# SOME APPLICATIONS OF THE FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM OF HERMITIAN K-THEORY

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ABSTRACT. In this work we show how to use the Karoubi's fundamental theorem of Hermitian K-theory [6] to prove some results in L-Theory using these same results in algebraic K-Theory.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let I be a ring (eventually without unit). I is excisive for the algebraic (resp. Hermitian) K-Theory, if for every Cartesian diagram of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A & \longrightarrow & A_1 \\ \varphi_2 \bigg| & & & & \downarrow \varphi_1 \\ A_2 & \longrightarrow & A' \end{array}$$

such that  $I \simeq \ker \varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_1$  is surjective, we have

 $K_n(\varphi_1) \simeq K_n(\varphi_2)$  (resp.  $\varepsilon L_n(\varphi_1) \simeq \varepsilon L_n(\varphi_2)$ ) for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . In particular, we have the following long exact sequence:

$$\cdots \longrightarrow K_{n+1}(A') \longrightarrow K_n(A) \longrightarrow K_n(A_1) \oplus K_n(A_2) \longrightarrow K_n(A') \longrightarrow K_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

and

$$\cdots \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_{n+1}(A') \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A_1) \oplus {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A_2) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A') \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

As examples of excisive rings for the algebraic K-Theory, we can give  $\mathbb{C}^*$ algebras and *H*-unital algebras [12]. In the first part of this work, we use the Karoubi's fundamental theorem of Hermitian K-Theory, to prove that if a ring is excisive for the algebraic K-Theory, then it is excisive for the Hermitian K-Theory. We also prove the same result for the K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ .

Let A be an involutive Banach algebra. The canonical maps:

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A part of this work was the subject of a note in CRAS (see [2]).

### APPLICATIONS OF A THEOREM IN HERMITIAN K-THEORY

 $BGL(A) \xrightarrow{\sigma} BGL^{top}(A)$  and  $B_{\varepsilon}O(A) \xrightarrow{\tau} B_{\varepsilon}O^{top}(A)$ 

induce the following homomorphisms

 $K_n(A) \xrightarrow{\sigma_n} K_n^{top}(A) \text{ and } {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A) \xrightarrow{\tau_n} {}_{\varepsilon}L_n^{top}(A).$ 

In the second part of this work, using the fundamental theorem of Hermitian K-Theory, we prove that if  $\sigma_n$  is an isomorphism for all  $n \ge 0$ , then the same is true for  $\tau_n$ . Since Wodzicki and Suslin have shown that for stable  $\mathbf{C}^*$ -algebras, the  $\sigma_n$  are isomorphisms for all  $n \ge 0$  [12], then for these algebras, algebraic and Hermitian K-Theory groups coincide.

2. Review of Known Facts

2.1. Here we recall some results obtained by using the algebraic suspension SA of a ring A. (see [10], p. 327, for the definition of the algebraic suspension).

**Theorem 2.1.1.** [13] Let A be a unitary ring. We have natural homotopy equivalence

$$\Omega BGL\left(SA\right)^{+} \sim K_0\left(A\right) \times BGL\left(A\right)^{+}.$$

The group  $K_0(A)$  is endowed with the discrete topology. In particular, for every  $n \ge 1$ , we have

$$K_n\left(SA\right)\simeq K_{n-1}\left(A\right).$$

**Theorem 2.1.2.** [5] Let A be a Hermitian ring. We have natural homotopy equivalence

$$\Omega B_{\varepsilon} O\left(SA\right)^{+} \sim {}_{\varepsilon} L_0\left(A\right) \times B_{\varepsilon} O\left(A\right)^{+}$$

The group  $_{\varepsilon}L_0(A)$  is endowed with the discrete topology. In particular, for every  $n \geq 1$ , we have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_n(SA) \simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{n-1}(A).$$

These theorems are used to define groups  $K_n$  and  $\varepsilon L_n$  for all n < 0. For a unitary ring (resp. Hermitian ring) A and n < 0, we set

$$K_n(A) = K_0(S^{-n}A)$$
 (resp.  ${}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A) = {}_{\varepsilon}L_0(S^{-n}A)$  ).

2.2. Let A be a Hermitian ring. The hyperbolic functor [4] induces a group homomorphism

$$K_0(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_0(A)$$

and the homomorphisms

$$GL_r(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}O_{r,r}(A)$$

defined by the following correspondence

$$M \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc} M & 0 \\ 0 & t \overline{M}^{-1} \end{array} \right)$$

induces a map

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$$BGL(A)^+ \longrightarrow B_{\varepsilon}O(A)^+.$$

We denote  $_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}\left(A\right)$  as the homotopic fiber of the map

$$K_0(A) \times BGL(A)^+ \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_0(A) \times B_{\varepsilon}O(A)^+$$

Similarly, the forgetful functor [4] induces a group homomorphism

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{0}\left(A\right)\longrightarrow K_{0}\left(A\right)$$

 $_{\varepsilon}O_{r,r}\left(A\right)\longrightarrow GL_{2r}\left(A\right)$ 

and the natural inclusions

induce a map

$$B_{\varepsilon}O^{+}(A) \longrightarrow BGL(A)^{+}$$

We denote  $_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}\left(A\right)$  as the homotopic fiber of the map

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{0}(A) \times B_{\varepsilon}O(A)^{+} \longrightarrow K_{0}(A) \times BGL(A)^{+}.$$

**Theorem 2.2.1.** [6] Let A be a Hermitian ring containing in its center an element  $\lambda$ , such that  $\lambda + \overline{\lambda} = 1$ . (This condition is satisfied if, for example, 2 is invertible in A). Then there exists a natural homotopy equivalence between spaces  $\Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(A)$  and  $_{-\varepsilon} \mathcal{V}(A)$ .

We recall that the topological version of this theorem induces Bott periodicity in the real and complex cases. This interpretation of the Bott periodicity doesn't use Clifford algebras [4].

For  $n \ge 0$ , we let

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n}(A) = \pi_{n}(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(A)) \text{ and } _{\varepsilon}V_{n}(A) = \pi_{n}(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(A))$$

and for n < 0, we let

$$_{\varepsilon}U_n(A) = _{\varepsilon}U_0(S^{-n}A) \text{ and } _{\varepsilon}V_n(A) = _{\varepsilon}V_0(S^{-n}A).$$

For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}(A) \simeq _{-\varepsilon}V_n(A)$$

We also have the following long exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow K_{n+1}(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}V_n(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A) \longrightarrow K_n(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}V_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

and

$$\cdots \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_{n+1}(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_n(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} K_n(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_n(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

2.3. Let A be a unitary (resp. Hermitian) ring. The space  $K_0(A) \times BGL(A)^+$  (resp.  ${}_{\varepsilon}L_0(A) \times B_{\varepsilon}O(A)^+$ ) will be denoted  $\mathcal{K}(A)$  (resp.  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}(A)$ ). Let f be a homomorphism of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings

$$f: A \longrightarrow B.$$

We will recall a construction, due mainly to Wagoner [13], of the groups  $K_n(f)$  (resp.  $_{\varepsilon}L_n(f)$ ). Let  $\Gamma(f)$  be the fibered product of SA and CB over SB:

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The space  $\Omega \mathcal{K}(\Gamma(f))$  (resp.  $\Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{L}(\Gamma(f))$ ) has the same homotopy type as the homotopic fiber  $\mathcal{K}(f)$  (resp.  ${}_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{L}(f)$ ) of the map

$$\mathcal{K}(A) \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}(B) \text{ (resp. }_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}(A) \longrightarrow _{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}(B) \text{)}.$$

For every  $n \ge 0$ , we let

$$K_n(f) = \pi_n(\mathcal{K}(f)) \text{ (resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_n(f) = \pi_n(_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{L}(f)))$$

and for n < 0, we let

$$K_n(f) = K_0(S^{-n}f) \text{ (resp. }_{\varepsilon}L_n(f) = {}_{\varepsilon}L_0(S^{-n}f)\text{)}.$$
 So for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$K_n(Sf) \simeq K_{n-1}(f) \text{ (resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_n(Sf) \simeq {\varepsilon} L_{n-1}(f))$$

and

$$K_{n}(f) = K_{n+1}(\Gamma(f)) \text{ (resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_{n}(f) \simeq {}_{\varepsilon} L_{n+1}(\Gamma(f))\text{)}.$$

We also have the following long exact sequences

## 2.4. Excision in K-Theory.

**Definition 2.4.1.** We say that a diagram of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A & \longrightarrow & A_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \downarrow & & & \downarrow \\ A_2 & \longrightarrow & A' \end{array}$$

is excisive for the algebraic (resp. Hermitian) K-Theory, if for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$K_n(\varphi_1) \simeq K_n(\varphi_2), \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_n(\varphi_1) \simeq {}_{\varepsilon} L_n(\varphi_2).$$

For an excisive diagram for the algebraic (resp. Hermitian) K-Theory, in particular, we have the Mayer-Vietoris long exact sequence

$$\cdots \longrightarrow K_{n+1}(A') \longrightarrow K_n(A) \longrightarrow K_n(A_1) \oplus K_n(A_2) \longrightarrow K_n(A') \longrightarrow K_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

and

$$\cdots \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_{n+1}(A') \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A_1) \oplus {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A_2) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(A') \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}L_{n-1}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots .$$

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**Definition 2.4.2.** Let I be a ring (eventually without unit). We say that I is excisive for the algebraic (resp. Hermitian) K-Theory, if every Cartesian diagram of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings



such that  $I \simeq \ker \varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_1$  is surjective, is excisive for the algebraic (resp. Hermitian) K-Theory.

Remark 2.4.3. Given a diagram of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A & \longrightarrow & A_1 \\ \varphi_2 \downarrow & & & \downarrow \varphi_1 \\ A_2 & \longrightarrow & A' \end{array}$$

such that  $\varphi_1$  is surjective. Then we have

$$K_0(\varphi_1) \simeq K_0(\varphi_2)$$
 [1].

Respectively,

$$\varepsilon L_0(\varphi_1) \simeq \varepsilon L_0(\varphi_2) [8]$$

Note that using Proposition 2.5 of [6, p. 269] we show that this definition of the relative groups  $_{\varepsilon}L_0(\varphi_1)$  and  $_{\varepsilon}L_0(\varphi_2)$  coincide with that of [9].

#### 2.5. Examples of Excisive Rings for the Algebraic K-Theory.

**Theorem 2.5.1.** [12] Every  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra is excisive for the algebraic K-Theory.

Let A be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. We say that A is H-unital if the complex

$$\cdots \xrightarrow{b'} A^{\otimes n} \xrightarrow{b'} A^{\otimes n-1} \xrightarrow{b'} \cdots \xrightarrow{b'} A \otimes A \xrightarrow{b'} A$$

is acyclic. For every  $n\geq 2,$  the homomorphism b' is defined on  $A^{\otimes n}$  by the following formula

 $b'(a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes a_n) = \sum_{i=2}^n (-1)^i a_1 \otimes a_2 \otimes a_{i-1}a_i \otimes \cdots \otimes a_n.$ 

**Theorem 2.5.2.** [12] Every *H*-unital ring is excisive for the algebraic *K*-Theory.

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In the following, we suppose that 2 is invertible in the considered rings.

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3.1.

**Theorem 3.1.1.** Given  $p \in \mathbb{Z}$  and a Cartesian diagram of Hermitian rings



such that

 $K_{n}(\varphi_{1}) \simeq K_{n}(\varphi_{2}) \text{ for every } n \ge p, \ \varepsilon L_{p}(\varphi_{1}) \simeq \ \varepsilon L_{p}(\varphi_{2}) \text{ and} \\ \varepsilon L_{p+1}(\varphi_{1}) \simeq \ \varepsilon L_{p+1}(\varphi_{2}).$ 

Then

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{n}(\varphi_{1}) \simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{n}(\varphi_{2}) \text{ for all } n \geq p.$$

3.2. Before proving this theorem, we will define for a homomorphism of Hermitian rings

$$f: A \longrightarrow B$$

and for every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , relative groups  ${}_{\varepsilon}U_n(f)$  and  ${}_{\varepsilon}V_n(f)$ . Let  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of Hermitian rings. We have the following commutative diagrams

The fiber of the map  $\mathcal{K}(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{L}(f)$  is equal to the fiber of the map  $_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(B)$ . We denote  $_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(f)$  as this common fiber. We also have the following commutative diagrams

The fiber of the map  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}(f) \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}(f)$  is equal to the fiber of the map  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(B)$ . We denote  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(f)$  as this common fiber. For every  $n \ge 0$ , we let

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n}(f) = \pi_{n}(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(f)) \text{ and }_{\varepsilon}V_{n}(f) = \pi_{n}(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(f)).$$

For n < 0, we let

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$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n}(f) = _{\varepsilon}U_{0}(S^{-n}f) \text{ and } _{\varepsilon}V_{n}(f) = _{\varepsilon}V_{0}(S^{-n}f).$$

For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have the following long exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_{n+1}(B) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_n(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_n(B) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_{n+1}(B) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_n(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_n(B) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow K_{n+1}(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_n(f) \longrightarrow K_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} V_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_{n+1}(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_n(f) \longrightarrow K_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} U_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

For the proof of Theorem 3.1.1 we will need the following lemma.

3.3.

**Lemma 3.3.1.** Let  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of Hermitian rings. For every  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}\left(f\right)\simeq -_{\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(f\right).$$

3.4.

Proof. Knowing that for any Hermitian ring D the homotopy equivalence

$$\Omega_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}\left(D\right)\sim -\varepsilon\mathcal{V}\left(D\right)$$

is natural, we have the following commutative diagrams

$$\begin{array}{cccc} -_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(f) & \longrightarrow & _{-\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(A) & \longrightarrow & _{-\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(B) \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Omega_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(f) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(A) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(B) \,. \end{array}$$

Then for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have the following diagrams of long exact sequences

$$\begin{array}{cccc} {}_{-\varepsilon}V_{n+1}\left(A\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{-\varepsilon}V_{n+1}\left(B\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{-\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(f\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{-\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(A\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{-\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(B\right) \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ {}_{\varepsilon}U_{n+2}\left(A\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{\varepsilon}U_{n+2}\left(B\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}\left(f\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}\left(A\right) & \longrightarrow & {}_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}\left(B\right). \end{array}$$

Hence, we have proved the lemma.

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3.5. **Proof of Theorem 3.1.1.** For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , the homomorphism  $A \longrightarrow A_1$  induces the following diagrams of long exact sequences

Consider the following diagram of exact sequences

We deduce that for any  $\varepsilon$ 

$$_{\varepsilon}V_{p}(\varphi_{2})\simeq _{\varepsilon}V_{p}(\varphi_{1}).$$

Then we have

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{p+1}(\varphi_2)\simeq _{\varepsilon}U_{p+1}(\varphi_1)$$

We proceed now by induction on n. Assume that

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{n}(\varphi_{2})\simeq_{\varepsilon}L_{n}(\varphi_{1}) \text{ and } _{\varepsilon}U_{n}(\varphi_{2})\simeq_{\varepsilon}U_{n}(\varphi_{1}).$$

The diagram of exact sequences

prove that the homomorphism

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{n+1}\left(\varphi_{2}\right)\longrightarrow_{\varepsilon}L_{n+1}\left(\varphi_{1}\right)$$

is surjective. Consider the following diagram

We deduce that for any  $\varepsilon$ 

$$_{\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}V_{n}\left(\varphi_{1}\right)$$

Consequently, we have

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}(\varphi_2)\simeq _{\varepsilon}U_{n+1}(\varphi_1)$$

Finally, consider the diagram of exact sequences

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It follows that

$$\varepsilon L_{n+1}(\varphi_2) \simeq \varepsilon L_{n+1}(\varphi_1).$$

Hence, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.5.1.** Let I be a Hermitian ring. If I is excisive for the algebraic K-Theory, then it is also excisive for the Hermitian K-Theory.

3.6.

*Proof.* Let I be an excisive ring for the algebraic K-Theory and consider the following Cartesian diagram of Hermitian rings

A	$\longrightarrow$	$A_1$
$\varphi_2$		$\varphi_1$
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$A_2$	$\longrightarrow$	$A^{\prime}$

such that  $I\simeq \ker \varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_1$  is surjective. According to Remark 2.4.3 we have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{0}(\varphi_{2})\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}(\varphi_{1}).$$

The suspension of this diagram is also a Cartesian diagram and  $S\varphi_1$  is also surjective. Then, we have (according to the Remark 2.4.3)

$$_{\varepsilon}L_0(S\varphi_2) \simeq _{\varepsilon}L_0(S\varphi_1).$$

So we have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{-1}(\varphi_{2}) = _{\varepsilon}L_{0}(S\varphi_{2}) \simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}(S\varphi_{1}) = _{\varepsilon}L_{-1}(\varphi_{1}).$$

Then by Theorem 3.1.1 and for all  $n \geq -1$ , we have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_n(\varphi_2) \simeq _{\varepsilon}L_n(\varphi_1).$$

For n < -1, we have

$$\varepsilon L_n(\varphi_2) = \varepsilon L_0(S^{-n}\varphi_2) \simeq \varepsilon L_0(S^{-n}\varphi_1) = \varepsilon L_n(\varphi_1).$$

Hence, we have proved the corollary.

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4. Excision in Hermitian K-Theory with Coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ 

4.1. Let X be a topological space. For any  $n \ge 2$ ,  $\pi_n(X; \mathbb{Z}/q)$  will denote the *n*th homotopy group of X with coefficient in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$  [11].

**Definition 4.1.1.** Let A be a unitary (resp. Hermitian) ring. For all  $n \ge 2$ , we let

$$K_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n \left( BGL(A)^+; \mathbb{Z}/q \right) \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n \left( B_{\varepsilon}O(A)^+; \mathbb{Z}/q \right).$$

For n < 2, we let

$$K_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) = K_2(S^{2-n}A; \mathbb{Z}/q), \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon} L_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) = {}_{\varepsilon} L_2(S^{2-n}A; \mathbb{Z}/q).$$

**Definition 4.1.2.** Let  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of unitary (resp. Hermitian) rings. For all  $n \ge 2$ , we let

 $K_n(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n \left( \mathcal{K}(f); \mathbb{Z}/q \right), \text{ resp. } {}_{\varepsilon}L_n(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n \left( {}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}(f); \mathbb{Z}/q \right).$ For n < 2, we let

$$K_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = K_2(S^{2-n}f;\mathbb{Z}/q), \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon}L_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = {}_{\varepsilon}L_2(S^{2-n}f;\mathbb{Z}/q).$$

For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have the following long exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow K_{n+1}(B; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow K_n(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow K_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow K_n(B; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow K_{n-1}(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

$$\cdots \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_{n+1}(B; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_n(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_n(B; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon} L_{n-1}(f; \mathbb{Z}/q) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

**Definition 4.1.3.** Let A be a Hermitian ring. For all  $n \ge 2$ , we let

 $_{\varepsilon}U_{n}(A;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_{n}\left(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}\left(A\right);\mathbb{Z}/q\right), \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon}V_{n}(A;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_{n}\left(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}\left(A\right);\mathbb{Z}/q\right).$ For n < 2, we let

 $_{\varepsilon}U_n(A;\mathbb{Z}/q) = _{\varepsilon}U_2(S^{2-n}A;\mathbb{Z}/q), \ resp. \ _{\varepsilon}V_n(A;\mathbb{Z}/q) = _{\varepsilon}V_2(S^{2-n}A;\mathbb{Z}/q).$ 

Note that for all  $n \in \mathbf{Z}$ , we have

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 $_{\varepsilon}U_n(SA;\mathbb{Z}/q)\simeq _{\varepsilon}U_{n-1}(A;\mathbb{Z}/q), \ _{\varepsilon}V_n(SA;\mathbb{Z}/q)\simeq _{\varepsilon}V_{n-1}(A;\mathbb{Z}/q)$  and

$$U_{n+1}(SA; \mathbb{Z}/q) \simeq {}_{-\varepsilon}V_n(A; \mathbb{Z}/q).$$

**Definition 4.1.4.** Let  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of Hermitian rings. For all  $n \ge 2$ , we let

 $_{\varepsilon}U_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}(f);\mathbb{Z}/q), \text{ resp. }_{\varepsilon}V_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \pi_n(_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}(f);\mathbb{Z}/q).$ For n < 2, we let

 $\varepsilon U_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \varepsilon U_2(S^{2-n}f;\mathbb{Z}/q), \ resp. \ \varepsilon V_n(f;\mathbb{Z}/q) = \varepsilon V_2(S^{2-n}f;\mathbb{Z}/q).$ 

To simplify the writing, groups  $K_n(.;\mathbb{Z}/q)$ ,  $\varepsilon L_n(.;\mathbb{Z}/q)$ ,  $\varepsilon U_n(.;\mathbb{Z}/q)$  and  $\varepsilon V_n(.;\mathbb{Z}/q)$  will be respectively denoted  $\overline{K}_n(.)$ ,  $\varepsilon \overline{L}_n(.)$ ,  $\varepsilon \overline{U}_n(.)$  and  $\varepsilon \overline{V}_n(.)$ . Note that for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

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$$\overline{K}_n(Sf) \simeq \overline{K}_{n-1}(f), \ \varepsilon \overline{L}_n(Sf) \simeq \varepsilon \overline{L}_{n-1}(f), \ \varepsilon \overline{U}_n(Sf) \simeq_{\varepsilon} \overline{U}_{n-1}(f) \text{ and } \varepsilon \overline{V}_n(Sf) \simeq_{\varepsilon} \overline{V}_{n-1}(f).$$

We also have the following long exact sequences

$$\cdots \longrightarrow \overline{K}_{n+1}(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{V}_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{L}_n(f) \longrightarrow \overline{K}_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{V}_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$
$$\cdots \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{L}_{n+1}(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{U}_n(f) \longrightarrow \overline{K}_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{L}_n(f) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} \overline{U}_{n-1}(f) \longrightarrow \cdots$$

**Proposition 4.1.5.** Let  $f : A \longrightarrow B$  be a homomorphism of Hermitian rings. For all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we have

$$\varepsilon \overline{U}_{n+1}(f) \simeq -\varepsilon \overline{V}_n(f)$$

4.2.

*Proof.* The following diagram of fibrations

$$\begin{array}{cccc} -\varepsilon \mathcal{V}(f) & \longrightarrow & -\varepsilon \mathcal{V}(A) & \longrightarrow & -\varepsilon \mathcal{V}(B) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(f) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(A) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}(B) \end{array}$$

shows that  $_{\varepsilon}\overline{U}_{n+1}(f) \simeq _{-\varepsilon}\overline{V}_n(f)$  for any  $n \ge 2$ . For n < 2 we have

$$-\varepsilon \overline{V}_n(f) = -\varepsilon \overline{V}_2(S^{2-n}f) \simeq \varepsilon \overline{U}_3(S^{2-n}f) = \varepsilon \overline{U}_{n+1}(f).$$

Hence, we have proved the proposition.

**Remark 4.2.1.** We define excision in K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ , in a similar way as for the usual K-Theory. As examples of excisive rings for the K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ , we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.2.2.** [3] or [8] Let I be a ring such that  $\widetilde{H}_*(I; \mathbb{Z}/q) = 0$  (I is considered as an abelian group). Then the ring I is excisive for the K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ .

**Remark 4.2.3.** In a similar way, we prove the equivalent of Theorem 3.1.1 for the K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ .

**Corollary 4.2.4.** Let I be a Hermitian ring. If I is excisive for the algebraic K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ , then it is also excisive for the Hermitian K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$ .

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4.3.

*Proof.* Let I be an excisive Hermitian ring for the algebraic K-Theory with coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}/q$  and let the following be a Cartesian diagram of Hermitian rings



such that  $I\simeq \ker \varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_1$  is surjective. Consider the diagram of exact sequences

We have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{2}\left(S^{2}\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}\left(\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}\left(\varphi_{1}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{2}\left(S^{2}\varphi_{1}\right).$$

We also have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{1}\left(S^{2}\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}\left(S\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{0}\left(S\varphi_{1}\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}L_{1}\left(S^{2}\varphi_{1}\right)$$

So the diagram shows that

$$\varepsilon \overline{L}_0(\varphi_2) = \varepsilon \overline{L}_2(S^2 \varphi_2) \simeq \varepsilon \overline{L}_2(S^2 \varphi_1) = \varepsilon \overline{L}_0(\varphi_1).$$

We also prove that

$$_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{-1}(\varphi_2)\simeq_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{-1}(\varphi_1).$$

So according to Remark 4.10 and for all  $n \ge -1$ , we have

$$\varepsilon \overline{L}_n(\varphi_2) \simeq_{\varepsilon} \overline{L}_n(\varphi_1).$$

For n < -1, we have

$$_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{n}\left(\varphi_{2}\right)=_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{0}\left(S^{-n}\varphi_{2}\right)\simeq_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{0}\left(S^{-n}\varphi_{1}\right)=_{\varepsilon}\overline{L}_{n}\left(\varphi_{1}\right).$$

Hence, we have proved the corollary.

5. Hermitian K-Theory of Stable  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -Algebras

# 5.1. Topological K-Theory.

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5.2. Let A be a Banach algebra. The topological K-Theory of A is defined by:

$$K_n^{top}(A) = \begin{cases} \pi_n \left( BGL^{top}(A) \right) & \text{for } n > 0, \\ K_0(A) & \text{for } n = 0. \end{cases}$$

The topology of the space  $GL^{top}(A)$  which is the direct limit of  $GL_n^{top}(A)$ , is induced by the topology of the Banach space  $M_n(A)$ . For an involutive Banach algebra A, the topological Hermitian K-Theory of A is defined by

$${}_{\varepsilon}L_{n}^{top}(A) = \begin{cases} \pi_{n} \left(B_{\varepsilon}O^{top}(A)\right) & \text{for } n > 0, \\ {}_{\varepsilon}L_{0}(A) & \text{for } n = 0. \end{cases}$$

The canonical map

$$BGL(A) \xrightarrow{\sigma} BGL^{top}(A)$$

induces the map

$$BGL(A)^+ \xrightarrow{\sigma^+} BGL^{top}(A)$$
.

The following diagram is homotopy commutative

$$\begin{array}{ccc} BGL\left(A\right) & \longrightarrow & BGL^{top}\left(A\right) \\ \downarrow & \swarrow \\ BGL\left(A\right)^{+}. \end{array}$$

For all n > 0, by passing to homotopy groups, the map  $\sigma^+$  induces the following homomorphisms

$$K_n(A) \xrightarrow{\sigma_n} K_n^{top}(A).$$

For n = 0, we let  $\sigma_0 = Id$ . Similarly, for an involutive Banach algebra A, the canonical map

$$B_{\varepsilon}O(A) \xrightarrow{\tau} B_{\varepsilon}O^{top}(A)$$

induces for all n > 0, the following homomorphisms

$$\varepsilon L_n(A) \xrightarrow{\tau_n} \varepsilon L_n^{top}(A).$$

For n = 0, we let  $\tau_0 = Id$ . Let A be an involutive Banach algebra. We will denote  $\mathcal{K}^{top}(A)$  the space  $K_0(A) \times BGL^{top}(A)$  and  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}^{top}(A)$  the space  ${}_{\varepsilon}L_0(A) \times B_{\varepsilon}O^{top}(A)$ . Let  ${}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}^{top}(A)$  be the homotopic fiber of the map  $\mathcal{K}^{top}(A) \longrightarrow {}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}^{top}(A)$ 

and let 
$$_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}^{top}\left(A\right)$$
 be the homotopic fiber of the map

$$_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{L}^{top}\left(A\right)\longrightarrow\mathcal{K}^{top}\left(A\right).$$

Then we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.2.1.** [4] Let A be an involutive Banach algebra. Then it exists a homotopy equivalence between spaces  $\Omega_{\varepsilon} \mathcal{U}^{top}(A)$  and  $_{-\varepsilon} \mathcal{V}^{top}(A)$ .

For all  $n \ge 0$ , we let

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### APPLICATIONS OF A THEOREM IN HERMITIAN K-THEORY

$${}_{\varepsilon}U_{n}^{top}\left(A\right) = \pi_{n}\left({}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{U}^{top}\left(A\right)\right) \text{ et } {}_{\varepsilon}V_{n}^{top}\left(A\right) = \pi_{n}\left({}_{\varepsilon}\mathcal{V}^{top}\left(A\right)\right).$$

For all  $n \ge 1$ , we let

$$U_{n}^{top}\left(A\right)\simeq -\varepsilon V_{n-1}^{top}\left(A\right).$$

ε We also have the diagrams of long exact sequences

**Definition 5.2.2.** Let A be an involutive Banach algebra. For all  $n \ge 0$ , we define

$$_{\varepsilon}W_{n}^{top}\left(A\right)=\ coker\ \left(K_{n}^{top}\left(A\right)\longrightarrow_{\varepsilon}\ L_{n}^{top}\left(A\right)\right)$$

and

$$_{\varepsilon}W_{n}(A) = coker(K_{n}(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_{n}(A)).$$

**Proposition 5.2.3.** [7] Let A be an involutive Banach algebra. Then we have

$$_{\varepsilon}W_{1}(A) \simeq _{\varepsilon}W_{1}^{top}(A).$$

**Theorem 5.2.4.** Let A be an involutive Banach algebra such that for all  $n \ge 0$ ,

$$K_n(A) \simeq K_n^{top}(A)$$

Then for all  $n \ge 0$  we have

$$\varepsilon L_n(A) \simeq \varepsilon L_n^{top}(A).$$

5.3.

*Proof.* Let A be an involutive Banach algebra A such that  $K_n(A) \simeq K_n^{top}(A)$ for all  $n \ge 0$ . Consider the following diagram

This diagram proves that

$$\ker \left( {_{\varepsilon}L_1 \left( A \right) \longrightarrow _{\varepsilon} L_1^{top} \left( A \right)} \right) \subset \operatorname{Im} \left( {K_1 \left( A \right) \longrightarrow _{\varepsilon} L_1 \left( A \right)} \right)$$

and that the homomorphism  ${}_{\varepsilon}L_1(A) \longrightarrow_{\varepsilon} L_1^{top}(A)$  is surjective. The following diagram

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shows that

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{0}\left(A\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}U_{0}^{top}\left(A\right).$$

Consider the following diagram

We deduce that for any  $\varepsilon$ 

$$_{\varepsilon}V_{0}\left(A\right)\simeq _{\varepsilon}V_{0}^{top}\left(A\right)$$

Hence for any  $\varepsilon$  we have

$$_{\varepsilon}U_{1}(A) \simeq _{\varepsilon}U_{1}^{top}(A).$$

The following diagram of exact sequences

proves that

$$_{\varepsilon}L_1(A) \simeq {}_{\varepsilon}L_1^{top}(A).$$

Then we prove the result, proceeding as in Section 3.5.

**Definition 5.3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra of the compact operators on the standard separable Hilbert space. We say that a  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra A is stable if and only if it is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{K} \otimes A$ .

**Theorem 5.3.2.** [12] Let A be a stable  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra. The homomorphism  $K_n(A) \xrightarrow{\sigma_n} K_n^{top}(A)$ 

is an isomorphism for all  $n \ge 0$ .

The following theorem is a direct consequence of the two preceding theorems.

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**Theorem 5.3.3.** Let A be an involutive stable  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra. For all  $n \ge 0$ , we have

$$_{\varepsilon}L_{n}(A) \simeq {}_{\varepsilon}L_{n}^{top}(A).$$

**Example 5.3.4.** Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra of the compact operators on the standard separable Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$ . Let  $A = C(X; \mathcal{K})$  be the  $\mathbb{C}^*$ -algebra of the continuous functions from a compact space X to  $\mathcal{K}$ . This algebra is stable. The density theorem [5] proves that

$${}_{1}L_{n}^{top}\left(A\right) \simeq {}_{1}L_{n}^{top}\left(C\left(X;\mathbb{C}\right)\right).$$

**Definition 5.3.5.** Let  $\Lambda$  be an involutive Banach algebra. We say that  $\Lambda$  is a C-algebra if, for every  $x \in M_n(\Lambda)$ ,  $1 + x\overline{x} \in GL_n(\Lambda)$ .

In [5, p. 234], Karoubi proves that for a C -algebra B, there is a natural isomorphism

$${}_{1}L_{n}^{top}\left(B\right)\simeq K_{n}^{top}\left(B\right)\oplus K_{n}^{top}\left(B\right).$$

**Proposition 5.3.6.** Since  $C(X; \mathbb{C})$  is a C-algebra, for all  $n \ge 0$ , we have the following isomorphism

$$_{1}L_{n}(A) \simeq K_{n}(X) \oplus K_{n}(X).$$

**Example 5.3.7.** If X is the complex projective space  $\mathbb{C}P^r$ , we obtain

$${}_{1}L_{n}\left(A\right) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}^{2r} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

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