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Erin Griesenauer and **Paul S. Muhly***, Department of Mathematics, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242-1419, and **Baruch Solel**. *PI and GIT Methods in Free Analysis*.

In this largely expository talk, we describe some ways in which methods from Polynomial Identity (PI) Algebra and Geometric Invariant Theory (GIT) can illuminate structures in noncommutative function theory. In particular, we provide background for Erin Griesenauer's talk in this session. (Received September 04, 2014)