

Seminar on Arithmetic Geometry and Algebraic Groups

# NETS FOR FISHING

## ABSOLUTE GALOIS PRO- $p$ GROUPS

CLAUDIO QUADRELLI  
University of Insubria – Italy

16 May 2022  
AGAG seminar

## Profinite groups and pro- $p$ groups

Henceforth we fix an arbitrary prime  $p$  (it could be  $p = 2$  with further conditions...)

A *profinite group*  $G$  is a topological group which is, equivalently, ...

- ▶ compact, Hausdorff, s.t.  $1$  has a basis of open neighbourhoods  $\mathcal{N}$  consisting of normal subgroups;
- ▶ the projective limit of finite groups, i.e.,  $G = \varprojlim_{i \in I} G_i$ , with  $|G_i| < \infty$

A *pro- $p$  group* is a profinite group  $G$  which is a projective limit of finite  $p$  groups, or, equivalently,  $G/N$  is a finite  $p$  group for every  $N \in \mathcal{N}$ .

EXAMPLES

here  $p^n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p^\times = \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$

- ▶  $\mathbb{Z}_p = \{a_0 + a_1p + a_2p^2 + \dots \mid a_n \in \mathbb{Z}/p\} = \varprojlim_{n \geq 1} \mathbb{Z}/p^n$  is an additive free cyclic pro- $p$  group
- ▶  $1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p = \{1 + p\lambda \mid \lambda \in \mathbb{Z}_p\} \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_p^\times$  is a multiplicative free cyclic pro- $p$  group

# Galois groups and profinite groups

Galois groups are profinite groups:

$$\text{Gal}(\mathbf{L}/\mathbf{K}) = \varprojlim_{[\tilde{\mathbf{K}}:\mathbf{K}] < \infty} \text{Gal}(\mathbf{L}/\tilde{\mathbf{K}}).$$

Conversely, every profinite group occurs as  $\text{Gal}(\mathbf{L}/\mathbf{K})$  for some field extension  $\mathbf{L}/\mathbf{K}$ , but...

## BIG QUESTION(S)

- ▶ Which profinite group  $G$  occur as the *absolute Galois group*  $G_{\mathbf{K}} = \text{Gal}(\bar{\mathbf{K}}_s/\mathbf{K})$  for some field  $\mathbf{K}$ ?
- ▶ Which *pro- $p$  group* occurs as the *maximal pro- $p$  Galois group*  $G_{\mathbf{K}}(p) = \text{Gal}(\mathbf{K}(p)/\mathbf{K})$  for some field  $\mathbf{K}$  containing  $\sqrt[p]{1}$ ?

mxl  
pro- $p$   
quotient of  $G_{\mathbf{K}}$

↳ mxl pro- $p$  ext of  $\mathbf{K}$

Note: if  $G$  is pro- $p$  and  $G \not\cong G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$  for any field containing  $\sqrt[p]{1}$ , then  $G \not\cong G_{\mathbf{K}'}$  for any field  $\mathbf{K}'$ .

# Orientations of pro- $p$ groups

## Definition

An *oriented pro- $p$  group*  $(G, \theta)$  is a pro- $p$  group  $G$  equipped with a homomorphism of pro- $p$  groups  $\theta: G \rightarrow 1 + p\mathbf{Z}_p$  called an *orientation* of  $G$ .

The  $G$ -module  $\mathbf{Z}_p(\theta)$  is defined by  $\mathbf{Z}_p(\theta) \stackrel{\simeq \mathbb{Z}_p}{=} \{v \mid v \in \mathbf{Z}_p\}$ ,  
 $g \cdot v = \theta(g) \cdot v$

Oriented pro- $p$  groups were introduced by I. Efrat 25 years ago with the name "pro- $p$  pairs".

## EXAMPLES

▶ The  $p$ -cyclotomic character  $\theta_{\mathbf{K}}: G_{\mathbf{K}}(p) \rightarrow 1 + p\mathbf{Z}_p$  satisfies  $g \cdot \zeta = \zeta^{\theta_{\mathbf{K}}(g)}$  for every  $\zeta \in \overline{\mathbf{K}}_s$  root of 1 of  $p$ -power order

▶ A Demuškin group  $G$  yields a canonical orientation  $\theta_G: G \rightarrow 1 + p\mathbf{Z}_p$  (if  $G = G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$  with  $\mathbf{K}$  local then  $\theta_G = \theta_{\mathbf{K}}$ )

↳ mxl pro- $p$  Gal gps of local fields

$\mathbf{K} \in \sqrt[p]{1}$

# Pro- $p$ groups of elementary type

We can combine together oriented pro- $p$  groups:

2 or. pro- $p$  gps

•  $(G_1, \theta_1), (G_2, \theta_2)$

$G_1 * G_2$   $\xrightarrow{\theta_1 * \theta_2} 1 + p\mathbb{Z}_p$

free pro- $p$   
product

•  $(G, \theta), A \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$

$A \rtimes_{\theta} G$ ,  $k \in A, g \in G$   
 $g \circ g^{-1} = \alpha^{\theta}(g)$

Galois theory

•  $G_{\mathbb{K}_1}(p), G_{\mathbb{K}_2}(p) \exists \mathbb{K} \text{ s.t.}$

$\Rightarrow G_{\mathbb{K}_1}(p) * G_{\mathbb{K}_2}(p) = G_{\mathbb{K}}(p)$

•  $G_{\mathbb{K}}(p) \quad \mathbb{L} = \mathbb{K}(\!(X)\!) \quad \mathbb{L} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$

$\Rightarrow G_{\mathbb{L}}(p) = A \rtimes_{\theta_{\mathbb{K}}} G_{\mathbb{K}}(p)$   
 $\mathbb{L} \simeq \mathbb{Z}_p$

# The Elementary Type Conjecture

The smallest family of oriented pro- $p$  group which can be obtained starting from  $(\{1\}, \mathbf{1})$ , all  $(\mathbf{Z}_p, \theta)$  (with  $\theta$  arbitrary), and from Demuškin pro- $p$  groups, employing these two operations, are called pro- $p$  groups of elementary type.

## Conjecture (I. Efrat, '97)

Let  $\mathbf{K}$  be a field containing  $\sqrt[p]{1}$ . If  $G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$  is finitely generated, then  $(G_{\mathbf{K}}(p), \theta_{\mathbf{K}})$  is of elementary type.

This conjecture is open, and also we don't know whether any oriented pro- $p$  group (in fact, any Demuškin group) occurs as  $(G_{\mathbf{K}}(p), \theta_{\mathbf{K}})$ . Still:

- ▶ If a property is suspected to hold for all  $G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$ 's, then prove it for oriented pro- $p$  groups of E.T. first!
- ▶ Few concrete examples of pro- $p$  groups which are not  $G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$ 's are known: find them among non-E.T. oriented pro- $p$  groups.

## $\mathbf{Z}/p$ -cohomology of pro- $p$ groups

Consider  $\mathbf{Z}/p$  as a trivial mod. of a pro- $p$  group  $G$ : we write  $H^k(G) := H^k(G, \mathbf{Z}/p)$ .

- ▶  $H^0(G) = \underline{\mathbf{Z}/p}$
- ▶  $H^1(G) = \text{Hom}(G, \mathbf{Z}/p) = (G/\Phi(G))^*$  ( $\mathbf{Z}/p$ -dual)   
 *get cyclic gp order p*
- ▶ if  $\{1\} \rightarrow R \rightarrow F \rightarrow G \rightarrow \{1\}$  is a minimal presentation of  $G$  then  $H^1(G) \simeq H^1(F)$  and

$$\left( \frac{R}{R^p[R, F]} \right)^* \xrightarrow{\sim} \underline{H^2(G)}$$

so a basis of  $H^2(G)$  “gives” a minimal set of defining relations of  $G$  (modulo  $R^p[R, F]$ )

# Nets for fishing $G_K(p)$ 's

Voisin (2011)

= Bloch-Kato conjecture

After the proof of the Norm Residue Theorem, we have three "cohomological nets" for fishing  $G_K(p)$ 's among pro- $p$  groups:

(1) A pro- $p$  group  $G$  has the Bloch-Kato property of deg 2 if

$H^n(G)$  depends only on  $H^1(G)$  &  $H^2(G)$

$$H^1(H) \times H^1(H) \xrightarrow{\cup} H^2(H) \quad \text{cup-product (anti-comm)}$$

$$\forall H \subseteq G \Rightarrow H^2(H) \leftarrow \Lambda_2(H^1(H))$$

(2) An oriented pro- $p$  group  $(G, \theta)$  is *1-cyclotomic* if the natural map

$$H^1(H, \mathbf{Z}_p(\theta)) \xrightarrow{\text{mod } p} H^1(H) \quad \forall H \subseteq G$$

is surjective (note:  $G$  acts trivially on  $\mathbf{Z}_p(\theta)/p \cong \mathbf{Z}/p$ )

Both properties may be translated into group-theoretical terms. By the Norm Residue Theorem,  $G_K(p)$ 's satisfy both properties.



## Nets for fishing $G_K(p)$ 's

(3) A pro- $p$  group  $G$  has the  $n$ -Massey vanishing property for  $n \geq 3$  if the  $n$ -fold Massey product

$$\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle \subseteq H^2(G)$$

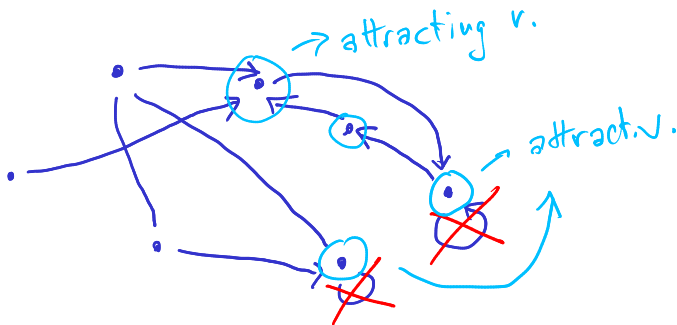
associated to an  $n$ -tuple of elements of  $H^1(G)$  contains 0 whenever it is non-empty

$G_K(p)$ 's have the 3-MV property, and also the  $n$ -MV property for all  $n \geq 3$  in some cases (number fields, local fields...), as well as oriented pro- $p$  groups of E.T. It is conjectured that all  $G_K(p)$ 's have the  $n$ -MV property for every  $n \geq 3$ .

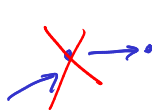
↓  
Mináč-Tân ('17)

# Oriented graphs

My definition of *oriented graph*  $\Gamma$ : a finite set of vertices, some of which are joined by an arrow or by a plain edge — no loops allowed!



An oriented graph is special if every attracting vertex is a "black hole".



# Oriented right-angled Artin pro- $p$ groups

Given an oriented graph  $\Gamma$ , pick your favourite  $p$ -power  $p^f$ ,  $f \in \mathbf{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ . The *oriented right-angled Artin pro- $p$  group* associated to  $\Gamma$  and  $p^f$  is the pro- $p$  group  $G$  with pro- $p$  presentation

it could be  $p^f = 0$  if  $f = \infty$

$$G = \left\langle \underbrace{\text{vertices } v} \mid \begin{array}{ll} [v, w] = 1 & \text{if } v \rightarrow w \\ v w v^{-1} = w^{1+p^f} & \text{if } w \rightarrow v \end{array} \right\rangle_{\hat{p}}$$



with orientation  $\theta_\Gamma: G \rightarrow 1 + p\mathbf{Z}_p$  defined by

$$\theta_\Gamma(v) = \begin{cases} 1 + p^f & \text{if } v \text{ attracting} \\ 1 & \text{if } v \text{ normal} \end{cases}$$

$$G = \left( \begin{array}{l} u, v, w \\ [u, v] = 1 \\ v \cdot w \cdot v^{-1} = w^{1+p} \end{array} \right)$$

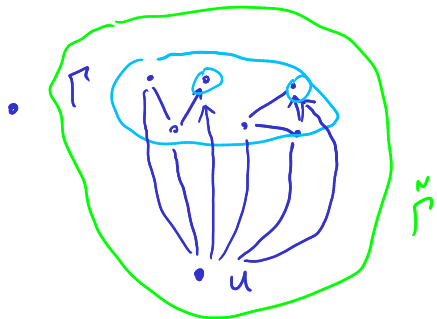
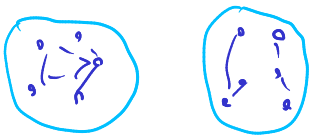
This is a very rich family of pro- $p$  groups, so it is interesting from a Galois-theoretic point of view.

$$\theta_\Gamma(v) = 1 + p^f$$

$$\theta_\Gamma(w), \theta_\Gamma(u) = 1$$

# Graphs of elementary type (starting from $\bullet$ )

•  $\Gamma_1$   $\cup$   $\Gamma_2$



• The or. prop RAAG  
 ass. to  $\Gamma_1 \cup \Gamma_2$  is

$G_1 * G_2$ ,  $G_i$  is. ass.  
 to  $\Gamma_i$

• The or prop RAAG  
 ass to  $\tilde{\Gamma}$

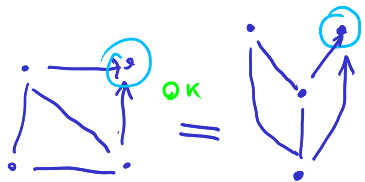
is  $A *_{\theta_r} G$   $G_i$  ass. to  $\Gamma$   
 $A \cong \mathbb{Z} \langle p \rangle$

# Graphs of elementary type

An oriented graph  $\Gamma$  is of E.T. if, and only if,  $\Gamma$  is special and it contains no induced subgraphs like



EXAMPLES:



# Main Theorem

## THM (Blumer-Weigel-Q)

Let  $\Gamma$  be an oriented graph, pick  $p^f$ , and let  $G$  be the associated oriented pro- $p$  RAAG. TFAE:

- (i)  $\Gamma$  is of E.T.
- (ii)  $G$  is of E.T.
- (iii)  $G$  has the BK prop. of deg. 2
- (iv)  $G$  is 1-cyclotomic
- (v)  $G \simeq G_{\mathbf{K}}(p)$  for some  $\mathbf{K}$  containing  $\sqrt[p^f]{1}$  (in fact  $\sqrt[p^f]{1}$ )

This result...

- ▶ extends a recent result of Snopce-Zaleskiĭ (the same statement but without “oriented”).
- ▶ provides a very large class of pro- $p$  groups where the E.T. conjecture is verified
- ▶ provides a big wealth of concrete examples of pro- $p$  groups (with a rather easy structure) which are not absolute Galois

# Bad graphs 1

## Bad graphs 2



# Bad graphs 3

## Oriented pro- $p$ RAAGs and Massey products

On the other hand, also some bad oriented pro- $p$  RAAGs have the  $n$ -Massey Vanishing property:

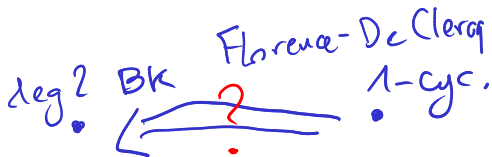
If  $\Gamma$  is a special oriented graph, then the oriented pro- $p$  RAAG associated to  $\Gamma$  and any  $p^f$  has the  $n$ -M.V. property for every  $n \geq 3$ .

To prove this we use the following group theoretic characterization: a pro- $p$  group  $G$  has the  $n$ -M.V. property if, and only if, ...

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & G & & & \\ & & & \downarrow \bar{\rho} & & & \\ & & \rho & \swarrow & & & \\ \{1\} & \longrightarrow & Z(UT_n(\mathbf{Z}/p)) & \longrightarrow & UT_n(\mathbf{Z}/p) & \longrightarrow & \frac{UT_n(\mathbf{Z}/p)}{Z(UT_n(\mathbf{Z}/p))} \longrightarrow \{1\} \end{array}$$






## Relations between nets

How are the 3 cohomological properties related?



WEAKER  
•  $n$ -MV prop

# References

-  S. Blumer, C. Quadrelli and Th. Weigel, Oriented right-angled Artin pro- $p$  groups and absolute Galois groups, in preparation.
-  I. Efrat, Orderings, valuations, and free products of Galois groups, *Sem. Struct. Algébriques Ordonnées Univ. Paris VII* (1995).
-  C. Haesemeyer and Ch. Weibel, *The norm residue theorem in motivic cohomology*, Annals of Mathematics Studies, vol. 200, P.U.P., 2019.
-  C. Quadrelli and Th. Weigel, Profinite groups with a cyclotomic  $p$ -extension, *Docum. Math.* (2020).
-  I. Snopce and P. Zalesskiĭ, Right-angled Artin pro- $p$  groups, *Bull. L.M.S.*, in press.

Last slide

**THANK YOU!**