

# Brauer group of Lubin-Tate spectra

Lennart Meier 15-03-2021

## I Motivation and context

Say, we want to classify skew-fields  $D$

It is an (division) algebra over its center  $K$ , which is a field

Need to classify division algebras  $A_K$  with  
center  $K$  (central division algebras)

up to isom for fields  $K$ . (assume  $\dim_K D < \infty$ )

Problem: This is an unstructured set.

## Azumaya algebras and Brauer groups

Def: Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a sym mon presentable  $\omega$ -cat  
(eg.  $\text{Mod}_K^\circ$ ).

- Two algebras  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  are Morita equivalent if  $\text{Mod}_A$  and  $\text{Mod}_B$  are equivalent as  $\mathcal{C}$ -lin categories (ie. as  $\mathcal{C}$ -modules in  $\text{Pr}^L$ )

.. An algebra  $A$  in  $\mathcal{C}$  is Azumaya if there exists  $B$  st.  $A \otimes B \underset{\text{Morita}}{\cong} 1_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

Def:  $\text{Br}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Azumaya algebras in } \mathcal{C} / \text{up to Morita equivalence.}$   
abelian group

Prop:  $A$  Azumaya iff

- dualizable
- faithful (ie.  $\otimes A$  is conservative)
- $A \otimes A^{\text{op}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \underline{\text{End}}_{\mathcal{C}}(A)$   
"  $x \otimes y$  "  $\mapsto (a \mapsto x a y)$

Prop: Let  $\mathcal{C} = \text{Mod}_K^{\text{op}}$

- Central division algebras are Azumaya
- If  $D \underset{\text{Morita}}{\sim} D'$ , then  $D \cong D'$
- If  $A \in \text{Alg}(\text{Mod}_K^{\text{op}})$  is Azumaya, then  $A \cong \text{Mat}_{n \times n}(\underset{\text{Morita}}{\sim} D)$  for some  $n$

In particular:  $\text{Br}(\text{Mod}_K^0) \cong \text{centr. div algebras/isom}$

Proof of b: Suppose  $D \underset{\text{Mor}}{\sim} D'$

$$\rightsquigarrow F: \text{Mod}_D \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Mod}_{D'}$$

$D$  is indecomposable in  $\text{Mod}_D \Rightarrow F(D) \in \text{Mod}_{D'}$  is indecomposable

$$\Rightarrow F(D) \cong D' \text{ in } \text{Mod}_{D'}$$

$$D' = \text{End}_{\text{Mod}_{D'}}(\widetilde{D'})^{F(D)} = \text{End}_{\text{Mod}_D}(D) \cong D \quad \square$$

Set  $\text{Br}(K) = \text{Br}(\text{Mod}_K^0)$  for  $K$  a commutative ring.

Example:  $\text{Br}(\mathbb{R}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2 = \{\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{H}\}$

$$\text{Br}(\mathbb{C}) = 0$$

$$\text{Br}(\mathbb{Z}) = 0$$

$$\text{Br}(K) = H^2(\text{Gal}(\bar{K}/K); \mathbb{Z}^x)$$

$$\text{Br}(\mathbb{F}_q) = 0$$

$$\text{Br}(\mathbb{Q}_p) = \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}$$

Artin-Gorenstein: If  $R$  commutative ring spectrum, then

$$\text{Br}(\text{Mod}_R) \cong \text{Br}(\pi_0 R)$$

(if  $\pi_0 R$  is reasonable, i.e. at least normal)

$$\text{Br}(\mathbb{S}) = \text{Br}(\mathbb{Z}) = 0$$

If  $R$  non-connective,  $Br(\text{Mod}_R)$  is tough to study,

e.g.  $Br(\text{Mod}_{ku}) = 0$  ?? seems unsolved.

$$Br(k) = 0$$

What about  $Br(\text{Mod}_{ku_p^1})$ ?

$K(k) = ku/p$  has an  $A_\infty$ - $ku$ -alg. structure. Can it be

Azumaya? No, not faithful

$K(k)\text{-loc} \cong p\text{-complete}$

Consider instead:  $Br(\text{Mod}_{ku_p^1}^{\text{loc}})$

$K(k) \in \text{Mod}_{ku_p^1}^{\text{loc}}$  is faithful and dualizable,

can be Azumaya

More generally, Hopkins-Lurie study

$$Br(\text{Mod}_{E_n}^{\text{loc}}) \stackrel{K(k)\text{-local}}{=} Br(E_n)$$

↳ Lubin-Tate spectrum for a formal group law of height  $n$  over a field  $k$

They call an  $E_n$ -algebra atomic if  $\pi_0 A = k, \pi_1 A = 0$

so essentially  $A$  is a form of Morava  $k$ -theory

$$\leadsto \pi_* A \cong k[u^{\pm 1}]$$

Remark: There are many atomic  $E_n$ -algebras,  
but they are all equivalent as  $E_n$ -modules.

Indeed: Let  $A, B$  be atomic  $E_n$ -algebras.

$$\text{Ext}_{\pi_r E_n}^{s,t}(\pi_r A, \pi_r B) \Rightarrow \pi_{t-s} \text{Hom}_{E_n}(A, B)$$

Because  $\pi_r A, \pi_r B$  are conc. in even degrees,

have checkerboard phenomena

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & 0 & \bullet \\ 0 & \bullet & 0 \\ \bullet & 0 & \bullet \end{array} \quad \leadsto \text{no differentials}$$

$\Rightarrow$  we can lift  $\text{id}: \pi_r A \rightarrow \pi_r B$  to  
a map  $A \xrightarrow{\cong} B$ .

It will be again the case that some atomic  $E_n$ -algebras  
are teimaya, others are not.

Prop: If  $A, B$  are Morita-equivalent atomic  $E_n$ -teimaya  
algebras, then  $A \cong B$ .

Proof is the same as for division algebras,

using that  $A$  is the only indec object in  $\text{Mod}_A$   
 since  $\text{ho}(\text{Mod}_A) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/2$  -gr models over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

## Summary of goals

- 1) Calculate  $\text{Br}(E_n)$
- 2) Identify the image of atomic Azumaya algs  
 in there  $\leadsto$  classification of atomic  
 Azumaya algebras up to  
 equivalence.

## II Methods and results of Hopkins-Lurie

$\text{Br}(E) = \text{Br}(\text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}})$  had to study as

$(E=E_n)$   $\text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}}$  doesn't have a helpful structure.

Can we replace  $\text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}}$  by a prestable

$\infty$ -category with the same Brauer group?

Yes.

## IIa Synthetic E-modules

Let  $\text{Mod}_E^{\text{mol}} \subseteq \text{Mod}_E$  be the full subcat  
 on <sup>finite</sup> sums of shifts of atomic E-modules.

(If  $K$  atomic:  $\text{Mod}_E^{\text{mol}} =$  full subcat on  $K^m \oplus \Sigma K^n$   
 for  $m, n \geq 0$ .)

A synthetic E-module is a finite-product pres  
 functor  $(\text{Mod}_E^{\text{mol}})^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$ .

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Syn}_E$  ,  $\text{Syn}_E: \text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}} \rightarrow \text{Syn}_E$   
prestable  $\downarrow$   $\uparrow$  Yoneda embedd'g

fully faithful, conservative  
 and symmetric monoidal.

Key result:  $\text{Br}(E) \cong \text{Br}(\text{Syn}_E)$

Idea:  $\text{Syn}_E: \text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}} \rightarrow \text{Syn}_E$  restricts to an

equivalence  $(\text{Mod}_E^{\text{loc}})^{\text{dual, (finite)}}$   $\rightarrow$   $(\text{Syn}_E)^{\text{dual, (finite)}}$

## b The heart ( $p \neq 2$ )

$\text{Syn}_E^\heartsuit = \text{fin. prod-pres functors } \text{Mod}_E^{\text{mod}, \text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

This inherits a sym mon str.  $\boxtimes$  from  $\text{Syn}_E$ .

Prop:  $\text{Syn}_E^\heartsuit \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{gr Mod}_{\pi_r \text{End}_E(K)}$  atomic  $E$ -algebra

$M \longmapsto \text{Hom}_{\text{Syn}_E^\heartsuit}(\mathbb{1}^\heartsuit, K^\heartsuit \boxtimes M)$

Sym mon equivalence.  $\mathbb{1} = \text{Sy}(E) \in \text{Syn}_E$

What is  $\pi_r \text{End}_E(K)$ ?

UCSS:  $\text{Ext}_{\pi_r E}^{\text{sit}}(\pi_r K, \pi_r K) \Rightarrow \pi_{t-s} \text{End}_E(K)$

$\pi_0 K = \kappa = \pi_0 E / \langle v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{n-1} \rangle$  reg. seq.  $(n=1: \pi_0 E = \pi_0 \text{ker}_p = \pi_p)$   
 $v_0 = p$

Can calculate  $\text{Ext}_{\pi_0 E}^{\text{sit}}(\kappa, \kappa)$  via Koszul complex

One less a resolution:



$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda_{\pi_0 E}^n ((\pi_0 E)^n) \rightarrow \Lambda_{\pi_0 E}^{n-1} ((\pi_0 E)^n) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \Lambda_{\pi_0 E}^0 ((\pi_0 E)^n) \rightarrow \kappa \rightarrow 0$$

How to into  $\kappa$  produces a complex

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda_{\kappa}^n (\kappa^n) \rightarrow \Lambda_{\kappa}^{n-1} (\kappa^n) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \Lambda_{\kappa}^0 (\kappa^n)$$

with 0 differentials.

$$\Rightarrow \text{Ext}_{\pi_0 E}^s (\kappa, \kappa) = \Lambda^s (\kappa^n)$$

solving  
 $\rightsquigarrow$   
 ext isms

$$\pi_0 \text{End}_E (\kappa) = \Lambda^*(\kappa^n) \setminus \{u^{\pm 1}\}$$

Upshots

$$\text{Sym}_E^{\circ} = \mathbb{Z}/2\text{-gr Mod } \Lambda^*(\kappa^n)$$

$m/m^2$  if  $m \subseteq \pi_0 E$   
 max ideal

Prop:  $\text{Br}(\text{Sym}_E^{\circ}) \cong \text{BW}(\kappa) \times \text{QF}(m/m^2)$

$\text{Br}(\mathbb{Z}/2\text{-graded } \kappa\text{-models})$

$\text{BW}(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{Z}/8$ ,  $\text{Br}(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \begin{matrix} \mathbb{Z}/2 \times \mathbb{Z}/2 \\ \mathbb{Z}/4 \end{matrix}$  depends on  $p \pmod{4}$ .

## c The tower

Consider  $1^{\leq n} \subseteq \text{Sym}_{\mathbb{E}}$ , i.e. the  $n$ -truncation of  $1 = \text{Sym}(\mathbb{E})$ .

$$\leadsto \text{Br}(1^{\leq n}) = \text{Br}(\text{Mod}_{1^{\leq n}}(\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{E}}))$$

Prop:  $\text{Br}(1^{\leq 0}) = \text{Br}(\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{E}}^{\heartsuit})$

Thm:  $\text{Br}(1^{\leq n}) \rightarrow \text{Br}(1^{\leq n-1})$  surjective  
with kernel  $\cong \underline{m^{n+2}/m^{n+3}}$

part of assoc. graded of  $\pi_0 \mathbb{E}$   
with filtration by powers  
of  $m$ .

Prop:  $\text{Br}(\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{E}}) \cong \varprojlim_{\leftarrow} \text{Br}(1^{\leq n})$

Summary:  $\text{Br}(\mathbb{E}) \cong \text{Br}(\text{Sym}_{\mathbb{E}})$  has a filtration  
with associated graded  $m^{n+2}/m^{n+3}$  for  $n \geq 0$

(here (use:  $QF(m/m^2) \cong m^2/m^3$ )

and  $\text{BV}(k)$  as the bottom piece.

Eg. for  $E = Ku_p^1$ , up to extension issues,

$$\text{Br}(E) \cong \left( \underset{\substack{\cong \\ \mathbb{Z}_p}}{(p) \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_p} \right) \oplus \text{BW}(\mathbb{F}_p)$$

In particular,  $\text{Br}(E)$  is uncountable for  $n \geq 1$ .

d. Where are the atomic Azumaya algebras

Thm: Let  $x \in \text{Br}(E) \cong \text{Br}(\text{Syn}_E)$

a) Whether  $x$  is represented by an atomic Azumaya alg,  
only depends on the image in  $\text{Br}(\text{Syn}_E^\heartsuit)$

(Recall:  $\text{Br}(\text{Syn}_E^\heartsuit) \cong \text{BW}(k) \times \text{QF}(\sqrt{\frac{V}{m^2}})$ )

Given a quadratic form  $q$  on  $V$ , we can construct  
its Clifford algebra  $\mathcal{C}(q) = T(V) / \underset{x \in V}{x^2 = q(x)}$

If  $q$  is non-deg, this is  
in  $\text{BW}(k)$ .

b) An element in

$$\text{Br}(\text{Syn}_E^{\rho}) \cong \text{Br}(k) \times \text{GF}(\sqrt{m/m^2})^{\vee}$$

is represented by an étale Azumaya alg

iff it is of the form  $(\mathcal{O}(q), q)$   
non deg.