

## Conditions to be a Forest for Normalizer

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### Abstract

In this paper, we examine some suborbital graphs for the normalizer of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

**Keywords:** Normalizer, signature, imprimitive action, suborbital graph

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 05C05, 05C20, 11F06, 20H05

## 1. Introduction

Let  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  denote the group of all linear fractional transformations

$$T : z \rightarrow \frac{az + b}{cz + d}, \text{ where } a, b, c \text{ and } d \text{ are real and } ad - bc = 1.$$

In terms of matrix representation, the elements of  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  correspond to the matrices

$$\pm \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}; \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } ad - bc = 1.$$

This is the automorphism group of the upper half plane  $\mathbb{H} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(z) > 0\}$ .  $\Gamma$ , the modular group, is the subgroup of  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that  $a, b, c$  and  $d$  are integers.  $\Gamma_0(N)$  is the subgroup of  $\Gamma$  with  $N|c$ .

In [1], the normalizer  $\text{Nor}(N)$  of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  in  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$  consists exactly of matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} ae & b/h \\ cN/h & de \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $e \parallel \frac{N}{h^2}$  and  $h$  is the largest divisor of  $24$  for which  $h^2|N$  with understandings

that the determinant  $e$  of the matrix is positive, and that  $r \parallel s$  means that  $r|s$  and  $(r, s/r) = 1$  ( $r$  is called an exact divisor of  $s$ ).  $\text{Nor}(N)$  is a Fuchsian group whose fundamental domain has finite area, so it has a signature consisting of the geometric invariants

$$(g; m_1, \dots, m_r, s)$$

where  $g$  is the genus of the compactified quotient space,  $m_1, \dots, m_r$  are the periods of the elliptic elements and  $s$  is the parabolic class number.

## 2 The Action of $\text{Nor}(N)$ on $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$

Every element of the extended set of rationals  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}} = \mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\}$  can be represented as a reduced fraction  $\frac{x}{y}$ , with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $(x, y) = 1$ .  $\infty$  is represented as  $\frac{1}{0} = \frac{-1}{0}$ . The action of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$  on  $\frac{x}{y}$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} : \frac{x}{y} \rightarrow \frac{ax + by}{cx + dy}.$$

**Lemma 2.1** ([1]) *Let  $N$  have the prime power decomposition as  $2^{\alpha_1} \cdot 3^{\alpha_2} \cdot p_3^{\alpha_3} \cdots p_r^{\alpha_r}$ . Then  $Nor(N)$  acts transitively on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  if and only if  $\alpha_1 \leq 7$ ,  $\alpha_2 \leq 3$  and  $\alpha_i \leq 1$  for  $i = 3, \dots, r$ . ■*

In this study,  $N$  will be of the form  $2^\alpha p^2$ , where  $\alpha \geq 8$  and  $p$  is prime  $> 3$ . Clearly,  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  is not transitive on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Therefore, we will find a maximal subset of  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  on which  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  acts transitively. For this, we give some well-known facts as following lemmas about the orbits of the action of  $\Gamma_0(N)$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  without proofs.

**Lemma 2.2** *Let  $k/s$  be an arbitrary rational number with  $(k, s) = 1$ . Then there exists some element  $A \in \Gamma_0(N)$  such that  $A(k, s) = (k_1, s_1)$  with  $s_1 | N$  transitive.*

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $d | N$ . Then the orbit  $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ d \end{pmatrix}$  of  $a/d$  with  $(a, d) = 1$  under  $\Gamma_0(N)$  is the set  $\left\{ x/y \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}} : (N, y) = d, a \equiv x \frac{y}{d} \pmod{(d, N/d)} \right\}$ . Furthermore the number of orbits  $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ d \end{pmatrix}$  with  $d | N$  under  $\Gamma_0(N)$  is just  $\varphi(d, N/d)$  where  $\varphi$  is Euler's functions.*

**Corollary 2.4** *Let  $d | N$  and let  $(a_1, d) = (a_2, d) = 1$ . Then  $\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ d \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ d \end{pmatrix}$  are conjugate under  $\Gamma_0(N)$  iff  $a_1 = a_2 \pmod{(d, N/d)}$ .*

If one can just examine the actions of the elements of  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  on the orbit  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , the following result is easily obtained:

**Theorem 2.5** *The set  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2) := \cup \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$  is as in Lemma 2.3;  $b = 2^i p^j$  or  $2^{\alpha-i} p^j$ ;  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$  and  $j = 0, 2$ , is an orbit of  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ .*

Therefore the set  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2)$  is one on which  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  acts transitively. We now consider the imprimitivity of the action of  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2)$ , beginning with a general discussion of primitivity of permutation groups. Let  $(G, \Delta)$  be a transitive permutation group, consisting of a group  $G$  acting on a set  $\Delta$  transitively. An equivalence relation  $\approx$  on  $\Delta$  is called  $G$ -invariant if, whenever  $\alpha, \beta \in \Delta$  satisfy  $\alpha \approx \beta$ , then  $g(\alpha) \approx g(\beta)$  for all  $g \in G$ . The equivalence classes are called blocks, and the block containing  $\alpha$  is denoted by  $[\alpha]$ .

We call  $(G, \Delta)$  *imprimitive* if  $\Delta$  admits some  $G$ -invariant equivalence relation different from

- (i) the identity relation,  $\alpha \approx \beta$  if and only if  $\alpha = \beta$ ;
- (ii) the universal relation,  $\alpha \approx \beta$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Delta$ .

Otherwise  $(G, \Delta)$  is called *primitive*. These two relations are supposed to be trivial relations. Clearly, a primitive group must be transitive, for if not the orbits would form a system of blocks. The converse is false, but we have the following useful result.

**Lemma 2.6** ([3]). *Let  $(G, \Delta)$  be a transitive permutation group.  $(G, \Delta)$  is primitive if and only if  $G_\alpha$ , the stabilizer of  $\alpha \in \Delta$ , is a maximal subgroup of  $G$  for each  $\alpha \in \Delta$ .*

From the above lemma we see that whenever, for some  $\alpha$ ,  $G_\alpha \not\leq H \not\leq G$ , then  $\Omega$  admits some  $G$ -invariant equivalence relation other than the trivial cases. Because of the transitivity, every element of  $\Omega$  has the form  $g(\alpha)$  for some  $g \in G$ . Thus one of the non-trivial  $G$ -invariant equivalence relation on  $\Omega$  is given as follows:

$$g(\alpha) \approx g'(\alpha) \text{ if and only if } g' \in gH.$$

The number of blocks ( equivalence classes ) is the index  $|G : H|$  and the block containing  $\alpha$  is just the orbit  $H(\alpha)$ .

We can apply these ideas to the case where  $G$  is the  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  and  $\Delta$  is  $\hat{Q}(2^\alpha p^2)$  which is the orbit in Theorem 1,  $G_\alpha$  is the stabilizer of  $\infty$  in  $\hat{Q}(2^\alpha p^2)$ ; that is,  $G_\infty = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1/2^3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$ , and  $H$  is  $N_0 = \left\langle \Gamma_0(2^\alpha p^2), \begin{pmatrix} a & b/2^3 \\ 2^{\alpha-3}p^2c & d \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2^{\alpha-6}a & b/2^3 \\ 2^{\alpha-3}p^2c & 2^{\alpha-6}d \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$ .

Clearly  $G_\infty < N_0 < Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$ .

**Lemma 2.7** ([1]) *The index  $|Nor(N) : \Gamma_0(N)| = 2^\rho h^2 \tau$ , where  $\rho$  is the number of prime factors of  $N/h^2$ ,  $\tau = (\frac{3}{2})^{\varepsilon_1} (\frac{4}{3})^{\varepsilon_2}$ ,*

$$\varepsilon_1 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 2^2, 2^4, 2^6 \parallel N \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad \varepsilon_2 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 9 \parallel N \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \blacksquare$$

Using the Lemma 2.7, we get following easily:

**Theorem 2.8** *There are only two blocks which are  $[\infty]$  and  $[0]$ . The first (or second) is the subset of  $\hat{Q}(2^\alpha p^2)$  where  $j = 2$  (or  $j = 0$ ) in Theorem 2.5.*

### 3 Suborbital Graphs of $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$ on $\hat{Q}(2^\alpha p^2)$

In [6], Sims introduced the idea of the suborbital graphs of a permutation group  $G$  acting on a set  $\Delta$ , these are graphs with vertex-set  $\Delta$ , on which  $G$  induces automorphisms. We summarise Sims' theory as follows: Let  $(G, \Delta)$  be transitive permutation group. Then  $G$  acts on  $\Delta \times \Delta$  by  $g(\alpha, \beta) = (g(\alpha), g(\beta))$  ( $g \in$

$G, \alpha, \beta \in \Delta$ ). The orbits of this action are called *suborbitals* of  $G$ . The orbit containing  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is denoted by  $O(\alpha, \beta)$ . From  $O(\alpha, \beta)$  we can form a *suborbital graph*  $G(\alpha, \beta)$ : its vertices are the elements of  $\Delta$ , and there is a directed edge from  $\gamma$  to  $\delta$  if  $(\gamma, \delta) \in O(\alpha, \beta)$ . A directed edge from  $\gamma$  to  $\delta$  is denoted by  $(\gamma \rightarrow \delta)$ . If  $(\gamma, \delta) \in O(\alpha, \beta)$ , then we will say that there exists an edge  $(\gamma \rightarrow \delta)$  in  $G(\alpha, \beta)$ .

If  $\alpha = \beta$ , the corresponding suborbital graph  $G(\alpha, \alpha)$ , called the trivial suborbital graph, is *self-paired*: it consists of a loop based at each vertex  $\alpha \in \Delta$ . By a *circuit* of length  $m$  (or an closed edge path), we mean a sequence  $\nu_1 \rightarrow \nu_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \nu_m \rightarrow \nu_1$  such that  $\nu_i \neq \nu_j$  for  $i \neq j$ , where  $m \geq 3$ . If  $m = 3$  or 4 then the circuit is called a triangle or rectangle. We call a graph a *forest* if it does not contain any circuits.

In this study,  $G$  and  $\Delta$  will be  $Nor(N)$  and  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ , respectively. All circuits in suborbital graph for  $Nor(N)$  where  $N$  is a square-free positive integer was studied in [4,5]. We now investigate the suborbital graphs for the action  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2)$ . Since the action  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2)$  is transitive,  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  permutes the blocks transitively; so the subgraphs are all isomorphic. Hence it is sufficient to study with only one block. On the other hand, it is clear that each non-trivial suborbital graph contains a pair  $(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  for some  $u/2^\alpha p^2 \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}}(2^\alpha p^2)$ . Therefore, we work on the following case: We denote by  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  the subgraph of  $G(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  such that its vertices are in the block  $[\infty]$ .

**Theorem 3.1** *Let  $r/s$  and  $x/y$  be in the block  $[\infty]$ . Then there is an edge  $r/s \rightarrow x/y$  in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  iff*

- (i) *If  $2^{\alpha-k}p^2 \parallel s$ , then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{2^{\alpha-3}p^2}, y \equiv \pm us \pmod{2^\alpha p^2}, ry - sx = \pm 2^\alpha p^2$ ,*
- (ii) *If  $2^k p^2 \parallel s$ , then  $x \equiv \pm 2^{3-k}ur \pmod{2^k p^2}, y \equiv \pm 2^{3-k}us \pmod{2^\alpha p^2}, ry - sx = \pm 2^{2\alpha-6}p^2$ , where  $0 \leq k \leq 3$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .*

*Proof.* We prove first (i). Assume first that  $r/s \rightarrow x/y$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/p^2)$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq 3$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . It means that there exists some  $T$  in the normalizer  $Nor(2^\alpha p^2)$  such that  $T$  sends the pair  $(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  to the pair  $(r/s, x/y)$ , that is  $T(\infty) = r/s$  and  $T(u/2^\alpha p^2) = x/y$ . Since  $2^{\alpha-k}p^2 \parallel s$ ,  $T$  must be of the form  $A_1$  where  $a$  and  $d$  are odd.  $T(\infty) = \frac{a}{2^{\alpha-3}p^2c} = \frac{r}{s}$  gives that  $r = a$  and  $s = 2^{\alpha-3}p^2c$ .

$T(u/2^\alpha p^2) = \frac{au + 2^{\alpha-3}bp^2}{2^{\alpha-3}p^2cu + 2^\alpha dp^2} = \frac{r}{s}$  gives that  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{2^{\alpha-3}p^2}, y \equiv \pm us \pmod{2^\alpha p^2}$ . Furthermore, we get  $ry - sx = \pm 2^\alpha p^2$  from the equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b/2^3 \\ 2^{\alpha-3}p^2c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & u \\ 0 & 2^\alpha p^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} r & s \\ x & y \end{pmatrix}.$$

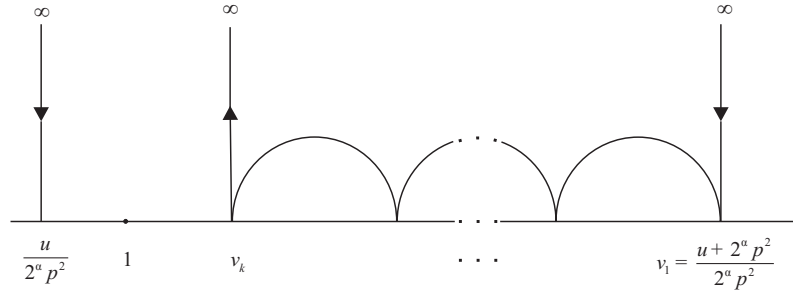


Figure 1: Path of the action

For the opposite direction, we assume that  $2^{\alpha-k}p^2 \parallel s$  where  $0 \leq k \leq 3$  and  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{2^{\alpha-3}p^2}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{2^\alpha p^2}$ ,  $ry - sx = \pm 2^\alpha p^2$ . In this case, there exist  $b, d \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $x = ur + 2^{\alpha-3}bp^2$  and  $y = us + 2^\alpha dp^2$ . If we put these equivalences in  $ry - sx = 2^\alpha p^2$ , we obtain  $rd - (b/2^3)s = 1$ . So the element  $T_0 = \begin{pmatrix} r & b/2^3 \\ s & d \end{pmatrix}$  is clearly in  $N_0$ . For (ii), taking the element of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} 2^{\alpha-6}a & b/2^3 \\ 2^{\alpha-3}p^2c & 2^{\alpha-6}d \end{pmatrix}$  where  $a = 2^{\alpha-3}a_0$ , and  $a_0, b, c$  are odd, similiar calculations are done. ■

Now, let us represent the edges of  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  as hyperbolic geodesics in the upper half-plane  $\mathbb{H}$ , that is, as euclidean semi-circles or half-lines perpendicular to real line. Then we have

**Theorem 3.2**  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  is self-paired iff  $u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{2^{\alpha-3}p^2}$ .

*Proof* Because of the transitive action, the form of self-paired edge can be taken as  $1/0 \rightarrow u/2^\alpha p^2 \rightarrow 1/0$ . The condition follows immediately from the second edge by Theorem 3.1.

Now we can give our main theorem. Same problem for modular group was solved in [2] by the same method.

**Theorem 3.3**  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  is a forest.

*Proof.* Let  $C$  be a circuit in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  of minimal length. Suppose first that  $C$  is directed,  $\nu_1 \xrightarrow{<} \nu_2 \xrightarrow{<} \dots \xrightarrow{<} \nu_k$ . We may choose the vertices of  $C$  apart from  $\infty$  in the interval  $[u/2^\alpha p^2, (u + 2^\alpha p^2)/2^\alpha p^2]$  as  $\nu_i < \nu_{i+1}$ .

We can easily see that  $\nu_1 = r/2^\alpha p^2$  for  $u < r \leq (u + 2^\alpha p^2)$  is not possible. Therefore, we take the circuit  $C$  as  $\infty \rightarrow u/2^\alpha p^2 \rightarrow \nu_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \nu_k \rightarrow \infty$ . Clearly,  $\nu_k > (u + 1)/2^\alpha p^2$ .

Let  $\nu$  be the largest rational greater than  $\nu_1$  for which  $\nu_1 \rightarrow \nu$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ . We see that  $\nu_2$  must equal  $\nu$ . Assume otherwise that  $\nu_2 <$

$\nu$ . If  $\nu$  is a vertex in  $C$ , then we obtain a circuit which is a shorter length than  $C$ . If  $\nu$  is not a vertex in  $C$  then there are vertices  $\nu_i, \nu_{i+1}$  in  $C$  such that  $\nu_i < \nu < \nu_{i+1}$ . In this case, the edges  $\nu_2 \rightarrow \nu$  and  $\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_{i+1}$  cross to each other, it is a contradict the fact that no edges of  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  cross in  $\mathbb{H}$ . Consequently,  $\nu_2 = \nu$ . As  $\nu_1 < \nu_2$ ,  $\nu_2 = (u + c/d)/2^\alpha p^2$  for some positive integers  $c$  and  $d$ . Since  $\nu_1 \rightarrow \nu_2$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ , then  $2^\alpha p^2 \nu_1 \rightarrow 2^\alpha p^2 \nu_2$  is an edge  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ . Thus,  $c$  must be 1. From the edge  $u/2^\alpha p^2 \rightarrow (ud + 1)/2^\alpha p^2 d$ , we obtain  $u^2 + ud + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{\alpha-3} p^2}$  by Theorem 3.1. Therefore  $\nu_2 = (u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$ , where  $d$  is the smallest positive integer for which  $u^2 + ud + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{\alpha-3} p^2}$ . It is easy to verify that  $1 < d < 2^{\alpha-3} p^2$ . We define the following transformation

$$\varphi := \begin{pmatrix} -u & (u^2 + ud + 1)/2^\alpha p^2 \\ -2^\alpha p^2 & u + d \end{pmatrix}$$

Then  $\varphi \in N_0$ ,  $\varphi(\infty) = \nu_1$ ,  $\varphi(\nu_1) = \nu_2$  and, in general,  $\varphi((u + x/y)/2^\alpha p^2) = (u + (y/dy - x))/p^2$ .  $\varphi$  is increasing on the interval  $(-\infty, (u + d)/2^\alpha p^2)$ , so  $\varphi((u + x_1/y_1)/2^\alpha p^2) < \varphi((u + x_2/y_2)/p^2)$  for  $x_1/y_1 < x_2/y_2 < d$ . Notice that if  $x$  and  $y$  are positive integers and  $x/y < 1$  then  $(y/dy - x) < 1$ . In fact, since  $d \geq 2$  and  $y > x$  then  $dy - x > y$  and therefore  $(y/dy - x) < 1$ . Therefore, we can easily see that  $\varphi^i(\nu_1) < (u + 1)/2^\alpha p^2$  for positive integers  $i$ . We now that  $\nu_{i+1} = \varphi^i(\nu_1) = \varphi^{i+1}(\infty)$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k - 1$ . We already know that  $\varphi(\nu_1) = \nu_2$ . Now assume that  $\nu_i = \varphi^{i-1}(\nu_1)$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq s$ . Then let us show that  $\nu_{s+1} = \varphi^s(\nu_1)$ . If not, then first assume that  $\nu_{s+1} < \varphi^s(\nu_1)$ . Then by transitive action,  $\nu_s = \varphi^{s-1}(\nu_1) \rightarrow \varphi^{s-1}(\nu_2) = \varphi^s(\nu_1)$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ . If  $\varphi^s(\nu_1)$  is not a vertex in  $C$ , as  $\varphi^s(\nu_1) < \nu_k$ , there exist vertices  $\nu_t$  and  $\nu_{t+1}$  such that  $\nu_t < \varphi^s(\nu_1) < \nu_{t+1}$  and therefore the edges  $\nu_t \rightarrow \nu_{t+1}$  and  $\nu_s \rightarrow \varphi^s(\nu_1)$  cross, a contradiction. If  $\varphi^s(\nu_1)$  is a vertex in  $C$ , as  $\nu_{s+1} < \varphi^s(\nu_1)$ ,  $\varphi^s(\nu_1) = \nu_m$  for some  $m \geq s + 2$ . However, in this case, we would have a circuit  $\infty \rightarrow \nu_1 \rightarrow \nu_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \nu_s \rightarrow \nu_k \rightarrow \infty$  which is of a shorter length, again a contradiction. Now suppose finally that  $\nu_{s+1} > \varphi^s(\nu_1)$ . Then from above  $\nu_{s+1} > \varphi^s(\nu_1) > \varphi^{s-2}(\nu_1)$  and, as  $\varphi^{-(s-1)}(\varphi^{s-2}(\nu_1)) = \infty$ ,  $\varphi^{-(s-1)}(\nu_{s+1}) > \varphi^{-(s-1)}(\varphi^s(\nu_1)) = \nu_2$ . Hence by transitive action,  $\nu_1 = \varphi^{-(s-1)}(\nu_s) \rightarrow \varphi^{-(s-1)}(\nu_{s+1})$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ , which is contradiction to the choice of  $\nu_2$ . Consequently  $\nu_{i+1} = \varphi^i(\nu_1)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ . Thus,  $\nu_k < (u + 1)/2^\alpha p^2$ , a contradiction.

Finally, assume that there is an anti-directed circuit  $C$  as minimal length, of the form  $\infty \rightarrow \nu_1 = u/2^\alpha p^2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \nu_t \leftarrow \nu_{t+1} \rightarrow \nu_k \rightarrow \infty$  for some  $t \geq 1$ . We know from the above that  $\nu_i = \varphi^i(\infty)$  for  $i \geq t$ . Let  $\nu$  be the largest rational greater than  $u/2^\alpha p^2$  such that  $\nu_1 \leftarrow \nu$  is an edge  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ . Then  $(u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$  for some integer  $d$ . By theorem 3.1,  $2^{\alpha-3} p^2$  divides  $d$ . Since  $\nu$  is the largest we have  $2^{\alpha-3} p^2 = d$ . Thus  $\nu_2 \leq \nu = (u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$ . As  $d < 2^{\alpha-3} p^2$  then  $u < (u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$ . Hence  $t$  must be greater than 1,

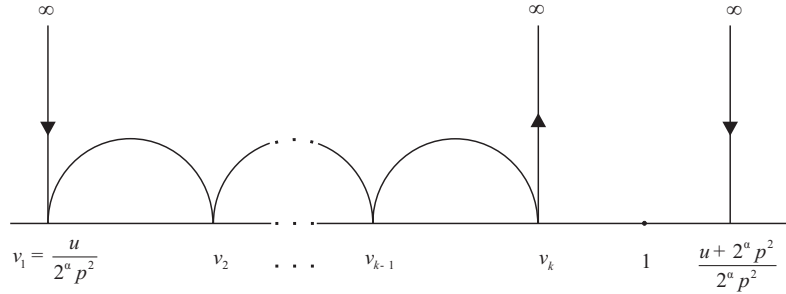


Figure 2: Path of the action

otherwise  $\nu_s = (u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$  for some  $s \geq 3$  and then we would circuit  $\infty \rightarrow \nu_1 \rightarrow \nu_s \cdots \rightarrow \nu_k \rightarrow \infty$  of a shorter length, a contradiction. Hence we must have  $\nu_1 \rightarrow \nu_2 = (u + 1/d)/2^\alpha p^2$ . Let  $\omega = \varphi^{t+1}(\infty)$ . Since, by transitive action,  $\nu_t = \varphi^{t-1}(\nu_1) \rightarrow \varphi^{t-1}(\nu_2 = \omega)$  is an edge  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$  we see that  $\nu_{t+1} \neq \omega$ , otherwise, by Theorem 3.1,  $\nu_t \leftarrow \nu_{t+1}$  and  $\nu_t \rightarrow \nu_{t+1}$  imply that  $u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{2^{\alpha-3} p^2}$  which, as  $d < 2^{\alpha-3} p^2$ , is a contradiction to  $u^2 + ud + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{2^{\alpha-3} p^2}$ . Therefore, the inequality  $\nu_{t+1} < \omega$  must be true. For if  $\nu_{t+1} > \omega$ , then, as  $\varphi^{-(t-1)}(\varphi^{t-2}(\nu_1)) = \infty$  and  $\varphi^{t-2}(\nu_1) < \varphi^t(\nu_1) = \omega < \nu_{t+1}$ ,  $\varphi^{-(t-1)}(\omega) = \nu_2$  and  $\varphi^{-(t-1)}(\nu_t) = \nu_1 \leftarrow \varphi^{-(t-1)}(\nu_{t+1}) > \nu_2$  is an edge in  $F(\infty, u/2^\alpha p^2)$ , which contradicts the choice of  $\nu_2$ . However, if  $\nu_{t+1} < \omega$  then we would have  $\omega = \nu_s$  for some  $s \geq t + 2$  and therefore we would have the circuit  $\infty \rightarrow \nu_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \nu_t \rightarrow \nu_s \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow \nu_k \rightarrow \infty$  of a shorter length, which again gives a contradiction. This shows that  $C$  must be directed. Hence the proof of the theorem is completed. ■

At this point, situation seems to be as following;

**Conjecture.** Let  $N$  have the prime power decomposition as  $2^\alpha \cdot 3^\beta \cdot p_3^{\gamma_3} \cdots p_r^{\gamma_r}$ . Among others than the case of the transitive action, also for  $\beta \geq 4$ , the suborbital graphs of normalizer would be a forest.

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**Received: March, 2010**