



RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Chow groups and $L$ -derivatives of automorphic motives for unitary groups, II.

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## Abstract

In this article, we improve our main results from [LL21] in two directions: First, we allow ramified places in the CM extension  $E/F$  at which we consider representations that are spherical with respect to a certain special maximal compact subgroup, by formulating and proving an analogue of the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture for exotic smooth Rapoport–Zink spaces. Second, we lift the restriction on the components at split places of the automorphic representation, by proving a more general vanishing result on certain cohomology of integral models of unitary Shimura varieties with Drinfeld level structures.

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## 1. Introduction

In 1986, Gross and Zagier [GZ86] proved a remarkable formula that relates the Néron–Tate heights of Heegner points on a rational elliptic curve to the central derivative of the corresponding Rankin–Selberg  $L$ -function. A decade later, Kudla [Kud97] revealed another striking relation between Gillet–Soulé heights of special cycles on Shimura curves and derivatives of Siegel Eisenstein series of genus 2, suggesting an arithmetic version of theta lifting and the Siegel–Weil formula (see, for example, [Kud02, Kud03]). This was later further developed in his joint work with Rapoport and Yang [KRY06]. For the higher dimensional case, in a series of papers starting from the late 1990s, Kudla and Rapoport developed the theory of special cycles on integral models of Shimura varieties for GSpin groups in lower rank cases and for unitary groups of arbitrary ranks [KR11, KR14]. They also studied special cycles on the relevant Rapoport–Zink spaces over non-Archimedean local fields. In particular, they formulated a conjecture relating the arithmetic intersection number of special cycles on the unitary Rapoport–Zink space to the first derivative of local Whittaker functions [KR11, Conjecture 1.3].

In his thesis work [Liu11a, Liu11b], one of us studied special cycles as elements in the Chow group of the unitary Shimura variety over its reflex field (rather than in the arithmetic Chow group of a certain integral model) and the Beilinson–Bloch height of the arithmetic theta lifting (rather than the Gillet–Soulé height). In particular, in the setting of unitary groups, he proposed an explicit conjectural formula for the Beilinson–Bloch height in terms of the central  $L$ -derivative and local doubling zeta integrals. Such a formula is completely parallel to the Rallis inner product formula [Ral84], which computes the Petersson inner product of the global theta lifting and hence was named *arithmetic inner product formula* in [Liu11a] and can be regarded as a higher dimensional generalisation of the Gross–Zagier formula.<sup>1</sup> In the case of  $U(1, 1)$  over an arbitrary CM extension, such a conjectural formula was completely confirmed in [Liu11b], while the case for  $U(r, r)$  with  $r \geq 2$  is significantly harder. Recently, the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture has been proved by W. Zhang and one of us in [LZa],<sup>2</sup> and it has become possible to attack the cases for higher rank groups.

In [LL21], we proved that for certain cuspidal automorphic representations  $\pi$  of  $U(r, r)$ , if the central derivative  $L'(1/2, \pi)$  is nonvanishing, then the  $\pi$ -nearly isotypic localisation of the Chow group of a certain unitary Shimura variety over its reflex field does not vanish. This proved part of the Beilinson–Bloch conjecture for Chow groups and  $L$ -functions (see [LL21, Section 1] for a precise formulation in our setting). Moreover, assuming the modularity of Kudla’s generating functions of special cycles, we further proved the arithmetic inner product formula relating  $L'(1/2, \pi)$  and the height of arithmetic theta liftings. In this article, we improve the main results from [LL21] in two directions: First, we allow ramified places in the CM extension  $E/F$  at which we consider representations that are spherical with respect to a certain special maximal compact subgroup, by formulating and proving an analogue of the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture for exotic smooth Rapoport–Zink spaces. Second, we lift the restriction on the components at split places of the automorphic representation, by proving a more general vanishing result on certain cohomology of integral models of unitary Shimura varieties with Drinfeld level structures. However, for technical reasons, we will still assume  $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$  (see Remark 4.33).

<sup>1</sup>By ‘generalisation of the Gross–Zagier formula’, we simply mean that they are both formulae relating Beilinson–Bloch heights of special cycles and central derivatives of  $L$ -functions. However, from a representation-theoretical point of view, the more accurate generalisation of the Gross–Zagier formula should be the arithmetic Gan–Gross–Prasad conjecture.

<sup>2</sup>We remark that during the referee process of this article, the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture in the orthogonal case was also formulated and proved by the same group of authors [LZb].

### 1.1. Main results

Let  $E/F$  be a CM extension of number fields with the complex conjugation  $c$ . Denote by  $V_F^{(\infty)}$  and  $V_F^{\text{fin}}$  the set of Archimedean and non-Archimedean places of  $F$ , respectively. Denote by  $V_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $V_F^{\text{int}}$  and  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  the subsets of  $V_F^{\text{fin}}$  of those that are split, inert and ramified in  $E$ , respectively.

Take an even positive integer  $n = 2r$ . We equip  $W_r := E^n$  with the skew-hermitian form (with respect to the involution  $c$ ) given by the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} & 1_r \\ -1_r & \end{pmatrix}$ . Put  $G_r := \text{U}(W_r)$ , the unitary group of  $W_r$ , which is a quasi-split reductive group over  $F$ . For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ , we denote by  $K_{r,v} \subseteq G_r(F_v)$  the stabiliser of the lattice  $O_{E_v}^n$ , which is a special maximal compact subgroup.

We start from an informal discussion on the arithmetic inner product formula. Let  $\pi$  be a tempered automorphic representation of  $G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , which by theta dichotomy gives rise to a unique up to isomorphism hermitian space  $V_\pi$  of rank  $n$  over  $\mathbb{A}_E$ . It is known that the hermitian space  $V_\pi$  is *coherent* (respectively *incoherent*); that is,  $V_\pi$  is (respectively is not) the base change of a hermitian space over  $E$ , if and only if the global root number  $\varepsilon(\pi)$  equals 1 (respectively  $-1$ ). When  $\varepsilon(\pi) = 1$ , we have the global theta lifting of  $\pi$ , which is a space of automorphic forms on  $\text{U}(V_\pi)(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , and the famous Rallis inner product formula [Ral84] computes the Petersson inner product of the global theta lifting in terms of the central  $L$ -value  $L(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)$  of  $\pi$ . When  $\varepsilon(\pi) = -1$ , we have the arithmetic theta lifting of  $\pi$ , which is a space of algebraic cycles on the Shimura variety associated to  $V_\pi$ , and the conjectural *arithmetic inner product formula* [Liu11a] computes the height of the arithmetic theta lifting in terms of the central  $L$ -derivative  $L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)$  of  $\pi$ . In our previous article [LL21], we verified the arithmetic inner product formula, under certain hypotheses, when  $E/F$  and  $\pi$  satisfy certain local conditions (see [LL21, Assumption 1.3]). In particular, we want  $V_F^{\text{ram}} = \emptyset$ , which forces  $[F : \mathbb{Q}]$  to be even, and we want the representation  $\pi$  to be either unramified or almost unramified at  $v \in V_F^{\text{int}}$ . Computing local root numbers, we have  $\varepsilon(\pi_v) = (-1)^r$  if  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $\varepsilon(\pi_v) = 1$  if  $v \in V_F^{\text{spl}}$  or  $\pi_v$  is unramified,  $\varepsilon(\pi_v) = -1$  if  $(v \in V_F^{\text{int}}$  and)  $\pi_v$  is almost unramified. It follows that  $\varepsilon(\pi) = (-1)^{r[F:\mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|}$ , where  $S_\pi \subseteq V_F^{\text{int}}$  denotes the (finite) subset at which  $\pi$  is almost unramified, which equals  $(-1)^{|S_\pi|}$  as  $[F : \mathbb{Q}]$  is even. In this article, we improve our results so that  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  can be nonempty; hence,  $[F : \mathbb{Q}]$  can be odd and we will still have  $\varepsilon(\pi) = (-1)^{r[F:\mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|}$ . To show the significance of such improvement, now we may have  $\varepsilon(\pi) = -1$  but  $S_\pi = \emptyset$ , so that we can accommodate  $\pi$  that comes from certain explicit motives like symmetric power of elliptic curves (see Example 1.10).

The reader may read the introduction of [LL21] for more background. Now we describe in more detail our setup and main results in the current article.

**Definition 1.1.** We define the subset  $V_F^\heartsuit$  of  $V_F^{\text{spl}} \cup V_F^{\text{int}}$  consisting of  $v$  satisfying that for every  $v' \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{ram}}$ , where  $p$  is the underlying rational prime of  $v$ , the subfield of  $\overline{F_v}$  generated by  $F_v$  and the Galois closure of  $E_{v'}$  is unramified over  $F_v$ .

**Remark 1.2.** The purpose of this technical definition is that for certain places  $v$  in  $V_F^{\text{spl}} \cup V_F^{\text{int}}$ , we need to have a CM type of  $E$  such that its reflex field does not contain more ramification over  $p$  than  $F_v$  does – this is possible for  $v \in V_F^\heartsuit$ . Note that

- the complement  $(V_F^{\text{spl}} \cup V_F^{\text{int}}) \setminus V_F^\heartsuit$  is finite;
- when  $E$  is Galois, or contains an imaginary quadratic field, or satisfies  $V_F^{\text{ram}} = \emptyset$ , we have  $V_F^\heartsuit = V_F^{\text{spl}} \cup V_F^{\text{int}}$ .

**Assumption 1.3.** Suppose that  $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$ , that  $V_F^{\text{spl}}$  contains all 2-adic places and that every prime in  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  is unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . We consider a cuspidal automorphic representation  $\pi$  of  $G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)$  realised on a space  $\mathcal{V}_\pi$  of cusp forms satisfying the following:

- (1) For every  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is the holomorphic discrete series representation of Harish-Chandra parameter  $\{\frac{1-n}{2}, \frac{3-n}{2}, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}, \frac{n-1}{2}\}$  (see [LL21, Remark 1.4(1)]).
- (2) For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{ram}}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is spherical with respect to  $K_{r,v}$ ; that is,  $\pi_v^{K_{r,v}} \neq \{0\}$ .

- (3) For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{int}}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is either unramified or almost unramified with respect to  $K_{r,v}$  (see [LL21, Remark 1.4(3)]); moreover, if  $\pi_v$  is almost unramified, then  $v$  is unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}$ .
- (4) For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is tempered.
- (5) We have  $R_\pi \cup S_\pi \subseteq V_F^\circ$  (Definition 1.1), where
  - o  $R_\pi \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$  denotes the (finite) subset for which  $\pi_v$  is ramified,
  - o  $S_\pi \subseteq V_F^{\text{int}}$  denotes the (finite) subset for which  $\pi_v$  is almost unramified.

Comparing Assumption 1.3 with [LL21, Assumption 1.3], we have lifted the restriction that  $V_F^{\text{ram}} = \emptyset$  (by allowing  $\pi_v$  to be a certain type of representations for  $v \in V_F^{\text{ram}}$ ) and also the restriction on  $\pi_v$  for  $v \in V_F^{\text{spl}}$ . Note that (5) is not really a new restriction since when  $V_F^{\text{ram}} = \emptyset$ , it is automatic by Remark 1.2.

Suppose that we are in Assumption 1.3. Denote by  $L(s, \pi)$  the doubling  $L$ -function. Then we have  $\varepsilon(\pi) = (-1)^{r[F:\mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|}$  for the global (doubling) root number, so that the vanishing order of  $L(s, \pi)$  at the centre  $s = \frac{1}{2}$  has the same parity as  $r[F : \mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|$ . The cuspidal automorphic representation  $\pi$  determines a hermitian space  $V_\pi$  over  $\mathbb{A}_E$  of rank  $n$  via local theta dichotomy (so that the local theta lifting of  $\pi_v$  to  $U(V_\pi)(F_v)$  is nontrivial for every place  $v$  of  $F$ ), unique up to isomorphism, which is totally positive definite and satisfies that for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ , the local Hasse invariant  $\epsilon(V_\pi \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} F_v) = 1$  if and only if  $v \notin S_\pi$ .

Now suppose that  $r[F : \mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|$  is odd; hence,  $\varepsilon(\pi) = -1$ , which is equivalent to that  $V_\pi$  is incoherent. In what follows, we take  $V = V_\pi$  in the context of [LL21, Conjecture 1.1]; hence,  $H = U(V_\pi)$ . Let  $R$  be a finite subset of  $V_F^{\text{fin}}$ . We fix a special maximal subgroup  $L^R$  of  $H(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R})$  that is the stabiliser of a lattice  $\Lambda^R$  in  $V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R}$  (see Notation 4.2(H6) for more details). For a field  $\mathbb{L}$ , we denote by  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{L}}^R$  the (abstract) Hecke algebra  $\mathbb{L}[L^R \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R}) / L^R]$ , which is a commutative  $\mathbb{L}$ -algebra. When  $R$  contains  $R_\pi$ , the cuspidal automorphic representation  $\pi$  gives rise to a character

$$\chi_\pi^R: \mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^R \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}},$$

where  $\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}$  denotes the subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  of algebraic numbers, and we put

$$\mathfrak{m}_\pi^R := \ker \chi_\pi^R,$$

which is a maximal ideal of  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^R$ .

In what follows, we will fix an arbitrary embedding  $\iota: E \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  and denote by  $\{X_L\}$  the system of unitary Shimura varieties of dimension  $n-1$  over  $\iota(E)$  indexed by open compact subgroups  $L \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$  (see Subsection 4.2 for more details). The following is the first main theorem of this article.

**Theorem 1.4.** *Let  $(\pi, V_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 1.3 with  $r[F : \mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|$  odd, for which we assume [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. If  $L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi) \neq 0$  – that is,  $\text{ord}_{s=\frac{1}{2}} L(s, \pi) = 1$  – then as long as  $R$  satisfies  $R_\pi \subseteq R$  and  $|R \cap V_F^{\text{spl}} \cap V_F^\circ| \geq 2$ , the nonvanishing*

$$\varinjlim_{L_R} \left( \text{CH}^r(X_{L_R L^R})_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^0 \right)_{\mathfrak{m}_\pi^R} \neq 0$$

holds, where the colimit is taken over all open compact subgroups  $L_R$  of  $H(F_R)$ .

Our remaining results rely on Hypothesis 4.11 on the modularity of Kudla's generating functions of special cycles and hence are conditional at this moment.

**Theorem 1.5.** *Let  $(\pi, V_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 1.3 with  $r[F : \mathbb{Q}] + |S_\pi|$  odd, for which we assume [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. Assume Hypothesis 4.11 on the modularity of generating functions of codimension  $r$ .*

(1) *For every collection of elements*

- o  $\varphi_1 = \otimes_v \varphi_{1v} \in \mathcal{V}_\pi$  and  $\varphi_2 = \otimes_v \varphi_{2v} \in \mathcal{V}_\pi$  such that for every  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $\varphi_{1v}$  and  $\varphi_{2v}$  have the lowest weight and satisfy  $\langle \varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v} \rangle_{\pi_v} = 1$ ,
- o  $\phi_1^\infty = \otimes_v \phi_{1v}^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$  and  $\phi_2^\infty = \otimes_v \phi_{2v}^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ ,

the identity

$$\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1), \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2) \rangle_{X,E}^\natural = \frac{L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)}{b_{2r}(0)} \cdot C_r^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \cdot \prod_{v \in V_F^\text{fin}} \mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^\natural(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \phi_{1v}^\infty \otimes (\phi_{2v}^\infty)^c)$$

holds. Here,

- $\Theta_{\phi_i^\infty}(\varphi_i) \in \varinjlim_L \text{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^0$  is the arithmetic theta lifting (Definition 4.12), which is only well-defined under Hypothesis 4.11;
  - $\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1), \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2) \rangle_{X,E}^\natural$  is the normalised height pairing (Definition 4.17),<sup>3</sup> which is constructed based on Beilinson's notion of height pairing;
  - $b_{2r}(0)$  is defined in Notation 4.1(F4), which equals  $L(M_r^\vee(1))$  where  $M_r$  is the motive associated to  $G_r$  by Gross [Gro97]; in particular, it is a positive real number;
  - $C_r = (-1)^r 2^{-2r} \pi^{r^2} \frac{\Gamma(1) \cdots \Gamma(r)}{\Gamma(r+1) \cdots \Gamma(2r)}$ , which is the exact value of a certain Archimedean doubling zeta integral; and
  - $\mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^\natural(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \phi_{1v}^\infty \otimes (\phi_{2v}^\infty)^c)$  is the normalised local doubling zeta integral [LL21, Section 3], which equals 1 for all but finitely many  $v$ .
- (2) In the context of [LL21, Conjecture 1.1], take  $(V = V_\pi$  and  $\tilde{\pi}^\infty$  to be the theta lifting of  $\pi^\infty$  to  $H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ . If  $L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi) \neq 0$  – that is,  $\text{ord}_{s=\frac{1}{2}} L(s, \pi) = 1$  – then

$$\text{Hom}_{H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)} \left( \tilde{\pi}^\infty, \varinjlim_L \text{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^0 \right) \neq 0$$

holds.

**Remark 1.6.** We have the following remarks concerning Theorem 1.5.

- (1) Part (1) verifies the so-called *arithmetic inner product formula*, a conjecture proposed by one of us [Liu11a, Conjecture 3.11].
- (2) The arithmetic inner product formula in part (1) is perfectly parallel to the classical Rallis inner product formula. In fact, suppose that  $V$  is totally positive definite but *coherent*. We have the classical theta lifting  $\theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)$  where we use standard Gaussian functions at Archimedean places. Then the Rallis inner product formula in this case reads as

$$\langle \theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1), \theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2) \rangle_H = \frac{L(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)}{b_{2r}(0)} \cdot C_r^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \cdot \prod_{v \in V_F^\text{fin}} \mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^\natural(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \phi_{1v}^\infty \otimes (\phi_{2v}^\infty)^c),$$

in which  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H$  denotes the Petersson inner product with respect to the *Tamagawa measure* on  $H(\mathbb{A}_F)$ .

In the case where  $R_\pi = \emptyset$ , we have a very explicit height formula for test vectors that are new everywhere.

**Corollary 1.7.** Let  $(\pi, V_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 1.3 with  $r[F : \mathbb{Q}] + |\mathcal{S}_\pi|$  odd, for which we assume [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. Assume Hypothesis 4.11 on the modularity of generating functions of codimension  $r$ . In the situation of Theorem 1.5(1), suppose further that

- $R_\pi = \emptyset$ ;
- $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2 = \varphi \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]0}$  (see Notation 4.3(G8) for the precise definition of the 1-dimensional space  $\mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]0}$  of holomorphic new forms) such that for every  $v \in V_F$ ,  $\langle \varphi_v^c, \varphi_v \rangle_{\pi_v} = 1$ ; and
- $\phi_1^\infty = \phi_2^\infty = \phi^\infty$  such that for every  $v \in V_F^\text{fin}$ ,  $\phi_v^\infty = \mathbb{1}_{(\Lambda_v^\phi)^r}$ .

<sup>3</sup>Strictly speaking,  $\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1), \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2) \rangle_{X,E}^\natural$  relies on the choice of a rational prime  $\ell$  and is a priori an element in  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_\ell$ . However, the above identity implicitly says that it belongs to  $\mathbb{C}$  and is independent of the choice of  $\ell$ .

Then the identity

$$\langle \Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi), \Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi) \rangle_{X,E}^{\natural} = (-1)^r \cdot \frac{L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)}{b_{2r}(0)} \cdot |C_r|^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \cdot \prod_{v \in S_\pi} \frac{q_v^{r-1}(q_v + 1)}{(q_v^{2r-1} + 1)(q_v^{2r} - 1)}$$

holds, where  $q_v$  is the residue cardinality of  $F_v$ .

**Remark 1.8.** Assuming the conjecture on the injectivity of the étale Abel–Jacobi map, one can show that the cycle  $\Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)$  is a primitive cycle of codimension  $r$ . By [Beč87, Conjecture 5.5], we expect that  $(-1)^r \langle \Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi), \Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi) \rangle_{X,E}^{\natural} \geq 0$  holds, which, in the situation of Corollary 1.7, is equivalent to  $L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi) \geq 0$ .

**Remark 1.9.** When  $S_\pi = \emptyset$ , Theorem 1.4, Theorem 1.5 and Corollary 1.7 hold without [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. See Remark 4.32 for more details.

**Example 1.10.** Suppose that  $E/F$  satisfies the conditions in Assumption 1.3 and that  $r \geq 2$ . Consider an elliptic curve  $A$  over  $F$  without complex multiplication, satisfying that  $\text{Sym}^{2r-1} A$  and hence  $\text{Sym}^{2r-1} A_E$  are modular. Let  $\Pi$  be the cuspidal automorphic representation of  $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{A}_E)$  corresponding to  $\text{Sym}^{2r-1} A_E$ , which satisfies  $\Pi^\vee \simeq \Pi \circ \text{c}$ . Then there exists a cuspidal automorphic representation  $\pi$  of  $G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)$  as in Assumption 1.3 with  $\Pi$  its base change if and only if  $A$  has good reduction at every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus V_F^{\text{spl}}$ .<sup>4</sup> Moreover, if this is the case, then we have  $S_\pi = \emptyset$ ; hence,  $\varepsilon(\pi) = (-1)^{r[F:\mathbb{Q}]}$ . In particular, the above results apply when both  $r$  and  $[F : \mathbb{Q}]$  are odd.

## 1.2. Two new ingredients

The proofs of our main theorems follow the same line in [LL21], with two new (main) ingredients, responsible for the two improvements we mentioned at the beginning.

The first new ingredient is formulating and proving an analogue of the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture in the case where  $E/F$  is ramified and the level structure is the one that gives the exotic smooth model (see Subsection 2.1). Here,  $F$  is a  $p$ -adic field with  $p$  odd. Let  $\mathbf{L}$  be an  $O_E$ -lattice of a nonsplit (nondegenerate) hermitian space  $\mathbf{V}$  over  $E$  of (even) rank  $n$ . Then one can associate an intersection number  $\text{Int}(\mathbf{L})$  of special divisors on a formally smooth relative Rapoport–Zink space classifying quasi-isogenies of certain unitary  $O_F$ -divisible groups and also the derivative of the representation density function  $\partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L})$  given by  $\mathbf{L}$ . We show in Theorem 2.7 the formula

$$\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L}).$$

This is parallel to the Kudla–Rapoport conjecture proved in [LZa], originally stated for the case where  $E/F$  is unramified. The proof follows from the same strategy as in [LZa], namely, we write  $\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{L}^\flat + \langle x \rangle$  for a sublattice  $\mathbf{L}^\flat$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  such that  $V_{\mathbf{L}^\flat} := \mathbf{L}^\flat \otimes_{O_F} F$  is nondegenerate and regard  $x$  as a variable. Thus, it motivates us to define a function  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}$  on  $\mathbf{V} \setminus V_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}$  by the formula  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}(x) = \text{Int}(\mathbf{L}^\flat + \langle x \rangle)$  and similarly for  $\partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}$ . For  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}$ , there is a natural decomposition  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat} = \text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^h + \text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v$  according to the horizontal and vertical parts of the special cycle defined by  $\mathbf{L}^\flat$ . In a parallel manner, we have the decomposition  $\partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat} = \partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^h + \partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v$  by simply matching  $\partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^h$  with  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^h$ . Thus, it suffices to show that  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v = \partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v$ . By some sophisticated induction argument on  $\mathbf{L}^\flat$ , it suffices to show the following remarkable property for both  $\text{Int}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v$  and  $\partial\text{Den}_{\mathbf{L}^\flat}^v$ : they extend (uniquely) to compactly supported locally constant functions on  $\mathbf{V}$ , whose Fourier transforms are supported in the set  $\{x \in \mathbf{V} \mid (x, x)_V \in O_F\}$ . However, there are some new difficulties in our case:

<sup>4</sup>Note that, when  $r \geq 2$ , the  $(2r-1)$ th symmetric power of an irreducible admissible representation of  $\text{GL}_2(E_v)$  can never be the base change of an almost unramified representation of  $G_r(F_v)$  for  $v \in V_F^{\text{int}}$ .

- The isomorphism class of an  $O_E$ -lattice is not determined by its fundamental invariants and there is a parity constraint for the valuation of an  $O_E$ -lattice. This will make the induction argument on  $L^\flat$  much more complicated than the one in [LZa] (see Subsection 2.7).
- The comparison of our relative Rapoport–Zink space to an (absolute) Rapoport–Zink space is not known. This is needed in the  $p$ -adic uniformisation of Shimura varieties. We solve this problem when  $F/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is unramified, which is the reason for us to assume that every prime in  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  is unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}$  in Assumption 1.3. See Subsection 2.8.
- Due to the parity constraint, the computation of  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v$  can only be reduced to the case where  $n = 4$  (rather than  $n = 3$  in [LZa]). After that, we have to compute certain intersection multiplicity, for which we use a new argument based on the linear invariance of the K-theoretic intersection of special divisors. See Lemma 2.55.

Here come three more remarks:

- First, we need to extend the result of [CY20] on a counting formula for  $\partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L})$  to hermitian spaces over a ramified extension  $E/F$  (Lemma 2.19).
- Second, we have found a simpler argument for the properties of  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v$  (Proposition 2.22) which does not use any functional equation or induction formula. This argument is applicable to [LZa] to give a new proof of the main result on the analytic side there. Also note that we prove the vanishing property in Proposition 2.22 directly, while in [LZa] it is only deduced after proving  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v = \partial\text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v$ .<sup>5</sup>
- Finally, unlike the case in [LZa], the parity of the dimension of the hermitian space plays a crucial role in the exotic smooth case. In particular, we will not study the case where  $V$  has odd dimension.

The second new ingredient is a vanishing result on certain cohomology of integral models of unitary Shimura varieties with Drinfeld level structures. For  $v \in V_F^{\text{spl}} \cap V_F^\heartsuit$  with  $p$  the underlying rational prime, we have a tower of integral models  $\{\mathcal{X}_m\}_{m \geq 0}$  defined by Drinfeld level structures (at  $v$ ), with an action by  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$  via Hecke correspondences. We show in Theorem 4.21 that

$$H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$$

with  $\ell \neq p$  and  $\mathfrak{m} := \mathfrak{m}_\pi^R \cap \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$ , where  $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$  is the subalgebra of  $\mathbb{T}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$  consisting of those supported at split places. We reduce this vanishing property to some other vanishing properties for cohomology of Newton strata of  $\mathcal{X}_m$ , by using a key result of Mantovan [Man08] saying that the closure of every refined Newton stratum is smooth. For the vanishing properties for Newton strata, we generalise an argument of [TY07, Proposition 4.4]. However, since in our case the representation  $\pi_v$  has arbitrary level and our group has nontrivial endoscopy, we need a more sophisticated trace formula, which was provided in [CS17].

### 1.3. Notation and conventions

- When we have a function  $f$  on a product set  $A_1 \times \cdots \times A_m$ , we will write  $f(a_1, \dots, a_m)$  instead of  $f((a_1, \dots, a_m))$  for its value at an element  $(a_1, \dots, a_m) \in A_1 \times \cdots \times A_m$ .
- For a set  $S$ , we denote by  $\mathbb{1}_S$  the characteristic function of  $S$ .
- All rings are commutative and unital, and ring homomorphisms preserve units. However, we use the word *algebra* in the general sense, which is not necessarily commutative or unital.
- For a (formal) subscheme  $Z$  of a (formal) scheme  $X$ , we denote by  $\mathcal{I}_Z$  the ideal sheaf of  $Z$ , which is a subsheaf of the structure sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_X$  of  $X$ .

<sup>5</sup>We have also tried to apply our argument to prove this vanishing property directly in the case considered in [LZa], but the numerology seems much more complicated to make a success. Nevertheless, our argument does give a simpler proof of the weaker vanishing property in [LZa, Theorem 7.4.1].

- For a ring  $R$ , we denote by  $\text{Sch}_{/R}$  the category of schemes over  $R$ , by  $\text{Sch}'_{/R}$  the subcategory of locally Noetherian schemes over  $R$ . When  $R$  is discretely valued, we also denote by  $\text{Sch}^\vee_{/R}$  the subcategory of schemes over  $R$  on which uniformisers of  $R$  are locally nilpotent.
- If a base ring is not specified in the tensor operation  $\otimes$ , then it is  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- For an abelian group  $A$  and a ring  $R$ , we put  $A_R := A \otimes R$ .
- For an integer  $m \geq 0$ , we denote by  $0_m$  and  $1_m$  the null and identity matrices of rank  $m$ , respectively. We also denote by  $w_m$  the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} & 1_m \\ -1_m & \end{pmatrix}$ .
- We denote by  $c: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  the complex conjugation. For an element  $x$  in a complex space with a default underlying real structure, we denote by  $x^c$  its complex conjugation.
- For a field  $K$ , we denote by  $\overline{K}$  the abstract algebraic closure of  $K$ . However, for aesthetic reasons, we will write  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  instead of  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}_p}$  and will denote by  $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$  its residue field. On the other hand, we denote by  $\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}$  the algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{Q}$  inside  $\mathbb{C}$ .
- For a number field  $K$ , we denote by  $\psi_K: K \backslash \mathbb{A}_K \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  the standard additive character, namely,  $\psi_K := \psi_{\mathbb{Q}} \circ \text{Tr}_{K/\mathbb{Q}}$  in which  $\psi_{\mathbb{Q}}: \mathbb{Q} \backslash \mathbb{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is the unique character such that  $\psi_{\mathbb{Q},\infty}(x) = e^{2\pi i x}$ .
- Throughout the entire article, all parabolic inductions are unitarily normalised.

## 2. Intersection of special cycles at ramified places

Throughout this section, we fix a *ramified* quadratic extension  $E/F$  of  $p$ -adic fields with  $p$  odd, with  $c \in \text{Gal}(E/F)$  the Galois involution. We fix a uniformiser  $u \in E$  satisfying  $u^c = -u$ . Let  $k$  be the residue field of  $F$  and denote by  $q$  the cardinality of  $k$ . Let  $n = 2r$  be an even positive integer.

In Subsection 2.1, we introduce our relative Rapoport–Zink space and state the main theorem (Theorem 2.7) on the relation between intersection numbers and derivatives of representation densities. In Subsection 2.2, we study derivatives of representation densities. In Subsection 2.3, we recall the Bruhat–Tits stratification on the relative Rapoport–Zink space from [Wu] and deduce some consequences. In Subsection 2.4, we prove the linear invariance on the K-theoretic intersection of special divisors, following [How19]. In Subsection 2.5, we prove Theorem 2.7 when  $r = 1$ , which is needed for the proof when  $r > 1$ . In Subsection 2.6, we study intersection numbers. In Subsection 2.7, we prove Theorem 2.7 for general  $r$ . In Subsection 2.8, we compare our relative Rapoport–Zink space to certain (absolute) Rapoport–Zink space assuming  $F/\mathbb{Q}_p$  is unramified.

Here are two preliminary definitions for this section:

- A *hermitian  $O_E$ -module* is a finitely generated free  $O_E$ -module  $L$  together with an  $O_F$ -bilinear pairing  $(\cdot, \cdot)_L: L \times L \rightarrow E$  such that the induced  $E$ -valued pairing on  $L \otimes_{O_F} F$  is a nondegenerate hermitian pairing (with respect to  $c$ ). When we say that a hermitian  $O_E$ -module  $L$  is contained in a hermitian  $O_E$ -module or a hermitian  $E$ -space  $M$ , we require that the restriction of the pairing  $(\cdot, \cdot)_M$  to  $L$  coincides with  $(\cdot, \cdot)_L$ .
- Let  $X$  be an object of an additive category with a notion of dual.
  - We say that a morphism  $\sigma_X: X \rightarrow X^\vee$  is a *symmetrisation* if  $\sigma_X$  is an isomorphism and the composite morphism  $X \rightarrow X^{\vee\vee} \xrightarrow{\sigma_X^\vee} X^\vee$  coincides with  $\sigma_X$ .
  - Given an action  $\iota_X: O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X)$ , we say that a morphism  $\lambda_X: X \rightarrow X^\vee$  is  $\iota_X$ -*compatible* if  $\lambda_X \circ \iota_X(\alpha) = \iota_X(\alpha^c)^\vee \circ \lambda_X$  holds for every  $\alpha \in O_E$ .

### 2.1. A Kudla–Rapoport type formula

We fix an embedding  $\varphi_0: E \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_p$  and let  $\check{E}$  be the maximal complete unramified extension of  $\varphi_0(E)$  in  $\mathbb{C}_p$ . We regard  $E$  as a subfield of  $\check{E}$  via  $\varphi_0$  and hence identify the residue field of  $\check{E}$  with an algebraic closure  $\overline{k}$  of  $k$ .

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $S$  be an object of  $\text{Sch}_{/O_E}$ . We define a category  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}(S)$  whose objects are triples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which

- $X$  is an  $O_F$ -divisible group<sup>6</sup> over  $S$  of dimension  $n = 2r$  and (relative) height  $2n$ ;
- $\iota_X : O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X)$  is an action of  $O_E$  on  $X$  satisfying:
  - (Kottwitz condition): the characteristic polynomial of  $\iota_X(u)$  on the locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module  $\text{Lie}(X)$  is  $(T - u)^{n-1}(T + u) \in \mathcal{O}_S[T]$ ,
  - (Wedge condition): we have

$$\bigwedge^2 (\iota_X(u) - u \mid \text{Lie}(X)) = 0,$$

- (Spin condition): for every geometric point  $s$  of  $S$ , the action of  $\iota_X(u)$  on  $\text{Lie}(X_s)$  is nonzero;
- $\lambda_X : X \rightarrow X^\vee$  is a  $\iota_X$ -compatible polarisation such that  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$ .

A morphism (respectively quasi-morphism) from  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  to  $(Y, \iota_Y, \lambda_Y)$  is an  $O_E$ -linear isomorphism (respectively quasi-isogeny)  $\rho : X \rightarrow Y$  of height zero such that  $\rho^* \lambda_Y = \lambda_X$ .

When  $S$  belongs to  $\text{Sch}_{/O_E}^v$ , we denote by  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S)$  the subcategory of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}(S)$  consisting of  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which  $X$  is supersingular.<sup>7</sup>

**Remark 2.2.** Giving a  $\iota_X$ -compatible polarisation  $\lambda_X$  of  $X$  satisfying  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$  is equivalent to giving a  $\iota_X$ -compatible symmetrisation  $\sigma_X$  of  $X$ . In fact, since  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$ , there is a unique morphism  $\sigma_X : X \rightarrow X^\vee$  satisfying  $\lambda_X = \sigma_X \circ \iota_X(u)$ , which is, in fact, an isomorphism satisfying

$$\sigma_X^\vee = \iota_X(u^{-1})^\vee \circ \lambda_X^\vee = -\iota_X(u^{-1})^\vee \circ \lambda_X = -\lambda_X \circ \iota_X(u^{-1,c}) = \lambda_X \circ \iota_X(u^{-1}) = \sigma_X$$

and is clearly  $\iota_X$ -compatible. Conversely, given a  $\iota_X$ -compatible symmetrisation  $\sigma_X$  of  $X$ , we may recover  $\lambda_X$  as  $\sigma_X \circ \iota_X(u)$ . In what follows, we call  $\sigma_X$  the symmetrisation of  $\lambda_X$ .

To define our relative Rapoport–Zink space, we fix an object

$$(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \in \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(\bar{k}).$$

**Definition 2.3.** We define a functor  $\mathcal{N} := \mathcal{N}_{(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)}$  on  $\text{Sch}_{/O_E}^v$  such that for every object  $S$  of  $\text{Sch}_{/O_E}^v$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(S)$  consists of quadruples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X; \rho_X)$  in which

- $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  is an object of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S)$ ;
- $\rho_X$  is a quasi-morphism from  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \times_S (S \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k})$  to  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \otimes_{\bar{k}} (S \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k})$  in the category  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k})$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *The functor  $\mathcal{N}$  is a separated formal scheme formally smooth over  $\text{Spf } O_E$  of relative dimension  $n - 1$ . Moreover,  $\mathcal{N}$  has two connected components.*

*Proof.* It follows from [RZ96] that  $\mathcal{N}$  is a separated formal scheme over  $\text{Spf } O_E$ . The formal smoothness of  $\mathcal{N}$  follow from the smoothness of its local model, which is [RSZ17, Proposition 3.10], and the dimension also follows. For the last assertion, our moduli functor  $\mathcal{N}$  is the disjoint union of  $\mathcal{N}_{(0,0)}$  and  $\mathcal{N}_{(0,1)}$  from [Wu, Section 3.4], each of which is connected by [Wu, Theorem 5.18(2)].<sup>8</sup> □

To study special cycles on  $\mathcal{N}$ , we fix a triple  $(X_0, \iota_{X_0}, \lambda_{X_0})$  where

- $X_0$  is a supersingular  $O_F$ -divisible group over  $\text{Spec } O_E$  of dimension 1 and height 2;
- $\iota_{X_0} : O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X_0)$  is an  $O_E$ -action on  $X_0$  such that the induced action on  $\text{Lie}(X_0)$  is given by  $\varphi_0$ ;
- $\lambda_{X_0} : X_0 \rightarrow X_0^\vee$  is a  $\iota_{X_0}$ -compatible principal polarisation.

<sup>6</sup>An  $O_F$ -divisible group is also called a strict  $O_F$ -module.

<sup>7</sup>Here, the superscript ‘b’ stands for *basic*, which is related to the basic locus in the Shimura variety that appears later.

<sup>8</sup>The article [Wu] only studied the case  $F = \mathbb{Q}_p$ . In fact, all arguments and results work for general  $F$ . This footnote applies to the proof of Proposition 2.28 as well.

Note that  $\iota_{X_0}$  induces an isomorphism  $\iota_{X_0} : O_E \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{End}_{O_E}(X_0)$ . Put

$$V := \text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0 \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k}, X) \otimes \mathbb{Q},$$

which is a vector space over  $E$  of dimension  $n$ . We have a pairing

$$(\cdot, \cdot)_V : V \times V \rightarrow E \quad (2.1)$$

sending  $(x, y) \in V^2$  to the composition of quasi-homomorphisms

$$X_0 \xrightarrow{x} X \xrightarrow{\lambda_X} X^\vee \xrightarrow{y^\vee} X_0^\vee \xrightarrow{u^{-2} \lambda_{X_0}^{-1}} X_0$$

as an element in  $\text{End}_{O_E}(X_0) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  and hence in  $E$  via  $\iota_{X_0}^{-1}$ . It is known that  $(\cdot, \cdot)_V$  is a nondegenerate and nonsplit hermitian form on  $V$  [RSZ17, Lemma 3.5].<sup>9</sup>

**Definition 2.5.** For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , we define the *special divisor*  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  of  $\mathcal{N}$  to be the maximal closed formal subscheme over which the quasi-homomorphism

$$\rho_X^{-1} \circ x : (X_0 \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k}) \otimes_k (S \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k}) \rightarrow X \times_S (S \otimes_{O_E} \bar{k})$$

lifts (uniquely) to a homomorphism  $X_0 \otimes_{O_E} S \rightarrow X$ .

**Definition 2.6.** For an  $O_E$ -lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $V$ , the Serre intersection multiplicity

$$\chi \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_1)} \overset{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \overset{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_n)} \right)$$

does not depend on the choice of a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  by Corollary 2.35, which we define to be  $\text{Int}(\mathbf{L})$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** *For every  $O_E$ -lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $V$ , we have*

$$\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \partial \text{Den}(\mathbf{L}),$$

where  $\partial \text{Den}(\mathbf{L})$  is defined in Definition 2.16.

The strategy of proving this theorem described in Subsection 1.2 motivates the following definition, which will be frequently used in the rest of Section 2.

**Definition 2.8.** We define  $\mathfrak{b}(V)$  to be the set of hermitian  $O_E$ -modules contained in  $V$  of rank  $n - 1$ . In what follows, for  $L^\flat \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$ , we put  $V_{L^\flat} := L^\flat \otimes_{O_E} F$  and write  $V_{L^\flat}^\perp$  for the orthogonal complement of  $V_{L^\flat}$  in  $V$ .

**Remark 2.9.** Let  $S$  be an object of  $\text{Sch}_{/O_E}$ . We have another category  $\text{Exo}_{(n,0)}(S)$  whose objects are triples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which

- $X$  is an  $O_F$ -divisible group over  $S$  of dimension  $n = 2r$  and (relative) height  $2n$ ;
- $\iota_X : O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X)$  is an action of  $O_E$  on  $X$  such that  $\iota_X(u) - u$  annihilates  $\text{Lie}(X)$ ;
- $\lambda_X : X \rightarrow X^\vee$  is a  $\iota_X$ -compatible polarisation such that  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$ .

Morphisms are defined similarly as in Definition 2.1.

<sup>9</sup>The readers may notice that we have an extra factor  $u^{-2}$  in the definition of the hermitian form. This is because we want to ensure that  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  is nonempty if and only if  $(x, x)_V \in O_F$ .

For later use, we fix a nontrivial additive character  $\psi_F : F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  of conductor  $O_F$ . For a locally constant compactly supported function  $\phi$  on a hermitian space  $V$  over  $E$ , its Fourier transform  $\widehat{\phi}$  is defined by

$$\widehat{\phi}(x) = \int_V \phi(y) \psi_F(\mathrm{Tr}_{E/F}(x, y)_V) \, dy$$

where  $dy$  is the self-dual Haar measure on  $V$ .

## 2.2. Fourier transform of analytic side

In this subsection, we study local densities of hermitian lattices. We first introduce some notion about  $O_E$ -lattices in hermitian spaces.

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $V$  be a hermitian space over  $E$  of dimension  $m$ , equipped with the hermitian form  $(\cdot, \cdot)_V$ .

- (1) For a subset  $X$  of  $V$ ,
  - we denote by  $X^{\text{int}}$  the subset  $\{x \in X \mid (x, x)_V \in O_F\}$ ;
  - we denote by  $\langle X \rangle$  the  $O_E$ -submodule of  $V$  generated by  $X$ ; when  $X = \{x, \dots\}$  is explicitly presented, we simply write  $\langle x, \dots \rangle$  instead of  $\langle \{x, \dots\} \rangle$ .
- (2) For an  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  of  $V$ , we put

$$\begin{aligned} L^\vee &:= \{x \in V \mid \mathrm{Tr}_{E/F}(x, y)_V \in O_F \text{ for every } y \in L\} \\ &= \{x \in V \mid (x, y)_V \in u^{-1}O_E \text{ for every } y \in L\}. \end{aligned}$$

We say that  $L$  is

- *integral* if  $L \subseteq L^\vee$ ;
- *vertex* if it is integral such that  $L^\vee/L$  is annihilated by  $u$ ; and
- *self-dual* if  $L = L^\vee$ .

- (3) For an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  of  $V$ , we define
  - the *fundamental invariants* of  $L$  unique integers  $0 \leq a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_m$  such that  $L^\vee/L \simeq O_E/(u^{a_1}) \oplus \dots \oplus O_E/(u^{a_m})$  as  $O_E$ -modules;
  - the *type*  $t(L)$  of  $L$  to be the number of nonzero elements in its fundamental invariants; and
  - the *valuation* of  $L$  to be  $\mathrm{val}(L) := \sum_{i=1}^m a_i$ ; when  $L$  is generated by a single element  $x$ , we simply write  $\mathrm{val}(x)$  instead of  $\mathrm{val}(\langle x \rangle)$ .

The above notation and definitions make sense without specifying  $V$ , namely, they apply to hermitian  $O_E$ -modules.

**Definition 2.11.** For a hermitian  $O_E$ -module  $L$ , we say that a basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  of  $L$  is a *normal basis* if its moment matrix  $T = ((e_i, e_j)_L)_{i,j=1}^m$  is conjugate to

$$(\beta_1 u^{2b_1}) \oplus \dots \oplus (\beta_s u^{2b_s}) \oplus \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^{2c_1-1} \\ -u^{2c_1-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \oplus \dots \oplus \begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^{2c_t-1} \\ -u^{2c_t-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

by a permutation matrix, for some  $\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s \in O_F^\times$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_s, c_1, \dots, c_t \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

**Lemma 2.12.** *In the above definition, we have*

- (1) *normal basis exists*;
- (2) *the invariants  $s, t$  and  $b_1, \dots, b_s, c_1, \dots, c_t$  depend only on  $L$* ;
- (3) *when  $L$  is integral, the fundamental invariants of  $L$  are the unique nondecreasing rearrangement of  $(2b_1 + 1, \dots, 2b_s + 1, 2c_1, 2c_1, \dots, 2c_t, 2c_t)$* .

*Proof.* Part (1) follows from [Jac62, Propositions 4.3 & 8.1]. Part (2) follows from the canonicity of the Jordan splitting on [Jac62, Page 449]. Part (3) follows from a direct calculation of  $L^\vee$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.13.** The above lemma implies that for an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module  $L$  of rank  $m$  with fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ ,

- (1)  $L$  is vertex if and only if  $a_m \leq 1$  and self-dual if and only if  $a_m = 0$ ;
- (2)  $t(L)$  and  $\text{val}(L)$  must have the same parity with  $m$ .

**Definition 2.14.** Let  $M$  and  $L$  be two hermitian  $O_E$ -modules. We denote by  $\text{Herm}_{L,M}$  the scheme of hermitian  $O_E$ -module homomorphisms from  $L$  to  $M$ , which is a scheme of finite type over  $O_F$ . We define the *local density* to be

$$\text{Den}(M, L) := \lim_{N \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{|\text{Herm}_{L,M}(O_F/(u^{2N}))|}{q^{N \cdot d_{L,M}}}$$

where  $d_{L,M}$  is the dimension of  $\text{Herm}_{L,M} \otimes_{O_F} F$ .

Denote by  $H$  the standard hyperbolic hermitian  $O_E$ -module (of rank 2) given by the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^{-1} \\ -u^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . For an integer  $s \geq 0$ , put  $H_s := H^{\oplus s}$ . Then  $H_s$  is a self-dual hermitian  $O_E$ -module of rank  $2s$ . The following lemma is a variant of a result of Cho–Yamauchi [CY20] when  $E/F$  is ramified.

**Lemma 2.15.** *Let  $L$  be a hermitian  $O_E$ -module of rank  $m$ . Then we have*

$$\text{Den}(H_s, L) = \sum_{L \subseteq L' \subseteq L'^{\vee}} |L'/L|^{m-2s} \prod_{s - \frac{m+t(L')}{2} < i \leq s} (1 - q^{-2i})$$

for every integer  $s \geq m$ , where the sum is taken over integral  $O_E$ -lattices of  $L \otimes_{O_F} F$  containing  $L$ .

*Proof.* Put  $V := L \otimes_{O_F} F$ . For an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L'$  of  $V$ , we equip the  $k$ -vector space  $L'_k := L' \otimes_{O_E} O_E/(u)$  with a  $k$ -valued pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{L'_k}$  by the formula

$$\langle x, y \rangle_{L'_k} := u \cdot (x^\sharp, y^\sharp)_V \bmod (u)$$

where  $x^\sharp$  and  $y^\sharp$  are arbitrary lifts of  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively. Then  $L'_k$  becomes a symplectic space over  $k$  of dimension  $m$  whose radical has dimension  $t(L')$ . Similarly, we have  $H_{s,k}$ , which is a nondegenerate symplectic space over  $k$  of dimension  $2s$ . We denote by  $\text{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}$  the  $k$ -scheme of isometries from  $L'_k$  to  $H_{s,k}$ .

By the same argument in [CY20, Section 3.3], we have

$$\text{Den}(H_s, L) = q^{-m(4s-m+1)/2} \cdot \sum_{L \subseteq L' \subseteq L'^{\vee}} |L'/L|^{m-2s} |\text{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}(k)|.$$

Thus, it remains to show that

$$|\text{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}(k)| = q^{m(4s-m+1)/2} \prod_{s - \frac{m+t(L')}{2} < i \leq s} (1 - q^{-2i}). \quad (2.2)$$

We fix a decomposition  $L'_k = L_0 \oplus L_1$  in which  $L_0$  is nondegenerate and  $L_1$  is the radical of  $L'_k$ . We have a morphism  $\pi: \text{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}} \rightarrow \text{Isom}_{L_0, H_{s,k}}$  given by restriction, such that for every element  $f \in \text{Isom}_{L_0, H_{s,k}}(k)$ , the fibre  $\pi^{-1}f$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Isom}_{L_1, \text{im}(f)^\perp}$ . As  $\text{im}(f)^\perp$  is isomorphic to  $H_{s - \frac{m-t(L')}{2}, k}$ , it suffices to show (2.2) in the two extremal cases:  $t(L') = 0$  and  $t(L') = m$ .

Suppose that  $t(L') = 0$ ; that is,  $L'_k$  is nondegenerate. Note that  $\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s,k})$  acts on  $\mathrm{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}$  transitively, with the stabiliser isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s-\frac{m}{2}, k})$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathrm{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}(k)| &= \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s,k})(k)|}{|\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s-\frac{m}{2}, k})(k)|} \\ &= \frac{q^{s^2} \prod_{i=1}^s (q^{2i} - 1)}{q^{(s-\frac{m}{2})^2} \prod_{i=1}^{s-\frac{m}{2}} (q^{2i} - 1)} \\ &= q^{m(4s-m+1)/2} \prod_{s-\frac{m}{2} < i \leq s} (1 - q^{-2i}), \end{aligned}$$

which confirms (2.2).

Suppose that  $t(L') = m$ ; that is,  $L'_k$  is isotropic. Note that  $\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s,k})$  acts on  $\mathrm{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}$  transitively, with the stabiliser  $Q$  fitting into a short exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow U_m \rightarrow Q \rightarrow \mathrm{Sp}(H_{s-m,k}) \rightarrow 1$$

in which  $U_m$  is a unipotent subgroup of  $\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s,k})$  of Levi type  $\mathrm{GL}_{m,k} \times (H_{s-m,k})$ . Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathrm{Isom}_{L'_k, H_{s,k}}(k)| &= \frac{|\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s,k})(k)|}{|U_m(k)| \cdot |\mathrm{Sp}(H_{s-m,k})(k)|} \\ &= \frac{q^{s^2} \prod_{i=1}^s (q^{2i} - 1)}{q^{m(2s-2m)+\frac{m(m+1)}{2}} \cdot q^{(s-m)^2} \prod_{i=1}^{s-m} (q^{2i} - 1)} \\ &= q^{m(4s-m+1)/2} \prod_{s-m < i \leq s} (1 - q^{-2i}), \end{aligned}$$

which confirms (2.2).

Thus, (2.2) is proved and the lemma follows.  $\square$

Now we fix a hermitian space  $V$  over  $E$  of dimension  $n = 2r$  that is *nonsplit*.

**Definition 2.16.** For an  $O_E$ -lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $V$ , define the *(normalised) local Siegel series* of  $\mathbf{L}$  to be the polynomial  $\mathrm{Den}(X, \mathbf{L}) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ , which exists by Lemma 2.19, such that for every integer  $s \geq 0$ ,

$$\mathrm{Den}(q^{-s}, \mathbf{L}) = \frac{\mathrm{Den}(H_{r+s}, \mathbf{L})}{\prod_{i=s+1}^{r+s} (1 - q^{-2i})},$$

where  $\mathrm{Den}$  is defined in Definition 2.14. We then put

$$\partial \mathrm{Den}(\mathbf{L}) := - \left. \frac{d}{dX} \right|_{X=1} \mathrm{Den}(X, \mathbf{L}).$$

**Remark 2.17.** Since  $V$  is nonsplit, we have  $\mathrm{Den}(1, \mathbf{L}) = \mathrm{Den}(H_r, \mathbf{L}) = 0$ .

**Remark 2.18.** Let  $\mathbf{L}$  be an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$ . Let  $T \in \mathrm{GL}_n(E)$  be a matrix that represents  $\mathbf{L}$  and consider the  $T$ th Whittaker function  $W_T(s, 1_{4r}, \mathbb{1}_{H_r^{2r}})$  of the Schwartz function  $\mathbb{1}_{H_r^{2r}}$  at the identity element  $1_{4r}$ . By [KR14, Proposition 10.1],<sup>10</sup> we have

$$W_T(s, 1_{4r}, \mathbb{1}_{H_r^{2r}}) = \mathrm{Den}(H_{r+s}, \mathbf{L})$$

<sup>10</sup>In [KR14, Proposition 10.1] and its proof, the lattice  $L_{r,r}$  should be replaced by  $H_r$ .

for every integer  $s \geq 0$ . Thus, we obtain

$$\log q \cdot \partial \text{Den}(\mathbf{L}) = \frac{W'_T(0, 1_{4r}, \mathbb{1}_{H_r^{2r}})}{\prod_{i=1}^r (1 - q^{-2i})}$$

by Definition 2.16.

**Lemma 2.19.** *For every  $O_E$ -lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$ , we have*

$$\text{Den}(X, \mathbf{L}) = \sum_{\mathbf{L} \subseteq L \subseteq L^\vee} X^{2\text{length}_{O_E}(L/\mathbf{L})} \prod_{i=0}^{\frac{t(L)}{2}-1} (1 - q^{2i} X^2) \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$\partial \text{Den}(\mathbf{L}) = 2 \sum_{\mathbf{L} \subseteq L \subseteq L^\vee} \prod_{i=1}^{\frac{t(L)}{2}-1} (1 - q^{2i}), \quad (2.4)$$

where both sums are taken over integral  $O_E$ -lattices of  $\mathbf{V}$  containing  $\mathbf{L}$ .<sup>11</sup>

*Proof.* The identity (2.3) is a direct consequence of Lemma 2.15 and Definition 2.16. The identity (2.4) is a consequence of (2.3).  $\square$

**Definition 2.20.** Let  $L^\flat$  be an element of  $\mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$  (Definition 2.8). For  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ , we put

$$\begin{aligned} \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}(x) &:= \partial \text{Den}(L^\flat + \langle x \rangle), \\ \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h(x) &:= 2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L \subseteq L^\vee \\ t(L \cap V_{L^\flat})=1}} \mathbb{1}_L(x), \\ \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(x) &:= \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}(x) - \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h(x). \end{aligned}$$

Here in the second formula,  $L$  in the summation is an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

**Remark 2.21.** We have

- (1) The summation in  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h(x)$  equals twice the number of integral  $O_E$ -lattices  $L$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  that contains  $L^\flat + \langle x \rangle$  and such that  $t(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) = 1$ .
- (2) There exists a compact subset  $C_{L^\flat}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  such that  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}$ ,  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h$  and  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v$  vanish outside  $C_{L^\flat}$  and are locally constant functions on  $C_{L^\flat} \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ .
- (3) For an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  of  $\mathbf{V}$ , if  $t(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) = 1$ , then  $t(L) = 2$  by Lemma 2.23(1) and the fact that  $\mathbf{V}$  is nonsplit.
- (4) By (3) and Lemma 2.19, we have

$$\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(x) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L \subseteq L^\vee \\ t(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) > 1}} \left( \prod_{i=1}^{\frac{t(L)}{2}-1} (1 - q^{2i}) \right) \mathbb{1}_L(x)$$

for  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ .

The following is our main result of this subsection.

<sup>11</sup>In (2.4), when  $t(L) = 2$ , we regard the empty product  $\prod_{i=1}^{\frac{t(L)}{2}-1} (1 - q^{2i})$  as 1.

**Proposition 2.22.** Let  $L^\flat$  be an element of  $\mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$ . Then  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^\flat}^\vee$  extends (uniquely) to a (compactly supported) locally constant function on  $\mathbf{V}$ , which we still denote by  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^\flat}^\vee$ . Moreover, the support of  $\widehat{\partial\text{Den}_{L^\flat}^\vee}$  is contained in  $\mathbf{V}^{\text{int}}$  (Definition 2.10).

We need some lemmas for preparation.

**Lemma 2.23.** Let  $L$  be an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module of with fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ .

- (1) If  $T = ((e_i, e_j)_L)_{i,j=1}^m$  is the moment matrix of an arbitrary basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_m\}$  of  $L$ , then for every  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $a_1 + \dots + a_i - i$  equals the minimal  $E$ -valuation of the determinant of all  $i$ -by- $i$  minors of  $T$ .
- (2) If  $L = L' + \langle x \rangle$  for some (integral) hermitian  $O_E$ -module  $L'$  contained in  $L$  of rank  $m-1$ , then we have

$$t(L) = \begin{cases} t(L') + 1, & \text{if } x' \in uL'^\vee + L', \\ t(L') - 1, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $x'$  is the unique element in  $L'^\vee$  such that  $(x', y)_L = (x, y)_L$  for every  $y \in L'$ .

*Proof.* Part (1) is simply the well-known method of computing the Smith normal form of  $uT$  (over  $O_E$ ) using ideals generated by determinants of minors. For (2), take a normal basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}\}$  of  $L$  (Definition 2.11) such that  $\langle x_1, \dots, x_{m-1-t(L')} \rangle$  is self-dual. Applying (1) to the basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{m-1}, x\}$  of  $L$ , we know that  $t(L) = t(L') + 1$  if  $(x_i, x)_L \in O_E$  for every  $m-t(L') \leq i \leq m-1$ ; otherwise, we have  $t(L) = t(L') - 1$ . In particular, (2) follows.  $\square$

In the rest of this subsection, in order to shorten formulae, we put

$$\mu(t) := \prod_{i=1}^{\frac{t}{2}-1} (1 - q^{2i})$$

for every positive even integer  $t$ .

**Lemma 2.24.** Take  $L^\flat \in \mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$  that is integral. For every compact subset  $X$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  not contained in  $V_{L^\flat}$ , we denote by  $\delta_X$  the maximal integer such that the image of  $X$  under the projection map  $\mathbf{V} \rightarrow V_{L^\flat}^\perp$  induced by the orthogonal decomposition  $\mathbf{V} = V_{L^\flat} \oplus V_{L^\flat}^\perp$  is contained in  $u^{\delta_X}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ . We denote by  $\mathfrak{L}$  the set of  $O_E$ -lattices of  $\mathbf{V}$  containing  $L^\flat$  and by  $\mathfrak{E}$  the set of triples  $(L'^\flat, \delta, \varepsilon)$  in which  $L'^\flat$  is an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V_{L^\flat}$  containing  $L^\flat$ ,  $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\varepsilon: u^\delta(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \rightarrow L'^\flat \otimes_{O_F} F/O_F$  is an  $O_E$ -linear map.

- (1) The map  $\mathfrak{L} \rightarrow \mathfrak{E}$  sending  $L$  to the triple  $(L \cap V_{L^\flat}, \delta_L, \varepsilon_L)$  is a bijection, where  $\varepsilon_L$  is the extension map  $u^{\delta_L}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \rightarrow (L \cap V_{L^\flat}) \otimes_{O_F} F/O_F$  induced by the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow L \cap V_{L^\flat} \rightarrow L \rightarrow u^{\delta_L}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \rightarrow 0.$$

Moreover,  $L$  is integral if and only if the following hold:

- $L \cap V_{L^\flat}$  is integral;
- the image of  $\varepsilon$  is contained in  $(L \cap V_{L^\flat})^\vee / (L \cap V_{L^\flat})$ ;
- $\varepsilon_L(x) + x \subseteq \mathbf{V}^{\text{int}}$  for every  $x \in u^{\delta_L}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ .<sup>12</sup>

- (2) For  $L \in \mathfrak{L}$  that is integral and corresponds to  $(L'^\flat, \delta, \varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{E}$ , we have

$$t(L) = \begin{cases} t(L'^\flat) + 1, & \text{if the image of } \varepsilon \text{ is contained in } (u(L'^\flat)^\vee + L'^\flat) / L'^\flat, \\ t(L'^\flat) - 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

<sup>12</sup>For  $(L'^\flat, \delta, \varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{E}$ , we regard  $\varepsilon(x) + x$  as an  $L'^\flat$ -coset in  $\mathbf{V}$  as long as we write  $\varepsilon(x) + x \subseteq \Omega$  for a subset  $\Omega$  of  $\mathbf{V}$ .

(3) For every fixed integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L^{b'}$  of  $V_{L^b}$  containing  $L^b$ , the sum

$$\sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^b} = L^{b'} \\ z \in L^\vee}} q^{-\delta_L} |\mu(t(L))|$$

is convergent, and if  $t(L^{b'}) > 1$ , then we have

$$\sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^b} = L^{b'} \\ z \in L^\vee \\ \delta_L = 0}} q^{-\delta_L} \mu(t(L)) = 0$$

for every  $z \in V \setminus V^{\text{int}}$ .

(4) For every fixed integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L^{b'}$  of  $V_{L^b}$  containing  $L^b$  with  $t(L^{b'}) > 1$ , we have

$$\sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^b} = L^{b'} \\ \delta_L = 0}} \mu(t(L)) = 0.$$

*Proof.* For (1), the inverse map  $\mathfrak{E} \rightarrow \mathfrak{L}$  is the one that sends  $(L^{b'}, \delta, \varepsilon)$  to the  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  generated by  $L^{b'}$  and  $\varepsilon_L(x) + x$  for every  $x \in u^{\delta_L}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ . The rest of (1) is straightforward.

Part (2) is simply Lemma 2.23(2).

Part (4) follows by applying (3) to generators  $z$  of  $O_E$ -modules  $u^{-1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$  and  $u^{-2}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$  and then taking the difference.

Now we prove (3), which is the most difficult one. For every  $x \in V$ , we denote by  $x' \in V_{L^b}$  the first component of  $x$  with respect to the orthogonal decomposition  $V = V_{L^b} \oplus V_{L^b}^\perp$ . Put

$$\Omega := \{x \in V^{\text{int}} \mid x' \in (L^{b'})^\vee\}, \quad \Omega^\circ := \{x \in V^{\text{int}} \mid x' \in u(L^{b'})^\vee + L^{b'}\}.$$

Note that both  $\Omega$  and  $\Omega^\circ$  are open compact subsets of  $V$  stable under the translation by  $L^{b'}$ . For an element  $L \in \mathfrak{L}$  corresponding to  $(L^{b'}, \delta, \varepsilon) \in \mathfrak{E}$  from (1),  $L$  is integral if and only  $\varepsilon(x) + x \subseteq \Omega$  for every  $x \in u^\delta(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ . By (2), for such  $L$ ,

$$t(L) = \begin{cases} t(L^{b'}) + 1, & \text{if } \varepsilon(x) + x \subseteq \Omega^\circ \text{ for every } x \in u^\delta(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus u^{\delta+1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}, \\ t(L^{b'}) - 1, & \text{if } \varepsilon(x) + x \subseteq \Omega \setminus \Omega^\circ \text{ for every } x \in u^\delta(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus u^{\delta+1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}. \end{cases}$$

Thus, we may replace the term corresponding to  $L$  in the summation in (3) by an integration over the region  $\bigcup_{x \in u^\delta(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus u^{\delta+1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}} (\varepsilon(x) + x)$  of  $\Omega$ . It follows that

$$\sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^b} = L^{b'}}} q^{-\delta_L} |\mu(t(L))| = \frac{1}{C} \left( \int_{\Omega^\circ \setminus V_{L^b}} |\mu(t(L^{b'}) + 1)| \, dx + \int_{\Omega \setminus (\Omega^\circ \cup V_{L^b})} |\mu(t(L^{b'}) - 1)| \, dx \right),$$

which is convergent, where

$$C = \text{vol}(L^{b'}) \cdot \text{vol}((V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus u(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}).$$

Now we take an element  $z \in V \setminus V^{\text{int}}$ . We may assume  $z' \in (L^{b'})^\vee$  since otherwise the summation in (3) is empty. Put

$$\Omega_z := \{x \in \Omega \mid (x, z)_V \in u^{-1}O_E\}, \quad \Omega_z^\circ := \{x \in \Omega^\circ \mid (x, z)_V \in u^{-1}O_E\},$$

both stable under the translation by  $L^{\flat}$  since  $z' \in (L^{\flat})^{\vee}$ . Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^{\vee} \\ L \cap V_{L^{\flat}} = L^{\flat} \\ z \in L^{\vee}}} q^{-\delta_L} \mu(t(L)) &= \frac{1}{C} \left( \int_{\Omega_z^{\circ} \setminus V_{L^{\flat}}} \mu(t(L^{\flat}) + 1) \, dx + \int_{\Omega_z \setminus (\Omega_z^{\circ} \cup V_{L^{\flat}})} \mu(t(L^{\flat}) - 1) \, dx \right) \\ &= \frac{\mu(t(L^{\flat}) - 1)}{C} \left( \text{vol}(\Omega_z \setminus \Omega_z^{\circ}) + (1 - q^{t(L^{\flat})-1}) \text{vol}(\Omega_z^{\circ}) \right) \\ &= \frac{\mu(t(L^{\flat}) - 1)}{C} \left( \text{vol}(\Omega_z) - q^{t(L^{\flat})-1} \text{vol}(\Omega_z^{\circ}) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where we have used  $t(L^{\flat}) > 1$  in the second equality. Thus, it remains to show that

$$\text{vol}(\Omega_z) = q^{t(L^{\flat})-1} \text{vol}(\Omega_z^{\circ}). \quad (2.5)$$

We fix an orthogonal decomposition  $L^{\flat} = L_0 \oplus L_1$  in which  $L_0$  is self-dual and  $L_1$  is of both rank and type  $t(L^{\flat})$ . Since both  $\Omega_z$  and  $\Omega_z^{\circ}$  depend only on the coset  $z + L^{\flat}$ , we may assume  $z' \in L_1^{\vee}$  and anisotropic. Let  $V_2 \subseteq V$  be the orthogonal complement of  $L_0 + \langle z \rangle$ . We claim

(\*) There exists an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L_2$  of  $V_2$  of type  $t(L^{\flat})$  such that

$$(u^i L_2^{\vee})^{\text{int}} = \{x \in V_2^{\text{int}} \mid x' \in u^i L_1^{\vee}\} \quad (2.6)$$

for  $i = 0, 1$ .

Assuming (\*), by construction, we have

$$\{x \in V \mid (x, z)_V \in u^{-1}O_E\} = L_0 \otimes_{O_E} F \oplus \langle z \rangle^{\vee} \oplus V_2.$$

Now we use the condition  $z \notin V^{\text{int}}$ , which implies that  $\langle z \rangle^{\vee} \subseteq u\langle z \rangle \cap V^{\text{int}}$ . Combining with (2.6), we obtain

$$\Omega_z = L_0 \times \langle z \rangle^{\vee} \times (L_2^{\vee})^{\text{int}}, \quad \Omega_z^{\circ} = L_0 \times \langle z \rangle^{\vee} \times (uL_2^{\vee})^{\text{int}}.$$

Thus, (2.5) follows from Lemma 2.25. Part (3) is proved.

Now we show (\*). There are two cases.

First, we assume  $z \neq z'$ ; that is,  $z \notin V_{L^{\flat}}$ . Let  $L_2$  be the unique  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V_2$  satisfying

$$L_2^{\vee} = \{x \in V_2 \mid x' \in L_1^{\vee}\}. \quad (2.7)$$

Then (2.6) clearly holds. Thus, it remains to show that  $L_2$  is integral of type  $t(L^{\flat})$ . Put  $w := z - z' \in V_{L^{\flat}}^{\perp}$ , which is nonzero and hence anisotropic. Then

$$\bar{z} := z' - \frac{(z', z')_V}{(w, w)_V} w$$

is the unique element in  $V_2$  such that  $\bar{z}' = z'$ . To compute  $L_2$ , we write

$$L_1^{\vee} = M + \langle y + \alpha z' \rangle$$

for some  $y \in V_{L^{\flat}} \cap V_2$  and  $\alpha \in E \setminus uO_E$ , where  $M := L_1^{\vee} \cap V_2$ . Then

$$M^{\dagger} := L_1 \cap V_2 = \{x \in M^{\vee} \mid (x, y)_V \in u^{-1}O_E\}.$$

Since  $M^\vee/M^\dagger$  is isomorphic to an  $O_E$ -submodule of  $E/u^{-1}O_E$ , we may take an element  $y^\dagger \in M^\vee$  that generates  $M^\vee/M^\dagger$ . Then we have

$$L_1 = M^\dagger + \langle y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z' \rangle$$

for some  $\alpha^\dagger \in E^\times$  such that  $(y^\dagger, y)_V + \alpha^\dagger \alpha^c(z', z')_V \in u^{-1}O_E$ . Now by (2.7), we have

$$L_2^\vee = M + \langle y + \alpha \bar{z} \rangle.$$

By the same argument, we have

$$L_2 = M^\dagger + \langle y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z} \rangle,$$

where

$$\rho := \frac{(z', z')_V}{(\bar{z}, \bar{z})_V}.$$

By Lemma 2.23(2), we have  $t(L_2) = t(L_1) = t(L^{\flat\flat})$  as long as  $L_2$  is integral. Thus, it suffices to show that  $y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z} \in V^{\text{int}}$ . We compute

$$\begin{aligned} & (y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z}, y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z})_V - (y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z', y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z')_V \\ &= (\alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z}, \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z})_V - (\alpha^\dagger z', \alpha^\dagger z')_V \\ &= \text{Nm}_{E/F}(\alpha^\dagger) \left( \frac{(z', z')_V^2}{(\bar{z}, \bar{z})_V} - (z', z')_V \right) \\ &= \text{Nm}_{E/F}(\alpha^\dagger) (z', z')_V \left( \frac{(z', z')_V}{(z', z')_V + \frac{(z', z')_V^2}{(w, w)_V}} - 1 \right) \\ &= \text{Nm}_{E/F}(\alpha^\dagger) (z', z')_V \left( \frac{(w, w)_V}{(z', z')_V + (w, w)_V} - 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{-(\alpha^\dagger)^c}{\alpha^\dagger} \frac{(\alpha^\dagger z', z')_V^2}{(z, z)_V}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $z' \in L_1^\vee$ , we have  $(\alpha^\dagger z', z')_V \in u^{-1}O_E$ . As  $z \notin V^{\text{int}}$ , we have  $(z, z)_V \notin u^{-1}O_E$ . Together, we have  $\frac{(\alpha^\dagger z', z')_V^2}{(z, z)_V} \in O_F$ . Thus,  $y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger \rho \bar{z} \in V^{\text{int}}$  as  $y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z' \in V^{\text{int}}$ ; hence,  $L_2$  meets the requirement in (\*).

Second, we assume  $z = z'$ ; that is,  $z \in V_{L^{\flat\flat}}$ . Take  $L_2 = (L_1^\vee \cap V_2)^\vee \oplus u^\delta (V_{L^{\flat\flat}}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$  for some integer  $\delta \geq 0$  determined later. We show that  $(L_1^\vee \cap V_2)^\vee$  is an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module of type  $t(L^{\flat\flat}) - 1$ . As in the previous case, we write

$$L_1^\vee = M + \langle y + \alpha z' \rangle$$

for some  $y \in V_{L^{\flat\flat}} \cap V_2$  and  $\alpha \in E \setminus uO_E$ , where  $M := L_1^\vee \cap V_2$ . Then

$$L_1 = M^\dagger + \langle y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z' \rangle,$$

so that  $M^\vee$  is generated by  $M^\dagger$  and  $y^\dagger$ . As  $L_1$  is of type  $t(L^{\flat\flat})$ , which is its rank, we have  $L_1 \subseteq uL_1^\vee$ ; that is,

$$M^\dagger + \langle y^\dagger + \alpha^\dagger z' \rangle \subseteq uM + u\langle y + \alpha z' \rangle;$$

hence,  $M^\dagger \subseteq uM$ . As  $z' \in L_1^\vee$ , we have  $(\alpha z', z')_V \in u^{-1}O_E$ . As  $z' = z \notin V^{\text{int}}$ , we have  $(z', z')_V \notin u^{-1}O_E$ ; hence,  $\alpha^\dagger \in uO_E$ . Again, as  $z' \in L_1^\vee$ , we have  $\alpha^\dagger z' \in uL_1^\vee$ ; hence,  $y^\dagger \in uL_1^\vee \cap V_2 = uM$ . Together, we obtain  $M^\vee \subseteq uM$ ; that is,  $(L_1^\vee \cap V_2)^\vee$  is an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module of type  $t(L^b) - 1$ .

Consequently,  $L_2$  is an integral  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V_2$  of type  $t(L^b)$ . Since  $L_2^\vee = (L_1^\vee \cap V_2) \oplus u^{-\delta-1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ , it is clear that for  $\delta$  sufficiently large, (2.6) holds for  $i = 0, 1$ . Thus,  $(*)$  is proved.

The lemma is all proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.25.** *Let  $L$  be an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module of rank  $2m + 1$  for some integer  $m \geq 0$  with  $t(L) = 2m + 1$ . Then we have*

$$|(L^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L| = q^{2m} \cdot |(uL^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L|. \quad (2.8)$$

Note that both  $(L^\vee)^{\text{int}}$  and  $(uL^\vee)^{\text{int}}$  are stable under the translation by  $L$  as  $t(L) = 2m + 1$ .

*Proof.* Put  $V := L \otimes_{O_F} F$ . We prove by induction on  $\text{val}(L)$  for integral  $O_E$ -lattices  $L$  of  $V$  with  $t(L) = 2m + 1$  that (2.8) holds.

The initial case is such that  $\text{val}(L) = 2m + 1$ ; that is,  $L^\vee = u^{-1}L$ . The pairing  $u^2(\cdot, \cdot)_V$  induces a nondegenerate quadratic form on  $L^\vee/L$ . It is clear that  $(L^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L$  is exactly the set of isotropic vectors in  $L^\vee/L$  under the previous form. In particular, we have

$$|(L^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L| = q^{2m} = q^{2m} \cdot |(uL^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L|.$$

Now we consider  $L$  with  $\text{val}(L) > 2m + 1$  and suppose that (2.8) holds for such  $L'$  with  $\text{val}(L') < \text{val}(L)$ . Choose an orthogonal decomposition  $L = L_0 \oplus L_1$  in which  $L_0$  is an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module with fundamental invariants  $(1, \dots, 1)$  and such that all fundamental invariants of  $L_1$  are at least 2. In particular,  $L_1$  has positive rank. It is easy to see that we may choose a hermitian  $O_E$ -module  $L'_1$  contained in  $u^{-1}L_1$  satisfying  $L_1 \subseteq L'_1$  and  $t(L'_1) = t(L_1)$ . Put  $L' := L_0 \oplus L'_1$ . By the induction hypothesis, we have

$$|(L'^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L'| = q^{2m} \cdot |(uL'^\vee)^{\text{int}}/L'|.$$

It remains to show that

$$|(L^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (L'^\vee)^{\text{int}})/L| = q^{2m} \cdot |((uL^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (uL'^\vee)^{\text{int}})/L|. \quad (2.9)$$

We claim that the map

$$((L^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (L'^\vee)^{\text{int}})/L \rightarrow ((uL^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (uL'^\vee)^{\text{int}})/L$$

given by the multiplication by  $u$  is  $q^{2m}$ -to- 1.

Take an element  $x \in (uL^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (uL'^\vee)^{\text{int}}$ . Its preimage is bijective to the set of elements  $(y_0, y_1) \in L_0/uL_0 \oplus L_1/uL_1$  such that  $u^{-1}(x + (y_0, y_1)) \in V^{\text{int}}$ , which amounts to the equation

$$(x, x)_V + \text{Tr}_{E/F}(x, y_0)_V + \text{Tr}_{E/F}(x, y_1)_V + (y_0, y_0)_V \in u^2O_F.$$

Since  $x \in (uL_0^\vee) \times ((uL_1^\vee)^{\text{int}} \setminus (u^2L_1^\vee)^{\text{int}})$ , there exists  $y_1 \in L_1$  such that  $(x, y_1)_V \in O_E^\times$ . In other words, for each  $y_0$ , the above relation defines a nontrivial linear equation on  $L_1/uL_1$ . Thus, the preimage of  $x$  has cardinality  $q^{2m}$ . We obtain (2.9) and hence complete the induction process.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.22.* We fix an element  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$ . If  $L^b$  is not integral, then  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b}^V \equiv 0$ ; hence, the proposition is trivial. Thus, we now assume  $L^b$  integral and will freely adopt notation from Lemma 2.24.

To show that  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b}^V$  extends to a compactly supported locally constant function on  $V$ , it suffices to show that for every  $y \in V_{L^b}/L^b$ , there exists an integer  $\delta(y) > 0$  such that  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b}^V(y+x)$  is constant for

$x \in u^{\delta(y)}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus \{0\}$ . If  $L^\flat + \langle y \rangle$  is not integral, then there exists  $\delta(y) > 0$  such that  $L^\flat + \langle y + x \rangle$  is not integral for  $x \in u^{\delta(y)}(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}} \setminus \{0\}$ , which implies  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(y + x) = 0$ .

Now we fix an element  $y \in V_{L^\flat}/L^\flat$  such that  $L^\flat + \langle y \rangle$  is integral. We claim that we may take  $\delta(y) = a_{n-1}$ , which is the maximal element in the fundamental invariants of  $L^\flat$ . It amounts to showing that for every fixed pair  $(f_1, f_2)$  of generators of the  $O_E$ -module  $(V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ , we have

$$\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(y + u^\delta f_1) - \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(y + u^{\delta-1} f_2) = 0 \quad (2.10)$$

for  $\delta > a_{n-1}$ . For every  $\delta' \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we define two sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{L}_1^{\delta'} &:= \{L \in \mathfrak{L} \mid L \subseteq L^\vee, \delta_L = \delta', y + u^\delta f_1 \in L\}, \\ \mathfrak{L}_2^{\delta'} &:= \{L \in \mathfrak{L} \mid L \subseteq L^\vee, \delta_L = \delta', y + u^{\delta-1} f_2 \in L\}. \end{aligned}$$

By Remark 2.21(4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(y + u^\delta f_1) &= 2 \sum_{\delta' \leq \delta} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ t(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) > 1}} \mu(t(L)) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L^\flat \subseteq (L^\flat)^\vee \\ t(L^\flat) > 1}} \sum_{\delta' \leq \delta} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)); \\ \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^v(y + u^{\delta-1} f_2) &= 2 \sum_{\delta' \leq \delta-1} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ t(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) > 1}} \mu(t(L)) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L^\flat \subseteq (L^\flat)^\vee \\ t(L^\flat) > 1}} \sum_{\delta' \leq \delta-1} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)). \end{aligned}$$

Now we claim that

$$\sum_{\delta' \leq \delta} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)) - \sum_{\delta' \leq \delta-1} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)) = 0 \quad (2.11)$$

for every  $L^\flat$  in the summation. Since  $\delta > a_{n-1}$ , it follows that for  $\delta' < 0$ , we have

$$\mathfrak{L}_1^{\delta'} = \mathfrak{L}_2^{\delta'} = \{L \in \mathfrak{L} \mid L \subseteq L^\vee, \delta_L = \delta', y \in L\}.$$

Thus, the left-hand side of (2.11) equals

$$\sum_{\delta'=0}^{\delta} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)) - \sum_{\delta'=0}^{\delta-1} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)). \quad (2.12)$$

However, we also have  $\mathfrak{L}_1^0 = \{L \in \mathfrak{L} \mid L \subseteq L^\vee, \delta_L = \delta', y \in L\}$ , which implies

$$\sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}_1^0 \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)) = \mathbb{1}_{L^\flat}(y) \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat \\ \delta_L = 0}} \mu(t(L)),$$

which vanishes by Lemma 2.24(4). Thus, we obtain

$$(2.12) = \sum_{\delta'=1}^{\delta} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)) - \sum_{\delta'=0}^{\delta-1} \sum_{\substack{L \in \mathfrak{L}_2^{\delta'} \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat}} \mu(t(L)). \quad (2.13)$$

Finally, the automorphism of  $\mathfrak{E}$  sending  $(L^{\flat}, \delta', \varepsilon)$  to  $(L^{\flat}, \delta' - 1, \varepsilon \circ (u\alpha \cdot))$ , where  $\alpha \in O_E^\times$  is the element satisfying  $f_1 = \alpha f_2$ , induces a bijection from  $\mathfrak{L}_1^{\delta'}$  to  $\mathfrak{L}_2^{\delta'-1}$  preserving both  $L \cap V_{L^{\flat}}$  and  $t(L)$ . Thus, (2.13) vanishes; hence, (2.11) and (2.10) hold.

Now we show that the support of  $\widehat{\partial \text{Den}_{L^{\flat}}^V}(z)$  is contained in  $V^{\text{int}}$ . Take an element  $z \in V \setminus V^{\text{int}}$ . Using Remark 2.21(4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\partial \text{Den}_{L^{\flat}}^V}(z) &= \int_V \widehat{\partial \text{Den}_{L^{\flat}}^V}(x) \psi(\text{Tr}_{E/F}(x, z)_V) dz \\ &= 2 \sum_{\substack{L^{\flat} \subseteq L \subseteq L^{\vee} \\ t(L \cap V_{L^{\flat}}) > 1}} \mu(t(L)) \text{vol}(L) \mathbb{1}_{L^{\vee}}(z) \\ &= 2 \sum_{\substack{L^{\flat} \subseteq L^{\flat} \subseteq (L^{\flat})^{\vee} \\ t(L^{\flat}) > 1}} \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^{\vee} \\ L \cap V_{L^{\flat}} = L^{\flat} \\ z \in L^{\vee}}} \mu(t(L)) \text{vol}(L) \\ &= 2 \sum_{\substack{L^{\flat} \subseteq L^{\flat} \subseteq (L^{\flat})^{\vee} \\ t(L^{\flat}) > 1}} \text{vol}(L^{\flat}) \text{vol}((V_{L^{\flat}}^{\perp})^{\text{int}}) \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^{\vee} \\ L \cap V_{L^{\flat}} = L^{\flat} \\ z \in L^{\vee}}} q^{-\delta_L} \mu(t(L)), \end{aligned}$$

which is valid and vanishes by Lemma 2.24(3).

Proposition 2.22 is proved.  $\square$

### 2.3. Bruhat–Tits stratification

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. We first generalise Definition 2.5 to a more general context. For every subset  $X$  of  $V$  such that  $\langle X \rangle$  is finitely generated, we put

$$\mathcal{N}(X) := \bigcap_{x \in X} \mathcal{N}(x),$$

which is always a finite intersection and depends only on  $\langle X \rangle$ . Clearly, we have  $\mathcal{N}(X') \subseteq \mathcal{N}(X)$  if  $\langle X \rangle \subseteq \langle X' \rangle$ . When  $X = \{x, \dots\}$  is explicitly presented, we simply write  $\mathcal{N}(x, \dots)$  instead of  $\mathcal{N}(\{x, \dots\})$ .

**Remark 2.26.** When  $\langle X \rangle$  is an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$ , the formal subscheme  $\mathcal{N}(X)$  is a proper closed subscheme of  $\mathcal{N}$ . This can be proved by the same argument for [LZa, Lemma 2.10.1].

**Definition 2.27.** Let  $\Lambda$  be a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$  (Definition 2.10).

(1) We equip the  $k$ -vector space  $\Lambda^{\vee}/\Lambda$  with a  $k$ -valued pairing  $(\cdot, \cdot)_{\Lambda^{\vee}/\Lambda}$  by the formula

$$(x, y)_{\Lambda^{\vee}/\Lambda} := u^2 \text{Tr}_{E/F}(x^{\sharp}, y^{\sharp})_V \bmod (u^2)$$

where  $x^{\sharp}$  and  $y^{\sharp}$  are arbitrary lifts of  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively. Then  $\Lambda^{\vee}/\Lambda$  becomes a nonsplit (nondegenerate) quadratic space over  $k$  of (even positive) dimension  $t(\Lambda)$ .

(2) Let  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}$  be the reduced subscheme of  $\mathcal{N}(\Lambda)$  and put

$$\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^{\circ} := \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda} - \bigcup_{\Lambda \subsetneq \Lambda'} \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}.$$

**Proposition 2.28** (Bruhat–Tits stratification, [Wu]). *The reduced subscheme  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{red}}$  is a disjoint union of  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^{\circ}$  for all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices  $\Lambda$  of  $V$  in the sense of stratification, such that  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda} \cap \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}$  coincides with  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda+\Lambda'}$  (respectively is empty) if  $\Lambda + \Lambda'$  is (respectively is not) a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice.*

Moreover, for every vertex  $O_E$ -lattice  $\Lambda$ ,

- (1)  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  is canonically isomorphic to the generalised Deligne–Lusztig variety of  $O(\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda)$  over  $\bar{k}$  classifying maximal isotropic subspaces  $U$  of  $(\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda) \otimes_k \bar{k}$  satisfying

$$\dim(U \cap \delta(U)) = \frac{t(\Lambda)}{2} - 1,$$

where  $\delta \in \text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$  denotes the Frobenius element;

- (2) the intersection of  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  with each connected component of  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{red}}$  is connected, nonempty and smooth projective over  $\bar{k}$  of dimension  $\frac{t(\Lambda)}{2} - 1$ .

*Proof.* This follows from [Wu, Proposition 5.13 & Theorem 5.18]. Note that we use lattices in  $V$ , which is different from the hermitian space  $C$  used in [Wu], to parametrise strata. By the obvious analogue of [KR11, Lemma 3.9], we may naturally identify  $V$  with  $C$ , after which the stratum  $\mathcal{S}_\Lambda$  in [Wu] coincides with our stratum  $\mathcal{V}_{u\Lambda^\vee}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.29.** In the above proposition, when  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  is isomorphic to two copies of  $\mathbb{P}_{\bar{k}}^1$ , though we do not need this explicit description in the following.

**Corollary 2.30.** For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , we have

$$\mathcal{N}(x)_{\text{red}} = \bigcup_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ$$

where the union is taken over all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V$  containing  $x$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{N}(x)_{\text{red}}$  is a reduced closed subscheme of  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{red}}$ , it suffices to check that

$$\mathcal{N}(x)(\bar{k}) = \bigcup_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ(\bar{k}).$$

By Definition 2.27(2), we have

$$\mathcal{N}(x)(\bar{k}) \supseteq \bigcup_{x \in \Lambda} \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ(\bar{k}).$$

For the other direction, by Proposition 2.28, we have to show that if  $\Lambda$  does not contain  $x$ , then  $\mathcal{N}(x)(\bar{k}) \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ(\bar{k}) = \emptyset$ . Suppose that we have  $s \in \mathcal{N}(x)(\bar{k}) \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ(\bar{k})$ ; then  $s$  should belong to  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}(\bar{k})$  where  $\Lambda'$  is the  $O_E$ -lattice generated by  $\Lambda$  and  $x$ . In particular,  $\Lambda'$  is vertex and strictly contains  $\Lambda$ . But this contradicts with the definition of  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\circ$ . The corollary follows.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.31.** Suppose that  $r \geq 2$ . For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , the intersection of  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  with each connected component of  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{red}}$  is strictly a closed subscheme of the latter.

*Proof.* By Corollary 2.30 and Proposition 2.28(2), it suffices to show that the intersection of all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V$  is  $\{0\}$ .

Take a nonsplit hermitian subspace  $V_2$  of  $V$  of dimension 2 and an  $O_E$ -lattice  $L_2$  of  $V_2$  of fundamental invariants  $(1, 1)$ . Then the orthogonal complement  $V_2^\perp$  of  $V_2$  in  $V$  admits a self-dual  $O_E$ -lattice  $L_1$ . Choose a normal basis (Definition 2.11)  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2r-2}\}$  of  $L_1$  under which the moment matrix is given by  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & u^{-1} \\ -u^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{\oplus r-1}$ . For every tuple  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_{2r-2}) \in \mathbb{Z}^{2r-2}$  satisfying  $a_{2i-1} + a_{2i} = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r-1$ , the  $O_E$ -lattice

$$\Lambda_a := L_2 \oplus \langle u^{a_1} e_1, \dots, u^{a_{2r-2}} e_{2r-2} \rangle$$

is integral with fundamental invariants  $(0, \dots, 0, 1, 1)$  and, hence, vertex. It is clear that the intersection of all such  $\Lambda_a$  is  $L_2$ . Since  $r \geq 2$ , the intersection of all 2-dimensional nonsplit hermitian subspaces of  $V$  is  $\{0\}$ . Thus, the intersection of all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V$  is  $\{0\}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.32.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$ . For each connected component  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  of  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  and integer  $d \geq 0$ , the group of  $d$ -cycles of  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$ , up to  $\ell$ -adic homological equivalence for every rational prime  $\ell \neq p$ , is generated by  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'} \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  for all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices  $\Lambda'$  containing  $\Lambda$  with  $t(\Lambda') = 2d + 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $k'$  be the quadratic extension of  $k$  in  $\bar{k}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  has a canonical structure over  $k'$ , so that  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+ := \mathcal{V}_\Lambda \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  (over  $k'$ ) is the classical Deligne–Lusztig variety of  $\mathrm{SO}(\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda)$  of Coxeter type.

Recall that  $\delta$  is the Frobenius element of  $\mathrm{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ . Fix a rational prime  $\ell$  different from  $p$ . For every finite-dimensional  $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell$ -vector space  $V$  with an action by  $\delta^2$ , we denote by  $V^\dagger$  the subspace consisting of elements on which  $\delta^2$  acts by roots of unity. Then for the lemma, it suffices to show that for every  $d \geq 0$ ,  $H_{2d}(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(-d))^\dagger$  is generated by (the cycle class of)  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'} \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  for all vertex  $O_E$ -lattices  $\Lambda'$  containing  $\Lambda$  with  $t(\Lambda') = 2d + 2$ . By the same argument for [LZa, Theorem 5.3.2], it reduces to the following claim:

(\*) The action of  $\delta^2$  on  $V := \bigoplus_{j \geq 0} H^{2j}(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(j))$  is semisimple and  $V^\dagger = H^0(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)$ .

There are three cases.

When  $t(\Lambda) = 2$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  is isomorphic to  $\mathrm{Spec} \bar{k}$ ; hence, (\*) is trivial.

When  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  is an affine curve; hence, (\*) is again trivial.

When  $t(\Lambda) \geq 6$ , by Case  ${}^2D_n$  (with  $n = \frac{t(\Lambda)}{2} \geq 3$ ) in [Lus76, Section 7.3], the action of  $\delta^2$  on  $\bigoplus_{j \geq 0} H_c^j(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)$  has eigenvalues  $\{1, q^2, q^4, \dots, q^{t(\Lambda)-2}\}$  and the eigenvalue  $q^{2j}$  appears in  $H_c^{j+\frac{t(\Lambda)}{2}-1}(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)$ . Moreover by [Lus76, Theorem 6.1], the action of  $\delta^2$  is semisimple. Thus, (\*) follows from the Poincaré duality.

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

## 2.4. Linear invariance of intersection numbers

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , we define a chain complex of locally free  $\mathcal{O}_N$ -modules

$$C(x) := (\cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \mathcal{I}_{N(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_N \rightarrow 0)$$

supported in degrees 1 and 0 with the map  $\mathcal{I}_{N(x)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_N$  being the natural inclusion. We extend the definition to  $x = 0$  by setting

$$C(0) := (\cdots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \omega \xrightarrow{0} \mathcal{O}_N \rightarrow 0) \tag{2.14}$$

supported in degrees 1 and 0, where  $\omega$  is the line bundle from Definition 2.38.

The following is our main result of this subsection.

**Proposition 2.33.** *Let  $0 \leq m \leq n$  be an integer. Suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in V$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_m \in V$  generate the same  $O_E$ -submodule. Then we have an isomorphism*

$$H_i(C(x_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} C(x_m)) \simeq H_i(C(y_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} C(y_m))$$

of  $\mathcal{O}_N$ -modules for every  $i$ .

Proposition 2.33 has the following two immediate corollaries.

**Corollary 2.34.** *Let  $0 \leq m \leq n$  be an integer. Suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_m \in V$  and  $y_1, \dots, y_m \in V$  generate the same  $O_E$ -submodule. Then we have*

$$[C(x_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} C(x_m)] = [C(y_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} C(y_m)]$$

in  $K_0(\mathcal{N})$ , where  $K_0(\mathcal{N})$  denotes the K-group of  $\mathcal{N}$  [LL21, Section B].

**Corollary 2.35.** Suppose that  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in V$  generate an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$ . The Serre intersection multiplicity

$$\chi \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_1)} \stackrel{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \stackrel{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_n)} \right) := \sum_{i,j \geq 0} (-1)^{i+j} \text{length}_{O_E} H^j \left( \mathcal{N}, H_i \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_1)} \stackrel{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \stackrel{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_n)} \right) \right)$$

depends only on the  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$  generated by  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Note that by construction, the element  $[C(x_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} C(x_m)]$  belongs to the image of the map  $K_0^{\mathcal{N}(x_1, \dots, x_m)}(\mathcal{N}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{N})$ ; hence, the above number is finite by Remark 2.26.

Now we start to prove Proposition 2.33, following [How19]. Let  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  be the universal object over  $\mathcal{N}$ . We have a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Fil}(X) \rightarrow D(X) \rightarrow \text{Lie}(X) \rightarrow 0$$

of locally free  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -modules, where  $D(X)$  denotes the covariant crystal of  $X$  restricted to the Zariski site of  $\mathcal{N}$ . Then  $\iota_X$  induces actions of  $O_E$  on all terms such that the short exact sequence is  $O_E$ -linear.

We define an  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule  $F_X$  of  $\text{Lie}(X)$  as the kernel of  $\iota_X(u) - u$  on  $\text{Lie}(X)$ , which is stable under the  $O_E$ -action.

**Lemma 2.36.** The  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule  $F_X$  is locally free of rank  $n - 1$  and is locally a direct summand of  $\text{Lie}(X)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $s \in \mathcal{N}(\bar{k})$  be a closed point. By the wedge condition and the spin condition in Definition 2.1, we know that the map

$$\iota_X(u) - u: \text{Lie}(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N},s} \rightarrow \text{Lie}(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N},s}$$

has rank 1 on both generic and special fibres. Thus,  $F_X \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N},s}$  is a direct summand of  $\text{Lie}(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N},s}$  of rank  $n - 1$ . The lemma follows.  $\square$

The symmetrisation  $\sigma_X$  of the polarisation  $\lambda_X$  (Remark 2.2) induces a perfect symmetric  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -bilinear pairing

$$(\ , \ ): D(X) \times D(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$$

satisfying  $(\iota_X(\alpha)x, y) = (x, \iota_X(\alpha^c)y)$  for every  $\alpha \in O_E$  and  $x, y \in D(X)$ . As  $\text{Fil}(X)$  is a maximal isotropic  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule of  $D(X)$  with respect to  $(\ , \ )$ , we have an induced perfect  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -bilinear pairing

$$(\ , \ ): \text{Fil}(X) \times \text{Lie}(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}},$$

under which we denote by  $F_X^\perp \subseteq \text{Fil}(X)$  the annihilator of  $F_X$ . Then the  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule  $F_X^\perp$  is locally free of rank 1 and is locally a direct summand of  $\text{Fil}(X)$ .

Following [How19, Section 3], we put

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon &:= u \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes u \in O_E \otimes_{O_F} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}, \\ \epsilon^c &:= -u \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes u \in O_E \otimes_{O_F} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}. \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 2.37.** There are inclusions of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -modules  $F_X^\perp \subseteq \epsilon D(X) \subseteq D(X)$ , which are locally direct summands. The map  $\epsilon: D(X) \rightarrow \epsilon D(X)$  descends to a surjective map

$$\text{Lie}(X) \xrightarrow{\epsilon} \epsilon D(X)/F_X^\perp,$$

whose kernel  $L_X$  is locally a direct summand  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule of  $\text{Lie}(X)$  of rank 1. Moreover, the  $\mathcal{O}_E$ -action stabilises  $L_X$  and  $\mathcal{O}_E$  acts on  $\text{Lie}(X)/L_X$  and  $L_X$  via  $\varphi_0$  and  $\varphi_0^c$ , respectively.

*Proof.* This follows from the same proof for [How19, Proposition 3.3].  $\square$

**Definition 2.38.** We define the *line bundle of modular forms*  $\omega$  to be  $L_X^{-1}$ , where  $L_X$  is the line bundle on  $\mathcal{N}$  from Lemma 2.37.

For every closed formal subscheme  $Z$  of  $\mathcal{N}$ , we denote by  $\widetilde{Z}$  the closed formal subscheme defined by the sheaf  $\mathcal{I}_Z^2$ . Take a nonzero element  $x \in V$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{N}(x)$ , we have a distinguished morphism

$$X_0|_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \xrightarrow{x} X|_{\mathcal{N}(x)}$$

of  $\mathcal{O}_F$ -divisible groups, which induces an  $\mathcal{O}_E$ -linear map

$$D(X_0)|_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \xrightarrow{x} D(X)|_{\mathcal{N}(x)}$$

of vector bundles. By the Grothendieck–Messing theory, the above map admits a canonical extension

$$D(X_0)|_{\widetilde{\mathcal{N}(x)}} \xrightarrow{\tilde{x}} D(X)|_{\widetilde{\mathcal{N}(x)}},$$

which further restricts to a map

$$\text{Fil}(X_0)|_{\widetilde{\mathcal{N}(x)}} \xrightarrow{\tilde{x}} \text{Lie}(X)|_{\widetilde{\mathcal{N}(x)}}. \quad (2.15)$$

From now on, we fix a generator  $\gamma$  of the rank 1 free  $\mathcal{O}_{\check{E}}$ -module  $\text{Fil}(X_0)$ .

**Lemma 2.39.** *The image  $\tilde{x}(\gamma)$  is a section of  $L_X$  over  $\widetilde{\mathcal{N}(x)}$ , whose vanishing locus coincides with  $\mathcal{N}(x)$ , where  $\tilde{x}$  is the map (2.15).*

*Proof.* This follows from the same proof for [How19, Proposition 4.1].  $\square$

The following lemma is parallel to [KR11, Proposition 3.5].

**Lemma 2.40.** *For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , the closed formal subscheme  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  of  $\mathcal{N}$  is either empty or a relative Cartier divisor.*

*Proof.* The case  $r = 1$  has been proved in [RSZ17, Proposition 6.6]. Thus, we now assume  $r \geq 2$ .

We may assume that  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  is nonempty. By the same argument in the proof of [How19, Proposition 4.3],  $\mathcal{N}(x)$  is locally defined by one equation. It remains to show that such an equation is not divisible by  $u$ . Since  $r \geq 2$ , this follows from [KR11, Lemma 3.6], Lemma 2.4 and Corollary 2.31.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.33.* The proof of [How19, Theorem 5.1] can be applied in the same way to Proposition 2.33, using Lemma 2.39 and Lemma 2.40.  $\square$

To end this subsection, we prove some results that will be used later.

**Lemma 2.41.** *The  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule  $L_X$  from Lemma 2.37 coincides with the image of the map  $\iota_X(u) - u: \text{Lie}(X) \rightarrow \text{Lie}(X)$ .*

*Proof.* Denote by  $L'_X$  the image of the map  $\iota_X(u) - u: \text{Lie}(X) \rightarrow \text{Lie}(X)$ . As we have  $L'_X \simeq \text{Lie}(X)/F_X$ ,  $L'_X$  is a locally free  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -submodule of  $\text{Lie}(X)$  of rank 1 by Lemma 2.36. By the spin condition in Definition 2.1, for every closed point  $s \in \mathcal{N}(\bar{k})$ , the induced map  $L'_X \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \bar{k} \rightarrow \text{Lie}(X) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \bar{k}$  over the residue field at  $s$  is injective. Thus, the quotient  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}$ -module  $\text{Lie}(X)/L'_X$  is locally free. It remains to show that  $L'_X \subseteq L_X$ .

By definition, every section of  $L'_X$  can be locally written as the image of  $(\iota_X(u) - u)x$  for some section  $x$  of  $D(X)$ . We need to show that

- (1)  $\epsilon(\iota_X(u) - u)x$  is a section of  $\text{Fil}(X)$ ;
- (2)  $(\epsilon(\iota_X(u) - u)x, y) = 0$  for every section  $y$  of  $F_X$ .

For (1), we have  $\epsilon(\iota_X(u) - u)x = (\iota_X(u) + u)(\iota_X(u) - u)x = (\iota_X(u^2) - u^2)x$ . Since  $\iota_X(u^2) - u^2$  acts by zero on  $\text{Lie}(X)$ , (1) follows.

For (2), we have  $(\epsilon(\iota_X(u) - u)x, y) = ((\iota_X(u) - u)x, (-\iota_X(u) + u)y) = 0$  as  $y$  is a section of  $\ker(\iota_X(u) - u)$ . Thus, (2) follows.

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.42.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$  with  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ . Then  $\omega$  has degree  $q - 1$  on each connected component of (the smooth projective curve)  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  (Definition 2.27).*

*Proof.* Let  $\delta$  be the Frobenius element of  $\text{Gal}(\bar{k}/k)$ .

Let  $s \in \mathcal{N}(\bar{k})$  be a closed point represented by the quadruple  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X; \rho_X)$ . Let  $M$  be the covariant  $O_F$ -Dieudonné module of  $X$  equipped with the  $O_E$ -action  $\iota_X$ , which becomes a free  $O_E$ -module. We have  $\text{Lie}(X) = M/VM$ . By Definition 2.38 and Lemma 2.41, the fibre  $\omega^{-1}|_s$  is canonically identified with  $((u \otimes 1)M + VM)/VM$ . By the identification between  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  and the generalised Deligne–Lusztig variety of  $O(\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda)$  in Proposition 2.28 given in [Wu, Proposition 4.29 & Proposition 5.13], we know that  $\omega^{-1}|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda}$  coincides with  $(\delta(U) + U)/U$  where  $U$  is the tautological subbundle of  $(\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda) \otimes_k \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda}$ .

To compute the degree of  $(\delta(U) + U)/U$ , let  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$  be the two connected components of  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$  be the scheme over  $\bar{k}$  classifying lines in  $\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda$  with the tautological bundle  $L$ . We may identify  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$  as two closed subschemes of  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$  via the assignment  $U \mapsto \delta(U) \cap U$  (see [HP14, Section 3.2] for more details). Then,  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$  are the two irreducible components of the locus where  $L$  and  $\delta(L)$  generate an isotropic subspace and the assignment  $L \mapsto \delta(L)$  switches  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  and  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$ . Let  $\mathcal{I}_\Lambda$  be the locus where  $L$  is isotropic and  $L = \delta(L)$ . Then  $\mathcal{I}_\Lambda$  is a disjoint union of  $q^2 + 1$  copies of  $\text{Spec } \bar{k}$  since there are exactly  $q^2 + 1$  isotropic lines in  $\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda$  and is contained in  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+ \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$ . Note that the map  $\delta(U)/(\delta(U) \cap U) \rightarrow (\delta(U) + U)/U$  is an isomorphism and there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \delta(\delta(U) \cap U) \rightarrow \delta(U)/(\delta(U) \cap U) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{I}_\Lambda} \rightarrow 0$$

of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm}$ -modules. Since  $\delta(U) \cap U$  is the restriction of the tautological bundle  $L$  on  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(\omega^{-1}|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm}) &= \deg((\delta(U) + U)/U|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm}) \\ &= \deg(\delta(\delta(U) \cap U)|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm}) + (q^2 + 1) \\ &= \deg(L^{\otimes q}|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm}) + (q^2 + 1) \\ &= -q \deg(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm) + (q^2 + 1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\deg(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm)$  denotes the degree of the curve  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm$  in the projective space  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$ . Thus, it remains to show that  $\deg(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm) = q + 1$ .

To compute the degree, take a 3-dimensional quadratic subspace  $H$  of  $\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda$ . Let  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda^H$  be the hyperplane of  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda$  that consists of lines contained in  $H$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda^H \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  is the subscheme of lines  $L \subseteq H$  that is isotropic and fixed by  $\delta$ , which is a disjoint union of  $q + 1$  copies of  $\text{Spec } \bar{k}$  since there are exactly  $q + 1$  isotropic lines in  $H$ . As  $\mathcal{L}_\Lambda^H \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  is contained in  $\mathcal{I}_\Lambda$ , it is contained in  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+ \cap \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^-$ . Therefore, we have  $\deg(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm) = q + 1$ .

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

## 2.5. Proof of Theorem 2.7 when $r = 1$

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. In this subsection, we assume  $r = 1$ . Note that since  $\mathbf{V}$  is nonsplit, the fundamental invariants of an integral  $O_E$ -lattice of  $\mathbf{V}$  must consist of two positive odd integers.

**Lemma 2.43.** *Let  $\mathbf{L}$  be an integral  $O_E$ -lattice of  $\mathbf{V}$  with fundamental invariants  $(2b_1 + 1, 2b_2 + 1)$ . Then*

$$\partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L}) = 2 \sum_{j=0}^{b_1} (1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - j)q^j).$$

*Proof.* We denote by  $\mathfrak{L}$  the set of integral  $O_E$ -lattices of  $\mathbf{V}$  containing  $\mathbf{L}$ . We now count  $\mathfrak{L}$ .

Fix an orthogonal basis  $\{e_1, e_2\}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  with  $(e_1, e_1)_{\mathbf{V}} \in O_F^\times$  and  $(e_2, e_2)_{\mathbf{V}} \in O_F^\times$  and such that  $\mathbf{L} = \langle u^{b_1} e_1 \rangle + \langle u^{b_2} e_2 \rangle$ . For every  $L \in \mathfrak{L}$ , we let  $j(L)$  be the unique integer such that  $L \cap \langle e_1 \rangle \otimes_{O_F} F = \langle u^{j(L)} e_1 \rangle$  and let  $k(L)$  be the unique integer such that the image of  $L$  under the natural projection map  $\mathbf{V} \rightarrow \langle e_2 \rangle \otimes_{O_F} F$  is  $\langle u^{k(L)} e_2 \rangle$ . Then by Lemma 2.23(1),  $L$  is uniquely determined by  $j(L), k(L)$  and the extension map  $\varepsilon_L : \langle u^{k(L)} e_2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle u^{j(L)} e_1 \rangle \otimes_{O_F} F / O_F$ . The condition that  $L$  contains  $\mathbf{L}$  is equivalent to that  $j(L) \leq b_1, k(L) \leq b_2$  and that  $\varepsilon_L$  vanishes on  $\langle u^{b_2} e_2 \rangle$ . Since  $\mathbf{L}$  is nonsplit, the condition that  $L$  is integral is equivalent to that  $j(L) \geq 0, k(L) \geq 0$  and that the image of  $\varepsilon_L$  is contained in  $\langle e_1 \rangle / \langle u^{j(L)} e_1 \rangle$ . Thus, the number of  $L \in \mathfrak{L}$  with  $j(L) = j$  for some fixed  $0 \leq j \leq b_1$  equals  $1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - j)q^j$ . Summing over all  $0 \leq j \leq b_1$ , we obtain

$$|\mathfrak{L}| = \sum_{j=0}^{b_1} (1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - j)q^j).$$

The lemma then follows from (2.4) as  $t(\mathbf{L}) = 2$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.44.** *Theorem 2.7 holds when  $r = 1$ . More explicitly, for an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $\mathbf{L}$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  with fundamental invariants  $(2b_1 + 1, 2b_2 + 1)$ , we have*

$$\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L}) = 2 \sum_{j=0}^{b_1} (1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - j)q^j).$$

*Proof.* If  $\mathbf{L}$  is not integral, then  $\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \partial\text{Den}(\mathbf{L}) = 0$ . If  $\mathbf{L}$  is integral with fundamental invariants  $(2b_1 + 1, 2b_2 + 1)$ . We may take an orthogonal basis  $\{x_1, x_2\}$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  such that  $\text{val}(x_1) = 2b_1 + 1$  and  $\text{val}(x_2) = 2b_2 + 1$ .

Put  $\mathbf{D} := \text{End}_{O_F}(X_0) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ , which is a division quaternion algebra over  $F$  with the  $F$ -linear embedding  $i_{X_0} : E \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$ . By the Serre construction, we may naturally identify  $\mathbf{D}$  with  $\mathbf{V}$  and we have an identity

$$\mathcal{N}(x_1) = \sum_{j=0}^{b_1} \mathcal{W}_{\overline{x_1}E, j} \tag{2.16}$$

of divisors, decomposing the special divisor as a sum of quasi-canonical lifting divisors (see [RSZ17, Section 6 & Proposition 7.1]).

We claim that for every  $0 \leq j \leq b_1$ , the identity

$$\text{length}_{O_E} \mathcal{W}_{\overline{x_1}E, j} \cap \mathcal{N}(x_2) = 2(1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - j)q^j) \tag{2.17}$$

holds. In fact, this can be proved in the same way as for [KR11, Proposition 8.4] using Keating's formula [Vol07, Theorem 2.1]. Notice that in [KR11, Proposition 8.4] we replace  $e_s$  by  $2q^j$  since  $E/F$  is ramified and the factor 2 comes from the fact that  $\mathcal{Z}_l$  has two connected components. By (2.16) and

(2.17), we have

$$\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \text{length}_{O_{\check{E}}} \mathcal{N}(x_1) \cap \mathcal{N}(x_2) = \sum_{j=0}^{b_1} 2 (1 + q + \cdots + q^j + (b_2 - l)q^j).$$

The proposition follows by Lemma 2.43.  $\square$

**Definition 2.45.** For  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$ , we put

$$\mathcal{N}(L^b)^\circ := \mathcal{N}(L^b) - \mathcal{N}(u^{-1}L^b)$$

as an effective divisor by (the  $r = 1$  case of) Lemma 2.40.

**Corollary 2.46.** Take an element  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$ . For every  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^b}$ , we have

$$\text{length}_{O_{\check{E}}} \mathcal{N}(L^b)^\circ \cap \mathcal{N}(x) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^b} = L^b}} \mathbb{1}_L(x).$$

*Proof.* By Proposition 2.44, we have

$$\text{length}_{O_{\check{E}}} \mathcal{N}(L^b) \cap \mathcal{N}(x) = \text{Int}(L^b + \langle x \rangle) = \partial \text{Den}(L^b + \langle x \rangle) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L^b \subseteq L \cap V_{L^b}}} \mathbb{1}_L(x),$$

in which the last identity is due to (2.4). Similarly, we have

$$\text{length}_{O_{\check{E}}} \mathcal{N}(u^{-1}L^b) \cap \mathcal{N}(x) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ u^{-1}L^b \subseteq L \cap V_{L^b}}} \mathbb{1}_L(x).$$

Taking the difference, we obtain the corollary.  $\square$

## 2.6. Fourier transform of geometric side

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. We will freely use notation concerning K-groups of formal schemes from [LL21, Section B] and [Zha21, Appendix B], based on the work [GS87].

**Definition 2.47.** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a formal scheme over  $\text{Spf } O_{\check{E}}$ .

- (1) We denote by  $\mathcal{X}^h$  the closed formal subscheme of  $\mathcal{X}$  defined by the ideal sheaf  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{X}}[p^\infty]$ .
- (2) For every closed formal subscheme  $\mathcal{Z}$  of  $\mathcal{X}$ , we denote by  $K_0(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Z})$  the image of the map  $K_0^{\mathcal{Z}}(\mathcal{X}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{X})$  and similarly by  $F^m K_0(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Z})$  the image of the map  $F^m K_0^{\mathcal{Z}}(\mathcal{X}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{X})$  for  $m \geq 0$ .

**Definition 2.48.** Let  $X$  be a subset of  $V$  such that  $\langle X \rangle$  is finitely generated of rank  $m$ .

- (1) We denote by  $K\mathcal{N}(X) \in K_0(\mathcal{N})$  the element  $[C(x_1) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} C(x_m)]$  from Subsection 2.4 for a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  of the  $O_E$ -module generated by  $X$ , which is independent of the choice of the basis by Corollary 2.34.
- (2) We denote by  $K\mathcal{N}(X)^h \in K_0(\mathcal{N})$  the class of  $\mathcal{N}(X)^h$ .
- (3) We put  $K\mathcal{N}(X)^v := K\mathcal{N}(X) - K\mathcal{N}(X)^h \in K_0(\mathcal{N})$ .

**Lemma 2.49.** Let  $L^b$  be an element of  $\mathfrak{b}(V)$  (Definition 2.8). We have

- (1)  $\mathcal{N}(L^b)^h$  is either empty or finite flat over  $\text{Spf } O_{\check{E}}$ ;
- (2) all of  $K\mathcal{N}(L^b)$ ,  $K\mathcal{N}(L^b)^h$  and  $K\mathcal{N}(L^b)^v$  belong to  $F^{n-1} K_0(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{N}(L^b))$ ;

(3) *there exist finitely many vertex  $O_E$ -lattices  $\Lambda_1, \dots, \Lambda_m$  of  $V$  of type  $n$  such that  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v$  belongs to  $\sum_{i=1}^m F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda_i})$ .*

*Proof.* Part (1) follows from Lemma 2.54 and Lemma 2.53.

Take a basis  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}\}$  of the  $O_E$ -module  $L^\flat$ .

For (2), it suffices to show  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat) \in F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{N}(L^\flat))$  by (1). By definition,  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)$  is the cup product of the classes in  $K_0(\mathcal{N})$  of  $\mathcal{N}(x_1), \dots, \mathcal{N}(x_{n-1})$ , each being a divisor by Lemma 2.40. Thus,  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)$  belongs to  $F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{N}(L^\flat))$  by (the analogue for formal schemes of) [GS87, Proposition 5.5].

For (3), by the same argument for [LZa, Lemma 5.1.1], we know that there exists a proper closed subscheme  $Z$  of  $\mathcal{N}$  containing the reduced fibre of  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h$ , such that  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)$  is contained in  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h \cup Z$ . By (1) and (2), there exists a closed reduced 1-dimensional subscheme  $C$  of  $Z$  containing the reduced fibre of  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h$ , such that  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)$  belongs to  $K_0(\mathcal{N}, C \cup \mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h)$ . By [GS87, Lemma 1.9] (and its notation),  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)$  belongs to the image of the natural map  $K'_0(C \cup \mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{X})$  that sends a coherent  $\mathcal{O}_{C \cup \mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h}$ -module  $M$  to any finite projective resolution of  $M$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ . It follows, by the definition of  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v$ , that  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v$  can be represented by a finite complex of coherent sheaves on  $C \cup \mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h$  that are Artinian on  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h$ , which implies that  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v$  belongs to the image of the map  $K'_0(C) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{N})$ . Let  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  be the irreducible components of  $C$ . It is clear that the map  $\bigoplus_{i=1}^m K'_0(C_i) \rightarrow K'_0(C)$  is surjective, which implies that  ${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v$  belongs to  $\sum_{i=1}^m K_0(\mathcal{N}, C_i)$ . Finally, for each  $1 \leq i \leq m$ , we may choose a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice  $\Lambda_i$  of  $V$  of type  $n$  such that  $C_i \subseteq \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda_i}$  by Proposition 2.28. Then (3) follows.  $\square$

**Definition 2.50.** Let  $L^\flat$  be an element of  $\mathbb{b}(V)$  (Definition 2.8). For  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ , we put

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Int}_{L^\flat}(x) &:= {}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat) \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}(x), \\ \text{Int}_{L^\flat}^h(x) &:= {}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^h \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}(x), \\ \text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v(x) &:= {}^K\mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^v \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Here, the intersection numbers are well-defined since  $\mathcal{N}(L^\flat) \cap \mathcal{N}(x)$  is a proper closed subscheme of  $\mathcal{N}$  by Remark 2.26. Note that  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}(x) = \text{Int}(L^\flat + \langle x \rangle)$  (Definition 2.6).

The following is our main result of this subsection.

**Proposition 2.51.** *Let  $L^\flat$  be an element of  $\mathbb{b}(V)$  (Definition 2.8).*

- (1) *We have  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^h(x) = \partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h(x)$  for  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ , where  $\partial \text{Den}_{L^\flat}^h$  is from Definition 2.20.*
- (2) *The function  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v$  extends (uniquely) to a (compactly supported) locally constant function on  $V$ , which we still denote by  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v$ . Moreover, we have*

$$\widehat{\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v} = -\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v.$$

*In particular, the support of  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v}$  is contained in  $V^{\text{int}}$  (Definition 2.10).*

The rest of this subsection is devoted to the proof of this proposition.

**Remark 2.52** (Cancellation law for special cycles). Let  $V'$  be a hermitian subspace of  $V$  that is nonsplit and of positive even dimension  $n'$ . Let  $L$  be an integral hermitian  $O_E$ -module contained in  $V$  such that  $L \cap V'^\perp$  is a self-dual  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V'^\perp$ . We may choose

- o an object  $(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'}) \in \text{Exo}_{(n'-1, 1)}^b(\bar{k})$  (Definition 2.1),
- o an object  $(Y, \iota_Y, \lambda_Y) \in \text{Exo}_{(n-n', 0)}(O_{\check{E}})$  (Remark 2.9),<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup>When  $n' = n$ , we simply ignore  $(Y, \iota_Y, \lambda_Y)$ .

- o a quasi-morphism  $\underline{\varrho}$  from  $(Y, \iota_Y, \lambda_Y) \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{k} \oplus (X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'})$  to  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in the category  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{k})$  satisfying
  - $\underline{\varrho}$  identifies  $\text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0 \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{k}, X') \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  with  $V'$  as hermitian spaces;
  - $\underline{\varrho}$  identifies  $\text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0 \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{k}, Y \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{k})$  with  $L \cap V'^\perp$  as hermitian  $O_E$ -modules.

Let  $\mathcal{N}' := \mathcal{N}(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'})$  be the relative Rapoport–Zink space for the triple  $(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'})$  (Definition 2.3). We have a morphism  $\mathcal{N}' \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  such that for every object  $S$  of  $\text{Sch}_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(S)$  it sends an object  $(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'}; \rho_{X'}) \in \mathcal{N}'(S)$  to the object

$$(Y \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} S \oplus X', \iota_Y \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} S \oplus \iota_{X'}, \lambda_Y \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} S \oplus \lambda_{X'}; \underline{\varrho} \circ (\text{id}_Y \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} S \oplus \rho_{X'})) \in \mathcal{N}(S).$$

We have

- (1) The morphism  $\mathcal{N}' \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  above identifies  $\mathcal{N}'$  with the closed formal subscheme  $\mathcal{N}(L \cap V'^\perp)$  of  $\mathcal{N}$ .
- (2) Suppose that  $L \cap V' \neq \{0\}$ ; then  $\mathcal{N}(L)$  coincides with the image of  $\mathcal{N}'(L \cap V')$  under the morphism  $\mathcal{N}' \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$  above.
- (3) For a nonzero element  $x \in V$  written as  $x = y + x'$  with respect to the orthogonal decomposition  $V = V'^\perp \oplus V'$ , we have

$$\mathcal{N}' \times_{\mathcal{N}} \mathcal{N}(x) = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } y \notin L \cap V'^\perp, \\ \mathcal{N}', & \text{if } y \in L \cap V'^\perp \text{ and } x' = 0, \\ \mathcal{N}'(x'), & \text{if } y \in L \cap V'^\perp \text{ and } x' \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

- (4) If  $L$  is an  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$ , then we have  $\text{Int}(L) = \text{Int}(L \cap V')$ .

These follow from the similar argument for the cancellation law in [LZa, Section 2.11]. Indeed, we may choose compatible framing objects for  $\mathcal{N}'$  and  $\mathcal{N}$  as in [RSZ17, Page 2207]. Note that the hermitian form on  $V$  in [RSZ17] is the scaled form  $u^2(\cdot, \cdot)_V$  and thus  $u$ -modular lattices in [RSZ17] correspond to our self-dual lattices.

**Lemma 2.53.** *Let  $L^{\flat\flat} \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  be an element that is integral and satisfies  $t(L^{\flat\flat}) = 1$ .*

- (1) *The formal subscheme  $\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})$  is finite flat over  $\text{Spf } O_{\check{E}}$ .*
- (2) *If we put  $\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ := \mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat}) - \mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})$  as an element in  $F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N})$ , then for every  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^{\flat\flat}}$ ,*

$$\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ \cdot \mathcal{K}\mathcal{N}(x) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^{\flat\flat}} = L^{\flat\flat}}} \mathbb{1}_L(x).$$

Here,  $L^{\flat\flat}$  is the unique element in  $\mathfrak{b}(V)$  satisfying  $L^{\flat\flat} \subseteq L^{\flat\flat} \subseteq (L^{\flat\flat})^\vee$  with  $|L^{\flat\flat}/L^{\flat\flat}| = q$  (so that  $L^{\flat\flat}$  is either not integral or is integral with  $t(L^{\flat\flat}) = 1$ ).

*Proof.* Since  $t(L^{\flat\flat}) = 1$ , we may choose a 2-dimensional (nonsplit) hermitian subspace  $V'$  of  $V$  such that  $L^{\flat\flat} \cap V'^\perp$  is a self-dual  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V'^\perp$ . We adopt the construction in Remark 2.52.

For (1), we have  $\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat}) = \mathcal{N}'(L^{\flat\flat} \cap V')$ , which is finite flat over  $\text{Spf } O_{\check{E}}$  by (the  $r = 1$  case of) Lemma 2.40.

For (2), we write  $x = y + x'$  with respect to the orthogonal decomposition  $V = V'^\perp \oplus V'$ . Since  $x \notin V_{L^{\flat\flat}}$ , we have  $x' \neq 0$ . By Remark 2.52(2),  $\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ$  coincides with (the class of)  $\mathcal{N}'(L^{\flat\flat} \cap V')^\circ$  in  $F^1K_0(\mathcal{N}')$  under the map  $F^1K_0(\mathcal{N}') \rightarrow F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N})$ . There are two cases.

If  $y \notin L^{\flat\flat} \cap V'^\perp$ , then  $\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ \cdot \mathcal{K}\mathcal{N}(x) = 0$  by Remark 2.52(3) and there is no integral  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V$  containing  $L^{\flat\flat} + \langle x \rangle$ . Thus, (2) follows.

If  $y \in L^{\flat\flat} \cap V'^\perp$ , then by Remark 2.52(3), we have

$$\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ \cdot \mathcal{K}\mathcal{N}(x) = \mathcal{N}'(L^{\flat\flat} \cap V')^\circ \cdot \mathcal{K}\mathcal{N}'(x') = \text{length}_{O_{\check{E}}} \mathcal{N}'(L^{\flat\flat} \cap V')^\circ \cap \mathcal{N}'(x').$$

By Corollary 2.46, we have

$$\text{length}_{O_E} \mathcal{N}(L^{\flat} \cap V')^\circ \cap \mathcal{N}(x') = 2 \sum_{\substack{L' \subseteq L^{\vee} (\subseteq V') \\ L' \cap (V_{L^{\flat}} \cap V') = L^{\flat} \cap V'}} \mathbb{1}_{L'}(x') = 2 \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^{\vee} \\ L \cap V_{L^{\flat}} = L^{\flat}}} \mathbb{1}_L(x).$$

Thus, (2) follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.54.** *Let  $L^{\flat}$  be an element of  $\mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$  (Definition 2.8). We have*

$$\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat})^h = \bigcup_{\substack{L^{\flat} \subseteq L' \subseteq (L^{\flat})^{\vee} \\ t(L') = 1}} \mathcal{N}(L')^\circ$$

as closed formal subschemes of  $\mathcal{N}$  and the identity

$${}^K\mathcal{N}(L^{\flat})^h = \sum_{\substack{L^{\flat} \subseteq L' \subseteq (L^{\flat})^{\vee} \\ t(L') = 1}} \mathcal{N}(L')^\circ$$

in  $F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N})/F^nK_0(\mathcal{N})$ , where  $\mathcal{N}(L')^\circ$  is introduced in Lemma 2.53(2).

*Proof.* This lemma can be proved by the same way as for [LZa, Theorem 4.2.1], as long as we establish the following claim replacing [LZa, Lemma 4.5.1] in the case where  $E/F$  is ramified.

- o Let  $L$  be a self-dual hermitian  $O_E$ -module of rank  $n$  and  $L^{\flat}$  a hermitian  $O_E$ -module contained in  $L$ . If  $L/L^{\flat}$  is free, then  $L^{\flat}$  is integral with  $t(L^{\flat}) = 1$ .

However, this is just a special case of Lemma 2.23(2).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.55.** *Let  $\Lambda$  be a vertex  $O_E$ -lattice of  $\mathbf{V}$  with  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ . Take an arbitrary connected component  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+$  of the smooth projective curve  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}$  from Proposition 2.28, regarded as an element in  $F^{n-1}K_0(\mathcal{N})$ . For every  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus \{0\}$ , put  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}(x) := \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+ \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}(x)$ . Then  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}$  extends (uniquely) to a compactly supported locally constant function on  $\mathbf{V}$ , which we still denote by  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}$ . Moreover, we have*

$$\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}} = -\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}.$$

*Proof.* Since  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ , we may choose a 4-dimensional (nonsplit) hermitian subspace  $V'$  of  $\mathbf{V}$  such that  $\Lambda \cap V'^{\perp}$  is a self-dual  $O_E$ -lattice of  $V'^{\perp}$ . We adopt the construction in Remark 2.52. Write  $x = y + x'$  with respect to the orthogonal decomposition  $\mathbf{V} = V'^{\perp} \oplus V'$ . Put  $\Lambda' := \Lambda \cap V'$ . By Remark 2.52(2) and Definition 2.27(2),  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}$  coincides with  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}$  under the natural morphism  $\mathcal{N}' \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$ . Denote by  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}^+$  the connected component of  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}$  that corresponds to  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+$ . By Remark 2.52(3), we have

$$\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+ \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } y \notin \Lambda \cap V'^{\perp}, \\ \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}^+ \cdot {}^K\mathcal{N}'(x'), & \text{if } y \in \Lambda \cap V'^{\perp}. \end{cases}$$

In other words, we have  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+} = \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda \cap V'^{\perp}} \otimes \text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda'}^+}$ . Therefore, it suffices to consider the case where  $n = 4$ .

We now give an explicit formula for  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}(x)$  when  $n = 4$ . Let  $\mathcal{N}^{\#}$  be the connected component of  $\mathcal{N}$  that contains  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+$  and put  $Z^+ := Z \cap \mathcal{N}^{\#}$  for every formal subscheme  $Z$  of  $\mathcal{N}$ . Put  $\Lambda(x) := \Lambda + \langle x \rangle$ . There are three cases.

- (1) Suppose that  $\Lambda(x)$  is not integral. By Corollary 2.30,  $\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}$  has empty intersection with  $\mathcal{N}(x)$ . Thus, we have  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda}^+}(x) = 0$ .

- (2) Suppose that  $\Lambda(x)$  is integral but  $x \notin \Lambda$ . Then  $\Lambda(x)$  has fundamental invariants  $(0, 0, 1, 1)$ . By Corollary 2.30,  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+ \cap \mathcal{N}(x)_{\text{red}} = \mathcal{V}_{\Lambda(x)}^+$ , which is a  $\bar{k}$ -point. Thus, we have  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}(x) \geq 1$ . Choose a normal basis (Definition 2.11)  $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}$  of  $\Lambda$  and write  $x = \lambda_1 x_1 + \lambda_2 x_2 + \lambda_3 x_3 + \lambda_4 x_4$  with  $\lambda_i \in E$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume  $\lambda_4 \notin O_E$ . Since  $ux \in \Lambda$ , we have  $\Lambda(x) = \langle x_1, x_2, x_3, x \rangle$ . By Corollary 2.30,  $\mathcal{N}(x_1) \cap \mathcal{N}(x_2) \cap \mathcal{N}(x_3)$  contains  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda$  as a closed subscheme. By Remark 2.52 and Proposition 2.44 applied to  $V'$  spanned by  $x_3$  and  $x_4$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(\Lambda(x))$  is a 0-dimensional scheme and  $\text{Int}(\Lambda(x)) = 2$ . It follows that

$$\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}(x) \leq \text{length}_{O_{\bar{E}}}(\mathcal{N}(x_1) \cap \mathcal{N}(x_2) \cap \mathcal{N}(x_3)) \cap \mathcal{N}(x)^+ = \text{Int}^+(\Lambda(x)) = 1$$

by Lemma 2.56. Thus, we obtain  $\text{Int}^+(\Lambda(x)) = 1$ ; hence,  $\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}(x) = 1$ .

- (3) Suppose that  $x \in \Lambda$ . Then  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+$  is a closed subscheme of  $\mathcal{N}(x)$ , which implies

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda^+}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} = \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda^+}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \right) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_{\Lambda^+}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \right).$$

However, by Corollary 2.34, we have

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{L}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x)} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_N} C(0)$$

in  $K_0(\mathcal{N})$ , where  $C(0)$  is the complex (2.14). Thus, we obtain

$$\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}(x) = \chi(C(0)|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}) = \deg(\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}) - \deg(\omega|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}) = -\deg(\omega|_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}) = 1 - q$$

by Lemma 2.42.

Since there are exactly  $q^2 + 1$  vertex  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V$  properly containing  $\Lambda$ , combining (1–3), we obtain

$$\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+} = -q(1+q)\mathbb{1}_\Lambda + \sum_{\Lambda \subsetneq \Lambda' \subseteq \Lambda^\vee} \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda'}.$$

It follows that

$$\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}} = -\frac{1+q}{q}\mathbb{1}_{\Lambda^\vee} + \frac{1}{q} \sum_{\Lambda \subsetneq \Lambda' \subseteq \Lambda^\vee} \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda'}. \quad (2.18)$$

- If  $x \in \Lambda$ , then  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}}(x) = -\frac{1+q}{q} + \frac{q^2+1}{q} = q - 1$ .
- If  $\Lambda(x)$  is integral but  $x \notin \Lambda$ , then the number of  $\Lambda'$  in the summation of (2.18) is such that  $x \in \Lambda'^\vee$  is exactly 1 (namely,  $\Lambda(x)$  itself). Thus, we have  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}}(x) = -\frac{1+q}{q} + \frac{1}{q} = -1$ .
- If  $\Lambda(x)$  is not integral but  $x \in \Lambda^\vee$ , then the set of  $\Lambda'$  in the summation of (2.18) satisfying  $x \in \Lambda'^\vee$  is bijective to the set of isotropic lines in  $\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda$  perpendicular to  $x$ . Now since  $\Lambda(x)$  is not integral,  $x$  is anisotropic in  $\Lambda^\vee/\Lambda$ , which implies that the previous set has cardinality  $q + 1$ . Thus, we have  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}}(x) = -\frac{1+q}{q} + \frac{q+1}{q} = 0$ .
- If  $x \notin \Lambda^\vee$ , then  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}}(x) = 0$ .

Therefore, we have  $\widehat{\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}} = -\text{Int}_{\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+}$ . The lemma is proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.56.** Denote the two connected components of  $\mathcal{N}$  by  $\mathcal{N}^+$  and  $\mathcal{N}^-$  and  $\text{Int}^\pm(\mathbf{L})$  the intersection multiplicity in Definition 2.6 on  $\mathcal{N}^\pm$ . Then

$$\text{Int}^+(\mathbf{L}) = \text{Int}^-(\mathbf{L}) = \frac{1}{2}\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}).$$

*Proof.* Choose a normal basis (Definition 2.11)  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  of  $\mathbf{L}$ . Since  $V$  is nonsplit, there exists an anisotropic element in the basis, say,  $x_n$ . Let  $\theta$  the unique element in  $U(V)(F)$  satisfying  $\theta(x_i) = 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and  $\theta(x_n) = -x_n$ . Then  $\theta$  induces an automorphism of  $\mathcal{N}$ , preserving  $\mathcal{N}(x_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , but switching  $\mathcal{N}^+$  and  $\mathcal{N}^-$  as  $\det \theta = -1$ . Thus, we have  $\text{Int}^+(\mathbf{L}) = \text{Int}^-(\mathbf{L})$ . Since  $\text{Int}(\mathbf{L}) = \text{Int}^+(\mathbf{L}) + \text{Int}^-(\mathbf{L})$ , the lemma follows.  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.51.* We first consider (1). By Lemma 2.54, we have for  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^\flat}$ ,

$$\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^h(x) = \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L^{\flat\flat} \subseteq (L^{\flat\flat})^\vee \\ t(L^{\flat\flat})=1}} \mathcal{N}(L^{\flat\flat})^\circ \cdot {}^K \mathcal{N}(x),$$

which, by Lemma 2.53, equals

$$2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L^{\flat\flat} \subseteq (L^{\flat\flat})^\vee \\ t(L^{\flat\flat})=1}} \sum_{\substack{L \subseteq L^\vee \\ L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^{\flat\flat}}} \mathbb{1}_L(x) = 2 \sum_{\substack{L^\flat \subseteq L \subseteq L^\vee \\ t(L \cap V_{L^\flat})=1}} \mathbb{1}_L(x).$$

Thus, Proposition 2.51(1) follows from Definition 2.20.

We first consider (2). We may assume  $r \geq 2$  since otherwise  $\text{Int}_{L^\flat}^v \equiv 0$ ; hence, (2) is trivial. We write  $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{N}^+ \cup \mathcal{N}^-$  for the two connected components. For every vertex  $O_E$ -lattice  $\Lambda$  of  $V$ , we put  $\mathcal{V}_\Lambda^\pm := \mathcal{V}_\Lambda \cap \mathcal{N}^\pm$ . Since the natural map  $F^{\frac{t(\Lambda)}{2}-2} K_0(\mathcal{V}_\Lambda) \rightarrow F^{n-1} K_0(\mathcal{N})$  is an isomorphism, by Lemma 2.49(3) and Lemma 2.32, there exist rational numbers  $c_\Lambda^\pm$  for vertex  $O_E$ -lattices  $\Lambda$  of  $V$  with  $t(\Lambda) = 4$ , of which all but finitely many are zero, such that

$${}^K \mathcal{N}(L^\flat)^\vee - \left( \sum_{\Lambda} c_\Lambda^+ \cdot \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^+ + c_\Lambda^- \cdot \mathcal{V}_\Lambda^- \right)$$

has zero intersection with  $F^1 K_0(\mathcal{N})$ . Thus, Proposition 2.51(2) follows from Lemma 2.55.  $\square$

## 2.7. Proof of Theorem 2.7

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. In this subsection, for an element  $L^\flat \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  (Definition 2.8), we set  $\text{val}(L^\flat) = -1$  if  $L^\flat$  is not integral.

**Lemma 2.57.** Suppose that  $r \geq 2$  and take an integral element  $L^\flat \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  whose fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})$  satisfy  $a_{n-2} < a_{n-1}$  (in particular,  $a_{n-1}$  is odd). Then the number of integral  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V$  containing  $L^\flat$  with fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}-1, a_{n-1}-1)$  is either 0 or 2. When the number is 2 and those lattices are denoted by  $L^{\flat+}$  and  $L^{\flat-}$ , we have

- (1)  $L^{\flat\pm} \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat$ ;
- (2)  $a_{n-1} \geq 3$ ;
- (3) there are orthogonal decompositions  $L^\flat = L^\flat_{\leftarrow} \oplus L^\flat_{\rightarrow}$  and  $L^{\flat\pm} = L^\flat_{\leftarrow} \oplus L^{\flat\pm}_{\rightarrow}$ , in which  $L^\flat_{\leftarrow}$ ,  $L^\flat_{\rightarrow}$  and  $L^{\flat\pm}_{\rightarrow}$  are integral hermitian  $O_E$ -modules with fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-2})$ ,  $(a_{n-1})$  and  $(a_{n-1}-1, a_{n-1}-1)$ , respectively.

*Proof.* Let  $L$  be an integral  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  of  $V$  containing  $L^\flat$  with fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}-1, a_{n-1}-1)$ .

We first claim that (1) must hold. We have  $\text{val}(L \cap V_{L^\flat}) \geq a_1 + \cdots + a_{n-2} + a_{n-1} - 1$  by Lemma 2.23(1). Since  $L \cap V_{L^\flat}$  contains  $L^\flat$  and  $\text{val}(L \cap V_{L^\flat})$  is odd, we must have  $L \cap V_{L^\flat} = L^\flat$ .

Choose a normal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_{n-1})$  of  $L^\flat$  (Definition 2.11) and rearrange them such that for every  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , exactly one of the following three happens:

- (a)  $(e_i, e_i)_V = \beta_i u^{a_i-1}$  for some  $\beta_i \in O_F^\times$ ;
- (b)  $(e_i, e_{i+1})_V = u^{a_i-1}$ ;
- (c)  $(e_i, e_{i-1})_V = -u^{a_i-1}$ .

By the claim on (1), we may write  $L = L^\flat + \langle x \rangle$  in which

$$x = \lambda_1 e_1 + \cdots + \lambda_{n-1} e_{n-1} + x_n$$

for some  $\lambda_i \in (E \setminus O_E) \cup \{0\}$  and  $0 \neq x_n \in V_{L^\flat}^\perp$ . Let  $T$  be the moment matrix with respect to the basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}, x\}$  of  $L$ .

We show by induction that for  $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ ,  $\lambda_i = 0$ . Suppose we know  $\lambda_1 = \cdots = \lambda_{i-1} = 0$ . For  $\lambda_i$  (with  $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ ), there are three cases.

- If  $e_i$  is in the situation (a) above, then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $i$ -by- $i$  minor of  $T$  consisting of rows  $\{1, \dots, i\}$  and columns  $\{1, \dots, i-1, n\}$ , we obtain  $\text{val}_E(\lambda_i \beta_i u^{a_i-1}) \geq a_i - 1$ , which implies  $\lambda_i = 0$ .
- If  $e_i$  is in the situation (b) above, then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $i$ -by- $i$  minor of  $T$  consisting of rows  $\{1, \dots, i-1, i+1\}$  and columns  $\{1, \dots, i-1, n\}$ , we obtain  $\text{val}_E(-\lambda_i u^{a_i-1}) \geq a_i - 1$ , which implies  $\lambda_i = 0$ .
- If  $e_i$  is in the situation (c) above, then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $i$ -by- $i$  minor of  $T$  consisting of rows  $\{1, \dots, i\}$  and columns  $\{1, \dots, i-1, n\}$ , we obtain  $\text{val}_E(\lambda_i u^{a_i-1}) \geq a_i - 1$ , which implies  $\lambda_i = 0$ .

Note that  $e_{n-1}$  is in the situation (a). Applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $(n-1)$ -by- $(n-1)$  minor of  $T$  consisting of rows  $\{1, \dots, n-1\}$  and columns  $\{1, \dots, n-2, n\}$ , we obtain  $\text{val}_E(\lambda_{n-1} \beta_{n-1} u^{a_{n-1}-1}) \geq a_{n-1} - 2$ , which implies  $\lambda_{n-1} \in u^{-1} O_E$ . On the other hand,  $\lambda_{n-1} \neq 0$  since otherwise  $a_{n-1}$  will appear in the fundamental invariants of  $L$ , which is a contradiction. Thus, we have  $\lambda_{n-1} \in u^{-1} O_E \setminus O_E$ . After rescaling by an element in  $O_E^\times$ , we may assume  $\lambda_{n-1} = u^{-1}$ . Applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $(n-1)$ -by- $(n-1)$  minor of  $T$  consisting of rows  $\{1, \dots, n-2, n\}$  and columns  $\{1, \dots, n-2, n\}$ , we obtain

$$\text{val}_E \left( (x_n, x_n)_V - u^{-2} \beta_{n-1} u^{a_{n-1}-1} \right) \geq a_{n-1} - 2. \quad (2.19)$$

We note the following facts.

- The set of  $x_n \in V_{L^\flat}^\perp$  satisfying (2.19) is stable under the multiplication by  $1 + uO_E$ .
- The set of orbits of such  $x_n$  under the multiplication by  $1 + uO_E$  is bijective to the set of  $L$ .
- The number of orbits is either 0 or 2.
- If the number is 2, then  $a_{n-1} \geq 3$ , since  $V$  is nonsplit.

Thus, the main part of the lemma is proved, with the properties (1) and (2) included. For (3), we simply take  $L_{\leftarrow}^\flat = \langle e_1, \dots, e_{n-2} \rangle$  with  $L_{\rightarrow}^\flat$  and  $L_{\rightarrow}^{\flat\pm}$  uniquely determined.

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

In the rest of subsection, we say that  $L^\flat$  is *special* if  $L^\flat$  is like in Lemma 2.57 for which the number is 2. We now define an open compact subset  $S_{L^\flat}$  of  $V$  for an integral element  $L^\flat \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  in the following way:

$$S_{L^\flat} := \begin{cases} L^{\flat+} \cup L^{\flat-}, & \text{if } L^\flat \text{ is special,} \\ L^\flat + (V_{L^\flat}^\perp)^{\text{int}}, & \text{if } L^\flat \text{ is not special.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.58.** *Take an integral element  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$ . Then for every  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus (V_{L^b} \cup S_{L^b})$ , we may write*

$$L^b + \langle x \rangle = L^{b'} + \langle x' \rangle$$

for some  $L^{b'} \in \mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$  satisfying  $\text{val}(L^{b'}) < \text{val}(L^b)$ .

*Proof.* Take an element  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus (V_{L^b} \cup S_{L^b})$ . Put  $L := L^b + \langle x \rangle$ . If  $L$  is not integral, then by Lemma 2.12, we may write  $L = L^{b'} + \langle x' \rangle$  with  $L^{b'} \in \mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$  that is not integral; hence, the lemma follows.

In what follows, we assume  $L$  integral and write its fundamental invariants as  $(a'_1, \dots, a'_n)$ . By Lemma 2.12, it suffices to show that

$$a'_1 + \dots + a'_{n-1} \leq a_1 + \dots + a_{n-1} - 2. \quad (2.20)$$

Choose a normal basis  $(e_1, \dots, e_{n-1})$  of  $L^b$  (Definition 2.11) and rearrange them such that for every  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , exactly one of the following three happens:

- (a)  $(e_i, e_i)_V = \beta_i u^{a_i-1}$  for some  $\beta_i \in O_F^\times$ ;
- (b)  $(e_i, e_{i+1})_V = u^{a_i-1}$ ;
- (c)  $(e_i, e_{i-1})_V = -u^{a_i-1}$ .

Write  $x = \lambda_1 e_1 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1} e_{n-1} + x_n$  for some  $\lambda_i \in (E \setminus O_E) \cup \{0\}$  and  $0 \neq x_n \in V_{L^b}^\perp$ . Let  $T$  be the moment matrix with respect to the basis  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{n-1}, x\}$  of  $L$ .

If  $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_{n-1} = 0$ , then since  $x \notin S_{L^b}$ , we have either  $\langle x \rangle$  is not integral or  $\text{val}(x) \leq a_{n-1} - 2$  (only possible when  $L^b$  is special), which implies (2.20).

If  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  such that  $e_i$  is in the situation (b) or (c); then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $(n-1)$ -by- $(n-1)$  minor of  $T$  deleting the  $i$ th row and the  $i$ th column, we obtain (2.20).

If  $\lambda_i \notin u^{-1}O_E$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  such that  $e_i$  is in the situation (a); then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $(n-1)$ -by- $(n-1)$  minor of  $T$  deleting the  $i$ th row and the  $n$ th column, we obtain (2.20).

If  $\lambda_i \neq 0$  and  $\lambda_j \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq n-1$  such that both  $e_i$  and  $e_j$  are in the situation (a), then applying Lemma 2.23(1) to the  $(n-1)$ -by- $(n-1)$  minor of  $T$  deleting the  $i$ th row and the  $j$ th column, we obtain (2.20).

The remaining case is that  $\lambda_i \in u^{-1}O_E \setminus O_E$  for a unique element  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  such that  $e_i$  is in the situation (a). Then  $L^b + \langle x \rangle$  is the orthogonal sum of  $\langle e_1, \dots, \widehat{e}_i, \dots, e_{n-1} \rangle$  and  $\langle e_i, x \rangle$ . In particular, if we write the fundamental invariants of  $\langle e_i, x \rangle$  as  $(b_1, b_2)$ , then the fundamental invariant of  $L^b + \langle x \rangle$  is the nondecreasing rearrangement of  $(a_1, \dots, \widehat{a}_i, \dots, a_{n-1}, b_1, b_2)$ . We have two cases:

- o If  $(x, x)_V \in u^{e_i-1}O_F$ , then  $(b_1, b_2) = (a_i - 1, a_i - 1)$ . Thus, we have either (2.20) or  $i = n-1$ ,  $a_{n-2} < a_{n-1}$  and  $L^b + \langle x \rangle$  has fundamental invariants  $(a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1} - 1, a_{n-1} - 1)$  (hence  $L^b$  is special). The latter case is not possible as  $x \notin S_{L^b}$ .
- o If  $(x, x)_V \notin u^{e_i-1}O_F$ , then  $b_1 \leq a_i - 2$ . Thus, we have (2.20).

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.7.* For every element  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(\mathbf{V})$ , we define a function

$$\Phi_{L^b} := \partial\text{Den}_{L^b}^V - \text{Int}_{L^b}^V,$$

which is a compactly supported locally constant function on  $\mathbf{V}$  by Proposition 2.22 and Proposition 2.51(2). It enjoys the following properties:

- (1) For  $x \in \mathbf{V} \setminus V_{L^b}$ , we have  $\Phi_{L^b}(x) = \partial\text{Den}_{L^b}(x) - \text{Int}_{L^b}(x)$  by Proposition 2.51(1).
- (2)  $\Phi_{L^b}$  is invariant under the translation by  $L^b$ , which follows from (1) and the similar properties for  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b}$  and  $\text{Int}_{L^b}$ .
- (3) The support of  $\widehat{\Phi_{L^b}}$  is contained in  $\mathbf{V}^{\text{int}}$ , by Proposition 2.22 and Proposition 2.51(2).

We prove by induction on  $\text{val}(L^b)$  that  $\Phi_{L^b} \equiv 0$ .

The initial case is that  $\text{val}(L^b) = -1$ ; that is,  $L^b$  is not integral. Then we have  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b} = \text{Int}_{L^b} = 0$ ; hence,  $\Phi_{L^b} \equiv 0$  by (1).

Now consider  $L^b$  that is integral and assume  $\Phi_{L^b} \equiv 0$  for every  $L^{b'} \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  satisfying  $\text{val}(L^{b'}) < \text{val}(L^b)$ . For every  $x \in V \setminus (V_{L^b} \cup S_{L^b})$ , by Lemma 2.58, we may write  $L^b + \langle x \rangle = L^{b'} + \langle x' \rangle$  with some  $L^{b'} \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$  satisfying  $\text{val}(L^{b'}) < \text{val}(L^b)$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{L^b}(x) &= \partial\text{Den}_{L^b}(x) - \text{Int}_{L^b}(x) \\ &= \partial\text{Den}(L^b + \langle x \rangle) - \text{Int}(L^b + \langle x \rangle) \\ &= \partial\text{Den}(L^{b'} + \langle x' \rangle) - \text{Int}(L^{b'} + \langle x' \rangle) \\ &= \Phi_{L^{b'}}(x') = 0\end{aligned}$$

by the induction hypothesis. Thus, the support of  $\Phi_{L^b}$  is contained in  $S_{L^b}$ . There are two cases.

Suppose that  $L^b$  is not special. By (2), we may write  $\Phi_{L^b} = \mathbb{1}_{L^b} \otimes \phi$  for a locally constant function  $\phi$  on  $V_{L^b}^\perp$  supported on  $(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ . Then  $\widehat{\Phi_{L^b}} = C \cdot \mathbb{1}_{(L^b)^\vee} \otimes \widehat{\phi}$  for some  $C \in \mathbb{Q}^\times$ . Now since  $\widehat{\phi}$  is invariant under the translation by  $u^{-1}(V_{L^b}^\perp)^{\text{int}}$ , we must have  $\widehat{\phi} = 0$  by (3); that is,  $\Phi_{L^b} \equiv 0$ .

Suppose that  $L^b$  is special. We fix the orthogonal decompositions  $L^b = L_\leftarrow^b \oplus L_\rightarrow^b$  and  $L^{b\pm} = L_\leftarrow^b \oplus L_\rightarrow^{b\pm}$  from Lemma 2.57. Put  $V_\leftarrow := L_\leftarrow^b \otimes_{O_F} F$  and denote by  $V_\rightarrow$  the orthogonal complement of  $V_\leftarrow$  in  $V$ . Then both  $L_\rightarrow^{b+}$  and  $L_\rightarrow^{b-}$  are integral  $O_E$ -lattices of  $V_\rightarrow$  with fundamental invariants  $(a_{n-1} - 1, a_{n-1} - 1)$ . Moreover, we have  $S_{L^b} = L_\leftarrow^b \times (L_\rightarrow^{b+} \cup L_\rightarrow^{b-})$ . Thus, by (2), we may write  $\Phi_{L^b} = \mathbb{1}_{L_\leftarrow^b} \otimes \phi$  for a locally constant function  $\phi$  on  $V_\rightarrow$  supported on  $L_\rightarrow^{b+} \cup L_\rightarrow^{b-}$ . Since  $a_{n-1} \geq 3$  by Lemma 2.57, we have  $L_\rightarrow^{b+} \cup L_\rightarrow^{b-} \subseteq uV_\rightarrow^{\text{int}}$ , which implies that the support of  $\phi$  is contained in  $uV_\rightarrow^{\text{int}}$ . On the other hand, by (3), the support of  $\widehat{\phi}$  is contained in  $V_\rightarrow^{\text{int}}$ . Together, we must have  $\phi = 0$  by the uncertainty principle [LZa, Proposition 8.1.6]; that is,  $\Phi_{L^b} \equiv 0$ .

By (1), we have  $\partial\text{Den}_{L^b}(x) = \text{Int}_{L^b}(x)$  for every  $x \in V \setminus V_{L^b}$ . In particular, Theorem 2.7 follows as every  $O_E$ -lattice  $L$  of  $V$  is of the form  $L^b + \langle x \rangle$  for some  $L^b \in \mathfrak{b}(V)$ .  $\square$

## 2.8. Comparison with absolute Rapoport–Zink spaces

Let the setup be as in Subsection 2.1. In this subsection, we compare  $\mathcal{N}$  to certain (absolute) Rapoport–Zink space under the assumption that  $F$  is *unramified* over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ . Put  $f := [F : \mathbb{Q}_p]$ ; hence,  $q = p^f$ . This subsection is redundant if  $f = 1$ .

To begin with, we fix a subset  $\Phi$  of  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C}_p) = \text{Hom}(E, \check{E})$  containing  $\varphi_0$  and satisfying  $\text{Hom}(E, \check{E}) = \Phi \sqcup \Phi^c$ . Recall that we have regarded  $E$  as a subfield of  $\check{E}$  via  $\varphi_0$ . We introduce more notation.

- o For every ring  $R$ , we denote by  $W(R)$  the  $p$ -typical Witt ring of  $R$ , with  $F$ ,  $V$ ,  $[ ]$  and  $I(R)$  its ( $p$ -typical) Frobenius, the Verschiebung, the Teichmüller lift and the augmentation ideal, respectively. For an  $F^i$ -linear map  $f: P \rightarrow Q$  between  $W(R)$ -modules with  $i \geq 1$ , we denote by

$$f^\sharp: W(R) \otimes_{F^i, W(R)} P \rightarrow Q$$

its induced  $W(R)$ -linear map.

- o For  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}$ , put  $\psi_i := F^i: O_F \rightarrow O_F$ , define  $\hat{\psi}_i: O_F \rightarrow W(O_F)$  to be the composition of  $\psi_i$  with the Cartier homomorphism  $O_F \rightarrow W(O_F)$  and denote by  $\varphi_i$  the unique element in  $\Phi$  above  $\psi_i$ .
- o For  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}$ , let  $\epsilon_i$  be the unique unit in  $W(O_F)$  satisfying

$${}^V\epsilon_i = [\psi_i(u^2)] - \hat{\psi}_i(u^2),$$

which exists by [ACZ16, Lemma 2.24]. We then fix a unit  $\mu_u$  in  $W(O_{\check{F}})$ , where  $\check{F}$  denotes the complete maximal unramified extension of  $F$  in  $\check{E}$ , such that

$$\frac{F^f}{\mu_u} \mu_u = \prod_{i=1}^{f-1} F^{f-1-i} \epsilon_i, \quad (2.21)$$

which is possible since the right-hand side is a unit in  $W(O_F)$ .

- For a  $p$ -divisible group  $X$  over an object  $S$  of  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$  with an action by  $O_F$ , we have a decomposition

$$\text{Lie}(X) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{f-1} \text{Lie}_{\psi_i}(X)$$

of  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -modules according to the action of  $O_F$  on  $\text{Lie}(X)$ .

**Definition 2.59.** Let  $S$  be an object of  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ . We define a category  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi}(S)$  whose objects are triples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which

- $X$  is a  $p$ -divisible group over  $S$  of dimension  $nf$  and height  $2nf$ ;
- $\iota_X: O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X)$  is an action of  $O_E$  on  $X$  satisfying:
  - (Kottwitz condition): the characteristic polynomial of  $\iota_X(u)$  on the  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module  $\text{Lie}_{\psi_0}(X)$  is  $(T - u)^{n-1}(T + u) \in \mathcal{O}_S[T]$ ,
  - (Wedge condition): we have

$$\bigwedge^2 (\iota_X(u) - u \mid \text{Lie}_{\psi_0}(X)) = 0,$$

- (Spin condition): for every geometric point  $s$  of  $S$ , the action of  $\iota_X(u)$  on  $\text{Lie}_{\psi_0}(X_s)$  is nonzero;
- (Banal condition): for  $1 \leq i \leq f-1$ ,  $O_E$  acts on  $\text{Lie}_{\psi_i}(X)$  via  $\varphi_i$ ;
- $\lambda_X: X \rightarrow X^v$  is a  $\iota_X$ -compatible polarisation such that  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$ .

A morphism (respectively quasi-morphism) from  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  to  $(Y, \iota_Y, \lambda_Y)$  is an  $O_E$ -linear isomorphism (respectively quasi-isogeny)  $\rho: X \rightarrow Y$  of height zero such that  $\rho^* \lambda_Y = \lambda_X$ .

When  $S$  belongs to  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ , we denote by  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi,b}(S)$  the subcategory of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi}(S)$  consisting of  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which  $X$  is supersingular.

Note that both  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b$  and  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi,b}$  are prestacks (that is, presheaves valued in groupoids) on  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ . Now we construct a morphism

$$-^{\text{rel}}: \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi,b} \rightarrow \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b \quad (2.22)$$

of prestacks on  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ . We will use the theory of displays [Zin02, Lau08] and  $O_F$ -displays [ACZ16].

Let  $S = \text{Spec } R$  be an affine scheme in  $Sch_{/O_{\check{E}}}^v$ . Take an object  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi,b}(S)$ . Write  $(P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  for the display of  $X$  (as a formal  $p$ -divisible group). The action of  $O_F$  on  $P$  induces decompositions

$$P = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{f-1} P_i, \quad Q = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{f-1} Q_i, \quad F = \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} F_i, \quad \dot{F} = \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} \dot{F}_i,$$

where  $P_i$  is the  $W(R)$ -submodule on which  $O_F$  acts via  $\hat{\psi}_i$  and  $Q_i = Q \cap P_i$ . It is clear that the above decomposition is  $O_E$ -linear and  $P_i$  is a projective  $O_E \otimes_{O_F, \hat{\psi}_i} W(R)$ -module of rank  $n$ .

**Lemma 2.60.** For  $1 \leq i \leq f-1$ , we have

$$Q_i = (u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])P_i + I(R)P_i,$$

and the map

$$F'_i := \dot{F}_i \circ (u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)]) : P_i \rightarrow P_{i+1}$$

is a Frobenius linear epimorphism and, hence, isomorphism.

*Proof.* The banal condition in Definition 2.59 implies that for  $1 \leq i \leq f-1$ ,

$$(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])P_i + I(R)P_i \subseteq Q_i.$$

To show the reverse inclusion, it suffices to show that the image of

$$(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])P_i$$

in  $P_i/I(R)P_i = P_i \otimes_{W(R)} R$  is a projective  $R$ -module of rank  $n$ . But the image is the same as  $(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes \varphi_i(u))P_i \otimes_{W(R)} R$ , which has rank  $n$  since  $P_i$  is projective over  $O_E \otimes_{O_F, \hat{\psi}_i} W(R)$  of rank  $n$ .

Now we show that  $(F'_i)^\natural$  is surjective. It suffices to show that  $\text{coker}(F'_i)^\natural \otimes_{W(R)} \kappa$  vanishes for every homomorphism  $W(R) \rightarrow \kappa$  with  $\kappa$  a perfect field of characteristic  $p$ . Since  $W(R) \rightarrow \kappa$  necessarily vanishes on  $I(R)$ , it lifts to a homomorphism  $W(R) \rightarrow W(\kappa)$ . Thus, we may just assume that  $R$  is a perfect field of characteristic  $p$ . Since

$$(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])(-u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)]) = [\psi_i(u^2)] - \hat{\psi}_i(u^2) = {}^V\epsilon_i$$

in which  $\epsilon_i$  is a unit in  $W(O_F)$ , the image of the map

$$(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)]) : P_i \rightarrow P_i \tag{2.23}$$

contains  $(u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])P_i + W(R) {}^V\epsilon_i \cdot P_i$ . As  $R$  is a perfect field of characteristic  $p$ , we have  $W(R) {}^V\epsilon_i = I(R)$ ; hence, (2.23) is surjective. Thus,  $F'_i$  is a Frobenius linear epimorphism as  $F_i$  is.

The lemma is proved.  $\square$

Now we put

$$P^{\text{rel}} := P_0, \quad Q^{\text{rel}} := Q_0, \quad F^{\text{rel}} := F'_{f-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1 \circ F_0, \quad \dot{F}^{\text{rel}} := F'_{f-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1 \circ \dot{F}_0.$$

Then  $(P^{\text{rel}}, Q^{\text{rel}}, F^{\text{rel}}, \dot{F}^{\text{rel}})$  defines an  $f(-\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -display in the sense of [ACZ16, Definition 2.1] with an  $O_E$ -action, for which the Kottwitz condition, the wedge condition and the spin condition are obviously inherited. It remains to construct the polarisation  $\lambda_{X^{\text{rel}}}$ . By Remark 2.61, we have the collection of perfect symmetric  $W(R)$ -bilinear pairings  $\{(\cdot, \cdot)_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}\}$  coming from  $\lambda_X$ . For  $x, y \in P_0$ , put  $x_i := (F'_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1 \circ \dot{F}_0)(x)$  and  $y_i := (F'_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1 \circ \dot{F}_0)(y)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq f$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\dot{F}^{\text{rel}} x, \dot{F}^{\text{rel}} y)_0 &= (F'_{f-1} x_{f-1}, F'_{f-1} y_{f-1})_0 \\ &= (\dot{F}_{f-1}((u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)])x_{f-1}), \dot{F}_{f-1}((u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)])y_{f-1}))_0 \\ &= {}^{V^{-1}}((u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)])x_{f-1}, (u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)])y_{f-1})_{f-1} \\ &= {}^{V^{-1}}\left(([u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)]])x_{f-1}, (u \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_{f-1}(u)])y_{f-1}\right)_{f-1} \\ &= {}^{V^{-1}}\left({}^V\epsilon_{f-1} \cdot (x_{f-1}, y_{f-1})_{f-1}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \epsilon_{f-1} \cdot \mathbb{F}(x_{f-1}, y_{f-1})_{f-1} \\
&= \dots = \left( \prod_{i=1}^{f-1} \mathbb{F}^{f-1-i} \epsilon_i \right) \cdot \mathbb{F}^{f-1}(x_1, y_1)_1 \\
&= \left( \prod_{i=1}^{f-1} \mathbb{F}^{f-1-i} \epsilon_i \right) \cdot \mathbb{F}^{f-1} \mathbb{V}^{-1}(x, y)_0.
\end{aligned}$$

Put  $(\cdot, \cdot)^{\text{rel}} := \mu_u(\cdot, \cdot)_0$ , which satisfies  $(\dot{\mathbb{F}}^{\text{rel}} x, \dot{\mathbb{F}}^{\text{rel}} y)^{\text{rel}} = \mathbb{F}^{f-1} \mathbb{V}^{-1}(x, y)^{\text{rel}}$  by (2.21). Then the  $f(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -display  $(\mathbb{P}^{\text{rel}}, \mathbb{Q}^{\text{rel}}, \mathbb{F}^{\text{rel}}, \dot{\mathbb{F}}^{\text{rel}})$  with  $O_E$ -action together with the pairing  $(\cdot, \cdot)^{\text{rel}}$  define an object  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}}$  of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S)$ , as explained in the proof of [Mih22, Proposition 3.4] and Remark 2.61. It is clear that the construction is functorial in  $S$ .

**Remark 2.61.** For an object  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, b}(S)$  with  $(\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}, \dot{\mathbb{F}})$  the display of  $X$ , we have a similar claim as in Remark 2.2 concerning the polarisation  $\lambda_X$ . In particular, as discussed in [Mih22, Section 11.1], the polarisation  $\lambda_X$ , or, rather, its symmetrisation, is equivalent to a collection of perfect symmetric  $W(R)$ -bilinear pairings

$$\{(\cdot, \cdot)_i : \mathbb{P}_i \times \mathbb{P}_i \rightarrow W(R) \mid i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}\}$$

satisfying  $(\iota_X(\alpha)x, y)_i = (x, \iota_X(\alpha^c)y)_i$  for every  $\alpha \in O_E$  and  $(\dot{\mathbb{F}}_i x, \dot{\mathbb{F}}_i y)_{i+1} = \mathbb{V}^{-1}(x, y)_i$  for every  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}$ .

Similarly, for an object  $(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'})$  of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S)$  with  $(\mathbb{P}', \mathbb{Q}', \mathbb{F}', \dot{\mathbb{F}}')$  the  $f(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -display of  $X'$ , the polarisation  $\lambda_{X'}$  is equivalent to a perfect symmetric  $W(R)$ -bilinear pairing

$$(\cdot, \cdot)' : \mathbb{P}' \times \mathbb{P}' \rightarrow W(R),$$

satisfying  $(\iota_{X'}(\alpha)x, y)' = (x, \iota_{X'}(\alpha^c)y)'$  for every  $\alpha \in O_E$  and  $(\dot{\mathbb{F}}' x, \dot{\mathbb{F}}' y)' = \mathbb{F}^{f-1} \mathbb{V}^{-1}(x, y)'$ .

**Proposition 2.62.** *The morphism (2.22) is an isomorphism.*

*Proof.* It suffices to show that for every affine scheme  $S = \text{Spec } R$  in  $\text{Sch}^v_{/O_E}$ , the functor  $-\text{rel}(S)$  is fully faithful and essentially surjective.

We first show that  $-\text{rel}(S)$  is fully faithful. Take an object  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, b}(S)$ . It suffices to show that the natural map  $\text{Aut}((X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)) \rightarrow \text{Aut}((X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}})$  is an isomorphism, which follows from a stronger statement that the map  $\text{End}_{O_E}(X) \rightarrow \text{End}_{O_E}(X^{\text{rel}})$  is an isomorphism, where  $X^{\text{rel}}$  denotes the first entry of  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}}$ , which is an  $O_F$ -divisible group. For the latter, it amounts to showing that the natural map

$$\text{End}_{O_E}((\mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{F}, \dot{\mathbb{F}})) \rightarrow \text{End}_{O_E}((\mathbb{P}^{\text{rel}}, \mathbb{Q}^{\text{rel}}, \mathbb{F}^{\text{rel}}, \dot{\mathbb{F}}^{\text{rel}})) \quad (2.24)$$

is an isomorphism. For the injectivity, let  $f$  be an element in the source, which decomposes as  $f = \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} f_i$  for endomorphisms  $f_i : \mathbb{P}_i \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_i$  preserving  $\mathbb{Q}_i$  and commuting with  $\mathbb{F}$  and  $\dot{\mathbb{F}}$ . Since for every  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\dot{\mathbb{F}}_i$  is a Frobenius linear surjective map from  $\mathbb{Q}_i$  to  $\mathbb{P}_{i+1}$ , the map  $f$  is determined by  $f_0$ . Thus, (2.24) is injective. For the surjectivity, let  $f^{\text{rel}}$  be an element in the target. Put  $f_0 := f^{\text{rel}} : \mathbb{P}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_0$ . By Lemma 2.63(2), there is a unique endomorphism  $f_1$  of  $\mathbb{P}_1$  rendering the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
W(R) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}, W(R)} \mathbb{Q}_0 & \xrightarrow{\dot{\mathbb{F}}_0^{\text{h}}} & \mathbb{P}_1 \\
1 \otimes (f_0|_{\mathbb{Q}_0}) \downarrow & & \downarrow f_1 \\
W(R) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}, W(R)} \mathbb{Q}_0 & \xrightarrow{\dot{\mathbb{F}}_0^{\text{h}}} & \mathbb{P}_1
\end{array}$$

commutative. For  $2 \leq i \leq f-1$ , we define  $f_i$  to be the unique endomorphism of  $P_i$  satisfying that

$$f_i \circ (F'_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1)^\natural = (F'_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ F'_1)^\natural \circ (1 \otimes f_i).$$

Then  $f := \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} f_i$  is an  $O_E$ -linear endomorphism of  $P$ , which commutes with  $\dot{F}$  and hence  $F$ . It remains to check that  $f(Q) \subseteq Q$ , which follows from Lemma 2.60.

We then show that  $-\text{rel}(S)$  is essentially surjective. Take an object

$$(X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'}) \in \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^b(S)$$

in which  $X'$  is given by an  $f(-\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -display  $(P', Q', F', \dot{F}')$ . For  $0 \leq i \leq f-1$ , put

$$P_i := W(R) \otimes_{F^i, W(R)} P'.$$

Denote by  $u_0: P_0 \rightarrow P_0$  the endomorphism given by the action of  $u \in O_E$  on  $P'$ . Put  $Q_0 = Q'$  and for  $1 \leq i \leq f-1$ , put

$$Q_i := ((1 \otimes u_0) \otimes 1 - (1 \otimes 1) \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])P_i + I(R)P_i.$$

Fix a normal decomposition  $P' = L' \oplus T'$  for  $Q'$  and let

$$\ddot{F}' := \dot{F}'|_{L'} + F'|_{T'}: P' \rightarrow P'$$

be the corresponding  $F^f$ -linear isomorphism. For  $0 \leq i < f-1$ , let  $\ddot{F}_i: P_i \rightarrow P_{i+1}$  be the Frobenius linear isomorphism induced by the identity map on  $P'$  and, finally, let  $\ddot{F}_{f-1}: P_{f-1} \rightarrow P_0$  be the Frobenius linear isomorphism induced by  $\ddot{F}'$ . Let  $\dot{F}_0: Q_0 \rightarrow P_1$  be the map defined by the formula  $\dot{F}_0(l + {}^V w \cdot t) = \ddot{F}_0(l) + w \ddot{F}_0(t)$  for  $l \in L'$ ,  $t \in T'$  and  $w \in W(R)$ , which is a Frobenius linear epimorphism. By Lemma 2.63(2), there is a unique endomorphism  $u_1$  of  $P_1$  rendering the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q_0 & \xrightarrow{\dot{F}_0^\natural} & P_1 \\ 1 \otimes (u_0|_{Q_0}) \downarrow & & \downarrow u_1 \\ W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q_0 & \xrightarrow{\dot{F}_0^\natural} & P_1 \end{array}$$

commutative.<sup>14</sup> For  $2 \leq i \leq f-1$ , we define  $u_i$  to be the unique endomorphism of  $P_i$  satisfying that

$$u_i \circ (\ddot{F}_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ \ddot{F}_1)^\natural = (\ddot{F}_{i-1} \circ \cdots \circ \ddot{F}_1)^\natural \circ (1 \otimes u_1)$$

and define a map  $\dot{F}_i: Q_i \rightarrow P_{i+1}$  by the following (compatible) formulae:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{F}_i((u_i \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes [\varphi_i(u)])x) = \ddot{F}_i(x), \\ \dot{F}_i({}^V w \cdot x) = \frac{w}{\epsilon_i} \cdot (u_{i+1} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes {}^F[\varphi_i(u)])\ddot{F}_i(x), \end{cases}$$

for  $x \in P_i$  and  $w \in W(R)$ , which is a Frobenius linear epimorphism. Put

$$P := \bigoplus_{i=0}^{f-1} P_i, \quad Q := \bigoplus_{i=0}^{f-1} Q_i, \quad \dot{F} := \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} \dot{F}_i, \quad u := \sum_{i=0}^{f-1} u_i.$$

Then it is straightforward to check that  $(P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  is a display with an action by  $O_E$  for which  $u$  acts by  $u$ , where  $F$  is determined by  $\dot{F}$  in the usual way. Now we construct a collection of perfect

<sup>14</sup>We warn the readers that the endomorphism  $u_1$  might be different from  $1 \otimes u_0$  as  $u$  does not necessarily preserve the normal decomposition. However, the image of  $u_1 - 1 \otimes u_0$  is contained in  $I(R)P_1$ .

symmetric  $W(R)$ -bilinear pairings  $\{( , )_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}\}$  as in Remark 2.61. Put  $( , )_0 := \mu_u^{-1}( , )'$ , where  $( , )'$  is the pairing induced by  $\lambda_{X'}$ . Define inductively for  $1 \leq i \leq f-1$  the unique (perfect symmetric  $W(R)$ -bilinear) pairing  $( , )_i$  satisfying  $(\dot{F}_{i-1}x, \dot{F}_{i-1}y)_i = {}^{V^{-1}}(x, y)_{i-1}$ . It is clear that we also have  $(\dot{F}_{f-1}x, \dot{F}_{f-1}y)_0 = {}^{V^{-1}}(x, y)_{f-1}$ . Then the display  $(P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  with the  $O_E$ -action together with the collection of pairings  $\{( , )_i \mid i \in \mathbb{Z}/f\mathbb{Z}\}$  define an object  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \in \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, b}(S)$ , which satisfies  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}} \simeq (X', \iota_{X'}, \lambda_{X'})$  by construction.

The proposition is proved.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.63.** *Let  $R$  be a ring on which  $p$  is nilpotent. For a pair  $(P, Q)$  in which  $P$  is a projective  $W(R)$ -module of finite rank and  $Q$  is a submodule of  $P$  containing  $I(R)P$  such that  $P/Q$  is a projective  $R$ -module, we define  $Q^*$  to be the image of  $J(R)P$  under the map  $W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} I(R)P \rightarrow W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q$  that is the base change of the inclusion map  $I(R)P \rightarrow Q$ , where  $J(R)$  denotes the kernel of  $(V^{-1})^\sharp: W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} I(R) \rightarrow W(R)$ . Then for every Frobenius linear epimorphism  $\dot{F}: Q \rightarrow P'$  with  $P'$  a projective  $W(R)$ -module of the same rank as  $P$ , we have*

- (1) *the kernel of  $\dot{F}^\sharp$  coincides with  $Q^*$ ;*
- (2) *for every endomorphism  $f: P \rightarrow P$  that preserves  $Q$ , there exists a unique endomorphism  $f': P' \rightarrow P'$  rendering the following diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q & \xrightarrow{\dot{F}^\sharp} & P' \\ 1 \otimes (f|_Q) \downarrow & & \downarrow f' \\ W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q & \xrightarrow{\dot{F}^\sharp} & P' \end{array}$$

commutative.

*Proof.* We first claim that  $J(R)$  is contained in the kernel of the map

$$W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} I(R) \rightarrow W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} W(R) = W(R) \quad (2.25)$$

that is the base change of the inclusion map  $I(R) \rightarrow W(R)$ . Take an element  $x = \sum a_i \otimes {}^V b_i$  in  $W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} I(R)$ . If  $x \in J(R)$ , then  $\sum a_i b_i = 0$ . But the image of  $x$  under (2.25) is  $\sum a_i {}^F V b_i$ , which equals  $p \sum a_i b_i$ . Thus,  $J(R)$  is contained in the kernel of (2.25).

For (1), choose a normal decomposition  $P = L \oplus T$  of  $W(R)$ -modules such that  $Q = L \oplus I(R)T$ . By (the proof of) [Lau10, Lemma 2.5], there exists a Frobenius linear automorphism  $\Psi$  of  $P$  such that  $\dot{F}(l + at) = \Psi(l) + {}^{V^{-1}}a \cdot \Psi(t)$  for  $l \in L$ ,  $t \in T$  and  $a \in I(R)$ . Thus,  $\ker \dot{F}^\sharp$  equals the submodule  $J(R)T$  of  $W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q$ . However, by the claim above, the image of  $J(R)L$  under the map

$$W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} I(R)P \rightarrow W(R) \otimes_{F, W(R)} Q$$

vanishes. Thus, we have  $J(R)T = Q^*$ .

For (2), the uniqueness follows since  $\dot{F}^\sharp$  is surjective, and the existence follows since the map  $1 \otimes (f|_Q)$  preserves  $Q^*$ , which is a consequence of the definition of  $Q^*$ .  $\square$

To define our (absolute) Rapoport–Zink space, we fix an object

$$(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \in \text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, b}(\bar{k}).$$

**Definition 2.64.** We define a functor  $\mathcal{N}^\Phi := \mathcal{N}_{(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)}^\Phi$  on  $\text{Sch}^V_{/O_E}$  such that for every object  $S$  of  $\text{Sch}^V_{/O_E}$ ,  $\mathcal{N}(S)$  consists of quadruples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X; \rho_X)$  in which

- $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  is an object of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, \text{b}}(S)$ ;
- $\rho_X$  is a quasi-morphism from  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \times_S (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k})$  to  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) \otimes_{\bar{k}} (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k})$  in the category  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi, \text{b}}(S \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k})$ .

**Corollary 2.65.** *The morphism*

$$\mathcal{N}^\Phi = \mathcal{N}_{(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)}^\Phi \rightarrow \mathcal{N} := \mathcal{N}_{(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}}}$$

*sending  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X; \rho_X)$  to  $((X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)^{\text{rel}}; \rho_X^{\text{rel}})$  is an isomorphism.*

*Proof.* This follows immediately from Proposition 2.62.  $\square$

Now we study special divisors on  $\mathcal{N}^\Phi$  and their relation with those on  $\mathcal{N}$ . Fix a triple  $(X_0, \iota_{X_0}, \lambda_{X_0})$  where

- $X_0$  is a supersingular  $p$ -divisible group over  $\text{Spec } O_{\bar{E}}$  of dimension  $f$  and height  $2f$ ;
- $\iota_{X_0} : O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X_0)$  is an  $O_E$ -action on  $X_0$  such that for  $0 \leq i \leq f-1$ , the summand  $\text{Lie}_{\psi_i}(X)$  has rank 1 on which  $O_E$  acts via  $\varphi_i$ ;
- $\lambda_{X_0} : X_0 \rightarrow X_0^\vee$  is a  $\iota_{X_0}$ -compatible principal polarisation.

Note that  $\iota_{X_0}$  induces an isomorphism  $\iota_{X_0} : O_E \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{End}_{O_E}(X_0)$ . Put

$$V := \text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0 \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k}, X) \otimes \mathbb{Q},$$

which is a vector space over  $E$  of dimension  $n$ , equipped with a natural hermitian form similar to (2.1). By a construction similar to (2.22), we obtain a triple  $(X_0, \iota_{X_0}, \lambda_{X_0})^{\text{rel}}$  as in the definition of special divisors on  $\mathcal{N}$  (Definition 2.5) and a canonical map

$$\text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0 \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k}, X) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0^{\text{rel}} \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k}, X^{\text{rel}}),$$

which induces a map

$$-^{\text{rel}} : V \rightarrow V^{\text{rel}} := \text{Hom}_{O_E}(X_0^{\text{rel}} \otimes_{O_{\bar{E}}} \bar{k}, X^{\text{rel}}) \otimes \mathbb{Q}. \quad (2.26)$$

For every nonzero element  $x \in V$ , we have similarly a closed formal subscheme  $\mathcal{N}^\Phi(x)$  of  $\mathcal{N}^\Phi$  defined similarly as in Definition 2.5.

**Corollary 2.66.** *The map (2.26) is an isomorphism of hermitian spaces. Moreover, under the isomorphism in Corollary 2.65, we have  $\mathcal{N}^\Phi(x) = \mathcal{N}(x^{\text{rel}})$ .*

*Proof.* By the definition of  $-^{\text{rel}}$ , the map (2.26) is clearly an isometry. Since both  $V$  and  $V^{\text{rel}}$  have dimension  $n$ , (2.26) is an isomorphism of hermitian spaces. The second assertion follows from Corollary 2.65 and construction of  $-^{\text{rel}}$ , parallel to [Mih22, Remark 4.4].  $\square$

**Remark 2.67.** Let  $S$  be an object of  $\text{Sch}_{/O_{\bar{E}}}$ . We have another category  $\text{Exo}_{(n,0)}^\Phi(S)$  whose objects are triples  $(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X)$  in which

- $X$  is a  $p$ -divisible group over  $S$  of dimension  $nf$  and height  $2nf$ ;
- $\iota_X : O_E \rightarrow \text{End}(X)$  is an action of  $O_E$  on  $X$  such that for  $0 \leq i \leq f-1$ ,  $O_E$  acts on  $\text{Lie}_{\psi_i}(X)$  via  $\varphi_i$ ;
- $\lambda_X : X \rightarrow X^\vee$  is a  $\iota_X$ -compatible polarisation such that  $\ker(\lambda_X) = X[\iota_X(u)]$ .

Morphisms are defined similarly as in Definition 2.59. The category  $\text{Exo}_{(n,0)}^\Phi(S)$  is a connected groupoid. Moreover, one can show that there is a canonical isomorphism  $\text{Exo}_{(n,0)}^\Phi \rightarrow \text{Exo}_{(n,0)}$  of prestacks after restriction to  $\text{Sch}_{/O_{\bar{E}}}^Y$  similar to (2.22).

**Remark 2.68.** It is desirable to extend the results in this subsection to a general finite extension  $F/\mathbb{Q}_p$ . We hope to address this problem in the future.

### 3. Local theta lifting at ramified places

Throughout this section, we fix a *ramified* quadratic extension  $E/F$  of  $p$ -adic fields with  $p$  odd, with  $c \in \text{Gal}(E/F)$  the Galois involution. We fix a uniformiser  $u \in E$  satisfying  $u^c = -u$  and denote by  $q$  the cardinality of  $O_E/(u)$ . Let  $n = 2r$  be an even positive integer. We fix a nontrivial additive character  $\psi_F: F \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  of conductor  $O_F$ .

The goal of this section is to compute the doubling  $L$ -function, the doubling epsilon factor, the spherical doubling zeta integral and the local theta lifting for a tempered admissible irreducible representation  $\pi$  of  $G_r(F)$  that is spherical with respect to the standard special maximal compact subgroup.

#### 3.1. Weil representation and spherical module

We equip  $W_r := E^{2r}$  with the skew-hermitian form given by the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} & 1_r \\ -1_r & \end{pmatrix}$ . We denote by  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2r}\}$  the natural basis of  $W_r$ . Denote by  $G_r$  the unitary group of  $W_r$ , which is a reductive group over  $F$ . We write elements of  $W_r$  in row form, on which  $G_r$  acts from the right. Let  $K_r \subseteq G_r(F)$  be the stabiliser of the lattice  $O_E^{2r} \subseteq W_r$ , which is a special maximal compact subgroup. We fix the Haar measure  $\text{dg}$  on  $G_r(F)$  that gives  $K_r$  volume 1. Let  $P_r$  be the Borel subgroup of  $G_r$  consisting of elements of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ & {}^t a^{c,-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

in which  $a$  is a lower-triangular matrix in  $\text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_r$ . Let  $P_r^0$  be the maximal parabolic subgroup of  $G_r$  containing  $P_r$  with the unipotent radical  $N_r^0$ , such that the standard diagonal Levi factor  $M_r^0$  of  $P_r^0$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_r$ .

We fix a *split* hermitian space  $(V, (\cdot, \cdot)_V)$  over  $E$  of dimension  $n = 2r$  and a self-dual lattice  $\Lambda_V$  of  $V$ , namely,  $\Lambda_V = \Lambda_V^\vee := \{x \in V \mid \text{Tr}_{E/F}(x, y)_V \in O_F \text{ for every } y \in \Lambda_V\}$ . Put  $H_V := \text{U}(V)$  and let  $L_V$  be the stabiliser of  $\Lambda_V$  in  $H_V(F)$ . We fix the Haar measure  $\text{dh}$  on  $H_V(F)$  that gives  $L_V$  volume 1.

**Remark 3.1.** We have

- (1) There exists an isomorphism  $\kappa: W_r \rightarrow V$  of  $E$ -vector spaces satisfying  $(\kappa(e_i), \kappa(e_j))_V = 0$ ,  $(\kappa(e_{r+i}), \kappa(e_{r+j}))_V = 0$  and  $(\kappa(e_i), \kappa(e_{r+j}))_V = u^{-1}\delta_{ij}$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq r$  and such that  $L_V$  is generated by  $\{\kappa(e_i) \mid 1 \leq i \leq 2r\}$  as an  $O_E$ -submodule.
- (2) The double coset  $K_r \backslash G_r(F) / K_r$  has representatives

$$\begin{pmatrix} u^{a_1} & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & u^{a_r} & & \\ & & & (-u)^{-a_1} & \\ & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & (-u)^{-a_r} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $0 \leq a_1 \leq \dots \leq a_r$  are integers.

We introduce two Hecke algebras:

$$\mathcal{H}_{W_r} := \mathbb{C}[K_r \backslash G_r(F) / K_r], \quad \mathcal{H}_V := \mathbb{C}[L_V \backslash H_V(F) / L_V].$$

Then by the remark above, both  $\mathcal{H}_{W_r}$  and  $\mathcal{H}_V$  are commutative complex algebras and are canonically isomorphic to  $\mathcal{T}_r := \mathbb{C}[T_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, T_r^{\pm 1}]^{\{\pm 1\}^r \rtimes \mathfrak{S}_r}$ .

Let  $(\omega_{W_r, V}, \mathcal{V}_{W_r, V})$  be the Weil representation of  $G_r(F) \times H_V(F)$  (with respect to the additive character  $\psi_F$  and the trivial splitting character). We recall the action under the Schrödinger model  $\mathcal{V}_{W_r, V} \simeq C_c^\infty(V^r)$  as follows:

- o for  $a \in \mathrm{GL}_r(E)$  and  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V^r)$ , we have

$$\omega_{W_r, V} \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & \\ & \det a^{c,-1} \end{pmatrix} \right) \phi(x) = |\det a|_E^r \cdot \phi(xa);$$

- o for  $b \in \mathrm{Herm}_r(F)$  and  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V^r)$ , we have

$$\omega_{W_r, V} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1_r & b \\ & 1_r \end{pmatrix} \right) \phi(x) = \psi_F(\mathrm{tr} bT(x)) \cdot \phi(x)$$

where  $T(x) := ((x_i, x_j)_V)_{1 \leq i, j \leq r}$  is the moment matrix of  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_r)$ ;

- o for  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V^r)$ , we have

$$\omega_{W_r, V} \left( \begin{pmatrix} & 1_r \\ -1_r & \end{pmatrix} \right) \phi(x) = \widehat{\phi}(x);$$

- o for  $h \in H_V(F)$  and  $\phi \in C_c^\infty(V^r)$ , we have

$$\omega_{W_r, V}(h)\phi(x) = \phi(h^{-1}x).$$

Here, we recall the Fourier transform  $C_c^\infty(V^r) \rightarrow C_c^\infty(V^r)$  sending  $\phi$  to  $\widehat{\phi}$  defined by the formula

$$\widehat{\phi}(x) := \int_{V^r} \phi(y) \psi_F \left( \sum_{i=1}^r \mathrm{Tr}_{E/F}(x_i, y_i)_V \right) dy,$$

where  $dy$  is the self-dual Haar measure on  $V^r$ .

**Definition 3.2.** We define the *spherical module*  $\mathcal{S}_{W_r, V}$  to be the subspace of  $\mathcal{V}_{W_r, V}$  consisting of elements that are fixed by  $K_r \times L_V$ , as a module over  $\mathcal{H}_{W_r} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H}_V$  via the representation  $\omega_{W_r, V}$ . We denote by  $\mathrm{Sph}(V^r)$  the corresponding subspace of  $C_c^\infty(V^r)$  under the Schrödinger model.

**Lemma 3.3.** *The function  $\mathbb{1}_{\Lambda_V^r}$  belongs to  $\mathrm{Sph}(V^r)$ .*

*Proof.* It suffices to check that

$$\omega_{W_r, V} \left( \begin{pmatrix} & 1_r \\ -1_r & \end{pmatrix} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda_V^r} = \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda_V^r},$$

which follows from the fact that  $\Lambda_V^\vee = \Lambda_V$ . The lemma follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.4.** *The annihilator of the  $\mathcal{H}_{W_r} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H}_V$ -module  $\mathcal{S}_{W_r, V}$  is  $\mathcal{I}_{W_r, V}$ , where  $\mathcal{I}_{W_r, V}$  denotes the diagonal ideal of  $\mathcal{H}_{W_r} \otimes_{\mathbb{C}} \mathcal{H}_V$ .*

*Proof.* The same proof of [Liu22, Proposition 4.4] (with  $\epsilon = +$  and  $d = r$ ) works in this case as well, using Lemma 3.3.  $\square$

In what follows, we review the construction of unramified principal series of  $G_r(F)$  and  $H_V(F)$ .

We identify  $M_r$ , the standard diagonal Levi factor of  $P_r$ , with  $(\mathrm{Res}_{E/F} \mathrm{GL}_1)^r$ , under which we write an element of  $M_r(F)$  as  $a = (a_1, \dots, a_r)$  with  $a_i \in E^\times$  its eigenvalue on  $e_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . For every tuple  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r) \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q} \mathbb{Z})^r$ , we define a character  $\chi_r^\sigma$  of  $M_r(F)$  and hence  $P_r(F)$  by the formula

$$\chi_r^\sigma(a) = \prod_{i=1}^r |a_i|_E^{\sigma_i + i - 1/2}.$$

We then have the normalised principal series

$$I_{W_r}^\sigma := \{\varphi \in C^\infty(G_r(F)) \mid \varphi(ag) = \chi_r^\sigma(a)\varphi(g) \text{ for } a \in P_r(F) \text{ and } g \in G_r(F)\},$$

which is an admissible representation of  $G_r(F)$  via the right translation. We denote by  $\pi_{W_r}^\sigma$  the unique irreducible constituent of  $I_{W_r}^\sigma$  that has nonzero  $K_r$ -invariants.

For  $V$ , we fix a basis  $\{v_r, \dots, v_1, v_{-1}, \dots, v_{-r}\}$  of the  $O_E$ -lattice  $\Lambda_V$ , satisfying  $(v_i, v_j)_V = u^{-1}\delta_{i,-j}$  for every  $1 \leq i, j \leq r$ . We have an increasing filtration

$$\{0\} = Z_{r+1} \subseteq Z_r \subseteq \dots \subseteq Z_1 \quad (3.1)$$

of isotropic  $E$ -subspaces of  $V$  where  $Z_i$  are the  $E$ -subspaces of  $V$  spanned by  $\{v_r, \dots, v_i\}$ . Let  $Q_V$  be the (minimal) parabolic subgroup of  $H_V$  that stabilises (3.1). Let  $M_V$  be the Levi factor of  $Q_V$  stabilising the lines spanned by  $v_i$  for every  $i$ . Then we have the canonical isomorphism  $M_V = (\text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_1)^r$ , under which we write an element of  $M_V(F)$  as  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_r)$  with  $b_i \in E^\times$  its eigenvalue on  $v_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq r$ . For every tuple  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r) \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^r$ , we define a character  $\chi_V^\sigma$  of  $M_V(F)$  and hence  $Q_V(F)$  by the formula

$$\chi_V^\sigma(b) = \prod_{i=1}^r |b_i|_E^{\sigma_i+i-1/2}.$$

We then have the normalised principal series

$$I_V^\sigma := \{\varphi \in C^\infty(H_V(F)) \mid \varphi(bh) = \chi_V^\sigma(b)\varphi(h) \text{ for } b \in Q_V(F) \text{ and } h \in H_V(F)\},$$

which is an admissible representation of  $H_V(F)$  via the right translation. We denote by  $\pi_V^\sigma$  the unique irreducible constituent of  $I_V^\sigma$  that has nonzero  $L_V$ -invariants.

### 3.2. Doubling zeta integral and doubling $L$ -factor

In this section, we compute certain doubling zeta integrals and doubling  $L$ -factors for irreducible admissible representations  $\pi$  of  $G_r(F)$  satisfying  $\pi^{K_r} \neq \{0\}$ . We will freely use notation from [Liu22, Section 5].

We have the degenerate principal series  $I_r^\square(s) := \text{Ind}_{P_r^\square}^{G_r^\square}(|\cdot|_E^s \circ \Delta)$  of  $G_r^\square(F)$ . Let  $\mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)}$  be the unique section of  $I_r^\square(s)$  such that for every  $g \in pK_r$  with  $p \in P_r^\square(F)$ ,

$$\mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)}(g) = |\Delta(p)|_E^{s+r}.$$

It is a holomorphic standard and hence good section.

**Remark 3.5.** By definition, we have  $I_r^\square(s) \subseteq I_{W_{2r}}^{\sigma_s^\square}$ , where

$$\sigma_s^\square := (s+r-\frac{1}{2}, s+r-\frac{3}{2}, \dots, s-r+\frac{3}{2}, s-r+\frac{1}{2}) \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^{2r}.$$

Moreover, if we denote by  $\varphi^{\sigma_s^\square}$  the unique section in  $I_{W_{2r}}^{\sigma_s^\square}$  that is fixed by  $K_{2r}$  and such that  $\varphi^{\sigma_s^\square}(1_{4r}) = 1$ , then  $\mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)} = \varphi^{\sigma_s^\square}$ .

Let  $\pi$  be an irreducible admissible representation of  $G_r(F)$ . For every element  $\xi \in \pi^\vee \boxtimes \pi$ , we denote by  $H_\xi \in C^\infty(G_r(F))$  its associated matrix coefficient. Then for every meromorphic section  $f^{(s)}$  of  $I_r^\square(s)$ , we have the (doubling) zeta integral

$$Z(\xi, f^{(s)}) := \int_{G_r(F)} H_\xi(g) f^{(s)}(\mathbf{w}_r(g, 1_{2r})) \, dg,$$

which is absolutely convergent for  $\operatorname{Re} s$  large enough and has a meromorphic continuation. We let  $L(s, \pi)$  and  $\varepsilon(s, \pi, \psi_F)$  be the doubling  $L$ -factor and the doubling epsilon factor of  $\pi$ , respectively, defined in [Yam14, Theorem 5.2].

Take an element  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r) \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^r$ . We define an  $L$ -factor

$$L^\sigma(s) := \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{(1 - q^{\sigma_i - s})(1 - q^{-\sigma_i - s})}.$$

Let  $\xi^\sigma$  be a generator of the 1-dimensional space  $((\pi_{W_r}^\sigma)^\vee)^{K_r} \boxtimes (\pi_{W_r}^\sigma)^{K_r}$ , which satisfies  $H_{\xi^\sigma}(1_{2r}) \neq 0$ . We normalise  $\xi^\sigma$  such that  $H_{\xi^\sigma}(1_{2r}) = 1$ , which makes it unique.

**Proposition 3.6.** *For  $\sigma \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^r$ , we have*

$$Z(\xi^\sigma, \mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)}) = \frac{L^\sigma(s + \frac{1}{2})}{b_{2r}(s)},$$

where  $b_{2r}(s) := \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{1 - q^{-2s-2i}}$ .

*Proof.* We have an isomorphism  $m: \operatorname{Res}_{E/F} \operatorname{GL}_r \rightarrow M_r^0$  sending  $a$  to  $\begin{pmatrix} a & \\ & a^{c,-1} \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $\tau$  be the unramified constituent of the normalised induction of  $\boxtimes_{i=1}^r |\sigma_i|_E^{\sigma_i}$ , as a representation of  $\operatorname{GL}_r(E)$ . We fix vectors  $v_0 \in \tau$  and  $v_0^\vee \in \tau^\vee$  fixed by  $M_r^0(F) \cap K_r = m(\operatorname{GL}_r(O_E))$  such that  $\langle v_0^\vee, v_0 \rangle_\tau = 1$ .

By a similar argument in [GPSR87, Section 6] or in the proof of [Liu22, Proposition 5.6], we have

$$Z(\xi^\sigma, \mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)}) = C_{W_r}(s) \int_{\operatorname{GL}_r(E)} \varphi^{W_r, \sigma_s^\square}(\mathbf{w}_r''(m(a), 1_{2r})) |\det a|_E^{-r/2} \langle \tau^\vee(a)v_0^\vee, v_0 \rangle_\tau \, da, \quad (3.2)$$

where

$$C_{W_r}(s) = \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{\zeta_E(2s+2i)}{\zeta_E(2s+r+i)} \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{\zeta_F(2s+2i-1)}{\zeta_F(2s+2i)} = \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{\zeta_E(2s+2i-1)}{\zeta_E(2s+r+i)}.$$

See the proof of [Liu22, Proposition 5.6] for unexplained notation. By [GPSR87, Proposition 6.1], we have

$$\int_{\operatorname{GL}_r(E)} \varphi^{W_r, \sigma_s^\square}(\mathbf{w}_r''(m(a), 1_{2r})) |\det a|_E^{-r/2} \langle \tau^\vee(a)v_0^\vee, v_0 \rangle_\tau \, da = \frac{L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau)L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau^\vee)}{\prod_{i=1}^r \zeta_E(2s+i)}.$$

Combining with (3.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} Z(\xi^\sigma, \mathfrak{f}_r^{(s)}) &= \left( \prod_{i=1}^r \frac{\zeta_E(2s+2i-1)}{\zeta_E(2s+r+i)} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau)L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau^\vee)}{\prod_{i=1}^r \zeta_E(2s+i)} \right) \\ &= \frac{L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau)L(s + \frac{1}{2}, \tau^\vee)}{\prod_{i=1}^r \zeta_E(2s+2i)} \\ &= \frac{L^\sigma(s + \frac{1}{2})}{b_{2r}(s)}. \end{aligned}$$

The proposition is proved.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.7.** *For  $\sigma \in (\mathbb{C}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^r$ , we have*

$$L(s, \pi_{W_r}^\sigma) = L^\sigma(s),$$

and  $\varepsilon(s, \pi_{W_r}^\sigma, \psi_F) = 1$ .

*Proof.* It follows from the same argument for [Yam14, Proposition 7.1], using Proposition 3.6.  $\square$

**Remark 3.8.** It is clear that the base change  $\text{BC}(\pi_{W_r}^\sigma)$  is well-defined, which is an unramified irreducible admissible representation of  $\text{GL}_n(E)$ , and we have  $L(s, \pi_{W_r}^\sigma) = L(s, \text{BC}(\pi_{W_r}^\sigma))$  by Proposition 3.7.

For an irreducible admissible representation  $\pi$  of  $G_r(F)$ , let  $\Theta(\pi, V)$  be the  $\pi$ -isotypic quotient of  $\mathcal{V}_{W_r, V}$ , which is an admissible representation of  $H_V(F)$  and  $\theta(\pi, V)$  its maximal semisimple quotient. By [Wal90],  $\theta(\pi, V)$  is either zero or an irreducible admissible representation of  $H_V(F)$ , known as the *theta lifting* of  $\pi$  to  $V$  (with respect to the additive character  $\psi_F$  and the trivial splitting character).

**Proposition 3.9.** *For an irreducible admissible representation  $\pi$  of  $G_r(F)$  of the form  $\pi_{W_r}^\sigma$  for an element  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_r) \in (i\mathbb{R}/\frac{2\pi i}{\log q}\mathbb{Z})^r$ , we have  $\theta(\pi, V) \simeq \pi_V^\sigma$ .*

*Proof.* By the same argument in the proof of [Liu22, Theorem 6.2], we have  $\Theta(\pi, V)^{L_V} \neq \{0\}$ . By our assumption on  $\sigma$ ,  $\pi$  is tempered. By (the same argument for) [GI16, Theorem 4.1(v)],  $\Theta(\pi, V)$  is a semisimple representation of  $H_V(F)$ ; hence,  $\Theta(\pi, V) = \theta(\pi, V)$ . In particular, we have  $\theta(\pi, V)^{L_V} \neq \{0\}$ . By Proposition 3.4, the diagonal ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{W_r, V}$  annihilates  $(\pi_{W_r}^\sigma)^{K_r} \boxtimes \theta(\pi, V)^{L_V}$ , which implies that  $\theta(\pi, V) \simeq \pi_V^\sigma$ .  $\square$

## 4. Arithmetic inner product formula

In this section, we collect all local ingredients and deduce our main theorems, following the same line as in [LL21]. In Subsections 4.1 and 4.2, we recall the doubling method and the arithmetic theta lifting from [LL21], respectively. In Subsection 4.3, we prove the vanishing of local indices at split places, by proving the second main ingredient of this article, namely, Theorem 4.21. In Subsection 4.4, we recall the formula for local indices at inert places. In Subsection 4.5, we compute local indices at ramified places, based on the Kudla–Rapoport type formula Theorem 2.7. In Subsection 4.6, we recall the formula for local indices at Archimedean places. The deduction of the main results of the article is explained in Subsection 4.7, which is a straightforward modification of [LL21, Section 11].

### 4.1. Recollection on doubling method

For the readers' convenience, we copy three groups of notation from [LL21, Section 2] to here. The only difference is item (H5), which reflects the fact that we are able to study certain places in  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  in the current article.

**Notation 4.1.** Let  $E/F$  be a CM extension of number fields, so that  $\mathbf{c}$  is a well-defined element in  $\text{Gal}(E/F)$ . We continue to fix an embedding  $\iota: E \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$ . We denote by  $\mathbf{u}$  the (Archimedean) place of  $E$  induced by  $\iota$  and regard  $E$  as a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  via  $\iota$ .

(F1) We denote by

- $V_F$  and  $V_F^{\text{fin}}$  the set of all places and non-Archimedean places of  $F$ , respectively;
  - $V_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $V_F^{\text{int}}$  and  $V_F^{\text{ram}}$  the subsets of  $V_F^{\text{fin}}$  of those that are split, inert and ramified in  $E$ , respectively;
  - $V_F^{(\diamond)}$  the subset of  $V_F$  of places above  $\diamond$  for every place  $\diamond$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ; and
  - $V_E^?$  the places of  $E$  above  $V_F^?$ .
- Moreover,
- for every place  $u \in V_E$  of  $E$ , we denote by  $\underline{u} \in V_F$  the underlying place of  $F$ ;
  - for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ , we denote by  $\mathfrak{p}_v$  the maximal ideal of  $O_{F_v}$  and put  $q_v := |O_{F_v}/\mathfrak{p}_v|$ ;
  - for every  $v \in V_F$ , we put  $E_v := E \otimes_F F_v$  and denote by  $|\cdot|_{E_v}: E_v^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  the normalised norm character.

(F2) Let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer.

- We denote by  $\text{Herm}_m$  the subscheme of  $\text{Res}_{E/F} \text{Mat}_{m,m}$  of  $m$ -by- $m$  matrices  $b$  satisfying  ${}^t b^c = b$ . Put  $\text{Herm}_m^\circ := \text{Herm}_m \cap \text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_m$ .

- For every ordered partition  $m = m_1 + \cdots + m_s$  with  $m_i$  a positive integer, we denote by  $\partial_{m_1, \dots, m_s} : \text{Herm}_m \rightarrow \text{Herm}_{m_1} \times \cdots \times \text{Herm}_{m_s}$  the morphism that extracts the diagonal blocks with corresponding ranks.
  - We denote by  $\text{Herm}_m(F)^+$  (respectively  $\text{Herm}_m^\circ(F)^+$ ) the subset of  $\text{Herm}_m(F)$  of elements that are totally semi-positive definite (respectively totally positive definite).
- (F3) For every  $u \in V_E^{(\infty)}$ , we fix an embedding  $\iota_u : E \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  inducing  $u$  (with  $\iota_u = \iota$ ) and identify  $E_u$  with  $\mathbb{C}$  via  $\iota_u$ .
- (F4) Let  $\eta := \eta_{E/F} : \mathbb{A}_F^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  be the quadratic character associated to  $E/F$ . For every  $v \in V_F$  and every positive integer  $m$ , put

$$b_{m,v}(s) := \prod_{i=1}^m L(2s+i, \eta_v^{m-i}).$$

Put  $b_m(s) := \prod_{v \in V_F} b_{m,v}(s)$ .

- (F5) For every element  $T \in \text{Herm}_m(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , we have the character

$$\psi_T : \text{Herm}_m(\mathbb{A}_F) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$$

given by the formula  $\psi_T(b) := \psi_F(\text{tr } bT)$ .

- (F6) Let  $R$  be a commutative  $F$ -algebra. A (skew-)hermitian space over  $R \otimes_F E$  is a free  $R \otimes_F E$ -module  $V$  of finite rank, equipped with a (skew-)hermitian form  $(\cdot, \cdot)_V$  with respect to the involution  $c$  that is nondegenerate.

**Notation 4.2.** We fix an even positive integer  $n = 2r$ . Let  $(V, (\cdot, \cdot)_V)$  be a hermitian space over  $\mathbb{A}_E$  of rank  $n$  that is totally positive definite.

- (H1) For every commutative  $\mathbb{A}_F$ -algebra  $R$  and every integer  $m \geq 0$ , we denote by

$$T(x) := ((x_i, x_j)_V)_{i,j} \in \text{Herm}_m(R)$$

the moment matrix of an element  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_m) \in V^m \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} R$ .

- (H2) For every  $v \in V_F$ , we put  $V_v := V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} F_v$ , which is a hermitian space over  $E_v$ , and define the local Hasse invariant of  $V_v$  to be  $\epsilon(V_v) := \eta_v((-1)^r \det V_v) \in \{\pm 1\}$ , which equals 1 for all but finitely many  $v$ . In what follows, we will abbreviate  $\epsilon(V_v)$  as  $\epsilon_v$ . Recall that  $V$  is coherent (respectively incoherent) if  $\prod_{v \in V_F} \epsilon_v = 1$  (respectively  $\prod_{v \in V_F} \epsilon_v = -1$ ).
- (H3) Let  $v$  be a place of  $F$  and  $m \geq 0$  an integer.

- For  $T \in \text{Herm}_m(F_v)$ , we put  $(V_v^m)_T := \{x \in V_v^m \mid T(x) = T\}$  and

$$(V_v^m)_{\text{reg}} := \bigcup_{T \in \text{Herm}_m^\circ(F_v)} (V_v^m)_T.$$

- We denote by  $\mathcal{S}(V_v^m)$  the space of (complex-valued) Bruhat–Schwartz functions on  $V_v^m$ . When  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ , we have the Gaussian function  $\phi_v^0 \in \mathcal{S}(V_v^m)$  given by the formula  $\phi_v^0(x) = e^{-2\pi \text{tr } T(x)}$ .
- We have a Fourier transform map  $\widehat{\cdot} : \mathcal{S}(V_v^m) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}(V_v^m)$  sending  $\phi$  to  $\widehat{\phi}$  defined by the formula

$$\widehat{\phi}(x) := \int_{V_v^m} \phi(y) \psi_{E,v} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i, y_i)_V \right) dy,$$

where  $dy$  is the self-dual Haar measure on  $V_v^m$  with respect to  $\psi_{E,v}$ .

- In what follows, we will always use this self-dual Haar measure on  $V_v^m$ .

(H4) Let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer. For  $T \in \text{Herm}_m(F)$ , we put

$$\text{Diff}(T, V) := \{v \in V_F \mid (V_v^m)_T = \emptyset\},$$

which is a finite subset of  $V_F \setminus V_F^{\text{spl}}$ .

(H5) Take a nonempty finite subset  $R \subseteq V_F^{\text{fin}}$  that contains

$$\{v \in V_F^{\text{ram}} \mid \text{either } \epsilon_v = -1, \text{ or } v \mid 2 \text{ or } v \text{ is ramified over } \mathbb{Q}\}.$$

Let  $S$  be the subset of  $V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R$  consisting of  $v$  such that  $\epsilon_v = -1$ , which is contained in  $V_F^{\text{int}}$ .

(H6) We fix a  $\prod_{v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R} O_{E_v}$ -lattice  $\Lambda^R$  in  $V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R}$  such that for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R$ ,  $\Lambda_v^R$  is a subgroup of  $(\Lambda_v^R)^\vee$  of index  $q_v^{1-\epsilon_v}$ , where

$$(\Lambda_v^R)^\vee := \{x \in V_v \mid \psi_{E, v}((x, y)_V) = 1 \text{ for every } y \in \Lambda_v^R\}$$

is the  $\psi_{E, v}$ -dual lattice of  $\Lambda_v^R$ .

(H7) Put  $H := U(V)$ , which is a reductive group over  $\mathbb{A}_F$ .

(H8) Denote by  $L^R \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R})$  the stabiliser of  $\Lambda^R$ , which is a special maximal subgroup. We have the (abstract) Hecke algebra away from  $R$

$$\mathbb{T}^R := \mathbb{Z}[L^R \backslash H(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, R}) / L^R],$$

which is a ring with the unit  $1_{L^R}$  and denote by  $\mathbb{S}^R$  the subring

$$\varinjlim_{\substack{T \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}} \setminus R \\ |T| < \infty}} \mathbb{Z}[(L^R)_T \backslash H(F_T) / (L^R)_T] \otimes 1_{(L^R)_T}$$

of  $\mathbb{T}^R$ .

(H9) Suppose that  $V$  is *incoherent*, namely,  $\prod_{v \in V_F} \epsilon_v = -1$ . For every  $u \in V_E \setminus V_E^{\text{spl}}$ , we fix a  $u$ -nearby space  ${}^u V$  of  $V$ , which is a hermitian space over  $E$  and an isomorphism  ${}^u V \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F^u \simeq V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^u$ . More precisely,

- o if  $u \in V_E^{(\infty)}$ , then  ${}^u V$  is the hermitian space over  $E$ , unique up to isomorphism, that has signature  $(n-1, 1)$  at  $u$  and satisfies  ${}^u V \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F^u \simeq V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^u$ ;
- o if  $u \in V_E^{\text{fin}} \setminus V_E^{\text{spl}}$ , then  ${}^u V$  is the hermitian space over  $E$ , unique up to isomorphism, that satisfies  ${}^u V \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F^u \simeq V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^u$ .

Put  ${}^u H := U({}^u V)$ , which is a reductive group over  $F$ . Then  ${}^u H(\mathbb{A}_F^u)$  and  $H(\mathbb{A}_F^u)$  are identified.

**Notation 4.3.** Let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer. We equip  $W_m = E^{2m}$  and  $\bar{W}_m = E^{2m}$  the skew-hermitian forms given by the matrices  $w_m$  and  $-w_m$ , respectively.

- (G1) Let  $G_m$  be the unitary group of both  $W_m$  and  $\bar{W}_m$ . We write elements of  $W_m$  and  $\bar{W}_m$  in row form, on which  $G_m$  acts from the right.
- (G2) We denote by  $\{e_1, \dots, e_{2m}\}$  and  $\{\bar{e}_1, \dots, \bar{e}_{2m}\}$  the natural bases of  $W_m$  and  $\bar{W}_m$ , respectively.
- (G3) Let  $P_m \subseteq G_m$  be the parabolic subgroup stabilising the subspace generated by  $\{e_{m+1}, \dots, e_{2m}\}$  and  $N_m \subseteq P_m$  its unipotent radical.

(G4) We have

- a homomorphism  $m: \text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_m \rightarrow P_m$  sending  $a$  to

$$m(a) := \begin{pmatrix} a & \\ & {}^t a^c, -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

which identifies  $\text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_m$  as a Levi factor of  $P_m$ ;

- a homomorphism  $n: \text{Herm}_m \rightarrow N_m$  sending  $b$  to

$$n(b) := \begin{pmatrix} 1_m & b \\ & 1_m \end{pmatrix},$$

which is an isomorphism.

(G5) We define a maximal compact subgroup  $K_m = \prod_{v \in V_F} K_{m,v}$  of  $G_m(\mathbb{A}_F)$  in the following way:

- for  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $K_{m,v}$  is the stabiliser of the lattice  $O_{E_v}^{2m}$ ;
- for  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $K_{m,v}$  is the subgroup of the form

$$[k_1, k_2] := \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} k_1 + k_2 & -ik_1 + ik_2 \\ ik_1 - ik_2 & k_1 + k_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

in which  $k_i \in \text{GL}_m(\mathbb{C})$  satisfies  $k_i {}^t k_i^c = 1_m$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Here, we have identified  $G_m(F_v)$  as a subgroup of  $\text{GL}_{2m}(\mathbb{C})$  via the embedding  $\iota_u$  with  $v = \underline{u}$  in Notation 4.1(F3).

(G6) For every  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ , we have a character  $\kappa_{m,v}: K_{m,v} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  that sends  $[k_1, k_2]$  to  $\det k_1 / \det k_2$ .<sup>15</sup>

(G7) For every  $v \in V_F$ , we define a Haar measure  $\text{dg}_v$  on  $G_m(F_v)$  as follows:

- for  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $\text{dg}_v$  is the Haar measure under which  $K_{m,v}$  has volume 1;
- for  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $\text{dg}_v$  is the product of the measure on  $K_{m,v}$  of total volume 1 and the standard hyperbolic measure on  $G_m(F_v)/K_{m,v}$  (see, for example, [EL, Section 2.1]).

Put  $\text{dg} = \prod_v \text{dg}_v$ , which is a Haar measure on  $G_m(\mathbb{A}_F)$ .

(G8) We denote by  $\mathcal{A}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  the space of both  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g}_{m,\infty})$ -finite and  $K_{m,\infty}$ -finite automorphic forms on  $G_m(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , where  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathfrak{g}_{m,\infty})$  denotes the centre of the complexified universal enveloping algebra of the Lie algebra  $\mathfrak{g}_{m,\infty}$  of  $G_m \otimes_F F_\infty$ . We denote by

- $\mathcal{A}^{[r]}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  the maximal subspace of  $\mathcal{A}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  on which for every  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $K_{m,v}$  acts by the character  $\kappa_{m,v}^r$ ,

- $\mathcal{A}^{[r]\mathbb{R}}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  the maximal subspace of  $\mathcal{A}^{[r]}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  on which
  - for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus (\mathbb{R} \cup \mathbb{S})$ ,  $K_{m,v}$  acts trivially and
  - for every  $v \in \mathbb{S}$ , the standard Iwahori subgroup  $I_{m,v}$  acts trivially and

$\mathbb{C}[I_{m,v} \backslash K_{m,v} / I_{m,v}]$  acts by the character  $\kappa_{m,v}^-$  ([Liu22, Definition 2.1]),

- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{cusp}}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  the subspace of  $\mathcal{A}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  of cusp forms and by  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{G_m}$  the hermitian form on  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{cusp}}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$  given by the Petersson inner product with respect to the Haar measure  $\text{dg}$ .

For a subspace  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $\mathcal{A}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$ , we denote by

- $\mathcal{V}^{[r]}$  the intersection of  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{[r]}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$ ,
- $\mathcal{V}^{[r]\mathbb{R}}$  the intersection of  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{A}^{[r]\mathbb{R}}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$ ,
- $\mathcal{V}^c$  the subspace  $\{\varphi^c \mid \varphi \in \mathcal{V}\}$ .

**Assumption 4.4.** In what follows, we will consider an irreducible automorphic subrepresentation  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  of  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{cusp}}(G_r(F) \backslash G_r(\mathbb{A}_F))$  satisfying that

<sup>15</sup>In fact, both  $K_{m,v}$  and  $\kappa_{m,v}$  do not depend on the choice of the embedding  $\iota_u$  for  $v = \underline{u} \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ .

- (1) for every  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is the (unique up to isomorphism) discrete series representation whose restriction to  $K_{r,v}$  contains the character  $\kappa_{r,v}^r$ ;
- (2) for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R$ ,  $\pi_v$  is unramified (respectively almost unramified) with respect to  $K_{r,v}$  if  $\epsilon_v = 1$  (respectively  $\epsilon_v = -1$ );
- (3) for every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $\pi_v$  is tempered.

We realise the contragredient representation  $\pi^\vee$  on  $\mathcal{V}_\pi$  via the Petersson inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{G_r}$  (Notation 4.3(G8)). By (1) and (2), we have  $\mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]R} \neq \{0\}$ , where  $\mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]R}$  is defined in Notation 4.3(G8).

**Remark 4.5.** By Proposition 4.8(2), we know that when  $R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $V$  coincides with the hermitian space over  $\mathbb{A}_E$  of rank  $n$  determined by  $\pi$  via local theta dichotomy.

**Definition 4.6.** We define the  $L$ -function for  $\pi$  as the Euler product  $L(s, \pi) := \prod_v L(s, \pi_v)$  over all places of  $F$ , in which

- (1) for  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $L(s, \pi_v)$  is the doubling  $L$ -function defined in [Yam14, Theorem 5.2];
- (2) for  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ ,  $L(s, \pi_v)$  is the  $L$ -function of the standard base change  $\text{BC}(\pi_v)$  of  $\pi_v$ . By Assumption 4.4(1),  $\text{BC}(\pi_v)$  is the principal series representation of  $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$  that is the normalised induction of  $\arg^{n-1} \boxtimes \arg^{n-3} \boxtimes \cdots \boxtimes \arg^{3-n} \boxtimes \arg^{1-n}$ , where  $\arg: \mathbb{C}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$  is the argument character.

**Remark 4.7.** Let  $v$  be a place of  $F$ .

- (1) For  $v \in V_F^{(\infty)}$ , the doubling  $L$ -function is only well-defined up to an entire function without zeros. However, one can show that  $L(s, \pi_v)$  satisfies the requirement for the doubling  $L$ -function in [Yam14, Theorem 5.2].
- (2) For  $v \in V_F^{\text{spl}}$ , the standard base change  $\text{BC}(\pi_v)$  is well-defined and we have  $L(s, \pi_v) = L(s, \text{BC}(\pi_v))$  by [Yam14, Theorem 7.2].
- (3) For  $v \in V_F^{\text{int}} \setminus R$ , the standard base change  $\text{BC}(\pi_v)$  is well-defined and we have  $L(s, \pi_v) = L(s, \text{BC}(\pi_v))$  by [Liu22, Remark 1.4].
- (4) For  $v \in V_F^{\text{ram}} \setminus R$ , the standard base change  $\text{BC}(\pi_v)$  is well-defined and we have  $L(s, \pi_v) = L(s, \text{BC}(\pi_v))$  by Remark 3.8.

In particular, when  $R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$ , we have  $L(s, \pi) = \prod_v L(s, \text{BC}(\pi_v))$ .

Recall that we have the normalised doubling integral

$$\mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^\natural: \pi_v^\vee \otimes \pi_v \otimes \mathcal{S}(V_v^{2r}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

from [LL21, Section 3].

**Proposition 4.8.** Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 4.4.

- (1) For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ , we have

$$\dim_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Hom}_{G_r(F_v) \times G_r(F_v)}(\mathfrak{I}_{r,v}^\square(0), \pi_v \boxtimes \pi_v^\vee) = 1.$$

- (2) For every  $v \in (V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R) \cup V_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $V_v$  is the unique hermitian space over  $E_v$  of rank  $2r$ , up to isomorphism, such that  $\mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^\natural \neq 0$ .
- (3) For every  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}}$ ,  $\text{Hom}_{G_r(F_v)}(\mathcal{S}(V_v^r), \pi_v)$  is irreducible as a representation of  $H(F_v)$  and is nonzero if  $v \in (V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R) \cup V_F^{\text{spl}}$ .

*Proof.* This is same as [LL21, Proposition 3.6] except that in (2) we have to take care of the case where  $v \in V_F^{\text{ram}}$ , which is a consequence of Proposition 3.9.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.9.** Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 4.4 such that  $L(\frac{1}{2}, \pi) = 0$ . Take

- o  $\varphi_1 = \otimes_v \varphi_{1v} \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]\mathbb{R}}$  and  $\varphi_2 = \otimes_v \varphi_{2v} \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]\mathbb{R}}$  such that  $\langle \varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v} \rangle_{\pi_v} = 1$  for  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F \setminus \mathbb{R}$ ,<sup>16</sup> and
- o  $\Phi = \otimes_v \Phi_v \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r})$  such that  $\Phi_v$  is the Gaussian function (Notation 4.2(H3)) for  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(\infty)}$  and  $\Phi_v = \mathbb{1}_{(\Lambda_v^{\mathbb{R}})^{2r}}$  for  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ .

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{G_r(F) \setminus G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)} \int_{G_r(F) \setminus G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)} \varphi_2(g_2) \varphi_1^c(g_1) E'(0, (g_1, g_2), \Phi) \, dg_1 \, dg_2 \\ &= \frac{L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)}{b_{2r}(0)} \cdot C_r^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{fin}}} \mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^{\natural}(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \Phi_v) \\ &= \frac{L'(\frac{1}{2}, \pi)}{b_{2r}(0)} \cdot C_r^{[F:\mathbb{Q}]} \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathbb{S}} \frac{(-1)^r q_v^{r-1} (q_v + 1)}{(q_v^{2r-1} + 1)(q_v^{2r} - 1)} \cdot \prod_{v \in \mathbb{R}} \mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^{\natural}(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \Phi_v), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$C_r := (-1)^r 2^{-2r} \pi^{r^2} \frac{\Gamma(1) \cdots \Gamma(r)}{\Gamma(r+1) \cdots \Gamma(2r)},$$

and the measure on  $G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)$  is the one defined in Notation 4.3(G7).

*Proof.* The proof is same as [LL21, Proposition 3.7], with the additional input

$$\mathfrak{Z}_{\pi_v, V_v}^{\natural}(\varphi_{1v}^c, \varphi_{2v}, \Phi_v) = 1$$

for  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{ram}} \setminus \mathbb{R}$  by Proposition 3.6. □

Suppose that  $V$  is incoherent. By [Liu11b, Section 2B], we have

- (1) Take  $u \in \mathbb{V}_E \setminus \mathbb{V}_E^{\text{spl}}$  and  ${}^u\Phi = \otimes_v {}^u\Phi_v \in \mathcal{S}({}^uV^{2r} \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F)$ , where we recall from Notation 4.2(H9) that  ${}^uV$  is the  $u$ -nearby hermitian space, such that  $\text{supp}({}^u\Phi_v) \subseteq ({}^uV_v^{2r})_{\text{reg}}$  (Notation 4.2(H3)) for  $v$  in a nonempty subset  $\mathbb{R}' \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . Then for every  $g \in P_r^\square(F_{\mathbb{R}'})G_r^\square(\mathbb{A}_F^{\mathbb{R}'})$ , we have

$$E(0, g, {}^u\Phi) = \sum_{T^\square \in \text{Herm}_{2r}^\circ(F)} \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F} W_{T^\square}(0, g_v, {}^u\Phi_v).$$

- (2) Take  $\Phi = \otimes_v \Phi_v \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r})$  such that  $\text{supp}(\Phi_v) \subseteq (V_v^{2r})_{\text{reg}}$  for  $v$  in a subset  $\mathbb{R}' \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  of cardinality at least 2. Then for every  $g \in P_r^\square(F_{\mathbb{R}'})G_r^\square(\mathbb{A}_F^{\mathbb{R}'})$ , we have

$$E'(0, g, \Phi) = \sum_{w \in \mathbb{V}_F \setminus \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{spl}}} \mathfrak{E}(g, \Phi)_w,$$

where

$$\mathfrak{E}(g, \Phi)_w := \sum_{\substack{T^\square \in \text{Herm}_{2r}^\circ(F) \\ \text{Diff}(T^\square, V) = \{w\}}} W'_{T^\square}(0, g_w, \Phi_w) \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F \setminus \{w\}} W_{T^\square}(0, g_v, \Phi_v).$$

Here,  $\text{Diff}(T^\square, V)$  is defined in Notation 4.2(H4).

<sup>16</sup>Strictly speaking, what we fixed is a decomposition  $\varphi_1^c = \otimes_v (\varphi_1^c)_v$  and we have abused notation by writing  $\varphi_1^c$  instead of  $(\varphi_1^c)_v$ .

**Definition 4.10.** Suppose that  $V$  is incoherent. Take an element  $u \in \mathbb{V}_E \setminus \mathbb{V}_E^{\text{spl}}$  and a pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  of elements in  $\text{Herm}_r(F)$ .

(1) For  ${}^u\Phi = \otimes_v {}^u\Phi_v \in \mathcal{S}({}^uV^{2r} \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F)$ , we put

$$E_{T_1, T_2}(g, {}^u\Phi) := \sum_{\substack{T^\square \in \text{Herm}_{2r}^\circ(F) \\ \partial_{r,r} T^\square = (T_1, T_2)}} \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F} W_{T^\square}(0, g_v, {}^u\Phi_v).$$

(2) For  $\Phi = \otimes_v \Phi_v \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r})$ , we put

$$\mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}(g, \Phi)_u := \sum_{\substack{T^\square \in \text{Herm}_{2r}^\circ(F) \\ \text{Diff}(T^\square, V) = \{\underline{u}\} \\ \partial_{r,r} T^\square = (T_1, T_2)}} W'_{T^\square}(0, g_{\underline{u}}, \Phi_{\underline{u}}) \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F \setminus \{\underline{u}\}} W_{T^\square}(0, g_v, \Phi_v).$$

Here,  $\partial_{r,r} : \text{Herm}_{2r} \rightarrow \text{Herm}_r \times \text{Herm}_r$  is defined in Notation 4.1(F2).

## 4.2. Recollection on arithmetic theta lifting

From this moment, we will assume  $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$ .

Recall that we have fixed a  $\mathbf{u}$ -nearby space  ${}^uV$  and an isomorphism  ${}^uV \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F^{\underline{u}} \simeq V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\underline{u}}$  from Notation 4.2(H9). For every open compact subgroup  $L \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ , we have the Shimura variety  $X_L$  associated to  $\text{Res}_{F/\mathbb{Q}} {}^uH$  of the level  $L$ , which is a smooth quasi-projective scheme over  $E$  (which is regarded as a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  via  $\iota$ ) of dimension  $n-1$ . We remind the reader of its complex uniformisation

$$(X_L \otimes_E \mathbb{C})^{\text{an}} \simeq {}^uH(F) \backslash \mathfrak{D} \times H(\mathbb{A}_F)/L,$$

where  $\mathfrak{D}$  denotes the complex manifold of negative lines in  ${}^uV \otimes_E \mathbb{C}$  and the Deligne homomorphism is the one adopted in [LTXZZ, Section 3.2]. In what follows, for a place  $u \in \mathbb{V}_E$ , we put  $X_{L,u} := X_L \otimes_E E_u$  as a scheme over  $E_u$ .

For every  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^m \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^L$  and  $T \in \text{Herm}_m(F)$ , we put

$$Z_T(\phi^\infty)_L := \sum_{\substack{x \in L \setminus V^m \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty \\ T(x) = T}} \phi^\infty(x) Z(x)_L,$$

where  $Z(x)_L$  is Kudla's special cycle recalled in [LL21, Definition 4.1]. As the above summation is finite,  $Z_T(\phi^\infty)_L$  is a well-defined element in  $\text{CH}^m(X_L)_\mathbb{C}$ . For every  $g \in G_m(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , Kudla's *generating function* is defined to be

$$Z_{\phi^\infty}(g)_L := \sum_{T \in \text{Herm}_m(F)^+} \omega_{m,\infty}(g_\infty) \phi_\infty^0(T) \cdot Z_T(\omega_m(g^\infty) \phi^\infty)_L$$

as a formal sum valued in  $\text{CH}^m(X_L)_\mathbb{C}$ , where

$$\omega_{m,\infty}(g_\infty) \phi_\infty^0(T) := \prod_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(\infty)}} \omega_{m,v}(g_v) \phi_v^0(T).$$

Here, we note that for  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(\infty)}$ , the function  $\omega_{m,v}(g_v) \phi_v^0$  factors through the moment map  $V_v^m \rightarrow \text{Herm}_m(F_v)$  (see Notation 4.2(H1)).

**Hypothesis 4.11** (Modularity of generating functions of codimension  $m$ , [LL21, Hypothesis 4.5]). For every open compact subgroup  $L \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ , every  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^m \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^L$  and every complex linear

map  $l: \mathrm{CH}^m(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , the assignment

$$g \mapsto l(Z_{\phi^\infty}(g)_L)$$

is absolutely convergent and gives an element in  $\mathcal{A}^{[r]}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F))$ . In other words, the function  $Z_{\phi^\infty}(-)_L$  defines an element in  $\mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{C}}(\mathrm{CH}^m(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\vee}, \mathcal{A}^{[r]}(G_m(F) \backslash G_m(\mathbb{A}_F)))$ .

**Definition 4.12.** Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 4.4. Assume Hypothesis 4.11 on the modularity of generating functions of codimension  $r$ . For every  $\varphi \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]}$ , every open compact subgroup  $L \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$  and every  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^L$ , we put

$$\Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)_L := \int_{G_r(F) \backslash G_r(\mathbb{A}_F)} \varphi^c(g) Z_{\phi^\infty}(g)_L \, dg,$$

which is an element in  $\mathrm{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}$  by [LL21, Proposition 4.7]. It is clear that the image of  $\Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)_L$  in

$$\mathrm{CH}^r(X)_{\mathbb{C}} := \varinjlim_L \mathrm{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}$$

depends only on  $\varphi$  and  $\phi^\infty$ , which we denote by  $\Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)$ . Finally, we define the *arithmetic theta lifting* of  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  to  $V$  (with respect to  $\iota$ ) to be the complex subspace  $\Theta(\pi, V)$  of  $\mathrm{CH}^r(X)_{\mathbb{C}}$  spanned by  $\Theta_{\phi^\infty}(\varphi)$  for all  $\varphi \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]}$  and  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ .

We recall Beilinson's height pairing for our particular use from [LL21, Section 6]. We have a map

$$\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{X_L, E}^\ell: \mathrm{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle} \times \mathrm{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_\ell$$

that is complex linear in the first variable and conjugate symmetric. Here,  $\ell$  is a rational prime such that  $X_{L,u}$  has smooth projective reduction for every  $u \in V_E^{(\ell)}$ . For a pair  $(c_1, c_2)$  of elements in  $\mathrm{Z}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle} \times \mathrm{Z}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$  with disjoint supports, we have

$$\langle c_1, c_2 \rangle_{X_L, E}^\ell = \sum_{u \in V_E^{(\infty)}} 2\langle c_1, c_2 \rangle_{X_{L,u}, E_u} + \sum_{u \in V_E^{\text{fin}}} \log q_u \cdot \langle c_1, c_2 \rangle_{X_{L,u}, E_u}^\ell,$$

in which

- $q_u$  is the residue cardinality of  $E_u$  for  $u \in V_E^{\text{fin}}$ ;
- $\langle c_1, c_2 \rangle_{X_{L,u}, E_u}^\ell \in \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_\ell$  is the non-Archimedean local index recalled in [LL21, Section B] for  $u \in V_E^{\text{fin}}$  (see [LL21, Remark B.11] when  $u$  is above  $\ell$ ), which equals zero for all but finitely many  $u$ ;
- $\langle c_1, c_2 \rangle_{X_{L,u}, E_u} \in \mathbb{C}$  is the Archimedean local index for  $u \in V_E^{(\infty)}$ , recalled in [LL21, Section 10].

**Definition 4.13.** We say that a rational prime  $\ell$  is *R-good* if  $\ell$  is unramified in  $E$  and satisfies  $V_F^{(\ell)} \subseteq V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus (R \cup S)$ .

**Definition 4.14.** For every open compact subgroup  $L_R$  of  $H(F_R)$  and every subfield  $\mathbb{L}$  of  $\mathbb{C}$ , we define

(1)  $(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{L}}^R)_{L_R}^0$  to be the subalgebra of  $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{L}}^R$  (Notation 4.2(H8)) of elements that annihilate

$$\bigoplus_{i \neq 2r-1} H_{\mathrm{dR}}^i(X_{L_R L^R}/E) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L},$$

(2) for every rational prime  $\ell$ ,  $(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{L}}^{\mathbb{R}})_{L_{\mathbb{R}}}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$  to be the subalgebra of  $\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{L}}^{\mathbb{R}}$  of elements that annihilate

$$\bigoplus_{u \in V_E^{\text{fin}} \setminus V_E^{\langle \ell \rangle}} H^{2r}(X_{L_{\mathbb{R}} L^{\mathbb{R}}, u}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L}.$$

Here,  $L^{\mathbb{R}}$  is defined in Notation 4.2(H8).

**Definition 4.15.** Consider a nonempty subset  $R' \subseteq R$ , an  $R$ -good rational prime  $\ell$  and an open compact subgroup  $L$  of  $H(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty})$  of the form  $L_R L^{\mathbb{R}}$  where  $L^{\mathbb{R}}$  is defined in Notation 4.2(H8). An  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple is a sextuple  $(\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty}, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  in which

- o for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\phi_i^{\infty} = \otimes_v \phi_{iv}^{\infty} \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty})^L$  in which  $\phi_{iv}^{\infty} = \mathbb{1}_{(\Lambda_v^{\mathbb{R}})^r}$  for  $v \in V_F^{\text{fin}} \setminus R$ , satisfying that  $\text{supp}(\phi_{1v}^{\infty} \otimes (\phi_{2v}^{\infty})^c) \subseteq (V_v^{2r})_{\text{reg}}$  for  $v \in R'$ ;
- o for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $s_i$  is a product of two elements in  $(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\mathbb{R}})_{L_{\mathbb{R}}}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$ ;
- o for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $g_i$  is an element in  $G_r(\mathbb{A}_F^{R'})$ .

For an  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty}, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and every pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  of elements in  $\text{Herm}_r^{\circ}(F)^+$ , we define

(1) the global index  $I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty}, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L_{\mathbb{R}}}^{\ell}$  to be

$$\langle \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{1\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_1) \cdot s_1^* Z_{T_1}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_1^{\infty}) \phi_1^{\infty})_L, \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{2\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_2) \cdot s_2^* Z_{T_2}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_2^{\infty}) \phi_2^{\infty})_L \rangle_{X_{L_{\mathbb{R}}, E}}^{\ell}$$

as an element in  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}$ , where we note that for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $s_i^* Z_{T_i}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_i^{\infty}) \phi_i^{\infty})_L$  belongs to  $\text{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$  by Definition 4.14(2);

(2) for every  $u \in V_E^{\text{fin}}$ , the local index  $I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty}, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}^{\ell}$  to be

$$\langle \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{1\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_1) \cdot s_1^* Z_{T_1}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_1^{\infty}) \phi_1^{\infty})_L, \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{2\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_2) \cdot s_2^* Z_{T_2}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_2^{\infty}) \phi_2^{\infty})_L \rangle_{X_{L, u}, E_u}^{\ell}$$

as an element in  $\mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}$ ;

(3) for every  $u \in V_E^{(\infty)}$ , the local index  $I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty}, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}$  to be

$$\langle \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{1\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_1) \cdot s_1^* Z_{T_1}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_1^{\infty}) \phi_1^{\infty})_L, \omega_{r, \infty}(g_{2\infty}) \phi_{\infty}^0(T_2) \cdot s_2^* Z_{T_2}(\omega_r^{\infty}(g_2^{\infty}) \phi_2^{\infty})_L \rangle_{X_{L, u}, E_u}$$

as an element in  $\mathbb{C}$ .

Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_{\pi})$  be as in Assumption 4.4 and assume Hypothesis 4.11 on the modularity of generating functions of codimension  $r$ .

**Remark 4.16.** In the situation of Definition 4.12 (and suppose that  $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$ ), suppose that  $L$  has the form  $L_R L^{\mathbb{R}}$  where  $L^{\mathbb{R}}$  is defined in Notation 4.2(H8). We have, from [LL21, Proposition 6.10], that for every  $\varphi \in \mathcal{V}_{\pi}^{[r]\mathbb{R}}$  and every  $\phi^{\infty} \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty})^L$ ,

- (1)  $s^* \Theta_{\phi^{\infty}}(\varphi)_L = \chi_{\pi}^{\mathbb{R}}(s)^c \cdot \Theta_{\phi^{\infty}}(\varphi)_L$  for every  $s \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\mathbb{R}}$ ;
- (2)  $\Theta_{\phi^{\infty}}(\varphi)_L \in \text{CH}^r(X_L)_0^0$ ;
- (3) under [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6],  $\Theta_{\phi^{\infty}}(\varphi)_L \in \text{CH}^r(X_L)_{\mathbb{C}}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$  for every  $R$ -good rational prime  $\ell$ .

We recall the *normalised height pairing* between the cycles  $\Theta_{\phi^{\infty}}(\varphi)$  in Definition 4.12, under [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6].

**Definition 4.17.** Under [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6], every collection of elements  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \mathcal{V}_{\pi}^{[r]}$  and  $\phi_1^{\infty}, \phi_2^{\infty} \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty})$ , we define the *normalised height pairing*

$$\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^{\infty}}(\varphi_1), \Theta_{\phi_2^{\infty}}(\varphi_2) \rangle_{X, E}^{\natural} \in \mathbb{C} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}$$

to be the unique element such that for every  $L = L_R L^R$  as in Remark 4.16 (with  $R$  possibly enlarged) satisfying  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2 \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]R}$ ,  $\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V^r \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^L$  and that  $\ell$  is  $R$ -good, we have

$$\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1), \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2) \rangle_{X, E}^\natural = \text{vol}^\natural(L) \cdot \langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1)_L, \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2)_L \rangle_{X_L, E}^\ell,$$

where  $\text{vol}^\natural(L)$  is introduced in [LL21, Definition 3.8] and

$$\langle \Theta_{\phi_1^\infty}(\varphi_1)_L, \Theta_{\phi_2^\infty}(\varphi_2)_L \rangle_{X_L, E}^\ell$$

is well-defined by Remark 4.16(3). Note that by the projection formula, the right-hand side of the above formula is independent of  $L$ .

Finally, we review the auxiliary Shimura variety that will *only* be used in the computation of local indices  $I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}$ .

**Notation 4.18.** We denote by  $T_0$  the torus over  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that for every commutative  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra  $R$ , we have  $T_0(R) = \{a \in E \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} R \mid \text{Nm}_{E/F} a \in R^\times\}$ .

We choose a CM type  $\Phi$  of  $E$  containing  $\iota$  and denote by  $E'$  the subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$  generated by  $E$  and the reflex field of  $\Phi$ . We also choose a skew-hermitian space  $W$  over  $E$  of rank 1, whose group of rational similitude is canonically  $T_0$ . For a (sufficiently small) open compact subgroup  $L_0$  of  $T_0(\mathbb{A}^\infty)$ , we have the PEL type moduli scheme  $Y$  of CM abelian varieties with CM type  $\Phi$  and level  $L_0$ , which is a smooth projective scheme over  $E'$  of dimension 0 (see, for example, [Kot92]). In what follows, when we invoke this construction, the data  $\Phi$ ,  $W$  and  $L_0$  will be fixed and hence will not be carried into the notation  $E'$  and  $Y$ . For every open compact subgroup  $L \subseteq H(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$ , we put

$$X'_L := X_L \otimes_E Y$$

as a scheme over  $E'$ .

The following notation is parallel to [LL21, Notation 5.6].

**Notation 4.19.** In Subsections 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5, we will consider a place  $u \in \mathbb{V}_E^{\text{fin}} \setminus \mathbb{V}_F^\heartsuit$  (Definition 1.1). Let  $p$  be the underlying rational prime of  $u$ . We will fix an isomorphism  $\mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  under which  $\iota$  induces the place  $u$ . In particular, we may identify  $\Phi$  as a subset of  $\text{Hom}(E, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p)$ .

We further require that  $\Phi$  in Notation 4.18 be *admissible* in the following sense: if  $\Phi_v \subseteq \Phi$  denotes the subset inducing the place  $v$  for every  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)}$ , then it satisfies

- (1) when  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $\Phi_v$  induces the same place of  $E$  above  $v$ ;
- (2) when  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{int}}$ ,  $\Phi_v$  is the pullback of a CM type of the maximal subfield of  $E_v$  unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ ;
- (3) when  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\text{ram}}$ , the subfield of  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  generated by  $E_u$  and the reflex field of  $\Phi_v$  is unramified over  $E_u$ .

To release the burden of notation, we denote by  $K$  the subfield of  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  generated by  $E_u$  and the reflex field of  $\Phi$ , by  $k$  its residue field and by  $\check{K}$  the completion of the maximal unramified extension of  $K$  in  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  with the residue field  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ . It is clear that admissible CM type always exists for  $u \in \mathbb{V}_E^{\text{fin}} \setminus \mathbb{V}_F^\heartsuit$  and that  $K$  is unramified over  $E_u$ .

We also choose a (sufficiently small) open compact subgroup  $L_0$  of  $T_0(\mathbb{A}^\infty)$  such that  $L_{0,p}$  is maximal compact. We denote by  $\mathcal{Y}$  the integral model of  $Y$  over  $O_K$  such that for every  $S \in \text{Sch}'_{O_K}$ ,  $\mathcal{Y}(S)$  is the set of equivalence classes of quadruples  $(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p)$  where

- $(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0})$  is a unitary  $O_E$ -abelian scheme over  $S$  of signature type  $\Phi$  (see [LTXZZ, Definition 3.4.2 & Definition 3.4.3])<sup>17</sup> such that  $\lambda_{A_0}$  is  $p$ -principal;
- $\eta_{A_0}^p$  is an  $L_0^p$ -level structure (see [LTXZZ, Definition 4.2.2] for more details).

By [How12, Proposition 3.1.2],  $\mathcal{Y}$  is finite and étale over  $O_K$ .

#### 4.3. Local indices at split places

In this subsection, we compute local indices at almost all places in  $V_E^{\text{spl}}$ . Our goal is to prove the following proposition.

**Proposition 4.20.** *Let  $R, R', \ell$  and  $L$  be as in Definition 4.15 such that the cardinality of  $R'$  is at least 2. Let  $(\pi, V_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 4.4. For every  $u \in V_E^{\text{spl}}$  satisfying  $\underline{u} \notin R \setminus V_F^\heartsuit$  and  $V_F^{(p)} \cap R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$  where  $\pi$  is the underlying rational prime of  $u$ , there exist elements  $s_1^u, s_2^u \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^R \setminus \mathfrak{m}_\pi^R$  such that*

$$I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1^u s_1, s_2^u s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}^\ell = 0$$

for every  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and every pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  in  $\text{Herm}_r^{\circ}(F)^+$ . Moreover, we may take  $s_1^u = s_2^u = 1$  if  $\underline{u} \notin R$ .

*Proof.* This is simply [LL21, Proposition 7.1] but without the assumption that  $\pi_{\underline{u}}$  is a (tempered) principal series and without relying on [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. The proof is the same, after we slightly generalise the construction of the integral model  $\mathcal{X}_m$  to take care of places in  $V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{ram}}$  and use Theorem 4.21, which generalises [LL21, Lemma 7.3].  $\square$

From now to the end of this section, we assume  $V_F^{(p)} \cap R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$ . We also assume  $\underline{u} \in V_F^\heartsuit$  and when we need  $m \geq 1$  below. We invoke Notation 4.18 together with Notation 4.19. The isomorphism  $\mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  in Notation 4.19 identifies  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C})$  with  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C}_p)$ . For every  $v \in V_F^{(p)}$ , let  $\Phi_v$  be the subset of  $\Phi$ , regarded as a subset of  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C}_p)$ , of elements that induce the place  $v$  of  $F$ .

For every integer  $m \geq 0$ , we define a moduli functor  $\mathcal{X}_m$  over  $O_K$  as follows: For every  $S \in \text{Sch}'_{/O_K}$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_m(S)$  is the set of equivalence classes of tuples

$$(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p; A, \iota_A, \lambda_A, \eta_A^p, \{\eta_{A, v}\}_{v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{spl}} \setminus \{\underline{u}\}}, \eta_{A, u, m})$$

where

- $(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p)$  is an element in  $\mathcal{Y}(S)$ ;
- $(A, \iota_A, \lambda_A)$  is a unitary  $O_E$ -abelian scheme of signature type  $n\Phi - \iota_w + \iota_w^c$  over  $S$ , such that
  - for every  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\text{ram}}$ ,  $\lambda_A[v^\infty]$  is an isogeny whose kernel has order  $q_v^{1-\epsilon_v}$ ;
  - $\text{Lie}(A[u^{\text{c}, \infty}])$  is of rank 1 on which the action of  $O_E$  is given by the embedding  $\iota_w^c$ ;
  - for every  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{ram}}$ , the triple  $(A_0[v^\infty], \iota_{A_0}[v^\infty], \lambda_{A_0}[v^\infty]) \otimes_{O_K} O_{\breve{K}}$  is an object of  $\text{Exo}_{(n, 0)}^{\Phi_v}(S \otimes_{O_K} O_{\breve{K}})$  (Remark 2.67, with  $E = E_v$ ,  $F = F_v$  and  $\breve{E} = \breve{K}$ )<sup>18</sup>;
- $\eta_A^p$  is an  $L^p$ -level structure;
- for every  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{spl}} \setminus \{\underline{u}\}$ ,  $\eta_{A, v}$  is an  $L_v$ -level structure;
- $\eta_{A, u, m}$  is a Drinfeld level- $m$  structure.

See [LL21, Section 7] for more details for the last three items. By [RSZ20, Theorem 4.5], for every  $m \geq 0$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_m$  is a regular scheme, flat (smooth, if  $m = 0$ ) and projective over  $O_K$  and admits a canonical isomorphism

$$\mathcal{X}_m \otimes_{O_K} K \simeq X'_{L_{\underline{u}, m} L_{\underline{u}}} \otimes_{E'} K$$

<sup>17</sup>Here, our notation on objects is slightly different from [LTXZZ] or [LL21] as we, in particular, retrieve the  $O_E$ -action  $\iota_{A_0}$ .

<sup>18</sup>The sign condition is redundant in our case by [RSZ20, Remark 5.1(i)].

of schemes over  $K$ . Note that for every integer  $m \geq 0$ ,  $\mathbb{S}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$  naturally gives a ring of étale correspondences of  $\mathcal{X}_m$ .<sup>19</sup>

The following theorem confirms the conjecture proposed in [LL21, Remark 7.4], and the rest of this subsection will be devoted to its proof. It is worth mentioning that even in the situation of [LL21, Lemma 7.3], the argument below is slightly improved so that [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6] is not relied on anymore.

**Theorem 4.21.** *Let the situation be as in Proposition 4.20 and assume  $\underline{u} \in V_F^\heartsuit$  and  $p \neq \ell$ . For every integer  $m \geq 0$ ,*

$$\left( H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \mathbb{Q}_\ell(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}} \right)_m = 0$$

holds, where  $\mathfrak{m} := \mathfrak{m}_\pi^{\mathbb{R}} \cap \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^{\text{RUV}_F^{(p)}}$ .

We temporarily allow  $n$  to be an arbitrary positive integer, not necessarily even. Put  $Y_m := \mathcal{X}_m \otimes_{O_K} k$ . For every point  $x \in Y_m(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)$ , we know that  $A_x[u^{\text{c}, \infty}]$  is a 1-dimensional  $O_{F_{\underline{u}}}$ -divisible group of (relative) height  $n$  and we let  $0 \leq h(x) \leq n-1$  be the height of its étale part. For  $0 \leq h \leq n-1$ , let  $Y_m^{[h]}$  be the locus where  $h(x) \leq h$ , which is Zariski closed and hence will be endowed with the reduced induced scheme structure, and put  $Y_m^{(h)} := Y_m^{[h]} - Y_m^{[h-1]}$  ( $Y_m^{[-1]} = \emptyset$ ). It is known that  $Y_m^{(h)}$  is smooth over  $k$  of pure dimension  $h$ .

Now we suppose that  $m \geq 1$ . Let  $\mathfrak{S}_m^h$  be the set of free  $O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m$ -submodules of  $(\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^{-m}/O_{F_{\underline{u}}})^n$  of rank  $n-h$  and put  $\mathfrak{S}_m := \bigcup_{h=0}^{n-1} \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ . For every  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ , we denote by  $Y_m^{(M)} \subseteq Y_m^{(h)}$  the (open and closed) locus where the kernel of the Drinfeld level- $m$  structure is  $M$ . Then we have

$$Y_m^{(h)} = \bigsqcup_{M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h} Y_m^{(M)}$$

for every  $0 \leq h \leq n-1$ . Let  $Y_m^{[M]}$  be the scheme-theoretic closure of  $Y_m^{(M)}$  inside  $Y_m$ . Then we have

$$Y_m^{[M]} = \bigcup_{\substack{M' \in \mathfrak{S}_m \\ M \subseteq M'}} Y_m^{(M')} \tag{4.1}$$

as a disjoint union of strata. Note that Hecke operators away from  $\underline{u}$  (of level  $L^{\underline{u}}$ ) preserve  $Y_m^{(M)}$  and hence  $Y_m^{[M]}$  for every  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m$ .

We need some general notation. For a sequence  $(g_1, \dots, g_t)$  of nonnegative integers with  $g = g_1 + \dots + g_t$ , we denote by  $P_{g_1, \dots, g_t}$  the standard upper triangular parabolic subgroup of  $\text{GL}_g$  of block sizes  $g_1, \dots, g_t$  and  $M_{g_1, \dots, g_t}$  its standard diagonal Levi subgroup. Moreover, we denote by  $C_m^{g_1, \dots, g_t}$  the cardinality of

$$\text{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m)/P_{g_1, \dots, g_t}(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m),$$

which depends only on the partition  $g = g_1 + \dots + g_t$ . We also put

$$L_{\underline{u}, m}^g := \ker \left( \text{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}) \rightarrow \text{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m) \right).$$

**Lemma 4.22.** *For  $(g_1, \dots, g_t)$  with  $g = g_1 + \dots + g_t$  as above and another integer  $g' \geq g$ , we have*

$$C_m^{g'-g, g} C_m^{g_1, \dots, g_t} = C_m^{g'-g+g_1, g_2, \dots, g_t}.$$

<sup>19</sup>When  $m = 0$ , we do not need  $\underline{u} \in V_F^\heartsuit$  as the same holds even when  $K$  is ramified over  $E_{\underline{u}}$ .

*Proof.* It follows from the isomorphism

$$\mathrm{P}_{g'-g,g}(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m)/\mathrm{P}_{g'-g+g_1,g_2,\dots,g_t}(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m) \simeq \mathrm{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m)/\mathrm{P}_{g_1,\dots,g_t}(O_{F_{\underline{u}}}/\mathfrak{p}_{\underline{u}}^m).$$

□

**Lemma 4.23.** *Suppose that  $m \geq 1$ . Take a sequence  $(g_1, \dots, g_t)$  of nonnegative integers with  $g = g_1 + \dots + g_t$ . Let  $\pi_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \pi_t$  be an admissible representation of  $\mathrm{M}_{g_1, \dots, g_t}(F_{\underline{u}})$ . Then we have*

$$\dim \left( \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{P}_{g_1, \dots, g_t}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \pi_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \pi_t \right)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^g} = C_m^{g_1, \dots, g_t} \prod_{i=1}^t \dim \pi_i^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{g_i}}.$$

*Proof.* Pick a set  $X$  of representatives of the double coset

$$\mathrm{P}_{g_1, \dots, g_t}(F_{\underline{u}}) \backslash \mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}}) / L_{\underline{u},m}^g$$

contained in  $\mathrm{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}})$ , which is possible by the Iwasawa decomposition. Then an element

$$f \in \left( \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{P}_{g_1, \dots, g_t}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \pi_1 \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \pi_t \right)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^g}$$

is determined by  $f|_X$ . Since  $\mathrm{GL}_g(O_{F_{\underline{u}}})$  normalises  $L_{\underline{u},m}^g$ , a function  $f'$  on  $X$  is of the form  $f' = f|_X$  if and only if  $f'$  takes values in  $\bigotimes_{i=1}^t \pi_i^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{g_i}}$ . As  $|X| = C_m^{g_1, \dots, g_t}$ , the lemma follows. □

For an irreducible supercuspidal representation  $\pi$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})$  and a positive integer  $s$ , we have the representation  $\mathrm{Sp}_s(\pi)$  of  $\mathrm{GL}_s(F_{\underline{u}})$  defined in [HT01, Section I.3]. In particular, when  $\phi$  is an unramified character of  $F_{\underline{u}}^\times$ ,  $\mathrm{Sp}_s(\phi)$  is the Steinberg representation of  $\mathrm{GL}_s(F_{\underline{u}})$  twisted by  $\phi|_{\underline{u}}^{\frac{s-1}{2}}$ .

**Lemma 4.24.** *Suppose that  $m \geq 1$ . For every positive integer  $g$  and every unramified character  $\phi$  of  $F_{\underline{u}}^\times$ , we have*

$$\sum_{h=0}^g (-1)^h C_m^{g-h,h} \dim \mathrm{Sp}_h(\phi)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^h} = 0.$$

*Proof.* We claim the identity

$$\sum_{h=0}^g (-1)^h \left[ \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{P}_{h,g-h}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \mathrm{Sp}_h(\phi) \boxtimes \left( \phi|_{\underline{u}}^{\frac{g+h-1}{2}} \circ \det_{g-h} \right) \right] = 0 \quad (4.2)$$

in  $\mathrm{Groth}(\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}}))$ . Assuming it, we have

$$\sum_{h=0}^g (-1)^h \dim \left( \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{P}_{h,g-h}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \mathrm{Sp}_h(\phi) \boxtimes \left( \phi|_{\underline{u}}^{\frac{g+h-1}{2}} \circ \det_{g-h} \right) \right)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^g} = 0.$$

By Lemma 4.23, the lemma follows.

For the claim, put

$$\mathrm{I}(\phi) := \mathrm{Ind}_{\mathrm{P}_{1,\dots,1}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\mathrm{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \phi \boxtimes \phi|_{\underline{u}} \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \phi|_{\underline{u}}^{g-1}.$$

By the transitivity of (normalised) parabolic induction, every irreducible constituent of

$$I(\phi)^{h,g-h} := \text{Ind}_{P_{h,g-h}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\text{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}})} \text{Sp}_h(\phi) \boxtimes \left( \phi|_{\underline{u}^{\frac{g+h-1}{2}}} \circ \det_{g-h} \right)$$

is a constituent of  $I(\phi)$ . By [Zel80], there is a bijection between the set of irreducible subquotients of  $I(\phi)$  and the set of sequences of signs of length  $g-1$ . For such a sequence  $\sigma$ , we denote by  $I(\phi)_\sigma$  the corresponding irreducible subquotient. For  $0 \leq h \leq g-1$ , we denote by  $\sigma(i)$  the sequence starting from  $h$  negative signs followed by  $g-1-h$  positive signs. In particular,

$$I(\phi)_{\sigma(g-1)} = \text{Sp}_g(\phi) = I(\phi)^{g,0}, \quad I(\phi)_{\sigma(0)} = \phi|_{\underline{u}^{\frac{g-1}{2}}} \circ \det_g = I(\phi)^{0,g}.$$

By [HT01, Lemma I.3.2], we have

$$[I(\phi)^{h,g-h}] = [I(\phi)_{\sigma(h)}] + [I(\phi)_{\sigma(h-1)}]$$

in  $\text{Groth}(\text{GL}_g(F_{\underline{u}}))$  for  $0 < h < g$ . Thus, (4.2) follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.25.** *Fix an isomorphism  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell \simeq \mathbb{C}$ . Suppose that  $m \geq 1$ . For every  $0 \leq h \leq n-1$  and  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ , we have*

$$H^j(Y_m^{[M]} \otimes_k \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$$

for every  $j \neq h$ .

This is an extension of [TY07, Proposition 4.4]. However, we allow arbitrary principal level structure at  $\underline{u}$  and our case involves endoscopy.

*Proof.* In what follows,  $h$  will always denote an integer satisfying  $0 \leq h \leq n-1$ . Denote by  $D_{n-h}$  the division algebra over  $F_{\underline{u}}$  of Hasse invariant  $\frac{1}{n-h}$ , with the maximal order  $O_{D_{n-h}}$ .

For a  $\mathfrak{T}$ -scheme  $Y$  of finite type over  $k$  and a (finite) character  $\chi: T_0(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash T_0(\mathbb{A}^\infty) / L_0 \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell^\times$ , we put

$$[H_{?,\chi}(Y, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] := \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} (-1)^j H_j^j(Y \otimes_k \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)[\chi]$$

as an element in  $\text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$  for  $? \in \{c, ,\}$ .

Let  $I_m^h$  be the Igusa variety (of the first kind) introduced in [HT01, Section IV.1] so that  $I_m^h$  is isomorphic to  $Y_m^{(M)}$  for every  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$  as schemes over  $k$  (but not as schemes over  $Y_0^{(h)}$ ). Combining with (4.1), we obtain the identity

$$\begin{aligned} [H_\chi(Y_m^{[M]}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] &= \sum_{h'=0}^h \sum_{\substack{M' \in \mathfrak{S}_m^{h'} \\ M \subseteq M'}} (-1)^{h-h'} [H_{c,\chi}(Y_m^{(M')}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] \\ &= \sum_{h'=0}^h (-1)^{h-h'} \cdot \left| \{M' \in \mathfrak{S}_m^{h'} \mid M \subseteq M'\} \right| \cdot [H_{c,\chi}(I_m^{h'}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] \\ &= \sum_{h'=0}^h (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h-h',h'} \cdot [H_{c,\chi}(I_m^{h'}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

in  $\text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$ .

Now to compute  $[H_\chi(I_m^{h'}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)]$ , we use [CS17, Lemma 5.5.1] in which the corresponding  $J_b(\mathbb{Q}_p)$  is  $D_{n-h'} \times \text{GL}_{h'}(F_{\underline{u}})$ , and we take  $\phi = \phi^{\underline{u}} \phi_{\underline{u}}$  where  $\phi^{\underline{u}}$  is the characteristic function of  $L^{\underline{u}}$  and  $\phi_{\underline{u}}$  is the

characteristic function of  $O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times \times L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}$ . Then we have the identity

$$[H_{c,\chi}(I_m^{h'}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)] = \sum_{\mathbf{n}} \sum_{\Pi^{\mathbf{n}}} c(\mathbf{n}, \Pi^{\mathbf{n}}) \cdot \text{Red}_{\mathbf{n}}^{h'}(\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}})^{O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times \times L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \quad (4.4)$$

in  $\text{Groth}(D_{n-h'}^\times / O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times)$ , where

- $\mathbf{n}$  runs through *ordered* pairs  $(n_1, n_2)$  of nonnegative integers such that  $n_1 + n_2 = n$ , which gives an elliptic endoscopic group  $G_{\mathbf{n}}$  of  $U^{(\mathbf{u}V)}$ ;
- $\Pi^{\mathbf{n}}$  runs through a finite set of certain isobaric irreducible cohomological (with respect to the trivial algebraic representation) automorphic representations of  $\mathbb{G}_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbb{A}_F)$ , with  $\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}}$  the descent of  $\Pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}}$  to  $G_{\mathbf{n}}(F_{\underline{u}}) \simeq M_{n_1, n_2}(F_{\underline{u}})$ ;
- $c(\mathbf{n}, \Pi^{\mathbf{n}})$  is a constant depending only on  $\mathbf{n}$  and  $\Pi^{\mathbf{n}}$  but not on  $h'$ ;
- $\text{Red}_{\mathbf{n}}^{h'}: \text{Groth}(M_{n_1, n_2}(F_{\underline{u}})) \rightarrow \text{Groth}(D_{n-h'}^\times \times \text{GL}_{h'}(F_{\underline{u}}))$  is the zero map if  $h' < n_2$  and otherwise is the composition of
  - the normalised Jacquet functor

$$\text{Groth}(M_{n_1, n_2}(F_{\underline{u}})) \rightarrow \text{Groth}(M_{n-h', h'-n_2, n_2}(F_{\underline{u}})),$$

- the normalised parabolic induction

$$\text{Groth}(M_{n-h', h'-n_2, n_2}(F_{\underline{u}})) \rightarrow \text{Groth}(M_{n-h', h'}(F_{\underline{u}})),$$

- the Langlands–Jacquet map (on the first factor)

$$\text{Groth}(M_{n-h', h'}(F_{\underline{u}})) \rightarrow \text{Groth}(D_{n-h'}^\times \times \text{GL}_{h'}(F_{\underline{u}})).$$

The image of  $[H_{c,\chi}(I_m^{h'}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)]$  in  $\text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$  is given by the map

$$\text{Groth}(D_{n-h'}^\times / O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times) \rightarrow \text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$$

sending an (unramified) character  $\phi \circ \text{Nm}_{D_{n-h'}^\times}$  to  $\text{rec}(\phi^{-1}) \cdot \check{\chi}$ , where  $\check{\chi}$  is a finite character of  $\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k)$  determined by  $\chi$ . In what follows, we will regard

$$\text{Red}_{\mathbf{n}}^{h'}(\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}})^{O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times \times L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}}$$

as an element of  $\text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$  via the above map.

Now let us compute for each  $\mathbf{n} = (n_1, n_2)$ ,

$$\sum_{h'=0}^h (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h-h', h'} \cdot \text{Red}_{\mathbf{n}}^{h'}(\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}})^{O_{D_{n-h'}}^\times \times L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \quad (4.5)$$

in  $\text{Groth}(\text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/k))$ , when  $\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}}$  is tempered. Write  $\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbf{n}} = \pi^1 \boxtimes \pi^2$  where  $\pi^\alpha$  is an tempered irreducible admissible representation of  $\text{GL}_{n_\alpha}(F_{\underline{u}})$ . In particular,  $\pi^1$  is a full induction of the form

$$\text{Ind}_{P_{s_1 g_1, \dots, s_t g_t}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\text{GL}_{n_1}(F_{\underline{u}})} \text{Sp}_{s_1}(\pi_1^1) \boxtimes \dots \boxtimes \text{Sp}_{s_t}(\pi_t^1),$$

where  $s_1, \dots, s_t$  and  $g_1, \dots, g_t$  are positive integers satisfying  $s_1 g_1 + \dots + s_t g_t = n_1$ , and for  $1 \leq i \leq t$ ,  $\pi_i^1$  is an irreducible supercuspidal representation of  $\text{GL}_{g_i}(F_{\underline{u}})$  such that  $\text{Sp}_{s_i}(\pi_i^1)$  is unitary. Let  $\mathbb{I}$  be the subset of  $\{1, \dots, t\}$  such that  $\pi_i^1$  is an unramified character (hence  $g_i = 1$ ) and  $s_i \geq n - h$ . Then we have for  $h' \geq n_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Red}_{\underline{n}}^{h'}(\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\underline{n}})^{O_{\mathbb{D}_{n-h'}}^{\times} \times L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{i \in \mathbb{I} \\ s_i \geq n-h'}} \dim \left( \text{Ind}_{\text{P}_?^{\gamma}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\text{GL}_{h'}(F_{\underline{u}})} \text{Sp}_{s_i+h'-n}(\pi_i^1) \boxtimes \left( \boxtimes_{j \neq i} \text{Sp}_{s_j}(\pi_j^1) \right) \boxtimes \pi^2 \right)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \cdot [\text{rec}((\pi_i^1)^{-1} | \underline{u}^{\frac{1-n}{2}}) \cdot \check{\chi}] \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

in which the suppressed subscript in  $\text{P}_?$  is  $(s_i + h' - n, s_1 g_1, \dots, \widehat{s_i g_i}, \dots, s_t g_t, n_2)$ .

We claim that for each  $i \in \mathbb{I}$ ,

$$\sum_{h'=n-s_i}^h (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h-h',h'} \cdot \dim \left( \text{Ind}_{\text{P}_?^{\gamma}(F_{\underline{u}})}^{\text{GL}_{h'}(F_{\underline{u}})} \text{Sp}_{s_i+h'-n}(\pi_i^1) \boxtimes \left( \boxtimes_{j \neq i} \text{Sp}_{s_j}(\pi_j^1) \right) \boxtimes \pi^2 \right)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} = 0 \quad (4.7)$$

if  $s_i > n - h$ . In fact, by Lemma 4.23, there is a nonnegative integer  $D$  independent of  $h'$  such that the left-hand side of (4.7) equals

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{h'=n-s_i}^h (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h-h',h'} \cdot C_m^{s_i+h'-n, s_1 g_1, \dots, \widehat{s_i g_i}, \dots, s_t g_t, n_2} \cdot D \cdot \dim \text{Sp}_{s_i+h'-n}(\pi_i^1)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{s_i+h'-n}} \\ &= \sum_{h'=n-s_i}^h (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h-h', s_i+h'-n, s_1 g_1, \dots, \widehat{s_i g_i}, \dots, s_t g_t, n_2} \cdot D \cdot \dim \text{Sp}_{s_i+h'-n}(\pi_i^1)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{s_i+h'-n}} \\ &= \sum_{h'=0}^{h+s_i-n} (-1)^{h-h'} C_m^{h+s_i-n-h', h', s_1 g_1, \dots, \widehat{s_i g_i}, \dots, s_t g_t, n_2} \cdot D \cdot \dim \text{Sp}_{h'}(\pi_i^1)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \\ &= (-1)^h C_m^{h+s_i-n, s_1 g_1, \dots, \widehat{s_i g_i}, \dots, s_t g_t, n_2} \cdot D \sum_{h'=0}^{h+s_i-n} (-1)^{h'} C_m^{h+s_i-n-h', h'} \cdot \dim \text{Sp}_{h'}(\pi_i^1)^{L_{\underline{u},m}^{h'}} \end{aligned}$$

in which the last summation vanishes by applying Lemma 4.24 with  $g = h + s_i - n > 0$ . Here, we have used Lemma 4.22 twice.

By (4.6) and (4.7), we know that (4.5) is a linear combination of  $[\text{rec}((\pi_i^1)^{-1} | \underline{u}^{\frac{1-n}{2}}) \cdot \check{\chi}]$  with  $i \in \mathbb{I}$  satisfying  $s_i = n - h$ . Thus, (4.5) is strictly pure of weight  $h$  since  $\text{Sp}_{s_i}(\pi_i^1)$  is unitary. By (4.3), (4.4) and the fact that localisation at  $\mathfrak{m}$  annihilates all terms in (4.4) with  $\pi_{\underline{u}}^{\underline{n}}$  not tempered, we know that  $[\text{H}_{\chi}(Y_m^{[M]}, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell})]_{\mathfrak{m}}$  is strictly pure of weight  $h$ . Finally, by [Man08, Proposition 12], we know that  $Y_m^{[M]}$  is smooth over  $k$  of pure dimension  $h$ . Since  $Y_m^{[M]}$  is also proper, we have

$$\text{H}^j(Y_m^{[M]} \otimes_k \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell})[\chi]_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$$

for every  $j \neq h$  and every character  $\chi: \text{T}_0(\mathbb{Q}) \backslash \text{T}_0(\mathbb{A}^{\infty}) / L_0 \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell}^{\times}$  from the Weil conjecture. Then the proposition follows.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 4.21.* Recall that  $n = 2r$  is even. We may assume  $m \geq 1$  since the morphism  $\mathcal{X}_m \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_0$  is finite and flat. In what follows,  $h$  is always an integer satisfying  $0 \leq h \leq n - 1 = 2r - 1$ . For a subset  $\Sigma \subset \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ , we put

$$Y_m^{(\Sigma)} := \bigcup_{M \in \Sigma} Y_m^{(M)}, \quad Y_m^{[\Sigma]} := \bigcup_{M \in \Sigma} Y_m^{[M]}$$

in which the first union is disjoint. If  $h \geq 1$ , we also denote by  $\Sigma^{\dagger}$  the subset of  $\mathfrak{S}_m^{h-1}$  consisting of  $M'$  that contains an element in  $\Sigma$ .

Fix an arbitrary isomorphism  $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\ell} \simeq \mathbb{C}$ . We claim

(\*) For every  $0 \leq h \leq 2r - 1$  and every  $\Sigma \subset \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ ,

$$H_c^j(Y_m^{(\Sigma)} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = H^j(Y_m^{[\Sigma]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$$

holds when  $j > h$ .

Assuming the claim, we prove  $H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ . By the proper base change theorem and the fact that taking global sections on  $\text{Spec } O_K$  is the same as restricting to  $\text{Spec } k$  and then taking global sections, the natural map  $H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)) \rightarrow H^{2r}(Y_m, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r))$  is an isomorphism. Thus, it suffices to show that

$$H^0(k, H^{2r}(Y_m \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = H^1(k, H^{2r-1}(Y_m \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0.$$

The vanishing of  $H^0(k, H^{2r}(Y_m \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}}$  already follows from (\*) as  $Y_m = Y_m^{[2r-1]}$ . Now we consider  $H^1(k, H^{2r-1}(Y_m \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}}$ . Again by (\*), we have  $H^{2r-1}(Y_m^{[2r-2]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ ; hence, the natural map

$$H_c^{2r-1}(Y_m^{(2r-1)} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} \rightarrow H^{2r-1}(Y_m \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}}$$

is surjective. It suffices to show that  $H^1(k, H_c^{2r-1}(Y_m^{(2r-1)} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ . Now we prove by induction on  $0 \leq h \leq 2r - 1$  that for every  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ ,  $H^1(k, H_c^h(Y_m^{(M)} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ .

The case  $h = 0$  is trivial. Consider  $h > 0$  and  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ . Since  $Y_m^{[M]}$  is proper smooth over  $k$  by [Man08, Proposition 12], we have  $H^1(k, H^h(Y_m^{[M]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$  by the Weil conjecture. By (\*), we have  $H^h(Y_m^{[\{M\}^\dagger]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ . Thus, it suffices to show that  $H^1(k, H^{h-1}(Y_m^{[\{M\}^\dagger]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ . By (\*) again, we have  $H^{h-1}(Y_m^{[\{M\}^{\dagger\dagger}]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$ . Thus, the desired vanishing property follows from

$$H^1(k, H_c^{h-1}(Y_m^{[\{M\}^\dagger]} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = \bigoplus_{M' \in \{M\}^\dagger} H^1(k, H_c^{h-1}(Y_m^{(M')} \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r)))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0,$$

which holds by the induction hypothesis. We have now proved  $H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r))_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$  assuming (\*).

To show the claim (\*), we use induction on  $h$ . To ease notation, we simply write  $H_\gamma^{\bullet}(-)$  for  $H_\gamma^{\bullet}(- \otimes_k \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell)_{\mathfrak{m}}$  for  $\gamma \in \{\mathfrak{m}, c\}$ . The case for  $h = 0$  is trivial. Suppose that we know (\*) for  $h - 1$  for some  $h \geq 1$ . For every  $M \in \mathfrak{S}_m^h$ , we have the exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H^{j-1}(Y_m^{[\{M\}^\dagger]}) \rightarrow H_c^j(Y_m^{(M)}) \rightarrow H^j(Y_m^{[M]}) \rightarrow \cdots$$

By Proposition 4.25 and the induction hypothesis, we have  $H_c^j(Y_m^{(M)}) = 0$  for  $j > h$ . Now take a subset  $\Sigma$  of  $\mathfrak{S}_m^h$ . Then we have  $H_c^j(Y_m^{(\Sigma)}) = \bigoplus_{M \in \Sigma} H_c^j(Y_m^{(M)}) = 0$  for  $j > h$ . By the exact sequence

$$\cdots \rightarrow H_c^j(Y_m^{(\Sigma)}) \rightarrow H^j(Y_m^{[\Sigma]}) \rightarrow H^j(Y_m^{[\Sigma^\dagger]}) \rightarrow \cdots$$

and the induction hypothesis, we have  $H^j(Y_m^{[\Sigma]}) = 0$  for  $j > h$ . Thus, (\*) holds for  $h$ .

The theorem is proved.  $\square$

**Remark 4.26.** In fact, our proof of Theorem 4.21 shows that for general  $n$  (not necessarily even),

$$\left( H^{n'}(\mathcal{X}_m, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_\ell(r')) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}} \right)_{\mathfrak{m}} = 0$$

as long as  $n \leq n' \leq 2r'$ , where  $\mathfrak{m}$  is the maximal ideal of a suitable spherical Hecke algebra associated to a tempered cuspidal automorphic representation of the corresponding unitary group.

#### 4.4. Local indices at inert places

In this subsection, we compute local indices at places in  $V_E^{\text{int}}$  not above  $R$ .

**Proposition 4.27.** *Let  $R, R', \ell$  and  $L$  be as in Definition 4.15. Take an element  $u \in V_E^{\text{int}}$  such that its underlying rational prime  $p$  is odd and satisfies  $V_F^{(p)} \cap R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$ .*

(1) *Suppose that  $\underline{u} \notin S$ . Then we have*

$$\log q_u \cdot \text{vol}^{\natural}(L) \cdot I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}^\ell = \mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}((g_1, g_2), \Phi_\infty^0 \otimes (s_1 \phi_1^\infty \otimes (s_2 \phi_2^\infty)^c))_u$$

for every  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and every pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  in  $\text{Herm}_r^{\circ}(F)^+$ .

(2) *Suppose that  $\underline{u} \in S \cap V_F^\heartsuit$  and is unramified over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Recall that we have fixed a  $u$ -nearby space  ${}^u V$  and an isomorphism  ${}^u V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\underline{u}} \simeq V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^{\underline{u}}$  from Notation 4.2(H9). We also fix a  $\psi_{E, \underline{u}}$ -self-dual lattice  $\Lambda_{\underline{u}}^\star$  of  ${}^u V_{\underline{u}}$ . Then there exist elements  $s_1^u, s_2^u \in \mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^R \setminus \mathfrak{m}_\pi^R$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \log q_u \cdot \text{vol}^{\natural}(L) \cdot I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1^u s_1, s_2^u s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}^\ell \\ &= \mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}((g_1, g_2), \Phi_\infty^0 \otimes (s_1^u s_1 \phi_1^\infty \otimes (s_2^u s_2 \phi_2^\infty)^c))_u \\ & \quad - \frac{\log q_u}{q_u^r - 1} E_{T_1, T_2}((g_1, g_2), \Phi_\infty^0 \otimes (s_1^u s_1 \phi_1^{\infty, \underline{u}} \otimes (s_2^u s_2 \phi_2^{\infty, \underline{u}})^c) \otimes \mathbb{1}_{(\Lambda_{\underline{u}}^\star)^{2r}}) \end{aligned}$$

for every  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and every pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  in  $\text{Herm}_r^{\circ}(F)^+$ .

In both cases, the right-hand side is defined in Definition 4.10 with the Gaussian function  $\Phi_\infty^0 \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r} \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} F_\infty)$  (Notation 4.2(H3)) and  $\text{vol}^{\natural}(L)$  is defined in [LL21, Definition 3.8].

*Proof.* Part (1) is proved in the same way as [LL21, Proposition 8.1]. Part (2) is proved in the same way as [LL21, Proposition 9.1]. Note that we need to extend the definition of the integral model due to the presence of places in  $V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{ram}}$ , as we do in the previous subsection. The requirement that  $\underline{u} \in V_F^\heartsuit$  in (2) is to ensure that  $K$  is unramified over  $E_u$  (see Notation 4.19).  $\square$

#### 4.5. Local indices at ramified places

In this subsection, we compute local indices at places in  $V_E^{\text{ram}}$  not above  $R$ .

**Proposition 4.28.** *Let  $R, R', \ell$  and  $L$  be as in Definition 4.15. Take an element  $u \in V_E^{\text{ram}}$  such that its underlying rational prime  $p$  satisfies  $V_F^{(p)} \cap R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$ . Then we have*

$$\log q_u \cdot \text{vol}^{\natural}(L) \cdot I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)_{L, u}^\ell = \mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}((g_1, g_2), \Phi_\infty^0 \otimes (s_1 \phi_1^\infty \otimes (s_2 \phi_2^\infty)^c))_u$$

for every  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and every pair  $(T_1, T_2)$  in  $\text{Herm}_r^{\circ}(F)^+$ , where the right-hand side is defined in Definition 4.10 with the Gaussian function  $\Phi_\infty^0 \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r} \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} F_\infty)$  (Notation 4.2(H3)) and  $\text{vol}^{\natural}(L)$  is defined in [LL21, Definition 3.8].

*Proof.* The proof of the proposition follows the same line as in [LL21, Proposition 8.1], as long as we accomplish the following three tasks. We invoke Notation 4.18 together with Notation 4.19.

- (1) Construct a good integral model  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}$  for  $X_{\tilde{L}}$  over  $O_K$  for open compact subgroups  $\tilde{L} \subseteq L$  satisfying  $\tilde{L}_v = L_v$  for  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\text{spl}}$ , which is provided after the proof.
- (2) Establish the non-Archimedean uniformisation of  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}$  along the supersingular locus using the relative Rapoport-Zink space  $\mathcal{N}$  from Definition 2.3, analogous to [LL21, (8.2)], and compare special divisors. This is done in Proposition 4.30.

(3) Show that for  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_{2r}) \in \underline{u}V^{2r}$  with  $T(x) \in \text{Herm}_{2r}^\circ(F_{\underline{u}})$ , we have

$$\chi \left( \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_1)} \overset{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \cdots \overset{\mathbb{L}}{\otimes}_{\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}}} \mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{N}(x_{2r})} \right) = \frac{b_{2r, \underline{u}}(0)}{\log q_{\underline{u}}} W'_{T^\square}(0, 1_{4r}, \mathbb{1}_{(\Lambda_{\underline{u}}^{\mathbb{R}})^{2r}})$$

if  $T(x) = T^\square$ . In fact, this follows from Theorem 2.7, Remark 2.18 and the identity

$$b_{2r, \underline{u}}(0) = \prod_{i=1}^r (1 - q_{\underline{u}}^{-2i}).$$

The proposition is proved.  $\square$

Let the situation be as in Proposition 4.28. The isomorphism  $\mathbb{C} \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{\mathbb{Q}}_p$  in Notation 4.19 identifies  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C})$  with  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C}_p)$ . For every  $v \in V_F^{(p)}$ , let  $\Phi_v$  be the subset of  $\Phi$ , regarded as a subset of  $\text{Hom}(E, \mathbb{C}_p)$ , of elements that induce the place  $v$  of  $F$ .

To ease notation, put

$$U := \{v \in V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\text{spl}} \mid v \neq \underline{u}\}.$$

In particular,  $U \cap R = \emptyset$ .

There is a projective system  $\{\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}\}$ , for open compact subgroups  $\tilde{L} \subseteq L$  satisfying  $\tilde{L}_v = L_v$  for  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\text{spl}}$ , of smooth projective schemes over  $O_K$  (see [RSZ20, Theorem 4.7, AT type (2)]) with

$$\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}} \otimes_{O_K} K = X'_{\tilde{L}} \otimes_{E'} K = (X_{\tilde{L}} \otimes_E Y) \otimes_{E'} K$$

and finite étale transition morphisms such that for every  $S \in \text{Sch}'_{/O_K}$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}(S)$  is the set of equivalence classes of tuples

$$(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p; A, \iota_A, \lambda_A, \eta_A^p, \{\eta_{A,v}\}_{v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{spl}}})$$

where

- $(A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p)$  is an element in  $\mathcal{Y}(S)$ ;
- $(A, \iota_A, \lambda_A)$  is a unitary  $O_E$ -abelian scheme of signature type  $n\Phi - \iota_w + \iota_w^c$  over  $S$ , such that
  - for every  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\text{ram}}$ ,  $\lambda_A[v^\infty]$  is an isogeny whose kernel has order  $q_v^{1-\epsilon_v}$ ;
  - for every  $v \in U \cap V_F^{\text{ram}}$ , the triple  $(A_0[v^\infty], \iota_{A_0}[v^\infty], \lambda_{A_0}[v^\infty]) \otimes_{O_K} O_{\tilde{K}}$  is an object of  $\text{Exo}_{(n,0)}^{\Phi_v}(S \otimes_{O_K} O_{\tilde{K}})$  (Remark 2.67, with  $E = E_v, F = F_v$  and  $\check{E} = \check{K}$ );
  - for  $v = \underline{u}$ , the triple  $(A_0[v^\infty], \iota_{A_0}[v^\infty], \lambda_{A_0}[v^\infty]) \otimes_{O_K} O_{\tilde{K}}$  is an object of  $\text{Exo}_{(n-1,1)}^{\Phi_v}(S \otimes_{O_K} O_{\tilde{K}})$  (Definition 2.59, with  $E = E_v, F = F_v$  and  $\check{E} = \check{K}$ );
- $\eta_A^p$  is an  $\tilde{L}^p$ -level structure;
- for every  $v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\text{spl}}$ ,  $\eta_{A,v}$  is an  $\tilde{L}_v$ -level structure.

In particular,  $\mathbb{S}^{\mathbb{R}}$  is naturally a ring of étale correspondences of  $\mathcal{X}_L$ .

Let  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V \otimes_{A_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^{\tilde{L}}$  be a  $p$ -basic element [LL21, Definition 6.5]. For every element  $t \in F$  that is totally positive, we have a cycle  $Z_t(\phi^\infty)_{\tilde{L}} \in Z^1(\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}})$  extending the restriction of  $Z_t(\phi^\infty)$  to  $X'_{\tilde{L}}$ , defined similarly as in [LZa, Section 13.3].

Now we study the non-Archimedean uniformisation of  $\mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}$  along the supersingular locus. Fix a point  $P_0 := (A_0, \iota_{A_0}, \lambda_{A_0}, \eta_{A_0}^p) \in \mathcal{Y}(O_{\tilde{K}})$ . Put

$$\mathcal{X} := \varprojlim_{\tilde{L}} \mathcal{X}_{\tilde{L}}$$

and denote by  $\mathcal{X}_0$  the fibre of  $P_0$  along the natural projection  $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ . Let  $\mathcal{X}_0^\wedge$  be the completion along the (closed) locus where  $A[u^\infty]$  is supersingular, as a formal scheme over  $\mathrm{Spf} O_K$ . We also fix a point  $\mathbf{P} \in \mathcal{X}_0^\wedge(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$  represented by  $(P_0 \otimes_{O_K} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p; A, \iota_A, \lambda_A, \eta_A^p, \{\eta_{A,v}\}_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{spl}}})$ .

Put  $\mathbf{V} := \mathrm{Hom}_{O_E}(A_0 \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, A) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$ . Fixing an element  $\varpi \in O_F$  that has valuation 0 (respectively 1) at places in  $U \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{int}}$  (respectively,  $U \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{ram}}$ ), we have a pairing

$$(\cdot, \cdot)_{\mathbf{V}}: \mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{V} \rightarrow E$$

sending  $(x, y) \in \mathbf{V}^2$  to the composition of quasi-homomorphisms

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{x} \mathbf{X} \xrightarrow{\lambda_A} \mathbf{A}^\vee \xrightarrow{y^\vee} A_0^\vee \xrightarrow{\varpi^{-1} \lambda_{A_0}^{-1}} A_0$$

as an element in  $\mathrm{End}_{O_E}(A_0) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$  and hence in  $E$  via  $\iota_{A_0}^{-1}$ . We have the following properties concerning  $\mathbf{V}$ :

- $\mathbf{V}, (\cdot, \cdot)_{\mathbf{V}}$  is a totally positive definite hermitian space over  $E$  of rank  $n$ ;
- for every  $v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{fin}} \setminus (\mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \setminus \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{spl}})$ , we have a canonical isometry  $\mathbf{V} \otimes_F F_v \simeq V \otimes_F F_v$  of hermitian spaces;
- for every  $v \in U$ , the  $O_{E_v}$ -lattice  $\Lambda_v := \mathrm{Hom}_{O_E}(A_0 \otimes_{O_{\check{E}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, A) \otimes_{O_F} O_{F_v}$  is
  - self-dual if  $v \in U \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{int}}$  and  $\epsilon_v = 1$ ,
  - almost self-dual if  $v \in U \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{int}}$  and  $\epsilon_v = -1$ ,
  - self-dual if  $v \in U \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{ram}}$ ;
- $\mathbf{V} \otimes_F F_{\underline{u}}$  is nonsplit and we have a canonical isomorphism

$$\mathbf{V} \otimes_F F_{\underline{u}} \simeq \mathrm{Hom}_{O_{E_{\underline{u}}}}(A_0[u^\infty] \otimes_{O_K} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, A[u^\infty]) \otimes \mathbb{Q}$$

of hermitian spaces over  $E_{\underline{u}}$ .

We have a Rapoport–Zink space  $\mathcal{N}$  (Definition 2.3, with  $E = E_{\underline{u}}$ ,  $F = F_{\underline{u}}$ ,  $\check{E} = \check{K}$  and  $\varphi_0$  the natural embedding) with respect to the object

$$(X, \iota_X, \lambda_X) := (A[u^\infty], \iota_A[u^\infty], \lambda_A[u^\infty])^{\mathrm{rel}} \in \mathrm{Exo}_{(n-1, 1)}^{\mathrm{b}}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p),$$

where  $-\mathrm{rel}$  is the morphism (2.22). We now construct a morphism

$$\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}}: \mathcal{X}_0^\wedge \rightarrow \mathrm{U}(\mathbf{V})(F) \setminus \left( \mathcal{N} \times \mathrm{U}(\mathbf{V})(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, \underline{u}}) / \prod_{v \in U} \mathbf{L}_v \right) \quad (4.8)$$

of formal schemes over  $\mathrm{Spf} O_{\check{K}}$ , where  $\mathbf{L}_v$  is the stabiliser of  $\Lambda_v$  in  $\mathrm{U}(\mathbf{V})(F_v)$ , as follows.

We have the Rapoport–Zink space  $\mathcal{N}^{\Phi_u} = \mathcal{N}_{(A[u^\infty], \iota_A[u^\infty], \lambda_A[u^\infty])}^{\Phi_u}$  from Definition 2.64. We first define a morphism

$$\Upsilon: \mathcal{X}_0^\wedge \rightarrow \mathrm{U}(\mathbf{V})(F) \setminus \left( \mathcal{N}^{\Phi_u} \times \mathrm{U}(\mathbf{V})(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, \underline{u}}) / \prod_{v \in U} \mathbf{L}_v \right)$$

and then define  $\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}}$  as the composition of  $\Upsilon$  with the morphism in Corollary 2.65. To construct  $\Upsilon$ , we take a point

$$P = (P_0 \otimes_{O_K} S; A, \iota_A, \lambda_A, \eta_A^p, \{\eta_{A,v}\}_{v \in \mathbb{V}_F^{(p)} \cap \mathbb{V}_F^{\mathrm{spl}}}) \in \mathcal{X}_0^\wedge(S)$$

for a connected scheme  $S$  in  $\mathrm{Sch}'_{/O_{\bar{K}}} \cap \mathrm{Sch}^v_{/O_{\bar{K}}}$  with a geometric point  $s$ . In particular,  $A[p^\infty]$  is supersingular. By [RZ96, Proposition 6.29], we can choose an  $O_E$ -linear quasi-isogeny

$$\rho: A \times_S (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{K}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) \rightarrow A \otimes_{\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p} (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{K}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$$

of height zero such that  $\rho^* \lambda_A \otimes_{\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p} (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{K}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p) = \lambda_A \times_S (S \otimes_{O_{\bar{K}}} \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p)$ . We have

- $(A[u^\infty], \iota_A[u^\infty], \lambda_A[u^\infty]; \rho[u^\infty])$  is an element in  $\mathcal{N}^{\Phi_u}(S)$ ;
- the composite map

$$\begin{aligned} V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p} &\xrightarrow{\sim} V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p} \xrightarrow{\eta_A^p} \mathrm{Hom}_{E \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p}}(\mathrm{H}_1(A_{0, s}, \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p}), \mathrm{H}_1(A_s, \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p})) \\ &\xrightarrow{\rho_{s*} \circ} \mathrm{Hom}_{E \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p}}(\mathrm{H}_1(A_{0, s}, \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p}), \mathrm{H}_1(A_s, \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p})) = V \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{A}^{\infty, p} \end{aligned}$$

is an isometry, which gives rise to an element  $h^p \in \mathrm{U}(V)(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, p})$ ;

- the same process as above will produce an element

$$h_p^{\mathrm{spl}} \in \prod_{v \in V_F^{(p)} \cap V_F^{\mathrm{spl}}} \mathrm{U}(V)(F_v);$$

- for every  $v \in U$ , the image of the map

$$\rho_{s*} \circ: \mathrm{Hom}_{O_{E_v}}(A_{0, s}[v^\infty], A_s[v^\infty]) \rightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_{O_{E_v}}(A_{0, s}[v^\infty], A_s[v^\infty]) \otimes \mathbb{Q} = V \otimes_F F_v$$

is an  $O_{E_v}$ -lattice in the same  $\mathrm{U}(V)(F_v)$ -orbit of  $\Lambda_v$ , which gives rise to an element  $h_v \in \mathrm{U}(V)(F_v)/L_v$ .

Together, we obtain an element

$$\left( (A[u^\infty], \iota_A[u^\infty], \lambda_A[u^\infty]; \rho[u^\infty]), (h^p, h_p^{\mathrm{spl}}, \{h_v\}_{v \in U}) \right) \in \mathcal{N}^{\Phi_u}(S) \times \mathrm{U}(V)(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, \mu}) / \prod_{v \in U} L_v,$$

and we define  $\Upsilon(P)$  to be its image in the quotient, which is independent of the choice of  $\rho$ .

**Remark 4.29.** Both  $V$  and  $\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}}$  depend on the choice of  $P$ , while the isometry class of  $V$  does not.

**Proposition 4.30.** *The morphism  $\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}}$  (4.8) is an isomorphism. Moreover, for every  $p$ -basic element  $\phi^\infty \in \mathcal{S}(V \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} \mathbb{A}_F^\infty)^L$  and every  $t \in F$  that is totally positive, we have*

$$\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}} \left( \mathcal{Z}_t(\phi^\infty)_L |_{\mathcal{X}_0^\wedge} \right) = \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathrm{U}(V)(F) \setminus V \\ (x, x)_V = t}} \sum_{h \in \mathrm{U}(V^x)(F) \setminus \mathrm{U}(V)(\mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, \mu}) / \prod_{v \in U} L_v} \phi(h^{-1}x) \cdot (\mathcal{N}(x^{\mathrm{rel}}), h), \quad (4.9)$$

where

- $V^x$  denotes the orthogonal complement of  $x$  in  $V$ ;
- $\phi$  is a Schwartz function on  $V \otimes_F \mathbb{A}_F^{\infty, \mu}$  such that  $\phi_v = \phi_v^\infty$  for  $v \in V_F^{\mathrm{fin}} \setminus (V_F^{(p)} \setminus V_F^{\mathrm{spl}})$  and  $\phi_v = \mathbb{1}_{\Lambda_v}$  for  $v \in U$ ;
- $x^{\mathrm{rel}}$  is defined in (2.26); and
- $(\mathcal{N}(x^{\mathrm{rel}}), h)$  denotes the corresponding double coset in (4.8).

*Proof.* By a similar argument for [RZ96, Theorem 6.30], the morphism  $\Upsilon$  is an isomorphism. Thus,  $\Upsilon^{\mathrm{rel}}$  is an isomorphism as well by Corollary 2.65.

For (4.9), by a similar argument for [Liu21, Theorem 5.22], the identity holds with  $\mathcal{N}(x^{\mathrm{rel}})$  replaced by  $\mathcal{N}^{\Phi_u}(x)$ . Then it follows by Corollary 2.66.

The proposition is proved.  $\square$

#### 4.6. Local indices at Archimedean places

In this subsection, we compute local indices at places in  $V_E^{(\infty)}$ .

**Proposition 4.31.** *Let  $R, R', \ell$  and  $L$  be as in Definition 4.15. Let  $(\pi, \mathcal{V}_\pi)$  be as in Assumption 4.4. Take an element  $u \in V_E^{(\infty)}$ . Consider an  $(R, R', \ell, L)$ -admissible sextuple  $(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, g_1, g_2)$  and an element  $\varphi_1 \in \mathcal{V}_\pi^{[r]R}$ . Let  $K_1 \subseteq G_r(\mathbb{A}_F^\infty)$  be an open compact subgroup that fixes both  $\phi_1^\infty$  and  $\varphi_1$  and  $\mathfrak{F}_1 \subseteq G_r(F_\infty)$  a Siegel fundamental domain for the congruence subgroup  $G_r(F) \cap g_1^\infty K_1(g_1^\infty)^{-1}$ . Then for every  $T_2 \in \text{Herm}_r^\circ(F)^+$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{vol}^\natural(L) \cdot \int_{\mathfrak{F}_1} \varphi^\text{c}(\tau_1 g_1) \sum_{T_1 \in \text{Herm}_r^\circ(F)^+} I_{T_1, T_2}(\phi_1^\infty, \phi_2^\infty, s_1, s_2, \tau_1 g_1, g_2)_{L, u} d\tau_1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathfrak{F}_1} \varphi^\text{c}(\tau_1 g_1) \sum_{T_1 \in \text{Herm}_r^\circ(F)^+} \mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}((\tau_1 g_1, g_2), \Phi_\infty^0 \otimes (s_1 \phi_1^\infty \otimes (s_2 \phi_2^\infty)^\text{c}))_u d\tau_1, \end{aligned}$$

in which both sides are absolutely convergent. Here, the term  $\mathfrak{E}_{T_1, T_2}$  is defined in Definition 4.10 with the Gaussian function  $\Phi_\infty^0 \in \mathcal{S}(V^{2r} \otimes_{\mathbb{A}_F} F_\infty)$  (Notation 4.2(H3)) and  $\text{vol}^\natural(L)$  is defined in [LL21, Definition 3.8].

*Proof.* This is simply [LL21, Proposition 10.1].  $\square$

#### 4.7. Proof of main results

The proofs of Theorem 1.4, Theorem 1.5 and Corollary 1.7 follow from the same lines as for [LL21, Theorem 1.5], [LL21, Theorem 1.7] and [LL21, Corollary 1.9], respectively, written in [LL21, Section 11]. However, we need to take  $R$  to be a finite subset of  $V_F^{\text{spl}} \cap V_F^\heartsuit$  containing  $R_\pi$  and of cardinality at least 2 and modify the reference according to the table below.

This article	[LL21]
Proposition 4.8	Proposition 3.6
Proposition 4.9	Proposition 3.7
Proposition 4.20	Proposition 7.1
Proposition 4.27	Propositions 8.1 and 9.1
Proposition 4.28	(not available)
Proposition 4.31	Proposition 10.1

**Remark 4.32.** When  $S_\pi = \emptyset$ , Theorem 1.4, Theorem 1.5 and Corollary 1.7 can all be proved without [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6]. In fact, besides Proposition 4.27(2) (which we do not need as  $S_\pi = \emptyset$ ), the only place where [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6] is used is [LL21, Proposition 6.9(2)]. However, we can slightly modify the definition of  $(\mathbb{S}_L^R)_{L_R}^{(\ell)}$  in Definition 4.14(2) such that it is the ideal of  $\mathbb{S}_L^R$  of elements that annihilate

$$\bigoplus_{u \in V_E^{\text{fin}} \setminus V_E^{(\ell)}} H_{\dagger}^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_\ell(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L},$$

where  $H_{\dagger}^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_\ell(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L}$  is the  $\mathbb{Q}_\ell \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L}$ -submodule of  $H^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_\ell(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L}$  generated by the image of the cycle class map  $\text{CH}^r(X_{L_R L^R, u}) \rightarrow H^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_\ell(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{L}$ .

Theorem 4.21 implies that when  $u$  satisfies  $u \in R \cap V_F^{\text{spl}} \cap V_F^\heartsuit$  and  $V_F^{(p)} \cap R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}}$  where  $p$  is the underlying rational prime of  $u$ , there exists an element in  $(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}}^R)_{L_R}^{(\ell)} \setminus \mathfrak{m}_\pi^R$  that annihilates

$H_{\dagger}^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbb{Q}^{\text{ac}}$ . Indeed, we have a commutative diagram (in the context of the proof of Proposition 4.20)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{CH}^r(\mathcal{X}_m) & \longrightarrow & H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r)) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{CH}^r(X_{L_R L^R, u}) & \longrightarrow & H_{\dagger}^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r)) \hookrightarrow H^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r)) \end{array}$$

in which the left vertical arrow is surjective, implying that  $H_{\dagger}^{2r}(X_{L_R L^R, u}, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r))$  is a quotient of  $H^{2r}(\mathcal{X}_m, \mathbb{Q}_{\ell}(r))$ .

It follows that with this new definition of  $(\mathbb{S}_{\mathbb{L}}^R)_{L^R}^{\langle \ell \rangle}$ , [LL21, Proposition 6.9(2)] holds when  $R \subseteq V_F^{\text{spl}} \cap V_F^{\heartsuit}$  without assuming [LL21, Hypothesis 6.6].

**Remark 4.33.** Finally, we explain the main difficulty on lifting the restriction  $F \neq \mathbb{Q}$  (when  $r \geq 2$ ). Suppose that  $F = \mathbb{Q}$  and  $r \geq 2$ . Then the Shimura variety  $X_L$  from Subsection 4.2 is never proper over the base field. Nevertheless, it is well-known that  $X_L$  admits a canonical toroidal compactification, which is smooth. However, to run our argument, we need suitable compactification of their integral models at every finite place  $u$  of  $E$  as well. As far as we can see, the main obstacle is the compactification of integral models using Drinfeld level structures when  $u$  splits over  $F$ , together with a vanishing result like Theorem 4.21.

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