

## EQUIVARIANT BP-COHOMOLOGY FOR FINITE GROUPS

N. YAGITA

*Dedicated to Professor T. Yamanoshita on the occasion of his 60th birthday*

**ABSTRACT.** The Brown-Peterson cohomology rings of classifying spaces of finite groups are studied, considering relations to the other generalized cohomology theories. In particular,  $BP^*(M)$  are computed for minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups  $M$ . As an application, we give a necessary condition for the existence of nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups of compact Lie groups.

### INTRODUCTION

The topology of classifying space  $BG$  for a finite group  $G$  is important in algebraic topology. Given generalized cohomology theory  $h^*(-)$ ,  $h^*(BG)$  plays the central role, e.g., cohomology of a group, completion of the representation ring and the Burnside ring when  $h$  is the ordinary cohomology, the complex  $K$ -theory, and the stable cohomotopy theory, respectively. Recently, the Morava  $K$ -theory of  $BG$  has been studied by Hopkins, Kuhn, and Ravenel [20]. For simplicity, let us denote  $k^*(BG)$  by  $k^*(G)$ .

In this paper, we study the Brown-Peterson cohomology  $BP^*(G)$  for a prime  $p$  and the related cohomology  $k^*(G)$  with the coefficient  $k^* = BP^*/(\text{Ideal } S)$ , where  $S$  is a set of generators in  $BP^*$ .

Landweber showed [3] that  $BP^*(Z/p^r)$  is a flat  $BP^*$ -module and for an abelian group  $A$ ,  $BP^*(A)$  is given by the tensor product of  $BP^*(Z/p^r)$ . For nonabelian  $p$ -groups, when  $|G| = p^3$ ,  $BP^*(G)$  is determined by Tezuka-Yagita [11] and some relations to the other cohomology theories are given by  $BP^*(G) \otimes_{BP^*} Z_{(p)} = H^{\text{even}}(G)$  and  $K(n)^*(G) = K(n)^* \otimes_{BP^*} BP^*(G)$ .

Consider the map induced from restrictions

$$r: k^*(G) \rightarrow \text{Lim inv } k^*(A),$$

$A \subset G$ , conjugacy classes of abelian groups. Ravenel conjectured that for  $k = BP$ ,  $r$  is an isomorphism [8]. Unfortunately, this does not hold, however, we show that for  $k = BP(-; Z/p)$ ,  $r$  is an  $F$ -isomorphism by using Quillen's argument, which showed that  $F$ -isomorphy for  $k = HZ/p$ , the ordinary mod  $p$  cohomology [6]. Moreover, we show that  $\rho: BP^*(G)_{BP^*} Z/p \rightarrow H^*(G; Z/p)$  is  $F$ -epic.

---

Received by the editors December 28, 1987.

1980 *Mathematics Subject Classification* (1985 Revision). Primary 55N22; Secondary 57R77.

*Key words and phrases.* Classifying space  $BG$ , cohomology of groups, BP-theory.

We will compute  $\mathrm{BP}^*(M)$  for  $M$ , minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups. Then  $\mathrm{BP}^*(M)$  is a flat  $\mathrm{BP}^*$ -module and the map  $r$  is injective for  $k^* = \mathrm{BP}^*$ . Moreover, if  $G$  is a group whose  $p$ -Sylow subgroup is a direct product of minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups and abelian groups, then  $r$  is injective and  $\mathrm{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} P(n)^* \cong P(n)^*(G)$ ,  $\mathrm{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} K(n) \cong K(n)^*(G)$ .

In the last section, to see that  $\mathrm{BP}^*(G)$  is useful, we will study the existence of nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups of compact Lie groups. For example, we prove that if  $G$  is a compact Lie group such that  $H^*(G)_{(p)} = \bigwedge(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $G$  contains nonabelian  $p$ -groups as subgroups, then  $p$  divides  $|x_i| + 1$  for some  $i$ .

This work builds on the joint work with M. Tezuka and a letter from D. Ravenel. The author thanks them.

## 1. COHOMOLOGY THEORIES

Let  $\mathrm{BP}^*(-)$  be the Brown-Peterson cohomology theory with the coefficient  $\mathrm{BP}^* = Z_{(p)}[v_1, \dots]$ ,  $|v_i| = -2p^i + 2$  for a prime  $p$ . Given a set of generators  $S = (v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_n}, \dots)$ , (here  $v_0 = p$ ), by using Baas-Sullivan theory [2, 13], we can construct cohomology theory  $\mathrm{BP}(S)^*(-)$  with the coefficient

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathrm{BP}(S)^* &= \mathrm{BP}^*/(\text{Ideal } S) = Z_{(p)}[v_j \mid j \neq i_k] \quad \text{if } p \notin S, \\ &= Z/p[v_j \mid j \neq i_k] \quad \text{if } p \in S. \end{aligned}$$

The cohomology  $\mathrm{BP}(S)^*(-)$  has a good multiplication, and if  $p \geq 3$  it is commutative. A useful result of this theory is the following Sullivan-Bockstein exact sequence; that is, if  $v_n$  is not contained in  $S$ , then

$$(1.2) \quad \mathrm{BP}(S)^*(X) \xrightarrow{v_n} \mathrm{BP}(S)^*(X) \xrightarrow{\rho} \mathrm{BP}(S, v_n)^*(X) \xrightarrow{\delta} \mathrm{BP}(S)^{*+2p^n-1}(X)$$

is exact, where  $v_n$  is a map of multiplying by  $v_n$ ,  $\rho$  is the natural induced map, and  $\delta$  is the  $v_n$ -Bockstein boundary map (for details see [2, 13]).

The examples of  $\mathrm{BP}(S)^*(-)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} P(n)^* &= \mathrm{BP}(p, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1})^* = Z/p[v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots], \\ k(n)^* &= \mathrm{BP}(p, \dots, v_n, \dots)^* = Z/p[v_n], \quad K(n)^* = [v_n^{-1}] \cdot k(n)^*, \\ \mathrm{BP}\langle n \rangle &= \mathrm{BP}(v_{n+1}, \dots)^* = Z_{(p)}[v_1, \dots, v_n], \\ HZ_{(p)}^* &= \mathrm{BP}(v_1, \dots)^* = Z_{(p)}, \quad HZ/p^* = Z/p. \end{aligned}$$

In this paper we consider these cohomology theories  $\mathrm{BP}(S)^*(-)$ . For simplicity of notation, we write it as  $k^*(-)$  and denote by  $\#(k)$  the cardinal number of the set  $(p, v_1, \dots) - S$ ; that is,  $\#(k) = n$  if  $k^* = Z/p[v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_n}]$  or  $k^* = Z_{(p)}[v_{i_1}, \dots, v_{i_{n-1}}]$ .

Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group and  $BG$  be its classifying space. Let  $PG$  be a contractible free  $G$ -space. Then the equivariant cohomology of a  $G$ -space  $X$  is defined by

$$(1.3) \quad K_G^*(X) = k^*(PG \times_G X) \quad \text{and} \quad k_G^*(pt) = k_G^* = k^*(G) = k^*(BG).$$

## 2. COHOMOLOGY OF ABELIAN GROUPS

Consider the homomorphism

$$m: S^1 \times S^1 \rightarrow S^1$$

defined by  $m(x, y) = x + y$  identifying  $S^1 = R/Z$ . The induced map of classifying spaces

$$(2.1) \quad m: BS^1 \times BS^1 \rightarrow BS^1, \quad BS^1 \cong CP^\infty,$$

is the usual product map induced from the tensor bundle. Take two-dimensional elements  $u, u_1, u_2$  so that  $k^*(CP^\infty \times CP^\infty) \cong k^*[[u_1, u_2]]$  and  $k^*(CP^\infty) \cong k^*[[u]]$ . Then the map from (2.1)

$$m^*(u) = \sum a_{ij} u_1^i u_2^j = u_1 +_k u_2$$

defines the formal group law [2, 7].

The formal group law for  $BP^*$ -theory is the universal group law for group laws over rings which are  $Z_{(p)}$ -modules. It is well known that

$$(2.2) \quad u_1 +_{BP} u_2 = u_1 + u_2 + v_1 \sum_{0 < i < p} \frac{1}{p} \binom{p}{i} u_1^i u_2^{p-i} + \cdots,$$

$$(2.3) \quad [p](u) = pu + v_1 u^p + \cdots + v_n u^{p^n} + \cdots$$

where  $[p](u)$  is the  $p$ th sum  $u +_{BP} \cdots +_{BP} u$ . Given an  $m \times m$ -matrix  $C = (c_{ij})$  over  $Z$ , it induces a map

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} C: S^1 \times \cdots \times S^1 &\rightarrow S^1 \times \cdots \times S^1, \\ C^*: k^*[[u_1, \dots, u_n]] &\rightarrow k^*[[u_1, \dots, u_n]], \quad \text{and} \\ C^*(u_i) &= \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}} [c_{ji}] (u_j). \end{aligned}$$

In particular, the short exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow Z/p^r \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow S^1 \rightarrow 0$$

induces the map of fiber spaces  $S^1 \rightarrow BZ/p^r \rightarrow BS^1$ . This follows the Gysin exact sequence and we have

$$(2.5) \quad k^*(Z/p^r) \cong k^*[[u]]/[p^r](u).$$

Landweber showed that the Künneth formula holds for  $BP^*$ -cohomology of abelian groups; that is,

$$(2.6) \quad BP^* \left( \bigoplus^s Z/p^{r_i} \right) \cong \bigotimes_{BP^*}^s BP^*(Z/p^{r_i}) \\ \cong BP^*[[u_1, \dots, u_s]]/([p^{r_1}](u_1), \dots, [p^{r_s}](u_s)).$$

We always assume that  $\bigotimes$  means the complete tensor product. Of course, the Künneth formula of this type does not hold for  $k = HZ(p)$ . By using Stretch's argument [10], we prove the Künneth formula for smaller  $p$ -rank groups.

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $A$  be an abelian  $p$ -group with  $\text{rank}_p A \leq \#(k)$ . Then  $k^*(A) \cong \bigotimes_{k^*} k^*(Z/p^{r_i})$ .*

*Proof.* From the Sullivan-Bockstein exact sequence and (2.6), it is easily seen that  $\rho : \text{BP}^*(A) \rightarrow k^*(A)$  is epic if and only if  $k^*(A) \cong \bigotimes_{k^*} k^*(Z/p^{r_i})$ . Hence we need only prove the result for the case  $\text{rank}_p A = \#(k)$ .

Let  $\text{rank}_p A = n$  and  $k^* = Z/p[v_{i1}, \dots, v_{in}]$ . Let us write  $s_i = [p^{r_i}](u_i)$ ,  $S_n = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$ , and  $k^*[U_n] = k^*[[u_1, \dots, u_n]]$ . Then we need to prove that  $S_n$  is regular in  $k^*[U_n]$ . Assume by induction that  $S_{n-1}$  is regular in  $k'^*[U_{n-1}]$  for all  $k'$  with  $\#(k') = n-1$  and  $k'^0 = Z/p$ .

Suppose the regularity does not hold, namely, there is  $a \in k^*[U_n]$  such that  $as_n \in \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$  but  $a \notin \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$ . Let us write

$$s_n = v_{i1}^l u_n^{l'} + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad a = a_1 u_n^j + a_2 u_n^{j+1} + \dots$$

with  $a_1 \notin \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$ . Since

$$as_n = a_1 v_{i1}^l u_n^{l''} + a u_n^{j''+1} + \dots \in \text{Ideal } S_{n-1},$$

we have  $a_1 v_{i1}^l \in \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$ . Therefore there is  $b \in k^*[U_{n-1}]$  such that  $b \notin \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$  but  $v_{i1} b \in \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$ .

Let  $k'^* = Z/p[v_{i2}, \dots, v_{in}]$ . Then by the inductive assumption,  $S_{n-1}$  is regular in  $k'^*[U_{n-1}]$ . Therefore  $K = k'^*[U_{n-1}] \otimes \wedge(e_1, \dots, e_{n-1})$ ,  $de_i = s_i$ , is a Koszul complex and it is an acyclic complex. Let us write  $v_{i1} b = \sum^{n-1} \mu_i s_i$ . Then  $d(\sum \mu_i e_i) = 0$  in  $K$  because  $v_{i1} = 0$  in  $k'^*$ . By the exactness of  $K$ , we can take  $c_{ij} \in k'^*[U_{n-1}]$  with

$$\sum \mu_i e_i = d \left( \sum c_{ij} e_i e_j \right).$$

Hence we get in  $k^*[U_n]$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_i &= \sum c_{ij} s_j + v_{i1} l_i, & c_{ij} &= -c_{ji}, \\ v_{i1} b &= \sum c_{ij} s_i s_j + \sum v_{i1} l_i s_i = \sum v_{i1} l_i s_i. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $b = \sum l_i s_i \in \text{Ideal } S_{n-1}$ . This is a contradiction. Hence we prove the theorem when  $k^0 = Z/p$ .

When  $k^0 = Z_{(p)}$ , we can prove the theorem by similar arguments, taking  $s_i = p^{r_i} u + \dots$  and  $k'^* = Z/p[v_{i1}, \dots, v_{in-1}]$ . Q.E.D.

**Remark 2.8.** For  $k^* = k(n)^*$ , we can easily see that

$$k(n)^*(Z/p \oplus Z/p) \cong k(n)^*[[y_1, y_2]]/([p](y_1), [p](y_2)) \oplus Z/p[y_1, y_2]\alpha$$

where  $\rho(\alpha) = Q_n(x_1 x_2)$  in  $H^*(Z/p \oplus Z/p; Z/p)$  and  $Q_i$  is the Milnor exterior operation,  $Q_0(x_i) = y_i$ . Moreover, when  $\#(k) = n$ , we see that  $k^*(\bigoplus^{n+1} Z/p)$

$\neq \bigotimes_{k^*} k^*(Z/p)$  because there is an element  $\alpha$  such that  $Q_{i_1} \cdots Q_{i_n}(x_1 \cdots x_{n+1}) = \rho(\alpha)$  or  $Q_{i_1} \cdots Q_{i_{n-1}} Q_0(x_1 \cdots x_{n+1}) = \rho(\alpha)$ .

### 3. THE RESTRICTION HOMOMORPHISM

Restriction map  $i_A^*: k^*(G) \rightarrow k^*(A)$  for all conjugacy classes of abelian subgroups  $A$  of  $G$  induce the map

$$(3.1) \quad r: k^*(G) \rightarrow \text{Lim inv } k^*(A),$$

$A \subset G$ , conjugacy classes of abelian  $p$ -groups. We will show that (3.1) is an  $F$ -isomorphism if  $\#(k) \geq \text{rank}_p G$  and  $k^0 = Z/p$ . A ring homomorphism  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is said to be an  $F$ -isomorphism if  $\text{Ker } f \subset \sqrt{0}$  (nilpotent elements) and for all  $b \in B$  there is  $i$  such that  $b^{p^i} \in \text{Image } f$ . Quillen proved the  $F$ -isomorphism of  $r$  for  $k = HZ/p$  and the conjugacy classes of elementary abelian  $p$ -groups  $eA$  [6]. However,  $\text{Ker } i^*$  of the restriction map  $i^*: k^*(Z/p^2) \rightarrow k^*(Z/p)$  is not nilpotent for  $\#(k) \geq 2$ , and we consider all abelian  $p$ -groups. Most arguments of this section are  $k^*$ -theory versions of Quillen's arguments [5].

**Lemma 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a compact manifold and  $G$  act on  $X$  smoothly. If  $u \in k_G^*(X)$  restricts to zero on each orbit of  $X$ , then  $u$  is nilpotent.*

*Proof.* The  $k^*$ -theory version of Lemma 3.9 in [5].

**Theorem 3.3.** *The kernel of  $r$  in (3.1) is nilpotent.*

*Proof.* Let  $\rho: G \hookrightarrow U$  be a unitary representation and  $T$  be a maximal torus of  $U$ . Consider the map of equivariant cohomologies

$$(3.4) \quad k^*(G) \cong k_G^*(pt) \xrightarrow{pr^*} k_G^*(U/T) \xrightarrow{i^*} k_G^*(Gx) \cong k_G^*(G/A) \cong k^*(A).$$

The orbits of  $G$  on the flag manifold  $U/T$  are of the form  $G/A$  where  $A$  is an abelian group as it is conjugated in  $U$  to a subgroup of  $T$ .

Assume that  $u \in k^*(G)$  and  $u|_A = 0$ . The image  $pr^*(u)$  restricts to zero on each orbit of  $U/T$ , hence it is nilpotent by Lemma 3.2. But the map  $pr^*$  is injective. Indeed, since  $k^*(-)$  is complex oriented, the Leray-Hirsch theorem holds; that is,  $k^*(BG) \rightarrow k^*(P(\rho^*\xi))$  is injective where  $P(\rho^*\xi)$  is a  $U/S^1$ -bundle induced from  $B\rho: BG \rightarrow BU$  of the universal bundle  $\xi$ . Q.E.D.

Let  $H$  be a subgroup of  $G$  such that  $[G; H] = m$ . Let  $\Sigma^m$  be the symmetric group of  $m$  letters. Then there is the inclusion

$$(3.5) \quad \Phi: G \hookrightarrow \Sigma^m \wr H = \Sigma^m \ltimes (H \times \cdots \times H).$$

Consider the inclusion map of classifying spaces

$$(3.6) \quad Bi: (BH)^m \hookrightarrow P\Sigma^m \times_{\Sigma^m} (BH)^m = B(\Sigma^m \ltimes H).$$

Denote by  $i_i$  the Gysin map of  $Bi$ , constructed by Quillen in [7] and for  $k = \text{BP}(S)$  in [13].

$$(3.7) \quad i_i: k^*((BH)^m) \rightarrow k^*(B(\Sigma^m \ltimes H)).$$

**Remark 3.8.** Let  $BG^N$  be an  $N$ -dimensional skeleton of  $BG$ . By dimensional reason of the spectral sequence  $H^*(BG^N, k^*) \Rightarrow k^*(BG^N)$ , we can easily prove

$$(3.9) \quad \text{Lim}_{N \rightarrow \infty} k^*(BG^N) = k^*(BG).$$

Here  $BG^N$  is a finite complex since  $G$  is a finite group. The Gysin map defined above is defined only on finite complexes; however, we can extend this to  $BG$  by (3.9).

Define the Evens norm  $N[H \hookrightarrow G]: k^*(H) \rightarrow k(G)$  by

$$(3.10) \quad N[H \hookrightarrow G](x) = \Phi^*(i_* x^m).$$

Then we can show that this norm has the following properties by the arguments of Evens for  $k^* = HZ_{(p)}$  in §6 in [1], namely transitivity, naturality, multiplicative property, and double coset formula.

**Lemma 3.11** ((2.1) in [5]). *If  $u \in k^*(G')$  is such that  $u|_{G''} = 1$  for all  $G'' \not\leq G'$ , then we have*

$$N[G' \hookrightarrow G](u) | K = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } G' \not\rightarrow K, \\ \prod_{g \in I} i_g^* u & \text{if } K = G', \end{cases}$$

where  $I$  is the set of cosets representative for  $G'$  in the normalizer  $N_G(G')$ , the notation  $G' \not\rightarrow K$  means  $G'$  is not conjugate to a subgroup of  $K$ , and  $i_g^*$  is the conjugation map by  $g$ .

Let  $A = \bigoplus^n Z/p^{r_i}$  and  $k^*(A) \cong \bigotimes_k k^*[[u_i]]/([p^{r_i}](u_i))$ . Define an element  $e_A \in k^*(A)$  by

$$(3.12) \quad e_A = \prod_{0 \neq (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in A} ([\lambda_1](u_1) +_k \dots +_k [\lambda_n](u_n)).$$

The element is unique except for multiplying units. It is immediate that if  $A' \not\subseteq A$  then  $e_A | A' = 0$ .

**Lemma 3.13** (Lemma 2.4 in [5]). *Let  $\#(k) \geq \text{rank}_p G$  and  $k^0 = Z/p$ . If  $[N_G(A); A] = qh$ ,  $q = p^s$  and  $(p, h) = 1$ , then there is  $v_A \in k^*(G)$  such that*

$$v_A | A' = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } A \not\rightarrow A', \\ e_A^q & \text{if } A = A'. \end{cases}$$

Moreover if  $y \in k^*(A)$  is invariant under  $N_G(A)$ , then there is an  $\alpha(y)$  in  $k^*(G)$  with  $\alpha(y)|A = y^q e_A^q$ .

*Proof.* Set  $z = N[A \hookrightarrow G](1 + e_A)$ . Then from (3.11) and the property of  $e_A$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} z | A &= (1 + e_A)^{qh} = (1 + e_A^q)^h \\ &= 1 + h e_A^q + \text{terms of higher degree}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking  $1/h$  times the homogeneous component of  $z$  of degree  $e_A^q$ , we have  $v_A$ . By taking  $z = N[A \hookrightarrow G](1 + e_A y)$  we have  $\alpha(y)$ . Q.E.D.

**Theorem 3.14.** *Let  $\#(k) \geq \text{rank}_p G$  and  $k^0 = \mathbb{Z}/p$ . Then  $r$  in (3.1) is an  $F$ -isomorphism.*

*Proof.* Given  $0 \neq (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m) = p^s(\lambda'_1, \dots, \lambda'_m)$ ,  $A = \bigoplus^m \mathbb{Z}/p^{r_i}$  with  $\lambda'_1 \neq 0 \pmod p$  for some  $i$ , take  $M$  to be a matrix such that the 1st column is  $(\lambda'_1, \dots, \lambda'_m)$  and  $M$  induces an automorphism of  $A$ . Then from (2.4) the kernel of the map in  $k^*$ -theory induced from

$$\mathbb{Z}/p^s \times \mathbb{Z}/p^{r_2} \times \dots \times \mathbb{Z}/p^{r_m} \hookrightarrow A \xrightarrow{M^{-1}} A$$

is the ideal generated by the following element in  $k^*(A)$ :

$$[\lambda_1](\mu_1) +_k \dots +_k [\lambda_m](u_m).$$

Therefore if  $x \in k^*(A)$  satisfies  $x|A' = 0$  for all  $A' \subsetneq A$ , then  $x^{p^r} \in \text{Ideal } e_A$ .

Given  $x \in \text{Lim inv } k^*(A)$  in (3.1), there is an abelian group  $A$  such that  $x|A' = 0$  for all  $A' \subsetneq A$  and  $0 \neq x|A \in k^*(A)^{N_G(A)}$ . Then  $x^{p^s}|A = e_A \alpha$  and  $\alpha \in k^*(A)^{N_G(A)}$  since  $e_A \in k^*(A)^{\text{Aut}(A)}$  from the definition of  $e_A$ . By Lemma 3.13, we have completed the proof. Q.E.D.

#### 4. RELATION TO $H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}/p)$

In [11], we see that when  $G$  is an abelian  $p$ -group or  $|G| = p^3$ , there is an isomorphism

$$(\text{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\text{BP}^*} \mathbb{Z}_{(p)})/\sqrt{0} \cong H^*(G)/\sqrt{0}.$$

We consider some extensions of this fact. Restriction maps to elementary abelian  $p$ -groups  $eA$  of  $G$  induce the map

$$(4.1) \quad k^*(G) \xrightarrow{r'} \text{Lim inv } k^*(eA) \xrightarrow{j} \prod k^*(eA)$$

$eA \hookrightarrow G$ , conjugacy classes of elementary abelian  $p$ -groups. Let

$$J = (ir')^{-1}(\text{Ideal}(p, v_1, \dots)).$$

Of course,  $k^*(G)/J$  is a quotient algebra of  $k^*(G) \otimes_{k^*} \mathbb{Z}/p$ .

**Theorem 4.2.** *If  $\#(k) \geq \text{rank}_p G$ , then there is an  $F$ -isomorphism  $\rho/J: k^*(G)/J \hookrightarrow H^*(G; \mathbb{Z}/p)/\sqrt{0}$ .*

*Proof.* By the definition of  $J$ , there is an injection

$$k^*(G)/J \hookrightarrow \prod k^*(eA) \otimes_{k^*} \mathbb{Z}/p \cong \prod H^*(eA; \mathbb{Z}/p)/\sqrt{0}.$$

Hence  $k^*(G)/J \xrightarrow{\rho_{r'/J}} \text{Lim inv } H^*(eA; \mathbb{Z}/p)/\sqrt{0}$  is injective. By the same arguments as in the proof of Theorem 3.14,  $r'$  is  $F$ -epic. We show

$$\rho: k^*(eA)^{W_G(A)} \rightarrow H^*(eA; \mathbb{Z}/p)^{W_G(A)}$$

is also  $F$ -epic. Indeed, given  $w \in W_G(A)$  and  $\alpha \in H^*(eA; Z/p)^{(w)}$ ,  $|w| = p^k p'$ ,  $(p, p') = 1$ , we take  $\tilde{\alpha} \in k^*(eA)$  with  $\rho(\tilde{\alpha}) = \alpha$  and

$$\tilde{\alpha}_w = \frac{1}{p'} \sum_{j=0}^{p'-1} w^{*j\rho^k} \left( \prod_{i=0}^{p^k-1} w^{*ip'} \tilde{\alpha} \right)$$

so that  $w^* \tilde{\alpha}_w = \tilde{\alpha}_w$  and  $\rho(\tilde{\alpha}_w) = \alpha^{p'}$ . Therefore we can prove  $\rho'/J$  is an  $F$ -isomorphism by the arguments similar to Theorem 3.14.

Quillen's main theorem [6] says that  $H^*(G; Z/p) \rightarrow \lim \operatorname{inv} H^*(eA; Z/p)$  is an  $F$ -isomorphism. Hence we have the theorem. Q.E.D.

**Corollary 4.3.** *There is an  $F$ -isomorphism*

$$\rho: k(n)^*(G) \otimes_{k(n)^*} Z/p \hookrightarrow H^*(G; Z/p).$$

*Proof.* Since there is cohomology theory  $k^*$  such that  $\rho: k^*(-) \rightarrow k(n)^*(-)$  and  $\#(k) = \infty$ , the map is  $F$ -epic from Theorem 4.2. By the Sullivan-Bockstein exact sequence, it is also injective. Q.E.D.

## 5. RELATION TO THE MORAVA $K$ -THEORY

Recall  $P(n)^* = \operatorname{BP}^*/(p, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1}) \cong Z/p[v_n, \dots]$ . We see in [11] that when  $G$  is an abelian  $p$ -group or  $|G| = p^3$ , there is an isomorphism

$$(5.1) \quad \operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^* \cong P(n)^*(G) \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1.$$

By the Sullivan-Bockstein exact sequence, (5.1) is equivalent to

$$(5.2) \quad v_n: \operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^* \rightarrow \operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^*$$

is injective for each  $n \geq 0$ .

The Landweber exact functor theorem [4] says that if  $\operatorname{BP}^*(G)$  satisfies (5.2), then  $\operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} -$  is an exact functor for finite  $\operatorname{BP}^*(\operatorname{BP})$  modules. Moreover,  $P(n)^*(G) \otimes_{P(n)^*} -$  is also an exact functor from [12].

**Theorem 5.3.** *If a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is a direct product of groups which satisfy (5.2), then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^* &\cong P(n)^*(G), \\ \operatorname{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} K(n)^* &\cong K(n)^*(G). \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Let  $P = P_1 \oplus \dots \oplus P_s$  and  $P_i$  satisfies (5.2). By the exact functor theorem for  $P(n)^*$ -theory

$$P(n)^*(- \wedge \operatorname{BP}_i) \cong P(n)^*(-) \otimes_{P(n)^*} P(n)^*(P_i)$$

because both are cohomology theories with the same coefficient. Hence  $P(n)^*(P) \cong \bigotimes_{P(n)^*} P(n)^*(P_i)$ . Therefore we have

$$P(n)^*(P) \cong \left( \bigotimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} \operatorname{BP}^*(P_i) \right) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^* \cong \operatorname{BP}^*(P) \otimes_{\operatorname{BP}^*} P(n)^*.$$



Hence  $P$  satisfies (5.1) and so (5.2). Since  $P(n)^*(G) \hookrightarrow P(n)^*(P)$ , multiplying  $v_n$  in  $P(n)^*(G)$  is injective. By the Conner-Floyd type theorem,  $P(n)^*(-) \otimes_{P(n)^*} K(n)^* \cong K(n)^*(-)$ , and we have the theorem. Q.E.D.

## 6. MINIMAL NONABELIAN $p$ -GROUPS

For an odd prime  $p$ , the minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups are of two types (Redéi [9])

Type 1.  $G_1 = \langle a, b; a^{p^\alpha} = b^{p^\beta} = 1, [a, b] = a^{p^{\alpha-1}} \rangle$ ,

Type 2.  $G_2 = \langle a, b, c; a^{p^\alpha} = b^{p^\beta} = c^p = 1, [a, b] = c, [c, a] = [c, b] = 1 \rangle$ .

When  $p = 2$ , there is an isomorphism  $G_1$  ( $\alpha = 2, \beta = 1$ )  $\cong G_2$  ( $\alpha = 1, \beta = 1$ ) and we need to add another type

$$Q = \langle a, b; a^4 = 1, a^2 = b^2 = [a, b] \rangle.$$

For each of the above types, there is an exact sequence

$$(6.1) \quad 1 \rightarrow C \rightarrow G \rightarrow Z/p \oplus Z/p \rightarrow 1$$

where  $C$  is the center of  $G$  and is isomorphic to  $\langle a^p, b^p \rangle$  for Type 1 and  $\langle c, a^p, b^p \rangle$  for Type 2. The induced Hochschild-Serre spectral sequence is

$$(6.2) \quad \begin{aligned} E_2^{*,*} &= H^*(Z/p \oplus Z/p; \mathbf{BP}^*(C)) \\ &\cong \tilde{Z}/p[y_1, y_2] \otimes \bigwedge(\alpha) \otimes \mathbf{BP}^*(C) \Rightarrow \mathbf{BP}^*(G) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{Z}/p[a]$  means  $Z[a]/(pa)$  and  $|y_1| = |y_2| = 2$  and  $|\alpha| = 3$ . Let us write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{BP}^*(C) &= \mathbf{BP}^*[[u, u_1, u_2]]/([p](u), [p^{\alpha-1}](u_1), [p^{\beta-1}](u_2)) \quad \text{or} \\ &= \mathbf{BP}^*[[u_1, u_2]]/([p^\alpha](u_1), [p^{\beta-1}](u_2)). \end{aligned}$$

We will compute the spectral sequence (6.2).

Type 2. Consider the quotient map  $q$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 & \longrightarrow & C & \longrightarrow & G & \longrightarrow & Z/p \oplus Z/p \longrightarrow 1 \\ & & \downarrow q & & \downarrow q & & \parallel \\ 1 & \longrightarrow & \langle c \rangle & \longrightarrow & G/\langle a^p, b^p \rangle & \longrightarrow & Z/p \oplus Z/p \longrightarrow 1. \end{array}$$

The spectral sequence  $\tilde{E}_r^{*,*}$  induced from the lower exact sequence is known from [11]. The differentials are

$$(6.4) \quad d_3 u = \alpha,$$

$$(6.5) \quad d_{2p-1} u^{p-1} \alpha = y_1^p y_2 - y_1 y_2^p,$$

and we get

$$(6.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \tilde{E}_{2p}^{*,*} &\cong \tilde{E}_\infty^{*,*} \cong \mathbf{BP}^* \otimes (Z\{pu, \dots, pu^{p-1}\}) \oplus Z/p[[y_1, y_2]]/(y_1^p y_2 - y_1 y_2^p) \\ &\quad \otimes Z[[u^p]]/([p](u)). \end{aligned}$$

There are splitting maps  $\langle b \rangle \rightrightarrows G$ ,  $\langle a \rangle \rightrightarrows G$  which induced that  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are permanent cycles. Since  $\mathrm{BP}^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle)$  is a flat  $\mathrm{BP}^*(\mathrm{BP})$ -modules, we have

$$(6.7) \quad E_r^{*,*} \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} \mathrm{BP}^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle) \cong E_r^{*,*}.$$

In particular, we get

$$(6.8) \quad E_\infty^{*,*} \cong (6.6) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} \mathrm{BP}^*([u_1, u_2]/([p^{\alpha-1}](u_1), [p^{\beta-1}](u_2))).$$

Type 1 case. First, we consider the case  $\beta = 1$  and denote by  $\tilde{E}_r^{*,*}$  the induced spectral sequence from (6.1). Consider also the spectral sequence converging to  $H^*(G_1; Z)$ . Since

$$H^2(G_1; Z) \cong \mathrm{Hom}(G_1; Q/Z) \cong Z/p^{\alpha-1}, \quad \beta = 1,$$

we get  $d_3 u = \alpha$ . Moreover, considering the spectral sequence converging to  $H^*(G_1; Z/p)$ , we also have  $d_{2p-1} u^{p-1} \alpha = y_1^p y_2 - y_1 y_2^p$ . Similar results hold in  $\mathrm{BP}^*$ -theory. Therefore  $E_\infty^{*,*} \cong E_{2p}^{*,*} \cong (6.6)$ . The flatness of  $\mathrm{BP}^*(\langle b^p \rangle)$  implies  $E_r^{*,*} \cong (6.6) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} \mathrm{BP}^*(\langle b^p \rangle)$ ,

$$(6.9) \quad E_\infty^{*,*} \cong (6.6) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} \mathrm{BP}^*([u_2]/([p^{\beta-1}](u_2))).$$

**Corollary 6.10.** For  $G_1$  or  $G_2$ , the image of the map

$$j: \mathrm{BP}^*(G) \rightarrow \mathrm{BP}^*(\langle c \rangle) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} Z/p \cong Z/p[u]$$

is  $\mathrm{Im} j = Z/p[u^p]$ .

**Remark 6.11.** For  $G_2$ ,  $\alpha \geq 2$ ,  $\beta \geq 2$ , the image of the map

$$j: H^*(G_2) \rightarrow H^*(\langle c \rangle) \cong \tilde{Z}/p[u]$$

is  $\mathrm{Im} j = \mathrm{Ideal} u^2$ . (See [14, 19] for more details.) We explain here the difference of spectral sequences for  $H^*(G_2)$  and  $\mathrm{BP}^*(G_2)$ . Consider the spectral sequence from (6.1) for  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\beta = 2$ :

$$E_2^{*,*} = H^*(Z/p \oplus Z/p; H^*(C)) \Rightarrow H^*(G),$$

$$E_2^{*,*}(Z/p) = H^*(Z/p \oplus Z/p; H^*(C; Z/p)) \Rightarrow H^*(G; Z/p).$$

Then  $E_2^{*,0}(Z/p) = Z/p[y_1, y_2] \otimes \wedge(x_1, x_2)$ ,  $E_2^{0,*}(Z/p) = Z/p[u_1, u_2, u_3] \otimes \wedge(z_1, z_2, z_3)$ , and  $E_2^{*,*'}(Z/p) \cong E_2^{*,0}(Z/p) \otimes E_2^{0,*'}(Z/p)$ . The integral parts are  $E_2^{*,0} \cong \tilde{Z}/p[y_1, y_2] \otimes \wedge(\beta(x_1 x_2))$  where  $\beta$  is the Bockstein operation,  $E_2^{0,*} \cong \tilde{Z}/p[u_1, u_2, u_3] \otimes \{1, \beta(z_i z_j), \beta(z_1 z_2 z_3)\}$ , and  $E_2^{*,*'} \cong E_2^{*,0} \otimes E_2^{0,*'}(Z/p)$  for  $* > 0$ . The first differentials are

$$d_2 z_1 = y_1, \quad d_2 z_2 = y_2, \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 z_3 = x_1 x_2.$$

Then  $d_3 u_3 = \beta(x_1 x_2) \neq 0$ . However,  $d_3 u_3^2 = 0$ . Indeed,

$$d_2(x_2 \beta(z_1 z_3) - x_1 \beta(z_2 z_3)) = \beta(x_1 x_2) u_3,$$

which is also the image  $d_3 u_3^2$ . Therefore we see that  $u_3^2$  is a permanent cycle.

**Remark 6.12.** From Corollary 6.10 and Remark 6.11, the map  $\rho/J$  in Theorem 4.2 is not epic for  $G_2$ ,  $\beta \geq 2$ ,  $\alpha \geq 2$ .

**Theorem 6.13.** *If a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup  $P$  of  $G$  is a direct product of minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups and abelian  $p$ -groups, then*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} P(n)^* &\cong P(n)^*(G), \\ \mathrm{BP}^*(G) \otimes_{\mathrm{BP}^*} K(n)^* &\cong K(n)^*(G).\end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* From Theorem 5.3, we need to prove (5.1) only in the cases  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . We will prove here the case  $G_2$  only; the other case is proved by a similar argument. Consider the exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow \langle a^p, b^p \rangle \rightarrow G_2 \rightarrow E \rightarrow 1,$$

where  $E = G_2$  ( $\alpha = 1, \beta = 1$ ), and the induced spectral sequences

$$\begin{aligned}E_2^{*,*} = H^*(E; P(n)^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle)) &\cong H^*(E; P(n)^*) \otimes_{P(n)^*} P(n)^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle) \\ &\Rightarrow P(n)^*(G_2),\end{aligned}$$

$$\tilde{E}_2^{*,*} = H^*(E; P(n)) \Rightarrow P(n)^*(E).$$

Since all elements in  $P(n)^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle)$  are permanent, we have  $E_r^{*,*} \cong \tilde{E}_r^{*,*} \otimes_{P(n)^*} P(n)^*(\langle a^p, b^p \rangle)$  by flatness and naturality. In particular,  $\tilde{E}_\infty^{*,*}$  is generated by even-dimensional elements; so is  $E_\infty^{*,*}$ . Hence  $G_2$  satisfies (5.2) because if  $v_n: P(n-1)^*(G_2) \rightarrow P(n-1)^*(G_2)$  is not injective, then  $P(n)^{\mathrm{odd}}(G_2) \neq 0$  by the Sullivan-Bockstein spectral sequence. Q.E.D.

**Theorem 6.14.** *If a  $p$ -Sylow subgroup  $p$  of  $G$  is a direct product of minimal nonabelian  $p$ -groups and abelian groups, then  $r$  in (3.1) is injective for  $k^* = \mathrm{BP}^*$  or  $P(n)^*$ .*

*Proof.* We need to prove the case  $G = G_1$  or  $G_2$ . We will prove the case  $k^* = \mathrm{BP}^*$  and the other cases are proved similarly. Let  $A$  be a maximal abelian  $p$ -subgroup of  $G$ . Let us denote by  $E_r^{*,*}(A)$  the spectral sequence induced from

$$1 \rightarrow C \rightarrow A \rightarrow Z/p \rightarrow 1.$$

Then the spectral sequence collapses and we have

$$E_\infty^{*,*}(A) \cong \mathrm{BP}^*(C) \otimes \tilde{Z}/p[y].$$

Let us denote by  $E_r^{*,*}(G)$  the spectral sequence induced from (6.1). Then we know  $E_\infty^{*,*}(G)$  by (6.6), (6.8), and (6.9).

We will prove that for each  $x \in E_\infty^{*,*}(G)$ , there is an abelian subgroup  $A$  with  $i^*(x) \neq 0$  in  $E_\infty^{*,*}(A)$ ,  $i: A \hookrightarrow G$ .

When  $x \in E_\infty^{0,*}(G)$ , this is obvious since  $E_\infty^{0,*}(G) \hookrightarrow E_\infty^{0,*}(A)$ .

We will prove that  $i^*(x) \neq 0$  for  $x \in E_\infty^{r,*}(G)$ ,  $r$  positive. Suppose  $x$  is written such that  $x = ay_1^s + y_2c$  where  $a \neq 0$  in  $\mathrm{BP}^*/p[[u^p]]/([p](u))$ . Then  $x | \langle a \rangle = ay_1^s \neq 0$ . Suppose  $x$  is written so that

$$x = ay_1^s(\lambda_1 y_1^{p-1} y_2 + \lambda_2 y_1^{p-2} y_2^2 + \cdots + \lambda_{p-1} y_1 y_2^{p-1}) + b(y_1^{s+p} y_2 + \cdots) + \cdots.$$

If  $A/C \cong \langle ab^\mu \rangle$ , we take a two-dimensional element  $y$  so that  $i^*(y_1) = y$  and  $i^*(y_2) = \mu y$ . Hence

$$i^*(x)(\lambda_1\mu + \lambda_2\mu^2 + \cdots + \lambda_{p-1}\mu^{p-1})ay^{s+p} + b'.$$

Since  $0 = 1 - \mu^{p-1} = (1 - \mu)(1 + \mu + \cdots + \mu^{p-2})$ , if  $i^*(x) = 0$  for all  $\mu \neq 1$ , then  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \cdots = \lambda_{p-1} = 1$ . But when  $\mu = 1$ ,  $i^*(x) = (p-1)ay^{s+p} + b' \neq 0$ . Q.E.D.

**Proposition 6.15.** *For each minimal nonabelian  $p$ -group  $G$ , the restriction maps  $\text{BP}^*(G) \rightarrow \text{BP}^*(A)^{W_G(A)}$  are epic for all maximal abelian subgroups  $A$ .*

*Proof.* Each maximal abelian subgroup of  $G$  is isomorphic to  $\langle ab^\mu, c, b^p \rangle$  or  $\langle b, c \rangle$  (Type 1 case  $c = a^p$ ). We will prove the map is epic for the case  $A = \langle a, c, b^p \rangle$  and Type 2. The other cases are proved similarly.

The map induced from the conjugation on  $b$  is given by

$$b^*u = u +_{\text{BP}} [p^{\alpha-1}](y_1), \quad b^*y_1 = y_1, \quad b^*y_2 = y_2.$$

We can prove that

$$\text{BP}^*(A)^{\langle b \rangle} \cong \frac{\text{BP}^*(\{1, Nu, \dots, Nu^{p-1}\} \otimes [[U, y_1, y_2]])}{([p](u), [p^{\alpha-1}](y_1), [p^{\beta-1}](y_2))}$$

where

$$Nu^s = \sum b^{i^*}u^s = pu^s + \cdots, \\ U = \prod b^{i^*}u = u^p + p^{\alpha-1}y_1^p + \cdots.$$

Therefore, from (6.6) and (6.8) we show the epimorphism.

The invariant is computed, for example, as follows. Let

$$x = (u^s + a_1u^{s+1} + \cdots)y_1^k + by_1^{k+1} + \cdots \text{ in } \text{BP}^*(\langle a, c \rangle),$$

with  $s \not\equiv 0 \pmod p$  and  $a_i \in \text{BP}^*[[y]]/[p^\alpha](y)$ . Then

$$b^*x = ((u +_{\text{BP}} [p^{\alpha-1}](y_1))^s + a_1(u +_{\text{BP}} [p^{\alpha-1}](y_1))^{s+1} + \cdots)y_1^k + \cdots, \\ (1 - b^*)x \equiv p^{\alpha-1}((su^{s-1}y_1 + v_1su^{p+s-2}y_1 + \cdots) + a_1(s+1)u^s y_1 + \cdots)y_1^k \\ \equiv sv_1^{\alpha-1}u^{(p-1)(\alpha-1)+s-1}y_1^{k+1} \pmod{(p^\alpha, y_1^{k+2}, u^{(p-1)(\alpha-1)+s})},$$

which is nonzero. Q.E.D.

Ravenel conjectured that  $r$  in (3.1) is isomorphic for  $k^* = \text{BP}$ . However this does not correct. Suppose  $p \geq 3$  and  $G = G_2$  ( $\alpha = \beta = 1$ ). Let  $A^\mu = \langle ab^\mu, c \rangle$  and  $A^p = \langle b, c \rangle$  be the maximal abelian subgroups in  $G$ . By the arguments similar to the proof of Proposition 6.15, there is an element  $\hat{y}_\mu \in \text{BP}^2(A^\mu)^{W_G(A^\mu)}$  such that  $\hat{y}_\mu | \langle ab^\mu \rangle \neq 0 \pmod{(p, v_1, \dots)}$  and  $\hat{y}_\mu | \langle c \rangle = 0$ . Consider the element

$$y = (0, \hat{y}_1, 0, 0, \dots, 0) \in \text{BP}^*(A^1)^W \times \text{BP}^*(A^1)^W \times \cdots \times \text{BP}^*(A^p)^W,$$

which is in  $\text{Lim BP}^*(A)$  since  $A^\mu \cap A^\lambda = \langle c \rangle$  for  $\mu \neq \lambda$ . Recall that [11]  $\text{BP}^*(G)/(p, v_1, \dots)$  is generated by  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  with  $y_1|A^0 = \tilde{y}_0$ ,  $y_1|A^p = 0$ ,  $y_2|A^0 = 0$  and  $y_2|A^p = \tilde{y}_p$ . Hence there is no two-dimensional element  $y$  in  $\text{BP}^*(G)$  such that  $y|A^1 = \tilde{y}_1$  and  $y|A^\mu = 0$  for all  $\mu \neq 1$ .

## 7. APPLICATIONS; NONABELIAN $p$ -SUBGROUP

In this section we consider the existence of nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups of topological groups by using Corollary 6.10.

**Theorem 7.1.** *Let  $G$  be a compact group such that  $H^*(BG)_{(p)}$  is finitely generated as a ring and  $\rho: \text{BP}^*(BG) \rightarrow H^*(BG)/(p, \sqrt{0})$  is epic. If  $G$  contains nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups, then there is a ring generator  $x \in H^*(G)/(p, \sqrt{0})$  with  $2p \mid |x|$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $P$  be a minimal nonabelian  $p$ -subgroup and  $D \cong Z/p$  be the subgroup generated by  $c$  for Type 2 and  $a^{p^{n-1}}$  for Type 1. Consider the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \text{BP}^*(BG) & \xrightarrow{i_{\text{BP}}^*} & \text{BP}^*(P) & \xrightarrow{j_{\text{BP}}^*} & \text{BP}^*(D) \\ \downarrow \rho_G & & \downarrow \rho_P & & \downarrow \rho_D \\ H^*(BG)/(p, \sqrt{0}) & \xrightarrow{i_H^*} & \text{BP}^*(P)/(p, \sqrt{0}) & \xrightarrow{j_H^*} & H^*(D)/(p) \cong Z/p[u]. \end{array}$$

From Corollary 6.10,  $\text{Im}(\rho_D j_{\text{BP}}^*) = Z/p[u^p]$ . Hence

$$\text{Im}(j_H^* i_H^* \rho_G) = \text{Im}(\rho_D j_{\text{BP}}^* i_{\text{BP}}^*) \subset Z/p[u^p].$$

Since  $\rho_G$  is epic,  $\text{Im}(j_H^* i_H^*) \subset Z/p[u^p]$ . From Quillen's main theorem of equivariant cohomology [6],  $j_H^* i_H^* \neq 0$  for some  $*$   $> 0$ . Therefore there is a ring generator  $x \in H^*(G)/(p, \sqrt{0})$  such that  $j_H^* i_H^*(x) = u^{ps}$ . Q.E.D.

**Corollary 7.2.** *Let  $G$  be a compact Lie group containing nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups.*

- (1) *If  $H^*(G)_{(p)} \cong \bigwedge(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ , then there is  $i$  with  $2p \mid |x_i| + 1$ .*
- (2) *If  $H^*(BG)/(p, \sqrt{0})$  is generated by  $c_{i_s}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq n$ ,  $i_s$  th Chern classes of some representations, then there is  $s$  such that  $2p \mid i_s$ .*

**Remark 7.3.** (1) of the above corollary is an immediate consequence of a result of Borel-Serre [15] and its converse also holds. Let  $P \subset G$  be a  $p$ -group. By [15], we may (after conjugation) assume  $P \subset N(T)$ , the normalizer of a maximal torus  $T$ . If  $P$  is nonabelian, then  $P \not\subset T$  and  $p$  divides the order  $|W|$  of the Wyle group  $W = N(T)/T$ . Since  $|W| = \prod(|x_i| + 1)/2$ , we have (1).

Conversely, if  $p \mid |W|$ , then  $N(T)$  contains nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups. The extension  $T \rightarrow N(T) \rightarrow W$  defines an element of  $H^2(W, T) \cong 0$  or  $Z/2 \oplus \dots \oplus Z/2$  [18]. So an element of order  $p$  in  $W$  lifts to an element  $x$  of order

$p$  ( $\cdot$ , 2 or 4 for  $p = 2$ ). Let  $V \subset T$  be the set of solutions of  $t^p = 1$  ( $t^4 = 1$  for  $p = 2$ ). Since  $x$  acts nontrivially on  $T$ ,  $x$  also acts nontrivially on  $V$ . If we consider  $V$  as a vector space over  $F_p$ , then the action on it is given by a Jordan decomposition, so we can find a subspace of dimension 2 on which the action is given by  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . This means that there is a subgroup of Type 2  $\alpha = \beta = 1$  (nonabelian group of order  $\leq 4^3$  for  $p = 2$ ).

This remark is due to J. F. Adams. The author is grateful to Professor Adams for his kind comments.

**Example 7.4.** The cohomologies of simply connected simple Lie groups are known and the cohomologies of some cases of their classifying spaces are known. For example,

$$H^*(BSU(n)) \cong Z[y_4, \dots, y_{2n-1}],$$

$$H^*(BE_7)_{(p)} \cong Z_{(p)}[y_i \mid i = 4, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 36] \quad \text{for } p \geq 5.$$

Thus  $SU(n)$ , ( $\cdot$ ,  $\text{Sp}(n)$ ,  $\text{SO}(2n+1)$ ) contains nonabelian  $p$ -subgroup if and only if  $p \leq n$ . The exceptional Lie group  $G_2$  (resp.  $F_4$ ,  $E_6$ ,  $E_7$ ,  $E_8$ ) contains nonabelian  $p$ -subgroups if and only if  $p \leq 3$  (resp.  $\leq 3$ ,  $\leq 5$ ,  $\leq 7$ ,  $\leq 7$ ).

Let  $G(F_q)$  be the  $F_q$ -rational points of the universal Chevalley group of the reductive complex Lie group type  $G$ . Let  $q = p^s$  and  $l \neq p$ . Then  $H^*(BG; Z/l) \cong H^*(BG(\overline{F}_p); Z/l)$  where  $\overline{F}_p$  is the algebraic closure of  $F_p$  [16]. the cohomology of the  $F_q$ -rational points is computed by considering the coinvariant under the Frobenius-Adams operation  $\sigma_p$ . Let  $r$  be the smallest number such that  $q^r \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$ . Quillen showed  $H^*(\text{GL}_n(F_q))/(l, \sqrt{l}) \cong Z/l[c_r, c_{2r}, \dots, c_{r[n/r]}]$ ; in this case we get  $\sigma_q c_i = q^i c_i$ . Hence if  $\text{GL}_n(F_q)$  contains nonabelian  $l$ -subgroups, then  $lr \leq n$ . Exceptional Lie group types are computed by Kleinerman [17]. For example, in the case  $G = E_7$ ,  $\sigma_q y_i = q^{i/2} y_i$ . Hence  $H^*(BE_7(F_q))/(l, \sqrt{l}) \cong Z/l[y_i \mid 2l \nmid i]$ . Therefore we see that if  $E_7(F_q)$  contains nonabelian 5-subgroups (resp. 7-subgroups), then  $r = 1, 2, 5, 10$  (resp.  $r = 1, 2, 7, 14$ ). When  $l = p$ , exceptional Lie types always contain nonabelian  $l$ -subgroups, since they contain  $\text{SL}_3(F_p)$ .

## REFERENCES

1. L. Evens, *A generalization of the transfer map in the cohomology of groups*, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **108** (1963), 54–65.
2. D. Johnson and S. Wilson, *BP operations and Morava's extraordinary K-theories*, Math. Z. **144** (1975), 55–75.
3. P. Landweber *Conference, flatness and cobordism of classifying spaces*, Proc. Aarhus Summer Institute on Algebraic Topology 1970, pp. 256–269.
4. —, *Homological properties of comodules over  $MU_*(MU)$  and  $BP_*(BP)$* , Amer. J. Math. **98** (1976), 591–610.
5. D. Quillen, *A topological criterion for  $p$ -nilpotency*, J. Pure Appl. Algebra **4** (1971), 373–376.
6. —, *The spectrum of an equivariant ring. I, II*, Ann. of Math. **94** (1971), 549–572, 573–602.

7. —, *Elementary proofs of some results of cobordism theory using Steenrod operation*, Adv. in Math. **7** (1971), 29–56.
8. D. Ravenel, private communication.
9. L. Redéi, *Das schiefe Product in der Gruppentheorie*, Comment. Math. Helv. **20** (1947), 225–264.
10. C. Stretch *Stable cohomology and cobordism of abelian groups*, Math. Proc. Cambridge Philos. Soc. **90** (1981), 273–278.
11. M. Tezuka and N. Yagita, *Cohomology of finite groups and the Brown-Peterson cohomology*, Lecture Notes in Math., vol. 1370, Springer.
12. N. Yagita, *The exact functor theorem for  $BP^*/I_n$ -theory*, Proc. Japan Acad. **52** (1976), 1–3.
13. —, *On relations between Brown-Peterson cohomology and the ordinary mod  $p$  cohomology theory*, Kodai Math. J. **7** (1984), 273–285.
14. —, *On the dimension of spheres whose product admits a free action by a non abelian  $p$ -group*, Quart. J. Math. Oxford Ser. **36** (1985), 117–127.
15. A Borel and J. P. Serre, *Sur certain sous-groupes des groupes de Lie compacts*, Comment. Math. Helv. **27** (1953), 128–139.
16. E. Friedlander and G. Mislin, *Cohomology of classifying spaces of complex Lie groups and related discrete groups*, Comment. Math. Helv. **59** (1984), 347–361.
17. S. Kleinerman, *The cohomology of Chevalley groups of exceptional Lie type*, Mem. Amer. Math. Soc. **268** (1982).
18. S. Ihara and T. Yokonuma, *On the second cohomology groups (Shur-multipliers) of finite reflection groups*, J. Fac. Sci. Univ. Tokyo Sect. **11** (1965), 155–171.
19. C. B. Thomas, *Characteristic classes and the cohomology of finite group*, Cambridge Univ. Press, 1987.
20. M. Hopkins N. Kuhn, and D. Ravenel, *Generalized group characters and complex oriented cohomology theories* (to appear).

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, MUSASHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, TAMAZUTUMI SETA-GAYA, TOKYO, JAPAN