

# MOTIVIC GALOIS GROUPS

BRUNO KAHN

## 1. TANNAKIAN CATEGORIES ([26], CF. [7])

$K$  field of characteristic 0,  $\mathcal{A}$  rigid tensor  $K$ -linear *abelian* category,  $L$  extension of  $K$ .

**Definition 1.** An  $L$ -valued **fibre functor** is a tensor functor  $\omega : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_L$  which is *faithful* and *exact*.

**Definition 2.**  $\mathcal{A}$  is

- **neutralised Tannakian** if one is given a  $K$ -valued fibre functor
- **neutral Tannakian** if  $\exists$   $K$ -valued fibre functor
- **Tannakian** if  $\exists$   $L$ -valued fibre functor for some  $L$ .

**Example 1.**  $G$  affine  $K$ -group scheme,  $\mathcal{A} = \text{Rep}_K(G)$ ,  $\omega : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \text{Vec}_K$  the forgetful functor.

$(\mathcal{A}, \omega)$  neutralised Tannakian category:  $G_K := \text{Aut}^\otimes(\omega)$  is (canonically) the  $K$ -points of an affine  $K$ -group scheme  $G(\omega)$ .

**Theorem 1** (Grothendieck-Saavedra [26]). a) For  $(\mathcal{A}, \omega)$  as in Example 1,  $G(\mathcal{A}, \omega) = G$ .  
 b) In general  $\omega$  enriches into a tensor equivalence of categories

$$\tilde{\omega} : \mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{\sim} \text{Rep}_K(G(\mathcal{A}, \omega)).$$

c) *Dictionary* (special case):  $\mathcal{A}$  semi-simple  $\iff G$  proreductive.

When  $\mathcal{A}$  Tannakian but not neutralised, need replace  $G(\mathcal{A}, \omega)$  by a *gerbe* (or a groupoid): Saavedra-Deligne [8].

**Theorem 2** (Deligne [8]).  $\mathcal{A}$  rigid  $K$ -linear abelian. Equivalent conditions:

- $\mathcal{A}$  is Tannakian
- $\forall M \in \mathcal{A}, \exists n > 0: \Lambda^n(M) = 0$ .
- $\forall M \in \mathcal{A}, \dim_{\text{rigid}}(M) \in \mathbf{N}$ .

## 2. ARE MOTIVES TANNAKIAN?

Ideally, would like  $Mot_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  Tannakian, fibre functors given by Weil cohomologies  $H$ .  
Two problems:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mot}_H & \xrightarrow{H} & \text{Vec}_K^* \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \text{???} & \\ \text{Mot}_{\text{num}} & & \end{array}$$

- $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  is *never Tannakian* because  $\dim_{\text{rigid}}(X) = \chi(X)$  may be negative (e.g.  $X$  curve of genus  $g$ :  $\chi(X) = 2 - 2g$ ).

Second problem: matter of commutativity constraint – need modify it.

Yields Grothendieck's *standard conjectures* ([13], cf. [20]):

- (HN)  $\sim_H = \sim_{\text{num}}$ .
- (C)  $\forall X$  the Künneth components of  $H(\Delta_X)$  are algebraic.

Another conjecture (B) (skipped):

- (HN)  $\Rightarrow$  (B)  $\Rightarrow$  (C).
- (HN)  $\iff$  (B) in characteristic 0.

**Theorem 3** (Lieberman-Kleiman [19]). *Conjecture (B) holds for abelian varieties.*

**Theorem 4** (Katz-Messing [18]). *Conjecture (C) is true if  $k$  finite.*

**Corollary 1** (Jannsen [14]). *If  $k$  finite, a suitable modification  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  is (abstractly) Tannakian.*

Apart from this, wide open!

**Definition 3.** When  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  exists, the gerbe that classifies it is called the [pure] **motivic Galois group**  $GMot_k$ .  $H$  Weil cohomology with coefficients  $K$ : fibre of  $GMot_k$  at  $H$  is proreductive  $K$ -group  $GMot_{H,k}$ .

More generally,  $\mathcal{A}$  thick rigid subcategory of  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}$ , get an “induced” Galois group  $GMot(\mathcal{A})$  of  $\mathcal{A}$ , quotient of the motivic Galois group. E.g.  $\mathcal{A}$  thick rigid subcategory generated by  $h(X)$ : get the **motivic Galois group of  $X$**   $GMot_{H,k}(X)$  (of finite type).

## Examples 2.

- (1)  $\mathcal{A} =$  Artin motives (generated by  $h(\text{Spec } E)$ ,  $[E : k] < \infty$ ):  $GMot(\mathcal{A}) = G_k$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{A} =$  pure Tate motives (generated by  $L$  or  $h(\mathbf{P}^1)$ ):  $GMot(\mathcal{A}) = \mathbb{G}_m$ .
- (3)  $\mathcal{A} =$  pure Artin-Tate motives (put these two together):  $GMot(\mathcal{A}) = G_k \times \mathbb{G}_m$ .
- (4)  $E$  elliptic curve over  $\mathbf{Q}$ ,  $H = H_{Betti}$ .
  - $E$  not CM  $\Rightarrow GMot_{H, \mathbf{Q}}(E) = GL_2$ .
  - $E$  CM  $\Rightarrow GMot_{H, \mathbf{Q}}(E) =$  torus in  $GL_2$  or its normaliser.

**Example 3.** Suppose Conjecture (HN) true.

- **Characteristic 0:** Betti cohomology yields (several)  $\mathbf{Q}$ -valued fibre functors, as long as  $\text{card}(k) \leq \text{card}(\mathbf{C})$ :  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  is neutral. Comparison isomorphisms  $\Rightarrow$  isomorphisms between various motivic Galois groups.
- **Characteristic  $p$ :**  $k \supseteq \mathbf{F}_{p^2}$  finite  $\Rightarrow \text{Mot}_{\text{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$  is *not neutral*: if  $K \subseteq \mathbf{R}$  or  $K \subseteq \mathbf{Q}_p$ , no  $K$ -valued fibre functor (Serre: endomorphisms of a supersingular elliptic curve = quaternion  $\mathbf{Q}$ -algebra nonsplit by  $\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{Q}_p$ ).

### 3. CONNECTION WITH HODGE AND TATE CONJECTURES

#### 3.1. Tate conjecture.

$k$  finitely generated,  $G_k := Gal(\bar{k}/k)$ ,  $H = H_l$  ( $l \neq \text{char } k$ ): the  $\otimes$ -functor

$$H_l : \text{Mot}_H \rightarrow \text{Vec}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^*$$

enriches into a  $\otimes$ -functor

$$\hat{H}_l : \text{Mot}_H \rightarrow \text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k)^*.$$

Tate conjecture  $\iff \tilde{H}_l$  *fully faithful* (it is faithful by definition).

**Proposition 1.** *Tate conjecture  $\implies$  Conjecture (B).*

Hence under Tate conjecture, Conjecture (C) holds and can modify commutativity constraint:

$$\tilde{H}_l : \widetilde{\text{Mot}}_H \rightarrow \text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k).$$

$(\text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k), \text{forgetful functor})$  neutralised Tannakian  $\mathbf{Q}_l$ -category with fundamental group  $\Gamma_k$ : for  $V \in \text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k)$ ,  $\Gamma_k(V) = \text{Zariski closure of } G_k \text{ in } GL(V)$ .

**Proposition 2** (folklore, cf. [27], [17]). *Assume Tate conjecture. Equivalent conditions:*

- *Conjecture (HN);*
- $\text{Im} \tilde{H}_l \subseteq \text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k)_{ss}$  (full subcategory of semi-simple representations).

Under these conditions,  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}$  Tannakian, reduce to  $\Gamma_k^{ss}$  (for  $\text{Rep}_{\mathbf{Q}_l}^{\text{cont}}(G_k)_{ss}$ ) proreductive and canonical epimorphism

$$\Gamma_k^{ss} \longrightarrow GMot_{H_l, k}.$$

In particular,  $\forall X$ ,  $GMot_{H_l, k}(X) = \text{Zariski closure of } G_k \text{ in } GL(H_l(X))$ .

**Delicate question:** essential image of  $\tilde{H}_l$ ? Conjectural answers for  $k$  finite (see below) and  $k$  number field (Fontaine-Mazur [11]).

### 3.2. Hodge conjecture.

$\sigma : k \hookrightarrow \mathbf{C}$ ,  $H = H_\sigma$ : this time enriches into  $\otimes$ -functor

$$\hat{H}_\sigma : \text{Mot}_{H_\sigma} \rightarrow PHS_{\mathbf{Q}}^*$$

(graded pure Hodge structures over  $\mathbf{Q}$ ). Hodge conjecture  $\iff \hat{H}_\sigma$  fully faithful.

**Proposition 3.** *Hodge conjecture  $\implies$  Conjecture (B)  $\iff$  Conjecture (HN).*

Hence, under Hodge conjecture, get modified fully faithful tensor functor

$$\tilde{H}_\sigma : \widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}} \rightarrow PHS_{\mathbf{Q}}.$$

Latter category semi-simple neutralised Tannakian (via forgetful functor). If extend scalars to  $\mathbf{R}$ , fundamental group = Hodge torus  $S = R_{\mathbf{C}/\mathbf{R}}\mathbb{G}_m$ . Over  $\mathbf{Q}$  it is the [Mumford-Tate group](#)  $MT$ : for  $V \in PHS_{\mathbf{Q}}$ ,  $MT(V) = \mathbf{Q}$ - Zariski closure of  $S$  in  $GL(V)$ .

Hodge conjecture  $\iff \forall X, GMot_{k, H_\sigma}(X) = MT(X) \subseteq GL(H_\sigma(X))$ .

Sometimes gives proof of Hodge conjecture (for powers of  $X$ ,  $X$  abelian variety)!

## 4. UNCONDITIONAL MOTIVIC GALOIS GROUPS

Want an unconditional theory of motives (not assuming the unproven standard conjectures)

### 4.1. First approach (Deligne, André).

Both are in characteristic 0.

- **Deligne** [10]: replace motives by systems of compatible realisations: motives for **absolute Hodge cycles** (systems of cohomology classes corresponding to each other by comparison isomorphisms). Gives semi-simple Tannakian category.  
Hodge conjecture  $\Rightarrow$  absolute Hodge cycles are algebraic so same category.
- **André** [3]: only adjoin to algebraic cycles the inverses of the Lefschetz operators: motives for **cycles**. Gives semi-simple Tannakian category.  
Conjecture (B)  $\Rightarrow$  motivated cycles are algebraic so same category.  
(Hodge conjecture  $\Rightarrow$  Conjecture (B) so cheaper approach!)

A abelian variety over number field:

**Theorem 5** (Deligne [9]). *Every Hodge cycle on  $A$  is absolutely Hodge.*

**Corollary 2.** *Tate conjecture  $\Rightarrow$  Hodge conjecture on  $A$ .*

Better:

**Theorem 6** (André [3]). *Every Hodge cycle on  $A$  is motivated.*

**Corollary 3.** *Conjecture (B) for abelian fibrations on curves  $\Rightarrow$  Hodge conjecture on  $A$ .*

Tannakian arguments:

**Theorem 7** (Milne [23]). *Hodge conjecture for complex CM abelian varieties  $\Rightarrow$  Tate conjecture for all abelian varieties over a finite field.*

**Theorem 8** (André [4]). *A abelian variety over a finite field: every Tate cycle is motivated.*

## 4.2. Second approach (André-K): tensor sections.

$\mathcal{A}$  pseudo-abelian  $\mathbf{Q}$ -linear category,  $\mathcal{R}$  Kelly radical of  $\mathcal{A}$  (like Jacobson radical of rings): smallest ideal such that  $\mathcal{A}/\mathcal{R}$  semi-simple.

If  $\mathcal{A}$  tensor category,  $\mathcal{R}$  may or may not be stable under  $\otimes$ . True e.g. if  $\mathcal{A}$  Tannakian.

**Theorem 9** (André-K [6]). *Suppose that  $\mathcal{R}$  is  $\otimes$ -ideal,  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) = \mathbf{Q}$  and  $\mathcal{R}(M, M)$  nilpotent ideal of  $\mathcal{A}(M, M)$  for all  $M$ . Then the projection functor*

$$\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{R}$$

*has tensor sections, and any two are tensor-conjugate.*

## Application:

$H$  classical Weil cohomology,

$$\mathcal{A} = \text{Mot}_H^\pm(k, \mathbf{Q})$$

$$:= \{M \in \text{Mot}_H(k, \mathbf{Q}) \mid \text{sum of even Künneth projectors of } M \text{ algebraic}\}.$$

Then  $\mathcal{A}$  satisfies assumptions of Theorem 9: in characteristic 0 by comparison isomorphisms, in characteristic  $p$  by Weil conjectures.

**Theorem 10 (André-K [5]).** a)  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}^\pm := \text{Im}(\text{Mot}_H^\pm \rightarrow \text{Mot}_{\text{num}})$  independent of  $H$ .

b) Can modify commutativity constraints in  $\text{Mot}_H^\pm$  and  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}^\pm$ , yielding  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_H^\pm$  and  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}^\pm$ .

c) Projection functor  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_H^\pm \rightarrow \widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}^\pm$  has tensor sections  $\sigma$ ; any two are tensor-conjugate.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Mot}_H & \xrightarrow{H} & \text{Vec}_K^* \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \text{???} & \\ \text{Mot}_{\text{num}} & & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \widetilde{\text{Mot}}_H^\pm & \xrightarrow{H} & \text{Vec}_K \\ \downarrow \sigma & \nearrow H \circ \sigma & \\ \widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}^\pm & & \end{array}$$

Variant with

$$\text{Mot}_H^*(k, \mathbf{Q}) := \{M \in \text{Mot}_H(k, \mathbf{Q}) \mid \text{all Künneth projectors of } M \text{ algebraic}\}.$$

## 5. DESCRIPTION OF MOTIVIC GALOIS GROUPS

Assume all conjectures (standard, Hodge, Tate).

### 5.1. In general:

Short exact sequence

$$1 \rightarrow GMot_{\bar{k}} \rightarrow GMot_k \rightarrow G_k \rightarrow 1$$

Last morphism:  $G_k$  corresponds to motives of 0-dimensional varieties (Artin motives). The group  $GMot_{\bar{k}}$  is connected, hence  $= GMot_k^0$ .

If  $k \subseteq k'$ ,  $GMot_{k'}^0 \twoheadrightarrow GMot_k^0$  (but not iso unless  $k'/k$  algebraic: otherwise, “more” elliptic curves over  $k'$  than over  $k$ ).

Conjecture (C)  $\Rightarrow$  [weight grading](#) on  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}$   $\iff$  central homomorphism

$$w : \mathbb{G}_m \rightarrow GMot_k.$$

On the other hand, Lefschetz motive gives homomorphism

$$t : GMot_k \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m$$

and  $t \circ w = 2$  ( $-2$  with Grothendieck's conventions).

## 5.2. Over a finite field:

**Theorem 11** (cf. [22]). a)  $\text{Mot}_{\text{num}}$  generated by Artin motives and motives of abelian varieties.

b) Essential image of  $\tilde{H}_l$ :  $l$ -adic representations of  $G_k$  whose eigenvalues are Weil numbers.

Uses Honda's theorem [16]: every Weil orbit corresponds to an abelian variety.

**Corollary 4.**  $GMot_k^0 =$  group of multiplicative type determined by action of  $G_{\mathbf{Q}}$  on Weil numbers.

Even though  $\widetilde{\text{Mot}}_{\text{num}}$  not neutral,  $GMot_k^0$  abelian so situation not so bad!

### 5.3. Over a number field:

$S := (GMot_k^0)^{ab}$ : the Serre protorus: describe its character group  $X(S)$ :

$$\mathbf{Q}^{cm} = \bigcup \{E \mid E \text{ CM number field}\}$$

Complex conjugation  $c$  central in  $Gal(\mathbf{Q}^{cm}/\mathbf{Q})$  (largest Galois subfield of  $\bar{\mathbf{Q}}$  with this property).

**Definition 4.**  $f : Gal(\mathbf{Q}^{cm}/\mathbf{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}$  **CM type** if  $f(s) + f(cs)$  independent of  $s$ .  $G_{\mathbf{Q}}$  acts on CM types by  $\tau f(s) = f(\tau s)$ .

**Theorem 12** ([24]).  $X(S) = \mathbf{Z}[CM \text{ types}]$ .

Can also describe the centre  $C$  of  $GMot_k^0$  (pro-isogenous to  $S$ ), etc.: cf. [25].

## 6. MIXED (TATE) MOTIVES

Expect Tannakian category of **mixed motives**

$$\mathrm{Mot}_{\mathrm{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q}) \subset \mathrm{MMot}(k, \mathbf{Q})$$

with socle  $\mathrm{Mot}_{\mathrm{num}}(k, \mathbf{Q})$ , classifying non smooth projective varieties. Corresponding motivic Galois group extension of  $GMot_k$  by a pro-unipotent group (or gerbe).

Constructions of  $\mathrm{MMot}$ :

- Conjecturally, heart of “motivic  $t$ -structure” on  $DM$  (Deligne, Beilinson: cf. Hanamura [15]).
- In characteristic 0: explicit category constructed by Nori.
- Over a finite field: Tate conjecture  $\Rightarrow \mathrm{Mot}_{\mathrm{num}} = \mathrm{MMot}$  (cf. [22]).
- Can settle for subcategory: mixed Tate motives  $\mathrm{TMMot}_k$ . Exists unconditionally if  $k$  number field (cf. Levine’s talk and [21]).

**Goncharov** [12]:  $\text{TMMot}_{\mathbf{Z}}$  (mixed Tate motives over  $\mathbf{Z}$ ) defined as full subcategory of  $\text{TMMot}_{\mathbf{Q}}$  by non-ramification conditions.

$\Gamma$  the motivic Galois group corresponding to  $\text{TMMot}_{\mathbf{Z}}$ : Proreductive quotient of  $\Gamma$  is  $\mathbb{G}_m$  (see above).

**Theorem 13** (Goncharov [12]). *Action of  $\mathbb{G}_m$  on prounipotent kernel  $U$  yields a grading on  $\text{Lie}(U)$ : for this grading,  $\text{Lie}(U)$  is free with one generator in every odd degree  $\leq -3$ .*

- [1] Hodge cycles, motives and Shimura varieties, Lect. Notes in Math. **900**, Springer, 1982.
- [2] Motives, Proc. Symp. pure Math. **55** (I), AMS, 1994.
- [3] Y. André *Pour une théorie inconditionnelle des motifs*, Publ. Math. IHÉS **83** (1996), 5–49.
- [4] Y. André *Cycles de Tate et cycles motivés sur les variétés abéliennes en caractéristique  $p$* , preprint, 2003.
- [5] Y. André, B. Kahn *Construction inconditionnelle de groupes de Galois motiviques*, C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris **334** (2002), 989–994.
- [6] Y. André, B. Kahn *Nilpotence, radicaux et structures monoïdales* (with an appendix of P. O’Sullivan), Rendiconti Sem. Math. Univ Padova **108** (2002), 107–291.
- [7] L. Breen *Tannakian categories*, in [2], 337–376.
- [8] P. Deligne *Catégories tannakiennes*, in The Grothendieck Festschrift, Progress in Math. **87** (II), Birkhäuser, 1990, 111–198.
- [9] P. Deligne *Hodge cycles on abelian varieties* (notes by J. S. Milne), in [1], 9–100.
- [10] P. Deligne, J.S. Milne *Tannakian categories*, in [1], 101–228.
- [11] J.-M. Fontaine, B. Mazur *Geometric Galois representations*, in Elliptic curves, modular forms, and Fermat’s last theorem (J. Coates, S.T. Yau, eds.), Intern. Press, Cambridge, MA, 1995, 41–78.
- [12] A. Goncharov *Multiple polylogarithms and mixed Tate motives*, preprint, 2001.
- [13] A. Grothendieck *Standard conjectures on algebraic cycles*, Algebraic Geometry — Bombay Colloquium, 1968, Oxford, 1969, 193–199.
- [14] U. Jannsen *Motives, numerical equivalence and semi-simplicity*, Invent. Math. **107** (1992), 447–452.
- [15] M. Hanamura *Mixed motives and algebraic cycles, III*, Math. Res. Lett. **6** (1999), 61–82.
- [16] T. Honda *Isogeny classes of abelian varieties over finite fields*, J. Math. Soc. Japan **20** (1968), 83–95.
- [17] B. Kahn *On the semi-simplicity of Galois actions*, to appear in the Rendiconti Sem. Mat. Univ. Padova **112** (2004).
- [18] N. Katz, W. Messing *Some consequences of the Riemann hypothesis for varieties over finite fields*, Invent. Math. **23** (1974), 73–77.
- [19] S. Kleiman *Algebraic cycles and the Weil conjectures*, in Dix exposés sur la cohomologie des schémas, North-Holland, Amsterdam, 1968, 359–386.
- [20] S. Kleiman *The standard conjectures*, in [2], 3–20.
- [21] M. Levine *Tate motives and the vanishing conjectures for algebraic K-theory*, in Algebraic K-theory and algebraic topology (Lake Louise, 1991), NATO ASI Series, Ser. C **407**, Kluwer, 1993, 167–188.
- [22] J. S. Milne *Motives over finite fields*, in [2], 401–459.
- [23] J. S. Milne *Lefschetz motives and the Tate conjecture*, Compos. Math. **117** (1999), 45–76.
- [24] J. S. Milne, K-Y. Shih *Langland’s construction of the Taniyama group*, in [1], 229–260.
- [25] J.-P. Serre *Propriétés conjecturales des groupes de Galois motiviques*, in [2], 377–400.
- [26] N. Saavedra Rivano *Catégories tannakiennes*, Lect. Notes in Math. **265**, Springer, 1972.
- [27] J. T. Tate *Conjectures on algebraic cycles in  $l$ -adic cohomology*, in [2], 71–83.