

# MODULI of SEMIORTHOGONAL DECOMPOSITIONS

with Pieter Belmans and Shinnosuke Okawa

Rutgers University, 30 September 2020

ANDREA RICOLFI

## OVERVIEW

§ 0. Derived / triangulated categories

§ 1. Semiorthogonal decompositions (SOD)

§ 2. Main result: there is a moduli space of SODs.

§ 3. First applications

## § 0. DERIVED CATEGORIES

$\mathcal{A}$ : abelian category such as  $\text{Coh}(Y)$ ,  $\text{QCoh}(Y)$  for  $Y$  a noetherian scheme



$D(\mathcal{A})$ : complexes  $A^\bullet = (\dots \rightarrow A^i \rightarrow A^{i+1} \rightarrow \dots)$  with somewhat exotic morphisms ...

↑ loc (sends quasi-isomorphisms to ISOMORPHISMS)

$K(\mathcal{A})$ : homotopy category of  $\mathcal{A}$  (Hom = chain maps/homotopy)

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\text{FULL}} D(\mathcal{A})$$

$$E \mapsto \left( \dots \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \rightarrow \dots \right)$$

-1      0      1

## TWO VARIATIONS ON $D(Coh(Y))$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \text{EQUIVALENCE for SMOOTH VARIETIES} & \\ \mathbf{Perf}(Y) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & D^b(Y) \subset D(Coh(Y)) \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ \{ \text{perfect complexes} \} & & \{ \text{bounded complexes} \} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{locally quasi-isomorphic to a bounded} \\ \text{complex of locally free sheaves} \end{array} \right] & & \end{array}$$

# MOTIVATION for $D^b(Y)$

General principle: a variety is determined by sheaves on it.

$$Y \cong Y' \iff \text{Coh}(Y) \cong \text{Coh}(Y')$$

Look at half-empty glass:  $\text{Coh}(-)$  is a coarse invariant!

But  $D^b(-)$  is a finer invariant:

$Y$  smooth projective,  $\pm K_Y$  ample.

Then (Bondal-Orlov)  $D^b(Y) \cong D^b(Y') \Rightarrow Y \cong Y'$ .

... All these categories  $T \in \{D^b(Y), D(\text{Coh}(Y)), \text{Perf}(Y), D(\mathcal{A})\}$  are TRIANGULATED,  
 i.e. equipped with an autoequivalence [1]:  $T \xrightarrow{\sim} T$  and a class of EXACT TRIANGLES  
 $E^\bullet \rightarrow F^\bullet \rightarrow G^\bullet \rightarrow E^\bullet[1]$  satisfying some axioms. ↑  
"upgrade" of SHORT EXACT SEQUENCES

$$A, B \in \mathcal{A} \implies \text{Ext}_{\mathcal{A}}^i(A, B) = \text{Hom}_{D(\mathcal{A})}(A, B[i])$$

$f: E^* \rightarrow F^*$  map of complexes in  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\rightsquigarrow \text{cone}(f)^i = E^{i+1} \oplus F^i, \quad \text{cone}(f) \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -d_{E^*}^{i+1} & 0 \\ f^{i+1} & d_{F^*}^i \end{pmatrix}} \text{cone}(f)^{i+1}$$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{cone}(f)$  new complex. All (!) EXACT TRIANGLES in  $D(\mathcal{A})$  are  
(up to iso) of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} E^* & \xrightarrow{f} & F^* & \longrightarrow & \text{cone}(f) & \longrightarrow & E^*[1] \\ & & \downarrow & & \uparrow & & \\ F^i & \rightarrow & E^{i+1} \oplus F^i & & E^{i+1} \oplus F^i & \rightarrow & E^{i+2} \end{array}$$

CONES

e.g.  $0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow E \rightarrow A \rightarrow 0$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  gives an extension  $\mathcal{E}$ .

$$\rightsquigarrow B \rightarrow E \rightarrow A \xrightarrow{\text{P}} B[1] \quad \text{EXACT TRIANGLE in } D(\mathcal{A})$$

$$\varepsilon \in \text{Ext}^1(A, B) = \underset{D(\mathcal{A})}{\text{Hom}}(A, B[1])$$

## ALSO, DERIVED FUNCTORS

Idea:  $\pi_*, \pi^*, \otimes, \mathcal{H}\text{om}$  not exact  $\rightsquigarrow$  replace them  
with functors sending exact triangle  $\mapsto$  exact triangle

- $R\pi_* : D(Qcoh_X) \rightarrow D(Qcoh_Y)$
  - $L\pi^* : D(Qcoh_Y) \rightarrow D(Qcoh_X)$
  - $D(Qcoh_X) \times D(Qcoh_X) \xrightarrow{- \otimes -} D(Qcoh_X)$
  - $D(Qcoh_X) \times D(Qcoh_X) \xrightarrow{R\mathcal{H}\text{om}(-, -)} D(Qcoh_X)$
- $X \xrightarrow{\pi} Y$  morphism of schemes (+ assumptions)
- L: left derived
- R: right derived

# § 1 SEMIORTHOGONAL DECOMPOSITIONS

$T$ : fixed triangulated category  
 $T_1, \dots, T_n \subset T$  full subcategories



$\mathcal{T} = \langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle$   
is a SOD of  $T$

DEF.

- $T_1, \dots, T_n$  generate  $T$
- $\text{Hom}_T(T_i, T_j) = 0, i > j$

no homs!

“generate”:  $T$  is equivalent (via inclusion) to the smallest triangulated subcategory containing  $T_1, \dots, T_n$ .

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?

It means that  $T_1, \dots, T_n$  can be used to "decompose" any  $T \in \mathcal{T}$  in the following sense:  $\exists !$  "FILTRATION"

$$0 = T_n \rightarrow T_{n-1} \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow T_0 = T$$

$$\text{with } \text{cone}(T_i \rightarrow T_{i-1}) \in \mathcal{T}_i$$



PROJECTION FUNCTORS  
(of the given SOD)

$$P_{\mathcal{T}_i} : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_i \hookrightarrow \mathcal{T}$$
$$T \mapsto \text{cone}(T_i \rightarrow T_{i-1})$$

### Example

$\mathcal{T} = \langle T, 0 \rangle$  and  $\mathcal{T} = \langle 0, T \rangle$  are called the TRIVIAL SODs.

### Example

$S \hookrightarrow \mathcal{T}$  admissible subcategory (i.e. have left, right adjoints  $\mathcal{T} \xrightleftharpoons[i^*]{i_!} S$ )

$${}^\perp S = \{ T \in \mathcal{T} \mid \text{Hom}(T, A[e]) = 0 \quad \forall A \in S, \forall e \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

$$S^\perp = \{ T \in \mathcal{T} \mid \text{Hom}(A[e], T) = 0 \quad \forall A \in S, \forall e \in \mathbb{Z} \}$$

→ two SODs  $\mathcal{T} = \langle S, {}^\perp S \rangle, \quad \mathcal{T} = \langle S^\perp, S \rangle$ .

## Example

$$Y = \mathbb{P}^n, \quad T = D^b(\mathbb{P}^n), \quad T_j = \langle \mathcal{O}(j) \rangle \quad (0 \leq j \leq n)$$

Beilinson :  $D^b(\mathbb{P}^n) = \langle \mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}(1), \dots, \mathcal{O}(n) \rangle.$

*"full exceptional sequence"*  
(stronger than SOD)

↙  
or:  $\langle \mathcal{O}(i), \mathcal{O}(i+1), \dots, \mathcal{O}(i+n) \rangle, \quad i \in \mathbb{Z}$

- $E \in D^b(\mathbb{P}^n)$  exceptional:  $\text{Hom}(E, E[e]) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{C} & e=0 \\ 0 & e \neq 0 \end{cases}$
- $E_1, \dots, E_n$  exceptional sequence:  $E_i$  exceptional,  $\text{Hom}(E_i, E_j[e]) = 0, \quad i > j, \quad \forall e.$  no homs! ← X
- FULL ( $\leftrightarrow$  GENERATION): consequence of Beilinson spectral sequences

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} E_1^{r,s} := H^s(F(r)) \otimes \Omega^{-r}(-r) \implies E^{r+s} = \begin{cases} F & r+s=0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \\ E_1^{r,s} := H^s(F \otimes \Omega^{-r}(-r)) \otimes \mathcal{O}(r) \implies E^{r+s} = \begin{cases} F & r+s=0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases} \end{array} \right] \quad F \in \text{Coh}(\mathbb{P}^n)$$

### Example

$X$  smooth variety,  $Y \xrightarrow[\text{codim } c]{\ell_{ci}} X$ , take blowup

$$\begin{array}{ccc} D & \xhookrightarrow{i} & \tilde{X} \\ \downarrow p & \square & \downarrow \pi \\ Y & \xhookrightarrow{} & X \end{array}$$

fully faithful  $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\pi^*} : D^b(X) &\rightarrow D^b(\tilde{X}) \\ \psi_k : D^b(Y) &\rightarrow D^b(\tilde{X}), \quad F \mapsto R_i_* (L_p^*(F) \overset{L}{\otimes} \mathcal{O}_D(k)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_D(1) \rightarrow D \cong \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{N}_{Y/X})$$

$\downarrow \otimes_k$

$\leadsto$

$$D^b(\tilde{X}) = \left\langle L_{\pi^*} D^b(X), \underset{\parallel}{\psi_1}(D^b(Y)), \dots, \underset{\parallel}{\psi_{c-2}}(D^b(Y)) \right\rangle$$

$\tilde{\gamma}_1 \qquad \qquad \tilde{\gamma}_2 \qquad \qquad \tilde{\gamma}_c$

# INDECOMPOSABILITY

One always has  $T = \langle T, 0 \rangle$  and  $T = \langle 0, T \rangle$ .

If these are the only SODs,  $T$  is called INDECOMPOSABLE.

$T = D^b(Y)$  indecomposable for:

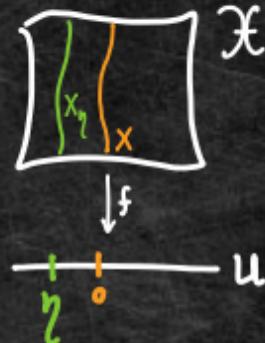
- (1)  $Y$  curve of genus  $\geq 1$  (Okawa)
- (2)  $Y$  smooth connected,  $K_Y = 0$  (Bridgeland)
- (3)  $Y$  smooth, proper,  $B_s[\omega_Y]$  finite (Kawatani-Okawa)
- (4) ... More in §3

## § 2. MODULI of SODs

How do SODs BEHAVE IN SMOOTH FAMILIES?

i.e. given  $D^b(X) = \langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle$  and a family

what can we say about SODs of  $X_\eta$ ?



A consequence of our main result is: IF  $U$  IS IRREDUCIBLE AND THE GENERIC FIBRE IS INDECOMPOSABLE, THEN SO IS THE SPECIAL FIBRE.

[Bastianelli - Belmans - Okawa - R]

↙ excellent scheme  
e.g.  $\mathbb{C}$ -variety

Input: a smooth projective morphism  $\mathfrak{X} \xrightarrow{f} U$ ,  $n \geq 2$

Output: a functor  $SOD_f^n: Sch_U^{op} \longrightarrow Sets$

$$SOD_f^n(V \rightarrow U) = \left\{ \underset{\text{V-linear}}{\text{SODs}} \quad \text{Perf}(\mathfrak{X}_U \times V) = \langle T_1, \dots, T_n \rangle \right\}$$

this is the def.  
for  $(V \rightarrow U) \in \text{Aff}_U$

V-linear means: the components  $T_i$  are V-linear i.e.

$$L_{f_V^*}(\text{Perf}(V)) \overset{L}{\otimes} T_i \subseteq T_i$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathfrak{X}_V = \mathfrak{X}_U \times V & \longrightarrow & \mathfrak{X} \\ f_V \downarrow & \square & \downarrow f \\ V & \longrightarrow & U \end{array}$$

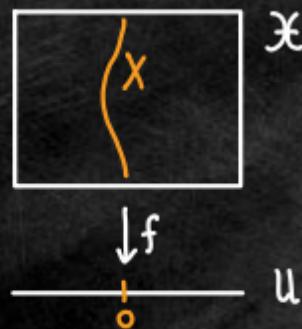
Linearity is needed to make sure  
we can base-change SODs [Kuznetsov]

THEOREM (BOR)  $SOD_f^n$  is an algebraic space, étale over  $U$ .

[RELATED: Antieau-Elmanto construct a STACK of SODs in a more general setup.]

FROM NOW ON:  $n = 2$

# COROLLARY: $\exists!$ DEFORMATION OF GIVEN SOD



Given  $D^b(X) = \langle A, B \rangle$ , possibly after passing to an étale neighborhood  $U' \rightarrow U$  of  $o \in U$ ,

$\exists!$   $U$ -linear SOD  $\text{Perf } X = \langle A_U, B_U \rangle$

whose base change along  $\text{Spec}(o) \rightarrow U$  is  $(*)$ .

[RELATED: Hu proved this for exceptional sequences.]

**Example**  $X \xrightarrow{f} U$  family of Calabi-Yau varieties  
 $\Rightarrow SOD_f^2 = U \amalg U \rightarrow U.$

**Example**  $X = \mathbb{P}^1 \xrightarrow{f} U = pt$   $\langle \mathcal{O}(i), \mathcal{O}(i+1) \rangle$   
 $\rightsquigarrow SOD_f^2 = \underbrace{pt \amalg pt}_{\text{trivial SODs}} \amalg \bigsqcup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} pt$  not quasi-compact ...

## PROOF (ARTIN'S CRITERION)

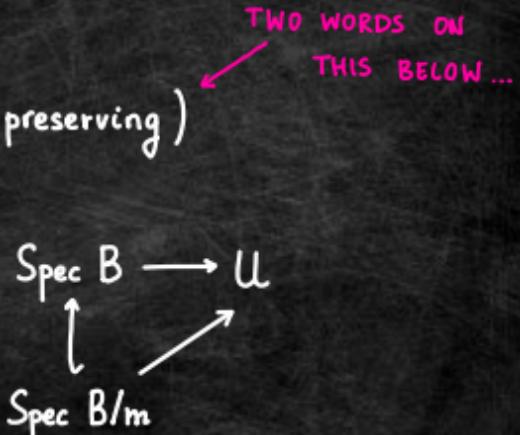
$P: \text{Sch}_U^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  presheaf. It is an algebraic space étale over  $U$  iff:

(1)  $P$  is a sheaf on  $(\text{Sch}_U)_{\text{ét}}$

(2)  $P$  is locally of finite presentation (limit preserving)

(3)  $(B, \mathfrak{m})$  local noetherian ring,  $\mathfrak{m}$ -complete,  $\text{Spec } B \longrightarrow U$

$$\Rightarrow P(\text{Spec } B) \xrightarrow{\sim} P(\text{Spec } B/\mathfrak{m}).$$



## TWO WORDS ON LIMIT PRESERVING

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{X}_u^* \mathcal{X} = \mathcal{Y} & \xrightarrow{p_1} & \mathcal{X} \\ p_2 \downarrow & \square & \downarrow f \\ \mathcal{X} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathcal{U} \end{array}$$

$K \in \text{Perf}(Y) \rightsquigarrow$  FOURIER-MUKAI FUNCTOR

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Perf}(X) & \xrightarrow{\phi_K} & \text{Perf}(X) \\ E \longmapsto R_{p_2*}(p_1^* E \otimes K) & & \end{array}$$

NOTATION:  $\mathcal{E}_K \subseteq \text{Perf}(X)$  the essential image of  $\phi_K$ .

Consider the functors  $\text{DEC}_{\Delta_f} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_f}} : \text{Aff}_u^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Sets}$  given by

$$\text{DEC}_{\Delta_f}(V \rightarrow U) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{EXACT TRIANGLES } K_B \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_{f_V}} \rightarrow K_A \\ \text{SUCH THAT } Rf_{V*} R\mathcal{H}\text{om}(\mathcal{E}_{K_B}, \mathcal{E}_{K_A})_0 = 0 \end{array} \right\} / \cong$$

in

$$\mathbb{F}_{\mathcal{O}_{\Delta_f}}(V \rightarrow U) = \{ \text{EXACT TRIANGLES } K_B \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\Delta_{f_V}} \rightarrow K_A \} / \cong$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y_V & \xrightarrow{P_1} & X_V & \longrightarrow & X \\ P_2 \downarrow & \square & f_V \downarrow & \square & \downarrow f \\ X_V & \xrightarrow{f_V} & V & \longrightarrow & U \end{array}$$

In general, we show that if  $Y \rightarrow U$  is smooth and  $G \in \text{Perf}(Y)$   
 then the functor  $\mathbb{F}_G : (V \rightarrow U) \mapsto \{\text{EXACT TRIANGLES } K \rightarrow G_V \rightarrow L\} / \cong$   
 is LIMIT PRESERVING. So  $\mathbb{F}_{O_{\Delta_f}}$  is LIMIT PRESERVING.

UPSHOT:  $\text{DEC}_{\Delta_f}$  IS ALSO LIMIT PRESERVING!

Now, crucially,  $\text{DEC}_{\Delta_f} \cong \text{SOD}_f \Big|_{\text{Aff}_U^{\text{op}}}$

JUST 2 WORDS  
ON THIS ...

("Aff" is enough, since  $\text{Sh}(\text{Aff}_v)_{\text{ét}} \cong \text{Sh}(\text{Sch}_u)_{\text{ét}} \dots$ )

$$\text{DEC}_{\Delta_f} \cong \text{SOD}_f \Big|_{\text{Aff}_U^{\text{op}}}$$

$\Leftarrow$  Given  $[K_B \rightarrow O_{\Delta_{f_V}} \rightarrow K_A] \in \text{DEC}_{\Delta_f}(V \rightarrow U)$ , we get  $\text{Hom}_{\mathcal{X}_V}(\mathcal{E}_{K_B}, \mathcal{E}_{K_A}) = 0$ .  
 $(\mathcal{E}_{K_A}, \mathcal{E}_{K_B}) \in \text{SOD}_f^z(V \rightarrow U) \Leftarrow \text{they generate } \text{Perf}(\mathcal{X}_V) \Leftarrow \text{apply } \phi_{O_{\Delta_{f_V}}}$

$\exists$  Given  $(V \rightarrow U) \in \text{Aff}_U$  and  $(A, B) \in \text{SOD}_f^z(V \rightarrow U)$

$$B \xleftarrow[i]{\quad} \text{Perf}(\mathcal{X}_V) \xrightleftharpoons[j^*]{\quad} A \quad P_A = j \circ j^*, \quad P_B = i \circ i^! \quad \text{PROJECTION FUNCTORS}$$

$$O_{\Delta_{f_V}} \in \text{Perf}(Y_V) = \langle P_2^* A, P_2^* B \rangle \quad \mathcal{X}_V\text{-linear SOD}$$

$\rightsquigarrow K_B \rightarrow O_{\Delta_{f_V}} \rightarrow K_A$  in  $\text{Perf}(Y_V)$ , satisfies  $Rf_{V*} R\mathcal{H}\text{om} = 0$ .

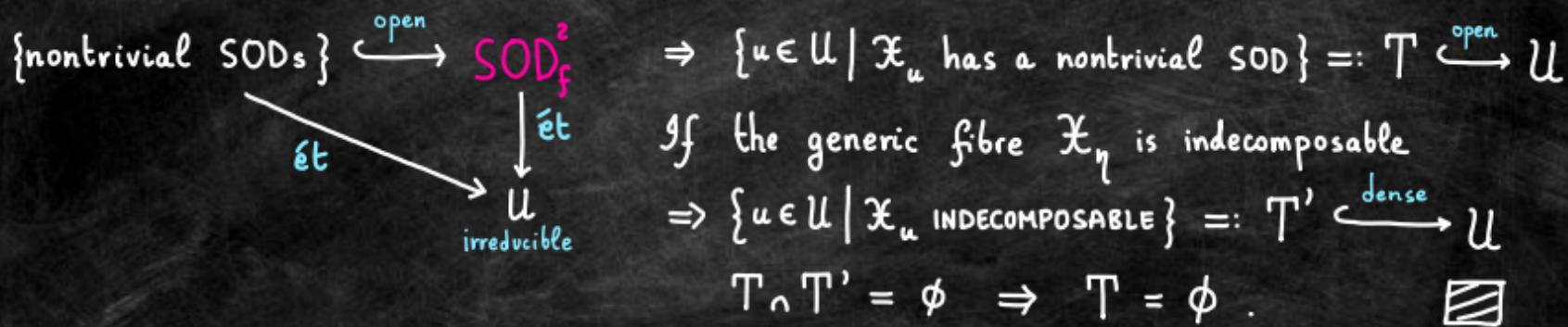
Easy check:  $(\mathcal{E}_{K_A}, \mathcal{E}_{K_B}) = (A, B)$



## § 3. APPLICATIONS [BOR + F. Bastianelli]

/ 1

If  $\mathcal{U}$  is irreducible, generic fibre  
of  $\mathfrak{X} \xrightarrow{f} \mathcal{U}$  is indecomposable  $\Rightarrow$  ALL FIBRES ARE INDECOMPOSABLE



### Example

$X \xrightarrow{f} U$ ,  $B_s | \omega_{X_0}|$  finite  
for some  $s \in U$  using  
Kawatani-Okawa  $\Rightarrow$  ALL FIBRES ARE INDECOMPOSABLE

### Example

$S$  smooth projective surface. If  $B_s | \omega_S| = \emptyset$  then  $B_s | \omega_{\text{Hilb}^n S}| = \emptyset$   
So  $\text{Hilb}^n(S)$  is INDECOMPOSABLE  $\forall n \geq 1$  as soon as  $B_s | \omega_S| = \emptyset$ .

# Example

$C$ : smooth projective curve of genus  $g \geq 2$        $\Rightarrow$        $D^b(Sym^n C)$  is  
Fix  $1 \leq n < \left\lfloor \frac{g+3}{2} \right\rfloor$       INDECOMPOSABLE

( proved also by [Biswas-Gomez-Lee] for  $n < \text{gon}(C)$  )

We expect indecomposability for  $n \leq g-1$ .

PROOF  $\text{gon}(C) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{g+3}{2} \right\rfloor$  and a general curve realises this bound.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} C_\eta & \longrightarrow & C & \longleftarrow & C \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi^{\text{smooth}} & & \downarrow \\ \underset{\text{generic pt}}{\eta} & \longrightarrow & U & \longleftarrow & 0 \end{array}$$

generic fibre of  
gonality =  $\left\lfloor \frac{g+3}{2} \right\rfloor$

$$\text{But } n < \text{gon}(C_u) \iff B_s | \omega_{\text{Sym}^n C_u} | = \emptyset \quad u \in U$$

$$\text{Now set } 1 \leq n < \left\lfloor \frac{g+3}{2} \right\rfloor$$

$\rightsquigarrow X = \text{Sym}^n(\pi) \rightarrow U$  smooth family, generic fibre has  
empty canonical base locus  $\Rightarrow$  all fibres are indecomposable  $\square$

THANK YOU!