

# On the Algebraic $K$ -Cohomology of Lens Spaces

*Dedicated to Professor Nobuo Shimada on his 60th birthday*

By

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## § 1. Introduction

Let  $F_q$  be a finite field of order  $q=p^d$  and  $b_{F_q}$  be the 0-connected spectrum of algebraic  $K$ -theory for  $F_q$ . Then the homotopy groups of  $b_{F_q}$  are

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_{2k}(b_{F_q}) &= 0, \\ \pi_{2k-1}(b_{F_q}) &= \begin{cases} \mathbf{Z}/(q^k-1) & \text{if } k > 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } k \leq 0. \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

Let  $l$  be an odd prime number ( $l \neq p$ ) and  $L^n(l)$  the standard  $2n+1$  dimensional lens space  $S^{2n+1}/(\mathbf{Z}/l)$ . We write  $L_0^n(l)$  for its  $2n$ -skeleton.

The cohomology groups  $b_{F_q}^*(L_0^n(l))$  were studied by G. Nishida [6] in a special case. The purpose of the paper is to determine the cohomology group  $b_{F_q}^*(L_0^n(l))$ . The main theorem is Theorem 5.2.

This paper is organized as follows:

In Section 2 we state the splitting of algebraic  $K$ -theory for a finite field. In Sections 3 and 4, we study the topological  $K$ -group of a lens space and its generators. In the last section we state the main theorem and prove it.

## § 2. Splitting of $b_{F_q}$

Denote by  $\mathcal{A}$  the ring of  $l$ -adic integers  $\mathbf{Z}_l$ . By  $X_{\mathcal{A}}$  we denote the  $l$ -adic completion of a spectrum  $X$ . Let  $K$  (resp.  $bu$ ) be the periodic (resp. 1-connected) spectrum which represents topological  $K$ -theory.

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**Definition 2.1.** Let  $\rho \in A$  be a primitive  $(l-1)$ -th root of unity. Then for  $1 \leq i \leq l-1$  we define  $\Phi_i: K_A \rightarrow K_A$  by

$$\Phi_i = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} \rho^{-mi} \psi^m,$$

where  $\psi^k$  is the Adams operation.

Then splitting of topological  $K$ -theory is as follows (see [1]):

**Theorem 2.2.** *We have*

- (i)  $\sum_{i=1}^{l-1} \Phi_i = id,$
- (ii)  $\Phi_i \Phi_j = \begin{cases} \Phi_i & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j, \end{cases}$
- (iii)  $K_A(-) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{l-1} \Phi_i K_A(-)$  and
- (iv)  $bu_A(-) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{l-1} \Phi_i bu_A(-).$

Then  $\Phi_i K_A(-)$  (resp.  $\Phi_i bu_A(-)$ ) is a generalized cohomology theory and we write  $G_i$  (resp.  $g_i$ ) for its spectrum. Theorem 2.2 (iii) and (iv) imply

- (iii)'  $K_A \cong \bigvee_{i=1}^{l-1} G_i$  and
- (iv)'  $bu_A \cong \bigvee_{i=1}^{l-1} g_i.$

Let  $\iota_i: g_i \rightarrow bu_A$  and  $\pi_i: bu_A \rightarrow g_i$  be the canonical inclusion and projection of the splitting (iv)'.

Let  $b_{F_q}$  be the 0-connected spectrum which represents the algebraic  $K$ -theory for a finite field  $F_q$ . By Fiedorowicz-Priddy [3], we know that  $(b_{F_q})_A$  is the homotopy fibre of  $1 - \psi^q: bu_A \rightarrow bu_A$  where  $\psi^q$  is the Adams operation.

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $(1 - \psi^q)_i: g_i \rightarrow g_i$  be the composition  $g_i \xrightarrow{\iota_i} bu_A \xrightarrow{1 - \psi^q} bu_A \xrightarrow{\pi_i} g_i$  and  $g_{F_q, i}$  the homotopy fibre of  $(1 - \psi^q)_i$ . Let  $r$  be the least positive integer such that  $q^r \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$ .

Then we have the splitting of  $(b_{F_q})_A$  as follows (see [4]):

**Theorem 2.4.**

- (i)  $(b_{F_q})_A \cong \bigvee_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq l-1 \\ i \equiv 0 \pmod{r}}} g_{F_q, i},$

$$(ii) \quad \pi_{2k}(g_{F_q,i}) \cong 0, \\ \pi_{2k-1}(g_{F_q,i}) \cong \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/(q^k-1) \otimes A & \text{if } k > 0 \text{ and } k \equiv i \pmod{l-1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

§ 3. Topological K-Group of Lens Spaces

Let  $\eta$  be the canonical complex line bundle of  $L^n(l)$  and put  $x = \eta - 1$ . By  $[t]$  we denote the greatest integer which is less than or equal to  $t$ .

Then the topological K-group of lens spaces is as follows:

**Theorem 3.1.** (Kambe [5]) *Let  $M_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq l-1$ ) be a cyclic group generated by  $x^i$  of order  $a_i^{(n)} = l^{[(n+l-i-1)/(l-1)]}$ . Then*

$$(i) \quad K^0(L_0^n(l)) \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/((1+x)^l - 1, x^{n+1}) \\ \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus M_1 \oplus M_2 \oplus \dots \oplus M_{l-1}, \\ (ii) \quad K^1(L_0^n(l)) = 0.$$

We define the filtration  $F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  as follows:

**Definition 3.2.** Let  $L_0^k(l) \rightarrow L_0^n(l)$  ( $0 \leq k \leq n$ ) be the canonical inclusion, then we put

$$F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) = \begin{cases} \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) & \text{if } k < 0, \\ \text{Ker}(\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(L_0^k(l))) & \text{if } 0 \leq k < n, \\ 0 & \text{if } k \geq n. \end{cases}$$

Since Atiyah-Hirzebruch spectral sequence of  $K^*(L_0^n(l))$  collapses, we have:

**Corollary 3.3.** *The bu-cohomology group of lens space is*

$$(i) \quad \tilde{b}u^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) = F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)), \\ (ii) \quad \tilde{b}u^{2k+1}(L_0^n(l)) = 0.$$

By the cohomology exact sequence of the fibration  $(b_{F_q})_A \rightarrow bu_A \xrightarrow{1-\psi^q} bu_A$  and  $\tilde{b}_{F_q}^*(L_0^n(l)) \cong (\tilde{b}_{F_q})_A^*(L_0^n(l))$ , we have the following exact sequence:

$$0 \rightarrow \tilde{b}_{F_q}^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow \tilde{b}u_A^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) \xrightarrow{(1-\psi^q)^*} \tilde{b}u_A^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow \tilde{b}_{F_q}^{2k+1}(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow 0.$$

The Bott periodicity and (3.3) imply the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{b}u_A^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) & \xrightarrow{(1-\psi^q)^*} & \tilde{b}u_A^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) \\ \parallel & \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^* & \parallel \\ F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) & \longrightarrow & F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \end{array}$$

commutes. Then we have

**Proposition 3.4.** *The  $b_{F_q}$ -cohomology group of lens space is*

- (i)  $\tilde{b}_{F_q}^k(L_0^n(l)) \cong \text{Ker} \left( \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^* : F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \right),$
- (ii)  $\tilde{b}_{F_q}^{2k+1}(L_0^n(l)) \cong \text{Coker} \left( \left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^* : F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \right).$

Recall that  $K^0(L_0^n(l)) = \mathbf{Z}[x]/((1+x)^l - 1, x^{n+1})$  and  $(\psi^q)^*x = (1+x)^q - 1$ . To the generators  $x, x^2, \dots,$  and  $x^{l-1}$  of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$ , the action of  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^*$  is

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^* x^i = x^i - \frac{1}{q^k} \{(x+1)^q - 1\}^i.$$

§ 4. On Generators of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$

To compute the kernel and cokernel of  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^*$ , we define new generators of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$ .

**Definition 4.1.** We define the element  $\xi_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq l-1$ ) of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  by  $\xi_i = \Phi_i(x)$  and put  $N_i = \text{Im} (\Phi_i : \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)))$ .

Then we have

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $a_i^{(n)}$  be the integer defined in Theorem 3.1, then*

- (i)  $K_A^0(L_0^n(l)) \cong A \oplus N_1 \oplus N_2 \oplus \dots \oplus N_{l-1},$
- (ii)  $N_i$  is a cyclic group generated by  $\xi_i$  of order  $a_i^{(n)}$ .

*Proof* of (i) is clear by Theorem 2.2. To prove (ii) we need following two lemmas.

By  $y_i$  ( $i \in \mathbf{Z}/l$ ) we denote the element of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  such that  $y_i = (1+x)^i - 1$ . This notation is well defined since  $(1+x)^l = 1$ .

When  $k$  is an element of  $\mathbf{Z}$  or  $A$  we write  $\bar{k}$  for the mod  $l$  reduction of  $k$ . Then  $(\psi^k)^*x = y_{\bar{k}}$ . Thus we can regard that the Adams operation  $(\psi^k)^* : \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  is defined for  $k \in \mathbf{Z}/l$ .

Let  $k$  be an element of  $A$  such that  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{l}$ . Then there exists one and only one element  $m$  of  $A$  such that  $m^{l-1} = 1$  and  $k \equiv m \pmod{l}$ . We write  $\tilde{k}$  for the element  $m$ . Then we have

**Lemma 4.3.**  $\Phi_i(y_k) = \tilde{k}^i \xi_i$  for  $1 \leq k \leq l-1$ .

*Proof.* By definition

$$\Phi_i(y_k) = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} \rho^{-mi} \psi^{\rho^m} \psi^k(x) = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} \rho^{-mi} \psi^{\rho^m \tilde{k}}(x).$$

Since  $\{\rho \tilde{k}, \rho^2 \tilde{k}, \dots, \rho^{l-1} \tilde{k}\} = \{\rho, \rho^2, \dots, \rho^{l-1}\}$ , we have

$$\Phi_i(y_k) = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} \tilde{k}^i \rho^{-mi} \psi^{\rho^m}(x) = \tilde{k}^i \Phi_i(x) = \tilde{k}^i \xi_i.$$

Since  $\psi^k$  commutes with  $\Phi_i$  we have the following corollary:

**Corollary 4.4.**  $\psi^k(\xi_i) = \tilde{k}^i \xi_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq l-1$ .

**Lemma 4.5.** Let  $\overline{\Phi_i(x)}$  be the mod  $l$  reduction of  $\Phi_i(x)$  and put  $\overline{\Phi_i(x)} = c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \dots + c_{l-1} x^{l-1}$  ( $c_k \in \mathbf{Z}/l$ ). Then

- (i)  $c_k = 0$  for  $1 \leq k < i$ , and
- (ii)  $c_i \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\{\overline{\rho^1}, \overline{\rho^2}, \dots, \overline{\rho^{l-1}}\} = \{1, 2, \dots, l-1\}$  we have

$$\overline{\Phi_i(x)} = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} \overline{\rho^{-mi} \psi^{\rho^m}(x)} = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} m^{-i} \{(1+x)^m - 1\}.$$

Inductively we define  $f_k(x)$  ( $0 \leq k \leq i$ ) by  $f_0(x) = \overline{\Phi_i(x)}$  and  $f_k(x) = (1+x) \frac{d}{dx} f_{k-1}(x)$ . Then, for  $1 \leq k \leq i$

$$f_k(x) = \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} m^{-i+k} (1+x)^m.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} k! c_k = f_k(0) &= \frac{1}{l-1} \sum_{m=1}^{l-1} m^{-i+k} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } 1 \leq k < i \\ 1 & \text{if } k = i. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*Proof of Theorem 4.2 (ii).* It is clear that  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  is generated by  $y_1, y_2, \dots$ , and  $y_{l-1}$ . Then  $N_i = \Phi_i(\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l)))$  is generated by  $\Phi_i(x) = \Phi_i(y_1), \Phi_i(y_2), \dots$ , and  $\Phi_i(y_{l-1})$ . By Lemma 4.3,  $N_i$  is a cyclic group generated by  $\xi_i = \Phi_i(x)$ . By Lemma 4.5, the mod  $l$  reduction of  $\xi_i$  is

$$\bar{\xi}_i = c_i x^i + c_{i+1} x^{i+1} + \dots + c_{l-1} x^{l-1} \quad (c_i \neq 0).$$

Theorem 3.1 implies that the order  $a_k^{(n)}$  of  $x^k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq l-1$ ) has the following two properties:

- (i)  $a_1^{(n)} \geq a_2^{(n)} \geq \dots \geq a_{l-1}^{(n)}$  and
- (ii)  $a_j^{(n)} / a_k^{(n)} = l$  or  $1$  if  $j < k$ .

Therefore the order of  $\xi_i$  is that of  $x^i$ . This completes the proof of Theorem 4.2 (ii).

§ 5.  $b_{F_q}$ -Cohomology of Lens Spaces

Let  $\nu_l: A \rightarrow \mathbf{Z} \cup \{\infty\}$  be the  $l$ -adic valuation, that is  $\nu_l(\lambda)$  is the largest integer  $\nu$  such that  $l^\nu$  divides  $\lambda$  where  $\lambda$  is an element of  $A$ .

**Lemma 5.1.** *Let  $\xi_i$  be the element of  $\tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$  defined in (4.1), then*

- (i)  $\left(1 - \frac{1}{q^k} \psi^q\right)^* \xi_i = \left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}^i}{q^k}\right) \xi_i,$
- (ii)  $1 - \frac{\tilde{q}^i}{q^k}$  is a unit of  $A$  if  $i \not\equiv k \pmod r$ , and
- (iii)  $\nu_l\left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}^i}{q^k}\right) = \nu_l(q^r - 1) + \nu_l(k)$  if  $i \equiv k \pmod r$ .

*Proof.* By Corollary 4.4, (i) is clear. (ii) holds since  $q^k \not\equiv q^i \equiv \tilde{q}^i \pmod l$ . To prove (iii), assume  $i \equiv k \pmod r$ . Since  $\tilde{q}^i = \tilde{q}^k$  and  $\nu_l\left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}}{q}\right) \geq 1$ , we have

$$\nu_l\left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}^i}{q^k}\right) = \nu_l\left(1 - \left(\frac{\tilde{q}}{q}\right)^k\right) = \nu_l\left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}}{q}\right) + \nu_l(k).$$

On the other hand

$$q^r - 1 = q^r - \tilde{q}^r = (q - \tilde{q})(q^{r-1} + q^{r-2}\tilde{q} + \dots + \tilde{q}^{r-1}),$$

where

$$q^{r-1} + q^{r-2}\tilde{q} + \dots + \tilde{q}^{r-1} \equiv q^{r-1} + q^{r-1} + \dots + q^{r-1} = rq^{r-1} \not\equiv 0 \pmod l.$$

Therefore

$$\nu_l\left(1 - \frac{\tilde{q}}{q}\right) = \nu_l(q - \tilde{q}) = \nu_l(q^r - 1).$$

This completes the proof of the lemma.

**Theorem 5.2.** *The  $b_{F_q}$ -cohomology of lens space is*

$$\tilde{b}_{F_q}^{2k}(L_0^n(l)) \cong \tilde{b}_{F_q}^{2k+1}(L_0^n(l)) \cong \bigoplus_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq l-1 \\ i \equiv k \pmod r}} \mathbf{Z}/(l^{m_i} \mathbf{Z})$$

where  $m_i$  (for  $i \equiv k \pmod r$ ) is the integer defined as follows:

$$m_i = \begin{cases} \min \{ \nu_l(a_i^{(n)}), \nu_l(q^r - 1) + \nu_l(k) \} & \text{if } k \leq 0, \\ \min \{ \nu_l(a_i^{(n)}) - \nu_l(a_i^{(k)}), \nu_l(q^r - 1) + \nu_l(k) \} & \text{if } 0 < k < n, \\ 0 & \text{if } k \geq n. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Since  $\{a_i^{(k)}\xi_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq l-1}$  is a basis of  $F^k \tilde{K}^0(L_0^n(l))$ , it is easy from Proposition 3.4, Theorem 4.2 and Lemma 5.1.

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