

# **Galois Covers**

Report for the Seminar Galois Groups and  
Fundamental Groups

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# Introduction

In this talk we will introduce the notion of a Galois cover. The classification of sub-covers of a Galois cover is a topological analogon to the classification of subextensions of Galois extensions of fields. The main goal of this talk is to prove [Sza09, Theorem 2.2.10]. To highlight this analogy, we will compare [Sza09, Theorem 2.2.10] to its algebraic counterpart [Sza09, Theorem 1.3.11].

## 1 Basics About Connected Covers

In this chapter we give (a reminder of) the most important definitions and observations in the setting of connected covers.

**Convention.** The emptyset  $\emptyset$  as a topological space is not connected.

**Definition 1.1.** For a cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  we define

$$\text{Aut}(p) = \{f : Y \rightarrow Y \mid f \text{ is a homeomorphism with } p \circ f = p\}$$

to be the *group of automorphisms of  $p$* .

**Remark.** We note that by the definition of  $\text{Aut}(p)$ , for each  $x \in X$  we obtain a (left) group action  $\text{Aut}(p) \curvearrowright p^{-1}(x)$  by

$$\begin{aligned} - \cdot - : \text{Aut}(p) \times p^{-1}(x) &\rightarrow p^{-1}(x) \\ (f, y) &\mapsto f(y) \end{aligned}$$

**Remark.** Let  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  be a cover and  $x \in X$ .

Then by the definition of a cover there always exists an open neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$  such that there exists a family  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of open subsets of  $Y$  fulfilling

- $p^{-1}(V) = \dot{\bigcup}_{i \in I} U_i$
- $p|_{U_i}$  restricts to a homeomorphism onto  $V$  for each  $i \in I$ .

We will call such a family  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  a *trivialization of  $p$  around  $x$* .

**Remark (Implications for Connected Covers).** For a possibly non-surjective connected cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  (meaning  $X$  and  $Y$  are connected) one can show that  $p$  is surjective regardless. Furthermore one can prove that the cardinality of the fibre  $I$  is the same everywhere. Both statements actually only require connectedness of  $X$ .

**Proposition 1.2** ([Sza09, Proposition 2.2.2]). Let  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  be a cover, let  $Z$  be a connected topological space and  $f, g : Z \rightarrow Y$  continuous maps with  $p \circ f = p \circ g$ . If there exists  $z \in Z$  such that  $f(z) = g(z)$ , then  $f = g$ .

*Proof.* Let  $z \in Z$  with  $f(z) = g(z) = y$ . Because  $p$  is a cover, we can pick a trivialization  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $p$  around  $p(y)$ .

As  $y \in \bigcup_{i \in I} U_i$ , there exists a unique  $i \in I$  with  $y \in U_i$ . Set  $W = f^{-1}(U_i) \cap g^{-1}(U_i)$ . Since  $(p \circ f)|_W = p|_{U_i} \circ f|_W$  and  $(p \circ g)|_W = p|_{U_i} \circ g|_W$ , we obtain  $f|_W = g|_W$  from  $p \circ f = p \circ g$  as  $p|_{U_i}$  is a homeomorphism.

This shows that the set  $A = \{z \in Z \mid f(z) = g(z)\}$  is open, because each element of  $A$  admits an open neighborhood that is contained in  $A$ .

Now let  $z' \in A^c$ , which means  $f(z') \neq g(z') = y'$ . Because  $p$  is a cover, we obtain a trivialization  $(U'_i)_{i \in I}$  around  $y'$ .

Assume there exists  $j \in I$  such that  $f(z') \in U'_j$  and  $g(z') \in U'_j$ . Because  $p$  restricted to  $U'_j$  is bijective, this implies  $(p \circ f)(z') \neq (p \circ g)(z')$ , which is a contradiction to our assumptions.

Thus for  $j, k \in I$  with  $f(z') \in U'_j$  and  $g(z') \in U'_k$  by setting  $W = f^{-1}(U'_j) \cap g^{-1}(U'_k)$  we have  $f(w) \neq g(w)$  for all  $w \in W$ , which shows that  $A^c$  is also open.

Because  $A$  is not empty and  $Z$  is connected we conclude  $Z = A$  which proves the proposition.  $\square$

**Lemma 1.3** ([Sza09, Lemma 2.2.1]). Let  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  be a connected cover and  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(p)$ . If  $f$  has a fixed point, then  $f = \text{id}_Y$ .

*Proof.* Apply Proposition 1.2 with  $Z = Y$ ,  $f = \text{id}_Y$  and  $g = \phi$ .  $\square$

## 2 Galois Covers

In the following we introduce the notion of Galois covers characterize them as the covers with automorphism group acting transitively on the fibres.

**Proposition 2.1** ([Sza09, Proposition 2.2.3]). Let  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  be a connected cover. Then the action  $\text{Aut}(p) \curvearrowright Y$  is even.

*Proof.* For  $y \in Y$  choose a trivialization  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  around  $p(y)$ . Let  $i \in I$  such that  $y \in U_i$  and choose  $f \in \text{Aut}(p)$  with  $f(U_i) \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$ .

For  $x \in f(U_i) \cap U_i$  we have  $f^{-1}(x) \in U_i$  as well as  $x \in U_i$ . Because  $(p \circ f^{-1})(x) = p(x)$  and  $p$  restricted to  $U_i$  is bijective, we have  $f^{-1}(x) = x$ . By Lemma 1.3 we thus have  $f^{-1} = \text{id}_Y$ .

This shows that  $U_i$  is an open neighborhood of  $y$  such that for  $f \in \text{Aut}(p)$  with  $f(U_i) \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$  we have  $f = \text{id}_Y$ , thus  $\text{Aut}(p) \curvearrowright Y$  is even.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.2** ([Sza09, Proposition 2.2.4]). Let  $G$  be a group acting evenly on a connected space  $Y$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} F: G &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(p_G) \\ g &\mapsto (y \mapsto g \cdot y) \end{aligned}$$

is a group isomorphism, where  $p_G : Y \rightarrow G \backslash Y$  is the canonical projection.

*Proof.* By [Sza09, Lemma 2.1.7] we know that  $p_G$  is indeed a cover.

It is clear that  $F$  is a well defined group homomorphism, as  $p \circ F(g) = p$  holds by definition of  $G \setminus Y$ . Thus it suffices to show bijectivity.

For injectivity, let  $g \in G$  with  $F(g) = \text{id}_Y$ . Because the action of  $G$  is even, it is free and thus  $g = e$ .

For surjectivity pick  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(p_G)$  and let  $y \in Y$  be arbitrary. As  $(p \circ \phi)(y) = p(y)$ ,  $\phi(y)$  is in the orbit of  $y$  by the action of  $G$  and thus we can find a  $g \in G$  with  $F(g)(y) = \phi(y)$ . Then by Lemma 1.3 we have  $\phi = F(g)$ , which finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark.** Provided a connected cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$ , we can form the quotient by the even (see Proposition 2.1) action  $\text{Aut}(p) \curvearrowright Y$ . Let  $[y] \in \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y$  be the orbit of  $y \in Y$ . For  $y_1, y_2 \in [y]$  there is an  $f \in \text{Aut}(p)$  with  $y_1 = f(y_2)$  and thus  $p(y_1) = (p \circ f)(y_2) = p(y_2)$ . Therefore, by the universal property of the quotient  $\text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y$  we obtain a unique continuous map  $\bar{p} : \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{p} & X \\ p_{\text{Aut}(p)} \downarrow & \nearrow \bar{p} & \\ \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y & & \end{array}$$

commutes. By Proposition 2.2 we have  $\text{Aut}(p_{\text{Aut}(p)}) \cong \text{Aut}(p)$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  is *Galois* if it is connected and the induced map  $\bar{p} : \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y \rightarrow X$  of the preceding remark is a homeomorphism.

**Example 2.4.** In the setting of Proposition 2.2 the map  $p_G$  is a Galois cover as  $\text{Aut}(p_G) = G$  and  $\bar{p}_G = \text{id}_{G \setminus Y}$ .

**Proposition 2.5** ([Sza09, Proposition 2.2.7]). A connected cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  is Galois if and only if  $\text{Aut}(p)$  acts transitively on all fibres of  $p$ .

*Proof.* Acting transitively on a fibre  $p^{-1}(x)$  is equivalent to statement that the orbit of any  $y \in p^{-1}(x)$  is the whole fibre. This is equivalent to  $\bar{p}$  being bijective by the definition of  $\text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y$ . Therefore if  $\bar{p}$  is a homeomorphism (and therefore bijective)  $p$  is Galois.

For the other implication, it suffices to show that  $\bar{p}$  is an open map, as a continuous map that is open and bijective is a homeomorphism. Let  $U \subset \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y$  be open. Then  $\bar{p}(U) = p(p_{\text{Aut}(p)}^{-1}(U))$  and because  $p$  is a cover and thus open,  $\bar{p}(U)$  is open and the proposition follows.  $\square$

### 3 Classification of Connected Subcovers

In this last section we will prove some preliminary lemmas used in the main result of this talk, the classification of connected subcovers of a Galois cover. Finally, we will compare this result to its algebraic counterpart.

**Lemma 3.1** ([Sza09, Lemma 2.2.11]). Let  $q : Z \rightarrow X$  be a connected cover with  $X$  locally connected and let  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$  be a continuous map such that  $q \circ f$  is also a cover. Then  $f$  is a cover.

*Proof.* Let  $z \in \text{im } f$ ,  $x = q(z)$  and  $V$  be a connected open set that admits both a trivialization  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $p = q \circ f$  and a trivialization  $(V_j)_{j \in J}$  of  $q$  around  $x$ . Such a set  $V$  exists because  $p$  and  $q$  are covers and  $X$  is locally connected.

We have decompositions  $p^{-1}(V) = \dot{\bigcup}_{i \in I} U_i$  and  $q^{-1}(V) = \dot{\bigcup}_{j \in J} V_j$  and because  $U_i$  is connected (as it is homeomorphic to  $V$ ),  $f(U_i)$  is also connected. Let  $j \in J$  be the unique index such that  $z \in V_j$ . Because  $z \in \text{im } f$  we know  $f^{-1}(V_j)$  is nonempty.

Pick an  $i \in I$  with  $f^{-1}(V_j) \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$ . Due to  $f(U_i) \subset \dot{\bigcup}_{j \in J} V_j$  and the fact that  $f(U_i)$  is connected,  $f(U_i) \subset V_j$  as it is the connected component containing  $z$ . Now  $q|_{V_j} \circ f|_{U_i} = p|_{U_i}$  and thus  $f|_{U_i} = q|_{V_j}^{-1} \circ p|_{U_i}$  which shows that  $f|_{U_i}$  is a homeomorphism onto its image  $V_j$ .

From this and  $f^{-1}(V_j) \subset p^{-1}(V)$  we obtain that  $f^{-1}(V_j) = \dot{\bigcup}_{\{i \in I | f(U_i) = V_j\}} U_i$  is a trivialization around  $z \in Z$ .

It thus remains to show that  $f$  is surjective.

From what we have already proven we observe that  $\text{im } f$  is open. For  $z \notin \text{im } f$  the argument above shows that  $\text{im } f \cap V_j = \emptyset$ , where  $V_j$  is again the component of  $q^{-1}(V)$  containing  $z$  (otherwise  $V_j \subset \text{im } f$ ). Thus  $(\text{im } f)^c$  is open as well, which implies  $\text{im } f = Z$  by connectedness of  $Z$ .

This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $q : Y \rightarrow Z$  be a Galois cover with  $X$  and  $Z$  locally connected and let  $f : Z \rightarrow X$  be a continuous map such that  $f \circ q$  is a cover. Then  $f$  is a cover.

*Proof.* For  $x \in X$  choose an open connected neighborhood  $V$  that admits a trivialization  $(U_i)_{i \in I}$  of  $p$  around  $x$ . Let  $f^{-1}(V) = \dot{\bigcup}_{j \in J} V_j$  where the  $V_j$  are the connected components of  $f^{-1}(V)$ . These are open because  $Z$  is locally connected.

By the same connectedness arguments as in Lemma 3.1, we know that for every  $i \in I$  there exists a unique  $j \in J$  such that  $q(U_i) \subset V_j$ . We want to show that  $q(U_i) = V_j$ , because then we can pick a subset  $I' \subset I$  such that  $(q(U_i))_{i \in I'}$  is a disjoint family.

Let  $z \in V_j$ . Due to  $f^{-1}(V) = q\left(\dot{\bigcup}_{i \in I} U_i\right)$  there is a  $k \in I$  and  $y \in U_k$  such that  $q(y) \in V_j$ , which implies  $q(U_k) \subset V_j$ . If there is  $x \in q(U_i) \cap q(U_k)$ , we can pick  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(q) \subset \text{Aut}(p)$  such that  $U_k = \phi(U_i)$ . We then have  $\phi(U_i) \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$  which implies  $\phi = \text{id}$  and thus  $k = i$ . Therefore  $V_j$  can be decomposed as a disjoint union of open sets  $(p(U_i))_{i \in L}$  with  $L \subset I$  and  $i \in L$ , which by connectedness of  $V_j$  implies that  $p(U_i) = V_j$ .

Now we can obtain a trivialization of  $V_j$  by picking  $I' \subset I$  such that  $(q(U_i))_{i \in I'}$ . As  $q|_{U_i} : U_i \rightarrow V_j$  is bijective and thus a homeomorphism,  $f|_{V_j}$  must be a homeomorphism because  $f|_{V_j} \circ q|_{U_i} = p|_{U_i}$ .

This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Remark.** In the situation of Proposition 2.5, it suffices for  $\text{Aut}(p)$  to act transitively on a single fibre. Because  $p_{\text{Aut}(p)} : Y \rightarrow \text{Aut}(p) \setminus Y$  is Galois, by Lemma 3.2 the map

$\bar{p}$  is a cover. Then the fibre of the induced map  $\bar{p}$  is a one point set everywhere (as  $\bar{p}$  is a connected cover, it suffices to know the fibre at a single point). This again shows that  $\bar{p}$  is bijective.

**Definition 3.3.** For a cover  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  let  $\text{Subcov}(p)$  be the category whose

- objects are pairs  $(q, f)$  with  $q : Z \rightarrow X$  a connected cover and  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$  a continuous map with  $q \circ f = p$
- morphisms between objects  $(q_1, f_1), (q_2, f_2)$  are continuous maps  $g : Z_1 \rightarrow Z_2$  such that  $q_2 \circ g = q_1$  and  $g \circ f_1 = f_2$ .

**Remark.** In Definition 3.3, from  $q \circ f = p$  and Lemma 3.1 we have that  $f$  is a cover. Similarly, a morphism  $g : Z_1 \rightarrow Z_2$  that is a morphism from  $(q_1, f_1)$  to  $(q_2, f_2)$  is also cover. Thus all morphisms occurring in Definition 3.3 are covers.

The next theorem is the main part of the talk.

**Proposition 3.4** ([Sza09, Essentially Theorem 2.2.10]). Let  $p : Y \rightarrow X$  be a Galois cover with  $X$  locally connected. Then

- for each subgroup  $H \subset \text{Aut}(p) = G$ , the map  $\bar{p}_H : H \backslash Y \rightarrow X$  is a connected cover.
- if  $q : Z \rightarrow X$  is a connected cover such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Y & \xrightarrow{p} & X \\
 \downarrow f & \nearrow q & \\
 Z & & 
 \end{array}$$

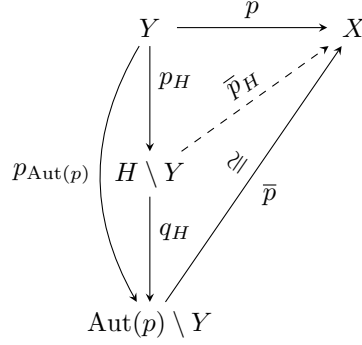
commutes for a continuous map  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$ , then  $f$  is a Galois cover and  $q \cong \bar{p}_H$  in  $\text{Subcov}(p)$  for  $H = \text{Aut}(f) \subset \text{Aut}(p) = G$ . The cover  $q$  is Galois if and only if  $H$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and in this case we have  $\text{Aut}(q) \cong G/H$ .

Furthermore, the above gives mutually inverse equivalences of categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \{\text{Subgroups of } G\} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{Subcov}(p) \\
 H & \longmapsto & (\bar{p}_H, p_H) \\
 \text{Aut}(f) & \longleftarrow & (q, f)
 \end{array}$$

where we view  $\{\text{Subgroups of } G\}$  as a category via the partial ordering induced by inclusions of subgroups of  $G$ .

*Proof.* We have the following commutative diagram illustrating the most important maps:



We first show that for  $H \subset G$  the map  $\bar{p}_H : H \setminus Y \rightarrow X$  is a cover. We know that  $p_H$  is a cover due to [Sza09, Lemma 2.1.7] as  $H$  acts evenly on  $Y$ . Because  $H$  acts transitively on the fibres of  $p_H$  by construction,  $p_H$  is Galois (see Example 2.4). Thus because  $\bar{p}_H \circ p_H = p$  we have that  $\bar{p}_H$  is a cover from Lemma 3.2.

Next we proof that a continuous map  $f$  with  $q \circ f = p$  is a Galois cover. From Lemma 3.1 it follows that  $f$  is a cover. By Proposition 2.5 it thus suffices to check transitivity of the action of  $H = \text{Aut}(f)$  on fibre of  $f$ . Let  $z \in Z$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in f^{-1}(z)$ . We have  $y_1, y_2 \in p^{-1}(q(z))$  and because  $p$  is Galois there is an  $g \in G$  with  $g(y_1) = y_2$ . We have to show that  $g \in H$ . As  $(f \circ g)(y_1) = f(y_2)$  and  $q \circ f \circ g = q \circ f$ , Proposition 1.2 shows that  $f \circ g = f$  and thus  $g \in H$ .

Next we show that  $(q, f) \cong (\bar{p}_H, p_H)$  for  $H = \text{Aut}(f)$  induced by a map  $f : Y \rightarrow Z$  with  $q \circ f = p$  (which we know to be a Galois cover). From the universal property of quotients we obtain a map  $\bar{f} : H \setminus Y \rightarrow Z$  which is a homeomorphism as  $f$  is Galois. Because  $p = q \circ \bar{f} \circ p_H$  and  $p = \bar{p}_H \circ p_H$  we obtain from surjectivity of  $p_H$  that  $q \circ \bar{f} = \bar{p}_H$ , proving  $(q, f) \cong (\bar{p}_H, p_H)$ .

We now proof that for  $(q, f)$ ,  $q$  is Galois if and only if  $\text{Aut}(f) = H \subset G$  is normal. First, let  $q$  be Galois. Our goal is the construct a group homomorphism  $A : \text{Aut}(p) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(q)$  mit  $\ker A = H$ , which shows  $H$  is normal. Let  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(p)$  and  $y \in Y$ , then  $f(y), f(\phi(y)) \in q^{-1}(f(y))$ . By transitivity of  $q$  on its fibres there exists a  $\tilde{\phi} \in \text{Aut}(q)$  with  $\tilde{\phi}(f(y)) = f(\phi(y))$ . Therefore by Proposition 1.2 for each  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(p)$  there is a unique  $\tilde{\phi} \in \text{Aut}(q)$  with  $\tilde{\phi} \circ f = f \circ \phi$ . This construction gives us a map  $A : \text{Aut}(p) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(q)$ . We now show that this is a group homomorphism. We have  $A(\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2)(f(y)) = \tilde{\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2}(f(y)) = f((\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2)(y)) = \tilde{\phi_1}(f(\phi_2)(y)) = \tilde{\phi_1}(\tilde{\phi_2}(f(y))) = A(\phi_1) \cdot A(\phi_2)$  and thus  $A(\phi_1 \cdot \phi_2) = A(\phi_1) \cdot A(\phi_2)$ .

It remains to show that  $\ker A = H$ . For  $\phi \in \ker A$ , we know  $f = f \circ \phi$  and thus  $f \in \text{Aut}(f)$ . Conversely for  $\tau \in H$  by uniqueness we have  $A(\tau) = \text{id}_Y$ . Therefore if  $q$  is Galois then  $H$  is normal and  $\text{Aut}(q) \cong \text{Aut}(p) / \text{Aut}(f)$ .

Next we show that if  $\text{Aut}(f) = H \subset G$  is normal, then  $q$  is Galois.

The action  $G \curvearrowright Y$  induces an action  $G/H \curvearrowright H \setminus Y$ . That this action is even can be seen by projecting an open  $U \subset Y$  with  $g \cdot U \cap U = \emptyset$  for all  $g \in G \setminus \{e\}$  onto  $H \setminus Y$

via  $p_H$ . We have a group isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Aut}(\bar{p}_H) &\rightarrow \text{Aut}(q) \\ g &\mapsto \bar{f} \circ g \circ \bar{f}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

because  $\bar{f}$  is a homeomorphism fulfilling  $\bar{f} \circ p_H = f$  and  $q \circ \bar{f} = \bar{p}_H$ . As  $G/H \setminus (H \setminus Y) \cong X$  via the projection induced by  $\bar{p}_H$ , we know that the canonical map  $\text{Aut}(q) \setminus Z \rightarrow X$  is bijective and thus also a homeomorphism as it is open. Therefore  $q$  is Galois.

We now show functoriality of

$$\begin{aligned} F : \{\text{Subgroups of } G\} &\rightarrow \text{Subcov}(p) \\ H &\mapsto (\bar{p}_H, p_H) . \end{aligned}$$

By construction it is clear that  $F(\text{id}_H) = \text{id}_{(\bar{p}_H, p_H)}$ . Thus it suffices to proof compatibility with inclusions. For  $H \subset K \subset L$  subgroups in  $G$ , we have that  $F(H \subset K) \circ F(K \subset L) = (H \setminus Y \rightarrow K \setminus Y) \circ (K \setminus Y \rightarrow L \setminus Y) = (H \setminus Y \rightarrow L \setminus Y) = F(H \subset L)$  as the maps are projections. This proves functoriality of  $F$ .

Next we show the functoriality of

$$\begin{aligned} G : \text{Subcov}(p) &\rightarrow \{\text{Subgroups of } G\} \\ (q, f) &\mapsto \text{Aut}(f) . \end{aligned}$$

Here we also have  $G(\text{id}_{(q,f)}) = \text{id}_{\text{Aut}(f)}$  by construction. We first show that a map  $g : (q_1, f_1) \rightarrow (q_2, f_2)$  induces an inclusion  $\text{Aut}(f_1) \subset \text{Aut}(f_2)$ .

Let  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(f_1)$ . Then  $f_1 \circ \phi = f_1$  implies  $g \circ f_1 \circ \phi = g \circ f_1$ , which by  $g \circ f_1 = f_2$  proves  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(f_2)$ . Thus for maps  $g_1 : (q_1, f_1) \rightarrow (q_2, f_2)$  and  $g_2 : (q_2, f_2) \rightarrow (q_3, f_3)$  we have  $\text{Aut}(f_1) \subset \text{Aut}(f_2) \subset \text{Aut}(f_3)$  which proves functoriality of  $G$ .

Lastly we show that  $F$  and  $G$  are mutually inverse equivalences of categories. From what we have already proven, we know that  $G \circ F = \text{id}_{\{\text{Subgroups of } G\}}$ .

Thus we only need to show  $G \circ F \simeq \text{id}_{\text{Subcov}(p)}$ . For  $g : Z_1 \rightarrow Z_2$  a map from  $(q_1, f_1)$  to  $(q_2, f_2)$  the square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\bar{p}_{\text{Aut}(f_1)}, p_{\text{Aut}(f_1)}) & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_1} & (q_1, f_1) \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ (\bar{p}_{\text{Aut}(f_2)}, p_{\text{Aut}(f_2)}) & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}_2} & (q_2, f_2) \end{array}$$

where

- $\bar{f}_1 : \text{Aut}(f_1) \setminus Y \rightarrow Z_1$  and  $\bar{f}_2 : \text{Aut}(f_2) \setminus Y \rightarrow Z_2$  are homeomorphisms as  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are Galois



- the left vertical map  $\text{Aut}(f_1) \setminus Y \rightarrow \text{Aut}(f_2) \setminus Y$  is the projection induced by  $\text{Aut}(f_1) \subset \text{Aut}(f_2)$

commutes. As the horizontal maps are isomorphisms in  $\text{Subcov}(p)$  we thus have proven  $G \circ F \simeq \text{id}_{\text{Subcov}(p)}$ .  $\square$

We now state the algebraic counterpart to our main result Proposition 3.4 as in [Sza09, Theorem 1.3.11].

**Theorem** ([Sza09, Theorem 1.3.11] (Krull)). Let  $L$  be a subextension of the Galois extension  $K|k$ . Then  $\text{Gal}(K|L)$  is a closed subgroup of  $\text{Gal}(K|k)$ . Moreover, the maps

$$L \mapsto H := \text{Gal}(K|L) \quad \text{and} \quad H \mapsto L := K^H$$

yield an inclusion-reversing bijection between subfields  $K \supset L \supset k$  and closed subgroups  $H \subset G$ . A subextension  $L|k$  is Galois over  $k$  if and only if  $\text{Gal}(K|L)$  is normal in  $\text{Gal}(K|k)$ ; in this case there is a natural isomorphism  $\text{Gal}(L|k) \cong \text{Gal}(K|k) / \text{Gal}(K|L)$ .

**Remark** (Comparison of Proposition 3.4 to [Sza09, Theorem 1.3.11]). In the following we will highlight the similarity between the aforementioned theorems. We use the same notions as in the respective theorems.

Cover Theory	Field Extensions
Galois cover $p : Y \rightarrow X$	Galois extension $K k$
$(q, f) \in \text{Subcov}(p)$	Subextension $K \supset L \supset k$
$(q, f) \mapsto \text{Aut}(f)$	$L \mapsto \text{Gal}(K L)$
$H \mapsto (\bar{p}_H, p_H)$	$H \mapsto K^H$
$q$ Galois iff $\text{Aut}(f) \subset \text{Aut}(p)$ normal	$L k$ Galois iff $\text{Gal}(K L) \subset \text{Gal}(K k)$ normal
For $q$ Galois $\text{Aut}(q) \cong \text{Aut}(p) / \text{Aut}(f)$	For $L k$ Galois $\text{Gal}(L k) \cong \text{Gal}(K k) / \text{Gal}(K L)$

**Outlook.** This correspondence will be made precise in the later parts of the seminar. The bridge will be provided by Riemann surfaces.

## References

- [Löh18] Prof. Dr. Clara Löh. *Algebraic Topology*. An introductory course. 2018. URL: [http://www.mathematik.uni-regensburg.de/loeh/teaching/topologie1\\_ws1819/lecture\\_notes.pdf](http://www.mathematik.uni-regensburg.de/loeh/teaching/topologie1_ws1819/lecture_notes.pdf) (visited on 04/01/2021).
- [Sza09] Tamás Szamuely. *Galois Groups and Fundamental Groups*. Cambridge Studies in Advanced Mathematics. Cambridge University Press, 2009. DOI: 10.1017/CB09780511627064.