

SYM Lecture 27/6/2012

Failure of excision in algebraic K-theory  
and what to do about it...

Lars Hesselholt.

$A$  = unital associative ring

$\mathcal{P}(A)$  = category of (small) f.g. proj. right  $A$ -modules

Grothendieck group =

$K_0(A)$  = free abelian grp. gen. by ob  $\mathcal{P}(A)$   
subgrp. w. one gen.  $P' - P + P''$   
for every short exact sequence  
 $0 \rightarrow P' \rightarrow P \rightarrow P'' \rightarrow 0$  in  $\mathcal{P}(A)$

Ex 1)  $K$  field,  $K_0(K) \xrightarrow{rk} \mathbb{Z}$

2)  $[K : \mathbb{Q}] < \infty$  number field,

$$0 \rightarrow Pic(\mathcal{O}_K) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{O}_K) \xrightarrow{rk} \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow 0$$

Algebraic K-theory (symmetric) spectrum

$$K(A) = \{ K(A)_n, K(A)_m \wedge S^n \rightarrow K(A)_{m+n} \}$$

Quillen higher algebraic K-groups

$$K_q(A) = [S^q, K(A)]$$

↙  
morphisms in homotopy category of symm. spectra

Ex 1) If  $[K:\mathbb{Q}] < \infty$  totally real, then

$$\sum_k (1-2k) = \pm \frac{\# K_{4k-2}(\mathcal{O}_K)}{\# K_{4k-1}(\mathcal{O}_K)}$$

⚡

up to factors of 2.

2)  $p \mid \# K_{4k}(\mathbb{Z})$  for some  $k \geq 1 \iff$

$$p \mid \# \text{Pic}(\mathbb{Z}(\zeta_p + \zeta_p^{-1})) \quad //$$

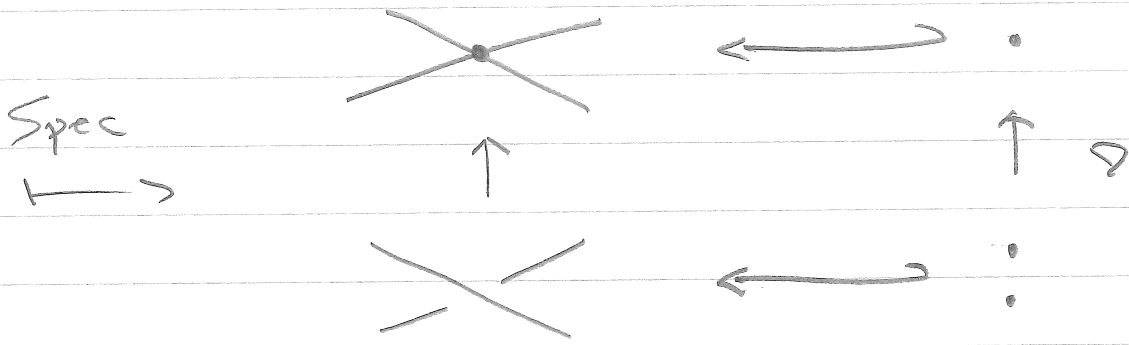
Excision:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} I \longrightarrow A \longrightarrow A/I & & \\ \sim \downarrow \neq & \downarrow \neq \text{Cart.} \downarrow \neq & \xrightarrow{?} \\ \neq(I) \longrightarrow B \longrightarrow B/\neq(I) & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K(A) \longrightarrow K(A/I) & & \\ \downarrow \text{Cart.} \downarrow & & \\ K(B) \longrightarrow K(B/\neq(I)) & & \end{array}$$

Ex 1)  $k$  field

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (x,y) \longrightarrow k[x,y]/(x,y) \longrightarrow k & & \\ \parallel & \downarrow & \downarrow \Delta \\ (x,y) \longrightarrow k[x] \times k[y] \longrightarrow k \times k & & \end{array}$$



2)  $G$  : finite group

$$|G| \cdot M \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[G] \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[G]/|G| \cdot M$$

$$|G| \cdot M \rightarrow M \rightarrow M/|G| \cdot M$$

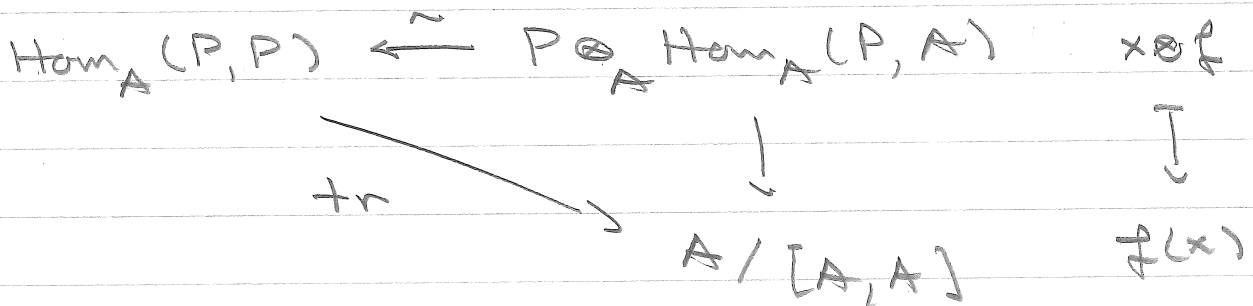
$\downarrow$   
 maximal order in  $\mathbb{Q}[G]$     //

Thm (Suslin - Wodzicki)

$I$  is excisive for algebraic  $\iff$   $K$ -theory

$$\text{Tor}_{\neq}^{\mathbb{Z} \times I}(\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}) = 0 \quad (q \geq 1) \quad //$$

Recall trace from linear algebra:



### Hattori-Stallings trace map

$$K_0(A) \xrightarrow{\text{tr}} \text{HH}_0(A) = A/[A,A]$$

$$P \longmapsto \text{tr}(\text{id}_P)$$

### Cyclotomic trace map

$$K(A) \xrightarrow{\text{tr}} \text{TC}(A),$$

very powerful refinement due to Connes, Böckstaele-Hsisting-Madsen.

### Thm (Cartinas, Geisser-H.)

Every  $I$  is excisive for the mapping fiber of the cyclotomic trace map. "

Ex 1)  $k$ : perfect field of pos. char.

$$I = (x, y) \longmapsto A = k[x, y]/(xy)$$

$$\parallel \quad \downarrow$$

$$I = (x, y) \longmapsto B = k[x] \times k[y]$$

$$K_q(A, B, I) \xrightarrow{\sim} \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}V_m(k) & q = 2m \text{ even} \\ 0 & q \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

2)  $C_p =$  cyclic group of prime order  $p$ .

$$I = (1-t) \text{ --- } A = \mathbb{Z}[C_p] \text{ --- } A/I = \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\downarrow \sim$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$f(I) = (1-t^p) \text{ --- } B = \mathbb{Z}[C_p] \text{ --- } B/f(I) = \mathbb{F}_p$$

Know:  $K_f(A, B, I)$  is  $p$ -primary  
torsion group

Missing:  $TC(\mathbb{Z}[C_p]) = ?$  "

Planar cusps:

$a < b$ : relatively prime integers,  $a > 1$ .

$$\mathbb{I} = (x^i y^j) \longrightarrow \mathbb{A} = k[x, y] / (y^a - x^b)$$

$$\downarrow \sim \quad \quad \quad \downarrow \cong$$

$$\mathfrak{f}(\mathbb{I}) = (t^{(a-1)(b-1)}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{B} = k[t]$$

$$\mathfrak{f}(x) = t^a, \quad \mathfrak{f}(y) = t^b$$

$$(a-1)(b-1) = a_i + b_j \quad i, j \geq 0.$$

Sylwester:

$$\text{length}_k(\mathbb{A}/\mathbb{I}) = \frac{1}{2} \text{length}_k(\mathbb{B}/\mathfrak{f}(\mathbb{I})).$$

Ex  $a=3, b=5, (a-1)(b-1) = a \cdot 1 + b \cdot 1$

0   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   ...   //

To calculate  $\kappa(\mathbb{A})$ , must solve following geometric problem:

let  $m \geq 1$  be an integer and let

$$P = (p_0, p_1, \dots, p_r)$$

be integers  $0 \leq p_0 < p_1 < \dots < p_r \leq m$

s.t. the gaps

$$p_s - p_{s-1} \quad (1 \leq s \leq r)$$

$$p_{0+m} - p_r$$

all are equal to either  $a$  or  $b$ .  
Choose integer  $c, d$  s.t.

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

let

$$J = \left[ \frac{cm}{a}, \frac{dm}{b} \right] \cap \mathbb{Z}$$

and consider the stunted trigonometric moment curve

$$[0, m] \xrightarrow{x} \mathbb{C}^J$$

$$x(t) = (x_j(t) \mid j \in J)$$

$$x_j(t) = \exp(2\pi i j t / m).$$

Define the polytope

$$\Sigma(a, b, m, p) \subset \mathbb{C}^J$$

to be the convex hull of



$$\{x(p_0), \dots, x(p_r)\} \subset \mathbb{C}^J.$$

$$\text{Conj } 0 \notin \Sigma(a, b, m, p).$$

$$\text{Ex } a = 2, b = 3, m = 7$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \in \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{C})$$

$$J = \left[ \frac{1 \cdot 7}{2}, \frac{2 \cdot 7}{3} \right] \cap \mathbb{Z} = \{4\}$$

$$p = (0, 2, 4)$$

