# FAKE PROJECTIVE PLANES

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Dedicated to David Mumford

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#### 1. Introduction

1.1. A fake projective plane is a smooth compact complex surface which is not the complex projective plane but has the same Betti numbers as the complex projective plane. Such a surface is known to be projective algebraic and it is the quotient of the (open) unit ball B in  $\mathbb{C}^2$  (B is the symmetric space of PU(2,1)) by a torsion-free cocompact discrete subgroup of PU(2,1) whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3. These surfaces have the smallest Euler-Poincaré characteristic among all smooth surfaces of general type. The first fake projective plane was constructed by David Mumford [Mu] using p-adic uniformization, and later two more examples were found by M. Ishida and F. Kato in [IK] using a similar method. In [Ke] JongHae Keum [Ke] has constructed an example which is birational to a cyclic cover of degree 7 of a Dolgachev surface (see 5.15 below). It is known that there are only finitely many fake projective planes ([Mu]), and an important problem in complex algebraic geometry is to determine them all.

It is proved in [KI] and [Y] that the fundamental group of a fake projective plane is a torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroup of PU(2,1). It follows from Mostow's strong rigidity theorem ([Mo]) that the fundamental group of a fake projective plane determines it uniquely up to isometry. In this paper we will make use of the volume formula of [P], together with some number theoretic estimates, to list all torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroups (of PU(2,1)) whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3, see §§5, 8 and 9. This list of course contains the fundamental groups of all fake projective planes. It provides several new examples of fake projective planes. In fact, we show that there are exactly twenty eight distinct nonempty classes of fake projective planes (see 1.4–1.5 below). We obtain these fake projective planes as quotients of the ball B by explicitly given torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroups of either SU(2,1) or PU(2,1). In §10, we use this explicit description of their fundamental groups to prove that for any fake projective plane P occurring in these twenty eight classes,  $H_1(P, \mathbb{Z})$  is nonzero. We also prove that if P is not a fake projective plane arising from the pair  $C_2$  or  $C_{18}$  ( $C_i$  as in 8.2), its fundamental group

embeds in SU(2,1) (Proposition 10.3). Using computer-assisted group theoretic computations, Donald Cartwright and Tim Steger have shown recently that the fundamental group of every fake projective plane arising from the pair  $C_2$  also embeds in SU(2,1). For any fake projective plane P for which this holds, the canonical line bundle  $K_P$  is divisible by 3, i.e., there is a holomorphic line bundle L on P such that  $K_P = 3L$  (see 10.4). In 10.5 we show that any fake-projective plane can be embedded in  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{14}$  as a smooth complex surface of degree 49.

We will now present a brief outline of our methods and results. We begin by giving a description of the forms of SU(2,1) over number fields used in this paper.

**1.2.** Let k be a real number field,  $v_o$  be a real place of k, and G be a simple simply connected algebraic k-group such that  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong \mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ , and for all other archimedean places v of k,  $G(k_v) \cong \mathrm{SU}(3)$ . From the description of absolutely simple simply connected groups of type  ${}^2A_2$  (see, for example, [Ti1]), we see that k is totally real, and there is a totally complex quadratic extension  $\ell$  of k, a division algebra  $\mathscr{D}$  of degree n|3, with center  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr{D}$  given with an involution  $\sigma$  of the second kind such that  $k = \{x \in \ell \mid x = \sigma(x)\}$ , and a nondegenerate hermitian form h on  $\mathscr{D}^{3/n}$  defined in terms of the involution  $\sigma$ , such that G is the special unitary group  $\mathrm{SU}(h)$  of h. If  $\mathscr{D} = \ell$ , h is a hermitian form on  $\ell^3$  and its determinant  $\det(h)$  is defined in the usual way. On the other hand, if  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra, then  $h(x,y) = \sigma(x)ay$ , for some  $a \in \mathscr{D}^{\sigma}$  and the determinant  $\det(h)$  of h is by definition  $\mathrm{Nrd}(a)$  modulo  $N_{\ell/k}(\ell^{\times})$ .

Let  $k, \ell, \mathscr{D}$  be as above. We will now show that the k-group G is uniquely determined, up to a k-isomorphism, by  $\mathscr{D}$  (i. e., the k-isomorphism class of G does not depend on the choice of the involution  $\sigma$  and the hermitian form h on  $\mathscr{D}^{3/n}$ ). Let  $\sigma$  be an involution of  $\mathscr{D}$  of the second kind with  $k = \{x \in \ell \mid x = \sigma(x)\}$ . Let h be a hermitian form on  $\mathscr{D}^{3/n}$ . For  $x \in k^{\times}$ , xh is again an hermitian form on  $\mathscr{D}^{3/n}$ , and  $\det(xh) = x^3 \det(h)$ . Now since  $N_{\ell/k}(\ell^{\times}) \supset k^{\times 2}$ ,  $\det(\det(h)h)$ , as an element of  $k^{\times}/N_{\ell/k}(\ell^{\times})$ , is 1. Moreover,  $\mathrm{SU}(h) = \mathrm{SU}(\det(h)h)$ . Hence, it would suffice to work with hermitian forms of determinant 1.

If  $\mathcal{D} = \ell$ , and h is a hermitian form on  $\ell^3$  of determinant 1 such that the group  $\mathrm{SU}(h)$  is isotropic at  $v_o$ , and is anisotropic at all other real places of k (or, equivalently, h is indefinite at  $v_o$ , and definite at all other real places), then being of determinant 1, its signature (or index) at  $v_o$  is -1, and at all other real places of k it is 3. Corollary 6.6 of [Sc, Chap. 10] implies that any two such hermitian forms on  $\ell^3$  are isometric, and hence they determine a unique G up to a k-isomorphism.

Now let us assume that  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra with center  $\ell$ ,  $\sigma$  an involution of the second kind such that for the hermitian form  $h_0$  on  $\mathscr{D}$  defined by  $h_0(x,y) = \sigma(x)y$ , the group  $\mathrm{SU}(h_0)$  is isotropic at  $v_o$ , and is anisotropic at every other real place of k. For  $z \in \mathscr{D}^{\times}$ , let  $\mathrm{Int}(z)$  denote the automorphism  $x \mapsto zxz^{-1}$  of  $\mathscr{D}$ . Let  $\mathscr{D}^{\sigma} = \{z \in \mathscr{D} \mid \sigma(z) = z\}$ . Then for all  $z \in \mathscr{D}^{\sigma \times}$ ,  $\mathrm{Int}(z) \cdot \sigma$  is again an involution of  $\mathscr{D}$  of the second kind, and any involution of  $\mathscr{D}$  of the second kind is of this form.

Now for  $z \in \mathscr{D}^{\sigma}$ , given an hermitian form h' on  $\mathscr{D}$  with respect to the involution  $\operatorname{Int}(z) \cdot \sigma$ , the form  $h = z^{-1}h'$  is a hermitian form on  $\mathscr{D}$  with respect to  $\sigma$ , and  $\operatorname{SU}(h') = \operatorname{SU}(h)$ . Therefore, to determine all the special unitary groups we are interested in, it is enough to work just with the involution  $\sigma$ , and to consider all hermitian forms h on  $\mathscr{D}$ , with respect to  $\sigma$ , of determinant 1, such that the group  $\operatorname{SU}(h)$  is isotropic at  $v_o$ , and is anisotropic at all other real places of k. Let h be such a hermitian form. Then  $h(x,y) = \sigma(x)ay$ , for some  $a \in \mathscr{D}^{\sigma}$ , and  $\det(h) = 1$  so  $\operatorname{Nrd}(a) \in N_{\ell/k}(\ell^{\times})$ . As the elements of  $N_{\ell/k}(\ell^{\times})$  are positive at all real places of k, we see that the signatures of h and  $h_0$  are equal at every real place of k. Corollary 6.6 of [Sc, Chap. 10] again implies that the hermitian forms h and  $h_0$  are isometric. Hence,  $\operatorname{SU}(h)$  is k-isomorphic to  $\operatorname{SU}(h_0)$ . Thus we have shown that  $\mathscr{D}$  determines a unique k-form G of  $\operatorname{SU}(2,1)$ , up to a k-isomorphism, namely  $\operatorname{SU}(h_0)$ , with the desired behavior at the real places of k. For any commutative k-algebra A, we will denote the A-linear extension of  $\sigma$  to  $A \otimes_k \mathscr{D}$  also by  $\sigma$ . The group G(A) of A-rational points of this G is

$$G(A) = \{ g \in \operatorname{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid g\sigma(g) = 1 \text{ and } \operatorname{Nrd}(g) = 1 \}.$$

Let  $\mathscr{D}$  and the involution  $\sigma$  be as in the previous paragraph. Let  $\mathscr{D}^o$  be the opposite of  $\mathscr{D}$ . Then the involution  $\sigma$  is also an involution of  $\mathscr{D}^o$ . The pair  $(\mathscr{D}^o, \sigma)$  determines a k-form of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  which is clearly k-isomorphic to the one determined by the pair  $(\mathscr{D}, \sigma)$ .

In the sequel, the adjoint group of G will be denoted by  $\overline{G}$ , and  $\varphi$  will denote the natural isogeny  $G \to \overline{G}$ . It is known that if  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra, then  $\operatorname{Aut}(G)(k) = \overline{G}(k)$ , i.e., any k-rational automorphism of G (and so also of  $\overline{G}$ ) is inner.

1.3. Let  $\Pi$  be a torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroup of PU(2,1) whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3. The fundamental group of a fake projective plane is such a subgroup. Let  $\varphi: SU(2,1) \to PU(2,1)$  be the natural surjective homomorphism. The kernel of  $\varphi$  is the center of SU(2,1) which is a subgroup of order 3. Let  $\widetilde{\Pi} = \varphi^{-1}(\Pi)$ . Then  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is a cocompact arithmetic subgroup of SU(2,1). The orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\widetilde{\Pi})$  of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  (i. e., the Euler-Poincaré characteristic in the sense of C. T. C. Wall, cf. [Se1], §1.8) is 1. Hence, the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic of any discrete subgroup of SU(2,1) containing  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is a reciprocal integer.

Let k be the number field and G be the k-form of SU(2,1) associated with the arithmetic subgroup  $\widetilde{\Pi}$ . The field k is generated by the traces, in the adjoint representation of PU(2,1), of the elements in  $\Pi$ , and G is a simple simply connected algebraic k-group such that for a real place, say  $v_o$ , of k,  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong SU(2,1)$ , and for all archimedean places  $v \neq v_o$ ,  $G(k_v)$  is isomorphic to the compact Lie group SU(3), and  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is commensurable with  $\widetilde{\Pi} \cap G(k)$ . Throughout this paper we will use the description of G and  $\overline{G}$  given in 1.2. In particular,  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr{D}$  and h are as in there.

Let  $V_f$  (resp.  $V_{\infty}$ ) be the set of nonarchimedean (resp. archimedean) places of k. Let  $\mathcal{R}_{\ell}$  be the set of nonarchimedean places of k which ramify in  $\ell$ . The k-algebra of finite adèles of k, i. e., the restricted direct product of the  $k_v$ ,  $v \in V_f$ , will be denoted by  $A_f$ .

The image  $\Pi$  of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  is actually contained in  $\overline{G}(k)$  ([BP], 1.2). For all  $v \in V_f$ , we fix a parahoric subgroup  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  which is minimal among the parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  normalized by  $\Pi$ . Then  $\prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$  is an open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$ , see [BP], §1. Hence,  $\Lambda := G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$  is a principal arithmetic subgroup ([P], 3.4) which is normalized by  $\Pi$ , and therefore also by  $\widetilde{\Pi}$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}$  be its image in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . Then  $\overline{\Gamma} \subset \overline{G}(k)$  ([BP], 1.2). As the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in G(k) equals  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Gamma \cap G(k) = \Lambda$ . Since  $\Gamma$  contains  $\widetilde{\Pi}$ , its orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer.

In terms of the normalized Haar-measure  $\mu$  on  $G(k_{v_o})$  used in [P] and [BP],  $\chi(\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma)$  (see §4 of [BP], note that the compact dual of the symmetric space B of  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong \mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  is  $\mathbf{P}^2_{\mathbb{C}}$ , and the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of  $\mathbf{P}^2_{\mathbb{C}}$  is 3). Thus the condition that  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer is equivalent to the condition that the covolume  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma)$ , of  $\Gamma$ , is one third of a reciprocal integer; in particular,  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) \leq 1/3$ . Also,  $\chi(\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)/[\Gamma:\Lambda]$ , and the volume formula of [P] can be used to compute  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)$  precisely, see 2.4 below. Proposition 2.9 of [BP] implies that  $[\Gamma:\Lambda]$  is a power of 3. Now we see that if  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer, then the numerator of the rational number  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)$  must be a power of 3.

- 1.4. In §§4–5, and 7–9, we will determine all k,  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr{D}$ , simple simply connected algebraic k-groups G so that for a real place  $v_o$  of k,  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong \mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ , for all archimedean  $v \neq v_o$ ,  $G(k_v) \cong \mathrm{SU}(3)$ , and (up to conjugation by an element of  $\overline{G}(k)$ ) all collections  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  such that (i)  $\prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$  is an open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$ , (ii) the principal arithmetic subgroup  $\Lambda := G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$  considered as a (discrete) subgroup of  $G(k_{v_o})$  is cocompact (by Godement compactness criterion, this is equivalent to the condition that G is anisotropic over k), and (iii) the image  $\overline{\Gamma}$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  of the normalizer  $\Gamma$  of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$  contains a torsion-free subgroup  $\Pi$  of finite index whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3. Then the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic of  $\Gamma$  is a reciprocal integer.
- 1.5. Let us first consider the case where  $\mathscr{D} = \ell$ . Then h is a nondegenerate hermitian form on  $\ell^3$  (defined in terms of the nontrivial automorphism of  $\ell/k$ ) which is indefinite at  $v_o$  and definite at all other real places of k. Let  $G = \mathrm{SU}(h)$ , and  $\overline{G}$  be its adjoint group. We prove below (Proposition 8.8) that if  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  contains a torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroup  $\Pi$  with  $\chi(\Pi) = 3$ , then, in the notation of 8.2,  $(k,\ell)$  must be one of the following five:  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_8$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{11}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , and  $\mathcal{C}_{21}$ . Using quite sophisticated computer-assisted group theoretic computations, Cartwright and Steger have recently shown (see [CS2]) that for  $(k,\ell)$  any of these five pairs the fundamental group of a fake projective plane cannot be an arithmetic subgroup of  $\mathrm{PU}(h)$ .

Cartwright and Steger have also shown that there exists a rather unexpected smooth projective complex algebraic surface, uniformized by the complex 2-ball, whose fundamental group is a cocompact torsion-free arithmetic subgroup of PU(h), h as above, with  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{11} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{12}))$ , and whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3 but the first Betti-number is nonzero (it is actually 2); we name this surface the "Cartwright-Steger surface". Since the first Betti-number of this surface is nonzero, it admits n-sheeted covers for every positive integer n. The Euler-Poincaré characteristic of such a cover is 3n.

- 1.6. In view of the result mentioned in the first paragraph of 1.5, we will assume in the rest of this section that  $\mathscr{D} \neq \ell$ . We will prove that (up to natural equivalence) there are exactly twenty eight distinct  $\{k,\ell,G,(P_v)_{v\in V_f}\}$  satisfying the conditions mentioned in 1.4. Each of these twenty eight sets determines a unique (up to isomorphism) principal arithmetic subgroup  $\Lambda$  (=  $G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$ ), which in turn determines a unique arithmetic subgroup  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  (recall that  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is the image in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  of the normalizer  $\Gamma$  of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ ). For eighteen of these twenty eight,  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ , see Sect. 5; and there are two with  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ , two with  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ , and three each with  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6})$  and  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7})$ , see Sect. 9. The pair  $(k,\ell) = (\mathbb{Q},\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}))$  gives three, the pair  $(\mathbb{Q},\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-15}))$  gives four, and the pair  $(\mathbb{Q},\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  gives two classes of fake projective planes.
- 1.7. If  $\Pi$ ,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Gamma$ , and the parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  are as in 1.3, then for  $v \in V_f$ , since  $P_v$  was assumed to be minimal among the parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  normalized by  $\Pi$ , if for a v,  $P_v$  is maximal, then it is the *unique* parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  normalized by  $\Pi$ . It will turn out that for every  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P_v$  appearing in 1.3 is a maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  except when  $(k, \ell)$  is either  $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}))$  or  $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2}))$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_3))$ , in which cases  $P_v$  is non-maximal for at most one v.
- 1.8. We will now describe the class of fake projective planes associated to each of the twenty eight  $\Gamma$ 's of 1.6. The orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  equals  $3\chi(\Gamma) = 3\chi(\Lambda)/[\Gamma : \Lambda]$ , and we compute it precisely. Now if  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index  $3/\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$ , then  $\chi(\Pi) = 3$ , and if, moreover,  $H^1(\Pi, \mathbb{C})$  vanishes (or, equivalently, the abelianization  $\Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  is finite), then by Poincaré-duality,  $H^3(\Pi,\mathbb{C})$  vanishes too, and hence, as  $\chi(B/\Pi) = \chi(\Pi) = 3$ ,  $B/\Pi$  is a fake projective plane. We will show that each of the twenty eight  $\overline{\Gamma}$  does contain a  $\Pi$  with the desired properties. The class of fake projective planes given by  $\Gamma$  (or  $\overline{\Gamma}$ ) consists of the fake projective planes  $B/\Pi$ , where  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index  $3/\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$  with  $\Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  finite.

We observe that in principle, for a given  $\Gamma$ , the subgroups  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  as above can all be determined in the following way: First find a "small" presentation of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  using a "nice" fundamental domain in B (maximal arithmetic subgroups tend to have small presentation), and use this presentation to list all torsion-free subgroups of

index  $3/\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$  whose abelianization is finite. (Note that the computations below show that  $3/\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$  is quite small; in fact, it equals 1, 3, 9 or 21.) This has recently been carried out by Cartwright and Steger using ingenious computer-assisted group theoretic computations. They have shown (see [[CS1]]) that the twenty eight classes of fake projective planes altogether contain *fifty* distinct fake projective planes up to isometry with respect to the Poincaré metric. Since each such fake projective plane as a Riemannian manifold supports two distinct complex structures [KK, §5], there are exactly one hundred fake projective planes counted up to biholomorphism.

Cartwright and Steger have given explicit generators and relations for the fundamental group (which is a cocompact torsion-free arithmetic subgroup of PU(2,1)) of each of the fake projective planes, determined their automorphism group, and computed their first homology with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$ . They have shown that the quotient of six of the fake projective planes by a subgroup of order 3 of the automorphism group is a simply connected singular surface. We propose to call these simply connected singular surfaces the "Cartwright-Steger singular surfaces".

Cartwright and Steger have also found that the fundamental group of eight of the one hundred fake projective planes do not admit an embedding into SU(2,1) as a discrete subgroup, hence the canonical line bundle of these fake projective planes is not divisible by 3 in their Picard group. (All such fake projective planes arise from the pair  $C_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_3))$ .)

1.9. The results of this paper show, in particular, that any arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$  of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ , with  $\chi(\Gamma) \leqslant 1$ , must arise from a k-form G of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  as above, where the pair  $(k,\ell)$  consists of  $k=\mathbb{Q}$ , and  $\ell$  is one of the eleven imaginary quadratic fields listed in Proposition 3.5, or  $(k,\ell)$  is one of the forty pairs  $\mathcal{C}_1$ – $\mathcal{C}_{40}$  described in 8.2. The covolumes, and hence the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristics, of these arithmetic subgroups can be computed using the volume formula given in 2.4 and the values of  $\mu$  given in Proposition 3.5 and in 8.2. The surfaces arising as the quotient of B by one of these arithmetic subgroups are often singular. However, as they have a small orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic, they may have interesting geometric properties.

For a nice exposition of the results proved, and techniques employed, in this paper, see Bertrand Rémy's Bourbaki report [Ré].

### §2. Preliminaries

A comprehensive survey of the basic definitions and the main results of the Bruhat–Tits theory of reductive groups over nonarchimedean local fields is given in [Ti2].

**2.1.** Let the totally real number field k, and its totally complex quadratic extension  $\ell$ , a real place  $v_o$  of k, and the k-form G of SU(2,1) be as in 1.2. Throughout this

paper, we will use the description of G given in 1.2 and the notations introduced in  $\S 1$ .

We shall say that a collection  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  is coherent if  $\prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$  is an open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$ . Let U be a compact-open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$ , and  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  be a coherent collection of parahoric subgroups. Let  $U_v$  be the projection of U in  $G(k_v)$ . Then as  $U \cap \prod P_v$  is a compact-open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$ , its projection in  $G(k_v)$  is a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  for all but finitely many  $v \in V_f$  ([Ti2], 3.9). If for a  $v \in V_f$ , the projection of  $U \cap \prod P_v$  in  $G(k_v)$  (this projection is contained in  $U_v \cap P_v$ ) is a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup, then by maximality of these subgroups among compact subgroups of  $G(k_v)$ , we conclude that  $P_v$  is hyperspecial and  $U_v = P_v$ . Thus for all but finitely many  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P_v$  is hyperspecial and  $U_v = P_v$ . Now if  $(P'_v)_{v \in V_f}$  is another coherent collection of parahoric subgroups, then  $U := \prod P'_v$  is a compact-open subgroup of  $G(A_f)$  and we conclude from the above observations that for all but finitely many  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P'_v = P_v$ .

We fix a coherent collection  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  and let  $\Lambda := G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . Note that as the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in G(k) equals  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Gamma \cap G(k) = \Lambda$ . We assume in the sequel that  $\chi(\Gamma) \leq 1$ .

The Haar-measure  $\mu$  on  $G(k_{v_o})$  is the one used in [BP].

All unexplained notations are as in [BP] and [P]. Thus for a number field K,  $D_K$  denotes the absolute value of its discriminant,  $h_K$  its class number, i.e., the order of its class group Cl(K). We shall denote by  $n_{K,3}$  the order of the 3-primary component of Cl(K), and by  $h_{K,3}$  the order of the subgroup (of Cl(K)) consisting of the elements of order dividing 3. Then  $h_{K,3} \leq n_{K,3} \leq h_K$ .

For a number field K, U(K) will denote the multiplicative-group of units of K, and  $K_3$  the subgroup of  $K^{\times}$  consisting of the elements x such that for every normalized valuation v of K,  $v(x) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$ .

We will denote the degree  $[k : \mathbb{Q}]$  of k by d, and for any nonarchimedean place v of k,  $q_v$  will denote the cardinality of the residue field  $\mathfrak{f}_v$  of  $k_v$ .

For a positive integer n,  $\mu_n$  will denote the kernel of the endomorphism  $x \mapsto x^n$  of  $GL_1$ . Then the center C of G is k-isomorphic to the kernel of the norm map  $N_{\ell/k}$  from the algebraic group  $R_{\ell/k}(\mu_3)$ , obtained from  $\mu_3$  by Weil's restriction of scalars, to  $\mu_3$ . Since the norm map  $N_{\ell/k}: \mu_3(\ell) \to \mu_3(k)$  is onto,  $\mu_3(k)/N_{\ell/k}(\mu_3(\ell))$  is trivial, and hence, the Galois cohomology group  $H^1(k,C)$  is isomorphic to the kernel of the homomorphism  $\ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3} \to k^{\times}/k^{\times 3}$  induced by the norm map. This kernel equals  $\ell^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$ , where  $\ell^{\bullet} = \{x \in \ell^{\times} \mid N_{\ell/k}(x) \in k^{\times 3}\}$ .

**2.2.** For  $v \in V_f$ , let the "type"  $\Theta_v$  of  $P_v$  be as in 2.2 of [BP], and  $\Xi_{\Theta_v}$  be as in 2.8 there. We observe here, for later use, that for a nonarchimedean place v,  $\Xi_{\Theta_v}$  is nontrivial if, and only if, G splits at v (then v splits in  $\ell$ , i.e.,  $k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is a direct

product of two fields, each isomorphic to  $k_v$ ) and  $P_v$  is an Iwahori subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  (then  $\Theta_v$  is the empty set), and in this case  $\#\Xi_{\Theta_v} = 3$ .

We recall that  $G(k_v)$  contains a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup if and only if v is unramified in  $\ell$  and G is quasi-split at v (i. e., it contains a Borel subgroup defined over  $k_v$ ). Let  $\mathscr{T}$  be the set of nonarchimedean places v of k such that in the collection  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  under consideration,  $P_v$  is not maximal, and also all those v which are unramified in  $\ell$  and  $P_v$  is not hyperspecial. Let  $\mathscr{T}_0$  be the subset of  $\mathscr{T}$  consisting of places where the group G is anisotropic. Then  $\mathscr{T}$  is finite, and for any nonarchimedean  $v \notin \mathscr{T}$ ,  $\Xi_{\Theta_v}$  is trivial. We note that every place  $v \in \mathscr{T}_0$  splits in  $\ell$  since an absolutely simple anisotropic group over a nonarchimedean local field is necessarily of inner type  $A_n$  (another way to see this is to recall that, over a local field, the only central simple algebras which admit an involution of the second kind are the matrix algebras). We also note that every absolutely simple group of type  $A_2$  defined and isotropic over a field K is quasi-split (i. e., it contains a Borel subgroup defined over K).

If v does not split in  $\ell$  (i.e.,  $\ell_v := k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is a field), then G is quasi-split over  $k_v$  (and its  $k_v$ -rank is 1). In this case, if  $P_v$  is not an Iwahori subgroup, then it is a maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , and there are two conjugacy classes of maximal parahoric subgroups in  $G(k_v)$ . Moreover, if P' and P'' are the two maximal parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  containing a common Iwahori subgroup I, then the derived subgroups of any Levi subgroups of the reduction mod  $\mathfrak{p}$  of P' and P'' are nonisomorphic: if  $\ell_v$  is an unramified extension of  $k_v$ , then the two derived subgroups are  $SU_3$  and  $SL_2$ , and if  $\ell_v$  is a ramified extension of  $k_v$ , then the two derived subgroups are  $SL_2$  and  $PSL_2$ , see [Ti2], 3.5. Hence, P' is not conjugate to P'' under the action of  $Av(k_v) \cap \overline{G}(k_v)$ . In particular, if an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$  normalizes I, then it normalizes both P' and P'' also. If v ramifies in  $\ell$ , then P' and P'' are of same volume with respect to any Haar-measure on  $G(k_v)$ , since, in this case, P': I = [P'': I].

**2.3.** By Dirichlet's unit theorem,  $U(k) \cong \{\pm 1\} \times \mathbb{Z}^{d-1}$ , and  $U(\ell) \cong \mu(\ell) \times \mathbb{Z}^{d-1}$ , where  $\mu(\ell)$  is the finite cyclic group of roots of unity in  $\ell$ . Hence,  $U(k)/U(k)^3 \cong (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{d-1}$ , and  $U(\ell)/U(\ell)^3 \cong \mu(\ell)_3 \times (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^{d-1}$ , where  $\mu(\ell)_3$  is the group of cube roots of unity in  $\ell$ . Now we observe that  $N_{\ell/k}(U(\ell)) \supset N_{\ell/k}(U(k)) = U(k)^2$ , which implies that the homomorphism  $U(\ell)/U(\ell)^3 \to U(k)/U(k)^3$ , induced by the norm map, is onto. The kernel of this homomorphism is clearly  $U(\ell)^{\bullet}/U(\ell)^3$ , where  $U(\ell)^{\bullet} = U(\ell) \cap \ell^{\bullet}$ , and its order equals  $\#\mu(\ell)_3$ .

The short exact sequence (4) in the proof of Proposition 0.12 in [BP] gives us the following exact sequence:

$$1 \to U(\ell)^{\bullet}/U(\ell)^3 \to \ell_3^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3} \to (\mathscr{P} \cap \mathscr{I}^3)/\mathscr{P}^3,$$

where  $\ell_3^{\bullet} = \ell_3 \cap \ell^{\bullet}$ ,  $\mathscr{P}$  is the group of all fractional principal ideals of  $\ell$ , and  $\mathscr{I}$  the group of all fractional ideals (we use multiplicative notation for the group operation in both  $\mathscr{I}$  and  $\mathscr{P}$ ). Since the order of the last group of the above exact sequence is

 $h_{\ell,3}$ , see (5) in the proof of Proposition 0.12 in [BP], we conclude that

$$\#\ell_3^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3} \leqslant \#\mu(\ell)_3 \cdot h_{\ell,3}.$$

Now we note that the order of the first term of the short exact sequence of Proposition 2.9 of [BP], for G' = G and  $S = V_{\infty}$ , is  $3/\#\mu(\ell)_3$ .

The above observations, together with Proposition 2.9 and Lemma 5.4 of [BP], and a close look at the arguments in 5.3 and 5.5 of [BP] for  $S = V_{\infty}$  and G of type  $^2A_2$ , give us the following upper bound (note that for our G, in 5.3 of [BP], n = 3):

$$[\Gamma:\Lambda] \leqslant 3^{1+\#\mathscr{T}_0} h_{\ell,3} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T} - \mathscr{T}_0} \#\Xi_{\Theta_v}.$$

We note also that Proposition 2.9 of [BP] applied to G' = G and  $\Gamma' = \Gamma$ , implies that the index  $[\Gamma : \Lambda]$  of  $\Lambda$  in  $\Gamma$  is a power of 3.

**2.4.** As we mentioned in 1.3,  $\chi(\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma)$ . Our aim here is to find a lower bound for  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma)$ . For this purpose, we first note that

$$\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) = \frac{\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)}{[\Gamma : \Lambda]}.$$

As the Tamagawa number  $\tau_k(G)$  of G equals 1, the volume formula of [P] (recalled in §3.7 of [BP]), for  $S = V_{\infty}$ , gives us

$$\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = D_k^4 (D_\ell/D_k^2)^{5/2} (16\pi^5)^{-d} \mathscr{E} = (D_\ell^{5/2}/D_k) (16\pi^5)^{-d} \mathscr{E};$$

where  $\mathscr{E} = \prod_{v \in V_f} e(P_v)$ , and

$$e(P_v) = \frac{q_v^{(\dim \overline{M}_v + \dim \overline{\mathcal{M}}_v)/2}}{\# \overline{M}_v(\mathfrak{f}_v)}.$$

We observe that if  $P_v$  is hyperspecial,

$$e(P_v) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^2}\right)^{-1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^3}\right)^{-1} \text{ or } \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^2}\right)^{-1} \left(1 + \frac{1}{q_v^3}\right)^{-1}$$

according as v does or does not split in  $\ell$ . If v ramifies in  $\ell$  and  $P_v$  is a maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , then

$$e(P_v) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^2}\right)^{-1}.$$

Now let  $\zeta_k$  be the Dedekind zeta-function of k, and  $L_{\ell|k}$  be the Hecke L-function associated to the quadratic Dirichlet character of  $\ell/k$ . Then as

$$\zeta_k(2) = \prod_{v \in V_f} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^2}\right)^{-1},$$

and

$$L_{\ell|k}(3) = \prod' \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^3}\right)^{-1} \prod'' \left(1 + \frac{1}{q_v^3}\right)^{-1},$$

where  $\prod'$  is the product over those nonarchimedean places of k which split in  $\ell$ , and  $\prod''$  is the product over all the other nonarchimedean places v which do not ramify in  $\ell$ , we see that

$$\mathscr{E} = \zeta_k(2) L_{\ell|k}(3) \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v);$$

where, for  $v \in \mathcal{T}$ ,

- if v splits in  $\ell$ ,  $e'(P_v) = e(P_v)(1 \frac{1}{a^2})(1 \frac{1}{a^3})$ ,
- if v does not split in  $\ell$  but is unramified in  $\ell$ ,  $e'(P_v) = e(P_v)(1 \frac{1}{q_v^2})(1 + \frac{1}{q_v^3})$ ,
- if v ramifies in  $\ell$ ,  $e'(P_v) = e(P_v)(1 \frac{1}{q_v^2})$ . Thus

$$(1) \quad \mu(G(k_{v_0})/\Gamma) = \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} \zeta_k(2) L_{\ell|k}(3)}{(16\pi^5)^d [\Gamma : \Lambda] D_k} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v) \geqslant \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} \zeta_k(2) L_{\ell|k}(3)}{3(16\pi^5)^d h_{\ell,3} D_k} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e''(P_v),$$

where, for  $v \in \mathcal{T} - \mathcal{T}_0$ ,  $e''(P_v) = e'(P_v) / \#\Xi_{\Theta_v}$ , and for  $v \in \mathcal{T}_0$ ,  $e''(P_v) = e'(P_v) / 3$ .

- **2.5.** Now we provide the following list of values of  $e'(P_v)$  and  $e''(P_v)$ , for all  $v \in \mathcal{T}$ .
- (i) v splits in  $\ell$  and G splits at v:
  - (a) if  $P_v$  is an Iwahori subgroup, then

$$e''(P_v) = e'(P_v)/3,$$

and

$$e'(P_v) = (q_v^2 + q_v + 1)(q_v + 1);$$

(b) if  $P_v$  is not an Iwahori subgroup (note that as  $v \in \mathcal{T}$ ,  $P_v$  is not hyperspecial), then

$$e''(P_v) = e'(P_v) = q_v^2 + q_v + 1;$$

(ii) v splits in  $\ell$  and G is anisotropic at v (i. e.,  $v \in \mathcal{T}_0$ ):

$$e''(P_v) = e'(P_v)/3,$$

and

$$e'(P_v) = (q_v - 1)^2 (q_v + 1);$$

(iii) v does not split in  $\ell$ , and  $\ell_v = k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is an unramified extension of  $k_v$ , then

$$e''(P_v) = e'(P_v) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} q_v^3 + 1 & \text{if } P_v \text{ is an Iwahori subgroup} \\ q_v^2 - q_v + 1 & \text{if } P_v \text{ is a non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup;} \end{array} \right.$$

(iv) v does not split in  $\ell$ , and  $\ell_v = k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is a ramified extension of  $k_v$ , then

$$e''(P_v) = e'(P_v) = q_v + 1.$$

**2.6.** As  $\chi(\Gamma) \leq 1$ ,  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) \leq 1/3$ . So from (1) in 2.4 we get the following:

(2) 
$$1/3 \geqslant \mu(G(k_{v_0})/\Gamma) \geqslant \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} \zeta_k(2) L_{\ell|k}(3)}{3(16\pi^5)^d h_{\ell,3} D_k} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e''(P_v).$$

We know from the Brauer-Siegel theorem that for all real s > 1,

(3) 
$$h_{\ell}R_{\ell} \leqslant w_{\ell}s(s-1)\Gamma(s)^{d}((2\pi)^{-2d}D_{\ell})^{s/2}\zeta_{\ell}(s),$$

where  $h_{\ell}$  is the class number and  $R_{\ell}$  is the regulator of  $\ell$ , and  $w_{\ell}$  is the order of the finite group of roots of unity contained in  $\ell$ . Zimmert [Z] obtained the following lower bound for the regulator  $R_{\ell}$ .

$$R_{\ell} \geqslant 0.02 w_{\ell} e^{0.1d}$$
.

Also, we have the following lower bound for the regulator obtained by Slavutskii [Sl] using a variant of the argument of Zimmert [Z]:

$$R_{\ell} \geqslant 0.00136 w_{\ell} e^{0.57d}$$
.

We deduce from this bound and (3) that

(4) 
$$\frac{1}{h_{\ell,3}} \geqslant \frac{1}{h_{\ell}} \geqslant \frac{0.00136}{s(s-1)} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^s e^{0.57}}{\Gamma(s)}\right)^d \frac{1}{D_{\ell}^{s/2} \zeta_{\ell}(s)};$$

if we use Zimmert's lower bound for  $R_{\ell}$  instead, we obtain

(5) 
$$\frac{1}{h_{\ell,3}} \geqslant \frac{1}{h_{\ell}} \geqslant \frac{0.02}{s(s-1)} \left(\frac{(2\pi)^s e^{0.1}}{\Gamma(s)}\right)^d \frac{1}{D_{\ell}^{s/2} \zeta_{\ell}(s)}.$$

**2.7. Lemma.** For every integer  $r \ge 2$ ,  $\zeta_k(r)^{1/2} L_{\ell|k}(r+1) > 1$ .

*Proof.* Recall that

$$\zeta_k(r) = \prod_{v \in V_f} \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^r}\right)^{-1},$$

and

$$L_{\ell|k}(r+1) = \prod' \left(1 - \frac{1}{q_v^{r+1}}\right)^{-1} \prod'' \left(1 + \frac{1}{q_v^{r+1}}\right)^{-1},$$

where  $\prod'$  is the product over all finite places v of k which split over  $\ell$  and  $\prod''$  is the product over all the other nonarchimedean v which do not ramify in  $\ell$ . Now the lemma follows from the following simple observation.

For any positive integer  $q \geqslant 2$ ,

$$\Big(1-\frac{1}{q^r}\Big)\Big(1+\frac{1}{q^{r+1}}\Big)^2 \ = \ 1-\frac{q-2}{q^{r+1}}-\frac{2q-1}{q^{2r+2}}-\frac{1}{q^{3r+2}}<1 \ .$$

**2.8.** Corollary. For every integer  $r \ge 2$ ,

$$\zeta_k(r)L_{\ell|k}(r+1) > \zeta_k(r)^{1/2} > 1.$$

**2.9. Remark.** The following bounds are obvious from the Euler-product expression for the zeta-functions. For every integer  $r \ge 2$ ,

$$\zeta(dr) \leqslant \zeta_k(r) \leqslant \zeta(r)^d$$

where  $\zeta(j) = \zeta_{\mathbb{Q}}(j)$ . Now from the above corollary we deduce that

(6) 
$$\zeta_k(2)L_{\ell|k}(3) > \zeta_k(2)^{1/2} \geqslant \zeta(2d)^{1/2} > 1.$$

**2.10.** Since  $e''(P_v) \geqslant 1$  for all  $v \in \mathscr{T}$ , see 2.5 above, and  $D_\ell/D_k^2$  is an integer, so in particular,  $D_k \leqslant D_\ell^{1/2}$ , see, for example, Theorem A in the appendix of [P], bounds (2) and (3) lead to the following bounds by taking  $s = 1 + \delta$ , with  $0 < \delta \leqslant 2$ , in (3)

(7) 
$$D_k^{1/d} \leqslant D_\ell^{1/2d} < \varphi_1(d, R_\ell/w_\ell, \delta)$$

$$:= \left(\frac{\delta(1+\delta)}{\zeta(2d)^{1/2}(R_\ell/w_\ell)}\right)^{1/(3-\delta)d} \left(2^{3-\delta}\pi^{4-\delta}\Gamma(1+\delta)\zeta(1+\delta)^2\right)^{1/(3-\delta)},$$
(8) 
$$D_k^{1/d} \leqslant D_\ell^{1/2d} < \varphi_2(d, h_{\ell,3}) := \left[\frac{2^{4d}\pi^{5d}h_{\ell,3}}{\zeta(2d)^{1/2}}\right]^{1/4d},$$

and

(9) 
$$D_{\ell}/D_{k}^{2} < \mathfrak{p}(d, D_{k}, h_{\ell,3}) := \left[\frac{2^{4d} \pi^{5d} h_{\ell,3}}{\zeta(2d)^{1/2} D_{k}^{4}}\right]^{2/5}.$$

Using the bound  $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \ge 0.00136e^{0.57d}$  due to Slavutskii, we obtain the following bound from (7):

(10) 
$$D_k^{1/d} \leqslant D_\ell^{1/2d} < f(\delta, d)$$

$$:= \left[ \frac{\delta(1+\delta)}{0.00136} \right]^{1/(3-\delta)d} \cdot \left[ 2^{3-\delta} \pi^{4-\delta} \Gamma(1+\delta) \zeta(1+\delta)^2 e^{-0.57} \right]^{1/(3-\delta)}.$$

**2.11.** As  $\chi(\Lambda) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)$ ,

$$\chi(\Gamma) = \frac{\chi(\Lambda)}{[\Gamma : \Lambda]} = \frac{3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)}{[\Gamma : \Lambda]}.$$

Now since  $[\Gamma : \Lambda]$  is a power of 3 (see 2.3), if  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer, the numerator of the rational number  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda)$  is a power of 3.

We recall from 2.4 that

$$\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = (D_{\ell}^{5/2}/D_k)(16\pi^5)^{-d}\zeta_k(2)L_{\ell|k}(3)\prod_{v\in\mathscr{T}}e'(P_v).$$

Using the functional equations

$$\zeta_k(2) = (-2)^d \pi^{2d} D_k^{-3/2} \zeta_k(-1),$$

and

$$L_{\ell|k}(3) = (-2)^d \pi^{3d} (D_k/D_\ell)^{5/2} L_{\ell|k}(-2),$$

we can rewrite the above as:

(11) 
$$\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = 2^{-2d} \zeta_k(-1) L_{\ell|k}(-2) \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v).$$

Hence we obtain the following proposition.

**2.12. Proposition.** If the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Gamma)$  of  $\Gamma$  is a reciprocal integer, then the numerator of the rational number  $2^{-2d}\zeta_k(-1)L_{\ell|k}(-2)\prod_{v\in\mathscr{T}}e'(P_v)$  is a power of 3. Moreover, as  $e'(P_v)$  is an integer for all v, the numerator of  $\mu:=2^{-2d}\zeta_k(-1)L_{\ell|k}(-2)$  is also a power of 3.

### 3. Determining $\ell$ when $k = \mathbb{Q}$

We will assume in this, and the next section, that  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , where a is a square-free positive integer.

We will now find an upper bound for  $D_{\ell}$ .

**3.1.** Since  $D_k = D_{\mathbb{Q}} = 1$ , and  $e''(P_v) \ge 1$ , from (2), (5) and (6), taking  $s = 1 + \delta$ , we get the following:

(12) 
$$D_{\ell} < (2\pi)^{2} \left( \frac{5^{2} \cdot \delta(1+\delta) \cdot \Gamma(1+\delta) \zeta(1+\delta)^{2}}{e^{0.1} \zeta(2)^{1/2}} \right)^{2/(4-\delta)}.$$

Letting  $\delta = 0.34$ , we find that  $D_{\ell} < 461.6$ . Hence we conclude that  $D_{\ell} \leq 461$ . Thus we have established the following.

- **3.2.** If  $\chi(\Gamma) \leq 1$  and  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ , then  $D_{\ell} \leq 461$ .
- **3.3.** We will now improve the upper bound for the discriminant of  $\ell$  using the table of class numbers of imaginary quadratic number fields.

Inspecting the table of class numbers of  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , with  $D_{\ell} \leq 461$ , in [BS], we find that  $h_{\ell} \leq 21$ , and hence,  $h_{\ell,3} \leq n_{\ell,3} \leq 9$ .

Since  $D_{\mathbb{Q}} = 1$ ,  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}}(2) = \zeta(2) = \pi^2/6$  and  $\zeta(3)L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3) = \zeta_{\ell}(3) > 1$ , (2) provides us the following bounds

$$1 \geqslant \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3)}{2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot \pi^3 \cdot h_{\ell,3}} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e''(P_v)$$

$$\geqslant \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} \zeta_{\ell}(3)}{2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot \pi^3 \cdot h_{\ell,3} \zeta(3)}$$

$$> \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2}}{2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot \pi^3 \cdot h_{\ell,3} \zeta(3)}.$$

Hence, in particular, as  $h_{\ell,3} \leq n_{\ell,3}$ ,

$$D_{\ell} < (2^5 \cdot 3 \cdot \pi^3 \cdot n_{\ell,3} \zeta(3))^{2/5}.$$

The above leads to the following bounds once the value of  $n_{\ell,3}$  is determined.

$$n_{\ell,3}$$
 1 3 9  $D_{\ell} \leqslant 26$  40 63

The last column of the above table implies that we need only consider  $D_{\ell} \leq 63$ .

**3.4.** We will further limit the possibilities for  $D_{\ell}$ . If  $40 < D_{\ell} \le 63$ , we observe that  $n_{\ell,3} \le 3$  from the table in Appendix. Hence, from the middle column of the above table we infer that  $D_{\ell}$  can at most be 40.

For  $26 < D_{\ell} \leq 40$ , we see from the table in Appendix that unless  $D_{\ell} = 31$ ,  $n_{\ell,3} = 1$ , and the first column of the above table shows that if  $n_{\ell,3} = 1$ ,  $D_{\ell} \leq 26$ . Hence, the only possible values of  $D_{\ell}$  are 31 or  $D_{\ell} \leq 26$ .

From the table in Appendix we now see that the possible values of  $h_{\ell,3}$  and  $D_{\ell}$  are the following (note that if  $n_{\ell,3} = 3$ , then  $h_{\ell,3} = 3$  also).

$$h_{\ell,3} = 3: D_{\ell} = 23, 31.$$

$$h_{\ell,3} = 1: D_{\ell} = 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 15, 19, 20, 24.$$

Now we recall that for  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ ,  $D_{\ell} = a$  if  $a \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , and  $D_{\ell} = 4a$  otherwise. Using this we can paraphrase the above result as follows.

**3.5. Proposition.** Let  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , where a is one of the following eleven integers,

The following table provides the value of

$$\mu := \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2} \zeta(2) L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3)}{16\pi^5} = -\frac{1}{48} L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(-2)$$

(recall the functional equation  $L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3) = -2\pi^3 D_{\ell}^{-5/2} L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(-2)$ ).

**3.6.** The volume formula of [P] and the results of [BP] apply equally well to non-cocompact arithmetic subgroups. So if we wish to make a list of all noncocompact arithmetic subgroups  $\Gamma$  of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  whose orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is  $\leq 1$ , we can proceed as above. If  $\Gamma$  is such a subgroup, then, associated to it, there is an absolutely simple simply connected algebraic group G defined and (by Godement compactness criterion) isotropic over a number field k such that  $G(k \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R})$  is isomorphic to the direct product of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  with a compact semi-simple Lie group. But since G is k-isotropic, for every place v of k, G is isotropic over  $k_v$ , and hence,  $G(k_v)$  is noncompact. In particular, for every archimedean place v of k,  $G(k_v)$  is noncompact. This implies that  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ , G is an absolutely simple simply connected  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group of type  $A_2$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank 1 (and hence G is quasi-split over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ). Moreover, G splits over an imaginary quadratic extension  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . For a given positive integer a, there is a unique such G (up to  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphism). The considerations of 3.1–3.4 apply again and imply that a has to be one of the eleven integers listed in Proposition 3.5.

We fix a coherent collection  $(P_p)$  of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_p$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  such that  $P_p$  is hyperspecial whenever  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  contains such a parahoric subgroup. Let  $\Lambda = G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap \prod_p P_p$ . (This  $\Lambda$  is a "Picard modular group".) From the volume formula of [P], recalled in 2.4, we obtain that

$$\chi(\Lambda) = 3\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda) = 3\frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2}\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}}(2)L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3)}{16\pi^{5}} = \frac{D_{\ell}^{5/2}L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3)}{32\pi^{3}} = -\frac{1}{16}L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(-2) = 3\mu,$$

where we have used the functional equation for the L-function  $L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}$  recalled in 3.5, and the fact that  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}}(2) = \zeta(2) = \pi^2/6$ . (We note that the above computation of the orbifold Euler-Poncaré characteristic of Picard modular groups is independently due to Rolf-Peter Holzapfel, see [Ho], section 5A.) Now we can use the table of values of  $L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(-2)$  given in 3.5 to compute the precise value of  $\chi(\Lambda)$  for each a.

Among all arithmetic subgroups of G contained in  $G(\mathbb{Q})$ , the above  $\Lambda$  has the smallest orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic. Its normalizer  $\Gamma$  in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  has the smallest orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic among all discrete subgroups commensurable with  $\Lambda$ . Note that  $\Lambda$  has torsion.

# 4. Determination of G and the parahoric subgroups $P_v$

We continue to assume in this section that  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . We will use the usual identification of a nonarchimedean place v of  $\mathbb{Q}$  with the characteristic p of the residue field of  $\mathbb{Q}_v$ . Let  $\ell$  be one of the eleven imaginary quadratic extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}$  listed in Proposition 3.5.  $\mathscr{R}_{\ell}$  will denote the set of rational primes which ramify in  $\ell$ .

**4.1.** Let  $\mathscr{D}$ , the involution  $\sigma$ , the hermitian form h, and the k-group G, for  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ , be as in 1.2. As in 2.1 we fix a coherent collection  $(P_p)$  of parahoric subgroups of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ . Let  $\Lambda = G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap \prod_p P_p$ , and  $\Gamma$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(\mathbf{R})$ . We assume that  $\Gamma$  is cocompact and  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer.

We first show that  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra. Assume, if possible, that  $\mathscr{D} = \ell$ . Then h is a hermitian form on  $\ell^3$ . As the arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$  of  $G(\mathbb{R})$  is cocompact, by Godement compactness criterion, h is an anisotropic form on  $\ell^3$ . On the other hand, its signature over  $\mathbb{R}$  is (2,1). The hermitian form h gives us a quadratic form q on the six dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space  $V = \ell^3$  defined as follows:

$$q(v) = h(v, v)$$
 for  $v \in V$ .

The quadratic form q is isotropic over  $\mathbb{R}$ , and hence by Meyer's theorem it is isotropic over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (cf. [Se2]). This implies that h is isotropic and we have arrived at a contradiction.

**4.2.** Let  $\mathscr{T}$  be the finite set of rational primes p such that  $P_p$  is not maximal and also those  $p \notin \mathscr{R}_{\ell}$  such that  $P_p$  is not hyperspecial, and  $\mathscr{T}_0$  be the subset of  $\mathscr{T}$  consisting of p such that G is anisotropic over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . Since  $\mathscr{D}$  must ramify at at least some nonarchimedean places of  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr{T}_0$  is nonempty. As pointed out in 2.2, every  $p \in \mathscr{T}_0$  splits in  $\ell$ . Theorem 4.4 lists all possible  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr{T}$ ,  $\mathscr{T}_0$ , and the parahoric subgroups  $P_p$ .

As  $\zeta_{\mathbb{O}}(2) = \zeta(2) = \pi^2/6$ , using the functional equation

$$L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(3) = -2\pi^3 D_{\ell}^{-5/2} L_{\ell|\mathbb{Q}}(-2),$$

we obtain the following from bound (1) for  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ :

$$\chi(\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Gamma) \geqslant \frac{\mu}{h_{\ell,3}} \prod_{p \in \mathscr{T}} e''(P_p),$$

where  $\mu$  is as in 3.5.

**4.3.** We recall here that given a square-free integer a, an odd prime p splits in  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$  if, and only if, p does not divide a, and -a is a square modulo p; 2 splits in  $\ell$  if, and only if,  $-a \equiv 1 \pmod 8$ ; see [BS], §8 of Chapter 3. A prime p ramifies in  $\ell$  if, and only if,  $p|D_{\ell}$ ; see [BS], §7 of Chapter 2 and §8 of Chapter 3.

Now using Proposition 3.5, the fact that the numerators of  $\mu$  and  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda) = \mu \prod_{p \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_p)$  are powers of 3 (Proposition 2.12), the value of  $\mu$  given in 3.5, the values of  $e'(P_p)$ ,  $e''(P_p)$  given in 2.5, the value of  $h_{\ell,3}$  given in 3.4, and the fact that  $\chi(\Gamma) \leq 1$ , we see by a direct computation that the following holds.

- **4.4. Theorem.**  $\mathscr{T}_0$  consists of a single prime, and the pair (a,p), where  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , and  $\mathscr{T}_0 = \{p\}$ , belongs to the set  $\{(1,5),(2,3),(7,2),(15,2),(23,2)\}$ . Moreover,  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0$  unless a = 1, 2 or 7. For a = 1, 2, the possibilities are  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0$  and  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0 \cup \{2\}$ . For a = 7 the possibilities for  $\mathscr{T}$  are  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0 = \{2\}$ ,  $\mathscr{T} = \{2,3\}$ , and  $\mathscr{T} = \{2,5\}$ .
- **4.5.** Since for  $a \in \{1, 2, 7, 15, 23\}$ ,  $\mathscr{T}_0$  consists of a single prime, for each a we get exactly two cubic division algebras, with center  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , and they are opposite of each other. Therefore, each of the five possible values of a determines a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -form G of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  uniquely (up to a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphism), and for  $q \notin \mathscr{R}_{\ell}$ , the parahoric subgroup  $P_q$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  uniquely (up to conjugation by an element of  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q}_q)$ , where  $\overline{G}$  is the adjoint group of G).

We can easily compute  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)$ , which, using the volume formula given in 2.4 is seen to be equal to  $\mu e'(P_p)$ , where (a,p) is as in the preceding theorem,  $\mu$  is as in Proposition 3.5, and (see 2.5 (ii))  $e'(P_p) = (p-1)^2(p+1)$ . We find that  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)$  equals 1, 1, 1/7, 1, and 3, for a=1, 2, 7, 15, and 23 respectively. This computation is clearly independent of the choice of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_q$  in  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  for primes q which ramify in  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ .

In the sequel, the prime p appearing in the pair (a, p) will be called the prime associated to a, and we will sometimes denote it by  $p_a$ .

# 5. The fake projective planes arising from $k = \mathbb{Q}$

We will show in this section that there are exactly eighteen finite classes (cf. 1.8) of fake projective planes with  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ . We will explicitly determine their fundamental groups.

We prove results in 5.2–5.4 for an arbitrary totally real number field k for applications in §§8 and 9.

**5.1.** We will use the notation introduced in 1.2 and 1.3. In particular, k is a totally real number field of degree d,  $\ell$  a totally complex quadratic extension of k, and  $v_o$  is a real place of k, G is a simple simply connected algebraic k-group, which is an *inner* form of  $SL_3$  over  $\ell$ , such that  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong SU(2,1)$ , and for all real places  $v \neq v_o$ ,  $G(k_v) \cong SU(3)$ . We recall (1.2) that there is a division algebra  $\mathscr D$  of degree n|3, with center  $\ell$ ,  $\mathscr D$  given with an involution  $\sigma$  of the second kind so that  $\sigma|_{\ell}$  is the nontrivial k-automorphism of  $\ell$ , and a nondegenerate hermitian form k on  $\mathscr D^{3/n}$  defined in terms of the involution  $\sigma$ , such that G is the special unitary group SU(k) of the hermitian form k.

Let  $\mathscr{T}_0$  be the finite set of nonarchimedean places of k where G is anisotropic. As pointed out in 2.2, every place  $v \in \mathscr{T}_0$  splits in  $\ell$ . If  $\mathscr{D} = \ell$ , then h is a hermitian form on  $\ell^3$ , and G is isotropic at every nonarchimedean place of k, so in this case  $\mathscr{T}_0$  is empty. Now we note that  $\mathscr{T}_0$  is nonempty if  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra since this division algebra must ramify at least at two nonarchimedean places of  $\ell$ .

**5.2.** Let C be the center of G,  $\overline{G}$  the adjoint group, and let  $\varphi: G \to \overline{G}$  the natural isogeny. Let  $\mathscr{P} = (P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  and  $\mathscr{P}' = (P'_v)_{v \in V_f}$  be two coherent collections of parahoric subgroups such that for all  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P'_v$  is conjugate to  $P_v$  under an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . For all but finitely many v,  $P_v = P'_v$ , and they are hyperspecial. Therefore, there is an element  $g \in \overline{G}(A_f)$  such that  $\mathscr{P}'$  is the conjugate of  $\mathscr{P}$  under g. Let  $\overline{P}_v$  be the stabilizer of  $P_v$  in  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . Then  $\overline{K} := \prod_{v \in V_f} \overline{P}_v$  is the stabilizer of  $\mathscr{P}$  in  $\overline{G}(A_f)$ , and it is a compact-open subgroup of the latter. So the number of distinct  $\overline{G}(k)$ -conjugacy classes of coherent collections  $\mathscr{P}'$  as above is the cardinality of  $\overline{G}(k) \setminus \overline{G}(A_f) / \overline{K}$ .

As  $\varphi:G\to \overline{G}$  is a central isogeny,  $\varphi(G(A_f))$  contains the commutator subgroup of  $\overline{G}(A_f)$ . Moreover, as G is simply connected and  $G(k_{v_o})$  is noncompact, by the strong approximation property (Theorem 7.12 of [PIR]), G(k) is dense in  $G(A_f)$ , i.e., for any open neighborhood  $\Omega$  of the identity in  $G(A_f)$ ,  $G(k)\Omega = G(A_f)$ . This implies that  $\overline{G}(k)\overline{K}$  contains  $\varphi(G(A_f))$ , which in turn contains  $[\overline{G}(A_f),\overline{G}(A_f)]$ . Hence,  $\overline{G}(k)\overline{K} = \overline{G}(k)[\overline{G}(A_f),\overline{G}(A_f)]\overline{K}$ . Using this observation it is easy to see that  $\overline{G}(k)\overline{K}$  is a subgroup, and the natural map from  $\overline{G}(k)\backslash \overline{G}(A_f)/\overline{K}$  to the finite abelian group  $\overline{G}(A_f)/\overline{G}(k)\overline{K}$  is bijective. We shall next show that this latter group is trivial if  $h_{\ell,3}=1$ .

We begin by observing that for every  $v \in V_{\infty}$ ,  $H^1(k_v, C)$  vanishes since C is a group of exponent 3. Now since by the Hasse principle for simply connected semi-simple k-groups (Theorem 6.6 of [PIR])  $H^1(k, G) \to \prod_{v \in V_{\infty}} H^1(k_v, G)$  is an isomorphism, we conclude that the natural map  $H^1(k, C) \to H^1(k, G)$  is trivial, and hence the coboundary homomorphism  $\delta : \overline{G}(k) \to H^1(k, C)$  is surjective.

Now we note that since for each nonarchimedean place  $v, H^1(k_v, G)$  is trivial ([PIR], Theorem 6.4), the coboundary homomorphism  $\delta_v : \overline{G}(k_v) \to H^1(k_v, C)$  is surjective and its kernel equals  $\varphi(G(k_v))$ . Now let v be a nonarchimedean place of k which either does not split in  $\ell$ , or it splits in  $\ell$  and  $P_v$  is an Iwahori subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , and  $g \in \overline{G}(k_v)$ . Then the parahoric subgroup  $g(P_v)$  is conjugate to  $P_v$  under an element of  $G(k_v)$ , and hence,  $\overline{G}(k_v) = \varphi(G(k_v))\overline{P}_v$ , which implies that  $\delta_v(\overline{P}_v) = \delta_v(\overline{G}(k_v)) = H^1(k_v, C)$ . We observe also that for any nonarchimedean place v of k, the subgroup  $\varphi(G(k_v))\overline{P}_v$  is precisely the stabilizer of the type  $\Theta_v$  ( $\subset \Delta_v$ ) of  $P_v$  under the natural action of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$  on  $\Delta_v$  described in 2.2 of [BP]. Thus  $\delta_v(\overline{P}_v) = H^1(k_v, C)_{\Theta_v}$ , where  $H^1(k_v, C)_{\Theta_v}$  is the stabilizer of  $\Theta_v$  in  $H^1(k_v, C)$  under the action of the latter on  $\Delta_v$  through  $\xi_v$  given in 2.5 of [BP]. It can be seen, but we do not need this fact here, that for any nonarchimedean place v of k which does not lie over 3 and  $P_v$  is a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ ,  $\delta_v(\overline{P}_v)$  equals  $H^1_{nr}(k_v,C)$ , where  $H^1_{nr}(k_v,C)$  ( $\subset H^1(k_v,C)$ ) is the "unramified Galois cohomology" as in [Se3], Chapter II, §5.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>this number is called the "class number" of  $\overline{G}$  relative to  $\overline{K}$  and is known to be finite, see for example, Proposition 3.9 of [BP]

The coboundary homomorphisms  $\delta_v$  combine to provide an isomorphism

$$\overline{G}(A_f)/\overline{G}(k)\overline{K} \longrightarrow \mathcal{C} := \prod' H^1(k_v, C)/\big(\psi(H^1(k, C)) \cdot \prod_v \delta_v(\overline{P}_v)\big),$$

where  $\prod' H^1(k_v, C)$  denotes the subgroup of  $\prod_{v \in V_f} H^1(k_v, C)$  consisting of the elements  $c = (c_v)$  such that for all but finitely many v,  $c_v$  lies in  $\delta_v(\overline{P}_v)$ , and  $\psi: H^1(k, C) \to \prod' H^1(k_v, C)$  is the natural homomorphism.

Andrei Rapinchuk's remark that  $R_{\ell/k}(\mu_3)$  is a direct product of C and (the naturally embedded subgroup)  $\mu_3$  has helped us to simplify the following discussion.

 $H^1(k,C)$  can be identified with  $\ell^{\times}/k^{\times}\ell^{\times 3}$ , and for any place v of k,  $H^1(k_v,C)$  can be identified with  $(k_v \otimes_k \ell)^{\times}/k_v^{\times}(k_v \otimes_k \ell)^{\times 3}$ . Now let  $\mathscr S$  be the finite set of nonarchimedean places of k which split in  $\ell$  and  $P_v$  is an Iwahori subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . If  $v \notin \mathscr S$  is a nonarchimedean place which splits in  $\ell$ , and w', w'' are the two places of  $\ell$  lying over v, then the subgroup  $\delta_v(\overline{P}_v)$  gets identified with

$$k_v^{\times} \left(\mathfrak{o}_{w'}^{\times} \ell_{w'}^{\times 3} \times \mathfrak{o}_{w''}^{\times} \ell_{w''}^{\times 3}\right) / k_v^{\times} \left(\ell_{w'}^{\times 3} \times \ell_{w''}^{\times 3}\right),$$

where  $\mathfrak{o}_{w'}^{\times}$  (resp.,  $\mathfrak{o}_{w''}^{\times}$ ) is the group of units of  $\ell_{w'}$  (resp.,  $\ell_{w''}$ ), cf. Lemma 2.3(ii) of [BP] and the proof of Proposition 2.7 in there.

Now let  $I_k^f$  (resp.,  $I_\ell^f$ ) be the group of finite idèles of k (resp.,  $\ell$ ), i. e., the restricted direct product of the  $k_v^{\times}$  (resp.,  $\ell_w^{\times}$ ) for all nonarchimedean places v of k (resp., w of  $\ell$ ). We shall view  $I_k^f$  as a subgroup of  $I_\ell^f$  in terms of its natural embedding. Then it is obvious that  $\mathcal{C}$  is isomorphic to the quotient of  $I_\ell^f$  by the subgroup generated by  $I_k^f \cdot (I_\ell^f)^3 \cdot \ell^{\times}$  and all the elements  $x = (x_w) \in I_\ell^f$ , such that  $x_w \in \mathfrak{o}_w^{\times}$  for every nonarchimedean place w of  $\ell$  which lies over a place of k which splits in  $\ell$  but is not in  $\mathscr{S}$ . From this it is obvious that  $\mathcal{C}$  is a quotient of the class group  $Cl(\ell)$  of  $\ell$ , and its exponent is 3. This implies that  $\mathcal{C}$  is trivial if  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ .

Let us now assume that  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23})$ , and  $\mathscr{S} = \{2\}$ . Then  $h_{\ell,3} = 3$ . But as either of the two prime ideals lying over 2 in  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23})$  generates the class group of  $\ell$ , we see that  $\mathcal{C}$  is again trivial. Thus we have proved the following.

- **5.3. Proposition.** Let  $\mathscr{P}=(P_v)_{v\in V_f}$  and  $\mathscr{P}'=(P_v')_{v\in V_f}$  be two coherent collections of parahoric subgroups such that for every v,  $P_v'$  is conjugate to  $P_v$  under an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . Then there is an element in  $\overline{G}(k)$  which conjugates  $\mathscr{P}'$  to  $\mathscr{P}$  if  $h_{\ell,3}=1$ . This is also the case if  $\ell=\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23})$ , and the set  $\mathscr{S}$  of rational primes p which split in  $\ell$  and  $P_p$  is an Iwahori subgroup consists of 2 alone.
- **5.4.** Let G, C, and  $\overline{G}$  be as in 5.1. As before, let  $\mathscr{T}_0$  be the finite set of nonarchimedean places of k where G is anisotropic.

We fix a coherent collection  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups such that  $P_v$  is maximal for every v which splits in  $\ell$ . Let  $\Lambda = G(k) \cap \prod_v P_v$ ,  $\Gamma$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}$  be the image of  $\Gamma$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . We know (see bound (0) in 2.3, and 2.2) that  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] \leq 3^{1+\#\mathcal{P}_0} h_{\ell,3}$ . From Proposition 2.9 of [BP] and a careful analysis of the arguments in 5.3, 5.5 and the proof of Proposition 0.12 of *loc. cit.* it

can be deduced that, in fact,  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 3^{1+\#\mathscr{T}_0}$ , if either  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$  (then  $h_{k,3} = 1$ , see Theorem 4.10 of [W]), or  $(k,\ell) = (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  and  $\mathscr{T}_0 = \{2\}$ . We briefly outline the proof below.

Let  $\Theta_v$  ( $\subset \Delta_v$ ) be the type of  $P_v$ , and  $\Theta = \prod \Theta_v$ . We have observed in 5.2 that the coboundary homomorphism  $\delta: \overline{G}(k) \to H^1(k,C)$  is surjective. Using this fact we find that, for G at hand, the last term  $\delta(\overline{G}(k))'_{\Theta}$  in the short exact sequence of Proposition 2.9 of [BP], for G' = G, coincides with the subgroup  $H^1(k,C)_{\Theta}$  of  $H^1(k,C)$  defined in 2.8 of [BP]. Also, the order of the first term of that short exact sequence is  $3/\#\mu(\ell)_3$ . So to prove the assertion about  $[\Gamma:\Lambda]$ , it would suffice to show that  $H^1(k,C)_{\Theta}$  is of order  $\#\mu(\ell)_3 3^{\#\mathscr{T}_0}$  if either  $h_{\ell,3}=1$ , or  $(k,\ell)=(\mathbb{Q},\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  and  $\mathscr{T}_0=\{2\}$ .

As in 2.1, let  $\ell^{\bullet} = \{x \in \ell^{\times} \mid N_{\ell/k}(x) \in k^{\times 3}\}$ , and identify  $H^{1}(k, C)$  with  $\ell^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$ . Let  $\ell_3$  (resp.,  $\ell_{\mathscr{T}_0}^{\bullet}$ ) be the subgroup of  $\ell^{\times}$  (resp.,  $\ell^{\bullet}$ ) consisting of elements x such that for every normalized valuation w of  $\ell$  (resp., every normalized valuation w of  $\ell$ which does not lie over a place in  $\mathscr{T}_0$ ,  $w(x) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $\ell_3^{\bullet} = \ell_3 \cap \ell^{\bullet}$ . We can identify  $H^1(k,C)_{\Theta}$  with the group  $\ell^{\bullet}_{\mathcal{T}_0}/\ell^{\times 3}$ , see 2.3, 2.7 and 5.3–5.5 of [BP]. We claim that the order of  $\ell_{\mathcal{T}_0}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$  is  $\#\mu(\ell)_3 3^{\#\mathcal{T}_0}$ . If  $h_{\ell,3}=1=h_{k,3}$ , from 2.3 above and Proposition 0.12 of [BP] we see that  $\#\ell_3^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3} = \#\mu(\ell)_3$ , and  $U(k)/U(k)^3 \to k_3/k^{\times 3}$  is an isomorphism. Since the homomorphism  $U(\ell)/U(\ell)^3 \to U(k)/U(k)^3$ , induced by the norm map, is onto (2.3), given an element  $y \in \ell^{\times}$  whose norm lies in  $k_3$ , we can find an element  $u \in U(\ell)$  such that  $uy \in \ell^{\bullet}$ , i. e.,  $N_{\ell/k}(uy) \in k^{\times 3}$ . Now it is easy to see that if  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ ,  $\ell_{\mathcal{T}_0}^{\bullet}/\ell_3^{\bullet}$  is of order  $3^{\#\mathcal{T}_0}$ . This implies that  $\#\ell_{\mathcal{T}_0}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3} = \#\mu(\ell)_3 3^{\#\mathcal{T}_0}$ . Let  $(k,\ell) = (\mathbb{Q},\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  now. Then, as neither of the two prime ideals of  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23})$  lying over 2 is a principal ideal, we see that  $\ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet} = \ell_{3}^{\bullet}$ . But since  $\mathbb{Q}_3 = \mathbb{Q}^{\times 3}, \ \ell_3^{\bullet} = \ell_3, \ \text{and therefore}, \ \ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3} = \ell_3/\ell^{\times 3}.$  The latter group is of order  $3 \ (=h_{\ell,3})$  since  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23})$  does not contain a nontrivial cube root of unity, see the proof of Proposition 0.12 in [BP]. This proves the assertion that  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 3^{1+\#\mathscr{T}_0}$  if either  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ , or  $(k, \ell) = (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  and  $\mathcal{T}_0 = \{2\}$ .

**5.5.** In the rest of this section we will assume that  $k=\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra with center  $\ell=\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$  given with an involution  $\sigma$  of the second kind. Let G be the simple simply connected  $\mathbb{Q}$ -subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}$  such that for any commutative  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra A,

$$G(A) = \{ z \in \operatorname{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid z\sigma(z) = 1 \text{ and } \operatorname{Nrd}(z) = 1 \}.$$

**5.6. Lemma.**  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  is torsion-free if  $a \neq 3$  or 7. If a = 3 (resp., a = 7), then the order of any nontrivial element of  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  of finite order is 3 (resp., 7).

*Proof.* Let  $x \in G(\mathbb{Q})$  be a nontrivial element of finite order. Since the reduced norm of -1 in  $\mathcal{D}$  is -1,  $-1 \notin G(\mathbb{Q})$ . Therefore, the order of x is odd, and the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -subalgebra  $K := \mathbb{Q}[x]$  of  $\mathcal{D}$  generated by x is a nontrivial field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Note that the degree of any field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  contained in  $\mathcal{D}$  is a divisor of 6. If  $K = \ell$ , then x

lies in the center of G, and hence it is of order 3. But  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$  is the field generated by a nontrivial cube root of unity. Hence, if  $K = \ell$ , then a = 3 and x is of order 3. Let us assume now that  $K \neq \ell$ . Then K cannot be a quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  since if it is a quadratic extension,  $K \cdot \ell$  is a field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of degree 4 contained in  $\mathcal{D}$ , which is not possible. So K is an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of degree either 3 or 6. Since an extension of degree 3 of  $\mathbb{Q}$  cannot contain a root of unity different from  $\pm 1$ , K must be of degree 6, and so, in particular, it contains  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ . Note that the only roots of unity of odd order which can be contained in an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of degree 6 are the 7-th or the 9-th roots of unity.

For an integer n, let  $C_n$  be the extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  generated by a primitive n-th root  $\zeta_n$  of unity. Then  $C_7 = C_{14} \supset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7})$ , and  $C_9 = C_{18} \supset C_3 = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7})$  (resp.,  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-3})$ ) is the only quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  contained in  $C_7$  (resp.,  $C_9$ ). As  $K \supset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , we conclude that the group  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  is torsion-free if  $a \neq 3$  or 7, and if a = 3 (resp., a = 7), then the order of x is 9 (resp., 7). In particular, if a = 3 (resp., a = 7), then  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_9)$  (resp.,  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7)$ ). However, if a = 3,  $N_{K/\ell}(\zeta_9) = \zeta_9^3 \neq 1$ , and if a = 7,  $N_{K/\ell}(\zeta_7) = 1$ . This implies the last assertion of the lemma.

**5.7.** Let a be one of the following five integers: 1, 2, 7, 15, and 23, and let  $p=p_a$  be the prime associated to a (see 4.4–4.5). Let  $\ell=\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ . Let  $\mathscr{D}$  be a cubic division algebra with center  $\ell$  whose local invariants at the two places of  $\ell$  lying over p are nonzero and negative of each other, and the local invariant at all the other places of  $\ell$  is zero. (There are two such division algebras, they are opposite of each other.) Then  $\mathbb{Q}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathscr{D} = (\mathbb{Q}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \ell) \otimes_{\ell} \mathscr{D} = \mathfrak{D} \times \mathfrak{D}^o$ , where  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a cubic division algebra with center  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ , and  $\mathbb{D}^o$  is its opposite.  $\mathscr{D}$  admits an involution  $\sigma$  of the second kind. Let the simple simply connected  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group G be as in 5.5. We may (and do) assume that  $\sigma$  is so chosen that  $G(\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ . We observe that any other such involution of  $\mathscr{D}$ , or of its opposite, similarly determines a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -group which is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphic to G (1.2). As  $\sigma(\mathfrak{D}) = \mathfrak{D}^o$ , it is easily seen that  $G(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is the compact group  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  of elements of reduced norm 1 in  $\mathfrak{D}$ .

We fix a coherent collection  $(P_q)$  of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_q$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  which are hyperspecial for every rational prime  $q \neq p$  which does not ramify in  $\ell$ . Let  $\Lambda = G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap \prod_q P_q$ , and let  $\Gamma$  be its normalizer in  $G(\mathbb{R})$ . Let  $\overline{\Gamma}$  be the image of  $\Gamma$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$ .

**5.8. Proposition.** If (a, p) = (23, 2), then  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is torsion-free.

*Proof.* We assume that (a,p)=(23,2), and begin by observing that  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is contained in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$ , see, for example, Proposition 1.2 of [BP]. Since  $H^1(\mathbb{Q},C)$  is a group of exponent 3, so is the group  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})/\varphi(G(\mathbb{Q}))$ . Now as  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  is torsion-free (5.6), any nontrivial element of  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  of finite order has order 3.

To be able to describe all the elements of order 3 of  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$ , we consider the connected reductive  $\mathbb{Q}$ -subgroup  $\mathscr{G}$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}$ , which contains G as a normal subgroup,

such that for any commutative  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra A,

$$\mathscr{G}(A) = \{ z \in \mathrm{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid z\sigma(z) \in A^{\times} \}.$$

Then the center  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathscr{G}$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphic to  $R_{\ell/\mathbb{Q}}(\mathrm{GL}_1)$ . The conjugation action of  $\mathscr{G}$  on G induces a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphism  $\mathscr{G}/\mathcal{C} \to \overline{G}$ . As  $H^1(\mathbb{Q},\mathcal{C}) = \{0\}$ , we conclude that the natural homomorphism  $\mathscr{G}(\mathbb{Q}) \to \overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  is surjective. Now given an element g of  $\mathscr{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  whose image in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  is an element of order 3,  $\lambda := g^3$  lies in  $\ell^{\times}$ . Let  $a = g\sigma(g) \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}$ . Then (i)  $\lambda\sigma(\lambda) = a^3$ . Let  $L = \ell[X]/(X^3 - \lambda)$  and let x be the unique cube root of  $\lambda$  in L. There is a unique embedding of L in  $\mathscr{D}$  over  $\ell$  which maps x to g. The reduced norm of g is clearly  $\lambda$ , and the image of g in  $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, C) \subset \ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$  is the class of  $\lambda$  in  $\ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$ . Now if g stabilizes the collection  $(P_q)$ , then its image in  $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, C)$  must lie in the subgroup  $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, C)_{\Theta}$ , and hence, (ii)  $w(\lambda) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$  for every normalized valuation w of  $\ell$  not lying over 2 (cf. 5.4).

The conditions (i) and (ii) imply that  $\lambda \in \ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet} = \ell_3 = \bigcup_i \alpha^i \ell^{\times 3}$  (cf. 5.4), where  $\alpha = (3 + \sqrt{-23})/2$ . Since  $\lambda$  is not a cube in  $\ell$ ,  $\lambda \in \alpha \ell^{\times 3} \cup \alpha^2 \ell^{\times 3}$ . But  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  contains a cube root of  $\alpha$  (this can be seen using Hensel's Lemma), and hence for  $\lambda \in \alpha \ell^{\times 3} \cup \alpha^2 \ell^{\times 3}$ ,  $L = \ell[X]/(X^3 - \lambda)$  is not embeddable in  $\mathcal{D}$ . (Note that L is embeddable in  $\mathcal{D}$  if, and only if,  $\mathbb{Q}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} L$  is a direct product of two field extensions of  $\mathbb{Q}_2$ , both of degree 3.) Thus we have shown that  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  does not contain any nontrivial elements of finite order which stabilize the collection  $(P_q)$ . Therefore,  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is torsion-free.

**5.9. Examples of fake projective planes.** By Lemma 5.6 the subgroup  $\Lambda$  described in 5.7 is torsion-free if  $(a,p)=(1,5),\ (2,3),\ (15,2)$  or (23,2). Now let (a,p)=(7,2). Then  $G(\mathbb{Q}_2)$  is the group  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  of elements of reduced norm 1 in a cubic division algebra  $\mathfrak{D}$  with center  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  (cf. 5.7). The first congruence subgroup  $G(\mathbb{Q}_2)^+:=\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  of  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  is the unique maximal normal pro-2 subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_2)$  of index  $(2^3-1)/(2-1)=7$  (see Theorem 7(iii)(2) of [Ri]). By the strong approximation property (Theorem 7.12 of [PIR]),  $\Lambda^+:=\Lambda\cap G(\mathbb{Q}_2)^+$  is a subgroup of  $\Lambda$  of index 7. Lemma 5.6 implies that  $\Lambda^+$  is torsion-free since  $G(\mathbb{Q}_2)^+$  is a pro-2 group. As  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)=1/7$  (see 4.5),  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda^+)=1$ , and hence the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of  $\Lambda^+$  is 3.

Since  $\Lambda$ , and for a=7,  $\Lambda^+$  are congruence subgroups, according to Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro],  $H^1(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})$ , and for a=7,  $H^1(\Lambda^+, \mathbb{C})$  vanish. By Poincaré-duality, then  $H^3(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})$ , and for a=7,  $H^3(\Lambda^+, \mathbb{C})$  also vanish. For a=1, 2, and 15, as  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)=1$  (4.5), the Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Lambda)$  of  $\Lambda$  is 3, and for a=7,  $\chi(\Lambda^+)$  is also 3, we conclude that for a=1, 2, and 15,  $H^i(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})$  is 1-dimensional for i=0, 2, and 4, and if a=7, this is also the case for  $H^i(\Lambda^+, \mathbb{C})$ . Thus if B is the symmetric space of  $G(\mathbb{R})$ , then for a=1, 2 and 15,  $B/\Lambda$ , and for a=7,  $B/\Lambda^+$ , is a fake projective plane.

Let  $\overline{\Lambda}$  (resp.,  $\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ) be the image of  $\Lambda$  (resp.,  $\Lambda^+$ ) in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$ . There is a natural faithful action of  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$  (resp.,  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ), which is a group of order 3 (resp., 21), on

 $B/\Lambda$  (resp.,  $B/\Lambda^+$ ). As  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is the normalizer of  $\Lambda$ , and also of  $\Lambda^+$ , in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$  (resp.,  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ) is the full automorphism group of  $B/\Lambda$  (resp.,  $B/\Lambda^+$ ).

In 5.10–5.13, we will describe the classes of fake projective planes associated with each of the five pairs (a, p).

**5.10.** In this paragraph we shall study the fake projective planes arising from the pairs (a,p)=(1,5), (2,3), and (15,2). Let us first consider the fake projective planes with  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0$  (for the pair  $(15,2), \mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0$  is the only possibility, see Theorem 4.4). Let  $\Lambda$  and  $\Gamma$  be as in 5.7. Let  $\Pi\subset\overline{\Gamma}$  be the fundamental group of a fake projective plane and  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  be its inverse image in  $\Gamma$ . Then as  $1=\chi(\widetilde{\Pi})=3\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\widetilde{\Pi})=\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda), \ \widetilde{\Pi}$  is of index 3 (=  $[\Gamma:\Lambda]/3$ ) in  $\Gamma$ , and hence  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 3. Conversely, if  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 3 such that  $H^1(\Pi,\mathbb{C})=\{0\}$  (i. e.,  $\Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  is finite), then as  $\chi(\Pi)=3$ ,  $B/\Pi$  is a fake projective plane, and  $\Pi$  is its fundamental group.

Let us now assume that (a,p)=(1,5), or (2,3) and  $\mathscr{T}\neq\mathscr{T}_0$ . Then, by Theorem 4.4,  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0\cup\{2\}$ . Note that 2 is the only prime which ramifies in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , a=1 or 2. We fix an Iwahori subgroup  $I_2$  contained in  $P_2$  and let  $\Lambda=G(\mathbb{Q})\cap\prod_q P_q$ ,  $\Lambda_I=\Lambda\cap I_2$ . Then  $\Lambda$ , and so also  $\Lambda_I$ , is torsion-free (Lemma 5.6). Since  $[P_2:I_2]=3$ , the strong approximation property implies that  $[\Lambda:\Lambda_I]=3$ . As  $\chi(\Lambda)=3$ , we obtain that  $\chi(\Lambda_I)=9$ . Now let  $\Gamma_I$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda_I$  in  $G(\mathbb{R})$ , and  $\overline{\Lambda}_I$  and  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  be the images of  $\Lambda_I$  and  $\Gamma_I$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $[\Gamma_I:\Lambda_I]=9$  (cf. 5.4), and hence,  $[\overline{\Gamma}_I:\overline{\Lambda}_I]=3$ . This implies that the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic of  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is 3. Moreover,  $H^1(\overline{\Lambda}_I,\mathbb{C})$ , and hence also  $H^1(\overline{\Gamma}_I,\mathbb{C})$  vanishes (Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro]). Thus if  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is torsion-free, which indeed is the case, as can be seen by a suitable adaptation of the argument used to prove Proposition 5.8,  $B/\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is a fake projective plane, and it is the unique plane belonging to the class associated to  $\ell=\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ , for a=1,2, and  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0\cup\{2\}$ .

It follows from Proposition 5.3 that up to conjugation by  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  there is exactly one coherent collection  $\{P_q, q \neq 2, p; I_2, P_p = G(\mathbb{Q}_p)\}$  such that  $P_q$  is a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  for all  $q \neq 2$ , p. Thus for a = 1, 2, up to conjugacy under  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  we obtain a unique  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$ .

**5.11.** We will now study the fake projective planes arising from the pair (7,2). For this pair either  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0=\{2\}$ , or  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,3\}$ , or  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,5\}$ . We will describe first the fake projective planes with  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0$ . As in 5.7, let  $\Lambda^+=\Lambda\cap G(\mathbb{Q}_2)^+$ , which is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\Lambda$  of index 7. We know that  $B/\Lambda^+$  is a fake projective plane. Let  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  be the inverse image in  $\Gamma$  of the fundamental group  $\Pi\subset\overline{\Gamma}$  of a fake projective plane. Then as  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Gamma)=\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)/9=1/63$ , and  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\widetilde{\Pi})=\chi(\widetilde{\Pi})/3=1/3$ ,  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is a subgroup of  $\Gamma$  of index 21, and hence  $[\overline{\Gamma}:\Pi]=21$ . Conversely, if  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 21, then as  $\chi(\Pi)=3$ ,  $B/\Pi$  is a fake projective plane if, and only if,  $\Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  is finite.

Now let  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,3\}$  or  $\{2,5\}$ . We fix a coherent collection  $(P_q)$  of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_q$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_q)$  such that  $P_q$  is hyperspecial if, and only if,  $q \notin \mathscr{T} \cup \{7\}$ . We will denote the principal arithmetic subgroup  $G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap \prod_q P_q$  by  $\Lambda_3$  if  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,3\}$ , and by  $\Lambda_5$  if  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,5\}$ . Let  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_5$  be the normalizers in  $G(\mathbb{R})$  of  $\Lambda_3$  and  $\Lambda_5$  respectively. Let  $\overline{\Lambda}_3$ ,  $\overline{\Lambda}_5$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}_3$  and  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  be the images in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$  of  $\Lambda_3$ ,  $\Lambda_5$ ,  $\Gamma_3$  and  $\Gamma_5$  respectively.

We will now describe the fake projective planes arising from the pair (7,2) with  $\mathcal{T} = \{2,3\}$ . Since  $e'(P_2) = 3$ , and  $e'(P_3) = 7$ , see 3.5 and 2.5(ii), (iii),

$$\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda_3) = \frac{1}{21}e'(P_2)e'(P_3) = 1.$$

Hence, the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Lambda_3)$  of  $\Lambda_3$  is 3. As the maximal normal pro-3 subgroup of the non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup  $P_3$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_3)$  is of index 96,  $P_3$  does not contain any elements of order 7. But any nontrivial element of  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  of finite order is of order 7 (Lemma 5.6), so we conclude that  $\Lambda_3$  ( $\subset G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap P_3$ ) is torsion-free. As in 5.9, using Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro] we conclude that  $B/\Lambda_3$  is a fake projective plane,  $\Lambda_3$  ( $\cong \overline{\Lambda}_3$ ) is its fundamental group, and since  $\overline{\Gamma}_3$  is the normalizer of  $\overline{\Lambda}_3$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}_3/\overline{\Lambda}_3$  is the automorphism group of  $B/\Lambda_3$ . As in 5.10, we see that any torsion-free subgroup  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}_3$  of index 3 such that  $\Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  is finite is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane.

We will now treat the case where  $\mathcal{T} = \{2, 5\}$ . As  $e'(P_5) = 21$ , see 2.5(iii),

$$\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda_5) = \frac{1}{21}e'(P_2)e'(P_5) = 3.$$

Hence,  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma}_5) = 3\chi(\Gamma_5) = 9\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Gamma_5) = 9\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda_5)/[\Gamma_5 : \Lambda_5] = 3$ . From this we conclude that the only subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  which can be the fundamental group of a fake projective plane is  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  itself. Moreover, as  $H^1(\overline{\Lambda}_5, \mathbb{C})$ , and hence also  $H^1(\overline{\Gamma}_5, \mathbb{C})$ , are trivial (Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro]),  $B/\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is a fake projective plane, and  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is its fundamental group, if and only if,  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is torsion free.

We will now show, using a variant of the argument employed in the proof of Proposition 5.8, that  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is torsion-free. Since the maximal normal pro-5 subgroup of the non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup  $P_5$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$  is of index 720,  $P_5$  does not contain any elements of order 7. This implies that  $\Lambda_5$  ( $\subset G(\mathbb{Q}) \cap P_5$ ), and hence also  $\overline{\Lambda}_5$ , are torsion-free since any element of  $G(\mathbb{Q})$  of finite order is of order 7 (Lemma 5.6). Now as  $\overline{\Lambda}_5$  is a normal subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  of index 3, we conclude that the order of any nontrivial element of  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  of finite order is 3.

Let  $\mathscr{G}$  be the connected reductive  $\mathbb{Q}$ -subgroup of  $GL_{1,\mathscr{D}}$ , which contains G as a normal subgroup, such that for any commutative  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra A,

$$\mathscr{G}(A) = \{ z \in \mathrm{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid z\sigma(z) \in A^{\times} \}.$$

Then the center  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathscr{G}$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphic to  $R_{\ell/\mathbb{Q}}(\mathrm{GL}_1)$ . The conjugation action of  $\mathscr{G}$  on G induces a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -isomorphism  $\mathscr{G}/\mathcal{C} \to \overline{G}$ . As  $H^1(\mathbb{Q},\mathcal{C}) = \{0\}$ , the natural homomorphism  $\mathscr{G}(\mathbb{Q}) \to \overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  is surjective. Now, if possible, assume that  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  contains

an element of order 3. We fix a  $g \in \mathscr{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  ( $\subset \mathscr{D}^{\times}$ ) whose image  $\overline{g}$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$  is an element of order 3 of  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$ . Then  $\lambda := g^3$  lies in  $\ell^{\times}$ . Let  $a = g\sigma(g) \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}$ . Then the norm of  $\lambda$  (over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ) is  $a^3 \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times 3}$ . Let x be the unique cube root of  $\lambda$  in the field  $L = \ell[X]/(X^3 - \lambda)$ . Then there is an embedding of L in  $\mathscr{D}$  which maps x to g. We will view L as a field contained in  $\mathscr{D}$  in terms of this embedding. The reduced norm of g is clearly  $\lambda$ , and the image of  $\overline{g}$  in  $H^1(\mathbb{Q}, C) \subset \ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$  is the class of  $\lambda$  in  $\ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$ . As in the proof of Proposition 5.8 (cf. also 5.4), we see that since g stabilizes the collection  $(P_q)$ ,  $w(\lambda) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$  for every normalized valuation w of  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7})$  not lying over 2.

We assert that the subgroup  $\ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet}$  of  $\ell^{\times}$  consisting of elements z whose norm lies in  $\mathbb{Q}^{\times 3}$ , and  $w(z) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$  for every normalized valuation w of  $\ell$  not lying over 2, equals  $\ell^{\times 3} \cup (1 + \sqrt{-7})\ell^{\times 3} \cup (1 - \sqrt{-7})\ell^{\times 3}$ . Since  $\ell$  does not contain a nontrivial cube root of unity, and its class number is 1, the subgroup  $\ell_3$  of  $\ell^{\times}$  consisting of  $z \in \ell^{\times}$  such that for every normalized valuation w of  $\ell$ ,  $w(z) \in 3\mathbb{Z}$  coincides with  $\ell^{\times 3}$  (see the proof of Proposition 0.12 in [BP]), and  $\ell_3$  is of index 3 in the subgroup  $\ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet}$  (of  $\ell^{\times}$ ). As  $(1 + \sqrt{-7})(1 - \sqrt{-7}) = 8 (\in \ell^{\times 3})$ , it follows that  $1 + \sqrt{-7}$  and  $1 - \sqrt{-7}$  are units at every nonarchimedean place of  $\ell$  which does not lie over 2. Moreover, it is easy to see that if v' and v'' are the two normalized valuations of  $\ell$  lying over 2, then neither  $v'(1 + \sqrt{-7})$  nor  $v''(1 + \sqrt{-7})$  is a multiple of 3. This implies, in particular, that  $1 \pm \sqrt{-7} \notin \ell^{\times 3}$ . From these observations, the above assertion is obvious. Now we note that  $1 \pm \sqrt{-7}$  is not a cube in  $\mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$  (to see this, it is enough to observe, using a direct computation, that  $(1 \pm \sqrt{-7})^8 \neq 1$  in the residue field of  $\mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$ ). Since  $\lambda \in \ell_{\{2\}}^{\bullet}$  and is not a cube in  $\ell^{\times}$ , it must lie in the set  $(1 + \sqrt{-7})\ell^{\times 3} \cup (1 - \sqrt{-7})\ell^{\times 3}$ . But no element of this set is a cube in  $\mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$ . Hence,  $\mathfrak{L} := L \otimes_{\ell} \mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$  is an unramified field extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$  of degree 3.

Let T be the centralizer of g in G. Then T is a maximal  $\mathbb{Q}$ -torus of G. Its group of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational points is  $L^{\times} \cap G(\mathbb{Q})$ . The torus T is anisotropic over  $\mathbb{Q}_5$  and its splitting field over  $\mathbb{Q}_5$  is the unramified cubic extension  $\mathfrak{L}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}_5(\sqrt{-7})$ . This implies that any parahoric subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$  containing  $T(\mathbb{Q}_5)$  is hyperspecial. We conclude from this that  $T(\mathbb{Q}_5)$  is contained in a unique parahoric subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$ , and this parahoric subgroup is hyperspecial. According to the main theorem of [PY], the subset of points fixed by g in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$  is the building of  $T(\mathbb{Q}_5)$ . Since the latter consists of a single point, namely the vertex fixed by the hyperspecial parahoric subgroup containing  $T(\mathbb{Q}_5)$ , we infer that g normalizes a unique parahoric subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$ , and this parahoric subgroup is hyperspecial. As  $P_5$  is a non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_5)$ , it cannot be normalized by g. Thus we have arrived at a contradiction. This proves that  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is torsion-free. Hence,  $B/\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is a fake projective plane, and  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is its fundamental group. Since the normalizer of  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$  is  $\overline{\Gamma}_5$ , the automorphism group of  $B/\overline{\Gamma}_5$  is trivial.

**5.12.** We finally look at the fake projective planes arising from the pair (23,2). In this case,  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Gamma) = \mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Lambda)/9 = 1/3$  (see 4.5). Hence, if  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is the inverse image in  $\Gamma$  of the fundamental group  $\Pi \subset \overline{\Gamma}$  of a fake projective plane, then as  $\mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\widetilde{\Pi}) = \chi(\widetilde{\Pi})/3 = 1/3 = \mu(G(\mathbb{R})/\Gamma)$ ,  $\widetilde{\Pi} = \Gamma$ . Therefore, the only subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  which can be the fundamental group of a fake projective plane is  $\overline{\Gamma}$  itself.

As  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is torsion-free (Proposition 5.8),  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma})=3$ , and  $\Lambda/[\Lambda,\Lambda]$ , hence  $\Gamma/[\Gamma,\Gamma]$ , and so also  $\overline{\Gamma}/[\overline{\Gamma},\overline{\Gamma}]$  are finite,  $B/\overline{\Gamma}$  is a fake projective plane and  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is its fundamental group. Since the normalizer of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  in  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{R})$  equals  $\overline{\Gamma}$ , the automorphism group of  $B/\overline{\Gamma}$  is trivial.

**5.13.** We recall that the hyperspecial parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  are conjugate to each other under  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ , see [Ti2, 2.5]; moreover, if v does not split in  $\ell$ , and is unramified in  $\ell$ , then the non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  are conjugate to each other under  $G(k_v)$ . Using the observations in 2.2, and Proposition 5.3, we see that if  $(a,p) \neq (15,2)$  (resp., (a,p)=(15,2)), then up to conjugation by  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$ , there are exactly 2 (resp., 4) coherent collections  $(P_q)$  of maximal parahoric subgroups such that  $P_q$  is hyperspecial whenever q does not ramify in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$  and  $q \neq p$ , since if  $a \neq 15$  (resp., a = 15), there is exactly one prime (resp., there are exactly two primes, namely 3 and 5) which ramify in  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-a})$ . Moreover, for (a,p)=(1,5) and (2,3), up to conjugation by  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$ , there is exactly one coherent collection  $(P_q)$  of parahoric subgroups such that  $P_q$  is hyperspecial for  $q \neq 2$ , p, and  $P_2$ ,  $P_p$  are Iwahori subgroups; for (a,p)=(7,2), if either  $\mathscr{T}=\{2,3\}$  or  $\{2,5\}$ , then up to conjugation by  $\overline{G}(\mathbb{Q})$ , there are exactly 2 coherent collections  $(P_q)$  of maximal parahoric subgroups such that  $P_q$  is hyperspecial if, and only if,  $q \notin \mathscr{T} \cup \{7\}$ .

From the results in 5.10–5.12, we conclude that for (a, p) equal to either (1, 5) or (2,3), there are two distinct classes with  $\mathcal{T} = \{p\}$ , and one more class with  $\mathcal{T} = \{2, p\}$ ; for (a, p) = (23, 2), there are two distinct classes; for (a, p) = (7, 2), there are six distinct finite classes, and for (a, p) = (15, 2), there are four distinct finite classes, of fake projective planes. Thus the following theorem holds.

- **5.14. Theorem.** There exist exactly eighteen distinct classes of fake projective planes with  $k = \mathbb{Q}$ .
- **5.15. Remark.** To the best of our knowledge, only three fake projective planes were known before the present work. The first one was constructed by Mumford [Mu] and it corresponds to the pair (a, p) = (7, 2); see 5.11. Two more examples were given by Ishida and Kato [IK] making use of the discrete subgroups of  $\operatorname{PGL}_3(\mathbb{Q}_2)$ , which act simply transitively on the set of vertices of the Bruhat-Tits building of the latter, constructed by Cartwright, Mantero, Steger and Zappa. In both of these examples, (a, p) equals (15, 2). JongHae Keum has recently constructed a fake projective plane in [Ke] which is birational to a cyclic cover of degree 7 of a Dolgachev surface. This fake projective plane admits an automorphism of order 7, so it appears to us that it corresponds to the pair (7, 2), and its fundamental group is the group  $\Lambda^+$  of 5.9 for a suitable choice of a maximal parahoric subgroup  $P_7$  of  $G(\mathbb{Q}_7)$ .

# 6. Lower bound for discriminant in terms of the degree of a number field

**6.1. Definition.** We define  $M_r(d) = \min_K D_K^{1/d}$ , where the minimum is taken over all totally real number fields K of degree d. Similarly, we define  $M_c(d) = \min_K D_K^{1/d}$  by taking the minimum over all totally complex number fields K of degree d.

It is well-known that  $M_r(d) \ge (d^d/d!)^{2/d}$  from the classical estimates of Minkowski. The precise values of  $M_r(d)$  for small values of d are known due to the work of many mathematicians as listed in [N]. For  $d \le 8$ , the values of  $M_r(d)$  are given in the following table.

An effective lower bound for  $M_r(d)$ , better than Minkowski's bound for d large, has been given by Odlyzko [O1]. We recall the following algorithm given in [O1], Theorem 1, which provides a useful estimate for  $M_r(d)$  for arbitrary d.

**6.2.** Let  $b(x) = [5 + (12x^2 - 5)^{1/2}]/6$ . Define

$$g(x,d) = \exp\left[\log(\pi) - \frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}(x/2) + \frac{(2x-1)}{4} \left(\frac{\Gamma'}{\Gamma}\right)'(b(x)/2) + \frac{1}{d} \left\{-\frac{2}{x} - \frac{2}{x-1} - \frac{2x-1}{b(x)^2} - \frac{2x-1}{(b(x)-1)^2}\right\}\right].$$

Let  $\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{14-\sqrt{128}}{34}}$ . As we are considering only totally real number fields, according to Theorem 1 of [O1],  $M_r(d) \ge g(x,d)$  provided that x > 1 and  $b(x) \ge 1 + \alpha x$ .

Now let  $x_0$  be the positive root of the quadratic equation  $b(x) = 1 + \alpha x$ . Solving this equation, we obtain  $x_0 = \frac{\alpha + \sqrt{2 - 5\alpha^2}}{2(1 - 3\alpha^2)} = 1.01...$  For a fixed value of d, define  $\mathfrak{N}(d) = \limsup_{x \geqslant x_0} g(x, d)$ .

**6.3. Lemma.** For each d > 1,  $M_r(d) \ge \mathfrak{N}(d)$ , and  $\mathfrak{N}(d)$  is an increasing function of d.

*Proof.* It is obvious from our choice of  $x_0$  that  $M_r(d) \geq \mathfrak{N}(d)$ . We will now show that  $\mathfrak{N}(d)$  is an increasing function of d.

For a fixed value of x > 1, g(x, d) is clearly an increasing function of d since the only expression involving d in it is

$$\frac{1}{d}\left\{-\frac{2}{x} - \frac{2}{x-1} - \frac{2x-1}{b(x)^2} - \frac{2x-1}{(b(x)-1)^2}\right\},\,$$

which is nonpositive. Now for a given d, and a positive integer n, choose a  $x_n \ge x_0$  such that  $g(x_n, d) \ge \mathfrak{N}(d) - 10^{-n}$ . Then

$$\mathfrak{N}(d+1) = \limsup_{x \ge x_0} g(x, d+1) \ge g(x_n, d+1) \ge g(x_n, d) \ge \mathfrak{N}(d) - 10^{-n}.$$

Hence,  $\mathfrak{N}(d+1) \geqslant \mathfrak{N}(d)$ .

**6.4.** In the next section, we will use the lower bound for the root-discriminant  $D_K^{1/d}$  of totally complex number fields K obtained by Odlyzko in [O2]. We will denote by  $N_c(n_0)$  the entry for totally complex number fields given in the last column of Table 2 of [O2] for  $n = n_0$ . We recall from [O2] that for every number field K of degree  $n \ge n_0$ , the root-discriminant  $D_K^{1/n} > N_c(n_0)$ .

For small d, we will also use Table IV of [Ma]. This table was originally constructed by Diaz y Diaz.

# 7. Upper bounds for the degree d of k, $D_k$ and $D_\ell$

In this, and the next two sections, we will determine totally real number fields k of degree d>1, their totally complex quadratic extensions  $\ell$ , k-forms G of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  and coherent collections  $(P_v)_{v\in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  such that for all  $v\in \mathscr{R}_{\ell}$ ,  $P_v$  is maximal, and the image  $\overline{\Gamma}$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  (where  $v_o$  is the unique real place of k such that  $G(k_{v_o})\cong \mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ ) of the normalizer  $\Gamma$  of  $\Lambda:=G(k)\cap \prod_{v\in V_f}P_v$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$  contains a torsion-free subgroup  $\Pi$  of finite index with  $\chi(\Pi)=3$ . Then  $\chi(\Gamma)$  is a reciprocal integer. In particular, it is  $\leq 1$ .

In this section, we will use bounds (2), (3), (6), and (7)–(10) obtained in §2, the lower bound for the discriminant given in the preceding section, and Hilbert class fields, to prove that  $d \leq 5$ . We will also find good upper bounds for  $D_k$ ,  $D_\ell$ , and  $D_\ell/D_k^2$  for  $d \leq 5$ . Using these bounds, in the next section we will be able to make a complete list of  $(k,\ell)$  of interest to us. It will follow then that d cannot be 5.

**7.1.** Let  $f(\delta, d)$  be the function occurring in bound (10). It is obvious that for c > 1,  $c^{1/(3-\delta)d}$  decreases as d increases. Now for  $\delta \ge 0.002$ , as

$$\frac{\delta(1+\delta)}{0.00136} > 1,$$

 $\inf_{\delta} f(\delta, d)$ , where the infimum is taken over the closed interval  $0.002 \leq \delta \leq 2$ , decreases as d increases. A direct computation shows that f(0.9, 20) < 16.38. On the other hand, for  $d \geq 20$ , Lemma 6.3 gives us

$$M_r(d) \geqslant \mathfrak{N}(20) \geqslant g(1.43, 20) > 16.4,$$

where g(x, d) is the function defined in 6.2. From these bounds we conclude that  $d = [k : \mathbb{Q}] < 20$ .

To obtain a better upper bound for d, we observe using Table 2 in [O2] that  $M_r(d) > 17.8$  for  $15 \le d < 20$ . But by a direct computation we see that f(0.9, 15) < 17.4. So the monotonicity of  $f(\delta, d)$ , as a function of d for a fixed  $\delta$ , implies that d cannot be larger than 14.

**7.2.** Now we will prove that  $d \leq 7$  with the help of Hilbert class fields. Let us assume, if possible, that  $14 \geq d \geq 8$ .

We will use the following result from the theory of Hilbert class fields. The Hilbert class field  $L := H(\ell)$  of a totally complex number field  $\ell$  is the maximal unramified abelian extension of  $\ell$ . Its degree over  $\ell$  is the class number  $h_{\ell}$  of  $\ell$ , and  $D_L = D_{\ell}^{h_{\ell}}$ .

We consider the two cases where  $h_{\ell} \leq 63$  and  $h_{\ell} > 63$  separately.

Case (a):  $h_{\ell} \leq 63$ : In this case  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 27$ , and from bound (8) we obtain

$$D_k^{1/d} < \varphi_2(d, h_{\ell,3}) < \varphi_3(d) := 27^{1/4d} (16\pi^5)^{1/4}.$$

The function  $\varphi_3(d)$  decreases as d increases. A direct computation shows that  $\varphi_3(d) \leqslant \varphi_3(8) < 9.3$ . Hence,  $D_k^{1/d} < 9.3$ . On the other hand, from Table 2 in [O2] we find that, for  $14 \geqslant d \geqslant 8$ ,  $M_r(d) > 10.5$ , so  $D_k^{1/d} > 10.5$ . Therefore, if  $h_\ell \leqslant 63$ ,  $d \leqslant 7$ .

Case (b):  $h_{\ell} > 63$ : In this case, let L be the Hilbert class field of  $\ell$ . Then  $[L:\ell] = h_{\ell}$ ,  $D_L = D_{\ell}^{h_{\ell}}$ , and  $2dh_{\ell} > 16 \times 63 > 1000$ . From 6.4 we conclude that

$$D_{\ell}^{1/2d} = D_{L}^{1/2dh_{\ell}} \geqslant M_{c}(2dh_{\ell}) \geqslant N_{c}(1000) = 20.895,$$

where the last value is from Table 2 of [O2]. However, as  $f(0.77,d) \leq f(0.77,8) < 20.84$ , bound (10) implies that  $D_{\ell}^{1/2d} < 20.84$ . Again, we have reached a contradiction. So we conclude that  $d \leq 7$ .

**7.3.** To find good upper bounds for d,  $D_k$  and  $D_\ell$ , we will make use of improved lower bounds for  $R_\ell/w_\ell$  for totally complex number fields given in [F], Table 2. We reproduce below the part of this table which we will use in this paper.

| $r_2 = d$ | for $D_{\ell}^{1/2d}$ < | $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geqslant$ |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2         | 17.2                    | 0.0898                        |
| 3         | 24.6                    | 0.0983                        |
| 4         | 29.04                   | 0.1482                        |
| 5         | 31.9                    | 0.2261                        |
| 6         | 33.8                    | 0.4240                        |
| 7         | 34.4                    | 0.8542                        |

We also note here that except for totally complex sextic fields of discriminants

$$-9747$$
,  $-10051$ ,  $-10571$ ,  $-10816$ ,  $-11691$ ,  $-12167$ ,

and totally complex quartic fields of discriminants

 $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell}$  is bounded from below by 1/8 for every number field  $\ell$ , see [F], Theorem B'.

**7.4.** We consider now the case where d = 7. Bound (10) implies that  $D_{\ell}^{1/14} < f(0.75,7) < 22.1$ . Using the lower bound for  $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell}$  given in the table above and bound (7), we conclude by a direct computation that

$$D_{\ell}^{1/14} < \varphi_1(7, 0.8542, 0.8) < 18.82.$$

On the other hand, the root-discriminant of any totally complex number field of degree  $\geq 260$  is bounded from below by  $N_c(260)$ , see 6.4. From Table 2 in [O2] we find that  $N_c(260) = 18.955$ . So we conclude that the class number  $h_\ell$  of  $\ell$  is bounded from above by 260/2d = 260/14 < 19, for otherwise the root-discriminant of the Hilbert class field of  $\ell$  would be greater than 18.955, contradicting the fact that it equals  $D_\ell^{1/14}$  (< 18.82).

As  $h_{\ell} \leq 18$ ,  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 9$ . Now we will use bound (8). We see by a direct computation that  $\varphi_2(7,9) < 9.1$ . Hence,  $D_k^{1/7} \leq D_\ell^{1/14} < 9.1$ . On the other hand, we know from 6.1 that  $M_r(7) = 20134393^{1/7} \geq 11$ . This implies that d cannot be 7. Therefore,  $d \leq 6$ .

**7.5.** Employing a method similar to the one used in 7.2 and 7.4 we will now show that d cannot be 6.

For d=6, from bound (10) we get  $D_\ell^{1/12} < f(0.71,6) < 24$ . Using the lower bound for  $R_\ell/w_\ell$  provided by the table in 7.3 and bound (7), we conclude by a direct computation that  $D_\ell^{1/12} < \varphi_1(6,0.424,0.8) < 20$ . From Table 2 in [O2] we find that  $N_c(480) > 20$ . Now, arguing as in 7.4, we infer that the class number  $h_\ell$  of  $\ell$  is bounded from above by 480/12 = 40, which implies that  $h_{\ell,3} \leqslant 27$ . As  $\varphi_2(6,27) < 10$ , bound (8) implies that  $D_k^{1/6} \leqslant D_\ell^{1/12} < 10$ . Now since  $N_c(21) > 10$ , we see that the class number of  $\ell$  cannot be larger than 21/12 < 2. Hence,  $h_\ell = 1 = h_{\ell,3}$ . We may now apply bound (8) again to conclude that  $D_k^{1/6} < \varphi_2(6,1) < 8.365$ . Checking from the table t66.001 of [1], we know that the two smallest discriminants of totally real sextics are 300125 as mentioned in 6.1, followed by 371293. As 371293^{1/6} > 8.47, the second case is not possible and we are left with only one candidate,  $D_k = 300125$ . As  $\mathfrak{p}(6,300125,1) < 1.3$ , we conclude from bound (9) that  $D_\ell/D_k^2 = 1$ . Hence, if d=6,  $(D_k,D_\ell)=(300125,300125^2)$  is the only possibility. From the tables in [1] we find that there is a unique totally real number field k of degree 6 with  $D_k = 300125$ . Moreover, the class number of this field is 1. Gunter Malle, using the procedure described in 8.1 below, has shown that there does not exist a totally complex quadratic extension  $\ell$  of this field with  $D_\ell = 300125^2$ . Therefore d cannot be 6.

- **7.6.** For d=5, bound (10) implies that  $D_{\ell}^{1/10} < f(0.7,5) < 26.1$ . It is seen from the table in 7.3 that  $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geqslant 0.2261$ . Hence,  $D_{\ell}^{1/10} < \varphi_1(5,0.2261,0.72) < 21.42$ . As  $N_c(2400) > 21.53$ , arguing as in 7.4 we see that the class number  $h_{\ell}$  of  $\ell$  is bounded from above by 2400/10 = 240. Hence,  $h_{\ell,3} \leqslant 81 = 3^4$ . Now we note that  $\varphi_2(5,81) < 10.43$ , but  $N_c(23) > 10.43$ . So,  $h_{\ell} < 23/10$ , and therefore,  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ . But then  $D_k^{1/5} \leqslant D_{\ell}^{1/10} < \varphi_2(5,1) < 8.3649$ . As  $M_r(5)^5 \geqslant 14641$  and  $\mathfrak{p}(5,14641,1) < 5.2$ , we conclude from bound (9) that  $D_{\ell}/D_k^2 \leqslant 5$ .
- **7.7.** Let now d=4. In this case, k is a totally real quartic and  $\ell$  is a totally complex octic containing k. Table 4 of [F] gives the lower bound  $R_k \ge 41/50$  for the regulator. Since  $\ell$  is a CM field which is a totally complex quadratic extension of k,

we know that  $R_{\ell} = 2^{d-1}R_k/Q$ , where Q = 1 or 2 is the unit index of k (cf. [W]). We will now estimate  $w_{\ell}$ , the number of roots of unity in  $\ell$ .

We know that the group of roots of unity in  $\ell$  is a cyclic group of even order, say m. Let  $\zeta_m$  be a primitive m-th root of unity. As the degree of the cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$  is  $\phi(m)$ , where  $\phi$  is the Euler function, we know that  $\phi(m)$  is a divisor of 2d = 8. The following table gives the values of m and  $\phi(m)$  for  $\phi(m) \leq 8$ .

If  $\phi(m)=8$ , then m=16, 20, 24 or 30, and  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_m)$  equals  $\ell$ . Note that  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{30})=\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{15})$ . The class number of these four cyclotomic fields are all known to be 1 (see [W], pp. 230 and 432). So in these four cases,  $h_{\ell,3}=1$ . Bound (8) implies that  $D_k^{1/4}\leqslant D_\ell^{1/8}<\varphi_2(4,1)<8.3640$ . As  $M_r(4)^4=725$  and  $\mathfrak{p}(4,725,1)<21.3$ , we conclude from bound (9) that  $D_\ell/D_k^2\leqslant 21$ .

Assume now that  $\phi(m) \neq 8$ . Then  $m \leq 12$ . Hence,  $w_{\ell} \leq 12$ . So we conclude that except for the four cyclotomic fields dealt with earlier,

$$R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geqslant 2^3 R_k/12Q \geqslant R_k/3 \geqslant 41/150.$$

Applying bound (7), we conclude that  $D_{\ell}^{1/8} < \varphi_1(4,41/150,0.69) < 21.75$  by a direct computation. From Table IV of [Ma], we know that totally complex number fields of degree  $\geqslant 4000$  have unconditional root-discriminant lower bound 21.7825. It follows, as before, using the Hilbert Class field of  $\ell$ , that the class number  $h_{\ell}$  of  $\ell$  is at most 4000/8 = 500. Hence,  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 3^5 = 243$ . Bound (8) now gives that  $D_{\ell}^{1/8} < \varphi_2(4,243) < 11.8$ . But from Table 2 of [O2] we find that  $N_c(32) > 11.9$ . So we conclude  $h_{\ell} \leq 32/8 = 4$ . Hence,  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 3$ . Applying bound (8) again we infer that  $D_{\ell}^{1/8} < \varphi_2(4,3) < 8.96$ . As  $N_c(18) > 9.2$ , we conclude that  $h_{\ell} < 18/8$ . But then  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ , and the argument in the preceding paragraph leads to the conclusion that  $D_{\ell}^{1/4} \leq D_{\ell}^{1/8} < \varphi_2(4,1) < 8.3640$  and  $D_{\ell}/D_{\ell}^2 \leq 21$ .

**7.8.** We consider now the case d=3. Suppose that  $D_{\ell}^{1/6} < 21.7$ . Since according to Table IV of [Ma],  $M_c(4000) \geqslant 21.7825$ , we infer, as above, using the Hilbert class field of  $\ell$ , that  $h_{\ell} \leqslant 4000/6 < 667$ . Then  $h_{\ell,3} \leqslant 243 = 3^5$ . It follows from bound (8) that  $D_{\ell}^{1/6} < \varphi_2(3,243) < 13.3$ . From Table 2 of [O2] we find that  $N_c(44) > 13.37$ . Therefore,  $h_{\ell} \leqslant 44/6 < 8$ . Hence,  $h_{\ell,3} \leqslant 3$ . Now we observe that  $\varphi_2(3,3) < 9.17$ . But as  $N_c(18) \geqslant 9.28$ ,  $h_{\ell} < 18/6 = 3$ , which implies that  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ . We then deduce from bound (8) that  $D_k^{1/3} \leqslant D_{\ell}^{1/6} < \varphi_2(3,1) < 8.3591$ . Also since  $D_k \geqslant 49$  (see 6.1), and  $\mathfrak{p}(3,49,1) < 52.8$ , we conclude from bound (9) that  $D_{\ell}/D_k^2 \leqslant 52$ .

We assume now that  $D_\ell^{1/6}\geqslant 21.7$  (and d=3). We will make use of a lower bound for  $R_\ell/w_\ell$  which is better than the one provided in 7.3. Table 4 of [F] gives that  $R_k\geqslant 0.524$ . Recall from 7.7 that  $R_\ell/w_\ell=2^{d-1}R_k/Qw_\ell\geqslant 2R_k/w_\ell\geqslant 2(0.524)/w_\ell$ . From the table of values of the Euler function given in 7.7, we see that  $\phi(m)$  is a

proper divisor of 6 only for m=2, 4, 6. So we conclude that  $w_{\ell} \leq 6$  unless  $\ell$  is either  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{14})$  or  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{18})$ . Since both  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{14}) = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7)$  or  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{18}) = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_9)$  are known to have class number 1 (cf. [W], pp. 229 and 412), the bounds obtained in the last paragraph apply to these two cases as well. Hence, it remains only to consider the cases where  $w_{\ell} \leq 6$ . So we assume now that  $w_{\ell} \leq 6$ . Then  $R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geq 2(0.524)/6 > 0.17$ .

Observe that bounds (2), (3) and (6) imply that

$$D_k^{1/d} > \xi(d, D_\ell, R_\ell/w_\ell, \delta) := \left[ \frac{(R_\ell/w_\ell)\zeta(2d)^{1/2}}{\delta(\delta+1)} \right]^{1/d} \frac{(2\pi)^{1+\delta}}{16\pi^5\Gamma(1+\delta)\zeta(1+\delta)^2} (D_\ell^{1/2d})^{4-\delta}.$$

As  $D_{\ell}^{1/6} \ge 21.7$ , it follows from this bound by a direct computation that  $D_k^{1/3} > \xi(3, 21.7^6, 0.17, 0.65) > 16.4$ .

Recall now a result of Remak, stated as bound (3.15) in [F],

$$R_k \geqslant \left[\frac{\log D_k - d \log d}{\{\gamma_{d-1} d^{1/(d-1)} (d^3 - d)/3\}^{1/2}}\right]^{d-1},$$

where d=3 and  $\gamma_2=2/\sqrt{3}$  as given on page 613 in [F]. Since  $R_\ell=2^2R_k/Q\geqslant 2R_k$ , we obtain the following lower bound

$$R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geqslant r(D_k, w_{\ell}) := \frac{2}{w_{\ell}} \left[ \frac{\log D_k - 3\log 3}{\{2(3^2 - 1)\}^{1/2}} \right]^2.$$

As in the argument in the last paragraph, we assume that  $w_{\ell} \leq 6$ . Then from the preceding bound we get the following:

$$R_{\ell}/w_{\ell} \geqslant r(16.4^3, 6) > 0.54.$$

We now use bound (7) to conclude that  $D_{\ell}^{1/6} < \varphi_1(3, 0.54, 0.66) < 20.8 < 21.7$ , contradicting our assumption that  $D_{\ell}^{1/6} \geqslant 21.7$ .

Therefore, 
$$D_k^{1/3} \leqslant D_\ell^{1/6} < 8.3591$$
 and  $D_\ell/D_k^2 \leqslant 52$ .

7.9. Finally we consider the case d=2. In this case, we know from 7.3 that  $R_\ell/w_\ell \geqslant 1/8$  except in the three cases mentioned there. So bound (7) implies that  $D_\ell^{1/4} < \varphi_1(2,1/8,0.52) < 28.96$ . Hence,  $D_\ell \leqslant 703387$ . This bound holds for the three exceptional cases of 7.3 as well. Since quartics of such small discriminant are all known, we know the class number of all such fields explicitly. In particular, the number fields are listed in t40.001-t40.057 of [1], where each file contains 1000 number fields listed in ascending order of the absolute discriminants. There are altogether 5700 number fields in the files, the last one has discriminant 713808. So [1] is more than adequate for our purpose. Inspecting by hand, or using PARI/GP and a simple program, we find that the largest class number of an  $\ell$  with  $D_\ell \leqslant 703387$  is 64. The corresponding number field has discriminant 654400 with a defining polynomial  $x^4 - 2x^3 + 27x^2 - 16x + 314$ .

Once we know that  $h_{\ell} \leq 64$ , we find that  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 27$ . We may now apply bound (8) to conclude that  $D_{\ell}^{1/4} < \varphi_2(2,27) < 12.57$ . Now since in Table 2 of [O2] we find that  $N_c(38) > 12.73$ , we infer that  $h_{\ell} < 38/4 < 10$ , which implies that  $h_{\ell,3} \leq 9$ . But

 $\varphi_2(2,9) < 10.96$ , and  $N_c(26) > 11.01$ . So  $h_\ell < 26/4 < 7$ , and hence  $h_{\ell,3} \le 3$ . It follows from bound (8) that  $D_k^{1/2} \le D_\ell^{1/4} < \varphi_2(2,3) < 9.5491$ . From this we conclude that  $D_k \le 91$ . As  $D_k \ge 5$  (see 6.1) and  $\mathfrak{p}(2,5,3) < 104.2$ , bound (9) implies that  $D_\ell/D_k^2 \le 104$ .

**7.10.** The results in 7.6–7.9 are summarized in the following table.

| d | $D_k^{1/d}\leqslant D_\ell^{1/2d}\leqslant$ | $h_{\ell,3} \leqslant$ | $D_{\ell}/D_k^2 \leqslant$ |
|---|---|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5 | 8.3649                                      | 1                      | 5                          |
| 4 | 8.3640                                      | 1                      | 21                         |
| 3 | 8.3591                                      | 1                      | 52                         |
| 2 | 9.5491                                      | 3                      | 104                        |

**8.** 
$$(k, \ell)$$
 with  $d = 2, 3, 4,$  and 5

**8.1.** To make a list of all pairs  $(k,\ell)$  of interest to us, we will make use of the tables of number fields given in [1]. In the following table, in the column under  $r_d$  (resp.,  $c_d$ ) we list the largest integer less than the d-th power (resp., an integer slightly larger than the 2d-th power) of the numbers appearing in the second column of the table in 7.10. The column under  $x_d$  reproduces the numbers appearing in the last column of the table in 7.10. Therefore, we need only find all totally real number fields k of degree d,  $2 \le d \le 5$ , and totally complex quadratic extensions  $\ell$  of each k, such that  $D_k \leqslant r_d$ ,  $D_\ell \leqslant c_d$ , and moreover,  $D_\ell/D_k^2 \leqslant x_d$ . Thanks to a detailed computation carried out at our request by Gunter Malle, for each d, we know the exact number of pairs of  $(k,\ell)$  satisfying these constraints. This number is listed in the last column of the following table. The data is obtained in the following way. The number fields k with  $D_k$  in the range we are interested in are listed in [1]. Their class numbers, and a set of generators of their group of units, are also given there. For d=2, the quadratic extensions  $\ell$  are also listed in [1]. Any quadratic extension of k is of the form  $k(\sqrt{\alpha})$ , with  $\alpha$  in the ring of integers  $\mathfrak{o}_k$  of k. For d>2, the class number of any totally real k of interest turns out to be 1; hence,  $\mathfrak{o}_k$  is a unique factorization domain. Now using factorization of small primes and explicit generators of the group of units of k, Malle listed all possible  $\alpha$  modulo squares, and then for each of the  $\alpha$ , the discriminant of  $k(\sqrt{\alpha})$  could be computed. Using this procedure, Malle explicitly determined all totally complex quadratic extensions  $\ell$  with  $D_{\ell}$  satisfying the conditions mentioned above.

Thus there are no  $(k, \ell)$  with d = 5. For  $2 \le d \le 4$ , there are 52 + 4 + 7 = 63 pairs  $(k, \ell)$  satisfying the constraints on  $r_d, c_d$  and  $x_d$  imposed by the considerations in 7.6–7.9.

**8.2.** For each of the 63 potential pairs  $(k,\ell)$  mentioned above, we know defining polynomials for k and  $\ell$ , and also the values of  $D_k$ ,  $D_\ell$ , and  $h_{\ell,3}$ . It turns out that  $h_{\ell,3}=1$  or 3. We are able to further cut down the list of pairs  $(k,\ell)$  such that there is a k-form of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$ , described in terms of the quadratic extension  $\ell$  of k, which may provide an arithmetic subgroup  $\Gamma$  of  $\mathrm{SU}(2,1)$  with  $\chi(\Gamma) \leq 1$ , by making use of bound (9) for  $D_\ell/D_k^2$ , and the fact that this number is an integer. We are then left with only 40 pairs. These are listed below.

In the lists below, there are only three pairs  $(k,\ell)$  with d=3. In the list provided by Malle there was a fourth pair with  $(D_k, D_\ell, h_\ell) = (321, 309123, 1)$ . Bound (9) for this pair gives us  $D_\ell/D_k^2 < 2.7$ , and therefore,  $D_\ell \leq 2D_k^2$ . But  $309123 > 2 \times 321^2$ , that is why the fourth pair with d=3 does not appear in the lists below.

```
(k,\ell)
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + x^2 - x + 1
             x^2 - x - 1
 \mathcal{C}_1
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1
             x^2 - x - 1
 \mathcal{C}_2
             x^2 - x - 1
                                                   x^4 + 3x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_3
             x^2 - x - 1
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x + 4
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 5x^2 + 2x + 4
             x^2 - x - 1
 \mathcal{C}_5
 \mathcal{C}_6
             x^2 - x - 1
                                                   x^4 - 2x^3 + 6x^2 - 5x + 5
                                                   x^4 + 6x^2 + 4
             x^2 - x - 1
 \mathcal{C}_7
             x^2 - 2
                                                   x^4 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_8
             x^2 - 2
                                                   x^4 + 2x^2 + 4
 \mathcal{C}_9
             x^2 - 2
                                                   x^4 - 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x + 2
 \mathcal{C}_{10}
             x^2 - 3
                                                   x^4 - x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{11}
             x^2 - 3
                                                   x^4 + 4x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{12}
             x^2 - x - 3
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 4x^2 + 3x + 9
 \mathcal{C}_{13}
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 + 4x + 3
 \mathcal{C}_{14}
             x^2 - x - 3
             x^2 - x - 4
                                                   x^4 - x^3 - 2x + 4
 \mathcal{C}_{15}
                                                   x^4 - x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 16
             x^2 - x - 4
 \mathcal{C}_{16}
             x^2 - x - 5
                                                   x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 4
 \mathcal{C}_{17}
                                                   x^4 - 2x^2 + 4
             x^2 - 6
 \mathcal{C}_{18}
                                                   x^4 + 9
             x^2 - 6
 \mathcal{C}_{19}
                                                   x^4 - 3x^2 + 4
             x^2 - 7
 \mathcal{C}_{20}
                                                   x^4 - x^3 - 2x^2 - 3x + 9
             x^2 - x - 8
 \mathcal{C}_{21}
             x^2 - 11
                                                   x^4 - 5x^2 + 9
 \mathcal{C}_{22}
                                                   x^4 - 2x^3 + 9x^2 - 8x + 2
             x^2 - 14
 \mathcal{C}_{23}
                                                   x^4 - x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x + 25
             x^2 - x - 14
 \mathcal{C}_{24}
             x^2 - 15
                                                   x^4 - 5x^2 + 25
 \mathcal{C}_{25}
             x^2 - 15
                                                   x^4 - 7x^2 + 16
 \mathcal{C}_{26}
                                                   x^4 - x^3 - 5x^2 - 6x + 36
             x^2 - x - 17
 \mathcal{C}_{27}
                                                   x^4 - 9x^2 + 25
             x^2 - 19
 \mathcal{C}_{28}
             x^2 - x - 19
                                                   x^4 + 9x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{29}
                                                   x^4 - 2x^3 + 11x^2 - 10x + 3
             x^2 - 22
 \mathcal{C}_{30}
             x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1
                                                   x^6 - x^5 + x^4 - x^3 + x^2 - x + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{31}
                                                   x^6 - x^5 + 3x^4 + 5x^2 - 2x + 1
             x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{32}
                                                   x^6 - x^3 + 1
             x^3 - 3x - 1
 \mathcal{C}_{33}
             x^4 - x^3 - 4x^2 + 4x + 1
                                                   x^8 - x^7 + x^5 - x^4 + x^3 - x + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{34}
             x^4 - 5x^2 + 5
                                                   x^8 - x^6 + x^4 - x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{35}
             x^4 - 4x^2 + 2
                                                   x^8 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{36}
             x^4 - 4x^2 + 1
                                                   x^8 - x^4 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{37}
             x^4 - 2x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x + 1 x^8 - 3x^6 + 8x^4 - 3x^2 + 1
 \mathcal{C}_{38}
             x^4 - 6x^2 - 4x + 2
                                                   x^{8} - 4x^{7} + 14x^{6} - 28x^{5} + 43x^{4} - 44x^{3} + 30x^{2} - 12x + 2
 \mathcal{C}_{39}
             x^4 - 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x + 1 x^8 - 4x^7 + 5x^6 + 2x^5 - 11x^4 + 4x^3 + 20x^2 - 32x + 16.
 \mathcal{C}_{40}
```

The relevant numerical values are given below, where  $\mu$  is the expression  $2^{-2d}\zeta_k(-1)L_{\ell|k}(-2)$ .

| $(k,\ell)$         | $D_k$ | $D_\ell$ | $\zeta_k(-1)$ | $L_{\ell k}(-2)$ | $\mu$                 |
|--------------------|-------|----------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| $\mathcal{C}_1$    | 5     | 125      | 1/30          | 4/5              | 1/600                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_2$    | 5     | 225      | 1/30          | 32/9             | 1/135                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_3$    | 5     | 400      | 1/30          | 15               | $1/2^{5}$             |
| $\mathcal{C}_4$    | 5     | 1025     | 1/30          | 160              | 1/3                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_5$    | 5     | 1225     | 1/30          | 1728/7           | 18/35                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_6$    | 5     | 1525     | 1/30          | 420              | 7/8                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_7$    | 5     | 1600     | 1/30          | 474              | $79/2^4 \cdot 5$      |
| $\mathcal{C}_8$    | 8     | 256      | 1/12          | 3/2              | $1/2^{7}$             |
| $\mathcal{C}_9$    | 8     | 576      | 1/12          | 92/9             | $23/2^4 \cdot 3^3$    |
| $\mathcal{C}_{10}$ | 8     | 1088     | 1/12          | 64               | 1/3                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{11}$ | 12    | 144      | 1/6           | 1/9              | $1/2^{5} \cdot 3^{3}$ |
| $\mathcal{C}_{12}$ | 12    | 2304     | 1/6           | 138              | $23/2^{4}$            |
| $\mathcal{C}_{13}$ | 13    | 1521     | 1/6           | 352/9            | $11/3^{3}$            |
| $\mathcal{C}_{14}$ | 13    | 2197     | 1/6           | 1332/13          | 111/104               |
| $\mathcal{C}_{15}$ | 17    | 2312     | 1/3           | 64               | 4/3                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{16}$ | 17    | 2601     | 1/3           | 536/9            | 67/54                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_{17}$ | 21    | 441      | 1/3           | 32/63            | 2/189                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ | 24    | 576      | 1/2           | 2/3              | 1/48                  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{19}$ | 24    | 2304     | 1/2           | 23               | 23/32                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_{20}$ | 28    | 784      | 2/3           | 8/7              | 1/21                  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{21}$ | 33    | 1089     | 1             | 4/3              | 1/12                  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{22}$ | 44    | 1936     | 7/6           | 3                | 7/32                  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{23}$ | 56    | 3136     | 5/3           | 48/7             | 5/7                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{24}$ | 57    | 3249     | 7/3           | 44/9             | 77/108                |
| $\mathcal{C}_{25}$ | 60    | 3600     | 2             | 60/9             | 5/6                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{26}$ | 60    | 3600     | 2             | 8                | 1                     |
| $\mathcal{C}_{27}$ | 69    | 4761     | 2             | 32/3             | 4/3                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{28}$ | 76    | 5776     | 19/6          | 11               | 209/96                |
| $\mathcal{C}_{29}$ | 77    | 5929     | 2             | 96/7             | 12/7                  |
| $\mathcal{C}_{30}$ | 88    | 7744     | 23/6          | 18               | 69/16                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_{31}$ | 49    | 16807    | -1/21         | -64/7            | 1/147                 |
| $\mathcal{C}_{32}$ | 49    | 64827    | -1/21         | -2408/9          | $43/2^3 \cdot 3^3$    |
| $\mathcal{C}_{33}$ | 81    | 19683    | -1/9          | -104/27          | $13/2^3 \cdot 3^5$    |
| $\mathcal{C}_{34}$ | 1125  | 1265625  | 4/15          | 128/45           | $2/3^3 \cdot 5^2$     |
| $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ | 2000  | 4000000  | $\frac{2}{3}$ | 12               | $1/2^5$               |
| $\mathcal{C}_{36}$ | 2048  | 16777216 | 5/6           | 411              | $5 \cdot 137/2^9$     |
| $\mathcal{C}_{37}$ | 2304  | 5308416  | 1             | 46/3             | $23/2^7 \cdot 3$      |
| $\mathcal{C}_{38}$ | 3600  | 12960000 | 8/5           | 160/3            | 1/3                   |
| $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ | 4352  | 18939904 | 8/3           | 96               | 1                     |
| $\mathcal{C}_{40}$ | 4752  | 22581504 | 8/3           | 928/9            | 29/27.                |

**8.3 Remark** The second table above lists the values of  $\zeta_k(-1)$  and  $L_{\ell|k}(-2)$ . These were obtained with the help of PARI/GP and the functional equations

$$\zeta_k(2) = (-2)^d \pi^{2d} D_k^{-3/2} \zeta_k(-1), \quad L_{\ell|k}(3) = (-2)^d \pi^{3d} (D_k/D_\ell)^{5/2} L_{\ell|k}(-2).$$

The values have been rechecked using MAGMA. The latter software gives us precision up to more than 40 decimal places. On the other hand, we know from a result of Siegel [Si] that both  $\zeta_k(-1)$  and  $L_{\ell|k}(-2)$  are rational numbers. Furthermore, the denominator of  $\zeta_k(-1)$  can be effectively estimated as explained in [Si]. Similar estimates for  $L_{\ell|k}(-2)$  are given in [Ts]. In this way, we know that the values listed in the above table are exact. Alternatively, the values can also be obtained from the formulae in [Si] and [Ts], but the computations are quite tedious.

Using Proposition 2.12, and the value of  $\mu$  given in the second table of 8.2, we conclude the following at once.

**8.4.** The pair  $(k, \ell)$ , with degree  $d = [k : \mathbb{Q}] > 1$ , can only be one of the following fifteen:  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $C_4$ ,  $C_8$ ,  $C_{10}$ ,  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{18}$ ,  $C_{20}$ ,  $C_{21}$ ,  $C_{26}$ ,  $C_{31}$ ,  $C_{35}$ ,  $C_{38}$  and  $C_{39}$ .

It is convenient to have the following concrete description provided to us by Tim Steger of the fifteen pairs occurring above. As before, in the sequel,  $\zeta_n$  will denote a primitive n-th root of unity.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \mathcal{C}_{1} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{5})), & \mathcal{C}_{2} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{3})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{3} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{4})), & \mathcal{C}_{4} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{(-13+\sqrt{5})/2)}), \\ \mathcal{C}_{8} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{8})), & \mathcal{C}_{10} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7+4\sqrt{2}})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{11} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{12})), & \mathcal{C}_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_{3})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_{4})), & \mathcal{C}_{21} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{33}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{33}, \zeta_{3})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{26} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}, \zeta_{4})), & \mathcal{C}_{31} = (\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{7} + \zeta_{7}^{-1}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{7})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{35} = (\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20} + \zeta_{20}^{-1}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20})), & \mathcal{C}_{38} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}, \zeta_{4})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{39} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{20}), & \mathcal{C}_{10} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{20}), \\ \mathcal{C}_{21} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{33}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{33}, \zeta_{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{33}, \sqrt{5}, \zeta_{4})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{35} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, 20), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, 20), & \mathcal{C}_{38} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}, \zeta_{4})), \end{array}$$

The class number of  $\ell$  in all the above pairs except  $C_{26}$  is 1 and the class number of  $\ell$  in  $C_{26}$  is 2.

**8.5.** We will now assume that the pair  $(k,\ell)$  is one of the fifteen listed above;  $\mathscr{D}$  and the k-group G be as in 1.2. Let  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  be a coherent collection of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$ . Let  $\Lambda = G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$ , and  $\Gamma$  be its normalizer in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . Let  $\mathscr{T}$  be the set of nonarchimedean places v of k such that  $P_v$  is not maximal, and also all those v which are unramified in  $\ell$  and  $P_v$  is not a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup. Let  $\mathscr{T}_0$  be the subset of  $\mathscr{T}$  consisting of places where G is anisotropic. The places in  $\mathscr{T}_0$  split in  $\ell$ , cf. 2.2.

We first treat the case where  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra. In this case,  $\mathscr{T}_0$  is nonempty.

**8.6. Proposition.** Assume that  $\mathscr{D}$  is a cubic division algebra. If the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Gamma)$  of  $\Gamma$  is a reciprocal integer, then the pair  $(k, \ell)$  must be

one of the following nine:  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $C_{10}$ ,  $C_{18}$ ,  $C_{20}$ ,  $C_{26}$ ,  $C_{31}$ ,  $C_{35}$  and  $C_{39}$ . Moreover,  $\mathscr{T}_0$  consists of exactly one place  $\mathfrak{v}$ , and  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0$  except in the case where  $(k, \ell)$  is either  $C_{18}$  or  $C_{20}$ . Except for the pairs  $C_3$ ,  $C_{18}$  and  $C_{35}$ ,  $\mathfrak{v}$  is the unique place of k lying over 2; for  $C_3$  and  $C_{35}$ , it is the unique place of k lying over 5, and for  $C_{18}$  it is the unique place of k lying over 3.

Description of the possible  $\mathscr{T}$  if the pair  $(k,\ell)$  is either  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{20}$ : If  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_3))$ , the possibilities are  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0 = \{\mathfrak{v}\}$ , and  $\mathscr{T} = \{\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}_2\}$ , where  $\mathfrak{v}_2$  is the unique place of  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6})$  lying over 2. On the other hand, if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_4))$ , let  $\mathfrak{v}'_3$  and  $\mathfrak{v}''_3$  be the two places of  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7})$  lying over 3. Then either  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0 = \{\mathfrak{v}\}$ , or  $\mathscr{T} = \{\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}'_3\}$ , or  $\mathscr{T} = \{\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}''_3\}$ .

Proof. We recall from §§1 and 2 that  $\chi(\Gamma) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma)$ , and  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) = \mu \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v)/[\Gamma : \Lambda]$ , where, as before,  $\mu = 2^{-2d}\zeta_k(-1)L_{\ell|k}(-2)$ . Moreover,  $e'(P_v)$  is an integer for every v, and, as we have shown in 2.3,  $[\Gamma : \Lambda]$ , which is a power of 3, is at most  $3^{1+\#\mathscr{T}_0}h_{\ell,3}\prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}-\mathscr{T}_0} \#\Xi_{\Theta_v}$ . We note that  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$  for the  $\ell$  occurring in any of the fifteen pairs  $(k,\ell)$  listed in 8.4. From 2.5(ii) we know that for  $v \in \mathscr{T}_0$ ,  $e'(P_v) = (q_v - 1)^2(q_v + 1)$ . Now the proposition can be proved by a straightforward case-by-case analysis carried out for each of the fifteen pairs  $(k,\ell)$ , keeping in mind Proposition 2.12, the fact that every  $v \in \mathscr{T}_0$  splits in  $\ell$ , and making use of the values of  $e'(P_v)$  and  $\#\Xi_{\Theta_v}$  given in 2.5 and 2.2 respectively. We can show that unless (i)  $(k,\ell)$  is one of the following nine pairs  $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ ,  $C_{10}$ ,  $C_{18}$ ,  $C_{20}$ ,  $C_{26}$ ,  $C_{31}$ ,  $C_{35}$  and  $C_{39}$ , (ii)  $\mathscr{T}_0$  and  $\mathscr{T}$  are as in the proposition, and (iii)  $P_v$  is maximal for all  $v \in V_f$ , except when the pair is  $C_{18}$ , at least one of the following two assertions will hold:

- The numerator of  $\mu \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v)$  is divisible by a prime other than 3.
- $\mu \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T}} e'(P_v)/3^{\#\mathscr{T}_0} \prod_{v \in \mathscr{T} \mathscr{T}_0} \#\Xi_{\Theta_v} > 1.$

**8.7.** Let  $k, \ell$ , and G be as in 1.2 with  $\mathcal{D} = \ell$ . We assume here that  $d = [k : \mathbb{Q}] > 1$ ,  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ , and  $\ell$  contains a root  $\zeta$  of unity of order s. We will now show that then given any coherent collection  $(P_v^{\mathfrak{m}})_{v \in V_f}$  of maximal parahoric subgroups, the principal arithmetic subgroup  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}:=G(k)\bigcap\prod_{v\in V_{f}}P_{v}^{\mathfrak{m}}$  contains an element of order s. In particular,  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$  contains an element of order 2. (In several cases of interest, Tim Steger has shown us an explicit element of order 2 in  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$ .) For the proof, let Q be the quaternion division algebra with center k, which is unramified at every nonarchimedean places of k, and which is ramified at all real places of k if d is even, and if d is odd, it is ramified at all real places  $v \neq v_o$ . It is obvious that as  $\ell$  is a totally complex quadratic extension of k it embeds in Q. We will view  $\ell$  as a field contained in Q in terms of a fixed embedding, and will view Q as a  $\ell$ -vector space of dimension 2 (the action of  $\ell$  on Q is by multiplication on the left). Then the reduced-norm-form on Q gives us an hermitian form  $h_0$  on the two-dimensional  $\ell$ -vector space Q. Now we choose  $a \in k^{\times}$  so that the hermitian form  $h_0 \perp \langle a \rangle$  is indefinite at  $v_o$ , and definite at all real places  $v \neq v_o$ . We may (and we do) assume that h is this form, see 1.2. We will view  $G_0 := SU(h_0)$  as a subgroup of G = SU(h)in terms of its natural embedding.

Let  $c_{\zeta} \in G(k)$  be the element which on Q acts by multiplication on the left by  $\zeta$ , and on the 1-dimensional  $\ell$ -subspace of the above hermitian space on which the hermitian form is  $\langle a \rangle$  it acts by multiplication by  $\zeta^{-2}$ . It is obvious that  $c_{\zeta}$  is of order s, and it commutes with  $G_0$ .

As  $c_{\zeta}$  is a k-rational element, it lies in  $P_v^{\mathfrak{m}}$  for all but finitely many  $v \in V_f$ . We assert that for every  $v \in V_f$ ,  $c_{\zeta}$  belongs to a conjugate of  $P_v^{\mathfrak{m}}$  under an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . This is clear if v splits in  $\ell$  since then the maximal parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  form a single conjugacy class under  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . On the other hand, if v does not split in  $\ell$ , then both G and  $G_0$  are of rank 1 over  $k_v$ , and as  $c_{\zeta}$  commutes with  $G_0$ , it fixes pointwise the apartment corresponding to any maximal  $k_v$ -split torus of G contained in  $G_0$ . From these observations our assertion follows. Now Proposition 5.3 implies that a conjugate of  $c_{\zeta}$  under an element of  $\overline{G}(k)$  lies in  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$ .

We will now prove the following proposition in which  $\Gamma$  is as in 2.1,  $\Lambda = \Gamma \cap G(k)$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}$  is the image of  $\Gamma$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ .

**8.8.** Proposition. If  $\mathscr{D} = \ell$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}$  contains a torsion-free subgroup  $\Pi$  which is cocompact in  $G(k_{v_o})$  and whose Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 3, then the pair  $(k,\ell)$  can only be one of the following five:  $\mathcal{C}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_8$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{11}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{21}$ .

Proof. It follows from 4.1 that d>1, so  $(k,\ell)$  can only be one of the fifteen pairs listed in 8.4. Let  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  be the inverse image of  $\Pi$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . As observed in 1.3, the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\widetilde{\Pi})$  of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is 1, hence the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\Gamma)$  of  $\Gamma$  is a reciprocal integer. Moreover,  $[\Gamma:\Lambda]$  is a power of 3. Let  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$  be a maximal principal arithmetic subgroup of G(k) containing  $\Lambda$ . From the volume formula (11) we see that  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}})$  is an integral multiple  $a\mu$  of  $\mu=2^{-2d}\zeta_k(-1)L_{\ell|k}(-2)$ . We assume now that  $\mathscr{D}=\ell$ , and  $(k,\ell)$  is one of the following ten pairs:  $\mathcal{C}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_3$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_4$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{10}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{20}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{26}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{31}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{38}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ . These are the pairs appearing in 8.4 excluding the five listed in the proposition. To each of these pairs we associate a prime p as follows. For all these pairs except  $\mathcal{C}_3$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ , p is 2. For  $\mathcal{C}_3$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ , p is 5. We observe that the denominator of  $\mu$ , for each of the ten pairs, is prime to the corresponding p.

We will first exclude the pair  $C_3 = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_4))$ . For  $v \in V_f$ , let  $P_v$  be as in 2.1. Then  $\Lambda = G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$ . Using the volume formula (11), the values of  $e'(P_v)$  given in 2.5, and the value of  $\mu$  given in the second table in 8.2, it is easy to see that for all  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P_v$  is a maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  and it is hyperspecial except when v is the unique place of k lying over 2 (this place ramifies in  $\ell$ ). Hence,  $\Lambda$  is a maximal principal arithmetic subgroup of G(k), and  $\chi(\Lambda) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = 3\mu$ . We know from 5.4 that  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 3$  since  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$  and  $\mathscr{T}_0$  is empty. Then  $\chi(\Gamma) = \chi(\Lambda)/3 = \mu$ . Since  $\chi(\widetilde{\Pi}) = 1$ , the index of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  in  $\Gamma$  is  $1/\mu$ , which is a power of 2 in the case presently under consideration. As  $\ell$  does not contain a primitive cube root of unity, the center of G(k), and so also of  $\Lambda$ , is trivial, and therefore,  $\Gamma = \Lambda \cdot C(k_{v_o})$ , where  $C(k_{v_o})$  is the center of  $G(k_{v_o})$  which is a cyclic group of order 3. We conclude from this that the image  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of  $\Gamma$  in the adjoint group

 $\overline{G}(k_{v_o}) = \operatorname{PU}(2,1)$  coincides with the image  $\overline{\Lambda}$  of  $\Lambda$ , and the index of  $\Pi$  in  $\overline{\Lambda}$  is a power of 2. Cartwright and Steger [CS2] have shown that  $\overline{\Lambda}$  contains an element of order 5. Then any subgroup of  $\overline{\Lambda}$  of index a power of 2, in particular,  $\Pi$ , contains an element of order 5. This contradicts the fact that  $\Pi$  is torsion-free. This shows that the pair  $(k, \ell)$  cannot be  $\mathcal{C}_3$ .

We will now use the result proved in 8.7 to exclude the remaining nine pairs:  $C_2$ ,  $C_4$ ,  $C_{10}$ ,  $C_{20}$ ,  $C_{26}$ ,  $C_{31}$ ,  $C_{35}$ ,  $C_{38}$  and  $C_{39}$ . This will prove the proposition. As  $\ell$  occurring in each of these pairs contains a root of unity of order p, and  $h_{\ell,3} = 1$ , it follows from 8.7 that  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$  contains an element of order p. Hence, either  $\Lambda$  contains an element of order p, or its index in  $\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}}$  is a multiple of p. This implies that either  $\Gamma$  contains an element of order p, or the numerator of  $\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Gamma) = \mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}})[\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}} : \Lambda]/[\Gamma : \Lambda] = a\mu \cdot [\Lambda^{\mathfrak{m}} : \Lambda]/[\Gamma : \Lambda]$  is a multiple of p. This in turn implies that either  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  contains an element of order p, or the numerator of  $\chi(\widetilde{\Pi}) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\widetilde{\Pi})$  is a multiple of p. Both these alternatives are impossible, the former because any element of finite order in  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  is of order 3, whereas p = 2 or 5, and the latter because  $\chi(\widetilde{\Pi}) = 1$ .

## 9. Ten additional classes of fake projective planes

**9.1.** In this section,  $(k, \ell)$  will be one of the following nine pairs (see Proposition 8.6).

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{C}_{2} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{3})), & \mathcal{C}_{3} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_{4})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{10} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7} + 4\sqrt{2})), & \mathcal{C}_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_{3})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_{4})), & \mathcal{C}_{26} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}, \zeta_{4})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{31} = (\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{7} + \zeta_{7}^{-1}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{7})), & \mathcal{C}_{35} = (\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20} + \zeta_{20}^{-1}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20})), \\ \mathcal{C}_{39} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + 2\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5} + 2\sqrt{2}, \zeta_{4})). & \end{array}$$

Let  $\mathfrak{v}$  be the unique place of k lying over p:=2 if  $(k,\ell)\neq\mathcal{C}_3$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ ; if  $(k,\ell)=\mathcal{C}_3$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$ , let  $\mathfrak{v}$  be the unique place of k lying over p:=5; and if  $(k,\ell)=\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , let  $\mathfrak{v}$  be the unique place of k lying over p:=3. Let  $q_{\mathfrak{v}}$  be the cardinality of the residue field of  $k_{\mathfrak{v}}$ .

**9.2.** Let  $\mathscr{D}$  be a cubic division algebra with center  $\ell$  whose local invariants at the two places of  $\ell$  lying over  $\mathfrak{v}$  are nonzero and negative of each other, and whose local invariant at all the other places of  $\ell$  is zero. There are two such division algebras, they are opposite of each other.  $k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k \mathscr{D} = (k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k \ell) \otimes_\ell \mathscr{D} = \mathfrak{D} \times \mathfrak{D}^o$ , where  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a cubic division algebra with center  $k_{\mathfrak{v}}$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}^o$  is its opposite.

We fix a real place  $v_o$  of k, and an involution  $\sigma$  of  $\mathscr{D}$  of the second kind so that  $k = \{x \in \ell \mid \sigma(x) = x\}$ , and if G is the simple simply connected k-group with

$$G(k) = \{x \in \mathcal{D}^{\times} \mid x\sigma(x) = 1 \text{ and } \operatorname{Nrd}(x) = 1\},$$

then  $G(k_{v_o}) \cong SU(2,1)$ , and G is anisotropic at all real places of k different from  $v_o$ . Any other such involution of  $\mathscr{D}$ , or of its opposite, similarly determines a k-group which is k-isomorphic to G (1.2). The set  $\mathscr{T}_0$  of nonarchimedean places of k where G is anisotropic equals  $\{\mathfrak{v}\}$ . As  $\sigma(\mathfrak{D}) = \mathfrak{D}^o$ , it is easily seen that  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  is the compact group  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  of elements of reduced norm 1 in  $\mathfrak{D}$ . The first congruence subgroup  $\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  of  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  is known to be a pro-p group, and  $\mathfrak{C} := \mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})/\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  is a cyclic group of order  $(q_{\mathfrak{v}}^3 - 1)/(q_{\mathfrak{v}} - 1) = q_{\mathfrak{v}}^2 + q_{\mathfrak{v}} + 1$ , see Theorem 7(iii)(2) of [Ri].

Let  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  be a coherent collection of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$ ,  $v \in V_f$ , such that  $P_v$  is hyperspecial whenever  $G(k_v)$  contains such a subgroup. Let  $\Lambda = G(k) \cap \prod_{v \in V_f} P_v$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . It follows from 5.4 that  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 9$  since  $\# \mathscr{T}_0 = 1$ . Then  $\chi(\Lambda) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = 3\mu \cdot e'(P_{\mathfrak{p}})$ , and (see 2.5(ii))  $e'(P_{\mathfrak{p}}) = (q_{\mathfrak{p}} - 1)^2(q_{\mathfrak{p}} + 1)$ .

We list  $q_{\mathfrak{v}}$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\chi(\Lambda)$  in the table given below.

In case the pair  $(k,\ell)$  is  $\mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_4))$  we will need the following three subgroups of  $\Lambda$  in 9.9. Let  $\mathfrak{v}_3'$  and  $\mathfrak{v}_3''$  be the two places of  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7})$  lying over 3. Note that these places do not split in  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_4)$ . We fix non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroups P' and P'' of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_3'})$  and  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_3''})$  respectively. As recalled above, there is a cubic division algebra  $\mathfrak{D}$  with center  $k_{\mathfrak{v}}$  such that  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  is the compact group  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  of elements of reduced norm 1 in  $\mathfrak{D}$ . The first congruence subgroup  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+ := \mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}}) = \mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  is the unique maximal normal pro-p subgroup of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$ , and the quotient  $\mathfrak{C} = G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})/G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+$  is of order 7. Now let  $\Lambda^+ = \Lambda \cap G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+$ ,  $\Lambda' = G(k) \cap P' \cap \prod_{v \in V_f - \{v_3'\}} P_v$  and  $\Lambda'' = G(k) \cap P'' \cap \prod_{v \in V_f - \{v_3'\}} P_v$ . Then  $\chi(\Lambda') = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda') = 3 = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda'') = \chi(\Lambda'')$ . By the strong approximation property,  $\Lambda^+$  is a subgroup of index  $T(=[G(k_{\mathfrak{v}}):G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+])$  of  $\Lambda$ . Hence,  $\chi(\Lambda^+) = 3\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda^+) = 21\mu(G(k_{v_o})/\Lambda) = 3$ .

We will now prove the following lemma.

- **9.3. Lemma.** Let  $(k, \ell)$  be one of the nine pairs listed in 9.1. Then
  - (1) G(k) is torsion-free except when  $(k, \ell)$  is either  $C_2$  or  $C_{18}$  or  $C_{20}$ .
- (2) If  $(k, \ell) = C_2$  or  $C_{18}$ , then any nontrivial element of G(k) of finite order is central and hence is of order 3.
- (3) If  $(k, \ell) = \mathcal{C}_{20}$ , then any nontrivial element of G(k) of finite order is of order 7;  $\Lambda^+$ ,  $\Lambda'$  and  $\Lambda''$  are torsion-free.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in G(k)$  ( $\subset \mathscr{D}$ ) be a nontrivial element of finite order, say of order m. As the reduced norm of -1 is -1,  $-1 \notin G(k)$ , and so m is odd. Let L be the  $\ell$ -subalgebra of  $\mathscr{D}$  generated by x. Then L is a field extension of  $\ell$  of degree 1 or 3. If  $L = \ell$ , then x is clearly central, and hence it is of order 3. As  $\ell$  does not contain a nontrivial cube root of unity unless  $(k,\ell)$  is  $\mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , to prove the lemma, we can

assume that L is an extension of  $\ell$  of degree 3. Then  $[L:\mathbb{Q}]=6d$ , where d=2,3 or 4.

- (i) If  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , then d = 2,  $[L:\mathbb{Q}] = 12$ , and  $\zeta_3$  is in  $\ell$ . Hence, if  $(k,\ell)$  is one of these two pairs, we can assume that m is a multiple of 3. Then as  $\phi(m)$ , where  $\phi$  is the Euler function, must divide 12, we conclude that m is either 9 or 21. We assert that if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , then m = 9. For if m = 21, then  $L \cong \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{21})$ , and since 3 and 7 are the only primes which ramify in  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{21})$ , whereas 5 ramifies in  $k \subset L$ , if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$ , so m cannot be 21 in this case. Next we observe that if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{10}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ , then as  $7 \nmid D_{\ell}$ , 7 does not ramify in  $\ell$ , and hence the ramification index of L at 7 is at most 3. But the ramification index of  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_7)$  at 7 is 6. So if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{10}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ , then L cannot contain a nontrivial 7-th root of unity. We conclude, in particular, that if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{18}$ , m = 9.
- Now let  $(k, \ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$ . Then, as  $\ell$  contains  $\zeta_3$ , and  $x^3$  is of order 3, the latter is contained in  $\ell$ . So any automorphism of  $L/\ell$  will fix  $x^3$ , and hence it will map x to either x, or to  $x^4$ , or to  $x^7$ . Therefore,  $\operatorname{Nrd}(x) = x^{12} = x^3 \neq 1$  and x cannot belong to G(k).
- (ii)  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_3$ : Then  $\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  is a pro-5 group, and  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a group of order 31. Since  $\phi(31) = 30 > 6d = 12$ , we conclude that m must be a power of 5. But  $\ell$ , and hence L, contains  $\zeta_4$ , so L contains  $\zeta_{4m}$ . This is impossible since  $\phi(4m)$  is not a divisor of 12.
- (iii)  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{10}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}_{31}$ , or  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ : Then  $\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  is a pro-2 group, and  $\mathfrak{C}$  is a group of order 7 if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{10}$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ , and is of order 73 if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{31}$ . Therefore, if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{31}$ , m = 73, but this is impossible since  $\phi(73) = 72 > 6d = 18$ . On the other hand, if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{10}$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ , then m = 7. But this is impossible since, as we observed in (i), L does not contain a nontrivial 7-th root of unity.
- (iv) Let us assume now that  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_4))$ . In this case, L is of degree 12 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and as  $\zeta_4 \in \ell$ , L contains a primitive 4m-th root of unity. This implies that  $\phi(4m)$  divides 12. From this we conclude that m is either 3, 7 or 9. Now since  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+$  is a normal pro-2 subgroup of index 7 in  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$ , it is clear that the order of a nontrivial element of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  of odd order can only be 7, and moreover,  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+$  does not contain any nontrivial elements of odd order. We observe now that if  $P'^+$  and  $P''^+$  are the unique maximal normal pro-3 subgroups of P' and P'' respectively, then  $[P':P'^+]=2^5\cdot 3=[P'':P''^+]$ , and hence any nontrivial element of odd order of either P' or P'' is of order 3. Assertion (3) of the lemma follows at once from these observations.
- (v) Let now  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{26} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}, \zeta_4))$ . Then again L is of degree 12 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and as  $\zeta_4 \in \ell$ , we conclude, as above, that m is either 3, 7 or 9. As in the case considered above,  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})^+$  is a normal pro-2 subgroup of index 7 in  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$ , therefore the order of any nontrivial element of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  of odd order can only be 7. This implies that  $\zeta_7 \in L$ , and hence,  $L = \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{28})$ . Since the only primes which ramify in this field are 2 and 7, whereas 3 ramifies in  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{15}) \subset L$ , we conclude that G(k) is torsion-free if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{26}$ .

(vi) Let us now consider  $(k, \ell) = \mathcal{C}_{35} = (\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20} + \zeta_{20}^{-1}), \mathbb{Q}(\zeta_{20}))$ . In this case, L is of degree 24 over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and as L is an extension of degree 3 of  $\ell$ , and  $\zeta_{20}$  (and hence  $\zeta_5$ ) lies in the latter, 5 does not divide m. But there does not exist such an  $m \neq 1$  for which  $\phi(20m)$  divides 24. This implies that G(k) is torsion-free.

In the rest of this section,  $\overline{G}$  will denote the adjoint group of G and  $\overline{\Lambda}$  (resp.,  $\overline{\Gamma}$ ) the image of  $\Lambda$  (resp.,  $\Gamma$ ) in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ .

9.4. Classes of fake projective planes arising from  $C_2$  and  $C_{18}$  with  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0$ . We assume here that  $(k,\ell)$  is either  $C_2$  or  $C_{18}$ , and  $\mathscr{T}=\mathscr{T}_0$  (which is automatically the case if the pair is  $C_2$ , see Proposition 8.6). Then  $\ell$  contains a nontrivial cube root of unity, and hence the center C(k) of G(k) is a group of order 3 which is contained in  $\Lambda$ . The naural homomorphism  $\Lambda \to \overline{\Lambda}$  is surjective and its kernel equals C(k). Hence,  $\chi(\overline{\Lambda})=3\chi(\Lambda)=3$ . Lemma 9.3 implies that  $\overline{\Lambda}$  is torsion-free. According to Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro],  $H^1(\Lambda,\mathbb{C})$  vanishes which implies that so does  $H^1(\overline{\Lambda},\mathbb{C})$ . By Poincaré-duality,  $H^3(\overline{\Lambda},\mathbb{C})$  also vanishes. We conclude that if B is the symmetric space of  $G(k_{v_o})$ , then  $B/\overline{\Lambda}$  is a fake projective plane. Its fundamental group is  $\overline{\Lambda}$ . There is a natural faithful action of  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$  on  $B/\overline{\Lambda}$ . As the normalizer of  $\overline{\Lambda}$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  is  $\overline{\Gamma}$ , the automorphism group of  $B/\overline{\Lambda}$  equals  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$ .

Clearly,  $[\overline{\Gamma} : \overline{\Lambda}] = [\Gamma : \Lambda] = 9$ . Now let  $\Pi$  be a torsion-free subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 9. Then  $\chi(\Pi) = 3$ , and so if  $H^1(\Pi, \mathbb{C}) = 0$  (or, equivalently,  $\Pi/[\Pi, \Pi]$  is finite), then  $B/\Pi$  is a fake projective plane, and its fundamental group is  $\Pi$ . The set of these fake projective planes is the class associated with  $\Gamma$ . For every fake projective plane belonging to this class,  $\mathscr{T} = \mathscr{T}_0$ .

- **9.5. Remark.** Let  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\overline{\Lambda}$  be as in 9.2. Then as  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})/\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  is a cyclic group of order 21,  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  contains a (unique) normal subgroup N of index 3 containing  $\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$ . Let  $\Lambda^+ = \Lambda \cap N$ . Then since  $\mathrm{SL}_1^{(1)}(\mathfrak{D})$  is a pro-2 group,  $\Lambda^+$  is a torsion-free normal subgroup of  $\Lambda$  of index 3. It maps isomorphically onto  $\overline{\Lambda}$ .
- **9.6.** In this subsection we will deal exclusively with  $(k,\ell) = C_{18}$  and  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathfrak{v},\mathfrak{v}_2\}$ , where  $\mathfrak{v}_2$  is the unique place of  $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6})$  lying over 2 (see Proposition 8.6). Note that  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6},\zeta_3) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2},\sqrt{-3})$ , the class number of  $\ell$  is 1, and  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2} := k_{\mathfrak{v}_2} \otimes_k \ell$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ . We fix an Iwahori subgroup I of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_2})$ , and a non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup P (of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_2})$ ) containing I. Let  $\Lambda_P = G(k) \cap P \cap \prod_{v \in V_f \{\mathfrak{v}_2\}} P_v$  and  $\Lambda_I = \Lambda_P \cap I$ . Let  $\Gamma_I$  and  $\Gamma_P$  be the normalizers of  $\Lambda_I$  and  $\Lambda_P$  respectively in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . Then  $\Gamma_I \subset \Gamma_P$ . Let  $\overline{\Lambda}_I$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$ ,  $\overline{\Lambda}_P$  and  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  be the images of  $\Lambda_I$ ,  $\Gamma_I$ ,  $\Lambda_P$  and  $\Gamma_P$  respectively in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . Note that  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  is contained in  $\overline{G}(k)$ , see, for example, [BP, Proposition 1.2].

It follows from the result in 5.4 that

$$[\overline{\Gamma}_I:\overline{\Lambda}_I]=[\Gamma_I:\Lambda_I]=9=[\Gamma_P:\Lambda_P]=[\overline{\Gamma}_P:\overline{\Lambda}_P].$$

For the pair  $(k, \ell) = \mathcal{C}_{18}$ , using the value  $\chi(\Lambda) = 1$  given in 9.2, and the values e'(I) = 9, and e'(P) = 3 obtained from 2.5(iii), we find that  $\chi(\Lambda_I) = 9$  and  $\chi(\Lambda_P) = 3$ , and

hence,  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma}_I) = 3$  and  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma}_P) = 1$ . Furthermore, it follows from Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro] that  $H^1(\overline{\Gamma}_I, \mathbb{C})$ , and for any subgroup  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  containing  $\overline{\Lambda}_P$ ,  $H^1(\Pi, \mathbb{C})$  vanish. We conclude from these observations that  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane if and only if it is torsion-free, and a subgroup  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  containing  $\overline{\Lambda}_P$  is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane if and only if it is torsion-free and is of index 3 in  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$ . We will now prove the following proposition.

**Proposition.** (i)  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is torsion-free and hence it is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane.

(ii) There are three torsion-free subgroups of  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  containing  $\overline{\Lambda}_P$  which are fundamental groups of fake projective planes.

*Proof.* Let  $\mathscr{G}$  be the connected reductive k-subgroup of  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}$ , which contains G as a normal subgroup, such that

$$\mathscr{G}(k) = \{ z \in \mathscr{D}^{\times} \, | \, z\sigma(z) \in k^{\times} \}.$$

Then the center  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathscr{G}$  is k-isomorphic to  $R_{\ell/k}(\mathrm{GL}_1)$ . The adjoint action of  $\mathscr{G}$  on the Lie algebra of G induces a k-isomorphism  $\mathscr{G}/\mathcal{C} \to \overline{G}$ . As  $H^1(k,\mathcal{C}) = \{0\}$ , the natural homomorphism  $\mathscr{G}(k) \to \overline{G}(k)$  is surjective.

Let C be the center of G, and  $\varphi: G \to \overline{G}$  be the natural isogeny. Let  $\delta: \overline{G}(k) \to H^1(k,C) \subset \ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times^3}$  be the coboundary homomorphism. Its kernel is  $\varphi(G(k))$ . Given  $\overline{g} \in \overline{G}(k)$ , let g be any element of  $\mathscr{G}(k)$  which maps onto  $\overline{g}$ . Then  $\delta(\overline{g}) = \operatorname{Nrd}(g)$  modulo  $\ell^{\times^3}$ .

Since  $\overline{\Lambda}_I$  is torsion-free (cf. Lemma 9.3), and  $[\overline{\Gamma}_I:\overline{\Lambda}_I]=9$ , if  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  contains an element of finite order, then it contains an element  $\overline{g}$  of order 3. We fix an element  $g\in \mathscr{G}(k)$  which maps onto  $\overline{g}$ . Then  $a:=g\sigma(g)\in k^\times$ , and  $\lambda:=g^3$  lies in  $\ell^\times$ . The reduced norm of g is clearly  $\lambda$ ; the norm of  $\lambda$  over k is  $a^3\in k^{\times 3}$ . Hence, the image  $\delta(\overline{g})$  of  $\overline{g}$  in  $H^1(k,C)$  ( $\subset \ell^\times/\ell^{\times 3}$ ) is the class of  $\lambda$  in  $\ell^\times/\ell^{\times 3}$ . Since  $\overline{g}$  stabilizes the collection  $(P_v)_{v\in V_f-\{v_2\}}$ , as in the proof of Proposition 5.8 (cf. also 5.4), we conclude that  $w(\lambda)\in 3\mathbb{Z}$  for any normalized valuation of  $\ell$  which does not lie over 2 or 3. But as  $\mathfrak{v}_2$  does not split in  $\ell$ , and the norm of  $\lambda$  lies in  $k^{\times 3}$ , it is automatic that for the normalized valuation w of  $\ell$  lying over  $(v,u)\in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore,  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$ , where the latter denotes the subgroup of  $\ell^\times$  consisting of  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$ , where the latter denotes valuations  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  or  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now let  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  it is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$ . Now let  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  is not difficult to see that  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$  if  $v,u\in \mathbb{Z}$ 

Let L be the field extension of  $\ell$  in  $\mathscr{D}$  generated by g. Let T be the centralizer of g in G. Then T is a maximal k-torus of G; its group of k-rational points is  $L^{\times} \cap G(k)$ . It can be shown that if  $\lambda = g^3 \in \alpha^m \zeta_3^n \ell^{\times 3}$ , with  $0 \leq m, n < 3$ , then  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2} \otimes_{\ell} L$  is the direct product of three copies of  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ , each stable under  $\sigma$  if n = 0, and it is an unramifield field extension of  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  of degree 3 if  $n \neq 0$ . We conclude from this that the k-torus T is anisotropic over  $k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ .

According to the main theorem of [PY], the subset of points fixed by g in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G/k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  is the building of  $T/k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ . But as T is anisotropic over  $k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ , the building of  $T/k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  consists of a single point. Since the two maximal parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_2})$  containing I are nonisomorphic, if g normalizes I, then it fixes the edge corresponding to I in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G/k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ . But as g fixes just a single point in this building, we conclude that g (and hence  $\overline{g}$ ) cannot normalize I. This proves that  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$  is torsion-free, and we have proved assertion (i) of the proposition.

We will now prove assertion (ii) of the proposition. It can be seen, using Proposition 2.9 of [BP], cf. 5.4, that, under the homomorphism induced by  $\delta$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}_P/\overline{\Lambda}_P$  is isomorphic to the subgroup  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$  of  $\ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$ . As has been noted above,  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet} = \bigcup_{0 \leqslant m, n < 3} \alpha^m \zeta_3^n \ell^{\times 3}$ , and hence,  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ . There are three subgroups of  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$  of index 3 generated by an element of the form  $\alpha^m \zeta_3^n$  with  $n \neq 0$ . Let  $\Pi$  be the inverse image in  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  of any of these three subgroups. Then, as we will show presently,  $\Pi$  is torsion-free and so it is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane.

Let us assume that  $\Pi$  contains a nontrivial element  $\overline{g}$  of finite order. Since  $\overline{\Lambda}_P$  is torsion-free (cf. Lemma 9.3), and  $[\Pi:\overline{\Lambda}_P]=3$ , the order of  $\overline{g}$  is 3. As in the proof of assertion (i), we fix  $g\in \mathscr{G}(k)$  which maps onto  $\overline{g}$ , and let  $\lambda=g^3$ . Then  $\lambda$  is the reduced norm of g and it lies in  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet}$ . The image  $\delta(\overline{g})$  of  $\overline{g}$  in  $\ell_{\{3\}}^{\bullet}/\ell^{\times 3}$  is the class of  $\lambda$  modulo  $\ell^{\times 3}$ . Since  $\Pi$  is the inverse image in  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$  of the subgroup generated by  $\alpha^m \zeta_3^n$  for some m, n < 3, with  $n \neq 0$ , and  $\lambda$  is not a cube in  $\ell$ ,  $\lambda \in (\alpha^m \zeta_3^n) \ell^{\times 3} \cup (\alpha^m \zeta_3^n)^2 \ell^{\times 3}$ . Let L be the field extension of  $\ell$  in  $\mathscr{D}$  generated by g, and let T be the centralizer of g in G. Then  $T(k) = L^{\times} \cap G(k)$ . As observed in the proof of assertion (i), T is a maximal k-torus of G which is anisotropic over  $k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$ , and its splitting field over  $k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  is clearly  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2} \otimes_{\ell} L$  which is an unramified field extension of  $\ell_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  of degree 3. This implies that the unique point in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G/k_{\mathfrak{v}_2}$  fixed by g is hyperspecial. But since P is a non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}_2})$ , it cannot be normalized by g. This implies that  $\overline{g}$  does not lie in  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$ , and we have arrived at a contradiction.

- **9.7.** Remark. The above proposition implies that the pair  $C_{18}$  gives two classes of fake projective planes with  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathfrak{v}, \mathfrak{v}_2\}$ : the class consisting of a unique fake projective plane with the fundamental group isomorphic to  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$ , and the class consisting of the fake projective planes whose fundamental group is embeddable in  $\overline{\Gamma}_P$ , but not in  $\overline{\Gamma}_I$ . Cartwright and Steger [CS1] have shown that the latter class consists of just three fake projective planes up to isometry (hence, six up to biholomorphism), the ones with the fundamental group as in (ii) of the above proposition.
- **9.8.** The classes of fake projective planes arising from the pair  $C_{10}$ . We now assume that  $(k, \ell) = C_{10}$ . Then  $\Lambda$  is torsion-free (9.3). Hence,  $\overline{\Lambda} \cong \Lambda$ , and therefore,  $\chi(\overline{\Lambda}) = \chi(\Lambda) = 3$ . Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro] once again implies that  $H^1(\Lambda, \mathbb{C})$ , and so

also  $H^1(\overline{\Lambda}, \mathbb{C})$ , vanishes. From this we conclude, as above, that if B is the symmetric space of  $G(k_{v_o})$ , then  $B/\Lambda$  is a fake projective plane. Its fundamental group is  $\Lambda \cong \overline{\Lambda}$ . There is a natural faithful action of  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$  on  $B/\overline{\Lambda}$ . As the normalizer of  $\overline{\Lambda}$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  is  $\overline{\Gamma}$ , the automorphism group of  $B/\overline{\Lambda}$  equals  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$ .

Since  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 9$ ,  $[\overline{\Gamma} : \overline{\Lambda}] = 3$ , any torsion-free subgroup  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 3 with vanishing  $H^1(\Pi, \mathbb{C})$  is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane, namely, that of  $B/\Pi$ . The set of these fake projective planes is the class associated with  $\Gamma$ .

9.9. Three classes of fake projective planes arising from  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{20}$ . Let  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda^+$ ,  $\Lambda'$  and  $\Lambda''$  be as in 9.2. Let  $\Gamma$ ,  $\Gamma'$  and  $\Gamma''$  be the normalizers of  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Lambda'$  and  $\Lambda''$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}'$  and  $\overline{\Gamma}''$  be their images in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . Let  $\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ,  $\overline{\Lambda}'$  and  $\overline{\Lambda}''$  be the images of  $\Lambda^+$ ,  $\Lambda'$  and  $\Lambda''$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . By Lemma 9.3, these groups are torsion-free.

Theorem 15.3.1 of [Ro] implies that the first cohomology (with coefficients  $\mathbb{C}$ ) of  $\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ,  $\overline{\Lambda}'$  and  $\overline{\Lambda}''$  vanish. As the Euler-Poincaré characteristic of each of these three groups is 3, we conclude that these groups are the fundamental groups of fake projective planes  $B/\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ,  $B/\overline{\Lambda}'$  and  $B/\overline{\Lambda}''$  respectively. The automorphism groups of these fake projective planes are respectively  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}^+$ ,  $\overline{\Gamma}'/\overline{\Lambda}'$ , and  $\overline{\Gamma}''/\overline{\Lambda}''$ , which are of order 21, 3 and 3. Any subgroup  $\Pi$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  (resp.,  $\overline{\Gamma}'$  or  $\overline{\Gamma}''$ ) of index 21 (resp., 3), with vanishing  $H^1(\Pi, \mathbb{C})$ , is the fundamental group of a fake projective plane, namely, that of  $B/\Pi$ . We thus obtain three distinct classes of fake projective planes from  $C_{20}$ .

- **9.10.** The constructions in 9.4, 9.6, 9.8 and 9.9 give us ten distinct classes of fake projective planes. To see this, note that the construction is independent of the choice of a real place of k since in 9.4, 9.6, 9.8 and 9.9, k is a quadratic extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  and the nontrivial Galois automorphism of  $k/\mathbb{Q}$  interchanges the two real places of k. On the other hand, if v is a nonarchimedean place of k which is unramified in  $\ell$ , the parahoric  $P_v$  involved in the construction of  $\Lambda$  is hyperspecial, and the hyperspecial parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  are conjugate to each other under  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ , see [Ti2], 2.5. But if v is a nonarchimedean place of k which ramifies in  $\ell$ , there are two possible choices of a maximal parahoric subgroup  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  up to conjugation. Hence, it follows from Proposition 5.3 that each of the pairs  $\mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{10}$  gives two distinct classes of fake projective planes, and the pairs  $\mathcal{C}_{18}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{20}$  give three each since in case  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_2$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{10}$ , there is (just) one nonarchimedean place of k which ramifies in  $\ell$ , and if  $(k,\ell) = \mathcal{C}_{18}$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{20}$ , every nonarchimedean place of k is unramified in  $\ell$  since  $D_{\ell} = D_k^2$ .
- **9.11.** We will now show that the remaining five pairs  $C_3$ ,  $C_{26}$ ,  $C_{31}$ ,  $C_{35}$  and  $C_{39}$  do not give rise to any fake projective planes. None of the fields  $\ell$  occurring in these five pairs contains a nontrivial cube root of unity; the class number of  $\ell$  is 1 except for  $\ell$  in  $C_{26}$  which has class number 2. Let  $(k,\ell)$  be one of the five pairs. We first recall (9.3 and 9.2) that  $\Lambda$  is a torsion-free subgroup and its Euler-Poincaré characteristic is 9. Therefore,  $\chi(\overline{\Lambda}) = 9$ . As  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 9$ ,  $[\overline{\Gamma} : \overline{\Lambda}] = 3$ . Hence, the orbifold Euler-Poincaré characteristic  $\chi(\overline{\Gamma})$  of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  equals 3. So no proper subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  can

be the fundamental group of a fake projective plane. We will prove presently that  $\overline{\Gamma}$  contains an element of order 3. This will imply that it cannot be the fundamental group of a fake projective plane either.

Before embarking on the long proof of the above assertion, we give a brief outline. We construct a cubic extension L of  $\ell$  generated by an element x and an involution  $\tau$  of L which restricted the subfield  $\ell$  coincides with  $\sigma|_{\ell}$  such that  $x^3 \in \ell$ ,  $x\tau(x) = 1$ , and  $(L,\tau)$  embeds as an  $\ell$ -algebra with involution into the cubic division algebra  $\mathscr{D}$  given with the involution  $\sigma$ . We identify L with a maximal subfield of  $\mathscr{D}$  in terms of such an embedding and will use  $\sigma$  in place of  $\tau$  in the next paragraph.

For  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , we will define a k-subgroup  $G_h$  of  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}$  using the involution  $\sigma_h := \operatorname{Int} h \cdot \sigma$  of  $\mathscr{D}$ . This subgroup is normalized by the above element x so it provides a k-rational element of order 3 in the adjoint group  $\overline{G}_h$  of  $G_h$ . We will use Chebotarev's density theorem and local and global class field theory to find  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  so that (1)  $G_h$  is k-isomorphic to G, and we fix a k-isomorphism  $\psi : G \to G_h$ ; (2) the k-rational element g of  $\overline{G}_h$  normalizes a coherent collection  $(P'_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of parahoric subgroups  $P'_v$  of  $G_h(k_v)$  such that  $P'_v$  is conjugate to  $\psi(P_v)$  under  $\overline{G}_h(k_v)$  for all  $v \in V_f$ , where  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  is the coherent collection of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$  as in 9.2. Now Proposition 5.3 implies that a conjugate of  $\psi^{-1}(g)$  in  $\overline{G}(k)$  normalizes  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$ , and hence it normalizes  $\Lambda$ , and therefore lies in  $\overline{\Gamma}$ .

We will now give a detailed proof of the above assertion. Let  $\mathfrak{v}$  be as in 9.1, and let  $\mathfrak{v}'$  and  $\mathfrak{v}''$  be the two places of  $\ell$  lying over  $\mathfrak{v}$ . Recall that the cubic division algebra  $\mathscr{D}$  ramifies only at  $\mathfrak{v}'$  and  $\mathfrak{v}''$ . Hence,  $\mathfrak{v}$  is the only nonarchimedean place of k where G is anisotropic, at all the other nonarchimedean places of k it is quasi-split. Let v' and v'' be the normalized valuations of  $\ell$  corresponding to  $\mathfrak{v}'$  and  $\mathfrak{v}''$  respectively.

To find an element of  $\overline{G}(k)$  of order 3 which normalizes  $\Lambda$  (and hence lies in  $\overline{\Gamma}$ ) we proceed as follows. Since the class number of  $\ell$  is either 1 or 2, there exists an element  $a \in \ell^{\times}$  such that v'(a) = 1 or 2, and for all the other normalized valuations v of  $\ell$ , v(a) = 0. Let  $\lambda = a/\sigma(a)$ . Then  $v'(\lambda) = 1$  or 2,  $v''(\lambda) = -v'(\lambda)$ ; for all normalized valuations  $v \neq v', v''$ , of  $\ell$ ,  $v(\lambda) = 0$ , and  $N_{\ell/k}(\lambda) = 1$ . We will denote the field  $\ell[X]/(X^3 - \lambda)$  by L in the sequel, and x will denote the unique cube root of  $\lambda$  in L. The field L admits an involution  $\tau$  (i. e., an automorphism of order 2) whose restriction to the subfield  $\ell$  coincides with  $\sigma|_{\ell}$  and  $\tau(x) = x^{-1}$ .

We assert that there is an embedding  $\iota$  of L in  $\mathscr{D}$  such that, in terms of this embedding,  $\sigma|_L = \tau$ . Since  $k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k L = (k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k \ell) \otimes_\ell L = k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k \ell \otimes_k L^{\tau}$  is clearly a direct product of two cubic field extensions of  $k_{\mathfrak{v}}$ , L does embed in  $\mathscr{D}$ . Now to see that there is an embedding such that  $\sigma|_L = \tau$ , we can apply Proposition A.2 of [PrR]. The existence of local embeddings respecting the involutions  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  need to be checked only at the real places of k, since at all the nonarchimedean places of k, except for  $\mathfrak{v}$ , G is quasi-split (see p. 340 of [PlR]). We will now show that for every real place v of k, there is an embedding  $\iota_v$  of  $k_v \otimes_k L$  in  $k_v \otimes_k \mathscr{D}$  such that

 $\tau = \iota_v^{-1} \sigma \iota_v |_L$ . This will imply that there is an embedding  $\iota$  of L in  $\mathscr{D}$  with the desired property.

Let  $y = x + \tau(x) = x + x^{-1}$ . Then  $L^{\tau} = k(y)$ . As  $y^3 = x^3 + x^{-3} + 3(x + x^{-1}) = \lambda + \sigma(\lambda) + 3y$ ,  $y^3 - 3y - b = 0$ , where  $b = \lambda + \sigma(\lambda) \in k$ . The discriminant of the cubic polynomial  $Y^3 - 3Y - b$  is  $27(4 - b^2) = 27\{4\lambda\sigma(\lambda) - (\lambda + \sigma(\lambda))^2\} = -27(\lambda - \sigma(\lambda))^2$ . Since  $\ell$  is totally complex, for any real place v of k,  $k_v \otimes_k \ell = \mathbb{C}$ , and  $\lambda - \sigma(\lambda)$  is purely imaginary. So the discriminant  $-27(\lambda - \sigma(\lambda))^2$  is positive in  $k_v = \mathbb{R}$ . Therefore, for any real place v of k, all the roots of  $Y^3 - 3Y - b$  are in  $k_v$ . This implies the following fact which will be used later in this proof.

The smallest Galois extension of k containing  $L^{\tau}$  is totally real, and so it is linearly disjoint from the totally complex quadratic extension  $\ell$  of k.

Moreover,  $k_v \otimes_k L = (k_v \otimes_k L^{\tau}) \otimes_k \ell$  is a direct product of three copies of  $\mathbb{C}$ , each of which is stable under  $\tau$ . Hence there is an embedding  $\iota_v$  of  $k_v \otimes_k L$  in  $k_v \otimes_k \mathscr{D}$ , and so also an embedding  $\iota$  of L in  $\mathscr{D}$ , with the desired property. We use  $\iota$  to identify L with a maximal subfield of  $\mathscr{D}$  and from now on denote the involution  $\tau$  of L by  $\sigma$ . As  $\sigma(x-x^{-1}) = -(x-x^{-1})$ ,  $(x-x^{-1})^2 \in L^{\sigma}$  and  $L = L^{\sigma}(x-x^{-1})$ .

We will denote the center  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,\ell}$  of the reductive group  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,\mathscr{D}}$  by  $\mathscr{C}$ . Given a field extension K of k, and  $h \in (K \otimes_k L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , we denote by  $\sigma_h$  the involution of  $A \otimes_k \mathscr{D}$ , for any commutative K-algebra A, defined as follows

$$\sigma_h(z) = \operatorname{Int} h(\sigma(z)) = h\sigma(z)h^{-1} \text{ for } z \in A \otimes_k \mathscr{D}.$$

Then  $\sigma_1 = \sigma$  and  $\sigma_h|_{A \otimes_k L} = \sigma|_{A \otimes_k L}$ . Let  $G_h$  (resp.,  $\mathscr{G}_h$ ) be the absolutely simple simply connected (resp., reductive) K-subgroup of  $GL_{1,K \otimes_k \mathscr{D}}$  such that for any commutative K-algebra A,

$$G_h(A) = \{ z \in \operatorname{GL}_{1,K \otimes_k \mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid z\sigma_h(z) = 1 \text{ and } \operatorname{Nrd}(z) = 1 \}$$
$$\mathscr{G}_h(A) = \{ z \in \operatorname{GL}_{1,K \otimes_k \mathscr{D}}(A) = (A \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times} \mid z\sigma_h(z) \in A^{\times} \}.$$

 $G_h$  is a normal subgroup of  $\mathscr{G}_h$ , and the center of  $\mathscr{G}_h$  equals the center  $\mathscr{C}_K := \operatorname{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\ell}$  of  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\mathscr{D}}$ . The conjugation action of  $\mathscr{G}_h$  on  $G_h$  induces a K-isomorphism of  $\mathscr{G}_h/\mathscr{C}_K$  onto the adjoint group  $\overline{G}_h$  of  $G_h$ . Therefore,  $\overline{G}_h$  has a natural identification with a K-subgroup of the adjoint group  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\mathscr{D}}/\mathscr{C}_K$  of  $\operatorname{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\mathscr{D}}$ .

As above, let x be the unique cube root of  $\lambda$  in L. We will view x as the element  $1 \otimes x$  of  $(K \otimes_k L)^{\times}$  ( $\subset (K \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times}$ ). Since  $x\sigma_h(x) = 1$ , x is an element of  $\mathscr{G}_h(K)$ . The image of x in  $(\mathrm{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\mathscr{D}}/\mathscr{C}_K)(K)$  as well as in  $\overline{G}_h(K)$  will be denoted by g. Since  $x^3 = \lambda \in \ell$ , g is an element of order 3. By the Bruhat-Tits fixed point theorem, for every nonarchimedean place v of k and  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , any element of the automorphism group of  $G_h$  of finite order, so in particular, g, normalizes a parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_v)$ . As x generates the maximal subfield L of  $\mathscr{D}$  over its center  $\ell$ , and the centralizer of L in  $\mathscr{D}$  is L, the centralizer  $\mathscr{T}$  of g in  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,K\otimes_k\mathscr{D}}$  is the maximal K-torus  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,K\otimes_kL}$  whose group of A-rational points for any commutative K-algebra A is the subgroup  $(A \otimes_k L)^{\times}$  of  $(A \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times}$ . Let  $T_h$  be the centralizer of g in  $G_h$ ; then  $T_h = G_h \cap \mathscr{T}$  and it is a maximal K-torus of  $G_h$ . The group of K-rational points

of  $T_h$  is  $\{z \in (K \otimes_k L)^{\times} \mid z\sigma(z) = 1 \text{ and } N_{L/\ell}(z) = 1\}$ . As a torus in  $GL_{1,K \otimes_k \mathscr{D}}, T_h$  does not depend on the choice of  $h \in (K \otimes_k L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ . So we will denote it by T below. We shall denote k-groups  $G_1$ ,  $\overline{G}_1$  and  $\mathscr{G}_1$  (defined as above using h = 1) simply by G,  $\overline{G}$  and  $\mathscr{G}$  respectively.

Let  $(P_v)$  be a coherent collection of parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$ . Since g is a k-rational automorphism of G of finite order, it normalizes an arithmetic subgroup of G(k) (for example,  $\cap_i g^i \cdot \Lambda$  is an arithmetic subgroup of G(k) normalized by g). By strong approximation property, the closure U of such an arithmetic subgroup in the group  $G(A_f)$  of finite adèles is a compact-open subgroup normalized by g. So the projection  $U_v$  of U in  $G(k_v)$  is a compact-open subgroup normalized by g. We know from 2.1 that for all but finitely many v,  $U_v = P_v$  and  $P_v$  is hyperspecial in  $G(k_v)$ . Thus, for all but finitely many v, g normalizes  $P_v$ .

In the next three paragraphs we will show that if v ramifies in  $\ell$ , then g normalizes some conjugate of each parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , and if either  $v \neq v$  splits in  $\ell$  or it lies over 3, then g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ .

Let us assume that v ramifies in  $\ell$ , we will show in this case that g normalizes some conjugate of each parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . For  $(k,\ell)=\mathcal{C}_{26}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_{35}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{39}$ , since  $D_\ell=D_k^2$ , every nonarchimedean place of k is unramified in  $\ell$ . If  $(k,\ell)=\mathcal{C}_3$ , the only place of k which ramifies in  $\ell$  is the place v lying over 2, the residue field of  $k_v$  has 4 elements, so in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G(k_v)$ , 5 edges emanate from every vertex. If  $(k,\ell)=\mathcal{C}_{31}$ , the only place v of k which ramifies in  $\ell$  is the place over 7. The residue field of  $k_v$  has 7 elements, so in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G(k_v)$ , 8 edges emanate from every vertex. We infer that if  $(k,\ell)$  is either  $\mathcal{C}_3$  or  $\mathcal{C}_{31}$ , g must fix at least two edges. This implies that g normalizes some conjugate of each parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  (and, in view of the main theorem of [PY], this also implies that the tori T, for the pairs  $\mathcal{C}_3$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{31}$ , are isotropic over  $k_v$ ).

We next observe that the reduced norm of x (x considered as an element of  $\mathscr{D}$ ) is  $\lambda$ , and the image of g in  $H^1(k,C) \subset \ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$ , where C is the center of G, is the class of  $\lambda$  in  $\ell^{\times}/\ell^{\times 3}$ . Now let  $v \neq \mathfrak{v}$  be a nonarchimedean place of k which splits in  $\ell$ . Then  $G(k_v) \cong \mathrm{SL}_3(k_v)$ , and hence every maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  is hyperspecial. As  $\lambda$  is a unit in both the embeddings of  $\ell$  in  $k_v$ , g does normalize a maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , see [BP], 2.7 and 2.3(i).

Let v be a nonarchimedean place of k which does not split in  $\ell$ , and  $\ell_v := k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_v$ . If 3 does not divide  $q_v + 1$  (for example, if v lies over 3), then g must normalize a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . For if g normalizes an Iwahori subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , then it also normalizes the two nonisomorphic maximal parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  containing this Iwahori subgroup, one of them is hyperspecial. Let us assume now that g normalizes a non-hyperspecial maximal parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . The number of edges in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G(k_v)$  emanating from the vertex corresponding to this parahoric subgroup is  $q_v + 1$ . As g is a k-automorphism of G of order 3, and 3 does not divide  $q_v + 1$ , at least one of these edges is fixed by g and g normalizes the hyperspecial

parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$  corresponding to the other vertex of every edge fixed by g.

The assertions in the next two paragraphs hold for an arbitrary  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  (in particular, for h = 1). We will choose h in the fourth and the seventh paragraph below.

If v is a nonarchimedean place of k which does not lie over 3, then according to the main theorem of [PY], the set of points fixed by g in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G_h(k_v)$  is the Bruhat-Tits building of  $T(k_v)$ . Therefore, if T is anisotropic at v (i. e.,  $T(k_v)$  is compact), then as the building of  $T(k_v)$  consists of a single point, g fixes a unique point in the building of  $G_h(k_v)$ . This implies that if T is anisotropic at v (and v does not lie over 3), then g normalizes a unique parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_v)$ ; in case T splits over an unramified extension of  $k_v$  then this parahoric subgroup is the unique parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_v)$  containing  $T(k_v)$  ([Ti2], 3.6.1).

We assume now that v is a nonarchimedean place of k which does not split in  $\ell$ , does not lie over 3, and  $\ell_v := k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_v$ . Then  $\ell_v$  contains all the cube roots of unity, and either (i)  $k_v \otimes_k L = \ell_v \otimes_\ell L$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_v$  in which case  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$  is also an unramified field extension of  $k_v$ , or (ii)  $\ell_v \otimes_\ell L$  is a direct product of three copies of  $\ell_v$  in which case  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$  is either the direct product of  $k_v$  and  $\ell_v$ , or it is the direct product of three copies of  $k_v$ . In case  $k_v \otimes_k L$  is a field, the torus T is anisotropic over  $k_v$  and its splitting field is the unramified extension  $k_v \otimes_k L$  of  $k_v$  of degree 6. This implies at once that the unique parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_v)$  containing  $T(k_v)$  is hyperspecial. This parahoric subgroup is normalized by g. On the other hand, if  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma} = k_v \times \ell_v$ , then T is isotropic over  $k_v$ . The apartment in the Bruhat-Tits building of  $G_h(k_v)$  corresponding to this torus is fixed pointwise by g. Hence g normalizes infinitely many hyperspecial parahoric subgroups of  $G_h(k_v)$ .

Let V be the set of all places v of k such that (i) v does not lie over 3, (ii)  $\ell_v := k_v \otimes_k \ell$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_v$ , and (iii)  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$  is the direct product of three copies of  $k_v$ . It may not always be the case that for every  $v \in V$ , g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . This is the reason why we look for and find an  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  below such that for the k-group  $G_h$  the following conditions hold: (1)  $G_h(k_{v_o})$  is isomorphic to SU(2,1), and for all real places  $v \neq v_o$  of k,  $G_h(k_v)$  is isomorphic to the compact group SU(3). This condition will clearly hold if for every real place v of k, k is a square in  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$ , or, equivalently, in every embedding of k in k is positive. It will imply that the group k defined here in terms of the involution k in k is k-isomorphic to the group k introduced in 9.2 (see 1.2). (2) For every nonarchimedean place k of k such that k in k in an k is a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup (this is the case if, and only if, k in k in

For  $v \in V$ ,  $k_v \otimes_k L = (k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}) \otimes_k \ell$  is the direct product of three copies of  $\ell_v$  each of which is stable under  $\sigma$ . This implies that for all  $v \in V$ ,  $T(k_v)$  is compact, i.e., T is anisotropic over  $k_v$  and it splits over the unramified extension  $\ell_v$ . We have

shown above, that for all  $v \notin V$ , g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgrop of  $G(k_v)$  if  $v \neq \mathfrak{v}$  and it does not ramify in  $\ell$ ; if v does ramify in  $\ell$  then g normalizes some conjugate of any given parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . Let S be the finite set of nonarchimedean places  $v \neq \mathfrak{v}$  of k such that v does not ramify in  $\ell$  and g does not normalize any hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ . Then  $S \subset V$ . If S is empty, then we take h = 1.

We will assume now that S is not empty. For each  $v \in S$ , we fix an isomorphism  $\phi_v$  of  $k_v \otimes_k \mathcal{D}$  with the matrix algebra  $M_3(\ell_v)$  which maps  $k_v \otimes_k L = \ell_v \otimes_\ell L$  onto the subalgebra of diagonal matrices. The idempotents in  $\ell_v \otimes_\ell L$  are all contained in  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$  and generate it. The idempotents of the algebra of diagonal matrices in  $M_3(\ell_v)$  have entries 0 or 1 (hence these idempotents lie in  $M_3(k_v)$ ). Therefore,  $\phi_v(k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma})$  is the algebra of diagonal matrices with entries in  $k_v$ . Now as the involution  $\sigma$  is identity on  $k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$  we conclude that the involution of  $M_3(\ell_v)$  induced from the involution  $\sigma$  under  $\phi_v$  is of the form  $\mathrm{Int}\,d_v \cdot \tau_v$ , where  $d_v$  is a diagonal matrix in  $M_3(k_v)$  and  $\tau_v$  is the standard involution of the second kind of  $M_3(\ell_v)$  over  $k_v$ . Let  $a_v = \phi_v^{-1}(d_v) \in k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$ .

As the smallest Galois extension of k containing  $L^{\sigma}$  is linearly disjoint from  $\ell$  over k (see p. 47), using Chebotarev's density theorem we see that there are infinitely many nonarchimedean places w of k such that  $k_w \otimes_k L (= k_w \otimes_k L^{\sigma} \otimes_k \ell)$  is an unramified field extension of  $k_w$  of degree 6. As we saw above, for any such w not lying over 3, and any  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_w)$ . We now fix one such w which does not lie over 3. We shall denote the unique extension of w to L, as well as to  $L^{\sigma}$ , by w. From the definition of V it is clear that  $w \notin V$ . The field  $L_w = k_w \otimes_k L$  is a quadratic extension of the subfield  $L_w^{\sigma} = k_w \otimes_k L^{\sigma}$ . Hence, by local class field theory,  $N_{\ell/k}(L_w^{\times})$  is a subgroup of index 2 of  $(L_w^{\sigma})^{\times}$ . Also, since L is a quadratic extension of  $L^{\sigma}$ , by global class field theory  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(I_L) \cdot (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  is a subgroup of index 2 of  $I_{L^{\sigma}}$ , where  $I_L$  and  $I_{L^{\sigma}}$  are the idèle groups of L and  $L^{\sigma}$  respectively, and  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}: I_L \to I_{L^{\sigma}}$  is the norm map.

Recall that  $L = L^{\sigma}(x - x^{-1})$  and  $(x - x^{-1})^2$  lies in  $L^{\sigma}$ . An idèle  $c \in I_{L^{\sigma}}$  whose v-component  $c_v$  is 1 for  $v \neq w$ , and the w-component  $c_w$  is not a norm of any element of  $L_w^{\times}$ , cannot lie in the subgroup  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(I_L) \cdot (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  since the product  $\prod_v (x - x^{-1}, c_v)_v$  of Hilbert symbols for the quadratic extension  $L/L^{\sigma}$  equals  $(x - x^{-1}, c_w)_w \neq 1$ . Therefore,  $I_{L^{\sigma}}$  is a disjoint union of  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(I_L) \cdot (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$  and  $c \cdot N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(I_L) \cdot (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ . Let  $I'_L$  (resp.,  $I'_{L^{\sigma}}$ ) denote the restricted direct product of  $(k_v \otimes_k L)^{\times}$  (resp.,  $(k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ ), for all places  $v \neq w$  of k. Now considering the natural projection of  $I_{L^{\sigma}}$  onto  $I'_{L^{\sigma}}$ , we conclude that  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(I'_L) \cdot (L^{\sigma})^{\times} = I'_{L^{\sigma}}$ . From this we see that there exists  $z = (z_v) \in I'_L$ ,  $z_v \in (k_v \otimes_k L)^{\times}$ , and  $h \in (L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , such that for  $v \notin S \cup \{w\}$ , the v-component  $h_v := z_v \sigma(z_v) h$  of  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(z) h$  is 1 in  $(k_v \otimes_k L^{\sigma})^{\times}$ , and for v in the finite set S, the v-component  $h_v = z_v \sigma(z_v) h$  of  $N_{L/L^{\sigma}}(z) h$  equals  $a_v^{-1}$ . It is obvious that h is positive in every embedding of  $L^{\sigma}$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ . We choose this h to define  $G_h$ .

For  $v \neq w$ , let  $G_{h_v}$  be the special unitary subgroup of the  $k_v$ -group  $\mathrm{GL}_{1,k_v \otimes_k \mathscr{D}}$  defined using the involution  $\mathrm{Int}(h_v) \cdot \sigma$ . It is easily seen that the conjugation action

of  $z_v^{-1}$  on  $(k_v \otimes_k \mathscr{D})^{\times}$  gives an isomorphism  $\psi_v : G_{h_v} \to G_h$  defined over  $k_v$ . As g acts trivially on  $k_v \otimes_k L$ ,  $\psi_v$  commutes with the action of g on  $G_{h_v}$  and  $G_h$ . We conclude that g normalizes a parahoric subgroup of  $G_{h_v}(k_v)$  if and only if it normalizes its image in  $G_h(k_v)$  under  $\psi_v$ . For  $v \notin S \cup \{w\}$ , since  $h_v = z_v \sigma(z_v) h = 1$ ,  $G_{h_v}$  is the group G defined using the involution  $\sigma$ . We know from the above discussion that unless  $v \in S$ , g normalizes some conjugate of a given parahoric subgroup of  $G(k_v)$ , which is assumed to be hyperspecial if v does not ramify in  $\ell$  and is different from  $\mathfrak{v}$ , so the same assertion holds for  $G_h(k_v)$  for all  $v \notin S \cup \{w\}$ . We also know that g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_w)$  (for any h).

On the other hand, for  $v \in S$ , as  $z_v \sigma(z_v) ha_v = 1$ , the involution of  $M_3(\ell_v)$  induced from the involution  $\operatorname{Int}(h_v) \cdot \sigma$  of  $k_v \otimes_k \mathscr{D}$  via  $\phi_v$  is just the standard involution of the second kind of  $M_3(\ell_v)$  over  $k_v$ , hence the corresponding hermitian form on  $\ell_v^3$  is the standard hermitian form given by the identity matrix and  $\phi_v$  maps  $G_{h_v}$ isomorphically onto the special unitary group, to be denoted SU<sub>3</sub>, of this hermitian form. This isomorphism carries the centralizer T of g in  $G_{h_v}$  onto the diagonal torus of SU<sub>3</sub>. The diagonal torus of SU<sub>3</sub> is anisotropic over  $k_v$ , splits over the unramified extension  $\ell_v$ , and the group of its  $k_v$ -rational points is the group of diagonal matrices of determinant 1 whose diagonal entries are elements of  $\ell_v$  of norm 1 over  $k_v$ . The diagonal subgroup of  $SU_3(k_v)$  is contained in a unique parahoric subgroup  $P_v$  of  $SU_3(k_v)$  ([Ti2], 3.6.1);  $P_v$  consists of matrices in  $SU_3(k_v)$  with entries in the ring of integers of  $\ell_v$ ;  $P_v$  is clearly hyperspecial. This implies that for every  $v \in S$ , there is a unique parahoric subgroup of  $G_{h_v}(k_v)$  containing  $T(k_v)$ , and this parahoric subgroup is hyperspecial. This hyperspecial parahoric subgroup is normalized by g as  $T(k_v)$ is the centralizer of g in  $G_{h_n}(k_v)$ . This then implies that g normalizes a hyperspecial parahoric subgroup of  $G_h(k_v)$  also.

As observed above,  $G_h$  is k-isomorphic<sup>2</sup> to the group G introduced in 9.2. So we will assume that for the five pairs of fields under consideration, the involution  $\sigma$  in 9.2 has been replaced with  $\sigma_h$  for the h chosen above. This amounts to replacing G there with  $G_h$ . So we will now use the notation introduced in 9.2. In particular  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$  is a coherent collection of maximal parahoric subgroups  $P_v$  of  $G(k_v)$ ,  $v \in V_f$ , such that  $P_v$  is hyperspecial if  $v \neq \mathfrak{v}$  and it does not ramify in  $\ell$ . Since any two hyperspecial parahoric subgroups of  $G(k_v)$  are conjugate to each other under an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ , from the observations above we conclude that g normalizes a coherent collection  $(P'_v)_{v \in V_f}$  of maximal parahoric subgroups such that for every  $v \in V_f$ ,  $P'_v$  is conjugate to  $P_v$  under an element of  $\overline{G}(k_v)$ . Proposition 5.3 implies that a conjugate of g (in  $\overline{G}(k)$ ) normalizes  $(P_v)_{v \in V_f}$ , and hence it normalizes  $\Lambda$ , and therefore lies in  $\overline{\Gamma}$ . This proves that  $\overline{\Gamma}$  contains an element of order 3.

Combining the results of 8.6, 9.4, and 9.6–9.11 we obtain the following.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>To display a concrete isomorphism between G and  $G_h$ , we observe using Landherr's theorem (see Theorem 6.27 and the remark following its proof in [PIR]) that  $h = d\sigma(d)$  for a  $d \in \mathscr{D}^{\times}$ , and conjugation action of d on  $\mathscr{D}^{\times}$  provides a k-isomorphism:  $G \to G_h$ .

**9.12. Theorem.** There exist exactly ten distinct classes of fake projective planes with the underlying totally real number field k of degree > 1, a totally complex quadratic extension  $\ell$  of k, and a cubic division algebra  $\mathcal{D}$  with center  $\ell$ . The pair  $(k, \ell) = \mathcal{C}_2 = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_3))$  gives two of these ten, the pair  $\mathcal{C}_{10} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7} + 4\sqrt{2}))$  also gives two, the pairs  $\mathcal{C}_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_3))$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{20} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}, \zeta_4))$  give three each.

Now combining the above theorem with the results of 8.8, the first paragraph of 1.5, and 5.14 we obtain the following:

**9.13. Theorem.** There are exactly twenty-eight non-empty classes of fake projective planes. The underlying pairs  $(k,\ell)$  and  $\mathcal{T}$ , and the number of classes associated to each of them is given in the following tables:

| $(k,\ell)$  | $\mathscr{T}$                       | classes |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------|
| $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-1}))$   | {5}                                 | 2       |
|   | $\{2, 5\}$                          | 1       |
| $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-2}))$   | {3}                                 | 2       |
|   | $\{2, 3\}$                          | 1       |
| $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7}))$   | {2}                                 | 2       |
|   | $\{2, 3\}$                          | 2       |
|   | $\{2,5\}$                           | 2       |
| $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-15}))$  | {2}                                 | 4       |
| $(\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-23}))$  | {2}                                 | 2       |
| $C_2:(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}),\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5},\zeta_3))$                           | $\{\mathfrak{v}\}$                  | 2       |
| $\boxed{\mathcal{C}_{10}: (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7+4\sqrt{2}}))}$ | {v}                                 | 2       |
| $\mathcal{C}_{18}:(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}),\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6},\zeta_3))$              | {v}                                 | 1       |
|   | $\{\mathfrak{v},\mathfrak{v}_2\}$   | 2       |
| $\mathcal{C}_{20}:(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7}),\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{7},\zeta_4))$              | {v}                                 | 1       |
|   | $\{\mathfrak{v},\mathfrak{v}_3'\}$  | 1       |
|   | $\{\mathfrak{v},\mathfrak{v}_3''\}$ | 1       |

## 10. Some geometric properties of the fake projective planes

In the following, P will denote any fake projective plane, and  $\Pi$  will denote its fundamental group. Let the pair  $(k, \ell)$ , the k-form G of SU(2, 1), and the real place  $v_o$  of k, be the ones associated to  $\Pi$ . Let  $\overline{G}$  be the adjoint group of G, C the center of G, and  $\varphi: G \to \overline{G}$  be the natural isogeny. Then  $\Pi$  is a torsion-free cocompact arithmetic subgroup of  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  ( $\cong PU(2,1)$ ). Let  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  be the inverse image of  $\Pi$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . Let  $\mathscr{D}$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\Gamma (\supseteq \widetilde{\Pi})$  be as in 1.3. Then  $\Lambda = \Gamma \cap G(k)$ , and  $\Gamma$  is the

normalizer of  $\Lambda$  in  $G(k_{v_o})$ . In view of the result mentioned in the first paragraph of 1.5,  $\mathscr{D}$  cannot be  $\ell$ , so it is a cubic division algebra with center  $\ell$ .

**10.1. Theorem.**  $H_1(P,\mathbb{Z}) = H_1(\Pi,\mathbb{Z}) = \Pi/[\Pi,\Pi]$  is nontrivial. Therefore, a smooth complex surface with the same integral homology groups as  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  is biholomorphic to  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ .

Proof. There is a nonarchimedean place  $\mathfrak{v}$  of k such that  $k_{\mathfrak{v}} \otimes_k \mathscr{D} = \mathfrak{D} \times \mathfrak{D}^o$ , where  $\mathfrak{D}$  is a cubic division algebra with center  $k_{\mathfrak{v}}$ , and  $\mathfrak{D}^o$  is its opposite (cf. 5.7 and 9.2). Then the group  $G(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  is the compact group  $\mathrm{SL}_1(\mathfrak{D})$  of elements of reduced norm 1 in  $\mathfrak{D}$ . The image  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of  $\Gamma$ , and hence the image  $\Pi$  of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$ , in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  is contained in  $\overline{G}(k)$ , see Proposition 1.2 of [BP]. We will view  $\Pi \subset \overline{G}(k)$  as a subgroup of  $\overline{G}(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$ . We observe that  $\overline{G}(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  ( $\cong \mathfrak{D}^{\times}/k_{\mathfrak{v}}^{\times}$ ) is a pro-solvable group, i. e., if we define the decreasing sequence  $\{\mathscr{G}_i\}$  of subgroups of  $\mathscr{G} := \overline{G}(k_{\mathfrak{v}})$  inductively as follows:  $\mathscr{G}_0 = \mathscr{G}$ , and  $\mathscr{G}_i = [\mathscr{G}_{i-1}, \mathscr{G}_{i-1}]$ , then  $\bigcap \mathscr{G}_i$  is trivial, to see this use [Ri], Theorem 7(i). From this it is obvious that for any subgroup  $\mathscr{H}$  of  $\mathscr{G}$ ,  $[\mathscr{H}, \mathscr{H}]$  is a proper subgroup of  $\mathscr{H}$ . We conclude, in particular, that  $\Pi/[\Pi, \Pi]$  is nontrivial.

**10.2.** Remark. We can use the structure of  $SL_1(\mathfrak{D})$  to provide an explicit lower bound for the order of  $H_1(P,\mathbb{Z})$ .

In the following proposition, P is any fake projective plane whose underlying pair of number fields is neither  $C_2 = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5}, \zeta_3))$  nor  $C_{18} = (\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}), \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{6}, \zeta_3))$  (these are the only pairs which give rise to fake projective planes and in which  $\ell$  contains  $\zeta_3$ ).

10.3. Proposition. The short exact sequence

$$\{1\} \to C(k_{v_o}) \to \widetilde{\Pi} \to \Pi \to \{1\}$$

splits.

Proof. We know from 5.4 that  $[\Gamma : \Lambda] = 9$ . As observed in the proof of the preceding theorem, the image  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of  $\Gamma$ , so the image  $\Pi$  of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$ , in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$  is contained in  $\overline{G}(k)$ . Hence,  $\Gamma \subset G(\overline{k})$ , where  $\overline{k}$  is an algebraic closure of k. Now let x be an element of  $\Gamma$ . As  $\varphi(x)$  lies in  $\overline{G}(k)$ , for every  $\gamma \in \operatorname{Gal}(\overline{k}/k)$ ,  $\varphi(\gamma(x)) = \varphi(x)$ , and hence  $\gamma(x)x^{-1}$  lies in  $C(\overline{k})$ . Therefore,  $(\gamma(x)x^{-1})^3 = \gamma(x)^3x^{-3} = 1$ , i. e.,  $\gamma(x)^3 = x^3$ , which implies that  $x^3 \in \Gamma \cap G(k) = \Lambda$ .

Let  $\overline{\Lambda}$  be the image of  $\Lambda$  in  $\overline{G}(k_{v_o})$ . Then  $\overline{\Lambda}$  is a normal subgroup of  $\overline{\Gamma}$  of index 3 (we have excluded the fake projective planes arising from the pairs  $C_2$  and  $C_{18}$  to ensure this). Now we observe that  $\widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda$  is torsion-free. This is obvious from Lemmas 5.6 and 9.3 if  $\ell \neq \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7})$ , since then G(k), and hence  $\Lambda$ , is torsion-free. On the other hand, if  $\ell = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-7})$ , then any nontrivial element of finite order of  $\Lambda$ , and so of  $\widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda$ , is of order 7 (Lemma 5.6), but as  $\Pi$  is torsion-free, the order of such an element must be 3. We conclude that  $\widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda$  is always torsion-free. Therefore, it maps isomorphically onto  $\Pi \cap \overline{\Lambda}$ . In particular, if  $\Pi \subset \overline{\Lambda}$ , then the subgroup  $\widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda$  maps isomorphically onto  $\Pi$  and we are done.

Let us assume now that  $\Pi$  is not contained in  $\overline{\Lambda}$ . Then  $\Pi$  projects onto  $\overline{\Gamma}/\overline{\Lambda}$ , which implies that  $\Pi \cap \overline{\Lambda}$  is a normal subgroup of  $\Pi$  of index 3. We pick an element g of  $\Pi - \overline{\Lambda}$  and let  $\tilde{g}$  be an element of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  which maps onto g. Then  $\tilde{g}^3 \in \widetilde{\Pi} \cap G(k) = \widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda$ , and  $\bigcup_{0 \leqslant i \leqslant 2} \tilde{g}^i(\widetilde{\Pi} \cap \Lambda)$  is a subgroup of  $\widetilde{\Pi}$  which maps isomorphically onto  $\Pi$ . This proves the proposition.

**10.4.** We note here that whenever the assertion of Proposition 10.3 holds, we get the geometric result that the canonical line bundle  $K_P$  of P is three times a holomorphic line bundle. To see this, we will use the following embedding of the open unit ball B as an SU(2,1)-orbit in  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  given in Kollár [Ko], 8.1. We think of SU(2,1) as the subgroup of  $SL_3(\mathbb{C})$  which keeps the hermitian form  $h(x_0, x_1, x_2) = -|x_0|^2 + |x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2$  on  $\mathbb{C}^3$  invariant. We use the homogeneous coordinates  $(x_0 : x_1 : x_2)$  on  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ . The affine plane described by  $x_0 \neq 0$  admits affine coordinates  $z_1 = x_1/x_0$  and  $z_2 = x_2/x_0$ , and the open unit ball  $B = \{(z_1, z_2) | |z_1|^2 + |z_2|^2 < 1\}$  in this plane is an SU(2,1)-orbit. We identify B with the universal cover P of P. In the subgroup (of the Picard group) consisting of SU(2,1)-equivariant line bundles on  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$ , the canonical line bundle  $K_{\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2}$  of  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  equals -3H for the hyperplane line bundle H on  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2$  ([Ko], Lemma 8.3). Proposition 10.3 implies that  $\Pi$  can be embedded in SU(2,1) as a discrete subgroup, and hence,  $K_{\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^2}|_{\widetilde{P}}$  and  $-H|_{\widetilde{P}}$  descend to holomorphic line bundles K and L on the fake projective plane P. As K = 3L and K is just the canonical line bundle  $K_P$  of P, the assertion follows.

**10.5. Remark.** It follows from Theorem 3(iii) of Bombieri [B] that three times the canonical line bundle  $K_P$  of P is very ample, and it provides an embedding of P in  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{27}$  as a smooth surface of degree 81.

From the facts that (i) the second Betti number of P is 1, (ii)  $K_P$  is ample (since P is ball-quotient), and (iii)  $c_1^2 = 9$ , we conclude as in subsection 1.1 of Chapter V of [BHPV], that there is an ample line bundle L on P such that  $K_P = 3L$  modulo torsion. From Theorem 1 of Reider [Re], K + 4L is very ample. Kodaira Vanishing Theorem implies that  $h^i(P, K + 4L) = 0$  for i > 0. It follows from Riemann-Roch, using the Noether formula for surfaces, that

$$h^{0}(P, K + 4L) = \frac{1}{2}c_{1}(K + 4L)(c_{1}(4L)) + \frac{1}{12}(c_{1}^{2}(K) + c_{2}(P)) = 15.$$

Let  $\Phi: P \to \mathbf{P}^{14}_{\mathbb{C}}$  be the projective embedding associated to K+4L. The degree of the image is given by

$$\deg_{\Phi}(P) = \int_{\Phi(P)} c_1^2(H_{\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{14}}) = \int_P c_1^2(\Phi^* H_{\mathbf{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^{14}}) = c_1^2(K + 4L) = c_1^2(7L) = 49.$$

Hence, holomorphic sections of K+4L give an embedding of P as a smooth surface of degree 49 in  $\mathbf{P}^{14}_{\mathbb{C}}$ .

## Appendix: Table of class numbers

The following table lists  $(D_{\ell}, h_{\ell}, n_{\ell,3})$  for all complex quadratic extensions  $\ell$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  with  $D_{\ell} \leq 79$ .

```
(4, 1, 1)
(3, 1, 1)
                          (7,1,1)
                                        (8, 1, 1)
                                                     (11, 1, 1)
                          (20, 2, 1)
(15, 2, 1)
             (19, 1, 1)
                                       (23,3,3)
                                                     (24, 2, 1)
(31, 3, 3)
             (35, 2, 1)
                          (39, 4, 1)
                                       (40, 2, 1)
                                                     (43, 1, 1)
(47, 5, 1)
             (51, 2, 1)
                          (52, 2, 1)
                                       (55, 4, 1)
                                                     (56, 4, 1)
(59, 3, 3)
             (67, 1, 1)
                          (68, 4, 1)
                                       (71, 7, 1)
                                                    (79, 5, 1).
```

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