# A Basis for the non-Archimedian Holomorphic Theta Functions

#### G. Van Steen

In this paper we introduce an analytic version of the concept of a theta group on a non-archimedean analytic torus. We construct a basis for a vector space of theta functions similar with the basis for the global sections of a ample line bundle such as given in [2].

**Notations:** k is a complete non-archimedean valued field. We assume k to be algebraically closed.

## 1 Analytic tori and 1-cocycles

Let  $T = G/\Lambda$  be an analytic torus;  $G = (k^*)^g$  and  $\Lambda \subset G$  is a lattice. Let A be the group of nowhere vanishing holomorphic functions on G and let H be the character group of G. The lattice  $\Lambda$  acts on A in a canonical way:  $\alpha^{\gamma}(x) = \alpha(\gamma x)$ . Each 1-cocycle  $\xi \in \mathcal{Z}^1(\Lambda, A)$  has a canonical decomposition of the following form:

$$\xi_{\gamma}(x) = c(\gamma).p(\gamma, \sigma(\gamma)).\sigma(\gamma)(x)$$
 with

- (1)  $c \in \operatorname{Hom}(\Lambda, k^*);$
- (2)  $\sigma \in \text{Hom}(\Lambda, H)$  such that  $\sigma(\gamma)(\delta) = \sigma(\delta)(\gamma)$  for all  $\gamma, \delta \in \Lambda$ ;
- (3)  $p: \Lambda \times H \to k^*$  a bihomomorphism such that  $p(\gamma, u)^2 = u(\gamma)$  for all  $\gamma \in \Lambda$  and  $u \in H$ .

(We may assume that  $p(\gamma, \sigma(\delta)) = p(\delta, \sigma(\gamma))$  for all  $\gamma, \delta \in \Lambda$ .)

We will always assume that  $\xi$  is non-degenerate and positive i.e.  $\sigma$  is injective and  $|\sigma(\gamma)(\gamma)| < 1$  for all  $1 \neq \gamma \in \Lambda$ . The existence of such a cocycle implies that T is an abelian variety, (see [1]).

Received by the editors November 1992

Communicated by A. Verschoren

AMS Mathematics Subject Classification: Primary 14H30, Secondary 14G20

Keywords: Mumford Curves - Schottky groups.

G. Van Steen

We will always assume that  $\operatorname{char}(k) / [H : \sigma(\Lambda)]$ .

Let  $\hat{T}$  be the dual variety of T.  $(\hat{T} = \operatorname{Hom}(\Lambda, T)/\hat{\Lambda} \text{ with } \hat{\Lambda} = \{\gamma \mapsto u(\gamma) | u \in H\})$ . The cocycle  $\xi$  induces an isogeny  $\lambda_{\bar{\xi}} : T \to \hat{T}$  defined by the lift  $\lambda_{\xi} : G \to \operatorname{Hom}(\Lambda, k^*)$  with  $\lambda_{\xi}(x)(\gamma) = \sigma(\gamma)(x)$ .

One of the main objects in this paper is the group

$$\operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} = \{ \bar{x} | \exists u_x \text{ such that } \sigma(\gamma)(x) = u_x(\gamma) \text{ for all } \gamma \in \Lambda \}.$$

Let  $\operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}^{\circ} = \{ x \in G | \bar{x} \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} \}.$ 

#### Proposition 1.1

- i)  $u_{xy} = u_x \cdot u_y$  for all  $x, y \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}^{\circ}$ ;
- ii)  $u_{\gamma} = \sigma(\gamma)$  for all  $\gamma \in \Lambda$ ;
- iii)  $u_x = 1 \iff x$  has finite order  $(\iff x \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\xi});$
- iv) for all  $u \in H$  there exists an  $x \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\varepsilon}}^{\circ}$  such that  $u = u_x$ .

**Proof** For (i) and (ii) it suffices to verify the assertions on  $\Lambda$ . For (iii) we use the facts that H is torsion free and  $u_{x^n} = u_x^n$ . Since  $\sigma$  is injective there exists a free basis  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_g$  for  $\Lambda$  and  $u_1, \dots, u_g$  for H such that  $\sigma(\gamma_i) = u_i^{a_i}$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, g$ . Let  $\rho_i \in G$  such that  $\rho_i^{a_i} = \gamma_i$  and let  $x_i \in G$  such that  $u_i(x_j) = u_j(\rho_i)$  for all  $i, j = 1, \dots, g$ .

We have  $\sigma(\gamma_i)(x_j) = u_i(x_j)^{a_i}$ . Hence  $x_j \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}^{\circ}$  and  $u_{x_j} = u_j$ . This proves (iv).

Define 
$$e: \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} \times \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} \to k^*$$
 by  $e(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \frac{u_x(y)}{u_y(x)}$ .

Then e is a non-degenerate antisymmetric bi-homomorphism, see [1]. As a consequence  $\operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}$  has a decomposition  $\operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} = K_1 + K_2$  such that  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are isotropic with respect to e and e induces an isomorphism  $K_1 \to K_2^*$  (the dual group of  $K_2$ ).

# 2 Theta groups

Let  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  be the vectorspace of holomorphic theta functions with type  $\xi$ . Elements of  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  satisfy a functional equation  $h(z) = \xi_{\gamma}(z).h(\gamma z), (\gamma \in \Lambda)$ . A special element of  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  is the function  $h_T$  defined by the series  $h_T(z) = \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \xi_{\gamma}(z)$ . The dimension of  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  is given by the index  $[H : \sigma(\Lambda)]$ , see [1].

Let  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  be the field of meromorphic functions on T. Elements of  $\mathcal{M}(T)$  can be regarded as  $\Lambda$ -invariant meromorphic functions on G.

**Definition**: The theta group associated with  $\xi$  is defined as

$$\mathcal{G}(\xi) = \{(\bar{x}, f) | \quad \bar{x} \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}, f \in \mathcal{M}(T), \quad \operatorname{div}(f) = \operatorname{div}(\frac{h_T(xz)}{h_T(z)}) \}$$

Multiplication is defined by:  $(\bar{x}, f).(\bar{y}, g) = (\bar{x}\bar{y}, g(xz)f(z)).$ 

**Remark**:  $(\bar{x}, f)^{-1} = (\bar{x}^{-1}, f(x^{-1}z)^{-1})$  **Proposition 2.1** If  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  are equivalent cocycles in  $\mathcal{Z}^1(\Lambda, A)$ , (i.e.:  $\bar{\xi} = \bar{\xi}'$  in  $H^1(\Lambda, A)$ ), then  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  and  $\mathcal{G}(\xi')$  are isomorphic.

**Proof** Let  $h'_T = \sum_{\gamma \in \Lambda} \xi'_{\gamma}(z)$  be the theta function associated with  $\xi'$ . Since  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  are equivalent we have  $\lambda_{\bar{\xi}} = \lambda_{\bar{\xi'}}$  and hence  $\operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} = \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi'}}$ . The isomorphism  $\alpha : \mathcal{G}(\xi) \to \mathcal{G}(\xi')$  is given by

$$\alpha(\bar{x}, f) = (\bar{x}, f. \frac{h_T(z)}{h_T(xz)} \cdot \frac{h'_T(xz)}{h'_T(z)}).$$

Proposition 2.2 The sequence

$$1 \longrightarrow k^* \stackrel{\alpha}{\longrightarrow} \mathcal{G}(\xi) \stackrel{\beta}{\longrightarrow} \operatorname{Ker}(\lambda_{\bar{\ell}}) \longrightarrow 1$$

with  $\alpha(\lambda) = (\bar{1}, \lambda)$  and  $\beta(\bar{x}, f) = \bar{x}$  is exact.

**Proof** If  $x \in \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}^{\circ}$  then  $f_x = u_x \cdot \frac{h_T(xz)}{h_T(z)}$  is  $\Lambda$ -invariant and  $(\bar{x}, f_x)$  is an element of  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$ . Furthermore  $(\bar{1}, f) \in \mathcal{G}(\xi)$  if and only if  $\operatorname{div}(f) = 0$ . This implies that f is constant.

If one identifies  $k^*$  with its image in  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  then it is easy to verify that  $k^*$  is the center of  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$ . Furthermore, if  $(\bar{x}, f)$  and  $(\bar{y}, g)$  are elements of  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  then the commutator  $[(\bar{x}, f), (\bar{y}, g)]$  is equal to  $e(\bar{y}, \bar{x})$ .

Let K be a subgroup of  $Ker(\lambda_{\bar{\epsilon}})$ .

**Definition** A subgroup  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{G}(\xi)$  is a *level subgroup* over K if  $\beta(\mathcal{K}) = K$  and if  $\mathcal{K} \cap k^* = 1$  i.e.,  $\mathcal{K}$  is isomorphic to K.

**Proposition 2.3.** Let  $K \subset \text{Ker}(\lambda_{\bar{\epsilon}})$  be a subgroup.

- a) A level subgroup  $\mathcal{K} \subset \mathcal{G}(\xi)$  over K exists if and only if K is isotropic with respect to e.
- b) If  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{K}'$  are level subgroups over K then there exists a homomorphism  $\rho \in \text{Hom}(K, k^*)$  such that  $\mathcal{K}' = \{(\bar{x}, \rho(\bar{x})f) | (\bar{x}, f) \in \mathcal{K}\}.$

**Proof** a) A level subgroup K over K is isomorphic to K and hence commutative. It follows that for all  $(\bar{x}, f)$  and  $(\bar{y}, g)$  in K

$$e(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = [(\bar{y}, g), (\bar{x}, f)] = 1.$$

So K is isotropic.

Conversely, assume that K is isotropic.

Let  $\phi: T \to S$  be an isogeny with  $\operatorname{Ker}(\phi) = K$ . Then S is an analytic torus, say  $S = G_S/\Lambda_S$ . Let  $\psi: G \to G_S$  be a lifting of  $\phi$ . There exists a 1-cocycle  $\xi_S \in \mathcal{Z}^1(\Lambda_S, A_S)$  such that  $\psi^*(\xi_S) = \xi$ ; i.e.  $\xi_{\gamma}(x) = \xi_{S,\psi(\gamma)}(\psi(x))$ , see[3].

Let  $h_S = \sum_{\delta \in \Lambda_S} \xi_{S,\delta}$  be the corresponding theta function in  $\mathcal{L}(\xi_S)$ . Then  $h_S \circ \psi$  is a theta function in  $\mathcal{L}(\xi_T)$  and the set

$$\mathcal{K} = \{ (\bar{x}, \frac{h_S \circ \psi(z)}{h_S \circ \psi(xz)}, \frac{h_T(xz)}{h_T(z)} | \bar{x} \in K \}$$

is a level subgroup over K.

b) Let  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{K}'$  be level subgroups over K. For each  $\bar{x} \in K$  there exist unique elements  $(\bar{x}, f)$  and  $(\bar{x}, f')$  in  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathcal{K}'$  respectively. It follows that  $f = \rho(\bar{x})f'$  with  $\rho(\bar{x}) \in k^*$ . It is easy to verify that  $\rho$  is a homomorphism.

G. Van Steen

## 3 The vectorspace $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$ .

The vectorspace  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  has dimension equal to the index  $[H : \sigma(\Lambda)]$ . The theta group  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  acts on  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  in the following way

$$h^{(\bar{a},f)}(z) = h(az).f(z).\frac{h_T(z)}{h_T(az)} ; h \in \mathcal{L}(\xi), \ (\bar{a},f) \in \mathcal{G}(\xi).$$

A straightforward verification shows that  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  is a  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$ -module.

Let  $\phi_i: T \to S_i$  be an isogeny with  $\operatorname{Ker} \phi_i = K_i, (i = 1, 2)$ .

Let  $S_i$  be the torus  $G_i/\Lambda_i$  and let  $\psi_i: G \to G_i$  be a lifting of  $\phi_i$ . Since  $K_i$  is isotropic there exists a 1-cocycle in  $\mathcal{Z}^1(\Lambda_i, A_i)$  such that  $\psi_i^*(\xi_i) = \xi$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}(\xi_i)$  be the corresponding space of theta functions.

**Lemma 3.1.**  $\dim(\mathcal{L}(\xi_i)) = 1$ .

**Proof** We have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T & \stackrel{\phi}{\longrightarrow} & S_i \\ \lambda_{\bar{\xi}} \downarrow & & \downarrow \lambda_{\bar{\xi}_i} \\ \hat{T} & \longleftarrow & \hat{S}_i \\ & & & & & & & \\ \end{array}$$

 $(\hat{\phi} \text{ is the dual of } \phi)$ 

Hence

$$\dim(\mathcal{L}(\xi_i))^2 = \frac{\# \operatorname{Ker} \lambda_{\bar{\xi}}}{\# \operatorname{Ker} \phi. \# \operatorname{Ker} \hat{\phi}} = \frac{\# K_1. \# K_2}{\# K_2. \# \operatorname{Ker} \hat{\phi}}.$$

It is easy to prove that  $\#\mathrm{Ker}\phi = \#\mathrm{Ker}\hat{\phi} \ (= \#K_2)$ .

Hence  $\dim(\mathcal{L}(\xi_i))^2 = 1$ .

It follows that  $\mathcal{L}(\xi_i)$  is generated by the theta function  $h_i = \sum_{\delta \in \lambda_i} \xi_{i,\delta}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{K}_i$  be the level subgroup over  $K_i$  such as in 2.3. For each  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{K}_i$  we have

$$(\bar{x}, g_{\bar{x}}) \in \mathcal{K}_i \text{ with } g_{\bar{x}} = \frac{h_i \circ \psi_i(z)}{h_i \circ \psi_i(xz)} \cdot \frac{h_T(xz)}{h_T(z)}.$$

It is easy to see that  $(h_i \circ \psi_i)^{(\bar{x},g_{\bar{x}})} = h_i \circ \psi_i$  for each  $\bar{x} \in K_i$ .

If  $\bar{a} \in K_1$  then define  $h_{\bar{a}} = (h_2 \circ \psi_2)^{(\bar{a}, g_{\bar{a}})}$ .

**Theorem 3.2** The set  $\{h_{\bar{a}}|\bar{a}\in K_1\}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$ .

**Proof** We only have to prove that the functions are linearly independent.

For each  $\bar{a} \in K_1$  and  $\bar{b} \in K_2$  we have

$$h_{\bar{a}}^{(\bar{b},g_{\bar{b}})} = (h_2 \circ \psi_2)^{(\bar{b},g_{\bar{b}}).(\bar{a},g_{\bar{a}})}$$
 (1)

$$= e(\bar{a}, \bar{b}).(h_2 \circ \psi_2)^{(\bar{a}, g_{\bar{a}})} = e(\bar{a}, \bar{b}).h_{\bar{a}}$$
 (2)

Hence  $h_{\bar{a}}$  is an eigenvector with respect to the action of  $\mathcal{K}_2$ . A standard argument shows that the functions are linearly independent. (Use the fact that e is non degenerate.)

**Theorem 3.3**  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  is an irreducible  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  representation.

**Proof** Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{L}(\xi)$  be a  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$ -invariant subspace. Since  $\operatorname{char}(k) \not| \# K_i$  there exists an eigenvector  $h \in \mathcal{L}$  with respect to the action of  $\mathcal{K}_2$ . It follows from the previous theorem that h is a multiple of some  $h_{\bar{a}}$ ,  $(\bar{a} \in K_1)$ . Hence each  $h_{\bar{a}'}{}^{(\bar{a}',g_{\bar{a}'})} = h_{\bar{a}\bar{a}'}$  is an element of  $\mathcal{L}$  and consequently  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}(\xi)$ .

**Remark** One can prove that  $\mathcal{L}(\xi)$  is the only irruducible representation of  $\mathcal{G}(\xi)$  on which  $k^*$  acts by multiplication.

#### References

- [1] Gerritzen L. On non-archimedian representations of abelian varieties, Math. Ann. 196, 323-346 (1972).
- [2] Mumford D. On the equations defining abelian varieties I. Inv. Math. 1, 287-354 (1966).
- [3] Van Steen G. Non-archimedean analytic tori and theta functions, to appear.

G. Van Steen University of Antwerp, R.U.C.A. Department of mathematics and computer science Groenenborgerlaan 171 B-2020 Antwerpen, BELGIUM