Reductions of Galois Representations for Slopes in $(1,2)$

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Abstract. We describe the semisimplifications of the mod p reductions of certain crystalline two-dimensional local Galois representations of slopes in $(1,2)$ and all weights. The proof uses the compatibility between the p-adic and mod p Local Langlands Correspondences for $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Q}_p)$. We also give a complete description of the submodules generated by the second highest monomial in the mod p symmetric power representations of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$.

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1. Introduction

Let p be an odd prime. In this paper we study the reductions of two-dimensional crystalline p-adic representations of the local Galois group $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$. The answer is known when the weight k is smaller than $2p+1$ [E92], [B03a], [B03b] or when the slope is greater than $\lfloor \frac{k-2}{p-1} \rfloor$ [BLZ04]. The answer is also known if the slope is small, that is, in the range $(0,1)$ [BG09], [G10], [BG13]. Here we treat the next range of fractional slopes $(1,2)$, for all weights $k \geq 2$.

Let E be a finite extension field of $\mathbb{Q}_p$ and let v be the valuation of $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p$ normalized so that $v(p)=1$. Let $a_p \in E$ with $v(a_p) > 0$ and let $k \geq 2$. Let V_{k,a_p} be the irreducible crystalline representation of $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ with Hodge-Tate weights $(0, k-1)$ such that $D_{\mathrm{cris}}(V^*_{k,a_p}) = D_{k,a_p}$, where $D_{k,a_p} = Ee_1 \oplus Ee_2$ is the filtered φ-module as defined in [B11, §2.3]. Let $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ be the semisimplification of the reduction of V_{k,a_p}, thought of as a representation over $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$.

Let $\omega = \omega_1$ and ω_2 denote the fundamental characters of level 1 and 2 respectively, and let $\mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^a)$ denote the representation of $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ obtained by inducing the character ω_2^a from $G_{\mathbb{Q}_{p^2}}$. Let $\mathrm{unr}(x)$ be the unramified character of $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ taking (geometric) Frobenius at p to $x \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^*$. Then, *a priori*, $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$

is isomorphic either to $\mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^a) \otimes \mathrm{unr}(\lambda)$ or $\mathrm{unr}(\lambda)\omega^a \oplus \mathrm{unr}(\mu)\omega^b$, for some a, $b \in \mathbb{Z}$ and λ, $\mu \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^*$. The former representation is irreducible on $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ when $(p+1) \nmid a$, whereas the latter is reducible on $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$. The following theorem describes $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ when $1 < v(a_p) < 2$. Since the answer is known completely for weights $k \leq 2p+1$, we shall assume that $k \geq 2p+2$.

THEOREM 1.1. *Let $p \geq 3$. Let $1 < v(a_p) < 2$ and $k \geq 2p+2$. Let $r = k-2 \equiv b \bmod (p-1)$, with $2 \leq b \leq p$. When $b = 3$ and $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, assume that*

$$(\star) \qquad v(a_p^2 - \binom{r-1}{2}(r-2)p^3) = 3.$$

Then, $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ has the following shape on $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$:

$$b = 2 \implies \begin{cases} \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+1}), & \text{if } p \nmid r(r-1) \\ \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+p}), & \text{if } p \mid r(r-1), \end{cases}$$

$$3 \leq b \leq p-1 \implies \begin{cases} \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+p}), & \text{if } p \nmid r-b \\ \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+1}), & \text{if } p \mid r-b, \end{cases}$$

$$b = p \implies \begin{cases} \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+p}), & \text{if } p^2 \nmid r-b \\ \mathrm{unr}(\sqrt{-1})\omega \oplus \mathrm{unr}(-\sqrt{-1})\omega, & \text{if } p^2 \mid r-b. \end{cases}$$

Using the theorem, and known results for $2 \leq k \leq 2p+1$, we obtain:

COROLLARY 1.2. *Let $p \geq 3$. If $k \geq 2$ is even and $v(a_p)$ lies in $(1,2)$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is irreducible.*

It is in fact conjectured [BG15, Conj. 4.1.1] that if k is even and $v(a_p)$ is non-integral, then the reduction $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is irreducible on $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$. This follows for slopes in $(0,1)$ by [BG09]. Theorem 1.1 shows that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ can be reducible on $G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}$ for slopes in $(1,2)$ only when $b = p$ or $b = 3$ (or both). Since k is clearly odd in these cases, the corollary follows.

Let $\rho_f : \mathrm{Gal}(\bar{\mathbb{Q}}/\mathbb{Q}) \to \mathrm{GL}_2(E)$ denote the global Galois representation attached to a primitive cusp form $f = \sum a_n q^n \in S_k(\Gamma_0(N))$ of (even) weight $k \geq 2$ and level N coprime to p. It is known that $\rho_f|_{G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}}$ is isomorphic to V_{k,a_p}, at least if $a_p^2 \neq 4p^{k-1}$. This condition always holds for slopes in $(1,2)$ except possibly when $k = 4$ and $a_p = \pm 2p^{\frac{3}{2}}$. Since it is expected to hold generally, we assume it. We obtain:

COROLLARY 1.3. *Let $p \geq 3$. If the slope of f at p lies in $(1,2)$, then $\bar{\rho}_f|_{G_{\mathbb{Q}_p}}$ is irreducible.*

Remark 1.4. Here are several remarks.

- Theorem 1.1 treats all weights for slopes in the range $(1,2)$, subject to a hypothesis. It builds on [GG15, Thm. 2], which treated weights less than $p^2 - p$.

- The hypothesis $(\star)$ in the theorem applies only when $b = 3$ and $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$ and is mild in the sense that it holds whenever the unit $\frac{a_p^2}{p^3}$ and $\binom{r-1}{2}(r-2)$ have distinct reductions in $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$.
- The theorem agrees with all previous results for weights $2 < k \leq 2p+1$ described in [B11, Thm. 5.2.1] when specialized to slopes in $(1, 2)$. It could therefore be stated for all weights $k > 2$. We note that $(\star)$ is satisfied for weights $k \leq 2p + 1$, except possibly for $k = 5$.
- When $b = p$ and $p^2 \mid r - b$, the theorem shows that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is always reducible if $p \geq 5$ (and under the hypothesis $(\star)$ when $p = 3$). This is a new phenomenon not occurring for slopes in $(0, 1)$. When $b = 3$, $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$ and $(\star)$ fails, we expect that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ might also be reducible in some cases, by analogy with the main result of [BG13].
- Fix k, a_p and $b = b(k)$ as in Theorem 1.1. Then the theorem implies the following local constancy result: for any other weight $k' \geq 2p + 2$ with $k' \equiv k \mod p^{1+v(b)}(p-1)$, the reduction $\bar{V}_{k',a_p}$ is isomorphic to $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$, except possibly if $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$ and $b = 3$. We refer to [B12, Thm. B] for a general local constancy result for any positive slope.

The proof of Theorem 1.1 uses the p-adic and mod p Local Langlands Correspondences due to Breuil, Berger, Colmez, Dospinescu, Paškūnas [B03a], [B03b], [BB10], [C10], [CDP14], [P13], and an important compatibility between them with respect to the process of reduction [B10]. The general strategy is due to Breuil and Buzzard-Gee and is outlined in [B03b], [BG09], [GG15]. We briefly recall it now and explain several new obstacles we must surmount along the way.

Let $G = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Q}_p)$, $K = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ be the standard maximal compact subgroup of G and $Z = \mathbb{Q}_p^*$ be the center of G. Consider the locally algebraic representation of G

$$\Pi_{k,a_p} = \frac{\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2}{T - a_p},$$

where $r = k - 2$, ind_{KZ}^G is compact induction and T is the Hecke operator, and consider the lattice in Π_{k,a_p} given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_{k,a_p} &:= \mathrm{image}\left(\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2 \to \Pi_{k,a_p}\right) \\ &\cong \frac{\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2}{(T - a_p)(\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2) \cap \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

It is known that the semisimplification of the reduction of this lattice satisfies $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}^{\mathrm{ss}} \simeq LL(\bar{V}_{k,a_p})$, where LL is the (semisimple) mod p Local Langlands Correspondence of Breuil [B03b]. One might require here the conditions $a_p^2 \neq 4p^{k-1}$ and $a_p \neq \pm(1+p)p^{(k-2)/2}$, see [BB10], but these clearly hold if $k \geq 2p+2$ and $v(a_p) < 2$. By the injectivity of the mod p Local Langlands Correspondence, $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}^{\mathrm{ss}}$ determines $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ completely, and so it suffices to compute $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$.

Let $V_r = \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^2$ be the usual symmetric power representation of $\Gamma := \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ (hence of KZ, with $p \in Z$ acting trivially). Clearly there is a surjective map

$$\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V_r \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}, \tag{1.2}$$

for $r = k-2$. Write X_{k,a_p} for the kernel. A model for V_r is the space of all homogeneous polynomials of degree r in the two variables X and Y over $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ with the standard action of Γ. Let $X_{r-1} \subset V_r$ be the Γ- (hence KZ-) submodule generated by $X^{r-1}Y$. Let V_r^* and V_r^{**} be the submodules of V_r consisting of polynomials divisible by θ and θ^2 respectively, for $\theta := X^pY - XY^p$. If $r \geq 2p+1$, then Buzzard-Gee have shown [BG09, Rem. 4.4]:

- $v(a_p) > 1 \implies \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G X_{r-1} \subset X_{k,a_p}$,
- $v(a_p) < 2 \implies \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V_r^{**} \subset X_{k,a_p}$.

The proof of Theorem 1.1 for $k = 2p+2$ is known (cf. [GG15, §2]) and involves slightly different techniques, so for the rest of this introduction assume that $r \geq 2p+1$. It follows that when $1 < v(a_p) < 2$, the map (1.2) induces a surjective map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, where

$$Q := \frac{V_r}{X_{r-1} + V_r^{**}}.$$

To proceed further, one needs to understand the 'final quotient' Q. It is not hard to see that *a priori* Q has up to 3 Jordan-Hölder factors as a Γ-module. The exact structure of Q is derived in §3 to §6 by giving a complete description of the submodule X_{r-1} and understanding to what extent it intersects with V_r^{**}. When $0 < v(a_p) < 1$, the relevant 'final quotient' in [BG09] is always irreducible allowing the authors to compute the reduction (up to separating out some reducible cases) using the useful general result [BG09, Prop. 3.3]. When $1 < v(a_p) < 2$, we show Q is irreducible if and only if

- $b = 2$, $p \nmid r(r-1)$ or $b = p$, $p \nmid r-b$,

and we obtain $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ immediately in these cases (Theorem 8.1).
Generically, the quotient Q has length 2 when $1 < v(a_p) < 2$. In fact, we show that Q has exactly two Jordan-Hölder factors, say J and J', in the cases complementary to those above

- $b = 2$, $p \mid r(r-1)$ or $b = p$, $p \mid r-b$,

as well as in the generic case

- $3 \leq b \leq p-1$ and $p \nmid r-b$.

We now use the Hecke operator T to 'eliminate' one of J or J'. Something similar was done in [B03b] and [GG15] for bounded weights. That this can be done for all weights is one of the new contributions of this paper (see §8). It involves constructing certain rational functions $f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, such that $(T-a_p)f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2$ is integral, with reduction mapping to a simple function in say $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J'$ that generates this last space of functions as a G-module. As $(T-a_p)f$ lies in the denominator of the expression (1.1) describing

Θ_{k,a_p}, its reduction lies in X_{k,a_p}. Thus we obtain a surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} J \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ and can apply [BG09, Prop. 3.3] again. For instance, let

$$J_1 = V_{p-b+1} \otimes D^{b-1} \text{ and } J_2 = V_{p-b-1} \otimes D^b,$$

where D denotes the determinant character. Then in the latter (generic) case above, $Q \cong J_1 \oplus J_2$ is a direct sum. We construct a function f which eliminates $J' = J_2$ so that $J = J_1$ survives, showing that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+p})$ (Theorem 8.3).

The situation is more complicated when Q has 3 Jordan-Hölder factors, namely $J_0 = V_{b-2} \otimes D$, in addition to J_1 and J_2 above. That this happens at all came as a surprise to us since it did not happen in the range of weights considered in [GG15]. We show that this happens for the first time when $r = p^2 - p + 3$, and in general whenever

- $3 \leq b \leq p-1$ and $p \mid r - b$.

This time we construct functions f killing J_0 and J_1 (except when $b = 3$, $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$ and $v(a_p^2 - p^3) > 3$), so that J_2 survives instead, and the reduction becomes $\mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+1})$ (Theorems 8.6, 8.7). Since J_2 was also the 'final quotient' in [BG09], the reduction in these cases is the same as the generic answer obtained for slopes in $(0, 1)$.

As a final twist in the tale, we remark that even though one can eliminate all but 1 Jordan-Hölder factor J, one needs to further separate out the reducible cases when $J = V_{p-2} \otimes D^n$, for some n. This happens in three cases:

- $b = 3$, $p \nmid r - b$,
- $b = p = 3$, $p \,||\, r - b$,
- $b = p$, $p^2 \mid r - b$.

In §9 we construct additional functions and use them to show that the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} J \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ factors either through the cokernel of T or the cokernel of $T^2 - cT + 1$, for some $c \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$, and then apply the mod p Local Langlands Correspondence directly to compute $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$, as was done in [B03b], [BG13]. In the first two cases, we show that the map above factors through the cokernel of T so that the reducible case never occurs. We work under the assumption $(\star)$, namely if $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, then $v(a_p^2 - \binom{r-1}{2}(r-2)p^3)$ is equal to 3, which is the generic sub-case (Theorem 9.1). On the other hand, in the third case we show that if $p \geq 5$ or if $p = 3 = b$ and $(\star)$ holds, then the map factors through the cokernel of $T^2 + 1$, so that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible and is as in Theorem 1.1 (Theorem 9.2).

One of the key ingredients that go into the proof of Theorem 1.1 is a complete description of the structure of the submodule X_{r-1} of V_r. We give its structure now as the result might be of some independent interest. To avoid technicalities, we state the following theorem in a weaker form than what we actually prove. Let $M := \mathrm{M}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ be the semigroup of all 2×2 matrices over $\mathbb{F}_p$ and consider V_r as a representation of M, with the obvious extension of the action of $\Gamma = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ on it.

THEOREM 1.5. *Let $p \geq 3$. Let $r \geq 2p+1$ and let $X_{r-1} = \langle X^{r-1}Y \rangle$ be the M-submodule of V_r generated by the second highest monomial. Then $2 \leq$ length $X_{r-1} \leq 4$, as an M-module. More precisely, if $2 \leq b \leq p-1$, then X_{r-1} fits into the exact sequence of M-modules*

$$V_{p-b+1} \otimes D^{b-1} \oplus V_{p-b-1} \otimes D^b \to X_{r-1} \to V_{b-2} \otimes D \oplus V_b \to 0,$$

and if $b = p$, then

$$V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X_{r-1} \to W \to 0,$$

where W is a quotient of the length 3 M-module V_{2p-1}.

Theorem 1.5 is proved for representations defined over $\mathbb{F}_p$ in §3 and §4 using results of Glover [G78]. Here we have stated the corresponding result after extending scalars to $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$. We recall that V_r^* is the largest singular M-submodule of V_r [G78, (4.1)]. It is the M-module structure of X_{r-1} given in the theorem rather than just the Γ-module structure that plays a key role in understanding how X_{r-1} intersects with V_r^* and V_r^{**}.
A more precise description of the structure of X_{r-1} can be found in Propositions 3.13 and 4.9. There we show that the Jordan-Hölder factors in Theorem 1.5 that actually occur in X_{r-1} are completely determined by the sum of the p-adic digits of an integer related to r. As a corollary, we obtain the following curious formula for the dimension of X_{r-1} in all cases.

COROLLARY 1.6. *Let $p \geq 3$ and let $r \geq 2p+1$. Write $r = p^n u$, with $p \nmid u$. Set $\delta = 0$ if $r = u$ and $\delta = 1$ otherwise. Let Σ be the sum of the digits of $u-1$ in its base p expansion. Then*

$$\dim X_{r-1} = \begin{cases} 2\Sigma + 2 + \delta(p+1-\Sigma), & \text{if } \Sigma \leq p-1 \\ 2p+2, & \text{if } \Sigma > p-1. \end{cases}$$

2. Basics

2.1. HECKE OPERATOR T. Recall $G = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Q}_p)$ and $KZ = \mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)\mathbb{Q}_p^*$ is the standard compact mod center subgroup of G. Let R be a $\mathbb{Z}_p$-algebra and let $V = \mathrm{Sym}^r R^2 \otimes D^s$ be the usual symmetric power representation of KZ twisted by a power of the determinant character D (with $p \in Z$ acting trivially), modeled on homogeneous polynomials of degree r in the variables X, Y over R. For $g \in G$, $v \in V$, let $[g, v] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V$ be the function with support in KZg^{-1} given by

$$g' \mapsto \begin{cases} g'g \cdot v & \text{if } g' \in KZg^{-1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Any function in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V$ is a finite linear combination of functions of the form $[g, v]$, for $g \in G$ and $v \in V$. The Hecke operator T is defined by its action on these elementary functions via

$$T([g,v]) = \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g \left(\begin{smallmatrix} p & [\lambda] \\ 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right), v\,(X, -[\lambda]X + pY) \right] + \left[g \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{smallmatrix} \right), v(pX, Y) \right], \tag{2.1}$$

where $v = v(X, Y) \in V$ and $[\lambda]$ denotes the Teichmüller representative of $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p$. We will always denote the Hecke operator acting on $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} V$ for various choices of $R = \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p$, $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p$ or $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ and for different values of r and s by T, as the underlying space will be clear from the context.

2.2. The mod p Local Langlands Correspondence. Let V be a weight, i.e., an irreducible representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$, thought of as a representation of KZ by inflating to $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ and making $p \in \mathbb{Q}_p^*$ act trivially. Let $V_r = \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^2$ be the r-th symmetric power of the standard two-dimensional representation of $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ on $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^2$. The set of weights V is exactly the set of modules $V_r \otimes D^i$, for $0 \le r \le p-1$ and $0 \le i \le p-2$. For $0 \le r \le p-1$, $\lambda \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ and $\eta : \mathbb{Q}_p^* \to \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^*$ a smooth character, let

$$\pi(r, \lambda, \eta) \quad := \quad \frac{\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} V_r}{T - \lambda} \otimes (\eta \circ \det)$$

be the smooth admissible representation of G, where ind_{KZ}^{G} is compact induction and T is the Hecke operator defined above; T generates the Hecke algebra $\mathrm{End}_G(\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} V_r) = \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p[T]$. With this notation, Breuil's semisimple mod p Local Langlands Correspondence [B03b, Def. 1.1] is given by:

- $\lambda = 0$: $\quad \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{r+1}) \otimes \eta \ \overset{LL}{\longmapsto}\ \pi(r, 0, \eta)$,
- $\lambda \neq 0$: $\quad \big(\omega^{r+1}\mathrm{unr}(\lambda) \oplus \mathrm{unr}(\lambda^{-1})\big) \otimes \eta$

$$\overset{LL}{\longmapsto}\ \pi(r, \lambda, \eta)^{\mathrm{ss}} \oplus \pi([p-3-r], \lambda^{-1}, \eta\omega^{r+1})^{\mathrm{ss}},$$

where $\{0, 1, \ldots, p-2\} \ni [p-3-r] \equiv p-3-r \mod (p-1)$. It is clear from the classification of smooth admissible irreducible representations of G by Barthel-Livné [BL94] and Breuil [B03a], that this correspondence is not surjective. However, the map "LL" above is an injection and so it is enough to know $LL(\bar{V}_{k,a_p})$ to determine $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$.

2.3. Modular representations of M and Γ. In order to make use of results in Glover [G78], let us abuse notation a bit and let V_r be the space of homogeneous polynomials $F(X, Y)$ in two variables X and Y of degree r with coefficients in the finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$, rather than in $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$. For the next few sections (up to §6) we similarly consider all subquotients of V_r as representations defined over $\mathbb{F}_p$. This is not so serious as once we have established the structure of X_{r-1} or Q over $\mathbb{F}_p$, it immediately implies the corresponding result over $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$, by extension of scalars. Let M be the semigroup $\mathrm{M}_2(\mathbb{F}_p)$ under matrix multiplication. Then M acts on V_r by the formula

$$\left(\begin{smallmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{smallmatrix}\right) \cdot F(X, Y) = F(aX + cY, bX + dY),$$

making V_r an M-module, or more precisely, an $\mathbb{F}_p[M]$-module. One has to be careful with the notation V_r while using results from [G78] as Glover indexed the symmetric power representations by dimension instead of the degree of the polynomials involved. In this paper, V_r always has dimension $r + 1$.

We denote the set of singular matrices by $N \subseteq M$. An $\mathbb{F}_p[M]$-module V is called 'singular', if each matrix $t \in N$ annihilates V, i.e., if $t \cdot V = 0$, for all $t \in N$. The largest singular submodule of an arbitrary $\mathbb{F}_p[M]$-module V is denoted by V^*. Note that any M-linear map must take a singular submodule (of its domain) to a singular submodule (of the range). This simple observation will be very useful for us.

Let X_r and X_{r-1} be the $\mathbb{F}_p[M]$-submodules of V_r generated by the monomials X^r and $X^{r-1}Y$ respectively. One checks that $X_r \subset X_{r-1}$ and are spanned by the sets $\{X^r, (kX+Y)^r : k \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ and $\{X^r, Y^r, X(kX+Y)^{r-1}, (X+lY)^{r-1}Y : k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ respectively [GG15, Lem. 3]. Thus we have $\dim X_r \leq p+1$ and $\dim X_{r-1} \leq 2p+2$. We will describe the explicit structure of the modules X_r and X_{r-1}, according to the different congruence classes $a \in \{1, 2, \ldots, p-1\}$ with $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$. It will also be convenient to use the representatives $b \in \{2, \ldots, p-1, p\}$ of the congruence classes of $r \mod (p-1)$.

For $s \in \mathbb{N}$, we denote the sum of the digits of s in its base p expansion by $\Sigma_p(s)$. It is easy to see that $\Sigma_p(s) \equiv s \mod (p-1)$, for any $s \in \mathbb{N}$. Let us write $r = p^n u$, where $n = v(r)$ and hence $p \nmid u$. The sum $\Sigma_p(u-1)$ plays a key role in the study of the module X_{r-1}. For $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, observe that the sum $\Sigma_p(u-1) \equiv a-1 \mod (p-1)$, therefore it varies discretely over the infinite set $\{a-1,\ p+a-2,\ 2p+a-3, \cdots\}$.

Let $\theta = \theta(X,Y)$ denote the special polynomial $X^pY - XY^p$. For $r \geq p+1$, we know [G78, (4.1)]

$$V_r^* := \{F \in V_r : \theta \mid F\} \cong \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } r \leq p \\ V_{r-p-1} \otimes D, & \text{if } r \geq p+1 \end{cases}$$

is the largest singular submodule of V_r. We define V_r^{**}, another important submodule of V_r, by

$$V_r^{**} := \{F \in V_r : \theta^2 \mid F\} \cong \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } r < 2p+2 \\ V_{r-2p-2} \otimes D^2, & \text{if } r \geq 2p+2. \end{cases}$$

Note that V_r^{**} is obviously *not* the largest singular submodule of V_r^*.

Next we introduce the submodules

$$X_r^* := X_r \cap V_r^*,\ X_r^{**} := X_r \cap V_r^{**},\ X_{r-1}^* := X_{r-1} \cap V_r^*,\ X_{r-1}^{**} := X_{r-1} \cap V_r^{**}.$$

It follows that X_r^* and X_{r-1}^* are the largest singular submodules inside X_r and X_{r-1} respectively. The group $\mathrm{GL}_2(\mathbb{F}_p) \subseteq M$ is denoted by Γ. For $r \geq 2p+1$, we will study the Γ-module structure of

$$Q := \frac{V_r}{X_{r-1} + V_r^{**}}\,.$$

We will be particularly interested in the bottom row of the following commutative diagram of M-modules (hence also of Γ-modules):

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccccc}
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{X_{r-1}^*}{X_{r-1}^{**}} & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{X_{r-1}}{X_{r-1}^{**}} & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{X_{r-1}}{X_{r-1}^*} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}} & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{V_r}{V_r^{**}} & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{V_r}{V_r^*} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}+X_{r-1}^*} & \longrightarrow & Q & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{V_r}{V_r^*+X_{r-1}} & \longrightarrow & 0. \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & 0 & & 0 & & 0 & &
\end{array}
\tag{2.2}
$$

Proposition 2.1. *Let $p \geq 3$ and $r \geq p$, with $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, for $1 \leq a \leq p-1$. Then the Γ-module structure of V_r/V_r^* is given by*

$$0 \to V_a \to \frac{V_r}{V_r^*} \to V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \to 0. \tag{2.3}$$

The sequence splits as a sequence of Γ-modules if and only if $a = p-1$.

Proof. For $r \geq p$, we obtain that $V_r/V_r^* \cong V_{a+p-1}/V_{a+p-1}^*$, using [G78, (4.2)]. The exact sequence then follows from [B03b, Lem. 5.3]. Note that it must split when $a = p-1$, as V_{p-1} is an injective Γ-module. The fact that it is non-split for the other congruence classes can be derived from the Γ-module structure of V_{a+p-1} (see, e.g., [G78, (6.4)] or [GG15, Thm. 5]). □

Proposition 2.2. *Let $p \geq 3$ and $2p+1 \leq r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $1 \leq a \leq p-1$. Then the Γ-module structure of V_r^*/V_r^{**} is given by*

$$0 \to V_{p-2} \otimes D \to \frac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}} \to V_1 \to 0, \qquad \text{if } a = 1, \tag{2.4}$$

$$0 \to V_{p-1} \otimes D \to \frac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}} \to V_0 \otimes D \to 0, \qquad \text{if } a = 2, \tag{2.5}$$

$$0 \to V_{a-2} \otimes D \to \frac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}} \to V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \to 0, \quad \text{if } 3 \leq a \leq p-1, \tag{2.6}$$

and the sequences split if and only if $a = 2$.

Proof. We use [G78, (4.1)] to get that $V_r^*/V_r^{**} \cong (V_{r-p-1}/V_{r-p-1}^*) \otimes D$. Since $p \leq r-p-1$ by hypothesis, we apply Proposition 2.1 to deduce the Γ-module structure of $(V_{r-p-1}/V_{r-p-1}^*) \otimes D$. □

The following lemma will be used many times throughout the article to determine if certain polynomials $F \in V_r$ are divisible by θ or θ^2. We skip the proof since it is elementary.

LEMMA 2.3. *Suppose* $F(X,Y) = \sum_{0\le j\le r} c_j \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \in \mathbb{F}_p[X,Y]$ *is such that* $c_j \neq 0$ *implies* $j \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, *for some fixed* $a \in \{1,2,\cdots,p-1\}$. *Then*

(i) $F \in V_r^*$ *if and only if* $c_0 = c_r = 0$ *and* $\sum_j c_j = 0$ *in* $\mathbb{F}_p$.

(ii) $F \in V_r^{**}$ *if and only if* $c_0 = c_1 = c_{r-1} = c_r = 0$ *and* $\sum_j c_j = \sum_j j c_j = 0$ *in* $\mathbb{F}_p$.

2.4. REDUCTION OF BINOMIAL COEFFICIENTS. In this article, the mod p reductions of binomial coefficients play a very important role. We will repeatedly use the following theorem and often refer to it as Lucas' theorem, as it was proved by E. Lucas in 1878.

THEOREM 2.4. *For any prime* p, *let* m *and* n *be two non-negative integers with* p*-adic expansions* $m = m_k p^k + m_{k-1}p^{k-1} + \cdots + m_0$ *and* $n = n_k p^k + n_{k-1}p^{k-1} + \cdots + n_0$ *respectively. Then* $\binom{m}{n} \equiv \binom{m_k}{n_k}\cdot\binom{m_{k-1}}{n_{k-1}}\cdots\binom{m_0}{n_0} \mod p$, *with the convention that* $\binom{a}{b} = 0$, *if* $b > a$.

The following elementary congruence mod p will also be used in the text. For any $i \ge 0$,

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} k^i \equiv \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } i = n(p-1), \text{ for some } n \ge 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise (including the case } i = 0, \text{ as } 0^0 = 1). \end{cases}$$

This follows from the following frequently used fact in characteristic zero. For any $i \ge 0$,

$$\sum_{\lambda\in\mathbb{F}_p} [\lambda]^i = \begin{cases} p, & \text{if } i = 0, \\ p-1, & \text{if } i = n(p-1) \text{ for some } n \ge 1, \\ 0, & \text{if } (p-1) \nmid i, \end{cases} \tag{2.7}$$

where $[\lambda] \in \mathbb{Z}_p$ is the Teichmüller representative of $\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p$.
We now state some important congruences, leaving the proofs to the reader as exercises. These technical lemmas are used in checking the criteria given in Lemma 2.3, and also in constructing functions $f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$ with certain desired properties (cf. §7, §8 and §9).

LEMMA 2.5. *For* $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, *with* $1 \le a \le p-1$, *we have*

$$S_r := \sum_{\substack{0<j<r,\\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} \equiv 0 \mod p.$$

Moreover, we have $\frac{1}{p}S_r \equiv \frac{a-r}{a} \mod p$, *for* $p > 2$.

Lemma 2.6. *Let $r \equiv b \mod (p-1)$, with $2 \le b \le p$. Then we have*

$$T_r := \sum_{\substack{0< j < r-1,\\ j \equiv b-1 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} \equiv b - r \mod p.$$

Lemma 2.7. *Let $p \ge 3$, $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, i.e., $b = p$ with the notation above. If $p \mid r$, then*

$$S_r := \sum_{\substack{1< j < r,\\ j \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} = \sum_{\substack{0< j < r-1,\\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} \equiv (p - r) \mod p^2.$$

3. The case $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$

In this section, we compute the Jordan-Hölder (JH) factors of Q as a Γ-module, when $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$. This is the case $a = 1$ and $b = p$, with the notation above.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $p \ge 3$, $r > 1$ and let $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$.*

(i) *If $p \nmid r$, then $X_r^*/X_r^{**} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$, as a Γ-module.*
(ii) *If $p \mid r$, then $X_r^*/X_r^{**} = 0$.*

Proof. (i) Consider the polynomial $F(X,Y) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{F}_p} (kX + Y)^r \in X_r$. We have

$$F(X,Y) = \sum_{j=0}^{r} \binom{r}{j} \cdot \sum_{k \in \mathbb{F}_p} k^{r-j} \cdot X^{r-j} Y^j \equiv \sum_{\substack{0 \le j < r,\\ j \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)}} -\binom{r}{j} \cdot X^{r-j} Y^j \mod p.$$

The sum of the coefficients of $F(X,Y)$ is congruent to $0 \mod p$, by Lemma 2.5. Applying Lemma 2.3, we get that $F(X,Y) \in V_r^*$. As $p \nmid r$, the coefficient of $X^{r-1}Y$ in $F(X,Y)$ is $-r \not\equiv 0 \mod p$. Hence $F(X,Y) \notin V_r^{**}$ and so $F(X,Y)$ has non-zero image in X_r^*/X_r^{**}. For $r = 2p-1$, we have $0 \ne X_r^*/X_r^{**} \subseteq V_r^*/V_r^{**} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$, which is irreducible and the result follows. If $r \ge 3p-2$, then V_r^*/V_r^{**} has dimension $p+1$, but [G78, (4.5)] implies that $\dim X_r^* \lneq \dim X_r \le p+1$. So we have $0 \ne X_r^*/X_r^{**} \subsetneq V_r^*/V_r^{**}$. Now it follows from Proposition 2.2 that $X_r^*/X_r^{**} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$.

(ii) Write $r = p^n u$, where $n \ge 1$ and $p \nmid u$. The map $\iota : X_u \to X_r$, defined by $\iota(H(X,Y)) := H(X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n})$, is a well-defined M-linear surjection from X_u to X_r. It is also an injection, as $H(X^{p^n}, Y^{p^n}) = H(X,Y)^{p^n} \in \mathbb{F}_p[X,Y]$. Hence the M-isomorphism $\iota : X_u \to X_r$ must take X_u^*, the largest singular submodule of X_u, isomorphically to X_r^*.
If $u = 1$, then $X_r^* \cong X_u^* = 0$, so $X_r^* = X_r^{**}$ follows trivially. If $u > 1$, then as $p \nmid u \equiv r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, we get $u \ge 2p-1$ and $V_u^* \cong V_{u-p-1} \otimes D$. For any $F \in X_r^*$, we have $F = \iota(H)$, for some $H \in X_u^*$. Writing $H = \theta H'$ with $H' \in V_{u-p-1}$, we get $F = \iota(H) = (\theta H')^{p^n}$. As $n \ge 1$, clearly θ^2 divides F. Therefore $X_r^* \subseteq V_r^{**}$, equivalently $X_r^* = X_r^{**}$. □

The p-adic expansion of $r-1$ will play an important role in our study of the module X_{r-1}. Write

$$r-1 = r_m p^m + r_{m-1}p^{m-1} + \cdots r_i p^i, \tag{3.1}$$

where $r_j \in \{0, 1, \cdots, p-1\}$, $m \geq i$ and r_m, $r_i \neq 0$. If $i > 0$, then we let $r_j = 0$, for $0 \leq j \leq i-1$.
With the notation introduced in Section 2.3, we have $a = 1$, so $\Sigma_p(r-1) \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$. Excluding the case $r = 1$, note that the smallest possible value of $\Sigma_p(r-1)$ is $p-1$. Also recall that the dimension of X_{r-1} is bounded above by $2p+2$ and a standard generating set is given by $\{X^r, Y^r, X(kX+Y)^{r-1}, (X+lY)^{r-1}Y : k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$, over $\mathbb{F}_p$.

LEMMA 3.2. *For $p \geq 2$, if $p \leq r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$ and $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) = p-1$, then*

$$\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} X(kX+Y)^{r-1} \equiv -X^r \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{l=0}^{p-1} (X+lY)^{r-1}Y \equiv -Y^r \mod p.$$

As a consequence, $\dim X_{r-1} \leq 2p$.

Proof. It is enough to show one of the congruences, since the other will then follow by applying the matrix $w = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ to it. We compute that

$$F(X,Y) = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} X(kX+Y)^{r-1} \equiv \sum_{\substack{0<s<r \\ s \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} -\binom{r-1}{s} \cdot X^{s+1}Y^{r-1-s} \mod p.$$

We claim that if $0 < s < r-1$ and $s \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$, then $\binom{r-1}{s} \equiv 0 \mod p$. The claim implies that $F(X,Y) \equiv -\binom{r-1}{r-1} \cdot X^r \equiv -X^r \mod p$, as required.
Proof of claim: Let $s = s_m p^m + \cdots + s_1 p + s_0$ be the p-adic expansion of $s < r-1$, where m is as in the expansion (3.1) above. Since $s \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$, we have $\Sigma_p(s) \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$ too. If $\binom{r-1}{s} \not\equiv 0 \mod p$, then by Lucas' theorem $0 \leq s_j \leq r_j$, for all j. Taking the sum, we get that $0 \leq \Sigma_p(s) \leq \Sigma = p-1$. But since $s > 0$, $\Sigma_p(s)$ has to be a strictly positive multiple of $p-1$, and so it is $p-1$. Hence $s_j = r_j$, for all $j \leq m$, and we have $s = r-1$, which is a contradiction. □

We observe that $p \mid r$ if and only if $r_0 = p-1$ in (3.1). Therefore if $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) = r_0 + \cdots + r_m = p-1$, then the condition $p \mid r$ is equivalent to $r = p$. Our next proposition treats the case $\Sigma = p-1$, and to avoid the possibility of p dividing r, we exclude the case $r = p$. The fact that $p \nmid r$ will be used crucially in the proof. This does not matter, as eventually we wish to compute Q for $r \geq 2p+1$.

PROPOSITION 3.3. *For $p \geq 2$, if $p < r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$ and $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) = p-1$, then*

(i) *$X_{r-1} \cong V_{2p-1}$ as an M-module, and the M-module structure of X_r is given by*

$$0 \to V_{p-2} \otimes D \to X_r \to V_1 \to 0.$$

(ii) $X^*_{r-1} = X^*_r \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ *and* $X^{**}_{r-1} = X^{**}_r = 0$.
(iii) *For* $r > 2p$, Q *has only one JH factor* V_1, *as a* Γ*-module.*

Proof. It is easy to check that $\{S(kS+T)^{2p-2}, (S+lT)^{2p-2}T : k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ gives a basis of V_{2p-1} over $\mathbb{F}_p$. We define an $\mathbb{F}_p$-linear map $\eta : V_{2p-1} \to X_{r-1}$, by

$$\eta\left(S(kS+T)^{2p-2}\right) = X(kX+Y)^{r-1}, \quad \eta\left((S+lT)^{2p-2}T\right) = (X+lY)^{r-1}Y,$$

for $k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p$. Note that for $r \leq p^2 - p + 1$, the map η is the same as the one used in the proof of [GG15, Prop. 6]. We claim that η is in fact an M-linear injection. By Lemma 3.2, we have

$$\eta(S^{2p-1}) = X^r, \ \ \eta(T^{2p-1}) = Y^r. \tag{3.2}$$

The M-linearity can be checked on the basis elements of V_{2p-1} above by an elementary computation which uses the fact that $r - 1 \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$ and (3.2), so we leave it to the reader.
As a Γ-module, $\mathrm{soc}(V_{2p-1}) = V^*_{2p-1} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ is irreducible. Therefore if $\ker \eta \neq 0$, then it must contain the submodule V^*_{2p-1}. Consider

$$H(S,T) = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} k & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right) \cdot S^{2p-1} = (S^pT - ST^p)S^{p-2} \in V^*_{2p-1}.$$

By M-linearity, we have $\eta(H) = F(X,Y) \in X^*_r \backslash X^{**}_r$, where F is as in the proof of Lemma 3.1 (i). In particular, this shows that $H \notin \ker \eta$. As $V^*_{2p-1} \nsubseteq \ker \eta$, we have $\ker \eta = 0$.
Thus $\eta : V_{2p-1} \to X_{r-1}$ is an injective M-linear map. By Lemma 3.2, $\dim X_{r-1} \leq 2p = \dim V_{2p-1}$, forcing η to be an isomorphism. Therefore the largest singular submodule X^*_{r-1} inside X_{r-1} has to be isomorphic to $V^*_{2p-1} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$, the largest singular submodule of V_{2p-1}. Then Lemma 3.1 (i) implies that X^*_r is a non-zero submodule of $X^*_{r-1} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$, which is irreducible. So we must have $X^*_r = X^*_{r-1}$. Again by Lemma 3.1 (i), $X^{**}_{r-1} (\supseteq X^{**}_r)$ is a proper submodule of X^*_{r-1}. Hence $X^{**}_{r-1} = X^{**}_r = 0$.
Since $\dim(X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1}) = p + 1 = \dim(V_r/V^*_r)$, the rightmost module in the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) is 0. As the dimension of X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} is $p-1$, the leftmost module must have dimension 2. It has to be V_1, as the short exact sequence (2.4) does not split for $p \geq 3$. For $p = 2$ and $r \geq 5$, the only two-dimensional quotient of V^*_r/V^{**}_r is V_1, as one checks that $V^*_r/V^{**}_r \cong V_1 \oplus V_0$. Hence we get $Q \cong V_1$ as a Γ-module. □

The next lemma about the dimension of X_{r-1} is a special case of Lemma 4.2, proved at the beginning of Section 4.

Lemma 3.4. *For* $p \geq 2$, *suppose* $p \nmid r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$. *If* $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) > p-1$, *then* $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$.

Lemma 3.5. *For any* r, *if* $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$, *then* $\dim X_r = p+1$.

Proof. Suppose X_r has dimension smaller than $p+1$. Then the standard spanning set of X_r is linearly dependent, i.e., there exist constants $A, c_k \in \mathbb{F}_p$, for

$k \in \{0, 1, \ldots, p-1\}$, not all zero, such that $AX^r + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} c_k(kX+Y)^r = 0$, which implies that

$$AX^r + c_0Y^r + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} kc_kX(kX+Y)^{r-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} c_k k^{r-1}(X+k^{-1}Y)^{r-1}Y = 0.$$

But this shows that the standard spanning set $\{X^r, Y^r, X(kX+Y)^{r-1}, (X+lY)^{r-1}Y : k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ of X_{r-1} is linearly dependent, contradicting the hypothesis $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$. □

For any r, let us set $r' := r-1$. The trick introduced in [GG15] of using the structure of $X_{r'} \subseteq V_{r'}$ to study $X_{r-1} \subseteq V_r$ via the map ϕ described below, turns out to be very useful in general.

LEMMA 3.6. *There exists an M-linear surjection $\phi : X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \twoheadrightarrow X_{r-1}$.*

Proof. The map $\phi_{r',1} : V_{r'} \otimes V_1 \twoheadrightarrow V_r$ sending $u \otimes v \mapsto uv$, for $u \in V_{r'}$ and $v \in V_1$, is M-linear by [G78, (5.1)]. Let ϕ be its restriction to the M-submodule $X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \subseteq V_{r'} \otimes V_1$. The module $X_{r'} \otimes V_1$ is generated by $X^{r'} \otimes X$ and $X^{r'} \otimes Y$, which map to X^r and $X^{r-1}Y \in X_{r-1}$ respectively. So the image of ϕ lands in $X_{r-1} \subseteq V_r$. The surjectivity follows as $X^{r-1}Y$ generates X_{r-1}. □

LEMMA 3.7. *For $p \geq 3$, if $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, with $\Sigma_p(r') > p-1$, then*

(i) *$X^{**}_{r'} = X^*_{r'}$ has dimension 1 over $\mathbb{F}_p$. In fact, it is M-isomorphic to D^{p-1}.*
(ii) *$\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq V^{**}_r$ and $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$.*

Proof. Consider $F(X,Y) := X^{r'} + \sum_{k \in \mathbb{F}_p} (kX+Y)^{r'} \in X_{r'} \subseteq V_{r'}$. It is easy to see that

$$F(X,Y) \equiv - \sum_{\substack{0<j<r' \\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r'}{j} X^{r'-j}Y^j \mod p.$$

Using Lemmas 2.3 and 2.5 we check that $F(X,Y) \in V^{**}_{r'}$, for $p \geq 3$. Since $\Sigma_p(r') > p-1$ or equivalently $\Sigma_p(r') \geq 2p-2$, using Lucas' theorem one can show that at least one of the coefficients $\binom{r'}{j}$ above is non-zero mod p. So we have $0 \neq F(X,Y) \in X^{**}_{r'} \subseteq X^*_{r'}$. Since $r' \equiv p-1 \mod (p-1)$, [G78, (4.5)] gives the following short exact sequence of M-modules:

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \to X_{r'} \to V_{p-1} \to 0. \tag{3.3}$$

As $\dim X_{r'} \leq p+1$ and $X^{**}_{r'} \neq 0$, we must have $\dim X^{**}_{r'} = \dim X^*_{r'} = 1$. Hence $X^{**}_{r'} = X^*_{r'} \cong D^n$, for some $n \geq 1$. Checking the action of diagonal matrices on $F(X,Y)$, we get $n = p-1$.

As $X^{**}_{r'} = X^*_{r'}$, each element of $X^*_{r'}$ is divisible by θ^2. Therefore it follows from the definition of the map ϕ that $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq V^{**}_r$. For any non-zero $F \in X^*_{r'}$, note that $\phi(F \otimes X) = FX \neq 0$. We know that $X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \cong$

$V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$ is irreducible of dimension 2 and its image under ϕ is non-zero. Hence $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \subseteq X_{r-1}$. □

Proposition 3.8. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $p \nmid r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$. If $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) > p-1$, then*

(i) *The M-module structures of X_{r-1} and X_r are given by the exact sequences*

$$0 \to V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X_{r-1} \to V_{2p-1} \to 0,$$
$$0 \to V_{p-2} \otimes D \to X_r \to V_1 \to 0.$$

(ii) $X^*_r \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ *and* $X^*_{r-1} \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \oplus V_{p-2} \otimes D$.
(iii) $X^{**}_r = 0$ *and* $X^{**}_{r-1} \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$.
(iv) $Q \cong V_1$ *as a Γ-module.*

Proof. By Lemma 3.4, $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$, so by Lemma 3.6, we must have $\dim X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \geq 2p+2$. This forces $X_{r'}$ to have its highest possible dimension, namely, $p+1$. Thus the M-map $\phi : X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \twoheadrightarrow X_{r-1}$ is actually an isomorphism. Tensoring the short exact sequence (3.3) by V_1, we get the exact sequence

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \to X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \to V_{p-1} \otimes V_1 \to 0.$$

The middle module is M-isomorphic to X_{r-1}, and the rightmost module is M-isomorphic to V_{2p-1}, by [G78, (5.3)]. Thus the exact sequence reduces to

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \to X_{r-1} \to V_{2p-1} \to 0, \tag{3.4}$$

where $X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$, by Lemma 3.7 (i). Since M-linear maps must take singular submodules to singular submodules, the above sequence gives rise to the following exact sequence

$$0 \to V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X^*_{r-1} \to V^*_{2p-1} \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D. \tag{3.5}$$

The rightmost module above is irreducible, so the map $X^*_{r-1} \to V_{p-2} \otimes D$ is either the zero map or it is a surjection. By Lemma 3.5, $\dim X_r = p+1$ and so by [G78, (4.5)], we have $\dim X^*_r = p-1$. By Lemma 3.1 (i), we get $X^{**}_r = 0$ and $X^*_r \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ must be a JH factor of X^*_{r-1}. Therefore the rightmost map above must be surjective, as otherwise $X^*_{r-1} \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$. So we have

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X^*_{r-1} \to V_{p-2} \otimes D \to 0. \tag{3.6}$$

Thus X^*_{r-1} has two JH factors, of dimensions 2 and $p-1$ respectively. Moreover, since $X^*_r \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ is a submodule of X^*_{r-1}, the sequence above must split, and we must have

$$X^*_{r-1} = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \oplus X^*_r \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \oplus V_{p-2} \otimes D.$$

Knowing the structure of X^*_{r-1} as above, next we want to see how the submodule X^{**}_{r-1} sits inside it. By Lemma 3.7 (ii), we have $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq V^{**}_r$, on the other hand $X_r \cap V^{**}_r = X^{**}_r = 0$. Therefore $X^{**}_{r-1} = X^*_{r-1} \cap V^{**}_r = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \cong V_1 \otimes D^{p-1}$ has dimension 2.

Now we count the dimension $\dim Q = 2p + 2 - \dim X_{r-1} + \dim X^{**}_{r-1} = 2$. The final statement $Q \cong V_1$ follows from Diagram (2.2) as in the proof of Proposition 3.3. □

Thus we know Q is isomorphic to V_1 whenever r is prime to p. Next we treat the case p divides r. Since $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, we see that r can be a pure p-power. We will show that Q has two JH factors as a Γ-module, irrespective of whether r is a p-power or not. The following result about $\dim X_{r-1}$ when $p \mid r$ is stated without proof, as it follows from the more general Lemma 4.3 in Section 4.

LEMMA 3.9. *Let $p \geq 2$ and $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \mid r$ but r is not a pure p-power, then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p + 2$.*

LEMMA 3.10. *For $p \geq 2$ and $r = p^n$, with $n \geq 2$, we have $\dim X_{r-1} = p + 3$.*

Proof. We know that $\Gamma = B \sqcup BwB$, where $B \subseteq \Gamma$ is the subgroup of upper-triangular matrices, and $w = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$. Using this decomposition and the fact that $r = p^n$, one can see that the $\mathbb{F}_p[\Gamma]$-span of $X^{r-1}Y \in V_r$ is generated by the set $\{X^r, X^{r-1}Y, Y^r, X(kX+Y)^{r-1} : k \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ over $\mathbb{F}_p$. We will show that this generating set is linearly independent. Suppose that

$$AX^r + BY^r + DX^{r-1}Y + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} c_k X(kX+Y)^{r-1} = 0,$$

where $A, B, D, c_k \in \mathbb{F}_p$, for each k. Clearly, it is enough to show that $c_k = 0$, for each $k \in \mathbb{F}_p^*$. Since $r - 1 = p^n - 1$ for some $n \geq 2$, Lucas' theorem says that $\binom{r-1}{i} \not\equiv 0 \mod p$, for $0 \leq i \leq r-1$. As $r - p \geq 2$, equating the coefficients of $X^i Y^{r-i}$ on both sides, for $2 \leq i \leq p$, we get that $\sum_{k=1}^{p-1} c_k k^{i-1} \equiv 0 \mod p$. The non-vanishing of the Vandermonde determinant now shows that $c_k = 0$, for all $k \in \mathbb{F}_p^*$. □

Remark 3.11. Note that the proof does not work for $r = p$, since we need $r - p \geq 2$. Also the lemma is trivially false for $r = p$, because then $X_{r-1} \subseteq V_r$ must have dimension $\leq p + 1$.

The next proposition describes the structure of Q for $p \mid r$. Note that if $r > p$ is a multiple of p, then for $r' = r - 1$, we have $\Sigma_p(r') > p - 1$, so we can apply Lemma 3.7.

PROPOSITION 3.12. *For $p \geq 3$, let $r\,(> p)$ be a multiple of p such that $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$.*

(i) *If $r = p^n$ with $n \geq 2$, then $X^*_r = X^{**}_r = 0$ and $X^*_{r-1} = X^{**}_{r-1}$ has dimension 2.*
(ii) *If r is not a pure p-power, then $X^*_r = X^{**}_r \cong V_{p-2} \otimes D$ and $X^*_{r-1} = X^{**}_{r-1}$ has dimension $p + 1$.*
(iii) *In either case, Q is a non-trivial extension of V_1 by $V_{p-2} \otimes D$, as a Γ-module.*

Proof. (i) By Lemma 3.7, $\dim X^*_{r'} = 1$ and $\dim X_{r'} = p+1$ by [G78, (4.5)]. By Lemma 3.10, $\dim X_{r-1} = p+3$. By Lemma 3.6, we get a surjection $\phi : X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \twoheadrightarrow X_{r-1}$, with a non-zero kernel of dimension $2(p+1)-(p+3) = p-1$. Note that $W := \dfrac{X_{r-1}}{\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1)}$ is a quotient of $(X_{r'}/X^*_{r'}) \otimes V_1$, which is M-isomorphic to V_{2p-1} by [G78, (4.5), (5.3)]. We have the exact sequence of M-modules

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} X_{r-1} \to W \to 0.$$

Restricting it to the maximal singular submodules, we get the exact sequence

$$0 \to X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} X^*_{r-1} \to W^*,$$

where W^* denotes the largest singular submodule of W. By Lemmas 3.10 and 3.7 (ii), we get $\dim W = (p+3) - 2 = p+1$. Being a $(p+1)$-dimensional quotient of V_{2p-1}, W must be M-isomorphic to V_{2p-1}/V^*_{2p-1}.
By [G78, (4.6)], W has a unique non-zero minimal submodule, namely,

$$W' = \left(X_{2p-1} + V^*_{2p-1}\right)/V^*_{2p-1}.$$

Note that the singular matrix $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ acts trivially on X^{2p-1}, which is non-zero in W'. Thus the unique minimal submodule W' is non-singular, so $W^* = 0$, giving us an M-isomorphism $X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} X^*_{r-1}$. Now by Lemma 3.7 (ii), $X^*_{r-1} = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) = X^{**}_{r-1}$ has dimension 2.

(ii) If $r = p^n u$ for some $n \geq 1$ and $p \nmid u \geq 2p-1$, then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$, by Lemma 3.9. We have shown in the proof of Lemma 3.1 (ii) that $X^*_r = X^{**}_r \cong X^*_u$, which is isomorphic to $V_{p-2} \otimes D$, as $p \nmid u$ (cf. Propositions 3.3 and 3.8). We proceed exactly as in the proof of Proposition 3.8, to get that $X^*_{r-1} \cong \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \oplus X^*_r$ has dimension $p+1$. By Lemma 3.7, we know $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq V^{**}_r$. Thus both the summands of X^*_{r-1} are contained in V^{**}_r. Hence $X^{**}_{r-1} := X^*_{r-1} \cap V^{**}_r = X^*_{r-1}$.

(iii) Using part (i), (ii) above and Lemmas 3.9, 3.10, we count that $\dim(X_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1}) = p+1$. Hence $\dim Q = 2p+2-\dim X_{r-1}+\dim X^{**}_{r-1} = p+1$. Since $X^*_{r-1} = X^{**}_{r-1}$, the natural map $V^*_r/V^{**}_r \to Q$ is injective, hence an isomorphism by dimension count. Now the Γ-module structure of Q follows from the short exact sequence (2.4). □

Note that in the course of studying the structure of Q, we have derived the complete structure of the M-submodule $X_{r-1} \subseteq V_r$, for $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, summarized as follows:

Proposition 3.13. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > p$, and $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$.*

(i) *If $\Sigma_p(r-1) = p-1$ (so $p \nmid r$), then $X_{r-1} \cong V_{2p-1}$ as an M-module.*
(ii) *If $\Sigma_p(r-1) > p-1$ and $r \neq p^n$, then we have a short exact sequence of M-modules*

$$0 \to V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X_{r-1} \to V_{2p-1} \to 0.$$

(iii) *If $r = p^n$, for some $n \geq 2$ (so $\Sigma_p(r-1) > p-1$), then we have a short exact sequence of M-modules*

$$0 \to V_1 \otimes D^{p-1} \to X_{r-1} \to W \to 0,$$

where $W \cong V_{2p-1}/V_{2p-1}^*$ is a non-trivial extension of $V_{p-2} \otimes D$ by V_1.

4. Structure of X_{r-1}

In this section we study the M-submodule X_{r-1} of V_r generated by $X^{r-1}Y$, for r lying in any congruence class a modulo $(p-1)$. Recall that X_r is the M-submodule of V_r generated by X^r. For $r \leq p-1$, we have $X_r = X_{r-1} = V_r$, since V_r is irreducible. We begin with the following easily proved lemma showing that outside this small range of r, the module X_r is properly contained in X_{r-1}.

LEMMA 4.1. *For any $p \geq 2$, if $r \geq p$, then $X_r \subsetneq X_{r-1}$.*

The following lemma is valid for r lying in any congruence class $a \mod (p-1)$, with $1 \leq a \leq p-1$.

LEMMA 4.2. *Let $p \geq 2$, $r \geq 2p+1$ and $p \nmid r$. If $\Sigma := \Sigma_p(r-1) \geq p$, then* $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$.

Proof. We claim that the spanning set $\{X^r, Y^r, X(kX+Y)^{r-1}, (X+lY)^{r-1}Y : k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p\}$ of X_{r-1} is linearly independent. Suppose there exist constants $A, B, c_k, d_l \in \mathbb{F}_p$, for $k, l = 0, 1, \cdots, p-1$, satisfying the equation

$$AX^r + BY^r + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} c_k X(kX+Y)^{r-1} + \sum_{l=0}^{p-1} d_l (X+lY)^{r-1}Y = 0. \tag{4.1}$$

We want to show that $A = B = c_k = d_l = 0$, for all $k, l \in \mathbb{F}_p$. It is enough to show that $c_k = d_l = 0$, for all $k, l \neq 0$, since that implies that $AX^r + BY^r + c_0 XY^{r-1} + d_0 X^{r-1}Y = 0$, hence $A = B = c_0 = d_0 = 0$ too. As the matrix $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ flips the coefficients c_k's to d_l's in (4.1), it is enough to show that $d_l = 0$, for each $l = 1, 2, \cdots, p-1$. Let us define, for $i, j \geq 0$,

$$C_i := \sum_{k=1}^{p-1} c_k k^i, \;\; D_j := \sum_{l=1}^{p-1} d_l l^j.$$

Note that C_i, D_j depend only on the congruence classes of $i, j \mod (p-1)$. By the non-vanishing of the Vandermonde determinant, if $D_1 = D_2 = \cdots = D_{p-1} = 0$, then $(d_1, \cdots, d_{p-1}) = (0, \cdots, 0)$. Thus the proof reduces to showing that $D_t = 0$, for $1 \leq t \leq p-1$.
Comparing the coefficients of $X^{r-t-1}Y^{t+1}$ on both sides of (4.1), we get

$$\binom{r-1}{t+1} C_{r-2-t} + \binom{r-1}{t} D_t = 0, \text{ for } 1 \leq t \leq r-3. \tag{4.2}$$

Let $r-1 = r_m p^m + \cdots + r_1 p + r_0$, as in (3.1), with r_i being the rightmost non-zero coefficient. Note that $0 \leq r_0 < p-1$, as by hypothesis $p \nmid r$.

We will first consider the D_t's with $1 \leq t < r_i$. Suppose $r_0 = 0$, then for $1 \leq t < r_i$, choose $t' := tp^i$. Clearly $r - 3 \geq t' \equiv t \mod (p-1)$, so we apply it to equation (4.2), to get $D_{t'} = D_t = 0$, since $\binom{r-1}{t'+1} \equiv 0 \not\equiv \binom{r-1}{t'} \mod p$, by Lucas' theorem. If $r_0 \neq 0$, i.e., $r_i = r_0$, let $i' > 0$ be the smallest positive integer such that $r_{i'} \neq 0$. Then we choose $t' := t + p^{i'} - 1 \equiv t \mod (p-1)$ and check that $t' \leq r - 3$. Now equation (4.2) gives us the following two linear equations:

$$\binom{r-1}{t+1} C_{r-2-t} + \binom{r-1}{t} D_t = 0,$$
$$\binom{r-1}{t'+1} C_{r-2-t} + \binom{r-1}{t'} D_t = 0.$$

The determinant of the corresponding matrix is congruent to

$$\begin{aligned}\binom{r_0}{t+1}\binom{r_{i'}}{1}\binom{r_0}{t-1} - \binom{r_0}{t}\binom{r_{i'}}{1}\binom{r_0}{t} \\ \equiv -\binom{r_{i'}}{1}\binom{r_0}{t-1}\binom{r_0}{t} \cdot \frac{r_0+1}{t(t+1)} \quad \not\equiv 0 \mod p,\end{aligned}$$

since we have $0 < r_0 + 1, r_{i'} \leq p - 1$. This shows that $D_t = C_{r-2-t} = 0$.
Next we deal with the D_t's, for $r_i \leq t \leq p-1$. As $\Sigma = r_i + r_{i+1} + \cdots + r_m \geq p$, we can write t as $t = r_i + s_{i+1} + \cdots + s_m$, with $0 \leq s_j \leq r_j$, for all j. Let us choose $t' := r_i p^i + s_{i+1} p^{i+1} + \cdots + s_m p^m$, clearly $t' \equiv t \mod (p-1)$. We observe that since $t = r_i + s_{i+1} + \cdots + s_m \leq p - 1 < p \leq \sum_{j=i}^{m} r_j = \Sigma$, there must exist at least one $j > i$, such that $s_j < r_j$. This implies that $t' \leq r - 1 - p^j \leq r - 1 - p^{i+1} \leq r - 3$. By our choice of t', we have $t' + 1 \equiv r_0 + 1 \mod p$, with $0 \leq r_0 < r_0 + 1 \leq p - 1$, as $r_0 < p - 1$. Hence $\binom{r-1}{t'+1} \equiv 0 \mod p$, by Lucas' theorem. Also note that $\binom{r-1}{t'} \equiv \binom{r_i}{r_i}\binom{r_{i+1}}{s_{i+1}} \cdots \binom{r_m}{s_m} \not\equiv 0 \mod p$. Now using (4.2) for t', we get $D_{t'} = D_t = 0$.
Thus we conclude $D_t = 0$, for all $t = 1, 2, \cdots, p-1$. □

Lemma 4.3. *Let $p \geq 2$, $r = p^n u$ with $n \geq 1$ and $p \nmid u$, and say $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $1 \leq a \leq p-1$. If $\Sigma := \Sigma_p(u-1) > a - 1$, then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p + 2$.*

Proof. We skip the details of this proof as the basic idea is the same as that of Lemma 4.2. □

Remark 4.4. The special cases $a = 1$ of the two lemmas above have been used in Section 3. Thus the proof of the structure of X_{r-1}, for $a = 1$, becomes complete now. Next we will study the module X_{r-1}, for r lying in higher congruence classes, i.e., for $2 \leq a \leq p - 1$. The structure of X_{r-1} for $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$ will be used as the first step of an inductive process. Note that the condition $2 \leq a \leq p - 1$ implies that the prime p under consideration is odd.

In spite of the lemmas above, the module X_{r-1} often has small dimension, as we are going to show below. The next lemma is complementary to Lemma 4.2, for $a \geq 2$. Note that the condition $\Sigma_p(r-1) = a-1$ forces r to be prime to p.

LEMMA 4.5. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > p$ and let $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $2 \leq a \leq p-1$. If $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) = a-1$, then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2a$. In fact, $X_r \cong V_a$ and $X_{r-1} \cong V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a$ as M-modules.*

Proof. Write $r' = r-1 = r_m p^m + r_{m-1}p^{m-1} + \cdots r_1 p + r_0$, where each $r_i \in \{0, 1, \cdots, p-1\}$ and $r_0 + \cdots + r_m = a-1$, by hypothesis. For any $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_p$, we have

$$(\alpha X + \beta Y)^{r'} \equiv (\alpha X^{p^m} + \beta Y^{p^m})^{r_m} \cdots (\alpha X^p + \beta Y^p)^{r_1} \cdot (\alpha X + \beta Y)^{r_0} \mod p.$$

Considering this as a polynomial in α and β, we get that

$$(\alpha X + \beta Y)^{r'} = \sum_{i=0}^{a-1} \alpha^i \beta^{a-1-i} F_i(X, Y),$$

where the polynomials F_i are independent of α and β. Hence $X_{r'}$ is contained in the $\mathbb{F}_p$-span of the polynomials $F_0, F_1, \ldots, F_{a-1}$. Thus $\dim(X_{r'}) \leq a$. But by [G78, (4.5)], we know $X_{r'}/X^*_{r'} \cong V_{a-1}$, hence $X_{r'} \cong V_{a-1}$ and $X^*_{r'} = 0$. By [G78, (5.2)] and Lemma 3.6, we have the surjection

$$X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \cong V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a \xrightarrow{\phi} X_{r-1}. \tag{4.3}$$

By [G78, (4.5)], we know that V_a is a quotient of X_r. In fact, by an argument similar to the one just given for $X_{r'}$, we have $X_r \cong V_a$ and $X^*_r = 0$, since $\Sigma_p(r) = a$. Now by Lemma 4.1, the surjection in (4.3) has to be an isomorphism. □

LEMMA 4.6. *For any $r > p$, let $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, for some $1 \leq a \leq p-1$. Then either $X^*_r = 0$ or $X^*_r \cong V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$ as an M-module.*

Proof. The statement for $a = 1$ is proved in Section 3 (cf. Propositions 3.3, 3.8, 3.12). Now we use the method of induction to prove it for $2 \leq a \leq p-1$. So assuming the statement for all congruence classes less than a, we want to prove it for $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$.

Recall that for $r = p^n u$ with $p \nmid u$, $X_u \cong X_r$, where the M-linear isomorphism is simply given by $F \mapsto F^{p^n}$, for any $F \in X_u$. So the largest singular submodules X^*_u and X^*_r are M-isomorphic. We also note that if $u < p$, then $X_u = V_u$ and $X^*_r = X^*_u = 0$. Thus without loss of generality we may assume that $u > p$ and $p \nmid r$, i.e., $r = u > p$. We denote $r' := r-1$, as usual. As $p \nmid r$ and $\Sigma \equiv a-1 \mod (p-1)$, r satisfies the hypothesis of either Lemma 4.5 or Lemma 4.2. So $\dim X_{r-1}$ is either $2a$ or $2p+2$ respectively. In the first case we know $X_r \cong V_a$, so $X^*_r = 0$ by [G78, (4.5)].

In the second case, Lemma 4.2, Lemma 3.5 and [G78, (4.5)] together tell us that $\dim X^*_r = p - a$. By Lemma 3.6, we have the M-map $\phi : X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \twoheadrightarrow X_{r-1}$. As $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$ in this case, $X_{r'}$ must have maximum possible dimension $p+1$, and hence $X^*_{r'} \neq 0$. By the induction hypothesis, we get

$X^*_{r'} \cong V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1}$. Counting dimensions we conclude that the map ϕ above must be an isomorphism. The short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \longrightarrow X_{r'} \otimes V_1 \longrightarrow V_{a-1} \otimes V_1 \longrightarrow 0$$

implies, by [G78, (5.2)], that we have

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \oplus V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a \longrightarrow 0,$$

giving the M-module structure of X_{r-1}.
The obvious choice for the $(p-a)$-dimensional subspace $X^*_r \subseteq X_{r-1}$ is $V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$. In the particular case when $2a = p+1$, we eliminate the possibility of X^*_r being isomorphic to $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ by using the fact that X_r is indecomposable as an M-module [G78, (4.6)], so X_r cannot be M-isomorphic to $V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a$. So $X^*_r \cong V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$, as desired. □

Recall that in the case $a = 1$, we have $X^*_r/X^{**}_r \neq 0$ if and only if $p \nmid r$, by Lemma 3.1. Our next lemma shows that, for all the higher congruence classes, $X^*_r/X^{**}_r = 0$ always.

Lemma 4.7. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r \geq 2p$ and $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$. If $2 \leq a \leq p-1$, then $X^*_r = X^{**}_r$.*

Proof. For $r = 2p$, one has $X_r \cong V_2$ and $X^*_r = 0$, so there is nothing to prove. So assume $r > 2p$. If $X^*_r/X^{**}_r \neq 0$, then by Lemma 4.6 we must have $X^*_r/X^{**}_r \cong V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$. But the short exact sequences (2.5) and (2.6) given by Proposition 2.2 tell us that $V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$ is not a Γ-submodule of V^*_r/V^{**}_r. This is a contradiction. □

The next lemma is complementary to Lemma 4.3 for $a \geq 2$ and is comparable to Lemma 3.10 for $a = 1$. It generates examples of X_{r-1} with relatively small dimension, under the hypothesis $p \mid r$.

Lemma 4.8. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and let p divide $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $2 \leq a \leq p-1$. Write $r = p^n u$, where $n \geq 1$ and $p \nmid u$. If $\Sigma_p(u-1) = a-1$, then $\dim X_{r-1} = a+p+2$.*

Proof. Since $p \mid r$, we have $p \nmid r' := r - 1 \equiv p - 1 \mod p$. As $r > p$, we know that $\Sigma_p(r'-1)$ is at least $p-1$. Since $\Sigma_p(r'-1) \equiv r'-1 \equiv a-2 \mod (p-1)$, we have $\Sigma_p(r'-1) \geq p+a-3$. If $a \geq 3$, then by Lemma 4.2 and Lemma 3.5 we get $\dim X_{r'} = p+1$. On the other hand if $a = 2$, then Propositions 3.3 and 3.8 show that $\dim X_{r'} = p+1$. In any case, $X^*_{r'} \neq 0$, by [G78, (4.5)]. Therefore $X^*_{r'} \cong V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1}$, by Lemma 4.6. Now using [G78, (4.5), (5.2)], we get

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \rightarrowtail & V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \oplus V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} & \rightarrowtail & X_{r'} \otimes V_1 & \twoheadrightarrow & V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a & \rightarrowtail & 0. \\ & & & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \phi} & & & & \\ & & & & X_{r-1} & & & & \end{array}$$

Since $r = p^n u$, we know that $X_u \cong X_r$. As $\Sigma_p(u-1) = a-1$, we have $X_u \cong V_a$, by Lemma 4.5 if $u > p$, and by the fact that $V_u = V_a$ is irreducible

if $u < p$. So $X_r \cong V_a$ has dimension $a+1 < p+1$, and Lemma 3.5 implies that $\dim X_{r-1} < 2p+2$. Hence all of the four JH factors of $X_{r'} \otimes V_1$ given above cannot occur in the quotient X_{r-1}. We will show that the last three JH factors, i.e., $V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$, $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ and V_a, always occur in X_{r-1}. Therefore $V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$ must die in X_{r-1}. Adding the dimensions of the JH factors we will get $\dim X_{r-1} = a+p+2$, as desired.

For $F(X,Y) \in V_m$, let $\delta_m(F) := F_X \otimes X + F_Y \otimes Y \in V_{m-1} \otimes V_1$, where F_X, F_Y are the usual partial derivatives of F. It is shown on [G78, p. 449] that the injection $V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \hookrightarrow (V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1}) \otimes V_1$ can be given by the map $\frac{1}{p-a+1} \cdot \delta_{p-a+1}$ ($\bar{\phi}$ in the notation of [G78]). So the monomial $X^{p-a+1} \in V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$ maps to the non-zero element $X^{p-a} \otimes X \in (V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1}) \otimes V_1$. Let $F \in X^*_{r'}$ be the image of X^{p-a} under the isomorphism $V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1} \xrightarrow{\sim} X^*_{r'}$. Then under the composition of maps

$$V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \hookrightarrow (V_{p-a} \otimes D^{a-1}) \otimes V_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} X_{r-1},$$

the monomial $X^{p-a+1} \mapsto X^{p-a} \otimes X \mapsto F \otimes X \mapsto X \cdot F \neq 0$ in X_{r-1}. This shows that $V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$ must be a JH factor of X_{r-1}.

Note that by hypothesis $r \equiv 0 \not\equiv a \mod p$. We refer to Lemma 6.1 in Section 6 to show that $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ is a JH factor of X_{r-1}, if $3 \leq a \leq p-1$. For $a = 2$, the hypothesis implies that r must be of the form $r = p^n(p^m+1)$ with $m+n \geq 2$. An elementary calculation using Lucas' theorem shows that in this case the M-linear map $X_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D$, sending $X^{r-1}Y \mapsto 1$, is well-defined. Thus $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ is a JH factor of X_{r-1} for all $a \geq 2$.

Finally, V_a is always a JH factor of X_{r-1}, by [G78, (4.5)]. □

We write $r = p^n u$, where $p \nmid u$ and $n \geq 0$ is an integer. Note that if $p \nmid r$, then u simply equals r, and $n = 0$. Clearly $u \equiv a \mod (p-1)$ as well, so the sum of the p-adic digits of $u-1$ lies in the congruence class $a-1 \mod (p-1)$. We denote this sum by $\Sigma := \Sigma_p(u-1)$. Then the M-module structure of X_{r-1} proved in this section can be summarized as follows:

PROPOSITION 4.9. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$, and $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $2 \leq a \leq p-1$. Then with the notation above*

(i) *If $\Sigma = a-1$ and $p \nmid r$ (i.e., $n = 0$), then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2a$ and as an M-module*

$$X_{r-1} \cong V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a.$$

(ii) *If $\Sigma = a-1$ and $p \mid r$ (i.e., $n > 0$), then $\dim X_{r-1} = a+p+2$, and we have the following exact sequence of M-modules*

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a \to 0.$$

(iii) *If $\Sigma > a-1$, or equivalently $\Sigma \geq p+a-2$, then $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$, and we have the following exact sequence of M-modules*

$$0 \to V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \oplus V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \to X_{r-1} \to V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a \to 0.$$

5. The case $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$

With the notation of Section 2.3, let $a = 2$. In particular, p will denote an odd prime throughout this section. By Proposition 2.2, we get $V_r^*/V_r^{**} \cong V_{p-1} \otimes D \oplus V_0 \otimes D$ as a Γ-module. For $r' := r-1$, we know by [G78, (4.5)] that $X_{r'}/X_{r'}^* \cong V_1$. As usual by Lemma 3.6 and [G78, (5.2)], we get the following commutative diagram of M-modules:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1 & \longrightarrow & X_{r'} \otimes V_1 & \longrightarrow & V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow{\scriptstyle \phi} & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & \phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) & \longrightarrow & X_{r-1} & \longrightarrow & \dfrac{X_{r-1}}{\phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1)} & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array} \tag{5.1}$$

Lemma 5.1. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \nmid r$, then there is an M-linear surjection*

$$X_{r-1}^*/X_{r-1}^{**} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D.$$

Proof. We claim that the following composition of maps is non-zero, hence surjective:

$$\frac{X_{r-1}^*}{X_{r-1}^{**}} \hookrightarrow \frac{V_r^*}{V_r^{**}} \cong \frac{V_{r-p-1}}{V_{r-p-1}^*} \otimes D \xrightarrow{\psi^{-1} \otimes \mathrm{id}} \frac{V_{2p-2}}{V_{2p-2}^*} \otimes D \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D,$$

where ψ is the M-isomorphism in [G78, (4.2)] and the rightmost surjection is induced from the Γ-linear map in [B03b, 5.3(ii)]. Indeed, one checks that under the above composition of maps, $F(X,Y) = X^{r-1}Y - XY^{r-1} \in X_{r-1}^*$ maps to $\frac{r-2p}{p-1} \in V_0 \otimes D$, which is non-zero, as $p \nmid r$. Note that the composition is automatically M-linear, as both its domain and range are singular modules. □

Lemma 5.2. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$, and $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \nmid r' := r-1$, then $\phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \subseteq X_{r-1}^*$, but $\phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \nsubseteq X_{r-1}^{**}$.*

Proof. The inclusion is obvious from the definition of the map ϕ. For the rest, note that $F(X,Y) := \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (kX+Y)^{r'} \in X_{r'}^*$, as shown in the proof of Lemma 3.1 (i). The coefficient of $X^{r-1}Y$ in $\phi(F \otimes X) = F(X,Y) \cdot X$ is the same as the coefficient of $X^{r'-1}Y$ in F, which is congruent to $-r' \mod p$. By hypothesis $p \nmid r'$, so θ^2 cannot divide $\phi(F \otimes X)$. Therefore $\phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \nsubseteq X_{r-1}^{**}$. □

Lemmas 5.1 and 5.2 will be used to study the Γ-module Q. If $p \nmid r(r-1)$, then we can use both the lemmas simultaneously to prove the following simple structure of Q.

Proposition 5.3. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \nmid r(r-1)$, then $Q \cong V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$ as a Γ-module.*

Proof. Since $p \nmid r(r-1)$, we have $\Sigma = \Sigma_p(r-1) > a-1 = 1$ with the notation of Proposition 4.9, as otherwise $\Sigma = 1$, which forces $r-1$ to be a p-power. So

by Proposition 4.9 (iii), $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$, and we have

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2 \longrightarrow 0, \tag{5.2}$$

noting that here $V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq X_{r-1}$.
Restricting this short exact sequence of M-modules to the largest singular submodules, we get the structure of X^*_{r-1}:

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D \longrightarrow X^*_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \longrightarrow 0, \tag{5.3}$$

where the last surjection follows from the fact that $V_0 \otimes D$ is a JH factor of X^*_{r-1}, by Lemma 5.1.
Next we want to compute the JH factors of X^{**}_{r-1}. By Lemma 3.5 and [G78, (4.5)], we have $\dim X^*_r = p-2$. By Lemmas 4.7 and 4.6, we get that $X^{**}_r = X^*_r \cong V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$, hence this submodule of $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1)\,(\subseteq X^*_{r-1})$ is in fact contained in X^{**}_{r-1}. By Lemma 5.2, the other JH factor $V_{p-1} \otimes D$ of $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1)$ cannot occur in X^{**}_{r-1}. Since $V_0 \otimes D$ occurs only once in X_{r-1}, Lemma 5.1 tells that $V_0 \otimes D$ cannot be a JH factor of X^{**}_{r-1}. Thus $X^{**}_{r-1} \cong V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$.
So now we know all the JH factors of X_{r-1}, X^*_{r-1} and X^{**}_{r-1}. As X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} has two JH factors $V_{p-1} \otimes D$ and $V_0 \otimes D$, we have $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} = V^*_r/V^{**}_r$, and the left module in the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) vanishes. On the other hand X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1} has only one JH factor V_2, so the short exact sequence (2.3) of Γ-modules implies that the rightmost module in the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) is $V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$. Therefore Q is Γ-isomorphic to $V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$. □

Next we will treat the case $p \mid r(r-1)$. Note that if $p \mid (r-1)$, then $p \nmid r$ and we can still use Lemma 5.1. Similarly if $p \mid r$, then $p \nmid (r-1)$ and we can use Lemma 5.2.

PROPOSITION 5.4. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \mid r-1$, then $Q \cong V_{p-1} \otimes D \oplus V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$ as a Γ-module.*

Proof. If $r-1$ is a pure p-power, then by Proposition 4.9 (i), $X_{r-1} \cong V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2$ as an M-module. Hence $X^*_{r-1} \cong V_0 \otimes D$, being the largest singular submodule of X_{r-1}. By Lemma 5.1, X^{**}_{r-1} must be zero. In other words, $X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1} \cong V_2$ and $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \cong V_0 \otimes D$.
If $r-1$ is not a pure p-power, then $\Sigma_p(r-1) \geq p$. By Proposition 4.9 (iii), $\dim X_{r-1} = 2p+2$ and we have the exact sequence of M-modules

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

Note that $V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \subseteq X_{r-1}$, with the notation of Diagram (5.1). Similarly as in the proof of Proposition 5.3, we use Lemma 5.1 to obtain

$$0 \longrightarrow \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \longrightarrow X^*_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \longrightarrow 0.$$

As $p \mid r'$, by Lemma 3.1 (ii) we have $X^*_{r'} = X^{**}_{r'}$, therefore $\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) = \phi(X^{**}_{r'} \otimes V_1)$ must be contained inside X^{**}_{r-1}. On the other hand $V_0 \otimes D$ occurs only once in X_{r-1}, so Lemma 5.1 implies that $V_0 \otimes D$ cannot be a JH factor of X^{**}_{r-1}. Thus $X^{**}_{r-1} = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \cong V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D$. Thus again we get $X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1} \cong V_2$ and $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \cong V_0 \otimes D$.

Therefore by the exact sequences (2.3) and (2.5), the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) reduces to

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-1} \otimes D \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

Now the result follows as $V_{p-1} \otimes D$ is an injective Γ-module. □

Proposition 5.5. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \mid r$, then the Γ-module structure of Q is given by*

$$0 \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

Proof. Let us write $r = p^n u$, $n \geq 1$ and $p \nmid u$. Looking at Diagram (5.1) and using Proposition 4.9, we get the exact sequence of M-modules

$$0 \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2 \longrightarrow 0,$$

where $W = \phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) = \begin{cases} V_{p-1} \otimes D, & \text{if } \Sigma_p(u-1) = 1, \\ V_{p-1} \otimes D \oplus V_{p-3} \otimes D^2, & \text{if } \Sigma_p(u-1) \geq p. \end{cases}$

Restricting the above sequence to the largest singular submodules, we get

$$0 \longrightarrow W \longrightarrow X^*_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \longrightarrow 0, \tag{5.4}$$

where the last map has to be a surjection, as otherwise $V_0 \otimes D$ would be a JH factor of V_r/V_r^*, which is not true by the sequence (2.3).
Now we claim that the restriction of the map $X^*_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D$ in (5.4) to the submodule X^{**}_{r-1} is also non-zero, and hence surjective.
Proof of claim: If not, then the above map factors via $\eta_1 : X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \subseteq V_1 \otimes V_1$. We can check that the elements $X^{r'}, Y^{r'} \in X_{r'}$ map to $X, Y \in V_1$ respectively under the map $X_{r'} \twoheadrightarrow X_{r'}/X^*_{r'} \cong V_1$. Hence, for

$$F = F(X,Y) = X^{r-1}Y - Y^{r-1}X = \phi(X^{r'} \otimes Y - Y^{r'} \otimes X) \in \phi(X_{r'} \otimes V_1),$$

we get $\eta_1(F) = X \otimes Y - Y \otimes X \in V_1 \otimes V_1$. Note that the non-zero element $X \otimes Y - Y \otimes X$ of $V_1 \otimes V_1 \cong V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_2$ actually belongs to $V_0 \otimes D$, as it projects to $XY - YX = 0 \in V_2$. So $\eta_1(F) \neq 0$. Now we consider the composition of maps $\eta_2 : X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \hookrightarrow V_r^*/V_r^{**} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D$, as described in the proof of Lemma 5.1. If η_2 is the zero map, then the short exact sequence (2.4) implies that $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \subseteq V_{p-1} \otimes D$, contradicting the existence of the map $\eta_1 : X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D$. So η_2 is a non-zero map. But the calculation in the proof of Lemma 5.1 shows that $\eta_2(F) = 0$, since $p \mid r$. Thus we end up with two different surjections $\eta_1, \eta_2 : X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_0 \otimes D$, one containing F in its kernel and the other not. This forces $V_0 \otimes D$ to be a repeated JH factor of X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1}, contradicting the fact that it occurs only once in X^*_{r-1}. Thus the claim is proved.
If $\Sigma_p(u-1) \geq p$, then the extra JH factor $V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$ of W is actually the submodule X_r^* (cf. Lemma 4.6), which equals X_r^{**}, by Lemma 4.7. So this JH factor is in fact contained in X^{**}_{r-1}. By Lemma 5.2, we know that $W =$

$\phi(X^*_{r'} \otimes V_1) \not\subseteq X^{**}_{r-1}$. Therefore

$$W_1 := W \cap X^{**}_{r-1} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \Sigma_p(u-1) = 1, \\ V_{p-3} \otimes D^2, & \text{if } \Sigma_p(u-1) \geq p. \end{cases}$$

By the claim above, the structure of X^{**}_{r-1} is now given by

$$0 \to W_1 \to X^{**}_{r-1} \to V_0 \otimes D \to 0.$$

Hence we always have $X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1} \cong V_2$, and $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} \cong W/W_1 \cong V_{p-1} \otimes D$. Next we use the exact sequences (2.3) and (2.5) to see that the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) reduces to

$$0 \longrightarrow V_0 \otimes D \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-3} \otimes D^2 \longrightarrow 0.$$

□

Remark 5.6. The short exact sequences in Proposition 2.2 split only when $a = 2$, the case we are dealing with. Note that all three possible non-zero submodules of $V^*_r/V^{**}_r \cong V_0 \otimes D \oplus V_{p-1} \otimes D$ occur as X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} in the three distinct cases $p \nmid r(r-1)$, $p \mid (r-1)$ and $p \mid r$.

6. The case $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq a \leq p-1$

In this section we describe the Γ-module structure of Q, for $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq a \leq p-1$. Note that this bound on a forces p to be at least 5.

LEMMA 6.1. *Let $p \geq 5$, $r > 2p$, $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq a \leq p-1$. If $r \not\equiv a \mod p$, then X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} contains $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ as a Γ-submodule.*

Proof. By the non-split short exact sequence (2.6), it is enough to show the submodule X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} of V^*_r/V^{**}_r is non-zero. Using Lemma 2.3 (i) and Lemma 2.6, one may check that the polynomial

$$F(X,Y) = (a-1)X^{r-1}Y + \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} k^{p+1-a}(kX+Y)^{r-1}X \in X^*_{r-1}.$$

But $F \notin V^{**}_r$, as the coefficient of $X^{r-1}Y$ in $F(X,Y)$ is $(a-1) - \binom{r-1}{r-2} = a - r \not\equiv 0 \mod p$, by hypothesis. So F maps to a non-zero element in X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1}. □

LEMMA 6.2. *Let $p \geq 5$ and $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq a \leq p-1$. If $r \equiv a \mod p$, then we have $X_{r-1} \subseteq X_r + V^{**}_r$ and $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} = 0$.*

Proof. The lemma is trivial for $r = a$ as V_a is irreducible. Thus for each a, $r = p^2 - p + a$ is the first non-trivial integer satisfying the hypotheses. We begin by expanding the following element of X_r:

$$\sum_{k \in \mathbb{F}_p} k^{p-2}(kX+Y)^r \equiv -rXY^{r-1} - \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv a-1 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \mod p.$$

Using Lemma 2.3 (ii) and Lemma 2.6, one checks that

$$F(X,Y) := \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j\equiv a-1 \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{j} \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j$$

is in fact contained in V_r^{**}, implying that the monomial $-rXY^{r-1}$ is contained in $X_r + V_r^{**}$. Since $r \equiv a \not\equiv 0 \mod p$, we have $X_{r-1} \subseteq X_r + V_r^{**}$. Hence $X_{r-1}^* \subseteq X_{r-1} \cap (X_r^* + V_r^{**})$, which equals $X_{r-1} \cap (X_r^{**} + V_r^{**})$, by Lemma 4.7. But $X_r^{**} \subseteq V_r^{**}$, so we have $X_{r-1}^* \subseteq X_{r-1} \cap V_r^{**} = X_{r-1}^{**}$. The reverse inclusion is obvious and therefore $X_{r-1}^* = X_{r-1}^{**}$. □

Remark 6.3. It was proved in [GG15, Prop. 4] that $X_{r-1} \not\subset X_r + V_r^{**}$, for $p \le r \le p^2 - p + 2$ and all primes p. The lemma above shows that the upper bound is sharp, at least if $p \ge 5$, since the smallest non-trivial r covered by the lemma is $p^2 - p + 3$. As we show just below, the fact that $X_{r-1} \subset X_r + V_r^{**}$ causes Q to have 3 JH factors, leading to additional complications.

Proposition 6.4. *Let $p \ge 5$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \le a \le p-1$. The Γ-module structure of Q is as follows.*

(i) *If $r \not\equiv a \mod p$, then*

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \longrightarrow 0,$$

and moreover the exact sequence above is Γ-split.

(ii) *If $r \equiv a \mod p$, then*

$$0 \longrightarrow V_r^*/V_r^{**} \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \longrightarrow 0,$$

where V_r^*/V_r^{**} is the non-trivial extension of $V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$ by $V_{a-2} \otimes D$.

Proof. Let $r' := r - 1$. As explained in Section 4 (cf. Proposition 4.9), we have

$$0 \longrightarrow \phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \longrightarrow X_{r-1} \longrightarrow V_{a-2} \otimes D \oplus V_a \to 0.$$

Restricting the above M-linear maps to the largest singular submodules, we get

$$0 \longrightarrow \phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \longrightarrow X_{r-1}^* \longrightarrow V_{a-2} \otimes D \to 0.$$

Indeed, the short exact sequence (2.3) shows that $V_{a-2} \otimes D$ is not a JH factor of V_r/V_r^*, so the surjection $X_{r-1} \twoheadrightarrow V_{a-2} \otimes D$ cannot factor through X_{r-1}/X_{r-1}^*, hence the rightmost map above is surjective. As $2 \le a - 1 \le p - 2$, by Lemma 4.7 we have $X_{r'}^* = X_{r'}^{**}$. Hence by the definition of the ϕ map, we get $\phi(X_{r'}^* \otimes V_1) \subseteq X_{r-1}^{**}$.

If $r \not\equiv a \mod p$, then Lemma 6.1 implies that X_{r-1}^*/X_{r-1}^{**} must have exactly one JH factor, namely $V_{a-2} \otimes D$. So we have $X_{r-1}/X_{r-1}^* \cong V_a$ and $X_{r-1}^*/X_{r-1}^{**} \cong V_{a-2} \otimes D$. Now using the short exact sequences (2.3) and (2.6), the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) reduces to

$$0 \longrightarrow V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1} \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \longrightarrow 0.$$

That the sequence splits follows from [BP12, Cor. 5.6 (i)], which implies that there exists no non-trivial extension between the Γ-modules $V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$ and $V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$.
On the other hand if $r \equiv a \mod p$, then $X_{r-1}/X^*_{r-1} \cong V_a$ as before, but $X^*_{r-1}/X^{**}_{r-1} = 0$, by Lemma 6.2. Now using the short exact sequence (2.3), the bottom row of Diagram (2.2) reduces to

$$0 \longrightarrow V^*_r/V^{**}_r \longrightarrow Q \longrightarrow V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a \longrightarrow 0,$$

where the structure of V^*_r/V^{**}_r is given by the exact sequence (2.6). □

7. Combinatorial lemmas

In this section we prove some technical lemmas which are used repeatedly in the next two sections. Only the first lemma is proved in detail as the techniques used to prove the others are similar.

LEMMA 7.1. *Let $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $2 \leq a \leq p-1$. Then one can choose integers $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{Z}$, for all $j \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $0 < j < r$, such that*

(i) $\binom{r}{j} \equiv \alpha_j \mod p$, *for all j as above,*
(ii) $\sum_j \alpha_j \equiv 0 \mod p^3$,
(iii) $\sum_{j \geq 1} j\,\alpha_j \equiv 0 \mod p^2$,
(iv) $\sum_{j \geq 2} \binom{j}{2} \alpha_j \equiv \begin{cases} \binom{r}{2} \mod p, & \text{if } a = 2, \\ 0 \mod p, & \text{if } 3 \leq a \leq p-1. \end{cases}$

Proof. For $r \leq ap$, note that $\Sigma_p(r) = a$ and one can check using Lucas' theorem that $\binom{r}{j} \equiv 0 \mod p$ for all the j's listed above. In this case we simply choose $\alpha_j = 0$, for all j. So now assume $r > ap$, hence $j = a, ap$ are both contained in the list of j's above. Let a' be a fixed integer such that $a'a \equiv 1 \mod p^2$, and then let us choose the α_j, for all $0 < j < r$, with $j \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, as follows:

$$\alpha_j = \binom{r}{j}, \text{ for } j \neq a, ap, \tag{7.1}$$

$$\alpha_a = -\sum_{\substack{a < j < r \\ j \equiv a \mod (p-1)}} a'j \binom{r}{j}, \tag{7.2}$$

$$\alpha_{ap} = -\sum_{j \neq a,\, ap} \binom{r}{j} - \alpha_a. \tag{7.3}$$

We will show that these α_j satisfy the properties (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv).

(i) Note that $j\binom{r}{j} = r\binom{r-1}{j-1}$, for any $j \geq 1$. Using Lemma 2.5, for $r-1$ and r respectively, we obtain

$$\alpha_a = -\sum_{\substack{a<j<r \\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} a'r\binom{r-1}{j-1} \overset{(2.5)}{\equiv} a'r\binom{r-1}{a-1} = a'a\binom{r}{a} \equiv \binom{r}{a} \mod p,$$

$$\alpha_{ap} \overset{(2.5)}{\equiv} \binom{r}{a} + \binom{r}{ap} - \alpha_a \equiv \binom{r}{ap} \mod p.$$

For $j \neq a$, ap, property (i) is trivially satisfied.

(ii) By our choice of α_j, in fact $\sum_j \alpha_j = 0$.

(iii) Since $a'a \equiv 1 \mod p^2$, using equation (7.2) we get $a \cdot \alpha_a \equiv -\sum_{\substack{a<j<r, \\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} j\binom{r}{j} \mod p^2$. Since $\alpha_{ap} \equiv \binom{r}{ap} \mod p$, we have $ap \cdot \alpha_{ap} \equiv ap\binom{r}{ap} \mod p^2$. Using these two congruences we conclude that $\sum_j j\alpha_j \equiv 0 \mod p^2$, as desired.

(iv) We use property (i) and Lemma 2.5 for $r-2$ to get

$$\sum_{\substack{0<j<r \\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \binom{j}{2}\alpha_j \equiv \sum_{\substack{0<j<r \\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \binom{j}{2}\binom{r}{j}$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{0<j<r \\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \binom{r}{2}\binom{r-2}{j-2} \equiv \begin{cases} \binom{r}{2} \mod p, & \text{if } a = 2, \\ 0 \mod p, & \text{if } 3 \leq a \leq p-1. \end{cases}$$

□

Lemma 7.2. *Let $r \equiv b \mod (p-1)$, and $3 \leq b \leq p$. If $p \mid r-b$, then one can choose integers β_j, for all $j \equiv b-1 \mod (p-1)$, with $b-1 \leq j < r-1$, satisfying:*

(1) $\beta_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p$, *for all j as above,*
(2) $\sum_{j\geq n} \binom{j}{n}\beta_j \equiv 0 \mod p^{3-n}$, *for $n = 0$, 1 and 2.*

Proof. As $p \mid b-r$, we have $r \equiv b \mod (p^2-p)$, so we may assume $r \geq p^2-p+b$. Thus we have $j = b-1, (b-1)p$ are two of the j's in the expression for T_r in

Lemma 2.6. Let us choose

$$\beta_j = \binom{r}{j}, \text{ for all } j \neq b-1, (b-1)p, \tag{7.4}$$

$$\beta_{b-1} = -\sum_{\substack{b-1<j<r-1 \\ j\equiv b-1 \mod (p-1)}} b' j \binom{r}{j}, \tag{7.5}$$

$$\beta_{(b-1)p} = -\sum_{\substack{j\neq b-1 \\ j\neq (b-1)p}} \binom{r}{j} - \beta_{b-1}, \tag{7.6}$$

where b' is any integer satisfying $(b-1)b' \equiv 1 \mod p^2$. One can now check that the integers β_j satisfy the required properties. The proof uses the congruence in Lemma 2.6 and is similar to that of Lemma 7.1, so we leave it as an exercise. □

LEMMA 7.3. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, i.e., $b = p$. Suppose that $p^2 \mid r-p$. Then*

(i) *One can choose $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{Z}$, for all $j \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, with $p \leq j < r$, satisfying:*
   (1) $\alpha_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p^2$, *for all j as above,*
   (2) $\sum_{j\geq n} \binom{j}{n}\alpha_j \equiv 0 \mod p^{4-n}$, *for $n = 0$, 1 and 2,*
   (3) $\sum_{j\geq 3} \binom{j}{3}\alpha_j \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \mod p, & \text{if } p \geq 5 \\ 1 \mod p, & \text{if } p = 3. \end{cases}$

(ii) *One can choose $\gamma_j \in \mathbb{Z}$, for all $j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)$, with $p-1 \leq j < r-1$, satisfying:*
   (1) $\gamma_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p^2$, *for all j as above,*
   (2) $\sum_{j\geq n} \binom{j}{n}\gamma_j \equiv 0 \mod p^{4-n}$, *for $n = 0$, 1 and 2,*
   (3) $\sum_{j\geq 3} \binom{j}{3}\gamma_j \equiv \begin{cases} 0 \mod p, & \text{if } p \geq 5 \\ -1 \mod p, & \text{if } p = 3. \end{cases}$

Proof. Similar to that of Lemma 7.1 and 7.2, and uses the congruences given in Lemma 2.7. □

Remark 7.4. The integers α_j, β_j, γ_j in the lemmas above are not unique, but their existence will be crucial for us. We will use these integers in §8 and §9 to construct functions to eliminate JH factors of Q, and to compute the reduction $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$, which is the main goal of this paper.

8. Elimination of JH factors

For the rest of this paper, we will work under the assumption $1 < v(a_p) < 2$. Let us recall Proposition 3.3 in [BG09]: If $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}(V_s \otimes D^n)$ for some $0 \leq s \leq p-1$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{s+1+(p+1)n})$, unless $s = p-2$, where one has the additional possibility that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible and isomorphic to

$\omega^n \oplus \omega^n$ on I_p, the inertia subgroup at p. Using this result one can specify the shape of $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ when Q is irreducible as a Γ-module, up to the fact that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ may be occasionally reducible, as mentioned above. For example, we have

Theorem 8.1. *Let $p \geq 3$ and $r > 2p$.*

(i) *If $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$ and $p \nmid r$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^2)$. If $p = 3$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ can also possibly be reducible and trivial on I_p.*

(ii) *If $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$ and $p \nmid r(r-1)$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^3)$.*

Proof. As $1 < v(a_p) < 2$, there exists a surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$. In part (i), we have $Q \cong V_1$ by Propositions 3.3 and 3.8. In part (ii), $Q \cong V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$ by Proposition 5.3. Since Q is irreducible in both cases, we apply [BG09, Prop. 3.3] to determine $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$. □

Remark 8.2. In fact, Theorem 9.1 in the next section will imply that the reducible possibility in part (i) above never occurs. Note that for $p = 3$, the condition $p \nmid r$ implies that $\binom{r-1}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$ and therefore the hypothesis of Theorem 9.1 is automatically satisfied.

As we have already seen, Q is usually not irreducible. It can have two and sometimes even three JH factors as a Γ-module depending on the congruence class of r modulo both $p-1$ and p. In these cases we will use the explicit formula for the Hecke operator T acting on the space $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, to eliminate one or two JH factors of Q, so that we can use [BG09, Prop. 3.3].

To work explicitly with the Hecke operator T, we need to recall some well-known formulas involving T from [B03b]. For $m = 0$, set $I_0 = \{0\}$, and for $m > 0$, let

$$I_m = \{[\lambda_0] + [\lambda_1]p + \cdots + [\lambda_{m-1}]p^{m-1} \ : \ \lambda_i \in \mathbb{F}_p\} \subset \mathbb{Z}_p,$$

where the square brackets denote Teichmüller representatives. For $m \geq 1$, there is a truncation map $[\ \ ]_{m-1} : I_m \to I_{m-1}$ given by taking the first $m-1$ terms in the p-adic expansion above; for $m = 1$, $[\ \ ]_{m-1}$ is the 0-map. Let $\alpha = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{smallmatrix}\right)$. For $m \geq 0$ and $\lambda \in I_m$, let

$$g_{m,\lambda}^0 = \begin{pmatrix} p^m & \lambda \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \text{and} \quad g_{m,\lambda}^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ p\lambda & p^{m+1} \end{pmatrix},$$

noting that $g_{0,0}^0 = \mathrm{Id}$ is the identity matrix and $g_{0,0}^1 = \alpha$ in G. Recall the decomposition

$$G \ = \coprod_{\substack{m \geq 0,\, \lambda \in I_m, \\ i \in \{0,1\}}} KZ (g_{m,\lambda}^i)^{-1}.$$

Thus, a general element in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V$, for a KZ-module V, is a finite sum of elementary functions of the form $[g, v]$, with $g = g_{m,\lambda}^0$ or $g_{m,\lambda}^1$, for some $\lambda \in I_m$ and $v \in V$. For a $\mathbb{Z}_p$-algebra R, let $v = \sum_{i=0}^r c_i X^{r-i} Y^i \in V = \mathrm{Sym}^r R^2 \otimes D^s$.

Expanding the formula (2.1) for the Hecke operator T one may write $T = T^+ + T^-$, where

$$\begin{aligned} T^+([g^0_{n,\mu}, v]) &= \sum_{\lambda \in I_1} \left[g^0_{n+1,\mu+p^n\lambda}, \sum_{j=0}^{r} \left(p^j \sum_{i=j}^{r} c_i \binom{i}{j} (-\lambda)^{i-j} \right) X^{r-j} Y^j \right], \\ T^-([g^0_{n,\mu}, v]) &= \left[g^0_{n-1,[\mu]_{n-1}}, \sum_{j=0}^{r} \left(\sum_{i=j}^{r} p^{r-i} c_i \binom{i}{j} \left(\frac{\mu - [\mu]_{n-1}}{p^{n-1}} \right)^{i-j} \right) X^{r-j} Y^j \right] \\ & \qquad\qquad (n > 0), \\ T^-([g^0_{n,\mu}, v]) &= \left[\alpha, \sum_{j=0}^{r} p^{r-j} c_j X^{r-j} Y^j \right] \quad (n = 0). \end{aligned}$$

The formulas for T^+ and T^- will be used to calculate the $(T - a_p)$-image of the functions $f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$. Though T is a G-linear operator, note that T^+ and T^- are not G-linear. Formulas similar to those above describe how T acts on functions of the form $[g^1_{n,\mu}, v]$ but we will not use these functions in this article.

An integral function, i.e., an element of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2$ will be said to "die mod p", if it maps to zero in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^2$ under the standard reduction map.

THEOREM 8.3. *Let $p \geq 5$, $r > 2p$, $r \equiv a \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq a \leq p-1$. If $r \not\equiv a \mod p$, then there exists a surjection*

$$\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G (V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}.$$

As a consequence, $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{a+p})$, if $a > 3$. For $a = 3$, we have the additional possibility that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible and its restriction to I_p is $\omega^2 \oplus \omega^2$.

Proof. By Proposition 6.4 (i), we have $Q \cong J_1 \oplus J_2$ as a Γ-module, where $J_1 = V_{p-a+1} \otimes D^{a-1}$ and $J_2 = V_{p-a-1} \otimes D^a$. Let F_1 be the image of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$ in $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ under the surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, and let F_2 denote the quotient $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}/F_1$. Then we have the commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_2 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & F_1 & \longrightarrow & \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} & \longrightarrow & F_2 & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

We will construct a function in $X_{k,a_p} = \ker(\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V_r \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p})$, which maps to a function of the form $[g, v] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_2$ under the surjection in the top row above, for some $g \in G$ and $0 \neq v \in J_2$. Since the G-span of $[g, v]$ is all of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_2$, we get $F_2 = 0$ and $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} \cong F_1$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$. The final conclusion follows by applying [BG09, Prop. 3.3].

Consider the function $f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}\mathrm{Sym}^{r}\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$ defined by $f := f_2 + f_1 + f_0$ with

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \sum_{\lambda\in\mathbb{F}_p}\left[\, g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, \frac{1}{p}\cdot\left(Y^r - X^{p-1}Y^{r-p+1}\right)\right], \\ f_1 &= \left[\, g^0_{1,0},\ \frac{(p-1)}{pa_p}\cdot \sum_{\substack{0<j<r\\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \alpha_j\cdot X^{r-j}Y^j\right], \\ f_0 &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } a < p-1,\\ \left[\mathrm{Id}, \frac{(1-p)}{p}\cdot\left(X^r - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1}\right)\right], & \text{if } a = p-1, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where the $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{Z}$ are integers satisfying the four properties stated in Lemma 7.1.

Applying the explicit formulas for T^+ and T^-, using Lemma 7.1 and the facts $r > 2p$, $3 \le p-1$ and $1 < v(a_p) < 2$, we get that the functions T^-f_0, T^-f_1, T^+f_1, a_pf_0, a_pf_2 are all integral and die mod p. We compute that $T^+f_2 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}\langle X^{r-1}Y\rangle_{\bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p} + p\cdot\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}\mathrm{Sym}^{r}\bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2$, hence it maps to $0 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}Q$. Next we use the formulas for T^-, T^+ and the identity (2.7) to compute that

$$T^-f_2 - a_pf_1 + T^+f_0 \equiv \left[g^0_{1,0}, F(X,Y)\right] \mod p,$$

where

$$F(X,Y) = \sum_{\substack{0<j<r\\ j\equiv a \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)}{p}\left(\binom{r}{j} - \alpha_j\right)\cdot X^{r-j}Y^j + Y^r.$$

Note that $F(X,Y)$ is integral, as $\alpha_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p$, for each j, by Lemma 7.1. All the information above together implies that $(T-a_p)f \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}\mathrm{Sym}^{r}\bar{\mathbb{Z}}_p^2$, so its reduction lies in X_{k,a_p}. Moreover, the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to $[g^0_{1,0},,\ \mathrm{Pr}_2(F)] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G}J_2$, where $\mathrm{Pr}_2 : Q \twoheadrightarrow J_2$ is the projection map. It is clear from Diagram (2.2) that Pr_2 is induced by the map $V_r \twoheadrightarrow \dfrac{V_r}{V_r^*} \twoheadrightarrow J_2$. Noting that the monomial Y^r maps to 0 in Q, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Pr}_2(F) &= -\mathrm{Pr}_2\left(\sum_j \frac{1}{p}\left(\binom{r}{j} - \alpha_j\right)\cdot X^{r-j}Y^j\right) \\ &= -\sum_j \frac{1}{p}\left(\binom{r}{j} - \alpha_j\right)\cdot \mathrm{Pr}_2(X^{r-a}Y^a), \end{aligned}$$

since all the mixed monomials in $F(X,Y)$ are congruent to scalar multiples of $X^{r-a}Y^a$ modulo V_r^*. Under the composition $V_r/V_r^* \xrightarrow{\sim} V_{a+p-1}/V_{a+p-1}^* \twoheadrightarrow V_{p-a-1}\otimes D^a = J_2$, where the first isomorphism is ψ^{-1} of [G78, (4.2)] and the next surjection is induced from [B03b, Lem. 5.3], we have

$$X^{r-a}Y^a \mod V_r^* \mapsto X^{p-1}Y^a \mod V_{a+p-1}^* \mapsto X^{p-1-a} \neq 0.$$

Therefore $\mathrm{Pr}_2(F) = c \cdot \mathrm{Pr}_2(X^{r-a}Y^a) = c \cdot X^{p-1-a}$, where c is the mod p reduction of the sum $-\sum_j \frac{1}{p} \cdot \left(\binom{r}{j} - \alpha_j\right) \in \mathbb{Z}$. By property (ii) of the integers α_j stated in Lemma 7.1, c is the reduction of $-\frac{1}{p} \cdot \sum_j \binom{r}{j} \in \mathbb{Z}$, which is congruent to $\frac{r-a}{a} \mod p$, by Lemma 2.5. By hypothesis, $r \not\equiv a \mod p$, so we get $c \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p^*$. Thus the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to $[g, v] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_2$, where $g = g_{1,0}^0 \in G$ and $v = c \cdot X^{p-1-a}$ is a non-zero element in J_2, and we are done. □

The following theorem is complementary to Theorem 8.1 (ii).

THEOREM 8.4. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$, $r \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$. If $p \mid r(r-1)$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{2+p})$.*

Proof. If $p \mid r(r-1)$, then Q has two JH factors by Propositions 5.4 and 5.5. We will eliminate the JH factor $J_2 = V_{p-3} \otimes D^2$. We take the function $f = f_0 + f_1 + f_2$ as in the proof of Theorem 8.3, for $a = 2$. Note that property (iv) in Lemma 7.1 implies that $\sum_j \binom{j}{2}\alpha_j \equiv \binom{r}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$, by hypothesis. Now by the same argument as in Theorem 8.3, we eliminate the JH factor J_2, except for the following subtlety: to show $T^- f_1 \equiv 0 \mod p$, we used the bound $3 \leq p-1$ in Theorem 8.3. This cannot be used in the present case as $a = 2$ and so $p = 3$ is allowed. But $p \mid r(r-1)$ implies that $\alpha_{r-p+1} \equiv \binom{r}{r-p+1} \equiv 0 \mod p$ by Lucas' theorem. This ensures that $T^- f_1$ dies mod p even in this case. Therefore if $p \mid r-1$, then we have a surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_{p-1} \otimes D) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ by Proposition 5.4, and if $p \mid r$, then we have $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_0 \otimes D) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ by Proposition 5.5. Now we use [BG09, Prop. 3.3] to draw the final conclusion. □

Next we treat some cases where Q has three JH factors and those coming from V_r^*/V_r^{**} are to be eliminated. We begin by stating the following easy lemma. Note that we already have a complete solution to the problem in the case $b = 2$ by Theorem 8.1 (ii) and Theorem 8.4. So we assume $b \geq 3$ from now on.

LEMMA 8.5. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$, $r \equiv b \mod (p-1)$, with $3 \leq b \leq p$. Then we have the non-split short exact sequence of Γ-modules*

$$0 \to J_0 := V_{b-2} \otimes D \to V_r^*/V_r^{**} \to J_1 := V_{p-b+1} \otimes D^{b-1} \to 0, \text{ where}$$

(i) *The monomials $Y^{b-2}, X^{b-2} \in J_0$ map to θY^{r-p-1} and θX^{r-p-1} respectively in V_r^*/V_r^{**}.*
(ii) *The polynomials $\theta Y^{r-p-1}, \theta X^{r-p-1} \in V_r^*/V_r^{**}$ map to $0 \in J_1$ and $\theta X^{r-p-b+1}Y^{b-2}$ maps to $X^{p-b+1} \in J_1$.*

Proof. The exact sequence is given by Proposition 2.2. By [G78, (4.1), (4.2)], we have an isomorphism $V_r^*/V_r^{**} \xrightarrow{\psi^{-1} \otimes \mathrm{id}} (V_{p+b-3}/V_{p+b-3}^*) \otimes D$. Then one computes the images of the polynomials mentioned above under the Γ-maps $V_{b-2} \otimes D \hookrightarrow (V_{p+b-3}/V_{p+b-3}^*) \otimes D$ and $(V_{p+b-3}/V_{p+b-3}^*) \otimes D \twoheadrightarrow V_{p-b+1} \otimes D^{b-1}$ respectively, using the explicit formulas from [B03b, Lem. 5.3]. □

The next two theorems are complementary to Theorem 8.3 above.

Theorem 8.6. *Let $p \geq 5$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv b \mod (p-1)$, with $4 \leq b \leq p-1$. If $r \equiv b \mod p$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{b+1})$.*

Proof. By Proposition 6.4 (ii), Q contains V_r^*/V_r^{**} as a submodule, which is an extension of J_1 by J_0, with the notation of Lemma 8.5. Let $F_{0,1}$ denote the image of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_r^*/V_r^{**})$ inside $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, and let $F_2 := \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}/F_{0,1}$. Then we have the following commutative diagram of G-maps

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_r^*/V_r^{**}) & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_2 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & F_{0,1} & \longrightarrow & \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} & \longrightarrow & F_2 & \longrightarrow & 0, \end{array}$$

where $J_2 = V_{p-b-1} \otimes D^b$. We will show that $F_{0,1} = 0$, under the hypothesis $r \equiv b \mod p$.
Consider $f = f_0 + f_1 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} \left[g_{1,[\lambda]}^0,\ \frac{p}{a_p}[\lambda]^{p-2} \cdot \left(Y^r - X^{r-b}Y^b\right) \right] \\ &\qquad + \left[g_{1,0}^0,\ \frac{r(1-p)}{a_p} \cdot \left(XY^{r-1} - X^{r-b+1}Y^{b-1}\right) \right], \\ f_0 &= \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv b-1 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{p(p-1)}{a_p^2} \cdot \beta_j\, X^{r-j}Y^j \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the β_j are the integers from Lemma 7.2.
Using $b > 2$ and the fact that $p \mid r - b$, we check that $T^+ f_1 \equiv 0 \mod p$. Similarly, $T^- f_0 \equiv 0 \mod p$, since $v(a_p^2/p) < 3 \leq p$. We use the fact $b > 3$, together with the properties satisfied by the integers β_j in Lemma 7.2 to conclude that $T^+ f_0 \equiv 0 \mod p$ as well. Next we compute that

$$T^- f_1 - a_p f_0 \equiv \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv b-1 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)p}{a_p} \left(\binom{r}{j} - \beta_j \right) \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \right],$$

which again dies mod p, since $\beta_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p$ for each j, by Lemma 7.2. Finally we get $(T - a_p)f$ is integral and $(T - a_p)f \equiv -a_p f_1 \mod p$. As $r \equiv b \mod p$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
&(T-a_p)f \\
&\equiv -\left[g^0_{1,0},\, r(1-p)\cdot(XY^{r-1}-X^{r-b+1}Y^{b-1})\right] \\
&\equiv -\left[g^0_{1,0},\, -b\cdot\theta\left(\frac{r-p-b+1}{p-1}\cdot X^{r-p-b+1}Y^{b-2}+Y^{r-p-1}\right) \mod V_r^{**}\right] \\
&\equiv \left[g^0_{1,0},\, -b\cdot\theta\left(X^{r-p-b+1}Y^{b-2}-Y^{r-p-1}\right)\right] \mod p.
\end{aligned}
$$

Let v be the image of $-b\cdot\theta\left(X^{r-p-b+1}Y^{b-2}-Y^{r-p-1}\right)$ in V_r^*/V_r^{**}. Then the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to $\left[g^0_{1,0},\, v\right] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_r^*/V_r^{**}) \subseteq \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$. By Lemma 8.5, v maps to the non-zero element $-b\cdot X^{p-b+1} \in J_1 = V_{p-b+1}\otimes D^{b-1}$. As the short exact sequence (2.6) is non-split, v generates the whole module V_r^*/V_r^{**} over Γ, so the element $\left[g^0_{1,0},\, v\right]$ generates $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_r^*/V_r^{**})$ over G. Thus $F_{0,1}=0$ and hence $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} \cong F_2$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_{p-b-1}\otimes D^b)$. Finally we apply [BG09, Prop. 3.3] to get the structure of $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$. □

However, for $b=3\le p-1$, we do not have a complete solution to the problem of computing $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ when $r\equiv b \mod p(p-1)$. But we have the following theorem which is applicable whenever $v(a_p)\neq\frac{3}{2}$. It is also applicable if $v(a_p)=\frac{3}{2}$, unless the unit $\frac{a_p^2}{p^3}$ reduces to 1 in $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$.

THEOREM 8.7. *Let $p\ge 5$, $r>2p$ and $r\equiv 3 \mod p(p-1)$. If $v(a_p)=\frac{3}{2}$, then assume that $v(a_p^2-p^3)=3$. Then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}\cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^4)$.*

Proof. If $v(a_p)\le 3/2$, then we consider $f=f_0+f_1$, where f_0 are f_1 are as in the proof of Theorem 8.6 with $b=3$. The formula for the Hecke operator shows that $(T-a_p)f$ is still integral. As $b=3$, now T^+f_0 does not necessarily die mod p. In fact we have

$$
T^+f_0 \equiv \left[g^0_{1,0},\, \frac{p^3(p-1)}{a_p^2}\binom{2}{2}\beta_2\cdot X^{r-2}Y^2\right] \mod p,
$$

which is integral because $v(a_p^2)\le 3$, and we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
&(T-a_p)f \equiv T^+f_0 - a_pf_1 \\
&\quad\equiv \left[g^0_{1,0},\, \frac{p^3(p-1)}{a_p^2}\,\beta_2\cdot X^{r-2}Y^2 - r(1-p)\left(XY^{r-1}-X^{r-2}Y^2\right)\right] \mod p.
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that $r\equiv 3 \mod p$ and also $\beta_2\equiv\binom{r}{2}\equiv\binom{3}{2}=3 \mod p$ by Lucas' theorem. As XY^{r-1} vanishes in Q, the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to the image of $\left[g^0_{1,0},\, 3\left(1-p^3/a_p^2\right)\left(X^{r-2}Y^2-XY^{r-1}\right)\right]$ in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$. The hypothesis implies that $1-p^3/a_p^2$ is a p-adic unit. So, the module $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_r^*/V_r^{**})$ maps to 0 in $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, as explained in the proof of Theorem 8.6.

If $v(a_p) > 3/2$, then we consider the new function $f' = \frac{a_p^2}{p^3} \cdot f = f'_0 + f'_1$, with

$$\begin{aligned} f'_1 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} \left[g^0_{1,[\lambda]},\ \frac{a_p}{p^2}\,[\lambda]^{p-2} \cdot \left(Y^r - X^{r-3}Y^3\right) \right] \\ &\qquad + \left[g^0_{1,0},\ \frac{(1-p)ra_p}{p^3} \cdot \left(XY^{r-1} - X^{r-2}Y^2\right) \right], \\ f'_0 &= \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)}{p^2} \cdot \beta_j\, X^{r-j}Y^j \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the β_j are the integers from Lemma 7.2. The computations are very similar to the previous case, except that now we have $a_p f'_1 \equiv 0 \mod p$, since $v(a_p^2/p^3) > 0$. Finally we get $(T - a_p)f' \equiv T^+ f'_0 \equiv \left[g^0_{1,0},\ (p-1)\beta_2 \cdot X^{r-2}Y^2\right] \mod p$. So the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f'}$ maps to the image of $\left[g^0_{1,0},\ 3(XY^{r-1} - X^{r-2}Y^2)\right]$ in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$. The rest of the proof follows as in the previous case. □

Remark 8.8. Note that when $b = 3$ and $p \,|\, r - b$, the hypothesis $(\star)$ in Theorem 1.1 is equivalent to the condition $v(a_p^2 - p^3) = 3$ above. If $v(a_p^2 - p^3) > 3$, so necessarily $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, we can only show that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is either $\mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^4)$ or $\mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{3+p})$, or it is reducible of the form $\omega^2 \oplus \omega^2$ or $\omega^3 \oplus \omega$ on I_p.

The following theorem is complementary to Theorem 8.1 (i). It treats the case $p \mid r \equiv 1 \mod p-1$, where Q has two JH factors. With the notation of Lemma 7.2, $a = 1$ is equivalent to $b = p$, and so the condition $p \mid r$ can also be stated as $r \equiv b \mod p$.

Theorem 8.9. *For $p \geq 3$, let $p < r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$ and suppose $p \mid r$. If $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, then further assume that $v(a_p^2 - p^3) = 3$. Then we have*

(i) *If $p^2 \nmid r - p$, then there is a surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V_1 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$. As a consequence, $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^2)$ unless $p = 3$, in which case $\bar{V}_{k,a_3}$ may be reducible, and trivial on I_3.*

(ii) *If $p^2 \mid r - p$, then there is a surjection $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_{p-2} \otimes D) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$. As a consequence, either $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^2)$ or $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible, with the shape $\omega \oplus \omega$ on I_p.*

Proof. By Proposition 3.12 (iii), we have $Q \cong V_r^*/V_r^{**}$ is an extension of $J_1 = V_1$ by $J_0 = V_{p-2} \otimes D$. Let $F_0 \subseteq \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ be the image of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$ under the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$. Then $F_1 := \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}/F_0$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$ and we have

the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} J_0 & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} Q & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} J_1 & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & F_0 & \longrightarrow & \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} & \longrightarrow & F_1 & \longrightarrow & 0. \end{array}$$

We show $F_0 = 0$ if $p^2 \nmid r-p$ and $F_1 = 0$ if $p^2 \mid r-p$. Then (i) and (ii) will follow as usual.

(i) Consider $f = f_2 + f_1 + f_0 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, \frac{[\lambda]^{p-2}}{p} \cdot (Y^r - X^{r-p}Y^p) \right], \\ f_1 &= \left[g^0_{1,0}, \ \frac{p-1}{pa_p} \cdot \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \beta_j \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \right], \\ f_0 &= \left[\mathrm{Id}, \frac{1-p}{p} \cdot (X^r - X^pY^{r-p}) \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the β_j are the integers from Lemma 7.2. Using the formula for the Hecke operator, one checks that $T^+f_2, T^-f_1, -a_pf_2, T^-f_0, -a_pf_0$ are all integral and die mod p. Also $T^+f_1 \equiv 0 \mod p$ by Lemma 7.2, i.e., by the properties satisfied by the integers β_j. Moreover,

$$T^-f_2 + T^+f_0 - a_pf_1 \equiv \left[g^0_{1,0}, \ \frac{(p-1)}{p} \cdot \left(\sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \left(\binom{r}{j} - \beta_j \right) \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j + rXY^{r-1} \right) \right] \bmod p.$$

Note that the function above is integral because each $\beta_j \equiv \binom{r}{j} \mod p$ by Lemma 7.2, and $p \mid r$ by hypothesis. Now modifying the polynomial above by a suitable XY^{r-1}-term, we can see that $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ has the same image as $\left[g^0_{1,0}, \ (p-1)\left(F(X,Y) + \dfrac{(p-r)\theta Y^{r-p-1}}{p} \right) \right]$ in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} Q$, where

$$F(X,Y) = \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{1}{p}\left(\binom{r}{j} - \beta_j \right) \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j - \frac{(p-r)}{p} \cdot X^pY^{r-p}.$$

Using Lemmas 7.2, 2.7 and 2.6 we see that $F(X,Y) \in V_r^{**}$, by Lemma 2.3. Hence $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to the image of $\dfrac{(r-p)}{p} \cdot \left[g^0_{1,0}, \theta Y^{r-p-1} \right]$ in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} Q$. By hypothesis, $p^2 \nmid r-p$. Thus $c = \overline{(r-p)/p}$ is a non-zero element in $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$. By Lemma 8.5 (i), the element $c \cdot [g^0_{1,0}, Y^{p-2}] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^{G} J_0$ maps to $0 \in F_0 \subseteq \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$.

Since $c \cdot [g^0_{1,0}, Y^{p-2}]$ generates all of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$ as a G-module, we have $F_0 = 0$ and $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} \cong F_1$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$.

(ii) If $p^2 \mid r-p$, we consider the function $f = f_2 + f_1 + f_0 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}\, \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, \frac{[\lambda]^{p-2}}{a_p} \cdot (Y^r - X^{r-p}Y^p) \right] \\ &\qquad + \left[g^0_{2,0},\ \frac{(1-p)r}{pa_p} \cdot (XY^{r-1} - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1}) \right], \\ f_1 &= \left[g^0_{1,0},\ \frac{p-1}{a_p^2} \cdot \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 0 \mod (p-1)}} \gamma_j \cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \right], \\ f_0 &= \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \frac{1-p}{a_p} \cdot (X^r - X^pY^{r-p}) \right], \end{aligned}$$

where the γ_j are integers from Lemma 7.3 (ii). Using Lemma 7.3 we check that if either $p \geq 5$ or if $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) < 3/2$, then $T^+f_2, T^+f_0 + T^-f_2 - a_pf_1, T^-f_1, T^+f_1, T^-f_0$ are all integral and die mod p. That leaves us with

$$\begin{aligned} (T-a_p)f \equiv -a_pf_0 - a_pf_2 \equiv \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} &\left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, -[\lambda]^{p-2} \cdot (Y^r - X^{r-p}Y^p) \right] \\ &+ \left[g^0_{2,0},\ \frac{(p-1)r}{p}(XY^{r-1} - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1}) \right] \\ &+ \left[\mathrm{Id},\ (p-1) \cdot (X^r - X^pY^{r-p}) \right] \mod p. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the image of the reduction $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$ is the same as that of

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} [\, g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, -[\lambda]^{p-2} \cdot (X^{r-1}Y - X^{r-p}Y^p)\,]$$

$$+[\, g^0_{2,0},\ \tfrac{(p-1)r}{p}(XY^{r-1} - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1})] + [\mathrm{Id},\ (p-1) \cdot (XY^{r-1} - X^pY^{r-p})].$$

As we have $r/p \equiv 1 \mod p$ by hypothesis, the function above is congruent to

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p^*} [g^0_{2,p[\lambda]}, -[\lambda]^{p-2}\theta X^{r-p-1}] + [g^0_{2,0},\ X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1} - XY^{r-1}] + [\mathrm{Id},\ \theta Y^{r-p-1}] \mod p.$$

Since $X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1} - XY^{r-1} = \theta \cdot (X^{r-2p+1}Y^{p-2} + \cdots + Y^{r-p-1})$, we have

$$X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1} - XY^{r-1} \equiv \theta \cdot \left(\frac{(r-2p+1)}{p-1} \cdot X^{r-2p+1}Y^{p-2} + Y^{r-p-1} \right) \mod V_r^{**}.$$

Applying Lemma 8.5 (ii) we get that $\overline{(T-a_p)f}$ maps to $\left[g^0_{2,0},\ -X\right] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$ under the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$. As $[g^0_{2,0}, -X]$ generates all of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$ as a G-module, we get $F_1 = 0$ and so $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p} \cong F_0$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$.

If $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) \geq 3/2$, then note that $T^- f_1$ and $T^+ f_1$ do not die mod p any more, and $(T - a_p)f$ is not necessarily integral. In this case we consider the modified new function $f' := (a_p^2/p^3) \cdot f$, with f as above. Then one checks $(T - a_p)f'$ is integral and maps to $c \cdot [g_{2,0}^0, X] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$, where $c = \overline{1 - a_p^2/p^3}$. By the extra hypothesis in the case $v(a_p) = 3/2$, c is always a non-zero element in $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$, and thus the JH factor J_1 is killed again. □

Remark 8.10. In the next section we will show that in part (i) above the reducible case does not occur when $p = 3$, and that in part (ii) $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is always reducible.

9. Separating out reducible and irreducible cases

If $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ is a quotient of $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G(V_{p-2} \otimes D^n)$, then [BG09, Prop. 3.3] fails to determine $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$. In this case, either $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{p-1+n(p+1)})$ is irreducible or it is reducible with $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}|_{I_p} \cong \omega^n \oplus \omega^n$. We have faced this problem in the following cases, cf. Theorems 8.1 (i), 8.3 and 8.9.

(1) If $b = 3$ and $p^{1+v(b)} \nmid r - b$, then we have $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \left(V_{p-2} \otimes D^2\right) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, hence
$$\bar{V}_{k,a_p}|_{I_p} \cong \begin{cases} \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{p+3}), \text{ or} \\ \omega^2 \oplus \omega^2. \end{cases}$$

(2) If $b = p$ and $p^2 \mid r - b$, then under the extra hypothesis '$v(a_p) = 3/2 \Rightarrow v(a_p^2 - p^3) = 3$, when $p = 3$', we have $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G (V_{p-2} \otimes D) \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$, hence
$$\bar{V}_{k,a_p}|_{I_p} \cong \begin{cases} \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^2), \text{ or} \\ \omega \oplus \omega. \end{cases}$$

In this section we mostly separate out the reducible and irreducible possibilities above. We will show that $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is 'almost always' irreducible in the first case whereas it is always reducible in the second case above. In the first case, we work under the mild hypothesis ($\star$) in Theorem 1.1. Note that ($\star$) holds trivially if $p \mid \binom{r-1}{2}$. In particular, it holds for the smallest new weight treated in this paper, namely, $k = 2p + 3$.

THEOREM 9.1. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$, $r \equiv 3 \mod (p-1)$ and $p^{1+v(3)} \nmid r - 3$. If $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, then further assume that $v\left(a_p^2 - \binom{r-1}{2}(r-2)p^3\right) = 3$. Then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{p+3})$ is irreducible.*

Proof. Assuming the hypothesis, we will show that the G-map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ given by Propositions 3.3, 3.8 and Theorem 8.9 (i) for $p = 3$, and by Theorem 8.3 for $p \geq 5$, factors through the cokernel of the Hecke operator T acting on $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$, where $J_1 = V_{p-2} \otimes D^2$.

If $v(a_p^2) \leq v\left(\binom{r-1}{2}\right) + 3$, we consider the function $f = f_2 + f_1 + f_0$, where

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ \frac{1}{a_p} \cdot \theta(X^{r-p-2}Y - Y^{r-p-1}) \right], \\ f_1 &= \left[g^0_{1,0},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)p}{a_p^2} \cdot \alpha_j X^{r-j} Y^j \right], \\ f_0 &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p \geq 5 \\ \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \frac{(1-p)p}{a_p} \cdot (X^r - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1}) \right], & \text{if } p = 3, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where the α_j are integers from Lemma 7.1, applied with $r-1 \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)$, instead of r.

It is easy to see using the formula for the Hecke operator that $T^+ f_2$, $T^- f_1$ are integral and die mod p. Moreover,

$$T^- f_2 - a_p f_1 + T^+ f_0 \equiv \left[g^0_{1,0},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)p}{a_p} \cdot \left(\binom{r-1}{j} - \alpha_j \right) X^{r-j} Y^j \right]$$

dies mod p, since $v(a_p) < 2$ and each $\alpha_j \equiv \binom{r-1}{j} \bmod p$, by Lemma 7.1. Also, $T^- f_0$ and $a_p f_0$ die mod p, which is relevant only when $p = 3$. We use the four properties of the α_j in Lemma 7.1, and the fact that $v(a_p^2) \leq v\left(\binom{r-1}{2}\right) + 3$ to conclude that $T^+ f_1$ is also integral and that $T^+ f_1 \equiv \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ \frac{p^3(p-1)}{a_p^2} \binom{r-1}{2} \cdot X^{r-2}Y^2 \right] \mod p$. Thus $(T - a_p)f$ is integral and is congruent to

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ -\theta(X^{r-p-2}Y - Y^{r-p-1}) + \frac{p^3(p-1)}{a_p^2} \binom{r-1}{2} \cdot X^{r-2}Y^2 \right] \bmod p.$$

The image of $X^{r-2}Y^2$ in Q is the same as that of $X^{r-2}Y^2 - XY^{r-1}$, which is

$$\theta \cdot (X^{r-p-2}Y + \cdots + Y^{r-p-1}) \equiv \theta \cdot \left(\frac{r-p-2}{p-1} \cdot X^{r-p-2}Y + Y^{r-p-1} \right) \mod V_r^{**}.$$

Hence $\overline{(T - a_p)f}$ maps to

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ -X^{p-2} + \frac{p^3}{a_p^2} \binom{r-1}{2} (r-2) \cdot X^{p-2} \right] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G (V_{p-2} \otimes D^2),$$

by Lemma 8.5. This equals $c \cdot T([g^0_{1,0},\ X^{p-2}])$, with $c = \overline{\frac{p^3}{a_p^2}\binom{r-1}{2}(r-2) - 1}$. Using the hypothesis one checks that the constant $c \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ is non-zero, hence the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ factors through $\pi(p-2, 0, \omega^2)$. Therefore the reducible case cannot occur and $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}\left(\omega_2^{p+3}\right)$.

Now let $v(a_p^2) > v\left(\binom{r-1}{2}\right) + 3$. As $v(a_p^2) < 4$, this forces $p \nmid \binom{r-1}{2}$ and so $v(a_p^2) > 3$. Note that in this case $(T - a_p)f$ is not integral for the f above. However, we can use the following modified function $f' = f'_2 + f'_1 + f'_0$:

$$\begin{aligned}
f'_2 = \frac{a_p^2}{p^3} \cdot f_2 &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ \frac{a_p \cdot \theta(X^{r-p-2}Y - Y^{r-p-1})}{p^3} \right], \\
f'_1 = \frac{a_p^2}{p^3} \cdot f_1 &= \left[g^0_{1,0},\ \sum_{\substack{0<j<r-1 \\ j \equiv 2 \mod (p-1)}} \frac{(p-1)}{p^2} \cdot \alpha_j X^{r-j} Y^j \right], \\
f'_0 = \frac{a_p^2}{p^3} \cdot f_0 &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p \geq 5 \\ \left[\mathrm{Id},\ \frac{(1-p)a_p}{p^2} \cdot (X^r - X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1}) \right], & \text{if } p = 3, \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

with the same α_j as before. Now $a_p f'_2$, $a_p f'_0$ dies mod p, as $v(a_p^2) > 3$. Also $T^+ f'_2$, $T^- f'_1$, $T^- f'_0$ and $T^- f'_2 - a_p f'_1 + T^+ f'_0$ die mod p as before, and hence

$$(T - a_p)f' \equiv T^+ f'_1 \equiv \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ (p-1)\binom{r-1}{2} X^{r-2}Y^2 \right] \mod p.$$

This maps to $\sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,p[\lambda]},\ \overline{(r-2)\binom{r-1}{2}} \cdot X^{p-2} \right] = \overline{(r-2)\binom{r-1}{2}} \cdot T([g^0_{1,0},\ X^{p-2}])$ under the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G V_r \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q \twoheadrightarrow \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1$, as shown above. Since $(r-2)\binom{r-1}{2}$ is a p-adic unit, the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_1 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ factors through the image of T, and we have $\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{ind}(\omega_2^{p+3})$. □

Surprisingly, if $b = p$ and $p^2 \mid r - p$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is always reducible, at least if $p \geq 5$. This is the first time in this paper that we have obtained a family of examples where $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible, for slopes in the range $1 < v(a_p) < 2$. The following theorem describes the action of both inertia and Frobenius elements.

THEOREM 9.2. *Let $p \geq 3$, $r > 2p$ and $r \equiv 1 \mod (p-1)$, i.e., $b = p$. If $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) = \frac{3}{2}$, then further assume that $v(a_p^2 - p^3) = 3$. If $p^2 \mid r - p$, then $\bar{V}_{k,a_p}$ is reducible and*

$$\bar{V}_{k,a_p} \cong \mathrm{unr}\left(\sqrt{-1}\right)\omega \oplus \mathrm{unr}\left(-\sqrt{-1}\right)\omega.$$

Proof. We claim that the map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ given by Theorem 8.9 (ii), where $J_0 = V_{p-2} \otimes D$, factors through

$$\frac{\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G (V_{p-2} \otimes D)}{(T^2+1)} \cong \pi\left(p-2, \sqrt{-1}, \omega\right) \oplus \pi\left(p-2, -\sqrt{-1}, \omega\right).$$

Once this claim is proved, the result follows as we know that $\bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$ lies in the image of the mod p Local Langlands Correspondence.

Proof of the claim: We consider $f = f_2 + f_1 + f_0 \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G \mathrm{Sym}^r \bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$, given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= \sum_{\substack{\lambda\in\mathbb{F}_p,\\ \mu\in\mathbb{F}_p^*}} \left[g^0_{2,\, p[\mu]+[\lambda]}\,,\, \frac{1}{a_p}\cdot(Y^r - X^{r-p}Y^p)\right] \\ &\qquad + \sum_{\lambda\in\mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{2,[\lambda]}\,,\, \frac{(1-p)}{a_p}\cdot(Y^r - X^{r-p}Y^p)\right], \\ f_1 &= \sum_{\lambda\in\mathbb{F}_p} \left[g^0_{1,[\lambda]},\ \frac{(p-1)}{a_p^2}\cdot \sum_{\substack{1<j<r\\ j\equiv 1 \mod (p-1)}} \alpha_j\cdot X^{r-j}Y^j \right], \\ f_0 &= \left[\mathrm{Id},\, \frac{r}{pa_p}\cdot(X^{r-1}Y - X^{r-p}Y^p)\right], \end{aligned}$$

where the α_j are integers from Lemma 7.3 (i). If either $p \geq 5$ or $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) < 3/2$, then we use the fact that $p^2 \mid r-p$ and the properties satisfied by the α_j to conclude that all of T^+f_2, T^+f_1, T^-f_1, T^-f_0, $T^-f_2 - a_pf_1 + T^+f_0$ are integral and die mod p. Thus $(T-a_p)f$ is integral, and is congruent to $-a_pf_2 - a_pf_0 \mod p$, which equals

$$\sum_{\lambda,\,\mu\in\mathbb{F}_p} \left[\, g^0_{2,\, p[\mu]+[\lambda]}\,, X^{r-p}Y^p - Y^r\,\right] - \left[\mathrm{Id},\, \frac{r}{p}\cdot(X^{r-1}Y - X^{r-p}Y^p)\right].$$

Since Y^r, $X^{r-1}Y$ map to 0 in Q, and as $r/p \equiv 1 \mod p$ by hypothesis, the image of the integral function above in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$ is the same as that of $-\sum_{\lambda,\,\mu\in\mathbb{F}_p}\left[\, g^0_{2,\, p[\mu]+[\lambda]},\, \theta X^{r-p-1}\right] - \left[\mathrm{Id},\, \theta X^{r-p-1}\right]$, which, by the formula for T^2 and by Lemma 8.5, is the image of

$$(T^2+1)[\mathrm{Id}, -X^{p-2}] = \sum_{\lambda,\,\mu\in\mathbb{F}_p}\left[\, g^0_{2,\, p[\mu]+[\lambda]},\, -X^{p-2}\right] + \left[\mathrm{Id},\, -X^{p-2}\right] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$$

in $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$. As $[\mathrm{Id}, -X^{p-2}]$ generates $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$, the image $(T^2+1)(\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0)$ must map to 0 under the G-map $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0 \twoheadrightarrow \bar{\Theta}_{k,a_p}$.

When $p = 3$ and $v(a_p) \geq 3/2$, then $(T-a_p)f$ is not necessarily integral for the function f above. However, if we consider $f' := (a_p^2/p^3)\cdot f$, then $(T-a_p)f'$ is integral with reduction equal to the image of $c\cdot(T^2+1)[\mathrm{Id}, X] \in \mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G J_0$ inside $\mathrm{ind}_{KZ}^G Q$, for $c = \overline{1 - a_p^2/p^3} \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$. By the extra hypothesis when $v(a_p) = 3/2$, we see c is non-zero, and the result follows as before. □

ERRATA TO [GG15]

- p. 256, l. 21: $\alpha = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ p & 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ should be $\alpha = \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & p \end{smallmatrix}\right)$.
- p. 267, l. 13: "hat" should be "that".
- p. 273, l. 15: Sym $\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$ should be $\mathrm{Sym}^{2p}\bar{\mathbb{Q}}_p^2$.
- p. 274, l. 15 and l. 18: "$3 \leq a \leq p-3$" should be "$3 \leq a \leq p-1$".

- p. 284: When $a = p-1$, part (2) of Lemma 28 is not true, since $d_0 = -\frac{p-1}{p}$ is not integral and so w is non-integral. This can be corrected by modifying the function f_2. Set $f = f_0 + f_2$, with $f_0 = [\mathrm{Id}, \frac{1}{p}(X^{r-p+1}Y^{p-1} - X^r)]$. One checks that $T^- f_0$ is integral and vanishes mod p and that $T^+ f_0 + T^- f_2 = [g^0_{1,0}, w']$, with w' integral. Thus, $(T - a_p)f$ is integral and the proof of Theorem 27 proceeds as before with w replaced by w'.

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