

# Exact categories

$\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{A}$  full additive subcategory  $\mathcal{C}$  of an Abelian category  $\mathcal{A}$ , closed under extensions

Admissible mono/epi in  $\mathcal{C}$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} x' \twoheadrightarrow x \\ x \twoheadrightarrow x'' \end{array}$$
 part of a short exact sequence

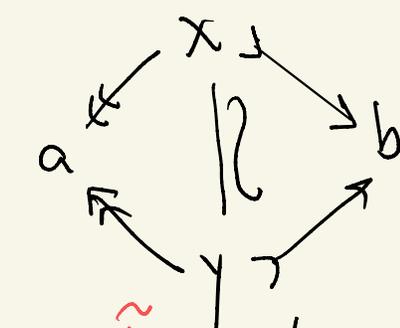
$$0 \rightarrow x' \rightarrow x \rightarrow x'' \rightarrow 0 \quad \underline{\underline{\text{in } \mathcal{C}}}$$

## Category $\mathcal{QC}$

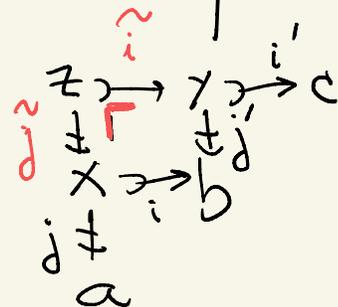
$$\text{Ob } \mathcal{QC} = \text{Ob } \mathcal{C}; \quad \text{Mor}_{\mathcal{QC}}(a, b) =$$

$$= \left\{ \text{iso classes of } a \overset{j}{\longleftarrow} x \overset{i}{\longrightarrow} b \right\}$$
 (admissible  $j, i$ )

isomorphism:



Composition:



$\exists$  admissible:  $z \in \mathcal{C}$   
 since  $\ker(j) = \ker(j')$   
 $\ker(j)$  is an extension of  $\ker j'$  by  $\ker j$ , both in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

Two subcategories:

$$\{ \rightarrow \} \text{ and } \{ \rightarrow^{\text{op}} \}$$

$$i: a \rightarrow b \quad i_!: a \rightarrow b \text{ in } \mathcal{QC}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} a \rightarrow b \\ \downarrow = \\ a \end{array}$$

$$j: a \leftarrow b$$

$$j_!: a \rightarrow b \text{ in } \mathcal{QC}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} b \rightarrow b \\ \downarrow = \\ a \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} x \xrightarrow{i} b \\ j \downarrow \\ a \end{array}$$

$\cong$

the composition

$$a \xrightarrow{j_!} x \xrightarrow{i_!} b$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} x & \rightarrow & x & \rightarrow & b \\ \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow & = & \\ x & \xrightarrow{z} & x & & \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ a & & a & & \end{array}$$

✓

But also:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} x & \xrightarrow{i} & b & & \\ j \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow j & & \\ a & \xrightarrow{\sim} & a + b & & \\ \downarrow i & & \downarrow x & & \end{array}$$

(bicartesian)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xrightarrow{i_!} & b \\ j_! \uparrow & & \downarrow j_! \\ a & \xrightarrow{\sim} & a + b \\ & \sim & x \end{array}$$

Commutates  
in  $\mathcal{QC}$

Get a characterization of  $\mathcal{QC}$ :

• Subcat of  $i_!$

$$x \xrightarrow{i} y$$

• Subcat of  $j_!$

$$y \xrightarrow{j} x$$

Rel:  $j_! i_! = i_! j_!$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & \xrightarrow{i} & b \\ j \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow j \\ a & \xrightarrow{\sim} & y \end{array}$$

bicartesian square in  $\mathcal{C}$

$$K_0(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \pi_1 Q\mathcal{C}$$

For  $x_1 \xrightarrow{i} x$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ :  $i_! : x_1 \rightarrow x$  in  $Q\mathcal{C}$

For  $x_1 \xleftarrow{q} x$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} x_1 \xrightarrow{i} x \\ \downarrow = \\ x_1 \\ q^! : x_1 \rightarrow x \text{ in } Q\mathcal{C} \end{array}$$

For  $M$  in  $Ob(\mathcal{C})$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} x \xrightarrow{=} x \\ \downarrow \\ x_1 \end{array}$$

$$[M] = \begin{array}{c} M \\ \uparrow i_M \quad \downarrow q_M^! \\ \circ \end{array}$$

where

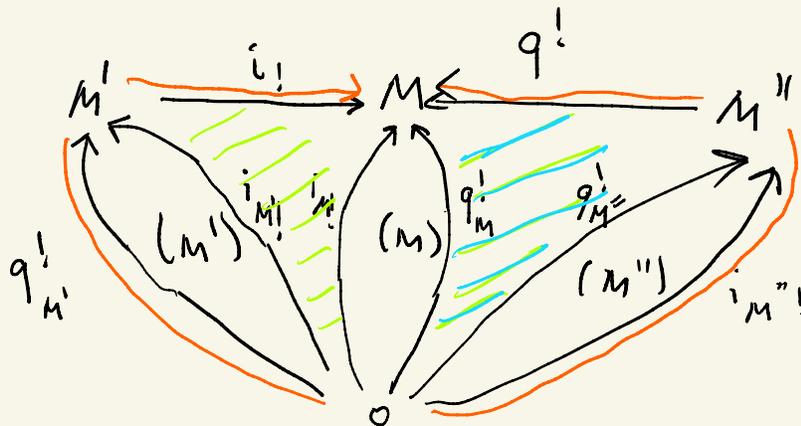
$$i_M : \circ \rightarrow M$$

$$q_M : M \rightarrow \circ$$

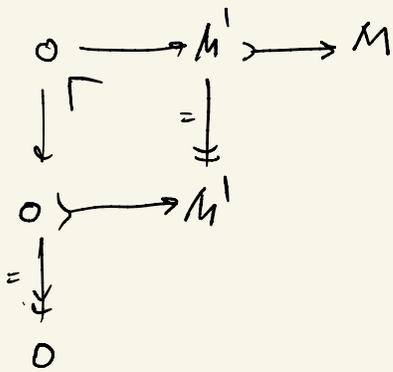
Claim  $[M] \mapsto (M)$  well-defined

Pf

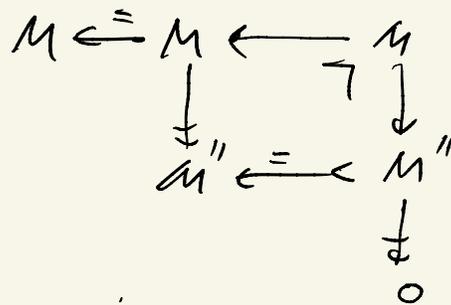
$$M' \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{q} M''$$



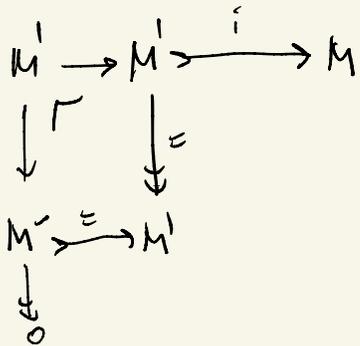
$$1) i_! i_{M'}^! = i_M^!$$



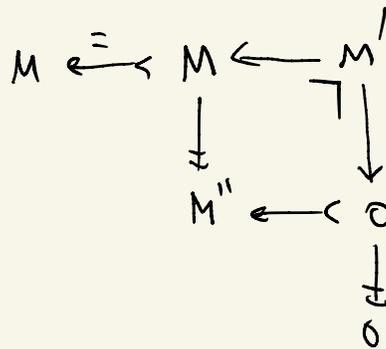
$$2) q_! q_{M''}^! = q_M^!$$



$$3) i_! q_{M'}^! = q_{M''}^! i_{M''}^!$$



=



## "The splitting principle"

Let  $\mathcal{E}$  be the category of short exact sequences in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Morphisms - comm. diagrams; admissible mono/epi - just

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & X' & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & X'' \longrightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \neq & & \downarrow \neq & & \downarrow \neq \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & Y' & \longrightarrow & Y & \longrightarrow & Y'' \longrightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

(or  $\Downarrow$ )

Theorem The functor

$$(s, t): [0 \rightarrow x' \rightarrow x \rightarrow x'' \rightarrow 0]$$

$$\downarrow \\ (x', x'')$$

induces a homotopy equivalence

$$\mathcal{B} \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{E} \simeq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{C})$$

Sketch of the proof

Claim: For any  $(M', M'')$  in  $\text{ob}(\mathcal{Q}\mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{Q}\mathcal{C})$ :

$$(s, t) / (M', M'')$$

$\mathbb{F} / d''$  is contractible.

Pf  $(s, t) / (M', M'')$ : objects are

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & N' & \rightarrow & N & \rightarrow & N'' \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \uparrow & & & & \uparrow \\ & & x' & & & & x'' \\ & & \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\ & & M' & & & & M'' \end{array}$$

$$(s,t)/(M_1, M_2) \Rightarrow C_2 \supset C_3 \sim *$$

$C_2$ :

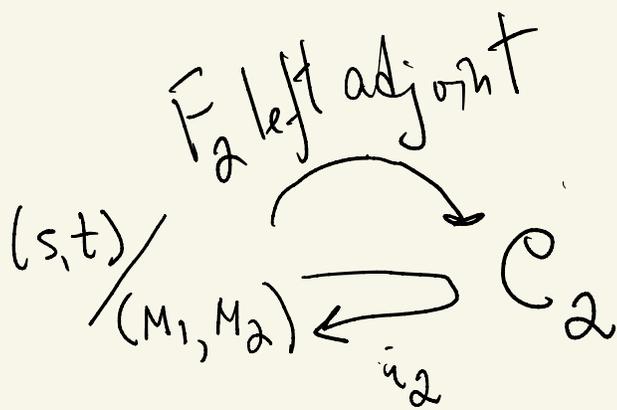
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & N' & \rightarrow & N & \rightarrow & N'' \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow j' & & & & \uparrow x'' \\
 & & M' & & & & M''
 \end{array}$$

(i.e.  $x' \xrightarrow{=} M'$ )

$C_3$ :

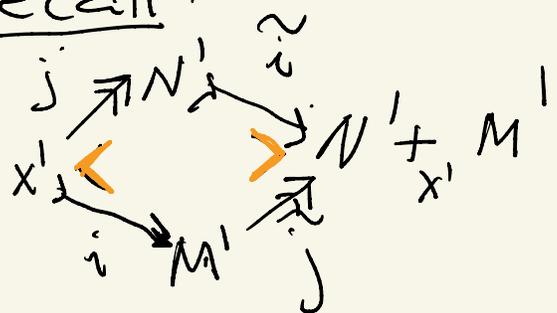
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & N' & \rightarrow & N & \rightarrow & N'' \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \downarrow j' & & & & \downarrow i' \\
 & & M' & & & & M''
 \end{array}$$

(i.e.  $N'' \xrightarrow{=} x''$ )



$$i' j' = j' i'$$

Recall:



$F_2$ :

$$0 \longrightarrow N' \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow N'' \longrightarrow 0$$

$\downarrow \begin{matrix} \sim \\ \downarrow \\ M' \end{matrix}$ 
 $\downarrow \begin{matrix} \sim \\ \downarrow \\ M'' \end{matrix}$



$$0 \longrightarrow N' + M' \longrightarrow N + M' \longrightarrow N'' \longrightarrow 0$$

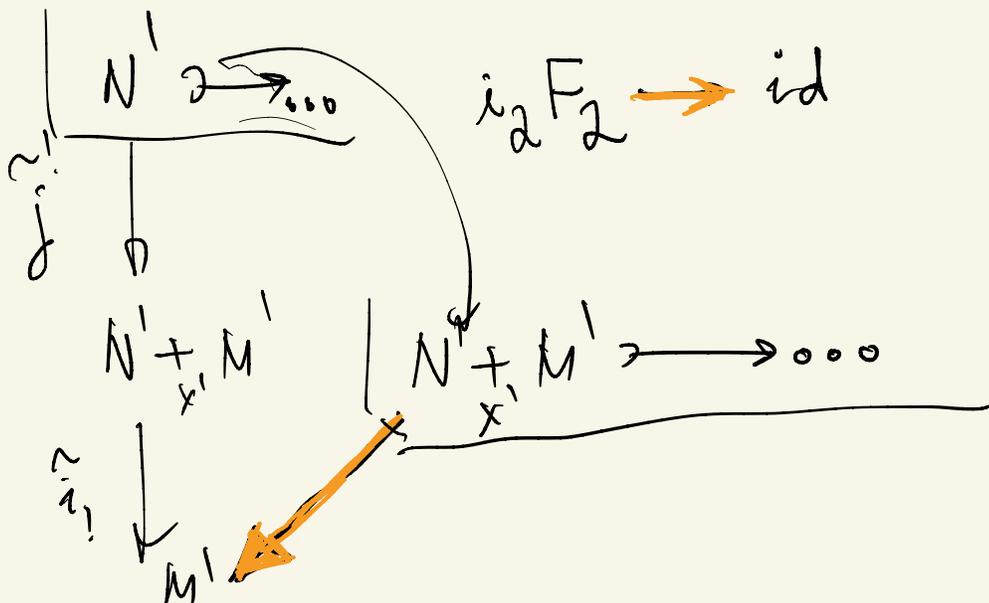
$\downarrow \begin{matrix} \sim \\ \downarrow \\ M' \end{matrix}$ 
 $\downarrow \begin{matrix} \sim \\ \downarrow \\ M'' \end{matrix}$

where

$$0 \longrightarrow N' \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow N'' \longrightarrow 0$$

$$0 \longrightarrow N' + M' \xrightarrow{\quad} N + M' \longrightarrow N'' \longrightarrow 0$$

$\downarrow \begin{matrix} \sim \\ \downarrow \\ M' \end{matrix}$ 
 $\downarrow$ 
 $\parallel$



$$C_2 \xrightarrow{i_3} C_3$$

$G_3$  right adjoint

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \rightarrow & N' & \rightarrow & N & \rightarrow & N'' \rightarrow 0 \\
 & & \parallel & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \partial \\
 0 & \rightarrow & N' & \rightarrow & N \times_{N''} X' & \rightarrow & X'' \rightarrow 0
 \end{array}$$

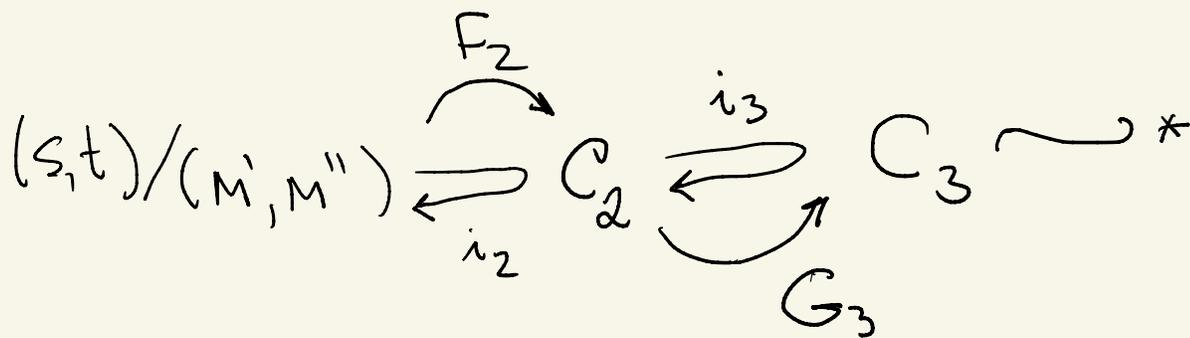
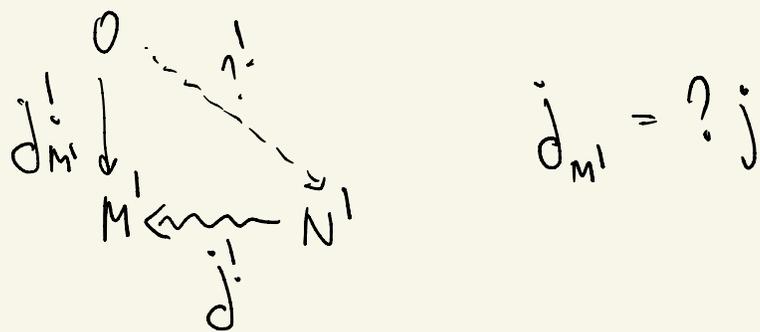
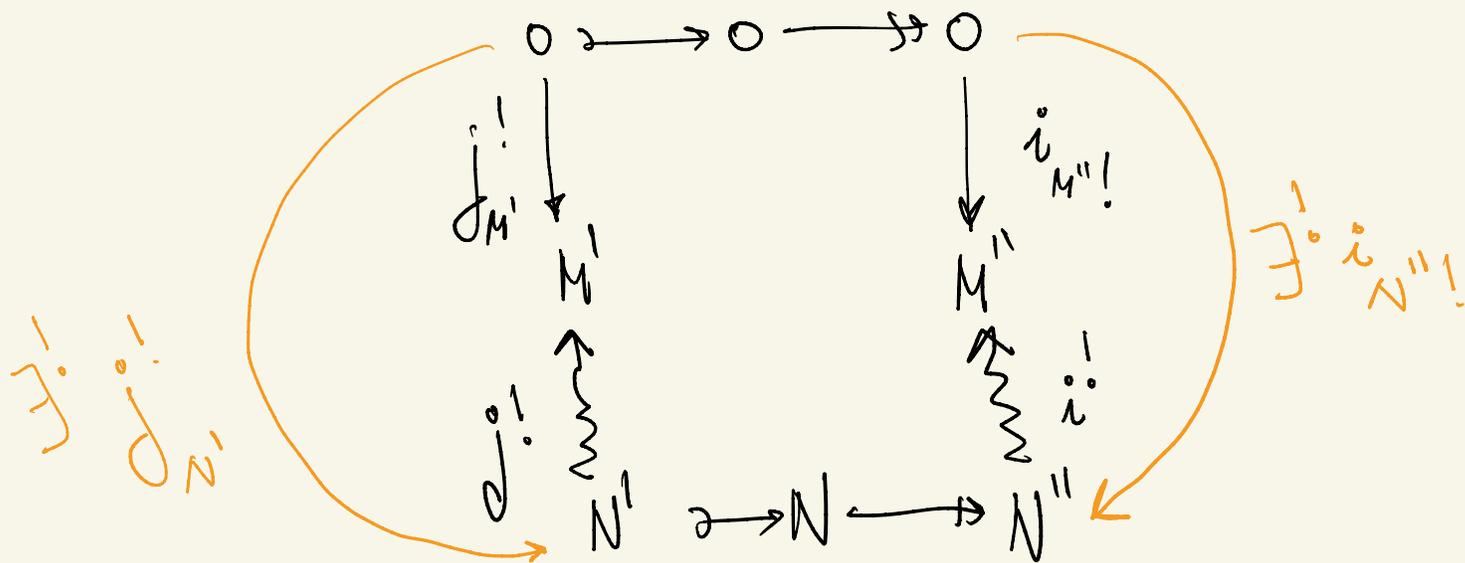
$N''$  (under  $X'$ )

$G_3$  (curved arrow from  $0 \rightarrow N'$  to  $0 \rightarrow N'$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \cdots & \rightarrow & N'' \\
 \text{id} \rightarrow i_3 G_3 & \rightarrow & X'' \\
 \cdots & \rightarrow & N''
 \end{array}$$

$\downarrow \partial$  (orange arrow)  
 $\downarrow i_1$   
 $\downarrow i_1$  (curved arrow)  
 $\downarrow i_1$  (curved arrow)

Initial object of  $C_3$ :



Conclusion:  $B((S,t)/(M', M'')) \simeq *, \forall (M', M'')$

By Quillen's Theorem A:  $BQC \simeq BQC \times BQC$

From the Splitting principle:

Thm Given exact functors  $F', F, F'' : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$

and natural transformations  $F' \xrightarrow{\varphi} F \xrightarrow{\psi} F''$

such that  $0 \rightarrow F'(c) \rightarrow F(c) \rightarrow F''(c) \rightarrow 0$

is a short exact sequence in  $\mathcal{D}$  for any

$c$  in  $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$ . Then

$$F = F' + F'' : K^Q(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow K^Q(\mathcal{D})$$

(Pf: pass through  $\mathcal{S}, \dots$ )

Also:

$$\text{Thm } K_0(\mathcal{C}) \cong \pi_1 BQ(\mathcal{C})$$

(this justifies the definition

$$K^Q(\mathcal{C}) = \pi_{\cdot+1} BQ(\mathcal{C})$$

## The resolution theorem

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be an exact category,  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{M}$  a full add. subcategory closed under extensions and such that:

$$(i) \quad 0 \rightarrow M' \rightarrow P \rightarrow P'' \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{s.e.s. in } \mathcal{M}, \\ P, P'' \text{ in } \mathcal{P} \Rightarrow M' \text{ in } \mathcal{P}.$$

(ii) For any  $M$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  exists resolution

$$0 \rightarrow P_n \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P_0 \rightarrow M \rightarrow 0$$

$$\text{Then } K^{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{P}) \simeq K^{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{M})$$

## The dévissage theorem

Let  $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{A}$  a full Abelian subcategory of an abelian category, closed under sub and quot objects and under finite products.

Assume every object of  $\mathcal{A}$  has a finite filtration with quotients in  $\mathcal{B}$ . Then

$$K^{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{B}) \simeq K^{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{A})$$