

# Non–Commutative Generalized Dedekind Symbols

Yuri I. Manin

To the memory of Andrey Todorov

**Abstract:** We define and study generalized Dedekind symbols with values in non–necessarily commutative groups, generalizing constructions of Sh. Fukuhara in [Fu1], [Fu2]. Basic examples of such symbols are obtained by replacing period integrals of modular forms (cf. [Ma1], [Ma2], [Kn1], [Kn2], [ChZ]) by iterated period integrals introduced and studied in [Ma3], [Ma4].

**Keywords:** Dedekind symbols, iterated integrals.

## 0. Introduction: classical and generalized Dedekind symbols

Let  $\eta(z) = e^{\pi iz/12} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} (1 - e^{2\pi inz})$  be the Dedekind eta function. From its modularity properties, it follows that for any  $a \in PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ , the difference  $\log \eta(az) - \log \eta(z)$  is an easy calculable function of  $a$  and  $z$ . After a normalization it turns out that the interesting part of this difference  $d(p, q)$  (in the notation of [Fu1]) depends only on the first column  $(p, q)$  of  $a$ , and satisfies functional equations

$$d(p, q) = d(p, q + p), \quad d(p, -q) = -d(p, q), \quad (0.1)$$

$$d(p, q) - d(q, -p) = \frac{p^2 + q^2 - 3pq + 1}{12pq}. \quad (0.2)$$

In the terminology of [Fu1], this means that  $d(p, q)$  is the classical (odd) Dedekind symbol with reciprocity function  $\frac{p^2 + q^2 - 3pq + 1}{12pq}$ . Many beautiful applications of Dedekind symbols were described in the Introduction to [KiMel].

In several papers Sh. Fukuhara, following in particular T. M. Apostol ([Ap]), studied *generalized* Dedekind symbols. He defined them as functions  $D(p, q)$  of couples of co-prime integers, satisfying equations (0.1) (with one possible sign change) and equations (0.2) in which the right hand side could now be replaced by another function  $F(p, q)$ , called *the reciprocity function of  $D$* .

In particular, Fukuhara established functional equations for possible reciprocity functions and gave a general method allowing one to reconstruct a generalized Dedekind symbol from its reciprocity function.

Finally, replacing Dedekind eta functions by (period integrals of) other modular forms, Fukuhara calculated many new reciprocity functions and classified them.

In this note we replace *commutative* value groups for  $D$  and  $F$  by *non-commutative* ones.

The section 1 is dedicated to the statement and proof of the non-commutative versions of functional equations (0.1), (0.2), and of Fukuhara's reconstruction procedure.

In the section 2, we show how classes of such non-commutative Dedekind symbols and reciprocity functions emerge very naturally if one replaces the period integrals of modular forms by *iterated period integrals*, introduced and studied by the author in [Ma3], [Ma4].

Finally, section 3 clarifies the cohomological interpretation of Dedekind symbols. Essentially, their reciprocity functions emerge as components of certain non-commutative 1-cocycles of the modular group  $PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ .

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## 1. Non-commutative Dedekind symbols and reciprocity functions

**1.1. Notation.** In the following, we choose a group  $\mathbf{G}$ , possibly non-commutative, and write multiplicatively the composition law in it;  $1_{\mathbf{G}} \in \mathbf{G}$  denotes the identity. We put also

$$W := \{(p, q) \in \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} \mid \gcd(p, q) = 1\}.$$

**1.2. Definition.** A  $\mathbf{G}$ -valued reciprocity function is a map  $f : W \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  satisfying the following conditions

$$f(p, -q) = f(-p, q). \tag{1.1}$$

$$f(p, q)f(-q, p) = 1_{\mathbf{G}} \tag{1.2}$$

$$f(p, p + q)f(p + q, q) = f(p, q). \tag{1.3}$$

Notice that applying (1.3) to  $p = 1, q = 0$ , we get  $f(1, 1) = 1_{\mathbf{G}}$ . From (1.2) we then get  $f(-1, 1) = 1_{\mathbf{G}}$ . Moreover,  $f(-p, -q) = f(p, q)$  so that  $f(p, q)$  depends only on  $q/p$ .

**1.3. Definition.** Let  $f$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -valued reciprocity function.

A generalized  $\mathbf{G}$ -valued Dedekind symbol  $\mathcal{D}$  with reciprocity function  $f$  is a map

$$\mathcal{D} : W \rightarrow \mathbf{G} : (p, q) \mapsto \mathcal{D}(p, q)$$

satisfying the following conditions:

$$\mathcal{D}(p, q) = \mathcal{D}(p, q + p), \tag{1.4}$$

$$\mathcal{D}(p, -q) = \mathcal{D}(-p, q), \tag{1.5}$$

so that  $\mathcal{D}(-p, -q) = \mathcal{D}(p, q)$ . Finally,

$$\mathcal{D}(p, q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p)^{-1} = f(p, q). \tag{1.6}$$

**1.3.1. Remarks.** a) Clearly,  $f$  can be uniquely reconstructed from  $\mathcal{D}$ : this follows from (1.6). Moreover, if  $\mathcal{D}$  satisfies (1.4)–(1.6), then  $f$  satisfies (1.1)–(1.3).

In fact, (1.1) follows from (1.6) and (1.5):

$$f(p, -q) = \mathcal{D}(p, -q)\mathcal{D}(-q, -p)^{-1} = \mathcal{D}(-p, q)\mathcal{D}(q, p)^{-1} = f(-p, q).$$

Similarly, (1.2) follows from (1.6) and (1.5):

$$f(p, q)f(-q, p) = \mathcal{D}(p, q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p)^{-1}\mathcal{D}(-q, p)\mathcal{D}(p, q)^{-1} = 1_{\mathbf{G}}.$$

Finally, to check (1.3), we get from (1.6):

$$f(p, p+q)f(p+q, q) = \mathcal{D}(p, p+q)\mathcal{D}(p+q, -p)^{-1}\mathcal{D}(p+q, q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p-q)^{-1}.$$

Two middle terms cancel due to (1.4). The remaining two terms give

$$\mathcal{D}(p, p+q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p-q)^{-1} = \mathcal{D}(p, q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p)^{-1} = f(p, q),$$

again in view (1.4) and (1.6).

b) Let  $f$  be a reciprocity function. Define a new function  $g(p, q) := f(-p, q)$ . A direct check shows that  $g$  is a reciprocity function as well. We may call  $f$  an *even* reciprocity function, if  $g = f$  identically. If the group  $\mathbf{G}$  is abelian, another condition  $g = f^{-1}$  defines *odd* reciprocity function, and each reciprocity function is the product of its even and odd components (at least, if  $\mathbf{G}$  is 2-divisible). The basic reason for this is the fact that pointwise multiplication induces on the set of reciprocity functions a structure of abelian group. This is the case in [Fu1], [Fu2] (where  $\mathbf{G}$  is written additively).

If  $\mathbf{G}$  is non-abelian, however, then the oddity condition includes  $f(p, q) = f(q, p)$ , and, moreover, there is no obvious way to generate all reciprocity functions from even and odd ones.

We will show below that nevertheless, Fukuhara's method for reconstruction of a Dedekind symbol from its reciprocity function works (with necessary modifications) not only for abelian groups of values, but also for non-abelian ones.

**1.4. (Modified) continued fractions.** Let  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n, \dots$  be commuting independent variables. Define by induction polynomials  $Q^{(n)}, P^{(n)} \in \mathbf{Z}[A_0, \dots, A_n]$ :

$$Q^{(0)}(A_0) = A_0, \quad P^{(0)}(A_0) = 1,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q^{(n+1)}(A_0, \dots, A_{n+1}) &= A_0 Q^{(n)}(A_1, \dots, A_{n+1}) - P^{(n)}(A_1, \dots, A_{n+1}), \\
 P^{(n+1)}(A_0, \dots, A_{n+1}) &= Q^{(n)}(A_1, \dots, A_{n+1})
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{1.7}$$

One easily sees that

$$\frac{Q^{(n)}(A_0, \dots, A_n)}{P^{(n)}(A_0, \dots, A_n)} = \langle A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n \rangle := A_0 - \frac{1}{A_1 - \frac{1}{A_2 - \dots}}
 \tag{1.8}$$

where the lowest layer in the continued fraction representation is  $A_{n-1} - \frac{1}{A_n}$ . For any integer values of  $A_i$  and each  $n$ , values of  $P^{(n)}, Q^{(n)}$  are coprime.

**1.5. Basic moves.** Consider finite sequences of integers  $\mathbf{a} = (a_0, \dots, a_n)$ , with arbitrary  $n \geq 0$ . Define three types of moves on this set (cf. [Fu1], p. 88):

(i) This move depends on a choice of  $\varepsilon \in \{1, -1\}$  and  $i \in \{0, \dots, n-1\}$  and makes the sequence longer by one:

$$\mathbf{a} \mapsto \mathbf{b} := (a_0, \dots, a_i + \varepsilon, \varepsilon, a_{i+1} + \varepsilon, a_{i+2} \dots).
 \tag{1.9}$$

(ii) A move of the second type depends on a choice of  $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  and a representation of  $a_i$  as  $a_i = b + c$ . It makes the sequence longer by two:

$$\mathbf{a} \mapsto \mathbf{b}' := (a_0, \dots, a_{i-1}, b, 0, c, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_n).
 \tag{1.10}$$

(iii) Finally, a move of the third type depends on a choice of  $\varepsilon \in \{1, -1\}$  and makes the sequence longer by one:

$$\mathbf{a} \mapsto \mathbf{b}'' := (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1}, a_n + \varepsilon, \varepsilon).
 \tag{1.11}$$

**1.6.1. Lemma.** (i) *If two sequences  $\mathbf{a}$  differ by one of the moves (1.9)–(1.11), the respective continued fractions define one and the same rational number.*

(ii) *Conversely, if a rational number is written in two different ways as a continued fraction (1.8), then the respective sequences differ by a finite sequence of moves (1.9)–(1.11) and their inverses.*

The first part is straightforward. For the second one, see [Mel] and [KiMel].

**1.7. Explicit presentation of the symbol.** We will now show that Fukuhara’s method in [Fu1] for reconstruction of a generalized Dedekind symbol from its reciprocity function can be applied also in non-commutative case.

For a given  $(p, q) \in W$ , choose a presentation as above  $\frac{q}{p} = \langle a_0, \dots, a_n \rangle$  that is, more precisely,

$$q = q_0 := Q^{(n)}(a_0, \dots, a_n), \quad p = p_0 := P^{(n)}(a_0, \dots, a_n) \quad (1.12)$$

Furthermore, for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , define  $(q_i, p_i) \in \mathbf{Z}^2$  by

$$q_i := Q^{(n-i)}(a_i, \dots, a_n), \quad p_i := P^{(n-i)}(a_i, \dots, a_n) \quad (1.13)$$

(cf. (1.7), (1.8)) so that  $\frac{q_i}{p_i} = \langle a_i, \dots, a_n \rangle$ .

Finally, put

$$\mathcal{D}(p, q) := f(p_1, q_1)^{-1} f(p_2, q_2)^{-1} \dots f(p_n, q_n)^{-1} \in \mathbf{G}. \quad (1.14)$$

**1.8. Theorem.** (i)  $\mathcal{D}(p, q)$  depends only on  $(p, q)$  and not on the choice of the presentation (1.14).

(ii) The function  $\mathcal{D}$  thus defined is a generalized Dedekind symbol with reciprocity function  $f$ .

**Proof.** (i) In view of Lemma 1.6.1, it suffices to check that the r.h.s. of (1.14) does not change whenever one applies to  $\mathbf{a} := (a_0, \dots, a_n)$  one of the moves (1.9)–(1.11)

*MOVE (1.9).* Let  $\mathbf{b} = (b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n+1})$  and  $t_j/s_j := \langle b_j, \dots, b_{n+1} \rangle$ . Then for  $j \leq i$  we have  $t_j/s_j = q_j/p_j$  and for  $j \geq i+3$  we have  $t_j/s_j = q_{j-1}/p_{j-1}$ . Hence two products in the rhs of (1.14) corresponding to  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  respectively have the same beginnings and endings, and we have to check only the coincidence of the respective middle segments. Passing to their inverses, we will have to prove that

$$(?) \quad f(p_{i+1}, q_{i+1}) = f(s_{i+2}, t_{i+2}) f(s_{i+1}, t_{i+1}). \quad (1.15)$$

From (1.7) and (1.13), we get the identities:

$$p_{i+1} = q_{i+2}, \quad q_{i+1} = a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2};$$

$$s_{i+2} = q_{i+2}, \quad t_{i+2} = (a_{i+1} + \varepsilon)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2};$$

$$s_{i+1} = (a_{i+1} + \varepsilon)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}, \quad t_{i+1} = \varepsilon(a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}).$$

Hence, comparing with (1.14), we see that (1.15) is equivalent to the identity

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f(q_{i+2}, a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}) \\
 &= f(q_{i+2}, (a_{i+1} + \varepsilon)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2})f((a_{i+1} + \varepsilon)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}, \varepsilon(a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2})). \quad (1.16)
 \end{aligned}$$

To make our check of (1.16) more transparent, denote the three expressions  $f(\dots)$  in (1.16) respectively  $A, B, C$  so that (1.16) means  $A = BC$ . Moreover, denote the subsequent pairs of arguments in  $A, B, C$  by (1), (2); (3), (4); (5), (6) respectively so that e.g. (3) =  $q_{i+2}$ .

Now the check works slightly differently in the following two cases:

(a)  $\varepsilon = 1$ . Then (4) = (5) = (3) + (6), and we get (1.16) after substituting  $p \mapsto (3) = (1)$  and  $q \mapsto (6) = (2)$  into (1.3).

(b)  $\varepsilon = -1$ . Then the same strategy works for the identity  $AC^{-1} = B$  which is equivalent to  $A = BC$ . In fact, from (1.2) we get

$$C^{-1} = f(a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}, (a_{i+1} - 1)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}).$$

so that  $AC^{-1} = B$  becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f(q_{i+2}, a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2})f(a_{i+1}q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}, (a_{i+1} - 1)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2}) \\
 &= f(q_{i+2}, (a_{i+1} - 1)q_{i+2} - p_{i+2})
 \end{aligned}$$

which is again a special case of (1.3).

*MOVE (1.10).* Let  $\mathbf{b}' = (b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n+2})$  and  $t'_i/s'_i := \langle b_i, \dots, b_{n+2} \rangle$ . Then for  $j \leq i$  we have  $t'_j/s'_j = q_j/p_j$  and for  $j \geq i + 3$  we have  $t'_j/s'_j = q_{j-2}/p_{j-2}$ . Hence the two products in the r.h.s. of (1.14) corresponding to  $\mathbf{a}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$  respectively have the same beginnings and endings, but passage to  $\mathbf{b}'$  introduces extra terms in-between:  $f(s'_{i+1}, t'_{i+1})^{-1}$  and  $f(s'_{i+2}, t'_{i+2})^{-1}$ . In our setting, their product (in any order) is  $1_{\mathbf{G}}$  thanks to (1.2), because a straightforward check shows that

$$\frac{t'_{i+1}}{s'_{i+1}} = \frac{-q_{i+1}}{cq_{i+1} - p_{i+1}}, \quad \frac{t'_{i+2}}{s'_{i+2}} = \frac{cq_{i+1} - p_{i+1}}{q_{i+1}}.$$

*MOVE (1.11).* Let  $\mathbf{b}'' = (b_0, b_1, \dots, b_{n+1})$  and  $t''_i/s''_i := \langle b_i, \dots, b_{n+1} \rangle$ . Then for  $j \leq n$  we have  $t''_j/s''_j = q_j/p_j$ , and moreover  $t''_{n+1}/s''_{n+1} = \varepsilon/1$ . Hence this extra term contributes  $f(\varepsilon, 1) = 1_{\mathbf{G}}$ .

(ii) We will now check that products (1.14) satisfy identities (1.4)–(1.6).

In fact, if  $q/p = \langle a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , then  $(p + q)/p = \langle a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , so that (1.14) gives for  $\mathcal{D}(p, q)$  and  $\mathcal{D}(p, p + q)$  the same expressions. This shows (1.4).

Furthermore, in the same notation we have  $-q/p = \langle -a_0, -a_1, \dots, -a_n \rangle$ ,  $-q_i/p_i = \langle -a_i, \dots, -a_n \rangle$ , so that (1.14) gives the same expressions for  $\mathcal{D}(p, -q)$  and  $\mathcal{D}(-p, q)$ . This shows (1.5).

It remains to establish (1.6). In fact, if  $q/p = \langle a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ , then we have  $-p/q = \langle 0, a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n \rangle$ . From (1.14) one sees that

$$\mathcal{D}(p, q)\mathcal{D}(q, -p)^{-1} = f(p_0, q_0) = f(p, q)$$

From (1.2) it follows that this is equivalent to (1.6).

## 2. Reciprocity functions from iterated integrals

**2.1. Notations.** Let  $w \geq 0$  be an even integer. Denote by  $\{\varphi_j(z)\}, j = 1, \dots, r$ , a basis of the space of cusp forms of weight  $w + 2$  for the full modular group  $PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ . We have  $\varphi_j(z + 1) = \varphi_j(z)$  and  $\varphi_j(-z^{-1}) = \varphi_j(z)z^{w+2}$  for all  $j$ .

Let  $(A_j), j = 1, \dots, r$ , be independent associative but non-commuting formal variables. For  $(p, q) \in W$ , put

$$\Omega(p, q) := \sum_{j=1}^r A_j \varphi_j(z)(pz - q)^w dz, \tag{2.1}$$

Finally, in the notations of [Ma3], sec. 1, consider iterated integrals along the geodesics from rational points to  $i\infty$  in the upper half plane:

$$f(p, q) := J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q)), \quad \mathcal{D}(p, q) := J_{p/q}^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q)) \tag{2.2}$$

taking values in the ring of free associative formal series  $\mathbf{C}\langle\langle A_1, \dots, A_r \rangle\rangle$ , or, more precisely, in the multiplicative subgroup  $\mathbf{G} := 1 + (A_1, \dots, A_r)$  of this ring.

We remind briefly that all iterated integrals that we will be considering below are taken along oriented geodesics in the upper complex half-plane with coordinate  $z$ , connecting two cusp points  $a, b \in \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q})$ : rational points of the real  $z$ -line and infinity, and we use two types of relations among such integrals:

$$J_{a_2}^{a_1}(\Omega)J_{a_3}^{a_2}(\Omega) \dots J_{a_n}^{a_{n-1}}(\Omega)J_{a_1}^{a_n}(\Omega) = 1$$



(cf. [Ma3], (1.9)), and variable change, or functoriality (cf. [Ma3], (1.10)).

Notice that our group  $\mathbf{G}$  becomes non-commutative only for  $r > 1$  that is, for  $w > 26$ . One can get examples of lesser weight, generalizing the constructions below to congruence subgroups and/or Eisenstein series. For constructions with Eisenstein series (regularization of iterated integrals) cf. section 6 of [Ma3].

**2.2. Theorem.** *The map  $\mathcal{D} : W \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  is a generalized Dedekind symbol with reciprocity function  $f$ .*

*Remark.* In the preliminary version of this paper, only formula for the reciprocity function  $f$  was given explicitly, together with a proof that it satisfies all necessary identities and therefore that  $\mathcal{D}(p, q)$  can be in principle reconstructed from it. Professor Fukuhara found the simple explicit formula for  $\mathcal{D}$  given here and kindly allowed me to include it here (e-message of 13/11/2012).

In fact, the linear in  $(A_i)$  term of  $\mathcal{D}(p, q)$  is precisely the linear combination of commutative generalized Dedekind symbols from [Fu1], Definition 7.1.

**Proof.** We have to prove relations (1.1)–(1.3) for  $f$ .

*Relations (1.1).* Since  $w$  is even, we have

$$(pz + q)^w = (-pz - q)^w.$$

This shows that  $f(p, -q) = f(-p, q)$ .

*Relations (1.2).* In the iterated integral  $f(p, q) := J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q))$  we can make the variable change  $z = -u^{-1}$ . Then from (2.1) and  $\varphi_j(-u^{-1}) = \varphi_j(u)u^{w+2}$  we see that

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega(p, q) &= \sum_{j=1}^r A_j \varphi_j(-u^{-1})(-pu^{-1} - q)^w d(-u^{-1}) = \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^r A_j \varphi_j(u)(-qu - p)^w du = \Omega(-q, p). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the integration limits in the variable  $u$  will be  $(i\infty, 0)$ . Hence finally

$$f(p, q) = J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q)) = J_{i\infty}^0(\Omega(-q, p)) = f(-q, p)^{-1}.$$

*Relations (1.3).* We must check the identity

$$J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, p + q))J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p + q, q)) = J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q))$$

or equivalently,

$$J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p + q, q)) = J_{i\infty}^0(\Omega(p, p + q))J_0^{i\infty}(\Omega(p, q))$$

We rewrite the last three integrals in turn.

The l.h.s. integral becomes  $J_{i\infty}^0(\Omega(-q, p + q))$  after the variable change  $z = -u^{-1}$ .

The first r.h.s. integral becomes  $J_{i\infty}^{-1}(\Omega(p, q))$  after the variable change  $z = u + 1$ .

Hence the product of the two r.h.s. integrals equals  $J_0^{-1}(\Omega(p, q))$ . Let us make in this last integral the substitution  $z = -(u + 1)^{-1}$ . The integration limits  $(0, -1)$  w.r.t  $z$  will become  $(i\infty, 0)$  w.r.t  $u$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_j(-(u + 1)^{-1})(-p(u + 1)^{-1} - q)^w (u + 1)^{-2} du \\ = \varphi_j(u)(p + qu + q)^w du. \end{aligned}$$

Hence finally the r.h.s integral becomes  $J_{i\infty}^0(\Omega(q, -p - q))$  that coincides with  $J_{i\infty}^0(\Omega(-q, p + q))$  in view of (1.1).

It remains to check the relations (1.4)–(1.6). The first one is obtained by the variable change  $z = u + 1$ , the second is obvious. Finally, (1.6) is obtained by the substitution  $z = -u^{-1}$  showing that that  $\mathcal{D}(q, -p)^{-1} = J_0^{q/p}(\Omega(p, q))$ . This completes the proof.

*Remark.* The identities (1.1)–(1.3) for our  $f$  form an iterated version of the classical Shimura–Eichler relations for periods: cf. [Ma3], Proposition 2.1. We have essentially reproduced here the structure of the classical proof. Since these computations have a well known cohomological interpretation, we may expect that our generalizied Dedekind symbols and their reciprocity functions also can be interpreted in this way. We develop this remark in the next section.

### 3. Reciprocity functions as non-commutative cocycles

**3.1. Non-commutative 1-cohomology.** Below we consider abstract groups, generally non-commutative, and group laws are written multiplicatively. Let  $\Gamma$

be a group, and  $\mathbf{G}$  a group endowed with a left action of  $\Gamma$  by automorphisms:  $(\gamma, g) \mapsto \gamma g$ .

We define 1-cocycles by

$$Z^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{G}) := \{ u : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbf{G} \mid u(\gamma_1\gamma_2) = u(\gamma_1) \gamma_1 u(\gamma_2) \}. \tag{3.1}$$

It follows that  $u(1_\Gamma) = 1_{\mathbf{G}_0}$ .

Two cocycles are equivalent,  $u' \sim u$ , iff there exists a  $g \in \mathbf{G}$  such that for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  we have  $u'(\gamma) = g^{-1} u(\gamma) \cdot \gamma g$ . This is an equivalence relation, and by definition,

$$H^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{G}) := Z^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{G}) / (\sim).$$

This is a set with a marked point: the class of the trivial cocycles  $u_g(\gamma) = g^{-1} \gamma g$ .

**3.2. Cohomology of  $PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ .** Consider now the group  $\Gamma = PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$ , and let  $\mathbf{G}$  be a possibly noncommutative  $\Gamma$ -module. It is known that  $PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$  is the free product of its two subgroups  $\mathbf{Z}_2$  and  $\mathbf{Z}_3$  generated respectively by

$$\sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tau = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$PSL(2, \mathbf{Z})$  acts transitively on  $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q})$ , the set of cusps of upper complex half-plane. The stabilizer of  $\infty$  is a cyclic subgroup  $G_\infty$  generated by  $\sigma\tau$ . Hence the stabilizer  $G_a$  of any cusp  $a \in \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q})$  is generated by  $\gamma^{-1}\sigma\tau\gamma$  where  $\gamma a = \infty$ .

Following [Ma4], we will give a short description of the set  $H^1(PSL(2, \mathbf{Z}), \mathbf{G})$  and its cuspidal subset  $H^1(PSL(2, \mathbf{Z}), \mathbf{G})_{cusp}$  consisting by definition of those cocycle classes that become trivial after restriction to any  $G_a$ .

**3.3. Proposition.** (i) *Restriction to  $(\sigma, \tau)$  of any cocycle in  $Z^1(PSL(2, \mathbf{Z}), \mathbf{G})$  belongs to the set*

$$\{ (X, Y) \in \mathbf{G} \times \mathbf{G} \mid X \cdot \sigma X = 1, Y \cdot \tau Y \cdot \tau^2 Y = 1 \}. \tag{3.2}$$

(ii) *Conversely, any element of the set (3.2) comes from a unique 1-cocycle so that we can and will identify these two sets. The cohomology relation between cocycles translates as*

$$(X, Y) \sim (g^{-1}X \cdot \sigma g, g^{-1}Y \cdot \tau g), \quad g \in \mathbf{G}. \tag{3.3}$$

(iii) *The cuspidal part of the cohomology consists of classes of pairs of the form*

$$\{(X, Y) \mid \exists g \in \mathbf{G}, X \cdot \sigma Y = g^{-1} \cdot \sigma \tau g\}. \tag{3.4}$$

We may call (3.2) abstract (noncommutative) *Shimura–Eichler relations*.

**3.4. Definition.** *An element  $(X, Y)$  of (3.2) is called (the representative of) a Dedekind cocycle, iff it satisfies the relation*

$$Y = \tau X. \tag{3.5}$$

**3.5. Reciprocity functions as cocycles.** Let now  $\mathbf{G}_0$  be a group. Denote by  $\mathbf{G}$  the group of functions  $X : \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_0$  with pointwise multiplication. Define the left action of  $\Gamma$  upon  $\mathbf{G}$  by

$$(\gamma X)(x) = X(\gamma^{-1}x); \quad X \in \mathbf{G}, \quad x \in \mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q}), \quad \gamma \in \Gamma. \tag{3.6}$$

Let  $f : W \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_0$  be a  $\mathbf{G}_0$ -valued reciprocity function, as in Def. 1.2. Define elements  $X_f, Y_f \in \mathbf{G}$  as the following functions  $\mathbf{P}^1(\mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} X_f(qp^{-1}) &:= f(p, q), \\ Y_f(qp^{-1}) &:= (\tau X_f)(qp^{-1}) = X_f(\tau^{-1}(qp^{-1})) = f(q, q - p). \end{aligned} \tag{3.7}$$

**3.6. Theorem.** *The map  $f \mapsto (X_f, Y_f)$  establishes a bijection between the set of  $\mathbf{G}_0$ -valued reciprocity functions and the set of (representatives of) Dedekind cocycles from  $Z^1(\Gamma, \mathbf{G})$ .*

**Proof.** First, we check that if  $f$  is a reciprocity function, then the pair  $(X_f, Y_f)$  satisfies (3.2). In fact,

$$(X_f \cdot \sigma X_f)(qp^{-1}) = X_f(qp^{-1})X_f(-pq^{-1}) = f(p, q)f(-q, p) = 1_{\mathbf{G}_0}$$

in view of (1.2). Furthermore, from (3.7) we find

$$(Y_f \cdot \tau Y_f \cdot \tau^2 Y_f)(qp^{-1}) = f(q, q - p)f(q - p, -p)f(p, q) = f(q, -p)f(p, q) = 1_{\mathbf{G}_0}$$

in view of (1.3) and (1.2).

Conversely, let  $(X, Y = \tau X)$  be a Dedekind cocycle. Define the function  $f : W \rightarrow \mathbf{G}_0$  by  $f(p, q) := X(qp^{-1})$  so that (1.1) is straightforward. Substituting this into (3.2), we get from previous computations (1.2) and (1.3).

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Yuri I. Manin

Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik

Bonn, Germany

E-mail: manin@mpim-bonn.mpg.de