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ARITHMETIC OF POSITIVE CHARACTERISTIC L-SERIES VALUES IN TATE ALGEBRAS¹

B. ANGLÈS², F. PELLARIN^{3,4}, AND F. TAVARES RIBEIRO²

WITH AN APPENDIX BY F. DEMESLAY².

ABSTRACT. The second author has recently introduced a new class of L -series in the arithmetic theory of function fields over finite fields. We show that the values at one of these L -series encode arithmetic information of a generalization of Drinfeld modules defined over Tate algebras that we introduce (the coefficients can be chosen in a Tate algebra). This enables us to generalize Anderson's log-algebraicity Theorem and an analogue of Herbrand-Ribet Theorem recently obtained by Taelman.

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1. INTRODUCTION

We fix a finite field k with q elements; we denote by p its characteristic. We further set $A = k[\theta]$ (polynomial ring with coefficients in k in an indeterminate θ) and $K = k(\theta)$ (the field of fractions of A). We also consider the field $K_\infty = k((\frac{1}{\theta}))$, the completion of K with respect to the place at infinity; we write $|\cdot|$ for the absolute

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²Université de Caen Basse-Normandie, Laboratoire de Mathématiques Nicolas Oresme, UMR 6139, Campus II, Boulevard Maréchal Juin, B.P. 5186, 14032 Caen Cedex, France.

³Institut Camille Jordan, UMR 5208 Site de Saint-Etienne, 23 rue du Dr. P. Michelon, 42023 Saint-Etienne, France.

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value of K_∞ normalized by setting $|\theta| = q$. We denote by \mathbb{C}_∞ the completion of a fixed algebraic closure of K_∞ and we denote by K^{ac} the algebraic closure of K in \mathbb{C}_∞ . More generally, for any subfield L of \mathbb{C}_∞ , we denote by L^{ac} the algebraic closure of L in \mathbb{C}_∞ .

Carlitz [10] introduced the so-called *Carlitz zeta values*

$$\zeta_C(n) := \sum_{a \in A_+} a^{-n} \in K_\infty, \quad n > 0, \quad n \text{ integer},$$

as some analogues, up to a certain extent, of the classical zeta values

$$\zeta(n) = \sum_{k > 0} k^{-n} \in \mathbb{R}$$

($n > 1$ integer). In the definition of $\zeta_C(n)$, A_+ denotes the set of monic polynomials in A and provides a kind of substitute of the set of positive integers. The Carlitz zeta values offer interesting analogies with the classical zeta values. Let us look at the archimedean example of the divergent series

$$(1) \quad \zeta(1) = \sum_{k \geq 1} k^{-1} = \prod_p \left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-1} = \infty$$

which we have developed as a divergent eulerian product (running over the prime numbers p). For a commutative ring R and a functor G from R -algebras to R -modules, we denote by $\text{Lie}(G)$ the functor from R -algebras to R -modules defined, for B an R -algebra, by:

$$\text{Lie}(G)(B) = \text{Ker}(G(B[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)) \rightarrow G(B)).$$

The local factor at p in (1) is

$$\left(1 - \frac{1}{p}\right)^{-1} = \frac{p}{p-1} = \frac{|\text{Lie}(\mathbb{G}_m)(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})|}{|\mathbb{G}_m(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})|},$$

where $|\cdot|$ denotes here the cardinality of a set. The above cardinalities can also be seen as positive generators of *Fitting ideals* of finite \mathbb{Z} -modules (the background on Fitting ideals is recalled in §5.3).

In parallel, let C be the *Carlitz functor* from A -algebras to A -modules (see §2.1 for the background on the Carlitz module). Then, for P a *prime* of A ⁽¹⁾ the module $C(A/PA)$ is a finite A -module and one can easily prove (in different ways; read Goss, [12, Theorem 3.6.3], Taelman, [19, Proposition 1], see also Anderson and Thakur's paper [3, Proposition 1.2.1]) that $P-1$ is the monic generator of the Fitting ideal of M . For a finitely generated and torsion A -module M , $[M]_A$ denotes the monic generator of its Fitting ideal. Then,

$$[C(A/PA)]_A = P-1$$

and

$$(2) \quad \zeta_C(1) = \prod_P \left(1 - \frac{1}{P}\right)^{-1} = \prod_P \frac{P}{P-1} = \prod_P \frac{[\text{Lie}(C)(A/PA)]_A}{[C(A/PA)]_A}.$$

The tensor powers of the Carlitz module functor introduced by Anderson and Thakur [3] provide a way to interpret the values $\zeta_C(n)$ as well, and this can be

¹A prime of A is an irreducible monic polynomial of A .

viewed as one of the main sources of analogies between the theory of the Carlitz zeta values and the values of the Riemann zeta function at integers $n \geq 2$.

Carlitz proves that for all $n > 0$ divisible by $q - 1$, $\zeta_C(n)$ is, up to a scalar factor of K^\times (the multiplicative group of K), proportional to $\tilde{\pi}^n$, where the quantity $\tilde{\pi}$ is defined [12, definition 3.2.7] by

$$(3) \quad \tilde{\pi} = {}^{q-1}\sqrt{\theta - \theta^q} \prod_{i \geq 1} \left(1 - \frac{\theta^{q^i} - \theta}{\theta^{q^{i+1}} - \theta} \right) \in \theta {}^{q-1}\sqrt{-\theta} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\theta} k \left[\left[\frac{1}{\theta} \right] \right] \right),$$

unique up to multiplication by an element of k^\times , see Goss, [12, Chapter 3]. We consider the *Carlitz exponential* \exp_C (see §2.1 for the background about this function). Carlitz proved the formula

$$(4) \quad \exp_C(\zeta_C(1)) = 1.$$

Knowing that 1 belongs to the domain of convergence of the Carlitz logarithm \log_C , composition inverse of \exp_C (see §2.1.2) and comparing the absolute values of $\log_C(1)$, $\zeta_C(1)$, $\tilde{\pi}$, we see that the above formula is equivalent to

$$(5) \quad \zeta_C(1) = \log_C(1).$$

Taelman [19] recently exhibited an appropriate setting to interpret the above formula as an instance of the *class number formula*. His approach, involving a new type of trace formula for certain variants of bounded continuous operators, also relies on the formula (2). He did this in the broader framework of *Drinfeld modules* defined over the ring of integers R of a finite extension L of K . Taelman associated, to such a Drinfeld module ϕ , a finite A -module called the *class module* (of ϕ over L), and a finitely generated A -module called the *unit module* (of ϕ over L). An *L-series value* $L(\phi/R)$ that he also defines is then equal to the product of the monic generator of the Fitting ideal of the class module times the regulator of the unit module (see Theorem 1 of loc. cit.).

In the case of $\phi = C$ the Carlitz module, and $L = K$, the L -series value is equal to $\zeta_C(1)$, the class module is trivial, and the regulator of the unit module is $\log_C(1)$, the Carlitz logarithm of 1, yielding (4).

1.1. Drinfeld modules. We introduce and discuss a generalization of Drinfeld modules.

Classically, a Drinfeld module ϕ of rank r is the datum of an injective k -algebra homomorphism

$$\phi : A \rightarrow \text{End}_{k\text{-lin}}(\mathbb{C}_\infty),$$

uniquely defined by the image of θ , that is, the value ϕ_θ of ϕ at θ , which is of the form

$$(6) \quad \phi_\theta = \theta + \alpha_1 \tau + \cdots + \alpha_r \tau^r,$$

where the *parameters* $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ are elements of \mathbb{C}_∞ with $\alpha_r \neq 0$.

The *Tate algebra* \mathbb{T}_s of dimension s is the completion of the polynomial algebra $\mathbb{C}_\infty[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ for the *Gauss norm* (see §2.2) and we have $\mathbb{T}_0 = \mathbb{C}_\infty$.

Observe that the automorphism $\mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$ defined by $x \mapsto x^q$ extends to a continuous homomorphism of $k[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -algebras $\tau : \mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$ and that $k[t_1, \dots, t_s] = \{f \in \mathbb{T}_s, \tau(f) = f\}$.

We use the $k[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -linear automorphism τ of \mathbb{T}_s to define *Drinfeld $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -modules of rank r over \mathbb{T}_s* ; a Drinfeld $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -module ϕ of rank r over \mathbb{T}_s is an injective $k[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -algebra homomorphism

$$\phi : A[t_1, \dots, t_s] \rightarrow \text{End}_{k[t_1, \dots, t_s]\text{-lin.}}(\mathbb{T}_s),$$

with ϕ_θ as in (6) but where the parameters $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ are now allowed to be chosen in \mathbb{T}_s and, of course, $\alpha_r \neq 0$; see §3.

1.1.1. *L-series values in the case of rank one.* *L-series* values at one can be associated to Drinfeld $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -modules defined over $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ by extending the construction of Taelman in [20] by using Fitting ideals on the model of the eulerian product (2). Typically, the *L-series* values of Taelman are elements of \mathbb{C}_∞ while our *L-series* values are elements of Tate algebras of any dimension.

The construction of these values is explained in §5.3 in the case of a Drinfeld $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -module ϕ of rank one; we momentarily denote by $\mathcal{L}(\phi)$ the Taelman *L-series* value of ϕ at one (a slightly different notation will be used later in the text). In this case, and with the unique parameter $\alpha = \alpha_1$ in $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$, the construction of *L-series* values becomes in fact very explicit. We consider the maps

$$\rho_\alpha : A \rightarrow k[t_1, \dots, t_s]$$

defined by

$$\rho_\alpha(b) = \text{Res}_\theta(b, \alpha),$$

where α is a polynomial of $A[t_1, \dots, t_s] \setminus \{0\}$ and where $\text{Res}_\theta(P, Q)$ denotes the resultant of two polynomials P, Q in θ ([14, §IV.8]). We recall that if F is a field and X is an indeterminate over F , if $P(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_{n-i} X^i$, $Q(X) = \sum_{j=1}^m q_{m-j} X^j$ are elements in $F[X]$ then $\text{Res}_X(P, Q) = (-1)^{nm} q_0^n \prod_{j=1}^m P(\beta_j)$, where β_1, \dots, β_m are the roots of $Q(X)$ in some algebraic closure of F ([14, §IV.8, Proposition 8.3]). For example, if $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, for $b \in A$ we get $\rho_\alpha(b) = b(t_1) \cdots b(t_s)$. We view the map ρ_α as a kind of higher dimensional generalization of a Dirichlet character.

Then, we set:

$$(7) \quad L(n, \phi) = \sum_{b \in A_+} \text{Res}_\theta(b, \alpha) b^{-n} = \prod_P \left(1 - \frac{\rho_\alpha(P)}{P^n} \right)^{-1}$$

(the product is taken over the primes P of A). It is easy to see that this series converges in the Tate algebra \mathbb{T}_s ; see §4. We show in Proposition 5.9 that

$$L(1, \phi) = \mathcal{L}(\phi).$$

If $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, then we recover Goss abelian *L-functions* by specializing the variables t_i to elements in k^{ac} . With our definition of *L-series* values, we will cover already many *L-series* values studied by Goss, as well as in [15, 13, 16] and [4]. In §10 we have included some further remarks on the link existing between our *L-series* values and the global *L-functions* of Goss, Taguchi-Wan and Böckle-Pink (see [12, 7, 9, 23]). These remarks may be of help for the reader to orientate in the literature.

1.2. The main results. The L -series values that we study being elements of the Tate algebras \mathbb{T}_s , they have the double status of “numbers” and “functions”. As numbers, the indeterminates t_1, \dots, t_s are unspecified and the series $L(n, \phi)$ are handled as elements of the ring \mathbb{T}_s . As functions, the variables t_1, \dots, t_s can be specialized and the analytic properties of the functions $L(n, \phi)$ can be used to obtain arithmetic information e.g. on Carlitz zeta values.

1.2.1. L -series values as “numbers”. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s of parameter α (that is, $\phi_\theta = \theta + \alpha\tau$) in $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$. The module ϕ is a global object defined over $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$. Considering it over \mathbb{T}_s means looking at its realization at the place ∞ . We introduce, in §5.1, the *class* $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -module H_ϕ and the *unit* $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -module U_ϕ associated to ϕ . This provides, in a certain way, a generalization of the constructions of Taelman paper [20]. Note that, while Taelman’s class modules are vector spaces of finite dimension over k , the class module H_ϕ is of finite rank over $k[t_1, \dots, t_s]$. We said “in a certain way” because we only deal here with the case of rank $r = 1$. The general case, however, can be handled as well, as Demeslay does, in a forthcoming work. In the case of $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, the class modules are “generic” in the sense that they can be used to interpolate Taelman’s class modules (over the cyclotomic extensions).

In the following, we denote the set of variables $\{t_1, \dots, t_s\}$ by \underline{t}_s (or by \underline{t} when the number of variables is understood in the context and when there is a real need to simplify the notation).

The $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space

$$\mathcal{H}_\phi = k(\underline{t}_s) \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} H_\phi$$

is of finite dimension and endowed with the structure of module over the ring

$$k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta] = k(\underline{t}_s) \otimes_k A$$

that we denote by \mathcal{R} to simplify certain formulas (see Corollary 5.10). Let

$$[\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} \in \mathcal{R}$$

be the monic generator of its Fitting ideal. We will see (Proposition 5.4) that the vector space

$$\mathcal{U}_\phi = k(\underline{t}_s) \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} U_\phi$$

is a free \mathcal{R} -module of rank one, to which we can associate a *regulator*

$$[\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

Then, the class number formula for the L -series value $L(1, \phi)$ (Theorem 5.11) can be obtained (the notation will be made more precise later in this text):

$$L(1, \phi) = [\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} [\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

This result is deduced from Theorem 11.3 of the Appendix, by F. Demeslay. The originality of our approach is the use we make of the above class number formula.

The properties of the *exponential function* \exp_ϕ associated to ϕ (§3.1) strongly influence the properties of $L(1, \phi)$, H_ϕ and U_ϕ . By the results obtained in §5, 6, and 7, for ϕ a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one defined over $A[\underline{t}_s]$, with $\phi_\theta = \theta + \alpha\tau$ with $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$, we have that $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in \mathbb{T}_s$ belongs in fact to $A[\underline{t}_s]$. It is a torsion point for the structure of $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module induced by ϕ if and only if the opposite of the parameter $-\alpha \in A[\underline{t}_s]$ is a monic polynomial in θ of degree $r \equiv 1$

(mod $q-1$). We will see that this latter condition is equivalent to the fact that the function \exp_ϕ is surjective, and its kernel has non-trivial intersection with $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, the completion of $K_\infty[\underline{t}_s]$ for the Gauss norm. Furthermore by the results of §7.1.1 and Theorem 7.7, we have:

If $-\alpha$ is monic as a polynomial in θ , of degree $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ with $r \geq 2$, then $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) = 0$. In the special case of ϕ of parameter $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, for $s \geq 2, s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, we have the formula:

$$L(1, \phi) = \frac{\tilde{\pi} \mathbb{B}_s}{\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s)},$$

where $\mathbb{B}_s \in A[\underline{t}_s]$ is the monic generator of the Fitting ideal of the $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module H_ϕ and ω is the Anderson-Thakur function introduced in [3].

We have few explicit examples of polynomial \mathbb{B}_s . Here are some:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{B}_q &= 1, \\ \mathbb{B}_{2q-1} &= \theta - \sum_{1 \leq i_1 < \cdots < i_q \leq 2q-1} \prod_{k=1}^q t_{i_k}, \quad (q > 2). \end{aligned}$$

Let ϕ be the Drinfeld $A[t_1]$ -module of parameter $\alpha = t_1 - \theta$, if we set $\mathbb{B}_1 = \frac{1}{\theta - t_1}$, by Lemma 7.1, we have the formula:

$$L(1, \phi) = \frac{\tilde{\pi} \mathbb{B}_1}{\omega(t_1)}.$$

As a consequence of the class number formula, we shall also mention the *log-algebraicity Theorem of Anderson*, in the case of the Carlitz module, see [2, Theorem 3 and Proposition 8 (I)] (so, surprisingly, the class number formula implies Anderson's log-algebraic theorem for the Carlitz module). In fact, we prove in §8 a result which can be interpreted as an *operator theoretic version*, thus a refinement of Anderson Proposition 8 (I) loc. cit. We introduce a class of formal series in infinitely many indeterminates $X_i, \tau(X_i), \dots, Z, \tau(Z), \dots$ ($i = 1, \dots, r$) by setting:

$$\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z) = \sum_{d \geq 0} \left(\sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} C_a(X_1) \cdots C_a(X_r) a^{-1} \right) \tau^d(Z),$$

where $A_{+,d}$ denotes the set of monic polynomials of degree d and $C_a(X_i)$ denotes a certain polynomial in $X_i, \tau(X_i), \dots$ obtained from the action of the Carlitz module evaluated at a on the indeterminate X_i ; for example, $C_\theta(X_1) = \theta X_1 + \tau(X_1)$. We have (Theorem 8.1):

$$\exp_C(\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z)) \in A[X_i, \tau(X_i), \dots, Z, \tau(Z), \dots, i = 1, \dots, r].$$

If we substitute, in the above result, $X_1 = \cdots = X_r = X$ and $\tau^n(X) = X^{q^n}, \tau^n(Z) = Z^{q^n}$ for all $n \geq 0$, we recover Anderson's original result asserting that

$$\exp_C \left(\sum_{a \in A_+} Z^{q^{\deg_\theta(a)}} a^{-1} C_a(X)^r \right) \in A[X, Z].$$

1.2.2. *L-series values as "functions"*. The evaluation of L -series values is the necessary step to deduce from the above results, arithmetic results on the values of Goss abelian L -series. One of the main novelties of our work is that we are able to study the isotypic components of Taelman's class modules in families. Let χ be a Dirichlet character of *type* s such that $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and conductor $a \in A_+$ (see §9.1). Let us denote by k_a the subfield of \mathbb{C}_∞ obtained adjoining to k the roots of a , by K_a the a -th *cyclotomic field* and by Δ_a the Galois group of K_a over K . We denote by H_a the *Taelman class A -module* associated to the Carlitz module and relative to the extension K_a/K . This is a finite $k[\Delta_a]$ -module. Let e_χ be the *idempotent element* of $k_a[\Delta_a]$ associated to χ . Then, the χ -isotypic component

$$H_\chi = e_\chi(H_a \otimes_k k_a)$$

is a finite $A[k_a]$ -module endowed with a suitable structure of $k_a[\Delta_a]$ -module. The evaluation map ev_χ is described in §9; it is obtained by substituting the variables t_i (for $i = 1, \dots, s$) by appropriate roots of unity chosen among the roots of the conductor a in k^{ac} . By Corollary 9.3, the Fitting ideal of the $A[k_a]$ -module H_χ is generated by $\text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_s)$. A similar result is obtain when the type s satisfies $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, see Theorem 9.7. In §9.5 we associate to our character χ certain *generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz numbers* denoted by $\text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}}$. These are elements of the compositum $K(k_a)$ of k_a and K in \mathbb{C}_∞ .

Let us write

$$\chi = \vartheta_P^N \tilde{\chi},$$

where P is a prime dividing the conductor a of χ (so that $a = Pb$ with P not dividing b), $\tilde{\chi}$ is a Dirichlet character of conductor b , ϑ_P is the Teichmüller character associated to P , and N is an integer between 0 and $q^d - 2$, with d the degree of P .

Let P be a prime and \mathfrak{K}_P the completion of K at P . If \mathfrak{A}_P is the valuation ring of \mathfrak{K}_P , the valuation ring of the field $\mathfrak{K}_P(k_a)$ is $\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]$. We obtain a generalization of Herbrand-Ribet-Taelman Theorem of [20] (Theorem 9.16). Here, we suppose that $N \geq 2$ if $\tilde{\chi} = 1$:

The $\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a][\Delta_a]$ -module $e_\chi(H_a \otimes_A \mathfrak{A}_P[k_a])$ is non-trivial if and only if

$$\text{BC}_{q^d - N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}} \equiv 0 \pmod{P}.$$

The original result of Taelman [20, Theorem 1] corresponds to the case in which $\tilde{\chi}$ is the trivial character. Our demonstration of Theorem 9.16 is inspired by the alternative proof of Herbrand-Ribet Theorem for function fields given in [6].

2. NOTATION AND BACKGROUND

The basic list of notation of this paper is the following:

- \mathbb{N} : the set of non-negative integers.
- k : a fixed finite field with q elements.
- p : the characteristic of k .
- θ : an indeterminate over k .
- A : the polynomial ring $k[\theta]$.
- A_+ : the set of monic elements in A .
- For $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $A_{+,n}$ denotes the set of monic elements in A of degree n .
- $K = k(\theta)$: the fraction field of A .

- ∞ : the unique place of K which is a pole of θ and v_∞ is the discrete valuation on K corresponding to the place ∞ . The valuation v_∞ is normalized such that $v_\infty(\theta) = -1$.
- $K_\infty = k((\frac{1}{\theta}))$: the completion of K at ∞ .
- \mathbb{C}_∞ : a fixed completion of an algebraic closure of K_∞ . The unique valuation on \mathbb{C}_∞ that extends v_∞ will still be denoted by v_∞ .
- $|\cdot|$: the absolute value of \mathbb{C}_∞ defined by $|\alpha| = q^{-v_\infty(\alpha)}$ for $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$.
- L^{ac} : the algebraic closure in \mathbb{C}_∞ of a field $L \subset \mathbb{C}_\infty$.
- R^\times : the group of invertible elements of a ring R .
- $\text{Frac}(R)$: the fraction field of a domain R .

In all the following we keep using a set of variables $\{t_1, \dots, t_s\}$ for various choices of $s \geq 0$. We recall that this set is denoted by \underline{t}_s or by \underline{t} if the value of s is understood. For example, $k(\underline{t}_s)$ denotes the field $k(t_1, \dots, t_s)$. In particular, we have $\underline{t}_0 = \emptyset$ and $k(\underline{t}_0) = k$. If $s = 1$, we will often write t instead of t_1 and \underline{t}_1 . We will also use the following notation, where R is a k -algebra:

- $R[\underline{t}_s]$: the ring $k[\underline{t}_s] \otimes_k R$. We observe that $R[\underline{t}_0] = R$.
- \mathbb{T}_s : the Tate algebra in the variables t_1, \dots, t_s with coefficients in \mathbb{C}_∞ . We observe that $\mathbb{T}_0 = \mathbb{C}_\infty$.
- $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$: the ring $\mathbb{T}_s \cap K_\infty[[\underline{t}_s]]$.
- $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$: the field $k(\underline{t}_s)((\frac{1}{\theta}))$.
- \mathcal{R} : the ring $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta] = k(\underline{t}_s) \otimes_k A$ (this notation will not be used systematically).

We observe that

$$K_\infty[\underline{t}_s] \subsetneq \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \subsetneq \text{Frac}(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)) \subsetneq K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty.$$

In fact, $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ is the completion of the fraction field of $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$.

2.1. The Carlitz exponential. The Carlitz exponential is the function

$$\exp_C : \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$$

defined by

$$\exp_C(X) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{X^{q^i}}{D_i}, \quad X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty,$$

where $(D_i)_{i \geq 0}$ is the sequence of A defined by $D_0 = 1$ and, for $i \geq 1$,

$$D_i = (\theta^{q^i} - \theta) D_{i-1}^q.$$

This function, k -linear, is entire from the identity $|D_i| = q^{iq^i}$. In particular, \exp_C is surjective.

The kernel of \exp_C is the A -module $\tilde{\pi}A$, where $\tilde{\pi}$ is defined by the infinite product (3), see [12, Corollary 3.2.9]. We have

$$|\tilde{\pi}| = q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}.$$

We can expand the function \exp_C in a convergent infinite product:

$$\exp_C(X) = X \prod_{a \in A \setminus \{0\}} \left(1 - \frac{X}{\tilde{\pi}a}\right), \quad X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty.$$

We observe that \exp_C induces an isometric k -automorphism of the disk

$$D_{\mathbb{C}_\infty}(0, q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}) = \{z \in \mathbb{C}_\infty; |z| < q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}\}.$$

2.1.1. *The Carlitz module.* The \mathbb{C}_∞ -algebra of the k -linear algebraic endomorphisms of $\mathbb{G}_{a, \mathbb{C}_\infty}$

$$\text{End}_{k\text{-lin.}}(\mathbb{G}_{a, \mathbb{C}_\infty})$$

can be identified with the skew polynomial ring $\mathbb{C}_\infty[\tau]$ whose elements are the finite sums $\sum_{i \geq 0} c_i \tau^i$ with the c_i 's in \mathbb{C}_∞ , subject to the product rule defined by $\tau x = x^q \tau$ for all $x \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$. If $X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$ and $P = \sum_{i=0}^d P_i \tau^i$ is an element of $\mathbb{C}_\infty[\tau]$, the *evaluation* of P at X is defined by setting

$$P(X) = \sum_{i=0}^d P_i X^{q^i}.$$

For example, the evaluation of τ at X is $\tau(X) = X^q$.

The *Carlitz module* is the unique k -algebra homomorphism

$$C : A \rightarrow \text{End}_k(\mathbb{G}_{a, \mathbb{C}_\infty})$$

determined by

$$C_\theta = \theta + \tau.$$

If $a \in A_{+, d}$, we denote by C_a the image of a via C . We have

$$C_a = a_0 \tau^0 + a_1 \tau^1 + \cdots + a_{d-1} \tau^{d-1} + \tau^d$$

with $a_0 = a$, and if $X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$, we will write, in particular,

$$C_a(X) = a_0 X + a_1 X^q + \cdots + a_{d-1} X^{q^{d-1}} + X^{q^d}.$$

This endows \mathbb{C}_∞ with a structure of A -module that will be denoted by $C(\mathbb{C}_\infty)$ and we have

$$C_a(\exp_C(X)) = \exp_C(aX)$$

for all $a \in A$ and $X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$. The Carlitz module C allows to make the exact sequence of k -vector spaces $0 \rightarrow \tilde{\pi}A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow 0$ induced by \exp_C into an exact sequence of A -modules

$$0 \rightarrow \tilde{\pi}A \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow C(\mathbb{C}_\infty) \rightarrow 0.$$

2.1.2. *The Carlitz logarithm.* The Carlitz logarithm is the rigid analytic function defined, for $X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$ such that $|X| < q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}$, by the convergent series

$$\log_C(X) = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{X^{q^i}}{l_i},$$

where $(l_i)_{i \geq 0}$ is the sequence defined by $l_0 = 1$ and, for $i \geq 1$,

$$l_i = (\theta - \theta^{q^i})l_{i-1}.$$

The convergence property is due to the fact that $|l_i| = q^{q \frac{i-1}{q-1}}$. We then have, for all $X \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$ such that $|X| < q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}$,

$$(8) \quad |X| = |\exp_C(X)| = |\log_C(X)|$$

and

$$(9) \quad \log_C(\exp_C(X)) = \exp_C(\log_C(X)) = X.$$

2.1.3. *The Carlitz torsion.* For $a \in A_+$, we set

$$\lambda_a = \exp_C \left(\frac{\tilde{\pi}}{a} \right) \in \mathbb{C}_\infty.$$

The subfield of \mathbb{C}_∞

$$K_a = K(\lambda_a),$$

a finite extension of K , will be called the a -th *cyclotomic function field*. A reference for the basic theory of these fields is [18, Chapter 12]. Here, we recall that K_a/K is a finite abelian extension unramified outside a and ∞ . Its Galois group

$$\Delta_a = \text{Gal}(K_a/K)$$

is isomorphic to the unit group

$$\left(\frac{A}{aA} \right)^\times.$$

Then, the isomorphism is explicitly given in the following way: if $b \in A$ is relatively prime with a , there exists a unique $\sigma_b \in \Delta_a$ such that

$$(10) \quad \sigma_b(\lambda_a) = C_b(\lambda_a).$$

2.2. Tate algebras. We use the above conventions and notation. Let s be in \mathbb{N} . Let L be an extension of K_∞ in \mathbb{C}_∞ such that L is complete with respect to $v_\infty|_L$. Let us consider a polynomial $f \in L[t_s]$, expanded as a finite sum

$$f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_s \in \mathbb{N}} x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}, \quad x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} \in L.$$

We set

$$v_\infty(f) = \inf\{v_\infty(x_{i_1, \dots, i_s}), i_1, \dots, i_s \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

We then have, for $f, g \in L[t_s]$:

$$v_\infty(f + g) \geq \inf(v_\infty(f), v_\infty(g)).$$

Furthermore, we have

$$v_\infty(fg) = v_\infty(f) + v_\infty(g)$$

so that v_∞ is a valuation, called the *Gauss valuation*.

Let us set, for $f \in L[t_s]$, $\|f\| = q^{-v_\infty(f)}$ if $f \neq 0$ and $\|0\| = 0$. We have $\|f + g\| \leq \max\{\|f\|, \|g\|\}$, $\|fg\| = \|f\|\|g\|$ and $\|f\| = 0$ if and only if $f = 0$; the function $\|\cdot\|$ is an L -algebra norm on $L[t_s]$ and an absolute value, called the *Gauss absolute value*.

We denote by $\mathbb{T}_s(L)$ the completion of $L[t_s]$ with respect to $\|\cdot\|$. When $s = 1$, we also write $\mathbb{T}(L)$ for $\mathbb{T}_1(L)$ and we observe that $\mathbb{T}_0(L) = L$. Equipped with the Gauss norm, $\mathbb{T}_s(L)$ is an L -Banach algebra that can be identified with the set of formal series of $f \in L[[t_s]]$ such that, writing

$$f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_s \in \mathbb{N}} x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}, \quad x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} \in L,$$

we have

$$\lim_{i_1 + \dots + i_s \rightarrow +\infty} x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} = 0.$$

The Gauss norm of f as above is then given by

$$\|f\| = \sup\{|x_{i_1, \dots, i_s}|, (i_1, \dots, i_s) \in \mathbb{N}^s\},$$

and the supremum is a maximum. When $L = \mathbb{C}_\infty$, we shall write \mathbb{T}_s, \mathbb{T} instead of $\mathbb{T}_s(\mathbb{C}_\infty), \mathbb{T}_1(\mathbb{C}_\infty)$. We refer the reader to [11, Chapter 3] for the basic properties of Tate algebras.

We denote by \mathfrak{o}_L the valuation ring of L (whose elements x are characterized by the fact that $|x| \leq 1$). We denote by \mathfrak{m}_L the maximal ideal of \mathfrak{o}_L whose elements x are such that $|x| < 1$. Then, the field $\overline{L} = L \cap k^{ac}$ satisfies $\overline{L} \simeq \frac{\mathfrak{o}_L}{\mathfrak{m}_L}$. We further denote by $\mathfrak{o}_{\mathbb{T}_s(L)}$ the subring of elements $f \in \mathbb{T}_s(L)$ such that $\|f\| \leq 1$ and by $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(L)}$ the prime ideal of $\mathfrak{o}_{\mathbb{T}_s(L)}$ whose elements are the f such $\|f\| < 1$. Then, we have that

$$\overline{\mathbb{T}_s(L)} := \frac{\mathfrak{o}_{\mathbb{T}_s(L)}}{\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(L)}} \simeq \overline{L}[\underline{t}_s].$$

If L/K_∞ is a finite extension which is complete, let π_L be a uniformizer of L . Then, we have that $L = \overline{L}((\pi_L))$, $\mathfrak{o}_L = \overline{L}[[\pi_L]]$. In particular:

$$\mathbb{T}_s(L) = \overline{L}[\underline{t}_s]((\pi_L)).$$

2.2.1. *$k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear endomorphisms of \mathbb{T}_s .* We denote by τ the unique $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear automorphism $\mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$ such that the restriction $\tau|_{\mathbb{C}_\infty}$ is the automorphism of \mathbb{C}_∞ defined by $x \mapsto x^q$. Explicitly, it can be computed as follows. For $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$ with

$$f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_s \in \mathbb{N}} x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}, \quad x_{i_1, \dots, i_s} \in \mathbb{C}_\infty,$$

we set

$$\tau(f) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_s \in \mathbb{N}} x_{i_1, \dots, i_s}^q t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}.$$

This is a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear automorphism of \mathbb{T}_s . In fact, τ is also an automorphism for the structure of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -algebra of \mathbb{T}_s . If we set

$$\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau=1} = \{f \in \mathbb{T}_s, \tau(f) = f\},$$

we have $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau=1} = k[\underline{t}_s]$. Observe that:

$$\|\tau^n(f)\| = \|f\|^{q^n}, \quad n \geq 0, \quad f \in \mathbb{T}_s.$$

With the action of τ on \mathbb{T}_s , we have the non-commutative skew polynomial rings $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$ and $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$. The latter is, as a set, constituted of the formal series $\sum_{i \geq 0} f_i \tau^i$ with $f_i \in \mathbb{T}_s$ for all i , and the elements of the former are the formal series whose sequences of coefficients are eventually zero. The commutation rule defining the product is given by

$$\tau f = \tau(f) \tau,$$

for $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$. Moreover, the ring $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$ acts on \mathbb{T}_s : if $P = \sum_{i=0}^d P_i \tau^i \in \mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$ and $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$, then we set

$$P(f) = \sum_{i=0}^d P_i \tau^i(f) \in \mathbb{T}_s.$$

3. DRINFELD $A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$ -MODULES OVER \mathbb{T}_s .

Definition 3.1. Let $r \geq 1$ be an integer. A *Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module over \mathbb{T}_s* is a homomorphism of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -algebras

$$\phi : A[\underline{t}_s] \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$$

defined by

$$\phi_\theta = \theta + \alpha_1 \tau + \dots + \alpha_r \tau^r,$$

for an integer $r > 0$ and elements $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in \mathbb{T}_s$ with α_r non-zero. The integer r is the *rank* of ϕ . The vector

$$\underline{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r) \in \mathbb{T}_s^r$$

is the *parameter* of ϕ . If $r = 1$, we identify the parameter with its unique entry α_1 .

Given a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module ϕ of rank r over \mathbb{T}_s , if M is a sub- $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of \mathbb{T}_s such that $\phi_\theta(M) \subset M$, we denote by $\phi(M)$ the $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module M equipped with the $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module structure induced by ϕ . In particular, we will often work in the module $\phi(\mathbb{T}_s)$. This notation should not lead to confusion since $\phi(A[\underline{t}_s])$ will *always* denote $A[\underline{t}_s]$ equipped with the new module structure, and *not* the image of ϕ in $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$.

If $s \leq s'$ then we have the embedding $\mathbb{T}_s \subset \mathbb{T}_{s'}$ induced by the inclusion

$$k[\underline{t}_s] \subset k[t_1, \dots, t_s, t_{s+1}, \dots, t_{s'}] = k[\underline{t}_{s'}].$$

Every Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module over \mathbb{T}_s can be extended in a natural way to a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_{s'}]$ -module over $\mathbb{T}_{s'}$ of the same rank, which will be denoted again by ϕ for the sake of simplicity.

Definition 3.2. Let ϕ, ϕ' be two Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules over \mathbb{T}_s . We say that ϕ is *isomorphic* to ϕ' if there exists $u \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ (\mathbb{T}_s^\times denotes the multiplicative group of the units of \mathbb{T}_s) such that, in $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$:

$$\phi_\theta u = u \phi'_\theta.$$

If ϕ and ϕ' are isomorphic Drinfeld modules, they must have the same rank and we shall also write $\phi \cong \phi'$.

Remark 3.3. When two Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules are isomorphic, it is understood that they are isomorphic *over* \mathbb{T}_s .

Let ϕ, ϕ' be Drinfeld modules of rank $r > 0$ over \mathbb{T}_s of respective parameters

$$\underline{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r), \quad \underline{\alpha}' = (\alpha'_1, \dots, \alpha'_r) \in \mathbb{T}_s.$$

Then, the condition $\phi \cong \phi'$ amounts to the existence of $u \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ such that

$$\alpha_i \tau^i(u) = \alpha'_i u, \quad i = 1, \dots, r.$$

Remark 3.4. If $s = 0$, all the Drinfeld A -modules of rank one are isomorphic over \mathbb{C}_∞ to the Carlitz module C . This is no longer true for Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules of rank one if $s \geq 1$; for example, the Drinfeld modules of rank 1 of parameters $\alpha = 1$ (Carlitz module) and $\alpha = t$ (both defined over $\mathbb{T}_1 = \mathbb{T}$) are not isomorphic.

From now on, we will be focused on Drinfeld modules of rank 1.

Definition 3.5. We will denote by C_s the Drinfeld module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s with parameter

$$\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta).$$

Of course, if $s = 0$, we get $C_0 = C$, the Carlitz module.

3.1. Exponential and logarithm. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one defined over \mathbb{T}_s with parameter $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s$. We also set

$$\tau_\alpha = \alpha\tau \in \mathbb{T}_s[\tau].$$

Explicitly, for any $n \geq 0$, we have

$$\tau_\alpha^n = \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{n-1}(\alpha)\tau^n.$$

We will be particularly interested in the formal series of $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$

$$\begin{aligned} \exp_\phi &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{D_n} \tau_\alpha^n, \\ \log_\phi &= \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{1}{l_n} \tau_\alpha^n, \end{aligned}$$

respectively called the *exponential series* and the *logarithm series* associated to ϕ .

It is easy to show that, in $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$, we have:

$$\exp_\phi \log_\phi = \log_\phi \exp_\phi = 1, \quad \exp_\phi \theta = \phi_\theta \exp_\phi.$$

A routine computation also shows the identities in $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$:

$$\phi_a \exp_\phi = \exp_\phi a, \quad \log_\phi \phi_a = a \log_\phi, \quad \text{for all } a \in A[\underline{t}_s].$$

We observe that

$$\|D_n^{-1} \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{n-1}(\alpha)\| = \|\alpha\|^{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}} q^{-nq^n}$$

so that for all $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$, the series

$$\exp_\phi(f) := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\tau_\alpha^n(f)}{D_n} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{n-1}(\alpha)}{D_n} \tau^n(f)$$

converges in \mathbb{T}_s ⁽²⁾. The $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear map

$$\exp_\phi : \mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$$

defined by $f \mapsto \exp_\phi(f)$ is called the *exponential function* of ϕ . It is open and continuous, as the reader can easily check. Also, if $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, then \exp_ϕ induces a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear map $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$.

If B is a normed ring with ultrametric norm $\|\cdot\|$, and if $r \geq 0$, we shall denote by $D_B(0, r)$ (resp. $\overline{D}_B(0, r)$) the set $\{z \in B; \|z\| < r\}$ (resp. $\{z \in B; \|z\| \leq r\}$). We notice that, for all $r \geq 0$, the sets $D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, r)$ and $\overline{D}_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, r)$ are $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -submodules of \mathbb{T}_s . We observe that

$$\|l_n^{-1} \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{n-1}(\alpha)\| = \|\alpha\|^{\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}} q^{-q \frac{q^n-1}{q-1}}.$$

Let us set $r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$. For all $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$ such that $v_\infty(f) > \frac{r-q}{q-1}$ (that is, $f \in D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}})$), the series

$$\log_\phi(f) := \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{\tau_\alpha^n(f)}{l_n}$$

²The reader is warned that we are using the same symbols to denote completely different entities. Indeed, at once, \exp_ϕ denotes a formal series of $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$ and a continuous endomorphism of \mathbb{T}_s . The same remark can be made for \log_ϕ . This should not lead to confusion and contributes to easily manageable notation.

also converges in \mathbb{T}_s . The $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -linear map

$$\log_\phi : D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}}) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$$

defined by $f \mapsto \log_\phi(f)$ is called the *logarithm function* of ϕ . As a consequence of the above discussion we have the next Lemma.

Lemma 3.6. *The functions \exp_ϕ, \log_ϕ induce isometric automorphisms of*

$$D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}}),$$

inverse of each other.

3.1.1. *The modules N_α .* We denote by $u(\alpha)$ the maximum of the lower integer part of $\frac{r-q}{q-1}$ and zero:

$$u(\alpha) = \max \left\{ 0, \left\lfloor \frac{r-q}{q-1} \right\rfloor \right\}.$$

Here we assume that $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$. Because this will be needed in the computations of §5, we give some elementary properties of the $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module

$$N_\alpha = \{f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty); v_\infty(f) \geq u(\alpha) + 1\}.$$

In particular, we note that $N_\alpha = \mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}$ if $r < 2q - 1$.

We observe that we have a direct sum of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules:

$$\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = A[\underline{t}_s] \oplus \mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}.$$

We notice that $u(\alpha) > 0$ if and only if $r \geq 2q - 1$. The proof of the next Lemma is easy and left to the reader.

Lemma 3.7. *For all α such that $r = -v_\infty(\alpha) \geq 1$, we have a direct sum of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules:*

$$\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)} = N_\alpha \oplus \theta^{-u(\alpha)} \langle 1, \dots, \theta^{u(\alpha)-1} \rangle_{k[\underline{t}_s]},$$

where $\langle \dots \rangle_{k[\underline{t}_s]}$ denotes the $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -span of a set of elements of \mathbb{T}_s .

We denote by M_α the module

$$(11) \quad M_\alpha = \theta^{-u(\alpha)} \langle 1, \dots, \theta^{u(\alpha)-1} \rangle_{k[\underline{t}_s]},$$

(if $r < 2q - 1$, we set $M_\alpha = \{0\}$). Then, for all α such that $r \geq 1$,

$$(12) \quad \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = A[\underline{t}_s] \oplus M_\alpha \oplus N_\alpha.$$

3.2. An example of \exp_ϕ injective and not surjective. We shall consider here the case of $\alpha = t \in \mathbb{T}$ and describe some properties of the associated exponential function \exp_ϕ , given by

$$\exp_\phi = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{t^i}{D_i} \tau^i.$$

This map $\exp_\phi : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$ is obviously injective. Moreover, it is not surjective. To see this, let us extend \exp_ϕ to $\mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]]$. For $z = \sum_{n \geq 0} c_n t^n$, $c_n \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$, we set:

$$\exp_\phi(z) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \exp_\phi(c_n) t^n \in \mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]].$$

Then $\exp_\phi : \mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]]$ is $k[[t]]$ -linear. We have:

Lemma 3.8. *Let y be an element of \mathbb{C}_∞ . There exists a unique formal series $x = \sum_{i \geq 0} x_i t^i \in \mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]]$ such that $\exp_\phi(x) = y$. Furthermore, let $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that*

$$|y| = q^{\frac{q-\epsilon}{q-1}}.$$

Then, for all $n \geq 0$,

$$|x_n| = q^{\frac{q-q^n\epsilon}{q-1}}.$$

In particular, $x \in \mathbb{T}$ if and only if $|y| < q^{\frac{q}{q-1}}$.

Proof. Let $x = \sum_{i \geq 0} x_i t^i \in \mathbb{C}_\infty[[t]]$ such that $\exp_\phi(x) = y$. Then:

$$x_0 = y,$$

and for $n \geq 1$:

$$x_n = -(x_0^{q^n} D_n^{-1} + x_1^{q^{n-1}} D_{n-1}^{-1} + \cdots + x_{n-1}^q D_1^{-1}).$$

One can then prove that $|x_n| = q^{\frac{q-q^n\epsilon}{q-1}}$ by induction on n . \square

3.3. Entire operators. Let

$$f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_s} f_{i_1, \dots, i_s} t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}$$

be an element of \mathbb{T}_s (the coefficients f_{i_1, \dots, i_s} lie in \mathbb{C}_∞). We say that f is an *entire function* if

$$\lim_{i_1 + \cdots + i_s \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{v_\infty(f_{i_1, \dots, i_s})}{i_1 + \cdots + i_s} = +\infty.$$

The subset \mathbb{E}_s of entire functions of \mathbb{T}_s is a subring containing the subring of polynomials $\mathbb{C}_\infty[\underline{t}_s]$. Observe that $\tau(\mathbb{E}_s) \subset \mathbb{E}_s$.

Let us consider a sequence of entire functions $(F_n)_{n \geq 0}$ and an operator

$$F = \sum_{n \geq 0} F_n \tau^n \in \mathbb{E}_s[[\tau]].$$

We say that F is an *entire operator* if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_\infty(F_n) q^{-n} = +\infty$. In particular, for all $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$, $F(f) = \sum_{n \geq 0} F_n \tau^n(f)$ converges in \mathbb{T}_s .

Lemma 3.9. *Let $F = \sum_{n \geq 0} F_n \tau^n$ be an entire operator. Then: $F(\mathbb{E}_s) \subset \mathbb{E}_s$.*

Proof. With \underline{i} we shall denote here a multi-index (i_1, \dots, i_s) whose entries are non-negative integers. We denote by $|\underline{i}|$ the integer $i_1 + \cdots + i_s$, and if $\underline{i}, \underline{j}$ are such multi-indices, then $\underline{i} + \underline{j}$ denotes their component-wise sum. We also write $\underline{t}^{\underline{i}}$ for the monomial $t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_s^{i_s}$. Hence, we have $f = \sum_{\underline{j}} f_{\underline{j}} \underline{t}^{\underline{j}}$. We expand each entire function F_n in series

$$F_n = \sum_{\underline{i}} F_{n, \underline{i}} \underline{t}^{\underline{i}},$$

where by hypothesis, $\lim_{|\underline{i}| \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{v_\infty(F_{n, \underline{i}})}{|\underline{i}|} = +\infty$. Now, we verify easily that $F(f) = \sum_{\underline{k}} c_{\underline{k}} \underline{t}^{\underline{k}} \in \mathbb{T}_s$ where

$$c_{\underline{k}} = \sum_{\underline{i} + \underline{j} = \underline{k}} \sum_{n \geq 0} F_{n, \underline{i}} f_{\underline{j}}^{q^n}.$$

Since

$$v_\infty(c_{\underline{k}}) \geq \inf_{\underline{i} + \underline{j} = \underline{k}, n \geq 0} (v_\infty(F_{n, \underline{i}}) + q^n v_\infty(f_{\underline{j}})),$$

and since

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_\infty(F_n)q^{-n} &= \lim_{|\underline{i}| \rightarrow +\infty} v_\infty(f_{\underline{i}})|\underline{i}|^{-1} \\ &= \lim_{|\underline{j}| \rightarrow +\infty} v_\infty(F_{n_0, \underline{j}})|\underline{j}|^{-1} \\ &= +\infty \end{aligned}$$

for all $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$, we get $\lim_{|\underline{k}| \rightarrow +\infty} v_\infty(c_{\underline{k}})|\underline{k}|^{-1} = +\infty$ and thus $F(f) \in \mathbb{E}_s$. \square

Let α be an element of \mathbb{E}_s . Then, $\alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha)$ is also entire for all i and

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} v_\infty(\alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha)D_i^{-1})q^{-i} = +\infty.$$

Therefore we deduce from Lemma 3.9 the following Proposition which will be of some help later on in this paper:

Proposition 3.10. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s and let α be its parameter. Let us assume that $\alpha \in \mathbb{E}_s$. Then:*

$$\exp_\phi(\mathbb{E}_s) \subset \mathbb{E}_s.$$

4. L -SERIES VALUES

In this section we consider a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module ϕ of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s with parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$. We are going to associate to such a parameter α an L -series value.

4.1. Definition of L -series values. Let α be an element of $A[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$. In a fixed algebraic closure $k(\underline{t}_s)^{ac}$ of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ we can find elements x_1, \dots, x_r and $\beta \in k[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$ so that, in $k(\underline{t}_s)^{ac}[\theta]$,

$$(13) \quad \alpha = \beta(x_1 - \theta) \cdots (x_r - \theta).$$

We define

$$\rho_\alpha : A \rightarrow k(\underline{t}_s)^{ac}$$

by $\rho_\alpha(0) = 0$ and

$$\rho_\alpha(a) = \beta^{\deg_\theta(a)} a(x_1) \cdots a(x_r), \quad a \in A \setminus \{0\}.$$

An alternative way to write it is:

$$\rho_\alpha(a) = \text{Res}_\theta(a, \alpha) \in k[\underline{t}_s],$$

where $\text{Res}_\theta(P, Q)$ denotes the resultant of two polynomials in the indeterminate θ ⁽³⁾. In particular, with P a prime of A (we recall that a *prime* of A is monic irreducible element in A_+), $\rho_\alpha(P) = 0$ if and only if P divides α in $A[\underline{t}_s]$.

If $a, b \in A$, then $\rho_\alpha(ab) = \rho_\alpha(a)\rho_\alpha(b)$ and if α_1, α_2 are polynomials of $A[\underline{t}_s]$, then

$$\rho_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(a) = \rho_{\alpha_1}(a)\rho_{\alpha_2}(a), \quad a \in A.$$

Definition 4.1. Let ϕ be the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}_s]$, let $n \geq 1$ be an integer. The L -series value at n associated to ϕ is the unit of norm one of $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ defined by (7).

³We recall that if $P = P_0\theta^d + P_1\theta^{d-1} + \cdots + P_d$ and $Q = Q_0\theta^r + Q_1\theta^{r-1} + \cdots + Q_r$ are polynomials with roots respectively ζ_i and x_j , then, for the resultant $\text{Res}_\theta(P, Q)$, we have the identity $\text{Res}_\theta(P, Q) = P_0^r \prod_i Q(\zeta_i) = (-1)^{dr} Q_0^d \prod_j P(x_j)$.

By [4, Lemma 4], we also have that $L(-n, \phi) := \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} \rho_\alpha(a) a^n$ converges in \mathbb{T}_s for $n \geq 0$ and is in fact in $A[\underline{t}_s]$. Note that the above definition is *not* invariant under isomorphism of Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules.

Remark 4.2. We can also associate L -series values $L(n, \phi) \in k(\underline{t}_s)((\frac{1}{\theta}))$ to Drinfeld $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$ -modules of rank one defined over $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$. In the sequel, we will also work with such modules and L -series values, but the most interesting examples discussed here will arise from the case of $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules defined over $A[\underline{t}_s]$.

The value $L(1, \phi)$ will be one of the main objects of interest of the present paper.

4.2. Examples.

4.2.1. *Examples with $s = 0$.* If $s = 0$ and $\alpha = 1$, we have $\phi = C$ and

$$L(n, \phi) = L(n, C) = \zeta_C(n),$$

where $\zeta_C(n)$ is, for $n > 0$, the *Carlitz zeta value*

$$\zeta_C(n) = \sum_{a \in A^+} a^{-n} \in 1 + \theta^{-1}k[[\theta^{-1}]].$$

If $\alpha \in A \setminus \{0\}$, then we can write $\alpha = \beta \mathfrak{p}_1^{\nu_1} \cdots \mathfrak{p}_m^{\nu_m}$ with $\beta \in k^\times$, for primes $\mathfrak{p}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{p}_m$ of respective degrees d_1, \dots, d_m so that $\sum_i d_i \nu_i = r = \deg_\theta(\alpha)$, we have, for $a \in A^+$,

$$\rho_\alpha(a) = \beta^{\deg_\theta(a)} \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^{d_i} a(\zeta_{i,j})^{\nu_i},$$

where $\zeta_{i,1}, \dots, \zeta_{i,d_i}$ are the zeros of \mathfrak{p}_i in k^{ac} for all i . This implies, in the case $\beta = 1$ (that is, $\alpha \in A^+$), that the series $L(n, \phi)$ is the special value of a Dirichlet L -series:

$$L(n, \phi) = \sum_{a \in A_+} a^{-n} \prod_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^{d_i} a(\zeta_{i,j})^{\nu_i} \in K_\infty.$$

4.2.2. *Case of $\alpha = t$.* It is understood here that $s = 1$ so that we are in $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{T}_1$. This case directly refers to the example of Drinfeld module ϕ treated in 3.2. We have then

$$L(n, \phi) = \sum_{d \geq 0} t^d \sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} a^{-n} \in \mathbb{T} \cap K[[t]]$$

if $n > 0$. It is easy to see that

$$L(1, \phi) = \sum_{i \geq 0} t^i \ell_i^{-1} = \log_\phi(1) \in \mathbb{T}.$$

We have that the series

$$L(-j, \phi) := \sum_{d \geq 0} t^d \sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} a^j$$

defines an element of $A[t]$ for $j \geq 0$, and

$$L(-j, \phi) = z(t^{-1}, -j)$$

where the function z is defined as in Goss' book [12, Remark 8.12.1]. In loc. cit. Goss computes recursively the polynomial $z(t^{-1}, -j) \in A[t]$ for all $j \geq 0$.

4.2.3. *Case in which $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$.*

Definition 4.3. We will denote by C_s the Drinfeld module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s with parameter

$$\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta).$$

We notice that $C_0 = 0$, the Carlitz module.

We have:

$$L(n, C_s) = L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, n) = \sum_{a \in A_+} \frac{\chi_{t_1}(a) \cdots \chi_{t_s}(a)}{a^n} \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$$

with $L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, n)$ the functions studied in [4] and where for all $a \in A$, $\chi_{t_i}(a) = a(t_i)$. The case $s = 1$ and $\alpha = t - \theta$ yields the functions $L(\chi_t, n)$ of [15].

4.2.4. *A further example.* We shall also trace a connection with the Goss zeta functions, especially the functions considered by Goss in [13], see also [4, Section 2.1]. We recall, from Section 2.1 of loc. cit. the definition of the L -series $L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, x, y)$, with (x, y) in the topological group $\mathbb{C}_\infty^\times \times \mathbb{Z}_p$ denoted by \mathbb{S}_∞ therein:

$$L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, x, y) = \sum_{k \geq 0} x^{-k} \sum_{a \in A_{k,+}} \chi_{t_1}(a) \cdots \chi_{t_s}(a) \langle a \rangle^{-y},$$

where $\langle a \rangle$ is the 1-unit $a/\theta^{\deg_\theta(a)}$, and its p -adic exponentiation by $-y$ is well defined. For fixed $(x, y) \in \mathbb{S}_\infty$, the above series is a well defined unit element of \mathbb{T}_s . Thanks to [4, Proposition 6], we know that the above series in \mathbb{T}_s also defines an entire function $\mathbb{C}_\infty^s \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$.

We have, for $\beta \in k^\times$:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, \beta^{-1}\theta^n, n) &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \beta^k \theta^{-kn} \sum_{a \in A_{k,+}} \chi_{t_1}(a) \cdots \chi_{t_s}(a) \theta^{kn} a^{-n} \\ &= \sum_{k \geq 0} \beta^k \sum_{a \in A_{k,+}} \chi_{t_1}(a) \cdots \chi_{t_s}(a) a^{-n}. \end{aligned}$$

This equals $L(n, C_s)$ if $\beta = 1$.

5. THE CLASS NUMBER FORMULA

In this section, the integer $s \geq 0$ is fixed. Hence, we more simply write $\underline{t}_s = \underline{t} = \{t_1, \dots, t_s\}$.

We introduce the *class module* and the *unit module* associated to a given Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. We then give a *class number formula* which relates $L(1, \phi)$ to these objects.

5.1. Class and unit modules. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one with parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. Recall that $r = -v_\infty(\alpha) \in \mathbb{N}$. The definitions below are inspired by Taelman's work [20, 21].

5.1.1. *The class module.* We define the class module H_ϕ as the quotient of $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$H_\phi := \frac{\phi(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty))}{\exp_\phi(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)) + \phi(A[\underline{t}])}$$

where we recall that $\phi(A[\underline{t}])$ is the $k[\underline{t}]$ -module $A[\underline{t}]$ equipped with the $A[\underline{t}]$ -module structure induced by ϕ .

5.1.2. *The unit module.* It is the $A[\underline{t}]$ -submodule of $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ defined by:

$$U_\phi := \{f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty); \exp_\phi(f) \in A[\underline{t}]\}.$$

Lemma 5.1. *For all $r \geq 1$, the exponential function $\exp_\phi : \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ induces an injective homomorphism of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules*

$$\frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{U_\phi \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{A[\underline{t}] \oplus N_\alpha}$$

whose cokernel is H_ϕ .

Proof. This is plain by the fact that \exp_ϕ restricted to $D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}})$ is an isometric isomorphism (Lemma 3.6) and the fact that $\exp_\phi^{-1}(A[\underline{t}]) \cap \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = U_\phi$. \square

If M is a finitely generated $k[\underline{t}]$ -module, we will use the term *rank* of M for its generic rank, that is, $\dim_{k(\underline{t})} M \otimes_{k[\underline{t}]} k(\underline{t})$.

Corollary 5.2. *For all Drinfeld modules ϕ as above, H_ϕ is a finitely generated $k[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank $\leq u(\alpha)$.*

Remark 5.3. We have constructed a short exact sequence of $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules

$$(14) \quad 0 \rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{U_\phi \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow \frac{\phi(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty))}{\phi(A[\underline{t}]) \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow H_\phi \rightarrow 0.$$

On the other hand, there is an isomorphism of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules between M_α (the module defined in (11)) and

$$\frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{A[\underline{t}] \oplus N_\alpha}.$$

Therefore, the $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules $\frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{U_\phi \oplus N_\alpha}$ and H_ϕ are finitely generated, and their ranks add up to $u(\alpha)$, which is the rank of M_α . This tells us in particular that U_ϕ is non-zero. If $r < 2q - 1$, we have that $H_\phi = \{0\}$.

5.2. **Modules over \mathcal{R} .** We observe that $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \subset K(\underline{t})_\infty$ ⁽⁴⁾ and that τ extends to a continuous homomorphism of $k(\underline{t})$ -algebras again denoted by $\tau : K(\underline{t})_\infty \rightarrow K(\underline{t})_\infty$. If $M \subset \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ is a $k[\underline{t}]$ -module, we denote by $k(\underline{t})M \subset K(\underline{t})_\infty$ the $k(\underline{t})$ -module generated by M . We also set, for ϕ as above,

$$\mathcal{U}_\phi = k(\underline{t})U_\phi, \quad \mathcal{H}_\phi = k(\underline{t}) \otimes_{k[\underline{t}]} H_\phi.$$

The vector spaces $\mathcal{U}_\phi, \mathcal{H}_\phi$ are $k(\underline{t})[\theta]$ -modules. From here to the end of this section, we are going to make extensive study of modules over $k(\underline{t})[\theta]$ so that we denote this ring by \mathcal{R} .

Proposition 5.4. *The following properties hold.*

- (1) *The \mathcal{R} -module \mathcal{U}_ϕ is free of rank one.*
- (2) *We have:*

$$\mathcal{U}_\phi = \{f \in K(\underline{t})_\infty, \exp_\phi(f) \in \mathcal{R}\}.$$

⁴We recall that $K(\underline{t})_\infty = k(\underline{t})((\frac{1}{\theta}))$.

Proof. (1). Since U_ϕ is non-trivial, there exists an element $f \in \mathcal{U}_\phi$ with $\|f\| > 0$ minimal. Indeed, by the fact that \exp_ϕ induces an isometric isomorphism of $D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-1}{q-1}})$, \mathcal{U}_ϕ is discrete, that is, $\mathcal{U}_\phi \cap \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_\infty}^n = \{0\}$ for n big enough.

Let g be another element of \mathcal{U}_ϕ . Then, since $K(\underline{t})_\infty = \mathcal{R} \oplus \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_\infty}$, there exists a polynomial h of \mathcal{R} such that $g = hf + b$ where $b \in K(\underline{t})_\infty$ is such that $\|b\| < \|f\|$. Since \mathcal{U}_ϕ is an \mathcal{R} -module, we get $b \in \mathcal{U}_\phi$ so that $b = 0$. This means that \mathcal{U}_ϕ is free of rank one.

(2). Observe that $k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ is dense in $K(\underline{t})_\infty$, thus:

$$K(\underline{t})_\infty = k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1}.$$

It is clear that $\mathcal{U}_\phi \subset \{f \in K(\underline{t})_\infty, \exp_\phi(f) \in \mathcal{R}\}$. Now, let $f \in K(\underline{t})_\infty$ be such that $\exp_\phi(f) \in \mathcal{R}$. We can write f as a sum $g + h$, where $g \in k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ and $h \in \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1}$. We get:

$$\exp_\phi(h) = \exp_\phi(f) - \exp_\phi(g) \in k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty).$$

This implies that:

$$\exp_\phi(h) \in k(\underline{t})\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}^{u(\alpha)+1} = \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1} \cap k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty).$$

Therefore $h \in k(\underline{t})\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}^{u(\alpha)+1}$ and thus $f \in k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$. We conclude that $f \in \mathcal{U}_\phi$. \square

Corollary 5.5. *The $A[\underline{t}]$ -module U_ϕ is free of rank one.*

Proof. By Proposition 5.4, we have $\mathcal{U}_\phi = f\mathcal{R}$, with $f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$. Without loss of generality, we can also suppose that if h divides f in $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, with $h \in k[\underline{t}]$, then $h \in k^\times$. Clearly, $U_\phi \supset fA[\underline{t}]$. Let us consider now an element g of U_ϕ . We have that $g \in f\mathcal{R}$, and we can write $g = af/\delta$ where $a \in A[\underline{t}]$ and $\delta \in k[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. This means that δ divides af in $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ which is a unique factorization domain. So δ must divide a in $A[\underline{t}]$ and we get $g \in fA[\underline{t}]$. \square

5.3. Local factors of the L -series values. Let R be a unitary commutative ring. Let M be a finitely generated R -module. As *Fitting ideal* of M we mean the *initial Fitting ideal* as defined in [14, Chapter XIX]. By Chapter XIX, Corollary 2.9 of loc. cit., if M is a finite direct sum of cyclic modules,

$$M = \bigoplus_{i=1}^n \frac{R}{\mathfrak{a}_i}, \quad \mathfrak{a}_i \text{ ideal of } R,$$

then

$$\text{Fitt}_R(M) = \mathfrak{a}_1 \cdots \mathfrak{a}_n.$$

Let θ be an indeterminate over a field F . We write $R = F[\theta]$, and we consider an R -module M which also is an F -vector space of finite dimension. Let e_θ be the endomorphism of M induced by the multiplication by θ . Then, we write

$$[M]_R = \det_R(Z - e_\theta|_M)|_{Z=\theta} \in R$$

for the characteristic polynomial of e_θ , where the indeterminate Z is replaced with θ . This is a monic polynomial in θ of $R = F[\theta]$ and it is the monic generator of $\text{Fitt}_R(M)$.

Let α be an element of $\mathcal{R} \setminus \{0\}$ (we recall that $\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t})[\theta]$) and let us consider the Drinfeld \mathcal{R} -module of rank one and parameter α , that is, the injective homomorphism of $k(\underline{t})$ -algebras

$$\phi : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \text{End}_{k(\underline{t})\text{-lin.}}(K(\underline{t})_\infty)$$

given by $\phi_\theta = \theta + \alpha\tau$. For all $a \in A$, the resultant $\rho_\alpha(a) = \text{Res}_\theta(a, \alpha)$ is a well defined element of $k(\underline{t})$ making the series (and the corresponding eulerian product)

$$L(n, \phi) = \sum_{a \in A_+} \rho_\alpha(a) a^{-n} = \prod_P \left(1 - \frac{\rho_\alpha(P)}{P^n} \right)^{-1}, \quad n > 0$$

convergent in $K(\underline{t})_\infty$.

Lemma 5.6. *Let P be a prime of A of degree d . Then, the following congruence holds in $\mathcal{R}[\tau]$:*

$$\phi_P \equiv \rho_\alpha(P) \tau^d \pmod{P\mathcal{R}[\tau]}.$$

Proof. We recall that $\tau_\alpha = \alpha\tau$. Let $a \in A_+$ be of degree d . We expand in $\mathcal{R}[\tau_\alpha]$:

$$\phi_a = \sum_{i=0}^d (a)_i \tau_\alpha^i,$$

where it is easy to see that $(a)_0 = a$. From the relation $\phi_a \phi_\theta = \phi_\theta \phi_a$ we get, by induction on $i = 1, \dots, d-1$,

$$(a)_i = \frac{\tau((a)_{i-1}) - (a)_{i-1}}{\theta^{q^i} - \theta}$$

and $(a)_i \in A$ for $i = 0, \dots, d$ with $(a)_d = 1$ (so these are the coefficients of the classical Carlitz multiplication by a). Since a prime P of degree d does not divide $\theta^{q^i} - \theta$ if $i < d$, we get for $i = 0, \dots, d-1$, $(P)_i \equiv 0 \pmod{P\mathcal{R}}$. This implies that

$$\phi_P \equiv \tau_\alpha^d \equiv \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{d-1}(\alpha) \tau^d \pmod{P\mathcal{R}[\tau]}.$$

Now, we observe that, if ζ_1, \dots, ζ_d are the roots of P in k^{ac} and if ζ is one of these roots,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_\alpha(P) &= \text{Res}_\theta(P, \alpha) \\ &= \prod_{j=1}^d \alpha|_{\theta=\zeta_j} \\ &= \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{d-1}(\alpha)|_{\theta=\zeta} \\ &\equiv \alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{d-1}(\alpha) \pmod{P\mathcal{R}}. \end{aligned}$$

□

If L is a ring with an endomorphism σ , we denote by $L^{\sigma=1}$ the subring $\{x \in L, \sigma(x) = x\}$.

Lemma 5.7. *Let L be a field and let $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(L)$. We set $F = L^{\sigma=1}$. Let $r \geq 0$ be an integer strictly less than the order of σ , let a_0, \dots, a_{r-1} be r elements in L . Then*

$$V = \left\{ x \in L; \sigma^r(x) + \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} a_i \sigma^i(x) = 0 \right\}$$

is an F -vector space of dimension not exceeding r .

Proof. A sketch of proof will be enough as this is essentially well known, see [17, §1.2]. Let $n \geq 1$ be an integer and let \mathcal{A} be a matrix with entries in L . Let v_1, \dots, v_r be vectors of L^n such that $\sigma(v_i) = \mathcal{A}v_i, i = 1, \dots, r$. Then by the proof of [17, Lemma 1.7], if the vectors v_1, \dots, v_r are linearly dependent over L , they are also linearly dependent over F . This implies that the F -vector space $W = \{v \in L^n, \sigma(v) = \mathcal{A}v\}$ satisfies:

$$\dim_F(W) \leq n.$$

Let \mathcal{A} be the companion matrix of the equation

$$\sigma^r(x) + \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} a_i \sigma^i(x) = 0$$

(see [17, p. 8]). Let $W = \{v \in L^r, \sigma(v) = \mathcal{A}v\}$. Then the map $V \mapsto W$,

$$x \mapsto {}^t(x, \sigma(x), \dots, \sigma^{r-1}(x))$$

(the sign t means transposition) is an isomorphism of F -vector spaces. \square

Lemma 5.8. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld \mathcal{R} -module of rank one over $K(\underline{t})_\infty$ with parameter $\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \setminus \{0\}$. Let P be a prime of A of degree d . Then, we have an isomorphism of \mathcal{R} -modules:*

$$\phi\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right) \cong \frac{\mathcal{R}}{(P - \rho_\alpha(P))\mathcal{R}}.$$

Proof. By Lemma 5.6, we have:

$$(P - \rho_\alpha(P)) \cdot \phi\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right) = \{0\}.$$

We set $L = \mathcal{R}/P\mathcal{R}$. Then τ induces an automorphism of L and $L^{\tau=1} = k(\underline{t})$, so that $\tau \in \text{Gal}(L/k(\underline{t}))$ is of order d . Also, ϕ induces a morphism of $k(\underline{t})$ -algebras $\phi : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow L[\tau]$. For a in \mathcal{R} we set $\text{Ker}(\phi_a) = \{x \in L; \phi_a(x) = 0\}$. We write $b = P - \rho_\alpha(P)$. We notice that $d = \dim_{k(\underline{t})}(L) = \deg_\theta(b)$ and $L = \text{Ker}(\phi_b)$. We have, by Lemma 5.7, for all $a \in \mathcal{R}$, $\dim_{k(\underline{t})}(\text{Ker}(\phi_a)) \leq \deg_\theta(a)$. This implies (see for example [12, proof of Theorem 6.3.2]) that we have an isomorphism of \mathcal{R} -modules $\text{Ker}(\phi_b) \cong \mathcal{R}/b\mathcal{R}$. \square

Let P be a prime of A . By Lemma 5.8, we have

$$\left[\phi\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right)\right]_{\mathcal{R}} = P - \rho_\alpha(P).$$

The L -series attached to ϕ/\mathcal{R} , denoted by $\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R})$, is the infinite product running over the primes P of A :

$$(15) \quad \prod_P \left[\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right]_{\mathcal{R}} \left[\phi\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right)\right]_{\mathcal{R}}^{-1}.$$

Proposition 5.9. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. The product $\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R})$ in (15) converges in $K(\underline{t})_\infty$ and we have*

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R}) = L(1, \phi).$$

Proof. We have, by Lemma 5.8, that the quotient

$$\frac{\left[\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right]_{\mathcal{R}}}{\left[\phi\left(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}\right)\right]_{\mathcal{R}}}$$

is equal to:

$$\frac{P}{P - \rho_{\alpha}(P)} = \left(1 - \frac{\rho_{\alpha}(P)}{P}\right)^{-1}.$$

The factors of the infinite product defining $\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R})$ agree with the eulerian factors of $L(1, \phi)$. Since the product $L(1, \phi)$ converges in $K(\underline{t})_{\infty}$, this implies that the product $\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R})$ converges to $L(1, \phi)$ in $K(\underline{t})_{\infty}$. \square

5.4. The class number formula. An element

$$f = \sum_{i \geq i_0} f_i \theta^{-i} \in K(\underline{t})_{\infty} \setminus \{0\}, \quad f_i \in k(\underline{t}), f_{i_0} \neq 0,$$

is *monic* if the leading coefficient f_{i_0} is equal to one. We shall write

$$[\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_{\phi}]_{\mathcal{R}}$$

($\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t})[\theta]$) for the unique monic element f in $K(\underline{t})_{\infty}$ such that $\mathcal{U}_{\phi} = f\mathcal{R}$, the existence of which is guaranteed by the first part of Proposition 5.4.

5.4.1. Estimating the dimension of \mathcal{V}_{ϕ} . Let us consider the following \mathcal{R} -module:

$$\mathcal{V}_{\phi} = \frac{\phi(K(\underline{t})_{\infty})}{\phi(\mathcal{R}) + \exp_{\phi}(K(\underline{t})_{\infty})}.$$

Just as in the proof of the second part of Proposition 5.4, we see in fact that for all $n \geq 1$,

$$K(\underline{t})_{\infty} = k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_{\infty}) + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_{\infty}}^n.$$

For all n big enough, \exp_{ϕ} induces an isometric automorphism of $\mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_{\infty}}^n$ (for instance, it suffices to take $n \geq u(\alpha) + 1$). Therefore, for such a choice of n , we have the isomorphism of $k(\underline{t})$ -vector spaces

$$\mathcal{V}_{\phi} = \frac{k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_{\infty}) + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_{\infty}}^n}{\mathcal{R} + \exp_{\phi}(k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_{\infty})) + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t})_{\infty}}^n} \cong \frac{k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_{\infty})}{\mathcal{R} + \exp_{\phi}(k(\underline{t})\mathbb{T}_s(K_{\infty}))}.$$

This implies that we have an isomorphism of \mathcal{R} -modules:

$$(16) \quad \mathcal{V}_{\phi} \simeq H_{\phi} \otimes_{k(\underline{t})} k(\underline{t}) = \mathcal{H}_{\phi}.$$

Note that $\dim_{k(\underline{t})}(\mathcal{H}_{\phi}) \leq u(\alpha)$ by Corollary 5.2. This yields:

Corollary 5.10. *The \mathcal{R} -module \mathcal{V}_{ϕ} is a finite dimensional $k(\underline{t})$ -vector space of dimension at most $u(\alpha)$.*

5.4.2. *The formula.* The next Theorem directly follows from Theorem 11.3, proved in the appendix by Florent Demeslay, by means of Proposition 5.9 and the isomorphism (16).

Theorem 5.11 (The class number formula). *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. The following equality holds in $K(\underline{t})_\infty$:*

$$L(1, \phi) = [\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} [\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s with parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. The following Corollary to the class number formula will be crucial:

Corollary 5.12. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. We have:*

$$\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in A[\underline{t}].$$

Proof. By definition, $[\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{U}_\phi$ and obviously, $[\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} \in \mathcal{R}$. Thus:

$$L(1, \phi) \in \mathcal{U}_\phi.$$

By Part (2) of Proposition 5.4, $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in \mathcal{R}$. At once, by construction, $L(1, \phi) \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ so that $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$. But then,

$$\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in \mathcal{R} \cap \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = A[\underline{t}].$$

□

Remark 5.13. If α is as in (13) and $0 \leq r \leq q-1$ ($r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$) we have that $L(1, \phi) - 1 \in \mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}$ (see §3.1.1). Since \exp_ϕ is an isometric automorphism of $D_{\mathbb{T}_s}(0, q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}})$ we also get $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) - 1 \in \mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}$ but $\mathcal{R} \cap \mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)} = \{0\}$. We have obtained the identity

$$(17) \quad \exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) = 1.$$

This can be rewritten as

$$(18) \quad L(1, \phi) = \log_\phi(1)$$

because $1 = \|1\| < q^{\frac{q-r}{q-1}}$ thanks again to the hypothesis on r . Similar formulas have been observed by Perkins in [16].

5.4.3. *The circular unit module.* This is the sub- $A[\underline{t}]$ -module

$$U_\phi^c = L(1, \phi)A[\underline{t}] \subset U_\phi.$$

Proposition 5.14. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. The modules $\frac{U_\phi}{U_\phi^c}$ and H_ϕ are finitely generated $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules of equal rank at most $u(\alpha)$.*

Proof. By Lemma 3.7, we have a direct sum of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = \theta^{-u(\alpha)} U_\phi^c \oplus N_\alpha.$$

Then, we have an exact sequence of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$(19) \quad 0 \rightarrow \frac{U_\phi}{U_\phi^c} \rightarrow \frac{\theta^{-u(\alpha)} U_\phi^c \oplus N_\alpha}{U_\phi^c \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{U_\phi \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow 0.$$

Observe that the $k[\underline{t}]$ -module in the middle is free of rank $u(\alpha)$. Thus $\frac{U_\phi}{U_\phi^c}$ is a finitely generated torsion-free $k[\underline{t}]$ -module. of rank not bigger than $u(\alpha)$.

Recall from Remark 5.3 that \exp_ϕ induces an exact sequence of finitely generated $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$0 \rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{U_\phi \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{A[\underline{t}] \oplus N_\alpha} \rightarrow H_\phi \rightarrow 0.$$

Since there is an isomorphism of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules

$$\frac{\theta^{-u(\alpha)} U_\phi^c \oplus N_\alpha}{U_\phi^c \oplus N_\alpha} \cong \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{A[\underline{t}] \oplus N_\alpha}$$

the modules $\frac{U_\phi}{U_\phi^c}$ and H_ϕ have the same rank over $k[\underline{t}]$. \square

Remark 5.15. In particular, we obtain $U_\phi = U_\phi^c$ if $r < 2q - 1$.

We deduce, from Theorem 5.11 (with $\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t})[\theta]$, $\mathcal{H}_\phi = k(\underline{t}) \otimes_{k[\underline{t}]} H_\phi$ and $\mathcal{U}_\phi^c = k(\underline{t})U_\phi^c$), the following Corollary.

Corollary 5.16. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$. We have*

$$[\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} = [\mathcal{U}_\phi : \mathcal{U}_\phi^c]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

Proof. We have:

$$[\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} = [\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{R}L(1, \phi)]_{\mathcal{R}} \left[\frac{\mathcal{U}_\phi}{\mathcal{R}L(1, \phi)} \right]_{\mathcal{R}}^{-1}.$$

Then, by Theorem 5.11, we obtain:

$$\left[\frac{\mathcal{U}_\phi}{\mathcal{R}L(1, \phi)} \right]_{\mathcal{R}} = [\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

\square

Remark 5.17. Observe that, by Corollary 5.5 and since $L(1, \phi) \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$, the $k[\underline{t}]$ -module $\frac{U_\phi}{U_\phi^c}$ is free. Therefore, by Corollary 5.16, we have:

$$[\mathcal{H}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} \in A[\underline{t}] \cap \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times.$$

To proceed further, we need a precise characterization of the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules of rank one whose exponential function is injective. This is in fact closely related to the non-surjectivity of \exp_ϕ and will be investigated in the next Section.

6. UNIFORMIZABLE DRINFELD MODULES OF RANK ONE.

Again in this section, the integer s is fixed so that we can write \underline{t} instead of \underline{t}_s . In this Section we consider general Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules of rank one defined over \mathbb{T}_s . If $\Phi \in \mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$, we set

$$\mathbb{T}_s^{\Phi=1} = \{g \in \mathbb{T}_s, \Phi(g) = g\}.$$

This is a $k[\underline{t}]$ -submodule of \mathbb{T}_s . Observe that in the case where $\phi = C$ is the Carlitz module over \mathbb{T}_s (this is equivalent to $\alpha = 1$; note that this does not impose any constraint on s), then $\exp_C : \mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$ is a surjective homomorphism of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules. Furthermore

$$\text{Ker}(\exp_C) = \tilde{\pi}A[\underline{t}],$$

and

$$\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau=1} = k[\underline{t}].$$

We are going to study a class of Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules of rank one defined over \mathbb{T}_s which have similar properties.

Definition 6.1. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s . We say that ϕ is *uniformizable* if \exp_ϕ is surjective on \mathbb{T}_s .

Proposition 6.2. *Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s and let $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s \setminus \{0\}$ be its parameter. Recall that $\tau_\alpha = \alpha\tau \in \mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$. The following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1) ϕ is uniformizable,
- (2) $\mathbb{T}_{s^{\tau_\alpha=1}}^\times \neq \{0\}$,
- (3) $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$,
- (4) ϕ is isomorphic to the Carlitz module over \mathbb{T}_s .

Proof. We begin by proving that (3) implies (4). Since $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$, there exists $x \in \mathbb{C}_\infty^\times$ such that $v_\infty(\alpha - x) > v_\infty(\alpha)$. Observe that:

$$v_\infty\left(\frac{\tau^i(\alpha)}{x^{q^i}} - 1\right) \geq q^i(v_\infty(\alpha - x) - v_\infty(\alpha)).$$

Thus the product $\prod_{i \geq 0} \left(\frac{x^{q^i}}{\tau^i(\alpha)}\right)$ converges in \mathbb{T}_s^\times . Now let us choose an element $\gamma \in \mathbb{C}_\infty^\times$ such that:

$$\gamma^{q-1} = x.$$

We set:

$$(20) \quad \omega_\alpha = \gamma \prod_{i \geq 0} \left(\frac{x^{q^i}}{\tau^i(\alpha)}\right) \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times.$$

At first sight, these functions depend on the choice of x but it is easy to show that they are defined up to a scalar factor of k^\times . We also notice that, for $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$,

$$\omega_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2} \in k^\times \omega_{\alpha_1} \omega_{\alpha_2}, \quad \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times.$$

Then:

$$(21) \quad \tau(\omega_\alpha) = \alpha \omega_\alpha.$$

This implies that, in $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$, we have:

$$C_\theta \omega_\alpha = \omega_\alpha \phi_\theta,$$

that is, ϕ and C are isomorphic.

In fact, it is also easy to show that (4) implies (3). Indeed, assuming that the Drinfeld module of rank one ϕ is isomorphic to C , we see directly that the parameter α of ϕ must satisfy $\tau(u)/u = \alpha$ for a unit u of \mathbb{T}_s , but this implies that α is a unit as well.

Next, we prove that (4) implies (1). By hypothesis, there exists $\vartheta \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ such that, in $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$:

$$\vartheta \tau_\alpha = \tau \vartheta$$

We get in $\mathbb{T}_s[[\tau]]$:

$$\exp_\phi = \vartheta^{-1} \exp_C \vartheta.$$

Since \exp_C is surjective on \mathbb{T}_s , we obtain that \exp_ϕ is also surjective.

We prove that (1) implies (2). Let us then suppose that \exp_ϕ is surjective. The map $\mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s$ defined by $f \mapsto \phi_\theta(f)$ is surjective. Explicitly, for all $f \in \mathbb{T}_s$ there exists $g \in \mathbb{T}_s$ such that:

$$\alpha\tau(g) + \theta g = f.$$

Recall that we have set $\lambda_\theta = \exp_C(\tilde{\pi}/\theta)$. Since $\lambda_\theta \neq 0$ and $C_\theta(\lambda_\theta) = \exp_C(\tilde{\pi}) = 0$, we have $\lambda_\theta^{q-1} = -\theta$. Therefore:

$$\alpha\tau\left(\frac{g}{\lambda_\theta}\right) - \frac{g}{\lambda_\theta} = \frac{f}{\lambda_\theta^q} = -\frac{f}{\lambda_\theta\theta}$$

This implies that the map $\tau_\alpha - 1$ is surjective on \mathbb{T}_s .

Furthermore, there exists $x \in \mathbb{C}_\infty^*$ such that $\|\alpha x^{q-1}\| = 1$. Observe that

$$x^{-1}(\tau_\alpha - 1)x = \tau_{\alpha x^{q-1}} - 1.$$

Hence, we can assume, without loss of generality, that $\|\alpha\| = 1$. Let us suppose, by contradiction, that $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1} = \{0\}$. Then, the map $f \mapsto \tau_\alpha(f) - f$ is an isomorphism of $k[\underline{t}]$ -modules which satisfies $\|\alpha\tau(f) - f\| < 1$ if and only if $\|f\| < 1$ and $\|\alpha\tau(f) - f\| > 1$ if and only if $\|f\| > 1$. In particular, this map induces an automorphism of the $k[\underline{t}]$ -module $\{f \in \mathbb{T}_s : \|f\| = 1\}$.

Reducing modulo $\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s}$, the above map induces the $k[\underline{t}]$ -linear endomorphism of $k^{ac}[\underline{t}]$ given by $\bar{f} \mapsto \bar{\alpha}\tau(\bar{f}) - \bar{f}$ where $\bar{\alpha} \neq 0$ is the image of α by the reduction map in $k^{ac}[\underline{t}]$ and $\bar{f} \in k^{ac}[\underline{t}]$. One can easily verify that this endomorphism is not an automorphism.

This constitutes a contradiction with the assumption that $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1} = \{0\}$.

We finally prove that (2) implies (3). Let g be a non-zero element of $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1}$. By $\alpha\tau(g) = g$ we deduce that $\alpha\tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{n-1}(\alpha)\tau^n(g) = g$ for all n . If α were not a unit, this would contradict the finiteness of the number of irreducible factors of g . \square

Remark 6.3. The following observation will be extensively used in the rest of this paper. Let ϕ be a uniformizable Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s of parameter $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$. Then the function \exp_ϕ induces an exact sequence of $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$0 \rightarrow \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}] \rightarrow \mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \phi(\mathbb{T}_s) \rightarrow 0,$$

where ω_α is defined as in (20). In this case, the module $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1}$ is obviously given by:

$$\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1} = \frac{1}{\omega_\alpha} k[\underline{t}].$$

Definition 6.4. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s . Then \mathbb{T}_s is an $A[\underline{t}]$ -module via ϕ . Thus if $f \in A[\underline{t}] \setminus \{0\}$, we define the $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of f -torsion $\phi[f]$ by:

$$\phi[f] = \{g \in \mathbb{T}_s, \phi_f(g) = 0\}.$$

Corollary 6.5. Let ϕ be a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one over \mathbb{T}_s of parameter $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s \setminus \{0\}$. The following assertions are equivalent:

- (1) ϕ is uniformizable,
- (2) $\mathbb{T}_s^{\tau_\alpha=1}$ is a $k[\underline{t}]$ -module of rank one,

(3) for all $f \in A[\underline{t}] \cap \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ we have an isomorphism of $A[\underline{t}]$ -modules:

$$\phi[f] \simeq \frac{A[\underline{t}]}{fA[\underline{t}]},$$

(4) there exists $f \in A[\underline{t}] \cap \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ such that $\phi[f] \neq \{0\}$.

Proof. The equivalence of the properties (1) and (2) is already covered by the proof of Proposition 6.2 and by the Remark 6.3.

We show that (1) implies (3). By Remark 6.3 we have that

$$\text{Ker}(\exp_\phi) = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}].$$

Notice also that \exp_ϕ is surjective so that if $f \in A[\underline{t}] \cap \mathbb{T}_s^\times$, we also have that

$$\exp_\phi^{-1}(\phi[f]) = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{f\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}].$$

It is obvious that (3) implies (4); it remains to show that (4) implies (1). Let α be the parameter of ϕ and let us assume that for some $f \in A[\underline{t}] \cap \mathbb{T}_s^\times$, we have $\phi[f] \neq \{0\}$; let $g \in \mathbb{T}_s \setminus \{0\}$ be such that $\phi_f(g) = 0$.

We can write, in $\mathbb{T}_s[\tau]$:

$$\phi_f = \sum_{i=0}^d c_i \tau_\alpha^i = \sum_{i \geq 0} \alpha \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha) c_i \tau^i,$$

where for $i = 0, \dots, d$, $c_i \in A[\underline{t}]$, and $c_0 = f, c_d \in k^\times$. We get:

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \alpha \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha) c_i \tau^i(g) = -fg.$$

Since $f \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$, we get $g = \alpha g_1$, $g_1 \in \mathbb{T}_s \setminus \{0\}$. Thus (we recall that \mathbb{T}_s is a unique factorization domain):

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^i(\alpha) c_i \tau^i(g_1) = -fg_1.$$

Therefore $g_1 = \tau(\alpha)g_2$, and $\alpha\tau(\alpha)$ divides g in \mathbb{T}_s . Thus for any $n \geq 1$, $\alpha \cdots \tau^n(\alpha)$ divides g in \mathbb{T}_s . Therefore $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ and ϕ is uniformizable by Proposition 6.2. \square

Remark 6.6. The definition of uniformizable $A[\underline{t}]$ -module is motivated by Anderson's result [1, Theorem 4]. It is an interesting question to characterize higher rank "uniformizable" Drinfeld modules over \mathbb{T}_s , that is, Drinfeld modules over \mathbb{T}_s which have surjective associated exponential function.

6.1. The elements ω_α . Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$. Then, there exists $\gamma \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$ monic (as a power series in θ^{-1}) such that $\alpha = \rho\gamma$ for some $\rho \in k^\times$.

The function ω_α defined in (20) is determined up to a factor in k^\times . Let $x = \rho\theta^r$ with $r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$. Then $\|\alpha - x\| < \|\alpha\|$. Therefore:

$$(22) \quad \omega_\alpha = \tilde{\rho} \lambda_\theta^r \prod_{i \geq 0} \left(\frac{\tau^i(\alpha)}{\rho \theta^{r q^i}} \right)^{-1},$$

where $\tilde{\rho} \in k^{ac}$ is such that $\tilde{\rho}^{q-1} = (-1)^r \rho$. From this it is apparent that

$$\omega_\alpha \in \tilde{\rho} \lambda_\theta^r \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$$

and that

$$(23) \quad \|\omega_\alpha\| = q^{\frac{r}{q-1}}.$$

Remark 6.7. Observe that ω_α is defined up to the multiplication by an element in k^\times . When $\rho = (-1)^r$, we choose $\tilde{\rho} = 1$. From now on, we will always use this normalization.

The proof of the next Lemma is easy and left to the reader.

Lemma 6.8. *Let α be in $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)^\times$. The following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) $\frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$,
- (2) *If $r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$, $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and $-\alpha$ is monic.*

6.2. Examples. If $s = 1$ and $\alpha = t - \theta$, we have an important example:

$$(24) \quad \omega_\alpha = \omega = \lambda_\theta \prod_{i \geq 0} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\theta^{q^i}}\right)^{-1} \in \lambda_\theta \mathbb{T}(K_\infty).$$

This function, introduced in Anderson and Thakur paper [3, Proof of Lemma 2.5.4 p. 177], was also used extensively in [15, 4]. For general s , it is important to also consider the function ω_α associated with the choice of $\alpha = \beta(t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, $\beta \in k^\times$. In this case,

$$(25) \quad \omega_\alpha = \tilde{\beta} \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s),$$

where $\tilde{\beta}^{q-1} = \beta$.

7. UNIFORMIZABLE DRINFELD MODULES OF RANK ONE DEFINED OVER

$$A[t_1, \dots, t_s]$$

In this section, we fix ϕ a uniformizable Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one *defined over* $A[\underline{t}_s]$. By Proposition 6.2, its parameter α lies in $A[\underline{t}_s] \cap \mathbb{T}_s^\times$ and we have a factorization $\alpha = \beta(x_1 - \theta) \cdots (x_r - \theta)$, with $x_1, \dots, x_r \in k(\underline{t}_s)^{ac}$, $\beta \in k^\times$ and $r = -v_\infty(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$.

7.1. The torsion case. In this subsection, we assume that $\beta = 1$ and $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$. If $r = 0$ then $q = 2$ and $L(1, \phi) = \zeta_C(1)$; in this case $\exp_C(\zeta_C(1)) = 1$ is a torsion point for the Carlitz module. We begin with the case $r = 1$. We then have $\alpha = x - \theta$ with $x \in k[\underline{t}_s]$, so that $\rho_\alpha(a) = a(x)$ for $a \in A$, and in particular, $\rho_\alpha(\theta) = x$.

Lemma 7.1. *If $\beta = 1$, $r = 1$ and $\alpha = x - \theta$, $x \in k[\underline{t}_s]$, we have the identity:*

$$L(1, \phi) \omega_\alpha = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\theta - x}.$$

Proof. We recall that $\lambda_\theta = \exp_C(\frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\theta})$ and that we have the infinite product (3) which converges to $\tilde{\pi}$. This shows:

$$\frac{\theta \lambda_\theta}{\tilde{\pi}} = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{\tilde{\pi}^{q^i - 1}}{D_i \theta^{q^i - 1}} \in K_\infty.$$

Observe that for $i \geq 1$:

$$v_\infty \left(\frac{\tilde{\pi}^{q^i - 1}}{D_i \theta^{q^i - 1}} \right) = q^i \left(i - \frac{1}{q-1} \right) + \frac{1}{q-1} > 0.$$

Therefore:

$$\frac{\theta\lambda_\theta}{\tilde{\pi}} \equiv 1 \pmod{\frac{1}{\theta}k\left[\left[\frac{1}{\theta}\right]\right]}.$$

We recall that $\omega_\alpha = \lambda_\theta \prod_{i \geq 0} (1 - \frac{x}{\theta^{q^i}})^{-1}$. We get:

$$(x - \theta)\omega_\alpha \tilde{\pi}^{-1} = \frac{-\theta\lambda_\theta}{\tilde{\pi}} \prod_{i \geq 1} \left(1 - \frac{x}{\theta^{q^i}}\right)^{-1} \equiv \frac{-\theta\lambda_\theta}{\tilde{\pi}} \equiv -1 \pmod{\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}}.$$

Hence, if we write

$$F = (x - \theta)L(1, \phi)\omega_\alpha \tilde{\pi}^{-1},$$

where $L(1, \phi) = \sum_{a \in A_+} \frac{a(x)}{a}$, we have:

$$F \equiv -1 \pmod{\mathfrak{m}_{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}}.$$

Now, we have that $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) = 1$ (Remark 5.13), thus:

$$\exp_\phi((x - \theta)L(1, \phi)) = \phi_{x-\theta}(\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi))) = \phi_{x-\theta}(1) = x - \phi_\theta(1) = 0.$$

Therefore $(x - \theta)L(1, \phi) \in \text{Ker}(\exp_\phi) = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s]$ so that $F \in A[\underline{t}_s]$. But $v_\infty(F+1) > 0$ which implies $F = -1$. \square

The above Lemma implies [15, Theorem 1].

Proposition 7.2. *Let ϕ be the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha = (x_1 - \theta) \cdots (x_r - \theta) \in A[\underline{t}_s]$, with $x_1, \dots, x_r \in k(\underline{t}_s)^{ac}$, $r \geq 1, r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$. The following properties hold.*

- (1) *If $r \geq q$, $U_\phi = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s]$ and $\exp_\phi(U_\phi) = 0$.*
- (2) *The module H_ϕ is a free $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank $u(\alpha)$. Moreover U_ϕ/U_ϕ^c is isomorphic to H_ϕ as a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module.*

Proof. (1). By Lemma 6.8 and the identity (23) we see that $\|\tilde{\pi}/\omega_\alpha\| = q^{u(\alpha)}$ so that

$$(26) \quad \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s] \oplus N_\alpha.$$

Let f be in U_ϕ and let us write $f = f_1 + f_2$ with $f_1 \in \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s]$ and $f_2 \in N_\alpha$. Since f_1 is in the kernel of \exp_ϕ , we have $\exp_\phi(f) = \exp_\phi(f_2) \in N_\alpha$. Since \exp_ϕ induces an isometric automorphism of N_α , the condition $\exp_\phi(f) \in A[\underline{t}_s]$ yields $f_2 = 0$. This means that $U_\phi = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s]$ as expected.

(2). By (26), $N_\alpha = \exp_\phi(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty))$ and therefore is an $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module via ϕ . We have:

$$H_\phi = \frac{\phi(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty))}{\phi(A[\underline{t}_s]) \oplus \phi(N_\alpha)}.$$

In particular, H_ϕ , as a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module, is isomorphic to $A[\underline{t}_s]\theta^{-u(\alpha)}/A[\underline{t}_s]$, and hence is free of rank $u(\alpha)$. Finally, in (19), the third arrow maps to zero so that $U_\phi/U_\phi^c \cong H_\phi$ as a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module. \square

We deduce the next Corollaries.

Corollary 7.3. *Let α be as in (13) with $\beta = 1$ and $r = q$. Let ϕ be the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one with parameter α . Then, the following formula holds:*

$$L(1, \phi) = -\frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha}.$$

Corollary 7.4. *If $\beta = 1$, $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and $r \geq q$, then*

$$L(1, \phi) \in A[\underline{t}_s] \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha}.$$

Remark 7.5. The results of Lemma 7.1 and Corollary 7.4 also justify the terminology *torsion case* because $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi))$ is a torsion point for ϕ . And by Lemma 6.8, for ϕ a uniformizable Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one defined over $A[\underline{t}_s]$, $\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi))$ is a torsion point for ϕ if and only if $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and $\beta = 1$.

The terminology is also suggested by the behavior of the higher Carlitz zeta values $\zeta_C(n) = \sum_{a \in A_+} a^{-n}$. In [3], Anderson and Thakur constructed a point $z_n \in \text{Lie}(C^{\otimes n})(K_\infty)$ with last entry $\Pi(n-1)\zeta_C(n)$ such that $\text{Exp}_n(z_n) = Z_n$, where Π denotes the *Carlitz factorial* (see §9.4), Exp_n denotes the exponential function of $C^{\otimes n}$ and Z_n is a certain A -valued *special point* of $C^{\otimes n}$ explicitly constructed in loc. cit. We have that Z_n is a torsion point for $C^{\otimes n}$ if and only if $q-1$ divides n (see Anderson and Thakur, [3, Corollary 3.8.4] and J. Yu, [25, Corollary 2.6]).

The methods of [4, Theorem 4] can probably be used to show that, more generally, $\tilde{\pi}^{-n}L(n, \phi)\omega_\alpha$ is rational if and only if $r \equiv n \pmod{q-1}$ and $-\alpha$ is monic. It would be nice to see if these are also related to torsion points for the tensor powers of the modules ϕ as in [3] in the case $s = 0$.

7.1.1. The polynomials \mathbb{B}_ϕ . If α is as in (13) with $r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$ such that $r \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $r \geq q$, by Corollary 7.4, we have that

$$(27) \quad \mathbb{B}_\phi := (-1)^{\frac{r-1}{q-1}} L(1, \phi)\omega_\alpha \tilde{\pi}^{-1} \in A[\underline{t}_s].$$

We also set for $r = 1$:

$$\mathbb{B}_\phi = \frac{1}{\theta - x},$$

where $x \in k[\underline{t}_s]$ is the unique root of α as a polynomial in θ .

The polynomials $\mathbb{B}_\phi \in k[\underline{t}_s][\theta]$ have already been studied in [4] in the case of $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_r - \theta)$ with $r = s$. If $r = q$, we can even deduce the exact value of \mathbb{B}_ϕ (see Corollary 7.3): $\mathbb{B}_\phi = 1$. More generally, we have the following, for $r > 1$:

Lemma 7.6. *The polynomial $\mathbb{B}_\phi \in k[\underline{t}_s][\theta]$ is a monic polynomial of degree $u(\alpha) = \frac{r-q}{q-1}$ in the indeterminate θ .*

Proof. Let us write:

$$\mathbb{B}_\phi = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i \theta^i,$$

where $a_i \in k[\underline{t}_s]$, and $a_m \neq 0$. We have that $v_\infty(\tilde{\pi}^{-1}L(1, \phi)\omega_\alpha) = v_\infty(\mathbb{B}_\phi) = \frac{q-r}{q-1}$, which implies that

$$m = \frac{r-q}{q-1}$$

and

$$a_m \in k^\times.$$

To compute a_m it suffices to compute the leading coefficient of the expansion of $\tilde{\pi}^{-1}L(1, \phi)\omega_\alpha$ as a series of $k(\underline{t}_s)((\theta^{-1}))$. This computation is easy and left to the reader. \square

The importance of the polynomials \mathbb{B}_ϕ is dictated by the next Theorem.

Theorem 7.7. *Let $r \geq q$, then*

$$\text{Fitt}_{A[\underline{t}_s]}(H_\phi) = \mathbb{B}_\phi A[\underline{t}_s].$$

Proof. Since H_ϕ is free of rank $u(\alpha)$ (part (2) of Proposition 7.2), we have that $\text{Fitt}_{A[\underline{t}_s]}(H_\phi) = FA[\underline{t}_s]$, where

$$F = \det_{k[\underline{t}_s]}(Z - \phi_\theta|_{H_\phi})|_{Z=\theta},$$

and F has degree $u(\alpha)$ as a polynomial in θ . Again by (1) of Proposition 7.2, we have $U_\phi = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} A[\underline{t}_s]$ and

$$[\mathcal{R} : \mathcal{U}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} = \left[\mathcal{R} : \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha} \mathcal{R} \right]_{\mathcal{R}} = (-1)^{\frac{r-1}{q-1}} \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha}$$

(in the notation on §5.2), because $(-1)^{\frac{r-1}{q-1}} \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\omega_\alpha}$ is monic. It remains to apply Corollary 5.16. \square

We presently do not know much about the irreducible factors of the polynomials \mathbb{B}_ϕ . However, if $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$ (that is, if $\phi = C_s$) with $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, more can be said.

Lemma 7.8. *If $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s \geq q$, then \mathbb{B}_{C_s} has no non-trivial divisor in A .*

Proof. In this case, we have $\omega_\alpha = \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s)$ and $L(1, C_s) = L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_s}, 1)$ in the notation of [4]. We can evaluate at $t_1 = \cdots = t_s = \zeta \in k$ and, by the fact that $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $L(1, C_s)|_{t_i=\zeta} = \sum_{a \in A_+} \frac{a(\zeta)}{a}$. By using Lemma 7.1, we obtain

$$\sum_{a \in A_+} \frac{a(\zeta)}{a} = \frac{\tilde{\pi}}{(\theta - \zeta)\omega(\zeta)}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbb{B}_{C_s}|_{t_i=\zeta} = \tilde{\pi}^{-1} L(1, C_s) \omega_\alpha|_{t_i=\zeta} = \omega(\zeta)^{r-1} (\theta - \zeta)^{-1} = (\theta - \zeta)^{\frac{r-q}{q-1}} \in A.$$

Now, if $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ divides \mathbb{B}_{C_s} in $A[\underline{t}_s]$, then a divides $(\theta - \zeta)^{\frac{r-1}{q-1}}$ for all $\zeta \in k$ so that $a \in k^\times$. \square

Proposition 7.9. *Let us suppose that $s \geq 2q - 1$ and $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$. Then the A -module H_{C_s} is torsion-free and not finitely generated.*

Proof. Proposition 7.2 asserts that H_{C_s} is a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module free of rank $\frac{s-q}{q-1} \geq 1$. Thus the assertion that the A -module H_{C_s} is torsion-free is a consequence of Lemma 7.8. Now, it is a general fact that a non-trivial $k[\underline{t}_s, \theta]$ -module M cannot be simultaneously free of finite rank over $k[\underline{t}_s]$ and over A if $s > 1$. Let us suppose by contradiction that M is a non-trivial $k[\underline{t}_s, \theta]$ -module which is free of finite rank as a module over $k[\underline{t}_s]$ and over $A = k[\theta]$. Then $\text{End}_A(M)$ would be isomorphic to $\text{Mat}_{n \times n}(k)[\theta]$ as an A -module. For $1 \leq i \leq s$ the actions on M of t_i and of θ commute, and, for all i , the multiplication by t_i defines an element $T_i \in \text{End}_A(M)$. Since M is free over $k[\underline{t}_s]$, we deduce that if $i \neq j$, T_i and T_j are algebraically independent over k . This is not possible. Now, for s as in our hypotheses, the module H_{C_s} is finitely generated over $k[\underline{t}_s]$ and non-trivial. Hence, it is not finitely generated over A . \square

7.2. The non-torsion case. In this subsection, we consider the Drinfeld module C_s (recall that this is the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one with parameter $(t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$) and we assume that $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s \geq 2q-1$. Let M be the A -torsion submodule of H_{C_s} . This also is an $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module, and we know that it is a finitely generated $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module (Corollary 5.2). Moreover:

Proposition 7.10. *The $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -submodule M is a torsion $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module.*

Proof. We must show that $M \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s) = \{0\}$. By the isomorphism (16), it is enough to show that $[\mathcal{H}_{C_s}]_{\mathcal{R}}$ has no divisors in A , where $\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$. By part (1) of Proposition 5.4, we know that $\mathcal{U}_{C_s} = k(\underline{t}_s)U_{C_s}$ is an \mathcal{R} -module free of rank one. The class number formula, Theorem 5.11, yields that

$$[\mathcal{H}_{C_s}]_{\mathcal{R}} \mathcal{U}_{C_s} = \mathcal{R}L(1, C_s).$$

Let $a \in A \setminus \{0\}$ be a divisor of $[\mathcal{H}_{C_s}]_{\mathcal{R}}$. Then, $a^{-1}L(1, C_s) \in \mathcal{U}_{C_s}$. By part (2) of Proposition 5.4, we have that $\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s)) \in \mathcal{R}$. Since we also have, at once, $\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s)) \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, we obtain that

$$\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s)) \in A[\underline{t}_s].$$

We claim that this is impossible unless $a \in k^\times$. To see this, we appeal to Proposition 3.10 which says us that $\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s))$ extends to an entire function in s variables.

It is here that we use the particular shape of the parameter α . Indeed, α vanishes at $t_s = \theta$. The evaluation at $t_s = \theta$ in $\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s))$ yields an entire function in $s-1$ variables t_1, \dots, t_{s-1} . Since

$$(28) \quad \exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s)) = \sum_{k \geq 0} \sum_{i+j=k} \frac{\alpha \tau(\alpha) \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha)}{a^{q^i} D_i} \sum_{b \in A_{+,j}} \frac{\chi_{t_1}(b) \cdots \chi_{t_s}(b)}{b^{q^j}},$$

evaluating at $t_s = \theta$ gives,

$$\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s))|_{t_s=\theta} = a^{-1}L(0, C_{s-1}) \in a^{-1}k[\underline{t}_{s-1}] \cap \mathcal{R}_{s-1}$$

where $\mathcal{R}_{s-1} = k(\underline{t}_{s-1})[\theta]$ and C_{s-1} is the Drinfeld module of rank one of parameter

$$\alpha' = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_{s-1} - \theta).$$

If by contradiction $a \notin k^\times$, then $a^{-1}k[\underline{t}_{s-1}] \cap \mathcal{R}_{s-1} = \{0\}$ and

$$\exp_{C_s}(a^{-1}L(1, C_s))|_{t_s=\theta} = L(0, C_{s-1}) = 0.$$

However, $L(0, C_{s-1}) \neq 0$. Indeed, by hypothesis, $s-1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{q-1}$ and, by [12], page 278, line 4, we have:

$$L(0, C_{s-1})|_{t_1=\dots=t_{s-1}=\theta} = \zeta_C(1-s) \in A \setminus \{0\}$$

which yields a contradiction. Therefore, $a \in k^\times$. \square

8. ON THE LOG-ALGEBRAICITY THEOREM OF ANDERSON

We first recall Anderson's *log-algebraicity Theorem* for the Carlitz module (cf. [2, Theorem 3]; see also loc. cit. Proposition 8). Let Y, z be two indeterminates over \mathbb{C}_∞ . Let

$$\tau : \mathbb{C}_\infty[Y][[z]] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty[Y][[z]]$$

be the map $f \mapsto f^q$. G. Anderson proved that for $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$\exp_C \left(\sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} \frac{C_a(Y)^n}{a} z^{q^d} \right) \in A[Y, z].$$

It turns out that the class number formula (Theorem 5.11) implies a refined version of Anderson's log-algebraicity Theorem in the case of the Carlitz module as we will explain below.

We consider, for $r \in \mathbb{N}$, and for all $1 \leq j \leq r, i \in \mathbb{N}$, "symbols" $X_1, \dots, X_r, Z, \tau(X_1), \dots, \tau(X_r), \dots, \tau^i(X_j), \dots$. Let us consider the polynomial ring in infinitely many indeterminates

$$\mathcal{B}_r = \mathbb{C}_\infty[X_1, \dots, X_r, \tau(X_1), \dots, \tau(X_r), \tau^2(X_1), \dots, \tau^2(X_r), \dots].$$

We extend the action of τ to \mathcal{B}_r by setting

$$\tau(\tau^m(X)) = \tau^{m+1}(X)$$

with $X = X_1, \dots, X_r$, and $\tau(c) = c^q$ for $c \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$. We use the ring \mathcal{B}_r (and the so far unused indeterminate Z) to construct yet another ring, non-commutative, denoted by \mathcal{A}_r . This is the set of infinite series

$$\sum_{i \geq 0} c_i \tau^i(Z)$$

with the coefficients $c_i \in \mathcal{B}_r$, the sum being the usual one and the product is given by the following rule. For

$$F = \sum_{i \geq 0} f_i \tau^i(Z), \quad G = \sum_{j \geq 0} g_j \tau^j(Z),$$

we set

$$F \cdot G := \sum_{k \geq 0} \left(\sum_{i+j=k} f_i \tau^i(g_j) \right) \tau^k(Z).$$

Note that the action of τ on \mathcal{B}_r extends to an action of τ on \mathcal{A}_r by setting

$$\tau(\tau^i(Z)) = \tau^{i+1}(Z).$$

We identify $A[X_1, \dots, X_r, Z, \tau(X_1), \dots, \tau(X_r), \tau(Z), \dots]$ with the subring of \mathcal{A}_r consisting of elements $\sum_{i \geq 0} c_i \tau^i(Z)$ where the sequence of coefficients $c_i \in A[\tau^i(X_j); 1 \leq j \leq r, i \geq 0] \subset \mathcal{B}_r$ is ultimately 0. The series

$$\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z) = \sum_{d \geq 0} \left(\sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} C_a(X_1) \cdots C_a(X_r) a^{-1} \right) \tau^d(Z)$$

defines an element of \mathcal{A}_r . Let $\exp_C = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i^{-1} \tau^i$ be the operator associated to Carlitz's exponential. Obviously,

$$S_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z) := \exp_C(\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z))$$

is an element of \mathcal{A}_r . But more is true.

Theorem 8.1. *We have that*

$$S_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z) \in A[X_1, \dots, X_r, Z, \tau(X_1), \dots, \tau(X_r), \tau(Z), \dots].$$

Proof. Let ϕ be the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ -module of rank one whose parameter is

$$\alpha' = t_{r+1}(t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_r - \theta) \in A[\underline{t}_{r+1}].$$

For $i = 1, \dots, r+1$, there is a unique homomorphism of \mathbb{C}_∞ -algebras

$$t_i : \mathcal{A}_r \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_r$$

defined by the following table of multiplication, for $m \in \mathbb{N}$:

$t_i.\tau^m(X_j) = \tau^m(X_j)$	$i \neq j$
$t_i.\tau^m(Z) = \tau^m(Z)$	$i \neq r+1$
$t_i.\tau^m(X_i) = \tau^m(C_\theta(X_i))$	$i \leq r$
$t_{r+1}.\tau^m(X_i) = \tau^m(X_i)$	$i \leq r$
$t_{r+1}.\tau^m(Z) = \tau^{m+1}(Z)$	

(we notice on the way the identity $\tau^m(C_\theta(X_i)) = \tau^{m+1}(X_i) + \theta^q \tau^m(X_i)$). We can endow \mathcal{A}_r with the structure of a $K[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ -algebra. The underlying $K[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ -module structure can be described as follows. If $f \in \mathcal{A}_r$ and if $g \in K[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ has expansion

$$g = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_{r+1} \in \mathbb{N}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_{r+1}} t_1^{i_1} \cdots t_{r+1}^{i_{r+1}}, \quad g_{i_1, \dots, i_{r+1}} \in K,$$

then we have

$$g.f = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_r \in \mathbb{N}} g_{i_1, \dots, i_r} (t_1^{i_1}.f) \cdots (t_{r+1}^{i_{r+1}}.f).$$

We deduce, from the above multiplication table, the identity, for $1 \leq i \leq r$, $j \geq 0$ and $m_1, \dots, m_r \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$\begin{aligned} t_i^j.(\tau^{m_1}(X_1) \cdots \tau^{m_r}(X_r)) &= \\ &= \tau^{m_1}(X_1) \cdots \tau^{m_{i-1}}(X_{i-1}) \tau^{m_i}(C_{\theta^j}(X_i)) \tau^{m_{i+1}}(X_{i+1}) \cdots \tau^{m_r}(X_r). \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$(a(t_1) \cdots a(t_r)).\tau^m(X_1 \cdots X_r) = \tau^m(C_a(X_1) \cdots C_a(X_r)), \quad a \in A.$$

In fact, the action of $K[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ extends to an action of $K[\underline{t}_r][[\underline{t}_{r+1}]]$ in the following way. If $F = \sum_{i \geq 0} F_i t_{r+1}^i \in K[\underline{t}_r][[\underline{t}_{r+1}]]$, we set:

$$F.(X_1 \cdots X_r Z) = \sum_{i \geq 0} F_i t_{r+1}^i.(X_1 \cdots X_r Z) = \sum_{i \geq 0} F_i.(X_1 \cdots X_r \tau^i(Z)) \in \mathcal{A}_r.$$

We observe that:

$$L(1, \phi) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,n}} \frac{a(t_1) \cdots a(t_r)}{a} t_{r+1}^n \in \mathbb{T}_{r+1} \cap K[\underline{t}_r][[\underline{t}_{r+1}]].$$

Therefore, the multiplication $L(1, \phi).(X_1 \cdots X_r Z)$ is well defined and we have:

$$L(1, \phi).(X_1 \cdots X_r Z) = \mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z).$$

We also recall that:

$$\exp_\phi = 1 + \sum_{i \geq 1} \frac{\alpha' \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha')}{D_i} \tau^i.$$

This defines an element of \mathcal{A}_r again denoted by \exp_ϕ and, for all $F \in \mathcal{A}_r$, we have $\exp_\phi \cdot F = \exp_\phi(F)$, which justifies that we are using the same notation for a series of \mathcal{A}_r and a series of $K[\underline{t}_{r+1}][[\tau]]$. We claim that

$$\exp_C(\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z)) = (\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)))(X_1 \cdots X_r Z).$$

Indeed, if we choose $1 \leq i \leq r$, and integers $m_1, \dots, m_{i-1}, m_{i+1}, \dots, m_r, n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have, for $j \geq 1$, that the element of \mathcal{A}_r

$$((t_i - \theta) \cdots (t_i - \theta^{q^{j-1}})) \cdot (\tau^{m_1}(X_1) \cdots \tau^{m_{i-1}}(X_{i-1}) X_i \tau^{m_{i+1}}(X_{i+1}) \cdots \tau^{m_r}(X_r) \tau^n(Z))$$

is equal to:

$$\tau^{m_1}(X_1) \cdots \tau^{m_{i-1}}(X_{i-1}) \tau^j(X_i) \tau^{m_{i+1}}(X_{i+1}) \cdots \tau^{m_r}(X_r) \tau^n(Z).$$

This implies that for $i \geq 1$:

$$\alpha' \tau(\alpha') \cdots \tau^{i-1}(\alpha') \cdot (X_1 \cdots X_r Z) = \tau^i(X_1 \cdots X_r Z),$$

from which we deduce the claim.

But Corollary 5.12 implies that

$$\exp_\phi(L(1, \phi)) \in A[\underline{t}_{r+1}],$$

thus we can conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} S_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z) &= \\ &= \exp_C(\mathcal{L}_r(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z)) \in A[X_1, \dots, X_r, Z, \tau(X_1), \dots, \tau(X_r), \tau(Z), \dots]. \end{aligned}$$

□

The above Theorem implies a multivariable version of Anderson's log-algebraicity Theorem:

Corollary 8.2. *Let $r \geq 0$ be an integer and let Y_1, \dots, Y_r, z be $r+1$ indeterminates over \mathbb{C}_∞ . Let $\tau : \mathbb{C}_\infty[Y_1, \dots, Y_r][[z]] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty[Y_1, \dots, Y_r][[z]]$, $f \mapsto f^q$. Then:*

$$\exp_C \left(\sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,d}} \frac{C_a(Y_1) \cdots C_a(Y_r)}{a} z^{q^d} \right) \in A[Y_1, \dots, Y_r, z].$$

Proof. Let $\psi : \mathcal{A}_r \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty[Y_1, \dots, Y_r][[z]]$ be the morphism of \mathbb{C}_∞ -algebras given by: for $m \in \mathbb{N}$, $\psi(\tau^m(X_i)) = Y_i^{q^m}$, $1 \leq i \leq r$, and $\psi(\tau^m(Z)) = z^{q^m}$. Then,

$$\text{for all } f \in \mathcal{A}_r, \psi(\tau(f)) = \tau(\psi(f)).$$

The Corollary follows from Theorem 8.1. □

Remark 8.3. Even though it only applies to the Carlitz module, Theorem 8.1 has an advantage if compared to Anderson original result [2, Theorem 3], and this, even if we forget the occurrence of the distinct variables X_1, \dots, X_r . Indeed, these variables can vary in the Tate algebra \mathbb{T}_s , while Anderson's result holds if the variable is chosen in \mathbb{C}_∞ . Let us assume, for the sake of simplicity, that $X_1 = \cdots = X_r = X$. In [2, §4.3], Anderson also provides a table of *special polynomials* of small order for small values of q . For example, if $q = 3$ and $r = 4$, we have the formula (cf. loc. cit. p. 191):

$$(29) \quad \exp_C \left(\sum_{k \geq 0} Z^{q^k} \sum_{a \in A_{+,k}} \frac{C_a(X)^4}{a} \right) = ZX^4 - Z^3X^6.$$

This formula has to be understood *with the variables X, Z varying in \mathbb{C}_∞ so that $|Z|$ is small enough to ensure convergence*. If the variables are chosen in \mathbb{T}_s , the formula no longer holds. It can be proved, with an explicit computation, that, again for $q = 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} S_4(X_1, \dots, X_4; Z) &= ZX_1 \cdots X_4 - \tau(Z)(X_1 X_2 X_3 \tau(X_4) + \\ &\quad X_1 X_2 \tau(X_3) X_4 + X_1 \tau(X_2) X_3 X_4 + \tau(X_1) X_2 X_3 X_4). \end{aligned}$$

If we choose $X_1 = \cdots = X_4 = X$, then we get

$$S_4(X, \dots, X; Z) = ZX^4 - \tau(Z)X^3\tau(X),$$

so that, if $X, Z \in \mathbb{C}_\infty$, we recover the original entry of Anderson table (29). Of course, further information about the polynomials $S(X_1, \dots, X_r; Z)$ can be made explicit in the same spirit of [2, Proposition 8]; we refer the interested reader to a forthcoming work of the authors.

9. EVALUATION AT DIRICHLET CHARACTERS

In this Section, more involved than the previous ones, we prove a generalization of Herbrand-Ribet-Taelman Theorem [19]. The difficulties to overcome are due to the evaluations at roots of unity that we have to control, in order to extract information about the Taelman's class modules associated to cyclotomic function field extensions of K (see below) from the structure of the “generic class modules” H_{C_s} studied in §7.1.1.

We recall that, for $a \in A^+$, we have set $\lambda_a = \exp_C(\frac{\tilde{a}}{a})$ and we have denoted by $K_a = K(\lambda_a)$ the a -th cyclotomic field extension of K . Let P be a prime of A . Then Taelman's class module associated to the extension K_P/K and to the Carlitz module is the finite dimensional k -vector space:

$$H(C/A[\lambda_P]) = \frac{K_P \otimes_K K_\infty}{\exp_C(K_P \otimes_K K_\infty) + A[\lambda_P]}.$$

We notice that $A[\lambda_P]$ is the integral closure of A in K_P . This k -vector space is equipped with a structure of A -module via C and $\Delta_P = \text{Gal}(K_P/K)$ acts on this module. Since Δ_P is abelian of order prime to p , one can study the isotypic components of

$$H(C/A[\lambda_P]) \otimes_k \frac{A}{PA}.$$

This is precisely what is done in [6]. In particular, in loc. cit., the authors prove an “equivariant class number formula” and with the help of such a formula they are able to recover an analogue of the Herbrand-Ribet Theorem which was originally obtained by L. Taelman by using different methods of proof (see [21]).

The basic idea in this section has its origins in [15] and [21]. Let $s \geq 1$ be an integer. If $f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, we can evaluate f at the points in $(k^{ac})^s$. Now let χ be a Dirichlet character of type s (see §9.1), to such a character we can associate a point $\zeta_\chi \in (k^{ac})^s$, and we therefore have a morphism (see §9.1.4) of K_∞ -algebras

$$\text{ev}_\chi : \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \rightarrow K_\infty(\chi), \quad f \mapsto f(\zeta_\chi),$$

where $K_\infty(\chi)$ is the field obtained by adjoining to K_∞ the values of the character χ . For example:

$$\text{ev}_\chi(L(1, C_s)) = L(1, \chi),$$

where we recall that C_s is the Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one whose parameter is $(t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$, and

$$L(1, \chi) = \sum_{a \in A_+} \frac{\chi(a)}{a} \in K_\infty(\chi)$$

is the value at one of the Goss abelian L -function associated to the character χ .

Let a be the conductor of the Dirichlet character χ . Then we prove (see §9.1.5) the crucial fact that the map ev_χ induces a surjective morphism of A -modules between H_{C_s} and the χ -isotypic component of Taelman's class module $H(C/A[\lambda_a])$, where $A[\lambda_a]$ is the integral closure of A in the a -th cyclotomic function field. This enables us to study isotypic components of Taelman's class modules in families with the help of the results obtained in the previous sections and the recent results in [4, 5, 6].

9.1. Setting. Let P be a prime of A of degree $d \geq 1$. We recall that \mathfrak{K}_P denotes the P -adic completion of K . Let \mathbb{C}_P be the completion of a fixed algebraic closure \mathfrak{K}_P^{ac} of \mathfrak{K}_P . Since we are going to study certain congruences modulo P , we choose once and for all a K -embedding

$$\iota_P : K^{ac} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_P.$$

We normalize the valuation v_P at the place P by setting $v_P(P) = 1$. We recall that Δ_P is the Galois group of the finite abelian extension $K(\lambda_P)/K$ where $\lambda_P = \exp_C(\frac{\pi}{P})$, and that there is an isomorphism $(A/PA)^\times \simeq \Delta_P$ given by $b \mapsto \sigma_b$ where σ_b satisfies (10).

The *Teichmüller character* is the unique morphism $\vartheta_P : \Delta_P \rightarrow (k^{ac})^\times$ such that, for all $a \in A \setminus AP$,

$$v_P(\iota_P(\vartheta_P(\sigma_a)) - a) \geq 1.$$

Note that there exists a unique element ζ_P in k^{ac} such that $v_P(\theta - \iota_P(\zeta_P)) > 0$. Observe also that $P(\zeta_P) = 0$. Furthermore, for $\sigma_b \in \Delta_P$ with $b \in A \setminus PA$, we have $\vartheta_P(\sigma_b) = b(\zeta_P)$.

Then, every character $\chi \in \widehat{\Delta_P} = \text{Hom}(\Delta_P, (k^{ac})^\times)$ is a power of ϑ_P ; we can write

$$(30) \quad \chi = \vartheta_P^i, \quad 0 \leq i \leq q^d - 2.$$

More generally, if $a \in A_+$, we recall (see §2.1.3) that we have defined $K_a = K(\lambda_a)$ and $\Delta_a = \text{Gal}(K_a/K)$. If a is non-constant and squarefree, we can write $a = P_1 \cdots P_r$ with P_1, \dots, P_r distinct primes of respective degrees d_1, \dots, d_r , and we have that $\widehat{\Delta_a} \cong \widehat{\Delta_{P_1}} \times \cdots \times \widehat{\Delta_{P_r}}$, so that for every character $\chi \in \widehat{\Delta_a}$,

$$(31) \quad \chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$$

where the integers N_i are such that $0 \leq N_i \leq q^{d_i} - 2$ for all i . We call a character like χ in (31), a *Dirichlet character* ⁽⁵⁾ and its conductor is the product $\prod_{N_i \neq 0} P_i$ (note that the trivial character has conductor 1). We define k_a as the subfield of k^{ac}

⁵In fact we should call such characters *tame Dirichlet characters* because the extensions of K associated to such characters are tamely ramified. However, since this is the only kind of characters to be considered in this section, we adopt the terminology *Dirichlet characters* for simplicity.

generated over k by the roots of a (and we set $k_1 = k$). Observe that if $b \in A_+$ (b need not be square-free), any homomorphism $\Delta_b \rightarrow (k^{ac})^\times$ comes from a Dirichlet character.

9.1.1. *Gauss-Thakur sums.* If P is a prime of A , the Gauss-Thakur sum associated to a character $\chi = \vartheta_P^{q^j} \in \widehat{\Delta_P}$ is defined (see Thakur [24, Section 9.8]) by

$$g(\vartheta_P^{q^j}) = - \sum_{\delta \in \Delta_P} \vartheta_P(\delta^{-1})^{q^j} \delta(\lambda_P) \in k_P K_P,$$

where $k_P K_P$ is the compositum of k_P and $K_P = K(\lambda_P)$ in K^{ac} (we have that $k_P \cap K_P = k$). Observe that the Gauss-Thakur sums $g(\vartheta_P^{q^j})$ do not depend on the choice of ι_P although they depend on the choice of a $(q-1)$ th root of $\theta - \theta^q$ in order to choose $\tilde{\pi}$ in (3). Let χ be a character of $\widehat{\Delta_P}$. We define $g(\chi)$ by using (30) in the following way. We expand $i = i_0 + i_1 q + \cdots + i_{d-1} q^{d-1}$ in base q ($i_0, \dots, i_r \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$), and along with this expansion, we define,

$$g(\chi) = \prod_{j=0}^{d-1} g(\vartheta_P^{q^j})^{i_j}.$$

Observe that in general $g(\chi)$ depends also on the choice of the embedding ι_P used to define ϑ_P . We recall (see §6.1) that

$$\omega(t) = \lambda_\theta \prod_{i \geq 0} \left(1 - \frac{t}{\theta^{q^i}}\right)^{-1} \in \lambda_\theta \mathbb{T}(K_\infty).$$

By [5, Theorem 2.9], we have:

$$(32) \quad g(\vartheta_P^{q^j}) = P'(\zeta_P)^{-q^j} \omega(\zeta_P^{q^j}), \quad j = 0, \dots, d-1.$$

Now let χ be a general Dirichlet character whose factorization is of the form $\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$, where P_1, \dots, P_r are distinct primes of respective degrees d_1, \dots, d_r , and where the integers N_i are such that $0 \leq N_i \leq q^{d_i} - 2$ for all i . We copy below from [4, Section 2.3] the definition of the Gauss-Thakur sum associated to such a character. We set $a = P_1 \cdots P_r$. Let us expand in base q :

$$(33) \quad N_i = \sum_{j=0}^{d_i-1} n_{i,j} q^j, \quad i = 1, \dots, r,$$

with $n_{i,j} \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$. For a positive integer N we denote by $\ell_q(N)$ the sum of the digits of the expansion in base q of N so that $\ell_q(N_i) = \sum_{j=0}^{d_i-1} n_{i,j}$. We also set $s = \sum_i \ell_q(N_i)$. The integer s is called the *type* of χ . We point out that the type s of χ does not depend of the embeddings ι_{P_i} . Note that the trivial character is the unique Dirichlet character of type zero. The Gauss-Thakur sum associated to χ is defined as follows:

$$g(\chi) = \prod_{i=1}^r g(\vartheta_{P_i}^{N_i}) \in k_a K_a,$$

where $k_a K_a$ denotes the compositum of k_a and $K_a = K(\lambda_a)$ in K^{ac} .

9.1.2. $k_a[\Delta_a]$ -modules. For v a place of K_a , let us denote by $\widehat{K_{a,v}}$ the completion of K_a at v . If v divides ∞ and $a \neq 1$, then

$$\widehat{K_{a,v}} \cong K_\infty(\tilde{\pi}).$$

We set $K_{a,\infty} = K_a \otimes_K K_\infty$. We have $K_{1,\infty} = K_\infty$ and if a is non-constant, we have an isomorphism of K_∞ -algebras:

$$K_{a,\infty} \cong \prod_{v \in S_\infty(K_a)} K_\infty(\tilde{\pi}),$$

where $S_\infty(K_a)$ is the set of places of K_a dividing ∞ . There is an action of Δ_a on $K_{a,\infty}$; if $\sigma \in \Delta_a$ and $x \otimes y \in K_a \otimes_K K_\infty$, then:

$$\sigma(x \otimes y) := \sigma(x) \otimes y.$$

The operator τ acts on $K_{a,\infty}$ by exponentiation by q (explicitly, $\tau(x \otimes y) = x^q \otimes y^q$) and the actions of Δ_a and τ commute). We set

$$\Omega_a = K_{a,\infty} \otimes_k k_a.$$

We endow Ω_a with a structure of $k_a[\Delta_a]$ -module by setting (as above), for $\sigma \in \Delta_a$ and $x \otimes y \in \Omega_a = K_{a,\infty} \otimes_k k_a$,

$$\sigma(x \otimes y) = \sigma(x) \otimes y.$$

This action commutes with the k_a -linear extension φ of the operator τ on Ω_a . If $x \otimes y \in \Omega_a$, we have $\varphi(x \otimes y) = \tau(x) \otimes y$. If we identify $k_a K_\infty$ with $K_\infty \otimes_k k_a$ which is in a natural way a K_∞ -subalgebra of Ω_a , if $x = \sum_i x_i \theta^{-i} \in k_a((\theta^{-1})) = k_a K_\infty$, then

$$\varphi(x) = \sum_i x_i \theta^{-iq}.$$

9.1.3. *Idempotents*. Here we assume that a is square-free. We identify $k_a K_a$ with $K_a \otimes_k k_a$ which is a K -subalgebra of Ω_a . We denote by O_a the integral closure of A in K_a ; then $O_a[k_a] = O_a \otimes_k k_a$ is the integral closure of $A[k_a] = A \otimes_k k_a$ in $k_a K_a$. To a character $\chi \in \widehat{\Delta_a}$ as in (31) we associate an idempotent $e_\chi \in k_a[\Delta_a]$, defined as follows:

$$e_\chi = |\Delta_a|^{-1} \sum_{\delta \in \Delta_a} \delta^{-1} \chi(\delta).$$

By [4, Lemma 16], we have:

$$e_\chi(k_a K_a) = (k_a K)g(\chi), \quad \text{and } e_\chi(O_a[k_a]) = A[k_a]g(\chi).$$

Therefore:

$$(34) \quad \Omega_a = \bigoplus_{\chi \in \widehat{\Delta_a}} e_\chi(\Omega_a), \quad \text{and } e_\chi(\Omega_a) = k_a K_\infty g(\chi), \quad \chi \in \widehat{\Delta_a}.$$

9.1.4. *Evaluation map*. Let χ be a Dirichlet character of conductor $a = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i$, $\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$, $1 \leq N_i \leq q^{d_i} - 2$, where d_i is the degree of P_i . We recall that the type of χ is $s = \sum_i \ell_q(N_i)$. Consider an s -tuple of variables

$$\underline{t}_s = (\underbrace{t_{1,0,1}, \dots, t_{1,0,n_{1,0}}}_{n_{1,0}}, \dots, \underbrace{t_{1,d_0-1,1}, \dots, t_{1,d_0-1,n_{1,d_0-1}}}_{n_{1,d_0-1}}, \dots, \underbrace{t_{r,d_r-1,n_{r,d_r-1}}}_{n_{r,d_r-1}}).$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\ell_q(N_1)} \qquad \underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\ell_q(N_r)}$

We define the \mathbb{C}_∞ -algebra homomorphism “evaluation” at χ :

$$\text{ev}_\chi : \mathbb{T}_s \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$$

by setting

$$\text{ev}_\chi(t_{i,j,k}) = \zeta_{P_i}^{q^j}$$

for all i, j, k (with $\zeta_{P_j} = \vartheta_{P_j}(\theta)$). If we restrict ev_χ to the subring of \mathbb{T}_s whose elements are symmetric in t_1, \dots, t_s , then ev_χ only depends on χ , that is, it does not depend of the choice of the embeddings ι_{P_i} and it does not depend of the order of indexation of the primes P_i . Observe that, by (32):

$$\begin{aligned} g(\chi) &= g(\vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1}) \cdots g(\vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}) \\ &= P'_1(\zeta_{P_1})^{-N_1} \cdots P'_r(\zeta_{P_r})^{-N_r} \prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} \omega(\zeta_{P_i}^{q^j})^{n_{i,j}} \\ (35) \quad &= \text{ev}_\chi \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} \prod_{k=1}^{n_{i,j}} P'_i(t_{i,j,k})^{-1} \omega(t_{i,j,k}) \right). \end{aligned}$$

9.1.5. *An equivariant isomorphism.* We recall that we have introduced, in §9.1.2, a k_a -linear endomorphism φ of Ω_a . We choose a Dirichlet character

$$\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$$

as in (31) and we expand the integers N_i in base q as in (33);

$$N_i = \sum_{j=0}^{d_i-1} n_{i,j} q^j.$$

By (35) and by the functional equation $\tau(\omega) = (t - \theta)\omega$ of the function ω of Anderson and Thakur, we see that

$$\varphi(g(\chi)) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} (\vartheta_{P_i}(\theta)^{q^j} - \theta)^{n_{i,j}} \right) g(\chi) = \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} (\zeta_{P_i}^{q^j} - \theta)^{n_{i,j}} \right) g(\chi).$$

We now come back to the identity (34) and we consider the isomorphism

$$\nu_\chi : e_\chi(\Omega_a) \rightarrow k_a K_\infty$$

defined by $\nu_\chi(y) = yg(\chi)^{-1}$. Then,

$$\nu_\chi(\varphi(x)) = \tilde{\varphi}(\nu_\chi(x)),$$

where

$$\tilde{\varphi}(x) := \left(\prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} (\zeta_{P_i}^{q^j} - \theta)^{n_{i,j}} \right) \varphi(x).$$

The Taelman class module associated to the Carlitz module and relative to the extension K_a/K (see [19] and [6]) is defined by

$$(36) \quad H_a = \frac{C(K_a \otimes_K K_\infty)}{\exp_C(K_a \otimes_K K_\infty) + C(O_a)}.$$

Let $C^\varphi : k_a \otimes_k A \rightarrow \Omega_a[\varphi]$ be the homomorphism of k_a -algebras defined by

$$C_\theta^\varphi = \theta + \varphi.$$

Let us additionally set

$$\exp_C^\varphi = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i^{-1} \varphi^i,$$

which gives rise to a k_a -linear continuous function $\Omega_a \rightarrow \Omega_a$.

We then have an isomorphism of $A[k_a]$ -modules:

$$H_a \otimes_k k_a \cong \frac{C^\varphi(\Omega_a)}{\exp_C^\varphi(\Omega_a) + C^\varphi(O_a[k_a])}.$$

Now, we consider, with an analogue meaning of the symbols, the k_a -linear endomorphisms $C^{\tilde{\varphi}}$ and $\exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}$ of $k_a K_\infty$, and the $A[k_a]$ -module:

$$H_\chi = \frac{C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(k_a K_\infty)}{\exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(k_a K_\infty) + C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(A[k_a])}.$$

The previous discussions imply the next Lemma.

Lemma 9.1. *The map ν_χ induces an isomorphism of $A[k_a]$ -modules*

$$e_\chi(H_a \otimes_k k_a) \cong H_\chi.$$

9.1.6. *Link between H_{C_s} and H_χ .* We recall that we are examining χ a Dirichlet character of conductor $a = \prod_{i=1}^r P_i$, $\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$, $1 \leq N_i \leq q^{d_i} - 2$, where d_i is the degree of P_i . We write N_i in base q : $N_i = \sum_{j=0}^{d_i-1} n_{i,j} q^j$, with $n_{i,j} \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$.

With $s = \sum_{i=1}^r \ell_q(N_i)$ the type of χ we consider the uniformizable Drinfeld module of rank one C_s , with parameter

$$(37) \quad \alpha = \prod_{i=1}^r \prod_{j=0}^{d_i-1} \prod_{k=1}^{n_{i,j}} (t_{i,j,k} - \theta),$$

of degree s . We notice that $\text{ev}_\chi(k[\underline{t}_s]) = k_a$ and that we have a field isomorphism $k[\underline{t}_s]/I_\chi \cong k_a$, where

$$I_\chi = \text{Ker}(\text{ev}_\chi) \cap k[\underline{t}_s]$$

is the ideal of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ generated by the polynomials $P_i(t_{i,j,k})$, which yields an isomorphism

$$(38) \quad \frac{A[\underline{t}_s]}{I_\chi A[\underline{t}_s]} \cong A[k_a] = k_a[\theta].$$

Proposition 9.2. *The evaluation map ev_χ induces an isomorphism of $A[k_a]$ -modules*

$$\psi_\chi : \frac{H_{C_s}}{I_\chi H_{C_s}} \rightarrow H_\chi.$$

Proof. The evaluation map $\text{ev}_\chi : \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \rightarrow k_a K_\infty$ satisfies:

$$\text{ev}_\chi(\tau_\alpha(f)) = \tilde{\varphi}(\text{ev}_\chi(f)), \quad f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty).$$

In particular, for all $b \in A[k_a]$, $\tilde{b} \in A[\underline{t}_s]$ such that $b = \text{ev}_\chi(\tilde{b})$ and f in $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$, we have (with $\phi = C_s$):

$$(39) \quad C_b^{\tilde{\varphi}}(\text{ev}_\chi(f)) = \text{ev}_\chi(\phi_{\tilde{b}}(f))$$

and

$$(40) \quad \exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(\text{ev}_\chi(f)) = \text{ev}_\chi(\exp_\phi(f)).$$

We consider the composition $w = \text{pr} \circ \text{ev}_\chi$ of two surjective k -linear maps:

$$\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) \rightarrow k_a K_\infty \rightarrow \frac{k_a K_\infty}{\exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(k_a K_\infty) + A[k_a]},$$

where the first map is ev_χ and the second map pr is the projection. We deduce from (39) that, with b and \tilde{b} such that $b = \text{ev}_\chi(\tilde{b})$,

$$w(\phi_{\tilde{b}}(f)) = C_b^{\tilde{\varphi}}(w(f))$$

for all $f \in \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$ and $b \in A[\underline{t}_s]$.

Let f be an element of $\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)$. We have $w(f) = 0$ if and only if

$$\text{ev}_\chi(f) \in \exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(k_a K_\infty) + A[k_a].$$

By (40), we have

$$\exp_C^{\tilde{\varphi}}(k_a K_\infty) + A[k_a] = \text{ev}_\chi(\exp_{C_s}(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)) + A[\underline{t}_s])$$

which means that $w(f) = 0$ if and only if

$$f \in I_\chi \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) + \exp_{C_s}(\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)) + A[\underline{t}_s],$$

where

$$I_\chi \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) = \left\{ \sum_{i \geq m} x_i \theta^{-i}; x_i \in I_\chi, m \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}.$$

Now, we notice the isomorphism of k -vector spaces

$$\frac{H_{C_s}}{I_\chi H_{C_s}} = \frac{\mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty)}{I_\chi \mathbb{T}_s(K_\infty) + \exp_{C_s}(\mathbb{T}_s) + A[\underline{t}_s]}$$

which shows, with (38), that the map of the Proposition is an isomorphism of $A[k_a]$ -modules. \square

Corollary 9.3. *Let χ be a Dirichlet character of type $s \geq q$, with $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and with conductor a . Then:*

$$\text{Fitt}_{A[k_a]}(H_\chi) = \text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{C_s})A[k_a].$$

Proof. By Theorem 7.7, we get:

$$\text{Fitt}_{A[k_a]} \left(\frac{H_{C_s}}{I_\chi H_{C_s}} \right) = \text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{C_s})A[k_a].$$

We conclude by applying Proposition 9.2. \square

The author of the appendix to the present paper, Florent Demeslay, informed us that, using ideas similar to that developed in the appendix, he has obtained an equivariant class number formula for the Carlitz module similar to Theorem A of [6] for the extension K_a/K when a is square-free (the case where a is a prime is treated in [6]). By similar arguments as those used in [6], he proved that the above result can also be deduced from such an equivariant class number formula. Such an equivariant class number formula is a special case of a more general result concerning L -series of Anderson's t -modules defined over Tate algebras recently obtained by Demeslay and using ideas developed in this article (this will appear in a forthcoming work of Demeslay).

9.2. On the structure of H_{C_s} and the isotypic components H_χ . We consider the set \mathcal{E}_s of all the Dirichlet characters χ of type s , namely, the set of Dirichlet characters χ which can be written in the form

$$\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r},$$

for distinct primes P_1, \dots, P_r and for integers N_1, \dots, N_r such that $\ell_q(N_1) + \cdots + \ell_q(N_r) = s$ (with r depending on χ). There is a map (depending on the embeddings ι_{P_j}):

$$\mathcal{E}_s \xrightarrow{\mu_s} (k^{ac})^s$$

defined by $\chi \mapsto \underline{\zeta}_\chi$ where $\underline{\zeta}_\chi$ is the s -tuple with entries $\zeta_{P_i}^{q^j}$ (see §9.1.4).

Definition 9.4. Let \mathcal{P} be a property over \mathcal{E}_s . We say that \mathcal{P} holds for *almost all* characters of type s if

$$\mu_s(\{\chi; \mathcal{P}(\chi) \text{ holds}\}) \supset \mathcal{O},$$

where \mathcal{O} is a non-empty Zariski-open subset of $(k^{ac})^s$.

Remark 9.5. (1). Let us suppose that $s \geq 1$. Observe that if a property \mathcal{P} is true for almost all Dirichlet characters of type s , then it is true for infinitely many Dirichlet characters of type s . Indeed, there exist infinitely many s -tuples of primes (P_1, \dots, P_s) with $P_i \neq P_j$ for $i \neq j$, such that, given $F \in k[\underline{t}_s]$, $F(\zeta_{P_1}, \dots, \zeta_{P_s}) \neq 0$, and $\chi = \vartheta_{P_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_s}$ is of type s .

(2). Definition 9.4 does not depend on the choice of the embeddings ι_P for P prime. Indeed, if $\mu_s(\{\chi; \mathcal{P}(\chi) \text{ holds}\}) \supset \mathcal{O}$, we can always find a non-empty Zariski-open $\mathcal{O}' \subset \mathcal{O}$ such that $\mu_s(\{\chi; \mathcal{P}(\chi) \text{ holds}\}) \supset \mathcal{O}'$ for any choice of the embeddings ι_P for P prime.

(3). There are such properties \mathcal{P} which hold for almost all Dirichlet characters of type s but which fail for infinitely many such characters. This of course depends on the fact that there are strictly closed subsets of $(k^{ac})^s$ which are infinite. For example, one can consider the property over \mathcal{E}_2 determined by the non-vanishing on $(k^{ac})^2$ of the polynomial $t_1^q - t_2$, or the polynomial $(t_1^q - t_2)(t_2^q - t_1)$ (in the last case, the property does not depend on the embeddings ι_P).

Let R be a commutative ring and M an R -module. Let f be an element of R . We denote the f -torsion submodule of M by $M[f] = \{m \in M, f.m = 0\}$.

Proposition 9.6. *Let us suppose that $s \geq 1$ and let f be in A_+ . Then, for almost all Dirichlet characters of type s , we have $H_\chi[f] = \{0\}$.*

Proof. We can suppose that $s \geq 2q - 1$. By Proposition 7.9, if $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $H_{C_s}[f] = \{0\}$. If $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, then, by Proposition 7.10, $H_{C_s}[f] \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s) = \{0\}$. Hence, in all cases,

$$H_{C_s}[f] \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s) = \{0\}.$$

We now consider the exact sequence of $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules of finite type (the middle map is the multiplication by f):

$$0 \rightarrow H_{C_s}[f] \rightarrow H_{C_s} \xrightarrow{f} H_{C_s} \rightarrow \frac{H_{C_s}}{fH_{C_s}} \rightarrow 0.$$

Taking the tensor product of the above exact sequence with $k(\underline{t}_s)$, we get:

$$\frac{H_{C_s}}{fH_{C_s}} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s) = \{0\}.$$

In particular, the $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of finite type $\frac{H_{C_s}}{fH_{C_s}}$ is torsion and there exists $F_f \in k[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$ such that $F_f H_{C_s} \subset fH_{C_s}$. It remains to apply Proposition 9.2. \square

We now suppose that $s \geq 1$ is such that $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$. Recall that, by Remark 5.17, the element

$$m_s = [\mathcal{H}_{C_s}]_{k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]}$$

belongs to $A[\underline{t}_s]$ and is monic as a polynomial in θ .

Theorem 9.7. *For almost all characters χ of type s , we have that*

$$\text{Fitt}_{A[k_a]}(H_\chi) = \text{ev}_\chi(m_s)A[k_a],$$

where a is the conductor of χ .

Proof. Let us denote by M the torsion sub- $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of H_{C_s} :

$$M = \{m \in H_{C_s}; \exists f \in k[\underline{t}_s], f.m = 0\}.$$

We set:

$$\widetilde{H_{C_s}} := \frac{H_{C_s}}{M}$$

Note that the $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$ -module $\widetilde{H_{C_s}} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s)$ is isomorphic to \mathcal{H}_{C_s} and therefore its Fitting ideal over $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$ is generated by m_s . Since M is a finitely generated and torsion $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module, we notice that for almost all Dirichlet characters χ of type s , we have that $M \subset I_\chi H_{C_s}$. Thus, for almost all the Dirichlet characters χ of type s , the $A[\underline{t}_s]/I_\chi A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module

$$\frac{\widetilde{H_{C_s}}}{I_\chi \widetilde{H_{C_s}}}$$

is well defined. For almost all Dirichlet characters χ of type s , we have that

$$\text{Fitt}_{\frac{A[\underline{t}_s]}{I_\chi A[\underline{t}_s]}} \left(\frac{\widetilde{H_{C_s}}}{I_\chi \widetilde{H_{C_s}}} \right) = \frac{\text{Fitt}_{A[\underline{t}_s]}(\widetilde{H_{C_s}}) + I_\chi A[\underline{t}_s]}{I_\chi A[\underline{t}_s]}.$$

But by Proposition 9.2, for almost all characters χ of type s , we also have an isomorphism of $A[k_a]$ -modules $\frac{\widetilde{H_{C_s}}}{I_\chi \widetilde{H_{C_s}}} \cong H_\chi$. The Theorem follows easily. \square

9.3. Pseudo-null and pseudo-cyclic modules.

Definition 9.8. Let M be a finitely generated $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module which also is finitely generated as a $k[\underline{t}_s]$ -module. We say that M is *pseudo-null* if

$$M \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s) = \{0\}.$$

We say that M is *pseudo-cyclic* if there exists $m \in M$ such that $\frac{M}{mA[\underline{t}_s]}$ is pseudo-null.

In this Section, we investigate the property of pseudo-cyclicity and pseudo-nullity for the modules H_{C_s} (that is, in the case of the Drinfeld module C_s of parameter $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_s - \theta)$). We are concerned by the following questions which we leave open.

Question 9.9. *Is H_{C_s} pseudo-cyclic?*

Question 9.10. *Assuming that $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, is H_{C_s} pseudo-null?*

9.3.1. *The torsion case.* We are here in the case $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$. Recall that $H_{C_s} = \{0\}$ for $s = 1, q$. We can suppose without loss of generality, that $s \geq 2q-1$.

Proposition 9.11. *The following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1) H_{C_s} is pseudo-cyclic,
- (2) For almost all Dirichlet characters χ of type s , H_χ is a cyclic $k_a[\theta]$ -module, where a is the conductor of χ ,
- (3) There exists a Dirichlet character χ of type s such that H_χ is a cyclic $k_a[\theta]$ -module, where a is the conductor of χ .

Proof. The first condition implies the second by means of the equivariant isomorphism of the Proposition 9.2. The second condition obviously implies the third. It remains to show that the third condition implies the first. Write \mathcal{R} for $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$ recall that $\mathcal{H}_{C_s} = H_{C_s} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s)$. Since \mathcal{H}_{C_s} is finitely generated and torsion over \mathcal{R} , it is isomorphic to $\prod_{i=1}^n \mathcal{R}/r_i \mathcal{R}$ for some r_1, \dots, r_n monic in \mathcal{R} . Since $\text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s})$ is generated by $\prod_{i=1}^n r_i$ and $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s})$ by the least common multiple of r_1, \dots, r_n , the condition that H_{C_s} is pseudo-cyclic is equivalent to

$$\text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}).$$

By Theorem 7.7, the polynomial \mathbb{B}_{C_s} is the monic generator of $\text{Fitt}_{A[\underline{t}_s]}(H_{C_s})$ and $\text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}) = \mathbb{B}_{C_s} \mathcal{R}$. Let m be the monic generator of $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s})$, observe that $m \in A[\underline{t}_s]$ and m divides \mathbb{B}_{C_s} . By Corollary 9.3,

$$\text{Ann}_{A[k_a]}(H_\chi) = \text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{C_s})A[k_a].$$

Thus, $\text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{C_s})$ divides $\text{ev}_\chi(m)$ and therefore $\mathbb{B}_{C_s} = m$. \square

9.3.2. *The non-torsion case.* Here we suppose that $s \not\equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and $s \geq 1$. We recall that $\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$.

Proposition 9.12. *The following assertions are equivalent.*

- (1) H_{C_s} is pseudo-cyclic,
- (2) $\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}\left(\frac{U_{C_s}}{U_{C_s}^c} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s)\right) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s})$,
- (3) For almost all Dirichlet characters χ of type s , the $A[k_a]$ -module H_χ is a cyclic module, where a is the conductor of χ .

Proof. We know that $U_{C_s}/U_{C_s}^c$ is a cyclic $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module and we already know that it is of finite rank over $k[\underline{t}_s]$ and free (see Remark 5.17). By Corollary 5.16,

$$\text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}\left(\frac{U_{C_s}}{U_{C_s}^c} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s)\right) = \text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}\left(\frac{U_{C_s}}{U_{C_s}^c} \otimes_{k[\underline{t}_s]} k(\underline{t}_s)\right) = \text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}).$$

Then, H_{C_s} is pseudo-cyclic if and only if $\text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}) = \text{Ann}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s})$. This implies the equivalence of the first condition and the second condition. That these conditions are also equivalent to the third condition follows in a way which is very similar to that used in the proof of Proposition 9.11. \square

Remark 9.13. We notice that H_{C_s} is pseudo-null if and only if

$$\text{Fitt}_{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}_{C_s}) = \mathcal{R}.$$

Thus H_{C_s} is pseudo-null if and only if $U_{C_s} = U_{C_s}^c$. Moreover, H_{C_s} is pseudo-null if and only if $m_s = [\mathcal{H}_{C_s}]_{\mathcal{R}} = 1$ which is equivalent, by Theorem 9.7, to the fact that, for almost all Dirichlet characters χ of type s we have $H_\chi = \{0\}$.

9.4. Evaluation of the polynomials \mathbb{B}_{C_s} . For $s \geq 1$ with $s \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, to simplify our notation, we write \mathbb{B}_s instead of \mathbb{B}_{C_s} . Note that $\mathbb{B}_1 = \frac{1}{\theta-t}$.

Let χ be a character of conductor a and of type s , write $a = P_1 \cdots P_r$ for distinct primes $P_1, \dots, P_r \in A$, so that $\chi = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$ with $N_i \leq q^{d_i} - 2$, d_i being the degree in θ of P_i for all i .

We recall that the special value at $n \geq 1$ of Goss-Dirichlet L -series (see [12], chapter 8) associated to χ is defined by

$$\forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, L(n, \chi) = \sum_{m \geq 0} \sum'_{b \in A_{+,m}} \chi(\sigma_b) b^{-n} \in \mathbb{C}_\infty,$$

where the sum runs over the elements b which are relatively prime to a .

In [4] and [15] it is shown that these L -series values can be obtained from the evaluation of L -series values $L(n, C_s)$. More precisely, for all b relatively prime to a ,

$$\chi(\sigma_b) = \text{ev}_\chi(\rho_\alpha(b))$$

(α being the parameter of C_s), and therefore we get

$$L(n, \chi) = \text{ev}_\chi(L(n, C_s)).$$

We choose $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and we expand it in base q as

$$N = \sum_{j=0}^k n_j q^j$$

($n_0, \dots, n_k \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$). We further set

$$s' = s + \ell_q(N).$$

We then have the evaluation map (we recall that \mathbb{E}_s is the sub-algebra of \mathbb{T}_s of entire functions §3.3).

$$\text{ev}_N : \mathbb{E}_{s'} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_s$$

defined by replacing the family of variables $(t_1, \dots, t_s, t_{s+1}, \dots, t_{s+\ell_q(N)})$ by

$$(t_1, \dots, t_s, \underbrace{\theta, \dots, \theta}_{n_0}, \underbrace{\theta^q, \dots, \theta^q}_{n_1}, \dots, \underbrace{\theta^{q^k}, \dots, \theta^{q^k}}_{n_k}).$$

If $N = 0$, this map is obviously the identity map of \mathbb{E}_s . We shall work, in this subsection, with the evaluation map $\text{ev}_{\chi, N} : \mathbb{E}_{s'} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$ defined by

$$\text{ev}_{N, \chi} = \text{ev}_\chi \circ \text{ev}_N.$$

In particular:

$$\text{ev}_{N, \chi}(A[\underline{t}_{s+\ell_q(N)}]) = A[k_a].$$

If $C_{s'}$ is the Drinfeld module of rank one of parameter $\alpha = (t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_{s'} - \theta)$, then this evaluation map allows to obtain the special values of the Dirichlet L -series of Goss from $L(1, C_{s'}) \in \mathbb{E}_{s'}$ ([4, Corollary 8]). Indeed, for all $j \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\tau^j(L(1, C_{s'})) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,n}} \frac{a(t_1) \cdots a(t_{s'})}{a^{q^j}},$$

thus:

$$\text{ev}_N(\tau^j(L(1, C_{s'}))) = \sum_{n \geq 0} \sum_{a \in A_{+,n}} \frac{a(t_1) \cdots a(t_s)}{a^{q^j - N}},$$

and therefore:

$$\text{ev}_{N,\chi}(\tau^j(L(1, C_{s'}))) = L(q^j - N, \chi).$$

To N as above, with its expansion $N = \sum_i n_i q^i$ in base q , we associate the *Carlitz factorial* $\Pi(N)$, defined by

$$\Pi(N) = \prod_{i \geq 0} D_i^{n_i}.$$

We apply the evaluations $\text{ev}_{N,\chi}$ in two different ways.

9.4.1. *First way to apply $\text{ev}_{N,\chi}$.* Recall that $s' = s + \ell_q(N)$ and we assume here that $s' \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s' \geq 1$. Furthermore if $s = 0$ and $\ell_q(N) = 1$, we assume that $N \geq 2$. For a polynomial $a \in A$, we denote by a' its derivative in the indeterminate θ . Observe that $\text{ev}_N(\mathbb{B}_{s'})$ is well defined. By [4, Corollary 8], the function

$$L(1, C_{s'}) = \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} \chi_{t_1}(b) \cdots \chi_{t_{s'}}(b) b^{-1}$$

is in $\mathbb{B}_{s'}$, that is, entire in the set of variables $\underline{t}_{s'}$ (it is denoted by $L(\chi_{t_1} \cdots \chi_{t_{s'}}, 1)$ in [4]). Write $N = \sum_{i=0}^k n_i q^i$, $n_i \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$, $n_k \neq 0$. We rename the variables $t_{s+1}, \dots, t_{s'}$ in a way which is compatible with the expansion of N in base q by writing:

$$(t_{s+1}, \dots, t_{s'}) = (t_{0,1}, \dots, t_{0,n_0}, \dots, t_{k,1}, \dots, t_{k,n_k}).$$

Note that $\text{ev}_N \left(\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_{s'}) \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_{s'}) \right)$ is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ev}_N \left(\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s) \left(\prod_{i=0}^k \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} ((t_{i,j} - \theta^{q^i}) \omega(t_{i,j})) \right) \times \right. \\ & \quad \left. \times \frac{1}{\prod_{i=0}^k \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} (t_{i,j} - \theta^{q^i})} \left(\sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_{s'}) \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

By [4, Lemma 5], $L(1, C_{s'})$ vanishes at any point of the form

$$(t_1, \dots, t_s, t_{s+1}, \dots, t_{s+j-1}, \theta^{q^l}, t_{s+j+1}, \dots, t_{s'}), \quad l \geq 0, \quad t_i \in \mathbb{C}_\infty.$$

Furthermore an easy computation shows that the function $\omega(t_k) = \lambda_\theta \prod_{i \geq 0} (1 - \frac{t_k}{\theta^{q^i}})^{-1}$ has a simple pole at θ^{q^l} of residue $-\tilde{\pi}^{q^l} D_l^{-1}$ (for all $l \geq 0$). Indeed, in \mathbb{T} , $\omega(t) = \exp_C \left(\frac{\tilde{\pi}}{\theta - t} \right) = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i^{-1} \frac{\tilde{\pi}^{q^i}}{\theta^{q^i} - t}$. Thanks to this residue computation we deduce, with Δ the differential operator

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{0,1}} \cdots \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{0,n_0}} \cdots \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{k,1}} \cdots \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{k,n_k}},$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{ev}_N \left(\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_{s'}) \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_{s'}) \right) \\ &= \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s) (-\tilde{\pi})^{n_0} \cdots (-\tilde{\pi})^{n_k q^k} D_0^{-n_0} \cdots D_k^{-n_k} \times \\ & \quad \times \left[\Delta \left(\sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_s) b(t_{0,1}) \cdots b(t_{k,n_k}) \right) \right]_{t_{i,j} = \theta^{q^i}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (-1)^N \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s) \tilde{\pi}^N \Pi(N)^{-1} \times \\
&\quad \times \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_s) [b'(t_{0,1}) \cdots b'(t_{k,n_k})]_{t_{i,j} = \theta^{q^i}} \\
&= (-1)^N \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s) \tilde{\pi}^N \Pi(N)^{-1} \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} b^{-1} b(t_1) \cdots b(t_s) (b')^N.
\end{aligned}$$

Recall that:

$$\mathbb{B}_{s'} = (-1)^{(s'-1)/(q-1)} L(1, C_{s'}) \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_{s'}) \tilde{\pi}^{-1}$$

(see (27)). Therefore, we get the formula:

$$\text{ev}_N(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) = (-1)^{N + \frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \tilde{\pi}^{N-1} \Pi(N)^{-1} \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s) \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} \rho_\alpha(b) \frac{(b')^N}{b},$$

where we notice that the series in the right-hand side, with α the parameter of C_s , is convergent for the Gauss norm of \mathbb{T}_s .

We also have the formula (use (35)):

$$\text{ev}_\chi(\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s)) = \vartheta_{P_1}(\sigma_{P'_1})^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}(\sigma_{P'_r})^{N_r} g(\chi) = P'_1(\zeta_1)^{N_1} \cdots P'_r(\zeta_r)^{N_r} g(\chi)$$

where $\zeta_i = \zeta_{P_i}$. Therefore, composing with ev_χ now gives the identity

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{ev}_{N,\chi}(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) &= \\
&= (-1)^{N + \frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \tilde{\pi}^{N-1} \Pi(N)^{-1} \vartheta_{P_1}(\sigma_{P'_1})^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}(\sigma_{P'_r})^{N_r} g(\chi) \times \\
&\quad \sum_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} \chi(b) \frac{(b')^N}{b}.
\end{aligned}$$

9.4.2. *Second way to apply $\text{ev}_{N,\chi}$.* Here again $s' \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s' \geq 1$. Let us consider an integer $d \geq 1$ such that $q^d > N$. The functions $\tau^d(L(1, C_{s'})) = L(q^d, C_{s'})$ are also entire and we have

$$\tau^d(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) = (-1)^{\frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \tilde{\pi}^{-q^d} L(q^d, C_{s'}) b_d(t_1) \cdots b_d(t_{s'}) \omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_{s'}),$$

where $b_i = (t - \theta)(t - \theta^q) \cdots (t - \theta^{q^{i-1}})$ for $i > 0$ and $b_0 = 1$. We observe, as in [4, §3.2], that

$$\text{ev}_N(b_d(t_{s+1}) \cdots b_d(t_{s'}) \omega(t_{s+1}) \cdots \omega(t_{s'})) = (-1)^N \tilde{\pi}^N \prod_{i=0}^k l_{d-i-1}^{n_i q^i}.$$

Again by (35) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{ev}_\chi(\omega(t_1) \cdots \omega(t_s)) &= \\
&= L(q^d - N, \chi) \vartheta_{P_1}(\sigma_{P'_1})^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}(\sigma_{P'_r})^{N_r} g(\chi).
\end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$\text{ev}_{\chi,N}(L(q^d, C_{s'})) = L(q^d - N, \chi).$$

Hence, we obtain the formula

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{ev}_{N,\chi}(\tau^d(\mathbb{B}_{s'})) &= \\
&= (-1)^{N + \frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \tilde{\pi}^{N-q^d} \vartheta_{P_1}(\sigma_{P'_1})^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}(\sigma_{P'_r})^{N_r} g(\chi) \times \\
&\quad L(q^d - N, \chi) \text{ev}_\chi(b_d(t_1) \cdots b_d(t_s)) \prod_{i=0}^k l_{d-i-1}^{n_i q^i}.
\end{aligned}$$

We set

$$\rho_{N,\chi,d} := \frac{\text{ev}_{N,\chi}(\tau^d(\mathbb{B}_{s'}))}{\vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1}(\sigma_{P_1'}) \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}(\sigma_{P_r'})} \in k_a K.$$

Proposition 9.14. *Let $s' = s + \ell_q(N) \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s' \geq 1$. The following properties hold.*

(1) *If $s = 0$ and $\ell_q(N) = 1$, we assume that $N \geq 2$. We have:*

$$\rho_{N,\chi,0} = (-1)^{N+\frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \tilde{\pi}^{N-1} g(\chi) \Pi(N)^{-1} \sum'_{d \geq 0} \sum_{b \in A_{+,d}} \chi(b) b'^N b^{-1}.$$

(2) *Let $d \geq 1$ be an integer such that $q^d > N$. Then,*

$$\rho_{N,\chi,d} = (-1)^{N+\frac{s'-1}{q-1}} g(\chi) L(q^d - N, \chi) \tilde{\pi}^{N-q^d} \text{ev}_\chi(b_d(t_1) \cdots b_d(t_s)) \prod_{i=0}^k l_{d-1-i}^{n_i q^i}.$$

9.5. A refinement of Herbrand-Ribet-Taelman Theorem. As in the previous Section, let χ be a Dirichlet character of type $s \geq 0$ and conductor a . Following [4, §2.4], we introduce the *generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz numbers* $\text{BC}_{n,\chi^{-1}}$ by means of the following generating series:

$$\frac{g(\chi)}{a} \sum_{b \in (A/aA)^\times} \frac{\chi(b)X}{\exp_C(\frac{X}{a}) - \sigma_b(\lambda_a)} = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{\text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}}}{\Pi(i)} X^i.$$

If $s = 0$, when $a = 1$, we set $\lambda_a = 0$ in the above formula so that we get in this case

$$\text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}} = \text{BC}_i$$

for $i \geq 0$, where for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, BC_n denotes the n -th Bernoulli-Carlitz number (see [12, Chapter 9, §9.2]).

From [4, Proposition 17], we deduce easily the following:

Lemma 9.15. *The following properties hold:*

- (1) *For all $i \geq 0$, we have $\text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}} \in k_a K$.*
- (2) *If $i \not\equiv s \pmod{q-1}$, then $\text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}} = 0$.*
- (3) *We have $\text{BC}_{0,\chi^{-1}} = 0$ if $s \geq 1$.*
- (4) *If $i \geq 1$ is such that $i \equiv s \pmod{q-1}$, then*

$$L(i, \chi)g(\chi) = \tilde{\pi}^i \text{BC}_{i,\chi^{-1}} \Pi(i)^{-1}.$$

We now consider integers s, s', N with $s + \ell_q(N) = s'$, $s \geq 1$, $s' \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$ and a character χ of type s' and conductor $a = Pb$ such that

$$\chi = \vartheta_P^N \tilde{\chi},$$

with P a prime not dividing the conductor b of $\tilde{\chi}$, and such that $N \leq q^d - 2$, d being the degree of P . The valuation ring of the compositum $k_a \mathfrak{K}_P$ of k_a and \mathfrak{K}_P in \mathbb{C}_P is the ring $\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]$ where \mathfrak{A}_P is the valuation ring of \mathfrak{K}_P .

We highlight that the congruences for the above generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz numbers that will be used in the proof of Theorem 9.16 are well defined thanks to the choice of the embedding of K^{ac} in \mathbb{C}_P that we made at the beginning of §9.1.

9.5.1. *An example.* We consider the simplest non-trivial case of a character χ of type $s' = 1$. Here, the factor $\tilde{\chi}$ is the trivial character and therefore $s = 0$ and $N = q^i$ so that $\chi = \vartheta_P^{q^i}$ with $d-1 \geq i \geq 0$. The case $i = 0$ is somewhat exceptional so that we assume that $i > 0$. We have $H_{C_1} = \{0\}$ which implies, by Proposition 9.2, the triviality of $H_{\chi^{q^j}}$, $j \in \mathbb{N}$. By Lemma 9.1, $e_{\chi^{q^j}}(H_a \otimes_k k_a) = 0$ for all $j \in \mathbb{N}$, and therefore $e_\chi(H_a \otimes_A \mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]) = \{0\}$. Now we observe, by the second part of the Proposition 9.14, that

$$\frac{\text{BC}_{q^d-q^i} l_{d-1-i}^{q^i}}{\Pi(q^d - q^i)} = -\frac{1}{\theta^{q^d} - \theta^{q^i}}.$$

In particular, the Bernoulli-Carlitz number $\text{BC}_{q^d-q^i}$ is in this case P -integral and reduces to a unit modulo P .

Theorem 9.16 (Refinement of Herbrand-Ribet-Taelman Theorem [21]). *Let χ be a Dirichlet character with conductor a and type $s' \equiv 1 \pmod{q-1}$, $s' \geq 1$. Let P be a prime dividing a , of degree d , and let us write $\chi = \vartheta_P^N \tilde{\chi}$ with $1 \leq N \leq q^d - 2$ and with $\tilde{\chi}$ a Dirichlet character of conductor prime to P . We further suppose that if $s' = 1$, then N is at least 2. The generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz number $\text{BC}_{q^d-N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}}$ is P -integral. Furthermore,*

$$e_\chi(H_a \otimes_A \mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]) \neq \{0\}$$

if and only if

$$\text{BC}_{q^d-N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}} \equiv 0 \pmod{P}.$$

Proof. We have already considered the case $s' = 1$ in §9.5.1 so we may now suppose that $s' \geq 2$. We work in $k_a \mathfrak{K}_P$. Note that the Dirichlet character $\tilde{\chi}$ is of type $s \geq 0$ and that we have the congruence $\tau^d(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) \equiv \mathbb{B}_{s'} \pmod{P}$. Since obviously, $\text{ev}_{N, \tilde{\chi}}(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) \equiv \text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) \pmod{P}$, we have that

$$e_{N, \tilde{\chi}}(\tau^d(\mathbb{B}_{s'})) \equiv \text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) \pmod{P}.$$

Let us write now $\tilde{\chi} = \vartheta_{P_1}^{N_1} \cdots \vartheta_{P_r}^{N_r}$, where $b = P_1 \cdots P_r$ is the conductor of $\tilde{\chi}$ (we recall that $N = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} n_i q^i$, $n_i \in \{0, \dots, q-1\}$). By the second part of the Proposition 9.14, we have:

$$\rho_{N, \tilde{\chi}, d} = (-1)^{N + \frac{s'-1}{q-1}} \Pi(q^d - N)^{-1} \text{BC}_{q^d-N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}} \text{ev}_{\tilde{\chi}}(b_d(t_1) \cdots b_d(t_s)) \prod_{i=0}^{d-1} l_{d-1-i}^{n_i q^i}.$$

This implies that $\text{BC}_{q^d-N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}}$ is P -integral. Moreover, $\text{BC}_{q^d-N, \tilde{\chi}^{-1}} \equiv 0 \pmod{P}$ if and only if $\text{ev}_\chi(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) \equiv 0 \pmod{P}$. We now set

$$[\chi] = \{\chi^{q^i}, i \geq 0\}$$

and we consider the element in $A[k_a][\Delta_a]$:

$$F = \sum_{\psi \in [\chi]} \text{ev}_\psi(\mathbb{B}_{s'}) e_\psi.$$

In fact, we have that $F \in A[\Delta_a]$. We also set:

$$e_{[\chi]} = \sum_{\psi \in [\chi]} e_\psi \in k[\Delta_a].$$

We deduce from Corollary 9.3 that

$$\mathrm{Fitt}_{e_{[\chi]}A[\Delta_a]} e_{[\chi]}(H_a) = Fe_{[\chi]}A[\Delta_a].$$

This implies that

$$\mathrm{Fitt}_{e_{[\chi]}\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a][\Delta_a]} e_{[\chi]}(H_a \otimes_A \mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]) = Fe_{[\chi]}\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a][\Delta_a].$$

Therefore,

$$\mathrm{Fitt}_{\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]} e_{\chi}(H_a \otimes_A \mathfrak{A}_P[k_a]) = \mathrm{ev}_{\chi}(\mathbb{B}_s)\mathfrak{A}_P[k_a].$$

□

Remark 9.17. Our approach in the above proof finds its origins in [6] where an alternative proof of the Herbrand-Ribet Theorem for function fields [21] is given, based on an equivariant class number formula and furnishing the description of the Fitting ideals of certain Taelman class modules in terms of generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz numbers. Certain congruences modulo P for these numbers are used to complete the proof. As we have seen in the previous sections, the "generic" class number formula gives, by specialization, the Fitting ideal of these class modules. In particular, we do not need an equivariant class number formula and furthermore, again by a specialization argument, we additionally get congruences for the generalized Bernoulli-Carlitz numbers.

10. LINK WITH OTHER TYPES OF L -SERIES

In this Section we shortly explain the link between our L -series values and the global L -functions of Goss, Taguchi-Wan and Böckle-Pink (see [7, 9, 23]). We also refer the reader to the recent lecture notes written by Taelman [22]. The notation of this Section slightly differs from the notation of the rest of this paper.

The Carlitz module is usually seen as a functor from A -algebras to A -modules. In fact, it can also be viewed more naturally as a functor defined over the larger category of τ -modules. We present this construction.

10.1. The Carlitz functor over τ -modules. We consider a k -algebra \mathbf{A} and the ring $R = A \otimes_k \mathbf{A}$, endowed with the \mathbf{A} -linear endomorphism τ defined by $\tau(a \otimes b) = a^q \otimes b$.

Definition 10.1. A τ -module M is an R -module M of finite type together with an \mathbf{A} -linear endomorphism τ_M such that, for $a \in R$ and $m \in M$, $\tau_M(am) = \tau(a)\tau_M(m)$ (we say that τ_M is *semi-linear*). A *morphism* $f : M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ of τ -modules M_1, M_2 is a morphism of R -modules which commutes with the τ -module structures.

We define the *Carlitz functor* C from the category of τ -modules to the category of R -modules in the following way. Let M be a τ -module, with semi-linear endomorphism τ_M . Then, $C(M)$ is the R -module having M as underlying \mathbf{A} -module, and where the multiplication C_{θ} by θ is given by $C_{\theta} = \theta + \tau_M$ (depending on M). It is easy to show that this gives rise to a functor. This functor is faithful, but it is not fully faithful.

Remark 10.2. We can also define the Carlitz functor on certain τ -sheaves.

Essentially, the basic case of this paper is $\mathbf{A} = k[\underline{t}_s]$. But we also considered $\mathbf{A} = k(\underline{t}_s)$ and \mathbf{A} an algebraic extension of k . We have studied the case of M free of rank one, that is, $M = R = A \otimes_k \mathbf{A}$, with $\tau_M = \alpha\tau$, with $\alpha \in R \setminus \{0\}$. Indeed,

if $M = R = A[\underline{t}_s]$ and $\tau_M = \alpha\tau$ with $\alpha \in R \setminus \{0\}$, then $C(M)$ is the structure of $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module induced on $A[\underline{t}_s]$ by the Drinfeld module of rank one of parameter α .

Note that this is in apparent conflict with Definition 3.1 where we have defined Drinfeld modules over Tate algebras (and the parameter varies in Tate algebras). In fact, in the settings of the present Section, Definition 3.1 corresponds, with M as above, to an analytic realization (at the place infinity) of $C(M)$, just as the Carlitz module structure on \mathbb{C}_∞ is usually considered as an analytic realization of the Carlitz module structure $C(A)$ over A .

10.2. Exponential functions. The ring R is equipped with the norm $\|\cdot\|$ defined by

$$\left\| \sum_i x_i \otimes y_i \right\| = \max_i \|x_i\|,$$

where the sum is finite and for all i , $x_i \in A$ and the y_i 's are linearly independent over k . Let M be a τ -module. We suppose that it is endowed with a norm $\|\cdot\|_M$ such that $\|am\|_M = \|a\|\|m\|_M$, where $a \in R$ and $m \in M$. Then, the *exponential function* \exp_M is the well defined, continuous, open map

$$\exp_M : \widehat{M} \rightarrow C(\widehat{M})$$

with $\widehat{M} = M \widehat{\otimes}_A K_\infty$, defined by $\exp_M(m) = \sum_{i \geq 0} D_i^{-1} \tau_M^i(m)$. It satisfies

$$\exp_M(am) = a \cdot \exp_M(m),$$

where the action of $a \in R$ in the right is that given by the module structure of $C(\widehat{M})$. This notably happens when $R = A[\underline{t}_s]$ and $M = \mathbb{T}_s \supset R$ with $\tau_M = \alpha\tau$, $\alpha \in R \setminus \{0\}$ so we recover the exponential functions of §3.1.

10.3. L-series values revisited. We consider here a new variable T . Let M be a τ -module which is free of finite rank over R and P a prime of A . Then, the module M/PM is free of finite rank over \mathbf{A} . The *L-series value at one* of M is:

$$L(M, 1) = \prod_P \det_{\mathbf{A}[T]} (1 - T\tau_M | M/PM)^{-1} |_{T^{\deg_\theta(P)} \mapsto P^{-1}} \in 1 + \theta^{-1} \mathbf{A}[[\theta^{-1}]].$$

By [8, Lemma 8.2] we note that for all P , $\det_{\mathbf{A}[T]} (1 - T\tau_M | M/PM)^{-1} \in 1 + T^d \mathbf{A}[[T^d]]$, where d is the degree of P . Hence, we can replace T^d by P^{-1} in the above formal series and we get $\det_{\mathbf{A}[T]} (1 - T\tau_M | M/PM)^{-1} |_{T^d=P^{-1}} \in 1 + P^{-1} \mathbf{A}[[P^{-1}]]$. Since for all d there are finitely many primes P with degree d , the product defining $L(M, 1)$ converges in $K_\infty \widehat{\otimes}_k \mathbf{A}$ to an element which belongs to $1 + \theta^{-1} \mathbf{A}[[\theta^{-1}]]$. This is a variant of the value of the *global L-function of M at one*, following Goss, Taguchi-Wan, and Böckle-Pink (see [9] for the definition of the global *L-function* associated to a τ -sheaf).

With such a module M , we have that for all P , $C(M/PM)$ is also free of finite rank over \mathbf{A} (observe that the identity map $M \rightarrow C(M)$ induces an isomorphism of \mathbf{A} -modules between M/PM and $C(M/PM)$). The *L-value at one* of $C(M)$ is

$$\mathcal{L}(C(M), 1) = \prod_P \frac{\left[\frac{M}{PM} \right]_R}{\left[C\left(\frac{M}{PM} \right) \right]_R} \in 1 + \theta^{-1} \mathbf{A}[[\theta^{-1}]].$$

Here, $[N]_R$ denotes the monic generator (in θ) of the Fitting ideal of an R -module N which is free and finitely generated over \mathbf{A} . This is essentially the *L-series value* of Taelman in [20]; the product converges as a consequence of the next Lemma:

Lemma 10.3. *Let M be a τ -module which is free of finite rank over R . Then, $L(M, 1) = \mathcal{L}(C(M), 1)$.*

We omit the proof as this follows essentially the same lines of various other proofs in our paper. In particular, if ϕ is a Drinfeld $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -module of rank one of parameter $\alpha \in A[\underline{t}_s] \setminus \{0\}$, $L(1, \phi) = \mathcal{L}(C(A[\underline{t}_s]), 1)$ can also be constructed starting from the Euler factors of the L -series $L(M, 1)$ of the τ -module $M = A[\underline{t}_s]$ with $\tau_M = \alpha\tau$. In this respect, the L -series values that we introduce in this paper can be viewed as first examples of an alternative way of defining global L -functions, which moreover are rigid analytic, in contrast with the Goss' L -functions.

10.4. The log-algebraic Theorem again. As a final remark, we point out that also Theorem 8.1 can be viewed as a statement of integrality of the value of an exponential function associated to a certain τ -module.

We consider again the algebra \mathcal{A}_r of §8; with the k -endomorphism $\tau_{\mathbb{M}} := \tau$ and with the structure of R -module defined there (with $R = A[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$), it becomes a τ -module that we denote by \mathbb{M} . But this is not sufficient to interpret Theorem 8.1.

Now, as we have seen, the structure of $A[\underline{t}_{r+1}]$ -module extends to a structure of \mathbb{T}_{r+1} -module. We then have the exponential function $\exp_{\mathbb{M}} : \mathbb{M} \rightarrow C(\mathbb{M})$ and we have proved that

$$\exp_{\mathbb{M}}(L(1, \phi) \cdot [ZX_1 \cdots X_r]) = \exp_{\phi}(L(1, \phi) \cdot [ZX_1 \cdots X_r]),$$

where ϕ is the Drinfeld module of rank one of parameter $\alpha = t_{r+1}(t_1 - \theta) \cdots (t_r - \theta)$, \exp_{ϕ} its exponential function, and $L(1, \phi)$ its L -series value at one. Of course, this is just a way to rephrase Theorem 8.1.

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11. APPENDIX BY FLORENT DEMESLAY.

We shall work with Drinfeld $k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$ -modules rather than with $A[\underline{t}_s]$ -modules. We set, from now on, $\mathcal{R} = k(\underline{t}_s)[\theta]$. As we have already seen, the benefit of this assumption comes from the fact that \mathcal{R} is a principal ideal domain. We keep using the same notation adopted in the previous sections.

Let us choose $\alpha \in \mathcal{R} \setminus \{0\}$ and let us consider the Drinfeld \mathcal{R} -module of rank one and parameter α , that is, the injective homomorphism of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -algebras

$$\phi : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \text{End}_{k(\underline{t}_s)\text{-lin.}}(K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty})$$

given by $\phi_{\theta} = \theta + \alpha\tau$, where we recall that $\tau : K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty} \rightarrow K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}$ is the continuous (for the $\frac{1}{\theta}$ -adic topology) morphism of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -algebras given by $\tau(\theta) = \theta^q$. Let M be an \mathcal{R} -algebra together with a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -endomorphism $\tau_M : M \rightarrow M$ such that

$$\tau_M(fm) = \tau(f)\tau_M(m), \quad f \in \mathcal{R}, \quad m \in M.$$

We denote by $\phi(M)$ the $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space M equipped with the structure of \mathcal{R} -module induced by ϕ , e.g. $\forall m \in \phi(M)$:

$$\theta.m = \alpha\tau_M(m) + \theta m.$$

We recall that we have the exponential function associated to ϕ , which is a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear endomorphism of $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ defined by

$$\exp_\phi = \sum_{i \geq 0} \frac{1}{D_i} \tau_\alpha^i,$$

where $\tau_\alpha = \alpha\tau$. Note that \exp_ϕ is a morphism of \mathcal{R} -modules from $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ to $\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)$. We recall that if $u(\alpha)$ is the maximum of the integer part of $\frac{r-q}{q-1}$ and 0, with $r = -v_\infty(\alpha)$, then \exp_ϕ induces an isometric $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear automorphism $\mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1} \rightarrow \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1}$. Notice that $\mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty} = \frac{1}{\theta} k(\underline{t}_s) \left[\left[\frac{1}{\theta} \right] \right]$.

Observe that a sub- $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space M of $K_{s,\infty}$ is discrete (for the $\frac{1}{\theta}$ -adic topology) if and only if there exists an integer $n \geq 1$ such that $M \cap \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^n = \{0\}$ (note that this is equivalent to the fact that the intersection $M \cap \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}$ is a finite dimensional $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space).

Lemma 11.1. *Let $M \neq \{0\}$ be a sub- \mathcal{R} -module of $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. The following assertions are equivalent:*

- (1) *M is discrete,*
- (2) *M is a free \mathcal{R} -module of rank one.*

Proof. The fact that the property (2) implies the property (1) is clear. Let us prove that the property (1) implies the property (2). Let f be a non-zero element of M . Then, $\mathcal{R} \subset f^{-1}M$ and $f^{-1}M$ is discrete in $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. Thus, we can assume that $\mathcal{R} \subset M$. We now observe that we have a direct sum of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector spaces:

$$K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty = \mathcal{R} \oplus \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty} = \mathcal{R} \oplus \frac{1}{\theta} k(\underline{t}_s) \left[\left[\frac{1}{\theta} \right] \right].$$

Since M is discrete we deduce from the above decomposition that M/\mathcal{R} is a finite $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space. But M/\mathcal{R} is also a \mathcal{R} -module, hence a torsion \mathcal{R} -module. Therefore there exists $r \in \mathcal{R} \setminus \{0\}$ such that $rM \subset \mathcal{R}$. Since \mathcal{R} is a noetherian ring, we obtain that M is a finitely generated \mathcal{R} -module of rank 1. Since \mathcal{R} is a principal ideal domain we deduce that M , as an \mathcal{R} -module, is free of rank one. \square

Remark 11.2. We recall from §5.4.1 the following \mathcal{R} -module:

$$\mathcal{V}_\phi = \frac{\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)}{\phi(\mathcal{R}) + \exp_\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)},$$

which is a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space of dimension $\leq u(\alpha)$. We notice that $\mathcal{R} + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1} \subset \mathcal{R} + \exp_\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)$. We observe that \mathcal{R} and $\text{Ker}(\exp_\phi)$ are discrete sub- \mathcal{R} -modules of $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ which implies that $\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})$ is a discrete sub- \mathcal{R} -module of $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. The exponential \exp_ϕ then produces an exact sequence of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector spaces

$$0 \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R}) + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1}} \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R} + \mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}^{u(\alpha)+1}} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_\phi \rightarrow 0.$$

In particular, $\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R}) \neq \{0\}$ and we obtain that $\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})$ is free of rank one by using Lemma 11.1.

11.1. **L -series.** Let P be a prime of A . Then the \mathcal{R} -module $\phi(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}})$ is finitely generated and torsion. One can show that the product over the primes of A

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R}) = \prod_P \frac{[\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}]_{\mathcal{R}}}{[\phi(\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}})]_{\mathcal{R}}}$$

converges in $K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}$. We will only give a sketch of proof of the next Theorem, as the proof is very close to ideas developed by Taelman in [20].

Theorem 11.3 (class number formula). *The following identity holds in $K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}$:*

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R}) = [\mathcal{V}_{\phi}]_{\mathcal{R}}[\mathcal{R} : \exp_{\phi}^{-1}(\mathcal{R})]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

11.2. **Nuclear operators and determinants.** This Section is inspired by [20, Section 2]. Let $(V, \|\cdot\|)$ be a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space equipped with a non-archimedean absolute value which is trivial on $k(\underline{t}_s)$ and such that every open $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -subspace $U \subset V$ is of finite $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -co-dimension. Let's give a typical example of such objects: let M be a non-trivial, discrete \mathcal{R} -submodule of $K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}$, then $V = \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}}{M}$ satisfies the above hypothesis.

Let f be a continuous endomorphism of V , we say that f is *locally contracting* if there exists an open subspace $U \subset V$ and a real number $0 < c < 1$ such that, for all $v \in U$,

$$\|f(v)\| \leq c\|v\|.$$

Any such open subspace $U \subset V$ which moreover satisfies $f(U) \subset U$ is called a *nucleus* for f . Observe that any locally contracting continuous endomorphism of V has a nucleus. Let's give an example: the map

$$\tau_{\alpha} : \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}}{\mathcal{R}} \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}}{\mathcal{R}}$$

is locally contracting and the image of $\mathfrak{m}_{K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}}^{u(\alpha)+2}$ in $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}}{\mathcal{R}}$ is a nucleus (just observe that for $f \in K(\underline{t}_s)_{\infty}$, $v_{\infty}(\tau_{\alpha}(f)) \geq v_{\infty}(f) + 1$ if and only if $v_{\infty}(f) \geq \frac{r-1}{q-1}$).

Observe that any finite collection of locally contracting endomorphisms of V has a common nucleus (see for example [20], Proposition 6). Furthermore if f and g are locally contracting, then so are the sum $f + g$ and the composition fg .

For any integer $N \geq 0$, we set:

$$\frac{V[[Z]]}{Z^N} = V \otimes_{k(\underline{t}_s)} \frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N},$$

and we denote by $V[[Z]]$ the inverse limit of the $V[[Z]]/Z^N$ equipped with the limit topology. Observe that any continuous $k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]$ -endomorphism

$$F : V[[Z]] \rightarrow V[[Z]]$$

is of the form:

$$F = \sum_{n \geq 0} f_n Z^n,$$

where f_n is a continuous $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -endomorphism of V .

Similarly, any continuous $\frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N}$ -linear endomorphism of $\frac{V[[Z]]}{Z^N}$ is of the form $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} f_n Z^n$. We say that a continuous $k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]$ -linear endomorphism F of $V[[Z]]$ (resp. of $\frac{V[[Z]]}{Z^N}$) is *nuclear* if for all n (resp. for all $n < N$), the $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -endomorphism f_n of V is locally contracting. Let F be a nuclear endomorphism of $\frac{V[[Z]]}{Z^N}$. Let U_1

and U_2 be common nuclei for the f_n , $n < N$. Since Proposition 8 in [20] is valid in our context,

$$\det_{\frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N}} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{V}{U_i}[[Z]]/Z^N} \right) \in \frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N}$$

is independent of $i \in \{1, 2\}$. We denote this determinant by

$$\det_{\frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N}} (1 + F|_V).$$

If F is a nuclear endomorphism of $V[[Z]]$, then we denote by $\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}(1 + F|_V)$ the unique power series that reduces to $\det_{\frac{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]}{Z^N}}(1 + F|_V)$ modulo Z^N for any N . Note that Proposition 9, Proposition 10, Theorem 2 and Corollary 1 of [20] are also valid in our context.

11.3. Taelman's trace formula. Observe that any element in $\mathcal{R}[\tau]\tau$ induces a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear continuous endomorphism of $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}$ which is locally contracting. Denote by $\mathcal{R}[\tau][[Z]]$ the ring of formal power series in Z with coefficients in $\mathcal{R}[\tau]$, the variable Z being central (i.e. $\tau Z = Z\tau$). Let P_1, \dots, P_n be n distinct primes of A . Set $S = \{P_1, \dots, P_n\}$. Let us set

$$R = \mathcal{R} \left[\frac{1}{P_1}, \dots, \frac{1}{P_n} \right].$$

Let P be a monic prime of A . Let $K(\underline{t}_s)_P$ be the P -adic completion of $k(\underline{t}_s)(\theta)$ (with respect to the P -adic valuation on $k(\underline{t}_s)(\theta)$ which is trivial on $k(\underline{t}_s)$ and the usual one on K). Observe that every element of $K(\underline{t}_s)_P$ can be written in a unique way:

$$\sum_{i \geq m} x_i P^i,$$

where $m \in \mathbb{Z}$, $x_i \in \mathcal{R}$ of degree in θ strictly less than $\deg_\theta P$.

We also define:

$$K(\underline{t}_s)_S = K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty \times K(\underline{t}_s)_{P_1} \times \dots \times K(\underline{t}_s)_{P_n}.$$

Observe that R is discrete in $K(\underline{t}_s)_S$. Let P be a prime of A , $P \neq P_1, \dots, P_n$. Let R_P be the valuation ring of $K(\underline{t}_s)_P$. Then:

$$K(\underline{t}_s)_P = R_P + R[1/P].$$

Furthermore, the inclusion $\mathcal{R} \subset R$ induces an isomorphism:

$$\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}} \simeq \frac{R}{PR}.$$

Let $F \in R[\tau][[Z]]\tau Z$. Then F defines $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -endomorphisms of $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_S}{R}[[Z]]$, $\frac{R}{PR}[[Z]]$, $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_S \times K(\underline{t}_s)_P}{R[1/P]}[[Z]]$. Now Taelman's localization Lemma ([20] Lemma 1) remains valid in our case:

Lemma 11.4. *Let us choose $F \in R[\tau][[Z]]\tau Z$. Then:*

$$\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{R}{PR}} \right) = \frac{\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_S \times K(\underline{t}_s)_P}{R[1/P]}} \right)}{\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_S}{R}} \right)}.$$

We also have in our case:

Theorem 11.5. *Let $F \in \mathcal{R}[\tau][[Z]]\tau Z$. Then we have an equality in $k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]$:*

$$\prod_{P \text{ monic prime of } A} \det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{\mathcal{R}}{PR}} \right) = \det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}} \right)^{-1}.$$

Proof. This is a consequence of Lemma 11.4 and the proof of Theorem 3 in [20]. Note that in our case in [20] page 383 line –5 we replace the original assumption of Taelman by the assumption that R has no maximal ideal of the form PR , P monic prime of A , such that $\dim_{k(\underline{t}_s)} \left(\frac{R}{PR} \right) < D$. \square

11.4. Fitting ideals. Let $f : K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty \rightarrow K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ be a continuous $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear map. Let M_1 and M_2 be two free \mathcal{R} -modules of rank one in $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ such that $f(M_1) \subset M_2$. Then f induces a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -continuous linear map

$$f : \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{M_1} \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{M_2}.$$

We say that f is *infinitely tangent to the identity* on $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ if for any $N \geq 0$ there exists an open $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -subspace $U_N \subset K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ such that the following properties hold:

- (1) $U_N \cap M_1 = U_N \cap M_2 = \{0\}$,
- (2) f restricts to an isometry between the images of U_N ,
- (3) For all $u \in U_N$, $v_\infty(f(u) - u) \geq N + v_\infty(u)$.

If $f \in K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty[[\tau]]$ is such that this power series is convergent on $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$ and satisfies that $f(M_1) \subset M_2$, for some free \mathcal{R} -modules of rank one M_1 and M_2 , then, by the proof of Proposition 12 in [20], f is infinitely tangent to the identity on $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. A typical example is given by: $M_1 = \exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})$, $M_2 = \mathcal{R}$ and $f = \exp_\phi$. Now let M_1, M_2 be two free \mathcal{R} -modules of rank one in $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. Let H_1, H_2 be two finite dimensional $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector spaces that are also \mathcal{R} -modules. Set:

$$L_i = \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{M_i} \times H_i.$$

Let $f : L_1 \rightarrow L_2$ be a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear map which is bijective and continuous. We shall write:

$$\Delta_f = \frac{1 - f^{-1}\theta f Z}{1 - \theta Z} - 1 = \sum_{n \geq 1} (\theta - f^{-1}\theta f) \theta^{n-1} Z^n.$$

We observe that Δ_f defines a $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -endomorphism of $L_1[[Z]]$. Let's assume that f induces (see [20] page 385 line –6) a continuous $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -linear map

$$\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{M_1} \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{M_2}$$

which is infinitely tangent to the identity on $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. Then, by the proof of Theorem 4 in [20], we get that Δ_f is nuclear, and

$$\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} (1 + \Delta_f|_{L_1})_{Z=\theta^{-1}} = [M_1 : M_2]_{\mathcal{R}} \frac{[H_2]_{\mathcal{R}}}{[H_1]_{\mathcal{R}}}.$$

11.5. **Proof of Theorem 11.3.** We set, as in [20] §5:

$$F = \frac{1 - \phi_\theta Z}{1 - \theta Z} - 1 = \sum_{n \geq 1} (\theta - \phi_\theta) \theta^{n-1} Z^n \in \mathcal{R}[\tau][[Z]]\tau Z.$$

We have:

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R}) = \prod_{P \text{ monic prime in } A} \left(\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} (1 + F|_{\frac{\mathcal{R}}{P\mathcal{R}}}) \right)_{Z=\theta^{-1}}^{-1}.$$

By Theorem 11.5, we get:

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi/\mathcal{R}) = \det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}} \right) |_{Z=\theta^{-1}}.$$

We consider the short exact sequence of \mathcal{R} -modules induced by \exp_ϕ :

$$0 \rightarrow \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})} \rightarrow \frac{\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)}{\phi(\mathcal{R})} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}_\phi \rightarrow 0.$$

Since \mathcal{R} is a principal ideal domain and the \mathcal{R} -module $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})}$ is divisible, this sequence splits. The choice of a section gives an \mathcal{R} -isomorphism:

$$\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})} \times \mathcal{V}_\phi \simeq \frac{\phi(K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty)}{\phi(\mathcal{R})}.$$

This isomorphism gives rise to an isomorphism of $k(\underline{t}_s)$ -vector space:

$$\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})} \times \mathcal{V}_\phi \simeq \frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}.$$

We denote this map by f . Then, by the proof of Lemma 6 in [20], f is infinitely tangent to the identity on $K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty$. But observe that on $\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}[[Z]]$:

$$1 + F = \frac{1 - f\theta f^{-1}Z}{1 - \theta Z}.$$

Thus:

$$\det_{k(\underline{t}_s)[[Z]]} \left(1 + F|_{\frac{K(\underline{t}_s)_\infty}{\mathcal{R}}} \right) |_{Z=\theta^{-1}} = [\mathcal{V}_\phi]_{\mathcal{R}} [\mathcal{R} : \exp_\phi^{-1}(\mathcal{R})]_{\mathcal{R}}.$$

The proof of our Theorem follows.

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UNIVERSITÉ DE CAEN BASSE-NORMANDIE, LABORATOIRE DE MATHÉMATIQUES NICOLAS ORESME,
UMR 6139, CAMPUS II, BOULEVARD MARÉCHAL JUIN, B.P. 5186, 14032 CAEN CEDEX, FRANCE.

E-mail address: `bruno.angles@unicaen.fr`, `floric.tavares-ribeiro@unicaen.fr`

E-mail address, author of the appendix: `florent.demeslay@unicaen.fr`

INSTITUT CAMILLE JORDAN, UMR 5208 SITE DE SAINT-ETIENNE, 23 RUE DU DR. P. MICHELON,
42023 SAINT-ETIENNE, FRANCE

E-mail address: `federico.pellarin@univ-st-etienne.fr`