

---

# DRINFELD LEVEL STRUCTURES AND LUBIN-TATE SPACES

Przemysław Chojecki

---

Le but principal de cet exposé est de démontrer la régularité des anneaux représentant les foncteurs des déformations des groupes formels avec la structure de niveau de Drinfeld. Je suis la démonstration dans section 4 de [Dr]. Pour les groupes p-divisibles, je suis II.2 dans [HT]. Pour la démonstration des propriétés étales et indication des actions des groupes, je suis [Str].

**Remark 0.1.** — Pour la compatibilité avec l'exposé de Gabriel Dospinescu, j'ai décidé d'écrire ces notes en anglais. Ils feront la partie de groupe de travail sur la preuve de Peter Scholze de la correspondance locale de Langlands ([Sch]).

## 1. Reminder

Let  $K$  be a finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}_p$ ,  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_K$  its ring of integers,  $\varpi$  uniformiser,  $k = \mathcal{O}/\varpi$  residue field,  $q$  the number of elements in  $k$ . Let  $\hat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}$  be the completion of the maximal unramified extension of  $\mathcal{O}$ . I will briefly recall what we have seen in last few talks. See also [Dr] for the proofs.

**Definition 1.1.** — Let  $S$  be a schema. A p-divisible group  $G/S$  is a sheaf on  $(Sch/S)_{fppf}$  such that  $G = \varinjlim_n G[p^n]$ , each  $G[p^n]$  is finite, locally free on  $S$  and  $p : G \rightarrow G$  is surjective.

A  $\varpi$ -divisible  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $G/S$  is a p-divisible group  $G$  over an  $\mathcal{O}$ -scheme  $S$  with an action  $\mathcal{O} \rightarrow \text{End}_{\mathcal{O}_S}(G)$  which is compatible with an action of  $\text{Lie}(G)$ .

A height of a p-divisible group  $G/S$  is an integer  $h$  such that  $|G[p]| = q^h$ .

We have analogous definitions on the "formal side":

**Definition 1.2.** — Let  $R$  be a ring. A formal group  $F/R$  of dimension  $n$  are series  $\underline{F}(\underline{X}, \underline{Y}) \in R[[X_1, \dots, X_n, Y_1, \dots, Y_n]]$  which satisfy "group axioms" (i.e. are group objects in the appropriate category of formal schemes).

A formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $F/R$  is a formal group  $F$  over an  $\mathcal{O}$ -algebra  $R$  with a morphism  $\theta : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \text{End}_R(F)$  compatible with the natural homomorphism  $\mathcal{O} \rightarrow R$ .

A height of a  $F/R$  (for  $R$  in which  $\varpi = 0$ ) is  $h$  such that  $\varpi_F(X) = f(x^{q^h})$  and  $f'(0) \neq 0$ , where  $\varpi_F$  denotes series of multiplication by  $\varpi_F$  on  $F$ .

There is a following connection between these two notions. Let  $G$  be a p-divisible group over  $R$ . There is an exact sequence of p-divisible groups:

$$0 \rightarrow G^0 \rightarrow G \rightarrow G^{\text{ét}} \rightarrow 0$$

where  $G^0$  is infinitesimal and  $G^{\text{ét}}$  is étale. We have

$$\{\text{infinitesimal p-divisible groups of dim } n/R\} \simeq \{\text{formal groups of dim } n/R\}$$

**Remark 1.3.** — We also have

$$\{\text{étale p-divisible groups}/R\} \simeq \{\text{finite, torsion-free, smooth, étale } \mathcal{O} - \text{sheaves on } /R\}$$

**Assumption:** From now on, we will assume that considered formal and p-divisible groups have dimension 1.

In the last talks, we have seen proofs of

**Proposition 1.4.** — All formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -modules of height  $h < \infty$  over a separably closed field  $k$  are isomorphic (say, to a  $\Sigma_{k,h}$ ).

**Corollary 1.5.** — All  $\varpi$ -divisible  $\mathcal{O}$ -modules over  $k$  are of the form  $\Sigma_{k,h} \times (K/\mathcal{O})^g$  for certain integers  $g$  and  $h$ .

Let  $C$  be the category of complete, local, noetherian  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}$ -algebras.

**Proposition 1.6.** — Let  $F$  be a formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -module over  $k$  of height  $h < \infty$ . The functor:

$$R \in C \mapsto \{\text{deformations of } F \text{ over } R\} / \simeq$$

is representable by  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}[[t_1, \dots, t_{h-1}]]$ .

## 2. Drinfeld level structures

For  $R \in C$  and a formal group  $F/R$  we will define height by  $ht(F) = ht(F \otimes_R k)$ .

**Definition 2.1.** — A Drinfeld structure of level  $n$  on a formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $F/R$  of height  $h$  is a homomorphism

$$\phi : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow F[\varpi^n](R)$$

such that  $\prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h} (T - \phi(x)) | \varpi_F(T)$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** — For  $R = \widehat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}/\varpi$  there exists a unique structure of level  $n$  on  $F/R$ , that is, trivial level structure:  $\phi^{triv} : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow F[\varpi^n](R)$  given by  $x \mapsto 0$  for all  $x$ .

*Proof.* — As  $R$  is reduced and  $F[\varpi^n]$  is radical over  $R$ , we have  $F[\varpi^n](R) = \{0\}$ , hence there exists at most one Drinfeld level structure. It rests to check that  $\phi^{triv}$  is indeed a level structure.  $\square$

**Remark 2.3.** — A morphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between schemes is radical if for each field  $K$ , the map  $X(K) \rightarrow Y(K)$  is injective.

**Remark 2.4.** — The proof works for any reduced  $R/\mathbb{F}_p$ . We will recall this fact later. See also II.2.1.3 in [HT].

## 3. Deformations

By a deformation of level  $n$ , we will mean a deformation with a Drinfeld structure of level  $n$ . Fix a formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $G$  over  $k$ . We will prove the following theorem of Drinfeld (see proposition 4.3 in [Dr]).

**Theorem 3.1.** — 1) Functor

$R \in C \mapsto \{(X, \iota, \phi) | X \text{ is a formal } \mathcal{O}\text{-module over } R, \iota : F \simeq X_k, \phi \text{ is an } n\text{-level structure on } X\} / \simeq$   
is representable by a ring  $R_n$ .

2)  $R_n$  is regular. Let  $n \geq 1$ ,  $e_i (i = 1, \dots, h)$  be a base of  $(\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  as  $\mathcal{O}/\varpi^n$ -module. The images of  $e_i$  in  $R_n$  under the universal deformation of level  $n$  form a system of local parameters for  $R_n$ .

3) For  $n \geq m$ , the homomorphism  $R_m \rightarrow R_n$  is finite and flat.

*Proof.* — Let  $F$  be a universal deformation over  $R_0 \simeq \widehat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}[[t_1, \dots, t_{h-1}]]$ . For  $0 \leq r \leq h$ , consider the functor  $\Phi_r$  which associates to each  $R_0$ -algebra  $R \in C$ , the set of homomorphisms  $\phi : (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r \rightarrow F[\varpi](R)$  such that  $\prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r} (T - \phi(x)) | \varpi_F(T)$ . Let us prove:

**Lemma 3.2.** — The functor  $\Phi_r$  is represented by a ring  $L_r$  having the following properties:

1)  $L_r$  is regular. Let  $e_i (i = 1, \dots, r)$  be a base of  $(\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r$ . The images of  $e_i$  in  $L_r$  under the universal deformation of level  $n$  and  $t_{r+1}, \dots, t_{h-1}$  form a system of local parameters for  $L_r$ .

2) The homomorphism  $L_{r-1} \rightarrow L_r$  is finite and flat.

*Proof.* — We prove the lemma by induction. For  $r = 0$  it is true. Suppose it is proved for  $r - 1$  and let  $\phi_{r-1} : (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r \rightarrow F[\varpi](R)$  be the universal structure on  $L_{r-1}$ . Put  $\theta_i = \phi_{r-1}(e_i)$  ( $i = 1, \dots, r - 1$ ) and

$$g(T) = \frac{\varpi_{L_{r-1}}(T)}{\prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r} (T - \phi_{r-1}(x))}$$

Let  $L_r = L_{r-1}[[\theta_r]]/g(\theta_r)$ . We define a homomorphism  $\phi_r : \varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}^{r-1} \oplus \varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O} \rightarrow L_r$  by taking  $(\phi_r)|_{\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}^{r-1}} = \phi_{r-1}$  and  $(\phi_r)|_{\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O}}$  sends  $\varpi^{-1}$  to  $\theta_r$ . By using Weierstrass factorisation theorem for a serie  $\varpi_{L_{r-1}}$ , we see that  $L_r$  is finite and flat over  $L_{r-1}$  and moreover  $L_{r-1}/(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_r, t_{r+1}, \dots, t_{h-1}) = \widehat{\mathcal{O}}^{nr}/\varpi$  and so  $L_r$  is regular and  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_r, t_{r+1}, \dots, t_{h-1}$  form a system of local parameters for  $L_r$ . It suffices to see that  $L_r$  represents  $\Phi_r$  and for that, we should show that  $\prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r} (T - \phi_r(x)) | \varpi_{L_r}(T)$ . But, by induction and definitions of  $\theta_r$  and  $g(T)$ , the serie  $\varpi_{L_r}(T)$  is divisible by each  $T - \phi_r(x)$  for  $x \in (\varpi^{-1}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^r$ . As  $L_r$  is regular, hence integral, it suffices to show that  $\phi_r$  is injective. But if  $\phi_r(\sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i e_i) = 0$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^r \alpha_i \theta_i = 0$  in  $F[\varpi](R)$  hence  $\alpha_i \in (\varpi)$ . This shows injectivity.  $\square$

Setting in the lemma  $r = h$ , we obtain the theorem for  $n = 1$ , i.e.  $L_h = R_1$ . Now, we also use induction starting at 1. Suppose  $n \geq 1$  and that theorem has been showed for  $R_n$ . Let  $e_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, h$ ) be a base of  $(\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  and let  $b_i$  be the image of  $e_i$  in  $R_n$ . We have, by definition of level structure,

$$R_{n+1} = R_n[[y_1, \dots, y_h]]/(\varpi_{R_n}(y_1) - b_1, \dots, \varpi_{R_n}(y_h) - b_h)$$

hence,  $R_{n+1}$  is regular and  $(y_1, \dots, y_h)$  is a system of local parameters for  $R_{n+1}$  and also the homomorphism  $R_n \rightarrow R_{n+1}$  is finite and flat.  $\square$

Let  $K_0 = GL_n(\mathcal{O})$  and let  $K_m = 1 + \varpi^m M_n(\mathcal{O})$  for  $m \geq 1$ .

**Proposition 3.3 ([Str], 2.1.2).** — For  $n \geq m$ ,  $R_n[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  is étale and Galois over  $R_m[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  with a Galois group isomorphic to  $K_m/K_n$ .

*Sketch of a proof.* — We can suppose  $m = 0$ . Firstly, one takes  $n = 1$  and hence  $R_1 = L_h$  in the notation of the above proposition. By Weierstrass factorisation  $\varpi_{R_0}(T) = P(T)e(T)$  where  $P$  is a polynomial in  $R_0[T]$  and  $e$  is an inversible series in  $R_0[[T]]$ . We prove that  $P(T)$  is separable over  $R_0[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  (see 2.1.2 in [Str] for explicit computations) and hence  $L_i[\frac{1}{\varpi}]/L_{i-1}[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  are étale for each  $i$ . By the construction of  $R_1$  (see the proof of the above proposition), this implies that  $R_1[\frac{1}{\varpi}]/R_0[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  is étale.

For  $n > 1$ , recall the description  $R_n = R_{n-1}[[y_1, \dots, y_h]]/(\varpi_{R_{n-1}}(y_1) - b_1, \dots, \varpi_{R_{n-1}}(y_h) - b_h)$ . By Weierstrass factorisation we have  $\varpi_{R_{n-1}}(T) - b_i = P_{n,i}(T)e_{n,i}(T)$  where  $P_{n,i}$  is a polynomial and  $e_{n,i}$  an inversible series and we show that  $P_{n,i}$  has simple zeroes only outside the vanishing locus of  $\varpi$ , by explicit computations of derivative  $\varpi_{R_{n-1}}(T)'$ . This shows that  $R_n[\frac{1}{\varpi}]/R_0[\frac{1}{\varpi}]$  is étale.

To prove that it is Galois, use the fact that the universal level structure is injective (it was proved for  $R_1$  in the proof of the lemma above).  $\square$

#### 4. p-divisible groups

We will give another definition of Drinfeld level structure for p-divisible groups.

**Definition 4.1.** — A structure of level  $n$  on a  $\varpi$ -divisible  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $G$  of the constant height  $h < \infty$  over  $\mathcal{O}$ -scheme  $S$  is a morphism of  $\mathcal{O}$ -modules

$$\phi : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow G[\varpi^n](S)$$

such that  $\phi(x)$  for  $x \in (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  form full set of sections of  $G[\varpi^n](S)$ , i.e. for every affine  $S$ -scheme  $\text{Spec}(R)$  and every  $f \in H^0(G[\varpi^n]_R, \mathcal{O})$  we have an equality of polynomials in  $R[T]$ :

$$\det(T - f) = \prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h} (T - f(\phi(x)))$$

**Remark 4.2.** — The last condition is also equivalent to

$$\text{Norm}(f) = \prod_{x \in (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h} f(\phi(x))$$

**Proposition 4.3** ([HT], II.2.3). — *If  $R \in \mathcal{C}$  and  $G$  is a one-dimensional,  $p$ -divisible infinitesimal group, i.e.  $G \simeq \text{Spf}R[[T]]$ , then the above definition of level structure and the definition we have given before for formal groups coincide.*

*Idea of a proof.* — We show that this second definition also gives us a functor representable by a ring  $R'_n$ . Then one works on the "universal level" to show that  $R_n = R'_n$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.4** ([HT], II.2.1.4). — *Let  $S$  be connected, and let  $G/S$  be a  $\varpi$ -divisible  $\mathcal{O}$ -module. Consider the following diagram (which may not always exist):*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & G^0[\varpi^n](S) & \longrightarrow & G[\varpi^n](S) & \longrightarrow & G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n](S) \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow \phi_{|M} & & \uparrow \phi & & \uparrow \phi^M \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h & \longrightarrow & (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/M \longrightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

*Then to give a  $n$ -level structure  $\phi$  is equivalent to giving a direct factor  $M \subset (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  such that  $\phi_{|M}$  is  $m$ -level structure and an isomorphism  $\phi^M : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/M \simeq G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n](S)$*

*Proof.* — It results from the general fact on the extension of étale groups. See 1.11.2 in [KM].  $\square$

**Proposition 4.5** ([HT], II.2.1.5). — *Consider the same situation as in the proposition above, but assume moreover that  $S$  is reduced, connected and  $p = 0$  in  $S$ . Then, if there exists a  $n$ -level structure then there exists a unique splitting  $G[\varpi^n] \simeq G^0[\varpi^n] \times G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n]$  on  $S$ . Also, if there exists a splitting  $G[\varpi^n] \simeq G^0[\varpi^n] \times G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n]$ , then giving an  $n$ -level structure is the same as giving a direct factor  $M \subset (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  and an isomorphism  $\phi^M : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/M \simeq G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n](S)$*

*Sketch of a proof.* — If  $\phi$  is a level structure, then  $M = \ker \phi$  and by the proposition above, and the proposition 2.4, we have that  $\phi^M : (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/M \rightarrow G[\varpi^n](S) \rightarrow G^{\text{ét}}[\varpi^n](S)$  is an isomorphism. The splitting is given by the image of  $(\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/M$  in  $G[\varpi^n](S)$ . The proof of uniqueness is left to the reader.  $\square$

## 5. Group actions

Let  $K_0 = GL_n(\mathcal{O})$  and let  $K_m = 1 + \varpi^m M_n(\mathcal{O})$  for  $m \geq 1$ . Fix a formal  $\mathcal{O}$ -module  $F/k$  and let us define for  $R \in \mathcal{C}$  the functor  $\mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  by:

$\mathcal{M}_{K_m}(R) = \{(X, \iota, \phi) | X \text{ is a formal } \mathcal{O}\text{-module over } R, \iota : F \simeq X_k, \phi \text{ is an } m\text{-level structure on } X\} / \simeq$   
which we know to be representable by  $R_m$ .

Let  $B = \text{End}_{\mathcal{O}}(F) \otimes_{\mathcal{O}} K$ . It is a division algebra with invariant  $\frac{1}{h}$ . First of all observe that there is an action of  $B$  on  $\mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  by

$$(X, \iota, \phi) \cdot b = (X, \iota \circ b, \phi)$$

Secondly, we show how  $G = GL_n(K)$  acts on  $(\mathcal{M}_{K_m})_m$ . Let  $g \in G$  and suppose that  $g^{-1} \in M_n(\mathcal{O})$ . For  $n \geq m \geq 0$  such that  $g\mathcal{O}^h \subset \varpi^{-(n-m)}\mathcal{O}^h$  (inclusion is considered in  $F^n$ ), we will define a natural transformation  $g_{n,m} : \mathcal{M}_{K_n} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  and for  $(X, \iota, \phi) \in \mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  we will write

$$(X, \iota, \phi) \cdot g = g_{n,m}(X, \iota, \phi) = (X', \iota', \phi')$$

Let us define  $(X', \iota', \phi')$ . Condition on  $g$  implies that  $\mathcal{O}^h \subset g\mathcal{O}^h$  so  $(g\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  is a subgroup of  $(\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$  and we can define

$$X' = X/\phi((g\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h)$$

which makes sense by proposition 4.4 in [Dr]. Moreover, a left multiplication by  $g$  induces an injective homomorphism

$$(\varpi^{-m}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/g\mathcal{O})^h = (\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/(g\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h$$

and the composition with the morphism induced by  $\phi$ :

$$(\varpi^{-n}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h/(g\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow X/\phi((g\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h) = X'$$

gives (again by proposition 4.4 of [Dr]) an  $m$ -level structure:

$$\phi' : (\varpi^{-m}\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{O})^h \rightarrow X'[\varpi^m](R)$$

Finally, define  $\iota'$  to be the composition of  $\iota$  with the projection  $X_k \rightarrow X'_k$ .

For arbitrary  $g \in G$ , take  $r \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $(\varpi^{-r}g)^{-1} \in M_n(\mathcal{O})$  and hence for  $n \geq m \geq 0$  such that  $\varpi^{-r}g\mathcal{O}^h \subset \varpi^{-(n-m)}\mathcal{O}^h$  if we define  $(X', \iota', \phi') = (X, \iota, \phi) \cdot (\varpi^{-r}g)$  then define

$$(X, \iota\phi) \cdot g = (X', \iota' \circ \varpi^{-r}, \phi')$$

This gives a natural transformation  $g_{n,m} : \mathcal{M}_{K_n} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  which does not depend on  $r$  nor on  $\varpi$ . In particular, for every  $m$  there is an action of  $K_0 = GL_n(\mathcal{O})$  on  $\mathcal{M}_{K_m}$  which commutes with an action of  $B$ .

### References

- [Dr] V. Drinfeld, "Elliptic modules", Math USSR Sbornik, vol. 23(1974), No.4
- [HT] M. Harris, R. Taylor, "The geometry and cohomology of some simple Shimura varieties", Annals of Math. Studies 151, PUP 2001
- [KM] N. Katz, B. Mazur, "Arithmetic moduli of elliptic curves", Princeton University Press 1985
- [Sch] P. Scholze, "The Local Langlands Correspondence for  $GL_n$  over  $p$ -adic fields", preprint 2010
- [Str] M. Strauch, "Deformation spaces of one-dimensional formal groups and their cohomology", Advances in Mathematics, vol. 217, issue 3, pp. 889–951 (2008)

---

23th November 2011

PRZEMYSŁAW CHOJECKI