THE SECONDARY PERIODIC ELEMENT β_{p^2/p^2-1} AND ITS APPLICATIONS

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Abstract. Let $p \geqslant 7$ be a prime. We prove that β_{p^2/p^2-1} survives to E_∞ in the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence. Additionally, using the Thom map $\Phi : Ext^{*,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*) \to Ext^{*,*}_A(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$, we can see that h_0h_3 also survives to E_∞ in the classical Adams spectral sequence. As an application of these results, we prove that $\beta^p_{p/p}$ is divisible by β_1.

1. Introduction

Let p be an odd prime. The Adams-Novikov spectral sequence (ANSS) based on the Brown-Peterson spectrum BP is one of the most powerful tools to compute the p-component of the stable homotopy groups of spheres $\pi_*(S^0)$ (*cf.* [1, 9, 13, 25]).

The E_2-term of the ANSS is $Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$, which has been extensively studied in low dimensions. For $s = 1$, $Ext^{1,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ is generated by $\alpha_{kp^n/n+1}$ for $n \geqslant 0$, $p \nmid k$ with $k \geqslant 1$, where $\alpha_{kp^n/n+1}$ has order p^{n+1} (*cf.* [15, 13]). For $s = 2$, $Ext^{2,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ is the direct sum of cyclic groups generated by $\beta_{kp^n/j,i+1}$ for suitable (n, k, j, i) (*cf.* [13, 25, 26]), $\beta_{kp^n/j,i+1}$ has order p^{i+1}. For $s \geqslant 3$, only partial results of $Ext^{s,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ are known (*cf.* [14]).

To compute the stable homotopy groups of the sphere, we still need to know which elements of the E_2-page could survive to the E_∞-page of the ANSS. It is known that each element $\alpha_{kp^n/n+1}$ is a permanent cycle in the ANSS which represents an element of ImJ with the same order. Moreover, Behrens [4] shows that, for l a prime which generates $\mathbb{Z}_p^\times$, the spectrum $Q(l)$ introduced in [2, 3] detects the α and β families in the stable stems. However, we are still far from fully determining which elements of the $\beta_{kp^n/j,i+1}$ family could survive to E_∞.

Let $\beta_{kp^n/j}$ denote $\beta_{kp^n/j,1}$. H. Toda [29, 30] proved that $\alpha_1\beta_1^p$ is zero in $\pi_*(S^0)$. This relation supports a non-trivial Adams-Novikov differential called the Toda differential

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p/p}) = a \cdot \alpha_1\beta_1^p \neq 0 \tag{1.1}$$

where a is a non-zero scalar *mod* p. Hence $\beta_{p/p}$ could not survive the ANSS.

Based on the Toda differential (1.1), D. Ravenel [22] generalized the result and proved that there are nontrivial differentials

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p^n/p^n}) \equiv a \cdot \alpha_1\beta^p_{p^{n-1}/p^{n-1}}, \quad \text{mod} \quad \ker\ \beta_1^{p(p^{n-1}-1)/(p-1)}$$

for $n \geqslant 1$. Consequently, β_{p^n/p^n} also can not survive to E_∞ in the ANSS. From this one can see that only $\beta_{kp^n/j} \in H^2(BP_*)$ for $k \geqslant 2$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant p^n$ or $k = 1$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant p^n - 1$ might survive to E_∞ in the ANSS. The following are some known results in this area:

2020 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 18G40, 55Q45, 55T15.

Key words and phrases. stable homotopy groups of spheres, Adams-Novikov spectral sequence, infinite descent method.

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Let $p \geqslant 5$. Oka proved that: (a) For $k = 1$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant p-1$ or $k \geqslant 2$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant p$, $\beta_{kp/j}$ are permanent cycles in the ANSS (see [16]). (b) For $k = 1$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant 2p-2$ or $k \geqslant 2$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant 2p$, $\beta_{kp^2/j}$ are permanent cycles in the ANSS (see [18]). (c) For $n \geqslant 2$, $k = 1$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant 2^{n-1}(p-1)$ or $n \geqslant 2$, $k \geqslant 2$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant 2^{n-1}p$, $\beta_{kp^n/j}$ are permanent cycles in the ANSS (see [20, 21]).

Let $p \geqslant 7$. Shimomura [28] proved that for $k \geqslant 1$, $1 \leqslant j \leqslant p^2-2$, $\beta_{kp^2/j}$ are permanent cycles in the ANSS.

In this paper, we prove:

Theorem A *Let $p \geqslant 7$ be a prime. Then β_{p^2/p^2-1} is a permanent cycle in the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence.*

We can briefly summarize our strategy to prove Theorem A as follows. Inspection of degrees shows that β_{p^2/p^2-1} has too low a dimension to be the target of an Adams-Novikov differential. Hence it suffices to prove β_{p^2/p^2-1} does not support any nontrivial differential. We work with the small descent spectral sequence (SDSS), which converges to the E_2 page of the ANSS. Computation shows that in dimension one less than that of β_{p^2/p^2-1}, the SDSS has 8 elements listed in Lemma 3.1, each must be eliminated as a possible target of a differential on β_{p^2/p^2-1}. Two of them are removed by d_2's in the SDSS as shown in Figure 1, leaving the six listed in Theorem 3.2. Four of them are removed by d_{2p-1}'s in the ANSS as shown in Figure 2. This leaves only $\mathfrak{g}_7$ and $\mathfrak{g}_8$. They each lie in filtration 3, so they cannot be the target of an ANSS differential on β_{p^2/p^2-1}.

Assumption on prime p. Henceforth, in this paper, it is always implicitly assumed that $p > 5$, unless stated otherwise.

Let M be the *mod* p Moore spectrum and $M(1, p^n-1)$ be the cofiber of the map $v_1^{p^n-1}$

$$\Sigma^* M \xrightarrow{v_1^{p^n-1}} M \longrightarrow M(1, p^n-1).$$

D. Ravenel ([27] Theorem 7.12) claimed that if $M(1, p^n-1)$ is a ring spectrum and β_{p^n/p^n-1} is a permanent cycle, then $\beta_{kp^n/j}$ is a permanent cycle for all $k \geqslant 1$, $j \leqslant p^n-1$.

Between the ANSS and the classical Adams spectral sequence (ASS), there is the Thom reduction map

$$\Phi : Ext^*_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*) \longrightarrow Ext^*_A(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p)$$

such that $\Phi(\beta_{p^n/p^n-1}) = h_0h_{n+1}$. Thus we obtain the following corollary.

Corollary B *Let $p \geqslant 7$ be a prime. Then h_0h_3 is a permanent cycle in the classical Adams spectral sequence.*

In [6], R. Cohen and P. Goerss claimed the existence of h_0h_{n+1} in the classical ASS. One can see that the existence of h_0h_{n+1} in ASS is equivalent to the existence of β_{p^n/p^n-1} in the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence. But N. Minami found a fatal error in their proof, so it is still an open problem in odd primary stable homotopy theory. Due to its extreme importance, M. Hovey [7] listed the convergence of h_0h_{n+1} as one of the major open problems in algebraic topology.

Consider the ANSS for the Moore spectrum $Ext^{*,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(M)) \Longrightarrow \pi_*(M)$. From the Toda differential, one can see that in the ANSS for the Moore spectrum

$$d_{2p-1}(h_{n+2}) = v_1\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}, \qquad d_{2p-1}(v_1h_{n+2}) = v_1^2\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}.$$

Applying the connecting homomorphism $\delta : Ext^{1,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(M)) \longrightarrow Ext^{2,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ induced by the cofiber sequence

$$S^0 \xrightarrow{p} S^0 \longrightarrow M$$

one gets an Adams differential in the ANSS for sphere

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p^{n+1}/p^{n+1}-1}) = \alpha_2\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}.$$

In Section 6, we prove that $\beta^p_{p/p}$ is divisible by β_1, i.e. $\beta^p_{p/p} = \beta_1\mathfrak{g}$. Note $\alpha_2\beta_1 = 0$, this provides another perspective for understanding why we could have

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1}) = \alpha_2\beta^p_{p/p} = 0 \text{ in } Ext^{2p+1,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*).$$

in Theorem A.

Based on the analysis of $\beta^p_{p/p}$, we conjecture that:

Conjecture C *For $n < p-1$, $\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}$ is divisible by β_1 and*

$$\begin{aligned}
&\beta^p_{p/p} = \beta_1 h_{11} b_{20}^{p-3}\gamma_2\\
&\beta^p_{p^2/p^2} = \beta_1 h_{21} h_{11} b_{30}^{p-4}\delta_3\\
&\cdots\\
&\beta^p_{p^n/p^n} = \beta_1 h_{n,1} h_{n-1,1}\cdots h_{11} b_{n+1,0}^{p-n-2}\alpha^{(n+2)}_{n+1}\\
&\cdots\\
&\beta^p_{p^{p-2}/p^{p-2}} = \beta_1 h_{p-2,1} h_{p-3,1}\cdots h_{11}\alpha^{(p)}_{p-1}
\end{aligned}$$

where $\alpha^{(n+2)}$ is the $(n+2)$-th letter of the Greek alphabet, and $\alpha^{(n+2)}_{n+1} \in Ext^{n+2,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ is one of the $(n+2)$-th Greek letter family elements. These equations imply $\alpha_2\beta^p_{p^n/p^n} = \alpha_2\beta_1\mathfrak{g} = 0$ for $n < p-1$.

For $n \geqslant p-1$, we conjecture that $\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}$ is not divisible by β_1 and $\alpha_2\beta^p_{p^n/p^n}$ might be non-zero. This implies that $\beta_{p^{n+1}/p^{n+1}-1}$ does not survives to E_∞ in the ANSS when $n \geqslant p-1$.

This paper is arranged as follows. In section 2 we recall the construction of the topological small descent spectral sequence (TSDSS) and the small descent spectral sequence (SDSS), where the SDSS is a spectral sequence that converges to $Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ started from the *Ext* groups of a complex with p-cells. Then we describe the E_1-terms of the SDSS in the form of a Generator, total degree $t-s$ and $t-s \ mod\ pq-2$, and range of the index. This gives a method to compute the E_2-page of the ANSS with specialized $t-s$. In section 3 we compute the Adams-Novikov E_2-term $Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ subject to $t-s = q(p^3+1)-3$ by the SDSS. In section 4, a non-trivial Adams-Novikov differential $d_{2p-1}(h_{20}b_{11}\gamma_s) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p h_{20}\gamma_s$ is proved. We prove our main theorem by showing that $d_r(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1}) = 0$ in section 5. At last, in section 6, we prove that $\beta^p_{p/p}$ is divisible by β_1 and give our conjecture.

Acknowledgments. The second and third named authors were supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 12271183). The third named author was also supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 12001474; 12261091). All authors contribute equally.

2. The small descent spectral sequence and the ABC Theorem

In 1985, D. Ravenel [23, 24, 25, 26] introduced the *method of infinite descent* and used it to compute the first thousand stems of the stable homotopy groups of spheres at the prime 5. This method applies a so-called small descent spectral sequence (SDSS) to identify the E_2-terms of the ANSS.

Hereafter we set that $q = 2p-2$. As mentioned in the Introduction, we assume that $p > 5$ is a prime number throughout this paper. Let $T(n)$ be the Ranevel spectrum (*cf.* [25] Section 5, Chapter 6) characterized by

$$BP_*(T(n)) = BP_*[t_1, t_2, \cdots, t_n].$$

Then we have the following diagram

$$S^0 = T(0) \longrightarrow T(1) \longrightarrow T(2) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow T(n) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow BP,$$

where S^0 denotes the sphere spectrum localized at p. Let $T(0)_{p-1}$ and $T(0)_{p-2}$ denote the $q(p-1)$ and $q(p-2)$ skeletons of $T(1)$ respectively, they are denoted by X and $\overline{X}$ for simple. Then

$$X = S^0 \cup_{\alpha_1} e^q \cup \cdots \cup_{\alpha_1} e^{(p-2)q} \cup_{\alpha_1} e^{(p-1)q} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \overline{X} = S^0 \cup_{\alpha_1} e^q \cup \cdots \cup_{\alpha_1} e^{(p-2)q}.$$

The BP-homology of them are

$$BP_*(X) = BP_*[t_1]/\langle t_1^p \rangle \qquad \text{and} \qquad BP_*(\overline{X}) = BP_*[t_1]/\langle t_1^{p-1} \rangle.$$

From the definition above we get the following cofiber sequences

$$S^0 \xrightarrow{i'} X \xrightarrow{j'} \Sigma^q \overline{X} \xrightarrow{k'} S^1, \tag{2.1}$$

$$\overline{X} \xrightarrow{i''} X \xrightarrow{j''} S^{(p-1)q} \xrightarrow{k''} \Sigma \overline{X}, \tag{2.2}$$

and the short exact sequences of BP-homologies

$$0 \longrightarrow BP_*(S^0) \xrightarrow{i'_*} BP_*(X) \xrightarrow{j'_*} BP_*(\Sigma^q \overline{X}) \longrightarrow 0, \tag{2.3}$$

$$0 \longrightarrow BP_*(\overline{X}) \xrightarrow{i''_*} BP_*(X) \xrightarrow{j''_*} BP_*(S^{(p-1)q}) \longrightarrow 0. \tag{2.4}$$

Put (2.3) and (2.4) together, one has the following long exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow BP_*(S^0) \longrightarrow BP_*(X) \longrightarrow BP_*(\Sigma^q X) \longrightarrow BP_*(\Sigma^{pq} X) \longrightarrow \cdots. \tag{2.5}$$

Put (2.1) and (2.2) together, one has the following Adams diagram of cofibres

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} S^0 & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{q-1}\overline{X} & \longleftarrow & S^{pq-2} & \longleftarrow & \Sigma^{(p+1)q-3}\overline{X} & \longleftarrow & \cdots \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ X & & \Sigma^{q-1}X & & \Sigma^{pq-2}X & & \Sigma^{(p+1)q-3}X. & & \end{array} \tag{2.6}$$

Proposition 2.1. *(Ravenel [25, Proposition 7.4.2]) Let X be as above. Then*

(a) *There is a spectral sequence converging to $Ext^{s+u,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(S^0))$ with E_1-term*

$$E_1^{s,t,u} = Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X)) \otimes E[\alpha_1] \otimes P[\beta_1], \quad \textit{where}$$
$$E_1^{s,t,0} = Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X)), \qquad \alpha_1 \in E_1^{0,q,1}, \qquad \beta_1 \in E_1^{0,qp,2}$$

and $d_r : E_r^{s,t,u} \longrightarrow E_r^{s-r+1,t,u+r}$. Where $E[-]$ denotes the exterior algebra and $P[-]$ denotes the polynomial algebra on the indicated generators. This spectral sequence is referred to as the small descent spectral sequence (SDSS).

(b) *There is a spectral sequence converging to $\pi_*(S^0)$ with E_1-term*

$$E_1^{s,t} = \pi_*(X) \otimes E[\alpha_1] \otimes P[\beta_1], \quad \textit{where}$$
$$E_1^{0,t} = \pi_t(X), \qquad \alpha_1 \in E_1^{1,q}, \qquad \beta_1 \in E_1^{2,pq}$$

and $d_r : E_r^{s,t} \longrightarrow E_r^{s+r,t+r-1}$. This spectral sequence is referred to as the topological small descent spectral sequence (TSDSS).

The two spectral sequences mentioned above could determine the 0-line and the 1-line (namely $Ext^{0,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(S^0))$, $Ext^{1,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(S^0))$) or the corresponding elements in $\pi_*(S^0)$ by $Ext^{0,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$ and $Ext^{1,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$. Additionally, for $s \geqslant 2$, the s-line $Ext^{s,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(S^0))$ or the corresponding elements in $\pi_*(S^0)$ are produced by the corresponding elements in $Ext^{s,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$ with $s \geqslant 2$ as described in the following ABC Theorem [26, Theorem 7.5.1].

Theorem 2.2 (ABC Theorem). *For $t - s < q(p^3 + p - 1) - 3$, $s \geqslant 2$*

$$Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X)) = A \oplus B \oplus C,$$

where A is the $\mathbb{Z}/p$-vector space spanned by

$$\{\beta_{ip},\ \beta_{ip+1} | i \leqslant p-1\} \cup \left\{\beta_{p^2/p^2-j} | 0 \leqslant j \leqslant p-1\right\},$$
$$B = R \otimes \{\gamma_i | i \geqslant 2\}$$

where

$$R = P[b_{20}^p] \otimes E[h_{20}] \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p\left\{\left\{b_{11}^k | 0 \leqslant k \leqslant p-1\right\} \cup \left\{h_{11} b_{20}^k | 0 \leqslant k \leqslant p-2\right\}\right\},$$

and

$$C^{s,t} = \bigoplus_{i \geqslant 0} R^{s+2i, t+i(p^2-1)q}.$$

We list the bidegrees of the various elements appearing in the ABC Theorem as follows:

$$\beta_{ip} \in Ext^{2,q[ip^2+ip-1]}, \beta_{ip+1} \in Ext^{2,q[ip^2+(i+1)p]}, \beta_{p^2/p^2-j} \in Ext^{2,q[p^3+j]},$$

$$\gamma_i \in Ext^{3,q[i(p^2+p+1)-p-2]}, h_{11} \in Ext^{1,qp}, h_{20} \in Ext^{1,q(p+1)}, b_{11} \in Ext^{2,qp^2}, b_{20} \in Ext^{2,qp(p+1)}.$$

From the ABC Theorem above, we can find all generators of $Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$ for $s \geqslant 2$, $t - s < q(p^3 + p - 1) - 3$. Table 1 summarizes the first class of generators, namely the generators of A.

Generators of A	$t-s$ and $t-s$ mod $pq-2$	Range of index
β_{ip}	$q[ip^2+ip-1]-2$	
	$\equiv 2(i-1)p+2i$	if $i \leqslant p-2$
	$\equiv 0$	if $i = p-1$
β_{ip+1}	$q[ip^2+(i+1)p]-2$	
	$\equiv 2ip+2i$	if $i \leqslant p-2$
	$\equiv \underline{2p}_{2p}$	if $i = p-1$
β_{p^2/p^2-j}	$q[p^3+j]-2$	
	$\equiv \underline{2(j+1)p-2j}_{2p}$	if $j \leqslant p-2$
	$\equiv 4$	if $j = p-1$

TABLE 1. Generators of A

Here, $pq - 2 = 2p^2 - 2p - 2$ is the total degree of $\beta_1 \in E_1^{0,qp,2}$ in the SDSS. The reason for computing $t - s$ mod $pq - 2$ and the purpose of underlining certain values will become clear in Lemma 3.1.

The generators of B are summarized in Table 2.

Generators of B	$t-s$ and $t-s$ mod $pq-2$	Range of index

$h_{11}b_{20}^k\gamma_i$	$q[(i+k)p^2+(i+k)p+i-2]$ $-2k-4$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-2)p$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-p-1)p+2$	for $2\leqslant i\leqslant p-1, 0\leqslant k\leqslant p-2$, and $2\leqslant i+k\leqslant p-1$ if $k+2i\leqslant p$ if $k+2i>p$
$h_{20}h_{11}b_{2,0}^k\gamma_i$	$q[(i+k)p^2+(i+k+1)p+i-1]$ $-2k-5$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-1)p-1$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-p)p+1$	for $2\leqslant i\leqslant p-1, 0\leqslant k\leqslant p-2$, and $2\leqslant i+k\leqslant p-1$ if $k+2i<p$ if $k+2i\geqslant p$
$b_{11}^k\gamma_i$	$q[(i+k)p^2+(i-1)p+i-2]$ $-2k-3$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-2)p-2k-1$ $\equiv 1$ $\equiv \underline{2(k+2i-p-1)p-2k+1}_{4p-3}$	for $2\leqslant i\leqslant p-1, 0\leqslant k\leqslant p-1$, and $2\leqslant i+k\leqslant p-1$ if $k+2i\leqslant p+1$ if $k=0,\ 2i=p+1$ if $k+2i\geqslant p+2$
$h_{20}b_{11}^k\gamma_i$	$q[(i+k)p^2+ip+i-1]$ $-2k-4$ $\equiv 2(k+2i-1)p-2(k+1)$ $\equiv \underline{2(k+2i-p)p-2k}_{2p}$	for $2\leqslant i\leqslant p-1, 0\leqslant k\leqslant p-1$, and $2\leqslant i+k\leqslant p-1$ if $k+2i\leqslant p$ if $k+2i>p$

TABLE 2. Generators of B

Let us take $h_{11}b_{20}^k\gamma_i$ from the B-family as an example to illustrate the calculation.

The total degree of $h_{11}b_{20}^k\gamma_i$ is

$$q[(i+k)p^2+(i+k)p+i-2]-2k-4=2(i+k)p^3-2(k+2)p-2(i+k)$$

for $2\leqslant i\leqslant p-1, 0\leqslant k\leqslant p-2$. To ensure that the total degree of $h_{11}b_{20}^k\gamma_i$ is less than $q(p^3+p-1)-3$, we need $i+k<p$. Straightforward computation shows

$$2(i+k)p^3-2(k+2)p-2(i+k)\equiv 2(k+2i-2)p \quad mod \quad pq-2$$

Notice that $2(k+2i-2)p>pq-2$ if $k+2i>p$, the total degree of $h_{11}b_{20}^k\gamma_i$ is

$$2(k+2i-2)p-(pq-2)=2(k+2i-p-1)p+2 \quad mod \quad pq-2$$

if $k+2i>p$.

One might have noticed that although R contains the $P[b_{20}^p]$ part, $P[b_{20}^p]$ doesn't show up in the B-family generators. This is because the total degree of b_{20}^p is

$$p(qp(p+1)-2)>q(p^3+p-1)-3$$

Hence, suppose a generator of B is a multiple of b_{20}^p, its total degree would exceed the range of interest.

On the other hand, the $P[b_{20}^p]$ part does show up in the C-family generators. The key difference is that C is the direct sum of shifted copies of R. Based on [23, Theorem 4.11, 4.12], we could determine all generators of C.

In more detail, let us write $i=jp+m$, with $0\leqslant m\leqslant p-1$. Consider the i-th shifted copy $R^{s+2\underline{i},t+\underline{i}(p^2-1)q}\subset C^{s,t}$ we have:

(1) $b_{20}^{(j+1)p}\in R^{2(p-m)+2(\underline{jp+m}),t+(\underline{jp+m})(p^2-1)q}\subset C^{2(p-m),t}$, which is represented by

$$b_{20}^{p-m-1}u_{jp+m}$$

for $p-1 \geqslant m \geqslant 1$, where

$$u_{jp+m} \in C^{2,q\left[(j+1)p^2+(j+m+1)p+m\right]}.$$

From this, we get generators of the form

$$b_{20}^{p-m-1}u_{jp+m} \otimes E[h_{20}] \otimes \left\{b_{11}^k | 0 \leqslant k \leqslant p-1\right\} \cup \left\{h_{11}b_{20}^k | 0 \leqslant k \leqslant p-2\right\}$$

(2) $b_{11}^k b_{20}^{jp} \in R^{2(k-m)+2(\underline{jp+m}),t+(\underline{jp+m})(p^2-1)q} \subset C^{2(k-m),t}$, which is represented by

$$b_{11}^{k-m-1}\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m}$$

for $p-1 \geqslant k \geqslant m+1 \geqslant 1$, where

$$\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m} \in C^{2,q\left[(j+1)p^2+jp+m\right]}.$$

From this, we get generators of the form

$$b_{11}^{k-m-1}\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m} \otimes E[h_{20}],$$

- Especially $h_{20}b_{11}^{p-1}b_{20}^{jp} \in R^{3+2(\underline{jp+p-2}),t+(\underline{jp+p-2})(p^2-1)q} \subset C^{3,t}$ is represented by $h_{11}\beta_{(j+1)p/1,2}$, which is an element of order p^2.

(3) $h_{11}b_{20}^k b_{20}^{jp} \in R^{2(k-m)+1+2(\underline{jp+m}),t+(\underline{jp+m})(p^2-1)q} \subset C^{2(k-m)+1,t}$, which is represented by

$$b_{20}^{k-m-1}\eta_{jp+m+1}$$

for $p-2 \geqslant k \geqslant m+1 \geqslant 1$, where

$$\eta_{jp+m+1} = h_{11}u_{jp+m} \in C^{3,q\left[(j+1)p^2+(j+m+2)p+m\right]}.$$

(4) $h_{20}h_{11}b_{20}^k b_{20}^{jp} \in R^{2(k-m+1)+2(\underline{jp+m}),t+(\underline{jp+m})(p^2-1)q} \subset C^{2(k-m+1)t}$, which is represented by

$$b_{20}^{k-m}\beta_{jp+m+2}$$

for $p-2 \geqslant k \geqslant m \geqslant 0$, where

$$\beta_{jp+m+2} \in C^{2,q\left[jp^2+(j+m+2)p+m+1\right]}.$$

- Especially $h_{20}h_{11}b_{20}^{p-2}b_{20}^{jp} \in R^{2+2(\underline{jp+p-2}),t+(\underline{jp+p-2})(p^2-1)q} \subset C^{2,t}$ is represented by $\beta_{(j+1)p/1,2}$, which is an element of order p^2.

The generators of C are summarized in Table 3.

Generators of C	$t-s$ and $t-s$ mod $pq-2$	Range of index
$b_{11}^k b_{20}^{p-m-1}u_{jp+m}$	$q[(p-m+j+k+1)p^2+jp+m]$ $-2(p-m+k)$ $\equiv 2(j+k+1)p+2(j-k+1)$	for $1 \leqslant m < p, 0 \leqslant j \leqslant p-2$, and $0 \leqslant k < p, j+k < m$
$h_{20}b_{11}^k b_{2,0}^{p-m-1}u_{jp+m}$	$q[(p-m+j+k+1)p^2+(j+1)p$ $+m+1]-2(p-m+k)-1$ $\equiv 2(j+k+2)p+2(j-k+1)-1$ $\equiv 2(j-k+2)p-1$	for $1 \leqslant m < p, 0 \leqslant j \leqslant p-2$, and $0 \leqslant k < p, j+k < m$, and $j+k \leqslant p-3$ if $j+k \leqslant p-4$ or $j+k=p-3, 2j < p-5$ if $j+k=p-3, 2j \geqslant p-5$
$h_{11}b_{20}^{k+p-m-1}u_{jp+m}$	$q[(p-m+j+k+1)p^2+(j+k$ $+1)p+m]-2(p-m+k)-1$ $\equiv 2(j+k+2)p+2(j-p)+3$	for $1 \leqslant m < p, 0 \leqslant j \leqslant p-2$, and $0 \leqslant k \leqslant p-2, j+k < m$, and $j+k \leqslant p-3$

$h_{20}h_{11}b_{2,0}^{k+p-m-1}u_{jp+m}$	$q[(p-m+j+k+1)p^2+(j+k$ $+2)p+m]+2(m-k-2)$ $\equiv 2(j+k+2)p+2j+2$ $\equiv 2j+4$	for $1\leqslant m<p, 0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$, and $0\leqslant k\leqslant p-2, j+k<m$, and $j+k\leqslant p-3$ if $j+k\leqslant p-4$ if $j+k=p-3$
$b_{11}^{k-m-1}\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m}$	$q[(j+k-m)p^2+jp+m]$ $-(2k-2m)$ $\equiv 2(j+k)p+2(j-k)$ $\underline{\equiv 2(j+k-p+1)p+2(j-k+1)}_{2p}$	for $1\leqslant m+1\leqslant k<p$, and $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j+k\leqslant p-2$ or $j+k=p-1$, $2j<p-1$ if $j+k\geqslant p$ or $j+k=p-1$, $2j\geq p-1$
$h_{20}b_{11}^{k-m-1}\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m}$	$q[(j+k-m)p^2+(j+1)p+m$ $+1]-(2k-2m+1)$ $\underline{\equiv 2(j+k+1)p+2(j-k)-1}_{4p-3}$ $\equiv 2(j+k-p+2)p+2(j-k)+1$	for $1\leqslant m+1\leqslant k<p$, and $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j+k\leqslant p-3$ or $j+k=p-2$, $2j\leqslant p-3$ if $j+k>p-2$ or $j+k=p-2$, $2j>p-3$
$h_{1,1}\beta_{(j+1)p/1,2}$	$q[(j+1)p^2+(j+2)p-1]-3$ $\equiv 2jp+2(j+1)+1$ $\equiv 1$	for $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j\leqslant p-3$ if $j=p-2$
$b_{2,0}^{k-m-1}\eta_{jp+m+1}$	$q[(j+k-m)p^2+(j+k+1)p$ $+m]-(2k-2m+1)$ $\equiv 2(j+k)p+2j+1$ $\underline{\equiv 2(j+k-p+2)p}$ $\underline{+2(j-p)+3}_{4p-3}$	for $1\leqslant m+1\leqslant k\leqslant p-2$, and $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j+k\leqslant p-2$ if $j+k>p-2$
$b_{2,0}^{k-m}\beta_{jp+m+2}$	$q[(j+k-m)p^2+(j+k+2)p$ $+m+1]-2(k-m+1)$ $\underline{\equiv 2(j+k+1)p+2j}_{2p}$ $\equiv 2(j+k-p+3)p+2(j-p)+2$ $\equiv 0$	for $0\leqslant m\leqslant k\leqslant p-2$, and $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j+k\leqslant p-3$ if $j+k>p-3$ if $j=k=p-2$
$\beta_{(j+1)p/1,2}$	$q[(j+1)p^2+(j+1)p-1]-2$ $\equiv 2jp+2(j+1)$ $\equiv 0$	for $0\leqslant j\leqslant p-2$ if $j\leqslant p-3$ if $j=p-2$

TABLE 3. Generators of C

Remark. The Adams-Novikov spectral sequence for the spectrum X collapses from E_2-term $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s,t}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$ in the range $t-s<q(p^3+p-1)-3$, since there are no elements with filtration $>2p$. Thus we actually get the homotopy groups $\pi_{t-s}(X)$ in this range.

3. THE ANSS E_2-TERM $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s,t}(BP_*, BP_*)$ AT $t-s=q(p^3+1)-3$

Consider the Adams-Novikov differential $d_r: E_r^{s,t}\to E_r^{s+r,t+r-1}$ in the ANSS. From the total degree of β_{p^2/p^2-1}, we know that $d_r(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1})\in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s,t}(BP_*, BP_*)$ such that $t-s=$

$q(p^3+1)-3$. The SDSS $E_1^{s,t,u}$ converges to $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s+u,t}(BP_*,BP_*)$. Fix $t-s-u=q(p^3+1)-3$, we have:

Lemma 3.1. *Fix $t-s-u=q(p^3+1)-3$, the E_1-term $E_1^{s,t,u}$ of the SDSS is the $\mathbb{Z}/p$-module generated by the following $\frac{p+15}{2}$ generators:*

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{g}_1 &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{p^2-1}\beta_2 \in E_1^{2,*,2p^2-1}; & \mathfrak{g}_2 &=\beta_1^{p^2-p}h_{20}\beta_{p/p} \in E_1^{3,*,2p^2-2p};\\
\mathfrak{g}_3 &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-2p-1}{2}}h_{2,0}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} \in E_1^{4,*,p^2-2p}; & \mathfrak{g}_4 &=\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-6p+1}{2}}b_{11}^2\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} \in E_1^{7,*,p^2-6p+1};\\
\mathfrak{g}_{5,m} &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{mp-\frac{p-1}{2}}b_{11}^{\frac{p-1}{2}-m}\beta_{(\frac{p+1}{2})p/p-m} \in E_1^{p+1-2m,*,*}; & \mathfrak{g}_6 &=\beta_1^{p-1}\eta_{(p-3)p+3} \in E_1^{3,*,2p-2};\\
\mathfrak{g}_7 &=\alpha_1\beta_{(p-1)p+1} \in E_1^{2,q(p^3+1),1}; & \mathfrak{g}_8 &=\alpha_1\beta_{p^2/p^2} \in E_1^{2,q(p^3+1),1}.
\end{aligned}$$

The index range for m in $\mathfrak{g}_{5,m}$ is $0\leqslant m\leqslant\frac{p-1}{2}$.

Proof. Fix $t-s-u=q(p^3+1)-3$. From the ABC Theorem, we know that the generators of the E_1-terms in the SDSS are of the form $W=\beta_1^k w$ or $W=\alpha_1\beta_1^k w$, where w is an element listed in the ABC Theorem.

1. If a generator of $E_1^{s,t,u}$ is of the form $W=\beta_1^k w$, then the total degree of $\beta_1^p w$ is $q(p^3+1)-3$ and the total degree of w is $q(p^3+1)-3$ modulo the total degree of β_1 which is $t-u=qp-2$. Note that

$$q(p^3+1)-3\equiv 4p-3 \qquad mod\ qp-2,$$

we list all the generators whose total degree might be $4p-3$ *mod* $qp-2$, which are marked with underline and subscript $4p-3$ in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3.

$$\begin{aligned}
&b_{11}^k\gamma_i && \text{at } k=2 \text{ and } i=(p+1)/2;\\
&h_{20}b_{11}^{k-m-1}\beta_{(j+1)p/p-m} && \text{at } k=1 \text{ and } j=0;\\
&b_{20}^{k-m-1}\eta_{jp+m+1} && \text{at } k=3 \text{ and } j=p-3.
\end{aligned}$$

From which we get the following generators in $E_1^{s,t,u}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
b_{11}^2\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} &\Longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}_4 &= \beta_1^{\frac{p^2-6p+1}{2}}b_{11}^2\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} \in E_1^{7,*,p^2-6p+1};\\
h_{20}\beta_{p/p} &\Longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}_2 &= \beta_1^{p^2-p}h_{20}\beta_{p/p} \in E_1^{3,*,2p^2-2p};\\
\eta_{(p-3)p+3} &\Longrightarrow & \mathfrak{g}_6 &= \beta_1^{p-1}\eta_{(p-3)p+3} \in E_1^{3,*,2p-2}.
\end{aligned}$$

2. If a generator of $E_1^{s,t,u}$ is of the form $W=\alpha_1\beta_1^k w_1$, then from the total degree of α_1 being $t-u=2p-3$ we see that the total degree of w_1 is $2p$ modulo $qp-2$. Similarly, we can find all such w_1's, which are marked with underline and subscript $2p$ in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3.

$$\beta_{(p-1)p+1}; \qquad \beta_{p^2/p^2}; \qquad h_{20}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}}; \qquad b_{11}^{\frac{p-1}{2}-m}\beta_{(\frac{p+1}{2})p/p-m}; \qquad \beta_2.$$

From which we get the following generators in $E_1^{s,t,u}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathfrak{g}_7 &=\alpha_1\beta_{(p-1)p+1}; & \mathfrak{g}_8 &=\alpha_1\beta_{p^2/p^2};\\
\mathfrak{g}_3 &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-2p-1}{2}}h_{2,0}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}}; & \mathfrak{g}_{5,m} &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{mp-\frac{p-1}{2}}b_{11}^{\frac{p-1}{2}-m}\beta_{(\frac{p+1}{2})p/p-m}, 0\leqslant m\leqslant\frac{p-1}{2};\\
\mathfrak{g}_1 &=\alpha_1\beta_1^{p^2-1}\beta_2.
\end{aligned}$$

Computing the filtration of the corresponding generators, we get the lemma. □

Remark: The method in proving Lemma 3.1 is a general method in computing the E_1-term $E_1^{s,t,u}$ of the SDSS with specialized $t-s-u$.

Theorem 3.2. *Fix $t-s=q(p^3+1)-3$, the Adams-Novikov E_2-term $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s,t}(BP_*,BP_*)$ is the $\mathbb{Z}/p$-module generated by the following 6 elements*

$$\mathfrak{g}_1 = \alpha_1\beta_1^{p^2-1}\beta_2 \in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p^2+1,*};$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_3 = \alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-2p-1}{2}}h_{2,0}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} \in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{p^2-2p+4,*}; \qquad \mathfrak{g}_4 = \beta_1^{\frac{p^2-6p+1}{2}}b_{11}^2\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} \in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{p^2-6p+8,*};$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_6 = \beta_1^{p-1}\eta_{(p-3)p+3} \in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p+1,*};$$

$$\mathfrak{g}_7 = \alpha_1\beta_{(p-1)p+1} \in Ext^{3,q(p^3+1)}; \qquad \mathfrak{g}_8 = \alpha_1\beta_{p^2/p^2} \in Ext^{3,q(p^3+1)}.$$

Proof. Following D. Ravenel [25] page 287, we compute in the cobar complex of $N_0^2 = BP_*/(p^\infty, v_1^\infty)$

$$\begin{aligned}
d\left(\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}(t_2 - t_1^{p+1})\right) =& \frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}t_1^p \otimes t_1 + \frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^{p-1}}b_{10},\\
-d\left(\frac{v_2^{jp+1}}{pv_1^{p+1}}t_1\right) =& -\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}t_1^p \otimes t_1 - j\frac{v_2^{(j-1)p+1}}{pv_1}t_1^{p^2} \otimes t_1 + \frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1}t_1 \otimes t_1,\\
d\left(j\frac{v_2^{(j-1)p}v_3}{pv_1}t_1\right) =& j\frac{v_2^{(j-1)p+1}}{pv_1}t_1^{p^2} \otimes t_1 - j\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1}t_1 \otimes t_1,\\
-(j-1)/2d\left(\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1}t_1^2\right) =& (j-1)\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1}t_1 \otimes t_1.
\end{aligned}$$

A straightforward calculation shows that the coboundary of

$$\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}t_2 - \frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}t_1^{p+1} - \frac{v_2^{jp+1}}{pv_1^{p+1}}t_1 + j\frac{v_2^{(j-1)p}v_3}{pv_1}t_1 - (j-1)/2\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1}t_1^2$$

is $\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^{p-1}}b_{10}$. Then from $\delta\delta\left(\frac{v_2^{jp}}{pv_1^p}\right) = \beta_{jp/p}$, we get a differential in the SDSS

$$d_2(h_{20}\beta_{jp/p}) = \beta_1\beta_{jp/p-1}.$$

Similarly, we have

$$d_2(h_{20}\beta_{jp/i}) = \beta_1\beta_{jp/i-1} \qquad \text{for } 2 \leqslant i \leqslant p. \tag{3.1}$$

Applying formula (3.1), we get the following differentials in the SDSS

$$\begin{aligned}
d_2(\mathfrak{g}_2) = d_2(\beta_1^{p^2-p}h_{20}\beta_{p/p}) =& \beta_1^{p^2-p+1}\beta_{p/p-1},\\
d_2(\alpha_1\beta_1^{mp-\frac{p-1}{2}-1}b_{11}^{\frac{p-1}{2}-m}h_{20}\beta_{(\frac{p+1}{2})p/p-m+1}) =& \alpha_1\beta_1^{mp-\frac{p-1}{2}}b_{11}^{\frac{p-1}{2}-m}\beta_{(\frac{p+1}{2})p/p-m} = \mathfrak{g}_{5,m},
\end{aligned}$$

which are illustrated in Figure 1. Then the theorem follows. □

4. A differential in the ANSS

This section is aimed at showing that

$$d_{2p-1}(h_{20}b_{11}\gamma_s) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p h_{20}\gamma_s \tag{4.1}$$

in the Adams-Novikov spectral sequence. This differential could imply the vanishing of $\mathfrak{g}_3$.

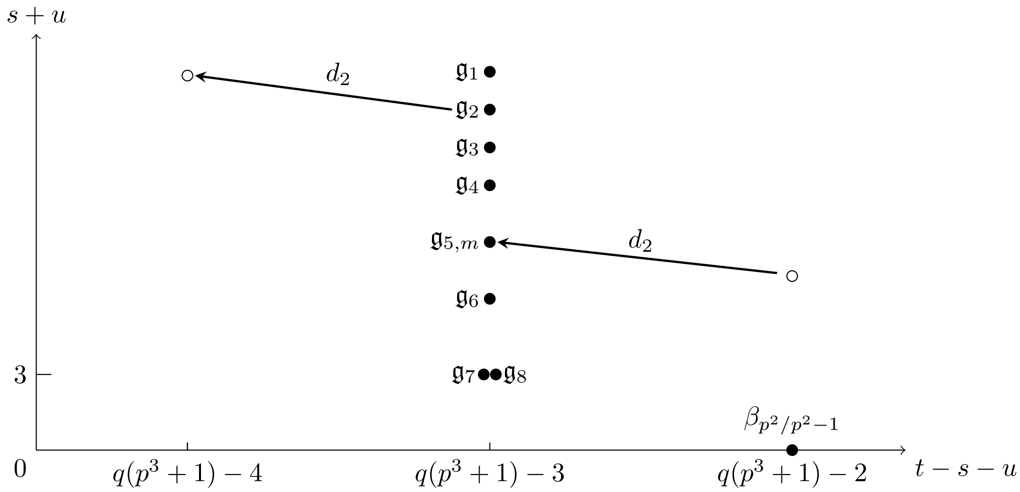

FIGURE 1. Two SDSS d_2 differentials

We begin from showing that $\pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}(V(2)) = 0$. From which we show that the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = 0$ and the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle$ is well-defined. Then from the relation

$$\langle \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}h_{20}\gamma_s = \beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s$$

in $\pi_*(S^0)$ and $d(h_{20}b_{11}) = \beta_1\beta_{p/p-1}$, we get the desired differential in the ANSS.

Let $p \geqslant 7$ and $V(2)$ be the Smith-Toda spectrum characterized by

$$BP_*(V(2)) = BP_*/I_3$$

where I_3 is the invariant ideal of $BP_* = \mathbb{Z}_{(p)}[v_1, v_2, \cdots, v_i, \cdots]$ generated by p, v_1 and v_2. To compute the homotopy groups of $V(2)$, one has the ANSS $\{E_r^{s,t}V(2), d_r\}$ that converges to $\pi_*(V(2))$. The E_2-page of this spectral sequence is

$$E_2^{s,t}V(2) = Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(V(2)))$$

Let

$$\Gamma = BP_*/I_3 \otimes_{BP_*} BP_*BP \otimes_{BP_*} BP_*/I_3 = BP_*/I_3[t_1, t_2, \cdots].$$

Then $(BP_*/I_3, \Gamma)$ is a Hopf algebroid, and its structure map is deduced from that of $(BP_*, BP_*(BP))$. By a change of ring theorem, one sees that

$$Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(V(2))) = Ext^{s,t}_{\Gamma}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3) \Longrightarrow \pi_*(V(2))$$

Lemma 4.1. *The $q(p^2+2p+2)-2$ dimensional stable homology group of $V(2)$ is trivial, i.e.,*

$$\pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}(V(2)) = 0.$$

Proof. Fix $t-s = q(p^2+2p+2)-2$, we know that the Adams-Novikov E_2-term

$$Ext^{s,s+q(p^2+2p+2)-2}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(V(2))) = Ext^{s,s+q(p^2+2p+2)-2}_{\Gamma}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3)$$

converges to $\pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}(V(2))$. We will prove that $\pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}(V(2)) = 0$ by showing that $Ext^{s,s+q(p^2+2p+2)-2}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(V(2))) = 0$.

In the cobar complex $C^s_\Gamma BP_*/I_3$, the inner degree of v_i, $|v_i| = |t_i| \geqslant q(p^3+p^2+p+1)$ for $i \geqslant 4$. It follows that in the range $t-s \leqslant q(p^3+p^2+p+1)-1$,

$$Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3) = Ext^{s,t}_{\Gamma}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3) = Ext^{s,t}_{\Gamma'}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3).$$

where $\Gamma' = \mathbb{Z}/p[v_3][t_1,t_2,t_3]$. From $\eta_R(v_3) \equiv v_3 \ mod\ I_3$, we see that

$$Ext^{s,*}_{\mathbb{Z}/p[v_3][t_1,t_2,t_3]}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3) \cong Ext^{s,*}_{\mathbb{Z}/p[t_1,t_2,t_3]}(\mathbb{Z}/p, \mathbb{Z}/p) \otimes \mathbb{Z}/p[v_3].$$

To compute the Ext groups $Ext^*_{\mathbb{Z}/p[t_1,t_2,t_3]}(\mathbb{Z}/p,\mathbb{Z}/p)$, we can use the modified May spectral sequence (MSS) introduced in [10, 11, 12, 26].

There is the May spectral sequence $\{E^{s,t,*}_r, \delta_r\}$ that converges to $Ext^{s,t}_{\mathbb{Z}/p[t_1,t_2,t_3]}(\mathbb{Z}/p,\mathbb{Z}/p)$. The E_1-term of this spectral sequence is

$$E_1^{*,*,*} = E[h_{ij}|0 \leqslant j, i=1,2,3] \otimes P[b_{ij}|0 \leqslant j, i=1,2,3], \tag{4.2}$$

where

$$h_{ij} \in E_1^{1,q(1+p+\cdots+p^{i-1})p^j,2i-1} \quad \text{and} \quad b_{ij} \in E_1^{2,q(1+p+\cdots+p^{i-1})p^{j+1},p(2i-1)}.$$

The first May differential is given by

$$\delta_1(h_{i,j}) = \sum_{0<k<i} h_{i-k,k+j}h_{k,j} \quad \text{and} \quad \delta_1(b_{i,j}) = 0. \tag{4.3}$$

For the reason of the total degree, to compute $Ext^{s,s+(q(p^2+2p+2)-2)}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3)$ we only need to consider the sub-algebra generated by $h_{30}, h_{20}, h_{10}, h_{21}, h_{11}, h_{12}$ and b_{20}, b_{10}, b_{11}, i.e. the subcomplex

$$E[h_{ij}|1 \leqslant i, i+j \leqslant 3] \otimes E[b_{20}, b_{11}] \otimes P[b_{10}].$$

From (4.3), we know that within $t-s \leqslant q(p^2+2p+2)-2$ the May's E_2-term

$$E_2^{s,*,*} = H^{s,*,*}(E_1^{s,*,*}, \delta_1) = H^{*,*,*}(E[h_{ij}|0 \leqslant j, i+j \leqslant 3], \delta_1) \otimes E[b_{20}, b_{11}] \otimes P[b_{10}].$$

H. Toda in [31] computed the cohomology of $(E[h_{ij}|0 \leqslant j, i+j \leqslant 3], \delta_1)$. Here we only jot down the even-dimensional elements within that range.

$h_{20}h_{10}$,	$q(p+2)-2$;	$h_{20}h_{11}$,	$q(2p+1)-2$;
$h_{12}h_{10}$,	$q(p^2+1)-2$;	$h_{21}h_{11}$,	$q(p^2+2p)-2$.

Thus within $t-s \leqslant q(p^2+2p+2)-2$, the even dimensional May's E_2-term $E_2^{s,t,*}$ is a sub-algebra of

$$\mathbb{Z}/p\{1, h_{20}h_{10}, h_{20}h_{11}, h_{12}h_{10}, h_{21}h_{11}\} \otimes E[b_{20}, b_{11}] \otimes P[b_{10}].$$

Suppose we have a generator y in $Ext^{s,s+q(p^2+2p+2)-2}_{\mathbb{Z}/p[v_3][t_1,t_2,t_3]}(BP_*, BP_*/I_3)$. Then y is the form of x or v_3x where x is an even dimensional generator in $H^*(E[h_{ij}|i+j \leqslant 3]) \otimes E[b_{20}, b_{11}] \otimes P[b_{10}]$.

(1) If $y = v_3x$, then $x \in E_2^{s,t,*}$ subject to $t-s = q(p+1)-2$. An easy computation shows that the corresponding E_2-term is zero.
(2) If $y = x$, then $x \in E_2^{s,t,*}$ subject to $t-s = q(p^2+2p+2)-2$. Similarly, from

$$q(p^2+2p+2)-2 \equiv 6p-2 \qquad mod \quad qp-2$$

we compute that the total degree $t-s$ mod $qp-2$ of the generators in

$$\mathbb{Z}/p\{1, h_{20}h_{10}, h_{20}h_{11}, h_{12}h_{10}, h_{21}h_{11}\} \otimes [b_{20}, b_{11}]$$

and find none of them is $6p-2$. Thus the corresponding E_2-term is zero.

The lemma then follows. □

It is easily shown that the following theorem holds from the lemma above.

Theorem 4.2. *For $p \geqslant 7$, $s \geqslant 1$, the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = 0$.*

Proof. Let $\widetilde{v}_3$ be the composition of the following maps

$$S^{q(p^2+p+1)} \xrightarrow{\widetilde{i}} \Sigma^{q(p^2+p+1)}V(2) \xrightarrow{v_3} V(2),$$

where the first map is the inclusion map to the bottom cell.

It is known that $\widetilde{v}_3$ is an order p element in $\pi_{q(p^2+p+1)}(V(2))$. Thus the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3\rangle$ is well defined and $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3\rangle \in \pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}(V(2)) = 0$. It follows that the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3\rangle = 0$.

Let $\widetilde{j} : V(2) \longrightarrow S^{q(p+2)+3}$ be the collapsing lower cells map from $V(2)$, then $\gamma_s = \widetilde{v}_3 \cdot v_3^{s-1} \cdot \widetilde{j}$. As a result,

$$\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = \langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3 \cdot v_3^{s-1} \cdot \widetilde{j}\rangle = \langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3\rangle \cdot v_3^{s-1} \cdot \widetilde{j} = 0$$

because $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \widetilde{v}_3\rangle = 0 \in \pi_{q(p^2+2p+2)-2}V(2) = 0$. □

Proposition 4.3 (also see [25] Proposition 7.5.11)**.** *For $p \geqslant 7$, $s \geqslant 1$, the Toda bracket $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle$ is well defined in $\pi_*(S^0)$, and*

$$\alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}h_{20}\gamma_s = \langle \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = \beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s.$$

Proof. From $\langle \beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p\rangle = 0$, $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \alpha_1\rangle = 0$, $\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_1\beta_1, p\rangle = 0$ and $\langle \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle = 0$, we know that the following 4-fold Toda bracket is well-defined and

$$\beta_{p/p-1} = \langle \beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \alpha_1\rangle; \qquad \alpha_1 h_{20}\gamma_s = \langle \alpha_1, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle.$$

On the other hand, one has

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1^{p-1}\alpha_1 h_{20}\gamma_s &= \beta_1^{p-1}\langle \alpha_1, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle \\ &= \langle \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle \\ &= \alpha_1\langle \beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \gamma_s\rangle \\ &= \langle \beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \alpha_1\gamma_s\rangle \\ &= \langle \beta_1^{p-1}, \alpha_1\beta_1, p, \alpha_1\rangle \cdot \gamma_s \\ &= \beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s \end{aligned}$$

The proposition follows. □

Theorem 4.4. *For $p \geqslant 7$, $2 \leqslant s \leqslant p-2$, we have the following Adams-Novikov differentials*

$$d_{2p-1}(h_{2,0}b_{1,1}\gamma_s) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p h_{2,0}\gamma_s.$$

Proof. Note that $b_{11} = \beta_{p/p}$. Then from (3.1) one has the differential in the small descent spectral sequence

$$d_2(h_{20}b_{11}) = \beta_1\beta_{p/p-1},$$

which could be read as $d(h_{20}\beta_{p/p}) = \beta_1\beta_{p/p-1}$ and $d(h_{20}\beta_{p/p}\gamma_s) = \beta_1\beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s$ in the cobar complex of BP_* or equivalently the first Adams-Novikov differential in the ANSS. Then from the relation $\beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s = \alpha_1\beta_1^{p-1}h_{20}\gamma_s$ in $\pi_*(S^0)$ and $\beta_{p/p-1}\gamma_s = 0$ in $Ext^{5,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$, we get the Adams differential in the ANSS

$$d_{2p-1}(h_{2,0}b_{1,1}\gamma_s) = \beta_1 \cdot \beta_1^{p-1}\alpha_1 h_{20}\gamma_s = \alpha_1\beta_1^p h_{20}\gamma_s.$$

The theorem follows. □

5. The proof of Theorem A

In this section, we prove our main theorem which states that β_{p^2/p^2-1} survives to E_∞ in the ANSS. Note that β_{p^2/p^2-1} has too low a dimension to be the target of an Adams-Novikov differential, we will do this by showing that all the Adams-Novikov differentials $d_r(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1})$ are trivial.

Lemma 5.1. *Let $i \not\equiv 0$ mod p. In the ANSS, one has the following Adams-Novikov differential*

$$d_{2p-1}(\eta_i) = \beta_1^p \beta_{i+1}$$

Proof. Recall from [25] 7.3.11 Theorem (e), in the SDSS

$$E_1 = Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X^{p^2-1})) \otimes E[h_{11}] \otimes P[b_{11}] \Longrightarrow Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*(X)),$$

where $BP_*(X^{p^2-1}) = BP_*[t_1]/\langle t_1^{p^2}\rangle$ (*cf.* [25] 7.3.8 Theorem), one has $d_2(h_{20}\mu_{i-1}) = ib_{11}\beta_{i+1}$. And from its definition we know that $\eta_i = h_{11}\mu_{i-1}$ is represented by

$$\delta\delta\left(\frac{v_2^{p+i-1}t_2 + v_2^i t_2^p - v_2^i t_1^{p^2+p} - v_2^{i-1}v_3 t_1^p}{pv_1}\right)$$

(*cf.* [25] p.288) which is also denoted by $\delta\delta\left(\frac{v_2^{p+i}}{pv_1}\zeta_2\right)$ in [13, 32]. In the cobar complex of $N_0^2 = BP_*/(p^\infty, v_1^\infty)$, a straightforward computation shows that the coboundary of

$$\frac{v_2^i(t_3 - t_1 t_2^p - t_2 t_1^{p^2} + t_1^{p^2+p+1}) + v_2^{p+i-1}(t_1t_2 - t_1^{p+2}) - v_2^{i-1}v_3(t_2 - t_1^{p+1})}{pv_1}$$
$$+\frac{2v_2^{p+i}}{(p+i)p^2v_1}t_1 - \frac{v_2^{p+i}}{(p+i)pv_1^2}t_1^2$$

is $\frac{(v_2^{p+i-1}t_2 + v_2^i t_2^p - v_2^i t_1^{p^2+p} - v_2^{i-1}v_3 t_1^p)\otimes t_1}{pv_1} + \frac{v_2^{i+1}}{pv_1}b_{11}$. This shows that in $Ext^{2,*}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, N_0^2)$ the cohomology class

$$\left[\frac{(v_2^{p+i-1}t_2 + v_2^i t_2^p - v_2^i t_1^{p^2+p} - v_2^{i-1}v_3 t_1^p)\otimes t_1}{pv_1}\right] = -\left[\frac{v_2^{i+1}}{pv_1}b_{11}\right].$$

Applying the connecting homomorphism $\delta\delta$, we get $\alpha_1\eta_i = \beta_{i+1}\beta_{p/p}$.

From $\alpha_1\eta_i = \beta_{i+1}\beta_{p/p}$ and the Toda differential, one has:

$$\alpha_1 d_{2p-1}(\eta_i) = d_{2p-1}(\alpha_1\eta_i) = d_{2p-1}(\beta_{i+1}\beta_{p/p}) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p\beta_{i+1}$$

The lemma follows from $\alpha_1 d_{2p-1}(\eta_i) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p\beta_{i+1}$. □

Proof of Theorem A From $\beta_{p^2/p^2-1} \in Ext^{2,q(p^3+1)}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$, we know that $d_r(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1}) \in Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ subject to $t - s = q(p^3+1) - 3$. From Theorem 3.2 we know that the corresponding $Ext^{s,t}_{BP_*BP}(BP_*, BP_*)$ is the $\mathbb{Z}/p$-module generated by $\mathfrak{g}_1, \mathfrak{g}_3, \mathfrak{g}_4, \mathfrak{g}_6$ and $\mathfrak{g}_7, \mathfrak{g}_8$.

$\mathfrak{g}_7 = \alpha_1\beta_{(p-1)p+1}$ and $\mathfrak{g}_8 = \alpha_1\beta_{p^2/p^2}$ have too low dimension to be the target of $d_r(\beta_{p^2/p^2-1})$.

From the Toda differential $d_{2p-1}(b_{11}) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p$ we have

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_1^{p^2-p-1}b_{11}\beta_2) = \alpha_1\beta_1^{p^2-1}\beta_2 = \mathfrak{g}_1$$
$$d_{2p-1}(\mathfrak{g}_4) = d_{2p-1}(\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-6p+1}{2}}b_{11}^2\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}}) = 2\alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-4p+1}{2}}b_{11}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}}.$$

From $d_{2p-1}(h_{20}b_{11}\gamma_s) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p h_{20}\gamma_s$ (*cf.* Theorem 4.4), we have

$$d_{2p-1}\left(\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-4p-1}{2}} h_{20}b_{11}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}}\right) = \alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p^2-2p-1}{2}} h_{20}\gamma_{\frac{p+1}{2}} = \mathfrak{g}_3.$$

From Lemma 5.1, we have

$$d_{2p-1}(\mathfrak{g}_6) = d_{2p-1}(\beta_1^{p-1}\eta_{(p-3)p+3}) = \beta_1^{2p-1}\beta_{(p-3)p+4}.$$

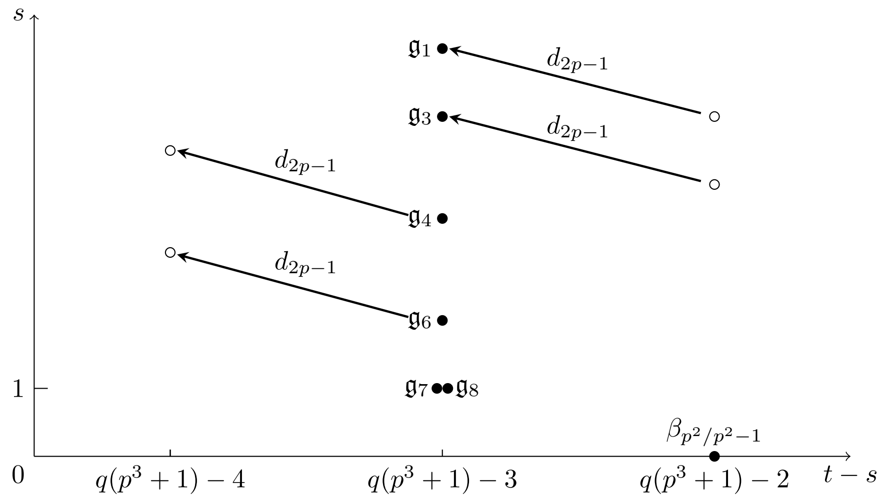

FIGURE 2. Four ANSS d_{2p-1} differentials

Then theorem A follows. □

6. A conjecture

Consider the cofiber sequence

$$S^0 \xrightarrow{p} S^0 \longrightarrow M$$

and the induced short exact sequence of BP-homologies

$$0 \longrightarrow BP_*(S^0) \xrightarrow{p} BP_*(S^0) \longrightarrow BP_*(M) \longrightarrow 0,$$

which induces a long exact sequence of Ext groups

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} \cdots \longrightarrow & Ext^{1,t}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow & Ext^{1,t}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow & Ext^{1,t}(BP_*(M)) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & Ext^{2,t}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow \cdots \\ & \downarrow d_{2p-1} & & \downarrow d_{2p-1} & & \downarrow d_{2p-1} & & \downarrow d_{2p-1} & \\ \cdots \longrightarrow & Ext^{2p,*}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow & Ext^{2p,*}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow & Ext^{2p,*}(BP_*(M)) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & Ext^{2p+1,*}(BP_*(S^0)) & \longrightarrow \cdots . \end{array}$$

For the connecting homomorphism δ, one has

$$\delta(h_{i+2}) = \beta_{p^{i+1}/p^{i+1}}, \qquad \delta(v_1 h_{i+2}) = \beta_{p^{i+1}/p^{i+1}-1} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \delta(v_1^i) = i\alpha_i.$$

From the Toda differential $d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p/p}) = \alpha_1\beta_1^p$, one can get a non-trivial differential in the ANSS for the Moore spectrum M

$$d_{2p-1}(h_2) = v_1\beta_1^p.$$

Then from the relation $h_{i+1}\beta_{p/p}^{p^i} = h_{i+2}\beta_1^{p^i}$ (*cf.* [22] and [25] 6.4.7), we get the following Adams-Novikov differential by induction

$$\begin{aligned} d_{2p-1}(h_{i+2})\beta_1^{p^i} = d_{2p-1}(h_{i+2}\beta_1^{p^i}) =& d_{2p-1}(h_{i+1}\beta_{p/p}^{p^i}) \\ =& d_{2p-1}(h_{i+1})\beta_{p/p}^{p^i} \\ =& v_1\beta_{p^{i-1}/p^{i-1}}^{p}\beta_{p/p}^{p^i} \\ =& v_1(\beta_{p^{i-1}/p^{i-1}}\beta_{p/p}^{p^{i-1}})^p \\ =& v_1\beta_{p^i/p^i}^{p}\beta_1^{p^i}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies $d_{2p-1}(h_{i+2}) = v_1\beta_{p^i/p^i}^p$ in the ANSS for the Moore spectrum M. Then from the convergence of v_1 in the ANSS for the Moore spectrum one has

$$d_{2p-1}(v_1h_{i+2}) = v_1^2\beta_{p^i/p^i}^p$$

Applying the connecting homomorphism δ, we have the Adams-Novikov differential for the sphere

$$d_{2p-1}(\beta_{p^{i+1}/p^{i+1}-1}) = d_{2p-1}(\delta(v_1h_{i+2})) = \delta(d_{2p-1}(v_1h_{i+2})) = \delta(v_1^2\beta_{p^i/p^i}^p) = 2\alpha_2\beta_{p^i/p^i}^p. \tag{5.2}$$

So one can prove the non-existence of $\beta_{p^{i+1}/p^{i+1}-1}$ from the non-triviality of

$$\alpha_2\beta_{p^i/p^i}^p \neq 0 \in Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p+1,*}(BP_*, BP_*).$$

(1) $\beta_{p/p-1}$ exists and $\alpha_2\beta_1^p = 0$ because $\alpha_2\beta_1 = 0$.
(2) β_{p^2/p^2-1} exists, this implies $\alpha_2\beta_{p/p}^p = 0$.

As we know that $\beta_{p/p}^p \neq 0$ in $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p,qp^3}(BP_*, BP_*)$ [22, 25]. But we could not find its representative element b_{11}^p in $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p,qp^3}(BP_*, BP_*(X))$ (*cf.* [25] 7.3.12 (b) and the ABC Theorem) because of the differential in the SDSS.

$$d(h_{11}b_{20}^{p-1}) = b_{11}^p$$

(1) At the prime $p = 5$, $\beta_1 x_{952}$ converges to $\beta_{5/5}^5$, where $x_{952} = h_{11}b_{20}^{p-3}\gamma_2$. This implies $\alpha_2\beta_{5/5}^5 = \alpha_2\beta_1x_{952} = 0$ (*cf.* [25] 7.5.5 stem 990) because $\alpha_2\beta_1 = 0$.
(2) At the prime $p \geqslant 7$, we compute $Ext_{BP_*BP}^{2p,qp^3}(BP_*, BP_*)$ by the SDSS. The E_1-term

$$E_1^{s,t,u} = Ext_{BP_*BP}^{s,*}(BP_*, BP_*(X)) \otimes E[\alpha_1] \otimes P[\beta_1]$$

subject to $s + u = 2p$, $t = qp^3$ is the $\mathbb{Z}/p$ module generated by

$$\beta_1h_{11}b_{20}^{p-3}\gamma_2, \qquad \alpha_1\beta_1b_{20}^{p-3}\eta_p, \qquad \alpha_1\beta_1^{\frac{p-1}{2}}h_{20}b_{11}^{\frac{p-5}{2}}b_{20}\mu_{\frac{p-3}{2}p+p-2}.$$

In any case, we can conclude $\beta_{p/p}^p$ is divisible by β_1. Here we believe that it is $\beta_1h_{11}b_{20}^{p-3}\gamma_2$ converges to $\beta_{p/p}^p$. So we have conjectures for the behavior of β_{p^i/p^i}^p in general as summarized in Conjecture C.

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