

A SPLITTING THEOREM FOR CERTAIN COHOMOLOGY THEORIES

ASSOCIATED TO $BP^*(-)$

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Let $P(n)^*(-)$ be Brown-Peterson cohomology modulo I_n and put $B(n)^*(-) = P(n)^*(-)[1/v_n]$. In this note we construct a canonical multiplicative and idempotent operation Ω_n in a suitable completion $\bar{B}(n)^*(-)$ of $B(n)^*(-)$ which has the property that its image is canonically isomorphic to the n -th Morava K -theory $K(n)^*(-)$. In particular, the ring theory $\underline{K}(n)^*(-)$ is contained as a direct summand in the theory $\bar{B}(n)^*(-)$. A similar result is not true before completing. Because the completion map $B(n)^*(-) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)^*(-)$ is injective, the above splitting theorem contains also information about $B(n)^*(-)$. The proof of the theorem depends on a result about the behaviour of formal groups of finite height over complete graded \mathbb{F}_p -algebras.

1. Introduction and results

Let BP denote the Brown-Peterson spectrum associated to the prime p (see [2][3][11]). Recall that $BP_* \cong \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_1, v_2, \dots]$ where $|v_1| = 2(p^1 - 1)$. The v_i are always supposed to be Hazewinkel generators [4]. There is a sequence of associative (and commutative if $p > 2$) ring spectra (see [5][16][18]) $BP \rightarrow P(1) \rightarrow P(2) \rightarrow \dots$ with the property that $P(n)_* \cong BP_*/I_n \cong \mathbb{F}_p[v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots]$ where $I_n = (p, v_1, v_2, \dots) \subset BP_*$ is the n -th invariant prime ideal of BP_* [6][5]. The

$P(n)$'s may be viewed as BP-theory with coefficients in BP_* / I_n and provide a convenient way for describing the structure of $BP_*(-)$.

If we localize $P(n)_*(-)$ with respect to $T_n = \{1, v_n, v_n^2, \dots\} \subset P(n)_*$ we get a new multiplicative homology theory $B(n)_*(-) = T_n^{-1}P(n)_*(-)$ which may be represented by the telescope spectrum $B(n) = \lim_{\rightarrow} (\Sigma^{2i(1-p^n)} P(n), \theta_n)$ where θ_n corresponds to multiplication by v_n . The $B(n)$'s record a great deal of the periodicity structure of BP. In this paper we are interested in the relation of the theories $B(n)_*(-)$ and suitable completions of them to the Morava K-theories $K(n)_*(-)$ (see [5][15] for a definition and some basic properties). $K(n)_*(-)$ is represented by a ring spectrum $K(n)$, there is a canonical morphism of ring spectra $\lambda_n: B(n) \rightarrow K(n)$ and $K(n)_* \cong \mathbb{F}_p[v_n, v_n^{-1}]$. The following theorem has been proved in [15].

1.1. THEOREM. Suppose $p > 2$. There is a natural equivalence

$$\omega_X: B(n)_*(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} B(n)_*(K(n)) \quad \square \quad \begin{array}{c} K(n)_*(X) \\ K(n)_*K(n) \end{array}$$

of multiplicative homology theories with values in the abelian category of $B(n)_*B(n)$ -comodules.

REMARKS: (1) In 1.1., $K(n)_*(-)$ is viewed in the usual sense as a left $K(n)_*K(n)$ -comodule. The right $K(n)_*K(n)$ -coaction map of $B(n)_*K(n)$ is obtained by composing its left $B(n)_*(B(n))$ -coaction map with $\text{id} \otimes \lambda_n$, see [15] for details. \square denotes the cotensor product over $K(n)_*K(n)$.

(2) Theoretically, 1.1. contains a description of the $B(n)_*$ -algebra $B(n)_*(X)$ in terms of the $K(n)_*$ -algebra $K(n)_*(X)$.

We know from [15], lemma 3.14. (or see [9], 2.4.) that there is an isomorphism of $B(n)_*$ -modules and right $K(n)_*(K(n))$ -comodules

$$1.2. \quad \theta: B(n)_*K(n) \cong B(n)_* \otimes_{K(n)_*} K(n)_*K(n).$$

Together with 1.1. this implies that there is an equivalence of $B(n)_*$ -module valued homology theories

$$1.3. \quad B(n)_*(X) \cong B(n)_* \otimes_{K(n)_*} K(n)_*(X)$$

and similarly for cohomology. This suggests the question if there exists a natural isomorphism of the form 1.3. of multiplicative theories. Unfortunately, the answer is no. The reason may be found in the theory of formal groups: Both $B(n)*(-)$ and $K(n)*(-)$ are canonically complex-oriented. So if there would exist a multiplicative transformation $\alpha: K(n)*(-) \rightarrow B(n)*(-)$, the formal groups $\alpha_*F_{K(n)}$ and $F_{B(n)}$ had to be isomorphic over $B(n)*$. But this is not the case (see remark 2.12.). The aim of this paper is to show that the situation changes if $B(n)*(-)$ is suitably completed. Before we can state what we have in mind we must describe a result on formal groups.

By a formal group over a commutative ring A we always mean a one-dimensional commutative formal group law $F(x,y) \in A[[x,y]]$. In our context, A will be graded and $F(x,y)$ is assumed to be a homogeneous power series of degree -2 (homological grading) resp. 2 (cohomological grading) where x and y have degree -2 resp. 2 . What grading we use will (hopefully) be clear from the context. Similarly, homomorphisms $f: F \rightarrow G$ of formal groups are homogeneous power series of degree -2 resp. 2 . All isomorphisms are supposed to be strict. For details on formal groups we refer the reader to [4].

Let J_n be the (homogeneous) ideal $(v_{n+1}, v_{n+2}, \dots)$ of $B(n)* \cong \mathbb{F}_p[v_n, v_n^{-1}, v_{n+1}, \dots]$. J_n is a graded maximal ideal of $B(n)*$ in the sense that $B(n)* / J_n \cong K(n)*$ is a graded field (i.e. all non-zero elements are invertible). In fact, $B(n)*$ is a graded local ring in an obvious sense. Put

$$1.4. \quad \bar{B}(n)* = \varprojlim_{\mathbb{F}} B(n)* / J_n^r \cong \mathbb{F}_p[v_n, v_n^{-1}][[v_{n+1}, v_{n+2}, \dots]] .$$

Thus, $\bar{B}(n)*$ is a complete Hausdorff graded local ring with (graded) residue field $K(n)*$. The completion map $c_n: B(n)* \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)*$ is clearly injective. The formal groups $F_{B(n)}$ and

$F_{K(n)}$ both extend to $\bar{B}(n)^*$.

1.5. THEOREM. There exists one and only one isomorphism
 $\phi_n: F_{B(n)} \rightarrow F_{K(n)}$ over $\bar{B}(n)^*$ such that $\phi_n(x) \equiv x \pmod{\bar{J}_n}$.

It should be noted that whereas $F_{B(n)}$ is a very complicated formal group, $F_{K(n)}$ is rather easy to describe [4][13][15]. Put

$$f_n(x) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{1}{p^i} v_n^i \cdot x^{p^{in}} \in \mathbb{Q}[v_n, v_n^{-1}][[x]]$$

where $a_1 = (p^{in} - 1)/(p^n - 1)$. Then $F'_n(x, y) = f_n^{-1}(f_n(x) + f_n(y))$ is a formal group over $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_n, v_n^{-1}]$ and $F_{K(n)} = F'_n \pmod{p}$. Thus $F_{K(n)}$ is just the reduction mod p of the graded version of a Lubin-Tate formal group over $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$. In particular,

$$1.6. \quad [p]_{F_{K(n)}}(x) = v_n \cdot x^{p^n}.$$

Theorem 1.5. and a slight generalisation of it will be proved in section 2. The proof is inspired by Hazewinkel's proof [4] of a well known theorem of Lazard which states that over a separably closed field of positive characteristic, formal groups of equal height are isomorphic.

Let \underline{W} (resp. \underline{W}_f) be the category of CW-complexes (resp. finite CW-complexes). Using 1.3. one sees that for any $B(n)_*$ -module A , there is a natural equivalence

$$1.7. \quad \text{Hom}_{B(n)_*}^*(B(n)_*(X), A) \cong \text{Hom}_{K(n)_*}^*(K(n)_*(X), A).$$

Because $\bar{K}(n)_*$ is a graded field any $K(n)_*$ -module is free, so the right term of 1.7. is an additive cohomology theory over \underline{W} . It follows in particular that the functor

$$1.8. \quad \underline{W} \ni X \mapsto \bar{B}(n)^*(X) := \text{Hom}_{B(n)_*}^*(B(n)_*X, \bar{B}(n)^*)$$

is an additive and multiplicative cohomology theory over \underline{W} and thus representable by a ring spectrum $\bar{B}(n)$. Note that for X a finite complex,

$$1.9. \quad \bar{B}(n)^*(X) \cong B(n)^*(X) \otimes_{B(n)^*} \bar{B}(n)^*$$

as a $\bar{B}(n)^*$ -algebra. If X is an arbitrary complex, $\{X_\alpha\}$ the set of all finite subcomplexes of X , 1.8. implies that

$$1.10. \quad \bar{B}(n)^*(X) \cong \varinjlim_{\alpha} (B(n)^*(X_\alpha) \otimes_{B(n)^*} \bar{B}(n)) .$$

REMARK: It should be observed, that 1.3. does not depend on theorem 1.1. See [17], 6.19. for a different proof which also includes the case $p=2$.

Note that the obvious multiplicative completion map $c_n: B(n)^*(X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)^*(X)$ is injective (for all X). Let $\bar{B}(n)^*(-)$ be \mathbb{C} -oriented by $u_n = c_n(e^{B(n)}(n))$. Then $F_{\bar{B}(n)}$ is just the extension of $F_{B(n)}$ to $\bar{B}(n)^*$. Let $\phi_n(x)$ be the isomorphism of theorem 1.5..

1.11. THEOREM. Suppose $p > 2$. There is a unique multiplicative and stable operation of degree 0

$$\Omega_n: \bar{B}(n)^*(-) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)^*(-)$$

such that $\Omega_n(u_n) = \phi_n(u_n)$. Ω_n is idempotent and agrees on the coefficient ring with the composition

$$\bar{B}(n)^* \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)^*/\bar{J}_n \cong K(n)^* \subset \bar{B}(n)^* .$$

Moreover, there is a canonical isomorphism

$$\text{im}\{\Omega_n: \bar{B}(n)^*(X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)^*(X)\} \cong K(n)^*(X)$$

1.12. COROLLARY. There are canonical isomorphisms of multiplicative cohomology theories over \bar{W}_f

$$\bar{B}(n)^*(X) \cong \bar{B}(n)^* \otimes_{K(n)^*} K(n)^*(X)$$

$$K(n)^*(X) \cong K(n)^* \otimes_{\bar{B}(n)^*} \bar{B}(n)^*(X) .$$

REMARK. The second isomorphism in 1.12. is just a version of the Conner-Floyd theorem mod I_n and does not depend on

theorem 1.11. (see [5][15]). Both isomorphisms of 1.12. may be extended to \underline{W} (see 1.10.) and similar equivalences hold for homology.

From 1.11. it follows that there is a commutative diagram of ring spectra and morphisms of ring spectra

$$1.13. \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \bar{B}(n) & \xrightarrow{\Omega_n} & \bar{B}(n) \\ \pi_n \searrow & & \nearrow \iota_n \\ & K(n) & \end{array} \quad , \quad \pi_n \cdot \iota_n = \text{id}_{K(n)}$$

and corollary 1.12. is an immediate consequence of the existence of the maps π_n and ι_n , using the comparison theorem for cohomology theories.

Theorem 1.11. is our main result. It gives some new information concerning the question how the Morava K-theories are related to $BP^*(-)$ and, if one likes, a new definition of $K(n)^*(-)$. The proof of 1.11. will be given in section 3. Section 4 contains some consequences of 1.11. and additional remarks and section 2 is devoted to the proof of theorem 1.5.

2. On formal groups of finite height over F_p -algebras

Let F be a formal group over the graded F_p -algebra A . Recall (see for example [4]) that the height of F , $ht(F)$, is defined as follows: $ht(F) = \infty$ if $[p]_F(x) = 0$ and $ht(F) = n$ if p^n is the highest power of p such that $[p]_F(x) = f(x^{p^n})$ for some $f(x) \in A[[x]]$. Every formal group over an F_p -algebra has a well-defined height. If $ht(F) = n$,

$$2.1. \quad [p]_F(x) \equiv a \cdot x^{p^n} \pmod{\text{degree } p^{n+1}} \quad , \quad a \neq 0.$$

DEFINITION: F is of strict height n , if a is a unit of A .

We denote the formal group of a complex-oriented ring theory $E^*(-)$ by $F_E(x, y)$. As is well known (see [11][4][3]) F_{BP} is universal for p -typical formal groups over $\mathbb{Z}(p)^-$

algebras. From the relation (see [14])

$$2.2. \quad [p]_{F_{BP}}(x) \equiv \sum_{i>0} \binom{F}{BP} v_i \cdot x^{p^i} \pmod{p}$$

one immediately sees that $F_{p(n)}$ is universal for p -typical formal groups of height $\geq n$ and that $F_{B(n)}$ is universal for p -typical formal groups of strict height n over F_p -algebras.

Now let us consider a p -typical formal group F of strict height n over the graded F_p -algebra A , with classifying ring homomorphism $f: B(n)_* \rightarrow A$. f gives A the structure of a $B(n)_*$ -algebra. The composition $\tilde{f}: K(n)_* \subset B(n)_* \xrightarrow{f} A$ defines a new formal group $\tilde{F} = \tilde{f}_* F_{K(n)}$ over A which has the property that

$$2.3. \quad [p]_{\tilde{F}}(x) = ax^{p^n}$$

if $[p]_F(x)$ is as in 2.1..

DEFINITION. In the situation above, we define the F -completion \bar{A}_F of A as the $B(n)_*$ -algebra $\bar{A}_F = A \otimes_f B(n)_*$. A is called F -complete, if the obvious completion homomorphism $c_F: A \rightarrow \bar{A}_F$ is an isomorphism.

2.4. THEOREM. Let F be a p -typical formal group of strict height n over the graded F_p -algebra A . There exists a canonical isomorphism

$$\phi_F: (c_F)_* F \xrightarrow{\sim} (c_F)_* \tilde{F}$$

over the F -completion \bar{A}_F of A .

Proof: 2.4. is an obvious consequence of theorem 1.5. using the universality of $F_{B(n)}$.

REMARKS. (1) Because over an F_p -algebra, every formal group is canonically isomorphic to a p -typical one [3][4] the assumption that F has to be p -typical is not essential.

(2) 2.4. should be compared with the fact that any formal

group over a torsion free ring A is isomorphic to the additive formal group $x + y$ over $A \otimes \mathbb{Q}$.

For the proof of 1.5. (and also for the next section) we need some preparation. Recall that a groupoid is a small category in which every morphism is an isomorphism. Let k be a commutative ring, $\underline{\text{Alg}}_k$ the category of k -algebras. By a groupoidscheme over k we mean a representable functor $G: \underline{\text{Alg}}_k \rightarrow \underline{\text{Groupoids}}$ from $\underline{\text{Alg}}_k$ to the category of groupoids. Here representable simply means that the two set-valued functors $A \mapsto \text{ob}(G(A))$ and $A \mapsto \text{mor}(G(A))$ are representable. For all A we have morphisms (natural in A)

$$2.5. \quad \text{mor } G(A) \cong \text{Hom}_{\underline{\text{Alg}}_k}(C, A) \begin{array}{c} \rightarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{array} \text{Hom}_{\underline{\text{Alg}}_k}(B, A) \cong \text{ob } G(A)$$

which are induced by the maps source, target and identity of the category $G(A)$. 2.5. gives rise to k -algebra homomorphisms $\eta_L, \eta_R: B \rightarrow C$ and $\varepsilon: C \rightarrow B$. Furthermore, the composition of morphisms in $G(A)$ is represented by a map $\psi: C \rightarrow C \otimes_B C$ and all these data together make (B, C) into a Hopf algebroid (see [9][10]).

For any \mathbb{F}_p -algebra A consider the set $\text{TI}_n(A)$ of triples (F, G, ϕ) where F, G are p -typical formal groups of height $n \geq n$ over A and $\phi: G \rightarrow F$ is an isomorphism. $\text{TI}_n(A)$ is a groupoid in an obvious sense and we get a functor

$$\text{TI}_n(-): \underline{\text{Alg}}_{\mathbb{F}_p} \rightarrow \underline{\text{Groupoids}} .$$

$\text{TI}_n(-)$ is just the height $\geq n$ analog of Landweber's functor $\text{TI}(-)$ of [8] and we put $\text{TI}_0(A) := \text{TI}(A) = \{(F, G, \phi)\}$, $\phi: G \rightarrow F$ an isomorphism between arbitrary p -typical formal groups over the $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -algebra A .

2.6. THEOREM. $\text{TI}_n(-)$ is a groupoidscheme over \mathbb{F}_p (resp. $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ if $n = 0$) which is represented by the Hopf algebroid $(\text{BP}_*/I_n, \text{BP}_*(\text{BP})/I_n)$.

Stated more explicitly we see in particular that if

$(F, G, \phi) \in \text{TI}_n(A)$, there exist unique ring homomorphisms $f: \text{BP}_*/I_n \rightarrow A$ and $g: \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots] \rightarrow A$ with the following properties. Consider the diagram

$$2.7. \quad \text{BP}_*/I_n \xrightarrow[\eta_R]{\eta_L} \text{BP}_*(\text{BP})/I_n \cong \text{BP}_*/I_n \otimes \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots] \xrightarrow{f \otimes g} A$$

Then F is represented by $(f \otimes g) \cdot \eta_L$, G by $(f \otimes g) \cdot \eta_R$ and

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{i \geq 0} F g(t_i) x^{p^i}.$$

Proof of 2.6.: For $n = 0$, this is just a reformulation of the combination of theorem 1 and theorem 2 of [8]. The assertion for $n > 0$ is a consequence of the case $n = 0$, because the ideal I_n is invariant.

We will need the following lemma:

2.8. LEMMA. Let $b \in \bar{J}_n \subset \bar{B}(n)_*$ be a homogeneous element and i an arbitrary natural number. Then the equation

$$2.9. \quad b - v_n^{p^i} x + v_n x^{p^n} = 0$$

has a (homogeneous) solution in $\bar{J}_n \subset \bar{B}(n)_*$

Proof: Define $z = \sum_{j=1}^{j=\infty} z_j \in \bar{J}_n \subset \bar{B}(n)_*$ recursively by $z_1 = v_n^{-p^i} b$, $z_{j+1} = v_n^{1-p^i} z_j^{p^n}$. We show that z is a solution of 2.9.. Because we are working mod p , one sees that for all $r \geq 1$, $\sum_{j=r}^{j=\infty} z_j$ is a solution of the equation

$$(a) \quad v_n^{p^i} z_r - v_n^{p^i} x + v_n x^{p^n} = 0$$

iff $\sum_{j=r+1}^{j=\infty} z_j$ solves

$$(b) \quad v_n^{p^i} z_{r+1} - v_n^{p^i} x + v_n x^{p^n} = 0.$$

But $v_n^{p^i} z_{r+1} \equiv 0 \pmod{\bar{J}_n^{p^{rn}}}$ by the definition of z , so $x = 0$ solves (b) over $\bar{B}(n)_*/\bar{J}_n^{p^{rn}}$. Using the above observation, one sees that $\sum_{j=1}^{j=r} z_j$ solves 2.9. over the

ring $\bar{B}(n)_*/\bar{J}_n^{rn}$. Because $\bar{B}(n)_* = \lim_{\leftarrow k} B(n)_*/J_n^k \cong \lim_{\leftarrow k} \bar{B}(n)_*/\bar{J}_n^k$ and the construction is compatible with the reduction maps, the result follows.

We are now ready for the

Proof of theorem 1.5.: (A) Existence of an isomorphism

$\phi_n: F_{B(n)} \rightarrow F_{K(n)}$ over $\bar{B}(n)_*$. For $k \geq 0$ we will inductively construct a sequence of formal groups F_k and isomorphisms $\psi_k: F_k \rightarrow F_{k+1}$ over $\bar{B}(n)_*$ such that $F_0 = F_{B(n)}$ and the following conditions are satisfied:

$$(i)_k \quad \psi_k(x) \equiv x \pmod{(\deg p^k)}$$

(ii)_k Let $f_k: BP_*/I_n \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*$ be the classifying homomorphism of F_k . Then $f_k(v_n) = v_n$, $f_k(v_{n+1}) = f_k(v_{n+2}) = \dots = f_k(v_{n+k}) = 0$ and $f_k(v_{n+k+1}) \in \bar{J}_n$.

Assuming this proved for the moment, an isomorphism ϕ_n is obtained as follows. From (i)_k we see that the sequence of compositions

$$\phi^{(m)} = \psi_{m-1} \circ \dots \circ \psi_0: F_0 \xrightarrow{\sim} F_m$$

converges (in the power series topology) to some power series $\phi_n(x) \in \bar{B}(n)_*[[x]]$. If we put

$$F_\infty = \phi_n F_{B(n)} (\phi_n^{-1}(x), \phi_n^{-1}(y)) ,$$

$\phi_n: F_{B(n)} \rightarrow F_\infty$ is by definition an isomorphism. From the definition of $\phi_n(x)$ and condition (ii)_k one sees that the classifying map f_∞ of F_∞ is given by $f_\infty(v_{n+i}) = v_n$ if $i=0$ and 0 otherwise. This shows that $F_\infty = F_{K(n)}$.

To construct the F_k and ψ_k we proceed as follows. Suppose $m \geq 0$ and assume inductively that a formal group F_m which satisfies condition (ii)_m has been constructed (remember $F_0 = F_{B(n)}$). Consider the equation

$$2.10. \quad f_m(v_{n+m+1}) - v_n^p x + v_n x^p = 0 .$$

Because $f_m(v_{n+m+1}) \in \bar{J}_n$ by our hypothesis, it follows from lemma 2.8. that 2.10. has a solution $a_{m+1} \in \bar{J}_n \subset \bar{B}(n)_*$. We

define a homomorphism $g_{m+1}: \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots] \rightarrow \overline{B}(n)_*$ of \mathbb{F}_p -algebras by $g_{m+1}(t_{m+1}) = a_{m+1}$ and $g(t_i) = 0$ if $i \neq m+1$. Then we put

$$f_{m+1} := (f_m \otimes g_{m+1}) \circ \eta_R: BP_* / I_n \rightarrow \overline{B}(n)_*$$

$$\psi_m(x) := \{x + \sum_{m+1}^F a_{m+1} x^{p^{m+1}}\}^{-1}$$

$$F_{m+1} := (f_{m+1})_* F_{BP/I_n}$$

From theorem 2.6. we see that $\psi: F_m \rightarrow F_{m+1}$ is an isomorphism. Clearly, $\psi_m(x) \equiv x \pmod{(\text{degree } p^{m+1})}$, so to finish the induction it suffices to show that f_{m+1} has the property (ii)_{m+1}. Because $f_m(v_n) = v_n$ and $\eta_R(v_n) = v_n$ one has $f_{m+1}(v_n) = v_n$. Now recall the relation ([12])

$$2.11. \quad \eta_R(v_{n+i}) \equiv v_{n+i} - v_n^p t_i + v_n t_i^p \pmod{A_{n+i}}$$

where A_{n+i} denotes the ideal $(v_{n+1}, \dots, v_{n+i-1}, t_1, \dots, t_{i-1})$ of $BP_*(BP)/I_n$. From the relation 2.11., the fact that f_m satisfies the condition (ii)_m and the definition of g_{m+1} it follows that $f_{m+1}(v_{n+1}) = \dots = f_{m+1}(v_{n+m+1}) = 0$. Because both v_{n+m+2} and $a_{m+1} = g(t_{m+1})$ lie in \overline{J}_n , 2.11. also implies $f_{m+1}(v_{n+m+2}) \in \overline{J}_n$. This ends the induction and the existence proof for ϕ_n .

(B) Uniqueness of ϕ_n . Clearly, the reduction mod \overline{J}_n of $F_{B(n)}$ is just $F_{K(n)}$. The uniqueness statement of theorem 1.5. is proved if we can show that the homomorphism of abelian groups induced by reduction mod \overline{J}_n

$$\alpha: \text{Hom}_{\overline{B}(n)_*} (F_{K(n)}, F_{B(n)}) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{K(n)_*} (F_{K(n)}, F_{K(n)})$$

is injective. Suppose $f: F_{K(n)} \rightarrow F_{B(n)}$ is a homomorphism such that $\alpha(f) = 0$. Then $f(x) \in \overline{J}_n^r[x]$ for some $r \geq 1$. Now

$$f(F_K(x, y)) = F_B(f(x), f(y)) = f(x) + f(y) + \sum_{i, j \geq 1} a_{ij} f(x)^i f(y)^j$$

so

$$f([p]_{F_K}(x)) = f(v_n x^{p^n}) \equiv 0 \pmod{\bar{J}_n^{r+1}}$$

which implies that $f(x) \equiv 0 \pmod{\bar{J}_n^{r+1}}$. By induction one sees that $f(x) \in \bar{J}_n^r[[x]]$ for all r , so the coefficients of f lie in $\bigcap_r \bar{J}_n^r$ but this is 0 because $\bar{B}(n)_*$ is Hausdorff. This ends the proof of theorem 1.5..

2.12.REMARK. The formal groups $F_{K(n)}$ and $F_{B(n)}$ are not isomorphic over $B(n)_*$. This may be seen as follows. Suppose $\psi: F_{K(n)} \rightarrow F_{B(n)}$ is an isomorphism over $B(n)_*$. This means (see theorem 2.6.) that there exists a ring homomorphism $g: \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots] \rightarrow B(n)_*$ such that $\alpha = (\text{id} \otimes g) \circ \eta_R: B(n)_* \rightarrow B(n)_*$ represents $F_{K(n)}$. In particular, $\alpha(v_{n+1}) = 0$. Using 2.11. this leads to

$$\alpha(v_{n+1}) = v_{n+1} - v_n^p g(t_1) + v_n g(t_1)^p = 0.$$

But this is impossible, because otherwise one would get an algebraic dependence between polynomial generators of $B(n)_*$ which is seen by inspecting $B(n)_{2(p-1)}$.

3. Proof of theorem 1.11.

From the definition of the spectrum $\bar{B}(n)$ given in the introduction we know that

$$\bar{B}(n)_*(X) \cong B(n)_*(X) \otimes_{B(n)_*} \bar{B}(n)_* .$$

From [15], lemma 2.5. and the mod I_n version ([9][16] etc) of Landweber's exact functor theorem [7] we see that

$$3.1. \quad \bar{B}(n)_* \bar{B}(n) \cong \bar{B}(n)_* \otimes_{P(n)_*} P(n)_* P(n) \otimes_{P(n)_*} \bar{B}(n)_*$$

as a Hopf algebroid. Clearly, $\bar{B}(n)_*(-)$ takes values in the category of $\bar{B}(n)_* \bar{B}(n)$ -comodules ([1]). Moreover, maps of ring spectra $\bar{B}(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)$ (of degree 0) are in 1-1-corres-

pondence with morphisms of $\bar{B}(n)_*$ -algebras $\bar{B}(n)_* \bar{B}(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*$. Using 3.1. we see that

$$\text{Hom}_{\bar{B}(n)_* \text{-alg}}(\bar{B}(n)_* \bar{B}(n), \bar{B}(n)_*) \cong \text{Hom}_{P(n)_* \text{-alg}}(P(n)_* P(n), \bar{B}(n)_*) .$$

From [16] 2.13. we know that

$$3.2. \quad P(n)_* P(n) \cong BP_* BP / I_{n_{P(n)_*}} \otimes \Lambda(a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$$

as an algebra where degree $a_i = 2p^i - 1$. Moreover, $BP_*(BP) / I_n$ is a sub-Hopf-algebroid of $P(n)_* P(n)$. Because $\bar{B}(n)^{\text{odd}} = 0$ it follows from 3.1. and the isomorphism above that maps of ring spectra $\bar{B}(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)$ are in 1-1-correspondence with homomorphisms of $P(n)_*$ -algebras

$$BP_*(BP) / I_n \cong P(n)_*[t_1, t_2, \dots] \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_* .$$

Let $\phi_n: F_{B(n)} \rightarrow F_{K(n)}$ be the canonical isomorphism of theorem 1.5. and put

$$\phi_n^{-1}(x) = \sum_{i \geq 0}^{F_{B(n)}} c_i x^{p^i} .$$

If $g: F_P[t_1, t_2, \dots] \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*$ denotes the ring homomorphism defined by $g(t_i) = c_i$ we denote by Ω_n the map of ring spectra $\bar{B}(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)$ which corresponds to $\text{id} \otimes g: BP_* BP / I_n \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*$. Then $\Omega_n(u_n) = \phi_n(u_n)$ by definition and Ω_n is obviously uniquely determined by this condition. From theorem 2.6. and the definition of g we see that on the coefficients, Ω_n is just the composition $\bar{B}(n)_* \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_* / \bar{J}_n \cong K(n)_* \subset \bar{B}(n)_*$. Next, we must show that $\Omega_n^2 = \Omega_n$. Ω_n^2 is represented by the composition

$$\alpha: BP_* BP / I_n \xrightarrow{\psi} BP_* BP / I_{n_{BP_* / I_n}} \otimes BP_* BP / I_n \xrightarrow{\beta} \bar{B}(n)_*$$

where $\beta = (\text{id} \otimes g) \cdot (\text{id} \otimes g)$. Observe that $\psi \circ \eta_R(x) = 1 \otimes \eta_R(x)$. So it follows from theorem 2.6. and the definition of g that α represents an isomorphism of formal groups $F_{K(n)} \rightarrow F_{B(n)}$. Because $\alpha(t_i) \in \bar{J}_n$ for $i > 0$, the uniqueness statement of theorem 1.5. implies that $\alpha = (\text{id} \otimes g)$, so $\Omega_n^2 = \Omega_n$.

From the properties of Ω_n proved till now we see that $\text{im}\{\Omega_n: \bar{B}(n) \star (X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n) \star (X)\}$ is a multiplicative and complex-oriented cohomology theory with coefficient ring isomorphic to $K(n) \star$ and formal group $F_{K(n)}$. But this implies (see [15], 1.8.) that there is a canonical isomorphism

$$\text{im}\{\Omega_n: \bar{B}(n) \star (X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n) \star (X)\} \cong K(n) \star (X)$$

of complex-oriented ring theories. This completes the proof of theorem 1.11..

4. Miscellaneous remarks and applications

4.1. We will first describe how theorem 1.11. leads to a simple model for the Hopf algebroid $\bar{B}(n) \star \bar{B}(n)$ ($p > 2$). Let us write Σ_n for the Hopf algebra $K(n) \star K(n)$ whose structure maps we denote by ϵ_K, ψ_K and c_K . We consider $(\bar{B}(n) \star, \bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star)$ as a Hopf algebroid with structure maps $\tilde{\eta}_L, \tilde{\eta}_R, \tilde{c}_n, \tilde{\epsilon}_n$ and $\tilde{\psi}_n$ given by $\tilde{\eta}_L(u) = u \otimes 1 \otimes 1$, $\tilde{\eta}_R(u) = 1 \otimes 1 \otimes u$, $\tilde{\epsilon}_n(u \otimes x \otimes v) = u \cdot \epsilon_K(x) \cdot v$, $\tilde{c}_n(u \otimes x \otimes v) = v \otimes c_K(x) \otimes u$ and $\tilde{\psi}_n$ the composition

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\psi}_n: \bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star &\rightarrow \bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star \\ &\rightarrow (\bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star) \otimes_{\bar{B}(n) \star} (\bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star) \end{aligned}$$

From theorem 1.11. we know that there is a canonical map of ring spectra $\iota_n: K(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)$.

4.1.1. PROPOSITION. There is an isomorphism of Hopf algebroids

$$\phi: \bar{B}(n) \star \otimes_{K(n) \star} \Sigma_n \otimes_{K(n) \star} \bar{B}(n) \star \rightarrow \bar{B}(n) \star \bar{B}(n)$$

where $\phi(u \otimes x \otimes v) = u \cdot (\iota_n \wedge \iota_n) \star (x) \cdot v$.

Proof: Apply [15], lemma 2.5..

4.2. It is possible to give a functorial interpretation of the isomorphism 4.1.1. from the point of view of formal groups, at least if one neglects the exterior parts of the Hopf algebroids considered. Set $\Gamma_n = \overline{B}(n)_* \overline{B}(n) / (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$ and $\Lambda_n = K(n)_* K(n) / (a_0, \dots, a_{n-1})$. For any \mathbb{F}_p -algebra A consider the groupoid $\overline{TI}_n(A)$ of triples (F, G, ϕ) where F and G are p -typical formal groups of strict height n over A and ϕ is an isomorphism $c_* G \rightarrow c_* F$ over the ring $F_G^A := \overline{B}(n)_* \otimes_f A \otimes_g \overline{B}(n)_*$ ($c: A \rightarrow F_G^A$ denotes the obvious map and f, g are the classifying homomorphisms of F resp. G). Using theorem 2.6. it is easy to see that $\overline{TI}_n(-)$ is a groupoidscheme represented by the Hopf algebroid Γ_n . From theorem 2.4. we see that every isomorphism $\phi: c_* G \rightarrow c_* F$ may be written in the form (with a slight abuse of notation)

$$c_* G \xrightarrow{\phi_G} F_{K(n)} \xrightarrow{\Theta} F_{K(n)} \xrightarrow{\phi_F^{-1}} c_* F$$

where Θ is an automorphism of $F_{K(n)}$. Because as a Hopf algebra, $\Lambda_n \cong K(n)_* \otimes_{BP_*} BP \otimes_{BP_*} K(n)_*$, one sees using 2.6.

that for every $K(n)_*$ -algebra A , $\text{Aut}_A(F'_{K(n)}) \cong \text{Hom}_{K(n)_* \text{-alg}}(\Lambda_n, A)$ where $F'_{K(n)}$ is the formal group over A induced from $F_{K(n)}$ via $K(n)_* \rightarrow A$. So one gets a natural isomorphism of groupoid-valued functors

$$\text{Hom}_{\text{rings}}(\overline{B}(n)_* \otimes_{K(n)_*} \Lambda_n \otimes_{K(n)_*} \overline{B}(n)_*, A) \cong \overline{TI}_n(A)$$

and it follows that $\Gamma_n \cong \overline{B}(n)_* \otimes_{K(n)_*} \Lambda_n \otimes_{K(n)_*} \overline{B}(n)_*$ as Hopf

algebroids. This may be used to give a simple proof of Morava's "structure theorem for cobordism comodules" (see [10] for a treatment of these questions in a somewhat different context).

4.3. There is a $\overline{B}(n)_*(-)$ -analog of theorem 1.1., i.e. there is an equivalence of multiplicative homology theo-

ries with values in the category of $\bar{B}(n)_* \bar{B}(n)$ -comodules

$$4.3.1. \quad \bar{\omega}_X: \bar{B}(n)_*(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} \bar{B}(n)_*(K(n)) \quad \square \quad K(n)_*(X) \\ K(n)_* K(n)$$

The proof goes as in [15]. The fact that one has a morphism of ring spectra $i_n: K(n) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)$ implies that there is an isomorphism of rings, $(\bar{B}(n)_*, K(n)_*)$ -bimodules and right- $K(n)_* K(n)$ -comodules

$$4.3.2. \quad \theta: \bar{B}(n)_*(K(n)) \cong \bar{B}(n)_* \otimes_{K(n)_*} K(n)_* K(n)$$

whose inverse is given by $u \otimes x \mapsto u \cdot (i_n \wedge \text{id})_*(x)$ (see [15], 2.5. and 2.6.). (note that the isomorphism 1.2. for $B(n)$ instead of $\bar{B}(n)$ is not multiplicative). 4.3.2. may be used to give an explicit description of $i_n^X: K(n)_*(X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*(X)$. Let $i: K(n)_* \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*$ be the inclusion and denote by Δ_X the coaction map of $K(n)_*(X)$. The image of the map $\alpha = (\theta^{-1} \otimes \text{id}) \circ (i \otimes \text{id} \otimes \text{id}) \circ \Delta_X: K(n)_*(X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_* K(n) \otimes_{K(n)_*} X$

is contained in $\bar{B}(n)_*(K(n)) \square K(n)_*(X)$ and one obtains $i_n^X(x) = \omega_X^{-1} \alpha_X(x)$.

4.4. It is possible to generalise slightly the isomorphism of corollary 1.12.. Let $E^*(-)$ be a multiplicative cohomology theory with coefficient ring E^* of characteristic $p > 2$, \mathbb{C} -oriented by $u \in E^2(\mathbb{C}P_\infty)$. Because E^* is an F - p -algebra, there is a canonical change of orientation, $u^\xi = \xi(u)$, such that the formal group F associated to u^ξ is p -typical ([1][3][4]). Now assume that F is of strict height n . Using the notations of section 2 we define $\bar{E}_F^*(-) := E^*(-) \otimes_{E^*} \bar{E}_F^*$.

4.4.1. PROPOSITION. $\bar{E}_F^*(-)$ is a cohomology theory over \bar{W}_F and there is a natural and multiplicative isomorphism

$$\chi_E: K(n)^*(-) \otimes_{K(n)_*} \bar{E}_F^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \bar{E}_F^*(-)$$

over \bar{W}_F such that $\chi_E(u^K \otimes 1) = \phi_F(u^\xi)$ where ϕ_F is as in 2.4.

If $E^{1-2pk} = 0$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$, χ_E is uniquely determined by this condition.

Proof: From [16], proposition 6.8., we see that there is a multiplicative transformation $\rho: P(n)*(-) \rightarrow E*(-)$ such that $\rho(u^p) = u^\xi$, unique if $E^{1-2pk} = 0$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$.

Because F is of strict height n it follows from the mod I_n version of Landweber's exact functor theorem that ρ extends uniquely to a multiplicative equivalence

$B(n)*(-) \otimes_{B(n)*} E^* \xrightarrow{\sim} E*(-)$ which, after tensoring with $\bar{B}(n)*$, leads to an isomorphism $\bar{B}(n)* \otimes_{B(n)*} \bar{E}_F^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \bar{E}_F^*(-)$ which we call $\bar{\rho}_n$. The isomorphism $\tilde{\iota}_n: \bar{B}(n)* \otimes_{K(n)*} K(n)*(-) \xrightarrow{\sim} \bar{B}(n)*(-)$ of corollary 1.12. has the property $\tilde{\iota}_n(1 \otimes u^K) = \phi_n(u^{\bar{B}})$ and, using again the universal property of $P(n)*(-)$ one sees that it is the only such isomorphism. Then $\chi_E = \bar{\rho}_n \circ \tilde{\iota}_n$ is the desired multiplicative equivalence.

4.4.2. EXAMPLE. Let $MU^*(-, \mathbb{F}_p)$ be complex cobordism theory with coefficients \mathbb{F}_p , $u \in MU^2(\mathbb{C}P_\infty, \mathbb{F}_p)$ the usual orientation class and F the p -typical formal group associated to u^ξ . Recall that $MU^*(S^0, \mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, x_2, \dots]$. The polynomial generators x_i may be chosen such that $[p]_{\mathbb{F}_p}(T) = \sum_{i>0} x_i T^{p^i-1}$ (see [3], §6 and 2.2.). Let G denote the multiplicative summand in the Adams splitting [1] of $K^*(-, \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})$. Then ([15], 1.9.) $G(-, \mathbb{F}_p) \cong K(1)*(-)$ and from 4.4.1. we see that there is a canonical multiplicative isomorphism

$$\chi: G^*(X, \mathbb{F}_p) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} [v_1, v_1^{-1}] \wedge \xrightarrow{\sim} \overline{MU}_F^*(X, \mathbb{F}_p) \left[\frac{1}{x_{p-1}} \right]$$

where $\Lambda = \overline{MU}_F^*(S^0, \mathbb{F}_p) \left[\frac{1}{x_{p-1}} \right] \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x_{p-1}, x_{p-1}^{-1}] \left[x_i \mid i \neq p^k - 1 \mid \left[x_j \mid j = p^k - 1, k > 1 \right] \right]$.

4.5. In all topological parts of this paper we assumed that $p > 2$. For $p = 2$, the products in $\bar{B}(n)*(-)$ and $K(n)*(-)$ are not commutative (this is a non-trivial fact!) and the description of $\bar{B}(n)*\bar{B}(n)$ resp. $K(n)*K(n)$ is not so easy as in the case p odd. However, using a slightly

different method, it is possible to prove a version of theorem 1.11. also in the case $p=2$. We will perhaps come back to this and related questions concerning products in the case $p=2$ somewhere else.

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