

COMPUTATION OF $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p)$

I want to describe how to compute $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p)$ over \mathbb{F}_p , where \mathbb{Z}_p is the inverse limit of \mathbb{Z}/p^n in the category of affine schemes, and \mathbb{Z}/p^n is the affine scheme representing the Zariski sheafification of the constant presheaf \mathbb{Z}/p^n . Concretely, \mathbb{Z}/p^n is $\mathrm{Spec} \mathrm{Fun}(\mathbb{Z}/p^n, \mathbb{F}_p)$ and \mathbb{Z}_p is $\mathrm{Spec} \mathrm{Cont}(\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{F}_p)$ —with group scheme structure coming from group structure on the profinite set \mathbb{Z}_p .

By examination (or Lurie-Barr-Beck), $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p)$ is the category of comodules over the coalgebra $\mathrm{Cont}(\mathbb{Z}_p, \mathbb{F}_p)$. We find this coalgebra/comonad on the dual side as follows. The Fourier-Cartier dual (for category number 0) of \mathbb{Z}_p is \mathbb{G}_m^\wedge . Thus we should compare by general theory (because we are studying quasi-coherent sheaves) $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p)$ with $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m^\wedge)$, i.e. the quasicoherent sheaves on the formal scheme of \mathbb{G}_m completed at 1. We will first think of this as subcategory of $\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m)$ supported at 1 and denote it as $\Gamma_* \mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m)$ —these categories are abstractly the same by Greenlees-May duality.

The composition

$$\Gamma_* \mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m) \rightarrow \mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m) \xrightarrow{\pi_*} \mathrm{QCoh}(*)$$

where the first functor is inclusion of torsion subcategory and $*$ represents the final object of affine schemes over \mathbb{F}_p , namely $\mathrm{Spec} \mathbb{F}_p$, is left adjoint to $\Gamma_* \pi^\times$ —where π^\times denotes the right adjoint to π_* . General theory tells us that

$$\Gamma_* \pi^\times(_) \cong \Gamma_* \pi^!(_) \cong \pi^*(_) \otimes \Gamma_* \omega_{\mathbb{G}_m} \cong \pi^*(_) \otimes E$$

where E is the injective hull of the residue field of \mathbb{G}_m at 1. Hence $\Gamma_* \pi^\times(\mathbb{F}_p)$ is discrete, and we can compute it as the subspace of

$$\mathrm{Hom}(\mathcal{O}(\mathbb{G}_m), \mathbb{F}_p)$$

on which the function $t - 1$ acts nilpotently (where t is the pullback of the canonical function on \mathbb{A}^1 to \mathbb{G}_m). In other words,

$$\Gamma_* \pi^\times(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathrm{colim}_n \mathcal{O}(\mu_{p^n})^\vee \cong \mathrm{colim}_n \mathcal{O}(\mathbb{Z}/p^n) \cong \mathrm{Cont}(\mathbb{Z}_p)$$

with comonad structure given by group structure on \mathbb{Z}_p by examination.

Now as $\Gamma_* \pi_*$ is comonadic (it's a composition of two comonadic functors), we have the equivalence

$$\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p) \cong \Gamma_* \mathrm{QCoh}(\mathbb{G}_m)$$

(where tensor product on left corresponds to convolution on right—we omit this proof but it's an easy check). Hence $\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p$ is a perfect stack over \mathbb{F}_p and the structure sheaf generates. Therefore

$$\mathrm{QCoh}(\mathrm{B}\mathbb{Z}_p) \cong \mathrm{Mod} H^*(S^1, \mathbb{F}_p)$$

where on the last step we refer to p-adic homotopy theory (as cohomology over \mathbb{F}_p factors through profinite completion).