

*Atti dell'Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti
Classe di Scienze Fisiche, Matematiche e Naturali
Vol. LXXXV, C1A0701004 (2007)
Adunanza del 15 maggio 2006*

ACTIONS OF FORMAL GROUPS ON SPECIAL QUOTIENTS OF ALGEBRAS

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(Nota presentata dal Socio Aggregato Marilena Crupi)

ABSTRACT. Let k be a field of characteristic $p > 0$ and let F be a one dimensional commutative formal group over k . The endomorphisms of a k -algebra A that defines an action of F on A when A is isomorphic to the quotient B/pB , with B torsion free $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra, are studied.

1. Introduction

If $F = F(X, Y)$ is a one dimensional commutative formal group over a field k and A is a k -algebra, an action D of F on A is a sequence of additive endomorphisms $\{D_i\}_{i \in \mathbf{N}}$ of A such that $D_0 = id_A$ and $\sum_{i,j} D_i \circ D_j(a) X^i Y^j = \sum_t D_t(a) F(X, Y)^t$, for every $a \in A$.

D_1 is always a derivation while the D_i 's, for $i > 1$, are only additive endomorphisms such that

$$D_n(ab) = \sum_{i+j=n} D_i(a) D_j(a), \text{ for every } n.$$

If $F = F_a = X + Y$, an action of F on a k -algebra is a strongly integrable differentiation in the sense of H. Matsumura [1, 2]. In particular if $\text{char}(k) = 0$, every endomorphism D_i can be expressed in terms of D_1 , for every i . In fact it is $D_i = \frac{1}{i!} D_1^i$, for every i .

If $\text{char}(k) = p > 0$ and $F = F_a$, if one considers the endomorphisms $D_1, D_p, \dots, D_{p^i}, \dots$, there is the nice formula [3]:

$$D_n = \frac{D_1^{n_0} D_p^{n_1} \dots D_{p^r}^{n_r}}{n_0! n_1! \dots n_r!}, \text{ for every } n > 0,$$

while if $F = F_m = X + Y + XY$, it is

$$D_n = \frac{(D_1)_{n_0} (D_p)_{n_1} \dots (D_{p^r})_{n_r}}{n_0! n_1! \dots n_r!}, \text{ for every } n > 0$$

where $(D_{p^i})_m = D_{p^i}(D_{p^i} - 1) \dots (D_{p^i} - m + 1) = \prod_{t=0}^{m-1} (D_{p^i} - t)$ and $n = n_0 + n_1 p + \dots + n_r p^r$, $0 \leq n_i < p$, is the p -adic expansion of n [4].

The problem is the following:

Let $\text{char}(k) = p > 0$ and let F be a one dimensional commutative formal group over k . Is it possible to express every D_n in terms of $D_1, D_p, \dots, D_{p^i}, \dots$, as when $F = F_a$ and $F = F_m$?

We give a positive answer when F acts on a k -algebra A which is a quotient of a torsion free $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra B , modulo the ideal generated by the prime number p , $p \in B$, that is $A \simeq B/pB$.

Precisely we prove the following result (Theorem 3.1):

Let k be a separably closed field of characteristic $p > 0$, F a one dimensional commutative formal group over k of height greater than 2, and let $D : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$ be an action of F on a k -algebra A that is isomorphic to B/pB , where B is a $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra and $B \hookrightarrow B \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{Q}$, with $\mathbf{Q}$ the rational number field.

Then we have

$$D_i \circ D_{p^j} = \binom{i + p^j}{i} D_{i+p^j},$$

for $j = 0, 1$ and for every $i \in N$.

From this expression, it will be possible to express every D_n in terms of $D_1, D_p, \dots, D_{p^i}, \dots$ (Corollary 3.3). Our result uses in a crucial way the structure theorem of one dimensional formal group over a separably closed field ([5], Chap. III, §2, Theorem 2).

2. Preliminaries

All rings are assumed to be commutative with a unit element. A local ring is assumed to be noetherian.

We recall that a one dimensional commutative formal group F over a ring k is a formal series $F(X, Y) \in k[[X, Y]]$ such that

- i) $F(X, 0) = X, F(0, Y) = Y,$
- ii) $F(F(X, Y), Z) = F(X, F(Y, Z))$
- iii) $F(X, Y) = F(Y, X)$

For simplicity a one dimensional commutative formal group over a ring k will be called a formal group over k .

The most known formal groups are the additive formal group $F_a = X + Y$ and the multiplicative formal group $F_m = X + Y + XY$.

An action of the formal group F on a k -algebra A is a morphism of k -algebras $D : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$ such that if $D(a) = \sum_i D_i(a)X^i$, $a \in A$, then

$$D_0 = \text{id}_A \text{ and } \sum_{i,j} D_i \circ D_j(a)X^iY^j = \sum_t D_t(a)F(X, Y)^t,$$

or every $a \in A$.

If F and G are formal groups over k , then a homomorphism $f : F \rightarrow G$ is a power series $f(X) \in k[[X]]$ such that $f(0) = 0$ and $f(F(X, Y)) = G(f(X), f(Y))$.

A homomorphism f is said to be an isomorphism if $f'(0)$ is an invertible element in k ($f'(X) = \partial f / \partial X$).

Moreover for any formal group F there exists a unique formal power series $i(X) \in k[[X]]$ such that $i(0) = 0$ and $F(X, i(X)) = 0 = F(i(X), X)$.

Now, for later use, let us recall the notion of height of a formal group. Let $F = F(X, Y)$ be a formal group over a ring k . As $F(X, Y) = F(Y, X)$, the induction formula: $[1]_F(X) = X$, $[m]_F(X) = F([m-1]_F(X), X)$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$, determine a sequence of endomorphisms of the group F . If $pR = 0$, then ([5], Chap. III, §3, Theorem 2) each homomorphism $f : G \rightarrow G'$ of formal groups over k can be uniquely written in the form $f(X) = f_1(X^{p^h})$, where $f_1(X) \in k[[X]]$, $f'_1(0) \neq 0$, and $h \in \mathbb{N} \cup \infty$ ($h = \infty$, if $f = 0$). The number h is called the height of f .

Now the height of a formal group F over a field k of characteristic $p > 0$ is defined to be the height of the endomorphism $[p]_F(X)$. We denote it by $Ht(F)$.

It is easy to see that $Ht(F) \geq 1$ for any F and that $Ht(F_a) = \infty$, $Ht(F_m) = 1$. Moreover if $Ht(F) = Ht(F')$ then $F \simeq F'$.

Let k be a separably closed field of characteristic $p > 0$, we want to study the action of a formal group F over k on a restricted class A of k -algebras. More precisely we will study k -algebras such that $A \simeq B/pB$, where B is a $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra and $B \hookrightarrow B \otimes \mathbf{Q}$, $\mathbf{Z}$ is the ring of integers and $\mathbf{Q}$ is the field of rationals.

We recall the following:

Theorem 2.1. ([6], Lemme 19.7.1.3) *Let (A, m, K) be a local $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra with $\text{char}(K) = p > 0$ and let B_0 be a K -algebra which is a regular complete local ring. Then there exists a topological local A -algebra B with respect to the topology given by the maximal ideal and such that*

- i) B is a complete ring which is a flat A -module
- ii) B_0 is K -isomorphic to $B \otimes_A K = B/mB$.

The previous theorem is due to Grothendieck. It is interesting to look at it because thanks to it we can have example of the algebras A considered during the paper.

Example 2.2. Let $\mathbf{Z}_p = (\mathbf{Z}, p\mathbf{Z})^\wedge$ be the local complete ring of the p -adic integers, with $p \in \mathbf{Z}$, p a prime number. $\mathbf{Z}_p$ is a topological ring with respect to the $p\mathbf{Z}_p$ -adic topology.

Set $B = \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]$, B is a complete local ring whose maximal ideal is $(p\mathbf{Z}_p, X)B$ and B is a topological ring with respect to the $(p\mathbf{Z}_p, X)B$ -adic topology. Since the standard injection $\mathbf{Z}_p \hookrightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]$ is a local continuous ring homomorphism, it follows that B is a topological $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -algebra which is a flat $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module.

Moreover put $B_0 = F_p[[X]]$, where $F_p = \mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p$ is the prime field, which is a perfect field, it is

$$B_0 = \mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] \simeq \mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]].$$

Since $B = \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]$ is a flat $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module, from the exactness of the sequence of $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -modules:

$$0 \rightarrow p\mathbf{Z}_p \xrightarrow{j} \mathbf{Z}_p \xrightarrow{\pi} \mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p \rightarrow 0,$$

where j is the injection and π is the standard epimorphism, the exactness of the following sequence of $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -modules follows:

$$0 \rightarrow p\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] \xrightarrow{j \otimes 1_{\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]}} \mathbf{Z}_p \otimes \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] \xrightarrow{\pi \otimes 1_{\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]}} \mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] \rightarrow 0,$$

$(\otimes = \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p})$. Hence:

$$\mathbf{Z}_p/p\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] \simeq \frac{\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]}{p\mathbf{Z}_p \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}_p} \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]} \simeq \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]/p\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]$$

and so $B_0 \simeq \mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]/p\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]] = B/pB$.

Finally $\mathbf{Z}_p$ is a $\mathbf{Z}$ -flat module, $\mathbf{Z}_p[[X]]$ is a flat $\mathbf{Z}_p$ -module and B is a flat $\mathbf{Z}$ -module too.

3. Formal group actions on special algebras

Our main result is the following:

Theorem 3.1. *Let k be a separably closed field of characteristic $p > 0$, F a formal group over k , and $D : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$ be an action of F on a k -algebra A .*

Suppose $A \simeq B/pB$, where B is a $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra such that $B \hookrightarrow B \otimes_{\mathbf{Z}} \mathbf{Q}$. Then

i) *if $Ht(F) \geq 2$*

$$D_i \circ D_1 = (i+1)D_{i+1},$$

for every $i \in \mathbf{N}$;

ii) *if $Ht(F) > 2$*

$$D_i \circ D_p = \binom{i+p}{i} D_{i+p},$$

for every $i \in \mathbf{N}$.

Proof. When F is a formal group of height $h \geq 2$, F may be replaced by a formal group $\bar{F}_h$ constructed as follows.

Consider the following power series from $\mathbf{Q}[[X, Y]]$:

$$f_h(X) = X + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{-r} X^{p^{r_h}} \quad (f_{\infty}(X) = X).$$

If f_h^{-1} is the inverse homomorphism determined by f_h , we put

$$F_h(X, Y) = f_h^{-1}(f_h(X) + f_h(Y)).$$

Then $F_h = F_h(X, Y)$ is a formal group over $\mathbf{Z}$ and

$$[p]_{F_h}(X) \equiv X^{p^h} \pmod{p\mathbf{Z}[[X]]}$$

($X^{p^{\infty}} = 0$) ([5], Chap. I, §3.2). Hence we can define $\bar{F}_h$ as the formal group over $k \supset \mathbf{Z}/p\mathbf{Z}$ obtained by reducing all the coefficients of F_h modulo p . It follows that $Ht(\bar{F}_h) = h = Ht(F)$ and so we can assume that the formal group F is equal to $\bar{F}_h$ when $Ht(F) \geq 2$ ([5], Chap. III, §3, Theorem 2).

Now we can prove the theorem.

Consider the formal group $F_h(X, Y)$ over $\mathbf{Z}$ and an action D of this group on the $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra B , we have

$$(1) \quad \sum_{i,r \geq 0} D_i \circ D_r(a) X^i Y^r = \sum_{s \geq 0} D_s(a) F_h(X, Y)^s$$

for all $a \in A$.

i): the proof is similar to that of ([7], Lemma 4.1). But we include it for completeness.

Differentiating both sides of (1) with respect to Y and putting $Y = 0$ one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i D_i \circ D_1(a) X^i &= \sum_s s D_s(a) F_h(X, 0)^{s-1} \frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} = \\ &= \sum_s s D_s(a) \frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} X^{s-1} \end{aligned}$$

From the equality $f_h(F_h(X, Y)) = f_h(X) + f_h(Y)$, by differentiating with respect to Y , we have:

$$f'_h(X) \frac{\partial F_h}{\partial Y} = 1.$$

Hence

$$\bar{f}'_h(X) \frac{\partial \bar{F}_h}{\partial Y} = 1,$$

where $\bar{f}'_h(X)$ is obtained by reducing all the coefficients of $f'_h(X)$ modulo p . Since

$$f'_h(X) = 1 + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{r(h-1)} X^{p^{rh}-1}$$

and $h \geq 2$, $\bar{f}'_h(X) = 1$. Finally $\frac{\partial \bar{F}_h}{\partial Y} = 1$ and we get the stated result.

ii): Differentiating both sides of (1) p -times with respect to Y , one obtains:

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \quad \sum_{i,r} r(r-1) \dots (r-p+1) D_i \circ D_r(a) X^i Y^{r-p} &= \\ \sum_s s(s-1) \dots (s-p+1) D_s(a) F_h(X, Y)^{s-p} \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, Y)}{\partial Y} \right)^p & \\ + \text{terms with the factor } \frac{\partial^t F_h(X, Y)}{\partial Y^t}, \quad t \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

From the equality $f_h(F_h(X, Y)) = f_h(X) + f_h(Y)$, by differentiating with respect to Y , we have:

$$(3) \quad f'_h(F_h(X, Y)) \frac{\partial F_h}{\partial Y} = f'_h(Y).$$

Moreover

$$f'_h(X) = 1 + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{r(h-1)} X^{p^{rh}-1}.$$

Since $h > 2$, $h-1 > 1$ and $r(h-1) > 1$, we have

$$f''_h(X) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{r(h-1)} (p^{rh} - 1) X^{p^{rh}-2}$$

and going on we obtain:

$$f_h^{(p)}(X) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{r(h-1)} (p^{rh} - 1) \dots (p^{rh} - p + 1) X^{p^{rh}-p},$$

but $h > 2$ and so $f_h^{(p)}(0) = \dots = f_h^{(p)}(0) = 0$.

If we calculate (3) for $Y = 0$, we have

$$(4) \quad f'_h(X) \frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} = 1.$$

By reducing now (4) mod p , $\frac{\partial \bar{F}_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} = 1$, $\overline{f'_h(X)} = 1$.

Differentiating (3) with respect to Y we obtain

$$(5) \quad f''_h(F_h(X, Y)) \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, Y)}{\partial Y} \right)^2 + f'_h(F_h(X, Y)) \frac{\partial^2 F_h(X, Y)}{\partial Y^2} = f''_h(Y).$$

If we calculate (5) for $Y = 0$,

$$f''_h(X) \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^2 + f'_h(X) \frac{\partial^2 F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^2} = 0,$$

and so

$$(6) \quad f'_h(X) \frac{\partial^2 F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^2} = -f''_h(X) \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^2$$

Finally

$$(7) \quad \frac{\partial^2 F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^2} = -f'_h(X)^{-1} f''_h(X) \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^2.$$

Claim. $f''_h(X)$ has p^2 as a factor for $h > 2$.

In fact, since $h > 2$, $r(h-1) > 1$ and from

$$f''_h(X) = \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} p^{r(h-1)} (p^{rh} - 1) X^{p^{rh}-2},$$

we get the assertion.

By reducing (6) mod p , we have $\frac{\partial^2 \bar{F}_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^2} = 0$, since $f''_h(X)$ contains p^2 as a factor.

In general, from (7), we obtain that $\frac{\partial^t F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^t}$ contains p^2 as a factor, for $t \geq 2$, and that

$$\frac{\partial^t \bar{F}_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y^t} = 0, \text{ for } t \geq 2.$$

Consider now (1). For $Y = 0$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_i (p(p-1) \dots 1) D_i \circ D_p(a) X^i = \\ &= \sum_{s \geq 0} s(s-1)(s-2) \dots (s-p+1) D_s(a) X^{s-p} \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^p + \\ & \quad + \text{ terms with the factor } p^2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_i p! D_i \circ D_p(a) X^i = \sum_{s \geq p} p! \binom{s}{p} D_s(a) X^{s-p} \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^p +$$

+ terms with the factor p^2 .

Since we can divide by p (p is not a 0-divisor in B), we have

$$\sum_i (p-1)! D_i \circ D_p(a) X^i = \sum_{s \geq p} (p-1)! \binom{s}{p} D_s(a) X^{s-p} \left(\frac{\partial F_h(X, 0)}{\partial Y} \right)^p +$$

+ terms with the factor p .

By reducing mod p , we have:

$$\sum_{i \geq 0} D_i \circ D_p(a) X^i = \sum_{s \geq p} \binom{s}{p} D_s(a) X^{s-p}.$$

Hence

$$D_i \circ D_p = \binom{i+p}{i} D_{i+p},$$

for every $i \in N$. □

Remark 3.2. Observe that $\binom{i+p}{i} \neq \binom{i}{i}$ in characteristic $p > 0$.

Corollary 3.3. Under the same hypotheses of Theorem 3.1, let $D : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$ be an action of F on the k -algebras A . If $D(a) = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i(a) X^i$, put

$$\delta_0 = D_1, \delta_1 = D_p, \delta_2 = D_{p^2}, \dots, \delta_i = D_{p^i}, \dots$$

we have

- a) if $Ht(F) > 2$
 - i) $\delta_i \delta_j = \delta_j \delta_i$ for $i, j \geq 0$,
 - ii) $\delta_i^p = 0$ for $i = 0, 1$,
 - iii) for every $m > 0$

$$D_m = \frac{\delta_0^{m_0} \delta_1^{m_1} \dots \delta_r^{m_r}}{m_0! m_1! \dots m_r!},$$

where $m = m_0 + m_1 p + \dots + m_r p^r$, $0 \leq m_i < p$, is the p -adic expansion of m .

- b) if $Ht(F) = 1$
 - i') $\delta_i \delta_j = \delta_j \delta_i$ for all $i, j \geq 0$,
 - ii') $\delta_i^p = \delta_i$ for all i ,
 - iii') for every $m > 0$

$$D_m = \frac{(\delta_0)_{m_0} (\delta_1)_{m_1} \dots (\delta_r)_{m_r}}{m_0! m_1! \dots m_r!},$$

where $(\delta_i)_m = \delta_i (\delta_{i-1}) \dots (\delta_{i-m+1}) = \prod_{k=0}^{m-1} (\delta_i - k)$.

Proof. If we suppose that k is separably closed, the equality $Ht(F) = Ht(F')$ imply that F is isomorphic to F' . More precisely, for any $h \in N$, there exists a formal group G (that is unique up to isomorphisms) such that $Ht(G) = h$.

Then a) follows from Theorem 3.1 and b) from [8]. $\square$

Remark 3.4. Let k be a field and let H be a finite dimensional Hopf algebra over k with comultiplication $\Delta : H \rightarrow H \otimes H$ ($\otimes = \otimes_k$), antipode $S : H \rightarrow H$, and counity $\epsilon : H \rightarrow k$.

A coaction of H on a k -algebra is a morphism of algebras $D : A \rightarrow A \otimes H$ such that $(1 \otimes \epsilon)D \simeq 1$ and $(1 \otimes \Delta)D = (D \otimes 1)D$.

From now on let k be a field of characteristic $p > 0$.

We consider the Hopf algebra which "lives" on the coalgebras $C_n = (\sum_{s=0}^{p^n-1} k e_s, \Delta, \epsilon)$, $n=0,1,\dots$, where $\Delta(e_s) = \sum_{i+j=s} e_i \otimes e_j$ and $\epsilon(e_s) = \delta_{s,0}$ (Kronecker delta). More precisely, we say that a Hopf algebra H "lives" on C_n if H , as a coalgebra, is equal to C_n .

For example $H_n(F_a) = (C_n, M : C_n \otimes C_n \rightarrow C_n, S : C_n \rightarrow C_n, \eta : k \rightarrow C_n)$, $n=0,1,\dots$, where multiplication M is given by $M(e_i \otimes e_j) = \binom{i+j}{i} e_{i+j}$ if $i+j < p^n$ and 0, otherwise, antipode S is determined by the equalities $\sum_{i+j=s} e_i S(e_j) = \delta_{s,0}$, and the structural map η is defined by $\eta(t) = t e_0$.

If we fix a natural number n we can consider the Hopf algebra H which "lives" on the algebra $H_n = k[X]/(X^{p^n})$. We say also that H is a Hopf algebra structure on H_n .

A coaction of such a Hopf algebra H on a k -algebra A is a morphism of k -algebras such that if $D(a) = \sum_i D_i(a) \otimes x^i$, $a \in A$, with $x = X + (X^{p^n})$ and $D_i : A \rightarrow A$ additive endomorphisms, then

$$D_0 = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad D_s(ab) = \sum_{i+j=s} D_i(a) D_j(b) \text{ for all } 0 \leq s < p^n,$$

with $a, b \in A$, i.e. $\{D_i : 0 \leq i < p^n\}$ is an higher derivation of order p^n in A .

For a given formal group F over the field k and a natural n we define the Hopf algebra structure $H_n(F)$ on the algebra $H_n = k[X]/(X^{p^n})$ as follows:

- a) comultiplication $\Delta : H_n \rightarrow H_n \otimes H_n \simeq k[X, Y]/(X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n})$ defined by $\Delta(x) = F(x, y)$, where $x = X + (X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n})$ and $y = Y + (X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n})$, and we identify $x = X + (X^{p^n})$ with $x = X + (X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n})$.
- b) antipode $S : H_n \rightarrow H_n$ given by $S(x) = i(x)$
- c) counity $\epsilon : H_n \rightarrow k$ defined by $\epsilon(x) = 0$.

We can easily verify that if F is a formal group over k and A a k -algebra a coaction of $H_n(F)$ on A is a morphism of algebras $D : A \rightarrow A \otimes H_n(F)$ such that $D_0 = 1$ and

$$\sum_{0 \leq i, j < p^n} D_i D_j(a) \otimes x^i y^j = \sum_{0 \leq s < p^n} D_s(a) \otimes F(x, y)^s$$

for all $a \in A$.

By using the same techniques of Theorem 3.1, the following result holds:

Let k be a separably closed field of characteristic $p > 0$, F a formal group over k , and $D : A \rightarrow A \otimes H_n(F)$ be a coaction of $H_n(F)$ on a k -algebra A .

Suppose

- i) $A \simeq B/pB$, with B $\mathbf{Z}$ -algebra such that $B \rightarrow B \otimes \mathbf{Q}$ is injective

ii) $Ht(F) > 2$

Then

$$D_i \circ D_{p^j} = \binom{i+p^j}{i} D_{i+p^j},$$

for $j = 0, 1$ and $0 \leq i < p^n$.

In fact put $H_n(F) = H_n$. It is easy to verify that for any action $D : A \rightarrow A[[X]]$, $D(a) = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i(a) X^i$ of a formal group $F(X, Y)$, the application:

$$D^{(n)} : A \rightarrow A \otimes H_n, \text{ with } D^{(n)}(a) = \sum_{0 \leq i < p^n} D_i(a) \otimes x^i,$$

$x = X + (X^{p^n})$, $\Delta(x) = F(x, y)$, is a coaction of the Hopf algebra H_n on A .

Hence

$$\sum_{0 \leq i < p^n} D_i \circ D_p(a) \otimes x^i = \sum_{s \geq p} \binom{s}{p} D_s(a) \otimes x^{s-p}$$

and so

$$D_i \circ D_p = \binom{i+p}{i} D_{i+p},$$

for every i , $0 \leq i < p^n$.

The case $j = 0$ follows from ([7], Lemma 4.1).

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Presented: May 15, 2006
 Published on line on January 31, 2007