

# GEOMETRIC INVARIANT THEORY

## 1. INTRODUCTION

These notes present core results in geometric invariant theory. We mostly follow monography [Mumford et al., 1994]. We extensively use the language of schemes. Throughout these notes we fix a field  $k$  and a group scheme  $\mathbf{G}$  over  $k$  with the identity  $e : \text{Spec } k \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  and the multiplication  $\mu : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ .

## 2. BASIC PROPERTIES OF QUOTIENTS

We start by discussing some properties of submersive morphisms.

**Fact 2.1.** *Submersive morphisms of schemes are local on target.*

*Proof.* Fix a morphism  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  and suppose that there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is submersive. Clearly  $q$  is surjective. Fix a subset  $U$  of  $Y$  such that  $q^{-1}(U)$  is open. A set  $q^{-1}(U \cap V) = q^{-1}(U) \cap q^{-1}(V)$  is an open subset of  $X$  for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . Since the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is submersive for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ , we derive that  $U \cap V$  is open for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . Thus

$$U = \bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{V}} U \cap V$$

is open in  $X$ . Therefore,  $q$  is submersive.

On the other hand if  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is submersive, then for every open subscheme  $V$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is submersive. □

**Fact 2.2.** *Submersive and universally submersive morphisms descent along faithfully flat and quasi-compact morphisms.*

*Proof.* It suffices to prove that submersive morphisms have descent property. This follows from the fact that faithfully flat and quasi-compact morphism are submersive. Details are left for the reader. □

In the remaining part of this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ . The following result gives scheme-theoretic criterion for topological quotient in the case of group scheme actions.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Assume that  $q$  is submersive and the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $a$  and  $\text{pr}_X$  is surjective. Then the diagram*

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_X]{a} X \xrightarrow{q} Y$$

*is a cokernel in the category topological spaces.*

*Proof.* Let  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  be distinct projections  $X \times_Y X \rightarrow X$ . Pick points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $X$  such that  $q(x_1) = q(x_2)$ . Then there exists a field extension  $K$  over  $k$  such that  $k(x_1) \subseteq K$  and  $k(x_2) \subseteq K$ .

These give rise to  $K$ -points  $\bar{x}_1$  and  $\bar{x}_2$  of  $X$  such that their images under  $q$  is the same  $K$ -point of  $Y$ . Since we have an identification

$$(X \times_Y X)(K) = X(K) \times_{Y(K)} X(K)$$

induced by  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ , we derive that there exists a  $K$ -point  $\bar{z}$  of  $X \times_Y X$  such that  $\pi_1(\bar{z}) = \bar{x}_1$  and  $\pi_2(\bar{z}) = \bar{x}_2$ . Let  $z$  be the point of  $X \times_Y X$  corresponding to  $\bar{z}$ . Then  $\pi_1(z) = x_1$  and  $\pi_2(z) = x_2$ . By assumption  $a$  and  $\text{pr}_X$  induce surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \twoheadrightarrow X \times_Y X$ . Thus there exists a point  $u$  of  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X$  such that  $a(u) = x_1$  and  $\text{pr}_X(u) = x_2$ . Thus  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are identified by an equivalence relation on the underlying set of  $X$  which is determined by the pair  $(a, \text{pr}_X)$ . Therefore, fibers of  $q$  are equivalence classes with respect to this relation. Since  $q$  is submersive, this implies that the diagram

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_X]{a} X \xrightarrow{q} Y$$

is a cokernel in the category topological spaces.  $\square$

**Definition 2.4.** Let  $A$  be a  $k$ -algebra and suppose that  $f : \text{Spec } A \rightarrow X$  is an  $A$ -point of  $X$ . Then the morphism

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \xrightarrow{\langle a \cdot (1_{\mathbf{G}} \times_k f), \text{pr}_2 \rangle} X \times_k \text{Spec } K$$

is called *the orbit morphism of  $f$* .

The following result is useful.

**Proposition 2.5.** Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i) Fix a point  $y$  in  $Y$ . Consider a geometric point  $\bar{x} : \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X$  such that  $q(\bar{x}) = \bar{y}$  is the geometric point with  $y$  as the underlying point. For every  $K$  with sufficiently large transcendence degree over  $k$  the orbit morphism  $o_{\bar{x}} : \mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X \times_k \text{Spec } K$  induces a surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \twoheadrightarrow X_{\bar{y}}$ .
- (ii) The morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  is surjective.

*Proof.* We start by proving the implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Assume that (i) holds. Consider a point  $z$  in  $X \times_Y X$ . Let  $y$  be a point of  $Y$  such that  $q(\text{pr}_X(z)) = y = q(a(z))$ . Consider a geometric point  $\bar{x} : \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X$  such that  $q(\bar{x}) = \bar{y}$  is the geometric point with  $y$  as the underlying point. We may assume according to (i) that the orbit morphism  $o_{\bar{x}} : \mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X \times_k \text{Spec } K$  induces a surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \twoheadrightarrow X_{\bar{y}}$ . Now suppose that  $L$  is an algebraically closed field containing  $K$  such that there exists an  $L$ -point  $\bar{z}$  of  $X \times_Y X$  with  $z$  as the underlying point and the map  $\mathbf{G}(L) \rightarrow X_{\bar{y}}(L)$  induced by  $o_{\bar{x}}$  on  $L$ -points is surjective. Then there exists an  $L$ -point  $g$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  such that  $g \cdot \text{pr}_X(\bar{z}) = a(\bar{z})$ . Hence the map

$$\mathbf{G}(L) \times X(L) \longrightarrow X(L) \times_{Y(L)} X(L)$$

induced by  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  contains  $\bar{z}$  in its image. Indeed,  $(g, \text{pr}_X(\bar{z}))$  is sent to  $\bar{z}$  under this map. Thus the set-theoretic image of the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  contains  $z$ . This shows that (ii) holds.

Suppose now that (ii) holds. Pick a point  $y$  in  $Y$ . Let  $K$  be an algebraically closed field over  $k$  such that there is a surjective map

$$\mathbf{G}(K) \times X(K) \longrightarrow X(K) \times_{Y(K)} X(K)$$

induced by  $\langle a, \text{pr}_x \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$ . Assume also that  $K$  contains all residue fields of points in  $X_y$ . Pick a  $K$ -point  $\bar{x}$  in  $X_y$  and consider  $K$ -point  $\bar{y} = q(\bar{x})$ . Next fix any other  $K$ -point  $z$  in  $X_y$ . Since the map

$$\mathbf{G}(K) \times X(K) \longrightarrow X(K) \times_{Y(K)} X(K)$$

is surjective, we derive that there exists  $g \in \mathbf{G}(K)$  such that  $g \cdot \bar{x} = \bar{z}$ . This implies that the map  $\mathbf{G}(K) \rightarrow X_y(K)$  induced by the orbit map  $o_{\bar{x}}$  contains  $\bar{z}$  in its image. Since  $K$  contains all residue fields of points in  $X_y$ , the orbit morphism  $o_{\bar{x}}$  induces a surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X_y$  is surjective. Hence  $o_{\bar{x}}$  induces a surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X_{\bar{y}}$ .  $\square$

Now we prove a series results concerning fpqc descent. For this we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $Y$  with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism  $q : X \rightarrow Y$ . Let  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of  $k$ -schemes and consider the cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{g'} & X \\ q' \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

of  $k$ -schemes. Note that  $X'$  admits a unique action  $a'$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  such that the square above consists of  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism (we consider  $g$  as a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism between trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -schemes).

**Fact 2.6.** *Suppose that  $g$  is faithfully flat and quasi-compact. Then the canonical morphism  $X' \times_{Y'} X' \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  is faithfully flat and quasi-compact and there is the cartesian square*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k X' & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{G} \times_k X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X' \times_{Y'} X' & \longrightarrow & X \times_Y X \end{array}$$

in which the left vertical arrow is induced by  $\langle a', \text{pr}_{X'} \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X' \rightarrow X' \times_k X'$ , the right vertical arrow is induced by  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  and the bottom horizontal morphism is the canonical morphism.

*Proof.* Note that squares

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' \times_{Y'} X' & \longrightarrow & X' \times_Y X' \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} X' \times_Y X' & \longrightarrow & X \times_Y X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X' \times_k X' & \xrightarrow{g' \times_k g'} & X \times_k X \end{array}$$

are cartesian. Since both  $g$  and  $g' \times_k g'$  are faithfully flat and quasi-compact, we derive that both morphisms  $X' \times_{Y'} X' \rightarrow X' \times_Y X'$  and  $X' \times_Y X' \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  are faithfully flat and quasi-compact.

Then their composition i.e. the canonical morphism  $X' \times_{Y'} X' \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  is faithfully flat and quasi-compact.  $\square$

**Fact 2.7.** *Suppose that there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  we have a surjection  $\mathbf{G} \times_k V \twoheadrightarrow q^{-1}(V) \times_V q^{-1}(V)$  induced by  $\text{pr}_V$  and the restriction of the action to  $q^{-1}(V)$ . Then the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $\text{pr}_X$  and  $a$  is surjective.*

*Proof.* It follows from the fact that

$$X \times_Y X = \bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{V}} q^{-1}(V) \times_V q^{-1}(V)$$

$\square$

Finally we need the following notion

**Definition 2.8.** Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Consider a pair

$$q_* \mathcal{O}_X \xrightleftharpoons[q_* \text{pr}_X^\#]{q_* a^\#} q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X} = q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X}$$

of morphisms of sheaves of rings on  $Y$ . Suppose that  $q^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow q_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is a kernel of this pair. Then  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .

**Proposition 2.9.** *Suppose that  $g$  is faithfully flat and quasi-compact. Assume that  $q'$  is quasi-compact, semiseparated and  $\mathcal{O}_{Y'}$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q'$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .*

*Proof.* We denote by  $a'$  the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X'$ . First note that  $q$  is semiseparated and quasi-compact morphism as these classes of morphisms admit descent along quasi-compact and faithfully flat morphisms. Since  $q$  is quasi-compact, semiseparated and  $g$  is flat, we derive that for every quasi-coherent sheaf  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  the canonical morphism  $q'_* g'^* \mathcal{F} \rightarrow g^* q_* \mathcal{F}$  is an isomorphism. Thus the diagram

$$\mathcal{O}_{Y'} \xrightarrow{q^\#} q'_* \mathcal{O}_{X'} \xrightleftharpoons[q'_* \text{pr}_{X'}^\#]{q'_* a'^\#} q'_* (\text{pr}_{X'})_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X'} = q'_* a'_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X'}$$

is isomorphic to the diagram

$$g^* \mathcal{O}_Y \xrightarrow{g^* q^\#} g^* (q_* \mathcal{O}_X) \xrightleftharpoons[g^* q_* \text{pr}_X^\#]{g^* q_* a^\#} g^* (q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X}) = g^* (q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X})$$

Since  $\mathcal{O}_{Y'}$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q'$ , the first diagram is a kernel diagram. Hence the second is a kernel diagram. According to the fact that  $g$  is faithfully flat we deduce that the diagram

$$\mathcal{O}_Y \xrightarrow{q^\#} q_* \mathcal{O}_X \xrightleftharpoons[q_* \text{pr}_X^\#]{q_* a^\#} q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X} = q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X}$$

is also a kernel diagram. Thus  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.10.** *Suppose that there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that  $\mathcal{O}_V$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$ . Then  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .*

*Proof of the lemma.* The diagram

$$\mathcal{O}_V \xrightarrow{(q^\#)_V} (q_* \mathcal{O}_X)_V \xrightarrow[(q_* \text{pr}_X^\#)_V]{(q_* a^\#)_V} (q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X})_V = (q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X})_V$$

is a kernel for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . Since kernels are local, we derive that

$$\mathcal{O}_Y \xrightarrow{q^\#} q_* \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow[(q_* \text{pr}_X^\#)]{q_* a^\#} q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X} = q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X}$$

is a kernel of a pair  $(q_* a^\#, q_* \text{pr}_X^\#)$ . Thus  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant for  $q$ .  $\square$

### 3. CATEGORICAL AND GEOMETRIC QUOTIENTS

In this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ .

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Suppose that the following conditions hold.

- (1)  $q$  is submersive.
- (2) The morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  is surjective.
- (3)  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant for  $q$ .

Then  $q$  is a *geometric quotient* of  $X$ .

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $q$  be a geometric quotient of  $X$ . Then the diagram*

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_X]{a} X \xrightarrow{q} Y$$

*is a cokernel in the category of ringed spaces.*

*Proof.* Due to the fact that  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$  it suffices to prove that

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_X]{a} X \xrightarrow{q} Y$$

is the cokernel in the category of topological spaces. This follows from Proposition 2.3.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (i) *There exists an open affine cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is a geometric quotient.*
- (ii) *There exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is a geometric quotient.*
- (iii)  *$q$  is a geometric quotient.*

*Proof.* This is a consequence of Facts 2.1, 2.7 and Proposition 2.10.  $\square$

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of  $k$ -schemes such that the diagram

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_X]{a} X \xrightarrow{q} Y$$

is a cokernel in the category of  $k$ -schemes. Then  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is a *categorical quotient* of  $X$ .

**Fact 3.5.** Every geometric quotient is categorical.

*Proof.* Categorical quotient is a cokernel in the category of  $k$ -schemes. On the other hand geometric quotient is a cokernel in the category of locally ringed spaces and hence it also satisfies cokernel property in its full subcategory of  $k$ -schemes. Thus every geometric quotient is categorical.  $\square$

Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of  $k$ -schemes such that  $q \cdot \text{pr}_X = q \cdot a$ . For a morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes consider the cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{g'} & X \\ q' \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

Then there exists a unique action  $a' : \mathbf{G} \times_k X' \rightarrow X'$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X'$  such that the square above consists of  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism (we consider  $Y, Y'$  as  $\mathbf{G}$ -schemes equipped with trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -actions). Keeping this in mind we have the following.

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  be a faithfully flat and quasi-compact morphism. Suppose that  $q'$  is a geometric quotient and a semiseparated morphism, then  $q$  is a geometric quotient.

*Proof.* This follows from Facts 2.2, 2.6 and Proposition 2.9.  $\square$

**Definition 3.7.** A morphism  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is a *uniform categorical (geometric) quotient* of  $X$  if for every flat morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a categorical (geometric) quotient of  $X'$ .

**Definition 3.8.** A morphism  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is a *universal categorical (geometric) quotient* of  $X$  if for every morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a categorical (geometric) quotient of  $X'$ .

Now we show that uniform and universal categorical quotients are local on the target.

**Theorem 3.9.** Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i) There exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  morphism  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a universal (uniform) categorical quotient.
- (ii)  $q$  is a universal (uniform) categorical quotient.
- (iii) For every affine  $k$ -scheme  $Y'$  and a (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a categorical quotient.
- (iv) There exists an open affine cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  morphism  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a universal (uniform) categorical quotient.

For the proof we need the following.

**Lemma 3.9.1.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. If there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  morphism  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a uniform categorical quotient, then  $q$  is a categorical quotient.*

*Proof of the lemma.* We first prove categorical case. For every open subscheme  $W$  of  $Y$  we denote by  $q_W$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(W) \rightarrow W$ . For this pick a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism  $g : X \rightarrow Z$  into a scheme with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Since the restriction  $q_V$  is a categorical quotient for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ , there exists a unique morphism  $f_V : V \rightarrow Z$  such that

$$g|_{q^{-1}(V)} = f_V \cdot q_V$$

Suppose that  $V_1, V_2 \in \mathcal{V}$ . Then

$$g|_{q^{-1}(V_1 \cap V_2)} = (f_{V_1})|_{V_1 \cap V_2} \cdot q_{V_1 \cap V_2}$$

and

$$g|_{q^{-1}(V_1 \cap V_2)} = (f_{V_2})|_{V_1 \cap V_2} \cdot q_{V_1 \cap V_2}$$

Since  $q_{V_1}$  and  $q_{V_2}$  are uniform categorical quotients, we derive that  $q_{V_1 \cap V_2}$  is also categorical quotient. Thus equalities above show that  $(f_{V_1})|_{V_1 \cap V_2} = (f_{V_2})|_{V_1 \cap V_2}$ . Hence  $\{f_V\}_{V \in \mathcal{V}}$  glue to a morphism  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$  such that  $g = f \cdot q$ . The uniqueness of  $f$  follows from uniqueness of  $\{f_V\}_{V \in \mathcal{V}}$ . Thus  $q$  is a categorical quotient.  $\square$

*Proof of the theorem.* Implications (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) and (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (v) are obvious.

We prove (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Suppose that (i) holds. Pick a (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  and fix a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{g'} & X \\ q' \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

Then  $\mathcal{V}' = \{g^{-1}(V) \mid V \in \mathcal{V}\}$  is an open cover of  $Y'$  such that for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}'$  the morphism  $q'^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a uniform categorical quotient. By Lemma 3.9.1 we derive that  $q'$  is a categorical quotient. This is (ii).

Assume that (iii) holds. Pick an open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . Consider a (flat) morphism  $g : V' \rightarrow V$  and pick a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U' & \xrightarrow{g'} & q^{-1}(V) \\ q_{V'} \downarrow & & \downarrow q_V \\ V' & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array}$$

where  $q_V : q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is the restriction of  $q$ . Then for every open affine subset  $W$  of  $V'$  the restriction  $q_{V'}^{-1}(W) \rightarrow W$  of  $q_{V'}$  is a universal (uniform) categorical quotient according to (iii) (and the fact that  $W \hookrightarrow V'$  composed with  $g$  is flat). By Lemma 3.9.1 it follows that  $q_{V'}$  is a categorical quotient. Thus  $q_V$  is a universal (uniform) categorical quotient. This holds for every open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . This is (iv) and hence (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) holds.  $\square$

Similar result holds for uniform and universal geometric quotients.

**Theorem 3.10.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (i) *There exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  morphism  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a universal (uniform) geometric quotient.*
- (ii)  *$q$  is a universal (uniform) geometric quotient.*
- (iii) *For every affine  $k$ -scheme  $Y'$  and a (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a geometric quotient.*
- (iv) *There exists an open affine cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  morphism  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a universal (uniform) geometric quotient.*

*Proof.* The implication (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) follows from Corollary 3.3. Implication (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) and (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) are obvious. It suffices to prove that (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv). Assume that (iii) holds. Pick an open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . Consider a (flat) morphism  $g : V' \rightarrow V$  and pick a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U' & \xrightarrow{g'} & q^{-1}(V) \\ q_{V'} \downarrow & & \downarrow q_V \\ V' & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array}$$

where  $q_V : q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is the restriction of  $q$ . Then for every open affine subset  $W$  of  $V'$  the restriction  $q_{V'}^{-1}(W) \rightarrow W$  of  $q_{V'}$  is a universal (uniform) geometric quotient according to (iii) (and the fact that  $W \hookrightarrow V'$  composed with  $g$  is flat). By Corollary 3.3 it follows that  $q_{V'}$  is a geometric quotient. Thus  $q_V$  is a universal (uniform) geometric quotient. This holds for every open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . This implies (iv) and hence (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) holds.  $\square$

Now we give a simple example of a universal geometric quotient.

**Proposition 3.11.** *Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a quasi-compact group scheme over  $k$ . Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme and consider  $\mathbf{G} \times_k Y$  with the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  induced by the regular action on the left factor. Then  $\text{pr}_Y : \mathbf{G} \times_k Y \rightarrow Y$  is a universal geometric quotient.*

*Proof.* Clearly  $\text{pr}_Y$  is universally submersive (it is even universally open). Let  $\mu : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  be the multiplication morphism and let  $\text{pr}_{23} : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times Y \rightarrow \mathbf{G} \times_k Y$  be the projection on the last two factors. Then the morphism

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k Y \rightarrow (\mathbf{G} \times_k Y) \times_Y (\mathbf{G} \times_k Y) = \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k Y$$

induced by  $(\mu \times_k 1_Y, \text{pr}_{23}) : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k Y \rightarrow (\mathbf{G} \times_k Y) \times_k (\mathbf{G} \times_k Y)$  is an isomorphism. We show that  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $\text{pr}_Y$ . For this pick an affine open subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . It suffices to check that the diagram

$$\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y) \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_Y^\#} \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k V, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k Y}) \xrightarrow[\text{pr}_{23}^\#]{(\mu \times_k 1_Y)^\#} \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k V, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k Y})$$

is a kernel. Since  $\mathbf{G}$  is quasi-compact and separated (every group  $k$ -scheme is separated), we derive that the diagram above is isomorphic with

$$\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y) \xrightarrow{f \mapsto 1 \otimes f} \Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \otimes_k \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y) \xrightarrow[\chi \otimes f \mapsto 1 \otimes \chi \otimes f]{\chi \otimes f \mapsto \mu^\#(\chi) \otimes f} \Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \otimes_k \Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \otimes_k \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y)$$



Thus the first diagram is the kernel diagram if  $f \mapsto 1 \otimes f$  induces an isomorphism of  $\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  with subspace of  $\Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \otimes_k \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  given by formula

$$\{\chi \in \Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \mid \mu^\#(\chi) = 1 \otimes \chi\} \otimes_k \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y)$$

Hence it suffices to prove that

$$\{\chi \in \Gamma(\mathbf{G}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G}}) \mid \mu^\#(\chi) = 1 \otimes \chi\} = \text{constant functions on } \mathbf{G}$$

For this pick a  $k$ -algebra  $A$  and let  $g : \text{Spec } A \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  be an  $A$ -point. Next let  $e : \text{Spec } A \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  be an  $A$ -point of  $\mathbf{G}$  which corresponds to the identity element of  $\mathbf{G}$ . Suppose that a regular function  $\chi$  in  $\mathbf{G}$  satisfies  $\mu^\#(\chi) = 1 \otimes \chi$ . Then

$$g^\#(\chi) = \langle g, e \rangle^\# \mu^\#(\chi) = \langle g, e \rangle^\#(1 \otimes \chi) = e^\#(\chi)$$

Recall that  $e$  is given by the composition of the structural morphism  $\text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } k$  and the  $k$ -point  $\text{Spec } k \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$  determined by the identity of  $\mathbf{G}$ . Thus  $g^\#(\chi)$  is an element of  $k$ . Since this follows for every  $g : \text{Spec } A \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ , we derive that  $\chi$  is a constant function. This completes the proof of our claim that

$$\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y) \xrightarrow{\text{pr}_Y^\#} \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k V, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k Y}) \xrightleftharpoons[\text{pr}_{23}^\#]{(\mu \times_k 1_Y)^\#} \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k V, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathbf{G} \times_k Y})$$

is the kernel diagram and hence  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $\text{pr}_Y$ . Therefore, we proved that  $\text{pr}_Y$  is a geometric quotient of  $\mathbf{G} \times_k Y$ . Consider any morphism  $Y' \rightarrow Y$ . Then base change of  $\text{pr}_Y$  along this morphism is  $\text{pr}_{Y'}$ . We conclude that  $\text{pr}_Y$  is a universal geometric quotient for  $\mathbf{G} \times_k Y$ .  $\square$

#### 4. CLOSED AND SEPARATED ACTIONS

In this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ .

**Definition 4.1.** The action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is *closed* if for every algebraically closed field  $K$  and a  $K$ -point  $\bar{x}$  of  $X \times_k \text{Spec } K$  the orbit morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } K \rightarrow X \times_k \text{Spec } K$  of  $\bar{x}$  has closed image.

**Definition 4.2.** The action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is *separated* if the morphism  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  has closed set-theoretic image.

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a geometric quotient of  $X$ . Assume that  $q$  is universally submersive. Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i) The action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is separated.
- (ii)  $Y$  is separated.

*Proof.* We have a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X \times_Y X & \hookrightarrow & X \times_k X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow q \times_k q \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\Delta_Y} & Y \times_k Y \end{array}$$

It follows that  $X \times_Y X \hookrightarrow X \times_k X$  is a locally closed immersion. Since  $q$  is a geometric quotient, we derive that  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle$  factors as a surjective morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  followed by the immersion  $X \times_Y X \hookrightarrow X \times_k X$ . Thus the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is separated if and only if  $X \times_Y X$  is a closed subscheme of  $X \times_k X$ . Since  $q$  is universally submersive, we derive that  $q \times_k q$  is submersive. As the square above is cartesian we derive that  $\Delta_Y(Y) \subseteq Y \times_k Y$  is closed if and only if  $X \times_Y X \subseteq X \times_k X$  is closed. Therefore,  $Y$  is separated if and only if the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is separated.  $\square$

## 5. GEOMETRIC QUOTIENTS OF FREE ACTIONS AND PRINCIPAL BUNDLES

In this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ .

**Definition 5.1.** The action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is *free* if the morphism  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_k X$  is a closed immersion.

**Definition 5.2.** Let  $x$  be a  $k$ -point of  $X$ . We consider  $x$  as a morphism  $\text{Spec } k \rightarrow X$ . Suppose that the orbit morphism  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow X$  of  $x$  is a closed immersion. Then the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  has a *closed free orbit* at  $x$ .

**Fact 5.3.** If the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free, then every  $k$ -point of  $X$  has a closed free orbit.

The following result states that over special type of local complete noetherian  $k$ -algebras geometric quotients of free actions correspond to trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundles.

**Theorem 5.4.** Suppose that  $k$  is an algebraically closed field and  $\mathbf{G}$  is a smooth algebraic group over  $k$ . Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a geometric quotient and a morphism locally of finite type and let  $Y$  be the spectrum of a complete local noetherian  $k$ -algebra such that the residue field of the closed point of  $Y$  is  $k$ . Then the following assertions hold.

- (1) If  $x$  is a  $k$ -point of  $X$  which has a closed free orbit, then there exists a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant, étale and surjective morphism  $f : \mathbf{G} \times_k Y \rightarrow X$  such that the triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k Y & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \text{pr}_Y \searrow & & \swarrow q \\ & Y & \end{array}$$

is commutative and the morphism

$$Y = \text{Spec } k \times_k Y \xrightarrow{e \times_k 1_Y} \mathbf{G} \times_k Y \xrightarrow{f} X$$

is a section of  $q$ .

- (2) If the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free, then  $f$  is an isomorphism.

The proof relies on two algebraic lemmas. The first describe free actions in context of complete rings (it is [Mumford et al., 1994, lemma on page 18]) and the second is a version of Hensel's lemma.

**Lemma 5.4.1.** Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m}, k)$  be a complete local noetherian  $k$ -algebra and let  $\sigma : R \rightarrow R[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$  be a local morphism into a ring of formal power series over  $R$ . Assume that the composition

$$R \xrightarrow{\sigma} R[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] \xrightarrow{f \mapsto f \bmod (x_1, \dots, x_n)} R$$

is the identity and the composition

$$R \xrightarrow{\sigma} R[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] \xrightarrow{f \mapsto f \bmod \mathfrak{m}} (R/\mathfrak{m})[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] = k[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$$

is surjective. Consider elements  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  of  $R$  such that  $\sigma(y_i) \bmod \mathfrak{m} = x_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then the composition

$$R \xrightarrow{\sigma} R[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] \xrightarrow{f \mapsto f \bmod (y_1, \dots, y_n)} (R/(y_1, \dots, y_n))[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$$

is an isomorphism.

*Proof of the lemma.* For convenience let  $\phi$  denote the morphism given by the rule  $r \mapsto \sigma(r) \bmod (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ . Also denote  $R/(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  by  $S$ . According to assumptions we have

$$\sigma(y_i) = x_i + y_i + \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \cdot \mathfrak{m}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]]$$

for each  $i$ . Thus  $\phi(y_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n f_{ij} \cdot x_j$  where  $f_{ij} \in S$  are elements such that the matrix  $[f_{ij}]_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$  is invertible in  $S$ . Hence

$$S[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] = S[[\phi(y_1), \dots, \phi(y_n)]]$$

and  $\phi$  composed with  $S[[\phi(y_1), \dots, \phi(y_n)]] \rightarrow S$  is the quotient morphism  $R \rightarrow S$ . From this observations we derive that  $\phi$  is surjective. It remains to prove that it is injective. Consider  $z$  in  $R$  such that  $\phi(z) = 0$ . Suppose that  $z \in (y_1, \dots, y_n)^m$  for some  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Write

$$z = \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} c_\alpha \cdot y_1^{\alpha_1} \dots y_n^{\alpha_n}$$

for some  $c_\alpha \in R$  where  $\Lambda = \{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n \mid \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n = m\}$ . Hence

$$0 = \phi(z) = \sum_{\alpha \in \Lambda} \phi(c_\alpha) \cdot \phi(y_1)^{\alpha_1} \dots \phi(y_n)^{\alpha_n}$$

Thus  $\phi(c_\alpha) \in (\phi(y_1), \dots, \phi(y_n))$  for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Since  $\phi$  composed with  $S[[\phi(y_1), \dots, \phi(y_n)]] \rightarrow S$  is the quotient morphism  $R \rightarrow S$ , we derive that

$$c_\alpha \bmod (y_1, \dots, y_n) = \phi(c_\alpha) \bmod (\phi(y_1), \dots, \phi(y_n)) = 0$$

for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Thus  $c_\alpha \in (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ , which implies that  $z \in (y_1, \dots, y_n)^{m+1}$ . Thus we proved that

$$\phi(z) = 0 \text{ and } z \in (y_1, \dots, y_n)^m \Rightarrow z \in (y_1, \dots, y_n)^{m+1}$$

By  $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic completeness of  $R$  this implies that  $\phi(z) = 0$  if and only if  $z = 0$ . Hence  $\phi$  is also injective.  $\square$

**Lemma 5.4.2.** *Let  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  be a complete local noetherian ring and let  $R \rightarrow S$  be a local morphism into a local noetherian ring. Suppose that there exists a finitely generated  $R$ -submodule  $N$  of  $S$  such that*

$$S = N + \mathfrak{m}S$$

*Then  $S = N$ .*

*Proof of the lemma.* Pick  $s$  in  $S$ . Since  $S = N + \mathfrak{m}S$ , there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that  $x_n \in \mathfrak{m}^n N$  and

$$s - \sum_{i \leq n} x_i \in \mathfrak{m}^{n+1} S$$

According to the assumption that  $(R, \mathfrak{m})$  is complete with respect to  $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic topology and  $N$  is finitely generated over  $R$ , we deduce that  $N$  is complete with respect to  $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic topology. Hence there exists a unique element  $x$  in  $N$  such that

$$x = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} x_n$$

where above series is convergent with respect to  $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic topology. Note also that

$$x - \sum_{i \leq n} x_i \in \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}N$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus we have

$$s - x = \left( s - \sum_{i \leq n} x_i \right) - \left( x - \sum_{i \leq n} x_i \right) \in \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}S + \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}N = \mathfrak{m}^{n+1}S$$

for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Hence

$$x - s \in \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathfrak{m}^n S$$

Since  $R \rightarrow S$  is local morphism and  $S$  is a local ring, we deduce that  $\mathfrak{m}S$  is contained in the maximal ideal of  $S$ . By assumptions  $S$  is noetherian. Therefore,  $S$  is separated with respect to  $\mathfrak{m}$ -adic topology. This implies that

$$0 = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathfrak{m}^n S$$

Thus  $s - x = 0$  and we infer that  $s$  is an element of  $N$ . This completes the proof that  $S = N$ .  $\square$

In what follows we shall denote by  $\mathbf{G}x$  the closed subscheme determined by the orbit morphism  $\mathbf{G} \rightarrow X$  of a  $k$ -point  $x$  of  $X$  which has a closed free orbit. For readers convenience we include the following lemmas, which have topological content.

**Lemma 5.4.3.** *Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a geometric quotient and assume that  $Y$  is the spectrum of a local  $k$ -algebra such that the residue field of the closed point  $o$  of  $Y$  is  $k$ . Let  $x$  be a  $k$ -point of  $X$  with free closed orbit, then  $q^{-1}(o) = \mathbf{G}x$  as closed subschemes of  $X$ .*

*Proof of the lemma.* Morphism  $q$  induces the morphism of residue fields  $k(q(x)) \hookrightarrow k(x) = k$  over  $k$ . This implies that  $k(q(x)) = k$  and hence  $q(x)$  is a  $k$ -point of  $Y$ . Note that  $o$  is the unique  $k$ -point of  $Y$ . Thus  $q(x) = o$ . Clearly  $q^{-1}(o)$  is a closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subscheme of  $X$  (it is the preimage of  $o$  under  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant  $q$ ), that contains  $x$ . Since  $\mathbf{G}x$  is the smallest closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subscheme of  $X$  containing  $x$ , we deduce that  $\mathbf{G}x \subseteq q^{-1}(o)$  scheme-theoretically. Consider the pair of arrows

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{a} \\ \text{pr}_X \end{array} X$$

Passing to functors of points we obtain that  $a^{-1}(\mathbf{G}x) = \text{pr}_X^{-1}(\mathbf{G}x)$ . Since  $q$  is the cokernel of the pair  $(a, \text{pr}_X)$  in the category of topological spaces, we deduce that there exists a closed subset  $Z$  of  $Y$  such that  $q^{-1}(Z) = \mathbf{G}x$ . Clearly  $o \in Z$  and hence  $q^{-1}(o) \subseteq \mathbf{G}x$  set-theoretically. On the other hand above we proved that  $\mathbf{G}x \subseteq q^{-1}(o)$  scheme-theoretically. This can only happen if  $q^{-1}(o) = \mathbf{G}x$  as closed subschemes of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 5.4.4.** *Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a geometric quotient and assume that  $Y$  is the spectrum of a local  $k$ -algebra such that the residue field of the closed point  $o$  of  $Y$  is  $k$ . Let  $U$  be an open  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subset of  $X$  which contain a  $k$ -point. Then  $U = X$ .*

*Proof of the lemma.* Consider the pair of arrows

$$\mathbf{G} \times_k X \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{a} \\ \text{pr}_X \end{array} X$$

Since  $U$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable open subset of  $X$ , we derive that  $\mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(U) = a^{-1}(U)$ . Next by definition  $q$  is the cokernel of the above pair in the category of topological spaces. Hence there exists an open subset  $V$  of  $Y$  such that  $U = q^{-1}(V)$ . Since  $U$  contains a  $k$ -point of  $X$ , we deduce as in Lemma 5.4.3 that  $o \in V$ . Thus  $V = Y$  and finally  $U = q^{-1}(V) = X$ .  $\square$

*Proof of the theorem.* We first prove (1). Denote by  $o$  the closed point of  $Y$ . Assume that  $x$  is a  $k$ -point of  $X$  which has a closed free orbit. Consider the surjective morphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G},e}$  induced by the orbit morphism  $\mathbf{G} \hookrightarrow X$  of  $x$ . Since  $\mathbf{G}$  is smooth over  $k$ , the ring  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G},e}$  is regular. Pick a system of parameters  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  of  $\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G},e}$  and let  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  be elements of  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  such that  $y_i$  is sent to  $x_i$  by the morphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \twoheadrightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G},e}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Define  $S$  to be the quotient ring  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x}/(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ . The morphism  $q$  induces the morphism  $q^\# : \mathcal{O}_{Y,o} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X,x}$  and hence the morphism  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,o} \rightarrow S$ . By Lemma 5.4.3 we have

$$S/\mathfrak{m}_o S = k$$

where  $\mathfrak{m}_o$  is the maximal ideal of  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,o}$ . According to Lemma 5.4.2 we derive that  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,o} \rightarrow S$  is surjective. Let  $f : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathrm{Spec} S \rightarrow X$  be the unique  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism induced by the surjection  $\mathcal{O}_{X,x} \twoheadrightarrow S$ . We have a commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathrm{Spec} S & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \mathrm{pr}_{\mathrm{Spec} S} \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ \mathrm{Spec} S & \xhookrightarrow{j} & Y \end{array}$$

where  $j$  is a closed immersion induced by  $\mathcal{O}_{Y,o} \twoheadrightarrow S$ . According to assumptions  $q$  is locally of finite type. Moreover,  $\mathbf{G}$  is an algebraic group over  $k$  and hence  $\mathrm{pr}_{\mathrm{Spec} S}$  is locally of finite type. These two assertions together with the fact that  $\mathrm{Spec} S \hookrightarrow Y$  is a closed immersion of noetherian schemes (and thus is of finite type) imply that  $f$  is locally of finite type. Then by Lemma 5.4.1 we deduce that  $f$  induces an isomorphism

$$\widehat{\mathcal{O}_{X,x}} \longrightarrow \hat{S}[[x_1, \dots, x_n]] = \hat{S} \hat{\otimes}_k \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G},e}}$$

of complete local rings. Since  $f$  is locally of finite type, it follows that  $f$  is étale at a  $k$ -point of  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \mathrm{Spec} S$  determined by the unique  $k$ -point of  $\mathrm{Spec} S$  and  $e \in \mathbf{G}$ . Let  $U$  be an étale locus of  $f$ . It contains a  $k$ -point and hence it is nonempty. Moreover,  $U$  is open (it is étale locus) subset of  $X$ . Since  $f$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant, we derive that  $U$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable. Similarly  $f(U)$  is open  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subset of  $X$  and  $x \in f(U)$ . Thus by Lemma 5.4.4 we deduce that

$$U = \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathrm{Spec} S, f(U) = X$$

Therefore,  $f$  is étale and surjective. Now we pullback  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  along the closed immersion  $\mathrm{Spec} S \hookrightarrow Y$ . We obtain a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{X} & \xhookrightarrow{\tilde{j}} & X \\ \tilde{q} \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ \mathrm{Spec} S & \xhookrightarrow{j} & Y \end{array}$$

Then  $f$  factors as a morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k \text{Spec } S \rightarrow \tilde{X}$  followed by a closed immersion  $\tilde{j}$ . Since  $f$  is étale and surjective, we deduce that  $\tilde{j}$  is étale and surjective. This implies that  $\tilde{j}$  is an isomorphism of schemes. By definition of geometric quotient we derive that the diagram

$$\mathcal{O}_Y \xrightarrow{q^\#} q_* \mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow[q_* \text{pr}_X^\#]{q_* a^\#} q_* (\text{pr}_X)_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X} = q_* a_* \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X}$$

is the kernel in the category of sheaves on  $Y$ . Hence  $q^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow q_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is a monomorphism of sheaves. On the other hand we have

$$q^\# = j_* q_* (\tilde{j}^{-1})^\# \cdot j_* \tilde{q}^\# \cdot j^\#$$

and thus  $j^\#$  is a monomorphism. Since  $j$  is a closed immersion, we infer that  $j$  is an isomorphism. Therefore, we can identify  $\text{Spec } S$  with  $Y$ . Then  $f$  is a morphism which makes the triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k Y & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \text{pr}_Y \searrow & & \swarrow q \\ & Y & \end{array}$$

commutative. This completes the proof of (1).

For the proof of (2) consider the section  $s : Y \hookrightarrow X$  described in (1). Then  $f$  fits into a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k Y & \xrightarrow{f} & X \times_Y Y = X \\ 1_{\mathbf{G}} \times_Y s \downarrow & & \downarrow 1_X \times_Y s \\ \mathbf{G} \times_k X & \xrightarrow[\phi]{} & X \times_Y X \end{array}$$

where  $\phi$  is a closed immersion induced by the closed immersion  $\langle a, \text{pr}_X \rangle : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \hookrightarrow X \times_k X$  (the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free). Thus  $f$  is a closed immersion. By (1) it is étale and surjective. Therefore,  $f$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Remark 5.5.** We expect that Theorem 5.4 holds for prime spectra of strictly henselian rings.

Now we introduce sufficient condition for smoothness of geometric quotient in case of locally algebraic  $k$ -schemes.

**Corollary 5.6.** *Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a smooth algebraic group over  $k$ . Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of finite type between  $k$ -schemes locally of finite type. Assume that  $q$  is a uniform geometric quotient of  $X$  and  $x$  is a  $k$ -point of  $X$  with closed free orbit. Then  $q$  is smooth at  $x$ .*

*Proof.* Since smoothness descent along faithfully flat morphisms, we may assume that  $k$  is algebraically closed. Let  $y = q(x)$ . Then  $y$  is a  $k$ -point of  $Y$ . Now  $1_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}} \times_k q$  is a geometric quotient and  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}$  is a complete local noetherian  $k$ -algebra with  $k$  as a residue field. Moreover,  $x$  is a  $k$ -point of  $\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}} \times_k X$  with a closed free orbit. By Theorem 5.4 we deduce that  $1_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}} \times_k q$  is smooth. From descent for smoothness we infer that  $q$  is smooth at  $x$ .  $\square$

**Definition 5.7.** Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism into a  $k$ -scheme  $Y$  equipped with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Suppose that  $q$  is faithfully flat, quasi-compact morphism and the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k X & \xrightarrow{a} & X \\ \text{pr}_X \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ X & \xrightarrow{q} & Y \end{array}$$

is cartesian. Then  $q$  is a principal  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundle.

Now we use Theorem 5.4 to describe principal  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundles in the category of locally algebraic  $k$ -schemes.

**Theorem 5.8.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a smooth algebraic group over  $k$ . Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of finite type between  $k$ -schemes locally of finite type. Then the following assertions are equivalent.

- (i)  $q$  is a universal geometric quotient and the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free.
- (ii)  $q$  is a uniform geometric quotient and the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free.
- (iii)  $q$  is a principal  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundle.

*Proof.* Clearly (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Suppose that (ii) holds. Let  $\bar{k}$  be an algebraic closure of  $k$ . Then  $1_{\text{Spec } \bar{k}} \times_k q$  is a uniform quotient and the action of  $\text{Spec } \bar{k} \times_k \mathbf{G}$  on  $\text{Spec } \bar{k} \times_k X$  induced by the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free. Moreover, if  $1_{\text{Spec } \bar{k}} \times_k q$  is a principal  $\text{Spec } \bar{k} \times_k \mathbf{G}$ -bundle, then  $q$  is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundle. This follows from the observation that property of being a principal bundle descends along faithfully flat and quasi-compact base extensions. Thus we may assume that  $k$  is algebraically closed. Next we pick a  $k$ -point  $y$  of  $Y$  and consider base change  $1_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}} \times_Y q$ . This is a geometric quotient (because morphism  $\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}} \rightarrow Y$  is flat) and a morphism of finite type. Moreover, the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}} \times_Y X$  is free. Since  $\widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}$  is a complete noetherian  $k$ -algebra with residue field  $k$ , we derive by Theorem 5.4 that  $\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}} \times_Y q$  is isomorphic as a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism with  $\text{pr}_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}}$ . By faithfully flat descent for flat morphism we deduce that  $q$  is flat at every point in the fiber  $q^{-1}(\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}})$ . Since  $y$  is an arbitrary  $k$ -point, it follows that  $q$  is flat at every point of  $X$  which specializes to a  $k$ -point. Every point of  $X$  is a generization of a  $k$ -point ( $X$  is locally of finite type and  $k$  is algebraically closed). Thus  $q$  is flat. It is also surjective (as it is a geometric quotient) and quasi-compact (it is of finite type). Therefore, it is faithfully flat and quasi-compact morphism. In order to obtain (iii) it remains to prove that the morphism  $\Phi : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $a$  and  $\text{pr}_X$  is an isomorphism. Note that it is a closed immersion (the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is closed). Moreover,  $1_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}} \times_Y \Phi$  is an isomorphism due to the fact that  $1_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}} \times_Y q$  is isomorphic as a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism with  $\text{pr}_{\text{Spec } \widehat{\mathcal{O}_{Y,y}}}$ . By faithfully flat descent we infer that  $1_{\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_{Y,y}} \times_Y \Phi$  is an isomorphism. This holds for every  $k$ -point  $y$  in  $Y$ . Thus  $\Phi$  induces an isomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_{X \times_Y X, \Phi(z)} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X, z}$  for every  $k$ -point  $z$  of  $X \times_Y X$ . Hence a closed immersion  $\Phi$  is an isomorphism. This completes the proof of (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). Assume now that (iii) holds. Then the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{G} \times_k X & \xrightarrow{a} & X \\ \text{pr}_X \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ X & \xrightarrow{q} & Y \end{array}$$

is cartesian and  $q$  is faithfully flat and quasi-compact. By Proposition 3.11 morphism  $\text{pr}_X$  is a universal geometric quotient. According to Corollary 3.6 we derive that  $q$  is universal geometric quotient. Moreover, the cartesian square above shows that the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $a$  and  $\text{pr}_X$  is an isomorphism. Thus the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is free. This is (i). Hence (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i) holds.  $\square$

## 6. GOOD CATEGORICAL QUOTIENTS

In this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ . We start by the following criterion for categorical quotients.

**Theorem 6.1.** *Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism into a  $k$ -scheme  $Y$  equipped with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Assume that the following assertions hold.*

- (1)  $q$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant.
- (2)  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .
- (3) If  $Z$  is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable closed subset of  $X$ , then  $q(Z)$  is a closed subset of  $Y$ .
- (4) If  $\{Z_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a family of closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets with the empty intersection, then the intersection  $\{q(Z_i)\}_{i \in I}$  is empty.

Then  $q$  is submersive and it is a categorical quotient of  $X$ .

*Proof.* Clearly  $q(X)$  is closed in  $Y$ . Hence  $V = Y \setminus q(X)$  is open. Moreover,  $q^\# : \mathcal{O}_Y \rightarrow q_* \mathcal{O}_X$  is a monomorphism of sheaves of  $k$ -algebras. Thus we have a monomorphism  $\mathcal{O}_V \hookrightarrow (q_* \mathcal{O}_X)_{q^{-1}(V)}$ . We have  $(q_* \mathcal{O}_X)_{q^{-1}(V)} = 0$  and hence  $\mathcal{O}_V = 0$ . This implies that  $V = \emptyset$ . Thus  $q$  is surjective. Suppose that  $Z$  is a subset of  $Y$  such that  $q^{-1}(Z)$  is a closed subset of  $X$ . Then  $q^{-1}(Z)$  is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable closed subset and hence  $q(q^{-1}(Z))$  is closed. Note that  $q(q^{-1}(Z)) = Z$  because  $q$  is surjective. Thus  $Z$  is closed. This completes the proof that  $q$  is submersive.

Now we show that  $q$  is a categorical quotient of  $X$ . For this pick a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism  $p : X \rightarrow Z$  where  $Z$  is a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Consider open affine cover  $\{W_i\}_{i \in I}$  of  $Z$ . Then  $X \setminus p^{-1}(W_i)$  is a closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable closed for  $i \in I$ . Define  $V_i = Y \setminus q(X \setminus p^{-1}(W_i))$  for each  $i$ . Thus  $V_i$  is an open subset of  $Y$  for every  $i \in I$ . Moreover, we have

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} X \setminus p^{-1}(W_i) = \emptyset$$

and hence  $\{V_i\}_{i \in I}$  form an open cover of  $Y$ . Note that for every  $i \in I$  we have  $q^{-1}(V_i) \subseteq p^{-1}(W_i)$ . Consider the composition

$$\Gamma(W_i, \mathcal{O}_Z) \xrightarrow{p^\#} \Gamma(p^{-1}(W_i), \mathcal{O}_X) \xrightarrow{f \mapsto f|_{q^{-1}(V_i)}} \Gamma(q^{-1}(V_i), \mathcal{O}_X)$$

for every  $i$  in  $I$ . Since the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $Z$  is trivial, we derive that the image of the morphism above consists of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant functions on  $q^{-1}(V_i)$ . This means that the morphism above factors uniquely through  $q^\#_{V_i} : \Gamma(V_i, \mathcal{O}_Y) \rightarrow \Gamma(q^{-1}(V_i), \mathcal{O}_X)$ . Since  $W_i$  is affine for every  $i$  in  $I$ , we obtain a unique morphism  $f_i : V_i \rightarrow W_i$  such that  $f_i \cdot q|_{q^{-1}(V_i)} = p|_{q^{-1}(V_i)}$  for each  $i$ . By construction the family  $\{f_i\}_{i \in I}$  glue to a morphism  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$  such that  $f \cdot q = p$ . This morphism is unique due to the fact that  $f_i$  are unique for every  $i$ . This finishes the proof of the fact that  $q$  is a categorical quotient of  $X$ .  $\square$

**Definition 6.2.** Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism into a  $k$ -scheme  $Y$  equipped with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Suppose that  $q$  satisfies conditions (1)-(4) of Theorem 6.1. Then  $q$  is a good categorical quotient of  $X$ .



**Proposition 6.3.** *Let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism into a  $k$ -scheme  $Y$  equipped with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action. Assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and the following assertions hold.*

- (1)  $q$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant.
- (2)  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ .
- (3) If  $Z$  is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable closed subset of  $X$ , then  $q(Z)$  is a closed subset of  $Y$ .
- (4) If  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  are closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets with the empty intersection, then  $q(Z_1) \cap q(Z_2) = \emptyset$ .

Then  $q$  is a good categorical quotient of  $X$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\{Z_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a family of closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets with the empty intersection. Since  $X$  is quasi-compact, there exists a finite subset  $\{i_1, \dots, i_n\} \subseteq I$  such that the family  $\{Z_{i_1}, \dots, Z_{i_n}\}$  has empty intersection. Then

$$\bigcap_{i \in I} q(Z_i) \subseteq \bigcap_{j=1}^n q(Z_{i_j}) = \emptyset$$

according to (4). This implies that  $q$  is a good categorical quotient.  $\square$

As in case of categorical and geometric quotients one can introduce the following notion.

**Definition 6.4.** A morphism  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is a *universal (uniform) good categorical quotient* of  $X$  if for every (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a good categorical quotient of  $X'$ .

**Corollary 6.5.** *If  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  is a uniform good categorical quotient, then it is universally submersive.*

*Proof.* Let  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  be a morphism of  $k$ -schemes. Then we can factor  $g$  as a closed immersion  $Y' \hookrightarrow Z$  followed by a flat morphism  $Z \rightarrow Y$ . Since  $q' = 1_Z \times_Y q$  is a good categorical quotient, we derive that it is submersive by Theorem 6.1. Hence the restriction  $q'^{-1}(Y') \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q'$  to a closed subset is also submersive. Therefore,  $1_{Y'} \times_Y q$  is submersive.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.6.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Then the following assertions are equivalent.*

- (i) *There exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is a universal (uniform) good categorical quotient.*
- (ii)  *$q$  is a universal (uniform) good categorical quotient.*
- (iii) *For every affine  $k$ -scheme  $Y'$  and a (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  of  $k$ -schemes a base change  $q' : X' \rightarrow Y'$  of  $q$  along  $g$  is a good categorical quotient.*
- (iv) *There exists an open affine cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is a universal (uniform) good categorical quotient.*

For the proof we need the following.

**Lemma 6.6.1.** *Let  $Y$  be a  $k$ -scheme with the trivial action of  $\mathbf{G}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism. Suppose that there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $Y$  such that for every  $V$  in  $\mathcal{V}$  the restriction  $q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  of  $q$  is a good categorical quotient. Then  $q$  is a good categorical quotient.*

*Proof of the lemma.* Pick a closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subset  $Z$  of  $X$ . Then  $q(Z) \cap V$  is closed in  $V$  for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . Thus  $q(Z)$  is closed in  $Y$ . Suppose that  $\{Z_i\}_{i \in I}$  are closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets of  $X$  with empty intersection. Then

$$V \cap \bigcap_{i \in I} q(Z_i) = \emptyset$$

and hence the intersection of  $\{q(z_i)\}_{i \in I}$  is empty. According to Proposition 2.10 we derive that  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant functions for  $q$ . Thus  $q$  is a good categorical quotient.  $\square$

*Proof of the theorem.* Implications (ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) and (iv)  $\Rightarrow$  (v) are obvious.

We prove (i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii). Suppose that (i) holds. Pick a (flat) morphism  $g : Y' \rightarrow Y$  and fix a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X' & \xrightarrow{g'} & X \\ q' \downarrow & & \downarrow q \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g} & Y \end{array}$$

Then  $\mathcal{V}' = \{g'^{-1}(V) \mid V \in \mathcal{V}\}$  is an open cover of  $Y'$  such that for every  $V \in \mathcal{V}'$  the morphism  $q'^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is a uniform categorical quotient. By Lemma 6.6.1 we derive that  $q'$  is a good categorical quotient. This is (ii).

Assume that (iii) holds. Pick an open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . Consider a (flat) morphism  $g : V' \rightarrow V$  and pick a cartesian square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} U' & \xrightarrow{g'} & q^{-1}(V) \\ q_{V'} \downarrow & & \downarrow q_V \\ V' & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array}$$

where  $q_V : q^{-1}(V) \rightarrow V$  is the restriction of  $q$ . Then for every open affine subset  $W$  of  $V'$  the restriction  $q_{V'}^{-1}(W) \rightarrow W$  of  $q_{V'}$  is a universal (uniform) good categorical quotient according to (iii) (and the fact that  $W \hookrightarrow V'$  composed with  $g$  is flat). By Lemma 6.6.1 it follows that  $q_{V'}$  is a good categorical quotient. Thus  $q_V$  is a universal (uniform) good categorical quotient. This holds for every open affine subset  $V$  of  $Y$ . This is (iv) and hence (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv) holds.  $\square$

## 7. AFFINE CASE

In this section we fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ . We make the first important step towards existence of quotients by proving that good categorical quotients exists for affine  $k$ -schemes equipped with an action of geometrically reductive groups.

**Proposition 7.1.** *Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is geometrically reductive group and  $X$  is an affine  $k$ -scheme. Let  $Z_1, Z_2$  be nonempty closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets of  $X$  such that  $Z_1 \cap Z_2 = \emptyset$ . Then there exists  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant regular function  $f$  on  $X$  such that  $f|_{Z_1} = 1$  and  $f|_{Z_2} = 0$ .*

*Proof.* By [Monygham, 2020, Corollary 5.4] we may consider  $Z_1$  and  $Z_2$  as a closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subschemes of  $X$ . Since  $Z_1 \cap Z_2 = \emptyset$ , we have

$$\Gamma(Z_1 \cup Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X) = \Gamma(Z_1, \mathcal{O}_X) \times \Gamma(Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X)$$

In particular, there exists a regular invariant function

$$g \in \Gamma(Z_1, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}} \times \Gamma(Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}} = \Gamma(Z_1 \cup Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$$

such that  $g|_{Z_1} = 1$  and  $g|_{Z_2} = 0$ . Consider the canonical morphism

$$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}} \longrightarrow \Gamma(Z_1 \cup Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}} = \Gamma(Z_1, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}} \times \Gamma(Z_2, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$$

According to [Monygham, 2021, Theorem 2.4] there exists  $f \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  and a positive integer  $r$  such that  $f|_{Z_1 \cup Z_2} = g^r$ . Then  $f|_{Z_1} = 1$  and  $f|_{Z_2} = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 7.2.** *Suppose that  $X$  is an affine  $k$ -scheme and  $\mathbf{G}$  is a geometrically reductive group. Let  $Y = \text{Spec } \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$  and let  $q : X \rightarrow Y$  be the canonical morphism. Then  $q$  is a uniform good categorical quotient of  $X$ . Moreover, the following assertions hold.*

- (1) *If  $X$  is of finite type over  $k$ , then  $Y$  is of finite type over  $k$ .*
- (2) *If  $\mathbf{G}$  is linearly reductive, then  $q$  is a universal good categorical quotient of  $X$ .*
- (3) *If the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is closed, then  $q$  is a uniform geometric quotient.*

For the proof we need to following results.

**Lemma 7.2.1.** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be an algebraic group which acts on  $\text{Spec } A$  for some  $k$ -algebra  $A$ . Fix a flat  $A^{\mathbf{G}}$ -algebra  $B$ . Then the canonical morphism  $B \rightarrow (A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B)^{\mathbf{G}}$  is an isomorphism of  $k$ -algebras.*

*Proof of the lemma.* For every linear representation  $V$  of  $\mathbf{G}$  we have a left exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow V^{\mathbf{G}} \longrightarrow V \xrightarrow{x \mapsto c(x) - 1 \otimes x} k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k V$$

where  $c : V \rightarrow k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k V$  is the coaction. Now we denote by  $d$  the coaction on  $A$ . Thus we have left exact sequences

$$0 \longrightarrow A^{\mathbf{G}} \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B \longrightarrow A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B \xrightarrow{x \otimes 1 \mapsto d(x) \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes x \otimes 1} k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow (A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B)^{\mathbf{G}} \longrightarrow A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B \xrightarrow{x \otimes 1 \mapsto d(x) \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes x \otimes 1} k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B$$

Note that  $A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B \ni x \otimes 1 \mapsto d(x) \otimes 1 \in k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B$  is the coaction induced by  $c$  on the base change  $A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B$ . This implies that there is canonical isomorphism

$$B = A^{\mathbf{G}} \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B \cong (A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B)^{\mathbf{G}}$$

$\square$

**Lemma 7.2.2.** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be geometrically reductive group which acts on  $\text{Spec } A$  for some  $k$ -algebra  $A$ . If  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in A^{\mathbf{G}}$  and*

$$f \in \left( \sum_{i=1}^n A f_i \right) \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$$

*then there exists positive integer  $r$  such that*

$$f^r \in \sum_{i=1}^n A^{\mathbf{G}} f_i$$

*Moreover, if  $\mathbf{G}$  is linearly reductive, then  $r$  can be chosen to be 1.*

*Proof of the lemma.* Let  $d : A \rightarrow k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k A$  be the coaction of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $A$ . The proof goes on induction on  $n$ . Write  $f = a_1 f_1 + \dots + a_n f_n$  for  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in A$ . Consider  $\mathfrak{a} = \text{ann}(f_1) + Af_2 + \dots + Af_n$ . This is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable ideal in  $A$ . We show now that  $a_1$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant modulo  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Indeed, we have

$$(1 \otimes f_1)(d(a_1) - 1 \otimes a_1) = d(f_1)d(a_1) - 1 \otimes f_1 a_1 = d(f) - 1 \otimes f = 0$$

Hence

$$d(a_1) - 1 \otimes a_1 \in k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k \text{ann}(f_1) \subseteq k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k \mathfrak{a}$$

and this shows that  $a_1$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant modulo  $\mathfrak{a}$ . Therefore, according to [Monygham, 2021, Theorem 2.4] there exists positive integer  $r$  and  $a'_1 \in A^{\mathbf{G}}$  such that  $a_1^r - a'_1 \in \mathfrak{a}$ . Thus

$$f^r \in f_1^r a_1^r + Af_2 + \dots + Af_n = f_1^r a'_1 + Af_2 + \dots + Af_n$$

Now if  $n = 1$ , then we have  $f^r = f_1^r a'_1 \in A^{\mathbf{G}} f_1$  and the assertion holds. On the other hand if  $n \geq 2$ , then we can apply inductive hypothesis to

$$f^r - f_1^r a'_1 \in (Af_2 + \dots + Af_n) \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$$

and obtain that

$$(f^r - f_1^r a'_1)^d \in A^{\mathbf{G}} f_2 + \dots + A^{\mathbf{G}} f_n$$

for some positive integer  $d$ . Then

$$f^{rd} \in A^{\mathbf{G}} f_1 + A^{\mathbf{G}} f_2 + \dots + A^{\mathbf{G}} f_n$$

and the assertion holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.2.3.** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be geometrically reductive group which acts on  $\text{Spec } A$  for some  $k$ -algebra  $A$ . Then the morphism  $\text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } A^{\mathbf{G}}$  is surjective.*

*Proof of the lemma.* Pick a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p} \in \text{Spec } A^{\mathbf{G}}$ . Consider  $f \in \mathfrak{p} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$ . Then there exist  $f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathfrak{p}$  such that

$$f \in (Af_1 + \dots + Af_n) \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$$

By Lemma 7.2.2 we have

$$f^r \in A^{\mathbf{G}} f_1 + \dots + A^{\mathbf{G}} f_n \subseteq \mathfrak{p}$$

for some positive integer  $r$ . Since  $\mathfrak{p}$  is a prime ideal, we derive that  $f \in \mathfrak{p}$ . Thus  $\mathfrak{p} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}} = \mathfrak{p}$ . Thus we have an injective morphism  $A^{\mathbf{G}}/\mathfrak{p} \rightarrow A/\mathfrak{p}$  of  $k$ -algebras. This implies that the morphism  $k(\mathfrak{p}) \rightarrow k(\mathfrak{p}) \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} A$  is also injective, where  $k(\mathfrak{p})$  is a residue field of  $\mathfrak{p}$  in  $A^{\mathbf{G}}$ . We infer that the fiber of  $\text{Spec } A \rightarrow \text{Spec } A^{\mathbf{G}}$  is nonempty.  $\square$

**Lemma 7.2.4.** *Let  $\mathbf{G}$  be geometrically reductive group which acts on  $\text{Spec } A$  for some  $k$ -algebra  $A$ . Suppose that  $\mathfrak{a}$  is an ideal in  $A^{\mathbf{G}}$ . Then  $(A/A\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}}$  is canonically isomorphic with  $A^{\mathbf{G}}/\mathfrak{a}$ .*

*Proof of the lemma.* Lemma 7.2.2 shows that  $A\mathfrak{a} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}} = \mathfrak{a}$ . Since  $\mathbf{G}$  is linearly reductive, we have a canonical identification

$$(A/A\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}} = A^{\mathbf{G}}/(A\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}} = A^{\mathbf{G}}/A\mathfrak{a} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}} = A^{\mathbf{G}}/\mathfrak{a}$$

$\square$

*Proof of the theorem.* Since  $X$  is quasi-compact, we may verify conditions of Proposition 6.3. First let us denote by  $A$  the  $k$ -algebra of global regular functions  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)$ . Suppose that  $V \subseteq \text{Spec } A^{\mathbf{G}} = Y$  is an open affine subset. Then  $B = \Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  is a flat  $A^{\mathbf{G}}$ -algebra and by Lemma 7.2.1 we have canonical isomorphism

$$B \cong (A \otimes_{A^{\mathbf{G}}} B)^{\mathbf{G}}$$

This implies that  $\Gamma(V, \mathcal{O}_Y) \cong \Gamma(q^{-1}(V), \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$  and hence  $\mathcal{O}_Y$  is the sheaf of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariants for  $q$ . Fix now a closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subset  $Z$  of  $X$ . By [Monygham, 2020, Corollary 5.4] there exists a  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable ideal  $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq A$  such that its vanishing set is equal to  $Z$ . Consider a commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\mathrm{Spec} A/\mathfrak{a} & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Spec} A \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow \\
\mathrm{Spec} (A/\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}} & \longrightarrow & \mathrm{Spec} A^{\mathbf{G}}
\end{array}$$

with canonically defined arrows. Note that  $\mathrm{Spec} A/\mathfrak{a} \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec} (A/\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}}$  is surjective (Lemma 7.2.3) and according to [Monygham, 2021, Theorem 2.4] morphism

$$\mathrm{Spec} (A/\mathfrak{a})^{\mathbf{G}} \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec} A^{\mathbf{G}}/\mathfrak{a} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$$

is surjective. Thus the set-theoretic image of  $\mathrm{Spec} A/\mathfrak{a}$  under the map  $\mathrm{Spec} A \rightarrow \mathrm{Spec} A^{\mathbf{G}}$  is a closed subset given by  $\mathrm{Spec} A^{\mathbf{G}}/\mathfrak{a} \cap A^{\mathbf{G}}$ . Hence  $q(Z)$  is a closed subset of  $Y$ .

Fix now two closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets  $Z_1, Z_2$  and assume that  $Z_1 \cap Z_2 = \emptyset$ . We claim that  $q(Z_1) \cap q(Z_2) = \emptyset$ . For this we may assume that  $Z_1, Z_2$  are both nonempty. Proposition 7.1 implies that there exists  $f \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$  such that  $f|_{Z_1} = 1$  and  $f|_{Z_2} = 0$ . Then  $f$  viewed as a function on  $Y$  satisfies  $f|_{q(Z_1)} = 1$  and  $f|_{q(Z_2)} = 0$ . Thus  $q(Z_1) \cap q(Z_2) = \emptyset$ .

This completes the proof that  $q$  is a good categorical quotient. Lemma 7.2.1 and Theorem 6.6 imply that  $q$  is a uniform good categorical quotient.

If  $X$  is of finite type over  $k$ , then by [Monygham, 2021, Theorem 3.1] we deduce that  $Y$  which is the prime spectrum of  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{O}_X)^{\mathbf{G}}$  is of finite type over  $k$ .

If  $\mathbf{G}$  is linearly reductive, then by Lemmas 7.2.1, 7.2.4 and Theorem 6.6 we deduce that  $q$  is a universal good categorical quotient.

Suppose now that the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X$  is closed. Pick a point  $z \in X \times_Y X$ . There exists an algebraically closed extension  $K$  of  $k$  such that there is a  $K$ -point  $\bar{z}$  with  $z$  as the underlying point. Suppose that  $\bar{x}_1 = \mathrm{pr}_X(\bar{z})$  and  $\bar{x}_2 = a(\bar{z})$ . Consider orbit morphisms

$$o_{\bar{x}_1}, o_{\bar{x}_2} : \mathbf{G} \times_k \mathrm{Spec} K \rightarrow X \times_k \mathrm{Spec} K$$

Then their set-theoretic images are closed  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subsets  $o_1, o_2$  of  $X \times_k \mathrm{Spec} K$ . Next  $q$  is a uniform good categorical quotient. Hence also  $\bar{q} = q \times_k 1_{\mathrm{Spec} K}$  is a good categorical quotient. If  $o_1 \cap o_2 = \emptyset$ , then  $\bar{q}(o_1) \cap \bar{q}(o_2) = \emptyset$ . This is impossible since

$$\bar{q}(\bar{x}_1) = \bar{q}(\mathrm{pr}_X(\bar{z})) = \bar{q}(a(\bar{z})) = \bar{q}(\bar{x}_2)$$

Thus  $o_1 \cap o_2 \neq \emptyset$ . Then there exists fields extension  $K \subseteq L$  such that  $o_1 \cap o_2$  contains an  $L$ -point  $\tilde{x}$  and both morphisms  $o_{\bar{x}_1}$  and  $o_{\bar{x}_2}$  induce surjections on  $L$ -points. Let  $\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2$  be  $L$ -points induced by  $\bar{x}_1, \bar{x}_2$  and  $K \subseteq L$ . Now there exist  $g_1, g_2 \in \mathbf{G}(L)$  such that  $g_1 \cdot \tilde{x}_1 = \tilde{x} = g_2 \cdot \tilde{x}_2$ . Hence for  $g = g_2^{-1} \cdot g_1 \in \mathbf{G}(L)$  we have  $\tilde{x}_2 = g \cdot \tilde{x}_1$ . Next let  $\tilde{z}$  be an  $L$ -point of  $X \times_Y X$  induced by  $\bar{z}$  and  $K \subseteq L$ . Then  $\tilde{z} = (\tilde{x}_2, \tilde{x}_1)$  and since for  $(g, \tilde{x}_1) \in \mathbf{G}(L) \times X(L)$  we have  $(g \cdot \tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_1) = (\tilde{x}_2, \tilde{x}_1) = \tilde{z}$ , we deduce that the image of the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  induced by  $\langle a, \mathrm{pr}_X \rangle$  contains  $z$ . Thus the morphism  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X \times_Y X$  is surjective and hence  $q$  is a geometric quotient. According to Lemma 7.2.1 and Theorem 3.10 we derive that  $q$  is a uniform geometric quotient.  $\square$

## 8. QUOTIENTS DETERMINED BY LINEARIZATION

We start by discussing some preliminary result concerning  $\mathbf{G}$ -linearizations of quasi-coherent sheaves. We fix a  $k$ -scheme  $X$  equipped with an action of  $\mathbf{G}$  determined by morphism  $a : \mathbf{G} \times_k X \rightarrow X$ .

**Proposition 8.1.** *Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is affine group scheme over  $k$  and assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and semiseparated. Let  $(\mathcal{F}, \tau)$  be a quasi-coherent  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf on  $X$ . Then the morphism*

$$\Gamma(X, \mathcal{F}) \ni s \mapsto \tau^{-1}(a^* s) \in \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k X, \mathrm{pr}_X^* \mathcal{F}) = k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})$$

*is a coaction of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $\mathcal{F}$ .*

*Proof.* We denote the morphism in the statement by  $c$ . Fix  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})$ . Write

$$c(s) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes s_i \in k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k \Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (1_{k[\mathbf{G}]} \otimes c)(c(s)) &= \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes c(s_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes \tau^{-1}(a^* s_i) = (\mathrm{pr}_{23}^* \tau^{-1}) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \otimes a^* s_i \right) = \\ &= (\mathrm{pr}_{23}^* \tau^{-1}) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n (1_{\mathbf{G}} \times_k a)^* (a_i \otimes s_i) \right) = (\mathrm{pr}_{23}^* \tau^{-1} \cdot (1_{\mathbf{G}} \times_k a)^* \tau^{-1}) ((1_{\mathbf{G}} \times_k a)^* a^* s) = \\ &= ((\mu \times_k 1_X)^* \tau^{-1}) ((\mu \times_k 1_X)^* a^* s) = (\mu \times_k 1_X)^* (\tau^{-1}(a^* s)) = (\Delta \otimes_k 1_{\Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})})(c(s)) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta : k[\mathbf{G}] \rightarrow k[\mathbf{G}] \otimes_k k[\mathbf{G}]$  is the comultiplication. Moreover, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} (\xi \otimes_k 1_{\Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})})(c(s)) &= (e \times_k 1_X)^* (\tau^{-1}(a^* s)) = ((e \times_k 1_X)^* \tau^{-1}) ((e \times_k 1_X)^* a^* s) = \\ &= ((e \times_k 1_X)^* a^* s) = 1 \otimes s \end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi : k[\mathbf{G}] \rightarrow k$  is the counit. These imply that  $c$  is the coaction of  $k[\mathbf{G}]$  on the space of global sections of  $\mathcal{F}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 8.2.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is affine group scheme over  $k$  and assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and semiseparated. Let  $(\mathcal{F}, \tau)$  be a quasi-coherent  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf on  $X$ . Then by Proposition 8.1 vector space  $\Gamma(X, \mathcal{F})$  admits a structure of a linear representation of  $\mathbf{G}$ . We call it *the linear representation induced by  $\tau$* .

Now we study properties of linear representations on global sections of line  $\mathbf{G}$ -bundles.

**Proposition 8.3.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is affine group scheme over  $k$  and assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and semiseparated. Let  $(\mathcal{L}, \tau)$  be a locally free  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf of rank one on  $X$ . Then the following assertions hold.

- (1) If  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L})$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant with respect to the structure of linear representation of  $\mathbf{G}$  induced by  $\tau$ , then the open subscheme

$$X_s = \{x \in X \mid s(x) \neq 0\}$$

of  $X$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable.

- (2) If  $t, s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L})$  are  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant with respect to the structure of linear representation of  $\mathbf{G}$  induced by  $\tau$ , then the regular function  $\frac{t}{s} \in \Gamma(X_s, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L})$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant with respect to the structure of linear representation of  $\mathbf{G}$  induced by  $\tau$ . Then  $\tau^{-1}(a^* s) = \mathrm{pr}_X^* s$ . Since  $\tau^{-1}$  is an isomorphism of line bundles on  $\mathbf{G} \times_k X$ , nonvanishing sets of  $a^* s \in \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k X, a^* \mathcal{L})$  and  $\mathrm{pr}_X^* s \in \Gamma(\mathbf{G} \times_k X, \mathrm{pr}_X^* \mathcal{L})$  coincide. Next the nonvanishing set of  $a^* s$  is  $a^{-1}(X_s)$ . On the other hand the nonvanishing set of  $\mathrm{pr}_X^* s$  is  $\mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(X_s)$ . Therefore,  $a^{-1}(X_s) = \mathrm{pr}_X^{-1}(X_s)$  and hence  $X_s$  is open  $\mathbf{G}$ -stable subscheme of  $X$ . This completes the proof of (1).

Suppose that  $t, s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L})$  are  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant. Clearly  $(\mathcal{O}_X)_{|X_s} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{|X_s}$  given by multiplication by  $s$  is an isomorphism. Recall that  $\frac{t}{s}$  is a unique element  $r \in \Gamma(X_s, \mathcal{O}_X)$  such that  $r \cdot s|_{X_s} = t|_{X_s}$ . Since  $X_s$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant,  $r$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant if

$$a^* r = \mathrm{pr}_X^* r$$

Since  $s$  is  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant, we have a commutative triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 a^* \mathcal{L}_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} & \xrightarrow{\tau_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s}^{-1}} & \text{pr}_X^* \mathcal{L}_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \\
 \swarrow a^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \cdot (-) & & \nearrow \text{pr}_X^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \cdot (-) \\
 & \mathcal{O}_{\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} &
 \end{array}$$

in which all morphisms are isomorphisms. By  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariance of  $s$  and  $t$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{pr}_X^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \cdot a^* r &= \tau (a^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s}) \cdot a^* r = \tau^{-1} (a^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \cdot a^* r) = \\
 &= \tau^{-1} (a^* t_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s}) = \text{pr}_X^* t_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} = \text{pr}_X^* s_{|\mathbf{G} \times_k X_s} \cdot \text{pr}_X^* r
 \end{aligned}$$

and hence  $a^* r = \text{pr}_X^* r$ . This finishes the proof of (2).  $\square$

The following notion introduced by Mumford in [Mumford et al., 1994] is fundamental.

**Definition 8.4.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is affine group scheme over  $k$  and assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and semiseparated. Let  $(\mathcal{L}, \tau)$  be a locally free  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf of rank one on  $X$ . Consider a point  $x$  in  $X$ . Then we say that:

- (1)  $x$  is *semistable with respect to  $\tau$*  if there exists a  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant section  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n})$  with respect to  $\tau^{\otimes n}$  for some  $n$  such that  $X_s$  is affine and contains  $x$ .
- (2)  $x$  is *stable with respect to  $\tau$*  if there exists a  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant section  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n})$  with respect to  $\tau^{\otimes n}$  for some  $n$  such that  $X_s$  is affine, contains  $x$  and the action of  $\mathbf{G}$  on  $X_s$  is closed.

We also denote by

$$X^{ss}(\tau), X^s(\tau)$$

sets of semistable and stable points of  $X$  with respect to  $\tau$ , respectively.

**Fact 8.5.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is affine group scheme over  $k$  and assume that  $X$  is quasi-compact and semiseparated. Let  $(\mathcal{L}, \tau)$  be a locally free  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf of rank one on  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{L}_{|X^{ss}(\tau)}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{|X^s(\tau)}$  are ample.

*Proof.* By definition  $X^{ss}(\tau)$  can be covered by open affines of the form  $X_s$  for  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant global sections  $s \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n})$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . This is one of the equivalent conditions for ampleness of  $\mathcal{L}_{|X^{ss}(\tau)}$ . The restriction of ample locally free sheaf to an open subset is ample. Hence  $\mathcal{L}_{|X^s(\tau)}$  is also ample.  $\square$

**Theorem 8.6.** Suppose that  $\mathbf{G}$  is geometrically reductive and  $X$  is semiseparated scheme of finite type over  $k$ . Let  $(\mathcal{L}, \tau)$  be a locally free  $\mathbf{G}$ -sheaf of rank one on  $X$ . Then there exists a uniform good categorical quotient  $q : X^{ss}(\tau) \rightarrow Y$  of  $X^{ss}(\tau)$  by  $\mathbf{G}$ . Moreover, the following assertions hold.

- (1)  $q$  is affine, universally submersive and  $Y$  is of finite type over  $k$ .
- (2) There exists an ample locally free sheaf of rank one on  $Y$  such that  $q^* \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n}$  for some  $n$ .
- (3) There exists an open subscheme  $\tilde{Y}$  of  $Y$  such that  $q^{-1}(\tilde{Y}) = X^s(\tau)$  and the morphism  $X^s(\tau) \rightarrow \tilde{Y}$  induced by  $q$  is a uniform geometric quotient of  $X^s(\tau)$  by  $\mathbf{G}$ .

*Proof.* We may fix positive integer  $n$  such that there is a family of  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant (with respect to linear representation induced by  $\tau^{\otimes n}$ ) global sections  $s_1, \dots, s_N \in \Gamma(X, \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n})$  with the property that  $X_{s_i}$  is affine for  $1 \leq i \leq N$  and

$$X^{ss}(\tau) = \bigcup_{i=1}^N X_{s_i}$$



This follows from the fact that  $X$  is quasi-compact. According to Theorem 7.2 for every  $i$  there exists an affine scheme  $V_i$  of finite type over  $k$  with the trivial  $\mathbf{G}$ -action and a  $\mathbf{G}$ -equivariant morphism  $q_i : X_{s_i} \rightarrow V_i$  which is a uniform good categorical quotient of  $X_{s_i}$ . Fix now  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Then  $\frac{s_j}{s_i}$  is a  $\mathbf{G}$ -invariant function on  $X_{s_i}$  by Proposition 8.3. Thus there exists a unique function  $f_{ij}$  on  $V_i$  such that  $q_i^\#(f_{ij}) = \frac{s_j}{s_i}$ . Consider now

$$V_{ij} = \{y \in V_i \mid f_{ij}(y) \neq 0\}$$

Then  $V_{ij}$  is an open subset of  $V_i$ . Note that  $q_i^{-1}(V_{ij})$  is a nonvanishing set of  $\frac{s_j}{s_i}$  and hence it is equal to  $X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j}$ . Since both  $q_i$  and  $q_j$  are uniform good categorical quotients, we derive that their restrictions  $X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j} \rightarrow V_{ij}$  and  $X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j} \rightarrow V_{ji}$  are categorical quotients. This implies that there exists a unique isomorphism  $\theta_{ij} : V_{ij} \rightarrow V_{ji}$  of  $k$ -schemes such that the triangle

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j} & \\ \text{induced by } q_i \swarrow & & \searrow \text{induced by } q_j \\ V_{ij} & \xrightarrow{\theta_{ij}} & V_{ji} \end{array}$$

is commutative. Isomorphisms  $\theta_{ij} : V_{ij} \rightarrow V_{ji}$  for pairs  $i, j$  of elements of  $\{1, \dots, N\}$  satisfy cocycle condition. Indeed, this follows from their uniqueness. Hence one can glue  $V_i$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  to a scheme  $Y$  of finite type over  $k$ . Moreover, morphisms  $q_i$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  give rise to a morphism  $q : X^{ss}(\tau) \rightarrow Y$  such that  $q^{-1}(V_i) = X_{s_i}$  and the restriction of  $q$  to  $X_{s_i} \rightarrow V_i$  is equal to  $q_i$  for every  $i$ . According to Theorem 6.6 we derive that  $q$  is a uniform good categorical quotient of  $X$ . Moreover,  $q$  is affine and by Corollary 6.5 it is universally submersive. This completes the proof of the main assertion and (1).

Now we prove (2). Pick three indices  $1 \leq i, j, r \leq N$ . Then  $f_{rj} \cdot f_{ji} = f_{ri}$  on an open subset  $V_i \cap V_j \cap V_r$  of  $Y$ . Hence  $f_{ji} \cdot (-) : \mathcal{O}_{V_i|V_i \cap V_j} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{V_j|V_i \cap V_j}$  for  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  glue to a locally free sheaf of rank one  $\mathcal{M}$  on  $Y$ . Since  $q^\#(f_{ji}) = \frac{s_i}{s_j} \in \Gamma(X_{s_j}, \mathcal{O}_X)$  for every pair  $i, j$ , we derive that  $q^* \mathcal{M}$  admits transition functions  $\frac{s_i}{s_j} \cdot (-) : \mathcal{O}_{X_{s_i}|X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{X_{s_j}|X_{s_i} \cap X_{s_j}}$  for every pair  $i, j$ . This implies that  $q^* \mathcal{M}$  is isomorphic with  $\mathcal{L}^{\otimes n}$ . Note also that  $f_{ji} \in \Gamma(V_j, \mathcal{O}_Y)$  for  $j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  give rise to a global section  $t_i$  of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Then  $q^* t_i = s_i$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ . Hence  $q^{-1}(Y_{t_i}) = X_{s_i}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ . Thus  $Y_{t_i} = V_i$  for every  $i$ . This implies that sets  $Y_{t_i}$  for  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  form an open affine cover of  $Y$ . This proves that  $\mathcal{M}$  is ample locally free sheaf on  $Y$ . This completes (2).

It remains to prove assertion (3). By enlarging  $N$  and  $n$  if necessary, we may assume that there exists  $I \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}$  such that  $X^s(\tau) = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_{s_i}$ . Consider  $\tilde{Y} = \bigcup_{i \in I} V_i$ . Then  $q^{-1}(\tilde{Y}) = X^s(\tau)$  and according to Theorem 7.2 the restriction  $X_{s_i} \rightarrow V_i$  is a uniform geometric quotient for every  $i \in I$ . Hence the restriction  $X^s(\tau) \rightarrow \tilde{Y}$  is a uniform geometric quotient. Now the theorem is proved.  $\square$

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