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Advances in Mathematics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aim

Frobenius representation type for invariant rings of finite groups $\stackrel{\mbox{\tiny{\scale}}}{\longrightarrow}$



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MATHEMATICS

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history: Received 1 February 2024 Received in revised form 16 July 2024 Accepted 9 October 2024 Available online xxxx Communicated by Karen Smith

Dedicated to Professor Kei-ichi Watanabe, in celebration of his 80th birthday

MSC: primary 13A50 secondary 13A35

Keywords: Ring of invariants Finite Frobenius representation type F-pure rings

ABSTRACT

Let V be a finite rank vector space over a perfect field of characteristic p > 0, and let G be a finite subgroup of GL(V). If V is a permutation representation of G, or more generally a monomial representation, we prove that the ring of invariants $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ has finite Frobenius representation type. We also construct an example with V a finite rank vector space over the algebraic closure of the function field $\mathbb{F}_3(t)$, and G an elementary abelian subgroup of GL(V), such that the invariant ring $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ does not have finite Frobenius representation type.

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aim.2024.109978

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 $^{^{\}star}$ M.H. was partially supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant number 20K03538 and MEXT Promotion of Distinctive Joint Research Center Program JPMXP0723833165; A.K.S. was supported by NSF grants DMS 2101671 and DMS 2349623.

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1. Introduction

The study of rings of finite Frobenius representation type was initiated by Smith and Van den Bergh [29], as part of an attack on the conjectured simplicity of rings of differential operators on invariant rings; indeed, using this notion, they proved that if R is a graded direct summand of a polynomial ring over a perfect field k of positive characteristic, e.g., if R is the ring of invariants for a linearly reductive group acting linearly on the polynomial ring, then the ring of k-linear differential operators on R is a simple ring [29, Theorem 1.3].

A reduced ring R of prime characteristic p > 0, satisfying the Krull-Schmidt theorem, has finite Frobenius representation type (FFRT) if there exists a finite set S of R-modules such that for each integer $e \ge 0$, each indecomposable R-module summand of R^{1/p^e} is isomorphic to an element of S; the FFRT property and its variations are reviewed in §2. Examples of rings with FFRT include Cohen-Macaulay rings of finite representation type, graded direct summands of polynomial rings [29, Proposition 3.1.6], and Stanley-Reisner rings [20, Example 2.3.6]. More recently, Raedschelders, Špenko, and Van den Bergh proved that over an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p \ge \max\{n-2,3\}$, the Plücker homogeneous coordinate ring of the Grassmannian G(2, n) has FFRT [23]. In another direction, work of Hara and Ohkawa [8] investigates the FFRT property for two-dimensional normal graded rings in terms of \mathbb{Q} -divisors.

In addition to the original motivation, the FFRT property has found several applications. Suppose a ring R has FFRT. Then Hilbert-Kunz multiplicities over R are rational numbers by [24]; tight closure and localization commute in R, [31]; local cohomology modules of the form $H^k_{\mathfrak{a}}(R)$ have finitely many associated primes, [30,18,5]. For more on the FFRT property, we point the reader towards [1,20,22,25,26,28].

Our goal here is to investigate the FFRT property for rings of invariants of finite groups. Let V be a finite rank vector space over a perfect field k of characteristic p > 0, and let G be a finite subgroup of GL(V). In the nonmodular case, that is, when the order of G is not divisible by p, the invariant ring S^G is a direct summand of the polynomial ring S := Sym V via the Reynolds operator; it follows by [29, Proposition 3.1.4] that S^G has FFRT. The question becomes more interesting in the modular case, i.e., when p divides |G|. We prove that if V is a monomial representation of G, then the ring of invariants S^G has FFRT, Theorem 4.1; this includes the case of a subgroup G of the symmetric group \mathfrak{S}_n , acting on a polynomial ring $S := k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ by permuting the indeterminates. On the other hand, while it had been expected that rings of invariants of reductive groups have FFRT (see for example the abstract of [23]), we prove that this is not the case:

Theorem 1.1. Set k to be the algebraic closure of the function field $\mathbb{F}_3(t)$. Then there is an order 9 subgroup G of $\mathrm{GL}_3(k)$, such that $k[x_1, x_2, x_3]^G$ does not have FFRT.

This is proved as Theorem 3.1; the reader will find that a similar construction may be performed over any algebraically closed field k that is not algebraic over \mathbb{F}_p . However, we do not know if $(\text{Sym } V)^G$ always has FFRT when V is a finite rank vector space over $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$, the algebraic closure of \mathbb{F}_p .

Returning to the nonmodular case, let k be an algebraically closed field of characteristic p > 0, and V a finite rank k-vector space. Set S := Sym V and $R := S^G$, for G a finite subgroup of GL(V) of order coprime to p. The rings $S^{1/q}$ and $R^{1/q}$ admit \mathbb{Q} -gradings extending the standard N-grading on the polynomial ring S. Let M be a \mathbb{Q} -graded finitely generated indecomposable R-module. By [29, Proposition 3.2.1], the module M(d) is a direct summand of $R^{1/q}$ for some $d \in \mathbb{Q}$ if and only if

$$M \cong (S \otimes_k L)^G$$

for some irreducible representation L of G. Let V_1, \ldots, V_ℓ be a complete set of representatives of the isomorphism classes of irreducible representations of G, and set

$$M_i := (S \otimes_k V_i)^G$$

for $i = 1, ..., \ell$. Then, for each integer $e \ge 0$, the decomposition of R^{1/p^e} into indecomposable *R*-modules takes the form

$$R^{1/p^e} \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^{\ell} \bigoplus_{j=1}^{c_{ie}} M_i(d_{ij}),$$

where $d_{ij} \in \mathbb{Q}$ and $c_{ie} \in \mathbb{N}$. Suppose additionally that G does not contain any pseudoreflections; by [12, Theorem 3.4], the generalized F-signature

$$s(R, M_i) := \lim_{e \longrightarrow \infty} \frac{c_{ie}}{p^{e(\dim R)}}$$

then agrees with

 $(\operatorname{rank}_k V_i)/|G|.$

By [13, Theorem 5.1], this description of the asymptotic behavior of R^{1/p^e} remains valid in the modular case. It follows that for the invariant ring $R := k[x_1, x_2, x_3]^G$ in Theorem 1.1, while there exist infinitely many nonisomorphic indecomposable Rmodules that are direct summands of some R^{1/p^e} up to a degree shift, almost all are "asymptotically negligible."

In §2, we review some basics on the FFRT property and on equivariant modules; these are used in §3 in the proof of Theorem 1.1. In §4, we prove that if V is a monomial representation then $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ has FFRT, and also that $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ is F-pure in this case; the latter extends a result of Hochster and Huneke [16, page 77] that $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ is F-pure when V is a permutation representation. Lastly, in §5, we construct a family of examples that are not F-regular or F-pure, but nonetheless have the FFRT property.

2. Preliminaries

We collect some definitions and results that are used in the sequel.

Krull-Schmidt category. Let k be a perfect field of characteristic p > 0, and R a finitely generated *positively graded* commutative k-algebra, i.e., R is N-graded with $[R]_0 = k$. Let $R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod denote the category of finitely generated \mathbb{Q} -graded R-modules. For modules M, N in $R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod, the module $\operatorname{Hom}_R(M, N)$ again lies in $R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod; in particular,

$$\operatorname{Hom}_{R\mathbb{Q}\operatorname{grmod}}(M, N) = [\operatorname{Hom}_{R}(M, N)]_{0}$$

is a finite rank k-vector space. Since $\operatorname{Hom}_{R\mathbb{Q}\operatorname{grmod}}(M, M) = [\operatorname{Hom}_R(M, M)]_0$ has finite rank for each M in $R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod, the category $R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod is Krull-Schmidt; see [14, §3].

Frobenius twist. Let e be a nonnegative integer. For a k-vector space V, we use ${}^{e}V$ to denote the k-vector space that coincides with V as an abelian group, but has the left k-action $\alpha \cdot v = \alpha^{p^e}v$ for $\alpha \in k$ and $v \in V$, with the right action unchanged. An element $v \in V$, when viewed as an element of ${}^{e}V$, will be denoted ${}^{e}v$, so

$${}^{e}V = \{{}^{e}v \mid v \in V\}.$$

The map $v \mapsto {}^{e}v$ is an isomorphism of abelian groups, but not an isomorphism of *k*-vector spaces in general. Note that $\alpha \cdot {}^{e}v = {}^{e}(\alpha {}^{p^{e}}v)$. When V is \mathbb{Q} -graded, we define a \mathbb{Q} -grading on ${}^{e}V$ as follows: for a homogeneous element $v \in V$, set

$$\deg^e v := (\deg v)/p^e.$$

Let V and W be k-vector spaces. For $f \in \operatorname{Hom}_k(V, W)$, we define ${}^ef : {}^eV \longrightarrow {}^eW$ by ${}^ef({}^ev) = {}^e(fv)$. It is easy to see that ${}^ef \in \operatorname{Hom}_k({}^eV, {}^eW)$. This makes ${}^e(-)$ an auto-equivalence of the category of k-vector spaces. Note that the map

$${}^{e}V \otimes_{k} {}^{e}W \longrightarrow {}^{e}(V \otimes_{k} W)$$

with ${}^{e}v \otimes {}^{e}w \longmapsto {}^{e}(v \otimes w)$ is well-defined, and an isomorphism. It is easy to check that ${}^{e}(-)$ is a monoidal functor; the composition ${}^{e}(-) \circ {}^{e'}(-)$ is canonically isomorphic to ${}^{e+e'}(-)$, and ${}^{0}(-)$ is the identity.

For a k-vector space V, the map e(-): $\operatorname{GL}(V) \longrightarrow \operatorname{GL}(eV)$ given by $f \longmapsto ef$ is an isomorphism of abstract groups. If V is a G-module, then the composition

$$G \longrightarrow \operatorname{GL}(V) \longrightarrow \operatorname{GL}({}^{e}V)$$

gives ${}^{e}V$ a *G*-module structure. Thus, $g({}^{e}v) = {}^{e}(gv)$ for $g \in G$ and $v \in V$. Suppose x_1, \ldots, x_n is a k-basis of V. Then for each integer $e \ge 0$, the elements ${}^{e}x_1, \ldots, {}^{e}x_n$ form

a k-basis for ${}^{e}V$. If $f \in GL(V)$ has matrix (m_{ij}) with respect to the basis x_1, \ldots, x_n , then the matrix for ${}^{e}f$ with respect to ${}^{e}x_1, \ldots, {}^{e}x_n$ is (m_{ij}^{1/p^e}) . Indeed,

$${}^{e}f({}^{e}x_{j}) = {}^{e}(fx_{j}) = {}^{e}(\sum_{i}m_{ij}x_{i}) = \sum_{i}{}^{e}(m_{ij}x_{i}) = \sum_{i}{}^{m_{ij}^{1/p^{e}}} \cdot {}^{e}x_{i}$$

When R is a k-algebra, the k-algebra ${}^{e}R$ has multiplication defined by $({}^{e}r)({}^{e}s) := {}^{e}(rs)$. For R a commutative k-algebra, the iterated Frobenius map $F^{e} \colon R \longrightarrow {}^{e}R$ with

$$r \mapsto {}^{e}(r^{p^{e}})$$

is a homomorphism of k-algebras. When R is a positively graded finitely generated commutative k-algebra, the ring ${}^{e}R$ admits a Q-grading where for homogeneous $r \in R$,

$$\deg^{e} r := (\deg r)/p^{e}.$$

The ring ${}^{e}R$ is then positively graded in the sense that $[{}^{e}R]_{j} = 0$ for j < 0, and $[{}^{e}R]_{0} = k$. The iterated Frobenius map $F^{e} \colon R \longrightarrow {}^{e}R$ is degree-preserving and module-finite. Moreover,

$$e(-): R\mathbb{Q} \operatorname{grmod} \longrightarrow R\mathbb{Q} \operatorname{grmod}$$

is an exact functor. If $M \in R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod, then the graded k-vector space ${}^{e}M$ is equipped with the R-action $r \cdot {}^{e}m = {}^{e}(r^{p^{e}}m)$, so ${}^{e}M$ is the graded ${}^{e}R$ -module with the action ${}^{e}r \cdot {}^{e}m = {}^{e}(rm)$, and the action of R on ${}^{e}M$ is induced via $F^{e} \colon R \longrightarrow {}^{e}R$.

When R is reduced, it is sometimes more transparent to use the notation r^{1/p^e} in place of e_r , and R^{1/p^e} in place of e_R .

Graded FFRT. When the equivalent conditions in the following lemma are satisfied, the ring R is said to have finite Frobenius representation type (FFRT) in the graded sense:

Lemma 2.1. Let R be a positively graded finitely generated commutative k-algebra. Then the following are equivalent:

(1) There exist $M_1, \ldots, M_\ell \in R\mathbb{Q}$ ground such that for any $e \ge 1$, one has

$${}^{e}R \cong M_{1}^{\oplus c_{1e}} \oplus \dots \oplus M_{\ell}^{\oplus c_{\ell e}}$$

as (non-graded) R-modules.

(2) There exist $M_1, \ldots, M_\ell \in R\mathbb{Q}$ grmod such that for any $e \ge 1$, the R-module eR is isomorphic, as a \mathbb{Q} -graded R-module, to a finite direct sum of copies of modules of the form $M_i(d)$ with $1 \le i \le \ell$ and $d \in \mathbb{Q}$.

Proof. The direction $(2) \Longrightarrow (1)$ is obvious; we prove the converse. Fix $e \ge 1$. For a positive integer c, set $M^{\langle c \rangle}$ to be M with the grading $[M^{\langle c \rangle}]_{cj} = [M]_j$. Then $M^{\langle c \rangle}$ is a \mathbb{Q} -graded module over the graded ring $R^{\langle c \rangle}$. Taking c sufficiently divisible, we may assume that $R^{\langle c \rangle}$ is $p^e \mathbb{Z}$ -graded and each $M_i^{\langle c \rangle}$ is \mathbb{Z} -graded. By [14, Corollary 3.9], ${}^e R^{\langle c \rangle}$ is isomorphic to a finite direct sum of modules of the form $(M_i^{\langle c \rangle})(d)$ with $1 \le i \le \ell$ and $d \in \mathbb{Z}$. It follows that ${}^e R$ is a finite direct sum of modules of the form $M_i(d/c)$. \Box

It follows from [14, Corollary 3.9] that R has FFRT in the graded sense if and only if the m-adic completion \widehat{R} has FFRT, for m the homogeneous maximal ideal of R.

Pseudoreflections. Let V be a finite rank k-vector space. An element $g \in GL(V)$ is a pseudoreflection if rank $(1_V - g) = 1$. Let G be a finite group and V a G-module. The action of G on V is small if $\rho: G \longrightarrow GL(V)$ is injective, and $\rho(G)$ does not contain a pseudoreflection. If in addition $G \subset GL(V)$, then G is a small subgroup of GL(V).

The twisted group algebra. Let V be a finite rank k-vector space. Let G be a subgroup of GL(V), and set S := Sym V. If x_1, \ldots, x_n is a basis for V, then $\text{Sym } V = k[x_1, \ldots, x_n]$ is a polynomial ring in n variables. The action of G on V induces an action of G on the polynomial ring S by degree preserving k-algebra automorphisms.

We say that M is a \mathbb{Q} -graded (G, S)-module if M is a G-module as well as a \mathbb{Q} graded S-module such that the underlying k-vector space structures agree, each graded component $[M]_i$ is a G-submodule of M, and g(sm) = (gs)(gm) for all $g \in G$, $s \in S$, and $m \in M$.

We recall the *twisted group algebra* construction S * G from [2]. Set S * G to be $S \otimes_k kG$ as a k-vector space, with kG the group algebra, and define

$$(s \otimes g)(s' \otimes g') := s(gs') \otimes gg'.$$

For $s \in S$ homogeneous, set the degree of $s \otimes g$ to be that of s; this gives S * G a graded k-algebra structure. A \mathbb{Q} -graded S * G-module M is a \mathbb{Q} -graded (G, S)-module where

$$sm := (s \otimes 1)m$$
 and $gm := (1 \otimes g)m$.

Conversely, if M is a \mathbb{Q} -graded (G, S)-module, then $(s \otimes g)m := sgm$, gives M the structure of a \mathbb{Q} -graded S * G-module. Thus, a \mathbb{Q} -graded S * G-module and a \mathbb{Q} -graded (G, S)-module are one and the same thing. Similarly, a homogeneous (i.e., degree-preserving) map of \mathbb{Q} -graded (G, S)-modules is precisely a homomorphism of graded S * G-modules.

With this setup, one has the following equivalence of categories:

Lemma 2.2. Let V be a finite rank k-vector space, and G a small subgroup of GL(V). Set S := Sym V and T := S * G. Let $T\mathbb{Q}$ grmod denote the category of finitely generated \mathbb{Q} -graded left T-modules, and * Ref(G, S) denote the full subcategory of $T\mathbb{Q}$ grmod consisting of those that are reflexive as S-modules; let * Ref S^G denote the full subcategory of $S^G \mathbb{Q}$ grmod consisting of modules that are reflexive as S^G -modules.

Then one has an equivalence of categories

*
$$\operatorname{Ref}(G, S) \longrightarrow \operatorname{*} \operatorname{Ref} S^G, \quad where \quad M \longmapsto M^G,$$

with quasi-inverse $N \mapsto (N \otimes_{S^G} S)^{**}$, where $(-)^* := \operatorname{Hom}_S(-, S)$.

For the proof, see [11, Lemma 2.6]; an extension to group schemes may be found in [9]. Note that under the functor displayed above, one has ${}^{e}S \mapsto ({}^{e}S)^{G} = {}^{e}(S^{G})$.

3. An invariant ring without FFRT

We construct the counterexample promised in Theorem 1.1; more precisely, we prove:

Theorem 3.1. Let k be the algebraic closure of $\mathbb{F}_3(t)$, the rational function field in one indeterminate over \mathbb{F}_3 . Let G be the subgroup of $\mathrm{GL}(k^3)$ generated by the matrices

Γ1	1	[0		Γ1	t	[0
$\begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}$	1	1	and	0	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 0\\t\\1\end{bmatrix}$.
0	0	1		0	0	1

Then G is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$. The invariant ring for the natural action of G on the polynomial ring Sym (k^3) does not have FFRT.

Lemma 3.2. Let $k := \overline{\mathbb{F}_3(t)}$ as above. Let $G = \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z} = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$, where $\sigma^3 = \mathrm{id} = \tau^3$, and $\sigma\tau = \tau\sigma$. Then the group algebra kG equals the commutative ring $k[a,b]/(a^3,b^3)$, where $a := \sigma - 1$ and $b := \tau - 1$. For $\alpha \in k$, set $V(\alpha)$ to be k^3 with the G-action determined by the homomorphism $G \longrightarrow \mathrm{GL}_3(k)$ with

$$\sigma \longmapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad and \qquad \tau \longmapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then:

(1) If $\alpha \notin \mathbb{F}_3$, then the action of G on $V(\alpha)$ is small.

(2) For $\alpha \neq \beta$ in k, the G-modules $V(\alpha)$ and $V(\beta)$ are nonisomorphic.

(3) The Frobenius twist ${}^{e}(V(\alpha))$ is isomorphic to $V(\alpha^{1/3^{e}})$ as a G-module.

(4) For each $\alpha \in k$, the G-module $V(\alpha)$ is indecomposable.

Proof. Setting

$$N := \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and taking I to be the identity matrix, one has

$$\begin{split} \sigma^{i}\tau^{j} &= (I+N)^{i}(I+\alpha N)^{j} = \left[I+iN+\binom{i}{2}N^{2}\right]\left[I+j\alpha N+\binom{j}{2}\alpha^{2}N^{2}\right] \\ &= I+(i+j\alpha)N+\left[\binom{i}{2}+ij\alpha+\binom{j}{2}\alpha^{2}\right]N^{2}, \end{split}$$

so $\sigma^i \tau^j - I$ has rank 2 unless $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_3$ or (i, j) = (0, 0) in \mathbb{F}_3^2 . This proves (1).

For (2), note that the annihilators of $V(\alpha)$ and $V(\beta)$ are the ideals $(b - \alpha a)$ and $(b - \beta a)$ respectively in $kG = k[a, b]/(a^3, b^3)$. These ideals are distinct when $\alpha \neq \beta$.

The representation matrices for σ and τ in $\operatorname{GL}({}^e(V(\alpha)))$ are

$$e(I+N) = I + N$$
 and $e(I+\alpha N) = I + \alpha^{1/3^e} N$

respectively, so ${}^{e}V(\alpha) \cong V(\alpha^{1/3^{e}})$ as *G*-modules, proving (3).

For (4), note that kG is an artinian local ring, so each nonzero kG-module has a nonzero socle. The socle of $V(\alpha)$ is spanned by the vector $(1,0,0)^{\text{tr}}$, and hence has rank one. It follows that $V(\alpha)$ is an indecomposable kG-module. \Box

Proof of Theorem 3.1. Set S to be the polynomial ring $\text{Sym}(k^3)$, and T := S * G. For M a nonzero module in $T\mathbb{Q}$ grmod, set

$$\mathrm{LD}(M):=\min\{i\in\mathbb{Q}\mid [M]_i\neq 0\}\qquad \text{and}\qquad \mathrm{LRep}(M):=[M]_{\mathrm{LD}(M)},$$

i.e., $\operatorname{LRep}(M)$ is the nonzero \mathbb{Q} -graded component of M of least degree. Note that for d a rational number, $\operatorname{LRep}(M(d))$ and $\operatorname{LRep}(M)$ are isomorphic as G-modules.

As $T\mathbb{Q}$ grmod is Krull-Schmidt, there is a unique decomposition $M = N_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus N_r$ of M into indecomposable objects. Setting d := LD(M), we have

$$\operatorname{LRep}(M) = [M]_d = [N_1]_d \oplus \cdots \oplus [N_r]_d.$$

Suppose $\operatorname{LRep}(M)$ is an indecomposable *G*-module. After a possible change of indices, we may assume that $\operatorname{LRep}(M) = [N_1]_d$ and that $[N_j]_d = 0$ for j > 1. Note that, up to isomorphism, N_1 is the unique indecomposable direct summand of M with $\operatorname{LD}(N_1) = \operatorname{LD}(M)$. We define $\operatorname{LInd}(M) := N_1$. Note that we have $\operatorname{LRep}(N_1) \cong \operatorname{LRep}(M)$.

For M as above, and $d \in \mathbb{Q}$, define

$$M_{\langle d \rangle} := \bigoplus_{i \equiv d \text{ mod } \mathbb{Z}} [M]_i,$$

which is also an element of $T\mathbb{Q}$ grmod.

Since the degree $1/3^e$ -component of eS is ${}^eV(t) = V(t^{1/3^e})$, one has

$$\operatorname{LRep}\left({}^{e}S_{\langle 1/3^{e}\rangle}\right) = V(t^{1/3^{e}}),$$

which is indecomposable by Lemma 3.2 (4). The *G*-modules V(t), $V(t^{1/3})$, $V(t^{1/3^2})$, ... are nonisomorphic by Lemma 3.2 (2), so the isomorphism classes of the indecomposable *T*-modules

$$\operatorname{LInd}(S_{\langle 1 \rangle}), \quad \operatorname{LInd}({}^{1}S_{\langle 1/3 \rangle}), \quad \operatorname{LInd}({}^{2}S_{\langle 1/3^{2} \rangle}), \quad \dots$$

are distinct; specifically, any two of these indecomposable objects of \mathbb{Q} grmod T are nonisomorphic even after a degree shift. By Lemma 2.2, it follows that the indecomposable \mathbb{Q} -graded S^{G} -modules

$$\left(\operatorname{LInd}\left(S_{\langle 1\rangle}\right)\right)^{G}, \quad \left(\operatorname{LInd}\left({}^{1}S_{\langle 1/3\rangle}\right)\right)^{G}, \quad \left(\operatorname{LInd}\left({}^{2}S_{\langle 1/3^{2}\rangle}\right)\right)^{G}, \quad \dots$$

are nonisomorphic. These occur as indecomposable summands of ${}^{e}(S^{G})$ for $e \ge 1$, so the ring S^{G} does not have FFRT. \Box

Remark 3.3. For the interested reader, we give a presentation of the invariant ring S^G in Theorem 3.1. This was obtained using Magma [4], though one may verify all claims by hand, after the fact. Take S := Sym V to be the polynomial ring $k[x_1, x_2, x_3]$, where the indeterminates x_1, x_2, x_3 are viewed as the standard basis vectors in $V := k^3$. Then the invariant ring S^G is generated by the polynomials

$$\begin{split} f_1 &:= x_1, \\ f_3 &:= tx_1^2 x_2 - (t+1)x_1^2 x_3 - (t+1)x_1 x_2^2 + x_2^3, \\ f_5 &:= t(t-1)^2 x_1^4 x_3 + t(t^2+1)x_1^3 x_2^2 - t(t+1)x_1^3 x_2 x_3 - (t+1)^2 x_1^3 x_3^2 \\ &- (t+1)(t-1)^2 x_1^2 x_2^3 + (t+1)^2 x_1^2 x_2^2 x_3 + x_1^2 x_3^3 - (t-1)^2 x_1 x_2^4 \\ &- (t+1)x_1 x_2^3 x_3 - (t+1) x_2^5, \\ f_9 &:= x_3 (x_2 + x_3)(x_1 - x_2 + x_3)(tx_2 + x_3)(tx_1 + x_2 + tx_2 + x_3) \\ &\times (x_1 - tx_1 - x_2 + tx_2 + x_3)(t^2 x_1 - tx_2 + x_3)(t^2 x_1 - tx_1 + x_2 - tx_2 + x_3) \\ &\times (x_1 + tx_1 + t^2 x_1 - x_2 - tx_2 + x_3), \end{split}$$

where f_9 is the product over the orbit of x_3 . These four polynomials satisfy the relation

$$t(t-1)^2(t^2+1)f_1^3f_3^4 - t^2(t-1)^2f_1^4f_3^2f_5 + (t^3+1)f_3^5 + (t^3+1)f_1f_3^3f_5 - f_1^6f_9 + f_5^3$$

that defines a normal hypersurface. Using this defining equation, one may see that S^G is not *F*-pure. The defining equation also confirms that the *a*-invariant is $a(S^G) = -3$, as follows from [10, Theorem 3.6] or [6, Theorem 4.4] since *G* is a subgroup of SL(V) without pseudoreflections.

4. Ring of invariants of monomial actions

Let k be a field of positive characteristic, and let G be a finite group. Consider a finite rank k-vector space V that is a G-module. A k-basis Γ of V is a monomial basis for the action of G if for each $g \in G$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$, one has $g\gamma \in k\gamma'$ for some $\gamma' \in \Gamma$. We say that V is a monomial representation of G if V admits a monomial basis.

A monomial representation V as above is a *permutation representation* of G if V admits a k-basis Γ such that each $g \in G$ permutes the elements of Γ .

Theorem 4.1. Let k be a perfect field of positive characteristic, G a finite group, and V a monomial representation of G over k. Then the ring of invariants $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ has FFRT.

Proof. Set $q := p^e$, where k has characteristic p and $e \in \mathbb{N}$. The action of G on S := Sym V extends uniquely to an action of G on $eS = S^{1/q}$; note that

$$(S^{1/q})^G = (S^G)^{1/q}.$$

Let $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ be a monomial basis for V. The ring $S^{1/q}$ then has an S-basis

$$B_e := \left\{ x_1^{\lambda_1/q} \cdots x_n^{\lambda_n/q} \mid \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad 0 \le \lambda_i \le q-1 \right\}.$$

$$(4.1.1)$$

For $\mu \in B_e$, set γ_{μ} to be the k-vector space spanned by the elements $g\mu$ for all $g \in G$. Then $S^{1/q}$ is a direct sum of modules of the form $S\gamma_{\mu}$, and the action of G on $S^{1/q}$ restricts to an action on each $S\gamma_{\mu}$. To prove that S^G has FFRT, it suffices to show that there are only finitely many isomorphism classes of S^G -modules of the form

$$(S\gamma_{\mu})^{G} = \left(\sum_{g \in G} Sg\mu\right)^{G}$$

as e varies. Fix $\mu \in B_e$, and consider the rank one k-vector space $k\mu$. Set

$$H := \{g \in G \mid g\mu \in k\mu\}.$$

Let g_1, \ldots, g_m be a set of left coset representatives for G/H, where g_1 is the group identity. We claim that the map

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m} g_i \colon (S\mu)^H \longrightarrow (S\gamma_{\mu})^G \tag{4.1.2}$$

is an isomorphism of \mathbb{Q} -graded S^G -modules. Assuming the claim, $(S\mu)^H = (S \otimes_k k\mu)^H$ is isomorphic, up to a degree shift, with a module of the form $(S \otimes_k \chi)^H$, where χ is a rank one representation of H. Since there are only finitely many subgroups H of G, only finitely many rank one representations χ of H, and only finitely many isomorphism classes of indecomposable \mathbb{Q} -graded S^G -summands of $(S \otimes_k \chi)^H$ by the Krull-Schmidt theorem, the claim indeed completes the proof.

It remains to verify the isomorphism (4.1.2). Given $g \in G$, there exists a permutation $\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_m$ such that $gg_i = g_{\sigma i}h_i$ for each *i*, with $h_i \in H$. Given $s\mu \in (S\mu)^H$, one has

$$g\left(\sum_{i}g_{i}(s\mu)\right) = \sum_{i}g_{\sigma i}h_{i}(s\mu) = \sum_{i}g_{\sigma i}(s\mu) = \sum_{i}g_{i}(s\mu),$$

so $\sum_i g_i(s\mu)$ indeed lies in $(S\gamma_{\mu})^G$. Since each g_i is S^G -linear and preserves degrees, the same holds for their sum. As to the injectivity, if

$$\sum_i g_i(s\mu) = \sum_i (g_i s)(g_i \mu) = 0,$$

then $g_i s = 0$ for each *i*, since $g_1 \mu, \ldots, g_m \mu$ are distinct elements of the basis B_e as in (4.1.1), and hence linearly independent over *S*. But then s = 0. For the surjectivity, first note that an element of $S\gamma_{\mu}$ may be written as $\sum_i s_i g_i \mu$. Consider

$$f := s_1 g_1 \mu + s_2 g_2 \mu + \dots + s_m g_m \mu \in (S\gamma_\mu)^G.$$

Apply g_i to the above; since $g_i f = f$, and $g_1 \mu, \ldots, g_m \mu$ are linearly independent over S, it follows that $g_i s_1 = s_i$. But then

$$f = \sum_{i} g_i(s_1 \mu),$$

so it remains to show that $s_1 \mu \in (S\mu)^H$. Fix $h \in H$. Since hf = f, one has

$$\sum_{i} hg_i(s_1\mu) = \sum_{i} g_i(s_1\mu).$$

As $hg_1 \in H$ and $hg_i \notin H$ for $i \ge 2$, the linear independence of $g_1\mu, \ldots, g_m\mu$ over S implies that $h(s_1\mu) = s_1\mu$. \Box

Remark 4.2. For k a field of positive characteristic, and V a finite rank permutation representation of G, Hochster and Huneke showed that the invariant ring $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ is F-pure [16, page 77]; the same holds more generally when V is a monomial representation:

It suffices to prove the *F*-purity in the case where the field *k* is perfect. With the notation as in the proof of Theorem 4.1, $(S^G)^{1/q}$ is a direct sum of S^G -modules of the form $(S\gamma_{\mu})^G$, where γ_{μ} is the *k*-vector space spanned by $g\mu$ for $g \in G$. When $\mu := 1$ one has $\gamma_{\mu} = k$, so S^G indeed splits from $(S^G)^{1/q}$.

Remark 4.3. In Theorem 4.1 suppose, moreover, that V is a permutation representation of G. Then one may choose a basis $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ for V whose elements are permuted

by G. In this case, each $g \in G$ permutes the elements of B_e for $e \in \mathbb{N}$, and each rank one representation $\chi: H \longrightarrow k^*$ is trivial; it follows that $(S^G)^{1/q}$ is a direct sum of S^G -modules of the form S^H , for subgroups H of G.

Example 4.4. Let p be a prime integer. Set $S := \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, \ldots, x_p]$, and let $G := \langle \sigma \rangle$ be the cyclic group of order p acting on S by cyclically permuting the variables. The ring S^G has FFRT by Theorem 4.1. Let $q = p^e$ be a varying power of p.

If p = 2, then S^G is a polynomial ring, and each $(S^G)^{1/q}$ is a free S^G -module; thus, up to isomorphism and degree shift, the only indecomposable summand of $(S^G)^{1/q}$ is S^G .

Suppose $p \ge 3$. For $\mu \in B_e$, consider the kG-submodule $\gamma_{\mu} = kg\mu$ of $S^{1/q}$. If the stabilizer of μ is G, then $\gamma_{\mu} = k\mu$ is an indecomposable kG module, and $(S\mu)^G = S^G \mu \cong S^G$ is an indecomposable S^G -summand of $(S^G)^{1/q}$. Since the only subgroups of G are {id} and G, the only other possibility for the stabilizer of an element μ of B_e is {id}, in which case the orbit is a *free orbit*, i.e., an orbit of size |G|, and $\gamma_{\mu} \cong kG$. We claim that

$$(S \otimes_k kG)^G \cong S$$

is an indecomposable S^G -module. Since the group G contains no pseudoreflections in the case $p \ge 3$, Lemma 2.2 is applicable, and it suffices to verify that $S \otimes_k kG$ is an indecomposable graded (G, S)-module. Note that $kG = k[\sigma]/(1-\sigma)^p$ is an indecomposable kG-module. Suppose one has a decomposition as graded (G, S)-modules

$$S \otimes_k kG \cong P_1 \oplus P_2,$$

apply $(-) \otimes_S S/\mathfrak{m}$ where \mathfrak{m} is the homogeneous maximal ideal of S. Then

$$kG \cong P_1/\mathfrak{m}P_1 \oplus P_2/\mathfrak{m}P_2$$

The indecomposability of kG implies that $P_i/\mathfrak{m}P_i = 0$ for some *i*. But then Nakayama's lemma, in its graded form, gives $P_i = 0$, which proves the claim. Lastly, it is easy to see that both of these types of *G*-orbits appear in B_e if $e \ge 1$ so, up to isomorphism and degree shift, the indecomposable S^G -summands of $(S^G)^{1/q}$ are indeed S^G and *S*.

Example 4.5. As a specific example of the above, consider the alternating group A_3 with its natural permutation action on the polynomial ring $S := \mathbb{F}_3[x_1, x_2, x_3]$. For $q = 3^e$, consider the S-basis (4.1.1) for $S^{1/q}$. It is readily seen that the monomials

$$(x_1x_2x_3)^{\lambda/q}$$
 where $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}$, $0 \leq \lambda \leq q-1$

are fixed by A_3 , whereas every other monomial in B_e has a free orbit. It follows that, ignoring the grading, the decomposition of $(S^{A_3})^{1/q}$ into indecomposable S^{A_3} -modules is

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$$(S^{A_3})^{1/q} \cong (S^{A_3})^q \oplus S^{(q^3-q)/3}.$$

Example 4.6. Let k be a perfect field of characteristic 2 that contains a primitive third root ω of unity. Let G be the group generated by

$$\sigma := \begin{bmatrix} \omega & 0 \\ 0 & \omega \end{bmatrix}$$

acting on $S := k[x_1, x_2]$. The invariant ring S^G is the Veronese subring

$$k[x_1, x_2]^{(3)} = k[x_1^3, x_1^2 x_2, x_1 x_2^2, x_2^3].$$

The action of G on S extends to an action on $S^{1/q}$ where $\sigma(x_i^{1/q}) = \omega^q x_i^{1/q}$. For B_e as in (4.1.1), consider

$$S^{1/q} = \bigoplus_{\mu \in B_e} S\mu.$$

Suppose $\mu = x_1^{\lambda_1/q} x_2^{\lambda_2/q}$, where λ_i are integers with $0 \leq \lambda_i \leq q-1$. Then

$$(S\mu)^{G} = \begin{cases} S^{G}\mu & \text{if } \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3, \\ S^{G}x_{1}\mu + S^{G}x_{2}\mu & \text{if } \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \equiv 2q \mod 3, \\ S^{G}x_{1}^{2}\mu + S^{G}x_{1}x_{2}\mu + S^{G}x_{2}^{2}\mu & \text{if } \lambda_{1} + \lambda_{2} \equiv q \mod 3. \end{cases}$$

The S^G -modules that occur in the three cases above are, respectively, isomorphic to the ideals S^G , $(x_1^3, x_1^2 x_2)S^G$, and $(x_1^3, x_1^2 x_2, x_1 x_2^2)S^G$, that constitute the indecomposable summands of $S^{1/q}$. The number of copies of each of these is asymptotically $q^2/3$.

This extends readily to Veronese subrings of the form $k[x_1, x_2]^{(n)}$, for k a perfect field of characteristic p that contains a primitive nth root of unity; see [19, Example 17].

Example 4.7. Let $G := \langle \sigma \rangle$ be a cyclic group of order 4, acting on $S := \mathbb{F}_2[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$ by cyclically permuting the variables. In view of [3], the invariant ring S^G is a UFD that is not Cohen-Macaulay; S^G has FFRT by Theorem 4.1.

We describe the indecomposable summands that occur in an S^G -module decomposition of $(S^G)^{1/q}$ for $q = 2^e$. The group G contains no pseudoreflections, so Lemma 2.2 applies. Consider the S-basis B_e for $S^{1/q}$, as in (4.1.1). The monomials

$$(x_1x_2x_3x_4)^{\lambda/q}$$
 where $0 \leq \lambda \leq q-1$

are fixed by G; each such monomial μ gives an indecomposable kG module $\gamma_{\mu} = k\mu$, and an indecomposable S^{G} -summand $(S\mu)^{G} \cong S^{G}$ of $(S^{G})^{1/q}$. The monomials μ of the form

$$(x_1x_3)^{\lambda_1/q}(x_2x_4)^{\lambda_2/q}$$
 with $0 \leq \lambda_i \leq q-1$, $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$

have stabilizer $H := \langle \sigma^2 \rangle$. In this case, $\gamma_{\mu} \cong k[\sigma]/(1-\sigma)^2$ is an indecomposable kG module, corresponding to an indecomposable S^G -summand $(S \otimes_k \gamma_{\mu})^G \cong S^H$. Any other monomial in B_e has a free orbit that corresponds to a copy of $(S \otimes_k kG)^G \cong S$.

Ignoring the grading, the decomposition of $(S^G)^{1/q}$ into indecomposable S^G -modules is

$$(S^G)^{1/q} \cong (S^G)^q \oplus (S^H)^{(q^2-q)/2} \oplus S^{(q^4-q^2)/4}.$$

5. Examples that are FFRT but not *F*-regular

The notion of F-regular rings is central to Hochster and Huneke's theory of tight closure, introduced in [15]; while there are different notions of F-regularity, they coincide in the graded case under consideration here by [21, Corollary 4.3], so we downplay the distinction. The FFRT property and F-regularity are intimately related, though neither implies the other: The hypersurface

$$\mathbb{F}_p[x, y, z]/(x^2 + y^3 + z^5)$$

has FFRT for each prime integer p, though it is not F-regular if $p \in \{2, 3, 5\}$; Stanley-Reisner rings have FFRT by [20, Example 2.3.6], though they are F-regular only if they are polynomial rings. For the other direction, the hypersurface

$$R := \mathbb{F}_{p}[s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z] / (su^{2}x^{2} + sv^{2}y^{2} + tuvxy + tw^{2}z^{2})$$

is *F*-regular for each prime integer *p*, but admits a local cohomology module $H^3_{(x,y,z)}(R)$ with infinitely many associated prime ideals, [27, Theorem 5.1], and hence does not have FFRT by [30, Corollary 3.3] or [18, Theorem 1.2]. Nonetheless, for the invariant rings of finite groups that are our focus here, *F*-regularity implies FFRT; this follows readily from well-known results, but is recorded here for the convenience of the reader:

Proposition 5.1. Let k be a perfect field, G a finite group, and V a finite rank k-vector space that is a G-module. If the invariant ring $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ is F-regular, then it has FFRT.

Proof. An *F*-regular ring is *splinter* by [17, Theorem 5.25], i.e., it is a direct summand of each module-finite extension ring. Hence, if $(\text{Sym } V)^G$ is *F*-regular, then it is a direct summand of Sym *V*. But then it has FFRT by [29, Proposition 3.1.4]. \Box

We next present a family of examples where $(\text{Sym }V)^G$ is not *F*-regular or even *F*-pure, but has FFRT:

Example 5.2. Let p be a prime integer, $V := \mathbb{F}_p^4$, and G the subgroup of GL(V) generated by the matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

It is readily seen that the matrices commute, and that the group G has order p^3 . Consider the action of G on the polynomial ring $S := \text{Sym } V = \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$, where x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4 are viewed as the standard basis vectors in V. While x_1 and x_2 are fixed under the action, the orbits of x_3 and x_4 respectively consist of all linear forms

$$x_3 + \alpha x_1 + \gamma x_2$$
 and $x_4 + \beta x_1 + \alpha x_2$,

where α, β, γ are in \mathbb{F}_p . Using Moore determinants as in [7, Chapter 1.3], the respective orbit products may be expressed as

$$u := \frac{\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p & x_3^p \\ x_1^{p^2} & x_2^{p^2} & x_3^{p^2} \end{bmatrix}}{\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p & x_3^{p^2} \end{bmatrix}} \quad \text{and} \quad v := \frac{\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_4 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p & x_4^p \\ x_1^{p^2} & x_2^{p^2} & x_4^{p^2} \end{bmatrix}}{\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p \end{bmatrix}}.$$

In addition to these, it is readily seen that the polynomial $t := x_1 x_4^p - x_1^p x_4 + x_2 x_3^p - x_2^p x_3$ is invariant. These provide us with a *candidate* for the invariant ring, namely

$$C := \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, x_2, t, u, v].$$

Note that S is integral over C as x_3 and x_4 are, respectively, roots of the monic polynomials

$$\prod_{\alpha,\gamma\in\mathbb{F}_p} (T+\alpha x_1+\gamma x_2) - u \quad \text{and} \quad \prod_{\beta,\alpha\in\mathbb{F}_p} (T+\beta x_1+\alpha x_2) - v$$

that have coefficients in C. Using the first of these polynomials, one also sees that

$$[\operatorname{frac}(C)(x_3) : \operatorname{frac}(C)] \leq p^2.$$

Bearing in mind that $t \in C$, one then has $[\operatorname{frac}(C)(x_3, x_4) : \operatorname{frac}(C)(x_3)] \leq p$, and hence

$$[\operatorname{frac}(S) : \operatorname{frac}(C)] \leq p^3.$$

Since $C \subseteq S^G \subseteq S$ and $|G| = p^3$, it follows that $\operatorname{frac}(C) = \operatorname{frac}(S^G)$. To prove that $C = S^G$, it suffices to verify that C is normal. Note that C must be a hypersurface; we arrive at its defining equation as follows: One readily verifies the identity

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$$\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p \end{bmatrix} \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_4 \\ x_1^p & x_4^p \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} x_2 & x_3 \\ x_2^p & x_3^p \end{bmatrix} \right)^p \\ - x_1^p \det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_4 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p & x_4^p \\ x_1^{p^2} & x_2^{p^2} & x_4^{p^2} \end{bmatrix} - x_2^p \det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p & x_3^p \\ x_1^{p^2} & x_2^{p^2} & x_3^{p^2} \end{bmatrix} \\ = \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ x_1^p & x_2^p \end{bmatrix} \right)^p \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_4 \\ x_1^p & x_4^p \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} x_2 & x_3 \\ x_2^p & x_3^p \end{bmatrix} \right),$$

which may be rewritten as

$$t^{p} \det \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} & x_{2} \\ x_{1}^{p} & x_{2}^{p} \end{bmatrix} - vx_{1}^{p} \det \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} & x_{2} \\ x_{1}^{p} & x_{2}^{p} \end{bmatrix} - ux_{2}^{p} \det \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} & x_{2} \\ x_{1}^{p} & x_{2}^{p} \end{bmatrix} = t \left(\det \begin{bmatrix} x_{1} & x_{2} \\ x_{1}^{p} & x_{2}^{p} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{p}.$$

Dividing by the determinant that occurs on the left, one then has

$$t^{p} - vx_{1}^{p} - ux_{2}^{p} = t(x_{1}x_{2}^{p} - x_{1}^{p}x_{2})^{p-1}.$$
(5.2.1)

The Jacobian criterion shows that a hypersurface with (5.2.1) as its defining equation must be normal; it follows that C is indeed a normal hypersurface, with defining equation (5.2.1), and hence that C is precisely the invariant ring S^G . Equation (5.2.1) shows that S^G is not F-pure: t is in the Frobenius closure of $(x_1, x_2)S^G$, though it does not belong to this ideal.

It remains to prove that the ring $C = S^G$ has FFRT. For this, note that after a change of variables, one has

$$S^G \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, x_2, t, \widetilde{u}, \widetilde{v}]/(t^p - \widetilde{v}x_1^p - \widetilde{u}x_2^p).$$

But then S^G has FFRT by [25, Observation 3.7, Theorem 3.10]: Set $A := \mathbb{F}_p[x_1, x_2, \widetilde{u}, \widetilde{v}]$, and note that

$$A \subseteq S^G \subseteq A^{1/p},$$

where A is a polynomial ring.

Acknowledgments

Calculations with the computer algebra system Magma [4] were helpful in obtaining the presentation of the invariant ring in Remark 3.3. The authors are also deeply grateful to Professor Kei-ichi Watanabe for valuable discussions, and to the referee for useful suggestions.

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