

THE ITERATED TRANSFER ANALOGUE OF THE NEW DOOMSDAY CONJECTURE

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Dedicated to Professor Dan Kan on the occasion of his retirement from teaching calculus

ABSTRACT. A strong general restriction is given on the stable Hurewicz image of the classifying spaces of elementary abelian p -groups. In particular, this implies the iterated transfer analogue of the new doomsday conjecture.

0. INTRODUCTION

During the last decade, significant progress has been made in the study of the classifying spaces of elementary abelian p -groups, BV_s , where V_s is the rank s elementary abelian p -group [C1][Ml][AGM][Ln]. However, these studies dealt with maps *from* BV_s , while topologists have been traditionally interested in the stable homotopy of BV_s [Ro][KP][Ma2].

Now the purpose of this paper is to give a very general restriction on the mod p Hurewicz image of BV_s . In particular, we will show

Corollary 5.2. *The stable Hurewicz map*

$$\pi_{2n-s}^s(BV_s) \rightarrow H_{2n-s}(BV_s)$$

has a trivial image, when

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 2^{\nu_2(n)+2-2s} > \nu_2(n) + 2 + \left\lceil \frac{5\left\lfloor \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rfloor}{2} \right\rceil - \alpha_2 \left(\left\lfloor \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rfloor \right) & \text{if } p = 2, \\ p^{\nu_p(n)+2-2s} > (p-1)\nu_p(n) + 1 + p \left\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rceil - \alpha_p \left(\left\lfloor \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rfloor \right) & \text{if } p \text{ is odd.} \end{array} \right.$$

Together with the Kahn-Priddy theorem [KP], this result implies the Adams Hopf invariant one theorem [Ad1] as a special case (when $p = 2$ and $s = 1$). Furthermore, when $p = s = 2$, this result recovers our previous result [M1], which showed the higher Kervaire invariant one elements θ_j ($j \geq 5$) are not realized by framed hypersurfaces.

Our result has another implication (which was in fact our motivation). For this purpose, we recall the new doomsday conjecture proposed in [M3]:

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New doomsday Conjecture. *For each s , there exists some integer $n(s)$ such that no nontrivial element in the image of*

$$(\mathcal{P}^0)^{n(s)} (\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)) \subseteq \left(\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s, P^{n(s)*}} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \right)$$

is a nontrivial permanent cycle.

Thus, Corollary 5.2 indicates that at least the iterated transfer analogue of the new doomsday conjecture holds.

To prove our main result (Theorem 5.1), we need the BP -Adams operations [N][Ar2] and the Johnson-Wilson-Yan calculation of $BP_*(\wedge^n P)$ [JW][JWY], based upon the affirmative solution of the Conner-Floyd conjecture [RW][Mt], just as in our recent papers [M1][M2][M3]. However, the new ingredients here are Wood's theorem [Wo] (formerly Peterson's conjecture [P]) and Kameko's reduction [K] both of which deal with the \mathcal{A}^* indecomposable elements of $H^*(BV_s)$ (for $p = 2$).

This paper is organized as follows. In §1, we recall the results of Wood [Wo] and Kameko [K], and generalize their results to the odd primary case. In §2, we use the Adams spectral sequence to show that those relevant elements in $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$ have gigantic order. In §3, we study the action of the BP -Adams operations on $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$. For this, we need to establish the universal coefficient spectral sequence using the chromatic tower. Our discussion here implies that elements in the BP -Hurewicz image $\pi_*^s(\wedge^s P) \rightarrow BP_*(\wedge^s P)$ must have relatively low order. In §4, we show the transfer homomorphism $H_n(BV_s) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s, n+s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ commutes with the two Sq^0 's (resp. \mathcal{P}^0 's) for $p = 2$ (resp. p odd). This material is not used elsewhere in this paper. However, this is philosophically important to relate the iterated transfer to the new doomsday conjecture on the Adams spectral sequence of the sphere. In §5, we apply our studies in §2 and §3 to prove our main result, Theorem 5.1. In §6, we speculate on a possible way to get around Singer's counterexample [S1] to the naive conjecture concerning the Singer homomorphism.

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Notation and convention.

$\mathbb{Z}/p\{g\}$ stands for a group isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}/p with g as its generator.

H_* and H^* stand for the mod p homology and cohomology, respectively.

$$P = \Sigma^\infty B\mathbb{Z}/p = \Sigma^\infty BV_1.$$

Let c be a fixed generator of $H^2(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$, $y_{2i} \in H_{2i}(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$ be the dual of $c^i \in H^{2i}(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$, and $x_{2i+1} \in H_{2i+1}(P)$ be the image of y_{2i} under the composite

$$H_{2i}(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \cong H_{2i+1}(\Sigma\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \rightarrow H_{2i+1}(P),$$

where the first map is the suspension isomorphism and the second map is induced by the S^1 -transfer. Let $x_{2i+2} \in H_{2i+2}(P)$ be the unique element such that $\beta_* x_{2i+2} = x_{2i+1}$, where β is the Bockstein.

We adopt Milnor’s [Mi] description of the dual Steenrod algebra \mathcal{A}_* :

$$\mathcal{A}_* = \begin{cases} P(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots), & |\xi_n| = 2^n - 1, \text{ if } p = 2, \\ P(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots) \otimes E(\tau_0, \tau_1, \dots), & |\xi_n| = 2(p^n - 1), |\tau_n| = 2p^n - 1, \\ & \text{if } p \text{ is odd,} \end{cases}$$

where P stands for a polynomial algebra and E stands for an exterior algebra.

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(BP)) \cong \text{Ext}_{E_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) = \mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots],$$

where $u_i \in \text{Ext}_{E_*}^{1, 2^{i+1}-1}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ is expressed as $[\xi_{i+1}]$ in the cobar complex, and corresponds to the usual (Hazewinkel [H] or Araki [Ar1], whichever) generator $v_i \in BP_{2^{i+1}-2}$ (resp. p) when $i \geq 1$ (resp. $i = 0$). (Recall $BP_* = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_1, v_2, \dots]$.)

$E\langle k \rangle$ is the exterior quotient Hopf algebra of \mathcal{A}_* , generated by ξ_1, \dots, ξ_{k+1} (resp. τ_0, \dots, τ_k) for $p = 2$ (resp. $p = \text{odd}$), whose notation is intended to suggest

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(BP\langle k \rangle)) \cong \text{Ext}_{E\langle k \rangle}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p).$$

For simplicity, we write particular spaces of primitive elements as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} PBP_*(X) &= BP \square_{BP_*BP} BP_*(X), \\ PH_*(X) &= \mathbb{Z}/p \square_{\mathcal{A}_*} H_*(X). \end{aligned}$$

1. WOOD’S THEOREM AND KAMEKO’S REDUCTION

We use the following numerical functions freely in this section:

$$\alpha_p(n) = \sum_{i \geq 0} a_i, \text{ where } n = \sum_{i \geq 0} a_i p^i, \text{ } 0 \leq a_i \leq p - 1 \text{ is the } p\text{-adic expansion,}$$

$$\beta_p(n) = \text{Min}\{k \mid n(p - 1) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq k} (p^{i_j} - 1) \text{ for some } i_j \geq 0 (1 \leq j \leq k)\},$$

$$P_s(n) = pn + (p - 1)s.$$

Lemma 1.1. (i) n is expressed as $\sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} p^{i_j}$ with $i_j \geq 0 \iff \alpha_p(n) \leq m \leq n$ and $m \equiv n \pmod{p - 1}$.

(ii) $\beta_p(n) \leq m \iff \alpha_p(n(p - 1) + m) \leq m.$

(iii) $\beta_p(n) \leq (p - 1)s \iff \beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) \leq (p - 1)s.$

(iv) $\beta_p(n) \leq (p - 1)s - 1 \implies p^s \nmid n + s.$

(v) $P_{p,s}^k(n) + s = p^k(n + s).$

(vi) $\beta_p(n) \leq (p - 1)s \implies \beta_p(P_{p,s}^k(n)) = (p - 1)s, \forall k \geq s.$

Proof. (i) Obviously, the largest possible such m is n with $n = n \cdot p^0 = \underbrace{p^0 + \dots + p^0}_n$.

Now, rearrange $\sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} p^{i_j} = \sum_{i \geq 0} b_i p^i, b_i \geq 0$ so that $m = \sum_{i \geq 0} b_i$. Any such an expansion is obtained from the trivial expansion $n = \underbrace{p^0 + \dots + p^0}_n$ by repeating

the operation $\underbrace{p^i + \dots + p^i}_p \mapsto p \cdot p^i = p^{i+1}$. Of course, each application of this operation reduces the number m by $p - 1$, and we can repeat this operation until

we reach the p -adic expansion $n = \sum_{i \geq 0} a_i p^i$, $0 \leq a_i \leq p - 1$. From this the claim follows.

(ii) This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_p(n) \leq m &\iff n(p-1) = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} (p^{i_j} - 1) \quad (i_j \geq 0) \\ &\iff n(p-1) + m = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} p^{i_j} \quad (i_j \geq 0) \\ &\iff \alpha_p(n(p-1) + m) \leq m, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equivalence follows from (i).

(iii) This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} (p-1)s \geq \beta_p(n) &\iff (p-1)s \geq \alpha_p(n(p-1) + (p-1)s) \\ &= \alpha_p(p\{n(p-1) + (p-1)s\}) \\ &= \alpha_p(\{pn + (p-1)s\}(p-1) + (p-1)s) \\ &\iff (p-1)s \geq \beta_p(pn + (p-1)s) = \beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)), \end{aligned}$$

where we have used (ii) twice.

(iv) From the assumption and (ii), we get $\alpha_p(n(p-1) + (p-1)s - 1) \leq (p-1)s - 1$. Suppose $p^s \mid n + s$, contrary to the claim. Then the p -adic expansion of $(p-1)(n + s) - 1$ begins with

$$(p-1)(n + s) - 1 = (p-1) + (p-1)p + \dots + (p-1)p^{s-1} + \dots,$$

which implies $\alpha_p((p-1)(n + s) - 1) \geq (p-1)s$. Of course, this is a contradiction.

(v) By mathematical induction, we get

$$\begin{aligned} P_{p,s}^k(n) &= p^k n + p^{k-1}(p-1)s + p^{k-2}(p-1)s + \dots + p(p-1)s + (p-1)s \\ &= p^k n + \frac{p^k - 1}{p-1}(p-1)s = p^k(n + s) - s, \end{aligned}$$

from which the claim follows.

(vi) This follows from (iii), (iv), and (v). □

Let \mathcal{P} be the total Steenrod operations:

$$\mathcal{P} = \begin{cases} \mathcal{P}^0 + \mathcal{P}^1 + \mathcal{P}^2 + \dots & \text{if } p \text{ is odd,} \\ Sq^0 + Sq^1 + Sq^2 + \dots & \text{if } p = 2. \end{cases}$$

We identify $\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$ with the \mathcal{A}^* algebra $H^*(BV_s)$ and $H^*(BT^s)$ for $p = 2$ and p odd, respectively. Then, in either case,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(t_i) &= t_i + t_i^p, \\ \chi(\mathcal{P})(t_i) &= t_i - t_i^p + t_i^{p^2} + \dots + (-1)^j t_i^{p^j} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

for any $1 \leq i \leq s$. Given a monomial $X = t_1^{n_1} t_2^{n_2} \dots t_s^{n_s}$ in $\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$, we denote its degree by $|X| = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_s$. Notice that this coincides with the usual grading of $H^*(BV_s)$ for $p = 2$. However, this is one half of the usual grading of $H^*(BT^s)$ for p odd. With respect to this grading, both \mathcal{P}^i (for p odd) and Sq^i (for $p = 2$) increase the degree by $i(p-1)$. The case $p = 2$ of the following was first proved by Wood [Wo], who proved a conjecture of Peterson [P].

Theorem 1.2. Write down any monomial $X \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$ of the form

$$X = t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} Y^p, \quad 0 \leq r_i \leq p - 1,$$

for some monomial $Y \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$. Then, X is \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable, whenever

$$\alpha_p(|X|(p - 1) + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s)) > r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s.$$

Proof. We begin by noticing

$$X = t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} \cdot \mathcal{P}^{|Y|}(y) \equiv \chi\left(\mathcal{P}^{|Y|}\right) (t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s}) \cdot Y$$

modulo \mathcal{A}^* -decomposables. Suppose, to the contrary, that X is \mathcal{A}^* -indecomposable. Then, $\chi\left(\mathcal{P}^{|Y|}\right) (t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s})$ should be nonzero. However, as

$$\begin{aligned} & \chi\left(\mathcal{P}^{|Y|}\right) (t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s}) \\ &= \text{sum of monomials of the form } \underbrace{t_1^{p^{i_1}^1} \cdots t_1^{p^{i_1}^{r_1}}}_{r_1} \cdots \underbrace{t_s^{p^{i_s}^1} \cdots t_s^{p^{i_s}^{r_s}}}_{r_s} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$|\chi\left(\mathcal{P}^{|Y|}\right) (t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s})| = |Y|(p - 1) + r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s,$$

$|Y|(p - 1) + r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s$ should be expressed as a sum of $(r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s)$ many p -powers (including $1 = p^0$). From Lemma 1.1(i), this implies

$$\alpha_p(|Y|(p - 1) + r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s) \leq r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s.$$

But, as

$$\begin{aligned} & |X|(p - 1) + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s) \\ &= \{|Y|p + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s)\}(p - 1) + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s) \\ &= (|Y|(p - 1) + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s))p, \end{aligned}$$

this is equivalent to

$$\alpha_p(|X|(p - 1) + (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s)) \leq (r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s).$$

Of course, this is a contradiction, and the claim is claimed. □

Corollary 1.3. The above X is \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable if $\beta_p(|X|) > r_1 + r_2 + \cdots r_s$.

Proof. This immediately follows from Theorem 1.2 and Lemma 1.1 (ii). □

Corollary 1.4. Suppose $QH^n(BV_s) \neq 0$ (resp. $QH^{2n}(BT^s) \neq 0$) for $p = 2$ (resp. $p = \text{odd}$). Then $\beta_p(n) \leq s(p - 1)$ ($\iff \alpha_p((n + s)(p - 1)) \leq s(p - 1)$ by Lemma 1.1(ii)).

Proof. Suppose, to the contrary, that $\beta_p(n) > s(p - 1)$. Then, as $s(p - 1) \geq r_1 + r_2 + \cdots + r_s$ in Theorem 1.2, Corollary 1.3 implies any monomial in $H^n(BV_s)$ (resp. $H^{2n}(BT^s)$) for $p = 2$ (resp. $p = \text{odd}$) is \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable, i.e. $QH^n(BV_s) = 0$ (resp. $QH^{2n}(BT^s) = 0$) for $p = 2$ (resp. $p = \text{odd}$). This is a contradiction. □

The following result is used to study BV_s when p is odd.

Proposition 1.5. Suppose p is odd. Suppose further that $s = 1$ or $\nu_p(n) \geq s + \lceil \log_p \lfloor \frac{s}{2} \rfloor \rceil + 1$ and $s \geq 2$. Then the smash product of the (reduced) S^1 -transfer $\Sigma BT_+^1 \rightarrow P$ induces an isomorphism

$$PH_{2(n-s)}(BT_+^s) \cong PH_{2n-s}(\Sigma^s BT_+^s) \rightarrow PH_{2n-s}(\wedge^s P).$$

Proof. Since the case $s = 1$ is very easy to see, we assume $s \geq 2$ and $\nu_p(n) \geq s + [\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1$. Then it is enough to show

$$(P) \quad (\mathbb{Z}/p \square_{P_*} H_*(BT_+^s))_{2(n-s)} \cong (\mathbb{Z}/p \square_{P_*} H_*(\wedge^s P))_{2n-s}.$$

Since

$$H_*(P) \cong H_*(\Sigma BT_+^1) \oplus H_*(\Sigma^2 BT_+^1),$$

as a P_* -comodule, the right-hand side of (P) becomes the direct sum of the left-hand side of (P) and additional \mathbb{Z}/p -modules of the form

$$(\mathbb{Z}/p \square_{P_*} H_*(BT_+^s))_{2(n-s-l)}$$

with $1 \leq l \leq [\frac{s}{2}]$. We must show these additional modules vanishes. For this, by Corollary 1.4, it is enough to show

$$\alpha((n-l)(p-1)) > s(p-1),$$

when $\nu_p(n) \geq s + [\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1$ and $1 \leq l \leq [\frac{s}{2}]$. We write

$$\begin{aligned} n &= ap^{\nu_p(n)}, \quad a \geq 1, \\ l &= p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1} - b, \quad 0 < b < p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (n-l)(p-1) &= a(p-1)p^{\nu_p(n)} - (p-1)(p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1} - b) \\ &= \{a(p-1) - 1\}p^{\nu_p(n)} + (p^{\nu_p(n)} - p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 2}) \\ &\quad + (p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1} + b(p-1)). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_p((n-l)(p-1)) &= \alpha_p(\{a(p-1) - 1\}p^{\nu_p(n)}) \\ &\quad + \alpha_p(p^{\nu_p(n)} - p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 2}) + \alpha(p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1} + b(p-1)) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_p(\{a(p-1) - 1\}p^{\nu_p(n)}) \geq p-2 \quad (\text{since } \alpha_p(a(p-1) - 1) \equiv -1 \pmod{p-1}), \\ \alpha_p(p^{\nu_p(n)} - p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 2}) = (\nu_p(n) - [\log_p \frac{s}{2}] - 2)(p-1), \\ \alpha(p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1} + b(p-1)) \geq 2 \quad (\text{since } 0 < b < p^{[\log_p \frac{s}{2}] + 1}). \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$\alpha_p((n-l)(p-1)) > (\nu_p(n) - [\log_p \frac{s}{2}] - 1)(p-1) \geq s(p-1),$$

which completes the proof. □

Let $\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n$ be the degree n -part of $\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$. We define a couple of \mathbb{F}_p -linear maps

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)}, \\ Y &\mapsto t_1^{p-1} \cdots t_s^{p-1}(Y^p), \\ \psi : \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)} &\rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n, \\ X &\mapsto \begin{cases} Y & \text{if } X = \phi(Y), \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where Y and X are monomials.

Lemma 1.6. *Suppose $0 \leq r \leq p - 1$ and $1 \leq i \leq s$. Then, in the expansion of the total Steenrod operations action*

$$\mathcal{P}(t_i^r) = t_i^r \left(\sum_{0 \leq j \leq r} \binom{r}{j} t_i^{j(p-1)} \right) = \sum_{0 \leq j \leq r} \binom{r}{j} t_i^{r+j(p-1)},$$

the degree $r + j(p - 1)$ of a typical term is congruent to $p - 1$ modulo p , only if $r = p - 1$ and $j = 0$.

Proof. This immediately follows from $0 \leq j \leq r \leq p - 1$ and $r - j \equiv r + j(p - 1) \equiv p - 1 \pmod{p}$. □

Proposition 1.7. (i) $\psi \mathcal{P}X = \mathcal{P}\psi X$ for any monomial X . In fact,

$$\psi(\mathcal{P}^a X) = \begin{cases} \mathcal{P}^{\frac{a}{p}}(\psi X) & \text{if } p \mid a, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(ii) The kernel of the composition

$$\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n \xrightarrow{Q} Q\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n$$

is the sub \mathbb{F}_p -vector space generated by $\text{Ker } \psi$ and the \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable elements.

Proof. (i) Write down any monomial $X \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$ in the form

$$X = t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} Y^p, \quad 0 \leq r_i \leq p - 1,$$

for some monomial $Y \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$. Notice that $X = \phi(Y')$ for some monomial Y' if and only if $r_i = p - 1$ for any $1 \leq i \leq s$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \psi \mathcal{P}X &= \psi(\mathcal{P}(t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} Y^p)) \\ &= \psi(\mathcal{P}(t_1)^{r_1} \mathcal{P}(t_2)^{r_2} \cdots \mathcal{P}(t_s)^{r_s} (\mathcal{P}Y)^p) \\ &= \begin{cases} \mathcal{P}Y & \text{if } r_i = p - 1 \text{ for any } 1 \leq i \leq s, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ &= \mathcal{P}\psi(t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} Y^p) \\ &= \mathcal{P}\psi X, \end{aligned}$$

where we used Lemma 1.6 in the second equality. The second claim follows from this and a degree observation based on $P_{p,s} \left(\frac{a}{p} + |\psi X| \right) = a + P_{p,s}(|\psi X|)$.

(ii) Suppose $A \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)}$ is contained in the kernel of the composite $Q \circ \psi$. Then, we may write

$$\psi(A) = \sum_i \lambda_i \mathcal{P}^{b_i} Y_i,$$

for some $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_p$, $b_i > 0$, and monomials Y_i . But, by (i), the right-hand side becomes $\psi(\sum_i \lambda_i \mathcal{P}^{b_i}(\phi(Y_i)))$. Therefore,

$$A - \sum_i \lambda_i \mathcal{P}^{b_i}(\phi(Y_i)) \in \text{Ker } \psi \quad (b_i > 0),$$

from which the claim follows. \square

Now we are ready to state and prove Kameko's reduction [K] for any prime p . ([K] considered only the case $p = 2$.)

Theorem 1.8. (i) ψ induces a surjective \mathbb{F}_p -linear map

$$Q\psi : Q\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)} \rightarrow Q\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n.$$

(ii) If $\beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) = s(p-1)$, this is an isomorphism.

Proof. (i) ψ induces $Q\psi$ by Proposition 1.7 (i). $Q\psi$ is clearly surjective as ψ is surjective (with ϕ as its section).

(ii) From Proposition 1.7 (ii), the kernel of the composition

$$\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^{P_{p,s}(n)} \xrightarrow{\psi} \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n \xrightarrow{Q} Q\mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]^n$$

is the sub \mathbb{F}_p -vector space generated by $\text{Ker } \psi$ and the \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable elements. Now $\text{Ker } \psi$ is generated by those monomials

$$X = t_1^{r_1} t_2^{r_2} \cdots t_s^{r_s} Y^p, \quad 0 \leq r_i \leq p-1,$$

with some monomial $Y \in \mathbb{F}_p[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_s]$, such that $\sum_{1 \leq i \leq s} r_i < s(p-1) = \beta_p(|X|)$. Then, X is \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable by Corollary 1.3. This implies that $\text{Ker } Q \circ \psi$ consists of the \mathcal{A}^* -decomposable elements, from which the result follows. \square

Corollary 1.9. (i) For $p = 2$, ψ induces a surjective \mathbb{F}_2 -linear map

$$Q\psi : QH^{P_{p,s}(n)}(BV_s) \rightarrow QH^n(BV_s).$$

If $\beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) = \beta_p(2n+s) = s$, this is an isomorphism.

(ii) For $p = \text{odd}$, ψ induces a surjective \mathbb{F}_p -linear map

$$Q\psi : QH^{2P_{p,s}(n)}(BT^s) \rightarrow QH^{2n}(BT^s).$$

If $\beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) = \beta_p(pn + s(p-1)) = s(p-1)$, this is an isomorphism.

Corollary 1.9(i) is the original Kameko's reduction [K]. Now the following is the dual statement.

Corollary 1.10. (i) When $p = 2$, we have a well-defined injective \mathbb{F}_2 -linear map

$$\begin{aligned} Sq^0 : PH_n(BV_s) &\rightarrow PH_{P_{p,s}(n)}(BV_s), \\ x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{i_s} &\mapsto x_{2i_1+1} \otimes x_{2i_2+1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2i_s+1}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) = s$, this is an isomorphism.

(ii) When $p = \text{odd}$, we have a well-defined injective \mathbb{F}_p -linear map

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^0 : PH_{2n}(BT^s) &\rightarrow PH_{2P_{p,s}(n)}(BT^s), \\ y_{2i_1} \otimes y_{2i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes y_{2i_s} &\mapsto y_{2(pi_1+p-1)} \otimes y_{2(pi_2+p-1)} \otimes \cdots \otimes y_{2(pi_s+p-1)}. \end{aligned}$$

If $\beta_p(P_{p,s}(n)) = s(p - 1)$, this is an isomorphism.

Corollary 1.11. For any $l \geq 0$,

$$\begin{cases} (Sq^0)^l : PH_{2^{s-1}t-s}(BV_s) \rightarrow PH_{2^{s+l-1}t-s}(BV_s), \\ (\mathcal{P}^0)^l : PH_{2(p^{s-1}t-s)}(BT^s) \rightarrow PH_{2(p^{s+l-1}t-s)}(BT^s) \end{cases}$$

is an isomorphism.

Proof. In both cases, we may assume $\beta_p(t - s) \leq (p - 1)s$, because, otherwise, both the source and the target are trivial by Corollary 1.4 and Lemma 1.1 (iii). But, if $\beta_p(t - s) \leq (p - 1)s$, the claim is an immediate consequence of Corollary 1.10 and Lemma 1.1 (vi). \square

To conclude this section, we make the following generalization for an odd prime p :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^0 : PH_n(BV_s) &\rightarrow PH_{P_{p,s}(n)}(BV_s), \\ x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{i_s} &\mapsto \begin{cases} x_{pi_1+p-1} \otimes x_{pi_2+p-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{pi_s+p-1} & \text{iff } i_1, i_2, \dots, i_s \text{ are all odd,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

The well-definedness of this \mathcal{P}^0 may be easily verified, using Corollary 1.10 (ii) and the P_* -comodule isomorphism

$$H_*(P) \cong H_*(\Sigma BT_+^1) \oplus H_*(\Sigma^2 BT_+^1).$$

2. THE ADAMS SPECTRAL SEQUENCE OF $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$

To study $BP_*(BV_s)$, recall that the canonical projection

$$\begin{aligned} BV_s &= (B\mathbb{Z}/p) \times (B\mathbb{Z}/p) \times \cdots \times (B\mathbb{Z}/p) \\ &\rightarrow (B\mathbb{Z}/p) \wedge (B\mathbb{Z}/p) \wedge \cdots \wedge (B\mathbb{Z}/p) = \wedge^s P \end{aligned}$$

stably splits so that $\wedge^s P$ constitutes the essential part of $BV_s : x_{i_1} \otimes x_{i_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{i_s} \in H_*(BV_{s+})$, where $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_s \geq 0$, is contained in $H_*(\wedge^s P)$ if and only if $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_s \geq 1$.

Therefore, we are going to study $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$, which still has a very complicated additive structure. Fortunately, as was noticed by [JWY][JW], the affirmative solution [RW][Mt] of the Conner-Floyd conjecture implies that its classical Adams spectral sequence collapses at its E_2 -term, and this allows us to use more tractable $\text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P))$, instead of $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$, to evaluate the BP_* -order of those elements we are interested in. (Note that the multiplication by p in $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$ corresponds to the multiplication by $u_0 \in \text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{1,1}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ in $\text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P))$.) We begin with a summary of known results, which are necessary in our approach:

Proposition 2.1. (i) *The Adams spectral sequence*

$$\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(BP \wedge \wedge^s P)) \implies BP_*(\wedge^s P)$$

collapses.

(ii) *As $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$ -modules,*

$$\text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P)) = \text{Ext}_{E\langle s-1 \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P)) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s].$$

(iii) $\text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P))$ *contains a sub $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module*

$$\bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s],$$

where $x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1} \in \text{Ext}_{E^{s_*}}^{0, 2\sum_{1 \leq i \leq s} k_i - s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P))$.

(iv) *There is a canonical identification of the above $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -submodules of $\text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P))$ as $\otimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$:*

$$\begin{aligned} i : \bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s] \\ \rightarrow \bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P)), \\ x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1} \mapsto x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. For (i)(ii), see [JWY][JW]. The first part of (iii) follows from (i)(ii) and the solution of the Conner-Floyd conjecture [RW][Mt], which was also used in (i) [JWY]. The second part of (iii) about the splitting is proved in [JWY].

For (iv), we first notice that $\bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$ is generated by $\bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\}$, as a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module. This is because such is the case for each tensor factor $\text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$ [D]. So, thanks to (iii), the claim would follow if we could canonically embed

$$\bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P)) \quad \text{in} \quad \text{Ext}_{E\langle s \rangle_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(\wedge^s P)).$$

But this follows immediately from the Ext-analogue (see the proof of Proposition 2.1 (iv) in [M3]) of Landweber’s bordism Künneth theorem [L1], which latter enables us to embed $\bigotimes_{BP_*}^s BP_*(P)$ in $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$ [JW]. \square

To understand the order of those relevant elements in $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$, we need to know the formula of u_0 -action on

$$\bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s].$$

For a technical reason, we can minimize our task by writing down all the actions of u_1, \dots, u_{s-1} simultaneously. For this purpose, we denote the $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$ -module map $x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1} \mapsto u_j x_{2(k_1-r_1)-1} \otimes x_{2(k_2-r_2)-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2(k_s-r_s)-1}$ by $u_j X_1^{r_1} \dots X_s^{r_s}$, and define a power series

$$f(X) = (1 + X^{p-1} + X^{p^2-1} + \dots + X^{p^k-1} \dots)^{-1}.$$

Furthermore, using the p -adic expansion of n ,

$$n = e_m p^m + e_{m-1} p^{m-1} + \dots + e_1 p + e_0 \quad (0 \leq e_j \leq p - 1 \text{ for } 0 \leq j \leq m),$$

we set

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_p(n) &= e_0 + e_1 + \dots + e_m, \\ \Lambda &= \{0\} \cup \{n \mid \alpha_p(n) = p - 1\}, \\ C_p(n) &= \begin{cases} -\frac{\alpha_p(n)!}{e_1!e_2!\dots e_m!} & \text{when } n > 0, \\ 1 & \text{when } n = 0. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Notice that $C_p(n) = (e_1!e_2!\dots e_m!)^{-1}$ if $n \in \Lambda$ (we use the usual convention $0! = 1$).

Lemma 2.2. $f(X) = \sum_{n \in \Lambda} C_p(n) X^n$.

Proof. This follows from

$$\begin{aligned} f(X) &= (1 + X^{p-1} + X^{p^2-1} + \dots + X^{p^k-1} + \dots)^{-1} \\ &= 1 - X^{p-1}(1 + X^{p-1} + X^{p^2-1} + \dots + X^{p^k-1} + \dots)^{p-1} \\ &= 1 - (X + X^p + X^{p^2} + \dots + X^{p^k} + \dots)^{p-1} \\ &= 1 + \sum_{\alpha_p(n)=p-1} C_p(n) X^n = \sum_{n \in \Lambda} C_p(n) X^n. \end{aligned}$$

□

Now, the following is the action formula:

Proposition 2.3. *The $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module structure of*

$$\bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$$

is determined by the following equalities of $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$ -module self-maps:

$$\begin{aligned} u_i &= u_s \cdot \text{total degree } p^s - p^i\text{-part of } \prod_{1 \leq j \leq s} f(X_j) \\ &= u_s \cdot \sum_{r_1, \dots, r_s \in \Lambda, r_1 + \dots, r_s = p^s - p^i} C_p(r_1) \dots C_p(r_s) X_1^{r_1} \dots X_s^{r_s}, \end{aligned}$$

for any $0 \leq i \leq s$.

Proof. As these actions of u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s clearly commute, they together define a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module structure. Now, we claim these (proposed) actions satisfy

$$(C) \quad u_0 + u_1 X_j^{p-1} + u_2 X_j^{p^2-1} + \dots + u_s X_j^{p^s-1} = 0 \quad (1 \leq \forall j \leq s).$$

By symmetry, it is enough to show this for $j = 1$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} & u_0 + u_1X_1^{p-1} + u_2X_1^{p^2-1} + \dots + u_sX_1^{p^s-1} \\ &= u_s \left((1 + X_1^{p-1} + X_1^{p^2-1} + \dots + X_1^{p^s-1} + \dots) f(X_1) \prod_{2 \leq j \leq s} f(X_j) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - (X_1^{p^{s+1}-1} + \dots) \prod_{1 \leq j \leq s} f(X_j) \right)_{\text{total degree } p^s - 1} \\ &= u_s \left(\prod_{2 \leq j \leq s} f(X_j) \right)_{\text{total degree } p^s - 1}, \end{aligned}$$

it is enough to show $\left(\prod_{2 \leq j \leq n} f(X_j)\right)_{\text{total degree } p^s - 1} = 0$. However, as the total degree, say n , of any nonzero term in the expansion of $\prod_{2 \leq j \leq s} f(X_j)$ satisfies $\alpha_p(n) \leq (s-1)(p-1)$ by Lemma 2.2, this simply follows from $\alpha_p(p^s - 1) = s(p-1)$. Thus, we have verified (C).

Notice that (C) is just the characterizing property of the $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module structure on $\bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$. The point is that $\text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$ is generated by $\{x_{2i-1}\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ with the relations

$$\{u_0x_{2k-1} + u_1x_{2(k-(p-1))-1} + u_2x_{2(k-(p^2-1))-1} + \dots + u_sx_{2(k-(p^s-1))-1}\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$$

(i.e. $u_0 + u_1X^{p-1} + u_2X^{p^2-1} + \dots + u_sX^{p^s-1} = 0$) as a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module [D]. Hence,

$$\bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$$

is generated as a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module by $\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\}_{k_i \geq 1}$ subject to (C). Therefore, we can define a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} h : \bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P)) \\ \rightarrow \left(\bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s] \right)' \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$h(x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}) = x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}$$

for any $k_i \geq 1$, where $\left(\bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]\right)'$ is $\bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$ equipped with the proposed $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module structure.

On the other hand, in Proposition 2.1 (iv), we constructed a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module homomorphism

$$i : \bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s] \rightarrow \bigotimes_{\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]}^s \text{Ext}_{E(s)_*}^{*,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, H_*(P))$$

such that $i(x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}) = x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}$ for any $k_i \geq 1$. Then, clearly,

$$h \circ i : \bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s] \rightarrow \left(\bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s] \right)'$$

is a $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module isomorphism which induces the identity map on the underlying set. This immediately implies that the proposed $\mathbb{Z}/p[u_0, u_1, \dots, u_s]$ -module structure on $\bigoplus_{k_i \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/2\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[u_s]$ is the right one. □

Now, define the usual lexicographical order among monomials in $H_*(BV_s)$:

$$x_{a_1} \otimes x_{a_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{a_s} \prec x_{b_1} \otimes x_{b_2} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{b_s} \iff a_u = b_u, u < t \text{ and } a_t < b_t, \text{ for some } t (1 \leq t \leq s).$$

Then, the $i = 0$ case of Proposition 2.3 immediately implies

Corollary 2.4. ([JWY] 2.11)

$$u_0^l(x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}) = (-1)^{sl} u_s^l(x_{2(k_1-l(p^s-p^{s-1}))} \otimes x_{2(k_2-l(p^{s-1}-p^{s-2}))} \otimes \cdots \otimes x_{2(k_s-l(p-1))}) + \text{sum of monomials with higher order}.$$

Proof. It is enough to show this for $l = 1$. Then the claim is an immediate consequence of Proposition 2.3, because $\alpha_p(p^s - 1) = s(p - 1)$ and

$$C_p(p^s - p^{s-1})C_p(p^{s-1} - p^{s-2}) \cdots C_p(p - 1) = C_p(p - 1)^s = (-1)^s.$$

□

Proposition 2.5. (i) Suppose $p = 2$. Then, if the Thom reduction

$$BP_{2^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s) \rightarrow H_{2^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s)$$

image of an element Θ is nontrivial and contained in $PH_{2^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s)$, the 2-exponent of Θ is at least 2^{l-s} .

(ii) Suppose $p = \text{odd}$, and $l \geq \lceil \log_p \lfloor \frac{s}{2} \rfloor \rceil$ when $s \geq 2$. Then, if the Thom reduction

$$BP_{2p^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s) \rightarrow H_{2p^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s)$$

image of Θ is nontrivial and contained in $PH_{2p^{l+s-1}t-s}(BV_s)$, the p -exponent of Θ is at least $\frac{p^{l-s+1}-1}{p-1} + 1$.

Proof. (i) From Corollary 1.11, $PH_{2^s+l-1-t-s}(BV_s) = (Sq^0)^l(PH_{2^s-1-t-s}(BV_s))$. Then, we may assume $\Theta \in BP_{2^l+s-1-t-s}(\wedge^s P)$, because $Sq^0(H_*(BV_s)) \subseteq \bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \subset H_{2^s+s}(\wedge^s P)$ and $\wedge^s P$ is a stable summand of BV_s . Now, any nontrivial element in $(Sq^0)^l H_*(BV_s)$ may be written in the form

$$x_{2j_1-1} \otimes x_{2j_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2j_s-1} + \text{sum of monomials with higher order}$$

with $2^l - 1 \leq 2j_1 - 1 \leq 2j_2 - 1 \dots \leq 2j_s - 1$, by changing the order of the factors if necessary. Therefore, by Proposition 2.1, it is enough to show

$$\begin{aligned} &u_0^{(2^l-s-1)}(x_{2j_1-1} \otimes x_{2j_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2j_s-1} + \text{sum of monomials with higher order}) \\ &\neq 0 \in \bigoplus_{k_1, \dots, k_s \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/2\{x_{2k_1-1} \otimes x_{2k_2-1} \otimes \dots \otimes x_{2k_s-1}\} \otimes \mathbb{Z}/2[u_s]. \end{aligned}$$

But this is certainly the case, because Corollary 2.4 implies the left-hand side is

$$\begin{aligned} &u_s^{(2^l-s-1)}(x_{2(j_1-(2^l-s-1)(2^s-2^{s-1}))-1} \otimes x_{2(j_2-(2^l-s-1)(2^{s-1}-2^{s-2}))-1} \otimes \dots \\ &\quad \otimes x_{2(j_s-(2^l-s-1))-1} + \text{sum of monomials with higher order}), \end{aligned}$$

which is clearly nonzero, for

$$\begin{aligned} &2(j_1 - (2^l-s-1)(2^s-2^{s-1})) - 1 \geq 2(2^{l-1} - (2^l-s-1)(2^s-2^{s-1})) - 1 \\ &= 2^s - 1 \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$2j_1 - 1 \leq 2j_2 - 1 \leq \dots \leq 2j_s - 1.$$

(ii) From Corollary 1.11 and Proposition 1.5,

$$BP_{2^l+s-1-t-s}(BV_s) = (\mathcal{P}^0)^l(PH_{2(p^l+s-1-t-s)}(BT^s)).$$

Now, the rest of the proof goes as in (i). □

3. BP-ADAMS OPERATIONS ON $BP_*(\wedge^s P)$

In this section, we study the action of the BP-Adams operation ψ^{p+1} [N][Ad2] on $BP_{2n-s}(\wedge^s P)$.

For our purpose, it is most convenient to establish a universal coefficient spectral sequence

$$E_2 = \text{Ext}_{BP_*}^*(BP_*(X), BP_*) \implies BP^*(X),$$

using the chromatic tower [R3]. (For the original and different approach, see [Ad3].) Thus we now review materials related to the chromatic tower:

In their influential paper, Miller, Ravenel and Wilson [MRW] introduced the chromatic resolution

$$BP_* \rightarrow M^0 \rightarrow M^1 \rightarrow M^2 \rightarrow \dots$$

by splicing the short exact sequences

$$0 \rightarrow N^n \rightarrow M^n \rightarrow N^{n+1} \rightarrow 0$$

where $N^0 = BP_*$, $M^n = v_n^{-1}N_n$. In addition to their usefulness for calculations [MRW], M^n 's turned out to possess some nice properties. In fact, as Johnson, Landweber and Yoshimura [JLY] showed, each M^n is \mathcal{BP} -injective, that is, $\text{Ext}_{BP_*}^i(A, M^n) = 0$ for all $i > 0$ and all comodules A in \mathcal{BP} , the category of

all BP_*BP -comodules and comodule maps. Furthermore, using the technique of Bousfield [Bo], Ravenel [R3] showed both M^n and N^n are realizable as a spectrum: Let L_n be the Bousfield localization functor [Bo] with respect to $v_n^{-1}BP$. Define inductively N_n and M_n so that $N_0 = S^0$, $M_n = L_n N_n$, N_{n+1} = the cofiber of the localization map $N_n \rightarrow L_n N_n = M_n$. Then it can be seen that $BP_*(N_n) = N^n$, $BP_*(M_n) = M^n$ [R3]. Thus the geometric chromatic resolution of the sphere looks like

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \downarrow & \\
 \Sigma^{-n}N_n & \longrightarrow & L_n\Sigma^{-n}N_n = \Sigma^{-n}M_n \\
 p_n \downarrow & & \\
 \vdots & & \\
 \Sigma^{-2}N_2 & \longrightarrow & L_2\Sigma^{-2}N_2 = \Sigma^{-2}M_2 \\
 p_2 \downarrow & & \\
 \Sigma^{-1}N_1 & \longrightarrow & L_1\Sigma^{-1}N_1 = \Sigma^{-1}M_1 \\
 p_1 \downarrow & & \\
 S^0 & \longrightarrow & L_0S^0 = M_0
 \end{array}$$

Here $p_n : \Sigma^{-n}N_n \rightarrow \Sigma^{-n+1}N_{n-1}$ is the fiber of the localization map $\Sigma^{-n+1}N_{n-1} \rightarrow L_{n-1}\Sigma^{-n+1}N_{n-1} = \Sigma^{-n+1}M_{n-1}$.

Theorem 3.1. (i) *Let X be a countable union of finite spectra. Then there is a universal coefficient spectral sequence*

$$E_2^s = \text{Ext}_{BP_*}^{s,*}(BP_*(X), BP_*) \implies BP^*(X),$$

such that $E_1^s = \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP_*(X), M^s)$.

(ii) *Let Y be a finite spectrum. Then there is a universal coefficient spectral sequence*

$$E_2^s = \text{Ext}_{BP_*}^{s,*}(BP^*(Y), BP_*) \implies BP_*(Y),$$

such that $E_1^s = \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y), M^s)$.

(iii) *Suppose $Y = \text{Colim } Y_n$ is a countable union of finite spectra. Then the same construction as in (ii) still gives us a spectral sequence converging to $BP_*(Y)$, such that $E_1^s = \text{Hom}_{\text{cont-}BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y), M^s)$, where the topology of $BP^*(Y)$ is the inverse limit topology $BP^*(Y) \rightarrow \varprojlim BP^*(Y_n)$. In other words,*

$$E_1^s = \varprojlim \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y_n), M^s).$$

Hence the E_2 -term becomes the homology of this continuous cochain complex, which we denote by $\text{Ext}_{\text{cont-}BP_*}^{s,*}(BP^*(Y), M^s)$, in analogy with the continuous cohomology. Thus we may write

$$E_2^s = \text{Ext}_{\text{cont-}BP_*}^{s,*}(BP^*(Y), M^s) = \varprojlim \text{Ext}_{BP_*}^{s,*}(BP^*(Y_n), M^s).$$

Proof. (i) Let $f : X \rightarrow \Sigma^* BP \wedge S^0$ be a representative of an element of $BP^*(X)$. We introduce a decreasing filtration $BP^*(X) = F^0 \supset F^1 \supset \dots$ so that $[f] \in F^s \iff f$ factorizes as

$$X \rightarrow BP \wedge \Sigma^{-s} N_s \xrightarrow{BP \wedge (p_1 \circ \dots \circ p_s)} BP \wedge S^0 = BP.$$

Clearly, $E_1^s = \{X, BP \wedge M_s\}^*$. We claim this is equal to $\text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP_*(X), M^s)$. In fact, this is the case for the spheres, since $BP_*(M_s) = M^s$. Then the claim for finite spectra is proved by the induction on the number of cells using the five lemma. The claim for countable unions of finite spectra is proved by noticing that the \mathcal{BP} -injectivity of M^n implies the vanishing of \varprojlim^1 in the Milnor exact sequence.

Now, with this identification of the E_1 -term, the claim about the E_2 -term follows from the fact that the geometric differentials $d_1 : BP \wedge M_s \rightarrow BP \wedge N_{s+1} \rightarrow BP \wedge M_{s+1}$ realize the chromatic resolution $BP_* \rightarrow M^0 \rightarrow M^1 \rightarrow M^2 \rightarrow \dots$.

(ii): Let $g : S^* \rightarrow BP \wedge Y$ be a representative of an element of $BP_*(Y)$. We introduce a decreasing filtration $BP_*(Y) = F^0 \supset F^1 \supset \dots$ so that $[g] \in F^s \iff g$ factorizes as

$$S^* \rightarrow BP \wedge \Sigma^{-s} N_s \wedge Y \xrightarrow{BP \wedge (p_1 \circ \dots \circ p_s) \wedge Y} BP \wedge S^0 \wedge Y = BP \wedge Y.$$

Then the rest of the proof goes as in (i).

(iii) Having (ii), it is enough to identify the E_1 -term. But this follows from the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \varprojlim \{S^0, BP \wedge M_s \wedge Y_n\}^* & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \varprojlim \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y_n), M^s) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \{S^0, BP \wedge M_s \wedge Y\}^* & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_{\text{cont-}BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y), M^s), \end{array}$$

where all the maps are obvious ones. □

The power of this theorem can be seen in the proof of the following:

Proposition 3.2. (i) For $Y = BV_s$, the filtration associated with spectral sequence of Theorem 3.1 (iii) looks like

$$BP_d(BV_s) = F^0 = F^1 \supset F^2 \supset \dots \supset F^s \supset F^{s+1} = 0$$

and $F^n = F^{n+1}$ if $2 \nmid d + n$.

(ii) The above filtration is preserved by the action of ψ^{p+1} . Furthermore, when $2 \mid d + n$, ψ^{p+1} acts on $E_\infty^{n,n+d}(BV_s) = F^n/F^{n+1}$ as multiplication by $(p+1)^{\frac{d+n}{2}}$.

(iii) Suppose $p^{\nu_p(m)} > \lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil$. Then the p -exponent of any element in

$$\text{Ker} (\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)}$$

is at most

$$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) = 0, \\ \nu_2(m) + 2 + \left\lceil \frac{5\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil}{2} \right\rceil - \alpha_2 \left(\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil \right) & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) \geq 1, \\ \nu_p(m) + 1 + \frac{p\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil - \alpha_p(\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil)}{p-1} & \text{if } p \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. (i) Clearly, $F^0 = F^1$ and $F^s = F^{s+1}$, because $BP_*(BV_s)$ is v_0 -torsion and v_s -local [JW]. Now, $F^n/F^{n+1} = E_\infty^{n,n+d}(BV_s)$ is a subquotient of $E_1^{n,n+d}(BV_s) = \text{Hom}_{BP_*}(BP^{2*}, (M^n)_{d+n-2*})$. But, this vanishes when $2 \nmid d + n$, as $(M^n)_{d+n-2*}$ will then vanish.

(ii) ψ^{p+1} preserves the filtration because the filtration is associated with the geometric chromatic tower. For the second claim, it is enough to prove the same claim for $E_1^{n,n+d}(BV_s) = BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n)$. Now we list some known facts about ψ^{p+1} :

- (a) ψ^{p+1} is a map of ring spectra.
- (b) $\psi^{p+1} \Big|_{BP_{2^*}}$ is given as multiplication by $(p+1)^*$.
- (c) For any n , $\psi^{p+1} \Big|_{BP_{2^*}(M_n)}$ is given as multiplication by $(p+1)^*$.
- (d) $\psi^{p+1} \Big|_{BP_{2^*}(BV_s)}$ is given as multiplication by $(p+1)^{-*}$.

In fact, (a) and (b) are well-known and can be found in [Ar2][W]. (c) follows from (a) and (b), as $BP_*(M_n) = M^n$. Finally, (a), (b), and [L2] reduce (d) to the case $s = 1$, when the claim is well-known [H].

To determine the ψ^{p+1} action on $BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n)$, our strategy is to embed it in $\text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y), M^s)$ (as the submodule of all continuous BP_* homomorphisms), and determine the ψ^{p+1} action on $\text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^*(Y), M^s)$: Recall that the composite

$$\begin{aligned} \delta : BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) &= \text{Hom}_{cont-BP_*}^*(BP^{2^*}(BV_s), (M^n)_{d+n-2^*}) \\ &\subseteq \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^{2^*}(BV_s), (M^n)_{d+n-2^*}) \end{aligned}$$

is defined by $\delta(x)(y) = \mu(x \otimes y)$, where $x \in BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n)$, $y \in BP^{2^*}(BV_s)$, and

$$\mu : BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) \otimes BP^{2^*}(BV_s) \rightarrow (M^n)_{d+n-2^*}$$

is the canonical pairing. Then, as ψ^{p+1} is a map of ring spectra, we have the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{CD} BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) \otimes BP^{2^*}(BV_s) @>\mu>> (M^n)_{d+n-2^*} \\ @V\psi^{p+1} \otimes \psi^{p+1}VV @VV\psi^{p+1}V \\ BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) \otimes BP^{2^*}(BV_s) @>\mu>> (M^n)_{d+n-2^*} \end{CD}$$

From this, we get the following commutative diagram

$$\begin{CD} BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) @>\mu>> \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^{2^*}(BV_s), (M^n)_{d+n-2^*}) \\ @V\psi^{p+1}VV @VV\psi^{p+1}V \\ BP_d(BV_s \wedge \Sigma^{-n}M_n) @>\mu>> \text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^{2^*}(BV_s), (M^n)_{d+n-2^*}), \end{CD}$$

where ψ^{p+1} acts on $\text{Hom}_{BP_*}^*(BP^{2^*}(BV_s), (M^n)_{d+n-2^*})$ by

$$(\psi^{p+1}h)(y) = \psi^{p+1}h(\psi^{-(p+1)}y)$$

for any $y \in BP^{2^*}(BV_s)$. But, as $\psi^{p+1}h(\psi^{-(p+1)}y) = (p+1)^{\frac{d+n}{2}-*}h((p+1)^*y) = (p+1)^{\frac{d+n}{2}}h(y)$, we see $\psi^{p+1}h = (p+1)^{\frac{d+n}{2}}h$ from which the result follows.

(iii) First, we recall the usual result in elementary number theory [AA][MM][H][M1]:

$$\nu_p((p+1)^n - 1) = \nu_p(n) + \epsilon_p(n),$$

where

$$\epsilon_p(n) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(n) \geq 1, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

This is well-known and quite easy to prove: The key is to use mathematical induction to show

$$\begin{aligned}(1+2)^{2^r} &\equiv 1+2^{r+2} \pmod{2^{r+3}} & (r \geq 1), \\ (1+p)^{p^r} &\equiv 1+p^{r+1} \pmod{p^{r+2}} & (p = \text{odd and } r \geq 0).\end{aligned}$$

Consider the following procedure: Given $z \in F^n \cap \text{Ker}(\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)}$, choose the following element in $F^{n+1} \cap \text{Ker}(\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)}$:

$$\begin{cases} z & \text{if } 2 \nmid 2m - s + n, \\ p^{\nu_p(\frac{2m-s+n}{2}) + \epsilon_p(\frac{2m-s+n}{2})} z & \text{if } 2 \mid 2m - s + n. \end{cases}$$

The validity of this procedure is guaranteed by (i) and (ii) of Proposition 3.2. Beginning with an arbitrary element

$$\omega \in \text{Ker}(\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)} = F^1 \cap \text{Ker}(\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)},$$

we can repeat this procedure until we get

$$p^e \omega \in F^{s+1} \cap \text{Ker}(\psi^{p+1} - 1) \Big|_{BP_{2m-s}(\wedge^s P)} = 0,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}e = & \{ \nu_p \left(m - \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right) + \epsilon_p \left(m - \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right) \} \\ & + \{ \nu_p \left(m - \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] + 1 \right) + \epsilon_p \left(m - \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] + 1 \right) \} \\ & + \cdots + \{ \nu_p(m-1) + \epsilon_p(m-1) \} \\ & + \{ \nu_p(m) + \epsilon_p(m) \}.\end{aligned}$$

But, as $p^{\nu_p(m)} > \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right]!$, this is equal to

$$\begin{aligned}&= \{ \nu_p(m) + \epsilon_p(m) \} + \nu_p \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right]! \right) \\ &\quad + \epsilon_p(1) + \epsilon_p(2) + \cdots + \epsilon_p \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) = 0, \\ \nu_2(m) + 2 + \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] - \alpha_2 \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right) \right) + \left[\frac{3 \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right]}{2} \right] & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) \geq 1, \\ \nu_p(m) + 1 + \frac{\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] - \alpha_p \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right)}{p-1} + \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) = 0, \\ \nu_2(m) + 2 + \left[\frac{5 \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right]}{2} \right] - \alpha_2 \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right) & \text{if } p = 2 \text{ and } \nu_2(m) \geq 1, \\ \nu_p(m) + 1 + \frac{p \left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] - \alpha_p \left(\left[\frac{s-1}{2} \right] \right)}{p-1} & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

where we used the well-known result $\nu_p(n!) = \frac{n - \alpha_p(n)}{p-1}$ in the third equality. Now the proof is complete. \square

4. THE MAP $PH_n(BV_s) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^{s,n+s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$

In this section, we study the key transfer homomorphism

$$PH_n(BV_s) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^{s,n+s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

in detail. This was first systematically studied by Singer [S1] (see §6 for more about this). Our principal goal here is Theorem 4.4, where we show Sq^0 's (resp. \mathcal{P}^0 's) on $PH_*(BV_s)$ and $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^{s,s+*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ commute when $p = 2$ (resp. p is odd). This was shown in [B] for $s \leq 3$ when $p = 2$. We primarily consider the odd primary case, because the case $p = 2$ is similar (and simpler). Our presentation here is strongly influenced by [B], which treated the case $p = 2$.

First, we give an explicit set of generators for $H^*(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$, using the generator $c \in H^*(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p[c]$. Consider the S^1 -bundle $S^1 \rightarrow B\mathbb{Z}/p \rightarrow \mathbb{C}P^\infty$. From this, we get the Gysin sequence

$$\dots \xrightarrow{p^*} H^{i+1}(B\mathbb{Z}/p) \xrightarrow{\tau} H^i(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \xrightarrow{\chi} H^{i+2}(\mathbb{C}P^\infty) \xrightarrow{p^*} H^{i+2}(BV_1) \xrightarrow{\tau} \dots,$$

where τ is induced by the S^1 -transfer $\Sigma\mathbb{C}P^\infty \rightarrow BV_1$ and $\chi \cdot$ is multiplication by the Euler class $pc \in H^2(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$, which is of course 0 when we consider the mod p cohomology. Define $a \in H^1(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$ and $b \in H^2(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$ so that $\tau(a) = 1 \in H^0(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$ and $p^*(c) = b \in H^2(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$. Since τ is a $H^*(\mathbb{C}P^\infty)$ -module homomorphism by the projection formula, $\tau(ab^k) = c^k$, which in turn implies $H^*(B\mathbb{Z}/p) \cong E[a] \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[b]$.

We now claim $\beta(a) = b$, where β is the Bockstein homomorphism. For this purpose, we recall we may derive the Gysin sequence by applying the Leray-Serre spectral sequence

$$E_2^{p,q} = H^p(\mathbb{C}P^\infty, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes H^q(S^1) \implies H^{p+q}(B\mathbb{Z}/p).$$

In the Leray-Serre E_2 -term, we may write $a = 1 \otimes g$ and $b = \tilde{c} \otimes 1$, where $g \in H^1(S^1)$ is the generator and \tilde{c} is the generator of $H^2(\mathbb{C}P^\infty, \mathbb{Z})$ which lifts c . Our plan is to compare the above Leray-Serre spectral sequence with its mod p^2 cohomology version

$$\tilde{E}_2^{p,q} = H^p(\mathbb{C}P^\infty, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes H^q(S^1, \mathbb{Z}/p^2) \implies H^{p+q}(B\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p^2),$$

via the mod p reduction, following the definition of β . So, we first lift $1 \otimes g$ to $1 \otimes \tilde{g}$, where $\tilde{g} \in H^1(S^1, \mathbb{Z}/p^2)$ is a generator which lifts g . Then, we must apply the coboundary map (in the cochain complex for the Leray-Serre spectral sequence) to $1 \otimes \tilde{g}$. However, since this coboundary map induces d_2 in the Leray-Serre spectral sequence, it suffices to evaluate

$$d_2(1 \otimes \tilde{g}) = p\tilde{c} \otimes 1.$$

Thus, $\beta(a)$ is detected in the Leray-Serre E_2 -term by the mod p reduction of $\tilde{c} \otimes 1$. This proves $\beta(a) = b$.

Now, we define $x_i \in H_i(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$ as the dual of $a^e b^n \in H^i(B\mathbb{Z}/p)$, where $i = e + n$ with $e = 0$ or 1 . Since $\tau(ab^k) = c^k$, this definition coincides with the one which was listed in *Notation and Convention* in §0.

Next, we define an \mathcal{A}^* -module T by

$$T = \mathbb{Z}/p\{ a^e b^n \mid e = 0, 1 \text{ and } n \geq 0, \text{ or } e = 1 \text{ and } n \geq -1 \}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(ab^{-1}) &= a(b + b^p)^{-1} = ab^{-1}(1 + b^{p-1})^{-1}, \\ \beta(ab^{-1}) &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

In fact $T = H^*(R)$, where R is the desuspension of the cofiber of the Kahn-Priddy map $B\mathbb{Z}/p_+ \rightarrow S^0$. Now the following morphism of short exact sequences of \mathcal{A}^* -modules is essential to our approach:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathcal{A}^*} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{A}^* & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}/p \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow f^* & & \downarrow u^* & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & H^*(BV_1) & \longrightarrow & T & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}/p \longrightarrow 0, \end{array}$$

where unnamed maps are obvious ones, u^* is an \mathcal{A}^* -module map of degree -1 characterized by $u^*(1) = ab^{-1}$, and f^* is the restriction of u^* . It is well-known and easy to see [B] that this is induced from a diagram of spectra maps

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \overline{H} & \longleftarrow & H & \longleftarrow & S^0 \\ f \uparrow & & u \uparrow & & \parallel \\ \Sigma B\mathbb{Z}/p_+ & \longleftarrow & \Sigma R & \longleftarrow & S^0 \end{array}$$

Applying $- \otimes (f^*)^{\otimes i}$ to this, we get another morphism of short exact sequences of \mathcal{A}^* -modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} (C_i) \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes(i+1)} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes i} & \longrightarrow & \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes i} \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \downarrow (f^*)^{\otimes(i+1)} & & \downarrow u^* \otimes (f^*)^{\otimes i} & & \downarrow (f^*)^{\otimes i} \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes(i+1)} & \longrightarrow & T \otimes H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes i} & \longrightarrow & H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes i} \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

Of course, we may simply define

$$PH_*(BV_s) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^s(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

as the composition of s connecting homomorphisms associated with the lower short exact sequence of (C_i) for $0 \leq i \leq s - 1$. However, for our purpose, we should write down this map explicitly. Therefore, we have to make full use of (C_i) :

Notice that we can get a free \mathcal{A}^* -resolution of \mathbb{Z}/p

$$\dots \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes i} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes(i-1)} \rightarrow \dots \mathcal{A}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p,$$

by splicing the upper short exact sequences of (C_i) 's. Using this, we can calculate $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^s(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ as the homology of the cochain complex

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p &= \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^*, \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \dots \\ &\rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes(i-1)}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}^*}^{\otimes i}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \dots \end{aligned}$$

Given an \mathcal{A}^* -module M , define ${}_f M$ to be M equipped with the trivial \mathcal{A}^* -module structure. Then we have the well-known isomorphism

$$\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes M, \mathbb{Z}/p) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes {}_f M, \mathbb{Z}/p) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}/p}(M, \mathbb{Z}/p) = M^*.$$

Here $\phi : \mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f M \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^* \otimes M$ is an \mathcal{A}^* -module isomorphism given by

$$\phi : \mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f M \xrightarrow{\Delta \otimes M} \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f M \xrightarrow{A \otimes \epsilon \alpha} \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p \otimes M = \mathcal{A}^* \otimes M,$$

where $\Delta : \mathcal{A}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^* \otimes \mathcal{A}^*$ is the coproduct and $\epsilon : \mathcal{A}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p$ is the augmentation. Thus, we can calculate $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^s(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ as the homology of the cochain complex

$$0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{A}}_* \rightarrow \dots \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes(i-1)} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes i} \rightarrow \dots,$$

where we used the obvious isomorphism $(\mathcal{A}^*)^* \cong \mathcal{A}_*$. Of course, this construction applies equally to general augmented Hopf algebras, and is functorial with respect to maps between augmented Hopf algebras. However, this is not the usual normalized inhomogeneous bar resolution, though we can construct explicit isomorphisms between these two resolutions via ϕ and its inverse. In fact, this is the normalized homogeneous bar resolution ([AD] called (normalized) Hopf bar resolution). But, all we need here is that this resolution is functorial.

We are now ready to give a chain-level description of the key transfer homomorphism

$$PH_*(BV_s) \cong \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^0(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^s(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p).$$

Lemma 4.1. (i) *The identification $PH_*(BV_s) \cong \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ is given by the composite*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) &\subset \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ &\xrightarrow{\phi^*} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ &\cong \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{Z}/p}(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) = H_*(BV_s), \end{aligned}$$

where the first map (inclusion) is induced by the surjective map $\epsilon \otimes 1 : \mathcal{A}^* \otimes H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s} \rightarrow H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}$.

(ii) *The map $PH_*(BV_s) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}^*}^s(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$ is induced by*

$$H_*(BV_1)^{\otimes s} \xrightarrow{(f_*)^{\otimes s}} \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s},$$

where $\overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s}$ is regarded as the s -th module in the normalized homogeneous bar complex (Hopf bar complex) to calculate Ext over \mathcal{A}^* .

Proof. (i) is clear. (ii) follows from the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ (\epsilon \otimes 1)^* \downarrow & & (\epsilon \otimes 1)^* \downarrow \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ \phi^* \downarrow & & \phi^* \downarrow \\ \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f H^*(BV_1)^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) & \longrightarrow & \text{Hom}_{\mathcal{A}^*}(\mathcal{A}^* \otimes_f \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s}, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ H_*(BV_1)^{\otimes s} & \xrightarrow{(f_*)^{\otimes s}} & \overline{\mathcal{A}}_*^{\otimes s} \end{array}$$

□

Now we are naturally led to study f_* . As was noted in [B], the determination of f_* is reduced to a study of Milnor's [Mi] λ^* homomorphism (i.e. right \mathcal{A}_* -coaction):

$$\lambda^* : H^*(X) \rightarrow H^*(X) \widehat{\otimes} \mathcal{A}_*.$$

We choose the generator $x_i \in H_i(BV_1)$ so that it is dual to $a^e b^n \in H^i(BV_1)$ with $|a^e b^n| = i$, as was done at the beginning of this section. Then we have

Lemma 4.2.

$$f_*(x_i) = (-1) \cdot \text{the coefficient of } a^e b^n \text{ with } |a^e b^n| = i \text{ in } \lambda^*(ab^{-1}) \in H^*(R) \widehat{\otimes} \mathcal{A}_*.$$

Proof. For simplicity, we set

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \text{the coefficient of } a^e b^n \text{ with } |a^e b^n| = i \\ &\text{in } \lambda^*(ab^{-1}) \in H^*(R) \widehat{\otimes} \mathcal{A}_*, \\ B &= \text{the coefficient of } x_{-1} \text{ in } \eta_*(x_i), \end{aligned}$$

where $\eta_* : H_*(X) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_* \otimes H_*(x)$ is the left \mathcal{A}_* -coaction. Notice that both A and B belong to \mathcal{A}_{i+1} . First, we claim that

$$f_*(x_i) = (-1)^{i+1} B.$$

In fact, this follows from the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H_{*-1}(R) & \xrightarrow{\eta_*} & \mathcal{A}_* \otimes H_{*-1}(R) \\ \Sigma \downarrow & & \downarrow (-1)^* \otimes \Sigma \\ H_*(\Sigma R) & \xrightarrow{\eta_*} & \mathcal{A}_* \otimes H_*(\Sigma R) \\ f_* \downarrow & & \downarrow \mathcal{A}_* \otimes f_* \\ H_*(H) & \xrightarrow{\eta_*} & \mathcal{A}_* \otimes H_*(H) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \mathcal{A}_* & \xrightarrow{\phi_*} & \mathcal{A}_* \otimes \mathcal{A}_*, \end{array}$$

where ϕ_* is the coproduct of \mathcal{A}_* .

Now, for any $y \in \mathcal{A}^i$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \eta_*(x_i), y \otimes ab^{-1} \rangle &= \langle x_i, y \cdot (ab^{-1}) \rangle = \langle x_i \cdot y, ab^{-1} \rangle \\ &= \langle \lambda_*(x_i \otimes y), ab^{-1} \rangle = \langle x_i \otimes y, \lambda^*(ab^{-1}) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

But, as

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \eta_*(x_i), y \otimes ab^{-1} \rangle &= \langle B \otimes x_{-1}, y \otimes (ab^{-1}) \rangle \\ &= (-1)^{(-1)i} \langle B, y \rangle \langle x_{-1} \otimes (ab^{-1}) \rangle = (-1)^i \langle B, y \rangle \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle x_i \otimes y, \lambda^*(ab^{-1}) \rangle &= \langle x_i \otimes y, a^e b^n \rangle \\ &= (-1)^{i \cdot i} \langle x_i, a^e b^n \rangle \langle y, A \rangle \\ &= (-1)^{i \cdot i + i \cdot i} \langle A, y \rangle = \langle A, y \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

we have

$$B = (-1)^i A.$$

Therefore, we get

$$f_*(x_i) = (-1)^{i+1}B = -A,$$

which completes the proof. □

To calculate $\lambda^*(ab^{-1})$, recall

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^*(a) &= a \otimes 1 + b \otimes \tau_0 + b^p \otimes \tau_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r} \otimes \tau_r + \cdots, \\ \lambda^*(b) &= b \otimes 1 + b^p \otimes \xi_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r} \otimes \xi_r + \cdots. \end{aligned}$$

In fact, these are nothing but the definitions of τ_i 's and ξ_j 's [Mi]. Then, using the p -adic convergent expansion $-1 = \sum_{j \geq 0} (p-1)p^j$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^*(ab^{-1}) &= (a \otimes 1 + b \otimes \tau_0 + b^p \otimes \tau_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r} \otimes \tau_r + \cdots) \\ &\quad \cdot (b \otimes 1 + b^p \otimes \xi_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r} \otimes \xi_r + \cdots)^{-1} \\ &= (a \otimes 1 + b \otimes \tau_0 + b^p \otimes \tau_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r} \otimes \tau_r + \cdots) \\ &\quad \cdot (b^{-1} \otimes 1)(1 \otimes 1 + b^{p-1} \otimes \xi_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r-1} \otimes \xi_r + \cdots)^{-1} \\ &= (ab^{-1} \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes \tau_0 + b^{p-1} \otimes \tau_1 + \cdots + b^{p^r-1} \otimes \tau_r + \cdots) \\ &\quad \cdot \prod_{j \geq 0} (1 \otimes 1 + b^{(p-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_1^{p^j} + \cdots + b^{(p^r-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_r^{p^j} + \cdots)^{p-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4.3. *Let $F : \mathcal{A}_* \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_*$ be the Frobenius homomorphism given by $x \mapsto x^p$. Then*

- (i) $Ff_*(x_{2i}) = 0$,
- (ii) $f_*(x_{2i-1}) = 0$ if $p-1 \nmid i$,
- (iii) $f_*(\mathcal{P}^0 x_n) = Ff_*(x_n)$.

Proof. (i) This is because all the coefficients of the terms of the expansion of b^i involve some τ_j whose square vanishes.

(ii) Just notice that $ab^{-1}b^i$ does not show up in the expansion of $\lambda^*(ab^{-1})$ as far as $p-1 \nmid i$.

(iii) From (i), we may assume $n = 2k-1$. We must show $f_*(x_{2kp-1}) = f_*(x_{2k-1})^p$. For this, notice that the coefficient of $ab^{-1}b^{kp}$ in $\lambda^*(ab^{-1})$ is the same as that of b^{kp} in

$$\prod_{j \geq 0} (1 \otimes 1 + b^{(p-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_1^{p^j} + \cdots + b^{(p^r-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_r^{p^j} + \cdots)^{p-1}.$$

But the only way to obtain b^{kp} from here is to use the term $1 \otimes 1$ from the factor $j = 0$, while the other factors become

$$\begin{aligned} &\prod_{j \geq 1} (1 \otimes 1 + b^{(p-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_1^{p^j} + \cdots + b^{(p^r-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_r^{p^j} + \cdots)^{p-1} \\ &= \left(\prod_{j \geq 0} (1 \otimes 1 + b^{(p-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_1^{p^j} + \cdots + b^{(p^r-1)p^j} \otimes \xi_r^{p^j} + \cdots)^{p-1} \right)^p. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the claim follows. □

We have two Sq^0 's (resp. \mathcal{P}^0 's), one for $PH_*(BV_s)$ defined in Corollary 1.10 (ii) (resp. at the end of §1), and another for $\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$, for $p = 2$ (resp. p odd). Now the following is our main result in this section.

Theorem 4.4. *The transfer homomorphism commutes with the two Sq⁰'s (resp. P⁰'s) for p = 2 (resp. p odd).*

Proof. We prove this only for p odd. (The case p = 2 is similar.) Let V : A* → A* be the dual of the Frobenius F : A* → A*. Then, as V is a morphism of cocommutative Hopf algebra over Z/p, Lemma 4.1 and Lemma 4.3 imply that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 PH_n(BV_s) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,n+s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \\
 \mathcal{P}^0 \downarrow & & \downarrow V^* \\
 PH_{p(n+s)-s}(BV_s) & \longrightarrow & \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,p(n+s)}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)
 \end{array}$$

But, as is well-known (cf. [My]),

$$V^* = \mathcal{P}^0 : \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,n+s}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,p(n+s)}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

with the convention P⁰ = 0 if 2 ∤ n + s. (Notice that V* = 0 when 2 ∤ n + s.) This completes the proof. □

5. THE MAIN THEOREM AND ITS PROOF

Now we are ready to state and prove our main theorem.

Theorem 5.1. *The Thom reduction of the primitive parts*

$$PBP_{2n-s}(BV_s) \rightarrow PH_{2n-s}(BV_s)$$

is a trivial map, when

$$\begin{cases}
 2^{\nu_2(n)+2-2s} > \nu_2(n) + 2 + \left\lceil \frac{5\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \rceil}{2} \right\rceil - \alpha_2 \left(\left\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rceil \right) & \text{if } p = 2, \\
 p^{\nu_p(n)+2-2s} > (p-1)\nu_p(n) + 1 + p \left\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rceil - \alpha_p \left(\left\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rceil \right) & \text{if } p \text{ is odd.}
 \end{cases}$$

Proof. Notice that both

$$p^{\nu_p(n)} > \left\lceil \frac{s-1}{2} \right\rceil \quad \text{for any } p$$

and

$$\nu_p(n) \geq \left\lceil \log_p \left\lceil \frac{s}{2} \right\rceil \right\rceil + s - 1 \quad \text{for } p \text{ odd and } s \geq 2$$

hold under the assumption. Hence we may apply both Proposition 3.2(iii) and Proposition 2.5. Now the claim is an immediate consequence of these two propositions. □

Corollary 5.2. *Under the same assumption as Theorem 5.1, the stable Hurewicz map*

$$\pi_{2n-s}^s(BV_s) \rightarrow H_{2n-s}(BV_s)$$

has a trivial image.

Now, let us recall the new doomsday conjecture proposed in [M3]:

New doomsday conjecture. For each s , there exists some integer $n(s)$ such that no nontrivial element in the image of

$$(\mathcal{P}^0)^{n(s)} (\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)) \subseteq \left(\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,p^{n(s)*}} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \right)$$

is a nontrivial permanent cycle.

Hence, Corollary 5.2 immediately implies

Corollary 5.3. The iterated transfer analogue of the new doomsday conjecture holds: For each s , there exists some integer $n(s)$ such that no nontrivial element in the image of

$$(\mathcal{P}^0)^{n(s)} (\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)) \subseteq \left(\text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,p^{n(s)*}} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \right)$$

comes from $\pi_{p^{n(s)*}-s}^s (BV_{s+})$ via the s -fold iterated transfer.

6. AFTERTHOUGHTS

To conclude, let us discuss a possible way to get around Singer's counterexample [S1]. Singer [S1] showed the iterated transfers actually induce a map of graded rings

$$\bigoplus_s PH_*(B(\mathbb{Z}/p)^s)/GL_s(\mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \bigoplus_s \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*+s} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p),$$

but he found this is not surjective when $p = 2$, $* = 9$, and $s = 5$.

Now, from the new doomsday philosophy, especially by the way in which we used Kameko's reduction in the proof of Theorem 5.1, it appears that the right map to consider is the following localized version of Singer's homomorphism:

$$\bigoplus_s (\mathcal{P}^0)^{-1} PH_*(B(\mathbb{Z}/p)^s)/GL_s(\mathbb{Z}/p) \rightarrow \bigoplus_s (\mathcal{P}^0)^{-1} \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}_*}^{s,*+s} (\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p).$$

If this localized Singer homomorphism were shown to be an isomorphism, then our Theorem 5.1 may be regarded as a strong supporting evidence of the new doomsday conjecture.

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