

# Pushing back the barrier of imperfection

Franz-Viktor Kuhlmann

Model Theory Conference  
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But at that time, Abhyankar did not know the notion of the defect.

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The example also shows that the following **Ax-Kochen-Ershov Principle** does not hold for  $K = \mathbb{F}_p((t))^{1/p^\infty}$  and  $v = v_t$

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where “ $\prec_{\exists}$ ” means “existentially closed in”.

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In the case of model theory, the proof of Ax–Kochen–Ershov Principles is reduced to embedding lemmas for finitely generated extensions of valued fields; these are valued function fields. After having dealt with embeddings of rational function fields, in most cases the only tool available for extending these embeddings to the full function field is [Hensel's Lemma](#).

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holds in positive characteristic for dimensions greater than 3.

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Can we do without alteration and can we get from the tame fields to  $\mathbb{F}_p((t))$  if we sufficiently push back the barrier of imperfection?

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Note that “extremal” implies “henselian” and “defectless”.

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**Theorem (S. Anscombe, S. Azgin, F. Pop, K)**

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Completing the characterization would mean pushing the barrier of imperfection.

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M. Temkin proved that local uniformization can also be achieved after a finite purely inseparable extension of the function field. But this does not mean that we conquered the defect, we just “stowed it away” in a separable or a purely inseparable extension. However, this tells us something about the type of defect that we have not mastered.

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If a field is perfect (such as  $\mathbb{F}_p((t))^{1/p^\infty}$ ), it has no dependent defect extensions.

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There is some hope that results on elimination of ramification can be generalized to the case of ground fields that do not admit dependent defect extensions. What would be a good framework for this?

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It turns out that perfectoid fields are a bit too special for our purposes. By definition, they are complete, so they do not form an elementary class. It is better to work with deeply ramified fields in the sense of O. Gabber and L. Ramero.

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