

# K-theory A DAG

## Talk 5 - Reduction to K-theory of spectra

Recall:  $\mathcal{C}$  ptd.  $\omega$ -cat w/ p.fca. colim  $\rightsquigarrow$  Waldhausen construction

$$S_*(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Gap}_{[1,1]}(\mathcal{C})^{\cong} \text{ (a simplicial Kan complex)} \rightsquigarrow K(\mathcal{C})_*$$

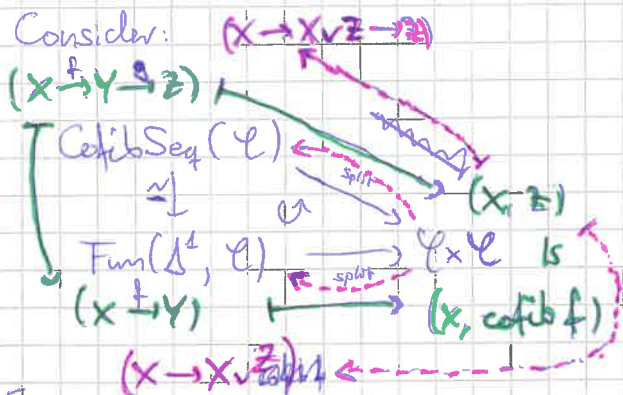
K-theory space  $K(\mathcal{C}) := |S_*(\mathcal{C})|$  (an infinite loop space)

### The Additivity Theorem

$\mathcal{C}$  ptd.  $\omega$ -cat w/ fin. colim  
and  $\mathcal{D}$

Thm (Add):  $\text{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_{\text{fib}}(X \xrightarrow{f} Y) \rightarrow (X, \text{cofib } f)$  induces

an equiv.  $K(\text{Fun}(\Delta^1, \mathcal{C})) \rightarrow K(\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C}) \cong K(\mathcal{C}) \times K(\mathcal{C})$



Proof

Cor: All functors in this diagram induce equiv. after  $K(-)$ .

Cor: (i) Let  $G, G', G'' : \text{CofibSeq}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  given by sending  $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$  to

$X, Y,$  resp.  $Z$ . Then  $G_* \cong G'_* + G''_*$  in

$$\text{Hom}(K_0(\text{CofibSeq}(\mathcal{C})), K_0(\mathcal{C}))$$

(ii) More generally:  $F' \rightarrow F \rightarrow F''$  cofib seq. of functors

$\mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  preserving fin. colimits. Then  $F_* \cong F'_* + F''_*$

$$(X, Z) \mapsto (X \vee Z, Z)$$

$$\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{CofibSeq}(\mathcal{C})$$

Pf: (i) By above enough for split sequences:  $X \rightarrow X \vee Z \rightarrow Z$ . But for these clearly def. of  $\Sigma_*$  on  $K_0$ .

(ii) follows from (i) by factoring through  $\text{Cofib}(\mathcal{D})$ . □

Cor:  $\text{id} + \Sigma_* \cong 0 : K(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow K(\mathcal{C})$ , i.e.  $\Sigma_* = (-1)$  in part. equiv. (check on Wikipedia)

Pf:  $\text{id} \rightarrow * \rightarrow \Sigma$  cofib. seq.

Def:  $\text{Fib SW}(\mathcal{C}) := \text{colim}(\mathcal{C} \rightrightarrows \mathcal{C} \rightrightarrows \mathcal{C} \dots)$  the Spanier-Whitehead category of  $\mathcal{C}$

Fact:  $\text{SW}(\mathcal{C})$  is stable.

Cor: The canonical functor induces an equiv.  $K(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\cong} K(\text{SW}(\mathcal{C}))$ .

Pf: Follows from  $\Sigma_*$  equiv.  $\&$  and: In part, can always reduce to stable  $\infty$ -cat

Fact:  $K$  commutes preserves filtered colimits

Pf Sketch (Thm): Have fiber seqs:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & (* \rightarrow 0) & (C \rightarrow 0) & \longrightarrow & 0 \\
 \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \text{Fam}(\Delta^1 \mathcal{C}) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{k} & \text{Assume fib. seq} \Rightarrow \text{Thm} \\
 \parallel & \subset & \uparrow & \uparrow & \parallel & & \uparrow \text{Enough to show} \\
 \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{C} & \xrightarrow{k} & \text{fib seq.} \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & (*, 0) & (C, 0) & \longrightarrow & C
 \end{array}$$

Easy:  $\text{SW}$  fib. seq. after  $S_*(-)$

$\leadsto$  use (technical) criteria for  $\text{SW}(-)$  being again a fib. seq.  $\square$

### Ind-objects & idempotent completion

Idea: Concat w/ fin. colimits  $\xrightarrow[\text{all (small) colimits}]{\text{formally add}}$   $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$   $\infty$ -cat of Ind-objects in  $\mathcal{C}$

More precisely  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$  characterized by:

- $\exists j: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$  fully faithful
- $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$  admits filtered colimits (actually admits all small colimits)
- Every object in  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$  is filtered colimit  $\text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha$  with  $C_\alpha \in \mathcal{C}$
- $\mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{C}$  is compact in  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$  ( $\Leftrightarrow \text{Map}_{\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})}(\mathcal{C}, -)$  pres. filtered colimits)

Why these conditions?

Let "colim  $C_\alpha$ " denote "formally added colimit"

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Map}_{\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})}(\text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha, \text{colim}_\beta D_\beta) &\cong \lim_\alpha \text{Map}_{\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})}(C_\alpha, \text{colim}_\beta D_\beta) \cong \lim_\alpha \lim_\beta \text{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}(C_\alpha, D_\beta) \\
 &\cong \lim_\alpha \text{colim}_\beta \text{Map}_{\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})}(C_\alpha, D_\beta) \cong \lim_\alpha \text{colim}_\beta \text{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}(C_\alpha, D_\beta)
 \end{aligned}$$

Rem: One construction is:  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \text{Fun}(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}, \mathcal{S})$  full subcat of functors pres. finite limits.

Ex:  $\text{Ind}(\text{Grp}) \cong \text{Grp}$  (similarly for Ab, Ring, (Clng), ...),  $\text{Ind}(\text{Spc}) \cong \mathcal{S}$   
 $\mathbb{R}$  ring spectra  $\text{Ind}(\text{Mod}_{\mathbb{R}}) \cong \text{Mod}_{\mathbb{R}}$  (perfect (= compact))



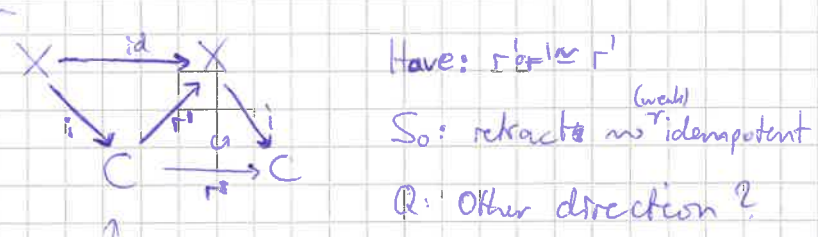
Q: What are the <sup>e</sup> cpt. obj. of  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$ ?

Let  $\text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha \in \text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})^{\text{cpt}} \Rightarrow \text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha \xrightarrow{\text{id}} \text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha \Rightarrow \text{colim}_\alpha C_\alpha$  retract of  $C_{\alpha_0}$

Fact:  $\text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})^{\text{cpt}} =$  retracts of objects  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ .

Def:  $\bar{\mathcal{C}} := \text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})^{\text{cpt}}$  is the idempotent completion of  $\mathcal{C}$ . ("formally add <sup>images of idempotents</sup> retracts")

$\mathcal{C}$  is idempotent complete if  $\mathcal{C} \cong \bar{\mathcal{C}}$ .

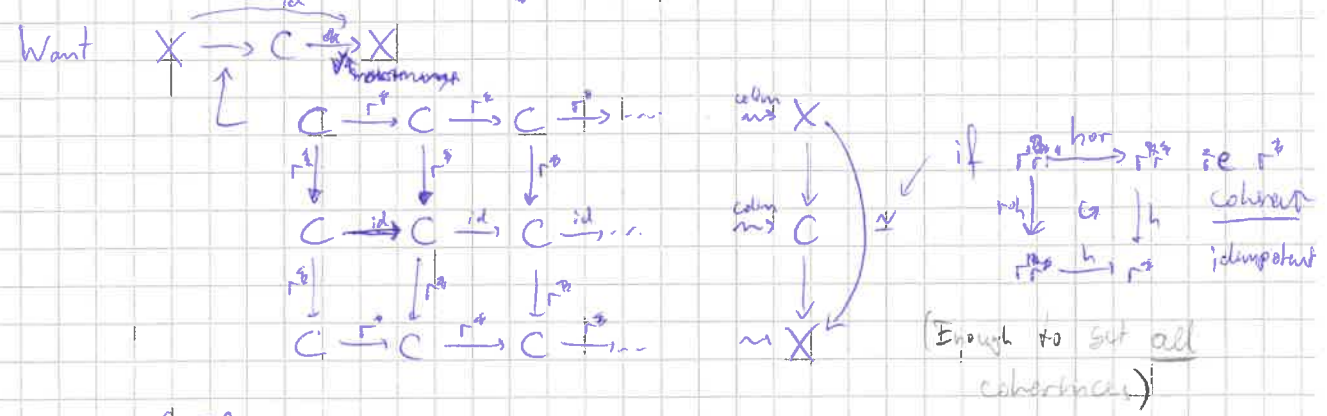


Q: Other direction?

In this situation:  $X \cong \text{colim}(C \xrightarrow{r} C \xrightarrow{r} C \dots)$

So let  $C \xrightarrow{r} C$  st.  $r^2 = r$ . Set  $X := \text{colim}(C \xrightarrow{r} C \xrightarrow{r} C \dots)$ .

skipped in talk



So:  $r$  coherent idempotent  $\rightsquigarrow X = \text{colim}(C \xrightarrow{r} C \dots) \in \text{Ind}(\mathcal{C})$   
retract of  $C \Leftrightarrow X \in \bar{\mathcal{C}}$  "formal image of  $r$ "

Warning:  $\mathcal{C}$  k-cat w/ fin. colim  $\Rightarrow X \cong \text{coeq}(r, \text{id}) \Rightarrow \mathcal{C} = \bar{\mathcal{C}}$  (retract in  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $r$ )  
But wrong for  $\omega$ -cat (eg  $\mathbb{S}^{\text{fin}}$ ) ( $\forall X \in \mathcal{C} = \text{Ind}(\mathbb{S}^{\text{fin}})$  cpt  $\Leftrightarrow$  fin. down)

Facts:  $\mathcal{C}$  stable / all  $C \in \mathcal{C}$  are direct summand of  $\text{col}(C)$   
 $\mathcal{C}$  pd. w/ fin. colim  $\Rightarrow \text{Sw}(\bar{\mathcal{C}}) \cong \text{Sw}(\mathcal{C})$  (hence)

skipped in talk

## Reduction to $K$ -theory of ring spectra

Step 1:  $K(\mathcal{C}) \cong K(\text{Sw}(\mathcal{C})) \rightsquigarrow$  can assume  $\mathcal{C}$  stable

Step 2: Thm: Let  $\mathcal{C}$  pdt  $\omega$ -cat w/ fin. colim,  $\mathcal{C}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  full sub, closed under fin. colim. Assume  $\mathcal{C}_0$  is a retract of some  $\mathcal{C}_1 \in \mathcal{C}_0$ . Then

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K(\mathcal{C}_0) & \longrightarrow & K(\mathcal{C}) \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \\ K_0(\mathcal{C}_0) & \longrightarrow & K_0(\mathcal{C}) \end{array}$$

htpy pullback. In part:  $K_n(\mathcal{C}_0) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{C})$  iso for  $n \geq 1$

Pf: Again easy simplicially, work for  $n=1$ .

Cor:  $K_n(\mathcal{C}) \cong K_n(\mathcal{C}_0)$  for  $n \geq 1$

## Reduction to $K$ -theory of ring spectra

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  pdt  $\omega$ -cat w/ fin. colim.

Step 1:  $K(\mathcal{C}) \cong K(\text{Sw}(\mathcal{C})) \rightsquigarrow$  can assume  $\mathcal{C}$  stable

Step 2:  $K_n(\mathcal{C}) \cong K_n(\mathcal{C})$  for  $n \geq 1 \rightsquigarrow$  assume  $\mathcal{C}$  idemp. compl (lose  $K_0$ )

Step 3:

Pf:  $\mathcal{C}$  stable  $\omega$ -cat.  $\mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{C}$  is a generator if

$\mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{C}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{C}$  w/  $\mathcal{C}_0$  stable and idemp. compl.  $\mathcal{C}_0 = \mathcal{C}$ . ( $\mathcal{C}$  is smaller)

Note:  $\mathcal{C}$  is the filtered union (with colim) of its subcats that have a generator

(filtered follows from  $\langle A \rangle \subseteq \langle A \oplus B \rangle \subseteq \langle B \rangle$ )

$\rightsquigarrow$  So,  $K(\mathcal{C}) \cong K(\text{colim} \langle \mathcal{C}_i \rangle) \cong \text{colim} K(\mathcal{C}_i) \rightsquigarrow$  assume  $\mathcal{C}$  has generator

Step 4:  $\mathcal{C} \in \mathcal{C} \rightsquigarrow \text{End}(\mathcal{C})$  ring spectrum of endomorphisms

Thm: There exists  $\text{Mod}_{\text{End}(\mathcal{C})}^{\text{part}} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{C}$  fully faithful.

It is equiv  $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{C}$  generator.

Hence, in that case:  $K(\mathcal{C}) \cong K(\text{Mod}_{\text{End}(\mathcal{C})}^{\text{part}}) = K(\text{End}(\mathcal{C}))$