

# On the Kodaira Dimension of the Siegel Modular Variety

by David Mumford

Gothic H.  $\mathcal{A}_g$  Let  $\mathcal{A}_g$  represent the quotient of Siegel's upper half-space of rank  $g$  by the full integral symplectic group  $Sp(2g, \mathbb{Z})$ : this is known as Siegel's modular variety, or as the moduli space of  $g$ -dimensional principally polarized abelian varieties (called p.p.a.v. below).  $\mathcal{A}_g$  has been shown to be a variety of general type (i.e., Kodaira dimension = dimension) for various  $g$ 's: Freitag [F1] proved this first if  $24|g$ ; Tai [T] proved this recently for all  $g \geq 9$ . On the other hand,  $\mathcal{A}_g$  is known to be unirational for  $g \leq 5$ : Donagi [D] for  $g = 5$ , Clemens [C] for  $g = 4$ , classical for  $g \leq 3$ . The purpose of this paper is to refine Tai's result, showing:

Theorem:  $\mathcal{A}_g$  is of general type if  $g \geq 7$ .

Note that this leaves only the Kodaira dimension of  $\mathcal{A}_6$  still to be determined. We shall use results of Freitag and Tai in a crucial way, but the idea of the proof is a direct adaption of the proof [H-M] by Harris and the author that  $\mathcal{M}_g$  is of general type if  $g \geq 25$ ,  $g$  odd. In that proof the divisor  $D_k$  of curves which are  $k$ -fold covers of  $\mathbb{P}^1$ ,  $k = \frac{g+1}{2}$ , is shown to be linearly equivalent to

$nK$ -(ample divisor)-(effective divisor).

Here we prove the same thing except that the role of  $D_k$  is taken by the components of  $N_0$ , where

$$N_k = [\text{locus of p.p.a.v. where } \dim(\text{sing. locus of } \theta) \geq k.]$$

These sets  $N_k$  were introduced by Andreotti and Mayer [A-M], and studied recently by Beauville [B]. I want to thank Beauville very much for stimulating discussions which led me to this result. At the same time, I would like to raise the question which seems very interesting to me: is there an explicit polynomial in theta constants, or other modular forms constructed from theta series (with quadratic forms and pluri-harmonic coefficients) whose zeroes give  $N_0$  with suitable multiplicities? Although important steps are taken in this direction in Andreotti-Mayer [A-M] and Beauville [B], this is not answered because the "theta nulls"  $C(r, \mu, z)$  are not in general modular forms — they are theta series whose coefficients are not pluri-harmonic; esp. you cannot form a modular form out of the  $\partial^2 \theta / \partial u_k^2$ 's alone without using mixed derivatives  $\partial^2 \theta / \partial u_k \partial u_\ell$  too. Finally, I want to mention the related results of Stillman [S] (based on earlier ideas of Freitag [F2]) which prove  $A_g$  carries holomorphic  $(4g-6)$ -forms for  $g \geq \begin{matrix} 6 \\ 7, \lambda \end{matrix}$ . These results are directly based on the use of theta series.

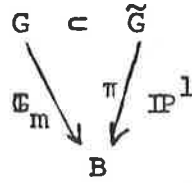
§1. A partial compactification of the Siegel modular variety.

Satake's compactification  $\underline{A}_g^*$  of  $\underline{A}_g$  consists, set-theoretically, in the union of  $(g+1)$ -strata:

$$\underline{A}_g^* = \underline{A}_g \amalg \underline{A}_{g-1} \amalg \cdots \amalg \underline{A}_0 .$$

The Kodaira dimension of  $\underline{A}_g$  is based on pluri-canonical differentials on a desingularization  $\tilde{A}_g$  of  $\underline{A}_g^*$ . However, Tai has shown that a pluri-canonical differential form with "no poles above  $\underline{A}_g \amalg \underline{A}_{g-1}$ ", is everywhere regular, so we do not have to study the full  $\tilde{A}_g$ . We will make this precise in a minute. The space we want to work with is a blow-up of  $\underline{A}_g \amalg \underline{A}_{g-1}$  first introduced by Igusa [I] and studied by the author [M] and by Namikawa [N]. To describe this space geometrically, let us define a rank 1 degeneration of a p.p.a.v. as follows: it is a pair  $(\bar{G}, D)$  where  $\bar{G}$  is a complete  $g$ -dimensional variety and  $D$  is an ample divisor (i.e.,  $\bar{G}$  is to be the limit of a  $g$ -dimensional abelian variety and  $D$  the limit of its theta divisor).  $\bar{G}$  is constructed as follows:

- 1) let  $B^{g-1}$  be a  $(g-1)$ -dimensional p.p.a.v.,  $E \subset B$  its theta divisor
- 2) let  $G$  be an algebraic group which is an extension of  $B$  by  $\mathbb{E}_m$ :
 
$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}_m \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow 0.$$
- 3) Considering  $G$  as a  $\mathbb{E}_m$ -bundle over  $B$ , let  $\tilde{G}$  be the associated  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle:



Then  $\tilde{G}-G$  equals  $\tilde{G}_0 \sqcup \tilde{G}_\infty$ , the union of 2 sections of  $\tilde{G}$  over  $B$ .

- 4) Then  $\bar{G}$  is to be the non-normal variety obtained by glueing  $\tilde{G}_0, \tilde{G}_\infty$  with a translation by a point  $b \in B$ .
- 5) Note that on  $\tilde{G}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{G}_0 - \tilde{G}_\infty &\equiv \pi^{-1}(E), \quad E \text{ algebraically equivalent to } 0 \text{ on } B \\
 &\equiv \pi^{-1}(E - E_{b_1}), \quad \text{for a unique } b_1 \in B.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\tilde{G}_0 + \pi^{-1}(E_{b_1}) \equiv \tilde{G}_\infty + \pi^{-1}(E).$$

Let  $\tilde{L} = \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{G}}(\tilde{G}_\infty + \pi^{-1}(E))$ . Via the Leray spectral sequence for  $\pi$ , we see that  $h^0(\tilde{L}) = 2$  and that  $\tilde{G}_0 + \pi^{-1}(E_{b_1}), \tilde{G}_\infty + \pi^{-1}(E)$  span the linear system  $|\tilde{L}|$ . Then  $|\tilde{L}|_{\tilde{G}_0} \cong \mathcal{O}_B(E)$  and  $|\tilde{L}|_{\tilde{G}_\infty} \cong \mathcal{O}_B(E_{b_1})$ , so if  $b$  is chosen to be  $b_1$  (and only then) the line bundle  $\tilde{L}$  can be descended to a line bundle  $L$  on  $\bar{G}$ . Choose such an  $L$  and let

$$D = \text{the unique divisor in } |L|.$$

We now define

$$(1.1) \quad \bar{\mathcal{A}}_g^{(1)} = \begin{cases} \text{coarse moduli space of p.p.a.v.}(A, \theta) \text{ of} \\ \text{dimension } g \text{ and their rank 1 degenerations} \end{cases} .$$

As first shown by Igusa, this space exists, is a quasi-projective variety, and is essentially the blow-up of the open set  $A_g \amalg A_{g-1}$  in  $A_g^*$  along its boundary  $A_{g-1}$ .  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$  is the union of  $A_g$  and a divisor  $\Delta$  parametrizing the rank 1 degenerations. Via the map

$$(\bar{G}, D) \longleftarrow (B, E)$$

the divisor  $\Delta$  is seen to be fibred:

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{array}{c} \Delta \\ \delta \downarrow \\ A_{g-1} \end{array} \quad \text{fibres } B/\text{Aut}(B, E) .$$

Analytically, we may consider  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$  to represent precisely the degenerations of the abelian variety  $A_{\Omega}(t)$  with period matrix  $\Omega(t)$  when:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Im } \Omega_{11} \longrightarrow \infty \\ \text{and } \Omega_{ij}, i > 1 \text{ or } j > 1, \text{ have finite limits} \end{array} \right\} \text{ as } t \longrightarrow 0 .$$

Then  $B = B_{\Omega}^{(1)}$ , where  $\Omega^{(1)}$  is the lower right block of the limit

$$\Omega(0) = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} i\infty & \omega \\ \hline t\omega & \Omega^{(1)} \end{array} \right)$$

and  $b$  is the image of the vector  $\vec{\omega} = (\Omega_{12}(0), \Omega_{13}(0), \dots, \Omega_{1g}(0))$  in  $B_{\Omega}^{(1)}$ . To find  $D$ , we must translate  $\theta_{\Omega(t)} \subset A_{\Omega(t)}$  as  $t \longrightarrow 0$ .

Thus

$$\theta_{\Omega}(t) = \left\{ \text{zeroes of } \theta(z, \Omega) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^g} e^{\pi i t n \Omega(t) n + 2\pi i t n \cdot z} \right\}.$$

Translate  $\theta_{\Omega}(t)$  by  $b(t)$ , the image of  $(\frac{\Omega_{11}(t)}{2}, 0, \dots, 0)$ :

$$T_{b(t)}(\theta_{\Omega}(t)) = \left\{ \text{zeroes of } \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^g} e^{\pi i (n_1^2 - n_1) \Omega_{11}(t)} \cdot e^{\left[ \pi i \sum_{i,j=1,1}^{i,j \neq 1,1} n_i n_j \Omega_{ij}(t) + 2\pi i t n z \right]} \right\}.$$

Then  $e^{\pi i (n_1^2 - n_1) \Omega_{11}(t)} \rightarrow 0$  unless  $n_1 = 0$  or  $1$ , hence the limit is

super-scripted  
formula  
shown thus

$$\left\{ \text{zeroes of } \sum_{n_2, \dots, n_g \in \mathbb{Z}} e^{\left[ \pi i \sum_{i,j \geq 2} n_i n_j \Omega_{ij}(0) + 2\pi i \sum_{j \geq 2} n_j z_j \right]} \cdot \left( 1 + e^{2\pi i z_1} \cdot e^{2\pi i \sum_{j \leq 2} n_j \Omega_{ij}} \right) \right\}$$

(1.13)

$$= \left\{ \text{zeroes of } \theta(z^{(1)}, \Omega^{(1)}) + e^{2\pi i z_1} \cdot \theta(z^{(1)} + \omega, \Omega^{(1)}) \right\}$$

where  $z^{(1)} = (z_2, \dots, z_g)$  is the analytic coordinate on  $B_{\Omega^{(1)}}$ .

Interpreting  $e^{2\pi i z_1}$  as the algebraic coordinate in the fibre

$\mathbb{C}_m$  of  $G$ , and  $\Xi$  as the zeroes of  $\theta(z^{(1)}, \Omega^{(1)})$ , this is

immediately seen to be  $D$  if  $L$  is suitably defined.

Next, let  $\bar{A}_g^{(1),0}$  be the open set in  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$  parametrizing those pairs  $(A, \theta)$  or  $(\bar{G}, D)$  whose automorphism group is the minimal one,  $\{+1\}$ . More precisely, the only non-trivial automorphism of  $A$  (or  $\bar{G}$ ) mapping  $\theta$  (resp.  $D$ ) to itself is of the form  $x \mapsto -x + a$ , some  $a^*$ . Then  $\bar{A}_g^{(1),0}$  is locally isomorphic

\* We have not normalized  $\theta$  and  $D$  to be symmetric. On the other hand, we have not fixed an origin either, so the pairs  $(A, \theta)$  and  $(A, \theta_c)$  are isomorphic by translation by  $c$ , and define the same point of  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$ .

to the universal deformation space of  $(A, \theta)$  (or  $(\bar{E}, D)$ ), hence is a smooth of dimension  $g(g+1)/2$ . Analytically,  $\mathbb{A}_g^0$  is the open subset of  $\mathbb{A}_g$  of points which are images of  $\Omega \in \mathcal{H}_g$  whose stabilizer in  $\text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z})$  are just  $(+I)$ . Likewise, using the analytic description of  $\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1)}$  in Ash et al [A-M-R-S],  $\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1), 0}$  is the open subset of  $\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1)}$  of points which are images of points in  $(\mathcal{H}_g / U_{\mathbb{Z}}) \setminus \{\sigma_\alpha\}$  whose stabilizer in the normalizer of the first boundary component is just  $(+I)$ . (Compare Tai [T], § ). This set includes, in particular, those  $\bar{G}$  constructed from a  $(B, E) \in \mathbb{A}_{g-1}^0$  and a point  $b \in B$  not of order 2. We are now in a position to state one of the main results of Tai's paper [T], in the form in which we need it:

Theorem 1.4 (Tai). If  $g \geq 5$ , then

$$a) \quad \text{codim} (\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1)}, \bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1), 0}) \geq 2$$

and

$$b) \quad \Gamma(\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_g, \mathcal{O}(nK)) = \Gamma(\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1), 0}, \mathcal{O}(nK)), \quad \text{if } n \geq 1.$$

This means that a pluri-canonical differential with no poles on  $\bar{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1), 0}$  is everywhere regular on a full desingularization  $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_g$  of  $\mathbb{A}_g^*$ .

The second result we need is the calculation of  $\text{Pic}(\mathbb{A}_g^0)$ . This follows from the theory of Matsushima, Borel, Wallach and others on the low cohomology groups of discrete subgroups of Lie groups. In particular, the results of Borel [Bo] imply that for any subgroup  $\Gamma \subset \text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z})$  of finite index:

$$H^*(\Gamma, \mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Q}[C_2, C_6, C_{10}, \dots], \quad \text{in degrees } \leq g-2.$$

In particular:

$$H^2(\mathbb{A}_g, \mathbb{Q}) \cong H^2(\text{Sp}(2g, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Q} \quad \text{if } g \geq 4.$$

An immediate corollary\* is:

Theorem 1.5 (Borel et al):  $\text{Pic}(\mathbb{A}_g^0) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \cong \mathbb{Q} \cdot \lambda$ , if  $g \geq 4$ ,  
where  $\lambda$  is the line bundle on  $\mathbb{A}_g^0$  defined by the co-cycle  
 $\det(C\Omega + D)$ .

Corollary 1.6:  $\text{Pic}(\overline{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1),0}) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \cong \mathbb{Q} \cdot \lambda + \mathbb{Q} \cdot \delta$

where  $\delta$  is the divisor class of the boundary  $\Delta$ .

In terms of these generators, a standard result is:

Proposition 1.7.  $K_{\overline{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1),0}} \cong (g+1)\lambda - \delta$ .

For a proof, see for instance Tai [T], §1. Another fairly standard result that we need is:

Proposition 1.8. Let  $(B, E)$  be a  $(g-1)$ -dimension p.p.a.v. whose automorphism group is  $(+1)$ . Consider the 2-1 map

$$\phi: (B - B_2) \longrightarrow \overline{\mathbb{A}}_g^{(1),0}$$

defined by  $\phi(b) =$  the pair  $(\overline{G}, D)$  constructed from  $(B, E)$  with

\* If  $\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_g$  is a smooth compactification of  $\mathbb{A}_g^0$ , then use:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \oplus \mathbb{Q} \delta_i & \longrightarrow & \text{Pic} \tilde{\mathbb{A}}_g \otimes \mathbb{Q} & \xrightarrow{\text{res}} & \text{Pic} \mathbb{A}_g^0 \otimes \mathbb{Q} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \oplus \mathbb{Q} \delta_i & \longrightarrow & H^2(\tilde{\mathbb{A}}_g, \mathbb{Q}) & \longrightarrow & H^2(\mathbb{A}_g^0, \mathbb{Q}) \end{array}$$

plus  $H^2(\mathbb{A}_g^0, \mathbb{Q}) \cong H^2(\mathbb{A}_g, \mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Q}$ .



glueing via b. Then

$$\phi^*(\mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{A}^1_g}(1), \mathcal{O}(\Delta)) \cong \mathcal{O}_B(-2E).$$

Proof: Let's construct over  $B$  the family of  $(\bar{G}, D)$ 's made up with all possible  $b$ 's. To do this, let  $P$  be the Poincaré bundle over  $B \times B$ , trivial on  $e \times B, B \times e$ . Then  $P^* = P - (0\text{-section})$  serves as the universal family of  $G$ 's. Let  $\bar{P} \supset P$  be the associated  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -fibre bundle, and

$$\bar{P} = \bar{P}/(b_1, b_2, 0) \sim (b_1, b_1 + b_2, \infty).$$

Then the projection on the first factor:

$$p_1: \bar{P} \longrightarrow B$$

is the universal family of  $\bar{G}$ 's. The deformation theory of such a  $\bar{G}$  gives an exact sequence:

$$0 \longrightarrow H^1(\bar{G}, \underline{T^0(\bar{G})}) \longrightarrow T^1(\bar{G}) \longrightarrow H^0(\text{Sing } \bar{G}, \underline{T^1(\bar{G})}) \\ \parallel \\ H^0(B, N_0 \otimes N_\infty)$$

where  $N_0, N_\infty$  are the normal bundles to the locus of double points of  $\bar{G}$ . For one  $\bar{G}$ , made up starting from a line bundle  $L$  over  $B$ , completed at  $\infty$  and glued by translation by  $b \in B$ ,

$$N_0 \otimes N_\infty \cong L \otimes T_b^*(L^{-1}).$$

Note that  $L$  must be algebraically equivalent to  $0$ , hence  $T_B^* L^{-1} \cong L^{-1}$ , hence  $N_0 \otimes N_\infty \cong \mathcal{O}_B$ . Thus  $H^0(B, N_0 \otimes N_\infty) \cong k$ . This one-dimensional vector space represents the normal bundle to  $\Delta$  in  $\bar{A}_g$  at the point  $(\bar{G}, D)$ . Doing this now for the whole family  $\mathbb{H} \longrightarrow B$ ,  $N_0 \otimes N_\infty$  is the line bundle on  $B \times B$  given by

$$P \otimes T^*(P^{-1})$$

$$\text{where } T(x, y) = (x, x+y).$$

Then the normal bundle to  $\Delta$ , pulled back to this family, is

$$P_{1,*}(P \otimes T^*(P^{-1}))$$

which is the same as the restriction of  $P \otimes T^* P^{-1}$  to  $B \times e$ , i.e.,  $\delta^*(P^{-1})$ , where  $\delta(x) = (x, x)$ . Since  $P$ , along the diagonal of  $B \times B$  is  $\mathcal{O}(2E)$ , this proves the Proposition. QED

§2. The divisor  $N_0$  and its class in  $\text{Pic}(\bar{A}_g^{(1)})$ .

Andreotti-Mayer [A-M] defined the important subsets  $N_k$  in  $A_g$ :

$$(2.1) \quad N_k = \{(A, \theta) \mid \text{Sing } \theta \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \dim(\text{Sing } \theta) \geq k\}.$$

Andreotti and Mayer prove by using the Heat equation for that  $N_0 \not\subseteq A_g$ , but it is not easy to estimate the dimension of  $N_k$  in general. Nowever, we are interested only in codimension 1 and we must at least check that none of the  $N_k$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , have codimension 1 components. This follows by an elaboration of

Andreotti-Mayer's arguments using the heat equation:

Lemma 2.2. The codimension of  $N_1$  (hence of  $N_2, N_3, \dots$ ) in  $A_g$  is greater than 1.

Proof: We use the heat equation

$$(2\pi i)(1 + \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \bar{\Omega}_{\alpha\beta}} = \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial z_\alpha \partial z_\beta} \quad .$$

a matrix

If the lemma were false, we could find  $\bar{\Omega}$ , a smooth analytic hypersurface  $g(\Omega) = 0$  defined in a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}$  and containing  $\bar{\Omega}$ , and a vector-valued function

$$\vec{f}(\Omega, t) \in \mathbb{C}^g$$

defined in a neighborhood of  $\bar{\Omega}$  and for  $|t|$  small, such that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \theta(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) &\equiv 0 \\ \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial z_k}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) &\equiv 0, \quad 1 \leq k \leq g \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ whenever } g(\Omega) = 0.$$

We may assume that for each  $\Omega, t \mapsto \vec{f}(\Omega, t)$  is part of an algebraic curve  $C_\Omega \subset A_\Omega$ . Note that the lemma is obvious if  $g = 2$  and if  $g \geq 3$ , then the codimension of the locus of non-simple abelian varieties is greater than 1. Therefore we can also assume that the abelian variety  $A_{\bar{\Omega}}$  is simple. It follows that the set of differences  $x-y, x, y \in C_{\bar{\Omega}}$  generates  $A_{\bar{\Omega}}$ , hence the set of differences  $x-y, x, y \in C_\Omega$ , generates  $A_\Omega$  for  $\Omega$  near  $\bar{\Omega}$ . Therefore, for no  $\Omega$  near  $\bar{\Omega}$  is there a vector  $\vec{a}$  such that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\vec{a} \cdot \vec{f}) = (\vec{a} \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial t}) = 0, \quad \text{all } t.$$

We prove by induction on d that:

$$(*)_d \quad \text{If } |\alpha| = d, \text{ then } \left( \frac{\partial^\alpha \theta}{\partial z_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial z_g^{\alpha_g}} \right) (\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \equiv 0 \text{ whenever } g(\Omega) = 0.$$

Since  $\theta(z, \bar{\Omega})$  does not vanish identically as a function of  $z$ , this is a contradiction. In fact, to prove this it will suffice to apply:

$$(**) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{If } \eta(\Omega, z) \text{ satisfies the heat equation and} \\ \eta(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \equiv 0 \\ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial z_k}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \equiv 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ whenever } g(\Omega) = 0$$

then

$$\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x_k \partial z_l}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \equiv 0 \quad \text{whenever } g(\Omega) = 0$$

to all the partial derivatives of  $\theta$  in turn. To prove (\*\*), differentiate the first relation with respect to  $\Omega$ . We find that if  $\omega_{k\ell}$  satisfies  $\sum \omega_{k\ell} \partial g / \partial \Omega_{k\ell}(\Omega) = 0$ , then  $\Omega + \epsilon \omega$  is tangent to the hypersurface  $g(\Omega) = 0$ , hence

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \eta(\vec{f}(\Omega + \epsilon \omega, t), \Omega + \epsilon \omega) \\ &= \epsilon \left\{ \sum_{k, a, b} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial z_k}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \cdot \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial \Omega_{ab}} \cdot \omega_{ab} + \sum_{a < b} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \Omega_{ab}}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \cdot \omega_{ab} \right\} \\ &= \frac{\epsilon}{4\pi i} \sum_{a, b} \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial z_a \partial z_b}(\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \cdot \omega_{ab} . \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial z_a \partial z_b} (\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) = \phi(\Omega, t) \cdot (1 + \delta_{ab}) \cdot \frac{\partial g}{\partial \Omega_{ab}}(\Omega)$$

with some factor  $\phi$ , for all  $\Omega$  near  $\bar{\Omega}$ , all small  $t$ . Now differentiate the second relation in (\*\*) with respect to  $t$ .

We find:

$$\text{for all } a, \quad \sum_b \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial z_a \partial z_b} (\vec{f}(\Omega, t), \Omega) \cdot \frac{\partial f_b}{\partial t}(\Omega, t) \equiv 0 \quad \text{whenever } g(\Omega) = 0.$$

If  $\phi(\Omega, t) \equiv 0$  when  $g(\Omega) = 0$ , we are done. If not, we find by substitution that

$$\text{for all } a, \quad \sum_b (1 + \delta_{ab}) \frac{\partial g}{\partial \Omega_{ab}}(\Omega) \cdot \frac{\partial f_b}{\partial t}(\Omega, t) \equiv 0 \quad \text{whenever } g(\Omega) = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$(***) \quad \vec{c}(a) \cdot \frac{\partial \vec{f}}{\partial t} = 0$$

where

$$c(a)_b = (1 + \delta_{ab}) \frac{\partial g}{\partial \Omega_{ab}}(\Omega).$$

For some  $a$ ,  $\vec{c}(a) \neq 0$  since  $g(\Omega) = 0$  is a smooth hypersurface. But we saw that (\*\*\*) did not occur, so this completes the proof.

In the other direction, Beauville [B], Remark 7.7 proved\*:

Proposition 2.3 (Beauville):  $N_0$  has codimension 1 in  $\underline{A}_{-g}$ .

\* The result is stated only for  $g = 4$ ; however the argument works without any modification for all  $g$ .

His proof also uses an elaboration of the techniques of Andreotti-Mayer — in this case their technique for deriving "explicit" equations for the  $N_k$ . (It might be thought that this Proposition could be proven from general principles, but I don't see how, without specific information, one could have excluded the possibilities that some component of some  $N_k$ ,  $k > 1$ , was not in the closure of  $N_0-N_1$ .)

We want now to consider the closure  $\bar{N}_0$  of  $N_0$  in  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$ , and to give multiplicities to its components. To do this, we would like to use the "universal family" of pairs  $(A, \theta), (\bar{G}, D)$  over  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$ . However, even generically these pairs still have an automorphism group of order 2, so a universal family need not exist. However,  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$  admits a "covering"  $U_\alpha \longrightarrow \bar{A}_g^{(1)}$  such that over  $U_\alpha$  there are flat, proper families

$$\begin{array}{c} D_\alpha \subset \bar{G}_\alpha \\ \downarrow p \\ U_\alpha \end{array}$$

consisting of abelian varieties and rank 1 degenerations thereof, and such that  $p$  is locally the universal deformation space of its fibre  $(\bar{G}_s, D_s)$ . Outside  $\Delta \cap U_\alpha$ ,  $\bar{G}_\alpha$  will be smooth over  $U_\alpha$ ; over points of  $\Delta \cap U_\alpha$ ,  $\bar{G}_\alpha$  itself will still be smooth, but at the double points of the fibres,  $p$  will look like the universal local deformation space:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{\bar{G}_\alpha} &\cong \mathbb{C}[[z_1, z_1', z_2, \dots, z_{g-1}, t_2, \dots, t_{g(g+1)/2}]] \\ \uparrow \cup \\ \hat{\mathcal{O}}_{U_\alpha} &\cong \mathbb{C}[[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{g(g+1)/2}]] \\ t_1 &= z_1 \cdot z_1' . \end{aligned}$$

On  $\bar{G}_\alpha$ , define the subsheaf of the tangent sheaf  $T_{\text{vert}}$  to be the kernel:

$$0 \longrightarrow T_{\text{vert}} \longrightarrow T_{\bar{G}_\alpha} \longrightarrow p^* T_{U_\alpha} .$$

Note that  $T_{\text{vert}}$  is locally free of rank  $g$  (at double points of the fibres,  $T_{\text{vert}}$  is spanned by  $z_1 \partial / \partial z_1 - z_1' \partial / \partial z_1', \partial / \partial z_2, \dots, \partial / \partial z_g$ ). Using a local equation  $\delta = 0$  of  $D_\alpha$ , and interpreting sections of  $T$  as derivations, define:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{vert}} &\xrightarrow{\alpha} \mathcal{O}(D_\alpha) / \mathcal{O} \\ D &\longmapsto D\delta / \delta \quad (\text{independent of } \delta) . \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} D_\alpha = \text{subscheme of } D_\alpha \text{ where } \alpha \text{ is zero.}$$

Thus  $\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} D_\alpha$  is defined locally by  $g$  equations and has codimension at most  $g$ . Set-theoretically:

- (2.4)  $p(\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} D_\alpha) =$  set of points whose fibres are of 3 types
- 1) fibre is  $(A, \theta)$ ,  $A$  abelian variety,  
and  $\theta$  singular
  - 2) fibre is  $(\bar{G}, D)$  and  $D$  has a singularity  
in  $G$
  - 3) fibre is  $(\bar{G}, D)$  and the divisor  
 $\bar{D} = D \cdot (\bar{G} - G)$  on  $\bar{G} - G$  is singular.

To see this at fibres of type  $(\bar{G}, D)$ , at points of  $\bar{G} - G$ , expand  $\delta$  in a power series in  $z_1, z_1', z_2, \dots, z_g, t$ 's: then the origin lies in  $\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} D_\alpha$  if and only if

$$\delta \in (z_1, z_1', z_i z_j \ (2 \leq i, j \leq g), t) ,$$

i.e., if and only if  $\delta = 0$  is singular in  $\mathbb{C}[[z_2, \dots, z_g]]$ . The sets  $p(\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} D_\alpha)$  patch together into a subset  $\tilde{N}_0$  of  $\bar{A}_g^{(1)}$ . (We shall see shortly that  $\tilde{N}_0 = \bar{N}_0$ .)

Let us work out which  $(\bar{G}, D)$  arise in cases (2) and (3). Let  $G$  be the extension:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}_m \longrightarrow G \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow 0.$$

Then  $\bar{G} - G \cong B$  and  $D \cdot (\bar{G} - G)$  is the theta divisor of  $B$ , called  $E$  at the beginning of this section. Thus if  $\pi: \Delta \longrightarrow A_{g-1}$  is the natural projection, case (3) contributes  $\pi^{-1}(N_0(A_{g-1}))$  to  $\tilde{N}_0$ . As for case (2), if translation by  $b \in B$  is used in glueing together  $\bar{G}$ , then a local equation of  $D$  at any point of  $G$  is of the form

$$f(x, z) = \delta_p(x) + z \cdot \delta_{p+b}(x+b)$$



Here  $\delta_p$  (resp.  $\delta_{p+b}$ ) are local functions on  $B$  near  $p$  (resp.  $p+b$ ) which define the non-zero section of  $\mathcal{O}_B(E)$  near  $P$  (resp.  $P+b$ ), and  $z$  is a vertical coordinate on  $G$  in a local splitting  $G \cong \mathbb{C}_m \times B$ . (We may use the analytic equation (1.13) if we want.) Taking derivatives of  $f$ , we see that:

$$\begin{array}{l} f(x,z) = 0 \text{ is singular} \\ \text{at } x = P, \text{ some } z \in \mathbb{C}^* \end{array} \iff \begin{array}{l} P, P+b \in E \text{ and} \\ \text{either } E \text{ has the same tangent plane} \\ \text{at } P, P+b, \text{ or is singular at both pts.} \end{array}$$

Looking at points  $(\bar{G}, D)$  not already covered in case (3), this shows that  $\tilde{N}_0$  contains the set of pairs  $(\bar{G}, D)$  such that  $E \subset B$  is smooth and  $E, E_b$  are tangent somewhere. If  $E$  is smooth, let

$$\gamma_B: E \longrightarrow \mathbb{P}^{g-2}$$

be the "Gauss map" associating to each  $P \in E$ , the tangent plane  $T_{P,E}$ , as a point of  $\mathbb{P}(T_{O,B}^*)$ . Then  $E$  and  $E_b$  are tangent at  $P$  if and only if  $\gamma_B(P) = \gamma_B(P+b)$ . Thus for any principally polarized abelian variety  $(B, E)$  with smooth  $E$  we may define

$$\begin{aligned} c(B, E) &= \text{locus of points } x-y, \text{ where } \gamma_B(x) = \gamma_B(y) \\ &= \text{locus of points } x \text{ such that } E, E_x \text{ are} \\ &\text{tangent somewhere.} \end{aligned}$$

Then in the description (2.4):

$$\tilde{N}_0 \cap \Delta \cong \left[ \bigcup_{(\bar{G}, D)} c(B, E) \right] \cup \left[ \delta^{-1}(N_0 \text{ for } \mathbb{A}_{g-1}) \right].$$

Next, the method of Andreotti-Mayer-Beauville extends to rank 1 degenerations, to prove that  $\tilde{N}_0$  is a divisor. For abelian varieties  $A$ , their technique is to map  $A$  to  $\mathbb{P}^{2g-1}$  by  $|2\theta|$ , i.e., explicitly by the theta functions

$$\theta_\mu(z, \Omega) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^g} e^{2\pi i t (n+\mu)\Omega(n+\mu) + 4\pi i t (n+\mu) \cdot z}.$$

Call this  $\phi: A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{2g-1}$ .

They define a linear subspace  $L_\Omega \subset \mathbb{P}^{2g-1}$  of codimension  $g+1$  by

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum \theta_\mu(0, \Omega) \cdot x_\mu &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \theta_\mu}{\partial z_i^2}(0, \Omega) \cdot x_\mu &= 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq g \end{aligned}$$

and prove

$$(2.6) \quad \phi^{-1}(L_\Omega) = \text{Sing } \theta,$$

hence

$$(A, \theta) \in N_0 \iff L_\Omega \cap \phi(A) \neq \emptyset$$

$$\iff \text{Chow form of } \phi(A) \text{ varieties at Plücker} \\ \text{Coord of } L_\Omega$$

Now if  $\text{Im } \Omega_{11} \rightarrow \infty$ , the limit of  $\phi(A)$  is  $\phi(\bar{G})$ , where  $\phi$  is defined by the  $2^g$  "theta functions"

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \theta_\mu(z^{(1)}, \Omega^{(1)}) + u^2 \theta_\mu(z^{(1)} + \omega, \Omega^{(1)}) \\ u \theta_\mu(z^{(1)} + \frac{1}{2}\omega, \Omega^{(1)}) \end{aligned} \right\} \mu \in \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{Z}^{g-1} / \mathbb{Z}^{g-1}$$

(where, as above,  $G$  is a  $\mathbb{E}_m$ -bundle over  $B$ ,  $\Omega^{(1)}$  = period matrix of  $B$ ,  $\bar{G}$  is glued via  $\omega$ ,  $z^{(1)}$  is the coordinate on  $B$ ,  $u$  the coordinate on  $\mathbb{E}_m$ ). The basic theta identity on which the proof of (2.6) is based becomes

$$(2.7) \quad [\theta(x+y) + uw\theta(x+y+\omega)] \cdot [\theta(x-y) + \frac{u}{w}\theta(x-y+\omega)] = \sum_{\mu \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}^{g-1}/\mathbb{Z}^{g-1}} [\theta_\mu(x) + u^2\theta_\mu(x+b)] \cdot \theta_\mu(y) + uw\theta_\mu(x+\frac{\omega}{2}) \cdot [\theta_\mu(y+\frac{\omega}{2}) + \frac{1}{w^2}\theta_\mu(y-\frac{\omega}{2})]$$

The limit of  $L_\Omega$  is the linear space

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum \theta_\mu(0, \Omega^{(1)}) \cdot x_\mu + 2 \sum \theta_\mu(\frac{\omega}{2}, \Omega^{(1)}) \cdot y_\mu &= 0 \\ \sum \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial z_i^2} \mu(0, \Omega^{(1)}) \cdot x_\mu + 2 \sum \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial z_i^2} \mu(\frac{\omega}{2}, \Omega^{(1)}) \cdot y_\mu &= 0 \\ \sum \theta_\mu(\frac{\omega}{2}, \Omega^{(1)}) \cdot y_\mu &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

(The last equation comes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative of (2.7) with respect to  $w$   $\partial/\partial w$ ; these equations are not the exact analogs of the (2.5) because, in passing to the limit, we have renormalized the origin.) Then it follows from (2.7) exactly as in Andreotti-Mayer-Beauville that

$$\phi^{-1}(L_\Omega) = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{singularities of } D \text{ in } G \text{ plus singularities} \\ \text{of } \bar{D} \cdot (\bar{G}-G) \text{ in } \bar{G}-G \end{array} \right)$$

hence

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Chow form of } \phi(\bar{G}) \text{ is} \\ \text{zero at } L_\Omega \end{array} \right) \iff (\bar{G}, D) \in \hat{N}_0.$$

This proves that  $\hat{N}_0$  is a divisor.

On the other hand, it is clear that for all  $B$ ,  $c(B, \mathcal{E}) \not\subseteq B$  and for generic  $B, \mathcal{E}$  is smooth: hence  $\tilde{N}_0 \cap \Delta \not\subseteq \Delta$ . Thus  $\tilde{N}_0$  must be the closure  $\bar{N}_0$  of  $N_0$ . Incidentally, this proves that  $c(B, \mathcal{E})$  is always a divisor in  $B$ . At the same time, we can now give multiplicities to the components of  $\bar{N}_0$ . I think the Andreotti-Mayer-Beauville equation gives artificially large multiplicities, and want, instead, to assign multiplicities via the local description of  $\bar{N}_0$  in  $U_\alpha$  as  $p(\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha})$ . Let  $\bar{N}'_0$  be the maximal open set of points of  $\bar{N}_0$  such that for all  $\alpha$

$$p: \text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha} \longrightarrow (\bar{N}_0 \cap U_\alpha)$$

is finite over  $\bar{N}'_0$ . Because  $N_1$  has codimension at least 2,  $\bar{N}'_0$  is dense in  $\bar{N}_0$ . Then over  $\bar{N}'_0$

$$\dim(\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}) = \dim N_0$$

hence

$$\text{codim}(\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}) = \alpha + 1 = \# \text{ of equations defining } \text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}$$

hence  $\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}$  is Cohen-Macaulay. Therefore, over  $\bar{N}'_0$ ,

$p_*(\mathcal{O}_{\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}})$  has a locally free resolution:

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathcal{E}_1 \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{E}_0 \longrightarrow p_*(\mathcal{O}_{\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}}^{D_\alpha}}) \longrightarrow 0$$

and  $\det f$  gives a local equation for  $\bar{N}'_0 \cap D_\alpha$ , and this assigns multiplicities to  $\bar{N}'_0$ .

Next, we want to break  $\bar{N}_0$  up into 2 pieces: the first piece is

$$(2.9) \quad \theta_{\text{null}} = \left\{ (A, \theta) \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{if } \theta \text{ is normalized to be symmetric about } e, \\ \text{then } \theta \text{ has a singularity at a point of order } 2 \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

It is easy to see that:

$$\theta_{\text{null}} \cap \Delta = \left[ \bigcup_{\text{all } \overline{G}, D} 2_B(\vartheta) \right] \cup \left[ \delta^{-1}(\theta_{\text{null}} \text{ for } \underline{A}_{g-1}) \right]$$

where we note that (assuming  $\mathbb{E}$  is symmetric too)  $c(B, \mathbb{E})$  contains the "obvious" component:

$$2_B(\mathbb{E}) = \{2x \mid x \in \mathbb{E}\}$$

because  $\gamma(-x) = \gamma(x)$ , all  $x \in \mathbb{E}$ .

If a symmetric  $\theta$  has a singularities at a point  $x$  not of order 2, it is also singular at  $-x$ . Thus  $\overline{N}_0$  breaks up:

$$\overline{N}_0 = \theta_{\text{null}} + 2 \cdot \overline{N}_0^*$$

where all multiplicities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> piece are divisible by 2.

We can now state the main result of this paper:

Theorem (2.10): The divisor classes of  $\overline{N}_0$ ,  $\theta_{\text{null}}$ ,  $\overline{N}_0^*$  are given by:

$$\begin{aligned} [\overline{N}_0] &= \left( \frac{(g+1)!}{2} + g! \right) \lambda - \frac{(g+1)!}{12} \delta \\ [\theta_{\text{null}}] &= 2^{g-2} (2^g + 1) \lambda - 2^{2g-5} \delta \\ [\overline{N}_0^*] &= \left[ \frac{(g+1)!}{4} + \frac{g!}{2} - 2^{g-3} (2^g + 1) \right] \lambda - \left[ \frac{(g+1)!}{24} - 2^{2g-6} \right] \delta \end{aligned}$$

Here is a table for low degrees:

$g$	$[\bar{N}_0]$	$[\theta_{\text{null}}]$	$[N_0^*]$	slope
2	$5\lambda - \frac{1}{2}\delta$	$5\lambda - \frac{1}{2}\delta$	0	—
3	$18\lambda - 2\delta$	$18\lambda - 2\delta$	0	—
4	$84\lambda - 10\delta$	$68\lambda - 8\delta$	$8\lambda - \delta$	8
5	$480\lambda - 60\delta$	$264\lambda - 32\delta$	$108\lambda - 14\delta$	7.71
6	$3,240\lambda - 420\delta$	$1,040\lambda - 128\delta$	$1,100\lambda - 146\delta$	7.53
7	$25,200\lambda - 3,360\delta$	$4,128\lambda - 512\delta$	$10,536\lambda - 1,424\delta$	7.40

Note that the figures imply  $\bar{N}_0^* = \emptyset$  for  $g = 2, 3$  as is well known. We also see that the divisor class of  $\bar{N}_0^*$  is the same as that of the Jacobian locus for  $g = 4$ , confirming Beauville's results. The last column, "slope", refers to the ratio of the coefficient of  $\lambda$  to the coefficient of  $\delta$ . As soon as this drops below the same ratio for  $K$ ,  $A_g$  is of general type:

Corollary (2.11).  $\frac{(g+1)!}{12} K_{A_g}(1) = [\bar{N}_0] + g!(g^2 - 4g - 17)\lambda$ .

Proof: Combine 1.7 and 2.10.

Corollary (2.12). If  $g \geq 7$ ,  $A_g$  is of general type.

Proof: Combine 1.4 and 2.11.

§3. Proof of the Theorem.

Now how are we going to prove the Theorem? The formula for  $[\theta_{\text{null}}]$  is immediate, because we know the modular form that cuts out this divisor, viz.:

$$f(\Omega) = \prod_{\substack{a, b \in \frac{1}{2}\mathbb{Z}^g / \mathbb{Z} \\ t(2a) \cdot (2b) \text{ even}}} \theta \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} a \\ b \end{smallmatrix} \right] (0, \Omega)$$

where

$$\theta \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} a \\ b \end{smallmatrix} \right] (0, \Omega) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}^g} e^{\pi i t(n+a)\Omega(n+a) + 2\pi i t(n+a) \cdot b}$$

Each  $\theta$  is a modular form of weight  $1/2$  and there are  $2^{g-1}(2^g+1)$  "even" pairs  $a, b$  so  $f$  has weight  $2^{g-2} \cdot (2^g+1)$ , and this is the coefficient of  $\lambda$ . On the other hand, if  $\text{Im } \Omega_{11} \rightarrow \infty$ , we see that if  $a_1 = 0$ ,  $\lim \theta \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} a \\ b \end{smallmatrix} \right] = 1$ , while if  $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\theta \left[ \begin{smallmatrix} a \\ b \end{smallmatrix} \right]$  is divisible by

$$e^{\pi i \Omega_{11} / 4}$$

hence it goes to zero. The equation of  $\Delta$  is  $e^{2\pi i \Omega_{11}} = 0$ , and there are  $2^{2g-2}$  "even" pairs  $a, b$  with  $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$  (take any  $a_2, b_2, \dots, a_g, b_g$ , set  $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$  and make  $b_1$  zero or one-half to force  $a, b$  to be even). Thus  $f$  goes to zero like

$$(e^{2\pi i \Omega_{11}})^{(2^{2g-5})}$$

when  $\text{Im } \Omega_{11} \rightarrow \infty$ , hence the coefficient of  $\delta$ .

It remains to prove the formula for  $[\bar{N}_0]$ . The value of the coefficient of  $\lambda$  follows from:

Proposition 3.1: Let

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbb{X} & \supset \mathbb{D} \\ \varepsilon \curvearrowright & \downarrow p & \\ & C & \end{array}$$

be a family of p.p.a.v. over a complete curve  $C$  such that every theta divisor  $\mathbb{D}_t$  has only a finite number of singularities and the generic  $\mathbb{D}_\eta$  is smooth. Let this family define the morphism

$$\varphi: C \longrightarrow \mathbb{A}_g.$$

Then

$$\varphi^*N_0 \equiv \left(\frac{(g+1)!}{2} + g!\right)\varphi^*\lambda + \text{torsion}.$$

(Note that such a family exists because  $\text{codim } N_1 \geq 2$  and because in Satake's compactification, the whole boundary has  $\text{codim} \geq 2$ ).

The coefficient of  $\delta$ , on the other hand follows from:

Proposition 3.2: Let  $(A, \theta)$  be a p.p.a.v. Then the divisor class of  $c(B, \theta)$  is given by:

$$c(B, \theta) \equiv \frac{(g+2)!}{6} \cdot \theta$$

together with Proposition 1.8.



To prove 3.1, we use the exact sequence

$$T_{X/C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D})/\mathcal{O}_X \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} \mathbb{D}} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D}) \longrightarrow 0$$

used to define multiplicities for  $N_0$ . It follows that  $\text{Sing}_{\text{vert}} \mathbb{D}$  is the scheme of zeroes of a section of

$$\Omega_{X/C}^1(\mathbb{D}) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_X} \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{D}}$$

hence

$$\varphi^* N_0 = p_* (c_g(\Omega_{X/C}^1(\mathbb{D})) \cdot \mathbb{D}) .$$

But if  $\mathcal{E} = p_*(\Omega_{X/C}^1)$ , then the bundle  $\Omega_{X/C}^1$ , being trivial on each fibre of  $X$  over  $C$ , is isomorphic to  $p^*\mathcal{E}$ . Moreover, by definition of  $\lambda$ ,

$$\varphi^* \lambda = c_1(\mathcal{E}) .$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^* N_0 &= p_* (c_g(p^*\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D}))) \cdot \mathbb{D} \\ &= p_* ((\mathbb{D}^g + \mathbb{D}^{g-1} \cdot c_1(p^*\mathcal{E})) \cdot \mathbb{D}) \\ &= p_* (\mathbb{D}^{g+1}) + p_* (\mathbb{D}^g) \cdot c_1(\mathcal{E}) . \end{aligned}$$

Now on each fibre  $\mathbb{D}$  is  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $(\mathcal{O}^g) = g!$ , so the second term is  $g! \varphi^*(\lambda)$ . To compute the first, we apply the Grothendieck-Riemann-Roch theorem to  $\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D})$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} p_*(\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D})) &\cong \mathcal{O}_C \\ R^i p_*(\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{D})) &= (0), \quad i \geq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 &= \text{ch}(p_*(\mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{1}))) \\
 &= p_*(\text{ch } \mathcal{O}_X(\mathbb{1}) \cdot \text{Td}(\Omega_{X/C}^1)) \\
 &= p_*(e^{\mathbb{1}} \cdot p^*(1 - \frac{c_1(\mathbb{E})}{2})), \text{ mod torsion.}
 \end{aligned}$$

In codimension 1 on  $C$ , this says

$$0 = p_*\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}^{g+1}}{(g+1)!}\right) - \frac{c_1(\mathbb{E})}{2} \cdot p_*\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}^g}{g!}\right)$$

or

$$p_*\left(\frac{\mathbb{1}^{g+1}}{(g+1)!}\right) = \frac{(g+1)!}{2} c_1(\mathbb{E}) \text{ mod torsion.}$$

This proves 3.1.

To prove 3.2, it suffices to establish the numerical equivalence of the 2 divisors. Namely, this will prove Theorem 2.10, and then Theorem 2.10 will imply Prop. 3.2 as an equality of divisor classes. Let  $C \subset A$  be any curve. We shall calculate  $(C.c(B,\theta))$ . Consider the map

$$C \times \theta \xrightarrow{m} A$$

$$m(x,y) = x + y .$$

Then  $m^{-1}(\theta)$  is the locus of pairs  $(x,y)$  where  $x+y \in \theta$ , i.e.,  $x = y' - y$ , where  $x \in C, y, y' \in \theta$ . The differential of  $m$  gives us a map

$$dm: p_2^*T_\theta \otimes \frac{\mathcal{O} \oplus \mathcal{O}}{m^{-1}\theta} \longrightarrow T_A \otimes \mathcal{O}_\theta \longrightarrow N_{\theta,A}$$

whose zeroes are exactly the points  $(x,y)$  such that not only is  $x = y'-y$ ,  $y, y' \in \theta$ , but also  $T_{y,\theta} = T_{y',\theta}$ , i.e.,  $x \in \underline{D}$ . Now the above  $dm$  can be thought of as a section of

$$p_2^* \Omega_{\theta}^1 \otimes m^*(N_{\theta,A}) \otimes \frac{\theta}{m-1}(\theta)$$

hence

$$(C.\underline{D}) = c_{g-1} \left( p_2^* \Omega_{\theta}^1 \otimes m^*(\theta(\theta)) \otimes \frac{\theta}{m-1}(\theta) \right).$$

Let  $\theta_1 = pt. \times \theta$ ,  $\theta_2 = m^{-1}\theta$  be these divisor classes (mod numerical equivalence) on  $C \times \theta$ . Then

$$(C.\underline{D}) = c_{g-1} \left( p_2^* \Omega_{\theta}^1 \otimes \theta(\theta_2) \right) \cdot \theta_2.$$

Using

$$0 \longrightarrow \theta(-\theta)/\theta(-2\theta) \longrightarrow \Omega_A^1|_{\theta} \longrightarrow \Omega_{\theta}^1 \longrightarrow 0,$$

we see that

$$c(\Omega_{\theta}^1) = (1-\theta)^{-1}|_{\theta} = (1+\theta + \theta^2 + \dots)|_{\theta}.$$

Thus

$$(C.\underline{D}) = \theta_1^{g-1} \cdot \theta_2 + \theta_1^{g-2} \cdot \theta_2^2 + \dots + \theta_2^g.$$

But now

$$\begin{aligned} (\theta_1^k \cdot \theta_2^{g-k})_{C \times \theta} &= (m(\theta_1^{k+1}) \cdot \theta^{g-k})_A \\ &= ((C \dot{+} \theta^{k+1}) \cdot \theta^{g-k})_A \end{aligned}$$

if  $\dot{+}$  is Pontryagin product. By symmetry of  $\theta$ , this is

$$\begin{aligned} &= (C.(\theta^{k+1} \dot{+} \theta^{g-k}))_A \\ &= (C.(k+1)(g-k)(g-1)!\theta)_A \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} (C.\underline{D}) &= (C.\theta)(g-1)! \sum_{k=0}^{g-1} (k+1)(g-k) \\ &= \frac{(g+2)!}{6} (C.\theta). \end{aligned}$$

QED

References

- [A-M] Andreotti, A., and Mayer, A., On the period relations for abelian integrals on algebraic curves, Ann. Scuola Norm. Pisa, 21 (1971).
- [A-M-R-T] Ash, A., et al, Smooth compactification of locally symmetric varieties, Math-Sci Press, 53 Jordan Rd., Brookline, MA, 1975.
- [B] Beauville, A., Prym varieties and the Schottky problem, Inv. Math., 41 (1977), p. 149.
- [Bo] Borel, A., Stable real cohomology of arithmetic groups II, in Manifolds and Lie groups, Birkhauser-Boston, 1981.
- [C] Clemens, H., Double solids, to appear.
- [D] Donagi, R., The unirationality of  $\mathcal{A}_5$ , to appear.
- [F1] Freitag, E., Die Kodairadimension von Körpern automorpher Funktionen, J. reine angew. Math., 296 (1977), p. 162.
- [F2] Freitag, E., Der Körper der Siegelischen Modulfunktionen, Abh. Math. Sem. Hamburge, 47 (1978).
- [H-M] Harris, J. and Mumford, D., On the Kodaira dimension of the moduli space of curves, to appear in Inv. Math.
- [I] Igusa, J.-I., A desingularization problem in the theory of Siegel modular functions, Math. Annalen, 168 (1967), p. 228.
- [M] Mumford, D., Analytic construction of degenerating abelian varieties, Comp. Math., 24 (1972), p. 239.
- [N] Namikawa, A new compactification of the Siegel space and dégeneration of abelian varieties, Math. Ann., 221 (1976).
- [S] Stillman, M., Ph.D. Thesis, Harvard University, 1983.
- [T] Tai, Y.-S., On the Kodaira dimensions of the moduli space of abelian varieties, to appear Inv. Math.