

The Grothendieck period conjecture and motives with maximal unipotent radicals - II

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Fields Institute, March 2024

- T = a Tannakian cat. over a field of char. 0, equipped with a "weight" filtration W such that pure objects are semisimple.

(Think: polarizable Mixed Hodge structures over \mathbb{Q} or a Tannakian category of (mixed) motives over a subfield of \mathbb{C})

- "Motive" = an object of T

- $X \in \text{obj}(T) \rightsquigarrow u(X)$, a submotive of $W_{-1}\underline{\text{End}}(X)$

Lie algebra of the unipotent radical of the motivic Galois group of X

- $u(X) \longleftrightarrow \text{Extensions in } \langle X \rangle^{\otimes}$ (Deligne, Bertrand, Brown, EM, Goncharov, Hain, Hardouin, Josse, ...)

Interested in:

i.e. $u(X) = W_{-1}\underline{\text{End}}(X)$

1) When does X have a maximal unipotent radical?

2) Given semisimple A , classify X with $Gr(X) \simeq A$ and

max. $u(X)$, up to isomorphism.

Motivation: Grothendieck period conj.

↓
Ideally, not a part of data!

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2b) Given semisimple A , classify X with $Gr(X) \simeq A$ and max. $u(X)$, up to isomorphism.

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2a) Given semisimple A , classify X with $Gr(X) \simeq A$ up to isomorphism.

A related notion: total nonsplitting

- Def: An extension (class) \mathcal{E} of 1 by Y is totally nonsplit if for every $Y' \subsetneq Y$, the pushforward \mathcal{E}/Y' does not split.

(So for extensions of 1 by simple Y , totally nonsplit = nonsplit.)

- Def: An extension (class) \mathcal{E} of X by Y is totally nonsplit if its class in $\text{Ext}^1(1, \underline{\text{Hom}}(X, Y))$ is totally nonsplit.

$$\bullet X \text{ has a max. uni. rad.} \implies \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{All the all ext's} \\ 0 \rightarrow W_m X / W_\ell X \rightarrow W_n X / W_\ell X \rightarrow W_n X / W_\ell X \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{are totally nonsplit.} \end{array} \right. \quad (\ell < m < n)$$

Converse is true if X has 2 weights (Bertrand/Hardouin).

Converse is false in general (even for 3 weights).

Recall from last talk: Task 1 for 3 weights

Theorem (E.-K. Murty) Let X be a motive with 3 wts $a_1 < a_2 < a_3$. Suppose:

(i) The extensions of $Gr_{a_2}X$ by $Gr_{a_1}X$ and $Gr_{a_3}X$ by $Gr_{a_2}X$ coming from X are totally nonsplit.

(ii) $\underline{Hom}(\underline{Hom}(Gr_{a_2}X, Gr_{a_1}X), \underline{Hom}(Gr_{a_3}X, Gr_{a_2}X)) = 0$.

Then X has a maximal unipotent radical.

Ex: Given odd $n > 1$ and p , $\exists ! M_{n,p}$ w.

(Motive of $\zeta(n)$) Z_n L_p (Motive of $\log(p)$)

$$GrM_{n,p} \simeq \mathbb{Q}(n+1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(1) \oplus 1$$

Its per. mat.:
$$\begin{bmatrix} (2\pi i)^{-n-1} & (2\pi i)^{-n-1}\zeta(n) & (2\pi i)^{-n-1}\pi_{n,p} \\ 0 & (2\pi i)^{-1} & (2\pi i)^{-1}\log p \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Cond.'s (i) and (ii) hold.

$M_{n,p}$ has a max. uni. rad.

$$\dim G^{mot}(M_{n,p}) = 3+1=4.$$

GPC for $M_{n,p} \iff$ Alg. indep. of $\{\pi, \log p, \zeta(n), \pi_{n,p}\}$

Open question: What is $\pi_{n,p}$?

(A per. of $MTM(\mathbb{Z}[1/p])$)

Recall from last time: Task 2 for 3 weights

Key tool: Grothendieck's Blended extensions (Extensions panachées)

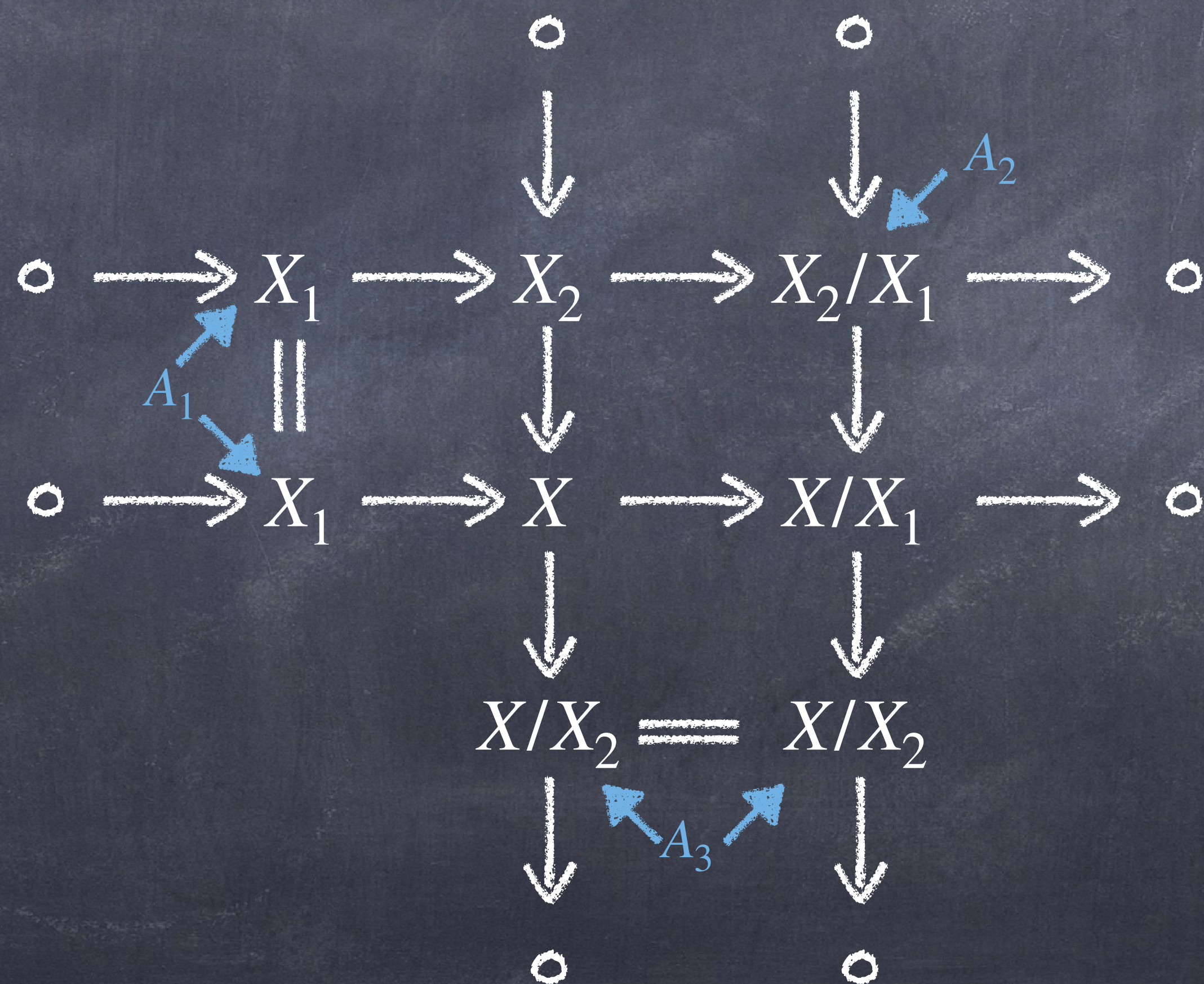
Invented by Grothendieck to study filtrations $0 \subsetneq X_1 \subsetneq X_2 \subsetneq X_3 = X$ with $X_1 \simeq A_1$, $X_2/X_1 \simeq A_2$, $X_3/X_2 \simeq A_3$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & \circ & & \circ & \\
 & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 \circ & \longrightarrow & X_1 & \longrightarrow & X_2 & \longrightarrow & X_2/X_1 \longrightarrow \circ \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 X & \rightsquigarrow & \circ & \longrightarrow & X_1 & \longrightarrow & X \longrightarrow X/X_1 \longrightarrow \circ \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & X/X_2 = & X/X_2 & \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & \circ & & \circ
 \end{array}$$

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$X \rightsquigarrow$

$$Gr(X) \xrightarrow{\phi} \bigoplus A_r$$

Fix extensions \mathcal{L} and \mathcal{N} :

$$\mathcal{L}: \quad \circ \longrightarrow A_1 \longrightarrow L \longrightarrow A_2 \longrightarrow \circ$$

$$\mathcal{N}: \quad \circ \longrightarrow A_2 \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow A_3 \longrightarrow \circ$$

A blended extension of \mathcal{N} by \mathcal{L} is a comm. diagram of the form, with exact rows and columns

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & & \circ & & \circ & \\
 & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 \circ & \longrightarrow & A_1 & \longrightarrow & L & \longrightarrow & A_2 \longrightarrow \circ \\
 & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 \circ & \longrightarrow & A_1 & \longrightarrow & X & \longrightarrow & N \longrightarrow \circ \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & A_3 & = & A_3 \\
 & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & & & \circ & & \circ
 \end{array}$$

- $\text{EXTPAN}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{L}) :=$ collection of all bl. ext's of \mathcal{N} by \mathcal{L}
- $\text{Extpan}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{L}) :=$ **iso. classes** of bl. ext's \mathcal{N} by \mathcal{L} (Commuting maps that are **identity on L and N**)

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Prop: a) $\text{Extpan}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{L})$ is nonempty iff $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{N}$ vanishes in $\text{Ext}^2(A_3, A_1)$.

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Prop: a) $\text{Extpan}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{L})$ is nonempty iff $\mathcal{L} \circ \mathcal{N}$ vanishes in $\text{Ext}^2(A_3, A_1)$.

b) When nonempty, $\text{Extpan}(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{L})$ is **canonically a torsor** over $\text{Ext}^1(A_3, A_1)$.

Back to our earlier example:

$$\mathcal{N}: \quad \circ \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}(1) \xrightarrow{\text{red}} L_p \longrightarrow 1 \longrightarrow \circ \quad (p \text{ prime})$$

$$\mathcal{L}: \quad \circ \longrightarrow \mathbb{Q}(n+1) \longrightarrow Z_n(1) \xrightarrow{\text{green}} \mathbb{Q}(1) \longrightarrow \circ \quad (n \text{ odd } > 1)$$

$$\boxed{\text{Ext}^2(1, \mathbb{Q}(n+1)) = 0}$$

There is a unique $M_{n,p}$ fitting in

$$\boxed{\text{Ext}^1(1, \mathbb{Q}(n+1)) = 0}$$

(Unique up to blended ext., hence
unique up to iso. of motives.)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & \circ & & \circ & & \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\ \circ & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Q}(n+1) & \longrightarrow & Z_n(1) & \xrightarrow{\text{green}} & \mathbb{Q}(1) \longrightarrow \circ \\ & & \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \circ & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{Q}(n+1) & \longrightarrow & M_{n,p} & \longrightarrow & L_p \longrightarrow \circ \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & & & 1 & = & 1 \\ & & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & & & \circ & & \circ \end{array}$$

Motives with any number of wts - report on a recent work

Task 1

Def: We say a motive X with k weights $a_1 < \dots < a_k$ is graded-independent (GI) if there are no nonzero morphisms between any two of

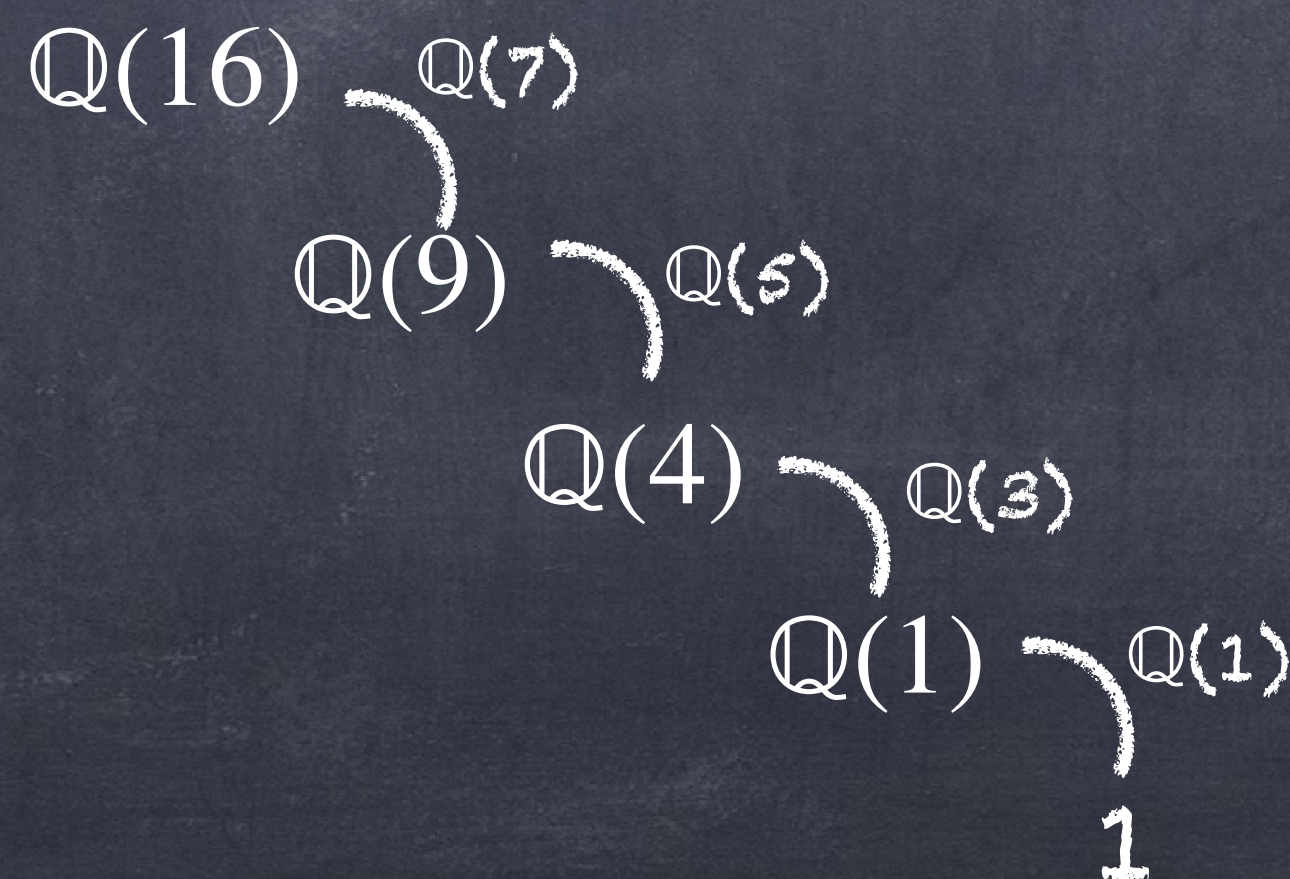
$$\underline{\text{Hom}}(Gr_{a_j} X, Gr_{a_{j-1}} X) \quad (1 < j \leq k) \quad \text{and} \quad \bigoplus_{j-i>1} \underline{\text{Hom}}(Gr_{a_j} X, Gr_{a_i} X)$$

Examples: • All motives with 2 weights are GI.

• For motives with 3 weights, this is just cond. (ii) of previous theorem.

• The condition is guaranteed if the weights are sufficiently "spread out".

e.g.



GI

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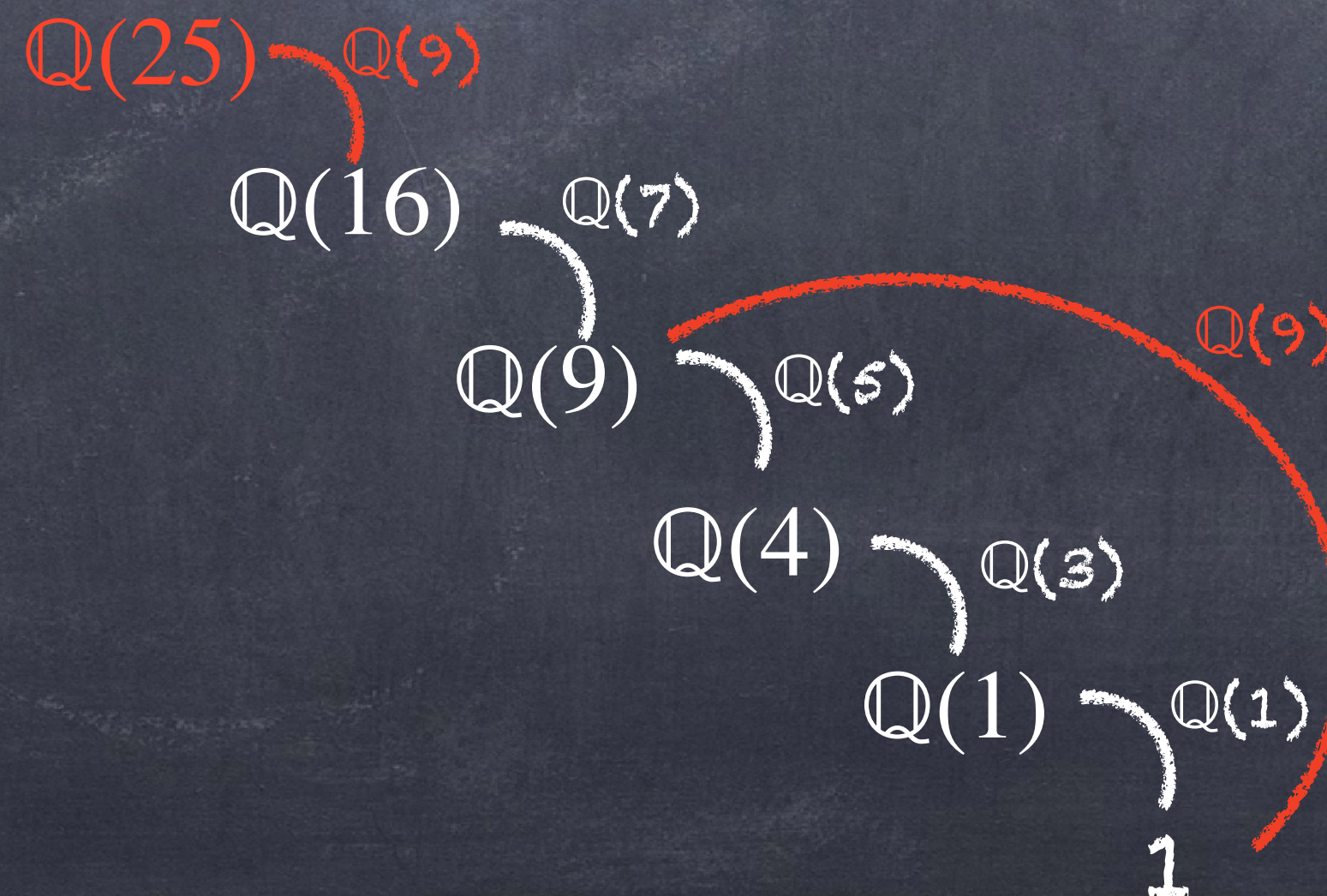
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Not GI

Theorem. Let X be a GI motive with k weights $a_1 < \dots < a_k$. Suppose that each of the extensions

$$0 \longrightarrow Gr_{a_{j-1}} X \longrightarrow W_{a_j} X / W_{a_{j-2}} X \longrightarrow Gr_{a_j} X \longrightarrow 0$$

is tot. nonsplit. Then X has a maximal unipotent radical.

Example. Suppose $Gr X \simeq \mathbb{Q}(9) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(4) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(1) \oplus 1$

If successive extensions of X are L_p , $Z_3(1)$, and $Z_5(4)$ then X has a max. uni. rad.

More generally, if $Gr X \simeq \mathbb{Q}(n+m+1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(n+1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(1) \oplus 1$ $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} m, n \text{ distinct,} \\ \text{odd, } > 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right)$

with nonsplit successive extensions then X has a max. uni. radical.

Task 2:

Fix nonzero pure objects A_1, \dots, A_k of weights $a_1 < \dots < a_k$. Set $A = \bigoplus A_i$.

Set $S(A) := \{\text{objects } X \text{ with } \text{Gr}(X) \simeq A\} / \text{iso.}$, $S'(A) := \{(X, \text{Gr} X \xrightarrow[\simeq]{\phi} A)\} / \text{equiv.}$

$(X, \phi) \sim (X', \phi')$ iff

$\exists f: X \xrightarrow{\simeq} X'$ s.t.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Gr}^W X & \xrightarrow{\phi} & A \\ \text{Gr}^W f \searrow & & \nearrow \phi' \\ & \text{Gr}^W X' & \end{array}$$

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Fix nonzero pure objects A_1, \dots, A_k of weights $a_1 < \dots < a_k$. Set $A = \bigoplus A_r$

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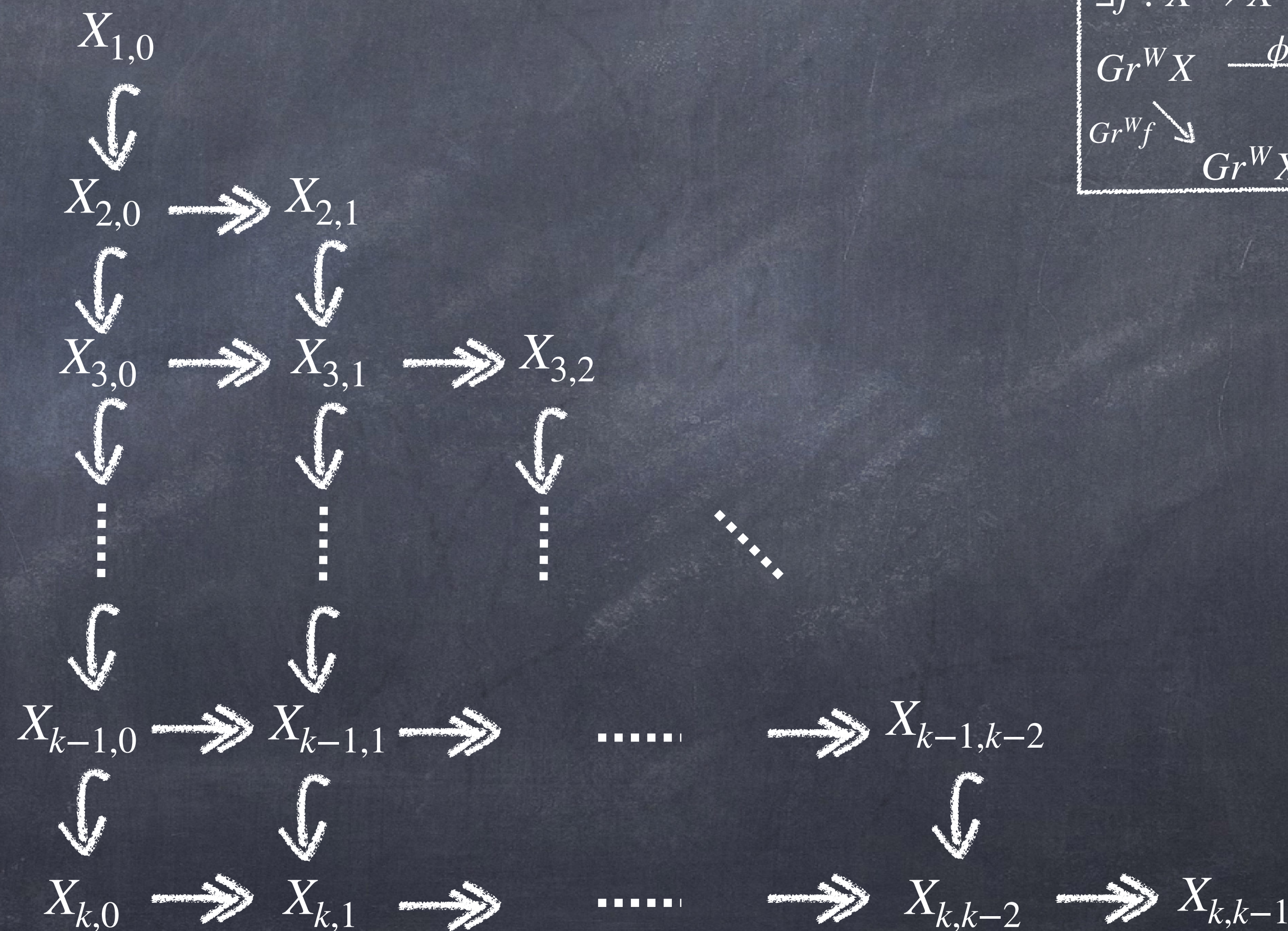
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$$X_r := W_{a_r} X$$

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$$X_n / X_m =: X_{n,m}$$

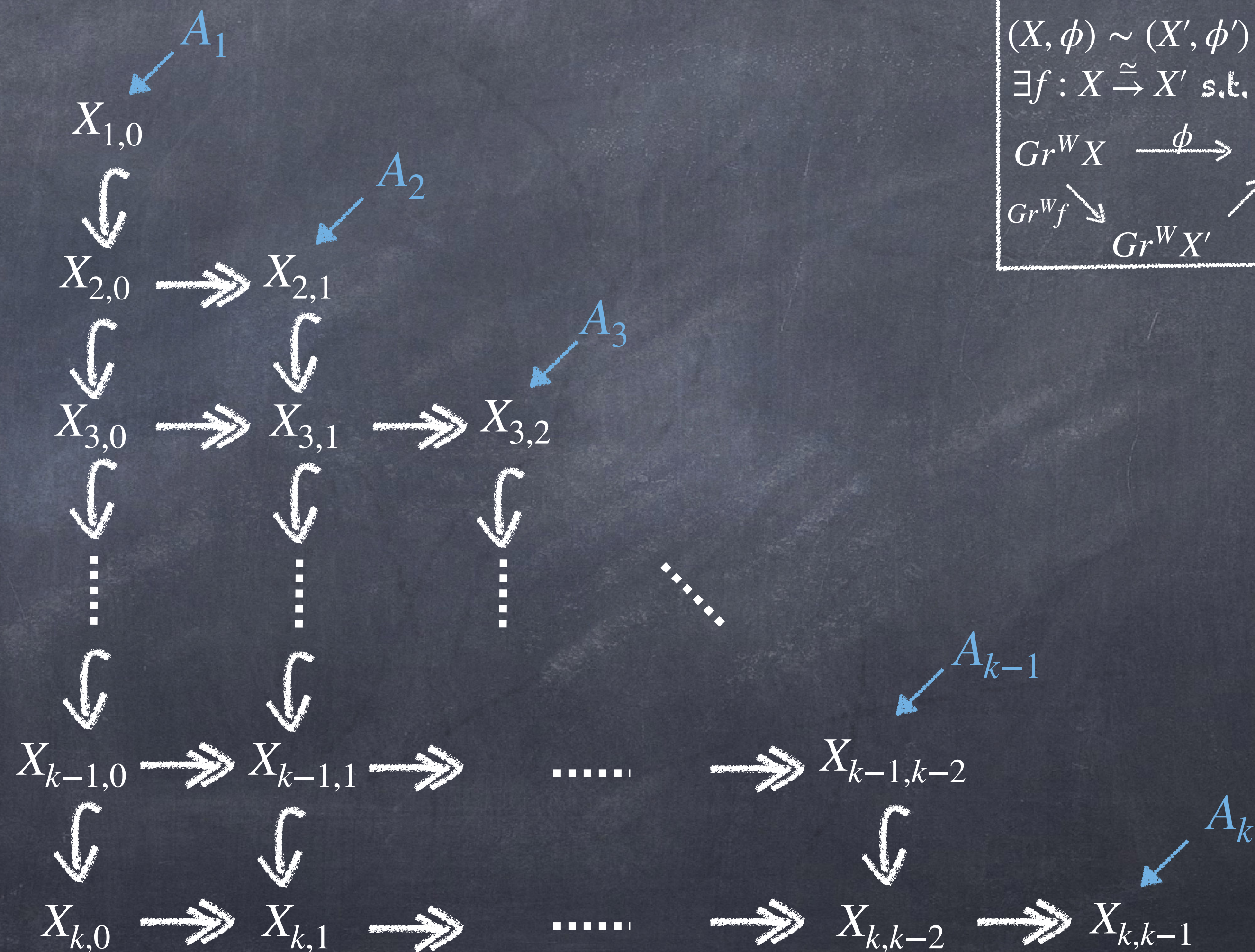


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$$\begin{aligned}
 &X \\
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 &X_r := W_{a_r} X \\
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 \end{aligned}$$



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X
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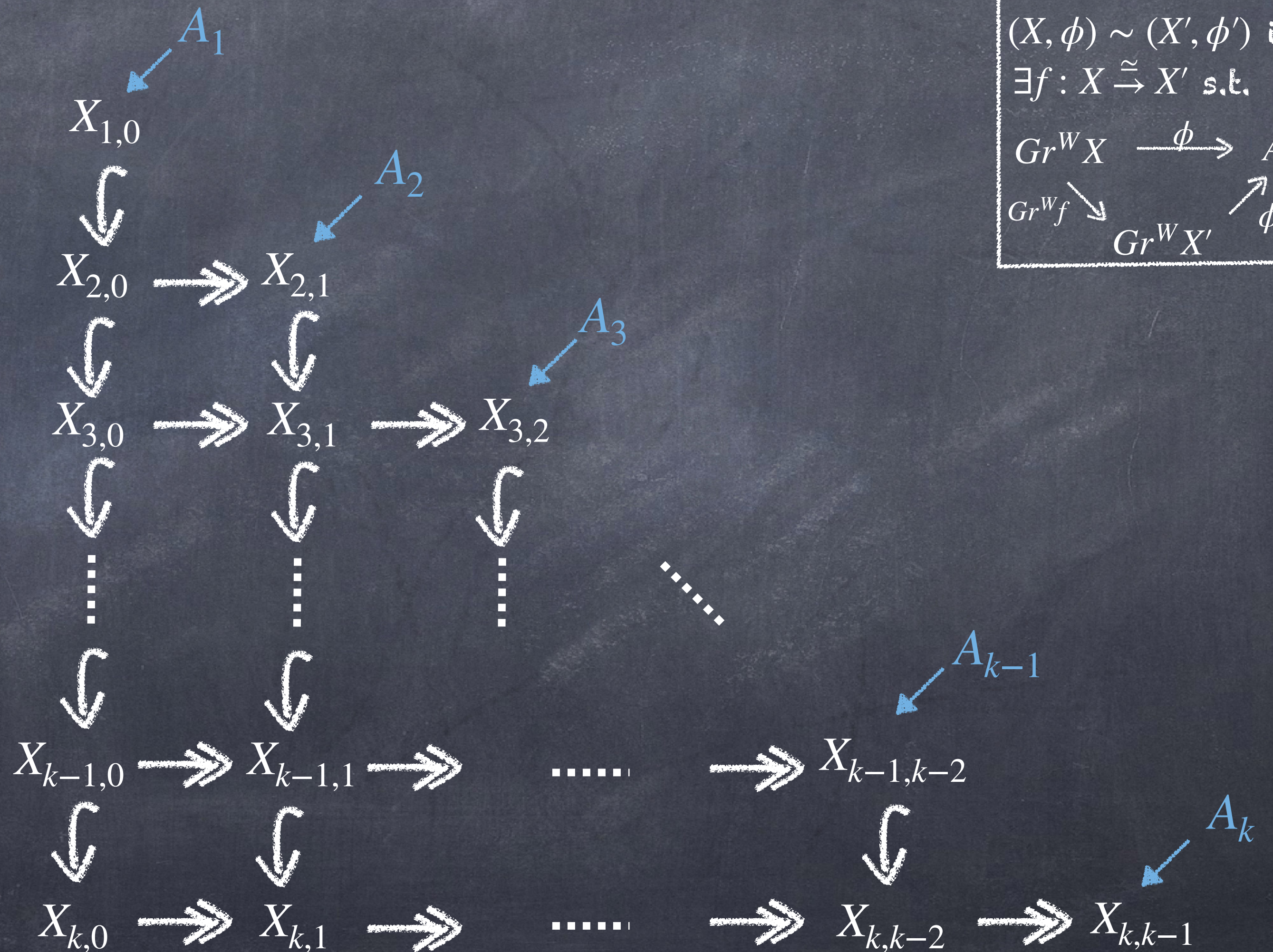
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$$\text{Gr}^W X \xrightarrow[\simeq]{\phi} A$$

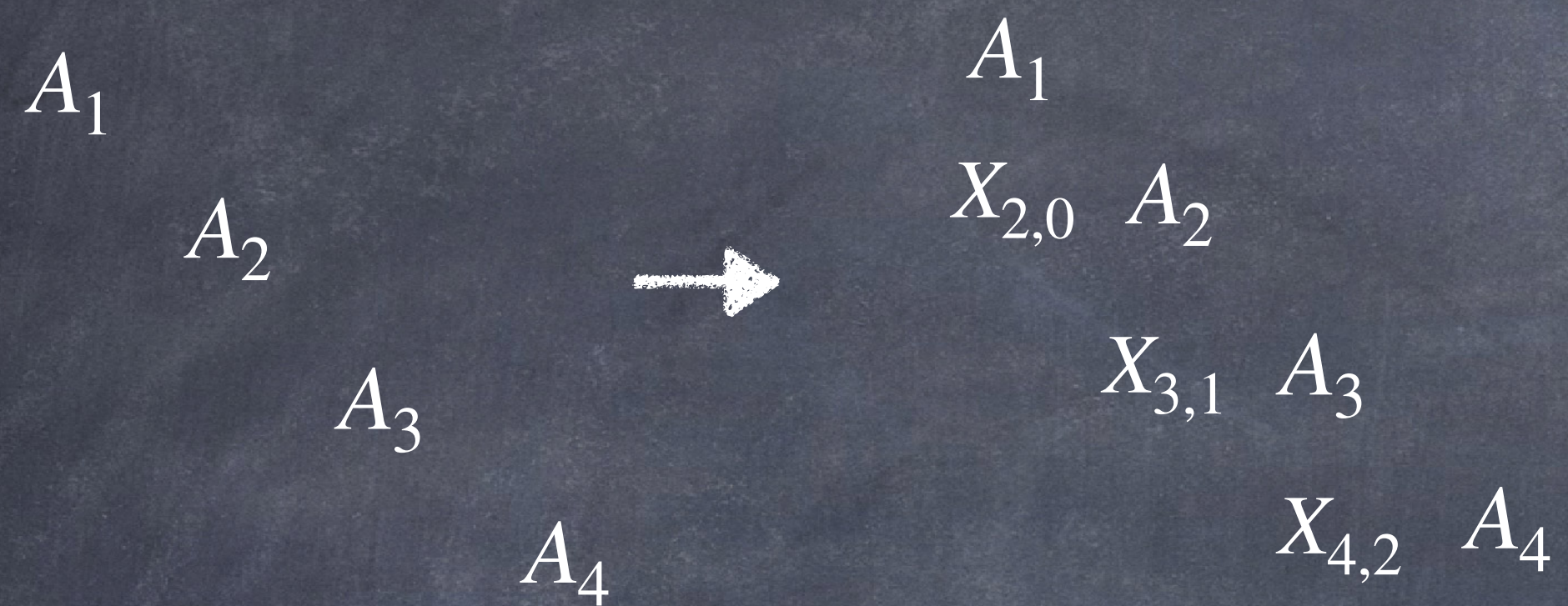
Idea: To get all X , form all such diagrams **one diagonal at a time**. Take appropriate equiv. rel.'s into account.



$(X, \phi) \sim (X', \phi')$ iff
 $\exists f: X \xrightarrow{\simeq} X'$ s.t.

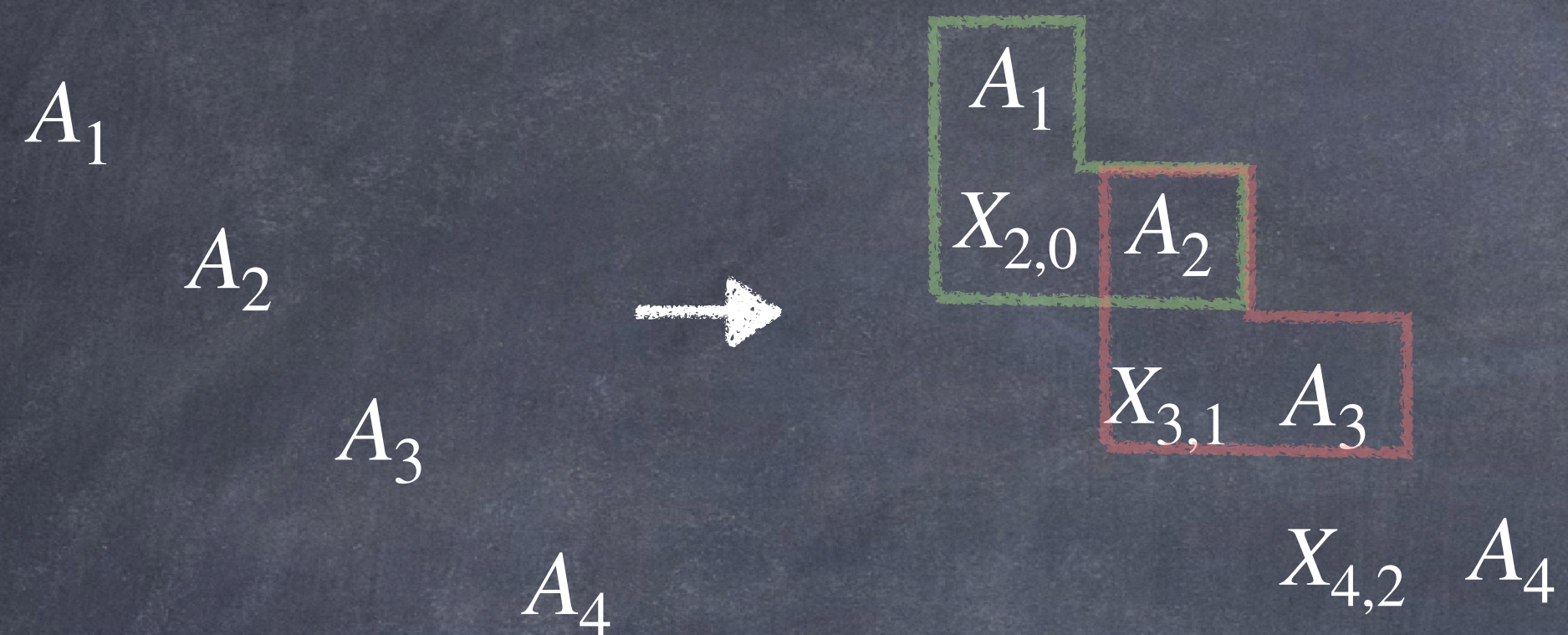
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Example: $k=4$

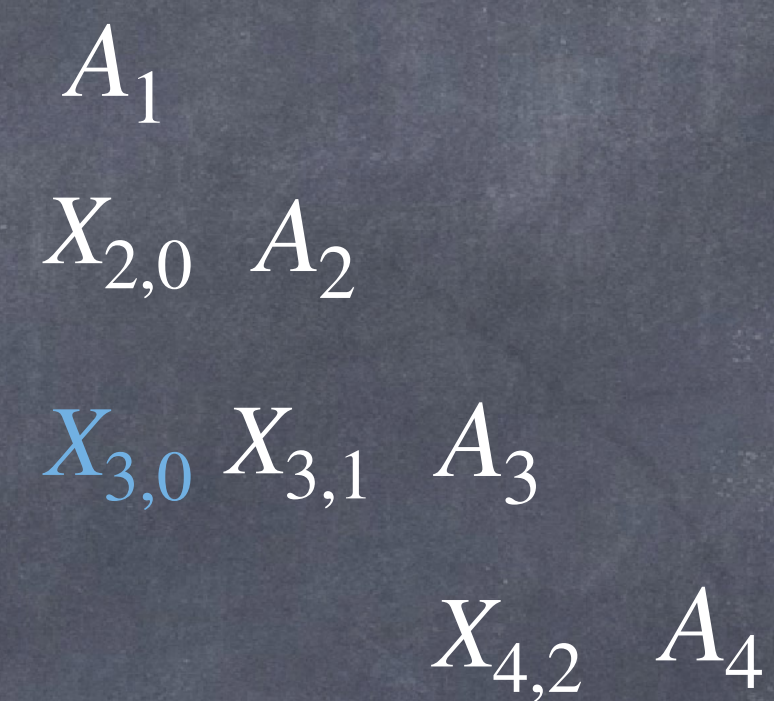


$$\text{Choices} \cong \prod_r EXT(A_{r+1}, A_r)$$

Example: $k=4$



$$\text{Choices} \cong \prod_r \text{EXT}(A_{r+1}, A_r)$$



Choices for adding $X_{3,0} \cong$
 $\text{EXPAN}(X_{3,1}, X_{2,0})$
 If nonempty, torsor
 over $\text{EXT}(A_3, A_1)$

Example: $k=4$

$$\begin{array}{c} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \end{array} \rightarrow$$

$$\begin{array}{c} A_1 \\ X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \end{array} \rightarrow$$

$$\text{Choices} \cong \prod_r \text{EXT}(A_{r+1}, A_r)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} A_1 \\ X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\ X_{3,0} \ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\ X_{4,1} \ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Choices} &\cong \prod_r \text{EXTPAN}(X_{r+2,r}, X_{r+1,r-1}) \\ &\text{Empty or Torsor over} \\ &\prod_r \text{EXT}(A_{r+2}, A_r) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{array}{cccc} A_1 & & & \\ & A_2 & & \\ & & A_3 & \\ & & & A_4 \end{array} \rightarrow$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} A_1 & & & \\ X_{2,0} & A_2 & & \\ & X_{3,1} & A_3 & \\ & & X_{4,2} & A_4 \end{array}$$

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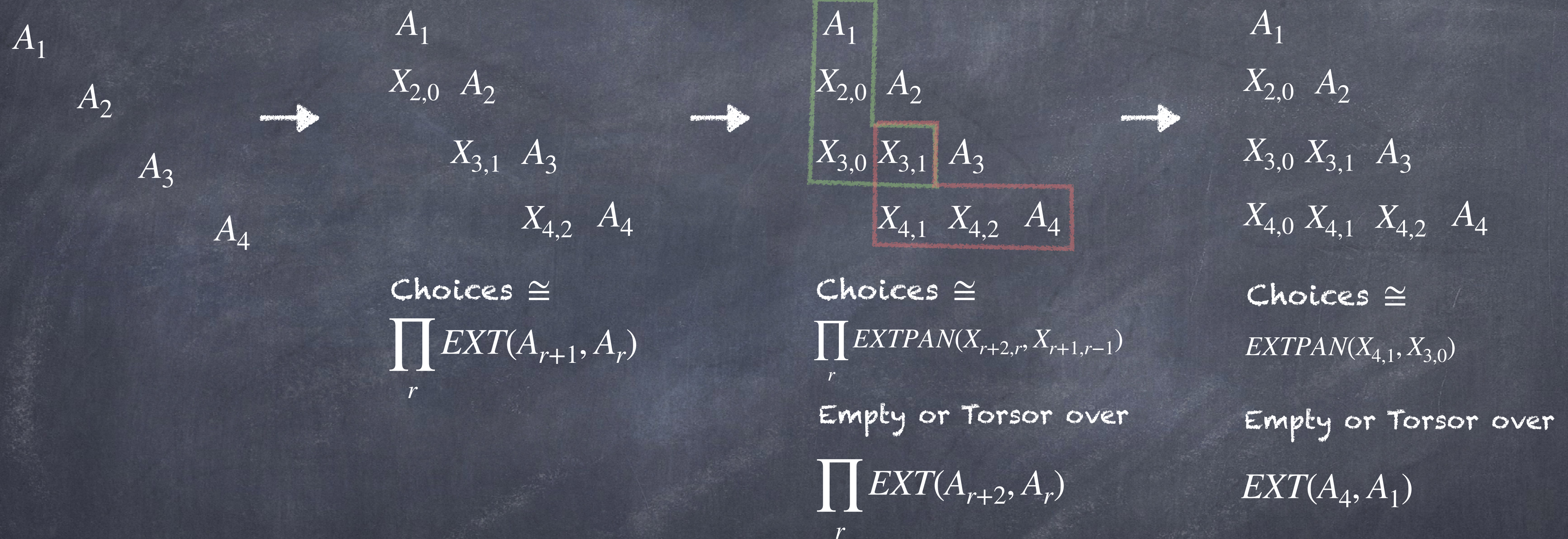
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Example: $k=4$



In each step, need to mod out by appropriate equivalence relations.

To formalize this approach:

Def: A generalized extension (of level $k-1$) of A is the data of an (abstract) commuting diagram of motives

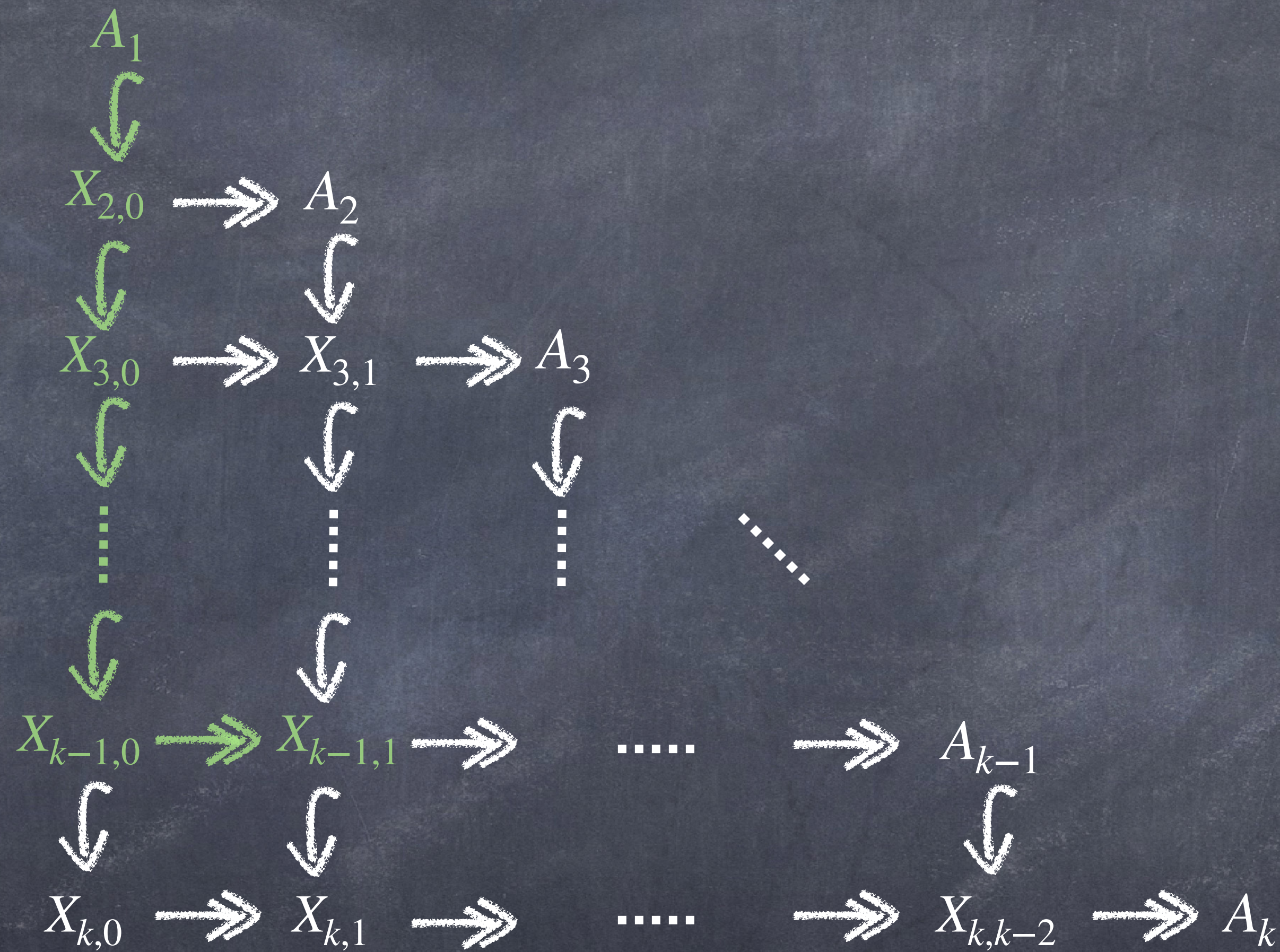
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & A_1 & & & & & \\
 & \downarrow & & & & & \\
 & X_{2,0} & \twoheadrightarrow & A_2 & & & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & & \\
 & X_{3,0} & \twoheadrightarrow & X_{3,1} & \twoheadrightarrow & A_3 & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots & \\
 & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & & \\
 X_{k-1,0} & \twoheadrightarrow & X_{k-1,1} & \twoheadrightarrow & \cdots & \twoheadrightarrow & A_{k-1} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \\
 X_{k,0} & \twoheadrightarrow & X_{k,1} & \twoheadrightarrow & \cdots & \twoheadrightarrow & X_{k,k-2} \twoheadrightarrow A_k
 \end{array}$$

such that each

$$0 \longrightarrow A_m \longrightarrow X_{n,m-1} \longrightarrow X_{n,m} \longrightarrow 0$$

is exact.

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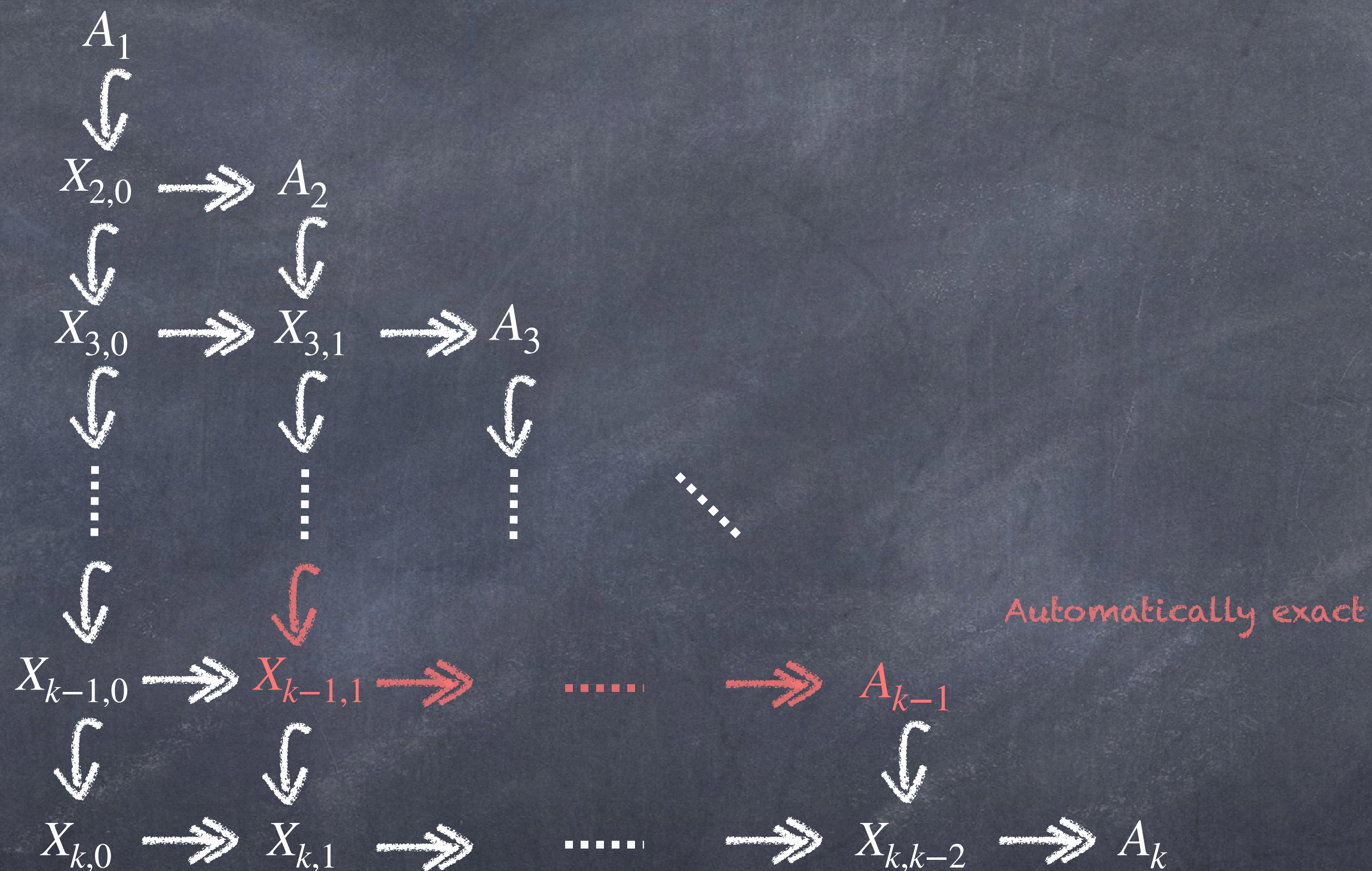


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such that each

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is exact.

Examples: • $k=2$

A gen ext of A is just an extension of A_2 by A_1

• $k=3$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 \downarrow \\
 X_{2,0} \rightarrow A_2 \\
 \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\
 X_{3,0} \rightarrow X_{3,1} \rightarrow A_3
 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \text{exact} & & \text{exact} \\
 A_1 & \hookrightarrow & X_{2,0} & \rightarrow & A_2 \quad \text{exact} \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 A_1 & \hookrightarrow & X_{3,0} & \rightarrow & X_{3,1} \quad \text{exact} \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & A_3 & = & A_3
 \end{array}$$

A gen ext of A is just a blended ext of an element of $\text{EXT}(A_3, A_2)$ by an element of $\text{EXT}(A_2, A_1)$

Def: A gen. ext. of level L of A is a similar data as before but with only L diagonals below A .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=1
 \end{array}$$

$k=4$


$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,0} \ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,1} \ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=2
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,0} \ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,0} \ X_{4,1} \ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=3
 \end{array}$$

$D_L(A) :=$ collection of all gen. ext.'s of level L of A

There are truncation maps $D_L(A) \longrightarrow D_{L-1}(A)$.

$S_L(A) := D_L(A) / \text{commuting isomorphisms}$ $S'_L(A) := D_L(A) / \text{commuting isomorphisms identity on } A$

Trunc.


$$S'_L(A) \longrightarrow S'_{L-1}(A)$$

$$S_L(A) \longrightarrow S_{L-1}(A).$$

Def: A gen. ext. of level L of A is a similar data as before but with only L diagonals below A .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=1
 \end{array}$$

$k=4$


$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,0} \ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,1} \ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=2
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A_1 \\
 X_{2,0} \ A_2 \\
 X_{3,0} \ X_{3,1} \ A_3 \\
 X_{4,0} \ X_{4,1} \ X_{4,2} \ A_4 \\
 L=3
 \end{array}$$

$D_L(A) :=$ collection of all gen. ext.'s of level L of A

There are truncation maps $D_L(A) \longrightarrow D_{L-1}(A)$.

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Trunc.


$$S'_L(A) \longrightarrow S'_{L-1}(A)$$

$$S_L(A) \longrightarrow S_{L-1}(A).$$

Recall: $S(A) = \{X \text{ with } Gr(X) \simeq A\} / \text{iso}$
 $S'(A) = \{(X, Gr(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} A)\} / \text{equiv}$

Theorem. (a) We have

$$S'(A) \cong S'_{k-1}(A) \longrightarrow S'_{k-2}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow S'_2(A) \longrightarrow S'_1(A) = \prod_r Ext^1(A_{r+1}, A_r)$$

s.t. the fiber of $S'_\ell \longrightarrow S'_{\ell-1}$ is either empty or canonically a torsor over

$$\prod_r Ext^1(A_{r+\ell}, A_r). \quad (1)$$

(b) This descends to

$$S(A) \cong S_{k-1}(A) \longrightarrow S_{k-2}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow S_2(A) \longrightarrow S_1(A) = \prod_r Ext^1(A_{r+1}, A_r) / Aut(A)$$

s.t. the fibers are... In particular, the fibers above tot. nonsp. elements remain unchanged.

(c) $S'_\ell \longrightarrow S'_{\ell-1}$ is surjective if $Ext^2(A_{r+\ell}, A_r) = 0$ for each r .

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s.t. the fibers are... In particular, **the fibers above tot. nonsp. elements remain unchanged.**

(c) $S'_\ell \longrightarrow S'_{\ell-1}$ is surjective if $\text{Ext}^2(A_{r+\ell}, A_r) = 0$ for each r .

Task 2a * (d) Suppose A is G.I. Let $S^*(A) \subset S(A)$ be the set of iso. classes with max. uni. rad's. Then maps of (b) restrict to maps

$$S^*(A) \cong S^*_{k-1}(A) \longrightarrow S^*_{k-2}(A) \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow S^*_2(A) \longrightarrow S^*_1(A) = \text{tot. nonsp. orbits}$$

s.t. **each nonempty fiber of $S^*_\ell \longrightarrow S^*_{\ell-1}$ is a torsor over (1).**

Example. Mixed Tate motives with maximal uni.
rad's and $\text{Gr} \simeq \mathbb{Q}(9) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(4) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(1) \oplus 1$

Similar picture for
 $\text{Gr } X \simeq \mathbb{Q}(n+m+1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(n+1) \oplus \mathbb{Q}(1) \oplus 1$
 for any m, n distinct, odd, > 0

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbb{Q}(9) & & & \\ Z_5 & \mathbb{Q}(4) & & \\ & Z_3 & \mathbb{Q}(1) & \\ & & L_a & 1 \\ \cap & & & \\ S_1^* & \cong & \{L_a\} /_{\text{iso.}} & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbb{Q}(9) & & & \\ Z_5 & \mathbb{Q}(4) & & \\ & Z_{5,3} & Z_3 & \mathbb{Q}(1) \\ & & M_{3,a} & L_a & 1 \\ \text{Ext}^1(A_{r+2}, A_r) = 0 \Rightarrow & & & & \\ \text{unique lift in } S_2^* & & & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \mathbb{Q}(9) & & & \\ Z_5 & \mathbb{Q}(4) & & \\ & Z_{5,3} & Z_3 & \mathbb{Q}(1) \\ & & X & M_{3,a} & L_a & 1 \\ \{\text{Lifts to } S^*\} \text{ a torsor} & & & & & \\ \text{over } \underbrace{\text{Ext}^1(1, \mathbb{Q}(9))}_{\text{Gen. by } Z_9} & & & & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (2\pi i)^{-9} & (2\pi i)^{-9}\zeta(5) & (2\pi i)^{-9}z_{5,3} & (2\pi i)^{-9}\lambda(X) \\ 0 & (2\pi i)^{-4} & (2\pi i)^{-4}\zeta(3) & (2\pi i)^{-4}\pi_{3,a} \\ 0 & 0 & (2\pi i)^{-1} & (2\pi i)^{-1}\log a \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

per. mat. of X

Max. of uni. rad. $\Rightarrow \dim G^{\text{mot}} = 7$
 \Rightarrow Assuming GPC,
 $\{\pi, \zeta(5), \zeta(3), \log a, z_{5,3}, \pi_{3,a}, \lambda(X)\}$
 is alg. independent.

Questions about $\lambda(X)$:

- Evaluation (X is a motive in $\text{MTM}(\mathbb{Z}[1/a])$.)
- Its dependence on $\zeta(9)$ as X varies in the family

Theorem. Let X be a GI motive with weights $a_1 < \dots < a_k$ and max. uni. radical. Then

$$\text{Ext}_{\langle X \rangle}^1(\text{Gr}_{a_j} X, \text{Gr}_{a_i} X) = 0 \quad \text{if } j-i > 1.$$

Back to the previous example, for every X in the family,

$$\text{Ext}_{\langle X \rangle}^1(1, \mathbb{Q}(9)) = 0.$$

$\implies Z_9$ is not in $\langle X \rangle$.

Assuming GPC,

$$\{\pi, \zeta(5), \zeta(3), \log a, z_{5,3}, \pi_{3,a}, \lambda(X), \zeta(9)\}$$

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Thank you!