THE DIHEDRAL GROUP $D_5$ AS A GROUP OF SYMPLECTIC AUTOMORPHISMS ON K3 SURFACES

ALICE GARBAGNATI

(Communicated by Ted Chinburg)

Abstract. We prove that if a K3 surface $X$ admits $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms, then it actually admits $D_5$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms. The orthogonal complement to the $D_5$-invariants in the second cohomology group of $X$ is a rank 16 lattice, $L$. It is known that $L$ does not depend on $X$: we prove that it is isometric to a lattice recently described by R. L. Griess Jr. and C. H. Lam. We also give an elementary construction of $L$.

1. Introduction

A finite group of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface $X$ has the property that the desingularization of the quotient of $X$ by this group is again a K3 surface. In [Nik1] the finite abelian groups of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface are classified. The main result of Nikulin in [Nik1] is that the isometries induced by finite abelian groups of symplectic automorphisms on the second cohomology group of a K3 surface are essentially unique. The uniqueness of the isometries induced by $G$ on $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ implies that the lattice $\Omega_G := (H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^G)^\perp$ does not depend on $X$. Thanks to this result it is possible to associate the lattice $\Omega_G$ to each finite abelian group $G$ of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface. From this one obtains information on the coarse moduli space of K3 surfaces admitting $G$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms (cf. [Nik1], [GS1], [GS2]). In [GS1] and [GS2] the lattices $\Omega_G$ are computed for each finite abelian group $G$ of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface.

In [Mu] and [X] the finite (not necessary abelian) groups of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface are classified. Under some conditions (cf. Section 2) Nikulin’s result on the uniqueness of the isometries induced by finite groups of symplectic automorphisms on the second cohomology group of the K3 surfaces can be extended to finite (not necessary abelian) groups (cf. [W]). As a consequence one can attach the lattice $\Omega_G := (H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})^G)^\perp$, which depends only on $G$, also to some finite nonabelian groups $G$ of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface $X$.

Let us consider a pair of finite groups $(G, H)$ such that $G$ acts symplectically on a K3 surface and $H$ is a subgroup of $G$. It is evident that the K3 surfaces admitting
$G$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms also admits $H$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms. It is more surprising that for certain pairs of groups $(G,H)$ the converse also holds. Indeed, for certain pairs $(G,H)$ the condition “a K3 surface $X$ admits $G$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms” is equivalent to the condition “$X$ admits $H$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms”. For these pairs the lattices $\Omega_G$ and $\Omega_H$ coincide. The aim of this paper is to describe this situation and to give explicitly one pair $(G,H)$. We observe that in order to find $(G,H)$ with the described property, one has to consider nonabelian groups acting symplectically on K3 surfaces. Indeed, the lattices $\Omega_K$ associated to abelian groups $K$ are completely described in [GS1], [GS2], and one can check that $\Omega_G$ and $\Omega_H$ never coincide if both $G$ and $H$ are abelian and $G \neq H$.

In Section 2 we describe some known results on symplectic automorphisms over kählerian K3 surfaces and prove our main results (Proposition 2.14 and Corollary 2.15). In Proposition 2.14 we give sufficient conditions on $G$ and $H$ to prove that a K3 surface admits $G$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if it admits $H$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms. Applying this proposition we prove (Corollary 2.15) that a K3 surface admits $\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if it admits $D_5$ (the dihedral group of order 10) as a group of symplectic automorphisms. In particular we prove that $\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}} \simeq \Omega_{D_5}$.

In Section 2 we consider algebraic K3 surfaces and in particular 3-dimensional families of K3 surfaces admitting a symplectic automorphism of order 5, $\sigma_5$, and a polarization, invariant under $\sigma_5$. It follows from the results of Section 2 that the K3 surfaces in these families also admit an involution $\iota$, generating together with $\sigma_5$ the dihedral group $D_5$. For each of these families we exhibit the automorphism $\sigma_5$ and find the automorphism $\iota$.

2. Symplectic automorphisms on K3 surfaces

**Definition 2.1.** Let $X$ be a smooth compact complex surface. The surface $X$ is a K3 surface if the canonical bundle of $X$ is trivial and the irregularity of $X$, $q(X) := h^{1,0}(X)$, is 0.

The second cohomology group of a K3 surface, equipped with the cup product, is isometric to a lattice, which is the unique, up to isometries, even unimodular lattice with signature $(3,19)$. This lattice will be denoted by $\Lambda_{K3}$ and is isometric to $U \oplus U \oplus U \oplus E_8(-1) \oplus E_8(-1)$, where $U$ is the unimodular lattice with bilinear form

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
0 & 1 \\
1 & 0
\end{pmatrix}
\]

and $E_8(-1)$ is the lattice obtained by multiplying by $-1$ the lattice associated to the Dynkin diagram $E_8$.

The Néron-Severi group of a K3 surface $X$, $NS(X)$, coincides with its Picard group. The transcendental lattice of $X$, $T_X$, is the orthogonal to $NS(X)$ in $H^2(X,\mathbb{Z})$. 

License or copyright restrictions may apply to redistribution; see http://www.ams.org/journal-terms-of-use
**Definition 2.2.** An isometry $\alpha$ of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is an effective isometry if it preserves the Kähler cone of $X$. An isometry $\alpha$ of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$ is a Hodge isometry if its $\mathbb{C}$-linear extension to $H^2(X, \mathbb{C})$ preserves the Hodge decomposition of $H^2(X, \mathbb{C})$.

**Theorem 2.3** ([BR]). Let $X$ be a K3 surface and $g$ be an automorphism of $X$. Then $g^*$ is an effective Hodge isometry of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$. Conversely, let $f$ be an effective Hodge isometry of $H^2(X, \mathbb{Z})$. Then $f$ is induced by an automorphism of $X$.

**Definition 2.4.** An automorphism $\sigma$ on a K3 surface $X$ is symplectic if $\sigma^*$ acts as the identity on $H^{2,0}(X)$; that is, $\sigma^*(\omega_X) = \omega_X$, where $\omega_X$ is a nowhere vanishing holomorphic two form on $X$.

Equivalently, $\sigma$ is symplectic if the isometry induced by $\sigma^*$ on the transcendental lattice is the identity.

**Remark 2.5.** Let $\sigma$ be an automorphism of finite order on a K3 surface. The desingularization of $X/\sigma$ is a K3 surface if and only if $\sigma$ is symplectic.

In [Nik1] the finite abelian groups acting symplectically on a Kählerian K3 surface are analyzed. Now it is known that every K3 surface is a Kähler variety, [S], so there are no restrictions on the K3 surfaces analyzed in [Nik1].

From now on we always assume that $G$ is a finite group of symplectic automorphisms on the K3 surface $X$.

**Definition 2.6.** Let the K3 surface $Y$ be the minimal desingularization of the quotient $X/G$. Let $M_j$ be the curves arising from the desingularization of the singularities of $X/G$.

The singularities of the quotient $X/G$ are computed by Nikulin ([Nik1] Section 6]) if $G$ is an abelian group and by Xiao ([X] Table 2) for all the other finite groups. If either $G = Q_4$ (binary dihedral group of order 8) or $G = T_{24}$ (binary tetrahedral group of order 24), then there are two possible configurations for the singularities of $X/G$, and hence for the exceptional curve $M_j$ on $Y$. For all the other groups the number and the type of the singularities of $X/G$ are determined by $G$.

**Definition 2.7.** Let us assume that $G \neq Q_8$, $G \neq T_{24}$. The minimal primitive sublattice of $NS(Y)$ containing the curves $M_j$ does not depend on $X$ (cf. [Nik1], [X]). It will be denoted by $M_G$.

The lattice $M_G$ is computed by Nikulin ([Nik1] Section 7]) for each abelian group $G$ and by Xiao ([X] Table 2) for the all the other groups $G$.

**Remark 2.8.** For $G = \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$, the lattice $M_{\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}}$ (called a Nikulin lattice) is an even overattice of index 2 of $A_1(-1)^{a,b}$. Its discriminant group is $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^{a,b}$ (cf. [Nik1]), and its discriminant form is the same as $U(2)^{a,b}$ (cf. [MQ]).

**Definition 2.9** ([Nik1] Definition 4.6]). We say that $G$ has a unique action on $\Lambda_{K3}$ if, given two embeddings $i : G \hookrightarrow Aut(X)$, $i' : G \hookrightarrow Aut(X')$ such that $G$ is a group of symplectic automorphisms on the K3 surfaces $X$ and $X'$, there exists an isometry $\phi : H^2(X, \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^2(X', \mathbb{Z})$ such that $i'(g)^* = \phi \circ i(g) \circ \phi^{-1}$ for all $g \in G$.

**Theorem 2.10** ([Nik1] Theorem 4.7, [W] Corollary 3.0.1]). Let $G$ be a finite group acting symplectically on a K3 surface, $G \neq Q_8$, $G \neq T_{24}$. If $M_G$ admits a unique primitive embedding in $\Lambda_{K3}$, then $G$ has a unique action on $\Lambda_{K3}$.

**Definition 2.11.** Under the assumptions of Theorem 2.10 the lattice $(\Lambda_{K3}^G)^\perp$ is uniquely determined by $G$, up to isometry. It will be called $\Omega_G$. 
Remark 2.12. By [Nik1] (8,12), it follows that rank(ΩG) = rank(MG).

Theorem 2.13 ([Nik1] Theorem 4.15). Let G be a finite group acting symplectically on a K3 surface, such that G has a unique action on ΛK3. A K3 surface X admits G as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if the lattice ΩG is primitively embedded in NS(X).

Nikulin proved that for each abelian group acting symplectically on a K3 surface, the hypothesis of Theorem 2.10 (and hence the ones of Theorem 2.13) are satisfied.

Proposition 2.14. Let G be a finite group acting symplectically on a K3 surface and let H be a subgroup of G. Let us assume that both G and H are neither Q8 nor T24. We assume that both MH and MG admit a unique primitive embedding in ΛK3 and rank(MG) = rank(MH). Then ΩH ≃ ΩG, and so a K3 surface X admits G as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if X admits H as a group of symplectic automorphisms.

Proof. Since H is a subgroup of G, ΩH is a sublattice of ΩG. Moreover, rank(ΩG) = rank(ΩH) by Remark 2.12 and the condition on the rank of the lattices MG and MH. This implies that ΩH → ΩG with a finite index. Let X be a K3 surface admitting G as a group of symplectic automorphisms. Then both ΩG and ΩH → ΩG are primitively embedded in NS(X); hence the index of the inclusion ΩH → ΩG is 1, i.e., ΩG ≃ ΩH.

The K3 surface X admits G as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if ΩG is primitively embedded in NS(X). By the isometry ΩH ≃ ΩG this condition is equivalent to requiring that ΩH be primitively embedded in NS(X), which holds if and only if X admits H as a group of symplectic automorphisms.

Corollary 2.15. A K3 surface admits ℤ/5ℤ as a group of symplectic automorphisms if and only if it admits D5 as a group of symplectic automorphisms.

Proof. The lattice Mℤ/5ℤ is computed in [Nik1], where it is proved that it admits a unique primitive embedding in ΛK3 and that its rank is 16. The lattice MD5 is described in [X] as an overlattice of index 2 of the lattice A4(−1)⊕2 ⊕ A1(−1)⊕8. In particular, rank(MD5) = 16 and MD5 ∼= A4(−1)⊕2 ⊕ M2/22, where M2/22 is the Nikulin lattice (see Remark 2.8). Thus the discriminant group of MD5 is (ℤ/5ℤ)2 ⊕ (ℤ/2ℤ)6. By [Nik2] Theorem 1.14.4], MD5 admits a unique primitive embedding in ΛK3. The corollary immediately follows from Proposition 2.14.

Remark 2.16. We proved that if a K3 surface admits a symplectic automorphism of order five, σ5; hence it also admits a symplectic involution generating D5 together with σ5. This result cannot be improved; i.e., it is not true that if a K3 surface X admits D5 = ⟨σ5, τ⟩ as a group of symplectic automorphisms, then it also admits a symplectic automorphism α such that J := ⟨α, σ5, τ⟩ ⊃ D5 is a finite group. By contradiction assuming there exists such an α, then D5 ∼ J and ΩD5 ∼ ΩJ. In particular, rankΩJ = rankΩD5 = 16, but there are no finite groups J of symplectic automorphisms on a K3 surface such that D5 ⊂ J and rankMJ(=rankΩJ) = 16 (cf. [X] Table 2)].
Proposition 3.1. Let us consider the lattice $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ and the automorphism $g := (\gamma, \gamma, \gamma, \gamma)$ (acting as $\gamma$ on each copy of $A_4(-2)$). Let $a_{j,i}$, $j, i = 1, 2, 3, 4$, be the element $\alpha_i$ in the $j$-copy of $A_4(-2)$. Let

$$\mu := \frac{1}{2}(a_{1,1} + a_{2,1} + a_{3,1} + a_{4,1}), \quad \nu := \frac{1}{2}(a_{2,1} + a_{3,1} + a_{3,4} + a_{4,1} + a_{4,3} + a_{4,4}).$$

Then:

- The lattice

$$L := A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}} + \langle g^i(\mu), g^i(\nu) \rangle_{i=0,1,2,3},$$

generated by $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ and the eight vectors $g^i(\mu)$, $g^i(\nu)$, for $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$, is an even overlattice of $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ of rank 16.

- The index of $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ in $L$ is $2^8$.

- There are no vectors of length $-2$ in $L$.

Proof. Since $\mu$ has an integer intersection with the basis $\{a_{i,j}\}$ of $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ and has self-intersection $-4$, we can add the element $\mu$ to the lattice $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ obtaining an even overlattice. All the elements $g^i(\mu)$ in the orbit of $\mu$ have an integer intersection with this basis of $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ and $g^i(\mu)g^j(\mu) \in \mathbb{Z}$ for all $i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3$. Thus we can add the four vectors $\mu$, $g(\mu)$, $g^2(\mu)$, $g^3(\mu)$ to the lattice $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$.

It is easy to show that the vectors $g^i(\nu)$, $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$, have an integer intersection pairing with all the vectors in $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ and that $g^i(\nu)g^j(\nu) \in \mathbb{Z}$, $(g^i(\nu))^2 \in 2\mathbb{Z}$ (indeed these are properties of all the vectors of type $v_{i,j,k,h,l,m} = \frac{1}{2}(0, \epsilon_i - \epsilon_{i+1}, \epsilon_j - \epsilon_{j+2}, \epsilon_k - \epsilon_h + \epsilon_l - \epsilon_m)$, $k < h < l < m$ and $\nu = v_{i,3,1,2,3,5}$).

Moreover $g^i(\nu)g^j(\mu) \in \mathbb{Z}$, $i, j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ (indeed this is a property of the vectors of type $v_{i,j,k,h,l,m}$ such that $\{i, i + 1\} \cap \{j, j + 2\} = \emptyset$ and $\{k, h, l, m\} = \{i, i + 1, j, j + 2\}$).

Thus adding the vectors in the orbit of $\nu$ and of $\mu$ to $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ we construct an even overlattice $L$ of $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$. By the computation of the discriminant of this lattice, it follows that $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ has index $2^8$ in $L$ (indeed, to construct $L$ we add to $A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$ exactly eight vectors of type $\frac{1}{2}v$, $v \in A_4(-2)^{\mathbb{Z}}$, and they are independent over $\mathbb{Z}$).
Now we prove that there are no vectors with length \(-2\) in \(L\). Let \(y = \sum_{i=0}^{3} b_i g^i(\mu) + \sum_{i=0}^{3} c_i g^i(\nu)\), \(b_i, c_i \in \mathbb{Z}\). In \(A_4(-2)^{\oplus 4} \otimes \mathbb{Q}\) we have
\[
y := \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=0}^{3} b_i \alpha_{i+1}, \sum_{i=0}^{3} b_i \alpha_{i+1} + \sum_{i=0}^{3} c_i \alpha_{i+1}, \sum_{i=0}^{3} b_i \alpha_{i+1} + (-c_1 + c_3) \alpha_1 + (-c_1 - c_2 + c_3) \alpha_2 + (c_0 - c_1 - c_2) \alpha_3 + (c_0 - c_2) \alpha_4, \right.
\]
\[
\left. \sum_{i=0}^{3} b_i \alpha_{i+1} + (-c_1 - c_3) \alpha_1 + (-c_2 + c_3) \alpha_2 + (c_0 - c_1 - c_2) \alpha_3 + (c_0 - c_2 + c_3) \alpha_4 \right) .
\]

If we require that at least two components of \(y\) are equal to zero, we obtain that \(b_i = c_i = 0\) for all \(i\). So if \(y \neq 0\), then \(y\) has at most one component equal to zero.

Each vector \(w\) in \(L\) is of the form \(y + z\) with \(y\) as above, \(b_i, c_i \in \{0, 1\}\), and \(z \in A_4(-2)^{\oplus 4}\); moreover, such \(y\) and \(z\) are uniquely determined by \(w\).

If \(y = (0, 0, 0, 0)\), \(w \in A_4(-2)^{\oplus 4}\), and hence \(w^2 \leq -4\).

If \(y \neq (0, 0, 0, 0)\), then \(w = \frac{1}{2}(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)\) with \(w_i \in A_4(-2)\) and at most one of \(w_i = 0\). Since \(w_i^2 \leq -4\) and \(w_i \cdot w_j = 0\) if \(i \neq j\), we get \(w^2 \leq \frac{3}{2}(-4)\). Hence there are no vectors of length \(-2\) in \(L\).

**Proposition 3.2.** The lattice \(L\) is isometric to the lattice \(\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}} = \Omega_{D_5}\).

**Proof.** By uniqueness of \(\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}}\), to prove the proposition it suffices to show that there exists a K3 surface \(S\) such that \(G = \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}\) is a group of symplectic automorphisms on \(S\) and \((H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})^G)^\perp \simeq L\).

By construction \(L\) admits an automorphism of order 5, \(g\), acting trivially on the discriminant group. Moreover \(L\) is negative definite and its discriminant group is \((\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z})^4\). Hence it admits a primitive embedding in \(\Lambda_{K3}\) (Nik2 Theorem 1.14.4)). Since \(g\) acts trivially on the discriminant group, \(G := \langle g \rangle\) extends to a group of isometries on \(\Lambda_{K3}\) which acts as the identity on \(L^\perp_{\Lambda_{K3}}\).

Let \(S\) be a K3 surface such that \(L \subset NS(S)\) (such a K3 surface exists by the surjectivity of the period map). By Proposition 3.1 \(L\) does not contain elements of length \(-2\). This is enough to prove that the isometries of \(G\) defined above (if necessary, composed with a reflection in the Weil group) are effective isometries for \(S\) (the proof of this fact is essentially given in Nik1, Theorem 4.3; see also GSS, Step 4, proof of Proposition 5.2). By construction, these are Hodge isometries (cf. Nik1, Theorem 4.3), so they are induced by automorphisms on \(S\) (by the Torelli theorem; cf. BR). Since these automorphisms act as the identity on \(T_S \subset L^\perp_{\Lambda_{K3}}\), they are symplectic. By construction of the isometries of \(G\), \(L \simeq (H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})^G)^\perp\), and so \(L \simeq \Omega_{\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}}\).

Since \(\Omega_{D_5} \simeq L\), the dihedral group and in particular an involution acts on \(L\). This implies that the lattice \(\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}} \simeq E_6(-2)\) (cf. MG) is primedically embedded in \(L\) and there exists an involution on \(L\) acting as \(-1\) on this lattice and as the identity on its orthogonal. In the following remark we give an embedding of \(E_6(-2)\) in \(L\), and in the proof of the Corollary 3.3 we describe the involution associated to this embedding.

**Remark 3.3.** The vectors
\[
e_1 := \mu \quad e_2 := g^2(\mu) + g^3(\mu) \quad e_3 := \nu \quad e_4 := \mu + g^2(\mu) + g^3(\mu) - g^2(\nu) - g^3(\nu) \quad e_5 := a_{1,1} \quad e_6 := a_{1,3} + a_{1,4} \quad e_7 := a_{2,1} \quad e_8 := a_{2,3} + a_{2,4}.
\]
generate of a copy of $E_8(-2)$ embedded in $L$. Indeed, the lattice generated by $e_i$

is such that multiplying its bilinear form by $\frac{1}{2}$ one obtains a negative definite even
unimodular lattice of rank 8, i.e. a copy of $E_8(-1)$.

**Remark 3.4.** Let $f_{i+8} = g(e_i)$, $i = 1, \ldots, 8$, where $\{e_i\}_{i=1,\ldots,8}$ is the basis of $E_8(-2)$
defined in Remark 3.3. Since $g$ is an isometry of the lattice it is clear that $f_i$, $i = 9, \ldots, 16$, generate a copy of $E_8(-2)$ embedded in $L$. A direct computation shows that the classes $e_i$, $f_{i+8}$, $i = 1, \ldots, 8$, generate a lattice of rank 16 and discriminant $5^4$ embedded in $L$ and so they are a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis for $L$.

The paper [GL] classifies positive definite lattices which have dihedral groups $D_n$
(for $n = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$) in the group of the isometries and which have the properties:

- the lattices are rootless (i.e. there are no elements of length 2),
- they are the sum of two copies of $E_8(2)$,
- there are two involutions in $D_n$ acting as minus the identity on each copy of $E_8(2)$.

In [GL] Section 7 it is proved that there is a unique lattice with all these properties and admitting $D_5$ in the group of isometries, called $DIH_{10}(16)$.

**Corollary 3.5.** The lattice $DIH_{10}(16)$ described in [GL] is isometric to the lattice
$L(-1) \simeq \Omega_{D_5}(-1)$.

**Proof.** The even lattice $L$ has no vectors of length $-2$ (Proposition 3.1).

On $L$ there is an isometry of order 5, $g$ (Proposition 3.1).

Let us define a map $h$ on the lattice $L$ which acts as $-1$ on the copy of $E_8(-2)$
generated by $e_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, 8$ (cf. Remark 3.3) and as the identity on the orthogonal complement. Since $h$ acts trivially on the discriminant group of $E_8(-2) \simeq \langle e_i \rangle_{i=1,\ldots,8}$, $h$ is an isometry of $L$ and in particular an involution. One can directly check that its action on the basis of $A_4(-2)^{\oplus 4}$ is $h(a_{i,1}) = -a_{i,1}$, $h(a_{i,2}) = -a_{i,5}$, $h(a_{i,3}) = -a_{i,4}$, $h(a_{i,4}) = -a_{i,3}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$. This action extends to a $\mathbb{Z}$-basis of $L$.

The group $\langle g, h \rangle$ is $D_5$. The involutions $h$ and $g^2 \circ h$ are two involutions generating the group $D_5$. By construction $h$ and $g^2 \circ h$ act as minus the identity respectively on the lattice $E_8(-2) \simeq \langle e_i \rangle_{i=1,\ldots,8}$ and on the lattice $E_8(-2) \simeq \langle f_i \rangle_{i=9,\ldots,16}$. These two copies of $E_8(-2)$ generate $L$ (by Remark 3.1). So $L(-1)$ satisfies the conditions which define $DIH_{10}(16)$ and hence $DIH_{10}(16) \simeq L(-1) \simeq \Omega_{D_5}(-1)$.

4. **EXAMPLES: ALGEBRAIC K3 SURFACES WITH A POLARIZATION OF A LOW DEGREE**

Here we give some very explicit examples of families of K3 surfaces admitting
$\mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$, and hence $D_{5,1}$ as a group of symplectic automorphisms. In particular, in this section we consider algebraic K3 surfaces.

We recall that a polarization $L$, with $L^2 = 2d$, on a K3 surface $X$ defines a map
$\phi_L : X \to \mathbb{P}^{d+1}$. In this section we consider K3 surfaces with a polarization $L$ such that $\phi_L(X)$ is a complete intersection in a certain projective space and K3 surfaces with a polarization of degree 2, which exhibits the K3 surfaces as double covers of the plane.

Let $X$ be a general member of a family of K3 surfaces admitting an automorphism of order 5, $\sigma_5$, and a polarization, $L$, invariant under $\sigma_5$. In [GS1] Proposition 5.1] the possible Néron–Severi groups of $X$ are computed. In particular, if $L^2 = 2d < 10,$
one obtains that $NS(X) \simeq \mathbb{Z}L \oplus \Omega_{2/5\mathbb{Z}} =: \mathcal{L}_d$. This lattice admits a unique primitive embedding in $\Lambda_{K3}$. The family of K3 surfaces with a polarization $L$ of degree $L^2 < 10$, invariant under a symplectic automorphism of order 5, is then the family of the $\mathcal{L}_d$-polarized K3 surfaces. In particular, for each $d < 5$ we find a 3-dimensional family of K3 with such a polarization $L$, and hence we have the following possibilities:

- $\phi_L : X \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Z}/L} \mathbb{P}^2$, so $X$ is a double cover of $\mathbb{P}^2$ branched along a plane sextic curve: in this case $NS(X) \simeq \mathcal{L}_2$;
- $\phi_L(X)$ is a quartic in $\mathbb{P}^3$: in this case $NS(X) \simeq \mathcal{L}_4$;
- $\phi_L(X)$ is the complete intersection of a quadric and a cubic in $\mathbb{P}^4$: in this case $NS(X) \simeq \mathcal{L}_6$;
- $\phi_L(X)$ is the complete intersection of three quadrics in $\mathbb{P}^5$: in this case $NS(X) \simeq \mathcal{L}_8$.

Now we construct a general member of each of these families and show that it also admits a symplectic involution $\iota$ generating, together with $\sigma_5$, the group $\mathcal{D}_5$. Since the automorphisms $\iota$ and $\sigma_5$ leave invariant the polarization, both these automorphisms can be extended to automorphisms of the ambient projective space.

We will denote by $\omega$ a primitive 5-th root of unity.

4.1. $L^2 = 4$. This polarization gives a map to $\mathbb{P}^3$, where the K3 surfaces are realized as quartic surfaces. Let us consider the automorphism

$$\sigma_{p3} : (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3) \rightarrow (x_0 : \omega^3 x_1 : \omega x_2 : \omega^2 x_3).$$

The quartic surfaces in $\mathbb{P}^3$, defined as

$$V(\alpha x_0^2 x_2 + bx_0^2 x_1^2 + cx_0 x_3^2 + dx_0 x_1 x_2 x_3 + ex_1 x_3^3 + fx_1 x_2^3 + gx_2 x_3^2),$$

are invariant for $\sigma_{p3}$. Hence the restriction of $\sigma_{p3}$ to K3 surfaces with equation (4.1) is an automorphism $\sigma_5$ of the surfaces. To show that this automorphism is symplectic it suffices to apply $\sigma_5$ to the following holomorphic two-form in local coordinates $x = x_1/x_0$, $y = x_2/x_0$, $z = x_3/x_0$:

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial z}\right)^{-1} dx \wedge dy,$$

where $f$ denotes the equation of the quartic in the local coordinate $x, y, z$.

Equation (4.1) depends on 7 parameters. The automorphisms of $\mathbb{P}^3$ commuting with $\sigma_{p3}$ are $\text{diag}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta)$ (which is a four-dimensional group); hence this family of $\sigma_{p3}$-invariant quartics has

$$(7 - 1) - (4 - 1) = 3$$

moduli. So the family of K3 surfaces given by equation (4.1) is the family of K3 surfaces admitting an automorphism of order 5, leaving invariant a polarization of degree 4.

Up to a projectivity, commuting with $\sigma_{p3}$, equation (4.1) becomes

$$a' x_0^2 x_2 + b' x_0^2 x_1^2 + c' x_0 x_3^2 + d' x_0 x_1 x_2 x_3 + a' x_1 x_3^3 + c' x_1 x_2^3 + g' x_2 x_3^2 = 0.$$

Let us define an involution of $\mathbb{P}^3$:

$$\iota_{p3} : (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3) \rightarrow (x_1 : x_0 : x_3 : x_2).$$
Equation (4.2) is invariant under $\iota_{p_3}$, hence $\iota_{p_3}$ induces an automorphism of the quartic surfaces with equation (4.2). We call this automorphism $\iota$. The fixed point set of $\iota_{p_3}$ in $\mathbb{P}^3$ is the union of the lines

$$
l_1 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
x_0 = x_1, \\
x_2 = x_3,
\end{array} \right. \quad l_2 = \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
x_0 = -x_1, \\
x_2 = -x_3.
\end{array} \right.
$$

Hence $\iota$ fixes eight points on the quartics (4.2), the intersection of the quartics with $l_1$ and $l_2$. This is enough to show that $\iota$ is a symplectic involution. Indeed the involutions which are not symplectic are either fixed point free or fix some $\iota$-involution $\langle \sigma \rangle$. Hence there is a 1-dimensional family of invariant cubics giving the same $\iota$.

4.2. $L^2 = 6$. This polarization gives a map to $\mathbb{P}^4$, where the K3 surfaces are realized as complete intersections of a cubic and a quadric.

Let us consider the automorphism

$$
\sigma_{p_4} : (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3 : x_4) \rightarrow (x_0 : \omega x_1 : \omega^2 x_2 : \omega^3 x_3 : \omega^4 x_4).
$$

Let

$$
Q := V(ax_0^2 + bx_1 x_4 + cx_2 x_3);
$$

$$
C := V(dx_0^3 + ex_0 x_1 x_4 + fx_0 x_2 x_3 + gx_1^2 x_3 + hx_2^2 x_4 + lx_1 x_2^2 + mx_3^2 x_4).
$$

Then $Q$ and $C$ are $\sigma_{p_4}$-invariant hypersurfaces in $\mathbb{P}^4$. We observe that the complete intersection of these two hypersurfaces is generically smooth and thus it is a K3 surface.

The complete intersection of $Q$ and $C$ is also the complete intersection of $Q$ and $C + \lambda x_0 Q$. Hence there is a 1-dimensional family of invariant cubics giving the same complete intersection: the cubics giving different complete intersections depend on $7 - 1 = 6$ parameters. The automorphisms of $\mathbb{P}^4$ which commute with $\sigma_{p_4}$ are of the form $\text{diag}(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon)$. So the family of complete intersections of a cubic and a quadric invariant under the automorphism $\sigma_{p_4}$ has $(3 - 1) + (6 - 1) - (5 - 1) = 3$ moduli.

Let $X$ be the complete intersection of $Q$ and $C$. The automorphism $\sigma_{p_4}$ induces a symplectic automorphism on $X$ (this can be shown as in case $L^2 = 4$ considering the two holomorphic form, in local coordinates $x, y, z, t$, $(dx \wedge dy)/(Q_2 C_t - C_1 Q_2)$, where $F_2$ is the partial derivative of $F$ w.r.t. $x$).

Up to the action of the projectivities commuting with $\sigma_{p_4}$, we can assume that $g = h$ and $l = m$ in the equation of $C$ in (4.3). Hence the involution

$$
\iota_{p_4} : (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3 : x_4) \rightarrow (x_0 : x_4 : x_3 : x_2 : x_1)
$$

fixes $Q$ and $C$. So its restriction to $X$ is an involution, $\iota$, of $X$. Moreover, $\iota$ has eight fixed points (six on the plane $x_1 = x_4, x_2 = x_3$ and two on the lines $x_0 = 0, x_1 + x_4 = 0, x_2 + x_3 = 0$). Thus $\sigma_5$ and $\iota$ are symplectic automorphisms of the K3 surface $X$ and they generate the group $\mathcal{D}_5$. 

License or copyright restrictions may apply to redistribution; see http://www.ams.org/journal-terms-of-use
4.3. $L^2 = 8$. This polarization gives a map to $\mathbb{P}^5$, where the K3 surfaces are realized as complete intersection three quadrics.

Let us consider the map

$$\sigma_{p^5}: (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3 : x_4 : x_5) \rightarrow (x_0 : x_1 : \omega x_2 : \omega^2 x_3 : \omega^3 x_4 : \omega^4 x_5)$$

and the complete intersection of the quadrics

$$Q'_1 := V(ax_0^2 + bx_0 x_1 + cx_1^2 + dx_2 x_3 + ex_3 x_4),$$
$$Q'_2 := V(f x_0 x_2 + gx_1 x_2 + hx_3 x_5 + lx_4^2),$$
$$Q'_3 := V(mx_0 x_5 + nx_1 x_5 + ox_2 x_4 + px_3^2).$$

The group of automorphisms of $\mathbb{P}^5$ commuting with $\sigma_{p^5}$ is $(GL(2) \times GL(1))^4/GL(1)$, which has dimension $7 = 8 - 1$. So these complete intersections in $\mathbb{P}^5$ have $(5 - 1) + (4 - 1) + (4 - 1) - (8 - 1) = 3$ moduli. Up to automorphisms of $\mathbb{P}^5$ commuting with $\sigma_{p^5}$ we can assume that the quadrics have the following equation:

$$Q_1 := V(x_0^3 + bx_0 x_1 + x_1^2 + dx_2 x_3 + ex_3 x_4),$$
$$Q_2 := V(x_0 x_2 + x_1 x_2 + x_3 x_5 + x_4^2),$$
$$Q_3 := V(x_0 x_5 + x_1 x_5 + x_2 x_4 + x_3^2),$$

and in fact they depend on 3 parameters.

The complete intersection $X$ of the quadrics $Q_1$, $Q_2$, $Q_3$ is smooth for a generic choice of the parameters $b, d, e$ (one can check it directly by putting $e = b = 0$, $d = 1$). Moreover $X$ is invariant under the automorphism $\sigma_{p^5}$, so $\sigma_{p^5}$ induces an automorphism $\sigma_5$ on $X$ and $\sigma_5$ is symplectic (this can be shown as in the case $L^2 = 6$).

The involution

$$\iota_{p^5}: (x_0 : x_1 : x_2 : x_3 : x_4 : x_5) \rightarrow (x_0 : x_1 : x_5 : x_4 : x_3 : x_2)$$

fixes the quadric $Q_1$ and switches the quadrics $Q_2$ and $Q_3$. So its restriction to the K3 surface $X$ is an involution, $\iota$, of the surface $X$. Moreover $\iota$ has eight fixed points on the space $x_2 = x_5$, $x_3 = x_4$. Thus $\sigma_5$ and $\iota$ are symplectic automorphisms of the K3 surface $X$ and they generate the group $\mathcal{D}_5$.

4.4. $L^2 = 2$. This polarization gives a 2 : 1 map to $\mathbb{P}^2$, and the K3 surfaces are realized as double cover of $\mathbb{P}^2$ branched along a sextic plane curve.

The map

$$\sigma_{p^2}: (x_0 : x_1 : x_2) \rightarrow (x_0 : \omega x_1 : \omega^4 x_2)$$

is an automorphism of $\mathbb{P}^2$. Up to projectivity of $\mathbb{P}^2$ commuting with $\sigma_{p^2}$, the invariant sextics for $\sigma_{p^2}$ are

$$\mathcal{C}_6 := V(x_0^6 + x_0 x_1^5 + x_0 x_2^5 + a x_0 x_1 x_2 + b x_0^2 x_1^2 x_2 + c x_1^3 x_2^3).$$

Let $X$ be the double cover of $\mathbb{P}^2$ branched along $\mathcal{C}_6$, i.e. $X$ is $V(u^2 - (x_0^6 + x_0 x_1^5 + x_0 x_2^5 + a x_0 x_1 x_2 + b x_0^2 x_1^2 x_2 + c x_1^3 x_2^3))$ in the weighted projective space $\mathbb{P}W(3, 1, 1, 1)$. The automorphism $\sigma_{p^2}$ lifts to a symplectic automorphism $\sigma_5: (u : x_0 : x_1 : x_2) \rightarrow (u : x_0 : \omega x_1 : \omega^4 x_2)$ of $X$. So we constructed the 3-dimensional family of K3 surfaces which are double covers of $\mathbb{P}^2$ and have a symplectic automorphism of order 5 which leaves invariant the polarization.

The involution $\alpha_{p^2}: (x_0 : x_1 : x_2) \rightarrow (x_0 : x_2 : x_1)$ leaves the curve $\mathcal{C}_6$ invariant, so it lifts to an involution $\alpha_X: (u : x_0 : x_1 : x_2) \rightarrow (u : x_0 : x_2 : x_1)$ of the surface $X$. The involution $\alpha_X$ fixes a curve (the pullback
of the line $x_1 = x_2$ in $\mathbb{P}^2$, so it is not symplectic. Let $i : (u : x_0 : x_1 : x_2) \rightarrow (-u : x_0 : x_1 : x_2)$ be the covering involution on $X$. It is a nonsymplectic involution (indeed the quotient $X/i$ is rational) and it commutes both with $\alpha_X$ and $\sigma_5$. The involution $i = \alpha_X \circ i$ is a symplectic involution on $X$ (because it is the composition of two commuting nonsymplectic involutions). Moreover one has $i \circ \sigma_5 = \sigma_5^{-1} \circ i$, and hence $D_5 = \langle \sigma_5, i \rangle$ acts symplectically on $X$.

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Bert van Geemen, who helped and encouraged her during the preparation of this paper, and Alessandra Sarti for several interesting discussions. The author also thanks the referee for very useful comments.

References


Dipartimento di Matematica, Università di Milano, via Saldini 50, I-20133 Milano, Italia

E-mail address: alice.garbagnati@unimi.it