

Key operations in K -theory and G -theory

Jeroen Hekking

KTH Royal Institute of Technology

hekking@kth.se

March 29, 2022

Overview

- 1 Review
- 2 K_0 and G_0 classically
- 3 Additive K -theory
- 4 λ -rings
- 5 End

Derived stacks

Convention: everything derived

- $\mathbf{sRing} = \mathcal{P}_{\Sigma}(\mathcal{P}\text{oly})$, and $\mathcal{A}\text{ff} := \mathbf{sRing}^{\text{op}}$
- $\mathcal{S}\text{t} \subset \text{Fun}(\mathcal{A}\text{ff}^{\text{op}}, \mathcal{S})$ spanned by functors satisfying étale descent
- A stack is a *scheme* if it is Zariski locally an affine scheme
- A stack X is *n -algebraic* if there is a $(n-1)$ -smooth and epic morphism $U \rightarrow X$, where U is a scheme

Perfect, coherent, and locally free complexes

Let X be an algebraic stack, and $F \in \mathrm{QCoh}(X) = \lim_{\mathrm{Spec} R \rightarrow X} \mathrm{Mod}_R$

- F is *perfect* if $F(A)$ is compact for all $\mathrm{Spec} A \rightarrow X$
- (for X a scheme) F is *locally free of finite rank* if there is a Zariski cover $\{U_\alpha \rightarrow X\}_\alpha$ and equivalences $F|_{U_\alpha} \simeq \mathcal{O}_{U_\alpha}^{n_\alpha}$
- F is *coherent* if $F(A) \in \mathrm{Mod}_A$ is, for all $\mathrm{Spec} A \rightarrow X$, meaning that $F(A)$ has bounded homotopy, and each $\pi_n F(A)$ is finitely generated over $\pi_0(A)$.

$\mathrm{Perf}(X) \subset \mathrm{QCoh}(X)$ is the stable subcategory of perfect complexes

Abstract K -theory

Let \mathcal{C} be a stable category

- We defined the K -theory space $K(\mathcal{C})$ via the S_\bullet -construction
- $K(\mathcal{C})$ is like a space, where the points are objects of \mathcal{C} and the paths are induced by exact sequences

$$C_0 \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow C_2$$

giving $C_1 \sim C_0 + C_2$. Higher homotopies by ‘staircases’.

- Then $K_n(\mathcal{C}) := \pi_n(K(\mathcal{C}))$

K_0 of exact categories

- An *exact 1-category* is a 1-category \mathcal{E} with specified ‘exact sequences’

$$M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M''$$

satisfying certain stability conditions (Ex: abelian cats)

- For \mathcal{E} exact category, the Grothendieck group $K_0(\mathcal{E})$ is the abelian group freely generated by objects of \mathcal{E} modulo

$$[M] = [M'] \oplus [M'']$$

for each exact sequence $M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow M''$

- We have $K_0(\mathrm{h}\mathcal{C}) = K_0(\mathcal{C})$ for \mathcal{C} stable.

Definition

- For a scheme X , we defined

$$K(X) := K(\mathcal{P}\text{erf}(X))$$

$$G(X) := K(\mathcal{C}\text{oh}(X))$$

- For X classical, we get
 - $G_0(X)$ is the Grothendieck group of the abelian 1-category of the classical $\mathcal{C}\text{oh}(X)$
 - $K_0(X)$ is the Grothendieck group of the exact 1-category $\text{QCoh}^{\text{lf}}(X)$ of the locally free sheaves on X .

Cartan map

- If $A \in \mathbf{sRing}$ has bounded homotopy, then $\mathcal{P}erf(A) \subset \mathcal{C}oh(A)$
- If a Noetherian, algebraic stack X has bounded \mathcal{O}_X , then $\mathcal{P}erf(X) \subset \mathcal{C}oh(X)$, giving us

$$C : K(X) \rightarrow G(X)$$

called the *Cartan map*

- If X is moreover regular, then C is an equivalence
- If X is a classical scheme, then \mathcal{O}_X is always bounded, hence the Cartan map always exists.
- For classical X , the Cartan map

$$K_0(X) \rightarrow G_0(X)$$

comes about by the classical $\mathcal{QC}oh^{lf}(X) \subset \mathcal{C}oh(X)$

Dévissage

Theorem

Let $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{B}$ be an exact abelian sub-category of an abelian 1-category, closed under subobjects and quotients. Suppose for each $B \in \mathcal{B}$ there is a filtration

$$0 = B_r \subset B_{r-1} \subset \cdots \subset B_0 = B$$

such that each B_i/B_{i+1} lies in \mathcal{A} . Then

$$K(\mathcal{A}) \simeq K(\mathcal{B})$$

Nil-invariance

Proposition

For X a Noetherian classical scheme, it holds $G_0(X) \cong G_0(X_{\text{red}})$

K_0^\oplus of additive categories

- A category \mathcal{C} is additive if $M \cup N \simeq M \times N$ for all $M, N \in \mathcal{C}$
- For \mathcal{C} additive, we define $K_0^\oplus(\mathcal{C})$ as the abelian group freely generated by objects of \mathcal{C} , modulo the relations

$$[M \oplus N] = [M] + [N]$$

Let $R \in \mathbf{sRing}$. Recall $M \in \mathbf{Mod}_R$ is finitely generated projective if it is a direct summand of some $R^{\oplus n}$, equivalently, if it is finitely generated and locally free. Then put

$$K_0^\oplus(R) := K_0^\oplus(\mathbf{Mod}_R^{\text{proj}})$$

$K_0(R)$: projectives vs perfects

Theorem

Let $R \in \mathbf{sRing}$. Then $K_0^\oplus(R) \cong K_0(R)$.

Derived nil-invariance

Theorem

Let $R \in \mathbf{sRing}$. Then $K_0(R) \cong K_0(\pi_0(R))$.

Nonabelian derived functors

- Write $\mathbf{sRingMod}^{\text{cn}}$ for the category of pairs (R, M) , where $R \in \mathbf{sRing}$ and $M \in \mathbf{Mod}_R^{\text{cn}}$
- Let \mathcal{C} be the full subcategory of $\mathbf{sRingMod}^{\text{cn}}$ spanned by (R, M) where R is finitely generated polynomial and M finitely generated free
- It holds $\mathcal{P}_\Sigma(\mathcal{C}) \simeq \mathbf{sRingMod}^{\text{cn}}$
- Consequently

$$\text{Fun}_\Sigma(\mathbf{sRingMod}^{\text{cn}}, \mathcal{E}) \simeq \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}, \mathcal{E})$$

for any cocomplete \mathcal{E} , where $\text{Fun}_\Sigma(-, -)$ means sifted-colimit preserving

Derived symmetric and exterior powers

Definition

Taking the nonabelian derived functor of the classical symmetric n th powers gives us the derived functor

$$\mathrm{sRingMod}^{\mathrm{cn}} \rightarrow \mathrm{sRingMod}^{\mathrm{cn}} : (R, M) \mapsto (R, \mathrm{Sym}_A^n(M))$$

We do the same of the classical exterior powers, giving us

$$\mathrm{sRingMod}^{\mathrm{cn}} \rightarrow \mathrm{sRingMod}^{\mathrm{cn}} : (R, M) \mapsto (R, \bigwedge_A^n(M))$$

Lemma

The derived n th symmetric powers assemble into a ring $\mathrm{Sym}_A(M)$. This construction is left adjoint to the forgetful functor $\mathrm{Alg}_A \rightarrow \mathrm{Mod}_A$

λ -rings

Definition

Let K be a discrete ring. A pre- λ -ring structure on K is a family of operations $\lambda^n : K \rightarrow K$, $n \geq 0$, such that

$$\lambda^n(x + y) = \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^i(x) \lambda^{n-i}(y)$$

and $\lambda^0 \equiv 1$, $\lambda^1 \equiv \text{id}$. K with such structure is a λ -ring if moreover

- $\lambda^n(xy)$ can be expressed in terms of $\lambda^1(x), \lambda^1(y), \dots, \lambda^n(x), \lambda^n(y)$ through a fixed polynomial P_n
- $\lambda^m(\lambda^n(z))$ can be expressed in terms of $\lambda^1(z), \dots, \lambda^{mn}(z)$ in terms of a fixed polynomial $P_{m,n}$

λ -rings

We have an adjunction

$$V : \lambda\mathcal{R}\text{ing} \rightleftarrows \mathcal{R}\text{ing} : \Lambda$$

here, $\Lambda(R) = 1 + tR[[t]]$. In fact, a pre- λ -ring is a λ -ring if

$$R \rightarrow \Lambda(R)$$

is a morphism of pre- λ -rings.

In doubly fact, this adjunction is comonadic, meaning that $\lambda\mathcal{R}\text{ing}$ is the category of coalgebras over

$$\Lambda : \mathcal{R}\text{ing} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}\text{ing}$$

The λ -ring structure on $K_0(R)$

We use the model $K_0(R) = K_0^\oplus(\mathcal{M}od_R^{\text{proj}})$.

- For $M \in \mathcal{M}od_R$ locally free of finite rank m , $\bigwedge^n(M)$ is locally free of finite rank $\binom{m}{n}$
- We can thus define

$$\lambda^n : K_0(R) \rightarrow K_0(R) : [M] \mapsto \left[\bigwedge_R^n(M) \right]$$

Proposition

These operations make $K_0(R)$ into a λ -ring.

Next time

- Coniveau filtration
- γ filtration
- Gysin map
- Localization
- Excision

References



[Adeel Kahn \(2018\)](#)

The Grothendieck–Riemann–Roch theorem (lecture notes)



[Adeel Kahn \(2021\)](#)

K -theory and G -theory of algebraic stacks



[Jacob Lurie](#)

Spectral Algebraic Geometry



[Aaron Landesman](#)

Some basics of algebraic K -theory (lecture notes)

Thank you!