

# §1 Torsors [BLR 6.4]

General concept:  $G/S$  group scheme,  $X, Y/S$  schemes

$G \curvearrowright X$ ,  $X \rightarrow Y$   $G$ -invariant.

Def  $X \rightarrow Y$   $G$ -torsor def

1)  $G \times_S X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times_Y X$

2)  $\exists$  covering  $Y' \rightarrow Y$  + section  $Y' \times_Y X$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $Y'$

usually split.

Idea Given  $T \xrightarrow{y} Y$ , (1) says that any  
two lifts  $T \xrightarrow{x_1, x_2} X$

differs by unique  $g \in G(T)$  i.e.  $x_2 = g x_1$ .

In other words:  $\{x \in X(T) \text{ lifting } y\}$

is  $\emptyset$  or  $\cong G(T)$ .

(2) says:  $\exists$  covering  $T' \rightarrow T$  +  $x \in X(T')$  lifting  $y$ .

(Exclude e.g. situation  $X = \emptyset$ .)

"Covering" has to be specified, usually split.

Example 1)  $X = \text{Spec } L \longrightarrow Y = \text{Spec } K$

finite Galois w/ Gal. grp.  $\Gamma \subset X$

↳ torsor for étale topology:

$$L \otimes_K X = \text{Spec} \left( L \otimes_K L \right) = \Gamma \times_{\mathbb{C}} \text{Spec } L$$

$\Gamma$  acts by translation.

2)  $X \longrightarrow Y$  Spec  $\Gamma$  ~~group~~ of ab vars w/ kernel  $K$ .

$$K \times_{\text{Spec } K} X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times_Y X$$

So 1) satisfied. 2) satisfied w/ prof topology

&  $Y' = X$  itself.

3) Thm (AV Lect 14)  $G/S$  fin loc free,  $X/S$  sep.

$G \subset X$  freely (i.e.  $G \times_S X \hookrightarrow X \times_S X$  d. immers.)

Assume  $\exists$  affine  $G$ -stable cover of  $X$

Then Quotient  $Y$  exists,  $X \longrightarrow Y$  is fin loc free

and  $G \times_S X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \times_Y X$ . In other words,

$X \longrightarrow Y$  is  $G$ -torsor for prof topology.

§2 Gm-torsors Fact:  $X \rightarrow Y$   $G_m$ -torsor

for ét/parf/parc top, then  $\exists$  Zariski covering

$$Y = \cup U_i \text{ s.t. } X(U_i) \neq \emptyset.$$

(This is a consequence of spqc descent for vector bundles. It means torsors for different topologies coincide.)

$$\{ \text{Gm-torsors } X \xrightarrow{\pi} Y \} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Pic}(Y)$$

$$\text{Spec } \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{L}^{\otimes i} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}$$

$$X \longmapsto \{ \mathcal{L} \in \pi_* \mathcal{O}_X \mid \mu^*(\mathcal{L}) = f^* \mathcal{L} \}$$

Setting  $X = \text{Spec } A$ ,  $G_m \text{ C} X \longrightarrow A = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} A_i$   
(over  $S = \text{Spec } \mathbb{R}$ )

Action free  $\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} G_m \times X \longrightarrow X \times X$  closed immersion.

Prop If action free, quotient  $q: X \rightarrow Y = \text{Spec } A_0$

$\rightarrow$  a  $G_m$ -torsor. More precisely,  $A_1$  is a line

bundle /  $A_0$  and  $A = \bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} A_1^{\otimes i}$  as  $\text{mug}$ .

Proof  $\sum [t^{\pm 1}] \otimes A \xrightarrow{\cong} A \otimes A$   
 $f^d \otimes a_i b \xrightarrow{\cong} a \otimes b \quad \deg(a) = d$

being surjective  $\Rightarrow f \otimes 1$  is surjective, i.e.

$\exists e_1, \dots, e_r \in A_1, f_1, \dots, f_r \in A_{-1}$

s.t.  $1 = \sum e_i f_i \quad u_i = e_i f_i$

Note  $\deg(u_i) = 0$ , so  $\text{Spec } A_0 = \cup D(u_i)$

Claim  $D(u_i) \times_{\mathcal{Y}} X \cong_{\text{lim}} D(e_i f_i)$

lim-equivalently.

Proof  $u_i$  invertible  $\Rightarrow e_i, f_i$  invertible

Given  $a \in A_1 [u_i^{-1}]$  may write

$$a = a \left( \sum e_j f_j \right) = a \cdot \underbrace{\left( \sum \frac{e_j f_j}{e_i} \right)}_{\in A_0} \cdot e_i$$

So  $A_1 [u_i^{-1}] = A_0 [u_i^{-1}] e_i$  Since  $e_i$  invertible in  $A [u_i^{-1}]$ ,

even  $A_0 [u_i^{-1}] \xrightarrow[\cong]{\cdot e_i} A_1 [u_i^{-1}]$

$\Rightarrow A_1$  l.b. over  $A_0$ , trivialized by  $e_i$  over  $D(u_i)$ .

Given  $a \in A_d[u_i^{-1}]$ ,  $a = (a \cdot e_i^{-d}) \cdot e_i^d$   
 $\in A[u_i^{-1}] \cdot e_i^d$ ,

Thus the natural map

$$\bigoplus_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} A_{-i} \longrightarrow A \quad \text{is an iso.} \quad \square$$

Important consequence:

$X \rightarrow Y$  has Zariski locally sections  
 & these are unique up to  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -action.

Example  $\tilde{\mathcal{M}} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_m \setminus \tilde{\mathcal{M}} = \text{Spec } \mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{6}, j]$

does not have sections everywhere

Recall first that if  $K$  field,  $j \in K$ , then  $\exists$

$E/K$  with  $j(E) = j$ .

$\implies \exists E/\mathbb{Q}(j)$  with  $j(E) = j$ .

It extends to an open  $U \subseteq \mathbb{A}_m^1 \setminus \{j=0\}$

Claim  $\exists E/R$   $R = \mathbb{Q}(j)_{(j)}$  s.t.  $j(E) = j$ .

( $R =$  local ring at  $j=0$  in  $\mathbb{A}_m^1$ )

Proof  $\mathbb{R}$  local, so  $E$  would be given by Weierstrass eqn

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then  $\Delta = (\text{const} \neq 0) + \text{higher}$  in  $\hat{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{Q}[[j]]$

as it lies in  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}^*$ .

But  $j = 1728 \frac{4a^3}{\Delta}$  has no solution in  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$ .  $\square$

Rank  $j=0 \iff y^2 = x^3 + 1$

has extra auto  $x \mapsto \zeta_3 x$   
 $y \mapsto y$  /  $\mathbb{Q}(\zeta_3)$

CM by  $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_3]$ .

Similar argument works at

$$j=1728 \iff y^2 = x^3 + x$$

has auto  $x \mapsto -x$   
 $y \mapsto iy$  /  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$

CM by  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$ .

§3 Level structure  $n \geq 1, n \in \mathcal{O}_S(S)^\times$ .

$E \rightarrow S$  ét. Then  $E[n] \rightarrow S$  fin. ét. order  $n^2$ .

Two important principles:

1)  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y$  fin. ét. Then  $f$  open & closed

·) closed since finite

·) open since flat, loc. fin. pres. maps are open  
(Stacks 01UA.)

2) 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \\ & \searrow u & \swarrow v \\ & S & \end{array}$$
  $u, v$  fin. ét.  $\implies f$  fin. étale.

Example  $X \rightarrow S$  fin. ét. of deg  $d$ .

Then  $\exists S' \rightarrow S$  fin. ét. s.t.  $S' \times_S X \cong \coprod S'$

Proof by induction on  $d$ ,  $d=1$  being  $X=S$ .

$\Delta: X \rightarrow X \times_S X$  fin. ét. by principle 2),

hence  $X \times_S X = \Delta \coprod (\text{orb})$  by principle 1).  $\square$

Prop  $n \in \mathbb{O}_S(S)^\times$ ,  $E/S \in \mathcal{C}$ . Then  $\exists S' \rightarrow S$

fu et. s.t.  $S' \times_S E[n] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n)^{\oplus 2} S'$ .

Proof of Prop Example yields  $S' \rightarrow S$  fu. et.

$$S' \times_S E[n] \cong \coprod_{i \in I} S' \quad |I| = n^2$$

Denote sections by  $t_i$ ,  $i \in I$ .

For  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}/n$ ,  $S'_{a,b,i,j} = (at_i + bt_j) \cap e(S') \subseteq S'$

is open + closed, since  $(at_i + bt_j) \cap e(S') \rightarrow e(S')$   
is fu. étale.

$$\Rightarrow S' = S'_{a,b,i,j} \sqcup S'_{a,b,r,j}$$

Now given  $s \in S'$ , we know  $\text{Spec } \mathcal{O}_S(S) \times_S E[n] = (\mathbb{Z}/n)^{\oplus 2}$ .

Pick  $i, j$  s.t.  $t_i, t_j$  provide basis at  $s$ .

Only fin many  $a, b$  exist

$$\Rightarrow \exists S' = S'_{i,j} \sqcup S'_{i,j}^c \text{ where}$$

$$t_i t_j: \mathbb{Z}/n^{\oplus 2} S'_{i,j} \xrightarrow{\cong} S'_{i,j} \times_S E[n]$$

Varying  $s$  finishes the proof.  $\square$

Prop  $E/S$  as before. The functor

$$L_{E,n} : \mathcal{S}/S \rightarrow \mathcal{S}b$$

$$T/S \longmapsto \left\{ \alpha : \underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\mathbb{T}}^{\oplus 2} \xrightarrow{\cong} T \times_S E[n] \right\}$$

$\Rightarrow$  representable + fin. étale  $/S$ .  $L_{E,n} \rightarrow S$  is

a  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}/n)$ -torsor (for étale topology).

Remark 1) Group homo  $\alpha : \underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\mathbb{T}}^{\oplus 2} \rightarrow T \times_S E[n]$  is

same as two  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in E[n](\mathbb{T})$ .

2)  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}/n) \subset L_{E,n}$  as  $g \cdot \alpha = \alpha \circ g$ .

Proof Consider  $X := E[n] \times_S E[n]$ .

Then  $X(\tau) = \text{Hom}(\underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\tau}^{\oplus 2}, \tau \times_S E[n])$

If  $a, b \in (\mathbb{Z}/n)^2 \setminus \{(0,0)\}$ , have

$$m_{a,b} : X \rightarrow E[n]$$

$$(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) \mapsto (a\alpha_1, b\alpha_2)$$

It is finite étale. Then

$$B_{a,b} := X \times_{m_{a,b}, E[n], e} S \rightarrow X$$

is open and closed.

$B_{a,b} = \text{locus}$   
where  $a, b$   
give non-trivial  
dependence relation  
of  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2$ .

$X \setminus \bigcup_{(a,b) \neq (0,0)} B_{a,b} = L_{E,n}$  is  
dense for space.

We know  $\exists T \rightarrow S$  for étale s.k.

$$\tau \times_S E[n] \cong \underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\tau}^{\oplus 2}$$

So  $\tau \times_S \text{Iso}(\underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_S^{\oplus 2}, E[n])$  giving tensor  
property.

$$\cong \text{Iso}(\underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\tau}^{\oplus 2}, \underline{\mathbb{Z}/n}_{\tau}^{\oplus 2}) \cong \underline{\text{GL}}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n)_{\tau}, \quad \square$$

Def Iso of ECs w/ level- $n$ -str  $(E, \alpha), (E', \alpha')$

def Iso  $\phi: E_1 \xrightarrow{\cong} E_2$  s.t.  $\alpha_2 = \phi \circ \alpha_1$

$$M_n: \text{Sch}/\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{n}]^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$S \longmapsto \{(E, \alpha)/S\} / \cong$$

$$\tilde{M}_n: \text{Sch}/\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{6n}]^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \text{Set}$$

$$S \longmapsto \left\{ (E, \alpha, \pi) \mid \begin{array}{l} (E, \pi) \in \tilde{M}(S) \\ \alpha \in L_{E,n}(S) \end{array} \right\} / \cong$$

Cor  $\tilde{M}_n$  is an affine scheme

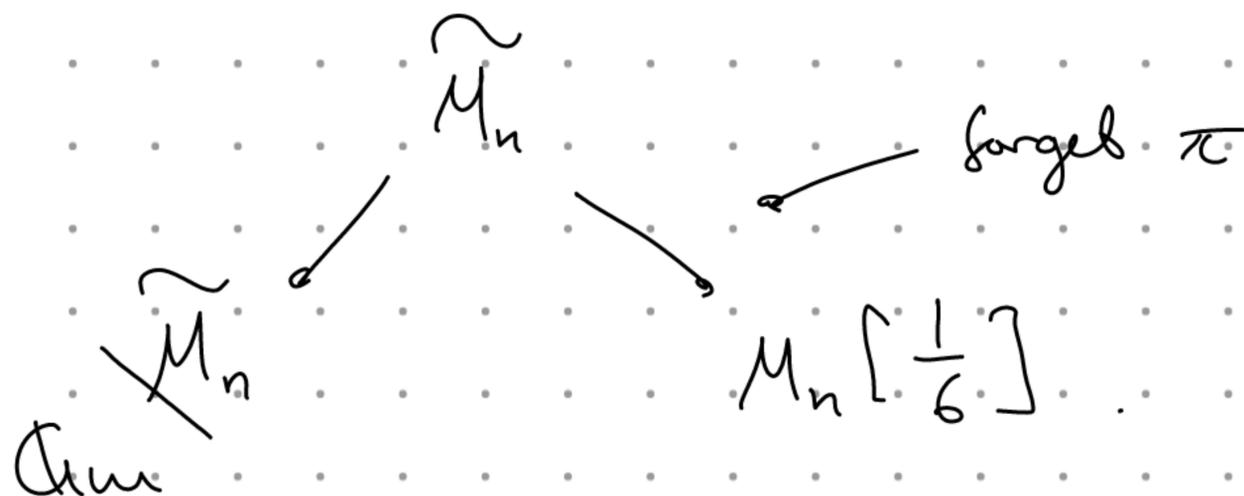
Proof  $\tilde{M}_n = L_{E,n} \rightarrow \tilde{M}[\frac{1}{n}]$ ,  $(E, \pi)/\tilde{M}$  universal curve  
 $\Rightarrow$  representable. (Even  $\text{Gal}_2(\mathbb{Z}/n)$ -torsor.)  $\square$

Remark Def makes sense in char  $p$ ,  $p \nmid n$ , too,

but produces empty functor since there

$E[n]$  is never stable.

Obtain



Then Assume  $n \geq 3$ . Then  $\tilde{M}_n \cong M_n[\frac{1}{6}]$ .

In pt 2,  $M_n$  is representable by an affine scheme.

Following prop explains why this is plausible:

Prop  $n \geq 3$ ,  $(E, \alpha)/S$  EC + level- $n$ -str.

Then  $\text{Aut}(E, \alpha) = \{ \text{id} \}$ .

1<sup>st</sup> Proof First observe: If  $S$  connected,  $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$

map of ECs over  $S$  s.t.  $\phi(s) = 0$  for some  $s \in S$ ,

then  $\phi = 0$  by Rigidity.  $\rightarrow$  wlog  $S = \text{Spec } k$   
check  $t \cdot n$ .

To see:  $n \geq 3 \Rightarrow \text{End}(E) \xrightarrow{r} \text{End}(E[t])(k)$

$\rightarrow$  injective on  $\text{Aut}(E)$ .

Let  $\phi \in \text{Aut}(E)$ . Classf. of  $\text{End}(E)$

$\Rightarrow \mathbb{Z}[\phi] \in \{ \mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Z}[i], \mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{3}] \}$

with  $\phi \in \{1, -1\}$  or  $\{\pm i\}$  or  $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \pm 1 \\ 3 \end{matrix} \right\}, \left\{ \begin{matrix} \pm 1 \\ 6 \end{matrix} \right\}$ .

If  $\phi = -1$ , then  $\tau(\phi) = -1$ , which is  $\neq 1$

mod  $n$ , so we are good in case  $\phi \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Assume  $\mathbb{Z}[\phi] =: R$  is quadratic.

Claim  $E[n](k) \cong R/nR$  as  $R$ -module.

Proof Seen last term:

$$\mathbb{Z}_\ell \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R \hookrightarrow \text{End}_{\mathbb{Z}_\ell}(T_\ell E)$$

Our  $R$  is also the max order, i.e. normal,

so  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R = \mathbb{Z}_\ell \times \mathbb{Z}_\ell$  or DVR.

Any torsion-free finite module over DVR is

free, so  $T_\ell E$  is free (necessarily rank 1)

over  $\mathbb{Z}_\ell \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} R$ .

Truncating, we find  $E[\ell^e](k) \cong R/\ell^e$ .

CRT  $\Rightarrow$   $\square$  Claim.

Now  $1 \neq \pm i \pmod{n \cdot \mathbb{Z}[i]}$  because

$(n=2^e)$   $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  ramified at 2,  $1 \pm i$  are unformers

$(2 \neq p | n)$  primitive  $k$ -th roots of 1,  $p \nmid k$ ,  
different in  $\overline{\mathbb{F}_p}$

Similarly  $1 \neq \zeta_3^{\pm 1}, \zeta_6^{\pm 1} \pmod{n \cdot \mathbb{Z}[\zeta_3]}$  because

$(n=3^e)$   $\mathbb{Z}[\zeta_3]$  ramified at 3,  $1 - \zeta_3^{\pm 1}, \zeta_6^{\pm 1} - 1$   
unformers

$(3 \neq p | n)$  same argument.  $\square$

2nd Proof Assume  $\phi | E[n] = 1$ , i.e.  $E[n] \subset \ker(\phi - 1)$ .

Consider 
$$0 \rightarrow E[n] \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\cdot n} E \xrightarrow{\cong} E/E[n] \rightarrow 0$$
  
as seen last term  
$$\begin{array}{c} \phi - 1 \downarrow \\ E \end{array} \xrightarrow{\gamma} E/E[n]$$
  
by quotient property.

i.e.  $(\phi - 1) = n \cdot \gamma$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} n^2 \deg(\gamma) &= (\phi - 1)(\phi^* - 1) = \deg \phi - (\phi + \phi^*) + 1 \\ &= 2 - (\phi + \phi^*). \end{aligned}$$

Classification of  $\text{End}(E) \Rightarrow |\phi + \phi^*| \leq 2$

So  $n^2 \deg \gamma \leq 4$ .

This forces  $\gamma = 0$  if  $n \geq 3$ .  $\square$

§ 4 Proof of Thm  $n \geq 3$ , over  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{6n}]$

Observe If  $M_n[\frac{1}{6}]$  representable, then

$\tilde{M}_n \rightarrow M_n$  is  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -torsor since

1)  $\mathbb{G}_m \times \tilde{M}_n \xrightarrow{\cong} \tilde{M}_n \times_{M_n} \tilde{M}_n$

2)  $\tilde{M}_n \rightarrow M_n$  has Zariski local sections

(initialize  $\omega_E$ ,

$(E, \alpha)$  universal curve)

$\rightarrow$  Necessarily  $M_n = \mathbb{G}_m \backslash \tilde{M}_n$  !

Assume we know  $\mathbb{G}_m \subset \tilde{M}_n$  freely. Then

$q: \tilde{M}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{G}_m \backslash \tilde{M}_n$  is  $\mathbb{G}_m$ -torsor (§2),

hence has local sections, unique up to  $\mathbb{G}_m$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{G}_m \backslash \tilde{M}_n & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\Phi} \\ \xleftarrow{\Psi} \end{array} & M_n \end{array}$$

1)  $y \in (\mathbb{G}_m \backslash \tilde{M}_n)(S)$   $\Phi(y)$ : Pick  $S = S_i$   
 +  $(E_i, \alpha_i, \pi_i)$  lifting  $y|_{S_i}$

Torsor-property  $\Rightarrow (E_i, \alpha_i, \pi_i)|_{S_{ij}} = (E_j, \alpha_j, \pi_j)|_{S_{ij}}$

for unique  $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{O}_S(S_{ij})^*$

Translation:  $\exists! \phi_{ij}: (E_i, \alpha_i)|_{S_{ij}} \xrightarrow{\cong} (E_j, \alpha_j)|_{S_{ij}}$

Co-cycle condition satisfied since  $\text{Aut}(E, \alpha) = \{\text{id}\}$   
(use  $n \geq 3$ )

$\Rightarrow$  glue to  $\Phi(y) := (E, \alpha) \in M_n(S)$ .

2)  $(E, \alpha) \in M_n(S)$   $\bar{\Gamma}(E, \alpha)$ : Pick  $S = S_i$  s.t.

$\omega_E|_{S_i} \cong \mathcal{O}_{S_i}$ , lift  $(E, \alpha, \pi_i) \in \widehat{M}_n(S_i)$ .

Since  $\varphi$   $\mathbb{Q}_m$ -invariant,  $\{\varphi(E, \alpha, \pi_i)\}_i$

agree on overlaps, define  $S \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_m \backslash \widehat{M}_n$ .

3)  $\bar{\Gamma} \circ \Phi = \text{id}_{\mathbb{Q}_m \backslash \widehat{M}_n}$ ,  $\bar{\Gamma} \circ \bar{\Gamma} = \text{id}_{M_n}$

Given  $y$  & lift  $(E_i, \alpha_i, \pi_i)$  gluing to  $(E, \alpha)$ ,

the  $(E_i, \alpha_i, \pi_i)$  lift  $(E, \alpha)$  and glue to  $y$ .

Other identity similar.  $\square$

## §5 Weil extension Thm

To see:  $\mathbb{A}_m \times \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_n \longrightarrow \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_n \times_{\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{6n}]} \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_n \hookrightarrow$

closed immersion, i.e. proper monomorphism

[Stacks 04XV]

Monomorphism  $\lambda, \lambda' \in \mathbb{A}_m(S)$ ,  $(E, \alpha, \pi), (E', \alpha', \pi') \in \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_n(S)$ .

Then  $(E, \alpha, \pi) \cong_{\phi} (E', \alpha', \pi')$   
 $\& (E, \alpha, \lambda\pi) \cong_{\psi} (E', \alpha', \lambda'\pi')$   $\} \Rightarrow \lambda = \lambda'$

Proof  $n \geq 3 \Rightarrow \phi = \psi$  since  $\exists_{\leq 1} \text{ iso } (E, \alpha) \xrightarrow{\cong} (E', \alpha')$ .

So  $\phi^*(\pi') = \pi$  &  $\lambda' \phi^*(\pi') = \lambda\pi$   
 $\Rightarrow \lambda = \lambda' \quad \square$

Proposition To show  $\mathbb{R}$  DVR,  $K = \text{Frac } \mathbb{R}$ .

$(E, \alpha, \pi), (E', \alpha', \pi') \in \tilde{\mathcal{M}}_n(\mathbb{R})$

s.t.  $\exists$  iso  $\phi_K: (E, \alpha)_K \xrightarrow{\cong} (E', \alpha')_K$  with  
 $\phi^*(\pi') = \lambda \cdot \pi \quad \lambda \in K^\times$

Then  $\phi_K$  lifts uniquely to  $(E, \alpha) \rightarrow (E', \alpha')$  &  $\lambda \in R^x$ .

Then (Weil extension Thm)  $S$  Dedekind scheme,  
connected,  $\eta$  gen pt.  
 $E, E'/S$  ECs. Then

$$\text{Hom}(E, E') \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Hom}(E_\eta, E'_\eta)$$

Proof  $E_\eta, E'_\eta$  are schematically dense &  $E'$  separated,  
 $\Rightarrow$  injectivity is immediate. Surjectivity is the  
real statement here.

Injective derived property  $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$  the unique lift  
of  $\phi_K$ . (Is iso since also  $\phi_K^{-1}$  lifts.)

Then  $\phi \circ \alpha = \alpha'$  since  $E[\eta]_K, E'[\eta]_K, \underline{(\mathbb{Q})}_K^{\oplus 2}$   
are schematically dense and  $\phi_K \circ \alpha_K = \alpha'_K$ .

Also  $\phi^*(\pi') = \mu \cdot \pi$  for some  $\mu \in R^x$ .

Then  $\mu = \lambda$  since  $\Gamma(E, \Omega'_{E/R}) \hookrightarrow \Gamma(E_K, \Omega'_{E/K})$ .