

POWER OPERATIONS IN MORAVA E -THEORY: STRUCTURE AND CALCULATIONS (DRAFT)

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ABSTRACT. We review what is known about power operations for height 2 Morava E -theory, and carry out some sample calculations.

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1. INTRODUCTION

2. DRAMATIS PERSONAE

In this section, we give a minimal overview of definitions and results which lead to the promised calculations. We hope enough detail is given to convey the global structure of the ideas; we refer to other papers or later sections (if they've been written yet) for more information.

2.1. Commutative ring spectra and Morava E -theory. We use a convenient category of structured commutative ring spectra; the category of [EKMM97] is appropriate, although the particular choice of model will not play an important role in the statement of results.

Fix a formal group G_0 over a perfect field k of characteristic p , which is of finite height h , and let $E = E_{G_0/k}$ denote the associated **Morava E -theory** spectrum. By the theorem of Hopkins-Miller, E has an essentially unique structure as a commutative S -algebra, and we fix such a structure [GH04].

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Let $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ denote the homotopy theory of **$K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras**, where $K(h)$ is the Morava K -theory of height h at the prime p . We can take this homotopy theory to be the EKMM model category of commutative E -algebras equipped with a suitable model category structure, where we say a map $f: R \rightarrow R'$ is a weak equivalence if it induces an isomorphism in $K(h)$ -homology. Let \mathcal{M} denote the homotopy theory of **$K(h)$ -local E -modules**.

We write π_*M for the the graded homotopy groups of an E -module or commutative E -algebra; it is naturally a graded $E_* = \pi_*E$ -module. It turns out to be convenient for our purposes to package these homotopy groups as $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded objects, rather than \mathbb{Z} -graded objects; we can get away with this because E is even periodic. (The reader should probably ignore the distinction between \mathbb{Z} and $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -grading for now. See §5.9 for discussion of the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -grading.) The category of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded E_* -modules is denoted Mod_{E_*} .

Let $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E$ denote the homotopy theory of **augmented $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras**. We can take this to be the slice model category over E of the EKMM category of commutative E -algebras, with $K(h)_*$ -homology weak equivalences.

We are interested in computing the homotopy groups of derived mapping spaces $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(R, F)$ between two $K(h)$ -local augmented commutative E -algebras R and F . To do this, we need to understand the algebraic structure inherited by the the homotopy groups of an object of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E$.

2.2. Γ -modules and Γ -rings. The homotopy groups π_*R of an object R of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ carry quite a bit of structure.

- (1) π_*R is a **strongly graded commutative E_* -algebra**; “strongly graded commutative” means that elements in odd degree anticommute and square to zero.
- (2) The E_* -module π_*R carries the structure of a **$\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module**.
- (3) The category Mod_{Γ}^* of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules is actually a tensor category (compatibly with the underlying tensor product on E_* -modules), and multiplication $\pi_*R \otimes_{E_*} \pi_*R \rightarrow \pi_*R$ is a morphism in Mod_{Γ}^* . That is, π_*R is a **$\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring**.

See §§5.1–5.9 for more detail.

The Γ -module structure on π_*R encodes the action of “power operations” on the homotopy groups. The structure of Γ -modules is determined by the theory of deformations of subgroups of the formal group G_0/k . The category Mod_{Γ}^* will be the main subject of much of this paper, notably §§3–4 and §7; the special cases of heights 1 and 2 are discussed in §8 and §9.

2.3. \mathbb{T} -algebras. We continue the discussion of structure on the homotopy groups of an object R of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$.

- (4) The Γ -ring π_*R satisfies the **Frobenius congruence**. In short, for a Γ -ring B in there is a naturally defined E_* -module map $\text{can}_*: B \rightarrow B/pB$ (which relates to the “canonical subgroup” of a formal group in characteristic p). The Frobenius congruence for B asserts that for every element $x \in B$ in even degree, we have

$$\text{can}_*(x) \equiv x^p \pmod{pB}.$$

(See §4.2.)

The Frobenius congruence on π_*R is “witnessed” by a natural non-additive operation on π_0R . The paradigm for this is the case of p -adic K -theory, whose homotopy groups are a “ θ -ring” [Bou96]. That is, the homotopy groups of a $K(1)$ -local commutative K -algebra R admit a natural ring map $\psi^p: \pi_0R \rightarrow \pi_0$, and a natural operation $\theta^p: \pi_0R \rightarrow \pi_0R$, such that

$\psi^p(x) = x^p + p\theta^p(x)$. We can think of $\theta^p(x)$ as “witnessing” the congruence $\psi^p(x) \equiv x^p \pmod{p}$.

In the general setting, there is a monad \mathbb{T} on Mod_{E_\star} , so that \mathbb{T} -algebras are Γ -rings equipped with a “witness of the Frobenius congruence”. In particular, the above points (1)–(4) are subsumed in the following.

(5) For R in $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$, $\pi_\star R$ is naturally equipped with the structure of a \mathbb{T} -algebra.

We write \mathcal{T} for the category of \mathbb{T} -algebras; thus, homotopy is a functor $\pi_\star: h\widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$. It is not easy to give an entirely self-contained description of the category of \mathbb{T} -algebras. However, we have the following **congruence criterion**, which lets us understand \mathbb{T} -algebras which are p -torsion free.

2.4. Theorem ([Rez09, Theorem A]). *If B is a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring which is p -torsion free as an abelian group, then B admits the structure of a \mathbb{T} -algebra if and only if B satisfies the Frobenius congruence. If such a \mathbb{T} -algebra structure exists, it is unique.*

See §5.11 for more on \mathbb{T} -algebras, which were introduced in [Rez09].

2.5. Analytic completion. Recall that $\pi_0 E \approx \mathbb{W}k[[u_1, \dots, u_{h-1}]]$. Let $\mathfrak{m} = (p, u_1, \dots, u_{h-1}) \subset \pi_0 E$ be the maximal ideal, and consider \mathfrak{m} -adic completion $M \mapsto M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$, which is a functor $\text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$. This completion functor is not right exact, but admits a natural best approximation by a right exact functor $\mathcal{A}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$, which comes with natural comparison maps $M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M) \rightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$. The functor \mathcal{A} is often called L_0 , as it is in fact the 0th left-derived functor of analytic completion. The properties of this functor have been studied in [GM92] and [HS99, App. A].

There is an equivalent and more elementary description of the functor \mathcal{A} , which is sometimes useful to know. Namely, for an E_\star -module M , we have

$$\mathcal{A}(M) \approx M[[x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}]] / (x_0 - p, x_1 - u_1, \dots, x_{h-1} - u_{h-1})M[[x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}]].$$

Here $M[[x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}]]$ represents the set of formal power series with coefficients in the module M ; it is naturally a module over $E_\star[[x_0, \dots, x_{h-1}]]$. The canonical coaugmentation $\eta: M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M)$ is the map induced by inclusion of constant power series.

For this reason, we like to refer to $\mathcal{A}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ as the **analytic completion functor**, and we say that M is **analytically complete** (or just **analytic**) if the map $\eta: M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M)$ is an isomorphism. We note that any \mathfrak{m} -adically complete module is analytically complete, but not conversely [HS99, Thm. A.6]; however, the natural comparison map $\mathcal{A}(M) \rightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$ is often an isomorphism, in particular when M is flat [HS99, Thm. A.2 (b)]. An exposition of the properties of \mathcal{A} from this power series point of view is given in [Rez13]; however, most of what we need can be found in [HS99, App. A] where what we call “analytic completion” is there called “ L -completion”.

An E -module spectrum M is $K(h)$ -local if and only if $\pi_\star M$ is analytically complete (??). In particular, for any object R of $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}$, the object $\pi_\star R$ is analytically complete.

By a result of [BF13], the analytic completion functor lifts to the category \mathcal{T} . That is, there is a functor $\mathcal{A}_{\mathbb{T}}: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ which on underlying E_\star -modules coincides with \mathcal{A} ; we usually just write \mathcal{A} for the lifted functor. We’ll say that an object of \mathcal{T} is **analytically complete** if its underlying E_\star -algebra is.

Say that an E_\star -module M is **tame** if the higher left derived functors of analytic completion vanish on it, i.e., if $\mathbf{L}_j \mathcal{A}(M) = 0$ for $j \geq 1$. (Note that the $\mathbf{L}_j \mathcal{A}$ coincide with the higher

derived functors of \mathfrak{m} -adic completion, denoted L_j in [HS99].) We say that a \mathbb{T} -algebra is **tame** if its underlying E_\star -module is tame. We note that projective modules are tame [HS99, Thm. A.2 (b)], and also that analytically complete modules are tame [HS99, Thm. A.6 (b)].

2.6. Cohomology of augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras. Let \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} denote the slice category of \mathcal{T} over $E_\star = \pi_\star E$. That is, an object B of \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} is a \mathbb{T} -algebra equipped with a \mathbb{T} -algebra map $B \rightarrow E_\star$. It is clear that taking homotopy groups defines a functor $\pi_\star: \widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$. (In fact, the image of this functor is contained in $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}_{E_\star} \subset \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$, the full subcategory of analytically complete objects.)

Let $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ denote the category of abelian group objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} . There is a pair of adjoint functors

$$Q: \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightleftarrows \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} : \mathcal{J},$$

where the right adjoint \mathcal{J} is a fully faithful functor, identifying $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ with the full subcategory of \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} consisting of objects $\phi: B \rightarrow E_\star$ such that $\overline{B}^2 = 0$, where $\overline{B} = \text{Ker } \phi$ is the augmentation ideal. We will typically represent objects in $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ by their augmentation ideals, and write $E_\star \rtimes M$ for $\mathcal{J}(M)$ above. The left adjoint Q is the indecomposable quotient functor $Q(B) = \overline{B}/\overline{B}^2$.

We can define a Quillen-type cohomology theory for objects of \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} , denoted

$$H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^n(B, N),$$

where B is in \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} and N is in $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$. It may be defined as the set of (derived) homotopy classes of maps $B \rightarrow K(N, n)$ for the category $s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ of simplicial objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} , equipped with a suitable model category structure.

2.7. Mapping space spectral sequence. Now we can describe the main spectral sequence.

2.8. Proposition. *Let R and F be $K(h)$ -local augmented commutative E -algebras. There is a conditionally convergent spectral sequence of the form*

$$E_2^{s,t} \implies \pi_{t-s} \widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(R, F),$$

with

$$E_2^{s,t} = \begin{cases} \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}(\pi_\star R, \pi_\star F) & \text{if } (s, t) = (0, 0), \\ H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^s(\pi_\star R, \pi_\star \Omega^t \overline{F}) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

2.9. Composite functor spectral sequence. To compute the cohomology of \mathbb{T} -algebras in our setting, we can use a composite functor type spectral sequence. Like \mathcal{T} , the category $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ of abelian group objects admits a lift of the analytic completion functor, which coincides with the usual one on underlying E_\star -modules. Thus, we may define $\widehat{Q} = \mathcal{A}Q: \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$, the analytic completion of indecomposables.

2.10. Proposition. *Let B be an object of \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} , and let N be an object of $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ whose underlying E_\star -module is analytically complete. Then there is a spectral sequence of the form*

$$E_2^{i,j} = \text{Ext}_{\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^i(\mathbf{L}_j \widehat{Q}(B), N) \implies H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^{i+j}(B, N).$$

Here $\mathbf{L}_j \widehat{Q}$ are left derived functors of \widehat{Q} .

In certain situations, we can identify $L_j \widehat{Q} \circ \mathcal{A}$ with $\mathcal{A} \circ L_j Q$.

2.11. **Proposition.** *Let B be a tame object of \mathcal{T}_{E_*} , such that the $\mathbf{L}_j Q(B)$ are also tame. Then*

$$\mathbf{L}_j \widehat{Q}(\mathcal{A}(B)) \approx \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{L}_j Q(B)).$$

2.12. **Computing with abelian group objects.** The category $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ of abelian group objects is in fact equivalent to the category Mod_Γ^* . However, this equivalence does not manifest itself in the most obvious way. There is a pair of functors

$$\text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \xrightarrow{\mathcal{S}} \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{U}} \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*.$$

The functor \mathcal{U} is the “obvious” one, which associates to an abelian group object N its underlying augmentation ideal, which is naturally a Γ -module. This functor \mathcal{U} is *not* an equivalence of categories. However, the functor \mathcal{S} is an equivalence of categories, and furthermore there is a natural isomorphism of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules

$$\mathcal{U}\mathcal{S}(M) \approx \omega^{1/2} \otimes M.$$

Here we write

$$\omega^{t/2} = \text{Ker}[\pi_* E^{S_+^t} \rightarrow \pi_* E]$$

for the underlying $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module of the augmentation ideal of $E^{S_+^t}$, the E -cochains of the t -sphere, for $t \geq 0$.

Thus we have an isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^i(M, N) \approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*}^i(\mathcal{S}^{-1}(M), \mathcal{S}^{-1}(N)).$$

In practice, it often seems more convenient to write these sorts of things in terms of the underlying Γ -modules of M and N . To do this, we note that if M is a p -torsion free object of $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}$, then there exists an essentially unique object M' of Mod_Γ^* such that $\omega^{1/2} \otimes M' \approx \mathcal{U}(M)$ as Γ -modules. We will typically write “ $\omega^{-1/2} \otimes M$ ” for this object M' when it exists — an abuse of notation, since $\omega^{1/2}$ is not an invertible object in Mod_Γ^* . Thus, if M and N are p -torsion free objects, we have an isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^i(M, N) \approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*}^i(\omega^{-1/2} \otimes M, \omega^{-1/2} \otimes N).$$

Furthermore, if M and N happen to also be concentrated in even degrees, then we can “remove” another $\omega^{1/2}$ in the same way, and we get an isomorphism

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^i(M, N) \approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*}^i(\omega^{-1} \otimes M, \omega^{-1} \otimes N).$$

2.13. **Example 1.** Let $R = E^{S_+^{2m-1}}$ where $2m - 1$ is an odd positive integer, and let $F = E \rtimes \Omega^t E$, the “square-zero extension” of E by $\Omega^t E$, where $t \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then

$$\pi_0 \widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(E^{S_+^{2m-1}}, E \rtimes \Omega^t E) \approx \pi_t \mathcal{F}(\text{TAQ}^{S_{K(h)}}((S_{K(h)})^{S_+^{2m-1}}), E),$$

the E -cohomology of the $K(h)$ -localized topological André-Quillen homology of the spectrum of $S_{K(h)}$ -valued cochains on the sphere. Behrens-Rezk identify these groups with $\pi_t(E \wedge \Phi_h S^{2m-1})_{K(h)}$. The space $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(E^{S_+^{2m-1}}, E \rtimes \Omega^t E)$ is an infinite loop space.

The underlying Γ -module of $\text{Ker}(\pi_*(E \rtimes \Omega^t E) \rightarrow \pi_* E)$ is isomorphic to $\omega^{t/2} \otimes \text{nul}$, where nul is a certain Γ -module whose underlying E_* -module is isomorphic to E_* , but which has “trivial” Γ -module structure.

We have that $B = \pi_* E^{S_+^{2m-1}}$ is a free strongly graded commutative E_* -algebra on one generator, whence $\mathbf{L}_j Q(B) \approx 0$ for $j \geq 1$, and $Q(B)$ itself has underlying Γ -module $\mathcal{U}Q(B) \approx$

$\omega^{(2m-1)/2}$. As the objects in question are analytically complete, they are tame, so we have a similar result for $\mathbf{L}_j\widehat{Q}(B)$. Thus the composite functor spectral sequence collapses to give

$$\begin{aligned} H^s(\pi_*R, \pi_*\Omega^t\overline{F}) &\approx \text{Ext}_{\text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^s(\omega^{(2m-1)/2}, \omega^{t/2} \otimes \text{nul}) \\ &\approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{F}}^*}^s(\omega^{m-1}, \omega^{(t-1)/2} \otimes \text{nul}). \end{aligned}$$

For the cases of heights $h = 1$ and 2 , we will show (by explicit calculation) that these groups vanish except when $s = h$. Thus the resulting mapping space spectral sequence also collapses to give, for $h = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_0\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(E^{S_+^{2m-1}}, E \rtimes \Omega^t E) &\approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{F}}^*}^1(\omega^{m-1}, \omega^{t/2} \otimes \text{nul}) \\ &\approx \begin{cases} E_0/p^{m-1}E_0 & \text{if } t \text{ even,} \\ 0 & \text{if } t \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

For $h = 2$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_0\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E(E^{S_+^{2m-1}}, E \rtimes \Omega^t E) &\approx \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{F}}^*}^2(\omega^{m-1}, \omega^{(t+1)/2} \otimes \text{nul}) \\ &\approx \begin{cases} A_1/(s(A_0) + b^{m-1}A_1) & \text{if } t \text{ odd,} \\ 0 & \text{if } t \text{ even.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The object $P_m = A_1/(s(A_0) + b^{m-1}A_1)$ is a certain E_0 -module, for which the reader will need to read ahead to understand. We note here that $P_1 = 0$, and that $P_2 \approx (E_0/pE_0)^{\oplus(p-1)}$, while in general P_m is isomorphic to some complicated quotient of $(E_0/p^{m-1}E_0)^{\oplus(p-1)}$.

2.14. Example 2. Let $R = \Sigma_+^\infty\mathbb{Z}$, and let $F = E \times E$. Then

$$\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_E((E \wedge \Sigma_+^\infty\mathbb{Z})_{K(h)}, E \times E) \approx (\text{Comm } S\text{-alg})(\Sigma_+^\infty\mathbb{Z}, E).$$

This space is an H -space, using the evident coproduct on $\Sigma_+^\infty\mathbb{Z}$. In fact, it is an infinite loop space; it is equivalent to the function spectrum $\mathcal{F}(H\mathbb{Z}, \mathfrak{gl}_1 E)$.

We have that $B = \pi_*R$ is the analytic completion of a Laurent polynomial algebra: $B \approx \mathcal{A}B'$, where $B' = E_*[t, t^{-1}]$. This algebra is smooth, so $\mathbf{L}_jQ(B') \approx 0$ for $j \geq 1$ and $Q(B') \approx \det$, where \det is a certain Γ -module whose underlying E_* -module is E_* . We conclude that $\mathbf{L}_j\widehat{Q}(B) \approx 0$ for $j \geq 1$ and $\widehat{Q}(B) \approx \det$.

The underlying Γ -module of $\pi_*\Omega^t\overline{F}$ is $\omega^{t/2}$.

The composite functor spectral sequence thus degenerates to give

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^s(\pi_*R, \pi_*\Omega^t\overline{F}) &\approx \text{Ext}_{\text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}}^s(\det, \omega^{t/2}) \\ &\approx \begin{cases} \text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{F}}^*}^s(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega^{t/2-1}) & \text{if } t \text{ is even,} \\ 0 & \text{if } t \text{ is odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Assume now that G_0/k where $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, the algebraic closure of \mathbb{F}_p . For the cases of heights $h = 1$ and 2 , we will show (by explicit calculation) that these Ext-groups vanish except when $s = h - 1$ and $t = 2h$, in which case

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{F}}^*}^{h-1}(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega^{h-1}) \approx \mathbb{Z}_p$$

for $h = 1, 2$. Also, in either case (11.7) we have that

$$\mathcal{T}_{E_*}(\pi_*R, \pi_*F) = \mathcal{T}(\pi_*R, \pi_*E) \approx \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^\times.$$

Thus, for height 1, the resulting mapping space spectral sequence collapses to give

$$\pi_n(\mathrm{Comm} S \mathrm{alg})(\Sigma_+^\infty \mathbb{Z}, E) \approx \begin{cases} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^\times & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } n = 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

For height 2, we get

$$\pi_n(\mathrm{Comm} S \mathrm{alg})(\Sigma_+^\infty \mathbb{Z}, E) \approx \begin{cases} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^\times & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } n = 3, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This proves a conjecture of Lurie in the case of height 2.

3. DEFORMATIONS

The theory of power operations for Morava E -theory is controlled by the deformation theory of finite subgroups of its formal group G_{univ} , which is the universal deformation of a formal group G_0 over a perfect field k . Any finite subgroup $K \leq G$ of a deformation G determines a quotient homomorphism $f: G \rightarrow G/K$, and the quotient G/K is provided with the structure of a deformation of G_0 via factorization of a power of the Frobenius isogeny of G_0 . In this section we review this deformation theory, which is a consequence of work of Strickland.

3.1. The category of deformations. We recall the “deformation of Frobenius” graded category scheme associated to a formal group, as described in [Rez09, §11]. In the following, “formal groups” are assumed to be one-dimensional and commutative.

Fix a prime p , an integer $h \geq 1$, a perfect field k of characteristic p , and a formal group G_0 over k of height h .

If R is a ring of characteristic p , we write $\phi: R \rightarrow R$ for $\phi(r) = r^p$. For each formal group G over a ring R of characteristic p , the **Frobenius isogeny** $\mathrm{Frob}: G \rightarrow \phi^*G$ is the homomorphism of formal groups induced by the relative Frobenius map on rings. We write $\mathrm{Frob}^r: G \rightarrow (\phi^r)^*G$ for the homomorphism inductively defined by $\mathrm{Frob}^r = \phi^*(\mathrm{Frob}^{r-1}) \circ \mathrm{Frob}$.

Given a complete local ring R , with maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \subseteq R$ such that $p \in \mathfrak{m}$, and quotient map $\pi: R \rightarrow R/\mathfrak{m}$, we define a category $\mathrm{Def}(R) = \mathrm{Def}_{G_0/k}(R)$ as follows.

- *Objects* (G, i, α) are deformations of G_0 to R . That is, G is a formal group over R , $i: k \rightarrow R/\mathfrak{m}$ is an inclusion of fields, and $\alpha: \pi^*G \rightarrow i^*G_0$ is an isomorphism of formal groups over R/\mathfrak{m} .
- *Morphisms* $f: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (G', i', \alpha')$ are deformations of a power of Frobenius. That is, $f: G \rightarrow G'$ is a homomorphism of formal groups over R for which there exists an $r \geq 0$ such that (i) $i \circ \phi^r = i'$ as maps $k \rightarrow R/\mathfrak{m}$ (so that $(i \circ \phi^r)^*G_0 = (i')^*G_0$), and (ii) the square

$$(3.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \pi^*G & \xrightarrow{f} & \pi^*G' \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha' \\ i^*G_0 & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Frob}^r} & (i \circ \phi^r)^*G_0 \end{array}$$

of homomorphisms of formal groups over R/\mathfrak{m} commutes.

Every morphism of $\text{Def}(R)$ is a deformation of Frob^r for a unique $r \geq 0$, called the **height** of the morphism. Let $\text{Def}(R)^0 \subset \text{Def}(R)$ be the subcategory consisting of morphisms of height 0, i.e., of isomorphisms between deformations.

3.3. Remark. There is an evident functor $U: \text{Def}_{G_0}(R) \rightarrow \text{Isog}(R)$ from the category of deformations to the category of formal groups over R and isogenies, on objects sending $(G, i, \alpha) \mapsto G$. The functor U can be identified as the ‘‘Grothendieck construction’’ of a functor $\mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}: \text{Isog}(R) \rightarrow \text{Sets}$, as we now describe.

To each formal group G over R , let $\mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(G)$ be the set of pairs (i, α) such that (G, i, α) is a deformation of G_0 to R . For an isogeny $f: G \rightarrow G'$ of rank p^r , let $\mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(f): \mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(G')$ be the function that sends $(i, \alpha) \mapsto (i \circ \phi^r, \alpha')$, where α' is the unique isomorphism of formal groups making (3.2) commute. We can think of $\mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(G)$ as the set of ‘‘ G_0 -deformation structures’’ on the formal group G , and we have just described how to ‘‘push forward’’ a G_0 -deformation structure along any isogeny. Now $\text{Def}_{G_0}(R)$ is a category whose objects are pairs (G, d) , where $d \in \mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(G)$, and whose morphisms $(G, d) \rightarrow (G', d')$ are isogenies $f: G \rightarrow G'$ such that $\mathcal{D}_{G_0/k}(f)(d) = d'$.

3.4. Representability of the deformation category. By the deformation theory of Lubin-Tate, for any two objects of $\text{Def}(R)^0$ there is at most one isomorphism between them. Thus, it makes sense to form the quotient category $\text{Sub}(R) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Def}(R)/\text{Def}(R)^0$, by identifying isomorphic objects. The quotient functor $\text{Def}(R) \rightarrow \text{Sub}(R)$ is an equivalence of categories, and $\text{Sub}(R)$ is a ‘‘gaunt’’ category, i.e., every morphism is an identity map. The notation comes from the fact that there is a one-to-one correspondence

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{morphisms in } \text{Sub}(R) \\ \text{with source } (G, i, \alpha) \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{finite subgroups of } G\},$$

which associates a morphism $f: G \rightarrow G'$ with its kernel $\text{Ker } f \leq G$.

Let $\text{Sub}^r(R)$ denote the set of morphisms of height r in $\text{Sub}(R)$, which correspond to subgroups of degree p^r .

3.5. Proposition (Lubin-Tate; Strickland). *Let G_0/k be of height h over a perfect field k . For each $r \geq 0$, there exists a complete local ring A_r which carries a universal height r morphism $f_{\text{univ}}^r: (G_s, i_s, \alpha_s) \rightarrow (G_t, i_t, \alpha_t) \in \text{Sub}^r(A_r)$. That is, the operation $f^r \mapsto g^*(f^r)$ defines a bijective correspondence from the set of local homomorphisms $g: A_r \rightarrow R$ to the set $\text{Sub}^r(R)$ of height r -morphisms in the category $\text{Sub}(R)$. Furthermore, we have that:*

- (1) $A_0 \approx \mathbb{W}_p k[[a_1, \dots, a_{h-1}]]$.
- (2) Under the map $s: A_0 \rightarrow A_r$ which classifies the source of the universal height r map, A_r is finite and free as an A_0 -module.

Proof. For $r = 0$ this is the theory of Lubin and Tate [LT66]. For $r > 0$ this is a theorem of Strickland [Str97]. \square

Thus, $\text{Sub} = \coprod \text{Sub}^r$ is a ‘‘affine graded-category scheme’’. In particular, there are ring maps

$$s = s_k, t = t_k: A_0 \rightarrow A_k, \quad \mu = \mu_{\ell, k}: A_{k+\ell} \rightarrow A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_\ell$$

classifying source, target, and composition of morphisms. Note that $s_0, t_0, \mu_{\ell, 0}$, and $\mu_{0, k}$ are all isomorphisms (since Sub^0 consists entirely of identity maps), and that $\mu \circ s = 1 \otimes s$,

$\mu \circ t = t \otimes 1$, and $(\mu \otimes 1) \circ \mu = (1 \otimes \mu) \circ \mu$ (because Sub is a category object). As a consequence, μ is map of A_0 -bimodules, which we represent with the notation

$$\mu: {}^t A_{k+\ell}^s \rightarrow {}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_\ell^s.$$

3.6. Canonical subgroups. For any deformation (G, i, α) of G_0 to a ring R of characteristic p , there is for each $r \geq 0$ a morphism in $\text{Def}^r(R)$ of the form

$$\text{Frob}^r: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow ((\phi^r)^* G, i \circ \phi^r, (\phi^r)^*(\alpha)).$$

That is, Frobenius is a deformation of Frobenius. The kernel of Frob^r is the **canonical subgroup** of G of rank p^r .

The universal example of this map is classified by a ring homomorphism

$$\text{can}_r: A_r \rightarrow A_0/(p),$$

which satisfies $\text{can}_r \circ s = \pi$ and $\text{can}_r \circ t = \phi^r \circ \pi$, where $\pi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0/(p)$ denotes the evident projection. We note that the further projection

$$A_r \xrightarrow{\text{can}_r} A_0/(p) \rightarrow A_0/\mathfrak{m} = k$$

is the map classifying $\text{Frob}^r: G_0 \rightarrow (\phi^r)^* G_0$.

4. Γ -MODULES AND p -ISOGENY MODULES

In this section, we give two equivalent descriptions of a category of “quasi-coherent sheaves over $\text{Def}_{G_0/k}$ ”, called Γ -modules and p -isogeny modules. This summarizes some of the material discussed in [Rez09, §11].

4.1. The category of Γ -modules. For a given height h formal group G_0/k , we define a category of $\Gamma = \Gamma_{G_0/k}$ -modules. A Γ -**module** is an A -module M equipped with A_0 -module homomorphisms

$$P_k = P_{k,M}: M \rightarrow {}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M$$

for $k \geq 0$, such that $P_0 = \text{id}$, and for all $k, \ell \geq 0$ the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{P_k} & {}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M \\ P_{k+\ell} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id} \otimes P_\ell \\ {}^t A_{k+\ell}^s \otimes_{A_0} M & \xrightarrow{\mu \otimes \text{id}} & {}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_\ell^s \otimes_A M \end{array}$$

commutes. (In this definition, ${}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ is made into an A -module via the ring homomorphism $t: A_0 \rightarrow A_k$, hence our notation.) A morphism of Γ -modules is a map $M \rightarrow N$ of A_0 -modules which commutes with the structure maps P_k .

Given two Γ -modules M and N , their tensor product is the Γ -module with underlying A_0 -module $M \otimes_{A_0} N$, and with structure map

$$P_k: M \otimes_{A_0} N \rightarrow {}^t A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} (M \otimes_{A_0} N)$$

defined by

$$P_k(m \otimes n) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum a'b' \otimes m'' \otimes n'', \quad \text{where } P_k(m) = \sum a' \otimes m' \text{ and } P_k(n) = \sum b' \otimes n''.$$

This tensor product makes Γ -modules into a symmetric monoidal category, with unit object $\mathbb{1}$ being A_0 equipped with structure maps

$$P_k = t_k: A_0 \rightarrow A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} A_0 \approx A_k.$$

We write $\text{Mod}_{\Gamma_{G_0/k}}$ for the category of Γ -modules for G_0/k , or simply Mod_{Γ} if the formal group is clear.

4.2. Γ -rings. A Γ -ring is a commutative A_0 -algebra B together with a Γ -module structure on B , so that multiplication $B \otimes_{A_0} B \rightarrow B$ is a morphism of Γ -modules. The initial Γ -ring is $\mathbb{1} = A_0$.

A Γ -ideal in a Γ -ring B is an ideal $I \subseteq B$ which is also a Γ -submodule of B ; that is, for all $k \geq 0$ we have

$$P_k(I) \subseteq A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} I.$$

If $I \subseteq B$ is a Γ -ideal, then B/I inherits the structure of a Γ -ring. In particular, $pA_0 \subseteq A_0$ is a Γ -ideal, and thus $A_0/(p)$ is a Γ -ring (in a unique way). However, note that the maximal ideal $\mathfrak{m} \subset A_0$ is *not* a Γ -ideal if $h \geq 2$.

A Γ -ring B is said to satisfy the **Frobenius congruence** if the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{P_1} & A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} B \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{can} \otimes \text{id} \\ B/pB & \xrightarrow{\phi} & B/pB = (A_0/p) \otimes_{A_0} B \end{array}$$

commutes.

4.3. The ring Γ of operations. The associative ring Γ is a graded ring $\Gamma \approx \bigoplus \Gamma[k]$, where $\Gamma[k] = \text{Hom}_{A_0}(A_k, A_0)$ is the A_0 -linear dual of A_k (where A_k is viewed as an A_0 -module using s_k), and the ring structure of Γ is induced by the maps $\mu_{k,\ell}$. The category comodules for (A_r, s, t, μ) described above is isomorphic to the category of modules for the ring Γ . Explicitly, the isomorphism of categories is obtained by associating $P_k: M \rightarrow A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ with its adjoint $\Gamma[k] \otimes_{A_0} M \subset \Gamma \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow M$.

In fact, the structure of graded affine category scheme (A_r, s, t, μ) makes Γ into a *twisted commutative bialgebra*, as described in [Rez09, §5]. We remind the reader that although Γ contains $\Gamma[0] = A_0$ as its degree 0 part, the subring A_0 is not central in general.

In this paper, we will usually use the coalgebraic formulation of Γ -modules as described above, but will nonetheless call them “ Γ -modules”.

4.4. A remark on “handedness” conventions. In this paper, we are regarding coactions as happening on the left, i.e., via maps $M \rightarrow A_k \otimes_{A_0} M$. For this reason, it seems most convenient here to regard the adjoint action as also happening on the left, i.e., via maps $\Gamma[k] \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow M$. This is not necessarily the same convention used in other papers.

The only reason we need to talk about Γ at all is so that we can quote the results of [Rez11], which we will reinterpret in the language of coactions in §7. Our choice here is consistent with [Rez11], where Γ is also regarded as acting on the left.

In [Rez09], we used the same left coaction convention we have here. However, in that paper, we regarded Γ as acting on the right (so that properly speaking, what is here called Γ is the opposite of the Γ in that paper).

In [Rez12], we used conventions consistent with having coactions on the right, and actions on the left, although neither actually appear explicitly. In particular, this means that the description of $\Gamma \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ (there simply called Γ) given in §4 of that paper, is consistent with treatment of Γ here.

The author finds this business somewhat confusing, and apologizes for any resulting confusion in the reader.

4.5. p -isogeny modules over deformations. Here we briefly describe an equivalent formulation of the notion of a Γ -modules called p -isogeny modules, which will provide us with convenient language for certain constructions. (These were described in [Rez09, §11.13] as “quasi-coherent sheaves over Def”.)

Let G_0/k be a height h formal group. A **p -isogeny module over deformations of G_0/k** is data $\underline{M} = \{\underline{M}_R, \underline{M}_g\}$ consisting of

- for each complete local ring R , a contravariant functor $\underline{M}_R: \text{Def}(R)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_R$ from the category of deformations of G_0/k to R , to the category of R -modules, and
- for each local homomorphism $g: R \rightarrow R'$, a natural isomorphism

$$\underline{M}_g: R' \otimes_R \underline{M}_R \Longrightarrow \underline{M}_{R'} \circ g^*: \text{Def}(R)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{R'}$$

where $g^*: \text{Def}(R) \rightarrow \text{Def}(R')$ is the evident functor induced by base change along g .

We require that for $R \xrightarrow{g} R' \xrightarrow{h} R''$ that both ways of constructing a natural isomorphism $R'' \otimes_R \underline{M}_R \rightarrow \underline{M}_{R''} \circ M_h \circ M_g$ coincide (up to the evident coherence isomorphism), and that M_{id_R} is the identity transformation. A morphism of p -isogeny modules $\underline{M} \rightarrow \underline{N}$ is a collection of natural maps $\underline{M}_R \rightarrow \underline{N}_R$ commuting with all the structure.

It is straightforward to check [Rez09, Prop. 11.16] that the category of p -isogeny modules is equivalent to the category of Γ -modules. Explicitly, given a Γ -module $(M, \{P_r\})$, the associated p -isogeny module \underline{M} is given by

$$\underline{M}_R((G, i, \alpha)) = R^{\rho_G} \otimes_{A_0} M,$$

where $\rho_G: A_0 \rightarrow R$ classifies $(G/R, i, \alpha)$, and $f^* = \underline{M}_R(f): \underline{M}_R((G_2, i_2, \alpha_2)) \rightarrow \underline{M}_R((G_1, i_1, \alpha_1))$ is the composite

$$R^{\rho_f} \otimes_{A_r} A_r^t \otimes_{A_0} M \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \text{id} \otimes P_r} R^{\rho_f} \otimes_{A_r} A_r^t \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} M \xrightarrow{\text{id} \otimes \text{mult} \otimes \text{id}} R^{\rho_f} \otimes_{A_r} A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} M,$$

where $\rho_f: A_r \rightarrow R$ classifies $f: (G_1, i_1, \alpha_1) \rightarrow (G_2, i_2, \alpha_2)$. Conversely, a p -isogeny module determines a Γ -module, by evaluating at the universal deformation (defined over A_0), and at the universal height r isogenies (defined over A_r).

We will use the equivalence of Γ -modules and p -isogeny modules without comment in this paper.

4.6. p -isogeny rings over deformations. A **p -isogeny ring** is a commutative ring object in p -isogeny modules. The initial p -isogeny ring is $\underline{\mathcal{O}}$, defined by $\underline{\mathcal{O}}_R((G, i, \alpha)) = R$. A p -isogeny \underline{B} ring satisfies the **Frobenius congruence** if and only if for every deformation (G, i, α) over a ring R of characteristic p , the map

$$R^\phi \otimes_R \underline{B}_R((G, i, \alpha)) \xrightarrow[\sim]{\underline{B}_\phi} \underline{B}_R((\phi^* G, i \circ \phi, \phi^* \alpha)) \xrightarrow{\underline{B}_R(\text{Frob})} \underline{B}_R(G, i, \alpha)$$

is equal to the relative Frobenius map on the ring $\underline{B}_R(G, i, \alpha)$; i.e., \underline{B} carries the relative Frobenius map of deformations to the relative Frobenius map of rings. This evidently coincides with the “Frobenius congruence” condition for Γ -rings.

4.7. The Γ -ring $\mathcal{O}_{G_{\text{univ}}}$. Given a deformation (G, i, α) of G_0/k to R , let \mathcal{O}_G denote the ring of functions on G . It is isomorphic as an algebra to $R[[x]]$. Tautologically, $(G, i, \alpha)/R \mapsto \mathcal{O}_G$ is a p -isogeny ring. It corresponds to a Γ -ring $\mathcal{O}_{G_{\text{univ}}}$, whose underlying algebra is the ring of functions on the universal deformation of G_0/k .

4.8. The Γ -module ω of invariant 1-forms. Given a deformation (G, i, α) of G_0 to R , let ω_G denote the set of invariant 1-forms on the formal group G . Then ω_G is naturally an R module, free of rank 1, and it is compatible with base change, in the sense that if $\theta: R \rightarrow R'$ is a local homomorphism, then there is a canonical isomorphism

$$\omega_{\theta^*G} \approx R'^{\theta} \otimes_R \omega_G.$$

Furthermore, given a morphism $f: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (G', i', \alpha')$ in $\text{Def}(R)$, pullback of 1-forms defines a map $f^*: \omega_{G'} \rightarrow \omega_G$.

Thus, ω naturally carries the structure of a p -isogeny module, and thus we obtain a Γ -module ω , with underlying A_0 -module $\omega_{G_{\text{univ}}}$, and with structure map $P_r: \omega \rightarrow A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} \omega$ the map

$$\omega = A_0 \otimes_{A_0} \omega \xrightarrow{t \otimes \text{id}} A_r^t \otimes_{A_0} \omega \xrightarrow{f^*} A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} \omega,$$

where $f: s^*G_{\text{univ}} \rightarrow t^*G_{\text{univ}}$ is the universal deformation of Frobenius of height r . It is clear that as a Γ -module, $\omega \approx \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{I}^2$, where $\mathcal{I} = \text{Ker}(\mathcal{O}_{G_{\text{univ}}} \rightarrow \mathbb{1})$.

4.9. Frobenius-trivial Γ -modules and inverting ω . Although ω is a rank one A_0 -module, it is not invertible as a Γ -module; i.e., there is no Γ -module M such that $\omega \otimes M \approx \mathbb{1}$. However, there are circumstances in which it is possible to unambiguously define a module “ $\omega^{-1} \otimes M$ ”, namely when M is p -torsion free and Frobenius-trivial.

Choose a basis $u \in \omega$. Then $P_{k,\omega}(u) = b_k \otimes u$ for some $b_k \in A_k$.

4.10. Lemma. *The element $b_k \in A_k$ is a divisor of p^k , i.e., $p^k = b_k c$ for some $c \in A_k$.*

Proof. A map $f: (G_1, i_1, \alpha_1) \rightarrow (G_2, i_2, \alpha_2)$ in $\text{Def}^k(R)$ has kernel killed by $[p^k]$, and so $[p^k]_{G_1} = g \circ f$ for some isogeny $g: G_2 \rightarrow G_1$. If u is a basis of ω_{G_1} , then $p^k u = f^*(g^*(u))$. Applied to the universal example of a deformation of Frob^k , this proves the claim. \square

4.11. Proposition. *If M, N are Γ -modules, and if N has no p -torsion, then*

$$\omega \otimes -: \text{Hom}_{\Gamma}(M, N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\Gamma}(\omega \otimes M, \omega \otimes N)$$

is an isomorphism.

Proof. This is a straightforward verification, using the fact that according to the hypothesis and (4.10), multiplication by b_k on $A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} (\omega \otimes N)$ is injective. \square

Say that a Γ -module M is **Frobenius-trivial** if the composite of

$$M \xrightarrow{P_{1,M}} A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \xrightarrow{\text{can}_1 \otimes \text{id}_M} A_0/pA_0 \otimes_{A_0} M = M/pM$$

is 0. In terms of the associated p -isogeny module \underline{M} , Frobenius-triviality is equivalent to the following: for any deformation (G, i, α) of G_0/k to a ring R of characteristic p , the map $\underline{M}_R(\text{Frob}_G): \underline{M}_R(\phi^*G, i \circ \phi, \phi^*\alpha) \rightarrow \underline{M}_R(G, i, \alpha)$ is equal to 0.

As a consequence, if M is Frobenius trivial, we have that $\underline{M}_R(f \circ \text{Frob}_{G_1}) = 0$ for any map $f: (\phi^*G_1, i_1 \circ \phi, \phi^*\alpha_1) \rightarrow (G_2, i_2, \alpha_2)$ in $\text{Def}(R)$ where R is of characteristic p . Recall that a morphism $g: (G_1, i, \alpha_1) \rightarrow (G_2, i_2, \alpha_2)$ in $\text{Def}(R)$ factors as $g = f \circ \text{Frob}_{G_1}$ if and only if

$g^*: \omega_{G_2} \rightarrow \omega_{G_1}$ is equal to 0. Applied to the universal example this means that when M is Frobenius-trivial, the composite

$$M \xrightarrow{P_{k,M}} A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow (A_k/(b_k))^s \otimes_{A_0} M$$

is 0 for all $k \geq 1$, where $b_k \in A_k$ are the elements associated to the basis $u \in \omega$ introduced above.

Given a Γ -module M , let $\mathcal{D}(M)$ denote the solution groupoid of the equation $\omega \otimes X \approx M$. That is, objects of $\mathcal{D}(M)$ are pairs $(N, f: \omega \otimes N \rightarrow M)$, where N is a Γ -module and f is an isomorphism of Γ -modules, and whose maps $(N, f) \rightarrow (N', f')$ are Γ -module isomorphisms $g: N \rightarrow N'$ such that $f' \circ (g \otimes \text{id}) = f$.

4.12. Proposition. *If M is a Γ -module with no p -torsion which is Frobenius-trivial, then $\mathcal{D}(M)$ is contractible.*

Proof. As noted above, Frobenius-triviality implies that $P_{k,M}(M) \subseteq b_k A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M$, while by (4.10) the p -torsion free condition implies that multiplication by b_k is injective on $A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} M$. Thus we may define a Γ -module N with the same underlying A_0 -module as M , so that $P_{k,N}(x) = b_k^{-1} P_{k,M}(x)$, with an evident isomorphism $\omega \otimes N \approx M$. Thus $\mathcal{D}(M)$ is non-empty; contractibility follows using (4.11) \square

We can summarize the above results as follows.

4.13. Proposition. *The functor $\omega \otimes -: \text{Mod}_\Gamma \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma$ given by tensoring with ω restricts to an equivalence*

$$\omega \otimes -: (\text{Mod}_\Gamma)_{\text{tf}} \xrightarrow{\sim} (\text{Mod}_\Gamma)_{\text{tf}, \text{Ft}}$$

from the full subcategory of p -torsion free Γ -modules, to the full subcategory of p -torsion free and Frobenius-trivial Γ -modules.

4.14. The null Γ -module. Let nul denote the Γ -module with underlying A_0 -module $\text{nul} = A_0$, and with $P_{k,\text{nul}} = 0$ for all $k \geq 1$. Thus, nul has “trivial Γ -action”.

Given an A_0 -module M , we abuse notation and write $\text{nul} \otimes M$ for the Γ -module with underlying A_0 -module M and trivial Γ -action. The induced functor

$$\text{nul} \otimes -: \text{Mod}_{A_0} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma$$

is fully faithful; in fact, $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(\text{nul}, \text{nul}) \approx A_0$ is the endomorphism ring of nul as a Γ -module.

4.15. The p th power map and the operation Ψ . Every formal group has a p th power endomorphism $[p]: G \rightarrow G$. If G is a deformation of a height h formal group G_0 , then $[p]$ is an isogeny of rank p^h . Here we point out a subtlety in the way that the p th power map becomes a deformation of Frob^h .

Because G_0/k has height h , $\text{Ker}[p] = \text{Ker} \text{Frob}^h$, and thus there is a commutative diagram of homomorphisms

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_0 & \xrightarrow{\text{Frob}^h} & (\phi^h)^* G_0 \\ & \searrow [p] & \nearrow \sim \psi_0 \\ & & G_0 \end{array}$$

where ψ_0 is an isomorphism. In particular,

$$[p]: (G_0, \text{id}, \text{id}) \rightarrow (G_0, \phi^h, \psi_0)$$

describes a morphism in Def^h . More generally, for an arbitrary deformation (G, i, α) of G_0 to R , we get a morphism

$$[p]: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (G, i \circ \phi^h, i^* \psi_0 \circ \alpha)$$

in $\text{Def}(R)$. Note that this morphism is *not* generally an endomorphism of an object of $\text{Def}(R)$.

There are ring homomorphisms

$$\Psi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0, \quad [p]: A_h \rightarrow A_0,$$

which represent the operations

$$(G, i, \alpha) \mapsto (G, i \circ \phi^h, i^* \psi_0 \circ \alpha), \quad (G, i, \alpha) \mapsto ([p]: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (G, i \circ \phi^h, i^* \psi_0 \circ \alpha)),$$

and which fit into a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_0 & \xrightarrow{s} & A_h & \xleftarrow{t} & A_0 \\ & \searrow \text{id} & \downarrow [p] & \swarrow \Psi & \\ & & A_0 & & \end{array}$$

It is immediate from the above discussion that the ring homomorphism $\Psi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ is identical to the automorphism $(\phi^h, \widehat{\psi}_0)^*: A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ induced by the map $(\phi^h, \widehat{\psi}_0) \in \text{FmlGp}_h(G_0/k, G_0/k)$, using the notation of §6.2, and where $\widehat{\psi}_0$ is the composite $G_0 \xrightarrow{\psi_0} (\phi^h)^* G_0 \rightarrow G_0$ covering $\phi^h: \text{Spec } \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p \rightarrow \text{Spec } \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$.

For any Γ -module M , define $\Psi_M: M \rightarrow M$ to be the composite

$$M \xrightarrow{P_h} A_h \xrightarrow{s} A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M \xrightarrow{[p] \otimes \text{id}} A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M = M.$$

This map Ψ_M is Ψ -linear, in the sense that $\Psi_M(\alpha m) = \Psi(\alpha) \Psi_M(m)$ for $\alpha \in A_0$ and $m \in M$. For the unit Γ -module $\mathbb{1} = A_0$, the map $\Psi_{\mathbb{1}}: \mathbb{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$ coincides with the ring homomorphism $\Psi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ described above.

4.16. *Remark.* There is an important special case, in which (i) G_0 is defined over \mathbb{F}_{p^h} (so that there is a canonical identification $(\phi^h)^* G_0 = G_0$), and (ii) $\text{Frob}^h: G_0 \rightarrow G_0$ is central in the ring of endomorphisms of $(G_0)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} / \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Given (i), condition (ii) is equivalent to the assertion that $\psi_0 = [\lambda]$ for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$. In this case, for every deformation (G, i, α) the endomorphism $[\lambda p]: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (G, i, \alpha)$ is a deformation of Frob^h .

In this special case, the ring homomorphism $\Psi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ is the identity map, and for a Γ -module M the map $\Psi_M: M \rightarrow M$ is a map of A_0 -modules. On the module ω of invariant 1-forms, $\Psi_\omega: \omega \rightarrow \omega$ is given by $\Psi(u) = \lambda p u$.

5. Γ -MODULES AND POWER OPERATIONS

We briefly review the relation between power operations on Morava E -theory, and the theory of Γ -modules described above. The punchline is that the homotopy groups of $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras are “analytically complete \mathbb{T} -algebras” for a certain monad \mathbb{T} . (§5.11). We also discuss abelian group objects in \mathbb{T} -algebras (§5.12).

5.1. **$K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras and E -modules.** Fix a height h formal group G_0/k over a perfect field k , and let $E = E_{G_0/k}$ be its associated Morava E -theory spectrum, which is canonically a commutative S -algebra. Recall that π_*E is even periodic, and that $\pi_0E = A_0$, the ring which classifies deformations of G_0/k .

Let $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{G_0/k}$ denote the homotopy theory of E -module spectra, and let $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_{G_0/k}$ denote the homotopy theory of E -algebra spectra. Both these homotopy theories are realized by the model category structure described in EKMM, in which weak equivalences are maps which are weak equivalences on underlying spectra.

Let $\widehat{\mathcal{M}} = \widehat{\mathcal{M}}_{G_0/k}$ denote the homotopy theory of $K(h)$ -local E -module spectra, and let $\widehat{\mathcal{R}} = \widehat{\mathcal{R}}_{G_0/k}$ denote the homotopy theory of $K(h)$ -local E -algebra spectra. These are localizations of \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{R} , with weak equivalences the maps which are $K(h)$ -homology isomorphisms on underlying spectra.

5.2. **Homotopy of E -modules and $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded E_* -modules.** Recall [Rez09, §2] that we may define a category Mod_{E_*} of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded E_0 -modules, whose objects are pairs $M = \{M_0, M_{-1}\}$ of E_0 -modules. We will call such objects **E_* -modules**. This category becomes a symmetric monoidal category via an ω -**twisted tensor product**, defined by

$$(5.3) \quad M \otimes N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{(M_0 \otimes_{E_0} N_0) \oplus (M_{-1} \otimes_{E_0} N_{-1} \otimes_{E_0} \omega), (M_0 \otimes_{E_0} N_{-1}) \oplus (M_{-1} \otimes_{E_0} N_0)\},$$

where $\omega = \pi_2E$. We write ω for the E_* -module $\{\pi_2E, 0\}$ and $\omega^{1/2}$ for the E_* -module $\{0, \pi_0E\}$, whence $\omega^{1/2} \otimes \omega^{1/2} \approx \omega$.

We define a functor

$$\pi_* : h\mathcal{M} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_*}, \quad \pi_*M = \{\pi_0M, \pi_{-1}M\}$$

from E -modules to the category of E_* -modules. It is straightforward to check that this functor is weakly monoidal, in the sense that there is an evident map

$$\pi_*M \otimes \pi_*N \rightarrow \pi_*(M \wedge_E N)$$

satisfying suitable coherence properties. Observe that with these conventions we have $\pi_*\Sigma^{-k}E \approx \omega^{k/2}$ for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$. (Note that $\omega^{1/2}$ is invertible in Mod_{E_*} .)

We can recover the usual \mathbb{Z} -graded homotopy groups of a module from the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded ones, by

$$\pi_k M \approx \text{Hom}_{\text{Mod}_{E_*}}(\omega^{-k/2}, \pi_*M).$$

It is not hard to show that this describes a monoidal equivalence between Mod_{E_*} and the more familiar category of \mathbb{Z} -graded E_* -modules.

5.4. **π_0R as a Γ -ring.** We now recapitulate the following statement, which is described in detail in [Rez09]: the homotopy groups of an object $R \in \widehat{\mathcal{R}}$ are naturally equipped with the structure of a “ $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring satisfying the Frobenius congruence”.

Given $m \geq 1$, let ρ denote the m -dimensional real permutation representation of Σ_m , and let $\bar{\rho} \subset \rho$ denote the reduced representation (of codimension 1.) Recall that given a map of spectra $x: S^k \rightarrow R$, the commutative ring structure on R gives a “total m th power” map $\mathcal{P}_m(x): S^k \wedge B\Sigma_m^{k\bar{\rho}} \approx B\Sigma_m^{k\rho} \rightarrow R$ for all $m \geq 0$. Applied to $m = p^r$, this construction produces abelian group homomorphisms

$$P_r : \pi_k R \rightarrow (E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r}^{k\bar{\rho}}/I) \otimes_{E_0} \pi_k R,$$

where I denotes the ideal generated by the image of transfer maps along the restriction to $\Sigma_i \times \Sigma_{p^r-i} \subset \Sigma_{p^r}$ for all $0 < i < p^r$.

Strickland's theorem [Str98] asserts a canonical isomorphism of rings

$$E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r} / I \approx A_r,$$

Using this, we obtain a Γ -module structure on $\pi_0 R$ by

$$P_r: \pi_0 R \rightarrow (E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r} / I) \otimes_{E_0} \pi_0 R = A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} \pi_0 R.$$

With this structure, $\pi_0 R$ is in fact a Γ -ring which satisfies the *Frobenius congruence* (§4.2).

5.5. *Remark.* In fact, the ring Γ of §4.3 is precisely the ring of *additive* operations on π_0 of a $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebra. That is, it is the endomorphisms of the functor $\widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$ defined by $R \mapsto \pi_0 R$. This is the point of view taken in [Rez09, §6]; see also [Rez11, §3.8].

We note some significant examples.

- The natural Γ -ring structure on $\pi_0 E$ is precisely the initial Γ -ring $\mathbb{1} = A_0$.
- The natural Γ -ring structure on $\pi_0 E^{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}_+^\infty} = E^0 \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^\infty$ is precisely the Γ -ring $\mathcal{O}_{G_{\text{univ}}}$ of functions on the universal deformation of G_0 .
- The natural Γ -module structure on $\pi_2 E \approx \text{Ker}[\pi_0 E^{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}_+^1} \rightarrow \pi_0 E]$ is precisely the Γ -module ω of invariant 1-forms.

5.6. **$\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules and Γ -rings.** Recall [Rez09, §2 and §7], that we may define a category Mod_Γ^* of **$\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules**, whose objects are pairs $M^* = \{M^0, M^1\}$ of Γ -modules, which becomes a symmetric monoidal category via an ω -twisted tensor product. The formula for this tensor product is exactly that of (5.3), though now ω represents the Γ -module of invariant 1-forms (which is naturally isomorphic to $\pi_2 E$.)

As a notational short-hand, we identify Mod_Γ with $\text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}} \subset \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$, the full subcategory of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules concentrated in even degree. Thus, we write ω for the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module $\{\omega, 0\} = \{\pi_2 E, 0\}$.

As in §5.2, we write $\omega^{1/2}$ for the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module $\{0, \pi_0 E\}$. As before, we have $\omega^{1/2} \otimes \omega^{1/2} \approx \omega$. Furthermore, there are evident isomorphisms

$$\pi_* E^{S^k} = \text{Ker}[\pi_* E^{S_+^k} \rightarrow \pi_* E] \approx \omega^{k/2}$$

of Γ -modules for $k \geq 0$. Note that $\omega^{1/2}$ is *not invertible* as a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module, though it is invertible as an E_* -module.

Commutative monoid objects in Mod_Γ^* form a category Ring_Γ^* of **$\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -rings**.

5.7. **$\frac{1}{2}$ -Frobenius-triviality and inverting $\omega^{1/2}$.** Say that a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module $M = \{M_0, M_{-1}\}$ is **$\frac{1}{2}$ -Frobenius-trivial** if the Γ -module M_0 is Frobenius-trivial in the sense of §4.9.

5.8. **Proposition.** *The functor $\omega^{1/2} \otimes -: \text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$ given by tensoring with $\omega^{1/2}$ restricts to an equivalence*

$$\omega^{1/2} \otimes -: (\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*)_{\text{tf}} \xrightarrow{\sim} (\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*)_{\text{tf}, \frac{1}{2}\text{Ft}}$$

from the full subcategory of p -torsion free Γ -modules, to the full subcategory of p -torsion free and $\frac{1}{2}$ -Frobenius-trivial Γ -modules.

Proof. This is immediate from (4.13) and the definition of the ω -twisted tensor product. \square

Clearly, we can apply the above proposition iteratively. Thus, for any $k \geq 0$ there are equivalences of full subcategories $\omega^{k/2} \otimes -: (\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*)_{\text{tf}} \xrightarrow{\sim} (\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*)_{\text{tf}, \frac{k}{2}\text{Ft}}$, the definitions and verifications of which we leave as an exercise for the reader.

5.9. π_*R as a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring. It is a fact (see discussion in [Rez09, §7.5]) that the zero-section inclusion $B\Sigma_m^{-\bar{p}} \rightarrow B\Sigma_m^0$ induces an isomorphism

$$A_r = E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r}/I \xrightarrow{\sim} E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r}^{-\bar{p}}/I.$$

The induced map

$$P_r: \pi_{-1}R \rightarrow (E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r}^{-\bar{p}}/I) \otimes_{E_0} \pi_{-1}R = A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} \pi_{-1}R,$$

defines a Γ -module structure on $\pi_{-1}R$.

The power construction \mathcal{P}_m is multiplicative, in the sense that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B\Sigma_m^{(a+b)\rho} & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}_m(xy)} & R \\ \text{diag} \downarrow & & \uparrow \text{mult} \\ B\Sigma_m^{a\rho} \wedge B\Sigma_m^{b\rho} & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{P}_m(x) \wedge \mathcal{P}_m(y)} & R \wedge R \end{array}$$

commutes for $x \in \pi_a R$, $y \in \pi_b R$. Applied to a three-fold product xyu with $x, y \in \pi_{-1}R$ and $u \in \omega = \pi_2 E \subseteq \pi_2 R$, this multiplicativity implies that

$$\pi_{-1}R \otimes_{E_0} \pi_{-1}R \otimes_{E_0} \omega \xrightarrow{\text{mult} \otimes \text{id}} \pi_{-2}R \otimes_{E_0} \omega \approx \pi_0 R$$

is a map of Γ -modules. Thus, we obtain a functor

$$\pi_*: h\widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \text{Ring}_\Gamma^*, \quad \pi_*R = \{\pi_0 R, \pi_{-1}R\}$$

from $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras to the category of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -rings. Furthermore, π_*R satisfies the *Frobenius congruence*, which just means that the even degree part $\pi_0 R$ satisfies the Frobenius congruence as noted above. (That is, “Frobenius congruence” does not impose a condition on odd degree.)

5.10. **Square-zero extension rings.** Let $\text{nul} \in \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$ denote the $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module $\{\text{nul}, 0\}$, where $\text{nul} \in \text{Mod}_\Gamma$ is the null module of §4.14. The evident functor

$$\text{nul} \otimes -: \text{Mod}_{E_*} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$$

is fully faithful.

Given an E -module M , we may form the **square-zero extension** $E \rtimes M$, which is an augmented commutative E -algebra with “trivial” multiplication on the augmentation fiber M . We have that

$$\text{Ker}[\pi_*(E \rtimes M) \rightarrow \pi_*E] \approx \text{nul} \otimes \pi_*M$$

as $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules.

5.11. **The monad \mathbb{T} .** The functor $\pi_*: \widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \text{Ring}_\Gamma^*$ described above lifts even further to a functor

$$\pi_*: \widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \mathcal{T},$$

where \mathcal{T} is the category of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded \mathbb{T} -algebras, where \mathbb{T} is a certain monad on $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded $\pi_0 E$ -modules, as mentioned in §2.3, and which is analyzed at inordinate length in [Rez09], and the reader is referred there for more information.

In brief, a \mathbb{T} -algebra is a $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring equipped with an additional non-additive operation which “witnesses” the Frobenius congruence. Theorem A of [Rez09] asserts that a p -torsion free $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -ring B admits the structure of a \mathbb{T} -algebra (necessarily uniquely) if and only if B satisfies the Frobenius congruence.

In fact, the above functor factors through a full subcategory

$$\pi_*: \widehat{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{T}}$$

of *analytically complete* objects. We'll say more about this later.

5.12. Abelian group objects. Let \mathcal{T}_{E_*} denote the slice category, whose objects are objects of \mathcal{T} equipped with an augmentation to $E_* = \pi_*E$. We write $\text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ for the category of abelian group objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_*} . It is easy to see that an object $f: B \rightarrow E_*$ of \mathcal{T}_{E_*} admits an abelian group structure if and only if the augmentation ideal $\overline{B} = \text{Ker } f$ is such that $\overline{B}^2 = 0$, and that if such an abelian groups structure exists, it is unique. Thus $\text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ is equivalent to the full subcategory of objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_*} with square-zero augmentation ideal.

Any abelian group object $B \in \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ has an underlying $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -module \overline{B} , giving a forgetful functor $\mathcal{U}: \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$. This forgetful functor actually lands in the full subcategory $(\text{Mod}_\Gamma^*)_{\frac{1}{2}\text{Ft}} \subset \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$ of $\frac{1}{2}$ -Frobenius-trivial modules (5.7); this is an immediate consequence of the Frobenius congruence for \mathbb{T} -algebras, applied to a square-zero augmentation ideal.

The category of abelian group objects turns out to be equivalent to the category of $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded Γ -modules, but not via the forgetful functor.

5.13. Proposition. *There exists an equivalence of categories $\mathcal{S}: \text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \rightarrow \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ and a natural isomorphism between the composition of*

$$\text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \xrightarrow[\sim]{\mathcal{S}} \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{U}} \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$$

and the endofunctor $\omega^{1/2} \otimes -: \text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^*$.

Sometimes we will abuse notation and write “ $\omega^{-1/2} \otimes M$ ” for $\mathcal{S}^{-1}(M)$, where $M \in \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}$. When the underlying E_* -module of M is p -torsionfree, this notation is in fact unambiguous by (5.8), since $\mathcal{U}(M)$ is $\frac{1}{2}$ -Frobenius trivial

We note that both $\text{Mod}_\Gamma^* \approx \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}} \times \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{odd}}$ and $\text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*} \approx \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}^{\text{even}} \times \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}^{\text{odd}}$ can be separated into purely even and odd components. The functor $\omega^{1/2} \otimes -: \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{odd}}$ is an equivalence by construction, and thus we obtain an equivalence $\omega^{1/2} \otimes \mathcal{S}: \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}} \rightarrow \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}^{\text{even}}$ whose composite with the forgetful functor $\mathcal{U}: \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}^{\text{even}} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}}$ is isomorphic to $\omega \otimes -$. If $M \in \text{ab}\mathcal{T}_{E_*}^{\text{even}}$ has p -torsion free underlying E_* -module, we will abuse notation and write “ $\omega^{-1} \otimes M$ ” for the corresponding object of $\text{Mod}_\Gamma^{\text{even}}$.

6. DEPENDENCE ON THE FORMAL GROUP

All the structure we have discussed so far depends on a choice G_0/k of formal group of height $h \geq 1$ over a perfect field k of characteristic p . In this section we say a bit how the structure varies as we change the formal group.

6.1. The category of height h formal groups. Let FmlGp_h denote the category whose objects are formal groups G_0/k of height h over a perfect field k of characteristic p , and

whose morphisms $(j, \gamma): G'_0/k' \rightarrow G_0/k$ are commutative squares

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G'_0 & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & G_0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathrm{Spec} k' & \xrightarrow[\mathrm{Spec} j]{} & \mathrm{Spec} k \end{array}$$

such that the induced map $\tilde{\gamma}: G'_0 \rightarrow j^*G_0$ to the pullback of G_0 along $j: k \rightarrow k'$ is an isomorphism of formal groups over k' .

The Hopkins-Miller theorem asserts that Morava E -theory is realized in an essentially unique way as a functor of $(\infty, 1)$ -categories $\mathrm{FmlGp}_h \rightarrow \{\text{Commutative } S\text{-algebra}\}$, sending G_0/k to $E_{G_0/k}$.

6.2. Dependence of Def. It is immediate that a morphism $(j, \gamma): G'_0/k' \rightarrow G_0/k$ induces functors on deformation categories of the form $(j, \gamma)_*: \mathrm{Def}_{G'_0/k'}(R) \rightarrow \mathrm{Def}_{G_0/k}(R)$, which on objects send (G, i, α) to $(G, i \circ j, i^*\tilde{\gamma} \circ \alpha)$. These functors are represented by maps of affine graded-category schemes, so that in particular there are induced maps of rings

$$(j, \gamma)^*: A_{r, G_0/k} \rightarrow A_{r, G'_0/k'}$$

which commute with the structure maps s, t, μ of the graded-category scheme. Furthermore, the induced maps

$$A_{0, G'_0/k'} \otimes_{A_{0, G_0/k}} {}^s A_{r, G_0/k} \rightarrow A_{r, G'_0/k'}$$

are isomorphisms for all r .

There are special cases of special interest: extension of scalars, and automorphisms.

Extension of scalars. Suppose given G_0/k , and let $G'_0 = (G_0)_{k'}$ be the base change along an inclusion $k \subset k'$. Then $A_{r, G'_0/k'} \approx \mathbb{W}k' \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_{r, G_0/k}$, and the structure maps s, t, μ are also obtained by base change; for instance, s and t for G'_0/k' are given by

$$\mathrm{id} \otimes s: \mathbb{W}k' \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_{0, G_0/k} \rightarrow \mathbb{W}k' \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_{r, G_0/k}, \quad \tilde{\phi}^r \otimes t: \mathbb{W}k' \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_{0, G_0/k} \rightarrow \mathbb{W}k' \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_{r, G_0/k},$$

where $\tilde{\phi}: \mathbb{W}k' \rightarrow \mathbb{W}k'$ is the lift of the p th power map $\phi: k' \rightarrow k'$. The evident map $G'_0/k' \rightarrow G_0/k$ in FmlGp_h corresponds to the evident inclusions of rings $A_{r, G_0/k} \rightarrow A_{r, G'_0/k'}$.

Automorphisms. Fix a height h formal group $G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$; in this context, it is usual to take G_0 to be the Honda formal group, although we won't assume this. Define

$$\mathbb{G} = \mathrm{FmlGp}_h(G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p).$$

There is an associated group extension

$$1 \rightarrow \mathbb{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_p) \rightarrow 1,$$

where the projection sends (σ, γ) to $\sigma \in \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_p)$. The subgroup \mathbb{S} is group of automorphisms of G_0 over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, i.e., the Morava stabilizer group of height h . (Recall that all height h formal groups over a separably closed field are isomorphic.)

The above extension admits a splitting, but the choice of splitting is not natural; rather such a splitting is determined by a model for G_0 over \mathbb{F}_p . More generally, suppose given a formal group G_1/\mathbb{F}_{p^r} , and for any $\sigma \in \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, \mathbb{F}_{p^r})$ write $\iota_\sigma: (G_1)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \rightarrow (G_1)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ for the tautological map of formal schemes covering $\sigma: \mathrm{Spec} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Then we have a group homomorphism $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}) \rightarrow \mathrm{FmlGp}_h((G_1)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}, (G_1)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p})$, defined by $\sigma \mapsto (\sigma, \iota_\sigma)$. Then a

choice of isomorphism $f: (G_1)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \rightarrow G_0$ of formal groups over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ determines a homomorphism s of the form

$$\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_p) \supseteq \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}) \xrightarrow{s} \mathbb{G},$$

by sending $\sigma \mapsto (\sigma, f \iota_\sigma f^{-1})$. The map s is a “partial section”, in the sense that the composite $\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}) \xrightarrow{s} \mathbb{G} \rightarrow \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_p)$ is the standard inclusion. The construction $(G_1, f) \mapsto s$ describes a bijection between the set of \mathbb{F}_{p^r} -isomorphism classes of height h formal groups over \mathbb{F}_{p^r} , and the set of \mathbb{S} -conjugacy classes of partial sections $s: \mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}) \rightarrow \mathbb{G}$ (see [Frö68, §III.3]; a continuous section s up to conjugacy is the same thing as an element of the non-abelian cohomology $H^1(\mathrm{Gal}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}), \mathbb{S})$.)

The group \mathbb{G} acts on the categories $\mathrm{Def}_{G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}(R)$, and therefore acts on the rings $A_{r, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$, compatibly with the structure maps s, t, μ . The action of \mathbb{G} on $A_{0, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ is the usual action of the automorphisms of a formal group on the Lubin-Tate moduli space. The action of \mathbb{G} on $A_{r, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ is compatible with its action on the cohomology of symmetric groups, via the quotient map $E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r} \rightarrow E^0 B\Sigma_{p^r}/I \approx A_{r, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ of Strickland’s theorem.

6.3. Dependence of Mod_Γ . For each object G_0/k of FmlGp_h we have a category $\mathrm{Mod}_{\Gamma_{G_0/k}}$ of Γ -modules. Given a morphism $(j, \gamma): G'_0/k' \rightarrow G_0/k$ in FmlGp_h , there is an evident functor $(j, \gamma)_*: \mathrm{Mod}_{\Gamma_{G_0/k}} \rightarrow \mathrm{Mod}_{\Gamma_{G'_0/k'}}$. Explicitly, this functor sends $(M, \{P_r\})$ to $(M', \{P'_r\})$, where

$$M' = A_{0, G'_0/k'} \otimes_{A_{0, G'_0}} M, \quad P'_r = A_{0, G'_0/k'} \otimes_{A_{0, G_0/k}} P_r.$$

These constructions fit together to define a pseudofunctor $\mathrm{Mod}_\Gamma: \mathrm{FmlGp}_h \rightarrow \mathrm{Cat}$.

In particular, if $\mathbb{G} = \mathrm{FmlGp}_h(G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p)$, then we obtain an “action” of \mathbb{G} on the category $\mathrm{Mod}_\Gamma = \mathrm{Mod}_{\Gamma_{G_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}}$. A **\mathbb{G} -equivariant Γ -module** is a Γ -module M together with for each $g \in \mathbb{G}$ a map $\alpha_g: g_* M \rightarrow M$ of Γ -modules, such that $g_*(\alpha_h) \circ \alpha_g = \alpha_{hg}$.

It is straightforward to show that a \mathbb{G} -equivariant Γ -module M is the same thing as a Γ -module $(M, \{P_r\})$, together with an action of \mathbb{G} on the abelian group M , such that the A_0 -module structure map $A_0 \otimes M \rightarrow M$ and the Γ -module structure maps $P_r: M \rightarrow A_r^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ are \mathbb{G} -equivariant, using the evident \mathbb{G} -action on the A_r .

We note that the usual \mathbb{G} -action on E -cohomology gives $\mathcal{O}_{G_{\mathrm{univ}}} \approx E^0 \mathbb{C}P^\infty$ its tautological \mathbb{G} -equivariant Γ -ring structure, and thus gives $\omega \approx \tilde{E}^0 S^2$ its tautological \mathbb{G} -equivariant Γ -module structure.

7. THE STRUCTURE OF Γ -MODULES

7.1. Γ is quadratic. The following result says that most of the rings A_r are superfluous for describing the category of Γ -modules; a Γ -module structure is determined by the map P_1 , subject to a condition involving the ring A_2 .

7.2. Proposition. *Let M be an A_0 -module, and let $P: M \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ be a map of A_0 -modules (with the target module structure defined using $t_1: A_0 \rightarrow A_1$). There exists a dotted arrow in*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{P} & A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \\ \vdots \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathrm{id} \otimes P \\ A_2^s \otimes_{A_0} M & \xrightarrow{\mu \otimes \mathrm{id}} & A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \end{array}$$

making the diagram commute if and only if there exists a Γ -module structure $\{P_r\}_{r \geq 0}$ on M such that $P_1 = P$; furthermore, the Γ -module structure is unique if it exists.

We will prove this below.

7.3. The Koszul complex. Let M and N be Γ -modules. We define the Koszul complex $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(M, N)$ as follows. Below we write “ \otimes ” as a shorthand for “ ${}^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t$ ”. For each $q \geq 0$, let B_q denote the image of

$$\bigoplus_{i=0}^{q-2} A_1^{\otimes i} \otimes A_2 \otimes A_1^{\otimes q-i-2} \xrightarrow{(\text{id} \otimes \mu \otimes \text{id})} A_1^{\otimes q}$$

inside $A_1^{\otimes q} = A_1 {}^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t \cdots {}^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1$, and let

$$D_q = A_1^{\otimes q} / B_q.$$

We can regard D_q as both a right A_0 -module (by $A_0 \xrightarrow{s} A_1 \xrightarrow{\text{rightmost factor}} A_1^{\otimes q} \rightarrow D_q$) and a left A_0 -module (by $A_0 \xrightarrow{t} A_1 \xrightarrow{\text{leftmost factor}} A_1^{\otimes q} \rightarrow D_q$); these module structures commute. The induced quotient maps

$$\times : D_p \otimes_{A_0} D_q \rightarrow D_{p+q}$$

give $\bigoplus D_q$ the structure of an associative ring. In particular, since $D_1 = A_1$, there are maps

$$A_1 {}^s \otimes_{A_0} D_q \xrightarrow{\times} D_{q+1}, \quad D_q \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1 \xrightarrow{\times} D_{q+1}.$$

Set

$$\mathcal{C}^q(M, N) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Hom}_{A_0}(M, D_q \otimes_{A_0} N),$$

with coboundary operator $d_q : \mathcal{C}^q(M, N) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}^{q+1}(M, N)$ given on $f : M \rightarrow D_q \otimes_{A_0} N$ by

$$d_q f = (\text{id}_{D_q} \times P_N) \circ f - (-1)^q (\text{id}_{A_1} \times f) \circ P_M.$$

That this defines a cochain complex follows from the fact that $(\text{id}_{A_1} \times P_M) \circ P_M = 0$ for any Γ -module M .

7.4. Proposition. *If M is projective as an A_0 -module, then*

$$H^q \mathcal{C}^\bullet(M, N) \approx \text{Ext}_\Gamma^q(M, N).$$

Furthermore, $D_q \approx 0$ for $q > h$, and thus for A_0 -projective M we have $\text{Ext}_\Gamma^q(M, N) = 0$ for $q > h$.

We give a proof below.

7.5. Duality for bimodules. Let X be an A_0 -bimodule. The “right-dual” of a bimodule X is

$$X^* \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{right}}(X, A_0),$$

the group of right- A_0 -module homomorphisms. Given $a, b \in A_0$ and $f \in X^*$, define $(a \cdot f \cdot b)(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a(f(bx)) = f(bxa)$. Because A_0 is commutative, $a \cdot f \cdot b \in X^*$, and it is straightforward to check that this operation makes X^* into an A_0 -bimodule. Furthermore, the evaluation map

$$\text{ev}_X : X^* \otimes_{A_0} X \rightarrow A_0, \quad f \otimes x \mapsto f(x)$$

becomes a well-defined map of A_0 -bimodules.

We use the evaluation map to define for A_0 -modules M, N an abelian group homomorphism

$$\alpha_X : \text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{left}}(M, X \otimes_{A_0} N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{left}}(X^* \otimes_{A_0} M, N),$$

sending $f: M \rightarrow X \otimes N$ to $\alpha(f) = (\text{ev}_X \otimes \text{id}_N) \circ (\text{id}_{X^*} \otimes f)$. This map is an isomorphism of bimodules when X is finitely generated and free as a right A_0 -module. Similarly, we have bimodule homomorphisms

$$\beta_k: X_k^* \otimes_{A_0} \cdots \otimes_{A_0} X_1^* \rightarrow (X_1 \otimes_{A_0} \cdots \otimes_{A_0} X_k)^*,$$

defined by

$$(f_k \otimes \cdots \otimes f_1) \mapsto (x_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes x_k \mapsto f_k(f_{k-1}(\cdots f_2(f_1(x_1)x_2) \cdots x_{k-1})x_k))$$

which become isomorphisms when the X_i are finitely generated and free as right A_0 -modules. We note that the β_k s are compatible with associativity in the evident way, e.g., $\beta_k \circ (\beta_{i_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \beta_{i_k}) = \beta_{\sum i_j}$, and the β_k s are compatible with α , in the sense that the map

$$\text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{left}}(M, X_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes X_k \otimes N) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{left}}(X_k^* \otimes \cdots \otimes X_1^* \otimes M, N)$$

obtained by k applications of α_{X_i} coincides with $\text{Hom}(\beta_k \otimes \text{id}, \text{id}) \circ \alpha_{X_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes X_k}$.

Finally, we note that there is a “left-dual” $X \mapsto X^* = \text{Hom}_{A_0}^{\text{left}}(X, A_0)$ which satisfies analogous properties, and which behaves nicely on X which are finitely and free as left A_0 -modules. There are evident maps $X \rightarrow (X^*)^*$ and $Y \rightarrow (Y^*)^*$, which are isomorphisms if X (resp. Y) are finitely generated and free as right (resp. left) A_0 -modules.

7.6. Proofs. Recall (§4.3) that Γ -modules are in fact modules over the graded ring Γ , which is Koszul by [Rez11]. Thus, for any Γ -module M we obtain a Koszul complex [Rez11, Prop. 4.8], i.e., an augmented complex of Γ -modules $K_\bullet(M) \rightarrow M$ which in degree q is given by

$$K_q(M) = \Gamma \otimes_{A_0} C[q] \otimes_{A_0} M.$$

The A_0 -bimodules $C[q] = H_q \overline{\mathcal{B}}(A_0, \Gamma, A_0) \approx \text{Tor}_q^\Gamma(A_0, A_0)$, the homology of the reduced normalized bar construction of Γ . Explicitly, $C[q]$ is the kernel of

$$((-1)^i \text{id}^{\otimes i} \otimes \mu \otimes \text{id}^{\otimes q-i-2}): \Gamma[1]^{\otimes q} \rightarrow \bigoplus_{i=1}^{q-2} \Gamma[1]^{\otimes i} \otimes \Gamma[2] \otimes \Gamma[1]^{\otimes q-i-2},$$

where $\mu: \Gamma[1] \otimes \Gamma[1] \rightarrow \Gamma[2]$ is multiplication.

The bimodules $C[q]$ are finitely generated and free as left A_0 -modules, by [Rez11, Prop. 4.6], and the fact that the ranks of the $\Gamma[k]$ as free left A_0 -modules are known from [Str98], so that we have the identity of Poincaré series

$$\sum_m \text{rank } \Gamma[m] \cdot T^m = \left(\prod_{j=0}^{h-1} (1 - p^{j-1}T) \right)^{-1},$$

and hence

$$\sum_m \text{rank } C[m] \cdot T^m = \left(\sum_m \text{rank } \Gamma[m] \cdot (-T)^m \right)^{-1} = \prod_{j=0}^{h-1} (1 + p^{j-1}T).$$

From this we see that $C[q] \approx 0$ for $q > h$.

The boundary map of $K_\bullet(M)$ is obtained as the d_1 of the spectral sequence associated to a filtration of the bar complex $\mathcal{B}(\Gamma, \Gamma, M)$ as described in [Rez11, §4.7]. An explicit formula for the boundary map can be read off from this, and it is given as follows. There are evident “inclusion” maps

$$\ell: C[q] \rightarrow \Gamma[1] \otimes C[q-1], \quad r: C[q] \rightarrow C[q-1] \otimes \Gamma[1],$$

coming from the inclusion $C[q] \subseteq \Gamma[1]^{\otimes q}$. The boundary operator

$$d_q: \Gamma \otimes_{A_0} C[q+1] \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow \Gamma \otimes_{A_0} C[q] \otimes_{A_0} M$$

is then given by

$$(\text{mult} \otimes \text{id}_{C[q]} \otimes \text{id}_M) \circ (\text{id}_\Gamma \otimes \ell \otimes \text{id}_M) - (-1)^q (\text{id}_\Gamma \otimes \text{id}_{C[q]} \otimes \text{act}) \circ (\text{id}_\Gamma \otimes r \otimes \text{id}_M),$$

where $\text{mult}: \Gamma \otimes \Gamma[1] \rightarrow \Gamma$ and $\text{act}: \Gamma[1] \otimes M \rightarrow M$ are the evident maps. It follows by [Rez11, Prop. 4.8] that if M is a flat A_0 -module, then $K_\bullet(M) \rightarrow M$ is a quasi-isomorphism. In particular, if M is A_0 -projective, then $K_\bullet(M)$ is a projective Γ -module resolution of M .

Proof of (7.4). The isomorphism of the proposition amounts to the statement that there is an isomorphism of complexes

$$\text{Hom}_\Gamma(K_\bullet(M), N) \approx \mathcal{C}^\bullet(M, N).$$

The verification of this is entirely routine, using the identification $\Gamma[q] \approx A_q^*$ and the fact that the product maps $\Gamma[p] \otimes \Gamma[q] \rightarrow \Gamma[p+q]$ are dual to the coproduct maps $A_{p+q} \rightarrow A_q \otimes A_p$. From this we obtain an evident isomorphism $C[q] \approx D_q^*$, and thus

$$\text{Hom}_\Gamma(K_q(M), N) = \text{Hom}_{A_0}(C[q] \otimes M, N) \approx \text{Hom}_{A_0}(M, D_q \otimes N) \approx \mathcal{C}^q(M, N).$$

The identification of the coboundary maps is straightforward. \square

Proof of (7.2). In [Rez11] it is proved that Γ is Koszul, and in particular that it is quadratic [Rez11, Prop. 4.10]. That is, Γ is generated as a ring over $\Gamma[0] = A_0$ by $\Gamma[1] = \text{Hom}_{A_0}({}^s A_1, A_0)$, with all relations generated by the A_0 -sub-bimodule $Q = \text{Ker}(\Gamma[1] \otimes \Gamma[1] \xrightarrow{\text{mult}} \Gamma[2])$ of $\Gamma[1] \otimes_{A_0} \Gamma[1]$.

The statement of the proposition is a direct translation of these facts, together with the observation that the arguments of [Rez11] show that Q is a summand of $\Gamma[1] \otimes \Gamma[1]$ as an A_0 -module. Taking duals, this implies that as a map of A_0 -modules, $\mu: A_2 \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1$ is split injective; therefore, $\mu \otimes \text{id}_M$ is injective for any A_0 -module M . This shows that the dotted arrow in the proposition is unique if it exists. \square

8. THE HEIGHT 1 CASE

Suppose G_0/k is a formal group of height $h = 1$. We describe the nature of the theory in this case.

8.1. The affine graded-category scheme $\{A_r\}$ for height 1. We have the following.

- $A_0 = \mathbb{W}k$.
- For each $r \geq 0$, the map $s: A_0 \rightarrow A_k$ is an isomorphism. That is, any deformation of G_0 has a *unique* subgroup of rank p^r , corresponding to the kernel of $p^r: G_0 \rightarrow G_0$.
- Identify A_r with $A_0 = \mathbb{W}k$ using the isomorphism s . Then $t: A_0 \rightarrow A_r$ is identified with the lift $\tilde{\phi}^r: \mathbb{W}k \rightarrow \mathbb{W}k$ of the p^r th power map on k .
- The maps $\mu: A_{k+\ell} \rightarrow A_k^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_\ell$ are uniquely determined by the above and the identities $\mu \circ s = \text{id} \otimes s$ and $\mu \circ t = t \otimes \text{id}$.
- The map $\Psi: A_0 \rightarrow A_0$ coincides with the map $\tilde{\phi}: \mathbb{W}k \rightarrow \mathbb{W}k$.

8.2. **Γ -modules for height 1.** By what we have just observed, we see that a Γ -module is precisely a $\mathbb{W}k$ -module M equipped with a $\mathbb{W}k$ -module map

$$P_M: M \rightarrow \Psi M.$$

That is, P_M is Ψ -linear, so $P_M(\alpha m) = \Psi(\alpha)m$ for $\alpha \in \mathbb{W}k$ and $m \in M$.

In fact, $P_M = P_1$ coincides with the operation Ψ_M of (4.15).

8.3. **Koszul complex for height 1.** For Γ -modules M and N , the Koszul complex $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(M, N)$ (§7.3) takes the form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{W}k}(M, N) &\xrightarrow{d_0} \mathrm{Hom}_{\mathbb{W}k}(M, \Psi N) \\ \gamma &\longmapsto P_N \circ \gamma - \gamma \circ P_M. \end{aligned}$$

For example, if M and N are rank one A_0 -modules with bases x of M and y of N , so that $P(x) = \alpha x$, $P(y) = \beta y$ for $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{W}k$, the complex becomes isomorphic to

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{W}k &\xrightarrow{d_0} \mathbb{W}k \\ f &\longmapsto \tilde{\phi}(f)\beta - f\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

8.4. **Invariant 1-forms for height 1.** Now let $f: s^*G_{\mathrm{univ}} \rightarrow t^*G_{\mathrm{univ}}$ be the universal example of a deformation of Frob, which is defined over A_1 . There exists a commutative diagram of homomorphisms of formal groups over A_1 of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} s^*G_{\mathrm{univ}} & \xrightarrow{f} & t^*G_{\mathrm{univ}} \\ & \searrow [p] & \nearrow \sim \psi \\ & & s^*G_{\mathrm{univ}} \end{array}$$

in which ψ is an isomorphism of formal groups. Modulo the maximal ideal in A_1 , this becomes the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_0 & \xrightarrow{\mathrm{Frob}} & \phi^*G_0 \\ & \searrow [p] & \nearrow \sim \pi^*(\psi) = \psi_0 \\ & & G_0 \end{array}$$

Pick a generator $u \in \omega$ of the invariant 1-forms on G_{univ} , and consider the pullbacks $s^*u \in \omega_{s^*G_{\mathrm{univ}}}$ and $t^*u \in \omega_{t^*G_{\mathrm{univ}}}$. If we write

$$f^*(t^*u) = b(s^*u) \quad \text{for some } b \in A_1 = \mathbb{W}k, \quad \psi^*(t^*u) = \lambda(s^*u) \quad \text{for some } \lambda \in A_1^\times = (\mathbb{W}k)^\times,$$

then the identity $f = \psi \circ [p]$ implies that $b = p\lambda$.

Thus the Γ -module ω of invariant 1-forms is isomorphic to the free $\mathbb{W}_p k$ -module on one generator u with $P(u) = bu = (p\lambda)u$, where $\lambda \in (\mathbb{W}_p k)^\times$.

In the special case that $k = \mathbb{F}_p$, then $s = t = \mathrm{id}_{\mathbb{Z}_p}$, and hence $\psi = [\lambda]: G_{\mathrm{univ}} \rightarrow G_{\mathrm{univ}}$, and thus $\psi_0 = [\lambda]: G_0 \rightarrow G_0$. Here are some examples.

- If G_{univ} is multiplicative group over \mathbb{Z}_p , then $[p]$ is a deformation of Frobenius, $\lambda = 1$, and $P(u) = pu$.
- If p is odd and G_{univ} is the formal group over \mathbb{Z}_p given by the group law $x[+]y = (x+y)/(1-xy)$, then $[(-1)^{(p-1)/2}p]$ is a deformation of Frobenius, $\lambda = (-1)^{(p-1)/2}$, and $P(u) = (-1)^{(p-1)/2}pu$.

8.5. **On the element λ .** The definition of λ depends on both the formal group G_0/k and the choice of generator $u \in \omega$. Replacing u with αu for $\alpha \in A_0^\times$ changes λ to $\lambda\tilde{\phi}(\alpha)/\alpha$, and thus we get a well-defined element $\langle \lambda \rangle$ of

$$H(k) = \text{Cok} \left[(\mathbb{W}k)^\times \xrightarrow{\alpha \mapsto \tilde{\phi}(\alpha)/\alpha} (\mathbb{W}k)^\times \right].$$

The element $\langle \lambda \rangle \in H(k)$ is an invariant of the isomorphism class of G_0 over k .

Over $k = \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, all height 1 formal groups are isomorphic to $\widehat{\mathbb{G}}_m$, and so in this case we can choose a basis $u \in \omega$ such that $\lambda = 1$.

Over $k = \mathbb{F}_{p^r}$, Hilbert's Satz 90 applied to the unramified extension $\mathbb{W}k \otimes \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Q}_p$ gives an isomorphism $H(k) \approx \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$, defined by $[\lambda] \mapsto \text{Nm}(\lambda) = \prod_{k=0}^{r-1} \tilde{\phi}^k(\lambda)$. Explicitly, $\beta = \text{Nm}(\lambda) \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ is the unique map fitting in the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G_0 & \xrightarrow{\text{Frob}^r} & (\phi^r)^* G_0 = G_0 \\ & \searrow [p^r] & \nearrow [\beta] \\ & & G_0 \end{array}$$

The assignment $G_0/k \mapsto \beta \in \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$ is a complete isomorphism invariant of height 1 formal groups over \mathbb{F}_{p^r} . See [Frö68, §III.3 Thm. 2] and the surrounding discussion. The formal multiplicative group $\widehat{\mathbb{G}}_m/\mathbb{F}_{p^r}$ has trivial invariant.

8.6. **Sample calculation.** Suppose that G_0/k is a height 1-formal group over a subfield k of $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Let $\det = (\mathbb{W}k)v$ denote the Γ -module defined by $P(v) = pv$.

8.7. **Proposition.** *We have*

$$\text{Ext}_\Gamma^s(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega^m) \approx 0 \quad \text{if } s \neq 0, 1, \text{ or if } m \neq 0.$$

$$\text{Hom}_\Gamma(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \mathbb{1}) \approx \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } G_0 \approx \widehat{\mathbb{G}}_m \text{ over } k, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Ext}_\Gamma^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \mathbb{1}) \approx \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } k \text{ finite and } G_0 \approx \widehat{\mathbb{G}}_m \text{ over } k, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. Using §8.3, the complex for a given m is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{W}k & \xrightarrow{d_0} & \mathbb{W}k \\ & & f \mapsto \lambda^m p^m \tilde{\phi}(f) - \lambda^{-1} f. \end{array}$$

For $m \geq 1$, the boundary map d_0 is an isomorphism, since modulo p it has the form $f \mapsto -\lambda^{-1}f$, and λ is a unit. In the case $m = 0$, the boundary map d_0 has non-trivial kernel if and only if $\lambda = \alpha/\tilde{\phi}(\alpha)$ for some $\alpha \in (\mathbb{W}k)^\times$, i.e., if $[\lambda] = 0$ in $H(k)$, which as noted above §8.5 happens if and only if $G_0 \approx \widehat{\mathbb{G}}_m$ over k . \square

The above calculation is input for a spectral sequence computing the space of commutative S -algebra maps $\Sigma_+^\infty \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow E$; the π_2 of this space is equal to the homotopy classes of commutative S -algebra maps $\Sigma_+^\infty K(\mathbb{Z}, 2) \rightarrow E$. The dependence on G_0 being isomorphic to the multiplicative group is a reflection of Snaith's theorem (that the spectrum of complex K -theory is obtained by inverting the Bott class in $\Sigma_+^\infty K(\mathbb{Z}, 2)$).

9. SUPERSINGULAR ELLIPTIC CURVES AND THE HEIGHT 2 CASE

Let C_0 be a supersingular elliptic curve over a perfect field k . Thus, the formal completion \widehat{C}_0 of C_0 at its identity element is a formal group of height 2 over k .

According to the theorem of Serre-Tate, the deformation theory of a supersingular elliptic curve is precisely the same as the deformation theory of its formal group. Thus, we may define a category $\text{Def}_{C_0/k}(R)$ of deformations of C_0 to a complete local ring R , exactly as we did for the formal group G_0 . The functor $\text{Def}_{C_0/k}(R) \rightarrow \text{Def}_{\widehat{C}_0/k}(R)$ to the category of deformations of the formal group \widehat{C}_0 , defined by $(C, i, \alpha) \mapsto (\widehat{C}, i, \widehat{\alpha})$, is an equivalence of categories; this is the content of the Serre-Tate theorem applied to a supersingular elliptic curve.

We will now assume that our formal group $G_0 = \widehat{C}_0$ is the formal group of a supersingular curve. Thus, any deformation (G, i, α) of G_0 is the formal completion (uniquely up to canonical isomorphism) of a deformation of C_0 , and any morphism $\bar{f}: G \rightarrow G'$ in $\text{Def}^r(R)$ extends (uniquely up to canonical isomorphism) to an isogeny $f: C \rightarrow C'$ between elliptic curves of degree p^r , which itself a deformation of $\text{Frob}^r: C_0 \rightarrow (\phi^r)^*C_0$.

9.1. Dual isogenies. For any isogeny of elliptic curves $f: C \rightarrow C'$ of rank p^r , there is an associated **dual isogeny** $\widehat{f}: C' \rightarrow C$, with the property that $\widehat{f}f = f\widehat{f} = [p^r]$. Observe that the dual of \widehat{f} is f again.

If $f: (C, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (C', i', \alpha')$ is a deformation of Frob^1 , then the identity $[p] = \widehat{f}f$ gives a commutative diagram in the deformation category of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & (C, i, \alpha') & \\ f \nearrow & & \searrow \widehat{f} \\ (C, i, \alpha) & \xrightarrow{[p]} & (C, i \circ \phi^2, \alpha \circ \psi) \end{array}$$

Thus we obtain a ring homomorphism $w: A_1 \rightarrow A_1$ representing the operation

$$(f: (G, i, \alpha) \rightarrow (C, i', \alpha')) \mapsto (\widehat{f}: (C', i', \alpha') \rightarrow (C, i \circ \phi^2, \alpha \circ \psi)),$$

and which fits into a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_0 & \xrightarrow{s} & A_1 & \xleftarrow{t} & A_0 \\ & \searrow t & \downarrow \psi & \swarrow s\Psi & \\ & & A_1 & & \end{array}$$

Observe that $w^2: A_1 \rightarrow A_1$ is not generally the identity map, but rather we have that $w^2s = s\Psi$ and $w^2t = t\Psi$. In particular, w interacts in a complicated way with the A_0 -module structures on A_1 , which can be represented by the notation $w: {}^tA_1^s \rightarrow {}^{s\Psi}A_1^t$.

We will use the following notation in the remainder of the paper. If $f: M \rightarrow {}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N$ is an A_0 -module homomorphism, we will write $w \times f: {}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow {}^{s\Psi}A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N$ for the composite

$${}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \xrightarrow{w \otimes f} {}^{s\Psi}A_1^t \otimes_{A_0} {}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N \xrightarrow{\text{multiply}} {}^{s\Psi}A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N.$$

The resulting map is a map of left A_0 -modules, using the indicated module structures. We note that $w \times \text{id}: {}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^tA_1^s \rightarrow {}^{s\Psi}A_1^s$ is a ring homomorphism.

The identity $\widehat{f}f = [p]$ gives rise to a commutative square of ring homomorphisms

$$(9.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A_2 & \xrightarrow{\mu} & A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1 \\ [p] \downarrow & & \downarrow w \times \text{id} \\ A_0 & \xrightarrow{s} & A_1 \end{array}$$

9.3. Proposition. *The diagram (9.2) is a pullback square of rings. Furthermore, for any A_0 -module M , the induced diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} {}^t A_2^s \otimes_{A_0} M & \xrightarrow{\mu \otimes \text{id}} & {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \\ [p] \otimes \text{id} \downarrow & & \downarrow (w \times \text{id}) \otimes \text{id} \\ {}^\Psi A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M & \xrightarrow{s \otimes \text{id}} & {}^s \Psi A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \end{array}$$

is a pullback square of modules. The induced map

$$D_2 \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow (A_1/s(A_0)) \otimes_{A_0} M$$

is an isomorphism, where $D_2 = \text{Cok}[\mu: A_2 \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1]$.

Proof. This is essentially the proof of part (4) of [Rez12, Thm. 1.6] given in §1.7 of that paper. \square

9.4. Proposition. *Let M be an A_0 -module, and let $P: M \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ be a map of A_0 -modules. There exists a dotted arrow in*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{P} & {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \\ \vdots \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{id}_{A_1} \otimes P \\ & & {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \\ & & \downarrow w \times \text{id}_{A_1 \otimes M} \\ {}^\Psi A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M & \xrightarrow{s \otimes \text{id}} & {}^s \Psi A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M \end{array}$$

making the diagram commute if and only if there exists a Γ -module structure $\{P_r\}_{r \geq 0}$ on M such that $P_1 = P$. This Γ -module structure is unique if it exists. If it does exist, then the dotted arrow is precisely the operator $\Psi_M: M \rightarrow M$.

Proof. Immediate from (9.3) and (7.2). \square

We can write the identity of the proposition in the form $s \otimes \Psi_M = (w \times P_M) \circ P_M$.

Thus, we arrive at the following. If $G_0 = \widehat{C}_0$ is the completion of a supersingular curve, then a Γ -module amounts to a pair (M, P) , where M is an A_0 -module, $P: M \rightarrow {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ is an A_0 -module map, and $(w \times P) \circ P: M \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M$ lands in the image of $s \otimes \text{id}: M = A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} M$.

9.5. The Koszul complex. In our setting, where $G_0 = \widehat{C}_0$, the Koszul complex has the form

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C}^0(M, N) &= \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, N), \\ \mathcal{C}^1(M, N) &= \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N), \\ \mathcal{C}^2(M, N) &= \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^{s\Psi}(A_1/A_0)^s \otimes_{A_0} N).\end{aligned}$$

The boundary maps are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi &\in \mathcal{C}^0(M, N), & d_0\phi &: m \mapsto P_N(\phi(m)) - (\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi)(P_M(m)), \\ \psi &\in \mathcal{C}^1(M, N), & d_1\psi &: m \mapsto (w \times P_N)(\psi(m)) + (w \times \psi)(P_M(m)).\end{aligned}$$

(The formula given for d_1 produces an element in $A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N$; the value of $(d_1\phi)(m)$ is the projection to $(A_1/s(A_0))^s \otimes_{A_0} N$.) This in fact defines a cochain complex; for $\phi \in \mathcal{C}^0(M, N)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}d_1(d_0\phi)(m) &= (w \times P_N)((d_0\phi)(m)) + (w \times d_0\phi)(P_M(m)) \\ &= (w \times P_N)(P_N(\phi(m))) - (w \times P_N)(\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi)(P_M(m)) \\ &\quad + (w \times P_N)(\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi)(P_M(m)) - (\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi)(w \times P_M)(P_M(m)) \\ &= (s \otimes \Psi_N)(\phi(m)) - (\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi)(s \otimes \Psi_M)(m) \in (s \otimes \mathrm{id})(N).\end{aligned}$$

The last line uses the identity $s \otimes \Psi_M = (w \times P) \circ P$ of (9.4).

We note that this complex can also be arranged as a semi-cosimplicial object. That is, the cohomology of $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(M, N)$ is naturally isomorphic to the cohomology of the semi-cosimplicial abelian group

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, N) & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^t A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N) & \longrightarrow \\ & & \times & \longrightarrow \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^{s\Psi} A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N) \\ & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^\Psi N) & \longrightarrow \end{array}$$

with coface maps given by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \longmapsto (w \times P_N) \circ \psi \\ \longmapsto & (P_N \circ \phi, \Psi_N \circ \phi) & \\ \phi & & (\psi, \phi) \longmapsto (s \otimes \mathrm{id}) \circ \phi \\ \longmapsto & ((\mathrm{id} \otimes \phi) \circ P_M, \phi \circ \Psi_M) & \longmapsto (w \times \psi) \circ P_M \end{array}$$

This cosimplicial object is reminiscent of one considered in [MR09] and [Beh06], which are built using separable isogenies of elliptic curves, and which relate to stable homotopy rather than to commutative ring spectra.

9.6. Γ -modules of rank 1. Let $\beta \in A_1$ such that $w(\beta)\beta \in s(A_0)$. Then we can define a Γ -module L_β as follows. The underlying A_0 -module of L_β is a free A_0 -module on one generator x . The structure map $P: L_\beta \rightarrow A_1^s \otimes_{A_0} L_\beta$ is defined so that $P(x) = \beta \otimes x$; thus, $P(cx) = t(c)\beta \otimes x$ for $c \in A_0$. We verify that

$$(w \times P)P(cx) = w(t(c)\beta)\beta \otimes x = s\Psi(c)w(\beta)\beta \otimes x \in (s \otimes \mathrm{id})(A_0 \otimes_{A_0} M),$$

and thus this P defines a valid Γ -module homomorphism. In particular, note that $\Psi_{L_\beta}(x) = w(\beta)\beta x \in A_0 \otimes_{A_0} L_\beta$.

Let $\beta_1, \beta_2 \in A_1$ such that $w(\beta_1)\beta_1, w(\beta_2)\beta_2 \in s(A_0)$, and suppose that $\alpha \in A_0$ is such that

$$s(\alpha)\beta_1 = t(\alpha)\beta_2 \in A_1.$$

Then we can define a Γ -module homomorphism $f: L_{\beta_1} \rightarrow L_{\beta_2}$ by setting $f(x_1) = \alpha x_2$, so that $f(cx_1) = c\alpha x_2$ for $c \in A_0$. We verify that

$$\begin{aligned} P(f(x_1)) &= P(\alpha x_2) = t(\alpha)\beta_2 \otimes x_2, \\ (\text{id} \otimes f)(P(x_1)) &= (\text{id} \otimes f)(\beta_1 \otimes x_1) = \beta_1 \otimes \alpha x_2 = s(\alpha)\beta_1 \otimes x_2, \end{aligned}$$

and thus f defines a valid Γ -module homomorphism.

We have thus done most of the work to prove the following.

9.7. Proposition.

(1) *The construction $\beta \mapsto L_\beta$ gives a bijective correspondence*

$$\frac{\{\beta \in A_1 \mid w(\beta)\beta \in s(A_0)\}}{\beta \sim t(\gamma)s(\gamma)^{-1}\beta \text{ for } \gamma \in A_0^\times} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{isomorphism classes of} \\ \text{rank one } \Gamma\text{-modules} \end{array} \right\}.$$

(2) *We have*

$$\text{Hom}_\Gamma(L_{\beta_1}, L_{\beta_2}) \approx \{\alpha \in A_0 \mid t(\alpha)\beta_2 = s(\alpha)\beta_1\}.$$

(3) *We have $L_{\beta_1} \otimes L_{\beta_2} \approx L_{\beta_1\beta_2}$. The module L_β is \otimes -invertible as a Γ -module if and only if $\beta \in A_1^\times$.*

In particular, every $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ gives rise to a rank one Γ -module L_β . We note these examples.

- $\mathbb{1} = L_1$, the unit object in the symmetric monoidal category of Γ -modules.
- $\det = L_p$, the **determinant** module.
- $\text{nul} = L_0$, the **null** module. Note that $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(\text{nul}, \text{nul}) \approx A_0$, and thus $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(M, N \otimes \text{nul})$ has the structure of an A_0 -module.

Note that if L_β is such that $\beta\gamma = p$ for some (necessarily unique) $\gamma \in A_1$, then we have an isomorphism $\det = L_\beta \otimes L_\gamma$. We may thus sometimes choose to write $L_\beta = L_\gamma^{-1} \otimes \det$, even when the module L_γ is not \otimes -invertible as a Γ -module.

The invariant 1-form module ω is an example of a rank one Γ -module which is not in general described by an element of \mathbb{Z}_p , as we will see. If $u \in \omega$ is a basis, and we write $P(u) = b \otimes u$ with $b \in A_1$, then $\omega \approx L_b$. Because $[p] = \psi \circ \text{Frob}^2$ on C_0 for some isomorphism $\psi: C_0 \rightarrow (\phi^2)^*C_0$, we have that $\Psi(u) = w(b)b \otimes u = \lambda p \otimes u$ for some $\lambda \in A_0^\times$. As a consequence, there exists a module $\omega^{-1} \otimes \det \approx L_{\lambda^{-1}w(b)}$.

9.8. Standard supersingular curves. We say that a supersingular elliptic curve C_0/k is **standard** if $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ and $\text{Frob}^2 = [-p]$. Honda-Tate theory provides a standard supersingular elliptic curve over $k = \mathbb{F}_p$ for every prime p . In fact, we have the following.

9.9. Proposition. *Every supersingular elliptic curve over a finite field is isomorphic (over $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$) to a standard supersingular curve.*

Proof. [BGJGP05, Lemma 3.21]. □

For a standard curve C_0/k , we have that $\Psi: A_{0,C_0/k} \rightarrow A_{0,C_0/k}$ and $w^2: A_{1,C_0/k} \rightarrow A_{1,C_0/k}$ are identity maps.

9.10. Remark. It is important here that $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. If we extend to some larger field $k' \supset \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$, then neither Ψ nor w^2 are identity maps. In fact, on scalars $c \in \mathbb{W}_p k' \subseteq A_0$ we have $\Psi(c) = \tilde{\phi}^2(c)$, where $\tilde{\phi}: \mathbb{W}_p k' \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_p k'$ is the lift of the p th power map on k' .

We will now show, using the results of [Rez12], how to describe explicitly category of mod- p Γ -modules for a standard supersingular curve, and nearly explicitly describe the category of Γ -modules itself. (Similar results hold for curves which satisfy $\text{Frob}^2 = [p]$.)

9.11. Notation. We let C_0/k be a standard supersingular curve, with $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. Let $\overline{C}_0 = (C_0)_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$ be the base change of C_0 to $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$.

We will use the following conventions when dealing with Γ -modules for $\overline{C}_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. First, we write $A_r \subset \overline{A}_r$ for the rings $A_{r,C_0/k} \subset A_{r,\overline{C}_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p}$; recall that $\overline{A}_r \approx \mathbb{W}\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{W}k} A_r$. Likewise, we write $\omega \subset \overline{\omega}$ for the Γ -modules of invariant 1-forms on C_0 and \overline{C}_0 .

- We identify \overline{A}_0 with its image under the inclusion $s: \overline{A}_0 \rightarrow \overline{A}_1$, and similarly identify A_0 with the image of $s: A_0 \rightarrow A_1$.
- For any element $\beta \in \overline{A}_1$, we write β' for $w(\beta) \in \overline{A}_1$. This implies that for $\alpha \in \overline{A}_0$, we have $t(\alpha) = \alpha'$, and $\alpha'' = \Psi(\alpha)$.
- As a consequence, if $\beta \in A_1$, we have $\beta'' = \beta$, and if $\alpha \in A_0$, we have $\alpha'' = \alpha = \Psi(\alpha)$.
- For $c \in \mathbb{W}_p\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, write $c^{(r)} = (\tilde{\phi}^r)(c)$, and for $f(x) = \sum c_I x^I \in \mathbb{W}_p k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$, write $f^{(r)}(x) = \sum c_I^{(r)} x^I$. Note that $c' = c^{(1)}$.

9.12. Structure of A_1 . The universal deformation of C_0 is defined over $A_0 \approx \mathbb{W}_p k[[a]]$. We refer to any power series generator a of this ring as a **deformation parameter**. Thus, we choose a deformation parameter a , and write $a = s(a) \in A_1$ and $a' = t(a) \in A_1$.

9.13. Proposition. *The evident map $\mathbb{W}_p k[[a, a']] \rightarrow A_1$ descends to a ring isomorphism*

$$k[[a, a']] / ((a^p - a')(a - a'^p)) \approx A_1/(p).$$

The map $\text{can}: A_1 \rightarrow A_0/(p)$ classifying the canonical subgroup is given by $a \mapsto a$, $a' \mapsto a^p$. The maps $s, t: A_0/(p) \rightarrow A_1/(p)$ are given by $s(f(a)) = f(a)$ and $t(f(a)) = f^{(1)}(a')$.

Proof. This is a special case of Proposition 3.15 of [Rez12]. □

Now choose a basis u of the module ω of invariant 1-forms. Then $P(u) = b \otimes u$ for some $b \in A_1$. Let $b' = w(b) \in A_1$. Since $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ and $\text{Frob}^2 = [-p]$, we must have that $b'b = -p$.

9.14. Proposition. *The evident map $\mathbb{W}_p k[[b, b']] / (bb' + p) \rightarrow A_1$ is an isomorphism of rings. Furthermore, there exists $e \in A_1^\times$ and $e' = w(e) \in A_1^\times$ such that*

$$b = e(a' - a^p) \quad \text{and} \quad b' = e'(a - a'^p).$$

Proof. To demonstrate the isomorphism, it suffices to do so after reducing mod p , since both $\mathbb{W}_p k[[b, b']] / (bb' + p)$ and A_1 are p -complete and p -torsion free.

An isogeny $f: C \rightarrow C'$ of elliptic curves of rank p factors through Frobenius if and only if $f^*: \omega_{C'} \rightarrow \omega_C$ is the zero map. Therefore $\text{Ker}(\text{can}: A_1 \rightarrow A_0/(p)) = (b) \subseteq A_1$.

On the other hand, by (9.13) the evident map $k[[a, a']] / ((a^p - a')(a - a'^p)) \rightarrow A_1/(p)$ is an isomorphism of rings. The projection map $A_1 \rightarrow A_1/(p, a^p - a') \approx A_0/(p)$ exactly classifies Frobenius, and thus we must have that $b = e(a' - a^p)$ for some unit $\lambda \in A_1^\times$. Clearly this implies $b' = e'(a - a'^p)$, and that $k[[b, b']] / (bb') \rightarrow A_1/(p)$ is an isomorphism. □

9.15. **Adapted parameters.** Given a basis u for ω , we say that a deformation parameter $a \in A_0$ is **adapted** to u if we have

$$a \equiv b' \pmod{bA_1},$$

where $b \in A_1$ is such that $P(u) = b \otimes u$, and $b' = w(b)$, so that $b'b = -p$. If a is adapted to u , then applying w to the above congruence gives

$$a' \equiv b \pmod{b'A_1}.$$

Since $a \equiv a'^p \equiv b^p \pmod{b'A_1}$, it also follows that

$$a \equiv b' + b^p \pmod{bA_1} \quad \text{and} \quad a \equiv b' + b^p \pmod{b'A_1}.$$

The ring homomorphism $A_1/(p) \rightarrow A_1/(b) \times A_1/(b')$ is injective, and thus we have

$$a \equiv b' + b^p \pmod{pA_1}$$

for any adapted parameter a .

9.16. **Proposition.** *For any generator $u \in \omega$, there exists a deformation parameter $\bar{a} \in A_0$ adapted to it.*

Proof. As noted above, for an arbitrary deformation parameter a we have that $b = \lambda(a' - a^p)$ for some unit $\lambda \in A_1^\times$. Thus

$$b' + b^p \equiv \lambda'(a - a^p) \equiv \lambda'(a - a^{p^2}) \pmod{bA_1}.$$

Because $s: A_0/(p) \rightarrow A_1/(b)$ is an isomorphism, we may choose $\bar{a} \in A_0$ which projects to $\lambda'(a - a^{p^2})$ modulo bA_1 . Clearly, this \bar{a} is a deformation parameter, and $\bar{a} \equiv b' \pmod{bA_1}$, so it is adapted. \square

Now suppose that $a \in A_0$ is an adapted parameter. It will be convenient to use the evident isomorphisms $A_1/(b) \approx k[[b']]$ and $A_1/(b') \approx k[[b]]$, with respect to which the evident ring homomorphism $A_1 \rightarrow A_1/(b) \times A_1/(b')$ induces an isomorphism of rings

$$A_1/(p) \approx k[[b']] \times_k k[[b]] \subset k[[b']] \times k[[b]],$$

identifying $A_1/(p)$ with the set of pairs of power series $(g_1(b'), g_2(b))$ such that $g_1(0) = g_2(0)$. This isomorphism sends

$$\begin{aligned} a &\mapsto (b', b^p), & a' &\mapsto (b^p, b), \\ b &\mapsto (0, b), & b' &\mapsto (b', 0). \end{aligned}$$

With respect to this isomorphism we have

$$s(f(a)) = (f(b'), f(b^p)), \quad t(f(a)) = (f^{(1)}(b^p), f^{(1)}(b)),$$

and

$$w(g_1(b'), g_2(b)) = (g_2^{(1)}(b'), g_1^{(1)}(b)).$$

The map $A_1/(p, s(A_0)) \rightarrow k[[b]]$ defined by

$$(g_1(b'), g_2(b)) \mapsto g_2(b) - g_1(b^p)$$

induces a bijection $A_1/(p, s(A_0)) \xrightarrow{\sim} b k[[b]]$.

9.17. *Remark.* One would like to lift the congruence $a \equiv b' + b^p$ modulo bA_1 to an identity in A_1 , so that $a = f(b, b')$ for some explicit polynomial f in b and b' . Armed with such an identity, one would then have an explicit description of the maps $s, t: A_0 \rightarrow A_1$ and $w: A_1 \rightarrow A_1$, and thus an explicit description of the category of Γ -modules. This has been done at the prime 2 [Rez08], and at the prime 3 [Zhu12].

9.18. **The Koszul complex for rank one modules.** Suppose that $M = L_\alpha$ and $N = L_\beta$ for some $\alpha, \beta \in A_1$ with $\alpha'\alpha, \beta'\beta \in A_0$. If we write $x \in M$ and $y \in N$ for the generators, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_0 &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{C}^0(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{A_0}(M, N), & f &\mapsto (x \mapsto f y), \\ A_1 &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{C}^1(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^tA_1^s \otimes_{A_0} N), & g &\mapsto (x \mapsto g \otimes y), \\ A_1/A_0 &\xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{C}^2(M, N) = \text{Hom}_{A_0}(M, {}^s\Psi(A_1/sA_0)^s \otimes_{A_0} N), & h &\mapsto (x \mapsto h \otimes y). \end{aligned}$$

With respect to these identifications, the Koszul complex of §9.5 takes the form

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} A_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} A_1/A_0$$

with coboundary maps

$$d_0(f) = f'\beta - f\alpha, \quad d_1(g) = g'\beta + g\alpha'.$$

(Verify: $d_1(d_0(f)) = (f'\beta - f\alpha)'\beta + (f'\beta - f\alpha)\alpha' = \Psi(f)\beta'\beta - f\alpha'\alpha \in A_0$.)

Suppose $g \in A_1$ is such that $g'\beta + g\alpha' \in s(A_0)$, and so corresponds to a 1-cocycle representing a class in $\text{Ext}_\Gamma^1(L_\alpha, L_\beta)$. The corresponding extension $0 \rightarrow L_\beta \rightarrow E \rightarrow L_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ can be constructed as follows: set $E = A_0y \oplus A_0x$, with y the image of the standard generator of L_β , and so that x projects to the standard generator of L_α . Then the Γ -module structure on E is defined by

$$P(y) = \beta \otimes y, \quad P(x) = g \otimes y + \alpha \otimes x.$$

The cocycle condition $g'\beta + g\alpha' \in s(A_0)$ is exactly the condition that E is a Γ -module. In this case the map $\Psi: E \rightarrow E$ is given by

$$\Psi(y) = \beta'\beta y, \quad \Psi(x) = (g'\beta + g\alpha')y + \alpha'\alpha x.$$

10. CALCULATION OF $\text{Ext}_\Gamma^*(\omega^m, \text{nul})$

Fix a standard supersingular curve C_0 over $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. Recall that ω is the Γ -module of invariant differentials, and that nul is the Γ -module with “trivial” Γ action, defined in §9.6. We also use the notations introduced in §9.15.

10.1. **Theorem.** *We have that*

$$\text{Ext}_\Gamma^s(\omega^m, \text{nul}) = 0 \quad \text{for all } m \geq 0, s \neq 2,$$

and

$$\text{Ext}_\Gamma^2(\omega^m, \text{nul}) \approx A_1/(s(A_0), b^m A_1).$$

Recall that $\text{Hom}_\Gamma(\text{nul}, \text{nul}) \approx A_0$, so these Ext-groups are naturally A_0 -modules.

Recall that $\omega^m \approx L_{b^m}$, and $\text{nul} \approx L_0$. The Koszul complex $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(\omega^m, \text{nul})$ thus takes the form

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} A_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} A_1/A_0$$

with

$$d_0(\alpha) = -\alpha b^m, \quad d_1(\beta) = \beta b^m.$$

That is, $\text{Ext}_{\omega}^s(\omega^m, \text{nul})$ is the cohomology of the complex

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{-b^m} A_1 \xrightarrow{b^m} A_1/A_0.$$

We need two facts.

(1) Multiplication by p gives an injective map $A_1 \rightarrow A_1$.

(2) Multiplication by b^m gives an injective map $A_0/(p) \rightarrow A_1/(p)$.

Fact (1) is clear, since A_1 is a free A_0 -module. Fact (2) follows using the identifications $A_0/(p) \approx k[[a]]$ and $A_1/(p) \approx A_1/(p, b) \times_k A_1/(p, b') \approx k[[b']] \times_k k[[b]]$ described above; with respect to these, multiplication b^m is given by which we can use to identify the map with

$$f(a) \mapsto (f(b')b^m, f(b^p)b^m) = \begin{cases} (f(b'), f(b^p)) & \text{if } m = 0, \\ (0, f(b^p)b^m) & \text{if } m \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

In either case the map is injective. (Note that $b: A_1/(p) \rightarrow A_1/(p)$ is *not* injective, since $b'b = -p$.)

10.2. Case of $m = 0$. In this case, the sequence $A_0 \xrightarrow{1} A_1 \xrightarrow{1} A_1/A_0$ is manifestly exact. Thus $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^*(\mathbb{1}, \text{nul}) = 0$.

10.3. Case of $m \geq 1$. Because p is not a zero-divisor in A_1 , and $b^m b^m = (-p)^m$, we have that $d_0: A_0 \rightarrow A_1$ is injective.

Now suppose $g \in \mathcal{C}^1 = A_1$ is such that $d_1(g) = 0$. That is, $b^m g = f$ for some (necessarily unique) $f \in A_0$. Thus

$$b^m f = b^m b^m g = (-p)^m g.$$

We claim that $f/p^m \in A_0$. It suffices to show that if $b^m f \in pA_1$, then $f \in pA_0$, in which case the claim is proved by induction on m . The statement to be proved is precisely fact (2) above. Thus we have shown that if $g \in \mathcal{C}^1$ is a cocycle, then $g = -b^m k = d_0(k)$ for some $k \in A_0$.

It is now clear that $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^2(\omega^m, \text{nul}) \approx A_1/(s(A_0), b^m A_1)$.

11. CALCULATION OF $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^*(\det \otimes \omega^{-1}, \omega^m)$

We fix a standard supersingular curve C_0 over $k \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$. We write $\overline{C}_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ for its base change to the algebraic closure. The module $\omega^{-1} \otimes \det$ was defined in §9.6.

11.1. Proposition. *For \overline{C}_0 and $s, m \geq 0$, we have that*

$$\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^s(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega^m) \approx \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}_p & \text{if } s = 1 = m, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Recall that $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^s(M, N) = H^s \mathcal{C}^{\bullet}(M, N)$ when M is projective over \overline{A}_0 . In our case, each $\mathcal{C}^s(M, N)$ is a p -complete torsion free abelian group, and the coboundary maps are \mathbb{Z}_p -module maps. The proposition will follow once we show that

$$H^s(\mathcal{C}^{\bullet}(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega^m) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) \approx \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/p & \text{if } s = 1 = m, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In the remainder of this section, we give the proof.

Choose a basis $u \in \omega_{C_0}$ and an adapted parameter $a \in \mathbb{W}_p k[[a]]$. We have $A_0 = \mathbb{W}_p k[[a]]$ and $A_1 = \mathbb{W}_p k[[b, b']]/(bb' + p)$, and thus $\overline{A}_0 = \mathbb{W}_p \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[a]]$ and $\overline{A}_1 = \mathbb{W}_p \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b, b']]/(bb' + p)$.

Recall that $\det \otimes \omega^{-1} \approx L_{-b'}$, and $\omega^m \approx L_{b^m}$. The Koszul complex $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(\det \otimes \omega^{-1}, \omega^m)$ thus takes the form

$$\overline{A}_0 \xrightarrow{d_0} \overline{A}_1 \xrightarrow{d_1} \overline{A}_1/\overline{A}_0$$

with

$$d_0(f) = f'b^m + fb', \quad d_1(g) = g'b^m - gb.$$

Using the isomorphisms $A_1/(p) \approx \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b']] \times_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$ and $A_1/(p, A_0) \approx b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$, the mod p reduced complex $\mathcal{C}^\bullet(\det \otimes \omega^{-1}, \omega^m) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ has the form

$$\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[a]] \xrightarrow{d_0} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b']] \times_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] \xrightarrow{d_1} b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$$

with differentials

$$\begin{aligned} d_0: f(a) &\longmapsto (f(b')b', f^{(1)}(b)b^m) \\ d_1: (g_1(b'), g_2(b)) &\longmapsto g_1^{(1)}(b)b^m - g_2(b)b \end{aligned}$$

when $m \geq 1$, and differentials

$$\begin{aligned} d_0: f(a) &\longmapsto (f^{(1)}(b^p) + f(b')b', f^{(1)}(b)) \\ d_1: (g_1(b'), g_2(b)) &\longmapsto g_1^{(1)}(b) - g_2(b)b - g_2^{(1)}(b^p) \end{aligned}$$

when $m = 0$.

11.2. Mod p calculation, $m = 0$. It is clear in this case that d_0 is injective, so $H^0(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

Suppose $(g_1(b'), g_2(b)) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b']] \times_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$ is a cocycle; i.e., $g_1(0) = g_2(0)$ in $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ and $g_1^{(1)}(b) = g_2(b)b + g_2^{(1)}(b^p)$ in $b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] = \mathcal{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$. We compute that

$$d_0: g_2^{(-1)}(a) \longmapsto (g_2(b^p) + g_2^{(-1)}(b')b', g_2(b)) = (g_1(b'), g_2(b)),$$

whence $H^1(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

Let $h(b) \in b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$. We compute that

$$d_1: (h^{(-1)}(b'), 0) \longmapsto h(b),$$

whence $H^2(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

11.3. Mod p calculation, $m = 1$. It is clear in this case that d_0 is injective, so $H^0(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

Suppose $(g_1(b'), g_2(b)) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b']] \times_{\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p} \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] = \mathcal{C}^1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ is a cocycle. That is, $g_1(0) = g_2(0)$ and $g_1^{(1)}(b)b = g_2(b)b$ in $b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] = \mathcal{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$, which implies that $g_2(b) = g_1^{(1)}(b)$. If $g_1(0) = g_2(0) = 0$, then we compute

$$d_0: g_1(a)/a \longmapsto (g_1(b'), g_1^{(1)}(b)).$$

Thus, every 1-cocycle in $\mathcal{C}^1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ is cohomologous to one of the form (λ, λ) with $\lambda \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, and such an element is a cocycle if and only if $\lambda = \lambda^p$, i.e., if $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p$.

Thus $H^1\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p \approx \mathbb{Z}/p$. Note that this argument has constructed an explicit homomorphism

$$\rho: \text{Ext}_{\mathbb{F}}^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p,$$

computed on cocycles by $\rho((g(b'), g^{(1)}(b))) = g(0)$; see §11.5 for a geometric interpretation of ρ .

Let $h(b) \in b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] \approx \mathcal{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$. If $h(b) \in b^2\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, then we compute that

$$d_1: (0, -h(b)/b) \mapsto h(b).$$

Thus, every 2-cochain in $\mathcal{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ is cohomologous to one of the form μb with $\mu \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$. Since for $\lambda \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ we have

$$d_1: (\lambda, \lambda) \mapsto (\lambda^p - \lambda)b.$$

We can choose $\lambda \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ so that $\lambda^p - \lambda = \mu$, and hence $H^2(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2) = 0$.

11.4. Mod p calculation, $m \geq 2$. This is similar to (but easier than) the $m = 1$ case. Clearly d^0 is injective, so $H^0(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

If $(g_1(b'), g_2(b)) \in \mathcal{C}^1 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ is a cocycle, then we have $g_2(b) = g_1^{(1)}(b)b^{m-1}$. This implies that $g_1(0) = g_2(0) = 0$. Thus

$$d_0: g_1(a)/a \mapsto (g_1^{(1)}(b'), g_1^{(1)}(b)b^{m-1}),$$

showing that $H^1(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

If $h(b) \in b\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]] \approx \mathcal{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p$ is such that $h(b) \in b^2\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[[b]]$, then

$$d_1: (0, -h(b)/b) \mapsto h(b).$$

In addition, for $\mu \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ we have

$$d_1: (\mu, -\mu + \mu^p b^{m-1}) \mapsto \mu^p b^m - (-\mu + \mu^p b^{m-1})b = \mu b.$$

Thus $H^2(\mathcal{C} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p) = 0$.

11.5. More on $\text{Ext}_\Gamma^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega)$. According to our identification of the Koszul complex, a 1-cocycle in $\mathcal{C}^1 = \mathcal{C}^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega)$ is a homomorphism $g: \det \otimes \omega^{-1} \rightarrow {}^t\overline{A}_1^s \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} \omega$, given by

$$g(u^{-1}v) = \lambda \otimes u, \quad \lambda \in \overline{A}_1 \quad \text{such that} \quad (\lambda' - \lambda)b \in s(A_0),$$

where $u \in \omega$ is our chosen basis, $v \in \det$ is the standard basis, and $P(u) = b \otimes u$. In particular, $\lambda \in \overline{A}_1$ such that $\lambda = \lambda'$ gives an example of a 1-cocycle. In particular, any $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}_p \subseteq \overline{A}_1$ represents a 1-cocycle, and according to our calculation these cocycles represent all elements in Ext^1 .

Note that the 1-cocycles we have just described depend on a choice of basis u for $\omega_{C_0} \subset \omega_{\overline{C}_0}$. The dependence of the cohomology class of g on the choice of basis element u seems difficult to unravel; it is hard to determine when explicitly given cocycles are cohomologous. However, modulo p we can say something.

Consider an extension $0 \rightarrow N \rightarrow E \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$ of Γ -modules. Evaluating this extension at the Frobenius endomorphism $\text{Frob}: \overline{C}_0 \rightarrow \phi^*\overline{C}_0$ of $\overline{C}_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ gives a commuting diagram of $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ -vector spaces

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\phi\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\phi\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} E & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\phi\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} M \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow \underline{N}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0}) & & \downarrow \underline{E}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0}) & & \downarrow \underline{M}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0}) \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} E & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} M \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where $\pi_0: \overline{A}_1 \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ classifies $\overline{C}_0/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ together with its unique p -subgroup, and ϕ is the p th power map. (We are implicitly using the identification of Γ -modules with p -isogeny modules, as described in §4.5.)

In the case that both $\underline{N}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0}) = 0$ and $\underline{M}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0}) = 0$, then $\underline{E}(\text{Frob}_{\overline{C}_0})$ factors uniquely through an $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ -vector space homomorphism

$$\rho(E): \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\phi\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} M \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N.$$

If such an extension is classified by a 1-cocycle $g: M \rightarrow {}^t\overline{A}_1^s \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N$, then $\rho(E)$ is precisely the unique map fitting in the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{g} & {}^t\overline{A}_1^s \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N \\ \phi\pi_0 \otimes \text{id} \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_0 \otimes \text{id} \\ \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\phi\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} M & \xrightarrow{\rho(E)} & \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^{\pi_0} \otimes_{\overline{A}_0} N. \end{array}$$

In our case that $M = \omega \otimes \det^{-1}$ and $N = \omega$, this invariant $E \mapsto \rho(E)$ coincides with the explicit homomorphism $\rho: \text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p$ described in §11.3.

For an elliptic curve C/S , there is a canonical extension of locally free coherent sheaves over S of the form

$$0 \rightarrow H^0(\Omega_{C/S}^1) \rightarrow H_{\text{dR}}^1(C/S) \rightarrow H^1(\mathcal{O}_{C/S}) \rightarrow 0$$

associated to the “algebraic Hodge to de Rham spectral sequence”, with $H^0(\Omega_{C/S}^1) \approx \omega_{C/S}$ and $H^1(\mathcal{O}_{C/S}) \approx \omega_{C/S}^{-1}$ (see [Kat73, §A1.2]). Since the spectral sequence is functorial with respect to maps of schemes over S , and hence with respect to isogenies, we may apply it to the case of the universal deformation of a supersingular curve C_0/k to obtain a canonical

Hodge extension

$$0 \rightarrow \omega \rightarrow H_{\text{dR}}^1(C_{\text{univ}}/\text{Spec } A_0) \rightarrow \omega^{-1} \otimes \det \rightarrow 0$$

of Γ -modules. The Γ -module structure on $H^1(\mathcal{O}_{C/S})$ can be deduced from the Serre duality map $H^0(\Omega_{C/S}^1) \otimes H^1(\mathcal{O}_{C/S}) \rightarrow H^1(\Omega_{C/S}^1)$ and the observation that as a Γ -module, $H^1(\Omega_{C_{\text{univ}}/\text{Spec } A_0}^1) \approx H_{\text{dR}}^2(C_{\text{univ}}/\text{Spec } A_0) \approx \det$.

According to [Kat77, Lemma 1], for an elliptic curve C/S over an \mathbb{F}_p -scheme S , the image of $\text{Frob}^*: H_{\text{dR}}^1(\phi^*C/S) \rightarrow H_{\text{dR}}^1(C/S)$ is locally free of rank one, with cokernel also locally free of rank one. It follows that specialization of the “Hodge extension” at the Frobenius isogeny of C_0/k gives a non-trivial invariant $\rho \in \mathbb{Z}/p$. Thus, we may conclude that the “Hodge extension” presents a generator of $\text{Ext}_{\Gamma}^1(\omega^{-1} \otimes \det, \omega)$.

11.6. A calculation of Γ -ring maps. It is convenient to give in this section a computation of the set of \mathbb{T} -algebra maps

$$\pi_*(E \wedge \Sigma_+^{\infty} \mathbb{Z})_{K(2)} \rightarrow \pi_* E.$$

Since these are concentrated in even degree, and are p -torsion free, by (2.4) this amounts to computing maps of Γ -rings

$$A_0[t, t^{-1}]_{\mathfrak{m}}^{\wedge} \rightarrow A_0.$$

The Γ -ring structure on the left is given by $P(t) = t^p$.

Recall that for a perfect field k there is a bijection

$$\{c \in (\mathbb{W}k)^{\times} \mid \tilde{\phi}(c) = c^p\} \xrightarrow{\sim} k^{\times}.$$

Elements on the left-hand side are called **Teichmüller lifts** of units in k .

11.7. Proposition. *Elements $f \in A_0^\times$ such that $t(f) = s(f)^p$ are precisely the the Teichmuller lifts in $\mathbb{W}k^\times \subset A_0^\times$. Thus, there is a bijection*

$$\mathcal{T}(\pi_*(E \wedge \Sigma_+^\infty \mathbb{Z})_{K(2)}, \pi_*E) \xrightarrow{\sim} k^\times.$$

Proof. It is clear that Teichmuller lifts $c \in \mathbb{W}k$ satisfy the condition, since then $t(c) = \tilde{\phi}(c) = c^p$.

Write $A_0 = \mathbb{W}k[[a]]$, where $a \in A_0$ is an adapted coordinate. Suppose $f \in A_0^\times$ such that $t(f) = s(f)^p$. By replacing $f = f(a)$ with f/c , where c is a Teichmuller lift such that $c \equiv f(0) \pmod{p}$, we reduce to the case that $f(0) \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$.

Working modulo p , and using the usual identification $A_1/(p) \approx k[[b']] \times_k k[[b]]$, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} s: f(a) &\longmapsto (f(b'), f(b^p)), \\ t: f(a) &\longmapsto (f^{(1)}(b'^p), f^{(1)}(b)). \end{aligned}$$

The condition $t(f) = s(f)^p$ implies

$$f^{(1)}(b'^p) = f(b')^p, \quad f^{(1)}(b) = f(b^p)^p.$$

The first of these is always true, but the second amounts to $f^{(1)}(b) = f^{(1)}(b^{p^2})$, which cannot hold for any non-constant power series. Thus we have shown that $f(a) \equiv 1 \pmod{pA_0}$.

Now assume $f(a) = 1 + p^k g(a)$ for some $k \geq 1$, $g(a) \in A_0$. The condition $t(f) = s(f)^p$ modulo $p^{k+1}A_0$ implies that

$$t(g(a)) \equiv 0 \pmod{pA_0},$$

and therefore, by using the formulas for t modulo p , we see that $g(a) \equiv 0 \pmod{pA_0}$. Iterating the argument shows that $g(a) = 0$. \square

12. COHOMOLOGY OF AUGMENTED \mathbb{T} -ALGEBRAS

In [Rez09], we defined a monad \mathbb{T} on Mod_{E_*} , which encodes the algebraic structure in the homotopy of $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebras (see §7). We write \mathcal{T} for the category of \mathbb{T} -algebras.

In this section, we will recall the homotopy theory of simplicial \mathbb{T} -algebras, an encoded in a Quillen model category structure on $s\mathcal{T}$, and we will define the cohomology $H_{\mathcal{T}E_*}^*(B, M)$ of augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras, with coefficients in an abelian group object M , which is computed using an appropriate cofibrant simplicial resolution of B .

We will then describe a full subcategory of *analytically complete* \mathbb{T} -algebras. . . .

Describe how above cohomology can sometimes be computed with analytically complete resolutions. Requires model category structure for analytically complete \mathbb{T} -algebras.

Set up composite functor spectral sequence. Handle case of analytic completion of smooth algebra.

12.1. Homotopy theory of \mathbb{T} -algebras. We recall some algebraic properties of the monad \mathbb{T} on Mod_{E_*} .

12.2. Proposition. *We have the following.*

- (1) *The functor \mathbb{T} commutes with filtered colimits.*
- (2) *The functor \mathbb{T} commutes with reflexive coequalizers.*
- (3) *The functor \mathbb{T} takes direct sums to tensor products. That is, the evident map $\mathbb{T}(M) \otimes \mathbb{T}(N) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(M \oplus N)$ is an isomorphism.*

- (4) The category \mathcal{T} of \mathbb{T} -algebras is complete and cocomplete. Limits, filtered colimits, and reflexive coequalizers are created by the forgetful functor $\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$.
- (5) Let $F_{\mathbb{T}}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ denote the free \mathbb{T} -algebra functor. If M is a free E_\star -module, then the underlying ring of $F_{\mathbb{T}}(M)$ is a free $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded strongly commutative algebra.

Let $s\mathcal{T}$ denote the category of simplicial objects in \mathcal{T} .

12.3. Proposition. *There is a cofibrantly generated, simplicial closed model category structure on $s\mathcal{T}$ with the following properties.*

- (1) Weak equivalences are maps which are weak equivalences on underlying simplicial sets,
- (2) Fibrations are maps which are fibrations on underlying simplicial sets.
- (3) Cofibrations are retracts of s -free maps.
- (4) The model category structure is proper.

Proof. This is largely consequence of [Qui67, §II.4, Thm. 4]. Because reflexive coequalizers in \mathcal{T} are computed in the underlying category Mod_{E_\star} , the collection $\{F_{\mathbb{T}}(E_\star), F_{\mathbb{T}}(\omega^{1/2})\}$ is what Quillen calls a set of small projective generator of \mathcal{T} , and thus condition (**) of his theorem is satisfied. Therefore, $s\mathcal{T}$ admits a simplicial model category structure with the specified classes of morphisms. Cofibrant generation and the description of cofibrations is implicit in Quillen's construction of factorizations.

To show that \mathcal{T} is proper, it suffices by [Rez02, Thm. 9.1] to observe that for any finitely generated free E_\star -module, the functor $s\mathcal{T} \rightarrow s\mathcal{T}$ defined by $B \mapsto B \coprod F_{\mathbb{T}}(M)$ (coproduct in $s\mathcal{T}$, where $F_{\mathbb{T}}(M)$ is regarded as a constant simplicial object), takes weak equivalences to weak equivalences. This is because coproducts in \mathcal{T} are tensor products, and $F_{\mathbb{T}}(M)$ is a strongly commutative $\mathbb{Z}/2$ -graded polynomial ring over E_\star , and hence flat as an E_\star -module. \square

We immediately obtain a model category structure on the slice category $s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$, the category of simplicial objects in augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras.

12.4. Cohomology of augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras. Recall that there is a category $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ of abelian group objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} , which may be identified with the full subcategory of augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras with square-zero augmentation ideal. It will be convenient notationally to indicate an abelian group object by specifying its augmentation ideal only, so that an object $M \in \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ has associated \mathbb{T} -algebra $E_\star \rtimes M$.

There is an adjoint pair

$$Q: \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightleftarrows \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} : E_\star \rtimes -,$$

where Q takes $B \rightarrow E_\star$ to $\overline{B}/\overline{B}^2$, where $\overline{B} = \text{Ker}[B \rightarrow E_\star]$.

12.5. Proposition. *There is a cofibrantly generated, simplicial closed model category structure on $s(\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star})$, so that*

- weak equivalences and fibrations are those on underlying simplicial sets, and
- the adjoint pair

$$Q: s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightleftarrows s(\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}) : E_\star \rtimes -$$

is a Quillen pair.

Proof. The model structure is immediate, since $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ is an abelian category with enough projectives. (Projective generators are given by $Q(F_{\mathbb{T}}(M) \rightarrow E_\star)$, where M is a free E_\star -module and the augmentations sends M to 0.) The existence of the Quillen pair is immediate. \square

Given $M \in \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ and $n \geq 0$, let $K(M, n)$ denote the Eilenberg-MacLane object in $s(\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star})$ with $\pi_n K(M, n) \approx M$. We then define the n th **cohomology group** of an augmented \mathbb{T} -algebra B with coefficients in an abelian group object M by

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^n(B, M) &\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} h(s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star})(B, E_\star \rtimes K(M, n)) \\ &\approx h(s(\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}))(\mathbf{L}Q(B), K(M, n)). \end{aligned}$$

Here $\mathbf{L}Q$ denotes the total left derived functor of $Q: s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightarrow s \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$. Note that $E_\star \rtimes -: s \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star} \rightarrow s\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ computes its own total right derived functor, since all objects in $s \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}$ are fibrant.

This description immediately implies a composite functor spectral sequence.

12.6. Proposition. *There is a first quadrant spectral sequence of the form*

$$\text{Ext}_{\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^j(\mathbf{L}_i Q(B), M) \implies H_{\mathcal{T}_{E_\star}}^{i+j}(B, M),$$

where $\mathbf{L}_i Q(B) = \pi_i \mathbf{L}Q(B)$ denote the derived functors of the indecomposables functor Q .

12.7. Analytic completion. We need to incorporate analytic completion into our story.

We write $\mathcal{A}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ for the analytic completion functor with respect to the the sequence $p, u_1, \dots, u_{n-1} \in E_0$, defined by

$$\mathcal{A}(M) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} M[[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}]] / (x_0 - p, x_1 - u_1, \dots, x_{n-1} - u_{n-1}) M[[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}]].$$

It comes with a natural unit map $\eta: M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M)$, and a natural comparison map $\mathcal{A}(M) \rightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$ to the \mathfrak{m} -adic completion of M , factoring the usual map $M \rightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$. By construction, the functor \mathcal{A} is right-exact, and commutes with arbitrary products.

12.8. Proposition. *If M is regular for the sequence p, u_1, \dots, u_{n-1} , then the comparison map $\mathcal{A}(M) \rightarrow M_{\mathfrak{m}}^\wedge$ is an isomorphism.*

As a consequence, \mathcal{A} is *isomorphic* to the 0th left derived functor of \mathfrak{m} -adic completion, typically denoted L_0 .

Say that an E_\star -module is **analytic** if $\eta: M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M)$ is an isomorphism. Let $\widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star} \subset \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ denote the full subcategory of analytic modules.

12.9. Proposition. *The analytic completion functor \mathcal{A} takes values in the full subcategory $\widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star}$ of analytic objects, and thus provides the left-half of an adjoint pair*

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightleftarrows \widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star} : \text{incl.}$$

The category $\widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star}$ has enough projectives, and is complete and cocomplete. Furthermore, the inclusion functor $\widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ commutes with finite colimits and arbitrary limits.

Say that $M \in \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ is **tame** if $\mathbf{L}_k \mathcal{A}(M) \approx 0$ for $k \geq 1$, where $\mathbf{L}_k \mathcal{A}$ denote the left-derived functors of $\mathcal{A}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_\star}$. (These coincide with the left-derived functors of $\overline{\mathcal{A}}: \text{Mod}_{E_\star} \rightarrow \widehat{\text{Mod}}_{E_\star}$, since the inclusion functor is exact.)

12.10. Proposition. *Flat E_\star -modules are tame. Analytic E_\star -modules are tame.*

Let $s\text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ denote the category of simplicial E_\star -modules.

12.11. Proposition. *Let M be an object of $s\text{Mod}_{E_\star}$ which is (i) degreewise tame, and (ii) is such that $\pi_* M$ is analytic. Then $\eta: M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}(M)$ is a weak-equivalence of simplicial E_\star -modules. flat.*

Proof. This is immediate from the evident spectral sequence $E_2^{i,j} = \mathbf{L}_i \mathcal{A}(\pi_j M) \implies \pi_{i+j} \mathcal{A}(M)$, which is defined because M is degreewise tame. \square

The connection to homotopy theory is given by the following.

12.12. Proposition. *Let $M \in \mathcal{M}$ be an E -module spectrum. Then M is $K(h)$ -local if and only if $\pi_* M$ is analytic.*

12.13. Analytic \mathbb{T} -algebras. Consider the natural map $\mathcal{A}\mathbb{T}\eta: \mathcal{A}\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}\mathbb{T}\mathcal{A}$ of functors $\text{Mod}_{E_*} \rightarrow \text{Mod}_{E_*}$. The following says that the functor \mathbb{T} is in some sense compatible with analytic completion.

12.14. Proposition. *The map $\mathcal{A}\mathbb{T}\eta: \mathcal{A}\mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}\mathbb{T}\mathcal{A}$ is an isomorphism.*

Proof. Proved by Barthel and Frankland [BF13]. \square

Let $\widehat{\mathcal{T}} \subset \mathcal{T}$ denote the full subcategory of \mathbb{T} -algebras whose underlying E_* -module is analytic.

12.15. Proposition. *There is an adjoint pair*

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathcal{T}}: \mathcal{T} \rightleftarrows \widehat{\mathcal{T}}: \text{incl},$$

with the property that on underlying E_* -modules, the left adjoint $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathcal{T}}$ coincides with analytic completion of E_* -modules.

Proof. Given a \mathbb{T} -algebra $(B, \psi: \mathbb{T}B \rightarrow B)$, we define a \mathbb{T} -algebra $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathcal{T}}(B)$ to be $(\mathcal{A}B, \widehat{\psi}: \mathbb{T}\mathcal{A}B \rightarrow \mathcal{A}B)$, where $\widehat{\psi} = (\mathcal{A}\psi) \circ (\mathcal{A}\mathbb{T}\eta)^{-1} \circ \eta$. It is straightforward using (12.14) to show that this is in fact a \mathbb{T} -algebra, and that $\eta: B \rightarrow \mathcal{A}B$ defines a \mathbb{T} -algebra map. \square

In particular, the analytic completion of a \mathbb{T} -algebra is canonically a \mathbb{T} -algebra. From now on we will write $\overline{\mathcal{A}}: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ for $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathbb{T}}$, and $\mathcal{A}: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ for the composite of $\overline{\mathcal{A}}$ with inclusion.

The above story descends to abelian group objects in augmented \mathbb{T} -algebras. Recall the indecomposable quotient functor $Q: \mathcal{T}_{E_*} \rightarrow \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}$.

12.16. Proposition. *The map $\mathcal{A}Q\eta: \mathcal{A}Q \rightarrow \mathcal{A}Q\mathcal{A}$ is an isomorphism.*

Proof. We have a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} B \otimes B & \longrightarrow & B & \longrightarrow & Q(B) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow \eta \otimes \eta & & \downarrow \eta & & \downarrow Q(\eta) & & \\ \mathcal{A}B \otimes \mathcal{A}B & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{A}B & \longrightarrow & Q(\mathcal{A}B) & \longrightarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

with exact rows. After applying \mathcal{A} to this diagram, the rows remain exact. The map $\mathcal{A}(\eta)$ is clearly an isomorphism, and the map $\mathcal{A}(\eta \otimes \eta)$ is an isomorphism by [HS99, ???]. \square

Let $\text{ab } \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_{E_*}$ denote the full subcategory of $\text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*}$ whose underlying E_* -module is analytic.

12.17. Proposition. *There is an (up to isomorphism) commutative square of adjoint pairs, whose left adjoints are*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{T}_{E_*} & \xrightarrow{\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathbb{T}}} & \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_{E_*} \\ Q \downarrow & & \downarrow \widehat{Q} \\ \text{ab } \mathcal{T}_{E_*} & \xrightarrow{\overline{\mathcal{A}}_Q} & \text{ab } \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_{E_*} \end{array}$$

12.18. **Homotopy theory of analytic \mathbb{T} -algebras.** Let $s\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ denote the category of simplicial objects in $\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$, which may be identified as a full subcategory of $s\mathcal{T}$.

12.19. **Proposition.** *There is a simplicial closed model category structure on $s\widehat{\mathcal{T}}$ with the following properties.*

- (1) *Weak equivalences are maps which are weak equivalences on underlying simplicial sets.*
- (2) *Fibrations are maps which are fibrations on underlying simplicial sets.*
- (3) *Cofibrations are maps which are retracts of s -free maps.*
- (4) *The adjoint pair*

$$\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathcal{T}} : s\mathcal{T} \rightleftarrows s\widehat{\mathcal{T}} : \text{incl}$$

is a Quillen pair.

- (5) *The map of derived functors $\mathbf{L}\overline{\mathcal{A}}_{\mathbb{T}} \circ \mathbf{R}\text{incl} \rightarrow \text{Id}$ is an isomorphism. Thus, $\mathbf{R}\text{incl} : h(s\widehat{\mathcal{T}}) \rightarrow h(s\mathcal{T})$ is fully faithful, with essential image the full subcategory of $h(s\mathcal{T})$ consisting of simplicial \mathbb{T} -algebras B such that $\pi_* B$ is analytic.*

The above descends to abelian group objects. Thus, let $\text{ab } \widehat{\mathcal{T}}_{E_*}$ denote the category of abelian group objects in \mathcal{T}_{E_*} whose underlying E_* -module is analytic.

13. MAPPING SPACE SPECTRAL SEQUENCE

Define a good resolution of a $K(h)$ -local commutative E -algebra (i.e., simplicial resolution built from $K(h)$ -localization of free algebras on free E -modules). Use to construct mapping space spectral sequence, and identify E_2 -term as cohomology.

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