HECKE AND STURM BOUNDS FOR HILBERT MODULAR FORMS OVER REAL QUADRATIC FIELDS

JOSE IGNACIO BURGOS GIL AND ARIEL PACETTI

ABSTRACT. In this article we give an analogue of Hecke and Sturm bounds for Hilbert modular forms over real quadratic fields. Let $K$ be a real quadratic field and $\mathcal{O}_K$ its ring of integers. Let $\Gamma$ be a congruence subgroup of $\text{SL}_2(\mathcal{O}_K)$ and $M(k_1, k_2)(\Gamma)$ the space of Hilbert modular forms of weight $(k_1, k_2)$ for $\Gamma$. The first main result is an algorithm to construct a finite set $S$, depending on $K$, $\Gamma$ and $(k_1, k_2)$, such that if the Fourier expansion coefficients of a form $G \in M(k_1, k_2)(\Gamma)$ vanish on the set $S$, then $G$ is the zero form. The second result corresponds to the same statement in the Sturm case, i.e. suppose that all the Fourier coefficients of the form $G$ lie in a finite extension of $\mathbb{Q}$, and let $p$ be a prime ideal in such extension, whose norm is unramified in $K$; suppose furthermore that the Fourier expansion coefficients of $G$ lie in the ideal $p$ for all the elements in $S$, then they all lie in the ideal $p$.

INTRODUCTION

It is a classical result that the space of modular forms of a fixed weight and level is finite dimensional. Since modular forms admit a Fourier expansion, this implies that a few Fourier coefficients should be enough to determine the form uniquely, but how many coefficients are needed?

For classical modular forms, this was already known by Hecke (see [Hec70], page 811, Satz 1 and Satz 2). Let $\Gamma$ be a congruence subgroup of $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$. Write $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ for the image of $\Gamma$ in $\text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$. Write $P\Gamma$ for the degree of the map $X(\Gamma) \to X(1)$. Let $f(z) \in \text{M}_2(\Gamma)$ be a weight 2k modular form for $\Gamma$ and $f(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n(f) q^n$ its Fourier expansion at a cusp, where $q = e^{2\pi i z}$ is a local uniformizer. Recall that the order of $f$ at the cusp is defined as

$$\text{ord}(f) = \inf\{n \mid a_n(f) \neq 0\}.$$

Theorem (Hecke). Let $f(z) \in \text{M}_{2k}(\Gamma)$ be a weight $2k$ modular form for $\Gamma$. If $\text{ord}(f) > dk/6$, then $f = 0$.

Note that this bound is somehow optimal, since for $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$, the number of conditions “coincides” (up to 1 depending in the congruence of the weight modulo 12) with the dimension of the space $M_{2k}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}))$.

One can consider the same problem with congruence conditions instead of vanishing conditions. Let $\mathfrak{o}$ be the ring of integers of a number field $F$, and $\mathfrak{m}$ a maximal ideal of $\mathfrak{o}$. We fix an embedding $\mathfrak{f} \subset \mathbb{C}$. As before, let $f(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n(f) q^n \in$
\( M_{2k}(\Gamma) \) be a modular form such that \( a_n(f) \in \mathcal{O} \) for all \( n \geq 0 \). Then we define

\[
\text{ord}_m(f) = \inf\{ n \mid a_n(f) \not\in m \},
\]

with the convention \( \text{ord}_m(f) = \infty \) if \( a_n(f) \in m \) for all \( n \).

**Theorem (Sturm).** If \( \text{ord}_m(f) > dk/6 \), then \( \text{ord}_m(f) = \infty \).

The main results of this article are generalizations of both results to Hilbert modular forms over real quadratic fields. Given a real quadratic field \( K \), a congruence subgroup \( \Gamma \) and weights \( (k_1, k_2) \), we give an algorithm to construct a constant \( a \), depending on invariants of the field as well as the congruence subgroup and the weights, such that if a Hilbert modular form for \( \Gamma \) of weight \( (k_1, k_2) \) has order of vanishing at a cusp greater than \( a \), then its order of vanishing is \( \infty \). We furthermore, relate the order of vanishing with Fourier expansions, i.e. we construct a finite set of elements which determine a form uniquely by looking at its Fourier coefficients on this set. The main idea of the proof is to mimic the geometric proof for classical modular forms (which is given in the first section) in these new settings. For that purpose we need something which looks like the degree function, whose role will be played by a numerical effective divisor (NEF) in our surface whose intersection number with the cusp resolutions is non-zero. The first application of this method was presented as an appendix in [DPS12], where using a similar approach we gave a Sturm/Hecke bound for \( K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}) \), level \( \Gamma_0(12\sqrt{5}) \) and parallel weight 2.

The article is organized as follows: in the first section we give a proof of the classical Hecke and Sturm theorems that although is not the original one, it is standard and generalizable to our setting.

In the second section, we recall the main properties and definitions of Hilbert modular surfaces, their desingularization and their classification. We also give criterions to decide for a particular level, if the given surface is in minimal model and is of general type.

In the third section, we recall the main properties of Hilbert modular forms over real quadratic fields, and we prove the relation between the order of vanishing at a cusp and vanishing of Fourier expansion coefficients.

In the fourth section we state and prove the analogue of Hecke’s Theorem for parallel weight 2 Hilbert modular forms over real quadratic fields with maximal level structure. The statement is self contained (so there is no need to read the previous sections to understand the statement) but the proof uses the discussions of the previous sections.

In the fifth section we adapt the proof of the previous section to prove the analogue of Sturm’s Theorem for parallel weight 2 Hilbert modular forms over real quadratic fields with maximal level structure. The statement is the same in both cases, but the proof in this case uses the integral structure of the modular surfaces.

The sixth section contains statements and proofs for arbitrary weights and levels and some remarks about its effectiveness. The last section contains examples of the method as well as some tables comparing the dimension of the spaces involved and the number of Fourier coefficients needed using our results in each case.

We end the article with two appendices, the first one explains the cusp desingularization algorithm needed for the Hecke and Sturm theorems and the second one treats the real quadratic fields not covered by the method described in the previous sections.
1. A geometric proof of Hecke and Sturm theorems

We want to sketch well known proofs of Hecke and Sturm theorems that, although are different than the original proofs of Hecke and Sturm, are generalizable to higher dimensions.

Recall the following facts about divisors. Let $C$ be a curve defined over a field $F$.

- The group of divisors of $C$ is the free abelian group generated by the closed points of $C$ (so elements are of the form $D = \sum n_P[P]$).
- The divisor $D$ is called effective if $n_P \geq 0$ for all $P$.
- Let $K(C)$ be the field of rational functions on $C$. To a divisor $D$ of $C$ we can associate the (finite dimensional) vector space

\[ \mathcal{L}(D) = \{ f \in K(C) \mid \text{div}(f) \geq -D \} \cup \{0\}. \]

- The degree of the divisor $D = \sum n_P[P]$ is defined as

\[ \text{deg}(D) = \sum n_P[k(P) : F], \]

where $k(P)$ is the residue field at $P$. If $\text{deg}(D) < 0$ then $\mathcal{L}(D) = \{0\}$.

We start by proving the Hecke bound for $\Gamma = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$. Choose $N \geq 3$. Then the modular curve $Y(\Gamma(N))$ is a smooth compact complex curve.

Let $g$ be the genus of $Y(\Gamma(N))$ and $c$ the number of cusps. Denote the different cusps of $Y(\Gamma(N))$ by $\sigma_1, \ldots, \sigma_c$.

Choose a rational differential form $\omega$ in $Y(\Gamma(N))$ and let $K = \text{div}(\omega)$ be the corresponding canonical divisor. If $f(z) \in M_{2k}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}))$, then $\frac{f(z)dz^k}{\omega(z)}$ is a well defined rational function that belongs to the space

\[ \mathcal{L} \left( k(K + \sum_{i=1}^c [\sigma_i]) - \text{ord}(f) N \sum_{i=1}^c [\sigma_i] \right). \]

The degree of the divisor $D := k(K + \sum_{i=1}^c [\sigma_i]) - \text{ord}(f) N \sum_{i=1}^c [\sigma_i]$ is given by $k(2g - 2 + c) - \text{ord}(f) N c$. Since, $2g - 2 + c = N c / 6$ and, by hypothesis, $\text{ord}(f) > k / 6$, we conclude that $\text{deg}(D) < 0$, hence $f = 0$.

We next prove the Sturm bound for $\Gamma = \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$. Let $p = m \cap \mathbb{Z}$. Choose $N$ such that $N \geq 3$ and $p \nmid N$. Let $\zeta_N$ be a primitive $N$-th root of unity. Let $F' = F[\zeta_N]$ and $\mathfrak{O}'$ the ring of integers of $F'$. Since $\mathfrak{O}'$ is integral over $\mathfrak{O}$, there exists a prime ideal $\mathfrak{m}'$ of $\mathfrak{O}'$ such that $\mathfrak{m}' \cap \mathfrak{O} = m$. Hence, if $\text{ord}_{\mathfrak{m}'}(f) = \infty$, then $\text{ord}_m(f) = \infty$. Thus, replacing $\mathfrak{O}$ by $\mathfrak{O}'$, we may assume without loss of generality that $\zeta_N \notin \mathfrak{O}$.

Since $\zeta_N \notin \mathfrak{O}$, the curve $Y(\Gamma(N))$ has an integral smooth model over $S = \text{Spec}(\mathfrak{O}[1/N])$, denoted $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))$ and each cusp $\sigma_i$ of $Y(\Gamma(N))$ determines a section $\overline{\sigma}_i: S \to \mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))$, hence a horizontal divisor, also denoted by $\overline{\sigma}_i$. Let $\mathcal{X}$ be the relative canonical divisor of $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))/S$. The $q$-expansion principle [Kat73, Corollary 1.6.2], implies that $f$ determines a section, also denoted $f$, of $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))}(k(\mathcal{X} + \sum \overline{\sigma}_i))$. Let $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))_m$ be the fiber of $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma(N))$ over $m$. It is a smooth curve over the field $k(m)$. The restriction of $\mathcal{X}$ to this curve agrees with its canonical divisor, denoted $\mathcal{X}_m$. We denote by $\overline{\sigma}_i, m$ the restriction of the horizontal divisor $\overline{\sigma}_i$ to $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma)_m$. Since $\overline{\sigma}_i$ is given by a section, the divisor $\overline{\sigma}_i, m$ is prime and satisfies $k(\overline{\sigma}_i, m) = k(m)$. The hypothesis of the theorem imply that the restriction of $f$ to $\mathcal{Y}(\Gamma)_m$ determines an
element of
\[ L\left( k(K_m + \sum_{i=1}^{c} \sigma_{i,m}) - \text{ord}_m(f)N \sum_{i=1}^{c} \sigma_{i,m} \right) \].

By the same argument as before this restriction is zero, thus \( \text{ord}_m(f) = \infty \).

Let now \( \Gamma \) be a congruence subgroup. Any element \( \gamma \in \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \) acts on \( M_{2k}(\Gamma) \) by \( f \mapsto f|_{2k}[\gamma] \) and the elements \( \gamma \in \text{PGL}_2 \) act trivially. Let \( f(z) \) be as in Hecke’s Theorem. Write

\[ g = \prod_{\gamma \in \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Z})} f|_{2k}[\gamma]. \]

Then \( g \in M_{2kd}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})) \) and \( \text{ord}(g) \geq \text{ord}(f) \). Thus, if \( \text{ord}(f) > kd/6 \) we deduce that \( g = 0 \) and a fortiori \( f = 0 \). The same argument proves the Sturm bound.

2. Hilbert modular surfaces

2.1. Basic definitions and notations. Let \( D > 0 \) be a fundamental discriminant, \( K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D}) \) the real quadratic field of discriminant \( D \) (which we think of inside the real numbers), \( \mathcal{O}_K \) its ring of integers and \( \delta \) the different of \( \mathcal{O}_K \). If \( \alpha \in K \), we denote by \( \alpha' \) its conjugate under the action of the generator of \( \text{Gal}(K/\mathbb{Q}) \). An element \( \alpha \in K \) is called totally positive (and denoted \( \alpha \gg 0 \)) if \( \alpha > 0 \) and \( \alpha' > 0 \).

If \( \mathfrak{a} \subset K \) is a fractional ideal, we denote by \( \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a}) \) the image in \( \text{PGL}_2^+(K) \) of the group

\[ \{ (\alpha \beta \gamma \delta) \in \text{SL}_2(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a}) : \alpha \equiv \delta \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{a}}, \beta \in \mathfrak{a}^{-1}, \gamma \in \mathfrak{a} \}. \]

A congruence subgroup \( \Gamma(\mathfrak{a}) \subset \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a}) \) is a subgroup which contains \( \Gamma(\mathfrak{a}) \) for some ideal \( \mathfrak{c} \).

The group \( \text{GL}_2^+(K) \) acts on \( \mathfrak{H}^2 \) via

\[ \left( \begin{array}{cc} \alpha & \beta \\ \gamma & \delta \end{array} \right) (z_1, z_2) = \left( \frac{\alpha z_1 + \beta}{\gamma z_1 + \delta}, \frac{\alpha' z_2 + \beta'}{\gamma' z_2 + \delta'} \right). \]

Since the center acts trivially, we can consider the action of \( \text{PGL}_2^+(K) \).

If \( \Gamma \) is a congruence subgroup, the quotient \( \Gamma \backslash \mathfrak{H}^2 \) is a quasi-projective variety with at most quotient singularities. The Baily-Borel compactification of such quotient, which we denote \( X_\Gamma \), is obtained as in the classical case by adding the cusps \( \mathbb{P}^1(K) \) to the product of two copies of the upper half plane, i.e. \( X_\Gamma = \Gamma \backslash (\mathfrak{H}^2 \cup \mathbb{P}^1(K)) \). It is a projective variety.

We denote by \( Y_\Gamma \) the minimal desingularization of \( X_\Gamma \) and by \( Z_\Gamma \) the surface obtained by resolving only the cusp singularities of \( X_\Gamma \) which we study in the next sections.
2.2. On Cusp Resolution. We briefly recall the cusp desingularization at infinity. For this section we follow closely the exposition of \[vdG88\]. If \( M \) is a lattice in \( K \), we denote by \( U_M^+ \) the group (under multiplication) of totally positive elements \( \epsilon \in K \) such that \( \epsilon M = M \). Let \( V \subset U_M^+ \) be a subgroup of finite index. We define

\[
G(M,V) = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} \epsilon & m \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) : \epsilon \in V, m \in M \right\} = M \rtimes V.
\]

If we denote by \( U_{\mathbb{O}_K,c} \) the set of units of \( \mathbb{O}_K \) that are congruent to 1 modulo \( c \), for the particular congruence subgroups we will consider, we have the following result.

**Lemma 2.1.** The isotropy group of the cusp corresponding to \((\alpha : \beta) \in \mathbb{P}^1(K)\) in \( \Gamma(\alpha, \beta) \) is conjugate to the image in \( \text{PGL}_2^+(K) \) of

\[
G(a^{-1}b^{-2}c,U_{\mathbb{O}_K,c}^2),
\]

where \( b = \alpha \mathbb{O}_K + \beta a^{-1} \).

**Proof.** See the proof of Lemma 5.2 in \[vdG88\] (p. 78).

In particular the isotropy of the infinity cusp (corresponding to \((1 : 0) \) which we denote \( \infty \)) equals the image in \( \text{PGL}_2^+(K) \) of the group \( G(a^{-1}c,U_{\mathbb{O}_K,c}^2) \).

We consider the group \( \Gamma(\alpha, \beta) \). Let \( M = a^{-1}c \subset K \subset \mathbb{R} \) be the lattice corresponding to the stabilizer of the \( \infty \)-cusp. It acts on \( \mathbb{C}^2 \) by translation, i.e. \( m \cdot (z_1, z_2) = (z_1 + m, z_2 + m') \). A choice of basis \( \{\mu_1,\mu_2\} \) of \( M \) determines an isomorphism

\[
\phi_{\mu_1,\mu_2}: M \backslash \mathbb{C}^2 \to \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times, \quad (z_1, z_2) \mapsto (u, v),
\]

where \( \exp(2\pi i z_1) = u^{\mu_1}v^{\mu_2} \) and \( \exp(2\pi i z_2) = u^{\mu_1'}v^{\mu_2'} \). A different choice of a basis is given by a matrix \( \left( \begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & d \end{array} \right) \in \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \) which induces the biholomorphic map

\[
\psi: \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times \to \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times \text{ given by }
\]

\[
(u, v) \mapsto (u^a v^b, u^{\ast} v^d).
\]

We can always choose a basis of \( M \) formed by totally positive elements \( \mu_1, \mu_2 \gg 0 \). In this case, if \( \text{Im}(z_1) \) and \( \text{Im}(z_2) \) tends to infinity (that is \((z_1, z_2) \) approaches the infinity cusp) when at least one of \( u \) or \( v \) approaches 0. Thus it is natural to consider the embedding \( \mathbb{C}^\times \times \mathbb{C}^\times \subset \mathbb{C}^2 \).

The map \( \psi \) can be extended to an open subset of \( \mathbb{C}^2 \) such that its graph inside \( \mathbb{C}^2 \times \mathbb{C}^2 \) is closed. Therefore if we use it to glue together two copies of \( \mathbb{C}^2 \) we obtain a Hausdorff space.

Let \( M_+ \) denote the elements of \( M \) which are totally positive, and consider the embedding of \( M_+ \) in \((\mathbb{R}_+)^2\), given by

\[
m \mapsto (m, m').
\]

Denote by \( A_j = (A_j^1, A_j^2) \), \( j \in \mathbb{Z} \) the vertices of the boundary of the convex hull of the image of \( M_+ \), ordered with the condition \( A_j^{1+1} < A_j^1 \) for all \( j \). Any pair \((A_{j-1}, A_j)\) is a basis for \( M \) as \( \mathbb{Z} \)-module (see \[vdG88\] Lemma 2.1). In Appendix A we describe the algorithm to compute such bases.

Let \( \sigma_j \) denote the cone spanned by \( A_{j-1} \) and \( A_j \), i.e.

\[
\sigma_j = \{ sA_{j-1} + tA_j : s, t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \}.
\]
We obtain a partial compactification of $M \setminus \mathbb{C}^2$ by taking a copy of $\mathbb{C}^2$ for each element $\sigma_j$ and gluing them together in terms of the change of basis matrix (see [vdG88] page 31). By the above comment we obtain a Hausdorff space. Hence we obtain a partial compactification of $M \setminus \mathcal{B}^2$ denoted $Y^+$. Then $Y^+ = M \setminus \mathcal{B}^2 \cup \bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} S^\prime_{\infty,j}$, where each $S^\prime_{\infty,j}$ is a rational curve. The space $Y^+$ is a Hausdorff space.

The group of units $U_{\mathcal{O}_K, \gamma}$ acts freely and properly discontinuously on $Y^+$ ([vdG88] Lemma 3.1 page 34). A local description of the desingularization of the infinity cusp is obtained by taking the quotient of $Y^+$ by $U_{\mathcal{O}_K, \gamma}$. Let $S_{\infty}$ denote the resolution divisor of the infinite cusp and let $\{S_{\infty,j}\}_j$ be its irreducible components. Then there is a one to one correspondence between the set of classes of vertices $A_j$ under the action of $U_{\mathcal{O}_K, \gamma}$ and the set of irreducible components of the resolution divisor of the infinity cusp, and each irreducible component is a rational curve.

Recall that we denote $Z_{\Gamma}$ the desingularization obtained by applying this process to each cusp of $X_{\Gamma}$.

If we apply the previous process to $M = a^{-1}$ and $M = a^{-1}n$, where $n$ is a positive integer, since the two lattices are homothetic, each choice of basis for $a^{-1}$ gives a basis for $a^{-1}n$ and we get an holomorphic map between the respective affine spaces given by sending $(u, v)$ to $(u^n, v^n)$. This map is well behaved under gluing which gives a map

$$\pi : Z_{\Gamma((n), a)} \rightarrow Z_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)}.$$ 

**Remark 2.2.** Let $E$ be a component of a cusp resolution of $Z_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ and $E'$ its image under $\pi$. It is clear from this description that the map between $E$ and $E'$ induced by $\pi$ has degree $n$ and $\pi$ is ramified over $E'$ with ramification degree $n$ as well.

**2.3. Algebraic Surfaces.** Algebraic surfaces with vanishing irregularity are divided in four types, one of them being of general type. For reasons that will become clear later, it is this kind of surfaces the ones we need to work with.

**Remark 2.3.** If $c \subseteq \mathcal{O}_K$ is an integral ideal in $\mathcal{O}_K$ with $c^2 \neq (2)$ and $c^2 \neq (3)$ then $X_{\Gamma(c, a)}$ has no elliptic points (see [vdG88] page 109). In particular, in these cases, the surfaces $Z_{\Gamma(c, a)}$ and $Y_{\Gamma(c, a)}$ are the same.

Recall the following classification.

**Theorem 2.4.** The Hilbert modular surface $Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)}$ is rational for

- $D = 5, 8, 12, 13, 17, 21, 24, 28, 33, 60$ if $a$ is in the principal genus.
- $D = 12$ if $a$ is not in the principal genus.

**Proof.** This is Theorem 3.3 of [vdG88], Chapter VII p. 166. \qed

**Theorem 2.5.** The Hilbert modular surface $Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)}$, with $c \neq \mathcal{O}_K$ and $a$ in the genus $\gamma$ is of general type except in the following cases:

Furthermore, if $D > 500$, then $Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)}$ is of general type as well.

**Proof.** This is just part of Theorem 3.4 of [vdG88], p. 167, where a general classifications is given. \qed

Recall the following definition.

**Definition 2.6.** A smooth surface $S$ is called a minimal surface if for any smooth surface $S'$, any morphism $S \rightarrow S'$ that is birational is an isomorphism.
From Castelnuovo’s contractibility theorem, a minimal model of a smooth surface can be obtained by contracting exceptional curves, i.e. rational curves with self intersection number $-1$. We have the following result.

**Proposition 2.7.** Assume that $Y_{\Gamma(c,a)}$ is of general type and that $Y_{\Gamma(O_K,a)}$ is not rational. If $N c \geq C$, with

$$C = 3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_{j} (b_{i,j} - 2) \right),$$

where the first sum is over ideal class representatives $[b_i]$ of $O_K$ and the $b_{i,j}$ are the self-intersection numbers of the components of the cusp desingularization at $b_i$ (see Appendix A), then $Y_{\Gamma(c,a)}$ is minimal.

**Proof.** The statement corresponds to the first case of Theorem 7.19 of [vdG88], p. 184.

**Remark 2.8.** This gives an effective bound for the level $c$ needed for the Hecke/Sturm bounds (of sections 4 and 5). It will become clear that the smaller $N c$ we take, the better the bound gets, so we will say a few more words on how to improve this norm.

Recall the definition of the Hirzebruch-Zagier cycles (which correspond to the modular curves inside the Hilbert modular surfaces). A matrix $B$ in $M_2(K)$ is called skew-hermitian if $B^t = -B'$, where the superscript $t$ means the transpose. Let $a \in O_K$ be an ideal of norm $A$. A skew-hermitian form $B$ is called integral with respect to $a$ if it is of the form

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} a \sqrt{D} & \lambda \\ -\lambda & b \sqrt{D} \end{pmatrix},$$

with $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\lambda \in a^{-1}$. The integral form $B$ is called primitive if it is not divisible by a natural number greater than 1, i.e. if $B$ is not of the form $m \tilde{B}$, with $\tilde{B}$ integral with respect to $a$ and $m > 1$. If we denote by $\mathcal{C}(N)$ the set of skew-hermitian, integral with respect to $a$, primitive matrices of determinant $N/A$, then the cycle $F_N$ is defined by

$$F_N = \bigcup_{B \in \mathcal{C}(N)} \left\{ (z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{F}^2 \cup \mathbb{P}^1(K) : (z_2 \quad 1)B \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \right\}.$$

Abusing the notation, we will also denote by $F_N$ the divisor on any modular surface obtained as the closure of the image of $F_N$. By the context it will be clear in which surface we are considering them.

The following conjecture is stated as Conjecture (7.13) in [vdG88].

| $D$  | $Nc$  | $\gamma$ | $D$  | $Nc$  | $\gamma$ |
|------|------|--------|------|------|--------|
| 5    | {4, 5} | +     | 8    | {2, 4} | +      |
| 12   | {2, 3, 4, 6} | +, +  | 12   | {2, 3}  | −, −   |
| 13   | [3]   | +     | 17   | {2}    | +      |
| 21   | [3]   | −, −  | 24   | {2}    | −, −   |
| 28   | [3]   | −, −  | 33   | {2}    | −, −   |
**Conjecture 2.9.** If \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is not rational, then the canonical divisor can be written as a rational positive linear combination of resolutions curves and the divisors \( F_N \).

**Remark 2.10.** When \( a \) is in the genus of \( \mathcal{O}_K \) or \((\sqrt{D})\), this conjecture is known in the following cases

1. When \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is not of general type.
2. When \( D \equiv 1 \pmod{8} \) and either
   a) there is a divisor \( a \) of \( D \) with \( a \neq 1 \pmod{8} \);
   b) there are two integers \( n, m > 0 \) with \( m \equiv 7 \pmod{8} \) and \( D = (m^2 - 8)/n^2 \).
3. When \( D \neq 1 \pmod{8} \).

Assume now that \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \) is of general type and \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is not rational. We want to improve our criterion for minimality of \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \) assuming that Conjecture 2.9 is true for \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \). By Proposition 7.18 of \( \text{vdGSS} \) (p. 183), if \( E \) is an exceptional curve in \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \), then its image in \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is also exceptional. If Conjecture 2.9 is true for \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \), the exceptional curves in this surface are components of the divisors \( F_N \). Therefore any exceptional curve in \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \) is also a component of a divisor \( F_N \). If for example \( 6 | c \), then the components of the curves \( F_N \) have genus greater than 1 (see for example \[ \text{Shi94} \], formula (1.6.4), page 23) and are therefore not exceptional, hence the surface \( Y_{\Gamma(c,a)} \) is minimal for this level. Actually we can do a little better.

**Theorem 2.11.** Assume that \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is not rational and Conjecture 2.9 is true for this surface. If \( n \geq 3 \) is an integer and \( Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \) is of general type, then \( Y_{\Gamma(n),a} \) is minimal.

**Proof.** Recall that \( Z_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) is the resolution of the cusps of \( X_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) but without resolving the elliptic points which is a \( \mathbb{Q} \)-variety. By Remark 2.3, \( Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \) agrees with \( Z_{\Gamma((n),a)} \) and hence we get the following diagram

\[
\begin{array}{c}
Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \\
\downarrow \pi \\
Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \xrightarrow{f} Z_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)},
\end{array}
\]

where \( f \) is the resolution at the elliptic points.

We need to show that there are no exceptional curves on \( Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \). Assume that there is such an exceptional curve \( A \). Let \( C' \) be its image in \( Z_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \) and \( C \) the strict transform of \( C' \) in \( Y_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)} \). As we mentioned previously, by Proposition 7.18 of \( \text{vdGSS} \), the curve \( C \) is exceptional. By Theorem 7.11 of \( \text{vdGSS} \) (p. 181), \( C \) (hence \( A \)) is a component of a divisor \( F_N \) for \( N = 1, 2, 3 \) or 4 and 9 if \( 3 | D \).

We will show that \( A \cdot A < -1 \) contradicting the assumption. To this end we start by computing the self-intersection of \( C' \). We have the relation

\[
C' \cdot C' = f^*(C') \cdot f^*(C').
\]

Using the desingularization of the components of \( F_i \) given in \( \text{vdGSS} \) (page 169), we get the following cases:

- **The case** \( i = 1 \): The curve \( C' \) goes through an elliptic point of order 2 and an elliptic point of order 3. While computing the desingularization at the order 2 point,
we get a $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self-intersection $-2$ and while computing the desingularization of elliptic point of the order 3 we get a $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self-intersection $-3$ (see Figure (2) in [vdG88], page 169). Let $E_2$ and $E_3$ be these two exceptional divisors. We can write $f^*(C') = C + aE_2 + bE_3$. Since $f^*(C') \cdot E_2 = f^*(C') \cdot E_3 = 0$, we get

$$f^*(C') = C + \frac{1}{2}E_2 + \frac{1}{3}E_3.$$  

Therefore

$$f^*(C') \cdot f^*(C') = C \cdot C + C \cdot E_2 + \frac{2}{3}C \cdot E_3 + \frac{1}{4}E_2 \cdot E_2 + \frac{1}{9}E_3 \cdot E_3 = -\frac{1}{6}.$$  

- **The case** $i = 2$: The curve $C'$ goes through an elliptic point of order 2. While computing the desingularization at the order 2 point, we get a $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self-intersection $-2$ (see Figure (3) in [vdG88], page 169). Let $E_2$ be the exceptional divisor, so $f^*(C') = C + aE_2$. Since $f^*(C') \cdot E_2 = 0$, we get that $a = \frac{1}{2}$, and

$$f^*(C') \cdot f^*(C') = C \cdot C + C \cdot E_2 + \frac{1}{4}E_2 \cdot E_2 = -\frac{1}{2}.$$  

- **The case** $i = 3$: Since $Y_{\mathfrak{G}_K}$ is not rational, $D \neq 12$. Then the curve $C'$ goes through an elliptic point of order 3. While computing the desingularization at the order 3 point, we get a $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self-intersection $-3$. Let $E_3$ be the exceptional divisor, then $f^*(C') = C + bE_3$. Since $f^*(C') \cdot E_3 = 0$, we get that $b = \frac{4}{9}$, and

$$f^*(C') \cdot f^*(C') = C \cdot C + \frac{2}{3}C \cdot E_3 + \frac{1}{9}E_3 \cdot E_3 = -\frac{2}{3}.$$  

- **The case** $i = 4$: Since $Y_{\mathfrak{G}_K}$ is not rational, $D \neq 8$. If $2 \mid D$, then the situation is the same as the case $i = 2$. If $D = 1 \pmod{8}$ then $C'$ does not go through any elliptic point, hence the self intersection is $-1$. If $D = 5 \pmod{8}$ then the curve $C'$ goes through two elliptic points of order 3. While computing the desingularization at the two order 3 points, we get two copies of $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self-intersection $-3$. Let $E_3$ and $E_3'$ be the exceptional divisors. Then $f^*(C') = C + \frac{1}{3}E_3 + \frac{1}{3}E_3'$, and

$$f^*(C') \cdot f^*(C') = C \cdot C + \frac{2}{3}C \cdot (E_3 + E_3') + \frac{1}{9}(E_3 \cdot E_3 + E_3' \cdot E_3') = -\frac{1}{3}.$$  

- **The case** $i = 9$: Again we use $D \neq 12$. If $3 \mid D$, then the curve $C'$ does not go through any elliptic point. If $3 \mid D$, and $D \neq 105$, then $C'$ goes through an elliptic point of order 3, so the blow up gives a $\mathbb{P}^1$ with self intersection number $-3$ (see the first Figure of [vdG88], page 170), so we are in the same situation as the case $i = 3$.

If $D = 105$, the picture is similar, but in this case some components are not disjoint any more. Even though, the same computation applies.

Let $g$ denote the degree of $\pi$ and $d$ the degree of the morphism induced by $\pi$ between the modular curve $A$ and its image $C'$. Since the morphism $\pi$ is not ramified over $C'$, the preimage of $C'$ consists on $c = g/d$ curves which are translates of $A$,

$$\pi^*(C') \cdot \pi^*(C') = gC' \cdot C' \quad \text{ and } \quad \pi^*(C') \cdot \pi^*(C') \geq cA \cdot A.$$  

Therefore

$$A \cdot A \leq dC' \cdot C'.$$

Note that $d = [PSL_2(\mathbb{Z}) : \Gamma(n)]$, where $\Gamma(n)$ is the classical congruence subgroup. Since $n \geq 3$, $d > 6$ and $A \cdot A < -1$. Thus $A$ is not exceptional.
Remark 2.12. It is clear that if \( Y_{\Gamma(n,a)} \) is a minimal surface of general type and \( m \) is a positive integer, then \( Y_{\Gamma((mn),a)} \) is also a minimal surface of general type.

Summary 2.13. In this section we have obtained the following results:

- If \( D = 5, 8, 12, 13, 17, 21, 24, 28, 33, 60 \) and \( a \) is in the principal genus or \( D = 12 \) and \( a \) is not in the principal genus, then \( Y_{\Gamma(G_K,a)} \) is rational so the previous results do not apply. This case will be treated separately in Appendix 7.

- If \( Y_{\Gamma(G_K,a)} \) is not rational and

\[
n \geq \sqrt{3 \left( \sum_{i=1}^{b} \sum_{j}(b_{i,j} - 2) \right)},
\]

then \( Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \) is a minimal surface of general type.

- If \( Y_{\Gamma(G_K,a)} \) is not rational and satisfies Conjecture 2.9 (see Remark 2.10) then \( Y_{\Gamma((n),a)} \) is a minimal surface of general type for \( n \geq 3 \).

3. Hilbert Modular Forms

In this section we recall the definition and basic properties of Hilbert modular forms.

Definition 3.1. Let \( \Gamma_a \) be a congruence subgroup, and \( k_1 \) and \( k_2 \) be integers such that \( k_1 \equiv k_2 \pmod{2} \). A holomorphic function \( G: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \) is called a Hilbert modular form of weight \( k = (k_1, k_2) \) for the group \( \Gamma_a \) if for all \( \gamma = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_a \) one has, for each \( z = (z_1, z_2) \in \mathcal{H} \),

\[
G(\gamma z) = (cz_1 + d)^{k_1} (c^*z_2 + d^*)^{k_2} G(z).
\]

If \( k \) is an integer and \( G \) is a modular form of weight \( k = (2k, 2k) \), we will call it a modular form of parallel weight \( 2k \). We will denote by \( M_{2k}(\Gamma_a) \) the space of all modular forms of weight \( k \) and by \( M_{2k}(\Gamma_a) \) the space of all modular forms of parallel weight \( 2k \).

Let \( G \) be a Hilbert modular form of weight \( (k_1, k_2) \). It admits a Fourier expansion in each cusp. Since all the cusps are conjugate to the infinity cusp (possibly altering the ideals) by an element of \( \text{PSL}_2(K) \), we will just recall the case of the infinity cusp. Since \( \Gamma_a \) is a congruence group, the isotropy group of the cusp \((1 : 0)\) contains some \( G(M, V) \) (since for example for \( \Gamma(c, a) \) it equals \( G(a^{-1}c, U_{0,K,\epsilon}^2) \)). The modularity condition implies that, if \( m \in M \) and \( \epsilon \in U_{0,K,\epsilon} \) then

\[
G(z_1 + m, z_2 + m') = G(z_1, z_2),
\]

\[
G(\epsilon z_1, \epsilon^*z_2) = \epsilon^{-k_1}\epsilon'^{-k_2} G(z_1, z_2).
\]

The periodicity condition implies that \( G \) admits the Fourier expansion

\[
G = \sum_{\xi \in M^\vee} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)),
\]

where \( M^\vee \) is the set of \( \xi \in K \) such that \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \in \mathbb{Z} \) for all \( m \in M \). Let \( M_{\text{tot}}^\vee \) denote the set of totally positive elements of \( M^\vee \). Then the holomorphicity of \( G \) implies
that the only non-zero coefficients \(a_\xi\) of the above expansion are \(a_0\) and \(a_\xi\) with \(\xi \in M'_+\). Hence

\[
G = \sum_{\xi \in M'_+ \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).
\]

The modularity equation (4) implies that the coefficients of the Fourier expansion satisfy the condition

\[
a_{\xi' z_2} = e^{k_1} e^{k_2} a_\xi \quad \text{for all} \quad \epsilon \in U_{0,\kappa, \epsilon}.
\]

In particular, if \(G\) is of parallel weight \(2k\) then \(a_{\xi' z_2} = a_\xi\).

By means of the Fourier expansion, we see that every modular form determines a holomorphic function in an analytic neighborhood of each cusp.

**Definition 3.2.**

1. A Hilbert modular form \(G\) is called a cusp form if, for each cusp, the coefficient \(a_0\) of the Fourier expansion of \(G\) is zero. We denote by \(S_k(\Gamma) \subset M_k(\Gamma)\) the space of modular cusp forms of weight \(k\) and by \(S_{2k}(\Gamma) \subset M_{2k}(\Gamma)\) the space of modular cusp forms of parallel weight \(2k\).

2. Let \(G\) be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight \(2k\) for the group \(\Gamma(c, a)\) and \(c_i\) a cusp of \(X_{\Gamma(c, a)}\). Let \(S_i\) be the resolution divisor of \(c_i\) in \(Y_{\Gamma(c, a)}\). The modular form \(G\) determines a holomorphic function \(f\) in an analytic neighborhood \(U_i\) of \(S_i\). We say that \(G\) vanishes with order \(a\) at the cusp \(c_i\) if, the divisor \(\text{div}(f) - aS_i\) is effective in \(U_i\). We will write \(\text{ord}_{c_i} G = a\) if \(G\) vanishes at the cusp \(c_i\) with order \(a\) but does not vanish with order \(a + 1\).

The vanishing of a Hilbert modular form at a cusp can be read from the Fourier expansion. For simplicity we will treat only the case of the infinity cusp. Let \(\{A_j\}_{j \in J}\) be a set of representatives under the action of \(V\), of the corners of the convex hull of \(M_+\) (see Section 2.2).

**Lemma 3.3.** Let \(G\) be a modular form of parallel weight \(2k\) for a congruence subgroup \(\Gamma_0\) and

\[
G = \sum_{\xi \in M'_+ \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)),
\]

its Fourier expansion at the infinity cusp. Then

\[
\text{ord}_{\infty} G = \inf\{\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) \mid j \in J, a_\xi \neq 0\}.
\]

Thus, \(G\) vanishes with order \(a\) at the infinity cusp if and only if \(a_\xi = 0\) for all \(\xi \in M'_+ \cup \{0\}\) such that there is a \(j \in J\) with \(\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) < a\).

**Proof.** By (4), the vanishing condition for the coefficients of the Fourier expansion is equivalent to the condition \(a_\xi = 0\) for all \(\xi \in M'_+ \cup \{0\}\) such that there is a \(j \in \mathbb{Z}\) with \(\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) < a\). Let \(A_j, A_{j+1}\) be a totally positive basis of \(M\) as in Section 2.2. To this basis, there is associated a local analytic chart of a piece of the cusp resolution. Let \(u, v\) be the local coordinates of this chart. The divisors \(u = 0\) and \(v = 0\) correspond to components of the cusp resolution divisor. With these coordinates, the Fourier expansion of \(G\), is given by

\[
G(u, v) = \sum_{\xi \in M'_+ \cup \{0\}} a_\xi u^{\text{Tr}(\xi A_j)} v^{\text{Tr}(\xi A_{j+1})}.
\]

Thus, the lemma follows directly from the definition of order of vanishing at a cusp. \(\square\)
From the lemma, it is clear that a modular form is a cusp form if and only if it vanishes at each cusp with order one.

Let \( G \in M_2(\Gamma) \) be a modular form of parallel weight 2. Then \( \omega_G = Gdz_1 \wedge dz_2 \) is a \( \Gamma \)-invariant differential form on \( \mathbb{H}^2 \). Thus, it defines a differential form on \( \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H}^2 \), hence on an open subset of \( Y_\Gamma \). It can be seen (vdG [Ch 3. §3]) that \( \omega_G \) can be extended to a differential form on \( Y_\Gamma \) that is regular on the resolution divisors of the elliptic fixed points and has at most logarithmic poles at the resolution divisors of the cusps. This gives us the identifications

\[
S_2(\Gamma) \cong H^0(Y_\Gamma, \mathcal{O}(K_{Y_\Gamma})), \quad M_2(\Gamma) \cong H^0(Y_\Gamma, \mathcal{O}(K_{Y_\Gamma} + S)),
\]

where \( K_{Y_\Gamma} \) is the canonical divisor of \( Y_\Gamma \) and \( S = \sum S_i \) is the sum of the resolution divisors of all the cusps.

From the above identifications one can derive the following result.

**Proposition 3.4.** Let \( \Gamma \) be a congruence subgroup, \( \{c_1, \ldots, c_h\} \) the set of cusps of \( X_\Gamma \), \( S_i \) the resolution divisor of \( c_i \) on \( Y_\Gamma \) and \( S = \sum S_i \). Fix integers \( 1 \leq i_0 \leq h \), \( a, s \geq 0 \). Then we can identify the space of all modular forms for \( \Gamma \) of parallel weight 2, vanishing order at least \( s \) at all the cusps and at least \( a + s \) at the cusp \( i_0 \) with the space of global sections \( H^0(Y_\Gamma, \mathcal{O}(kK_{Y_\Gamma} + (k - s)S - aS_{i_0})) \).

## 4. Hecke Bound

In this section we will derive a Hecke type bound for Hilbert modular forms for the group \( \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a}) \). We will assume that \( D > 0 \) is such that \( Z := Z_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a})} \) is not rational. Choose \( n \) such that \( Z_n := Z_{\Gamma((n), \mathfrak{a})} \) is a minimal surface of general type (see Summary 2.13).

Let \( S \) be the cusp resolution divisor on \( Z \). We order the cusps of \( X_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a})} \) as \( c_i, i = 1, \ldots, h \) and we decompose \( S \) as

\[
S = \sum_{i=1}^h S_i
\]

where \( S_i \) is the resolution divisor over the cusp \( c_i \).

For each \( i = 1, \ldots, h \), let \( b_{i,j} \geq 2 \) be the integers that appear in the cusp desingularization process of \( X_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a})} \) as explained in Appendix A. Let \( 1 \leq i_0 \leq h \).

**Theorem 4.1** (Hecke bound). *With the previous hypothesis on \( D \) and \( n \), let \( G \) be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight 2 for \( \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathfrak{a}) \) and suppose that \( \text{ord}_{c_i} G \geq s \) for \( i = 1, \ldots, h \) and \( \text{ord}_{c_{i_0}} G \geq a + s \), with

\[
a > \frac{4kn\zeta_K(-1)}{\sum_j (b_{i_0,j} - 2) - s} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^h \sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2)}{\sum_j (b_{i_0,j} - 2)} \right).
\]

Then \( G \) is zero.*

**Remark 4.2.** For each \( i \) there is a \( j \) with \( b_{i,j} > 2 \), since otherwise, the desingularization divisor of the cusp \( c_i \) has self-intersection 0, which contradicts Hodge index theorem. Therefore, the denominators in the above expression are different from zero.

Before proving the theorem we need some known results. Recall that \( Z_n \) does not have elliptic points, hence is already smooth. Let \( \pi: Z_n \to Z \) be the projection.
and \(d\) its degree. Let \(c'\) be the number of cusps of \(X_{\Gamma(n)\cdot a}\) that are over a cusp of \(X_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)}\). By [vdG88] Lemma 5.2, Chapter IV] and its proof

\[
d = n^2 c'[U_{\mathcal{O}_K}^2 : U_{\mathcal{O}_K,(n)}^2].
\]

For each \(i' = 1, \ldots, h c'\), let \(b'_{i',j}\) be the integers that appear in the cusp desingularization process of \(X_{\Gamma(n)\cdot a}\). Let \(c_i\) be a cusp of \(X_{\Gamma(n)\cdot a}\) over a cusp \(c_i\) of \(X_{\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K,a)}\). Then the sequence \((b'_{i',j})_j\) is a repetition of \([U_{\mathcal{O}_K}^2 : U_{\mathcal{O}_K,(n)}^2]\) times the sequence \((b_{i,j})_j\). Therefore

\[
\sum_{i'=1}^{c'} \sum_{j} (2 - b'_{i',j}) = \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_{j} (2 - b_{i,j}).
\]

Let \(S'\) be the cusp resolution divisor of \(Z_n\) and, for \(i = 1, \ldots, h\), let \(S'_i\) be the sum of the resolution divisor of all the cusps on \(Z_n\) over \(c_i\). By Remark 2.2 we have

\[
\pi^*(S) = n S' \quad \text{and} \quad \pi^*(S_i) = n S'_i.
\]

By the geometry of the cusp resolutions (see Appendix A), we have

\[
S_i \cdot S_l = \begin{cases} \sum_j (2 - b_{i,j}) & \text{if } i = l, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq l. \end{cases}
\]

From this, using equation (8), we deduce

\[
S'_i \cdot S'_l = \begin{cases} \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_j (2 - b_{i,j}) & \text{if } i = l, \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq l. \end{cases}
\]

Let \(K_{Z_n}\) be the canonical divisor of \(Z_n\). Since each divisor \(S_i\) is a cycle of rational curves, it has arithmetic genus 1. Then the adjunction formula implies that

\[
(K_{Z_n} + S'_i) \cdot S'_l = 0, \quad (K_{Z_n} + S') \cdot S' = 0.
\]

Therefore

\[
K_{Z_n} \cdot S'_i = \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2), \quad K_{Z_n} \cdot S' = \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_{j}(b_{i,j} - 2).
\]

Moreover, by [vdG88] Chapter IV, Theorem 2.5] (page 64), [vdG88] Chapter IV, Theorem 1.1], (pp. 59) and equation (11),

\[
K_{Z_n} \cdot K_{Z_n} = 2 \text{Vol}(Z_n) + \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_{j}(2 - b_{i,j}) = 4d \zeta_K(-1) + \frac{d}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_{j}(2 - b_{i,j}).
\]

Proof of Theorem 4.1 Since \(G\) is a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight \(2k\) that vanishes with order \(s\) at every cusp and with order \(a + s\) at the cusp \(c_{i_0}\), by Proposition 4.4, it determines a global section of \(O(k(K_{Z_n} + S') - snS' - anS'_{i_0})\).

Since \(Z_n\) is a minimal surface of general type, \(K_{Z_n}\) is NEF. Hence, if \(G \neq 0\), the intersection number \(K_{Z_n} \cdot (k(K_{Z_n} + S') - snS' - anS'_{i_0})\) must be non-negative. If we prove that this number is negative, we are done. Using equations (11) and (12),
we obtain

\[(13) \quad K_{Z_n} \cdot (k(K_{Z_n} + S') - snS' - anS'_{i_0}) \]

\[= d \left( 4k\zeta_k(-1) + \frac{s}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{h} \sum_j (2 - b_{i,j}) + \frac{a}{n} \sum_j (2 - b_{i_0,j}) \right) \]

proving the Theorem. □

By virtue of Lemma 3.3, we can state the same result in terms of Fourier expansions. For simplicity we will treat only the case of the infinity cusp. Assume that we have numbered the cusps in such a way that the infinity cusp is \(c_1\). The lattice corresponding to the isotropy group of the infinity cusp is \(M = a^{-1}\) and the group of units \(V\) equals \(U_{O_K}^2\). Let \(\{A_j\}_{j \in J}\) be a set of representatives under the action of \(U_{O_K}^2\) of the corners of the convex hull of \((a^{-1})_+\).

**Corollary 4.3.** With the same hypothesis on \(D\) and \(n\), let \(G\) be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight \(2k\) for \(\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)\) which vanishes with order \(s\) at all the cusps. Let \(a\) be an integer with

\[a > 4kn\zeta_K(-1) \sum_j (b_{1,j} - 2) - s \left( \frac{\sum_i^{h} \sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2)}{\sum_j (b_{1,j} - 2)} \right).\]

Suppose that the Fourier expansion of \(G\) at the infinity cusp is

\[G = \sum_{\xi \in (a^{-1})_+^2 \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).\]

If \(a_\xi = 0\) for all \(\xi \in (a^{-1})_+^2 \cup \{0\}\) such that there is a \(j \in J\) with \(\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) < a + s\), then \(G = 0\).

**Remark 4.4.**

1. Although both Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.3 are stated for forms vanishing with order \(s\) at all cusps, the two usual cases are \(s = 0\) for a general Hilbert modular form and \(s = 1\) for a cusp form.

2. It is clear from Theorem 4.1 and Corollary 4.3 that the smaller the \(n\), the better the bound we get.

**Remark 4.5.** The bound we got in Theorem 4.1 relies on the choice of an auxiliary positive integer \(n\) such that \(Z_n\) is a minimal surface of general type, and there is a dependence of \(n\) in the formula. We can think of this dependence in a somehow different way. We need to construct a NEF divisor in some surface. What we did was to start with a parallel weight \(2k\) Hilbert modular form \(G\) for \(\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)\) and considered its pullback to \(Z_n\), where we can identify a NEF divisor, namely the canonical divisor. But we can do the opposite, recall the following result concerning NEF divisors under maps.

**Fact:** Let \(\pi : X \to Y\) be a surjective generically finite map between surfaces. Let \(D \subset Y\) be a Cartier divisor. Then \(D\) is a NEF divisor if and only if \(\pi^*(D)\) is a NEF divisor.

This implies that we can do the computations in “level 1”. Take any (rational) divisor \(D\) in \(Z_1\) whose pullback to \(Z_n\) is the canonical divisor and compute the intersection numbers with it (which of course gives the same bound). Thus, the
Proposition 5.3. Let $S$ be a minimal surface of general type then the same is true for $Y$. Moreover, there is a relative normal crossing divisor $Y$. See [Cha90] Theorem 3.6, [Rap78] Théorème 5.1 and Corollaire 5.3.

Proof. See [Cha90] Theorem 3.6, [Rap78] Théorème 5.1 and Corollaire 5.3. and [Pap95].

The second input we need is the $q$-expansion principle. Let $K$ be the canonical divisor of $Y$ and let $K$ be the relative canonical divisor of $Y$. Let $R$ be a subalgebra of $C$ that contains $Z[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. We will denote by $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a,R)$, $K_R$ and $S_R'$ the objects obtained after extending scalars to $R$. We know that a modular form of parallel weight $2k$ determines a section of $\mathcal{O}_Y(k(K+S'))$.

Theorem 5.2. Let $G$ be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight $2k$ for $\Gamma((n), a)$, and let

$$G = \sum_{\xi \in M_k^\vee \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)),$$

be its Fourier expansion at a cusp. Then the form $G$ determines a section of $\mathcal{O}_Y(k(K_R+S'_R))$ if and only if $a_\xi \in R$ for all $\xi \in M_k^\vee \cup \{0\}$.

Proof. See [Cha90] Theorem 4.3 and [Rap78] Théorème 6.7.

Finally we need to know that the fibers of $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a)$ are also minimal surfaces.

Proposition 5.3. Let $\mathcal{O}$ be a Dedekind domain contained in $C$ that contains $Z[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. Let $p \subset \mathcal{O}$ be a prime ideal and let $k(p)$ be an algebraic closure of the residue field $k(p)$. Denote $\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)} = \mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a) \times_{k(p)} \mathcal{O}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. If $Y_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)}$ is a minimal surface of general type then the same is true for $\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)}$. 

5. Sturm Bound

To make the computation of the previous section work over a finite field, we need to use the integral structure of the Hilbert modular surface. Such structure comes from their moduli interpretation and has been developed in [Rap78], [Cha90] and [Pap95], see also the book [Gor02].

Let $D > 0$ be a fundamental discriminant. Let $a$ be a fractional ideal, $n \geq 3$ a positive integer and $\zeta_n$ a primitive $n$-th root of unity. Consider the modular surface $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ and let $S'$ be the cusp resolution. The first input we need is the existence of a nice regular model of $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$.

Theorem 5.1. There exist a regular scheme $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a)$, smooth, proper and flat over $\mathbb{Z}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$, such that

$$\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a) \times_{\mathbb{Z}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]} \text{Spec}(\mathbb{C}) = Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}.$$

Moreover, there is a relative normal crossing divisor $S'$ of $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a)$ whose restriction to $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ is $S'$.

Proof. See [Cha90] Theorem 3.6, [Rap78] Théorème 5.1 and Corollaire 5.3. and [Pap95] Theorem 2.1.2. 

The second input we need is the $q$-expansion principle. Let $K$ be the canonical divisor of $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ and let $K$ be the relative canonical divisor of $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$. Let $R$ be a subalgebra of $C$ that contains $\mathbb{Z}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. We will denote by $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a,R)$, $K_R$ and $S_R'$ the objects obtained after extending scalars to $R$. We know that a modular form of parallel weight $2k$ determines a section of $\mathcal{O}_Y(k(K+S'))$.

Theorem 5.2. Let $G$ be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight $2k$ for $\Gamma((n), a)$, and let

$$G = \sum_{\xi \in M_k^\vee \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)),$$

be its Fourier expansion at a cusp. Then the form $G$ determines a section of $\mathcal{O}_Y(k(K_R+S'_R))$ if and only if $a_\xi \in R$ for all $\xi \in M_k^\vee \cup \{0\}$.

Proof. See [Cha90] Theorem 4.3 and [Rap78] Théorème 6.7.

Finally we need to know that the fibers of $\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a)$ are also minimal surfaces.

Proposition 5.3. Let $\mathcal{O}$ be a Dedekind domain contained in $C$ that contains $\mathbb{Z}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. Let $p \subset \mathcal{O}$ be a prime ideal and let $k(p)$ be an algebraic closure of the residue field $k(p)$. Denote $\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)} = \mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a) \times_{k(p)} \mathcal{O}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n]$. If $Y_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)}$ is a minimal surface of general type then the same is true for $\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{Y}_Y(n,a), k(p)}$. 

dependence on $n$ does not come from where we compute the intersection numbers but from where we can identify a NEF divisor.
Proof. This follows from [KU85] Theorem 9.1 and Lemma 9.6. We would like to thank Qing Liu by pointing us this result via mathoverflow. □

We now assume that $D$ and $n$ satisfy furthermore the hypothesis of the previous section and we use the notations of that section. Again, for simplicity we state the result for the infinity cusp.

**Theorem 5.4** (Sturm bound). Let $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{C}$ be a ring of fractions of the ring of integers of a number field. Let $G$ be a Hilbert modular form of parallel weight $2k$ for $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)$, which vanishes with order $s$ at all cusps. Suppose that the Fourier expansion of $G$ at the infinity cusp $c_1$ is

$$G = \sum_{\xi \in \mathcal{O}_\ast \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2),$$

with $a_\xi \in \mathcal{O}$ for all $\xi \in M_0^+ \cup \{0\}$. Let $p \subset \mathcal{O}$ be a prime ideal such that $p \mid Dn$ and let $a$ be an integer with

$$a > \frac{4kn\zeta_K(-1)}{\sum_j(b_i,j - 2)} - s \left( \frac{\sum_i h_i}{\sum_j(b_i,j - 2)} \right).$$

If $a_\xi \in p$ for all $\xi \in (a)_{\mathcal{O}}^+ \cup \{0\}$ such that there is a $j \in J$ with $\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) < a + s$, then $a_\xi \in p$ for all $\xi \in M_0^+ \cup \{0\}$.

**Proof.** With the same argument as in the proof of the classical Sturm theorem, we can assume without loss of generality that $\mathbb{Z}[1/(Dn), \zeta_n] \subset \mathcal{O}$. We consider the regular model $\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ of $Y_{\Gamma((n), a)}$ provided by Theorem 5.1. As before, we denote by $\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a), \emptyset}$ the model over $\text{Spec}(\emptyset)$ obtained after base change. Since $G$ is a modular form for $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)$ it is also a modular form for $\Gamma((n), a)$. By the $q$-expansion principle (Theorem 5.2), the modular form $G$ determines a section of $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a), \emptyset}}(k(\mathcal{X}_0 + \mathcal{S}_0))$, that we denote also by $G$. The vanishing hypothesis imply that, when we restrict $G$ to $\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a), k(p)}$ we obtain a global section of

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a), k(p)}}(k(\mathcal{X}_{k(p)} + \mathcal{S}_{k(p)}') - sn\mathcal{S}_{k(p)}') - an\mathcal{S}_{k(p)}').$$

By Proposition 5.3 the canonical divisor $\mathcal{X}_{k(p)}$ is NEF. Since intersection numbers are preserved by specialization, from equation (13) we deduce that

$$\mathcal{X}_{k(p)} \cdot (k(\mathcal{X}_{k(p)} + \mathcal{S}_{k(p)}') - sn\mathcal{S}_{k(p)}') - an\mathcal{S}_{k(p)}') < 0$$

Therefore the restriction of $G$ to $\mathcal{Y}_{\Gamma((n), a), k(p)}$ is zero, proving the result. □

6. **General weights and levels.**

Although the main results of the previous sections are stated only for modular forms of level $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, a)$ and parallel weight $(2k, 2k)$, they can be generalized to any congruence subgroup $\Gamma_a$ and any weight $(k_1, k_2)$ satisfying the parity condition $k_1 \equiv k_2 \pmod{2}$ using exactly the same tricks as for classical modular forms. Assume that $n$ satisfies the hypothesis of Theorem 4.1.

Let $\Gamma_a$ be a congruence subgroup, $(k_1, k_2)$ a weight satisfying the previous parity condition. Let $\{A_j\}_{j \in J}$ be a set of representatives under the action of $U^2_{\mathcal{O}_K}$ of the corners of the convex hull of $(a^{-1})_+$ as in Section 2.2.
Theorem 6.1. Let $G$ be a modular form of weight $(k_1, k_2)$ for $\Gamma_a$ which vanishes with order $s$ at all the cusps. Suppose that the Fourier expansion of $G$ at the infinity cusp is

$$G = \sum_{\xi \in M_a \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$

for an appropriate lattice $M \subset a^{-1}$. Let

$$a > \frac{(k_1 + k_2)n_1[\Gamma(0_K, a) : \Gamma_a]\zeta_K(-1)}{\sum_j (b_{ij} - 2)} - \frac{s}{s} \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^h \sum_j (b_{ij} - 2)}{\sum_{j} (b_{ij} - 2)} \right)$$

be an integer. If $a_\xi = 0$ for all $\xi \in M_a \cup \{0\}$ such that there is a $j \in J$ with $\text{Tr}(\xi A_j) < a + s$, then $G = 0$.

Proof. Assume first that $k_1 = k_2 = 2k$. Let $H(z_1, z_2)$ be the Hilbert modular form given by

$$H(z_1, z_2) = \prod_{\alpha \in \Gamma(0_K, a) \setminus \Gamma} G(z_1, z_2)|_{2k}[\alpha],$$

where the product is taken over coset representatives of $\Gamma(0_K, a)$ modulo $\Gamma_a$ (acting on the left) not in the trivial class.

The form $G(z_1, z_2)H(z_1, z_2)$ is a form of weight $2k[\Gamma(0_K, a) : \Gamma_a]$ for $\Gamma(0_K, a)$, so we can apply the Hecke bound of section 4 to it. There is an integer $N$ such that $\Gamma((N), a) \subset \Gamma_a$ and $N(a^{-1}) \subset M$, thus we can write the Fourier expansion of $G$ as

$$G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in \frac{1}{2\pi \zeta} (a^{-1}) \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$

Since $\Gamma((N), a)$ is a normal subgroup of $\Gamma(0_K, a)$, the function $H(z_1, z_2)$ is a modular form for it. Thus it has a Fourier expansion

$$H(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in \frac{1}{2\pi \zeta} (a^{-1}) \cup \{0\}} b_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$

The product of these two Fourier expansions is

$$\sum_{\eta \in (a^{-1})^+_N} \left( \sum_{\xi, \eta - \xi \in \frac{1}{2\pi \zeta} (a^{-1}) \cup \{0\}} a_\xi b_{\eta - \xi} \right) \exp(2\pi i (\eta z_1 + \eta' z_2)).$$

In principle, the exterior sum should run over elements in $\frac{1}{N}(a)_{+}$, but since we know that $GH$ is a modular form for $\Gamma(0_K, a)$, all the other terms are zero.

Note that since $\eta - \xi \gg 0$ (or zero), $\eta - \xi \geq 0$ and $\eta - \xi' \geq 0$, so $\text{Tr}(\xi m) \leq \text{Tr}(\eta m)$ for $m \in a^{-1}$. In particular, if $a_\xi = 0$ for all the elements in the hypothesis, the coefficients of $G(z_1, z_2)H(z_1, z_2)$ are all zero for all $\eta$ with $\text{Tr}(\eta A_j) \leq a + s$ for some $j \in J$ and the result follows from Corollary 4.3.

For general weights $(k_1, k_2)$, it is enough to apply the previous case to the form $G(z_1, z_2)G(z_2, z_1)$, which has parallel weight $k_1 + k_2$ (even) and vanishes with order $2s$ at all the cusps and with order $2a + 2s$ at the infinity cusp. \qed

Remark 6.2. A similar Sturm bound holds for general weights and level, we leave it as an exercise.
Remark 6.3. As in the classical case, one can obtain for forms in $\Gamma_0(c,a,\chi)$ (i.e. forms with a character) the same bound as the one for the subgroup $\Gamma_0(c,a)$, by using Buzzard’s trick. If $\text{ord}(\chi)$ denotes the order of $\chi$, then we consider $G(z_1,z_2)^{\text{ord}(\chi)}$, which vanishes with order $\text{ord}(\chi)s$ at all cusps and $\text{ord}(\chi)s+\text{ord}(\chi)a$ at the infinity cusp, but is a form for $\Gamma_0(c,a)$, so the values of $\text{ord}(\chi)$ cancels in the formula.

Remark 6.4. If in the Hecke/Sturm bound we fix the level and let the weight grow, the number of elements of the Fourier expansion to check equality/congruence grows quadratically with the weight since we have to search for elements in a cone whose trace grows linearly in the weight. If we stick to parallel weight forms, it is known that the same happens with the dimension of such modular forms spaces. This implies that the bound we got is the best possible up to a constant (depending only on the level and the base field).

Remark 6.5. When the narrow class number is greater than 1, one can relate modular forms for the different subgroups $\text{PGL}_2^+/(\mathcal{O}_K,a)$ (varying $a$) using the action of the Hecke operators. This allows to take the number of coefficients needed to check congruences/equality of modular forms to be the minimum between all the ideals, but they need not be the ones with smaller trace. See the Remark 7.1.

7. Examples

7.1. The case $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{10})$. This is the first real quadratic field with non-trivial class group. The class group has order 2 and the two representatives can be taken as 1 and $\langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle$ (the unique prime ideal dividing 2). The discriminant of such field is $D = 40 \equiv 1 \pmod{8}$, hence Conjecture 2.9 holds and we can take $n = 3$ for the Hecke/Sturm bound. Applying the desingularization process of Appendix A we see that for the principal ideal the picture looks like Table 7.1.

| Label | Point | S.I. |
|-------|-------|------|
| $m_1$ | 1     | $-8$ |
| $m_2$ | $4 - \sqrt{10}$ | $-2$ |
| $m_3$ | $7 - 2\sqrt{10}$ | $-2$ |
| $m_4$ | $10 - 3\sqrt{10}$ | $-2$ |
| $m_5$ | $13 - 4\sqrt{10}$ | $-2$ |
| $m_6$ | $16 - 5\sqrt{10}$ | $-2$ |

Table 7.1. Infinity cusp desingularization for $\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{10})}, 1)$

The bound then reads for the infinity cusp

$$a > \frac{2 \cdot 2k \cdot 3 \cdot 7}{6 \cdot 6} - s \frac{6 + 4}{6} = \frac{7k - 2s}{3} - s.$$

If $G(z_1, z_2) \in M_{2k}(\text{SL}_2(\mathcal{O}_K))$, we have

$$G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in (\frac{1}{2} \mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{10} \mathbb{Z})^+} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$
If \( a_\xi = 0 \) for all \( \xi \) with \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \leq \frac{7k-3s}{2} \), with \( m \) any of the six vertexes then \( G(z_1, z_2) \) is the zero form. In particular, for cusp forms of parallel weight 2, whose dimension is 1, we only need to check the elements with trace one. The first vertex gives the non-equivalent points

\[
\xi = \frac{-2}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{-1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{-2}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{2}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2}
\]

All the other ones give the point \( \xi = \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2} \).

Here is a small table comparing the number of elements and the dimensions for some values of \( k \):

| \( 2k \)  | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 100 | 150 |
|---------|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Number of Elts | 1518 | 3570 | 6486 | 9918 | 40716 | 91350 |
| Dimension   | 212 | 492 | 888 | 1402 | 5718 | 12952 |

Looking at the other cusp corresponds to look at the infinity cusp for the level \( \langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle \). For this level, the desingularization at infinity looks like Table 7.2.

| Label | Point | S.I. |
|-------|-------|------|
| \( m_1 \) | 2 | -4 |
| \( m_2 \) | \( 4 - \sqrt{10} \) | -3 |
| \( m_3 \) | \( 10 - 3\sqrt{10} \) | -2 |
| \( m_4 \) | \( 16 - 5\sqrt{10} \) | -3 |

**Table 7.2.** Infinity cusp desingularization for \( \Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{10}), \langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle) \)

Then, the bound for this level at the infinity cusp reads

\[
a > 2 \cdot 2k \cdot 3 \cdot 7 - 6 + 4 \cdot \frac{7k - 3s}{2} - s.
\]

If \( G(z_1, z_2) \in M_{2k}(\Gamma(\mathbb{O}_K, \langle 2, \sqrt{10} \rangle)) \), we have

\[
G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in (\mathbb{Z}^2 + \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{10}) \mathbb{Z})^+} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).
\]

If \( a_\xi = 0 \) for all \( \xi \) with \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \leq \frac{7k-3s}{2} \), with \( m \) any of the four vertexes then \( G(z_1, z_2) \) is the zero form. For cusp forms of parallel weight 2, whose dimension is 1, we need to check the elements with trace one or two. The first vertex gives the non-equivalent points (up to units squared)

\[
\xi = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}
\]

The first three points have trace 1, while the others trace 2. The second vertex gives the points

\[
\xi = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{3}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} + \frac{3}{2}.
\]
where the first two elements give trace 1 while the others trace 2. The third vertex gives the points

\[ \xi = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{11}{2\sqrt{10}}. \]

where the first one corresponds to trace 1 and the other to trace 2. Note that the last element is equivalent to \( \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{10}} \). The last vertex gives the points

\[ \xi = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{7}{4} + \frac{11}{2\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{7}{2} + \frac{7}{\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{7}{4} + \frac{11}{\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{19}{4} + \frac{15}{\sqrt{10}}. \]

where the first two elements correspond to trace 1 and the others to trace 2. The last two elements are equivalent to the elements \( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{10}} \) and \( \frac{1}{4} \) respectively, so we need to check 12 coefficients.

Here is a small table comparing the number of elements and the dimensions for some values of \( k \):

| 2k  | 20   | 30   | 40  | 50   | 100  | 150  |
|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|------|
| Elts| 2244 | 5304 | 9384| 14964| 60204| 135720|
| Dim | 212  | 492  | 888 | 1402 | 5718 | 12952|

7.2. The case \( \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{29}) \). In this case the class number and the narrow class number are both one. The discriminant is \( 29 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{8} \), hence Conjecture 2.9 holds and we can take \( n = 3 \) for the Hecke/Sturm bound. Applying the desingularization process of Appendix A, we see that for the principal ideal the picture looks like Table 7.3.

| Label | Point  | S.I. |
|-------|--------|-----|
| \( m_1 \) | 1      | -7  |
| \( m_2 \) | \( \frac{7 - \sqrt{29}}{2} \) | -2  |
| \( m_3 \) | \( 6 - \sqrt{29} \) | -2  |
| \( m_4 \) | \( \frac{17 - \sqrt{29}}{2} \) | -2  |
| \( m_5 \) | \( 11 - 2\sqrt{29} \) | -2  |

Table 7.3.Infinity cusp desingularization for \( \Gamma(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{29}), 1) \)

Then, the bound for this level at the infinity cusp reads

\[ a > \frac{2 \cdot 2k \cdot 3 \cdot 1}{5 \cdot 2} - s = \frac{6k}{5} - s. \]

If \( G(z_1, z_2) \in M_{2k}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_K)) \), we have

\[ G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in (\frac{7}{2\sqrt{10}} + (\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2\sqrt{10}})Z)^+} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)). \]

If \( a_\xi = 0 \) for all \( \xi \) with \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \leq \frac{6k}{5} \), with \( m \) any of the five vertexes then \( G(z_1, z_2) \) is the zero form. For cusp forms of parallel weight 2, whose dimension is 1, we need
to check the elements with trace one. The first vertex gives the five non-equivalent points
\[ \xi = \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2^{\sqrt{29}}}, \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{3}{2^{\sqrt{29}}}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{5}{2^{\sqrt{29}}}. \]

The second vertex, the third vertex, the fourth and the fifth vertex give the point \( \xi = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{5}{2^{\sqrt{29}}} \). So we need to check 5 elements of the Fourier expansion.

Here is a small table comparing the number of elements and the dimensions for some values of \( k \):

| 2k   | 20  | 30  | 40  | 50  | 100 | 150 | 200 | 300 |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of Elts | 390 | 855 | 1500 | 2326 | 9151 | 20477 | 36302 | 81453 |
| Dimension  | 92  | 212 | 381 | 602 | 2451 | 5552 | 9902 | 22352 |

7.3. The case \( \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{11}) \). This real quadratic field has class number 1 and narrow class number 2. Generators are given by the principal ideal and the prime ideal \((\sqrt{11})^{-1}\). Since \( D = 44 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{8} \), Conjecture 2.9 holds and we can take \( n = 3 \).

Applying the desingularization process of Appendix A, we see that for the principal ideal the picture looks like Table 7.4.

![Table 7.4](image)

The bound then reads for the infinity cusp
\[ a > \frac{4k \cdot 3 \cdot 7}{12 \cdot 6} - s = \frac{7k}{6} - s. \]

If \( G(z_1, z_2) \in M_{2k}(\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_K)) \), we have
\[ G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in (\mathbb{Z} + \frac{1}{2^{\sqrt{11}}} \mathbb{Z})^+} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)). \]

If \( a_\xi = 0 \) for all \( \xi \) with \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \leq \frac{7k}{6} \), with \( m \) any of the six vertexes, then \( G(z_1, z_2) \) is the zero form. For cusp forms of parallel weight 2, whose dimension is 2, we need to check elements with trace 1. The first vertex gives the seven non-equivalent points
\[ \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{3}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{11}}, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{1}{2}. \]

The second and the third vertices give the point \( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2^{\sqrt{11}}} \). The fourth vertex gives the points
\[ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{7}{2} + \frac{23}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{13}{2}, \frac{5}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{19}{2} + \frac{63}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{33}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{13}{2} + \frac{43}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{53}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}, \frac{19}{2} + \frac{63}{2^{\sqrt{11}}}. \]
The last two vertices give the point \( \frac{19}{2} + \frac{63}{2\sqrt{11}} \). We have to check 12 conditions, since the elements \( \frac{19}{2} + \frac{63}{2\sqrt{11}} \) and \( \frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2\sqrt{11}} \) differ by an even power of the fundamental unit.

Here is a small table comparing the number of elements and the dimensions for some values of \( k \):

| \( 2k \) | 20   | 30   | 40   | 50   | 100  | 150  |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of Elts | 792  | 1836 | 3312 | 5220 | 20532| 45936|
| Dimension   | 212  | 492  | 888  | 1402 | 5718 | 12952|

The desingularization for the class of \( (\sqrt{11})^{-1} \) has 12 lines. The representatives and their intersection is given in Table 7.5.

| Point | S.I. | Point | S.I. |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| \( \frac{11}{2} \) | -5   | \( -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{33}{2\sqrt{11}} \) | -5   |
| \( -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{33}{2\sqrt{11}} \) | -2   | \( -\frac{49}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{63}{2\sqrt{11}} \) | -2   |
| \( -\frac{11}{2} \) | -2   | \( -\frac{11}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{33}{2\sqrt{11}} \) | -2   |
| \( -\frac{3}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{7}{2} \) | -2   | \( -\frac{23}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{139}{11} \) | -2   |
| \( -\frac{11}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{7}{2} \) | -2   | \( -\frac{11}{2\sqrt{11}} + \frac{33}{2\sqrt{11}} \) | -2   |

Table 7.5. Infinity cusp desingularization for \( \Gamma(\mathcal{O}_Q, (\sqrt{11})^{-1}) \)

Then, the bound for this level at the infinity cusp reads

\[ a > \frac{7k}{3} - s. \]

If \( G(z_1, z_2) \in M_{2k}(\Gamma(\mathcal{O}_K, (\sqrt{11})^{-1})) \), we have

\[ G(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in (\frac{1}{2}Z + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{11}} Z)^+} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)). \]

If \( a_\xi = 0 \) for all \( \xi \) with \( \text{Tr}(m\xi) \leq \frac{7k}{3} \), with \( m \) any of the twelve vertices then \( G(z_1, z_2) \) is the zero form. For \( k = 2 \), the dimension is 3 and we have to check 179 conditions (which correspond to 138 different ideals).

Here is a small table comparing the number of elements and the dimensions for some values of \( k \) (the dashes in the table mean the number could not be computed):

| \( 2k \) | 20   | 30   | 40   | 50   | 100  | 150  |
|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of Elts | 21483| 49585| -     | -     | -     | -     |
| Dimension   | 213  | 493  | 889  | 1403 | 5719 | 12953|

Remark 7.1. Hecke operators do not act on the surface \( Y_1(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathcal{O}_K) \), but rather act as correspondences on the product of the surfaces \( Y_{\text{PGL}_2^+}(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathcal{O}_K) \times Y_{\text{PGL}_2^+}(\mathcal{O}_K, (\sqrt{11})^{-1}) \), i.e. they act on product of Hilbert modular forms where the first component is invariant under \( \text{PGL}_2^+(\mathcal{O}_K, 1) \) and the second one under \( \text{PGL}_2^+(\mathcal{O}_K, (\sqrt{11})^{-1}) \) (this are the automorphic forms, see [Gar90] for definitions of Hilbert modular...
forms, its relation with automorphic forms and Hecke operators. A form in $M_k(\text{PGL}_2^+(\mathcal{O}_K, (\sqrt{11})^{-1}))$ can be thought as an automorphic form supported only in one component.

Let $p_{11}$ denote the prime ideal generated by $\sqrt{11}$. Then the Hecke operator $T_{p_{11}}$ sends a form $F$ supported in $M_k(\text{PGL}_2^+(\mathcal{O}_K, (\sqrt{11})^{-1}))$ to the form supported in $M_k(\text{PGL}_2^+(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathcal{O}_K))$. Furthermore, if

$$F(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in M_\vee \cup \{0\}} a_\xi \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$

then

$$T_{p_{11}}(F)(z_1, z_2) = \sum_{\xi \in M_\vee \cup \{0\}} (11a_\xi + a_{\xi_{11}}) \exp(2\pi i (\xi z_1 + \xi' z_2)).$$

Assume that the form $F(z_1, z_2)$ is not in the kernel of the Hecke operator $T_{p_{11}}$ (they are usually invertible operators). Then if the Fourier coefficients $a_\xi$ and $a_{\xi_{11}}$, with $\xi$ in the Hecke/Sturm set for the trivial class are all zero/congruent to zero, then the form $F(z_1, z_2)$ itself is the zero form. This implies looking at less than 4 times the dimension coefficients instead of 100 times the dimension!

It is worthwhile studying the action of the Hecke operators to improve our Sturm bound for general real quadratic fields.

**Appendix A. Desingularization algorithm**

Recall that the isotropy group of any cusp for $\Gamma(\kappa, \kappa')$ is conjugate to a group of the form $G(M, V)$, where $M \subset K$ is an $\mathcal{O}_K$-module and $V \subset U_K^+$ is a subgroup of finite index. As a transformation group $G(M, V) = M \rtimes V$. To compute the desingularization of the cusp we first look at the module $M$.

An oriented basis of $M$ is a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis $M = \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$ such that $\det\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ \alpha' & \beta' \end{pmatrix} > 0$. To an oriented basis we can associate the indefinite binary quadratic form $Q(x, y) = N(M)(\alpha x + \beta y)$, where $N(M)$ indicates the content of the form $N(\alpha x + \beta y)$, i.e. the rational number which makes $Q(x, y)$ an integral primitive form.

If $\lambda$ is a totally positive element, multiplication by $\lambda$ sends oriented bases of $M$ to oriented bases of $\lambda M$, but clearly $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$ and $\langle \lambda \alpha, \lambda \beta \rangle$ have the same quadratic form attached. Choosing a different oriented basis gives an $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$-equivalent form, hence we get a bijection between the narrow class group of $K$ and $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$-equivalence classes of integral primitive indefinite binary quadratic forms of discriminant $D$.

Following [vdG88], we call a form $ax^2 + bxy + cy^2$ of discriminant $D$ reduced if

$$0 < \frac{b - \sqrt{D}}{2a} < 1 < \frac{b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}.$$  \hfill (14)

Using strict $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ equivalence, one can reduce any indefinite integral binary quadratic form of discriminant $D$ to a reduced one. In other words, starting from $M$ one gets an oriented basis of the form $\lambda M = \left(\frac{b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}\right) \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}$.

**Remark A.1**. This notion of a reduced form is not universal. For example, in Cohen’s book (see [Coh93] Definition 5.6.2) a reduced indefinite integral binary
quadratic form satisfies
\[ 0 \leq \sqrt{D - b} < \frac{\sqrt{D} + b}{2|a|} < 1. \]
Starting from \( Q(x, y) \) one can use Cohen's algorithm ([Coh93] Algorithm 5.6.5 which is for example implemented in [PAR12]) to get a Cohen-reduced form. Note that we can always take as reduced form one with \( a > 1 \) by the matrix \((\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1})\), which sends \( b \) to \( b + 2a \), we get a reduced form in the sense of [1].

Once we computed the reduced basis for \( \lambda M \), the first vertices of the convex hull are:
\[
A_{-1} = w_0 := \frac{b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}, \quad A_0 = 1, \quad A_{k+1} := b_k A_k - A_{k-1},
\]
where the numbers \( b_k \) are defined recursively by
\[
b_k := \lfloor w_k \rfloor \quad \text{and} \quad w_{k+1} := \frac{1}{b_k - w_k}.
\]

Now we add the multiplicative structure. Let \( \varepsilon \) be a generator of \( U_{O_K}^2 \). It acts on the sequence \( \{A_k\} \) with a finite number of representatives. Moreover, the sequence \( \{b_k\} \) (and \( \{w_k\} \) also) is periodic with some length \( r \). Then for all \( k \in \mathbb{Z} \),
\[
A_k = \varepsilon^{\pm \nu} A_{k+r},
\]
where \( \nu = 1 \) if the fundamental unit of \( K \) has norm \(-1\) and \( \nu = 2 \) otherwise.

Let \( \tilde{r} = r \cdot \nu \cdot [U_{O_K}^2 : V] \). Then the resolution attached to \( G(M, V) \) consists of \( \tilde{r} \) lines \( S_k, k \in \mathbb{Z}/\tilde{r} \) (each one isomorphic to \( \mathbb{P}^1 \)) which satisfy:

- \( S_k^2 = -b_k \) if \( \tilde{r} \geq 2 \).
- Let \( n, m \) be integers and \( \tilde{r} \geq 3 \). Then:
  - If \( n \not\equiv m + 1 \) (mod \( \tilde{r} \)), \( S_n \cap S_m = \emptyset \).
  - If \( n \equiv \pm 1 \) (mod \( \tilde{r} \)), \( S_n \cap S_m \) is one point.
- If \( \tilde{r} = 1 \), then \( S_0 \) is singular and \( S_0^2 = -b_0 + 2 \).
- If \( \tilde{r} = 2 \), then \( S_0 \) and \( S_1 \) are non-singular and intersect in 2 points.

**Appendix B. Rational case**

Recall that \( Y_{\Gamma(O_K, a)} \) is rational for \( D = 5, 8, 12, 13, 17, 21, 24, 28, 33, 60 \) and \( a \) in the principal genus, or for \( D = 12 \) and \( a \) not in the principal genus. The purpose of this appendix is to give a Sturm bound for some of these cases. If \( \epsilon \) is an integral ideal such that \( Y_{\Gamma(c, a)} \) or a blow down of it, is a minimal surface of general type we still get the Hecke/Sturm bound
\[
a > \frac{4k[\Gamma(c, a) : \Gamma(O_K, a)]\zeta_k(-1)}{\sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2)} - s \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^h \sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2)}{\sum_j (b_{i,j} - 2)} \right),
\]
where the numbers \( b_{i,j} \) are the ones appearing in the cusp desingularization process of \( Y_{\Gamma(c, a)} \), or that of its blow down. Here is a summary of the ideals \( \epsilon \) which give a minimal surface of general type for some values of \( D \):

- \( D = 5: \epsilon = 3 \) ([vdG88] Example 7.5 p. 179). There are ten non-equivalent cusps, each one resolved by a cycle \((3, 3, 3, 3)\).
HECKE/STURM BOUNDS FOR HMF OVER REAL QUADRATIC FIELDS

- $D = 8$: $c = p_7$ a prime ideal or norm 7 ([vdG88] page 196). There are eight cusps, each one resolved by a cycle $(4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 2)$.
- $D = 13$: $c = 2$ (see [vdGZ77] page 197) gives a surface of general type with the components of $F_1$ as the unique exceptional curves. There are 5 cusps, each one in the minimal model is resolved by a cycle $(2, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3)$.
- $D = 17$: $c = 2$ (see [vdG88], page 198) gives a surface of general type with the components of $F_1$ as the unique exceptional curves. There are 9 cusps, each one resolved in the minimal model by a cycle $(2, 2, 3, 3, 2, 2, 3, 2)$.
- $D = 21$: $c = 2$ (Theorem 3 of [vdGZ77]) gives a surface of general type with the components of $F_1$ as the unique exceptional curves. There are 5 cusps, each one resolved in the minimal model by a cycle $(5, 5, 5, 5, 5)$.
- $D = 12$ and $a$ not in the principal genus: $c = 2$ ([vdG88] page 197) gives a minimal surface of general type. There are 3 cusps, each one resolved by a cycle $(2, 3)$.

With these data, we get the following Hecke bounds for Hilbert modular form of parallel weight $k$, level $\Gamma(c, a)$ and vanishing with order $s$ at all cusps:

| $D$ | 5 | 8 | 12 | 13 | 17 | 21 | 24 |
|-----|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| $a$ | $\sqrt{3}$ | 1 | $\sqrt{3}$ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| $a >$ | $48k - 10s$ | $24k - 8s$ | $4k - 3s$ | $\frac{14k}{3} - 5s$ | $4k - 5s$ | $\frac{4n}{3} - 5s$ | $12k - 3s$ |

References

[Cha90] C.-L. Chai. Arithmetic minimal compactification of the Hilbert-Blumenthal moduli spaces. Ann. of Math. (2), 131(3):541–554, 1990.
[Coh93] Henri Cohen. A course in computational algebraic number theory, volume 138 of Graduate Texts in Mathematics. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1993.
[DPS12] Luis Dieulefait, Ariel Pacetti, and Matthias Schütt. Modularity of the Consani-Scholten quintic. Doc. Math., 17:953–987, 2012. With an appendix by José Burgos Gil and Ariel Pacetti.
[Fre03] Eberhard Freitag. Modular embeddings of hilbert modular surfaces. http://www.rzuser.uni-heidelberg.de/~t91/index4.html 2003.
[Gar90] Paul B. Garrett. Holomorphic Hilbert modular forms. The Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole Mathematics Series. Wadsworth & Brooks/Cole Advanced Books & Software, Pacific Grove, CA, 1990.
[Gar02] Eyal Z. Goren. Lectures on Hilbert modular varieties and modular forms, volume 14 of CRM Monograph Series. American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2002. With the assistance of Marc-Hubert Nicole.
[Hec70] Erich Hecke. Mathematische Werke. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen, 1970. Mit einer Vorbemerkung von B. Schoenberg, einer Anmerkung von Carl Ludwig Siegel, und einer Todesanzeige von Jakob Nielsen, Zweite durchgesehene Auflage.
[Her87] Carl Friedrich Hermann. Thetareihen und modulare Spitzenformen zu den Hilbertschen Modulgruppen reell-quadratischer Körper. Math. Ann., 277(2):327–344, 1987.
[Her89] Carl Friedrich Hermann. Thetareihen und modulare Spitzenformen zu den Hilbertschen Modulgruppen reell-quadratischer Körper. II. Math. Ann., 283(4):689–700, 1989.
[Kat73] N. Katz. $p$-adic properties of modular schemes and modular forms. In W. Kuyk and J. P. Serre, editors, Modular functions of one variable III, volume 350 of Lecture Notes in Mathematics, pages 69–190. Springer-Verlag, 1973.
[KU85] Toshiyuki Katsura and Kenji Ueno. On elliptic surfaces in characteristic $p$. Math. Ann., 272(3):291–330, 1985.

[Pap95] Georgios Pappas. Arithmetic models for Hilbert modular varieties. Compositio Math., 98(1):43–76, 1995.

[PAR12] The PARI Group, Bordeaux. PARI/GP, version 2.6.0, 2012. available from http://pari.math.u-bordeaux.fr/

[Rap78] M. Rapoport. Compactifications de l’espace de modules de Hilbert-Blumenthal. Compositio Math., 36(3):255–335, 1978.

[Shi94] Goro Shimura. Introduction to the arithmetic theory of automorphic functions, volume 11 of Publications of the Mathematical Society of Japan. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1994. Reprint of the 1971 original, Kanô Memorial Lectures, 1.

[vdG78] G. van der Geer. Hilbert modular forms for the field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6})$. Math. Ann., 233(2):163–179, 1978.

[vdG88] Gerard van der Geer. Hilbert modular surfaces, volume 16 of Ergebnisse der Mathematik und ihrer Grenzgebiete (3) [Results in Mathematics and Related Areas (3)]. Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1988.

[vdGZ77] G. van der Geer and D. Zagier. The Hilbert modular group for the field $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{13})$. Invent. Math., 42:93–133, 1977.