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# THE GROUP STRUCTURE OF THE NORMALIZER OF $\Gamma_0(N)$ AFTER ATKIN-LEHNER

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ABSTRACT. We determine the group structure of the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  modulo  $\Gamma_0(N)$ . These results correct the Atkin-Lehner statement [1, Theorem 8].

### 1. Introduction

The modular curves  $X_0(N)$  contain deep arithmetical information. These curves are the Riemann surfaces obtained by completing with the cusps the upper half plane modulo the modular subgroup

$$\Gamma_0(N) = \{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ Nc & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) | c \in \mathbb{Z} \}.$$

It is clear that the elements in the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  induce automorphisms of  $X_0(N)$  and moreover one obtains in that way all automorphisms of  $X_0(N)$  for  $N \neq 37$  and 63 [3]. This is one reason coming from the modular world that shows the interest in computing the group structure of this normalizer modulo  $\Gamma_0(N)$ .

Morris Newman obtains a result for this normalizer in terms of matrices [5],[6], see also the work of Atkin-Lehner and Newman [4]. Moreover, Atkin-Lehner state without proof the group structure of this normalizer modulo  $\Gamma_0(N)$  [1, Theorem 8]. In this paper we correct this statement and we obtain the right structure of the normalizer modulo  $\Gamma_0(N)$ . The results are a generalization of some results noticed in [2].

## 2. The Normalizer of $\Gamma_0(N)$ in $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$

Denote by Norm( $\Gamma_0(N)$ ) the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Theorem 1** (Newman). Let  $N = \sigma^2 q$  with  $\sigma, q \in \mathbb{N}$  and q square-free. Let  $\epsilon$  be the gcd of all integers of the form a-d where a,d are integers such that  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ Nc & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)$ . Denote by  $v := v(N) := \gcd(\sigma, \epsilon)$ . Then  $M \in \operatorname{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$  if and only if M is of the form

$$\sqrt{\delta} \left( \begin{array}{cc} r\Delta & \frac{u}{v\delta\Delta} \\ \frac{sN}{v\delta\Delta} & l\Delta \end{array} \right)$$

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After the paper were accepted we learned that a similar result was obtained by M. Akbas and D. Singerman in *The normalizer of*  $\Gamma_0(N)$  *in*  $PSL(2,\mathbb{R})$  with a different proof. See the postcript.

with  $r, u, s, l \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\delta | q, \Delta | \frac{\sigma}{v}$ . Moreover  $v = 2^{\mu}3^{w}$  with  $\mu = min(3, [\frac{1}{2}v_{2}(N)])$  and  $w = min(1, [\frac{1}{2}v_{3}(N)])$  where  $v_{p_{i}}(N)$  is the valuation at the prime  $p_{i}$  of the integer N.

This theorem is really proved (and not only stated) by Morris Newman in [5] [6], see also [2, p.12-14].

Observe that if  $\gcd(\delta\Delta,6)=1$  we have  $\gcd(\delta\Delta^2,\frac{N}{\delta\Delta^2})=1$  because the determinant is one .

## 3. The group structure of $Norm(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$

In this section we obtain some partial results on the group structure of Norm( $\Gamma_0(N)$ ). Let us first introduce some particular elements of  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Definition 1.** Let N be fixed. For every divisor m' of N with gcd(m', N/m') = 1 the Atkin-Lehner involution  $w_{m'}$  is defined as follows,

$$w_{m'} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m'}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} m'a & b \\ Nc & m'd \end{array} \right) \in SL_2(\mathbb{R})$$

with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Denote by  $S_{v'}=\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{v'} \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  with  $v'\in\mathbb{N}\setminus\{0\}$ . Atkin-Lehner claimed in [1] the following:

Claim 2 (Atkin-Lehner). [1, Theorem 8] The quotient  $Norm(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  is the direct product of the following groups:

- (1)  $\{w_{q^{v_q(N)}}\}\ for\ every\ prime\ q,\ q\geq 5\ q\mid N.$
- (2) (a) If  $v_3(N) = 0$ , {1}
  - (b) If  $v_3(N) = 1$ ,  $\{w_3\}$
  - (c) If  $v_3(N) = 2$ ,  $\{w_9, S_3\}$ ; satisfying  $w_9^2 = S_3^3 = (w_9 S_3)^3 = 1$  (factor of order 12)
  - (d) If  $v_3(N) \geq 3$ ;  $\{w_{3^{v_3(N)}}, S_3\}$ ; where  $w_{3^{v_3(N)}}^2 = S_3^3 = 1$  and  $w_{3^{v_3(N)}} S_3 w_{3^{v_3(N)}}$  commute with  $S_3$  (factor group with 18 elements)
- (3) Let be  $\lambda = v_2(N)$  and  $\mu = \min(3, \lfloor \frac{\lambda}{2} \rfloor)$  and denote by  $v'' = 2^{\mu}$  the we have:
  - (a) If  $\lambda = 0$ ; {1}
  - (b) If  $\lambda = 1$ ;  $\{w_2\}$
  - (c) If  $\lambda = 2\mu$ ;  $\{w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_{v''}\}$  with the relations  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2 = S_{v''}^{v''} = (w_{2^{v_2(N)}} S_{v''})^3 = 1$ , where they have orders 6,24, and 96 for v = 2,4,8 respectively. (One needs to warn that for v = 8 the relations do not define totally this factor group).
  - (d) If  $\lambda > 2\mu$ ; {  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_{v''}$ };  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2 = S_{v''}^{v''} = 1$ . Moreover,  $S_{v''}$  commutes with  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_{v''}w_{2^{v_2(N)}}$  (factor group of order  $2^{v''}$ ).

Let us give some partial results first.

**Proposition 3.** Suppose that v(N) = 1 (thus  $4 \nmid N$  and  $9 \nmid N$ ). Then the Atkin-Lehner involutions generate  $Norm(\Gamma_0(N)/\Gamma_0(N))$  and the group structure is

$$\cong \prod_{i=1}^{\pi(N)} \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$$

where  $\pi(N)$  is the number of prime numbers  $\leq N$ .

*Proof.* This is classically known already in the 1970's. We recall only that  $w_{mm'} = w_m w_{m'}$  for (m, m') = 1 and easily  $w_m w_{m'} = w_{m'} w_m$ ; the the result follows by a straightforward computation from Theorem 1, see also [2, p.14].

When v(N) > 1 it is clear that some element  $S_{v'}$  appears in the group structure of  $\text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  from Theorem 1.

**Lemma 4.** If 4|N the involution  $S_2 \in \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$  commutes with the Atkin-Lehner involutions  $w_m$  with gcd(m, 2) = 1 and with the other  $S_{v'}$ .

*Proof.* By the hypothesis the following matrix belongs to  $\Gamma_0(N)$ 

$$w_m S_2 w_m S_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2mk^2 + 2Nt + mkNt}{2m} & \frac{(2+2m)(2m+2mk+Nt)}{4m} \\ \frac{Nt(2m+2mk+Nt)}{2m} & m+Nt + \frac{Nt}{m} + \frac{kNt}{2} + \frac{Nt^2}{4m} \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Proposition 5.** Let  $N = 2^{v_2(N)} \prod_i p_i^{n_i}$ , with  $p_i$  different odd primes and assume that  $v_2(N) \leq 3$ ,  $v_3(N) \leq 1$ . Then Atkin-Lehner's Claim 2 is true.

For the proof we need two lemmas.

**Lemma 6.** Let  $\tilde{u} \in \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$  and write it as:

$$\tilde{u} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\delta \Delta^2}} \begin{pmatrix} \Delta^2 \delta r & \frac{u}{2} \\ \frac{sN}{2} & l \Delta^2 \delta \end{pmatrix},$$

following the notation of Theorem 1. Then:

$$\begin{split} w_{\Delta^2\delta}\tilde{u} &= \left( \begin{array}{cc} r' & \frac{u'}{2} \\ \frac{s'N}{2} & v' \end{array} \right), \ if \ \gcd(\delta,2) = 1, \\ w_{\Delta^2\frac{\delta}{2}}\tilde{u} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} 2r'' & \frac{u''}{2} \\ \frac{s''N}{2} & 2v'' \end{array} \right), \ if \ \gcd(\delta,2) = 2. \end{split}$$

*Proof.* This is an easy calculation.

We study now the different elements of the type

$$a(r', u', s', v') = \begin{pmatrix} r' & \frac{u'}{2} \\ \frac{s'N}{2} & v' \end{pmatrix},$$
$$b(r'', u'', s'', v'') = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 2r'' & \frac{u''}{2} \\ \frac{s''N}{2} & 2v'' \end{pmatrix}.$$

Observe that b(,,,) only appears when  $N \equiv 0 \pmod{8}$ .

**Lemma 7.** For  $N \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$  all the elements of the normalizer of type a(r', u', s', v') belong to the order six group  $\{S_2, w_4 | S_2^2 = w_4^2 = (w_4 S_2)^3 = 1\}$ .

*Proof.* Straightforward from the equalities:

$$a(r', u', s', v') \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow s' \equiv u' \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$a(r', u', s', v') S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv u' \equiv 1 \ s' \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$a(r', u', s', v') w_4 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv 0 \ u' \equiv s' \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$$

$$a(r', u', s', v') w_4 S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv u' \equiv s' \equiv 1 \ v' \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

$$a(r', u', s', v')S_2w_4 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow v' \equiv u' \equiv s' \equiv 1 \ r' \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$
$$a(r', u', s', v')S_2w_4S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv s' \equiv 1 \ u' \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$$

**Lemma 8.** Let N be a positive integer with  $v_2(N) = 3$ . Then all the elements of the form a(r', u', s', v') and b(r'', u'', s'', v'') correspond to some element of the following group of 8 elements

$${S_2, w_8 | S_2^2 = w_8^2 = 1, S_2 w_8 S_2 w_8 = w_8 S_2 w_8 S_2}$$

*Proof.* If follows from the equalities:

$$\begin{split} a(r',u',s',v') \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv 1, u' \equiv s' \equiv 0 (mod\ 2) \\ a(r',u',s',v') S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv u' \equiv 1, s' \equiv 0 (mod\ 2) \\ a(r',u',s',v') w_8 S_2 w_8 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv s' \equiv 1, u' \equiv 0 (mod\ 2) \\ a(r',u',s',v') S_2 w_8 S_2 w_8 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv s' \equiv v' \equiv 1 (mod\ 2) \\ b(r'',u'',s'',v'') w_8 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'' \equiv v'' \equiv 0, u'' \equiv s'' \equiv 1 (mod\ 2) \\ b(r'',u'',s'',v'') S_2 w_8 S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'' \equiv v'' \equiv u'' \equiv s'' \equiv 1 (mod\ 2) \\ b(r'',u'',s'',v'') S_2 w_8 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'' \equiv 0, u'' \equiv s'' \equiv v'' \equiv 1 (mod\ 2) \\ b(r'',u'',s'',v'') w_8 S_2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow v'' \equiv 0, u'' \equiv s'' \equiv r'' \equiv 1 (mod\ 2) \end{split}$$

We can now proof Proposition 5].

Proof. [ of Proposition 5] Let  $N = 2^{v_2(N)} \prod_i p_i^{n_i}$ , with  $p_i$  different primes and assume that  $9 \nmid N$ . If  $v_2(N) \leq 1$  we are done by proposition 3. Suppose  $v_2(N) = 2$  and let  $\tilde{u} \in \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$ . By lemmas 6 and 7,  $w_\delta \tilde{u} = \alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \{S_2, w_4 | S_2^2 = w_4^2 = (w_4 S_2)^3 = 1$  and it follows that  $\tilde{u} = w_\delta \alpha$ . Since  $w_\delta$  ( $(\delta, 2) = 1$ ) commutes with  $S_2$  and the Atkin-Lehner involutions commute one to each other, we are already done. In the situation 8||N| the proof is exactly the same but using lemmas 6 and 8 instead.

## 4. Counterexamples to Claim 2.

In the above section we have seen that Atkin-Lehner's claim is true if  $v(N) \leq 2$  i.e. for  $v_2(N) \leq 3$  and  $v_3(N) \leq 1$ . Now we obtain counterexamples when  $v_2(N)$  and/or  $v_3(N)$  are bigger.

**Lemma 9.** Claim 2 for N = 48 is wrong.

Proof. We know by Ogg [7] that  $X_0(48)$  is an hyperelliptic modular curve with hyperelliptic involution not of Atkin-Lehner type. The hyperelliptic involution always belongs to the center of the automorphism group. We know by [3] that  $\operatorname{Aut}(X_0(48)) = \operatorname{Norm}(\Gamma_0(48))/\Gamma_0(N)$ . Now if Claim 2 where true this group would be isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2 \times \Pi_4$  where  $\Pi_n$  is the permutation group of n elements. It is clear that the center of this group is  $\mathbb{Z}/2 \times \{1\}$ , generated by the Atkin-Lehner involution  $w_3$ , but this involution is not the hyperelliptic one.

The problem of N=48 is that  $S_4$  does not commute with the Atkin-Lehner involution  $w_3$ ; thus the direct product decomposition of Claim 2 is not possible.

This problem appears also for powers of 3 one can prove,

**Lemma 10.** Let  $N = 3^{v_3(N)} \prod_i p_i^{n_i}$  where  $p_i$  are different primes of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Impose that  $S_3 \in \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$ . Then  $S_3$  commutes with  $w_{p_i^{n_i}}$  if and only if  $p_i^{n_i} \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . Therefore if some  $p_i^{n_i} \equiv -1 \pmod{3}$  the Claim 2 is not true.

*Proof.* Let us show that  $S_3$  does not commute with  $w_{p_i^{n_i}}$  if and only if  $p_i^{n_i} \equiv -1 \pmod{n_i}$ 

3). Observe the equality 
$$w_{p_i^{n_i}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p_i^{n_i}}} \begin{pmatrix} p_i^{n_i}k & 1\\ Nt & p_i^{n_i} \end{pmatrix}$$
:

$$w_{p_i^{n_i}} S_3 w_{p_i^{n_i}} S_3^2 =$$

$$\frac{1}{p_i^{n_i}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} (p_i^{n_i}k)^2 + Nt(1 + \frac{p_i^{n_i}k}{3}) & p_i^{n_i}k(\frac{2p_i^{n_i}k}{3} + 1) + (\frac{p_i^{n_i}k}{3} + 1)(\frac{2Nt}{3} + p_i^{n_i}) \\ Nt(p_i^{n_i}k) + Nt(\frac{Nt}{3} + p_i^{n_i}) & Nt(\frac{2p_i^{n_i}k}{3} + 1) + p_i^{n_i}(\frac{Nt}{3} + p_i^{n_i})(\frac{2Nt}{3} + p_i^{n_i}) \end{array} \right).$$

For this element to belong to  $\Gamma_0(N)$  one needs to impose  $\frac{2k^2p_i^{n_i}}{3}+\frac{p_i^{n_i}k}{3}\in\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $p_i^{n_i}\equiv 1\ o\ -1 (mod\ 3)$  it is needed that  $k\equiv 1 (mod\ 3)$ . Now from  $\det(w_{p_i})=1$  we obtain that  $p_i^{n_i}k\equiv 1 (mod\ 3)$ ; therefore  $p_i^{n_i}\equiv 1 (mod\ 3)$ .

5. The group structure of  $\text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  revisited.

In this section we correct Claim 2. We prove here that the quotient

$$Norm(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$$

is the product of some groups associated every one of them to the primes which divide N. See for the explicit result theorem 16.

**Theorem 11.** Any element  $w \in \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))$  has an expression of the form

$$w = w_m \Omega$$
,

where  $w_m$  is an Atkin-Lehner involution of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  with (m,6)=1 and  $\Omega$  belongs to the subgroup generated by  $S_{v(N)}$  and the Atkin Lehner involutions  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}$ ,  $w_{3^{v_3(N)}}$ . Moreover for  $\gcd(v(N),2^3)\leq 2$  the group structure for the subgroup  $\langle S_{v_2(v(N))}, w_{2^{v_2(N)}} \rangle$  and  $\langle S_{v_3(v(N))}, w_{3^{v_3(N)}} \rangle$  of  $\langle S_{v(N)}, w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, w_{3^{v_3(N)}} \rangle$  is the predicted by Atkin-Lehner at Claim 2, but these two subgroups do not necessary commute withe each other element-wise.

*Proof.* Let us take any element w of the  $Norm(\Gamma_0(N))$ . By Theorem 1 we can express w as follows,

$$w = \sqrt{\delta} \left( \begin{array}{cc} r\Delta & \frac{u}{v\delta\Delta} \\ \frac{sN}{v\delta\Delta} & l\Delta \end{array} \right) = \frac{1}{\Delta\sqrt{\delta}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} r\delta\Delta^2 & \frac{u}{v} \\ \frac{sN}{v} & l\delta\Delta^2 \end{array} \right)$$

Let us denote by  $U = 2^{v_2(N)} 3^{v_3(N)}$ . Write  $\Delta' = \gcd(\Delta, N/U)$  and  $\delta' = \gcd(\delta, N/U)$ ; then we obtain

$$w_{\delta'\Delta'^2}w = \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}\sqrt{\delta/\delta'}} \begin{pmatrix} r'\frac{\delta}{\delta'}\frac{\Delta^2}{\Delta'^2} & \frac{u'}{v(N)} \\ \frac{Nt'}{v(N)} & v'\frac{\delta}{\delta'}\frac{\Delta^2}{\Delta'^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Observe that if v(N)=1 we already finish and we reobtain proposition 3. This is clear if  $\gcd(N,6)=1$ ; if not, the matrix  $ww_{\delta'\Delta'^2}$  is the Atkin-Lehner involution at  $(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2 \frac{\delta}{\delta'} \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Now we need only to check that any matrix of the form

(1) 
$$\Omega = \frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}\sqrt{\delta/\delta'}} \begin{pmatrix} r'\frac{\delta}{\delta'}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2 & \frac{u'}{v(N)} \\ \frac{Nt'}{v(N)} & v'\frac{\delta}{\delta'}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is generated by  $S_{v(N)}$  and the Atkin-Lehner involutions at 2 and 3 which are the factors of  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2$ . To check this observe that  $\Omega = \Omega_2\Omega_3$  with

(2) 
$$\Omega_{2} = \frac{1}{2^{v_{2}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}}\sqrt{\delta/\delta^{\prime}})}} \begin{pmatrix} r''2^{v_{2}(\frac{\delta}{\delta^{\prime}}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}})^{2})} & \frac{u''}{2^{v_{2}(v(N))}} \\ \frac{Nt''}{2^{v_{2}(v(N))}} & v''2^{v_{2}(\frac{\delta}{\delta^{\prime}}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}})^{2})} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Omega_{3} = \frac{1}{3^{v_{3}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}}\sqrt{\delta/\delta^{\prime}})}} \begin{pmatrix} r'''3^{v_{3}(\frac{\delta}{\delta^{\prime}}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}})^{2})} & \frac{u'''}{3^{v_{3}(v(N))}} \\ \frac{Nt'''}{3^{v_{3}(v(N))}} & v'''3^{v_{3}(\frac{\delta}{\delta^{\prime}}(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^{\prime}})^{2})} \end{pmatrix}.$$
We assist a solution of the same for  $\Omega$  at the  $\Omega$  distribution of  $\Omega$ .

We only consider the case for  $\Omega_2$ , the case for the  $\Omega_3$  is similar. We can assume that  $2^{v_2(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}\sqrt{\delta/\delta'})}=1$  substituting  $\Omega_2$  by  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}\Omega_2$  if necessary. Thus, we are reduced to a matrix of the form  $\tilde{\Omega}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} r' & \frac{u'}{2^{v_2(v(N))}} \\ \frac{Nt'}{2^{v_2(v(N))}} & v' \end{pmatrix}$ . Now for some i we can obtain  $S^i_{2^{v_2(v(N))}}\tilde{\Omega}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} r' & u' \\ \frac{Nt'}{2^{v_2(v(N))}} & v' \end{pmatrix}$ ; name this matrix by  $\overline{\Omega}_2$ . Then, it is easy to check that easy to check that  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_{2^{v_2(v(N))}}^{i}w_{2^{v_2(N)}}\overline{\Omega_2} \in \Gamma_0(N)$  for some i. Similar argument as above are obtained if we multiply w by  $w_m$  on the right,

i.e.  $ww_m$  is also some  $\Omega$  as above obtaining similar conclusion.

Let us see now that the group generated by  $S_{v_2(v(N))}$  and the Atkin-Lehner involutions at 2, and the group generated by  $S_{v_3(v(N))}$  and the Atkin-Lehner involution at 3 have the structure predicted in Claim 2 when  $gcd(v(N), 2^3) \leq 2$ . We only need to check when v(N) is a power of 2 or 3 by (2). For v(N) = 1 the matrix (1) is  $w_{\frac{\delta}{\delta I}(\frac{\Delta}{\delta I})^2}$  (we denote  $w_1 := id$ ) (we have in this case a much deeper result, see proposition 3). Take now v(N) = 2. If  $l = gcd(3, \delta/\delta')$  let  $\Omega = w_l\Omega'$ ; the matrix  $\Omega'$  is as (1) but with  $gcd(3, \delta/\delta') = 1$ , and  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'} \frac{\Delta^2}{\Delta'^2}$  is only a power of 2. Then  $\Omega' \in \langle S_2, w_{2^{v_2(N)}} \rangle$ , let us to precise the group structure. For v(N) = 2we have  $v_2(N) = 2$  or 3, and we have already proved the group structure of Claim [1] in lemmas 7,8 (we have moreover that Claim 2 is true because  $S_2$  commutes with the Atkin-Lehner involutions  $w_{p_i^{n_i}}$  if  $(p_i, 2) = 1$ , see proposition 5). Assume now v(N)=3. If  $l=\gcd(2,\delta/\delta')$  and  $\Omega=w_l\Omega'$  then  $\Omega'$  is as (1) but with  $\gcd(2,\delta/\delta')=1$ , and  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'}\frac{\Delta^2}{\Delta'^2}$  is only a power of 3. Then  $\Omega'\in S_3,w_{3^{v_3(N)}}>$ , let us to precise the group structure. For v(N) = 3 we have  $v_3(N) \ge 2$ . Let us begin with  $v_3(N) = 2$ , then  $\Omega'$  is of the form

$$\Omega' = \left(\begin{array}{cc} r' & \frac{u'}{3} \\ \frac{Nt'}{3} & v' \end{array}\right) =: a(r', u', t', v')$$

(from the formulation of Theorem 1 we can consider  $\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'} = 1 = \frac{\delta}{\delta'}$  because the factors outside 3 does not appear if we multiply for a convenient Atkin-Lehner involution, and for 3 observe that under our condition  $\Delta = 1$ ) and we have

$$a(r', u', t', v') \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow t' \equiv u' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$
$$a(r', u', t', v')w_9 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$
$$a(r', u', t', v')S_3 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' + u' \equiv t' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3^2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow 2r'+u' \equiv t' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3w_9 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3^2w_9 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r' \equiv 2qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')w_9S_3^2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'+u' \equiv v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')w_9S_3 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'+2u' \equiv v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')w_9S_3^2w_9 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow u' \equiv qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')w_9S_3^2w_9 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow u' \equiv 2qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3^2w_9S_3^2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow u' \equiv 2qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3^2w_9S_3 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow r'+u' \equiv 2t'q+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

$$a(r',u',t',v')S_3w_9S_3^2 \in \Gamma_0(N) \Leftrightarrow 2r'+u' \equiv qt'+v' \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$$

and these are all the possibilities, proving that the group is  $\{S_3, w_9 | S_3^3 = w_9^2 = (w_9 S_3)^3 = 1\}$  of order 12. Observe that  $S_3$  does not commute with  $w_2$  (see for example lemma 7).

Suppose now that  $v_3(N) \geq 3$ . We distinguish the cases  $v_3(N)$  odd and  $v_3(N)$  even. Suppose  $v_3(N)$  is even, then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'} = 1$  and  $\Omega'$  has the following form

$$\frac{1}{\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}} \left( \begin{array}{cc} r'(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2 & \frac{u'}{3} \\ \frac{Nt'}{3} & v'(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'})^2 \end{array} \right)$$

with  $\alpha:=\Delta/\Delta'$  dividing  $3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}$ . Since this last matrix has determinant 1 we see that  $\alpha$  satisfies  $\gcd(\alpha,N/(3^2\alpha^2))=1$ ; thus  $\alpha=1$  or  $\alpha=3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}$ .

Write 
$$a(r', u', t', v') = \begin{pmatrix} r' & \frac{u'}{3} \\ \frac{Nt'}{3} & v' \end{pmatrix}$$
 when we take  $\alpha = 1$  and  $b(r', u', t', v') = \begin{pmatrix} r'(3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}) & \frac{u'}{3^{[v_3(N)/2]}} \\ \frac{Nt'}{3^{[v_3(N)/2]}} & v'(3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}) \end{pmatrix}$  when  $\alpha = 3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}$ . It is easy to check that  $b(r', u', t', v') = w_{3^{v_3(N)}} a(r', u', t', v')$  and that the group structure is the predicted in a circular way so the one done shows for  $v(N) = 2$ . Suppose now that

that  $b(r',u',t',v')=w_{3^{v_3(N)}}a(r',u',t',v')$  and that the group structure is the predicted in a similar way as the one done above for v(N)=2. Suppose now that  $v_3(N)$  is odd, then  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'}$  is 1 or 3 and  $\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}$  divides  $3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}$ . Now from  $\det()=1$  we obtain that the only possibilities are  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'}=1=\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}$  name the matrices for this case following equation 1 by a(r',u',t',v'), and the other possibility is  $\frac{\delta}{\delta'}=3$  and  $\frac{\Delta}{\Delta'}=3^{[v_3(N)/2]-1}$ , write the matrices for this case following equation 1 by c(r',u',t',v'). It is also easy to check that  $c(r',u',t',v')=w_{3^{v_3(N)}}a(r'',u'',t'',v'')$ , and that the group structure is the predicted.

**Corollary 12.** Let  $N=3^{v_3(N)}\prod_i p_i^{n_i}$ , with  $p_i$  different primes such that  $\gcd(p_i,6)=1$ . Suppose that v(N)=3 and  $p_i^{n_i}\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  for all i. Then Claim 2 is true.

*Proof.* From the proof of the above theorem 11 for v(N) = 3 with  $v_3(N) \ge 2$ , lemma 10, and that the general observation that the Atkin-Lehner involutions commute one with each other we obtain that the direct product decomposition of Claim 2 is true obtaining the result.

Now we shows the corrections to Claim 2 for v(N)=4 and v(N)=8, about the group structure of the subgroup of  $\operatorname{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  generated for  $S_{2^k}$  and the Atkin-Lehner involution at prime 2.

**Proposition 13.** Suppose v(N) = 4, observe that in this situation  $v_2(N) = 4$ , or 5. Then the group structure of the subgroup  $\langle w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_4 \rangle$  of  $Norm(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$ is given by the relations:

- (1) For  $v_2(N) = 4$  we have  $S_4^4 = w_{16}^2 = (w_{16}S_4)^3 = 1$ . (2) For  $v_2(N) = 5$  we have  $S_4^4 = w_{32}^2 = (w_{32}S_4)^4 = 1$ .

*Proof.* It is a straightforward computation. Observe that for  $v_2(N) = 4$  the statement coincides with Claim 2 but not for  $v_2(N) = 5$ , where one checks that  $S_4$  does not commute with  $w_{32}S_4w_{32}$ .

**Proposition 14.** Suppose v(N) = 8 and  $v_2(N)$  even (this is the case (3)(c) in Claim 2). Then the group  $< w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_8 > \subseteq \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  satisfies the following relations:  $S_8^8 = w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2 = 1$ , and

- (1) for  $v_2(N) = 6$  we have  $(w_{64}S_8)^3 = 1$ ,
- (2) for  $v_2(N) \ge 8$  we do not have the relation  $(w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_8)^3 = 1$ ,
- (3) for  $v_2(N) \ge 10$  we have the relation:  $S_8$  commutes with  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}} S_8 w_{2^{v_2(N)}}$ ,
- (4) for  $v_2(N) = 6$  or 8 we do not have the relation:  $S_8$  commutes with the element  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_8w_{2^{v_2(N)}}$ .

(5) For  $v_2(N) = 8$  we have the relation:  $w_{256}S_8w_{256}S_8^3w_{256}S_8^3w_{256}S_8^3 = 1$ .

Proof. Straightforward.

**Proposition 15.** Suppose v(N) = 8 and  $v_2(N)$  odd (this is the case (3)(d) in Claim 2). Then the group  $< w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_8 > \subseteq \text{Norm}(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  satisfies the following relations:  $S_8^8 = w_{2v_2(N)}^2 = 1$ , and

- (1) for  $v_2(N) = 7$   $(w_{128}S_8)^4 = 1$ ,
- (2) for  $v_2(N) \ge 9$  we do not have the relation  $(w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_8)^4 = 1$ ,
- (3) for  $v_2(N) \geq 9$  we have the Atkin-Lehner relation:  $S_8$  commutes with  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_8w_{2^{v_2(N)}},$
- (4) for  $v_2(N) = 7$  we do not have that  $S_8$  commutes with  $w_{128}S_8w_{128}$ .

*Proof.* Straightforward.

Let us finally write the revisited results concerning Claim 2 that we prove;

**Theorem 16.** The quotient  $Norm(\Gamma_0(N))/\Gamma_0(N)$  is a product of the following groups:

- (1)  $\{w_{q^{v_q(N)}}\}\$  for every prime  $q, q \geq 5$   $q \mid N$ .
- (2) (a) If  $v_3(N) = 0$ , {1}
  - (b) If  $v_3(N) = 1$ ,  $\{w_3\}$
  - (c) If  $v_3(N) = 2$ ,  $\{w_9, S_3\}$ ; satisfying  $w_9^2 = S_3^3 = (w_9 S_3)^3 = 1$  (factor of order 12)
  - $\text{(d)} \ \textit{If} \ v_3(N) \geq 3; \\ \{w_{3^{v_3(N)}}, S_3\}; \ \textit{where} \ w_{3^{v_3(N)}}^2 = S_3^3 = 1 \ \textit{and} \ w_{3^{v_3(N)}} S_3 w_{3^{v_3(N)}} = S_3^3 = 1$ commute with  $S_3$  (factor group with 18 elements)
- (3) Let be  $\lambda = v_2(N)$  and  $\mu = \min(3, \lfloor \frac{\lambda}{2} \rfloor)$  and denote by  $v'' = 2^{\mu}$  the we have:
  - (a) If  $\lambda = 0$ ; {1}
  - (b) If  $\lambda = 1$ ;  $\{w_2\}$
  - (c) If  $\lambda = 2\mu$  and  $2 \le \lambda \le 6$ ;  $\{w_{2^{\nu_2(N)}}, S_{v''}\}$  with the relations  $w_{2^{\nu_2(N)}}^2 = 0$  $S_{v''}^{v''} = (w_{2^{v_2(N)}} S_{v''})^3 = 1$ , where they have orders 6,24, and 96 for v = 2, 4, 8 respectively.

- (d) If  $\lambda > 2\mu$  and  $2 \le \lambda \le 7$ ;  $\{ w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_{v''} \}$ ;  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2 = S_{v''}^{v''} = 1$ . Moreover,  $(w_{2^{v_2(N)}}S_{v''})^4 = 1$ .
- $(\tilde{c}),(\tilde{d})$  If  $\lambda \geq 9$ ;  $\{w_{2^{v_2(N)}},S_8\}$  with the relations  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2=S_8^8=1$  and  $S_8$ 
  - commutes with  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_8 w_{2^{v_2(N)}}$ . ( $\hat{c}$ ) If  $\lambda = 8$ ;  $\{w_{2^{v_2(N)}}, S_8\}$  with relations given by  $w_{2^{v_2(N)}}^2 = S_8^8 = 1$  and  $w_{256}S_8w_{256}S_8w_{256}S_8^3w_{256}S_8^3 = 1$ .

**Observation 17.** One needs to warn that for the situations v(N) = 8 or  $\lambda = 5$ possible the relations does not define totally the factor group, but it is a computation more.

**Observation 18.** The product between the different groups appearing in theorem 16 is easily computable. Effectively, we know that the Atkin-Lehner involutions commute, and  $S_{2^{v_2(v(N))}}$  commutes with  $S_{3^{v_3(v(N))}}$ . Moreover  $S_2$  commutes with any element different from Atkin-Lehner involutions involving the prime 2 from lemma 4. Consider  $w_{p^n}$  an Atkin-Lehner involution for  $X_0(N)$  with p a prime. One obtains the following results by using the same arguments appearing in the proof of lemma 10;

- (1) let p be coprime with 3 and 3|v(N).  $S_3$  commutes with  $w_{p^n}$  if and only if  $p^n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . If  $p^n \equiv -1 \pmod{3}$  then  $w_{p^n}S_3 = S_3^2 w_{p^n}$ .
- (2) Let p be coprime with 2 and 4|v(N).  $S_4$  commutes with  $w_{p^n}$  if and only if  $p^n \equiv 1 (modulo \ 4)$ . If  $p^n \equiv -1 (modulo \ 4)$  then  $w_{p^n} S_4 = S_4^3 w_{p^n}$ .
- (3) Let p be coprime with 2 and 8|v(N). Then,  $w_{p^n}S_8 = S_8^k w_{p^n}$  if  $p^n \equiv$ k(modulo 8), in particular  $S_8$  commutes with  $w_{p^n}$  if and only if  $p^n \equiv$  $1(modulo\ 8).$

#### 6. Postcript

The normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$  has conjecturally deep interest in group theory for the Monster simple group. Let j be the j-invariant function for elliptic curves, the field  $\mathbb{C}(i)$  corresponds to the function field of the compactification of  $\mathbb{H}/SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , where  $\mathbb{H}$  is the Poincaré semi-half plane, which has genus zero. We usually write this function as a  $q(=e^{2\pi i})$ -series,  $j=q^{-1}+744+196884q+\ldots$  A q-series is normalized for group theory specialists in this field when the constant term is zero, thus take  $J := j - 744 = q^{-1} + 0 + H_1q + \dots$  where the  $H_r$  are conjecturally related with certain representations for the Monster, called the head representations. Thompson replaces  $H_r$  with what he calls character values  $H_r(m)$ . This gives another normalized series  $T_m = q^{-1} + 0 + H_1(m)q + \dots$  Roughly speaking, the conjecture claims some sort of relation between the function field generated for the normalizer function  $T_m$  and the generating normalized function for a genus 0 curve arising from a group between  $\Gamma_0(N)$  and its normalizer in  $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

Conway and Norton in the paper "Monstrous moonshine" (Bull. London Mat. Soc., 11,(1979),308-339) gives a very nice exposition of the subject from a group theorical point of view. Conway and Norton take the matrices for the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  given by the last theorem in [1] (we observed in this paper that this theorem is wrong, but Conway and Norton use the matrix statement of Atkin-Lehner paper which is from Newmann, which is correct) and express the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in a better form for the above conjecture. This new formulation of the normalizer is used for obtaining the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$  by Akbas-Singerman (The normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $PSL(2,\mathbb{R})$ ; Glasgow Math. J. 32 (1990), no.3, 317-327) correcting the Atkin-Lehner statement, and the Conway-Norton matrix formulation for the normalizer is also used to obtain in particular some normalizers for modular subgroups as  $\Gamma_0(N) + some \ Atkin-Lehner \ involution$ : results of Lang (Normalizers of the congruence subgroups of the Hecke groups  $G_4$  and  $G_6$ : J. Number Theory 90 (2001), no.1, 31-43; Groups commensurable with the modular group: J. Algebra 274 (2004), no.2, 804-821) and Chua-Lang (Congruence subgroups associated to the monster: Experiment. Math. 13 (2004), no.3, 343-360).

Our approach follows the old Newmann formulation for the normalizer, and the results obtained agree with those obtained by Akbas-Singerman. We only mention that the claimed relation  $w_{256}S_8^2w_{256}S_8=S_8^2w_{256}S_8w_{256}$  when N=256 at Akbas-Singerman result in p.324 (loc. cit.) is not true, (the others relations at this result in p.324 are true).

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