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**AUTOMORPHISMS AND QUOTIENTS OF
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A \mathbb{Q} -homology quadric is a normal projective algebraic surface with the same Betti numbers as the smooth quadric in \mathbb{P}^3 . A smooth \mathbb{Q} -homology quadric is either rational or of general type with vanishing geometric genus. Smooth minimal \mathbb{Q} -homology quadrics of general type are called fake quadrics. Here we study quaternionic fake quadrics, that is, fake quadrics whose fundamental group is an irreducible lattice in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ derived from a division quaternion algebra over a real number field. We provide examples of quaternionic fake quadrics X with a nontrivial automorphism group G and compute the invariants of the quotient X/G and of its minimal desingularization Z . In this way we provide examples of singular \mathbb{Q} -homology quadrics and minimal surfaces Z of general type with $q = p_g = 0$ and $K^2 = 4$ or 2 which contain the maximal number of disjoint (-2) -curves. Conversely, we also show that if a smooth minimal surface of general type has the same invariant as Z and same number of (-2) -curves, then we can construct geometrically a surface of general type with $c_1^2 = 8$, $c_2 = 4$.

1. Introduction

In this paper we will be interested in *\mathbb{Q} -homology quadric surfaces*, which are normal projective algebraic surfaces with the same Betti numbers as the quadric surface in \mathbb{P}^3 , that is, $b_1 = 0$ and $b_2 = 2$. A smooth \mathbb{Q} -homology quadric S has the following numerical invariants: $p_g(S) = q(S) = 0$, $e(S) = c_2(S) = 4$, and $c_1^2(S) = 8$. By the classification theory of algebraic surfaces, such S is either a Hirzebruch surface Σ_n (with $\Sigma_0 = \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$) or S is of general type. The latter S is either minimal or has at most one exceptional curve. Blowing down this (-1) -curve we obtain a *fake projective plane*, that is, a smooth minimal surface of general type with the same Betti numbers as the projective plane \mathbb{P}^2 , being an example of a \mathbb{Q} -homology projective plane. By the analogy with fake projective planes, we define a *fake quadric* to be a minimal smooth \mathbb{Q} -homology quadric of general type (see [Barth et al. 2004, p. 231; Hirzebruch 1987, p. 780; Iskovskikh and Shafarevich 1989, p. 195]).

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All known fake quadrics have $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$, the product of two copies of the complex upper half plane, as the universal covering. Hence, such a fake quadric X is of the form $X = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$, where Γ is a torsion-free and cocompact discrete subgroup in $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})$, the group of holomorphic automorphisms of $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$. Essentially, we distinguish between two classes of such quotients according to the structure of Γ .

One class of fake quadrics consists of surfaces $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ with the property that the group Γ is reducible. By reducible we mean that there exists a subgroup of finite index $\Gamma' = \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2$ of Γ such that the group Γ_i acts on \mathbb{H} and $C_i = \mathbb{H} / \Gamma_i$ is a smooth algebraic curve. This case is now well understood and the full classification of these fake quadrics, named also fake quadrics *isogenous to a higher product*, has been achieved by Bauer, Catanese and Grunewald in [Bauer et al. 2008]. In practice, this classification and construction is done geometrically by classifying triples (C_1, C_2, G) of two smooth curves C_i of general type and a group G , such that G acts faithfully and freely on the surface $C_1 \times C_2$ and the quotient $(C_1 \times C_2) / G$ has the asked invariants.

In this paper we will focus on fake quadrics of the other class, which we call *quaternionic fake quadrics*. These fake quadrics are *Shimura surfaces*, that is, quotients of $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ by cocompact irreducible arithmetic lattices Γ in $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H}) \times \text{Aut}(\mathbb{H})$, defined by an indefinite quaternion algebra over a totally real number field. Within the general framework of Prasad and Yeung on fake compact symmetric Hermitian spaces the quaternionic fake quadrics belong to the class of so-called *arithmetic fake A_1* ; see [Prasad and Yeung 2012].

Using the previous work of Kuga, the first quaternionic fake quadrics have been constructed in [Shavel 1978]. We know that these surfaces are rigid and thus that there are only a finite number of them, but at the moment we do not have a complete list of all these surfaces. We have a list of commensurability classes of fake quadrics defined by quaternion algebras over quadratic fields (see [Džambić 2013]).

The situation for quaternionic fake quadrics is very similar to the case of fake projective planes. By the theorem of Klingler (and also Yeung), all fake projective planes are quotients of the 2-dimensional complex unit ball \mathbb{B}^2 by cocompact arithmetic lattices $\Gamma \subset \text{PU}(2, 1)$. This provides an arithmetic construction of these surfaces, but it is generally not easy to handle and construct these surfaces geometrically, for instance, as a quotient or ramified cover of some known surfaces.

In order to remedy this situation, Keum [2012; 2008; 2006] studied quotients of fake projective planes by groups of automorphisms. In this way, he obtained surfaces of general type with geometric genus $p_g = 0$ and was able to rebuild a fake projective plane by only knowing the properties of the quotient surface.

The aim of this paper is to study automorphisms of quaternionic fake quadrics and the quotients of these surfaces by groups of automorphisms. Let $X = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$

be a Shimura surface. We say that a curve $C \hookrightarrow X$ is a Shimura curve if it is a totally geodesic submanifold of X .

The first main result we obtain is the following:

Theorem A. *An automorphism of a smooth Shimura surface $X = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ has only finitely many fixed points or it is an involution whose fixed point set is a disjoint union of smooth Shimura curves.*

An automorphism of a quaternionic fake quadric X has only finitely many fixed points. There exist quaternionic fake quadrics X with automorphism group isomorphic to

$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}, (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2, \mathbb{D}_4, \mathbb{D}_6, \mathbb{D}_8, \text{ or } \mathbb{D}_{10},$$

where \mathbb{D}_n is the dihedral group with order $2n$.

Let us remark that the knowledge of surfaces of general type with $p_g = 0$ and a large automorphism group can be interesting to check whether the Bloch conjecture holds (see, for example, [Inose and Mizukami 1979]). The computations in [Džambić 2013] lead us to the conjecture that the order of the automorphism group of a quaternionic fake quadric is always less or equal 24 (see Section 4).

The second aim of this paper is to study the minimal desingularization of the quotient of a quaternionic fake quadric by a group of automorphisms, in order to obtain new surfaces with $p_g = 0$.

Theorem B. *Let X be a quaternionic fake quadric and G a finite group of automorphisms of X . The minimal desingularization Z of the quotient X/G has the following numerical invariants:*

G	$c_1^2(Z)$	$c_2(Z)$	Singularities on X/G	Minimal	$\kappa(Z)$
$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$	4	8	$4A_1$	yes	2
$\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$	2	10	$2A_{3,1} + 2A_2$?	2
$\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$	-4	16	$2A_{6,1} + 2A_5$	no	?
$\mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$	-2	14	$A_{8,3} + A_{8,5}$	no	?
$\mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z}$	-12	24	$2A_{10,1} + 2A_9$	no	?
$(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$	2	10	$6A_1$	yes	2
\mathbb{D}_4	0	12	$4A_1 + A_{4,3} + A_{4,1}$	no	≥ 1
\mathbb{D}_8	-1	13	$4A_1 + A_{8,3} + A_{8,5}$	no	?

Here, κ indicates the Kodaira dimension of the surface Z .

We obtain also results and restrictions for the groups $\mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$, $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ and \mathbb{D}_3 . We note that the surfaces of general type we obtain have vanishing geometric genus and could be therefore interesting from the point of view of the classification of surfaces with $p_g = 0$. We intend to study these surfaces more closely, regarding, for instance, the fundamental groups in a future paper.

A curve C on a surface is called nodal if $C \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$ and $C^2 = -2$. A nodal curve is the resolution of a nodal singularity. The surfaces Z we obtain as the quotient of a fake quadric by an automorphism group $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$, $n \in \{1, 2\}$ have the maximum number of nodal curves (the so-called Miyaoka bound [1984]). If minimal, the surfaces obtained by taking a quotient by the groups $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ and \mathbb{D}_3 have also the maximum number of quotient singularities. Similarly to Keum's construction of fake projective planes, we can reverse the construction.

Proposition C. *Let Z be a smooth minimal surface of general type with $q = p_g = 0$.*

- (a) *Suppose that $c_1^2 = 4, 2,$ or 1 , $\text{Pic}(Z)$ has no 2-torsion, and that there is a birational map $Z \rightarrow Y$ onto a surface containing $8 - c_1^2$ nodal singularities A_1 . There exists a smooth minimal surface of general type S with invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ and a $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^m$ -cover $S \rightarrow Y$ ramified over the nodes, with m such that $2^m = 8/c_1^2$.*
- (b) *Suppose that $c_1^2 = 2$, $\text{Pic}(Z)$ has no 3-torsion, and that there is a birational map $Z \rightarrow Y$ onto a surface with $2A_{3,1} + 2A_2$ singularities. There exist a smooth surface S with invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ and a $(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})$ -cover $Z \rightarrow Y$ ramified over the singularities of Y .*

The proof of part (a) of this proposition uses mainly the results of Dolgachev, Mendes Lopes, and Pardini [Dolgachev et al. 2002] and illustrates their theory. The proof of part (b) is more original because it mixes two types of singularities.

The paper is structured as follows: We begin recalling the known facts on quotients of surfaces (Section 2) and on quaternionic fake quadrics (Section 3). In Section 4, we provide examples of fake quadrics having a large group of automorphisms, we then compute the quotients surfaces (Section 5) and reverse the construction in the opposite direction: starting with a surface with the same invariants as the quotient, we construct a surface with $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ (Section 6).

2. Generalities on quotients of a surface

In this section we recall results from the theory of quotient surface singularities and their resolution. The main reference for these topics is [Barth et al. 2004]; see also [Roulleau 2012].

Let S be a smooth algebraic surface and let G be a group of automorphisms acting on S . We denote by S/G the quotient surface and by $\pi: Z \rightarrow S/G$ the minimal desingularization map. If $G = \langle \sigma \rangle$ is cyclic, we will often write S/σ to denote the quotient $S/\langle \sigma \rangle$.

Proposition 2.4 (topological Lefschetz formula). *Let σ be an automorphism acting on S and S^σ the fixed point set of σ . We have*

$$e(S^\sigma) = \sum_{j=0}^{j=4} (-1)^j \operatorname{Tr}(\sigma | H^i(S, \mathbb{Z})_{mt}),$$

where $H^i(S, \mathbb{Z})_{mt}$ is the group $H^i(S, \mathbb{Z})$ modulo torsion.

Note that for a fake quadric X we have $q = p_g = 0$; thus

$$H^1(X, \mathbb{Z})_{mt} = \{0\}, \quad H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes \mathbb{C} = H^1(X, \Omega_X).$$

Corollary 2.5. *Let X be a fake quadric and σ an automorphism of order $n > 1$ acting on G . We have $e(X^\sigma) = 2$ or 4 . If $\sigma = \tau^2$ for an automorphism τ (for example, if n is prime to 2), we have $e(X^\sigma) = 4$.*

Proof. Since X is a fake quadric, the space $H^1(X, \Omega_X)$ is 2-dimensional and is generated by the classes of 2-curves in the Néron–Severi group. As an automorphism preserves the canonical divisor, the invariant subspace of $H^1(X, \Omega_X)$ is at least one-dimensional. Therefore the trace of σ on $H^1(X, \Omega_X)$ is 2 or 0. If we suppose that this action is not trivial, then 2 divides the order of σ , moreover we see that the action of σ^2 is always trivial. \square

Let ξ be a primitive n -th root of unity. Let us recall that for $1 \leq q \leq n - 1$ coprime to n , the quotient of \mathbb{C}^2 by the action of

$$(x, y) \rightarrow (\xi x, \xi^q y)$$

has a unique singularity, called an $A_{n,q}$ singularity. For $n, m > 0$ two numbers, we write $[n, m]$ for $n - 1/m$. The $A_{n,q}$ singularity is resolved by a Hirzebruch–Jung string (see [Barth et al. 2004]), that is, a chain of smooth rational curves C_1, \dots, C_k such that C_i intersects $C_{i\pm 1}$ transversally in one point for $2 \leq i \leq k - 1$ and $C_i^2 = -n_i$ with integers $n_i \geq 2$ determined by the relation

$$\frac{n}{q} = [n_1, [n_2, \dots, [n_{k-1}, n_k] \dots]].$$

As is conventional, we denote $A_{n,n-1}$ by A_{n-1} .

Let S be a surface with $p_g = q = 0$ and let σ be an automorphism of order $n \geq 2$ such that the fixed points of the σ^k , $k = 1, \dots, n - 1$ are isolated.

Proposition 2.6 (holomorphic Lefschetz fixed point formula [Atiyah and Singer 1968, p. 567]). *Let S^σ be the fixed point set of σ . Then*

$$1 = \sum_{s \in S^\sigma} \frac{1}{\det(1 - d\sigma | T_{S,s})},$$

where $d\sigma_s | T_{S,s}$ denotes the action of σ on the tangent space $T_{S,s}$.

Suppose moreover that the automorphism σ has prime order p . Let ξ be a primitive p -th root of unity. Let r_i be the number of isolated fixed points of σ whose image in S/σ are $A_{p,i}$ singularities.

Proposition 2.7 (Zhang’s formula [2001, Lemma 1.6]). *We have*

$$\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} r_i a_i(p) = 1$$

where

$$a_i(p) = \frac{1}{p-1} \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \frac{1}{(1-\xi^j)(1-\xi^{ij})}.$$

In particular, we have

$$a_1(p) = \frac{1}{12}(5-p), \quad a_2(p) = \frac{1}{24}(11-p), \quad a_3(5) = \frac{1}{4}, \quad a_4(5) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

Let $1 \leq i < p$ and $1 \leq k < p$ be such that $ik \equiv 1 \pmod p$. As $A_{p,i} = A_{p,k}$, the notations for r_i and r_k in Zhang’s formula can be confusing. However, as $a_i(p) = a_k(p)$, there should be no trouble in taking the convention that $r_i + r_k$ is the total number of $A_{p,i} = A_{p,k}$ singularities, rather than choosing a representative i or k for every such pair (i, k) .

Let us recall that an automorphism of a vector space is called a reflection if all its eigenvalues but one are equal to 1. Let S be a surface and G an automorphism group acting on S . Suppose that for every automorphism of G the fixed point set is finite. Let s be a fixed point of G ; recall (see [Barth et al. 2004]):

Lemma 2.8. *The action of the group G on the tangent space $T_{S,s}$ is faithful and contains no reflections.*

In particular, if G is cyclic of order n , the singularity type of the image of the fixed point s in the quotient S/G is always $A_{n,q}$ with q prime to n .

Lemma 2.9. *The Euler number of S/G is given by the formula*

$$e(S/G) = \frac{1}{|G|} (e(S) + \sum_{n \geq 2} (n-1)e(S_n)),$$

where $S_n = \{s \in S \mid |\text{Stab}(G, s)| = n\}$. The Euler number of the minimal resolution Z is the sum of $e(S/G)$ and the number of irreducible components of the exceptional curves of the resolution $\pi : Z \rightarrow S/G$.

Let C_1, \dots, C_k be the irreducible components of the one dimensional fibers of $\pi : Z \rightarrow S/G$. We have the relations $K_Z = \pi^* K_{S/G} - \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} a_i C_i$, for rational numbers a_i such that $K_Z C_k = -2 - C_k^2$ and $C_k \pi^* K_{S/G} = 0$. Moreover, we have the

equality $K_{S/G}^2 = K_S^2/|G|$, where $|G|$ is the order of G . As K_S is ample, the canonical \mathbb{Q} -divisor $K_{S/G}$ is ample and $\pi^*K_{S/G}$ is nef. We remark also that $K_Z^2 \leq K_{S/G}^2$.

Recall that the Kähler lemma implies that for a dominant rational map between varieties, the pull back map among the spaces of sections of sheaves of holomorphic forms are injective, therefore we obtain (see also [Roulleau 2012] for a proof in the case of surfaces):

Lemma 2.10. *Let S be a surface with $q = p_g = 0$. The minimal resolution Z of the quotient of S by a group G has also $q = p_g = 0$.*

Suppose that S is moreover minimal of general type and the fixed points of automorphisms in G are isolated.

Lemma 2.11. *If $K_Z^2 = 0$, the surface Z has Kodaira dimension $\kappa \geq 1$. If $K_Z^2 > 0$, the surface Z has Kodaira dimension $\kappa = 2$.*

Proof. (We follow the ideas from [Keum 2008].) The quotient surface has $q = p_g = 0$ and thus $\chi(\mathcal{O}_Z) = 1$. Let $m \geq 1$ be an integer. Then

$$-mK_Z\pi^*K_{S/G} = -mK_{S/G}^2 = -\frac{8}{|G|}m < 0;$$

therefore $H^0(Z, -mK_Z) = \{0\}$ for every $m \geq 1$. Let $m \geq 2$; then from the Serre duality and Riemann–Roch we obtain

$$H^0(Z, mK_Z) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_Z) + \frac{m(m-1)}{2}K_Z^2 + h^1(Z, mK_Z).$$

If $K_Z^2 > 0$, it immediately follows that Z is of general type. If $K_Z^2 = 0$, the surface has $h^0(Z, 2K_Z) \neq 0$ and cannot be rational by the Castelnuovo criterion. Moreover, as $\chi = 1$ it cannot be a ruled surface. Suppose that Z is an Enriques surface. As $K_Z^2 = 0$, it is a minimal surface, but this is impossible because $h^0(Z, 3K_Z) \neq 0$; therefore $\kappa > 0$. \square

3. Automorphisms of smooth Shimura surfaces and generalities on quaternionic fake quadrics

Let us give a more detailed description of Shimura surfaces and quaternionic fake quadrics. First, recall that a lattice $\Gamma < \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H} \times \mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H}$ is irreducible if it is not commensurable with a product $\Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2$ of two discrete subgroups $\Gamma_1, \Gamma_2 \subset \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Equivalently, the image of Γ under the projection onto one of the factors $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is a dense subgroup of $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Irreducible lattices in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ can be constructed arithmetically in the following way. Let k be a totally real number field of degree $g = [k : \mathbb{Q}] \geq 2$, and let

$B = (\alpha, \beta)_k := \langle 1, i, j, ij \rangle_k$, with $i^2 = \alpha \in k$, $j^2 = \beta \in k$, $ij = -ji$, be a quaternion algebra over k such that

$$(3-1) \quad B \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{R} = \prod_{\rho \in \text{Hom}(k, \mathbb{R})} B^{\rho} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R}) \times M_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \underbrace{H_{\mathbb{R}} \times \cdots \times H_{\mathbb{R}}}_{g-2}.$$

Here, $B^{\rho} = (\alpha^{\rho}, \beta^{\rho})_{\mathbb{R}}$ and $H_{\mathbb{R}} = (-1, -1)_{\mathbb{R}}$ denotes the skew field of Hamiltonian quaternions. Let \mathcal{O}_k be the ring of integers of k and \mathcal{O} a maximal order in B , that is, a maximal subring of B which is a complete \mathcal{O}_k -lattice in B . Finally, let \mathcal{O}^1 be the subgroup of all elements in \mathcal{O} of reduced norm one.

The isomorphism (3-1) induces an embedding of \mathcal{O}^1 into $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ by taking the element $\gamma \in \mathcal{O}^1$ to the pair $(\gamma^{\rho_1}, \gamma^{\rho_2}) \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$, where γ^{ρ_i} is the image of γ in B^{ρ_i} . The group \mathcal{O}^1 then acts on $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ as a group of fractional linear transformations. Namely, if $(z, w) \in \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ is a point and an element $\gamma \in \mathcal{O}^1$ is identified with two matrices γ^{ρ_1} and $\gamma^{\rho_2} \in \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R})$, then

$$\gamma(z, w) = (\gamma^{\rho_1} z, \gamma^{\rho_2} w).$$

After dividing out by the ineffective kernel, one considers the group

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 = \mathcal{O}^1 / \{\pm 1\} \subset \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$$

and it can be proven that $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is an irreducible lattice in $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Moreover, this lattice is cocompact if and only if B is a division quaternion algebra (see [Vignéras 1980, p. 104]). In general we say that a subgroup $\Gamma \subset \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is an *arithmetic lattice* if there exists $k, B, \rho_1, \rho_2, \mathcal{O}$ as above such that Γ is commensurable with $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. Since $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is a semisimple real Lie group of real rank 2, the famous arithmeticity theorem of Margulis [1991, Theorem (A), p. 298] (or see [Zimmer 1984, Theorem 6.1.2, p. 114]) states that any irreducible lattice Γ in $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ is an arithmetic lattice.

Let Γ be irreducible and cocompact (arithmetic) lattice in $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ and $X_{\Gamma} := \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ be the orbit space of the discontinuous action of Γ on $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$. Then, there is a natural structure of compact algebraic surface on X_{Γ} . Such a surface X_{Γ} is called (*compact*) *Shimura surface* and can be seen as the compact analog of a Hilbert modular surface. We know that X_{Γ} is smooth if Γ is torsion free. The numerical invariants of a smooth X_{Γ} are computed in [Matsushima and Shimura 1963]; see also [Shavel 1978]. It follows that a smooth X_{Γ} is a fake quadric if and only if $c_2(X_{\Gamma}) = 4$ (see [Shavel 1978]).

Let us now study automorphisms of smooth Shimura surfaces $X_{\Gamma} = \Gamma \backslash \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ where Γ is a cocompact and irreducible torsion-free lattice in $\text{Aut } \mathbb{H} \times \text{Aut } \mathbb{H}$. Let $\mu: \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ be the involution exchanging the two factors. The group $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})$ is the semidirect product of $\text{Aut } \mathbb{H} \times \text{Aut } \mathbb{H}$ by the group generated by μ . Let $N\Gamma$ (resp. $N_0\Gamma$) be the normalizer of Γ in $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})$ (resp. in $\text{Aut } \mathbb{H} \times \text{Aut } \mathbb{H}$);

$N_0\Gamma$ is a subgroup of $N\Gamma$ of index 1 or 2. The following result is crucial for our computations.

Theorem 3.12. *The automorphism group of the smooth Shimura surface X_Γ is (isomorphic to) $N\Gamma/\Gamma$. An automorphism has only finitely many fixed points or it is an involution whose fixed point set is a union of smooth Shimura curves.*

There exists an involution with a purely one-dimensional fixed point set if and only if $N\Gamma \neq N_0\Gamma$.

An automorphism of a fake quadric has only finitely many fixed points.

Proof. Since $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ is the universal covering of X_Γ , every automorphism σ of X_Γ lifts to an automorphism γ of $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$; this γ normalizes Γ and two elements γ, γ' both represent σ if and only if $\gamma^{-1}\gamma' \in \Gamma$. Hence, σ defines an element $\gamma\Gamma$ of the group $N\Gamma/\Gamma$. Conversely, for a class $\gamma\Gamma \in N\Gamma/\Gamma$, the map $\sigma: X \rightarrow X$ defined by $\sigma(\Gamma x) = \gamma\Gamma x = \gamma\Gamma\gamma^{-1}\gamma x = \Gamma\gamma x$ is an automorphism of X . We thus proved that $\text{Aut}(X) = N\Gamma/\Gamma$.

We say that $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X) = N\Gamma/\Gamma$, with $\sigma = \gamma\Gamma \in N\Gamma/\Gamma$, is a factor preserving automorphism if γ is in $N_0\Gamma$.

Let us denote by \mathbb{F}_Γ a fundamental domain in $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$ of Γ . Let $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$ be a nontrivial factor preserving automorphism and let s be a fixed point, with representative (z_1, z_2) in \mathbb{F}_Γ . Let $\gamma \in N_0\Gamma$ be a representative of σ such that $\gamma(z_1, z_2) = (\gamma^{\rho_1}z_1, \gamma^{\rho_2}z_2) = (z_1, z_2)$. The point s is an isolated fixed point of σ if and only if γ has finitely many fixed points in \mathbb{F}_Γ .

Since $(\gamma^{\rho_1}z_1, \gamma^{\rho_2}z_2) = (z_1, z_2)$, z_1 is a fixed point of γ^{ρ_1} and z_2 is a fixed point of γ^{ρ_2} . The only automorphisms of \mathbb{H} with fixed points in \mathbb{H} are elliptic transformations or the identity. An elliptic transformation has a unique fixed point in \mathbb{H} .

By Shimizu's theorem [1963, Theorem 2], γ^{ρ_1} is trivial if and only if γ^{ρ_2} is trivial. Since we supposed that σ is nontrivial, at least one — and thus both — of the γ^{ρ_i} are elliptic elements of $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. Thus the point (z_1, z_2) is the unique fixed point of γ in $\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H}$, therefore the point s is an isolated fixed point of σ .

Suppose now that $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(X)$ is not a factor preserving automorphism. Let $\gamma' \in N\Gamma$ a representative of $\sigma \in N\Gamma/\Gamma$. There exists $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \gamma_2) \in \text{Aut } \mathbb{H} \times \text{Aut } \mathbb{H}$ such that $\gamma' = \gamma\mu \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{H} \times \mathbb{H})$. Suppose that σ has an infinite number of fixed points. Then by the above discussion, the factor preserving automorphism σ^2 (with representative $(\gamma\mu)^2 = (\gamma_1\gamma_2, \gamma_2\gamma_1)$) must be the identity and $(\gamma_1\gamma_2, \gamma_2\gamma_1)$ must be in Γ . Let $s = \Gamma(z_1, z_2)$ be a fixed point of σ . There exists $\lambda \in \Gamma$ such that

$$(\gamma_1 z_2, \gamma_2 z_1) = \lambda(z_1, z_2).$$

After the change of the representative γ' by $\lambda^{-1}\gamma'$, we can assume that $\lambda = 1$, thus $z_2 = \gamma_2 z_1$, $\gamma_1 \gamma_2 z_1 = z_1$ and $\gamma_1 \gamma_2 z_2 = z_2$. Since $(\gamma_1 \gamma_2, \gamma_2 \gamma_1)$ is in the group Γ in

which a nontrivial element has no fixed points, we obtain that $\gamma_2\gamma_1 = \gamma_1\gamma_2 = 1$. Since $\gamma_1\gamma_2 = 1$, the point (t, γ_2t) (for $t \in \mathbb{H}$) satisfies

$$\gamma'(t, \gamma_2t) = (t, \gamma_2t),$$

therefore there are no isolated fixed points for σ and its fixed point set is purely one-dimensional. The image of the disk $\Delta = \{(t, \gamma_2t) \mid t \in \mathbb{H}\}$ in X is a smooth Shimura curve (see, for instance, [Granath 2002, Chapter 7]) fixed by σ .

Assume now that X_Γ is a quaternionic fake quadric and that the fixed locus C of σ is a smooth curve. The topological Lefschetz formula (see Corollary 2.5) implies that the genus of the irreducible components of C is negative, thus the automorphism has only a finite number of fixed points. \square

Remark 3.13. Note that according to Theorem 3.12 and the proof of Corollary 2.5, the quotient of a quaternionic fake quadric by a group G is a \mathbb{Q} -homology quadric if and only if each automorphism $\sigma \in G$ has 4 fixed points, otherwise this quotient is a \mathbb{Q} -homology projective plane. All the cyclic groups G which we will study in Section 5 give examples of \mathbb{Q} -homology quadrics, with the only possible exception for automorphisms of order 4.

4. Quaternionic fake quadrics with nontrivial automorphism groups

As already mentioned, a series of examples of quaternionic fake quadrics has been constructed in [Shavel 1978]. There, the author concentrates on arithmetic lattices $\Gamma \supseteq \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ which are defined by quaternion algebras over real quadratic fields of class number one. More recently, in [Džambić 2013], more examples of quaternionic quadrics associated with quaternion algebras over quadratic fields have been found. In this section we will give examples of some known quaternionic fake quadrics together with their automorphism groups. We refer the reader to [Vignéras 1980] and [Deuring 1968] for generalities on arithmetic theory of quaternion algebras.

Let us first make a few general observations, before we discuss the examples in detail. For technical reasons it is more practical to consider the group $\mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{R})$, where $\mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{R}) = \mathrm{GL}_2^+(\mathbb{R})/\mathbb{R}^*$ and $\mathrm{GL}_2^+(\mathbb{R})$ is the group of all 2×2 matrices with positive determinant, instead of $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. We identify $\mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{R}) \times \mathrm{PGL}_2^+(\mathbb{R})$ with the group $\mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H} \times \mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H}$ of factor preserving holomorphic automorphisms.

From the point of view of Theorem 3.12 we will be interested only in automorphism subgroups $G \leq N\Gamma/\Gamma = \mathrm{Aut}(X_\Gamma)$ of factor preserving automorphisms, that is, with $N\Gamma = N_0\Gamma < \mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H} \times \mathrm{Aut} \mathbb{H}$, which we will do in the following. In all the considered examples the normalizers $N\Gamma$ will be normalizers of maximal orders and all such lattices can be described arithmetically as follows (see [Borel 1981]).

If X_Γ is a quaternionic fake quadric, there is an associated tuple $(k, \rho_1, \rho_2, B, \mathcal{O})$ as described in Section 3. The quaternion algebra B is for fixed ρ_1, ρ_2 uniquely determined (up to isomorphism) by the reduced discriminant $d_B = v_1 \cdots v_r$, the formal product over finite places v_i of k where B is ramified, that is, $B \otimes_k k_{v_i} \cong M_2(k_{v_i})$. This is a special case of H. Hasse’s deep classification theorem for simple algebras over number fields (see [Deuring 1968, VII.5, Satz 9, p. 119] or [Vignéras 1980, Chapitre III, Théorème 3.1, p. 74]). Hence, $(k, \rho_1, \rho_2, B, \mathcal{O}) = (k, \rho_1, \rho_2, d_B, \mathcal{O})$. In the following we will often abbreviate such a datum which determines the quaternion algebra B with $B(k, d_B)$ or $B(k, v_1 \cdots v_r)$. Let us fix a datum $B(k, v_1 \cdots v_r)$ and let B^+ be the group of all $x \in B^*$ such that the reduced norm $\text{Nrd}(x)$ is totally positive. It is known that

$$(4-1) \quad N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ = \{x \in B^+ \mid x\mathcal{O}x^{-1} = \mathcal{O}\}/k^*$$

is a maximal lattice. $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ contains $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is normal in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ with $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^l$ an elementary abelian 2-group with $l \geq r$ and r is the number of ramified places in B (see [Shavel 1978], for instance). If the class number of k is one (as will be the case in all the considered examples) there is an alternative description of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ as

$$(4-2) \quad N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ = \{\alpha = \varrho_1^{\epsilon_1} \cdots \varrho_r^{\epsilon_r} \lambda \tau \in B^* \mid \text{Nrd}(\alpha) \text{ totally positive, } \tau \in k^*, \lambda \in \mathcal{O}^*, \epsilon_i \in \{0, 1\}, \text{Nrd}(\varrho_i) \text{ divides } d_B\}/k^*$$

(see [Shavel 1978, p. 223]). It follows that a quaternionic fake quadric X_Γ with $\Gamma \supseteq \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ will have an elementary abelian 2-group as the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X_\Gamma)$. All Shavel’s examples will provide such automorphism groups.

A fake quadric with automorphism group $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$. There are examples of quaternionic fake quadrics X_Γ whose automorphism group is $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ and, as mentioned above, they already appear in [Shavel 1978].

For example, let $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ and let $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_3\mathfrak{p}_7)$ be the (unique) quaternion algebra over k which is ramified exactly at the two finite primes \mathfrak{p}_3 and \mathfrak{p}_7 of k lying over the rational primes 3 and 7 respectively. Since k has the class number one, there is the unique (up to conjugation) maximal order \mathcal{O} in B . Consider the group $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. By [Shavel 1978, Proposition 4.7], $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}$ is smooth. By the already mentioned general result of Matsushima and Shimura [1963], $q(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = 0$. The Chern number $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1})$ is computed via the volume formula of Shimizu (see [Shavel 1978, Theorem 3.1]). Since the prime 3 is inert and 7 is decomposed in k , this formula gives $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = 8$. The normalizer of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ and by [Shavel 1978, Proposition 1.3 and Proposition 1.4], we have

$$\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) \cong L_1/L_2 = \langle [\mathfrak{p}_3], [\mathfrak{p}_7] \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2,$$

where L_1 is the group of principal fractional ideals of type $(\mathfrak{p}_3)(\mathfrak{p}_7)I^2$ (I a principal fractional ideal) for which one can find a totally positive generator and L_2 consists of all principal ideals of type (a^2) with $a \in k$ (see also [Shimura 1967, Section 3.12]). Let $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}_3}$ be the kernel of the canonical homomorphism

$$N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ \longrightarrow L_1/L_2 \longrightarrow \langle [\mathfrak{p}_7] \rangle.$$

By Shavel's criterion [1978, Theorem 4.11], $\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}_3}$ is torsion free and as $[\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}_3} : \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1] = 2$, $X_{\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}_3}}$ is a fake quadric with $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathfrak{p}_3}}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

A fake quadric with automorphism group $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$. Consider again $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ and now the quaternion algebra $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_5)$ over k which is ramified exactly at the two finite places \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}_5 . Again there is the unique maximal order \mathcal{O} in B and as in the previous example, Shavel's results show that $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}$ is smooth. The prime 2 is ramified and 5 is inert in k and therefore Shimizu's volume formula gives $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = 4$. Hence $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}$ is a fake quadric. With the same arguments as in the previous example $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1})$ is isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$.

A fake quadric with automorphism group of order 20. Consider $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ and the quaternion algebra $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_5)$ over k which is ramified exactly at the primes \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}_5 . In this case the group $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ (where \mathcal{O} is again a maximal order in B), contains torsion elements of order 5 and no other torsions (see [Shavel 1978, Proposition 4.7 and Theorem 4.8]).¹ Volume formula of Shimizu gives in this case $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = 4/5$. Let us now give a torsion-free subgroup $\Gamma < \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ of index 5. The corresponding surface X_{Γ} will be a fake quadric. Since \mathfrak{p}_2 is ramified in B , there is a prime ideal \mathfrak{P}_2 in \mathcal{O} lying over \mathfrak{p}_2 and satisfying $\mathfrak{P}_2^2 = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathcal{O}$. Let

$$\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2) = \{x \in \mathcal{O}^1 \mid x \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_2}\}$$

and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ the image of $\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. The group $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is a normal subgroup in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ and the index can be computed via the localization of B at \mathfrak{p}_2 . Namely, observe first that $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is isomorphic to the factor group $\mathcal{O}^1/\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. This is because -1 is in $\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. Let $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ be the maximal order in $B_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$, that is, $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2} = \mathcal{O} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{C}_{k_{\mathfrak{p}_2}}$, where $\mathbb{C}_{k_{\mathfrak{p}_2}}$ is the ring of integers in $k_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$. Its maximal ideal $\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_2$ is the topological closure of \mathfrak{P}_2 . By the strong approximation property, $\mathcal{O}^1/\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1/\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_2)$. Note that $B_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1 = \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1$, since $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ is the subring of $B_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ consisting of elements whose reduced norm is less or equal 1. We use a theorem of C. Riehm [1970, Theorem 7] by which

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1/\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_2) \cong \ker((\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}/\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_2)^* \xrightarrow{\text{Nr}} (\mathbb{C}_{k_{\mathfrak{p}_2}}/\mathfrak{p}_2)^*) \cong \ker(\mathbb{F}_{16}^* \xrightarrow{\text{Nr}} \mathbb{F}_4^*) \cong \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$$

¹In Theorem 4.8 of [Shavel 1978], the symbol $\left(\frac{d}{p}\right)$ for $p = 2$ should be read as the Kronecker symbol; that is, $\left(\frac{d}{2}\right) = 1 \Leftrightarrow d \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ and $= -1 \Leftrightarrow d \equiv \pm 3 \pmod{8}$.

(Here Nr is the surjective homomorphism of multiplicative groups arising from the norm map for the field extension $\mathbb{F}_{16}/\mathbb{F}_4$.) Since $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is embedded in $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_2}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_2)/\pm 1$ and the latter group is a pro-2-group (again by [Riehm 1970]) it cannot contain elements of order 5. Therefore, $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is a torsion-free group and $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)}$ is a fake quadric. Since $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ contains a 5-torsion and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ normalizes $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$, $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)}$ contains an automorphism of order 5. In order to determine the full automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)})$ we first need to find the normalizer of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. By definition, elements of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ normalize \mathcal{O} , that is, $x\mathcal{O}x^{-1} = \mathcal{O}$. Let $\gamma \in \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. Since the class number of k is one, every two-sided \mathcal{O} -ideal is principal and we can choose $\Pi_2 \in \mathcal{O}$ such that $\Pi_2\mathcal{O} = \mathfrak{P}_2$. Moreover, as \mathfrak{P}_2 is uniquely determined by the property that the \mathbb{C}_k -ideal $\text{Nrd}(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is \mathfrak{p}_2 , we can choose Π_2 such that $\text{Nrd}(\Pi_2) = 2$. Then $\gamma = \pm(1 + m\Pi_2)$ with $m \in \mathcal{O}$. For $x \in N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ we have $x\gamma x^{-1} = 1 + xm\Pi_2x^{-1} = 1 + m'x\Pi_2x^{-1}$ with some $m' \in \mathcal{O}$. The element $x\Pi_2x^{-1}$ lies in \mathcal{O} and $\text{Nrd}(x\Pi_2x^{-1}) = \text{Nrd}(\Pi_2) = 2$. Since $\mathfrak{P}_2 = \langle \Pi_2 \rangle$ is the unique prime ideal over 2, $x\Pi_2x^{-1} \in \mathfrak{P}_2$ and $x\gamma x^{-1} \in \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. It follows that the normalizer of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. This leads to an exact sequence

$$(4-3) \quad 1 \longrightarrow \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2) \longrightarrow N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2) \longrightarrow N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 \longrightarrow 1$$

which we can write abstractly as

$$1 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\Pi_2)}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 1.$$

Let $\lambda \in \mathcal{O}^1$ satisfy $\lambda^5 = -1$, that is, λ gives rise to a 5-torsion in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. Then λ satisfies the equation $\lambda^2 - \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\lambda + 1 = 0$ over k . We can assume that λ generates $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. Let $g = \lambda + 1$. The reduced norm of g is $\text{Nrd}(g) = (\lambda + 1)(\bar{\lambda} + 1) = \text{Nrd}(\lambda) + \text{Trd}(\lambda) + 1 = 2 + \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = \frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{2}$, where Trd is the reduced trace and $x \mapsto \bar{x}$ is the standard involution of first kind on B . Since $\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{2}$ is a totally positive generator of the prime ideal over 5, g defines an element of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ (see (4-2)). On the other hand $g^2 = (\lambda + 1)^2 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 1 = (\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\lambda - 1) + 2\lambda + 1 = (\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{2})\lambda$. This shows that g has order 10 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ and hence gives an element of order 10 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. Moreover the image of g in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is not trivial. Using the computer algebra system PARI, we can check that both ramified primes \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}_5 are not split in $k(\sqrt{-2})$. This implies that $k(\sqrt{-2}) \subset B$ (see [Shavel 1978, Proposition 4.5]) and we can take $\sqrt{-2}$ as the generator Π_2 of \mathfrak{P}_2 . Hence, Π_2 , considered as an element of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$, is of order 2 and the images of g and Π_2 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ generate this group.

Lemma 4.14. *Let g and Π_2 be elements constructed above. Then in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ we have the relation $\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = g^{-1}$ modulo $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$.*

Proof. The element Π_2 generates \mathfrak{P}_2 . Consider g and Π_2 as the elements of the localization $B_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ of B at \mathfrak{p}_2 . This is a division quaternion algebra over $k_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ and has a

representation

$$B_{p_2} = L_{p_2} \oplus \Pi_2 L_{p_2},$$

where L_{p_2} is the unique unramified quadratic extension of k_{p_2} (see [Vignéras 1980, p. 34]). For every $t \in L_{p_2}$ we have $t\Pi_2 = \Pi_2\bar{t}$, where \bar{t} is the Galois-conjugate of t in L_{p_2} . The element g lies in $k_{p_2}(\lambda) = k_{p_2}(\xi_5)$ which is an unramified quadratic extension of k_{p_2} , so $L_{p_2} = k_{p_2}(\lambda)$. Therefore $g \in L_{p_2}$ and $g\Pi_2 = \Pi_2\bar{g}$. Because $g\bar{g}$ is in k^* we have that $\bar{g} = g^{-1}$ considered as an element of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ \subset B_{p_2}^*/k_{p_2}^*$. This gives a relation

$$\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = g^{-1}$$

in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$, since $\Pi_2^2 = 1$ in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. Also, g and $\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = g^{-1}$ are not equal modulo $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ because this would imply that $g^2 \in \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. But as $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is torsion-free and g^2 is of finite order, this is impossible. \square

Proposition 4.15. *With above notations we have*

$$\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)}) \cong \mathbb{D}_{10}.$$

Proof. By the above discussion, $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)})$ is of order 20 and is generated by elements g of order 10 and Π_2 of order 2 satisfying $\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = g^{-1}$. The only group of order 20 with these relations is \mathbb{D}_{10} . \square

A fake quadric with automorphism group of order 8. We consider $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ and $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_2 \mathfrak{p}_{11})$, the unique quaternion algebra ramified exactly at the primes \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}_{11} . Since 2 is inert and 11 is decomposed in k , Shimizu's volume formula gives $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = \frac{4}{5 \cdot 12} (4-1)(11-1) = 2$ as the value of the second Chern number of the quotient $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}$, where again $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is the norm-1 group of a maximal order in B . As before, results of [Shavel 1978] show that $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ contains only torsion elements of order 2 and no other torsions (Here, observe that 2 is split in $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-15})$, hence, by [Shavel 1978, Theorem 4.8] there are no elements of order 3 in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$, and note that there are no elements of order 5 because $11 \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$ which implies that \mathfrak{p}_{11} is split in $k(\xi_5)$). Since \mathfrak{p}_{11} is ramified in B , there is the unique prime ideal \mathfrak{P}_{11} in \mathcal{O} such that $\mathfrak{P}_{11}^2 = \mathfrak{p}_{11} \mathcal{O}$. Consider the principal congruence subgroup

$$\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11}) = \{x \in \mathcal{O}^1 \mid x \equiv 1 \pmod{\mathfrak{P}_{11}}\}$$

and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ its image in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. It is a normal subgroup in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. The quotient $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ is isomorphic to $\mathcal{O}^1/\pm\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ because $-1 \notin \mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$. In order to compute the latter quotient we change over to the localization at the prime \mathfrak{p}_{11} . Let

$$B_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} = B \otimes_k k_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} = B \otimes_k \mathbb{Q}_{11}.$$

This is the unique division quaternion algebra over \mathbb{Q}_{11} . We write $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} = \mathcal{O} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_k} \mathbb{Z}_{11}$

for its maximal order. As in the previous example let $\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11}$ denote the prime ideal of $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}$. We have

$$\mathcal{O}^1/\mathcal{O}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11}) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1/\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11})$$

by the strong approximation theorem. By Riehm's result [1970, Theorem 7],

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1/\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11}) \cong \ker((\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}/\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11})^* \xrightarrow{\text{Nr}} (\mathbb{O}_{k_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{11})^*) \cong \ker(\mathbb{F}_{121}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{F}_{11}^*).$$

Since $\mathbb{F}_{121} = \mathbb{F}_{11}(\xi_{12})$, where ξ_{12} denotes a primitive twelfth root of unity we conclude that $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1/\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11})$ is isomorphic to $\mu_{12} = \langle \xi_{12} \rangle$. Hence

$$\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11}) \cong \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1/\pm \mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11}) \cong \mu_6 = \langle \xi_6 \rangle.$$

Let us now define an intermediate group

$$\Gamma = \{x \in \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 \mid x \bmod \mathfrak{P}_{11} \in \langle \xi_6^2 \rangle \subset \mu_6\}.$$

$\Gamma < \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is a subgroup of index 2, hence $c_2(X_{\Gamma}) = 4$. Moreover, Γ is torsion-free since it cannot contain elements of order 2. For if an order-two element x is in Γ , then its image $x \bmod \mathfrak{P}_{11}$ in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ lies in a cyclic group $\langle \xi_6^2 \rangle$ of order three, hence it must be the identity. But this means that x is in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$. On the other hand $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ is torsion-free because it embeds in a pro-11 group $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}^1(\widehat{\mathfrak{P}}_{11})/\pm 1$. This contradicts the assumption on x . All this shows that X_{Γ} is a fake quadric.

Proposition 4.16. *Let $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ be defined as in (4-1). Then $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ is the normalizer of Γ and $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{D}_4 .*

Proof. As a subgroup of index 2 in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ the group Γ is normal in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. On the other hand, for the same reason as in the previous example, $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ as well as $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is normal subgroup in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. This already implies that Γ is normal in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ because any conjugate of Γ will be a subgroup between $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11})$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ of index 2 in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. There is only one such group, namely Γ , since $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_{11}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$. Similar exact sequence as (4-3) now shows that $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma})$ is an extension of $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ by the Klein's four group. Since the 2-torsions in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ come from embeddings of fourth roots of unity into \mathcal{O} there is $\lambda \in \mathcal{O}^1$ such that $\lambda^2 = -1$. Let $g = \lambda + 1$. Then, as $\text{Trd}(\lambda) = 0$, we have $\text{Nrd}(g) = (\lambda + 1)(\bar{\lambda} + 1) = 2$ and also $g^2 = (\lambda + 1)^2 = 2\lambda$ which implies that g defines an element of order 4 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ and hence an element of order 4 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma$. Moreover, the image of g in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is not trivial. Since both prime divisors 2 and π_{11} of the reduced discriminant do not split in $k(\sqrt{-\pi_{11}})$ (as can be checked using PARI, for instance), the element $\Pi_{11} = \sqrt{-\pi_{11}}$ is in B and moreover Π_{11} defines an element of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ of order 2 such that the images of Π_{11} and g in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ generate this group. Same argument as in Lemma 4.14 gives a relation between Π_{11} and g : consider Π_{11} as the generator of the prime ideal \mathfrak{P}_{11} . Locally, $B_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}$ can be written as $B_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} = L_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} \oplus \Pi_{11}L_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}$, where $L_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} = k_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}(\xi_{12})$ is

the unique unramified quadratic extension of $k_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}} \cong \mathbb{Q}_{11}$ with the multiplication rule $t\Pi_{11} = \Pi_{11}\bar{t}$ for all $t \in L_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}$. The element g is in $L_{\mathfrak{p}_{11}}$, namely $g = 1 + \xi_{12}^3$. Then $g\Pi_{11} = \Pi_{11}\bar{g} = \Pi_{11}(1 + \bar{\xi}_{12}^3) = \Pi_{11}(1 + \xi_{12}^9)$. In $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ the relations $\bar{g} = g^{-1}$ and $\Pi_{11}^2 = 1$ hold, hence $\Pi_{11}g\Pi_{11} = g^{-1}$ in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. Also $g \neq g^{-1}$ modulo Γ , since otherwise g^2 would be in Γ which is not possible because g^2 is torsion and Γ torsion-free. $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{D}_4 which is the only group of order 8 generated by two elements Π_{11} of order 2 and g of order 4 with $h \neq g^2$ and $\Pi_{11}g\Pi_{11} = g^{-1}$. \square

Remark 4.17. Considering $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{13})$, the quaternion algebra $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3)$, and $\Gamma = \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_3)$, the arguments as in the examples before will show that $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_3)}$ is a fake quadric whose automorphism group is isomorphic to \mathbb{D}_4 .

A fake quadric with automorphism group \mathbb{D}_6 . This time we consider the quadratic field $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ and the quaternion algebra $B = B(k, \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3)$. The norm-1 group $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ of a maximal order in B contains torsion elements of order 3, but no elements of order 2, because \mathfrak{p}_3 is decomposed in $k(\sqrt{-1})$. The second Chern number of the quotient $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}$ is $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1}) = (9 - 1)/6 = 4/3$. Let $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ be the principal congruence subgroup corresponding to the prime ideal $\mathfrak{P}_2 \subset \mathcal{O}$, defined by the relation $\mathfrak{P}_2^2 = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathcal{O}$. Again by Riehm's theorem and with arguments as in Section 4, $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$ is torsion-free normal subgroup in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ of index 3, hence $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)}$ is a fake quadric. The automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)})$ is isomorphic to the factor group

$$N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2).$$

which is an extension of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2) \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$ by $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$.

Proposition 4.18. *We have $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)}) \cong \mathbb{D}_6$.*

Proof. Let $\lambda \in \mathcal{O}^1$ be an element with $\lambda^3 = -1$ and $g = \lambda + 1$. Such λ exists since $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ contains 3-torsions. We can take $\pm\lambda$ to be the generator of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. Since $\text{Trd}(\lambda) = 1$, we have $\text{Nrd}(g) = 3$ which implies that g defines an element in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. Additionally $g^2 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 1 = 3\lambda$ which means that g has order 6 considered as an element of $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. The totally positive element $\pi_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \in k$ generates \mathfrak{p}_2 and since neither $\pi_3 = 3$ nor π_2 are split in $k(\sqrt{-\pi_2})$, $\Pi_2 = \sqrt{-\pi_2}$ lies in B and defines an element in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ of order 2 such that the classes of g and Π_2 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ generate this group. In particular, Π_2 is a generator of \mathfrak{P}_2 . Locally $B_{\mathfrak{p}_2} = L_{\mathfrak{p}_2} \oplus \Pi_2 L_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$, where $L_{\mathfrak{p}_2} = \mathbb{Q}_2(\xi_6)$ is the unramified quadratic extension of $k_{\mathfrak{p}_2} \cong \mathbb{Q}_2$. As in previous examples, g lies in $L_{\mathfrak{p}_2}$ and $\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = \bar{g} = g^{-1}$ in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. This gives a relation $\Pi_2 g \Pi_2 = g^{-1}$ in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)$. As Π_2 is not a power of g , the finite group generated by g and Π_2 is isomorphic to \mathbb{D}_6 . \square

Automorphism groups of order 16 and 24. There are more examples of quaternionic fake quadrics with a nontrivial automorphism group. For instance, all examples in Shavel’s paper have $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ or $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$ as the full group of automorphisms. As in previous examples we show

Proposition 4.19. *Let $B(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2}), \mathfrak{p}_2, \mathfrak{p}_7)$ be the indefinite quaternion algebra over $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{2})$ with reduced discriminant $d_B = \mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_7$ and $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)$ the congruence subgroup in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ corresponding to a maximal order \mathcal{O} in B with respect to the prime ideal \mathfrak{P}_7 of \mathcal{O} lying over the ramified prime \mathfrak{p}_7 . Then $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)}$ is a fake quadric with the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)}) \cong \mathbb{D}_8$.*

Proof. The proof goes along the same lines as in the examples before. By Riehm’s Theorem, $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7) \cong \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$ and we obtain $c_2(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)}) = 4$ by Shimizu’s formula. By Shavel’s criterion for the existence of torsions, we find that the maximal order \mathcal{O} contains a primitive eighth root of unity λ which leads to an element of order 4 in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$. We can take λ as a generator of this quotient. As in the examples before take $g = 1 + \lambda$. Then, as λ satisfies $\lambda^2 - \sqrt{2}\lambda + 1 = 0$ over k , $\text{Nrd}(g) = \text{Nrd}(\lambda + 1) = 2 + \sqrt{2}$, hence g defines an element in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. We have $g^2 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 1 = \sqrt{2}\lambda + 2\lambda = (2 + \sqrt{2})\lambda$. Hence, g is an element of order 8 in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ and its image in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is not trivial. The rational prime 7 is split in k , so there are two possible choices of \mathfrak{p}_7 . Fix a prime $\mathfrak{p}_7 = \langle \pi_7 \rangle$ ($\pi_7 = 3 + \sqrt{2}$ say). Both π_7 as well as π_2 are ramified in $k(\sqrt{-\pi_7})$, hence $\sqrt{-\pi_7} \in B$ defines an element $\Pi_7 \in B$ which defines an order-2 element in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. As in the previous examples we have $\Pi_7 g \Pi_7 = \bar{g}$ because locally in $B_{\mathfrak{p}_7}$, $\Pi_7 = \sqrt{-\pi_7}$ generates the unique prime ideal of the maximal order $\mathcal{O}_{\mathfrak{p}_7}$ and g lies in the unramified quadratic extension $L_{\mathfrak{p}_7} = \mathbb{Q}_7(\xi_8)$. This gives a relation $\Pi_7 g \Pi_7 = g^{-1}$ in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)$. Also Π_7 is not a power of g modulo $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_7)$ since the reduced norms of Π_7 and g are different primes. The only group of order 16 with these relations is \mathbb{D}_8 . \square

Let us finally sketch the construction of a fake quadric with an automorphism group of order 24.

Proposition 4.20. *Let $B(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3}), \mathfrak{p}_2, \mathfrak{p}_3)$ be the indefinite quaternion algebra over $k = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{3})$ ramified over the prime ideals \mathfrak{p}_2 and \mathfrak{p}_3 and let $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3) \triangleleft \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ be the principal congruence subgroup with respect to the principal ideal $\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3$ of a maximal order $\mathcal{O} \subset B$ lying over $\mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$. Then $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)}$ is a fake quadric with $|\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)})| = 24$. The automorphism group $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)})$ contains a cyclic subgroup of order 12.*

Remark 4.21. The full automorphism group in this case has order 24. To our knowledge, this is the largest known automorphism group of a fake quadric. The precise abstract group structure of $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)})$ is not known to us, since the local method, used in previous examples does not apply directly in this case.

Proof. That $X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)}$ has the correct numerical invariants follows again from Riehm’s Theorem, Shimizu’s formula and the observation that for the index we have $[\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 : \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)] = [\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 : \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2)][\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1 : \Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_3)]$. By Shavel’s criterion, B contains $k(\xi_{12})$ where ξ_{12} is a primitive twelfth root of unity, hence there is an element $\lambda \in \mathcal{O}$ with $\lambda^6 = -1$. To show that $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)$ is torsion-free we have to exclude the existence of 6-torsions in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)$. But since the reduced trace of λ is $\pm\sqrt{3}$ which is not congruent 2 modulo $\mathfrak{p}_2\mathfrak{p}_3$, λ is not contained in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)$. The element $g = \lambda + 1$ has norm $\text{Nrd}(g) = 2 + \sqrt{3}$ which is a totally positive unit of \mathbb{C}_k unit, hence g lies in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ = \mathcal{O}^+/\mathbb{C}_k^*$, where \mathcal{O}^+ denotes the group of all units whose reduced norm is totally positive. The group $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ is an index-2-extension of $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ since the fundamental unit $2 + \sqrt{3}$ is totally positive. Also $g^2 = (2 + \sqrt{3})\lambda$ which shows that g has order 12 in $\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+ \triangleleft N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$. The image of g in $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1$ is not trivial and the discussion in [Shavel 1978, pp. 223–224] shows that $N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+/\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^*$ is generated by the class of an element $\Pi \in N\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^+$ with $\text{Nrd}(\Pi) = \pi_2\pi_3$ where $\mathfrak{p}_2 = \langle \pi_2 \rangle$, $\mathfrak{p}_3 = \langle \pi_3 \rangle$ (note that the generators π_2 and π_3 cannot be chosen totally positive). Therefore, $\text{Aut}(X_{\Gamma_{\mathcal{O}}^1(\mathfrak{P}_2\mathfrak{P}_3)})$ is of order 24 and is an extension of $\mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$ by the Klein’s four group. \square

5. Computations of the quotient surfaces

Let S be a quaternionic fake quadric, G a group of automorphisms of S , S/G the quotient surface and let $\pi : Z \rightarrow S/G$ be the minimal desingularization map.

Let us first study the case where G is generated by an involution σ .

Proposition 5.22. *An involution σ has 4 fixed points. The invariants of Z are*

$$K_Z^2 = 4, \quad c_2 = 8, \quad q = p_g = 0, \quad h^{1,1} = 5.$$

The surface Z is minimal of general type.

Proof. By Lefschetz’s formula (Proposition 2.6), $1 = \sum_{s=\sigma(s)} \frac{1}{4}$, therefore σ has 4 fixed points. Their images in S/σ are 4 A_1 singularities, resolved by 4 (-2) -curves on Z . The invariants of Z are easy to compute.

The surface Z is of general type and is minimal because K_Z is the pullback of the nef divisor $K_{S/G}$. \square

Proposition 5.23. *Let $G = \langle \sigma \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$. The singularities of the quotient surface S/G are $2A_{3,1} + 2A_{3,2}$. The resolution Z has general type, and*

$$K_Z^2 = 2, \quad c_2 = 10, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. We use the notations of Zhang’s formula (Proposition 2.7). In this case this formula gives $r_1 + r_2 = 4$. An $A_{3,1}$ singularity is resolved by a (-3) -curve, and

we have

$$K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{3} - \frac{r_1}{3}.$$

Therefore $r_1 = 2$ and $r_2 = 2$. The singularities of S/G are $2A_{3,1} + 2A_{3,2}$. Moreover, as $q = p_g = 0$, we have $c_2 = 10$. Z is of general type by [Lemma 2.11](#). \square

Proposition 5.24. *There is no quaternionic fake quadric S with $G = (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^2 \subset \text{Aut } S$.*

Proof. Let σ_1, σ_2 be the two generating elements of G . Let p be one of the 4 fixed points of σ_1 (see [Proposition 5.23](#)). Since σ_1 and σ_2 commute, the set of fixed points of σ_1 is sent to itself by σ_2 , indeed there are two orbits of 2 elements because of the different local type of the action of σ_1 . Now σ_2 has order three, hence it acts trivially on these 2 orbits and the conclusion is that there are 4 fixed points for the action of the whole group G . The faithful action of G on the tangent space of p can be diagonalized, hence there are elements with one eigenvalue equal to 1, contradicting [Lemma 2.8](#) and [Theorem 3.12](#). \square

Proposition 5.25. *Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$. The singularities of the quotient S/G are $2A_{4,1} + 2A_{4,3}$ or $A_1 + 2A_{4,3}$. The invariants of the resolution Z are*

$$K_Z^2 = 0, \quad c_2 = 12, \quad q = p_g = 0$$

in the first case, and in the second case Z is minimal and satisfies

$$K_Z^2 = 2, \quad c_2 = 10, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Remark 5.26. [Proposition 5.34](#) gives an example of the first case.

Proof. Let s be a fixed point of an order 4 automorphism σ acting on S . As the involution σ^2 has only isolated fixed points, the eigenvalues of σ acting on $T_{S,s}$ cannot be $(i, -1)$ or $(-i, -1)$. Let a, b, c be the number of fixed points such that the eigenvalues of σ are (i, i) , $(-i, -i)$ and $(i, -i)$ respectively. The Lefschetz holomorphic fixed point formula implies

$$-\frac{a}{2i} + \frac{b}{2i} + \frac{c}{2} = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad a + b + c = 4 \text{ or } 2,$$

thus there are two cases:

- (1) $a = b = 1$ and $c = 2$. The singularities of S/G are $2A_{4,1} + 2A_{4,3}$.
- (2) $a = b = 0$ and $c = 2$. In this case, the singularities of S/G are $A_1 + 2A_{4,3}$ because σ^2 has 4 fixed points.

An $A_{4,1}$ singularity is resolved by a (-4) -curve C_k and an $A_{4,3}$ singularity is resolved by a chain of three (-2) -curves and we have

$$K_Z = \pi^* K_{S/\sigma} - \sum_{k=1}^{k=2} \frac{1}{2} C_k,$$

thus $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{4} - 2 = 0$ in the first case. Additionally,

$$e(S/\sigma) = \frac{1}{4}(4 + (4 - 1)4) = 4,$$

thus $c_2(Z) = 4 + 8 = 12$. The invariants in the second case are computed in a similar way. \square

Proposition 5.27. *Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$. The singularities of S/G are $4A_{5,2}$ or $A_{5,1} + 2A_{5,2} + A_{5,4}$ or $2A_{5,1} + 2A_{5,4}$. The invariants of the surface Z are, respectively,*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_Z^2 = 0 & \text{or} & K_Z^2 = -1 & \text{or} & K_Z^2 = -2 \\ c_2 = 12 & & c_2 = 13 & & c_2 = 14, \end{array}$$

and in any case $q = p_g = 0$.

Remark 5.28. (1) In [Proposition 5.31](#) below, we give an example of a surface such that the quotient by an order 5 automorphism has $2A_{5,1} + 2A_{5,4}$ singularities.

(2) By the same kind of arguments as for $(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^2$ (see [Proposition 5.24](#)), there is no fake quadric S with $(\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^2 \subset \text{Aut } S$.

Proof. Using the notations of [Proposition 2.7](#), the number of fixed points $r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + r_4$ equals 4. As $e(S/\sigma) = \frac{1}{5}(4 + (5 - 1)4) = 4$, Zhang's formula yields

$$(a_1, \dots, a_4) = \left(0, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right),$$

with

$$\sum 4a_i r_i = r_2 + r_3 + 2r_4 = 4.$$

Thus $r_1 = r_4$. Therefore the possibilities for (r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4) are $(0, i, j, 0)$ with $i + j = 4$, or $(1, i, j, 1)$ with $i + j = 2$, or $(2, 0, 0, 2)$. The singularities on the quotient are, respectively,

$$4A_{5,2} \quad \text{or} \quad A_{5,1} + 2A_{5,2} + A_{5,4} \quad \text{or} \quad 2A_{5,1} + 2A_4.$$

A singularity $A_{5,i}$ ($i = 1, \dots, 4$) contributes (respectively)

$$-\frac{9}{5}, -\frac{2}{5}, -\frac{2}{5}, 0$$

to K_Z^2 . Thus the self-intersection number is

$$K_Z^2 = \frac{1}{5}(8 - 9r_1 - 2(r_2 + r_3)),$$

and according to the possible tuples (r_1, \dots, r_4) as above: $K_Z^2 = 0$, or $K_Z^2 = -1$, or $K_Z^2 = -2$. As $e(S/G) = 4$, we get $c_2 = 12, 13$, or 14 according to the three possible singular loci.

Let us justify our computation of K_Z^2 . An $A_{5,1}$ -singularity is resolved by a (-5) -curve C_5 , thus we have to add $-\frac{3}{5}C_5$ to the canonical divisor. This contributes $(-\frac{3}{5}C_5)^2 = -\frac{9}{5}$ to K_Z^2 . On the other hand, an $A_{5,2}$ -singularity is resolved by a chain of two curves C_2, C_3 with $C_k^2 = -k$. We have to add $-\frac{2}{5}C_3 - \frac{1}{5}C_2$ to $\pi^*K_{S/G}$, and the contribution to K_Z^2 is

$$(\frac{2}{5}C_3 + \frac{1}{5}C_2)^2 = -\frac{2}{5}.$$

Finally, note that $A_{5,3} = A_{5,2}$, and the $A_{5,4}$ -singularity does not contribute to K_Z^2 . \square

Proposition 5.29. *If $G = \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$, then S/G has singularities $2A_{6,1} + 2A_{6,5}$. The minimal resolution Z has invariants*

$$K_Z^2 = -4, \quad c_2 = 16, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. Let s be a fixed point of an order 6 automorphism σ . Let α be a primitive third root of unity. By Lemma 2.8, the action of σ on $T_{S,s}$ has eigenvalues $(-\alpha, (-\alpha)^a)$ or $(-\alpha^2, (-\alpha^2)^a)$ with $a = 1$ or 5 . Let r_1, r_2 and r_3 be respectively the number of fixed points of σ with eigenvalues $(-\alpha, -\alpha)$, $(-\alpha^2, -\alpha^2)$ and $(-\alpha, -\alpha^5)$. Lefschetz fixed point formula (Proposition 2.6) implies the relation

$$\frac{r_1}{(1 + \alpha)^2} + \frac{r_2}{(1 + \alpha^2)^2} + r_3 = 1,$$

therefore $r_1 = r_2$ and $-r_1 + r_3 = 1$. By Corollary 2.5, σ has 2 or 4 fixed points. The only possibility for (r_1, r_3) is therefore $(1, 2)$. The singularities are $2A_{6,1} + 2A_{6,5}$ and the minimal resolution Z of S/σ has $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{6} - 2 \cdot \frac{8}{3} = -4$. Moreover $e(Z) = \frac{1}{6}(4 + 5 \cdot 4) + 2 + 2 \cdot 5 = 16$. \square

Let us study the case $G = \mathbb{Z}/8\mathbb{Z}$.

Proposition 5.30. *Let σ be an order 8 element acting on S . The singularities of S/σ are $2A_{8,3} + 2A_{8,5}$. The resolution Z of the quotient surface is a surface with*

$$K_Z^2 = -2, \quad c_2(Z) = 14, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. Let p be a fixed point of σ and let $\xi_{(p)}$ be a primitive eighth root of unity such that σ acts on $T_{S,p}$ with eigenvalues $\xi_{(p)}$ and $\xi_{(p)}^{q_p}$ for $q_p \in \{0, \dots, 7\}$. There are no reflections, so we have $\xi_{(p)}^j \neq 1$ and $\xi_{(p)}^{jq_p} \neq 1$ for $j = 1, \dots, 7$, thus q_p is prime to 2: $q_p \in \{1, 3, 5, 7\}$. Let a_1, a_3, a_5 and a_7 be the number of fixed points p with $q_p = 1, 3, 5$ or 7 respectively. We have $\sum a_i = 2$ or 4 . By summing over the powers σ^k for $k = 1, \dots, 7$ in the formula of the holomorphic Lefschetz theorem,

we get

$$7 = \sum_{p \in S^\sigma} \sum_{k=1}^{k=7} \frac{1}{\det(1 - d\sigma^k|_{T_{S,p}})},$$

and thus

$$7 = \sum_{u=0}^{u=3} \sum_{k=1}^{k=7} \frac{a_{2u+1}}{(1 - \xi^k)(1 - \xi^{k(2u+1)})} = \frac{7}{4}a_1 + \frac{5}{4}a_3 + \frac{9}{4}a_5 + \frac{21}{4}a_7.$$

The possibilities for (a_1, \dots, a_4) are $(4, 0, 0, 0)$, $(2, 1, 1, 0)$, $(1, 0, 0, 1)$ and $(0, 2, 2, 0)$.

For t^2 of order 4, we have seen that the singularities of S/σ^2 are $2A_{4,1} + 2A_{4,3}$ or $A_1 + 2A_{4,3}$. Thus the only possibility for (a_1, \dots, a_4) is $(0, 2, 2, 0)$, and the singularities of S/σ are $2A_{8,3} + 2A_{8,5}$. The Euler number of S/σ is

$$e(S/\sigma) = \frac{1}{8}(4 + 7 \cdot 4) = 4.$$

Since $\frac{8}{3} = 3 - \frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{8}{5} = 2 - \frac{1}{3 \cdot \frac{1}{2}}$ we get

$$e(Z) = 4 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 = 14.$$

It is easy to check that a singularity $A_{8,3}$ decreases K_Z^2 by 1 and a singularity $A_{8,5}$ decreases K_Z^2 by $\frac{1}{2}$, thus we obtain $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{8} - 2 \cdot 1 - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = -2$. \square

Proposition 5.31. *Let S be a fake quadric with $G = \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z} \subset \text{Aut}(S)$. The singularities of the quotient surface S/G are $2A_{10,1} + 2A_{10,9}$. The resolution Z has the invariants*

$$K^2 = -12, \quad c_2 = 24, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. Let σ be an automorphism of order 10 acting on S . It has 2 or 4 fixed points. As the involution σ^5 has 4 fixed points, σ cannot have 2 fixed points. Therefore

$$e(S/G) = \frac{1}{10}(4 + (10 - 1)4) = 4.$$

Let ξ be a primitive fifth root of unity and p a fixed point. There exist $a = a(p)$ and $b = b(p)$ integers invertible mod 5 such that the action of σ on $T_{S,p}$ has eigenvalues $(-\xi^a, -\xi^{ba})$. The Lefschetz holomorphic fixed point formula yields

$$1 = \sum_{p \in S^\sigma} \frac{1}{(1 + \xi^a)(1 + \xi^{ab})}.$$

For $b = 1, 2, 3, 4$, the sum

$$c(b) = \sum_{a=1}^{a=4} \frac{1}{(1 + \xi^a)(1 + \xi^{ab})}$$

is equal to $-4, 1, 1, 6$, respectively. Recall again that $A_{10,3} = A_{10,7}$. For $k \in \{1, 3, 9\}$, let r_k be the number of points in S^σ giving an $A_{10,k}$ singularity. The Lefschetz fixed point formula gives

$$4 = -4r_1 + r_3 + 6r_9.$$

Taking care of the relation $r_1 + r_3 + r_9 = 4$, we have the following possibilities for (r_1, r_3, r_9) : $(0, 4, 0)$, $(1, 2, 1)$ and $(2, 0, 2)$.

The resolution of an $A_{10,3}$ -singularity is a chain of 3 curves C_2, C'_2, C_4 with intersection numbers $(-2) - (-2) - (-4)$. We have to add $-\frac{1}{5}(C_2 + C'_2 + C_4)$ to $\pi^*K_{S/G}$. Each singularity contributes $(-\frac{1}{5}(C_2 + C'_2 + C_4))^2 = -\frac{6}{5}$ to K_Z^2 .

Similarly, the resolution of an $A_{10,1}$ -singularity is a (-10) -curve C_{10} . An $A_{10,1}$ -singularity decreases $K_{S/G}^2$ by $(-\frac{8}{10}C_{10})^2 = -\frac{32}{5}$.

When the singularities of S/G are respectively $4A_{10,3}, A_{10,1} + 2A_{10,3} + A_{10,9}$ and $2A_{10,1} + 2A_{10,9}$, we have: $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{10} - 4 \cdot \frac{6}{5} = -4$, $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{10} - \frac{32}{5} - 2 \cdot \frac{6}{5} - 0 = -8$ and $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{10} - 2 \cdot \frac{32}{5} = -12$, respectively. The Euler number of Z is respectively $4 + 4 \cdot 2 = 12$, $4 + 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 9 = 18$ and $4 + 2 + 2 \cdot 9 = 24$. Only the last case is possible because 12 has to divide $K_Z^2 + e(Z)$. \square

Proposition 5.32. *Let $G = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$. The quotient surface S/G contains 6 A_1 singularities. The surface Z is minimal of general type and has the invariants*

$$K_Z^2 = 2, \quad c_2 = 10, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. A faithful representation of G on a 2-dimensional space contains reflections, therefore by [Lemma 2.8](#), there are no points fixed by the whole G . The group G contains 3 involutions. Each of these involutions has 4 isolated fixed points whose image in X are $2A_1$ singularities. Thus there are $6A_1$ singularities on S/G and we have

$$e(Z) = e(S/G) + 6 = \frac{1}{4}(4 + 12) + 6 = 10.$$

Moreover, $K_Z = \pi^*K_{S/G}$ is nef and $K_{S/G}^2 = K_S^2/4 = 2$. By [Lemma 2.10](#), we have $q = p_g = 0$. \square

Remark 5.33. (a) Fabrizio Catanese and Miles Reid pointed out to us that a minimal surface of general type with $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$, $p_g = 0$ and automorphism group containing $G = (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$ such that each involution has only isolated points must deform, therefore $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$ cannot be a subgroup of the automorphism group of a quaternionic fake quadric, which is a rigid surface. The complete argument is as follows: The minimal resolution Z of the quotient $Y = X/G$ of a fake quadric X by G would be a numerical Godeaux surface, that is, a surface with $c_1^2 = 1$ and with the maximal number of nodal curves, being equal to 7. We do not know whether such a surface exists, but from coding theory one would have a covering $S \rightarrow Y$ with group G ramified only over the nodes.

The covering surface S would have $c_1^2 = 8$, $p_g = 0$. However, the Kuranishi family of deformations for the surface Z has dimension greater or equal to the expected dimension, which is $8 = 10\chi - 2c_1^2$, and the 7 nodes impose at most 1 condition each, because of the morphism of the global deformation space to the local deformation space of the singularities. Therefore this family of 7-nodal numerical Godeaux surfaces would have 1 modulus, and therefore also the above surfaces S would vary in moduli. However, quotients of the bidisk by an irreducible subgroup are rigid, for instance, by a theorem of Jost and Yau.

- (b) For $G = \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, the quotient surface S/G has singularities $2A_1 + 2A_3$ and the desingularization Z has invariants $K_Z^2 = 1$, $c_2 = 11$, $q = p_g = 0$. We do not know if a fake quadric S with such automorphism subgroup exists.

Proposition 5.34. *Let $G = \mathbb{D}_4$ acting on the fake quadric S . The singularities of S/G are $4A_1 + A_{4,3} + A_{4,1}$. The resolution Z of the quotient surface has invariants*

$$K_Z^2 = 0, \quad c_2(Z) = 12, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

The elements of order 4 in \mathbb{D}_4 have 4 fixed points.

Proof. Let t and a be the generators of \mathbb{D}_4 such that $t^4 = 1$, $a^2 = 1$ and $at = t^3a$. The elements of order 4 are t and t^3 . The elements of order 2 are a , ta , t^2a , t^3a and t^2 .

There cannot be a point of S that is fixed by the whole group G because any faithful 2-dimensional representation of G contains a reflection $(x, y) \rightarrow (x, -y)$ and thus such a point would lie on a curve fixed by an involution, but an automorphism of S has only isolated fixed points.

First case: Suppose that t has 4 fixed points, $\text{Fix}(t) = \{p_1, ap_1, p_2, ap_2\}$. The Euler number of S/G is

$$e(S/G) = \frac{1}{8}(4 + (2 - 1)(4 \cdot 4) + (4 - 1)4) = 4.$$

The singularities on S/G are $4A_1 + A_{4,3} + A_{4,1}$ and therefore

$$e(Z) = 4 + 4 + 3 + 1 = 12.$$

Moreover $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{8} + (-\frac{1}{2})^2(-4) = 0$.

Second case: Suppose that t has 2 fixed points, $\text{Fix}(t) = \{p_1, ap_1\}$. The Euler number of $e(S/G)$ would be

$$\frac{1}{8}(4 + (2 - 1)18 + (4 - 1)2) = \frac{7}{2},$$

but this is not an integer. □

Proposition 5.35. *Suppose that the dihedral group \mathbb{D}_8 of order 16 acts on fake quadric S . The singularities of S/\mathbb{D}_8 are $4A_1 + A_{8,3} + A_{8,5}$. The resolution Z of the quotient surface has invariants*

$$K_Z^2 = -1, \quad c_2(Z) = 13, \quad q = p_g = 0.$$

Proof. Let t and a be generators of \mathbb{D}_8 such that $t^8 = a^2 = 1$ and $at = t^7a$. Order 8 elements in G are t, t^3, t^5, t^7 ; order 4 elements are t^2, t^6 ; order 2 elements are $a, ta, t^2a, t^3a, t^4a, t^5a, t^6a, t^7a$ and t^4 .

By the discussion on order 8 elements, t has 4 fixed points, say p_1, ap_1, p_2, ap_2 . Let p be a fixed point of an involution $\sigma \neq t^4$. The orbit of p under G consists of 8 elements, each is a fixed point of an involution $\neq t^4$. The quotient surface has $\frac{1}{8} \cdot 8 \cdot 4A_1 + A_{8,3} + A_{8,5}$ singularities. We have

$$e(S/G) = \frac{1}{16}(4 + 1 \cdot (8 \cdot 4) + 7 \cdot 4) = 4,$$

and $e(Z) = 4 + 4 + 2 + 3 = 13$. Moreover $K_Z^2 = \frac{8}{16} - 1 - \frac{1}{2} = -1$. \square

6. Reconstruction of a surface knowing its quotient

Miyaoka [1984] gives a bound on the number of disjoint (-2) -curves on a minimal smooth surface Y . This implies in particular that if $c_1^2 = 4, 2$ or 1 and $\chi(\mathcal{O}_Y) = 1$, there are at most 4, 6 and 7 such curves respectively. The surfaces with $c_1^2 = 4, 2$ we obtained as quotient of quaternionic fake quadrics reach that bound. For the cases $c_1^2 = 2$ these surfaces seem to be the first known ones with that property.

Dolgachev, Mendes Lopes, and Pardini [2002] study rational surfaces with the maximal number of (-2) -curves. For that aim they use and develop the theory of $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^n$ -covers ramified over A_1 singularities. Using their results, we obtain:

Proposition 6.36. *Let Y be a smooth minimal surface of general type with $q = p_g = 0$ and ${}_2\text{Pic}(Y) = 0$.*

- (a) *If $c_1(Y)^2 = 4, c_2(Y) = 8$ and Y contains 4 disjoint (-2) -curves C_1, \dots, C_4 , then there exists a double cover of Y ramified over the curves C_i . The minimal model of this covering has invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ and $q \leq 1$.*
- (b) *If $c_1(Y)^2 = 2, c_2(Y) = 10$ and Y contains 6 disjoint (-2) -curves C_1, \dots, C_6 , then there exists a bidouble cover of Y ramified over the curves C_i . The minimal model of this covering has invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ and $q \leq 2$.*
- (c) *If $c_1(Y)^2 = 1, c_2(Y) = 11$ and Y contains 7 disjoint (-2) -curves C_1, \dots, C_7 , then there exists a $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^3$ -cover of Y ramified over the curves C_i . The minimal model of this covering has invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$ and $q \leq 2$.*

Let \mathbb{F}_2 be the field with 2 elements. Let C_1, \dots, C_k be k (-2) -curves on a smooth surface Y . Let

$$\psi: \mathbb{F}_2^k \rightarrow \text{Pic}(Y) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$$

be the homomorphism sending $v = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$ to $\sum v_i C_i$. We say that the curve C_j appears in the kernel $\ker \psi$ if there is a vector $v = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$ in $\ker \psi$ such that $v_j = 1$. For v in $\ker \psi$, we denote by L_v an element of $\text{Pic}(Y)$ such that $2L_v = \sum v_i C_i$ (we sometimes identify elements of \mathbb{F}_2 with 0, 1 in \mathbb{Z}). We have:

Proposition 6.37 [Dolgachev et al. 2002, Proposition 2.3]. *Suppose that ${}_2\text{Pic}(Y)$ is zero. There exists a unique smooth connected Galois cover $\pi: Z \rightarrow Y$ such that the Galois group of π is $G = \text{Hom}(\ker \psi, \mathbb{G}_m)$, the branch locus of π is the union of the C_i appearing in $\ker \psi$ and the surface \bar{Z} obtained by contracting the (-1) -curves over the (-2) -curves in Y has invariants*

$$K_{\bar{Z}}^2 = 2^r K_Y^2 c_2(\bar{Z}) = \chi(\mathcal{O}_{\bar{Z}}) = 2^r \chi(\mathcal{O}_Y) - k2^{r-3} \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa(\bar{Z}) = \kappa(Y),$$

where $r = \dim V$.

Proof of Proposition 6.36. We have to prove that for our surface Y , $\ker \psi$ has the required dimension and that all the curves appear in $\ker \psi$. For $c_1^2(Y) = 4$ and 2, we have $b_2(Y) = h^{1,1}(Y) = 6, 8$ and 9 respectively. As we supposed that ${}_2\text{Pic}(Y) = 0$, the space $\text{Pic}(Y) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$ is $h^{1,1}$ -dimensional. As $p_g = 0$, it has moreover a nondegenerate intersection pairing and therefore the dimension of a totally isotropic space in $\text{Pic}(Y) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$ is at most $\lfloor h^{1,1}/2 \rfloor = 3, 4$, and 4 dimensional respectively. The image of ψ is the totally isotropic space generated by the curves C_i , therefore the dimension r of $\ker \psi$ is at least 1, 2 and 3 respectively.

A smooth double cover of a surface with n nodes can exist only if n is divisible by 4 (see [Dolgachev et al. 2002]). Therefore the vectors $v = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$ in $\ker \psi$ (of dimension ≤ 7) have weight 4, that is, the number of indices j such that $v_j = 1$ is 4.

In case (a), $\ker \psi$ is one-dimensional, generated by $w_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1)$. For (b), as every vector in $\ker \psi$ has weight 4, by [Beauville 1980, Lemme 1], we have $k \geq 2^r - 1$ and thus $r \leq 2$ and $r \leq 3$ respectively. Moreover, it is easy to check that in the case (b), the space $\ker \psi$ is (up to permutation of the basis vectors) generated by $w_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0)$ and $w_2 = (1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1)$.

In case (c) [Beauville 1980, Lemme 1] implies that $\ker \psi$ is (up to permutation) generated by $w_1 = (1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1)$, $w_2 = (0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1)$ and $w_3 = (0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1)$.

The surface \bar{Z} obtained by contracting the (-1) -curves over the (-2) -curves C_i is minimal because no surface with $c_1^2 = 3c_2 = 9$ has an order 2 automorphism. \square

Let us give a bound on the irregularity.

Lemma 6.38. *Let Y be a surface of general type with $\chi = 1$ and $q = 0$ containing a 2-divisible set of 4 (-2) -curves. Let $Y' \rightarrow Y$ be the double cover. Then $q(Y') \leq 1$.*

Proof. As $q(Y) = 0$, the involution σ on Y' given by the cover $Y' \rightarrow Y$ acts as multiplication by -1 on $H^0(Y', \Omega_{Y'})$. Therefore, σ acts trivially on $\wedge^2 H^0(Y', \Omega_{Y'})$. As $p_g(Y) = 0$, the map $\wedge^2 H^0(Y', \Omega_{Y'}) \rightarrow H^0(Y', \wedge^2 \Omega_{Y'})$ must be 0. Let $Y' \rightarrow Y''$ be the blow-down map of the 4 (-1) -curves over the 4 nodal curves of Y . If $q(Y'') \geq 1$, Castelnuovo–De Franchis Theorem implies that there is a fibration onto a curve B of genus $q(Y'')$. By [Zucconi 2003], we get that $q(Y'') \leq 2$ and if $q(Y'') = 2$, then Y'' is an étale bundle of genus 2 fibers onto a genus 2 curve B and $K_{Y''}^2 = 8$. In that case, there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y'' & \rightarrow & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ B & \rightarrow & \mathbb{P}^1 \end{array}$$

where the vertical maps are genus 2 fibrations and X is the surface obtained by contracting the 4 (-2) -curves on Y . This diagram is obtained from $B \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ by taking base change and normalizing. Since $Y'' \rightarrow X$ is unramified in codimension 1, the 6 fibers of $X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ occurring at the 6 branch points of $B \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ are double. Since X has only 4 singular points, $X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ has at least two double fibers contained in the smooth locus of X , but a multiple fiber on a genus 2 fibration cannot exist (because of the adjunction formula). Thus $q \leq 1$. \square

Let us now consider a smooth minimal surface of general type Z with $K^2 = 2$, $c_2 = 10$, $q = p_g = 0$ such that there is a birational map onto a surface Y with singularities $2A_{3,1} + 2A_{3,2}$.

Proposition 6.39. *Suppose that ${}_3\text{Pic}(Z) = 0$. There exists a smooth triple cover X of Y ramified precisely over the singularities of Y . The surface X is of general type and has invariants $c_1^2 = 2c_2 = 8$.*

Proof. Let D_1, D_2 be the (-3) -curves over the singularities $A_{3,1}$ and let D_3, \dots, D_6 be the (-2) -curves over the singularities $A_{3,2}$, with indices satisfying $D_3 D_4 = D_5 D_6 = 1$. Let $W \rightarrow Y$ be the blow-up at the intersection points of D_3, D_4 and of D_5, D_6 . Let C_1, \dots, C_6 be the strict transforms of the D_i in W . Let

$$\psi : \mathbb{F}_3^6 \rightarrow \text{Pic}(W) \otimes \mathbb{F}_3 = H^2(W, \mathbb{F}_3)$$

be the homomorphism sending $v = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$ to $\sum v_i C_i$. The image of ψ is a totally isotropic subspace in $H^2(W, \mathbb{F}_3)$. As $b_2(W) = 10$, this image is at most 5-dimensional and therefore $\dim \ker \psi \geq 1$. Let $v = (v_1, \dots, v_6) \in \ker \psi$, $v \neq 0$. We choose the representatives of \mathbb{F}_3 in $\{0, 1, 2\}$. There exists a unique invertible sheaf L such that

$$3L = \sum v_i C_i.$$

Let T be the triple cover of W ramified over the r curves C_i such that $v_i \neq 0$. The surface T is smooth outside the curves C_i with $v_i = 2$. Let R be the minimal resolution of T and let $f: R \rightarrow W$ be the composite map. By [Urzúa 2010, Propositions 2.2, 4.1 and 4.3], the invariants of R are

$$K_R =_{\text{num}} f^*(K_W + \frac{2}{3}\Sigma), \quad c_2(R) = 3c_2(W) - 4r, \quad \chi(\mathcal{O}_R) = 3\chi(\mathcal{O}_W) - \frac{1}{3}r,$$

where Σ is the sum of the r curves C_i such that $v_i \neq 0$. Therefore $r = 3$ or 6 and

$$K_R^2 = 0, \quad c_2(R) = 36 - 4r, \quad \chi(\mathcal{O}_W) = 3 - \frac{1}{3}r.$$

As there are at least 3 curves C_i in the branch locus, one of the curves C_3, \dots, C_6 is in that branch locus. Say it is C_3 . Let E be the exceptional curve going through C_3 . As $C_3E = C_4E = 1$ and $E \sum v_i C_i$ is divisible by 3, it forces C_4 to be also in the branch locus and thus $r = 6$ (and $\dim \ker \psi = 1$). The inverse image of the 6 (-3) -curves are (-1) -curves. By the formula giving K_R , the inverse image of the two exceptional curves are (-3) -curves meeting two (-1) -curves. We can therefore effectuate 8 blow-downs and we obtain a fake quadric. It has general type because Y has general type, it is minimal because the quotient of a fake plane by an order 3 automorphism with 4 isolated fixed points has $4A_2$ singularities. \square

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