

# Averaging t-structures

**Original motivation:**  $G$  finite group acts on algebra  $A$  (variety  $X$ )  
 $\Rightarrow G$ -actions on  $D^b(A)$  or  $D^b(X)$

Can more generally consider abstract  $G$ -actions on the categories.

Q: Are such actions abelian in nature?

I.e. induced by action on derived equivalent algebra or variety?

This is too hard, and answer is probably negative. Better question:

Q: Is there a  $G$ -invariant t-structure?

Reasonable to assume we start with a t-structure  $(X, Y)$ . Then

Q: Can  $(X, Y)$  be averaged into an invariant t-structure?

Remark:  $G$ -invariant t-structure on triangulated category  $T$  induces t-structure on equivariant category  $T^G$  (always triangulated).

E.g.  $G$  acts on  $X \Rightarrow \text{coh}(X)^G = \text{coh}[X/G]$  (quotient stack);  
special case  $\mathbb{X}$  weighted projective line, then often  $\mathbb{X} = [C/G]$  for  
some finite group action on a smooth, projective curve  $C$ .

**Rephrasing:** Given t-structures  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$   
(get back group situation by  $(gX, gY)$  with  $g \in G$ )

Q: Are the following two t-structures?

$$(\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle, Y_1 \cap \dots \cap Y_n)$$

$$(X_1 \cap \dots \cap X_n, \langle Y_1, \dots, Y_n \rangle)$$

Equivalently:

- Is the extension closure of aisles an aisle?
- Is the intersection of aisles an aisle?

## Easy answer: big categories

$T$  big triangulated category (i.e. has arbitrary coproducts),  
e.g.  $D(\text{Mod}A)$  or  $D(\text{Qcoh}(X))$

$t$ -structure  $(X, Y)$  on  $T$  *compactly generated* (c.g.) if there is a subset  $C \subset T^c$  with

$X = \text{Susp}(C)$  (suspensions, extensions, all coproducts, summands)

$Y = \{t \in T \mid \text{Hom}^{\leq 0}(C, t) = 0\}$

Proposition:  $T$  big,  $(X_i, Y_i)$  compactly generated

$\Rightarrow \langle X_i \rangle_i$  and  $\bigcap_i X_i$  are aisles

$\langle Y_i \rangle_i$  and  $\bigcap_i Y_i$  are co-aisles

So averaging is always possible in the big world!

Only non-trivial part: truncation triangles. Use **naive algorithm**:

Given  $t \in T$ .

Want sequences  $NX(t)_k \rightarrow t \rightarrow NY(t)_k$  with  $NX(t)_k \in \langle X_i \rangle_i \forall k$ .

Start ( $k = 1$ ): truncation of  $t$  w.r.t.  $(X_1, Y_1)$ .

Recursion: Being with triangle for  $k - 1$

$$NX(t)_{k-1} \longrightarrow t \longrightarrow NY(t)_{k-1}$$

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Recursion: Then truncate  $NY(t)_{k-1}$  w.r.t.  $(X_k, Y_k$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & (NY(t)_{k-1})X_k \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & t & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_{k-1} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ & & & & (NY(t)_{k-1})Y_k \end{array}$$

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Start ( $k = 1$ ): truncation of  $t$  w.r.t.  $(X_1, Y_1)$ .

Recursion: Define  $NY(t)_k := (NY(t)_{k-1})_{Y_k}$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & & & (NY(t)_{k-1})_{X_k} \\ & & & & \downarrow \\ NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & t & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_{k-1} \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & NY(t)_k & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & (NY(t)_{k-1})_{Y_k} \end{array}$$

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Recursion: Finally, complete octahedron diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & NX(t)_k & \longrightarrow & (NY(t)_{k-1})X_k \\ \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & t & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_{k-1} \\ & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ & & NY(t)_k & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & (NY(t)_{k-1})Y_k \end{array}$$



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 NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & NX(t)_k & \longrightarrow & (NY(t)_{k-1})X_k \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 NX(t)_{k-1} & \longrightarrow & t & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_{k-1} \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 & & NY(t)_k & \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} & (NY(t)_{k-1})Y_k
 \end{array}$$

$NX(t)_k \in \langle X_i \rangle_i$  from the top row.

$\rightsquigarrow$  chain

$$t \longrightarrow \rightarrow NY(t)_1 \rightarrow NY(t)_2 \rightarrow NY(t)_3 \rightarrow \dots$$

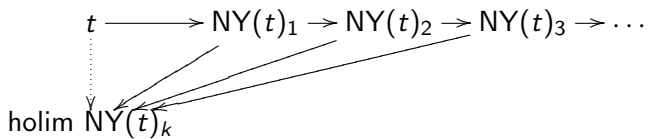
$\text{holim } NY(t)_k$

$\rightsquigarrow$  chain

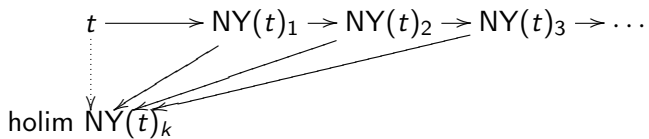
$t \longrightarrow \text{NY}(t)_1 \longrightarrow \text{NY}(t)_2 \longrightarrow \text{NY}(t)_3 \longrightarrow \dots$

holim  $\text{NY}(\bar{t})_k$

$\rightsquigarrow$  chain



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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} t & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_1 & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_2 & \longrightarrow & NY(t)_3 \longrightarrow \dots \\ & & \swarrow & & \swarrow & & \swarrow \\ \text{holim } NY(t)_k & & & & & & \end{array}$$

$y := \text{holim } NY(t)_k \in \bigcap_i Y_i$  (homotopy limit properties)

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$y := \text{holim } NY(t)_k \in \bigcap_i Y_i$  (homotopy limit properties)

$x \rightarrow t \rightarrow y$  with  $x \in \langle X_i \rangle_i$  (general nonsense)

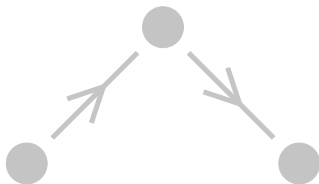
## Subtleties: small categories

Example: Three stable t-structures on  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_2)$  s.t.

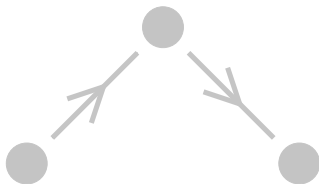
- naïve algorithm does not terminate
- $\langle X_1, X_2, X_3 \rangle$  is an aisle.



Auslander-Reiten quiver of the abelian category  $\text{mod}(\mathbb{C}A_2)$ :



Auslander-Reiten quiver of the abelian category  $\text{mod}(\mathbb{C}A_2)$ :



Auslander-Reiten quiver of the derived category  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_2)$ :



A stable t-structure  $(X, Y)$  on  $T := D^b(\mathbb{C}A_2)$ :



$X$  aisle

$Y$  co-aisle

$$\Sigma X \subseteq X, \Sigma^{-1} Y \subseteq Y$$

$$\text{Hom}(X, Y) = 0$$

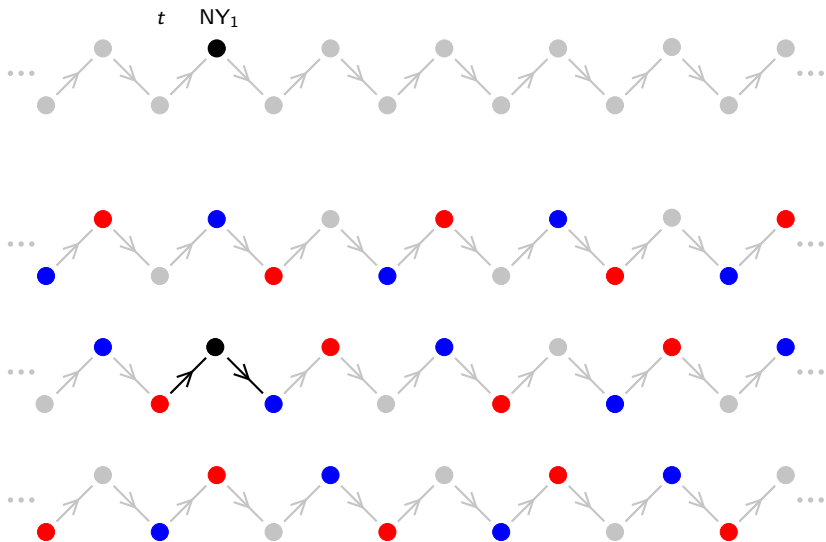
$$\forall t \in T \exists \text{ triangle } t_X \rightarrow t \rightarrow t_Y \rightarrow \Sigma t_X \text{ with } t_X \in X, t_Y \in Y$$

Three stable t-structures on  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_2)$ :



$t$





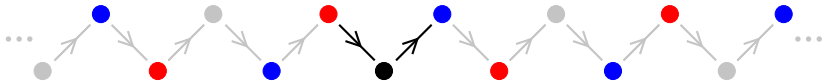
$t$  NY<sub>1</sub> NY<sub>2</sub>





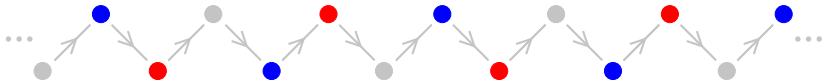


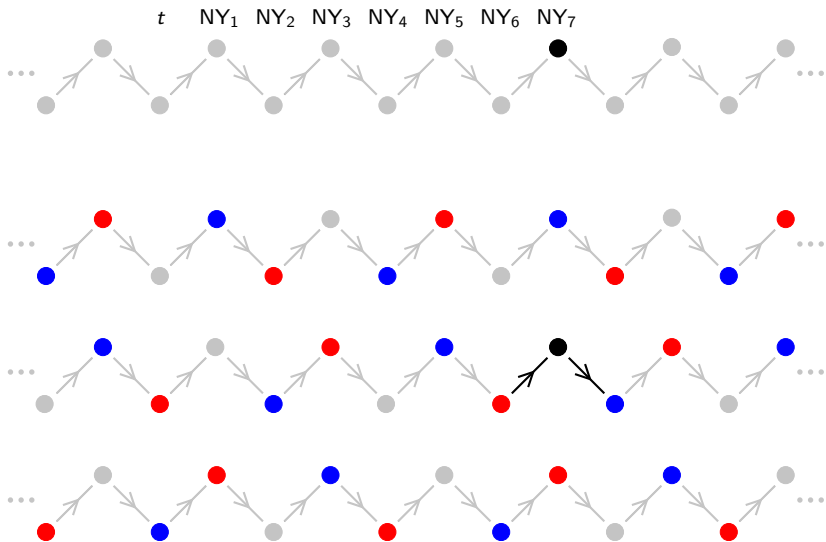
$t$  NY<sub>1</sub> NY<sub>2</sub> NY<sub>3</sub> NY<sub>4</sub>





$t$  NY<sub>1</sub> NY<sub>2</sub> NY<sub>3</sub> NY<sub>4</sub> NY<sub>5</sub> NY<sub>6</sub>





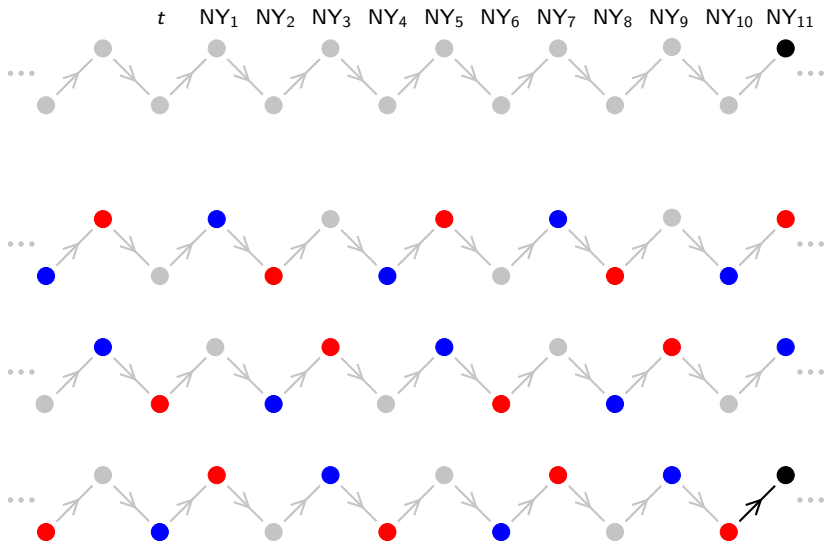
$t$  NY<sub>1</sub> NY<sub>2</sub> NY<sub>3</sub> NY<sub>4</sub> NY<sub>5</sub> NY<sub>6</sub> NY<sub>7</sub> NY<sub>8</sub>





$t$  NY<sub>1</sub> NY<sub>2</sub> NY<sub>3</sub> NY<sub>4</sub> NY<sub>5</sub> NY<sub>6</sub> NY<sub>7</sub> NY<sub>8</sub> NY<sub>9</sub> NY<sub>10</sub>







What went wrong:  $\text{NY}(t)_k \rightarrow \text{NY}(t)_{k+2}$  zero map  $\forall k$ .  
( $\text{holim } \text{NY}(t)_k = 0$  in big category.)

Improvement: **Refined algorithm.** (Assume  $\mathbb{T}$  Krull-Schmidt.)

Strip off superfluous summands of  $\text{NY}(t)_k$ : want sequences

$\text{RX}(t)_k \rightarrow t \rightarrow \text{RY}(t)_k$  with

- $\text{RX}(t)_k \in \langle X_i \rangle_i$
- $t \rightarrow \text{RY}(t)_k$  non-zero on all summands

Theorem: refined algorithm terminates for all  $t \in \mathbb{T}$

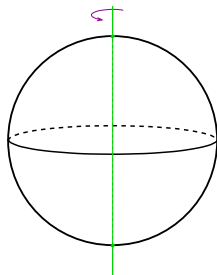
$\langle X_i \rangle_i$  is an aisle.

Proposition: Refined algorithm terminates for piecewise hereditary  
 $\mathbb{T}$  of finite representation type.

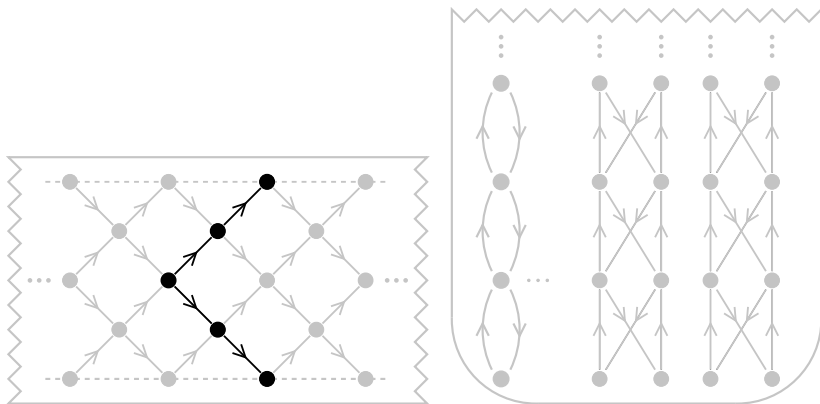
## More subtleties

$$\begin{aligned} T &:= D^b(\mathbb{C}\tilde{A}_{2,2}) \cong D^b(\mathbb{X}(2,2)) \\ &= D^b([\mathbb{P}^1/G]) = D^b(\mathbb{P}^1)^G \end{aligned}$$

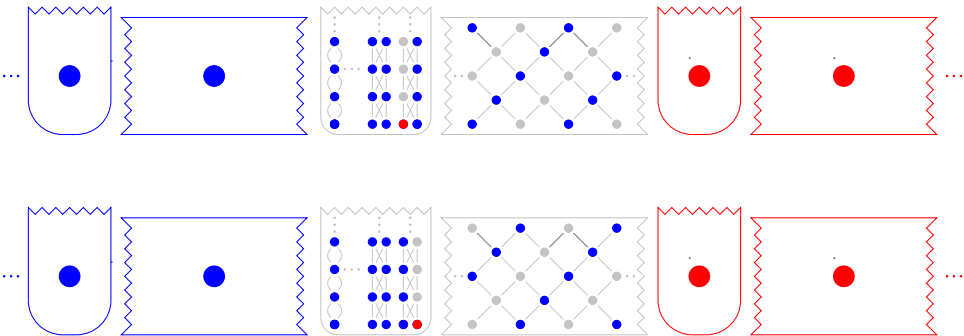
$$G = \mathbb{Z}/2 \text{ rotation by } \pi \text{ on } S^2 = \mathbb{P}_{\mathbb{C}}^1$$



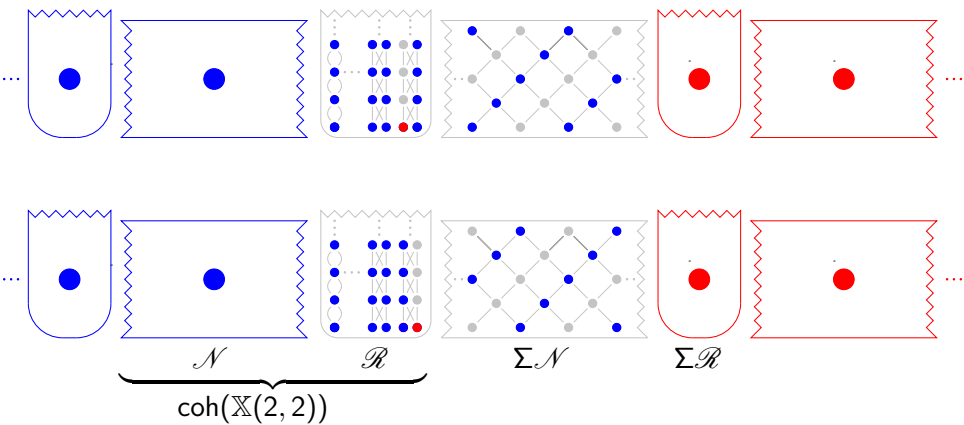
The Auslander-Reiten quiver of the abelian category  $\text{coh}(\mathbb{X}(2,2))$ :



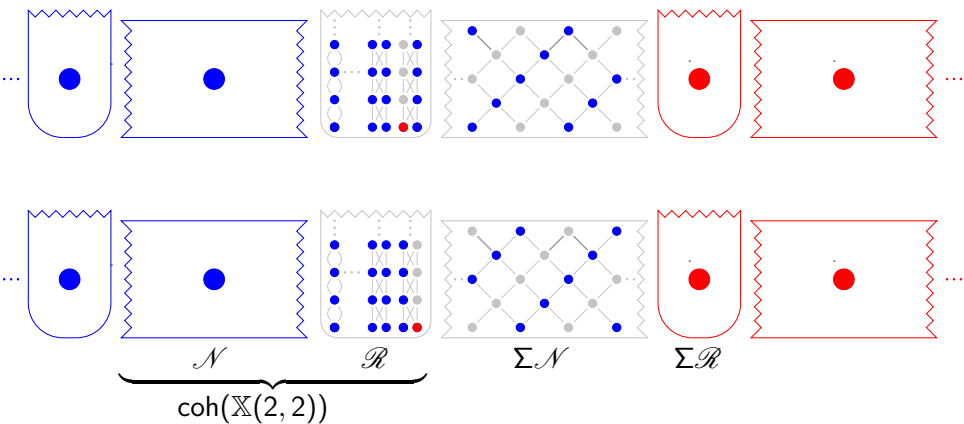
Two t-structures  $(X_1, Y_1)$  and  $(X_2, Y_2)$  on  $D^b(\mathbb{X}(2, 2))$ :



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Two t-structures  $(X_1, Y_1)$  and  $(X_2, Y_2)$  on  $D^b(\mathbb{X}(2, 2))$ :



$$Y_1 \cap Y_2 \cap \Sigma\mathcal{N} = 0$$

$$\langle X_1, X_2 \rangle \cap \Sigma\mathcal{N} = 0$$

Bad news:

- no truncation triangles for  $t \in \Sigma \mathcal{N}$
- extension closure of the two aisles is not an aisle
- averaging is not possible!

Theorem:  $T$  piecewise tame hereditary;

$(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  t-structures on  $T$ . Then

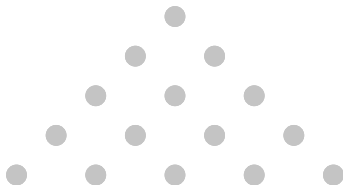
- (i)  $\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle$  is an aisle.
- $\iff$  (ii) Refined algorithm always terminates.
- $\iff$  (iii) For any non-regular component  $\mathcal{N} \subset T$  with monotone sequences in all  $Y_i \cap \mathcal{N}$ , there is a monotone sequence in  $Y_1 \cap \dots \cap Y_n \cap \mathcal{N}$ .

Because (iii) is a criterion only in non-regular components, one might expect the same result in the wild case.

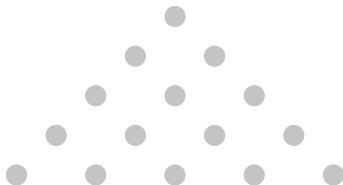


Final example: averaging two t-structures in  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ , and the induced t-structure on the equivariant category.

Auslander-Reiten quiver of the abelian category  $\text{mod}(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ :



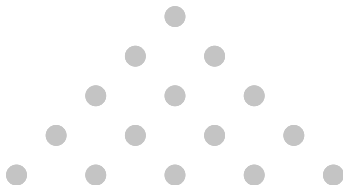
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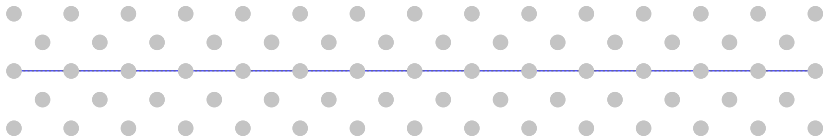
Auslander-Reiten quiver of the derived category  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ :



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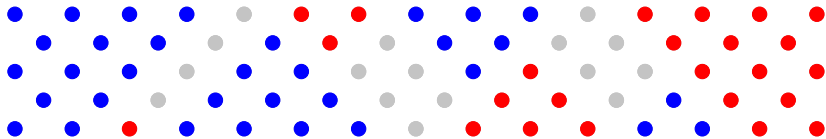


Auslander-Reiten quiver of the derived category  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ :

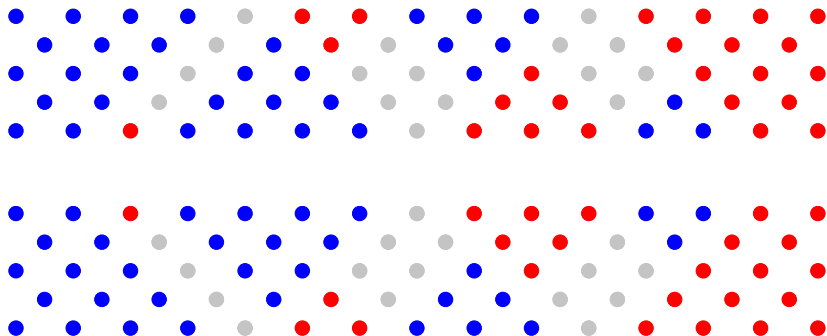


Involution  $\Sigma^{-1}\iota$  of  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$  where  $\iota$  is the involution of  $A_5$ .

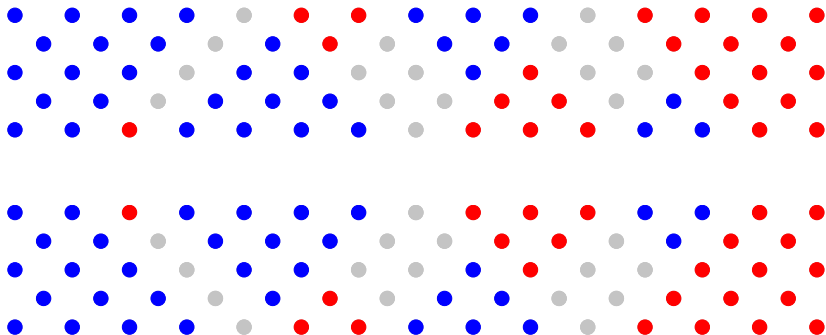
A t-structure  $(X, Y)$  on  $D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ :



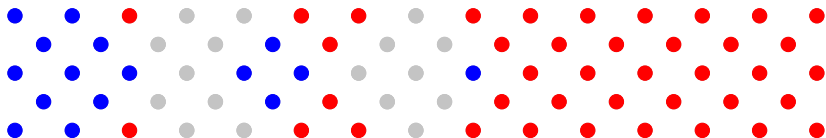
The t-structure and its image under the involution:



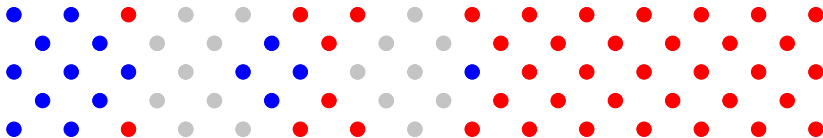
The t-structure and its image under the involution:



And the t-structure averaged by aisle extension:



The  $G$ -invariant t-structure on  $T := D^b(\mathbb{C}A_5)$ :



and the induced t-structure on  $T^G = D^b(\mathbb{C}D_4)$ :

