

## 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  $\Omega_n$  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  $\theta_n$  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,

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

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

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

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  $c_n: B(n)^*(X) \rightarrow \overline{B}(n)^*(X)$  is injective (for all  $X$ ). Let  $\overline{B}(n)^*(-)$  be  $\mathbb{C}$ -oriented by  $u_n = c_n(e^{B(n)}(n))$ . Then  $F_{\overline{B}(n)}$  is just the extension of  $F_{B(n)}$  to  $\overline{B}(n)^*$ . 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

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

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

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

Moreover, there is a canonical isomorphism

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

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

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

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

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  $\pi_n$  and  $\iota_n$ , 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  $(F, G, \phi)$  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:

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

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

Assuming this proved for the moment, an isomorphism  $\phi_n$  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  $f_\infty$  of  $F_\infty$  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  $\psi_k$  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

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

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)<sub>m+1</sub>. 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)<sub>m</sub> 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  $\phi_n$ .

(B) Uniqueness of  $\phi_n$ . 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-

pendence 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  $\Omega_n$  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  $\Omega_n$  is obviously uniquely determined by this condition. From theorem 2.6. and the definition of  $g$  we see that on the coefficients,  $\Omega_n$  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  $\Omega_n^2 = \Omega_n$ .  $\Omega_n^2$  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  $\alpha$  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  $\Omega_n$  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  $\Sigma_n$  for the Hopf algebra  $K(n) \star K(n)$  whose structure maps we denote by  $\epsilon_K, \psi_K$  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  $(F, G, \phi)$  where  $F$  and  $G$  are  $p$ -typical formal groups of strict height  $n$  over  $A$  and  $\phi$  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  $\Gamma_n$ . 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  $\Theta$  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

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

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  $u \otimes x \mapsto u \cdot (i_n \wedge id)_*(x)$  (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  $\Delta_X$  the coaction map of  $K(n)_*(X)$ . The image of the map  $\alpha = (\theta^{-1} \otimes id) \circ (i \otimes id \otimes id) \circ \Delta_X: K(n)_*(X) \rightarrow \bar{B}(n)_*K(n) \otimes_{K(n)_*} X$

is contained in  $\bar{B}(n)_*(K(n)) \square_{K(n)_*K(n)} K(n)_*(X)$  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  $u^\xi$  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  $\phi_F$  is as in 2.4.



If  $E^{1-2pk} = 0$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ ,  $\chi_E$  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  $\rho$  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  $u^\xi$ . 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  $\Lambda = \overline{MU}_F^*(S^0, \mathbb{F}_p) \left[ \frac{1}{x_{p-1}} \right] \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x_{p-1}, x_{p-1}^{-1}] \left[ x_i \mid i \neq p^k - 1 \mid \lfloor x_j \rfloor_{j=p^k-1, k>1} \right]$ .

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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