A Tale of Two Sequences

Vitor Gulisz

Northeastern University

April 12, 2024

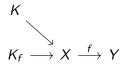
Vitor Gulisz

A kernel of a morphism $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is a morphism $K_f \longrightarrow X$ such that

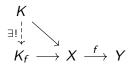
• The composition $K_f \longrightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is zero.

- The composition $K_f \longrightarrow X \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} Y$ is zero.
- $K_f \longrightarrow X$ is universal with this property.

- The composition $K_f \longrightarrow X \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} Y$ is zero.
- $K_f \longrightarrow X$ is universal with this property.



- The composition $K_f \longrightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is zero.
- $K_f \longrightarrow X$ is universal with this property.

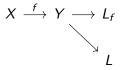


A cokernel of a morphism $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$ is a morphism $Y \longrightarrow L_f$ such that

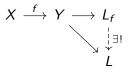
• The composition $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is zero.

- The composition $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is zero.
- $Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is universal with this property.

- The composition $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is zero.
- $Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is universal with this property.

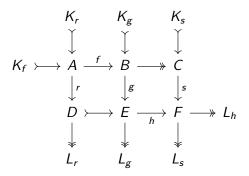


- The composition $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is zero.
- $Y \longrightarrow L_f$ is universal with this property.

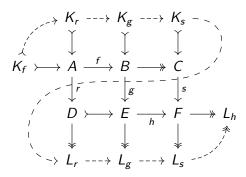


$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \rightarrowtail E \xrightarrow{h} F \end{array}$$

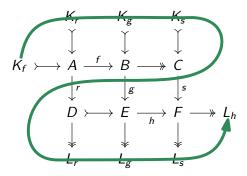
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto E \xrightarrow{h} F \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto E \xrightarrow{h} F \end{array}$$

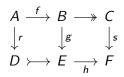


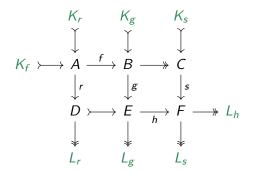
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} & B \longrightarrow & C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto & E \xrightarrow{h} & F \end{array}$$

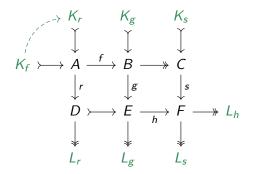


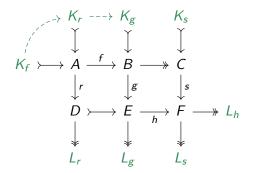
First proof

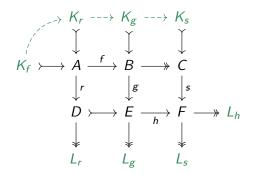
By diagram chase

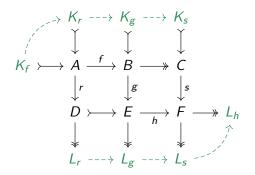


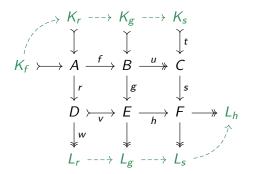


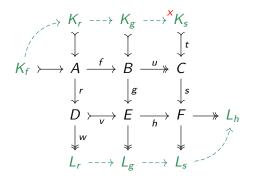


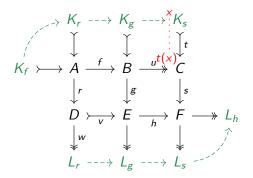


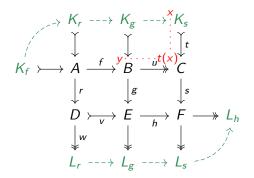


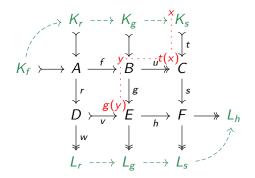


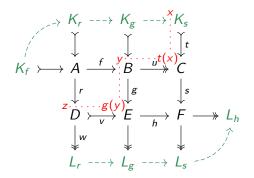


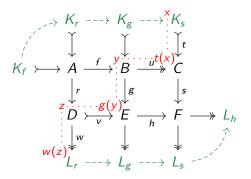


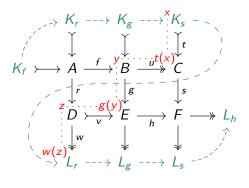






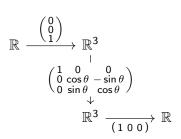


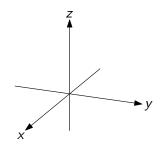


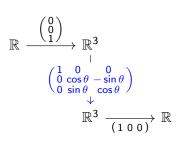


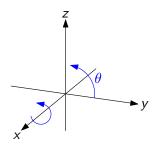
An example for vector spaces over $\mathbb R$

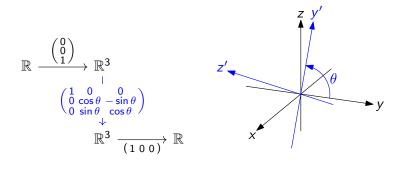
$$\mathbb{R} \xrightarrow[]{\left(\begin{array}{c}0\\0\\1\end{array}\right)} \mathbb{R}^{3} \\ \left(\begin{array}{c}1&0\\0&\cos\theta-\sin\theta\\0&\sin\theta&\cos\theta\end{array}\right) \\ & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{R}^{3} \xrightarrow[]{\left(1&0&0\right)} \mathbb{R}^{3}$$

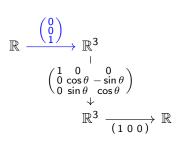


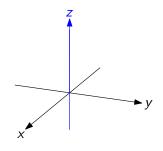


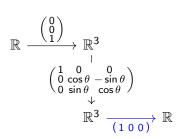


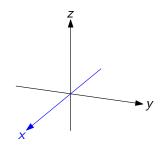


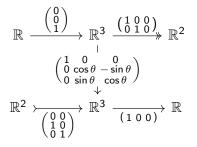


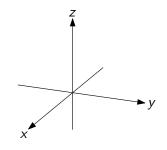


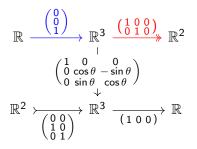


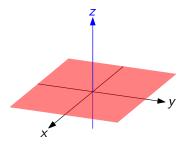


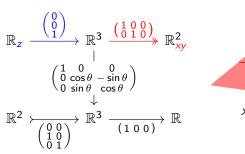


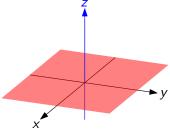


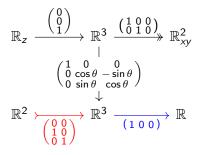


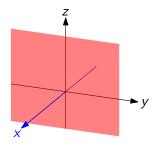


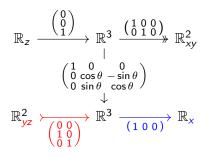


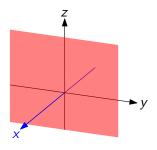












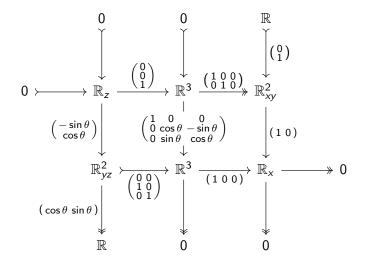
$$\mathbb{R}_{z} \xrightarrow[]{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{R}^{3} \xrightarrow[]{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}} \mathbb{R}^{2}_{xy}$$

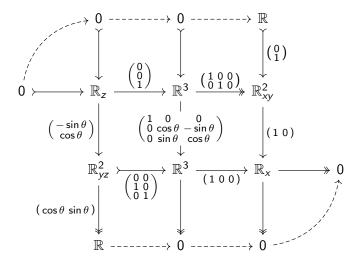
$$\stackrel[]{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \theta - \sin \theta \\ 0 & \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}} \xrightarrow[]{} \mathbb{R}^{2}_{yz} \xrightarrow[]{} \mathbb{R}^{3} \xrightarrow[]{} \mathbb{R}^{3} \xrightarrow[]{} \mathbb{R}^{3} \xrightarrow[]{} \mathbb{R}^{2}_{xy}$$

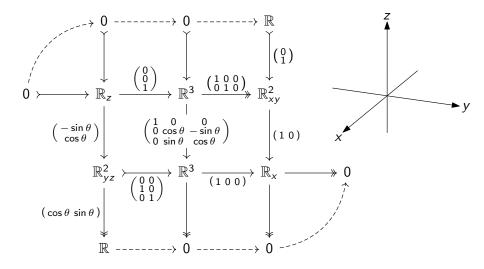
$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbb{R}_{z} & \stackrel{\begin{pmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{pmatrix}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{R}^{3} & \stackrel{\begin{pmatrix} 1&0&0\\0&1&0 \end{pmatrix}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{R}^{2}_{xy} \\ \begin{pmatrix} -\sin\theta\\\cos\theta \end{pmatrix} & \downarrow & \begin{pmatrix} 1&0&0\\0&\cos\theta-\sin\theta\\0&\sin\theta&\cos\theta \end{pmatrix} \\ & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{R}^{2}_{yz} & \stackrel{\begin{pmatrix} 0&0\\0&1 \end{pmatrix}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{R}^{3} & \stackrel{\begin{pmatrix} 1&0&0\\0&\cos\theta \end{pmatrix}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{R}_{x} \end{array}$$

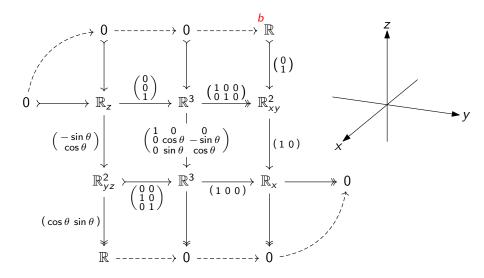
Vitor Gulisz

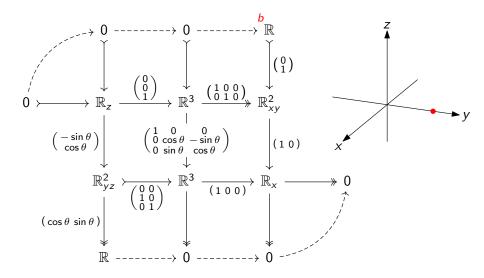
April 12, 2024 10 / 24

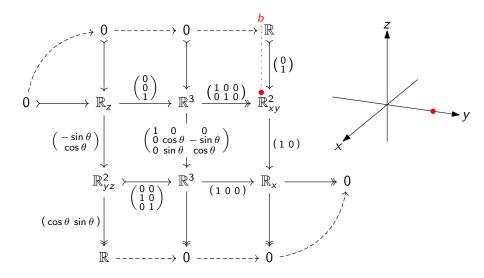


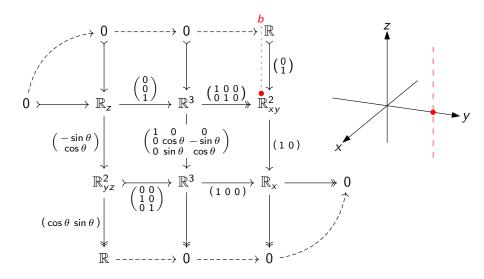


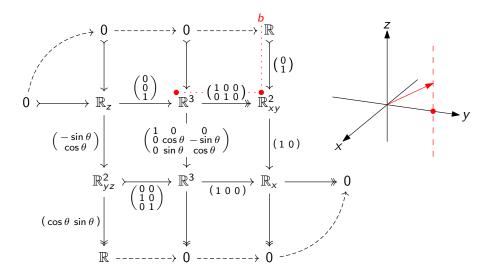


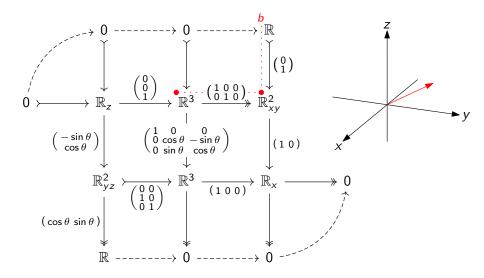


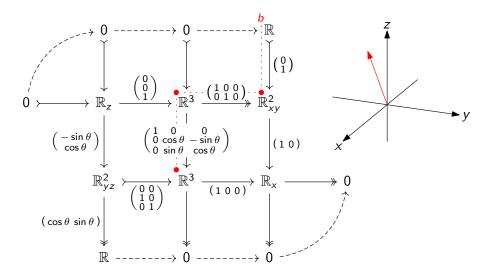


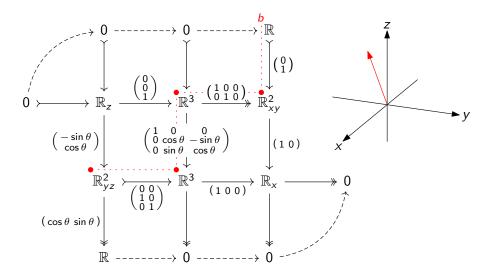


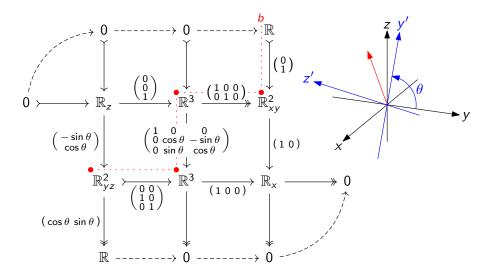


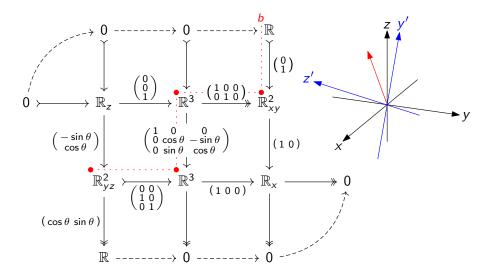


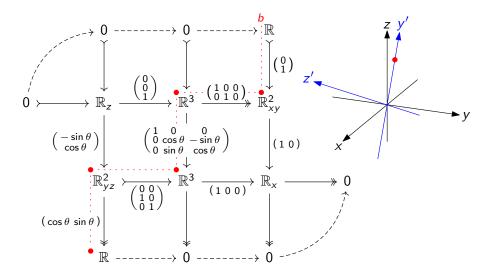


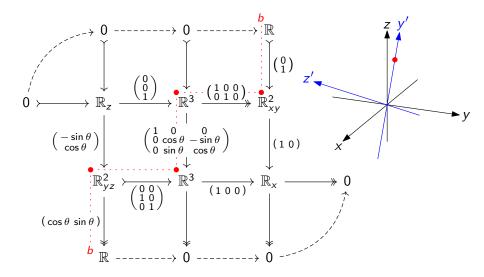










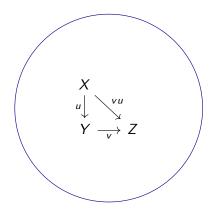


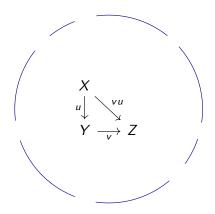
The circular sequence

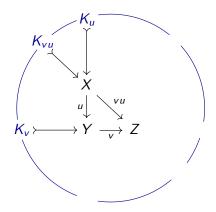
$$X \xrightarrow{u} Y \xrightarrow{v} Z$$

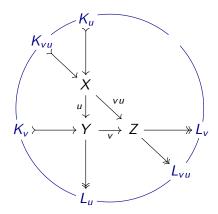


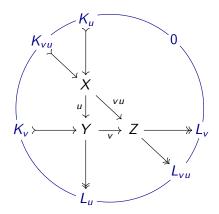


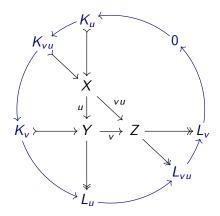












The circular sequence (aka kernel-cokernel sequence). For every pair of composable morphisms

$$X \stackrel{u}{\longrightarrow} Y \stackrel{v}{\longrightarrow} Z$$
,

the induced sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow K_u \longrightarrow K_{vu} \longrightarrow K_v \longrightarrow L_u \longrightarrow L_{vu} \longrightarrow L_v \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

The circular sequence (aka kernel-cokernel sequence). For every pair of composable morphisms

$$X \stackrel{u}{\longrightarrow} Y \stackrel{v}{\longrightarrow} Z$$
,

the induced sequence

$$K_u \longrightarrow K_{vu} \longrightarrow K_v \longrightarrow L_u \longrightarrow L_{vu} \longrightarrow L_v$$

is exact.

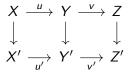
- C. H. Dowker. Composite morphisms in abelian categories. *Quart. J. Math. Oxford Ser. (2)*, 17:98–105, 1966.
- Johann B. Leicht. Über die elementaren Lemmata der homologischen Algebra in quasi-exacten Kategorien. *Monatsh. Math.*, 68:240–254, 1964.

- C. H. Dowker. Composite morphisms in abelian categories. *Quart. J. Math. Oxford Ser. (2)*, 17:98–105, 1966.
- Johann B. Leicht. Über die elementaren Lemmata der homologischen Algebra in quasi-exacten Kategorien. *Monatsh. Math.*, 68:240–254, 1964.

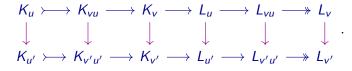
5 Thanks! It surprises me that there are *two* fundamental diagram chase lemmas concerning the kernel and cokernel of maps, but that one of them is substantially more famous than the other... I had never encountered the kernel-cokernel exact sequence before, but have been exposed to the snake lemma countless times. – Terry Tao Dec 23, 2023 at 22:02 ✓

mathoverflow.net/questions/460926

Proposition. Any morphism

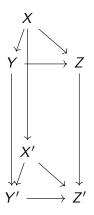


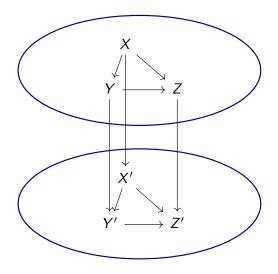
from vu to v'u' induces a morphism for the corresponding circular sequences

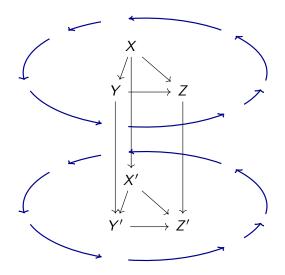


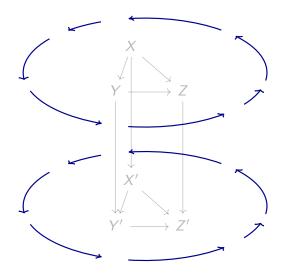


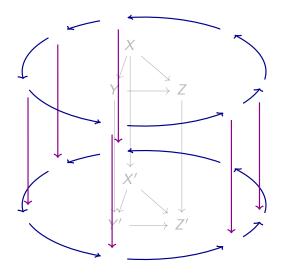








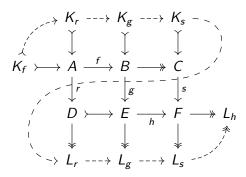




Snake Lemma. If

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto E \xrightarrow{h} F \end{array}$$

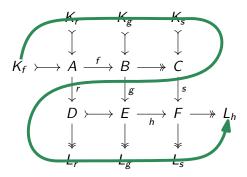
is a commutative diagram with exact rows, then there is an exact sequence given by the dashed arrows below.



Snake Lemma. If

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} & B \longrightarrow & C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto & E \xrightarrow{h} & F \end{array}$$

is a commutative diagram with exact rows, then there is an exact sequence given by the dashed arrows below.



Second proof

Element-free, by using the circular sequence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C \\ \downarrow^{r} & \downarrow^{g} & \downarrow^{s} \\ D \longmapsto E \xrightarrow{h} F \end{array}$$

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \longrightarrow C$$
$$\downarrow^{g} \qquad \downarrow^{s}$$
$$D \longrightarrow E \xrightarrow{h} F$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} B \stackrel{\longrightarrow}{\longrightarrow} C \\ & \downarrow^{g} \\ D \xrightarrow{} E \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} F \end{array}$$

$$hgf = 0$$

Vitor Gulisz

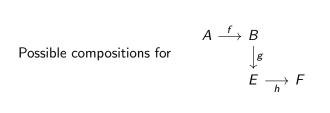
April 12, 2024 21 / 24

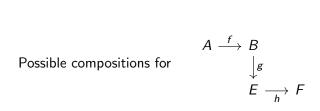
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \stackrel{f}{\longrightarrow} B \stackrel{g}{\longrightarrow} L_{f} \\ & \downarrow^{g} \\ K_{h} \rightarrowtail E \stackrel{h}{\longrightarrow} F \end{array}$$

$$hgf = 0$$

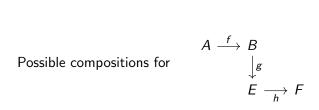
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ & \downarrow^{g} \\ & E \xrightarrow{h} & F \end{array}$$

$$hgf = 0$$



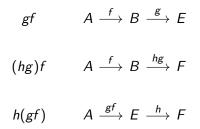


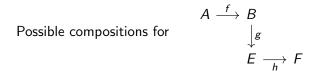
 $gf \qquad A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} E$

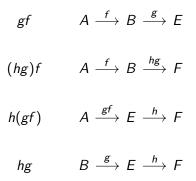


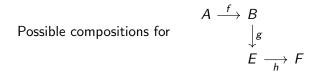
 $gf \qquad A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} E$ $(hg)f \qquad A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{hg} F$

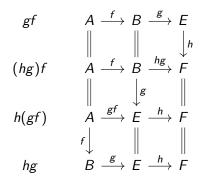


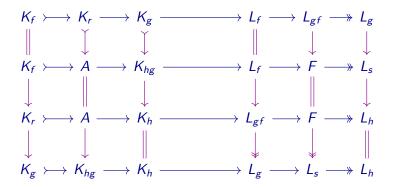


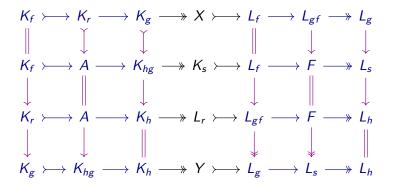


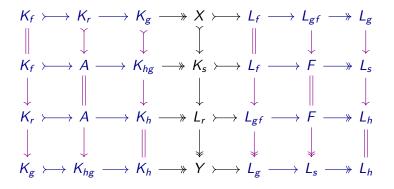


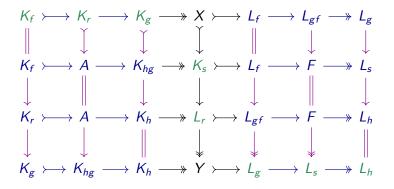


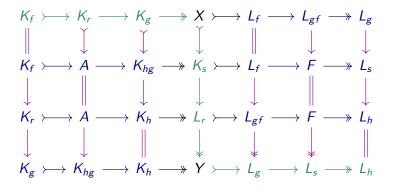


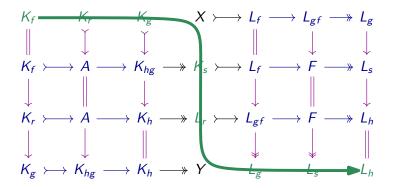












Thank you!