

Additive groups

Thomas Scanlon

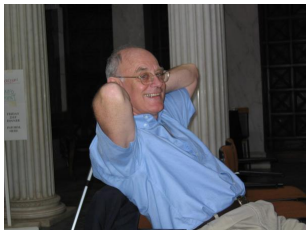
University of California, Berkeley

Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences
Cambridge, England
15 July 2005

Thanks to the conference organizers

Additive
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Introduction

Additive
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difference and
differential
fields



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Adding is easy

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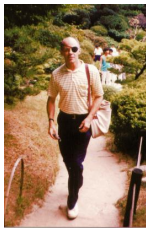
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“If you can add, you can integrate.”
-Paul Sally



$$\int_{\mathbb{Z}_p} f d\mu_{\text{Haar}} = p^{-n} \sum_{i=0}^{p^n-1} f(i)$$

if f is constant on cosets of $p^n\mathbb{Z}_p$



Adding is easy

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you can add

Is adding easy?

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$$\begin{array}{r} \$ 2 . 1 9 \\ + \$ 1 . 8 3 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r} \$ 2 . 1 9 \\ + \$ 1 . 8 3 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \$ 2 . 1 9 \\ + \$ 1 . 8 3 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r}
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$$\begin{array}{r} \\ \$ 2 \\ + 1 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{r} \\ \$ \\ + \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$0 \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/100\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/10\mathbb{Z} \longrightarrow 0$$

is nonsplit

What else makes adding difficult?

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- If K is an infinite field, then the multiplicative group of K gives an infinite definable family of additive automorphisms.
- The field K is a vector space over its prime field. So, **abstractly** we have a complete classification of the additive subgroups, but there can be many of them and they can have a complicated interaction with the multiplicative structure.
- If K has characteristic $p > 0$, then there are additional **definable** endomorphisms coming from the Frobenius.

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Theories of differential and difference fields

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Definition

A **difference field** is a field K given together with a distinguished field automorphism $\sigma : K \rightarrow K$. A **differential field** is a field K given together with a *derivation* $\partial : K \rightarrow K$, a map satisfying $\partial(x + y) = \partial(x) + \partial(y)$ and $\partial(xy) = x\partial(y) + y\partial(x)$ universally

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Theorem (A. Robinson; Macintyre-van den Dries-Wood)

The theory of differential fields of characteristic zero has a model completion, DCF_0 , and the theory of difference fields has a model companion ACFA.

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Proposition

If (K, ∂) is a differentially closed field of characteristic zero and $G \leq (K, +)$ is a definable subgroup of the additive group, then G is definably isomorphic to $(K, +)$ or to $(\mathcal{C}_K^n, +)$ where $\mathcal{C}_K := \{x \in K \mid \partial(x) = 0\}$ is the field of constants for some natural number n .

- The stabilizer $L := \{\lambda \in K \mid \lambda G \leq G\}$ is a definable subring of K .
- By quantifier elimination, L is either \mathcal{C}_K or K .
- By a rank calculation, $\dim_L G$ is finite.
- If $L = K$, then $G = K$. If $L = \mathcal{C}_K$ and $b_1, \dots, b_n \in G$ is a basis, then the map $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \mapsto \sum \lambda_i b_i$ is an isomorphism between \mathcal{C}_K^n and G .



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Proof sketch:

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“Interesting” differential algebraic groups

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Let $(K, \partial) \models \text{DCF}_0$ be a differentially closed field of characteristic zero.

- If G is a commutative algebraic group of dimension d over \mathcal{C}_K , then there is a definable surjective homomorphism $\partial \log_G : G(K) \rightarrow (K^d, +)$, the logarithmic derivative for G . So, for any definable vector group $V \leq K^d$, there is a group $\tilde{V} := \partial \log^{-1} V \leq G(K)$ fitting into an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow G(\mathcal{C}_K) \longrightarrow \tilde{V} \longrightarrow V \longrightarrow 0.$$

- If A is an abelian variety of dimension d defined over K , then there is a surjective definable homomorphism $\mu : A(K) \rightarrow (K^d, +)$. If A is sufficiently general, the kernel A^\sharp has a very simple induced structure.

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Partial differential additive groups

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If $(K, \partial_1, \dots, \partial_n)$ is a differentially closed field of characteristic zero in $n > 1$ commuting derivations, then there are many definable subgroups of the additive group.

- For any sequence $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ from K , the set $\{x \in K \mid \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \partial_i(x) = 0\}$ is a definable subfield.
- In fact, the zero set of any finite system of linear differential operators is a definable additive group.

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- In fact, the zero set of any finite system of linear differential operators is a definable additive group.

Conjecture

If $G \leq (K, +)$ is a definable subgroup of the additive group with a regular generic type \mathfrak{g} , then either \mathfrak{g} is locally modular or G is definably isomorphic to a definable field.

Positive characteristic additive groups

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The description of the definable groups in ACFA_0 , the theory of difference closed fields of characteristic zero, is similar to that for DCF_0 .

- If $(K, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}_p$ is a difference closed field of characteristic p and $\tau : K \rightarrow K$ is the Frobenius map $x \mapsto x^p$, then for any pair of integers (n, m) the field $\text{Fix}(\sigma^n \tau^m) := \{x \in K \mid \sigma^n \tau^m(x) = x\}$ is definable.
- It can happen that a definable additive group is not a finite dimensional vector space over any definable field. [This is the case with $G := \{x \in K \mid \sigma(x) = x^p + x\}$.]
- Chatzidakis has constructed examples of one-based non-stably embedded additive groups.

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The description of the definable groups in ACFA_0 , the theory of difference closed fields of characteristic zero, is similar to that for DCF_0 , but there are more complicated definable additive groups in ACFA_p with $p > 0$.

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Separably closed fields

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Definition

A field K is **separably closed** if for any polynomial $f \in K[x]$ with $f'(x) \neq 0$ there is a root $a \in K$ to $f(a) = 0$.

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Theorem

The theory $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ of separably closed fields of characteristic p and Eršov invariant $e := \log_p[K : K^p] \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ is complete and stable.

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$\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ (at least for $0 < e < \infty$) is the positive characteristic analogue of DCF_0

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- The definable groups in a separably closed field K of Eršov invariant $1 \leq e < \infty$ are definably isomorphic to algebraic groups whilst the “interesting” groups are **type**-definable.

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- The groups $p^\infty A(K) := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} p^n A(K)$ where A is an abelian variety play an important rôle in Hrushovski’s proof of the positive characteristic Mordell-Lang theorem.

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- Bouscaren and Delon completely classified the type definable groups having **no** additive part.

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- Bouscaren and Delon completely classified the type definable groups having **no** additive part.

- In the same work, some pathological additive groups were identified, including a type definable group G which admits a definable isogeny to the additive group of the constants,

$K^{p^\infty} := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K^{p^n}$, but no isomorphism



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- The groups $p^\infty A(K) := \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty p^n A(K)$ where A is an abelian variety play an important rôle in Hrushovski's proof of the positive characteristic Mordell-Lang theorem.
- Bouscaren and Delon completely classified the type definable groups having **no** additive part.
- In the same work, some pathological additive groups were identified, including a type definable group G which admits a definable isogeny to the additive group of the constants, $K^{p^\infty} := \bigcap_{n=1}^\infty K^{p^n}$, but no isomorphism.
- Blossier has produced a menagerie of additive groups in $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ including



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- Blossier has produced a menagerie of additive groups in $\text{SCF}_{p,e}$ including
 - a family of 2^{\aleph_0} pairwise orthogonal additive groups of Lascar rank one,

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 - a family of 2^{\aleph_0} pairwise orthogonal additive groups of Lascar rank one,
 - additive groups of rank ω , and
 - \aleph_0 -categorical minimal additive groups.

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- Let R be a ring of characteristic $p > 0$.
- Let $\tau : R \rightarrow R$ be the p -power Frobenius $x \mapsto x^p$.
- The (usually noncommutative) ring $R\{\tau\}$ of polynomials in τ is the ring generated by R and a symbol for τ subject to the commutation conditions $\tau\lambda = \lambda^p\tau$ for $\lambda \in R$.
- There is a natural function $R\{\tau\} \rightarrow R[X]$ given by $\sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i \tau^i \mapsto \sum_{i=0}^n \lambda_i X^{p^i}$ which converts the additive operator $\sum \lambda_i \tau^i$ into an additive polynomial whose action on R agrees with the additive operator.

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Definition

A **Drinfeld module** over the field K is a ring homomorphism $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ whose image is not contained in K .

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Definition

A **Drinfeld module** over the field K is a ring homomorphism $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ whose image is not contained in K .

- If R is any K -algebra, then the Drinfeld module φ gives R the structure of an $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module via the action $f \cdot x := \varphi(f)(x)$.

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- If R is any K -algebra, then the Drinfeld module φ gives R the structure of an $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module via the action $f \cdot x := \varphi(f)(x)$.
- The function which gives the constant term of a τ -operator is a ring homomorphism $\pi : K\{\tau\} \rightarrow K$. The composed by $\iota := \pi \circ \varphi$ gives a ring homomorphism from $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ to K . We say that φ has **generic characteristic** if ι is injective and that φ has **special characteristic** otherwise.

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- If R is any K -algebra, then the Drinfeld module φ gives R the structure of an $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module via the action $f \cdot x := \varphi(f)(x)$.
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- There is an extensive analytic theory of Drinfeld modules of generic characteristic. Special characteristic Drinfeld modules behave like abelian varieties in positive characteristic.

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- There is an extensive analytic theory of Drinfeld modules of generic characteristic. Special characteristic Drinfeld modules behave like abelian varieties in positive characteristic.
- A Drinfeld module has generic characteristic just in case every operator $\varphi(f)$ is separable.

Drinfeld modules and ∞ -definable groups in SCF

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If K is a separably closed field of characteristic p and $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ is a Drinfeld module, then the group $\varphi^\sharp(K) := \bigcap_{a \in \mathbb{F}_p[t] \setminus \{0\}} \varphi(a)(K)$ is ∞ -definable.

- If φ has generic characteristic, then $\varphi^\sharp(K) = K$.
- If φ has special characteristic, then φ^\sharp is **thin**.
- If φ has special characteristic, then either there is some $\lambda \in K^\times$ for which $\lambda^{-1}\varphi(t)\lambda \in K^{p^\infty}\{\tau\}$ or φ^\sharp is **locally modular**.

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Theorem

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ be a Drinfeld module of *special characteristic* over the field K for which no conjugate is defined over a finite field. If $\Gamma \leq (K, +)$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module via the action of $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ provided by φ and $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety of some power of the additive group over K , then $X(K) \cap \Gamma^n$ is a finite union of cosets of groups.

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Theorem

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Proof.

Follow Hrushovski's proof of the function field Mordell-Lang theorem using the modularity of φ^\sharp . □



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Theorem

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ be a Drinfeld module of *generic characteristic*. Let

$\Xi := \varphi_{\text{tor}} := \{\xi \in K^{\text{alg}} \mid (\exists a \in \mathbb{F}_p[t] \setminus \{0\}) \varphi(a)(\xi) = 0\}$ be the torsion submodule. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety of some power of the additive group, then $X(K) \cap \Xi^n$ is a finite union of translates of *submodules* of K^{alg^n} .

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Theorem

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Proof.

Using the theory of reductions of Drinfeld modules, find $(L, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}$ extending (K, id_K) and a definable group $\Upsilon \leq (L, +)$ such that:
 Υ has



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Theorem

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Proof.

Using the theory of reductions of Drinfeld modules, find $(L, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}$ extending (K, id_K) and a definable group $\Upsilon \leq (L, +)$ such that:
 Υ has finite Lascar rank



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Theorem

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ be a Drinfeld module of *generic characteristic*. Let

$\Xi := \varphi_{\text{tor}} := \{\xi \in K^{\text{alg}} \mid (\exists a \in \mathbb{F}_p[t] \setminus \{0\}) \varphi(a)(\xi) = 0\}$ be the torsion submodule. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety of some power of the additive group, then $X(K) \cap \Xi^n$ is a finite union of translates of *submodules* of K^{alg^n} .

Proof.

Using the theory of reductions of Drinfeld modules, find $(L, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}$ extending (K, id_K) and a definable group $\Upsilon \leq (L, +)$ such that:
 Υ has finite Lascar rank, (almost) contains Ξ



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Theorem

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ be a Drinfeld module of *generic characteristic*. Let

$\Xi := \varphi_{\text{tor}} := \{\xi \in K^{\text{alg}} \mid (\exists a \in \mathbb{F}_p[t] \setminus \{0\}) \varphi(a)(\xi) = 0\}$ be the torsion submodule. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety of some power of the additive group, then $X(K) \cap \Xi^n$ is a finite union of translates of *submodules* of K^{alg^n} .

Proof.

Using the theory of reductions of Drinfeld modules, find $(L, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}$ extending (K, id_K) and a definable group $\Upsilon \leq (L, +)$ such that:
 Υ has finite Lascar rank, (almost) contains Ξ and is one-based.



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Theorem

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ be a Drinfeld module of *generic characteristic*. Let

$\Xi := \varphi_{\text{tor}} := \{\xi \in K^{\text{alg}} \mid (\exists a \in \mathbb{F}_p[t] \setminus \{0\}) \varphi(a)(\xi) = 0\}$ be the torsion submodule. If $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety of some power of the additive group, then $X(K) \cap \Xi^n$ is a finite union of translates of *submodules* of K^{alg^n} .

Proof.

Using the theory of reductions of Drinfeld modules, find $(L, \sigma) \models \text{ACFA}$ extending (K, id_K) and a definable group $\Upsilon \leq (L, +)$ such that:

Υ has finite Lascar rank, (almost) contains Ξ and is one-based. For the assertion about *modules*, use the analytic theory of Drinfeld modules



Ghioca's refined theorems on φ^\sharp

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Theorem

If $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ is a sufficiently general Drinfeld module of special characteristic, $\Gamma \leq K$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module, and $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is an irreducible variety for which $X(K) \cap \Gamma^n$ is Zariski dense in X , then X is a translate of an algebraic group which is fixed by $\varphi(f)$ for some nonconstant $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[t]$.



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Theorem

If $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ is a sufficiently general Drinfeld module of special characteristic, $\Gamma \leq K$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module, and $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is an irreducible variety for which $X(K) \cap \Gamma^n$ is Zariski dense in X , then X is a translate of an algebraic group which is fixed by $\varphi(f)$ for some nonconstant $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[t]$.

The proof of this theorem employs a theory of heights for Drinfeld modules to analyze the quasiendomorphism ring of the ∞ -definable group φ^\sharp .

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Theorem

If $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ is a Drinfeld module not conjugate to one defined over a field of transcendence degree at most one, $\Gamma \leq K$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module and $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety not containing a translate of a positive dimensional algebraic subgroup of \mathbb{G}_a^n , then $X(K) \cap \Gamma^n$ is finite.

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Theorem

If $\varphi : \mathbb{F}_p[t] \rightarrow K\{\tau\}$ is a Drinfeld module not conjugate to one defined over a field of transcendence degree at most one, $\Gamma \leq K$ is a finitely generated $\mathbb{F}_p[t]$ -module and $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ is a closed subvariety not containing a translate of a positive dimensional algebraic subgroup of \mathbb{G}_a^n , then $X(K) \cap \Gamma^n$ is finite.

This theorem is proven via a specialization argument analogous to Hrushovski's proof of the characteristic zero function field Mordell-Lang theorem by reduction to positive characteristic.

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This theorem is proven via a specialization argument analogous to Hrushovski's proof of the characteristic zero function field Mordell-Lang theorem by reduction to positive characteristic. Since we do not have a good description of the quasiendomorphism ring of φ^\sharp in general, the proof breaks down when one considers varieties $X \subseteq \mathbb{G}_a^n$ which *do* contain translates of algebraic groups.



Geometric proofs of modularity

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- The proofs of modularity of φ^\sharp and of the group Υ in the difference field proof of the Drinfeld Manin-Mumford theorem rely upon a trichotomy theorem for minimal types in SCF and ACFA.

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- The proofs of modularity of φ^\sharp and of the group Υ in the difference field proof of the Drinfeld Manin-Mumford theorem rely upon a trichotomy theorem for minimal types in SCF and ACFA.
- Using jet space techniques, Pink and Roessler, and later Pillay and Ziegler, proved the modularity of some of the auxiliary groups used in the proofs of the Manin-Mumford and function field Mordell-Lang conjectures.

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- Using jet space techniques, Pink and Roessler, and later Pillay and Ziegler, proved the modularity of some of the auxilliary groups used in the proofs of the Manin-Mumford and function field Mordell-Lang conjectures.
- Adapting the jet space techniques to the additive group, Ealy showed that the induced structure on the torsion module of an abelian T -module (a higher dimensional analogue of a Drinfeld module) is modular.

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- Adapting the jet space techniques to the additive group, Ealy showed that the induced structure on the torsion module of an abelian T -module (a higher dimensional analogue of a Drinfeld module) is modular.

In fact, Ealy can show that the induced structure on the torsion module is modular without recourse to either a model theoretic trichotomy theorem or a jet space construction. Rather, all that is needed is the observation that the degree of a finite flat map cannot increase upon specialization and restriction to a subvariety.

Is it adding or subtracting today?

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If only HRH knew...