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Paraboline variation over p -adic families of (φ, Γ) -modules

John Bergdall

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ABSTRACT

We study the p -adic variation of triangulations over p -adic families of (φ, Γ) -modules. In particular, we study certain canonical sub-filtrations of the pointwise triangulations and show that they extend to affinoid neighborhoods of crystalline points. This generalizes results of Kedlaya, Pottharst and Xiao and (independently) Liu in the case where one expects the entire triangulation to extend. We also study the ramification of weight parameters over natural p -adic families.

Contents

1	Introduction	133
1.1	Trianguline (φ, Γ) -modules	133
1.2	Critical triangulations	134
1.3	Refined families and p -adic variation	134
1.4	Ramification of weights	136
1.5	Organization	136
1.6	Notation and conventions	137
2	Review of (φ, Γ_K)-modules	137
2.1	The Robba ring	137
2.2	Galois representations	141
2.3	Rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -modules	141
2.4	p -adic Hodge theory	142
2.5	Galois cohomology	142
2.6	Torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules	144
3	Parabolizations and triangulations	145
3.1	Parabolizations of (φ, Γ_K) -modules	145
3.2	Critical and non-critical triangulations	147
3.3	Generalized triangulations	148
4	Galois cohomology in families	151
5	Triangulated families	154
5.1	Triangulated families	154
5.2	Killing torsion	159
6	p-adic variation in refined families	162
6.1	Refined families	162

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7 Ramification of weights	167
Acknowledgements	170
Appendix. Nakayama’s lemma	170
References	172

1. Introduction

Let p be a prime number. Results, and questions, in the p -adic Langlands program may be naturally phrased, or asked, by studying p -adic families of automorphic forms [Eme, Bre15]. Regarding p -adic automorphic forms in their own right, the variation of the associated (φ, Γ) -modules is a central tool [BC09]. One recent result, see [KPX14, Liu15], is that if a p -adic family of (φ, Γ) -modules is pointwise completely reducible, i.e. a successive extension of rank-one objects, then it is also completely reducible in the family, at least generically. In language perhaps known to the reader, and used in this paper, pointwise triangulations in p -adic families extend to triangulations over open dense loci. This follows in the tradition of the famous reducibility of local Galois representations over Hida families [MW86].

However, there are arithmetically interesting points which fail to lie in global triangulation loci. The most concrete example is a point on the Coleman and Mazur eigencurve [CM98] corresponding to the non-unit p -stabilization of a p -ordinary CM form. Such points lie in the image of one of Coleman’s θ -maps [Ber14] and the associated p -adic L -function exhibits curious behavior [Bel12].

The aim of this article is to give a detailed account of the variation of (φ, Γ) -modules near classical points in p -adic families of automorphic forms, especially those which are known not to lie in a global triangulation locus. Note that we will be concerned with (φ, Γ_K) -modules for K/\mathbf{Q}_p a finite extension, but for the purposes of the introduction we will assume $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$. There is no loss of content, only notation.

1.1 Trianguline (φ, Γ) -modules

We use \mathcal{R} to denote the Robba ring over \mathbf{Q}_p . It is the ring consisting of analytic functions f converging on a p -adic half-open annulus $r(f) \leq |T| < 1$, for some radius $r(f)$ depending on f . There are continuous commuting actions of a Frobenius operator φ and the group $\Gamma \simeq \mathbf{Z}_p^\times$.

A (φ, Γ) -module D is a finite free \mathcal{R} -module equipped with commuting, \mathcal{R} -semilinear actions of φ and Γ , such that $\varphi(D)$ generates D as a \mathcal{R} -module (see [Ber02]). The rank-one (φ, Γ) -modules are parameterized by continuous characters δ of \mathbf{Q}_p^\times . If δ is such a character we denote the corresponding (φ, Γ) -module by $\mathcal{R}(\delta)$.

A triangulation of a (φ, Γ) -module D is a filtration P_\bullet

$$0 = P_0 \subsetneq P_1 \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_{d-1} \subsetneq P_d = D$$

by (φ, Γ) -submodules, such that each successive quotient $P_i/P_{i-1} \simeq \mathcal{R}(\delta_i)$ is a rank-one (φ, Γ) -module. The ordered tuple $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$ is called the parameter of P_\bullet . We say D is trianguline if it may be equipped with a triangulation. Examples coming from Galois representations show there may be many ways to triangulate a given D .

By the work of Fontaine, Cherbonnier–Colmez, Kedlaya and Berger, see [Ber02], there is a fully faithful embedding $V \mapsto D_{\text{rig}}(V)$ which associates a (φ, Γ) -module to each continuous, finite-dimensional representation V of $G_{\mathbf{Q}_p}$. If V is crystalline, then $D_{\text{rig}}(V)$ is trianguline and, generically, the triangulations of $D_{\text{rig}}(V)$ are in bijection with the orderings of eigenvalues for the crystalline Frobenius acting on $D_{\text{cris}}(V)$.

The global context of trianguline (φ, Γ) -modules, and thus this article, is spaces of p -adic automorphic forms. It is a folklore conjecture, generalizing a conjecture of Fontaine and Mazur [FM95], that an irreducible \mathbf{Q}_p -linear, finite-dimensional representation of the global Galois group $G_{\mathbf{Q}}$ which is:

- unramified at all but a finite set of primes; and
- trianguline at p ;

should (essentially) appear in a space of finite slope p -adic automorphic forms. A precise statement was written down by Hansen recently, see [Han14, Conjecture 1.2.3]. The only known result is due to Emerton and settles the question in dimension two, via local–global compatibility in the p -adic Langlands program for GL_2/\mathbf{Q} (see [Eme, Theorem 1.2.4(1)]). The converse, that global representations attached to p -adic automorphic forms are trianguline at p , is known in many situations by [KPX14, Liu15], including eigenvarieties attached to definite unitary groups. This plays a role in recent conjectures of Breuil [Bre15] regarding aspects of the p -adic local Langlands program for $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbf{Q}_p)$ with $n > 2$.

1.2 Critical triangulations

The basic notions of p -adic Hodge theory (for example, Hodge–Tate–Sen weights and crystalline objects) extend to the category of (φ, Γ) -modules. If $D = \mathcal{R}(\delta)$, then the Hodge–Tate–Sen weight is

$$\mathrm{wt}(\delta) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \Big|_{\gamma=1} \delta(\gamma).$$

If D is triangulated with parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$ then the Hodge–Tate–Sen weights of D are $\{\mathrm{wt}(\delta_i)\}_{i=1, \dots, d}$. The following definition is key for the statement of our theorem. A more general definition will be given in the text (see § 3.2).

DEFINITION 1.1. Let D be a crystalline (φ, Γ) -module with distinct Hodge–Tate weights $k_1 < \dots < k_d$. If $P \subset D$ is a saturated (φ, Γ) -submodule of rank i , then P is called non-critical if the lowest i weights $\{k_1, \dots, k_i\}$ are the Hodge–Tate weights of P .

Note that D is always a non-critical (φ, Γ) -submodule of itself. We extend the notion of non-critical to a triangulation P_{\bullet} by declaring a triangulation P_{\bullet} to be non-critical if P_i is non-critical for each i . This agrees with the original definition of Bellaïche and Chenevier [BC09]. More generally, we have the following construction. If D is a crystalline (φ, Γ) -module and P_{\bullet} is a triangulation, then we define the non-critical indices

$$I^{\mathrm{nc}} = \{i : P_i \text{ is non-critical}\} = \{0 = i_0 < i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_s = d\}$$

and a filtration (called a parabolization, rather than a triangulation, following Chenevier [Che11])

$$P_{\bullet}^{\mathrm{nc}} : 0 = P_0^{\mathrm{nc}} \subsetneq P_1^{\mathrm{nc}} \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq P_s^{\mathrm{nc}} = D$$

by declaring that $P_j^{\mathrm{nc}} = P_{i_j}$ for $j = 0, 1, \dots, s$. In short, $P_{\bullet}^{\mathrm{nc}}$ only knows the non-critical steps in the triangulation P_{\bullet} ; it is called the maximal non-critical parabolization of P_{\bullet} .

1.3 Refined families and p -adic variation

Now suppose that X is a reduced rigid analytic space over \mathbf{Q}_p . In § 6.1 we will define and consider so-called refined families (φ, Γ) -modules over X . For now it suffices to know that a refined family $D_X = \{D_x\}_x$ is a family of (φ, Γ) -modules over a relative Robba ring \mathcal{R}_X with the following properties:

- there exists continuous characters $\delta_i : \mathbf{Q}_p^\times \rightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O})^\times$; and
- Zariski-dense sets of points $X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}} \subset X_{\text{cl}} \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$;

such that:

- if $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$, then D_x is crystalline with distinct Hodge–Tate weights; and
- if $x \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}}$, then D_x is triangulated by a non-critical triangulation $P_{\bullet, x}$ whose parameter is $(\delta_{1, x}, \dots, \delta_{d, x})$.

Here, $\delta_{i, x} : \mathbf{Q}_p^\times \rightarrow L(x)^\times$ is the character with values in the residue field $L(x)$ obtained by post-composing with the evaluation map at x . It follows from [KPX14, Theorem 6.3.13] or [Liu15, Theorem 5.45] that in a neighborhood of a point $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$, each (φ, Γ) -module D_x is triangulated by a triangulation $P_{\bullet, x}$, which is essentially canonical as long as x_0 is sufficiently generic (see Proposition 6.5). But note that the parameter of $P_{\bullet, x}$ may (and will in critical cases) differ from the natural choice $(\delta_{1, x}, \dots, \delta_{d, x})$.

Our main result shows that despite the possible non-variation of the pointwise parameters, the maximal non-critical parabolization of P_{\bullet, x_0} varies analytically. Strictly speaking, we only defined $P_{\bullet, x}^{\text{nc}}$ for certain points $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ but there is a way of extending the definition to every point (which requires reference to the family).

THEOREM A (Theorem 6.8). *If D_X is a refined family of (φ, Γ) -modules and $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$ is very φ -regular,¹ then there exists an open affinoid neighborhood $U \subset X$ and a filtration*

$$0 = P_0^{\text{nc}} \subsetneq P_1^{\text{nc}} \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq P_{s-1}^{\text{nc}} \subsetneq P_s^{\text{nc}} = D|_U$$

where each P_i^{nc} is a refined family of (φ, Γ) -modules over U , such that $P_{i, x}^{\text{nc}} = P_{i, U}^{\text{nc}} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}(U)} L(x)$ for all $x \in U$.

The result is optimal in the following sense. If $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ is non-critical, then the Hodge–Tate weights of $P_{i, x}$ are $\{\text{wt}(\delta_{1, x}), \text{wt}(\delta_{2, x}), \dots, \text{wt}(\delta_{i, x})\}$. Thus, for general $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ Sen’s theory of Hodge–Tate weights in families [Sen88] implies one can only hope that $P_{i, x}$ extends to an affinoid neighborhood of x provided that the Hodge–Tate weights of $P_{i, x}$ are $\{\text{wt}(\delta_{1, x}), \dots, \text{wt}(\delta_{i, x})\}$, i.e. $P_{i, x}$ can only vary well in a family if it is a non-critical step in the triangulation at x .

The history of our result is relatively short. In the case where x_0 is non-critical, so an entire triangulation extends to affinoid neighborhoods, Theorem A has two independent proofs, given essentially at the same time. One proof was given by Liu [Liu15] using a generalization of Kisin’s interpolation of crystalline periods [Kis03, BC09] over general affinoid bases. The other proof was given by Kedlaya *et al.* [KPX14] and relied explicitly² on the finiteness of Galois cohomology for families of (φ, Γ) -modules (also proven in [KPX14]). Neither work makes any general comment on what to expect at a general classical point, especially in the critically triangulated case.

Our technique is inspired by the latter proof [KPX14] and separate work of Liu emphasizing the utility of torsion (φ, Γ) -modules [Liu07]. To explain this, let us recall the Kedlaya–Pottharst–Xiao proof of Theorem A in the non-critical case.

Under mild regularity assumptions one can check, using the finiteness of Galois cohomology in families, that $\text{Hom}_{(\varphi, \Gamma)}(\mathcal{R}_X(\delta_1), D_X)$ is locally free of rank one near x_0 . Indeed, it may be checked point-by-point, and essentially just at the point x_0 and the points in $X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}}$. Choose an everywhere non-vanishing morphism $\mathbf{e} : \mathcal{R}_X(\delta_1) \rightarrow D_X$. The non-critical hypothesis on x_0 means

¹ This is a technical condition, and is the same as ‘sufficiently generic’ above. See Definition 6.2.

² The author has been told that Liu’s work established some of these results, implicitly.

that the specialized morphism $\mathbf{e}_{x_0} : \mathcal{R}(\delta_{1,x_0}) \rightarrow D_{x_0}$ has saturated image and, thus, $\text{coker}(\mathbf{e}_{x_0})$ is free. An easy argument shows that one can shrink X so that $\text{coker}(\mathbf{e})$ is a (φ, Γ) -module over X . The rest of the proof of Theorem A is carried about by induction from this case.

A generalization of this strategy, to critical points, requires us to define an *a priori* candidate for the first step P_1^{nc} of the sought after parabolization. In the non-critical case P_1^{nc} is handed to us on a platter as $\mathcal{R}_X(\delta_1)$. However, there seems to be no easy way to guess P_1^{nc} ahead of time.³

The key feature of our proof is to embrace the non-saturatedness of the morphism \mathbf{e}_{x_0} in the critical case. Thus, we proceed by studying more general families of (φ, Γ) -modules whose fibers have \mathcal{R} -torsion in them. We call such modules generalized (φ, Γ) -modules following Liu [Liu07]. In §3, we give a generalization of the notion of a triangulation of a generalized (φ, Γ) -modules which is well-adapted to attacking Theorem A. The novelty of our proof is the introduction of torsion into the fibers at every point in order to canonically describe a candidate for $\text{coker}(P_1^{\text{nc}} \rightarrow D)$, thus producing P_1^{nc} as needed for Theorem A.

1.4 Ramification of weights

Let us finish by mentioning an auxiliary result we prove here on the ramification of weights in refined families. Let D_X be a refined family and $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$. Consider the triangulation P_{\bullet, x_0} and denote its parameter by $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})$. As shown in the text, the lists of distinct weights $\{\text{wt}(\tilde{\delta}_{i,x_0})\}$ and $\{\text{wt}(\delta_{i,x_0})\}$ are the same. Thus, we may define a permutation π_{x_0} by the formula $\text{wt}(\tilde{\delta}_{i,x_0}) = \text{wt}(\delta_{\pi_{x_0}(i),x_0})$. We remark that $\pi_{x_0} = \text{id}$ if and only if x_0 is non-critical.

We now let $T_{x_0}X$ be the Zariski tangent space to X at x_0 . If f is the germ of a function at x_0 and v is a tangent vector, we let $\nabla_v(f)$ denote the directional derivative of f with respect to v . Our second theorem is that certain differences of weights are constant in every tangent direction.

THEOREM B (Theorem 7.1). *If D_X is a refined family over X and $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$ is very φ -regular, then*

$$\nabla_v(\text{wt}(\delta_{\pi_{x_0}(i),u}) - \text{wt}(\delta_{i,u})) = 0$$

for all $i = 1, \dots, d$ and $v \in T_{x_0}X$. In particular, if x_0 is critical, then the weight map ramifies.

Theorem B was noticed independently by the author and Breuil. We reproduce an argument similar to [Bre15, Théorème 9.7] in §7. Our proof will make use Liu’s results on crystalline periods [Liu15]. But we note that such a theorem could have been proven using only the (infinitesimal) study of crystalline periods in the weakly refined families $\wedge^i D$ (as in [BC09, §4.3], for example) combined with deformation calculations similar to [Ber14, Proposition 2.4].

1.5 Organization

Section 2 briefly recalls the theory of (φ, Γ) -modules and the important theorems. Section 3 introduces triangulations and parabolizations, including a definition for torsion (φ, Γ) -modules.

³ We thank E. Hellmann for pointing out the following example which concretely illustrates the issue involved. It is possible to construct two families of rank two of (φ, Γ) -modules D and D' , over certain reasonable loci on a Coleman–Mazur eigencurve such that:

- $D_u \simeq D'_u$, and both are étale, for all u except one point u_0 ; and
- D_{u_0} is étale but D'_{u_0} is not.

Thus, even knowing that D is an extension of two characters on the complement of a point is not enough to determine an extension over the puncture.

Section 4 is a digression into the theorems of [KPX14] and applications. Section 6 contains our result on the variation of parabolizations in p -adic families, and § 5 plays a supporting role. Finally we study the ramification of the weight parameters in § 7. A short appendix is included to deal with a ‘relative’ version of Nakayama’s lemma.

1.6 Notation and conventions

Throughout the text we will make the following conventions. They will follow [KPX14] closely.

We fix an algebraic closure $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ and a p -adic valuation on $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ so that $|p| = p^{-1}$.

Here K will always denote a finite extension \mathbf{Q}_p . We let F be the maximal subfield of K unramified over \mathbf{Q}_p , $f_K = (F : \mathbf{Q}_p)$ the inertial degree of K and e_K the ramification index of K .

We will let $K_\infty = \varinjlim_n K(\zeta_{p^n})$ be the extension obtained by adjoining to K all the p -power roots of unity. The maximal absolutely unramified subextension of K_∞ is denoted by F' . If $H_K = \text{Gal}(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p/K_\infty)$, then we define $\Gamma_K = G_K/H_K$. The cyclotomic character $\Gamma_{\mathbf{Q}_p} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_p^\times$ identifies Γ_K with an open subgroup of \mathbf{Z}_p^\times .

Write Σ_K for the set of all of the embeddings $K \hookrightarrow \overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$. Then L will always denote a finite extension of \mathbf{Q}_p contained in $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$ such that $\tau(K) \subset L$ for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. We allow L to change at will. Note that $L \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} K \simeq \prod_\tau L$ and we denote by e_τ the idempotent in $L \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} K$ which projects onto the τ -component.

2. Review of (φ, Γ_K) -modules

We give a short review of (generalized) (φ, Γ_K) -modules, their relationship with Galois representations and the p -adic arithmetic theory (cohomology, p -adic Hodge theory, etc.). All of the notation from § 1.6 are enforced, including the choice of L for a generic coefficient field containing the image of each embedding of K into $\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p$.

2.1 The Robba ring

We quickly remind the reader of the definition of the Robba ring \mathcal{R} , setting notation for the most part. We note that K is fixed throughout, but that the definition of \mathcal{R} depends on K (we simply suppress it from the notation).

For each pair of rational numbers $0 < s \leq r \leq \infty$ we define a p -adic annulus

$$\mathbf{A}_{F'}^1[s, r] = \{T : p^{-r/(p-1)} \leq |T| \leq p^{-s/(p-1)}\}$$

over F' . When $r = \infty$ this is a p -adic disc. We also let

$$\mathbf{A}_{F'}^1(0, r] = \{T : p^{-r/(p-1)} \leq |T| < 1\}.$$

be the half-open annulus. We denote by $\mathcal{R}^{[s, r]}$ the formal substitution of a certain indeterminate π_K , arising from the field of norms, for the variable T in the ring of functions on $\mathbf{A}_{F'}^1[s, r]$. This is the ring denoted by $\mathcal{R}^{[s, r]}(\pi_K)$ in [KPX14].

If A is a \mathbf{Q}_p -affinoid algebra, then we denote $\mathcal{R}_A^{[s, r]} = \mathcal{R}^{[s, r]} \widehat{\otimes}_{\mathbf{Q}_p} A$. Let $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ be the associated affinoid space to A . Then $\mathcal{R}_A^{[s, r]}$ is abstractly isomorphic to the ring of rigid analytic functions on $X^{[s, r]} := \mathbf{A}^1[s, r]_{F'} \times_{\text{Sp } \mathbf{Q}_p} \text{Sp } A$. Thus, it is a noetherian Banach algebra when equipped with the usual Gauss norm.

If $0 < s < s' \leq r \leq \infty$, then there is an injective restriction morphism $\mathcal{R}_A^{[s, r]} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_A^{[s', r]}$ which is flat and has dense image. We then define $\mathcal{R}_A^r := \bigcap_{0 < s \leq r} \mathcal{R}_A^{[s, r]}$ and the *relative Robba ring*

over A is

$$\mathcal{R}_A = \bigcup_{0 < r} \mathcal{R}_A^r.$$

The ring \mathcal{R}_A^r is the global sections on the rigid space $X^r := \mathbf{A}_{F'}^1(0, r] \times_{\mathrm{Sp} \mathbf{Q}_p} X$, the relative half open annulus. We will also use the notation \mathcal{R}_X^r and \mathcal{R}_X with the obvious meaning.

Returning to the closed annuli, for any $0 < s \leq r$ there is a continuous action of the group $\Gamma_K \rightarrow \mathrm{Gal}(F'/F)$ on the F' coefficients in $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}$; we can extend this canonically, up to the choice of π_K , to the ring $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}$. When r is sufficiently small there is also an operator $\varphi : \mathcal{R}^{[s,r]} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^{[s/p,r/p]}$ called Frobenius which acts on the coefficients in F' via the usual Frobenius action and acts on π_K by a choice,⁴ again, canonically up to π_K . The operator φ turns $\mathcal{R}^{[s/p,r/p]}$ into a finite free $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}$ -module of rank p . Furthermore, φ extends to an operator $\varphi : \mathcal{R}^r \rightarrow \mathcal{R}^{r/p}$ and thus also extends to an operator on \mathcal{R} . When X is an affinoid space we extend the actions of Γ_K and φ to the relative Robba rings by acting trivially on the coefficients A .

There are two ways to view $\mathcal{R}_X^{r/p}$ as a module over \mathcal{R}_X^r , either by the restriction map or the operator φ . If Q is a module over \mathcal{R}_X^r , then we denote by φ^*Q the extension of scalars $\varphi^*Q := Q \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r, \varphi} \mathcal{R}_X^{r/p}$ and $Q|_{(0,r/p]}$ the $\mathcal{R}_X^{r/p}$ -module obtained by using the restriction map.

DEFINITION 2.1. A generalized φ -module over X^r is a finitely presented \mathcal{R}_X^r -module Q together with an isomorphism $\varphi^*Q \simeq Q|_{(0,r/p]}$ of $\mathcal{R}_X^{r/p}$ -modules. We say that Q is a φ -module if Q is also projective.

We now fix $r_0 > 0$. Since X is affinoid, so is $X^{[s,r]}$. Thus, by Kiehl’s theorem [BGR84, Theorem 9.4.3/3], global sections give an equivalence of categories

$$\{\text{finite } \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}\text{-modules}\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{coherent sheaves on } X^{[s,r]}\}.$$

Since X^{r_0} is admissibly covered by affinoid opens $\{X^{[s,r]}\}_{0 < s \leq r \leq r_0}$, a coherent sheaf \mathcal{Q} on X^{r_0} is the same as a system $\mathcal{Q} = (Q^{[s,r]})_{0 < s \leq r \leq r_0}$ of finite $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}$ -modules satisfying the obvious compatibilities. The global sections of a sheaf \mathcal{Q} may be calculated by

$$Q = \Gamma(X^{r_0}, \mathcal{Q}) = \varprojlim_{0 < s} Q^{[s,r_0]}.$$

If Q is a finitely presented module over X^{r_0} , then there is a coherent sheaf defined by the compatible family $Q^{[s,r]} := Q \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{r_0}} \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}$. We pause to include an auxiliary result on finitely presented modules over X^r . It applies, in particular, to all generalized φ -modules.

LEMMA 2.2. *Suppose that Q is a finitely presented \mathcal{R}_X^r -module and $f \in \mathcal{R}^r$. Then Q/f is finite projective over \mathcal{R}_X^r/f if and only if $Q^{[s,r]}/f$ is finite projective over $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}/f$ for each $0 < s \leq r$.*

Proof. Since Q is assumed to be finitely presented over \mathcal{R}_X^r , the same is true for Q/f over \mathcal{R}_X^r/f and thus by [Mat89, Corollary 7.12] it suffices to replace ‘projective’ with ‘flat’ in the statement of the lemma.

Even without that, one direction is clear: if Q/f is finite projective over \mathcal{R}_X^r/f , then $Q^{[s,r]}/f = Q/f \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} \mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}/f$ is finite projective over $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r]}/f$ for each $0 < s \leq r$.

⁴ When $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$ then the choice of π_K can be made so that $\varphi(\pi_K) = (1 + \pi_K)^p - 1$ and $\gamma(\pi_K) = (1 + \pi_K)^{\chi_{\mathrm{cycl}}(\gamma)} - 1$. Moreover, the operator φ is defined as soon as $r < 1$.

We will now prove the reverse direction, so assume that $Q^{[s,r]}/f$ is flat over $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f$ for each $0 < s \leq r$. By [Mat89, Theorem 7.7] it suffices to show that

$$I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} Q/f \rightarrow Q/f \tag{1}$$

is injective for every finitely generated ideal $I \subset \mathcal{R}_X^r/f$. Now we use the language of ‘co-admissible’ modules originally due to Schneider and Teitelbaum [ST03], and we will reference [KPX14, § 2.1]. By [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.4(7)] the \mathcal{R}_X^r -module \mathcal{R}_X^r/f is co-admissible, and thus so is $I \subset \mathcal{R}_X^r/f$ by [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.4(6)]. Since Q is co-admissible so is $Q/f = \text{coker}(Q \xrightarrow{f} Q)$ by [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.4(5)]. Thus, (1) is a morphism of co-admissible \mathcal{R}_X^r -modules and hence is injective if and only if

$$(I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} Q/f)^{[s,r]} \rightarrow Q^{[s,r]}/f \tag{2}$$

is injective for each $0 < s \leq r$. But we see

$$(I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} Q/f)^{[s,r]} \simeq (I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f} Q^{[s,r]}/f$$

and then since $\mathcal{R}_X^r/f \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f$ is flat we see that $I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^r/f} \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f = I \cdot \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f$ is an ideal in $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f$. In particular, this shows that the map (2) may be identified with the natural map

$$I \cdot \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f} Q^{[s,r]}/f \rightarrow Q^{[s,r]}/f,$$

which is injective because $Q^{[s,r]}/f$ is flat over $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r]}/f$ by assumption. This completes the proof. \square

Returning to φ -modules, if Q is a generalized φ -module, then the isomorphism $\varphi^*Q \simeq Q|_{(0,r_0/p]}$ translates into the choice of a compatible system of isomorphisms $\varphi^*Q^{[s,r]} \simeq Q^{[s/p,r/p]}$. In fact, all generalized φ -modules arise this way.

PROPOSITION 2.3. *There is an equivalence of categories*

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{generalized } \varphi\text{-modules} \\ \text{over } X^{r_0} \end{array} \right\} \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{coherent sheaves } \mathcal{Q} = (Q^{[s,r]}) \text{ on } X^{r_0} \text{ equipped} \\ \text{with naturally compatible isomorphisms} \\ \varphi^*Q^{[s,r]} \cong Q^{[s/p,r/p]} \end{array} \right\}.$$

Moreover, the φ -modules on the left-hand side correspond to sheaves on the right-hand side for which each $Q^{[s,r]}$ is projective.

Proof. We have just explained how to go from the left-hand side to the right-hand side. Suppose we start on the right-hand side with a coherent sheaf $\mathcal{Q} = (Q^{[s,r]})$. It is clear that all we need to do is show that its global sections are finitely presented. Choose a finite presentation for $Q^{[r_0/p,r_0]}$. By assumption this uniformly (in terms of generators and relations) gives a finite presentation for $(\varphi^*)^n Q^{[r_0/p,r_0]} \simeq Q^{[r_0/p^{n+1},r_0/p^n]}$. Thus \mathcal{Q} is uniformly finitely presented in the sense of [KPX14, § 2.1]. By [KPX14, Proposition 2.1.13], the global sections of \mathcal{Q} are finitely presented. \square

Remark. The global sections of a coherent sheaf on X^{r_0} need not have any finiteness properties (see the example in [Bel15, § 2.1.2, p. 380]). The key for the previous proposition is that the presence of the φ -operator imposes a uniformly finitely presented condition over the closed annuli.

COROLLARY 2.4. *The category of generalized φ -modules over X^{r_0} is abelian.*

Proof. The category of coherent sheaves on X^{r_0} is abelian by [BGR84, Proposition 9.4.3/2]. Thus we just need to show that if $f : \mathcal{Q} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ is a morphism of the corresponding sheaves, then $\ker(f)$ and $\operatorname{coker}(f)$ satisfy the obvious compatibilities. But φ^* is exact because φ presents $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s/p, r/p]}$ as free over $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s, r]}$, so this is immediate. \square

There is another way one might think about the φ -pullback condition on generalized φ -modules. If Q is a generalized φ -module over X^{r_0} then the choice of isomorphism $\varphi^*Q \simeq Q|_{(0, r_0/p]}$ defines an operator, by $Q \hookrightarrow \varphi^*Q \simeq Q|_{(0, r_0/p]}$ which we also denote by φ . If $f \in \mathcal{R}_X^{r_0}$ and $x \in Q$, then $\varphi(fx) = \varphi(f)\varphi(x)$ and so this version of φ is naturally a semilinear operator (albeit with a different source than target).

DEFINITION 2.5. A generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q over X^{r_0} is a generalized φ -module over X^{r_0} equipped with a continuous $\mathcal{R}_X^{r_0}$ -semilinear action of Γ_K which commutes with φ . If we drop the word generalized, we insist that Q be a φ -module.

Note that we insist that Γ_K preserve the radius r_0 of the generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module. We are now ready to remove the finite radius assumption.

DEFINITION 2.6. A generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q over X is the base change of a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module $Q = Q^{r_0} \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{r_0}} \mathcal{R}_X$ over X^{r_0} for some $r_0 > 0$. If we drop the word generalized, we insist that Q be a (φ, Γ_K) -module.

If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ) -module, then there exists an $r_0 > 0$ such that Q arises via base change from a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q^{r_0} over X^{r_0} . Thus, for any $r_0 > r'_0$, Q also arises geometrically from $Q^{r'_0} := Q|_{(0, r'_0]}$. In particular, if Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, then we may always take a radius sufficiently small to make sense of the notation Q^{r_0} .

By a morphism $f : Q \rightarrow Q'$ of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules we mean a continuous (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant morphism of \mathcal{R}_X -modules. By definition, there must exist an $r_0 > 0$ so that f arises from base change of a map $f^{r_0} : Q^{r_0} \rightarrow (Q')^{r_0}$ for r_0 sufficiently small. The space of all morphisms will be denoted by $\operatorname{Hom}(Q, Q')$. This is also a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module in the natural way. Taking $Q' = \mathcal{R}_X$ we obtain the dual module Q^\vee , which we will only use if Q is a (φ, Γ_K) -module.

At various points in §§ 5 and 6 we will need to shrink an affinoid space X to an affinoid subdomain $U = \operatorname{Sp} B \subset X$. Given such a U and a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q over X we denote by $Q|_U$ the \mathcal{R}_U -module defined by

$$Q|_U := Q \widehat{\otimes}_{\mathcal{R}_X} \mathcal{R}_U = Q \widehat{\otimes}_A B.$$

Note since Q is finitely presented over \mathcal{R}_A , the first part of the definition could equivalently be taken to be $Q|_U = Q \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X} \mathcal{R}_U$. We record the following result for later use.

PROPOSITION 2.7. *If $U \subset X$ is an affinoid subdomain, then the association $Q \mapsto Q|_U$ defines an exact functor from the category of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X to the category of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over U .*

Proof. The proposition reduces to the same result for generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X^{r_0} for each $r_0 > 0$ (and the corresponding open affinoid subdomain $U^{r_0} \subset X^{r_0}$). Once that reduction has been made, we deduce our result from Proposition 2.3. The main point is that the exactness follows from the corresponding result for coherent sheaves on rigid spaces (see [BGR84, Proposition 9.4.1/1] for example). \square

2.2 Galois representations

It will be useful to remind ourselves of the following connection between Galois representations and (φ, Γ_K) -modules. If A is an affinoid \mathbf{Q}_p -algebra, then by an A -linear representation of G_K we mean a finite projective A -module V together with a continuous A -linear action of the Galois group G_K .

THEOREM 2.8. *Let $X = \mathrm{Sp}(A)$. There is a fully faithful, exact embedding*

$$D_{\mathrm{rig}} : \{A\text{-linear representations } V \text{ of } G_K\} \hookrightarrow \{(\varphi, \Gamma_K)\text{-modules over } \mathcal{R}_X\}$$

such that:

- (a) D_{rig} commutes with base change $A \rightarrow A'$; and
- (b) when A is finite over \mathbf{Q}_p , D_{rig} is essentially surjective onto the category of étale (φ, Γ_K) -modules.

The theorem as we have stated it can be read off from [KL10, Theorems 3.11 and 0.2]. The earliest results were proven when A is a field. For that, Fontaine and separately, Cherbonnier and Colmez, gave proofs with the caveat that the Robba ring is replaced with a different ring of analytic functions on affinoid subdomains of discs (see [Fon90] and [CC98]). The key step in extending the theorem to the Robba ring as we have discussed it was Kedlaya’s theorem on slope filtrations [Ked04]. The family results are more recent and one does not in general have a description of the essential image.

2.3 Rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -modules

Rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -modules over A are parametrized, essentially, by continuous characters $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$. Let us recall the construction of (φ, Γ_K) -modules of character type. Note that by [KPX14, Theorem 6.2.14] every rank-one (φ, Γ_K) arises, locally on A , from one of character type.

Choose a uniformizer ϖ_K of K . We can write $\delta = \delta^{\mathrm{nr}} \delta^{\mathrm{wt}}$ where $\delta^{\mathrm{nr}}|_{\mathcal{O}_K^\times} = 1$ and $\delta^{\mathrm{wt}}(\varpi_K) = 1$. Then, δ^{wt} extends in a unique manner to the abelianization of the Galois group G_K^{ab} , using the local Artin map, and we denote $\widehat{\delta}^{\mathrm{wt}}$ the corresponding Galois character $\widehat{\delta}^{\mathrm{wt}} : G_K \rightarrow A^\times$. On the other hand, by [KPX14, Lemma 6.2.3] there is a unique rank-one free $(F \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} A)$ -module $D_{\delta^{\mathrm{nr}}(\varpi_K)}$ equipped with an operator φ , semilinear with respect to $\varphi \otimes 1$, such that $\varphi^{\mathbf{f}_K} = 1 \otimes \delta^{\mathrm{nr}}(\varpi_K)$. We give it the trivial Γ_K -action and define the rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -module

$$\mathcal{R}_A(\delta) := (D_{\delta^{\mathrm{nr}}(\varpi_K)} \otimes_{F \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} A} \mathcal{R}_A) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_A} D_{\mathrm{rig}}(\widehat{\delta}^{\mathrm{wt}}).$$

This is independent of any choices made and satisfies $\mathcal{R}_A(\delta\delta') \simeq \mathcal{R}_A(\delta) \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_A} \mathcal{R}_A(\delta')$. Thus, it makes sense to define $D(\delta) := D \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_A} \mathcal{R}_A(\delta)$ for any generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A .

Assume now that A is an L -algebra for L as in § 1.6. If $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$ is a character, then we can define its weights as follows. The group K^\times , as a group over \mathbf{Q}_p , has a Lie algebra of dimension $(K : \mathbf{Q}_p) = \#\Sigma_K$. The differential action gives rise to a weights $(\mathrm{wt}_\tau(\delta))_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \in K \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} A \simeq \prod_\tau A_\tau$ such that

$$0 = \lim_{\substack{a \rightarrow 0 \\ a \in \mathcal{O}_K}} \frac{|\delta(1+a) - 1 + \sum_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \mathrm{wt}_\tau(\delta)\tau(a)|}{|a|_K}.$$

It is easy to see that $(\mathrm{wt}_\tau(\delta))_\tau$ only depends only δ^{wt} in the decomposition of the previous paragraph (thus the notation). We have normalized the weights so that if $z : K^\times \rightarrow K^\times$ is the identity character, then $\mathrm{wt}_\tau(z) = -1$ for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$.

2.4 p -adic Hodge theory

The definition of weight given above is a special case of extending the usual Fontaine functors $D_{\text{Sen}}, D_{\text{dR}}, D_{\text{cris}}$, etc. from p -adic Hodge theory to the category of (φ, Γ_K) modules. In particular, we have the notions of Hodge–Tate–Sen weights, crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -modules, etc. We will not recall the definitions and will refer to [Ber02, Ber08] as needed.

One of Berger’s main results [Ber08, Théorème A] is that the functor $D_{\text{pst}}(-)$ induces an equivalence

$$\{\text{potentially semistable } (\varphi, \Gamma_K)\text{-modules over } L\} \xrightarrow{D_{\text{pst}}} \{\text{filtered } (\varphi, N, G_K)\text{-modules over } L\}.$$

The subcategory of crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -modules is equivalent to the full subcategory of filtered φ -modules over L . The étale (φ, Γ_K) -modules (the Galois representations, following Theorem 2.8) correspond to the weakly admissible modules on the right-hand side.

Suppose that D is crystalline. The $L \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} K$ -module $D_{\text{cris}}(D)_K := D_{\text{cris}}(D) \otimes_F K$ is equipped with an exhaustive and separated decreasing filtration $\text{Fil}^\bullet D_{\text{cris}}(D)_K$. We denote by $\text{HT}_\tau(D)$ the multi-set of integers such that the induced filtration on the L -vector space $D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau} = e_\tau D_{\text{cris}}(D)_K$ has jumps given with multiplicity by $\text{HT}_\tau(D)$. It is easy to see that if $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ is a character such that $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta)$ is crystalline then $\text{HT}_\tau(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta)) = \text{wt}_\tau(\delta)$. For example, $D_{\text{cris}}(\mathcal{R}_L) = F \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} L$ with the trivial φ^{f_K} -action and for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ we have $\text{HT}_\tau(\mathcal{R}_L) = 0$.

If $\tau : K \hookrightarrow L$ is an embedding then we denote the corresponding character $K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ by z_τ . It happens that $D_{\text{cris}}(\mathcal{R}_L(z_\tau))$ is a filtered φ -module with trivial φ^{f_K} -action and the Hodge–Tate filtration has weights

$$\text{HT}_\sigma(\mathcal{R}_L(z_\tau)) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } \sigma = \tau, \\ 0 & \text{if } \sigma \neq \tau. \end{cases}$$

In particular, $D_{\text{cris}}(\mathcal{R}_L(z_\tau)) \subset D_{\text{cris}}(\mathcal{R}_L)$ as filtered φ -modules. Thus, $\mathcal{R}_L(z_\tau) = t_\tau \mathcal{R}_L$ for some t_τ , uniquely determined up to unit in \mathcal{R}_L .

PROPOSITION 2.9. *Every (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of \mathcal{R}_L is of the form $(\prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} t_\tau^{r_\tau}) \mathcal{R}_L$ for some collection of non-negative integers $r_\tau \geq 0$.*

Proof. See [KPX14, Corollary 6.2.9]. □

It is easy to see $t_\tau \mathcal{R}_L$ and $t_\sigma \mathcal{R}_L$ are maximally coprime if $\sigma \neq \tau$. Indeed, $D = t_\tau \mathcal{R}_L + t_\sigma \mathcal{R}_L$ is (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of \mathcal{R}_L whose Hodge–Tate weights, computed by passing to $D_{\text{pst}}(D)$, are zero (for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$). The element $t = \prod_\tau t_\tau$ is, up to a unit, the ubiquitous t which plays the role of the p -adic $2\pi i$ in all of p -adic Hodge theory. The (φ, Γ_K) -submodule $t\mathcal{R}_L$ is crystalline, its τ -Hodge–Tate weight is -1 for each τ and $\varphi(t) = pt$.

2.5 Galois cohomology

Suppose that A is an affinoid algebra and that Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A . Let $\Delta_K \subset \Gamma_K$ be the p -torsion subgroup (which only exists if $p = 2$) and choose a topological generator $\gamma_0 \in \Gamma_K/\Delta_K$. One then defines the Herr complex [Her98] as the three-term complex $C_{\gamma_0}^\bullet(D)$

$$Q^{\Delta_K} \xrightarrow{x \mapsto ((\varphi-1)x, (\gamma_0-1)x)} (Q^{\Delta_K})^{\oplus 2} \xrightarrow{(y,z) \mapsto (\gamma_0-1)y - (\varphi-1)z} Q^{\Delta_K}.$$

The Galois cohomology groups $H^\bullet(Q)$ of Q are defined to be the cohomology groups of the complex $C_{\gamma_0}^\bullet(Q)$. The complexes depend on the choice of γ_0 up to canonical quasi-isomorphism, so the cohomology is well-defined.

When A is finite over L , the Galois cohomology is finite-dimensional and satisfies an Euler–Poincaré formula [Liu07]

$$\sum_{i=0}^2 (-1)^i \dim_L H^i(Q) = -(K : \mathbf{Q}_p) \operatorname{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_L} Q,$$

where the rank of a torsion module must be suitably interpreted (see § 2.6). The finiteness is true over general affinoid L -algebras A in the case of (φ, Γ_K) -modules by [KPX14]. We will review that result in § 4.

But now let us review the dimensions of the cohomology of rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -modules over a field. To shorten notation, if $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ is a continuous character we denote $H^\bullet(\delta) := H^\bullet(\mathcal{R}_A(\delta))$. We let $\widehat{T}(L)$ be the space of continuous characters $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$. Define two special subsets of $\widehat{T}(L)$ by

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{T}(L)^+ &= \left\{ \delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times : \delta = \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} z_\tau^{r_\tau} \text{ with } r_\tau \leq 0 \text{ for each } \tau \right\}, \\ \widehat{T}(L)^- &= \left\{ \delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times : \delta = |N_{K/\mathbf{Q}_p}| \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} z_\tau^{r_\tau} \text{ with } r_\tau \geq 1 \text{ for each } \tau \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

The elements of $\widehat{T}(L)$ which are not in $\widehat{T}(L)^+$ or $\widehat{T}(L)^-$ are called generic characters.

PROPOSITION 2.10. *Let $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ be a continuous character. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} \dim_L H^0(\delta) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \delta \in \widehat{T}(L)^+, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \\ \dim_L H^1(\delta) &= \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } \delta \in \widehat{T}(L)^+ \cup \widehat{T}(L)^-, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \\ \dim_L H^2(\delta) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \delta \in \widehat{T}(L)^-, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. See [KPX14, Proposition 6.2.8]) (or [Nak09, § 2.3]). □

Let us finish this subsection with a definition.

DEFINITION 2.11. Suppose that $\delta, \delta' \in \widehat{T}(L)$.

(a) We say that δ and δ' are homothetic if there exists integers $(r_\tau)_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ such that $\delta = \delta' \prod_{\tau} z_\tau^{r_\tau}$.

(b) We say that δ and δ' are generic up to homothety if $\delta' \delta^{-1} \prod_{\tau} z_\tau^{r_\tau}$ is generic for every tuple $(r_\tau)_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ of integers.

To put the previous definition in context, if δ and δ' are homothetic, then following Proposition 2.10 we can find an integer r such that $t^r \mathcal{R}_L(\delta) \hookrightarrow \mathcal{R}_L(\delta')$. Thus, $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta)$ and $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta')$ are in a sense commensurable. If δ and δ' are generic up to homothety, then $H^2(\eta) = H^0(\eta) = (0)$ for all characters η homothetic to $\delta' \delta^{-1}$.

2.6 Torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules

Note that

$$\mathcal{R}_L = \mathcal{R} \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} L = \mathcal{R} \otimes_F (F \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} L) = \prod_{\eta \in \text{Gal}(F/\mathbf{Q}_p)} \mathcal{R} \otimes_F L.$$

By [Ber02, Proposition 4.12], each term in the product is an adequate Bézout domain. In particular, finitely generated \mathcal{R}_L modules are free if and only if they are torsion free (with respect to the total ring of divisors) and there is a robust theory of elementary divisors over \mathcal{R}_L . As a consequence, a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over L is a (φ, Γ_K) -module if and only if it is torsion-free as an \mathcal{R}_L -module.

The element $t \in \mathcal{R}_L$ is an example of a non-zero divisor. If S is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module we let $S[t^\infty]$ denote the t -power torsion submodule. Since $t \in \mathcal{R}$ is an eigenvector for φ and Γ_K , $S[t^\infty]$ is a (φ, Γ_K) -submodule.

DEFINITION 2.12. Let A be an L -affinoid algebra. A torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module over A is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module S over A such that $S[t^\infty] = S$. We say that S is pure if either $S = 0$ or if S is free over $\mathcal{R}_A / (\prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_\tau})$ for some collection of integers $r_\tau \geq 0$, not all of which are zero.

The typical example of a pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module is $\mathcal{R}_L / (\prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_\tau}) \mathcal{R}_L(\delta)$ for some continuous character $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ and non-negative integers r_τ .

LEMMA 2.13. A generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over L is a (φ, Γ_K) -module if and only if it is t -torsion free. Any torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module over L is a successive extension of pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules.

Proof. The lemma is proven in the case $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$ in [Liu07, Proposition 4.1]. The proof in this case is the same, the main point being Proposition 2.9. We reproduce it for convenience.

Let D be a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module. If it is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module, then it obviously cannot have t -torsion. Now suppose that D is t -torsion free, and to show that D is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module it suffices to show that it is torsion free.

Since D is finitely generated as a \mathcal{R}_L -module, and \mathcal{R}_L is a Bézout domain, we have the theory of elementary divisors. Thus, there exists a finite number of elements $d_1, \dots, d_m \in D$ which generate D over \mathcal{R}_L such that the ideals $f_i \mathcal{R}_L := \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)$ are principal and $f_1 \mathcal{R}_L \supset f_2 \mathcal{R}_L \supset \dots \supset f_m \mathcal{R}_L$. The ideals $\{f_i \mathcal{R}_L\}$ are then uniquely determined by this property. We claim that each non-zero f_i is a unit, which implies that D is torsion free. Without loss of generality we can assume that $f_m \neq 0$ and show that f_m is a unit.

We will first show that each ideal $f_i \mathcal{R}_L$ is a (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of \mathcal{R}_L . If $\gamma \in \Gamma_K$ then it is easy to see that $\{\gamma(d_i)\}$ also generates D as a \mathcal{R}_L -module. Furthermore, $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(\gamma(d_i)) \subset \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(\gamma(d_{i-1}))$ for $1 < i \leq m$. Thus, by the uniqueness in the theory of elementary divisors, we have $\gamma(\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L} \gamma(d_i) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)$ for each i . This shows that each ideal $f_i \mathcal{R}_L$ is Γ_K -stable.

On the other hand, one may also check that the elementary divisors for $\varphi^* D$ are the ideals $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i \otimes 1)$ (the elements $d_i \otimes 1$ written as tensors in $\varphi^* D = D \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_L, \varphi} \mathcal{R}_L$). Since $\varphi^* D \simeq D$ the elementary divisors for both $\varphi^* D$ and D are the same, hence $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i \otimes 1) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)$. This required only having an abstract isomorphism between $\varphi^* D$ and D . On the other hand, the isomorphism $\varphi^* D \rightarrow D$ is defined explicitly by sending $d_i \otimes 1$ to $\varphi(d_i)$, which implies

that $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(\varphi(d_i)) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i \otimes 1)$. Finally, we see that $\varphi(\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)) \subset \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(\varphi(d_i)) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}_L}(d_i)$. Thus, each ideal $f_i\mathcal{R}_L$ is φ -stable as well.

We now finish the proof. By Proposition 2.9, if f_m is not unit then there exists non-negative integers $r_\tau \geq 0$, not all zero, such that $(\prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} t_\tau^{r_\tau})d_m = 0$. Since $(\prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} t_\tau^{r_\tau})$ is a divisor of t^r for r large, we conclude that $d_m \in D[t^\infty]$. Since D is t -torsion free, we conclude that $d_m = 0$, which contradicts the choice of the elements $\{d_i\}$. The calculation also clearly shows that a torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module is a successive extension of pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules. Indeed, if Q is torsion then $0 = f_m Q \subset f_{m-1} Q \subset \dots \subset f_1 Q \subset Q$ is a filtration whose successive quotients $f_i Q / f_{i+1} Q$ are pure torsion, since they are free over $f_i \mathcal{R}_L / f_{i+1} \mathcal{R}_L$ (compare with [Liu07, Proposition 4.1]). \square

If S is a torsion module, then the Euler–Poincaré formula [Liu07, Theorem 4.7] says

$$\dim_L H^0(S) = \dim_L H^1(S) \quad \text{and} \quad \dim_L H^2(S) = 0.$$

By Lemma 2.13, the cohomology of torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules reduces to the cohomology of pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules and that is explained by the following calculation.

PROPOSITION 2.14. *Let $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. Then for each $i = 0, 1$ we have*

$$\dim_L H^i((\mathcal{R}_L/t_\tau^{r_\tau})(\delta)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{wt}_\tau(\delta) \in \{0, 1, \dots, r_\tau - 1\}, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. The case of $i = 1$ and $i = 0$ are equivalent by the Euler–Poincaré formula for torsion modules. The computation of the cohomology for $i = 0$ is given by [Nak09, Lemma 2.16]. For a proof in the language of (φ, Γ_K) -modules, at least when $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$, see [Col08, Proposition 2.18] (warning: Colmez uses a different convention for weights). \square

3. Parabolizations and triangulations

Triangulations of (φ, Γ_K) -modules arose following Colmez’s work on the p -adic local Langlands for $\text{GL}_2(\mathbf{Q}_p)$ (see [Col08]). In this section we have two goals. First, we will recall parabolizations of (φ, Γ_K) -modules, a more general notion due to Chenevier [Che11], and the definition of critical and non-critical triangulations. Our second goal is to extend the definition of triangulation in a reasonable way to the category of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules. We discuss the latter notion only in the case where the coefficients are a field.

3.1 Parabolizations of (φ, Γ_K) -modules

Let A be an affinoid L -algebra.

DEFINITION 3.1. If D is a (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then a parabolization P_\bullet of D (of length s) is a filtration

$$0 = P_0 \subsetneq P_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq P_{s-1} \subsetneq P_s = D$$

such that each:

- P_i is a (φ, Γ_K) -module; and
- for each $i = 1, \dots, s$ we have that P_i/P_{i-1} is a (φ, Γ_K) -module over A which is a \mathcal{R}_A -module direct summand of P_i .

If P_\bullet is a parabolization of the maximal length $s = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_A} D$, then we say that P_\bullet is a triangulation. We say D is trianguline if, after possibly extending the coefficient field L , there exists a triangulation of D .

If P_\bullet is a triangulation of a (φ, Γ_K) -module D of rank d , then each quotient P_i/P_{i-1} is of the form $\mathcal{R}_A(\delta_i)$ for some continuous character $\delta_i : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$, at least locally on $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ [KPX14, Theorem 6.2.14]. We call the d -tuple $(\delta_i)_{i=1}^d$ the ordered parameter of the triangulation P_\bullet and we say that D is trianguline with ordered parameter $(\delta_i)_{i=1}^d$. If D is trianguline with an ordered parameter $(\delta_i)_{i=1}^d$, then $\text{HT}_\tau(D) = \{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_i)\}_{i=1}^d$.

For the rest of this section we will take A to be the field L itself. Crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -modules over \mathcal{R}_L provide examples of triangulations. For that we have the notion of a refinement, following [Liu15, Definition 5.29].

DEFINITION 3.2. If D is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module of rank d over L , then a partial refinement R_\bullet of D is the choice of a φ -stable $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_p} F$ -linear filtration

$$0 = R_0 \subsetneq R_1 \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq R_s = D_{\text{cris}}(D),$$

whose successive quotients are free $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_p} F$ -modules. In the case that $s = d$ we call R_\bullet a refinement.

Suppose that R_\bullet is a refinement of a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module. Then each of the quotients R_i/R_{i-1} is a rank-one $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_p} F$ -module equipped with a linear operator φ^{f_K} . We denote by $\phi_i \in L^\times$ the eigenvalue of φ^{f_K} appearing in R_i/R_{i-1} . Furthermore, $D_{\text{cris}}(D)_K$ is an $L \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}_p} K$ -vector space equipped with its Hodge filtration $\text{Fil}^\bullet D_{\text{cris}}(D)_K$. Each of the φ -stable subspaces $(R_i)_K$ has an induced Hodge filtration. We define, for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ and $i = 1, \dots, d$ an integer $s_{i,\tau}$ so that $\{s_{1,\tau}, \dots, s_{i,\tau}\}$ are the τ -Hodge–Tate weights appearing in $(R_i)_{K,\tau}$. In summary, triangulations and refinements have the following invariants:

- a triangulation $P_\bullet \rightsquigarrow$ the ordered parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n)$;
- a refinement $R_\bullet \rightsquigarrow$ the ordering of φ^{f_K} -eigenvalues (ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_n)
and the τ -Hodge–Tate weights $(s_{1,\tau}, \dots, s_{d,\tau})_\tau$.

Note that if P_\bullet is a triangulation of a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module D , then each step P_i is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module as well.

PROPOSITION 3.3. Let D be a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module over L all of whose φ^{f_K} -eigenvalues lie in L^\times .

(a) Then $P \mapsto D_{\text{cris}}(P)$ induces bijections

$$\begin{aligned} \{\text{parabolizations of } D\} &\longleftrightarrow \{\text{partial refinements of } D\}, \\ \{\text{triangulations of } D\} &\longleftrightarrow \{\text{refinements of } D\}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) If P_\bullet is a triangulation with ordered parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n)$, then the orderings associated to $D_{\text{cris}}(P_\bullet)$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned} (s_{1,\tau}, \dots, s_{d,\tau}) &= (\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_1), \dots, \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_n)), \\ (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n) &= \left(\delta_1(\varpi_K) \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \tau(\varpi_K)^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_1)}, \dots, \delta_d(\varpi_K) \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \tau(\varpi_K)^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_d)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

for some (or, any) choice of uniformizer $\varpi_K \in K^\times$.

(c) If R_\bullet is a refinement with orderings (ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_n) and $(s_{1,\tau}, \dots, s_{d,\tau})_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ then the parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n)$ of the corresponding triangulation P_\bullet is given by

$$\delta_i(z) = \left(\prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} z_\tau^{-s_{i,\tau}} \right) \text{unr}_{\varpi_K}(\phi_i)(z)$$

for some (or any) choice of uniformizer $\varpi_K \in K^\times$.

Proof. The first part follows from Berger’s dictionary [Ber08] between potentially semistable (φ, Γ_K) -modules and filtered (φ, N, G_K) -modules. The second two parts are easy inductions from the rank-one case. In the case that $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$ a longer discussion can be found in [BC09, Proposition 2.4.1]. \square

3.2 Critical and non-critical triangulations

For this subsection we work with a fixed crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module D over the field L .

DEFINITION 3.4. Suppose that $P \subset D$ is a saturated (φ, Γ_K) -submodule. If $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, then we say that P is τ -non-critical if there exist an integer k_τ such that

$$D_{\text{cris}}(P)_{K,\tau} \oplus \text{Fil}^{k_\tau} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau} = D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau}.$$

We say P is τ -critical otherwise. Finally, P is called non-critical if P is τ -non-critical for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ and P is critical if there exists a $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ such that P is τ -critical.

The definition is only given for crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -modules as it relies on the correspondence Proposition 3.3. A more general definition will be given later which applies to certain p -adic limits of crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -modules (see Definition 6.7).

In the case of regular Hodge–Tate weights, we have a convenient way to check whether or not a saturated (φ, Γ_K) -submodule is critical.

LEMMA 3.5. Let $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. Suppose that D is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module with regular τ -Hodge–Tate weights $k_{1,\tau} < \dots < k_{d,\tau}$. Let $P \subset D$ be a saturated (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of rank $i \leq d$. The following are equivalent:

- (a) P is τ -non-critical;
- (b) $D_{\text{cris}}(P)_{K,\tau} \oplus \text{Fil}^{k_{i+1,\tau}} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau} = D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau}$;
- (c) $\text{HT}_\tau(P) = \{k_{1,\tau}, \dots, k_{i,\tau}\}$;
- (d) $\det P \subset \wedge^i D$ is τ -non-critical.

Proof. First, part (b) implies part (a) by definition. Second, parts (b) and (c) are easily equivalent. Now suppose that P is non-critical and choose an integer k_τ such that $D_{\text{cris}}(P)_{K,\tau} \oplus \text{Fil}^{k_\tau} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau} = D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau}$. Since P is crystalline, $d - i = \dim_{L_\tau} \text{Fil}^{k_\tau} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau}$. Since the Hodge–Tate weights are all distinct we conclude $\text{Fil}^{k_\tau} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau} = \text{Fil}^{k_{i+1,\tau}} D_{\text{cris}}(D)_{K,\tau}$. This shows that part (a) implies part (b).

It remains to show that parts (c) and (d) are equivalent. Since D has distinct Hodge–Tate weights, the unique lowest weight of $\wedge^i D$ is $k_{1,\tau} + \dots + k_{i,\tau}$. The next highest weight is $k_{1,\tau} + \dots + k_{i-1,\tau} + k_{i+1,\tau}$. Thus, part (c) is true if and only if

$$D_{\text{cris}}(\det P)_{K,\tau} \oplus \text{Fil}^{k_{1,\tau} + \dots + k_{i-1,\tau} + k_{i+1,\tau}} D_{\text{cris}}(\wedge^i D)_{K,\tau} = D_{\text{cris}}(\wedge^i D)_{K,\tau},$$

which is part (d). \square

At this point, one could define what it means for a triangulation to be non-critical. More generally, for each parabolization P_\bullet of a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module we define a subparabolization $P_\bullet^{\text{nc}} \subset P_\bullet$ for which every step is non-critical.

DEFINITION 3.6. Let P_\bullet be a parabolization of a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module D of rank d . Let

$$I^{\text{nc}} = \{i : P_i \text{ is non-critical}\} = \{0 = i_0 < i_1 < \dots < i_r = d\}.$$

The maximal non-critical parabolization P_\bullet^{nc} is the filtration

$$P_\bullet^{\text{nc}} : 0 = P_{i_0} \subsetneq P_{i_1} \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq P_{i_r} = D.$$

We say that P_\bullet is non-critical if $P_\bullet^{\text{nc}} = P_\bullet$, and critical otherwise.

Note that, as suggested by our notation, $I^{\text{nc}} \neq \emptyset$ and $i_r = d$, since D itself is always a non-critical (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of itself. In the case where D has regular weights, Lemma 3.5 shows that P_\bullet^{nc} is the unique subparabolization of P_\bullet consisting of the steps whose Hodge–Tate weights are as low as possible. Furthermore, it is easy to check that $(P_\bullet^{\text{nc}})^{\text{nc}} = P_\bullet^{\text{nc}}$, hence the use of the word ‘maximal’. Let us end this subsection with a brief example.

Example 3.7. Suppose now that $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$ and that D is a rank-two crystalline $(\varphi, \Gamma_{\mathbf{Q}_p})$ -module over L , with Hodge–Tate weights $k_1 < k_2$ and distinct crystalline eigenvalues $\phi, \phi' \in L^\times$. Since $\phi \neq \phi'$ we assume without loss of generality that $D_{\text{cris}}(D)^{\varphi=\phi} \cap \text{Fil}^{k_2} D_{\text{cris}}(D) = (0)$. Thus, there is always a non-critical triangulation $\mathcal{R}_L(z^{-k_1} \text{unr}(\phi)) \subset D$. The ordered parameter is $(z^{-k_1} \text{unr}(\phi), z^{-k_2} \text{unr}(\phi'))$.

On the other hand, one can use Propositions 3.3 and 2.10 to show that D is split if and only if $D_{\text{cris}}(D)^{\varphi=\phi'} = \text{Fil}^{k_2} D_{\text{cris}}(D)$ (if D is étale, the same statement follows from the weak admissibility of the filtered φ -module $D_{\text{cris}}(D)$). Thus, the triangulation corresponding to the ordering (ϕ', ϕ) is given by

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{R}_L(z^{-k_1} \text{unr}(\phi')) \subset D & \text{if } D \text{ is non-split,} \\ \mathcal{R}_L(z^{-k_2} \text{unr}(\phi')) \subset D & \text{if } D \text{ is split.} \end{cases}$$

This triangulation is critical if and only if D is split.

3.3 Generalized triangulations

Recall that a pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module over L is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module that is either zero or free over $\mathcal{R}_L / \prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_\tau}$ for some collection $(r_\tau)_\tau$ of non-negative integers, not all zero.

DEFINITION 3.8. We say a pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module Q is of character type if either $Q = 0$ or there exists a continuous character $\delta : K^\times \rightarrow L^\times$ and a collection of non-negative integers $(r_\tau)_\tau$, not all zero, such that $Q \simeq \text{coker}((\prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_\tau})\mathcal{R}_L(\delta) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_L(\delta))$.

If Q is non-zero and pure torsion of character type, then we refer to the Σ_K -tuple $(r_\tau)_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ as the torsion exponents of Q and $(\text{wt}_\tau(\delta))_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ as the torsion weights of Q . The zero module (0) has, by definition, torsion exponents $(0, \dots, 0)$ and torsion weights $(w_\tau)_{\tau \in \Sigma_K}$ for any collection of integers w_τ . By Proposition 2.14, these invariants, taken together, completely classify Q among pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules of character type.

DEFINITION 3.9. Let Q be a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over \mathcal{R}_L . A generalized triangulation of Q is a filtration Q_\bullet

$$Q_\bullet : 0 = Q_0 \subset Q_1 \subset Q_2 \subset \cdots \subset Q_{d-1} \subset Q_d = Q$$

such that for $1 \leq i \leq d$, Q_i/Q_{i-1} is either a rank-one (φ, Γ_K) -module or a pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module of character type and in either case Q_i/Q_{i-1} is a direct summand of Q_i as a \mathcal{R}_L -module. We say that Q is triangulated if it is equipped with a triangulation and trianguline if it may be triangulated, after possibly extending scalars.

Note that we allow for consecutive steps $Q_i \subset Q_{i+1}$ to be equal, since (0) is a pure torsion (φ, Γ_K) -module of character type under our definition. This has two consequences. First, even if Q is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module, then a generalized triangulation is not a triangulation in the sense of § 3.1. We will deal with this ambiguity in the definition of standard triangulation below. Second, since we can always repeat steps in a generalized triangulation, the length of a generalized triangulation Q_\bullet depends on Q_\bullet ; it is not intrinsic to Q , unlike lengths of triangulations of bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -modules. This remains true even if a generalized triangulation Q_\bullet is strictly increasing: the length still cannot be read off from Q since $\mathcal{R}_L/t_\tau t_\sigma \simeq \mathcal{R}_L/t_\tau \oplus \mathcal{R}_L/t_\sigma$ if $\sigma \neq \tau$.

Note that if Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, then the torsion submodule $Q_{\text{tor}} = Q[t^\infty] \subset Q$ is (φ, Γ_K) -stable and an \mathcal{R}_L -module summand. The quotient Q/Q_{tor} is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module whose rank depends only on Q . We isolate those generalized triangulations which appear in practice.

DEFINITION 3.10. If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ) -module and Q_\bullet is a generalized triangulation of Q , then Q_\bullet is called a standard triangulation if there exists a $0 \leq i \leq d$ such that $Q_i = Q_{\text{tor}}$. The integer i is called the torsion length of Q_\bullet and the integer $d - i$ is called the free length of Q .

In the definition, the torsion length i depends on Q_\bullet whereas the free length $d - i$ depends only on Q (since it is equal to $\text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_L} Q/Q_{\text{tor}}$). And now a standard triangulation is closer to a triangulation in the case where Q is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module. Indeed, in that case $Q_{\text{tor}} = (0)$ and so a standard triangulation is of the form

$$0 = 0 = \cdots = 0 = Q_i \subsetneq Q_{i+1} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq Q_d = Q$$

where $P_j := Q_{i+j}$ defines a triangulation of Q as in Definition 3.1.

A standard triangulation of a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module has a number of invariants which we now detail. Suppose that Q_\bullet is a standard triangulation.

- The induced generalized triangulation on Q/Q_{tor} is an actual triangulation with ordered parameter $(\delta_{i+1}, \dots, \delta_d)$ whose length is the free length of Q .
- The induced generalized triangulation on Q_{tor} also has invariants. For one, it has its length i . Second, if $1 \leq j \leq i$ then Q_j/Q_{j-1} is pure torsion of character type and thus has exponents $(r_{j,\tau})_\tau$ and weights $(w_{j,\tau})_\tau$.

Note that it may happen that for some τ , $r_{j,\tau} = 0$. For example, if there is an integer j such that $Q_j = Q_{j-1}$, then the corresponding torsion exponents are $r_{j,\tau} = 0$ for all τ . However, ranging over j we can *a priori* predict the frequency at which this happens.

DEFINITION 3.11. If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, then its τ -torsion length is defined by

$$\ell_\tau(Q) = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_L/t_\tau} Q_{\text{tor}}/t_\tau.$$

Fix a $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ and a standard triangulation Q_\bullet of a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module with torsion length i and exponents $((r_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$. Since the successive quotients of a generalized triangulation are direct summands as \mathcal{R}_L -modules, it is easy to see that $\ell_\tau(Q) = \#\{j : r_{j,\tau} \neq 0\}$ and that $\ell_\tau(Q) \leq i$ for all τ . To summarize the previous discussion we separate out the following definition.

DEFINITION 3.12. If Q_\bullet is a standard triangulation of a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q , then, in the notation above:

- the torsion length is the unique integer $i \geq 1$ such that $Q_{\text{tor}} = Q_i$;
- the torsion exponents are $((r_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$;
- the torsion weights are $((w_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$; and
- the free parameter is the ordered parameter $(\delta_j)_{j > i}$.

If we specify an element $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, then we refer to $(r_{j,\tau})_{1 \leq j \leq i}$ and $(w_{j,\tau})_{1 \leq j \leq i}$ as the τ -torsion exponents and τ -torsion weights.

Finally, we finish this section with a result that explains how standard triangulations of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules are inherently more flexible than triangulations of bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -modules. Recall that we defined the notion of homothety among continuous characters of K^\times at the end of § 2.5.

PROPOSITION 3.13. Suppose that Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, Q_\bullet is a standard triangulation of torsion length i with torsion exponents $((r_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$, torsion weights $((w_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i}$ and free parameter $(\delta_j)_{j > i}$. Assume furthermore that δ_{i+1} is not homothetic to δ_j for $j > i + 1$.

Then, for every Σ_K -tuple $(r_{i+1,\tau})_\tau$ of non-negative integers such that

$$j \leq i \implies w_{j,\tau} - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i+1}) \notin \{-r_{i+1,\tau}, \dots, r_{j,\tau} - r_{i+1,\tau} - 1\} = \{-r_{i+1,\tau} + m : 0 \leq m < r_{j,\tau}\},$$

there exists a unique (up to scalar) inclusion $\prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_{i+1,\tau}} \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1}) \hookrightarrow Q$. Its cokernel is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module which is naturally equipped with a standard triangulation having invariants:

- torsion length $i + 1$;
- torsion exponents $((r_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{j \leq i+1}$;
- torsion weights $((w_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{j \leq i} \cup (\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i+1}))_\tau$; and
- free parameter $(\delta_j)_{j > i+1}$.

Proof. Let $\delta = \delta_{i+1} \prod_\tau z_\tau^{r_{i+1,\tau}}$. For each $j \leq i$ we choose a character δ_j whose τ -weight is $w_{j,\tau}$ and so that $Q_j/Q_{j-1} \simeq \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_j) / \prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_{j,\tau}}$. We quickly calculate

$$\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_j \delta^{-1}) = w_{j,\tau} - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i+1}) + r_{i+1,\tau}.$$

By our assumptions, $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_j \delta^{-1}) \notin \{0, 1, \dots, r_{j,\tau} - 1\}$ for each τ . Using Proposition 2.14 we see that

$$\text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q_j/Q_{j-1}) = H^0\left(\left(\mathcal{R}_L / \prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_{j,\tau}}\right)(\delta_j \delta^{-1})\right) = (0).$$

By induction on $1 \leq j \leq i$ we see that $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q_i) = (0)$. Since Q_i is torsion, the Euler-Poincaré formula for torsion modules implies $H^1(Q_i(\delta^{-1})) = (0)$ as well. We deduce from the

long exact sequence in cohomology that the natural map $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q/Q_i)$ is an isomorphism.

On the other hand, Q/Q_i is triangulated by a parameter (δ_{i+1}, \dots) whose higher terms are not homothetic to δ_{i+1} . From that we deduce that the inclusion $\text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})) \hookrightarrow \text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q/Q_i)$ is an isomorphism also. Putting the two calculations together, we see that

$$\dim_L \text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), Q) = \dim_L \text{Hom}(\mathcal{R}_L(\delta), \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})) = 1.$$

This shows that the morphism in the lemma exists and is unique up to a scalar.

But, the calculation shows more. We have shown in fact that any non-zero morphism $e : \mathcal{R}_L(\delta) \rightarrow Q$ factors through Q_{i+1} and that e remains non-zero when mapped into the quotient $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})$ of Q_{i+1} . Since both $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta)$ and $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})$ are rank one, e must be injective and it induces an exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Q_i \rightarrow Q_{i+1}/\mathcal{R}_L(\delta) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})/\mathcal{R}_L(\delta) \rightarrow 0. \tag{3}$$

Since $\mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})$ is a direct summand of Q_{i+1} as a \mathcal{R}_L -module, the sequence (3) is also split as a sequence of \mathcal{R}_L -modules. This means that the standard triangulation Q_\bullet on Q induces a standard triangulation Q'_\bullet on $Q/\mathcal{R}_L(\delta)$ whose successive quotients are given by

$$Q'_j/Q'_{j-1} = \begin{cases} Q_j/Q_{j-1} & \text{if } j \neq i+1, \\ \mathcal{R}_L(\delta_{i+1})/\prod_\tau t_\tau^{r_{i+1,\tau}} & \text{if } j = i+1. \end{cases}$$

The invariants are of the new standard triangulation are easily calculated from this. □

Note that one can always find infinitely many such integers $r_{i+1,\tau}$ which satisfy the hypotheses of the proposition. Also note that if $r_{i+1,\tau} = 0$ for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, then the standard triangulation we just produced will have two consecutive steps which are equal.

4. Galois cohomology in families

In this short section we expand on §2.5. In particular, we recall the main results of [KPX14] and develop a simple cohomology and base change framework for generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules. The framework will be applied in §§5 and 6. Throughout this section we will let A be a *reduced* affinoid L -algebra and $X = \text{Sp}(A)$.

Suppose that $N_\bullet = [\dots \rightarrow N_1 \rightarrow N_0]$ is a complex of A -modules and M is an A -module such that $\text{Tor}_j^A(N_p, M) = (0)$ for each $j \geq 1$ and $p \geq 0$. Then the Künneth spectral sequence, see [Wei94, Theorem 5.6.4], is a first quadrant spectral sequence

$$E_{pq}^2 = \text{Tor}_p^A(H_q(N_\bullet), M) \Rightarrow H_{p+q}(N_\bullet \otimes_A M).$$

DEFINITION 4.1. An A -module Q is called *nearly flat* if $\text{Tor}_j^A(Q, L(x)) = (0)$ for all $j \geq 1$ and $x \in \text{Sp}(A)$.

Recall that if $x \in X(\overline{\mathbb{Q}_p})$ and Q is an A -module, then Q_x denotes the fiber $Q \otimes_A L(x)$.

PROPOSITION 4.2. *If Q is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then there is a first quadrant spectral sequence*

$$\text{Tor}_p^A(H^{2-q}(Q), L(x)) \Rightarrow H^{2-(p+q)}(Q_x)$$

which degenerates on the E^3 -page.

Proof. We apply the Künneth spectral sequence to $M = L(x)$ and the three-term Herr complex $C_{\varphi, \gamma_K}^\bullet(Q)$, after making the obvious shift between homology and cohomology. The hypothesis in the Künneth spectral sequence is valid since Q is nearly flat and each term of $C_{\varphi, \gamma_K}^\bullet(Q)$ is a direct sum of finitely many copies of Q , if p is odd. If $p = 2$, then each term of $C_{\varphi, \gamma_K}^\bullet(Q)$ is actually a direct sum of finitely many copies of Q^{Δ_K} , itself a direct summand of Q (we thank the anonymous referee for this precision).

As an aid to the reader, let us explicitly write out the E^2 -page of the spectral sequence.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\
 & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & \dots \\
 H^0(Q) \otimes_A L(x) & \longleftarrow & \text{Tor}_1^A(H^0(Q), L(x)) & & \text{Tor}_2^A(H^0(Q), L(x)) & & \dots \\
 & & \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \\
 H^1(Q) \otimes_A L(x) & \longleftarrow & \text{Tor}_1^A(H^1(Q), L(x)) & & \text{Tor}_2^A(H^1(Q), L(x)) & & \dots \\
 & & \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \\
 H^2(Q) \otimes_A L(x) & & \text{Tor}_1^A(H^2(Q), L(x)) & & \text{Tor}_2^A(H^2(Q), L(x)) & & \dots
 \end{array} \tag{4}$$

The arrows drawn are the differentials. Now it is clear that the spectral sequence stabilizes on the E^3 -page since the differentials there and afterwards are all zero. \square

PROPOSITION 4.3. *Suppose $f \in \mathcal{R}_L$ is not a zero divisor. If Q is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then for each $x \in X$:*

(a) *there is a four term exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \text{Tor}_2^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow Q[f] \otimes_A L(x) \rightarrow Q_x[f] \rightarrow \text{Tor}_1^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow 0;$$

(b) *if $i \geq 1$, then $\text{Tor}_{i+2}^A(Q/f, L(x)) \simeq \text{Tor}_i^A(Q[f], L(x))$.*

Proof. Consider the complex N_\bullet of \mathcal{R}_A -modules given by $N_\bullet = [Q \xrightarrow{f} Q]$ and its base change $N_{\bullet, x} = [Q_x \xrightarrow{f} Q_x]$ to $x \in X$. Apply the Künneth spectral sequence again with $M = L(x)$. The homology groups are $H_0(N_\bullet) = Q/fQ$ and $H_1(N_\bullet) = Q[f]$ and vanish in degree $i \geq 2$ (the same for $N_{\bullet, x}$). From the spectral sequence we get for all $i \geq 2$ a short exact sequence

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\rightarrow \text{coker}(\text{Tor}_{i+1}^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow \text{Tor}_{i-1}^A(Q[f], L(x))) \rightarrow H_i(N_{\bullet, x}) \\
 &\rightarrow \text{ker}(\text{Tor}_i^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow \text{Tor}_{i-2}^A(Q[f], L(x))) \rightarrow 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

The middle term vanishes since $i \geq 2$ and thus by induction we see part (b) is true and that $\text{Tor}_2^A(Q/f, L(x)) \hookrightarrow Q[f] \otimes_A L(x)$, making the sequence in part (a) exact on the left. The spectral sequence taken when $p + q = 1$ gives a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \text{coker}(\text{Tor}_2^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow Q[f] \otimes_A L(x)) \rightarrow Q_x[f] \rightarrow \text{Tor}_1^A(Q/f, L(x)) \rightarrow 0,$$

which shows the rest of part (a). \square

Following these two general base change theorems we can begin to set up a cohomology and base change framework. Recall from the end of §2.1 that if Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over X and $U = \text{Sp}(B) \subset X$ is an admissible open affinoid subdomain, then $Q|_U := Q \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X} \mathcal{R}_U$.

DEFINITION 4.4. If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then we say Q has finite cohomology if for every affinoid subdomain $U = \text{Sp}(B) \subset X$, $H^i(Q|_U)$ is a finite B -module for $i = 0, 1, 2$.

Remark. If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A with finite cohomology, then $Q|_U$ is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over B with finite cohomology for all affinoid subdomains $U = \text{Sp}(B) \subset X$.

THEOREM 4.5 (Kedlaya–Pottharst–Xiao). *If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then Q has finite cohomology in the following situations:*

- (a) Q is a (φ, Γ_K) -module;
- (b) Q is of the form $\text{coker}(Q_1 \xrightarrow{e} Q_2)$ where both Q_1 and Q_2 have finite cohomology and e is (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant.

Proof. If Q is a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module over X , then it is also a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module over U and thus each cohomology group $H^i(Q|_U)$ is a finite B -module by the main theorem of [KPX14].

Now suppose that Q_1 and Q_2 have finite cohomology and that $e : Q_1 \rightarrow Q_2$ is an injective (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant map. Since $U \subset X$ is an affinoid subdomain, Proposition 2.7 implies that we have a short exact sequence of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over U

$$0 \rightarrow Q_1|_U \rightarrow Q_2|_U \rightarrow Q|_U \rightarrow 0. \tag{5}$$

The finiteness of each $H^i(Q|_U)$ as a B -module now follows from the finiteness each $H^i(Q_j|_U)$ ($i = 0, 1, 2$ and $j = 1, 2$) and the long exact sequence in cohomology associated to the sequence (5). □

If Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over A , then we define functions on X by the formula

$$d_Q^i(x) := \dim_{L(x)} H^i(Q_x).$$

Note that the fiber is taken prior to taking cohomology.

If Q has finite cohomology, then Nakayama’s lemma, together with the fact that affinoid algebras are Jacobson [BGR84, Proposition 6.1.1/3], implies that $x \mapsto \dim_{L(x)} H^i(Q) \otimes_A L(x)$ is upper semi-continuous on X and, since X is reduced, locally constant if and only if $H^i(Q)$ is flat. For i fixed, we will say that $H^i(Q)$ satisfies base change if the natural map $H^i(Q) \otimes_A L(x) \rightarrow H^i(Q_x)$ is an isomorphism for all $x \in X$.

PROPOSITION 4.6. *If Q is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module with finite cohomology and $x \mapsto d_Q^i(x)$ is locally constant for $i \geq k$, then $H^i(Q)$ is flat over X for $i \geq k$ and satisfies base change for $i \geq k - 1$.*

Proof. One argues by descending induction on k . Since the cohomology vanishes in degrees $k \geq 3$, the proposition is vacuous for $k \geq 4$. When $k = 3$, $H^2(Q)$ is a cokernel, by definition, and thus always satisfies base change.

Fix $k \leq 2$ and assume the result is true for $k + 1$. Since the hypotheses for k imply those of $k + 1$, the induction hypothesis implies that $H^k(Q)$ satisfies base change. By assumption, $d_Q^k(x)$ is locally constant. Since X is reduced, Nakayama’s lemma implies that $H^k(Q)$ is flat over X . The fact that $H^{k-1}(Q)$ satisfies base change now follows from Proposition 4.2. \square

Recall that if X is a reduced rigid space and $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ then a subset $Z \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ is said to accumulate at x_0 if there exists a neighborhood basis of affinoid neighborhoods U of x_0 such that $Z \cap U$ is Zariski-dense in U for all U .

COROLLARY 4.7. *Let Q be a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module with finite cohomology. If $x \in X$ and there exists a Zariski-dense subset $Z \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ accumulating at x such that, for each $0 \leq i \leq 2$, $d_Q^i(x) = d_Q^i(u)$ for all $u \in Z$, then $H^i(Q|_U)$ is flat and satisfies base change for $0 \leq i \leq 2$ for all sufficiently small affinoid subdomains $x \in U \subset X$.*

Proof. We have that $H^2(Q)$ always satisfies base change, whence $u \mapsto d_Q^2(u)$ is upper semi-continuous on X . Since Z is Zariski-dense, and $d_Q^2(x) = d_Q^2(u)$ for $u \in Z$, we may shrink X and assume that $d_Q^2(-)$ is constant on X . It follows from Proposition 4.6 that $H^2(Q)$ is flat and $H^1(Q)$ satisfies base change. By assumption on Z accumulating at X , the hypotheses of the proposition remain true after we have shrunk X . Thus, we may re-do the same proof to show the result for $i = 1$ and then $i = 0$. \square

5. Triangulated families

Here we introduce triangulated families: families of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules which point-by-point have a triangulation. They are not the most natural families to consider, as the data are given pointwise, but they will be a useful intermediary for Theorem 6.8. Throughout this section we write $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ for a reduced rigid analytic affinoid space over L .

5.1 Triangulated families

DEFINITION 5.1. A pointwise triangulated family of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules with torsion centered at $x_0 \in X$ is:

- a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q over X ;
- an ordered tuple $((s_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq d}$ of integers (called the torsion weights);
- an ordered tuple $(\delta_j)_{1 \leq j \leq d}$ of continuous characters $\delta_j : K^\times \rightarrow \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O})^\times$ (called the parameter);
- a Zariski-dense set of points $X^{\text{nc}} \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ (called the non-critical points);
- a point $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ (called the center);

subject to the following.

- (TF1) If $y \in X^{\text{nc}} \cup \{x_0\}$, then $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,y}) < \dots < \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{d,y})$ are distinct integers and $\{s_{j,\tau}\}_j = \{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,x_0})\}_j$ (as sets) for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$.
- (TF2) If $i < j$ and $x \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$, then $\delta_{i,x}^{-1} \delta_{j,x}$ is generic up to homothety.
- (TF3) For each $x \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$, there exists on Q_x a standard triangulation of torsion length $i(x_0)$ and free length $d - i(x_0)$, with $0 \leq i(x_0) \leq d$, independent of x , whose free parameter is term-by-term homothetic to $(\delta_{j,x})_{i(x_0) < j \leq d}$.

(TF4) The standard triangulation $Q_{x_0, \bullet}$ has invariants:

- torsion exponents $((s_{j,\tau} - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0}))_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i(x_0)}$;
- torsion weights $((s_{j,\tau})_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i(x_0)}$;
- free parameter $(\delta_{j,x_0} \prod_{\tau} z_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,x_0}) - s_{j,\tau}})_{i(x_0) < j \leq d}$.

(TF5) If $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$, then the triangulation $Q_{y, \bullet}$ has invariants:

- torsion exponents $((\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0}))_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i(x_0)}$;
- torsion weights $((\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,y}))_\tau)_{1 \leq j \leq i(x_0)}$;
- free parameter $(\delta_{j,y})_{i(x_0) < j \leq d}$.

(TF6) For each $C > 0$ the set of points

$$X_C^{\text{nc}} = \{y \in X^{\text{nc}} : \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,y}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j-1,y}) > C \text{ for all } 2 \leq j \leq d\}$$

accumulates at x_0 .

Remark. The axiom (TF5) does not have a typo. The torsion exponents are given in terms of weights of characters at the point x_0 and are independent of $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$. This is why x_0 is called the ‘center’ of the torsion.

Remark. We stress that if Q is a pointwise triangulated family of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X , then there is no reason to believe that $x \mapsto Q_{x,j}$ defines a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q_j over X ; the datum of the standard triangulations is really given only point-by-point.

We will dwell further beyond these remarks. First, $i(x_0)$ is the torsion length of the standard triangulation $Q_{x_0, \bullet}$ but beware that Q_{x_0} may actually be torsion free, even if $i(x_0) > 0$. Indeed, our definitions allow for successive quotients in $Q_{x_0, \bullet}$ to be zero. In particular, if $i(x_0) = 1$ and $s_{1,\tau} = \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})$ for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, then Q_{x_0} is torsion free. This situation does not arise in our applications, but we mention it because the remark applies equally well to $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$. Indeed, if $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$, then axiom (TF4) says that the torsion exponents of $Q_{y,1}$ are given by $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0}) = 0$ for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ and thus $Q_{1,y} = (0)$.

More generally, when $i(x_0) > 0$ and $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$ there will be $i(x_0) - 1$ distinct torsion steps in the standard triangulation $Q_{y, \bullet}$. On the other hand, in practice, $Q_{x_0, \bullet}$ will have $i(x_0)$ torsion steps. However, consider the situation where for all $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ there exists a j such that $j \leq i(x_0)$ and $s_{j,\tau} = \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})$. Then, for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ we have an equality of τ -torsion lengths $\ell_\tau(Q_y) = \ell_\tau(Q_{x_0})$ at x_0 versus $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$. Thus, the discrepancy in the number of torsion steps is really an artifact of how we are doing the bookkeeping. We will see in the course of proving Theorem 6.8 that it can even happen that the t_τ -torsion submodule of Q_{x_0} is isomorphic, as an \mathcal{R}_L -module, to the t_τ -torsion submodule of Q_y for one (and thus all) $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$.

Example 5.2. Theorem 5.3 below will explain how to build new pointwise triangulated families out of old ones. But let us motivate the definition of pointwise triangulated families, and the need for Theorem 5.3, with an example previewing the applications in § 6.

Consider a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module D of rank d over X and assume that it is actually a pointwise triangulated family D centered at $x_0 \in X$ with $i(x_0) = 0$. For example, you could start with a densely pointwise strictly trianguline (φ, Γ_K) -module in the sense of [KPX14, § 6.3] (D is triangulated at every point following [KPX14, Theorem 6.3.13]).

Starting from D (with the given parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$) one can construct locally on X , near x_0 , a (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant morphism $\mathcal{R}_X(\delta_1) \xrightarrow{e} D$ using [KPX14, Theorem 6.3.9]. Moreover, we can assume that the base change e_x to any point x is still injective. If we set $Q = \text{coker}(e)$ then Q provides an example of a pointwise triangulated family of *generalized* (φ, Γ_K) -modules which is not necessarily a (φ, Γ_K) -module. It is even nearly flat.

At the points $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$, the fiber Q_y will be a bona fide (φ, Γ_K) -module of rank $d - 1$. At x_0 , however, this may not be the case. The (φ, Γ_K) -module D_{x_0} is triangulated by a triangulation whose first step is $t^{-s}\mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}(\delta_{1,x_0})$ for some integer $s \geq 0$. When $s > 0$, which is the case when the triangulation of D_{x_0} is *critical*, we see that the fiber Q_{x_0} has a non-trivial torsion submodule which is killed by t^s . Nevertheless, the generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module Q is still a pointwise triangulated family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X with torsion centered at x_0 , and $i(x_0) = 1$. One can then hope to iterate this process, in the style of [KPX14], using these more general families.

Let us continue now with constructing new pointwise triangulated families out of old ones in general.

THEOREM 5.3. *If Q is a nearly flat pointwise triangulated family with torsion centered at $x_0 \in X(\mathbf{Q}_p)$, free length $d - i(x_0) > 0$ and finite cohomology, then there exists an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ and a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \prod_{\tau} t_{\tau}^{\text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,x_0}) - \text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta_{1,x_0})} \mathcal{R}_U(\delta_{i(x_0)+1}) \rightarrow Q|_U \rightarrow Q' \rightarrow 0$$

of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over U . Moreover, Q' is a nearly flat pointwise triangulated family with torsion centered at x_0 , free length $d - i(x_0) - 1$ and finite cohomology whose given data is the same as Q . Thus Q' as in Theorem 5.3 satisfies axioms (TF1)–(TF6) with $i(x_0)$ replaced by $i(x_0) + 1$.

Proof. This is an application of our cohomology and base change framework. To shorten notation, let $k_{j,\tau} = \text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta_{j,x_0})$ and $\delta = \delta_{i(x_0)+1} \prod_{\tau} z_{\tau}^{k_{i(x_0)+1,\tau} - k_{1,\tau}}$. Note that $\text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta) = k_{1,\tau}$ for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. We are going to compute the cohomology $H^{\bullet}(Q(\delta^{-1}))$.

We begin by computing the cohomology at x_0 . First, $H^2(Q_{x_0}(\delta_{x_0}^{-1})) = (0)$ by axiom (TF2) and the vanishing of cohomology in degree two for torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules. By the Euler–Poincaré formula it remains to compute the cohomology in degree zero. Let $\tilde{\delta}$ be the character

$$\tilde{\delta} = \delta_{i(x_0)+1} \prod_{\tau} z_{\tau}^{k_{i(x_0)+1,\tau} - s_{i(x_0)+1,\tau}}.$$

By axiom (TF4), $\tilde{\delta}$ is the first character in the free parameter of the standard triangulation $Q_{x_0,\bullet}$ and we see easily that $\delta = (\prod_{\tau} z_{\tau}^{s_{i(x_0)+1,\tau} - k_{1,\tau}}) \tilde{\delta}$. For each $j \leq i(x_0) + 1$ set $r_{j,\tau} = s_{j,\tau} - k_{1,\tau}$. According to axiom (TF4), for $j \leq i(x_0)$, these are the torsion exponents of the standard triangulation $Q_{x_0,\bullet}$. Moreover, if $j \leq i(x_0)$, then

$$s_{j,\tau} - \text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}) = -r_{i(x_0)+1,\tau} + r_{j,\tau}.$$

Thus Proposition 3.13, whose non-homothetic hypothesis is valid by axiom (TF2), implies that there exists a unique, up to scalar, (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant inclusion

$$\mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}(\delta_{x_0}) = \prod_{\tau} t_{\tau}^{r_{i(x_0)+1,\tau}} \mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}(\tilde{\delta}) \hookrightarrow Q_{x_0},$$

so $\dim_{L(x_0)} H^0(Q_{x_0}(\delta_{x_0}^{-1})) = 1$. Moreover, Proposition 3.13 also explicitly describes the induced standard triangulation on the quotient $Q_{x_0}/\mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}(\delta_{x_0})$.

We now compute the cohomology at (some) points $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$. As above, $H^2(Q_y(\delta_y^{-1})) = (0)$ by axiom (TF2) and the vanishing of cohomology in degree two for torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules. Reset the definitions from the previous paragraph and make $r_{j,\tau} := k_{j,\tau} - k_{1,\tau}$ for all $j \leq i(x_0) + 1$. Once again, if $j \leq i(x_0)$, then $(r_{j,\tau})_\tau$ gives the torsion exponents of the standard triangulation $Q_{y,\bullet}$. For all $j \leq i(x_0)$, we easily compute

$$\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,y}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_y) = \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,y}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,y}) + r_{i(x_0)+1,\tau}.$$

Choose a C so large that if $y \in X_C^{\text{nc}}$, then for all τ and $1 \leq j \leq i(x_0)$, the negative integer $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{j,y}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,y})$ is not among the finitely many values $\{-r_{i+1,\tau}, \dots, r_{j,\tau} - r_{i+1,\tau} - 1\}$. Then by axiom (TF2), we can apply Proposition 3.13 and conclude that if $y \in X_C^{\text{nc}}$, then $H^0(Q_y(\delta_y^{-1}))$ is one-dimensional over $L(y)$. Again, Proposition 3.13 also explains how a non-zero morphism $\mathcal{R}_{L(y)}(\delta_y) \hookrightarrow Q_y$ will induce a standard triangulation on Q_y by replacing the subquotient $\mathcal{R}_{L(y)}(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,y})$ of Q_y by

$$\mathcal{R}_{L(y)}(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,y}) / \mathcal{R}_{L(y)}(\delta) = \mathcal{R}_{L(y)}(\delta_{i(x_0)+1,y}) \Big/ \left(\prod_\tau t_\tau^{k_{i(x_0)+1,\tau} - k_{1,\tau}} \right).$$

By axiom (TF6) we can replace X^{nc} by X_C^{nc} and assume that $H^0(Q_y(\delta_y^{-1}))$ has constant dimension over all of X^{nc} .

We now go back to the entire family. By the Euler–Poincaré formula the function $y \mapsto \dim_{L(y)} H^1(Q_y(\delta_y^{-1}))$ is constant on X^{nc} and agrees with $\dim_{L(x_0)} H^1(Q_{x_0}(\delta_{x_0}^{-1}))$. Since Q is nearly flat and has finite cohomology, Corollary 4.7 implies we can choose an open neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ so that each $H^i(Q(\delta^{-1})|_U)$ is free over U and satisfies base change for each i . We now replace X by such a U .

Choose a basis vector $\mathbf{e} \in H^0(Q(\delta^{-1}))$. Since $H^0(Q(\delta^{-1}))$ satisfies base change, if we specialize \mathbf{e} to either $x = x_0$ or $x = y \in X^{\text{nc}}$, we get an injective morphism $\mathbf{e}_x : \mathcal{R}_{L(x)}(\delta_x) \hookrightarrow Q_x$ by the previous two paragraphs. By Lemma 5.4(a) below we conclude that \mathbf{e} is also injective. Let $Q' = \text{coker}(\mathbf{e})$ so that there is a short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_X(\delta) \xrightarrow{\mathbf{e}} Q \rightarrow Q' \rightarrow 0. \tag{6}$$

Since Q has finite cohomology, by assumption, and $\mathcal{R}_X(\delta)$ has finite cohomology by Theorem 4.5(a), Q' has finite cohomology by Theorem 4.5(b).

We also have to show that Q' is nearly flat (after possibly shrinking X more). Since Q is nearly flat over X and \mathcal{R}_X is flat over X , it suffices to show that we can shrink X around x_0 so that \mathbf{e}_x is injective for all x . Since \mathbf{e}_{x_0} is injective it suffices by Lemma 5.4(b) to show that $x \mapsto \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_x[1/t]} Q_x[1/t]$ is constant on X . But this follows from axiom (TF3), which implies that $Q_x[1/t]$ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(x)}[1/t]$ of rank $d - (i(x_0) + 1)$ independent of x .

Finally, we need to check that Q' is a triangulated family with the same data as Q , except $i(x_0)$ replaced by $i(x_0) + 1$. The three axioms (TF1), (TF2) and (TF6) do not depend on Q , so those are still true. Axiom (TF3) is true because of (6) and the fact that Q' is nearly flat, so that all the base changes \mathbf{e}_x are injective. Checking either axiom (TF4) or (TF5) follows from our use of Proposition 3.13 at the points $x = x_0$ and $x = y$. \square

There were two points unresolved in the previous theorem, both of which we resolve with the following lemma. For the second part, and more in the following results, we will make use of the appendix on Nakayama’s lemma.

LEMMA 5.4. *Let X be a reduced affinoid space, Q a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over X and $f : \mathcal{R}_X \rightarrow Q$ a (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant map.*

- (a) If $X' \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ is Zariski-dense in X and the specialization $f_u : \mathcal{R}_{L(u)} \rightarrow Q_u$ is injective for all $u \in X'$, then f is injective.
- (b) If $x \mapsto \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_x[1/t]} Q_x[1/t]$ is constant on X , $x_0 \in X$ and f_{x_0} is injective, then there exists an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that f_u is injective for all $u \in U$.

Remark. In part (b), $Q_x[1/t]$ is automatically free over $\mathcal{R}_x[1/t]$ for each x by Lemma 2.13.

Proof. We need to make use of the recollection given in § 2.1. Choose an r_0 so that Q arises via base change from X^{r_0} and f arises from a (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant map $f^{r_0} : \mathcal{R}_X^{r_0} \rightarrow Q^{r_0}$ as well.

We first prove part (a). It suffices to show that f^{r_0} is injective. If $0 < s < r_0$, then let $f^{[s,r_0]}$ denote the induced map

$$\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]} \xrightarrow{f^{[s,r_0]}} Q^{[s,r_0]} := Q^{r_0} \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{r_0}} \mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}.$$

By [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.4(2)] it suffices to show that $f^{[s,r_0]}$ is injective.

We have now reduced to working over a closed relative annulus $X^{[s,r_0]}$ whose rigid functions $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}$ are, in particular, noetherian. Write I for the image of $f^{[s,r_0]}$ in $Q^{[s,r_0]}$. If $u \in X'$, then $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{[s,r_0]} \rightarrow I \otimes_A L(u)$ is injective, as it factors f_u and we have assumed that f_u is injective. It is also surjective since tensor product is right exact. Thus, it is an isomorphism.

We deduce from Nakayama’s lemma, applied to the finite module I over the noetherian ring $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}$ that $\dim_{L(v)} I_v \geq 1$ for all $v \in X^{[s,r_0]}$ (note that v is in the relative annulus, not just X , and $I_v := I \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}} L(v)$). But $\dim_{L(v)} I_v \leq 1$ for all $v \in X^{[s,r_0]}$ since I_v is a quotient of something free of rank one over $X^{[s,r_0]}$. Since X is reduced, so is $X^{[s,r_0]}$ and we just showed that $v \mapsto \dim_{L(v)} I_v$ is constant on the relative annulus $X^{[s,r_0]}$. Thus, I must be flat over $X^{[s,r_0]}$ by Nakayama’s lemma again. In particular, $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]} \rightarrow I$ is an isomorphism, as was to be shown.

Let us now prove part (b). We note that the proof of part (a) did not use that f was (φ, Γ_K) -equivariant. Consider $C^{r_0} = \text{coker}(\mathcal{R}_X^{r_0} \xrightarrow{f^{r_0}} Q^{r_0})$. By Corollary 2.4, C^{r_0} is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module. If $u \in X$ then $C_u^{r_0}[1/t]$ is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}[1/t]$ by Lemma 2.13, so it makes sense to consider the function $\text{rank}(u) := \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}[1/t]}(C_u^{r_0}[1/t])$. Moreover, if we choose any $0 < s < r_0$ then we also have⁵

$$\text{rank}(u) = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{[s,r_0]}[1/t]} C_u^{[s,r_0]}[1/t]. \tag{7}$$

Consider such a choice of s made now.

Since $\text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}[1/t]} Q_u^{r_0}[1/t] =: q$ is constant on X , we know that $\text{rank}(u)$ is either q or $q - 1$. Since $f_{x_0}^{r_0}$ is injective, so is $f_{x_0}^{r_0}[1/t]$ and thus $\text{rank}(x_0) = q - 1$ is the minimal possible value. Since $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}$ is affinoid, the expression (7) and Proposition A.4(a) together imply that we may replace X by an affinoid subdomain containing x_0 so that $\text{rank}(u) = q - 1$ for all $u \in X$. But that clearly is equivalent to $\ker f_u^{r_0}[1/t] = (0)$ for all $u \in X$. Since $f_u^{r_0} : \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0} \rightarrow Q_u^{r_0}$ has source $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}$, Proposition 2.9 and the fact that $f_u^{r_0}[1/t]$ is injective for all $u \in X$ implies that $\ker f_u^{r_0} = (0)$ for all $u \in X$ (and thus f_u is injective also). \square

⁵ It is important here that C^{r_0} is finitely presented, so that $C_u^{[s,r_0]} = C_u^{r_0} \otimes_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}} \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{[s,r_0]}$ uses the usual tensor product.

5.2 Killing torsion

Note that Theorem 5.3 possibly introduces torsion (φ, Γ_K) -modules into the picture. Thus, its utility rests on being able to kill torsion in certain pointwise triangulated families. This is achieved in Corollary 5.8. First we need preparation. The following is an application of Nakayama’s lemma in the appendix.

LEMMA 5.5. *Let $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. Suppose that Q is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module such that for each $x \in X$, Q_x/t_τ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(x)}/t_\tau$. Suppose that $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and $Z \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ is a set of points accumulating at x_0 and $\text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{x_0}/t_\tau} Q_{x_0}/t_\tau = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_z/t_\tau} Q_z/t_\tau$ for each $z \in Z$. Then there exists an affinoid subdomain $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that $u \mapsto \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau} Q_u/t_\tau$ is constant on U .*

Proof. First, if necessary, replace X by an affinoid subdomain $x_0 \in U \subset X$ so that Z is Zariski-dense in U . Then, we find an r_0 so that Q arises from a (φ, Γ_K) -module Q^{r_0} over X^{r_0} . Since Q_u/t_τ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau$ for each $u \in X$, the same is true for $Q_u^{r_0}/t_\tau$ over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}/t_\tau$. (Since the Frobenius $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0/p}$ is faithfully flat and Q^{r_0} is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, it is enough to check Q_u^r/t_τ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^r/t_\tau$ for some $0 < r \leq r_0$ (possibly depending on u); this follows from knowing Q_u/t_τ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau$ and Q_u^r/t_τ is finitely presented over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^r/t_\tau$ for each r ; compare with [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.16].)

Fix any $0 < s < r_0$. Then

$$\text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}/t_\tau} Q_u^{r_0}/t_\tau = \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau} Q_u^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau \tag{8}$$

for each $u \in X$. The ring $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau$ is reduced since t is well known to be a uniformizer at the at the points of the form $\zeta - 1 \in \mathbf{A}^1[s, r_0]$ where ζ is a p -power root of unity. Thus, so is the factor ring $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau$. In particular, $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau = \mathcal{R}^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau \widehat{\otimes}_{\mathbf{Q}_p} A$ is the completed tensor product of reduced affinoid \mathbf{Q}_p -algebras. It follows from Proposition A.4(b) that the right-hand side of (8) has a minimum achieved on the Zariski-dense subset $Z \subset X$. Since that minimum is achieved also at x_0 , by assumption, Proposition A.4(a) allows us to find an affinoid subdomain $x_0 \in U \subset X$ on which $u \mapsto \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{r_0}/t_\tau} Q_u^{r_0}/t_\tau$ is constant. \square

LEMMA 5.6. *Let $\tau \in \Sigma_K$. Suppose that Q is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module, $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and $Z \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ is a set of points accumulating at x_0 such that:*

- (a) *there exists non-negative integers s, r such that for all $u \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$, Q_u is triangulated by a standard triangulation with non-zero τ -torsion exponents $(m_{i,\tau}(u))_{1 \leq i \leq s}$ and free parameter of length r ;*
- (b) *$z \mapsto \min_{i=1}^s m_{i,\tau}(z)$ is a constant m on Z ; and*
- (c) *$m \leq \min_{i=1}^s m_{i,\tau}(x_0)$ as well.*

Then there exists an open affinoid $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that $(Q/t_\tau^m)|_U$ is flat over \mathcal{R}_U/t_τ^m .

Proof. Let us begin by elucidating the first assumption. Since t_τ and t_σ are maximally coprime if $\tau \neq \sigma$, the first assumption implies that

$$Q_u \simeq \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^{m_{i,\tau}(u)} \right) \oplus \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{\oplus r} \oplus S_u$$

as an $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}$ -module, where $S_u[t_\tau] = S_u/t_\tau = (0)$ and each $m_{i,\tau}(u)$ is non-zero.

CLAIM. For each $1 \leq j \leq m$ we may replace X by an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that Q_u/t_τ^j is free of rank $r + s$ over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^j$.

The proof will be given by induction in the next paragraph. Assuming the claim for the moment, let us finish the lemma. Fix $1 \leq j \leq m$. By the claim we may assume that Q_u/t_τ^j is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^j$ with rank independent of u . We want to show that this implies Q/t_τ^j is flat over \mathcal{R}_X/t_τ^j . This will follow from Lemma 2.2 and [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.8(2)]. Indeed, we may first spread out Q to a finitely presented module Q^{r_0} on a half-open annulus X^{r_0} . Having done that, Lemma 2.2 shows that it suffices to check that $Q^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ is finite flat over $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ for each $0 < s < r_0$. To check that, we observe that $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ is the completed tensor product of an affinoid algebra $\mathcal{R}^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ with a reduced affinoid algebra A (where $X = \text{Sp}(A)$). In particular, [KPX14, Lemma 2.1.8(2)] (which only requires one of the tensor-factors to be reduced) and the constancy $u \mapsto \text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^j} Q_u^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ (our assumption in the claim) implies that $Q^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$ is finite flat over $\mathcal{R}_X^{[s,r_0]}/t_\tau^j$.

Proof of claim. We now prove the claim by induction on $1 \leq j \leq m$ starting with $j = 1$. Since $m_{i,\tau}(u) \geq 1$ for all i and u , we see visibly that Q_u/t_τ is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau$ of rank $r + s$ for each $u \in X$. Let $1 \leq j < m$ and assume Q_u/t_τ^j is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^j$ for all $u \in X$. If we show that we may shrink X so that $j < m_{i,\tau}(u)$ for each i and $u \in X$, then the same freeness will be true for $j + 1$ and we will be done.

First, Q/t_τ^j is flat over \mathcal{R}_X/t_τ^j by induction and the proof in the paragraph following the claim. Since \mathcal{R}_X/t_τ^j is flat over X , see [KPX14, Corollary 2.1.5], we get that Q/t_τ^j is flat over X . Second, Q is nearly flat over X and thus Proposition 4.3 implies that the t_τ^j -torsion satisfies base change: for each $u \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$,

$$Q[t_\tau^j]_u = Q_u[t_\tau^j] \simeq \bigoplus_{i=1}^s t_\tau^{\max(0, m_{i,\tau}(u)-j)} \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^{m_{i,\tau}(u)}.$$

If we define $Q' := Q/Q[t_\tau^j]$, then Q' is a generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over X and we see

$$Q'_u \simeq \left(\bigoplus_{i=1}^s \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau^{\max(0, m_i(u)-j)} \right) \oplus \mathcal{R}_{L(u)}^{\oplus r} \oplus S_u \tag{9}$$

as a $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}$ -module. Note immediately that Q'_u/t_τ is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}/t_\tau$ for any u . Now specialize to $u = x_0$ or $u \in Z$. From the assumptions (b) and (c) we have that Q'_u/t_τ has rank $r + s$ at $u = x_0$ and at $u \in Z$. By Lemma 5.5, we may replace X by an affinoid subdomain so that Q'_u/t_τ has precisely rank $r + s$ everywhere on X . The formula (9) for the fiber Q'_u easily implies that $m_i(u) - j > 0$, which is what we wanted to show. \square

With the inductive step complete, the proof is finished. \square

Recall we defined the τ -torsion length $\ell_\tau(Q)$ of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules in §3.3. If we know that Q has a standard triangulation Q_\bullet , then its τ -torsion length is the number terms in the associated graded with non-zero τ -torsion exponent.

PROPOSITION 5.7. Suppose that Q is a nearly flat pointwise triangulated family with torsion centered at $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and non-critical points X^{nc} . If $\tau \in \Sigma_K$ such that $\ell_\tau(Q_{x_0}) = \ell_\tau(Q_y)$ at

one (and, hence, all) $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$, then there exists an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that $Q[t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}]_x \simeq Q_x[t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}]$ for all $x \in U(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and $Q|_U[t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}]$ is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over U .

Proof. We are going to apply Lemma 5.6. Note that Q_x/t_τ is free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(x)}/t_\tau$ for all $x \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$. Moreover, the rank at $x = x_0$ agrees with the rank over the Zariski-dense set X^{nc} . By axiom (TF3), the free parameters of the family Q have constant length $d - i(x_0)$ on all of X . Since $\text{rank}_{\mathcal{R}_{L(x)}/t_\tau} Q_x/t_\tau = \ell_\tau(Q_x) + d - i(x_0)$, Lemma 5.5 implies that we may shrink X and assume that the τ -torsion lengths are also constant on the entire family. In particular, the first hypothesis of Lemma 5.6 is verified. By axiom (TF5), the minimal torsion exponent at $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$ is given by $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})$, independent of y . Thus the second hypothesis of Lemma 5.6 is verified. On the other hand, by axiom (TF1), $\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})$ is also the smallest possible value for elements in the set $\{s_{j,\tau} - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0}) : 2 \leq j \leq d\}$, which are the possible non-zero τ -torsion exponents of the standard triangulation on Q_{x_0} . Thus, the third hypothesis of Lemma 5.6 is satisfied. We conclude by Lemma 5.6 that $Q|_U/t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}$ is flat over $\mathcal{R}_U/t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}$ for some affinoid neighborhood U of x_0 . Replacing X by U we are done by Proposition 4.3. \square

COROLLARY 5.8. *Suppose Q is a nearly flat pointwise triangulated family with torsion centered at $x_0 \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$, non-critical points X^{nc} and for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, we have $\ell_\tau(Q_{x_0}) = \ell_\tau(Q_y)$ for one (and hence all) points $y \in X^{\text{nc}}$. Then we have the following.*

- (a) For each τ there exists a unique $1 \leq j_\tau \leq i(x_0)$ such that $s_{j_\tau,\tau} = k_{1,\tau}$.
- (b) There exists an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that the quotient

$$Q' := Q|_U/Q|_U \left[\prod_\tau t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})} \right]$$

is a nearly flat pointwise and triangulated family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over U with torsion centered at x_0 and modified data:

- torsion weights $(s_{j,\tau})_{j \neq j_\tau}$;
- parameter $(\delta_2, \dots, \delta_d)$;
- X^{nc} replaced by $U \cap X^{\text{nc}}$.

In particular, the free length of Q' is the same as the free length of Q .

Proof. The fact that the j_τ exists is clear since the τ -torsion lengths are constant on X^{nc} and concur with the lengths at x_0 . Choose, by Proposition 5.7, an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ over which each torsion $Q|_U[t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}]$ satisfies base change and is a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module over U . Since the t_τ are maximally coprime within \mathcal{R} , the torsion $Q|_U[\prod_\tau t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})}]$ is also a nearly flat generalized (φ, Γ_K) -module and satisfies base change over U . Let Q' be as in the statement of part (b). Then we see that Q' is nearly flat over U , proving the first half of part (b). If $x \in U$, then the fiber of Q' at x is computed as

$$Q'_x = \text{coker} \left(Q_x \left[\prod_\tau t_\tau^{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{2,x_0}) - \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x_0})} \right] \hookrightarrow Q_x \right).$$

The image, by definition, lands in the torsion part of Q_x and, hence, can only effect the torsion exponents of the standard triangulation on Q'_x . Thus the rest of part (b) follows easily follows

from the observation that

$$\text{coker}(t^{s-k_{2,\tau}}\mathcal{R}_L/t^{s-k_{1,\tau}}\mathcal{R}_L \rightarrow \mathcal{R}_L/t^{s-k_{1,\tau}})$$

has torsion exponent $s - k_{2,\tau}$ for any $s \geq k_{2,\tau} > k_{1,\tau}$. □

6. *p*-adic variation in refined families

We are now ready to state and prove the main theorem of this article. The notion of refined families given below is inspired by [BC09, ch. 4] (see also [Liu15, § 5]). They arise naturally as arithmetic families of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over rigid spaces, for example eigenvarieties.

6.1 Refined families

Let $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ be a reduced L -affinoid space.

DEFINITION 6.1. A refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules of rank d is:

- a (φ, Γ_K) -module D of rank d over X ;
- an ordered tuple $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d) : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$ of continuous characters; and
- a Zariski-dense subset $X_{\text{cl}} \subset X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$;

such that the following axioms hold.

(RF1) For each $x \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and $\tau \in \Sigma_K$,

$$\text{HT}_\tau(D_x) = \{\text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{1,x}), \dots, \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{d,x})\}.$$

We now label the Hodge–Tate–Sen weights by $\kappa_{i,\tau}(x) := \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i,x})$.

(RF2) For each $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ and $i = 1, \dots, d$, the character $\delta_{i,x}$ is crystalline.

(RF3) If $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$, then D_x is crystalline, the Hodge–Tate weights satisfy

$$\kappa_{1,\tau}(x) < \dots < \kappa_{d,\tau}(x),$$

for each $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, and the φ^{f_K} eigenvalues $\{\phi_1(x), \dots, \phi_d(x)\}$ all live in $L(x)^\times$, are distinct, and given by

$$\phi_i(x) = \delta_{i,x}(\varpi_K) \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \tau(\varpi_K)^{\kappa_{i,\tau}(x)}$$

for some (any) uniformizer $\varpi_K \in K^\times$.

(RF4) By axiom (RF3) and Proposition 3.3, every point $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ has a unique triangulation $P_{x,\bullet}$ corresponding to the ordering $(\phi_1(x), \dots, \phi_n(x))$ of (distinct) crystalline eigenvalues. Let

$$X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}} := \{x \in X_{\text{cl}} : P_{x,\bullet} \text{ is a non-critical triangulation}\}.$$

Then, for all $C > 0$, the set

$$X_{\text{cl},C}^{\text{nc}} := \left\{ x \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}} : C < \sum_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \kappa_{i+1,\tau}(x) - \kappa_{i,\tau}(x) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n - 1 \right\}$$

is Zariski-dense in X and accumulates at every point in X_{cl} .

We will often abuse language and call D the refined family, with the ordered parameter $(\delta_i)_{i=1, \dots, d}$ and the subset X_{cl} understood. The subscript ‘cl’ is meant to mean classical, but note that there are slight restrictions. Indeed, a refined family for us has a distinctness hypothesis on not only the Hodge–Tate weights over X_{cl} but also the crystalline eigenvalues. In applications we will work with a slightly stronger condition.

DEFINITION 6.2. Suppose that D is a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X . We say that $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$ is very φ -regular if:

- (a) $\phi_i(x) \neq p^{f_K} \phi_j(x)$ for each $1 \leq i < j \leq d$; and
- (b) $\phi_1(x) \cdots \phi_i(x)$ is a simple eigenvalue of φ^{f_K} acting on $D_{\text{cris}}(\wedge^i D_x)$ for each $1 \leq i \leq d$.

The set of all very φ -regular points is denoted by $X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$.

Just as axiom (RF4) says that classical points are well-approximated by points whose Hodge–Tate weights are extremely regular (i.e. far apart), the following proposition shows that we can, moreover, make such approximations by very φ -regular points as well. We let $X_{\text{cl}, C}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}} = X_{\text{cl}, C}^{\text{nc}} \cap X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$.

PROPOSITION 6.3. If $C > 0$, then $X_{\text{cl}, C}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}}$ accumulates each every point in X_{cl} .

Proof. Let $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$. Since each character $\delta_i : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$ is continuous we may choose a neighborhood U of x so that the slopes $v_p(\delta_{i,u}(\varpi_K)) =: \nu_i$ are constant on U for some (and, hence, any) uniformizer ϖ_K . Let

$$C' = \max\{C, 1 + e_K(\nu_i - \nu_j) : 1 \leq i, j \leq d\}.$$

Since $C \leq C'$, $X_{\text{cl}, C}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}} \supset X_{\text{cl}, C'}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}}$. Thus, it suffices to show, by axiom (RF4), that $X_{\text{cl}, C'}^{\text{nc}} \cap U \subset X_{\text{cl}, C'}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}}$. Let $u \in X_{\text{cl}, C'}^{\text{nc}} \cap U$ and we will show u is very φ -regular.

- Suppose $i < j$ and $\phi_i(u) = p^{f_K} \phi_j(u)$. Since $\phi_i(u) = \delta_{i,u}(\varpi_K) \prod_{\tau} \tau(\varpi_K)^{\kappa_{i,\tau}(u)}$ we can take p -adic valuations and get, since $u \in U$, that

$$\sum_{\tau} \kappa_{j,\tau}(u) - \kappa_{i,\tau}(u) = e_K(\nu_i - \nu_j - f_K) < C'.$$

Thus, $u \notin X_{\text{cl}, C'}^{\text{nc}}$, a contradiction.

- If $\phi_1(u) \cdots \phi_i(u)$ is not a simple eigenvalue on $D_{\text{cris}}(\wedge^i D_u)$, then one may construct a list of pairs of integers $i_1 < j_1, \dots, i_s < j_s$ such that $\phi_{i_1}(u) \cdots \phi_{i_s}(u) = \phi_{j_1}(u) \cdots \phi_{j_s}(u)$ for some $s \geq 1$. Once again, taking slopes we get

$$sC' < \sum_{b=1}^s \sum_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} \kappa_{j_b,\tau}(u) - \kappa_{i_b,\tau}(u) = \sum_{b=1}^s (e_K(\nu_{i_b} - \nu_{j_b})) \leq sC',$$

a contradiction.

This concludes the proof. □

In the remainder of this subsection we show that point-by-point, a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules may be triangulated (in an essentially unique way depending on the ordered parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_n)$). In particular, we show that a refined family is naturally a pointwise triangulated family (with no torsion). We begin by dealing with the axiom (TF2).

LEMMA 6.4. *If $x \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$, then there exists an open affinoid neighborhood $x \in U \subset X$ such that $\delta_{i,u}^{-1}\delta_{j,u}$ is generic up to homothety for all $u \in U(\overline{\mathbf{Q}_p})$ and $i < j$.*

Proof. Let $(r_\tau)_\tau$ be any tuple of integers and set $\eta = \delta_i^{-1}\delta_j \prod_\tau z_\tau^{-r_\tau}$. We have to show η_u is generic for u near x . Choose a uniformizer ϖ_K of K^\times . Then by axiom (RF3),

$$\eta_x = \text{unr}_{\varpi_K}(\phi_j(x)\phi_i(x)^{-1}) \prod_{\tau \in \Sigma_K} z_\tau^{\kappa_{i,\tau}(x) - \kappa_{j,\tau}(x) - r_\tau}.$$

If η_x is not generic, then a comparison of weights shows that

$$\text{unr}_{\varpi_K}(\phi_j(x)\phi_i(x)^{-1}) \in \{1, |N_{K/\mathbf{Q}_p}(\varpi_K)|\}.$$

However, since x is very φ -regular and $i < j$ this is explicitly ruled out. Thus, η_x is generic.

To conclude over an affinoid neighborhood we make use of cohomology and base change arguments. Consider the functions $d_\eta^i(u) := \dim_{L(u)} H^i(\eta_u)$. Since $H^2(\eta)$ satisfies base change, $u \mapsto d_\eta^2(u)$ is upper semi-continuous on X . Since $d_\eta^2(u)$ vanishes at $u = x$, as we showed in the previous paragraph, we may shrink X and assume that $H^2(\eta) = (0)$. By Proposition 4.6, $H^1(\eta)$ satisfies base change and $u \mapsto d_\eta^1(u)$ is upper semi-continuous. But $d_\eta^0(u)$ has a local minimum at $u = x$ and thus so does $d_\eta^1(u) = 1 + d_\eta^0(u)$. Thus, after shrinking X further (so that $d_\eta^1(u) \equiv 1$) we may assume that $H^1(\eta)$ is flat, and $H^0(\eta)$ satisfies base change. Finally, this implies that $H^0(\eta) = (0)$. □

As noted in axiom (RF4), axiom (RF3) and Proposition 3.3 imply that for each $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$ there exists a triangulation $P_{x_0, \bullet}$ of D_{x_0} whose parameter $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})$ is homothetic to $(\delta_{1,x_0}, \dots, \delta_{d,x_0})$. Moreover, if $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$, then Lemma 6.4 implies that $P_{x_0, \bullet}$ is the unique such triangulation of D_{x_0} . Thus, we may unambiguously refer to the parameter $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})$ for $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$.

PROPOSITION 6.5. *If $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi\text{reg}}$, then there exists an open affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ such that $D|_U$ is a pointwise triangulated family with torsion center x_0 (but without actual torsion) and given data:*

- torsion weights $(\text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}), \dots, \text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0}))_\tau$;
- parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$;
- non-critical points $X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}, \varphi\text{reg}}$; and
- center x_0 .

Proof. We have been given the data in the statement of the proposition and so our task is to verify axioms (TF1)–(TF6). Axiom (TF1) is clear by axiom (RF3) and the definition of the parameter $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})$. Next, we may shrink X so that if $i < j$ then $\delta_i^{-1}\delta_j$ is everywhere generic up to homothety by Lemma 6.4, giving axiom (TF2).

Axioms (TF4)–(TF6) are easily verified by the remarks preceding the theorem, and axiom (RF4). Thus, it remains to check axiom (TF3), i.e. that each point x is triangulated by a triangulation whose parameter is homothetic to $(\delta_{1,x}, \dots, \delta_{d,x})$. But if $u \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}}$ then this is true at u and, moreover, by the definition of non-critical we have that D_u has ordered parameter $(\delta_{1,u}, \dots, \delta_{d,u})$ on the nose. As we have already verified, there is a unique triangulation of D_u whose parameter is homothetic to $(\delta_{1,u}, \dots, \delta_{d,u})$ up to homothety. Thus, the (φ, Γ_K) -module D over X is densely pointwise strictly trianguline with ordered parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$ in the sense of [KPX14, Definition 6.3.2]. The existence of the triangulation demanded by axiom (TF3) is deduced from [KPX14, Theorem 6.3.13]. □

Continue to let D be a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules and let $x \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi_{\text{reg}}}$. Using Proposition 6.5 we assume, by shrinking X , that for all $u \in X$, the (φ, Γ_K) -module D_u has a unique triangulation whose parameter $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,u}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,u})$ is homothetic to $(\delta_{1,u}, \dots, \delta_{d,u})$.

DEFINITION 6.6. Let $u \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$. The canonical (with respect to the refined family D) triangulation is the unique triangulation of D_u whose parameter is homothetic to $(\delta_{1,u}, \dots, \delta_{d,u})$.

Note that $u \mapsto \tilde{\delta}_{i,u}$ does not, in the cases of interest, glue to define a continuous character $\tilde{\delta}_i : K^\times \rightarrow A^\times$. In fact, that will essentially only happen at points u where $\tilde{\delta}_{i,u} = \delta_{i,u}$. The best one can hope for is that a certain subparabolization of the canonical triangulation does analytically vary over X .

DEFINITION 6.7. Let $x \in X(\overline{\mathbf{Q}}_p)$ and $P_{x,\bullet} = (P_{x,i})$ be the canonical triangulation. We say that $P_{x,i}$ is non-critical if $\delta_{1,x} \cdots \delta_{i,x} = \tilde{\delta}_{1,x} \cdots \tilde{\delta}_{i,x}$. If

$$I_x^{\text{nc}} := \{i : P_{x,i} \text{ is non-critical}\} = \{0 = i_0 < i_1 < i_2 < \cdots < i_s = d\}$$

is the set of non-critical indices, then we define the maximal non-critical parabolization $P_{x,\bullet}^{\text{nc}}$ of D_x by

$$P_{x,j}^{\text{nc}} : 0 \subsetneq P_{x,i_0} \subsetneq P_{x,i_1} \subsetneq \cdots \subsetneq P_{x,i_s} = D_x.$$

If $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$, then a comparison of Hodge–Tate weights implies that the previous definition agrees with those given in § 3.2.

Suppose that $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$. If x is non-critical, then one knows that the τ -Hodge–Tate weights of $P_{x,i}$ are $\{\kappa_{1,\tau}(x), \dots, \kappa_{i,\tau}(x)\}$ by Lemma 3.5 and the definition of non-critical. Thus, for general $x \in X_{\text{cl}}$, Sen’s theory of Hodge–Tate weights in families [Sen88] implies that one can only hope for $P_{x,i}$ to extend to an affinoid neighborhood provided $\text{HT}_\tau(P_{x,i}) = \{\kappa_{1,\tau}(x), \dots, \kappa_{i,\tau}(x)\}$ for each τ . That is, if we hope to spread $P_{x,i}$ out over a neighborhood, then we need to know *a priori* that $i \in I_x^{\text{nc}}$. Our main theorem is that the converse is true.

THEOREM 6.8. *If D is a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X and $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi_{\text{reg}}}$, then there exists an affinoid neighborhood $x_0 \in U \subset X$ and a parabolization P^{nc} of $D|_U$ such that for each $u \in U = \text{Sp}(B)$, the parabolization $P_{\bullet}^{\text{nc}} \otimes_B L(u)$ of D_u is a subparabolization of $P_{u,\bullet}^{\text{nc}}$, with equality if $u = x_0$.*

See the introduction for a history of this result.

Proof of Theorem 6.8. First, assume that X is sufficiently small so that the conclusion of Proposition 6.5 holds. In particular, there is a canonical triangulation $P_{x,\bullet}$ at each point $x \in X$.

The proof will happen in three steps. By Proposition 6.5, D is a pointwise triangulated family with center x_0 but without torsion. Fix the unique $1 \leq n \leq d$ such that $P_{x_0,1}^{\text{nc}} = P_{x_0,n}$. We assume that $n < d$, or else the theorem is proven already. It suffices to construct P_1^{nc} over an affinoid subdomain U as in the statement of the theorem. Indeed, granting its existence, P_1^{nc} is a (φ, Γ_K) -module of rank n (since it has rank n at x_0) and thus after replacing X by U we have $P_1^{\text{nc}} \otimes_A L(x) = P_{x,n}$ for all $x \in X$. But then the quotient D/P_1^{nc} is a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X whose global parameter is $(\delta_{n+1}, \dots, \delta_d)$. And so inductively we can apply the construction of P_1^{nc} we are about to give, if necessary.

Now we focus on constructing P_1^{nc} . For each τ , fix the unique integer n_τ such that n_τ such that $\kappa_{1,\tau}(x_0) = \text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{n_\tau,\tau})$. Note $n_\tau \leq n$ because $P_{x_0,1}^{\text{nc}} = P_{x_0,n}$ is non-critical. Let $Q_0 = D$ and $X_0 = X$.

CLAIM (Step 1). *There exists a sequence of affinoid subdomains $X = X_0 \supset X_1 \supset \dots \supset X_n$ and nearly flat pointwise triangulated families Q_i over X_i with finite cohomology and torsion center x_0 such that there is an exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow \prod_{\tau} t_{\tau}^{\kappa_{i+1, \tau}(x_0) - \kappa_{1, \tau}(x_0)} \mathcal{R}_{X_{i+1}}(\delta_{i+1}) \rightarrow Q_i|_{X_{i+1}} \rightarrow Q_{i+1} \rightarrow 0,$$

of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X_{i+1} and the invariants of Q_i are given by:

- torsion weights $((\text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{j, x_0}))_{\tau})_{1 \leq j \leq d}$;
- parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$; and
- non-critical points $X_i^{\text{nc}} = X_i \cap X_{\text{cl}}^{\text{nc}}$.

Moreover, $Q_{i,x}$ has free length $d - i \geq d - n > 0$.

Proof of Step 1. To prove the claim, one easily argues by induction on i using Theorem 5.3. \square

Since $n_{\tau} \leq n$ for each τ we see from the choice of torsion weights and the definition of n_{τ} that $Q_{x_0, n}$ has τ -torsion length $\ell_{\tau}(Q_{x_0, n}) = n - 1$. On the other hand, if $u \in X_n^{\text{nc}}$ then $\ell_{\tau}(Q_{u, n}) = n - 1$ as well. Thus, the τ -torsion lengths at x_0 agree with the τ -torsion lengths on a set of accumulating at x_0 . We will now kill the torsion. Let $Q'_0 = Q_n$ and $X'_0 = X_n$ as in step 1.

CLAIM (Step 2). *There exists a nested sequence of affinoid subdomains $X_n = X'_1 \supset \dots \supset X'_n$ and nearly flat pointwise triangulated families Q'_i over X'_i with torsion center x_0 such that, for $2 \leq i < n$, there is a short exact sequence*

$$0 \rightarrow Q'_i|_{X'_{i+1}} \left[\prod_{\tau} t_{\tau}^{\kappa_{i+1, \tau}(x_0) - \kappa_{i, \tau}(x_0)} \right] \rightarrow Q'_i|_{X'_{i+1}} \rightarrow Q'_{i+1} \rightarrow 0$$

of generalized (φ, Γ_K) -modules over X'_{i+1} and we have the following.

- The invariants of Q'_i are:
 - * torsion weights $((\text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{j, x_0}))_{\tau})_{1 \leq j \leq d: \text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{j, x_0}) \geq \kappa_{i, \tau}(x_0)}$;
 - * parameter $(\delta_i, \dots, \delta_d)$; and
 - * non-critical points $(X'_i)^{\text{nc}} = X_n^{\text{nc}} \cap X'_i$.
- We have that Q'_i has free length $d - n$, independent of i ; and
- For each τ and $u \in (X'_i)^{\text{nc}, \varphi^{\text{reg}}}$, the τ -torsion lengths $\ell_{\tau}(x_0)$ and $\ell_{\tau}(u)$ are equal (both) to $n - i$.

Proof of Step 2. The claimed properties for $Q'_1 = Q_n$ follow from the conclusion of step 1. If $1 < i \leq n$, then the existence of Q'_i over X'_i , with the given invariants, is proved by Corollary 5.8. The τ -torsion lengths at $u \in (X'_i)^{\text{nc}, \varphi^{\text{reg}}}$ are easily seen to be $n - i$, so to finish this step we just need to compute the τ -torsion length at x_0 . To do that we look at the non-zero τ -torsion exponents in the standard triangulation of Q'_i . The torsion exponents, are by definition, given by

$$\{\text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{j, x_0}) - \text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta_{i, x_0}) : 1 \leq j \leq n \text{ and } \text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{j, x_0}) \geq \text{wt}_{\tau}(\delta_{i, x_0})\}. \tag{10}$$

Since $P_{x_0, n}$ is a non-critical step in the canonical triangulation at x_0 , we see that the set of weights $\{\text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{1, x_0}), \dots, \text{wt}_{\tau}(\tilde{\delta}_{n, x_0})\}$ are the lowest n weights and so we see immediately that there are $\ell_{\tau}(x_0) = n - i$ non-zero elements in the set (10). \square

CLAIM (Step 3). Finally we set $C_n = Q'_n$ and $U = X'_n = \text{Sp}(B)$ as in step 2. We claim that we can shrink U so that $P_1^{\text{nc}} := \ker(D \rightarrow C_n)$ is a (φ, Γ_K) -module over U and for all $u \in U$, $P_1^{\text{nc}} \otimes_B L(u) = P_{u,n}$.

Proof of Step 3. Consider the pointwise triangulated family $C_n = Q'_n$ over $U = X'_n$. By step 2, C_n is torsion free at $x = x_0$ or $x = u \in U^{\text{nc}}$. Thus, after shrinking U , applying Lemma 5.5, we can assume that each fiber $C_{n,u}$ is finite free over $\mathcal{R}_{L(u)}$ of rank $d - n$, independent of u . Thus, C_n is a (φ, Γ_K) -module over U (spread C_n out to an open annulus and use [KPX14, Corollary 2.1.7]). Defining P_1^{nc} as the kernel of the natural surjection $D \rightarrow C_n$ (note that all of the constructions in steps 1 and 2 were quotients), we get a (φ, Γ_K) -module and thus our candidate P_1^{nc} .

It remains to compute $P_1^{\text{nc}} \otimes_B L(u)$ as a (φ, Γ_K) -submodule of D_u for each u . But we have assumed throughout that X was sufficiently small so that for all $x \in X$ there was a unique triangulation with parameter $(\delta_{1,x}, \dots, \delta_{d,x})$ up to homothety. So, in order to check $P_1^{\text{nc}} \otimes_B L(u) = P_{u,n}$ it is enough to show that $C_{n,u}$ can be triangulated by a parameter homothetic to $(\delta_{n+1,u}, \dots, \delta_{d,u})$ for all $u \in U$. But that latter claim follows from applying the information from Step 2 to $C_n = Q'_n$ and using axiom (TF2). \square

This completes the proof. \square

7. Ramification of weights

Let D be a refined family of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over a reduced L -affinoid space $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ with parameter $(\delta_1, \dots, \delta_d)$ and classical points X_{cl} . For each $i = 1, \dots, d$ and $\tau \in \Sigma_K$, we consider the analytic functions $\kappa_{i,\tau}(x) := \text{wt}_\tau(\delta_{i,x}) \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O})$. The goal of this section is to study the infinitesimal differences $\kappa_{i,\tau} - \kappa_{j,\tau}$ at classical points.

Suppose that $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}$, write $P_{x_0, \bullet}$ for its triangulation defined by axiom (RF3) and $(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}, \dots, \tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})$ for the corresponding parameter. For each τ , the set $\{\text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{1,x_0}), \dots, \text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{d,x_0})\}$ must be the same as the set of integers $\{\kappa_{1,\tau}(x_0), \dots, \kappa_{d,\tau}(x_0)\}$. In particular, for each τ there is a permutation $\pi_{x_0,\tau}$ on d letters such that $\text{wt}_\tau(\tilde{\delta}_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(i),x_0}) = \kappa_{i,\tau}(x_0)$. To connect this with the non-critical jumps, the τ -non-critical indices of $P_{x_0, \bullet}$ are exactly the integers i such that $\pi_{x_0,\tau}$ restricts to a permutation on the set $\{1, \dots, i\}$. In particular, $\pi_{x_0,\tau}$ induces a permutation on the set of weights appearing in each non-critical step $P_{x_0,j}^{\text{nc}}$ and thus permutes the set of weights appearing in each quotient $P_{x_0,j}^{\text{nc}}/P_{x_0,j-1}^{\text{nc}}$ as well.

If B is a ring, let $B[\varepsilon] = B[T]/(T^2)$ be the ring of dual numbers. If $x_0 \in X$ then $\mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}^{\text{rig}}$ denotes its local ring (in the rigid topology). Since $\mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}^{\text{rig}}$ is Henselian, it contains a section of its residue field. We write $T_{x_0}X = \text{Hom}_{L(x_0)}(\mathcal{O}_{X,x_0}^{\text{rig}}, L(x_0)[\varepsilon])$ for the Zariski tangent space at x_0 . If $f \in A$ is a function on X and $v \in T_{x_0}X$ is a tangent vector we write $\nabla_v(f) \in L(x_0)$ for the directional derivative of f with respect to v . Explicitly it is given by $v(f) = f(x_0) + \nabla_v(f)\varepsilon$.

THEOREM 7.1. If $x_0 \in X_{\text{cl}}^{\varphi_{\text{reg}}}$ and $v \in T_{x_0}X$, then $\nabla_v(\kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(i),\tau} - \kappa_{i,\tau}) = 0$ for each $1 \leq i \leq d$ and $\tau \in \Sigma_K$.

As mentioned in the introduction, the theorem was discovered independently by the author and Breuil. A proof, similar to the one we are about to give, is given in [Bre15, Lemme 9.6 and Théorème 9.7]. We've taken an extra effort to state a more precise result, dealing with all of the weights and over a finite extension K/\mathbf{Q}_p .

Proof of Theorem 7.1. Choose a uniformizer $\varpi_K \in K^\times$ and write, for $i = 1, \dots, d$, the character $\delta_i = \delta_i^{\text{wt}} \delta_i^{\text{nr}}$ as in § 2.3. Furthermore, write $\eta_i = \delta_1^{\text{wt}} \cdots \delta_i^{\text{wt}}$ and $D_i := (\wedge^i D)(\eta_i^{-1})$. Then D_i is a (φ, Γ_K) -module over X and it has distinct lowest Hodge–Tate weight 0 over X_{cl} . Let $\Phi = \delta_1^{\text{nr}}(\varpi_K) \cdots \delta_i^{\text{nr}}(\varpi_K) \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)^\times$. Then by [Liu15, Theorem 4.13] the $(\mathcal{O}_X \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} F)$ -module $D_{\text{cris}}(D_i)^{\varphi^{f_K} = \Phi}$ is locally free of rank one and satisfies base change.

Now let $v \in T_{x_0} X$. Write $\tilde{D}_{i,v} := \nabla_v(D_i)$ for the deformation $D_i \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{X,x_0},v} L(x_0)[\varepsilon]$ of D_{i,x_0} in the tangent direction of v . By the result just mentioned, $D_{\text{cris}}(\tilde{D}_{i,v})^{\varphi^{f_K} = \Phi}$ is free of rank one over $(L(x_0) \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} F)[\varepsilon]$. Let $E = \ker(\tilde{D}_{i,v} \rightarrow D_{i,x_0} \rightarrow D_{i,x_0}/\eta_{i,x_0}^{-1} \det P_{x_0,i})$. By the lemma below we have that E is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module. In particular, it is Hodge–Tate.

But what are the Hodge–Tate weights of E ? The τ -Hodge–Tate weights of D_{i,x_0} are given by

$$\text{HT}_\tau(D_{i,x_0}) = \left\{ \sum_{j \in J} \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) - \sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) : J \subset \{1, \dots, d\} \text{ and } \#J = i \right\}.$$

And, the τ -Hodge–Tate–Sen weights of $\tilde{D}_{i,v} = \wedge^i(\tilde{D}_{1,v})$ (which are elements of $L(x)[\varepsilon]$) are then given by

$$\left\{ \left(\sum_{j \in J} \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) + \nabla_v(\kappa_{j,\tau})\varepsilon \right) - \left(\sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) + \nabla_v(\kappa_{j,\tau})\varepsilon \right) : J \subset \{1, \dots, d\} \text{ and } \#J = i \right\}.$$

We can reinterpret this by viewing $\tilde{D}_{i,v}$ as a (φ, Γ_K) -module over $\mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}$ of twice the rank. We see that the Sen operator Θ_{Sen} acting on $D_{\text{Sen}}(\tilde{D}_{i,v})$ has a matrix built out of the blocks of the form

$$M_J := \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j \in J} \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) - \sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) & \sum_{j \in J} \nabla_v(\kappa_{j,\tau}) - \sum_{j=1}^i \nabla_v(\kappa_{j,\tau}) \\ 0 & \sum_{j \in J} \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) - \sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) \end{pmatrix} \in \text{Mat}_{2 \times 2}(L(x_0)).$$

Note that $\det P_{x_0,i}$ has Hodge–Tate weight $\kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(1)}(x_0) + \cdots + \kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(i)}(x_0)$ and so $\eta_{i,x_0}^{-1} \det P_{x_0,i}$ has Hodge–Tate weight $\sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(j),\tau}(x_0) - \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0)$. By the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow E \rightarrow \tilde{D}_{i,v} \rightarrow D_{i,v}/\eta_{i,x_0}^{-1} \det P_{x_0,i} \rightarrow 0$$

of (φ, Γ_K) -modules over $\mathcal{R}_{L(x_0)}$, the only 2×2 block of $\Theta_{\text{Sen}}|_{D_{\text{Sen}}(\tilde{D}_{i,v})}$ appearing in $\Theta_{\text{Sen}}|_{D_{\text{Sen}}(E)}$ is the block

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(j),\tau}(x_0) - \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) & \sum_{j=1}^i \nabla_v(\kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(j),\tau} - \kappa_{j,\tau}) \\ 0 & \sum_{j=1}^i \kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(j),\tau}(x_0) - \kappa_{j,\tau}(x_0) \end{pmatrix},$$

corresponding to $J = \{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(1), \dots, \pi_{x_0,\tau}(i)\}$. Finally since E is crystalline, it is Hodge–Tate and thus Θ_{Sen} acts semi-simply. In particular, we conclude that

$$\sum_{j=1}^i \nabla_v(\kappa_{\pi_{x_0,\tau}(j),\tau} - \kappa_{j,\tau}) = 0.$$

Since this is for any i , we conclude the theorem by induction on i . □

It remains to give the computation left unresolved in the previous proof.

LEMMA 7.2. *Suppose that D is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module over \mathcal{R}_L , $\phi \in L^\times$ and $P_1 \subset D$ is a rank-one saturated submodule such that $D_{\text{cris}}(D)^{\varphi^{f_K}=\phi} = D_{\text{cris}}(P_1)^{\varphi^{f_K}=\phi}$ is free of rank one over $L \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} F$. If $\tilde{D} \in \text{Ext}^1(D, D)$ is an extension such that $D_{\text{cris}}(\tilde{D})^{\varphi^{f_K}=\tilde{\phi}}$ is free of rank one over $(L \otimes_{\mathbf{Q}_p} F)[\varepsilon]$ for some $\tilde{\phi} \equiv \phi \pmod{\varepsilon}$, then the image of \tilde{D} under the natural map $\text{Ext}^1(D, D) \rightarrow \text{Ext}^1(P_1, D)$ is a crystalline (φ, Γ_K) -module over \mathcal{R}_L .*

Note that the image of \tilde{D} is given by the (φ, Γ_K) -module $E = \ker(\tilde{D} \rightarrow D/P_1)$. Thus, the lemma actually fills the gap left in the previous proof.

Proof. If T is a B -linear operator on a B -module M and $b \in B$, then we let $M^{(T=b)}$ denote the submodule of elements $m \in M$ such that $(T - b)^n m = 0$ for some $n \geq 0$. The functor $M \mapsto M^{(T=b)}$ is exact.

Since φ^{f_K} is linear, ϕ is a simple eigenvalue for φ^{f_K} and $D_{\text{cris}}(-)$ is left exact, we see that $D_{\text{cris}}(E)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)} = D_{\text{cris}}(\tilde{D})^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)}$. In particular, since $D_{\text{cris}}(\tilde{D})^{\varphi^{f_K}=\tilde{\phi}} = D_{\text{cris}}(\tilde{D})^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)}$ we see that $\dim_L D_{\text{cris}}(E)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)} \geq 2 \dim_{\mathbf{Q}_p} F$. Now consider the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow D_{\text{cris}}(D)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)} \rightarrow D_{\text{cris}}(E)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)} \rightarrow D_{\text{cris}}(P_1)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)}.$$

By counting dimensions we see the final map is surjective. Since P_1 is rank one, $D_{\text{cris}}(P_1)^{(\varphi^{f_K}=\phi)} = D_{\text{cris}}(P_1)$. In particular, $D_{\text{cris}}(E) \rightarrow D_{\text{cris}}(P_1) \rightarrow 0$ is exact as well, meaning that E is crystalline (again by dimension counts). \square

Remark. One can interpret Theorem 7.1, and Lemma 7.2, as making a statement about a certain deformation ring of (φ, Γ_K) -modules. Indeed, let $\mathfrak{X}_{D_{x_0}}$ denote the functor of formal deformations of D_{x_0} . Let $R_{x_0, \bullet} = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_d)$ be the refinement corresponding to the triangulation $P_{x_0, \bullet}$ by Proposition 3.3. One may define a relatively representable subfunctor $\mathfrak{X}_{D_{x_0}} \supset \mathfrak{X}_{D_{x_0}, R_{x_0, \bullet}}^h$ consisting of deformations \tilde{D} whose successive exterior powers $\wedge^i \tilde{D}$ contain a free rank-one submodule on which φ^{f_K} acts by $\phi_1 \dots \phi_i$. Neither functor $\mathfrak{X}_?$ is in general representable but both satisfy the natural Mayer–Vietoris condition on $L(x_0)[\varepsilon]$ -points in order to have reasonable Zariski tangent spaces $\mathfrak{X}_?(L(x_0)[\varepsilon])$ (see [Kis03, Tan11]). In that case $\mathfrak{X}_{D_{x_0}}(L(x_0)[\varepsilon]) \simeq \text{Ext}^1(D_{x_0}, D_{x_0})$. What we just showed is that the obvious differences of Hodge–Tate weights are constant over the tangent space to $\mathfrak{X}_{D_{x_0}, R_{x_0, \bullet}}^h$.

Remark. One might also ask whether Theorem 7.1 provides a tight bound for the rank of the weight map in a refined family. The answer is no. For example, let $K = \mathbf{Q}_p$ and consider any refined family D of rank two with global parameter (δ_1, δ_2) . Then one can take its symmetric square $\text{Sym}^2 D$ equipped with the structure of a refined family of rank three, naturally having global parameter $(\delta_1^2, \delta_1 \delta_2, \delta_2^2)$. If x_0 defines a critically triangulated classical point for D , then its critical type is the permutation (12), and x_0 is also critically triangulated in the family $\text{Sym}^2 D$ with critical type (13). Theorem 7.1 only implies that the difference of the first weight (i.e. $2\kappa_1$) and the *third* weight (i.e. $2\kappa_2$) ramifies. However, the middle weight is $\kappa_1 + \kappa_2$ and so the difference between the first two weights is $2\kappa_1 - (\kappa_1 + \kappa_2) = \kappa_1 - \kappa_2$. This also ramifies in the family by Theorem 7.1 applied to D itself, but is not detected by Theorem 7.1 applied to just $\text{Sym}^2 D$.

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Appendix. Nakayama’s lemma

This brief appendix is to create a reference for a relative form of Nakayama’s lemma we used in the main text. Throughout we let K be a non-Archimedean field of characteristic zero which is complete with respect to a non-trivial absolute value. If X and Y are K -rigid spaces we denote by $\text{pr}_X : X \times_K Y \rightarrow X$ the projection map, which we note is obtained by base-changing the structure morphism $Y \rightarrow \text{Sp}(K)$. We begin with two lemmas on products of K -affinoid spaces.

LEMMA A.1. *Suppose that X and Y are K -affinoid spaces.*

- (a) *If $U \subset X \times_K Y$ is an affinoid open subdomain, then the image $\text{pr}_X(U) \subset X$ is a finite union of affinoid subdomains of X .*
- (b) *If $U \subset X \times_K Y$ is an admissible open, then the image $\text{pr}_X(U) \subset X$ is a union of affinoid open subdomains of X .*

Proof. We begin with part (a). The structure morphism $Y \rightarrow \text{Sp}(K)$ is flat and thus pr_X is also flat. Let $U \subset X \times_K Y$ be an affinoid open subdomain. The inclusion $U \subset X \times_K Y$ is also flat and thus the composition $U \rightarrow X \times_K Y \rightarrow X$ is a flat map between K -affinoid spaces. Part (a) then follows from [BL93, Corollary 5.11] because K -affinoids are quasi-compact and quasi-separated rigid spaces. To prove part (b) we write $U = \bigcup U_i$ where each U_i is an affinoid open subdomain. By part (a) the image $\text{pr}_X(U_i)$ is covered by affinoid subdomains and thus so is $\text{pr}_X(U) = \bigcup \text{pr}_X(U_i)$. □

Remark. We are unable to determine whether pr_X should be open in the sense that $\text{pr}_X(U)$ is admissible open for each admissible open $U \subset X \times_K Y$. This contrasts with the algebraic analog of Lemma A.1, where part (b) really becomes that f is ‘open’ because ‘covered by opens’ is synonymous with ‘open’ in the Zariski topology (see [SPA15, Tag 037G]).

If $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ is a K -affinoid space and $x \in X$ we write \mathfrak{m}_x for the corresponding maximal ideal of A . We write $\kappa(x)$ for the residue field A/\mathfrak{m}_x . If $F \in A$ and $x \in X$, then we use the standard notation $F(x)$ to denote the image of F in $\kappa(x)$. If A and B are two K -affinoid algebras, $F \in A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$ and $y \in \text{Sp}(B)$, then we use F_y to denote the element $F_y \in A \otimes_K \kappa(y)$ which is the image of F under the canonical map $A \widehat{\otimes}_K B \rightarrow (A \widehat{\otimes}_K B)/\mathfrak{m}_y(A \widehat{\otimes}_K B) = A \otimes_K \kappa(y)$.

LEMMA A.2. *Suppose that A and B are reduced affinoid K -algebras. Then:*

- (a) *the completed tensor product $A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$ is reduced;*
- (b) *if $F \in A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$, then $F = 0$ if and only if $F_y = 0$ for all $y \in \text{Sp}(B)$.*

Proof. A noetherian ring R is reduced if and only if satisfies the two properties (R_0) and (S_1) (see [SPA15, Tag 031R]), and being geometrically reduced is equivalent to being reduced for affinoid

algebras over perfect fields [Con99, Lemma 3.3.1]. In particular, since K has characteristic zero we deduce part (a) from [Duc09, Théorème 8.1].⁶

To prove part (b) we let $y \in \mathrm{Sp}(B)$ and note that if $w \in X \times_K Y$ lies above y , then we have a natural map $A \otimes_K \kappa(y) \rightarrow (A \widehat{\otimes}_K B)/\mathfrak{m}_w$. Ranging over all y we get the following commutative diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \widehat{\otimes}_K B & \longrightarrow & \prod_{y \in Y} A \otimes_K \kappa(y) \\
 \downarrow & & \swarrow \\
 \prod_{w \in X \times_K Y} (A \widehat{\otimes}_K B)/\mathfrak{m}_w & &
 \end{array} \tag{A.1}$$

By part (a) the vertical arrow of (A.1) is injective. Thus we deduce the horizontal arrow of (A.1) is injective as well, proving part (b). \square

LEMMA A.3. *If $X = \mathrm{Sp}(A)$ and $Y = \mathrm{Sp}(B)$ are reduced affinoid K -spaces and $Z \subset X$ is a Zariski-dense subset of points, then $\mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(Z) \subset X \times_K Y$ is also Zariski-dense.*

Proof. Suppose that $Z \subset X$ is Zariski-dense. Let $F \in A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$. We need to show that if $F(z') = 0$ for all $z' \in \mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(Z)$ then $F = 0$. It suffices by Lemma A.2(b) to show that $F_y = 0$ for each $y \in Y$.

Let $y \in Y$. The field $\kappa(y)$ is a finite extension of K . In particular, if we fix a basis of $\kappa(y)$ over K , then for any K -vector space C we get an identification of $C \otimes_K \kappa(y)$ with $C^{\oplus n}$ (where $n = \dim_K \kappa(y)$) which is functorial in C (but depending on the choice of basis). Applying this to $C = A$ and $C = \kappa(z)$ with $z \in Z$ we get the following commuting diagram whose vertical arrows are isomorphisms.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \otimes_K \kappa(y) & \longrightarrow & \prod_{z \in Z} \kappa(z) \otimes_K \kappa(y) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\
 A^{\oplus n} & \longrightarrow & \prod_{z \in Z} \kappa(z)^{\oplus n}
 \end{array}$$

Since Z is Zariski-dense in X , the bottom arrow is injective. Thus, to show $F_y = 0$ it suffices to check that its image in $\kappa(z) \otimes_K \kappa(y)$ is zero for each $z \in Z$. But that follows easily from the assumption that $F(z') = 0$ for all $z' \in \mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(Z)$. Since y was arbitrary, we are done. \square

If B is a ring and $f \in B$ is non-nilpotent, then we write $B[1/f]$ for the localization of B at f . If M is a B -module we write $M[1/f] = B[1/f] \otimes_B M$ for the localization of M . If A is a K -affinoid algebra, M is a module over A and $x \in X$ corresponds to the maximal ideal \mathfrak{m}_x , then we write M_x for $M \otimes_A A/\mathfrak{m}_x$. Note that these two operations commute in the sense that $M_x[1/f] \simeq M[1/f]_x$.

Now suppose that A and B are affinoid K -algebras and $R = A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$. If M is a module over R , then $M_x[1/f]$ is a module over $\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]$ for each $x \in X$ and $f \in B$. Indeed, one just has to check that

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_x[1/f] &\simeq ((B \widehat{\otimes}_K A) \otimes_A A/\mathfrak{m}_x) \otimes_B B[1/f] \\
 &\simeq (B \otimes_K \kappa(x)) \otimes_B B[1/f] \\
 &\simeq \kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f].
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.2}$$

We now arrive at the subject of this appendix.

⁶ The reference [Duc09] is written for Berkovich spaces, but the reducedness of $A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$ can be checked with either the rigid analytic space or its associated Berkovich space. Indeed, the completions of the analytic local rings are the completions of the algebraic local rings in either case, and reducedness can be checked after completion by the excellence of K -affinoid algebras (see [Ber94, § 2.2] for example).

PROPOSITION A.4 (Nakayama’s lemma). *Suppose that $X = \text{Sp}(A)$ and $Y = \text{Sp}(B)$ are reduced affinoid K -spaces and that M is a finite module over $A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$. Let $f \in B$ be non-zero and assume that for each $x \in X$ the $\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]$ -module $M_x[1/f]$ is (finite) free. Then:*

(a) *for each $m \geq 0$ the subset*

$$X_m = \{x \in X : \text{rank}_{\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]} M_x[1/f] \leq m\} \subset X$$

is a union of affinoid subdomains of X ;

(b) *if $Z \subset X$ is Zariski-dense, then $X_m \neq \emptyset \implies Z \cap X_m \neq \emptyset$; in particular, the minimum rank of $M_x[1/f]$ is achieved on Z .*

Proof. Let $R = A \widehat{\otimes}_K B$ and consider the (non-empty, because f is not nilpotent) affine scheme $\text{Spec}(R[1/f]) \subset \text{Spec}(R)$. If $\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R)$ write $\kappa(\mathfrak{q})$ for its residue field (generalizing our previous notation). Since M is finite over R , $M[1/f]$ is finite over $R[1/f]$ and so by the usual Nakayama’s lemma (see [Mat89, Theorem 4.10]) the set

$$V_m = \{\mathfrak{q} \in \text{Spec}(R[1/f]) : \dim_{\kappa(\mathfrak{q})} M[1/f] \otimes_{R[1/f]} \kappa(\mathfrak{q}) \leq m\}$$

is Zariski-open in $\text{Spec}(R[1/f])$ for each $m \geq 0$. In particular, $U_m := V_m \cap \text{Sp}(R)$ is Zariski-open in $\text{Sp}(R) = X \times_K Y$. Since Zariski opens are admissible opens, U_m is admissible open in $\text{Sp}(R)$. By Lemma A.1(b), $\text{pr}_X(U_m)$ is a union of affinoid subdomains and thus it suffices to show that $\text{pr}_X(U_m) = X_m$.

Write $\text{Sp}(R)_f$ for $\text{Sp}(R) \cap \text{Spec}(R[1/f])$. Since $f \in B$, the projection map $\text{Sp}(R)_f \rightarrow X$ is still surjective. Thus, if $x \in X$ we may choose $u \in \text{Sp}(R)_f$ lying above x . Then (A.2) shows that $R_x[1/f] \otimes_{\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]} \kappa(u) = \kappa(u)$. We are assuming $M_x[1/f] \simeq (R_x[1/f])^{\oplus n_x}$ for an integer n_x depending on x . Reducing the residue field at u , we see that

$$M_x[1/f] \otimes_{\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]} \kappa(u) \simeq \kappa(u)^{\oplus n_x}.$$

On the other hand, since

$$M_x[1/f] \otimes_{\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]} \kappa(u) \simeq M[1/f] \otimes_{R[1/f]} \kappa(u)$$

this shows that

$$\dim_{\kappa(u)} M[1/f] \otimes_{R[1/f]} \kappa(u) = \text{rank}_{\kappa(x) \otimes_K B[1/f]} M_x[1/f]$$

depends only on x . Now it is clear that $\text{pr}(U_m) \subset X_m$. The reverse inclusion follows from the surjectivity of $\text{Sp}(R)_f \rightarrow X$. This shows $\text{pr}_X(U_m) = X_m$ and we have finished the proof of part (a).

The proof of part (b) is nearly complete as well. The only point is that if Z is Zariski-dense then Lemma A.3 guarantees that the pre-image $\text{pr}_X^{-1}(Z) \subset \text{Sp}(R)$ is Zariski-dense as well. In particular, since U_m is Zariski-open in $\text{Sp}(R)$, U_m is non-empty if and only if $\text{pr}_X^{-1}(Z) \cap U_m$ is non-empty. Part (b) follows immediately now. \square

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