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*An alternative description of Drinfeld space and applications*

Let F be a finite extension of $\mathbb{Q}_p$ of degree d and let E/F be a quadratic extension with ring of integers $O_E$. In this lecture I will explain how Drinfeld's formal 'upper half plane' also arises as a moduli space for p-divisible groups of dimension 2d and height 4d with an action of $O_E$ and a polarization which may be principal or not depending on whether E/F is ramified or not. If time permits, I will explain how to use this model of Drinfeld space to give new examples of p-adic uniformization of certain Shimura varieties. This is joint work with Michael Rapoport.