# Exploring simplicial constructions for un-delooped K-Theory

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# Section 1

Introduction

Idea behind K-Theory: define groups ("K-groups") related to vector spaces on various mathematical objects

- ► Algebraic objects : schemes, rings, varieties
- ► Topological spaces, Manifold, and more...

Originally: finite number of algebraically defined groups

(e.g. the Grothendieck group)

Nowadays: homotopy groups of topogical spaces

### K-Theory of algebraic objects

This report: K-Theory of algebraic objects, ie a scheme X.

 $\mathrm{Vect}(X)$  the category of locally free sheaves of finite rank over X is **exact**.

- => We define the K-Theory of an exact category
- => This is how we define the K-Theory of an algebraic object

### Classical constructions 1/2

In [Qui72], Quillen introduces the **Q-construction**. Let  $\mathcal M$  be an exact category. Its Q-construction is category  $Q\mathcal M$ :

- ightharpoonup Objects are the same as  ${\cal M}$
- lacktriangle Morphisms between objects M and M'' are equivalence classes of diagram

$$M \leftarrow M' \hookrightarrow M''$$

K-groups := homotopy groups of classifying space BQM

In [Wal85], Waldhausen introduces the **S-construction** of a **Waldhausen category**.

"Waldhausen categories" is a generalization of exact categories. Let  $\mathcal C$  be a Waldhausen category. Its S-construction is a simplicial category  $wS.\mathcal C$ .

K-groups := homotopy group of realization |wS.C|

In this report we discuss a third construction, the **G-construction**. Introduced in [GG87] by Gilet and Grayson.

For an exact category  $\mathcal M$  its G-construction is a simplicial set  $G\mathcal M$ .

 $\mathsf{K}\text{-}\mathsf{groups} := \mathsf{homotopy} \; \mathsf{group} \; \mathsf{of} \; \mathsf{realization} \; |\mathit{GM}| \; \dots$ 

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 $\mathsf{K}\text{-}\mathsf{groups} := \mathsf{homotopy} \ \mathsf{group} \ \mathsf{of} \ \mathsf{realization} \ |\mathit{GM}| \ \ldots$ 

... with no shift in degree!

### "No shift in degree" feature 1/2

Whereas *i*-th K-group is  $\pi_{i+1}(BQ\mathcal{M})$  for Q-construction For the G-construction *i*-th K-group is  $\pi_i(|G\mathcal{M}|)$ .

 $\Omega BQ\mathcal{M}$  provides K-group with no shift

 $\Rightarrow$  Idea : create an analogue to the loop space for simplicial set Goal : when realized homotopy-equivalent to loop space of realization

### "No shift in degree" feature 2/2

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION

 $\lambda$ -rings generalizes the exterior product  $\wedge^i$  on the ring  $(K_0(R), \otimes)$ . We want to generalize such " $\lambda$ -operation" operation to higher K-groups.

In [Gra89], Grayson defines  $\lambda\text{-}\mathrm{operation}$  on the G-construction.

 $\Rightarrow$  Induces continuous mapping on the realization

On  $K_0$  ,  $\wedge^k$  for k > 1 is **not group homomorphism** 

 $K_0(R)=\pi_1(BQ(P(R)))$  so continuous function induce group homomorphism



Let  $\mathcal M$  be an exact category where all sequence split. Then category  $S^{-1}S$  ([Gra] [CWe]) is the category s.t. Objects: pairs (M,N) of objects of  $\mathcal M$  Morphisms  $(M,N)\longrightarrow (M',N')$ : isomorphism class of objects P with isomorphisms  $M\oplus P\simeq M'$  and  $N\oplus P\simeq N'$  K-groups:= homotopy group of classifying space  $B(S^{-1}S)$  ... ... with **no shift in degree**!

# Section 2

Defining the G-construction

	Defining	the	G-constructio
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Proof that  $|\Omega S\mathcal{M}| \simeq_{ ext{HoTop}} \Omega |S\mathcal{M}|$ 

Defining  $wG.\mathcal{M}$ 

# Waldhausen category 1/2

A Waldhausen category is a category equipped with cofibrations

 $A \rightarrowtail B$ 

and weak equivalences

 $A \xrightarrow{\sim} B$ 

Satisfying certain axioms.

Motivating examples:

- Exact category with admissible monomorphism as cofibration and isomorphism as weak equivalence.
- ightharpoonup Categories of complexes in some exact categories (eg complexes in  ${
  m Vect}(X)$ ) with object-wise admissible monomorphism as cofibrations and quasi-isomorphisms as weak equivalences

# Waldhausen category 2/2

#### Note

In a Waldhausen category  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$  there exists pushout along cofibrations and a zero element \*.

Let  $A\rightarrowtail B$  be a cofibration we denote by B/A the pushout of diagram

$$\begin{matrix} A \rightarrowtail B \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

It generalizes the notion of quotient in an exact category.

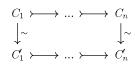
# Waldhausen's S-construction 1/2

Let C be a Waldhausen category,  $wS.\mathcal{C}$  is a **simplicial category**, ie a morphism  $\Delta^{\mathrm{op}} \longrightarrow \mathrm{Cat}$ .

Category  $wS.\mathcal{C}([n])$  is the category of sequences of cofibrations of length n in  $\mathcal C$ 

$$C_1 \longrightarrow ... \rightarrowtail C_n$$

Along with a choice of quotient  $C_{i,j} = C_j/C_j$  for all  $0 < i < j \le n$ . Morphisms are morphisms of diagrams that are object-wise weak-equivalence



# Waldhausen's S-construction 2/2

#### From $wS.\mathcal{C}$ we get :

- ▶ A simplicial set denoted SC by only considering the objects in each wS.C([n])
- $\blacktriangleright$  A bisimplicial set also denoted as  $wS.\mathcal{C}$  by post-composing with N

#### Lemma

When  $\mathcal C$  is an exact category with canonical Waldhausen structure  $|wS.\mathcal C|$  and  $|S\mathcal C|$  are homotopically equivalent.

# Constructing unshifted K-Theory space

 ${\cal M}$  an exact category

S-construction

$$\mathcal{M} \overset{S}{\mapsto} S\mathcal{M} \overset{|-|}{\mapsto} |S\mathcal{M}| \overset{\Omega}{\mapsto} \Omega |S\mathcal{M}|$$

G-construction

### Loop spaces

Introduction 000000000

#### Definition

Let X be a topological space. The **topological loop space**  $\Omega X$  of X with basepoint  $x_0 \in X$  is the space of paths  $\gamma: I \longrightarrow X$  s.t.  $\gamma(0) = \gamma(1) = x_0$  with compact-open topology.

#### Definition

Let X be a simplicial set. The **simplicial loop space** of X with basepoint  $x_0 \in X_0$  is the simplicial set  $\Omega X$  such that for all  $n \geq 0$ 

$$\Omega X([n]) := \lim_{\leftarrow} \begin{pmatrix} \{x_0\} & \longrightarrow X([0]) & \longleftarrow X([0][n]) \\ & X(\mu_L) & & \downarrow X(\mu_R) \\ & X([0][n]) & \xrightarrow{X(\mu_R)} X([n]) \end{pmatrix}$$

### Loop spaces

In 
$$\Delta$$
 given  $k, n \geq 0$  
$$[k][n] = \{0 < \ldots < k < (k+1) + 0 < \ldots < (k+1) + n\}$$
 
$$\mu_L : [k] \rightarrow [k][n] \text{ the inclusion on the left}$$
 
$$\mu_R : [n] \rightarrow [k][n] \text{ the inclusion on the right}$$
 Here with  $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{0}$ 

Elements in  $\Omega X([n])$  are pairs  $(x_{n+1}, x'_{n+1})$  such that  $X(\mu_L)(x_{n+1}) = X(\mu_L)(x'_{n+1}) = x_0$  and  $X(\mu_R)(x_{n+1}) = X(\mu_R)(x'_{n+1})$ .

### The G-construction

#### Definition

The G-construction of an exact category  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $\Omega S\mathcal{M}$ .

For  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\Omega SM([n])$  is the set of pairs of sequence of monomorphisms

$$M:= (M_0 \hookrightarrow M_1 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow M_n)$$

$$N:= \qquad (N_0 \hookrightarrow N_1 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow N_n)$$

along with choices of quotient such that

$$N_j/N_i = M_j/M_i$$
 for all  $0 \le i < j \le n$ 

because

$$SM(\mu_R)(M) = M_1/M_0 \hookrightarrow ... \hookrightarrow M_n/M_0$$

must equal

$$SM(\mu_R)(N) = N_1/N_0 \hookrightarrow ... \hookrightarrow N_n/N_0$$

# Relation to $N(S^{-1}S)$

The vertices are  $\Omega SM([0]) = \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{M}) \times \mathrm{Ob}(\mathcal{M})$  and the edges are  $\Omega SM([1])$ consisting of pairs of sequences

$$\left(\begin{array}{c}
M_0 & \hookrightarrow & M_1 \\
N_0 & \hookrightarrow & N_1
\end{array}\right)$$

with one choice of quotient  $C:=N_1/N_0=M_0/M_1$ . Corresponds to pairs of exact sequences  $N_0\hookrightarrow N_1 \twoheadrightarrow C$  and  $M_0\hookrightarrow M_1 \twoheadrightarrow$ C.

If all exact sequences split  $M_1\simeq C\oplus M_0$  and  $N_1\simeq C\oplus N_0$  and the edge corresponds to a morphism in  $S^{-1}S$ .



#### Claim 1

For any simplicial set X there is a map  $|\Omega X| \longrightarrow \Omega |X|$ 

#### Claim 2

 $|\Omega S\mathcal{M}| \longrightarrow \Omega |S\mathcal{M}|$  is a homotopy equivalence

This is [GG87]'s Theorem 3.1

Section 3

Proof that  $|\Omega S\mathcal{M}| \simeq_{\mathrm{HoTop}} \Omega |S\mathcal{M}|$ 

# Right fiber of F over $\rho$

#### Definition

Let  $F: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a morphism of simplicial sets,  $n \ge 0$  and  $\rho \in Y_n$ . We define  $\rho|F$  the **right fiber of** F **over**  $\rho$  such that

$$(\rho|F)([k]) := \lim_{\leftarrow} \begin{pmatrix} X([k]) & \downarrow^{F} \\ Y([n][k]) & \xrightarrow{Y(\mu_{R})} Y([k]) \\ \downarrow^{Y(\mu_{L})} & \downarrow^{Y(\mu_{L})} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\{\rho\} & \longleftarrow & Y([n]) \end{pmatrix}$$

When  $F = \operatorname{id}_Y$  we denote  $\rho | F$  by  $\rho | Y$ .

#### Lemma

 $|\rho| Y|$  is contractible.

# Proving Claim 1

Given X a simplicial set and  $x_0 \in X_0$  a base point we have a commutative diagram

$$\Omega X \longrightarrow x_0 | X 
\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow 
x_0 | X \longrightarrow X$$
(1)

Map from  $|\Omega X|$  to the homotopy pullback of  $|x_0|X| \to |X| \leftarrow |x_0|X|$  which is homotopy equivalent to  $\Omega |X|$  because  $|x_0|X|$  is contractible.

We proved Claim 1 and if (1) is homotopy cartesian  $|\Omega X| \to \Omega |X|$  is a homotopy equivalence.

# Theorem B'

Let  $F: X \longrightarrow Y$  be a morphism of simplicial sets.

#### Theorem B'

If for  $n \geq 0$ ,  $\tau \in Y_n$  and  $\phi : [m] \longrightarrow [n]$  the induced  $\tau | F \longrightarrow \phi^*(\tau) | F$  is a homotopy equivalence. Then for any  $l \geq 0$ ,  $\rho \in X_l$  square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\rho|F & \longrightarrow & X \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow_{I} \\
\rho|Y & \longrightarrow & Y
\end{array}$$

is homotopy cartesian

Theorem B' generalizes [Qui72] Theorem B. Similarly there is a generalization of [Qui72] Theorem A

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# Using Theorem B'

Let X be a simplicial set and  $x_0 \in X_0$ . Consider

$$P: \qquad x_0|X \longrightarrow X$$
 
$$x_{k+1} \longmapsto X(\mu_R)(x_{k+1})$$

#### Definition

Let  $\rho \in X_n$  the right fiber  $\rho|P$  is denoted  $(x_0, \rho|X)$ 

We can check that  $(x_0, x_0|X) = (x_0|P)$  is  $\Omega X$  with base point  $x_0$ .

#### Corollary of Theorem B'

Let X be a simplicial set and  $x_0 \in X_0$  be a base point. Assume that for any  $\rho \in X_n$  and  $\phi : [m] \longrightarrow [n]$  we have that  $(x_0, \rho|X) \longrightarrow (x_0, \phi^*(\rho)|X)$  is a homotopy equivalence then  $|\Omega X| \longrightarrow \Omega |X|$  is a homotopy equivalence

**Goal** : apply corollary to  $X=S\mathcal{M}$  Prove the hypothesis is true for all  $\phi:[m]\longrightarrow [n]$  and  $\tau\in S\mathcal{M}(n)$ . In practice we only need to show it on a finite number of well-chosen  $\phi$  to conclude

# Elements in $(0, \tau | SM)$

For  $n \geq 0$  and  $M = (M_1 \hookrightarrow ... \hookrightarrow M_n)$  elements of  $(0, M|S\mathcal{M})([l])$  are pairs

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_0 \hookrightarrow L_1 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L_l \\ M_1 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow M_n \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow K_1 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K_l \end{pmatrix}$$

such that  $L_j/L_i \simeq K_j/K_i$  for all  $0 \leq i < j \leq l$ 

- + choice of quotient for each  $K_j/K_i$  for all  $0 \le i < j \le l$
- + choice of quotient for each  $K_j/M_i$  for all  $0 \le i \le l$  and  $0 \le j \le n$

### First case

Let  $m \geq 0$  and  $M \in S\mathcal{M}([m])$ .

Consider  $\eta:[1] \longrightarrow [m]$  s.t.  $\eta(0)=0$  and  $\eta(1)=m$  then :

$$F:(0,M|S\mathcal{M})([n])\longrightarrow (0,\eta^*(M)|S\mathcal{M})([n])$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ M_1 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow M_m \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} L_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ M_m \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{pmatrix}$$

We define a mapping  $G:(0,\eta^*(M)|S\mathcal{M})([n])\longrightarrow (0,M|S\mathcal{M})([n])$  that sets arbitrary quotients for  $K_i/M_i$ .

⇒ **Not** an isomorphism, but a homotopy equivalence.

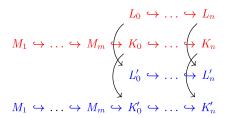
$$G \circ F \simeq id$$
  $F \circ G = id$ 

# Homotopic map towards (0, M|SM)

Very useful trick in these proofs

Let X be a simplicial set and  $f,g:X\to (0,M|S\mathcal{M})$  be two maps.

**Assumption**: each  $x_n \in X_n$  there is an isomorphism  $\phi_{x_n}: f(x_n) \simeq g(x_n)$  which corresponds to a family of isomorphisms that makes the following diagram commute



in a way compatible with images of morphisms  $\Delta$ .

**Consequence**: f and g are homotopic.

Let  $m \geq 0$  and  $N \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Consider  $f,g:[0]\longrightarrow [1]$  s.t. f(0)=0 and g(0)=1 and consider :

$$f^*, g^*: (0, \widehat{N}|S\mathcal{M})([n]) \longrightarrow (0, 0|S\mathcal{M})([n])$$

such that

$$f^*: \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{array}\right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{array}\right)$$

and

$$g^*: \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{array}\right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ K_0/N \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n/N \end{array}\right)$$

we want to show they are homotopy equivalences

Consider also  $H:(0,0|S\mathcal{M})([n])\longrightarrow (0,\widehat{N}|S\mathcal{M})([n])$  such that

$$H: \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{array}\right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow N \oplus K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow N \oplus K_n \end{array}\right)$$

We have  $g^* \circ H = \mathrm{id}$ , and we admit that  $f^* \circ H$  is a homotopy equivalence. Therefore it is enough to show that  $H \circ g^*$  is homotopic to  $\mathrm{id}$ .

Explicitely for  $J := H \circ g^*$  we have

$$J: \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{array}\right) \mapsto \left(\begin{array}{c} L_0 \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow N \oplus K_0/N \hookrightarrow \ldots \hookrightarrow N \oplus K_n/N \end{array}\right)$$

To prove it is homotopic id we provide  $|(0,\widehat{N}|S\mathcal{M})|$  with a H-space structure using

$$\begin{pmatrix} L_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} L'_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L'_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K'_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K'_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} L_0 \oplus L'_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow L_n \oplus L'_n \\ N \hookrightarrow K_0 \coprod_N K'_0 \hookrightarrow \dots \hookrightarrow K_n \coprod_N K'_n \end{pmatrix}$$

We use the following fact in exact categories

#### Lemma

Let  $N \rightarrowtail M$  be a admissible monomorphism. There is a natural "isomorphism"

$$M \coprod_{N} M \simeq M \coprod_{N} (N \oplus M/N)$$

and deduce that |id| + |J| is homotopic to |id| + |id|.

We use topological result to provide an opposite to  $|\mathrm{id}|$  by "+" and conclude.  $\Rightarrow \eta^*$ ,  $f^*$  ang  $g^*$  are homotopy equivalences.

# To conclude

For any m,n>0 and  $\phi:[m]\to[n]$  the diagram commutes in  $\Delta$ 

$$[1] \xleftarrow{f} [0] \xrightarrow{f} [1] \xleftarrow{g} [0] \xrightarrow{f} [1]$$

$$\downarrow^{\eta_n} \qquad \downarrow^{\lambda} \qquad \downarrow^{\eta_m}$$

$$[n] \xleftarrow{\text{id}} [n] \xleftarrow{\phi} [m]$$

Where  $\lambda(0) = \phi(0)$  and  $\lambda(1) = n$ . It induces for any  $M \in SM([n])$ .

$$(0, \widehat{M_n}|S\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{g^*} (0, 0|S\mathcal{M}) \xleftarrow{g^*} (0, \widehat{M_{\phi(0)}}|S\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{g^*} (0, 0|S\mathcal{M}) \xleftarrow{g^*} (0, \widehat{M_{\phi(m)}}|S\mathcal{M})$$

$$(\eta_n)^* \uparrow \qquad \qquad (\lambda)^* \uparrow \qquad \qquad (\eta_m)^* \uparrow$$

$$(0, M|S\mathcal{M}) \xleftarrow{\phi^*} (0, M|S\mathcal{M}) \xrightarrow{\phi^*} (0, \phi^*(M)|S\mathcal{M})$$

#### Theorem

For  $\mathcal M$  an exact category.  $|\Omega\mathcal M| \to \Omega|\mathcal M|$  is a homotopy equivalence.

# Section 4

Defining  $wG.\mathcal{M}$ 

# G-construction of a Waldhausen category

First introduced in [Gun+92].

Consider P— that shifts degree of simplicial object, ie such that  $PX_n = X_{n+1}$ .

Define simplicial category  $wG.\mathcal{C}$  such that the following is cartesian

$$wG.C \longrightarrow PwS.C$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \delta_0$$

$$PwS.C \xrightarrow{\delta_0} wS.C$$

where  $(\delta_0)_n: PwS.\mathcal{C}([n]) \to wS.\mathcal{C}([n])$  corresponds to  $wS.\mathcal{C}(d_0)$ .

The image by Ob is  $\widetilde{GC} := \Omega SC$ .

If we post-compose with nerve functor we get a bisimplicial set wG.C.

#### Lemma

Let  $\mathcal M$  be an exact category, canonically a Waldhausen category.

Then |wG.C| and |GC| are homotopy equivalent.

# G-construction of a Waldhausen category

#### Theorem

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a Waldhausen category, if  $\mathcal{C}$  is pseudo-additive,

$$|wG.C| \longrightarrow \Omega |wS.C|$$

Is a homotopy equivalence

Here pseudo-additive means that for all  $N \mapsto M$  we have a natural sequence of weak equivalences between  $M \cup_N (N \vee (M/N))$  and  $M \cup_N M$ .

#### Examples

Waldhausen categories that are pseudo additive :

- Exact categories
- Complexes in  ${\rm Vect}(X)$  for a scheme X with element-wise admissible monomorphism as cofibrations and quasi-isomorphisms as weak equivalences



### Constructions for undelooped K-Theory

Construction	Category	"Additivity"	Example
$S^{-1}S$	split exact	$M \simeq N \oplus (M/N)$	P(R)
$G\mathcal{M}$	exact	$M \coprod_{N} M \simeq M \coprod_{N} (N \oplus (M/N))$	Vect(X)
$wG.\mathcal{M}$	pseudo-additive	$M \coprod_{N} M \sim M \coprod_{N} (N \vee (M/N))$	CVect(X)

The proofs in [GG87] and [Gun+92] use the "pseudo-additivity" hypothesis in a very similar fashion !

Introduction 0000000000 References [CWe] C.Weibel. The K-book: an introduction to algebraic K-theory. [GG87] H. Gillet and D. R. Grayson. "The loop space of the Q-Construction". In: Illinois Journal of Mathematics 31.4 (1987), pp. 574-597. [Gra] D. R. Grayson. "Higher algebraic K-theory: II (after Quillen)". In: Lecture Notes in Mathematics 551 (), pp. 217-240. [Gra89] D. R. Grayson. "Exterior Power Operations on Higher K-Theory". In: K-Theory 3 (1989), pp. 247–260. [Gun+92] T. Gunnarsson et al. "An un-delooped version of algebraic K-theory". In: Journal of Pure and Applied Algebra 79 (1992), pp. 255-270. [Qui72] D. Quillen. "Higher algebraic K-Theory: I". In: Lecture Notes in Math. 341 (1972), pp. 79-139. 42 / 42