

## On the Fibres of a Toroidal Resolution

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To R. MacPherson

### INTRODUCTION

The quotient  $M = \Gamma \backslash D$  of a Hermitian symmetric domain by an arithmetic group of automorphisms is a quasiprojective algebraic variety. Varieties like this, variously called *modular* or *locally symmetric* or *arithmetic varieties*, play an important role in representation theory and arithmetic. Many naturally occurring arithmetic varieties are noncompact, and the study of their compactifications has a long history. The variety  $M$  has a canonical embedding in a projective space given by certain automorphic forms for  $\Gamma$  (essentially sections of a power of the canonical bundle); the closure  $M^*$  in this embedding is the *minimal compactification* of Satake and Baily-Borel. It is a normal variety which usually has complicated singularities at the boundary and any smooth compactification in which  $M$  is the complement of a normal-crossings divisor dominates it. There is no canonical smooth compactification of  $M$  in general, but in [1], Mumford et al. showed how to desingularize  $M^*$  using an extra choice. Given a suitable  $\Gamma$ -admissible rational polyhedral cone decomposition  $\Sigma$  (the notion is recalled in §§2, 4), the method produces a smooth projective *toroidal compactification*  $M^\Sigma$  in which the complement of  $M$  is a divisor with simple normal crossings. There is a morphism

$$\pi : M^\Sigma \rightarrow M^*$$

extending the identity on  $M$ . It is of interest in various questions to study the fibres of  $\pi$ . In this paper I want to describe a homological property of these fibres when the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank of  $M$  is one (so that  $M^* - M$  is the quotient of a smooth variety by a finite group). I shall assume always that  $\Gamma$  is neat (which can always be achieved by passing to a subgroup of finite index), so that  $M^* - M$  is smooth. In this introduction it will be further assumed that  $M^* - M$  consists of points (i.e.  $D$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one tube domain with cusps). Examples include Hilbert modular varieties and arithmetic varieties associated to  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one forms of  $\mathrm{SO}(2, n)$ .

A fibre of  $\pi : M^\Sigma \rightarrow M^* - M$  at a cusp  $s \in M^* - M$  is the geometric quotient

$$\pi^{-1}(s) = \Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}$$

of a certain scheme  $\mathcal{D}$  by a free action of an infinite discrete group  $\Lambda$ . The scheme  $\mathcal{D}$  is not usually of finite type, but each irreducible component is smooth and of finite type, and  $\mathcal{D}$  has normal crossings. There is a natural ind-variety structure on  $\mathcal{D}$  (as we show here). The simplest example is that of Hilbert modular surfaces, where the preimage of a cusp of  $M^*$  is a cycle of rational curves: the quotient of an infinite chain of projective lines joined “end-to-end” (our  $\mathcal{D}$ ) by an infinite cyclic group (our  $\Lambda$ ). In general, there is a morphism  $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow A$  to an abelian variety which on each irreducible component of  $\mathcal{D}$  restricts to a smooth projective toric fibration over  $A$ . The group  $\Lambda$  is an arithmetic subgroup of the automorphism group of a self-adjoint homogeneous cone  $C$  (e.g.  $\Lambda$  could be  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  or  $SL(n, \mathbb{Z})$  or an arithmetic group in  $SO(n, 1)$ ).

The ind-variety  $\mathcal{D}$  comes with an embedding in a certain smooth scheme  $\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow A$  locally of finite type; indeed,  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a relative torus embedding of a relative torus  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow A$  using the cone system  $\Sigma$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$  is the complement of the dense torus  $\mathcal{T}$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$ . The action of  $\Lambda$  comes from one on  $\mathcal{Y}$ , but it is not proper, so that the quotient  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{Y}$  exists only as an analytic space and not as a scheme. There is an analytic map  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow M^\Sigma$  identifying  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}$  with the fibre and it is an analytic isomorphism locally along  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}$ . (Indeed,  $M^\Sigma$  is actually constructed in [1] by gluing together certain analytic neighbourhoods of  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}$  in  $\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{Y}$  for the various cusps of  $M^*$ .) The main result of this note is that  $\mathcal{D} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is a homology isomorphism (cf. Thm 3.2 when  $A$  is trivial, Thm 4.1 in general), i.e.

$$H_*(\mathcal{D}) = H_*(\mathcal{Y}).$$

Since  $\Lambda$  acts freely on  $\mathcal{D}$ , it follows that there is a natural isomorphism

$$H_*(\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}) = H_*^\Lambda(\mathcal{Y})$$

giving a description of the homology of the fibre as the  $\Lambda$ -equivariant homology of the smooth scheme  $\mathcal{Y}$ . This suggests that the “quotient” of the smooth scheme  $\mathcal{Y}$  by  $\Lambda$  should be thought of as an algebraic version of a regular neighbourhood of the fibre in  $M^\Sigma$ . A consequence of the isomorphism  $H_i(\mathcal{D}) \cong H_i(\mathcal{Y})$  is that this group is pure of weight  $-i$ , i.e. the ind-variety  $\mathcal{D}$  is pure. (This is Corollary 3.2 when  $A$  is trivial; note that this is only obvious in the simplest case of Hilbert modular surfaces.) Roughly speaking,  $\mathcal{D}$  satisfies the valuative criterion for properness, so that  $H_i(\mathcal{D})$  has weights  $\geq -i$ , while  $\mathcal{Y}$  is smooth, so that  $H_i(\mathcal{Y})$  has weights  $\leq -i$ . This purity has pleasant consequences: the spectral sequence computing  $H_*(\Lambda \backslash \mathcal{D}) = H_*^\Lambda(\mathcal{Y})$  in terms of  $\Lambda$ -homology of  $H_*(\mathcal{D}) \cong H_*(\mathcal{Y})$  degenerates at  $E_2$  and the limit filtration is (with a shift) the weight filtration (Cor. 3.4, Thm 4.1). So one has an expression for the graded pieces of the weight filtration on the fibre homology in terms of group homology and  $\mathcal{Y}$ .<sup>1)</sup>

<sup>1)</sup>There is a formal resemblance between the fibres studied here and the varieties appearing in [5] in the context of the “fundamental lemma”: In each case one has a quotient of an ind-variety by a discrete group. Here, the discrete group  $\Lambda$  (which is typically like  $GL(n, \mathbb{Z})$ ) is complicated, while the ind-variety  $\mathcal{D}$  is

Another consequence of purity (to which attention was drawn in [4]) is that the torus action on  $\mathcal{D}$  is equivariantly formal. It follows that the equivariant cohomology is localized to the fixed-point locus and has a description in terms of the fixed point locus and one-dimensional (over  $A$ ) orbits. This is mentioned in 3.6 and 4.5, a fuller treatment being left for another occasion. The purity statement also has consequences for the Hodge theory of the exceptional divisor  $\pi^{-1}(M^* - M)$ , which we mention in 4.6.

The essential tool in proving these results is an enumeration of the top-dimensional cones in  $\Sigma$ . The cone system  $\Sigma$  is a decomposition of the open self-adjoint homogeneous cone  $C$  into rational polyhedral cones. For example, if  $M$  is a Hilbert modular surface associated to a real quadratic field  $F$ , the cone  $C$  is the convex hull in  $F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} \cong \mathbb{R}^2$  of the set of totally positive elements of  $F$  and  $\Sigma$  is a decomposition of  $C \cong \mathbb{R}_+^2$  into rational sectors, invariant under the action of a subgroup  $\Lambda \cong \mathbb{Z}$  of the group of totally positive units of  $F$ . In general, the fan  $\Sigma$  consists of cones on the faces of an unbounded locally polyhedral convex set  $P$  (a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore in the terminology of [1, Chp. II]), the convexity of  $P$  being responsible for the projectivity of  $M^\Sigma$ . The idea of line shellings from the theory of convex polytopes allows us to enumerate the facets of  $P$ , and hence the top-dimensional cones of  $\Sigma$ , in a nice way (Prop. 2.5). This gives the ind-variety structure of  $\mathcal{D}$  and defines filtrations of  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{Y}$  which allow for an inductive proof that  $H_*(\mathcal{D}) \cong H_*(\mathcal{Y})$  using elementary facts about the topology of torus embeddings.

The methods used here to study the fibres of  $\pi$  are applicable if the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank is  $\geq 2$ , but the results have to be reformulated (cf. 3.10 for some comments).

The contents of this article are as follows: In §1 the necessary properties of self-adjoint homogeneous cones are recalled from [1]. In §2 the construction of nice polyhedral decompositions  $\Sigma$  of such cones is recalled, following [1], and the enumeration of top-dimensional cones of such  $\Sigma$  mentioned above is proved. (No assumption is made on the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank in these sections, but the simplifications in the case of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one are indicated.) From §3 we assume that the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank is one. In §3 the enumeration from §2 is used to prove the main theorem when the abelian variety  $A$  is trivial. Then weights are brought in and various consequences of purity indicated, under the same assumption. General  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one arithmetic varieties (where  $A$  is nontrivial) are treated in §4.

It is a pleasure to dedicate this article to R. MacPherson on his sixtieth birthday. I hope he finds the mix of topics – convexity, toric geometry, arithmetic groups – appealing.

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simple (its homology is pure). In [5], the discrete group is simple ( $\cong \mathbb{Z}^d$ ), but the ind-variety, an affine Springer fibre, is complicated. In particular, the conjecture that they are pure appears to be difficult.

## 1. SELF-ADJOINT HOMOGENEOUS CONES

This section contains background material on cones and their geometry. The key fact used later is Lemma 1.2.

**1.1. Self-adjoint homogeneous cones.** We start a real vector space  $V$  of finite dimension  $N$  and a nondegenerate open cone

$$C \subset V$$

i.e. an open subset invariant under dilations by  $\mathbb{R}_+$  which contains no line in its closure. The (connected) automorphism group of the cone is

$$\text{Aut}(C)^0 := \{g \in \text{GL}(V) : gC = C\}^0.$$

The cone is *homogeneous* if  $\text{Aut}(C)^0$  acts transitively on  $C$ . It is *self-adjoint* if there is an inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  on  $V$  such that  $C$  is identified with its dual cone  $C^* = \{v \in V : \langle v, w \rangle > 0 \ \forall w \in \overline{C}, w \neq 0\}$ . A self-adjoint cone is convex.

Let  $C \subset V$  be self-adjoint and homogeneous. The automorphism group is a Lie subgroup of  $\text{GL}(V)$ , stable under transpose, and therefore reductive. The isotropy subgroup of any point in  $C$  is a maximal compact subgroup, and so  $C$  is identified with the symmetric space of  $\text{Aut}(C)^0$ . (Conversely, if a connected reductive Lie group acts on a vector space with an open orbit at points of which the isotropy subgroups are maximal compact, then the orbit is a self-adjoint homogeneous cone.)

Let  $\mathfrak{g}$  be the Lie algebra of  $\text{Aut}(C)^0$ . Fix a basepoint  $e \in C$  and let  $K$  be the isotropy subgroup at  $e$ . The Cartan decomposition  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{p}$  given by  $K$  fixes an isomorphism

$$\mathfrak{p} \rightarrow V \quad \text{by } X \mapsto Xe$$

(here  $X \in \mathfrak{g}$  acts on  $V$  via  $\mathfrak{g} \subset \text{End}(V)$ ). For a maximal abelian subspace  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{p}$  let  $A = e^{\mathfrak{a}}$ . Then  $C = KAe$ .

Let  $V_{\mathbb{Q}} \subset V$  be a rational structure. The cone  $C$  is *rational* if there is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebraic group

$$G \subset \text{GL}(V_{\mathbb{Q}}) \quad \text{with } G(\mathbb{R})^0 = \text{Aut}(C)^0,$$

i.e. the automorphism group is, up to connected components, the real points of a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebraic group. This will be assumed to be the case from now on, and we will fix, once and for all, a rational basepoint  $e \in C \cap V_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . It is known that the inner product on  $V$  (with respect to which  $C$  is self-dual) may be chosen to be rational.

For  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ , a cone is *k-irreducible* if it cannot be written as a sum  $C = C_1 + C_2$  for a  $k$ -rational decomposition  $V = V_1 \oplus V_2$  and  $k$ -rational self-adjoint homogeneous cones  $C_i \subset V_i$ . An equivalent condition is that  $V$  is irreducible for  $G$  over  $k$  (p. 87 of [1]). In this situation the  $k$ -split centre of  $G$  is one-dimensional and acts by dilations on  $V$ . Any  $k$ -rational cone  $C$  is a sum of irreducible ones. The  $\mathbb{R}$ -irreducible cones have

been classified (cf. [1, p. 63] for the list, which includes four infinite families plus one exceptional cone).

**1.2. Jordan algebra.** A Jordan algebra is a finite-dimensional commutative algebra in which the product  $a \cdot b$  satisfies  $a^2 \cdot (b \cdot a) = (a^2 \cdot b) \cdot a$ . It is Euclidean if  $a^2 + b^2 = 0$  implies that  $a = b = 0$ .

It is a basic fact ([1, p. 76]) that for a rational self-adjoint homogeneous cone  $C \subset V$  as in the previous paragraph, there is a Euclidean Jordan algebra structure on  $V$ , with  $e$  as unit, which is rational over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $T_a \in \mathfrak{p}$  be the element mapped to  $a \in V$  under  $\mathfrak{p} \cong V$ , i.e.  $T_a e = a$ . The Jordan algebra structure satisfies  $T_a(b) = a \cdot b$  for all  $b \in V$ . The cone is  $C = \{x^2 : x \in V \text{ is invertible}\}$  and its closure is  $\overline{C} = \{x^2 : x \in V\}$ . The inner product in  $V$  can be taken to be  $\langle x, y \rangle = \text{trace of left multiplication by } x \cdot y \text{ on } V$ . (Note that this is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational.)

Two idempotents  $e_1, e_2 \in V$  (for the Jordan algebra structure), are *orthogonal* if  $e_1 \cdot e_2 = 0$ . An idempotent is *minimal* if it cannot be written as the sum of mutually orthogonal idempotents. A collection of idempotents  $e_1, \dots, e_r$  is *complete* if  $\sum_i e_i = e$ . A maximal collection of mutually orthogonal idempotents is complete. Let  $\{e_i\}$  be such a collection. Let  $x_i \in \mathfrak{p}$  be defined by  $x_i = 2T_{e_i}$ , (i.e.  $x_i e = 2e_i$  in the action of  $\mathfrak{p}$  on  $V$ ). Then  $\mathfrak{a} = \sum_i \mathbb{R}x_i$  is a maximal abelian subspace of  $\mathfrak{p}$ , and every such subspace arises from a complete set of mutually orthogonal minimal idempotents in this way (cf. p. 89 of [1]). From the description of the cone as invertible squares, one sees that  $C \cap \sum_i \mathbb{R}e_i = Ae = \sum_i \mathbb{R}_+ e_i$ . In other words, the orbit  $Ae$  is open in its linear span, which is  $\mathfrak{a}e \subset V$ , and  $\mathfrak{a}e \cap C = Ae$  (cf. Prop. 14 on p. 104 of [1]).

Fix a maximal collection of mutually orthogonal idempotents  $e_1, \dots, e_r$ . Let  $x_1^*, \dots, x_r^*$  be the basis of  $\mathfrak{a}^*$  dual to the corresponding basis  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  of  $\mathfrak{a}$ . They will be considered as characters on  $A$  via the logarithm isomorphism  $\log : A \rightarrow \mathfrak{a}$ , i.e.  $x_i^*(e^y) = x_i^*(y)$  for  $y \in \mathfrak{a}$ .

**Lemma 1.1.**  $\det|_A = (x_1^*)^{\lambda_1} (x_2^*)^{\lambda_2} \dots (x_r^*)^{\lambda_r}$  where  $\lambda_i > 0$  for all  $i$ .

*Proof.* First assume that  $C$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -irreducible. The space  $V$  has a (Peirce) decomposition

$$V = \bigoplus_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq r} V_{ij}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} V_{ii} &= \{v \in V : e_i \cdot v = v\} \\ V_{ij} &= \{v \in V : e_i \cdot v = e_j \cdot v = v/2\}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $k \neq i, j$  then  $e_k \cdot v = 0$  for  $v \in V_{ij}$ . For  $i \neq j$ , the dimension of  $V_{ij}$  is a number  $d$  which depends only on the cone, i.e. it is independent of  $i$  and  $j$ ; the dimension of  $V_{ii}$  is one. (These facts are proved in pp. 92–97 of [1].) This gives  $N = r + dr(r-1)/2$ . The trace of left multiplication by  $e_i$  on  $V$  is then  $1 + d(r-1)/2 = N/r$ . Since  $x_i = 2T_{e_i}$  we

have  $\det(e^{x_i}) = e^{2\text{tr}(Te_i)} = e^{2N/r}$ . Then  $\det|_A = (x_1^*x_2^*\dots x_r^*)^{2N/r}$ . The general case follows by writing the cone as a sum of irreducible cones and applying this calculation to each one.  $\square$

Let

$$G_1 := \ker(\det|_G).$$

This is a rational algebraic group, and the symmetric space of  $G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$  is the quotient  $C/\mathbb{R}_+$  of  $C$  by dilations. The subgroup  $A_1 \subset G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$  (i.e. the connected real points of a maximal  $\mathbb{R}$ -split torus in  $G_1$ ) is the subgroup  $\ker(\det|_A)$  of  $A$ , for which the lemma gives the explicit equation  $\prod_i t_i^{\lambda_i} = 1$  (in the preferred coordinates on  $A$ ). Similarly,  $\mathfrak{a}_1 \subset \mathfrak{a}$  is given by  $\sum_i \lambda_i t_i = 0$ .

**1.3. Sublevel sets of the characteristic function.** Fix a translation-invariant measure  $dy$  on  $V$ . The characteristic function  $\varphi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  of the cone is defined by

$$\varphi(x) := \int_C e^{-\langle x,y \rangle} dy.$$

It is canonical up to the choice of measure  $dy$ , i.e. up to a constant. Let us normalize it by requiring  $\varphi(e) = 1$ . The following properties of  $\varphi$  are found in [1, p. 57ff]:

- (i)  $\varphi(gx) = \det(g)^{-1}\varphi(x)$  for  $g \in G(\mathbb{R})^0, x \in C$ . In particular,  $\varphi(\lambda x) = \lambda^{-N}\varphi(x)$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$ . It follows that  $\varphi(x) dx$  is a  $G(\mathbb{R})^0$ -invariant measure on  $C$ ,  $\varphi$  is  $G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ -invariant, and its level sets are  $G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ -orbits. By our normalization we have  $\varphi(ge) = \det(g)^{-1}$  for  $g \in G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ .
- (ii)  $\varphi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is strictly convex, i.e.  $\varphi(tx + (1-t)y) < t\varphi(x) + (1-t)\varphi(y)$  for  $x, y \in C, t \in (0, 1)$ . In particular its sublevel sets are convex.

Fix a point  $y \in C$  and consider its  $G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ -orbit:

$$S := G_1(\mathbb{R})^0 y$$

It is a level set of  $\varphi$  (by (i)) and  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}S$  is a sublevel set of  $\varphi$ . By property (ii),  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}S$  is a closed convex set in  $V$  with boundary  $S$  and interior  $\mathbb{R}_{> 1}S$ .

Let  $x \in C - \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}S$ . A point  $s \in S$  is *visible from  $x$*  if the tangent hyperplane  $T_s S$  separates  $x$  from  $\mathbb{R}_{> 1}S$ . (The tangent hyperplane is being thought of as an affine hyperplane in  $V$ .) The set  $\Omega_x := \{s \in S : s \text{ is visible from } x\}$  is open in  $S$  and invariant by  $K(x) = \text{Stab}_{G(\mathbb{R})^0}(x)$ . If  $x = gy$  for  $g \in G(\mathbb{R})^0$ , then  $\Omega_x = g\Omega_y$ .

**Lemma 1.2.** *The set of points in  $S$  visible from  $x \in C - \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}S$  is relatively compact.*

*Proof.* Let  $s = \mathbb{R}x \cap S$ . Let  $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{k} + \mathfrak{p}$  be the Cartan decomposition given by  $s \in C$ , let  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathfrak{p}$  be a maximal abelian subspace, and let  $A = e^{\mathfrak{a}}$ . Then  $x \in (0, s] \subset \mathfrak{a}s$ . The set of points visible from  $x \in (0, s]$  is  $K(x)B$  where  $B$  is the set of points in  $\mathfrak{a}s \cap \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}S$  visible from  $x$  inside the subspace  $\mathfrak{a}s$ . It suffices to show that  $B$  is relatively compact. Using the coordinates on  $\mathfrak{a}s$  given by  $\mathfrak{a} \cong \mathfrak{a}s$  and the basis  $x_1, \dots, x_r$  of  $\mathfrak{a}$ , plus the fact

that  $\mathfrak{a}s \cap S = e^{\mathfrak{a}_1} s$ , this reduces (by (i) and Lemma 1.1) to the following assertion in  $\mathbb{R}^r$ : If  $B = \{(t_1, \dots, t_r) \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^r : t_1^{\lambda_1} t_2^{\lambda_2} \cdots t_r^{\lambda_r} = c\}$  and all  $\lambda_i$  are  $> 0$ , then for any  $t \in (\mathbb{R}_+)^r, t \notin \mathbb{R}_{\geq 1} B$ , the set of points on  $B$  visible from  $t$  is relatively compact. This is easily checked by a direct calculation.  $\square$

(It is easy to see from the proof that the set of points visible from  $x$  is geodesically starlike around the point  $\mathbb{R}x \cap S$  and has nonempty interior, and is in fact homeomorphic to a ball.)

**1.4. Examples.** (i) Let  $F/\mathbb{Q}$  be totally real of degree  $d$  and  $G = \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m$ , acting on  $V_{\mathbb{Q}} = F$ . Consider the embedding  $F \hookrightarrow V = F \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}^d$  given by the various real embeddings of  $F$ . The cone  $C$  is the convex hull of the set of totally positive elements of  $F$  in this embedding. The subgroup  $G_1$  is the norm torus  $G_1 = \ker(\text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{G}_m \xrightarrow{\text{Nm}} \mathbb{G}_m)$ , which is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -anisotropic of rank  $d - 1$ . In suitable coordinates  $C \cong \mathbb{R}_+^d$  and  $\varphi(t_1, \dots, t_d) = (t_1 \cdots t_d)^{-1}$ .

(ii) Let  $G = \text{GO}(q)$  be the similitude group of a nondegenerate quadratic form  $q : V_{\mathbb{Q}} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $q_{\mathbb{R}}$  is of signature  $(n, 1)$ . The cone  $C$  is one component of  $\{v \in V : q(v) > 0\}$ ,  $G_1 = \text{SO}(q)$ , and  $\varphi(v) = q(v)^{-(n+1)/2}$  for  $v \in C$ .

(iii) If  $G = \text{GL}(n)$  and  $V = \{X \in M(n, \mathbb{R}) : X^t = X\}$  with the action  $(g, X) \mapsto g^t X g$ , then the orbit of the identity matrix is the cone  $C$  of positive definite symmetric matrices, equivalently, the set of positive definite quadratic forms in  $n$  variables. Here  $G_1 = \text{SL}(n)$  and  $\varphi(X) = \det(X)^{-(n+1)/2}$ .

## 2. POLYHEDRAL CONE DECOMPOSITIONS

In this section polyhedral cone decompositions associated to cocores are introduced (following Ash's Chapter I in [1]) and their top-dimensional cones are enumerated using the notion of visibility.

**2.1.** Let  $V, G, C$  etc. be as in §1. Let  $L \subset V_{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module with  $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{R} = V$  and let  $\Lambda_0 = \{g \in G(\mathbb{R}) : gL = L\}$ . A subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{R})$  is *arithmetic* (for the given  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure) if it is commensurable with  $\Lambda_0$ . Let  $\Lambda$  be an arithmetic subgroup of  $G(\mathbb{R})^0$  which is neat (i.e. the subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}^*$  generated by eigenvalues of elements of  $\Lambda$  is torsion-free). Let  $L^\times = L - \{0\}$ .

A *convex polytope* in  $V$  is the convex hull of a finite set of points. It is *rational* if the points are in  $V_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . A *polyhedral cone* is a closed convex cone in  $V$  of the form  $\sigma = \{x \in V : \xi_i(x) \geq 0 \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, r\}$  for some linear functionals  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_r \in V^*$ . It is *rational* if the linear functionals may be chosen in  $V_{\mathbb{Q}}^*$ .

**2.2. Boundary components.** The relation in 1.2 between complete sets of mutually orthogonal Jordan idempotents in  $V$  and maximal split tori in  $G$  works over  $\mathbb{Q}$ : a complete set of mutually orthogonal rational idempotents determines a maximal  $\mathbb{Q}$ -split torus in  $G$  and vice versa (cf. [1, p. 90]). The maximal cardinality of a set of mutually orthogonal rational idempotents, called the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank of  $C$ , is therefore the same as the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank of  $G$ . So  $C$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one if and only if  $\Lambda\mathbb{R}_+ \setminus C$  is compact.

Let  $C_+$  be the convex hull of  $\overline{C} \cap V_{\mathbb{Q}}$ . For a rational idempotent  $e_1$ , let  $V(e_1) = \{x \in V : x \cdot e_1 = x\}$ ; this is a rational Jordan subalgebra of  $V$ . The cone of invertible squares  $C(e_1) = \{x^2 : x \in V(e_1) \text{ invertible}\}$  is a self-adjoint homogeneous cone in  $V(e_1)$  and  $C(e_1) \subset C_+$ . The cones  $C(e_1) \subset C_+$  as  $e_1$  varies over rational idempotents are the *rational boundary components* of  $C$ . Distinct rational boundary components are disjoint, and the union of all rational boundary components is  $C_+ - \{0\}$  (cf. Remark 3 on p. 133 of [1]). Note that  $C_+ = C \cup \{0\}$  if and only if  $C$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one.

**2.3. Examples.** Consider the examples in 1.4:

(i)  $G = \text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}}\mathbb{G}_m$ ,  $C \cong \mathbb{R}_+^d$  the convex hull in  $V = F \otimes \mathbb{R}$  of the totally positive elements of  $F$ . This cone is of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one and  $C_+ = C \cup \{0\}$ . An arithmetic group is a subgroup of the group of totally positive units in the ring of integers of  $F$ , so if it neat then it is free abelian of rank  $d - 1$ .

(ii)  $G = \text{GO}(q)$  and  $C$  is a component of  $\{q(v) > 0\}$ . The rational boundary components are half-lines  $\mathbb{R}_+$ , one for each  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational  $q$ -isotropic line in  $V$ . If there are no such lines  $C$  is of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one; otherwise it is of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank two.

(iii)  $G = \text{GL}(n)$  and  $C$  the cone of positive definite quadratic forms in  $n$  variables. The cone is of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank  $n$  (for the standard  $\mathbb{Q}$ -structure) and  $C_+$  is the set of positive semidefinite quadratic forms in  $n$  variables with rational nullspace. An arithmetic group in  $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$  is a group commensurable with  $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{Z})$ .

**2.4. Kernels, cores, cocores and polarization functions.** A closed convex subset  $K \subset \overline{C}$  is a *kernel* if  $0 \notin K$ ,  $C \subset \mathbb{R}_+K$ , and  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}K \subset K$ . (So  $K$  does not contain 0 and every ray in  $C$  is eventually in  $K$ .) (This is a slight departure from [1], where neither closure nor convexity is required of a kernel.) Two kernels  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are *comparable* if for some  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}_+$  we have  $\lambda_1K_1 \subset K_2 \subset \lambda_2K_1$ .

The closed convex hull of  $C \cap L$  is a kernel. Any kernel comparable with it is called a *core*. (For some other comparable kernels cf. p. 120 of [1].)

The closed convex hull of  $\overline{C} \cap L^\times$  is also a kernel. Any kernel comparable with it is called a *cocore*.

(Note that if  $\mathbb{Q}\text{-rank}(C) = 1$  there is no difference between cores and cocores since  $\overline{C} \cap L^\times = C \cap L$ .)



There is a duality on kernels which exchanges cores and cocores [1, p. 128]. For a set  $K \subset V$  define

$$K^\vee := \{x \in V : \langle x, y \rangle \geq 1 \text{ for all } y \in K\}.$$

If  $K$  is a kernel for  $C$  then so is  $K^\vee$ , and  $K^{\vee\vee} = K$ . If  $K$  is a core then  $K^\vee$  is a cocore.

A kernel  $K$  is  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral if

- (i)  $\gamma K = K$  for all  $\gamma \in \Lambda$
- (ii)  $K$  is *locally rationally polyhedral (l.r.p.)*, i.e. for any rational polyhedral cone  $\Pi$  with vertices in  $C_+$ ,  $\Pi \cap K$  is cut out of  $\Pi$  by a finite number of supporting hyperplanes of  $K$ .

The basic examples of such kernels are the closed convex hulls of  $C \cap L$  and  $\overline{C} \cap L^\times$  mentioned above (which are shown to be l.r.p. on p. 142 of [1]).

If  $K$  is a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral kernel then  $K^\vee$  is a  $\Lambda^t$ -polyhedral kernel (cf. p. 141 of [1]). (Here  $\Lambda^t = \{\gamma^t : \gamma \in \Lambda\}$ , an arithmetic group in  $G^t = G$ ).

A  $\Lambda$ -invariant polarization function on  $C_+$  is a continuous piecewise-linear function  $\phi : C_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  such that:

- (i)  $\phi$  is convex:  $\phi(x + y) \geq \phi(x) + \phi(y)$  for  $x, y \in C_+$
- (ii)  $\phi(x) > 0$  if  $x \neq 0$
- (iii)  $\phi$  takes integer values on  $C_+ \cap L$
- (iv)  $\phi$  is  $\Lambda$ -invariant

(The notion of convex in (i) is the opposite of the notion of convex used in §1 for the characteristic function  $\varphi$ ; (i) is the standard convention in the torus embedding game.) Such a function determines a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore  $P := \{x \in C_+ : \phi(x) \geq 1\}$ .

Conversely, given a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore  $P$ , there is a  $\Lambda$ -invariant polarization function  $\phi$  such that  $P = \{\phi \geq k\}$  for some large integer  $k$ . (Define  $\phi$  to be the unique convex piecewise-linear function which takes the value  $k$  on each face of the cocore and is linear on the cone over each face (cf. p. 310 of [1]). Properties (i), (ii) and (iv) are easy. To get (iii) note that the extreme points of  $P$  lie in  $\frac{1}{M}L$  for some integer  $M$  [1, p. 136]. The lattice generated by these points is of finite index in  $\frac{1}{M}L$ , so by choosing  $k$  suitably we may assume that  $\phi$  is integral on  $C_+ \cap \frac{1}{M}L$ . Then (iii) holds.) Note that the maximal cones on which  $\phi$  is linear are the cones over the faces of  $P$ .

(For a picture of a cocore  $P$  in the case of Example (i) of 1.4 with  $F = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$  see p. 52 of [1].)

**2.5. Facets and visibility.** Let  $P$  be a closed convex l.r.p. subset of  $V$  of dimension  $N$ . Recall that a *face* of  $P$  is a subset  $f \subset P$  such that every closed line segment whose relative interior meets  $f$  lies entirely in  $f$ . A point  $p \in P$  is an *extreme point* if  $\{p\}$  is a face. Let  $E(P)$  denote the set of extreme points. A *facet* of  $P$  is a face of dimension

$N - 1$  (facets exist since  $P$  is l.r.p.). For a facet  $F$  denote by  $\text{aff}(F)$  its affine hull; then  $\text{aff}(F) \cap P = F$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $P$  be an l.r.p. kernel. The unit inward normal to a facet belongs to  $\overline{C}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $v_F$  be the unit inward (i.e. pointing into  $P$ ) normal vector to the facet  $F$  of  $P$ . Suppose that  $v_F \notin \overline{C}$ . Let  $\xi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined by  $\xi(x) = \langle x, v_F \rangle$ . Then  $C - v_F^\perp$  has two connected components  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ , where  $\xi|_{C_1} < 0$  and  $\xi|_{C_2} > 0$ . Let  $w \in F$ . Then  $w + v_F^\perp = \text{aff}(F)$  is a supporting hyperplane of  $P$ , so  $\xi(x) \geq \xi(w)$  for  $x \in P$ . On the other hand,  $\xi|_{C_1}$  is unbounded below, so that there exists  $y \in C_1$  such that  $\xi(y) < \xi(w)$ . Since  $\xi(y) < 0$ , one has  $\xi(\lambda y) = \lambda \xi(y) \leq \xi(y) < \xi(w)$  for  $\lambda \geq 1$ . Thus  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}y \cap P = \emptyset$ . But  $P$  is a kernel, so any ray in  $C$  must eventually be contained in  $P$ . This is a contradiction, showing that  $v_F \in \overline{C}$ .  $\square$

For a facet  $F$  let  $\text{aff}(F)_+$  be the closed affine halfspace containing  $P$  and bounded by  $\text{aff}(F)$ . For  $x \in V - P$ , a facet  $F$  of  $P$  is *visible from  $x$*  if  $\text{aff}(F)$  separates  $x$  from the interior of  $P$ , equivalently if  $x \notin \text{aff}(F)_+$ . A facet is *relevant* if it is visible from 0. The set of relevant facets is  $\Lambda$ -invariant. (When the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank of  $C$  is one every facet is relevant, cf. Remark 2.7(i) below.)

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $P$  be a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore,  $F$  a facet of  $P$ , and  $v_F$  its unit inward normal. Then  $F$  is relevant if and only if  $v_F \in C$ .*

*Proof.* For any affine hyperplane  $H$  meeting  $C$ ,  $\overline{C} - H \cap \overline{C}$  has two components. If either normal to  $H$  is in  $C$  then exactly one component is bounded, the one containing 0. Suppose  $F$  is irrelevant. Then  $\overline{C} - \text{aff}(F)$  has two components, one of which contains 0 in its closure and also contains the interior of  $P$ . If  $v_F \in C$  then this component is bounded. But  $P$  is unbounded. So  $v_F \notin C$ .

By Remark 1 on p. 132 of [1], if  $y \in \overline{C} - C$  then  $\inf_{x \in \overline{C} \cap L^\times} \langle y, x \rangle = 0$ . Since  $P$  is a cocore, there exists  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $P \supset \lambda(\overline{C} \cap L^\times)$ , and so  $\inf_{x \in P} \langle y, x \rangle = 0$ . It follows that a facet  $F$  with  $v_F \in \overline{C} - C$  must actually lie in  $v_F^\perp$ . But then  $0 \in v_F^\perp = \text{aff}(F)$ , so  $F$  is irrelevant.  $\square$

(The lemma fails for cores if  $\mathbb{Q}\text{-rank}(C) \geq 2$ , as the example on p. 135 of [1] shows. Let  $V_{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{Q}^2$ ,  $C = \mathbb{R}_+^2$  and  $P$  the closed convex hull of  $\mathbb{Z}^2 \cap C = \mathbb{Z}_+^2$ . There are facets which are visible from 0 but have normal vector in  $\overline{C} - C$ .)

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $H_+$  be an affine halfspace in  $V$  with bounding hyperplane  $H$  such that  $H \cap C \neq \emptyset$ . Suppose that the inward normal vector  $v$  of  $H_+$  belongs to  $C$ . Then for any  $x \in C - H_+$  the set  $\{\gamma \in \Lambda : x \notin \gamma H_+\}$  is finite.*

*Proof.* If a sequence of points  $x_i$  in  $C$  tends to a limit in  $\overline{C} - C$  then the sequence of values  $\varphi(x_i)$  of the characteristic function tends to infinity (Prop. 3 on p. 60 of [1]). Therefore the function  $\varphi|_{C \cap H}$  extends continuously to  $\varphi : \overline{C} \cap H \rightarrow (0, \infty]$  by

setting  $\varphi(x) = \infty$  for  $x \in (\overline{C} - C) \cap H$ . Since  $v \in C$  and  $H$  is a translate of  $v^\perp$ ,  $\overline{C} \cap H$  is compact. So  $\varphi$  takes its minimum value at some point  $s \in C \cap H$ . Since  $\varphi$  is strictly convex, this point is unique. The orbit  $S = G_1(\mathbb{R})^0 \cdot s = \varphi^{-1}(\varphi(s))$  has tangent hyperplane  $H$  at  $s$ . For  $g \in G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ ,  $x \notin gH_+$  if and only if  $gs \in S$  is visible from  $x$ . The set of such  $gs$  is relatively compact by Lemma 1.2, and so the set of such  $g$  is relatively compact, i.e.  $\{g \in G_1(\mathbb{R})^0 : x \notin gH_+\}$  is relatively compact. Since  $\Lambda \subset G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$  is discrete, the intersection  $\Lambda \cap \{g : x \notin gH_+\}$  is finite.  $\square$

The following is a key fact:

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $P$  be a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore and  $x \in C - P$ . The number of facets of  $P$  visible from  $x$  is finite.*

*Proof.* First let us see that facets visible from  $x \in C$  are relevant, i.e. visible from 0. Let  $F$  be visible from  $x$ , i.e.  $x \notin \text{aff}(F)_+$ . If  $F$  is not visible from 0 we have  $0 \in \text{aff}(F)_+$ , in which case  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}x \cap \text{aff}(F)_+ = \emptyset$  and hence  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1}x \cap P = \emptyset$ . But  $P$  is a kernel, so that every ray in  $C$  must eventually be in  $P$ . So  $F$  is visible from 0 (and in fact from any point in the line segment  $[0, x]$ ).

Since  $P$  is a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore, it has finitely many relevant facets modulo the action of  $\Lambda$  (Prop. 8 on p. 137 of [1]). Choose representatives  $F_1, \dots, F_r$  for the  $\Lambda$ -orbits among these facets. For each  $i$ , the unit normal vector to  $F_i$  belongs to  $C$  by Lemma 2.2. By Lemma 2.3 the set  $\{\gamma \in \Lambda : x \notin \gamma \text{aff}(F_i)_+\}$  is finite, i.e. only finitely many  $\Lambda$ -translates of  $F_i$  are visible from  $x$ .  $\square$

2.6. Lemma 2.4 lets us enumerate the relevant facets of  $P$  in a nice way using the idea of line shellings from the theory of convex polytopes:

**Proposition 2.5.** *Let  $P$  be a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore. There is an enumeration  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  of the relevant facets of  $P$  such that for each  $k$ , the intersection of  $F_k$  with  $\cup_{j < k} F_j$  is the union of facets of  $F_k$  visible from a point in  $\text{aff}(F_k)$ .*

*Proof.* Choose a starting relevant facet  $F_1$  and a point  $x$  in its relative interior. The idea is to move towards 0 along the line segment  $(0, x]$  and enumerate the facets as they become visible. From points sufficiently close to  $x$  the only visible facet is  $F_1$ . A relevant facet  $F \neq F_1$ , is invisible from  $x$  but as one moves towards 0 along the line segment  $[x, 0]$  it becomes visible at the point  $x_F = [x, 0] \cap \text{aff}(F)$ . By the previous lemma, the set of points  $\{x_F\}_F$  is discrete in  $[x, 0)$  and accumulates at 0. Enumerate the facets in the order they become visible, i.e. the order in which one meets the various points  $x_F$ . There is ambiguity only if  $x_F = x_{F'}$  for distinct facets  $F$  and  $F'$ . By choosing  $x \in F_1$  carefully we can ensure that this does not happen, i.e. the points  $x_F \in [0, x]$  are all distinct as  $F$  runs over all facets of  $P$ . (Indeed, for each pair  $F, F'$  of facets, the set  $\{x \in F_1 : x_F = x_{F'}\}$  is the set of  $x$  for which  $[x, 0]$  meets  $\text{aff}(F) \cap \text{aff}(F')$ . This is the projection (centred at 0) to  $F_1$  of a set of dimension  $N - 2$ , hence is of dimension  $N - 2$ .

As the pair  $F, F'$  varies, this gives a countable family of  $N - 2$ -dimensional subsets of  $F_1$ , which has dimension  $N - 1$ . Take  $x$  outside the union of this family.) This gives an enumeration of the relevant facets. The intersection of  $F_k$  with  $\cup_{j < k} F_j$  consists of those facets of  $F_k$  visible in  $\text{aff}(F_k)$  from the point  $x_{F_k} = [0, x] \cap \text{aff}(F_k)$ .  $\square$

(Note that for each  $k$  the union  $\cup_{j \leq k} F_j$  is homeomorphic to a closed  $N - 1$ -ball:  $F_1$  is a closed ball, and to go from  $\cup_{j \leq k-1} F_j$  to  $\cup_{j \leq k} F_j$  one attaches a closed  $N - 1$  ball along a subset which is a closed  $N - 2$ -ball in the boundary.)

**2.7. Remarks.** (i) In the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one case, every facet of  $P$  is relevant. Indeed, in the proof of Lemma 2.2 it was shown that any irrelevant facet  $F$  is contained in  $\overline{C} - C$ . Since  $F$  is closed and convex and contains no line, it has at least one extreme point, which is then an extreme point of  $P$ . The extreme points of  $P$  are rational (Prop. 7 on p. 136 of [1]) and nonzero. But  $\overline{C} - C$  contains no nonzero rational points if the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank is one.

(ii) In the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one case,  $P^\vee$  is a  $\Lambda^t$ -polyhedral (co)core, so that there is an enumeration of its facets as in the proposition.

**2.8. Polyhedral cone decompositions.** A cocore can be used to construct certain decompositions of  $C_+$ . A  $\Lambda$ -admissible rational polyhedral decomposition (rpd) of  $C_+$  is a collection  $\Sigma$  of rational polyhedral cones in  $C_+$  satisfying

- (i) if  $\tau$  is a face of  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  then  $\tau \in \Sigma$
- (ii) if  $\sigma, \tau \in \Sigma$  then  $\sigma \cap \tau$  is a face of  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$
- (iii) if  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  and  $\gamma \in \Lambda$  then  $\gamma\sigma \in \Sigma$
- (iv) there are only finitely many cones in  $\Sigma$  modulo  $\Lambda$
- (v)  $C = \bigcup_{\sigma \in \Sigma} \sigma \cap C$ .

It is *simplicial* if each  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  is a simplicial cone, i.e. the cone on a simplex. It is *smooth* if

- (vi) each  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  is generated by a subset of a basis of  $L$

and *projective* if it admits a polarization function, i.e. if

- (vii) there is a  $\Lambda$ -invariant polarization function  $\phi$  such that maximal cones on which  $\phi$  is linear are precisely the top-dimensional cones of  $\Sigma$ .

Let us see how a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore gives a  $\Lambda$ -admissible rpd, following Ash. If  $F$  is relevant then  $v_F \in C$ , so that  $F = \text{aff}(F) \cap P$  is compact and convex, hence equal to the convex hull of its set  $E(F)$  of extreme points. Now  $E(F) \subset E(P)$ , while  $E(P) \subset \frac{1}{M}L$  for some  $M \in \mathbb{Z}$  (cf. [1, p. 136]), so  $E(P)$  is discrete. Then  $E(F)$  is finite,  $F$  is a convex polytope, and the cone over  $F$  is a closed polyhedral cone of dimension  $N$ . (In contrast the cone over an irrelevant facet has dimension  $< N$  and may not be polyhedral.) As  $F$  runs over the relevant facets of  $P$ , the resulting  $N$ -dimensional polyhedral cones, together with their faces and the cone  $\{0\}$ , give a  $\Lambda$ -admissible rpd of

$C_+$ , i.e. a collection  $\Sigma$  of cones satisfying (i)–(v) of 2.8 (cf. Prop. 8 on p. 137 of [1]). Since the  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore admits a polarization function, such a  $\Lambda$ -admissible rpd is necessarily projective, i.e. (vii) holds too.

The  $\Lambda$ -admissible rpd can be further refined so that (i)–(vii) hold. This is done using barycentric subdivision as follows. It is a consequence of the Siegel property for polyhedral cones (Corollary (i) on p. 116 of [1]) and the neatness of  $\Lambda$  that if  $\sigma \in \Sigma, \gamma \in \Lambda$  such that  $\sigma \cap \gamma\sigma \neq \emptyset$  then  $\gamma$  fixes  $\sigma$  pointwise. Fix a set  $\{\sigma_i\}$  of representatives for the cones of  $\Sigma$  modulo  $\Lambda$ . For each  $\sigma_i$  choose a ray  $\rho_i$  in its relative interior (the barycentre). By the previous observation  $\cup_i \Lambda\rho_i$  is a  $\Lambda$ -invariant set of barycentres for all cones in  $\Sigma$ . If the  $\rho_i$  are chosen (as they can be) so that every cone in the barycentric subdivision of  $\sigma_i$  with these barycentres is smooth, then the barycentric subdivision of  $\Sigma$  using the  $\Lambda$ -invariant family of barycentres is smooth. Conditions (i)–(v) are unaffected by this procedure and it is easy to see that there is a new polarization function  $\phi$  for which (vii) holds. In other words, one can find a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore  $P$  for which the associated  $\Lambda$ -admissible rpd  $\Sigma$  is smooth and projective. Prop. 2.5 gives an enumeration of the relevant facets of  $P$  and hence of the maximal-dimensional cones of  $\Sigma$ .

A collection of cones  $\Sigma$  satisfying (i)–(v) above is locally finite at points of  $C$ , i.e. each point of  $C$  belongs to finitely many cones. (If  $x \in C$  belongs to infinitely many cones then by (iv) there exist  $\gamma \neq e$  and  $\sigma$  with  $x \in \sigma \cap \gamma\sigma$ . By neatness,  $\gamma$  fixes  $\sigma$  pointwise, hence fixes  $x$ . But  $\Lambda$  acts freely on  $C$ .) It is not usually locally finite at points of  $C_+ - C$ .

### 3. TORUS EMBEDDING

In this section the cone  $C$  will always have  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one. We consider the homological properties of torus embeddings associated to the decompositions of the previous section.

**3.1. Torus embeddings.** Let us recall some elementary facts and fix some notation about torus embeddings and their topology (cf. e.g. [3]). For the moment  $T$  is a torus of dimension  $d$ ,  $\Sigma$  is a fan in  $X_*(T)_{\mathbb{R}} \cong \mathbb{R}^d$  which is locally finite (i.e. every  $x \in |\Sigma| - \{0\}$  belongs to finitely many cones of  $\sigma$ .) We will assume that  $|\Sigma|$  has nonempty interior. Assume that  $\Sigma$  is smooth, i.e. each cone in  $\Sigma$  has a set of generators which extends to a basis for  $X_*(T)$ . For  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  let  $\text{Star}(\sigma)$  be the union of the relative interiors of cones which intersect  $\sigma$ . Then  $\text{Star}(\sigma)$  is an open neighborhood of  $\sigma$  in  $|\Sigma|$ . Since  $\Sigma$  is simplicial, one has  $\text{Star}(\sigma) \cap \text{Star}(\tau) = \text{Star}(\sigma \cap \tau)$ . The collection  $\{\text{Star}(\sigma)\}_{\sigma \in \Sigma}$  is an open cover of  $|\Sigma|$ . The  $\text{Star}(\sigma)$  for  $\sigma$  of maximal dimension already cover  $|\Sigma|$ .

Let  $Y := T_{\Sigma}$  be the torus embedding of  $T$  with fan  $\Sigma$ . The  $T$ -orbits in  $Y$  correspond to cones  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . Let  $O_{\sigma}$  be the orbit corresponding to  $\sigma$  and let  $T_{\sigma}$  be the isotropy subgroup along this orbit. If  $\bar{T}_{\sigma}$  is the closure of  $T_{\sigma}$  in  $Y = T_{\Sigma}$  then  $(\bar{T}_{\sigma}, T_{\sigma}) \cong (\mathbb{C}^k, (\mathbb{C}^*)^k)$  for  $k = \dim \sigma$ . For  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  let  $Y(\sigma)$  be the interior of the union of  $T$ -orbits corresponding to cones in  $\text{Star}(\sigma)$ . This is an open neighborhood of  $O_{\sigma}$  in  $Y$  and the

collection  $\{Y(\sigma)\}_{\sigma \in \Sigma}$  is an open cover of  $Y$  with the property that  $Y(\sigma) \cap Y(\tau) = Y(\sigma \cap \tau)$ . The  $Y(\sigma)$  for  $\sigma$  maximal cover  $Y$ . For  $\sigma$  maximal, the orbit  $O_\sigma$  is a fixed point, and  $Y(\sigma)$  is the union of orbits which have  $O_\sigma$  in their closure. It is smooth and affine with a single  $T$ -fixed point and is contractible. The same is true of  $Y(\sigma) - T$ .

For  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , the closure  $\overline{O}_\sigma$  of the orbit is smooth and projective. Let  $\Sigma_\sigma$  be the subfan consisting of cones  $\tau$  with  $\tau \cap \sigma \neq \emptyset$  and all their faces. The torus embedding  $Y_\sigma := T_{\Sigma_\sigma}$  is identified with an open neighborhood of  $\overline{O}_\sigma$  in  $Y = T_\Sigma$ . Choose  $\mu : \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T$  in the relative interior of  $\sigma$  and consider  $r(y) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mu(t) y$ . Then  $Y_\sigma = \{y \in Y : r(y) \in \overline{O}_\sigma\}$  and the morphism  $r : Y_\sigma \rightarrow \overline{O}_\sigma$  is an affine fibration of relative dimension  $\dim \sigma$ . In particular, it is a homology isomorphism. For any  $T$ -stable subvariety  $Z \subset \overline{O}_\sigma$ , the restrictions  $r : r^{-1}(Z) \rightarrow Z$  and  $r : r^{-1}(Z) - T \rightarrow Z$  are both homology isomorphisms.

(When  $\sigma$  is of maximal dimension,  $\Sigma_\sigma$  is the fan consisting of faces of  $\sigma$  and  $Y_\sigma = Y(\sigma)$ .)

**3.2. Torus embedding using a polyhedral cone decomposition.** Now suppose we are in the following situation:  $C \subset V$  is a self-adjoint homogeneous cone of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one in a vector space  $V$  with an integral lattice  $L$ . The quotient  $T := V_C/L$  is a torus of dimension  $N$  with  $X_*(T) = L$ . Let  $\phi : C \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be a  $\Lambda$ -invariant polarization function,  $P = \{\phi \geq 1\}$  the associated  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore, and  $\Sigma$  the fan consisting of cones on the facets of  $P$  and their faces; we assume (cf. 2.8) that  $\phi$  is such that  $\Sigma$  is smooth.

Let

$$Y := \text{torus embedding of } T \text{ using the fan } \Sigma \text{ in } X_*(T)_\mathbb{R} = V$$

$$D := Y - T$$

These schemes are separated and locally of finite type (by the local finiteness of  $\Sigma$  at points of  $C$  mentioned at the end of 2.8). The scheme  $Y$  is smooth while  $D$  has normal crossings and each irreducible component is a smooth projective toric variety. There is an action of the arithmetic group  $\Lambda$  on each. Since  $\Lambda$  is assumed neat it acts freely on  $D$  (Indeed, there are  $\Lambda$ -equivariant homeomorphisms  $D/T_c \cong P/\mathbb{R}_{\geq 1} \cong C/\mathbb{R}_+$  and the action on  $C/\mathbb{R}_+$  is free since it is the symmetric space of  $G_1(\mathbb{R})^0$ .) The quotient  $\Lambda \backslash D$  is projective (an ample line bundle on  $\Lambda \backslash D$  can be constructed from the polarization function in the usual way [3, Ch. 3]). The action on  $Y$  is not free (every element of  $\Lambda$  fixes the identity of  $T$ ).

The enumeration  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  of the relevant facets of  $P$  in Prop. 2.5 defines filtrations of  $D$  and  $Y$  by subvarieties of finite type. Let  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots$  be the enumeration of top-dimensional cones (i.e.  $\sigma_k$  is the cone on  $F_k$ ). For  $k \geq 1$  let

$$\Sigma_k = \text{fan consisting of cones } \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_k \text{ and their faces}$$

$$Y_k = T_{\Sigma_k} \text{ the torus embedding associated to } \Sigma_k$$

$$D_k = Y_k - T.$$

The variety  $Y_k$  is smooth and of finite type and is identified with an open complex submanifold of  $Y$ . This defines a filtration  $Y_1 \subset Y_2 \subset \dots$  of  $Y$  by open subsets with  $Y = \bigcup_k Y_k$ . The divisor  $D_k \subset Y_k$  has normal crossing and smooth irreducible components. Each  $D_k$  is open in  $D$  and  $D = \bigcup_k D_k$ . Denote the closure of  $D_k$  in  $D$  by  $\overline{D}_k$ ; this is a divisor with normal crossings in  $Y_r$  for  $r$  large. The morphisms  $\overline{D}_k \hookrightarrow \overline{D}_{k+1}$  are closed immersions and  $D = \bigcup_k \overline{D}_k$ . Each  $\overline{D}_k$  is projective (indeed, it admits a finite morphism to the projective variety  $\Lambda \setminus D$  which is surjective for  $k$  large enough). This gives  $D$  the structure of an ind-variety.

**Theorem 3.1.** *The inclusion  $D \hookrightarrow Y$  is a homology isomorphism.*

*Proof.* We show by induction on  $k$  that for each  $k$  the inclusion  $D_k \hookrightarrow Y_k$  is a homology isomorphism. Since  $H_*(D) = \varinjlim H_*(D_k)$  and  $H_*(Y) = \varinjlim H_*(Y_k)$ , this will imply the theorem. For  $k = 1$ , the variety  $Y_1$  is an affine toric variety with a single fixed point, hence is contractible. The same is true of  $D_1$ . Assume that  $D_{k-1} \subset Y_{k-1}$  is known to be a homology isomorphism.

For simplicity write  $\sigma$  for  $\sigma_k$  and  $F$  for  $F_k$ , the corresponding facet of  $P$ . By the way in which facets were enumerated, the intersection  $F \cap |\Sigma_{k-1}|$  is the union of facets of  $F$  visible from a point in  $\text{aff}(F)$ . Let  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  be these facets of  $F$ . Since  $F$  is a simplex, the intersection  $f_0 = f_1 \cap \dots \cap f_r$  is a face of  $F$  of dimension  $\dim F - r$ , and, moreover,  $f_1, \dots, f_r$  are exactly the facets of  $F$  containing  $f_0$ . Let  $\tau_0 \in \Sigma$  be the cone on  $f_0$ .

Consider the Mayer-Vietoris sequences associated to the coverings  $Y_k = Y_{k-1} \cup Y_k(\sigma)$  and  $D_k = D_{k-1} \cup D_k(\sigma)$  (where  $Y_k(\sigma)$  is defined as in 3.1 and  $D_k(\sigma) = Y_k(\sigma) \cap D = Y_k(\sigma) - T$ ):

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \longrightarrow & H_i(D_{k-1} \cap D_k(\sigma)) & \longrightarrow & H_i(D_{k-1} \sqcup D_k(\sigma)) & \longrightarrow & H_i(D_k) & \longrightarrow \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ \longrightarrow & H_i(Y_{k-1} \cap Y_k(\sigma)) & \longrightarrow & H_i(Y_{k-1} \sqcup Y_k(\sigma)) & \longrightarrow & H_i(Y_k) & \longrightarrow \end{array}$$

Since  $\sigma$  has maximal dimension,  $Y_k(\sigma)$  and  $D_k(\sigma)$  are both contractible (a retraction to the fixed point  $O_\sigma$  being given by any  $\mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T$  in the relative interior of  $\sigma$ ). To complete the inductive step, it suffices to show that  $D_k(\sigma) \cap D_{k-1} \hookrightarrow Y_k(\sigma) \cap Y_{k-1}$  is a homology isomorphism. Let  $Z$  be the union of  $T$ -orbits corresponding to cones on faces  $f$  of  $F$  such that  $f \supset f_0$  and  $f \subset f_i$  for some  $i \geq 1$ . This is a subset of  $\overline{O}_{\tau_0}$ . Choose  $\mu : \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T$  lying in the relative interior of  $\tau_0$  and consider the retraction  $r : Y_{\tau_0} \rightarrow \overline{O}_{\tau_0}$ . Then  $r^{-1}(Z) = Y_k(\sigma) \cap Y_{k-1}$  while  $r^{-1}(Z) - T = D_k(\sigma) \cap D_{k-1}$ , so that  $r$  gives a retraction of each onto  $Z$  which is a homology isomorphism. This completes the inductive step.  $\square$

**3.3. Weights and purity.** From now until 3.6 all (co)homology groups and Chow groups have rational coefficients. The rational cohomology of an algebraic variety  $X$  carries an increasing weight filtration  $\dots \subset W_j H^i(X) \subset W_{j+1} H^i(X) \subset \dots$  with  $\text{Gr}_j H^i(X) \neq$

$0 \Rightarrow j \in [0, 2i]$  (cf. [2]). The weight filtration on the rational homology  $H_i(X) = H^i(X)^*$  is the increasing filtration defined by  $W_k H_i(X) = (H^i(X)/W_{-1-k} H^i(X))^*$ ; then  $\text{Gr}_j H_i(X) \neq 0 \Rightarrow j \in [-2i, 0]$ . If  $X$  is proper then  $\text{Gr}_j H_i(X) \neq 0$  only for  $j \geq -i$ ; if  $X$  is smooth then  $\text{Gr}_j H_i(X) \neq 0$  only for  $j \leq -i$ . The weight filtration is strictly compatible with the homomorphisms induced by morphisms of varieties, so that one has weight filtrations on  $H_*(Y)$  and  $H_*(D)$  from the previous subsection.

**Corollary 3.2.** *The homology of  $D$  is pure, i.e.  $H_i(D)$  is pure of weight  $-i$  for each  $i$  (and is entirely of Tate type).*

*Proof.* Since each  $Y_k$  is smooth,  $H_i(Y_k)$  has weights  $\leq -i$ , so  $H_i(Y) = \varinjlim_k H_i(Y_k)$  has weights  $\leq -i$ . Since each  $\overline{D}_k$  is proper,  $H_i(\overline{D}_k)$  has weights  $\geq -i$ , so  $H_i(D) = \varinjlim_k H_i(\overline{D}_k)$  has weights  $\geq -i$ . The isomorphism  $H_i(Y) \cong H_i(D)$  respects weights, so this group must be pure of weight  $-i$ . (That  $H_i(D)$  is purely Tate can be seen as follows: Since  $D$  has normal crossings, the map  $H_i(D^{[1]}) \rightarrow W_{-i} H_i(D) = H_i(D)$  is surjective, where  $D^{[1]} \rightarrow D$  is the normalization (cf. [2, 8.2.5]). Since each component of  $D^{[1]}$  is a smooth projective toric variety,  $H_*(D^{[1]})$  is entirely Tate.)  $\square$

(A slight refinement of this corollary is true, cf. 3.9 below.)

The theory of weights is not elementary, so it useful to remark that in our context weights have a nice concrete (and elementary) interpretation using natural endomorphisms of toric varieties which lift the various Frobenii, an idea of Totaro [7]. (In the setting of locally symmetric varieties these are the local Hecke operators of [6], cf. 4.1). I briefly sketch his argument to show how it applies here. For each positive integer  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , the  $n$ th power map  $z \mapsto z^n$  on the torus  $T$  extends to a finite endomorphism of  $Y$  and  $D$  preserving each of  $Y_k, D_k, \overline{D}_k$  and each irreducible component of each  $D_k$ . Their homology groups become representations of the monoid  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ . Let  $X$  be either  $Y_k$  or  $\overline{D}_k$ . It has a filtration by closed subsets defined by:  $X_i =$  union of torus orbits of codimension  $\geq i$ . The corresponding  $E^1$  spectral sequence converging to  $H_*^{BM}(X)$  is natural with respect to the  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ -action and  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  acts on  $E_{p,q}^1$  by multiplication by  $n^p$ . The spectral sequence degenerates at  $E^1$ , the limit filtration is the weight filtration on  $H_*^{BM}(X)$ , and the action of  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  on  $\text{Gr}_j H_*^{BM}(X)$  is by  $n^j$  (cf. [7, §§5,6]). Now any extension of  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ -representations over  $\mathbb{Q}$  of different weights (in the sense that  $n$  acts by different powers of  $n$ ) has a unique splitting. So the actions of  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  on  $H_i(Y_k) = H_{2 \dim Y_k - i}^{BM}(Y_k)^*$  ( $Y_k$  is smooth) and  $H_*(\overline{D}_k) = H_*^{BM}(\overline{D}_k)$  ( $\overline{D}_k$  is proper) are semisimple and split the weight filtration. The same then holds for  $H_*(Y) = \varinjlim H_*(Y_k)$  and  $H_*(D) = \varinjlim H_*(\overline{D}_k)$ . So in fact we could define weights for all our cohomology groups using this action.

Let  $D^{[k]}$  be the disjoint union of all  $k$ -fold intersections of irreducible components of  $D$ . There is a spectral sequence with

$$E_{p,q}^1 = H_q(D^{[p+1]}) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}(D).$$



Each  $D^{[k]}$  is smooth with projective connected components, so  $E_{p,q}^1$  is pure of weight  $-q$ . The spectral sequence degenerates at  $E^2$  and (by definition [2]) the  $E_2 = E_\infty$  term is  $E_{p,q}^2 = E_{p,q}^\infty = \text{Gr}_{-q}^W H_{p+q}(D)$ . By purity  $E_{p,q}^2 = 0$  for  $p > 0$ , i.e. the rows of the spectral sequence are exact except at the last place. This implies the first part of:

**Corollary 3.3.** *For each  $q$  the sequence of  $\Lambda$ -modules*

$$0 \rightarrow H_q(D^{[N]}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow H_q(D^{[2]}) \rightarrow H_q(D^{[1]}) \rightarrow H_q(D) \rightarrow 0$$

*is a resolution of  $H_q(D)$  by finitely generated free  $\mathbb{Q}[\Lambda]$ -modules.*

*Proof.* We have already seen that the sequence is exact. The connected components of  $D^{[k]}$  are parametrized by cones of dimension  $k$  in  $\Sigma$ . Let  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r$  be representatives for the  $k$ -dimensional cones of  $\Sigma$  modulo  $\Lambda$  and  $D_1, \dots, D_r$  the corresponding components of  $D^{[k]}$ ; each  $D_i$  is a smooth projective toric variety and hence has finite-dimensional homology. Then  $\Lambda[\oplus_i H_q(D_{\sigma_i})] = H_q(D^{[k]})$ , so that  $H_q(D^{[k]})$  is generated over  $\mathbb{Q}[\Lambda]$  by a basis for  $\oplus_i H_q(D_{\sigma_i})$ . The freeness of the  $\Lambda$ -action follows from the fact that if  $\gamma\sigma_i \cap \sigma_i \neq \emptyset$  then  $\gamma = e$  because  $\Lambda$  is neat.  $\square$

**3.4. Homology of  $\Lambda \backslash D$ .** For a space  $X$  with a  $\Lambda$ -action the  $\Lambda$ -equivariant homology is defined to be

$$H_*^\Lambda(X) = H_*(X \times_\Lambda E\Lambda)$$

where  $E\Lambda$  is any contractible space with a free  $\Lambda$ -action (in particular, one could take  $E\Lambda = C$  or  $E\Lambda = V + iC$ ). The Leray spectral sequence for the fibration  $X \times_\Lambda E\Lambda \rightarrow B\Lambda$  has

$$E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(\Lambda, H_q(X)) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}^\Lambda(X).$$

In the situation at hand, the  $\Lambda$ -invariance of  $\Sigma$  gives an action of  $\Lambda$  on the torus embedding  $Y$ , preserving  $D$ . Since  $D \hookrightarrow Y$  is  $\Lambda$ -equivariant, the homology isomorphism  $H_*(D) \cong H_*(Y)$  of Theorem 3.1 is one of  $\Lambda$ -modules. By the spectral sequence the induced map  $H_*^\Lambda(D) \rightarrow H_*^\Lambda(Y)$  is also an isomorphism. The differentials in the spectral sequence are natural, in particular they respect weights. By purity, the spectral sequence degenerates at  $E^2$ . Since  $\Lambda$  acts freely on  $D$ ,  $H_*^\Lambda(D) = H_*(\Lambda \backslash D)$ , giving a natural isomorphism  $H_*(\Lambda \backslash D) = H_*^\Lambda(Y)$ . We arrive at:

**Corollary 3.4.** *There is a natural isomorphism  $H_*(\Lambda \backslash D) = H_*^\Lambda(Y)$ . The spectral sequence  $E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(\Lambda, H_q(D)) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}^\Lambda(D)$  degenerates at  $E^2$ . The limit filtration (suitably shifted) is the weight filtration on  $H_i(\Lambda \backslash D) = H_i^\Lambda(D)$ , so that  $\text{Gr}_{-j}^W H_i(\Lambda \backslash D) = H_{i-j}(\Lambda, H_j(D)) = H_{i-j}(\Lambda, H_j(Y))$ .*

**3.5. Remarks.** (i) The analogous results for singular cohomology follow from these results for singular homology since  $H^*(Y) = \varprojlim_k H^*(Y_k)$ . (Our main reason for working in homology rather than cohomology is that it is a little simpler to work with direct limits.)

(ii) The results, suitably rephrased, hold in  $\ell$ -adic cohomology. For a discrete group  $\Lambda$  acting on a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  the  $\Lambda$ -equivariant  $\ell$ -adic cohomology is defined to be

$$\mathrm{RHom}_{\mathbb{Q}_\ell[\Lambda]}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell, \mathrm{R}\Gamma(X_{\bar{k}}, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)).$$

If the action is free, so that  $\Lambda \backslash X$  exists as a  $k$ -scheme, then this is presumably the cohomology  $H^*((\Lambda \backslash X)_{\bar{k}}, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)$  of the quotient. (In our situation, i.e.  $X = D$  and  $k = \mathbb{Q}$  this can be deduced from the corresponding statement in singular cohomology using the comparison theorem.) With these definitions, the analogues of the results above in  $\mathbb{Q}_\ell$ -cohomology hold (and follow from the results for singular cohomology by comparison theorems).

(iii) The results so far also hold if the fan  $\Sigma$  is simplicial, provided we work everywhere with rational coefficients.

**3.6. Torus-equivariant homology.** Another consequence of purity is that the torus action on  $D$  is equivariantly formal (cf. [4]). By considerations of weights the spectral sequence for the fibration  $D \times_T ET \rightarrow BT$  with

$$E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(D) \otimes H_q(BT) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}^T(D)$$

degenerates at  $E^2$  to give  $H_*^T(D) \cong H_*(D) \otimes H_*(BT)$  (noncanonically). The same holds with  $D$  replaced by  $Y$ , showing, in particular, that  $H_*^T(D) \cong H_*^T(Y)$ . The cohomology of the classifying space  $H^*(BT) \cong \mathrm{Sym} H^2(BT) \cong \mathrm{Sym} X^*(T)$  acts on  $H_*^T(D)$  by cap product, and  $H_*(D)$  can be recovered from  $H_*^T(D)$  with its  $H^*(BT)$ -module structure. Since  $T$  is a torus, there is a localization of the equivariant cohomology to the  $T$ -fixed points, and a recipe for computing  $H_*^T(D)$  in terms of the fixed points and the 1-dimensional torus orbits (the Chang-Skjelbred lemma [4]). All this is natural with respect to  $\Lambda$ , so that we have, in principle, a description of  $H_*(D)$  as a  $\Lambda$ -module, and hence (by Corollary 3.4) a description of (the associated graded of)  $H_*(D_\Lambda)$ .

**3.7. A refinement of purity.** Corollary 3.2 can be improved using the enumeration of the facets of the dual core  $P^\vee$  mentioned in 2.7(ii). The result, Theorem 3.5 below, will not be used later. We first recall the description of the homology of a smooth projective toric variety using a  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action (à la Bialynicki-Birula). From now until 3.9 Chow groups and homology groups have integer coefficients.

**3.8.** Let  $T$  be a torus and let  $F$  be a convex polytope in  $X_*(T)_\mathbb{R}$  with nonempty interior containing zero. Let  $\Sigma_F$  be the fan consisting of cones on its facets and their faces, and let  $X$  be the torus embedding of  $T$  using  $\Sigma_F$ . Assume that  $X$  is smooth. Choose  $\mu : \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T$  which lies in the relative interior of a top-dimensional cone of  $\Sigma_F$ . Then the set  $X^{\mu(\mathbb{G}_m)} = X^T$  of fixed points is finite, in bijection with the top-dimensional cones of  $\Sigma_F$  or, equivalently, with the facets of  $F$ . Let us assume that the fixed points have been enumerated  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  according to visibility of the corresponding facets along the ray through  $\mu$ . For each fixed point  $x_i \in X^{\mu(\mathbb{G}_m)}$  define  $X_i := \{x \in X : \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \mu(t)x =$

$x_i\}$ . Each  $X_i$  is an affine space and  $X_{\leq k} := \sqcup_{i \leq k} X_i$  is closed in  $X$  for each  $k$ . Let  $A_i(-)$  denote the Chow group of dimension  $i$  algebraic cycles on a variety modulo rational equivalence; there is a cycle class map  $A_i(-) \rightarrow H_{2i}^{BM}(-)$  to Borel-Moore homology (i.e. homology with locally finite supports). Let us show by induction that  $A_*(X_{\leq k}) \cong H_*^{BM}(X_{\leq k})$  for all  $k$ , the case  $k = 1$  being trivial. Consider the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_i(X_{\leq k-1}) & \longrightarrow & A_i(X_{\leq k}) & \longrightarrow & A_i(X_k) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}^{BM}(X_{\leq k-1}) & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}^{BM}(X_{\leq k}) & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}^{BM}(X_k) \longrightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

The top row is the usual exact sequence of Chow groups for a closed subscheme and its complement. The bottom row is part of the long exact sequence for Borel-Moore homology; it is short exact since  $H_i^{BM}(X_k)$  vanishes in odd degrees. The first and third vertical maps are isomorphisms (by the induction hypothesis and since  $A_*(X_k) \cong H_*^{BM}(X_k)$  respectively). So  $A_*(X_{\leq k}) \cong H_*^{BM}(X_{\leq k})$  for all  $k$ , and hence  $A_*(X) \cong H_*(X)$  since  $X$  is proper.

3.9. Suppose now that we are in the situation of §§1, 2 and that  $C$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one. Let  $T_c \subset T(\mathbb{C})$  be the compact torus. The quotient  $Y/T_c$  is naturally identified with  $P^\vee$ ; denote the quotient map by  $q : Y \rightarrow P^\vee$ . Let  $F'_1, F'_2, \dots$  be the enumeration of the facets of  $P^\vee$  given by visibility along a line segment  $(0, x)$  for  $x \in F'_1$  (cf. Remark 2.7(ii)). For each  $k$ , let  $Z_k = \cup_{j \leq k} q^{-1}(F'_j)$ . Then  $Z_1 \subset Z_2 \subset \dots$  is a filtration of  $D$  by closed subsets and  $D = \cup_k Z_k$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** *The homology of  $D$  is concentrated in even degrees, is torsion-free, and is spanned by classes of algebraic cycles.*

*Proof.* It is enough, since  $H_i(D) = \varinjlim H_i(Z_k)$ , to prove the corresponding statements for each  $Z_k$ . We will do this by induction. For  $k = 1$ ,  $Z_1$  is a smooth projective toric variety, so that the cycle class map  $A_*(Z_1) \rightarrow H_*(Z_1)$  is an isomorphism (by 3.8). The induction hypothesis is that  $A_*(Z_{k-1}) \cong H_*(Z_{k-1})$ . Suppose we knew that

$$(*) \quad A_*(Z_k - Z_{k-1}) \cong H_*^{BM}(Z_k - Z_{k-1}).$$

Then there is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_i(Z_{k-1}) & \longrightarrow & A_i(Z_k) & \longrightarrow & A_i(Z_k - Z_{k-1}) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}(Z_{k-1}) & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}(Z_k) & \longrightarrow & H_{2i}^{BM}(Z_k - Z_{k-1}) \longrightarrow 0. \end{array}$$

The first row is the usual exact sequence of Chow groups. The second row (part of the long exact sequence in Borel-Moore homology) is short-exact by the induction hypothesis and (\*). The first and third vertical maps are isomorphisms, so the second one is too, showing that  $A_*(Z_k) \cong H_*(Z_k)$ .

The argument to prove (\*) uses a suitable  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action as in 3.8. To simplify notation let  $Z' := Z_k - Z_{k-1}$  and let  $F' := F'_k$ . Let  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  be the ray through the vertex of  $P$  dual to  $F'$ . The variety  $Z'$  is open and dense in the smooth projective torus embedding  $X$  of the torus  $T' = T/T_\sigma$  associated to the convex polytope  $(F')^\vee$ . Let  $q : X \rightarrow F'$  be the quotient by  $T'_c$ . Then  $X - Z'$  is the preimage under  $q$  of those facets of  $F'$  visible from some point  $x \in X_*(T')_{\mathbb{R}}$ , which may be assumed to be rational. Let  $\mu \in X_*(T')$  be a generator of the ray through  $x$ ; consider the  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action via  $\mu : \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow T'$ . It gives a filtration of  $X$  by closed subsets  $X_{\leq 1} \subset X_{\leq 2} \subset \dots$  as in 3.8, with each  $X_k = X_{\leq k} - X_{\leq k-1}$  an affine space. Since  $X - Z'$  is closed and  $\mu(\mathbb{G}_m)$ -stable, we have  $X - Z' = \bigsqcup_{x_i \in X - Z'} X_i$  and hence  $Z' = \bigsqcup_{x_i \in Z'} X_i$ . Then  $Z'_{\leq k} := Z' \cap X_{\leq k}$  defines a filtration of  $Z'$  by closed subsets such that  $Z'_{\leq k} - Z'_{\leq k-1}$  is either empty or an affine space. By the same argument as in 3.8 above, an induction gives  $A_*(Z') \cong H_*^{BM}(Z')$ .  $\square$

**3.10. Remarks on the higher-rank situation.** We indicate how (some of) the results of this section extend to the situation when  $C$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank  $\geq 2$ . No assumption was made in §2, so the results of that section are general. Thus if  $P$  is a  $\Lambda$ -polyhedral cocore in  $C_+$  and  $\Sigma$  the associated rpd. The arguments of §2 give an enumeration of the facets of the top-dimensional cones in  $\Sigma$ . As in 3.2 we consider the torus embedding  $Y$  along  $\Sigma$ , and  $D = Y - T$ . These are no longer locally of finite type, but the schemes  $Y_k, D_k$  are of finite type and the proof of Theorem 3.1 goes through without change, so that  $H_*(Y) = H_*(D)$ . The statements involving weights also remain valid if we *define* weights using the action of  $\mathbb{Z}_+$  mentioned after Cor. 3.2, and the same proofs work.

The spectral sequence computing  $H_*^\Lambda(Y)$  or  $H_*^\Lambda(D)$  degenerates as before (using weights), but this no longer converges to  $H_*(\Lambda \setminus D)$  as the action of  $\Lambda$  is not free. So the remaining results have to be suitably reformulated.

#### 4. ARITHMETIC VARIETIES OF $\mathbb{Q}$ -RANK ONE

In this section we apply the previous results to arithmetic varieties. The notation here differs from that of previous sections. Let  $G$  be an algebraic group over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that the symmetric space  $D$  of  $G(\mathbb{R})^0$  is Hermitian. Let  $\Gamma \subset G(\mathbb{Q})$  be a neat arithmetic subgroup and  $M := \Gamma \setminus D$  the associated *arithmetic variety*. Assume that  $G$  has  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one, so that  $M$  is noncompact. As a notational convention, for subgroups  $J \triangleleft H \subset G$ , let  $\Gamma_H := \Gamma \cap H(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\Gamma_{H/J} := \Gamma_H / \Gamma_J \subset H/J$ .

**4.1. Minimal compactification.** The compact dual symmetric space  $D^\vee$  is a flag variety of  $G(\mathbb{C})$  with a  $G(\mathbb{R})^0$ -equivariant holomorphic embedding  $D \hookrightarrow D^\vee$ . The *boundary components* of  $D$  are the maximal connected analytic submanifolds of the closure of  $D$  in  $D^\vee$ . The stabilizer of a boundary component is a parabolic subgroup whose projection to each simple factor of  $G_{\mathbb{R}}$  is a maximal  $\mathbb{R}$ -parabolic subgroup. The boundary

component is *rational* if the stabilizer is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rational, in which case it is a maximal  $\mathbb{Q}$ -parabolic subgroup. The union of rational boundary components  $D^*$  is  $G(\mathbb{Q})$ -invariant and carries a natural topology, the Satake topology, for which the  $G(\mathbb{Q})$ -action is continuous. The quotient  $M^* = \Gamma \backslash D^*$  is compact Hausdorff and contains  $M$  as an open dense subset. The decomposition of  $D^*$  into rational boundary components descends to a stratification of  $M^*$  by complex manifolds, each an arithmetic variety of smaller dimension. There is a unique structure of a normal analytic space on  $M^*$  restricting to the given complex structure on each stratum. Moreover, according to Baily and Borel,  $M^*$  is a normal projective variety. Since the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank of  $M$  is one and  $\Gamma$  is neat, the boundary  $M^* - M$  is smooth.

**4.2. Stabilizer of a boundary component.** The stabilizer  $P_F$  of a rational boundary component  $F$  has the following structure (cf. [1, III.4.1–III.4.2]). Its unipotent radical  $W$  is two-step unipotent: its centre  $U$  is abelian and the quotient  $V := W/U$  is abelian. The quotient  $P/W$  splits as an almost-direct product  $P/W = M_\ell \cdot M_h$ . (The groups  $M_h$  and  $M_\ell$  are denoted  $G_{h,F}$  and  $G_{\ell,F}$  in [1].) The symmetric space of  $M_h(\mathbb{R})^0$  is the rational boundary component  $F$ . The adjoint action of  $M_\ell(\mathbb{R})^0$  on  $\mathfrak{u} := \text{Lie } U(\mathbb{R})$  has an open orbit  $C \subset \mathfrak{u}$  and the stabilizer of a point is maximal compact. Thus  $C$  is a self-adjoint homogeneous cone, of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one since  $G$  is of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -rank one and  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$  is an arithmetic group of its automorphisms (as in §§1,2).

**4.3. Relative torus embedding.** Fix a rational boundary component (r.b.c.)  $F$ . Consider the open domain  $D(F) := U(\mathbb{C}) \cdot D$  in  $D^\vee$ , on which  $P(\mathbb{R})U(\mathbb{C})$  acts. Let  $T = \Gamma_U \backslash U(\mathbb{C})$ , a torus of rank  $\dim U$ , and write  $M_h W \subset P$  for the preimage of  $M_h$  by  $P \rightarrow P/W$ . Let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{T} &:= \Gamma_{M_h W} \backslash D(F) \\ \mathcal{A} &:= \Gamma_{M_h W} U(\mathbb{C}) \backslash D(F) \\ \mathcal{S} &:= \Gamma_{M_h} W(\mathbb{R}) U(\mathbb{C}) \backslash D(F) = \Gamma_{M_h} \backslash F \end{aligned}$$

Each is a smooth algebraic variety with a  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -action, the action on  $\mathcal{S}$  being trivial. There are  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -equivariant morphisms

$$\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}.$$

Here  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a torsor for  $T = \Gamma_U \backslash U(\mathbb{C})$  and  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  is an abelian scheme with fibres  $\mathbb{R}$ -isomorphic to  $\Gamma_V \backslash V(\mathbb{R})$ .

Let  $\Sigma_F$  be a  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -admissible rpd of  $C$  which is smooth and projective (as in 2.8). Performing a torus-torsor embedding along the fibres of  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  using  $\Sigma_F$  gives a scheme  $\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  which is locally of finite type over  $\mathcal{A}$ . Let  $\mathcal{D} := \mathcal{Y} - \mathcal{T}$ . For  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ , write  $\mathcal{T}_s$  for the fibre of  $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_s := \mathcal{T}_s \cap \mathcal{D}$ . Applying Theorem 3.1 fibrewise one concludes that  $\mathcal{D}_s \hookrightarrow \mathcal{Y}_s$  is a homology isomorphism. The action of  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$  on  $\mathcal{D}$  is free, and preserves the fibres of  $\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ . One gets a natural isomorphism  $H_*(\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{D}_s) = H_*^{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}(\mathcal{Y}_s)$  for

each  $s$ . The spectral sequence  $E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, H_q(\mathcal{Y}_s)) \Rightarrow H_*(\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{D}_s)$  degenerates at  $E^2$  for weight reasons and the statements of 3.4 carry over.

**4.4. Toroidal compactifications.** Fix a  $\Gamma$ -admissible rational polyhedral cone decomposition  $\Sigma$ . Recall what this means: For each r.b.c.  $F$  one has a  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -admissible rpd (as in 2.8)  $\Sigma_F$  of the cone  $C$  and the whole collection  $\Sigma = \sqcup_F \Sigma_F$  is required to be  $\Gamma$ -invariant. Given  $\Sigma$ , the theory of [1] constructs a *toroidal compactification*  $M^\Sigma$ . If each  $\Sigma_F$  is smooth and projective (as in 2.8) then  $M^\Sigma$  is a smooth projective variety containing  $M$  as a Zariski-dense open subvariety, and there is a projective morphism  $\pi : M^\Sigma \rightarrow M^*$  such that  $\pi^{-1}(M^* - M)$  is a divisor with simple normal crossings (cf. p. 312 of [1]).

The situation of 4.3 is a local model for the toroidal compactification along the preimage of the stratum  $S$ : Fix a stratum  $S$  of  $M^*$  and let  $F \subset D^*$  be an r.b.c. covering  $S$ . Let  $P, M_\ell, M_h$  etc. be the associated groups and  $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{Y}$  etc. the associated schemes. There exist:

- (i) a  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -equivariant morphism  $\mathcal{Y} \rightarrow M^\Sigma$  (where  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$  acts trivially on  $M^\Sigma$ );
- (ii) a neighbourhood  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\mathcal{D}$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$  (in the classical topology) on which  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$  acts freely

such that the induced map  $\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{U} \rightarrow M^\Sigma$  is a biholomorphism onto an analytic neighbourhood of  $\pi^{-1}(S)$  and restricts to a natural isomorphism

$$\pi^{-1}(S) = \Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{D}$$

of complex spaces over  $S$ . Algebraically speaking, the geometric quotient of the ind-scheme  $\mathcal{D}$  by the action of the discrete group  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$  exists and is naturally identified with  $\pi^{-1}(S)$  (as a scheme over  $S$ ); the formal completion  $\mathcal{Y}_{\mathcal{D}}$  of  $\mathcal{Y}$  along  $\mathcal{D}$  has a free action of the discrete group  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ , and the geometric quotient is isomorphic to the formal completion  $(M^\Sigma)_{\pi^{-1}(S)}$  as a scheme over  $S$ . The ‘‘quotient’’  $\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{Y}$  (which does not exist as a scheme) should be thought of as a formal neighbourhood of  $\pi^{-1}(S)$  in  $M^\Sigma$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}_s$  and  $\mathcal{Y}_s$  denote the fibres over  $s \in S$ . Applying the remarks in 4.3 we arrive at:

**Theorem 4.1.** *For  $s \in S$  there is a natural isomorphism*

$$H_*(\pi^{-1}(s)) = H_*(\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{D}_s) = H_*^{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}(\mathcal{Y}_s).$$

*The homology of  $\mathcal{Y}_s$  (or  $\mathcal{D}_s$ ) is pure. The spectral sequence*

$$E_{p,q}^2 = H_p(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, H_q(\mathcal{Y}_s)) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}^{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}(\mathcal{Y}_s)$$

*degenerates at  $E^2$  and the (shifted) limit filtration is the weight filtration on  $H_*(\pi^{-1}(s))$ . The graded pieces are given by*

$$\text{Gr}_{-j}^W H_i(\pi^{-1}(s)) = H_{i-j}(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, H_j(\mathcal{D}_s)) = H_{i-j}(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, H_j(\mathcal{Y}_s)).$$

4.5. **Remarks.** (i) The  $\mathbb{Z}_+$ -action of 3.3 is explicitly realized by Looijenga’s local Hecke operators [6] (and the assertion that they split the weight filtration on  $H_*(\pi^{-1}(s))$  is contained there). One can replace  $\mathcal{Y}_s$  by an open neighbourhood of  $\mathcal{D}_s$  in  $\mathcal{Y}_s$  in the classical topology stable under these operators and one can formulate an etale version of the theorem.

(ii) The story in 3.6 carries over to the current context: The  $T$ -action on  $\mathcal{D}$  is equivariantly formal and  $H_*^T(\mathcal{D})$  is localized to the fixed point locus. The fixed point locus  $\mathcal{D}^T$  is a disjoint union of copies of  $A$ , one for each top-dimensional cone. The equivariant homology can be computed from  $\mathcal{D}^T$  and the locus corresponding to cones of one less dimension, each connected component of which is an  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -fibration over  $A$ .

4.6. **Remark on the Hodge theory of  $\pi^{-1}(M^* - M)$ .** Fix a connected component of  $M^* - M$  and let  $\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{Y}, \Gamma_{M_\ell}$  etc. be as in 4.3. The corresponding component of the exceptional divisor has cohomology

$$H_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}^k(\mathcal{Y}, \mathbb{C}) = H^k(\mathcal{Y} \times_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}} E\Gamma_{M_\ell}, \mathbb{C}).$$

A natural complex computing this group is the total complex associated to the double complex  $K^{\bullet, \bullet} = C^\bullet(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, \Gamma(\mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{E}_\mathcal{Y}^\bullet))$ . (Here  $C^\bullet(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, -)$  is the usual group cohomology complex of a  $\Gamma_{M_\ell}$ -module.) This complex has two filtrations: An increasing filtration  $W_\bullet$  can be defined by applying the canonical truncation functor  $\tau_{\leq i}$  in the first index, a decreasing filtration  $F^\bullet$  by applying the filtration  $F^p$  by type to  $\mathcal{E}_\mathcal{Y}^\bullet$ . It follows from theorems proved above that the spectral sequence for  $W_\bullet$  degenerates at  $E_2$  and the induced filtration on the graded pieces  $\text{Gr}_i^W H_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}^k(\mathcal{Y}) = H^{k-i}(\Gamma_{M_\ell}, H^i(\mathcal{Y}))$  is the Hodge filtration under the identification  $\text{Gr}_i^W H_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}^k(\mathcal{Y}) = \text{Gr}_i^W H^k(\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{D})$ . (There is another way to define a naive Hodge filtration on  $H_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}}^k(\mathcal{Y}) = H^k(\mathcal{Y} \times_{\Gamma_{M_\ell}} E\Gamma_{M_\ell})$ , namely using the model  $E\Gamma_{M_\ell} = C + iu$ , which has a complex structure; this should give the same filtration.)

This suggests that it is possible to understand the mixed Hodge structure (MHS) on the exceptional divisor using the embedding in  $M^\Sigma$ , i.e. it should be possible to find a cohomological mixed Hodge complex (i.e. a complex with two filtrations which define a mixed Hodge structure in cohomology, cf. [2]) consisting of differential forms on a classical neighborhood of  $\pi^{-1}(s)$  (of the form  $\Gamma_{M_\ell} \backslash \mathcal{U}$  for  $\mathcal{U}$  as in 4.4) which computes the MHS on  $H^*(\pi^{-1}(s), \mathbb{C})$ . (The Hodge filtration should be the natural one on differential forms. Note that the MHS is defined in [2] without reference to the embedding, and a priori has no simple relation to it, so this is a special feature of arithmetic varieties.) This would then have interesting applications to the Hodge theory of  $M^\Sigma$ , and hence to  $M$ .

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