

Chow groups of tensor triangulated categories

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Goal of the talk:

For a tensor triangulated category \mathcal{T} , define the Chow group $\mathrm{CH}^\Delta(\mathcal{T})$ (an abelian group) and show some of its properties.



Outline

Tensor triangular geometry and tensor triangular Chow groups.

The Chow group of an algebraic variety.

Tensor triangulated categories.

Tensor triangular geometry.

The definition of $\mathrm{CH}^\Delta(\mathcal{T})$.

Examples and functoriality properties.

Examples from algebraic geometry.

Examples from modular representation theory.

Functoriality properties of $\mathrm{CH}^\Delta(-)$.



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The Chow group of an algebraic variety.

- ▶ The *codimension p Chow group* of an algebraic variety X , denoted by $CH^p(X)$, is the free abelian group on the set of codimension p subvarieties of X (the *codimension p cycle group* $Z^p(X)$) modulo the subgroup of cycles rationally equivalent to zero.
- ▶ $CH(X) := \bigoplus_p CH^p(X)$ is an interesting invariant of X which can be seen as a generalization of the divisor class group $\text{Div}(X) = CH^1(X)$. It also plays an important role in the intersection theory of algebraic varieties.
- ▶ I want generalize this invariant to tensor triangulated categories.



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- ▶ I want generalize this invariant to tensor triangulated categories.



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Tensor triangulated categories.

Definition

A *triangulated category* is an additive category \mathcal{T} equipped with an autoequivalence $\Sigma : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ and a class of *distinguished triangles*, i.e. diagrams of the form

$$A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow \Sigma(A)$$

which satisfy a list of axioms.

Definition

A *tensor triangulated category* is a triangulated category \mathcal{T} equipped with a symmetric monoidal structure

$$- \otimes - : \mathcal{T} \times \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$$

which is exact in both variables.

Example

Let R be a commutative ring. Then $\mathcal{T} = \mathbf{K}^b(R\text{-proj})$ together with $\otimes = \otimes^L$ is a tensor triangulated category.



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Thick subcategories and prime tensor ideals.

Convention

From now on, all tensor triangulated categories will be assumed to be essentially small.

Definition

A triangulated subcategory $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{T}$ is

- ▶ *thick* if $a \oplus b \in \mathcal{P}$ implies that $a, b \in \mathcal{P}$ for all objects $a, b \in \mathcal{T}$.
- ▶ a *tensor ideal* if $\mathcal{T} \otimes \mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{P}$.
- ▶ a *prime ideal* if it is a thick tensor ideal such that $a \otimes b \in \mathcal{P}$ implies that $a \in \mathcal{P}$ or $b \in \mathcal{P}$.



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The spectrum of a tensor triangulated category and some of its properties.

Definition (Balmer, 2005)

The *spectrum* of \mathcal{T} is the set

$$\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{T}) := \{ \mathcal{P} \subsetneq \mathcal{T} : \mathcal{P} \text{ is a prime ideal} \}$$

topologized by the basis of closed sets given by

$$\mathrm{supp}(a) := \{ \mathcal{P} \in \mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{T}) : a \notin \mathcal{P} \}$$

for all objects $a \in \mathcal{T}$.

Properties of $\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{T})$:

- ▶ $\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{T})$ is non-empty when \mathcal{T} is non-zero.
- ▶ $\mathrm{Spc}(\mathcal{T})$ is always a spectral topological space.
- ▶ $\mathrm{Spc}(-)$ behaves functorially w.r.t. tensor exact functors.



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Tensor triangular cycle groups.

For $p \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, define the full triangulated subcategory

$$\mathcal{T}_{(p)} := \{a \in \mathcal{T} : \text{codim}_{\text{Kfull}}(\text{supp}(a)) \geq p\}.$$

This gives a filtration of \mathcal{T} by codimension of support:

$$\mathcal{T} = \mathcal{T}_{(0)} \supset \mathcal{T}_{(1)} \supset \mathcal{T}_{(2)} \supset \cdots$$

Definition (Balmer)

For $p \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$, the *codimension p tensor triangular cycle group* of \mathcal{T} is defined as

$$Z_p^\Delta(\mathcal{T}) := K_0 \left((\mathcal{T}_{(p)} / \mathcal{T}_{(p+1)})^{\natural} \right)$$

where $(\mathcal{T}_{(p)} / \mathcal{T}_{(p+1)})^{\natural}$ denotes the idempotent completion of the Verdier quotient $\mathcal{T}_{(p)} / \mathcal{T}_{(p+1)}$.



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Definition of $\mathrm{CH}_p^\Delta(\mathcal{T})$.

Consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} K_0(\mathcal{T}_{(p)}) & \xrightarrow{p} & K_0(\mathcal{T}_{(p)}/\mathcal{T}_{(p+1)}) & \xrightarrow{j} & K_0\left(\left(\mathcal{T}_{(p)}/\mathcal{T}_{(p+1)}\right)^\natural\right) = Z_p^\Delta(\mathcal{T}) \\ \downarrow i & & & & \\ K_0(\mathcal{T}_{(p-1)}) & & & & \end{array}$$

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The derived category of perfect complexes.

- ▶ For an algebraic variety X , consider the category

$$D^{\text{perf}}(X) \subset D^{\text{b}}(\text{Coh}(X)).$$

This is an essentially small tensor triangulated category with tensor product \otimes^L .

- ▶ $\text{Spc}(D^{\text{perf}}(X)) \cong X$ (Balmer, 2005).
- ▶ If X is regular $D^{\text{perf}}(X) \cong D^{\text{b}}(\text{Coh}(X))$.



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Comparison theorem.

Theorem (Balmer, K.)

Let X be a regular variety. For all $p \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ there are isomorphisms

$$Z_p^\Delta(D^{\text{perf}}(X)) \cong Z^p(X)$$

and

$$\text{CH}_p^\Delta(D^{\text{perf}}(X)) \cong \text{CH}^p(X)$$

where $\text{CH}^p(X)$ and $Z^p(X)$ are the usual codimension p Chow group and cycle group of X .



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Modular representation theory.

- ▶ Let k be a field of characteristic p , G a finite group such that p divides $\#G$.
- ▶ In modular representation theory, one studies the category $kG\text{-mod}$ of finite-dimensional kG -left modules (k -representations of G) and the associated stable category $kG\text{-stab}$.
- ▶ The category $kG\text{-stab}$ is an essentially small tensor triangulated category. The tensor structure is given by the tensor product of modules \otimes_k over k .
- ▶ $\text{Spc}(kG\text{-stab}) \cong \mathcal{V}_G(k)$, the *projective support variety* of kG .



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Example: Cyclic groups and V_4 .

Example

Let k be a field of characteristic p and $G = \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$ for some $n \geq 1$. Then $\mathcal{V}_G(k) = \{*\}$ and

$$\mathbb{Z}_0^\Delta(kG\text{-stab}) = \text{CH}_0^\Delta(kG\text{-stab}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}.$$

Note that we get cycle groups with torsion!

Example (K.)

Let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic 2 and $G = V_4$. Then $\mathcal{V}_G(k) = \mathbb{P}_k^1$ and

$$\text{CH}^\Delta(kG\text{-stab}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}.$$

Note that in both examples $\text{CH}^\Delta(kG\text{-stab}) \neq \text{CH}(\mathcal{V}_G(k))$.



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Functoriality and derived flat pull-back/proper push-forward.

Lemma

An exact functor between tensor triangulated categories that has a relative dimension induces homomorphisms of tensor triangular cycle groups and Chow groups.

Theorem (K.)

If f is a flat (resp. proper) morphism of regular algebraic varieties then Lf^ (resp. Rf_*) have a relative dimension and the induced homomorphisms on tensor triangular cycle groups and Chow groups is the expected flat pull-back (resp. proper push-forward).*



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Summary

- ▶ For a sufficiently nice tensor triangulated category \mathcal{T} we can define its Chow group $\mathrm{CH}^\Delta(\mathcal{T})$ that recovers $\mathrm{CH}(X)$ when X is a non-singular algebraic variety and $\mathcal{T} = \mathrm{D}^{\mathrm{perf}}(X)$.
- ▶ $\mathrm{CH}^\Delta(-)$ behaves functorially for a large class of functors and also gives non-trivial results for tensor triangulated categories that don't come from algebraic geometry.

Outlook: I'm currently working on an intersection product for the tensor triangulated Chow groups. This will require the use of a suitable model for the category \mathcal{T} in order to be able to work with the higher K-theory of \mathcal{T} .

