# On Characteristic Polynomials of Automorphisms of Enriques Surfaces

by

Simon BRANDHORST, Sławomir RAMS and Ichiro SHIMADA

# Abstract

Let f be an automorphism of a complex Enriques surface Y and let  $p_f$  denote the characteristic polynomial of the isometry  $f^*$  of the numerical Néron–Severi lattice of Y induced by f. We combine a modification of McMullen's method with Borcherds' method to prove that the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  is a product of modulo-2 reductions of (some of) the five cyclotomic polynomials  $\Phi_m$ , where  $m \leq 9$  and m is odd. We study Enriques surfaces that realize modulo-2 reductions of  $\Phi_7$ ,  $\Phi_9$  and show that each of the five polynomials  $(\Phi_m(x) \mod 2)$  is a factor of the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  for a complex Enriques surface.

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### **§1.** Introduction

The subject of this note is isometries of the numerical Néron–Severi lattices induced by automorphisms of Enriques surfaces. To state our results, let Y (resp. X) be a complex Enriques surface (resp. its K3 cover) and let Num(Y) be the numerical Néron–Severi lattice of Y (i.e. Num(Y) := NS(Y)/Tors). Each automorphism  $f \in Aut(Y)$  induces an isometry  $f^* \in O(Num(Y))$ . Let  $p_f(x)$  be its characteristic polynomial. As observed by Oguiso ([19, Lem. 4.1]), no degree-5 irreducible polynomials can appear in a factorization of the modulo-2 reduction ( $p_f(x) \mod 2$ ).

e-mail: brandhorst@math.uni-sb.de

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S. Brandhorst: Fachbereich Mathematik, Saarland University, Campus E2.4 Zi. 222, 66123 Saarbrücken, Germany;

S. Rams: Institute of Mathematics, Jagiellonian University, ul. Łojasiewicza 6, 30-348 Kraków, Poland;

e-mail: slawomir.rams@uj.edu.pl

I. Shimada: Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering, Hiroshima University,

<sup>1-3-1</sup> Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima, 739-8526 Japan;

e-mail: ichiro-shimada@hiroshima-u.ac.jp

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An attempt to characterize all factors of  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  was made in [13]. In this paper, we give a complete answer to the question of which factors do appear in the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  for an automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ , i.e. we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let f be an automorphism of a complex Enriques surface Y and let  $p_f$  be the characteristic polynomial of the isometry  $f^* \colon \operatorname{Num}(Y) \to \operatorname{Num}(Y)$ .

(a) The modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  is a product of (some of) the following polynomials:

$$F_1(x) = x + 1, \quad F_3(x) = x^2 + x + 1, \quad F_5(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1,$$
  

$$F_7(x) = x^6 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1, \quad F_9(x) = x^6 + x^3 + 1.$$

(b) Each of the five polynomials F<sub>1</sub>, F<sub>3</sub>, F<sub>5</sub>, F<sub>7</sub>, F<sub>9</sub> appears in the factorization of the modulo-2 reduction (p<sub>f</sub>(x) mod 2) for an automorphism f of a complex Enriques surface. Any realization of F<sub>9</sub> is by a semi-symplectic automorphism.

Recall that the proof of [13, Thm. 1.2] shows that each factor of  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$ either equals one of the five polynomials listed in Theorem 1.1, or is the modulo-2 reduction  $F_{15}$  of the cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_{15} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ . Moreover, examples with factors  $F_1$ ,  $F_3$ ,  $F_5$  were given in [7] (see also [13, Exa. 3.1]), whereas the question of whether  $F_7$ ,  $F_9$ , and  $F_{15}$  can appear in the factorization of the modulo-2 reduction of  $p_f$  for an automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$  was left open (cf. [13, Exa. 3.1b]).

To state the next theorem, we introduce some notation. Let us denote the covering involution of the double étale cover  $\pi \colon X \to Y$  by  $\varepsilon$ . Moreover, we put  $\tilde{f} \in \operatorname{Aut}(X)$  to denote a (non-unique) lift of an automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ . Let  $N := (H^2(X,\mathbb{Z})^{\varepsilon})^{\perp}$  be the orthogonal complement of the  $\varepsilon$ -invariant sublattice  $H^2(X,\mathbb{Z})^{\varepsilon}$  in the lattice  $H^2(X,\mathbb{Z})$ . Recall that N is stable under the cohomological action  $\tilde{f}^*$  and the restriction  $f_N := \tilde{f}^*|_N$  is of finite order. Using Theorem 1.1, we can sharpen [13, Thm. 1.1] as well.

**Theorem 1.2.** Let Y be a complex Enriques surface and let f be an automorphism of Y. Then the order of  $f_N$  is a divisor of at least one of the following five integers:

36, 48, 56, 84, 120.

Among the 28 numbers that satisfy the above condition, at least the 16 integers

 $1, \ldots, 10, 12, 14, 15, 20, 18, 30$ 

are realized as orders.

**Remark 1.3.** We note that if the order of  $f_N$  is 7 or 9, then the cyclic subgroup generated by  $f_N$  is unique up to conjugacy in the orthogonal group O(N). For the remaining 12 integers

16, 21, 24, 28, 36, 40, 42, 48, 56, 60, 84, 120,

we do not know whether they arise as orders of  $f_N$  for some  $f \in Aut(Y)$ .

Originally, our interest in the subject of this note was motivated by the question of what constraints on the dynamical spectra of Enriques surfaces result from the existence of the double étale K3 cover (cf. [19, Thm. 1.2]). Indeed, Theorem 1.1(a) yields a new constraint on the Salem numbers that appear as the dynamical degrees of automorphisms of Enriques surfaces (e.g. it implies that none of the Salem numbers given as # 3, 13, 16, 34, 35 in the table in [13, App.] can be the dynamical degree of an automorphism of a complex Enriques surface), whereas Theorem 1.1(b) shows that the above constraint cannot be strengthened.

It should be mentioned that automorphism groups of Enriques surfaces remain a subject of intensive research. Much is known in the case of Enriques surfaces with finite automorphism groups (even in positive characteristic) and unnodal Enriques surfaces, but a general picture is still missing. In this context, both the constraints given by Theorem 1.2 and the geometry of the families of Enriques surfaces discussed in Propositions 5.3, 4.1, 4.7 are of separate interest. Still, such considerations exceed the scope of this paper.

We sketch our strategy for the proof of Theorem 1.1. The argument in [13]is based on criteria for a polynomial to be the characteristic polynomial of an isometry of a lattice. Unfortunately, all six polynomials  $F_1, \ldots, F_9, F_{15}$  do appear as factors of modulo-2 reductions of characteristic polynomials of isometries of the lattice  $U \oplus E_8(-1)$  and the lattice N. Thus we need to take Hodge structures and the ample cone into account as well. In this note we apply a modification of McMullen's method (see [14, 15]) to obtain constraints on automorphisms of Enriques surfaces that can realize the factors  $F_7$ ,  $F_9$ ,  $F_{15}$ . In particular, we can rule out the existence of the highest-degree factor  $F_{15}$  (Proposition 3.1), and derive properties of the K3 covers of Enriques surfaces which realize  $F_7$  (Proposition 5.2) and  $F_9$  (Section 4). To go further with McMullen's method, one has to fix the characteristic polynomial  $p_f$ . However, there are infinitely many possibilities for  $p_f$ . We provide an algorithmic solution based on Borcherds' method ([1, 2]) and the ideas from [26] and [3] which allow us to avoid fixing  $p_f$ . As a result we find abstract Enriques surfaces realizing  $F_7$  and  $F_9$ . For the readers' convenience, the algorithm is presented in Section 6 in pseudocode.

**Notation.** In this note, we work over the field of complex numbers  $\mathbb{C}$ . Given a prime p,  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  denotes the ring of p-adic integers. For a ring R, we denote by  $R^{\times}$  its group of units. For a group G and a prime p,  $G_p$  is the p-Sylow subgroup of G.

### §2. Preliminaries

# §2.1. Basic notation

We maintain the notation of the previous section. In particular,  $\pi: X \to Y$  is the K3 cover of Y and  $\varepsilon$  is the covering involution of  $\pi$ . Moreover, we have the finite index sublattice

$$(2.1) M \oplus N \subseteq H^2(X,\mathbb{Z}),$$

where  $M := H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^{\varepsilon}$  coincides with the pullback of  $H^2(Y, \mathbb{Z})$  by  $\pi$  and  $N := M^{\perp}$ (see e.g. [18]). In particular, we have  $M \simeq U(2) \oplus E_8(-2)$  and  $N \simeq U \oplus U(2) \oplus E_8(-2)$ , where U (resp.  $E_8$ ) denotes the unimodular hyperbolic plane (resp. the unique even unimodular positive-definite lattice of rank 8). Let f be an automorphism of Y. The sublattices M and N are preserved by the isometry  $\tilde{f}^* \in$  $\operatorname{Aut}(H^2(X,\mathbb{Z}))$ , so as in [13] we can define the maps

$$f_M \coloneqq \tilde{f}^*|_M$$
 and  $f_N \coloneqq \tilde{f}^*|_N$ 

and let  $p_M$ ,  $p_N$  (resp.  $\mu_M$ ,  $\mu_N$ ) denote their characteristic (resp. minimal) polynomials. Then (see [13, proof of Lem. 2.2(a)], [20, Lem. 6.3]) we have

(2.2) 
$$p_M \equiv p_f \mod 2 \text{ and } (x+1)^2 \cdot p_M \equiv p_N \mod 2.$$

As we have already mentioned,  $f_N$  is a map of finite order (see e.g. [19, Lem. 4.2]), so  $p_N$  is a product of cyclotomic polynomials.

Recall that (see [21, Prop. 2.2], [11, Thm. 1.1])

(2.3) 
$$N \cap NS(X)$$
 contains no vectors of square (-2).

For an automorphism f and an integer  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  we define two lattices

(2.4) 
$$N_k \coloneqq \ker(\Phi_k(f_N))$$
 and  $M_k \coloneqq \ker(\Phi_k(f_M))$ 

where  $\Phi_k(x)$  stands for the *k*th cyclotomic polynomial. Finally, to simplify our notation we put

$$F_k(x) \coloneqq (\Phi_k(x) \mod 2)$$

An automorphism f of an Enriques surface is called *semi-symplectic* if it acts trivially on the global sections  $H^0(Y, K_Y^{\otimes 2})$  of the bi-canonical bundle. This is the case if and only if both lifts  $\tilde{f}$  and  $\tilde{f} \circ \varepsilon$  of f act on  $H^0(X, \Omega_X^2)$  as  $\pm 1$ . We denote by  $\operatorname{Aut}_s(Y)$  the subgroup of semi-symplectic automorphisms.

### §2.2. Lattice

Let  $R \in \{\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}_p\}$  and K be the fraction field of R. An R-lattice is a finitely generated free R-module equipped with a non-degenerate symmetric K-valued bilinear form b. If the form is R valued, we call the lattice *integral*. If, further,  $b(x, x) \in 2R$ for every  $x \in L$ , the lattice is called *even*. The *dual lattice* of L is

$$L^{\vee} = \{ x \in L \mid b(x, L) \subseteq R \}.$$

If L is integral, then  $L \subseteq L^{\vee}$  and we call the quotient  $L^{\vee}/L$  the discriminant group of L. For  $r \in R$ , an R-lattice L is called r-modular if  $rL^{\vee} = L$ . If r = 1, we call the lattice unimodular. The Gram matrix  $G = (G_{ij})$  with respect to an R-basis  $(e_1, \ldots, e_n)$  of L is defined by  $G_{ij} = b(e_i, e_j)$ . The determinant det  $L \in R/R^{\times 2}$  of L is the determinant of any Gram matrix. For  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  we have  $|L^{\vee}/L| = |\det L|$ . The discriminant group carries the discriminant bilinear form induced by b(x, y)mod R for  $x, y \in L^{\vee}$ . If L is an even lattice, its discriminant group moreover carries a torsion quadratic form induced by  $x \mapsto b(x, x) \mod 2R$ , called the discriminant form. We say that two R-lattices (L, b), (L', b') are isomorphic if there is an Rlinear isomorphism  $\phi: L \to L'$  such that  $b(x, x) = b'(\phi(x), \phi(x))$ . For  $r \in R$  we denote by L(r) the lattice with the same underlying free module as L, but with bilinear form rb.

Let L, L', L'' be lattices. The orthogonal direct sum of two lattices is denoted by  $L \oplus L'$ . A sublattice  $L' \subseteq L$  is called *primitive* if L/L' is torsion-free. This is equivalent to  $(L' \otimes K) \cap L = L'$ . We call

$$L' \oplus L'' \subseteq L$$

a primitive extension if L', L'' are primitive sublattices of L and rank L'+rank L'' =rank L. The finite group  $L''/(L \oplus L')$  is the glue of the primitive extension. For any prime p dividing its order, we say that L and L' are glued above/over p. The signature (pair)  $(s_+, s_-)$  of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice L is the signature of  $L \otimes \mathbb{R}$ , where  $s_+$  is the number of positive and  $s_-$  is the number of negative eigenvalues of a Gram matrix. We denote by U the even unimodular lattice of signature (1, 1). Moreover,  $A_n$   $(n \in \mathbb{N})$ , (resp.  $D_n$   $(n \geq 4)$ ,  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$ ,  $E_8$ ) stands for the positive-definite root lattice with the respective Dynkin diagram.

# §2.3. Genus

Two Z-lattices L and L' are in the same genus if  $L \otimes \mathbb{R} \cong L' \otimes \mathbb{R}$  and for all prime numbers p we have  $L \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p \cong L' \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p$ . The genus is an effectively computable invariant and has a compact description in terms of the so-called genus symbols introduced by Conway and Sloane (see [6, Chap. 15]). **Definition 2.1.** A 2-adic lattice, all of whose Jordan constituents are even, is called *completely even*.

We denote by  $n_q$  the rank of a q-modular Jordan constituent and by  $\epsilon_q \in \{\pm 1\}$  its unit square class. Two completely even lattices are isomorphic if and only if they have the same symbols  $q^{\epsilon_q n_q}$  for all prime powers q. If the lattices in question are not completely even, the symbol involves an additional quantity called the oddity. However, in this note (almost) all lattices considered are completely even.

Note that Conway and Sloane give necessary and sufficient conditions on when a collection of local symbols defines a non-empty genus [6, Thm. 15.11 on p. 383].

**Remark 2.2.** The genus symbols and their relation with discriminant forms are implemented in sageMath [23] by the first author. For instance, the function sage.quadratic\_forms.genera.genus.all\_genera\_by\_det returns all (valid) genus symbols of a given signature, determinant, and level. This allows us to avoid checking the existence conditions for a genus symbol by hand.

It is possible to compute all classes in a definite genus using Kneser's neighboring algorithm [24] and Siegel's mass formula. An indefinite lattice is usually unique in its genus. Similarly, roots can be found using short vector enumerators [5, §.2.7.3]. We used the implementation provided by PARI [22] via sageMath.

For later reference we state (without proofs) two immediate lemmas which relate the genus symbols with primitive extensions and isometries.

**Lemma 2.3.** Let L and L' be completely even p-adic lattices with symbols  $(\epsilon_q, n_q)_q$ , respectively  $(\epsilon'_q, n'_q)_q$ ; then  $L \oplus L'$  has symbol  $(\epsilon_q \epsilon'_q, n_q + n'_q)$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** Let L and L' be completely even p-adic lattices with symbols  $(\epsilon_q, n_q)_q$ and  $(\epsilon'_q, n'_q)_q$ . Then there is a primitive extension  $L \oplus L' \subseteq L''$  with L'' unimodular if and only if, for all q > 1,  $n'_q = n_q$  and  $\epsilon'_q = \delta^{n_q} \epsilon_q$ , where

$$\delta = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } p \equiv 1, 2 \mod 4, \\ -1 & \text{for } p \equiv 3 \mod 4. \end{cases}$$

In the sequel we will apply the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.5.** Let L be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice and let  $g \in O(L)$  be an isometry with minimal polynomial  $\Phi_3$ . Then L is completely even and the 2-adic symbols of the genus of L are of the form

$$q_i^{\epsilon_i n_i}$$
, where  $q_i = 2^i$ ,  $n_i$  is even and  $\epsilon_i = (-1)^{n_i/2}$ .

Proof. This is a special case of [10, Prop. 2.17, Kor. 2.36].

In particular, when L is a rank-2 (resp. rank-4) lattice of discriminant at most 4 (resp. 16) its 2-adic symbols are  $1^{-2}$ ,  $2^{-2}$  (resp.  $1^4$ ,  $1^{-2}2^{-2}$ ,  $2^4$ ,  $1^{-2}4^{-2}$ ).

# §2.4. $\Phi_n$ -lattices

In the sequel we need the notion of a  $\Phi_n$ -lattice.

The reader can consult [9], [15, \$5] for a concise and more general exposition of the facts we briefly sketch below.

Recall that a  $\Phi_n$ -lattice is defined to be a pair (L, f), where L is an integral lattice and  $f \in O(L)$  is an isometry with characteristic polynomial  $\Phi_n$ .

Let n > 2; the principal  $\Phi_n$ -lattice  $(L_0, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0, f_0)$  is defined as the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module  $L_0 := \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]$  equipped with the scalar product

$$\langle g_1, g_2 \rangle_0 = \operatorname{Tr}_{\mathbb{Q}}^{\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]} \left( \frac{g_1 \overline{g_2}}{r'_n(\zeta_n + \zeta_n^{-1})} \right)$$

where  $\zeta_n$  is a primitive *n*th root of unity, Tr is the field trace of  $\mathbb{Q}[\zeta_n]/\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $r_n \in \mathbb{Q}[x]$ is the minimal polynomial of  $(\zeta_n + \zeta_n^{-1})$ , and  $r'_n$  is its derivative. Finally,  $f_0: L_0 \to L_0, x \mapsto \zeta_n \cdot x$ , is an isometry with minimal polynomial  $\Phi_n$ . One can show that  $L_0$ is an even lattice and

(2.5) 
$$\det(L_0) = |\Phi_n(1)\Phi_n(-1)|.$$

Given a pair (L, f) as above and an element  $a \in \mathbb{Z}[f + f^{-1}] \subset \operatorname{End}(L)$  one can define another inner product on L by the formula  $\langle g_1, g_2 \rangle_a \coloneqq \langle ag_1, g_2 \rangle_0$ . We say that the resulting lattice is the twist of L by a and denote it by L(a). Recall that for 2 < n with  $\deg(\Phi_n) \leq 20$  the class number of  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_n)$  is 1. Thus, if  $\deg(\Phi_n) \leq 20$ , then

(2.6) any even  $\Phi_n$ -lattice is a twist of the principal lattice  $(L_0, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_0, f_0)$ ,

by [15, Thm. 5.2], [9, §4]. The genus symbols of  $\Phi_n$ -lattices are computed in [10, Satz 2.57], though in practice we used a computer to construct the lattice and compute its symbol.

### §2.5. Equivariant gluing

We note the following well-known lemma for later use.

**Lemma 2.6.** If  $A \oplus B \subseteq C$  is a primitive extension, then

$$\det A \det B = [C : A \oplus B]^2 \cdot \det C$$

and

$$\det A \mid [C : A \oplus B] \cdot \det C.$$

Moreover, if p is a prime such that  $p \nmid [C : A \oplus B]$ , then

$$C \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p = (A \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p) \oplus (B \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p).$$

Let  $a \in O(A)$ ,  $b \in O(B)$ ,  $c \in O(C)$  be isometries. We call  $(A, a) \oplus (B, b) \subseteq (C, c)$  an equivariant primitive extension if the restriction  $c|_{A \oplus B} = a \oplus b$ .

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $(A, a) \oplus (B, b) \hookrightarrow (C, c)$  be an equivariant primitive extension with characteristic polynomials  $p_A$ ,  $p_B$ . Then any prime dividing the index  $[C : A \oplus B]$  divides the resultant res $(p_A, p_B)$ .

*Proof.* Apply [15, Prop. 4.2] to  $G = C/(A \oplus B)$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** Let  $(A, a) \oplus (B, b) \hookrightarrow (C, c)$  be an equivariant primitive extension. Suppose that the characteristic polynomial  $p_a$  of a is  $\Phi_n(x)$ . Then the glue  $G = C/(A \oplus B)$  satisfies

$$|G| \mid \operatorname{res}(\Phi_n, \mu),$$

where  $\mu = \mu_b$  is the minimal polynomial of b.

*Proof.* Let  $G_A$  denote the orthogonal projection of G to  $A^{\vee}/A$  and  $\bar{a}$  the automorphism on  $G_A$  induced by a. Since  $A^{\vee}$  and A are  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]$ -modules of rank 1, they are isomorphic to fractional ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]$ . Thus we have  $G_A = \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n]/I$ , where I is the kernel of the map  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_n] \mapsto \text{End} G_A$  that sends the root of unity  $\zeta_n$  to  $\bar{a}$ . This yields

$$\mu(\overline{a}) = 0$$
, thus  $\mu(\zeta_n) \in I$ 

and

$$|G| = |G_A| = |\mathcal{O}_K/I| = N(I) | N(\mu(\zeta_n)) = \prod_{(k,n)=1} \mu(\zeta_n^k) = \operatorname{res}(\phi_n, \mu_b),$$

where N(I) is the norm of the ideal I.

The following lemma is elementary. For the convenience of the reader, we give a proof below.

**Lemma 2.9.** If L is a lattice of rank 2 and  $g \in O(L)$  is an isometry of spectral radius 0, then g is of finite order.

*Proof.* By Kronecker's theorem, the characteristic polynomial of g is a product of cyclotomic polynomials. Moreover, it suffices to prove the claim for a power of g, so we can assume that the characteristic polynomial of g is  $(x - 1)^2$ .

Let  $v \in L$  be an eigenvector of g. If v is anisotropic, then we have  $(\mathbb{Z}v)^{\perp} \neq \mathbb{Z}v$ and  $(\mathbb{Z}v)^{\perp}$  consists of eigenvectors of g. Thus g = id and we are done.

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If v is isotropic, we find  $w \in L$  with  $\langle w, v \rangle \neq 0$ . Then g(w) = av + bw for some  $a, b \in \mathbb{Q}$ . From  $\langle w, v \rangle = \langle g(w), g(v) \rangle$  we infer b = 1. Finally,  $\langle w, w \rangle = \langle g(w), g(w) \rangle$  yields a = 0. Thus g(w) = w and the proof is complete.

### §3. Ruling out the factor $F_{15}$

The main aim of this section is to prove the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.** Let f be an automorphism of an Enriques surface Y and let  $p_f$  be the minimal polynomial of the map  $f^* \colon \operatorname{Num}(Y) \to \operatorname{Num}(Y)$ . Then the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  is never divisible by the polynomial

$$F_{15} = x^8 + x^7 + x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x + 1.$$

*i.e.* by the modulo-2 reduction of the cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_{15}(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ .

Recall (see e.g. [4]) that  $p_f$  is a product of cyclotomic polynomials and at most one Salem factor. Since  $p_f$  is reciprocal,  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  is divisible by an irreducible factor of  $F_{15}$  if and only if it is divisible by the whole  $F_{15}$  (cf. [13]).

Proof of Proposition 3.1. Assume that  $F_{15} \mid (p_f \mod 2)$ . Combined with [13, Rem. 2.4], this implies that

(3.1) 
$$(p_M \mod 2) = F_{15} \cdot F_1^2$$
 and  $(F_{15} \cdot F_1^4) = (p_N \mod 2).$ 

By [13, Lems. 2.1 and 2.5], the characteristic polynomial  $p_N$  is a product of cyclotomic polynomials of degree at most 8. Computing modulo-2 reductions of all such cyclotomic polynomials, one infers that either  $\Phi_{15} \mid p_N$  or  $\Phi_{30} \mid p_N$ . Replacing  $\tilde{f}$  by a power coprime to 15 we can assume that  $p_N$  is a product of the  $\Phi_k$  for  $k \in \{1, 3, 5, 15\}$ . Together with (3.1) this leaves us with

$$p_N = \Phi_{15} \cdot \Phi_1^4.$$

We consider the (primitive)  $f_N$ -invariant sublattices  $N_{15}$  and  $N_1$  (see (2.4)). Since  $\Phi_{15}(x)$  has no real roots, the signature of  $N_{15}$  is of the form (2k, 2(4-k)) with  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$ . Recall that N is of signature (2, 10) and contains  $N_{15}$ . Thus the signature of  $N_{15}$  is either (0, 8) or (2, 6).

By Lemma 2.8 the glue between  $N_{15}$  and  $N_{15}^{\perp}$  is trivial, i.e.

$$N_{15} \oplus N_{15}^{\perp} = N \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,10)} 2^{10}$$

Let  $(\epsilon_q, n_q)$  be the 2-adic genus symbol of  $N_{15}$  and  $(\epsilon'_q, n'_q)$  the symbol of  $N_{15}^{\perp}$ . From Lemma 2.3 we infer that  $10 = n_2 + n'_2$ . Further,  $n'_2 \leq \operatorname{rank} N_{15}^{\perp} = 4$  and  $n_2 \leq \operatorname{rank} N_{15} = 8$ . Thus we obtain  $6 \leq n_2 \leq 8$ . Since  $N_{15}$  is a  $\Phi_{15}$ -lattice, we can calculate all  $\Phi_{15}$ -lattices matching this condition. There is exactly one such lattice up to isometry:

(3.2) 
$$N_{15} \cong E_8(-2) \in \mathrm{II}_{(0,8)}2^8$$

Using Lemma 2.3 once more, we calculate the genus symbol of  $N_1 = N_{15}^{\perp}$  from those of N and  $N_{15}$  and see that

$$(3.3) N_1 \cong U \oplus U(2) \in \mathrm{II}_{(2.2)} 2^2$$

is the unique class in its genus. From (3.2), (3.3), and [20, Lem. 7.7] we infer that the spectral radius of  $f_M$  is 1 (i.e. f has trivial entropy). Thus  $p_M$  is not divisible by a Salem polynomial and must be a product of cyclotomic polynomials. A direct computation of modulo-2 reductions of all cyclotomic polynomials of degree at most 8 shows that either  $\Phi_{30}$  or  $\Phi_{15}$  divides  $p_M$ . By replacing  $\tilde{f}$  with its iteration (i.e. by  $\tilde{f}^2$  or  $\tilde{f}^4$ ) we can assume that

$$p_M = \Phi_{15} \cdot \Phi_1^2.$$

We consider the equivariant orthogonal decomposition  $M = M_{15}^{\perp} \oplus M_{15}$  into the rank-2 lattice  $M_{15}^{\perp}$  and the rank-8 lattice  $M_{15}$  (see (2.4)). Being a  $\Phi_{15}$ -lattice,  $M_{15}$  has signature (2k, 2(4 - k)) for some k. But M is of signature (1,9), so  $M_{15}$ is definite and  $f_M | M_{15}$  is of finite order. Since  $M_{15}^{\perp}$  is of rank 2 and  $f_M | M_{15}^{\perp}$ has spectral radius 0, it is of finite order (cf. Lemma 2.9). Thus a power of f is an automorphism of a complex Enriques surface of order 15. However, no such automorphisms exist (by [17, Prop. 4.5 and Cor. 4.7]; see also [16, Props. 1.1 and 3.14]).

# §4. The factor $F_9$

In this section we maintain the notation of previous sections and prove Theorems 1.1, 1.2. We assume that  $f \in Aut(Y)$  satisfies the condition

$$F_9 \mid (p_f \mod 2).$$

After replacing  $\tilde{f}$  by some power coprime to 3, we assume that  $f_N$  is of order 9. Since  $F_9F_1^2$  divides  $p_N$ , we can rule out  $p_N = \Phi_9^2$ . Furthermore, by [13, Rem. 2.4], we have  $(p_M \mod 2) \neq F_3^2F_9$ , which rules out  $p_N = \Phi_1^2\Phi_3^2\Phi_9$ . This leaves us with the two possibilities

$$p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_1^6$$
 or  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3 \Phi_1^4$ .

As usual we set  $N_9 := \ker(\Phi_9(f_N))$  and denote by  $N_9^{\perp}$  the orthogonal complement of  $N_9$  in  $N \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,10)}2^{10}$ . By Lemma 2.8, det  $N_9 \mid 2^6 \operatorname{res}(\Phi_9, \Phi_3 \Phi_1) = 2^6 \cdot 3^3$ . Using the description of  $N_9$  as a  $\Phi_9$ -lattice, we enumerate the possibilities for  $N_9$ . This yields 4 cases and with Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4 we calculate the corresponding genus of  $N_9^{\perp}$ :

(4.1) 
$$N_9 \in II_{(0,6)} 2^{-6} 3^1$$
 and  $N_9^{\perp} \in II_{(2,4)} 2^{-4} 3^{-1}$ ,

(4.2) 
$$N_9 \in II_{(0,6)}2^{-6}3^{-3}$$
 and  $N_9^{\perp} \in II_{(2,4)}2^{-4}3^3$ ,

(4.3) 
$$N_9 \in II_{(2,4)}2^{-6}3^{-1}$$
 and  $N_9^{\perp} \in II_{(0,6)}2^{-4}3^1$ ,

(4.4) 
$$N_9 \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,4)} 2^{-6} 3^3$$
 and  $N_9^{\perp} \in \mathrm{II}_{(0,6)} 2^{-4} 3^{-3}$ 

We can rule out cases (4.3) and (4.4) since in each case the genus of  $N_9^{\perp}$  consists of a single class (see Remark 2.2), which contains roots. We continue by determining the characteristic polynomial. If  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_1^6$ , then we must be in case (4.1) and  $N_9^{\perp} = N_1$ . Since the signature of  $N_1$  is (2,4), it contains the transcendental lattice. In particular, f is semi-symplectic. Choosing the covering K3 surface general enough, we may assume that  $N_1$  is its transcendental lattice. This situation is analyzed in the next proposition.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let Y be an Enriques surface such that its covering K3 surface X has transcendental lattice

$$T(X) \cong U \oplus U(2) \oplus A_2(-2) \in II_{(2,4)}2^{-4}3^{-1}$$

and satisfies the condition

$$N \cap NS(X) \cong E_6(-2) \in II_{(0,6)}2^{-6}3^1$$

Then the image of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{s}(Y) \to O(\operatorname{Num}(Y)) \otimes \mathbb{F}_{2}$  generates a group isomorphic to  $\mathcal{S}_{5}$ .

*Proof.* The image of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{s}(Y) \to O(\operatorname{Num}(Y))$  can be calculated with Algorithm 6.6. It is generated by 64 explicit matrices (see [28]). Their modulo-2 reductions generate a group isomorphic to  $\mathcal{S}_{5}$ . The latter can be checked with the help of [8].  $\Box$ 

Since  $S_5$  does not contain an element of order 9, we are left with

$$p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3 \Phi_1^4.$$

We derive further restrictions.

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $g \in O(N)$  be an isometry with characteristic polynomial

$$p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3 \Phi_1^4.$$

Then  $N_3 = A_2(n)$  with  $n \in \{\pm 2, \pm 6\}$ .

*Proof.* One can easily see that  $A_2$  is the principal  $\Phi_3$ -lattice. By (2.6),  $N_3 = A_2(n)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . In the following we show that  $n \in \{\pm 2, \pm 6\}$  by bounding the determinant of  $N_3$ . By Lemma 2.8 we have

$$\det N_3 \mid 2^2 \operatorname{res}(\Phi_3, \Phi_9 \Phi_1) = 2^2 3^3.$$

By Lemma 2.5, the 2-adic symbol of  $N_3$  is either  $1^{-2}$  or  $2^{-2}$ . The first one is not a direct summand of  $N_9^{\perp} \otimes \mathbb{Z}_2$  (see Lemma 2.3), so we are left with the second. Hence  $|n| \neq 1, 3$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** Let  $f \in Aut(Y)$  be an automorphism of an Enriques surface such that  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3^1 \Phi_1^4$  and (4.1) holds. Then  $N_3 \cong A_2(-2)$  and  $N_1 \cong U(2) \oplus U$ .

Proof. By assumption (4.1), det  $N_9^{\perp} = 2^4 3$ , and Lemma 2.8 yields det  $N_3 \mid 2^2 9$ . Thus, by Lemma 4.2, we are left with  $N_3 = A_2(\pm 2)$ . We see that det  $N_1 \mid 2^2 3^2$ . Suppose that  $N_3 = A_2(2) \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,0)}2^{-2}3^1$ . There is a single genus of signature (0, 4), 2-adic symbol  $1^2 2^2$ , and determinant dividing  $2^2 3^2$ , namely  $N_1 \in \mathrm{II}_{(0,4)}2^2 3^2$ . It consists of a single class which has roots. Thus  $N_3 \cong A_2(-2)$ . We calculate the possible genus symbols of  $N_1$  as  $\mathrm{II}_{(2,2)}2^2$  and  $\mathrm{II}_{(2,2)}2^29^{\pm 1}$ . In the second case,  $N_1$  and  $N_3$  must be glued non-trivially over 3. This is impossible, as the only possibilities for the glue groups are  $(N_3^{\vee}/N_3)_3$ , whose discriminant form is nondegenerate, and  $3(N_1^{\vee}/N_1)_3$ , whose discriminant form is degenerate. Thus  $N_1 \in$  $\mathrm{II}_{(2,2)}2^2$ , which implies  $N_1 \cong U(2) \oplus U$  since it is unique in this genus.

If the transcendental lattice is  $U \oplus U(2)$ , then as before we see that the spectral radius of  $\tilde{f}$  is 1. Since  $M'_1 = \ker(f_M - 1)^2$  is of rank 2 and  $f_M | M'_1$  has spectral radius 0, it is of finite order (cf. Lemma 2.9) and  $M_1 = M'_1$ . Since  $M_1^{\perp}$  is definite,  $f_M$  is of finite order there as well. Thus f is an automorphism of order 9 on a complex Enriques surface. However, no such automorphism exists (cf. [17]). We are left with case (4.2) and  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3 \Phi_1^4$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** Let  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$  be an automorphism of an Enriques surface such that  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3^1 \Phi_1^4$  and (4.2) holds. Then  $N_3 \cong A_2(-6)$  and  $N_1 \in \operatorname{II}_{(2,2)} 2^{-2} 9^1$ . Moreover,  $N_1^{\perp} \cong A_8(-2)$ .

Proof. Recall that  $\zeta_9 \cdot x \coloneqq g(x)$  defines a  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_9]$ -module structure on  $N_9$  and its discriminant group. Thus  $N_9^{\vee}/N_9 \cong \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_9]/I$  for some ideal I. Since we are in case (4.2), I is of norm det  $N_9 = 2^6 3^3$ . There is only one such ideal, namely  $2(1 - \zeta_9)^3$  (since (2) is inert and (3) completely ramified in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_9]$ ). We see that the action of g on the 3-primary part  $(N_9^{\vee}/N_9)_3 \cong \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_9]/(1 - \zeta_9)^3$  has minimal polynomial  $(x - 1)^3 = x^3 - 1$ . In particular, it has order 3. Thus the order of g on

$$(N_9^{\perp \vee}/N_9^{\perp})_3 \cong (N_9^{\vee}/N_9)_3$$

is 3 as well. This is only possible if the order of g on  $(N_3^{\vee}/N_3)_3 \cong \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_3]/(1-\zeta_3)^i$ is 3 (this group is a subquotient of  $(N_3 \oplus N_1)^{\vee}/(N_3 \oplus N_1)$ ). This implies that  $i \ge 2$ , i.e. that det  $N_3$  is divisible by 9. From Lemma 4.2 we see that  $N_3 = A_2(\pm 6)$ . Now that we know the determinants of  $N_3$  and  $N_9^{\perp}$ , we can estimate that of  $N_1$  to be a divisor of  $2^2 3^2$ . Since  $N_3$  has a 3-adic Jordan component of scale 9 and  $N_9^{\perp}$  not,  $N_3$  cannot be a direct summand of  $N_9^{\perp}$ . Thus  $N_3$  and  $N_1$  are glued non-trivially over 3. Consequently, the determinant of  $N_1$  is  $2^2 3^2$ .

Suppose that  $N_3 \cong A_2(6)$ ; then the signature of  $N_1$  is (0, 4). There is only one genus with 2-adic genus symbol  $1^2 2^2$ , signature (0, 4), and determinant  $2^2 3^2$ :  $II_{(0,4)} 2^2 3^2$  which consists of a single class that has roots.

Suppose now that  $N_3 \cong A_2(-6)$ . Then we obtain three possibilities for the genus of  $N_1$ :

- (1)  $II_{(2,2)}2^23^{-2}$ : There is only one possibility to glue  $N_3$  and  $N_1$  equivariantly over 3 (up to isomorphism). It results in  $II_{(2,4)}2^{-4}3^{1}9^{1}$ , which is not what we need.
- (2)  $II_{(2,2)}2^29^{-1}$ : The full 3-adic symbol is  $1^{-3}9^{-1}$ . But that has the wrong sign at scale 1.
- (3)  $II_{(2,2)}2^29^1$ : Indeed, there is a unique possibility to glue  $N_3$  and  $N_1$  equivariantly over 3. It yields the correct result.

# **Corollary 4.5.** If $F_9$ divides $(p_f \mod 2)$ , then $F_1^2 F_3 F_9 = (p_f \mod 2)$ .

Proof. If we replace f by some power  $f^k$  with k coprime to 3, then the previous considerations apply and lead us to  $p_N = \Phi_9 \Phi_3 \Phi_1^4$ . By Lemma 4.4,  $(N_3^{\vee}/N_3)_2 \cong \mathbb{F}_2^2$ . Hence  $F_3$  divides  $p_N \mod 2$ . Since  $F_1^2(p_f \mod 2) = p_N \mod 2 = F_9F_3F_1^4$ , the corollary is proven for  $f^k$ . If k is a power of 2, then the characteristic polynomials of  $f_M$  and  $f_M^k$  coincide and we are done. If k is not a power of 2 then  $(p_f \mod 2)$  must be divisible by one of  $F_5$ ,  $F_7$ ,  $F_{15}$ , which is absurd. For instance, if  $(p_f \mod 2) =$  $F_9F_{15}$ , then  $(p_{f^5} \mod 2) = F_9F_3^2 \neq F_1^2F_3F_9$ .

After these preparations, we can prove the following lemma that we will need for the proof of Theorem 1.1(b).

# **Lemma 4.6.** If $F_9$ divides $(p_f \mod 2)$ , then f is semi-symplectic.

Proof. By Corollary 4.5 we have  $(p_N \mod 2) = F_9 F_3 F_1^4$ . Thus the order of  $f_N$  is  $2^k 9$  for some k. Set  $L = \ker(f^{2^k} - 1) \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,2)} 2^{-2} 9^1$  and note that the transcendental lattice T is contained in L. We suppose that f is not semi-symplectic. Then the order of  $\tilde{f}$  on  $H^2(X, \Omega_X^2)$  is  $2^l$  for some l > 1. After replacing  $\tilde{f}$  by  $\tilde{f}^{l-2}$  we may and will assume that l = 2, i.e. the order of  $f_N | T$  is 4.

Set  $L_4 = \ker \Phi_4(f_N|L)$ . Suppose that rank  $L_4 = 4$ , i.e.  $L = L_4$ . Then the discriminant group of L is a  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_4]$  module. But since 3 is prime in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_4]$ , there is no  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_4]$  module isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/9\mathbb{Z}$ . Thus rank  $L_4 = 2$  and  $3 \nmid \det L_4$ . Since  $\det L_4 \mid 2^2 \operatorname{res}(\Phi_4, \Phi_2 \Phi_1) = 2^4$  and  $L_4$  is a  $\Phi_4$ -lattice, either  $L_4 \cong [2] \oplus [2]$  or  $L_4 \cong [4] \oplus [4]$  holds. In both cases  $L_4^{\perp} \subseteq L$  has 3-adic symbol  $9^{-1}$  and determinant 36. The only such lattice is  $[-2] \oplus [-18]$ , which contains roots.

At this point we have determined the Néron–Severi lattice of the K3 cover of a generic Enriques surface admitting an automorphism with  $F_9$  dividing  $p_f \mod 2$ . This allows us to compute the semi-symplectic part of the automorphism group and locate f in there.

**Proposition 4.7.** Let Y be an Enriques surface such that its K3 cover X satisfies the condition

$$NS(X) \cap N \cong A_8(-2) \in II_{(0,8)}2^89^1$$

and has transcendental lattice given by

$$N_1 \in II_{(2,2)}2^{-2}9^1.$$

Then the image of  $\operatorname{Aut}_{s}(Y) \to O(\operatorname{Num}(Y) \otimes \mathbb{F}_{2})$  generates a group isomorphic to  $\mathcal{S}_{9}$ .

In particular, the polynomials  $F_7$  and  $F_9$  do appear as factors of modulo-2 reductions of characteristic polynomials of isometries induced by some automorphisms of the Enriques surface Y.

*Proof.* The proof is a direct computation with the help of Algorithm 6.6 (cf. the proof of Proposition 4.1). The existence of the factors  $F_7$  and  $F_9$  follows since the symmetric group  $S_9$  has elements of order 7 and 9.

Finally, we can give the proofs of the main results of this note.

Proof of Theorem 1.1.

- (a) One can repeat verbatim the proof of [13, Thm. 1.2] to see that the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_N(x) \mod 2)$  is the product of some of the polynomials  $F_1$ ,  $F_3$ ,  $F_5$ ,  $F_7$ ,  $F_9$ ,  $F_{15}$ . By (2.2) the same holds for  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$ . The claim follows from Proposition 3.1.
- (b) The existence of the automorphisms with required properties follows from Proposition 4.7. Lemma 4.6 implies the second claim. □

Proof of Theorem 1.2. In view of [13, Thm. 1.1] it suffices to rule out the possibility that the order of the map  $f_N$  is one of the integers 90, 45, 72. Suppose to the

contrary that the order of  $f_N$  is 90, 45, 72. Then  $F_9$  divides  $(p_N \mod 2)$ . Thus, by (2.2),  $F_9$  divides  $(p_f \mod 2)$  and we can apply Corollary 4.5 to show that  $(p_N \mod 2)$  is divisible by  $F_1^2 F_3 F_9$ .

In particular,  $p_N$  (of degree 12) cannot be divisible by  $\Phi_5$  as well. This excludes orders 45 and 90. Suppose that the map  $f_N$  is of order 72. Then its characteristic polynomial  $p_N$  cannot be divisible by  $\Phi_{72}$  and  $\Phi_{24}\Phi_9$  for they have the wrong degree. Thus  $\Phi_9$  or  $\Phi_{18}$  must divide  $p_N$ . In particular,  $F_9$  divides ( $p_N \mod 2$ ) and Corollary 4.5 implies that ( $p_N \mod 2$ ) is divisible by  $F_1^2F_3F_9$ . This leaves us with  $p_N = \Phi_8\Phi_{3a}\Phi_{9b}$ , where  $a, b \in \{1, 2\}$ . From Lemma 4.4 (applied to  $\tilde{f}^8$ ) we know that  $N_8 \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,2)}2^{-2}9^1$ . This is impossible, as can be seen using the description of  $N_8$  as a twist of the principal  $\Phi_8$ -lattice. Indeed, 3 splits into two primes of degree 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_8]$ .

§5. The factor  $F_7$ 

The main aim of this section is to study Enriques surfaces Y with an automorphism  $f \in Aut(Y)$  such that

(5.1) 
$$F_7 \mid (p_f \mod 2).$$

The existence of such surfaces follows from Proposition 4.7. Here we derive a lattice-theoretic constraint given by (5.1) and show that it indeed defines Enriques surfaces with the desired property. We maintain the notation of the previous sections. Recall (see (2.1)) that

$$N \in II_{(2,10)}2^{10}$$
.

In the sequel we will need the following lemma.

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $g \in O(N)$  be an isometry of finite order such that its characteristic polynomial is the product  $\Phi_7(x)\Phi_1(x)^6$ . Then there are two possibilities for the genera of the lattices  $N_7 := \ker \Phi_7(g)$  and  $N_1 := \ker \Phi_1(g)$ : either

$$N_7 \in \mathrm{II}_{(2,4)}2^67^{-1}$$
 and  $N_1 \in \mathrm{II}_{(0,6)}2^47^{1}$ 

or

$$N_7 \in II_{(0,6)}2^67^1$$
 and  $N_1 \in II_{(2,4)}2^47^{-1}$ 

In either case the genus of  $N_1$  contains a single class. In the first case the class of  $N_1$  has roots.

*Proof.* Observe that we assumed g to be of finite order, so it is semi-simple, and rank $(N_1) = 6$ . Since res $(\Phi_1, \Phi_7) = 7$ , Lemma 2.8 implies that the index

 $[N: N_7 \oplus N_1]$  divides 7. But in any case  $7 = |\Phi_7(1)\Phi_7(-1)|$  divides det  $N_7$  (see (2.5) and (2.6)). Thus we obtain

$$[N:N_7\oplus N_1]=7.$$

Consequently, for all  $p \neq 7$ ,  $N \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p = (N_7 \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p) \oplus (N_1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}_p)$ , and in particular for p = 2. Using the description of  $N_7$  as a twist of the principal  $\Phi_7$ -lattice we compute the two possibilities for the genus of  $N_7$  (see Remark 2.2).

It remains to determine the genus of  $N_1$ . Since we have

$$N\otimes \mathbb{Z}_2 = (N_7\otimes \mathbb{Z}_2)\oplus (N_1\otimes \mathbb{Z}_2),$$

the 2-adic symbol of  $N_1$  must be  $2^4$ . To compute the 7-adic symbol note that  $N \otimes \mathbb{Z}_7$  is unimodular, thus Lemma 2.4 applies. As (-1) is a non-square in  $\mathbb{Z}_7$  this means that the signs  $\epsilon_7$  of the 7-modular Jordan constituents of  $N_7$  and  $N_1$  must be different. The claim that  $N_1$  is unique in its genus in the first case is checked with a computer algebra system (see Remark 2.2). In the second case,  $N_1$  is indefinite and we can use [6, Thm. 15.19].

Recall that X (resp.  $\tilde{f} \in \operatorname{Aut}(X)$ ) stands for the K3 cover of an Enriques surface Y (resp. for a lift of an automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ ).

**Proposition 5.2.** Let Y be an Enriques surface with automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ such that (5.1) holds. Then NS(X) contains a primitive  $\tilde{f}^*$ -invariant sublattice which belongs to the genus  $\operatorname{II}_{(1,15)}2^47^1$  and  $N \cap \operatorname{NS}(X)$  contains the  $\tilde{f}^*$ -invariant sublattice  $A_6(-2) \cong N_7 \in \operatorname{II}_{(0,6)}2^67^1$  primitively.

*Proof.* Since  $F_7$  divides  $p_f$ , (2.2) implies that the characteristic polynomial  $p_N$  is divisible by the cyclotomic polynomial  $\Phi_7$ . Moreover, after replacing f by  $f^k$  with  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  coprime to 7, we may assume that

$$p_N = \Phi_7(x)\Phi_1(x)^6.$$

Now we can apply Lemma 5.1. The first case is impossible as then  $N_1$  is contained in  $NS(X) \cap N$  and contains roots (see (2.3)). Thus we are left with the second case. Since  $N_1 \subseteq N$  is of signature (2, 4) it must contain the transcendental lattice (and f is semi-symplectic). Thus the orthogonal complement of  $N_1$  in  $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is the sought for  $\tilde{f}^*$ -invariant sublattice of NS(X).

Finally, we apply Algorithm 6.6 to check that the condition of Proposition 5.2 indeed gives Enriques surfaces such that (5.1) holds.

**Proposition 5.3.** If the K3 cover X of an Enriques surface Y satisfies the conditions

(a) 
$$NS(X) \in II_{(1,15)}2^47^1$$
 and

(b) 
$$N \cap NS(X) \cong A_6(-2) \in II_{(0,6)}2^67^1$$
,

then the image of  $\operatorname{Aut}_s(Y) \to \operatorname{O}(\operatorname{Num}(Y)) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2$  generates a group isomorphic to  $S_7$ . In particular, the Enriques surface Y admits an automorphism  $f \in \operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ such that the modulo-2 reduction  $(p_f(x) \mod 2)$  is divisible by the polynomial  $F_7$ .

*Proof.* Apply Algorithm 6.6 and [8] as in the proof of Proposition 4.1.

### §6. An algorithm to calculate generators

In this section we present an algorithm to calculate a finite generating set of the image of the natural homomorphism from the automorphism group of an Enriques surface to the orthogonal group of the numerical Néron–Severi lattice of the Enriques surface. Our algorithm is based on Borcherds' method [1, 2] with the result in [3].

### §6.1. Borcherds' method

We use the notation and terminologies in [3]. In particular, we denote by Y an Enriques surface,  $\pi: X \to Y$  the universal covering of Y, and  $S_X$  and  $S_Y$  the numerical Néron–Severi lattices of X and of Y, respectively (that is,  $S_X = NS(X)$ and  $S_Y = Num(Y)$  in the notation of previous sections.) Let  $\mathcal{P}_X$  (resp.  $\mathcal{P}_Y$ ) be the positive cone of  $S_X \otimes \mathbb{R}$  (resp.  $S_Y \otimes \mathbb{R}$ ) containing an ample class. Let  $N_X$ (resp.  $N_Y$ ) be the cone consisting of all  $x \in \mathcal{P}_X$  (resp. all  $x \in \mathcal{P}_Y$ ) such that  $\langle x, [\Gamma] \rangle \geq 0$  for any curve  $\Gamma$  on X (resp. on Y). We let the orthogonal group O(L)of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice L act on the lattice from the *right*. Suppose that L is even. A vector  $r \in L$  is a (-2)-vector if  $\langle r, r \rangle = -2$ . Let W(L) denote the subgroup of O(L)generated by the reflections  $s_r: x \mapsto x + \langle x, r \rangle r$  with respect to (-2)-vectors rof L. For a subset A of  $L \otimes \mathbb{R}$ , we denote by  $A^g$  the image of A under the action of  $g \in O(L)$  (not the fixed locus of g in A), and put

$$\mathcal{O}(L,A) \coloneqq \left\{ g \in \mathcal{O}(L) \mid A = A^g \right\}.$$

We have natural homomorphisms

$$\operatorname{Aut}(X) \to \operatorname{O}(S_X, \mathcal{P}_X), \quad \operatorname{Aut}(Y) \to \operatorname{O}(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y).$$

We denote by  $\operatorname{aut}(X)$  and  $\operatorname{aut}(Y)$  the images of these homomorphisms. Recall that  $\operatorname{Aut}_s(Y)$  consists of the semi-symplectic automorphisms, i.e. those that act trivially on  $H^0(Y, \omega_Y^{\otimes 2})$ . We denote by  $\operatorname{Aut}_s(X)$  the subgroup consisting of those automorphisms acting as  $\pm 1$  on  $H^0(X, \Omega_X^2) \cong H^{2,0}(X)$ . The subgroups  $\operatorname{aut}_s(X) \subseteq \operatorname{aut}(X)$  and  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y) \subseteq \operatorname{aut}(Y)$  are defined as the respective images. Our goal is to calculate a finite generating set of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ .

**Remark 6.1.** We note that  $\operatorname{Aut}_{s}(Y)$  is of finite index in  $\operatorname{Aut}(Y)$ . This index is 1 if the only isometries of  $T_X$  that preserve  $H^{2,0}(X) \subset T_X \otimes \mathbb{C}$  are  $\pm 1$ , where  $T_X$  is the transcendental lattice of X.

We have the primitive embedding

$$\pi^* \colon S_Y(2) \hookrightarrow S_X,$$

which induces  $\mathcal{P}_Y \hookrightarrow \mathcal{P}_X$ . We regard  $S_Y$  as a submodule of  $S_X$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  as a subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_X$  by  $\pi^*$ . Then we have

$$(6.1) N_Y = N_X \cap \mathcal{P}_Y.$$

If  $\alpha \in S_Y$  is ample on Y, then  $\pi^*(\alpha)$  is ample on X. Hence we have  $N_Y^\circ = N_X^\circ \cap \mathcal{P}_Y$ , where  $N_Y^\circ$  and  $N_X^\circ$  are the interiors of  $N_Y$  and  $N_X$ , respectively. Let Q denote the orthogonal complement of the sublattice  $S_Y(2)$  in  $S_X$ . Since Q is negative definite, the group O(Q) is finite. We consider the following assumptions for an element gof  $O(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$ :

- (i) There exists an isometry  $h \in O(Q)$  such that the action of  $g \oplus h$  on  $S_Y(2) \oplus Q$ preserves the overlattice  $S_X$  of  $S_Y(2) \oplus Q$  and the action of  $(g \oplus h)|S_X$  on the discriminant group  $S_X^{\vee}/S_X$  of  $S_X$  is  $\pm 1$ .
- (ii-a) There exists an ample class  $\alpha \in S_Y$  of Y such that there exist no vectors  $r \in S_X$  with  $\langle r, r \rangle = -2$  satisfying  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha), r \rangle > 0$  and  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha^g), r \rangle < 0$ .
- (ii-b) For an arbitrary ample class  $\alpha \in S_Y$  of Y, there exist no vectors  $r \in S_X$ with  $\langle r, r \rangle = -2$  satisfying  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha), r \rangle > 0$  and  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha^g), r \rangle < 0$ .

**Proposition 6.2.** Let g be an element of  $O(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$ . Then g is in  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$  if (i) and (ii-a) hold. If g is in  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ , then (i) and (ii-b) hold.

*Proof.* An element g of  $O(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$  is in  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$  if and only if there exists an element  $\tilde{g} \in \operatorname{aut}_s(X)$  that preserves  $S_Y \subset S_X$  and satisfies  $\tilde{g}|S_Y = g$ . By the Torelli theorem, we see that an element  $\tilde{g}'$  of  $O(S_X, \mathcal{P}_X)$  is in  $\operatorname{aut}_s(X)$  if and only if the action of  $\tilde{g}'$  on  $S_X^{\vee}/S_X$  is  $\pm 1$  and  $\tilde{g}'$  preserves  $N_X$ . Since  $N_X$  is a standard fundamental domain of the action of  $W(S_X)$  on  $\mathcal{P}_X$  (see [3, Exa. 1.5]), we have

$$N_X^{\circ} \cap N_X^h \neq \emptyset \implies N_X = N_X^h$$

for any  $h \in O(S_X, \mathcal{P}_X)$ . Therefore, both (ii-a) and (ii-b) are equivalent to the condition that  $N_X^{\tilde{g}} = N_X$  for any  $\tilde{g} \in O(S_X, \mathcal{P}_X)$  satisfying  $S_Y^{\tilde{g}} = S_Y$  and  $\tilde{g}|S_Y = g$ .

Suppose that we have a primitive embedding

$$\iota_X \colon S_X \hookrightarrow L_{26},$$

where  $L_{26}$  is an even unimodular hyperbolic lattice of rank 26, which is unique up to isomorphism. (More standard notation is II<sub>1,25</sub>.) Composing  $\pi^*$  and  $\iota_X$ , we obtain a primitive embedding

$$\iota_Y \colon S_Y(2) \hookrightarrow L_{26}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{P}_{26}$  be the positive cone of  $L_{26}$  into which  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  is mapped. We regard  $S_Y$  as a primitive submodule of  $L_{26}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  as a subspace of  $\mathcal{P}_{26}$  by  $\iota_Y$ . Recall from [3] that a Conway chamber is a standard fundamental domain of the action of  $W(L_{26})$  on  $\mathcal{P}_{26}$ . The tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_{26}$  by Conway chambers induces a tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  by induced chambers.

**Proposition 6.3.** The action of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$  on  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  preserves the tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  by induced chambers.

Proof. Let g be an element of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ . By the proof of Proposition 6.2, there exists an isometry  $\tilde{g} \in O(S_X, \mathcal{P}_X)$  such that  $S_Y^{\tilde{g}} = S_Y$ ,  $\tilde{g}|S_Y = g$  and the action of  $\tilde{g}$  on  $S_X^{\vee}/S_X$  is  $\pm 1$ . By the last condition, we see that  $\tilde{g}$  further extends to an isometry  $g_{26} \in O(L_{26}, \mathcal{P}_{26})$ . Since the action of  $g_{26}$  on  $\mathcal{P}_{26}$  preserves the tessellation by Conway chambers, the action of g on  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  preserves the tessellation by induced chambers.

Let  $L_{10}$  be an even unimodular hyperbolic lattice of rank 10, which is unique up to isomorphism. In [3] we classified all primitive embeddings of  $S_Y(2) \cong L_{10}(2)$ into  $L_{26}$ , and studied the tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  by induced chambers. It turns out that, up to the actions of  $O(L_{10})$  and  $O(L_{26})$ , there exist exactly 17 primitive embeddings  $L_{10}(2) \hookrightarrow L_{26}$ , and except for one primitive embedding named "infty", the associated tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  by induced chambers has the following properties:

- Each induced chamber D is bounded by a finite number of walls, and each wall is defined by a (-2)-vector.
- If a (-2)-vector r defines a wall  $w = D \cap (r)^{\perp}$  of an induced chamber D, then the reflection  $s_r \colon x \mapsto x + \langle x, r \rangle r$  into the mirror  $(r)^{\perp}$  maps D to the induced chamber adjacent to D across the wall w.

In particular, the tessellation of  $\mathcal{P}_Y$  by induced chambers is *simple* in the sense of [27].

### §6.2. Main algorithm

Suppose that the primitive embedding  $\iota_Y$  is not of type "infty". Suppose also that we have calculated the walls of an induced chamber  $D_0 \subset \mathcal{P}_Y$  contained in  $N_Y$ .

Before starting the main algorithm, we calculate the finite groups O(Q) and  $O(S_Y, D_0)$ . We also fix an ample class  $\alpha$  that is contained in the interior of  $D_0$ . In the following, an induced chamber D is expressed as an element  $\tau_D \in O(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$  such that  $D = D_0^{\tau_D}$ . Note that  $\tau_D$  is uniquely determined by D up to left multiplications of elements of  $O(S_Y, D_0)$ .

Then we have the following auxiliary algorithms.

Algorithm 6.4. Given an induced chamber D, we can determine whether  $D \subset N_Y$  or not. Indeed, by (6.1), we have  $D \subset N_Y$  if and only if there exist no (-2)-vectors r of  $S_X$  such that  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha), r \rangle > 0$  and  $\langle \pi^*(\alpha^{\tau_D}), r \rangle < 0$ . The set of such (-2)-vectors can be calculated by the algorithm in [25, Sect. 3.3].

Suppose that  $D \subset N_Y$ . A wall  $D \cap (r)^{\perp}$  of D is said to be *inner* if the induced chamber  $D^{s_r}$  adjacent to D across  $D \cap (r)^{\perp}$  is contained in  $N_Y$ . Otherwise, we say that  $D \cap (r)^{\perp}$  is *outer*.

# Algorithm 6.5.

**Input:** An embedding  $S_Y(2) \hookrightarrow S_X \hookrightarrow L_{26}$ , the groups  $O(S_Y, D_0)$ , O(Q), and two induced chambers  $D, D' \subset N_Y$  represented by  $\tau_D, \tau_{D'}$ .

**Output:** The set  $\{\gamma \in \operatorname{aut}_s(Y) \mid D' = D^{\gamma}\}$ .

- 1: Compute Isom $(D, D') \coloneqq \tau_D^{-1} \mathcal{O}(S_Y, D_0) \tau_{D'}$ . This is the set of all isometries  $g \in \mathcal{O}(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$  that satisfy  $D' = D^g$ .
- 2: Initialize  $\mathcal{I} := \{\}$ .
- 3: for  $g \in \text{Isom}(D, D')$  do Use O(Q) and Proposition 6.2 to check
- 4: **if**  $g \in \operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$  **then**
- 5: add g to  $\mathcal{I}$ .

```
6: Return \mathcal{I}.
```

Note that since both D and D' are contained in  $N_Y$ , condition (ii-a) of Proposition 6.2 is always satisfied in line 4. For D = D', Algorithm 6.5 calculates the group

$$\operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y, D) \coloneqq \operatorname{O}(S_{Y}, D) \cap \operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y).$$

Two induced chambers D and D' in  $N_Y$  are said to be  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalent if there exists an element  $\gamma \in \operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$  such that  $D' = D^{\gamma}$ .

# Algorithm 6.6.

**Input:** An embedding  $S_Y(2) \hookrightarrow S_X \hookrightarrow L_{26}$  and an induced chamber  $D_0 \subset N_Y$ .

**Output:** A list  $\mathcal{R}$  of representatives of  $\operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y)$ -equivalence classes of induced chambers contained in  $N_{Y}$  and a generating set  $\mathcal{G}$  of  $\operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y)$ .

```
1: Initialize \mathcal{R} \coloneqq [D_0], \mathcal{G} \coloneqq \{\}, \text{ and } i \coloneqq 0.
 2: while i \leq |\mathcal{R}| do
          Let D_i be the (i+1)st element of \mathcal{R}.
 3:
          Replace \mathcal{G} by \mathcal{G} \cup \operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D_i).
 4:
          Let \mathcal{W} be the set of walls of D_i.
 5:
          Compute orbit representatives of \mathcal{W} under the action of \operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y, D_{i}).
 6:
          for each representative wall w of \mathcal{W}/\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D_i) do
 7:
               Let r be the (-2)-vector of S_Y defining the wall w = D \cap (r)^{\perp}.
 8:
               Let s_r be the reflection x \mapsto x + \langle x, r \rangle r.
 9:
               Let D_w = D_i^{s_r} be the induced chamber adjacent to D_i across w.
10:
               Set \tau_{D_w} \coloneqq \tau_{D_i} s_r.
11:
12:
               if D_w \not\subset N_Y then
                    Continue with the next representative wall.
13:
               Set f \coloneqq true.
14:
               for each D \in \mathcal{R} do
15:
                    if D is \operatorname{aut}_{s}(Y)-equivalent to D_{w} then
16:
                         Let \gamma \in \operatorname{aut}_s(Y) be an element such that D_w = D^{\gamma}.
17:
                         Add \gamma to \mathcal{G}.
18:
19:
                         Replace f by false.
                         Break the for loop.
20:
               if f = \text{true then}
21:
22:
                    Add D_w to \mathcal{R}.
23:
          Increment i.
24: Return \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{G}.
```

*Proof.* This algorithm is proved in the same way as [26, Prop. 6.3].

**Remark 6.7.** The termination of Algorithm 6.6 follows, in the same way as in [26, proof of Thm. 3.7], from the fact that the subgroup of  $O(S_Y, \mathcal{P}_Y)$  consisting of isometries g that extends to an isometry of  $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  preserving the sublattice  $S_X \subset H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  is of finite index, and its membership can be decided by the action of g on the discriminant form of  $S_Y(2)$ . This algorithm provides us with an effective version of the cone theorem for Enriques surfaces ([18, 29]).

### §6.3. Examples

The details of the following computations are available at [28].

**6.3.1. The Enriques surface in Proposition 5.3.** The Picard number of the covering K3 surface is 16, and the orthogonal complement Q of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $S_X$  is  $A_6(-2)$ . Therefore O(Q) is of order 10080. The ADE-type of (-2)-vectors in the orthogonal complement P of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $L_{26}$  is  $8A_1 + 2D_4$ . Hence the embedding  $\iota_Y$  is of type 40B in the notation of [3]. The number  $|\mathcal{R}|$  of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalence classes of induced chambers in  $N_Y$  is 2. Let  $D_0$  and  $D_1$  be the representatives of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalence classes. For i = 0, 1, the group  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D_i)$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$  and the 40 walls of  $D_i$  are decomposed into 10 orbits under the action of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D_i)$ . Among the 40 walls, exactly  $3 \times 4 = 12$  walls are outer walls. For each inner wall w, the two induced chambers containing w are not  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalent, that is, one is  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalent to  $D_0$  and the other is  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalent to  $D_1$ .

**6.3.2. The Enriques surface in Proposition 4.1.** The Picard number of the covering K3 surface is 16, and the orthogonal complement Q of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $S_X$  is  $E_6(-2)$ . Therefore O(Q) is of order 103680. The ADE-type of (-2)-vectors in the orthogonal complement P of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $L_{26}$  is  $D_4+D_5$ . Hence the embedding  $\iota_Y$  is of type 20A, which means that  $D_0$  is bounded by walls defined by (-2)-vectors that form the dual graph of Nikulin–Kōndo type V [12]. The number  $|\mathcal{R}|$  of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalence classes of induced chambers in  $N_Y$  is 20. They are decomposed into the following three types:

Type	$ \operatorname{aut}_s(Y,D) $	Outer walls	Inner walls	Number
a	1	$1 \times 7$	$1 \times 13$	2
b	1	$1 \times 5$	$1 \times 15$	6
с	2	$1 \times 2 + 2 \times 2$	$1\times 2+2\times 6$	12

For example, there exist 12  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ -equivalence classes of type c. If D is an induced chamber of type c, then  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , and D has 6 outer walls and 14 inner walls. Under the action of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D)$ , the 6 outer walls are decomposed into 4 orbits of sizes 1, 1, 2, 2, and the 14 inner walls are decomposed into 8 orbits of sizes 1, 1, 2, ..., 2.

**6.3.3. The Enriques surface in Proposition 4.7.** The Picard number of the covering K3 surface is 18, and the orthogonal complement Q of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $S_X$  is  $A_8(-2)$ . Therefore O(Q) is of order 725760. The ADE-type of (-2)-vectors in the orthogonal complement P of  $S_Y(2)$  in  $L_{26}$  is  $A_3 + A_4$ . Hence the embedding  $\iota_Y$  is of type 20D, which means that  $D_0$  is bounded by walls defined by (-2)-vectors that

form the dual graph of Nikulin–Kōndo type VII [12]. The number  $|\mathcal{R}|$  of  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y)$ equivalence classes of induced chambers in  $N_Y$  is 1. The group  $\operatorname{aut}_s(Y, D_0)$  is
isomorphic to  $\mathfrak{S}_3$ , and the 20 walls of  $D_0$  are decomposed into 6 orbits, each of
which consists of

6 outer, 3 outer, 3 outer, 3 inner, 3 inner, 2 inner.

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