

# Invariant Theory of Artin-Schelter Regular Algebras: The Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem

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## Goal and Rationale:

Extend “Classical Invariant Theory” to an appropriate **noncommutative** context.

“Classical Invariant Theory”: Group  $G$  acts on  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .  
 $f$  is **invariant** under  $G$  if  $g \cdot f = f$  for all  $g$  in  $G$ .

Invariant theory important in the theory of commutative rings.

Productive context for using homological techniques.

Further the study of Artin-Schelter Regular Algebras  $A$  and other non-commutative algebras.

Extend from group  $G$  action to Hopf algebra  $H$  action.

## Linear Group Actions on $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

Let  $G$  be a finite group of  $n \times n$  matrices acting on  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$g \cdot x_j = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} x_i$$

Extend to an automorphism of  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

# Invariants under $S_n$

Permutations of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .



(Painter: Christian Albrecht Jensen) (Wikipedia)

The subring of invariants  
under  $S_n$  is a polynomial ring

$$k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^{S_n} = k[\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n]$$

where  $\sigma_k$  are the  $n$  elementary symmetric functions for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ :

$$\sigma_k = \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_k} x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_k} = \mathcal{O}_{S_n}(x_1 x_2 \dots x_k)$$

or the  $n$  power functions:

$$P_k = \sum x_i^k = \mathcal{O}_{S_n}(x_1^k).$$

Question: When is  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$  a polynomial ring?

# Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic zero.

**Theorem (1954).** The ring of invariants  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$  under a finite group  $G$  is a polynomial ring if and only if  $G$  is generated by reflections.

A linear map  $g$  on  $V$  is called a reflection of  $V$  if all but one of the eigenvalues of  $g$  are 1, i.e.  $\dim V^g = \dim V - 1$ .

**Example:** Transposition permutation matrices are reflections, and  $S_n$  is generated by reflections.

## Noncommutative Generalizations?

Replace  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  by a “polynomial-like” noncommutative algebra  $A$ .

Let  $A$  be Artin-Schelter regular algebra. A commutative Artin-Schelter regular ring is a commutative polynomial ring.

Consider groups  $G$  of graded automorphisms acting on  $A$ .  
Note that not all linear maps act on  $A$ .

More generally, consider finite dimensional semi-simple Hopf algebras  $H$  acting on  $A$ .



## Artin-Schelter Gorenstein/Regular

Noetherian connected graded algebra  $A$  is **Artin-Schelter Gorenstein** if:

- $A$  has graded injective dimension  $d < \infty$  on the left and on the right,
- $\text{Ext}_A^i(k, A) = \text{Ext}_{A^{op}}^i(k, A) = 0$  for all  $i \neq d$ , and
- $\text{Ext}_A^d(k, A) \cong \text{Ext}_{A^{op}}^d(k, A) \cong k(\ell)$  for some  $\ell$ .

If in addition,

- $A$  has finite (graded) global dimension, and
- $A$  has finite Gelfand-Kirillov dimension,

then  $A$  is called **Artin-Schelter regular** of dimension  $d$ .

An Artin-Schelter regular graded domain  $A$  is called a **quantum polynomial ring** of dimension  $n$  if  $H_A(t) = (1 - t)^{-n}$ .

## Linear automorphisms of $\mathbb{C}_q[x, y]$

If  $q \neq \pm 1$  there are only diagonal automorphisms:

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{bmatrix}.$$

When  $q = \pm 1$  there also are automorphisms of the form:

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ b & 0 \end{bmatrix} :$$

$$yx = qxy$$

$$g(yx) = g(qxy)$$

$$axby = qbyax$$

$$abxy = q^2 abxy$$

$$q^2 = 1.$$

# Noncommutative Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem

1.  $A^G$  is a polynomial ring  $\rightsquigarrow$  ???  $A^G \cong A$ ??

**Example (a):** Let

$$g = \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_n & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

act on  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y]$ . Then  $A^G = \mathbb{C}\langle x^n, y \rangle$ .

When  $n$  odd,  $A^G \cong A$ . When  $n$  even  $A^G \cong \mathbb{C}[x, y]$ .

Replace “ $A^G$  is a polynomial ring” with “ $A^G$  is AS-regular”.

When  $A$  commutative  $A^G \cong A$  equivalent to  $A^G$  AS-regular.

# Noncommutative Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem

1.  $A^G$  is a polynomial ring  $\rightsquigarrow A^G$  is AS-regular.
2. Definition of “reflection”:

All but one eigenvalue of  $g$  is 1  $\rightsquigarrow$  ???

Examples  $G = \langle g \rangle$  on  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y]$  ( $yx = -xy$ ):

**Example (b):**  $g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $A^{S_2}$  is generated by

$$P_1 = x + y \text{ and } P_2 = x^3 + y^3$$

( $x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2$  and  $g \cdot xy = yx = -xy$  so no generators in degree 2); alternatively, generators are

$$\sigma_1 = x + y \text{ and } \sigma_2 = x^2y + xy^2.$$

The generators are NOT algebraically independent.  $A^{S_2}$  is AS-regular (but it is a hyperplane in an AS-regular algebra).  
The transposition (1, 2) is NOT a “reflection”.

Examples  $G = \langle g \rangle$  on  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y]$   
( $yx = -xy$ ):

**Example (c):**  $g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Now  $\sigma_1 = x^2 + y^2$  and  $\sigma_2 = xy$  are invariant and

$A^g \cong \mathbb{C}[\sigma_1, \sigma_2]$  is AS-regular.

$g$  is a “mystic reflection”.

## 2. Definition of “reflection”:

All but one eigenvalue of  $g$  is 1  $\rightsquigarrow$

The trace function of  $g$  acting on  $A$  of dimension  $n$  has a pole of order  $n - 1$  at  $t = 1$ , where

$$\text{Tr}_A(g, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \text{trace}(g|A_k) t^k = \frac{1}{(t-1)^{n-1} q(t)} \text{ for } q(1) \neq 0.$$

Examples  $G = \langle g \rangle$  on  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y]$  ( $yx = -xy$ ):

$$(a) \ g = \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_n & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \operatorname{Tr}(g, t) = \frac{1}{(1-t)(1-\epsilon_n t)}, A^g \text{ AS-regular.}$$

$$(b) \ g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \operatorname{Tr}(g, t) = \frac{1}{1+t^2}, A^g \text{ not AS-regular.}$$

$$(c) \ g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \operatorname{Tr}(g, t) = \frac{1}{(1-t)(1+t)}, A^g \text{ AS-regular.}$$

For  $A = \mathbb{C}_{q_{ij}}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  the groups generated by “reflections” are exactly the groups whose fixed rings are AS-regular rings.



## Noncommutative Shephard-Todd-Chevalley Theorem

If  $G$  is a finite group of graded automorphisms of an AS-regular algebra  $A$  of dimension  $n$  then  $A^G$  is AS-regular if and only if  $G$  is generated by elements whose trace function

$$\text{Tr}_A(g, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \text{trace}(g|A_k)t^k = \frac{1}{(t-1)^{n-1}q(t)},$$

i.e. has a pole of order  $n - 1$  at  $t=1$ .

Proven for cases:

1.  $G$  abelian and  $A$  a “quantum polynomial algebra”.
2.  $A = \mathbb{C}_{q_{ij}}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ , skew polynomial ring.
3.  $A$  is an AS-regular graded Clifford algebra.

## Molien's Theorem: Using trace functions

Jørgensen-Zhang: 
$$H_{A^G}(t) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{g \in G} \text{Tr}_A(g, t)$$

**Example (c)**  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y]$  and  $g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$\sigma_1 = x^2 + y^2$ ,  $\sigma_2 = xy$  and  $A^g \cong \mathbb{C}[\sigma_1, \sigma_2]$ .

$$H_{A^G}(t) = \frac{1}{4(1-t)^2} + \frac{2}{4(1-t^2)} + \frac{1}{4(1+t)^2} = \frac{1}{(1-t^2)^2}.$$

## Bounds on Degrees of Generators: Commutative Polynomial Algebras



Noether's Bound (1916):

For  $k$  of characteristic zero, generators of  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$  can be chosen of degree  $\leq |G|$ .

Göbel's Bound (1995):

For subgroups  $G$  of permutations in  $S_n$ , generators of  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$  can be chosen of degree  $\leq \max\{n, \binom{n}{2}\}$ .

## Invariants of $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ under the full Symmetric Group $S_n$

**Example (b):**  $g = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  acts on  $A$ .

Both bounds fail for  $A^{S_2}$ , which required generators of degree  $3 > |S_2| = 2 = \max\{2, \binom{2}{2}\}$ : Generating sets

$$P_1 = x + y = \mathcal{O}_{S_2}(x) \text{ and } P_2 = x^3 + y^3 = \mathcal{O}_{S_2}(x^3)$$

or

$$\sigma_1 = x + y = \mathcal{O}_{S_2}(x) \text{ and } \sigma_2 = x^2y + xy^2 = \mathcal{O}_{S_2}(x^2y).$$

## Invariants of $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ under the full Symmetric Group $S_n$

Invariants are generated by sums over  $S_n$ -orbits

$\mathcal{O}_{S_n}(X^I) =$  the sum of the  $S_n$ -orbit of a monomial  $X^I$ .

$\mathcal{O}_{S_n}(X^I)$  can be represented by  $X^I$ , where  $I$  is a partition:

$$X^{(i_1, \dots, i_n)} \text{ where } i_1 \geq i_2 \geq \dots \geq i_n$$

$\mathcal{O}_{S_n}(X^I) = 0$  if and only if  $I$  is a partition with repeated odd parts (e.g.  $\mathcal{O}_{S_n}(x_1^5 x_2^3 x_3^3) = 0$  it corresponds to the partition  $5 + 3 + 3$ ).

$A^{S_n}$  is generated by the  $n$  odd power sums

$$P_k = \sum x_i^{2k-1}$$

or the  $n$  invariants

$$\sigma_k = \mathcal{O}_{S_n}(x_1^2 \cdots x_{k-1}^2 x_k)$$

for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ .

Bound on degrees of generators of  $A^{S_n}$  is  $2n - 1$ .

## Invariants under the Alternating Group $A_n$ : Commutative Case

$\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^{A_n}$  is generated by the symmetric polynomials (or power functions) and

$$D = \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j),$$

which has degree  $\binom{n}{2}$ . The Göbel bound is sharp.

## Invariants of $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ under the Alternating Group:

$A^{A_n}$  is generated by  $O_{A_n}(x_1 x_2 \cdots x_{n-1})$ ,

and the  $n-1$  polynomials  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$

(or the power functions  $P_1, \dots, P_{n-1}$ ),

An upper bound on the degrees of generators of  $A^{A_n}$  is  $2n - 3$ .



## Questions

For  $A$  an Artin-Schelter regular algebra, find an upper bound on the degrees of generators of  $A^G$ .

Find an analogue of Göbel bound (for  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  we proved  $n^2$ , but probably not sharp).

Find an analogue of Noether bound (consider cyclic groups?).

## What are the “reflection groups”?

Shephard-Todd classified the reflection groups (finite groups  $G$  where  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n]^G$  is a polynomial ring)  
– 3 infinite families and 34 exceptional groups.

If  $A$  is a quantum polynomial ring, a “reflection” of  $A$  must be a classical reflection, or a mystic reflection  $\tau_{i,j,\lambda}$  where

$$\tau_{s,t,\lambda}(x_i) = \begin{cases} x_i & i \neq s, t \\ \lambda x_t & i = s \\ -\lambda^{-1} x_s & i = t. \end{cases}$$

Question: Do other AS-regular algebras have other kinds of “reflections”?

## The Groups $M(n, \alpha, \beta)$

Let  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\alpha|\beta$  and  $2|\beta$ .

Let  $\theta_{s,\lambda}$  be the classical reflection

$$\theta_{s,\lambda}(x_i) = \begin{cases} x_i & i \neq s \\ \lambda x_s & i = s. \end{cases}$$

$M(n, \alpha, \beta)$  is the subgroup of graded automorphisms of  $A$  generated by

$$\{\theta_{i,\lambda} | \lambda^\alpha = 1\} \cup \{\tau_{i,j,\lambda} | \lambda^\beta = 1\}.$$

Then  $M(n, \alpha, \beta)$  is a “reflection group”.

Rotation group of cube is generated by

$$g_1 := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad g_2 := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

that act on  $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[x, y, z]$  as the mystic reflections  $g_1 = \tau_{1,2,1}$  and  $g_2 = \tau_{2,3,1}$ , respectively, and generate  $G = M(3, 1, 2)$ .

The mystic reflection groups  $M(2, 1, 2\ell)$ , for  $\ell \gg 0$ , are not isomorphic to classical reflection groups as abstract groups. They are the “dicyclic groups” of order  $4\ell$  generated by

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $\lambda$  a primitive  $2\ell$ th root of unity.

Let  $A = \mathbb{C}_{q_{ij}}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  and  $G$  be a finite subgroup of graded automorphisms of  $A$ .

If  $G$  is generated by “reflections” of  $A$ , then  $G$  as an abstract group is isomorphic to a direct product of classical reflection groups and groups of the form  $M(n, \alpha, \beta)$ .

# Invariants under Hopf Algebra Actions

Let  $(H, \Delta, \epsilon, S)$  be a Hopf algebra and  $A$  be a Hopf-module algebra so

$$h \cdot (ab) = \sum (h_1 \cdot a)(h_2 \cdot b) \quad \text{and} \quad h \cdot 1_A = \epsilon(h)1_A$$

for all  $h \in H$ , and all  $a, b \in A$ .

The invariants of  $H$  on  $A$  are

$$A^H := \{a \in A \mid h \cdot a = \epsilon(h)a \text{ for all } h \in H\}.$$

When  $H = k[G]$  and  $\Delta(g) = g \otimes g$  then  $g \cdot (ab) = g(a)g(b)$ .

## Kac/Masuoka's 8-dimensional semisimple Hopf algebra

$H_8$  is generated by  $x, y, z$  with the following relations:

$$x^2 = y^2 = 1, \quad xy = yx, \quad zx = yz,$$

$$zy = xz, \quad z^2 = \frac{1}{2}(1 + x + y - xy).$$

$$\Delta(x) = x \otimes x, \quad \Delta(y) = y \otimes y,$$

$$\Delta(z) = \frac{1}{2}(1 \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes x + y \otimes 1 - y \otimes x)(z \otimes z),$$

$$\epsilon(x) = \epsilon(y) = \epsilon(z) = 1, \quad S(x) = x^{-1}, \quad S(y) = y^{-1}, \quad S(z) = z.$$



## Hopf Action of $H_8$ on $A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[u, v]$

$$x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad z \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$A = \mathbb{C}_{-1}[u, v]$  is a left  $H_8$ -module algebra.

Let  $a = u^3v - uv^3$  and  $b = u^2 + v^2$ , then  $A^{H_8} = \mathbb{C}[a, b]$ ,  
so  $H_8$  is a “reflection quantum group”.

# Hopf Action of $H_8$ on $A = \mathbb{C}_i[u, v]$ ( $vu = iuv$ )

$$x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad y \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad z \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$A = \mathbb{C}_i[u, v]$  is an  $H_8$ -module algebra

$$\begin{aligned} z \cdot (uv) &= -vu, & z \cdot (vu) &= uv, \\ z \cdot (u^2) &= v^2, & z \cdot (v^2) &= u^2. \end{aligned}$$

$A^{H_8} = \mathbb{C}[u^2v^2, u^2 + v^2]$ , so  $H_8$  is a “reflection quantum group”.

Furthermore  $A^{H_8} \neq A^G$  for any finite group  $G$ .

# Molien's Theorem

When  $H$  is a finite dimensional semisimple Hopf algebra acting on  $A$ .

Then  $H_{A^H}(t) = \text{Tr}(\int, t)$ , where  $\int$  has  $\epsilon(\int) = 1$ .

E.g. for  $H_8$

$$\int = \frac{1 + x + y + xy + z + xz + yz + xyz}{8}.$$

## Questions

When is  $k[x_1, \dots, x_n]^H$  a polynomial ring?  
Must  $H$  be a group algebra or the dual of a group algebra?

If  $H$  is a semisimple Hopf algebra and  $A = \mathbb{C}[u, v]$  then if  $A$  is an inner faithful  $H$ -module algebra then  $H$  is a group algebra (Chan-Walton-Zhang).

If  $A$  is Artin-Schelter regular, when is  $A^H$  regular?

What happens when  $G$  (or  $H$ ) is infinite?

What happens when  $H$  is not semisimple?

## $H$ not semisimple

Consider the Sweedler algebra  $H(-1)$  generated by  $g$  and  $x$

$$g^2 = 1, \quad x^2 = 0, \quad xg = -gx$$

$$\Delta(g) = g \otimes g \quad \Delta(x) = g \otimes x + x \otimes 1,$$

$$\epsilon(g) = 1, \epsilon(x) = 0 \quad S(g) = g, \quad S(x) = -gx.$$

Then  $H(-1)$  acts on  $k[u, v]$  as

$$x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad g \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$k[u, v]^{H(-1)} = k[u, v^2].$$