# Groups with finitely generated integral homologies

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#### Abstract

Suppose A is an abelian normal subgroup of a finitely generated group G such that G/A is abelian and  $H_i(G, \mathbb{Z})$  is finitely generated for all i. We show that A is of finite (Prüfer) rank. This generalises the main result of [5] that deals with the same problem for split extension metabelian groups.

#### 1 Introduction

In [5] J. R. J. Groves shows that if G is a finitely generated group, a split extension of an abelian group A by an abelian group Q and the homology group  $H_i(G, \mathbb{Z})$  is finitely generated for all *i* then A is of finite rank i.e.  $A \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  is finite dimensional over  $\mathbb{Q}$  and the torsion part of A is finite. We generalise this result to the non-split case.

**Theorem A** Suppose that A is a normal abelian subgroup of a finitely generated group G such that G/A is abelian and  $H_i(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite for all i and all primes p. Then A is of finite (Prüfer) rank.

**Corollary B** Suppose that A is a normal abelian subgroup of a finitely generated group G such that G/A is abelian and  $H_i(G,\mathbb{Z})$  is finitely generated for all i. Then A is of finite (Prüfer) rank.

Our proofs substantially use the method and the main tools from [5]: the geometric invariant for modules over finitely generated abelian groups defined in [2], Cartan's formula for  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$  for abelian groups A and the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_p$  with p elements (in the case p = 2 the formula holds only for groups A of exponent 2) and close examination of the LHS spectral sequence in homology. The new ingredients are a lemma that gives sufficient conditions when  $H_0(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  finite implies that  $H_i(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all  $i \geq 0$  and a generalisation of Cartan's formula for the homologies of abelian groups with trivial coefficients  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

## 2 Preliminaries on the geometric invariant for modules over finitely generated abelian groups and on homologies of abelian group

The geometric invariant  $\Sigma_A(Q)$  for a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -module A was first defined in [2]. By definition

$$\Sigma_A(Q) = \{ [\chi] = \mathbb{R}_{>0} \chi \mid \chi \in Hom(Q, \mathbb{R}) \setminus \{0\}, A \text{ is finitely generated over } \mathbb{Z}[Q_{\chi}] \},$$
$$\Sigma_A^c(Q) = S(Q) \setminus \Sigma_A(Q)$$

where  $Q_{\chi} = \{g \in Q \mid \chi(g) \geq 0\}$  and  $S(Q) = \{[\chi] \mid \chi \in Hom(Q, \mathbb{R}) \setminus \{0\}\} \simeq \mathbb{R}^n$ where *n* is the torsion-free rank of *Q*. *A* is said to be *m*-tame if every *m*-point subset of  $\Sigma_A^c(Q)$  is contained in an open half subspace of S(Q). One important property of tameness is that whenever *A* is *m*-tame the m-fold tensor power of *A* over  $\mathbb{Z}$  is finitely generated over  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$  via the diagonal *Q*-action [1, Section 3.5].

We discuss now an important result of H. Cartan [4] that will play an important role in the proof of our main theorem. Suppose A is an abelian group. By definition  $\widetilde{S}^{j}({}_{p}A)$  is the set of elements in the *j*-th tensor power of  ${}_{p}A = \{a \in A \mid pa = 0\}$  over  $\mathbb{F}_{p}$  which is invariant under the action of the symmetric group on *j* elements. Note  $\widetilde{S}({}_{p}A) = \bigoplus_{i \geq 0} \widetilde{S}^{i}({}_{p}A)$  is a graded algebra with multiplication given by the shuffle product \* of the tensor algebra of  ${}_{p}A$  i.e.

$$(a_1 \otimes \ldots \otimes a_s) * (a_{s+1} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{s+k}) = \sum_{\sigma} a_{\sigma(1)} \otimes \ldots \otimes a_{\sigma(s+k)}$$

where  $a_i \in_p A$  and the sum is over all permutation  $\sigma$  such that  $\sigma(1) < \sigma(2) < \ldots < \sigma(s)$  and  $\sigma(s+1) < \ldots < \sigma(s+k)$ .

In general homology groups do not have multiplicative structure as cohomology but in the case of an abelian group A and commutative ring with unity k there is a Pontryagin product in  $H_*(A, k) = \bigoplus_{i \ge 0} H_i(A, k)$  which makes it a strictly anticommutative ring equipped with divided powers, for details see [3, Ch. 5, Section 6]. We remind the reader the axioms of divided powers. There is a family of functions  ${}^{(i)}: H_{2j}(A, k) \to H_{2ij}(A, k)$  for all  $i, j - 1 \ge 0$ . 1.  $x^{(0)} = 1, x^{(1)} = x$ 2.  $x^{(i)}x^{(j)} = {i+j \choose i}x^{(i+j)}$ 3.  $(x^{(i)})^{(j)} = e_{i,j}x^{(ij)}$  for all i, j > 0 where  $e_{i,j} = \prod_{2 \le t \le j} {t-1 \choose i-1}$ . 4.  $(x+y)^{(i)} = \sum_{j+k=i} x^{(j)}y^{(k)}$ 5. For  $i \ge 2$ 

 $(xy)^{(i)} = x^i y^{(i)}$  whenever x, y are even elements,

 $(xy)^{(i)} = 0$  if x, y are odd elements.

**Proposition 1** [4, Ch. 9, Ch. 10] Suppose p is a prime and  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is the field with p elements.

1. If p is odd

$$H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_p) \simeq (\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p} (A/pA)) \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p} \widetilde{S}(_pA)$$

where A/pA has weight 1 and  $_{p}A$  has weight 2.

2. If p = 2 and A is of exponent 2

$$H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq \widetilde{S}(A)$$

where A has weight 1.

In both cases the isomorphism is a natural isomorphism of graded divided powers algebras i.e. preserves grading, the multiplicative and the divided power structures.

Whenever possible we prefer using homologies with coefficients in  $\mathbb{F}_p$  than  $\mathbb{Z}$ . The Pontryagin product gives natural embedding of the exterior algebra of  $H_1(A, \mathbb{Z}) \simeq A$ in  $H_*(A, \mathbb{Z})$  and it is an isomorphism if A is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -torsion-free [3, Ch. 5, Thm 6.4]. The problem is that this embedding does not naturally split as in the case of coefficients  $\mathbb{F}_p$  for p odd. In [6, Thm C] some results linking the integral homology groups and finite generations of tensor products are established but they are not directly applicable to the proof of Theorem A.

### 3 More on the homology with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_2$

In [3, Thm 6.6] it is stated that there is a non-natural isomorphism

$$H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq \wedge (A/2A) \otimes \tilde{S}(_2A) \tag{(*)}$$

and that the above isomorphism could be proved as in the proof of [3, Thm 6.4]. The generating space  $_2A = \{a \in A \mid 2a = 0\}$  of the symmetric algebra comes from a non-natural splitting of the exact sequence

$$0 \to \wedge^2(A/2A) \to H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \to {}_2A \to 0$$

Still it is not made clear in [3] how to combine the non-naturality of (\*) with the ideas of the proof of [3, Thm 6.4] that deals with a natural description of homology groups.

In this section we show how such an isomorphism could be proved and in fact we give a natural description of  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$  in terms of a filtration with quotients isomorphic to the direct summands of (\*). Naturality is important for two purposes. First it is needed in the proof of the fact that the filtration is exhausting. Secondly all the applications are for  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -modules A and we are interested not only in the underlying additive structure of the homology groups  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$  but in their structure as  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -modules. As before  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$  is equipped with strictly anticommutative Pontryagin product and divided power structure.

Note that

$$H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq A/2A,$$

and by the exact universal coefficient sequence

$$0 \to H_2(A, \mathbb{Z}) \otimes \mathbb{F}_2 \to H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \to Tor_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(H_1(A, \mathbb{Z}), \mathbb{F}_2) \to 0$$

As  $H_2(A,\mathbb{Z}) \simeq \wedge^2 A$  and  $Tor_1^{\mathbb{Z}}(H_1(A,\mathbb{Z}),\mathbb{F}_2) \simeq {}_2A = \{a \in A \mid 2a = 0\}$  we have

$$\frac{H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)}{\wedge^2 H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_2)} \simeq {}_2A$$

Theorem 1 Let

$$F^{i}(H_{*}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})) = \sum_{k \ge 0, j_{1} + \ldots + j_{t} \le i} H_{1}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{k} H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{1})} \ldots H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{t})},$$

where  $H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)^{(j)}$  is the subspace spanned by all elements  $\lambda^{(j)}$  for  $\lambda \in H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$ . Then  $\cup_{i\geq 1} F^i(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2))$  is an exhausting filtration of the graded algebra  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$ with quotients  $F^i(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2))/F^{i-1}(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)) \simeq \wedge (A/2A) \otimes \widetilde{S}^i({}_2A)$ 

*Proof*. Note that to prove that

$$\cup_{i>1} F^{i}(H_{*}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})) = H_{*}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})$$
(\*\*)

it is sufficient to consider the following cases:

1. A is cyclic;

2. if (\*\*) holds for the finitely generated abelian groups  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  then (\*\*) holds  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$ ;

Then the filtration is exhausting for all finitely generated abelian groups. Finally as every group A is the direct limit of its finitely generated subgroups and our filtration commutes with direct limits (\*\*) holds.

If A is cyclic and finite then (\*\*) is proved in [5, p. 124]. If A is infinite then  $H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_2) = 0$  for all  $i \geq 2$ .

Now we prove that the filtration is exhausting for  $A = A_1 \oplus A_2$  provided the same holds for  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ . Consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\cup_{i\geq 1}F^{i}(H_{*}(A_{1},\mathbb{F}_{2})))\otimes(\cup_{i\geq 1}F^{i}(H_{*}(A_{2},\mathbb{F}_{2}))) & \stackrel{\beta_{1}\otimes\beta_{2}}{\longrightarrow} & (\cup_{i\geq 1}F^{i}(H_{*}(A,\mathbb{F}_{2}))) \\ & \downarrow\alpha_{1}\otimes\alpha_{2} & & \downarrow\alpha \\ & H_{*}(A_{1},\mathbb{F}_{2})\otimes H_{*}(A_{2},\mathbb{F}_{2}) & \stackrel{\varphi}{\longrightarrow} & H_{*}(A,\mathbb{F}_{2}) \end{array}$$

The maps  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$  and  $\alpha$  are the obvious inclusions. By assumptions  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are isomorphisms. The map

$$\beta_i: \cup_{s>1} F^s(H_*(A_i, \mathbb{F}_2)) \to \cup_{s>1} F^s(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2))$$

is induced by the map

$$H_i(A_i, \mathbb{F}_2) \to H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_2)$$

for j = 1, 2. The map  $\varphi$  is the inclusion given by the Kuneth formula and as  $\mathbb{F}_2$  is a field  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism. Then  $\varphi(\alpha_1 \otimes \alpha_2)$  is an isomorphism and hence  $\alpha$  is surjective. By construction  $\alpha$  is injective and so  $\alpha$  is an isomorphism, as required. Then  $\beta_1 \otimes \beta_2$  is an isomorphism too.

Claim 
$$(\beta_1 \otimes \beta_2)(\sum_{i+j=m} F^i(H_*(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2)) \otimes F^j(H_*(A_2, \mathbb{F}_2))) = F^m(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2))$$

*Proof*. Assume  $x_1, y_1$  are elements of degree one and  $x_2, y_2$  are elements of degree two. Then by the axioms of divided powers for  $j \ge 2$  the element  $(x_2 + y_2 + x_1y_1)^{(j)}$  equals

$$\sum_{\alpha_1+\alpha_2+\alpha_3=j} x_2^{(\alpha_1)} y_2^{(\alpha_2)} (x_1 y_1)^{(\alpha_3)} = \sum_{\alpha_1+\alpha_2=j} x_2^{(\alpha_1)} y_2^{(\alpha_2)} + \sum_{\alpha_1+\alpha_2=j-1} x_2^{(\alpha_1)} y_2^{(\alpha_2)} x_1 y_1^{(\alpha_2)} x_1 y_2^{(\alpha_2)} x_1 y_1^{(\alpha_3)} = \sum_{\alpha_1+\alpha_2=j} x_2^{(\alpha_1)} y_2^{(\alpha_2)} x_1^{(\alpha_2)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_2^{(\alpha_3)} x_2^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_2^{(\alpha_3)} x_1^{(\alpha_3)} x_$$

This together with the Kuneth formula

$$H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq \bigoplus_{0 \le i \le 2} H_i(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2) \otimes H_{2-i}(A_2, \mathbb{F}_2)$$

implies

$$H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j)} \subset \sum_{j_{0}+j_{1}+j_{2}=j} H_{2}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{0})} H_{1}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{j_{1}} \otimes H_{1}(A_{2}, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{j_{1}} H_{2}(A_{2}, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{2})}$$
$$\subseteq \wedge H_{1}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2}) \sum_{j_{0}+j_{2} \leq j} H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{0})} H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{(j_{2})}$$

This together with the definition of the filtration implies

$$F^{m}(H_{*}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})) \subseteq (\beta_{1} \otimes \beta_{2})(\sum_{i+j=m} F^{i}(H_{*}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2})) \otimes F^{j}(H_{*}(A_{2}, \mathbb{F}_{2})))$$

The inverse inclusion is obvious.

By the claim and the fact that  $\beta_1 \otimes \beta_2$  is an isomorphism we have

$$F^m(H_*(A,\mathbb{F}_2))/F^{m-1}(H_*(A,\mathbb{F}_2)) \simeq$$

 $\oplus_{0 \le i \le m} F^i(H_*(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2))/F^{i-1}(H_*(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2)) \otimes F^{m-i}(H_*(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2))/F^{m-i-1}(H_*(A_1, \mathbb{F}_2))$ By assumption

$$F^{i}(H_{*}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2}))/F^{i-1}(H_{*}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2})) \simeq \wedge (A_{1}/2A_{1}) \otimes \widetilde{S}^{i}(_{2}(A_{1}))$$
$$F^{m-i}(H_{*}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2}))/F^{m-i-1}(H_{*}(A_{1}, \mathbb{F}_{2})) \simeq \wedge (A_{2}/2A_{2}) \otimes \widetilde{S}^{m-i}(_{2}(A_{2}))$$

Furthermore

$$\wedge (A_1/2A_1) \otimes \wedge (A_2/2A_2) \simeq \wedge ((A_1/2A_1) \oplus (A_2/2A_2)) = \wedge (A/2A)$$

Finally it remains to note that for abelian groups M and N of exponent 2

$$\oplus_{0 \le i \le m} (\widetilde{S}^i(M) \otimes \widetilde{S}^{m-i}(N)) \simeq \widetilde{S}^m(M \oplus N)$$

and apply this for  $M = {}_2(A_1), N = {}_2(A_2), M \oplus N \simeq {}_2A = \{a \in A \mid 2a = 0\}$  to obtain the required isomorphism

$$F^m(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2))/F^{m-1}(H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2)) \simeq (\wedge (A/2A)) \otimes \widetilde{S}^m(_2A)$$

The formula about M and N could be verified either by hand or by Proposition 1 (remember both M and N have exponent 2) it is transformed to a special case of the Kuneth formula

$$H_*(M, \mathbb{F}_2) \otimes H_*(N, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq H_*(M \oplus N, \mathbb{F}_2)$$

This completes the proof of the theorem.

To illustrate the above theorem we consider the case when A has exponent 2. By Proposition 1  $\sim$ 

$$H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_2) \simeq S(A)$$

Any symmetric element of  $\otimes^i A$  is a linear combination of elements of the form

$$(a_1^{\otimes^{k_1}}) * (a_2^{\otimes^{k_2}}) * \ldots * (a_s^{\otimes^{k_s}})$$

for some  $s \leq i$ , some pairwise different elements  $a_1, \ldots, a_s$  of A where  $\sum k_j = i$  and \* is the shuffle product. The Pontrjagin product is the shuffle product \* and the divided power structure is given by

$$(a \otimes a)^{(i)} = a^{\otimes^{2i}}$$

Then

$$a^{\otimes^{k}} = a^{\epsilon} * (a \otimes a)^{([k/2])} \in H_{1}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{\epsilon} H_{2}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})^{([k/2])}$$

where  $\epsilon = k - 2[k/2]$  and the element  $(a_1^{\otimes^{k_1}}) * (a_2^{\otimes^{k_2}}) * \ldots * (a_s^{\otimes^{k_s}})$  belongs to

$$(\wedge H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_2))H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)^{([\frac{k_1}{2}])}H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)^{([\frac{k_2}{2}])}\dots H_2(A, \mathbb{F}_2)^{([\frac{k_s}{2}])}.$$

Thus

$$F^{j}(H_{*}(A, \mathbb{F}_{2})) \cap \widetilde{S}^{i}(A) = \sum_{[k_{1}/2] + \ldots + [k_{s}/2] \leq j} (a_{1}^{\otimes^{k_{1}}}) * (a_{2}^{\otimes^{k_{2}}}) * \ldots * (a_{s}^{\otimes^{k_{s}}})$$

### 4 Some results about homology

**Lemma 1** Suppose Q is a finitely generated abelian group, B is a  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -module equipped with a finite filtration of  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -submodules

$$B = B_1 \supset B_2 \supset \ldots \supset B_k \supset B_{k+1} = 0$$

such that  $B_j/B_{j+1}$  is a cyclic  $R_j$ -module for some commutative Noetherian ring  $R_j$ , Q embeds in  $R_j$  and the action of Q on  $B_j/B_{j+1}$  via the embedding of Q in  $R_j$  is the original action of Q. Suppose further that  $H_0(Q, B)$  is finite. Then  $H_i(Q, B)$  is finite for all i.

*Proof*. We induct on the length of the filtration. Assume first that k = 1 and so B is cyclic and a commutative Noetherian ring. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a resolution of the trivial module  $\mathbb{Z}$  over  $R_1$  with all modules finitely generated. Consider the complex  $B \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[Q]} \mathcal{F}$ . Its modules could be viewed as (left) B-modules via the multiplication in B. Note this B-action is compatible with the differentials because its action could be extended to an action of  $R_1$  and the latter ring is commutative. As B is a Noetherian ring and all modules in  $B \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[Q]} \mathcal{F}$  are finitely generated over B we deduce that all homology groups

$$H_i(B \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[Q]} \mathcal{F}) \simeq H_i(Q, B)$$

are finitely generated *B*-modules. Furthermore the action of Q on  $H_i(Q, B)$  is trivial and so  $H_i(Q, B)$  is a finitely generated  $H_0(Q, B)$ -module. As by assumption  $H_0(Q, B)$  is finite we are done.

If  $k \geq 2$  consider the short exact sequence of modules

$$0 \to B_2 \to B \to B/B_2 \to 0$$

It induces a long exact sequence in homology

$$\dots \to H_i(Q, B_2) \to H_i(Q, B) \to H_i(Q, B/B_2) \to \dots$$
$$\to H_1(Q, B/B_2) \to H_0(Q, B_2) \to H_0(Q, B) \to H_0(Q, B/B_2) \to 0$$

As  $H_0(Q, B)$  is finite  $H_0(Q, B/B_2)$  is finite and by induction  $H_i(Q, B/B_2)$  is finite for all *i*. In particular  $H_1(Q, B/B_2)$  is finite and hence  $H_0(Q, B_2)$  is finite. Again by induction  $H_i(Q, B_2)$  is finite for all *i* and using the long exact sequence we see that  $H_i(Q, B)$  is finite for all *i* as required.

**Lemma 2** Suppose A is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -module and for some prime p and some j the homology group  $H_0(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite. Then  $H_i(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all i.

*Proof*. By Proposition 1 (for p odd) and Theorem 1 (for p = 2) there is a filtration of  $H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$  with quotients isomorphic to some  $B_{\alpha,\beta} = \wedge^{\alpha}(A/pA) \otimes \widetilde{S}^{\beta}({}_pA)$  for  $\alpha + 2\beta = j$ .  $B_{\alpha,\beta}$  is a module over  $\Pi_{\alpha} \otimes \Pi_{\beta}$  where  $\Pi_k$  is the invariant subring of  $\mathbb{F}_p[Q^k]$  under the action of the symmetric group  $S_k$  that permutes the factors of  $Q^k$ . Note  $\Pi_k$  is a finitely generated algebra that contains the diagonal subgroup of  $Q^{k}$ . Then  $\Pi_{\alpha} \otimes \Pi_{\beta}$  is a Noetherian commutative ring containing the diagonal subgroup of  $Q^{\alpha+\beta}$  and we can apply the previous lemma.

**Proposition 2** Suppose some extension G of A by Q is finitely generated, p is a prime and  $H_t(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite for all t. Then  $H_i(Q, H_t(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all t and i.

*Proof*. We prove the proposition by induction on t. The case t = 1 is very easy, as  $H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_p) \simeq A/pA$  and A is finitely generated over  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ . Thus  $H_0(Q, H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite. By Lemma 2  $H_i(Q, H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all i.

For the inductive step assume  $H_i(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all  $j \leq t-1$  and all iand consider the Lyndon-Hochshild-Serre spectral sequence over the trivial module  $\mathbb{F}_p$ 

$$E_{i,j}^2 = H_i(Q, H_j(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$$

with differentials

$$d^r: E^r_{i,j} \to E^r_{i-r,j+r-1}$$

By induction  $E_{i,k}^2$  is finite for  $k \leq t-1$  and all  $i \geq 0$ . This together with the fact that  $d^r$  has bidegree (-r, r-1) and our spectral sequence is a first quadrant spectral sequence, in particular  $E_{0,t}^{\infty} = E_{0,t}^{t+1}$ , implies that

 $E_{0,t}^{\infty}$  is finite if and only if  $E_{0,t}^2$  is finite

At the same time since  $H_{i+j}(G, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite we have that  $E_{i,j}^{\infty}$  is finite for every i, j. Thus  $E_{0,t}^2 = H_0(Q, H_t(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite. Finally by Lemma 2  $H_i(Q, H_t(A, \mathbb{F}_p))$  is finite for all i.

#### 5 Proof of Theorem A

Assume that A is not of finite rank. By [5, Section 3.1, Section 5.1] there exists a prime number p such that A/pA is infinite and A has an epimorphic image M which is a just-infinite cyclic  $\mathbb{F}_p[Q]$ -module of exponent p.

We claim that for p odd  $H_0(Q, \wedge^i M)$  is finite for all i and for p = 2 the image of  $H_0(Q, \wedge^i M)$  in  $H_0(Q, H_i(M, \mathbb{F}_2)) \simeq H_0(Q, \widetilde{S}^i(M))$  is finite.

Indeed by Proposition 1 for p odd  $\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^i(A/pA)$  is a direct summand of  $H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$ . Thus the embedding of the exterior algebra of  $H_1(A, \mathbb{F}_p) \simeq A/pA$  in  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is natural and split and compatible with the multiplicative structure on the strictly anticommutative algebra  $H_*(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$ . Hence the action of Q on the homology group induces on the exterior algebra of A/pA the diagonal Q-action. Then  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} (\wedge^i(A/pA))$  embeds in  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$ . By Proposition 2  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_p)$  is finite and so  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} (\wedge^i(A/pA))$  is finite. As M is a surjective image of A/pA we deduce that  $H_0(Q, \wedge^i M)$  is finite.

If p = 2 consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{cccc} H_0(Q, H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_2)) & \to & H_0(Q, H_i(M, \mathbb{F}_2)) \simeq \mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^i(M) \\ & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} (\wedge^i_{\mathbb{F}_2}(A/2A)) & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \wedge^i M \end{array}$$

As by Proposition 2  $H_0(Q, H_i(A, \mathbb{F}_2))$  is finite and  $\varphi$  is surjective we deduce that the image of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \wedge^i M$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^i(M)$  is finite, as required.

From now on we will forget the existence of the group G and will deal only with just -infinite cyclic  $\mathbb{Z}[Q]$ -modules M of additive exponent p with the property that for p odd  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} (\wedge_{\mathbb{Z}}^i M)$  is finite for all i and for p = 2 the image of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} (\wedge_{\mathbb{Z}}^i M)$ in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^i(M)$  is finite for all i. By [5, Section 5.2] there exists a series

$$Q = Q_0 \subseteq Q_1 \subseteq \ldots \subseteq Q_t$$

of multiplicative subgroups of the field of fraction K of M and a series

$$M = M_0 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq \ldots \subseteq M_t$$

of additive subgroup of K defined by  $M_i = Q_i M$  with the following properties:

1.  $Q_{i+1} = Q_i \times \langle \alpha_i \rangle;$ 

2. there exists  $r_i \in \mathbb{Z}[Q_i]$  with  $(r_i - \alpha_i)M_{i+1} = 0$ ;

3.  $M_i$  is fully tame i.e.  $M_i$  is  $n_i$ -tame as a module over  $\mathbb{F}_p[Q_i]$  where  $n_i$  is the torsion free rank of  $Q_i$ .

**Lemma 3** If p is odd and  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[Q_i]} (\wedge^j M_i)$  is finite then  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}[Q_{i+1}]} (\wedge^j M_{i+1})$  is finite.

If p = 2 and the image of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} (\wedge_{\mathbb{Z}}^j M_i)$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^j(M_i)$  is finite then the image of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} (\wedge_{\mathbb{Z}}^j M_{i+1})$  in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^j(M_{i+1})$  is finite.

*Proof*. First let p be odd. Suppose  $f_1, \ldots, f_s$  are elements of  $\wedge^j M_i$  such that

$$\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_i = \mathbb{F}_p f_1 + \ldots + \mathbb{F}_p f_s + Aug(\mathbb{F}_p[Q_i])(\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_i)$$

where Aug denotes the augmentation ideal. We claim that

$$\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_{i+1} = \mathbb{F}_p f_1 + \ldots + \mathbb{F}_p f_s + Aug(\mathbb{F}_p[Q_{i+1}])(\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_{i+1})$$

Let f be an element from  $\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_{i+1}$ . As  $M_{i+1}$  is a localisation of  $M_i$  for some large positive integer  $\beta$  we have  $\alpha_i^\beta f \in \wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_i$ . Then

$$\alpha_i^\beta f = z_1 f_1 + \ldots + z_s f_s + w$$

where  $z_i \in \mathbb{F}_p$  and  $w \in Aug(\mathbb{F}_p[Q_i])(\wedge^j M_i)$  and hence

$$f = \alpha_i^{-\beta}(z_1 f_1 + \ldots + z_s f_s + w) \in z_1 f_1 + \ldots + z_s f_s + Aug(\mathbb{F}_p[Q_{i+1}])(\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_p}^j M_{i+1}),$$

as required.

If p = 2 consider the commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \varphi_i : \wedge^j_{\mathbb{F}_2} M_i & \to & \widetilde{S}^j(M_i) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \varphi_{i+1} : \wedge^j_{\mathbb{F}_2} M_{i+1} & \to & \widetilde{S}^j(M_{i+1}) \end{array}$$

Then there exist elements  $f_1, \ldots, f_s \in \wedge_{\mathbb{F}_2}^j M_i$  such that

$$\varphi_i(\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_2}^j M_i) \subseteq \varphi_i(\mathbb{F}_2 f_1 + \ldots + \mathbb{F}_2 f_s) + Aug(\mathbb{Z}[Q_i])(\widetilde{S}^j(M_i))$$

An obvious modification of the first part of the proof gives

$$\varphi_{i+1}(\wedge_{\mathbb{F}_2}^j M_{i+1}) \subseteq \varphi_{i+1}(\mathbb{F}_2 f_1 + \ldots + \mathbb{F}_2 f_s) + Aug(\mathbb{F}_2[Q_{i+1}])(\widetilde{S}^j(M_{i+1}))$$

Thus to prove the main theorem it is sufficient to work with  $M = M_t$  and  $Q = Q_t$ , so we can assume that

1. *M* is a cyclic  $\mathbb{F}_p[Q]$ -module

2. M is *n*-tame where *n* is the torsion free rank of Q

3. As t could be chosen arbitrary large we can assume that n + 1 is a multiple of the order of the torsion part of Q.

4. If p is odd  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} \wedge^j M$  is finite for all j. If p = 2 the image of  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} (\wedge_{\mathbb{Z}}^j M)$ in  $\mathbb{F}_2 \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_2[Q]} \widetilde{S}^j(M)$  is finite for all j.

Then by [5, Proposition 4.3]

$$\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} (\otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{n+1} M)$$
 is infinite

At the same time as shown in [5, Section 5.4] the forth property of M together with the *n*-tameness of M implies that  $\mathbb{F}_p \otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p[Q]} (\otimes_{\mathbb{F}_p}^{n+1} M)$  is finite, a contradiction.

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