[-e, 0]$. Then $a'(-e) \prec a'(0) \prec a(-e) = a(0)$.*

Proof. (i) There is an integer N (the l.c.m. of the lengths of O and O') such that $a(n + N) = a(n)$ and $a'(n + N) = a'(n)$ for all n . Thus, if there is an

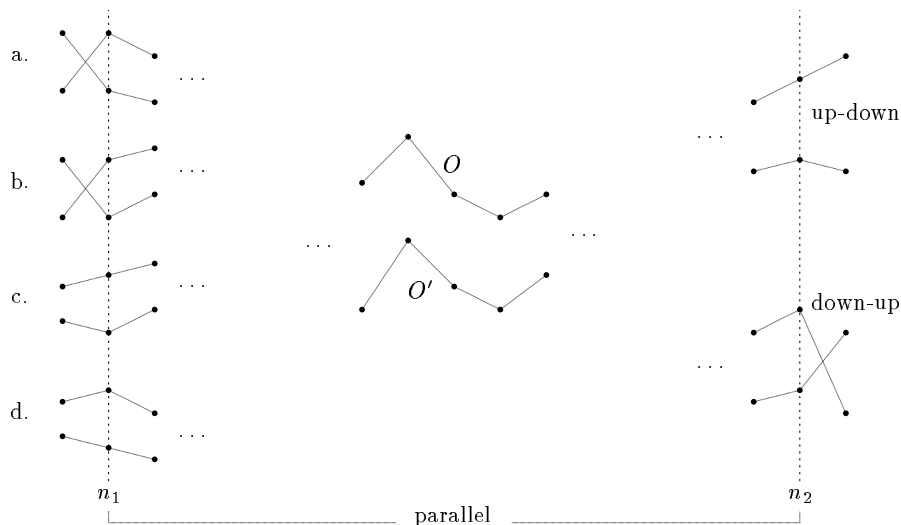


Figure 3.

infinite interval in which O and O' are parallel, then they are actually parallel in all of \mathbb{Z} . This implies that for every word Z in the letters F and V^{-1} we have $C_{a(0)} \subseteq Z(N)$ if and only if $C_{a'(0)} \subseteq Z(N)$. (See 2.5 for notations.) By definition of the filtrations $C_{i,\bullet}$ and the assumption that $a(0)$ and $a'(0)$ are comparable, this is possible only if $a(0) = a'(0)$. But then $O = O'$ as marked orbits, contrary to assumption.

(ii) Let $\alpha = (i, j)$ and $\alpha' = (i, j')$ be two comparable elements of \mathcal{A} . Suppose that $\rho(\alpha') \prec \rho(\alpha)$; in other words, $\rho_i(j') < \rho_i(j)$. If t_α and $t_{\alpha'}$ are both F -arrows or both V -arrows then $(\rho_i(j) - \rho_i(j')) \leq j - j'$. Iterating this e times we obtain (ii); here we have to remark that by (i) we cannot have $a'(-e) = a'(0)$. \square

Now we are ready to prove what we want.

4.17. Proposition. — *Let $\{\beta_a\}_{a \in \mathcal{A}}$ be a collection of ordered bases as in 4.11. Then we can lift each β_a to an ordered subset $\gamma_a \subset C_a$ such that the collection $\{\gamma_a\}$ is F - V -compatible.*

As remarked in 4.13 above, if we prove the proposition then Theorem 4.7 follows.

Proof. It suffices to find F - V -compatible liftings γ_a for a running through a fixed orbit $O \subset \mathcal{A}$. In fact, by induction on the integer $r \geq 0$ we shall prove the following assertion:

$L(r)$: If $O \subset \mathcal{A}$ is an orbit and O contains an element (i, j) with $j \leq r$ then we can lift the β_a for $a \in O$ to an F - V -compatible collection $\{\gamma_a\}_{a \in O}$.

Let us first make explicit three remarks that follow directly from the definitions:

- (1) Consider an F -chain $a(0), \dots, a(n)$. Let $\gamma_{a(0)}$ be a lifting of $\beta_{a(0)}$ inside $C_{a(0)}$. For $0 \leq \nu \leq n$, let $\gamma_{a(\nu)}$ be the image (as an ordered set) of $\gamma_{a(0)}$ under F_N^ν . Then $\gamma_{a(\nu)}$ is a lifting of $\beta_{a(\nu)}$ inside $C_{a(\nu)}$.
- (2) Consider a V -chain $a(-n), \dots, a(0)$. Let $\gamma_{a(0)}$ be a lifting of $\beta_{a(0)}$ inside $C_{a(0)}$. For $0 \leq \nu \leq n$, let $\gamma_{a(-\nu)}$ be the image (as an ordered set) of $\gamma_{a(0)}$ under V_N^ν . Then $\gamma_{a(-\nu)}$ is a lifting of $\beta_{a(-\nu)}$ inside $C_{a(-\nu)}$.
- (3) Consider an F -chain $a(0), \dots, a(n)$. Let $\gamma_{a(n)}$ be a lifting of $\beta_{a(n)}$ inside $C_{a(n)}$. Then there is a lifting $\gamma_{a(0)}$ of $\beta_{a(0)}$ inside $C_{a(0)}$ such that $\gamma_{a(n)}$ is the image of $\gamma_{a(0)}$ under F_N^n .

Fix an orbit $O \subset \mathcal{A}$ and a marking $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow O$, denoted $n \mapsto a(n)$. Let $e := \#O$. As a first approximation we shall choose, for n in some subset of \mathbb{Z} , liftings $\Gamma(n) \subset C_{a(n)}$ of $\beta_{a(n)}$. These liftings will be compatible under F and V , but in general $\Gamma(n+e)$ will be different from $\Gamma(n)$. After that, we shall modify the $\Gamma(n)$ such that $\Gamma(n+e) = \Gamma(n)$ for all n , in which case we can define the desired liftings γ_a by $\gamma_{a(n)} := \Gamma(n)$.

Suppose there are q top elements and q bottom elements in O . Let

$$\dots < b_0 < t_0 < b_1 < t_1 < \dots < b_{q-1} < t_{q-1} < b_q = (b_0+e) < t_q = (t_0+e) < \dots$$

be the integers such that the $a(b_n)$ are the bottom elements and the $a(t_n)$ are the top elements.

Start by choosing a lifting $\Gamma(b_q)$ of $\beta_{a(b_q)} = \beta_{a(b_0)}$. We apply (3). This tells us that we can choose a lifting $\Gamma(t_{q-1})$ such that $\Gamma(b_q)$ is the image of $\Gamma(t_{q-1})$ under F_N^n , where $n = b_q - t_{q-1}$. By construction, the elements $a(t_{q-1} + \nu)$ with $0 \leq \nu \leq b_q - t_{q-1}$ form an F -chain. The condition that the $\Gamma(n)$ are F - V -compatible forces us to define $\Gamma(t_{q-1} + \nu)$ as the image of $\Gamma(t_{q-1})$ under F_N^ν . Similarly, the elements $a(t_{q-1} - \mu)$ for $0 \leq \mu \leq t_{q-1} - b_{q-1}$ form a V -chain, and we define $\Gamma(t_{q-1} - \mu)$ as the image of $\Gamma(t_{q-1})$ under V_N^μ .

We repeat the previous step, now starting with $\Gamma(b_{q-1})$. This gives us liftings $\Gamma(n)$ for $b_{q-2} \leq n \leq b_{q-1}$. We continue this process until we arrive at b_0 . Notice that $\Gamma(b_0)$ and $\Gamma(b_q)$ are both liftings of $\beta_{a(b_0)}$ inside $C_{a(b_0)}$, but that in general they will be different.

Next we want to modify the $\Gamma(n)$, for $b_0 \leq n \leq b_q$, to ordered sets $\Gamma'(n)$, in such a way that the new liftings are still F - V -compatible but also satisfy $\Gamma'(b_0) = \Gamma'(b_q)$. Write $a(b_0) = a(b_q) = (i, j)$. We may assume that b_0 was chosen such that j is minimal among the second coefficients of the elements $a \in O$. By induction we may further assume that statement $L(j-1)$ is already proven. Here we should remark that for $j=1$ there is nothing left to prove, as in this case we have $B_{a(b_0)} = C_{a(b_0)}$ and $\Gamma(b_0) = \beta_{a(b_0)} = \Gamma(b_q)$.

Set $\delta(b_q) := \Gamma(b_q) - \Gamma(b_0)$. (Concretely: if $\Gamma(b_q) = x_1, \dots, x_d$ and $\Gamma(b_0) = y_1, \dots, y_d$, with $d = \dim(B_{i,j})$, then $\delta(b_q)$ is the ordered set $x_1 - y_1, \dots, x_d - y_d$.) As $\Gamma(b_q)$ and $\Gamma(b_0)$ are both liftings of $\beta_{a(b_0)}$ we have $\delta(b_q) \subset C_{i,j-1}$. If $\Gamma(b_q) = \Gamma(b_0)$ we are done. If not, let J (with $J \leq j-1$) be the largest index such that $\delta(b_q)$ is not contained in $C_{i,J-1}$. By downward induction on J it suffices to

show that we can modify the $\Gamma(n)$ to F - V -compatible liftings $\Gamma'(n)$ such that $\Gamma'(b_q) - \Gamma'(b_0) \subset C_{i,J-1}$.

Let O' be the orbit of (i, J) . Let $a': \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow O'$ be the marking with $a'(b_q) = (i, J)$. We now apply the induction hypothesis $L(j-1)$. It follows that for $b_0 \leq n \leq b_q$ we can find ordered sets $\varepsilon(n) \subset C_{a'(n)}$, of cardinality $d = \dim(B_{i,j})$, in such a way that

- (a) the $\varepsilon(n)$ are F - V -compatible (with respect to the orbit O');
- (b) $\varepsilon(b_q)$ and $\delta(b_q)$ have the same image in $B_{i,J}$.

To conclude the proof, there are two cases to consider. First assume that the marked orbits O and O' are not parallel in the interval $[b_0, b_q]$. Let $\nu \in [b_0, b_q]$ be the largest index such that $t_{a'(\nu)}$ and $t_{a(\nu)}$ are of the opposite kind. For $b_0 \leq n \leq b_q$ define $\Gamma'(n)$ by

$$\Gamma'(n) = \begin{cases} \Gamma(n) & \text{if } n \leq \nu; \\ \Gamma(n) - \varepsilon(n) & \text{if } n > \nu. \end{cases}$$

Now the whole point is that, because $t_{a'(\nu)}$ and $t_{a(\nu)}$ are of the opposite kind, these $\Gamma'(n)$ are again F - V -compatible. By construction, $\Gamma'(b_q) - \Gamma'(b_0) = \Gamma(b_q) - \Gamma(b_0) - \varepsilon(b_q)$ is contained in $C_{i,J-1}$.

The other possibility is that O and O' are parallel in the interval $[b_0, b_q]$. In this case, set

$$\Gamma'(n) := \Gamma(n) - \varepsilon(n).$$

These are again F - V -compatible, and it follows from (ii) of Lemma 4.16 that also in this case $\Gamma'(b_q) - \Gamma'(b_0)$ is contained in $C_{i,J-1}$. Proceeding by induction this finally gives us the desired liftings γ_a . \square

4.18. We say that a pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) is *indecomposable* if it is not isomorphic to the product of two non-trivial BT_1 's with κ -action, and that it is *isotypic* if it is isomorphic to a power of an indecomposable pair. Viewing the Dieudonné module N as a module over the (non-commutative) ring $\Lambda_\kappa := \kappa \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k_\sigma[F, V]/(FV, VF)$, these notions correspond to the usual notions for Λ_κ -modules. Notice that N is both noetherian and artinian as a Λ_κ -module, since it has finite k -dimension. In particular, N admits a unique decomposition as a direct sum of indecomposables. For the pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) this means that it can be written as a product of indecomposable pairs, and that the factors in such a decomposition are uniquely determined. The same conclusions can also be derived from the theorem and its proof; in fact, we see that the isotypic factors can be read from the decomposition of the set \mathcal{A} into orbits:

4.19. Corollary. — *The pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) is isotypic if and only if the associated index set \mathcal{A} consists of a single orbit. In general, the decomposition of \mathcal{A} into orbits corresponds to a decomposition of (\mathcal{H}, θ) as a product of isotypic pairs. The pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) is indecomposable if and only if \mathcal{A} consists of a single orbit and all canonical blocks are 1-dimensional.*

For instance, the pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) corresponding to the example in 4.12 decomposes as a product of three isotypic factors. Two of the factors are indecomposable; the third one is the square of an indecomposable pair.

5. BT_1 's with endomorphisms and a polarization—cases C and D

In this section we state, and solve, a problem (GPE) about BT_1 's with an action of a semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra and a pq-polarization. After some reduction steps the main result is given in Theorem 5.5. The problem splits up in three cases, referred to as (C), (D) and (A). Mainly for notational reasons we shall deal with case (A) in the next section. Throughout this section and the next, we assume that k is algebraically closed of characteristic $p > 2$; see also Remark 5.6.

5.1. *The set-up.* — Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p > 2$. Let $(D, *)$ be a finite dimensional semi-simple \mathbb{F}_p -algebra with involution. If (\mathcal{G}, λ) is a pq-polarized BT_1 over k , write $f \mapsto f^\dagger$ for the Rosati involution on $\text{End}_k(\mathcal{G})$ induced by λ . The problem that we want to consider in this section is:

(GPE) Classification of triples $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$, where (\mathcal{G}, λ) is a pq-polarized BT_1 over k and $\iota: D \rightarrow \text{End}_k(\mathcal{G})$ is a homomorphism with $\iota(1) = \text{id}_{\mathcal{G}}$ and $\iota(d^*) = \iota(d)^\dagger$ for all $d \in D$.

This problem is easily reduced to the case that $(D, *)$ is a simple algebra with involution. Namely, suppose we have a decomposition of $(D, *)$ as a product of algebras with involution $(D_i, *_i)$. Choose idempotents $e_i \in D$ with $D_i = e_i \cdot D$. Then $\mathcal{G}_i := \text{Im}(\iota(e_i): \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{G})$ is again a BT_1 , the pq-polarization λ induces a pq-polarization λ_i on \mathcal{G}_i , and (\mathcal{G}, λ) is the product of the $(\mathcal{G}_i, \lambda_i)$ thus obtained.

*From now on we assume that $(D, *)$ is simple as an algebra with involution.* Write $\tilde{\kappa}$ for the center of D and put $\kappa = \{a \in \tilde{\kappa} \mid a^* = a\}$. Then κ is a finite field and we can distinguish the following possibilities:

- (C) the involution $*$ is orthogonal (of the first kind) and $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa$;
- (D) the involution $*$ is symplectic (of the first kind) and $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa$;
- (A) the involution $*$ is of the second kind; either $\tilde{\kappa} \cong \kappa \times \kappa$ (case (A1)) or $\tilde{\kappa}$ is a quadratic extension of κ (case (A2)).

(The chosen labels refer to the root systems of the algebraic groups that will come into play.) In this section we shall only consider cases (C) and (D). The structures we find in case (A) are not very different but require additional notations; we shall therefore discuss this case in a separate section. Throughout, we freely use the notations and terminology introduced in the previous section.

5.2. *Morita equivalence.* — Dieudonné theory gives an equivalence between the category of triples $(\mathcal{G}, \lambda, \iota)$ as in (GPE) and the category \mathbf{C}_1 of 5-tuples $(M, F_M, V_M, \varphi, \iota)$, where

- (M, F_M, V_N) is the Dieudonné module of a BT_1 ;

- $\varphi: M \times M \rightarrow k$ is a symplectic form such that $\varphi(Fm_1, m_2) = \varphi(m_1, Vm_2)^p$ for all $m_1, m_2 \in M$;
- $\iota: D \rightarrow \text{End}_{\text{DM}}(M)$ defines an action of D on the Dieudonné module M such that $\varphi(dm_1, m_2) = \varphi(m_1, d^*m_2)$ for all $d \in D$ and $m_1, m_2 \in M$.

As shown in 4.3, M is free as a K -module. (Recall from 4.2 that $K := \kappa \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k$.)

We have a Morita equivalence, which tells us that the category \mathbf{C}_1 is equivalent to a category \mathbf{C}_2 whose objects are of a simpler kind. The precise description of the category \mathbf{C}_2 depends on the type of $(D, *)$. Namely, the objects involve pairs (N, Ψ) , where N is a free K -module of finite rank, and where $\Psi: N \times N \rightarrow K$ is

- (C) a symplectic form if $*$ is orthogonal;
- (D) an orthogonal form if $*$ is symplectic.

(We shall see that the K -rank of N is necessarily even; this explains why the orthogonal case is labelled (D) and a type (B) does not occur.) Now define \mathbf{C}_2 as the category of 5-tuples $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$, where

- (N, F_N, V_N) is the Dieudonné module of a BT_1 ;
- $\theta: \kappa \rightarrow \text{End}_{\text{DM}}(N)$ defines an action of κ on the Dieudonné module N ; via this action we can view N as a module over K , and we require that it is free;
- $\Psi: N \times N \rightarrow K$ is a form as just described, such that $\Psi(Fn_1, n_2) = F_K(\Psi(n_1, Vn_2))$ for all $n_1, n_2 \in N$.

To describe the equivalence $\mathbf{C}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq.}} \mathbf{C}_1$, fix an isomorphism $D \cong M_r(\kappa)$ and set $\mathcal{L} := \kappa^r$, viewed as a left D -module. The involution $*$ on D corresponds to a non-degenerate form χ on \mathcal{L} . More precisely, there is a non-degenerate bilinear form $\chi: \mathcal{L} \times \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \kappa$, unique up to a scalar in κ^\times , such that

$$\chi(d \cdot l_1, l_2) = \chi(l_1, d^* \cdot l_2) \quad \text{for all } d \in D \text{ and } l_1, l_2 \in \mathcal{L}.$$

The form χ is alternating if $*$ is symplectic and symmetric, non-alternating if $*$ is an orthogonal involution. The equivalence $\mathbf{C}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq.}} \mathbf{C}_1$ is obtained by associating to an object $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$ of \mathbf{C}_2 the 5-tuple $(M, F_M, V_M, \varphi, \iota)$ with $M := \mathcal{L} \otimes_\kappa N$, with $\varphi: M \times M \rightarrow k$ the symplectic form given by

$$\varphi(l_1 \otimes n_1, l_2 \otimes n_2) = \text{tr}_{K/k}(\chi(l_1, l_2) \cdot \Psi(n_1, n_2)),$$

with D acting on M through its natural action on \mathcal{L} , and with $F_M := \text{id}_{\mathcal{L}} \otimes F_N$ and $V_M := \text{id}_{\mathcal{L}} \otimes V_N$. That this indeed gives an equivalence of categories is more or less standard; see for instance Knus's book [6], Chap. I, especially Prop. 7.2.4 and Thm. 9.3.5. As remarked above, the M are free K -modules; they therefore indeed correspond to free K -modules N .

Now we translate back to group schemes. Throughout we shall use $\varepsilon \in \{\pm 1\}$ for the sign of the pairings Ψ involved, i.e., $\varepsilon = -1$ in case (C), $\varepsilon = 1$ in case (D). Let \mathcal{H} be a BT_1 equipped with an action of κ . Consider isomorphisms

$\mu: \mathcal{H} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^D$ commuting with the κ -actions and such that the corresponding bilinear pairing Ψ on the Dieudonné module is of the type described above; we shall refer to such an isomorphism μ as a κ - ε -duality.

In conclusion, we have reduced problem (GPE) to:

(GPE') Classification of triples $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$, where (\mathcal{H}, θ) is a BT_1 with an action of κ , and where $\mu: \mathcal{H} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^D$ is a κ - ε -duality.

5.3. Decomposition into character spaces. — Let $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$ be an object of the category \mathbf{C}_2 . As in 4.3, the action of κ on N gives rise to a decomposition $N = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} N_i$. The form Ψ decomposes as a product $\Psi = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \psi_i$, where $\psi_i: N_i \times N_i \rightarrow k_i$ is of the same type as Ψ , and

$$\psi_{i+1}(F_{N_i}(n_1), n_2) = F_{k_i}(\psi_i(n_1, V_{N_i}(n_2))) \quad \text{for all } n_1 \in N_i \text{ and } n_2 \in N_{i+1}.$$

If $H_i \subset N_i$ is a k_i -submodule then

$$F_{N_{i-1}}^{-1}(H_i^{\perp_i}) = (V_{N_{i-1}}(H_i))^{\perp_{i-1}} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{N_i}^{-1}(H_i^{\perp_i}) = (F_{N_i}(H_i))^{\perp_{i+1}}, \quad (5.3.1)$$

where \perp_i denotes the perpendicular with respect to the form ψ_i . (In the sequel we shall simply write \perp for \perp_i . We trust it will always be clear from the context what is meant.)

Combining (5.3.1) with the fact that $N_i[F] = \text{Im}(V_{N_{i+1}})$ and $N_i[V] = \text{Im}(F_{N_{i-1}})$ we see that $N_i[F] = N_i[F]^{\perp}$ and $N_i[V] = N_i[V]^{\perp}$ are maximal totally isotropic subspaces. In particular, the common dimension of the spaces N_i is even, say $\dim(N_i) = 2q$, and $\dim(N_i[F]) = q$. Repeated further application of (5.3.1) then shows that the canonical filtration $C_{i,\bullet}$ is self-dual with respect to ψ_i . In particular, the common length ℓ of these filtrations is even, say $\ell = 2m$. We have $C_{i,j}^{\perp} = C_{i,2m-j}$. In particular, if $a = (i, j)$ and $\bar{a} = (i, 2m+1-j)$ then ψ_i induces a perfect pairing

$$\psi_{(i,j)} = \psi_a: B_a \times B_{\bar{a}} \longrightarrow k_i.$$

Summing up, the discrete invariants (d, f) introduced in 4.6 are given by $d = 2q$ and $f(i) = q$ for all i . In case (D) there is another discrete invariant that we need to keep track of. Namely, define a function

$$\delta: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{by} \quad \delta(i) = \left[\dim_k (N_i[F]/N_i[F] \cap N_i[V]) \right].$$

This invariant should be thought of as a “mod p ” version of the crystalline discriminant, cf. [10], Section 3.

5.4. Definition of the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$. — Let $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ be a triple as in (GPE'). Write $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$ for the corresponding Dieudonné module. Let $2q$ be the K -rank of N . As explained above, (\mathcal{H}, θ) is of type $(2q, f)$ where f is the constant function q .

Let $\Phi: K^{2q} \times K^{2q} \rightarrow K$ and $\varphi_i: k_i^{2q} \times k_i^{2q} \rightarrow k_i$ be the standard symplectic/orthogonal pairings. Write $G = \text{Aut}_K(K^{2q}, \Phi) = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} G_i$, with $G_i = \text{Aut}_{k_i}(k_i^{2q}, \varphi_i)$. Choose an isometry $\xi: (N, \Psi) \xrightarrow{\sim} (K^{2q}, \Phi)$; this allows us to view the $N[F]_i$ and $C_{i,\bullet}$ as partial symplectic/orthogonal flags in k_i^{2q} . Consider the building $\Delta := \text{Flag}_K(K^{2q}, \Phi)$ of partial symplectic/orthogonal flags of K -modules in K^{2q} ; it is the join of the buildings $\Delta_i := \text{Flag}(k_i^{2q}, \varphi_i)$. Let X , resp. X_i , be the type of $N[F] \subset K^{2q}$, resp. $N[F]_i \subset k_i^{2q}$. Recall that in the orthogonal case, although Δ is not the building of parabolic subgroups of G , it is still true that $W_\Delta = W_G$.

The definition of $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ proceeds exactly as in 4.6. Namely, by (iv) of Lemma 4.5 together with what was found in Examples 3.6 and 3.8, each $C_{i,\bullet}$ is in optimal position with respect to $N[F]_i$. This gives us a well-defined element $w^\#(N[F]_i, C_{i,\bullet}) \in W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$. We define

$$\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \in W_X \setminus W_G = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} W_{X_i} \setminus W_{G_i}$$

to be the element with $w_i(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) = w^\#(N[F]_i, C_{i,\bullet})$. This element is independent of the choice of ξ . It is clear from these definitions that isomorphic triples give the same element \underline{w} .

As explained in 3.9, if X_f is the type of the stabilizer of $N[F]$ in the group $\text{GL}_{2q,K}$ then there is a natural map

$$W_X \setminus W_G \hookrightarrow W_{X_f} \setminus W_{\text{GL}_{2q,K}} \quad (5.4.1)$$

and this maps $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ to $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$.

5.5. Theorem. — *Notations as above. Assume that $\text{char}(k) > 2$. Recall that we set $\varepsilon = -1$ in case (C), $\varepsilon = 1$ in case (D).*

(i) *Let (\mathcal{H}, θ) be a BT_1 with an action of κ , of type $(2q, f = q)$. Let $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ be the associated element of $W_{X_f} \setminus W_{\text{GL}_{2q,K}}$. Then there exists a κ - ε -duality $\mu: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^D$ if and only if $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ is in the image of the map (5.4.1).*

(ii) *If a duality μ as in (i) exists then it is unique up to isomorphism. In other words: associating to a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE') the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \in W_X \setminus W_G$ gives a bijection*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of triples} \\ (\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \text{ of type } (2q, f = q) \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \setminus W_G \cong \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \mathfrak{S}_q \setminus \mathbb{H}_q.$$

5.6. Remark. — The “only if” statement of (i) is an immediate consequence of what was explained above. Conversely, if \underline{w} is an element in the image of the map (5.4.1) then we shall see in 5.8 below that there exists a pairing of the desired kind on the Dieudonné module of the standard object $(\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}})$. The proof of (ii) is more involved, and will take up a large part of the rest of this section.

The proof that we give only works for $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$. In case (C) the theorem is still true for $\text{char}(k) = 2$. Our proof of this is much more involved, which is why we restrict to the case $p > 2$. For the special case that $\tilde{\kappa} = \mathbb{F}_p$ (no non-trivial endomorphisms) see [12], Section 9.

5.7. Variant. — In case (D) we have a variant of the theorem, where we replace G by its identity component; this works provided that we keep the invariant δ fixed.

Concretely, fix q , and set $G^0 := \text{SO}_{2q,K} = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} G_i^0$. If $L \subset K^{2q}$ is a maximal isotropic subspace then $\text{Stab}(L) \subset G^0$ is a maximal parabolic subgroup. The set of all parabolics obtained in this way consists of two G^0 -conjugacy classes. Let X^0 be one of these two. Now let $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ be a triple as in (GPE'), of type $(2q, \mathfrak{f} = q)$. Similar to what we did in 5.4 above, we can associate to this triple an element $\underline{w}^0(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \in W_{X^0} \backslash W_{G^0}$. For this, choose an isometry $\xi: (N, \Psi) \xrightarrow{\sim} (K^{2q}, \Phi)$ such that the stabilizer of $N[F]$ is in the chosen class X^0 . Let $P_i := \text{Stab}(N[F]_i)$ and $Q_i := \text{Stab}(C_{i,\bullet}) \subset G_i^0$. Then Q_i is in optimal position with respect to P_i and we can define $\underline{w}^0(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ to be the element with $w_i^0(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) = w^\#(P_i, Q_i)$.

On the other hand, we have associated to $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ the function δ . As explained in 3.8, this invariant allows us to compute $\underline{w}^0(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ from $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ and vice versa. Using this, (ii) of the theorem can be rephrased as follows:

(ii') *Assume we are in case (D). Fix a function $\delta: \mathcal{I} \rightarrow (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$. Then sending a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE') to the element $\underline{w}^0(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ gives a bijection*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of triples} \\ (\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \text{ of type } (2q, \mathfrak{f} = q, \delta) \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_{X^0} \backslash W_{G^0}.$$

5.8. Pairings on standard objects. — We use the notations of 5.4. Let \underline{w} be an element of $W_X \backslash W_G$. In 4.9 we have associated to \underline{w} a standard Dieudonné module $N_{\underline{w}}$ with an action of κ . The underlying K -module is just $K^{2q} = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} k_i^{2q}$. We claim that there exists a κ - ε -duality $\mu: \mathcal{H} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^D$, corresponding to a form Ψ on the Dieudonné module, such that $(\underline{\mathcal{H}}_{\underline{w}}, \mu, \underline{\theta}_{\underline{w}})$ is a triple as in (GPE'). Since the image of $\underline{w}(\underline{\mathcal{H}}_{\underline{w}}, \mu, \underline{\theta}_{\underline{w}})$ under the map (5.4.1) is just $\underline{w}(\underline{\mathcal{H}}_{\underline{w}}, \underline{\theta}_{\underline{w}})$ we have $\underline{w}(\underline{\mathcal{H}}_{\underline{w}}, \mu, \underline{\theta}_{\underline{w}}) = \underline{w}$ for any such μ .

To prove our claim, let us first recall the structure of $N_{\underline{w}}$; the description we give will also be used later. Let $\ell = 2m$ be the common length of the canonical filtrations $C_{i,\bullet}$. By definition, $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{I} \times \{1, 2, \dots, 2m\}$. We have the permutation $\rho: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ which sends (i, j) to $(i, \rho_i(j))$. If $d_a := \dim(B_a)$ then we can compute the data $(\rho, \{d_a\}_{a \in \mathcal{A}})$ from \underline{w} and vice versa. The K -module $N = N_{\underline{w}}$ is given by $N = \bigoplus_{a \in \mathcal{A}} B_a$ with $x \in \kappa$ acting on $B_{(i,j)}$ as multiplication by $i(x) \in k$. For each $a \in \mathcal{A}$ we have an ordered basis β_a of B_a . Frobenius and Verschiebung are given, writing $a = (i, j)$ by

$$F(\beta_a) = \begin{cases} \beta_{\rho(a)} & \text{if } \rho_i(j) \leq m; \\ 0 & \text{if } \rho_i(j) > m \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad V(\beta_a) = \begin{cases} \beta_{\rho^{-1}(a)} & \text{if } j > m; \\ 0 & \text{if } j \leq m. \end{cases}$$

Given $a = (i, j) \in \mathcal{A}$, we write $\tilde{a} := (i, 2m + 1 - j)$. Notice that the permutation ρ has the property that $\rho(\tilde{a}) = \widetilde{\rho(a)}$. (If we draw an illustration as in 4.12 this means that the whole picture is symmetric under reflection in a central horizontal axis.) We say that an orbit $O \subset \mathcal{A}$ is self-dual if $a \in O \Leftrightarrow \tilde{a} \in O$.

Assume we are in case (C). In order to describe the desired pairing Ψ , we have to introduce certain constants. If O is an orbit which is not self-dual, set $c(a) := 1$ for all $a \in O$. If O is self-dual then it has even length, say $2s$. Consider the unique non-trivial automorphism $\text{Frob}^s: c \mapsto c^{p^s}$ of the field $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}$ over \mathbb{F}_{p^s} . Write $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}^- \subset \mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}$ for the subset of elements c with $c^{p^s} = -c$. Then we choose for every $a \in O$ a constant $c(a) \in \mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}^-$ in such a way that $c(\rho(a)) = c(a)^p$. In particular, $c(\tilde{a}) = -c(a)$.

For $a \in \mathcal{A}$, let $\psi_a: B_a \times B_{\tilde{a}} \rightarrow k$ be the perfect bilinear pairing given on the ordered bases β_a and $\beta_{\tilde{a}}$ by the matrix

$$\text{anti-diag}(c(a)) := \begin{pmatrix} & & c(a) \\ & \ddots & \\ c(a) & & \end{pmatrix}.$$

For $i \in \mathcal{I}$, let $\psi_i: N_i \times N_i \rightarrow k_i$ be the orthogonal sum of the pairings $\psi_{(i,j)}$; one checks that this is indeed a symplectic pairing. Further, the construction is such that the form $\Psi := \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \psi_i: N \times N \rightarrow K$ satisfies

$$\Psi(Fn_1, n_2) = F_K(\Psi(n_1, Vn_2)) \quad (5.8.1)$$

for all $n_1, n_2 \in N$. In sum, Ψ is a pairing with the required properties.

Next assume we are in case (D). In this case, set $c(a) = 1$ for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$. Applying the same procedure as above gives the standard orthogonal form Ψ on $N \cong K^{2q}$. Again one checks that this is a form as required.

In sum, we have shown that every element $\underline{w} \in W_X \backslash W_G$ is obtained as $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ for some triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE').

5.9. Brief overview of the proof. — It is clear from the definitions that isomorphic triples $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ give the same element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$. On the other hand, we have just shown that every element of $W_X \backslash W_G$ comes from some triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$. Thus, the task that remains is to prove unicity of the polarization form: if (\mathcal{H}, θ) is a BT_1 with κ -action and $\mu_1, \mu_2: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^D$ are two κ - ε -dualities then $(\mathcal{H}, \mu_1, \theta) \cong (\mathcal{H}, \mu_2, \theta)$.

Our proof of this combines two results. First we analyze the group U of automorphisms of a pair (\mathcal{H}, θ) which induce the identity on the canonical blocks. In 5.13 we show that every $f \in U$ with $f^\dagger = f$ can be written as $f = g^\dagger g$ for some $g \in U$. (This uses that $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$.) After that we show that, given a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE'), we can choose ordered bases β_a for the canonical blocks B_a which are F - V -compatible and which are also “good”

with respect to the pairings $\psi_a: B_a \times B_{\bar{a}} \rightarrow k$; this is done in 5.14. Combining everything, the proof of the theorem is completed in 5.15.

5.10. Lemma. — *Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $\neq 2$. Let G be a connected unipotent k -group (written multiplicatively), equipped with an anti-involution $g \mapsto g^\dagger$. Then every $f \in G$ with $f^\dagger = f$ can be written as $f = g^\dagger \cdot g$ for some $g \in G$.*

Proof. There is an exact sequence $1 \rightarrow G_1 \rightarrow G \xrightarrow{\pi} V \rightarrow 0$, with V a non-zero vector group (written additively) and $G_1 \subset G$ connected and stable under \dagger . Choose $x \in G$ with $\pi(x) = -\frac{1}{2}\pi(g)$. Then $g_1 := x^\dagger g x$ is an element of G_1 with $g_1^\dagger = g_1$. The lemma follows by induction on $\dim(G)$. \square

5.11. Let (\mathcal{H}, θ) be a BT_1 with an action of κ . By our results in the previous section, the Dieudonné module N is isomorphic to the standard object associated to $\underline{w} := \underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$. We shall work with the description of N given in 5.8. As usual we view N (via the given θ) as a module over K . We identify $\text{End}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ with the subring of $\text{End}_K(N) = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{S}} \text{End}_{\tilde{k}_i}(N_i)$ consisting of all endomorphisms which commute with F and V .

Every $f \in \text{End}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ stabilizes the canonical filtrations $C_{i, \bullet}$. For $a \in \mathcal{A}$ we can therefore define $\text{gr}_a(f): B_a \rightarrow B_a$ as the homomorphism induced by f . Now consider the subgroup $U \subset \text{Aut}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ given by

$$U = \{f \in \text{Aut}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta) \mid \text{gr}_a(f) = \text{id}_{B_a} \text{ for all } a \in \mathcal{A}\}.$$

Let \tilde{U} be the unipotent radical of the stabilizer of \mathcal{C}_\bullet inside the group $\text{GL}_K(N)$; this \tilde{U} is a connected unipotent k -group. By construction, U is a subgroup of \tilde{U} .

Consider an element $f \in U$. Given $a, a' \in \mathcal{A}$, let $P_{a, a'}$ be the matrix of the composition

$$B_a \hookrightarrow N \xrightarrow{f - \text{id}} N \twoheadrightarrow B_{a'}$$

with respect to the bases β_a and $\beta_{a'}$. This is a matrix of size $d_{a'} \times d_a$. Clearly we can have $P_{a, a'} \neq 0$ only if $a' \prec a$ (notation as in 4.15).

It is not so difficult to analyze the relations between the matrices $P_{a, a'}$. To state the result, recall that each $t_a: B_a \rightarrow B_{\rho(a)}$ is called either an F -arrow or a V -arrow. Further let us write $\sigma := \text{Frob}_k: k \rightarrow k$. Now suppose that for each pair $(a, a') \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}$ we have a matrix $P_{a, a'}$ of size $d_{a'} \times d_a$, with $P_{a, a'} \neq 0$ only if $a' \prec a$. Then a necessary and sufficient condition for this collection of matrices to come from an element $f \in U$ is that for all (a, a') we have

$$\begin{cases} P_{\rho(a), \rho(a')} = P_{a, a'}^\sigma & \text{if } t_a \text{ and } t_{a'} \text{ are of the same kind;} \\ P_{a, a'} = 0 & \text{if } t_a \text{ is a } V\text{-arrow, } t_{a'} \text{ is an } F\text{-arrow.} \end{cases} \quad (5.11.1)$$

(As we have already assumed that $P_{a, a'} = 0$ whenever $a' \not\prec a$, the only case where we get a new relation $P_{a, a'} = 0$ is when $a' \prec a$ and $\rho(a') \prec \rho(a)$, with t_a a V -arrow, $t_{a'}$ an F -arrow. In the terminology of 4.15 this is the up-down case.)

At this point we use what was found in 4.15. Write \mathcal{V} for the set of pairs $(a, a') \in \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}$ such that $a' \prec a$. Given such a pair (a, a') , consider the corresponding orbits O and O' . We mark these orbits such that $a(0) = a$ and $a'(0) = a'$. Let $[n_1, n_2]$ (with $n_1 \leq 0 \leq n_2$) be the largest interval around 0 in which the marked orbits O and O' are parallel. We say that $(b, b') \in \mathcal{V}$ is equivalent to (a, a') if there exists an index $n \in [n_1, n_2]$ with $(b, b') = (a(n), a'(n))$. This defines an equivalence relation on \mathcal{V} . We say that the class of (a, a') is a *nil-class* if the pair of orbits (O, O') is up-down at index n_2 . (See the illustration in 4.15.) Finally, we call the pair $(a(n_1), a'(n_1))$ the distinguished representative for the equivalence class of (a, a') .

With this terminology, (5.11.1) can be rephrased as follows. If the class of (a, a') is a nil-class then we must have $P_{a, a'} = 0$. If the class is not a nil-class, with distinguished representative $(a(n_1), a'(n_1))$, then $P = P_{a(n_1), a'(n_1)}$ can be chosen arbitrarily and

$$P_{a, a'} = P^{\sigma^{-n_1}}.$$

In particular, this implies the following result.

5.12. Lemma. — *The group U is a connected unipotent subgroup of \tilde{U} .*

5.13. Corollary. — *Assume that $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$. Let $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ be a triple as in (GPE'). Write $f \mapsto f^\dagger$ for the Rosati involution on $\text{End}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ induced by μ , and notice that U is stable under \dagger . Then every $f \in U$ with $f^\dagger = f$ can be written as $f = g^\dagger \cdot g$ for some $g \in U$.*

Now we come to the final main ingredient of the proof of Theorem 5.5.

5.14. Lemma. — *Let $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ be a triple as in (GPE'). Choose constants $c(a)$ ($a \in \mathcal{A}$) as in 5.8. Then for every $a \in \mathcal{A}$ we can choose an ordered basis β_a for B_a such that: (a) $\beta_{\rho(a)}$ is the image of β_a under $t_a: B_a \rightarrow B_{\rho(a)}$ and (b) the form $\psi_a: B_a \times B_{\tilde{a}} \rightarrow k$ is given on the bases β_a and $\beta_{\tilde{a}}$ by the matrix $\text{anti-diag}(c(a))$.*

Proof. Recall that for $a = (i, j) \in \mathcal{A}$ we write $\tilde{a} := (i, 2m + 1 - j)$. Given an orbit $O \subset \mathcal{A}$, write $\tilde{O} := \{\tilde{a} \mid a \in O\}$, which is also an orbit. It suffices to find the bases β_a for a running through $O \cup \tilde{O}$. If $O \neq \tilde{O}$ this is easy: for $a \in O$ choose ordered bases β_a satisfying condition (a). (See Lemma 4.11.) For $\tilde{a} \in \tilde{O}$ let $\beta_{\tilde{a}}$ then be the basis defined by condition (b). These again satisfy (a), and we are done.

Next suppose that $O = \tilde{O}$. Then O has even length, say $2s$. Fix a marking $n \mapsto a(n)$ of O . For $r \geq 1$ consider the Frob_k^r -linear isomorphisms

$$T^{(r)} := (B_{a(0)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(0)}} B_{a(1)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(1)}} \dots \xrightarrow{t_{a(r-1)}} B_{a(r)})$$

and

$$U^{(r)} := (B_{a(s)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(s)}} B_{a(s+1)} \xrightarrow{t_{a(s+1)}} \dots \xrightarrow{t_{a(s+r-1)}} B_{a(s+r)}).$$

Using the relation (5.8.1) we see that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
B_{a(0)} \times B_{a(s)} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{a(0)}} & k \\
T^{(r)} \times U^{(r)} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{Frob}_k^r \\
B_{a(r)} \times B_{a(s+r)} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{a(r)}} & k
\end{array} \quad (5.14.1)$$

is commutative.

Consider the $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}$ -vector spaces

$$\mathcal{B}_{a(0)} := \{b \in B_{a(0)} \mid T^{(2s)}(b) = b\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B}_{a(s)} := \{b \in B_{a(s)} \mid U^{(2s)}(b) = b\}.$$

We have $\mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}} k \xrightarrow{\sim} B_{a(0)}$ and $\mathcal{B}_{a(s)} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}} k \xrightarrow{\sim} B_{a(s)}$. The maps $T^{(s)}$ and $U^{(s)}$ restrict to Frob^s -linear isomorphisms

$$\mathcal{T}^{(s)}: \mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{B}_{a(s)} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{U}^{(s)}: \mathcal{B}_{a(s)} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{B}_{a(0)},$$

inverse to each other. Taking $r = 2s$ in diagram (5.14.1) we find that $\psi_{a(0)}$ restricts to a perfect pairing $\mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \times \mathcal{B}_{a(s)} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}$. Next taking $r = s$ in (5.14.1) we find that

$$H: \mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \times \mathcal{B}_{a(0)} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}} \quad \text{defined by} \quad H(b, b') = \psi_{a(0)}(b, \mathcal{T}^{(s)}(b'))$$

is an ε -symmetric hermitian form with respect to the involution Frob^s of $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}$ over \mathbb{F}_{p^s} . Notice that the discriminant of such a form is in $\mathbb{F}_{p^s}^\times / \text{Norm}(\mathbb{F}_{p^{2s}}^\times)$, which is the trivial group.

Essentially, all we have to do now is to bring H in standard form. Note that the forms H are classified by a cohomology group $H^1(\mathbb{F}_{p^s}, \text{SU}(\mathcal{B}_{a(0)}, H))$, and by Lang's theorem this group is trivial. (See Knus et al., [7], Section 29.19, and Serre, [14], Chap. III, §2.) Hence we can choose a basis $\beta_{a(0)}$ on which the form H is given by the matrix anti-diag($c(a(0))$). Now define $\beta_{a(n)}$ to be the image of $\beta_{a(0)}$ under $T^{(n)}$. This gives bases β_a as required. \square

5.15. End of the proof. — Combining all previous results, let us complete the proof of Theorem 5.5. We take a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE'). Write (N, F, V, Ψ, θ) for the corresponding Dieudonné module with additional structure. Let $f \mapsto f^\dagger$ be the Rosati involution on $\text{End}_k(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$.

Write $\underline{w} := \underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$. Choose constants $c(a)$, for $a \in \mathcal{A}$ as in 5.8. Write $N_{\underline{w}} = \bigoplus_{a \in \mathcal{A}} B_a$ for the standard Dieudonné module corresponding to \underline{w} ; we use the description given in 5.8, but in order to avoid confusion with the module N we now do write the subscript " \underline{w} ". Let $\Psi_{\underline{w}}$ be the pairing on $N_{\underline{w}}$ constructed in loc. cit.

Choose bases β_a as in Lemma 5.14. This gives us an isomorphism of Dieudonné modules with κ -action $h: N \xrightarrow{\sim} N_{\underline{w}}$. Further, taking h as an identification, the two pairings Ψ and $\Psi_{\underline{w}}$ induce the same pairings $\psi_a: B_a \times B_{\bar{a}} \rightarrow k$

on the canonical blocks. It follows that there is an element $f \in U$ with $f^\dagger = f$ such that $\Psi_{\underline{w}}(n_1, n_2) = \Psi(fn_1, n_2)$ for all $n_1, n_2 \in N$. By Corollary 5.13 this f can be written as $f = g^\dagger \cdot g$ for some $g \in U$. Then $h \circ g^{-1}: N \xrightarrow{\sim} N_{\underline{w}}$ is an isomorphism which is compatible both with the κ -actions and the pairings. The existence of such an isomorphism is what we had to prove. \square

6. BT₁'s with endomorphisms and a polarization—case A

In this section we deal with problem (GPE) stated in 5.1 in case the algebra with involution $(D, *)$ is simple of type (A). There are some new features, but once we have set up notations most steps in the proof of Theorem 6.7 are the same as in the previous section. Therefore we shall explain the new features and state the main result, but only outline the proof.

6.1. The set-up. — We consider a semi-simple algebra D with involution $*$ of the second kind; as explained in 5.1 we may assume that $(D, *)$ is simple as an algebra with involution. Write $\bar{\kappa}$ for the center of D and $\kappa := \{a \in \bar{\kappa} \mid a^* = a\}$. Then κ is a finite field and either $\bar{\kappa} = \kappa \times \kappa$, which we call case (A1), or $\bar{\kappa}$ is a quadratic field extension of κ , called case (A2).

Set $\mathcal{I} := \text{Hom}(\kappa, k)$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{I}} := \text{Hom}(\bar{\kappa}, k)$. We shall typically use the letter i for an element of \mathcal{I} and τ for an element of $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$. For $i \in \mathcal{I}$, set $i+1 := \text{Frob}_k \circ i$. For $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$, set $\tau+1 = \text{Frob}_k \circ \tau$ and $\bar{\tau} = \tau \circ *$. In case (A2), taking $\tau+1$ as the successor of τ gives $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ a cyclic ordering. We have $\bar{\tau} = \bar{\tau}$, using the notation of 4.1. Similarly, if in case (A1) we impose the condition that $\bar{\tau} = \bar{\tau}$ then we have a natural bi-cyclic ordering on $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$. In both cases the set \mathcal{I} has a cyclic ordering. We have a natural 2 : 1 map $\tilde{\mathcal{I}} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}$; if this sends $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ to $i \in \mathcal{I}$ then we refer to τ and $\bar{\tau}$ as the elements of $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ lying over i .

For $i \in \mathcal{I}$ and $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ we write

$$k_\tau := \bar{\kappa} \otimes_{\bar{\kappa}, \tau} k, \quad k_i := \kappa \otimes_{\kappa, i} k, \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{k}_i := \bar{\kappa} \otimes_{\kappa, i} k.$$

Let

$$K := \kappa \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} k_i \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{K} := \bar{\kappa} \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} k = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \tilde{k}_i = \prod_{\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}} k_\tau.$$

The maps $\text{id} \otimes \text{Frob}_k$ give Frob_k -linear isomorphisms

$$F_{k_\tau}: k_\tau \rightarrow k_{\tau+1}, \quad F_{k_i}: k_i \rightarrow k_{i+1}, \quad F_{\tilde{k}_i}: \tilde{k}_i \rightarrow \tilde{k}_{i+1},$$

and

$$F_K: K \rightarrow K, \quad F_{\tilde{K}}: \tilde{K} \rightarrow \tilde{K}.$$

6.2. Morita equivalence. — Similar to what was done in 5.2, we can reduce problem (GPE) to a problem with $D = \bar{\kappa}$. This time, the category \mathbf{C}_1 is equivalent to the category \mathbf{C}_2 of 5-tuples $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$, where

- (N, F_N, V_N) is the Dieudonné module of a BT_1 ;
- $\theta: \tilde{\kappa} \rightarrow \text{End}_{\text{DM}}(N)$ defines an action of $\tilde{\kappa}$ on N , making it a free module over \tilde{K} ;
- $\Psi: N \times N \rightarrow \tilde{K}$ is an alternating hermitian pairing with respect to the non-trivial automorphism of \tilde{K} over K .

Note that we only consider modules N which are free over \tilde{K} . To explain why, recall from 4.3 that our modules N are free over K . As we shall see below, the existence of a hermitian pairing with values in \tilde{K} implies that they are even free over \tilde{K} .

Translating back to group schemes the problem becomes the following.

(GPE) Classification of triples $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$, where (\mathcal{H}, θ) is a BT_1 with an action of $\tilde{\kappa}$, and where $\mu: \mathcal{H} \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{H}^D$ is a $\tilde{\kappa}$ - (-1) -duality.

Here we use the ad hoc term “ $\tilde{\kappa}$ - (-1) -duality” for a duality μ corresponding to an alternating hermitian form Ψ on the Dieudonné module.

6.3. Let $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$ be an object of the category \mathbf{C}_2 . As in 4.3, the action of κ gives rise to a decomposition $N = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathcal{I}} N_i$. Using the full action of $\tilde{\kappa}$ this is refined to a decomposition $N = \bigoplus_{\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}} N_\tau$. If τ and $\bar{\tau}$ are the two elements of $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ lying over $i \in \mathcal{I}$ then $N_i = N_\tau \oplus N_{\bar{\tau}}$.

Frobenius and Verschiebung become homomorphisms $F_{N_\tau}: N_\tau \rightarrow N_{\tau+1}$ and $V_{N_\tau}: N_\tau \leftarrow N_{\tau+1}$, equivariant with respect to $F_{k_\tau}: k_\tau \rightarrow k_{\tau+1}$, respectively its inverse.

By a similar procedure as in 4.4, we obtain canonical filtrations

$$C_{\tau, \bullet}: \quad (0) = C_{\tau,0} \subsetneq C_{\tau,1} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq C_{\tau,\ell_\tau} = N_\tau$$

By construction, for each $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ there is an index $h_\tau \in \{0, 1, \dots, \ell_\tau\}$ such that $C_{\tau, h_\tau} = \text{Im}(F_{N_{\tau-1}})$. The analogue of Lemma 4.5 in this setting is as follows.

6.4. Lemma. — (0) The integer $\ell := \ell_\tau$ is independent of $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$.

(i) For each $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ and $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \ell\}$ there exist indices $r_\tau(j) \in \{0, 1, \dots, h_{\tau+1}\}$ and $s_\tau(j) \in \{h_{\tau+1}, \dots, \ell\}$ such that

$$F_{N_\tau}(C_{\tau,j}) = C_{\tau+1, r_\tau(j)} \quad \text{and} \quad V_{N_\tau}^{-1}(C_{\tau,j}) = C_{\tau+1, s_\tau(j)}.$$

(ii) For $j \geq 1$, either

$$C_{\tau,j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}) = C_{\tau, j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}),$$

or

$$C_{\tau,j} \subset \text{Span}(C_{\tau, j-1}, \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau})).$$

In the first case we have $r_\tau(j) = r_\tau(j-1) + 1$ and $s_\tau(j) = s_\tau(j-1)$; in the second case $r_\tau(j) = r_\tau(j-1)$ and $s_\tau(j) = s_\tau(j-1) + 1$. Further,

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\tau,j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}) &= C_{\tau, j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}) \\ &\iff C_{\bar{\tau}, \ell+1-j} \subset \text{Span}(C_{\bar{\tau}, \ell-j}, \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau})). \end{aligned}$$

(iii) For all τ and j we have $r_\tau(j) + s_\tau(j) = \ell + j$ and $r_\tau(j) + s_{\bar{\tau}}(\ell - j) = \ell$.

6.5. We define the canonical blocks by

$$B_{\tau,j} := C_{\tau,j}/C_{\tau,j-1} \quad (\text{for } \tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{J}} \text{ and } j \in \{1, \dots, \ell_\tau\}).$$

Further we have permutations $\rho_\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_\ell$, given by

$$\rho_\tau(j) = \begin{cases} r_\tau(j) & \text{if } C_{\tau,j} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}) = C_{\tau,j-1} \cap \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau}); \\ s_\tau(j) & \text{if } C_{\tau,j} \subset \text{Span}(C_{\tau,j-1}, \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau})). \end{cases}$$

As in 4.10 we obtain, for $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{J}}$ and $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \ell\}$, a Frob_k -linear isomorphism

$$t_{\tau,j}: B_{\tau,j} \xrightarrow{\sim} B_{\tau+1, \rho_\tau(j)},$$

induced either by Frobenius or (inversely) by Verschiebung.

We have an involution $(a, b) \mapsto (b, a)$ of $\tilde{k}_i \cong k_\tau \times k_{\bar{\tau}} = k \times k$ over $k_i = k$. We shall write this automorphism as $x \mapsto \bar{x}$. Note that if we restrict this automorphism to one of the two factors we get an isomorphism $k_\tau \rightarrow k_{\bar{\tau}}$ which, via the identifications $k_\tau = k = k_{\bar{\tau}}$, is just the identity on the field k ; in other words: if $a \in k_\tau$ then \bar{a} is the same element of k , but now viewed of an element of $k_{\bar{\tau}}$. The map $k_\tau \rightarrow k_{\bar{\tau}}$ given by $a \mapsto \bar{a}$ should be thought of as ‘‘complex conjugation’’; in particular, if C_τ is a k_τ -module and $C_{\bar{\tau}}$ is a $k_{\bar{\tau}}$ -module then it makes sense to say that a pairing $\psi: C_\tau \times C_{\bar{\tau}} \rightarrow k_\tau$ is anti-linear in the second variable.

With this terminology, we have perfect pairings, linear in the first variable, anti-linear in the second variable,

$$\psi_\tau: N_\tau \times N_{\bar{\tau}} \rightarrow k_\tau \quad \text{with} \quad \psi_{\bar{\tau}}(y, x) = \overline{-\psi_\tau(x, y)}.$$

In particular, $\dim(N_\tau) = \dim(N_{\bar{\tau}})$, and it follows that the \tilde{K} -module N is free, as claimed in 6.2.

The canonical filtrations $C_{\tau, \bullet}$ and $C_{\bar{\tau}, \bullet}$ are dual with respect to the pairings ψ_τ and $\psi_{\bar{\tau}}$. In particular, on the canonical blocks we get induced perfect pairings

$$\bar{\psi}_{\tau,j}: B_{\tau,j} \times B_{\bar{\tau}, \ell+1-j} \longrightarrow k_\tau.$$

6.6. *Definition of the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$.* — Let $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ be a triple as in (GPE’). Write $(N, F_N, V_N, \Psi, \theta)$ for the corresponding Dieudonné module. Let q be the \tilde{K} -rank of N . For $\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{J}}$, let $\mathfrak{f}(\tau)$ be the k -dimension of $N[F]_\tau := \text{Ker}(F_{N_\tau})$. This defines a function $\mathfrak{f}: \tilde{\mathcal{J}} \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, q\}$ with the property that $\mathfrak{f}(\tau) + \mathfrak{f}(\bar{\tau}) = q$ for all τ .

Let $\Phi: \tilde{K}^q \times \tilde{K}^q \rightarrow \tilde{K}$ be an alternating hermitian form, \tilde{K} -linear in the first variable, \tilde{K} -antilinear in the second. Write $G = \text{U}_{\tilde{K}}(\tilde{K}^q, \Phi)$ for the group of \tilde{K} -linear unitary automorphisms. The pairing Φ is the product of pairings

$$\varphi_i = (\varphi_\tau, \varphi_{\bar{\tau}}): \tilde{k}_i^q \times \tilde{k}_i^q = (k_\tau^q \oplus k_{\bar{\tau}}^q) \times (k_\tau^q \oplus k_{\bar{\tau}}^q) \longrightarrow \tilde{k}_i = k_\tau \times k_{\bar{\tau}}$$

(where φ_τ pairs k_τ^q with $k_{\bar{\tau}}^q$), and writing $G_i = \text{Aut}_{\tilde{\kappa}_i}(k_i^{2q}, \varphi_i)$ we have $G = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} G_i$. If τ and $\bar{\tau}$ are the two elements of $\tilde{\mathcal{I}}$ lying over $i \in \mathcal{I}$ then we have isomorphisms

$$\text{GL}_{q, k_\tau} \xrightarrow{\sim} G_i \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{GL}_{q, k_{\bar{\tau}}}.$$

Choose an isometry $\xi: (N, \Psi) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\tilde{K}^q, \Phi)$ of hermitian \tilde{K} -modules; this allows us to view the $N[F]_\tau$ and $C_{\tau, \bullet}$ as partial flags in k_τ^q . Viewing k_τ^q as the dual of k_τ^q via the perfect pairing ψ_τ we have $N[F]_{\bar{\tau}} = N[F]_\tau^\perp$ and $C_{\bar{\tau}, \bullet} = C_{\tau, \bullet}^\perp$.

Write $P := \text{Stab}_G(N[F])$ and $Q := \text{Stab}_G(\mathcal{C}_\bullet)$. Let $W = W_G$, and write X for the type of P . We have a natural decomposition $W_X \backslash W = \prod_{i \in \mathcal{I}} W_{X_i} \backslash W_i$. The inclusion map $G \hookrightarrow \text{GL}_{q, \tilde{K}}$ gives rise to an injective map

$$W_X \backslash W \hookrightarrow W_{X_f} \backslash W_{\text{GL}_{q, \tilde{K}}}, \quad (6.6.1)$$

writing X_f for the type of the stabilizer of $N[F]$ in $\text{GL}_{q, \tilde{K}}$ (which is equivalent to knowing the function f).

Working as in 4.6 and 5.4, using (ii) of Lemma 6.4 and what was explained in Examples 3.5 and 3.10, we obtain a well-defined element

$$\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) := w^\sharp(P, Q) \in W_X \backslash W,$$

independent of the choice of ξ .

6.7. Theorem. — *Notations as above. Assume that $\text{char}(k) \neq 2$.*

(i) *Let (\mathcal{H}, θ) be a BT_1 with an action of $\tilde{\kappa}$, of type (q, f) . Let $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ be the associated element of $W_{X_f} \backslash W_{\text{GL}_{q, \tilde{K}}}$. Then there exists a $\tilde{\kappa}$ -(-1)-duality $\mu: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}^\vee$ if and only if $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \theta)$ is in the image of the map (6.6.1).*

(ii) *If a duality μ as in (i) exists then it is unique up to isomorphism. In other words: associating to a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE') the element $\underline{w}(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \in W_X \backslash W_G$ gives a bijection*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of triples} \\ (\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta) \text{ of type } (q, f) \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\sim} W_X \backslash W_G.$$

As explained in 3.10, if W_τ is the Weyl group of GL_{q, k_τ} and X_τ is the type of the stabilizer of $N[F]_\tau$ then we have natural bijections

$$W_{X_\tau} \backslash W_\tau \xrightarrow{\sim} W_{X_{\bar{\tau}}} \backslash W_{\bar{\tau}} \quad \text{denoted } \pi \mapsto \tilde{\pi}.$$

Then the set $W_X \backslash W_G$ can be described as

$$W_X \backslash W_G = \{(\pi_\tau)_{\tau \in \tilde{\mathcal{I}}} \mid \pi_\tau \in W_{X_\tau} \backslash W_\tau \text{ and } \pi_{\bar{\tau}} = \tilde{\pi}_\tau \text{ for all } \tau.\}$$

6.8. Remark. — Suppose we are in case (A1), meaning that $\tilde{\kappa} = \kappa \times \kappa$ with involution $(x_1, x_2) \mapsto (x_2, x_1)$. Let us number the two factors κ as $\kappa^{(1)}$ and $\kappa^{(2)}$.

The set $\tilde{\mathcal{J}}$ naturally decomposes, as a set with bi-cyclic ordering, as $\tilde{\mathcal{J}} = \mathcal{J}^{(1)} \amalg \mathcal{J}^{(2)}$. Write $\mathfrak{f}^{(\nu)}: \mathcal{J} = \mathcal{J}^{(\nu)} \longrightarrow \{1, \dots, q\}$ for the restriction of \mathfrak{f} to $\mathcal{J}^{(\nu)}$.

For $\nu = 1, 2$, let $(\mathcal{H}^{(\nu)}, \theta^{(\nu)})$ be a BT_1 with κ -action, of type $(q, \mathfrak{f}^{(\nu)})$, with $(\mathcal{H}^{(\nu)}, \theta^{(\nu)})$ dual to $(\mathcal{H}^{(\nu+1)}, \theta^{(\nu+1)})$. Then take $(\mathcal{H}, \theta) := (\mathcal{H}^{(1)}, \theta^{(1)}) \times (\mathcal{H}^{(2)}, \theta^{(2)})$, which comes with a natural action of $\tilde{\kappa}$. Take

$$\mu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \zeta \\ -\zeta^D & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ where } \zeta: (\mathcal{H}^{(2)}, \theta^{(2)}) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathcal{H}^{(1)}, \theta^{(1)})^D.$$

This gives us a triple $(\mathcal{H}, \mu, \theta)$ as in (GPE'), and every such triple is of this form. One verifies that Theorems 4.7 and 6.7 are consistent. (Compare also with Remark 4.8.)

6.9. Outline of the proof. — The proof of 6.7 is essentially the same as that of Theorem 5.5. By the previous remark we may assume that $\tilde{\kappa}$ is a field.

The first step is to show that if \underline{w} is an element in the image of the map (6.6.1), there exists a $\tilde{\kappa}$ -(-1)-duality on the standard object $(\mathcal{H}_{\underline{w}}, \theta_{\underline{w}})$. For the set \mathcal{A} we now take $\mathcal{A} := \tilde{\mathcal{J}} \times \{1, \dots, \ell\}$, with permutation ρ given by $\rho(\tau, j) = (\tau + 1, \rho_\tau(j))$. For $a = (\tau, j) \in \mathcal{A}$ we set $\tilde{a} := (\tilde{\tau}, \ell + 1 - j)$. Then we proceed exactly as in 5.8, noting that the desired pairings are now hermitian pairings $\psi_a: B_a \times B_{\tilde{a}} \rightarrow k$.

After that we need to prove that the $\tilde{\kappa}$ -(-1)-duality is unique (up to isomorphism). The arguments in 5.11 do not use any polarization, so that Corollary 5.13 is still valid. Thus only Lemma 5.14 remains. Our notations have been set up in such a way that we can copy the proof in 5.14 verbatim.

6.10. An example: the CM-case. — To illustrate the use of the “multiplication type” \mathfrak{f} , and to give a brief preview of what will be done in [9], let us show how to compute the p -kernel of a reduction of an abelian variety of CM-type. This is very similar to the recipe for computing the Newton polygon of such a reduction, which we shall recall.

Let F be a CM-field of degree $2g$ over \mathbb{Q} , i.e., a totally imaginary quadratic extension of a totally real field F_0 . Given an embedding $\sigma: F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$, write $\bar{\sigma}$ for the conjugate embedding. By a *CM-type* for F we mean a subset $\mathfrak{f} \subset \text{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C})$ such that precisely one of each pair $(\sigma, \bar{\sigma})$ is in \mathfrak{f} .

Let Y be an abelian variety of dimension g over a number field $E \subset \mathbb{C}$. Suppose Y is equipped with an action by an order $\mathcal{O} \subset F$; this gives us a homomorphism $F \rightarrow \text{End}(Y) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$. The first homology $H = H_1(Y_{\mathbb{C}}, \mathbb{C})$ is free of rank 1 as a module over

$$F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C} = \prod_{\sigma \in \text{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C})} \mathbb{C}^{(\sigma)}.$$

Hodge theory gives us a canonical $(F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C})$ -submodule $F^0 H \subset H$, and we define $\mathfrak{f} \subset \text{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C})$ to be the set of weights of this submodule. Then \mathfrak{f} is a CM-type and we say that Y is of CM-type (F, \mathfrak{f}) .

Choose embeddings $\overline{\mathbb{Q}} \hookrightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$. Let \mathfrak{p} be the corresponding place of E above p . Possibly after replacing E by a finite extension, Y has good reduction Y_0 over $k(\mathfrak{p})$. Via the chosen field embeddings we can identify

$$\mathrm{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C}) = \mathrm{Hom}(F, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p) = \mathrm{Hom}(F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p) = \coprod_{\pi} \mathrm{Hom}(F_{\pi}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p),$$

where π runs through the set of places of F above p and we write F_{π} for the π -adic completion of F . The set \mathfrak{f} is then a disjoint union of sets $\mathfrak{f}_{\pi} \subset \mathrm{Hom}(F_{\pi}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p)$.

In Tate's paper [15] it is explained how to compute the Newton polygon of Y_0 . Namely, the slopes that occur are just the numbers $\#\mathfrak{f}_{\pi}/[F_{\pi} : \mathbb{Q}_p]$.

Write k for the residue field of the maximal unramified subfield $\mathbb{Q}_p^{\mathrm{nr}} \subset \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$; this k is an algebraically closed field containing $k(\mathfrak{p})$. Assume that the order \mathcal{O} is maximal at p and that p does not ramify in F . (This is what the usual conditions for being a prime of good reduction mean in the present case.) We can also compute the isomorphism type of the p -kernel $Y_0[p]$ over k . Note that $\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}$ is the product of the residue fields $k(\pi)$, and that the Dieudonné module N of $Y_0[p]$ is free of rank 1 over $\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}$. In particular, the structure of $Y_0[p]_k$ with its action of $\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}$ is completely determined by the multiplication type $\mathfrak{f}_0 \subset \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}, k)$. (According to the definition in 4.6, the multiplication type is a function $\mathfrak{f}_0: \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}, k) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$. Such a function is completely determined by the subset $\mathfrak{f}_0^{-1}(1) \subset \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}, k)$. In this example we work with the subset rather than the function.) The assumption that p is unramified in F gives us a natural identification

$$\mathrm{Hom}(F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p) = \mathrm{Hom}(F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p, \mathbb{Q}_p^{\mathrm{nr}}) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}, k),$$

and by looking at the Dieudonné module of the full p -divisible group $Y[p^{\infty}]$ we readily find that \mathfrak{f}_0 is just the image of \mathfrak{f} under this map.

In concrete terms, write $\mathcal{S} := \mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}, k)$ and compute the multiplication type $\mathfrak{f}_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$ as the image of the type \mathfrak{f} . Given $i \in \mathcal{S}$, draw an arrow $(i) \xleftarrow{V} (i+1)$ if $i \in \mathfrak{f}_0$, and arrow $(i) \xrightarrow{F} (i+1)$ if not. This gives us a union of circular diagrams Γ_{π} as described in 2.1 (one diagram, of size $[F_{\pi} : \mathbb{Q}_p]$, for each prime π), with a natural action of $\mathcal{O}/p\mathcal{O}$ (letting x act as multiplication by $i(x)$ on the base vector corresponding to i .) This describes the p -kernel of Y_0 .

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