

# The supremum of Newton polygons of $p$ -divisible groups with a given $p$ -kernel type

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Dedicated to Professor Takayuki Oda on his 60th birthday

## Abstract

In this paper we show that there exists the supremum of Newton polygons of  $p$ -divisible groups with a given  $p$ -kernel type, and provide an algorithm determining it.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p > 0$ . We are concerned with estimating the isogeny type (=Newton polygon, cf. [11]) of a  $p$ -divisible group  $X$  over  $k$  from its  $p$ -kernel  $X[p]$ . In this paper we give an optimal estimation.

We fix once for all, non-negative integers  $c$  and  $d$  with  $r := c + d > 0$ . Let  $W (= W_r)$  be the Weyl group of the general linear group  $GL_r$ . In the usual sense, we identify  $W$  and  $\text{Aut}(\{1, \dots, r\})$ . Let  $s_i \in W$  be the simple reflection  $(i, i + 1)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, r - 1$ . Let  $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_{r-1}\}$  and set  $J := S \setminus \{s_d\}$ . Let  $W_J$  be the subgroup of  $W$  generated by elements of  $J$ . We denote by  ${}^J W$  the set of  $(J, \emptyset)$ -reduced elements of  $W$  (cf. [1], Chap. IV, Ex. §1, 3), which are the shortest representatives of  $W_J \backslash W$ . A classification theory of  $BT_1$ 's by Kraft, Oort, Moonen and Wedhorn says that the set of the isomorphism classes of  $BT_1$ 's with tangent-dimension  $d$  and length  $r$  is bijective to the set  ${}^J W$ . Note that  ${}^J W$  has a natural ordering  $\subset$  introduced and investigated by He [7], also see Wedhorn [22] (we shall give a short review: Theorem 3.6).

Let us explain our main results: Theorem 1.1 combined with Corollary 2.2. Let  $w$  be any element of  ${}^J W$ . In Corollary 2.2 we show that there exists the supremum  $\xi(w)$  of Newton polygons of  $p$ -divisible groups with  $p$ -kernel type  $w$ :

- every  $p$ -divisible group whose  $p$ -kernel is of type  $w$  has Newton polygon  $\prec \xi(w)$ ;
- there exists a  $p$ -divisible group  $X$  such that  $X[p]$  is of type  $w$  and the Newton polygon of  $X$  equals  $\xi(w)$ .

Theorem 1.1 below gives us a combinatorial algorithm determining  $\xi(w)$ , see Remark 5.1. For a Newton polygon  $\zeta$ , let  $\mu(\zeta) \in {}^J W$  denote the type of the  $p$ -kernel of the minimal  $p$ -divisible group  $H(\zeta)$  having Newton polygon  $\zeta$  (cf. [15] and also a review [4], §3).

**Theorem 1.1.**  $\xi(w)$  is the biggest one of the Newton polygons  $\zeta$  with  $\mu(\zeta) \subset w$ .

We shall see in §5 that this theorem follows from Proposition 5.2. The last two sections are devoted to the proof of Proposition 5.2. The theorem is an unpolarized analogue of [6], Corollary II. For a more effective algorithm determining the first/last slope of  $\xi(w)$ , see [3], Theorem 4.1 for the polarized case and [4], Corollary 1.3 for the unpolarized case. In the

polarized case, the existence of the supremum  $\xi(w)$  follows from the fact that any Ekedahl-Oort stratum on the moduli space  $\mathcal{A}_g$  of principally polarized abelian varieties is irreducible if it is not contained in the supersingular locus ([2], Theorem 11.5). An obstruction in the unpolarized case has been the absence of a good moduli space like  $\mathcal{A}_g$ . However using Vasiu's  $\mathbb{T}_m$ -action instead, we have (Lemma 2.1) that there exists an irreducible catalogue of  $p$ -divisible groups with a fixed  $p$ -kernel type; this clearly shows the existence of  $\xi(w)$ . Then Theorem 1.1 can be shown by a similar argument as in [6] (which is relatively easier than the polarized case). Finally we mention a different approach announced by Viehmann [21], who seems to have generalized our results in terms of the loop groups of split reductive groups, making use of results on affine Deligne-Lusztig varieties.

## Terminology

We naturally identify the category of affine schemes with the opposite category to the category of commutative rings. We fix once for all a rational prime  $p$ . In this paper we freely use a part of Zink's result [23], Theorem 9, which says that for a commutative ring  $R$  of finite type over a field of characteristic  $p$ , there exists a categorical equivalence from the category of formal  $p$ -divisible groups over  $R$  to that of nilpotent displays over  $R$ , where we follow the terminology of [10] for displays and nilpotent displays.

## 2 A catalogue of $p$ -divisible groups with a given type

Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p$ . Let  $(P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  be a display over  $k$ , and  $P = L \oplus T$  be a normal decomposition ([23], Introduction), where  $L$  and  $T$  are free  $W(k)$ -modules. Let  $c$  and  $d$  be the ranks of  $L$  and  $T$  respectively. Let  $G = \mathrm{GL}(P)$  be the general linear group over  $W(k)$  of degree  $r = c + d$ . Let  $H$  be the parahoric subgroup of  $G$  stabilizing  $Q$ , which is a connected smooth affine group scheme over  $W(k)$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}_m$  and  $\mathcal{H}_m$  be connected smooth affine group schemes over  $k$  such that  $\mathcal{D}_m(R) = G(W_m(R))$  and  $\mathcal{H}_m(R) = H(W_m(R))$  respectively, see [19], 2.1.4 for more details. For any truncated Barsotti-Tate group of level  $m$  with codimension  $c$  and dimension  $d$ , there exists a  $g \in \mathcal{D}_m$  such that its Dieudonné module is isomorphic to the  $W_m(k)$ -module  $P/p^m P$  with the Frobenius and the Verschiebung defined by  $gF$  and  $Vg^{-1}$  respectively. Vasiu introduced an action:

$$\mathbb{T}_m : \mathcal{H}_m \times_k \mathcal{D}_m \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}_m, \quad (1)$$

and showed in [19], 2.2.2 that the set of  $\mathbb{T}_m$ -orbits is naturally bijective to the set of isomorphism classes of truncated Barsotti-Tate groups of level  $m$  over  $k$  with codimension  $c$  and dimension  $d$ . Let  $\mathbf{BT}_m(k)$  be the set of isomorphism classes of truncated Barsotti-Tate groups of level  $m$  over  $k$  with codimension  $c$  and dimension  $d$ . We have

**Lemma 2.1.** *For any  $u \in \mathbf{BT}_m(k)$ , there exists an irreducible catalogue of  $p$ -divisible groups with  $p^m$ -kernel type  $u$ , i.e., there exists a family  $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow S$  of  $p$ -divisible groups such that*

- (1) *for any geometric point  $s \in S$ , the  $p^m$ -kernel of the fiber  $\mathcal{X}_s$  is of type  $u$ ;*
- (2) *For any  $p$ -divisible group  $X$  over  $k$  with  $p^m$ -kernel type  $u$ , there exists an  $s \in S(k)$  such that  $X \simeq \mathcal{X}_s$ ;*
- (3)  *$S$  is irreducible and of finite type over  $k$ .*

*Proof.* It suffices to consider the case that  $u$  has no étale part, since every (truncated) Barsotti-Tate group over  $k$  is the direct sum of its local part and its étale part and the decomposition is compatible with truncations. Let  $N$  be an integer  $\geq m$  so that  $X[p^N] \simeq$

$Y[p^N]$  implies  $X \simeq Y$  for any  $p$ -divisible groups  $X$  and  $Y$  over  $k$  (cf. [16], 1.7 and [20]). Let  $\pi$  be the natural map  $\mathcal{D}_N \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_m$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}$  be the (group) scheme over  $k$  such that  $\mathcal{D}(R) = \mathrm{GL}(W(R))$  for any  $k$ -algebra  $R$ , and let  $\tau$  be a section of  $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_N$  as a morphism of schemes. Let  $\mathbb{O}_u$  be the  $\mathbb{T}_m$ -orbit associated to  $u$ . Since  $\mathcal{H}_m$  is irreducible,  $\mathbb{O}_u$  is irreducible. Since  $\pi$  is smooth with connected fibers,  $\pi^{-1}(\mathbb{O}_u)$  is also irreducible. Let  $S$  be the image of  $\pi^{-1}(\mathbb{O}_u)$  by  $\tau$ . Then  $S$  is irreducible and of finite type over  $k$ . By [23], Theorem 9, we have a  $p$ -divisible group  $\mathcal{X}$  over  $S$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{X}$  satisfies the required properties.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.2.** *There exists the supremum of Newton polygons of  $p$ -divisible groups with the given  $p^m$ -kernel type.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{X} \rightarrow S$  be the family as in the lemma above. Let  $\eta$  be the generic point of  $S$ . It follows from Grothendieck and Katz ([8], Th. 2.3.1 on p. 143) that the Newton polygon of  $\mathcal{X}_\eta$  is the supremum of Newton polygons of  $p$ -divisible groups with a given  $p^m$ -kernel type.  $\square$

### 3 Preliminaries on $F$ -zips

In this section, we collect some basic facts on  $F$ -zips which we shall use later on.

We first recall the definition ([13], (1.5)) of  $F$ -zip in a particular case. Let  $S$  be a scheme of characteristic  $p$ . Let  $\sigma$  denote the absolute Frobenius on  $S$ . For any  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module  $M$  we write  $M^{(p)} = \mathcal{O}_S \otimes_{\sigma, \mathcal{O}_S} M$ .

**Definition 3.1.** *An  $F$ -zip over  $S$  is a quintuple  $Z = (N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$  consisting of locally free  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -module  $N$  and  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -submodules  $C, D$  of  $N$  which are locally direct summands of  $N$ , and  $\sigma$ -linear homomorphisms  $\varphi : N/C \rightarrow D$  and  $\dot{\varphi} : C \rightarrow N/D$  whose  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -linearizations  $\varphi^\sharp : (N/C)^{(p)} \rightarrow D$  and  $\dot{\varphi}^\sharp : C^{(p)} \rightarrow N/D$  are isomorphisms. If  $S$  is connected, we define the height of  $Z$  to be the rank of  $N$  and the type of  $Z$  to be a map from  $\{0, 1\}$  to  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  sending 0 to  $\mathrm{rk} D$  and 1 to  $\mathrm{rk} C$ ; we will simply write the type as  $(\mathrm{rk} D, \mathrm{rk} C)$ .*

If  $S$  is the spectrum of a perfect field  $K$ , then the (covariant) Dieudonné functor  $\mathbb{D}$  makes an equivalence from the category of  $\mathrm{BT}_1$ 's over  $K$  to that of  $F$ -zips over  $K$ . The  $F$ -zip  $(N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$  associated to a  $\mathrm{BT}_1$ -group  $G$  is given by  $N = \mathbb{D}(G)$  with  $C = VN$  and  $D = FN$ , and  $\varphi$  and  $\dot{\varphi}^{-1}$  are naturally induced by  $F$  and  $V$  respectively.

Let  $k$  be an algebraically closed field of characteristic  $p$ . Let  $c, d, r$  and  ${}^J\mathbb{W}$  be as in Introduction. As shown by Kraft, Oort, Moonen and Wedhorn, there exists a bijection from  $\mathbf{BT}_1(k)$  to  ${}^J\mathbb{W}$  (this statement is due to [13]; also see [9], [12] and [17]). This classification is based on the fact that for any  $\mathrm{BT}_1$ -group  $G$  over  $k$ , there uniquely exists  $w \in {}^J\mathbb{W}$  such that  $G$  is isomorphic to  $G_w$  defined below. To a  $w \in {}^J\mathbb{W}$  we associate a pair  $(B, \delta)$ , called a *final type*, cf. [4], Definition 2.6, where  $B$  is a totally ordered set  $\{b_1 < \dots < b_r\}$  and  $\delta$  is a map  $B \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  defined by  $\delta(b_i) = 1 \Leftrightarrow w(i) \leq d$ . There uniquely exists an automorphism  $\pi = \pi_\delta$  of  $B$  such that  $\pi(b') > \pi(b) \Leftrightarrow \delta(b') > \delta(b)$  for any  $b' < b$ . We define  $G_w$  so that its  $F$ -zip  $Z_w = (N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$  is given by  $N = \bigoplus_{b \in B} kb$  (i.e., the  $k$ -vector space with basis indexed by  $B$ ) and  $C = \bigoplus_{\delta(b)=1} kb$ , and  $D = \bigoplus_{\delta(b)=0} k\pi(b)$  and  $\varphi, \dot{\varphi}$  are defined by  $\varphi(b) = \pi(b)$  for  $b$  with  $\delta(b) = 0$  and  $\dot{\varphi}(b) = \pi(b)$  for  $b$  with  $\delta(b) = 1$ .

Next we review a description of homomorphisms of  $F$ -zips over  $k$  for the reader's convenience (cf. [14], §2 and [12], §4 and also see [4], § 4.3), and show some facts used later on. Let  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  be two  $F$ -zips over  $k$ . Let  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  be the types of  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  respectively and let  $\mathcal{B}_1 = (B_1, \delta_1)$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2 = (B_2, \delta_2)$  be their final types. Set  $\pi_1 = \pi_{\delta_1}$  and  $\pi_2 = \pi_{\delta_2}$ . A *finite slice*  $\omega$  is a subset of  $B_1 \times B_2$  of the form  $\omega = \{(\pi_1^i(s_1), \pi_2^i(s_2)) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \ell\}$  with  $|\omega| = \ell$  for  $s_1 \in B_1$  and  $s_2 \in B_2$  satisfying **(a)**  $\delta_1(s_1) = 1$  and  $\delta_2(s_2) = 0$ , **(b)**  $\delta_1(\pi_1^i(s_1)) = \delta_2(\pi_2^i(s_2))$  for all  $1 \leq i < \ell$  and **(c)**  $\delta_1(\pi_1^\ell(s_1)) = 0$  and  $\delta_2(\pi_2^\ell(s_2)) = 1$ . We denote by  $\Omega_o = \Omega_o(\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  the set of finite slices of  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$ . An *infinite slice*  $\omega$  is a subset of  $B_1 \times B_2$  of the form  $\omega = \{(\pi_1^i(s_1), \pi_2^i(s_2)) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \ell\}$  with  $|\omega| = \ell$  for  $s_1 \in B_1$  and  $s_2 \in B_2$  satisfying **(a)**

$s_1 = \pi_1^\ell(s_1)$  and  $s_2 = \pi_2^\ell(s_2)$ , **(b)**  $\delta_1(\pi_1^i(s_1)) = \delta_2(\pi_2^i(s_2))$  for all  $1 \leq i < \ell$ . We denote by  $\Omega_\infty = \Omega_\infty(\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2)$  the set of infinite slices of  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$ . Set  $\Omega = \Omega(\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2) := \Omega_o \sqcup \Omega_\infty$ . For each slice  $\omega$ , we define a group scheme  $\mathbb{K}_\omega$  over  $k$  to be the additive group  $\mathbb{G}_a$  over  $k$  if  $\omega \in \Omega_o$  and to be  $\text{Ker}(F^{|\omega|} - \text{id} : \mathbb{G}_a \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_a)$  if  $\omega \in \Omega_\infty$ . Let  $S$  be a  $k$ -scheme. Let  $\omega = \{(\pi_1^i(s_1), \pi_2^i(s_2)) \mid 1 \leq i \leq \ell\}$  be a slice with  $|\omega| = \ell$ . For an element  $r \in \omega$ , we denote by  $\varepsilon(r)$  ( $= \varepsilon_\omega(r)$ ) the integer  $\varepsilon$  with  $0 \leq \varepsilon < \ell$  satisfying  $r = (\pi_1^{\varepsilon+1}(s_1), \pi_2^{\varepsilon+1}(s_2))$ . For  $a \in \mathbb{K}_\omega(S)$ , we define a map

$$\text{st}_{\omega,a} : B_1 \times B_2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{K}_\omega(S) \quad (2)$$

by sending  $r \in \omega$  to  $a^{p^{\varepsilon(r)}}$  and  $r \notin \omega$  to 0. The functor, from the category of  $k$ -schemes to the category of commutative groups, sending  $S$  to  $\text{Hom}_S(Z_{1,S}, Z_{2,S})$  is represented by a group scheme  $\text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2)$  over  $k$ ; moreover there is an isomorphism as group schemes over  $k$ :

$$\Lambda : \bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega} \mathbb{K}_\omega \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2). \quad (3)$$

Indeed, for  $* = 1, 2$ , we write  $B_* = \{b_1^{(*)} < \dots < b_{r_*}^{(*)}\}$  and also write  $Z_* = (N_*, C_*, D_*, \varphi_*, \dot{\varphi}_*)$  with  $N_* = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{r_*} kb_i^{(*)}$ . Let  $S$  be any  $k$ -scheme. An  $\mathcal{O}_S$ -homomorphism  $\mu : N_{1,S} \rightarrow N_{2,S}$ , say  $\mu(b_i^{(1)}) = \sum_j r_{ij} b_j^{(2)}$  with  $r_{ij} \in \Gamma(S, \mathcal{O}_S)$  gives an element of  $\text{Hom}_S(Z_{1,S}, Z_{2,S})$  if and only if  $r_{ij}$  is of the form  $\sum_{\omega \in \Omega} \text{st}_{\omega,a}(b_{ij})$  for a certain  $a \in \mathbb{K}_\omega(S)$ , where  $b_{ij} = (b_i^{(1)}, b_j^{(2)}) \in B_1 \times B_2$ . From now on we identify  $\text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2)$  with  $\bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega} \mathbb{K}_\omega$ . The connected component of zero in a commutative group scheme  $H$  will be denoted by  $H_o$ . Then  $\text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2)_o$  is the product of  $\mathbb{K}_\omega$  for  $\omega \in \Omega_o$ . We write  $\text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2)_\infty$  for  $\bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega_\infty} \mathbb{K}_\omega$ .

It is straightforward to prove

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $Z_1, Z_2, Z_3$  be  $F$ -zips over  $k$ . The composition map*

$$\text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_2) \times \text{Hom}(Z_2, Z_3) \longrightarrow \text{Hom}(Z_1, Z_3)$$

*sends the pair of  $(\omega_1, a_1)$  and  $(\omega_2, a_2)$  (i.e.,  $\omega_i \in \Omega(\mathcal{B}_i, \mathcal{B}_{i+1})$  and  $a_i \in \mathbb{K}_{\omega_i}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ ) to  $\sum_{\tilde{\omega}} (\omega, a_1^{p^e} a_2^{p^f})$ , where the sum is over  $\pi_1 \times \pi_2 \times \pi_3$ -orbits  $\tilde{\omega}$  in  $\omega_1 \times_{B_2} \omega_2$  and  $\omega = \text{pr}_{13}(\tilde{\omega})$  and  $e$  is the minimal element of  $\varepsilon_{\omega_1}(\text{pr}_{12}(\tilde{\omega}))$  and  $f$  is the minimal element of  $\varepsilon_{\omega_2}(\text{pr}_{23}(\tilde{\omega}))$ . Here we denote by  $\text{pr}_{ij}$  the projections  $B_1 \times B_2 \times B_3 \rightarrow B_i \times B_j$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq 3$ .*

The next lemma shows that the ring scheme  $\text{End}(Z)_o$  consists of nilpotent endomorphisms.

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $\omega \in \Omega_o(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B})$ . Let  $(b, b')$  be an element of  $\omega$ . Then we have  $b > b'$ .*

*Proof.* By the definition of finite slice,  $\nu(b) := \sum_{l \in \mathbb{N}} \delta(\pi^{-l}(b))2^{-l}$  is greater than  $\nu(b') := \sum_{l \in \mathbb{N}} \delta(\pi^{-l}(b'))2^{-l}$ . Then [5], Proposition 4.7 shows  $b > b'$ .  $\square$

For later use, we look at the action of  $\text{End}(Z)_o$  on  $\text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$ . Let  $\Omega^i(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)$  be the subset of  $\Omega(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)$  consisting of  $\omega \in \Omega(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)$  with  $\text{pr}(\omega) \subset \{b_i, \dots, b_r\}$ , where  $\text{pr}$  is the projection  $B \times B_1 \rightarrow B$ . We define a subgroup scheme  $\text{Fil}^i \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$  of  $\text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$  by

$$\text{Fil}^i \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1) = \bigoplus_{\omega \in \Omega^i(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)} \mathbb{K}_\omega. \quad (4)$$

From the lemmas above, we have

**Corollary 3.4.** *The composition map induces*

$$\text{End}(Z)_o \times \text{Fil}^i \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1) \longrightarrow \text{Fil}^{i+1} \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1).$$

At the end of this section, we recall Wedhorn's result ([22]) on specializations of  $F$ -zips.

**Definition 3.5.** *Let  $w$  and  $w'$  be elements of  ${}^J\mathbb{W}$ . We say  $w \subset w'$  if there exists an  $F$ -zip over an irreducible scheme of characteristic  $p$  such that the generic fiber is of type  $w'$  and there exists a closed point such that the fiber over that point is of type  $w$ .*

Let  $x = w_0^J : W \rightarrow W$  be the map sending  $i$  to  $i + c$  if  $i \leq d$  and  $i$  to  $i - d$  if  $i > d$ . Define  $\delta : W \rightarrow W$  by  $\delta(u) = x \cdot u \cdot x^{-1}$ .

**Theorem 3.6** ([22]). *Let  $w, w' \in {}^J\mathbb{W}$ . We have  $w \subset w'$  if and only if there exists  $u \in W_J$  such that  $u^{-1}w\delta(u)$  is less than or equal to  $w'$  with respect to the Bruhat order.*

## 4 Lifting of $F$ -zips

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring of characteristic  $p$ . Let  ${}^F$  and  ${}^V$  denote the Frobenius and Verschiebung on  $W(R)$ . Write  $I_R := {}^VW(R)$ . Let  $M = (P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  be a display over  $R$ . One can associate to  $M$  an  $F$ -zip  $M/I_RM$ , which is defined as follows. Let  $P = L \oplus T$  be a normal decomposition of  $P$  with  $Q = L \oplus I_RT$  (cf. [23], Introduction). We define  $M/I_RM$  to be  $(N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$  where  $N = P/I_RP$  and  $C = Q/I_RP \simeq L/I_RL$ , and  $D$  is the submodule of  $N$  generated by the image of  $F : T \rightarrow P \rightarrow N$ , and  $\varphi$  and  $\dot{\varphi}$  are canonically induced by  $F$  and  $\dot{F}$  respectively.

**Lemma 4.1.** *Let  $Z$  be an  $F$ -zip over  $S$ . Let  $s$  be any closed point of  $S$ . Let  $M$  be a display over  $s$ . There is an open affine subscheme  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  of  $S$  with  $s \in U$  and a display  $\mathcal{M}$  over  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{M}/I_R\mathcal{M} \simeq Z_R$  and  $\mathcal{M}_s \simeq M$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $Z = (N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$ . Let  $U$  be an affine open subscheme of  $S$  containing  $s$  over which  $C$  and  $D$  are direct summands of  $N$ , say  $N = C \oplus E$ , and  $C, D$  and  $E$  are free. Write  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  and  $s = \text{Spec}(R/\mathfrak{m})$ . We replace  $S$  by  $U$ . We have an  ${}^F$ -linear homomorphism

$$\phi : C \oplus E \xrightarrow{\sim} C \oplus N/C \xrightarrow{\dot{\varphi} \oplus \varphi} N/D \oplus D \xrightarrow{\sim} N.$$

Let  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  be free  $W(R)$ -modules such that  $\mathcal{L}/I_R\mathcal{L} \simeq C$  and  $\mathcal{T}/I_R\mathcal{T} \simeq E$ . Put  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{L} \oplus I_R\mathcal{T}$ . Let  $M = (P, Q, F, \dot{F})$  and  $L \oplus T$  a normal decomposition of  $P$ , and let  $\Phi_0$  be  $\dot{F} \oplus F : L \oplus T \rightarrow P$  obtained in [23], Lemma 9; one can identify  $L$  and  $T$  with  $\mathcal{L}/W(\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{T}/W(\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{T}$  respectively.

Since the canonical map from  $\text{GL}_r(W(R))$  to the fiber product of  $\text{GL}_r(R) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(R/\mathfrak{m})$  and  $\text{GL}_r(W(R/\mathfrak{m})) \rightarrow \text{GL}_r(R/\mathfrak{m})$  is clearly surjective, there exists an  ${}^F$ -linear homomorphism

$$\Phi : \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{T} \longrightarrow \mathcal{P}$$

such that  $(\Phi \bmod I_R) = \phi$  and  $(\Phi \bmod W(\mathfrak{m})) = \Phi_0$ . Set  $\mathcal{F} = \Phi \circ ({}^V 1 \oplus \text{id}) : \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$  and define  $\dot{\mathcal{F}} : \mathcal{L} \oplus I_R\mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$  by sending  $l + {}^V wt$  to  $\Phi(l) + w\Phi(t)$  for every  $l \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $t \in \mathcal{T}$  and  $w \in W(R)$ . Then we have a display  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{F}, \dot{\mathcal{F}})$ , which satisfies the required properties.  $\square$

For  $v \in {}^J\mathbb{W}$ , let  $\xi(v)$  be the Newton polygon introduced in §1.

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $w$  and  $w'$  be elements of  ${}^J\mathbb{W}$ . If  $w \subset w'$ , then we have  $\xi(w) \prec \xi(w')$ .*

*Proof.* Assume  $w \subset w'$ , i.e., there exists an  $F$ -zip  $Z$  over an irreducible scheme  $S$  such that the type of the fiber of the generic point  $\eta$  is  $w'$  and the type of the fiber of a special point  $s$  is  $w$ . By the definition of  $\xi(w)$ , there exists a display  $M$  over  $s$  such that the Newton polygon of  $M$  is  $\xi(w)$ . Applying Lemma 4.1 to  $Z$  and  $M$ , there exist an open affine subscheme  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  of  $S$  containing  $s$  and a display  $\mathcal{M}$  over  $R$  such that  $\mathcal{M}/I_R\mathcal{M} \simeq Z_R$  and  $\mathcal{M}_s \simeq M$ . It follows from Grothendieck-Katz ([8], Th. 2.3.1 on p. 143) that  $\xi(w)$  is less than or equal to the Newton polygon, say  $\zeta$ , of  $\mathcal{M}_\eta$ . By the definition of  $\xi(w')$ , we have  $\zeta \prec \xi(w')$ .  $\square$

## 5 A reduction of the problem

Let  $w$  be any element of  ${}^J\mathbb{W}$ . The purpose of this paper is to prove Theorem 1.1:

$$\xi(w) = \max_{\prec} \{ \zeta \mid \mu(\zeta) \subset w \}, \quad (5)$$

where  $\zeta$  is over Newton polygons  $\sum(m_i, n_i)$  with  $\sum m_i = d$  and  $\sum n_i = c$  (see §1 for the definitions of  $\xi(w)$  and  $\mu(\zeta)$ ).

**Remark 5.1.** *This gives, thanks to Theorem 3.6, a purely combinatorial algorithm determining  $\xi(w)$  for a given  $w$ . See [5], Corollary 4.8 for a way to compute  $\mu(\zeta)$ .*

We first prove that Theorem 1.1 follows from the next proposition. The subsequent sections are devoted to the proof of this proposition.

**Proposition 5.2.** *Assume that  $w$  is not minimal. Then there exist a scheme  $S$  of finite type over  $k$  with  $\dim S \geq 1$ , a  $p$ -divisible group  $\mathcal{X}$  over  $S$  and a non-constant family of isogenies*

$$H(\xi(w))_S \longrightarrow \mathcal{X} \quad (6)$$

*over  $S$  such that the isomorphism type of  $\mathcal{X}_s[p]$  is  $w$  for every geometric point  $s$  of  $S$ .*

*Proof of (Proposition 5.2  $\Rightarrow$  Theorem 1.1).* We first claim that Theorem 1.1 is equivalent to

$$\mu(\xi(w)) \subset w. \quad (7)$$

Clearly Theorem 1.1 implies (7). Suppose (7). Put  $\Xi = \{ \zeta \mid \mu(\zeta) \subset w \}$ . We want to show that  $\xi(w)$  is the biggest element of  $\Xi$ . Clearly (7) says  $\xi(w) \in \Xi$ . Let  $\zeta$  be any element of  $\Xi$ . Then we have  $\xi(\mu(\zeta)) \prec \xi(w)$  by Corollary 4.2. Note that we have  $\xi(\mu(\zeta)) = \zeta$  by [15], (1.2) Theorem. Thus we have  $\zeta \prec \xi(w)$ .

Let us prove (7) under the assumption that Proposition 5.2 holds. We first consider the case that  $w$  is minimal, say  $w = \mu(\zeta)$  the type of  $H(\zeta)[p]$ . Then we have  $\xi(w) = \zeta$  by [15] (1.2), and therefore we have  $\mu(\xi(w)) = w$ ; hence (7) holds in this case. Assume that  $w$  is not minimal. Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the moduli space of quasi-isogenies  $H(\xi(w)) \rightarrow Y$  of  $p$ -divisible groups, see [18], Chapter 2. Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an irreducible component of  $\mathcal{M}_{\text{red}}$  containing the generic point of the family (6). Note that  $\mathcal{I}$  is projective ([18], Proposition 2.32). Let  $\mathcal{S}_w(\mathcal{I})$  be the locally closed subvariety consisting of isogenies  $H(\xi(w)) \rightarrow X$  where  $X[p]$  is of type  $w$ . It is known that  $\mathcal{S}_w(\mathcal{I})$  is quasi-affine (cf. [19], 1.2 (g)). By the assumption, we have  $\dim \mathcal{S}_w(\mathcal{I}) \geq 1$ . Hence there exists  $w' \in {}^J\mathbb{W}$  such that  $w' \subsetneq w$  and  $\xi(w') = \xi(w)$ . This shows in particular that any final type  $v$  with  $\xi(v) = \xi(w)$  which is “minimal w.r.t.  $\subset$ ” is minimal. We use induction on  $w$  with respect to  $\subset$ . We assume  $\mu(\xi(w')) \subset w'$ . Then we have  $\mu(\xi(w)) = \mu(\xi(w')) \subset w' \subset w$ .  $\square$

## 6 Extensions by a minimal $p$ -divisible group

Let  $\xi$  be a Newton polygon. Let  $\varrho = (m_1, n_1)$  be a segment of  $\xi$ , i.e.,  $m_1/(m_1 + n_1)$  is a slope of  $\xi$  and  $\gcd(m_1, n_1) = 1$ . Let  $\xi'$  be the Newton polygon such that  $\xi = \xi' + \varrho$ . Let  $Z_1 = Z(\varrho)_S$ , where  $Z(\varrho)$  is the  $F$ -zip of  $H(\varrho)[p]$  over  $k$ . Let

$$0 \longrightarrow Z' \longrightarrow Z \xrightarrow{f} Z_1 \longrightarrow 0 \quad (8)$$

be a short exact sequence of  $F$ -zips over a reduced  $k$ -scheme  $S$ . Write  $Z = (N, C, D, \varphi, \dot{\varphi})$  and  $Z_1 = (N_1, C_1, D_1, \varphi_1, \dot{\varphi}_1)$  and so on. That  $f$  is surjective means that  $f : N \rightarrow N_1$  and  $f : C \rightarrow C_1$  are surjective, and also the injectivity is the dual notion of this surjectivity. Let  $M' = (P', Q', F', \dot{F}')$  be any display lifting  $Z'$  with an isogeny  $\rho' : M(\xi')_S \rightarrow M'$ , where  $M(\xi')$  is the display of  $H(\xi')$ . Let  $P' = L' \oplus T'$  be a normal decomposition.

**Proposition 6.1.** *For any closed point  $s \in S$ , there exist an open affine subscheme  $U$  of  $S$  with  $s \in U$  and a finite surjective morphism  $\text{Spec}(R) \rightarrow U$  such that there exist a display  $\mathcal{M}$  over  $R$  with an isogeny  $\rho : M(\xi)_R \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  and a surjective homomorphism  $\phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow (M_1)_R := M(\varrho)_R$  with kernel  $M'_R$  and an isomorphism  $\theta : \mathcal{M}/I_R\mathcal{M} \rightarrow Z_R$  such that we have the commutative diagrams*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & M(\xi')_R & \longrightarrow & M(\xi)_R & \xrightarrow{\text{pr}} & M(\varrho)_R \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \rho' \downarrow & & \rho \downarrow & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & M'_R & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{M} & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (M_1)_R \longrightarrow 0 \end{array} \quad (9)$$

and

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & M'_R/I_R M'_R & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{M}/I_R\mathcal{M} & \xrightarrow{\bar{\phi}} & (M_1)_R/I_R(M_1)_R \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & \parallel & & \theta \downarrow \simeq & & \parallel \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & Z'_R & \longrightarrow & Z_R & \xrightarrow{f_R} & (Z_1)_R \longrightarrow 0. \end{array} \quad (10)$$

*Proof.* Let  $u = \min\{m_1, n_1\}$ . Recall [4], Lemma 3.3 that the Dieudonné module  $M(\varrho)$  is generated over the Dieudonné ring by  $X_i$  ( $i \in \mathbb{Z}/u\mathbb{Z}$ ) and all relations are generated by  $F^{\alpha_i} X_i - V^{\beta_{i+1}} X_{i+1} = 0$  for some non-negative integers  $\alpha_i, \beta_i$ . Put  $x_i := V^{\beta_i} X_i$ . Set  $\beta = \max\{\beta_i\}$ .

Let  $s$  be any closed point of  $S$ . Let  $U = \text{Spec}(R)$  be an affine open subscheme of  $S$  containing  $s$ . We may replace  $S$  by  $U$ . We choose a lift  $\bar{Y}_i \in N$  of  $\bar{X}_i \in N_1$  for each  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/u\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $\psi$  be the composition of  $N \rightarrow N/D$  and  $(\varphi^\sharp)^{-1} : N/D \rightarrow C^{(p)}$ . After replacing  $R$  with  $R'$  such that  $(R')^{p^\beta} = R$ , we can find  $\bar{y}_{i,j} \in C$  lifting  $V^j \bar{X}_i$  for  $0 \leq j \leq \beta_i$  such that the composition  $\psi^{(p^{j-1})} \circ \dots \circ \psi^{(p)} \circ \psi$  sends  $\bar{Y}_i$  to  $1 \otimes \bar{y}_{i,j} \in R \otimes_{F^j, R} C$ . We put  $\bar{y}_i := \bar{y}_{i, \beta_i}$ . After replacing  $R$  by an open affine subscheme over which  $N$  is free, we can find a section of  $N \rightarrow N/D$ , defining a lift  $\tilde{\varphi} : C \rightarrow N$  of  $\varphi : C \rightarrow N/D$ , such that  $\tilde{\varphi}^{\beta_i - j}(\bar{y}_i) = \bar{y}_{i,j}$ . It follows from the exact sequence (8) that  $N$  is generated by elements of  $N'$  and  $\tilde{\varphi}^s \bar{y}_i$  ( $0 \leq s < \beta_i$ ) and  $\varphi^r \tilde{\varphi}^{\beta_i} \bar{y}_i$  ( $0 \leq r < \alpha_i$ ) with relations

$$\varphi^{\alpha_i} \tilde{\varphi}^{\beta_i} \bar{y}_i - \bar{y}_{i+1} = \bar{v}_i \quad (11)$$

for some  $\bar{v}_i \in N'$ , where  $C$  is generated over  $W(R)$  by elements of  $C'$  and  $\tilde{\varphi}^s \bar{y}_i$  ( $0 \leq s < \beta_i$ ), and  $D$  is generated over  $W(R)$  by elements of  $D'$  and  $\varphi^r \tilde{\varphi}^{\beta_i} \bar{y}_i$  ( $1 \leq r \leq \alpha_i$ ).

Put  $W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) = \mathbb{Q} \otimes W(R)$ . Write  $\xi' = \sum_{l=2}^t (m_l, n_l)$ . Then the isogeny  $\rho'$  induces an isomorphism

$$W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) \otimes M' \xrightarrow{\sim} \bigoplus_{l=2}^t W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) \otimes M((m_l, n_l)). \quad (12)$$

Let  $e_l \in W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) \otimes M'$  be the highest element of  $M((m_l, n_l))$ , see [4], Section 3.1. Recall that the ring of endomorphisms of  $H_{m_l, n_l}$  is described as  $E_l := W(\mathbb{F}_{p^{m_l+n_l}})[\theta_l]/(\theta_l^{m_l+n_l} - p)$  for a uniformizer  $\theta_l$  of  $\text{End}(H_{m_l, n_l})$ . Let  $E_l(R)$  be the  $W(R)$ -module  $W(R) \otimes E_l$  and set  $E_{l, \mathbb{Q}}(R) := \mathbb{Q} \otimes E_l(R)$ . We extend the action of the Frobenius  $\sigma$  on  $W(R)$  to that on  $E_{l, \mathbb{Q}}(R)$  by the rule  $\theta_l^\sigma = \theta_l$ . Note the  $W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R)$ -homomorphism

$$E_{l, \mathbb{Q}}(R) \longrightarrow W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) \otimes M((m_l, n_l)) \quad (13)$$

defined by sending  $f(\theta_l)$  to  $f(\theta_l)e_l$  is an isomorphism.

We have to define  $\mathcal{M} = (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{Q}, \mathcal{F}, \tilde{\mathcal{F}})$ . Note that  $\mathcal{P}$  should have a normal decomposition  $\mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{T}$ . We will define  $\mathcal{L}$  to be the  $W(R)$ -submodule of  $W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R) \otimes (P_1 \oplus P')$  generated by

elements of  $L'_R$  and  $F^r \hat{F}^{\beta_i} y_i$  ( $0 \leq r < \alpha_i$ ) and  $\mathcal{T}$  will be defined to be the  $W(R)$ -submodule of  $(P_1 \oplus P') \otimes W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R)$  generated by elements of  $T'_R$  and  $\hat{F}^s y_i$  ( $0 \leq s < \beta_i$ ) for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  where  $y_i \in (P_1 \oplus P') \otimes W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R)$  is of the form:

$$y_i = x_i + \sum_{l=2}^t a_{il} e_l \quad (14)$$

for some  $a_{il} \in E_{l,\mathbb{Q}}(R)$ , which will be chosen later so that  $\mathcal{M}$  has the required properties. Here  $\mathcal{M}$  is defined by  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{L} \oplus \mathcal{T}$  and  $\mathcal{Q} = \mathcal{L} \oplus I_R \mathcal{T}$  with  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\hat{\mathcal{F}}$  naturally extending  $F$  and  $\hat{F}$  on  $M(\xi)_R$ . Since  $M'_R$  contains  $M(\xi')_R$ , it suffices to find  $a_{il} \in E_{l,\mathbb{Q}}(R)$  modulo  $I_{R,\mu} E_l(R)$  for a sufficiently large natural number  $\mu$  ( $\geq \max\{m_i \beta_i; i \in \mathbb{Z}/u\mathbb{Z}\}$ ).

Let  $v_i \in P'$  be a lift of  $\bar{v}_i$ . We define  $b_{il} \in E_{l,\mathbb{Q}}(R)$  by  $\sum_{l=2}^t b_{il} e_l = v_i$ . It suffices to show that there exists a solution  $\{a_{il}\}$  ( $i \in \mathbb{Z}/u\mathbb{Z}$ ,  $2 \leq l \leq t$ ) satisfying

$$F^{\alpha_i} \hat{F}^{\beta_i} y_i - y_{i+1} \equiv \sum_{l=2}^t b_{il} e_l \pmod{I_{R,\mu} M(\xi')_R}. \quad (15)$$

Comparing the coefficients of  $e_l$  of the both sides of (15), we obtain

$$a_{i,l}^{\sigma^{\alpha_i + \beta_i}} \theta_l^{n_l \alpha_i - m_l \beta_i} - a_{i+1,l} \equiv b_{il} \pmod{I_{R,\mu} E_l(R)}. \quad (16)$$

for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}/u\mathbb{Z}$ . Since  $l$  is the same in each equation, it suffices to solve the simultaneous equations for each  $l$ . Writing  $a_i, b_i, n, m$  and  $\theta$  for  $a_{il}, b_{il}, n_l, m_l$  and  $\theta_l$  respectively, we have

$$a_1^{\sigma^{\sum_{i=1}^u (\alpha_i + \beta_i)}} \theta^{\sum_{i=1}^u (n \alpha_i - m \beta_i)} - a_1 \equiv r \pmod{I_{R,\mu} E_l(R)} \quad (17)$$

for some  $r \in E_{l,\mathbb{Q}}(R)$ . It suffices to show that this has a solution  $a_1 \in E_{l,\mathbb{Q}}(R)$  for a finite cover  $\text{Spec}(R)$  of  $S$ ; then we get a required solution  $\{a_i\}_{i=1}^u$  from (16).

Write  $z := a_1$  and  $\varrho := \sigma^{\sum_{i=1}^u (\alpha_i + \beta_i)}$ . Note  $\varrho \neq 1$  by  $\alpha_i, \beta_i > 0$ . We also put  $\epsilon := \sum_{i=1}^u (n \alpha_i - m \beta_i)$ . Then (17) is written as  $z^{\varrho} \theta^{\epsilon} - z \equiv r \pmod{I_{R,\mu} E_l(R)}$ . If  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have a solution  $z = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} (-r)^{\ell} \theta^{\ell \epsilon}$ . Also if  $\epsilon < 0$ , let  $c$  be a sufficient large integer such that  $\theta^{-c\epsilon} \in I_{R,\mu} E_l(R)$ , and we replace  $R$  by  $R'$  so that  $(R')^{p^c} = R$ ; then we have a solution  $z = \sum_{\ell=1}^{c-1} r^{\ell} \theta^{-\ell \epsilon}$ . Finally we consider the case  $\epsilon = 0$ . Write  $z = \sum_{i=0}^{m+n-1} z_i \theta^i$  and  $r = \sum_{i=0}^{m+n-1} r_i \theta^i$  with  $z_i, r_i \in W_{\mathbb{Q}}(R)$ . It suffices to solve  $z_i^{\varrho} - z_i \equiv r_i \pmod{I_{R,\mu}}$  for each  $0 \leq i < m+n$ . Let  $\nu_i$  be the biggest non-negative integer  $\nu$  such that  $r_i \in p^{\nu} W(R)$ . We replace  $R$  with  $R'$  so that we have  $(R')^{p^{\nu}} = R$ . Then there exist elements  $t_j$  of  $R$  for all integers  $j \geq \nu_i$  such that  $z_i = \sum_{j=\nu_i}^{\infty} V^j [t_j]$  is a solution. Indeed, putting  $z_{ij} := \sum_{j' < j} V^{j'} [t_{j'}]$ , we can find  $t_{j'}$  successively so that  $z_{ij}^{\varrho} - z_{ij} \equiv r_i \pmod{I_{R,j}}$ . Let  $j \geq \nu_i$  and suppose that we have already got such  $t_{j'}$  for  $j' < j$ . Since  $\varrho \neq 1$ , after replacing  $R$  by a finite cover  $R'$ , there exists a solution  $t_j \in R$  of the Artin-Schreier equation  $t_j^{\varrho} - t_j = (V^{-j} (r_i - z_{ij}^{\varrho} + z_{ij}) \pmod{I_R})$ . Then clearly  $z_i := \sum_{j=\nu_i}^{\mu-1} V^j [t_j]$  is a solution of  $z_i^{\varrho} - z_i \equiv r_i \pmod{I_{R,\mu}}$ .  $\square$

## 7 Proof of Proposition 5.2

Let  $w \in {}^J W$ . Let  $(m_1, n_1)$  be the first segment of  $\xi(w)$ . By the definition of  $\xi(w)$ , there exists a  $p$ -divisible group  $X$  over an algebraically closed field  $k$  of characteristic  $p$  such that  $X[p]$  is of type  $w$  and the Newton polygon of  $X$  is  $\xi(w)$ . Write  $M = \mathbb{D}(X)$ . Choose an embedding  $\iota : M \rightarrow M(\xi(w))$  and let  $j : M(\xi(w)) \rightarrow M_{m_1, n_1}$  be the natural projection. Put  $M_1 = j \circ \iota(M)$ . Let  $f_0 : X \rightarrow X_1$  be the homomorphism of  $p$ -divisible groups corresponding to  $M \rightarrow M_1$ . Let  $X'_0$  be the kernel of  $f_0$ . Note  $X'_0$  is a  $p$ -divisible group. Thus we have an exact sequence of  $p$ -divisible groups

$$0 \longrightarrow X'_0 \longrightarrow X \xrightarrow{f_0} X_1 \longrightarrow 0. \quad (18)$$

**Lemma 7.1.**  $X_1$  is minimal, i.e.,  $X_1 \simeq H_{m_1, n_1}$ .

*Proof.* Recall [4], Corollary 5.4, whose dual is as follows. Let  $\lambda_v$  be the optimal lower bound of the first Newton slopes of  $p$ -divisible groups with  $p$ -kernel type  $v$  for each  $v \in {}^J W$ ; then we have

$$\lambda_v = \min\{m/(m+n) \mid G_{v, \Omega} \xrightarrow{\exists} H_{m, n}[p]_{\Omega} \text{ for some alg. closed field } \Omega\}. \quad (19)$$

Note that  $\lambda_v$  is equal to the first slope of  $\xi(v)$ .

Let  $w$  and  $w_1$  be the final types of  $X[p]$  and  $X_1[p]$  respectively. Since  $X[p] \rightarrow X_1[p]$ , i.e.,  $G_{w, k} \rightarrow G_{w_1, k}$ , we have  $\lambda_w \leq \lambda_{w_1}$  by (19). By the construction of  $X_1$ , the (first) Newton slope of  $X_1$  is  $\lambda_w$ ; hence we have  $\lambda_w \geq \lambda_{w_1}$ . Thus  $\lambda_w = \lambda_{w_1}$ . Then (19) implies that there exists a surjective homomorphism  $H_{m_1, n_1}[p]_{\Omega} \rightarrow G_{w_1, \Omega}$  for some  $\Omega = \overline{\Omega}$ . This is an isomorphism, since  $H_{m_1, n_1}[p]$  and  $G_{w_1}$  have the same rank ( $= m_1 + n_1$ ).  $\square$

We use induction on the rank of  $w$  to prove Proposition 5.2. Assume that  $w$  is not minimal. It suffices to show the case that

$$(*) \quad G_w \text{ has no direct factor which is isomorphic to } H_{m_1, n_1}[p].$$

Indeed if  $G_w = G_v \oplus H_{m_1, n_1}[p]$ , then  $v$  is not minimal and our problem can be reduced to the case  $v$ . Hence we assume  $(*)$  from now on. Let  $Z$  and  $Z_1$  be  $F$ -zips of  $X[p]$  and  $X_1[p]$  respectively. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_1$  be the final types of  $Z$  and  $Z_1$  respectively. Now  $(*)$  implies that  $\Omega_{\infty}(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1) = \emptyset$ . Consider the space  $\Sigma := \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$ , which is isomorphic to  $\prod_{\omega \in \Omega_o(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)} \mathbb{K}_{\omega}$ ; hence  $\Sigma$  is irreducible. Let  $f$  be the universal homomorphism  $Z_{\Sigma} \rightarrow (Z_1)_{\Sigma}$ .

**Lemma 7.2.** Let  $T \rightarrow \Sigma$  be any dominant morphism of  $k$ -schemes. Then  $f_T$  is not “constant up to  $\text{Aut}(Z_T)$ ”. Here we say that  $f_T$  is constant up to  $\text{Aut}(Z_T)$  if there exists a section  $x = \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow T$  such that  $f_T = (f_x)_T \circ \kappa$  for an automorphism  $\kappa$  of  $Z_T$ .

*Proof.* Let  $x = \text{Spec}(k) \rightarrow T$  be any section and  $\kappa$  any automorphism of  $Z_T$ . Let  $i$  be the largest integer such that  $\text{Fil}^i \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1) = \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$ . Since  $\Omega(\mathcal{B}, \mathcal{B}_1)$  consists of finite slices, we have  $\dim \text{Fil}^{i+1} \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1) < \dim \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$ . We write  $\kappa = \kappa_o + \kappa_{\infty}$  with  $\kappa_o \in \text{End}(Z)_o(T)$  and  $\kappa_{\infty} \in \text{End}(Z)_{\infty}(T)$ . It follows from Corollary 3.4 that  $(f_x)_T \circ \kappa$  is in  $\text{Fil}^{i+1} \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)(T) + (f_x)_T \circ \kappa_{\infty}$ . Since  $\text{End}(Z)_{\infty}$  is discrete,  $\kappa_{\infty}$  factors through  $\text{Spec}(k)$ . Hence the dimension of the scheme-theoretic image of  $(f_x)_T \circ \kappa : T \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$  is less than or equal to  $\dim \text{Fil}^{i+1} \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$ . On the other hand, the morphism  $f_T : T \rightarrow \text{Hom}(Z, Z_1)$  is dominant. Hence we have  $f_T \neq (f_x)_T \circ \kappa$ .  $\square$

Let  $\eta$  denote the generic point of  $\Sigma$  and let  $w'$  be the type of the kernel of  $f_{\eta}$ . Let  $U$  be the open subvariety of  $\Sigma$  consisting of  $u \in U$  such that  $f_u$  is surjective and the kernel of  $f_u$  is of type  $w'$ . Choose a finite surjective morphism  $S \rightarrow U$  which trivializes  $Z' := \ker \rho_U$ , i.e.,  $Z'_S \simeq (Z_{w'})_S$ .

$$0 \longrightarrow (Z_{w'})_S \longrightarrow Z_S \xrightarrow{f_S} (Z_1)_S \longrightarrow 0. \quad (20)$$

By Corollary 2.2, there exists a display  $M'$  over  $k$  such that  $M'/IM' \simeq Z_{w'}$  and the Newton polygon of  $M'$  is  $\xi(w')$ . Choose an isogeny  $M(\xi(w')) \rightarrow M'$ . Put

$$\zeta := \xi(w') + (m_1, n_1). \quad (21)$$

Applying the result of §6 to (20), for a finite surjective morphism  $\text{Spec}(R) \rightarrow S$ , we obtain an isogeny

$$\rho : M(\zeta)_R \longrightarrow \mathcal{M} \quad (22)$$

with  $\phi : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow (M_1)_R$  and  $\theta : \mathcal{M}/I_R \mathcal{M} \simeq Z_R$  satisfying the commutative diagrams (9) and (10).

**Lemma 7.3.** *We have  $\zeta = \xi(w)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{M}$  has Newton polygon  $\zeta$  and  $p$ -kernel type  $w$ , we have  $\zeta \prec \xi(w)$  by the definition of  $\xi(w)$ . Let  $w'_0$  be the type of  $X'_0[p]$ . Since  $w'_0 \subset w'$ , we have  $\xi(w'_0) \prec \xi(w')$  by Corollary 4.2. Note the Newton polygon  $\xi(w)$  of  $X$  is equal to  $\xi(w'_0) + (m_1, n_1)$ . This is less than or equal to  $\xi(w') + (m_1, n_1) = \zeta$ .  $\square$

It remains to show

**Lemma 7.4.**  *$\rho$  is not constant.*

*Proof.* Applying Lemma 7.2 to  $T := \text{Spec}(R) \rightarrow \Sigma$ , we have that  $f_R$  is not constant up to  $\text{Aut}(Z_R)$ . It follows from the diagram (10) that  $\bar{\phi}$  is non-constant; hence so is  $\phi$ . Then we have the lemma by the diagram (9).  $\square$

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