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# Zeta functions of integral representations of cyclic $p$ -groups

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## Abstract

For a prime number  $p$  and  $C_{p^k}$ , the cyclic group of order  $p^k$ , we consider the group ring  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$  over the  $p$ -adic integers. Following L. Solomon, one can define the zeta function of the free  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$ -module  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$ , which counts submodules of finite index in  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$ . In this article we develop a recursion formula (relating submodules of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$  to certain submodules of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^{k-1}}]^n$ ), which yields some new explicit formulas for the zeta function of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$  in the cases  $k = 1, 2$  and  $n \geq 1$ , and  $k = 3, n = 1$ . An important combinatorial tool for these computations is the Möbius function of a partially ordered set.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $p$  be a prime number and  $C_{p^k}$  be the (multiplicative) cyclic group of order  $p^k$ , where  $k$  is a non-negative integer. Let  $L$  be a finitely generated torsion free  $\mathbb{Z}[C_{p^k}]$ -module. In [8] L. Solomon introduced a zeta function attached to  $L$ , defined as

$$\zeta_L(s) = \sum_{U \subseteq L} [L : U]^{-s};$$

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here the sum extends over all submodules  $U$  of finite index in  $L$ , and the series converges for all  $s \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $\operatorname{Re}(s)$  sufficiently large (although we will regard this series rather as a formal sum; therefore, we will not care about questions of convergence in the sequel). Solomon showed that there is an Euler product

$$\zeta_L(s) = \prod_l \zeta_{L_l}(s),$$

where  $l$  ranges over all prime numbers,  $L_l = L \otimes \mathbb{Z}_l$  ( $\mathbb{Z}_l$  being the ring of  $l$ -adic integers) and

$$\zeta_{L_l} = \sum_{U_l \subseteq L_l} [L_l : U_l]^{-s},$$

this time summing over all  $\mathbb{Z}_l[C_{p^k}]$ -submodules  $U_l$  of finite index in  $L_l$ . Thus we can work locally in order to compute  $\zeta_L(s)$ .

If  $l \neq p$  the order  $\mathbb{Z}_l[C_{p^k}]$  is the maximal order in  $\mathbb{Q}_l[C_{p^k}]$ , and  $\zeta_{L_l}(s)$  is a product of Dedekind zeta functions of number fields, cf. [8, (1.2)]. The case  $l = p$  is more delicate. Let  $\tilde{R} \subseteq \mathbb{Q}_p[C_{p^k}]$  be the maximal order (containing  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$ ). Then

$$\zeta_{L_p}(s) = \delta_{L_p}(s) \zeta_{L \otimes \tilde{R}}(s),$$

where again  $\zeta_{L \otimes \tilde{R}}(s)$  is a product of Dedekind zeta functions of number fields, and  $\delta_{L_p}(s) \in \mathbb{Z}[p^{-s}]$  is a polynomial in  $p^{-s}$  with integral coefficients, according to *Solomon's First Conjecture* proved in [1, Theorem 1]. The difficulty in calculating the zeta function of  $L$  consists in determining this polynomial.

The goal of this paper is to find explicit formulas for the zeta function of  $L = \mathbb{Z}[C_{p^k}]^n$ , where  $n$  is a positive integer. Put  $R_k := \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$ , and let  $\tilde{R}_k$  be the maximal order of the group algebra  $\mathbb{Q}_p[C_{p^k}]$ . Since  $\mathbb{Q}_p[C_{p^k}] \cong \mathbb{Q}_p \oplus \mathbb{Q}_p(\omega_1) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Q}_p(\omega_k)$  ( $\omega_i$  being a primitive  $p^i$ th root of unity) we get  $\tilde{R}_k \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_1] \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k]$ . In this case [8, (1.2)] reads

$$\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}[C_{p^k}]^n}(s) = \delta_{R_k^n}(s) \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} \left( \zeta(s-j) \prod_{i=1}^k \zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\omega_i)}(s-j) \right),$$

where  $\zeta(s)$  is the Riemann zeta function, and  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Q}(\omega_i)}(s)$  is the Dedekind zeta function of the cyclotomic field  $\mathbb{Q}(\omega_i)$ . Furthermore the zeta function of  $\tilde{R}_k^n$  is the “ $p$ -part” of the above product of zeta functions,

$$\zeta_{\tilde{R}_k^n}(s) = \frac{1}{((1-p^{-s})(1-p^{1-s}) \cdots (1-p^{n-1-s}))^{k+1}},$$

and it suffices to compute

$$\zeta_{R_k^n}(s) = \delta_{R_k^n}(s) \zeta_{\tilde{R}_k^n}(s).$$

The only cases treated so far are  $n = 1$  and  $k = 1$  by Solomon (cf. [8], and an easier proof by I. Reiner in [6]), and  $n = 1$  and  $k = 2$  by Reiner in [6]. In this paper we will generalize Reiner’s method. The main idea is that  $R_k$  can be written as a fibre product of  $R_{k-1}$  and some discrete valuation ring. This allows one to reduce the zeta function of  $R_k^n$  (a sum over submodules of  $R_k^n$ ) to a sum over submodules of  $R_{k-1}^n$ . More accurately we get the following formula:

$$\zeta_{R_k^n}(s) = \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s) \sum_{\bar{U} \subseteq R_{k-1}^n} (p^{r(\bar{U})})^{n-s} [R_{k-1}^n : \bar{U}]^{-s},$$

where  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s)$  is easy to calculate, and  $r(\bar{U})$  is a certain non-negative integer, depending on the submodule  $\bar{U}$  of finite index in  $R_{k-1}^n$ . Unfortunately the sum on the right-hand side is not quite the zeta function of  $R_{k-1}^n$ , but the terms can be rearranged in order to obtain a  $\mathbb{Z}[p^{-s}]$ -linear combination of the zeta functions of the submodules  $\bar{U}$  for  $pR_{k-1}^n \subseteq \bar{U} \subseteq R_{k-1}^n$ . This transformation is accomplished by means of a combinatorial tool: the Möbius function of the lattice of those submodules  $\bar{U}$ . In addition we mention that it is evidently not enough to consider zeta functions of free  $R_k$ -modules. We should rather find a recursive formula, similar to the one above, for the zeta function of any submodule  $U \subseteq R_k^n$  of finite index.

This will be done in the sequel, and thereby we are able to find explicit formulas for  $\zeta_{R_k^n}(s)$  in the following cases

- $k = 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ ,
- $k = 2$  and  $n \geq 1$  (where our result in the case  $n = 1$  is “more explicit” than the one in [6]),
- $k = 3$  and  $n = 1$ .

The paper is organized as follows: in Section 2 we briefly describe two algebraic concepts that will be useful for the derivation of the recursion formula in Section 3. In Section 4 we define the Möbius function of a partially ordered set, and apply it to our case. In Section 5 we discuss a functional equation for the zeta function of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$ . Eventually, Sections 6–8 are devoted to the development of explicit formulas for the zeta functions of  $\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]^n$  in the cases mentioned above.

Throughout this paper, we fix the following notation:  $p$  is a prime number,  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  the ring of  $p$ -adic integers,  $C_{p^k}$  with  $k \geq 0$  is the cyclic group of order  $p^k$ , and  $\sigma$  is a fixed generator of this group. Furthermore  $R_k = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$ , and

$$\phi_k = \sigma^{p^{k-1}(p-1)} + \sigma^{p^{k-1}(p-2)} + \dots + \sigma^{p^{k-1}} + 1 \in R_k,$$

and for  $i \geq 1$  we let  $\omega_i$  be a primitive  $p^i$ th root of unity.

## 2. Zeta functions of matrix rings and Reiner's method

If  $R$  is any commutative ring, we denote by  $M_n(R)$  the ring of  $n \times n$  matrices over  $R$ . We define the zeta function of  $M_n(R)$  as the formal sum

$$\zeta_{M_n(R)}(s) = \sum_{I \subseteq M_n(R)} [M_n(R) : I]^{-s}.$$

Here the summation is over all left ideals  $I$  of finite index in  $M_n(R)$  (or equivalently, all right ideals  $I$  of finite index in  $M_n(R)$ ). In a similar way we can generalize the definition of a zeta function from the introduction: let  $V$  be an  $R$ -module, and put

$$\zeta_V(s) = \sum_{U \subseteq V} [V : U]^{-s},$$

where  $U$  runs through all  $R$ -submodules of finite index in  $V$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *The zeta function of  $M_n(R)$  and the zeta function of the  $R$ -module  $R^n$  satisfy*

$$\zeta_{M_n(R)}(s) = \zeta_{R^n}(ns).$$

**Proof.** By Morita's theorem (cf. [4, Section 3.12]) there is a lattice isomorphism between the lattice of left ideals  $I$  of  $M_n(R)$  and the lattice of  $R$ -submodules  $U$  of  $R^n$ . This induces an isomorphism between the lattices of ideals/submodules of *finite index*. Moreover, if  $I$  and  $U$  correspond to each other under this isomorphism, one can easily show that

$$[M_n(R) : I] = [R^n : U]^n,$$

whence the desired equality.  $\square$

From the proof of the theorem we immediately infer:

**Corollary 2.2.** *If  $I \subseteq M_n(R)$  and  $U \subseteq R^n$  are of finite index and correspond to each other under Morita's isomorphism, then*

$$\zeta_I(s) = \zeta_U(ns),$$

where  $\zeta_I(s) = \sum_{J \subseteq I} [I : J]^{-s}$ ,  $J$  running through all left  $M_n(R)$ -ideals of finite index, contained in  $I$ .

The above theorem allows us to compute the zeta function of the ring  $M_n(R_k)$  instead of the zeta function of the module  $R_k^n$ . To this ring, Reiner's method is applicable, as we will see in the next section. We will now briefly describe this method introduced by Reiner in [6].

Suppose we are given a fibre product of rings

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_1} & A_1 \\
 f_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow g_1 \\
 A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & A'
 \end{array}$$

where all maps are ring surjections. Thus

$$A = \{(x_1, x_2) \in A_1 \oplus A_2 \mid g_1(x_1) = g_2(x_2)\}.$$

We further assume that every left ideal of  $A_1$  is principal. The aim is to describe all left ideals of  $A$  in terms of the left ideals of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ .

Let  $I \subseteq A$  be a left ideal. Then  $f_1(I) = A_1\alpha$  for some  $\alpha \in A_1$ . Hence there exists  $\beta \in f_2(I)$  such that  $(\alpha, \beta) \in A$  and  $g_1(\alpha) = g_2(\beta)$ . Put

$$I_2 := \{x \in A_2 \mid (0, x) \in I\},$$

which is a left ideal of  $A_2$  satisfying

$$I = A(\alpha, \beta) + (0, I_2).$$

Therefore, every left ideal  $I \subseteq A$  has the form  $I = A(\alpha, \beta) + (0, I_2)$  with

- a uniquely determined left ideal  $I_2 \subseteq A_2$  with  $g_2(I_2) = 0$ ,
- a generator  $\alpha \in A_1$  of  $f_1(I)$ ,
- an element  $\beta \in A_2$  with  $g_1(\alpha) = g_2(\beta)$ ; here  $\beta$  is uniquely determined mod  $I_2$ .

### 3. A recursion formula for the zeta function of $R_k^n$

In this section we will derive a formula for  $\zeta_{M_n(R_k)}(s)$  (which amounts to the same as  $\zeta_{R_k^n}(s)$ , by Theorem 2.1). To this end, as we already mentioned in the introduction, we have to find a formula for  $\zeta_V(s)$ , where  $V \subseteq M_n(R_k)$  is an arbitrary ideal (from now on all ideals are of finite index, unless stated otherwise). Put

$$R = R_k, \quad \bar{R} = R_{k-1}, \quad S = \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k], \quad \bar{F} := \mathbb{F}_p[C_{p^{k-1}}]$$

and  $\phi := \phi_k$ . There is a canonical fibre product diagram linking these rings

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 R & \xrightarrow{\text{mod } \phi_k} & S \\
 \sigma \mapsto \tau \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{mod } (1-\omega_k)^{p^{k-1}} \\
 \bar{R} & \xrightarrow{\text{mod } p} & \bar{F}
 \end{array}$$

where all maps are ring surjections and  $\tau$  is a generator of  $C_{p^{k-1}}$  in  $\bar{R}$ . This leads to a fibre product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{M}_n(R) & \xrightarrow{f_1} & \mathbf{M}_n(S) \\ f_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow g_1 \\ \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R}) & \xrightarrow{g_2} & \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{F}) \end{array} \quad (1)$$

Since  $S$  is a principal ideal domain (even a discrete valuation ring), we know that every left ideal of  $\mathbf{M}_n(S)$  is principal (cf. [5, Theorem 17.24]). Therefore, Reiner's method, introduced in the preceding section, is applicable to this situation.

Let  $V \subseteq \mathbf{M}_n(R)$  be a left ideal. Then

$$V = \mathbf{M}_n(R)(\alpha_V, \beta_V) + (0, V_2), \quad (2)$$

where  $\alpha_V \in f_1(V)$ ,  $\beta_V \in f_2(V)$  with  $g_1(\alpha_V) = g_2(\beta_V)$  and

$$V_2 = \{x \in \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R}) \mid (0, x) \in V\}.$$

**Lemma 3.1.** *The left ideal  $V_2 \subseteq \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R})$  is given by*

$$V_2 = f_2(V \cap \phi\mathbf{M}_n(R)).$$

**Proof.** This follows from  $\phi\mathbf{M}_n(R) = \ker(f_1) = \{(0, x) \in \mathbf{M}_n(R) \mid x \in \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R})\}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.**

- (a) *There exists a left  $\mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R})$ -ideal  $V^\circ \supseteq f_2(V)$  such that  $V_2 = pV^\circ$ .*  
 (b)  *$\beta_V \in V^\circ$ , where  $\beta_V$  is as in (2).*

**Proof.** The canonical map  $R \rightarrow \bar{R}$  maps  $\phi$  to  $p$ . Hence

$$V_2 = f_2(V \cap \phi\mathbf{M}_n(R)) \subseteq f_2(\phi\mathbf{M}_n(R)) = p\mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R}),$$

i.e., there is a  $V^\circ \subseteq \mathbf{M}_n(\bar{R})$  such that  $V_2 = pV^\circ$ . Now (a) follows because of

$$pV^\circ = V_2 \supseteq f_2(\phi \cdot V) = pf_2(V).$$

Part (b) follows from

$$(0, p\beta_V) = (0, p)(\alpha_V, \beta_V) = \phi(\alpha_V, \beta_V) \in V,$$

i.e.,  $p\beta_V \in V_2 = pV^\circ$ .  $\square$

We summarize: the left ideal  $V$  can be written as

$$V = M_n(R)(\alpha_V, \beta_V) + (0, pV^\circ) \tag{3}$$

with  $\alpha_V \in f_1(V)$ ,  $\beta_V \in V^\circ$ ,  $g_1(\alpha_V) = g_2(\beta_V)$  and  $pV^\circ = f_2(V \cap \phi M_n(R))$ .

Our goal is the computation of

$$\zeta_V(s) = \sum_{N \subseteq V} [V : N]^{-s}.$$

By Reiner’s method and the above lemma, every left ideal of  $M_n(R)$  has the form

$$M_n(R)(\alpha, \beta) + (0, p\bar{N}), \tag{4}$$

where

- $\bar{N} \subseteq M_n(\bar{R})$  is a left ideal,
- $\alpha \in M_n(S)$  with  $\det(\alpha) \neq 0$  (which means  $[M_n(S) : M_n(S)\alpha] < \infty$ ),
- $\beta \in \bar{N}$  such that  $g_1(\alpha) = g_2(\beta)$ .

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  denote a system of representatives of generators  $\alpha \in M_n(S)$  with  $\det(\alpha) \neq 0$  of all left ideals of  $M_n(S)$ . Every left ideal of  $M_n(R)$  determines a unique pair  $(\alpha, \bar{N})$  with  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$  and a left ideals  $\bar{N} \subseteq M_n(\bar{R})$ . On the other hand, if  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $\bar{N} \subseteq M_n(\bar{R})$  are fixed, the number of left ideals of  $M_n(R)$  belonging to  $(\alpha, \bar{N})$  equals the number of elements  $\beta \in \bar{N}$  distinct mod  $p\bar{N}$ , satisfying  $g_1(\alpha) = g_2(\beta)$ .

For our purpose we have to determine the left ideals of the form (4) of  $M_n(R)$  contained in  $V$ , and we denote the number of these by  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N})$ . A necessary condition for such a left ideal to be contained in  $V$  is  $p\bar{N} \subseteq pV^\circ$ , that is  $\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ$ .

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ$ .*

- (a)  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) \neq 0 \iff \alpha \in f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))$ .
- (b) *If  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) \neq 0$ , then  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) = [pV^\circ \cap \bar{N} : p\bar{N}]$ .*

**Proof.** (a)  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) \neq 0$  iff there is a left ideal of the form (4) contained in  $V$ , i.e., there is a  $\beta \in \bar{N}$  such that  $(\alpha, \beta) \in V$ . This is the case iff  $\alpha = f_1(v)$  for some  $v \in V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N})$ .

(b) Suppose  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) \neq 0$ . Let  $v_0 \in V$  with  $\alpha = f_1(v_0)$  and  $\beta_0 := f_2(v_0) \in \bar{N}$ , according to (a). The possible  $\beta$ , defining a left ideal as in (4) contained in  $V$ , are exactly all

$$\beta \in \bar{N} \quad \text{such that} \quad \exists v \in V: \alpha = f_1(v) \text{ and } \beta = f_2(v).$$

Since  $v - v_0 \in \ker(f_1)$ , this means  $\beta \in f_2(v_0 + (\ker(f_1) \cap V)) \cap \bar{N}$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} f_2(v_0 + (\ker(f_1) \cap V)) \cap \bar{N} &= (\beta_0 + f_2(\ker(f_1) \cap V)) \cap \bar{N} \\ &= \beta_0 + (f_2(\ker(f_1) \cap V) \cap \bar{N}) \quad \text{since } \beta_0 \in \bar{N} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \beta_0 + (pV^\circ \cap \bar{N}).$$

Since we have to count the number  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N})$  of those  $\beta$  that are distinct mod  $p\bar{N}$ , the claim follows.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $N := M_n(R)(\alpha, \beta) + (0, p\bar{N})$  be a left ideal as in (4). Then*

$$[M_n(R) : N] = [M_n(S) : M_n(S)\alpha][M_n(\bar{R}) : \bar{N}],$$

and in particular this index does not depend on  $\beta$ .

**Proof.** Consider the surjective map

$$\varphi : M_n(R) \rightarrow M_n(S)/M_n(S)\alpha = M_n(S)/f_1(N)$$

induced by  $f_1$ . Then  $N \subseteq \ker(\varphi)$ , and because of  $\ker(\varphi) = f_1^{-1}(f_1(N)) = N + \ker(f_1)$  we get

$$[\ker(\varphi) : N] = [\ker(f_1) : N \cap \ker(f_1)] = [(0, pM_n(\bar{R})) : (0, p\bar{N})] = [M_n(\bar{R}) : \bar{N}]. \quad \square$$

We now obtain a first formula for the zeta function of  $V$ :

$$\zeta_V(s) = \sum_{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ} \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{R}} \nu(\alpha, \bar{N}) \left( \frac{[M_n(S) : M_n(S)\alpha][M_n(\bar{R}) : \bar{N}]}{[M_n(R) : V]} \right)^{-s}, \quad (5)$$

and using Lemma 3.3

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta_V(s) &= [M_n(R) : V]^s \sum_{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ} \sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \\ \alpha \in f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))}} [pV^\circ \cap \bar{N} : p\bar{N}] \\ &\quad \times ([M_n(S) : M_n(S)\alpha][M_n(\bar{R}) : \bar{N}])^{-s}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

**Lemma 3.5.**

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \\ \alpha \in f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))}} [M_n(S) : M_n(S)\alpha]^{-s} = [M_n(S) : f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))]^{-s} \zeta_{M_n(S)}(s).$$

**Proof.** Every left ideal of  $M_n(S)$  is principal, hence we have an isomorphism

$$M_n(S) \cong f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))$$

of left  $M_n(S)$ -modules. Thus their zeta functions coincide, and the lemma is proved.  $\square$

Note that  $V^\circ/pV^\circ$  is an  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -vector space in a natural way. Therefore, we may put

$$l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N}) := \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\bar{N} + pV^\circ/pV^\circ)$$

if  $\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ$ , and the value of  $\nu(\alpha, \bar{N})$  determined in Lemma 3.3(b) can be transformed into

$$[pV^\circ \cap \bar{N} : p\bar{N}] = \frac{[\bar{N} : p\bar{N}]}{[\bar{N} : pV^\circ \cap \bar{N}]} = \frac{p^{n^2 p^{k-1}}}{[\bar{N} + pV^\circ : pV^\circ]} = p^{n^2 p^{k-1} - l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})}.$$

Together with

$$[\mathbf{M}_n(R) : V] = [\mathbf{M}_n(S) : f_1(V)][\mathbf{M}(\bar{R}) : V^\circ]$$

(cf. Lemma 3.4) we infer from (6) the new formula

$$\zeta_V(s) = \zeta_{\mathbf{M}_n(S)}(s) \sum_{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ} p^{n^2 p^{k-1} - l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})} ([f_1(V) : f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))][V^\circ : \bar{N}])^{-s} \quad (7)$$

for the zeta function of  $V$ .

**Lemma 3.6.**

$$[f_1(V) : f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))][V^\circ : \bar{N}] = p^{n^2 p^{k-1} - l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})} [\bar{N} + f_2(V) : \bar{N}].$$

**Proof.** The following exact sequence is immediate:

$$0 \rightarrow (V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N})) + (V \cap \ker(f_1)) \hookrightarrow V \xrightarrow{\pi_1} f_1(V)/f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N})) \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\pi_1$  is induced by  $f_1$ . The definition of  $V^\circ$  implies  $f_2(V \cap \ker(f_1)) = pV^\circ$ , and using  $f_2(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N})) = f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}$  we get another exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow (V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N})) + (V \cap \ker(f_1)) \hookrightarrow V \xrightarrow{\pi_2} f_2(V)/((f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}) + pV^\circ) \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\pi_2$  is induced by  $f_2$ .

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} [f_1(V) : f_1(V \cap f_2^{-1}(\bar{N}))] &= [f_2(V) : (f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}) + pV^\circ] \\ &= \frac{[f_2(V) : f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}]}{[(f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}) + pV^\circ : f_2(V) \cap \bar{N}]} = \frac{[\bar{N} + f_2(V) : \bar{N}]}{[pV^\circ : pV^\circ \cap \bar{N}]} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 [pV^\circ : pV^\circ \cap \bar{N}] &= [\bar{N} + pV^\circ : \bar{N}] = \frac{[V^\circ : \bar{N}]}{[V^\circ : \bar{N} + pV^\circ]} \\
 &= \frac{[V^\circ : \bar{N}]}{[V^\circ : pV^\circ]/[\bar{N} + pV^\circ : pV^\circ]} = \frac{[V^\circ : \bar{N}]}{p^{n^2} p^{k-1-l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})}},
 \end{aligned}$$

and the assertion follows.  $\square$

With the help of this lemma formula (7) can be further simplified, and this yields the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.7.** *The following recursion formula holds for the zeta function of a left ideal  $V \subseteq M_n(R)$ :*

$$\zeta_V(s) = \zeta_{M_n(S)}(s) \sum_{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ} (p^{n^2} p^{k-1-l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})})^{1-s} [\bar{N} + f_2(V) : \bar{N}]^{-s}; \tag{8}$$

here  $V^\circ$  is given by  $pV^\circ = f_2(V \cap \phi M_n(R))$  and  $l_{V^\circ}(\bar{N}) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\bar{N} + pV^\circ/pV^\circ)$ .

We will now retranslate this formula back to submodules of  $R^n$ , using Morita’s theorem (cf. Corollary 2.2). We will mainly use the same notation as before, which should not be confusing. All submodules of  $R^n$  are again understood to be of finite index, unless stated otherwise. We have a fibre product diagram analogous to (1)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 R^n & \xrightarrow{f_1} & S^n \\
 f_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow g_1 \\
 \bar{R}^n & \xrightarrow{g_2} & \bar{F}^n
 \end{array} \tag{9}$$

with surjective  $R$ -module homomorphisms.

**Theorem 3.8.** *The following recursion formula holds for the zeta function of a submodule  $V \subseteq R^n$ :*

$$\zeta_V(s) = \zeta_{S^n}(s) \sum_{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ} p^{(np^{k-1}-e_{V^\circ}(\bar{N}))(n-s)} [\bar{N} + f_2(V) : \bar{N}]^{-s}; \tag{10}$$

here  $V^\circ$  is given by  $pV^\circ = f_2(V \cap \phi R^n)$  and  $e_{V^\circ}(\bar{N}) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(\bar{N} + pV^\circ/pV^\circ)$ .

The term “recursion formula” is justified by the fact that the sum on the right-hand side extends over submodules of  $\bar{R}^n$ , hence we descended from  $k$  to  $k - 1$ . We will reorder this sum in the next section and thereby obtain more practical results, at least in some cases. Note that the factor  $\zeta_{S^n}(s)$  can be easily evaluated, for  $S$  is a discrete valuation ring (e.g., [1, Section 1]):

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $C$  be a discrete valuation ring with residue field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , the field with  $p$  elements. Then*

$$\zeta_{C^n}(s) = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-s})^{-1}.$$

**Notation.** Let  $e \in \{0, \dots, np^{k-1}\}$ . We put

$$t_V(e; s) := \sum_{\substack{\bar{N} \subseteq V^\circ \\ e_{V^\circ}(\bar{N})=e}} [\bar{N} + f_2(V) : \bar{N}]^{-s}. \tag{11}$$

Then (10) can be rewritten as

$$\zeta_V(s) = \zeta_{S^n}(s) \sum_{e=0}^{np^{k-1}} p^{(np^{k-1}-e)(n-s)} t_V(e; s). \tag{12}$$

We remark that it is particularly interesting to apply the recursion formula for  $s = n$ . This is discussed in [10] together with some applications.

#### 4. Möbius functions

Our intention is to express the right-hand side of (10) in terms of the zeta functions  $\zeta_{\bar{U}}(s)$  for certain submodules  $\bar{U} \subseteq \bar{R}^n$ . This can be done by a combinatorial tool, the Möbius function of a partially ordered set, which we will introduce first. The standard reference for details and examples is [7].

Thus let  $(P, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set, which we require to be *locally finite*, i.e., for all  $x, y \in P$  there are only finitely many  $z \in P$  with  $x \leq z \leq y$ . The *Möbius function*  $\mu : P \times P \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is inductively defined by

$$\mu(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \not\leq y, \\ 1 & x = y, \\ -\sum_{x \leq z < y} \mu(x, z) & x < y. \end{cases}$$

We recover the classical Möbius function  $\mu'$  from number theory by letting  $P$  be the set of positive integers, partially ordered by the divisibility relation  $|$ . If  $m | n$  are integers, then  $\mu(m, n) = \mu'(n/m)$ .

The reason for studying  $\mu$  is the following useful inversion formula, which follows immediately from the definition.

**Theorem 4.1** (Möbius inversion formula). *Let  $(P, \leq)$  be a locally finite partially ordered set and let  $a \in P$ . Let  $f : P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function such that  $f(x) = 0$  if  $a \not\leq x$ . Define  $g : P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  by*

$$g(x) := \sum_{a \leq y \leq x} f(y).$$

Then

$$f(x) = \sum_{a \leq y \leq x} \mu(y, x)g(y).$$

In the rest of this section we will deal with the following situation. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring. If  $V$  is an  $R$ -module, we can consider the lattice of all submodules of finite index in  $V$ , which is partially ordered by inclusion and locally finite. Hence we can study the Möbius function  $\mu$  of that lattice.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $U, V$  be  $R$ -modules with  $U \subseteq V$  and  $[V : U] < \infty$ . If the radical of  $V/U$  satisfies  $\text{rad}(V/U) \neq 0$ , then  $\mu(U, V) = 0$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $\bar{\mu}$  be the Möbius function of the finite lattice of submodules of  $V/U$ . Then obviously

$$\mu(U, V) = \bar{\mu}(0, V/U).$$

If  $\mathcal{M}$  is a non-empty subset of all maximal submodules of  $V/U$ , then  $\bigcap \mathcal{M} \neq 0$ , because  $\text{rad}(V/U) \neq 0$ . Thus the set of all maximal submodules of  $V/U$  is a *cross cut* of the lattice (cf. [7, Section 6]), and the claim follows from [7, Theorem 3].  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** *The Möbius function  $\mu$  of the lattice of subspaces of an  $r$ -dimensional  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -vector space satisfies*

$$\mu(0, \mathbb{F}_p^r) = (-1)^r p^{\binom{r}{2}}.$$

This is proved in [7, Section 5, Example 2]. We are now able to calculate the Möbius function of the lattice of submodules of a finitely generated module over a discrete valuation ring.

**Corollary 4.4.** *Let  $C$  be a discrete valuation ring with prime element  $\pi$  and residue class field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Let  $M$  be a finite  $C$ -module,*

$$M \cong C/(\pi^{a_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus C/(\pi^{a_r}) \quad (a_i \geq 1).$$

Then the Möbius function  $\mu$  of the lattice of submodules of  $M$  satisfies

$$\mu(0, M) = \begin{cases} (-1)^r p^{\binom{r}{2}} & a_1 = \cdots = a_r = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We continue letting  $R$  be a commutative ring. Moreover, the submodules of  $R^n$  considered here are always of finite index.

**Notation.** Let  $U \subseteq X \subseteq R^n$  be submodules. We put

$$z_U(X; s) := \sum_{\substack{N \subseteq X \\ N+U=X}} [X : N]^{-s}. \tag{13}$$

We clearly have

$$z_U(U; s) = \zeta_U(s).$$

We will now show that  $z_U(X; s)$  for  $U \subseteq X$  can always be expressed in terms of  $\zeta_W(s)$  for  $U \subseteq W \subseteq X$ . More precisely:

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $U \subseteq X \subseteq R^n$  submodules, and let  $\mu$  be the Möbius junction of all submodules of finite index in  $R^n$ . Then*

$$z_U(X; s) = \sum_{U \subseteq W \subseteq X} \mu(W, X) [X : W]^{-s} \zeta_W(s).$$

**Proof.** We define

$$f(W) := [X : W]^{-s} z_U(W; s)$$

for all  $U \subseteq W \subseteq X$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} g(W) &:= \sum_{U \subseteq W' \subseteq W} f(W') = \sum_{U \subseteq W' \subseteq W} [X : W']^{-s} z_U(W'; s) \\ &= [X : W]^{-s} \sum_{U \subseteq W' \subseteq W} [W : W']^{-s} \sum_{\substack{N \subseteq W' \\ N+U=W'}} [W' : N]^{-s} = [X : W]^{-s} \zeta_W(s). \end{aligned}$$

Now the inversion formula (Theorem 4.1) implies

$$z_U(X; s) = f(X) = \sum_{U \subseteq W \subseteq X} \mu(W, X) g(W),$$

and the theorem is proved.  $\square$

We now return to the notations of Section 3. In particular we let  $R = R_k = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^k}]$ ,  $\bar{R} = R_{k-1} = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^{k-1}}]$  and  $e_V(N) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(N + pV/pV)$ .

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $V \subseteq R^n$  and  $pV \subseteq Y \subseteq V$ . Then*

$$\sum_{\substack{N \subseteq V \\ e_V(N)=e}} [N + Y : N]^{-s} = \sum_{\substack{pV \subseteq X \subseteq V \\ [X:pV]=p^e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} z_{pV}(X; s)$$

for all  $e \in \{0, \dots, np^k\}$ .

**Proof.** Since  $N \subseteq V$  we have  $0 \leq e_V(N) = \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(N + pV/pV) \leq np^k$ , and

$$e_V(N) = e \iff \exists pV \subseteq X \subseteq V: N + pV = X \text{ and } [X : pV] = p^e.$$

Hence

$$\sum_{\substack{N \subseteq V \\ e_V(N)=e}} [N + Y : N]^{-s} = \sum_{\substack{pV \subseteq X \subseteq V \\ [X:pV]=p^e}} \sum_{N+pV=X} [N + Y : N]^{-s}.$$

Now  $N + pV = X$  implies  $N + Y = X + Y$ , whence the latter sum equals

$$\sum_{\substack{pV \subseteq X \subseteq V \\ [X:pV]=p^e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} \sum_{\substack{N \subseteq X \\ N+pV=X}} [X : N]^{-s} = \sum_{\substack{pV \subseteq X \subseteq V \\ [X:pV]=p^e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} z_{pV}(X; s). \quad \square$$

We can use the results of this section in order to compute  $t_V(e; s)$  for  $e \in \{0, \dots, np^{k-1}\}$  (defined in (11)), which are the building blocks of the zeta function of  $V \subseteq R^n$ . By Lemma 3.2 we have  $pV^\circ \subseteq f_2(V) \subseteq V^\circ$ , and Lemma 4.6 yields

$$t_V(e; s) = \sum_{\substack{pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{X} \subseteq V^\circ \\ [\bar{X}:pV^\circ]=p^e}} [X + f_2(V) : \bar{X}]^{-s} z_{pV^\circ}(\bar{X}; s). \tag{14}$$

The expressions  $z_{pV^\circ}(\bar{X}; s)$  for  $pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{X} \subseteq V^\circ$  equal (according to Theorem 4.5)

$$z_{pV^\circ}(\bar{X}; s) = \sum_{pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{W} \subseteq \bar{X}} \mu(\bar{W}, \bar{X}) [\bar{X} : \bar{W}]^{-s} \zeta_{\bar{W}}(s), \tag{15}$$

where  $\mu$  is the Möbius function of the lattice of submodules of finite index in  $\bar{R}^n$ . Therefore, we have proved the following important corollary.

**Corollary 4.7.** *Let  $V \subseteq R^n$  be a submodule. By (12), (14), (15) the quotient  $\zeta_V(s)/\zeta_{S^n}(s)$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}[p^{-s}]$ -linear combination of the zeta functions*

$$\zeta_{\bar{W}}(s) \text{ for } pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{W} \subseteq V^\circ.$$

**5. A functional equation**

Let  $R = R_k$  and  $V \subseteq R^n$  be an  $R$ -submodule. Furthermore, we let  $\tilde{R}$  be the maximal order of  $R \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p = \mathbb{Q}_p[C_{p^k}]$ , hence

$$\tilde{R} \cong \mathbb{Z}_p \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_1] \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k].$$

In the introduction we defined

$$\delta_V(s) := \frac{\zeta_V(s)}{\zeta_{\tilde{R}^n}(s)} = \frac{\zeta_V(s)}{(\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s))^{k+1}},$$

where  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s)$  is given by Theorem 3.9, and  $\delta_V(s) \in \mathbb{Z}[p^{-s}]$ , which is a special case of Solomon’s first conjecture proved in [1]. Note that this assertion also follows from our recursion formula (12) together with Corollary 4.7 (even though the conjecture is proved in [1] in a much more general situation).

The main result of this section is the following functional equation for  $\delta_{R^n}(s)$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** *The function  $\delta_{R^n}(s)$  satisfies the following functional equation*

$$\delta_{R^n}(s) = p^{(n^2-2ns)(1+p+\cdots+p^{k-1})} \delta_{R^n}(n-s).$$

**Proof.** Put  $\Lambda := M_n(R)$ . Then  $\tilde{\Lambda} := M_n(\tilde{R}) \supseteq \Lambda$  is a maximal order in  $M_n(R \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p)$ . The proof of the functional equation for the zeta function of a group ring  $\mathbb{Z}_p[G]$  presented in [1, Theorem 2] can be generalized to the matrix ring  $M_n(\mathbb{Z}_p[G])$ , and hence to our  $\Lambda$  (details are worked out in [9]). Thus we obtain in the same manner

$$\frac{\zeta_\Lambda(s)}{\zeta_\Lambda(1-s)} = [\tilde{\Lambda} : \Lambda]^{1-2s} \frac{\zeta_{\tilde{\Lambda}}(s)}{\zeta_{\tilde{\Lambda}}(1-s)}.$$

Now Theorem 2.1 yields

$$\frac{\zeta_{R^n}(ns)}{\zeta_{\tilde{R}^n}(ns)} = [\tilde{R} : R]^{n^2-2n^2s} \frac{\zeta_{R^n}(n-ns)}{\zeta_{\tilde{R}^n}(n-ns)}.$$

If we substitute  $s$  for  $ns$ , the claim follows from the next lemma.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.2.** *Let  $\tilde{R}_k \supseteq R_k$  be the maximal order in  $R_k \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p$ . Then*

$$[\tilde{R}_k : R_k] = p^{1+p+\cdots+p^{k-1}}.$$

**Proof.** The assertion is trivial for  $k = 0$ , since  $\tilde{R}_0 = R_0 = \mathbb{Z}_p$ . If  $k > 0$  we have the fibre product diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} R_k & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ R_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{F}_p[C_{p^{k-1}}] \end{array}$$

which gives rise to an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow R_k \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k] \oplus R_{k-1} \xrightarrow{h} \mathbb{F}_p[C_{p^{k-1}}] \longrightarrow 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} [\tilde{R}_k : R_k] &= [\mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k] \oplus \tilde{R}_{k-1} : \mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k] \oplus R_{k-1}] \cdot [\mathbb{Z}_p[\omega_k] \oplus R_{k-1} : R_k] \\ &= [\tilde{R}_{k-1} : R_{k-1}] \cdot |\text{im}(h)| = [\tilde{R}_{k-1} : R_{k-1}] \cdot p^{p^{k-1}}, \end{aligned}$$

and the claim follows by induction.  $\square$

Put  $x := p^{-s}$  and define  $\hat{\delta}_V(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  for a submodule  $V \subseteq R^n$  by

$$\hat{\delta}_V(p^{-s}) = \delta_V(s). \tag{16}$$

Similarly we define  $\hat{t}_V(e; x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  for  $0 \leq e \leq np^{k-1}$  by

$$\hat{t}_V(e; p^{-s}) = \frac{t_V(e; s)}{(\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s))^k}, \tag{17}$$

where  $t_V(e; s)$  is as in (11), and so we clearly may write (12) in the form

$$\hat{\delta}_V(x) = \sum_{e=0}^{np^{k-1}} p^{n(np^{k-1}-e)} x^{np^{k-1}-e} \hat{t}_V(e; x). \tag{18}$$

**Corollary 5.3.**  $\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(x)$  is a polynomial in  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$  of degree  $2n(1 + p + \dots + p^{k-1})$ , having constant term 1 and satisfying the functional equation

$$\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(x) = (p^{n^2} x^{2n})^{1+p+\dots+p^{k-1}} \hat{\delta}_{R^n}\left(\frac{1}{p^n x}\right).$$

**Proof.** The functional equation follows immediately from Theorem 5.1, and this implies the degree statement as soon as we have shown that  $\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(0) = 1 \neq 0$ . Now

$$\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\zeta_{R^n}(s)}{\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s)^{k+1}},$$

and the denominator tends to 1 by Theorem 3.9. But the same holds for the nominator by formula (12), since all terms disappear for  $s \rightarrow \infty$ , except the one having  $e$ -value  $np^{k-1}$ , i.e.,  $\bar{N} = \bar{R}^n$ , contributing 1 to the sum.  $\square$

**6. The case  $n = 1$**

In this section we fix  $n = 1$  and  $k \geq 1$ . Let  $R = R_k = \mathbb{Z}_p[\sigma]$  with  $\sigma^{p^k} = 1$ , and  $\bar{R} = R_{k-1} = \mathbb{Z}_p[\tau]$  with  $\tau^{p^{k-1}} = 1$ . Then we have a surjective homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \pi : R &\rightarrow R/pR \cong \mathbb{F}_p[C_{p^k}] \cong \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p^k}), \\ \sigma &\mapsto \sigma \bmod p \mapsto \bar{y} + 1. \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Therefore, we have a unique filtration

$$R = V_0^{(k)} \supseteq V_1^{(k)} \supseteq \dots \supseteq V_{p^k}^{(k)} = pR.$$

The ideals of the ring  $\mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p^k})$  are the ones generated by  $\bar{y}^l$  for  $0 \leq l \leq p^k$ , whence

$$V_l^{(k)} = (p, (\sigma - 1)^l) \quad (0 \leq l \leq p^k).$$

We begin by computing  $\zeta_V(s)$  for  $V = V_l^{(k)}$  ( $0 \leq l \leq p^k$ ). This will be done by applying the recursion formula from Section 3, together with (14), (15), so we need some information concerning the  $\bar{R}$ -ideals  $f_2(V)$  and  $V^\circ$ . Now  $pR \subseteq V \subseteq R$  implies  $p\bar{R} \subseteq f_2(V) \subseteq V^\circ \subseteq \bar{R}$ , hence these ideals occur in the unique filtration

$$\bar{R} = V_0^{(k-1)} \supseteq V_1^{(k-1)} \supseteq \dots \supseteq V_{p^{k-1}}^{(k-1)} = p\bar{R}. \tag{20}$$

**Lemma 6.1.** *Let  $pR \subseteq V \subseteq R$ , i.e.,  $V = V_l^{(k)}$  for some  $0 \leq l \leq p^k$ . Then*

- (a) 
$$f_2(V) = \begin{cases} V_l^{(k-1)} & l < p^{k-1}, \\ p\bar{R} & l \geq p^{k-1}. \end{cases}$$
- (b) 
$$V^\circ = \begin{cases} \bar{R} & l \leq p^{k-1}(p-1), \\ V_{l-p^{k-1}(p-1)}^{(k-1)} & l > p^{k-1}(p-1). \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** (a) Recall that  $f_2(\sigma) = \tau$ , by definition of  $f_2$ . Thus the claim is trivial for  $l < p^{k-1}$ , and the rest follows from the identity

$$f_2(V_{p^{k-1}}^{(k)}) = V_{p^{k-1}}^{(k-1)} = p\bar{R} = f_2(pR).$$

(b) It suffices to determine the index  $[\bar{R} : V^\circ]$ , for  $p\bar{R} \subseteq V^\circ \subseteq \bar{R}$ , and  $\bar{R}/p\bar{R}$  has a unique composition series. We have

$$p\bar{R}/pV^\circ = f_2(\phi R)/f_2(V \cap \phi R) \cong \phi R/(V \cap \phi R) \cong (\phi R + V)/V \cong \pi(\phi R + V)/\pi(V),$$

where the first isomorphism is induced by  $f_2$  (note that  $\ker(f_2) \cap \phi R = \ker(f_2) \cap \ker(f_1) = 0$  by the fibre product diagram (9)). Moreover

$$\pi(\phi) = \pi(\sigma^{p^{k-1}(p-1)} + \dots + \sigma^{p^{k-1}} + 1) = (\bar{y} + 1)^{p^{k-1}(p-1)} + \dots + (\bar{y} + 1)^{p^{k-1}} + 1,$$

and since  $u^{p-1} + \dots + u + 1 = (u - 1)^{p-1}$  holds in the polynomial ring  $\mathbb{F}_p[u]$ , we find

$$\pi(\phi) = ((\bar{y} + 1)^{p^{k-1}} - 1)^{p-1} = \bar{y}^{p^{k-1}(p-1)}.$$

This leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(\phi R + V) &= \pi(\phi R) + \pi(V) = (\bar{y}^{p^{k-1}(p-1)}) + (\bar{y}^l) \\ &= \begin{cases} (\bar{y}^l) & l \leq p^{k-1}(p-1), \\ (\bar{y}^{p^{k-1}(p-1)}) & l > p^{k-1}(p-1), \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

and the assertion follows from  $[\bar{R} : V^\circ] = [\pi(\phi R + V) : \pi(V)]$ .  $\square$

Using (14), (15) we obtain the following formulas for  $t_V(e; s)$  ( $0 \leq e \leq p^k$ ).

**Theorem 6.2.** Let  $V = V_l^{(k)}$  for some  $0 \leq l \leq p^k$ .

(a) If  $0 \leq l < p^{k-1}$ :

$$t_V(e; s) = \begin{cases} (p^{p^{k-1}-l})^{-s} \zeta_{\bar{R}}(s) & e = 0, \\ (p^{p^{k-1}-l-e})^{-s} \left( \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e}}^{(k-1)}(s) - p^{-s} \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e+1}}^{(k-1)}(s) \right) & 0 < e \leq p^{k-1} - l, \\ \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e}}^{(k-1)}(s) - p^{-s} \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e+1}}^{(k-1)}(s) & p^{k-1} - l < e \leq p^{k-1}. \end{cases}$$

(b) If  $p^{k-1} \leq l \leq p^{k-1}(p-1)$ :

$$t_V(e; s) = \begin{cases} \zeta_{\bar{R}}(s) & e = 0, \\ \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e}}^{(k-1)}(s) - p^{-s} \zeta_{V_{p^{k-1}-e+1}}^{(k-1)}(s) & 0 < e \leq p^{k-1}. \end{cases}$$

(c) If  $l = p^k$ , then  $t_V(e; s)$  is identical to  $t_{V_0^{(k)}}(e; s)$  for all  $0 \leq e \leq p^{k-1}$ .

**Proof.** Since  $V_{p^k}^{(k)} = pR \cong R = V_0^{(k)}$ , their zeta functions and consequently their  $t$ -functions must coincide for all  $e$ . Hence part (c) is proved.

For (a) and (b) we note that  $V^\circ = \bar{R}$  for all values of  $l$  under consideration, according to the preceding lemma. Now the case  $e = 0$  follows directly from (14) and the calculation of  $f_2(V)$  in Lemma 6.1. If  $e > 0$  we will have to compute in addition the functions

$$z_{p\bar{R}}(\bar{X}; s) \quad \text{for } p\bar{R} \subseteq \bar{X} \subseteq \bar{R} \text{ such that } [\bar{X} : p\bar{R}] = p^e,$$

according to (15). But  $\bar{X} = V_{p^{k-1-e}}^{(k-1)}$  in view of the unique filtration (20), and since  $\bar{X}$  has a unique maximal submodule  $\bar{M}$  containing  $p\bar{R}$  we infer

$$\mu(\bar{X}, \bar{X}) = 1, \quad \mu(\bar{M}, \bar{X}) = -1 \quad \text{and} \quad \mu(\bar{W}, \bar{X}) = 0 \quad \forall p\bar{R} \subseteq \bar{W} \subsetneq \bar{M}$$

(cf. Theorem 4.2). This proves the theorem.  $\square$

Unfortunately the computation of  $t_V(e; s)$  is much more complicated for  $p^{k-1}(p-1) < l < p^k$  (the case not covered in the above theorem). The reason is that for those  $l$  the ideal  $V^\circ$  is no longer isomorphic to  $\bar{R}$ , and the lattice of submodules of  $V^\circ/pV^\circ$  seems to be too complex for (14), (15) to yield explicit results in general.

Nonetheless, we are now able to compute the zeta function of the ring  $R_k$  in some cases. For  $k = 1$  and  $k = 2$  Theorem 6.2 will provide us the answer, while for  $k = 3$  we will have to make an additional effort.

*The case  $k = 1$*

Let  $R = R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_p]$ . Fix an ideal  $pR \subseteq V \subseteq R$ , i.e.,  $V = V_l^{(1)}$  for some  $0 \leq l \leq p$ . Since  $\mathbb{Z}_p = V_0^{(0)} \cong V_1^{(0)} = p\mathbb{Z}_p$  and  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s) = (1 - p^{-s})^{-1}$ , Theorem 6.2 and formula (12) yield

- If  $l = 0$  or  $l = p$ :

$$t_V(e; s) = \begin{cases} p^{-s} \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s) & e = 0, \\ (1 - p^{-s}) \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s) & e = 1, \end{cases}$$

that is  $\zeta_V(s) = (\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s))^2(p^{1-s}p^{-s} + (1 - p^{-s})) = (\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s))^2(1 - p^{-s} + p^{1-2s})$ .

- If  $0 < l < p$ :

$$t_V(e; s) = \begin{cases} \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s) & e = 0, \\ (1 - p^{-s}) \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s) & e = 1, \end{cases}$$

that is  $\zeta_V(s) = (\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s))^2(p^{1-s} + (1 - p^{-s})) = (\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p}(s))^2(1 + (p-1)p^{-s})$ .

Up to isomorphism there are two ideals of finite index in  $R$ , viz  $R$  and  $J := \text{rad}(R)$ . The above formulas imply that we must have  $V_1^{(1)} \cong \dots \cong V_{p-1}^{(1)} = J$ , and if  $V \subseteq R$  is an arbitrary ideal of finite index, then

$$\hat{\delta}_V(x) = \begin{cases} px^2 - x + 1 & V \cong R, \\ (p-1)x + 1 & V \cong J, \end{cases}$$

holds, where the notation is as in Section 5. We finally remark that the zeta function of  $J$  can be derived in a completely elementary way from the zeta function of  $R$ , for the ring  $R$  is a local ring,  $J$  is its maximal ideal, and we thus have the formula

$$\zeta_J(s) = p^s (\zeta_R(s) - 1).$$

The case  $k = 2$

Let  $R = R_2 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^2}]$ . Our goal is the computation of  $\hat{\delta}_R(x)$  (which gives a formula for  $\zeta_R(s)$ ). Since  $R = V_0^{(2)}$ , Theorem 6.2 is applicable with  $l = 0$ .

We therefore find

$$t_R(e; s) = \begin{cases} (p^p)^{-s} \zeta_{R_1}(s) & e = 0, \\ (p^{p-e})^{-s} (\zeta_{V_{p-e}^{(1)}}(s) - p^{-s} \zeta_{V_{p-e+1}^{(1)}}(s)) & 0 < e \leq p. \end{cases} \tag{21}$$

The zeta functions occurring here have been calculated in the preceding subsection. Putting  $x := p^{-s}$  and

$$\hat{\delta}_0(x) := px^2 - x + 1, \quad \hat{\delta}_1(x) := (p-1)x + 1, \tag{22}$$

we can translate (21) into

$$\hat{t}_R(e; x) = \begin{cases} x^p \hat{\delta}_0(x) & e = 0, \\ x^{p-1} (\hat{\delta}_1(x) - x \hat{\delta}_0(x)) & e = 1, \\ x^{p-e} (1-x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & 2 \leq e \leq p-1, \\ \hat{\delta}_0(x) - x \hat{\delta}_1(x) & e = p, \end{cases}$$

where  $\hat{t}_R(e; x)$  is as in (17), and by (18) we get

$$\hat{\delta}_R(x) = \sum_{e=0}^p p^{p-e} x^{p-e} \hat{t}_R(e; x).$$

After some trivial transformations we obtain the following polynomial:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_R(x) &= p^{p+1} x^{2p+2} - 2p^p x^{2p+1} + (p^p + p^{p-1}) x^{2p} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^p ((p^i - 2p^{i-1}) x^{2i-1}) + \sum_{i=2}^{p-1} (p^{i-1} x^{2i}) + (p+1)x^2 - 2x + 1. \end{aligned}$$

Note that one may easily verify the functional equation

$$\hat{\delta}_R(x) = p^{p+1} x^{2p+2} \hat{\delta}_R\left(\frac{1}{px}\right)$$

predicted by Corollary 5.3.

The case  $k = 3$

We now consider  $R_3 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^3}]$ . This time we have to compute

$$\hat{\delta}_{R_3}(x) = \sum_{f=0}^{p^2} p^{p^2-f} x^{p^2-f} \hat{t}_{R_3}(f; x),$$

cf. (18). By Theorem 6.2 we find

$$\hat{t}_{R_3}(f; x) = \begin{cases} x^{p^2} \hat{\delta}_{R_2}(x) & f = 0, \\ x^{p^2-f} \left( \hat{\delta}_{V_{p^2-f}^{(2)}}(x) - x \cdot \hat{\delta}_{V_{p^2-f+1}^{(2)}}(x) \right) & 1 \leq f \leq p^2, \end{cases}$$

using once more the filtration

$$R_2 = V_0^{(2)} \supsetneq \dots \supsetneq V_{p^2}^{(2)} = pR_2.$$

It remains to determine the polynomials  $\hat{\delta}_{V_l^{(2)}}$  for  $0 \leq l \leq p^2$ .

For  $l = 0$  (as well as for  $l = p^2$  because of  $R_2 \cong pR_2$ ) this has been accomplished in the preceding subsection. We recall that

$$\hat{\delta}_{V_l^{(2)}}(x) = \sum_{e=0}^p p^{p-e} x^{p-e} \hat{t}_l(e; x),$$

using the abbreviation

$$\hat{t}_l(e; x) := \hat{t}_{V_l^{(2)}}(e; x)$$

and similarly

$$t_l(e; s) := t_{V_l^{(2)}}(e; s)$$

for the rest of this section. Therefore, we “only” have to determine these polynomials  $\hat{t}_l(e; x)$  for  $0 < l < p^2$ .

The cases  $1 \leq l \leq p(p-1)$  are covered by Theorem 6.2:

- If  $1 \leq l \leq p - 1$ :

$$\hat{t}_l(e; x) = \begin{cases} x^{p-l} \hat{\delta}_0(x) & e = 0, \\ x^{p-l-1} (\hat{\delta}_1(x) - x \hat{\delta}_0(x)) & e = 1, \\ x^{p-l-e} (1-x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & 2 \leq e \leq p-l, \\ (1-x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & p-l < e \leq p-1, \\ \hat{\delta}_0(x) - x \hat{\delta}_1(x) & e = p. \end{cases}$$

- If  $p \leq l \leq p^2 - p$ :

$$\hat{t}_l(e; x) = \begin{cases} \hat{\delta}_0(x) & e = 0, \\ \hat{\delta}_1(x) - x \hat{\delta}_0(x) & e = 1, \\ (1-x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & 2 \leq e \leq p-1, \\ \hat{\delta}_0(x) - x \hat{\delta}_1(x) & e = p. \end{cases}$$

Here  $\hat{\delta}_0, \hat{\delta}_1$  are the polynomials introduced earlier in (22).

The remaining case  $p^2 - p < l < p^2$  is the hardest part. We define

$$l' := l - (p^2 - p) \in \{1, \dots, p - 1\}$$

and furthermore set  $V := V_l^{(2)}$ . We have  $f_2(V) = pR_1$  and  $V^\circ = V_{l'}^{(1)}$  by Lemma 6.1. For the rest of this section, define

$$R := R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[\sigma] \quad \text{with } \sigma^p = 1,$$

and  $\phi := \sigma^{p-1} + \dots + \sigma + 1 \in R$ . Then  $V_{l'}^{(1)} \cong J := \text{rad}(R)$  as we noted in the first subsection. Since we want to apply formula (14) again, in order to calculate  $t_l(e; s)$ , we first need some information on the lattice of  $R$ -submodules of  $V^\circ/pV^\circ \cong J/pJ$ . Put

$$R/pR \cong \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^p) =: F.$$

Then  $J/pJ$  is an  $F$ -module satisfying

$$J/pJ \cong \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1}),$$

by the following lemma.

**Lemma 6.3.**

- (a) The elements  $p$  and  $\phi - (\sigma - 1)^{p-1}$  are associates in  $R$ , as well as  $(\sigma - 1)^p$  and  $p(\sigma - 1)$ .
- (b) We have

$$J = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)R,$$

and the surjective  $R$ -module homomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \psi : J &\rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1}), \\ \phi &\mapsto (1, 0), \\ \sigma - 1 &\mapsto (0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

has  $\ker(\psi) = pJ$ . Moreover,  $J$  has exactly  $p + 1$  maximal submodules, two being isomorphic to  $J$  and the  $p - 1$  remaining ones being isomorphic to  $R$ .

**Proof.** (a) Since

$$\phi = \sigma^{p-1} + \dots + \sigma + 1 \equiv (\sigma - 1)^{p-1} \pmod{p},$$

there is an element  $\alpha \in R$  such that  $\alpha p = \phi - (\sigma - 1)^{p-1}$ . Note that  $\alpha$  must be invertible, as can be seen by applying the augmentation map  $\varepsilon : R \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p, \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \lambda_i \sigma^i \mapsto \sum_{i=0}^{p-1} \lambda_i$  to this equation. Now the first claim follows, and the second one is a direct consequence (multiply both elements by  $\sigma - 1$ ).

(b) Since  $J = pR + (\sigma - 1)R$ , part (a) yields  $J = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)R$ . For  $a, b \in R$  may write

$$\psi(a\phi + b(\sigma - 1)) = (\pi_1(a), \pi_2(b)),$$

with  $\pi_1 := \rho_1 \circ \pi$  and  $\pi_2 := \rho_2 \circ \pi$ . Here  $\pi$  is defined as in (19), and  $\rho_1 : F \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p, \rho_2 : F \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1})$  are the canonical projections. From  $\ker(\pi_1) = J$  and  $\ker(\pi_2) = pR + (\sigma - 1)^{p-1}R$  we infer  $\ker(\psi) = pJ$ , using (a) once again. For the statement concerning the maximal submodules of  $J$  we quote the proof of [8, Lemma 14].  $\square$

We next have to determine the lattice of  $F$ -submodules of  $\mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1})$ . To this end we begin by counting the submodules  $U$  having  $|U| = p^e$  elements ( $0 \leq e \leq p$ ). For  $e = 0$  and  $e = p$  there is clearly only one such submodule. For  $0 < e < p$ ,  $U$  must be contained in  $W := \mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-1-e})$ , or more precisely be a maximal submodule of  $W$ . There are  $p + 1$  such submodules, for  $W/\text{rad}(W) \cong \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p$ .

We are now able to state the lattice of submodules of  $\mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1})$ :

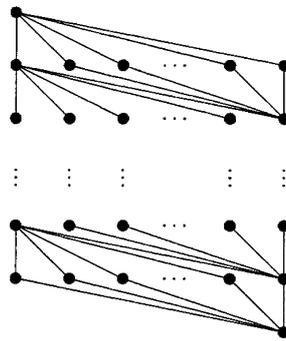
$e = p$	$\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (1)$					
$e = p - 1$	$\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y})$	$\langle (1, 1) \rangle_F$	$\langle (2, 1) \rangle_F$	$\dots$	$\langle (p - 1, 1) \rangle_F$	$0 \oplus (1)$
$e = p - 2$	$\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^2)$	$\langle (1, \bar{y}) \rangle_F$	$\langle (2, \bar{y}) \rangle_F$	$\dots$	$\langle (p - 1, \bar{y}) \rangle_F$	$0 \oplus (\bar{y})$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$e = 2$	$\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-2})$	$\langle (1, \bar{y}^{p-3}) \rangle_F$	$\langle (2, \bar{y}^{p-3}) \rangle_F$	$\dots$	$\langle (p - 1, \bar{y}^{p-3}) \rangle_F$	$0 \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-3})$
$e = 1$	$\mathbb{F}_p \oplus 0$	$\langle (1, \bar{y}^{p-2}) \rangle_F$	$\langle (2, \bar{y}^{p-2}) \rangle_F$	$\dots$	$\langle (p - 1, \bar{y}^{p-2}) \rangle_F$	$0 \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-2})$
$e = 0$						$0$

(23)

In this diagram, the submodules in each row have  $p^e$  elements, where  $e$  is indicated in the leftmost column. The lattice structure is settled by the following inclusions:

- Each  $\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^i)$  ( $i = 0, \dots, p - 1$ ) contains all modules occurring in the subsequent row.
- Each  $0 \oplus (\bar{y}^i)$  ( $i = 0, \dots, p - 1$ ) is contained in all modules of the preceding row.

The lattice structure can be visualized as follows:



We will now transfer this diagram to the lattice of  $R$ -submodules of  $J$  containing  $pJ$ . Thus we obviously have to replace each  $U \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1})$  by  $\psi^{-1}(U)$  (cf. Lemma 6.3). However, for the applications we have in mind, it suffices to know whether the corresponding module is isomorphic to  $R$  or to  $J$  (which are the only possibilities, as we noted above). For  $i = 0, \dots, p - 1$  we have  $\psi((\sigma - 1)^{i+1}) = (0, \bar{y}^i)$ , and consequently

$$\psi^{-1}(\mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^i)) = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)^{i+1} R \quad \text{and} \quad \psi^{-1}(0 \oplus (\bar{y}^i)) = p\phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)^{i+1} R$$

are non-cyclic  $R$ -modules, that is isomorphic to  $J$ . The last assertion of Lemma 6.3(b) and diagram (23) now imply the following diagram of isomorphism types:

$$\begin{array}{l|cccccc}
 e = p & & & & & & J \\
 e = p - 1 & & J & R & R & \dots & R & J \\
 e = p - 2 & & J & R & R & \dots & R & J \\
 \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 e = 2 & & J & R & R & \dots & R & J \\
 e = 1 & & J & R & R & \dots & R & J \\
 e = 0 & & & & & & & J
 \end{array} \tag{24}$$

After this discussion, we return to our original task, viz the calculation of

$$t_l(e; s) = \sum_{\substack{pV_l^{(1)} \subseteq X \subseteq V_l^{(1)} \\ [X:pV_l^{(1)}]=p^e}} [X + pR : X]^{-s} z_{pV_l^{(1)}}(X; s)$$

for  $0 \leq e \leq p$ . Since  $V_{l'}^{(1)} = (p, (\sigma - 1)^{l'}) = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)^{l'} R \cong J$  by Lemma 3.6(a) we can rewrite this sum as

$$t_l(e; s) = \sum_{\substack{pJ \subseteq X \subseteq J \\ [X:pJ]=p^e}} [X + \iota(pR) : X]^{-s} z_{pJ}(X; s), \tag{25}$$

where  $\iota$  is the  $R$ -module isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \iota : V_{l'}^{(1)} = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)^{l'} R &\rightarrow J = \phi R \oplus (\sigma - 1)R, \\ \phi &\mapsto \phi, \quad (\sigma - 1)^{l'} \mapsto \sigma - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus it remains to determine  $\iota(pR)$ . From Lemma 6.3(a) we infer

$$\iota(pR) = \iota((\phi - (\sigma - 1)^{p-1})R) = (\phi - (\sigma - 1)^{p-l'})R,$$

and applying  $\psi$  defined as in Lemma 6.3 yields

$$\psi \iota(pR) = \langle (1, -\bar{y}^{p-l'-1}) \rangle_F = \langle (p-1, \bar{y}^{p-l'-1}) \rangle_F. \tag{26}$$

Now if  $pJ \subseteq X \subseteq J$  such that  $[X : pJ] = p^e$ , we can read off the functions  $z_{pJ}(X; s)$  from diagram (24), using formula (15):

- If  $e = 0$ , then  $X = pJ$  and

$$z_{pJ}(X; s) = \zeta_{pJ}(s) = \zeta_J(s).$$

- If  $e \geq 2$  and  $\psi(X) = \mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-e})$ , then

$$z_{pJ}(X; s) = \zeta_J(s) - p^{-s} (2\zeta_J(s) + (p-1)\zeta_R(s)) + p \cdot p^{-2s} \zeta_J(s).$$

In order to compute the  $\mu$ -factors in formula (15) we may use Theorem 4.4, for  $X/pJ \cong \mathbb{F}_p \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-e}) \cong \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[u]/(u^{e-1}) \cong \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[[u]]/(u^{e-1})$ , i.e., we can apply this theorem with  $C := \mathbb{F}_p[[u]]$ .

- Otherwise  $X$  has a unique maximal submodule lying over  $pJ$ , and Theorem 4.2 implies

$$z_{pJ}(X; s) = \begin{cases} \zeta_R(s) - p^{-s} \zeta_J(s) & X \cong R, \\ (1 - p^{-s}) \zeta_J(s) & X \cong J. \end{cases}$$

Finally we just have to determine the indices  $[X + \iota(pR) : X]$  for  $pJ \subseteq X \subseteq J$  occurring in (25). After “shifting” this problem via  $\psi$  we may equivalently compute the indices  $[U + \psi \iota(pR) : U]$  for  $U := \psi(X) \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-1})$ . We already know  $\psi \iota(pR)$  by

(26), and we record these indices in a diagram corresponding to (23), namely the index  $[U + \psi\iota(pR) : U]$  at the very position of  $U$  in (23):

$$\begin{array}{c|cccccc}
 e = p & 1 & & & & & \\
 e = p - 1 & 1 & p & p & \dots & p & p \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 e = l' + 1 & 1 & p & p & \dots & p & p \\
 e = l' & p & p & p & \dots & 1 & p \\
 e = l' - 1 & p^2 & p^2 & p^2 & \dots & p^2 & p \\
 e = l' - 2 & p^3 & p^3 & p^3 & \dots & p^3 & p^2 \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\
 e = 1 & p^{l'} & p^{l'} & p^{l'} & \dots & p^{l'} & p^{l'-1} \\
 e = 0 & & & & & & p^{l'}
 \end{array}$$

Now we are ready to state the result of the sum  $t_l(e; s)$  according to (25). Therefore, we complete the list of polynomials  $\hat{t}_l(e; x)$  from the beginning of this subsection for  $p^2 - p < l < p^2$ . Again we will make use of the polynomials  $\hat{\delta}_0(x)$ ,  $\hat{\delta}_1(x)$  defined in (22), and with  $l' = l - (p^2 - p)$  we get

- $\hat{t}_l(0; x) = x^{l'} \hat{\delta}_1(x)$ .
- $\hat{t}_l(p; x) = (1 - 2x + px^2) \hat{\delta}_1(x) - (p - 1)x \hat{\delta}_0(x)$ .
- If  $l' = 1$ :

$$\hat{t}_l(e; x) = \begin{cases} (x - px^2) \hat{\delta}_1(x) + (1 + (p - 2)x) \hat{\delta}_0(x) & e = 1, \\ (1 - x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & 2 \leq e \leq p - 1. \end{cases}$$

- If  $l' > 1$ :

$$\hat{t}_l(e; x) = \begin{cases} (p - 1)x^{l'} \hat{\delta}_0(x) + (x^{l'-1} - px^{l'+1}) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & e = 1, \\ (p - 1)(x^{l'+1-e} - x^{l'+2-e}) \hat{\delta}_0(x) \\ + (x^{l'-e} - (p + 1)x^{l'+2-e} + px^{l'+3-e}) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & 2 \leq e \leq l' - 1, \\ (1 + (p - 2)x - (p - 1)x^2) \hat{\delta}_0(x) \\ + (x - (p + 1)x^2 + px^3) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & e = l', \\ (1 - x) \hat{\delta}_1(x) & l' + 1 \leq e \leq p - 1. \end{cases}$$

We conclude this section by some numerical examples. We list the polynomials  $\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^3}]}(x)$  for  $p \in \{2, 3, 5\}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_2[C_8]}(x) &= 128x^{14} - 192x^{13} + 160x^{12} - 48x^{11} + 48x^{10} - 8x^9 + 32x^8 \\
 &\quad - 12x^7 + 16x^6 - 2x^5 + 6x^4 - 3x^3 + 5x^2 - 3x + 1,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_3[C_{27}]}(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1594323x^{26} - 1594323x^{25} + 1062882x^{24} - 59049x^{23} + 354294x^{22} - 196830x^{21} \\ &\quad + 334611x^{20} - 65610x^{19} + 111537x^{18} + 10935x^{17} + 4374x^{16} + 29889x^{15} \\ &\quad - 5103x^{14} + 9963x^{13} - 1701x^{12} + 3321x^{11} + 162x^{10} + 135x^9 + 459x^8 \\ &\quad - 90x^7 + 153x^6 - 30x^5 + 18x^4 - x^3 + 6x^2 - 3x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_5[C_{125}]}(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 4656612873077392578125x^{62} - 2793967723846435546875x^{61} \\ &\quad + 1490116119384765625000x^{60} + 335276126861572265625x^{59} \\ &\quad + 670552253723144531250x^{58} - 193715095520019531250x^{57} \\ &\quad + 350177288055419921875x^{56} + 35762786865234375000x^{55} \\ &\quad + 17881393432617187500x^{54} + 50365924835205078125x^{53} \\ &\quad + 18477439880371093750x^{52} - 357627868652343750x^{51} \\ &\quad + 12338161468505859375x^{50} + 2908706665039062500x^{49} \\ &\quad + 1871585845947265625x^{48} + 1714229583740234375x^{47} \\ &\quad - 162124633789062500x^{46} + 700473785400390625x^{45} \\ &\quad - 92029571533203125x^{44} + 140094757080078125x^{43} \\ &\quad - 18405914306640625x^{42} + 28018951416015625x^{41} \\ &\quad - 3681182861328125x^{40} + 5603790283203125x^{39} \\ &\quad - 736236572265625x^{38} + 1120758056640625x^{37} - 147247314453125x^{36} \\ &\quad + 224151611328125x^{35} - 29449462890625x^{34} + 44830322265625x^{33} \\ &\quad - 5889892578125x^{32} + 8966064453125x^{31} - 1177978515625x^{30} \\ &\quad + 1793212890625x^{29} - 235595703125x^{28} + 358642578125x^{27} \\ &\quad - 47119140625x^{26} + 71728515625x^{25} - 9423828125x^{24} + 14345703125x^{23} \\ &\quad - 1884765625x^{22} + 2869140625x^{21} - 376953125x^{20} + 573828125x^{19} \\ &\quad - 75390625x^{18} + 114765625x^{17} - 5312500x^{16} + 11234375x^{15} + 2453425x^{14} \\ &\quad + 762500x^{13} + 646875x^{12} - 3750x^{11} + 38750x^{10} + 21125x^9 + 1500x^8 \\ &\quad + 600x^7 + 1175x^6 - 130x^5 + 90x^4 + 9x^3 + 8x^2 - 3x + 1. \end{aligned}$$

The functional equation

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^3}]}(x) = (px^2)^{1+p+p^2} \cdot \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^3}]} \left( \frac{1}{px} \right)$$

predicted by Corollary 5.3 is indeed satisfied in all cases (this has been checked as a test of the correctness of the computations).

### 7. The case $k = 1$ and $n \geq 1$

We put  $R := R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_p]$  in this section. Our intention is to compute the zeta function of  $R^n$ , or equivalently the polynomial  $\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(x)$ . In view of the next section we determine more generally  $\hat{\delta}_V(x)$ , where  $V \subseteq R^n$  is a submodule of finite index (as always). We will see below that the zeta function of  $V$  only depends on

$$m := \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(f_2(V)/pV^\circ).$$

Here  $f_2: R^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  is the map defined in (9), which in fact is the augmentation map in our case. Let  $V^\circ$  be defined as in Section 3. Since  $f_2(V) \subseteq V^\circ \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  by Lemma 3.2, and since  $f_2(V)/pV^\circ$  injects into  $V^\circ/pV^\circ \cong \mathbb{F}_p^n$ , we have  $0 \leq m \leq n$ .

We introduce the following notation.

**Notation.** We put

$$q := p^{-1}$$

for the rest of this article. For every non-negative integer  $m$  we set

$$(q)_m := \prod_{j=1}^m (1 - q^j).$$

Furthermore, if  $l, m$  are non-negative integers, we denote by

$$\begin{bmatrix} m \\ l \end{bmatrix}_p$$

the number of  $l$ -dimensional subspaces of an  $m$ -dimensional  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -vector space. It is well-known that in the case  $m \geq l$  this number equals

$$\frac{(p^m - 1)(p^m - p) \cdots (p^m - p^{l-1})}{(p^l - 1)(p^l - p) \cdots (p^l - p^{l-1})} = p^{l(m-l)} \frac{(q)_m}{(q)_l (q)_{m-l}}.$$

The following combinatorial lemma is due to Cauchy (cf. [3, III.8.5] for a proof).

**Lemma 7.1.** *The following identity of polynomials holds:*

$$\prod_{l=0}^{m-1} (1 - p^l x) = \sum_{i=0}^m \begin{bmatrix} m \\ i \end{bmatrix}_p (-1)^i p^{\binom{i}{2}} x^i.$$

**Lemma 7.2.** Let  $Y \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n$  be a subspace with  $\dim(Y) = m$ .

(a) For  $l \in \{0, \dots, n\}$  let  $\chi(l)$  be the number of subspaces  $U \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n$  with  $\dim(U) = l$  and  $U \cap Y = 0$ . Then

$$\chi(l) = p^{ml} \begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ l \end{bmatrix}_p,$$

in particular,  $\chi(l) = 0$  if  $l > n - m$ .

(b) If  $e \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ , then

$$\sum_{\substack{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \\ \dim(X)=e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} = \sum_{f=\max\{0, e+m-n\}}^{\min\{e, m\}} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ f \end{bmatrix}_p \begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ e-f \end{bmatrix}_p p^{(m-f)(e-f)} (p^{m-f})^{-s}.$$

**Proof.** (a) Comparing dimensions clearly implies  $\chi(l) = 0$  if  $l + m > n$ . Hence we can restrict ourselves to the case  $l + m \leq n$ . Fix a basis  $y_1, \dots, y_m$  of  $Y$ . We begin by counting the number of possibilities to choose  $l$  linearly independent vectors  $u_1, \dots, u_l \in \mathbb{F}_p^n$  satisfying

$$\langle y_1, \dots, y_m \rangle \cap \langle u_1, \dots, u_l \rangle = 0.$$

For  $u_1$  there are  $p^n - p^m$  possibilities, because  $u_1 \notin \langle y_1, \dots, y_m \rangle$ . Since  $u_2$  has to be linearly independent of  $u_1$ , we must have  $u_2 \notin \langle y_1, \dots, y_m, u_1 \rangle$ , hence there are  $p^n - p^{m+1}$  choices for  $u_2$ , and so on. Finally there are  $p^n - p^{m+l-1}$  choices for  $u_l$  because of  $u_l \notin \langle y_1, \dots, y_m, u_1, \dots, u_{l-1} \rangle$ .

On the other hand, a subspace  $U \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n$  of dimension  $l$  has exactly  $|\mathrm{GL}_l(\mathbb{F}_p)| = (p^l - 1) \cdots (p^l - p^{l-1})$  distinct bases. Hence

$$\chi(l) = \frac{(p^n - p^m) \cdots (p^n - p^{m+l-1})}{(p^l - 1) \cdots (p^l - p^{l-1})} = p^{ml} \begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ l \end{bmatrix}_p.$$

(b) We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\substack{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \\ \dim(X)=e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \\ \dim(X)=e}} [Y : X \cap Y]^{-s} = \sum_{f=0}^{\min\{e, m\}} \sum_{\substack{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \\ \dim(X)=e \\ \dim(X \cap Y)=f}} (p^{m-f})^{-s} \\ &= \sum_{f=0}^{\min\{e, m\}} \sum_{\substack{X_0 \subseteq Y \\ \dim(X_0)=f}} |\{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \mid \dim(X) = e \text{ and } X \cap Y = X_0\}| (p^{m-f})^{-s}. \end{aligned}$$

Fix a subspace  $X_0 \subseteq Y$  such that  $\dim(X_0) = f$ , and put  $\bar{Y} := Y/X_0$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} & |\{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \mid \dim(X) = e \text{ and } X \cap Y = X_0\}| \\ &= |\{\bar{X} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n/X_0 \cong \mathbb{F}_p^{n-f} \mid \dim(\bar{X}) = e - f \text{ and } \bar{X} \cap \bar{Y} = 0\}| \\ &= p^{(m-f)(e-f)} \begin{bmatrix} n - m \\ e - f \end{bmatrix}_p, \end{aligned}$$

where the last equation follows from part (a). Since there are  $\begin{bmatrix} m \\ f \end{bmatrix}_p$  subspaces  $X_0 \subseteq Y$  of dimension  $f$ , we get

$$\sum_{\substack{X \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^n \\ \dim(X)=e}} [X + Y : X]^{-s} = \sum_{f=0}^{\min\{e,m\}} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ f \end{bmatrix}_p \begin{bmatrix} n - m \\ e - f \end{bmatrix}_p p^{(m-f)(e-f)} (p^{m-f})^{-s}.$$

Note that  $\begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ e-f \end{bmatrix}_p \neq 0$  only if  $e - f \leq n - m$ , so the summation may start with  $f = \max\{0, e + m - n\}$ , and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.3.** *Let  $pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{X} \subseteq V^\circ$  with  $[\bar{X} : pV^\circ] = p^e$ ,  $0 \leq e \leq n$ . Then*

$$z_{pV^\circ}(\bar{X}; s) = \prod_{j=e}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-s})^{-1}.$$

**Proof.** Since  $V^\circ \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ , formula (15) implies

$$z_{pV^\circ}(\bar{X}; s) = \sum_{p\mathbb{Z}_p^n \subseteq \bar{W} \subseteq \bar{X}'} \mu(\bar{W}, \bar{X}') [\bar{X}' : \bar{W}]^{-s} \zeta_{\bar{W}}(s),$$

where  $p\mathbb{Z}_p^n \subseteq \bar{X}' \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  with  $[\bar{X}' : p\mathbb{Z}_p^n] = p^e$ . We also have  $\bar{W} \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^n$ , and thus by Theorem 3.9:

$$\zeta_{\bar{W}}(s) = \zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s) = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-s})^{-1}.$$

Denote by  $\tilde{\mu}$  the Möbius function of the lattice of subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}_p^e$ . Using  $\bar{X}'/p\mathbb{Z}_p^n \cong \mathbb{F}_p^e$  we get

$$\sum_{p\mathbb{Z}_p^n \subseteq \bar{W} \subseteq \bar{X}' } \mu(\bar{W}, \bar{X}') [\bar{X}' : \bar{W}]^{-s}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sum_{U \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^e} \tilde{\mu}(U, \mathbb{F}_p^e) [\mathbb{F}_p^e : U]^{-s} = \sum_{i=0}^e \begin{bmatrix} e \\ i \end{bmatrix}_p (-1)^{e-i} p^{\binom{e-i}{2}} p^{-(e-i)s} \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^e \begin{bmatrix} e \\ i \end{bmatrix}_p (-1)^i p^{\binom{i}{2}} p^{-is} = \prod_{j=0}^{e-1} (1 - p^{j-s}),
 \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 7.1. Here we made use of the fact that  $\tilde{\mu}(U, \mathbb{F}_p^e) = (-1)^{e-i} p^{\binom{e-i}{2}}$ , if  $U \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^e$  is a subspace such that  $\dim(U) = i$  (cf. Theorem 4.3). Now multiplying by  $\zeta_{\mathbb{Z}_p^n}(s)$  proves the assertion.  $\square$

The above results allow us to compute  $t_V(e; s)$  as in (14) for  $0 \leq e \leq n$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 t_V(e; s) &= \left( \sum_{\substack{pV^\circ \subseteq \bar{X} \subseteq V^\circ \\ [\bar{X} : pV^\circ] = p^e}} [\bar{X} + f_2(V) : \bar{X}]^{-s} \right) \prod_{j=e}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-s})^{-1} \\
 &= \left( \sum_{f=\max\{0, e+m-n\}}^{\min\{e, m\}} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ f \end{bmatrix}_p \begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ e-f \end{bmatrix}_p p^{(m-f)(e-f)} (p^{m-f})^{-s} \right) \\
 &\quad \cdot \prod_{j=e}^{n-1} (1 - p^{j-s})^{-1},
 \end{aligned}$$

because  $m = \dim(f_2(V)/pV^\circ)$ . Now (18) implies

$$\hat{\delta}_V(x) = \sum_{e=0}^n p^{n(n-e)} x^{n-e} \hat{t}_V(e; x)$$

with

$$\hat{t}_V(e; x) = \prod_{j=0}^{e-1} (1 - p^j x) \sum_{f=\max\{0, e+m-n\}}^{\min\{e, m\}} \begin{bmatrix} m \\ f \end{bmatrix}_p \begin{bmatrix} n-m \\ e-f \end{bmatrix}_p p^{(m-f)(e-f)} x^{m-f}.$$

We recall that  $R = R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_p]$ , hence  $f_2(R^n) = (R^n)^\circ = \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  with the notations of Section 3. Thus  $m = n$  for  $V = R^n$ , and we have the following formula.

**Theorem 7.4.** *If  $R = R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_p]$ , then*

$$\hat{\delta}_{R^n}(x) = \sum_{e=0}^n \left( \begin{bmatrix} n \\ e \end{bmatrix}_p p^{n(n-e)} x^{2(n-e)} \prod_{j=0}^{e-1} (1 - p^j x) \right).$$

### 8. The case $k = 2$ and $n \geq 1$

In this section we will compute the zeta function of  $R_2^n (R_2 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^2}])$ , i.e., the polynomial,

$$\hat{\delta}_{R_2^n}(x) = \sum_{e=0}^{np} p^{n(np-e)} x^{np-e} \hat{t}_{R_2^n}(e; x),$$

where  $\hat{t}_{R_2^n}(e; x)$  is defined in (17) by means of (cf. (14))

$$t_{R_2^n}(e; s) = \sum_{\substack{pR^n \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} [R^n : X]^{-s} z_{pR^n}(X; s) = (p^{np-e})^{-s} \sum_{\substack{pR^n \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} z_{pR^n}(X; s).$$

Here we put

$$R := R_1 = \mathbb{Z}_p[C_p],$$

and we will keep this notation for the rest of this section. It therefore remains to determine the sums

$$t'(e; s) := \sum_{\substack{pR^n \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} z_{pR^n}(X; s)$$

for  $0 \leq e \leq np$ . Utilizing (15) yields

$$\begin{aligned} t'(e; s) &= \sum_{\substack{pR^n \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} \sum_{pR^n \subseteq V \subseteq X} \mu(V, X) [X : V]^{-s} \zeta_V(s) \\ &= \sum_{pR^n \subseteq V \subseteq R^n} \left( \sum_{\substack{V \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} \mu(V, X) [X : V]^{-s} \right) \zeta_V(s). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

The functions  $\zeta_V(s)$  have been calculated in the preceding section, and we recall that they only depend on

$$m(V) := \dim_{\mathbb{F}_p}(f_2(V)/pV^\circ),$$

where again  $f_2: R^n \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^n$  and  $V^\circ$  are defined as in Section 3.

Fix  $pR^n \subseteq V \subseteq R^n$ . We will first evaluate the parenthetical expression in (27) belonging to  $V$ . This computation can be performed in  $R^n/pR^n$ . More precisely, let

$$F := \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^p) \cong R/pR,$$

and let  $U \subseteq F^n$  be the image of  $V$  under the canonical projection  $\pi : R^n \rightarrow F^n$ . Then

$$\sum_{\substack{V \subseteq X \subseteq R^n \\ [X:pR^n]=p^e}} \mu(V, X)[X : V]^{-s} = \sum_{\substack{U \subseteq Y \subseteq F^n \\ |Y|=p^e}} \mu(U, Y)[Y : U]^{-s}, \tag{28}$$

where the Möbius function of the lattice of submodules of  $F^n$  is denoted by  $\mu$  as well. There is an  $F$ -module isomorphism

$$U \cong \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{r_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{r_n}),$$

and the integers  $0 \leq r_1 \leq \cdots \leq r_n \leq p$  are uniquely determined.  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$  will be referred to as the *isomorphism type* of  $U$ .

**Lemma 8.1.** *Let  $pR^n \subseteq V \subseteq R^n$  and let  $U \subseteq F^n$  be the image of  $V$  under the projection  $\pi : R^n \rightarrow F^n$ . Let  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$  be the isomorphism type of  $U$ . Then*

$$m(V) = |\{1 \leq i \leq n \mid r_i = 0 \text{ or } r_i = p\}|.$$

**Proof.** By definition  $m(V) = \dim(f_2(V)/pV^\circ) = \dim(f_2(V)/p\mathbb{Z}_p^n) + \dim(p\mathbb{Z}_p^n/pV^\circ)$ , and we write

$$U = (\bar{y}^{p-r_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-r_n}) \subseteq F^n$$

in the sequel. If we put  $K = (\bar{y}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\bar{y}) \subseteq F^n$ , then obviously

$$f_2(V)/p\mathbb{Z}_p^n \cong (\pi(V) + K)/K \cong (U + K)/K,$$

and thus  $\dim(f_2(V)/p\mathbb{Z}_p^n) = |\{i \mid r_i = p\}|$ .

In addition we have

$$p\mathbb{Z}_p^n/pV^\circ = f_2(\phi R^n)/f_2(V \cap \phi R^n) \cong (\pi(V) + \pi(\phi R^n))/\pi(V)$$

with  $\phi = \sigma^{p-1} + \cdots + \sigma + 1$  (cf. proof of Lemma 6.1). From  $\pi(V) = U$  and  $\pi(\phi R^n) = (\bar{y}^{p-1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (\bar{y}^{p-1})$  we infer  $\dim(p\mathbb{Z}_p^n/pV^\circ) = |\{i \mid r_i = 0\}|$ , and the lemma is proved.  $\square$

The next step is the computation of the sum (28). For the rest of this section, we continue to use the notation introduced at the beginning of Section 7.

**Lemma 8.2.** *Let  $U \subseteq F^n$  be a submodule of isomorphism type  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ . Set  $n' := |\{1 \leq i \leq n \mid r_i \neq p\}|$  and  $f := r_1 + \cdots + r_n$ . Then the following holds for  $e \geq f$ :*

$$\sum_{\substack{U \subseteq Y \subseteq F^n \\ |Y|=p^e}} \mu(U, Y)[Y : U]^{-s} = \begin{bmatrix} n' \\ e - f \end{bmatrix}_p (-1)^{e-f} p^{\binom{e-f}{2}} (p^{e-f})^{-s},$$

in particular = 0 if  $e > f + n'$ .

**Proof.** The sum extends over all  $Y \supseteq U$  such that  $[Y : U] = |Y|/|U| = p^{e-f}$ . Hence it suffices to calculate

$$\sum_{\substack{U \subseteq Y \subseteq F^n \\ |Y|=p^e}} \mu(U, Y) = \sum_{\substack{U \subseteq Y \subseteq F^n \\ |Y|=p^e}} \bar{\mu}(0, Y/U) = \sum_{\substack{H \subseteq F^n/U \\ |H|=p^{e-f}}} \bar{\mu}(0, H),$$

where  $\bar{\mu}$  is the Möbius function of the lattice of submodules of  $F^n/U$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} F^n/U &\cong \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-r_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-r_n}) \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-r_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[y]/(y^{p-r_{n'}}) \quad \text{by definition of } n' \\ &\cong \mathbb{F}_p[[y]]/(y^{p-r_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[[y]]/(y^{p-r_{n'}}). \end{aligned}$$

Applying Theorem 4.4 yields

$$\sum_{\substack{U \subseteq Y \subseteq F^n \\ |Y|=p^e}} \mu(U, Y) = \sum_{\substack{H \subseteq \mathbb{F}_p^{n'} \\ |H|=p^{e-f}}} \bar{\mu}(0, H') = \begin{bmatrix} n' \\ e-f \end{bmatrix}_p (-1)^{e-f} p^{\binom{e-f}{2}},$$

$\bar{\mu}$  being the Möbius function of the lattice of subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}_p^{n'}$ , and the claim follows.  $\square$

We briefly review the steps made towards the computation of (27). Instead of summing over  $pR^n \subseteq V \subseteq R^n$ , we sum over all submodules  $U \subseteq F^n$ . Because of the preceding lemma, the parenthetical expression in (27) only depends on the isomorphism type of  $U$ , as well as the zeta function of  $V$  by Lemma 8.1. Accordingly we only require the number of submodules  $\subseteq F^n$  of given isomorphism type. This problem is considered in the following theorem (for a proof, see [2, Theorems 2.10, 2.11, Proposition 3.2]).

**Theorem 8.3.** *Let  $C$  be a discrete valuation ring with prime element  $\pi$  and residue class field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Let  $a_1 \leq \cdots \leq a_n$  be positive integers, to be partitioned as follows:*

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= \cdots = a_{k_1} &=: u_1, \\ a_{k_1+1} &= \cdots = a_{k_1+k_2} &=: u_2, \\ &\vdots &\vdots \\ a_{k_1+\cdots+k_{d-1}+1} &= \cdots = a_{k_1+\cdots+k_d} &=: u_d \end{aligned}$$

such that  $u_1 < \cdots < u_d$  and  $k_1 + \cdots + k_d = n$  (all  $k_i \geq 1$ ). There are precisely

$$v \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \cdots u_d \\ k_1 \cdots k_d \end{pmatrix} := \frac{(q)_n}{(q)_{k_1} \cdots (q)_{k_d}} p^{\sum_{i < j} k_i k_j (u_j - u_i)}$$

submodules  $U \subseteq C^n$  satisfying

$$C^n/U \cong C/(\pi^{a_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus C/(\pi^{a_n}).$$

For given integers  $0 \leq r_1 \leq \cdots \leq r_n \leq p$  we will apply this theorem with  $C := \mathbb{F}_p[[y]]$  and  $a_i := p - r_{n-i}$  ( $i = 0, \dots, n$ ). We have indeed  $0 \leq a_1 \leq \cdots \leq a_n \leq p$ , and after defining  $u_i$  and  $k_i$  as in the statement of the theorem, the submodules  $U \subseteq F^n$  of isomorphism type  $(r_1, \dots, r_n)$  correspond to the submodules  $U' \subseteq (\mathbb{F}_p[[y]])^n$  such that

$$(\mathbb{F}_p[[y]])^n/U' \cong \mathbb{F}_p[[y]]/(y^{a_1}) \oplus \cdots \oplus \mathbb{F}_p[[y]]/(y^{a_n}),$$

and there are  $v \binom{u_1 \cdots u_d}{k_1 \cdots k_d}$  of those.

We are now able to state the result of the sums  $t'(e; s)$  from (27).

**Theorem 8.4.** *Let  $0 \leq e \leq np$  be an integer. Then*

$$t'(e; s) = \sum_{d=1}^n \sum_{\substack{0 \leq u_1 < \cdots < u_d \leq p \\ k_1 + \cdots + k_d = n \\ f \leq e \leq f + n'}} v \binom{u_1 \cdots u_d}{k_1 \cdots k_d} \left[ e - f \right]_p (-1)^{e-f} p^{\binom{e-f}{2}} (p^{e-f})^{-s} \zeta_m(s),$$

where  $f, n'$  and  $m$  depend on  $u_i, k_i$ , viz:

$$f = np - \sum_{i=1}^d k_i u_i,$$

$$n' = \begin{cases} n - k_1 & u_1 = 0, \\ n & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$m = \begin{cases} k_1 + k_d & u_1 = 0 \text{ and } u_d = p, \\ k_1 & u_1 = 0 \text{ and } u_d < p, \\ k_d & u_1 > 0 \text{ and } u_d = p, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Furthermore

$$\zeta_m(s) := \zeta_V(s)$$

for any submodule  $V \subseteq R^n$  with  $m(V) = m$  (cf. preceding section).

From this theorem we immediately infer the polynomials  $\hat{t}_{R_2^n}(e; x)$  and  $\hat{\delta}_{R_2^n}(x)$ , and hence the computation of the zeta function of  $R^n$  is complete in this case.

We conclude this section by some numerical examples: the polynomials  $\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^2}]^n}(x)$  for  $p \in \{2, 3, 5\}$  and  $n \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_2[C_4]}(x) = 8x^6 - 8x^5 + 6x^4 + 3x^3 - 2x + 1,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_2[C_4]^2}(x) &= 4096x^{12} - 6144x^{11} + 6400x^{10} - 2304x^9 + 2816x^8 - 2304x^7 + 195x^6 \\ &\quad - 576x^5 + 176x^4 - 36x^3 + 25x^2 - 6x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_2[C_4]^3}(x) &= 134217728x^{13} - 234881024x^{17} + 278921216x^{16} - 143654912x^{15} \\ &\quad + 136708096x^{14} - 110100480x^{13} + 102023168x^{12} - 43696128x^{11} \\ &\quad + 17389568x^{10} - 4376576x^9 + 2173696x^8 - 682752x^7 + 199264x^6 \\ &\quad - 26880x^5 + 4172x^4 - 548x^3 + 133x^2 - 14x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_3[C_9]}(x) = 81x^8 - 54x^7 + 36x^6 + 9x^5 + 3x^4 + 3x^3 + 4x^2 - 2x + 1,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_3[C_9]^2}(x) &= 43046721x^{16} - 38263752x^{15} + 30823578x^{14} + 708588x^{13} \\ &\quad + 1535274x^{12} + 3385476x^{11} + 2119203x^{10} - 1355940x^9 + 1167129x^8 \\ &\quad - 150660x^7 + 26163x^6 + 4644x^5 + 234x^4 + 12x^3 + 58x^2 - 8x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_3[C_9]^3}(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 150094635296999121x^{24} - 144535574730443598x^{23} + 123122896992600102x^{22} \\ &\quad - 5467553396735679x^{21} + 6377541363277461x^{20} + 14396280763046013x^{19} \\ &\quad + 6581267202259089x^{18} - 4740422864535540x^{17} + 4916296269721980x^{16} \\ &\quad - 868287187367289x^{15} + 200488295095218x^{14} + 15476501507688x^{13} \\ &\quad + 777744240183x^{12} + 573203759544x^{11} + 275018237442x^{10} \\ &\quad - 44113559283x^9 + 9250878780x^8 - 330368220x^7 + 16987401x^6 \\ &\quad + 1376271x^5 + 22581x^4 - 717x^3 + 598x^2 - 26x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_5[C_{25}]}(x) &= 15625x^{12} - 6250x^{11} + 3750x^{10} + 1875x^9 + 125x^8 \\ &\quad + 375x^7 + 25x^6 + 75x^5 + 5x^4 + 15x^3 + 6x^2 - 2x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_5[C_{25}]^2}(x) &= 59604644775390625x^{24} - 28610229492187500x^{23} \\ &\quad + 18692016601562500x^{22} + 7209777832031250x^{21} \\ &\quad + 7629394531250x^{20} + 2210998535156250x^{19} \\ &\quad - 56915283203125x^{18} + 450073242187500x^{17} \\ &\quad - 12957763671875x^{16} + 90329589843750x^{15} \\ &\quad + 20233642578125x^{14} - 6640722656250x^{13} \\ &\quad + 5911884765625x^{12} - 265628906250x^{11} \\ &\quad + 32373828125x^{10} + 5781093750x^9 - 33171875x^8 + 46087500x^7 \\ &\quad - 233125x^6 + 362250x^5 + 50x^4 + 1890x^3 + 196x^2 - 12x + 1, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_5[C_{25}]^3}(x) \\
&= 55511151231257827021181583404541015625x^{36} \\
&\quad - 27533531010703882202506065368652343750x^{35} \\
&\quad + 18282264591107377782464027404785156250x^{34} \\
&\quad + 6658211759713594801723957061767578125x^{33} \\
&\quad - 84406792666413821280002593994140625x^{32} \\
&\quad + 2229149913546280004084110260009765625x^{31} \\
&\quad - 97134670795639976859092712402343750x^{30} \\
&\quad + 456909228887525387108325958251953125x^{29} \\
&\quad - 20771263370988890528678894042968750x^{28} \\
&\quad + 91639080055756494402885437011718750x^{27} \\
&\quad + 17826733196852728724479675292968750x^{26} \\
&\quad - 5804500149097293615341186523437500x^{25} \\
&\quad + 5919211489055305719375610351562500x^{24} \\
&\quad - 326670646662823855876922607421875x^{23} \\
&\quad + 48173992687091231346130371093750x^{22} \\
&\quad + 6197919498234987258911132812500x^{21} \\
&\quad - 47538805550336837768554687500x^{20} \\
&\quad + 65995047889947891235351562500x^{19} - 560464551913738250732421875x^{18} \\
&\quad + 527960383119583129882812500x^{17} - 3042483555221557617187500x^{16} \\
&\quad + 3173334783096313476562500x^{15} + 197320674046325683593750x^{14} \\
&\quad - 10704343749847412109375x^{13} + 1551685776586914062500x^{12} \\
&\quad - 12172919096679687500x^{11} + 299082953417968750x^{10} \\
&\quad + 12299589121093750^9 - 22302974218750x^8 + 3924820390625x^7 \\
&\quad - 6675043750x^6 + 1225488125x^5 - 371225x^4 + 234265x^3 + 5146x^2 - 62x + 1.
\end{aligned}$$

Note that we checked in each case the validity of the functional equation

$$\hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^2}]^n}(x) = (p^{n^2} x^{2n})^{1+p} \cdot \hat{\delta}_{\mathbb{Z}_p[C_{p^2}]^n}\left(\frac{1}{p^n x}\right)$$

predicted by Corollary 5.3.

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