

Lecture 0: Overview

Reminder: A comm. ring

abelian groups $K_0(A) := K_0(\text{Proj } A) \simeq K_0(\text{Perf } A)$

$K_0(X) := K_0(\text{Vect}(X))$ (X scheme)

spaces (E_∞ -spaces): $K(A) = \text{group completion of } \text{Proj } \mathbb{A}^1$

$K^{\text{naive}}(X) := K(\text{Vect}(X))$ Quillen K -theory of vector bundles

$K(X) := K(\text{Perf}(X))$ Waldhausen K -theory of perfect complexes

X has resolution property $K(X) \simeq K^{\text{naive}}(X)$

$K(\text{Spec}(A)) \simeq K(\mathbb{A}^1)$

Theorem (Thomason):

Algebraic K -theory satisfies descent.

That is: $X \mapsto K(X)$ is a "sheaf" in some sense.

Warning: $X \mapsto K_0(X)$ presheaf of sets/ab. groups is not a sheaf.

Reminder (sheaf of sets)

X top. space $\mathcal{U}(X) :=$ poset of open subsets $U \subseteq X$
(ordered by inclusion)

a presheaf on X (view as a category.)

is a presheaf on $\mathcal{U}(X)$, i.e. a functor $\mathcal{U}(X)^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

$F: \mathcal{U}(X)^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$ is a sheaf if:
for all $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ open covers the diagram

$$F(X) \longrightarrow \prod_{i \in I} F(U_i) \rightrightarrows \prod_{i, j \in I} F(U_i \cap U_j)$$

is a limit diagram.

Ex: X scheme, $E \xrightarrow{\pi} X$ vector bundle

$\Gamma(-, E)$ sheaf of sections of E

$$F(U, E) = \left\{ s: U \rightarrow E \mid \begin{array}{c} s \nearrow E \\ U \xrightarrow{\pi} X \end{array} \right\}$$

$U \subseteq X$

Ex: $X \mapsto \text{Vect}(X)/\sim = \{\text{iso. classes of vector bundles}\}$
is not a sheaf.

Problem: vector bundles have nontrivial automorphisms

Solution:

Solution: $X \mapsto \text{Vect}(X) \cong$ groupoid of v.s.'s

is a sheaf in a 2-categorical sense:

$$\text{Vect}(X) \cong \prod_i \text{Vect}(U_i) \cong \prod_{i,j \in I} \text{Vect}(U_i \cup U_j) \cong \prod_{i,j,k} \text{Vect}(U_i \cup U_j \cup U_k) \cong \dots$$

is a 2-limit diagram in the 2-category of groupoids.

Ex: $X \mapsto \text{Perf}(X) \cong$

Problem: now have derived/higher automorphisms.

Solution: consider the ∞ -groupoid of perfect complexes

groupoids \rightarrow 2-groupoids $\rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \infty$ -groupoid
spaces (Kan complexes, CW complexes)

Theorem: $X \mapsto \text{Perf}(X) \cong$
 is a sheaf of ∞ -groupoids.

$$\text{Perf}(X) \cong \prod_i \text{Perf}(U_i) \cong \prod_{i,j} \text{Perf}(U_i \cup U_j) \cong \prod_{i,j,k} \text{Perf}(U_i \cup U_j \cup U_k) \cong \dots$$

cosimplicial diagram
 indexed on Δ

Theorem (Thomason): $\mathbb{A}^1_X \rightarrow K(X)$ is a sheaf of \mathbb{A}^1 -groupoids

(over quasi-compact
quasi-separated schemes)

Corollary (Mayer-Vietoris): $X = U \cup V$ Zar. cover

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \xrightarrow{\partial} & K_n(X) & \rightarrow & K_n(U) \oplus K_n(V) & \rightarrow & K_n(U \cup V) \\ & & & & & & \xrightarrow{\partial} K_{n-1}(X) \rightarrow \cdots \end{array}$$