

Algebraic Stacks #5

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Stacks and torsors

§ Schemes are sheaves

Thm 4.1.2: Let $X \rightarrow S$ morphism of schemes, then $h_X: \text{Sch}/S \rightarrow \text{Set}$ is a sheaf for étale/fppf/finite topologies.

Cor 4.2.12: Given $S' \rightarrow S$ fppf covering, X, Y schemes, the

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

$$\text{Mor}_S(X, Y) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}_{S'}(X', Y') \rightrightarrows \text{Mor}_{S''}(X'', Y'')$$

exact (where $X' = X \times_S S'$, $X'' = X \times_S S''$, $S'' = S' \times_S S'$).

proof: Sequence equals: $Y(X) \rightarrow Y(X') \rightrightarrows Y(X'')$
and $X' \rightarrow X$ fppf and $X'' = X' \times_{X'} X'$. \square

(alt. proof (Asser): Sheaves is a stack (uses fully faithfulness))

§ \mathcal{M}_g is a stack (corrected)

$$\mathcal{M}_g(S) \longrightarrow \mathcal{M}_g(S' \rightarrow S) = \text{cat. of descent data.}$$

Fully faithful follows from 4.2.12:

$$\text{Isom}_S(X, Y) \longrightarrow \text{Isom}_{S'}(X', Y') \rightrightarrows \text{Isom}_{S''}(X'', Y'') \text{ equal.}$$

For ess.-surj., see lecture #5.

§ Stacks vs sheaves

$F: \mathcal{D}^{op} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$ pseudo-functor.

Def (3.4.7)

- $\forall x, y \in F(T)$ define presheaves Hom(x, y), Isom(x, y)

Hom: $\mathcal{D}/T^{op} \rightarrow \text{Set}$

if $F: \mathcal{D}^{op} \rightarrow \text{Grpd}$

$$T' \xrightarrow{f} T \mapsto \text{Hom}(f^*_x, f^*_y) = \text{Isom}(f^*_x, f^*_y)$$

- $\forall x \in F(T)$ define presheaf Isom(x) (of groups)

$\mathcal{D}/T^{op} \rightarrow \text{Grp}$

$$T' \xrightarrow{f} T \mapsto \text{Isom}(f^*_x)$$

Prop (4.6.2) $F(x) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} F(\{u_i \rightarrow x\})$ fully faithful
 \forall coverings $\{u_i \rightarrow x\}$



Hom(x, y) sheaf $\forall x, y \in X$.

Def: F is called a prestack if the above equiv. conditions hold

Set-valued functor

Cat/Grpd-valued functor

Terminology: presheaf = functor \longleftrightarrow fibred category / pseudo-functor
 separated presheaf \longleftrightarrow prestack (bad terminology!)
 sheaf \longleftrightarrow stack

§ Stabilization

pseudo-functor $F: \mathcal{D}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Cat}$



Thm 4.6.5 \mathcal{D} site. Given fibered category $F \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, there exists a stack $F^a \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ and morphism $F \rightarrow F^a$ such that

$$\text{MOR}_{\mathcal{D}}(F^a, \mathcal{G}) \longrightarrow \text{MOR}_{\mathcal{D}}(F, \mathcal{G})$$

equivalence of categories for all stacks $\mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$. We call F^a the associated stack or stabilization of F . If $F \in \text{CFG}$, then so is F^a .

Remark: $(\)^a: \text{FibCat} \rightleftharpoons \text{Stacks} : \text{forget}$, 2-adjunction.

§ Stack quotient of groupoids and group actions

Ex 4.6.6: Given groupoid of (pre)sheaves $R \rightrightarrows X$ on \mathcal{D} can define fibered category $\{R \rightrightarrows X\}$ whose T -points are the groupoid $R(T) \rightrightarrows X(T)$. Even if R, X sheaves, $\{R \rightrightarrows X\}$ need not be a stack. We denote its stabilization by $[R \rightrightarrows X]$.

Ex: A group scheme $G \curvearrowright X$ scheme \Rightarrow action groupoid $G \times X \rightrightarrows X$. Let $[X/G] = [G \times X \rightrightarrows X]$.

Ex: $G \curvearrowright *$. Fibered category $\{*/G\} = \{G \rightrightarrows *\}$ has T -points $G(T) \rightrightarrows *$, i.e. one obj with auto $G(T)$.

Turns out that $BG := [*/G]$ has T -points = G -torsors / T which has much more objects. ($\{*/G\}(T) = \{\text{trivial } G\text{-torsor}\}$)

Rmb: If $R \rightrightarrows X$ equivalence relation, then $\{R \rightrightarrows X\}$ is fibered in set(oids) and $[R \rightrightarrows X]$ is usual sheafification.

Ex: Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ morphism of schemes. Gives equivalence relation $X \times_Y X \rightrightarrows X$. Even if f open covering

$$X = \coprod U_i \rightarrow Y$$

the presheaf of sets $\{\coprod U_i \cap U_j \rightrightarrows \coprod U_i\}$ is not a sheaf (only separated): too few sections, e.g., $\text{id}_Y: Y \rightarrow Y$ does not lift unless one $U_i = Y$. Sheafification is Y .

In general, if f covering in the site, then $[X \times_Y X \rightrightarrows X] \xrightarrow{\cong} Y$.
($f: X \rightarrow Y$ is an effective epimorphism)

§ Torsors (Oksaon 4.5)

\mathcal{D} site, e.g., $\mathcal{D} = \text{Sch}/S$ w/ étale / fpqc (or fpqc) topology.

$G \rightarrow S$ group scheme or sheaf of groups over S .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Sch}/S^{\text{op}} & \longrightarrow & \text{Grp} \\ T \rightarrow S & & G(T \rightarrow S) \end{array}$$

Def: A G -torsor is

- a sheaf $E : \mathcal{D}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Set}$, with
- a (left) G -action on E

such that

(T1) \exists a covering $\{S_i \rightarrow S\}$ s.t. $E(S_i) \neq \emptyset \forall i$

(T2) whenever $E(T) \neq \emptyset$, then $G(T) \curvearrowright E(T)$ simply transitive.

Remk: • G -action on E means $G(T) \curvearrowright E(T)$ (group acting on set) functorially in $T \in \mathcal{D}$. Equivalent to map of sheaves $G \times E \xrightarrow{\beta} E$
satisfying axioms $g, e \mapsto g \cdot e$

$$\bullet \beta \circ (\text{id}_G \times \rho) = \beta \circ (\mu \times \text{id}_E) : G \times G \times E \rightarrow E$$

$$\bullet \beta \circ (e \times \text{id}_E) = \text{id}_E : E \rightarrow G \times E \rightarrow E$$

- (T2) \Leftrightarrow (T2'): $G \times E \xrightarrow{(\beta, \pi_2)} E \times E$ is an isomorphism
 $g, e \mapsto (g \cdot e, e)$

- If $E(T) \neq \emptyset$, then say that E is **trivial over T** .

Given $p \in E(T)$, we obtain isomorphism $G \times T \rightarrow E \times T$
 $g \mapsto g \cdot p$

SLOGAN: A G -torsor looks like G but w/o specified unit element,
 = up to translation by G .

Morphism of G -torsors: $G \times E \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times f} G \times E'$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} G \times E & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times f} & G \times E' \\ \downarrow \cong & & \downarrow \cong \\ E & \xrightarrow{f} & E' \end{array}$$

$\text{Aut}(E) = G$.

Rmk: Automatically iso
 locally $\exists p \in E(T)$
 and then $f(p) \in E'(T)$
 gives $G \xrightarrow{\cong} E \xrightarrow{f} E'$
 $\cong \xrightarrow{f(p)}$
 so f locally iso $\Rightarrow f$ iso.

§ Principal G -bundles

$D = \text{Sch}_S$ w/ fppf topology.

$G \rightarrow S$ flat group scheme, locally of finite presentation.

Def: A principal G -bundle is

- a scheme $P \rightarrow S$, with
- a G -action $G \times P \xrightarrow{\rho} P$ ($\rho \circ \rho = \rho \circ m$, $\rho \circ e = \text{id}$)

such that

(P1) $P \rightarrow S$ is faithfully flat and loc. of f.p.

(P2) $G \times P \xrightarrow{(\rho, \pi_2)} P \times P$ is an isomorphism
 $(g, p) \mapsto (g \cdot p, p)$

Rmk: • Scheme w/ G -action \rightsquigarrow sheaf \mathcal{h}_P w/ \mathcal{h}_G -action

• (P1) $\Rightarrow \exists$ section fppf locally, e.g. $P \times_S P \rightarrow P = (T1)$

• (P2) $\Leftrightarrow (T2)$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \uparrow & \\ & \downarrow & \\ P & \xrightarrow{\quad} & S \\ & \text{fppf cover} & \end{array}$$

So G -bundles $\rightarrow G$ -torsors.

Ex (Galois theory) Let k field, G finite group.

Trivial G -torsor: $\coprod_{g \in G} \text{Spec } k \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Spec } k \quad \hookrightarrow G \text{ permutes conn. components}$

\downarrow
 $\text{Spec } k$

Galois extension: $\coprod_{\sigma \in G} \text{Spec } K \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Spec } K \quad \hookrightarrow G = \text{Gal}(K/k) = \text{Aut}_k(K)$

= connected G -torsor

$i_\sigma \uparrow \downarrow \sigma \nearrow \square \downarrow$
 $\text{Spec } K \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Spec } k$

$i_\sigma \leftrightarrow \sigma$

General G -torsor: $\coprod_G \text{Spec } K \xrightarrow{\quad} \coprod_{G/H} \text{Spec } K \quad \hookrightarrow G \text{ permutes conn. comp's via } G \curvearrowright G/H$

$H = \text{Gal}(K/k)$
not necessarily normal

$\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $\text{Spec } K \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{Spec } k$

mult on left but also acts via auto of K .

Prop 4.5.6: If $G \rightarrow S$ is affine (and flat, l.f.p.) then

$$\{G\text{-bundles}/S\} \rightarrow \{G\text{-torsors}/S\}$$

equivalence of categories.

pf: • Fully faithful is clear (w/ natural definition of morphism of G -bdls)
 • Essential surjectivity: Let E G -torsor/ S . Then $\exists S' \rightarrow S$ fppf cover s.t. $E(S') \neq \emptyset$. Pick $p \in E(S')$. Then $G \times_S S' \rightarrow E \times_S S'$ isomorphism $\Rightarrow E' := E \times_S S' \rightarrow S'$ affine + f.flat + l.f.p.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} E'' & \xrightarrow{\cong} & E' & \longrightarrow & E \text{ sheaf} \\ \downarrow \text{aff} & & \downarrow \text{aff} & & \downarrow \\ S'' & \xrightarrow{\cong} & S' & \longrightarrow & S \\ & & \text{fppf} & & \\ & & \text{cover} & & \end{array}$$

By descent of affine, $E \rightarrow S$ is also affine.

— \cup — surj, flat, l.f.p., $E \rightarrow S$ is also such. □

Rmk: If $G \rightarrow S$ is affine + smooth, then so is $P \rightarrow S$.

$\Rightarrow \exists$ étale surj $S' \rightarrow S$ s.t. $P(S') \neq \emptyset$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \{ \text{principal } G\text{-bundles} \} &= \{ G\text{-torsors in fppf top} \} \\ &= \{ G\text{-torsors in ét. top} \} \end{aligned}$$

Ex: $\{\text{vector bundles}\} \stackrel{\textcircled{1}}{\cong} \{\text{GL}_n\text{-torsors in Zar. top}\}$
 $\stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{\cong} \{\text{GL}_n\text{-torsors in ét top}\}$

① $\mathcal{E} \longmapsto \underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{O}_S^{\oplus n})$ with GL_n -action $g \cdot \mathcal{L} = g\mathcal{L}$
 "ass. frame bundle"

$$\underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{O}_S^{\oplus n})(T \rightarrow S) = \text{Isom}(\mathcal{E}|_T, \mathcal{O}_T^{\oplus n})$$

② GL_n is "special" in the sense of Serre: this exactly means that Zar-torsor \Leftrightarrow ét-torsor.

Rmk: When $G \rightarrow S$ flat but not affine, correct definition of principal G -bundle is to let $P \rightarrow S$ be an **alg. space**, then $\{\text{principal } G\text{-bundles}\} = \{G\text{-torsors}\}$,

Ex: There exists torsors under abelian varieties which are algebraic spaces but not schemes.

Ex 4.5.8 (μ_n -torsors via line bundles)

$$\mu_n = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[t]/(t^n - 1) \quad \text{group of } n^{\text{th}} \text{ roots of unity}$$

$$\mu_n(S) = \{ f \in \mathcal{O}_S : f^n = 1 \}$$

Kummer exact sequence:

$$1 \rightarrow \mu_n \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_m \xrightarrow{\wedge^n} \mathcal{G}_m \rightarrow 1$$
$$f \longmapsto f^n$$

exact seq of sheaves in fpqc -topology:

$$\mathcal{G}_m(S) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}_m(S)$$
$$f \longmapsto f^n$$

not surjective but \exists n^{th} roots fpqc -locally on S : take

$$S' = \text{Spec}_S(\mathcal{O}_S[t]/(t^n - f))$$

then t is n^{th} root of f :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{G}_m(S) & \rightarrow & \mathcal{G}_m(S) \ni f \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{G}_m(S') & \rightarrow & \mathcal{G}_m(S') \\ t & \longmapsto & f \end{array}$$

If S has all n^{th} roots of unity ($\Rightarrow n$ invertible on S)

$$\text{then } \mu_n \cong \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}.$$

Turns out that μ_n -torsors easier than $\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$ -torsors due to Kummer sequence.

Def: Let Σ_n be following category: ("n-torsion l.b.'s")

$$\text{Obj} = \{(\mathcal{L}, \sigma) : \mathcal{L} \text{ l.b. on } S, \sigma: \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{O}_S\}$$

$$\text{Mor}((\mathcal{L}, \sigma), (\mathcal{L}', \sigma')) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{L} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathcal{L}' \\ \sigma \searrow & \circ & \swarrow \sigma' \\ & \mathcal{O}_S & \end{array} \right\}$$

Functor $\Sigma_n \rightarrow \text{Tors}(\mu_n)$

$$(\mathcal{L}, \sigma) \mapsto \underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_S, \text{id}_S, (\mathcal{L}, \sigma))$$

$$T \mapsto \left\{ \mathcal{O}_T \xrightarrow[\cong]{\lambda} \mathcal{L} : \begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}_T & \xrightarrow{\lambda^n} & \mathcal{L}^{\otimes n} \\ \text{id} \searrow & \circ & \swarrow \sigma|_T \\ & \mathcal{O}_T & \end{array} \right\}$$

Action: $\mu_n \curvearrowright \underline{\text{Isom}}(\mathcal{O}_S, \text{id}_S, (\mathcal{L}, \sigma))$

on T-points $\xi \in \mu_n(T) = \{\xi \in \mathcal{O}_T : \xi^n = 1\}$

$\lambda \in \underline{\text{Isom}}(T) = \{\lambda: \mathcal{O}_T \rightarrow \mathcal{L} : \sigma \circ \lambda^n = \text{id}\}$

action is: $\xi \cdot \lambda = \xi \lambda$.

This action is simply transitive:

- given λ_1, λ_2 , then $\lambda_2 \lambda_1^{-1} = \xi$ s.t. $\xi^n = 1$.

and Isom has sections fppf-locally: Zariski-locally $\mathcal{L} \cong \mathcal{O}$

and fppf-locally has $\sqrt[n]{\sigma}$. Take $\lambda = (\sqrt[n]{\sigma})^{-1}$.

If n invertible over S , $\mu_n \rightarrow S$ is étale (locally $\cong \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}$), and then μ_n -torsors have sections étale-locally.

Exc 4.6: $G \rightarrow S$ sheaf of groups. Prove that

$$BG : T \longrightarrow \text{Tors}(G \times_S T)$$

is a **stack**.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P' & \xrightarrow{G\text{-equiv}} & P \\ \downarrow & \square & \downarrow \\ T' & \longrightarrow & T \end{array}$$