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K-THEORY OF DIVISION ALGEBRAS OVER LOCAL FIELDS

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Joint with Michael Larsen and Ayelet Lindenstrauss.

Thanks to higher algebra we can get invariants through *definitions* rather than just *constructions*.

Blumberg-Gepner-Tabuada: construct a functor $\mathcal{U}_{loc} : \mathbf{Cat}_{\infty}^{\mathrm{st}} \to \mathrm{NMot}$ (called *Z* in the lecture, but this is how BGT calls it) with codomain the infinity category of small stable $(\infty, 1)$ -categories and output some category such that we have the following universal properties:

- (1) NMot is a stable infinity category.
- (2) If $f: \mathcal{C} \to \mathcal{D}$ is an equivalence after idempotent completion (i.e. a Morita equivalence), then $\mathcal{U}_{loc}(f)$ is an equivalence.
- (3) If we have a bicartesian square in $\text{Cat}^{\text{st}}_{\infty}$ (which itself is not stable, so bicartesian means something):

then \mathcal{U}_{loc} sends this to a bicartesian square, i.e. a triangle $\mathcal{U}_{\text{loc}}(\mathcal{C}') \to \mathcal{U}_{\text{loc}}(\mathcal{C}) \to \mathcal{U}_{\text{loc}}(\mathcal{C}'').$

Using the fact that $\text{Cat}_{\infty}^{\text{st}}$ has a monoidal structure [Lurie], we can upgrade \mathcal{U}_{loc} to a monoidal functor. The monoidal unit $\mathbb{1}$ in $\mathbf{Cat}_{\infty}^{\mathsf{st}}$ is Perf(S), i.e. $D(\mathbb{S})^{\omega}$ the compact objects in the derived category of **S**-modules.

Theorem 1 (BGT). (Theorem/Definition) $K(\mathcal{C}) \simeq \text{Map}_{\text{NMot}}(\mathcal{U}_{loc}(\mathbb{1}), \mathcal{U}_{loc}(\mathcal{C}))$. That is, nonconnective K-theory is representable.

As a particular case, if X is a quasicompact quasiseparated scheme, then $\text{Perf}(X) \in$ $\text{Cat}_{\infty}^{\text{st}}$ so we can get its K-theory via the above machine. The category Nmot is

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mysterious per se, although it's great for this definition. We can try to understand it via other additive invariants: Nikolaus-Scholze came up with the following schematic:

where THH is topological Hochschild homology, CycSp is the category of cyclotomic spectra, and $Sp^{B\bar{T}}$ is the category of spectra with a genuine S^1 -action. There exists a unique trace map from NMot to CycSp by the universal property. We can understand this more explicitly for some $C \in \mathbf{Cat}_{\infty}^{\mathsf{st}}$:

$$
K(C) \simeq \underbrace{\mathrm{Map}_{\mathrm{NMot}}(\mathcal{U}_{\mathrm{loc}}(\mathbb{1}), \mathcal{U}_{\mathrm{loc}}(\mathcal{C}))}_{\mathrm{tr}\downarrow}
$$

$$
TC(C) \simeq \underbrace{\mathrm{Map}_{\mathrm{CycSp}}(THH(\mathbb{1}), THH(\mathcal{C}))}_{\mathrm{forget}\downarrow}
$$

$$
TC^{-}(C) \simeq \underbrace{\mathrm{Map}_{\mathrm{Sp}^{B}}(f(THH(\mathbb{1})), f(THH(\mathcal{C})))}_{\mathrm{can}\downarrow \downarrow \prod_{p}TP(C)_{p}^{\wedge}}
$$

where TC is the equalizer of the two parallel arrows from TC^- to TP^{\wedge} . This is all 'noncommutative' since it only depends on the category \mathcal{C} , hence we also get $TC(X)$ and $TP(X)$ ^{\land} as invariants.

Now, fix *K* a local field, D/K a division algebra of finite index. Let π be a uniformizer with $D \supset K(\pi)/K$ a totally ramified extension of degree *d*, and $D \supset$ L/K the maximal unramified subfield splitting *D*, with deg = *d*. We can choose π such that $\pi^d \in \mathcal{O}_K$, so we get an analogous picture with $\mathcal{O}_D \supset \mathcal{O}_K[\pi] \supset \mathcal{O}_K$ and $\mathcal{O}_D \supset \mathcal{O}_L \supset \mathcal{O}_K$ with \mathcal{O}_L étale over $\overline{\mathcal{O}}_K$. We can simultaneously choose π such that $\sigma: D \to D$ given by conjugation by π restricts to an automorphism of L that generates the (cyclic) Galois group $G = \text{Gal}(L/K)$. We then get an isomorphism $G \to \text{Gal}(k_L/k_K)$ the Galois group of the residue fields, so we must have $\sigma \mapsto \phi^r$ for some power *r* of Frobenius which is coprime to *d*. That gives us the Hasse invariant $[D] \in \text{Br}(K) \mapsto r/d \in \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{Z}.$

Okay, now we can begin our setup: consider the diagram:

$$
D \xrightarrow{\operatorname{id} \otimes f} D \otimes_K L
$$

$$
\uparrow \pi
$$

$$
L \otimes_K L
$$

$$
\downarrow \delta = \text{multiplication}
$$

$$
K \xrightarrow{f} L
$$

Passing to perfect complexes, we get some additional adjoints:

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n\text{Perf } D & \xrightarrow{f^*} \text{Perf } D \otimes_K L \\
& \pi_* \downarrow \uparrow_{\pi'} \\
& \text{Perf } L \otimes_K L \\
& \delta^* \downarrow \uparrow_{\delta^*} \\
\text{Perf } K & \xrightarrow{f^*} \text{Perf } L\n\end{array}
$$

Call that left adjoint the reduced trace $\text{Trd}_{D\otimes_K L/L}$ and the right adjoint $\text{Trd}_{D\otimes_K L/L}$. These are actually adjoint equivalences.

In the above picture, *D* acts on everything in the diagram in a way making it equivariant (in particular, acting on itself by conjugation). but this means that the action is trivial on *K*-groups, and what we obtain is:

$$
K_j(D, \mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{f^*} H^0(G, K_j(D \otimes_K L, \mathbb{Z}_p))
$$

\n
$$
\text{Trd} \Bigg[\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \text{Trd}
$$

\n
$$
K_j(K, \mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{f^*} H^0(G, K_j(L, \mathbb{Z}_p))
$$

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but unfortunately f^* are not isomorphisms, so we can't compare the K-theory of D to *K* in this way. But what if we replace everything by the valuation rings?

$$
\operatorname{Perf} \mathcal{O}_D \xrightarrow{f^*} \operatorname{Perf}(\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L)
$$

$$
\operatorname{Trd} \downarrow^*_{\text{Ird}}
$$

$$
\operatorname{Perf} \mathcal{O}_K \xrightarrow{f^*} \operatorname{Perf} \mathcal{O}_L
$$

we have a similar picture but we no longer have an adjoint equivalence, just an adjunction. But if we take THH with \mathbb{Z}_p coefficients, again with the *D*-action,

$$
THH_j(\mathcal{O}_D, \mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{\ f^*} H^0(G, THH_j(\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L, \mathbb{Z}_p))
$$

\n
$$
\text{Tr} H_j(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^0(G, THH_j(\mathcal{O}_L, \mathbb{Z}_p))
$$

\n
$$
THH_j(\mathcal{O}_K, \mathbb{Z}_p) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^0(G, THH_j(\mathcal{O}_L, \mathbb{Z}_p))
$$

we get horizontal but not vertical isomorphisms. We need to combine two approaches.

Theorem 2. Although the \mathcal{O}_L -order $\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L \subset D \otimes_K L$ is not maximal, it is still regular. Thus we get localization sequences in THH and K (where implicitly below we use dévissage) and traces between them:

$$
K(k_L \otimes_{k_K} k_L) \longrightarrow K(\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L) \longrightarrow K(D \otimes_K L)
$$

\n
$$
\downarrow_{\text{tr}} \downarrow_{\text{tr}} \downarrow_{\text{tr}}
$$

\n
$$
THH(k_L \otimes_{k_K} k_L) \longrightarrow THH(\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L) \longrightarrow \star
$$

where \star is not $THH(D \otimes_K L)$ because that doesn't actually fit. Instead, we name what belongs there $THH(\mathcal{O}_D \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_K} \mathcal{O}_L | D \otimes_K L)$.

Remark 3. This new flavour of THH group is a bit ad hoc, which is why the next statement is not at the level of spectra:

Theorem 4. There is a canonical isomorphism Nrd: $K_j(D, \mathbb{Z}_p) \stackrel{\cong}{\rightarrow} K_j(K, \mathbb{Z}_p)$ provided $j \geq 1$ given by the reduced norm. Moreover, $d \cdot Nrd = N$ the usual norm, where we might need $p > 2$ in some cases.

Remark 5. The ℓ -adic case was settled 30 years ago by Suslin-Yufryakov.

If we modify our THH diagram using this idea, we get

$$
THH_{*}(\mathcal{O}_{D} \mid D, \mathbb{Z}_{p}) \xrightarrow{\ f^{*} \ } H^{0}(G, THH_{*}(\mathcal{O}_{D} \otimes_{\mathcal{O}_{K}} \mathcal{O}_{L} \mid D \otimes_{K} L, \mathbb{Z}_{p}))
$$

\n
$$
THH_{*}(\mathcal{O}_{K} \mid K, \mathbb{Z}_{p}) \xrightarrow{\cong} H^{0}(G, THH_{*}(\mathcal{O}_{L} \mid L, \mathbb{Z}_{p}))
$$

and everything in sight is a graded module over $THH_*(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p)$. $THH_*(\mathcal{O}_D | K, \mathbb{Z}_p)$ D, \mathbb{Z}_p is free of rank 1 over that, but we can't see this fact on K-theory and that's why the above theorem doesn't hold for K_0 .

But we can define a Trd, Ird adjunction on $THH_*(- | -)$ by using the horizontal isomorphisms.

Remark 6. The same thing works for TC^- and TP .

Let's follow some equalities now:

$$
TC_0(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p) = \pi_0 TC(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p)
$$

= $\pi_0 \operatorname{Map}_{\text{CycSp}}(\mathbb{S}^{\text{triv}}, THH(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p))$
= $\pi_0 \operatorname{Map}_{THH(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p)$ -modules in $\operatorname{CycSp}(THH(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p), THH(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p))$

and there's a similar result for TC^- :

$$
TC_0^-(\mathcal{O}_D \mid D, \mathbb{Z}_p) = \pi_0 \operatorname{Map}_{THH(\mathcal{O}_K \mid K, \mathbb{Z}_p)\text{-modules in } Sp^{BT}(THH(\mathcal{O}_K \mid K, \mathbb{Z}_p), THH(\mathcal{O}_D \mid D, \mathbb{Z}_p))}
$$

So let's pick a $y \in TC_0^-({\mathcal{O}}_D \mid D, \mathbb{Z}_p)$ which is in the image of $1 \in TC_0^-({\mathcal{O}}_K \mid K, \mathbb{Z}_p)$ which may be identified with $W(k_K)$ the Witt vectors over the residue field. We then obtain

$$
0 \longrightarrow TP_1(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p)_{\phi} \longrightarrow TC_0(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p) \longrightarrow TC_0^-(\mathcal{O}_D | D, \mathbb{Z}_p)^{\phi} \longrightarrow 0
$$

\n
$$
\text{Trd}\left[\frac{1}{T}\right] \text{Trd} \qquad \text{Trd}\left[\frac{1}{T}\right] \text{Trd} \qquad \text{Trd}\left[\frac{1}{T}\right] \text{Trd}
$$

\n
$$
0 \longrightarrow TP_1(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p)_{\phi} \longrightarrow TC_0(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p) \longrightarrow TC_0^-(\mathcal{O}_K | K, \mathbb{Z}_p)^{\phi} \longrightarrow 0
$$

where we get this middle adjoint equivalence whenever we pick a lift \tilde{y} of *y*. This also makes TC_0 free of rank 2 over \mathbb{Z}_p (which does imply that there are choices). This implies the theorem now because the trace from $K_j \to THH_j$ is an isomorphism for *D* and *K* with \mathbb{Z}_p coefficients when $j \geq 1$.

Final note: in work with Madsen, if we look at the map

$$
TC_j(\mathcal{O}_K \mid K) \xrightarrow{\phi-\text{can}} TP_j(\mathcal{O}_K \mid K)
$$

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we can tell it's an isomorphism for $j = 2k > 0$, and this points to the issue we have for $p = 2$.