

**Higher  $K$ -Theory of Modules Over  
 $EI$ -Categories**

**Aderemi O. Kuku**

University of Ibadan  
Mathematics Department  
Ibadan

Nigeria

Max-Planck-Institut für Mathematik  
Gottfried-Claren-Straße 26  
53225 Bonn

Germany



# HIGHER $K$ -THEORY OF MODULES OVER $EI$ -CATEGORIES

ADEREMI O. KUKU

## Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be an  $EI$ -category (i.e. a small category in which every endomorphism is an isomorphism),  $R$  a commutative ring with identity. An  $RC$ -module is a contravariant functor from  $\mathcal{C}$  to the category of  $R$ -modules. For all  $n \geq 0$ , let  $K_n(RC)$  be the (Quillen)  $K_n$  of the category  $\mathbf{P}(RC)$  of finitely generated projective  $RC$ -modules (see §1 for definitions).

The significance of the study of  $K$ -theory of  $RC$ -modules lies mainly in the fact that several geometric invariants take values in the  $K$ -groups associated with  $RC$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  is an appropriately defined  $EI$ -category and  $R$  could be  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{R}$ , etc. For example, if  $\pi$  is a finite group,  $\mathcal{C} = \text{orb}(\pi)$  the orbit category of  $\pi$ , (a finite  $EI$ -category),  $X$  a  $\pi$ - $CW$  complex with round structure, then the equivariant Reidemeister torsion takes values in  $Wh(\mathbb{Q}\text{orb}(\pi))$  where  $Wh(\mathbb{Q}\text{orb}(\pi))$  is the quotient of  $K_1(\mathbb{Q}\text{orb}(\pi))$  by its subgroup of "trivial units"-see [16].

Now, let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finite  $EI$ -category,  $R$  the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ . We show in §2 that for all  $n \geq 0$ ,  $K_n(RC)$  is a finitely generated Abelian group and that  $SK_n(RC)$  is a finite group, while in §3 we show that for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $G_n(RC) = K_n$  of the category of finitely generated  $RC$ -modules is a finitely generated Abelian group and that  $SG_n(RC) = 0$ .

In §3 we consider Cartan maps and show that if  $k$  is a field of characteristic  $p$ , and  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category, then for all  $n \geq 0$ , the Cartan map  $K_n(k\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow G_n(k\mathcal{C})$  induces an isomorphism

$$\mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(k\mathcal{C}) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(k\mathcal{C}).$$

We then discuss some consequences of this result for integers in number fields.

In a final section, we discuss module structures on  $K_n(RC), G_n(RC)$  as modules over  $G_o(R, \mathcal{C}) := K_o$  of the category  $\mathbf{P}_R(RC)$  of finitely generated  $RC$ -modules  $M$  such that  $M(X)$  is a projective  $R$ -module for all  $X \in \text{orb}(\mathcal{C})$  as well as modules over the Burnside ring of  $\mathcal{C}$  (see §5).

**Notes on Notation.** For a finite group  $\pi$ , we write  $\text{con}(\pi)$  for the set of conjugacy classes of  $\pi$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  for the conjugacy class of  $\gamma$  if  $\gamma \leq \pi$ . If  $\mathcal{C}$  is a category,  $X, Y$   $\mathcal{C}$ -objects, we write  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  for the set of  $\mathcal{C}$ -morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$ , and  $Is(\mathcal{C})$  for the set of isomorphism classes of  $\mathcal{C}$ -objects.

If  $R$  is a commutative ring with identity, then for any set  $S$ , we write  $RS$  for the free  $R$ -module on  $S$ . In particular, we write  $RC(X, Y)$  for the free  $R$ -module on the set  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$ ,

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For any exact category  $\mathcal{E}$ , we write  $K_n(\mathcal{E})$  for  $\pi_{n+1}(BQ\mathcal{E})$  (see [17]). If  $A$  is a ring with identity, we write  $\mathbf{P}(A)$  for the category of finitely generated projective  $A$ -modules. If  $A$  is Noetherian, we write  $\mathbf{M}(A)$  for the category of finitely generated  $A$ -modules. We denote  $K_n(\mathbf{P}(A))$  by  $K_n(A)$ ,  $K_n(\mathbf{M}(A))$  by  $G_n(A)$ . Also  $K_n(A) = \pi_n(BCL^+(A))$  in the notation of the plus construction of Quillen (see [4]).

## §1

### Modules over $EI$ -categories

In this section, we briefly discuss modules over  $EI$ -categories and the associated  $K$ -theories, thus developing some necessary notations.

**Definition 1.1.** An  $EI$ -category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a small category in which every endomorphism is an isomorphism.  $\mathcal{C}$  is said to be finite if the set  $Is(\mathcal{C})$  of isomorphism classes of  $\mathcal{C}$ -objects is finite and for any two  $\mathcal{C}$ -objects  $X, Y$ , the set  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y)$  of  $\mathcal{C}$ -morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$  is finite

#### Examples.

- (i) Let  $\pi$  be a finite group. Let  $ob\mathcal{C} = \{\pi/\gamma \mid \gamma \leq \pi\}$  and morphisms be  $\pi$ -maps. Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is a finite  $EI$ -category called the orbit category of  $\pi$  and denoted  $orb(\pi)$ . Here  $\mathcal{C}(\pi/\gamma, \pi/\gamma) \simeq \text{Aut}(\pi/\gamma) \approx N_\pi(\gamma)/\gamma$  where  $N_\pi(\gamma)$  is the normaliser of  $\gamma$  in  $\pi$ . (see [12]). We shall denote the group  $N_\pi(\gamma)/\gamma$  by  $\bar{N}_\pi(\gamma)$ .
- (ii) Suppose that  $\pi$  be a Lie group.  $ob\mathcal{C} = \{\pi/\gamma \mid \gamma \text{ compact subgroup of } \pi\}$  is also called the orbit category of  $\pi$  and denoted  $orb(\pi)$ .
- (iii) Let  $\pi$  be a Lie group. Let  $ob\mathcal{C} = \{\pi/\gamma \mid \gamma \text{ compact subgroup of } \pi\}$  and for  $\pi/\gamma, \pi/\gamma' \in ob\mathcal{C}$ , let  $\mathcal{C}(\pi/\gamma, \pi/\gamma')$  be the set of homotopy classes of  $\pi$ -maps. Then  $\mathcal{C}$  is an  $EI$ -category called the discrete orbit category of  $\pi$  and denoted by  $orb/(\pi)$ .

*Note.* For further examples, see [16].

#### 1.2.

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $\mathcal{C}$  an  $EI$ -category. An  $RC$ -module as a contravariant functor  $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow R\text{-mod}$

An  $ob\mathcal{C}$ -set is a functor  $N$  from  $\mathcal{C}$  to the category of sets. Alternatively, an  $ob\mathcal{C}$ -set could be visualized as a pair  $(N, \beta)$  where  $N$  is a set and  $\beta : N \rightarrow ob\mathcal{C}$  is a set map. Then  $N = \{\beta^{-1}(X) \mid X \in ob\mathcal{C}\}$ .

An  $ob\mathcal{C}$ -set  $(N, \beta)$  is said to be finite if  $N$  is a finite set. If  $S$  is an  $(N, \beta)$ -subset of an  $RC$ -module  $M$ , define  $\text{span}S$  as the smallest  $RC$ -submodule of  $M$  containing  $S$ . Say that  $M$  is finitely generated if  $M = \text{span}S$  for some finite  $ob\mathcal{C}$ -subset  $S$  of  $M$ .

If  $R$  is a Noetherian ring and  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category, let  $\mathbf{M}(RC)$  be the category of finitely generated  $RC$ -modules. Then  $\mathbf{M}(RC)$  is an exact category in the sense of Quillen [17], see [16].

An  $RC$ -module  $P$  is said to be projective if any exact sequence of  $RC$ -modules  $0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow M \rightarrow P \rightarrow 0$  splits or equivalently if  $\text{Hom}_{RC}(P, -)$  is exact.

Let  $\mathbf{P}(RC)$  be the category of finitely generated projective  $RC$ -modules. Then  $\mathbf{P}(RC)$  is also exact. We write  $K_n(RC)$  for  $K_n(\mathbf{P}(RC))$ .

Finally, let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category,  $\mathbf{P}_R(RC)$  the category of finitely generated  $RC$ -modules such that for each  $X \in ob\mathcal{C}$ ,  $M(X)$  is projective as  $R$ -module. Then  $\mathbf{P}_R(RC)$  is an exact category and we write  $G_n(R, \mathcal{C})$  for  $K_n(\mathbf{P}_R(RC))$ . Note that if  $R$  is regular, then  $G_n(R, \mathcal{C}) \cong G_n(RC)$ .

**1.3.**

Let  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  be *EI*-categories,  $R$  a commutative ring with identity,  $B$  a functor  $\mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$ . Let  $RC_2(??, B(?))$  be the  $RC_1 - RC_2$ -bimodule:  $\mathcal{C}_1 \times \mathcal{C}_2 \rightarrow R\text{-mod}$  given by  $(X_1, X_2) \rightarrow RC_2(X_2, BX_1)$ . Define  $RC_2 - RC_1$  bimodule analogously. Now define induction functor  $\text{ind}_B : \mathcal{C}_1\text{-mod} \rightarrow RC_2\text{-mod}$  given by  $M \rightarrow M \otimes_{RC_1} RC_2(??, B(?))$

Also define a restriction functor  $\text{res}_B : RC_2\text{-mod} \rightarrow RC_1\text{-mod}$  by  $N \rightarrow N \circ B$ .

**1.4.**

A homomorphism  $R_1 \rightarrow R_2$  of commutative rings with identity induces a functor  $B : R_1\text{-mod} \rightarrow R_2\text{-mod} : N \rightarrow R_2 \otimes_{R_1} N$ . So, if  $\mathcal{C}$  is an *EI*-category, we have an induced functor  $R_1\mathcal{C}\text{-mod} \rightarrow R_2\mathcal{C}\text{-mod} : M \rightarrow B \circ M$  where  $(B \cdot M)(X) = B(M(X))$ .

We also have an induced exact functor  $\mathbf{P}(R_1\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_2(R_2\mathcal{C}) : M \rightarrow B \circ M$  and hence a homomorphism  $K_n(R_1\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow K_n(R_2\mathcal{C})$ .

Now, suppose that  $R$  is a Dedekind domain with quotient fields  $F$ , and  $R \hookrightarrow F$  the inclusion map, it follows from above that we have group homomorphisms  $K_n(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow K_n(F\mathcal{C})$  and  $G_n(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow G_n(F\mathcal{C})$ .

Now define  $SK_n(R\mathcal{C}) := \text{Kernel of } K_n(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow K_n(F\mathcal{C})$  and  $SG_n(R\mathcal{C}) := \text{Kernel of } G_n(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow G_n(F\mathcal{C})$ .

## §2

$$K_n(RC), SK_n(RC)$$

The aim of this section is to prove the following:

**Theorem 2.1.**

Let  $R$  be the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  any finite EI- category. Then for all  $n \geq 1$ ,

- (i)  $K_n(RC)$  is a finitely generated Abelian group.
- (ii)  $SK_n(RC)$  is a finite group.

The proof of 2.1 will depend on the following splitting result

**Theorem 2.2.**

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite EI- category. Then

$$K_n(RC) \cong \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} K_n(R(Aut(X)))$$

*Proof.*

We give a sketch of the proof of 2.2. Details can be found in [16].

**Step I:** For  $X \in \text{ob}\mathcal{C}$ , define the "splitting functor"  $S_X : RC - \mathbf{mod} \rightarrow R(Aut(X)) - \mathbf{mod}$  by  $S_X(M) = M(X)/M'(X)$  where  $M'(X)$  is the  $R$ - submodule of  $M(X)$  generated by the images of the  $R$ - homomorphisms  $M(f) : M(Y) \rightarrow M(X)$  induced by all non-isomorphisms  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ .

**Step II:** Define the 'extension functor'  $E_X : R(Aut(X)) - \mathbf{mod} \rightarrow RC - \mathbf{mod}$  by

$$(E_X(M) = M \bigotimes_{RAut(X)} RC(?, X)$$

**Step III.** For  $\bar{U} \in Is(\mathcal{C})$ , the objects  $X \in \bar{U}$  constitute a full subcategory of  $\mathcal{C}$  which we denote by  $\mathcal{C}(U)$ . Now define

$$\text{split}K_n(RC) := \bigoplus_{\bar{U} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} K_n(RC(U))$$

**Step IV.** For each  $U \in \text{ob}\mathcal{C}$ , define the functor  $\hat{E}_U : RC(U) - \mathbf{mod} \rightarrow RC - \mathbf{mod}$  by

$$\hat{E}_U(M) = M \bigotimes_{RC(U)} RC(?, ??)$$

This induces a functor  $\mathbf{P}(RC(U)) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(RC)$  and a homomorphism  $K_n(\hat{E}_U) : K_n(RC(U)) \rightarrow K_n(RC)$  and hence a homomorphism

$$E_n(RC) = \bigoplus K_n(\hat{E}_U) : \bigoplus_{\bar{U} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} K_n(RC(U)) \rightarrow K_n(RC)$$

that is, a homomorphism

$$E_n(RC) : \text{split}K_n(RC) \rightarrow K_n(RC)$$

**Step V:** For any  $U \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$ , define a functor  $\hat{S}_U : RC - \mathbf{mod} \rightarrow RC(U) - \mathbf{mod}$  by  $\hat{S}_U(M) = M \otimes_{RC} B$  for the  $RC - RC(U)$  bimodule  $B$  given by  $B(X, Y) = RC(X, Y)$  if  $Y \in \bar{U}$  and  $B(X, Y) = \{0\}$  if  $Y \notin \bar{U}$ , where  $X$  runs through  $\text{ob} \mathcal{C}(U)$ , and  $Y \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$ . Then each  $\hat{S}_U$  induces a homomorphism  $K_n(\hat{S}_U) : K_n(RC) \rightarrow K_n(RC(U))$  and hence a homomorphism

$$S_n(RC) : K_n(RC) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\bar{U} \in \text{Is}(\mathcal{C})} K_n(RC(U))$$

i.e.

$$S_n(RC) : K_n(RC) \rightarrow \text{split} K_n(RC).$$

**Step VI:**

$$E_n(RC) : K_n(RC) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\bar{U} \in \text{Is}(\mathcal{C})} K_n RC(U)$$

and

$$S_n(RC) : \bigoplus_{\bar{U} \in \text{Is}(\mathcal{C})} K_n(RC(U)) \rightarrow K_n(RC)$$

are isomorphisms, one the inverse of the other.

**Step VII:**

$$K_n(RC(U)) \simeq K_n(R(\text{Aut}(X)))$$

(for any  $X \in \bar{U}$ ), via the equivalence of categories  $\text{Aut}(X)' \rightarrow \mathcal{C}(U)$  where for any group  $\pi, \pi'$  is the groupoid with one object  $\pi$  and morphisms left translations  $\text{lg} : \pi \hookrightarrow \pi : h \mapsto gh$ .  $\square$

We also need the following

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finite EI- category,  $R$  the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ . Then for any  $\mathcal{C}$ - object  $X, K_n(R(\text{Aut}X))$  is finitely generated Abelian group for all  $n \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Write  $A$  for  $R(\text{Aut}(x))$  and put  $K_{n,m}(A) := \pi_n(BGL_m^+(A))$ . Then  $K_n(A) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} K_{n,m}(A)$ . Now,  $BE_n^+(A)$  is the universal covering space of  $BGL_m^+(A)$  (since  $BE(A)$  is the coverig space of  $BGL(A)$  with respect to the subgroup  $E(A)$  of  $GL(A)$  generated by elementary matrices):

So

$$\pi_n(BE_m^+(A)) \simeq \pi_n(BGL_m^+(A))$$

Now, by the stability result of Suslin (see [19]),  $K_{n,m}(A) \simeq K_{n,m+1}(A)$  if  $m \geq (2n+2, n+3)$  since  $A$  as an  $R$ - order satisfies the stable range condition  $SR_3$  (see [1]). So  $K_n(A) \simeq \pi_n(BE_m^+(A))$  for  $m \geq (2n+2, n+3)$ . Now, for  $m \geq 3$ ,  $E_m(A)$  is an Arithmetic group since  $SL_n(A)/E_n(A)$  is a finite group. Hence by Borel-Serre, [6],  $H_n(E_m(A))$  is finitely generated. Now, for all  $m \geq 2$   $H_n(E_m(A)) = H_n(BE_m(A)) = H_n(BE_m^+(A))$  by Quillen's plus construction since  $BE_m(A) \rightarrow BE_m^+(A)$  is acyclic. Moreover,  $BE_m^+(A)$  is a simply connected  $H$ - space for  $m \geq 3$ . Also by [18] 9.6.16,  $\pi_n(BE_m^+(A))$  is finitely generated if and only if  $H_n(BE_m^+(A))$  is finitely generated. Hence  $K_n(A) \simeq \pi_n(BE_m^+(A))$  is finitely generated.  $\square$



*Proof of 2.1.*

- (i) follows from 2.2 and 2.3 since  $K_n(RC)$  is a finite direct sum of finitely generated groups  $K_n(R \text{Aut}(X))$   $\overline{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})$ .  
(ii) First note that we have the following commutative diagram with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & SK_n(RC) & \longrightarrow & K_n(RC) & \longrightarrow & K_n(FC) \\
& & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \simeq & & \downarrow \simeq \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Is \mathcal{C}} SK_n(R \text{Aut}(X)) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Is \mathcal{C}} K_n(R(\text{Aut}(X))) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} K_n(F \text{Aut}(X))
\end{array}$$

Now by [13], 3.2,  $SK_n(R(\text{Aut}(X)))$  is a finite group. Hence  $\bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Is \mathcal{C}} SK_n(R \text{Aut}(X))$  being a direct sum of finite groups is finite. That  $SK_n(RC)$  is finite now follows from the fact that  $\alpha$  is injective.

*Remarks 2.4.* Let  $\pi$  be a finite group and  $\mathcal{C} = \text{orb}(\pi)$  the orbit category of  $\pi$  (see E.g 1.1[1]).

It is well known that there is one-one correspondence between  $Is(\mathcal{C})$  and the conjugacy classes  $con(\pi)$  of  $\pi$ , i.e.  $\pi/\gamma \simeq \pi/\gamma'$ , if  $\gamma$  is conjugate to  $\gamma'$ . It is also well-known that  $\mathcal{C}(\pi/\gamma, \pi/\gamma') = \text{Aut}(\pi/\gamma) = N_\pi(\gamma)/\gamma := \overline{N_\pi \gamma}$  where  $N_\pi \gamma$  is the normaliser of  $\gamma$  in  $\pi$ .

So, for any commutative ring  $R$  with identity,  $K_n(R \text{orb}(\pi)) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in con(\pi)} K_n R \overline{N_\pi(\gamma)}$ .

### §3

$$G_n(RC), SG_n(RC)$$

The aim of this section is to prove the following

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite EI-category. Then for all  $n \geq 1$*

- (i)  $G_n(RC)$  is a finitely generated Abelian group
- (ii)  $SG_n(RC) = 0$ .

The proof of 2.1 depends on the following splitting result for  $G_n$  of  $RC$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring with identity,  $\mathcal{C}$  any finite EI- category. Then for all  $n \geq 1$*

$$G_n(RC) \cong \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} G_n(R(Aut(X))).$$

*Proof.* We sketch the proof of 2.2 and refer the reader to [16] for missing details.

**Step I:** For each  $X \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$ , define  $Res_X : RC\text{-mod} \rightarrow (RAut(X))\text{-mod}$   $Res_X(M) = M(X)$ . Then an  $RC$ - module  $M$  is finitely generated iff  $Res_X(M)$  is finitely generated for all  $X$  in  $\text{ob } \mathcal{C}$  (see [16]).

Moreover,  $Res_X$  induces an exact functor  $\mathbf{M}(RC) \rightarrow \mathbf{M}(R(Aut(X)))$  which also induces for all  $n \geq 0$  homomorphisms  $G_n(RC) \rightarrow G_n(R(Aut(X)))$  and hence homomorphism  $Res : G_n(RC) \rightarrow \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} G_n(R(Aut(X)))$ . We write  $\text{split}G_n(RC)$  for

$$\bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} G_n(R(Aut(X))).$$

**Step II:** For  $X \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$ , define a functor  $I_X : R(Aut(X)) \rightarrow RC$  by

$$I_X(M) = \begin{cases} M \otimes_{RAut(X)} RC(Y, X) & \text{if } \bar{Y} = \bar{X} \\ 0 & \text{if } \bar{Y} \neq \bar{X} \end{cases}$$

Then we have an induced homomorphism

$$I : \text{split}G_n(RC) = \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} G_n(R(Aut(X))) \rightarrow G_n(RC).$$

**Step III:**  $Res$  and  $I$  are isomorphisms inverse to each other.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $R$  be the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite EI-category. Then for any  $X \in \text{ob } \mathcal{C}$  and all  $n \geq 1$   $G_n(R(Aut(X)))$  is a finitely generated Abelian group.*

*Proof.* We provide a sketch of proof here. Details can be found in Kuku [10].

Put  $\Lambda = R(Aut(X))$  and note that  $\Lambda$  is an  $R$ - order in the semi-simple  $F$ - algebra  $F(Aut(X))$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be a maximal order containing  $\Lambda$ , and let  $\alpha_n : G_n(\Gamma) \rightarrow G_n(\Lambda)$  be the homomorphism induced by the functor  $\mathbf{M}(\Gamma) \rightarrow \mathbf{M}(\Lambda)$  given by restriction

of scalars. As proved in [10] 1.3 (i) and (iii) for all  $n \geq 1$  (a)  $\alpha_{2n-1} : G_{2n-1}(\Gamma) \rightarrow G_{2n-1}(\wedge)$  has finite kernel and cokernel (b)  $\alpha_{2n} : G_{2n}(\Gamma) \rightarrow G_{2n}(\wedge)$  is injective with finite cokernel. The conclusion that  $G_n(\wedge)$  is finitely generated follows as in the proof of [10]1.3 (iii).  $\square$

*Proof of 3.1.*

- (i) Follows from 3.2 and 3.3 since split  $G_n(RC)$  as a finite direct sum of finitely generated Abelian groups is finitely generated.  
(ii) First note that the following diagram is commutative with exact rows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
0 & \longrightarrow & SG_n(RC) & \longrightarrow & G_n(RC) & \longrightarrow & G_n(FC) \\
& & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \simeq \beta & & \downarrow \simeq \gamma \\
0 & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Isc} SG_n(Aut(X)) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Isc} G_n(RAut(X)) & \longrightarrow & \bigoplus_{\overline{X} \in Isc} G_n(F(AutX))
\end{array}$$

Since  $\beta$  is an isomorphism,  $\alpha$  is injective. Now each  $SG_n(RAut(X)) = 0$  by [15] theorem 1. Hence  $SG_n(RC) = 0$ .

## §4

### CARTAN MAPS

Let  $R$  be a commutative Noetherian ring,  $\mathcal{C}$  an  $EI$ -category. Then, for all  $n \geq 0$ , the inclusion functor  $\mathbf{P}(RC) \rightarrow \mathbf{M}(RC)$  induces a homomorphism  $K_n(RC) \rightarrow G_n(RC)$  called Cartan maps.

The aim of this section is to prove the following

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic  $p$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category. Then for all  $n \geq 0$ , the Cartan homomorphism  $K_n(k\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow G_n(k\mathcal{C})$  induce isomorphism*

$$\mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(k\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(k\mathcal{C})$$

*Proof.* By 2.2

$$K_n(k\mathcal{C}) \cong \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} K_n(kAut(X))$$

and by 3.2  $G_n(k\mathcal{C}) \cong \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} G_n(kAut(X))$ . Now it was proved by Dress/Kuku (see [7]) via the theory of Mackey functors that for any finite group  $\pi$  the Cartan map  $K_n(k\pi) \rightarrow G_n(k\pi)$  induces an isomorphism

$$\mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(k\pi) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(k\pi).$$

Hence  $\mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(kAut(X)) \simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(kAut(X))$  for all  $X \in ob(\mathcal{C})$ .

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(k\mathcal{C}) &\simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes \left( \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} K_n(kAut(X)) \right) \\ &\simeq \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is(\mathcal{C})} \left( \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes K_n(kAut(X)) \right) \simeq \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} \left( \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(kAut(X)) \right) \\ &\simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes \left( \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} G_n(kAut(X)) \right) \\ &\simeq \mathbb{Z} \left( \frac{1}{p} \right) \otimes G_n(k\mathcal{C}). \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $R$  be the ring of integers in a number field  $F$ ,  $\mathfrak{m}$  a prime ideal of  $R$  lying over a rational prime  $p$ . Then for all  $n \geq 1$*

- (a) *the Cartan map  $K_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$  is surjective*
- (b)  *$K_{2n}(R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}$  is a finite  $p$ -group.*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathfrak{m}$  lies above a rational prime  $p$ ,  $R/\mathfrak{m}$  is a finite field of characteristic  $p$ . Hence by 4.1,  $K_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$  is an isomorphism mod  $p$ -torsion for all  $n \geq 0$ . Now  $G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) \simeq \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X))$  by 3.2. Also

$G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})(Aut(X)))$  is a finite group since  $((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X))$  is a finite ring. ( $G_n$  of a finite ring is finite see[8]). So  $G_n((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$  is a finite group.

Also  $G_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) = \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} G_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X)) = 0$  since each  $G_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X)) = 0$  see [8]). So,  $\text{Coker } \alpha_{2n} = 0$  i.e.  $\alpha_{2n}$  is surjective.

Now each  $G_{2n-1}((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X))$  has order relatively prime to  $p$  by [10]1.1. Hence  $G_{2n-1}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$  is finite of order relatively prime to  $p$ . Now  $|\text{Coker } \alpha_{2n-1}|$  is a power of  $p$  and divides  $|G_{2n-1}((R/\mathfrak{m})\pi)|$  which is  $\equiv 1 \pmod{p}$  and this is possible if and only if  $\text{Coker } \alpha_{2n-1} = 0$ . Hence  $\text{Coker } \alpha_n = 0 \forall n \geq 1$ . i.e.  $\alpha_n$  is surjective  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

- (ii) Since  $G_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) = 0$ , we have  $\text{Ker } \alpha_{2n} = K_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$ . Now,  $K_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C}) \simeq \bigoplus_{\bar{X} \in Is\mathcal{C}} K_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X))$  is a finite group, since each  $((R/\mathfrak{m})Aut(X))$  is a finite ring and  $K_n$  of a finite ring is finite by [13].1.1. So  $\text{Ker } \alpha_{2n} = K_{2n}((R/\mathfrak{m})\mathcal{C})$  is a finite  $p$ - group.

## §5

### PAIRINGS and module STRUCTURES

**5.1.** Let  $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}_1, \mathcal{E}_2$  be three exact categories and  $\mathcal{E}_1 \times \mathcal{E}_2$  the product category. An exact pairing  $\mathcal{E}_1 \times \mathcal{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} : (M_1, M_2) \rightarrow M_1 \circ M_2$  is a covariant functor from  $\mathcal{E}_1 \times \mathcal{E}_2$  to  $\mathcal{E}$  such that  $\mathcal{E}_1 \times \mathcal{E}_2((M_1, M_2), (M'_1, M'_2)) = \mathcal{E}_1(M_1, M'_1) \times \mathcal{E}_2(M_2, M'_2) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}(M_1 \circ M_2, M'_1 \circ M'_2)$  is bi-additive and bi-exact, that is for a fixed  $M_2$ , the functor  $\mathcal{E}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  given by  $M_1 \mapsto M_1 \circ M_2$  is additive and exact and for fixed  $M_1$ , the functor  $\mathcal{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} : M_2 \rightarrow M_1 \circ M_2$  is additive and exact. It follows from [21], that such a pairing gives rise to a  $K$ -theoretic cup product  $K_i(\mathcal{E}_1) \times K_j(\mathcal{E}_2) \rightarrow K_{i+j}(\mathcal{E})$ , and in particular to natural pairing  $K_0(\mathcal{E}_1) \circ K_n(\mathcal{E}_2) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E})$  which could be defined as follows:

Any object  $M_1 \in \mathcal{E}$  induces an exact functor  $M_1 : \mathcal{E}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{E} : M_2 \rightarrow M_1 \circ M_2$  and hence a map  $K_n(M_1) : K_n(\mathcal{E}_2) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E})$ . If  $M'_1 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M''_1$  is an exact sequence in  $\mathcal{E}_1$ , then we have an exact sequence of exact functors  $M'_1 \rightarrow M_1 \rightarrow M''_1$  from  $\mathcal{E}_2$  to  $\mathcal{E}$  such that for each object  $M_2 \in \mathcal{E}_2$ , the sequence  $M'_1(M_2) \rightarrow M_1(M_2) \rightarrow M''_1(M_2)$  is exact in  $\mathcal{E}$  and hence by a result of Quillen [17], induces the relation  $K_n(M'_1) + K_n(M''_1) = K_n(M_1)$ . So, the map  $M_1 \rightarrow K_n(M_1) \in \text{Hom}(K_n(\mathcal{E}_2), K_n(\mathcal{E}))$  induces a homomorphism  $K_0(\mathcal{E}_1) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(K_n(\mathcal{E}_2), K_n(\mathcal{E}))$  and hence a pairing  $K_0(\mathcal{E}_1) \times K_n(\mathcal{E}_2) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E})$ . We could obtain a similar pairing  $K_n(\mathcal{E}_1) \times K_0(\mathcal{E}_2) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E})$ .

If  $\mathcal{E}_1 = \mathcal{E}_2 = \mathcal{E}$  and the pairing  $\mathcal{E} \times \mathcal{E}$  is naturally associative (and commutative) then the associated pairing  $K_0(\mathcal{E}) \times K_0(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow K_0(\mathcal{E})$  turns  $K_0(\mathcal{E})$  into an associative (and commutative ring which may not contain the identity). Suppose that there is a pairing  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{E}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_1$  which is naturally associative with respect to the pairing  $\mathcal{E} \circ \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ , then the pairing  $K_0(\mathcal{E}) \times K_n(\mathcal{E}_1) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E}_1)$  turns  $K_n(\mathcal{E}_1)$  into a  $K_0(\mathcal{E})$ -module which may or may not be unitary. However, if  $\mathcal{E}$  contains a natural unit i.e. an object  $E$  s.t.  $E \circ M = M \circ E$  are naturally isomorphic to  $M$  for each  $\mathcal{E}$ -object  $M$ , then the pairing  $K_0(\mathcal{E}) \times K_n(\mathcal{E}_1) \rightarrow K_n(\mathcal{E}_1)$  turns  $K_n(\mathcal{E}_1)$  into a unitary  $K_0(\mathcal{E})$ -module.

**5.2.** We now apply the above to the following situation. Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity,  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category.

- (i) Let  $\mathcal{E} = \mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C})$  be the category of finitely generated  $R\mathcal{C}$ -modules such that for all  $X \in \text{ob}(\mathcal{C})$ .  $M(X)$  is projective as an  $R$ -module. So,  $\mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C})$  is an exact category on which we have a pairing

$$(1) \quad \otimes : \mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C})$$

If we take  $\mathcal{E}_1 = \mathbf{P}(R\mathcal{C})$ , then the pairing

$$(2) \quad \otimes : \mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C}) \times \mathbf{P}(R\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(R\mathcal{C})$$

is naturally associative with respect to the pairing (1) and so  $K_n(R\mathcal{C})$  is a unitary  $(K_0(\mathbf{P}_R(R\mathcal{C})) = G_0(R, \mathcal{C}))$ -module. Also,  $G_n(R, \mathcal{C})$  is a  $G_0(R, \mathcal{C})$ -module.

**5.3.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a finite  $EI$ -category and  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C}))$  the free Abelian group on  $Is(\mathcal{C})$ . Note that  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C})) = \bigoplus_{Is(\mathcal{C})} \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $\mathbb{Z}^{(Is(\mathcal{C}))}$  is the ring of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -valued functions on  $Is\mathcal{C}$ , we

can identify each element of  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C}))$  as a function  $Is(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  via an injective map  $\beta : \mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C})) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^{(Is(\mathcal{C}))}$  given by  $\beta(X)(Y) = |\mathcal{C}(Y, X)|$  for  $X, Y \in ob\mathcal{C}$ . Moreover  $\beta$  identifies  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C}))$  as a subring of  $\mathbb{Z}^{(Is(\mathbb{Z}))}$ . Call  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C}))$  the Burnside ring of  $\mathcal{C}$  and denote this ring by  $\Omega(\mathcal{C})$ . Note that if  $\mathcal{C} = orb(\pi)$ ,  $\pi$  a finite group, then  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C}))$  is the well-known Burnside ring of  $\pi$  which is denoted by  $\Omega(\pi)$ .

**4.4.** If  $R$  is a commutative ring with identity and  $\mathcal{C}$  a finite  $EI$ -category, let  $\mathbf{F}(RC)$  be the category of finitely generated free  $RC$ -modules. Then for all  $n \geq 1$ , the inclusion functor  $\mathbf{F}(RC) \rightarrow \mathbf{P}(RC)$  induces an isomorphism  $K_n(\mathbf{F}(RC)) \simeq K_n(RC)$  and  $K_0(\mathbf{F}(RC)) \simeq \mathbb{Z}(Is\mathcal{C})$  see [16] 10.42. Now by the discussion in 4.1, the pairing  $K_0(\mathbf{F}(RC)) \times K_n(\mathbf{P}(RC)) \rightarrow K_n(\mathbf{P}(RC))$  makes  $K_n(RC)$  a unitary module over the Burnside ring  $\mathbb{Z}(Is(\mathcal{C})) \simeq K_0(\mathbf{F}(RC))$ .

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MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUTE FÜR MATHEMATIK, BONN, GERMANY AND UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN,  
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT, IBADAN, NIGERIA