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CONSTRUCTING FORMAL GROUPS IV: WITT VECTORS AND CARTIER-  
DIEUDONNE MODULES.

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this short note we present some complements to the constructions of [3,4,5]. In §3 we first show how the Witt vectors (of length  $n$ ) associated to a prime  $p$  fit into the framework of [3], and then in §4 how the generalized Witt vectors (cf. [1] and [7]) fit into the constructions of [4]. This "requires" a rather special choice of the constants  $n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d) \in \mathbb{Z}$  which go into the definition of a universal  $n$ -dimensional commutative formal group. (Cf. (2.3)).

Choose a prime number  $p$ , and let  $A$  be a commutative  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -algebra. Let  $G$  be a commutative  $n$ -dimensional formal group over  $A$ . A curve in  $G$  (cf [2]) is simply an  $n$ -column-vector of power series in  $X$  over  $A$  without constant terms. Curves can be added using the formal group law  $G(X,Y)$  and in addition one has operators  $[a]$  for  $a \in A$ ,  $V_n$  (= Verschiebung) for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $F_n$  (= Frobenius) for  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ . The curves  $c$  such that  $F_q c = 0$  for all  $q \neq p$  constitute a subgroup  $C_p(G)$ , which is a left-module over a certain noncommutative topological ring  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ . (cf. [2], [6] and §5). Every element of  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$  can be uniquely written as a sum  $\sum_{i,j} V_p^i [c_{ij}] F_p^j$ . Now let  $G(X,Y)$  be a  $p$ -typical group law (over a  $\mathbb{Z}_{(p)}$ -algebra every group law can be brought into  $p$ -typical form), and let  $\gamma_i$  be the curve  $\gamma_i(X) = (0, \dots, X, 0, \dots, 0)^t$ ,  $X$  in the  $i$ -th place. Then it is easily seen that every element of  $C_p(G)$

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can be written uniquely as a (convergent) sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^n v_p^i [a_{ij}] \gamma_j$ .

Cartier's classification theory (local case) says that there is an isomorphism of categories between the category of commutative formal groups over  $A$  and the full subcategory of modules of continuous  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ -left-modules with this basis property. (Cf. [2] and [6]).

To specify the  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ -module structure of  $C_p(G)$  it suffices to write  $F_p \gamma_i$  as a sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^n v_p^i [a_{ij}] \gamma_j$ . In §5, 6 we do this for the case that  $G$  is a formal group obtained by specializing the  $p$ -typically universal formal group  $G_T$  of [3]. (Cf. (2.2) for its definition; all isomorphism classes of formal groups over  $Z_{(p)}$ -algebras are obtained in this way).

If  $G$  over  $A$  is obtained by substituting  $t_i(jk)$  voor the  $T_i(jk)$  of  $G_T$  then the formula for  $F_p \gamma_i$  becomes

$$F_p \gamma_i = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\ell=1}^n v_p^m [t_{m+1}(\ell, i)] \gamma_{\ell}$$

Inversely therefore, given a  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$  module  $M$  of the right kind, the constructions of [3] provide one with a formal group  $G$  such that  $C_p(G) = M$ .

## 2. RECAPITULATION

In this section we have collected the results from [3,4,5] which will be needed in the sequel.

### (2.1) Local one Dimensional Case.

Choose a prime number  $p$ . Let  $g_T(X)$  be the power series over  $Q[T_1, T_2, \dots] = Q[T]$  defined by

$$(2.1.1) \quad g_T(X) = X + \sum_p \frac{T_i}{p} g_T^{(p^i)}(X^{p^i})$$

where  $g_T^{(p^i)}(X)$  is the power series obtained from  $g_T(X)$  by replacing the parameters  $T_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$  by  $T_j^{p^i}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots$ . Write

$$(2.1.2) \quad g_{\mathbb{T}}(X) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i X^{p^i}$$

Then we have (cf.[3])

$$(2.1.3) \quad a_0 = 1, a_n = \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_k = n} \frac{T_{j_1}^{p^{j_1}} \dots T_{j_k}^{p^{j_k}}}{p^k}$$

We define

$$(2.1.4) \quad G_{\mathbb{T}}(X, Y) = g_{\mathbb{T}}^{-1}(g_{\mathbb{T}}(X) + g_{\mathbb{T}}(Y))$$

Then  $G_{\mathbb{T}}$  is a formal group over  $Z[\mathbb{T}_1, \mathbb{T}_2, \dots] = Z[\mathbb{T}]$ , and if  $A$  is a commutative (unitary)  $Z_p$ -algebra, and if

$G$  is a one dimensional commutative formal group over  $A$ , then there exist  $t_1, t_2, \dots \in A$  such that  $G$  is strictly isomorphic to  $G_t$  where

$G_t$  is obtained from  $G_{\mathbb{T}}$  by substituting  $t_j$  for  $T_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Further let  $g_{\mathbb{T}, S}(X)$  over  $Q[\mathbb{T}, S]$  be defined by

$$(2.1.5) \quad g_{\mathbb{T}, S}(X) = X + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} S_i X^{p^i} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{T_i}{p} g_{\mathbb{T}, S}^{(p^i)}(X^{p^i})$$

Then one has (cf[3,5]):

$$(2.1.6) \quad g_{\mathbb{T}, S}(X) = X + \sum_{j_1, \dots, j_k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{T_{j_1}^{p^{j_1}} \dots T_{j_k}^{p^{j_k}}}{p^k} X^{p^{j_1 + \dots + j_k}} \\ + \sum_{j_1, \dots, j_k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{T_{j_1}^{p^{j_1}} \dots T_{j_{k-1}}^{p^{j_{k-1}}} T_{j_k}^{p^{j_k}}}{p^{k-1}} X^{p^{j_1 + \dots + j_k}}$$

Let

$$(2.1.7) \quad G_{\mathbb{T}, S}(X, Y) = g_{\mathbb{T}, S}^{-1}(g_{\mathbb{T}, S}(X) + g_{\mathbb{T}, S}(Y))$$

then  $G_{\mathbb{T}, S}$  is a formal group over  $Z[\mathbb{T}, S]$ , and is isomorphic to  $G_{\mathbb{T}}$ . Moreover if  $A$  is an integral domain then  $G_t$  and  $G_{t, s}$  are strictly isomorphic over  $A$  if and only if there exists a sequence  $s = (s_1, s_2, \dots)$  of elements of  $A$  such that  $G_{t, s}(X, Y) = G_t(X, Y)$  (or  $g_{t, s}(X) = g_t(X)$ ).

## 2.2. Local more Dimensional Case.

Again choose a prime number  $p$ , and let  $T_i = (T_i(jk))_{jk}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix of indeterminates for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ . We define the column  $n$ -vector of power series  $g_T(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}[\dots, T_i(jk), \dots]$  by

$$(2.2.1) \quad g_T(X_1, \dots, X_n) = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^t + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{T_i}{p} g_T^{(p^i)}(X_1^{p^i}, \dots, X_n^{p^i})$$

where  $(X_1, \dots, X_n)^t$  is the column vector of the  $X_i$  and  $g_T^{(p^i)}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is obtained from  $g_T(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  by replacing all  $T_m(jk)$  by their  $p^i$ -th powers ( $m = 1, 2, \dots; j = 1, \dots, n; k = 1, \dots, n$ ).

Writing

$$(2.2.2) \quad g_T(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i (X_1^{p^i}, \dots, X_n^{p^i})^t$$

where now  $a_i$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix one has (cf. [3])

$$(2.2.3) \quad a_0 = I_n, \quad a_i = \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_k = i} \frac{T_{j_1}^{(p^{j_1})} \dots T_{j_k}^{(p^{j_k})}}{p^k}$$

where  $T_n^{(p^\ell)}$  is the matrix  $((T_n(jk))^{p^\ell})_{jk}$ . Now define

$$(2.2.4) \quad G_T(X_1, \dots, X_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_n) = g_T^{-1}(g_T(X_1, \dots, X_n) + g_T(Y_1, \dots, Y_n))$$

then  $G_T$  is an  $n \times n$  formal group over  $\mathbb{Z}[\dots, T_i(jk), \dots]$ , and if  $A$  is a commutative ring with unit element such that every prime number  $q \neq p$  is invertible in  $A$  then every  $n$ -dimensional formal group over  $A$  is isomorphic to a  $G_t$ , obtained from  $G_T$  by substituting suitable  $t_i(jk)$  for  $T_i(jk)$ .

## 2.3. Global more Dimensional Case.

Let  $e_j$  be the  $n$ -multiindex  $e_j = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$ , the 1 in the  $j$ -th place.

We define

$$(2.3.1) \quad \mathcal{Y} = \{d = (d_1, \dots, d_n) \mid d_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, d \neq (0, \dots, 0), d \neq p^r e_j \text{ for all prime numbers } p, j = 1, \dots, n \text{ and } r = 1, 2, \dots\}$$

For each  $d \in \mathcal{T}$ ,  $d \neq e_j$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, n$  let  $S_d$  be the column vector of indeterminates  $S_d = (S_d(1), \dots, S_d(n))^t$  and let  $S_{e_j} = e_j^t = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)^t$

for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ; further let  $T_q$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix of indeterminates  $(T_q(jk))_{jk}$  for all prime powers  $q$ .

Let  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ ,  $s_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  be any multiindex. An ordered factorization of  $s$  is a sequence  $(q_1, \dots, q_t, d)$  where  $q_i$  is a prime power and  $d$  is a multiindex from  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $q_1 \dots q_t d = s$ . We now define for each multiindex  $s$  the columnvector  $a_s$  by the formula

$$(2.3.2) \quad a_s = \sum_{(q_1, \dots, q_t, d)} \frac{n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d)}{p_1} \dots \frac{n(q_t, d)}{p_t} \cdot T_{q_1}^{(q_1)} \cdot T_{q_2}^{(q_1 \dots q_{t-1})} \dots T_{q_t}^{(q_1 \dots q_{t-1})} S_d^{(q_1 \dots q_t)}$$

where the sum is over all ordered factorizations of  $s$ ;  $p_i$  is a prime number such that  $q_i$  is a power of  $p_i$ ;  $T_q^{(r)}$  is the matrix  $(T_q(jk))^r_{jk}$  and  $S_d^{(q)}$  is the column vector of entries  $S_d(i)^q$ . The  $n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d)$  are any set of integers satisfying the conditions:

$$(2.3.3) \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{if } p_1 \neq p_2 = \dots = p_r \neq p_{r+1} \text{ then } n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_1} \\ &\text{and } n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_2^{r-1}} \\ &\text{if } p_1 = \dots = p_r \neq p_{r+1} \text{ then } n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_1^r} \end{aligned}$$

(If  $r = t$ , take  $p_{r+1} =$  any prime number  $\neq p_r$ )

(Such integers exist). Now let  $g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be the column- $n$ -vector of power series defined by

$$(2.3.4) \quad g(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_s a_s X_1^{s_1} \dots X_n^{s_n}$$

where  $s$  runs through the multiindices  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ ,  $s_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $s \neq (0, \dots, 0)$ .

We define

$$(2.3.5) \quad G(X_1, \dots, X_n; Y_1, \dots, Y_n) = g^{-1}(g(X_1, \dots, X_n) + g(Y_1, \dots, Y_n))$$

then  $G$  is a universal  $n$  dimensional commutative formal group over  $Z[\dots, T_q(jk), \dots; \dots, S_d(i), \dots]$

### 3. WITT VECTORS ASSOCIATED TO A PRIME $p$ .

The formal group of Witt vectors of length  $n$  associated to a prime  $p$  is a  $p$ -typical formal group over any commutative ring with unit element  $A$ . There for it must be isomorphic to some formal group  $G_t$ ,  $t_i(jk) \in A$  where  $G_t$  is the formal group of (2.2). (In fact because this Witt formal group is  $p$ -typical it must be equal to some such  $G_t$ ).

#### 3.1. Witt Vectors.

Choose a prime number  $p$ . The Witt polynomials are then

$$(3.1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi_1(X_1) &= X_1 \\ \phi_2(X_1, X_2) &= pX_2 + X_1^p \\ &\vdots \\ \phi_n(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) &= p^{n-1}X_n + p^{n-2}X_{n-1}^p + \dots + pX_2^{p^{n-2}} + X_1^{p^{n-1}} \end{aligned}$$

The polynomials  $S_i(X_1, \dots, X_i; Y_1, \dots, Y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  defined by

$$(3.1.2) \quad \phi_i(S_1, \dots, S_i) = \phi_i(X_1, \dots, X_i) + \phi_i(Y_1, \dots, Y_i)$$

have coefficients in  $Z$ , and define a formal group of dimension  $n$  over any commutative ring with unit element  $A$ .

#### 3.2. Specification.

Let  $t_i(jk)$   $i = 1, 2, \dots; j = 1, \dots, n; k = 1, \dots, n$  be defined by

$$(3.2.1) \quad \begin{aligned} t_i(j, k) &= 0 \text{ if } i \geq 2; j = 1, \dots, n; k = 1, \dots, n \\ t_1(j, k) &= 0 \text{ unless } j = k + 1 \\ t_1(k+1, k) &= 1 \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1 \end{aligned}$$

I.e. the matrices  $t_i$  are equal to

$$(3.2.2) \quad t_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & & 0 \\ 1 & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & & & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, t_2 = 0, \dots, t_n = 0, \dots$$

### 3.3. Proposition.

Let  $G_t$  be the formal group obtained from the  $n$ -dimensional formal group  $G_T$  of (2.2) by substituting  $t_i(jk)$  for  $T_i(jk)$  where the  $t_i(jk)$  are defined by (3.2.1). Then  $G_t$  is the group of Witt vectors of length  $n$  associated to the prime  $p$ .

Proof. Because both  $G_t$  and the formal group of Witt vectors of length  $n$  associated to  $p$  are defined over  $Z$  it suffices to prove this for  $A = Z$ .

According to (2.2.3) and (2.2.4) the logarithm of  $G_t$  is equal to

$$(3.3.1) \quad \log G_t(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i(X_1^{p^i}, \dots, X_n^{p^i}), \quad a_i = \frac{t_1 \cdot t_1^{(p)} \cdots t_1^{(p^{i-1})}}{p^i} = \frac{(t_1)^i}{p^i}$$

I.e.

$$(3.3.2) \quad \log G_t(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \begin{pmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 + \frac{1}{p} X_1^p \\ X_3 + \frac{1}{p} X_2^p + \frac{1}{p^2} X_1^{p^2} \\ \vdots \\ X_n + \frac{1}{p} X_{n-1}^p + \dots + \frac{1}{p^{n-1}} X_1^{p^{n-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

But according to (3.1.1) and (3.1.2) this is exactly the logarithm of the formal group of Witt vectors of length  $n$  associated to  $p$ .

q.e.d.

## 4. GENERALIZED WITT VECTORS

The formal group of generalized Witt vectors of length  $n$  (cf. [1], [7]) is a formal group over any commutative ring with unit



element A. It must be therefore be equal to some formal group obtained from the formal group G of (2.3) by suitable substitutions for the  $T_q(jk)$ , q a prime power, and  $S_d(i)$ ,  $d \in \mathcal{T} \setminus \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ .

It turns out to be convenient to choose the  $n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d)$  in a rather special way (cf. 4.3) below).

#### 4.1. Generalized Witt Vectors.

The generalized Witt polynomials are

$$(4.1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \psi_1(X_1) &= X_1 \\ \psi_2(X_1, X_2) &= 2X_2 + X_1^2 \\ &\vdots \\ \psi_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) &= \sum_{d|n} d X_d^{n/d} \end{aligned}$$

The polynomials  $S_i(X_1, \dots, X_i; Y_1, \dots, Y_i)$  defined by

$$(4.1.2) \quad \psi_i(S_1, \dots, S_i) = \psi_i(X_1, \dots, X_i) + \psi_i(Y_1, \dots, Y_i)$$

have their coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}$  and define a formal group of dimension n over any commutative ring with unit element A.

(4.2) Let  $p_1, \dots, p_s$  be a sequence of prime numbers,  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_s$ . Let  $J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_s^{r_s})$  be the set of all sequences  $(p'_1, \dots, p'_n)$  such that  $p'_i \in \{p_1, \dots, p_s\}$ ; for all i,  $n = r_1 + \dots + r_s$ , and such that  $p_i$  occurs exactly  $r_i$  times in  $(p'_1, \dots, p'_n)$ . If  $(p'_1, \dots, p'_n) \in J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_s^{r_s})$  we

also write  $J(p'_1, \dots, p'_n) = J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_s^{r_s})$ . For example

$$J(2^2, 3) = \{(2, 2, 3), (2, 3, 2), (3, 2, 2)\}$$

$$J(2, 3, 5) = \{(2, 3, 5), (2, 5, 3), (3, 2, 5), (3, 5, 2), (5, 2, 3), (5, 3, 2)\}.$$

#### (4.3) Lemma.

There exist integers  $\bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m)$ , for all sequences of primes  $(p'_1, \dots, p'_m)$  such that

- a. If  $p'_1 \neq p'_2 = \dots = p'_r \neq p'_{r+1}$ , ( $r \leq m$ , take  $p'_{r+1} =$  any prime  $\neq p'_r$  if  $r = m$ ) then  $\bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \equiv 1 \pmod{p'_1}$  and  $\bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \equiv 0 \pmod{(p'_2)^{r-1}}$
- b. If  $p'_1 = p'_2 = \dots = p'_r \neq p'_{r+1}$ , ( $r \leq m$ , take  $p'_{r+1} =$  any prime  $\neq p'_r$  if  $r = m$ ) then  $\bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \equiv 1 \pmod{(p'_1)^r}$ .

c. For all  $J = J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_s^{r_s})$  one has

$$\sum_{(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \in J} \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_2, \dots, p'_m) \dots \bar{n}(p'_{m-1}, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_m) = 1$$

Proof. We use induction on  $m$ . For  $m = 1$  let  $\bar{n}(p') = 1$  for all prime numbers  $p'$ . Suppose we have defined  $\bar{n}$  for all sequences of primes of length  $< m$ . Let  $J = J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_s^{r_s})$ ,  $r_1 + \dots + r_s = m$ ,  $p_1 < p_2 < \dots < p_s$  prime numbers. Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \in J} \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_2, \dots, p'_m) \dots \bar{n}(p'_{m-1}, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_m) = \\ & = \sum_{\substack{(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \in J \\ p'_1 = p_1}} \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_2, \dots, p'_m) \dots \bar{n}(p'_{m-1}, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_m) + \dots \\ & \quad + \sum_{\substack{(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \in J \\ p'_1 = p_s}} \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_2, \dots, p'_m) \dots \bar{n}(p'_{m-1}, p'_m) \bar{n}(p'_m) \end{aligned} \tag{4.3.1}$$

Now for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$  let  $\sigma(i)$  be the sequence in  $J$

$$(4.3.2) \quad \sigma(i) = (p_i, \dots, p_i, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_s, \dots, p_s, p_1, \dots, p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, \dots, p_{i-1})$$

We define

$$(4.3.3) \quad \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) = \bar{n}(\sigma(i)) \text{ if } p'_1 = p_i$$

where the  $\bar{n}(\sigma(i))$  are still to be determined. Then using (4.3.1) we see that

$$(4.3.4) \quad \sum_{(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \in J} \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_m) \dots \bar{n}(p'_m) = \sum_{i=1}^s \bar{n}(\sigma(i))$$

Now let  $r = \max_i r_i$ . We define

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(i)) = \left( \prod_{j \neq i} p_j \right)^{(p_i-1)p_i^{r-1}} \quad i = 1, \dots, s-1$$

(4.3.5)

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(s)) = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{s-1} \bar{n}(\sigma(i))$$

(N.B. if  $s=1$ , take  $\bar{n}(\sigma(1)) = 1$ ). Then for  $i = 1, \dots, s-1$

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(i)) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i^r} \text{ because } p_j^{p_i-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p_i} \text{ for all } j \neq i, \text{ and } r \geq r_i$$

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(i)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_j^r} \text{ for } j \neq i \text{ because } p_i^{r-1} \geq r \geq r_j$$

and for  $i = s$  we have

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(s)) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_s^r} \text{ because } \bar{n}(\sigma(i)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_s^r} \text{ for all } i \neq s.$$

$$\bar{n}(\sigma(s)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_j^r} \text{ for } j \neq s \text{ because } \bar{n}(\sigma(i)) \equiv 0 \pmod{p_j^r} \text{ for all } j \neq i, s$$

$$\text{and } \bar{n}(\sigma(j)) \equiv 1 \pmod{p_j^r}.$$

It follows that the  $\bar{n}$  defined by (4.3.3) and (4.3.5) satisfy the conditions a), b), c) of (4.3).

q.e.d.

(4.4) Specification.

We define  $t_q(i, j)$  and  $s_d(i)$  as follows

$$t_q(i, j) = 0 \text{ if } q \text{ is a prime power but not a prime number}$$

$$t_p(i, j) = 0 \text{ unless } i/j = p$$

$$t_p(i, j) = 1 \text{ if } i/j = p ; i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

$$s_d(i) = 0 \text{ for all } d \in \mathcal{T} \setminus \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}, i = 1, \dots, n$$

(4.5) Proposition.

Take  $n(q_1, \dots, q_t, d) = \bar{n}(p_1, \dots, p_t)$  if  $q_i$  is a power  $p_i$  in the definition of the formal group  $G$  of (2.3) (where the  $\bar{n}$  are as in lemma (4.3)). Let  $W_n$  be the formal group obtained from this  $G$  by substituting for the  $T_q(jk)$  and  $S_d(i)$  the values specified in (4.4). Then  $W_n$  is the formal group of generalized Witt vectors of length  $n$ .

Proof. According to (2.3) the logarithm of  $W_n$  is equal to

$$(4.5.1) \quad \log W_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_s a_s X_1^{s_1} \dots X_n^{s_n}$$

and using (2.2.3) and (4.4) we see that the column vector  $a_s$  is equal to zero unless the multiindex  $s$  is of the form  $s = me_j$ , for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . And then

$$(4.5.2) \quad a_{me_j} = \sum_{(p'_1, \dots, p'_k) \in J} \frac{n(p'_1, \dots, p'_k, e_j)}{p'_1} \dots \frac{n(p'_k, e_j)}{p'_k} t_{p'_1}^{(p'_1)} \dots t_{p'_k}^{(p'_k)} \dots$$

$$\dots t_{p'_k}^{(p'_1 \dots p'_{k-1})} e_j^{(p'_1 \dots p'_k)}$$

where  $J = J(p_1^{r_1}, \dots, p_\ell^{r_\ell})$  if  $m = p_1^{r_1} \dots p_\ell^{r_\ell}$

Now we have  $t_p^{(r)} = t_p$  for all prime numbers  $p$  and all  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$(4.5.3) \quad (t_{p_1} \dots t_{p_k})_{a,b} = 0 \text{ if } a/b \neq p_1 \dots p_k = m, \quad (a, b \in \{1, \dots, n\})$$

$$(t_{p_1} \dots t_{p_k})_{a,b} = 1 \text{ if } a/b = p_1 \dots p_k = m$$

Therefore, using  $n(p'_1, \dots, p'_k, e_j) = \bar{n}(p'_1, \dots, p'_k)$  and (4.4) c) we see that the  $i$ -th entry  $a_{me_j}(i)$  of  $a_{me_j}$  is equal to

$$(4.5.4) \quad a_{me_j}(i) = m^{-1} \text{ if } i/j = m, \quad a_{me_j}(i) = 0 \text{ if } i/j \neq m.$$

Therefore, as

$$(4.5.5) \quad \log W_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_s a_s X_1^{s_1} \dots X_n^{s_n} = \sum_{me_j} a_{me_j} X_j^m$$

we have

$$(4.5.5) \quad \log W_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)(i) = \sum_{m|i} \frac{1}{m} X_{i/m}^m$$

and we see by (4.1.1) and (4.1.2) that  $\log W_n$  is equal to the logarithm of the generalized Witt vectors of length  $n$ .

q.e.d.

## 5. CARTIER-DIEUDONNE MODULES (local, one dimensional case)

5.1. Definition of  $C_p(G)$  (cf. 2)

Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -dimensional formal group over a ring  $A$ . A curve in  $G$  is an  $n$ -column-vector of power series in  $X$  over  $A$  without constant terms. Two curves  $c_1(X)$  and  $c_2(X)$  can be added as follows:

$$(5.1.1) \quad (c_1 + c_2)(X) = G(c_1(X), c_2(X))$$

This turns  $C(G)$ , the set of all curves in  $G$ , into an abelian group. The subgroups  $C^n(G)$  of curves  $\equiv 0 \pmod{X^n}$  define a topology on  $C(G)$ .

The topological group  $C(G)$  admits operators  $[a]$ ,  $a \in A$ ;  $V_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $F_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  which are defined as follows

$$(5.1.2) \quad ([a]c)(X) = c(aX) \quad (V_n c)(X) = c(X^n)$$

The definition of  $F_n$  requires a bit more care. First suppose that  $A$  is an integral domain of characteristic zero and let  $\zeta_n$  be a primitive  $n$ -th root of unity.

We set

$$(5.1.3) \quad (F_n c)(X) = ([\zeta_n]c + \dots + [\zeta_n^n]c)(X^{1/n})$$

Galois theory shows that the right hand member of (5.1.3) is in fact a power series over  $A$ , and because the right hand side of (5.1.3) is invariant under the substitution  $X^{1/n} \mapsto \zeta_n X^{1/n}$  it follows that the right hand side of (5.1.3) is in fact a power series in  $X$ . To define the operator  $F_n$  over arbitrary rings  $A$  one lifts both the formal group  $G$  and the curve  $c$  to a formal group  $G'$  and a curve  $c'$  over an integral domain of characteristic zero  $A'$ , one calculates  $F_n c'$  over  $A'$  and then reduces  $F_n c'$  to a curve over  $A$ . This reduction is then the desired  $F_n c$ . One has the following relations between the various operators (cf. [2]).

$$(5.1.4) \quad [a] + [b] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} V_n s_n(a,b) F_n$$

where the polynomials  $s_n(X,Y)$  are defined by  $X^n + Y^n = \sum_{d|n} ds_d(X,Y)^{n/d}$

$$(5.1.5) \quad [a][b] = [ab]$$

$$(5.1.6) \quad V_m V_n = V_{mn}, F_m F_n = F_{mn}$$

$$(5.1.7) \quad [a]V_n = V_n[a^n], F_n[a] = [a^n]F_n$$

$$(5.1.8) \quad \text{If } (n,m) = 1, F_m V_n = V_n F_m$$

$$(5.1.9) \quad F_n V_n = n \text{ Id}_{C(G)}, [1] = V_1 = F_1 = \text{Id}_{C(G)}$$

where  $\text{Id}_{C(G)}$  is the identity on  $C(G)$ .

Choose a prime number  $p$ . A curve  $c$  in  $G$  is called p-typical if  $F_q c = 0$  for all prime numbers  $q \neq p$ . The formal group  $G$  is called p-typical if the curves  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$  defined by  $\gamma_i(X) = (0, \dots, 0, X, 0, \dots, 0)$ ,  $X$  in the  $i$ -th place, are p-typical.

Let  $A$  be an integral domain, and  $g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  the logarithm of  $G$ . Then

$$(5.1.10) \quad c \text{ is } p\text{-typical} \iff g(c(X)) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{m_j}{p^j} X^{pj}$$

where the  $m_j$  are  $n$ -column-vectors of elements from  $A$ .

The p-typical curves in  $G$  constitute a subgroup of  $C(G)$  which is denoted  $C_p(G)$ . This subgroup is stable under the operations  $[a], V_n, F_n$ .

## 5.2. The Ring $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ (cf. [2] and [6])

Choose a prime number  $p$ . The (in general non-commutative) topological ring  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$  consists of all expressions

$$(5.2.1) \quad x = \sum_{i,j \in \mathbb{N}} V_p^i [a_{ij}] F_p^j$$

such that for all  $i$  there are only finitely many  $j$  such that  $a_{ij} \neq 0$  (I.e. every element  $x$  can be written in a unique way as such a (convergent) sum. Addition and multiplication in  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$  are defined by the relations

$$[a] + [b] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} V_p^n s_p^n(a,b) F_p^n, \text{ where } s_p^n(X,Y) \text{ is defined in (5.1.4)}$$

$$(5.2.2) \quad [a][b] = [ab], V_p^0 = F_p^0 = \text{Id}, F_p V_p = p \cdot \text{Id}$$

$$[a]V_p = V_p[a^p], F_p[a] = [a^p]F_p$$

where  $\text{Id}$  is the identity element of  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ . The ring is topologized by the subgroups  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}^n(A)$  consisting of those elements  $x$  such that  $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \leq n$ .

The operators  $[a]$  and  $F_p, V_p$  defined in (5.1) turn  $C_p(G)$ , the group of  $p$ -typical curves of  $G$  into a left (continuous, complete) module over  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ .

Now let  $A$  be a commutative ring with unit element such that every prime number  $q \neq p$  is invertible in  $A$ . Then Cartier's classification theory says that the functor  $G \mapsto C_p(G)$  is an equivalence of categories between the commutative formal groups over  $A$  and a certain full subcategory of (complete, continuous) left modules over  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ . (There is also a global version of this theory (cf.[2,6])).

It is the aim of the next few subsections and §6 to calculate these modules (as modules) in the case that  $G$  is a  $p$ -typical group over  $A$  ( $A$  as before; note that every commutative formal group over  $A$  is strictly isomorphic to a  $p$ -typical one).

From now on  $A$  is a commutative ring with unit element such that all prime numbers  $q \neq p$  are invertible in  $A$ .

5.3. Let now  $G$  be a one dimensional group over  $A$ , and  $\gamma$  be the curve  $\gamma(X) = X$ . Suppose that  $G$  is  $p$ -typical. It is clear from (5.1) that every  $p$ -typical curve in  $G$  can be written in a unique way as a (convergent) sum

$$(5.3.1) \quad \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} V_p^i [a_i] \gamma$$

(Use (5.1.10) to prove this for characteristic zero integral domains  $A$ , and then use a lifting argument to prove this for all  $A$ ).

In particular the curve  $F_p \gamma$  can be written as a sum (5.3.1). It follows that the modules  $C_p(G)$  arising from one-dimensional ( $p$ -typical) formal groups over  $A$  are of the form.

$$(5.3.2) \quad \text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A) / \text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A) (F_p - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} V_p^i [a_i])$$

for certain  $a_0, a_1, \dots \in A$

5.4. Lemma.

Let  $g_{\mathbb{T}}(X)$  be the formal power series of (2.1.1) then

$$g_T(X) = X + \frac{1}{p} g_T(T_1 X^p) + \dots + \frac{1}{p} g_T(T_i X^{p^i}) + \dots$$

Proof. this is an immediate consequence of (2.1.3).

### 5.5. Theorem.

Let  $G_t$  be the formal group over  $A$  obtained from the formal group  $G_T$  of (2.1) by substituting  $t_i$  for  $T_i$ . Then

$$C_p(G_t) = \text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A) / \text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)(F_p - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{V^i}{p} [t_{i+1}])$$

as a left  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$  module.

Proof. We have to calculate  $F_p \gamma$ . Suppose first that  $A$  is an integral domain of characteristic zero. Then, if  $g_t(X)$  is the logarithm of  $G_t$ ,

$$(5.5.1) \quad g_t(F_p \gamma) = \sum_{i=1}^p g_t(\zeta_p^i X^{1/p}) = g_t(t_1 X) + g_t(t_2 X^p) + \dots + g_t(t_i X^{p^{i-1}}) + \dots$$

according to lemma (5.4). It follows that in  $C_p(G_t)$

$$(5.5.2) \quad F_p \gamma = [t_1] \gamma + V_p [t_2] \gamma + \dots + V_p^i [t_{i+1}] \gamma + \dots$$

which proves the theorem in the case that  $A$  is an integral domain of characteristic zero. The general case follows by a lifting argument.

### 5.6. Lemma.

Let  $g_{T,S}(X)$  be the formal power series of (2.1.5) then

$$g_{T,S}(X) = g_T(X) + g_T(S_1 X^p) + \dots + g_T(S_i X^{p^i})$$

where  $g_T(X)$  is the power series of (2.1.1).

Proof. This is an immediate consequence of (2.1.6).

### 5.7. Isomorphisms.

Suppose that  $A$  is an integral domain of characteristic zero. Then the formal groups  $G_t$  and  $G_{t'}$  are strictly isomorphic if and only if there are  $s_1, s_2, \dots \in A$  such that  $g_{t',s}(X) = g_t(X)$ . Cf. [3].



5.8. Proposition.

Let  $G_t$  and  $G_{t,s}$  be strictly isomorphic over the characteristic zero integral domain  $A$ , and let  $s_1, s_2, \dots \in A$  be such that  $g_{t,s}(X) = g_t(X)$ . Then the corresponding isomorphism.

$$\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)/\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)(F_p - \Sigma V_p^i[t_{i+1}]) \rightarrow \text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)/\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)(F_p - \Sigma V_p^i[t_{i+1}])$$

is given by

$$1 \mapsto \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} V_p^i[s_i]$$

where  $s_0 = 1$ .

Proof. This follows from lemma (5.6).

## 6. CARTIER-DIEUDONNE MODULES (local, more dimensional case)

Again, choose a prime number  $p$ , and let  $A$  be a commutative ring with unit element in which all prime numbers  $q \neq p$  are invertible.

(6.1) Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -dimensional  $p$ -typical formal group over  $A$ . Let  $\gamma_i$  be the curve  $\gamma_i(X) = (0, \dots, 0, X, 0, \dots, 0)^t$ ,  $X$  in the  $i$ -th place. It is clear from (5.1) that every  $p$ -typical curve in  $G$  can be written uniquely as a (convergent) sum

$$(6.1.1) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} V_p^i[a_{ij}] \gamma_j$$

(Use the same arguments as in (5.3)).

In particular the curves  $F_p \gamma_j$  can be written in the form (6.1.1) and the module structure of  $C_p(G)$  is completely specified by these "relations".

(6.2) Lemma.

Let  $g_T$  be the power series of (2.2.1). Then

$$g_T(\gamma_i(X)) = \gamma_i(X) + \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p} g_T(V_p^m[T_m(\ell, i)]) \gamma_{\ell}(X)$$

Proof. According to (2.2.2) and (2.2.3) we have

$$g_T(\gamma_i(X)) = \gamma_i(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j_1+\dots+j_k=r} \frac{T_{j_1} T_{j_2}^{(p^{j_1})} \dots T_{j_k}^{(p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-1}})}}{p^k} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ X^{p^r} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \gamma_i(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j_1+\dots+j_k=r} \frac{T_{j_1} \dots T_{j_{k-1}}^{(p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-2}})}}{p^k} \begin{pmatrix} T_{j_k}^{(1,i)p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-1}}} X^{p^r} \\ \vdots \\ T_{j_k}^{(n,i)p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-1}}} X^{p^r} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \gamma_i(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j_1+\dots+j_k=r} \sum_{\ell=1}^n \frac{T_{j_1} \dots T_{j_{k-1}}^{(p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-2}})}}{p^k} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ T_{j_k}^{(\ell,i)p^{j_1+\dots+j_{k-1}}} X^{p^r} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \gamma_i(X) + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} g_T(V_p^m[T_m(\ell,i)]\gamma_{\ell}(X))$$

(take "m = j<sub>k</sub>" in the previous formula to obtain this last equality).

q.e.d.

(6.3) Theorem.

Let  $G_t$  be the formal group over A obtained from the  $G_T$  of (2.2) by substituting  $t_i(j,k)$  for  $T_i(j,k)$ . Then  $C_p(G_t)$  is generated by  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$ , every element of  $C_p(G_t)$  can be uniquely written as a (convergent) sum  $\sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{v_i^i[a_{i\ell}]}{p} \gamma_{\ell}$ , and the module structure of

$C_p(G_t)$  is then given by the relations

$$F_p \gamma_i = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{v_{m+1}^m[t_{m+1}(\ell,i)]}{p} \gamma_{\ell}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Proof. This follows from (6.2) for characteristic zero integral domains  $A$  and then by a lifting argument also for all  $A$ .

q.e.d.

(6.4) Remarks.

One would of course like to give the same sort of description for  $C(G)$  in the global case, i.e. when there is more than one prime number not invertible in  $A$ . Then one has of course that  $C(G)$  is generated by  $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$  (if  $G$  is  $n$ -dimensional) and that every element of  $C(G)$  can be uniquely written as a sum

$$\sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} V_i [a_{i\ell}] \gamma_{\ell};$$
 and the  $\text{Cart}(A)$ -module structure of  $C(G)$ , where

$\text{Cart}(A)$  is the global counterpart of  $\text{Cart}_{\{p\}}(A)$ , is then given by a set of relations

$$F_q \gamma_i = \sum_{\ell=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} V_j [b_{q,i,j,\ell}] \gamma_{\ell}$$

where  $q$  runs through all primes. In this case the  $b_{q,i,j,\ell}$  are not independent as they are in the local case (by theorem (6.3)). I hope to be able to do something on this in the near future. At the moment the calculations look exceedingly messy and intractable.

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