

l-ADIC AND Z/l^∞ -ALGEBRAIC AND TOPOLOGICAL K-THEORY

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0. Introduction

Let l be an odd prime and let A be a commutative ring containing $1/l$. Let $K_*(A; Z/l^\nu)$ denote the mod l^ν algebraic K -theory of A [3]. As explained in [4] there exists a “Bott element” $\beta_\nu \in K_{2l^\nu-1(l-1)}(Z[1/l]; Z/l^\nu)$ and, using the K -theory product we may, following [16, Part IV], form

$$\mathcal{K}_i(A; Z/l) = K_i(A; Z/l^\nu)[1/\beta_\nu] \tag{0.1}$$

which is defined as the direct limit of iterated multiplication by β_ν . There is a canonical localisation map

$$\rho_\nu: K_i(A; Z/l^\nu) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_i(A; Z/l^\nu). \tag{0.2}$$

As explained in [15], the Lichtenbaum–Quillen conjecture for a regular ring A (or regular scheme X), having suitably nice étale cohomological properties, reduces to the study of the kernel of (0.2) when $i=2$. In [15] I characterised the kernel of ρ in dimension two when $\nu=1$. For simplicity suppose that A is a $Z[1/l, \xi_{l^\infty}]$ -algebra. In [15, §4.1] a commutative diagram is constructed of the following form, when $\nu=1$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K_2(A; Z/l^\nu) & \xrightarrow{\rho_\nu} & \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^\nu) \\
 \searrow H_\nu & & \swarrow I_\nu \\
 & & KU_0(BGLA; Z/l^\nu)
 \end{array} \tag{0.3}$$

It is shown that $\hat{H}_1(x) = H_K(x) - H_K(x)^l$ where H_K is the $KU_*(_, Z/l)$ -Hurewicz map. Since I_ν is one-one, this shows that, in dimension two,

$$\ker \rho_1 = \{x \in K_2(A; Z/l) \mid H_K(x) = H_K(x)^l\}.$$

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In [15] it is also shown that the Lichtenbaum–Quillen conjecture can be reduced to showing that $\ker \rho_1 = \ker H_K$.

In this paper we generalise these results to establish (0.3) for all $v \geq 1$ and we verify that these diagrams respect inverse and direct limits over v . The precise statement of our main result is given in Section 3.12. In addition, an implicit formula for \hat{H}_v is given, as a polynomial in the Dyer–Lashof operations of [10] applied to $H_K(x)$. This is given in Section 3.11(b).

Following the ideas of [15, Section 3], we use a description of $\mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v)$ in terms of Adams maps between Moore spaces to define I_v and to define a map $\rho'_v: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v)$ for which we can evaluate $I_v \rho'_v = \hat{H}_v$, then we show that the formula for \hat{H}_v and injectivity of I_v implies $\rho'_v = \rho_v$. These results are proved in Section 3. Sections 1, 2 contain preliminary $KU_*(-; Z/l^v)$ -theory calculations which are used to evaluate the adjoints of the Adams maps in KU_* -theory and thence to evaluate $\hat{H}_v = I_v \rho'_v$.

1. $PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^v)$

Let $K_*(-; Z/l^v)$ denote mod 2 graded unitary K -homology with coefficients mod l^v . For our purposes l will be an odd prime (although most of this section is valid when $l=2$, see Section 1.8) and $v \geq 1$ will be an integer. Let $P^n(v) = S^{n-1} \bigcup_{l^v} e^n$ for $n \geq 2$ and, as usual,

$$QX = \varinjlim_n \Omega^n \Sigma^n X.$$

Since QX is an infinite loopspace [12] its mod K -theory admits Dyer–Lashof operations as introduced in [6; 14]. More generally we have the Dyer–Lashof operations of McClure [10] (see also [11])

$$Q: K_i(QX; Z/l^v) \rightarrow K_i(QX; Z/l^{v-1}). \tag{1.1}$$

Using (1.1) [10] describes $K_*(QP^2(v); Z/l)$ from which we will evaluate the primitives, $PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^a)$, for $a \leq v$.

Recall that the inclusion, $i: Y \vee Y \rightarrow Y \times Y$, induces an injection, for any space Y ,

$$i_*: (K_*(Y; Z/l^a) \otimes 1) \oplus (1 \otimes K_*(Y; Z/l^a)) \hookrightarrow K_*(Y \times Y; Z/l^a).$$

The primitives are defined by

$$PK_*(Y; Z/l^a) = \{z \in K_*(Y; Z/l^a) \mid d_*(z) = i_*(z \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes z)\} \tag{1.2}$$

where $d: Y \rightarrow Y \times Y$ is the diagonal map.

Following [10] we have evident natural maps

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_*: K_a(Y; Z/l^r) &\rightarrow K_a(Y; Z/l^{r+s}) && \text{if } s \geq 1 \\ \pi: K_a(Y; Z/l^r) &\rightarrow K_a(Y; Z/l^r) && \text{if } 1 \leq t \leq r \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\beta_r: K_\alpha(Y; Z/l^r) \rightarrow K_{\alpha-1}(Y; Z/l^r).$$

Also the reduced K-groups of $P^2(v)$ are given by

$$\tilde{K}_0(P^2(v); Z/l^a) \cong Z/l^a \cong \tilde{K}_1(P^2(v); Z/l^a)$$

for $1 \leq a \leq v$. Let z generate $\tilde{K}_0(P^2(v); Z/l^v)$ and set $u = \pi(z) \in \tilde{K}_0(P^2(v); Z/l)$ then the v -th Bockstein of u is a generator, v , of $\tilde{K}_1(P^2(v); Z/l)$.

From [10, Theorem 5] we obtain the following calculation.

Proposition 1.3. *Let l be an odd prime then, as an algebra,*

$$K_\star(QP^2(v); Z/l) \cong Z/l[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_v] \otimes E[v_1, \dots, v_v]$$

where

$$u_i = \pi Q^{i-1}(z) \quad \text{and}$$

$$v_i = \pi \beta_{v-i+1}(Q^{i-1}(z)).$$

there $Q^j = Q(Q(\dots(Q(_))\dots))$, the j -th iterate of Q and $E(_)$ denotes an exterior algebra.

Proposition 1.4. *A basis for $PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l)$ is given by $\{u_1^{\alpha}; \alpha \geq 0\}$ and for $PK_1(QP^2(v); Z/l)$ by $\{v_i; 1 \leq i \leq v\}$.*

Proof. Firstly the operation, Q , is linear in odd degree so that each v_i is primitive because v_1 is. Here we have used the fact that in odd dimensions McClure’s operation, Q , covers the (linear) operation $Q': K_1(X; Z/l) \rightarrow K_1(X; Z/l)$ of [14] for any infinite loop-space, X . This means that $v_i = (Q')^{i-1}(v_1)$ and is therefore primitive as claimed.

However in even dimensions Q is not additive [14, p. 190] but satisfies instead the formula [10, Theorem 1(ii)]

$$Q(x + y) = Q(x) + Q(y) - \pi \left[\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \binom{p-1}{i}/l x^i y^{p-i} \right].$$

Hence $d_\star(u_j) \equiv u_j \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes u_j - \sum_i \binom{p-1}{i}/l u_{j-1}^i \otimes u_{j-1}^{p-i} \pmod{u_1, \dots, u_{j-2}}$ when u_1 is primitive.

Since $A = K_\star(QP^2(v); Z/l)$ is finitely generated we have an exact Milnor–Moore sequence $P(A^l) \twoheadrightarrow P(A) \xrightarrow{\lambda} Q(A)$, where A^l denotes the subalgebra of l -th powers. From the foregoing discussion it is clear that $\text{im}(\lambda)$ is generated by $\{u_1, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_v\}$ and the result follows from the Milnor–Moore sequence since $P(A^l) = P(A)^l$.

Now let X be an infinite loop-space and suppose $u \in K_0(X; Z/l^a)$ for $a \geq 2$. Define $x(u) \in K_0(X; Z/l^a)$ by the formula

$$x(u) = u^l + l_\star Q(u). \tag{1.5}$$

Lemma 1.6. *If $u \in PK_0(X; Z/l^a)$ in (1.5) then $x(u) \in PK_0(X; Z/l^a)$ also.*

Proof. Firstly

$$\begin{aligned} d_*(u^l) &= (u \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes u)^l \\ &= u^l \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes u^l + l \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} u^i \otimes u^{l-i} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Also, as mentioned above,

$$d_*Q(u) = Q(u) \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes Q(u) - \pi \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^l \binom{l}{i} u^i \otimes u^{l-i} \right\}$$

so that $x(u)$ is primitive since $l_*\pi$ is multiplication by l .

We can now state the main result of this section.

Theorem 1.7. *Let l be an odd prime. For $2 \leq a \leq v$, $PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^a)$ is generated by $\{\pi x^\alpha(x) \mid \alpha \geq 0\}$, where $x^\alpha(z) = x(x(\dots(x(z))\dots))$ is the α -th iterate of $x(_)$ and z generates $\tilde{K}_0(P^2(v); Z/l^v)$.*

Remark 1.8.

- (a) This result is true when $P^2(v)$ is replaced by $P^{2m}(v) = S^{2m-1} \bigcup_{1^v} e^{2m}$ for any $m \geq 1$.
- (b) The result is probably true, by an elaboration of the proof which is to follow, when $l=2$. The difficulty at the prime two lies in the non-commutative structure of $K_*(QX; Z/2)$ and in the fact that [10, Theorem 5] may not give the algebra structure when $l=2$.

1.9 In the proof of Theorem 1.7 we need the following facts concerning the behaviour of the Bockstein spectral sequence $\{E_r^*(X); r \geq 1\}$ for the space $X = QP^2(v)$. This behaviour follows the well-known pattern—some call it Henselian—of the Bockstein spectral sequences of [9]. In fact the proofs of the following assertions follow from the properties of the operations in [10, Theorems 1 and 4] in a manner analogous to that in which one deduces the results of [9] from the properties of the Pontrjagin squaring operation.

From Section 1.3, if $X = QP^2(v)$,

$$E_1^* = Z/l[u_1, \dots, u_v] \otimes E(v_1, \dots, v_v)$$

with $\beta_1(u_v) = d_1(u_v) = v_v$. Also d_1 is zero on the other generators. Hence

$$E_2^* = Z/l[u_1, \dots, u_{v-1}, u_v^l] \otimes E(v_1, \dots, v_{v-1}, v_v^{l-1}v_v).$$

More generally if $1 \leq s \leq a \leq v$ set $\hat{u}_j = u_j^{j^{+s-v-1}}$, $\hat{v}_j = u_j^{j^{+s-v-1}-1}v_j$ for $v+1-s < j \leq v$ then

$$E_s^* = Z/l[u_1, \dots, u_{v-s+1}, \hat{u}_{v-s+2}, \dots, \hat{u}_v] \otimes E(v_1, \dots, v_{v-s+1}, \hat{v}_{v-s+2}, \dots, \hat{v}_v)$$

with

$$d_s(\hat{u}_j) = \hat{v}_j \quad (j \geq v-s+2)$$

$$d_s(u_{v-s+1}) = v_{v-s+1}$$

} (1.10)

and $0 = d_s(u_j) = d_s(v_j)$ otherwise. Also, by the argument of Section 1.4, we have (for $s \leq v-1$) primitives

$$PE_s^0 = \langle u_1^{\alpha} \mid \alpha \geq 0 \rangle$$

$$PE_s^1 = \langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{v-s+1}, \hat{v}_{v-s+2}, \dots, \hat{v}_v \rangle.$$

(1.11)

Proof of Theorem 1.7. Let $w \in PK_0(X; Z/l^a)$ and consider the following exact sequence

$$K_1(X; Z/l^{a-1}) \xrightarrow{\beta} K_0(X; Z/l) \xrightarrow{(l^{a-1})_*} K_0(X; Z/l^a) \xrightarrow{\pi} K_0(X; Z/l^{a-1}).$$

(1.12)

By induction on a , starting with Section 1.4, $\pi(w) = \sum_{\alpha} \lambda_{\alpha} \pi x^{\alpha}(z)$ so $y = w - \sum_{\alpha} \lambda_{\alpha} \pi x^{\alpha}(z) = (l^{a-1})_{*}(r)$ is a primitive ($r \in K_0(X; Z/l)$). Furthermore there exists $t \in K_1(X \times X; Z/l^{a-1})$ such that the diagonal satisfies $d_{*}(r) = r \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes r + \beta(t)$. Since $d_1 \beta(t) = 0$, $d_1(r) \in PE_1^1 \cap \text{im}(d_1)$. By (1.10) and (1.11)

$$d_1(r) = \lambda v_v = d_1(\lambda u_v)$$

so that $x = r - \lambda u_v$ is a d_1 -cycle with diagonal given by

$$d_{*}(x) = x \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x + \beta(t) + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} ((i)/l) u_{v-1}^i \otimes u_{v-1}^{-i}.$$

Now $\beta(t)$ is d_{a-1} -boundary. Hence if $a=2$ the class of x in E_2^* satisfies

$$d_{*}[x] = [x] \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes [x] + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} ((i)/l) u_{v-1}^i \otimes u_{v-1}^{-i}.$$

However, the reduced diagonal of any canonical generator in E_2^* is a polynomial in u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{v-2} and u_{v-1}^l , from which it is straightforward to see that $\lambda=0$. Thus $[x] \in PE_2^0$ so that, by (1.11) $x = \sum \mu_{\alpha} u_1^{\alpha} \pmod{\text{im } \beta_1}$ whence (since $l_{*}\beta_1 = 0$)

$$l_{*}(x) = \sum \mu_{\alpha} l_{*}(u_1^{\alpha})$$

$$= \sum \mu_{\alpha} l_{*}(\pi x^{\alpha}(z)) = \sum \mu_{\alpha} l^{a-1} x^{\alpha}(z)$$

as required. Here we have used that if $q \in K_0(X; Z/l^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 l_*\pi(x(q)) &= lx(q) = lq^l + ll_*Q(q) \\
 &= lq^l
 \end{aligned}$$

since $lQ(q) = 0$.

Now suppose $a \geq 3$. Since $\beta(t)$ is a d_{a-1} -boundary it is a d_2 -cycle. Let $s = d_2(x)$ then, in $E_2^*(X \times X)$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_*(s) &= s \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes s \\
 &+ \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} u_{v-1}^{i-1} v_{v-1} \otimes u_{v-1}^{l-i} \\
 &+ \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} u_{v-1}^i \otimes (l-i) u_{v-1}^{l-i-1} v_{v-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

As in the case $a=2$ it is straightforward to show that the last two terms in the above expression can only be the reduced diagonal of an element of E_2^1 if $\lambda=0$. Hence $x=r$ and $d_2(r) \in PE_2^1$ whence by (1.10) and (1.11)

$$d_2(r) = \lambda_1 v_{v-1} + \lambda_2 \hat{v} = d_2(\lambda_1 u_{v-1} + \lambda_2 \hat{u}_v).$$

Now write

$$x_2 = r - \lambda_1 u_{v-1} - \lambda_2 u_v^l \in K_0(X; Z/l)$$

so that x_1 is a d_2 -cycle with diagonal in $E_2^*(X \times X)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_*(x_2) &= x_2 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x_2 + \beta(t) \\
 &+ \lambda_1 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} u_{v-2}^i \otimes u_{v-2}^{l-i} \right) \\
 &+ \lambda_2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} \hat{u}_{v-1}^i \otimes \hat{u}_{v-1}^{l-i} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding thus suppose we have constructed a d_s -cycle ($s \leq a-2$)

$$x_s = r - \lambda_1 u_{v-s+1} - \lambda_2 u_{v-s+2}^l - \dots - \lambda_s u_v^{l^{s-1}} \in K_0(X; Z/l)$$

whose diagonal in $E_s^*(X \times X)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_*(x_s) &= x_s \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x_s + \beta(t) \\
 &\quad + \lambda_1 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} u_{v-s}^i \otimes u_{v-s}^{l-i} \right) \\
 &\quad + \dots \\
 &\quad + \lambda_s \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} \hat{u}_{v-1}^i \otimes \hat{u}_{v-1}^{l-i} \right).
 \end{aligned}$$

As above, applying d_s , and observing $d_s \beta(t) = 0$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_s d_*(x_s) &= d_*(d_s x_s) \\
 &= d_s x_s \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes d_s x_s + \dots \\
 &\quad + \lambda_s \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} i \hat{u}_{v-1}^{i-1} \hat{v}_{v-1} \otimes \hat{u}_{v-1}^{l-i} \right) \\
 &\quad + \lambda_s \left(\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \binom{l}{i} \hat{u}_{v-1}^i \otimes (l-i) \hat{u}_{v-1}^{l-i-1} \hat{v}_{v-1} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

and again the only manner in which the last $2s$ terms in the above expression to appear in the reduced diagonal of an element of $E_2^*(X)$ is for $\lambda_1 = \dots = \lambda_s = 0$.

By induction we see that $r (= x_{a-1})$ is a d_{a-1} -cycle which represents a primitive in $E_a^0(X)$. Hence, by (1.11), $r = \sum \gamma_\alpha u_1^{l^\alpha} \pmod{\text{im } \beta}$ so (since $(l^{a-1})_* \beta = 0$)

$$\begin{aligned}
 (l^{a-1})_*(r) &= (l^{a-1})_*(\sum \gamma_\alpha u_1^{l^\alpha}) \\
 &= \sum \gamma_\alpha (l^{a-1})_* \pi(x^\alpha(z)) \\
 &= \sum \gamma_\alpha l^{a-1} x^\alpha(z),
 \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. In this last step we have used the fact that if $q \in K_0(X; Z/l^v)$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
 (l^{a-1})_* \pi(x(q)) &= l_*^{-1} \pi(q^l) + l_*^{-1} \pi_* Q(q) \\
 &= l^{a-1} \pi(q)^l + (l^{a-1})_* \pi'(lQ(q))
 \end{aligned}$$

(where π' is reduction mod l from $K_0(X; Z/l^{v-1})$)

$$= l^{a-1} \pi(q)^l.$$

Let BU denote the classifying space for unitary K -theory [2, Part III]. Let

$f: P^2(v) \rightarrow BU$ represent a generator of $\pi_2(BU; Z/l^v)$ and let $F: QP^2(v) \rightarrow BU$ denote the infinite loop map (unique up to homotopy) which gives f upon restriction to $P^2(v)$.

Corollary 1.13. *Let l be an odd prime and $v \geq 1$ then*

$$F_*: PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l) \rightarrow PK_0(BU; Z/l^v)$$

is injective.

Proof. The Q -operation of [10, Theorem 1] induces an endomorphism of $K_0(BU; Z/l)/\mathcal{D}$, where \mathcal{D} denotes the decomposables in the algebra structure induced by Whitney sum of bundles. From [10, p. 3] this endomorphism, also denoted by Q , coincides with the operation constructed in [14] and computed for BU in [14, Section 6]. Hence the image of $x^a(z) \in PK_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^v)$ in $K_0(BU; Z/l)/\mathcal{D}$ is $Q^a(v_1)$, when $KU_0(BU; Z/l) = Z/l[v_1, v_2, \dots]$ in the notation of [14, Section 6]. By [14, Section 6] the images $F_\alpha(z), F(x(z)), F_*(x^2(z)), \dots$ are linearly independent mod l from which the result follows easily, since $K_0(BU; Z/l^v) = Z/l^v[v_1, v_2, \dots]$.

2. The effect of Adams' maps in K -theory

Let l be an odd prime.

In [1, Section 12] Adams showed that there exist the following interesting maps between Moore spaces,

$$A_v: P^{q+2l^{v-1}(l-1)}(v) \rightarrow P^q(v) \tag{2.1}$$

for q sufficiently large. As in Section 1, $P^m(v)$ denotes $S^{m-1}U_{1v}e^m$ ($m \geq 2, v \geq 1$). There exist homotopy commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P^{q+2l^{v-1}(l-1)}(v) & \xrightarrow{A_v} & P^q(v) \\
 \downarrow i & \searrow a_v & \downarrow j \\
 S^{q+2l^{v-1}(l-1)-1} & \xrightarrow{\alpha_v} & S^q
 \end{array} \tag{2.2}$$

in which i and j are the canonical inclusion and collapsing maps, respectively. The maps, A_v , are partially characterised by the following (equivalent) conditions

[1, Section 12.3]. Set $m = q + 2l^{v-1}(l-1)$.

$$(A_v)_*: K_*(P^m(v)) \rightarrow K_*(P^q(v)) \text{ is an isomorphism.} \tag{2.3(a)}$$

$$\text{the (unitary) } K\text{-theory } e\text{-invariant of } \alpha_v \text{ is } (-1/l^v). \tag{2.3(b)}$$

In fact α_v and α_v determine elements in the stable homotopy groups

$$\Pi_{2l^{v-1}(l-1)}^S(S^0; Z/l^v) \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi_{2l^{v-1}(l-1)-1}^S(S^0)$$

respectively. Each of these groups has a direct summand [1]—the image of the J -homomorphism—which is cyclic of order l^v . (2.3) suffices to determine the J -component of α_v and α_v .

We will see below that the effect of the adjoint of A_v in KU_* -theory is determined by (2.3).

Let A_v^s denote the s -th iterate of the map A_v of (2.1), considered as an S -map. Also denote by A_v^s the adjoint map

$$A_v^s: P^{2l^{v-1}(l-1)s+2}(v) \rightarrow QP^2(v). \tag{2.4}$$

As in Section 1,

$$QX = \varinjlim_n \Omega^n \Sigma^n X.$$

Let $k: P^m(v) \rightarrow P^m(v+1)$ and $n: P^m(v+1) \rightarrow P^m(v)$ be maps induced by (a choice of) an inclusion $Z/l^v \rightarrow Z/l^{v+1}$ and a surjection $Z/l^{v+1} \rightarrow Z/l^v$ respectively.

Theorem 2.5. *Let l be an odd prime. Let s, a and v be integers ($1 \leq s, 1 \leq a \leq v$). The following diagrams commute up to multiplication by an l -adic unit.*

(a) Let $m = 2l^{v-1}(l-1)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KU_0(P^{sm+2}(v); Z/l^a) & \xrightarrow{(A_v^s)_*} & KU_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^a) \\ \downarrow k_* & & \downarrow (Qk)_* \\ KU_0(P^{ms+2}(v+1); Z/l^a) & \xrightarrow{(A_{v+1}^s)_*} & KU_0(QP^2(v+1); Z/l^a) \end{array}$$

(b) Let $t = 2l^v(v-1)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KU_0(P^{ts+2}(v+1); Z/l^a) & \xrightarrow{(A_{v+1}^s)_*} & KU_0(QP^2(v+1); Z/l^a) \\ \downarrow n_* & & \downarrow (Qn)_* \\ KU_0(P^{ts+2}(v); Z/l^a) & \xrightarrow{(A_v^s)_*} & KU_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^a) \end{array}$$

Proof. (a) To see whether or not such a diagram commutes it suffices, by Section 1.13, to compare the homomorphisms induced by $FQ(k)A_v^{st}$ and by $FA_{v+1}^s k$ on $KU_0(-; Z/l^v)$. Here, as in Section 1.13, $F: QP^2(v+1) \rightarrow BU$ is the Ω^∞ -map extension of

$P^2(v+1) \xrightarrow{j} S^2 \xrightarrow{\beta} BU$ which generates $\pi_2(BU; Z/l^{v+1}) \cong Z/l^{v+1}$. This is because the generator of $KU_0(P^{sm+2}(v); Z/l^a)$ is equal to the image of the (primitive) generator of $KU_0(P^{sm+2}(v); Z/l^v)$. From [1, Section 12] one sees that the S -maps $P^{sm+2}(v) \rightarrow S^2$ given by the adjoints of $j \cdot A_{v+1}^s \cdot k$ and $j \cdot k A_v^{sl}$ both have e -invariant, $-1/l^v$. This means that the J -components of the maps $Q(j)A_{v+1}^s \cdot k$ and $Q(jk)A_v^{sl}: P^{sm+2}(v) \rightarrow QS^2$ are equal (up to multiplication by an l -adic unit, possibly). However there is an infinite loopmap $Q_0 S^0 \rightarrow Z \times \text{im } J$ which deloops to give $QS^2 \rightarrow B^2(\text{im } J)$, a map which is a $KU_*(-; Z/l^v)$ -isomorphism [7]. The space, $B^2(\text{im } J)$, detects precisely the J -component of $\pi_*(QS^2; Z/l^v)$ so the result follows from the factorisation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} QS^2 & \xrightarrow{F} & BU \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & B^2(\text{im } J) & \end{array}$$

(b) The proof of (b) is similar to that of (a).

3. The l -adic and Z/l^∞ -diagrams

Let l be an odd prime and let A be $Z[1/l, \zeta_{l^\infty}]$ -algebra where ζ_{l^n} is a primitive l^n -th root of unity and

$$Z[1/l, \zeta_{l^\infty}] = \varinjlim_n Z[1/l, \zeta_{l^n}].$$

Let $v \geq 1$ be an integer and let $\mathcal{K}_*(A; Z/l^v)$ denote Bott periodic algebraic K -theory (mod l^v) as defined in the introduction. Hence, by construction, $\mathcal{K}_*(A; Z/l^v)$ satisfies Bott periodicity with period $2l^{v-1}(l-1) = d_v$, say (i.e. $\mathcal{K}_i \cong \mathcal{K}_{i+d_v}$). Let

$$\rho_v: K_i(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_i(A; Z/l^v) = \varinjlim_n K_{i+nd_v}(A; Z/l^v) \tag{3.1}$$

denote the canonical localisation map.

There is an injective homomorphism [15, Section 3]

$$I_v: \mathcal{K}_i(A; Z/l^v) \hookrightarrow KU_i(BGLA; Z/l^v). \tag{3.2}$$

In this section we shall write KU_* for unitary (topological) K -theory—to distinguish it from algebraic K -theory.

The object of this section is to evaluate the compositions $\{I_v \cdot \rho_v; v \geq 1\}$ and to verify that they respect direct and inverse limits over v .

In order to construct I_v , one appeals to the results of [15, Section 3]. Suppose that

$$A_v: P^{q+d_v}(v) \rightarrow P^q(v) \quad (d_v = 2l^{v-1}(l-1))$$

is, as in Section 2, one of Adams' maps between Moore spaces. Since, for $i \geq 2$,

$$K_i(A; Z/l^v) = [P^i(v), BGLA^+]$$

we may form the direct limit

$$\varinjlim \left(K_i(A; Z/l^v) \xrightarrow{(\Sigma^{i-q}A_v)^*} K_{i+d_v}(A; Z/l^v) \xrightarrow{(\Sigma^{i+d_v-q}A_v)^*} \dots \right). \tag{3.3}$$

If $i \geq q$ the direct limit of (3.3) makes sense and, in [15, Section 3], it is shown to be isomorphic to $\mathcal{K}_i(A; Z/l^v)$. In addition this isomorphism identifies ρ of (3.1) with the map which sends $K_i(A; Z/l^v)$ in at the left of (3.3) by

$$\varinjlim_n (\Sigma^{i+nd_v-q}A_v)^*.$$

We may choose generators $z_{m,\alpha}$ of $KU_\alpha(P^m(v); Z/l^v) \cong Z/l^v$ in such a manner that

$$(\Sigma^{m-q}A_v)^*(z_{m,\alpha}) = z_{m-d_v,\alpha}.$$

If we make such choices then it is clear that the Hurewicz map induces a map from the direct limit of (3.3) to

$$KU_i(BGLA^+; Z/l^v) \cong KU_i(BGLA; Z/l^v)$$

(note that $KU_i \cong KU_{i+2m}$ for all m) defined by sending

$$f \in K_{i+nd_v}(A; Z/l^v) = [P^{i+nd_v}(v), BGLA^+]$$

to $f_*(z_{i+nd_v, i+nd_v})$. This defines I_v in (3.2).

Now we will construct maps

$$\rho'_{s,v}: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v). \tag{3.4}$$

If we identify $\mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v)$ and $\mathcal{K}_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v)$ —by Bott periodicity—then, up to an l -adic unit, $\rho_{s,v}$ will be independent of s , if s is large. The $\{\rho'_{s,v}\}$ are designed so that we can easily evaluate $I_v \cdot \rho'_{s,v}$. However, we shall show later that, for large s ,

$$\rho_v = \rho'_{v,s}: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v) \cong \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v).$$

3.5. Construction of $\rho'_{v,s}$

Let $A_v: P^{q+d_v}(v) \rightarrow P^q(v)$ denote the Adams map of (2.2), where q is chosen to be minimal. By adjoining the s -th composite of A_v (A_v^s considered as an S -map) we obtain, as in (2.4),

$$A_v^s: P^{2+sd_v}(v) \rightarrow QP^2(v).$$

If $f: P^2(v) \rightarrow BGLA^+$ represents $u = [f] \in K_2(A; Z/l^v)$ we may form the composite

$$P^{2+sd_v}(v) \xrightarrow{A_v^s} QP^2(v) \xrightarrow{Q(f)} Q(BGLA^+) \xrightarrow{D} BGLA^+ \tag{3.6}$$

where D is the structure map [12] of the infinite loop space structure on $BGLA^+$ which comes from the (direct sum) permutative category of finitely generated projective A -modules [13].

If $q < 2 + sd_v$ (3.6) gives a map (of sets)

$$\rho'_{s,v}: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow K_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v) \xrightarrow{\rho_v} \mathcal{K}_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v). \tag{3.7}$$

In (3.7) ρ_v is given, as mentioned above, by representing $\mathcal{K}_{2+sd_v}(A; Z/l^v)$ as the limit of (3.3).

Let $\hat{H}_v: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow KU_0(BGLA; Z/l^v) \cong KU_0(BGLA^+; Z/l^v)$ be defined by

$$\hat{H}_v[f] = D_* Q(f)_*(A_v^s)_{*(z_{2+sd_v,0})}.$$

By definition of I_v , in (3.2), the following diagram commutes, up to multiplication by an l -adic unit.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_2(A; Z/l^v) & \xrightarrow{\rho'_{s,v}} & \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v) \\ & \searrow \hat{H}_v & \downarrow I_v \\ & & KU_0(BGLA; Z/l^v) \end{array} \tag{3.8}$$

Since I_v is one-one in (3.8) Lemma 3.10 will imply that, up to an l -adic unit, $\rho'_{s,v}$ is independent of s when $2 + sd_v > q$. Hence we define, for $v \geq 1$,

$$\rho'_v = \rho'_{s,v}: K_2(A; Z/l^v) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v) \tag{3.9}$$

for some choice of s such that $2 + sd_v > q$. Thus ρ'_v is well-defined up to multiplication by an l -adic unit. In [15] it is shown that

$$\hat{H}_1(y) = H_K(y) - H_K(y)^l$$

where H_K is the $KU_*(_, Z/l)$ -Hurewicz map.

Lemma 3.10. *For $2 + sd_v > q$ the element*

$$(A_v^s)_{*(z_{2+sd_v,0})} \in KU_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^v)$$

is independent of s , up to multiplication by an l -adic unit.

Proof. As in the proof of Section 2.5, it suffices, by Section 1.13, to compute

$$F_*(A_v^s)_{*(z_{2+sd_v,0})} \in PKU_0(BU; Z/l^v).$$

However $F \cdot A_v^s$ generates $\pi_{2+sd_v}(BU; Z/l^v) \cong Z/l^v$ so that, up to l -adic units,

$$FA_v^{s+1} = (FA_v^s) \cdot (\Sigma^{2+sd_v-q} A_v)$$

and the result follows since

$$(\Sigma^{2+sd_v-q} A_v)_*: KU_0(P^{2+(s+1)d_v(v)}; Z/l^v) \rightarrow KU_0(P^{2+sd_v(v)}; Z/l^v)$$

is an isomorphism.

Recall [2, p. 47] that $KU_0(\mathbb{C}P^\infty; Z/l^v)$ has a basis β_1, β_2, \dots and that $KU_0(BU; Z/l^v) \simeq Z/l^v[\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots]$. Also, being an infinite loop space [13] (with the $+$ -structure) $KU_*(BU; Z/l^v)$ admits the action of Dyer–Lashof operations [10].

The following result gives the form of \hat{H}_v in (3.8).

Proposition 3.11.

(a) Let $b_{v,s}: P^{2+sd_v(v)} \rightarrow BU$ generate $\pi_{2+sd_v}(BU; Z/l^v) (\cong Z/l^v)$. There exist $\{a_{v,j} \in Z/l^v; j=1, 2, \dots\}$ such that

$$(b_{v,s})_*(z_{2+sd_v,0}) = u \left(\beta_1 + \sum_{j=1}^{N(v)} a_{v,j} X^j(\beta_1) \right).$$

Here u is an l -adic unit and, as in Section 1.5, $X(w) = w^l + l_* Q(w)$.

(b) Up to an l -adic unit, in (3.8)

$$\hat{H}_v(y) = H_K(y) + \sum_{j=1}^{N(v)} a_{v,j} X^j(H_K(y))$$

where H_K is the $KU_*(_, Z/l^v)$ -Hurewicz map.

Proof. Part (a) follows from Section 1.7, together with the fact that $b_{v,s}$ factorises as

$$P^{2+sd_v(v)} \xrightarrow{A_v^s} QP^2(v) \xrightarrow{F} BU.$$

Since F is an infinite loopmap $F_* X(y) = XF_*(y)$. By Section 1.13 F_* is one-one on $PKU_0(QP^2(v); Z/l^v)$ so that

$$(A_v^s)_*(z_{2+sd_v,0}) = u \left(z_{2,0} + \sum_{j=1}^{N(v)} a_{v,j} X^j(z_{2,0}) \right).$$

Therefore part (b) follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_v[f] &= D_* Q(f)_*(A_v^s)_*(z_{2+sd_v,0}) \\ &= u D_* Q(f)_* \left(z_{2,0} + \sum_j a_{v,j} X^j(z_{2,0}) \right) \\ &= u \left(D_* Q(f)_*(z_{2,0}) + \sum_j a_{v,j} X^j(D_* Q(f)_*(z_{2,0})) \right). \end{aligned}$$

since D and $Q(f)$ are infinite loopmaps,

$$= u \left(H_k[f] + \sum_j a_{v,j} X^j(H_k[f]) \right)$$

since

$$D_* Q(f)_*(z_2, 0) = f_*(z_2, 0) = H_k[f] \in KU_0(BGLA^+; Z/l^v).$$

Now we can state and prove our main result.

Theorem 3.12. *Let l be an odd prime and let A be a commutative $Z[1/l, \xi_{l^\infty}]$ -algebra. Then, up to l -adic units, the homomorphisms in (3.8) commute with direct and inverse limits over v . In addition ρ'_v of (3.9) may be identified with the natural localisation map, ρ_v . Consequently, we have the following commutative diagrams.*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varinjlim_v K_2(A; Z/l^v) & \xrightarrow{\varinjlim_v \rho_v} & \varinjlim_v \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^v) \\ \searrow \varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v & & \downarrow \varinjlim_v I_v \\ & & \varinjlim_v KU_0(BGLA; Z/l^v) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K_2(A; Z/l^\infty) & \xrightarrow{\varinjlim_v \rho_v} & \mathcal{K}_2(A; Z/l^\infty) \\ \searrow \varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v & & \downarrow \varinjlim_v I_v \\ & & KU_0(BGLA; Z/l^\infty) \end{array}$$

Proof. First it is clear that I_v , being induced by the KU -Hurewicz map applied to the direct limit of (3.3), commutes with the coefficient homomorphisms induced by $Z/l^v \twoheadrightarrow Z/l^{v+1}$ and $Z/l^{v+1} \twoheadrightarrow Z/l^v$. Hence both

$$\varinjlim_v I_v \quad \text{and} \quad \varinjlim_v I_v$$

exist and are injective.

Let us consider the $\left(\varinjlim_v\right)$ -case. We have a choice of routes. We could show that $\varinjlim_v \rho'_v$ (and thence $\varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v$) exists by showing that $\rho'_v = \rho_v$ and then appealing to properties of the latter. Instead we will show independently that $\varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v$ (and, by injectivity of I_v , also $\varinjlim_v \rho'_v$) exists. The $\left(\varinjlim_n\right)$ -case is proved in a similar manner.

Let $X = BGLA^+$ and let $d_v = 2l^{v-1}(l-1)$. Consider the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \pi_2(X; Z/l^{v+1}) & \xrightarrow{\hat{H}_{v+1}} & KU_0(X; Z/l^{v+1}) \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \pi_2(X; Z/l^v) & \xrightarrow{\hat{H}_v} & KU_0(X; Z/l^v)
 \end{array} \tag{3.13}$$

By definition, if $f: P^2(v+1) \rightarrow X$ represents a class $[f] \in K_2(A; Z/l^{v+1})$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \pi \hat{H}_{v+1}[f] &= \pi D_* Q(f)_*(A_{v+1}^s)_*(z_{2+sd_{v+1},0}) \\
 &= D_* Q(f)_*(A_{v+1}^s)_*(z_{2+sd_{v+1},0}) \\
 &= D_* Q(f)_*(A_{v+1}^s)_*(z_{2+std_{v,0}})
 \end{aligned}$$

since $\pi: KU_0(P^{2m}(v+1); Z/l^{v+1}) \rightarrow KU_0(P^{2m}(v+1); Z/l^v)$ is onto. On homotopy groups π is induced by the map, k , of Theorem 2.5(a). Therefore we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{H}_v \pi[f] &= D_* Q(fk)_*(A_v^{sl})_*(z_{2+std_{v,0}}) \\
 &= D_* Q(f)_* Q(k)_*(A_v^{sl})_*(z_{2+std_{v,0}}) \\
 &= D_* Q(f)_*(A_{v+1}^s)_* k_*(z_{2+std_{v,0}}) \\
 &= D_* Q(f)_*(A_{v+1}^s)_*(z_{2+std_{v,0}})
 \end{aligned}$$

since

$$k_*: KU_0(P^{2m}(v); Z/l^v) \rightarrow KU_0(P^{2m}(v+1); Z/l^v)$$

is an isomorphism. Therefore (3.13) commutes. A similar argument, using Theorem 2.5(b), shows that the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \pi_2(X; Z/l^v) & \xrightarrow{\hat{H}_v} & KU_0(X; Z/l^v) \\
 \downarrow i_* & & \downarrow i_* \\
 \pi_2(X; Z/l^{v+1}) & \xrightarrow{\hat{H}_{v+1}} & KU_0(X; Z/l^{v+1})
 \end{array} \tag{3.14}$$

From (3.13) and (3.14)

$$\varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v \quad \text{and} \quad \varinjlim_v \hat{H}_v$$

exist and therefore so do

$$\varprojlim_v \rho'_v \quad \text{and} \quad \varprojlim_v \rho'_v.$$

Finally we show that $\rho'_v = \rho_v$ by means of Section 3.11(b). Consider the external product in algebraic K-theory [8]

$$v: S^1 \wedge BGLA^+ \rightarrow BGLA[v, v^{-1}]^+.$$

The adjoint of v , together with the natural map, j , from $BGLA^+$, may be “added” to give a map

$$BGLA^+ \times \Omega BGLA^+ \xrightarrow{\alpha(j(v) + \alpha(j))} \Omega BGLA[v, v^{-1}]^+ \tag{3.15}$$

which is a homotopy equivalence when A is a regular ring, by [8] and the localisation sequence [5]. However, by [19], the localisation sequence exists with $\text{mod } l^v$ coefficients provided that l is invertible in A . Hence (3.15) is an equivalence ($\text{mod } l^v$). Thus $BGLA[v, v^{-1}]^+$ behaves like a “delooping” of $BGLA^+$ in the sense that the homomorphism, σ_v , defined by the diagram,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} KU_\alpha(BGLA^+; Z/l^v) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & KU_{\alpha+1}(S^1 \wedge BGLA^+; Z/l^v) \\ \sigma_v \searrow & & \swarrow v_* \\ & & KU_{\alpha+1}(BGLA[v, v^{-1}]^+; Z/l^v) \end{array}$$

satisfies the same properties with respect to Dyer–Lashof operations as does the usual suspension homomorphism

$$\sigma_*: KU_\alpha(\Omega X; Z/l^v) \rightarrow KU_{\alpha+1}(X; Z/l^v).$$

For example, $(\sigma_v)_*$ annihilates decomposables.

Therefore, by Section 3.11(b),

$$(\sigma_v)_*(H(y)) = (\sigma_v)_*(H_K(y)) + \sum_{j=1}^{N(v)} a_{v,j} l_* (\sigma_v)_* Q(X^{j-1}(H_K(y))).$$

From [10, Theorem 1(v)]

$$(\sigma_v)_* Q(z) = \begin{cases} Q(\sigma_v)_*(z) & \text{if } \text{deg}(z) \equiv 0(2), \\ \pi((\sigma_v)_*(z))^l + lQ(\sigma_v)_*(z), & \text{if } \text{deg}(z) \equiv 1(2). \end{cases}$$

Therefore, for large integers T

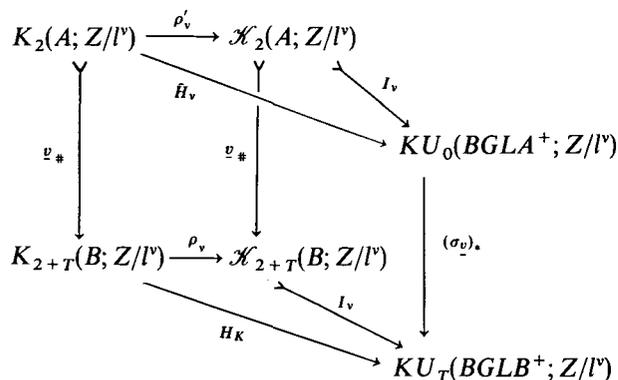
$$(\sigma_{v_T})_* (\sigma_{v_{T-1}})_* \dots (\sigma_{v_1})_* [\hat{H}_v(y) - H_K(y)] = 0 \tag{3.16}$$

in $KU_*(BGLB^+; Z/l^v)$, where

$$B = A[v_1, v_1^{-1}, \dots, v_T, v_T^{-1}].$$

Set $v = v_T v_{T-1} \dots v_1$ and $\sigma_v = \sigma_{v_T} \dots \sigma_{v_1}$.

Consider the following commutative diagram, for T large.



In (3.17) the lower triangle commutes if $2 + T \geq q$ in (3.3), $(\sigma_v)_* \hat{H}_v = H_K v_\#$ by (3.16), $(\sigma_v)_* I_v = I_v v_\#$ by well-known properties of the Hurewicz map (which induces I_v) and so $v_\# \rho'_v = \rho_v v_\#$, as I_v is injective. On the other hand the natural map satisfies $v_\# \rho_v = \rho_v v_\#$ so $\rho_v = \rho'_v$ because $v_\#$ is one-one.

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