

内容集锦: 讨论班、课程讲义

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目录

1	Witt rings and NK-groups	3
1.1	Typical Witt rings	3
1.2	Big Witt rings	3
1.3	Module structure on NK_*	3
1.3.1	$\text{End}_0(\Lambda)$	4

Chapter 1

Witt rings and NK -groups

References:

- C. A. Weibel, Mayer-Vietoris sequences and module structures on NK_* , pp. 466–493 in Lecture Notes in Math. 854, Springer-Verlag, 1981.
- D. R. Grayson, Grothendieck rings and witt vectors.
- C. A. Weibel, The K -Book: An Introduction to Algebraic K -theory.

1.1 Typical Witt rings

1.2 Big Witt rings

1.3 Module structure on NK_*

Notations Λ : a ring with 1

R : commutative ring

$W(R)$: Witt ring of R

End(Λ): the exact category of endomorphisms of finitely generated projective right Λ -modules.

Nil(Λ): the full exact subcategory of nilpotent endomorphisms.

P(Λ): the exact category of finitely generated projective right Λ -modules.

Goals:

- Define the $\text{End}_0(R)$ -module structure on $NK_*(\Lambda)$
- (Stienstra's observation) this can extend to a $W(R)$ -module structure.

- Computations in $W(R)$ with Grothendieck rings.

1.3.1 $\mathbf{End}_0(\Lambda)$

Let $\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$ denote the exact category of endomorphisms of finitely generated projective right Λ -modules.

Objects: pairs (M, f) with M finitely generated projective and $f \in \mathbf{End}(M)$.

Morphisms: $(M_1, f_1) \xrightarrow{\alpha} (M_2, f_2)$ with $f_2 \circ \alpha = \alpha \circ f_1$, i.e. such α make the following diagram commutes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & M_1 \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \alpha \\ M_2 & \xrightarrow{f_2} & M_2 \end{array}$$

There are two interesting subcategories of $\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$ —

$\mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)$: the full exact subcategory of nilpotent endomorphisms.

$\mathbf{P}(\Lambda)$: the exact category of finitely generated projective right Λ -modules. (Remark: the reflective subcategory of zero endomorphisms is naturally equivalent to $\mathbf{P}(\Lambda)$. Note that a full subcategory $i: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ is called reflective if the inclusion functor i has a left adjoint T , $(T \dashv i): \mathcal{C} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{D}$.)

Since inclusions are split and all the functors below are exact, they induce homomorphisms between K -groups

$$\mathbf{P}(\Lambda) \rightleftarrows \mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)$$

$$\mathbf{P}(\Lambda) \rightleftarrows \mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$$

$$M \mapsto (M, 0)$$

$$M \mapsto (M, f)$$

Definition 1.1. $K_n(\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)) = K_n(\Lambda) \oplus \mathbf{End}_n(\Lambda)$, $K_n(\mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)) = K_n(\Lambda) \oplus \mathbf{Nil}_n(\Lambda)$

Now suppose Λ is an R -algebra for some commutative ring R , then there are exact pairings (i.e. bifunctors):

$$\otimes: \mathbf{End}(R) \times \mathbf{End}(\Lambda) \rightarrow \mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$$

$$\otimes: \mathbf{End}(R) \times \mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda) \rightarrow \mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)$$

$$(M, f) \otimes (N, g) = (M \otimes_R N, f \otimes g)$$

These induce (use “generators-and-relations” tricks on K_0)

$$\begin{aligned} K_0(\mathbf{End}(R)) \otimes K_*(\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)) &\longrightarrow K_*(\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)) \\ K_0(\mathbf{End}(R)) \otimes K_*(\mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)) &\longrightarrow K_*(\mathbf{Nil}(\Lambda)) \end{aligned}$$

$[(0, 0)], [(R, 1)] \in K_0(\mathbf{End}(R))$ act as the zero and identity maps.

I think we can fix an element $(M, f) \in \mathbf{End}(R)$, then $(M, f) \otimes$ induces an endofunctor of $\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$. We can get endomorphisms of K -groups, then we check that this does not depend on the isomorphism classes and the bilinear property. (Can also see Weibel The K -book chapter2, chapter3 Cor 1.6.1, Ex 5.4, chapter4 Ex 1.14.)

If we take $R = \Lambda$, we see that $K_0(\mathbf{End}(R))$ is a commutative ring with unit $[(R, 1)]$. $K_0(R)$ is an ideal, generated by the idempotent $[(R, 0)]$, and the quotient ring is $\mathbf{End}_0(R)$. Since $(R, 0) \otimes$ reflects $\mathbf{End}(\Lambda)$ into $\mathbf{P}(\Lambda)$,

$$i: \mathbf{P}(\Lambda) \longrightarrow \mathbf{End}(\Lambda); \quad (R, 0) \otimes: \mathbf{End}(\Lambda) \longrightarrow \mathbf{P}(\Lambda)$$

$K_0(R)$ acts as zero on $\mathbf{End}_*(\Lambda)$ and $\mathbf{Nil}_*(\Lambda)$. The following is immediate (and well-known):

Proposition 1.2. *If Λ is an R -algebra with 1, $\mathbf{End}_*(\Lambda)$ and $\mathbf{Nil}_*(\Lambda)$ are graded modules over the ring $\mathbf{End}_0(R)$.*

Now we focus on $* = 0$ and $\Lambda = R$:

The inclusion of $\mathbf{P}(R)$ in $\mathbf{End}(R)$ by $f = 0$ is split by the forgetful functor, and the kernel $\mathbf{End}_0(R)$ of $K_0 \mathbf{End}(R) \longrightarrow K_0(R)$ is not only an ideal but a commutative ring with unit $1 = [(R, 1)] - [(R, 0)]$.

Theorem 1.3 (Almkvist). *The homomorphism (in fact it is a ring homomorphism)*

$$\begin{aligned} \chi: \mathbf{End}_0(R) &\longrightarrow W(R) = (1 + TR[[T]])^\times \\ (M, f) &\mapsto \det(1 - fT) \end{aligned}$$

is injective and $\mathbf{End}_0(R) \cong \text{Im} \chi = \left\{ \frac{g(T)}{h(T)} \in W(R) \mid g(T), h(T) \in 1 + TR[[T]] \right\}$

The map χ (taking characteristic polynomial) is well-defined, and we have

$$\chi([(R, 0)]) = 1, \quad \chi([(R, 1)]) = 1 - T$$

χ is a ring homomorphism, and $\text{Im} \chi =$ the set of all rational functions in $W(R)$.

Definition 1.4 (NK_*). s above, we define $NK_n(\Lambda) = \ker(K_n(\Lambda[y]) \longrightarrow K_n(\Lambda))$. Grayson proved that $NK_n(\Lambda) \cong \mathbf{Nil}_{n-1}(\Lambda)$ in “Higher algebraic K -theory II”.