

# Periodic points of algebraic functions related to a continued fraction of Ramanujan

Sushmanth J. Akkarapakam and Patrick Morton

ABSTRACT. A continued fraction  $v(\tau)$  of Ramanujan is evaluated at certain arguments in the field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ , with  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ , in which the ideal  $(2) = \wp_2 \wp'_2$  is a product of two prime ideals. These values of  $v(\tau)$  are shown to generate the inertia field of  $\wp_2$  or  $\wp'_2$  in an extended ring class field over the field  $K$ . The conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of these same values, together with  $0, -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$ , are shown to form the exact set of periodic points of a fixed algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$ , independent of  $d$ . These are analogues of similar results for the Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction.

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## 1. Introduction

This paper is concerned with values of Ramanujan’s continued fraction

$$v(\tau) = \frac{q^{1/2}}{1+q} + \frac{q^2}{1+q^3} + \frac{q^4}{1+q^5} + \frac{q^6}{1+q^7} + \dots, \quad q = e^{2\pi i\tau},$$

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sometimes referred to as the Ramanujan-Göllnitz-Gordon continued fraction, which is also given by the infinite product

$$v(\tau) = q^{1/2} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{\binom{2}{n}}, \quad q = e^{2\pi i\tau},$$

for  $\tau$  in the upper half-plane. Here,  $\binom{2}{n}$  is the Kronecker symbol. See [12], [9, p. 153], [5], [6]. The continued fraction  $v(\tau)$  is analogous to the Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction

$$r(\tau) = q^{1/5} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{\binom{5}{n}}, \quad q = e^{2\pi i\tau},$$

whose properties were considered in the papers [17], [18]. In [17] it was shown that certain values of  $r(\tau)$ , for  $\tau$  in the imaginary quadratic field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  with  $-d \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ , are periodic points of a fixed algebraic function, independent of  $d$ , and generate certain class fields  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{f}}\Omega_f$  over  $K$ . Here  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{f}}$  is the ray class field of conductor  $\mathfrak{f} = \wp_5$  or  $\wp'_5$  over  $K$ , where  $(5) = \wp_5\wp'_5$  in the ring of integers  $R_K$  of  $K$ ; and  $\Omega_f$  is the ring class field of conductor  $f$  corresponding to the order  $R_{-d}$  of discriminant  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2$  in  $K$  ( $\mathfrak{d}_K$  is the discriminant of  $K$ ).

Here we will show that a similar situation holds for certain values of the continued fraction  $v(\tau)$ . We consider discriminants of the form  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and arguments in the field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ . Let  $R_K$  be the ring of integers in this field and let the prime ideal factorization of  $(2)$  in  $R_K$  be  $(2) = \wp_2\wp'_2$ . We define the algebraic integer  $w$  by

$$w = \frac{a + \sqrt{-d}}{2}, \quad a^2 + d \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, \quad (N(w), f) = 1, \tag{1.1}$$

where  $\wp_2 = (2, w)$ . Also, the positive (and odd) integer  $f$  is defined by  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2$ , where  $\mathfrak{d}_K$  is the discriminant of  $K/\mathbb{Q}$ .

We will show that

$$v(w/8) = \pm \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \pi^2}}{\pi},$$

where  $\pi$  is a generator in  $\Omega_f$  of the ideal  $\wp_2$  (or rather, its extension  $\wp_2 R_{\Omega_f}$  in  $\Omega_f$ ). The algebraic integer  $\pi$  and its conjugate  $\xi$  in  $\Omega_f$  were studied in [14] and shown to satisfy

$$\pi^4 + \xi^4 = 1, \quad (\pi) = \wp_2, \quad (\xi) = \wp'_2, \quad \xi = \frac{\pi^{\tau^2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau^2} - 1}, \tag{1.2}$$

where  $\tau = \left(\frac{\Omega_f/K}{\wp_2}\right)$  is the Artin symbol (Frobenius automorphism) for the prime ideal  $\wp_2$  and the ring class field  $\Omega_f$  over  $K$  whose conductor is  $f$ . It follows from results of [14] that

$$\pi = (-1)^c \mathfrak{p}(w),$$

where  $c$  is an integer satisfying the congruence

$$c \equiv 1 - \frac{a^2 + d}{32} \pmod{2}$$

and  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$  is the modular function  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau) = \frac{\mathfrak{f}_2^2(\tau/2)}{\mathfrak{f}^2(\tau/2)}$ , defined in terms of the Weber-Schläfli functions  $\mathfrak{f}_2(\tau), \mathfrak{f}(\tau)$ . (See [20], [8], [19].) The above formula for  $v(w/8)$  follows from the identity

$$\frac{2}{\mathfrak{p}(8\tau)} = \frac{1 - v^2(\tau)}{v(\tau)} = \frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau),$$

for  $\tau$  in the upper half-plane, which we prove in Proposition 4.1. (Also see [7, Thm. 8.6, p. 475].)

As in [17], we consider a diophantine equation, namely

$$\mathcal{C}_2 : X^2 + Y^2 = \sigma^2(1 + X^2Y^2), \quad \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{2}.$$

An identity for the continued fraction  $v(\tau)$  implies that

$$(X, Y) = (v(w/8), v(-1/w))$$

is a point on  $\mathcal{C}_2$ . We prove the following theorem relating the coordinates of this point.

**Theorem A.** *Let  $w$  be given by (1.1) with  $\mathfrak{G}_2 = (2, w)$  in  $R_K$  and  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .*

- (a) *The field  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(v(w/8)) = \mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8))$  equals the field  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{G}_2^3} \Omega_f$ , where  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{G}_2^3}$  is the ray class field of conductor  $\mathfrak{f} = \mathfrak{G}_2^3$  and  $\Omega_f$  is the ring class field of conductor  $f$  over the field  $K$ . The field  $F_1$  is the inertia field for  $\mathfrak{G}_2$  in the extended ring class field  $L_{\mathcal{O},8} = \Sigma_8 \Omega_f$  over  $K$ , where  $\mathcal{O} = R_{-d}$  is the order of discriminant  $-d$  in  $K$ .*
- (b) *We have  $F_2 = \mathbb{Q}(v(-1/w)) = \Sigma_{\mathfrak{G}_2^3} \Omega_f$ , the inertia field of  $\mathfrak{G}'_2$  in  $L_{\mathcal{O},8}/K$ .*
- (c) *If  $\tau_2$  is the Frobenius automorphism  $\tau_2 = \left( \frac{F_1/K}{\mathfrak{G}_2} \right)$ , then*

$$v(-1/w) = \frac{v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + (-1)^c \sigma}{\sigma v(w/8)^{\tau_2} - (-1)^c}. \tag{1.3}$$

See Theorems 6.1, 7.3 and 7.5 and their corollaries. From part (c) of this theorem we deduce the following.

**Theorem B.**

- (a) *If  $w$  and  $c$  are as above, then the generator  $(-1)^{1+c}v(w/8)$  of the field  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{G}_2^3} \Omega_f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a periodic point of the multivalued algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$  given by*

$$\hat{F}(x) = -\frac{x^2 - 1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{x^4 - 6x^2 + 1};$$

and  $v^2(w/8)$  is a periodic point of the algebraic function  $\hat{T}(x)$  defined by

$$\hat{T}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 4x + 1) \pm \frac{x-1}{2}\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 1}.$$

- (b) The minimal period of  $(-1)^{1+c}v(w/8)$  (and of  $v^2(w/8)$ ) is equal to the order of the automorphism  $\tau_2$  in  $\text{Gal}(F_1/K)$ .
- (c) Together with the numbers  $0, -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$ , the values  $(-1)^{1+c}v(w/8)$  and their conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$  are the only periodic points of the algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ . The only periodic points of  $\hat{T}(x)$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  are  $0, (-1 \pm \sqrt{2})^2$ , and the conjugates of the values  $v^2(w/8)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

We understand by a periodic point of the multivalued algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$  the following. Let  $f(x, y) = x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y$  be the minimal polynomial of  $\hat{F}(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(x)$ . A periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$  is an algebraic number  $a$  for which there exist  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1} \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  satisfying

$$f(a, a_1) = f(a_1, a_2) = \dots = f(a_{n-1}, a) = 0.$$

A similar definition can be given over any ground field  $k$ . See [15], [16]. Thus, if  $a \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  is a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$ , so are its conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , because  $f(x, y)$  has coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We show in Section 8 that  $v^2(w/8)$  is actually a periodic point in the usual sense of the single-valued 2-adic function

$$T(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2 - (x-1)(x-3) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_{k-1} \frac{2^k}{(x-3)^{2k}},$$

defined on a subset of the maximal unramified, algebraic extension  $K_2$  of the 2-adic field  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ . ( $C_k$  is the  $k$ -th Catalan number.) This follows from the fact that

$$v(w/8)^{2\tau_2} = T(v(w/8)^2),$$

in the completion  $F_{1,\mathfrak{q}} \subset K_2$  of  $F_1 = \Sigma_{\mathfrak{q}_2^3} \Omega_f$  with respect to a prime divisor  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $\mathfrak{q}_2$  in  $F_1$ . This implies that the minimal period of  $v^2(w/8)$  with respect to the function  $T(x)$  is  $n = \text{ord}(\tau_2)$ .

From Theorems A and B we conclude the following.

**Theorem C.** Let  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ , with  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $(2) = \mathfrak{q}_2 \mathfrak{q}'_2$  in  $R_K$ . Then every class field over  $K$  of the form  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{q}_2^3} \Omega_f$  or  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{q}'_2^3} \Omega_f$  (with  $f$  odd) is generated over  $\mathbb{Q}$  by an individual periodic point of the function  $\hat{F}(x)$  (or of  $\hat{T}(x)$ ). Furthermore, all but three periodic points of  $\hat{F}(x)$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  generate a class field  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{q}_2^3} \Omega_f$  in this family over some imaginary quadratic field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ , for which  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$ .

These are all analogues of the corresponding facts for the Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction  $r(\tau)$  which were proved in [17] and [18].

An important corollary of the fact that the conjugates of the values  $v(w/8)$  in Theorem B are, together with the three fixed points, all the periodic points of the algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$ , is the following class number formula. In this

formula,  $h(-d)$  denotes the class number of the order  $R_{-d}$  of discriminant  $-d$  in the quadratic field  $K = K_d$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}_{n,2}$  is the finite set of negative discriminants  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  for which the Frobenius automorphism  $\tau_2$  in Theorem A has order  $n$  in  $\text{Gal}(F_1/K_d)$ , where  $F_1 = F_{1,d}$  also depends on  $d$ :

$$\sum_{-d \in \mathfrak{D}_{n,2}} h(-d) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k|n} \mu(n/k) 2^k, \quad n > 1. \tag{1.4}$$

( $\mu(n)$  is the Möbius function.) See Theorem 9.2. This fact is the analogue for the prime  $p = 2$  of Theorem 1.3 in [18] for the prime  $p = 5$ , or of Conjecture 1 of that paper for a prime  $p > 5$ .

The layout of the paper is as follows. Section 2 contains a number of  $q$ -identities (following Ramanujan) and theta function identities which we use to prove identities for various modular functions in Sections 3-5. Most of these identities are known; straightforward proofs – which use theta functions, but not the theory of modular forms or functions – are included here for the sake of completeness. In Sections 6 and 7 we prove Theorem A. The proofs of Theorem B and (1.4) are given in Sections 8 and 9.

Sections 2-5 and portions of Sections 6-9 also appear in the Ph.D. dissertation [1] of the first author.

## 2. Preliminaries.

As is customary, let us set

$$(a; q)_0 := 1, \quad (a; q)_n := \prod_{k=0}^{n-1} (1 - aq^k), \quad n \geq 1$$

and

$$(a; q)_\infty := \prod_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - aq^k), \quad |q| \leq 1.$$

Ramanujan’s general theta function  $f(a, b)$  is defined as

$$f(a, b) := \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a^{n(n+1)/2} b^{n(n-1)/2}. \tag{2.1}$$

Three special cases are defined, in Ramanujan’s notation, as

$$\varphi(q) := f(q, q) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} q^{n^2}, \tag{2.2}$$

$$\psi(q) := f(q, q^3) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^{n(n+1)/2}, \tag{2.3}$$

$$f(-q) := f(-q, -q^2) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-1)^n q^{n(3n-1)/2}. \tag{2.4}$$

Jacobi's triple product identity, in Ramanujan's notation, takes the form

$$f(a, b) = (-a; ab)_\infty (-b; ab)_\infty (ab; ab)_\infty. \quad (2.5)$$

Using this, the above three functions can be written as

$$\varphi(q) = (-q; q^2)_\infty^2 (q^2; q^2)_\infty, \quad (2.6)$$

$$\psi(q) = (-q; q)_\infty (q^2; q^2)_\infty = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$f(-q) = (q; q)_\infty. \quad (2.8)$$

The equality that relates the right hand sides of both the equations for  $f(-q)$  in (2.4) and (2.8) is Euler's pentagonal number theorem.

Another important function that plays a prominent role is given by

$$\chi(q) := (-q; q^2)_\infty. \quad (2.9)$$

All the above four functions satisfy a myriad of relations, most of which are listed and proved in Berndt's books on Ramanujan's notebooks, and we will refer to them as needed.

Last but not least, the Dedekind-eta function is defined as

$$\eta(\tau) = q^{1/24} f(-q), \quad q = e^{2\pi i \tau}, \quad \text{Im } \tau > 0. \quad (2.10)$$

Most of the identities that we use later on are listed here in order, for the sake of convenience.

$$\varphi^2(q) + \varphi^2(-q) = 2\varphi^2(q^2), \quad (2.11)$$

$$\varphi^4(q) - \varphi^4(-q) = 16q\psi^4(q^2), \quad (2.12)$$

$$\varphi(q)\psi(q^2) = \psi^2(q), \quad (2.13)$$

$$\varphi(-q) + \varphi(q^2) = 2 \frac{f^2(q^3, q^5)}{\psi(q)}, \quad (2.14)$$

$$\varphi(-q) - \varphi(q^2) = -2q \frac{f^2(q, q^7)}{\psi(q)}, \quad (2.15)$$

$$\varphi(q)\varphi(-q) = \varphi^2(-q^2), \quad (2.16)$$

$$\varphi(q) + \varphi(-q) = 2\varphi(q^4), \quad (2.17)$$

$$\varphi^2(q) - \varphi^2(-q) = 8q\psi^2(q^4). \quad (2.18)$$

All of the above identities and their proofs can be found in [2, p. 40, Entry 25] and in [2, p. 51, Example (iv)].

For  $\tau \in \mathcal{H}$ , the upper half plane, and  $q = e(\tau) = e^{2\pi i \tau}$ , the theta constant with characteristic  $\left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{smallmatrix} \right] \in \mathbb{R}$  is defined as

$$\theta \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{smallmatrix} \right] (\tau) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} e\left(\frac{1}{2} \left(n + \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)^2 \tau + \frac{\epsilon'}{2} \left(n + \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)\right). \quad (2.19)$$

It satisfies the following basic properties for  $l, m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $N$  positive:

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} (\tau) = e\left(\mp \frac{\epsilon m}{2}\right) \theta \begin{bmatrix} \pm \epsilon + 2l \\ \pm \epsilon' + 2m \end{bmatrix} (\tau), \tag{2.20}$$

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} (\tau) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \theta \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\epsilon+2k}{N} \\ N\epsilon' \end{bmatrix} (N^2\tau). \tag{2.21}$$

We also have the transformation law, for  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ :

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{a\tau + b}{c\tau + d}\right) = \kappa \sqrt{c\tau + d} \theta \begin{bmatrix} a\epsilon + c\epsilon' - ac \\ b\epsilon + d\epsilon' + bd \end{bmatrix} (\tau), \tag{2.22}$$

where

$$\kappa = e\left(-\frac{1}{4}(a\epsilon + c\epsilon')bd - \frac{1}{8}(abc\epsilon^2 + cd\epsilon'^2 + 2bc\epsilon\epsilon')\right)\kappa_0,$$

and  $\kappa_0$  is an eighth root of unity depending only on the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ .

In particular, we have:

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} (\tau + 1) = e\left(-\frac{\epsilon}{4}\left(1 + \frac{\epsilon}{2}\right)\right) \theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon + \epsilon' + 1 \end{bmatrix} (\tau), \tag{2.23}$$

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{-1}{\tau}\right) = e\left(-\frac{1}{8}\right) \sqrt{\tau} e\left(\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{4}\right) \theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon' \\ -\epsilon \end{bmatrix} (\tau). \tag{2.24}$$

We also have the product formula:

$$\theta \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon \\ \epsilon' \end{bmatrix} (\tau) = e\left(\frac{\epsilon\epsilon'}{4}\right) q^{\frac{\epsilon^2}{8}} \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n) \left(1 + e\left(\frac{\epsilon'}{2}\right) q^{n - \frac{1+\epsilon}{2}}\right) \left(1 + e\left(\frac{-\epsilon'}{2}\right) q^{n - \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}}\right), \tag{2.25}$$

which follows from Jacobi’s triple product identity.

More information about these theta constants and the above formulas, as well as their proofs, can all be found in [10, pp. 71-81]. Also see [9, pp. 143, 158-159].

### 3. Identities for $u(\tau)$ and $v(\tau)$

Let us define the functions  $u(\tau)$  and  $v(\tau)$  as

$$u(\tau) = \sqrt{2} q^{1/8} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + q^n)^{(-1)^n},$$

$$v(\tau) = q^{1/2} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - q^n)^{\binom{2}{n}}.$$

The functions  $u(\tau)$  and  $v(\tau)$  satisfy the following identities.

**Proposition 3.1.** (a) If  $x = u(\tau)$  and  $y = u(2\tau)$ , we have

$$x^4(y^4 + 1) = 2y^2.$$

(b) If  $x = v(\tau)$  and  $y = v(2\tau)$ , we have

$$x^2y + x^2 + y^2 = y.$$

**Remark.** The curve  $E : f(x, y) = 0$  defined by

$$f(x, y) = x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y$$

is an elliptic curve with  $j(E) = 1728$ , so  $E$  has complex multiplication by  $R = \mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

**Proof.** (a) From (2.11), we have

$$\varphi^2(-q) = 2\varphi^2(q^2) - \varphi^2(q),$$

where

$$\varphi(q) = (-q; q^2)_\infty^2 (q^2; q^2)_\infty \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(q) = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty}$$

are as defined in (2.6) and (2.7). Squaring both sides gives us

$$\varphi^4(-q) = 4\varphi^4(q^2) - 4\varphi^2(q)\varphi^2(q^2) + \varphi^4(q).$$

Using

$$\varphi^4(q) - \varphi^4(-q) = 16q\psi^4(q^2),$$

which is (2.12), we obtain

$$\varphi^4(q^2) + 4q\psi^4(q^2) = \varphi^2(q)\varphi^2(q^2).$$

Dividing both sides by  $\varphi^4(q^2)$  and using the relation  $\psi^2(q) = \varphi(q)\psi(q^2)$  from (2.13) we get

$$1 + 4q \frac{\psi^4(q^2)}{\varphi^4(q^2)} = \frac{\varphi^2(q)}{\varphi^2(q^2)} = \frac{\psi^2(q^2)}{\varphi^2(q^2)} \cdot \frac{\varphi^4(q)}{\psi^4(q)}. \quad (3.1)$$

Since

$$u(\tau) = \sqrt{2}q^{1/8} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 + q^n)^{(-1)^n} = \sqrt{2}q^{1/8} \frac{(-q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(-q; q^2)_\infty} = \sqrt{2}q^{1/8} \frac{\psi(q)}{\varphi(q)},$$

the result follows by substituting the last equality for  $u(\tau)$  into (3.1).

(b) From [9, p. 153, (9.7)] we have the following relation between  $u = u(\tau)$  and  $v = v(\tau)$ :

$$u^4(v^2 + 1)^2 + 4v(v^2 - 1) = 0; \quad (3.2)$$



which we rewrite as  $u^4 = \frac{4v(1-v^2)}{(v^2+1)^2}$ . (See the proof of Proposition 10.1 in the Appendix.) Substituting this expression for  $u^4$  into the relation  $u^4(\tau)[u^4(2\tau) + 1] = 2u^2(2\tau)$ , after squaring, we obtain

$$\frac{16x^2(1-x^2)^2}{(x^2+1)^4} \cdot \left[ \frac{4y(1-y^2)}{(y^2+1)^2} + 1 \right]^2 = 4 \cdot \frac{4y(1-y^2)}{(y^2+1)^2},$$

where  $x = v(\tau)$ ,  $y = v(2\tau)$ . Clearing the denominators gives us

$$x^2(1-x^2)^2(y^2-2y-1)^4 = y(1-y^2)(y^2+1)^2(x^2+1)^4.$$

Now moving everything to one side and factoring the polynomial using Maple, we finally arrive at

$$(x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y)(x^2y^2 - x^2y + y + 1)(x^2y^2 + 2xy^2 + x^2 - 4xy + y^2 - 2x + 1) \times (x^2y^2 - 2xy^2 + x^2 + 4xy + y^2 + 2x + 1) = 0.$$

From the definitions of  $x$  and  $y$ , it is clear that  $x = O(q^{1/2})$  and  $y = O(q)$  as  $q$  tends to 0. Hence, the first factor above (and none of the others) vanishes for  $q$  sufficiently small. By the identity theorem of complex analysis, the first factor vanishes for  $|q| < 1$ . This proves the result.  $\square$

**Remark.** The identity in part (b) of Proposition 3.1 can be written as

$$v^2(\tau) = v(2\tau) \frac{1 - v(2\tau)}{1 + v(2\tau)}.$$

See [5, Thm. 2.2]. This is analogous to the identity for the Rogers-Ramanujan continued fraction  $r(\tau)$ :

$$r^5(\tau) = r(5\tau) \frac{r^4(5\tau) - 3r^3(5\tau) + 4r^2(5\tau) - 2r(5\tau) + 1}{r^4(5\tau) + 2r^3(5\tau) + 4r^2(5\tau) + 3r(5\tau) + 1}.$$

Also see [4, p. 167], [3, pp. 19-20].

**Proposition 3.2.** *The functions  $x = v^2(\tau)$  and  $y = v^2(2\tau)$  satisfy the relation*

$$g(x, y) = y^2 - (x^2 - 4x + 1)y + x^2 = 0.$$

**Proof.** For  $x = v(\tau)$  and  $y = v(2\tau)$ , we have the relation

$$x^2 + y^2 = y(1 - x^2).$$

Squaring both sides and moving all the terms to the left side, we obtain

$$x^4 + y^4 + 4x^2y^2 - x^4y^2 - y^2 = 0.$$

Hence,  $x = v^2(\tau)$  and  $y = v^2(2\tau)$  satisfy the relation

$$g(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 + 4xy - x^2y - y = 0.$$

$\square$

Let  $A, \bar{A}$  denote the linear fractional mappings

$$A(x) = \frac{\sigma x + 1}{x - \sigma}, \quad \bar{A}(x) = \frac{-x + \sigma}{\sigma x + 1}, \quad \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{2}. \quad (3.3)$$

**Proposition 3.3.** *The following identity holds:*

$$v\left(\frac{-1}{\tau}\right) = \bar{A}(v(\tau/4)) = \frac{\bar{\sigma}v(\tau/4) + 1}{v(\tau/4) - \bar{\sigma}} = \frac{-v(\tau/4) + \sigma}{\sigma v(\tau/4) + 1},$$

where  $\bar{\sigma} = -1 - \sqrt{2}$ .

**Proof.** This follows from the formula

$$v(\tau) = e^{-2\pi i/8} \frac{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right](8\tau)}{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right](8\tau)},$$

using the formulas (2.20), (2.21), (2.24). (Also see [10].) Namely, we have:

$$v\left(\frac{-1}{\tau}\right) = e^{-2\pi i/8} \frac{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right]\left(\frac{-8}{\tau}\right)}{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1/4 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right]\left(\frac{-8}{\tau}\right)} = \frac{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 3/4 \end{smallmatrix}\right]\left(\frac{\tau}{8}\right)}{\theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 1/4 \end{smallmatrix}\right]\left(\frac{\tau}{8}\right)} = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^3 \theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1+2k \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{smallmatrix}\right](2\tau)}{\sum_{k=0}^3 \theta\left[\begin{smallmatrix} 1+2k \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right](2\tau)},$$

which after some simplification yields

$$v\left(\frac{-1}{\tau}\right) = \frac{[-1 + e^{3\pi i/8}]v(\tau/4) + [e^{2\pi i/8} + e^{3\pi i/2}]}{[e^{2\pi i/8} + e^{3\pi i/2}]v(\tau/4) + [1 + e^{7\pi i/8}]}.$$

This yields that

$$v\left(\frac{-1}{\tau}\right) = \frac{\bar{\sigma}v(\tau/4) + 1}{v(\tau/4) - \bar{\sigma}} = \frac{-v(\tau/4) + \sigma}{\sigma v(\tau/4) + 1}.$$

□

The set of mappings

$$\hat{H} = \{x, A(x), \bar{A}(x), -1/x\}$$

forms a group under composition. We also have the formula

$$(\sigma x + 1)^2(\sigma y + 1)^2 f(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y)) = 2^3 \sigma^2 f(y, x).$$

**Proposition 3.4.** *The function  $v(\tau)$  satisfies the following:*

$$v^2\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) = \frac{v^2(\tau) - \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 v^2(\tau) - 1}, \quad \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{2}. \quad (3.4)$$

**Proof.** Replacing  $\tau$  by  $8\tau$  in Proposition 3.3 and squaring gives us

$$\begin{aligned} v^2\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) &= \frac{(-v(2\tau) + \sigma)^2}{(\sigma v(2\tau) + 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{(-y + \sigma)^2}{(\sigma y + 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{y^2 - 2\sigma y + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 y^2 + 2\sigma y + 1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $y = v(2\tau)$ . Then, replace  $2\sigma$  by  $1 - \sigma^2$  to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} v^2\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) &= \frac{y^2 - y + \sigma^2 y + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 y^2 + y - \sigma^2 y + 1} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2(y + 1) - (y - y^2)}{(y + 1) - \sigma^2(y - y^2)}. \end{aligned}$$

Now replace  $(y - y^2)$  by  $x^2(y + 1)$ , using Proposition 3.1(b), to get the result:

$$\begin{aligned} v^2\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) &= \frac{\sigma^2(y + 1) - x^2(y + 1)}{(y + 1) - \sigma^2 x^2(y + 1)} \\ &= \frac{(\sigma^2 - x^2)(y + 1)}{(1 - \sigma^2 x^2)(y + 1)} \\ &= \frac{x^2 - \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 x^2 - 1}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $x = v(\tau)$ . □

For later use we denote the linear fractional map which occurs in (3.4) by  $t(x)$ :

$$t(x) = \frac{x - \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 x - 1}. \tag{3.5}$$

A straightforward calculation shows that

$$(\sigma^2 x - 1)^2(\sigma^2 y - 1)^2 g(t(x), t(y)) = 2^5 \sigma^4 g(y, x). \tag{3.6}$$

#### 4. The relation between $v(\tau)$ and $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$ .

In this section and the next we shall prove several identities between  $v(\tau)$  and the functions  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$  and  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  defined as follows. Let  $\mathfrak{f}, \mathfrak{f}_1, \mathfrak{f}_2$  denote the Weber-Schläfli functions (see [8, p. 233], [19, p. 148]). Then the functions  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$  and  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  are given by

$$\mathfrak{p}(\tau) = \frac{\mathfrak{f}_2(\tau/2)^2}{\mathfrak{f}(\tau/2)^2} = 2q^{1/16} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1 + q^{n/2}}{1 + q^{n/2-1/4}} \right)^2, \tag{4.1}$$

$$\mathfrak{b}(\tau) = 2 \frac{\mathfrak{f}_1(\tau/2)^2}{\mathfrak{f}(\tau/2)^2} = 2 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1 - q^{n/2-1/4}}{1 + q^{n/2-1/4}} \right)^2. \tag{4.2}$$

Note that  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  occurs in [14, §10, (10.3)].

**Proposition 4.1.** *We have the identity*

$$\frac{2}{\mathfrak{p}(8\tau)} = \frac{1 - v^2(\tau)}{v(\tau)} = \frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau). \quad (4.3)$$

**Proof.** (See [2, pp. 221-222].) The function  $v(\tau)$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} v(\tau) &= q^{1/2} \prod_{n \geq 1} (1 - q^n)^{\binom{8}{n}} = q^{1/2} \prod_{n \geq 1} \frac{(1 - q^{8n-1})(1 - q^{8n-7})}{(1 - q^{8n-3})(1 - q^{8n-5})} \\ &= q^{1/2} \frac{(q; q^8)_\infty (q^7; q^8)_\infty}{(q^3; q^8)_\infty (q^5; q^8)_\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

This gives that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau) &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(q^3; q^8)_\infty (q^5; q^8)_\infty}{(q; q^8)_\infty (q^7; q^8)_\infty} - q^{1/2} \frac{(q; q^8)_\infty (q^7; q^8)_\infty}{(q^3; q^8)_\infty (q^5; q^8)_\infty} \\ &= \frac{(q^3; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^5; q^8)_\infty^2 - q (q; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^7; q^8)_\infty^2}{q^{1/2} (q; q^8)_\infty (q^3; q^8)_\infty (q^5; q^8)_\infty (q^7; q^8)_\infty} \\ &= \frac{(q^3; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^5; q^8)_\infty^2 - q (q; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^7; q^8)_\infty^2}{q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty}. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying the numerator and the denominator by  $(q^8; q^8)_\infty^2$  and applying Jacobi's triple product identity in the form

$$f(a, b) = (-a; ab)_\infty (-b; ab)_\infty (ab; ab)_\infty,$$

with  $(a, b) = (-q^3, -q^5)$  for the first term in the numerator and  $(a, b) = (-q, -q^7)$  for the second, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau) &= \frac{(q^3; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^5; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2 - q (q; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^7; q^8)_\infty^2 (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2}{q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\ &= \frac{f^2(-q^3, -q^5) - q f^2(-q, -q^7)}{q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now replace  $q$  by  $-q$  in (2.14), (2.15) and apply this to the numerator to get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau) &= \frac{\psi(-q)[\varphi(q) + \varphi(q^2)] - \psi(-q)[\varphi(q) - \varphi(q^2)]}{2 q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\ &= \frac{\psi(-q) \times \varphi(q^2)}{q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2}. \end{aligned}$$

This yields that

$$\frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau) = q^{-1/2} \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(-q; q^2)_\infty} \times \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty (q^4; q^4)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2 (q^2; q^2)_\infty (q^4; q^4)_\infty}{(q^2; q^4)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\
 &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2 (q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}{(q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\
 &= q^{-1/2} (-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2 (q^4; q^8)_\infty^2 \\
 &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2}{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\mathfrak{p}(8\tau) = 2q^{1/2} \prod_{n \geq 1} \left( \frac{1 + q^{4n}}{1 + q^{4n-2}} \right)^2 = 2q^{1/2} \frac{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2},$$

we get the result by substituting into the last equality. □

**Proposition 4.2.** *The function  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$  satisfies the identity*

$$\mathfrak{p}^2(\tau)\mathfrak{p}^2(2\tau) + \mathfrak{p}^2(\tau) - 2\mathfrak{p}(2\tau) = 0.$$

**Proof.** We use the relation between  $x = v(\tau)$  and  $y = v(2\tau)$  from Proposition 3.1(b):  $x^2 = \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)}$ . This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left( \frac{2x}{1-x^2} \right)^2 &= \frac{4x^2}{(1-x^2)^2} = \frac{4 \cdot \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)}}{\left(1 - \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)}\right)^2} \\
 &= \frac{4y(1-y)(1+y)}{\left((1+y) - y(1-y)\right)^2} \\
 &= \frac{4y(1-y^2)}{(1+y^2)^2} \\
 &= \frac{4y(1-y^2)}{4y^2 + (1-y^2)^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now divide both the numerator and the denominator by  $(1-y^2)^2$  to obtain

$$\left( \frac{2x}{1-x^2} \right)^2 = \frac{\frac{4y}{1-y^2}}{\frac{4y^2}{(1-y^2)^2} + 1} = \frac{2 \cdot \left(\frac{2y}{1-y^2}\right)}{\left(\frac{2y}{1-y^2}\right)^2 + 1}. \tag{4.4}$$

From Proposition 4.1, we know that

$$\mathfrak{p}(8\tau) = \frac{2v(\tau)}{1-v^2(\tau)} = \frac{2x}{1-x^2},$$

and

$$\mathfrak{p}(16\tau) = \frac{2v(2\tau)}{1-v^2(2\tau)} = \frac{2y}{1-y^2}.$$

Thus, (4.4) becomes

$$\mathfrak{p}^2(8\tau) = \frac{2\mathfrak{p}(16\tau)}{\mathfrak{p}^2(16\tau) + 1}.$$

Replacing  $\tau$  by  $\tau/8$  and rearranging gives us the result.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.3.** a) The functions  $x = \mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  and  $y = \mathfrak{b}(2\tau)$  satisfy the relation

$$x^2y^2 + 4y^2 - 16x = 0.$$

b) The following identity holds between  $x = \mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  and  $z = \mathfrak{b}(4\tau)$ :

$$(\mathfrak{b}(\tau) + 2)^4\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau) = 2^8(\mathfrak{b}^3(\tau) + 4\mathfrak{b}(\tau)).$$

**Proof.** a) On putting  $4\tau$  for  $\tau$  in  $x$ , we have

$$\mathfrak{b}(4\tau) = 2 \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1 - q^{2n-1}}{1 + q^{2n-1}} \right)^2 = 2 \frac{(q; q^2)_{\infty}^2}{(-q; q^2)_{\infty}^2} = 2 \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)}.$$

From (2.11), we have

$$\varphi^2(-q) + \varphi^2(q) = 2\varphi^2(q^2).$$

Multiplying both sides by  $\varphi^2(-q^2) = \varphi(q)\varphi(-q)$  from (2.16), we obtain

$$\varphi^2(-q)\varphi^2(-q^2) + \varphi^2(q)\varphi^2(-q^2) = 2\varphi(q)\varphi(-q)\varphi^2(q^2).$$

Now dividing both sides by  $\varphi^2(q)\varphi^2(q^2)$  gives us

$$\frac{\varphi^2(-q)}{\varphi^2(q)} \cdot \frac{\varphi^2(-q^2)}{\varphi^2(q^2)} + \frac{\varphi^2(-q^2)}{\varphi^2(q^2)} = 2 \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)}.$$

Hence, we see that  $x = \mathfrak{b}(4\tau)$  and  $y = \mathfrak{b}(8\tau)$  satisfy the relation

$$x^2y^2 + 4y^2 - 16x = 0.$$

Now replace  $\tau$  by  $\tau/4$ .

b) From (2.17), upon taking fourth powers, we get

$$[\varphi(-q) + \varphi(q)]^4 = 16\varphi^4(q^4).$$

Multiplying both sides by  $\varphi^4(-q^4)/[\varphi^4(q)\varphi^4(q^4)]$  gives us

$$\frac{[\varphi(-q) + \varphi(q)]^4}{\varphi^4(q)} \cdot \frac{\varphi^4(-q^4)}{\varphi^4(q^4)} = 16 \frac{\varphi^4(-q^4)}{\varphi^4(q)}.$$

Then using (2.16) twice for the right side, we obtain

$$\frac{[\varphi(-q) + \varphi(q)]^4}{\varphi^4(q)} \cdot \frac{\varphi^4(-q^4)}{\varphi^4(q^4)} = 16 \frac{\varphi(-q)\varphi(q)}{\varphi^4(q)} \cdot \varphi^2(q^2).$$

Now use (2.11) for the last factor on the right side to get

$$\frac{[\varphi(-q) + \varphi(q)]^4}{\varphi^4(q)} \cdot \frac{\varphi^4(-q^4)}{\varphi^4(q^4)} = 8 \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi^3(q)} \cdot [\varphi^2(-q) + \varphi^2(q)].$$

This implies that

$$\left[ \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)} + 1 \right]^4 \cdot \left[ \frac{\varphi(-q^4)}{\varphi(q^4)} \right]^4 = 8 \cdot \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)} \cdot \left[ \left( \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)} \right)^2 + 1 \right].$$

The result follows on multiplying through by  $2^8$  and substituting

$$\mathfrak{b}(4\tau) = 2 \frac{\varphi(-q)}{\varphi(q)} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{b}(16\tau) = 2 \frac{\varphi(-q^4)}{\varphi(q^4)}$$

into the above equation, and then replacing  $\tau$  by  $\tau/4$ . □

**5. The relation between  $v(\tau)$  and  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$ .**

We begin this section by proving the following identity.

**Proposition 5.1.**

$$\frac{(v^2(\tau) + 1)^2}{v^4(\tau) - 6v^2(\tau) + 1} = \frac{4}{\mathfrak{b}^2(4\tau)}. \tag{5.1}$$

**Proof.** We prove (5.1) using the identity relating the Weber-Schläfli functions from [20, p. 86, (12)] (see also [8, p. 234, (12.18)]):

$$\mathfrak{f}_1^8(\tau) + \mathfrak{f}_2^8(\tau) = \mathfrak{f}^8(\tau).$$

From the definitions (4.1) and (4.2) of  $\mathfrak{p}(\tau)$  and  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$ , this identity translates to

$$\frac{\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau)}{16} = 1 - \mathfrak{p}^4(4\tau).$$

Using the result of Proposition 4.1, we write this equation as

$$\frac{\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau)}{16} = 1 - \left( \frac{2v(\tau/2)}{1 - v^2(\tau/2)} \right)^4 = 1 - \frac{16v^4(\tau/2)}{(1 - v^2(\tau/2))^4}.$$

Setting  $x = v(\tau/2)$  and  $y = v(\tau)$  and using the relation between  $x$  and  $y$  from Proposition 3.1(b) in the form  $x^2 = \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)}$  gives that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau)}{16} &= 1 - \frac{16x^4}{(1-x^2)^4} = 1 - \frac{16 \left( \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)} \right)^2}{\left( 1 - \frac{y(1-y)}{(1+y)} \right)^4} \\ &= 1 - \frac{16y^2(1-y^2)^2}{(1+y^2)^4} = \frac{(y^2+1)^4 - 16y^2(y^2-1)^2}{(y^2+1)^4} \\ &= \frac{((y^2-1)^2 + 4y^2)^2 - 16y^2(y^2-1)^2}{(y^2+1)^4} \\ &= \frac{((y^2-1)^2 - 4y^2)^2}{(y^2+1)^4} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{(y^4 - 6y^2 + 1)^2}{(y^2 + 1)^4},$$

which is equivalent to (5.1). (The plus sign holds on taking the square-root because  $\mathfrak{b}(i\infty) = 2, v^2(i\infty) = 0$ .)  $\square$

Proposition 5.1 will now be used to prove the following formula for the function  $j(\tau)$  in terms of  $v(\tau)$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** *If  $v = v(\tau)$  and  $\tau$  lies in the upper half-plane, we have*

$$j(\tau) = \frac{(v^{16} + 232v^{14} + 732v^{12} - 1192v^{10} + 710v^8 - 1192v^6 + 732v^4 + 232v^2 + 1)^3}{v^2(v^2 - 1)^2(v^2 + 1)^4(v^4 - 6v^2 + 1)^8}.$$

**Proof.** Let

$$G(x) = \frac{(x^2 - 16x + 16)^3}{x(x - 16)}.$$

Then from [14, p. 1967, (2.8)] the function

$$\alpha(\tau) = \zeta_8^{-1} \frac{\eta(\tau/4)^2}{\eta(\tau)^2}, \quad \zeta_8 = e^{2\pi i/8}, \quad (5.2)$$

satisfies the relation

$$j(\tau) = \frac{(\alpha^8 - 16\alpha^4 + 16)^3}{\alpha^4(\alpha^4 - 16)} = G(\alpha^4(\tau)). \quad (5.3)$$

Moreover,  $\alpha(\tau)$  and  $\mathfrak{b}(\tau)$  satisfy

$$16\alpha^4(\tau) + 16\mathfrak{b}^4(\tau) = \alpha^4(\tau)\mathfrak{b}^4(\tau),$$

so that

$$\alpha^4(\tau) = \frac{16\mathfrak{b}^4(\tau)}{\mathfrak{b}^4(\tau) - 16}. \quad (5.4)$$

Setting  $b = \mathfrak{b}(\tau)$ , we substitute for  $\alpha = \alpha(\tau)$  in (5.3) and find that

$$j(\tau) = G\left(\frac{16b^4}{b^4 - 16}\right) = \frac{(b^8 + 224b^4 + 256)^3}{b^4(b^4 - 16)^4}, \quad b = \mathfrak{b}(\tau).$$

Now replace  $\tau$  by  $4\tau$  and use (5.1) to replace  $\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau)$  by

$$\mathfrak{b}^4(4\tau) = \frac{16(v^4 - 6v^2 + 1)^2}{(v^2 + 1)^4},$$

giving

$$j(4\tau) = \frac{(v^{16} - 8v^{14} + 12v^{12} + 8v^{10} + 230v^8 + 8v^6 + 12v^4 - 8v^2 + 1)^3}{v^8(v^2 + 1)^4(v^2 - 1)^8(v^4 - 6v^2 + 1)^2}, \quad (5.5)$$

with  $v = v(\tau)$ . Replacing  $v(\tau)$  by  $\bar{A}(v(-1/4\tau))$  from Proposition 3.3 gives that

$$j(4\tau) = j_2(x^2),$$



where  $x = v(-1/4\tau)$  and  $j_2(x)$  is the rational function

$$j_2(x) = \frac{(x^8 + 232x^7 + 732x^6 - 1192x^5 + 710x^4 - 1192x^3 + 732x^2 + 232x + 1)^3}{x(x-1)^2(x+1)^4(x^2-6x+1)^8}. \tag{5.6}$$

Finally, replace  $\tau$  by  $\tau/4$  to give that

$$j(\tau) = j_2(v^2(-1/\tau)),$$

which implies that  $j_2(v^2(\tau)) = j(-1/\tau) = j(\tau)$ , completing the proof.  $\square$

We highlight the relation

$$j(\tau) = j_2(v^2(\tau)), \tag{5.7}$$

which we will make use of in Section 7. Using the linear fractional map  $t(x)$  from (3.5) and the identity  $v^2(-1/8\tau) = t(v^2(\tau))$  in (3.4) yields

$$j\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) = j_2\left(v^2\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right)\right) = j_2(t(v^2(\tau))).$$

A calculation on Maple shows that

$$j_{22}(x) = j_2(t(x)) = \frac{(x^8 - 8x^7 + 12x^6 + 8x^5 - 10x^4 + 8x^3 + 12x^2 - 8x + 1)^3}{x^8(x-1)^4(x+1)^2(x^2-6x+1)}.$$

Therefore,

$$j\left(\frac{-1}{8\tau}\right) = j_{22}(v^2(\tau)). \tag{5.8}$$

We take this opportunity to prove the following known identity (see [9, p. 154]) from the results we have established so far.

**Proposition 5.3.**

$$v^{-2}(\tau) + v^2(\tau) - 6 = \frac{\eta^4(\tau)\eta^2(4\tau)}{\eta^2(2\tau)\eta^4(8\tau)}. \tag{5.9}$$

**Proof.** We will show that (5.9) follows from (5.1). We first have that

$$\begin{aligned} v^{-2}(\tau) + v^2(\tau) - 6 &= \frac{v^4(\tau) - 6v^2(\tau) + 1}{v^2(\tau)} \\ &= \frac{8}{\left(\frac{(v^2(\tau)+1)^2}{v^4(\tau)-6v^2(\tau)+1}\right) - 1} \\ &= \frac{8}{\left(\frac{4}{b^2(4\tau)}\right) - 1} = \frac{8b^2(4\tau)}{4 - b^2(4\tau)}, \end{aligned}$$

by (5.1). Using the expression  $\mathfrak{b}(4\tau) = 2\varphi(-q)/\varphi(q)$  from the proof of Proposition 4.3a) and (2.18) gives

$$v^{-2}(\tau) + v^2(\tau) - 6 = \frac{8 \left( \frac{4\varphi^2(-q)}{\varphi^2(q)} \right)}{4 - \left( \frac{4\varphi^2(-q)}{\varphi^2(q)} \right)} = \frac{8\varphi^2(-q)}{\varphi^2(q) - \varphi^2(-q)} = \frac{8\varphi^2(-q)}{8q\psi^2(q^4)}.$$

Now putting  $\varphi(-q) = (q; q^2)_\infty^2 (q^2; q^2)_\infty = \frac{(q; q)_\infty^2}{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}$  and  $\psi(q) = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty} = \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q)_\infty}$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} v^{-2}(\tau) + v^2(\tau) - 6 &= \varphi^2(-q) \cdot \left( \frac{1}{q\psi^2(q^4)} \right) \\ &= (q; q^2)_\infty^4 (q^2; q^2)_\infty^2 \cdot \left( \frac{(q^4; q^8)_\infty^2}{q(q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{(q; q)_\infty^4}{(q^2; q^2)_\infty^2} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{(q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}{q(q^8; q^8)_\infty^4} \right) \\ &= \frac{q^{1/6} (q; q)_\infty^4 \cdot q^{1/3} (q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}{q^{1/6} (q^2; q^2)_\infty^2 \cdot q^{4/3} (q^8; q^8)_\infty^4} \\ &= \frac{\eta^4(\tau) \eta^2(4\tau)}{\eta^2(2\tau) \eta^4(8\tau)}, \end{aligned}$$

using that  $\eta(\tau) = q^{1/24} (q; q)_\infty$ . □

## 6. The field generated by $v(w/8)$ .

As in the Introduction, let  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and set  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2$ , where  $\mathfrak{d}_K$  is the discriminant of the field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ . Further, let  $2 \cong \mathfrak{f}_2 \mathfrak{f}'_2$  in the ring of integers  $R_K$  of  $K$ . We denote by  $\Sigma_{\mathfrak{f}}$  the ray class field of conductor  $\mathfrak{f}$  over  $K$  and  $\Omega_f$  the ring class field of conductor  $f$  over  $K$ .

In this section we take  $\tau = w/8$ , where

$$w = \frac{a + \sqrt{-d}}{2}, \text{ with } a^2 + d \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}, (N(w), f) = 1. \quad (6.1)$$

For this value of  $w$ ,

$$\mathfrak{b}^4(8\tau) = \mathfrak{b}^4(w)$$

is the fourth power of the number

$$\beta = i^{-a} \mathfrak{b}(w) \quad (6.2)$$

from [14, (10.3), Thms. 10.6, 10.7]. We also need the number  $\pi$  from [14, (10.2), (10.9)], which is given by

$$\pi = i^{\bar{c}} \frac{\mathfrak{f}_2(w/2)^2}{\mathfrak{f}(w/2)^2} = i^{\bar{c}} \mathfrak{p}(w),$$

$$\bar{c} \equiv a \left( 2 - \frac{a^2 + d}{16} \right) \pmod{4}.$$

(We have replaced  $v$  in the formulas of [14] by  $a$  and  $a$  by  $\bar{c}$ .) But here the integer  $a^2 + d$  is divisible by 32, by (6.1), so  $\bar{c}$  is even. Replacing  $\bar{c}$  by the integer  $c = \bar{c}/2$ , satisfying

$$c \equiv 1 - \frac{a^2 + d}{32} \pmod{2}$$

yields

$$\pi = (-1)^c \mathfrak{p}(w), \quad w = \frac{a + \sqrt{-d}}{2}. \tag{6.3}$$

It follows from the results of [14] that  $\xi = \beta/2$  and  $\pi$  lie in the ring class field  $\Omega_f$  of the quadratic field  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  (where  $-d = \mathfrak{d}_K f^2$  and  $\mathfrak{d}_K$  is the discriminant of  $K/\mathbb{Q}$ ) and  $\xi^4 + \pi^4 = 1$ . Furthermore,  $\mathbb{Q}(\pi) = \mathbb{Q}(\pi^4) = \Omega_f$ . We also note that  $(\xi) = \wp'_2$  and  $(\pi) = \wp_2$  in  $\Omega_f$ , so that  $(\xi\pi) = (2)$ .

From (4.3) and (6.3) we have that

$$(-1)^c \frac{2}{\pi} = \frac{1}{v(w/8)} - v(w/8) = \frac{1 - v^2(w/8)}{v(w/8)}. \tag{6.4}$$

In particular,  $v(w/8)$  satisfies a quadratic equation over  $\Omega_f$  and the map  $\rho : v(w/8) \rightarrow \frac{-1}{v(w/8)}$  leaves the right side of (6.4) invariant. On squaring (6.4), we see that  $X = v^2(w/8)$  satisfies the equation

$$X^2 - \left( 2 + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \right) X + 1 = 0, \tag{6.5}$$

and therefore

$$v^2(w/8) = \frac{\pi^2 + 2 \pm 2\sqrt{\pi^2 + 1}}{\pi^2} = \left( \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \pi^2}}{\pi} \right)^2.$$

Hence

$$v(w/8) = \pm \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + \pi^2}}{\pi}. \tag{6.6}$$

It follows from these expressions that

$$\Omega_f(v(w/8)) = \Omega_f(v^2(w/8)) = \Omega_f(\sqrt{1 + \pi^2}).$$

We now prove the following.

**Theorem 6.1.** *If*

$$w = \frac{a + \sqrt{-d}}{2}, \quad \text{with } a^2 + d \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5},$$

*and  $\wp_2 = (2, w)$  in  $R_K$ , then the field  $\mathbb{Q}(v(w/8)) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1 + \pi^2})$  coincides with the class field  $\Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f$  over  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ . The units  $v(w/8)$  and  $v^2(w/8)$  have degree  $4h(-d)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\Lambda = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1 + \pi^2})$ . It is clear that  $\Lambda$  contains the ring class field  $\Omega_f$ , since  $\mathbb{Q}(\pi^4) = \Omega_f$ . We use the fact that  $1 + \pi^2 \cong \wp'_2$  from [16, Lemma 5]. From this fact it is clear that  $1 + \pi^2$  is not a square in  $\Omega_f$ , since  $\wp'_2$  is unramified in  $\Omega_f/K$ . Hence,  $[\Lambda : \Omega_f] = 2$ . Further, the prime divisors  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $\wp'_2$  in  $\Omega_f$  are certainly ramified in  $\Lambda$ . Equation (6.5) implies that  $x = v^2(w/8)$  satisfies  $(x - 1)^2/(4x) = 1/\pi^2$ , and therefore  $\mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8)) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1 + \pi^2})$ . This implies that  $[\mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8)) : \mathbb{Q}] = 4h(-d)$ , since

$$[\Lambda : \mathbb{Q}] = [\Lambda : \Omega_f][\Omega_f : K][K : \mathbb{Q}] = 4h(-d).$$

Since  $v^2(\tau)$  is a modular function for  $\Gamma_1(8)$  ([9, p.154]), it follows from Schertz [19, Thm. 5.1.2] that  $v^2(w/8) \in \Sigma_{8f}$ , the ray class field of conductor  $8f$  over  $K$ . More precisely,  $v^2(w/8) \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$ , where  $L_{\mathcal{O},8} = \Sigma_8\Omega_f$  is an *extended ring class field* corresponding to the order  $\mathcal{O} = R_{-d}$ . See [8, p. 315]. Thus,  $\Lambda \subset L_{\mathcal{O},8}$  is an abelian extension of  $K$ , whose conductor  $\mathfrak{f}$  divides  $8f$  in  $K$ . The discriminant of the polynomial  $X^2 - (1 + \pi^2)$  is of course  $4(1 + \pi^2) \cong \wp_2^2\wp_2'^3$ . Since the ramification index of each  $\mathfrak{q} \mid \wp_2'$  is  $e_{\mathfrak{q}} = 2$  in  $\Lambda/\Omega_f$ , Dedekind's discriminant theorem says that at least  $\wp_2'^2$  divides the discriminant  $\mathfrak{d} = \mathfrak{d}_{\Lambda/\Omega_f}$ , and since the power of  $\mathfrak{q}$  in  $\mathfrak{d}$  is odd and at most 3 ( $\Omega_f/K$  is unramified over 2), it follows that  $\wp_2'^3$  exactly divides  $\mathfrak{d}$ . We claim now that  $\wp_2$  is unramified in  $\Lambda$ .

From above  $x = v^2(w/8)$  satisfies  $(x - 1)^2 - \frac{4}{\pi^2}x = 0$ . Thus  $x_1 = x - 1$  satisfies  $h(x_1) = 0$ , with

$$h(X) = X^2 - \frac{4}{\pi^2}(X + 1), \quad \text{disc}(h(X)) = \frac{16}{\pi^4} + 4\frac{4}{\pi^2},$$

where the ideal  $(\frac{16}{\pi^4}) = (\frac{2}{\pi})^4 = (\xi)^4 = \wp_2'^4$  is not divisible by  $\wp_2$ . This shows that  $\text{disc}(h(X))$  is not divisible by  $\wp_2$  and therefore that  $\wp_2$  is unramified in  $\mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8))$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{d} = \wp_2'^3$ .

Now  $[\Sigma_8 : \Sigma_1] = \frac{1}{2}\phi_K(\wp_2^3\wp_2'^3) = 8$ , where  $\phi_K$  is the Euler function for the quadratic field  $K$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8) \subset \Sigma_8$ . Since the prime divisors of 2 do not ramify in  $\Omega_f$ , we have that  $\Omega_f \cap \Sigma_8 = \Sigma_1$  and therefore

$$[L_{\mathcal{O},8} : \Omega_f] = [\Sigma_8\Omega_f : \Omega_f] = [\Sigma_8 : \Sigma_1] = 8,$$

from which we obtain

$$\text{Gal}(\Sigma_8\Omega_f/\Omega_f) \cong \text{Gal}(\Sigma_8/\Sigma_1).$$

By this isomorphism the intermediate fields  $L\Omega_f$  of  $\Sigma_8\Omega_f/\Omega_f$  are in 1 - 1 correspondence with the intermediate fields  $L$  of  $\Sigma_8/\Sigma_1$ .

The ray class field  $\Sigma_{\wp_2^2\wp_2'^3}$  has degree 4 over the Hilbert class field  $\Sigma_1$ , and two of its quadratic subfields are  $\Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}$  and  $\Sigma_{\wp_2^2\wp_2'^2} = \Sigma_4 = \Sigma_1(i)$ . It follows that  $\text{Gal}(\Sigma_{\wp_2^2\wp_2'^3}/\Sigma_1) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$  and the third quadratic subfield has conductor equal to  $\mathfrak{f}' = \wp_2^2\wp_2'^3$  over  $K$ . The other quadratic intermediate fields of

$\Sigma_8/\Sigma_1$  are  $\Sigma_1(\sqrt{2})$  and  $\Sigma_1(\sqrt{-2})$ , both of which have conductor  $(8) = \wp_2^3\wp_2'^3$  over  $K$ , the field  $\Sigma_{\wp_2^3}$ , and a field whose conductor over  $K$  is  $\wp_2'^2\wp_2^3$ . Hence,  $L = \Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}$  is the only quadratic intermediate field whose conductor is not divisible by  $\wp_2$ . This proves that  $\mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8)) = \Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}\Omega_f$  and (6.6) shows that  $\mathbb{Q}(v(w/8)) = \mathbb{Q}(v^2(w/8)) = \Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}\Omega_f$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 6.2.** *The field  $\mathbb{Q}(v(w/8)) = \Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}\Omega_f$  is the inertia field for the prime ideal  $\wp_2$  in the extension  $L_{\mathcal{O},8}/K = \Sigma_8\Omega_f/K$ .*

**Proof.** The above proof implies that  $\text{Gal}(\Sigma_8\Omega_f/\Omega_f) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ , since there are 7 quadratic intermediate fields. Any subfield containing  $\Omega_f$  which properly contains  $\Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}$  must also contain another quadratic subfield, in which  $\wp_2$  must ramify.  $\square$

**Corollary 6.3.** *If  $-d \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $w$  is given by (6.1), then the quantity*

$$A = \frac{\eta^2(w/8)\eta(w/2)}{\eta(w/4)\eta^2(w)}$$

*generates the class field  $\Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}\Omega_f$  for  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .*

**Proof.** We appeal to equation (5.9). Setting  $\eta = v(w/8)$ , first use the equation preceding (6.6) to see that

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= \eta^{-2} + \eta^2 - 6 = \frac{\pi^2 + 2 \mp 2\sqrt{1 + \pi^2}}{\pi^2} + \frac{\pi^2 + 2 \pm 2\sqrt{1 + \pi^2}}{\pi^2} - 6 \\ &= 4 \frac{1 - \pi^2}{\pi^2}. \end{aligned}$$

This gives that  $A = \pm \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{1 - \pi^2}$ . Since  $\sqrt{1 - \pi^2}\sqrt{1 + \pi^2} = \sqrt{1 - \pi^4} = \pm \xi^2 \in \Omega_f$  and  $\mathbb{Q}(A^2) = \Omega_f$ , we get that  $\mathbb{Q}(A) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{1 + \pi^2}) = \Sigma_{\wp_2'^3}\Omega_f$ , by the result of Theorem 6.1.  $\square$

The fact that  $v^2(w/8) \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$  in the above proof is derived in [8, p. 317] using Shimura’s Reciprocity Law. We can give a more elementary proof of this fact by showing that  $\sqrt{1 + \pi^2} \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$ , as follows. We focus on the elliptic curve

$$E_1(\alpha) : Y^2 + XY + \frac{1}{\alpha^4}Y = X^3 + \frac{1}{\alpha^4}X^2,$$

which is the Tate normal form for a point of order 4, with

$$\alpha^4 = \alpha(w)^4 = - \left( \frac{\eta(w/4)}{\eta(w)} \right)^8,$$

as in (5.2). From [14, (2.10), Prop. 3.2, p. 1970], the curve  $E_1 = E_1(\alpha)$  has complex multiplication by the order  $\mathcal{O} = R_{-d}$  of discriminant  $-d$  in  $K$ . Now,

with  $\beta = i^{-a}\mathbf{b}(w)$  as in (6.2),

$$\frac{1}{\alpha^4} = \frac{\beta^4 - 16}{16\beta^4} = \frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{\beta^4},$$

and Lynch [13] has given explicit expressions for the points of order 8 on  $E_1$  in terms of  $\beta$ . Lynch [13, Prop. 3.3.1, p. 38] defines the following expressions:

$$\begin{aligned} b_1 &= \frac{\beta\sqrt{2} + (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} + (\beta^2 - 4)^{1/2}}{2\beta\sqrt{2}}, \\ b_2 &= \frac{\beta\sqrt{2} + (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} - (\beta^2 - 4)^{1/2}}{2\beta\sqrt{2}}, \\ b_3 &= \frac{\beta\sqrt{2} - (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} + (\beta^2 - 4)^{1/2}}{2\beta\sqrt{2}}, \\ b_4 &= \frac{\beta\sqrt{2} - (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} - (\beta^2 - 4)^{1/2}}{2\beta\sqrt{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

With these expressions, Lynch shows [13, Thm. 3.3.1, p. 41] that the points

$$(X, Y) = P_1 = (b_1b_3b_4, -b_1b_3^3b_4) \text{ and } P_2 = (b_2b_3b_4, -b_2b_3b_4^3)$$

are points of order 8 on  $E_1(\alpha)$ . By [11, Satz 2] or [14, Prop. 6.4] the corresponding Weber functions satisfy

$$\frac{g_2g_3}{\Delta} \left( X(P_i) + \frac{4b+1}{12} \right) \in \Sigma_8\Omega_f, \quad b = \frac{1}{\alpha^4}.$$

(See [14, (6.1)]. The expression inside the parentheses arises from putting the curve  $E_1(\alpha)$  in standard Weierstrass form.) As in [14, p. 1976],  $b, g_2, g_3, \Delta \in \Omega_f$ , so that  $X(P_i) = b_i b_3 b_4 \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} (b_1 + b_2)b_3b_4 &= \left( \frac{\sqrt{2}\beta + (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2}}{\sqrt{2}\beta} \right) \left( \frac{\beta^2 + 4 - \sqrt{2}\beta(\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2}}{4\beta^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{4 - \beta^2}{4\sqrt{2}\beta^3} (\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

lies in  $L_{\mathcal{O},8}$ . But we know that  $4 - \beta^2 \neq 0$ . In addition,  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_8) \subset \Sigma_8$  and  $\beta \in \Omega_f$ , so that  $(\beta^2 + 4)^{1/2} = 2\sqrt{\xi^2 + 1} \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$ , with  $\xi = \beta/2$ . Now  $\pi$  and  $\xi$  are conjugate over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , hence  $\pm\sqrt{1 + \pi^2}$  is conjugate to  $\sqrt{1 + \xi^2}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Since  $\Sigma_8\Omega_f$  is normal over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , this implies that  $\sqrt{1 + \pi^2} \in L_{\mathcal{O},8}$ , which proves the assertion.

**Proposition 6.4.** *Assume  $c$  in (6.3) is odd. The map  $A(x) = \frac{\sigma x + 1}{x - \sigma}$  (see (3.3)) fixes the set of conjugates of  $v(w/8)$ . If  $f_d(x)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $v(w/8)$  over*

$\mathbb{Q}$ , then

$$(x - \sigma)^{4h(-d)} f_d(A(x)) = 2^{3h(-d)} \sigma^{2h(-d)} f_d(x).$$

**Proof.** Note that (6.4) implies that the minimal polynomial of  $v(w/8)$  is

$$f_d(x) = 2^{-h(-d)}(x^2 - 1)^{2h(-d)} b_d \left( (-1)^c \frac{2x}{1 - x^2} \right), \quad (6.7)$$

where  $b_d(x)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $\pi$ . Note that the degree of  $b_d(x)$  is  $2h(-d)$  and the constant term of  $b_d(x)$  is

$$N_{\Omega_f/\mathbb{Q}}(\pi) = N_{\Omega_f/\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{G}\mathcal{O}_2) = N_{K/\mathbb{Q}}(\mathcal{G}\mathcal{O}_2^{h(-d)}) = 2^{h(-d)}$$

from [14]. Thus,  $\deg(f_d(x)) = 4h(-d)$ , which implies by Theorem 6.1 that  $f_d(x)$  is irreducible.

We use (6.7) to prove the proposition, as follows. Setting  $h = h(-d)$  and assuming  $c$  is odd, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (x - \sigma)^{4h} f_d(A(x)) &= 2^{-h}(x - \sigma)^{4h}(A(x)^2 - 1)^{2h} b_d \left( \frac{2A(x)}{A(x)^2 - 1} \right) \\ &= 2^{-h}(x - \sigma)^{4h} \left( \frac{-2\sigma(x^2 - 2x - 1)}{(x - \sigma)^2} \right)^{2h} b_d \left( -\frac{x^2 + 2x - 1}{x^2 - 2x - 1} \right) \\ &= 2^h \sigma^{2h} (x^2 - 2x - 1)^{2h} b_d \left( \frac{P(x) + 1}{P(x) - 1} \right), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$P(x) = \frac{2x}{x^2 - 1} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{P(x) + 1}{P(x) - 1} = -\frac{x^2 + 2x - 1}{x^2 - 2x - 1} = R(x).$$

We also know from [14] that the map  $x \rightarrow \frac{x+1}{x-1}$  permutes the roots of  $b_d(x)$  and

$$(x - 1)^{2h} b_d \left( \frac{x + 1}{x - 1} \right) = 2^h b_d(x).$$

This gives that  $b_d \left( \frac{P(x)+1}{P(x)-1} \right) = (P(x) - 1)^{-2h} 2^h b_d(P(x))$  and therefore that

$$\begin{aligned} (x - \sigma)^{4h} f_d(A(x)) &= 2^h \sigma^{2h} (x^2 - 2x - 1)^{2h} (P(x) - 1)^{-2h} 2^h b_d(P(x)) \\ &= 2^{2h} \sigma^{2h} (x^2 - 2x - 1)^{2h} \left( \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2 - 2x - 1} \right)^{2h} b_d(P(x)) \\ &= 2^{3h} \sigma^{2h} 2^{-h} (x^2 - 1)^{2h} b_d(P(x)) \\ &= 2^{3h} \sigma^{2h} f_d(x). \end{aligned}$$

□

We also check that

$$\begin{aligned} x^{4h} f_d\left(\frac{-1}{x}\right) &= 2^{-h} x^{4h} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} - 1\right)^{2h(-d)} b_d(P(-1/x)) \\ &= 2^{-h} (x^2 - 1)^{2h} b_d(P(x)) = f_d(x). \end{aligned}$$

We conclude the following. Recall the definition of  $\bar{A}(x)$  from (3.3).

**Proposition 6.5.** *If  $c$  is odd, the mappings in the group*

$$\tilde{H}_1 = \{x, A(x), \bar{A}(x), -1/x\}$$

*permute the roots of  $f_d(x)$ .*

Now let  $c$  be even,  $\delta = 1 + \sqrt{2}$ , and  $B(x) = \frac{\delta x + 1}{x - \delta} = \frac{x + \sigma}{\sigma x - 1} = -\bar{A}(-x)$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} (x - \delta)^{4h} f_d(B(x)) &= 2^{-h} (x - \delta)^{4h} (B^2(x) - 1)^{2h} b_d\left(\frac{2B(x)}{1 - B^2(x)}\right) \\ &= 2^{-h} (x - \delta)^{4h} \left(\frac{2\delta(x^2 + 2x - 1)}{(x - \delta)^2}\right)^{2h} b_d\left(-\frac{x^2 - 2x - 1}{x^2 + 2x - 1}\right) \\ &= 2^h \delta^{2h} (x^2 + 2x - 1)^{2h} b_d\left(\frac{\frac{2x}{1-x^2} + 1}{\frac{2x}{1-x^2} - 1}\right) \\ &= 2^h \delta^{2h} (x^2 + 2x - 1)^{2h} \cdot 2^h \left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2} - 1\right)^{-2h} b_d\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right) \\ &= 2^{2h} \delta^{2h} (x^2 + 2x - 1)^{2h} \cdot \left(\frac{1-x^2}{x^2 + 2x - 1}\right)^{2h} b_d\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right) \\ &= 2^{2h} \delta^{2h} \cdot (x^2 - 1)^{2h} b_d\left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right) \\ &= 2^{2h} \delta^{2h} \cdot 2^h f_d(x) \\ &= 2^{3h} \delta^{2h} f_d(x). \end{aligned}$$

Setting  $\bar{B}(x) = B(-1/x) = \frac{-\sigma x + 1}{x + \sigma} = -A(-x)$ , we have the following.

**Proposition 6.6.** *If  $c$  is even, the mappings in the group*

$$\tilde{H}_0 = \{x, B(x), \bar{B}(x), -1/x\}$$

*permute the roots of  $f_d(x)$ .*

## 7. The diophantine equation.

From (3.4) we know that  $(X, Y) = (v(w/8), v(-1/w))$  is a solution of the diophantine equation

$$\mathcal{C}_2 : X^2 + Y^2 = \sigma^2(1 + X^2 Y^2), \quad \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{2}.$$



This seems to be an analogue of the equation  $\mathcal{C}_5$  in [17]. Set

$$F_2(X, Y) = X^2 + Y^2 - \sigma^2(1 + X^2Y^2).$$

Then

$$(\sigma Y + 1)^2 F_2(X, \bar{A}(Y)) = 4\sqrt{2}\sigma^2(X^2Y + X^2 + Y^2 - Y) = 4\sqrt{2}\sigma^2 f(X, Y).$$

Since

$$\bar{A}(x) = \frac{-x + \sigma}{\sigma x + 1} = \frac{-\delta x + 1}{x + \delta}, \quad \delta = \frac{1}{\sigma} = 1 + \sqrt{2},$$

the linear fractional map  $\bar{A}(x)$  is the analogue of the map  $T(x)$  in [17, p. 1199].

Considering Thm. 5.1 in [17, p. 1205] suggests the following conjecture.

**Conjecture 7.1.** *Assume  $c$  is odd. If  $\tau_2 = \left(\frac{\Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f / K}{\wp_2}\right)$ , then*

$$-v(-1/w) = \bar{A}(v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = \frac{-v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + \sigma}{\sigma v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + 1},$$

where  $w$  is given by (6.1).

To prove this conjecture, we first appeal to Proposition 4.2, which implies that

$$\mathfrak{p}(2\tau) = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \mathfrak{p}^4(\tau)}}{\mathfrak{p}^2(\tau)}.$$

Setting  $\tau = w$ , (6.3) gives that

$$\mathfrak{p}(2w) = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - \pi^4}}{\pi^2} = \frac{1 \pm \xi^2}{\pi^2}.$$

Note that

$$\frac{1 + \xi^2}{\pi^2} \frac{1 - \xi^2}{\pi^2} = \frac{1 - \xi^4}{\pi^4} = 1$$

and  $\frac{1 - \xi^2}{\pi^2} = -\pi^{-\tau_2}$  from [16, p. 333]. Thus,  $\frac{1 + \xi^2}{\pi^2} = -\pi^{-\tau_2}$ .

**Theorem 7.2.** *If  $w$  is given by (6.1) we have*

$$\mathfrak{p}(2w) = \frac{1 + \xi^2}{\pi^2} = \frac{-1}{\pi^{\tau_2}}.$$

**Proof.** We use an argument from [14, Section 10]. With the number  $\beta = i^{-a}\mathfrak{b}(w)$  from (6.2) we have [14, eq. (8.0), p. 1980]

$$j(w) = \frac{(\beta^8 + 224\beta^4 + 256)^3}{\beta^4(\beta^4 - 16)^4}.$$

(See the proof of Proposition 5.2.) Furthermore, the roots of the equation

$$0 = (X - 16)^3 - j(w)X = (X - 16)^3 - \frac{(\beta^8 + 224\beta^4 + 256)^3}{\beta^4(\beta^4 - 16)^4} X$$

are, on the one hand, given by the values

$$X = \mathfrak{f}^{24}(w), \quad -\mathfrak{f}_1^{24}(w), \quad -\mathfrak{f}_2^{24}(w);$$

(see [8, p. 233, Th. 12.17]) and on the other, are equal to the expressions

$$X = -\frac{(\beta^2 - 4)^4}{\beta^2(\beta^2 + 4)^2}, \quad \frac{(\beta^2 + 4)^4}{\beta^2(\beta^2 - 4)^2}, \quad -\frac{2^{12}\beta^4}{(\beta^4 - 16)^2}.$$

See [14, p. 2000]. From [14, p. 2000] we also have (since our value  $w$  satisfies the conditions for  $w$  in [14, Prop. 3.1])

$$\mathfrak{f}_2^{24}(w) = -\frac{(\beta^2 + 4)^4}{\beta^2(\beta^2 - 4)^2}, \quad (7.1)$$

since  $\mathfrak{f}_2^{24}(w)$  must be a unit (from the results of [21]). There are two cases to consider.

*Case 1.* First assume that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{f}^{24}(w) &= -\frac{(\beta^2 - 4)^4}{\beta^2(\beta^2 + 4)^2}, & (7.2) \\ \mathfrak{f}_1^{24}(w) &= \frac{2^{12}\beta^4}{(\beta^4 - 16)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

In this case, (7.1) and (7.2) give the following formula:

$$\mathfrak{p}^{12}(2w) = \frac{\mathfrak{f}_2(w)^{24}}{\mathfrak{f}(w)^{24}} = \frac{(\beta^2 + 4)^6}{(\beta - 2)^6(\beta + 2)^6}.$$

Now we use the following ideal factorizations in the ring class field  $\Omega_f$ :

$$(\beta^2 + 4) = \mathfrak{o}_2^3 \mathfrak{o}_2'^2, \quad (\beta - 2) = \mathfrak{o}_2^2 \mathfrak{o}_2', \quad (\beta + 2) = \mathfrak{o}_2^3 \mathfrak{o}_2'. \quad (7.3)$$

See [16, Lemma 4]. These factorizations imply that

$$\mathfrak{p}^{12}(2w) \cong \left( \frac{\mathfrak{o}_2^3 \mathfrak{o}_2'^2}{\mathfrak{o}_2^5 \mathfrak{o}_2'^2} \right)^6 = \frac{1}{\mathfrak{o}_2^{12}} \text{ in } \Omega_f,$$

which implies that

$$\mathfrak{p}(2w) \cong \frac{1}{\mathfrak{o}_2}. \quad (7.4)$$

By the remarks preceding the statement of the theorem, this shows that  $\mathfrak{p}(2w)$  is not an algebraic integer, giving that  $\mathfrak{p}(2w) = \frac{1 + \xi^2}{\pi^2} = -\pi^{-\tau_2}$ .

*Case 2.* The alternative to (7.2) is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{f}^{24}(w) &= -\frac{2^{12}\beta^4}{(\beta^4 - 16)^2}, & (7.5) \\ \mathfrak{f}_1^{24}(w) &= \frac{(\beta^2 - 4)^4}{\beta^2(\beta^2 + 4)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

In this case we have

$$p^{12}(2w) = \frac{\bar{f}_2(w)^{24}}{\bar{f}(w)^{24}} = \left(\frac{\beta^2 + 4}{2^2\beta}\right)^6 \cong \left(\frac{\wp_2^3 \wp_2'^2}{\wp_2^2 \wp_2'^2 \wp_2 \wp_2'^2}\right)^6 = \frac{1}{\wp_2'^{12}},$$

giving that  $p(2w) \cong \frac{1}{\wp_2'}$ . However, this is impossible, since the above remarks show that the only prime divisors occurring in the factorization of  $p(2w)$  are prime divisors of  $\wp_2$ . This shows that Case 2 is impossible, and Case 1 proves the formula of the theorem.  $\square$

Now we set

$$\eta = v(w/8), \quad \lambda = -v(-1/w), \quad \nu = v(w/4). \tag{7.6}$$

We first show  $\lambda$  is a root of the minimal polynomial  $f_d(x)$  of  $v(w/8)$  ( $c$  odd). We have from Proposition 3.3 that

$$\frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1} = \frac{-2\bar{A}(\nu)}{\bar{A}^2(\nu) - 1} = \frac{\nu^2 + 2\nu - 1}{\nu^2 - 2\nu - 1}.$$

Proposition 4.1 and Theorem 7.2 give further that

$$\frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1} = \frac{\nu - \frac{1}{\nu} + 2}{\nu - \frac{1}{\nu} - 2} = \frac{\frac{-2}{p(2w)} + 2}{\frac{-2}{p(2w)} - 2} = \frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}. \tag{7.7}$$

Since  $\frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}$  is a root of  $b_d(x)$ , we have from (6.7) that

$$f_d(\lambda) = 2^{-h(-d)}(\lambda^2 - 1)^{2h(-d)} b_d\left(\frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1}\right) = 0.$$

Hence,  $\lambda = -v(-1/w)$  is a conjugate of  $v(w/8)$ .

**Theorem 7.3.** *If  $c$  is odd, we have the formula*

$$\lambda = -v(-1/w) = \bar{A}(v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = \frac{-v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + \sigma}{\sigma v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + 1}, \quad \sigma = -1 + \sqrt{2},$$

where  $w$  is given by (6.1).

**Proof.** We will prove that  $\bar{A}(\lambda) = v(w/8)^{\tau_2} = \eta^{\tau_2}$  by showing that

$$\bar{A}(\lambda) - \eta^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{\wp_2}.$$

We have  $\eta^2 + \lambda^2 = \sigma^2(1 + \eta^2\lambda^2)$ , which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A}(\lambda) - \eta^2 &= \frac{-\lambda + \sigma}{\sigma\lambda + 1} - \frac{-\lambda^2 + \sigma^2}{1 - \sigma^2\lambda^2} = \frac{-\lambda + \sigma}{\sigma\lambda + 1} + \frac{\sigma^2 - \lambda^2}{\sigma^2\lambda^2 - 1} \\ &= \frac{(-\lambda + \sigma)(\sigma\lambda - 1) + \sigma^2 - \lambda^2}{\sigma^2\lambda^2 - 1} \\ &= \frac{-(\sigma + 1)\lambda^2 + (\sigma^2 + 1)\lambda + \sigma^2 - \sigma}{\sigma^2\lambda^2 - 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{-\sqrt{2}\lambda^2 + (4 - 2\sqrt{2})\lambda + 4 - 3\sqrt{2}}{(\sigma\lambda + 1)(\sigma\lambda - 1)} \\
&= \frac{-\sqrt{2}(\lambda - \sigma)^2}{\sigma^2(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})(\lambda + \bar{\sigma})}.
\end{aligned}$$

We multiply the last expression by

$$A(\lambda) - \frac{1}{\eta^2} = \frac{(-4 + 3\sqrt{2})(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})^2}{\lambda^2 - \sigma^2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}\sigma^2(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})^2}{\lambda^2 - \sigma^2},$$

which is obtained from the last calculation by fixing  $\lambda$  and mapping  $\sqrt{2}$  to  $-\sqrt{2}$ . This yields the formula

$$(\bar{A}(\lambda) - \eta^2) \left( A(\lambda) - \frac{1}{\eta^2} \right) = \frac{-2(\lambda - \sigma)(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})}{(\lambda + \sigma)(\lambda + \bar{\sigma})} = -2 \frac{\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 1}{\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 1}. \quad (7.8)$$

Now

$$\frac{\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 1}{\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 1} = \frac{1 + \frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1}}{1 - \frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1}}, \quad (7.9)$$

where

$$\frac{2\lambda}{\lambda^2 - 1} = \frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}$$

from (7.7). It follows from (7.9) that

$$\frac{\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 1}{\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 1} = \frac{1 + \frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}}{1 - \frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}} = -\pi^{\tau_2}.$$

Thus, (7.8) becomes

$$(\bar{A}(\lambda) - \eta^2) \left( A(\lambda) - \frac{1}{\eta^2} \right) = 2\pi^{\tau_2}$$

and therefore  $(\pi^{\tau_2}) = (\pi) = \wp_2$  yields that

$$(\bar{A}(\lambda) - \eta^2) \left( A(\lambda) - \frac{1}{\eta^2} \right) \equiv 0 \pmod{\wp_2^2}.$$

It follows that

$$\bar{A}(\lambda) \equiv \eta^2 \text{ or } A(\lambda) \equiv \frac{1}{\eta^2} \pmod{\mathfrak{q}}, \quad (7.10)$$

for each prime divisor  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $\wp_2$  in  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\eta)$ . But  $A(\lambda) = -1/\bar{A}(\lambda)$  and  $\eta$  are units, so the second congruence in (7.10) implies the first. This proves that

$$\bar{A}(\lambda) \equiv \eta^2 \pmod{\wp_2} \quad (7.11)$$

in  $F_1$ . Note that  $\bar{A}(\lambda)$  and  $\lambda = -v(-1/w)$  are roots of  $f_d(x)$  (Proposition 6.5), so  $F_2 = \mathbb{Q}(\lambda)$  is isomorphic to  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\eta) = \mathbb{Q}(v(w/8))$ . However, by (3.4),

$$\lambda^2 = v^2(-1/w) = \frac{-v(w/8)^2 + \sigma^2}{1 - \sigma^2 v(w/8)^2}$$

does not lie in  $F_1$ , since  $\sqrt{2} \notin F_1$  (otherwise  $\wp_2$  would be ramified in  $F_1$ ; note that  $v(w/8)$  is not a fourth root of unity, so the determinant of the linear fractional transformation in  $\sigma^2$  is nonzero). It follows that from Theorem 6.1 that

$$F_2 = \mathbb{Q}(\lambda) = \Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f.$$

The same argument now shows that  $\bar{A}(\lambda) = \frac{-\lambda+\sigma}{\sigma\lambda+1} \notin F_2$ , so  $\bar{A}(\lambda) \in F_1$ . Therefore,  $\psi : \eta \rightarrow \bar{A}(\lambda)$  is an automorphism of  $F_1$ , and since  $\wp_2$  is not ramified in  $F_1$  but  $\wp_2'$  is, it follows that  $\psi$  fixes  $\wp_2$ , implying that it fixes the field  $K$ .

Recalling the rational function  $j_2(x)$  from (5.6), a computation on Maple shows that

$$j_2\left(\left(\frac{1-v}{1+v}\right)^2\right) = j_2(v^2) = j_2(v^2(w/4)) = j(w/4),$$

by (5.7). Now Proposition 3.3 and the fact that  $\bar{A}(x)$  has order 2 imply that  $v(w/4) = \bar{A}(v(-1/w))$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1-v(w/4)}{1+v(w/4)} &= \frac{1-\bar{A}(v(-1/w))}{1+\bar{A}(v(-1/w))} \\ &= \frac{v(-1/w)+\sigma}{-\sigma v(-1/w)+1} \\ &= \bar{A}(-v(-1/w)) = \bar{A}(\lambda). \end{aligned} \tag{7.12}$$

This implies that

$$j_2(\bar{A}(\lambda)^2) = j_2\left(\left(\frac{1-v}{1+v}\right)^2\right) = j(w/4).$$

On the other hand, equation (5.7) gives

$$j(w/8)^\psi = j_2(\eta^{2\psi}) = j_2(\bar{A}(\lambda)^2) = j(w/4) = j(w/8)^{\tau_2}.$$

Hence  $\psi|_{\Omega_f} = \tau_2|_{\Omega_f}$ . It follows that  $\psi = \tau_2$  or  $\psi = \rho\tau_2$ , where  $\rho : \eta \rightarrow -1/\eta$  is the nontrivial automorphism of  $F_1/\Omega_f$ . If  $\psi = \rho\tau_2$ , then by (7.11)

$$\eta^\psi = \bar{A}(\lambda) \equiv \eta^2 \pmod{\wp_2}$$

and  $\eta^{\tau_2} \equiv \eta^2 \pmod{\wp_2}$  imply that

$$\eta^2 \equiv \eta^{\rho\tau_2} = \frac{-1}{\eta^{\tau_2}} \equiv \frac{1}{\eta^2} \pmod{\wp_2}.$$

It follows from this congruence that  $\eta^4 + 1 \equiv (\eta + 1)^4 \equiv 0 \pmod{\wp_2}$  and hence  $\eta \equiv 1 \pmod{\wp_2}$ , since  $\wp_2$  is unramified in  $F_1/K$ . This implies in turn that  $z = \eta - \eta^{-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{\wp_2}$ . But this contradicts (4.3) (with  $\tau = w/8$ ) and (6.3), according to which  $z = 2/\pi$  is relatively prime to  $\wp_2$ . Hence,  $\psi = \tau_2$  must be the Artin symbol for  $\wp_2$  in  $F_1/K$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 7.4.** *Assume  $c$  is odd. If  $\tau_2 = \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f / K}{\wp_2} \right)$ , then*

$$v(w/8)^{\tau_2} = \frac{1 - v(w/4)}{1 + v(w/4)}$$

and

$$f(v(w/8), v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = 0.$$

**Proof.** The first formula is immediate from  $\eta^\psi = \eta^{\tau_2} = \bar{A}(\lambda)$  and (7.12). The second follows from Proposition 3.1 and

$$f(v(w/8), v(w/4)) = 0 = f\left(v(w/8), \frac{1 - v(w/4)}{1 + v(w/4)}\right),$$

since

$$f\left(x, \frac{1 - y}{1 + y}\right) = \frac{2f(x, y)}{(1 + y)^2}.$$

□

**Theorem 7.5.** *If  $c$  is even, then*

$$v(w/8)^{\tau_2} = \frac{v(w/4) - 1}{v(w/4) + 1}$$

and

$$v(-1/w) = B(v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = \frac{v(w/8)^{\tau_2} + \sigma}{\sigma v(w/8)^{\tau_2} - 1}.$$

**Proof.** From Proposition 3.3, we have that

$$v(-1/w) = \bar{A}(v(w/4)) = -B(-v(w/4)),$$

where

$$B(x) = \frac{x + \sigma}{\sigma x - 1} = -\frac{-(-x) + \sigma}{\sigma(-x) + 1} = -\bar{A}(-x).$$

Hence, according to (7.12), we obtain

$$v(w/8)^{\tau_2} = \frac{v(w/4) - 1}{v(w/4) + 1} = B(v(-1/w)) \iff v(-1/w) = B(v(w/8)^{\tau_2}),$$

showing that both the statements in the theorem are equivalent. We now show that Proposition 6.6 implies that  $v(w/8)$  and  $v(-1/w)$  are conjugate algebraic integers.

In similar fashion to (7.6), we set

$$\eta = v(w/8), \quad \tilde{\lambda} = v(-1/w) = -\lambda, \quad \nu = v(w/4).$$

Then, according to (7.7), we get

$$\frac{2\tilde{\lambda}}{1 - \tilde{\lambda}^2} = -\frac{2 - \left(\frac{1}{\nu} - \nu\right)}{2 + \left(\frac{1}{\nu} - \nu\right)} = -\frac{2 - \frac{2}{\mathfrak{p}(2w)}}{2 + \frac{2}{\mathfrak{p}(2w)}} = -\frac{1 + \pi^{\tau_2}}{1 - \pi^{\tau_2}} = \frac{\pi^{\tau_2} + 1}{\pi^{\tau_2} - 1}.$$

Since  $\frac{\pi^{\tau_2+1}}{\pi^{\tau_2-1}}$  is a root of  $b_d(x)$ , we have that

$$f_d(\tilde{\lambda}) = 2^{-h}(\tilde{\lambda}^2 - 1)^{2h}b_d\left(\frac{2\tilde{\lambda}}{1 - \tilde{\lambda}^2}\right) = 0,$$

showing that  $\tilde{\lambda} = v(-1/w)$  is a conjugate of  $\eta = v(w/8)$ .

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} B(\tilde{\lambda}) - \eta^2 &= \frac{\tilde{\lambda} + \sigma}{\sigma\tilde{\lambda} - 1} - \frac{\sigma^2 - \tilde{\lambda}^2}{1 - \sigma^2\tilde{\lambda}^2} = \frac{\lambda - \sigma}{\sigma\lambda + 1} - \frac{\sigma^2 - \lambda^2}{1 - \sigma^2\lambda^2} \\ &= \frac{(\lambda - \sigma)(\sigma\lambda - 1) + (\sigma^2 - \lambda^2)}{\sigma^2\lambda^2 - 1} \\ &= \frac{(\sigma - 1)\lambda^2 - (\sigma^2 + 1)\lambda + (\sigma^2 + \sigma)}{(\sigma\lambda + 1)(\sigma\lambda - 1)} \\ &= \frac{-\sqrt{2}\sigma(\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 1)}{\sigma^2(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})(\lambda + \bar{\sigma})} \\ &= \frac{-\sqrt{2}\sigma(\lambda - \sigma)(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})}{\sigma^2(\lambda - \bar{\sigma})(\lambda + \bar{\sigma})} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}\bar{\sigma}(\tilde{\lambda} + \sigma)}{(\tilde{\lambda} - \bar{\sigma})}. \end{aligned}$$

In the above calculation, mapping  $\sqrt{2}$  to  $-\sqrt{2}$ , while fixing  $\tilde{\lambda}$ , gives us

$$\bar{B}(\tilde{\lambda}) - \frac{1}{\eta^2} = -\frac{\sqrt{2}\sigma(\tilde{\lambda} + \bar{\sigma})}{(\tilde{\lambda} - \sigma)}.$$

Multiplying the above two expressions gives us

$$\begin{aligned} (B(\tilde{\lambda}) - \eta^2)\left(\bar{B}(\tilde{\lambda}) - \frac{1}{\eta^2}\right) &= 2\frac{(\tilde{\lambda} + \sigma)(\tilde{\lambda} + \bar{\sigma})}{(\tilde{\lambda} - \sigma)(\tilde{\lambda} - \bar{\sigma})} = 2\frac{\tilde{\lambda}^2 - 2\tilde{\lambda} - 1}{\tilde{\lambda}^2 + 2\tilde{\lambda} - 1} \\ &= 2\frac{1 + \left(\frac{2\tilde{\lambda}}{1 - \tilde{\lambda}^2}\right)}{1 - \left(\frac{2\tilde{\lambda}}{1 - \tilde{\lambda}^2}\right)} = 2\frac{1 + \left(\frac{\pi^{\tau_2+1}}{\pi^{\tau_2-1}}\right)}{1 - \left(\frac{\pi^{\tau_2+1}}{\pi^{\tau_2-1}}\right)} = -2\pi^{\tau_2}. \end{aligned}$$

Now a similar argument to the end of the proof of Theorem 7.3 applies here and shows that the automorphism  $\psi$  on  $F_1$  taking  $\eta$  to  $\tilde{\lambda}$  is  $\eta^\psi = B(\tilde{\lambda})$ . As before,  $\psi$  coincides with  $\tau_2$ , giving that  $\tilde{\lambda} = v(-1/w) = B(\eta^{\tau_2}) = B(v(w/8)^{\tau_2})$ . Also see the argument below.  $\square$

**Corollary 7.6.** *If  $c$  is even, the point  $(x, y) = (-\eta, -\eta^{\tau_2})$  lies on the curve  $f(x, y) = 0$ :*

$$f(-v(w/8), -v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = 0, \quad \tau_2 = \left(\frac{\Sigma_{\mathfrak{F}_2^{\tau_2}}\Omega_f/K}{\mathfrak{F}_2}\right).$$

**Proof.** We have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= f(v(w/8), v(w/4)) = f\left(v(w/8), -\frac{v(w/4) - 1}{v(w/4) + 1}\right) \\ &= f(v(w/8), -v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = f(-v(w/8), -v(w/8)^{\tau_2}). \end{aligned}$$

□

Combining the arguments in the proofs of Theorems 7.3 and 7.5 for  $c$  odd and  $c$  even yields the following corollary.

**Corollary 7.7.** *The field  $F_2 = \mathbb{Q}(v(-1/w)) = \Sigma_{\mathfrak{f}_2^3} \Omega_f$  is the inertia field for the prime ideal  $\mathfrak{f}'_2$  in the extension  $L_{\mathcal{O},8}/K$ .*

We also give an alternate argument to show  $\psi = \tau_2$  in the proofs of Theorems 7.3 and 7.5. We first note that the modular function  $j(\tau)$  can be expressed in terms of  $z = v(\tau) - \frac{1}{v(\tau)}$ , namely

$$j(\tau) = J(z) = \frac{(z^8 + 240z^6 + 2144z^4 + 3840z^2 + 256)^3}{z^2(z^2 + 4)^2(z - 2)^8(z + 2)^8},$$

using Proposition 5.2. Now set  $z = \eta - \frac{1}{\eta} = \pm \frac{2}{\pi}$ , so that  $(z, \mathfrak{f}_2) = 1$ . This allows us to reduce the above formula modulo  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ , giving that

$$j(w/8) \equiv \frac{z^{24}}{z^{22}} \equiv z^2 \pmod{\mathfrak{f}_2}.$$

This shows that  $j(w/8)^{\tau}$  is conjugate to  $z^{\tau}$  modulo each prime divisor  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $\mathfrak{f}_2$  in  $\Omega_f$ , for each automorphism  $\tau \in \text{Gal}(\Omega_f/K)$ ; and this implies that the class equation  $H_{-d}(X)$  and the minimal polynomial  $\mu_d(X)$  of  $z$  over  $K$  are congruent:

$$H_{-d}(X) \equiv \mu_d(X) \pmod{\mathfrak{f}_2}.$$

A theorem of Deuring says that the discriminant of  $H_{-d}(X)$  is odd (since  $\left(\frac{-d}{2}\right) = +1$ ), so the discriminant of  $\mu_d(X)$  is not divisible by  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ . This implies that the discriminant of the minimal polynomial  $\tilde{\mu}_d(X) = X^{h(-d)}\mu_d\left(X - \frac{1}{X}\right)$  of  $\eta$  over  $K$  is relatively prime to  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ , as well. This is because

$$\mu_d(X) = \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} \left(X - \left(\eta_i - \frac{1}{\eta_i}\right)\right)$$

is a product over the conjugates  $z_i = \eta_i - \frac{1}{\eta_i}$  of  $z$ , so that

$$\begin{aligned} X^{h(-d)}\mu_d\left(X - \frac{1}{X}\right) &= \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} \left(X^2 - \left(\eta_i - \frac{1}{\eta_i}\right)X - 1\right), \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} \left(X^2 - z_i X - 1\right), \quad z_i = \eta_i - \frac{1}{\eta_i}. \end{aligned}$$



Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{disc}(\tilde{\mu}_d(X)) &= \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} (z_i^2 + 4) \prod_{i < j} \text{Res}(X^2 - z_i X - 1, X^2 - z_j X - 1)^2 \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} (z_i^2 + 4) \prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^4 \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^{h(-d)} (z_i^2 + 4) (\text{disc}(\mu_d(X)))^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now the  $z_i$  are conjugate over  $K$ , so each  $z_i$  is relatively prime to  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ , which implies that  $(z_i^2 + 4, \mathfrak{f}_2) = 1$  for each  $i$ . This proves the claim that  $(\text{disc}(\tilde{\mu}_d(X)), \mathfrak{f}_2) = 1$ . This proves

**Theorem 7.8.** *Let  $R_{\mathfrak{f}_2}$  denote the ring of elements of  $K$  which are integral for  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ . Then the powers of  $\eta = v(w/8)$  form a basis over  $R_{\mathfrak{f}_2}$  for the ring  $\bar{R}$  of elements of  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\eta)$  which are integral for  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ .*

Given this theorem, the congruence

$$\eta^\psi \equiv \eta^2 \pmod{\mathfrak{f}_2}$$

implies that

$$\alpha^\psi \equiv \alpha^2 \pmod{\mathfrak{f}_2},$$

for all  $\alpha \in F_1$  which are integral for  $\mathfrak{f}_2$ . Since  $F_1/K$  is abelian and  $\mathfrak{f}_2$  is unramified in this extension, this implies by definition of the Artin symbol that  $\psi = \tau_2$ .

### 8. Values of $v(\tau)$ as periodic points.

We now define the following algebraic functions. The roots of  $f(x, y) = y^2 + (x^2 - 1)y + x^2$  (see Proposition 3.1) as a function of  $y$  are

$$\hat{F}(x) = -\frac{x^2 - 1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{x^4 - 6x^2 + 1}. \tag{8.1}$$

Also, the roots of  $g(x, y) = y^2 - (x^2 - 4x + 1)y + x^2$  (see Proposition 3.2) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{T}(x) &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 4x + 1) \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(x^2 - 2x + 1)(x^2 - 6x + 1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 4x + 1) \pm \frac{x - 1}{2}\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 1}. \end{aligned} \tag{8.2}$$

We prove the following.

**Theorem 8.1.** *If  $w \in R_K$  is the algebraic integer defined by*

$$w = \frac{a + \sqrt{-d}}{2}, \text{ with } a^2 + d \equiv 0 \pmod{2^5}$$

and the integer  $c$  satisfies

$$c \equiv 1 - \frac{a^2 + d}{32} \pmod{2},$$

then the generator  $(-1)^{1+c}v(w/8)$  of the field  $\Sigma_{\wp_2^3}\Omega_f$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a periodic point of the algebraic function  $\hat{F}(x)$  defined by (8.1) and  $v^2(w/8)$  is a periodic point of the function  $\hat{T}(x)$  defined by (8.2). If  $c$  is even, then  $v(w/8)$  is a pre-periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$ .

**Proof.** Setting  $\eta = (-1)^{1+c}v(w/8)$  and  $F_1 = \mathbb{Q}(\eta) = \mathbb{Q}(\eta^2)$ , we have from the corollaries to Theorems 7.3 and 7.5 that  $f(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) = 0$ , where  $\tau_2 = \left(\frac{F_1/K}{\wp_2}\right)$  is an automorphism in  $\text{Gal}(F_1/K)$ . If the order of  $\tau_2$  is  $n$ , then applying powers of  $\tau_2$  gives that

$$f(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) = f(\eta^{\tau_2}, \eta^{\tau_2^2}) = \dots = f(\eta^{\tau_2^{n-1}}, \eta) = 0, \quad (8.3)$$

which implies that  $\eta$  is a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$  of period  $n$ . If  $c$  is even, then from Corollary 7.6 and the fact that  $f(x, y) = f(-x, y)$  we also have that

$$f(v(w/8), -v(w/8)^{\tau_2}) = 0;$$

thus,  $v(w/8)$  is a pre-periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$ , since  $-v(w/8)^{\tau_2}$  is periodic.

It is straightforward to check that

$$\hat{F}(x)^2 = \frac{1}{2}(x^4 - 4x^2 + 1) \pm \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 1)\sqrt{x^4 - 6x^2 + 1} = \hat{T}(x^2) \quad (8.4)$$

and that the minimal polynomial of  $\hat{F}(x)^2$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(x)$  is  $g(x^2, y)$ . In particular,  $f(x, y) = 0$  implies that  $g(x^2, y^2) = 0$ , since

$$g(x^2, y^2) = (-x^2y + x^2 + y^2 + y)(x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y) = f(x, -y)f(x, y).$$

Hence, (8.3) implies that

$$g(\eta^2, \eta^{2\tau_2}) = g(\eta^{2\tau_2}, \eta^{2\tau_2^2}) = \dots = g(\eta^{2\tau_2^{n-1}}, \eta^2) = 0, \quad (8.5)$$

which shows that  $\eta^2 = v(w/8)^2$  is a periodic point of  $\hat{T}(x)$ .  $\square$

**Remarks.**

1. Note that if  $c$  is even, meaning that  $2^5 \parallel a^2 + d$ , then  $2^6 \mid (a + 16)^2 + d$ , so that  $w + 8 = \frac{a+16+\sqrt{-d}}{2} = w'$  satisfies (6.1) with  $c$  odd. Then the infinite product formula for  $v(\tau)$  shows that  $v(w/8) = v(w'/8 - 1) = -v(w'/8)$ , and  $-v(w/8) = v(w'/8)$  in Corollary 7.6.
2. Given that  $f(v(\tau), v(2\tau)) = 0$ , it is tempting to try to show that  $v(w/8)$  is a periodic point by considering the chain of equations  $f(v(w/8), v(w/4)) = f(v(w/4), v(w/2)) = \dots = f(v(2^{n-1}w/8), v(2^n w/8)) = 0$ , and find an integer  $n$  for which  $2^{n-3}w = M(w/8) = \frac{aw+8b}{cw+8d}$ , for some unimodular matrix  $M$  for which  $v(M(w/8)) = v(w/8)$ . However, this requires

that  $M \in \Gamma_1(8)$ , so that  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$  and  $8 \mid c$ . This condition leads to the equation

$$2^{n-3}cw^2 + (2^nd - a)w - 8b = 0.$$

Moreover,  $w$  is an algebraic integer, so the fact that  $8 \mid c$  shows that  $2^n$  must divide the other coefficients of this quadratic. Hence,  $2^n \mid a$ , which is impossible for  $n \geq 1$ . Thus, this approach does not yield an orbit leading back to  $v(w/8)$ .

As in the papers [15]-[18], the minimal polynomials of periodic points of  $\hat{F}(x)$  can be computed using iterated resultants involving its minimal polynomial  $f(x, y)$ . We set

$$R^{(1)}(x, x_1) = f(x, x_1) = x^2x_1 + x^2 + x_1^2 - x_1$$

and define, inductively,

$$R^{(n)}(x, x_n) = \text{Res}_{x_{n-1}}(R^{(n-1)}(x, x_{n-1}), f(x_{n-1}, x_n)) \quad n \geq 2.$$

Then the roots of the polynomial

$$R_n(x) = R^{(n)}(x, x), \quad n \geq 1,$$

are the periodic points of  $\hat{F}(x)$  whose minimal periods divide  $n$ . See [15, p. 727]. For example, we compute that

$$R_1(x) = x(x^2 + 2x - 1),$$

$$R_2(x) = x(x^2 + 2x - 1)(x^4 - x^3 + x + 1),$$

$$R_3(x) = x(x^2 + 2x - 1)(x^{12} - 5x^{11} + 2x^{10} + 10x^9 + 5x^8 + 23x^7 - 8x^6 - 23x^5 + 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 1),$$

$$R_4(x) = x(x^2 + 2x - 1)(x^4 - x^3 + x + 1)(x^8 - x^7 + x^6 - 5x^5 + 5x^3 + x^2 + x + 1) \times (x^{16} + 5x^{15} - 18x^{14} - 75x^{13} + 137x^{12} + 105x^{11} + 38x^{10} + 185x^9 - 300x^8 - 185x^7 + 38x^6 - 105x^5 + 137x^4 + 75x^3 - 18x^2 - 5x + 1).$$

We now set  $x = z + 3$  in the function  $\hat{T}(x)$ , so that the square-root in  $\hat{T}(x)$  has the 2-adic expansion

$$\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 1} = \sqrt{z^2 - 8} = z\sqrt{1 - \frac{8}{z^2}} = z \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \binom{1/2}{k} \frac{8^k}{z^{2k}}.$$

We will show that this series is 2-adically convergent for (roughly) half of the primitive periodic points of the algebraic function  $\hat{T}(x)$  of a given period  $n$  in the field  $K_2(\sqrt{2})$ , where  $K_2$  is the maximal unramified, algebraic extension of the 2-adic field  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ .

If we set

$$T(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 4x + 1) + \frac{x - 1}{2}\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 1},$$

then using the above series in  $T(x)$  and splitting off the  $k = 0$  term, we find

$$T(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2 + (x-1)(x-3) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-1)^k 2^{2k-1} \binom{1/2}{k} \frac{2^k}{(x-3)^{2k}},$$

for  $x-3 \in \mathcal{O}^\times$ , where  $\mathcal{O}$  is the ring of integers in  $K_2(\sqrt{2})$ . Since

$$(-1)^{k-1} 2^{2k-1} \binom{1/2}{k} = C_{k-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

is the Catalan sequence, it follows that

$$T(x) \equiv x^2 \pmod{2}, \quad x-3 \in \mathcal{O}^\times.$$

Hence,  $T(x)$  is a lift of the Frobenius automorphism for points  $x$  in the set

$$\bar{D} = \{x \in K_2(\sqrt{2}) : |x-3|_2 = 1\}.$$

Furthermore,

$$T(x) - 3 = (x-3)^2 + 2(x-3) - 4 - (x-1)(x-3) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_{k-1} \frac{2^k}{(x-3)^{2k}}.$$

It follows that

$$|T(x) - 3|_2 = |x-3|_2^2 = 1, \quad (8.6)$$

and  $T$  maps  $\bar{D}$  to itself.

We next prove

**Proposition 8.2.** *We have the congruences*

$$\begin{aligned} R^{(n)}(x, x_n) &\equiv (x^{2^n} + x_n)(x_n + 1)^{2^n - 1} \pmod{2}; \\ R_n(x) &\equiv (x^{2^n} + x)(x + 1)^{2^n - 1} \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** We have  $f(x, y) = x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y$ . So, for  $n = 1$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} R^{(1)}(x, x_1) &= f(x, x_1) = x^2x_1 + x^2 + x_1^2 - x_1 \\ &\equiv x^2x_1 + x^2 + x_1^2 + x_1 \pmod{2} \\ &\equiv (x^2 + x_1)(x_1 + 1) \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$R_1(x) \equiv (x^2 + x)(x + 1) \pmod{2}.$$

Now for the induction step, assume the result is true for  $n - 1$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} R^{(n)}(x, x_n) &= \text{Res}_{x_{n-1}}(R^{(n-1)}(x, x_{n-1}), f(x_{n-1}, x_n)) \\ &\equiv \text{Res}_{x_{n-1}}((x^{2^{n-1}} + x_{n-1})(x_{n-1} + 1)^{2^{n-1} - 1}, (x_{n-1}^2 + x_n)(x_n + 1)) \pmod{2}. \end{aligned}$$

By definition, the resultant of two polynomials  $f = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$  and  $g = \sum_{i=0}^m b_i x^i$ , having roots  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n$  and  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_m$ , respectively, is given by

$$\text{Res}(f, g) = a_n^m \prod_{i=1}^n g(\alpha_i),$$

and

$$\text{Res}(g, f) = (-1)^{mn} \text{Res}(f, g).$$

The roots of  $(x_{n-1}^2 + x_n)(x_n + 1)$ , as a polynomial in  $x_{n-1}$ , are  $\pm\sqrt{-x_n}$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Res}_{x_{n-1}}((x^{2^{n-1}} + x_{n-1})(x_{n-1} + 1)^{2^{n-1}-1}, (x_{n-1}^2 + x_n)(x_n + 1)) \\ &= (-1)^{2^{n-1} \cdot 2} (x_n + 1)^{2^{n-1}} (x^{2^{n-1}} + \sqrt{-x_n})(\sqrt{-x_n} + 1)^{2^{n-1}-1} \\ & \quad \times (x^{2^{n-1}} - \sqrt{-x_n})(-\sqrt{-x_n} + 1)^{2^{n-1}-1} \\ &= (-1)^{2^n} (x_n + 1)^{2^{n-1}} (x^{2^n} + x_n)(x_n + 1)^{2^{n-1}-1} \\ &= (x^{2^n} + x_n)(x_n + 1)^{2^{n-1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} R^{(n)}(x, x_n) &\equiv (x^{2^n} + x_n)(x_n + 1)^{2^{n-1}} \pmod{2}, \\ R_n(x) &\equiv (x^{2^n} + x)(x + 1)^{2^{n-1}} \pmod{2}, \end{aligned}$$

completing the induction. □

**Corollary 8.3.** *The degree of  $R_n(x)$  is  $\deg(R_n(x)) = 2^{n+1} - 1$ .*

**Proof.** This follows from the proposition, if the leading coefficient of  $R_n(x)$  is not divisible by 2. In fact, this follows from the relation

$$R^{(n)}(x, x_n) = A_n(x_n)x^{2^n} + S_n(x, x_n),$$

where for  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$A_n(x_n) = (x_n + 1)(x_n^2 + 1)(x_n^2 - 2x_n - 1)^2(x_n^2 + 2x_n - 1)^{2^{n-1}-4}$$

and for  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\deg(A_n(x_n)) = 2^n - 1, \quad \deg_x(S_n(x, x_n)) \leq 2^n - 2, \quad \deg_{x_n}(S_n(x, x_n)) = 2^n.$$

We refer the reader to the lemma in [15, pp. 727-728] for a similar proof. □

The roots of the factor  $x^{2^n} + x = x(x+1)\frac{x^{2^n-1}+1}{x+1} = x(x+1)h_n(x)$  other than  $x = 0, 1$  have degree greater than 1, and therefore satisfy  $x - 3 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ . It follows from Hensel's Lemma that  $2^n - 1$  of the roots of  $R_n(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  have the property that  $x - 3 \in \mathcal{O}^\times$ , and for these roots the series for  $T(x)$  converges in  $\mathcal{K}_2$ .

Now the argument at the end of the proof of Theorem 7.3 shows that  $\eta \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{g}_2}$ , so that the image of  $\eta$  in the completion  $F_{1,\mathfrak{q}} \subset K_2$  of  $F_1 = \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_2^3} \Omega_f$  with respect to a prime divisor  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}_2$  in  $F_1$  satisfies  $\eta^2 - 3 \in \mathcal{O}^\times$ . Hence, the series for  $T(\eta^2)$  converges. We claim now that  $\eta^{2\tau_2} = T(\eta^2)$ . But  $g(\eta^2, \eta^{2\tau_2}) = 0$  implies that  $\eta^{2\tau_2}$  is one of the values of  $\hat{T}(\eta^2)$ . The value different from  $T(\eta^2)$  in  $K_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned} T_1(\eta^2) &= \eta^4 - 4\eta^2 + 1 - T(\eta^2) \\ &\equiv \eta^4 - 4\eta^2 + 1 - \eta^4 \pmod{\mathfrak{q}} \\ &\equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{q}}. \end{aligned}$$

But we also know  $\eta^{2\tau_2} - 3 = (\eta^2 - 3)^{\tau_2} \in \mathcal{O}^\times$ , so that  $\eta^{2\tau_2} \neq T_1(\eta^2)$ . This yields the following.

**Theorem 8.4.** *If  $w$  satisfies (6.1), then the value  $\eta = v(w/8)$  and the automorphism  $\tau_2 = \left( \frac{F_1/K}{\mathfrak{g}_2} \right)$  satisfy*

$$\eta^{2\tau_2} = T(\eta^2),$$

*in the completion  $F_{1,\mathfrak{q}} \subset K_2$  of  $F_1 = \Sigma_{\mathfrak{g}_2^3} \Omega_f$  with respect to a prime divisor  $\mathfrak{q}$  of  $\mathfrak{g}_2$  in  $F_1$ , where*

$$T(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2 - (x-1)(x-3) \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} C_{k-1} \frac{2^k}{(x-3)^{2k}}$$

*converges for  $x$  in  $\bar{D} = \{x \in K_2(\sqrt{2}) : |x-3|_2 = 1\}$ .*

Since  $\tau_2$  fixes the prime divisors of  $\mathfrak{g}_2$ , it extends naturally to an automorphism of  $F_{1,\mathfrak{q}}$ , and can be applied to the individual terms of the series representing  $T(x)$ . Thus, we see inductively that

$$\eta^{2\tau_2^i} = T(\eta^{2\tau_2^{i-1}}) = T(T^{i-1}(\eta^2)) = T^i(\eta^2)$$

is the  $i$ -th iterate of  $T(x)$  applied to  $\eta^2$ . From this and the fact that  $\mathbb{Q}(\eta^2) = F_1$  we see that the order of  $\tau_2$  in  $\text{Gal}(F_1/K)$  is the minimal period of the periodic point  $\eta^2$ , and that  $\eta^2$  is a periodic point in the ordinary sense of the 2-adic function  $T(x)$ . This also shows that the minimal period of  $\eta$  with respect to  $\hat{F}(x)$  is  $n = \text{ord}(\tau_2)$ , since if  $\eta$  had smaller minimal period  $m$ , then by the proof of Theorem 8.1,  $\eta^2$  would have period  $m < n$  with respect to the function  $T(x)$ . This completes the proof of the assertions of Theorem B of the Introduction regarding minimal periods.

## 9. The periodic points of $\hat{F}(x)$ and a class number formula.

In this section we show that the only periodic points of  $\hat{F}(x)$  are the values given in Theorem 8.1. In fact, we will prove the following.

**Theorem 9.1.** *The only periodic points of the function  $\hat{F}(x)$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  are the fixed points  $0, \sigma, \bar{\sigma}$  and the conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of the values  $v(w/8)$  in Theorem 8.1 (for odd  $c$ ).*

**Proof.** Let  $\tilde{g}(x, y) = x^2y^2 + 2y + x^2$ . Note that  $\tilde{g}(x, y) = g(y, x)$  for the polynomial  $g(x, y)$  in [16, Thm. 2, p. 327]. By the results of that paper the numbers  $\pi, \xi$  and their conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (as  $-d$  ranges over all discriminants  $\equiv 1$  modulo 8) are, together with 0 and  $-1$ , the only periodic points of the algebraic function  $\tilde{f}(z)$  defined by  $\tilde{g}(z, \tilde{f}(z)) = 0$ . The assertion of the theorem will follow from the identity

$$(x^2 - 1)^2(y^2 - 1)^2\tilde{g}\left(\frac{2x}{x^2 - 1}, \frac{2y}{y^2 - 1}\right) = 4f(x, y)(x^2y^2 - x^2y + y + 1). \tag{9.1}$$

Here, as in Proposition 3.1,  $f(x, y) = x^2y + x^2 + y^2 - y$ . Let  $\eta$  be a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  which is distinct from its fixed points  $0, \sigma, \bar{\sigma}$ . Then there are  $\eta_1 = \eta, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  for which

$$f(\eta_1, \eta_2) = f(\eta_2, \eta_3) = \dots = f(\eta_n, \eta_1) = 0. \tag{9.2}$$

Setting  $\lambda_i = \frac{2\eta_i}{\eta_i^2 - 1}$ , equations (9.1) and (9.2) give that

$$\tilde{g}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \tilde{g}(\lambda_2, \lambda_3) = \dots = \tilde{g}(\lambda_n, \lambda_1) = 0. \tag{9.3}$$

Note that  $\eta_i \neq \pm 1$  since  $\pm 1$  are preperiodic (and not periodic) for  $f(x, y)$ , since

$$f(\pm 1, y) = y^2 + 1, \quad f(\pm i, y) = y^2 - 2y - 1, \quad f(1 \pm \sqrt{2}, y) = (y + 1 \pm \sqrt{2})^2.$$

Equation (9.3) implies that  $\lambda_1$  is a periodic point of the function  $\tilde{f}(z)$  defined above. Also,  $\lambda_i \neq 0, -1$  since  $\eta_i \notin \{0, \sigma, \bar{\sigma}\}$ . By the results of [16, Thm. 2], this shows that  $\lambda_1$  must be a conjugate of the number  $\pi$  for some discriminant  $-d$  and is therefore a root of the polynomial  $b_d(x)$ . (See Proposition 6.4.) Since  $\lambda_1 = 2\eta/(\eta^2 - 1)$ , this shows that  $\eta$  is a root of the minimal polynomial  $f_d(x)$  of  $v(w/8)$ , for  $c$  odd, by (6.7). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark.** We can use equation (9.1) to give an alternate proof of the Corollary to Theorem 7.3, as follows. We would like to show that  $f(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) = 0$ , where  $\eta = v(w/8)$  and  $\tau_2 = \left(\frac{F_1/K}{\wp_2}\right)$ , with  $F_1 = \Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f$ . Since  $\tau_2|_{\Omega_f} = \left(\frac{\Omega_f/K}{\wp_2}\right)$ , we know that  $\tilde{g}(\pi, \pi^{\tau_2}) = 0$ , by [16, pp. 332-333]. Using  $\pi = \frac{2\eta}{\eta^2 - 1}$  from (6.4), equation (9.1) implies that  $f(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2})k(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) = 0$ , where  $k(x, y) = x^2y^2 - x^2y + y + 1$ . But  $k(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) \equiv k(\eta, \eta^2) \pmod{\wp_2}$  in  $F_1$ . An easy computation shows that  $k(x, x^2) \equiv (x + 1)^6 \pmod{2}$ , so  $k(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) \equiv (\eta + 1)^6 \pmod{\wp_2}$ . If  $\eta \equiv 1$  modulo some prime divisor  $\mathfrak{p}$  of  $\wp_2$  in  $F_1$ , then the relation  $\eta^2 - \frac{2}{\pi}\eta - 1 = 0$  would give that  $\frac{2}{\pi} \equiv 0 \pmod{\mathfrak{p}}$ , which is impossible since  $\frac{2}{\pi} \cong \wp_2'$ . Hence,  $k(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{\wp_2}$ , which implies  $k(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) \neq 0$  and therefore  $f(\eta, \eta^{\tau_2}) = 0$ , as claimed.

Theorem 9.1 has the following consequence. As in the last remark, let  $F_1 = \Sigma_{\wp_2^3} \Omega_f$  be the field generated by  $v(w/8)$  in Theorem 6.1. Then  $[F_1 : \mathbb{Q}] = 4h(-d)$  and  $F_1$  is the inertia field for  $\wp_2$  in the field  $\Sigma_8 \Omega_f$ , an extended ring class field over  $K_d = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-d})$ . As in Section 7, let  $\tau_2 = \left( \frac{F_1/K_d}{\wp_2} \right)$  be the Artin symbol for  $\wp_2$  in the extension  $F_1/K_d$ . Now define the set of discriminants

$$\mathfrak{D}_{n,2} = \{-d < 0 \mid -d \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \text{ and } \text{ord}(\tau_2) = n \text{ in } \text{Gal}(F_1/K_d)\}. \quad (9.4)$$

**Theorem 9.2.** *If  $n \geq 2$ , we have the following relation between class numbers of discriminants in the set  $\mathfrak{D}_{n,2}$ :*

$$\sum_{-d \in \mathfrak{D}_{n,2}} h(-d) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k|n} \mu(n/k) 2^k. \quad (9.5)$$

**Proof.** This proof mirrors the arguments in [18, pp.792-793, 806]. First, define

$$P_n(x) = \prod_{k|n} R_k(x)^{\mu(n/k)}. \quad (9.6)$$

We show that  $P_n(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . From Proposition 8.2 it is clear that  $R_n(x)$ , for  $n > 1$ , is divisible (mod 2) by the  $N$  irreducible (monic) polynomials  $\bar{h}_i(x)$  of degree  $n$  over  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , where

$$N = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k|n} \mu(n/k) 2^k,$$

and that these polynomials are simple factors of  $R_n(x) \pmod{2}$ . It follows from Hensel's Lemma that  $R_n(x)$  is divisible by distinct irreducible polynomials  $h_i(x)$  of degree  $n$  over  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , the ring of integers in  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq N$ , with  $h_i(x) \equiv \bar{h}_i(x) \pmod{2}$ . In addition, all the roots of  $h_i(x)$  are periodic of minimal period  $n$  and lie in the unramified extension  $\mathbb{K}_2$ . Furthermore,  $n$  is the smallest index for which  $h_i(x) \mid R_n(x)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ .

Now consider the identity

$$(\sigma x + 1)^2 (\sigma y + 1)^2 f(\bar{A}(x), \bar{A}(y)) = 2^3 \sigma^2 f(y, x), \quad (9.7)$$

where  $\bar{A}(x) = \frac{-x + \sigma}{\sigma x + 1}$ , as in (3.3). If the periodic point  $a$  of  $\hat{F}(x)$ , with minimal period  $n > 1$ , is a root of one of the polynomials  $h_i(x)$ , then  $a$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{K}_2$ , and for some  $a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}$  we have

$$f(a, a_1) = f(a_1, a_2) = \dots = f(a_{n-1}, a) = 0. \quad (9.8)$$

Furthermore,  $a \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}$ , since otherwise its reduction  $a \equiv \bar{a} \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$  would have degree 1 over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  (using that  $\mathbb{K}_2$  is unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ ). Hence,  $a + 1 + \sqrt{2}$  is a unit in  $\mathbb{K}_2(\sqrt{2})$ , which gives that  $\sigma a + 1$  is a unit, as well. All of the  $a_i$  satisfy  $a_i \not\equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}$ , since the congruence  $f(1, y) \equiv (y + 1)^2 \pmod{2}$  has



only  $y \equiv 1$  as a solution. Hence, if some  $a_i \equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}$ , then  $a_j \equiv 1$  for  $j > i$ , which would imply that  $a \equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}$ , as well. The elements  $b_i = \bar{A}(a_i)$  are distinct and lie in  $\mathbb{K}_2(\sqrt{2})$  and satisfy

$$b_i - 1 \equiv \frac{-a_i + \sigma - \sigma a_i - 1}{\sigma a_i + 1} \equiv \frac{-2}{\sigma a_i + 1} \equiv 0 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}.$$

The identity (9.7) yields that

$$f(b, b_{n-1}) = f(b_{n-1}, b_{n-2}) = \dots = f(b_1, b) = 0 \tag{9.9}$$

in  $\mathbb{K}_2(\sqrt{2})$ . Hence,  $b_i \equiv 1 \pmod{\sqrt{2}}$ , and the orbit  $\{b, b_{n-1}, \dots, b_1\}$  is distinct from all the orbits in (9.8).

Now the map  $\bar{A}(x)$  has order 2, so it is clear that  $b = \bar{A}(a)$  has minimal period  $n$  in (9.9), since otherwise  $a = \bar{A}(b)$  would have period smaller than  $n$ . It follows that there are at least  $2N$  periodic orbits of minimal period  $n > 1$ . Noting that

$$R_1(x) = f(x, x) = x(x^2 + 2x - 1),$$

these distinct orbits and factors account for at least

$$3 + \sum_{d|n, d>1} (2 \sum_{k|d} \mu(d/k)2^k) = -1 + 2 \sum_{d|n} (\sum_{k|d} \mu(d/k)2^k) = 2 \cdot 2^n - 1$$

roots, and therefore all the roots, of  $R_n(x)$ . This shows that the roots of  $R_n(x)$  are distinct and the expressions  $P_n(x)$  are polynomials. Furthermore, over  $\mathbb{K}_2(\sqrt{2})$  we have the factorization

$$P_n(x) = \pm \prod_{1 \leq i \leq N} h_i(x) \tilde{h}_i(x), \quad n > 1, \tag{9.10}$$

where  $\tilde{h}_i(x) = c_i(\sigma x + 1)^n h_i(\bar{A}(x))$ , and the constant  $c_i$  is chosen to make  $\tilde{h}_i(x)$  monic.

By the results of Section 8, for each discriminant  $-d \in \mathfrak{D}_{n,2}$  we have that  $f_d(x) \mid P_n(x)$ . Furthermore, every root of  $P_n(x)$  is a root of some  $f_d(x)$ , by Theorem 9.1, where  $ord(\tau_2) = n$  in order for the roots of  $f_d(x)$  to have minimal period  $n$ . It follows that

$$P_n(x) = \tilde{c}_n \prod_{-d \in \mathfrak{D}_{n,2}} f_d(x),$$

for some constant  $\tilde{c}_n$ , and taking degrees on both sides and using (9.10) gives the formula

$$2 \sum_{k|n} \mu(n/k)2^k = \sum_{-d \in \mathfrak{D}_{n,2}} 4h(-d).$$

The formula of the theorem follows. □

The result of Theorem 9.2 is the analogue of [18, Thm.1.3] for the prime 2 in place of 5. The factor 1/2 in front is to be interpreted as  $2/\phi(8)$ , replacing the factor  $2/\phi(5)$  in the result of [18]. Also, see Conjecture 1 in the Introduction of that paper.

Theorem 9.1 will now be used to prove the corresponding fact for the algebraic function  $\hat{T}(x)$  in Theorem 8.1.

**Theorem 9.3.** *The periodic points of the function  $\hat{T}(x)$  of (8.2) in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ ) are exactly the squares of the periodic points of the function  $\hat{F}(x)$ , i.e., the fixed points  $0, \sigma^2, \bar{\sigma}^2$  and the conjugates over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of the values  $v^2(w/8)$ , where  $w$  is given by (6.1).*

**Proof.** As in the proof of Theorem 8.1, the polynomials  $g(x, y) = y^2 - (x^2 - 4x + 1)y + x^2$  and  $f(x, y) = y^2 + (x^2 - 1)y + x^2$  defining  $\hat{T}$  and  $\hat{F}$ , respectively, satisfy the identity

$$g(x^2, y^2) = f(x, -y)f(x, y).$$

Let  $\eta^2$  be a periodic point of  $g(x, y)$  of period  $n$ . Then there exist  $\eta_1^2, \eta_2^2, \dots, \eta_{n-1}^2 \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}$  such that

$$g(\eta^2, \eta_1^2) = g(\eta_1^2, \eta_2^2) = \dots = g(\eta_{n-1}^2, \eta^2) = 0.$$

This means that, for every  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ , either

$$f(\eta_i, \eta_{i+1}) = 0 \text{ or } f(\eta_i, -\eta_{i+1}) = 0, \text{ where } \eta_0 = \eta = \eta_n.$$

Now if  $f(\eta_i, \eta_{i+1}) = 0$  for all  $i$ , then  $\eta$  is a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$ .

Otherwise, there exists an  $i$  such that  $f(\eta_i, \eta_{i+1}) \neq 0$ , but  $f(\eta_i, -\eta_{i+1}) = 0$ . In this case, if  $i < n - 1$ , replace  $\eta_{i+1}$  by  $-\eta_{i+1}$  in the next equation of the sequence, yielding  $f(-\eta_{i+1}, \eta_{i+2}) = 0$ . And if this happens for  $i = n - 1$ , then simply replace  $\eta$  by  $-\eta$ . This works because  $f(-x, y) = f(x, y)$ . In other words, in the chain of equations for  $f$ , whenever the second argument has a negative sign, choose the next first argument with the same negative sign. And in case the last equation has second argument  $\eta$  with a negative sign, then choose the first argument of the first equation as  $-\eta$  also. Hence, there is a chain of equations  $f(\eta_i, \eta_{i+1}) = 0$  beginning and ending with  $\pm\eta$ . Hence,  $\pm\eta$  is a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$  in either case, which implies that  $\eta^2$  is the square of a periodic point of  $\hat{F}(x)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

With this theorem, we have completely proved all the statements in Theorem B of the Introduction.

## 10. Appendix

Here we give a proof of the relation between  $u(\tau)$  and  $v(\tau)$  that was used in the proof of Proposition 3.1b).

**Proposition 10.1.** *The following relation holds between  $u(\tau)$  and  $v(\tau)$ :*

$$u^4(v^2 + 1)^2 + 4v(v^2 - 1) = 0.$$

**Proof.** We have derived in the proof of Proposition 4.1 that

$$\frac{1}{v(\tau)} - v(\tau) = q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2}{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}.$$

Proceeding in a similar way, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{v(\tau)} + v(\tau) &= \frac{\psi(-q) \cdot \varphi(q)}{q^{1/2} (q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\ &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(-q; q^2)_\infty} \cdot \frac{(-q; q^2)_\infty (q^2; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty (q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\ &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q; q^2)_\infty}{(q; q^2)_\infty} \cdot \frac{(q^2; q^2)_\infty^2}{(q^8; q^8)_\infty^2} \\ &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q; q^2)_\infty^2}{(q^2; q^4)_\infty} \cdot (q^2; q^4)_\infty^2 (q^4; q^8)_\infty^2 \\ &= q^{-1/2} \frac{(-q; q^2)_\infty^2 (q^2; q^4)_\infty}{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}. \end{aligned}$$

(See [2, pp. 221-222].) Putting the above two expressions to use in  $\frac{4v(1-v^2)}{(1+v^2)^2} = \frac{4(\frac{1}{v}-v)}{(\frac{1}{v}+v)^2}$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4v(1-v^2)}{(1+v^2)^2} &= 4q^{1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2}{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2} \cdot \frac{(-q^4; q^4)_\infty^4}{(-q; q^2)_\infty^4 (q^2; q^4)_\infty^2} \\ &= 4q^{1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^4)_\infty^2 (-q^4; q^4)_\infty^2}{(-q; q^2)_\infty^4 (q^2; q^4)_\infty^2} \\ &= 4q^{1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^2)_\infty^2}{(-q; q^2)_\infty^4 (q^2; q^4)_\infty^2} \\ &= 4q^{1/2} \frac{(-q^2; q^2)_\infty^4}{(-q; q^2)_\infty^4} \\ &= u^4(\tau), \end{aligned}$$

completing the proof. □

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(Sushmanth J. Akkarapakam) DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI AT COLUMBIA, 208 MATH SCI BUILDING, 810 ROLLINS ST., COLUMBIA, MO 65211, USA  
akkarapakams@missouri.edu

(Patrick Morton) DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES, INDIANA UNIVERSITY – PURDUE UNIVERSITY AT INDIANAPOLIS (IUPUI), 402 N. BLACKFORD ST., LD 270, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46202, USA  
pmorton@iu.edu

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