

Galois Theory of Differential & Difference Schemes

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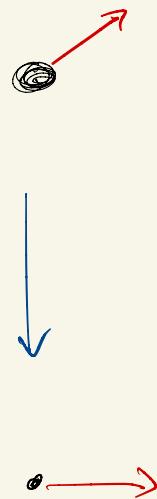
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AVEIRO , 12/09/2025

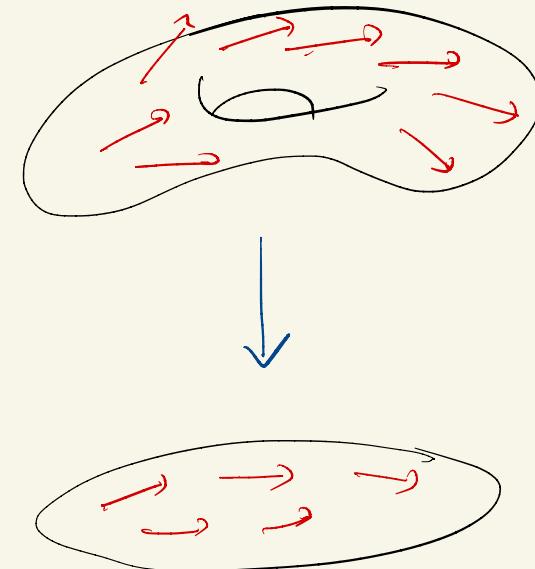
Classical Picard-Vessiot

1883 - 2023

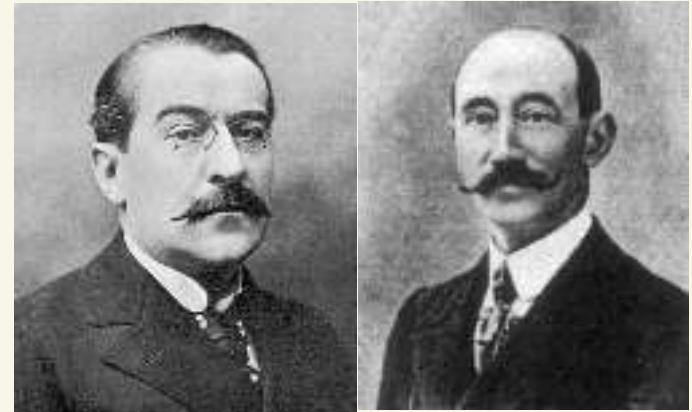
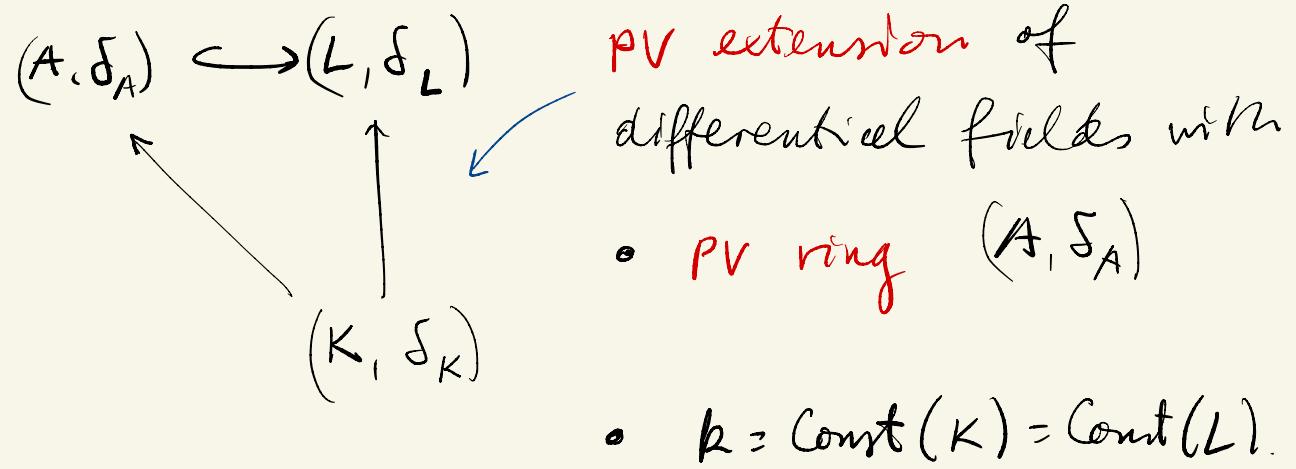


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CLASSICAL PICARD-VESSIOT THEORY



\rightsquigarrow PV Galois group $G = \text{Gal}^{\text{PV}}(L/K) = \text{Spec}(\underbrace{\text{Const}(A \otimes_A A)}_K)$
 \uparrow linear alg.-group / k \uparrow Hopf alg / k

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{intermediate differential} \\ \text{field extensions} \end{array} \right\} \xleftrightarrow{1:1} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{closed subgroups} \\ \text{of } G \end{array} \right\}$

JANELIDZE'S CATEGORICAL FORMULATION

CATEGORICAL GALOIS THEORY :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \delta\text{-Ring}^{\text{op}} & \simeq & \delta\text{-Aff} \\ \text{Const} \begin{pmatrix} - \\ \downarrow \end{pmatrix} & (-, 0) & \\ \text{Ring}^{\text{op}} & \simeq & \text{Aff} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X = \text{Spec}(A) & \longrightarrow & S = \text{Spec}(k) \\ f \downarrow & & \parallel \\ Y = \text{Spec}(K) & \longrightarrow & S \end{array} \quad \stackrel{\cup}{\hookrightarrow} \text{GALOIS},$$

L/K



Categorical Galois group(oid)

$$G = \text{Gal}[f] \simeq \text{Gal}^{\text{PV}}(L/K)$$

Const($X \times_Y X$)

Self-splitting : $X \times_Y X \simeq X \times_{(S, 0)} (G, 0)$ ← Tensor relation

Equivalence :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Split}[f] & \simeq & \text{Aff}^G \\ \text{objects in } \delta\text{-Aff}/Y \text{ split by } f & \nearrow & \swarrow \\ & & G\text{-actions in } \text{Aff}/S \end{array}$$

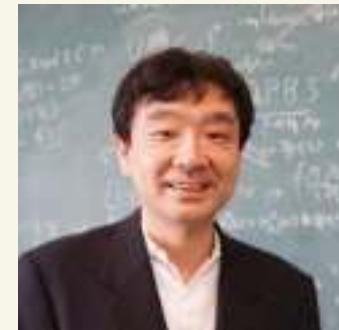
CARBONI-JANELIDZE-MAGID CORRESPONDENCE

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{SPLIT} \\ \text{QUOTIENTS of } \frac{X}{Y} \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow[1:1]{\sim} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{EFFECTIVE} \\ \text{SUBGROUPS of } G \end{array} \right\}$$

$X/H \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad H \leq G$



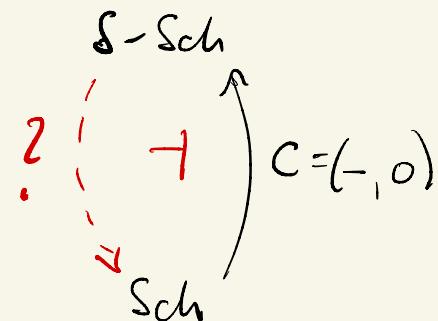
MASUOKA (Sept 2023) : Does Categorical Galois theory recover classical PV correspondence?



Answer : NO ! $H \leq G \Leftrightarrow$ effective in Aff iff G/H affine scheme.

In general G/H can be QUASI-PROJECTIVE.

→ We must work with GENERAL DIFFERENTIAL SCHEMES.



DIFFERENTIAL SCHEMES

S -scheme

S -differential scheme : $(X, (\mathcal{O}_X, \delta_X))$, where $(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \in \text{Sch}/S$

$$\delta_X \in \text{Der}_S(\mathcal{O}_X, \mathcal{O}_X).$$

↗ a vector field on X .

as category

$\delta\text{-Sch}_S$

Functor

$$C : \text{Sch}_S \longrightarrow \delta\text{-Sch}_S$$
$$(X, \mathcal{O}_X) \mapsto (X, (\mathcal{O}_X, \delta)) .$$

CATEGORICAL SCHEME OF LEAVES

[inspired by BARDavid]

If $\gamma: (X, \delta_X) \rightarrow (Q, \circ) = C(Q)$ is universal from X to C , i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (X, \delta_X) & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & C(Q) \\ & \nearrow \gamma' & \downarrow \exists! \\ & C(Q') & \end{array}$$

then $Q = \pi_0(X, \delta_X)$

- rarely exists
- π_0 PARTIAL left adjoint to C
- In general

$$\pi_0(\text{Spec}(A, \delta_A)) \neq \text{Spec}(\text{Cont}(A, \delta_A))$$

AN INTERLUDE: INTERNAL PRECATEGORIES

\mathcal{A} - a category.

a precategory $\mathbb{C} \in \text{PreCat}(\mathcal{A})$ is a diagram in \mathcal{A}

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & r_0 & & \\ & C_2 & \xrightarrow{\quad m \quad} & C_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad d_0 \quad} \\ & \xrightarrow{\quad r_1 \quad} & & \xleftarrow{\quad n \quad} & \\ & & & \xrightarrow{\quad d_1 \quad} & C_0 \end{array}$$

s.t.

$$d_0 r_1 = d_1 r_0$$

$$d_0 n = \text{id}_{C_0}$$

$$d_0 m = d_0 r_0$$

$$d_1 n = \text{id}_{C_0}$$

$$d_1 m = d_1 r_1$$

\mathbb{C} is a category if $C_2 \cong \underset{C_0}{C_1 \times C_1}$

Example:

Kernel pair groupoid of

$f: X \rightarrow Y$ in \mathcal{A}

$G_f :$

$$X \times_Y X \xrightarrow{\quad} X \times_X X \xleftarrow{\quad} X$$

$\in \text{Cat}(\mathcal{A})$.

INDEXED DATA

PSEUDO FUNCTOR $\mathcal{P}: \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$

- for $x \in \mathcal{A}$, $\mathcal{P}(x)$ is a category
- for $x \xrightarrow{f} y$ in \mathcal{A} , $f^* = \mathcal{P}(f) : \mathcal{P}(y) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(x)$ functor
- + coherence

EXAMPLES:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \mathcal{A} = \text{Ring}^{\text{op}}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(R) = R\text{-Mod}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \mathcal{A} = \text{Sch}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(X) = Q\text{Coh}(X)$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \mathcal{A} = \text{Sch}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(X) = \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} \mathbb{Q} \\ \mathbb{Z} \downarrow X \end{smallmatrix} : \text{\mathbb{Z} quasiprojective} \right\}$$

LAX PRECATEGORY ACTIONS : ABSTRACT DESCENT DATA

$\mathcal{C} \in \text{PreCat}(\mathcal{A})$

$\mathcal{P} : \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$ pseudofunctor

Category of (lax) \mathcal{C} -actions in \mathcal{P} :

$P = (P_0, \varphi) \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{lax}}^{\mathcal{C}}$, where

• P_0 in $\mathcal{P}(C_0)$

• $d_1^* P_0 \xrightarrow{\varphi} d_0^* P_0$ in $\mathcal{P}(C_1)$

+ cocycle condition in $\mathcal{P}(C_2)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 n^* d_1^* P_0 & \xrightarrow{n^* \varphi} & n^* d_0^* P_0 \\
 \swarrow \sim & & \nearrow \sim \\
 P_0 & & \leftarrow \text{in } P(C_0)
 \end{array}$$

$$[n^* \varphi \simeq \text{id}]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 m^* d_1^* P_0 & \xrightarrow{m^* \varphi} & m^* d_0^* P_0 & \leftarrow \text{in } P(C_2) \\
 \nearrow \sim & & \searrow \sim & & \\
 r_1^* d_1^* P_0 & & & & r_0^* d_0^* P_0 \\
 & \xrightarrow{r_1^* \varphi} & r_1^* d_0^* P_0 & \xrightarrow{\sim} & r_0^* d_1^* P_0 \xrightarrow{r_0^* \varphi}
 \end{array}$$

COCYCLE CONDITION

$$[r_0^* \varphi \circ r_1^* \varphi \simeq m^* \varphi]$$

A FIBRATIONAL VIEW OF PRECATEGORY ACTIONS

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{P} : \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT} & \rightsquigarrow & \tilde{\mathcal{P}} = \int \mathcal{P} \\ & & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{C} \in \text{PreCat}(\mathcal{A}) & & \mathcal{A} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P \in \mathcal{P}_{\text{lex}}^{\mathbb{C}} & \rightsquigarrow & \mathbb{P} \dots \quad P_2 \xrightarrow{\quad} P_1 \xleftarrow{\quad} P_0 \in \text{PreCat}(\tilde{\mathcal{P}}) \\ & & \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \\ & & \mathbb{C} \dots \quad C_2 \xrightarrow{\quad} C_1 \xleftarrow{\quad} C_0 \end{array}$$

" \rightarrow " CARTESIAN in $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$
 \rightarrow ARBITRARY

PRECATEGORICAL DESCENT

$f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ morphism in $\text{Precat}(\mathcal{A})$

$\mathcal{P} : \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$ pseudofunctor.

• f is descent for \mathcal{P} if $f^* : \mathcal{P}^{\mathcal{D}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}^{\mathcal{C}}$ is f.f.

• effective descent $\xrightarrow{\quad \cong \quad}$ equivalence

CLASSICAL DESCENT

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{\quad P(X) \quad} & \\
 f \downarrow \text{on } \mathcal{A} \rightsquigarrow & \uparrow f^* & \text{Question : which } P \in \mathcal{P}(X) \text{ are of form} \\
 Y & \xleftarrow{\quad \mathcal{P}(Y) \quad} & P \cong f^* Q \text{ for some } Q \in \mathcal{P}(Y) ?
 \end{array}$$

Recall $\mathbb{G}_f \in \text{Cet}(\mathcal{A})$:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 X \times_{\gamma} X \times_{\gamma} X \xrightarrow{\quad \cong \quad} X \times_{\gamma} X \xrightleftharpoons[d_1]{d_0} X
 \end{array}$$

Such a $P \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ has a glueing morphism $d_1^* P \xrightarrow{\cong} d_0^* P$ in $\mathcal{P}(X \times_{\gamma} X)$
 + a cocycle condition in $\mathcal{P}(X \times_{\gamma} X \times_{\gamma} X)$.

as category of descent data

$$\text{DD}_{\mathcal{P}}(f)$$

CLASSICAL vs PRECATEGORICAL DESCENT

Refined question : when is

$$f^*: \mathcal{P}(Y) \longrightarrow \text{DD}_{\mathcal{P}}(f)$$

- an equivalence (f effective descent)
- fully faithful (f descent)
- faithful (f pre-descent) ?

Note :

$$\text{DD}_{\mathcal{P}}(f) \simeq \mathcal{P}^{G_f}$$

if f is classically descent / effective descent

iff the Precat(\mathcal{A}) - morphism

$$G_f \rightarrow G_{\text{id}_Y} = \Delta(Y) \text{ is.}$$

DIFFERENTIAL SCHEMES AS PRECATEGORY ACTIONS

PRECATEGORY in Sch/S

$D(S) :$

$$S[\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2]_{/(\varepsilon_1^2, \varepsilon_1\varepsilon_2, \varepsilon_2^2)} \xrightarrow{\cong} S[\varepsilon]_{/(\varepsilon^2)} \xrightleftharpoons[S]{\cong}$$

Key observation :

$$\mathcal{S}\text{-}\text{Sch}_S \cong (\text{Sch}/S)^{D(S)}$$

$$(X, \delta_X) \rightsquigarrow X = (X_2 \rightrightarrows X_1 \rightrightarrows X_0)$$

CATEGORICAL SCHEME of LEAVES \rightsquigarrow CONNECTED COMPONENTS :

$$\pi_0(X, \delta_X) := \pi_0(X) = \text{coeq}(X_1 \rightrightarrows X_0)$$

\nwarrow when it exists in Sch .

DIFFERENTIAL DESCENT

$$\mathcal{P} : (\text{Sch}/S)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT} \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{S}\text{-}\mathcal{P} : (\mathcal{S}\text{-}\text{Sch}_S)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$$

$$(X, \delta_X) \rightsquigarrow \mathcal{P}^*$$

precategory \mathcal{X}
 actions in \mathcal{P} .

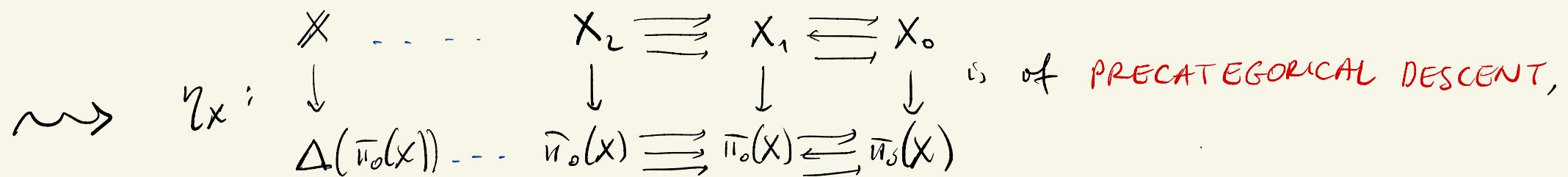
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (X, \delta_X) & \rightsquigarrow & X \dots X_2 \rightrightarrows X_1 \rightrightarrows X_0 \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow f_2 \quad \downarrow f_1 \quad \downarrow f_0 \\
 (Y, \delta_Y) & \rightsquigarrow & Y \dots Y_2 \rightrightarrows Y_1 \rightrightarrows Y_0
 \end{array}$$

Th $f \circ$ effective descent for $\mathcal{S}\text{-}\mathcal{P}$ if f_0 effective descent for \mathcal{P} ,
 f_1 descent for \mathcal{P} ,
and f_2 pre-descent for \mathcal{P} .

SIMPLICITY & PRECATEGORICAL DESCENT

Def (X, δ_X) is SIMPLE wrt $\mathcal{P} : (\text{Sch}_S)^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$

if $\pi_0(X, \delta_X) = \bar{\pi}_0(X)$ exists and is universal for \mathcal{P} .



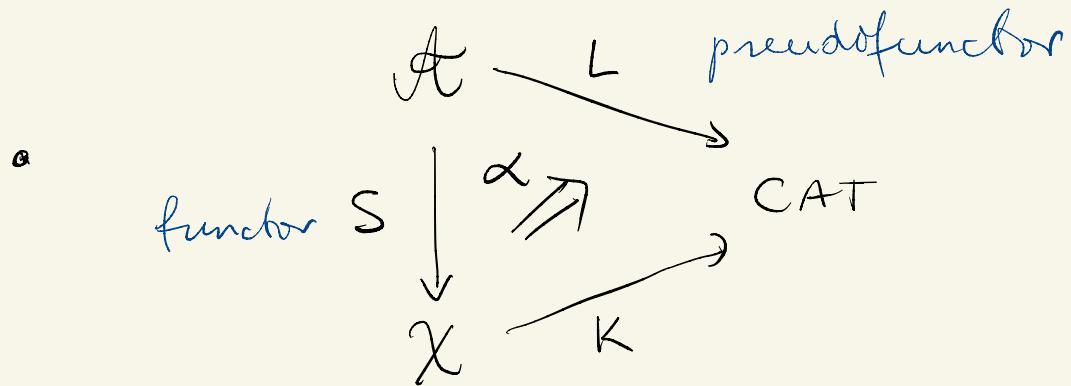
i.e.

$$c_X : \mathcal{P}(\bar{\pi}_0(X)) \xrightarrow{\cong} \delta\text{-}\mathcal{P}(X, \delta_X) \quad \hookrightarrow \text{fully faithful.}$$

$$Q \longmapsto \gamma_X^* Q$$

think
 $Q \longmapsto (X, \delta_X) \times (Q, \sigma)$ is f.f., i.e. $X_1 \rightrightarrows X_0 \rightarrow \bar{\pi}_0(X)$ univ. coeq.
 $\downarrow \bar{\pi}_0(X)$
 $(\bar{\pi}_0(X), \sigma)$

INDEXED CATEGORICAL GALOIS TH. [Borceux - Janelidze]



- $x \xrightarrow{f} y \in \mathcal{A}$ s.t. $\alpha_x, \alpha_{x \xrightarrow{f} y}, \alpha_{x \xrightarrow{f} x \xrightarrow{f} y}$ f-f.
- f effective descent wrt L

$$\Rightarrow \text{Split}_\alpha(f) \simeq K^{S \circ G_f}$$

INDEXED FRAMEWORK FOR DIFFERENTIAL GALOIS TH.

that
admit $\tilde{\pi}_0$ $\rightarrow \mathcal{A} \hookrightarrow \delta\text{-Sch}_{\mathcal{S}}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\pi}_0 & \left(\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ - \\ \uparrow \end{array} \right) & C \\ \downarrow & & \\ X & = & \text{Sch}_{\mathcal{S}} \end{array}$$

- $P : X^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$

- $\rightsquigarrow \delta\text{-}P : \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{CAT}$

- $C : P \circ \tilde{\pi}_0 \Rightarrow \delta\text{-}P$ pseudonatural

- $C_z : P(\tilde{\pi}_0(z)) \rightarrow \delta\text{-}P(z)$ as before.

(PRE-)PICARD-VESSIOT MORPHISMS

Def

$f: (X, \delta_X) \rightarrow (Y, \delta_Y) \in \mathcal{K}$ is

pre-PV for \mathcal{P} , if:

(1) f is effective descent for $\mathcal{F}-\mathcal{P}$

(2) $X, X \times_{\mathcal{P}} X, X \times_{\mathcal{P}} X \times_{\mathcal{P}} X$ are simple for \mathcal{P} ,

Def (for suitable \mathcal{P})

f is PV if:

(1) — || —

(2) X simple & $f \in \text{Split}[f]$.

↑
self-splitting

GALOIS PRECATEGORY/GROUPOID

- $f \circ \rho_V \Rightarrow f \circ \text{pre-}\rho_V$

- $f \circ \text{pre-}\rho_V \rightsquigarrow G_f = (X \times_{\tilde{f}} X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times_Y X \xleftarrow{\cong} X) \in \text{Cat}(\mathcal{A})$

$\rightsquigarrow \text{Gel}[f] = \pi_0(G_f) \in \text{PreCat}(X)$ GALOIS PRECATEGORY.

- $f \circ \rho_V \Rightarrow \text{Gel}[f] \in \text{Cat}(X)$ GROUPOID.

GALOIS THEORY OF DIFFERENTIAL SCHEMES

Th • f pre-PV \Rightarrow equivalence

$$\text{Split}_C[f] \simeq P^{\text{Gal}[f]}.$$

• f PV \Rightarrow RHS: groupoid actions.

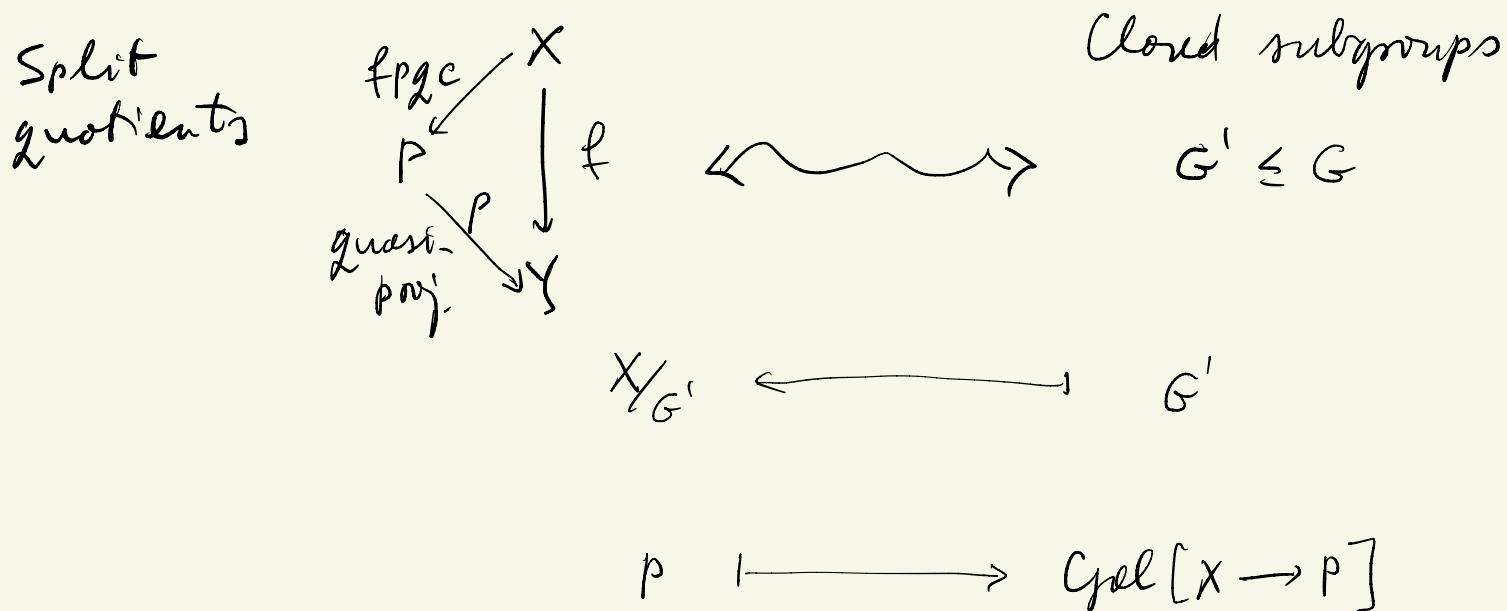
Pf f pre-PV \Rightarrow (1) f is effective descent

(2) $x, x_{\gamma}x, x_{\gamma}x_{\gamma}x$ simple $\Rightarrow c_x, c_{x_{\gamma}x}, c_{x_{\gamma}x_{\gamma}x}$ f.f.

\Rightarrow Jonelidre's indexed Galois Th. applies.

APPLICATIONS: QUASI-PROJECTIVE THEORY

- (K, δ_K) diff. field char 0, $k = \text{Const}(K)$, $S = \text{Spec}(k)$,
- $(X, \delta_X) \xrightarrow{f} (Y, \delta_Y) = \text{Spec}(K, \delta_K)$ quasi-projective integral, only leaf is generic pt.
- f is self-split.
 $\Rightarrow f$ is PV, $G = \text{Gal}[f]$ is an S -group scheme, correspondence:



\rightsquigarrow unifies linear PV theory and **STRONGLY NORMAL** th. of KOLCHIN.

EXAMPLE : RELATIVE ELLIPTIC CURVE

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \longrightarrow & E \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 Y & \longrightarrow & S
 \end{array}$$

Weierstrass
 family of
 elliptic curves

$y^2 = x^3 + ux + v$
 $S = \text{Spec}(\mathbb{Q}[u, v, \frac{1}{4u^3 + 27v^2}])$

$\mathcal{R}_{X/S} = \langle \omega_X, dz \rangle$
 $\delta_X: dz \mapsto 1$
 $"\omega_X \mapsto z"$
 $"\text{Id}(x) = z"$

$S[z]$
 $\delta_Y: dz \mapsto 1$

$\mathcal{R}_{E/S} = \langle \omega_0 \rangle$
 ↗ invariant differential $\frac{dx}{y}$.

$f \in PV$
 \rightsquigarrow

$$C_{\text{rel}}[f] \simeq (E \rightrightarrows S)$$

SPECIALISATION: for $s \in S(L)$,

$$C_{\text{rel}}[f_s] \simeq C_{\text{rel}}[f]_s \simeq E_s$$

EXAMPLE : AIRY EQUATION

$X = \mathbb{A}^1 \times GL_2 = \text{Spec}\left(k[x, u, \frac{1}{\det u}]\right)$ with vector field

$$f \downarrow Y = \mathbb{A}^1$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + u_{21} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{11}} + u_{22} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{12}} + xu_{11} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{21}} + xu_{12} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{22}} ; \quad \omega \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$f \in PV$ vs Galois groupoid

$$\text{Gal}[f] : \pi_0(X \times_f X) \rightrightarrows \pi_0(X)$$

↓ ↓

$$(GL_2 \times GL_2)_{/SL_2} \rightrightarrows GL_2_{/SL_2} \cong \mathbb{G}_m$$

↑

isomorphisms between PV extensions

Analogy : Deligne's fundamental groupoid (Cat, Tannakianes)

FORTHCOMING WORK

$$\begin{matrix} \text{Differential Galois} \\ \text{Theory} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} (\text{precategorical}) \\ \text{Descent} \end{matrix} + \begin{matrix} \text{Categorical Galois} \\ \text{Theory} \end{matrix}$$

- ~ difference PV-style Galois Theory [uses lax actions]
- ~ common generalizations:-
 - σ - δ Theory [Di Vizio-Hardin-Wibmer]
 - δ - δ Theory [Cassidy-Singer]
 - partial core
 - Hens-Schmidt derivatives
 - use algebraic formal actions