

# PRETALK

- I. Serre's ramification theory
  - II. Geometric ramification theory:  $\mathbb{Z}_p$ -covers of curves
  - III. ~~Stacky curves?~~ ASW extensions:  $\mathbb{Z}_p^2$ -covers?
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I.] Def: A local field is a completed discretely valued field  $K$  with finite residue field  $k = \mathcal{O}_K/\mathfrak{m}_K$  where  $\mathcal{O}_K = \{v(x) \geq 0\}$   
 $\mathfrak{m}_K = \{v(x) > 0\}$ .

Ex:  $\mathbb{Q}_p = \varprojlim \mathbb{Z}/p^n\mathbb{Z}$  is a dvr with  $\mathcal{O}_p = \text{Frac } \mathbb{Z}_p$  a local field of char. 0.

Ex:  $\mathbb{F}_p((t)) = \text{Laurent series over } \mathbb{F}_p$  is a local field of char. p.

Theorem: Every local field is a finite ext. of one of these.

I'm mostly interested in  $L/\mathbb{F}_p((t))$ , the "equicharacteristic case".

Fix a Galois ext.  $L/K$  with gp.  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .

Theorem (Serre): Such ext's are classified up to isomorphism by their ramification jump:

$$m = -v_K(\alpha) \text{ where } \alpha \text{ is a certain elt. "generating" } L/K.$$

Fact: cyclic  $p$ -ext's are all of the form  $L = K(\sqrt[p]{\alpha}) = K[y]/(y^p - y - \alpha)$   
( $m$  char.  $p$ ) for some  $\alpha \in K$ ,  $\alpha \neq \beta^p - \beta$ .

Then the ram. jump is  $m = -v_K(\alpha)$  for this  $\alpha$  (AS generator).

Ex:  $L : y^p - y = t^{-m} \rightsquigarrow v(t^{-m}) = -m \rightsquigarrow \text{jump} = m,$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\mathbb{F}_p((t))$

Interpretation w/ higher ramification gps

Prop: The ramification jump  $m$  is the break in the ramification filtration

$$G \supseteq G_0 \supseteq G_1 \supseteq \dots$$

where  $G_s = \{ \sigma \in G \mid v_L(\sigma(x) - x) \geq s+1 \ \forall x \in \mathcal{O}_L \}$

I. Let  $\psi: Y \rightarrow X$  be a cover of curves over  $k$  (char.  $p$ ), Galois, w/ gp.  $G (= \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$ .

Birationally,  $\begin{array}{ccc} Y & & k(Y) = L \stackrel{\text{AS}}{=} K(\psi^{-1}(f)) \text{ for } f \in K \\ \downarrow & \longleftrightarrow & \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ X & & k(X) = K \end{array}$

A rational function  $f: X \dashrightarrow \mathbb{A}_k^1$  can be viewed as a regular function  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$  (poles of  $f \mapsto \infty$ ).

We will see that  $\text{ord}(f) = \text{ramification jump}$

Ex:  $\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{P}^1 [u, v] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ y^p - y = t^{-m} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathbb{P}^1 [u^p, v^p - u^{p-1}v] \end{array}$